Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Gyroscopes for Precise Positioning

Riccardo Cipolletti¹,²; Janine Riedrich-Möller¹; Robert Rölver¹; Tino Fuchs¹ Arne Wickenbrock² and Dmitry Budker²

¹Robert Bosch GmbH, Corporate Sector Research and Advance Engineering, Advanced Technologies and Micro Systems
²Helmholtz-Insitut Mainz, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz

Abstract:

Precise positioning of vehicles is essential for modern mobility solutions. In the case when GPS signals and other systems are temporarily unavailable, high performance inertial sensors become a key component of navigation systems that widely use dead reckoning i.e. localization based on a previously determined position and precise directional sensor signals, including rotation and acceleration.

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) based gyroscopes enable high precision measurement of rotation rates – with a high potential of miniaturization. We present modelling of a Xenon and Rubidium based NMR gyroscope for parameter studies.
NMR Gyroscopes: Working Principle

Working Principle Scheme:
Rubidium ( Kens) and Xenon ( Kens) magnetic moments.
Static ( ) and oscillating ( ) magnetic fields.
Lasers ( ) with positive propagation direction.
Linear and circular polarization ( ).
Global magnetization of the cell is illustrated in the coordinate representation.

Previous work [1] measuring a shift in the measured frequency of Xenon Larmor-precession due to rotation, with an in-situ Rubidium magnetometer has shown an angular random walk of 0.005°/√h and a bias drift of 0.02°/ h.

Modelling with MATLAB and Simulink

- Numerical solution of the Optical Bloch equations for arbitrary fields
- No steady state approximation
- Feedback of the alkali field.
- Simulation for arbitrary system parameters
Results and Conclusions

Precession signals that agree with the analytical steady state solution:

Adding interaction terms e.g. due to the alkali field:

Functional reconstruction of applied rotation rates:

The Gyroscope Signal (Red) reconstructs an applied Rotation Rate (yellow). Blue shows the non-integrated feedback of a Phase Locked Loop.

Outlook:
- Parameter studies
- Optimized control and read-out