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United States Patent Application Publication

20250251241

Kind Code

A1

Publication Date

August 07, 2025

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CONTROL CIRCUIT OF A MEMS GYROSCOPE, MEMS GYROSCOPE AND CONTROL METHOD

Abstract

The control circuit for a MEMS gyroscope is configured to receive a measurement signal which has a quadrature component and a sensing component. The control circuit has: an input stage which acquires an input signal, generating an acquisition signal, where the input signal is a function of the measurement signal and of a quadrature cancellation signal; a processing stage which extracts a first component of the acquisition signal, indicative of the sensing component of the measurement signal and having a sensing frequency band; and a quadrature correction stage which extracts a second component of the acquisition signal, indicative of the quadrature component of the measurement signal, and generates the quadrature cancellation signal from a reference signal. The quadrature cancellation signal is a signal modulated as a function of the second component of the acquisition signal, at an update frequency which is outside the sensing frequency band.

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Appl. No.: 19/186210

Filed: April 22, 2025

Foreign Application Priority Data

IT 102021000024644 Sep. 27, 2021

Related U.S. Application Data

parent US continuation 17899478 20220830 parent-grant-document US 12305986 child US 19186210

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: G01C19/5712 (20120101); G01C19/5776 (20120101); H03M3/00 (20060101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC G01C19/5712 (20130101); G01C19/5776 (20130101); H03M3/344 (20130101); H03M3/40 (20130101);

Background/Summary

BACKGROUND

Technical Field

[0001] The present disclosure relates to a control circuit of a MEMS gyroscope, to a MEMS gyroscope and to a control method.

Description of the Related Art

[0002] A gyroscope made using MEMS (“Micro Electro-Mechanical Systems”) technology is formed in one or more dice of semiconductor material, for example silicon, wherein an oscillating system, a driving circuit and a sensing circuit, mutually coupled, are formed.

[0003] The oscillating system is formed by one or more movable masses suspended on a substrate and free to oscillate with respect to the substrate with one or more degrees of freedom. The oscillating system further comprises a driving structure, coupled to the driving circuit and configured to cause an oscillation of the one or more movable masses along a driving direction, and a sensing structure, coupled to the sensing circuit and configured to sense a movement of the one or more movable masses along a sensing direction perpendicular to the driving direction.

[0004] In some MEMS gyroscopes, driving and sensing may be based on different operating principles, e.g., electromagnetic, piezoelectric or capacitive.

[0005] When the MEMS gyroscope rotates with an angular velocity about a rotation axis, a movable mass that oscillates with a linear velocity along a direction perpendicular to the rotation axis is subject to a Coriolis force directed along a direction perpendicular to the rotation axis and to the direction of the linear velocity.

[0006] In use, the driving circuit provides a driving signal, for example a voltage in case of capacitive driving, to the driving structure, causing an oscillation of the oscillating structure along the driving direction.

[0007] The sensing structure senses a movement of the oscillating system along the sensing direction and provides a corresponding sensing signal to the sensing circuit.

[0008] In some MEMS gyroscopes, due to variability and imperfections associated with the manufacturing process of the MEMS gyroscope, the driving signal may generate a spurious movement of the one or more movable masses along the sensing direction, even in the absence of a rotation of the MEMS gyroscope. The spurious movement is sensed by the sensing structure, thus generating a spurious signal, known as a quadrature error, which adds to the sensing signal originating from the rotation of the MEMS gyroscope.

[0009] This reduces the sensitivity of the MEMS gyroscope.

[0010] In order to reduce the contribution of the quadrature error on the sensing signal, a sensing circuit may comprise a trimming circuit which generates a correction signal configured to cancel the spurious quadrature signal. However, the correction signal value is set during an initial calibration step of the MEMS gyroscope. As a result, this approach does not allow any variations in the spurious quadrature signal to be corrected while using the MEMS gyroscope.

[0011] The trimming circuit may be recalibrated multiple times during the life cycle of the MEMS gyroscope. However, this recalibration introduces noise into the MEMS gyroscope output signal, thereby compromising the sensing performances thereof.

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0012] The technical solutions of the present disclosure overcome the disadvantages of the prior art.

[0013] According to the present disclosure a control circuit of a MEMS gyroscope, a MEMS gyroscope and a control method are therefore provided.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

[0014] For a better understanding of the present disclosure, some embodiments thereof are now described, purely by way of non-limiting example, with reference to the attached drawings, wherein:

[0015] FIG. 1 shows a block diagram of the present MEMS gyroscope, according to an embodiment;

[0016] FIG. 2 shows a detailed block diagram of the MEMS gyroscope of FIG. 1;

[0017] FIG. 3 shows a circuit diagram of a portion of the MEMS gyroscope of FIG. 2;

[0018] FIG. 4 shows a plot of a trend over time of waveforms of the MEMS gyroscope of FIG. 2; and

[0019] FIG. 5 shows a block diagram of the present MEMS gyroscope, according to a different embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0020] FIGS. 1 and 2 show a MEMS gyroscope 1 comprising an oscillating system 3 and a control circuit 4, which are operatively coupled.

[0021] The oscillating system 3 and the control circuit 4 may be formed in a single die of semiconductor material, eg., silicon, or in separate dice.

[0022] The oscillating system 3 is made using MEMS technology and comprises a movable and/or deformable structure, hereinafter referred to as movable structure 6, having a resonance frequency $f_{sub.r}$, a driving structure 8 and a sensing structure 10, mutually coupled.

[0023] The driving structure 8 is configured to receive a driving signal S_p from the control circuit 4 and cause a movement, for example, an oscillation, of the movable structure 6 along a driving direction, using an actuation principle, e.g., of electromagnetic, piezoelectric or electrostatic type.

[0024] For example, considering a Cartesian reference system XYZ comprising a first axis X, a second axis Y and a third axis Z, the driving direction may be parallel to the first axis X.

[0025] Furthermore, in this embodiment, the driving structure 8 generates a position signal S_R , indicative of a movement of the movable structure 6 along the driving direction, and provides the position signal $S_{sub.R}$ to the control circuit 4.

[0026] For example, if the driving signal $S_{sub.D}$ causes an oscillation of the movable mass 6 at the resonance frequency $f_{sub.r}$, then the position signal $S_{sub.R}$ is a periodic signal, for example, sinusoidal, having the resonance frequency $f_{sub.r}$ and whose amplitude is a function of the position variation of the movable structure 6.

[0027] The position signal $S_{sub.R}$ may be generated using a sensing principle of capacitive, piezoelectric, piezoresistive or electromagnetic type, according to the specific application.

