

基于振膜耦合增益原理的飞轮型光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器

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摘要 提出一种飞轮型耦合振膜光纤法布里-珀罗(F-P)声矢量传感器。该传感器通过两个飞轮结构振膜的相邻辐条自然耦合,形成面内膜间桥耦合结构。仿真结果表明,基于振膜耦合增益原理的飞轮型光纤声矢量传感器振膜具有摇摆和弯曲两种振动模式,可实现数千赫兹宽频率范围的相位差放大,从而提高传感器定向精度。两个飞轮型振膜与光纤端面构成两个独立的F-P微腔传感单元,通过光学干涉信号强度提取得到振膜的振动信号。对所制备的传感器在5~7.4 kHz频率范围内进行二维平面声源定向实验,实验结果与仿真结果符合良好,该传感器在5~7.4 kHz的宽频率范围内具有相位差放大效果,在7.2 kHz处取得最大相位差增益5.05。

关键词 光纤光学; F-P传感器; 声矢量; 摇摆模式; 耳间相位差

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1 引言

声定位技术在无人机探测、智能机器人、无人驾驶等领域具有关键作用^[1-4],目前声阵列是声定位技术的主要实现方案。在强电磁干扰、高温高压等极端环境下以及远距离传感应用中,压电声传感器阵列极易受到环境因素的影响,导致定位精度降低;光纤传感器则不受上述因素的影响,能够满足在极端环境下的高精度测量需求^[5-7]。2021年,Liu等^[8]构建了光纤法布里-珀罗(F-P)声振动传感器阵列,通过优化4台传感器的空间排布实现了一定范围内的平面声源定位。2023年,祝苗等^[9]对柔顺型光纤光栅水听器阵列展开研究,可构建数百阵元的一体化柔性水听器阵列。高精度声阵列定位系统^[8,10-13]对各阵元数量及通道一致性具有高要求^[1],故在小型设备或狭窄空间的布置应用受到了限制。

为了进一步实现声定位系统小型化,基于仿生学机制的声矢量传感器得到广泛研究。相比于大型哺乳动物,小型动物得益于独特的生理结构,实现了声波波长与听觉器官几何尺寸失配条件下的高精度声源定位^[14]。2021年,Dong等^[15]提出腔耦合振膜的光纤声矢量传感器,其灵感来源于内耳耦合结构,实现了在0.5~2 kHz声波频率范围内的2~4倍系数的声定位放大效果。1995年,Miles等^[16]受到奥米亚棕蝇听觉

器官的启发,提出了基于外膜间桥的振膜耦合声定向传感器,该传感器具有强度差和相位差放大效果。马里兰大学的Liu等^[17-18]在此基础上结合微电子机械系统(MEMS)工艺制作了二元以及三元的外膜间桥振膜耦合的光纤声矢量传感器,提高了阵元间的一致性。外膜间桥振膜耦合结构虽然很好地还原了奥米亚棕蝇的听觉器官结构,实现了响应信号的放大,但外膜间桥与阵元中心的对准精度影响了振膜整体振动特性和定向效果,不利于批量加工制作。为降低工艺难度,消除外膜间桥带来的附加影响,研究人员提出了面内膜间桥振膜耦合结构,构建了电学^[19-21]或光学^[22-24]读出方式的小型化声矢量传感器。双翼型振膜是面内膜间桥耦合的典型结构,2022年刘欣等^[25]设计了双翼型硅基MEMS仿生振膜的光纤F-P声矢量传感器,实现了39.98 mV/(°)的方向灵敏度。双翼型振膜虽然显著降低了加工制作难度,但响应读取位置在振膜远端自由端,容易受到自身重力等非测量因素的影响^[26]。目前,基于面内膜间桥耦合振膜的光纤声矢量传感器的实验研究主要集中在固有频率附近,利用具有特殊结构的面内膜间桥耦合振膜实现宽频率范围内声定向放大效果的研究仍需进一步探索。

本文提出一种飞轮型耦合振膜光纤F-P声矢量传感器,通过激光加工技术刻写飞轮型金属振膜,降低了

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面内膜间桥耦合结构的加工难度,并避免了自身重力引起的振膜形变。对飞轮型耦合振膜进行理论以及仿真分析,计算固有频率并预测了 $-90^{\circ}\sim 90^{\circ}$ 的定向效果。仿真和实验结果表明,所设计传感器在 $5\sim 7.4$ kHz宽频率范围内具有明显相位差放大效果,有效提升了定向精度。相比于无耦合的同尺寸光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器,该传感器在 7.2 kHz处获得最大增益系数 5.05 。

