INF5490 RF MEMS

LN08: RF MEMS resonators II

Spring 2012, Oddvar Søråsen Department of Informatics, UoO

Today's lecture

- Lateral vibrating resonator:
 Comb resonator
 - Working principle
 - Detailed modeling
 - A) "phasor"-modeling
 - B) modeling by converting between mechanical and electrical energy domains

Lateral and vertical movement

- Lateral movement in the resonator
 - Parallel to substrate
 - Folded beam comb structure
- Vertical movement (next lecture)
 - Vertical to substrate
 - clamped-clamped beam (c-c beam)
 - free-free beam (f-f beam)

Comb resonator

- Fixed comb + movable, suspended comb
- Suspended by folded springs, compact layout
- Total capacitance between the combs can be varied
- Applied bias (+ or -) generates an electrostatic force between left anchor-comb and "shuttle"-comb. Shuttle pulled to the left in the plane

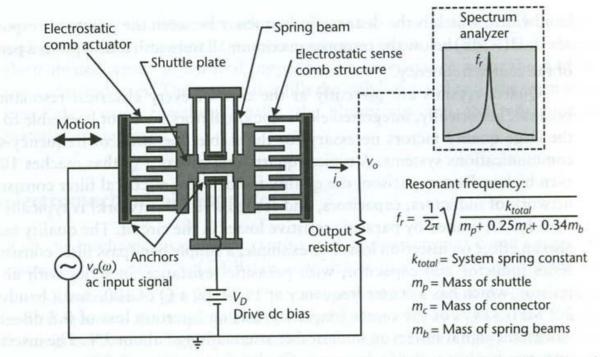
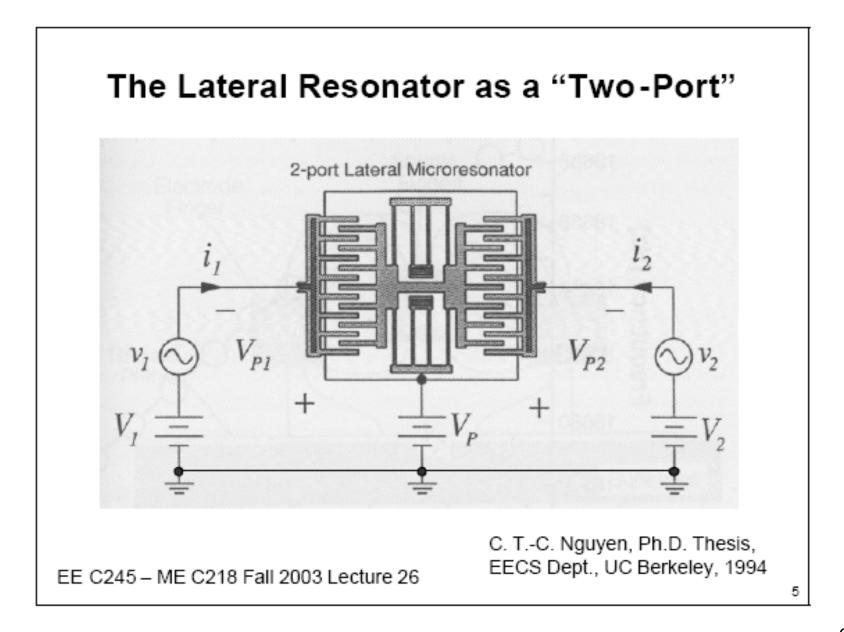


Figure 7.9 Illustration of a micromachined folded-beam comb-drive resonator. The left comb drive actuates the device at a variable frequency ω . The right capacitive-sense-comb structure measures the corresponding displacement by turning the varying capacitance into a current, which generates a voltage across the output resistor. There is a peak in displacement, current, and output voltage at the resonant frequency.

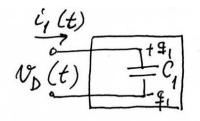
Detailed modeling

- Modeling of lateral comb structure
 - A) "Phasor"-modeling ala UoC, Berkeley
 - Detailed calculations included
 - B) Conversion between energy domains
 - Material from UCLA
- In next lecture, LN09, the c-c beam will be modeled with reference to the book
 - T. Itoh et al: RF Technologies for Low Power Wireless Communications", chap. 12: "Transceiver Front-End Architectures Using Vibrating Micromechanical Signal Processors", by Clark T.-C. Nguyen



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- F. Compare the expression to Y for a L-C-R-circuit and find equivalent elements
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- K. Set up a complete two-port-model

A. Model the comb as a two-port. Analyze first the input port



$$q_{1} = C_{1}v_{D}$$

$$\dot{q}_{1}(t) = \dot{i}_{1}(t) = C_{1}\frac{dv_{D}}{dt} + v_{D}\frac{dC_{1}}{dt}$$

$$v_{D}(t) = V_{1} + v_{1}(t) - V_{P} = -V_{P1} + v_{1}\cos\omega t$$

$$V_{P1} = V_{P} - V_{1}$$

 2-port Lateral Microresonator

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 V₁

 V₁

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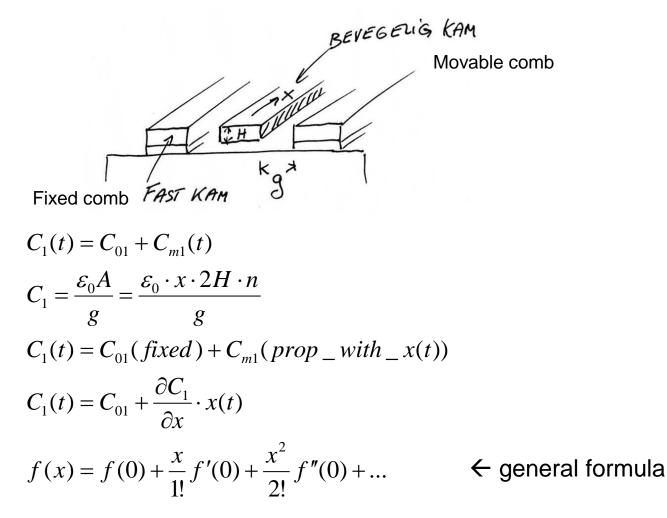
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The Lateral Resonator as a "Two-Port"

