

# Advanced MEMS and Microsystems

*Dr. Danick Briand & Prof. Guillermo Villanueva*

# Course content and schedule

Dates	Topics	Lecturers
18.02	Introduction Transducers review: pre-recorded lectures	D. Briand / G. Villanueva
25.02	Sensors part I Exercices	D. Briand
04.03	Sensors part II Industrial seminar #1	D. Briand
11.03	Students presentations	D. Briand / G. Villanueva
18.03	Actuators and Optical MEMS Industrial seminar #2	D. Briand
25.03	Acoustic and Ultrasonic MEMS Industrial seminar #3	G. Villanueva
01.04	RF-MEMS	G. Villanueva
08.04	NEMS	G. Villanueva
15.04	Interactive session	D. Briand / G. Villanueva
29.04	Thermal and gas sensors Industrial seminar #4	D. Briand
06.05	Packaging	D. Briand
13.05	Packaging Industrial seminar #5	D. Briand
20.05	PowerMEMS Industrial seminar #6	D. Briand
27.05	Quiz + oral exam instructions Evaluation of the course	All

## TODAY MARCH 4

- **Lecture Sensors Part II: Capacitive accelerometers and gyroscopes**
- **Seminar 1 – Safran Sensing Technologies at 12h15**  
**List of questions to answer available on moodle**

## NEXT WEEK MARCH 11

- **Hand-In Answers to Questions on Industrial Seminar 1 – Safran**  
**Answers form available on moodle**
- **YOUR Presentation (!Graded - Requires some homework!)**
- **SIGN UP: [Link](#)**

## TODAY March 4

### ➤ Seminar 1 – Safran Sensing Solutions

- Questions related to industrial seminars
- Course requirement: written answers to be handed in (e.g. via the form)  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1D-PPqQGDI9h0Q2hgHyj4xwoY5fkz7jsyR\\_bP3FzBCWQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1D-PPqQGDI9h0Q2hgHyj4xwoY5fkz7jsyR_bP3FzBCWQ/edit)
- 8 questions to be answered for each seminar (online on moodle)
- Individual assesement (not a group work)
- Deadline: 1 week after the seminar at the latest. **If not handed in: Grade = 1.0**
- Graded

### Evaluation:

- 10% on your answers to the questions for the 6 seminars
- 10% for your presentation on a MEMS device on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March
- 80% Individual oral examination to happen in June-July 2025

➤ Questions?

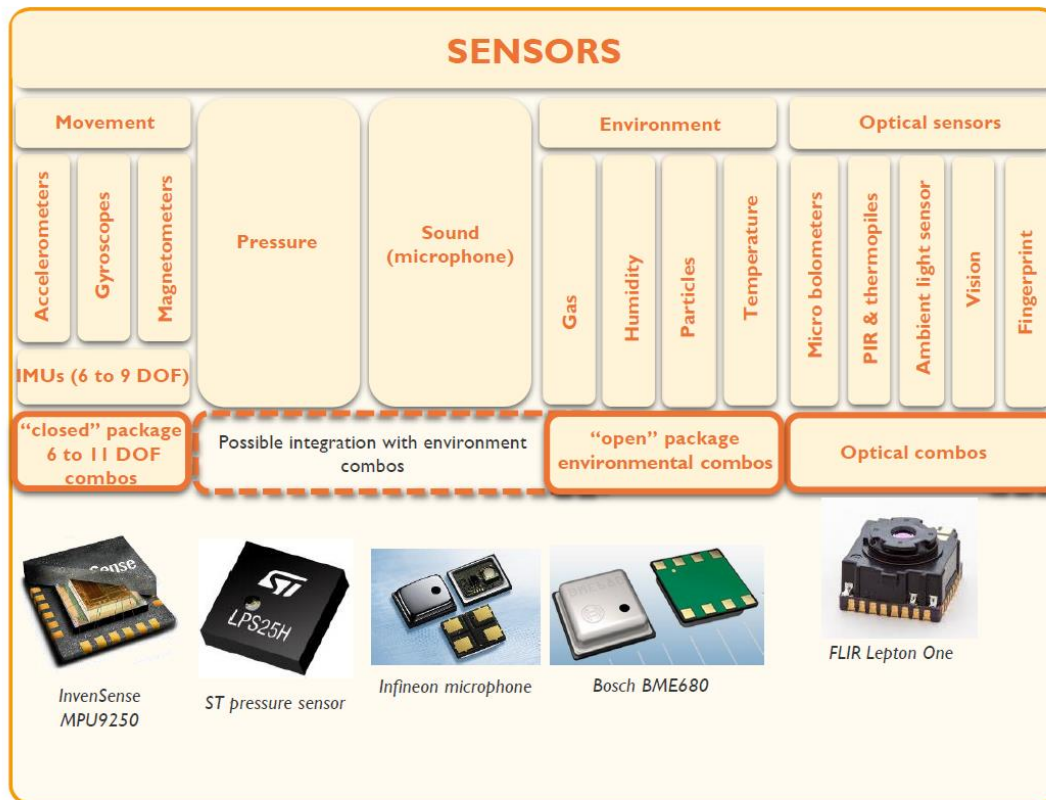
# Presentations March 11 – Schedule & Topics

Timing	Team	Topic
10h15	Luciano Calcoen + Tristán Fonquerne Torres	MEMS oscillator for clocks
10h30	Alizée Anna André + Benoit Vignon	MEMS duplexers
10h45	Nicolas Robson + Alexandre Kiss	Thermoelectric energy harvesters
11h15	Adrien Cadet + Paul Krassiakov	Piezoelectric energy harvesters
11h30	Mathieu Dubois	Silicon photonic MEMS switches
11h45	Kilian Pouderoux	Shutter array
12h15	Cyprien Lacassagne	RF Switches
12h30	Maxime Nourry	Surface stress bio-sensors
12h45	Florent Gaspoz	Flow sensor
13h15	Grace Eunhyeong Kim	Pressure sensor
13h30	Alexandre Dao	Metal-oxide gas sensor

**7 students are alone and can look at forming teams**

**3 students have not registered yet**

# Last week: Lecture Sensors Part 1



## Lecture Sensors Part 1: Piezoresistive

➤ Questions?

- **Capacitive Sensing**
  - **Capacitive MEMS Sensors**
  - **Commercial Motion Sensors**
  - **Capacitive MEMS Accelerometers**
  - **Capacitive MEMS Gyroscopes**
  - **Capacitive MEMS Microphones in Week 6**
  
- **Comparison transduction principles**
  
- **Sensor Fusion**
  
- **Summary Questions**

## LECTURE 2

### Sensors – Part 2

*Danick Briand*

*Maître d'Enseignement et de Recherche (MER)*

MEMS & Printed Microsystems group

EPFL-STI-LMTS



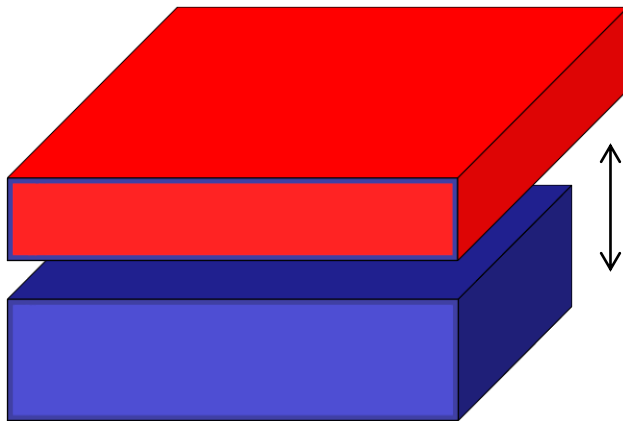
# CAPACITIVE SENSING

# Capacitive sensing

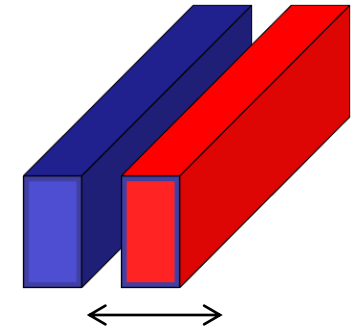
## Motion sensing by changing capacity

Capacitors are ...

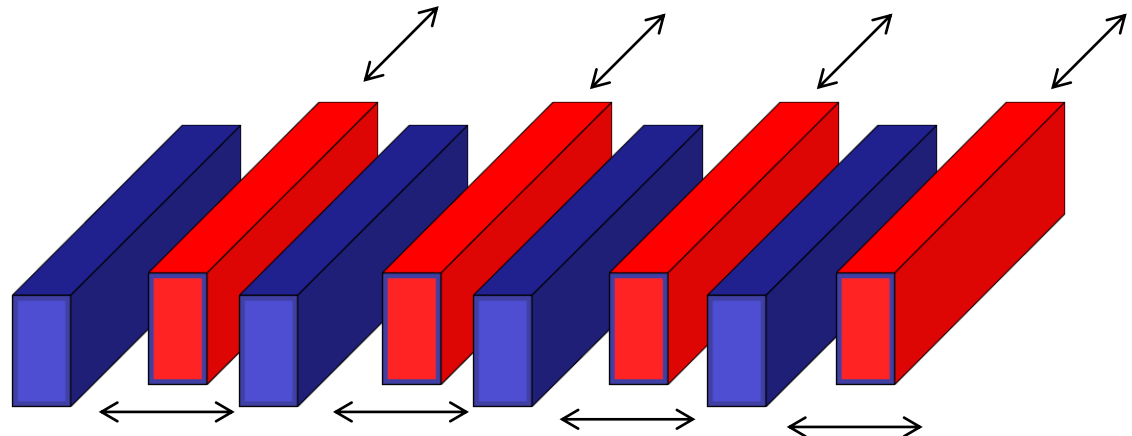
Horizontal parallel plates



Vertical parallel plates



Interdigitated fingers = combs



- Also: Tilting configuration
- Movement Depends on Suspension ( Degree of Freedom)

# Motion Sensing in MEMS ...

## > Single capacitors

- Capacitance is function of gap or area
- Can be nonlinear

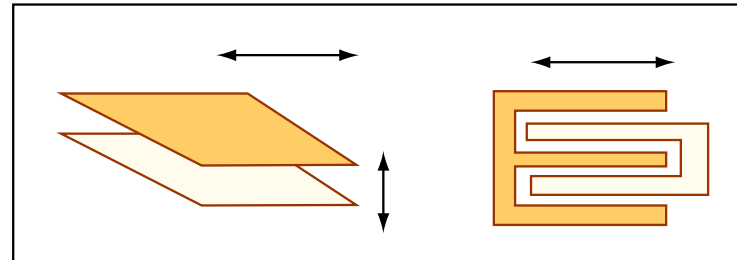


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Adapted from Figure 19.3 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 501. ISBN: 9780792372462.

## > Differential capacitors

- One capacitor increases while the other decreases

$$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$$

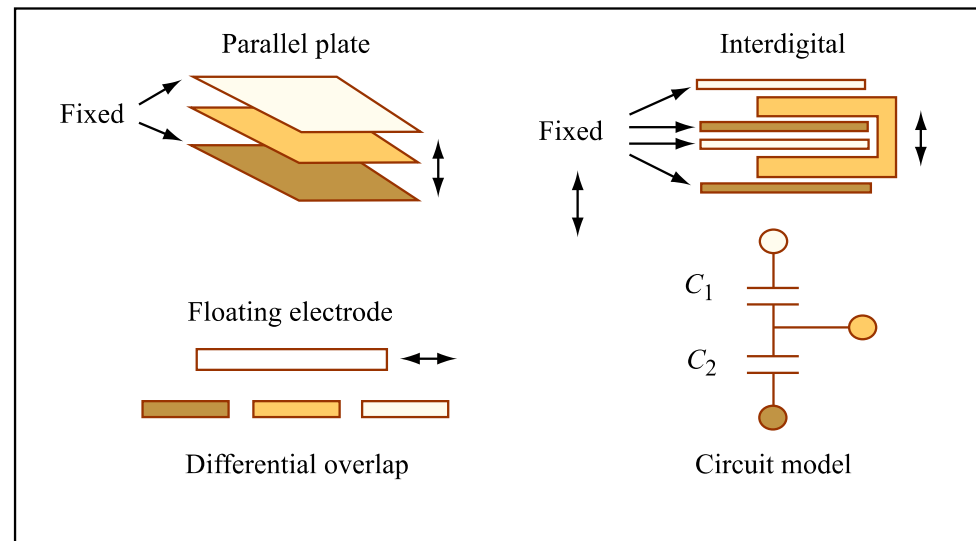


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Adapted from Figure 19.4 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 501. ISBN: 9780792372462.

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# Differential Capacitors

- > Differential drive creates sense signal proportional to capacitance difference
- > Gives zero output for zero change
- > Output linear with gap

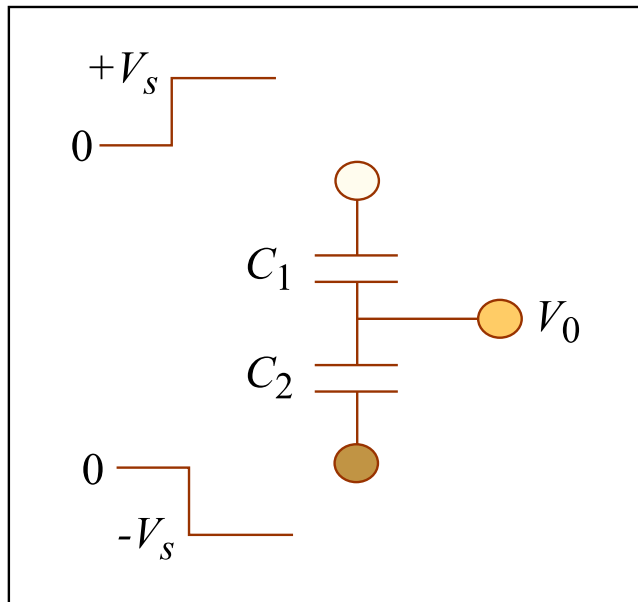


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Adapted from Figure 19.5 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*.  
Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 502. ISBN: 9780792372462.

$$V_0 = -V_s + \frac{C_1}{C_1 + C_2} (2V_s) = \frac{C_1 - C_2}{C_1 + C_2} V_s$$

for parallel-plate capacitors where  
only  $g$  changes, this becomes

$$V_0 = \frac{g_2 - g_1}{g_1 + g_2} V_s$$

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# Differential Capacitors (Combs)

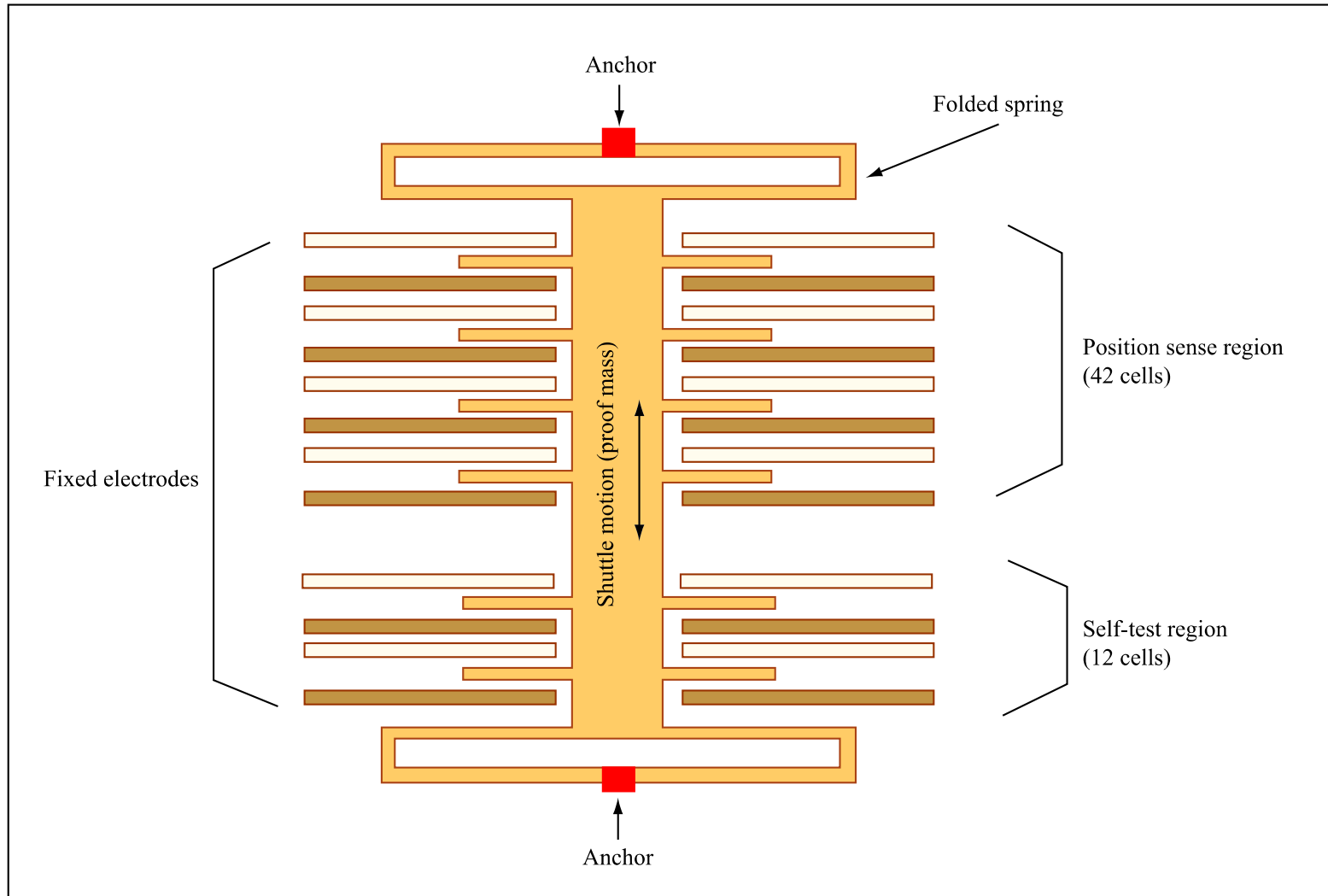
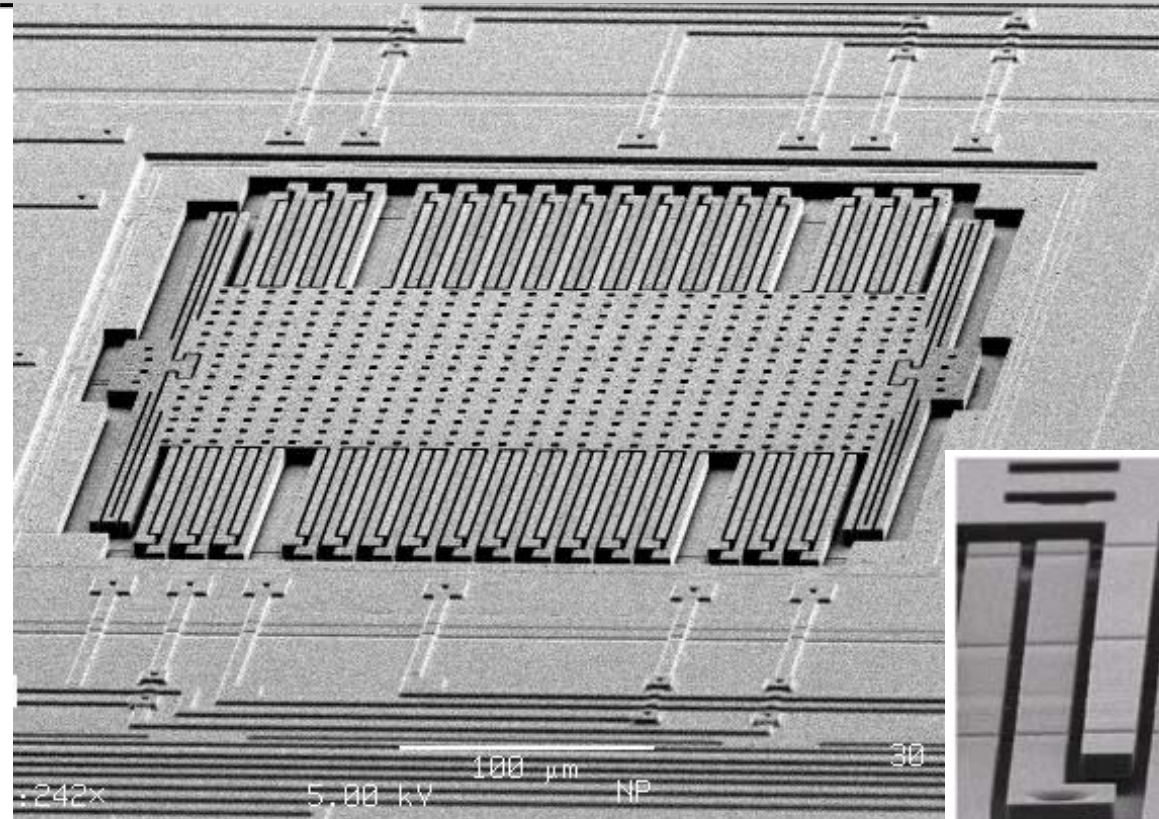