2 飞轮型耦合振膜理论和仿真分析设计

2.1 理论推导

所设计传感器的振膜系统包括两个飞轮型振膜,

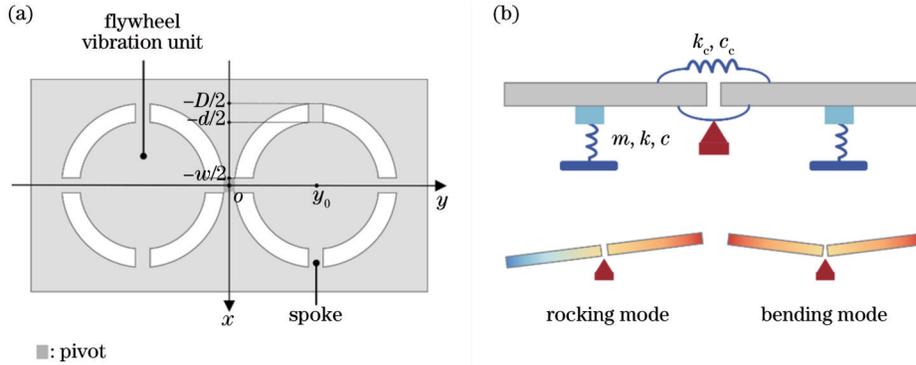


图 1 飞轮型耦合振膜。(a)平面结构示意图;(b)物理简化模型

Fig. 1 Flywheel-coupling diaphragm. (a) Schematic of planar structure; (b) physical simplified model

许多研究人员对该简化模型进行了分析,该结构的显著特点是具有反相振动以及同相振动两个模态^[16,20]。对于结构对称的振膜,两侧振膜具有相同的等效刚度 k 和集中质量 m ,通过膜间桥将两个振膜耦合。在外力 $F=[F_1 \ F_2]^T$ 作用下,两侧振膜产生位移响应 $x=[x_1 \ x_2]^T$,简化模型的运动自由微分方程^[16]为

$$\begin{bmatrix} k+k_c & k_c \\ k_c & k+k_c \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} c+c_c & c_c \\ c_c & c+c_c \end{bmatrix} \dot{x} + \begin{bmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{bmatrix} \ddot{x} = F. \quad (1)$$

在模态空间中展开计算得到对应于上述模态的一阶和二阶固有频率^[16] f_1, f_2 :

$$\begin{cases} f_1 = \frac{\sqrt{k/m}}{2\pi} \\ f_2 = \frac{\sqrt{(k+2k_c)/m}}{2\pi} \end{cases}. \quad (2)$$

其中,飞轮型振膜的刚度^[25] k 为

$$k = \frac{32E\omega h^3}{(D-d)^3}, \quad (3)$$

式中: E 为膜片材料的杨氏模量。

当平面声波以角度 θ 入射到振膜表面时,到达各阵元中心的声压信号存在相位差 $\varphi_{in} = 4\pi f y_0 \sin \theta / v$,其中 v 为声速, f 为声波频率。在声波作用下,各阵元

这两个振膜通过节点以及水平 y 方向的辐条进行耦合,如图1(a)所示。单一飞轮型振膜由外圆、辐条以及内圆组成,可以提高传感器的机械灵敏度^[27]。两个振膜的中心分别位于 $(0, y_0), (0, -y_0)$,间距为 $2y_0$;振膜外径为 D ,内径为 d ,辐条宽度为 w ,膜片厚度为 h 。该结构类似于奥米亚棕蝇的听觉器官结构^[16,28],可简化为二自由度的质量-弹簧-阻尼模型,如图1(b)所示,节点与相连辐条构成面内膜间桥,故飞轮型耦合振膜面内耦合桥的宽度为 w ,长度为 $2y_0 - d$ 。其中, m, k, c 分别为振膜集中质量、等效刚度、等效阻尼, k_c, c_c 分别为膜间桥等效刚度和等效阻尼。

响应存在相位差 φ_{out} ,因此具有耦合结构的振膜实现了相位差增益效果。整体结构的位移响应可表述为两个模态的线性叠加结果^[16,26],声波频率越接近一阶固有频率 f_1 ,摇摆模态的分量占比越大,响应的放大效果越明显。

2.2 仿真分析

为了定量分析振膜对声波的响应,利用有限元分析软件对振膜进行力学分析。综合考虑灵敏度和固有频率等因素,选取厚度 $h=0.1$ mm的不锈钢薄板作为振膜材料,其他参数如表1所示。面内膜间桥长度为 $2y_0 - d=1$ mm,宽度为 $w=2$ mm,其厚度与振膜厚度一致。该参数下振膜的一阶固有频率和二阶固有频率分别为 $f_1=7.2$ kHz、 $f_2=7.6$ kHz,对应的振型如图2所示。

对各声波入射频率下入射角度 $\theta=45^{\circ}$ 的振膜响应进行仿真,结果如图3所示。在 7.2 kHz处呈现摇摆模态,振膜响应呈反相分布;在 7.6 kHz处呈现弯曲模态,相位差为0。图3(b)展示了振膜响应相位差 φ_{out} 与声波入射相位差 φ_{in} 的对比,飞轮耦合型振膜在 $3\sim 7.4$ kHz频率范围内的响应相位差 φ_{out} 大于入射相位差 φ_{in} ,在 $5\sim 7.4$ kHz频率范围内相位差得到明显放大。

