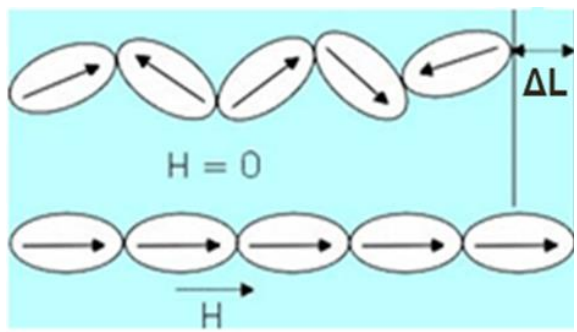


Modeled Electroformed MEMS Variable Capacitor for Cobalt Iron Alloy Magnetostriction Measurements

Eric D. Langlois, Patrick S. Finnegan, Jamin R. Pillars, Todd C. Monson, Mark H. Ballance, Christopher R. St John, Charles J. Pearce and Adam J. Thorpe

Electrodeposited Magnetostrictive CoFe



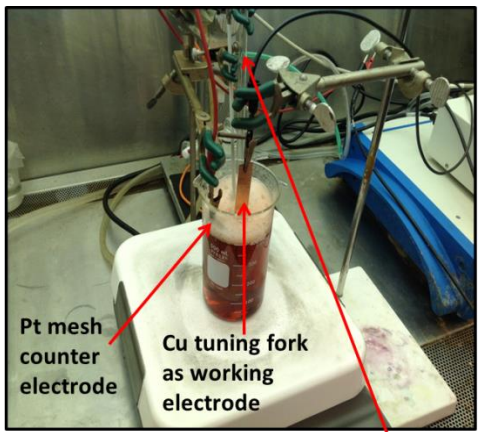
$$\lambda(H) = \Delta L/L$$

Previous work:

Hunter, D., et al., *Giant magnetostriction in annealed Co_{1-x}Fe_x thin-films*. Nat Commun, 2011. 2: p. 518.

Our work:

Jamin Pillars, Eric Langlois, Christian Arrington, Todd Monson, "Electrodeposition Processes for Magnetostrictive Resonators," U.S. Patent Application #14876652, October, 2015.



Pt mesh counter electrode

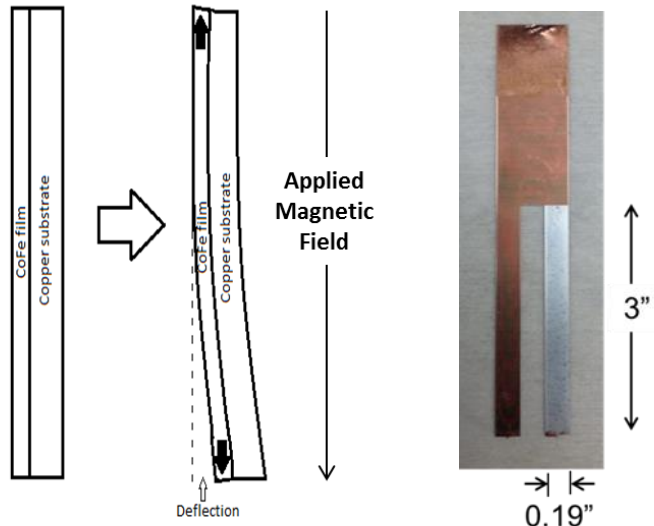
Cu tuning fork as working electrode

Bubbler with N₂ gas

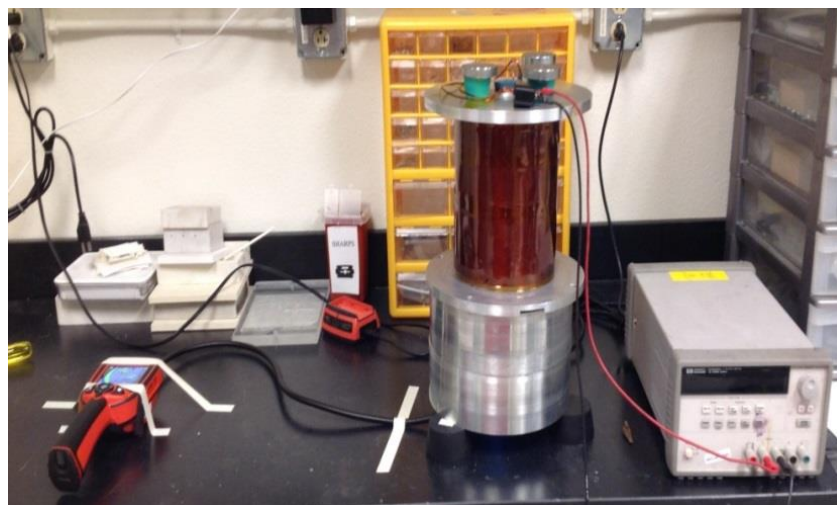
Need a method for measuring λ to obtain fundamental performance metrics λ_s and $d_{33,m}$ for magnetostrictive materials.