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# Analog Devices Accelerometer – Differential Capacitors



$$F = ma = kx$$

$$x = \frac{m}{k} a \quad w = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$x = \frac{a}{w_0^2}$$

$$C_1 = \frac{A}{d - x} \quad C_2 = \frac{A}{d + x}$$

$$\Delta C = \frac{Ax}{d}$$

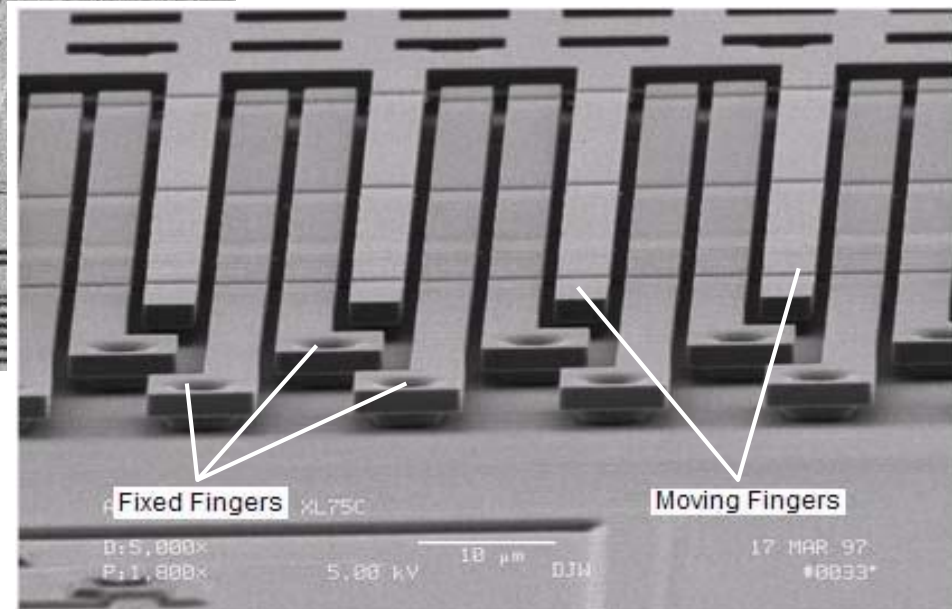


Figure 2. Poly-Silicon beam released after removing sacrificial oxide

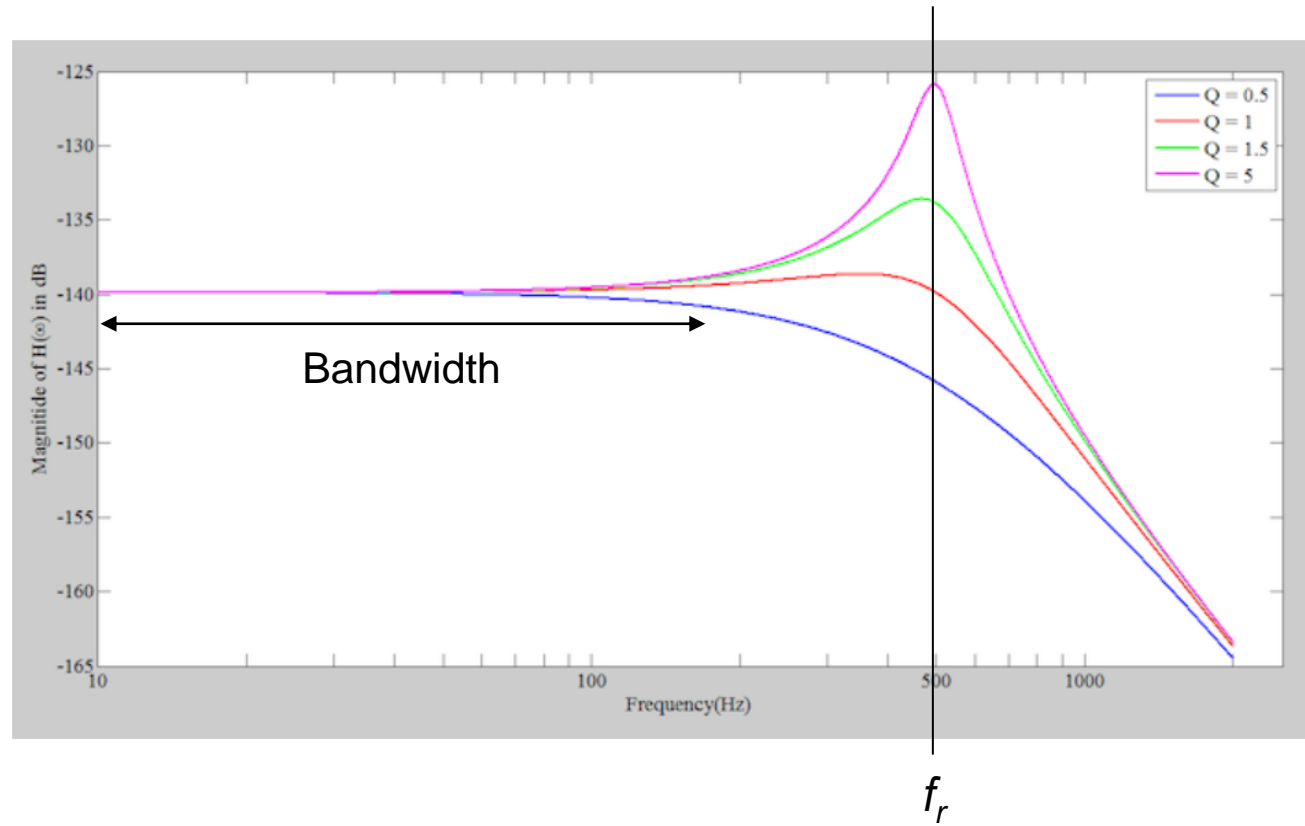
Sources: 1) John A. Yasaitis et al., Vol. 4979, 2003 SPIE, 2) "Comparing process flow of monolithic CMOS-MEMS integration on SOI wafers with monolithic BiMOS-MEMS integration on Silicon wafer"; Solanki, A et al, 2010 53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems, p 1189-92, 2010

# Bandwidth

- Bandwidth, frequency range of operation, is related to the Quality factor  $Q$ , and therefore function of resonance frequency and damping factor ( $b$ )

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$Q = \frac{m\omega_n}{b}$$



from allaboutcircuits.com

# Sensing and Signal Concept

> Oscillator provides AC waveform for sensing

> Waveforms:

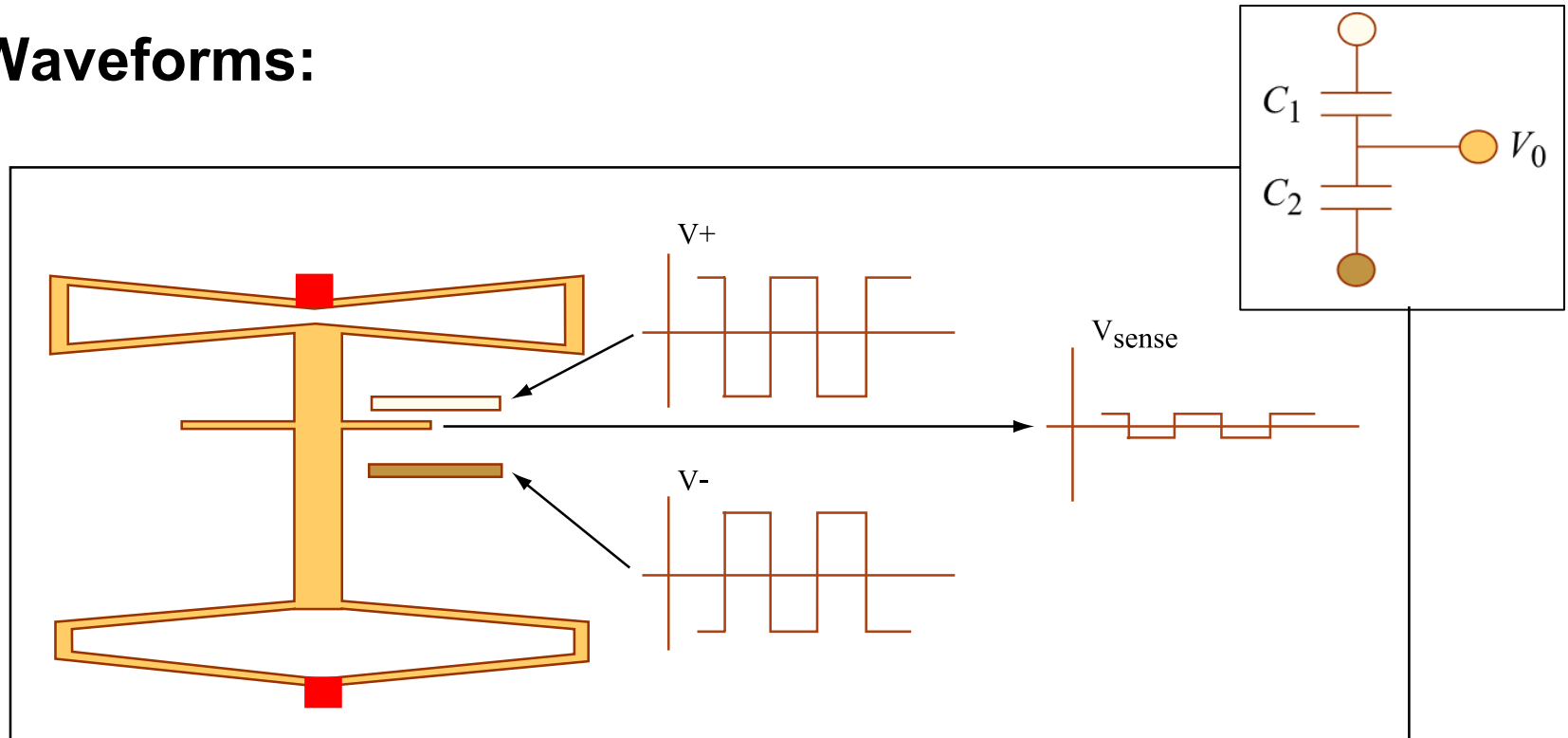


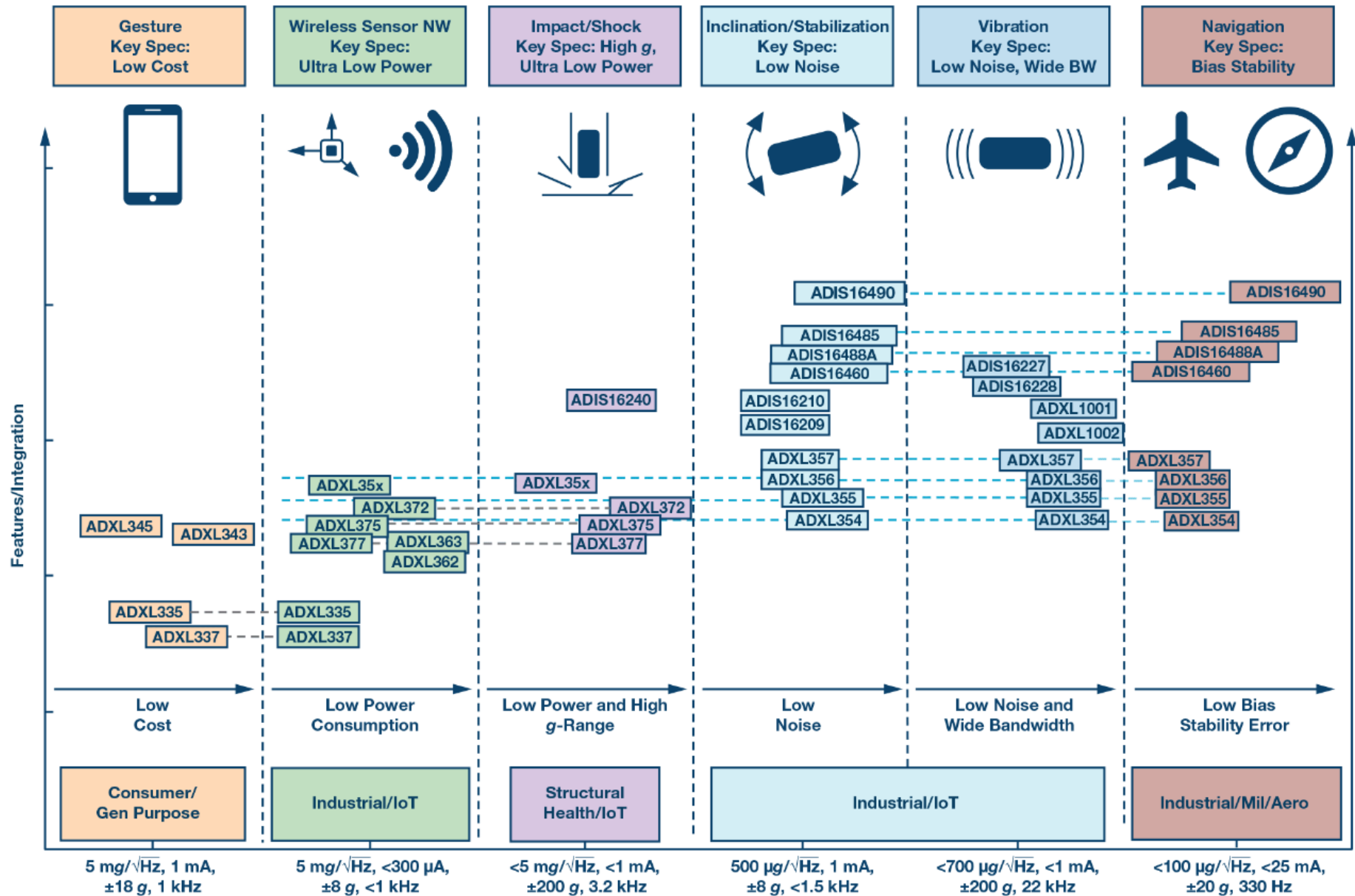
Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Adapted from Figure 19.21 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 516. ISBN: 9780792372462.

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# Accelerometer requirements per application



# Accelerometer specifications per application

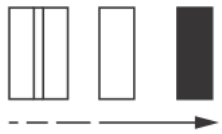
Table 1. Accelerometer Grade and Typical Application Area

Accelerometer Grade	Main Application	Bandwidth	<i>g</i> -Range
Consumer	Motion, static acceleration	0 Hz	1 <i>g</i>
Automotive	Crash/stability	100 Hz	<200 <i>g</i> /2 <i>g</i>
Industrial	Platform stability/tilt	5 Hz to 500 Hz	25 <i>g</i>
Tactical	Weapons/craft navigation	<1 kHz	8 <i>g</i>
Navigation	Submarine/craft navigation	>300 Hz	15 <i>g</i>

**Sensing Applications**

# **COMMERCIAL MOTION SENSORS**

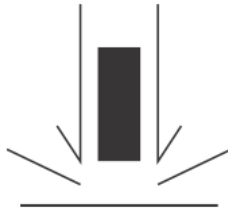
# Motion sensors for what ?



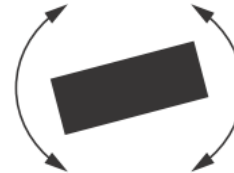
**Acceleration**



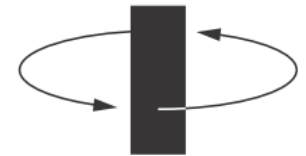
**Vibration**



**Shock**



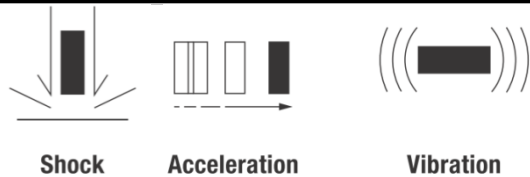
**Tilt**



**Rotation**

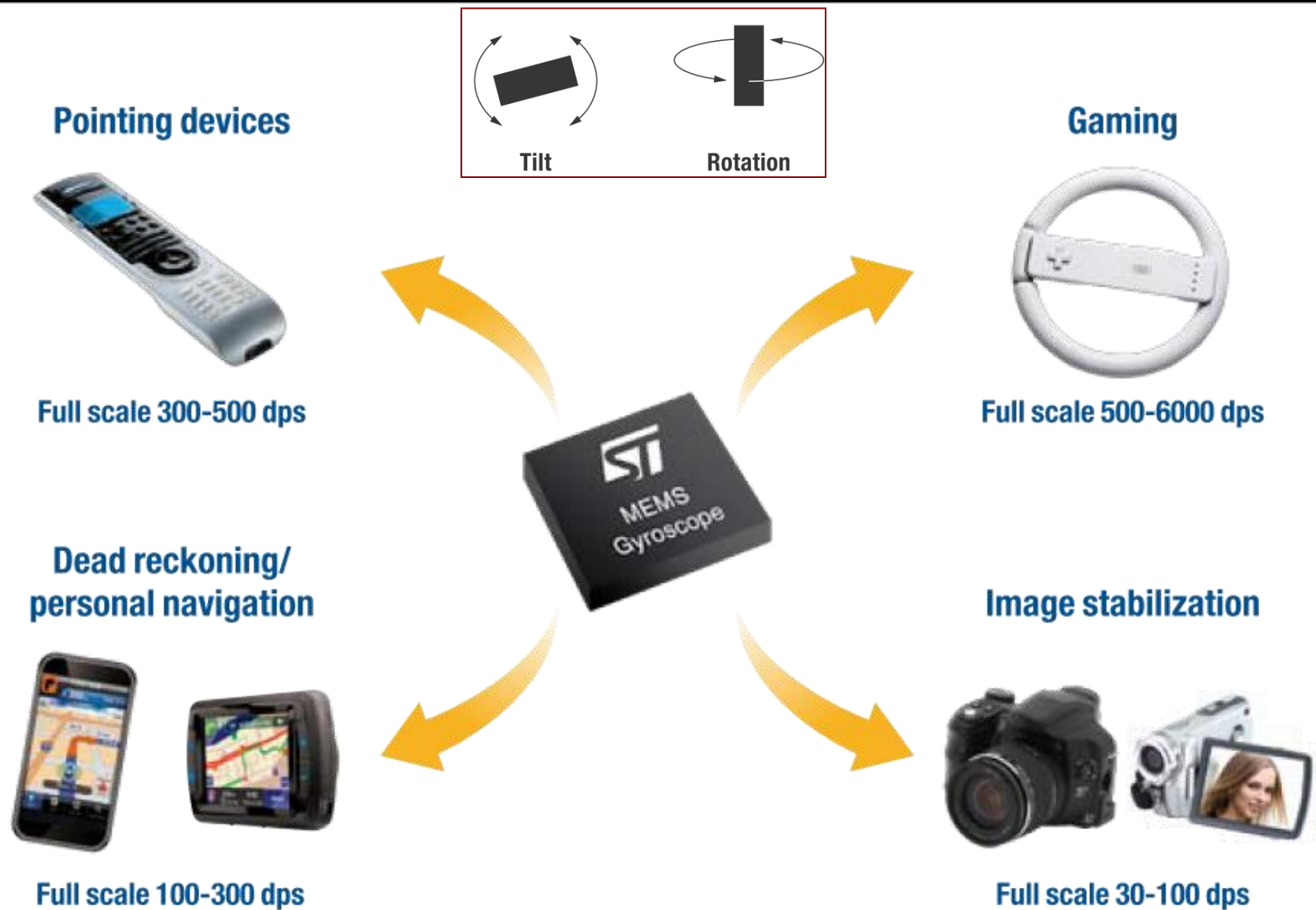
source: <http://www.findmems.com>

# Accelerometers ... Where and What



sources: <http://www.findmems.com>, <http://www.st.com/mems>

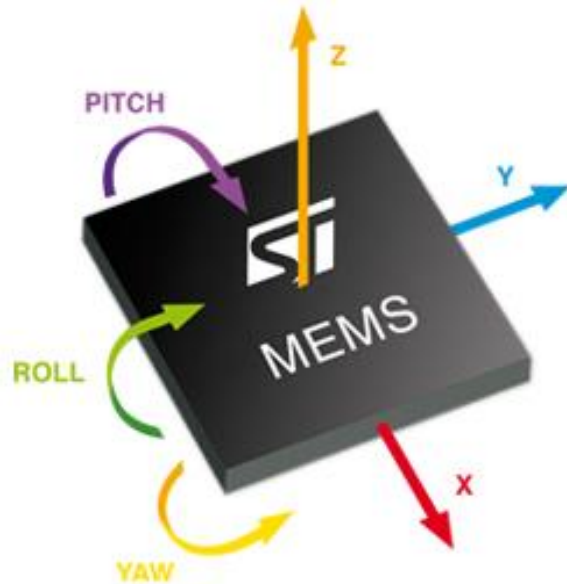
# Gyroscopes ... Where and What



sources: <http://www.findmems.com>, <http://www.st.com/mems>

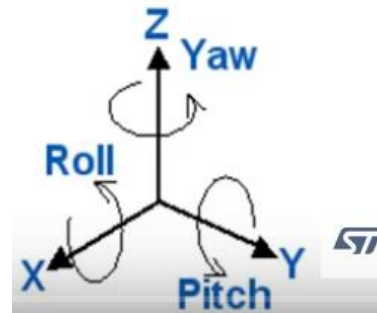
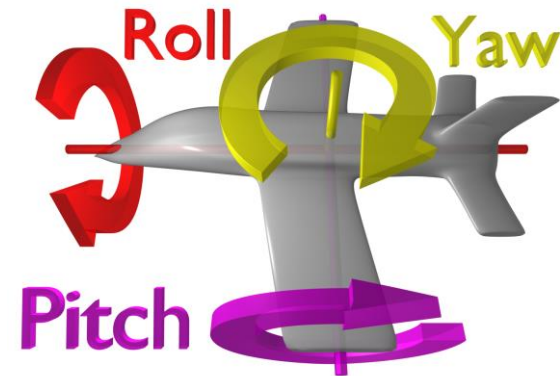
## Accelerometers