二维耦合振膜的可定向声波入射角范围为 $-90^{\circ}\sim 90^{\circ}$,图4(a)展示了 $5\sim 7.4$ kHz频率范围内声

表 1 飞轮型耦合振膜仿真参数

Table 1 Simulation parameters of flywheel-coupling diaphragm

Parameter	Value
D/mm	10
d/mm	9
$2y_0/\text{mm}$	10
$\rho/(\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}^{-3})$	7860
E/GPa	198
σ	0.29

波入射角 θ 处于 $-90^\circ\sim 90^\circ$ 范围的振膜响应相位差。当 $\theta = \pm 90^\circ$ 时, 相位差降低, 导致该结构的实际定向角度范围缩减。当声波入射频率逐渐远离一阶固有频率时, 相位差变化趋于缓慢, 更接近线性关系; 当声波频率接近一阶固有频率时, 相位差上升的速度越快, 线性区域越小。对振膜响应的相位差增益 η 进行定量计算:

$$\eta = \varphi_{\text{out}}/\varphi_{\text{in}} \quad (4)$$

如图 4(b) 所示, 远离固有频率峰的相位差增益小但相对平坦, 在此频率范围内, 在 7.2 kHz 处取得最大增益 4.5, 在 5 kHz 取得最小增益 1.1。

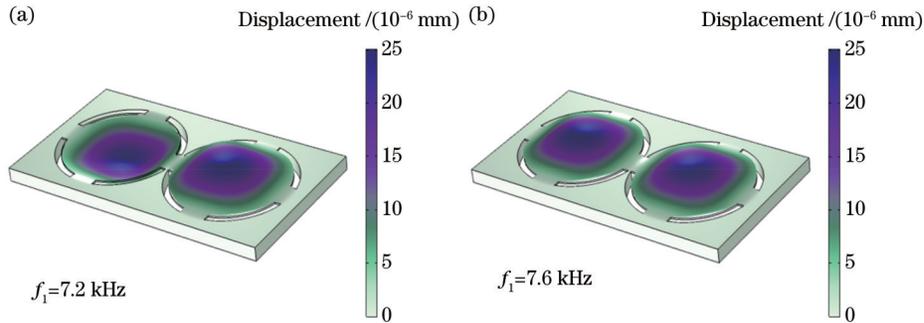


图 2 飞轮型耦合振膜振型。(a) 摇摆模式; (b) 弯曲模式

Fig. 2 Mode shapes of flywheel-coupling diaphragm. (a) Rocking mode; (b) bending mode

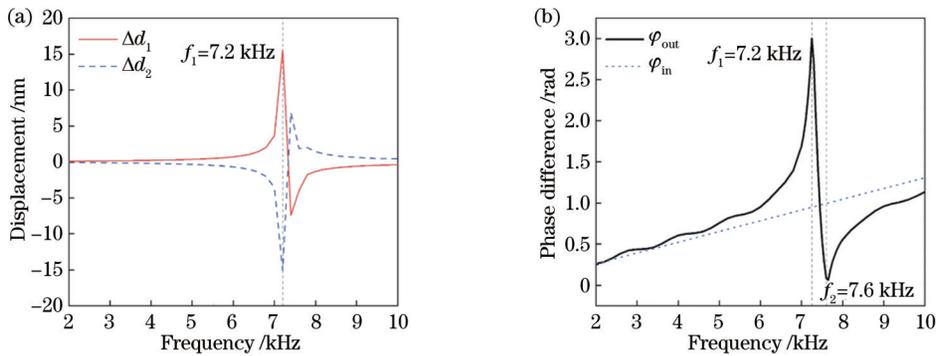


图 3 飞轮型耦合振膜频率响应。(a) 位移响应; (b) 相位差响应

Fig. 3 Frequency response of flywheel-coupling diaphragm. (a) Displacement response; (b) phase difference response

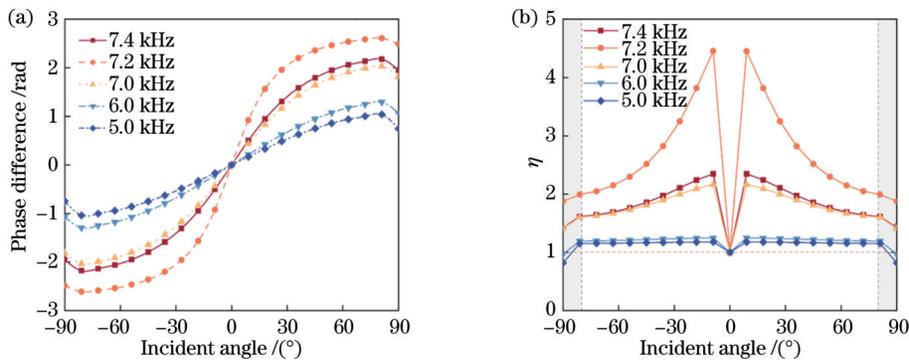


图 4 飞轮型耦合振膜相位差仿真定向曲线。(a) 相位差随入射角的变化; (b) 增益随入射角的变化

Fig. 4 Simulated positioning curves of phase difference of flywheel-coupling diaphragm. (a) Phase difference changed with incident angle; (b) gain changed with incident angle