 V_{P1} = positive when $V_P > V_1$

B. When the comb moves the input capacitance will have a static and variable component



C. Find the input current versus displacement, X

$$\begin{split} \dot{i}_{1}(t) &= C_{1} \frac{dv_{D}}{dt} + v_{D} \frac{dC_{1}}{dt} \\ &= C_{1} \frac{dv_{1}(t)}{dt} + (-V_{P1} + v_{1}(t)) \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \left[C_{01} + \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \cdot x(t) \right] \frac{dv_{1}(t)}{dt} + \dots \\ &= C_{01} \frac{dv_{1}(t)}{dt} + \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \cdot x(t) \cdot \frac{\partial v_{1}(t)}{\partial t} - V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + v_{1}(t) \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} \\ &= C_{01} \frac{dv_{1}(t)}{dt} + \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} (x \cdot \frac{\partial v_{1}}{\partial t} + v_{1} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t}) - V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} \end{split}$$

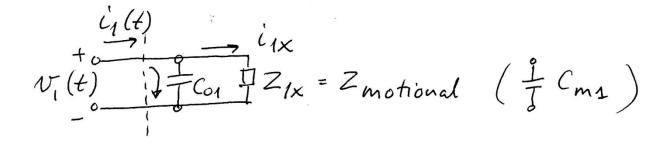
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(x \cdot v_1), _where_v_1 = v_0 \cos \omega t, _x = x_0 \cos \omega t$$
$$(x \cdot v_1) \cong \cos^2 \omega t = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2\omega t)$$

double frequency, small contribution

$$i_1(t) \approx C_{01} \frac{\partial v_1(t)}{\partial t} - V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x(t)}{\partial t}$$

Current into the DC-capacitance "m

"motional current"



$$i_{1x}(t) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x(t)}{\partial t} = (-V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t})$$
$$I_{1x}(j\omega) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot X(j\omega)$$

"motional current"

phasor-form of "motional current"

= current as function of movement ("displacement")

D. Calculate the input admittance, Y ("motional admittance")

• **D1.** Find Y versus X $V_1(j_{\omega}) = I_{1x}(j_{\omega})$ $V_1(j_{\omega}) = I_{1x}(j_{\omega})$

$$Y_{1x}(j\omega) = \frac{I_{1x}(j\omega)}{V_1(j\omega)} = -V_{P1}\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot \frac{X(j\omega)}{V_1(j\omega)}$$
 displacement voltage

• D2. X depends on the electrostatic force, F, and m, b and k

$$Y_{1x}(j\omega) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot \frac{X(j\omega)}{F_d(j\omega)} \cdot \frac{F_d(j\omega)}{V_1(j\omega)}$$
For depends of m,b og k voltage V1 creates an electrostatic force Former Forme

D3. F depends on the applied bias, V

Relationship between force and voltage can be found from:

$$U = \frac{1}{2}C_{1}v_{D}^{2}(t)$$
Potential energy, V_D is independent of x

$$F = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{2}v_{D}^{2}(t) \cdot \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x}$$
non-linear relation

$$F = F_{0} + f \cos \omega t, v_{D} = -V_{P1} + v_{1}\cos \omega t$$
Linearizing around a DC-point

$$F_{0} + f \cos \omega t = \frac{1}{2}(-V_{P1} + v_{1}\cos \omega t)^{2} \cdot \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x}$$
Substitute

$$= \frac{1}{2}(V_{P1}^{2} - 2 \cdot V_{P1} \cdot v_{1}\cos \omega t + v_{1}^{2}\cos^{2} \omega t) \cdot \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x}$$

$$\cos 2\omega t - term$$

$$f \cos \omega t = -V_{P1} \cdot v_{1}\cos \omega t \cdot \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x}$$
Comparing AC-terms

$$f_{d,\omega} = -V_{P1}\frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x}v_{1}(t)$$

$$\leftarrow \text{LINEAR RELATION!}$$

$$F_{d}(j\omega) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \cdot V_{1}(j\omega) \qquad \text{In phasor-form}$$
$$\frac{F_{d}(j\omega)}{V_{1}(j\omega)} = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x}$$

Relation between displacement and force:

$$\frac{X(s)}{F_d(x)} = \frac{1}{ms^2 + bs + k} = \frac{1}{k} \frac{k/m}{s^2 + \frac{b}{m}s + \frac{k}{m}}$$
$$\omega_0^2 = k/m, \ b/m = \omega_0/Q$$
$$Q = \frac{\sqrt{k/m}}{b/m} = \frac{\sqrt{km}}{b}$$

D2. X depends on the electrostatic force,F, and m, b and k

Substitute

$$\frac{X(s)}{F_d(s)} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + \frac{\omega_0}{Q}s + \omega_0^2} \rightarrow_{s=j\omega} \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{\omega_0^2}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2) + j\frac{\omega_0\omega}{Q}}$$
$$\frac{X(j\omega)}{F_d(j\omega)} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{1}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_0)^2\right] + j\frac{\omega}{Q\omega_0}}$$