[0028] The sensing structure 10 is configured to sense a movement of the movable structure 6 along a sensing direction, for example perpendicular to the driving direction, for example parallel to the second axis Y, and generate a corresponding measurement signal $S_{sub.M}$, which is provided to the control circuit 4.

[0029] In this embodiment, as shown in FIG. 2, the sensing structure **10** operates according to a capacitive sensing principle and is formed by a sensing capacitor **13** having, at rest, a capacitance $C_{\text{sub.MEMS}}$.

[0030] However, the sensing structure **10** may generate the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$ using a different sensing principle, e.g., of electromagnetic or piezoelectric type.

[0031] Here, the sensing capacitor **13** is schematically represented by a parallel plate capacitor; however, the sensing capacitor **13** may be of different type, e.g., an interdigitated capacitor.

[0032] The sensing capacitor **13** has a first terminal at a rotor voltage $V_{\text{sub.ROT}}$, which may be applied by the control circuit **4**, and a second terminal at a stator voltage $V_{\text{sub.STAT}}$ forming the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$.

[0033] For example, the rotor voltage $V_{\text{sub.ROT}}$ is a DC voltage that allows to set a desired initial value of the potential difference of the sensing capacitor **13**, useful in specific applications, eg., to tune the sensing sensitivity of the sensing capacitor **13**.

[0034] The control circuit **4** provides the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$ to the oscillating system **3** and receives the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$ from the oscillating system **3**.

[0035] In this embodiment, the control circuit **4** also receives the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$ from the oscillating system **3**.

[0036] Furthermore, the control circuit **4** generates, from the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$, an output signal $S_{\text{sub.O}}$, of digital type, having an output data rate (or frequency) $f_{\text{sub.O}}$ for example comprised between 10 Hz and 10 KHz.

[0037] In detail, the control circuit **4** comprises a driving module **15** which receives the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$.

[0038] The driving module **15** generates the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$, having a driving frequency $f_{\text{sub.D}}$, e.g., a voltage having sinusoidal behavior over time, a sequence of pulses or a square wave, and provides the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$ to the driving structure **8**, for the actuation of the movable structure **6**.

[0039] The driving frequency $f_{\text{sub.D}}$ may be chosen, at the design step, as a function of the electrical and/or mechanical characteristics of the oscillating system **3**, eg., as a function of the resonance frequency $f_{\text{sub.r}}$ of the movable structure **6**, and of the control circuit **4**.

[0040] The driving module **15** may adjust the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$, eg., it may adjust the amplitude thereof in case of sinusoidal signal or the duty cycle in case of square wave, so that the movement of the movable structure **6** follows a desired profile over time, eg., has a desired oscillation amplitude, which may be chosen at the design step.

[0041] In this regard, the driving module **15** may adjust the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$ as a function of the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$, for example by comparing the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$ with one or more values indicative of the desired movement profile of the movable structure **6**.

[0042] A gain with reference to FIG. 1, the driving module **15** also generates an in-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.O}}$ and an out-of-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.90}}$, for example two periodic square wave signals, which have the driving frequency $f_{\text{sub.D}}$ and are mutually phase-shifted, for example, phase-shifted by 90° .

[0043] The in-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.O}}$ and the out-of-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.90}}$ are, as a first approximation, except for latencies introduced by the driving module **15**, in quadrature and, respectively, in-phase with respect to the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$.

[0044] In detail, the rising (or falling) edges of the in-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.O}}$ are synchronized with the peaks (or valleys) of the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$.

[0045] The rising and falling edges of the out-of-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.90}}$ are synchronized with the zero crossings of the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$.

[0046] Furthermore, since, as a first approximation, the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$ is at the driving frequency $f_{\text{sub.D}}$ and is phase-shifted by 90° with respect to the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$, the in-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.O}}$ and the out-of-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.90}}$ are in-phase and,

respectively, in quadrature, with respect to the driving signal SD.

[0047] The driving module **15** also generates a correction clock signal CK.sub.FS, eg., a periodic square wave signal, having a frequency f.sub.F5 outside a frequency band of interest BW of the MEMS gyroscope **1**, for example greater than the output frequency f.sub.0 of the output signal S.sub.0, as described in detail hereinbelow.

[0048] Furthermore, the frequency f.sub.F5 of the correction clock signal CK.sub.FS may be equal to or different from the driving frequency f.sub.D, eg., greater than the driving frequency f.sub.D, for example equal to double the driving frequency f.sub.D.

[0049] According to an embodiment, the rising (or falling) edges of the correction clock signal CK.sub.F5 are synchronized with the zero crossings of the position signal S.sub.R. This is useful when using the MEMS gyroscope **1**, as described herein.

[0050] In some embodiments, as also discussed herein, the control circuit **4** uses the position signal S.sub.R as a reference signal.

[0051] The control circuit **4** has an input adder node **17** receiving the measurement signal S.sub.M and a cancellation signal S.sub.CANC, and a sensing circuitry **20**, coupled to the output of the input adder node **17** and configured to provide a sensing signal Ss.

[0052] In operation, the sensing circuitry **20** receives a combined signal S.sub.M+S.sub.CANC given by the superimposition of the measurement signal S.sub.M and the cancellation signal S.sub.CANC.

[0053] In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. **2**, the sensing circuitry **20** comprises an amplifier **23** and a feedback capacitor **24** having capacitance C.sub.FB and coupled between input and output of the amplifier **23**.

[0054] Furthermore, in some embodiments, the input of the amplifier **23** is directly coupled to the second terminal of the sensing capacitor **13**, i.e, to the stator voltage V.sub.STAT, through the input adder node **17** and the output of the amplifier **23** provides the sensing signal S.sub.S.

[0055] The control circuit **4** comprises a signal processing module **30**, which receives the sensing signal S.sub.S and the in-phase clock signal CK.sub.0 and provides the output signal So.

[0056] In detail, the signal processing module **30** comprises a demodulator **32** and an analog-to-digital converter **33**.

[0057] The demodulator **32** receives the sensing signal S.sub.S and the in-phase clock signal CK.sub.0 and provides a demodulated sensing signal S.sub.S-DEM.

[0058] The demodulated sensing signal S.sub.S-DEM is formed by a component of the sensing signal S.sub.S which is in quadrature with the position signal S.sub.R (and therefore in-phase with the driving signal S.sub.D) and indicative of a movement of the movable mass **6** caused by a rotation of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0059] The demodulated sensing signal S.sub.S-DEM comprises the frequency band of interest BW, comprised between a minimum frequency, eg., between 0 Hz and 50 Hz, and a maximum frequency, eg., comprised between 100 Hz and 10 KHz.

