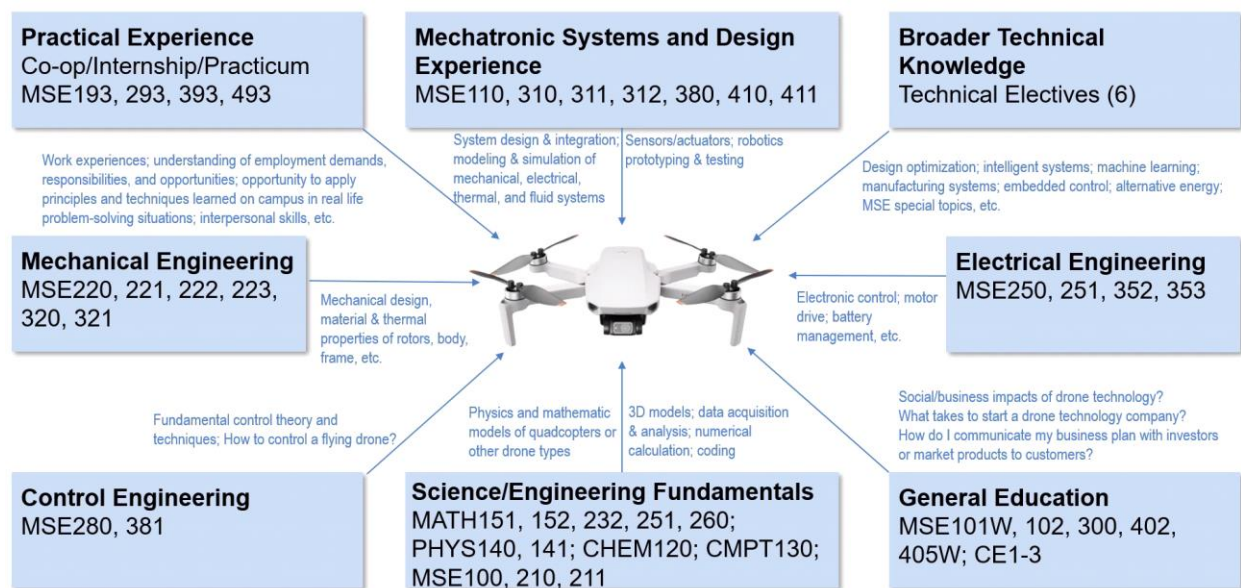


## MSE Course Mapping: How Do I Learn to Design My Own Drone?



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# **MSE 310: Sensor and Actuators**

## **Course Objective:**

This course introduces sensors and actuators for electromechanical, computer-controlled machines and devices. Component integration and design considerations are studied through examples selected from various mechatronic applications.

Laboratory exercises to strengthen the understanding of the course material

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## About Lecture

**Instructor:** Dr. Ahad Armin P. Eng.

- Email: [aarmin@sfu.ca](mailto:aarmin@sfu.ca)
- Course Website: Canvas – <http://canvas.sfu.ca>

**Class Time:** Monday 8:30-10:20 & Wednesday 8:30-9:20

**Tutorial Time:** Wednesday 9:30-10:20

**In-person Lecture:** SRYC 3310

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## Course Composition

(Dates are confirmed)

**Term Exam 60 %** (Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, Dec.5<sup>th</sup>)

**In-class quiz 5 %:** every Wednesday tutorial class

**Lab Report 15 %** (a compiled report of computing labs & lab demo)  
(Report Deadline : two weeks after your lab session)

**Project 20%** (Report Deadline Date: **Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** Tuesday 11:59 PM)  
**Team Project with 3 members** (**No individual submission accepted**)

- Composition of team members to be submitted until September 30th

**No Final Exam**

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# Textbook

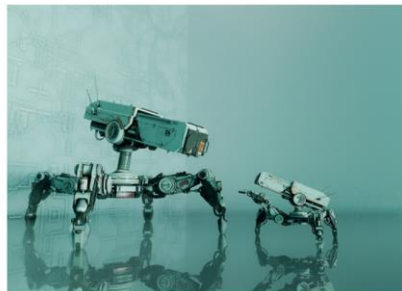
“Sensors, Actuators, and Their Interfaces: A Multidisciplinary Introduction, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition”, by Nathan Ida

