

# Design and Analysis of Multi-DoF MEMS Gyroscope for Inertial Navigation using SOI-MUMPs Fabrication Process



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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
MS Mechatronics Engineering

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I certify that this research work titled “*Design and Analysis of Multi-DoF MEMS Gyroscope for Inertial Navigation using SOI-MUMPs Fabrication Process*” is my own work. The work has not been presented elsewhere for assessment. I have properly acknowledged / referred the material that has been used from other sources.

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## Abstract

The dissertation presents the design of an electrostatically actuated multi-DoF micro-electro-mechanical system (MEMS) gyroscope having the 1-DOF in the sensing mode while 2-DOF in driving mode. MEMS gyroscope are used in multiple applications such as inertial navigation, in automobiles, image stabilization and many other potential applications. The main emphasis in this effort is to propose a non-resonant gyroscope, having multi-degree-of-freedom(multi-DoF) and it follows the design limitations of SOI-MUMPs fabrication process which is commercially available and is offered by MEMSCAP Inc, USA. The optimization is based on the device dimensions and layout using the parametric optimization technique. The proposed device is having the bandwidth of 1772 Hz with an average dynamic amplification of 2.89 within the flat operation region and having the sensitivity of  $3.27 \text{ mV}/^\circ/\text{s}$ . The finite element analysis (FEM analysis) of the device is simulated in ANSYS.

**Key Words:** *MEMS, Gyroscope, Non-Resonant, multi-DoF, Electrostatic, FEM.*



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## Acronyms

|             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>MEMS</b> | Micro-electro-mechanical Systems |
| <b>FEM</b>  | Finite Element Method            |
| <b>DoF</b>  | Degree of Freedom                |
| <b>DVA</b>  | Dynamic Vibration Absorber       |

# Chapter 1: Introduction

The research work focuses on the design and analysis of MEMS vibratory, non-resonant, multi-DoF gyroscope for inertial navigation. First, a motivation and scope of this work is briefly discussed. Second, an introduction of MEMS gyroscopes is discussed. Third, discussion on the fabrication processes is presented and finally the actuation and sensing mechanisms for MEMS devices are discussed in this chapter.

## 1.1 Motivation and Scope

Throughout the world, the word “miniaturization” is one of the key factors that is boosting the motivation of the research and development of the different devices. Also, the rising demand of low power, more efficient, light weight, small in size and more reliable devices are the demand of current technology advancements.

The famous speech of the, Richard Feynman on December 26, 1959 titled, “*there is plenty of room at the bottom*”, described the importance and benefits of miniaturization of devices and their uses [1]. With times, the invention of the transistors has opened the door for miniaturization. Integrated circuit (IC) technology enables us to place a transistor to a place that is few thousands of an atom. In today’s world, the use of the MEMS (micro-electro-mechanical systems) is realized in different fields. Among these devices, the inertial sensors achieved a reasonable space due to their high performance, reliability and miniaturization. The properties of inertial sensors of low power consumption and small size make their acceptance in the field and increase the areas of applications. Presently, they have been used in navigation of air vehicles, marine vehicles and in various stabilization systems.

For most of the MEMS devices fabrication, inhouse fabrication processes are available. These fabrication processes are good enough for the fabrication of a few devices but not capable of the mass production. A commercial and a reliable micro-fabrication process of SOIMUMPs is available with defined design rules.

With the increasing demand of MEMS inertial sensors and availability of the commercial fabrication processes, there is enough motivation to investigate more optimal and miniature MEMS devices.

## 1.2 Definition of MEMS

MEMS, stands for “*Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems*” and mostly known as the micromachines or microsystem, is a technology which combines the micro level electrical systems and mechanical systems. Practically a device having the dimensions of micro-meters ( $1\mu\text{m} = 10^{-6} \text{ m}$ ) and fabricated using any of the available MEMS level fabrication method, utilizes both electrical and mechanical functions [2]. The MEMS devices are generally range in sizes of few micrometres to millimetres. The central unit of MEMS device, process the data and they interact with outside structures of micro-actuators and micro-sensors. The millimetre sized MEMS devices are generally termed like “*meso-scale MEMS devices*”. Figure 1.1 shows the dimensions of the MEMS devices in comparison with other devices.

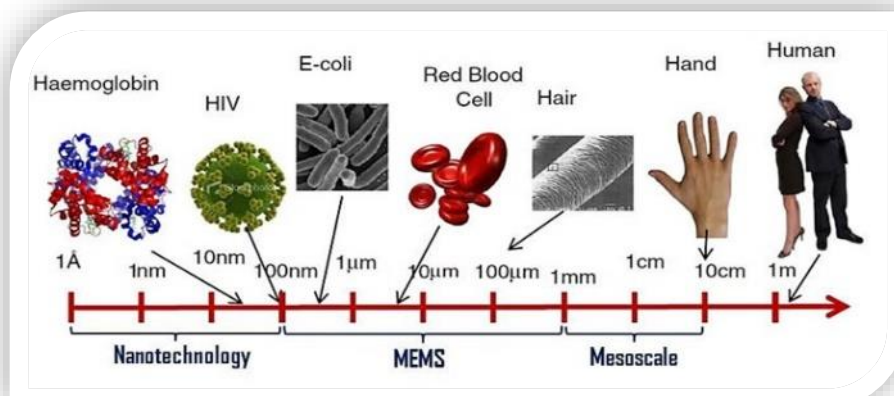


Figure 1.1 Comparison of MEMS devices with Nano and Meso scale devices. (Adapted from Nguyen et al. [3])

Technology of the MEMS is evolved from the integration (IC) technology. MEMS actuators, sensors and other structures are co-fabricated in silicon. Since then, the industries and governments strongly promote the MEMS technology and there is a remarkable progress in this field. With the progress and evolution many manufacturing techniques have been evolved. A number of MEMS devices have been fabricated using the silicon and different fabrication processes like surface micromachining, bulk micromachining, lithography, molding (LIGA) Process and SOIMUMPs. The batch fabrication, low cost, small size, reliability, robustness are the key features of the MEMS devices which makes them a product of choice in many fields of industries.



### 1.3 MEMS Applications

A complete system on a single chip, revolutionize almost every product category. With the advancements in MEMS technology, it brings together and also expands the horizon of design and applications of smart devices.

Table 1: MEMS devices applications in different fields. Redrawn from reference [4]

| <b>Automobile</b>                         | <b>Electronics devices</b>                  | <b>Medical field</b>                          | <b>Communication Equipment</b>                           | <b>Defence Equipment</b>     |
|---|---|---|--|------------------------------|
| Sensor for Internal - Navigation          | Heads for Disk Drives                       | Blood-pressure Measuring Sensors              | Components of network for fibre-optics                   | Mutation guidance-systems    |
| Sensors for Air Conditioning (Compressor) | Heads of Ink jet Printers                   | Muscles Simulator & Systems for Drug Delivery | Switches and RF Relays                                   | Surveillance-systems         |
| Sensors for Brakes -force Calculation     | Projection Screens-Television               | Implanted Sensors to Monitor Pressure         | Instrumentation and Portable Devices Projection-displays | Arming-Equipment and systems |
| Fuel Sensors for Level Detection          | Sensors for Earthquake                      | Prosthetic Limb Sensors                       | Voltage control oscillators                              | Embedded-System Sensors      |
| Sensors with Airbag                       | Sensors used in Avionics (pressure sensors) | Small Analytical Medical Instruments          | Couplers and Splitters                                   | Storage of Data              |
| “Intelligent” Tires                       | Storage Systems of Mass-data                | Heart Pacemakers                              | Lasers (Tuneable)  | Controls for Aircrafts       |

## 1.4 Introduction to MEMS Vibratory Gyroscope

The word “*gyroscope*”, is derived from the old Greek language, generally it is referred to mechanical gyroscopes. The gyroscope is used for measuring orientation and it works on the momentum conservation principle.

### 1.4.1 The Coriolis Effect

MEMS vibratory gyroscope works on “*Coriolis effect*”, by using this principle the transfer of the energy between the quadrature modes of drive and sense modes take place [5] The drive mode mass oscillates at a constant amplitude and due to the input angular velocity, the sense mode measured orthogonal oscillations [6,7]. For the sensing of the angular velocity MEMS gyroscopes use mechanical structures those are vibrating. Miniaturization in the mems devices is possible because they have don't have the rotating elements those require bearings to rotate. Figure 1.2 shows the motion of ball in straight line over a frictionless surface rotating with an angular velocity of  $\omega$ . The ball is moving in a straight line with a constant linear velocity, with respect to stationary observer and there is no effect of rotation of the surface. But on the other hand, the observer fixed to the surface perceives totally different motion of the ball. He perceives as an unknow force is accelerating the ball in opposite direction of the rotation while the ball is approaching the edge of the surface. The dotted curved line shown in the figure 1.2 is the perceived path by moving observer, while the ball is moving in a straight line with respect to an observer who is stationary. This whole phenomenon is known as “*Coriolis effect*” and the acceleration is known as the “*Coriolis acceleration*” as presumed by the rotating person. [8]

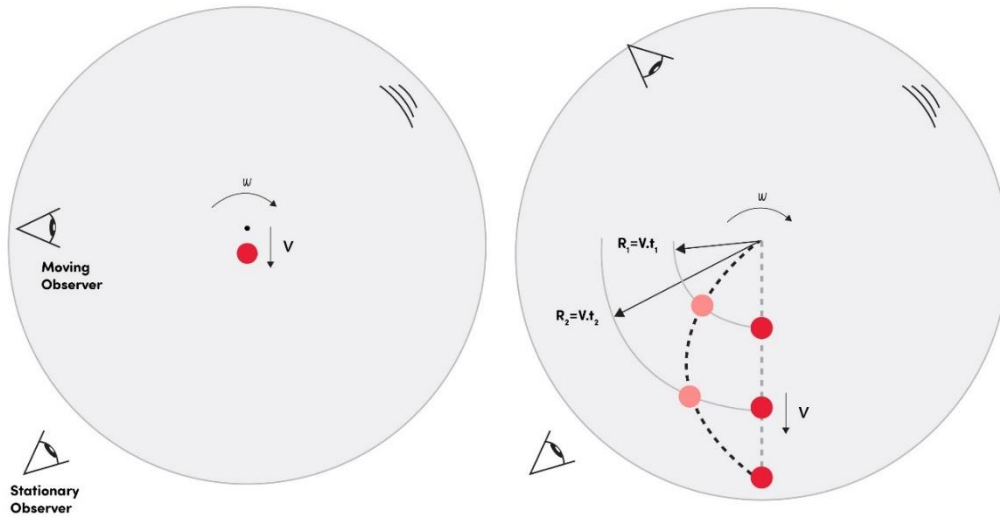


Figure 1.2 The Coriolis effect shown by the ball slides over the rotating disc surface. Redrawn from reference [8]

The magnitude of the Coriolis force and its direction are calculated as

$$a_c = -2 \Omega \times V \quad (1.1)$$

Where "V" represents the object velocity and the "Ω" represents the velocity-vector for angular velocity having the magnitude which is equal to rate of the rotation "ω" and its direction is parallel to the axis of the rotation of the reference frame which is rotating, and cross-product operator is represented by the "×" symbol.

The formula shown in equation 1.1 shows that acceleration produced will be perpendicular to the frame of the rotational axis and the mass-velocity that is moving and known as “*Coriolis acceleration*”.

To express the relation of the Coriolis force, multiply the equation (1.1) with the mass of the relevant object.

$$F_c = -2m\Omega \times V \quad (1.2)$$

### 1.4.2 MEMS Vibratory Gyroscope

Figure 1.3. shows a mass which is suspended by two sets of springs those are perpendicular to each other (x-axis and y-axis) and this forms a typical model for vibratory gyroscope.

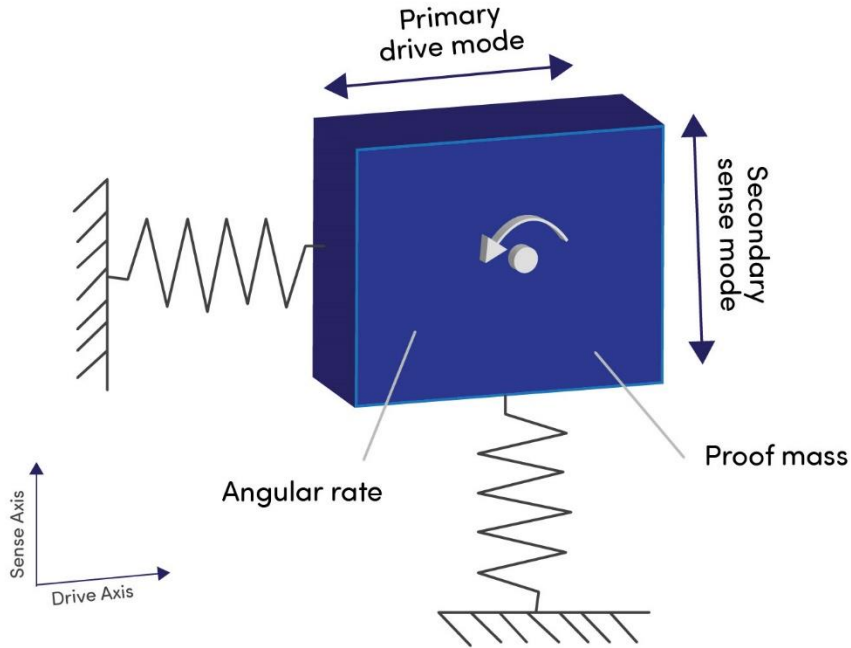


Figure 1.3 MEMS vibratory gyroscope working principle.