E. Find an expression for Y (dynamic behavior)

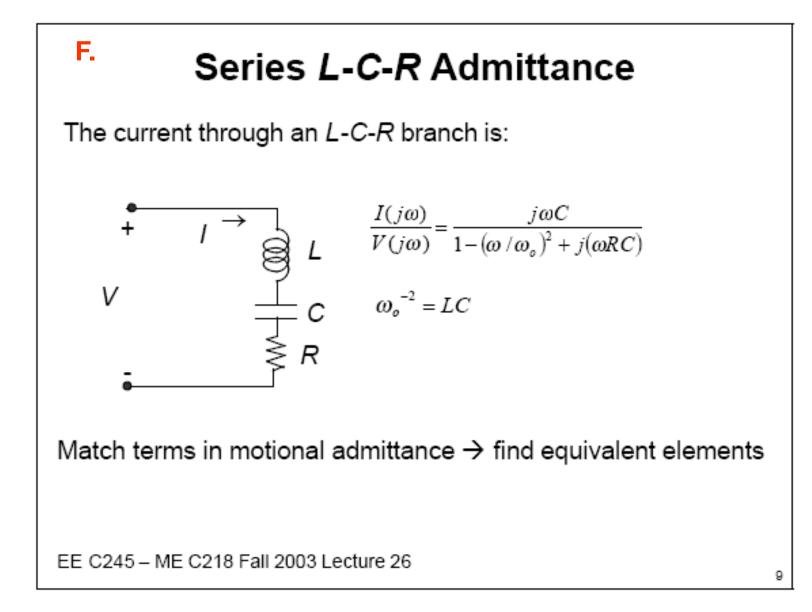
$$Y_{1x}(j\omega) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot \frac{X(j\omega)}{F_d(j\omega)} \cdot \frac{F_d(j\omega)}{V_1(j\omega)}$$
$$= -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot \frac{1/k}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_0)^2\right] + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0 Q}} \cdot (-V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x})$$

$$\eta = V_{P_1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \qquad \Leftarrow \eta \text{ defined}$$

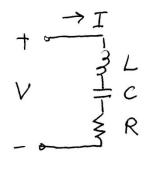
$$Y_{1x}(j\omega) = \eta^2 \cdot j\omega \cdot \frac{1/k}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_0)^2\right] + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0 Q}}$$

$$I_{1x}(j\omega) = [\dots] \cdot V_1(j\omega)$$

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Current through the L-C-R-circuit



$$V = I(sL + 1/sC + R)$$
$$\frac{I(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{sC}{s^2 LC + sRC + 1}$$
$$Y(j\omega) = \frac{I(j\omega)}{V(j\omega)} = \frac{j\omega C}{-\omega^2 LC + j\omega RC + 1}$$

Introduce

$$\omega_0^2 = \frac{1}{LC}, \ \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$
$$Y(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega C}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_0)^2\right] + j\omega RC} = \frac{j\omega C}{\left[\dots\right] + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0 Q}}$$
$$RC = \frac{1}{\omega_0 Q}, \ Q = \frac{1}{\omega_0 RC} = \frac{\sqrt{LC}}{RC} = \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}} \cdot \frac{1}{R}$$

Which gives:

$$Y(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega C}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_0)^2\right] + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0 Q}}$$
Compare to

$$Y_{1x}(j\omega) = \eta^2 \cdot \frac{j\omega \cdot 1/k}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_0)^2\right] + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0 Q}}$$

This results in:

$$C_{x1} = \eta^2 / k$$

$$\omega_0^2 = k / m = 1 / LC \Longrightarrow L_{x1} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot \frac{m}{k} = \frac{k}{\eta^2} \cdot \frac{m}{k} = \frac{m}{\eta^2}$$

$$RC = \frac{1}{Q\omega_0} = \frac{1}{Q\sqrt{k/m}} \Longrightarrow R_{x1} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot \frac{1}{Q\sqrt{k/m}} = \frac{k}{\eta^2} \frac{\sqrt{m}}{Q\sqrt{k}} = \frac{\sqrt{km}}{Q\eta^2}$$

 η

= Electromagnetic coupling coefficient

 $I_{x1}(\omega_0) = \frac{V_1(\omega_0)}{R_{x1}}$ At resonance the impedances from L and C cancel

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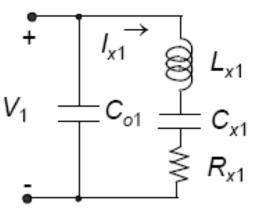
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G. Equivalent Circuit for Input Port

A series L-C-R circuit results in the identical expression → find equivalent values L_{x1}, C_{x1}, and R_{x1}

 $L_{x1} = \frac{m}{\eta^2}$ $C_{x1} = \frac{\eta^2}{k}$ $R_{x1} = \frac{\sqrt{km}}{Q\eta^2}$ $\eta = V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x}$ = electromechanical coupling coefficient



At resonance, the impedances of the inductance and the capacitance *cancel out* →

$$I_{x1} = \frac{V_1}{R_{x1}}$$

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H. Find the output current for a given input

$$\dot{i}_{1x}(t) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t}$$

This displacement causes the output capacitance C2 also to change. Output current due to displacement ($v_2 = 0V$, short-circuited):

$$i_{2}(t) = -V_{P2} \frac{\partial C_{2}}{\partial t} = -V_{P2} \frac{\partial C_{2}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t}$$

$$I_{2}(j\omega) = -V_{P2} \frac{\partial C_{2}}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot X(j\omega) \qquad \text{In phasor-form}$$

$$X(j\omega) = \frac{1/k}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_{0})^{2}\right] + j \frac{\omega}{\omega_{0}Q}} \cdot F_{d}(j\omega)$$

$$F_{d}(j\omega) = -V_{P1} \frac{\partial C_{1}}{\partial x} \cdot V_{1}(j\omega) \qquad \text{voltage} \rightarrow \text{force} \rightarrow \text{displacement} \rightarrow \text{current}$$

$$\Rightarrow I_{2}(j\omega) = \frac{V_{P1}V_{P2}}{\left[1 - (\omega/\omega_{0})^{2}\right] + j \frac{\omega}{\omega_{0}Q}} \cdot j\omega \cdot (1/k) \cdot V_{1}(j\omega)$$