- Linear acceleration
- “z” is parallel to the gravity vector



## Gyroscopes

- Angular rate
- “Pitch”, “roll” and “yaw” are defined by the direction of the motion and by the vertical gravity vector



sources: [www.st.com](http://www.st.com)

# **CAPACITIVE MEMS ACCELEROMETERS**

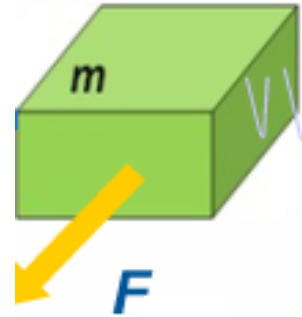


# Measurement of Acceleration – References in 'g'

## Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law of motion

$$\vec{F}_N = m \vec{a}$$

Force is in same direction as acceleration



Transduction Chain:

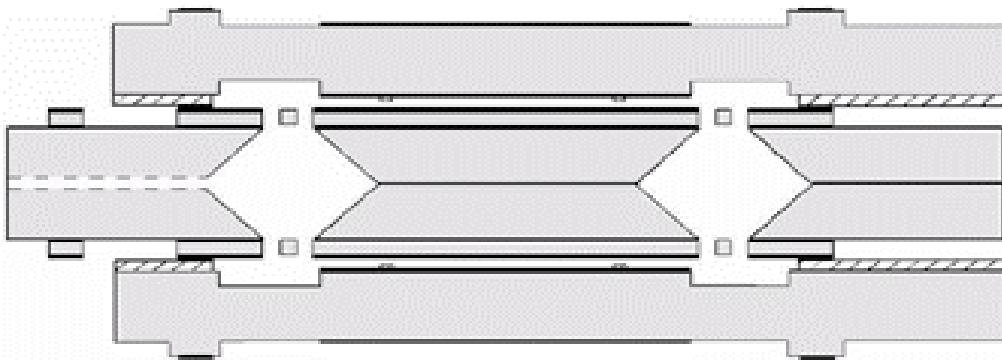
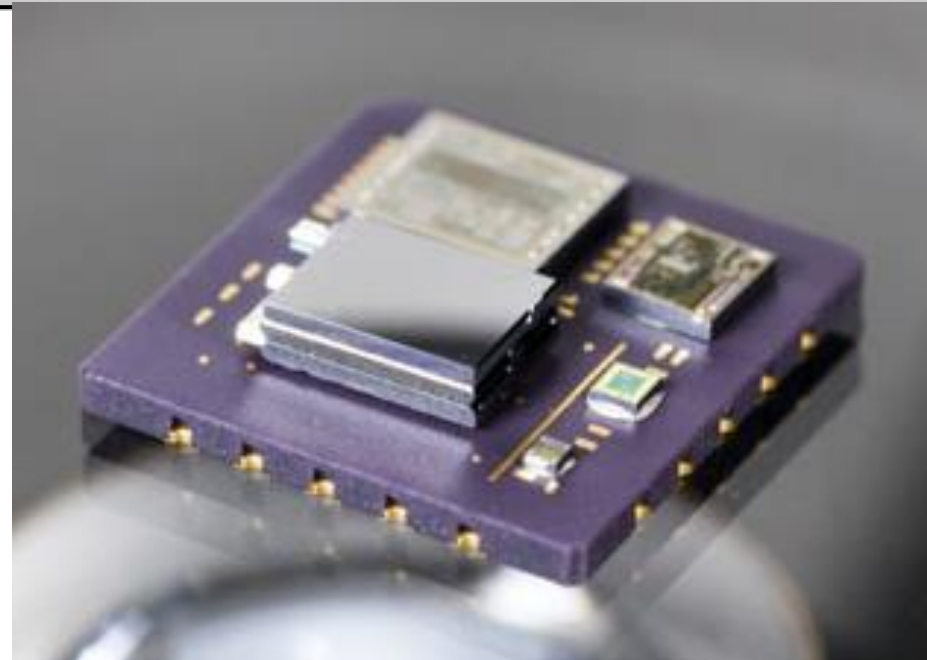
- Acceleration
  - Force on Mass
  - Mass Movement
  - Capacitor Gap
  - Capacity
  - Voltage
- $$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$$

Passenger car acceleration  
Earth's gravity  
Emergency braking (Formula 1)  
Running  
Bobsleigh rider in corner  
Human unconsciousness  
Walking down/up stairs  
Running  
Car Frontal choc @15Km/h  
Car Frontal choc high speed  
Car Frontal choc high speed  
Car Frontal choc high speed  
Tennis ball

0.2 / 0.3g  
1g (by definition)  
1g  
<5g (shock at low back level)  
5g  
7g  
7.4/8g (shock at ankle level)  
8/12g (shock at ankle level)  
10/15g  
35g (shock at head level, with Airbag)  
40g (for the vehicle)  
65g (shock at head level, without Airbag)  
500/700g

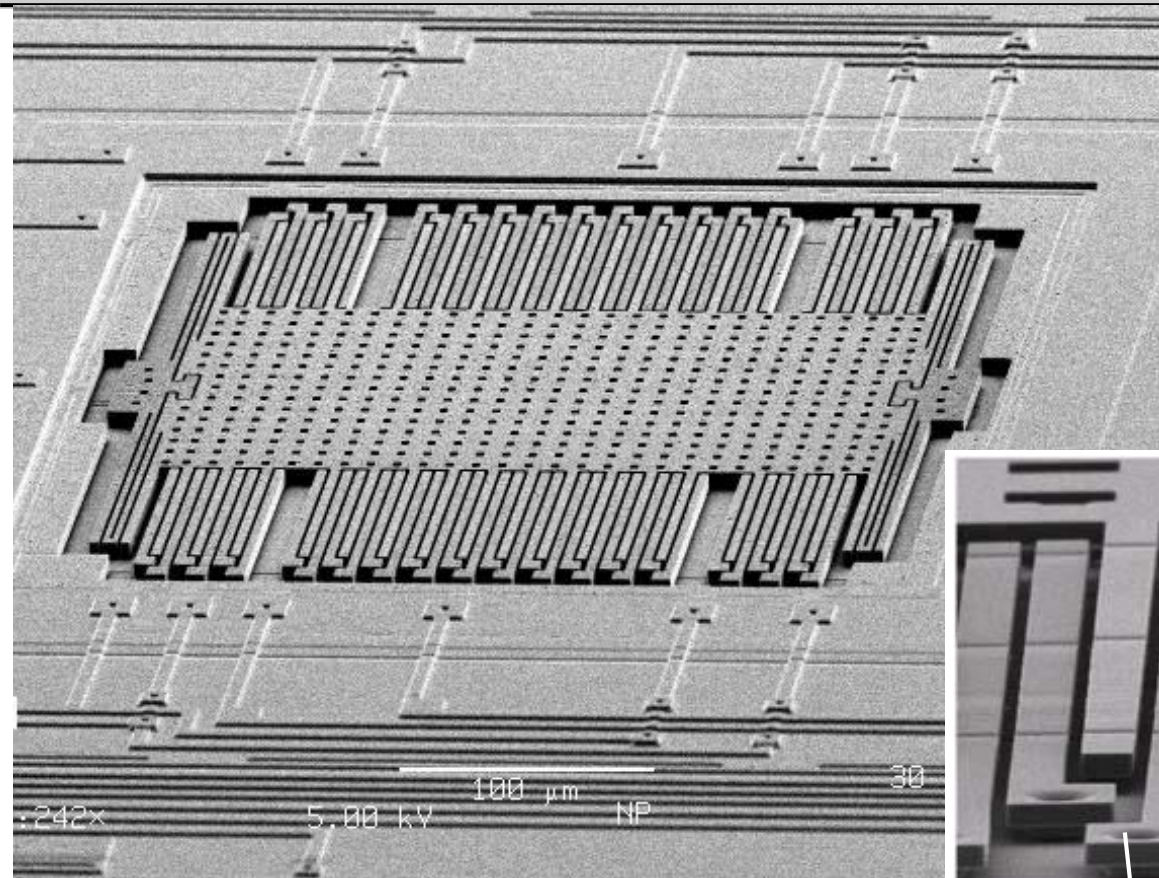
# Colibrys Accelerometer (Parallel Plate Capacitor)

- Seismic mass is a bulk silicon piece
- Displacement sensor
- No actuator
- Several levels of micromachining
- KOH etched bulk micromachining
- Fusion bonding at high temperature
- Stoppers to limit shock impact
- Assembly in package with highly sensitive electronics
- Highly temperature independent



Accelerometers from Colibrys, Switzerland

# Analog Devices – Differential Capacitors



## Polysilicon surface micromachining

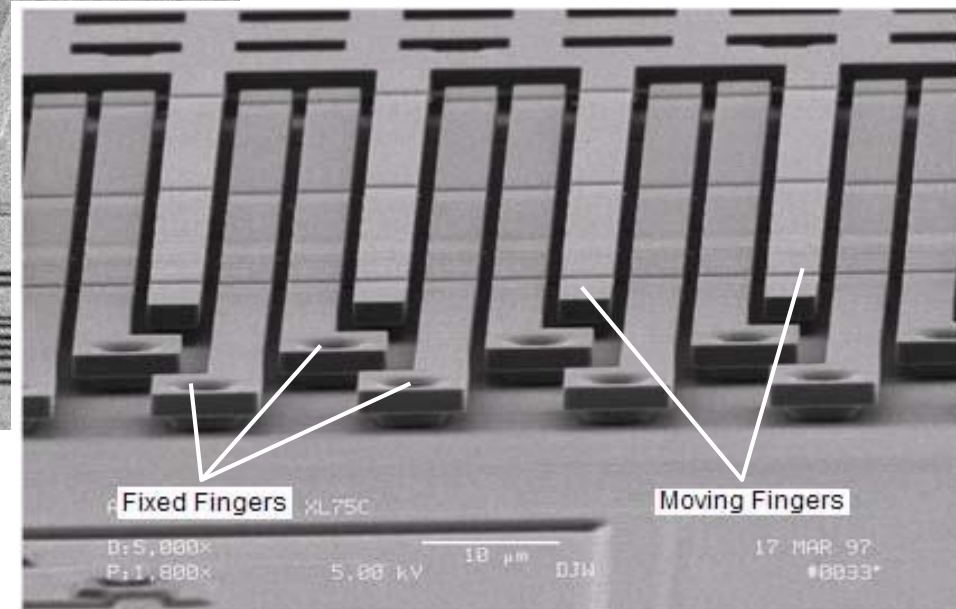
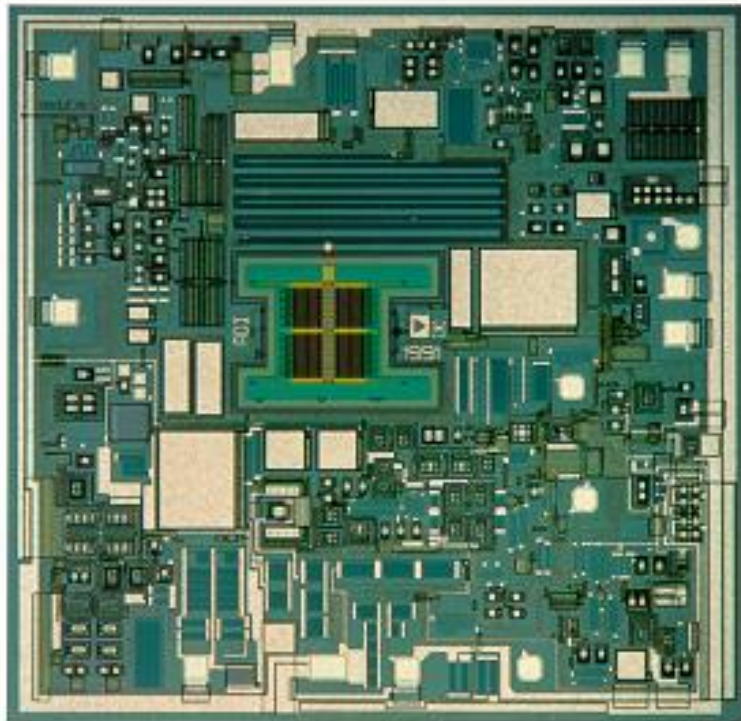


Figure 2. Poly-Silicon beam released after removing sacrificial oxide

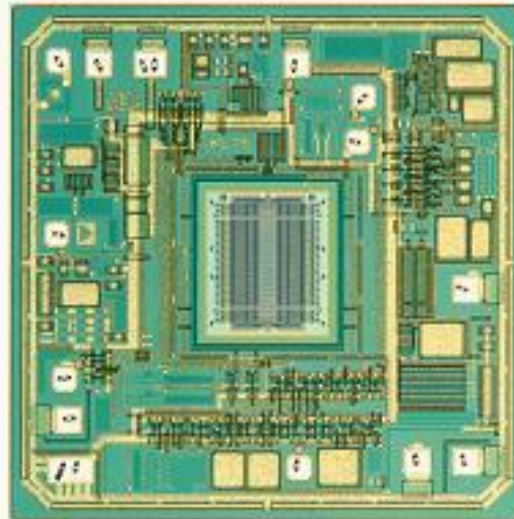
Sources: 1) John A. Yasaitis et al., Vol. 4979, 2003 SPIE, 2) "Comparing process flow of monolithic CMOS-MEMS integration on SOI wafers with monolithic BiMOS-MEMS integration on Silicon wafer"; Solanki, A et al, 2010 53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems, p 1189-92, 2010



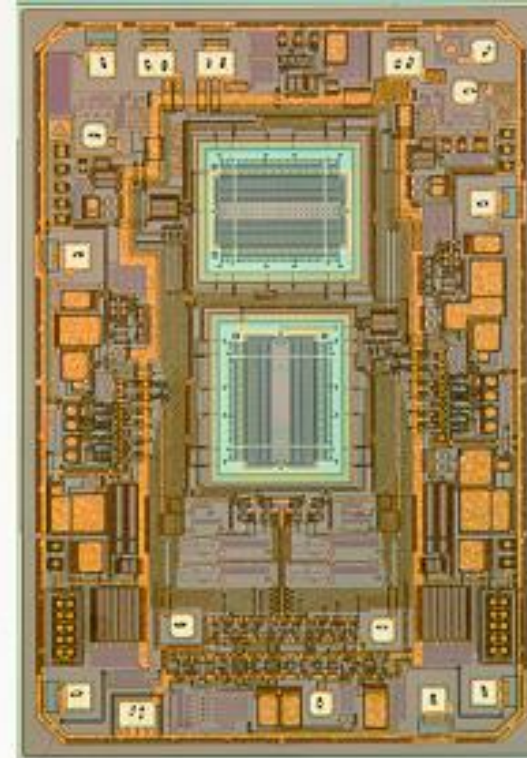
# Analog Devices Chips



XL50



XL76



XL276

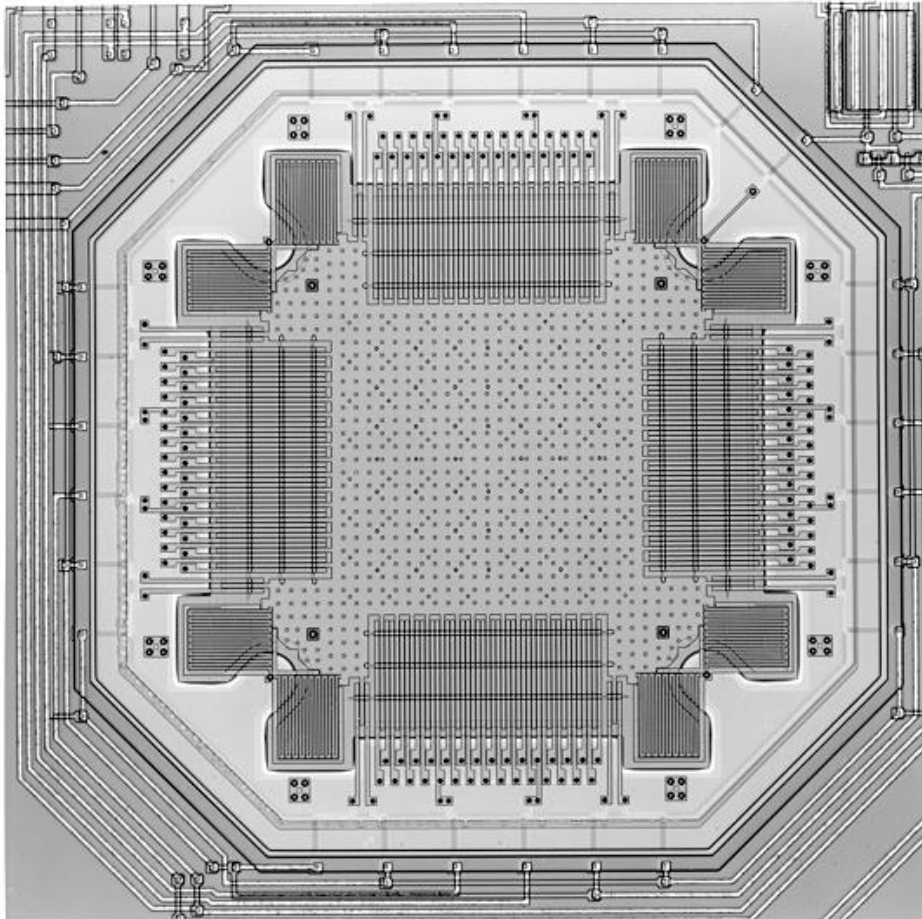
Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.

## Monolithic Integration on CMOS. 1 MEMS for Each Axis

Cite as: Joel Voldman, course materials for 6.777J / 2.372J Design and Fabrication of Microelectromechanical Devices, Spring 2007. MIT OpenCourseWare (<http://ocw.mit.edu/>), Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Downloaded on [DD Month YYYY].

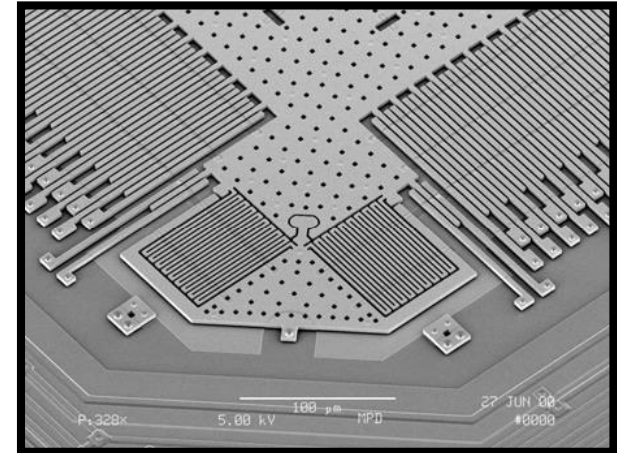
# Analog Devices Chips

> Then moved from two 1-axis sensors to one 2-axis

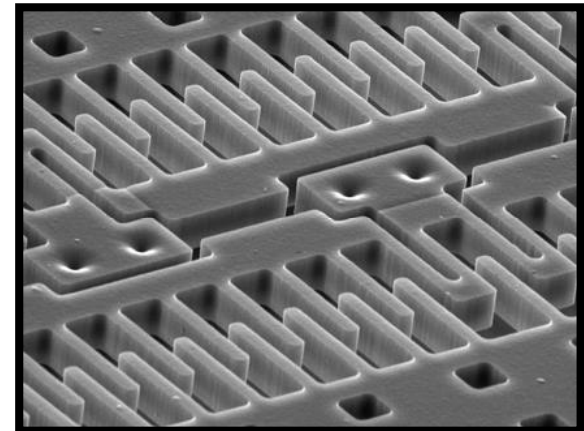


ADXL 202 Sensor Structure

Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.



Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.



Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission

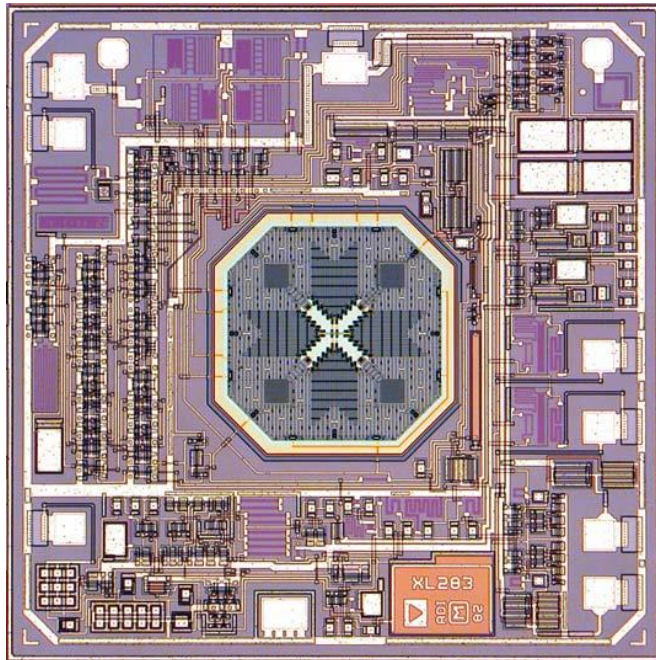
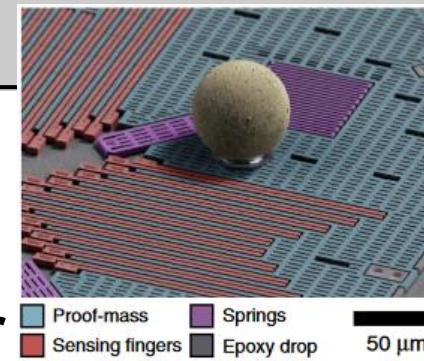
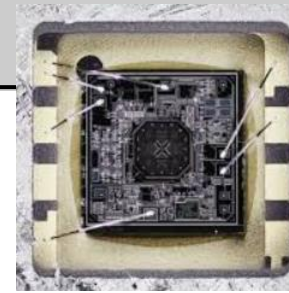
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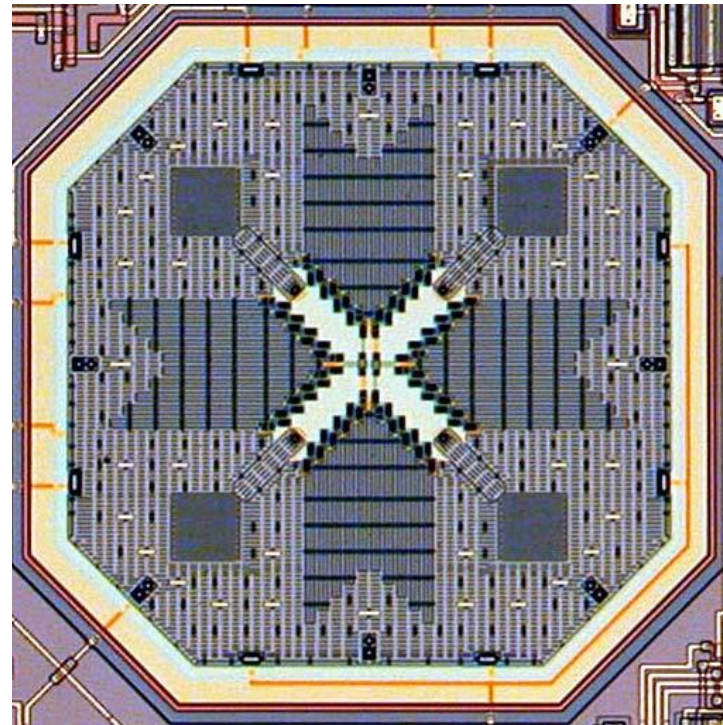
# Analog Devices Chips

> ADXL203 two-axis accelerometer

> Supports are in center of die to cancel 1<sup>st</sup>-order stresses due to packaging



Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.

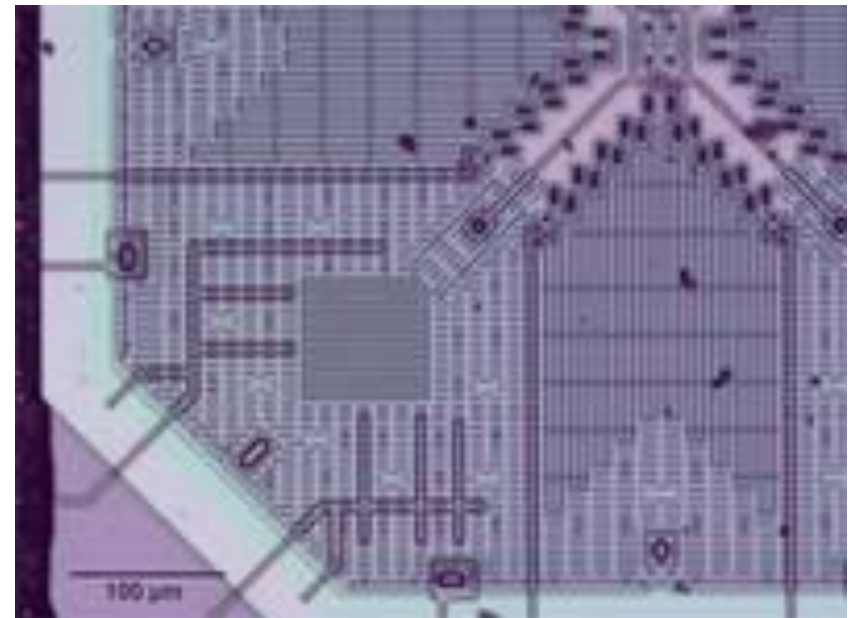
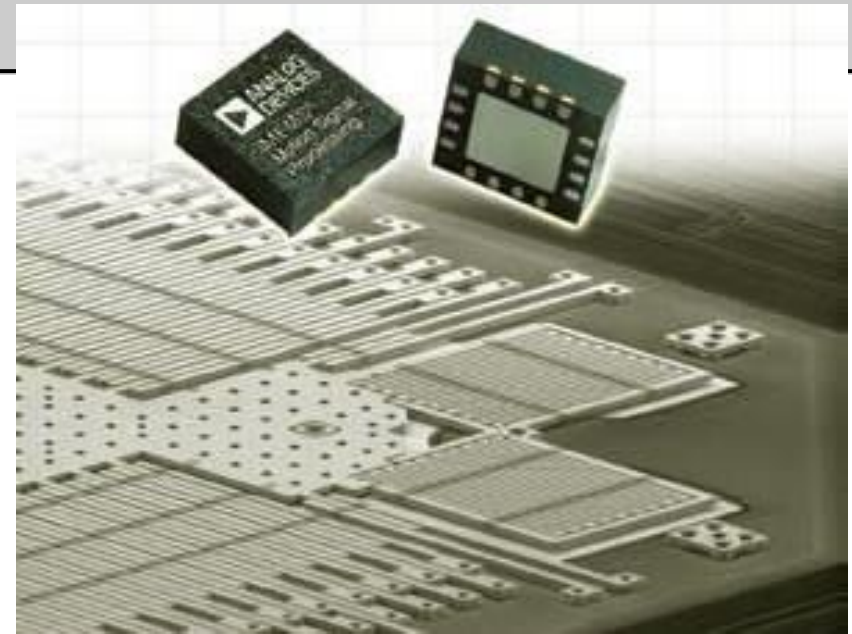
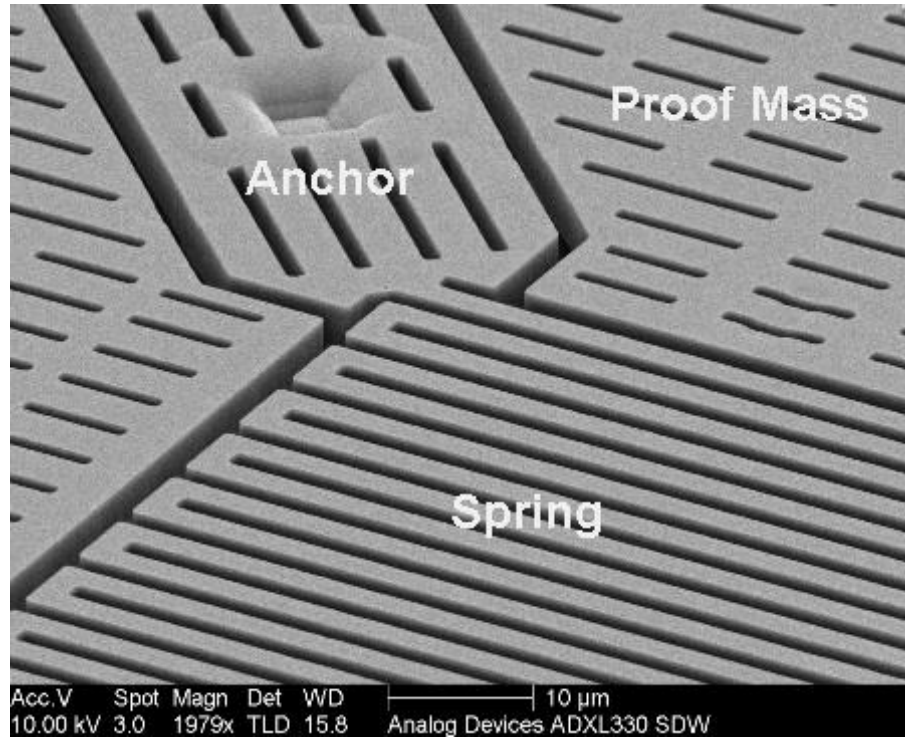


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# Analog Devices Chips

## Accelerometers

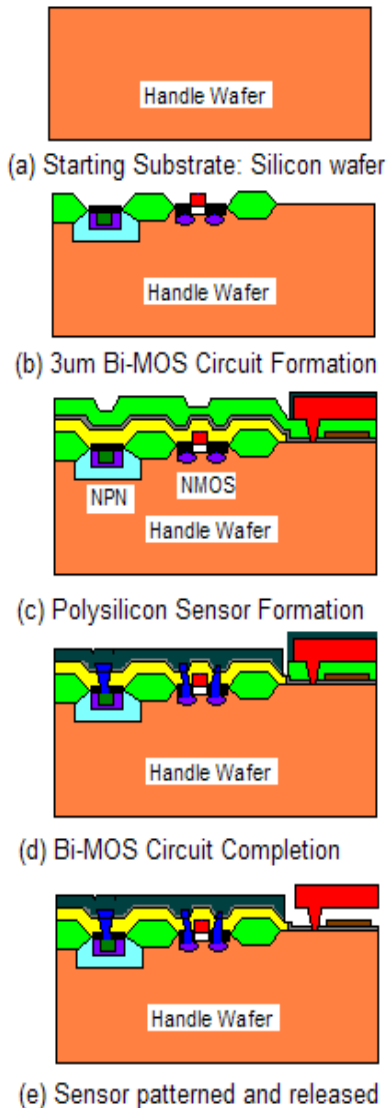


photos: *Analog Devices*

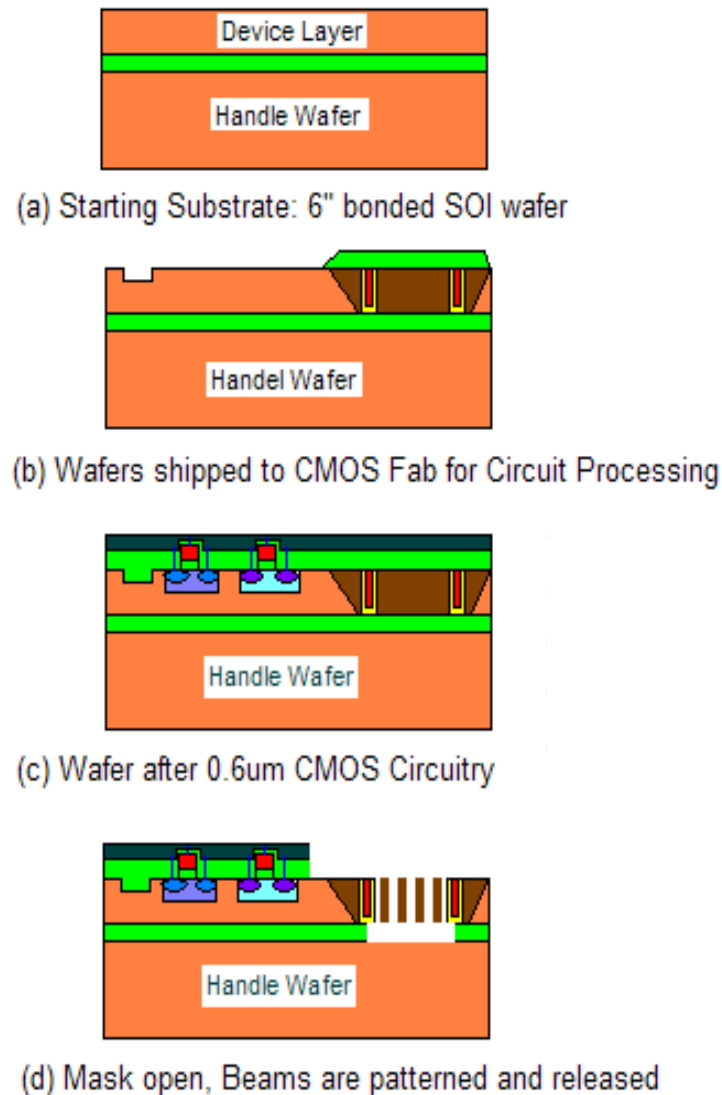


# Analog Devices – Process Comparison

## BiMOS



## SOI MEMS



## BiMOS

- Easier on-chip signal routing
- Lower parasitic capacity than SOI MEMS

## SOI MEMS

- Thicker device layer  
→ thicker beams & higher electrodes  
→ larger signal!

Source: "Comparing process flow of monolithic CMOS-MEMS integration on SOI wafers with monolithic BiMOS-MEMS integration on Silicon wafer"; Solanki, A; Prasad, K.; Nunan, K.; O'Reilly, R. Source: 2010 53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems, p 1189-92, 2010

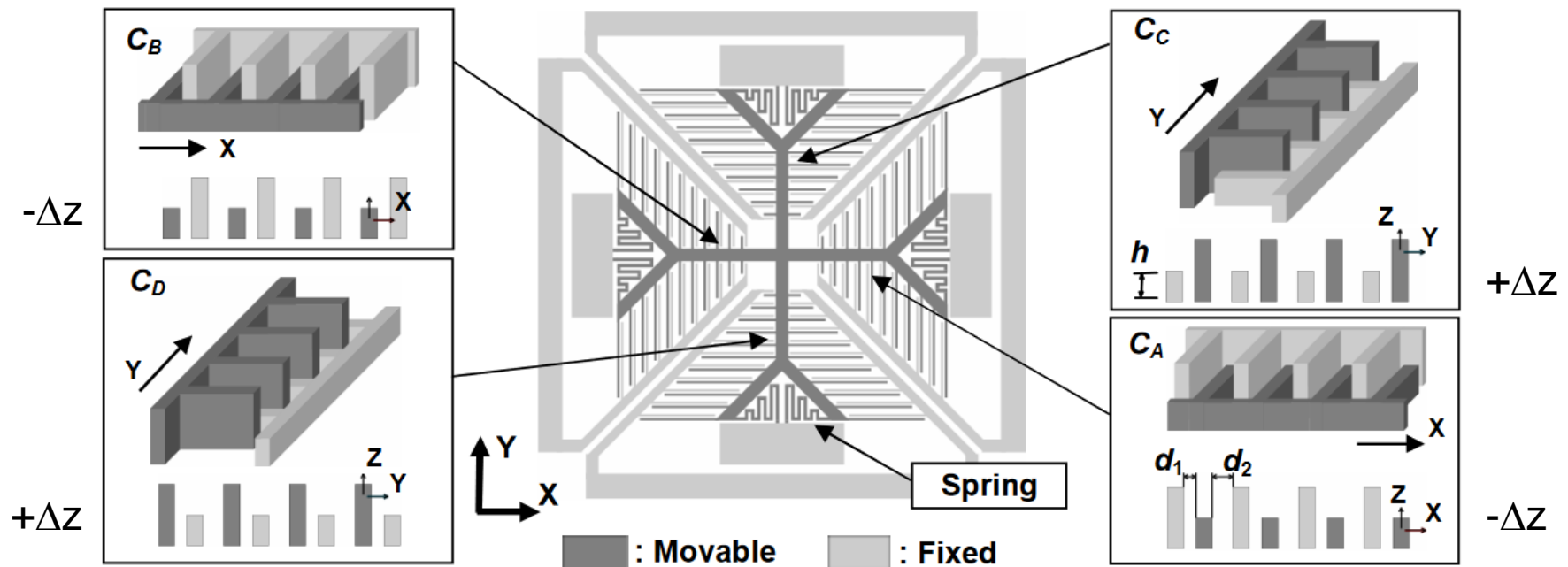


# 3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

## Vertical asymmetrical electrodes

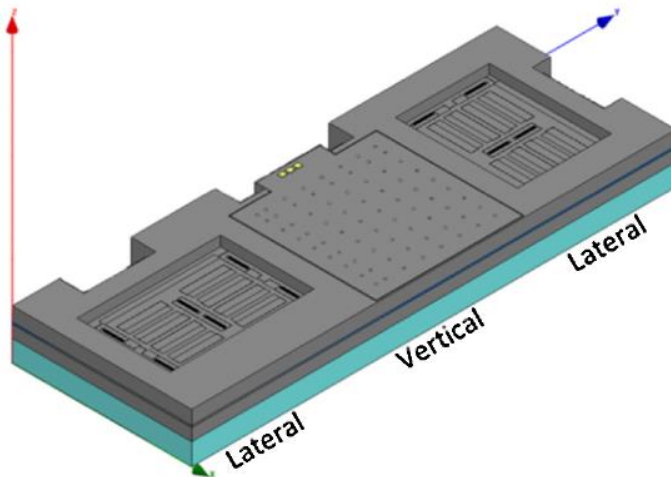
- Electrodes with difference in height provides sensitivity along the z-axis:
- Cross sensitivity from other axis to compensate  $\Delta C_z = (C_A + C_B) - (C_C + C_D) = 2\epsilon l \left( \frac{1}{d_1} + \frac{1}{d_2} \right) \Delta z$



# 3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

## Horizontal parallel plate capacitor



- Proof mass moving between 2 fixed electrodes
- Differential measurement
- Surface micromachining process on a Silicon On Insulator (SOI) wafer bonded to a glass substrate

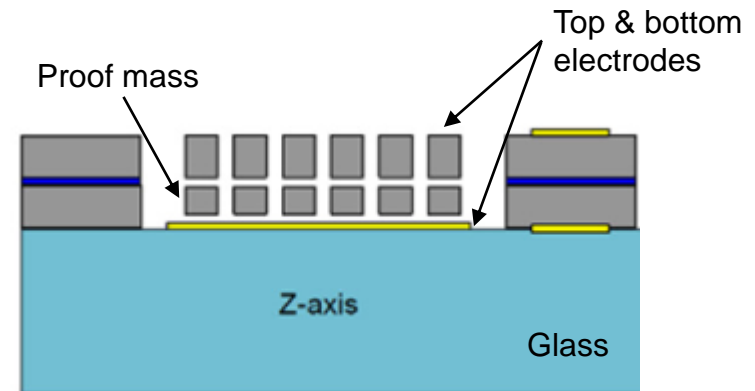
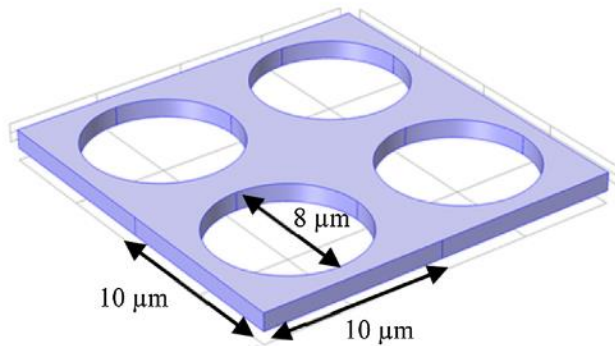
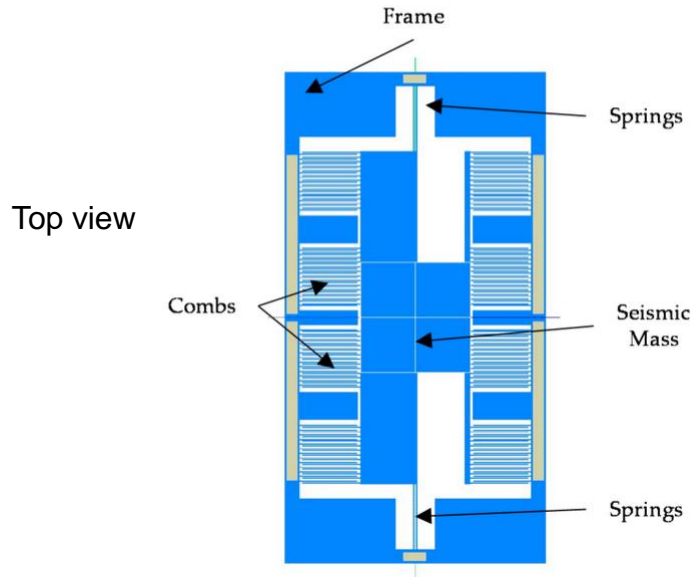
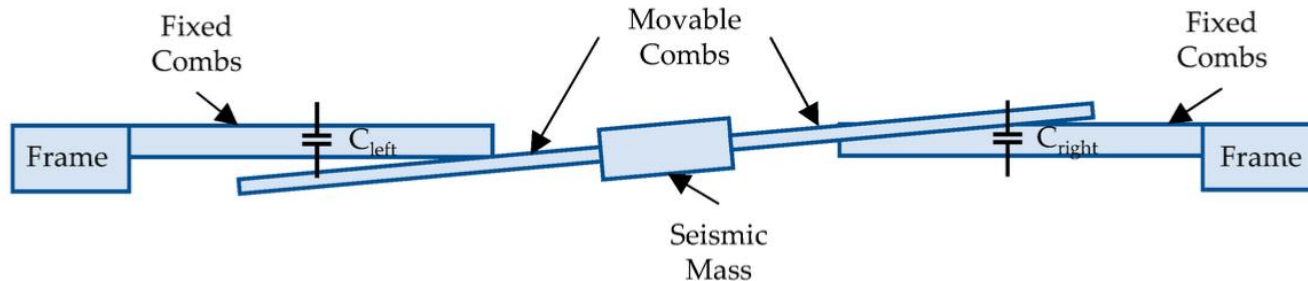


Fig. 3. Proof mass and top electrode structure of the vertical axis accelerometer which is composed of  $10 \times 10\ \mu\text{m}^2$  unit cells with a  $4\ \mu\text{m}$  damping hole radius.