<https://shop.theiet.org/sensors-actuators-and-their-interfaces-2nd-edition>

**IET** The Institution of  
Engineering and Technology

**Sensors, Actuators,  
and Their Interfaces**  
A multidisciplinary introduction  
2nd Edition

Nathan Ida



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## Class Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Introduction
2	Performance Characteristics
3	Temperature sensors
4	Optical sensors and actuators
5	Electric and magnetic sensors and actuators
6	
7	
8	Mechanical sensors and actuators
9	
10	Acoustic sensors and actuators
11	
12	Radiation sensors and actuators

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# Lab Compositions

**Lab sessions:** Monday/Friday

Computing labs: SRYC 4080

**Topic/Event:**

Lab 1 (LabView Introduction)

Lab 2 (LabView Advanced)

Lab 3 (LabView Data Acquisition)

Lab 4 (Project Support)

Lab 5 (Project Demonstrations)

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## TEACHING ASSISTANTS (TA)

### Name

Victor Soares

Emad Esmaeili

Milad Seifnejad Haghighi

### E-mail

[vht2@sfu.ca](mailto:vht2@sfu.ca)

[eesmaeil@sfu.ca](mailto:eesmaeil@sfu.ca)

[msa327@sfu.ca](mailto:msa327@sfu.ca)

### Teaching Assistants will

- teach and participate in lab sessions
- help you with your lab-based assignments and projects
- grade your exams



# Class Rules

## Class Rules

- Class attendance and participation is **very important**
- No lateness/absence: be on time and enter quietly if you're late
- No cell phones: don't interrupt others' learning

## Other Regulations

- Refer to SFU Calendar for general policies on course withdrawal, academic dishonesty, etc.

*Specially any dishonesty conducted by mobile devices (smart phone or watch) in any quizzes or exams will be failed.*

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**Plagiarism:** This refers to passing off the work of another as your own. Make sure to cite all your sources if you incorporate the words or ideas of another person. This includes sources from books, journals, the internet, emails, and even relevant conversations with other people. You can avoid plagiarism by appropriate citation and referencing in your papers, and projects.

## GRADING POLICY

- ☐ If you're unable to write any exams (or any other acceptable reasons as specified in the SFU Calendar), their contributions to the final grading will be transferred to other exam components.
- ☐ Late submission of reports: your mark will be reduced (10%, 20% depending on lateness).
- ☐ Your term marks will be posted on the Canvas by the end of the semester.

### Additional Notes:

- ☐ The instructor has the right to change the grading scheme, and any changes will be announced in a lecture in advance.
- ☐ All examinations are closed-book, unless stated otherwise by the instructor.
- ☐ Self-contained calculators are allowed in all exams.

## Chapter 1: Introduction

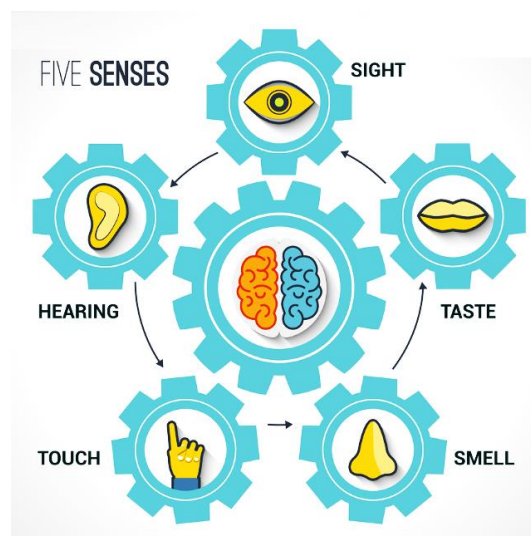
- I. Introduction-Sensors/Actuators**
- II. Definition**
- III. Case Study-Sensors/Actuators**
- IV. Classification of sensors/Actuators**
- V. Units**



## Introduction-Sensors

### The five senses

- Vision (Optical)
- Hearing (Acoustic)
- Smell and Taste (Chemical)
- Tactile/touch (Mechanical)



*Question:* Can humans sense other physical phenomena? How about other creatures?

