

Lecture 23: Comb Drive

• Announcements:

- Reminder: 2<sup>nd</sup> project slide due this Friday
- Module 13 now online

• Reading: Senturia, Chpt. 5, Chpt. 6

• Lecture Topics:

↳ Energy Conserving Transducers

- Charge Control
- Voltage Control

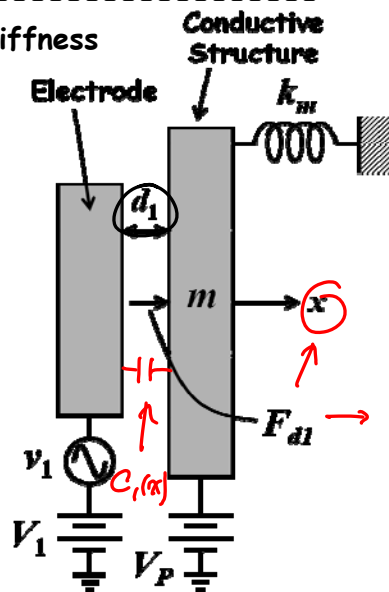
↳ Parallel-Plate Capacitive Transducers

- Linearizing Capacitive Actuators
- Electrical Stiffness

↳ Electrostatic Comb-Drive

- 1<sup>st</sup> Order Analysis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Analysis

• Last Time: Electrical Stiffness



More Complete Expressions

$$C_1(x) = \frac{\epsilon A}{d_0 + x} = C_0 \left(1 + \frac{x}{d_1}\right)^{-1} \rightarrow \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} = -\frac{C_0}{d_1} \left(1 + \frac{x}{d_1}\right)^{-2}$$

(Expand the Taylor series further)

$$\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} = -\frac{C_0}{d_1} \left(1 + A_1 x + A_2 x^2 + A_3 x^3 + \dots\right)$$

$$\text{where } A_1 = -\frac{2}{d_1}, A_2 = \frac{3}{d_1^2}, A_3 = -\frac{4}{d_1^3}, \dots$$

$$F_{d1} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} (V_P - V_1 - N_1)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} (V_{P1} - N_1)^2$$

[small displacements:  $x \ll d_1$ ]  $V_{P1} = V_P - V_1$

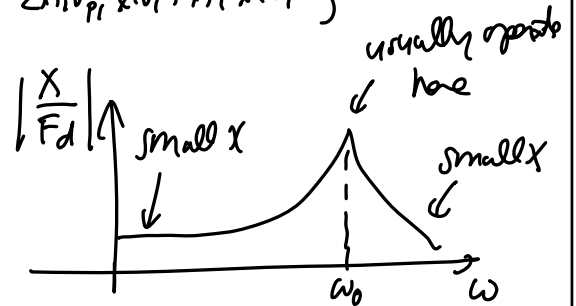
$$F_{d1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{C_0}{d_1}\right) (1 + A_1 x) (V_{P1}^2 - 2V_{P1}N_1 + N_1^2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{C_0}{d_1}\right) \left\{ V_{P1}^2 - 2V_{P1}N_1 + N_1^2 + A_1 V_{P1}^2 x - 2A_1 V_{P1} x N_1 + A_1 x N_1^2 \right\}$$

@  $\omega_0 \rightarrow N_1 = V_1 \cos \omega t$

@  $\omega_0$

Resonance:



@ resonance

$$x = \frac{Q F_d}{jk} = \frac{Q}{jk} \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} V_{pi} N_i$$

90° phase shift → displacement  $x$  is 90° phase-shifted wrt force,  $F_d$

Thus:

$$N_i = N_i \cos \omega_0 t \rightarrow x = |x| \sin \omega_0 t$$

phase-shifted 90°

Force terms only @  $\omega_0$ :

$$F_{dl} \omega_0 = V_{pi} \frac{C_0}{d_i} N_i \cos \omega_0 t + V_{pi}^2 \frac{C_0}{d_i^2} |x| \sin \omega_0 t$$

forcing term

$k_e$  = electrical stiffness

proportional to  $x$

90°

in phase wrt displacement

Electrical Stiffness

- ① A negative spring constant!
- ② Derives from  $V_p$ :

$$k_e = V_{pi}^2 \frac{C_0}{d_i^2} = V_{pi}^2 \frac{\epsilon A}{d_i^3}$$

overlap area of C

DC Bias

3rd power dependence on gap!

$k_e$  → can affect resonance freq.,  $f_0$

$\omega_0 \triangleq$  radian resonance freq. w/ no  $V_p$  applied (i.e.,  $V_{pi} = 0V$ )

$$\omega_0' = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{k_m - k_e}{m}} \rightarrow \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k_m}{m}}$$

mech. stiffness

electrical stiffness

$$\omega_0' = \omega_0 \left[ 1 - \frac{V_{pi}^2 \epsilon A}{k_m d_i^2} \right]^{1/2} \quad k = k_m - k_e$$

now a fan of dc bias!  
(voltage-controllable!)

- Go through Module 12 slides 26-35

Electrostatic Comb-Drive

Top View

Side View

$V_p$

$V_i$

Shuttle Finger

Drive Finger

$L_f$

$d$

$x$

$h_f$  = thickness

$$F_d = \frac{\partial W'}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} (V_p - V_i)^2$$

$$C(x) = \frac{2\epsilon_0 h x}{d} \rightarrow \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} = \frac{2\epsilon_0 h}{d}$$

$$F_d = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2\epsilon_0 h}{d} (V_p^2 - 2V_p V_i + \cancel{V_i^2})$$

$$F_d = -2V_p \frac{\epsilon_0 h}{d} V_i$$

→ Need  $C(x)$ .  
 → *Not a fun of  $x$ !*  
 → *small*  
 → *can balance out by symmetrically placed electrodes*  
 → *ideally, no electrical stiffness  $k_e$*

- Go through the rest of Module 12, starting from slide 38