# 3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

## Asymmetric torsional proof mass

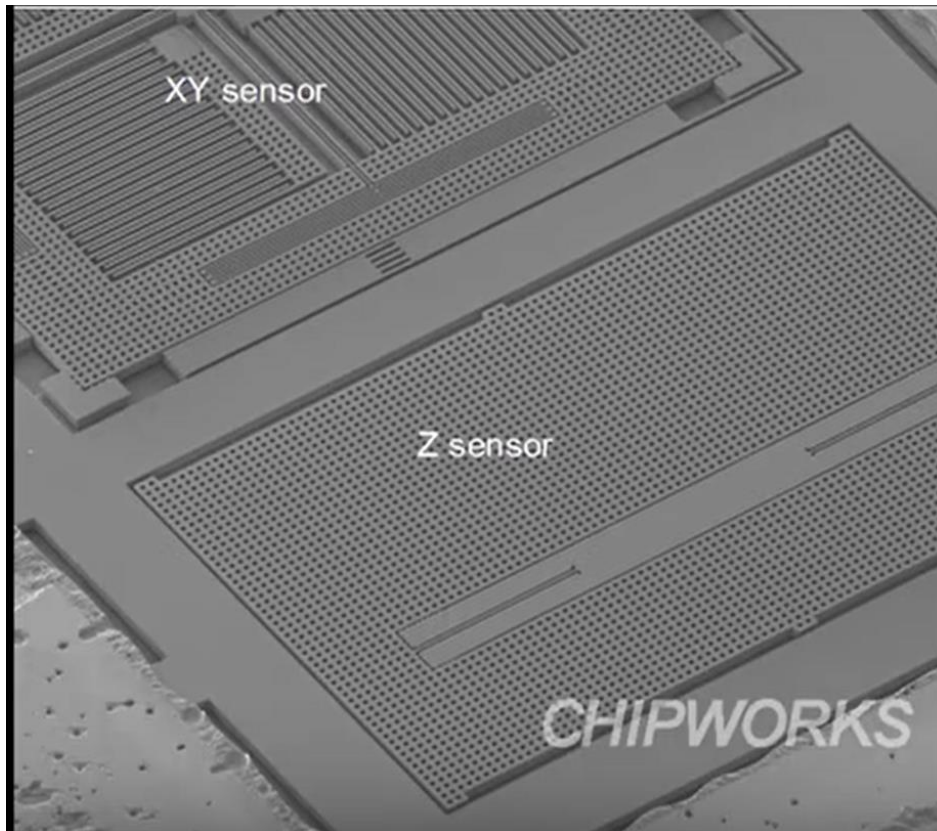


- Asymmetrical proof mass linked to a torsional bar with unbalanced moments under acceleration
- Comb electrodes for differential capacitance measurement
- Holes in proof mass plate for damping adjustment and surface micromachining process (i.e. etching of sacrificial layer)

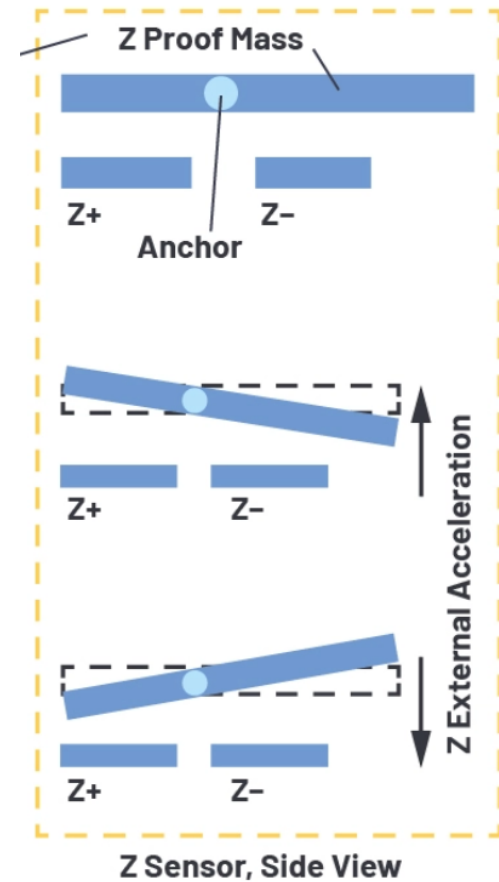
# 3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

## Asymmetric torsional proof mass

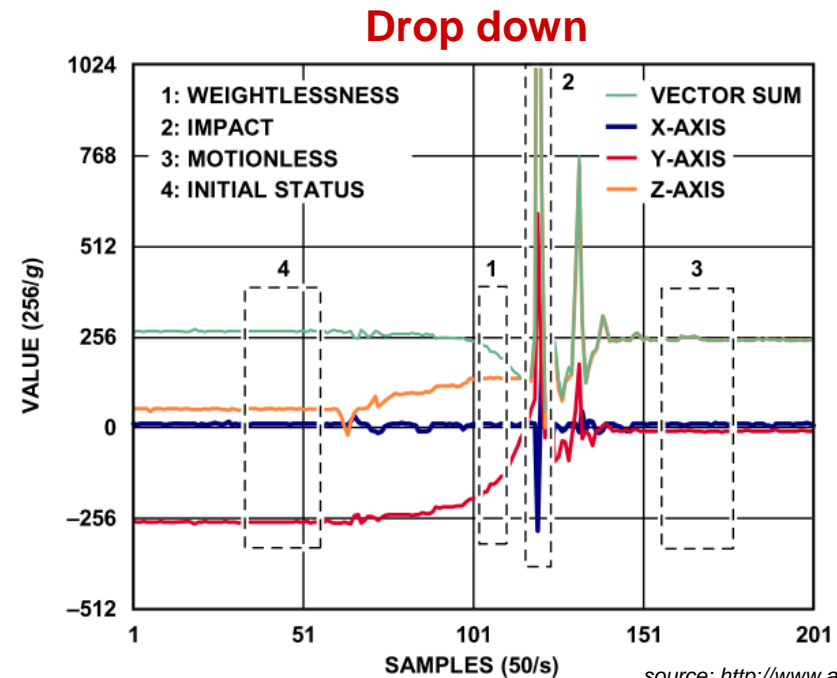
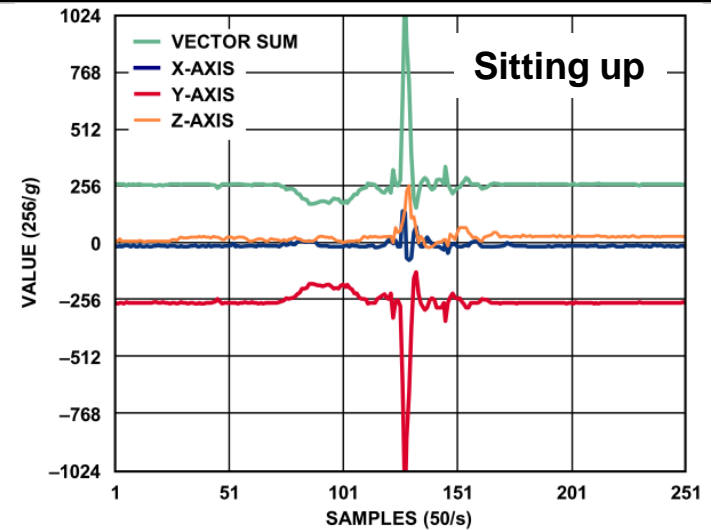
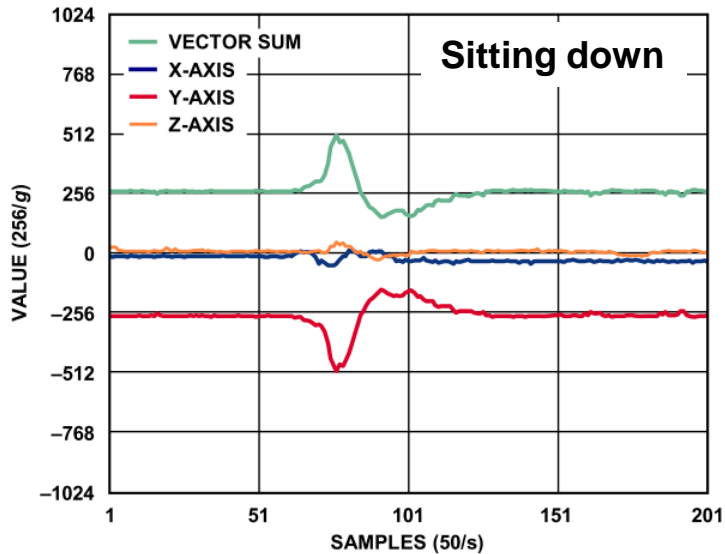
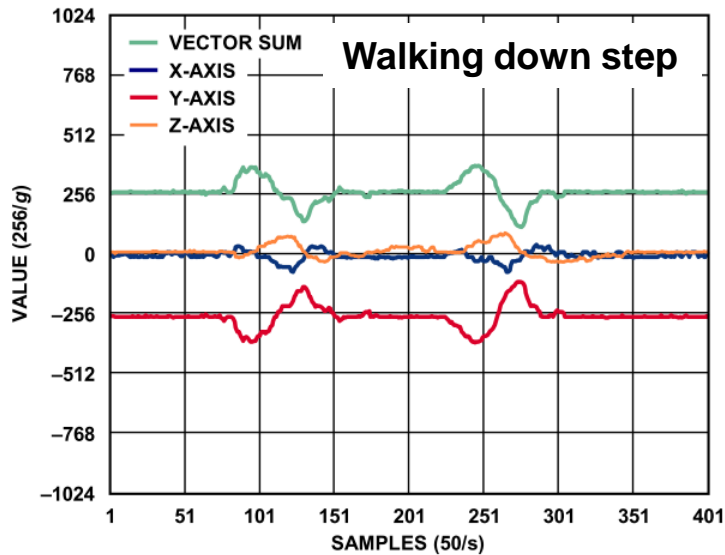


ST Microelectronics 3-axis accelerometer



# Hard Disk Protection

## Distinguishing events and common motions



source: <http://www.analog.com>

# Hard Disk Protection

- Preventing impact shock on HDD
- “Early” detection required
- Change of acceleration!
- Sum of at least two axes

source: <http://www.analog.com/library/analogdialogue/archives/39-11/hdd.html>

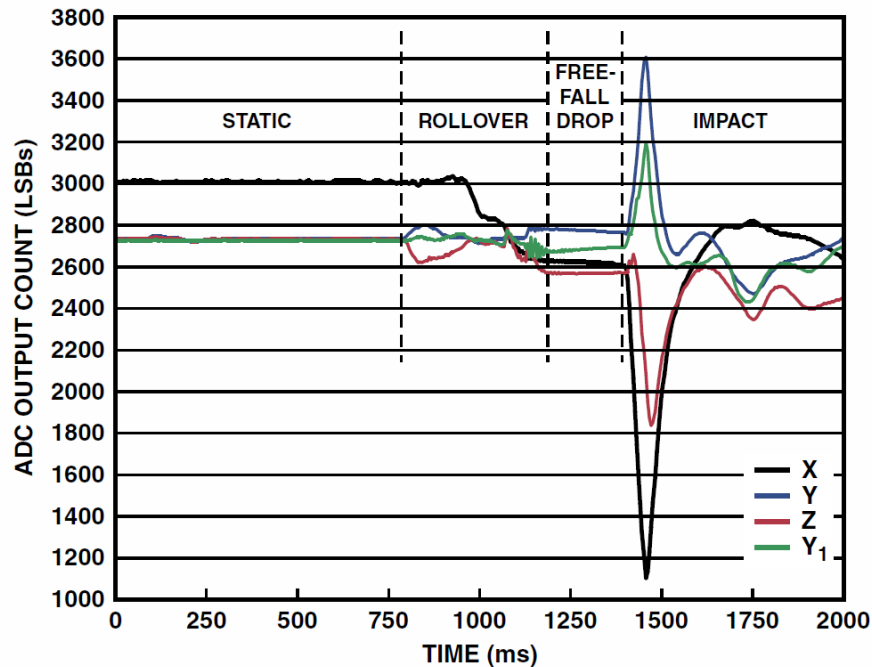
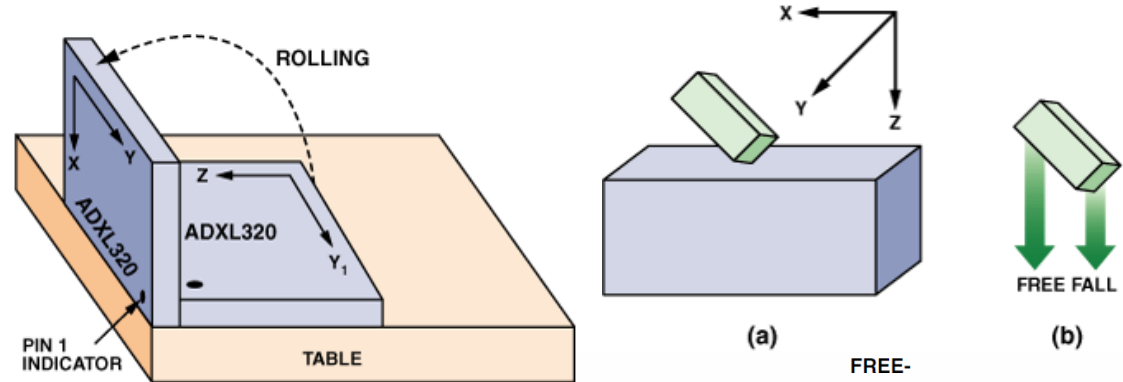


Figure 5. Traditional protection algorithm—sequence of responses sensed by the accelerometers.

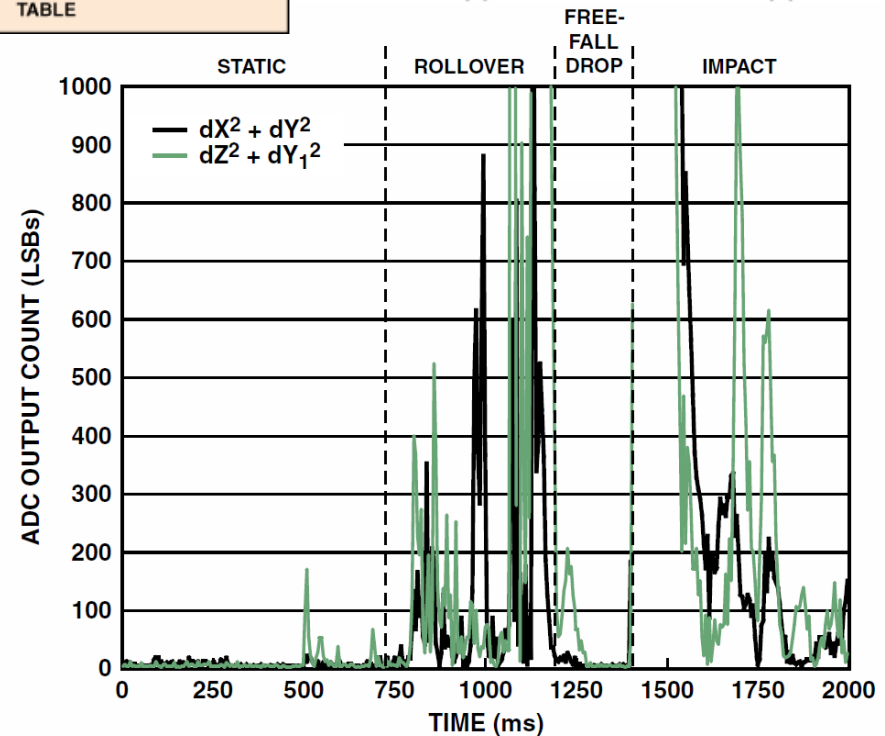


Figure 6. Differential acceleration algorithm—time-derivative plots for  $(dX/dt)^2 + (dY/dt)^2$  and  $(dZ/dt)^2 + (dY_1/dt)^2$ .