[0060] The frequency band of interest BW is used to determine the rotation extent of the MEMS gyroscope **1**, for example a rotation angular velocity, and may be chosen during the design step as a function of the electrical and mechanical characteristics of the oscillating system **3**, for example of the movable structure **6** and of the sensing structure **10**, and of the electrical characteristics of the signal processing module **30**.

[0061] The analog-to-digital converter **33** receives the demodulated sensing signal S.sub.S-DEM and discretizes it using a sampling frequency f.sub.SS, generating a discretized signal S.sub.SS.

[0062] The sampling frequency f.sub.SS may be chosen at the design step as a function of the frequency band of interest BW, according to the specific application.

[0063] The sampling frequency f.sub.SS may be lower than or equal to a maximum value that may be chosen as a function of the frequency band of interest BW, for example equal to double the maximum frequency of the frequency band of interest BW.

[0064] The analog-to-digital converter **33** may further comprise amplifiers and/or filters configured to condition the demodulated sensing signal $S_{\text{sub.S-DEM}}$ before its discretization, according to the specific application.

[0065] Furthermore, in this embodiment, the signal processing module **30** also comprises a digital processor **35** configured to perform further processing of the discretized signal $S_{\text{sub.SS}}$ such as for example filtering and gain of the discretized signal $S_{\text{sub.SS}}$, generating the output signal S_o .

[0066] Furthermore, the digital processor **35** may be configured to modify the sample rate of the discretized signal $S_{\text{sub.SS}}$. In detail, the output frequency $f_{\text{sub.0}}$ may be different, for example lower than or equal to the sampling frequency $f_{\text{sub.SS}}$ of the discretized signal $S_{\text{sub.SS}}$.

[0067] The control circuit **4** further comprises a correction module **37** which operates as a quantization-noise shaper and generates the correction signal $S_{\text{sub.canc}}$, as described hereinbelow.

[0068] In some embodiments, the correction module **37** comprises a quadrature demodulator **40**, a filtering stage **42**, a quantizer **43** and a correction modulator **45**, mutually coupled.

[0069] In some embodiments, the correction module **37** is a sigma-delta modulator.

[0070] The quadrature demodulator **40** comprises a demodulator **47** which receives the sensing signal $S_{\text{sub.S}}$ and the out-of-phase clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.90}}$ at input and provides a demodulated quadrature signal $S_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}}$.

[0071] The demodulated quadrature signal $S_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}}$ is formed by a component of the sensing signal $S_{\text{sub.S}}$ which is in-phase with the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$, and therefore in quadrature with respect to the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$.

[0072] The filtering stage **42** has a cut-off frequency, receives the demodulated quadrature signal $S_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}}$ and generates a filtered signal $S_{\text{sub.f}}$.

[0073] The cut-off frequency of the filtering stage **42** may be chosen at the design step, according to the specific application.

[0074] For example, the cut-off frequency of the filtering stage **42** is chosen as a function of the frequency band of interest BW and/or of the sampling frequency $f_{\text{sub.SS}}$, e.g., may be equal to the maximum frequency of the frequency band of interest BW .

[0075] In some embodiments, the filtering stage **42** comprises a low-pass filter **50**, receiving the demodulated quadrature signal $S_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}}$, and an amplifier **51** having a gain k , coupled to an output of the low-pass filter **50** and configured to provide the filtered signal $S_{\text{sub.f}}$.

[0076] FIG. **3** shows in detail the circuit diagram of an embodiment of the filtering stage **42**, here formed by an RC-type active circuit of the second order. For example, the filtering stage **42** comprises two RC filtering stages **53**, **54** mutually cascade-coupled through a capacitor **55** of capacitance $C_{\text{sub.Z}}$, where each RC filtering stage comprises a respective amplifier **56**, a capacitor **57** and a resistor **58**.

[0077] However, the filtering stage **42** may be of an order N other than two and may be of different type, for example may be formed by transconductance elements or may be of passive type and formed by a network of inductors and capacitors.

[0078] With reference back to FIGS. **1** and **2**, the quantizer **43** receives the filtered signal S_f and the correction clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.FS}}$.

[0079] The quantizer **43**, for example having a single-bit or multibit architecture, eg., of FLASH type or of the Successive Approximation Register (SAR) type, generates a fine capacitance signal $N_{\text{sub.C}}$, discrete, as a function of the value of the filtered signal $S_{\text{sub.f}}$, with a frequency equal to the frequency $f_{\text{sub.FS}}$ of the correction clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.FS}}$.

[0080] According to an embodiment, the quantizer **43** may be configured to compare the value of the filtered signal $S_{\text{sub.f}}$ with a threshold value V_{th} , at each event, for example a rising or falling edge, of the correction clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.FS}}$.

[0081] For example, the threshold value V_{th} may be equal to zero and if the filtered signal $S_{\text{sub.f}}$, in modulus, is greater than the threshold value V_{th} , then the quantizer **43** may increase (or decrease) the value of the fine capacitance signal $N_{\text{sub.C}}$ by one unit.

[0082] For example, the quantizer **43** may generate the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C so that the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C is equal to the numerical value, eg., in binary format, of the ratio between the filtered signal S.sub.f and a conversion reference signal, for example equal to the threshold value V_{th}.

[0083] However, the quantizer **43** may be configured to modify the value of the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C in a different manner, for example by using a non-binary coding code, for example, of thermometric type.

[0084] Additionally or alternatively, the quantizer **43** may be configured to have a dithering function on the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C.

[0085] In operation, the quantizer **43** updates the value of the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C with a frequency equal to the frequency f.sub.FS of the correction clock signal CK.sub.FS.

[0086] In some embodiments, the quantizer **43** further provides a fine sign signal s_c, indicative of the sign of the filtered signal S.sub.f, and therefore of the demodulated quadrature signal S.sub.Q-DEM. In operation, the fine sign signal s.sub.C indicates the phase-shift sign of the quadrature component of the sensing signal S.sub.S with respect to the position signal S.sub.R, eg., whether the quadrature component of the sensing signal S.sub.S is phase-shifted by 0° or by 180° with respect to the position signal S.sub.R.

[0087] The correction modulator **45** receives the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C and the position signal S.sub.R, and generates the cancellation signal S.sub.canc.

[0088] In this embodiment, the correction modulator **45** comprises a first variable capacitor **60**, whose capacitance value is controlled by the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C. For example, the first variable capacitor **60** may be formed by a plurality of parallel-coupled capacitive modules, each of which may be activated or deactivated as a function of the value indicated by the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C.

