

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910480593603321
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Titolo	Modern Inertial Technology [[electronic resource]] : Navigation, Guidance, and Control // by Anthony Lawrence
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, NY : , : Springer New York : , : Imprint : Springer, , 1998
ISBN	1-4612-1734-2
Edizione	[2nd ed. 1998.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XVI, 278 p.)
Collana	Mechanical Engineering Series, , 0941-5122
Disciplina	629.132/51
Soggetti	Mechanical engineering Control engineering Robotics Mechatronics Mechanical Engineering Control, Robotics, Mechatronics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. An Outline of Inertial Navigation -- 2. Gyro and Accelerometer Errors and Their Consequences -- 3. The Principles of Accelerometers -- 4. The Pendulous Accelerometer -- 5. Vibrating Beam Accelerometers -- 6. The Principles of Mechanical Gyroscopes -- 7. Single-Degree-of-Freedom Gyroscopes -- 8. Two-Degree-of-Freedom Gyroscopes -- 9. The Dynamically Tuned Gyroscope -- 10. Vibrating Gyroscopes -- 11. The Principles of Optical Rotation Sensing -- 12. The Interferometric Fiber-Optic Gyro -- 13. The Ring Laser Gyro -- 14. Passive Resonant Gyros -- 15. Testing Inertial Sensors -- 16. Design Choices for Inertial Instruments.
Sommario/riassunto	Mechanical Engineering, an engineering discipline borne of the needs of the industrial revolution, is once again asked to do its substantial share in the call for industrial renewal. The general call is urgent as we face profound issues of productivity and competitiveness that require engineering solutions, among others. The Mechanical Engineering Series features graduate texts and research monographs intended to address the need for information in contemporary areas of mechanical engineering. The series is conceived as a comprehensive one

that covers a broad range of concentrations important to mechanical engineering graduate education and re- search. We are fortunate to have a distinguished roster of consulting editors on the advisory board, each an expert in one of the areas of concentration. The names of the consulting editors are listed on the next page of this volume. The areas of concentration are applied mechanics, biomechanics, computational mechanics, dynamic systems and control, energetics, mechanics of materials, processing, thermal science, and tribology. I am pleased to present this volume in the Series: Modern Inertial Technology: Navigation, Guidance, and Control, Second Edition, by Anthony Lawrence. The selection of this volume underscores again the interest of the Mechanical Engineering series to provide our readers with topical monographs as well as graduate texts in a wide variety of fields.