Expression du Tremolet de Lacheisserie and Peuzin

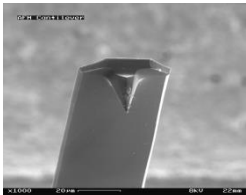
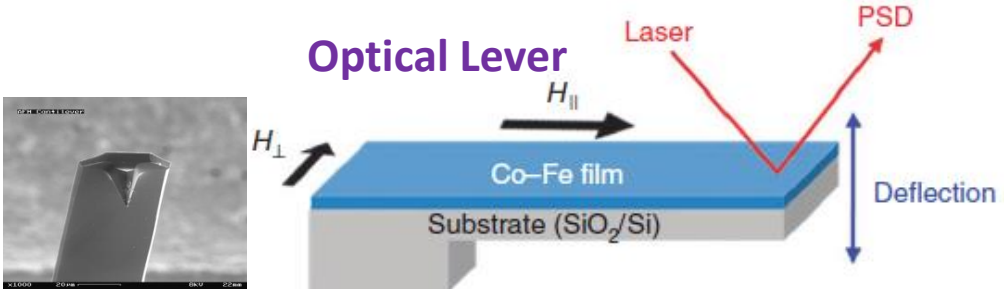
$$\lambda_{eff}(D_{sat}) = \frac{2(D_{\parallel} - D_{\perp})E_s t_s^2 (1 + \nu_f)}{9E_f L^2 t_f (1 + \nu_s)}$$



Calibrated solenoid used for testing



Motivation – Existing Measurement Techniques Insufficient

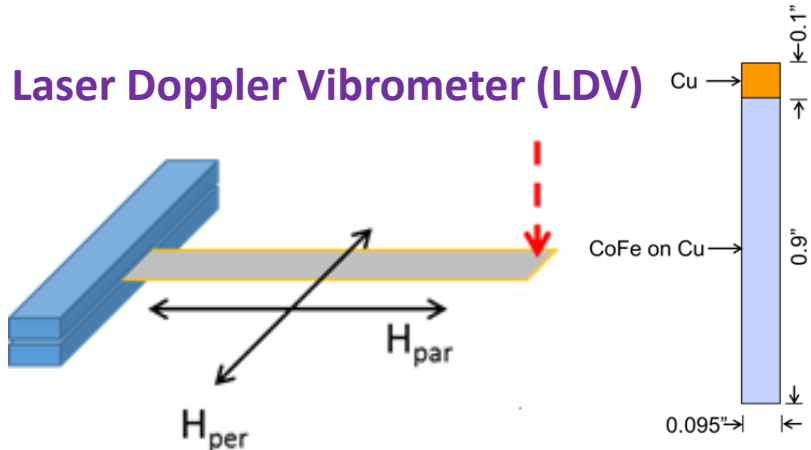


- Strain resolution ($n\epsilon$)
- Incompatible with electrodeposition

Hunter, D., et al., Giant magnetostriction in annealed Co_{1-x}Fe_x thin-films. Nat Commun, 2011. 2: p. 518.

- Strain resolution ($p\epsilon$)
- Compatible with electrodeposition
- Torsional effects

Laser Doppler Vibrometer (LDV)