The system mentioned in figure 1.3 is the model for MEMS vibratory gyroscope having the two vibration modes those are at right-angle to each other. Driving-mode vibrations corresponds to the x-axis and the sensing-mode vibrations corresponds to the y-axis.  $\omega_x$  and  $\omega_y$  are the vibration frequencies of drive and sense modes respectively. A driving force,  $F_d(t)$ , which is an electrostatic force is applied in x-axis on the mass known as driving mass. If a driving force,  $F_0$  is applied constantly and the frequency of this driving force is  $w_d$ , then the corresponding electrostatic sinusoidal driving force will be

$$F_d(t) = F_0 \cos w_d(t) \quad (1.3)$$

If there comes a rotation about a certain axis which is the z-axis in this case and is out of the paper plane, having the angular velocity of  $\Omega$ , an alternating force is generated and acted in the y-direction due to the Coriolis effect. In the result, the system vibrates with the frequency of  $\omega_y$  in the y-

direction. Thus, a mass  $m$  with velocity of  $v(t)$  moving in the x-direction will experience a Coriolis force  $F_C(t)$  along y-direction.

$$F_C(t) = -2mv(t) \times \Omega \tag{1.4}$$

To determine the angular velocity, some sensing techniques need to be implemented to measure the vibrational amplitude in the y-direction (sense direction) [9]

### 1.4.3 Classification of MEMS Vibratory Gyroscope

The micromachined vibratory gyroscopes (MVGs) have been divided into two sub-categories, (a) angle-gyroscopes and (b) rate-gyroscopes. The one known as angle-gyroscopes measure the orientation angle and the other one known as rate-gyroscopes measure the rotational rate.

The highest performance gyroscopes are the angle gyroscopes. They have been divided in to subcategories depending on their shape and designs. From the subcategories of the angle gyroscopes vibrating ring and the hemispherical resonating gyroscopes are the only realizable candidates for the inertial navigation due to fabrication limitations. On other hand the rate gyroscopes are categorized in “resonant” and “non-resonant” gyroscopes depending on their working principles [10].

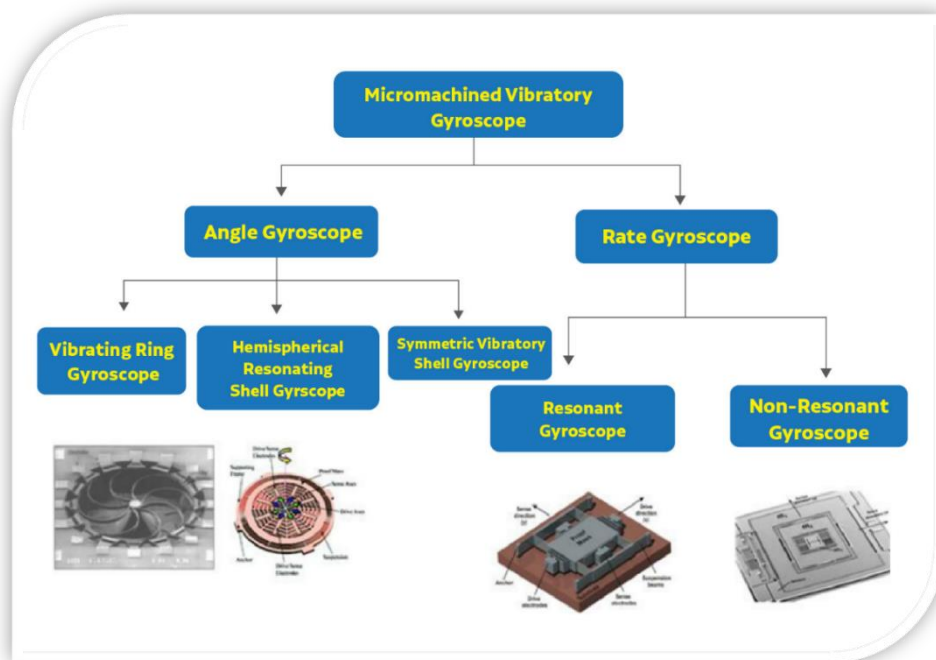


Figure 1.4 Classification of the micromachined vibratory gyroscopes [10]

#### **1.4.4 Resonant and Non-Resonant Gyroscope**

The “resonant gyroscopes”, have been operated at the resonance to obtain the high mechanical gain and sensitivity [5,11-16]. In resonant gyroscopes the drive and sense masses need to operate at same resonance frequencies. The low gain outside the small area of resonance and the narrow bandwidth are the major concerns of the resonant gyroscopes. While in the case of non-resonant gyroscopes, the gyroscopes are designed and also tuned to operate in between the flat/nearly-even region between the resonant-frequencies to achieve the maximum robustness in case of the parametric variations due to fabrication process limitations and the environmental fluctuations.

#### **1.4.5 Advantages of the Non-Resonant Gyroscopes**

In resonant gyroscopes the drive and sense masses need to operate at same resonance frequencies. The low gain outside the small area of resonance and the narrow bandwidth are the major concerns of the resonant gyroscopes. To cater these issues the techniques of the active tuning [17] and feedback control system [18] have been deployed. Various techniques have been available in literature to cater these issues of the resonant gyroscopes, one of the feasible solutions is the multi-degree of freedom gyroscopes also known as non-resonant gyroscopes.

The main advantage of non-resonant gyroscopes over the resonant gyroscopes is in terms of robustness characteristics. The parametric variations due to fabrication process limitations and the environmental fluctuations have the least effect on non-resonant gyroscopes. To relax or avoid the advanced control techniques, wider bandwidth is achieved in case of non-resonant gyroscopes.

Figure 1.5, provides a summary to choose the various design choices to fabricate the vibrating MEMS gyroscope with over twenty-five hundred (2500) potential combinations.

| Application         | Optic Gyro   | Ring Laser Gyro  | Vibrating Gyro |
|---------------------|--|--|----------------|
| Design Style        | Z- axis<br>Vibrating Mass<br>Linear Vibrating<br>Single Mass | X/Y- axis<br>Vibrating Ring<br>Rotary Vibrating<br>Dual Mass | Tuning Fork    |
| MEMS Technology     | Bulk Silicon   | Poly Silicon   | SOIMUMPs       |
| Actuation Mechanism | Electro-Static   | Electro-Magnetic   | Piezoelectric  |
| Coriolis Sensor     | Parallel Plate   | Torsional Plate  | Comb Finger    |

Figure 1.5 Various potential combinations for designing the micromachined vibratory gyroscopes.

## 1.5 Microfabrication Process

To fabricate the MEMS devices, different fabrication processes are available. These fabrication processes differ from each other on the basis of material used in fabrication of MEMS devices, type of the device, feature size and the cost involved. MUMPs stands for multi-user MEMS process.

### 1.5.1 LIGA

The acronym LIGA, stands for Lithographie (lithography), Galvanoformung (electroplating) and Abformung (molding). LIGA is one of the MEMS fabrication technique, usually used to produce high aspect ratio designs and structures. Two main types of LIGA fabrication technologies are available, X-ray based and UV based LIGA techniques. For high aspect ratio, X-ray based fabrication is used while for low aspect ratio, UV based fabrication is used for designs and which is more commonly used. This process consists of three main steps: (a) Lithography, (b) electroplating and (c) molding [19].

### 1.5.2 Metal-MUMPs

The process of Metal-Mumps fabrication uses a metal electroplating to fabricate MEMS devices. Nickel, a metal is used for whole device fabrication in this process. Few MEMS devices like microgrippers have been fabricated using this process [20]. However, Metal-Mumps is not suitable for fabricating the devices with biomedical applications, as of high coefficient of thermal conductivity. High temperatures could damage the object under manipulation.

### 1.5.3 Poly-MUMPs

Poly-MUMPs stands for polysilicon multi-user MEMS process. MEMS sensors are fabricated using the process of Poly-MUMPS. It has three layers, one of the layers is the metal layer and the other two layers are sacrificial layers. In this process about seven layers can be formed using up to eight masks. 2  $\mu\text{m}$  is the minimum feature size for this process. Silicon have very different properties from polysilicon [21].

### 1.5.4 SOIMUMPs

A standard and commercially available, low cost process for the fabrication of microstructures is available and is known as the *Silicon-on-Insulator Multi-User-MEMS* micro level fabrication process (SOIMUMPs) offered by a very well-known and a reliable foundry MEMSCAP Inc. located in United States of America (USA). In this process the substrate under the moveable structures get removed during the etching process and thus this process allows the least air damping. The attribute of fabricating the high aspect ratio micro-structures make its very suitable for the fabrication of the high-performance MEMS devices. The cross-section view of the SOIMUMS process is shown in the figure 1.6 [22]



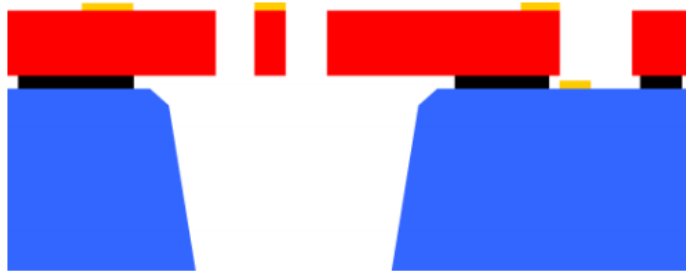


Figure 1.6 MEMSCAP SOIMUMPs fabrication process cross-section view showing all the layers [22]

The process has 04 masks for patterning on silicon on insulator (SOI) wafer and its etching. In the figure 1.6, the doped polysilicon structural layer is shown in red color and this layer is anchored to the substrate with the help of oxide layer. Adjacent metal pads are electrically isolated by introducing the grooves in the structural layer. As per the designed rules of this process as mentioned in the SOIMUMPs design handbook [22], the thickness of the silicon layer could be  $25 \pm 1 \mu\text{m}$  with the thickness  $2 \pm 0.1 \mu\text{m}$  for oxide layer and  $400 \pm 5 \mu\text{m}$  of handle wafer (substrate). The minimum feature width of the structure must be  $6 \mu\text{m}$  for the structure length of  $200 \mu\text{m}$  and above. The design limitations of the SOIMUMPs fabrication process puts certain constraints on the designers. Following design constraints/limitations have been considered during the proposed design of the micromachined gyroscope.

**Limitation-1:** No electrical lines run across the trenches in the device due to the non-availability of top and bottom cap after etching. Electrode pads could not be the part of the design as they cannot be attached to the inner electrodes. Due to these constraints' designers have only choice of the in-plane sensing and actuation techniques.

**Limitation-2:** Due to the etching process the bottom cap is missing and hence do not allow the central anchor to be designed in the device as shown in the figure 1.7. Therefore, the proposed design of the gyroscope in comparison to the traditionally available gyroscopes in literature differs and we cannot enclose the inner most mass within another mass which is against the design rules of SOIMUMPs Fabrication guidelines.

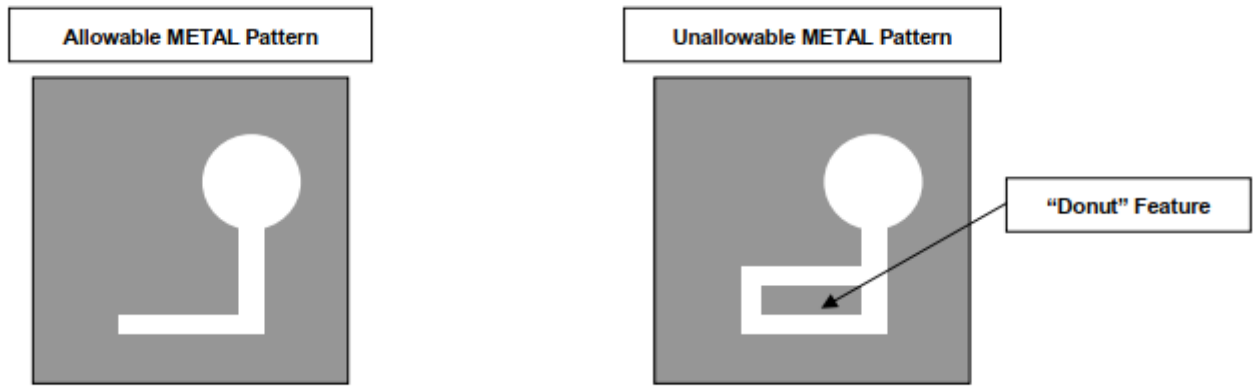


Figure 1.7 Allowable and unallowable feature for metal masking in the SOIMUMPs fabrication process [22]

**Limitation-3:** Figure 1.6 shows the structural layer in red color made of silicon where the device is patterned. Less than the 33% of the chip area should be etched, which limits the designer to have a certain amount of the gap with in the structures and the number of folds of the springs. The designer has to reduce the unused area and also need to reduce the air gaps between the masses.

Table 2: Material properties extracted from the CoventorWare material library for SOIMUMPs TM fabrication process.

| Material Properties (Units)/Materials | Silicon |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <i>Young's Modulus GPa</i>            | 169     |
| <i>Poison Ratio</i>                   | 0.29    |
| <i>Density (Kg/m<sup>3</sup>)</i>     | 2500    |

## **1.6 Actuation and Sensing Mechanisms in MEMS Devices**

To drive the device an actuation mechanism is needed, similarly to calculate the output of the device a sensing mechanism have to be placed. Depending upon the working principles of sensors and actuators different types of mechanism are available in literature.

### **1.6.1 Actuation Mechanisms**

Actuation mechanisms could be broadly classified in to five categories depending upon their working principles which include Electro-thermal, electrostatic, electromagnetic, piezoelectric and the shape memory alloy actuators.

In the Electro-thermal actuators [23,24] the force generated is dependent on the thermal expansion of the materials. Under the very small excitation voltages they have capability to generate larger displacements. Due to the limitations of the working temperature range, temperature sensitive objects could not use these types of actuators. The electrostatic actuators [25,26] have the low power consumption, high frequency response and having no hysteresis. however, they need the high voltages to operate. There are two different configurations of the electrostatic actuators, the one is transverse and the second one is lateral comb drives. Electromagnetic actuators have the fast and quick response, having high response and their control is easy. They offer large displacements but their large physical size is the major issue. The piezoelectric actuators offer large output force with very compact dimensions and having good operational bandwidth. But these actuators offer very small displacements which limits its use in extensive applications. Finally, the shape memory alloy actuators [27] have large deformations, high working density and high recovery force. But they have very slow speed and hence low efficiency. Table 3 represents the summary of the actuators used in MEMS applications.