[0089] The correction modulator **45** further comprises a first phase shifter **63**, receiving the position signal S.sub.R and the fine sign signal s.sub.C, and an attenuator **65** coupled to an output of the first phase shifter **63**.

[0090] The first phase shifter **63** provides a phase-shifted signal S.sub.dp to the attenuator **65**. The phase-shifted signal S.sub.dp is equal to the position signal S.sub.R or to the position signal S.sub.R with a phase shift, for example, a phase-shift of 180°, as a function of the sign value indicated by the fine sign signal s.sub.C.

[0091] The attenuator **65** attenuates the phase-shifted signal S.sub.dp generating a fine cancellation voltage V.sub.CANC-C.

[0092] The first variable capacitor **60** has a first terminal **61** coupled to the input adder node **17** and a second terminal **62** coupled to the output of the attenuator **65**, i.e., to the fine cancellation voltage V.sub.CANC-C.

[0093] In this embodiment, the correction modulator **45** further comprises a register **68**, a second variable capacitor **70** and a second phase shifter **72**.

[0094] The register **68** provides the second variable capacitor **70** with a coarse capacitance signal N.sub.H that is configured to set the capacitance value of the second variable capacitor **70**.

[0095] For example, the second variable capacitor **70** may be formed by a plurality of parallel-coupled capacitive modules, each of which may be activated or deactivated as a function of the value indicated by the coarse capacitance signal N.sub.H.

[0096] The value of the coarse capacitance signal N.sub.H may be determined during an initial calibration step of the MEMS gyroscope **1** and/or may be modified in case of subsequent calibration steps of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0097] The register **68** further provides a coarse sign signal S.sub.H to the second phase shifter **72**, indicative of an initial sign of the phase-shift between the quadrature component of the sensing signal S.sub.S and the position signal S.sub.R, measured in the initial calibration step.

[0098] The second phase shifter **72** receives the position signal S.sub.R and provides a coarse

cancellation voltage $V_{\text{sub.CANC-H}}$. The coarse cancellation voltage $V_{\text{sub.CANC-H}}$ is equal to the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$ or to the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$ with a phase shift, for example a phase shift of 180° , as a function of the sign value indicated by the coarse sign signal $S_{\text{sub.H}}$.

[0099] The second variable capacitor **70** has a first terminal **71** coupled to the input adder node **17** and a second terminal **72** coupled to the output of the second phase shifter **72**, i.e., to the coarse cancellation voltage $V_{\text{sub.CANC-H}}$.

[0100] In operation, the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$ causes an oscillation of the driving structure **8** along the driving direction, eg., the first axis X. In the presence of a rotation of the MEMS gyroscope **1** about an axis transverse to the driving direction, eg., about the third axis Z, the movable structure **6** undergoes a displacement along the sensing direction, parallel to the second axis Y in the considered example. The movement of the movable structure **6** modifies the capacitance value $C_{\text{sub.MEMS}}$ of the sensing capacitor **13**. As a result, the sensing capacitor **13** generates a measurement current $I_{\text{sub.Cor}}$, indicative of the rotation of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0101] Due to manufacturing imperfections of the oscillating system **3**, the driving signal $S_{\text{sub.D}}$ may cause a spurious movement of the movable structure **6** along the sensing direction even in the absence of rotations of the MEMS gyroscope **1**. The spurious movement may be sensed by the sensing capacitor **13**, which therefore also generates a quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$ which adds to the measurement current $I_{\text{sub.Cor}}$.

[0102] The quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$ is phase-shifted with respect to the measurement current $I_{\text{sub.Cor}}$, for example phase-shifted by 90° , thus introducing a quadrature component in the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$.

[0103] The correction signal $S_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ here comprises a cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ generated by the first and the second variable capacitors **60**, **70** from the reference signal, here the position signal $S_{\text{sub.R}}$. In detail, the capacitance of the fine variable capacitor **60** and of the coarse variable capacitor **70** cause the cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ to have an amplitude that is equal, in modulus, to the quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$, as shown in the graph of FIG. 4, wherein the quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$ is indicated by a dashed line.

[0104] Furthermore, the first and the second phase shifters **63**, **72** cause the cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ to have an opposite sign or direction with respect to the quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$, as again shown in FIG. 4.

[0105] In operation, the cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ cancels the quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$; therefore, the amplifier **23** receives and amplifies, as a first approximation, only the component of the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$ given by the rotation of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0106] The fact that the capacitance of the fine variable capacitor **60** is updated, in operation, at the frequency $f_{\text{sub.FS}}$ of the correction clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.FS}}$, causes a possible noise introduced by the quantization of the filtered signal $S_{\text{sub.f}}$ to be at a frequency which is outside the band of interest BW of the demodulated sensing signal $S_{\text{sub.S-DEM}}$ that is used to sense the rotation of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0107] The frequency $f_{\text{sub.FS}}$ of the correction clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.FS}}$ may be greater than the maximum frequency of the frequency band of interest BW.

[0108] For example, the frequency $f_{\text{sub.FS}}$ of the correction clock signal $CK_{\text{sub.FS}}$ may be greater than the output frequency $f_{\text{sub.0}}$ of the output signal $S_{\text{sub.0}}$.

[0109] In operation, the correction module **37**, for example the fine variable capacitor **60**, allows the correction signal $S_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ to be modulated in an adaptive manner, so as to compensate for variations in the quadrature current $I_{\text{sub.Q}}$, when using the MEMS gyroscope **1**, without introducing noise in the frequency band of interest BW. The MEMS gyroscope **1** is therefore able to effectively compensate for variations in the quadrature error component of the measurement signal $S_{\text{sub.M}}$, without compromising the sensing sensitivity of a rotation of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0110] According to an embodiment, as shown for example in FIG. 4, the cancellation current

I.sub.CANC is updated in update time instants **75**, **76**, corresponding respectively to peaks and valleys of the cancellation current I.sub.CANC.

[0111] The peaks and valleys of the cancellation current I.sub.CANC correspond to the instants when the coarse cancellation voltage V.sub.CANC-C has maximum slope, i.e, when it crosses the zero value. In practice, the correction clock signal CK.sub.FS is synchronized with the zero crossings of the position signal S.sub.R.

[0112] In this manner, the capacitance variation of the first variable capacitor **60** occurs when the voltage across the first variable capacitor **60** has the value zero, thus avoiding the occurrence of peak currents associated with the charging and discharging of the first variable capacitor **60** during the updating of the respective capacitance value, which might compromise the performances of the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0113] For example, if the frequency f.sub.FS of the correction clock signal CK.sub.FS is equal to double the driving frequency f.sub.D, as shown in FIG. **4**, the update frequency of the coarse capacitance signal N.sub.C and therefore of the cancellation current I.sub.CANC may be maximized.