3 光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器原理与制备

3.1 传感器原理

光纤 F-P 传感器是 F-P 多光束干涉的典型应用, 相比于其他类型的干涉型光纤传感器, 光纤 F-P 传感器同时保证了高测量精度以及结构的小型化。光纤端面与各阵元中心分别构成独立的 F-P 腔, 腔长为 L_{cav} , 反射面反射率为 R_1, R_2 , 图 5 展示了光纤 F-P 传感器的基本结构。

由于反射光不能完全耦合进光纤中, 利用耦合效率 ξ 表征反射到光纤端面的光与耦合进光纤进行传输的光的功率比值。结合耦合效率 ξ 后的光纤 F-P 传感器反射条纹归一化光强为

$$I = R_1 + \xi R_2 - 2\sqrt{\xi R_1 R_2} \cos\left(\frac{4\pi L_{cav}}{\lambda}\right) \quad (5)$$

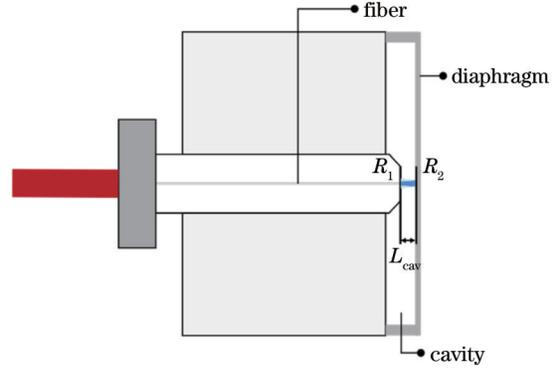


图 5 光纤 F-P 传感器结构示意图

Fig. 5 Schematic of fiber-optic F-P sensor structure

耦合系数 ξ 与传感器腔长 L_{cav} 以及光纤端面倾角 ϕ 有关, 即

$$\xi(2L_{cav}) = \left[\frac{2\omega_0\omega(2L_{cav})}{\omega_0^2 + \omega^2(2L_{cav})} \right]^2 \exp\left\{ \frac{-2[L_{cav} \sin(2\phi)]^2}{\omega_0^2 + \omega^2(2L_{cav})} \right\} \exp\left\{ \frac{-8[\pi\omega_0\omega(2L_{cav})\phi]^2}{[\omega_0^2 + \omega^2(2L_{cav})]\lambda^2} \right\} \quad (6)$$

式中: ω_0 为高斯光束的束腰半径; $\omega(2L_{cav})$ 为光从膜片内表面反射回光纤的光斑模场半径。耦合效率引起干涉条纹的对比度 γ 变化:

$$\gamma = \frac{2\sqrt{R_1 R_2} \xi}{R_1 + R_2 \xi} \quad (7)$$

对于经过切割和研磨处理的光纤端面所构成的 F-P 腔, 腔长是条纹对比度的主要影响因素, 如图 6 所示。令 $\lambda = 1507 \text{ nm}$, 根据式 (6) 和式 (7), 当 $L_{cav} = 86 \mu\text{m}$ 时, 对比度达到最佳。

根据强度解调的原理, 光源波长要与传感器的初始腔长 L_{cav} 匹配, 两侧振膜的腔长对应的工作波长应处在同一线性区域内。当工作波长落在线性区域外时, 传感器信号的质量和灵敏度会受到严重损害。光纤 F-P 传感器整体灵敏度^[29]可表示为

$$S = \frac{dV_{out}}{dI} \frac{dI}{dL_{cav}} \frac{dL_{cav}}{dP} \quad (8)$$

式中: V_{out} 为光电探测器的输出电压; P 为振膜受到的压力。在线性区域内光强响应变化量与腔长变化量近似呈线性关系。

3.2 传感器制备

相比于外接膜间桥将振膜进行耦合的方法, 所提飞轮型耦合振膜基于面内膜间桥耦合结构的制作方法简单, 减少了外接耦合桥与振膜中心耦合对灵敏度以及振膜应力的影响, 避免了由耦合不对称引起的振膜振型变化。传感器结构包括抛光的不锈钢膜片、平头单模光纤插芯以及支撑结构三部分, 如图 7(a) 所示, 不锈钢膜片的厚度为 0.1 mm 。单模光纤端面与不锈钢膜片内表面构成低精细度的 F-P 腔, 由前后两块面

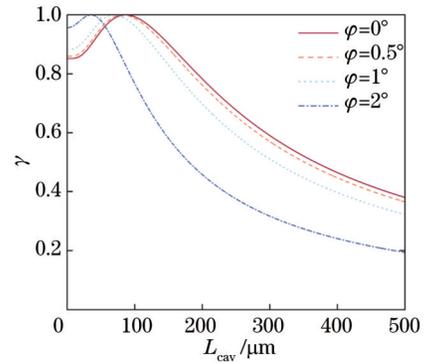


图 6 不同光纤端面倾角下光纤 F-P 传感器的对比度随腔长的变化

Fig. 6 Fiber-optic F-P sensor contrast with cavity length under different fiber end face inclinations

