# SENSING AND MEASUREMENTS



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# **Sensing and measuring**

Sensing: observing physical systems by quantities associated with excitations, states, and answers with the purpose of drawing conclusions on their structure and/or their behaviour.

The knowledge acquired by sensing is used for evaluating and/or controlling the system.

Sensing means some type of comparison:

- comparison to some limit of the quantity,
- comparison to some unit quantity  $\leftarrow$  measuring.

Measuring:

Comparison with a unit: determining the ratio of a quantity and a quantity unit.



# Measuring, metrology

**Metrology** deals with the derivation of the units associated with quantities, with their physical realisation, and the principles of realising the measurements.

SI units (Le Système International d'Unités - International System of Units, 1960): temperature





# Metrology

#### The definition of the SI units (May 2019): (new)

- **Time:** second (s) The duration of 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the caesium-133 atom.
- Length: meter (m) The distance travelled by light in vacuum in 1/299,792,458 second.
- Mass: kilogram (kg) The kilogram is defined by setting the Planck constant h exactly to 6.62607015×10<sup>-34</sup> J·s, where J = kg·m<sup>2</sup>·s<sup>-2</sup>.
- Electric current: amper (A) The flow of 1.602176634×10<sup>19</sup> times the elementary charge *e* (the charge carried by a proton) per second.
- **Temperature: kelvin (K)** The kelvin is expected to be defined by setting the fixed numerical value of the Boltzmann constant k to  $1.380649 \times 10-23 \text{ J} \cdot \text{K}-1$ , where J = kg·m<sup>2</sup>·s<sup>-2</sup>.
- **mol (mol)** The amount of substance of exactly 6.02214076×10<sup>23</sup> elementary entities (the Avogadro number).

candela (cd) The luminous intensity, in a given direction, of a source that emits monochromatic radiation of frequency 5.4×10<sup>14</sup> hertz and that has a radiant intensity in that direction of 1/683 watt per steradian.



# Metrology

The definition of the SI base units has changed a lot since the beginnings, e.g. the **meter**:

According to Metre Convention 1875, Paris 1 m is 1/10,000,000 of the meridian through Paris between the North Pole and the Equator.

According to the derivation of 1889 1 m is the length measured between two notches engraved on of a platinairidium etalon in the temperature of the melting ice.

In1960 1 m was derived as 1,650,763.73 1650763.73 wavelengths in a vacuum of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the 2p10 and 5d5 quantum levels of the krypton-86 atom.

In 1983 meter was defined as the distance travelled by light in vacuum in 1/299,792,458 second (the current definition). Realisation: wavelength of an iodine stabilized helium-neon laser.

By successive redefinitions the relative uncertainty decreased from  $10^{-7}$  to  $10^{-11}$ .





# Metrology

SI derived units possessing specific names:

Derived quantities	SI unit	Notation	Expressed with SI units	Expressed with SI base units
frequency	hertz	Hz		s-1
force	newton	N		m · kg · s⁻²
pressure	pascal	Ра	N/m <sup>2</sup>	m⁻¹ · kg · s⁻²
energy	joule	J	N · m	m <sup>2</sup> · kg · s <sup>-2</sup>
power	watt	W	J/s	m2 · kg · s <sup>-3</sup>
electric charge	coulomb	С		s · A
electric potential difference, voltage, electromotive force	volt	V	W/A	m <sup>2</sup> · kg · s <sup>-3</sup> · A <sup>-1</sup>
electric capacity	farad	F	C/V	m <sup>-2</sup> · kg <sup>-1</sup> · s <sup>4</sup> · A <sup>2</sup>
electric resistance	ohm	Ω	V/A	$m^2 \cdot kg \cdot s^{-3} \cdot A^{-2}$
electric conductivity	siemens	S	A/V	$m^{-2} \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot s^3 \cdot A^2$
magnetic flux	weber	Wb	V·s	$m^2 \cdot kg \cdot s^{-2} \cdot A^{-1}$
magnetic induction, magnetic flux density	tesla	Т	Wb/m <sup>2</sup>	kg · s <sup>-2</sup> · A <sup>-1</sup>
inductivity	henry	н	Wb/A	$m^2 \cdot kg \cdot s^{-2} \cdot A^{-2}$
Luminous flux	lumen	lm	cd · sr	cd
illuminance	lux	lx	lm/m <sup>2</sup>	$m^{2} \cdot m^{-4} \cdot cd = m^{-2} \cdot cd$
radioactivity	becquerel	Bq		s-1
ionising radiation dose	gray	Gy	J/kg	m <sup>2</sup> · s <sup>-2</sup>
ionising radiation dose	sievert	Sv	J/kg	m <sup>2</sup> · s <sup>-2</sup>
planar angle	radian	rad		m · m <sup>-1</sup> = 1
spatial angle	steradian	Sr		$m2 \cdot m^{-2} = 1$
catalythic activity	katal	kat		s <sup>-1</sup> · mol