Table 3: Actuation mechanisms and their Comparison [28]

| Actuator type      | Working principle     | Pros   | Cons  | Example |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---------|
| Electro-thermal    | Thermal expansion     | Large displacement<br>low voltage dimension  | High working temperature  | [29,30] |
| Electrostatic      | Electrostatic force   | Frequency response is fast<br>Power consumption is low<br>No hysteries                                 | Dimensions are large<br>Problems of Pull-in<br>Circuits are complicated | [31,32] |
| Shape-memory-Alloy | Materials deformation | Flexible<br>low efficiency<br>Frequency response is large  | Hysteries<br>Power consumption is large                                 | [33,34] |
| Piezoelectric      | Piezoelectric effect  | Large force<br>Good operational bandwidth  | Displacement  | [35-37] |
| Electromagnetic    | Magnetization effect  | Displacements are large<br>linear effect<br>Wearing negligible<br>Response is quick<br>Control is easy | Relatively large dimension<br>Difficult to manufacture                  | [38]    |

### 1.6.2 Sensing Mechanisms

Capacitive sensors [39-41] are the sensors those can measure the force ranging from  $pN$  to  $mN$  scale. For high resolution detection they are mostly used with the electrostatic actuators. Capacitive

sensors work on the principle of change in capacitance and its measurements. This capacitance changes between the electrodes and the respective stator and this is done by moving the electrode shuttle. High sensitivity, larger bandwidth, large dynamic range and low power consumption are the key features of electrostatic sensors. But they need complex electronics. Electrothermal sensors follow the principle of the heat consumption from the device surface and the surrounding, differential measurement structures are employed for sensing calculations. They have high resolutions with small dimensions. These sensors have large power consumptions and having low response speed [42,43,44]

Piezo sensing works on the principle of piezoresistive effect and this technique have been widely used in MEMS. The mechanisms of transduction are used which could convert the mechanical distortions into the voltages. [45-46]. In MEMS Piezoelectric sensors are used widely as Resonators and transducers. Having the wide measurement range and wider bandwidth but heir manufacturing process are very complex.

Table 4 : Comparison of different sensing mechanisms used in MEMS. [28]

| Sensor Type    | Working principle    | Pros   | Cons  | Resolution              | Examples |
|----------------|----------------------|--|---|-------------------------|----------|
| Capacitive     | Capacitive change    | High sensitivity<br>Large bandwidth<br>Fast response speed               | Large dimension<br>Complicated circuit                                    | $\mu N$                 | [47]     |
| Electrothermal | Resistance change    | Small dimension<br>Simple structure<br>High resolution                   | Low response speed<br>Large consumption                                   | $\mu N$                 | [42-44]  |
| Piezoelectric  | Piezoelectric effect | Measurement range is wide<br>Extra voltage not needed<br>Wider bandwidth | Complex manufacturing process<br>Cannot work in high temperature          | $\mu N$ or sub- $\mu N$ | [48,49]  |
| Piezoresistive | Resistance change    | Simple material<br>High bandwidth<br>Large frequency response            | Sensitive to ambient temperature<br>Hysteresis<br>Large power consumption | $mN$                    | [38]     |

## **Chapter 2: Literature Review**

### **2.1 Designs from the Literature**

In order to get the highest possible gain and increased sensitivity, usually in resonant rate gyroscopes, the frequencies of the drive mode and the sense mode are designed and/or tuned to match. But the fabrication imperfections and the operating condition fluctuations greatly affect the system response such that there exists a mismatch in the resonance frequencies of the drive-mode and the sense-mode which leads to reduced sensitivity and performance degradation [50,51-53].

Therefore, the resonant gyroscopes are designed in a way to operate at the resonant peak or very near to its resonant peak. To achieve the required degree of mode matching advanced control techniques and readout circuitry have been implemented [54-57].

The narrow bandwidth and low gain outside the vicinity of resonance are the prime concerns in case of resonant gyroscopes. At the cost of the reduced gain, systems with slighted shifted sense mass resonance frequency from the drive mass resonance frequency is available in literature [58].

To cater the above-mentioned issues in the resonant gyroscopes, different designs have been available in the literature which utilizes the concept of the multi-DoF systems to make MEMS vibratory non-resonant gyroscopes. These types of gyroscopes are called “non-resonant gyroscopes”, because they do not operate in mode matched condition but in the flat region between resonant frequencies where effect of parametric and environmental fluctuations is minimum.

A review of the previously done research work is carried out to design a multi-degree-of-freedom, non-resonant gyroscope considering the design constraints of the SOIMUMPs microfabrication process.

Table 5: MEMS “Non-Resonant Gyroscopes” available in the literature

| Reference | Structural Layer of device |                      | Device Configuration (DoF) | Size of the Device            | Device Sensitivity  | Device Bandwidth |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------|
|           | Layer Material             | Layer Thickness (um) |                            |                               |   |                  |
| [59]      | Polysilicon                | 2                    | Drive = 2<br>Sense = 2     | $0.5 \times 0.7 \text{ mm}^2$ | $0.72 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{m}/^\circ/\text{s}$                     | 23 Hz            |
| [60]      | Polysilicon                | 100                  | Drive = 1<br>Sense = 2     | -                             | 0.0308 mV/ $^\circ$ /s  | 50 Hz            |
| [58]      | Silicon                    | 75                   | Drive = 1<br>Sense = 2     | -                             | 2.34 $\mu\text{V}/^\circ/\text{s}$                                    | 600 Hz           |
| [61]      | Silicon                    | 50                   | Drive = 1<br>Sense = 2     | $3.0 \times 3.0 \text{ mm}^2$ | 56 $\mu\text{V}/^\circ/\text{s}$                                      | 250 Hz           |
| [62]      | Nickel                     | 20                   | Drive = 2<br>Sense = 1     | $2.6 \times 2.2 \text{ mm}^2$ | 1.7 $\mu\text{m}/^\circ/\text{s}$                                     | 2.11 kHz         |
| [63]      | Nickel                     | 20                   | Drive = 2<br>Sense = 1     | $1.6 \times 2.4 \text{ mm}^2$ | 0.045 fF/rad/s,<br>$0.052 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{m}/^\circ/\text{s}$ | 1.71 kHz         |
| [64]      | Nickel                     | 20                   | Drive = 2<br>Sense = 1     | $2.6 \times 2.2 \text{ mm}^2$ | -   | 1.4 kHz          |
| [65]      | Nickel                     | 9                    | Drive = 2<br>Sense = 1     | $1.9 \times 2.0 \text{ mm}^2$ | -   | 1.0 kHz          |
| [66]      | Nickel                     | 20                   | Drive = 3<br>Sense = 1     | $3.0 \times 3.2 \text{ mm}^2$ | 0.565 fF/rad/s  | 3.0 kHz          |

The earliest design approach which utilized the concept of the dual-mass system in the drive-mode and was the very first attempt to utilize the concept of dynamic vibration absorber (DVA) was represented by Dyck et al. [ 67] shown in figure 2.1.

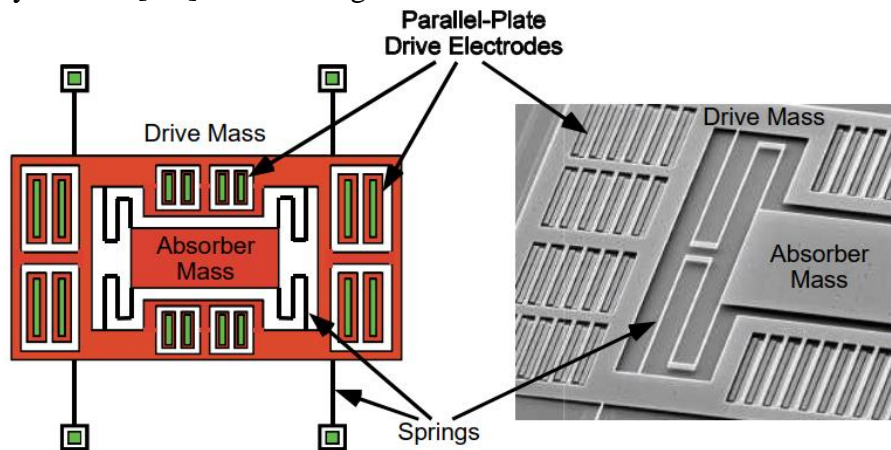


Figure 2.1 Prototype design of double-mass oscillator [67]

A 2-DoF system driven using the parallel plate actuation at antiresonance was demonstrated. An absorbing mass is connected to the driving mass with the help of the folded springs. The system shows that there is substantial motion amplification at antiresonance by the use of the dynamic vibration absorber (DVA) concept. The frequency response region near the antiresonance was approximately flat so it is difficult to exactly detect the value of the antiresonance frequency value. In the dual mass oscillator system, the second (absorber) mass may be insensitive to the partial variations in damping and strains.

Amplification and the bandwidth are controlled by monitoring the mass ratios “ $\mu$ ” and the frequency ratios “ $\gamma$ ”. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Resonant frequencies are dependent on the value of  $\mu$ . As the value of  $\mu$  decreases the frequency separation also decreases, which is one of the key points in designing the dual mass oscillator.

In the absence of the damping mechanism, the mechanical gain is infinite, whereas for operation in ambient conditions the damping mechanism, mainly viscous damping reduces the gain but it is still substantial. This is another way to see a dual mass oscillator as a “mechanical amplifier”.

[59] proposed the gyroscope design having the 4-DOF and it uses the concept of the dynamic amplification to achieve the larger amplitude without matching the sense mass frequency with the drive mass frequency or simply without achieving the resonance, it also decouples the drive direction oscillations from sense oscillations by separating their motion using a decoupling frame design as clear from figure 2.2

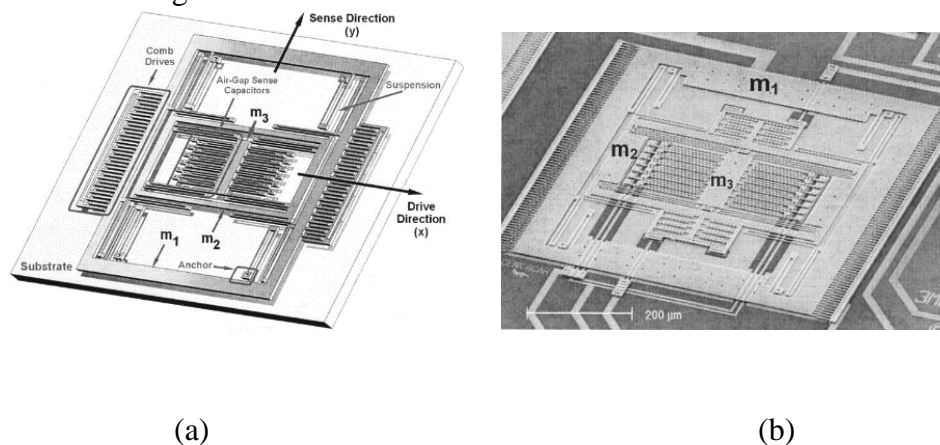


Figure 2.2 (a) Schematic diagram of the gyroscope having 4-DoF, having decoupled-modes for oscillations (b) fabricated prototype 4-DOF gyroscope.[59]



There are three proof masses in the design. The mass  $m_1$  and the combined mass of  $m_2$  and  $m_3$  form the drive oscillator, while the mass  $m_2$  and  $m_3$  form the sense direction oscillator. In both of the modes there is a nearly-even operation region between two resonant peaks. The operational region is the overlapped region of the antiresonance frequency band of the drive mass and the sense mass. The design used the concept of dynamic amplification in both drive mode as well as in the sense modes by using multiple masses. This, increased the bandwidth and reduces the sensitivity due to parameter fluctuations. This design improves the robustness and also relax the control system requirements.

[60] presented the non-resonant gyroscope design having the sense mode oscillator with two-DoF and Single-DoF in drive mode. There are two interconnected masses as  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ . Masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  are coupled to oscillate together in the direction of applied force to drive and form the Single-DoF drive mode while the mass which acts as absorber-mass is the  $m_2$  in 2-DoF sense mode oscillator shown in figure 2.3.

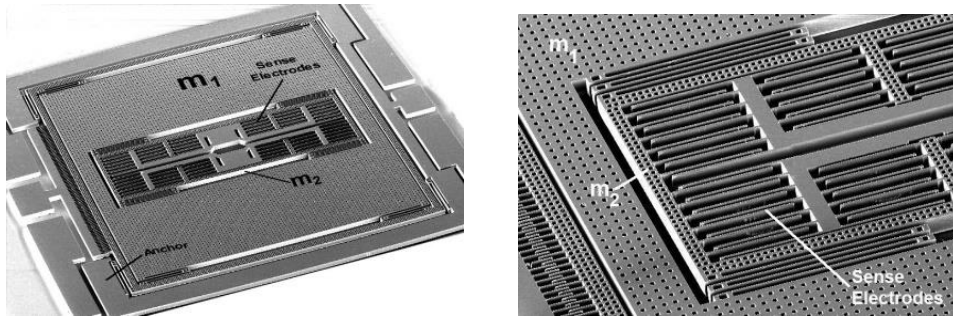


Figure 2.3 (a) Scanning electron micrograph of gyroscope with 1-DoF drive and 2-DoF sense mode. (b) Scanning electron micrograph of the differential sensing electrodes and the sense-mode passive.

[60]

The two degree of the sense mass oscillator provides the two resonance peaks in sense direction instead of the single resonant peak which enhances the robustness of the system. The device is designed to work in the nearly even-region of the response-curve of the sense mode, as the response is safe to ambient changes and perturbations in this region. Mass  $m_2$  is very small as compared to the mass  $m_1$ , this enables dynamic amplification, which improves the system response as a small Coriolis force acting on mass  $m_1$  generates a much larger force on mass  $m_2$ .

In this design the mechanical systems are used to achieve the capability of disturbance -rejection and not by the compensation strategies and the active control system.

