



Study of Magnetic and Microwave Sensors role in Defense Field

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Abstract: The defense sector plays a critical role in safeguarding a nation's sovereignty and protecting its citizens. By maintaining a strong defense, a country can deter potential aggressors, prevent conflicts, and respond effectively to emergencies. Microwave and magnetic sensors play crucial roles in the defense sector for detecting various objects and threats. Microwave sensors utilize electromagnetic waves [17] in the microwave frequency range to detect objects by measuring changes in the reflected waves. These sensors are adept at detecting movement, such as approaching vehicles or aircraft [12], and can also identify concealed objects [1]. On the other hand, magnetic sensors detect changes in magnetic fields, allowing them to locate metallic objects like weapons [6], [7], vehicles [9], [10], or submarines. By combining the capabilities of microwave and magnetic sensors, defense systems can effectively monitor and secure areas, providing early warnings and enhancing situational awareness against potential threats. Microwave and magnetic sensors offer distinct advantages in the defense field compared to other sensors due to their unique capabilities and properties like Versatility, All Weather Performance, Stealth Detection, Long-range Detection, etc. This study reviews Microwave and Magnetic sensors approach to detect things in defense field and gives an outline of the progress made in this field. This study also goes through a number of research papers and compare numerous microwave and magnetic sensing techniques. In conclusion, this study highlights the best sensor's [3], [4], [7], [8] applications, challenges, and potential areas of detecting weapons in defense field.

Keywords: National sovereignty, Microwave sensors, Magnetic sensors, versatility, Stealth detection.

I. INTRODUCTION

In safeguarding sensitive areas and identifying potential threats, the defense field heavily relies on a diverse arsenal of sensors. Microwave and magnetic technologies play a critical role in this multifaceted approach. They offer a range of capabilities beyond the limitations of human perception. Microwave sensors like Pulse radars [1], [2], [5] and Microwave Doppler's [32] utilize electromagnetic waves [17] to track moving objects, allowing for long-range detection regardless of visibility conditions. Infrared sensor cameras [5] passively detect heat signatures, providing valuable information in low-light environments or through concealment. Swept-frequency continuous wave sensors [3], [4], [6] employ varying frequencies to identify disturbances caused by movement or changes in the environment. Magnetic sensors, encompassing various types like Magnetometers [6], [7], [10], [23], Magnetoresistive sensors [24], Giant Magnetoresistance sensors [15], [22], Hall effect sensors [39], and Fluxgate magnetometers [26], [24], are highly sensitive to magnetic fields. This allows them to detect the presence of metal objects, individuals carrying concealed weapons [6], [7], or even specific types of explosives, even when hidden from sight. Microwave sensors in weapon detection [3] aren't like metal detectors. They act more like advanced motion detectors [34]. The sensor blasts out microwave waves and analyzes the echoes bouncing back. Any movement disrupts this pattern, and the sensor flags the change. This might indicate someone carrying something, but it can't tell the difference between a weapon and a laptop! The fabrication process of CMOS- MEMS Magnetic Microsensors [39], shedding light on their comprehensive design, fabrication, and characterization through the integration of CMOS processes and MEMS technology [38], [39]. These microsensors, leveraging Lorentz force actuation, respond to a magnetic field, inducing a change in capacitance, a phenomenon meticulously explored in the study. A pivotal phase of the sensor's development involves a post- CMOS process [39], wherein anisotropic and isotropic dry etching techniques are skillfully applied to release the suspended sensor structure. The culmination of these techniques allows for the sensor's efficient operation. A vital aspect of the research lies in the sensing circuit, adeptly converting the capacitance variation induced by the Lorentz force [39] into a measurable output voltage. The experimental findings demonstrate a discernible voltage range, spanning from 0.05 to 1.94 V, in response to a magnetic field within the range of 5–200 mT, thereby highlighting the practical applications and performance capabilities of these innovative CMOS-MEMS magnetic microsensors [38], [39].