[0114] FIG. **5** shows a different embodiment of the present MEMS gyroscope, here indicated by **100**. The MEMS gyroscope **100** has a general structure similar to that of the MEMS gyroscope **1**; accordingly, elements in common are indicated by the same reference numerals and are not further described.

[0115] The MEMS gyroscope **100** has a differential architecture and is formed here again by an oscillating system, here indicated by **103**, and comprising a movable structure, not shown here, a first and a second driving structure **108A**, **108B**, and a first and a second sensing structure **110A**, **110B**, and by a control circuit, here indicated by **104**.

[0116] The first and the second sensing structures **110A**, **110B** are equal to the sensing structure **10** of the MEMS gyroscope **1**. In detail, the first sensing structure **110A** forms a sensing capacitor **13** having capacitance C.sub.M+ and whose terminals are at a rotor voltage V.sub.ROT and at a positive stator voltage V.sub.STAT+, respectively.

[0117] The second sensing structure **110B** forms a sensing capacitor **13** having capacitance C.sub.M- and whose terminals are at the rotor voltage V.sub.ROT and at a negative stator voltage V.sub.STAT-, respectively.

[0118] In practice, the first and the second sensing structures **110A**, **110B** are configured to sense, in a differential manner, a movement of the movable structure along the sensing direction.

[0119] The first and the second driving structures **108A**, **108B** are each equal to the driving structure **8** of the MEMS gyroscope **1**. In this embodiment, the first driving structure **108A** receives a driving signal, here a positive driving voltage V.sub.D+, and generates a position signal, here a positive position voltage V.sub.R+, and the second driving structure **108B** receives a driving signal, here a negative driving voltage V.sub.D-, and generates a position signal, here a negative position voltage V.sub.R-.

[0120] In operation, the first and the second driving structures **108A**, **108B** are configured to drive the movable structure and sense the movement of the movable structure along the driving direction, in a differential manner.

[0121] The control circuit **104** comprises a sensing circuitry, here indicated by **120**, the signal processing module **30**, a driving module, here indicated by **115**, and a correction module, here indicated by **137**.

[0122] The driving module **115** generates the positive driving voltage V.sub.D+ and the negative driving voltage V.sub.D-, mutually phase-shifted by 180°, each having the driving frequency f.sub.D.

[0123] The driving module **115** receives the positive position voltage V.sub.R+ and the negative position voltage V.sub.R- and generates here again the in-phase clock signal CK.sub.0, the out-of-phase clock signal CK.sub.90 and the correction clock signal CK.sub.FS.

[0124] The in-phase clock signal CK.sub.0 is in quadrature with a difference signal V.sub.R+-V.sub.R- given by the difference between the positive position voltage V.sub.R+ and the negative position voltage V.sub.R-.

[0125] In detail, the rising (or falling) edges of the in-phase clock signal CK.sub.0 are synchronized with the peaks (or valleys) of the difference signal V.sub.R+-V.sub.R-. The rising (or falling) edges of the out-of-phase clock signal CK.sub.90 are synchronized with the zero crossings of the difference signal V.sub.R+-V.sub.R-.

[0126] The sensing circuitry **120** comprises an amplifier **123**, of differential type, having two inputs, of which a positive input **113** and a negative input **114**, and two outputs, of which a negative output **115** and a positive output **116**.

[0127] The positive input **113** is coupled to the terminal of the first sensing structure **110A** at the positive stator voltage V.sub.STAT+, and the negative input **114** is coupled to the terminal of the second sensing structure **110B** at the negative stator voltage V.sub.STAT-,

[0128] The sensing circuitry **120** further comprises a first feedback capacitor **124A**, having capacitance C.sub.FB+ and coupled between the positive input **113** and the negative output **115** of the amplifier **123**, and a second feedback capacitor **124B**, having capacitance C.sub.FB- and coupled between the negative input **114** and the positive output **116** of the amplifier **123**.

[0129] The negative output **115** and the positive output **116** of the amplifier **123** are respectively at a positive sensing voltage V.sub.S+ and at a negative sensing voltage V.sub.S-.

[0130] In this embodiment, the signal processing module **30** receives the positive sensing voltage V.sub.S+ and the negative sensing voltage V.sub.S-. The demodulator **32** demodulates the positive sensing voltage V.sub.S+ and the negative sensing voltage V.sub.S- using the in-phase clock signal CK.sub.0 and generates the demodulated sensing signal, herein indicated by V.sub.S-DEM.

[0131] The analog-to-digital converter **33** and the digital processor **35** generate, from the demodulated sensing signal V.sub.S-DEM, the output signal S.sub.0 at the output frequency f.sub.0, as described above for the MEMS gyroscope **1**.

[0132] The correction module **137** comprises the quadrature demodulator **40** including the demodulator **47**, the filtering stage **42** including the filter **50** and the amplifier **51**, the quantizer **43** and the correction modulator, here indicated by **145**.

[0133] The demodulator **47** receives and demodulates the positive sensing voltage V.sub.S+ and the negative sensing voltage V.sub.S- using the out-of-phase clock signal CK.sub.90, from which it generates a positive demodulated quadrature voltage V.sub.Q-DEM+ and a negative demodulated quadrature voltage V.sub.Q-DEM-, respectively.

[0134] The filtering stage **42** receives the positive demodulated quadrature voltage V.sub.Q-DEM+ and the negative demodulated quadrature voltage V Q-DEM-, from which it generates a positive filtered voltage V.sub.f+ and a negative filtered voltage V.sub.f-, respectively.

[0135] The quantizer **43** receives the positive filtered voltage V.sub.f+ and the negative filtered voltage V.sub.f- and provides the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C.

[0136] In some embodiments, the value of the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C is updated at the frequency f.sub.FS of the correction clock signal CK.sub.FS and depends on the difference between the positive filtered voltage V.sub.f+ and the negative filtered voltage V.sub.f-, for example with respect to a threshold voltage, which may be determined during the calibration step.

[0137] Also here, the quantizer **43** provides the fine sign signal s.sub.C, indicative of the sign of the difference between the positive filtered voltage V.sub.f+ and the negative filtered voltage V.sub.f-.

[0138] The correction module **145** comprises the attenuator **65**, a first and a second fine variable capacitor **160A**, **160B**, equal to each other, and a first signal switch or deviator **167**.

[0139] The attenuator **65** receives and attenuates the positive position voltage V.sub.R+ and the negative position voltage V.sub.R-, from which it generates a positive cancellation voltage V.sub.C+ and a negative cancellation voltage V.sub.C-, respectively.