## Introduction-Actuators

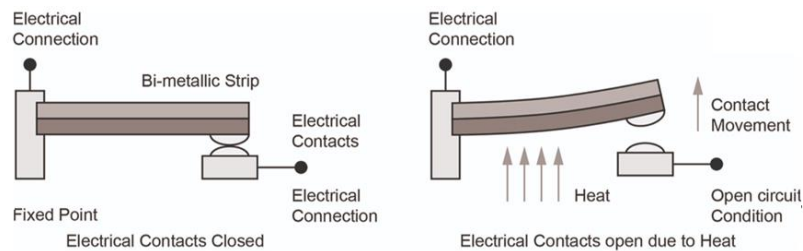
- Organisms also have a variety of actuators to interact with their environment such as hand, foot, eyes, and etc.
- In industry nowadays we have thousands of actuators:
  - Circuit breakers (Thermal and/or Magnetic)
  - Optical Tweezers (Optical)
  - Electric motors (Electromagnetic)
  - Airbag deployment (Chemical)

*Question: What are other examples of actuators can you think of? How would you categorize them?*

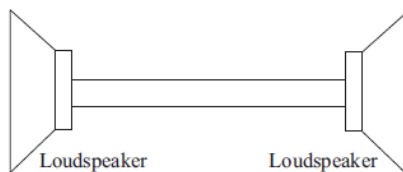
*Can we have a device that can be used as both, a sensor or an actuator?*

## Definition

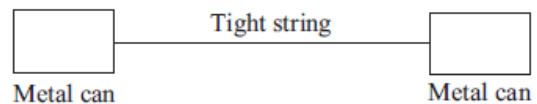
- There is always a blurred boundary between *Sensors*, *Actuators* and *Transducers* (three main components of this course)
  - For example: Bimetallic switch is a *temperature sensor* that *activates* a switch (cooking thermometer, thermostat). Sensor? or Actuator?



- Connecting two loudspeakers

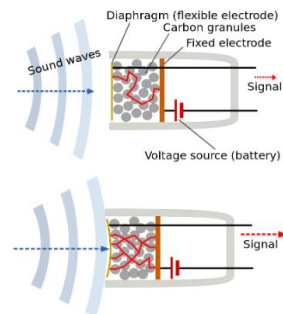
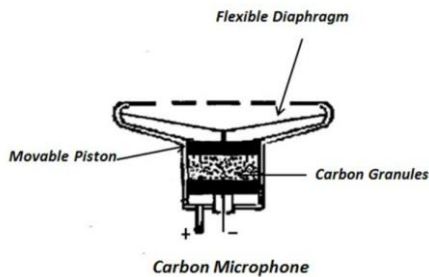
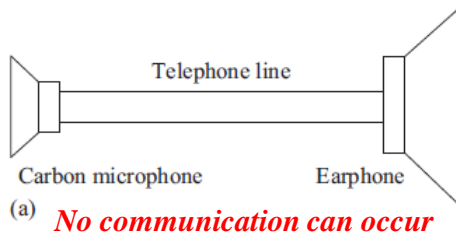


Which one is sensor, actuator, and transducer?



## Definition

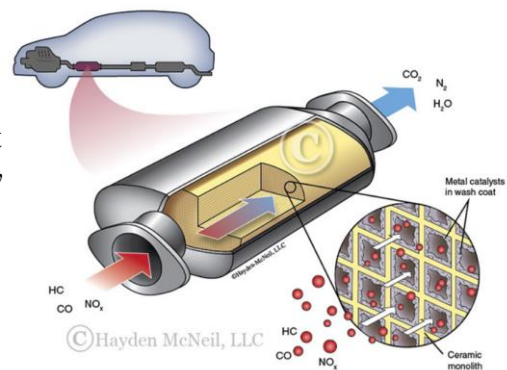
- Another Example is Carbon microphone.
- Operates on the principle of changes in resistance
  - Acoustic power moves a membrane, presses on carbon particles. This changes the resistance between the two electrodes of the microphone.