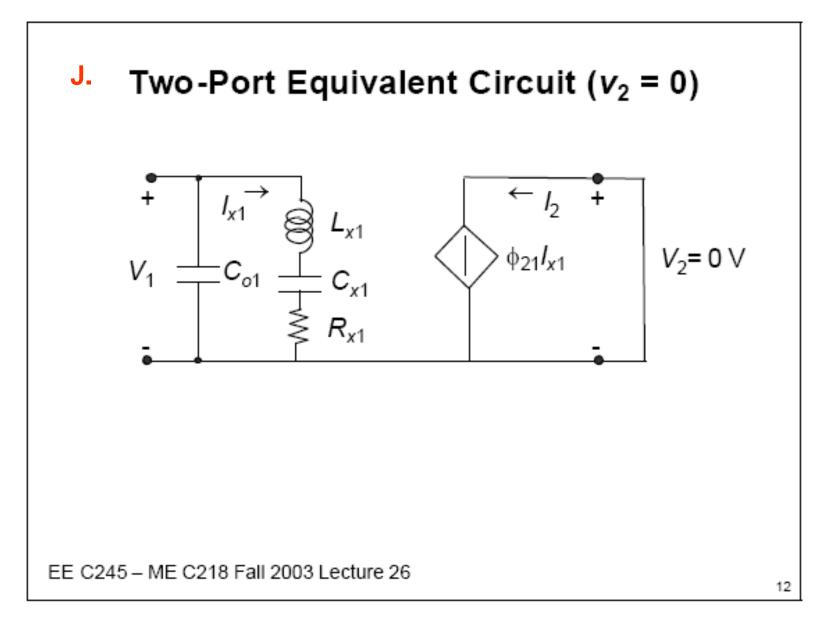
L Calculate the ratio between the output and input currents ("forward current gain")

"Forward current gain"

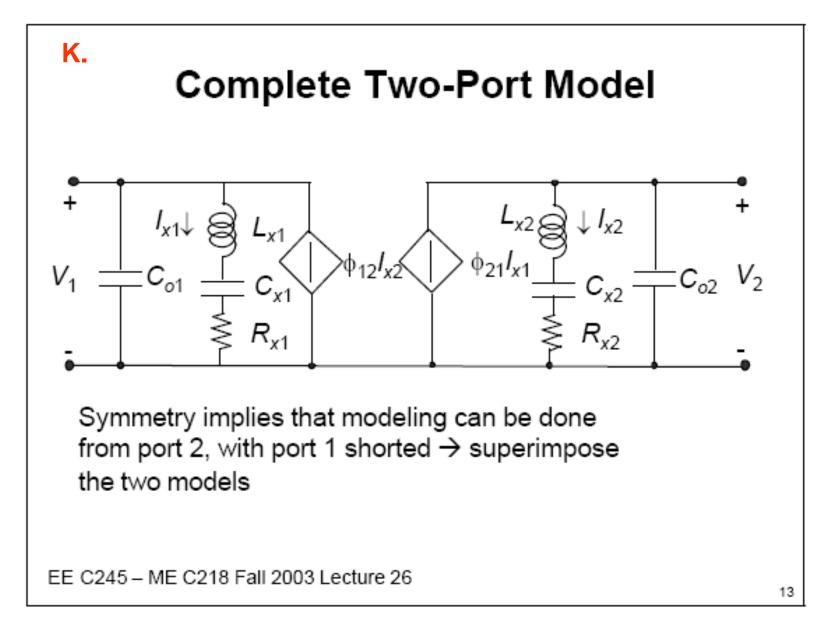
$$\Phi_{21} = \frac{I_2(j\omega)}{I_{x1}(j\omega)} = \frac{-V_{P2}\frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot X(j\omega)}{-V_{P1}\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} \cdot j\omega \cdot X(j\omega)} = \frac{V_{P2}}{V_{P1}}\frac{\frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x}}$$

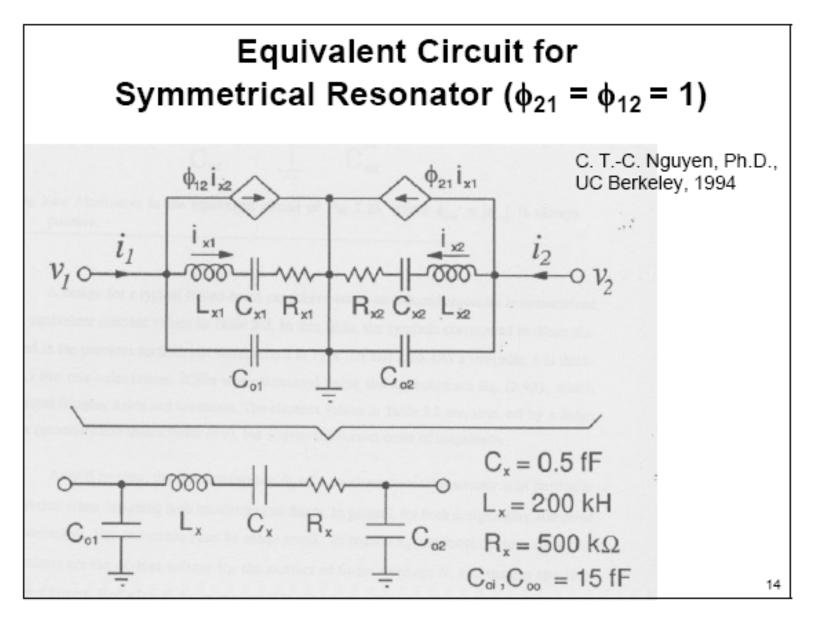
$$I_{2}(j\omega) = \Phi_{21} \cdot I_{x1}(j\omega), V_{2} = 0$$