[0140] The first and the second fine variable capacitors **160A**, **160B** receive the fine capacitance

signal N.sub.C, which controls the capacitance value thereof. For example, the first and the second fine variable capacitors **160A**, **160B** may each be formed by a plurality of capacitive modules mutually coupled in parallel which may be activated or deactivated as a function of the value indicated by the fine capacitance signal N.sub.C.

[0141] The first and the second fine variable capacitors **160A**, **160B** each have a first terminal **161** coupled to a respective input of the first deviator **167**, and a second terminal **162** to the positive cancellation voltage V.sub.C+ and, respectively, to the negative cancellation voltage V.sub.C-.

[0142] The first deviator **167** is controlled by the fine sign signal sc and has a first output coupled to the positive input **113** of the amplifier **123** and a second output coupled to the negative input **114** of the amplifier **123**.

[0143] For example, when the fine sign signal sc indicates a negative sign, the first deviator **167** couples (as indicated in FIG. 5 by the dashed lines inside the first deviator **167**) the first fine variable capacitor **160A** to the negative input **114** of the amplifier **123** and the second fine variable capacitor **160B** to the positive input **113** of the amplifier **123**.

[0144] Conversely, when the fine sign signal s.sub.C indicates a positive sign, the first deviator **167** couples (as indicated in FIG. 5 by the solid lines inside the first deviator **167**) the first fine variable capacitor **160A** to the positive input **113** of the amplifier **123** and the second fine variable capacitor **160B** to the negative input **114** of the amplifier **123**.

[0145] The modulation block **145** further comprises the register **68**, which stores the coarse capacitance signal N.sub.H and the coarse sign signal S.sub.H, a first and a second coarse variable capacitor **170A**, **170B**, and a second deviator **172**.

[0146] The first and the second coarse variable capacitors **170A**, **170B** receive the coarse capacitance signal N.sub.H, which controls the capacitance value thereof. For example, the first and the second coarse variable capacitors **170A**, **170B** may each be formed by a plurality of capacitive modules mutually coupled in parallel which may be activated or deactivated as a function of the value indicated by the coarse capacitance signal N.sub.H.

[0147] The first and the second coarse variable capacitors **170A**, **170B** each have a first terminal **171** coupled to a respective input of the second deviator **172**, and a second terminal **173** to the positive position voltage V.sub.R+ and, respectively, to the negative position voltage V.sub.R-.

[0148] The second deviator **172** is controlled by the coarse sign signal S.sub.H and has a first output coupled to the positive input **113** of the amplifier **123** and a second output coupled to the negative input **114** of the amplifier **123**.

[0149] For example, when the coarse sign signal S.sub.H indicates a negative sign, the second deviator **172** couples the first coarse variable capacitor **170A** to the negative input **114** of the amplifier **123** and the second coarse variable capacitor **170B** to the positive input **113** of the amplifier **123**, as indicated in FIG. 5 by the dashed lines inside the second deviator **172**.

[0150] Conversely, when the coarse sign signal S.sub.H indicates a positive sign, the second deviator **172** couples the first coarse variable capacitor **170A** to the positive input **113** of the amplifier **123** and the second coarse variable capacitor **170B** to the negative input **114** of the amplifier **123**, as indicated in FIG. 5 by the solid lines inside the second deviator **172**.

[0151] In operation, the correction modulator **145** allows a positive cancellation current I.sub.CANC+ and a negative cancellation current I.sub.CANC- to be generated, in a manner similar to what has been discussed above for the correction modulator **45** of the MEMS gyroscope **1**. The positive cancellation current I.sub.CANC+ and the negative cancellation current I.sub.CANC- cancel any quadrature component generated by the sensing capacitors **13** of the first and the second sensing structures **110A**, **110B**.

[0152] At the input of the amplifier **123**, the quadrature components of the measurement signal S.sub.M are thus compensated. The output signal S.sub.0 of the MEMS gyroscope **100** is not affected by the quadrature error and the MEMS gyroscope **100** has a high sensing sensitivity.

[0153] Furthermore, in this embodiment, the first and the second deviators **167**, **172** allow, in use,

the sign of the cancellation signal $S_{\text{sub.CANC}}$, here obtained in a differential manner from the positive cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}+}$ and from the negative cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}-}$, to be inverted.

[0154] Finally, it is clear that modifications and variations may be made to the MEMS gyroscope **1**, **100** described and illustrated herein without thereby departing from the scope of the present disclosure, as defined in the attached claims.

[0155] The coarse variable capacitor **70** and/or the first and the second coarse variable capacitors **170A**, **170B** may also be controlled by a respective capacitance signal generated by a respective quantizer.

[0156] Alternatively or additionally, the correction modulator **45** may be formed by a single modulation group comprising the fine variable capacitor **60** and the first phase shifter **63**. Similarly, the correction modulator **145** may be formed by a single modulation group comprising the first and the second fine variable capacitors **160A**, **160B** and the first deviator **167**.

[0157] For example, in the MEMS gyroscope **1** of FIG. **2**, the mutual arrangement of the attenuator **65** and the first phase shifter **63** may be inverted.

[0158] Furthermore, for example, in the correction modulators **45**, **145**, the cancellation signals $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$, $I_{\text{sub.CANC}+}$, $I_{\text{sub.CANC}-}$ may be generated directly from the respective position signals $S_{\text{sub.R}}$, $V_{\text{sub.R}+}$, $V_{\text{sub.R}-}$, i.e, without the position signals being subject to attenuation.

[0159] The correction modulators **45**, **145** may be configured to generate the cancellation signal $S_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ in a different manner.

[0160] For example, with reference to the modulation block **45** of the MEMS gyroscope **1**, the cancellation current $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$ may be obtained by maintaining the fine cancellation voltage $V_{\text{sub.CANC-C}}$ constant over time and varying the capacitance of the fine variable capacitor **60** at the driving frequency over time.

[0161] For example, the control circuit **4** may comprise an analog-to-digital converter so that the quadrature demodulator **40** and/or the filtering stage **42** may be implemented using a digital architecture, rather than an analog architecture.

[0162] For example, the MEMS gyroscope **1**, **100** may be of monoaxial, biaxial or triaxial type.

[0163] For example, the movable structure **6** may comprise one or more movable masses, according to the specific application of the MEMS gyroscope **1**, **100**. In case the movable structure **6** comprises a plurality of movable masses, the MEMS gyroscope **1**, **100** may comprise a plurality of driving structures, for example one for each movable mass. Alternatively, the MEMS gyroscope **1**, **100** may comprise a single driving structure coupled to a movable driving mass and the remaining movable masses may be suitably elastically coupled to the movable driving mass.