[58] represents the design of the MEMS based gyroscope having 1-DoF in the drive mode and 2-DoF in the sense mode. In this research work, authors analyzed the design tradeoffs which are associated with the incremental value of the operational frequency of the gyroscope by utilizing the concept of multi-DoF sense mode. They have designed three different variants with those having frequencies of their operation with 0.7kHz, 3.1kHz and 5.1 kHz with peak spacing of 150Hz, 400Hz and 600Hz respectively. Whereas the scale factors for the devices are found to be 14.2, 5.08 and 2.34  $\mu\text{V}/^\circ/\text{s}$  respectively. This shows that the scale factor reduces by increasing both the operational frequency and the bandwidth.

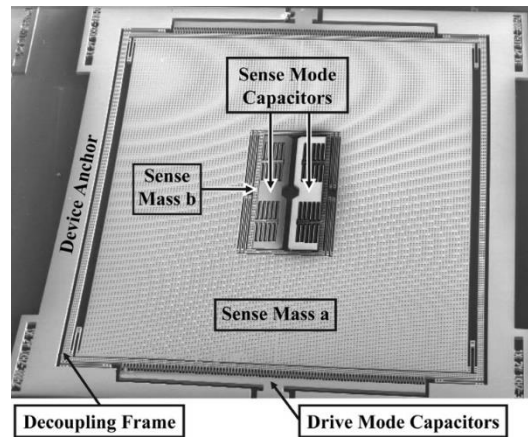


Figure 2.4 SEM image of the gyroscope after fabrication, having sense mode with 2-DoF [58]

[61] presented a gyroscope design for improved robustness, having the single degree-of-freedom (DoF) drive and the two degree-of-freedom (DoF) sense modes as shown in figure 2.5. The adjustment of the drive mode resonant frequency is done in such a way that it come between the two resonant peaks of sense mode.

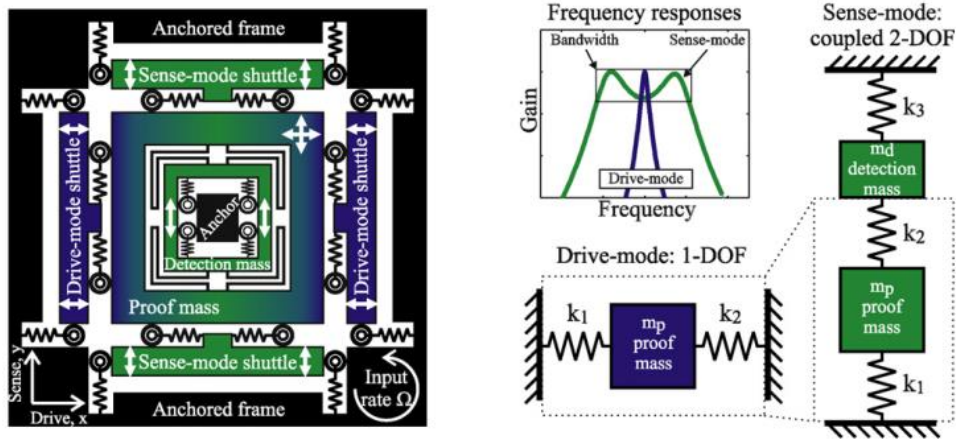


Figure 2.5 Schematics of the proposed MEMS gyroscope and (b) drive-mode model and sense-mode models [61]

From the figure 2.5 the mass  $m_p$  forms the drive mode, with single -DoF and having the stiffness values of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  while the masses  $m_p$  and  $m_d$  forms the two degree of freedom sense modes having the stiffness values of  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$ . The five parameters,  $m_d$ ,  $m_p$ ,  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$  control the position of the resonant frequency for the drive mode which is the operative frequency of the gyroscope. They also control the bandwidth of the gyroscope by changing the position of the sense mode resonant peaks on the frequency spectrum.

[62] figure 2.6 represented the design of the Nickle based gyroscope fabricated using the MetalMUMPs process. The design utilizes the oscillators having 2-DoF drive and 1-DoF sense modes. It uses chevron fashioned thermal actuators to drive the gyroscope in drive direction. The actuators those on work on thermal principle provide the greater force, also these actuators are easy to fabricate with this particular microfabrication process. Another advantage this approach is that the device is also compatible with IC technology. Concept of dynamic amplification is used in the drive mode by utilizing the active -passive mass configuration for improving the device sensitivity.

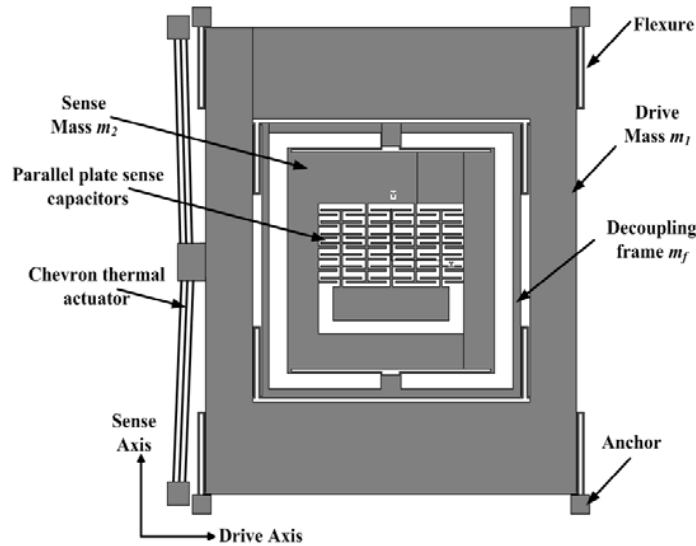


Figure 2.6 Gyroscope model having 2-DoF oscillator in drive and 1-DoF oscillator in sense direction. [62]

To enhance the robustness of the device, the frequency of the sense mode is placed nearly in the central region of operational area, where the amplitude of response is indifferent to structural parameter variations.

The power consumption of the device is estimated as 0.26 watts and the size of the device is  $2.6 \times 2.2 \text{ mm}^2$  which is about one third of the existing devices. The commercially available microfabrication process of metalMUMPs also provides additional benefit of being a cost-effective process.

[63] represented the electrostatically driven 3-DOF gyroscope (non-resonant), having dynamic amplification in its drive mode having 2-DOF, fabricated using the fabrication process of metalMUMPs which is available commercially having the  $20\mu\text{m}$  structural layer thickness as shown in figure 2.7. The design utilized the standard micromachining process of electroplated nickel. The operational bandwidth of the system was reported to be 1.74 kHz and dynamically improved gain of  $0.2\mu\text{m}$  is attained. No feedback control has been used in the design to enhance the performance of the device.

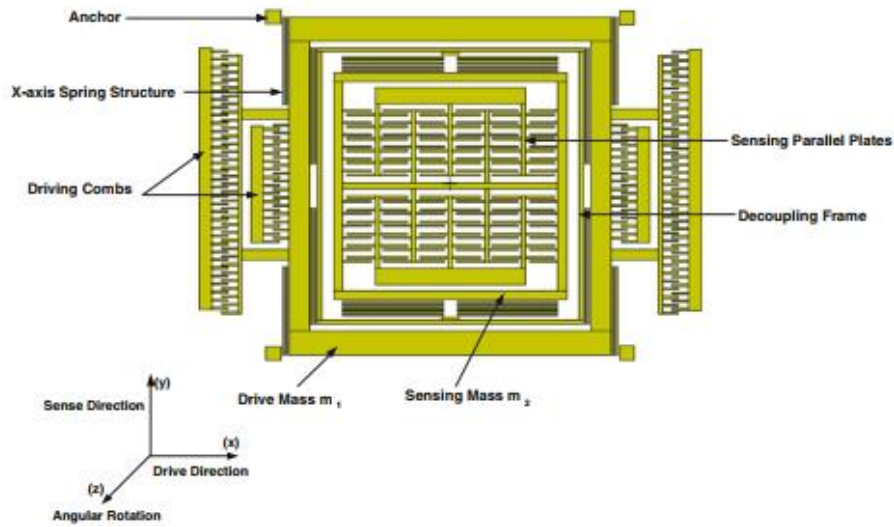


Figure 2.7 Designed model of gyroscope, drive and sense oscillator modes of 2-DoF and 1-DoF respectively [63]

Following the design rules, the complete size of the device was 2.4 x1.6mm. The Monte Carlo analysis and design sensitivity analysis were carried out to show that the gyro is operated with nearly no cross-coupling in the drive mode and in sense mode even in the worst cases, this removes the requirement of the control techniques.

[64] reported the MEMS gyroscope will overall 3-DOF, drive mode with 2-DoF shown in figure 2.8. Device utilized the configuration of active-passive masses to achieved the dynamic amplification. The device was fabricated using the commercially available microfabrication process of MetalMUMPS having the structural thickness of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  and nickel as the structural material for the device.

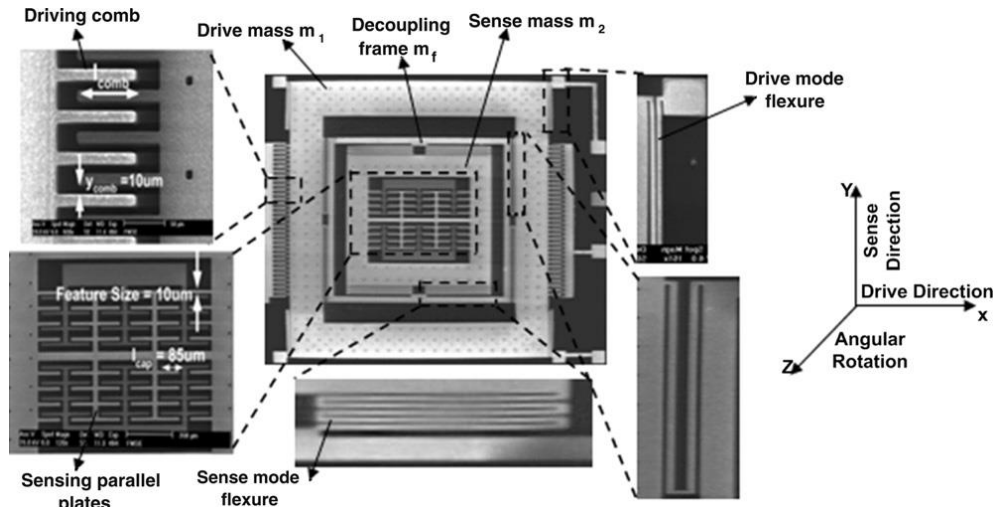


Figure 2.8 MEMS gyroscope with overall 3-DOF, 2-DoF in drive mode [64]

Concept of dynamic amplification has been utilized, large amplitudes of sense mass in drive mode has been achieved with small actuation amplitudes, comb drive electrostatic actuation mechanism has been utilized for actuation purpose. Beams, comb-drive, slide-film model of damping and squeeze-film model of damping are the main components used in modeling.

A detailed damping analysis has been performed and a mathematical model has been proposed to estimate the damping involved in the operation of the gyroscope. Total damping for mass  $m_1$  in drive direction could be approximated as total of the damping due to slide-film between the related mass and its substrate and also between the comb-drive fingers which is represented by coefficient of the damping  $c_{1x}$ . Similarly, the slide-film damping for the mass  $m_2$  in drive direction could be estimated as damping between the substrate and the mass and also between the sense capacitor electrodes which is represented as  $c_{2x}$ . The damping in the sense mode is due to the mass  $m_2$  and it is the damping due to the slide-film between the substrate and mass in addition to the squeeze-film damping between the sensing parallel plates, this total damping in sense direction is represented by damping coefficient  $c_{2y}$ .

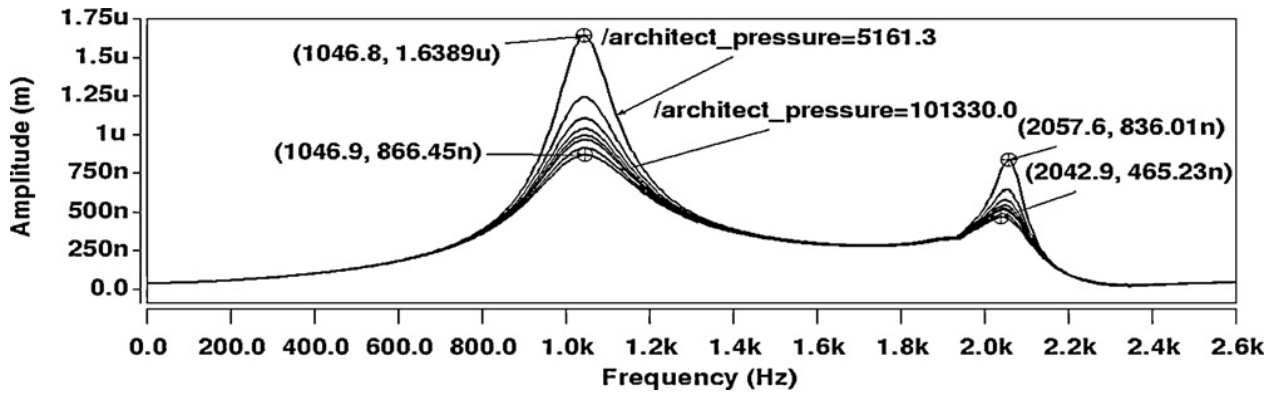


Figure 2.9 Passive mass frequency response in drive mode by varying pressure [64]

Figure [2.9] shows that the gain in the nearly even operational region is indifferent to environmental disturbances like pressure variations and the variations in the damping. Utilizing this approach would be beneficial for the future work.

## Chapter 3: Finite Element Method Based Modelling

In this chapter, the proposed architecture of the multi-degree-of-freedom (multi-DoF) MEMS vibratory gyroscope is presented. Detailed mathematical model of the device is discussed. Then, stiffness calculation of the mechanical springs, damping calculation and calculation for the capacitance change is presented. In the end of this chapter the parametric optimization is presented for the structural parameters of the designed gyroscope.