Sensor / transducer: brings a physical quantity into a workable form (workable by a human or anautomaton)

Examples: • Kinematic sensors: speedometer, tachograph

- Dynamical sensors: accelerometer, gyroscope
- Temperature sensors: thermocouple, resistance temperature device (RTD), thermistor
- Pressure sensor: manometer, barometer,
- Electrical sensors: voltmeter, current sensor
- Magnetic sensors: magnetic field detector, compass
- Composite sensors: video camera, GPS, LIDAR







Processing is needed because the sensors usually do not produce the features needed by the user.

The (most typical) reasons:

- Measurement errors, inaccuracies,
- Noises,
- Unwanted internal and environmental effects,
- Crossover between measured parameters.



# **Sensors typically today**

The physical quantities are transformed to

- electrical quantities: voltage, current, frequency, or
- quantities that can be measured by using electrical principles: electrical resistance, capacity, inductivity.

Classification of the sensors by the output generated:

- Analogous: the output quantity can be interpreted in continuous scale.
- Binary: the output varies between two discrete values
   can be interpreted as logic levels.
- Digital: the output quantity can be interpreted in discrete numeric scale.





#### Some simple examples:



#### Micro-switch (limit-switch)

binary sensor:
 displacement or force to
 resistance zero/infinite

#### Potentiometer

NC terminal

NO terminal

analog sensor: angle to resistance





#### Some simple examples for optical sensors:

Out

GND



Photo-interrupter





#### Optical rotary encoder



Light intensity sensors



Infrared distance measurement sensor

# **Sensing and measurement**

#### Semiconductor pressure sensor







Pressure difference causes deformation on the thin Si disc (membrane).

The deformation causes changes in the resistance that can be measured by using the Wheatstone-bridge principle.



# **Sensing and measurement**

#### Magnetic field sensor



Magnetoresistive effect:

The magnetic field changes the electrical resistance of the permalloy material (an iron alloy).

Measurement: Wheatstone-bridge.





# **Sensing and measurement**

#### Stain gauge stamp



Application example: weight cell.

Measurement: Wheatstone-bridge. Mechanical deformation (strain):

changes the resistance of a thin conductive layer.





Temperature sensor options:

Binary temperature sensors (thermal switch, thermostat):

- Bimetal switch
- Liquid- or gas-filled bellows switch

Proportional (analog) temperature sensors:

- Resistor Temperature Detector (RTD)
- Thermocouple(TC),
- Thermistor
- Semiconductor based temperature sensors
- Contactless infrared temperature sensors



#### Binary temperature sensors

Limit switch: if the temperature goes beyond some limit its state of a switch is changed between ON/OFF.