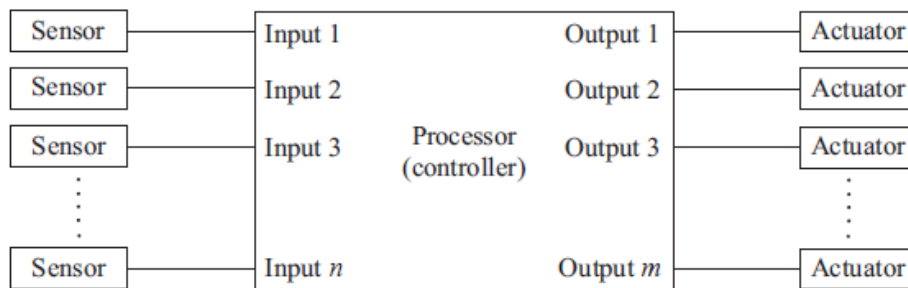
## Definition

- **Sensor:** A device that *responds* to a physical stimulus.
- **Transducer:** A device or mechanism that *converts* power of one form into power of another form.
- **Actuator:** A device or mechanism capable of performing a physical action or effect.
- It is common to assume that **sensors** have an **electrical output** or **actuators** perform some type of motion or involve the exertion of force.
- We shall make **no such** assumptions:
  - The output of sensor can be mechanical/pneumatic, etc.
  - Physical action of an actuator may not involve force at all (*light bulb, display monitor*, or chemical reaction in catalytic *converter* of a car)



## Definition

- More general definition is for a *sensor* to be the input to a system, whereas an *actuator* is an output.
- In between, there is a processor that accepts the inputs, processes the data, and acts through the actuators which are connected to the output of the system.
  - processor interfaces between the sensors and actuators.



## Case Study

- A modern car contains dozens of sensors and actuators.
- All are connected to a processor (often called an electronic control unit [ECU]) as inputs and outputs.
- Some of the “sensors” are switches or relays used to just *detect* conditions
- Most of the actuators are *solenoids*, *valves*, or *motors*, but some are indicators such as the *low-oil-pressure lamp* or an “open door” *buzzer*.

Sensors?

Actuators?



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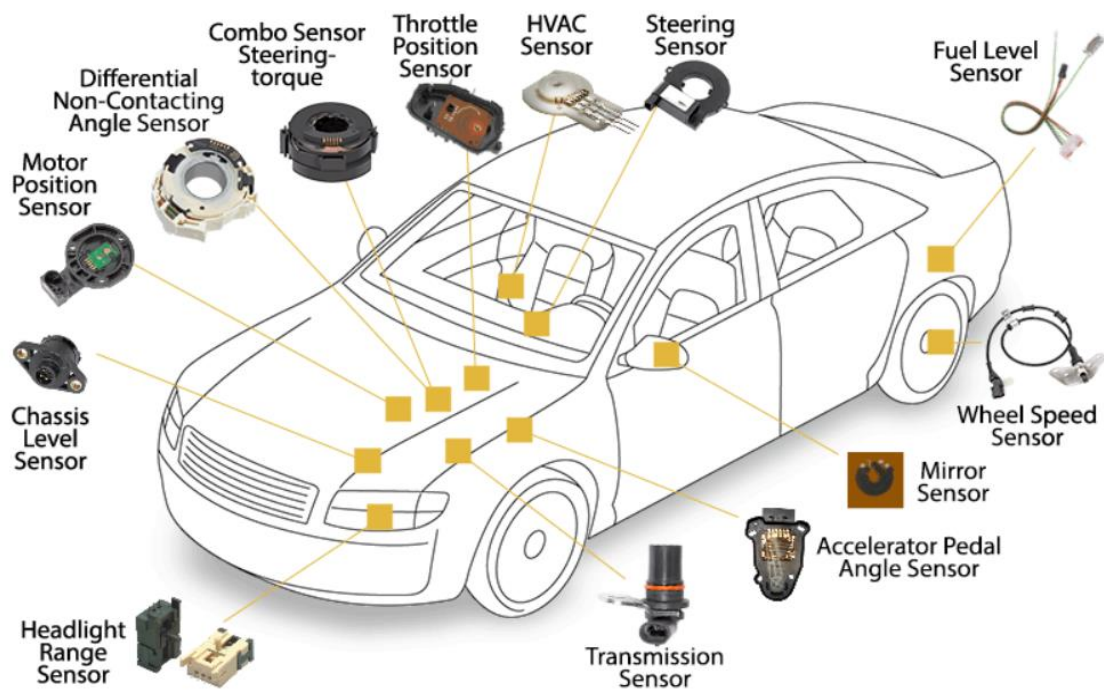
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamborghini\\_Aventador#/media/File:Aventador.\\_\(6675860749\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamborghini_Aventador#/media/File:Aventador._(6675860749).jpg)