[0164] Finally, the described embodiments may be combined to form further solutions.

[0165] A control circuit (**4**; **104**) for a MEMS gyroscope (**1**; **100**), configured to receive a measurement signal ($S_{\text{sub.M}}$) having a quadrature component ($I_{\text{sub.Q}}$) and a sensing component ($I_{\text{sub.Cor}}$) from the MEMS gyroscope, the control circuit may be summarized as including an input stage (**17**, **20**; **113**, **114**, **120**) configured to acquire an input signal ($S_{\text{sub.M}+S_{\text{sub.CANC}}}$) and to generate an acquisition signal ($S_{\text{sub.S}}$; $V_{\text{sub.S}+}$, $V_{\text{sub.S}-}$) in response to the acquisition of the input signal, the input signal being a function of the measurement signal and of a quadrature cancellation signal ($S_{\text{sub.CANC}}$, $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$; $I_{\text{sub.CANC}+}$, $I_{\text{sub.CANC}-}$); a processing stage (**30**) configured to extract a first component ($S_{\text{sub.S-DEM}}$; $V_{\text{sub.S-DEM}}$) of the acquisition signal ($S_{\text{sub.S}}$; $V_{\text{sub.S}+}$, $V_{\text{sub.S}-}$), the first component of the acquisition signal being indicative of the sensing component of the measurement signal and having a sensing frequency band; and a quadrature correction stage (**37**; **137**) configured to extract a second component ($S_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}}$; $V_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}+}$, $V_{\text{sub.Q-DEM}-}$) of the acquisition signal ($S_{\text{sub.S}}$; $V_{\text{sub.S}+}$, $V_{\text{sub.S}-}$), the second component of the acquisition signal being indicative of the quadrature component of the measurement signal, and to generate the quadrature cancellation signal ($S_{\text{sub.CANC}}$, $I_{\text{sub.CANC}}$; $I_{\text{sub.CANC}+}$, $I_{\text{sub.CANC}-}$) from a reference signal ($S_{\text{sub.R}}$, $V_{\text{sub.CANC-C}}$; $V_{\text{sub.C}+}$,

V.sub.C-), wherein the quadrature cancellation signal is a signal modulated as a function of the second component of the acquisition signal, at an update frequency (f.sub.FS) which is outside the sensing frequency band.

[0166] The quadrature correction stage may be a sigma-delta modulator.

[0167] The quadrature correction stage (37; 137) may include a filtering stage (42) configured to filter the second component (S.sub.Q-DEM; V.sub.Q-DEM+, V.sub.Q-DEM-) of the acquisition signal (S.sub.S; V.sub.S+, V.sub.S-), generating a filtered signal (S.sub.f; V.sub.F+, V.sub.F-); a quantizer (43) configured to receive an update clock signal (CK.sub.FS) having the update frequency (f.sub.FS) and to generate a digital correction signal (N.sub.C, s.sub.C), from the filtered signal, having a data rate equal to the update frequency; and a modulator (45; 145) configured to generate the quadrature cancellation signal (S.sub.CANC, I.sub.CANC; I.sub.CANC+, I.sub.CANC-), modulating the amplitude and/or phase thereof as a function of the digital correction signal, so as to cancel the quadrature component (I.sub.Q) of the measurement signal in the input signal (S.sub.M+S.sub.CANC).

[0168] The input stage (20; 120) may have an input node (17; 113, 114) configured to receive the measurement signal, the modulator may include a first variable capacitor (60; 160A, 160B) having a first terminal (61; 162) coupled to the input node of the input stage and a second terminal (62; 161) configured to receive an input voltage (V.sub.CANC-C; V.sub.C+, V.sub.C-) that is a function of the reference signal, the digital correction signal (N.sub.C) being configured to modify the capacitance of the first variable capacitor and modulate the amplitude of the quadrature cancellation signal.

[0169] The correction signal may include a sign signal (s.sub.C) indicative of a phase-shift sign of the filtered signal (S.sub.f), the modulator further including a phase-shift block (63; 167) configured to invert the phase of the quadrature cancellation signal (S.sub.CANC, I.sub.CANC; I.sub.CANC+, I.sub.CANC-) as a function of the sign signal.

[0170] The update clock signal (CK.sub.FS) may be synchronized with the zero crossings of the reference signal (S.sub.R; V.sub.R+, V.sub.R-).

[0171] The reference signal may have a first frequency (f.sub.D) and the update frequency (f.sub.FS) may be equal to double the first frequency.

[0172] The control circuit configured to receive the reference signal (S.sub.R; V.sub.R+, V.sub.R-) from an oscillating system (3; 103) of the MEMS gyroscope, the control circuit may further include a driving module (15; 115) configured to generate a driving signal (S.sub.D, V.sub.D+, V.sub.D-) having a first frequency (f.sub.D) and configured to cause a driving oscillation of the oscillating system (3; 103), the reference signal being indicative of the driving oscillation of the oscillating system.

[0173] The driving module may be configured to generate a first demodulating signal (CK.sub.0) having the first frequency and in quadrature with respect to the reference signal, a second demodulating signal (CK.sub.90) having the first frequency and in-phase with respect to the reference signal, the processing stage (30) being configured to extract the first component of the acquisition signal using the first demodulating signal, the quadrature correction stage (37; 137) being configured to extract the second component of the acquisition signal using the second demodulating signal.

[0174] The modulator may further include a second variable capacitor (70; 170A, 170B) and a register (68), the second variable capacitor having a first terminal (71; 173) coupled to the input node (17; 113, 114) of the input stage (20; 120) and a second terminal (72; 171) configured to receive a second input voltage (V.sub.CANC-H; V.sub.R+, V.sub.R-) that is a function of the reference signal, the register (68) being configured to generate a calibration correction signal (N.sub.H, S.sub.H), the calibration correction signal (N.sub.C) being configured to set a calibration capacitance value of the second variable capacitor.

[0175] The input stage (120) may have a first input (113) and a second input (114) and may be

configured to receive a measurement signal of differential type from the MEMS gyroscope and a quadrature cancellation signal (I.sub.CANC+, I.sub.CANC-) of differential type from the quadrature correction stage (137).

[0176] A MEMS gyroscope (1; 100) may be summarized as including a control circuit (4; 104) according to any of the preceding claims and an oscillating system (3; 103) configured to generate the measurement signal (S.sub.M).