板为振膜和插芯提供支撑。通过纳米位移台分别调试两侧 F-P 微腔, 令两侧 F-P 微腔正交工作点逐步趋于一致, 最终得到两侧 F-P 微腔在 $1475 \sim 1525 \text{ nm}$ 波长范围内的光谱基本重合。经过快速傅里叶变换腔长解调方法计算得到两侧传感单元 sensor 1 和 sensor 2 的 F-P 微腔的腔长分别为 $89.59 \mu\text{m}$ 和 $83.30 \mu\text{m}$, 确定光源工作波长应为 1507 nm 。

4 飞轮型耦合振膜的光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器实验研究

4.1 实验系统与算法

实验系统分为声学实验环境以及光信号解调系统两部分。为了减少外界环境噪声的干扰, 声学实验环境为半消音室内, 如图 8(a) 所示。将测试传感器与参

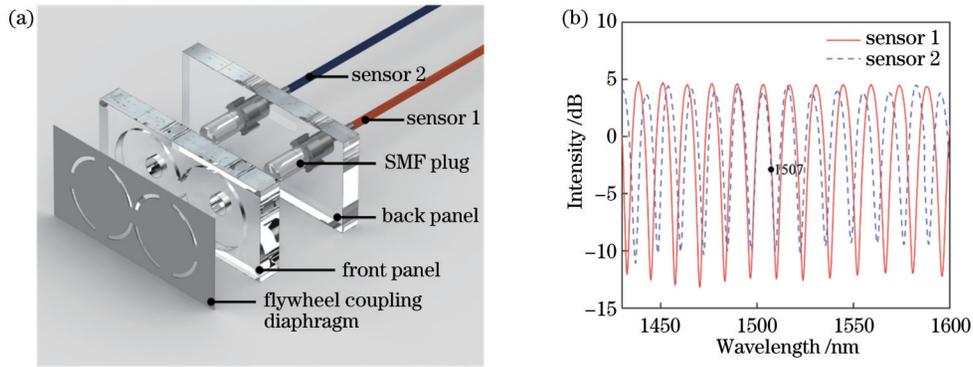


图 7 飞轮型耦合振膜光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器。(a)传感器结构示意图;(b) F-P 微腔归一化光谱
Fig. 7 Flywheel-coupling diaphragm fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor. (a) Schematic of the sensor structure;
(b) normalized spectra of F-P microcavity

考麦克风放在同一声源入射面上,通过旋转位移台改变声波入射传感器表面的角度。传感器与声源之间的距离 z 满足远场条件 $z \geq 2f(2y_0 + D)^2/\lambda$,入射声波近似为平面波,垂直振膜表面入射的声波到达振膜各点的声压基本相同。利用单波长强度解调方法,通过

可调谐激光器获得两侧 F-P 微腔共同的工作波长,确定工作波长为 1507 nm。光源出射激光经过 1×2 分光器分成两路,分别经环形器进入传感单元后反射回环形器,最后被光电探测器分别接收,并通过数据采集卡传输到后端程序进行处理计算。

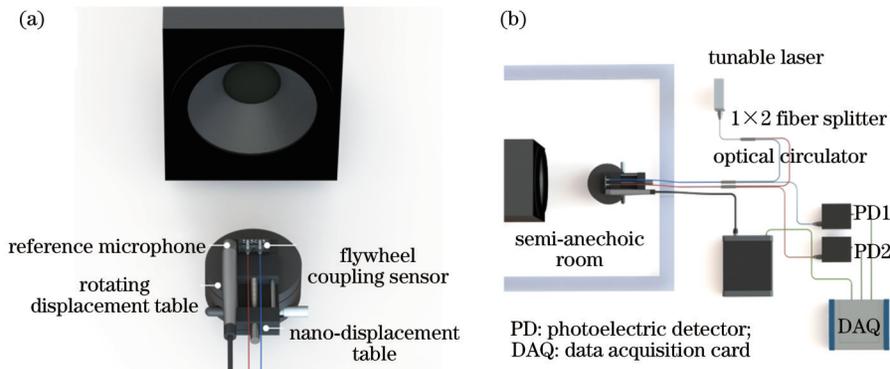


图 8 实验系统。(a)声学实验环境;(b)光信号解调系统
Fig. 8 Experimental system. (a) Acoustic test environment; (b) optical signal demodulation system

在正弦声波的作用下,两侧传感单元 sensor 1 和 sensor 2 的信号强度 s_1, s_2 呈现具有相位差的正弦变化,即

$$\begin{cases} s_1 = A_1 + B_1 \cos\left(\omega t - \frac{\varphi_i}{2}\right) \\ s_2 = A_2 + B_2 \cos\left(\omega t + \frac{\varphi_i}{2}\right) \end{cases}, \quad (9)$$

式中: A_1 和 A_2 分别为信号直流量; B_1 和 B_2 分别为信号振幅; φ_i 为信号相位差; ω 为声波角频率; t 为时间。幅值差受到灵敏度等的影响,需要对所测试频率下传感器各传感单元的灵敏度进行标定,并且强度解调法的信号极易受到环境以及光源波动的影响,利用幅值差定向的精度受到诸多限制,在后续评价时需要进行略显复杂比值或者对数换算^[30]。基于相位差的定向算法与声波入射频率有关,不受信号强度的影响,能够进行较为直接的评判^[31]。利用两侧传感单元响应的相位差 φ_{out} 计算声波入射角的方案,降低了信号强度对定向精

