FPCB ACTUATOR DRIVEN MICROMIRROR BASED AVAILABILITY INDICATOR AND LASER PATTERN POINTER

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Abstract

The thesis presents a FPCB (Flexible Printed Circuit Board) actuator driven micromirror and the laser pattern generating technology for availability indicator and laser pattern pointer. The FPCB micromirror consists of a FPCB electrostatic parallel plate actuator and a bonded silicon mirror plate. It has the advantages of much larger aperture size, higher surface quality and lower cost than conventional MEMs micromirrors. The FPCB micromirror resonates at its first bending mode. Two FPCB micromirrors are positioned orthogonally to reflect a laser beam. By controlling the vibration frequency and magnitude of these two micromirrors, laser patterns of rotating ellipse or static circle, horizontal or vertical line can be generated and projected to a remote surface, e.g., a translucent or a presentation screen. Based on the FPCB micromirror, an availability indicator is developed, which can solve the wiring problem plaguing existing availability indicators. A laser pattern pointer is also developed which has much better visibility than conventional laser pointers with highlighting functions.

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Chapter 1. Introduction

1.1 Availability indicator

Availability indicator is a device to show if you are available or not by switching between green and red color lights, e.g., green light means that somebody can have a conversation with you while red color indicates that you should not be interrupted. The research [1] reveals that interruptions consumed 28% of knowledgeable workers' time based on surveys and interviews conducted by Basex over 18 months in the United States in 2005. This translates into 28 billion worker hours lost annually, which is equivalent to \$588 billion cost with an average salary of \$21/hour for the knowledge worker. For instance, Table 1 illustrates the cost of interruptions for an imaginary professional services company with 10,000 employees. As shown in the table, this company loss almost \$400 million per year from unnecessary interruptions which close to a third of the cost of worker's salary.

	Number of employees	Hours wasted per employee per year	Hours wasted Þer year	Hourly cost per employee (Average)	Total loss (Millions)	Total salary (Millions)
Executive	250	503.52	125,880	\$150	\$18.9	\$67.5
Manager	1,000	503.52	503,520	\$105	\$52.9	\$189.0
Professional Staff	6,850	503.52	3,449,112	\$85	\$293.2	\$1,048.1
Support Staff	1,900	503.52	956,688	\$36	\$34.4	\$123.1
Total	10,000	2014.08	5,035,200	\$79	\$399.4	\$1,427.7

Table 1. The impact of interruptions on the enterprise [1]

On the other hand, when peripheral tasks interrupt the primary tasks, it requires $3\% \sim 27\%$ more time to get the task completed. In the meanwhile mistakes and the anxiety are increased twice with $31\%\sim106\%$ more annoyance than when those peripheral tasks are implemented in the interval between primary tasks [2][3]. Thus the availability indicator is a very useful tool in avoiding interruptions to increase the work productivity and improve the employee satisfaction. The workers can change their status from busy to available by switching the availability indicator lights color from red to green after they finish a primary task. It will keep the workers to focus on the primary task for a necessary longer time without interruption.

The current availability indicators are LED based in the market, e.g., the Kuando Busylight

presence indicator from Plenom [4] as shown in Figure 1-1. The Busylight presence indicator has five different colors to show busy, busy in a call, do not disturb, away and available which is powered via a 3 meters long USB data cable and attached on the monitor with a double adhesive 3M tape. It is designed for an open plan office environment. In addition, the Busylight has announced a new design for cubicle environments which need an extra-large light as shown in Figure 1-2.



Figure 1-1. Busylight presence indicator [4]



Figure 1-2. Busylight Omega presence indicator [4]

The company, Kangaroo Design Inc. [5], has developed a product called MyFocus system for increasing productivity in collaborative work environment. MyFocus system includes a software to control the blocking/unblocking of communications such as incoming emails, phone calls and messages, etc. and a hardware component that visually signals an individual's availability according to each individual's priority. The LED indicator as shown in Figure 1-3 is a ring with a group of LEDs (red/green) inside. With a single toggle, users will be able to open lines for

collaboration and discussion or indicate their unavailability in order to focus on certain tasks without being interrupted.



Figure 1-3. MyFocus LED indicator[5]

Some other LED based availability indicators can be found in the market, e.g., USB light indicator from Luxafor [6] as shown in Figure 1-4(a), Busy light for Lync from Blynclight [7] as shown in Figure 1-4(b).



(a) USB light indicator [6](b) Busy light for Lync [7]Figure 1-4. LED based availability indicator

All these current LED based availability indicator requires a cable to connect with the control computer and power source. They face a serious wiring problem when the office has a lot of cubicles or rooms instead of an open area as shown in their advertisements. The indicator usually needs to be mounted on a cubicle glass wall or the glass window of a door where both the user and others can see it, which is a few meters away from the power source and the toggle (being pressed to control the indictor to show availability) which are close to the user. Wires are required to

transfer control signal and power from the power source and toggle to the indicator. The wire connection not only adds the cost, but also makes the office environment cumbersome and inelegant, especially for offices with a large number of cubicles which requires a lot of indicators. The requirement of wiring has become an obstacle to accept the product of availability indicator.