• Bimetal switch







Bimetal strip - rolled by two metal strips with different thermal expansion coefficients: due to different length increases of the two materials it is deflected.

$$\varepsilon = \frac{L(T) - L(T_0)}{L(T_0)} = \alpha(T - T_0)$$
relative length
difference
thermal expansion
coefficient



• Liquid- or gas-filled bellows switch



Temperature dependence of a gas:

 $\frac{pV}{T} = const.$  (unified gas law)

The bellows keeps constant pressure:

$$V(T) - V(T_0) = \frac{k}{p}(T - T_0) \quad L(T) - L(T_0) = \frac{k}{pA}(T - T_0)$$





V = LA

Temperature dependence of the volume of liquids:

relative change of volume

$$\varepsilon_{V} = \frac{V(T) - V(T_{0})}{V(T_{0})} = \gamma(V - V_{0})$$

$$\uparrow$$
Volumetric thermal  
expansion coefficient



Resistor Temperature Detector (RTD)

Principle: temperature dependence of the resistance of conductive materials

$$\frac{R(T) - R(T_0)}{R(T_0)} = \alpha (T - T_0) \quad R(T) = R(T_0) (1 + \alpha \Delta T)$$

$$\int_{\text{linear thermal coefficient}} \alpha (T - T_0) \quad R(T) = R(T_0) (1 + \alpha \Delta T)$$

In the reality a nonlinear relationship is valid.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> order approximation:

$$R(T) = R(T_0) (1 + \alpha \Delta T + \beta (\Delta T)^2)$$



Higher order approximations: by the Taylor-expansion of the function R(T).



RTD: Pt100 - 100  $\Omega$  platinum is used most frequently





Standard: DIN IEC 751 Classes - according to tolerance:

> A: ± [ (0.15 + 0.002 | t | ] °C B: ± [ (0.30 + 0.005 | t | ] °C

Materials used:

Platinum $0.00385 \Omega/\Omega/^{\circ}C$ -260 - 850 °CCopper $0.00427 \Omega/\Omega/^{\circ}C$ -100 - 260 °CNickel $0.00672 \Omega/\Omega/^{\circ}C$ -100 - 260 °C

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Characteristics of Pt100 RTD (according to IEC751):

- Nominal resistance at  $100^{\circ}C$ :  $100\Omega$ .
- Linear thermal coefficient  $\alpha$ =0.00385 (average between 0 and 100 °C)
- More accurate nonlinear relationship:

 $R(T) = R_0 (1 + a T + bT^2 + c(T - 100)T^3)$ 



(Callendar-Van Dusen equation)



#### Pt100 RTD RESISTANCE vs. TEMPERATURE

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#### Measurement with RTDs: voltage divider



Excitation by voltage generator:

$$U_0 = U_I \frac{R_{RTD}}{R_S + R_{RTD}} \leftarrow \text{bias}$$

nonlinear

Excitation by current generator

$$U_0 = IR_{RTD}$$
 linear

Excitation by constant current is more advantageous:no bias,

• The resistance of wiring does not affect the result.



#### RTD measurement: Wheatstone-bridge

One element of the bridge is an RTD, the other ones are resistors with constant values. Output voltage  $U_0$  is measured.



Excitation by voltage generator



Excitation by current generator: it is usually more advantageous.



#### Thermo Couples (TC)



Thermoelectric (Seebeck) effect: mobility of electrons varies in different metals; this phenomenon results in different electric potential that can be measured - in a junction of different metals thermal voltage occurs.

"Naked'



K-type TC (according IEC 584)

#### chromel(+) - alumel(-) $41\mu V/^{\circ}C$



chromel: nickel (90%) - chromium (10%) alloy alumel: nickel (95%) - manganum (2%) - aluminium (2%) - silicon (1%) alloy



#### Thermistors

Resistors made of semiconductor ceramic material with

- NTC negative temperature coefficient
- PTC positive temperature coefficient

NTCs are most frequently used. The principal equation:



# $T = \frac{1}{A + B \ln(R) + C [\ln(R)]^3}$

(Steinhart-Hart)

A, B, C are empirical constants (can be found in catalogues)

#### Measurement:

- voltage divider, or
- Wheatstone-bridge.



Semiconductor temperature measurement ICs, e.g.: LM20

Operating principle: exploits the temperature dependence of the semiconductor PN junction (Si material).

Analog output quasi-linear sensor:



More exact nonlinear expression:

$$T = -1481.96 + \sqrt{2.1962 \cdot 10^6 + \frac{1.8639 - V_0}{3.88 \cdot 10^{-6}}}$$
$$V_0 = (-3.88 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot T^2) + (-1.15 \cdot 10^2 \cdot T) + 1.86399$$

 $V_0 = -11.69 \, mV / ^{\circ}\text{C} \cdot T + 1.8663 \, V$ 





# **Position and attitude sensing**

Position and attitude in an inertial system are relative quantities.