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## Case Study-Sensors

### Automotive Sensors



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<https://www.bourns.com/products/automotive/automotive-sensors>

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## Case Study-Sensors

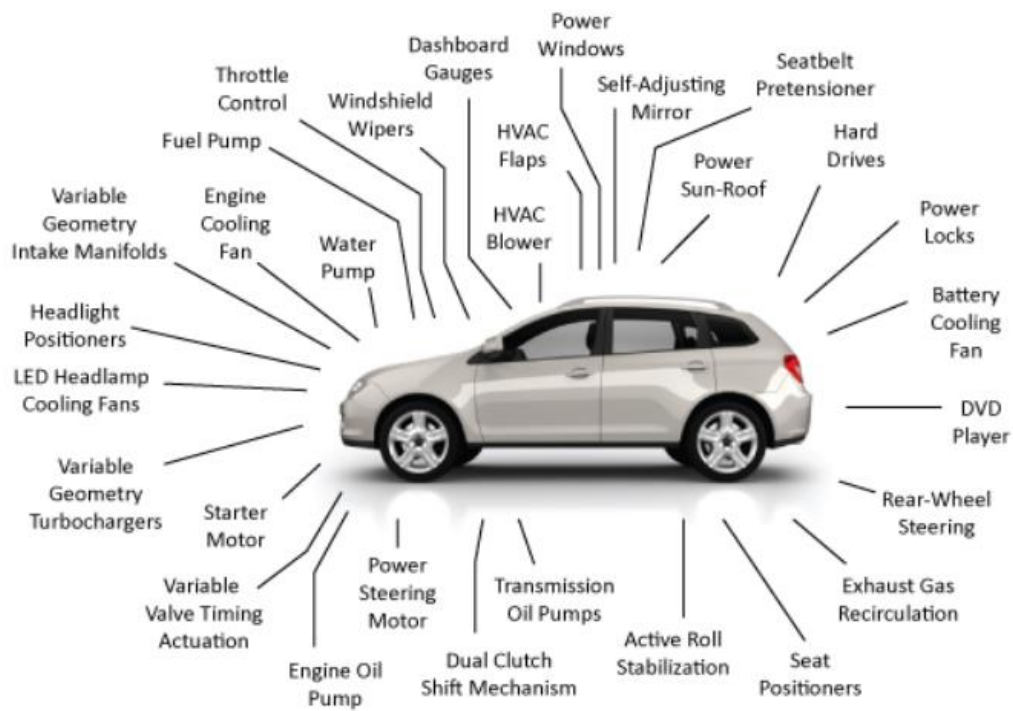
### Sensors

Crankshaft position (CKP) sensor	A/C low-side temperature sensor
Camshaft position (CMP) sensor (two)	A/C evaporator temperature sensor
Heated oxygen sensor (HO <sub>2</sub> S) (two or four)	A/C high-side temperature sensor
Mass air flow (MAF) sensor	A/C refrigerant overpressure
Manifold absolute pressure (MAP) sensor	Left A/C discharge sensor
Intake air temperature (IAT) sensor	Right A/C discharge sensor
Engine coolant temperature (ECT) sensor	Power steering pressure (PSP) switch
Engine oil pressure sensor	Transmission range sensor
Throttle position (TP) sensor (one to four)	Input/turbine speed sensor
Fuel composition sensor (for alternative fuels)	Output speed sensor
Fuel temperature sensor (one or two)	Secondary vacuum sensor
Fuel rail pressure sensor	Alternative fuel gas mass sensor
Engine oil temperature sensor	Accelerator pedal position sensor (two)
Turbocharger boost sensor (one or two)	Barometric pressure sensor
Rough road sensor	Cruise servo position sensor
Knock sensor (KS) (one or two)	Brake boost vacuum (BBV) sensor
Exhaust gas recirculation sensor (one or two)	Wheel speed sensor (one on each wheel)
Fuel tank pressure sensor	Steering hand wheel speed sensor
Evaporative emission control pressure sensor	Left heater discharge sensor
Fuel level sensor (one or two)	Right heater discharge sensor
Purge flow sensor	Mirror horizontal position sensor
Exhaust pressure sensor	Mirror vertical position sensor
Vehicle speed sensor (VSS)	Driver recline sensor
Cooling fan speed sensor	Driver lumbar horizontal sensor
Transmission fluid temperature (TFT) sensor	Driver lumbar vertical sensor
	Driver belt tower vertical sensor
	Recline sensor
	Right rear position sensor