### 3.1 Structural Design of the Proposed Gyroscope

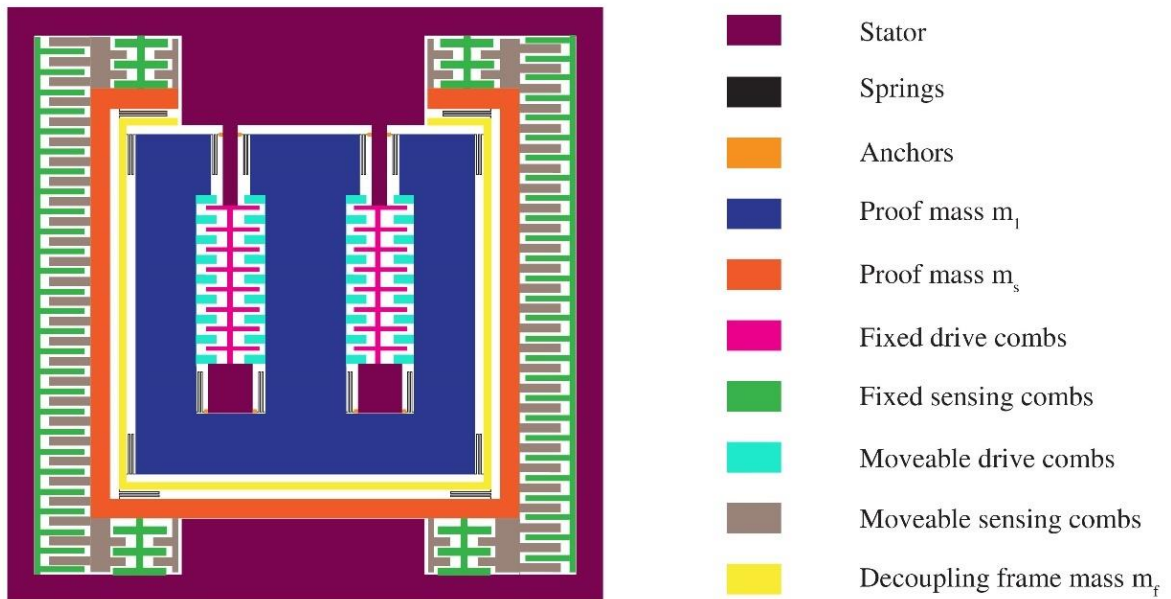


Figure 3.1 Proposed design of the multi-DoF, MEMS gyroscope having single DoF sense mode and 2-DoF drive mode



Figure 3.1 represents the schematic of the anticipated multi-DoF MEMS vibratory gyroscope having the single degree-of-freedom in sense mode and two degree-of-freedom drive mode. Serpentine shaped mechanical spring have been used to attach the drive and the sense masses to each other. These types of spring have been used to minimized the cross-axis displacement in the device. These mechanical-flexures allow the movement of the masses in the chosen direction only. The inner most mass  $m_1$  is known as drive mass and it is attached with the comb drive electrostatic actuators. The mass  $m_1$  oscillate in drive direction (x-axis) by these electrostatic actuator and constraint its movement in the sense direction (y-axis). The outer most mass  $m_s$ , sense mass can move in both directions of x-axis and y-axis. The gyroscope works in the configuration of active -passive mass combination. In the 2-DoF system of the gyroscope, the inner most drive mass  $m_1$  forms the active mass and the decoupling frame mass along with the sense mass ( $m_2 = m_f + m_s$ ) form the passive mass of the gyroscope. The passive mass  $m_2$  act as the dynamic vibration absorber (DVA) for the active mass  $m_1$  to achieve the amplified response in the sense direction, Dynamic amplification is achieved in the drive direction with the help of this active -passive mass configuration. Mass  $m_f$  is defined as the unidirectional decoupling frame and is used to decouple the drive mass from the sense mass. For improved sensitivity, the concept of the resonance is utilized in the sense mode but this concept is not utilized in the drive mode to maintain the concept of the robust operation in the valley. The outer most mass  $m_s$ , known as the sense mass is equipped with the parallel plate sensing combs and they detect the amplitudes of the sense mass corresponding to the input angular velocity. These parallel palate sensing combs have been arranged in the gap-antigap configuration. The minimum allowable air gap as defined by the fabrication process is  $2\mu m$ . To avoid the Brownian noise, air damping effect and to meet the microfabrication process constraints, the larger gap  $d_2$  is kept as  $9\mu m$  and smaller gap  $d_1$  is kept at  $3\mu m$ .

## 3.2 Analytical Modeling of the Proposed Gyroscope

This section deals with the analytical modeling of the proposed multi-degree of freedom gyroscope.

### 3.2.1 Equations of Motion for the Different Mode Oscillators

Figure 3.2 shows the mass-spring-damper model (a) drive mode with 2-DoF and (b) sense mode with 1-DoF. In figure 3.2(a), driving force  $F_d \cos(\omega t)$  is applied to the drive mass, the inner most mass of the gyroscope, in the drive direction ( $x$ -axis).  $x_1$  is the displacement of the mass  $m_1$  and  $x_2$  is the displacement of the mass  $m_2$ . The mechanical springs  $k_{1x}$  is used to anchor the driving mass with the substrate. Mechanical springs  $k_{2x}$  is used to attach the mass  $m_1$  with the decoupling frame  $m_f$ . The mechanical spring  $k_{2x}$  allows us to optimize the size of the valley which is the operational region and lies between the resonance-peaks of drive mode oscillating masses.  $c_{1x}$  is the air damping of the comb drives attached with the drive mass and  $c_{2x}$  is the damping present due to the air and present between the parallel-plates for sensing attached with sense-mass.

In figure 3.2(b), sense mode model is shown.  $k_y$  is the mechanical spring which anchor the sense mass  $m_s$  with substrate  $c_y$  is the damping of air present between the sensing parallel-plates.

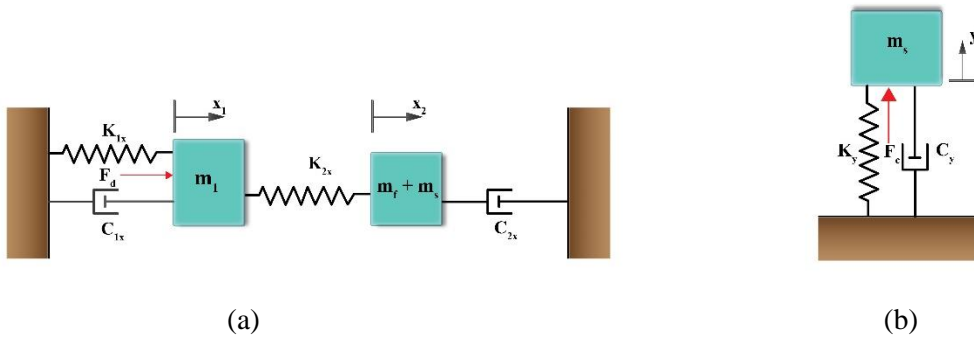


Figure 3.2 Mass-spring-damper model for projected gyroscope (a) drive mode with 2-DoF, (b) sense mode with 1-DoF

The active-mass  $m_1$ , the passive-mass  $m_2 = m_f + m_s$  and the sense mass  $m_s$  when subjected to the angular velocity  $\Omega_z$  about the  $z$ -axis, the equations-of-motion for these masses are given below.

$$m_1\ddot{x}_1 + c_{1x}\dot{x}_1 + k_{1x}x_1 + k_{2x}(x_1 + x_2) = F_D \quad (3.1)$$

$$m_2\ddot{x}_2 + c_{2x}\dot{x}_2 + k_{2x}(x_2 - x_1) = 0 \quad (3.2)$$

$$m_s\ddot{y} + c_y\dot{y} + k_y y = F_c \quad (3.3)$$

Here  $F_D = F_d \cos(\omega t)$ , the actuation force which acts on the inner mass  $m_1$ .  $F_c = 2m_s\Omega\dot{x}_2$  is the force acting on the sense mass  $m_s$  and is known as the Coriolis force.

### 3.2.2 Calculation of the Mechanical Stiffness

In the proposed gyroscope the suspension system is intended in a way that the masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  formed the 2-DoF drive-mode (x-axis) and 1-DoF sense-mode (y-axis). For the movement in the x-direction there are two sets of the springs that are attached with the masses and for the y-direction movement there is a single set of springs that allow the movement of a sense mass in sense direction.  $k_{1x}$  is the set of mechanical-springs, having 4-folds, length of the  $l_{1x}$  and width of  $w$ , attach the mass  $m_1$  with the substrate. These sets of  $k_{1x}$  mechanical-springs allowed the movement of mass  $m_1$  in drive direction only. similarly, the  $k_{2x}$  is the set of mechanical-springs having 4-folds, length of  $l_{2x}$  and width of  $w$ , attach the decoupling frame  $m_f$  with the drive mass  $m_1$ . Finally, the set of mechanical-springs  $k_y$ , having 4-folds, length of  $l_y$  and flexure beam width of  $w$ , attach the same decoupling frame with the sense mass  $m_s$ . The movement of the sense mass in the x-direction is restricted by these set of mechanical-springs,  $k_y$ . But the sense mass along with the decoupling-frame moves together in the same direction as drive orientation and act as the single mass as  $m_2$ . These  $k_y$  mechanical-flexures allow the movement of the sense mass only in the sense orientation (y-axis). All of these beams could be shown as the fixed, guided beams, and their respective stiffness of these beams could be modeled as [68]

$$k_{1x} = \frac{8}{4} \left( \frac{12EI}{L_{1x}^3} \right) \quad (3.4)$$

$$k_{2x} = \frac{4}{4} \left( \frac{12EI}{L_{2x}^3} \right) \quad (3.5)$$

$$k_y = \frac{4}{4} \left( \frac{12EI}{L_y^3} \right) \quad (3.6)$$

Where “ $E$ ” is the young’s modulus of the material, “ $I = \frac{w^3t}{12}$ ” second moment of inertia of beam cross-section, “ $w$ ” is the width, “ $t$ ” is the thickness, “ $l$ ” is the length of the spring.  $\frac{\beta}{\gamma}$  is the representation of the values outside the brackets.  $\beta$  represents the no. of the specific springs and  $\gamma$  represents the no. of folds of each spring.

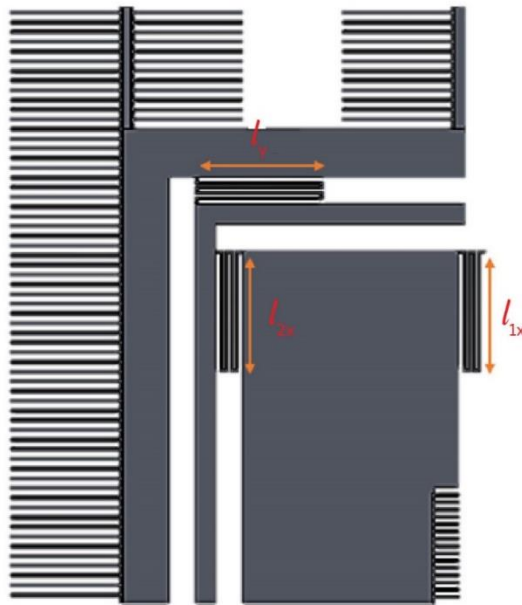


Figure 3.3 The suspension system configuration for the proposed MEMS gyroscope

### 3.2.3 Calculation for Differential Capacitance Change

Due to the input angular-rotation about the z-axis, a force known as Coriolis force is produced and act on the sense mass  $m_s$  in y-direction in case of the proposed gyroscope. Due to the Coriolis force produced, the amplitude “y” is observed in the y-axis, sense direction. The sense mass has the sensing parallel plates attached with it and these are arranged in the differential, gap-antigap configuration. In correspondence to displacement of the sense mass, the total capacitance change could be calculated as [69]

$$\Delta C = \frac{2y \epsilon_0 l_0 t N (d_2^2 - d_1^2)}{(d_2^2 - y^2)(d_1^2 - y^2)} \quad (3.7)$$

where sense direction displacement is represented as  $y$ ,  $\epsilon_0$  is the permittivity of the free-space,  $l_0$  is the overlapping length of moving plates and fixed parallel plates,  $t$  is parallel plates thickness,  $N$  is the total no. of plates (parallel), smaller air gap is  $d_1$  and larger air gap between the parallel plates is  $d_2$ .

### 3.2.4 Analysis for Damping

The dissipation of energy in the gyroscope is due to the two types of the damping present, Slide and squeeze film damping of air. Slide-film damping of air contributes in the direction of the drive, both combs for the drive and the parallel-plates for sense moves alongside in x-direction and slides over the plates those are fixed and are parallel to each other. Squeeze-film damping of air contributes in sense direction when moving-parallel-plates moves towards the fixed-parallel-plates and they squeeze the tiny film of air present between these plates. The squeezed-film  $b_{sq}$  damping and slide-film  $b_{sl}$  damping could be calculated as [70,71].

$$b_{sq} = N_s u_{eff} l_0 t^3 \left( \frac{1}{d_1^3} + \frac{1}{d_2^3} \right) \quad (3.8)$$

$$b_{sl} = N u_{eff} A \left( \frac{1}{d_1} + \frac{1}{d_2} \right) \quad (3.9)$$

Where  $N_s$  is the no. of sensing-parallel-plates,  $u_{eff}$  is the effective viscosity of air,  $l_0$  is the overlap length of parallel plates,  $t$  is the thickness,  $A$  is the over-lap area for the plates (parallel),  $d_1$  is the smaller gap and  $d_2$  is the larger air gap.  $N$  is the total no. of moving-combs attached with mass. In the drive direction,  $d_1 = d_2 = d = 3\mu m$  while in sense direction  $d_1 = 3\mu m$  and  $d_2 = 9\mu m$ .

The relation between the oscillating frequency and the damping-force is represented by the dimensionless squeeze no.  $\sigma$ , that defines the relative effect of air damping force is given as

$$\sigma = \frac{12u_{eff} t^2 \omega}{P d_1^2} \quad (3.10)$$

The characteristic length  $t$  represents the thickness of the of plates (parallel-plates) in the proposed gyroscope,  $\omega$  is the operating frequency of the proposed gyroscope,  $u_{eff}$  represents the effective viscosity of air,  $P$  represents the pressure of the air and  $d_1$  is the smaller air gap.