Absolute quantities :

- Accelerations of translations  $-a_x$ ,  $a_y$ ,  $a_z$
- Angular rates of rotation  $-\omega_x, \omega_y, \omega_z$

Position, velocity and orientation angles are given:

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t}) = s_0 + \mathbf{v}_0 t + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{a}(\tau) d\tau \qquad \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{v}_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{a}(\tau) d\tau \qquad \varphi(\mathbf{t}) = \varphi_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \omega(\tau) d\tau$$

• Indefinite parameters are present in the equations.



• Their derivation can be realized with cumulative error.

The means of sensing the orientation and the rotation of the objects; they realise angle or angular rate measurements.

Types according to the physical principle used:

- Mechanical (rotating) gyroscope
- Vibrating mechanical gyroscope
- Laser gyroscope



# **Mechanical rotating gyroscopes**

Physical principles: • Newton axioms

• The impulse retention law

The rotating angle of a rotating rigid body is in stable equilibrium, i.e. it retains its position.

What does it mean? Is it standing? - No:

It rotates around a given direction along a cone - this is the phenomenon of precession.



# **Mechanical rotating gyroscopes**



$$\tau = \frac{dL}{dt} = \frac{d(\Theta\omega)}{dt} = \Theta\beta$$

### Precession:

 A torque perpendicular to the rotations axis occurs

$$\tau_p = \omega_p \times L$$

- Coriolis force coming from the rotation of the Earth
- Friction effects
- Random effects (small deflections in the geometry, and external forces)



# **History of gyroscopes**



### Johann Bohnenberger University of Tübingen (1817)

- An experimental means for illustrating the spatial rotation of rigid bodies
- All the characteristics of a modern gyroscope are present



# **Ancient history of gyroscopes**

#### Byzantine Philo (i.e. 280-220) - non-overturning ink pot



Ancient finding from Philippi (i.e. 350-250) - a sun-dial (watch) (from cc. 1230)

Gerolamo Cardano (1501-1576) cardan-suspension for coaches 31



# **History of gyroscopes**

Léon Foucault École Polytechnique, Paris, 1852 It has been constructed by suggestion of **Pierre-Simon Laplace** for the purpose of demonstrating the rotation of the Earth

The name "gyroscope" is originated from Foucault.





# **Mechanical gyrocompass**



Hollandia, 1885

Rotating by an electric motor

M.G. van den Bos,

- High viscosity liquid filling for the attenuation
- Automatic setting in the geographical North (principle: the toque generated by the Coriolis force is 0 in this position).
- A product manufactured in high volumes.
- Many patents and priority dispute is connected with the invention.





### ... now in a practical application

# **Mechanical gyrocompass**



Sperry gyrocompass



- Higher reliability than that of the magnetic compass
- Points to the geograpgical North(→ magnetic North differs from it - declination )
- It is widely used in marine ships
- Disadvantages: slow set-up, slow tracking of changes



#### Today:

- Laser gyrocompass
- GPS

is used instead.

# **Gyroscopes in aerospace**

### Applications:

- Stabilising the motion of the air/space craft
- Controlling manoeuvres
- Navigation

### Means:

- 1-axis gyroscopes
- 2-axis gyroscopes
- 3-axis gyroscopes
- "Gimbal lock" problem: 4<sup>th</sup> axis is needed
- Inertial Navigation Systems



#### Function:

• Detection deflection from one direction

#### Application:

- Stabilizing vehicle yaw motion
- Steering control

#### Example:

Honeywell JG7005 autopilot gyroscope, years 1950 A binary output device: in a deflection contacts are set ON or OFF





#### Function:

2D position tracking

Application:

- 2D attitude detection (artificial horizon)
- 2D position control

Example:

Honeywell JG7044N, years 1950





#### Boeing 747 Sperry vertical gyroscope

years 1970





#### Function:

3-dimensional positioning

#### Application:

• 3D path tracking control

#### Example:

Inertial module an the S3 ballistic missile, 1966







... from the early space missions (Kennedy Space Center)



# The "gimbal lock" problem

If the gyroscope does not detect the motion of the vehicle along one or more degree of freedom, a "lock" phenomenon occurs - the gyroscope looses one or more degrees of freedom.