## Case Study-Sensors

A/C refrigerant pressure sensor	Tire pressure monitor (TPM) system sensor (four)
Rear vertical sensor	Vehicle stability enhancement system (VSES) sensor
Front horizontal sensor	Yaw rate sensor
Front vertical sensor	Lateral accelerometer sensor
Lumbar forward/aft sensor	Steering sensor
Lumbar up/down sensor	Brake fluid pressure sensor
Left front mirror vertical position sensor	Left front/driver side impact sensor (SIS)
Right front mirror vertical position sensor	Electronic front end sensor (one or two)
Driver front vertical sensor	Outside air temperature sensor
Driver rear vertical sensor	Ambient air temperature sensor
Driver seat assembly horizontal sensor	Passenger compartment temperature sensor (one or two)
Twilight photocell	Output air temperature sensor (one or two)
Seat back heater sensor	Solar load sensor (one or two)
Telescope position sensor	Rear discharge temperature sensor front axle sensor
Tilt position sensor	Right-hand panel discharge temperature sensor
Security system sensor	Discrete sensor
Automatic headlamp leveling device (AHL D)	Evaporator inlet temperature sensor
AHL D rear axle sensor	Left-hand sun load sensor
Window position sensor	GPS antennas, satellite antennas, radio antennas, ultrasound and accelerometers for theft prevention, etc.
Evaporative emission (EVAP) system leak detector	
Left front position sensor	
Right front position sensor	
Left rear position sensor	
Right rear position sensor	
Level control position sensor	

## Case Study-Actuators



## Case Study-Actuators

### Actuators

Turbocharger wastegate solenoid (two)	Reverse inhibit solenoid
Exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) solenoid	Pressure control (PC) solenoid
Secondary air injection (AIR) solenoid	A/T solenoid
Secondary air injection switching valve (two)	Torque converter clutch (TCC)/shift solenoid
Secondary air injection (AIR) pump	Brake band apply solenoid
EVAP purge solenoid valve	Intake manifold runner control (IMRC) solenoid
Evaporative emission (EVAP) vent solenoid	Left front ABS solenoid (two)
Intake manifold tuning (IMT) valve solenoid	Right front ABS solenoid (two)
TCC enable solenoid	Left rear ABS solenoid (two)
Torque converter clutch	Right rear ABS solenoid (two)
Shift solenoid A	Left TCS solenoid (two)
1-2 shift solenoid valve	Right TCS solenoid (two)
Shift solenoid B	Steering assist control solenoid
2-3 shift solenoid valve	Left front solenoid
Shift solenoid C	Right front solenoid
Shift solenoid D	Left rear solenoid
Shift solenoid E	Right rear solenoid
3-2 shift solenoid	Exhaust solenoid valve
Shift/timing solenoid	Secondary air injection switching valve (two)
1-4 upshift (skip shift) solenoid	Evaporative emission system purge control valve
Line pressure control (PC) solenoid	Exhaust pressure control valve
Shift pressure control (PC) solenoid	Intake plenum switchover valve
Shift solenoid (SS) 3	Exhaust gas recirculation system valve 1
Shift solenoid (SS) 4	Exhaust gas recirculation system valve 3
Shift solenoid (SS) 5	
Intake resonance switchover solenoid	



## Case Study-Actuators

Fuel solenoid	Throttle valve
Cruise vent solenoid	Electronic brake control module (EBCM)
Cruise vacuum solenoid	control valve
Right front inlet valve solenoid	Level control exhaust valve
Right front outlet valve solenoid	Left front inlet valve solenoid
Left rear inlet valve solenoid	Left front outlet valve solenoid
Left rear outlet valve solenoid	Front washer motor
Right rear inlet valve solenoid	Rear washer motor
Right rear outlet valve solenoid	Front wiper relay
Left front TCS master cylinder isolation valve	Rear wiper relay
Left front TCS prime valve	HVAC actuator
Right front TCS master cylinder isolation valve	Coolant thermostat
Right front TCS prime valve	Injectors (air, fuel) (one per cylinder)
Exhaust solenoid valve short to ground (GND)	Window motors
Throttle actuator control (TAC) motor	Electric door motors
Pump motor	Cooling fans in engine
Mirror motor (one on each side)	Cooling/heating fans in compartment
Tilt/telescope motor	Starter motor
	Alternator
	Catalytic converter