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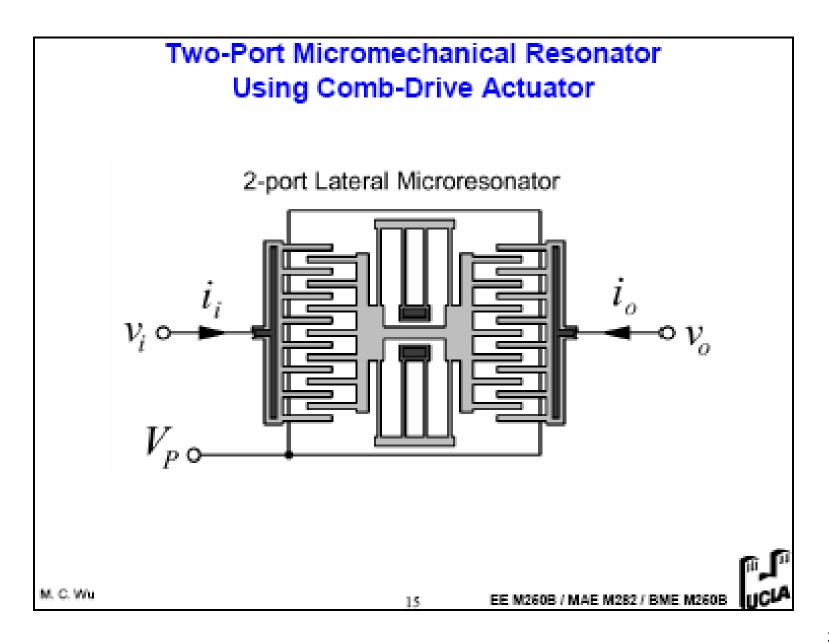




Alternative modeling

 B) Exploit conversion between mechanical and electrical energy domains
 – Slides from UCLA

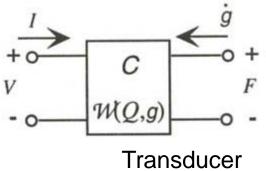
• Supported by lecture notes \rightarrow



Conversion between energy domains

 Both vertical and lateral resonator structures may be described by a generalized non-linear capacitance, C, interconnecting energydomains

Electrical domain

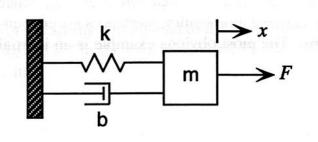


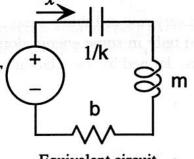
Mechanical domain

Interconnecting where there is **no energy loss**

Procedure

- First, transform the mechanical domain impedances to an electrical representation
 - The mechanical components are modeled as lumped electrical components
- NB! You are still in the mechanical domain!
 - C = 1/k
 - L = m
 - -R=b





Spring-mass-dashpot system

Equivalent circuit

- Power-variables
 - Effort = force \rightarrow voltage
 - Flow = velocity \rightarrow current

Interconnecting different energy domains

- 1. Each energy domain is transformed to its electrical equivalent
- 2. Domains are interconnected by a <u>generalized non-</u> linear capacitance, C
- 3. Transformer and gyrator may be used for interconnecting if a linear relationship exists between the power-variables!
 - Problem: Transducer C is generally **NOT** a linear 2-port
- 4. Then, must linearize the 2-port transducer to be able to substitute it with a **transformer**
- 5. The transformer can "be removed" by recalculating the component **values** to **new** ones
 - − → Electromechanical coupling coefficient used! = turn ratio
 - \rightarrow Results in a common circuit diagram

Interaction between energy domains

- Suppose linear relation between power variables
 - \rightarrow A linear 2-port element can be used:
 - Use <u>a transformer or gyrator</u>

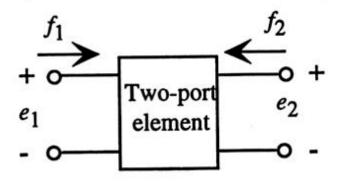


Figure 5.11. General two-port element.

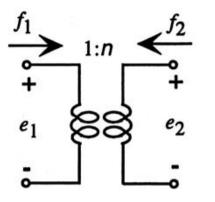
power in = power out NO POWER LOSS

$$e_1f_1 + e_2f_2 = 0 (5.41)$$

Transformer

TRANSFORMER:

$$\begin{pmatrix} e_2 \\ f_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} n & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ f_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
(5.42)



 $e_2 = M \cdot e_1$ $f_2 = -\frac{1}{n} f_1$

Transformer

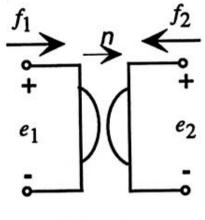
n = "turns ratio"

Ex. V and F can be interconnected

Gyrator

GYRATOR:

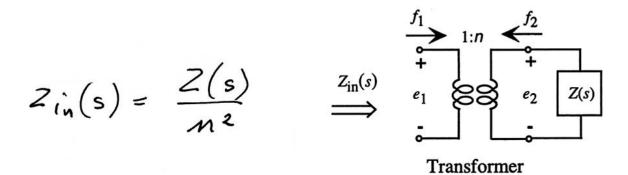
$$\begin{pmatrix} e_2 \\ f_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & n \\ -\frac{1}{n} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ f_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
(5.43)