II. METHODOLOGY

References	PulseRadar	Radar Holography	CW sensor	YOLOv3 Algorithm	MIMO Radar System	Real-Time Imaging	3D-SAR Technique
Weapon Detection Using Microwave And Millimeter Wave Sensors ^[1]	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Anti-Tank Projectile Detection by Means of CWSensors ^[2]	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X
MIC for Dynamic and Automatic Detection of Weapons ^[3]	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X
MIC of Weapons Using 3D-SAR Technique ^[4]	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
Concealed Object Detection Based On YOLOv3 Algorithm ^[5]	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X

Table 1: Comparing different algorithms from different papers on weapon detection

Sensor	Description	Advantage
Pulse Radar ^{[1], [2], [5]}	A pulse radar sensor uses short pulses of electromagnetic energy to detect and measure the distance to objects by analyzing the time it takes for the pulses to reflect back.	Pulse radar sensors has ability to provide high range resolution, allowing them to distinguish between closely spaced objects.
wave Doppler Radar ^[32]	It detects motion by measuring changes in the frequency of reflected microwaves caused by the Doppler effect.	Their ability is to detect motion accurately and at a distance, making them ideal for applications like speed detection and motion sensing.
Infrared Sensor Camera ^[5]	It is using infrared radiation, which is emitted by objects based on their temperature, allowing it to create images even in low-light or no-light conditions.	To see in the dark, as they can detect infrared radiation emitted by objects, making them useful for surveillance and night vision applications.
SFCW ^{[3], [4], [6]}	An Swept Frequency Continuous Wave (SFCW) sensor uses a continuous wave signal with a frequency that changes over time to measure distances and properties of objects based on the signal's reflections.	Their ability is to provide high-resolution measurements in radar and imaging applications due to their precise frequency control and processing techniques.
CW ^{[2], [3]}	A Continuous Wave (CW) radar sensor emits a continuous signal to detect the presence, distance, and speed of objects by measuring the phase shift of the reflected signal.	Their ability is to provide continuous measurements, allowing for real-time tracking of moving objects.

Table 2: Methodologies of different microwave sensors from different papers

Parameter	Pulse Radar Sensor [1], [2], [5]	CW Sensor [2], [3]	Microwave Doppler Sensor [32]	Infrared Sensor [5]	SF-CW Sensor [3], [4], [6]
Sensitivity	-100 dBm to -80 dBm	-50 dBm to -30dBm	-7 dBm to -50dBm	0 μ W/cm ³ (Thermal)	-80 dBm to -60 dBm
Range	10 meters to 10 kilometers	Upto 10 meters	0.1 meters to 10 meters	Up to a few meters	0.5 meters to 50 meters
Accuracy	± 1 meter to ± 10 meters	± 0.1 to $\pm 1\%$	± 1 cm/s to ± 10 cm/s	$\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ to $\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$	± 2 cm to ± 10 cm
Resolution	1 centimeter to 1 meter	Millimeter	Millimeter centimeter	0.1 $^\circ\text{C}$ to 1 $^\circ\text{C}$	Centimeter
Response Time	Microseconds to ms	Continuous	Microseconds to ms	Microseconds to ms	Microseconds to ms
Signal-to- Noise Ratio	10 dB to 30dB	15 dB to 25 dB	10 dB to 20 dB	Depends on temperature and background radiation	20 to 40 dB

Table 3: Values of different parameters of different sensors used in microwave detecting technique

Sensor	Description	Advantage
Magnetometer [6], [7], [10], [23]	A magnetometer sensor measures the direction, strength, or change of a magnetic field	Magnetometer sensors invisibly sense magnetic fields, making them useful in metal detection, navigation, and more.
Magnetoresistive [24]	A magnetoresistive sensor detects changes in a magnetic field by measuring the resulting shift in electrical resistance of a special material.	Magnetoresistive sensors offer high sensitivity for magnetic field detection making them ideal for applications like precision positioning and current monitoring.
Giant magnetoresistance [24], [15], [22]	Giant magnetoresistance (GMR) is a quantum mechanical effect observed in multilayers composed of alternating ferromagnetic and non-magnetic conductive layers, resulting in a significant change in electrical resistance based on the alignment of adjacent ferromagnetic layers' magnetization	Giant Magnetoresistance (GMR) sensors include their small dimensions, low power requirements, and high sensitivity.
Hall effect [38]	A Hall Effect sensor is a type of magnetic sensor that detects the strength and direction of a magnetic field produced by either a permanent magnet or an electromagnet.	Hall Effect sensors offer several advantages, including robust solid-state components, miniaturization for surface mount applications, low cost, fast response, and durability with almost unlimited lifetime
Fluxgate Magnetometer [26], [24]	A Fluxgate Magnetometer is an advanced type of magnetometer designed to measure the intensity and direction of magnetic fields	Fluxgate magnetometers are very sensitive, and accurate magnetic sensors able to detect weak fields both AC and DC