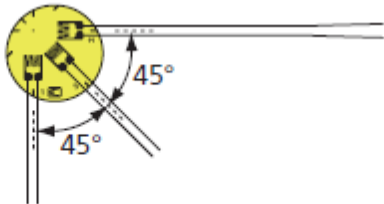


Staruch, M., NRL, communications

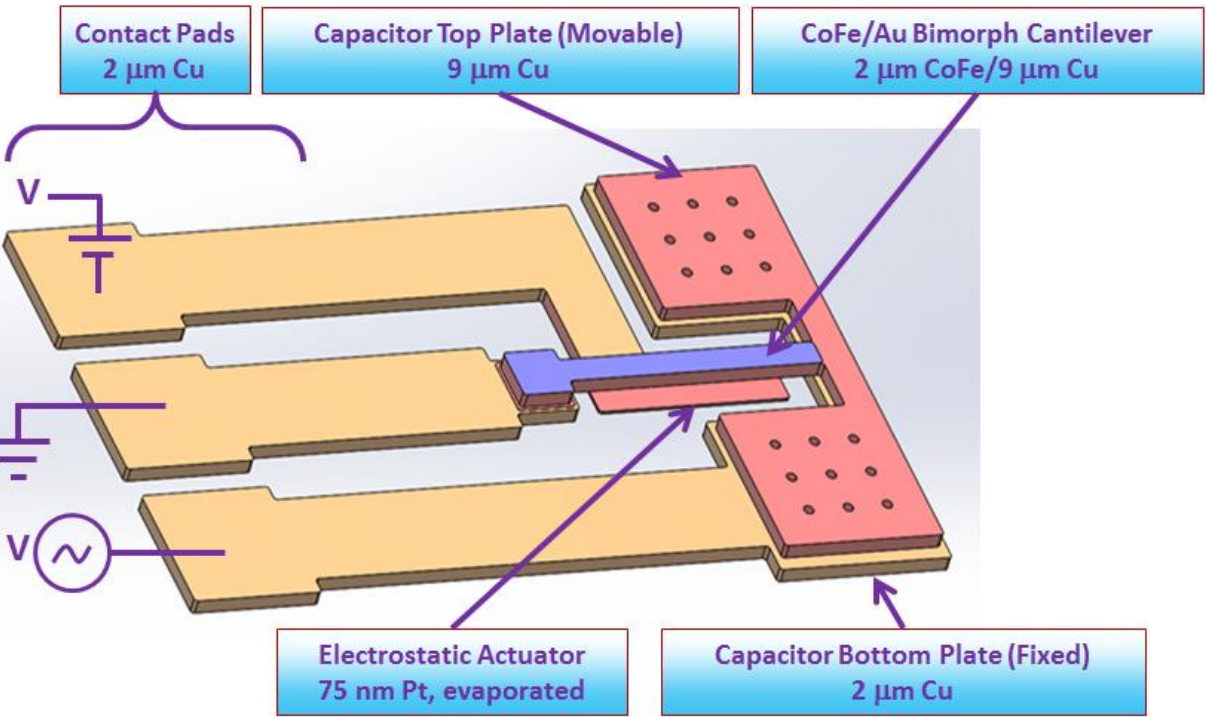
- Strain resolution ($\pm 5\mu\epsilon$)
- Not good for thin films
- Film adhesion poor

Triaxial, 0°/90°/45°

Resistance: 120 Ω
Gage factor: Approx. 2.1



Simulation – Geometry and Materials



**Model courtesy of Adam Thorpe, Sandia National Laboratories*

Device Feature	Geometry
Electrostatic Actuator	Width: 300 μm Depth: 80 μm Height: 50 nm
Bimorph Cantilever: Top Film	Width: 400 μm Depth: 40 μm Height: 2 μm
Bimorph Cantilever: Bottom Film	Width: 400 μm Depth: 40 μm Height: 9 μm
Top Capacitor Plate	Area: 0.135 mm ² Height: 9 μm
Bottom Capacitor Plate	Area: ~0.16 mm ² Height: 9 μm
Air Volume	Sphere: R = 1.2 mm

Both magnetoelastic and electrostatic models were created. Only magnetolastic model will be presented.

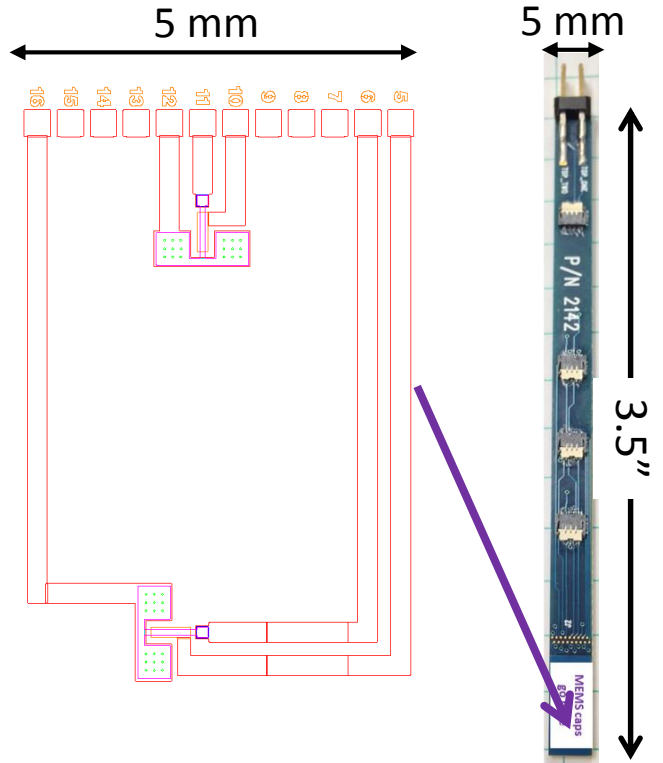
Design Features

Advantages

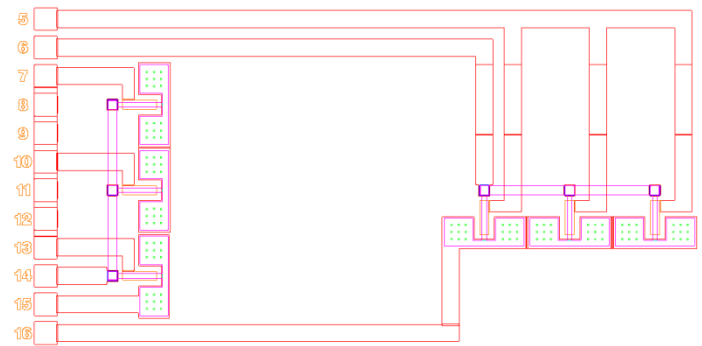
- **Chip-scale** (5mm (W) X 10mm (L))
- **Orthogonal** (patterned by photolithography)
- **Parallel sensors possible** (boosts signal)
- **Less prone to torsional effects** (improves accuracy)
- **Reduced instrumentation complexity**

Disadvantages

- **Complex fabrication** (Sandia is good at this!)