[0177] A control method for a MEMS gyroscope (1; 100) may be summarized as including a control circuit (4; 104), the control method comprising, by the control circuit: receiving a measurement signal (S.sub.M) having a quadrature component (IQ) and a sensing component (I.sub.Cor) from the MEMS gyroscope; acquiring an input signal (S.sub.M+S.sub.CANC), the input signal being a function of the measurement signal and of a quadrature cancellation signal (S.sub.CANC, I.sub.CANC; I.sub.CANC+, I.sub.CANC-); generating an acquisition signal (S.sub.S; V.sub.S+, V.sub.S-) in response to the acquisition of the input signal; extracting a first component (S.sub.S-DEM; V.sub.S-DEM) of the acquisition signal (S.sub.S; V.sub.S+, V.sub.S-) indicative of the sensing component of the measurement signal, the first component of the acquisition signal having a sensing frequency band; extracting a second component (S.sub.Q-DEM; V.sub.Q-DEM+, V.sub.Q-DEM-) of the acquisition signal (S.sub.S; V.sub.S+, V.sub.S-) indicative of the quadrature component of the measurement signal; and generating the quadrature cancellation signal (S.sub.CANC, I.sub.CANC; I.sub.CANC+, I.sub.CANC-) from a reference signal (S.sub.R, V.sub.CANC-C; V.sub.C+, V.sub.C-), wherein the quadrature cancellation signal is a signal modulated as a function of the second component of the acquisition signal, at an update frequency (f.sub.FS) which is outside the sensing frequency band.

[0178] Generating the quadrature cancellation signal may include filtering the second component of the acquisition signal, generating a filtered signal (S.sub.f; V.sub.F+, V.sub.F-); generating, from the filtered signal and by a quantizer (43) controlled by an update clock signal (CK.sub.FS) having the update frequency, a digital correction signal (N.sub.C, s.sub.C) having a data rate equal to the update frequency; and modulating amplitude and/or phase of the quadrature cancellation signal as a function of the digital correction signal, to cancel the quadrature component (I.sub.Q) of the measurement signal in the input signal (S.sub.M+S.sub.CANC).

[0179] The update clock signal may be synchronized with the zero crossings of the reference signal (S.sub.R, V.sub.R+, V.sub.R-).

[0180] The various embodiments described above can be combined to provide further embodiments. Aspects of the embodiments can be modified, if necessary to employ concepts of the various embodiments to provide yet further embodiments.

[0181] These and other changes can be made to the embodiments in light of the above-detailed description. In general, in the following claims, the terms used should not be construed to limit the claims to the specific embodiments disclosed in the specification and the claims, but should be construed to include all possible embodiments along with the full scope of equivalents to which such claims are entitled. Accordingly, the claims are not limited by the disclosure.

Claims

1. A control circuit for a MEMS gyroscope, comprising: an input stage configured to acquire an input signal and to generate an acquisition signal in response to the input signal; a processing stage configured to obtain a first component of the acquisition signal; and a quadrature correction stage configured to extract a second component of the acquisition signal and to generate a quadrature cancellation signal based on a reference signal, the second component of the acquisition signal being indicative of a quadrature component of a measurement signal.

2. The control circuit of claim 1, wherein the input signal is a function of the measurement signal and of the quadrature cancellation signal.

3. The control circuit of claim 1, wherein the quadrature cancellation signal is a signal modulated as a function of the second component of the acquisition signal, at an update frequency which is outside of a sensing frequency band.
4. The control circuit of claim 1, wherein the first component of the acquisition signal is indicative of a sensing component of the measurement signal and having a sensing frequency band.
5. The control circuit of claim 1, wherein the processing stage includes a demodulator, an analog-to-digital converter, and a digital processor.
6. The control circuit of claim 5, wherein the demodulator extracts the first component of the acquisition signal and the analog-to-digital converter discretizes the first component of the acquisition signal.
7. The control circuit of claim 1, wherein the quadrature correction stage includes a quadrature demodulator, a filtering stage, a quantizer, and a correction modulator.
8. The control circuit of claim 7, wherein the filtering stage includes a low-pass filter and an amplifier.
9. The control circuit of claim 8, wherein the quadrature demodulator receives the acquisition signal and outputs a demodulated quadrature signal, the low-pass filter receives the demodulation quadrature signal, and the amplifier generates a filtered signal that is received by the quantizer.
10. The control circuit of claim 9, wherein the quantizer compares a value of the filter signal with a threshold value and generates a fine capacitance signal.
11. The control circuit of claim 10, wherein the fine capacitance signal is a numerical value of a ratio between the filtered signal and a conversion reference signal, wherein the conversion reference signal equals the threshold value.
12. The control circuit of claim 10, wherein the correction modulator includes a first variable capacitor, a first phase shifter, an attenuator, a register, a second variable capacitor, and a second phase shifter.
13. The control circuit of claim 12, wherein a first capacitance of the first variable capacitor is controlled by the fine capacitance signal and a second capacitance of the second variable capacitor is controlled by a coarse capacitance signal.
14. A method, comprising: receiving a measurement signal from a MEMS gyroscope; generating an acquisition signal as a function of the measurement signal extracting a first component of the acquisition signal having a sensing frequency band; extracting a second component of the acquisition signal; and generating a quadrature cancellation signal that is modulated based on the second component of the acquisition signal.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the measurement signal has a quadrature component and a sensing component, the first component of the acquisition signal being indicative of the sensing component of the measurement signal and the second component of the acquisition signal being indicative of the quadrature component of the measurement signal.
16. The method of claim 14, comprising acquiring an input signal, the input signal being a function of the measurement signal and of the quadrature cancellation signal, wherein the generating the acquisition signal is in response to the acquiring the input signal.
17. The method of claim 14, wherein the quadrature cancellation signal is modulated based on the second component of the acquisition signal at an update frequency which is outside the sensing frequency band.
18. A device comprising: an oscillating system; and a control circuit, the control circuit including: a driving module; a sensing circuit coupled to an output of the oscillating system; a signal processing module; and a correction module including a quadrature demodulator, a filtering stage, a quantizer, and a correction module.
19. The device of claim 18, wherein the oscillating system includes a movable structure, a driving structure, and a sensing structure that includes a sensing capacitor, and the sensing circuit an amplifier coupled to the sensing structure and a feedback capacitor.

20. The device of claim 19, wherein the signal processing module includes a demodulator, an analog-to-digital converter, and a digital processor, the signal processing module being configured to obtain a first component of an acquisition signal, and wherein the correction module is configured to extract a second component of the acquisition signal and to generate a quadrature cancellation signal based on a reference signal, the second component of the acquisition signal being indicative of a quadrature component of a measurement signal.