When does this happen?

If two axes of rotation of a gyroscope fall in one plane.

Why is it called "gimbal lock"?

It only falls with a ring (gimbal) gyroscope.



# The "gimbal lock" problem



Normal state.

X and Z axes of rotation coincide: **gimbal lock** - "roll" motion cannot be detected.

# The "gimbal lock" problem

A notable case: during the Moon mission of Apollo 11 almost caused problem the gimbal lock - at angle 85° the on-board computer intervened erroneously, however the crew noticed the error and corrected it by restarting the IMU.

"How about sending me a fourth gimbal for Christmas?" - Mike Collins

Elimination of the gimbal lock phenomenon:

- Let's use a 4<sup>th</sup> redundant gimbal.
- Observe the critical condition and restart the gyroscope from a new position.
- Do not use rotating mechanical gyroscope.



# The notable gyroscope



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# Vibrating mechanical gyroscope

Principle: a vibrating flexible rod



in the case of rotation wit circular frequency  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ 

 $F_c$  Coriolis force  $F_c = -m(\omega \times v_r L)$ 

Causes deformation perpendicularly to the forced vibration  $\rightarrow$  measurable



# Rezgőelemes giroszkóp

### Megvalósítások:

Az alkalmazott technológia szerint:

- Piezokeramikus kristály
- MEMS Micro ElectroMechanical System

A mérés elve szerint:

- Piezoelektromos hatás
- Kapacitív elvű elmozdulás-mérés



# Vibrating mechanical gyroscope

### Piezoceramic crystal

Piezoelectric effect:

As a consequence of a deformation electric voltage appears in the opposite surfaces of the crystal.





Polarization

Polarisation: the opposing charges are separating.





**Ceramics Bimorph vibrator** 



### **MEMS - Micro ElectroMechanical System**

Fabrication a microscopic mechanicals system on a silicon wafer.

## **Typical MEMS circuits:**

- Optical devices, i.e. adaptive mirror system (DLP)
- Sensors: acceleration, angular rate, pressure, etc.
- Micromotors and drives









# **MEMS giroszkóp**

A rezgő elem: szilíciumból kialakított rugalmas tartószerkezet.

Elektrosztatikus mozgatás - kapacitív elvű elmozdulás mérés.





# **MEMS gyroscopes**

### Advantages:

- Small sizes example: 4 x 4 x 1 mm
- Mechanical stability an robustness
- High reliability, small fault rate
- Small consumption
- No "gimbal lock"

## Disadvantages:

- Circuit noise
- Temperature



dependence

### Feature:

 Angular rate measurement: deriving orientation (angles) needs integration

# **MEMS gyroscope**

### **Analog Devices**

- Range ±150°/s
- Sensitivity 12.5mV/°/s
- Temperature drift 3%
- Noise 0.04 °/s//Hz
- Bandwidth 3kHz
- 6.85 x 6.85 x 3,8 mm



### ADXRS-613 - 1-axis angular rate sensor





# **MEMS gyroscope**

#### STM L3GD20H 3-axis digital output angular rate sensor



LGA-16 case 3x3x1 mm







- I<sup>2</sup>C/SPI digital interface
- 11.9 757.6 Hz data rate
- ±245/500/2000 °/s range
- Temperature drift ±2%
- Noise 0.011 °/s/JHz
- Linearity 0.2%

## Physical principle:

## The Sagnac effect

Georges Sagnac (1869-1928) French physicist

- Two opposite light beams ellentétes shows interference depending on the phase-difference.
- If the system is rotating with some angular rate, phase difference is affected, hence interference changes.



Sagnac interferometer

Possible measurement method: detecting the alteration of interference peaks — by the means of camera sensor.