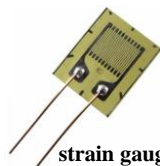
## Classification of sensors

- There is no single method of classification general enough to include all types of sensors and actuators. Some main classifications of **sensors** are:

### 1. Active vs Passive:

#### Active:

- Requires **external power** (they can only be used after a source is connected so that an electric signal can be modified by the relevant property change)
- Often called **Parametric Sensors**, as they depend on change of sensor parameters (strain gauges, thermistors, capacitive proximity sensors, etc.)



strain gauges



thermistors



proximity sensors

#### Passive:

- **Do not** require external power
- Often called **Self-Generating** (e.g. solar cells, piezoelectric sensors, and magnetic microphones)



solar cells



piezoelectric sensors

## Classification of sensors

### 2. Contact vs Non-contact

- Some sensors can be used in both mode (Thermistor measuring the temperature of an engine is a *contact sensor*, but when measuring ambient temperature in the car it is not)

### 3. Absolute vs Relative

- An absolute sensor reacts to a stimulus in reference to an absolute scale (Thermistor, Proximity sensor, etc.)
- A relative sensor's output depends on a relative scale (Thermocouple, Pressure sensor, etc.)

### 4. Application

### 5. Physical phenomena used

### 6. Detection method

### 7. Sensor specifications, and many others.

## Classification of sensors/actuators

By area of detection	By measured output	By physical effects and laws	By specifications	By area of application	Other classifications
Electric	Resistive	Electrostrictive	Accuracy	Consumer products	Power
Magnetic	Capacitive	Electroresistive	Sensitivity	Military applications	Interfaces
Electromagnetic	Inductive	Electrochemical	Stability	Infrastructure	Structure
Acoustic	Current	Electro-optic	Response time	Energy	
Chemical	Voltage	Magnetoelectric	Hysteresis	Heat/thermal	
Optical	Resonant	Magnetocaloric	Frequency response	Manufacturing	
Thermal	Optical	Magnetostrictive	Input (stimulus) range	Transportation	
Temperature	Mechanical	Magnetoresistive	Resolution	Automotive	
Mechanical		Photoelectric	Linearity	Avionics	
Radiation		Photoelastic	Hardness	Marine	
Biological		Photomagnetic	Cost	Space	
		Photoconductive	Size	Scientific	
		Thermomagnetic	Weight		
		Thermoelastic	Construction materials		
		Thermo-optic	Operating temperature		
		Thermoelectric			

## Classification of Actuators

- Beside all classification of sensor that applies to actuators, there are some additional classifications for actuators:

By type of motion	By power
Linear	Low-power actuators
Rotary	High-power actuators
One axis	Micropower actuators
Two axes	Miniature actuators
Three axes	Microactuators
	MEMS actuators
	Nanoactuators

## Units (Base SI Units)

Physical quantity	Unit	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Electric current	ampere	A
Temperature	kelvin	K
Luminous intensity	candela	cd
Amount of substance	mole	mol



## Derived Units

- Most other metric units in common use are derived from the base units based on their relationship.

- **Force (N)** =  $Mass(kg) \times Acceleration\left(\frac{m}{s^2}\right)$

$$N = \left(\frac{kg \cdot m}{s^2}\right)$$

- **Electric Potential (Volt):** Voltage describes the amount of energy associated with electric charge as it moves around in a circuit.
  - Voltage = Electric field intensity  $\times$  Distance
  - Electric field intensity in terms of force  $F$  and charge  $q$  (Coulomb's law):  $E = F/q$ , whose units are newtons/coulomb (N/C).
  - Coulomb is the unit of charge measured as ampere-seconds (A.s)

$$V = E \cdot d$$

## Derived Units

- **Capacitance (Farad):** The farad is derived from the relation between charge and voltage:  $C = \frac{Q}{V}$

$$C = \frac{Q}{V}$$

- **Energy (Joule):** Energy is force integrated over distance

$$J = (N \cdot m) = \left( \frac{kg \cdot m^2}{s^2} \right)$$



## Unit Conversion

$$W = H \times \frac{1}{1} \times \frac{1}{1}$$

- Pounds per square inch (psi) is commonly used in the United States as a measure of pressure.
  - Convert psi into metric units.