# **CAPACITIVE MEMS GYROSCOPES**

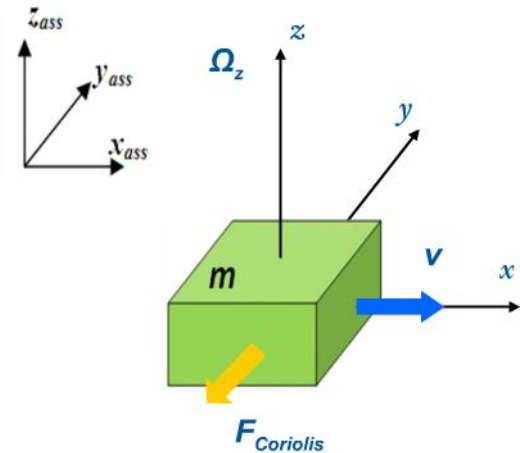


# Acceleration versus Angular Rate

## Coriolis

Force is *perpendicular* to linear velocity  $v$  and angular velocity  $\Omega$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F}_C &= 2m(\vec{v} \times \vec{\Omega}) \\ &= -2m(\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v})\end{aligned}$$



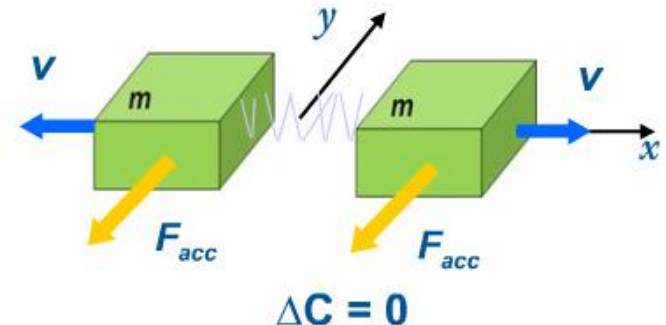
$$F_{Coriolis} = -2m\Omega_z \wedge v$$

## Newton

Force is in same direction as acceleration

$$\vec{F}_N = m \vec{a}$$

Acceleration is applied



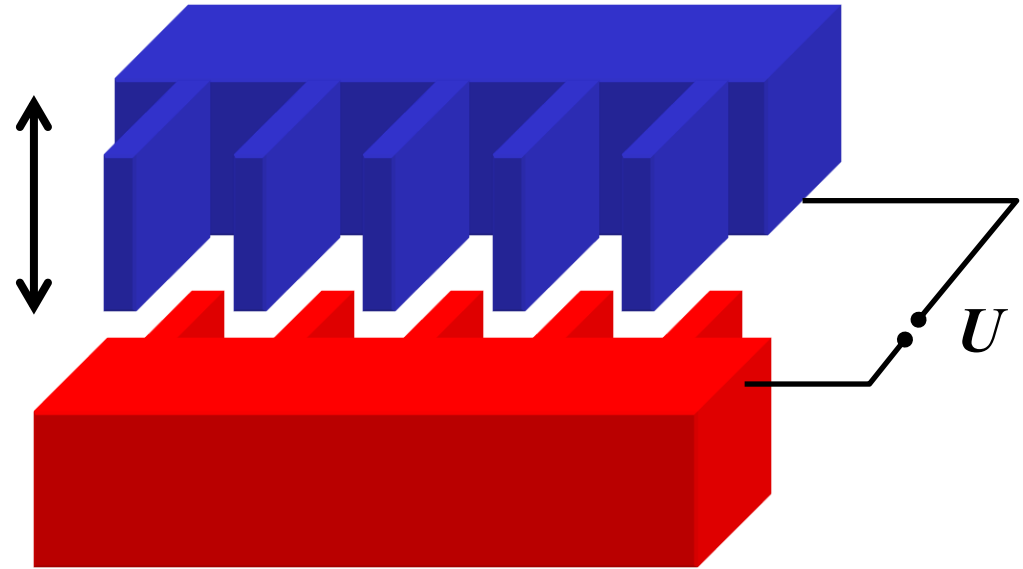
Interesting e-Learning Tutorial:

[http://www.st.com/internet/com/MULTIMEDIA\\_RESOURCES/VIDEO/DEMO\\_VIDEO/epres\\_mems\\_gyroscope.swf](http://www.st.com/internet/com/MULTIMEDIA_RESOURCES/VIDEO/DEMO_VIDEO/epres_mems_gyroscope.swf)



# Electrostatic Comb-Drive Actuators for the Oscillating Masses

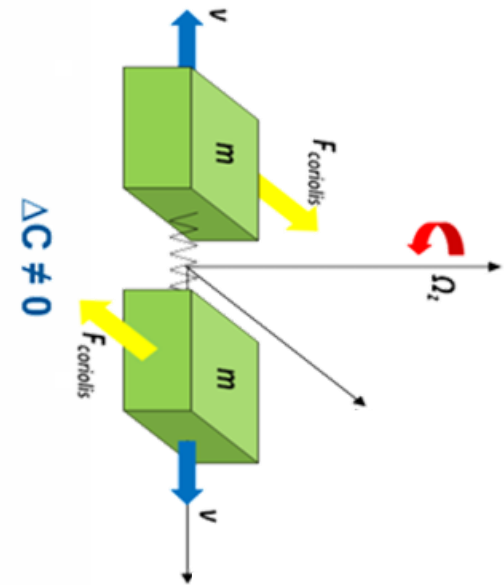
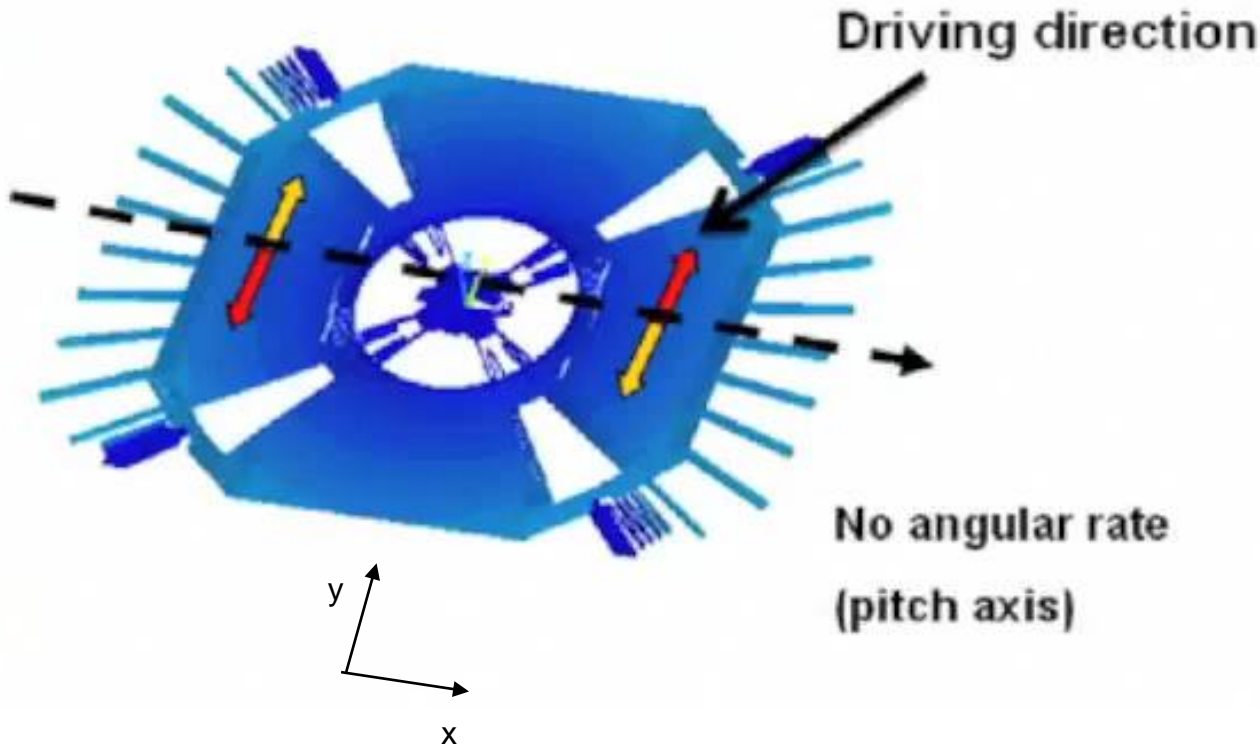
- Low power
- Lateral actuation
  - In-plane motion
- Vertical actuation
  - Out-of-plane
- Movement depends on degree of freedom
- Vary accurate movement



# Gyroscope working principle

- Moving disk in plane
- Vibrating, oscillation
- Coriolis force causes out-of-plane displacement
- Differential capacities are measured

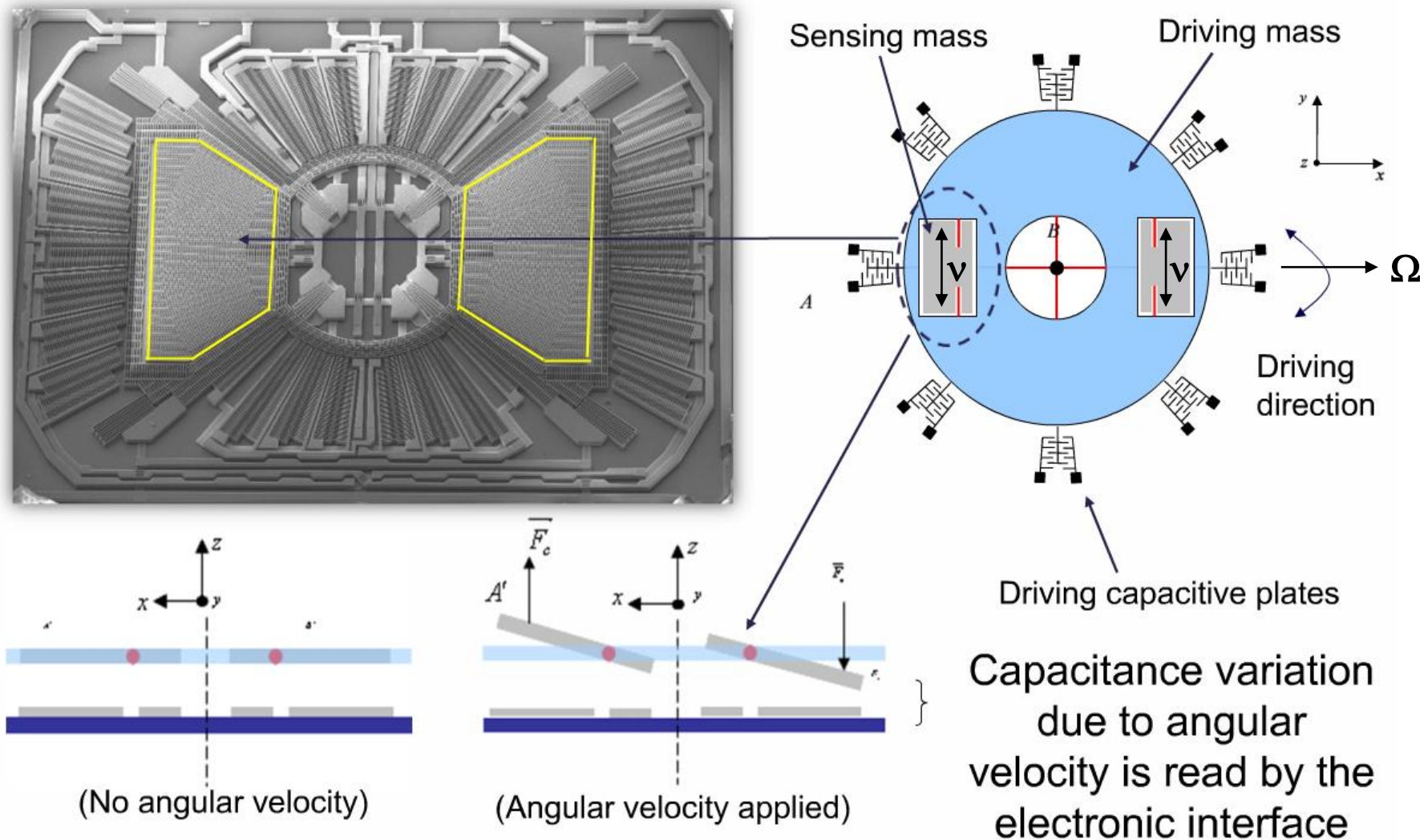
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F}_C &= 2m(\vec{v} \times \vec{\Omega}) \\ &= -2m(\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v})\end{aligned}$$



Interesting e-Learning Tutorial:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l75liNVRdfg>

# Gyroscope working principle

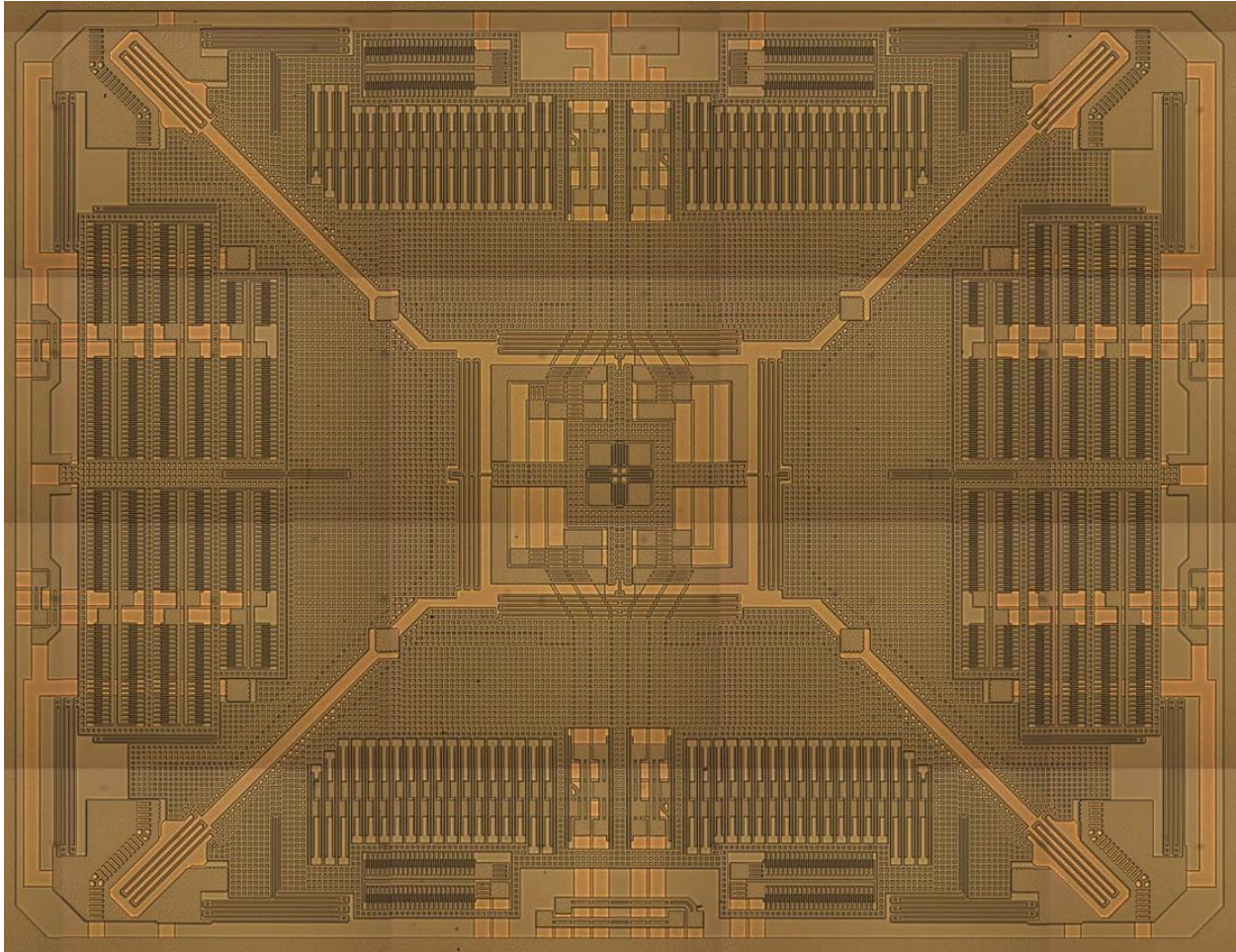


Source::  
<http://www.st.com>



# Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope From ST

- Comb-drive for in plane mass vibrations perpendicular to angular rate vector
- Parallel plate capacitor variations for roll and pitch measurements
- Large wings displaced in-plane for the yaw direction

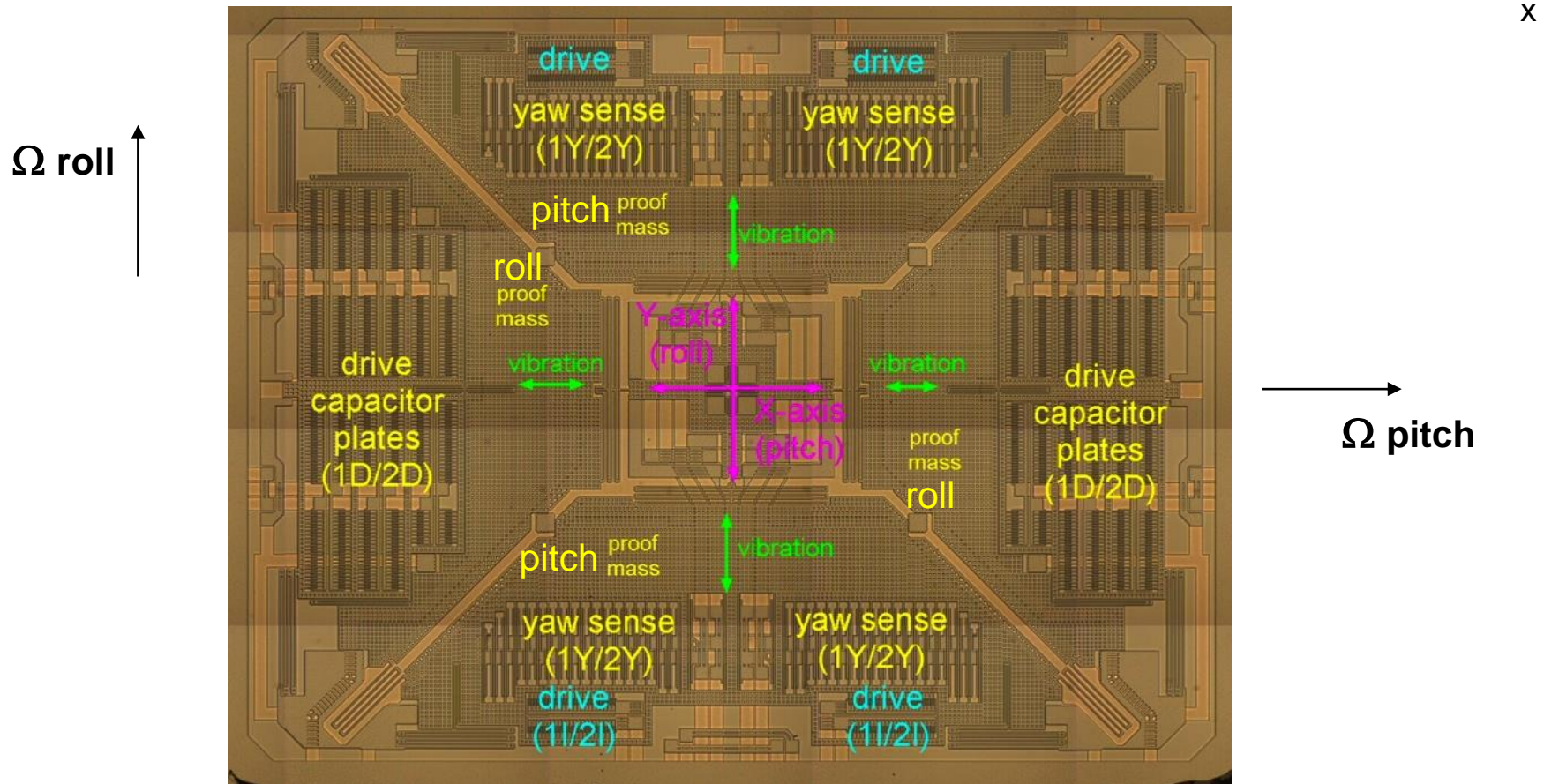


Source: [www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)

# Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope

## 3-Axes Gyroscope with single mass

Coriolis forces out of plane for the roll and pitch angular rates



Explanations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BWerr7rJmU> x-y axis inverted !