### Types:

- Ring Laser Gyroscope (RLG)
- Fiber Optic Gyroscope (FOG)

### Advantages:

- High accuracy and sensitivity
- Extremely small noise

Disadvantages:

• Quite expensive



### • Ring Laser Gyroscope (RLG)









• Fiber Optic Gyroscope (FOG)













## **Acceleration sensors**

Physical principle: spring - mass

- Piezo-ceramic
   Sensing by piezoelectric effect
- MEMS
  - Sensing by
  - capacitive

effect.

thermal









## **MEMS accelerometers**













## **MEMS accelerometers**

### Advantages:

- Small sizes 4 x 4 x 1.5 mm (3-axis)
- Immunity on environmental effects
- High reliability, low failure rate
- Low consumption
- Simple handling
- Low price

## Disadvantages:

- Electrical noise
- Temperature dependence

### Feature:

 Acceleration sensing: deriving position needs 2 integrations



# MEMS gyorsulás érzékelők

Analog Devices ADXL-330 - háromtengelyű gyorsulásérzékelő

- Méréshatár ±3g
- Érzékenység 300mV/g
- Linearitás ±0.3%
- Hőmérsékleti drift 1mg/ °C
- Zaj 300 µg/√Hz
- Sávszélesség 1.6kHz
- Méret 4 x 4 x 1.45 mm
- Ár < 10\$







# MEMS gyorsulás érzékelők

### STM LIS331 háromtengelyű digitális kimenetű gyorsulás érzékelő

- Méréshatár ±2/4/8g
- I<sup>2</sup>C/SPI digitális interfész (12 bit)
- 50/100/400/1000 H: data rate
- Érzékenység 1-3.9 mg/LSB
- Hőmérsékleti drift 0.01%/°C
- Zaj 218 µg/√Hz
- Méret 3 x 3 x 1 mm





### Magnetic field sensing



Magnetoresistive effect:

Magnetic field alters the electric resistance of the permalloy material (an iron alloy).

Hall effect:

Electrons moving in magnetic field are effected by the Lorentz force, resulting in potential difference.



#### Measurement: Wheatstone-bridge.



## **Magnetic compass**

#### Honeywell 3-axis digital compass HMC5843





4 x 4 x 1.3 mm case Digital interface Automatic demagnetization





# **Magnetic compass**

#### Problems:

- Disturbing magnetic effects in the environment ferromagnetic objects, electric currents
- Remanent magnetization effects in the sensor
- Difference on the direction of the magnetic and geographic North inclination
- Inhomogeneity in Earth magnetic field declination





Units (Declination) : degree Contour Interval : 5 degree:

• Correction: declination maps, databases, applications.

# Inertial Measurement Units (IMU)

### IMU - Inertial Measurement Unit

- Gyroscopes and magnetometers, and other sensors with common control and processing
- Minimal requirements: measurement, ADC, preprocessing, filtering, scaling, calibration, error correction
- High end: deriving velocity, position, and orientation (Euler-angles, quaternions).

Contemporary realizations:

- Digital processing
- Applying embedded microcomputers.





# Inertial Measurement Units (IMU)

#### Bosch Sensortec BNO055 inertial sensor

In a single silicon wafer:

- 3-axis 14-bit digital output accelerometer
- 3-axis 16-bit digital digital output angular rate sensor
- 3-axis Earth magnetic field sensor
- 32-bit ARM Cortex M0+ microcontroller with Bosch Sensortec sensor fusion software.

Extensions:

- Host microcontroller high level digital signal processing, GPS fusion, Kalman filtering
- Communication CAN / USB / Ethernet







# **Global Positioning System- GNSS**

Space segment

From satellites

L1 carrier signals - time pulses - ephemeris

satellite health
 date, time

- almanac



- GPS (USA)
- GLONASS (RU)
- Galileo (EU)
- BeiDou (China)
- IRNSS (India)



Limited accuracy

#### Problems: • Noises, uncertainties

• Reliability, availability



established ephemeris calculated almanacs satellite health

From the ground

time corrections

station





# **GNSS-INS positioning system**



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