Single orthogonal pair Custom PCB



Triple orthogonal pair

Agilent 4284A 20Hz-1MHz Precision LCR Meter



Simulation – Physics Interfaces and Mesh

Solid Mechanics (solid)

$$1) 0 = \nabla \cdot S + F_V$$

S = stress tensor
F_V = body force per volume

$$2) \epsilon_{me} = \frac{3\lambda_S}{2M_S^2} dev(M \otimes M)$$

λ_S = saturation magnetostriction
M_S = saturation magnetization

I.C.'s: $u = (0, 0, 0) \text{ m}$
 $\delta u / \delta t = (0, 0, 0) \text{ m/s}$

B.C.'s: cantilever anchor

Magnetic Fields (mf)

$$2) B = \nabla \times (A_b + A_r)$$

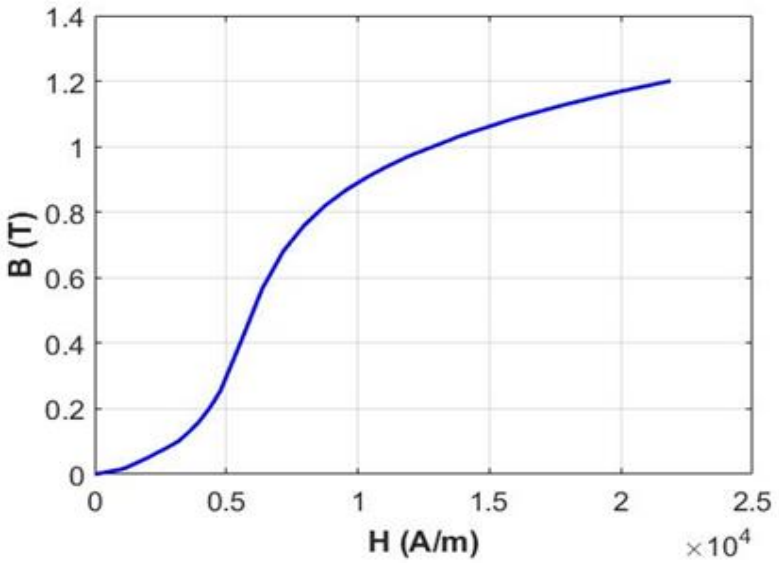
A_b = **B** · **y** = vector potential

I.C.'s: $A = (0, 0, 0)$

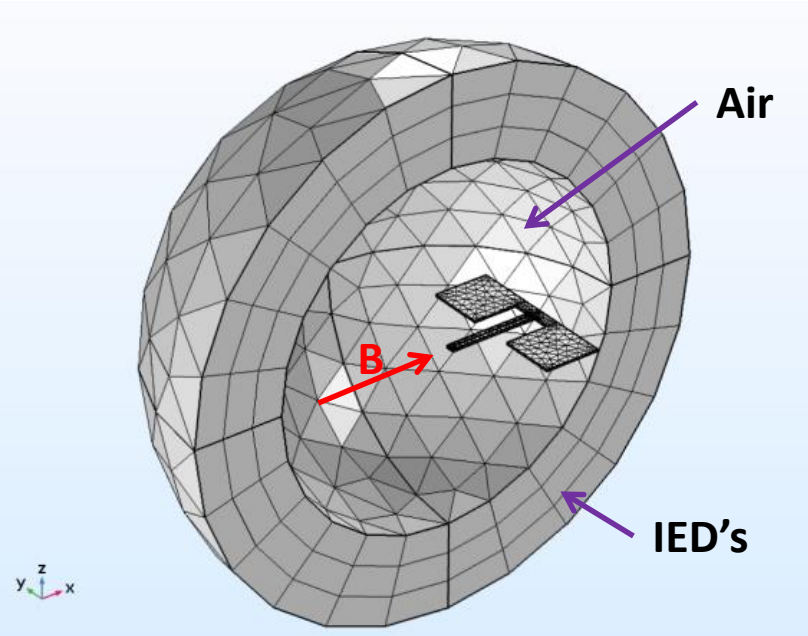
B.C.'s: $n \times A = 0$ (mag insulation)

Magnetostriction (pzm1)

Coupling Type: Fully Coupled



Initial B-H curve (measured)