### 3.2.5 Interface Circuitry

For the conversion of the capacitance change in to the equivalent voltage due to the input rotation about the z-axis of the gyroscope, a commercially available IC of MS3110, known as the capacitance to voltage conversion IC is used. This IC supports an no. of MEMS devices those require very high-resolution capacitive readout electronics interface. MEMS sensors need such ICs to sense very small capacitive changes. MS3110 can sense capacitive change of as small as 4 aF/rtHz. Output voltage could be calculated as

$$V_0 = 1.14 \times (G) \times (V2P25) \times \frac{2\Delta C + (CS2 - CS1)}{C_F} + V_{ref} \quad (3.11)$$

where  $(G)$  is the gain with a value of 2,  $(V2P25)$  is 2.25 and also the value of  $V_{ref}$  is 2.25V,  $\Delta C$  represents the change in capacitance and  $C_F$  is the capacitor for the feedback and having the value of 2.8 pF

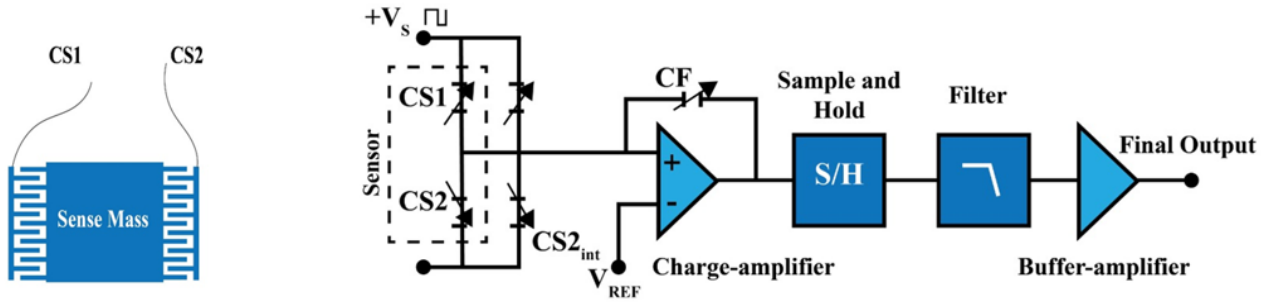


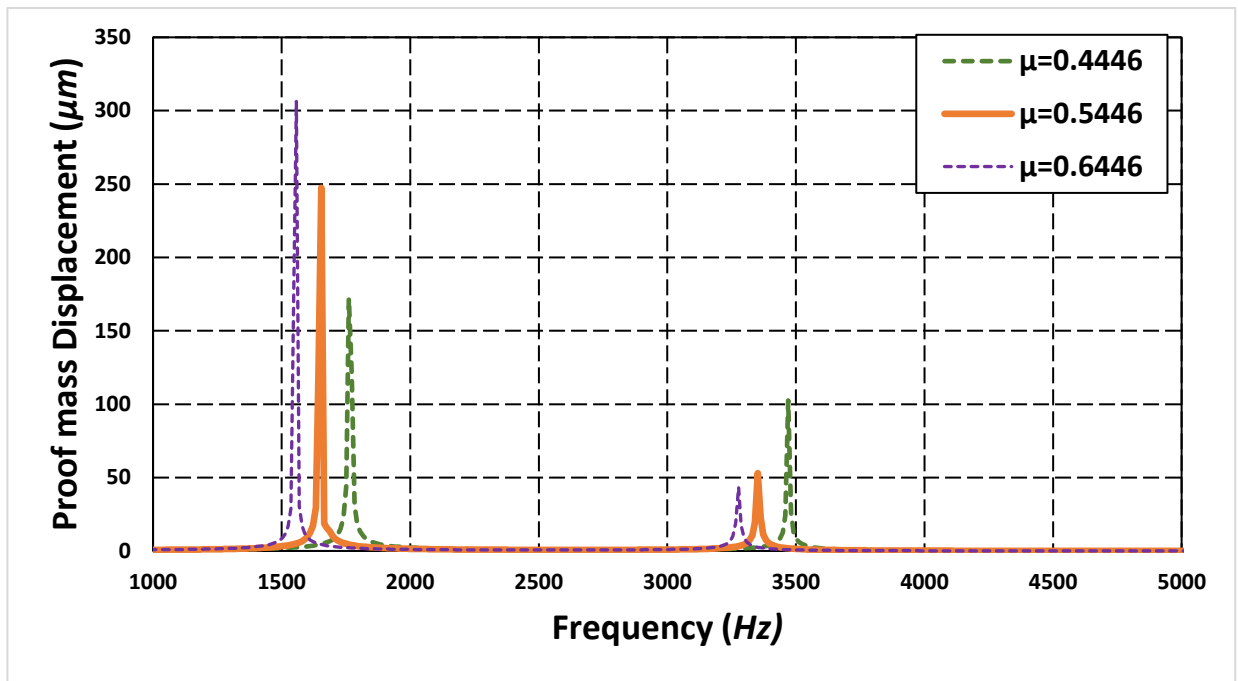
Figure 3.4 MS3110 capacitance to voltage converter

### 3.3 Parametric Optimization of the Proposed Gyroscope.

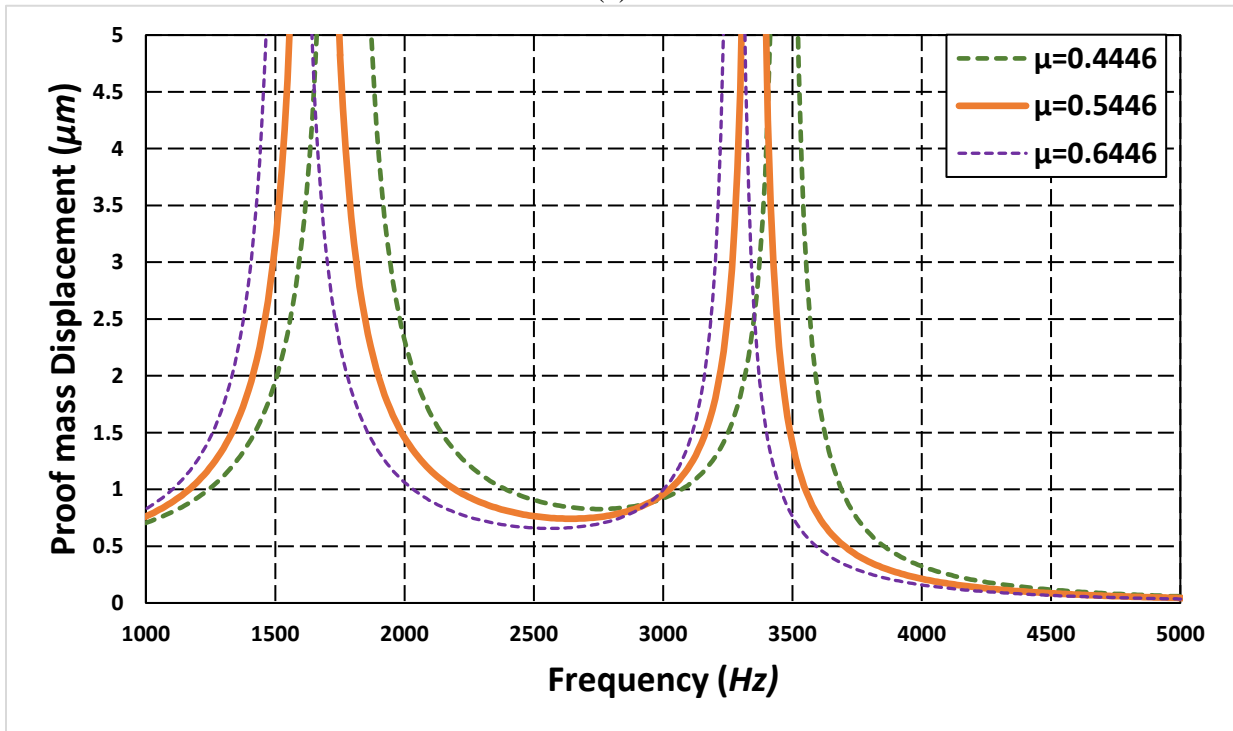
The foremost mechanical factor that is considered as the measure for the performance-parameter of the designed gyroscope is the movement of the mass (sense-mass) in y-direction. Therefore, there is need to optimized the parameters of the dynamic system to maximized the oscillation amplitudes of the sense mass in y-direction which is the sense-direction.

The larger bandwidth and the enhanced amplitude are the two major requirements of the system. However, the optimal compromise between the both must be obtained to maintain the robust working operation against the parametric fluctuations. The major factors, mass ratio, frequency ratio, stiffness of the  $k_{1x}$  and  $k_{2x}$ , are the ones which effect the response-amplitude and the bandwidth of the gyroscope. For optimization, the overall 3-DoF dynamic system is divided into 2-DoF drive mode oscillator and 1-DoF sense modes oscillator. Dynamic amplification is achieved with the help of the mass ratio in drive direction. Mass ratio in drive direction is defined as  $\mu_x = \frac{m_2}{m_1}$ , where  $m_2 = m_f + m_s$ . For higher mass ratios, the dynamic amplification will be minimum as the difference between the drive and sense mass is negligible. For the maximum amplification the value of the  $m_1$  should be much higher relative to the mass  $m_2$ .

Considering the constraints of the die size and performance parameters, the optimal mass ratio value is 0.5446 shown in figure 3.5 and for this mass ratio the dynamic amplification is shown in the figure 3.6. The average dynamic amplification factor in the operating range is 2.89.



(a)



(b)

Figure 3.5 (a) Response of mass ratio on the dynamic amplification of the gyroscope, (b) Response of mass ratio on the dynamic amplification of the gyroscope (zoomed graph)



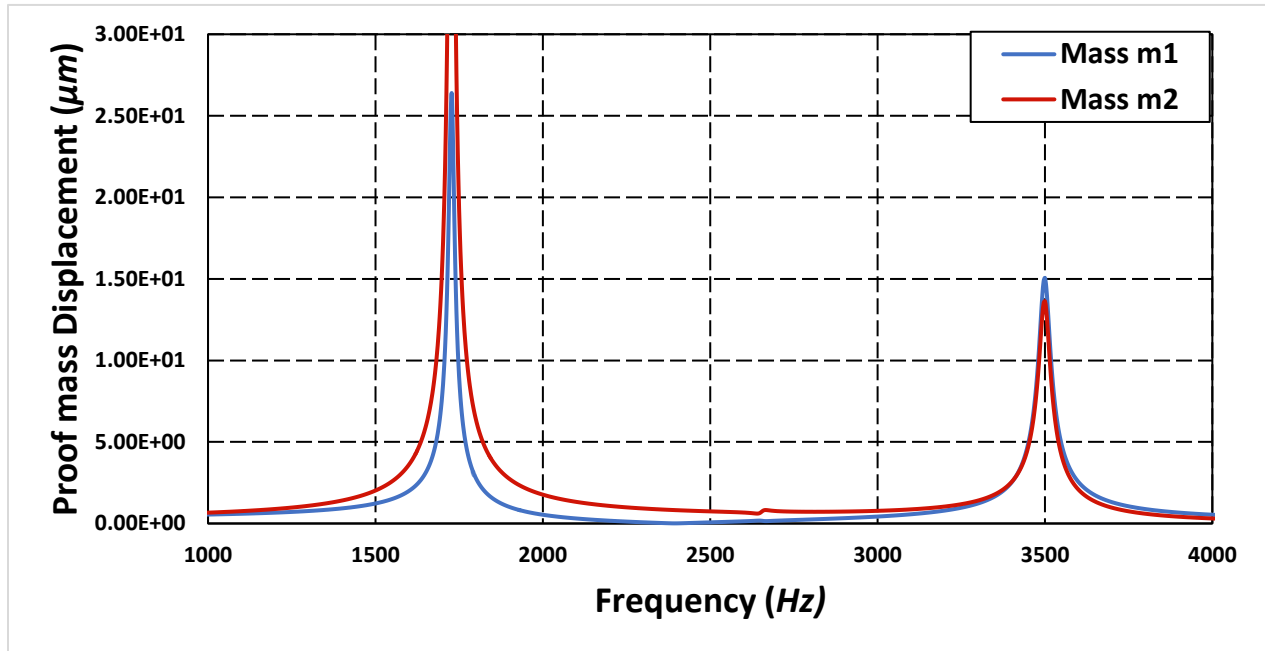
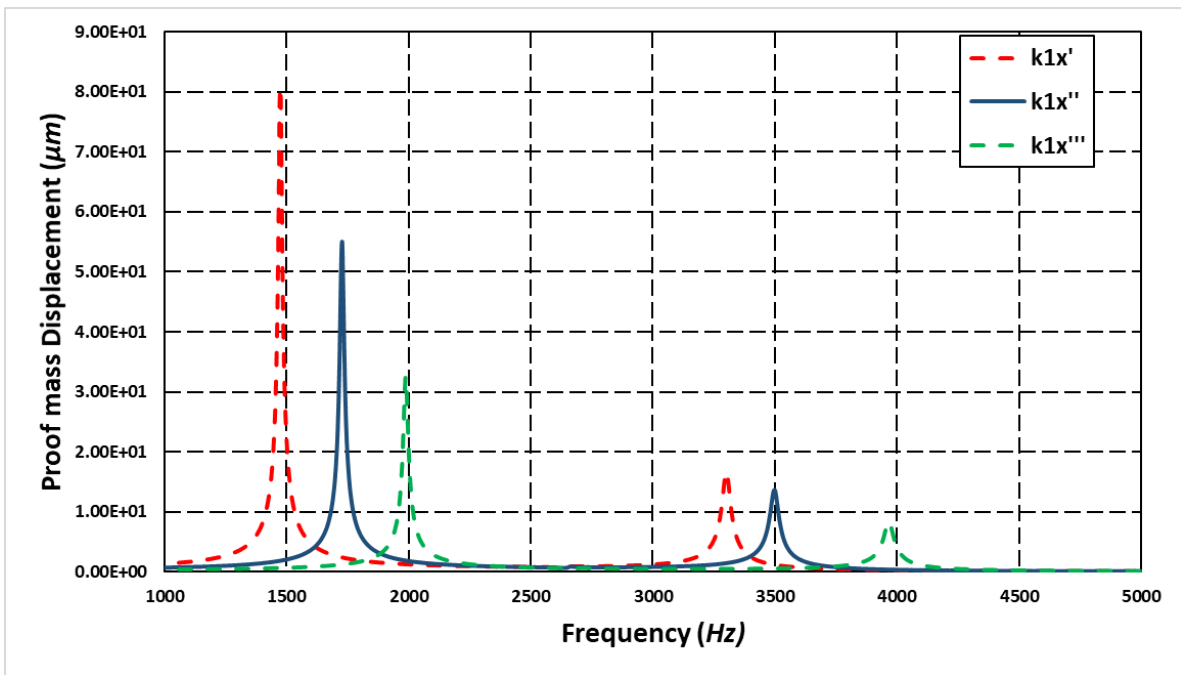
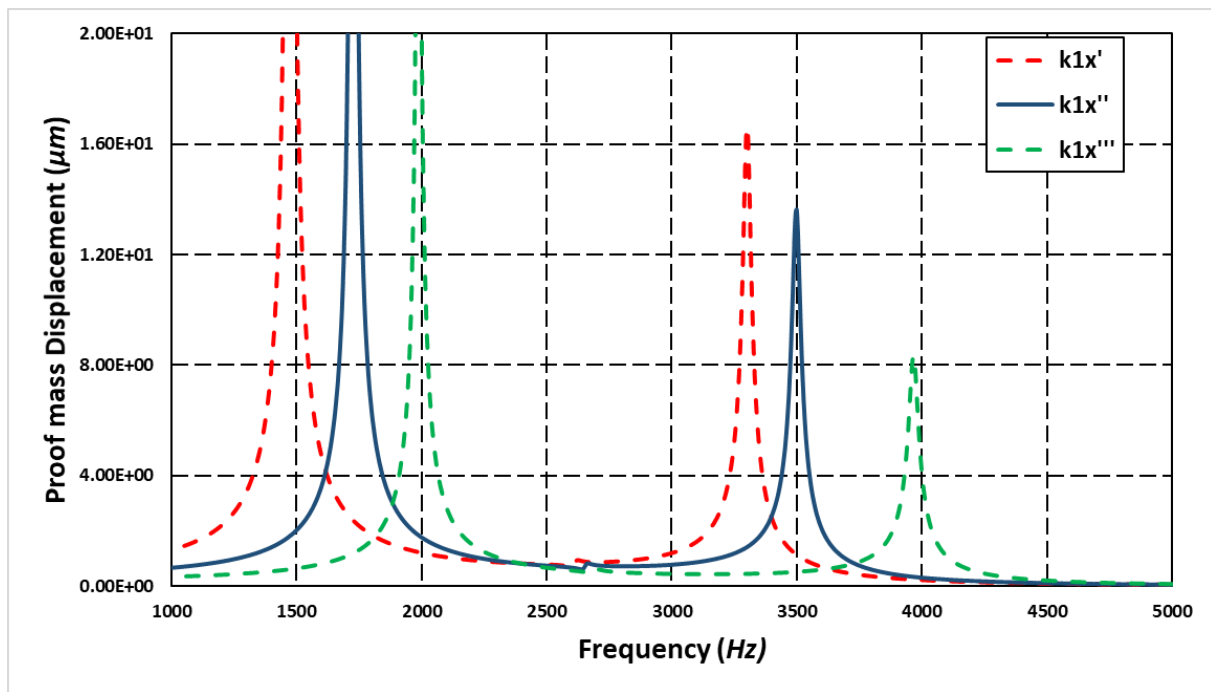