度的影响,无需对所有测试频率的灵敏度进行标定。利用相敏检测算法可快速计算信号间的相位差^[31],计算流程如图 9 所示,对反余弦计算结果进行角度判断,得到相位差 φ_{out} ,根据相位差 φ_{out} 和入射角之间的对应关系实现定向的功能。

4.2 实验研究

首先,验证飞轮型耦合振膜光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器对声波的响应。在垂直于振膜表面的 0° 入射角处对传感器各通道在不同频率下的信号响应进行测量,标定各传感单元的灵敏度。传感单元 sensor 1 和 sensor 2 可对 2~8 kHz 的正弦声波产生响应,最佳灵敏度均出现在 7.6 kHz 声波频率处,分别为 $S_1 = 0.24 \text{ V/Pa}$ 和 $S_2 = 0.21 \text{ V/Pa}$ 。受到光电探测器光电转换效率差异等因素的影响,灵敏度之间存在差异,从而影响基于强度差的定向算法精度,需要进行相对复杂的评定。相比之下,基于相位差的定向算法避免了由灵敏度差异引起的定向误差,评定方法简单。

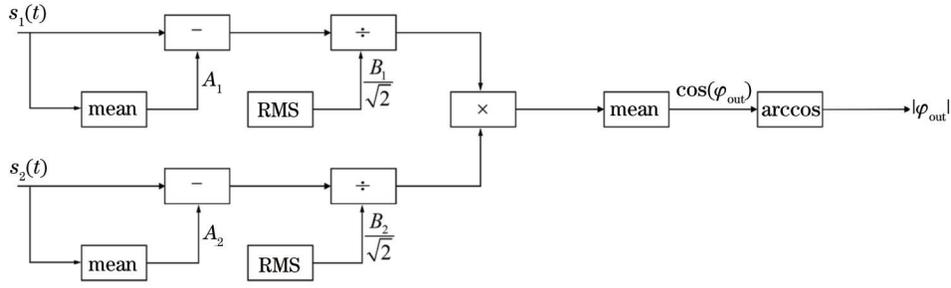


图 9 相敏检测算法流程图

Fig. 9 Flowchart of phase-sensitive detection algorithm

为了更好地判断传感器具有相位差放大效果的频率范围,在 2~8 kHz 声波的作用下测量了 $\theta = 45^\circ$ 的相位差频率响应。图 10 展示了实验结果与图 3(b) 的仿真结果的对比,实验结果与仿真结果符合良好。在 5~7.4 kHz 的声波频率范围内,相位差频率响应曲线与 φ_{in} 之间开始出现明显差距,具有振膜耦合增益效果。由于制作误差,传感器实际机械参数与仿真设置参数略有差距,因此实际的固有频率相比于仿真结果的固有频率向右偏移。

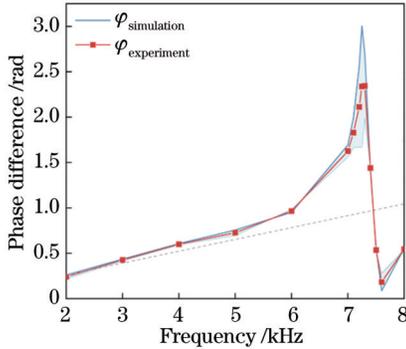


图 10 飞轮型耦合振膜光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器相位差频率响应

Fig. 10 Phase difference frequency response of flywheel-coupling fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor

图 11 所示为飞轮型耦合振膜光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器以及同等尺寸的无耦合光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器在 7.2 kHz 处的相位差定向曲线。在 $-90^\circ \sim 90^\circ$ 范围内以 10° 为间隔,通过旋转位移台改变声波入射角。无耦合传感器的实验结果与仿真数据符合良好,绝对值平均误差为 0.10 rad,标准差为 0.06 rad,最大误差为 0.22 rad,证明了实验系统以及相位差计算方法的可行性。飞轮型振膜耦合传感器与仿真结果之间的绝对值平均误差为 0.56 rad,标准差为 0.21 rad,最大误差为 -0.87 rad,仿真和实际固有频率偏差导致在大角度范围内误差逐渐增大,整体趋势与仿真结果基本一致。

为了证明飞轮型耦合振膜光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器具有宽频率范围的相位差放大效果,在 5~7.4 kHz 频