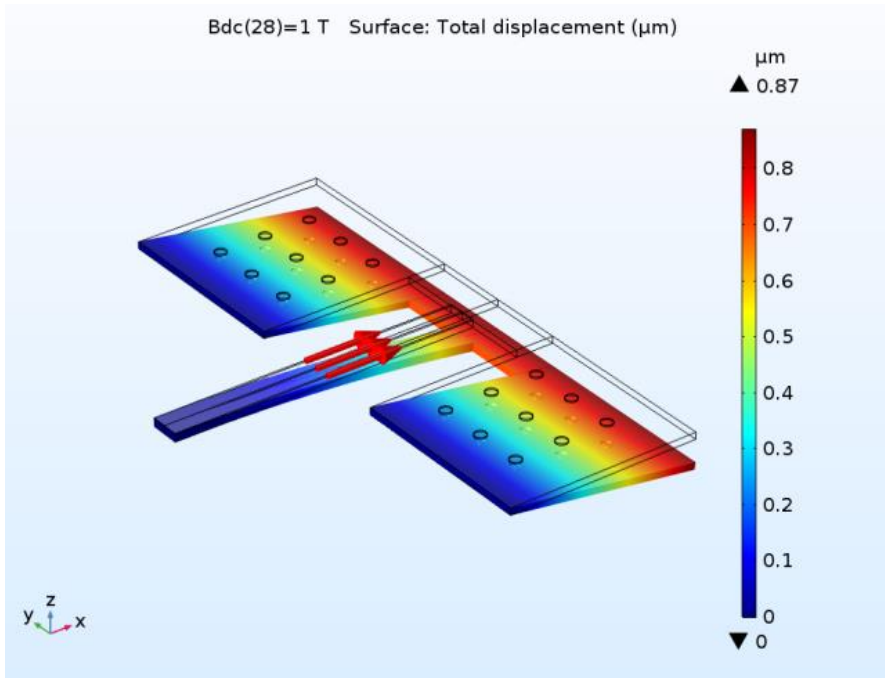
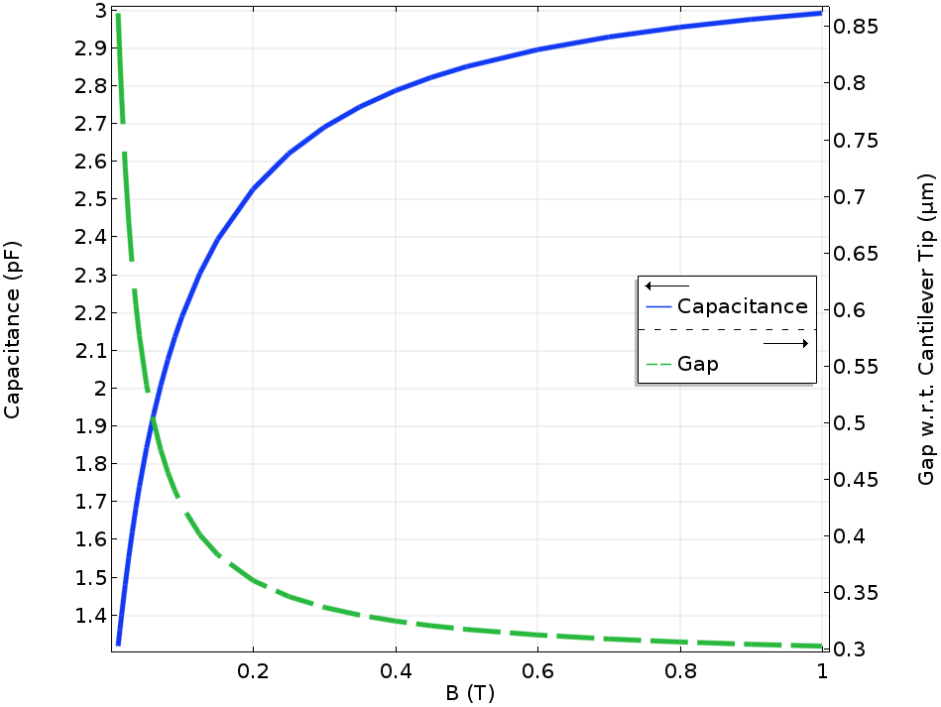


User controlled mesh with free tetrahedrals of size "Normal".

Simulation – Study and Results

Capacitance and gap spacing as a function of applied magnetic flux ramp

- ### Stationary Study
- Parametric sweep: $\lambda_s = 50-100$ ppm @ $B = 1$ T
 - Intent: magnetically saturate film without touching bottom plate
 - Parametric sweep: $B = 0$ to 1 T