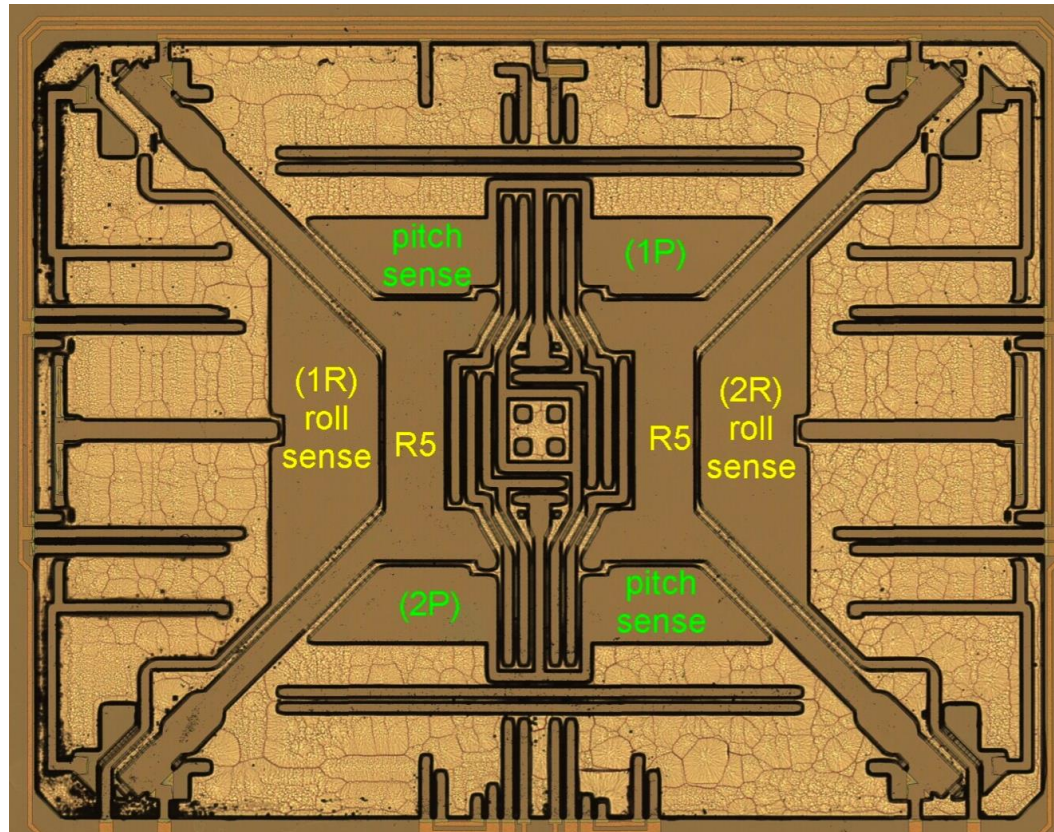
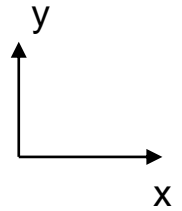


Source: [www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)



# Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope

Bottom electrodes for roll and pitch capacitive sensing



\* In video: this picture is rotated 90° because of x-y axis rotation



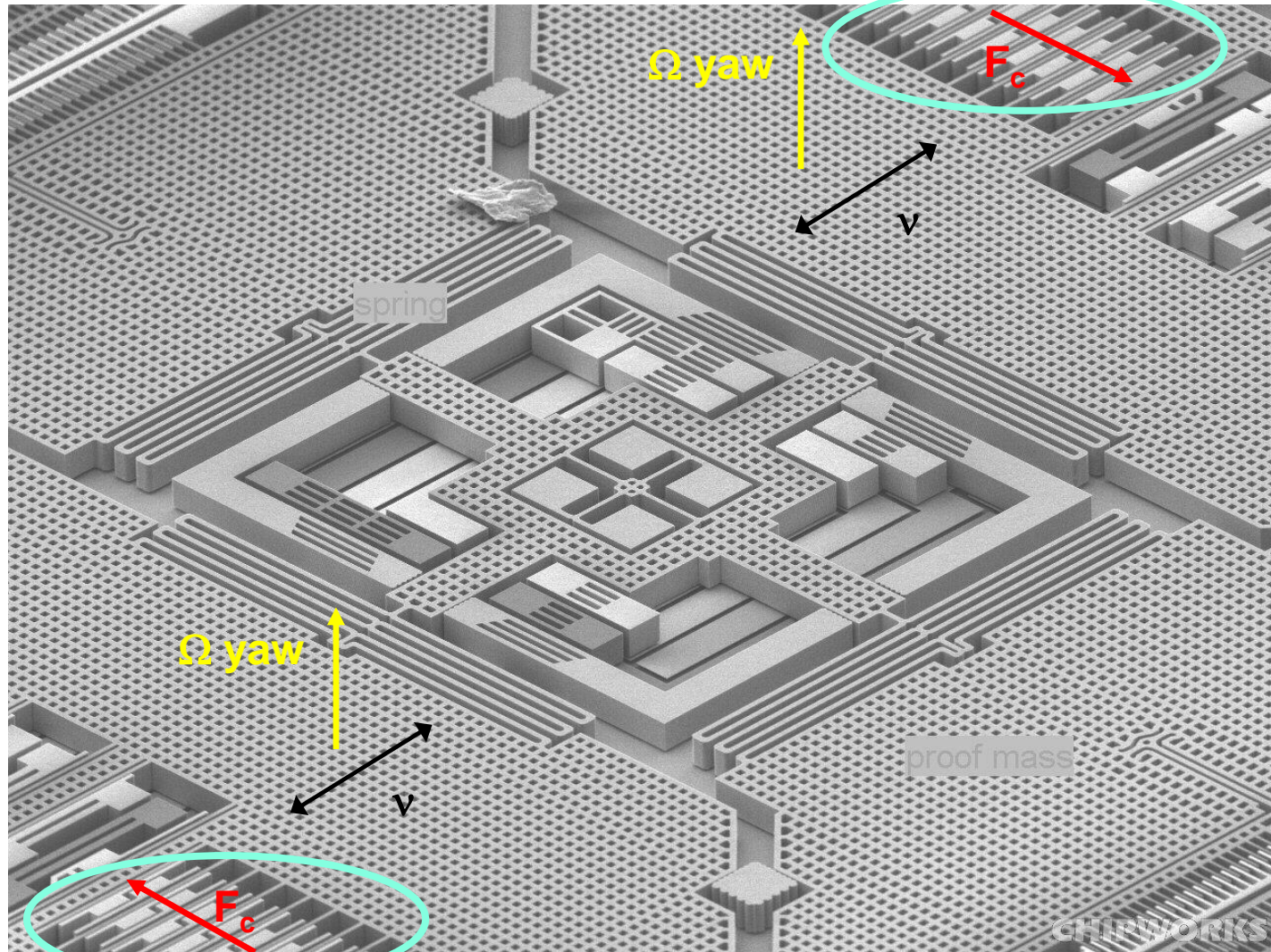
Source: [www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)



# Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope

Coriolis force in plane for the yaw angular rate

Vertical electrodes for yaw sensing



Vertical electrodes for yaw sensing



Source: [www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)

# Capacitive and Piezoresistive Sensing

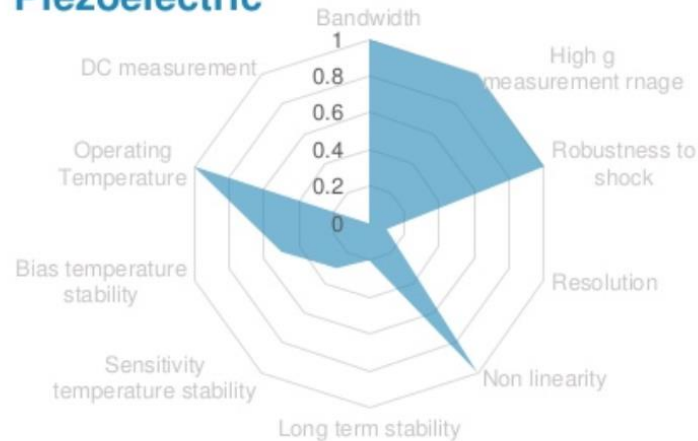
# SUMMARY

**Capacitive sensing is perhaps the most dominant position-sensing technique for microfabricated sensors. However, there are a number of limitations imposed on capacitive sensors:**

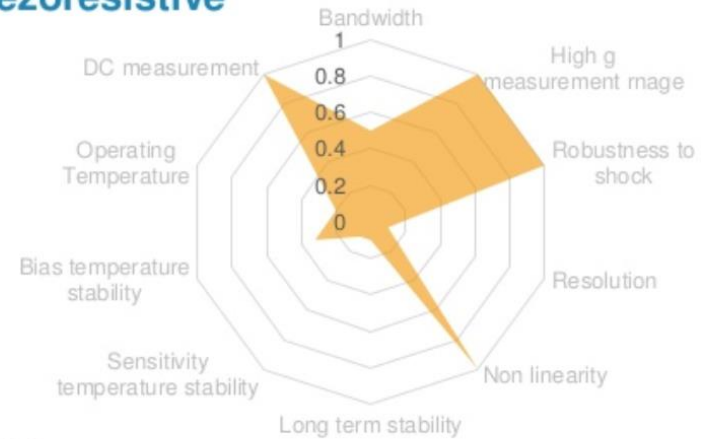
- The detection of position is constrained to small vertical movement (parallel plate) and horizontal movement (transverse or lateral comb drives).**
- The area of overlapped electrodes must be reasonably large (as a rule of thumb, tens of  $\mu\text{m}^2$ ). If the overlap area is small and the vertical displacement is large, capacitive sensors are not suitable.**
- Parasitic capacitances requiring specific electronics circuitry**

## ACCELEROMETER TECHNOLOGIES COMPARISON

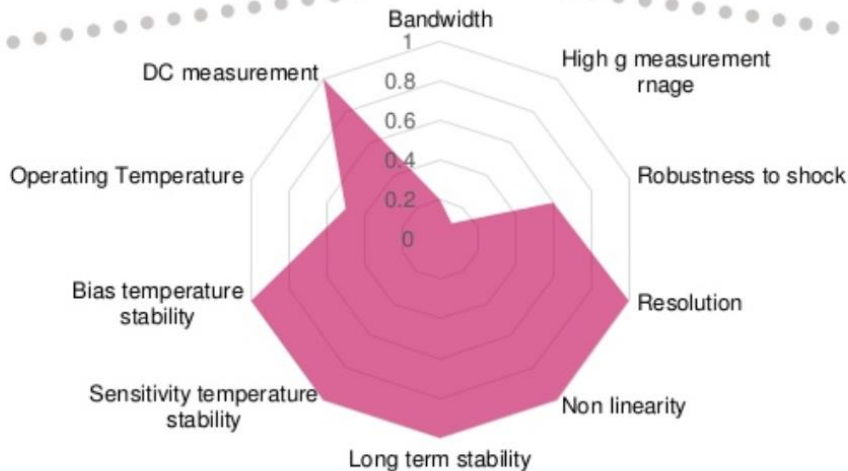
### Piezoelectric



### Piezoresistive

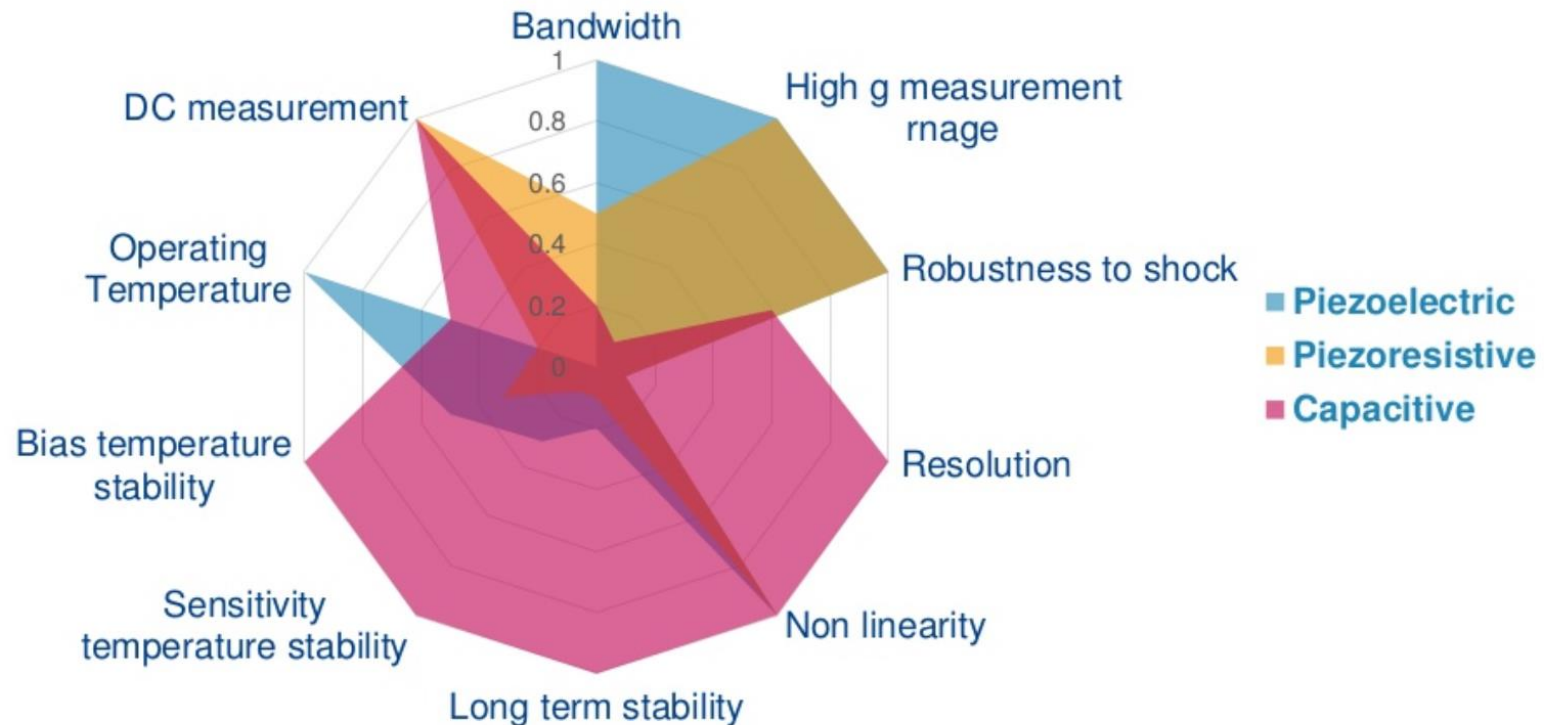


### Capacitive MEMs





## ACCELEROMETER TECHNOLOGIES COMPARISON



**“Merging data from multiple sensors — a process called sensor fusion—  
to create the most precise representation of the environment”**

Current Developments and Trends

# **SENSOR FUSION**



# What's going on?

## Motion Sensors

### Inertial

#### Linear & Gravity

- Accelerometer
- Position i.r.t. gravity
- Change of speed
- Vibration & shock

#### Rotational

- Gyroscope
- Angular rate
- Rotation direction

### Magnetic

- Magnetometer
- Direction
- Heading

### Pressure

- Pressure sensor
- Altitude

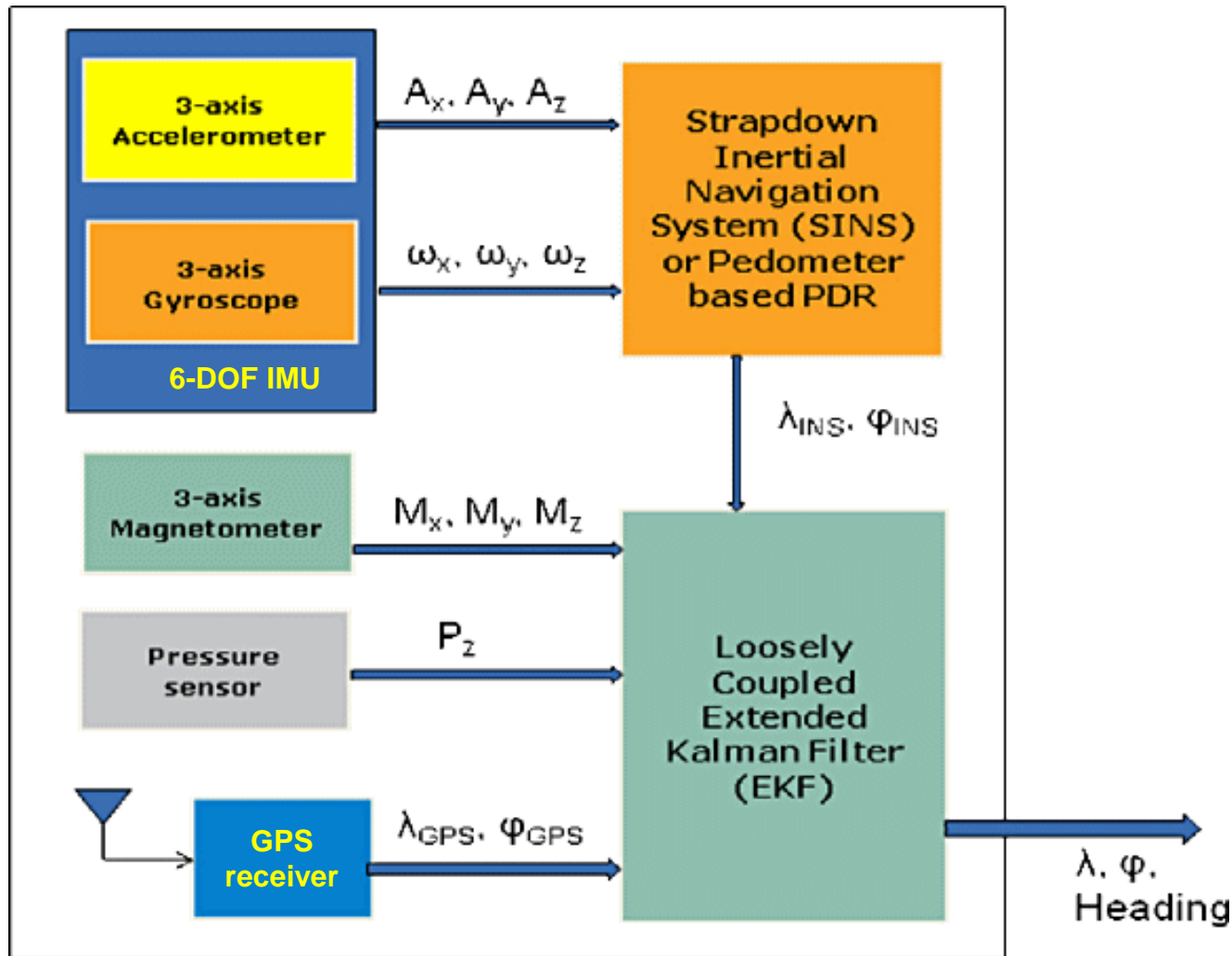
### Position

- GPS
- Coordinates
- Static
- Dynamic

# Motion Sensors Help Each Other

## Sensor Fusion

→ Combining Sensors to get the «full picture»

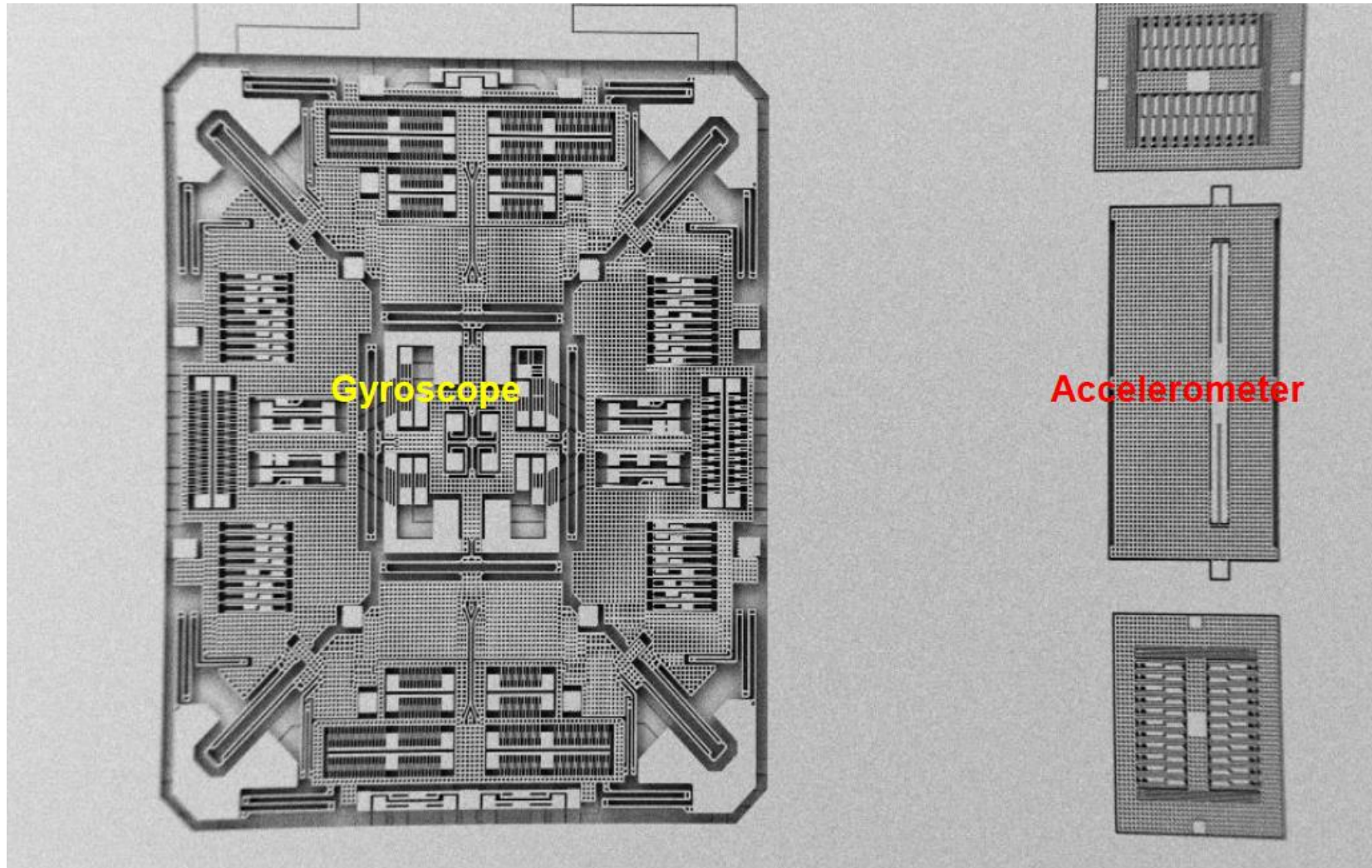


<http://www.findmems.com>

# Example for “Fusion” – iPhone 4



<http://iphonegeartalk.com/tag/gyroscope-technology>



**High performance Accelerometer and Gyro  
on the same chip**



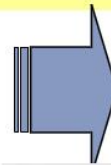
## LSM303DLH: 6-Axis Module overview

### 6D module: 3-Axis Accelerometer & 3-Axis Magnetometer

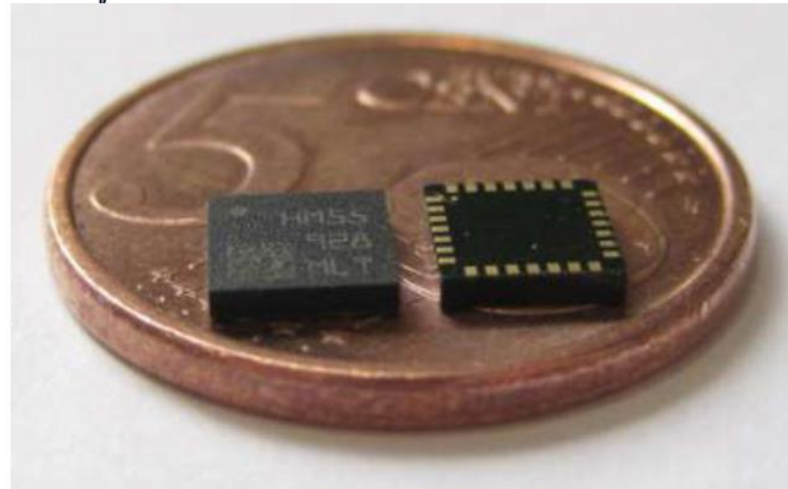
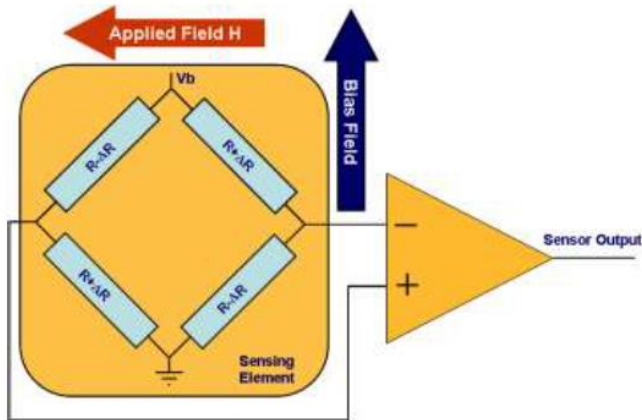