Figure 3.6 Dynamic amplification achieved in drive direction for the proposed gyroscope

To mitigate the parametric variations and the environmental fluctuations, the gyroscopes needs to be operated between the first two resonance peaks of the drive mode. In this flat region between the resonance peaks, these variations and fluctuations have least effect on the performance of the gyroscope. To maximize the gain within the valley (operational-region), parametric optimization is done by varying the values of stiffness for the springs attached to the masses and substrate. Optimized values of the concerned parameters are obtained by varying the one variable at a time and observing its effect on the system, while keeping all other variables constant. The analysis is carried out at the actuation voltages of  $10V_{ac}$  and  $40V_{ac}$ . Figures 3.7 and 3.8 show the operational range and the proposed system response by varying the values of the stiffness of the mechanical springs,  $k_{1x}$  and  $k_{2x}$ .



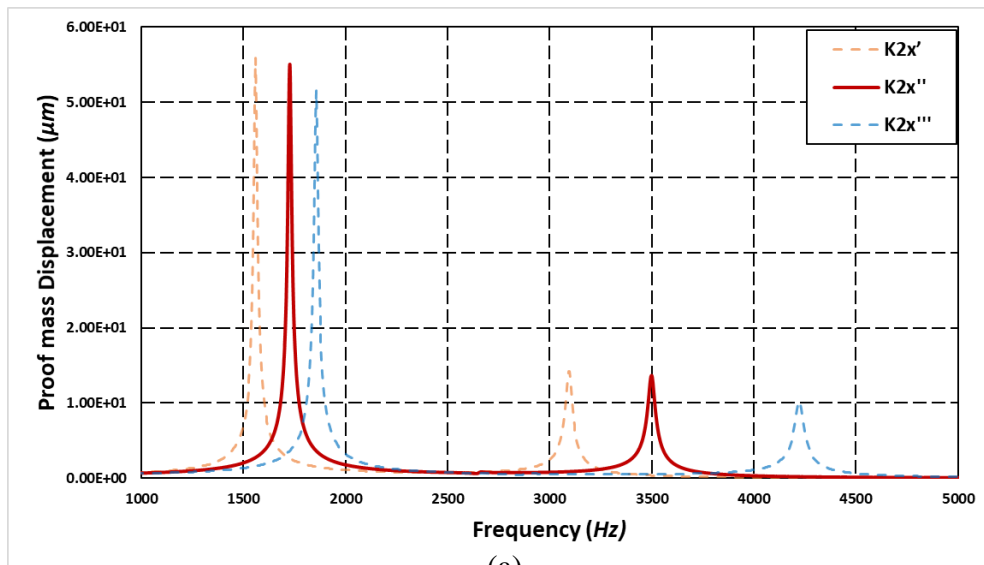
(a)



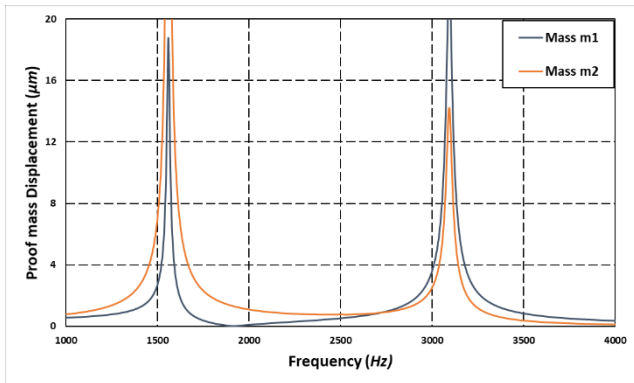
(b)

Figure 3.7 (a) and (b) Graph for optimization of response-amplitude and related bandwidth for varying the value of  $k_{1x}$ .

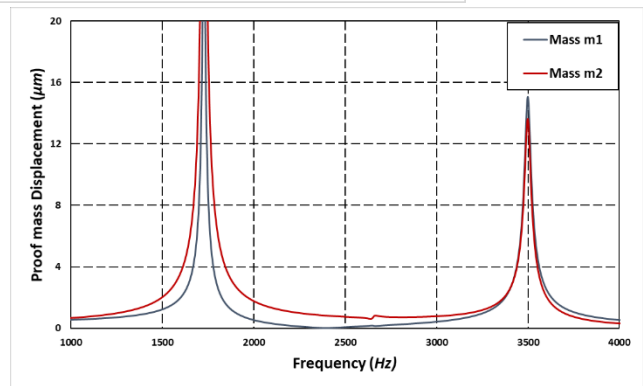
Figure 3.7 (a) and (b) shows the bandwidth and response amplitude graph respectively of the proposed electrostatically driven gyroscope by varying the stiffness of  $k_{1x}$ . The graph shows that by increase in the value of the  $k_{1x}$ , the values on x-axis of the first peak and second peak of resonance frequencies shifts towards the upper values, that is, the bandwidth shifts as a whole on the frequency spectrum towards right side. While the highest value of the response amplitude has been achieved for a lower value of  $k_{1x}$ . By increase in the value of the  $k_{1x}$ , shows the decreasing trend of the response amplitudes on the resonance-peaks as shown in figure 3.7(a). By incrementing the  $k_{1x}$ , the response-amplitude value with in the operation region between the first and second resonance frequency also decreases as shown in figure 3.7(b).



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 3.8 (a), (b) and (c) Graph for optimization of response-amplitude and related bandwidth for varying the value of  $k_{2x}$ .

Figure 3.8 shows the bandwidth and response amplitude graph of the proposed electrostatically driven gyroscope by varying the stiffness of  $k_{2x}$ . (a) shows that the 2<sup>nd</sup> resonance frequency shifts more left or right side by changing the value of the  $k_{2x}$  while little change in the position of the 1st resonance frequency on the frequency spectrum. The value of the  $k_{2x}$  greatly affects the bandwidth of the system. By decreasing the value of the  $k_{2x}$ , the narrow the band width and also the flat operational region which could be seen in the (b) of figure 3.8. Figure 3.8 (c) shows the optimal value for the bandwidth and the response amplitude in the valley.

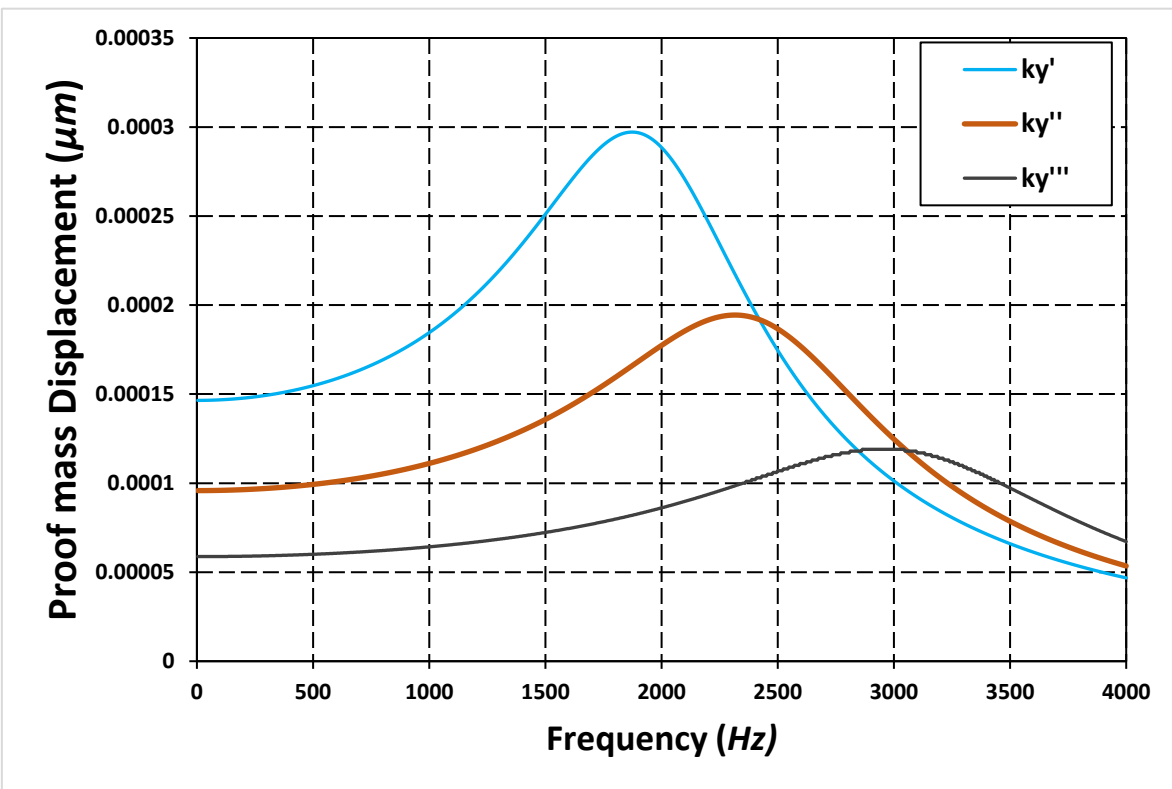


Figure 3.9 Frequency response and the amplitude response of the sense mass in y-direction

Figure 3.9: shows the frequency response and amplitude response in the sense direction (y-direction). The Coriolis force induced due to rotation,  $F_c$  is the only driving force in the direction of sense mode, and this force is proportional to the oscillation amplitudes of the drive direction.

The main objective or aim of the parametric optimization in the sense direction is to achieve the maximum amplitude keeping the resonant peak with in the operation range of drive mode.

In the case of the proposed MEMS gyroscope, there is single degree-of-freedom (1-DoF) of sense mode and two degree-of-freedom (2-DoF) in drive mode. The operation region is the region from 1<sup>st</sup> resonance peak to 2<sup>nd</sup> resonance peak in drive direction. The frequency of the sense mode needed to be within the operational region to avoid any effect due to environmental fluctuations. By increasing the stiffness of the  $k_y$  springs, the amplitude reduces and the frequency shifts to the right where there is negligible dynamic amplification is achieved in the drive direction. similarly, if the value of the stiffness for  $k_y$  reduces, the amplitude increases reasonably but the frequency shifts to the left and approaches to the region where there are chances that it is affected by the environmental and parametric variations. Therefore, the middle value is selected for maximum gain and to avoid the any effect of environmental fluctuations and parametric variations.