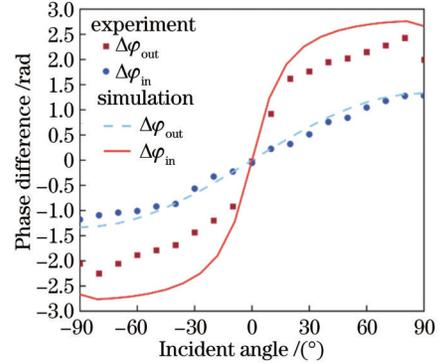


图 11 7.2 kHz 声波频率下相位差定向曲线

Fig. 11 Phase difference positioning curves at 7.2 kHz acoustic frequency

率范围内对上述两组声矢量传感器进行实验,结果如图 12 所示。入射声波频率越接近一阶固有频率,相位差的增益效果越明显,但是在入射角度下定向曲线的斜率会减小,从而降低了定向角度分辨率。7.2 kHz 位于一阶固有频率附近,在此处可取得最大增益 5.05,在 5 kHz 处取得最小增益 1.14。相比于仿真结果,实验结果具有更优秀的相位差放大效果,在远离一阶固有频率的低频范围内的增益大于仿真结果。后续研究可在所提结构的基础上,对振膜展开结构参数优化,并引入其他增敏或不对称结构,进一步提高传感器信号质量并扩大具有增益效果的频率范围,提高增益系数。

5 结 论

提出一种飞轮型耦合振膜,设计制作了基于振膜耦合增益原理的飞轮型光纤声矢量传感器。结合理论推导与仿真分析,验证了所提耦合振膜具有摇摆和弯曲两种模态,并计算了固有频率和仿真定向曲线。对仿真结果展开实验验证,得到与仿真结果基本相符的实验结果。所提声矢量传感器在 5~7.4 kHz 频率范围内实现了相位差放大效果,与同等尺寸无耦合的光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器进行对比,所提传感器在一阶固有频率附近的 7.2 kHz 处得到了最大增益 5.05,实现了优于仿真结果的相位差放大效果。所提出的振膜耦合传感器的最大线尺寸小于测试声波波长,实现了小

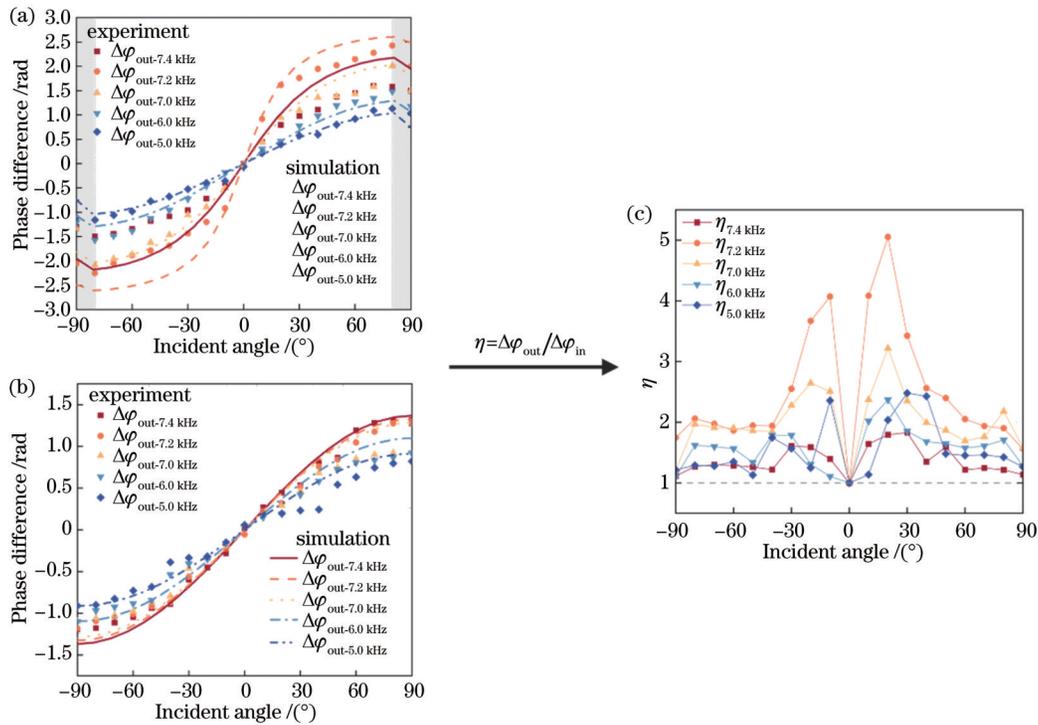


图 12 5~7.4 kHz 声波频率下相位差定向曲线。(a) 飞轮型耦合振膜光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器; (b) 无耦合光纤 F-P 声矢量传感器
Fig. 12 Phase difference positioning curves at 5~7.4 kHz acoustic frequency. (a) Flywheel-coupling diaphragm fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor; (b) uncoupled fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor

型化声矢量传感器,且结构简单、易于加工,实现了宽频率范围的相位差放大声源定向功能,可满足极端恶劣环境下的声源定向需求。

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Flywheel-Like Fiber-Optic Fabry-Perot Acoustic Vector Sensor Based on Diaphragm Coupling Gain Principle