- 3A & 3M Module
- 1.0mA current consumption
- $\pm 1.3$  to 8.1 gauss MAG full scale
- $\pm 2g/\pm 4g/\pm 8g$  Acc. full scale
- 1mg resolution (12 bit)
- Built-in Strap drive circuits
- Self test (Accel & Mag)
- I2C serial interface
- Power down mode
- LGA 28 – 5x5x1

Earth's magnetic field roughly 0.6 gauss



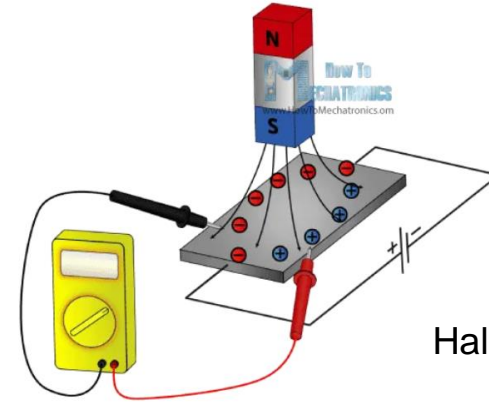
LSM303DLH cover all measurement range



# Magnetometer technology

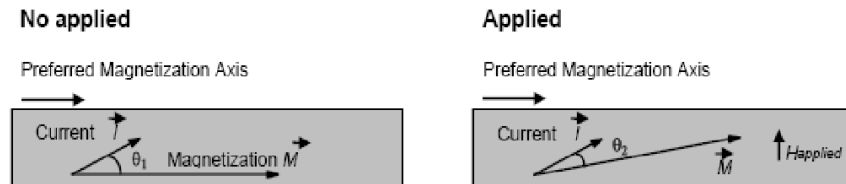
It measures the earth magnetic field by using Hall Effect or Magneto Resistive Effect.

Actually almost 90% of the sensors on the market use the Hall Effect.



Hall effect sensor

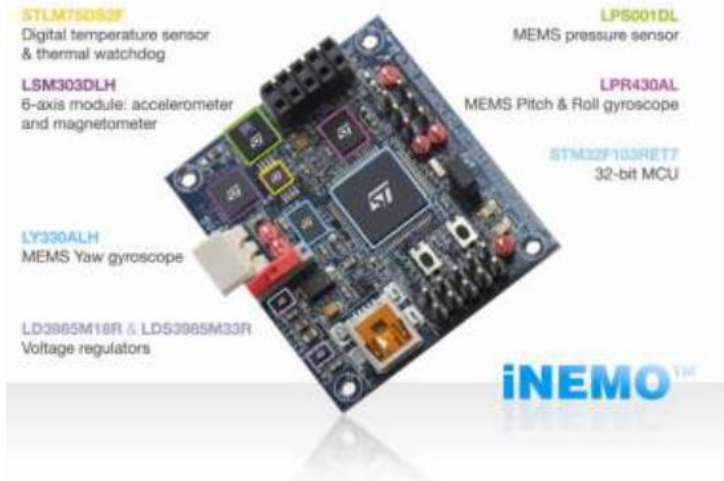
- AMR Sensor - Permalloy thin film material (NiFe alloy)



- Magneto-resistance is the property of a material to change the value of its electrical resistance when an external magnetic field is applied
- In AMR sensors, the sensing element is composed by material where a dependence of electrical resistance on the angle between the direction of electrical current and orientation of magnetic field is observed
- In Wheatstone Bridges AMR, the sensing element detects resistance change effects due to magnetic field change, that is translated into a digital word by the electronic section embedded into LSM303DLH



## STEVAL-MKI062V2 – iNEMO – 10-DOF

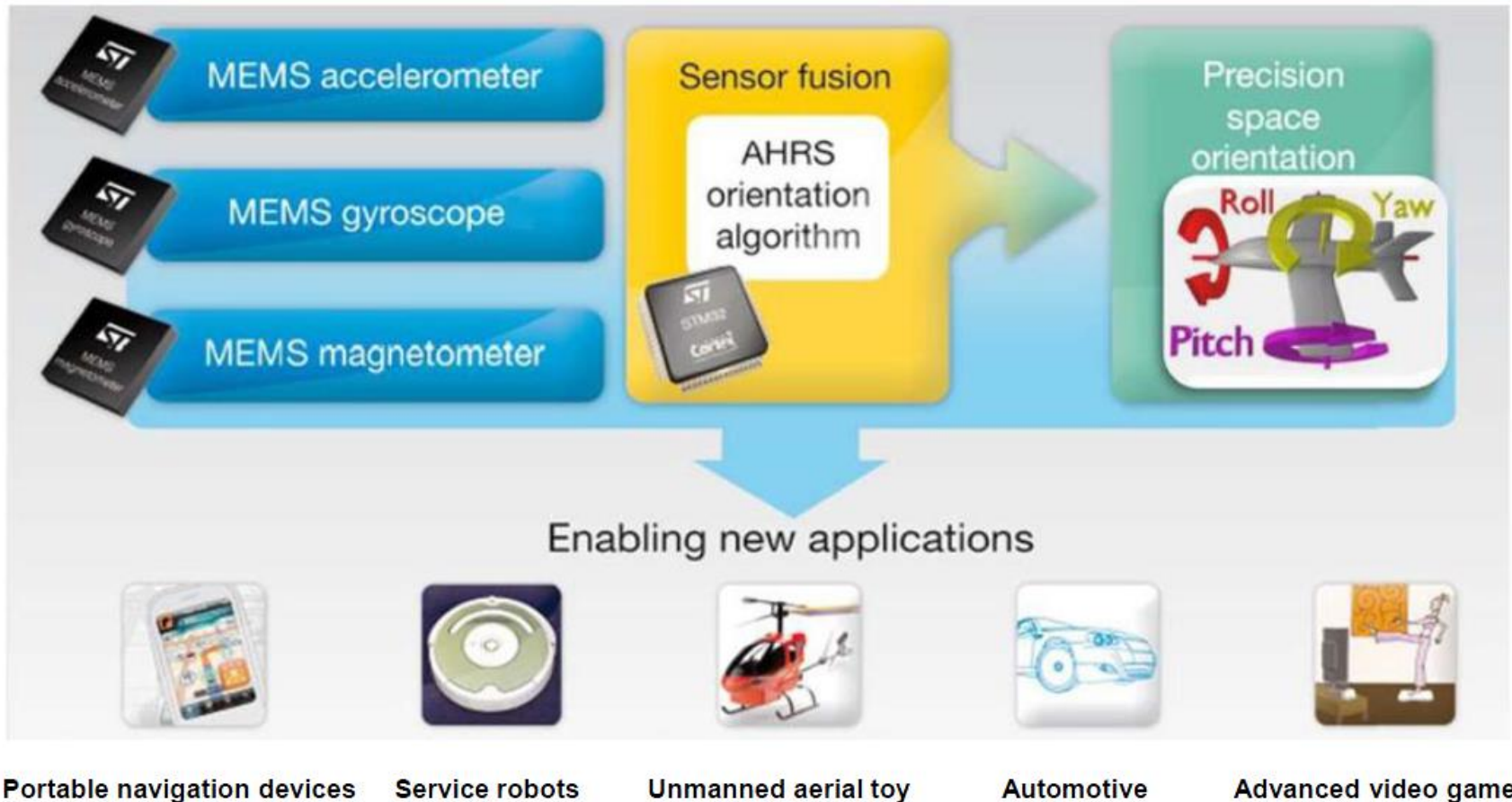


- 10-DegreesOfFreedom platform:
  - 3-Axis Accelerometer
  - 3-Axis Gyroscopes
  - 3-Axis Magnetometer
  - 1 Dimension of pressure information
- STLM75: temperature sensor with  $-55$  to  $+125^{\circ}\text{C}$  range and I<sup>2</sup>C
- MCU - STM32F103RE



# MEMS Challenge – Smart Chips and Sensors

*The iNEMO platform enables New Applications through sensor fusion*



## iNEMO<sup>®</sup> Engine: the Software

ST solution fully deployed in Android and Windows platforms

26



- Sensor fusion combines the signal from multiple sensor and compensates the non idealities of standalone sensors
- The SW provides also advanced features such as:
  - Dynamic signal distortion (hand jitter) from inertial components
  - Magnetic distortions correction
  - Full calibration support



# Inertial Sensors – Costs and Main Suppliers

Sensor Type	Cost Range	Suppliers
<b>MEMS gyro</b> (2 or 3 axis)	< \$0.70 per axis	<b>ST Micro</b> <b>InvenSense</b> <b>Epson</b>
<b>MEMS accelerometer</b> (3 axis)	< \$0.20 per axis	<b>ST Micro</b> <b>VTI</b> <b>ADI</b> <b>Freescale</b>
<b>Magnetometer</b> (3 Axis)	< \$0.70 per axis	<b>Honeywell</b> <b>AKM</b>
<b>MEMS pressure sensor</b>	< \$1.50	<b>Bosch</b>
<i>Copyright 2011 MEMS Investor Journal, Inc.</i>		

Source: <http://www.memsinvestorjournal.com/2011/09/mems-motion-sensors-market-overview-and-a-system-integrators-perspective.html>

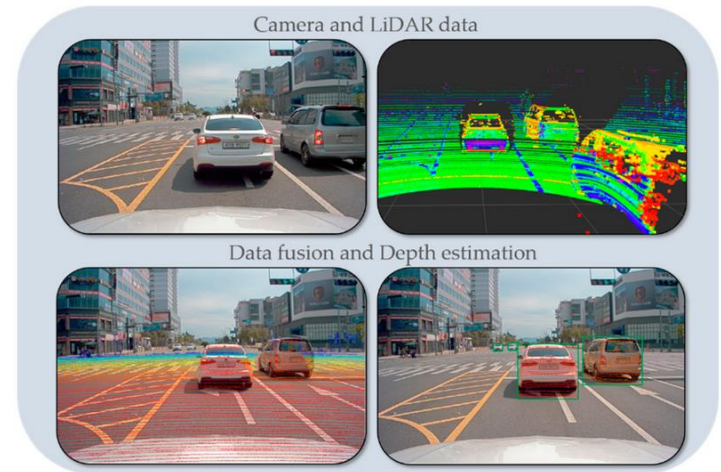
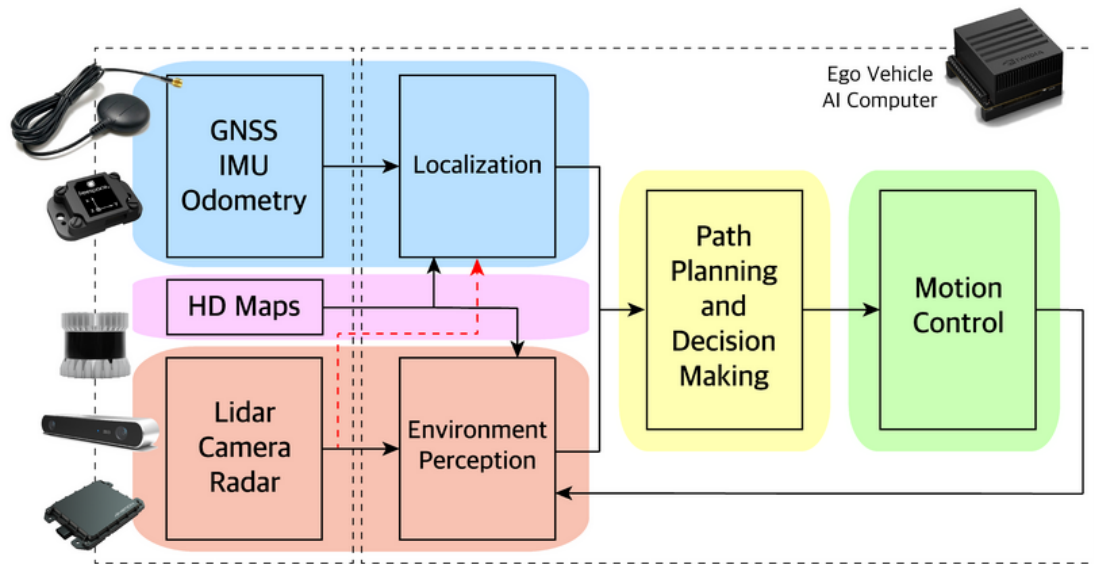
# Motion Sensor Fusion

	Pros	Cons
<b>GPS Receiver</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can provide initial position before entering buildings</li> <li>▪ can retrieve the earth's declination angle to compensate the magnetometer heading to the appropriate geographic heading</li> <li>▪ can calibrate pedometer step length when the device has a clear view to the sky outdoors</li> <li>▪ can provide bounded accurate position (longitude and latitude) outputs and pseudo-range raw measurement outputs for loosely or tightly coupled Kalman filtering with INS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ cannot tell heading when the pedestrian is not moving</li> <li>▪ cannot distinguish small variations in height (altitude)</li> </ul>
<b>Accelerometer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can be used for a tilt-compensated digital compass when the smart phone is static or moving slowly</li> <li>▪ can be used for pedometer step-counter detection</li> <li>▪ can be used to detect if the pedestrian is in motion or at rest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ cannot differentiate the true linear acceleration from the earth gravity components when the smart phone is rotating</li> <li>▪ is sensitive to shaking and vibration</li> </ul>
<b>Gyroscope</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can continuously provide the rotation matrix to INS</li> <li>▪ can aid the digital compass in calculating heading when the magnetometer is disturbed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ bias drift over time leads to unlimited INS positioning error</li> </ul>
<b>Magnetometer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can calculate absolute heading with respect to earth's magnetic north</li> <li>▪ can be used to calibrate gyroscope sensitivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is sensitive to environmental magnetic interference fields</li> </ul>
<b>Pressure sensor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can distinguish between floors for indoor navigation</li> <li>▪ can aid GPS for altitude calculation and positioning accuracy when the GPS signal is degraded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is sensitive to wind flow and weather conditions</li> </ul>

source: <http://www.findmems.com>

# Autonomous driving and vehicles

- Higher autonomy levels demand higher levels of accuracy and precision in object detection, classification and tracking and environmental modeling
- Sensor fusion combines raw data from all available sensors on the vehicle and provides rich data to accurately detect and classify an object



*Sensors* 2019, 19(20), 4357

*Symmetry* 2020, 12(2), 324



# Summary Questions

- **How does capacitive sensing work? Why to use MEMS?**
- **Why is differential capacitive readout beneficial?**
- **For a capacitive MEMS sensor, what material or geometric properties can be used for sensing? If a higher sensitivity is required, what parameters can an engineer consider in the sensor design?**
- **Describe the design and operation of MEMS Accelerometers and Gyroscopes**
- **What applications use MEMS Accelerometers and Gyroscopes and why?**
- **What is the self-test function in a capacitive MEMS Accelerometer?**
- **What are advantages of piezoresistive sensing compared to capacitive sensing and vice-versa?**
- **What is Sensor Fusion and what it is good for?**

# Capacitive Readout vs. Piezoresistive Readout 2020

	capacitive	piezoresistive
properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Measure capacitance</li> <li>- Distance change</li> <li>- Parallel Plate</li> <li>- Change in Common Surface</li> <li>- Comb Drive</li> <li>- « etched into silicon »</li> </ul> $C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strain-&gt;stress-&gt;resistor change</li> <li>- Doping / thin film deposition</li> </ul> $\frac{dR}{R} = G\epsilon$
advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Differential Readout - linearize</li> <li>- 'integrated in microsystems technology'</li> <li>- More easily manufactured</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create an integrated readout</li> <li>- 'integrated' in microsystem technology</li> <li>- Linear (within the material limits)</li> <li>- 'can tolerate large displacement'</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parallel plate - nonlinear</li> <li>- Higher sensitivity requires larger capacitors</li> <li>- Requires more space</li> <li>- Pull-in instability</li> <li>- Fabrication tolerances in geometry</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fabrication tolerances due to doping (can actually be well controlled)</li> <li>- temperature sensitivity (wheat stone bridge can solve it)</li> <li>- power consumption!</li> <li>- Thermal noise</li> <li>- Self-heating</li> </ul>

# Capacitive Readout vs. Piezoresistive Readout 2019

	capacitive	piezoresistive
properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- change in capacitance</li> <li>- <math>C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}</math></li> <li>- combs / interdigitated</li> <li>- parallel plate</li> <li>- differential readout</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Change in resistor due to stress/strain</li> <li>- Sensor by ion implantation / diffusion doping</li> </ul>
advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- differential readout - linearize</li> <li>- good sensitivity in uSystems</li> <li>- low power consumption</li> <li>- no heat-up upon readout</li> <li>- integrate well with MST</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- integrate well with MST</li> <li>- compact</li> <li>- larger displacements (no pull-in)</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- complex structure?</li> <li>- nonlinear / readout -&gt; linearize?</li> <li>- combs might stick</li> <li>- pull-in instability</li> <li>- frequency measurement</li> <li>- less compact (surface requirement)</li> <li>- sensitive to humidity (package)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- power consumption (high)</li> <li>- self-heating</li> <li>- thermal noise</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>

# Capacitive Readout vs. Piezoresistive Readout 2018

	capacitive	piezoresistive
properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacitive change due to movement or change in <math>\epsilon</math></li> <li>- small movements</li> <li>- large areas</li> <li>- parallel plates or comb drives</li> <li>- ...</li> </ul> $C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- change in resistor due to stress/strain</li> <li>- sensor element by ion implantation or by diffusion implant</li> </ul> $\frac{dR}{R} = G\epsilon$
advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- stability</li> <li>- low power</li> <li>- good repeatability</li> <li>- can be integrated using MEMS technology</li> <li>- ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- can support large movements</li> <li>- small footprint</li> <li>- integration with electronics/process</li> <li>- ...</li> </ul>
drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- nonlinear response                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- linearization / more complex readout required</li> </ul> </li> <li>- can be sensitive to discharges</li> <li>- sensitivity to humidity</li> <li>- ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- thermal noise</li> <li>- power dissipation</li> <li>- drift</li> <li>- ...</li> </ul>