Table 6: Optimized structural parameters for the proposed gyroscope for improved drive mode gain

| Parameter | Analytical Value                |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| $m_1$     | $2.87 \times 10^{-7} \text{kg}$ |
| $m_2$     | $1.54 \times 10^{-7} \text{kg}$ |
| $m_3$     | $2.92 \times 10^{-8} \text{kg}$ |
| $m_s$     | $1.25 \times 10^{-7} \text{kg}$ |
| $k_{1x}$  | $67.60 \text{ N. m}^{-1}$       |
| $k_{2x}$  | $33.80 \text{ N. m}^{-1}$       |
| $k_y$     | $29.19 \text{ N. m}^{-1}$       |
| $b_{sq}$  | $1.22 \times 10^{-3}$           |
| $b_{sl}$  | $2.335 \times 10^{-5}$          |

## Chapter 4: Finite Element Method Based Modelling

### 4.1 FEM based Electro-mechanical Analysis

In this chapter, first the modal analysis is performed and the resonant frequencies have been observed and the different modes shapes of the structure. Then the harmonic analysis is performed on the proposed dynamic system of the proposed gyroscope to study the frequency response.

The material properties of the SOIMUMPs silicon for the FEM-based simulations are recorded in Table 7.

Table 7: Material properties of SOIMUMPS

| Property        | Value             | Unit               |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Density         | 2500              | kg. m <sup>3</sup> |
| Poisson Ratio   | 0.29              | -                  |
| Young's Modulus | $169 \times 10^9$ | N. m <sup>2</sup>  |

#### 4.1.1 Modal Analysis

A finite element based (FEM) modal analysis is performed. This modal analysis is performed to verify and also validate the resonance frequencies obtained by the developed analytical model. The inputs for this analysis are the material properties and the boundary conditions whereas the resonant frequencies and mode shapes are the output-responses for the analysis. Computational time for the analysis is dependent on the meshing size and have a vital role in modal and the harmonic analysis. The chosen meshing size is based upon the patch performing algorithm which is used for controlling the tetrahedrons size. Figure 4.1-4.3 shows the different resonant frequencies and respected allied mode shapes. Table-8 show the comparison of the drive-mode and sense-mode resonance-frequencies peaks obtained by the analytical modal and by FEM-based simulations. The difference between the analytical values and the FEM simulations is less than the 2%, which validates that the developed mathematical model is correct.

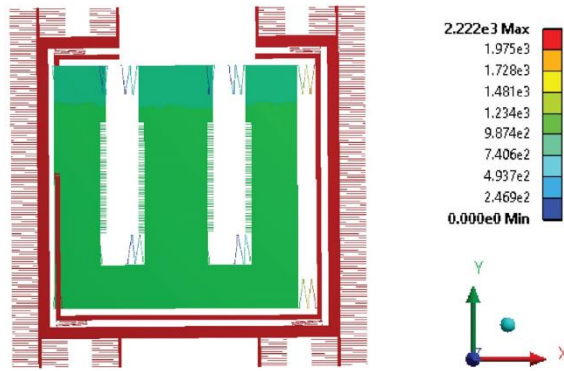


Figure 4.1 1<sup>st</sup> drive mode at resonance frequency of 1727 Hz

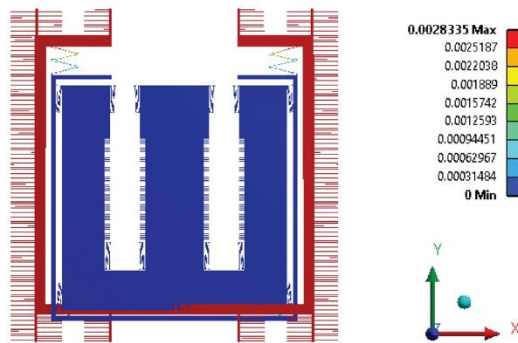


Figure 4.2 Sense mode at resonance frequency of 2369 Hz

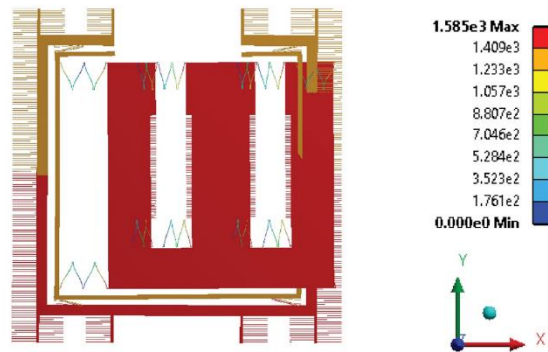


Figure 4.3 2<sup>nd</sup> drive mode at resonance frequency of 3499 Hz.

Table 8: Comparison of modal analysis results of mathematical model and FEM Simulations

| Resonant Frequency         | Finite Element Analysis (FEM) (Hz) | Analytical Modal (Hz) | Difference in percentage |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Drive Mode | 1727                               | 1728                  | 0.057 %                  |
| Sense Mode                 | 2369                               | 2342                  | 1.15 %                   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Drive Mode | 3499                               | 3496                  | 0.085 %                  |

#### 4.1.2 Harmonic Response Analysis

Harmonic analysis was performed on the proposed gyroscope to analyze the frequency-response. A  $40V_{ac}$  and  $10V_{ac}$  actuation voltage is applied to accomplish the harmonic-response analysis. The damping present in the device due to air pressure greatly affects the amplitude-response of the gyroscope.

In the case of the harmonic-analysis, different damping coefficient values used, have been assimilated by the equation represented in section 3.2. Frequency-response for the drive mode of the two proof masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , using the FEM based simulations is shown in Figure 4.4.

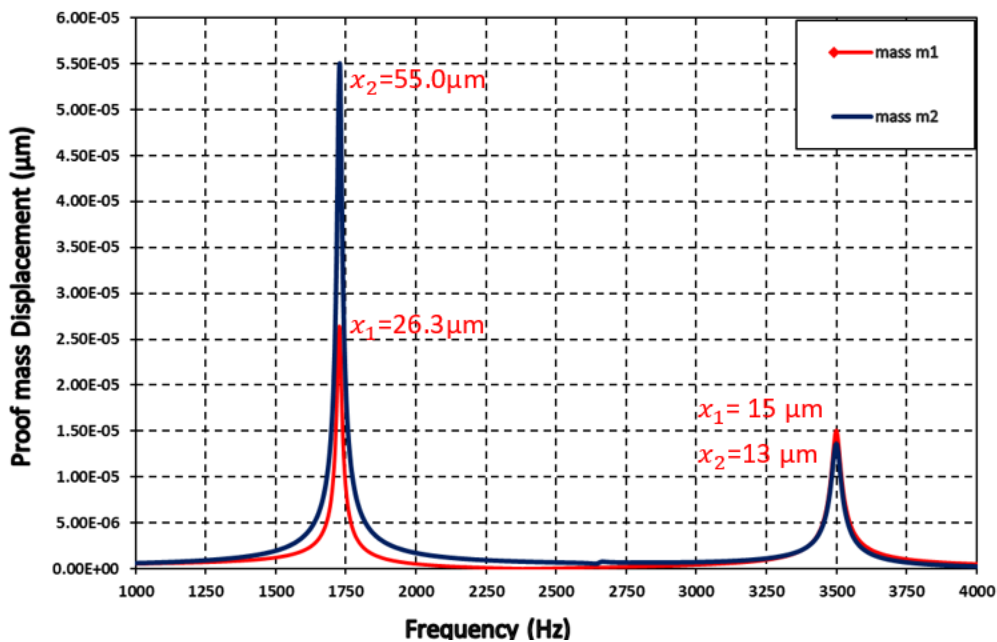


Figure 4.4 Drive mode frequency response



At 1<sup>st</sup> resonance peak at resonance frequency of 1727 Hz, mass  $m_2$  moves  $5.50 \times 10^{-5}$  m and mass  $m_1$  moves to  $2.63 \times 10^{-5}$  m which gives us the amplification ratio of 2.09, while at 2<sup>nd</sup> resonance peak at resonance frequency of 3499 Hz, mass  $m_2$  moves  $1.36 \times 10^{-5}$  m and mass  $m_1$  moves  $1.51 \times 10^{-5}$  m, so there is no dynamic amplification at this point is achieved. Within the valley (flat operation region) the average value for the dynamic amplification ratio is 2.89.

The most appropriate region for the robust-operation of the gyroscope is the flat-region between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resonance-frequencies where the environmental changes and the parametric fluctuations have minimum effect on performance of gyroscope. So, the sense mass  $m_s$  and related suspension system in the sense direction i-e along y-axis are adjusted for the sense mode peak position that is 2369 Hz, nearly the center of the operational region between the two resonance-peaks of drive modes.

Figure 4.5 shows that the resonance frequency for the sense mode lies at 2396 Hz for ambient settings.

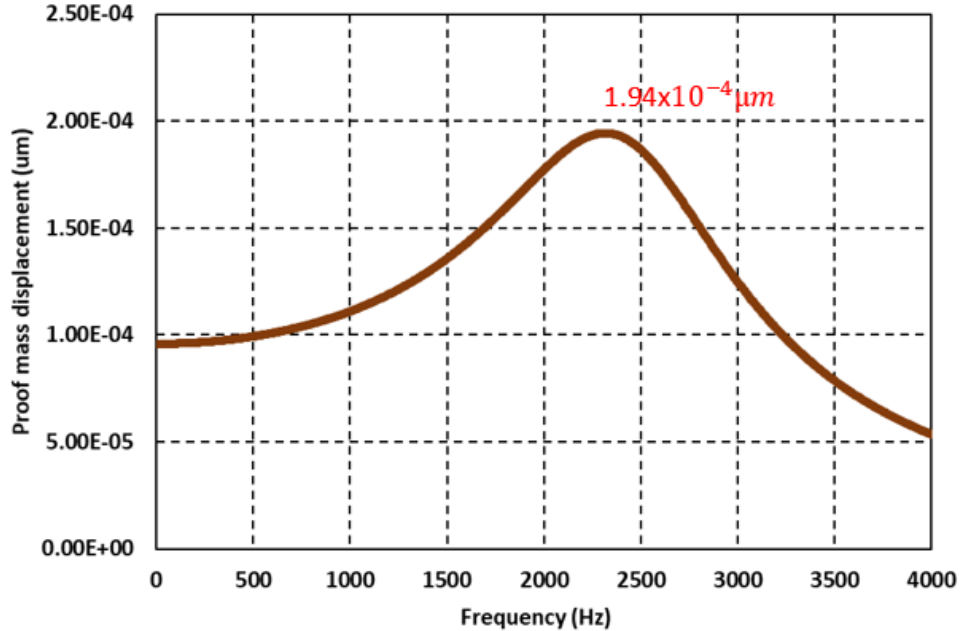


Figure 4.5 Sense mode resonance frequency for ambient settings

## Chapter 5: Conclusion

In this research work, a complete architecture of a multi-degree-of-freedom with drive-mode having 2-DoF and a sense-mode with 1-DoF is presented. The gyroscope is designed by carefully considering the design-rules of the commercially offered and a cost-effective multi-user foundry process of SOIMUMPs offered by MEMSCAPS Inc. operational in the United States. The operational bandwidth of the gyroscope is 1772 Hz and the amplification ratio of 2.98 in drive direction.

The reliability of the MEMS gyroscope is key performance parameter and is dependent on the design of the device and also on the material properties used to fabricate that device. Table 9 shows that in the literature, most of the available non-resonant gyroscopes used Nickle or silicon thin films as structure material.

Table 9: Comparison of Proposed Design with Existing Designs

| Structural Layer             |                    |                |                                |                            |  |           |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| Reference                    | Material           | Thickness (um) | Configuration                  | Device Size                | Sensitivity  | Bandwidth |
| <i>Schofield et al.</i> [11] | <i>Silicon</i>     | 75             | 1 – DoF Drive<br>2 – DoF Sense | -                          | 2.3 $\mu V/(\text{°}/s)$   | 600 Hz    |
| <i>Trusov et al.</i> [26]    | <i>Silicon</i>     | 50             | 1 – DoF Drive<br>2 – DoF Sense | 3 × 3 mm <sup>2</sup>      | 56 $\mu V/(\text{°}/s)$  | 250 Hz    |
| <i>Acar et al.</i> [7]       | <i>Ploysilicon</i> | 100            | 1 – DoF Drive<br>2 – DoF Sense | 4 × 4 mm <sup>2</sup>      | 0.0303mV/(°/s)   | 50 Hz     |
| <i>This work</i>             | <i>Silicon</i>     | 25             | 1 – DoF Drive<br>2 – DoF Sense | 3.97 × 4.0 mm <sup>2</sup> | 8.9 × 10 <sup>-16</sup> F/(°/s)<br>3.27 mV/(°/s)<br>1.94 × 10 <sup>-4</sup> $\mu m/(\text{°}/s)$ | 1772 Hz   |

Majority of the multi-DoF MEMS gyroscopes presented in literature those use silicon as structural material had been fabricated using the in-house microfabrication process. To develop this in-house microfabrication facility involves very high costs. This could be one of the major reasons that limited research work has been done in development of Non-resonant gyroscopes. Problem to this solution is the multiuser MEMS microfabrication process, which allow to use silicon structural layer having the thickness of  $10\mu m$  or  $25\mu m$ . This process is commercially available but with some design rules as discussed in section 1.5. Proposed design of the gyroscope not only follows these design rules but also achieve much better performance. The voltage sensitivity of  $3.27\text{ mV}/^\circ/\text{s}$  has been achieved and the dynamic range of the proposed gyroscope is estimated as  $88.94\text{ dB}$  with minimum angular rate of  $0.184\text{ }^\circ/\text{s}$  and max angular rate of  $5154.6\text{ }^\circ/\text{s}$

## Completion Certificate

It is certified that the contents of thesis document titled “*Design and Analysis of Multi-DoF MEMS Gyroscope for Inertial Navigation using SOI-MUMPs Fabrication Process*” submitted by NS Adnan Shujah, Registration No. 0000205605 have been found satisfactory in all respects as per the requirements of Main Office, NUST (Exam branch).

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Muhammad Mubasher Saleem

Date: \_\_\_\_ December, 2020

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