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Optimising Test Mass Position for the LISA-Pathfinder Optical Metrology System

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LPF x-Axis Measurement



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Interferometry

- interferometer signal
 - optical path length difference noise
 - amplitude noise
 - frequency noise



reference beam

Interferometry

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reference beam

Interferometry

- interferometer signal
 - optical path length difference noise
 - amplitude noise
 - frequency noise
- reference interferometer

Reference signal subtraction.

Common mode noise rejection properties of amplitude and phase noise in a heterodyne interferometer

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High precision metrology systems based on heterodyne interferometry can measure position and attitude of objects to accuracies of picometer and nanorad, respectively. A frequently found feature of the general system design is the subtraction of a reference phase from the phase of the position interferometer, which suppresses low frequency common mode amplitude and phase fluctuations occurring in volatile optical path sections shared by both, the position and reference interferometer. Spectral components of the noise at frequencies higher than the heterodyne frequency, however, are generally transmitted into the measurement band and may limit the measurement accuracy. Detailed analytical calculations complemented with Monte Carlo simulations show that high frequency noise components may also be entirely suppressed, depending on the relative difference of measurement and reference phase, which may be exploited by corresponding design provisions. Whilst these results are applicable to any heterodyne interferometer with certain design characteristics, specific calculations and related discussions are given for the example of the optical metrology system of the LISA Pathfinder mission to space.

OCIS codes: 120.3940,120.3180,040.2840,100.5070

Interferometer signals

• Flight model uses both photodiodes

• subtraction of common mode amplitude noise

$$F_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \left(F_{i,j,A} + F_{i,j,B} \right) & \text{A and B OK} \\ F_{i,j,A} & \text{A OK, B failure} \\ F_{i,j,B} & \text{B OK, A failure} \\ \text{Non - computable} & \text{A and B failure} \end{cases}$$

Interferometer signals

Flight model uses both photodiodes

- one photodiode could fail
- beamsplitter not 50/50
- measure limiting noise source



Amplitude noise



remaining amplitude noise

Amplitude noise

$$egin{aligned} \phi_n &- \psi_n \ \Delta n_{
m an} &= \Delta \phi_{
m an} - \Delta \psi_{
m an} \ \langle \Delta n_{
m an}^2
angle &= rac{2}{NA_{
m in}^2} \langle n_k^2
angle 4 \sin^2 (\psi/2) \end{aligned}$$



Amplitude noise



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OPD noise

 $\phi_n - \psi_n$ $\Delta n_{\rm pn} = (\phi_{\rm pn} - \psi_{\rm pn}) - (\phi - \psi)$ $= \frac{2}{N} \langle n_k^2 \rangle \sin^2(\phi - \psi)$



OPD noise



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Experiment



0

14 A.

10⁻⁷ 10⁻⁸ Displacement noise $\left|\frac{\mathbf{m}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{Hz}}}\right|$ 10⁻⁹ **10**⁻¹0⊢ **10**⁻¹¹ 10⁻¹² 10⁻¹ Frequency [Hz] 10⁻³ 10⁻² 10⁰ 10¹

Experiment





Measurements - phase noise

• LPF STOC SIM4











- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops



- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops



- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops



Cutlook

- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops
- digital control of test mass mirror piezos



- new vacuum tank
- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops
- digital control of test mass mirror piezos
 - adjustment of test masses while the tank is closed
 - low frequency test mass drift stabilisation

- new vacuum tank
- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops
- digital control of test mass mirror piezos



- new vacuum tank
- CDS system for phasemeter readout
- digital control and/or monitoring of control loops
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extra - data analysis



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extra - data analysis



extra - amplitude noise



extra - amplitude noise





extra - OPD noise