 $e_{a} = n \cdot f_{i}$ $f_{a} = -\frac{1}{n} e_{i}$

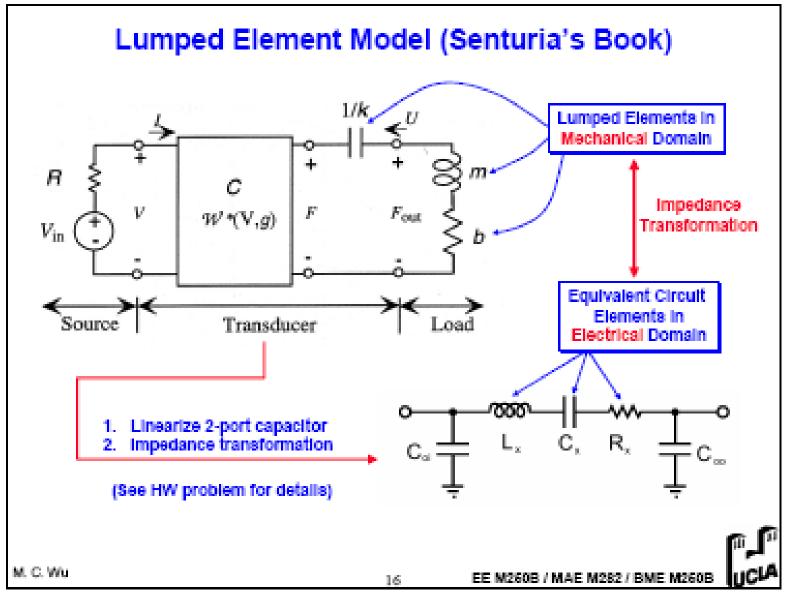
Gyrator

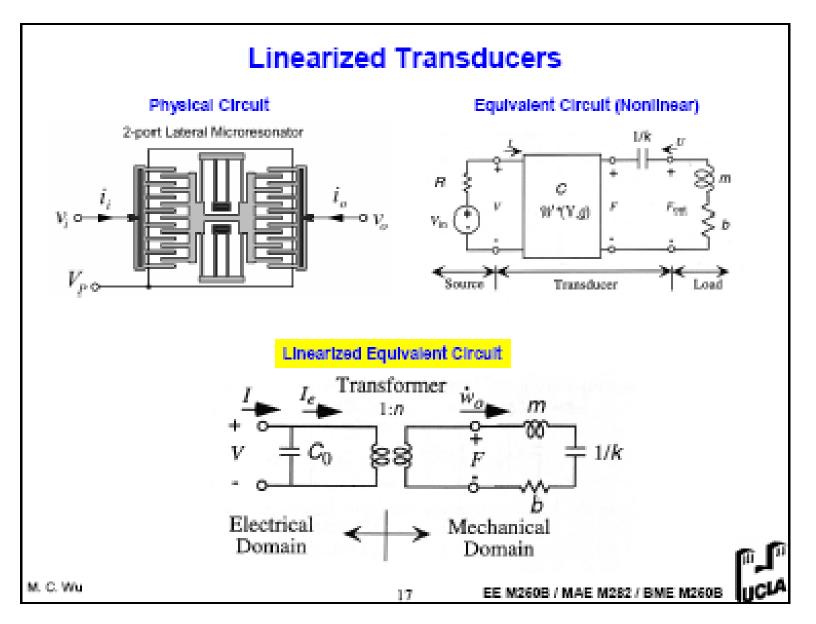
The impedances can be transformed



n = coupling coefficient between
 energy domains

$$Z_{in}(s) = \frac{e_1}{f_1}$$
$$Z(s) = \frac{e_2}{-f_2} = \frac{n \cdot e_1}{\frac{1}{n} \cdot f_1} = n^2 \cdot \frac{e_1}{f_1} = n^2 \cdot Z_{in}(s)$$





Procedure

- Investigate relation between "efforts" and "flows" in the 2 domains
- Efforts: calculation procedure
 - 1. Start with an expression for potential energy
 - -2. Calculate force
 - 3. Look at perturbations around the DC-bias
 - 4. Find the relationship between AC-terms
 - \rightarrow A linear relationship is obtained!

Relation between "efforts"

$$F = \frac{\partial W^*}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{2} V^2 \frac{\partial C}{\partial x}$$

$$F = F_{dx} + f \cdot \sin(\omega t)$$

$$V = V_{dx} + v \cdot \sin(\omega t)$$

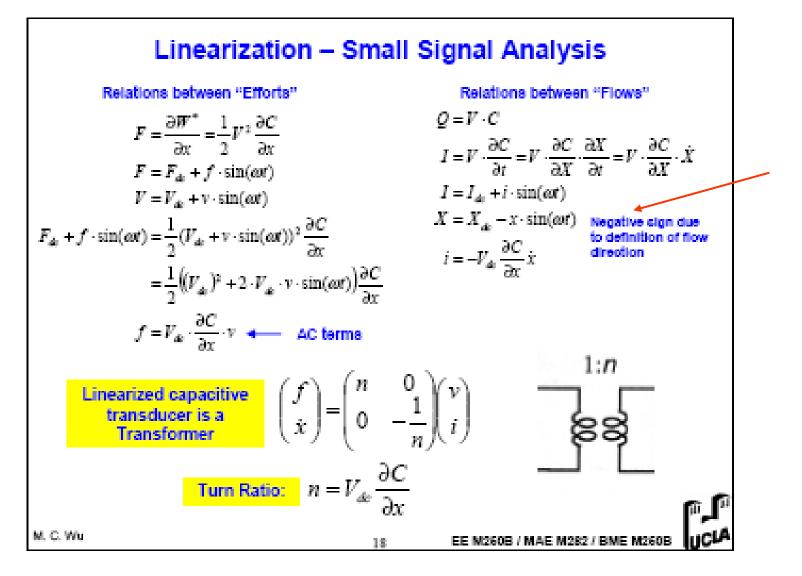
$$F_{dx} + f \cdot \sin(\omega t) = \frac{1}{2} (V_{dx} + v \cdot \sin(\omega t))^2 \frac{\partial C}{\partial x}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} ((V_{dx})^2 + 2 \cdot V_{dx} \cdot v \cdot \sin(\omega t)) \frac{\partial C}{\partial x}$$

$$f = V_{dx} \cdot \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} \cdot v \quad \leftarrow \quad \text{AC terms}$$

effort (mechanical domain) = const. * effort (electrical domain)