Table 4: Methodologies of different magnetic sensors from different papers

Parameter	Hall Effect Sensors [38]	Giant Magnetoresistive (GMR) Sensors [24], [15], [22]	Fluxgate Magnetometers [26], [24]	Magnetometer Sensor [6], [7], [10], [23]	Magnetoresistive Sensor [24]
Range	Several cm	Several mm to cm	Several Gauss	10m	Several cm
Accuracy	$\pm 0.5\%$ to $\pm 5\%$	$\pm 0.01\%$ to $\pm 1\%$	$\pm 0.01\%$ to $\pm 1\%$	$\pm 1\%$	$\pm 1\%$
Sensitivity	1 to 100 mV/G	1 to 100 mV/VT	0.01 nT	500mV/G	0.1 nT
Resolution	$<10 \mu\text{T}$	$<10 \mu\text{T}$	0.01 nT to 0.1 nT	0.01nT	0.01 nT
Response Time	Microseconds to ms	Microseconds to ms	ms to seconds	seconds to ms	microseconds to ms
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	50 dB to 80 dB	50 dB to 80 dB	70 dB to 90 dB	30 to 60 dB	20 to 50 dB

Table 5: Values of different parameters of different sensors used in magnetic detecting technique

Method	Algorithm Design	Simulation Results	Experimental Results
MEMS Fabrication [38], [39]	- Utilizes microfabrication techniques to create miniature sensors.	- Simulated behavior of MEMS sensors in various conditions.	- Validated sensor performance in controlled laboratory settings.
Inductive Sensors [38]	- Based on electromagnetic induction. Detects metal objects by measuring changes in inductance.	- Simulated response to different metal targets and distances.	- Experimentally verified detection accuracy using metallic objects.
Magnetic Sensors [38]	- Utilizes Hall effect or magnetoresistive principles. Measures magnetic fields.	- Simulated sensitivity to magnetic field variations.	- Conducted experiments with known magnetic field strengths to validate sensor output.
Electrochemical [38]	- Measures chemical reactions at electrode interfaces. Common in gas sensors, pH sensors, and biosensors.	- Simulated sensor response to varying analyte concentrations.	- Tested sensor performance with known chemical solutions or biological samples.

Table 6: Results of sensors used in paper Magnetic sensors and their applications [38]

III. CONCLUSION

By comparing all the papers both microwave and magnetic sensors offer distinct advantages and disadvantages for weapon detection. Magnetic sensors excel at detecting ferrous metals but are blind to non-metallic threats. Conversely, microwave sensors hold potential for broader object detection [11], [12] but face challenges with interference and accuracy. Microwave sensors are good for detecting weapons [1], [2], [3] made of various materials due to their penetrability and ability to operate over a range of frequencies but their limitations include issues with material composition of the weapon [4], [5], operating range, and attenuation factors. Magnetic sensors are highly effective for detecting metallic weapons [7], [8]; the Giant Magneto-Resistive (GMR) sensor [6], [22] array developed at Newcastle University shows potential for automatic weapon detection and classification but can be affected by the human body's presence, which may give a stronger signal than the material of a low-conductivity or small weapon, potentially leading to undetected items. Ultimately, the "best" sensor depends on the specific application's priorities. For cost-effectiveness and reliable ferrous metal detection [23], [28], magnetic sensors shine. However, for broader detection needs, even with potential drawbacks, microwave sensors might be a better choice. In crucial scenarios, combining both sensors or integrating them with other security measures provides the optimal approach for comprehensive weapon detection [5], [10].

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