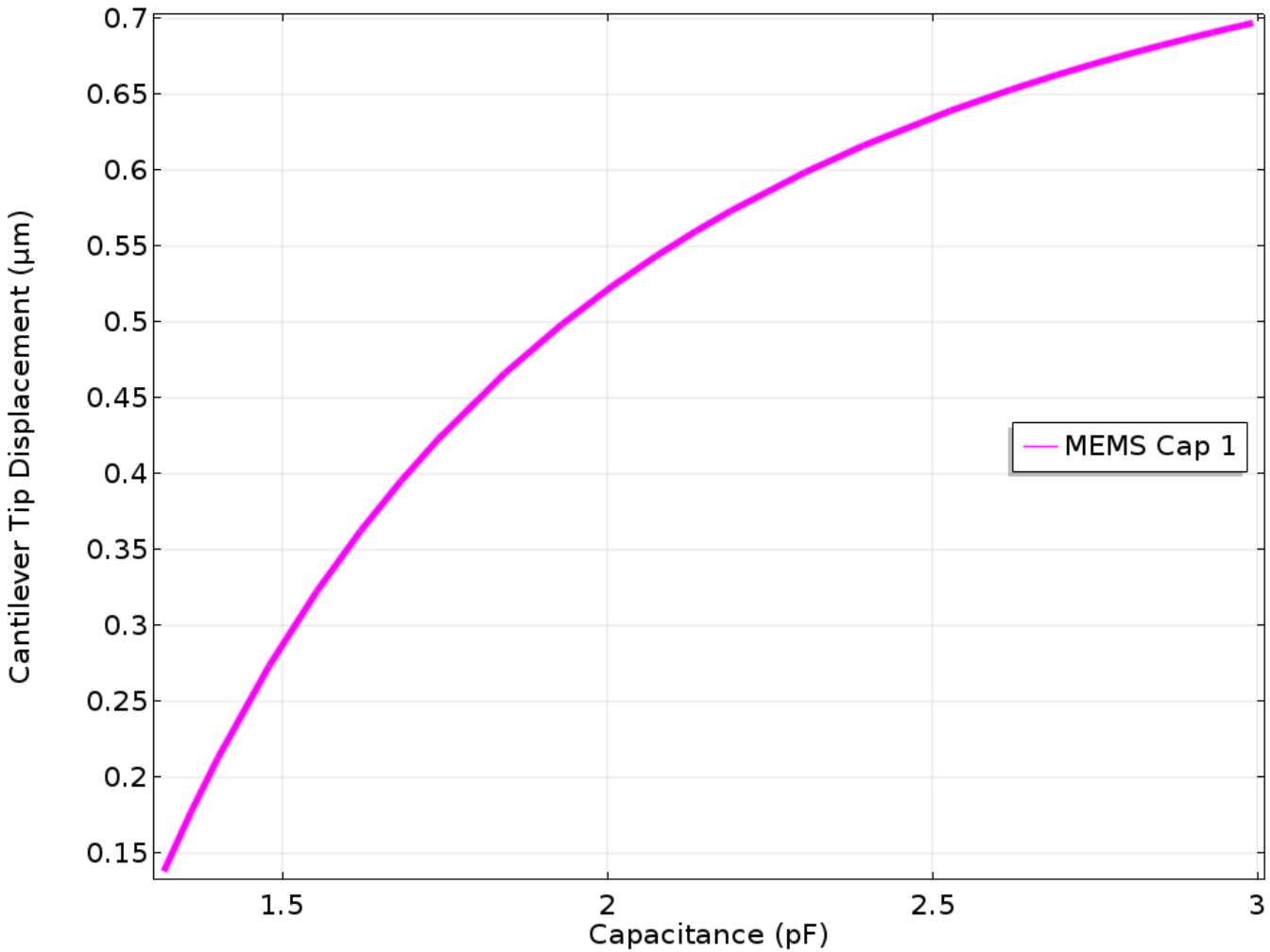
3D surface displacement plot (MEMS Cap 1)

$$C = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha \epsilon_0 \text{depth} \int_0^{\text{width}} \frac{dx}{1+w}$$

- n = number of block types used
- α = symmetry (2)
- depth = block dimension (y-axis)
- width = block dimension (x-axis)
- w = z-displacement

Sensitivity and Range

MEMS Cap 1 sensitivity plot



Device	Quasilinear Range (B = 0.01 to 0.1 T)	Sensitivity (µm/pF)	λ_s (ppm)
MEMS Cap 1	0.14 to 0.57 µm 1.3 to 2.2 pF	0.48	100