Similarly for relationship between FLOWS:



flow (electrical domain) = - const. * flow (mechanical domain)

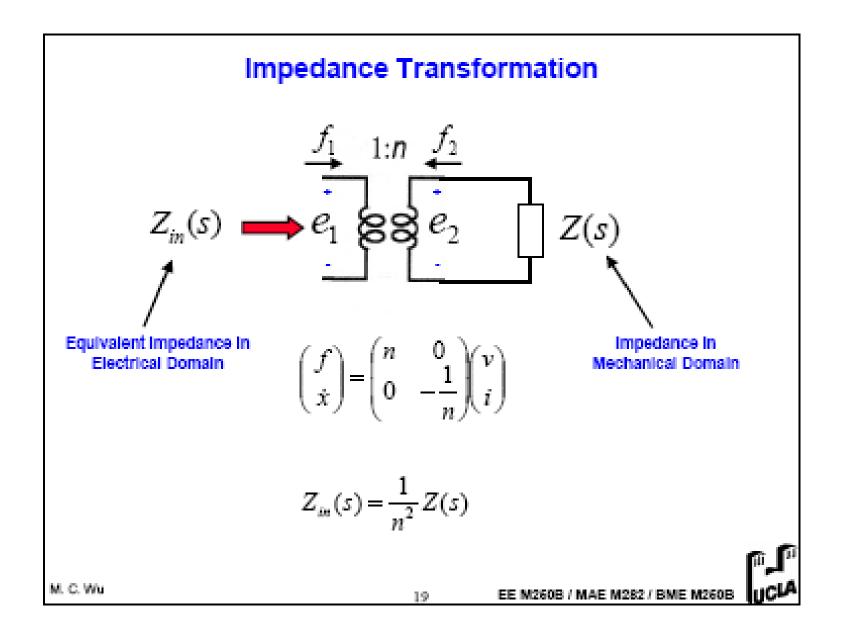
Current direction, mechanical domain

- Flow in the mechanical domain is defined as positive into the 2-port transducer
- Choose the current to go **out of** 2-port C. Then we have:
 - Current goes into the electrical domain
 - \rightarrow creates an attractive force on the comb
 - \rightarrow spring stretches
 - \rightarrow potential energy is built up
 - \rightarrow equivalent to charging of an 1/k-capacitor
 - →Current increases → charge on the capacitor increases → attractive force increases → displacement (x) decreases

Compatible relations both between "efforts" and "flows"

$$f = V_{de} \cdot \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \cdot v = m \cdot v \quad den \quad m = V_{de} \cdot \frac{\partial c}{\partial x}$$
$$i = -V_{de} \cdot \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \cdot \dot{x} = -m \cdot \dot{x} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{x} = -\frac{1}{n} \cdot i$$

- effort (mechanical domain) = n * effort (electrical domain)
- flow (mechanical domain) = -1/n * flow (electrical domain)
- A linearized capacitive transducer implemented as a **transformer c**an be used!



