



MINISENSE 100 VIBRATION SENSOR

Measurement Specialties

The Minisense 100 is a low-cost cantilever-type vibration sensor loaded by a mass to offer high sensitivity at low frequencies. The pins are designed for easy installation and are solderable. Horizontal and vertical mounting options are offered as well as a reduced height version. The active sensor area is shielded for improved RFI/EMI rejection. Rugged, flexible PVDF sensing element withstands high shock overload. Sensor has excellent linearity and dynamic range and may be used for detecting either continuous vibration or impacts.

The mass may be modified to obtain alternative frequency response and sensitivity selection (consult factory).

Features

- High Voltage Sensitivity (1 V/g)
- Over 5 V/g at Resonance
- Horizontal or Vertical Mounting
- Shielded Construction
- Solderable Pins, PCB Mounting
- Low Cost
- < 1% Linearity
- Up to 40 Hz (2,400 rpm)
Operation Below Resonance

Applications

- Washing Machine Load Imbalance
- Vehicle Motion Sensor
- Anti-Theft Devices
- Vital Signs Monitoring
- Tamper Detection
- Impact Sensing

Functional Description

The MiniSense 100 acts as a cantilever-beam accelerometer. When the beam is mounted horizontally, acceleration in the vertical plane creates bending in the beam, due to the inertia of the mass at the tip of the beam. Strain in the beam creates a piezoelectric response, which may be detected as a charge or voltage output across the electrodes of the sensor.

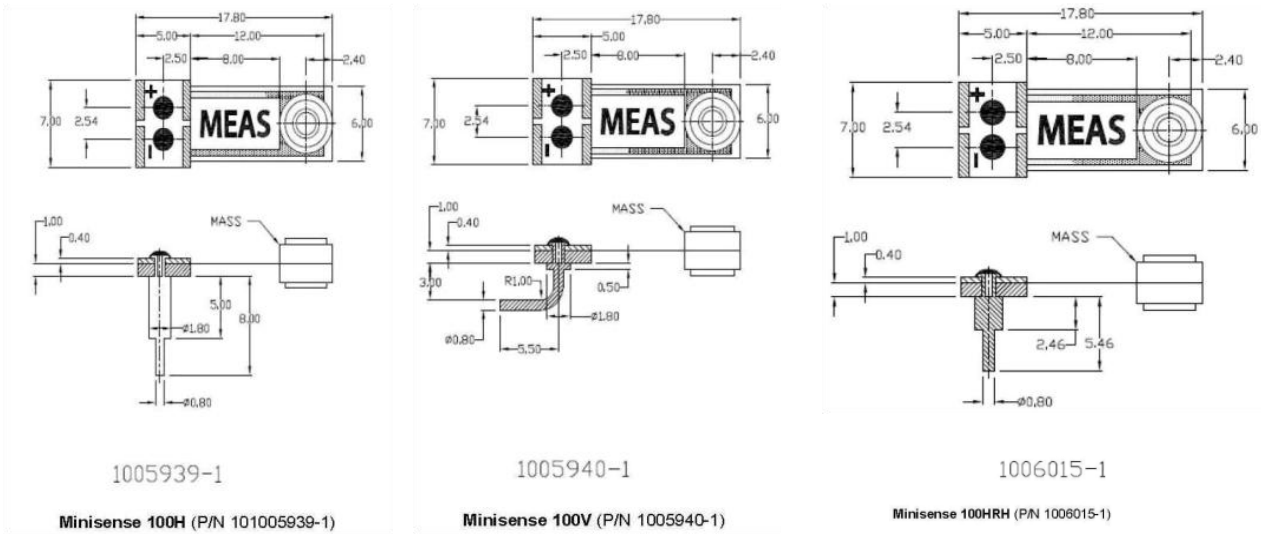
The sensor may be used to detect either continuous or impulsive vibration or impacts. For excitation frequencies below the resonant frequency of the sensor, the device produces a linear output governed by the “baseline” sensitivity quoted above. The sensitivity at resonance is significantly higher. Impacts containing high-frequency components will excite the resonance frequency, as shown in the plot above (response of the MiniSense 100 to a single half-sine impulse at 100 Hz of amplitude 0.9 g). The ability of the sensor to detect low frequency motion is strongly influenced by the external electrical circuit, as described below (see “Electrical Description”).

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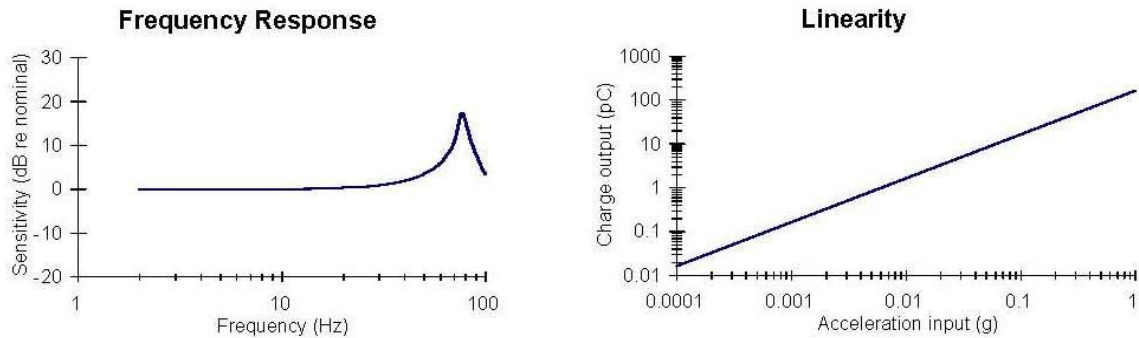
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Dimensions (in millimeters)