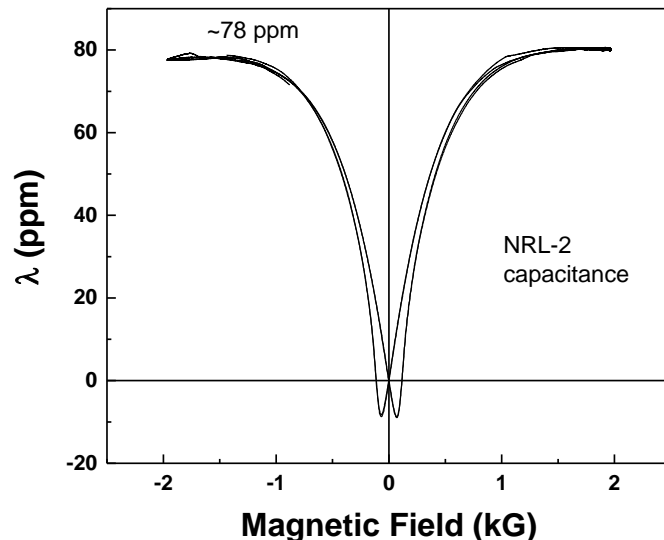
Conclusions

- **New method for measuring magnetostriction in electroplated CoFe alloy films needed → MEMS variable capacitors.**
- **Sensitivity of 0.48 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pF}$ was achieved with the MEMS Cap 1 design.**
- **Capacitor was designed to measure films with saturation magnetostriction values ranging from $\lambda_s = 1$ to 100 ppm.**
- **Alternative designs under consideration.**
- **1st pass capacitors under development.**

Thank You!

Acknowledgements:

- Individuals for their support and contributions to the vision of this work: Dianna Blair, (Project Manager), Keith Ortiz, Wahid Hermina.
- Metglas Inc. for providing free samples of magnetostrictive alloy ribbon used for calibration of our magnetic test equipment.
- This project was supported by Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) Project numbers 150356 and 200169. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

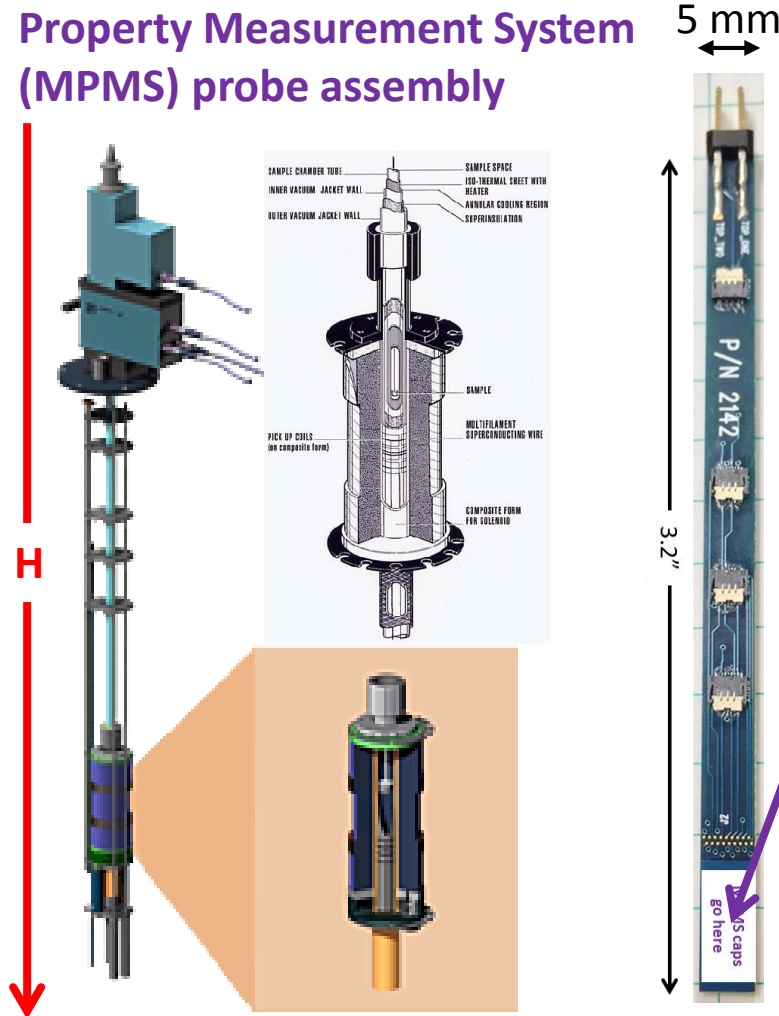


Independent verification of magnetostriction in Sandia bimorph CoFe/Copper cantilevers confirmed by Margo Staruch, Ph.D., Naval Research Labs (NRL).

Measurement Apparatus: (MPMS-7) superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) magnetometer.

Quantum Design Magnetic Property Measurement System (MPMS) probe assembly

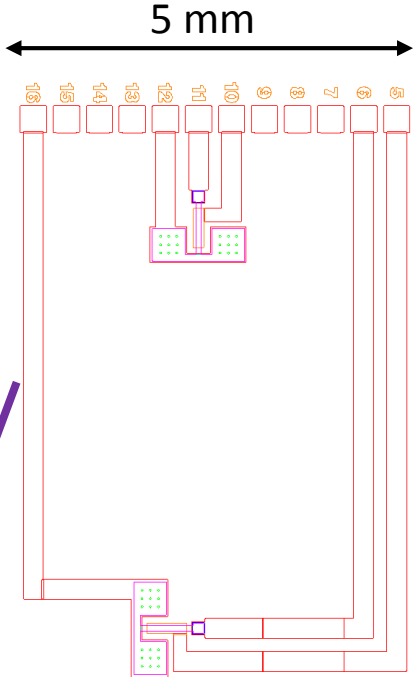
Agilent 4284A 20Hz-1MHz Precision LCR Meter