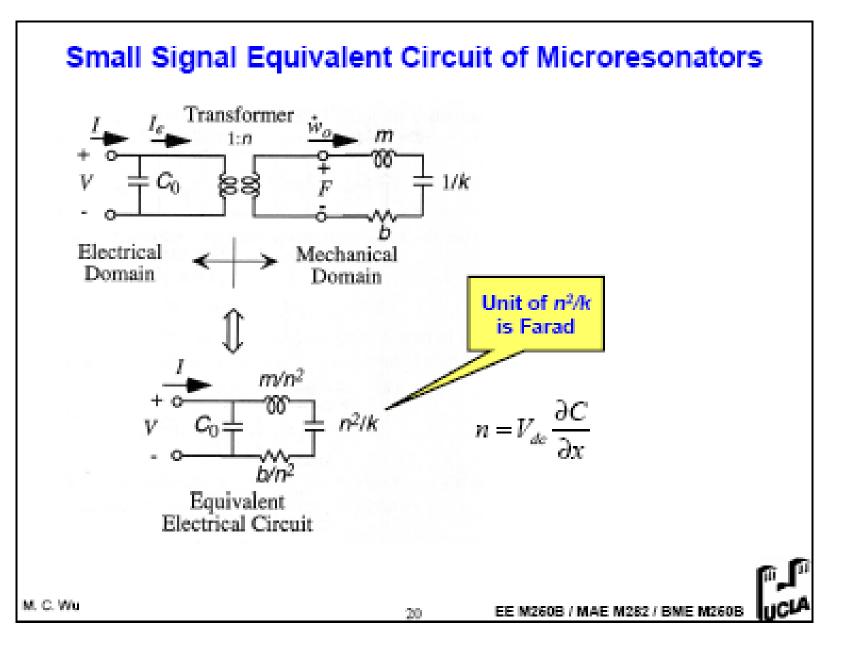
Transformation of impedances

$$z_{el} = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot z_{mek}$$

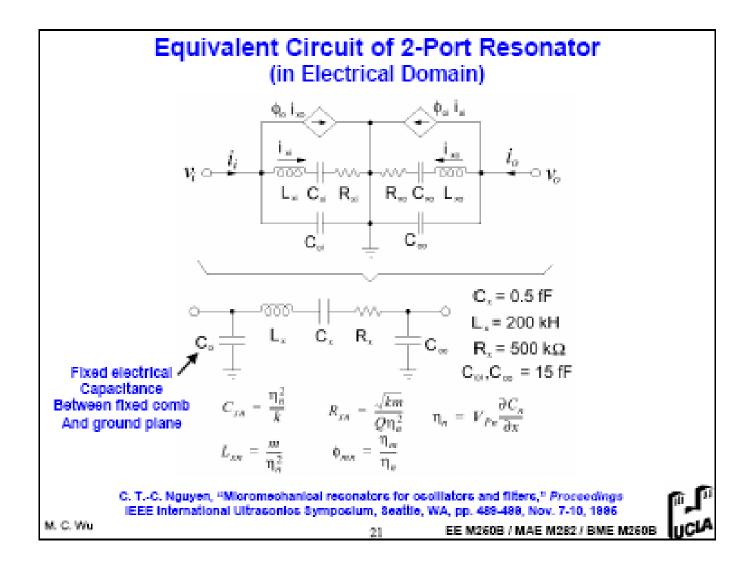
Inductor
$$sL_{el} = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot sL_{mek} = \frac{sm}{n^2} \Longrightarrow L_{el} = \frac{m}{n^2}$$

Resistor
$$R_{el} = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot R_{mek} = \frac{b}{n^2}$$

Capacitor
$$\frac{1}{sC_{el}} = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \frac{1}{sC_{mek}} = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \frac{k}{s} \Longrightarrow C_{el} = \frac{n^2}{k}$$

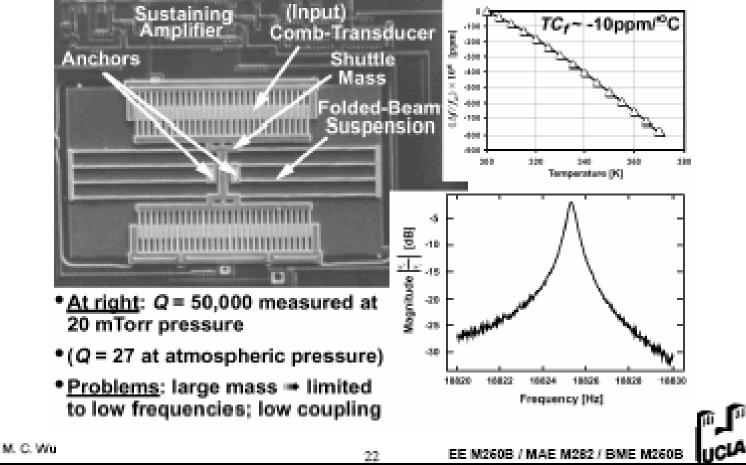


Both methods result in the same equivalent circuit:









Comb resonator, summary

- Summary of modeling:
- Force: $Fe = \frac{1}{2} \frac{dC}{dx} \sqrt{2}$ (force is always attractive)
 - Input signal Va * cos (ωt)
 - Fe ~ Va^2 * ½ [1 + cos (2ωt)]
 - Driving force is 2x input-frequency + DC: NOT DESIRABLE
- Add DC bias, Vd
 - Fe ~ Vd ^2 + 2 Vd * Va * $\cos \omega t$ + negligible term (2 ωt)
 - Keep linearized AC force-component ~ Vd * Va, which oscillates with the same frequency as Va: ω
- C increases when finger-overlap increases (comb moves)
 - $\epsilon * A/d$ (A = comb-thickness * overlap-length)
- dC/dx = constant for a given design (linear change, C is proportional to length-variation)

Comb-resonator, output current

- A time varying capacitance is established at the output comb
 - Calculate output current when Vd is kept constant and C is varying
 - Io = d/dt (Q) = d/dt (C*V) = Vd * dC/dt = Vd * dC/dx * dx/dt
 - $I_0 = Vd * dC/dx * \omega * x_max$
 - Io plotted versus frequency, shows a BPcharacteristic

Comb-resonator, spring constant

- Spring constant for simple beam deflected to the side
 - k_beam = const * E * t * (w/L) exp3
 - E = Youngs modul, t = thickness, w = width, L = length
- Example in figure 7.9:
 - const = $1 = 4 * \frac{1}{4}$ (e.g. cantilevers)
 - k_total = 2 * k_beam

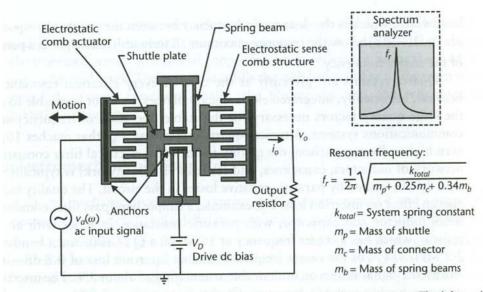


Figure 7.9 Illustration of a micromachined folded-beam comb-drive resonator. The left comb drive actuates the device at a variable frequency ω . The right capacitive-sense-comb structure measures the corresponding displacement by turning the varying capacitance into a current, which generates a voltage across the output resistor. There is a peak in displacement, current, and output voltage at the resonant frequency.

Design parameters

- To obtain a higher resonance frequency:
- Total spring constant must increase
- Dynamic mass must decrease
 - Difficult to achieve because a minimum number of fingers are needed
 - To have good electrostatic coupling (voltage → force)
 - Process resolution determines how small the lateral structures can be fabricated (geometrical design rules)
- Frequency can be increased by using another material with larger E/ρ than Si
 - E/p is a measure of the spring constant relative to weight
 - Elastic modulus versus material density
 - Aluminum and titanium has E/p lower than Si
 - Si carbide, poly diamond has E/p higher than for Si (poly diamond is a research topic)