Performance Specifications



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Typical Properties/Specifications

Typical Properties (at 25 °C)

Parameter	Value	Units.
Voltage Sensitivity (open-circuit, baseline)	1.1	V/g
Charge Sensitivity (baseline)	260	pC/g
Resonance Frequency	75	Hz
Voltage Sensitivity (open circuit, at resonance)	6	V/g
Upper Limiting Frequency (+3 dB)	42	Hz
Linearity	+/-1	%
Capacitance	244	pF
Dissipation Factor	0.018	(none)
Inertial Mass	0.3	gram

Environmental Specifications

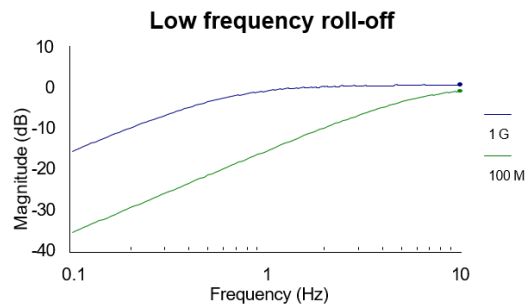
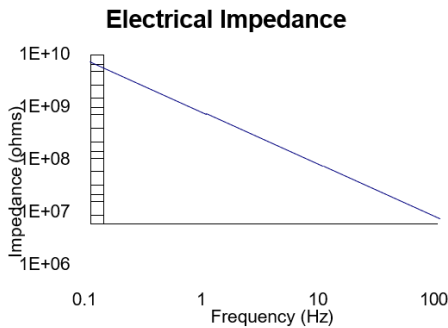
Storage Temperature	-40 to +80	deg C
Operating Temperature	-20 to +60	deg C
Weight Minisense 100H	0.5	gram
Weight Minisense 100V	0.6	gram

Electrical Description

The MiniSense 100 behaves electrically as an “active” capacitor: it may be modelled as a perfect voltage source (voltage proportional to applied acceleration) in series with the quoted device capacitance. Any external input or load resistance will form a high-pass filter, with a roll-off frequency as tabulated above, or calculated from the formula $f(c) = 1/(2\pi RC)$. The impedance of the sensor is approximately 650 M ohm at 1 Hz. The active sensor element is electrically shielded, although care should be taken in the PCB design to keep unshielded traces as short as possible.

Lower Limiting Frequency (-3 dB roll-off)

External R (Ω)	LLF (Hz)	Desired LLF (Hz)	Required R (Ω)
10 M	65	10	65 M
100 M	6.5	1	650 M
1 G	0.65	0.1	6.5 G

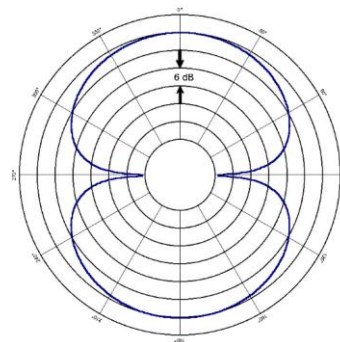
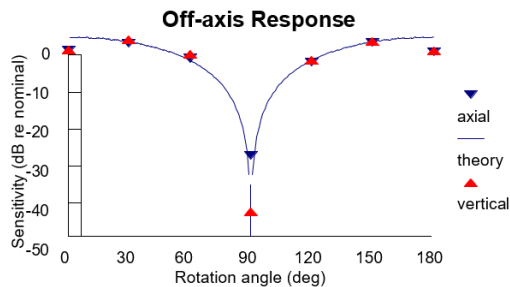


Off-axis Sensitivity

The sensitivity of the Minisense 100 follows a cosine law, when rotated horizontally around its axis, or vertically around its mid-point. At 90 degrees rotation in either plane, both baseline sensitivity and sensitivity at resonance are at a minimum. In theory, sensitivity should be zero in this condition. It is likely that some sensitivity around the resonance frequency will still be observed – but this may be unpredictable and is likely to be at least -16 dB with reference to the on-axis response. Note that the sensitivity at 30 degrees rotation is -1.25 dB (87% of on-axis response), at 60 degrees, it falls to -6 dB (50%).

The plots below show the change in sensitivity observed for either:

- Rotation about major axis of sensing element, or
- Rotation about mid-point of sensing element.



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Ordering Information

Description	Part Number	Model No.
Horizontal Mounting	1005939-1	LDTC-V
Vertical Mounting	1005940-1	LDTC-H
Horizontal Mounting Reduced Height	1006015-1	LDTC-RH

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