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Abstract

Objective Sound source localization (SSL) technology is vital in a wide range of applications such as smart robots, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) detection, and unmanned driving. Acoustic sensor arrays are the main solution to SSL. However, with the development of small devices, it is difficult for these arrays to simultaneously satisfy the requirements of miniaturization and high precision. Inspired by small animals' auditory organs, bio-mimetic acoustic vector sensors are an alternative to acoustic sensor arrays. The parasitic fly *Ormia ochracea* inspires mechanical coupling between two membranes with an interaural phase difference (IPD) gain. Bio-mimetic acoustic vector sensors based on mechanical coupling inherit the IPD gain function. The gain effect of the current bio-mimetic acoustic vector sensors is limited to around the eigenfrequency. Meanwhile, electrical sensors are highly susceptible to extreme environments such as strong electromagnetic and high temperatures, while fiber-optic sensors can endure these conditions. We propose a flywheel-like fiber-optic Fabry-Perot (F-P) acoustic vector sensor for wide-range IPD gain based on the diaphragm coupling gain principle. We hope that the diaphragm-coupling fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor can achieve the IPD gain of several kilohertz frequency ranges, adapting to ambiguous sound source direction in extreme environments.

Methods The flywheel-coupling diaphragm is simplified to a two-degree-of-freedom (2-DOF) mass-spring-dashpot

system with two shape modes of rocking mode and bending mode. COMSOL Multiphysics is employed to analyze diaphragm vibration characteristics and the structure parameters of the diaphragm are optimized based on the simulation results. The flywheel-coupling structure on stainless steel sheet is produced by ultraviolet laser etching technology. The adjoint spokes of two flywheel vibration units naturally couple to form a simplified intermembrane bridge coupling structure. The vibration units combined with individual fiber form independent fiber-optic F-P sensing units. The displacement of the vibration units changes the light intensity of the F-P sensing units detected by the intensity demodulation system. The intensity demodulation contains a tunable laser, 1×2 fiber splitter, optical circulators, photoelectric detectors, and data acquisition card (Fig. 8). The operating wavelength is determined in a common linear region of two sensors. The real-time IPD calculation is acquired by a phase-sensitive detection algorithm, and the incident angle of the sound wave is localized based on the IPD. The uncoupling two-sensor array is simultaneously subjected to SSL experiments to contrast with the flywheel-coupling acoustic vector sensor.

Results and Discussions The proposed sensor has a wide frequency range of IPD gain. The rocking mode and bending mode eigenfrequency is simulated as 7.2 kHz and 7.6 kHz. The simulation results exhibit a significant gain in the frequency range of 5 kHz to 7.4 kHz, with a maximum gain of 4.5 at 7.2 kHz (Fig. 4). The experimental results are in good agreement with simulations conducted in COMSOL Multiphysics (Fig. 10). The measured eigenfrequency is 7.2 kHz and 7.6 kHz with a slight discrepancy. The sensitivities of the sensing units are $S_1 = 0.24 \text{ V/Pa@7.6 kHz}$ and $S_2 = 0.21 \text{ V/Pa@7.6 kHz}$. Two-dimensional planar SSL in $-90^\circ \sim 90^\circ$ based on IPD cues is achieved (Fig. 11). The experiment results from 5 kHz to 7.4 kHz present a wide frequency range IPD gain with a maximum gain of 5.05 at 7.2 kHz (Fig. 12). Cavity length and fiber end face inclination affect the spectrum of each sensing unit (Fig. 7). As a result, sensor consistency is difficult to achieve due to unavoidable processing errors. Since the phase-sensitive-detection algorithm is affected by noise, low signal-noise-ratio (SNR) signals may incur high localization errors. Both experimental and simulation results characterize that the sensor has a wide frequency range of IPD amplification effect.

Conclusions We propose a flywheel-like fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor for wide-range IPD gain based on the diaphragm coupling gain principle. The proposed flywheel-coupling diaphragm has two vibration modes of rocking and bending. The corresponding eigenfrequencies of 7.2 kHz and 7.6 kHz are calculated by COMSOL Multiphysics. The sensor has an obvious IPD amplification effect from 5 kHz to 7.4 kHz in the frequency ranges. The maximum sensitivity and gain are acquired at 7.2 kHz in the simulation. Cavity length and fiber end face inclination affect the spectrum of each sensing unit, limiting the SSL accuracy based on interaural intensity difference. Our paper applies a phase-sensitive-detection algorithm to obtain the phase difference between the two signals in real time. However, the method does not apply to low SNR signals. Meanwhile, the algorithm accuracy is affected by DC components, harmonics, and other factors. Finally, the scheme based on IPD is chosen and a flywheel-coupling diaphragm fiber-optic F-P acoustic vector sensor is fabricated. The first-order eigenfrequency is measured at around 7.2 kHz. The structure achieves SSL with IPD gain in the frequency range from 5 kHz to 7.4 kHz, compared with an uncoupling fiber-optic F-P acoustic sensor array. The measured maximum gain factor of 5.05 is better than the simulation results. The maximum line size of the proposed sensor is smaller than the wavelength of the test acoustic wave to realize a miniaturized acoustic vector sensor with a simple structure and easy processing. The detection method using optical principles can be applied to satisfy SSL needs in extreme environments.

Key words fiber optics; Fabry-Perot sensor; acoustic vector; rocking mode; interaural phase difference