$$\frac{N}{m^2} = \frac{lbf}{in^2} \times \frac{N}{lbf} \times \frac{in^2}{m^2}$$

## Unit Prefixes

Prefix	Symbol	Multiplier	Examples	Notes
yocto	y	$10^{-24}$		
zepto	z	$10^{-21}$		
atto	a	$10^{-18}$		
femto	f	$10^{-15}$	fs (femtosecond)	Optics, chemistry
pico	p	$10^{-12}$	pF (picofarad)	Electronics, optics
nano	n	$10^{-9}$	nH (nanohenry)	Electronics, materials
micro	$\mu$	$10^{-6}$	$\mu$ m (micrometer)	Electronics, distances, weights
milli	m	$10^{-3}$	mm (millimeter)	Distances, chemistry, weights
centi	c	$10^{-2}$	cl (centiliter)	Fluids, distances
deci	d	$10^{-1}$	dg (decigram)	Fluids, distances, weights
deca	da	$10^1$	dag (decagram)	Fluids, distances, weights
hecto	h	$10^2$	hl (hectoliter)	Fluids, surfaces
kilo	k	$10^3$	kg (kilogram)	Fluids, distances, weights
mega	M	$10^6$	MHz (megahertz)	Electronics
giga	G	$10^9$	GW (gigawatt)	Electronics, power
tera	T	$10^{12}$	Tb (terabit)	Optics, electronics
peta	P	$10^{15}$	PHz (petahertz)	Optics
exa	E	$10^{18}$		
zetta	Z	$10^{21}$		
yotta	Y	$10^{24}$		

## Units – Letter case

- Units are usually written in lower case (m, s, kg, etc.)
- If the unit is named after a person, then the first letter of the person's name is capitalized (dB, N, K, Hz, etc.)
- Spelling a unit is usually in small letters including the person's name (pascal, hertz, etc.).
- Prefixes including and lower than kilo are written in small letters (micrometer, nanometer, kilogram)
- Prefixes above kilo (k) are usually capitalized (MB, GB, TB, etc.)

## Decibels and its use

- There are instances in which the use of the common prefixes is inconvenient.
- When a physical quantity spans a very large range of numbers, it is difficult to properly grasp the magnitude of the quantity
- For example, the human eye can see luminance from  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^6 \frac{cd}{m^2}$
- Idea of using dB:
  - 1) Give a reference value (e.g., the minimum luminance we can see) or a standard constant (e.g.,  $10^{-6}$  )
  - 2) Divide your measurement by the reference quantity above
  - 3) Take the base 10 log of the ratio
  - 4) If the quantities are **power related** (power, power density, energy, etc.), multiply by 10
 
$$p = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P}{P_0}$$
  - 5) If the quantities are **field related** (voltage, current, force, pressure, etc.), multiply by 20
 
$$v = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V}{V_0}$$

## Example Luminance to the human eye

- in the case of vision, the reference value is  $10^{-6} \frac{cd}{m^2}$ .

$$l = 10 \log_{10} \frac{L}{10^{-6}}$$

- A luminance of  $10^{-6} \frac{cd}{m^2}$  is therefore 0 dB.
- A luminance of  $10^3 \frac{cd}{m^2}$  is 90 dB.
- Human eye has a span of 120 dB (between  $10^{-6}$  and  $10^6 \frac{cd}{m^2}$ ).
- **Benefits of using dB**
  - Compressing very large ranges to a short one (scaling down)
  - The product of ratios becomes a sum of decibels
  - Can be easily understood when working with human perception for example in music, interactive arts, etc. such as light, power, audio, and pressure.

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## Example 1.8: Use of decibels

- A power sensor for detection of cellular phone transmissions is rated for an input power range of -32 to 18 dBm. Calculate the range and span of the sensor in terms of power.

Hint: The fact that the range is given in dBm means that the reference value is 1 mW

**Solution:**

**SFU****Example 1.9: Voltage amplification and dB**

- An audio amplifier is used to amplify the signal from a microphone. The peak voltage produced by the microphone is  $10\ \mu V$  and the amplifier is required to produce a peak output voltage of  $1\ V$  as input to a power amplifier. Calculate the amplification of the amplifier in dB.

**Solution:**