5 mm

3.2"

Custom PCB



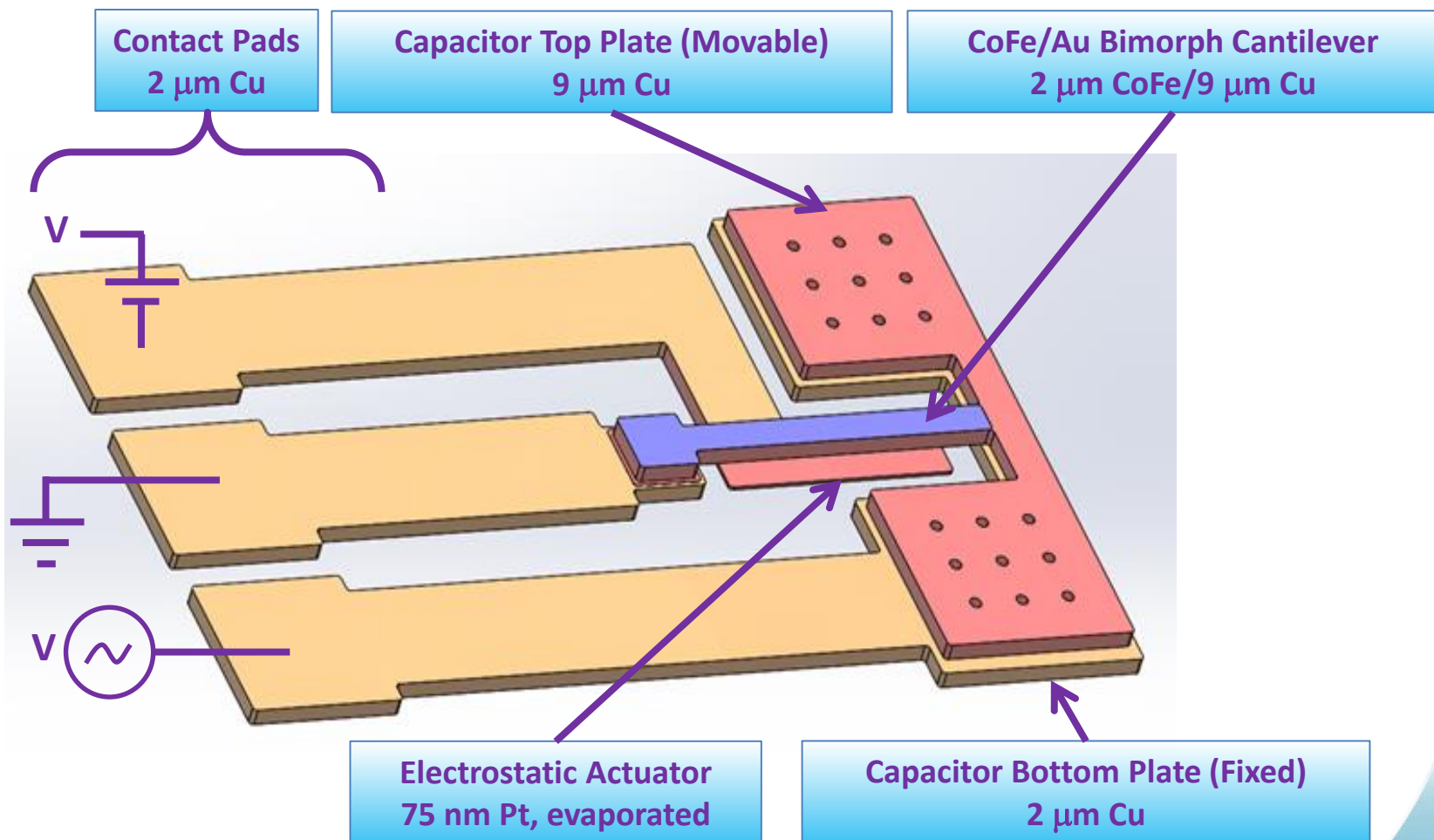
5 mm

Plating Bath

CoFe	Chemicals	H ₃ BO ₃	Co(H ₂ SO ₃) ₂	TMAB	Sorbitol	Na Saccharin salt	Ascorbic acid	Fe(NH ₄) ₂ (SO ₄) ₂ · 6H ₂ O
	Conc. (mol/L)	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.08
Au	Chemicals	Neutronex 309i Gold – 2.4 troy oz gold/gal, 40 ppm thallium						
	Conditions	700 Hz pulse			25% duty cycle			2 mA/cm ²

*CoFe: Bath ph=2.0; Bath temperature=50°C

Au: : Bath ph=9.5; Bath temperature=50°C



**Model courtesy of Adam Thorpe, Sandia National Laboratories*