1.2 Laser pointer

Nowadays more and more people are relying on computer PowerPoint slideshow software to give a public presentation [8], especially through projecting the presentation slides on a wall size screen for a large number of audience. While a laser pointer or laser pen for presentation has been developed as interaction device [9][10][11] to help the presenter to draw the audience's attention by positioning the laser point on what the presenter describes. A laser pointer as shown in Figure 1-5 is a handheld laser module which contains a small laser diode and emits an intense beam of laser light with different colors.



Figure 1-5. Laser pointer [79]

The laser pointer usually is integrated with the control key as a laser presenter to control the PowerPoint slideshow page down and page up. For example, Kensington Wireless Presenter with red laser pointer [12] as shown in Figure 1-6 puts your audience to focus on what matters most of your presentation. It features with plug & play 2.4GHz of wireless technology which allows you to control the slide forward or back without unnecessary cables up to 60 feet away. The ergonomically style shape fits comfortably in the palm of human hand.



Figure 1-6. Kensington wireless presenter [12]



Figure 1-7. Wireless laser presenter

The laser presenters in the market are of many brand names from many different manufactures with various designs (functions, colors, shapes, materials, sizes and price), e.g., Wireless Presenter R400 from Logitech [13], SP600 Smart-Pointer (Black) 2.4Ghz RF Wireless Presenter from Satechi [14], HiRO H50181 4 in 1 2.4 GHz WiFi Black Presenter Green Laser Pointer from Hiro Inc. [15], Remote point Ruby Presenter from SMK-Link Electronics [16] as shown in Figure 1-7, etc..

The laser pointer usually is low powered laser and do not pose a serious risk of eye injury unless it is misused intentionally. According to laser safety regulation from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the laser is classed as Table 2 [17] which also includes the roughly equivalent International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) classes. Usually the laser pointer is restricted to either class 3A (<5.0mW) or class 2 (<1.0mW) according to the local regulation. For example, in the US and Canada class 3A is permitted for the application in laser pointer. In Australia and most of European countries class 2 is the maximum allowed class.

Class FDA	Class IEC	Max Laser power	Laser Product Hazard	Product Examples
Ι	1, 1M	0.4mW	Considered non-hazardous. Hazard increases if viewed with optical aids, including magnifiers, binoculars, or telescopes.	laser printers, CD players DVD players
IIa, II	2, 2M	1.0mW	Hazard increases when viewed directly for long periods of time. Hazard increases if viewed with optical aids.	bar code scanners
IIIa	3R	5.0mW	Depending on power and beam area, can be momentarily hazardous when directly viewed or when staring directly at the beam with an unaided eye. Risk of injury increases when viewed with optical aids.	laser pointers
IIIb	3B	500mW	Immediate skin hazard from direct beam and immediate eye hazard when viewed directly.	laser light show ,projectors industrial lasers, research lasers
IV	4	4 >500mW Immediate skin hazard and eye hazard from exercise either the direct or reflected beam; may also p hazard.		laser light show projectors, industrial lasers, research lasers, medical device lasers for eye surgery or skin treatments

Table 2. FDA Laser hazard classes [80]

Almost all commercial laser pointers give one small laser dot to indicate the focus location of the presentation. However, it is not very visible and takes some time for audience to locate the laser dot on the new slide, especially when the slide is very bright. The center of the laser spot is glare which is not comfortable and the outside is blur which is not look nice and clean. In addition, the current laser pointer cannot highlight an area, or a line or a column. The presenter has to wave the laser pen to make a circle, a horizontal/vertical line manually to help audience locate the laser dot or highlight a certain area/line/column.

On the other hand, the enforcement is often not very strict and also due to the visibility problem, the manufacture of laser pointer increase the laser output power to higher the laser point brightness and increase the laser spot visibility to gain the market share. Lucid Optical Services Ltd. [18] presented a study of laser pointer safety in 2010, which 20 low cost laser pointer were purchased

to test the output power. Only one of them had a power of less than 1mW as required for class 2 laser pointer. 16 of 20 laser pointers had over 5mW maximum output laser power for Class 3R devices.

The laser pointer are also useful tools for lecturer in classroom, conventions, meetings and seminars, which has become more and more popular. Because of the low cost and widespread supply, the laser pointer are widely purchased and used by large populated general public, including children, and used in ways not recommended by the manufacturers. Consequently, a lot of laser pointer related eye injuries [19][20][21][22] were reported around the world. Transient exposure to the laser light is unlikely to cause long term damage, but longer exposure may lead to permanent retinal injury. They also could result in a painful red eye or dazzle. If the laser pointer was shot at the eyes of a driver or a pilot, this dazzle could be very dangerous. Because of the widespread availability of the laser pointer which children can purchase it easily, they treat the laser pointer as a new toy. They could stare at directly the laser beam for the longest time to win their game. This would be damage their vision even with class 2 laser pointer, which are allowed all around the world.



1.3 Laser pattern generation and projection technology

Figure 1-8. Laser availability indicator

This thesis proposes a solution, i.e., generating and projecting laser pattern, to solve the problem

plaguing the availability indicator, i.e., the wiring problem, and the problem with the current laser pointers, i.e., low visibility with low laser power and no highlighting function.

The availability indicator is placed close to the toggle and power source such as on the user's table, computer or wall as shown in Figure 1-8. It generates a bright red/green laser pattern and projects it onto a remote surface which is a few meters away and could be a cubicle glass wall or a glass window of a door with a small translucent film attached if the glass is very transparent. The projected laser pattern has a size of a few centimeters which can be seen from both side of the screen. So it does not require to install loner cable to connect with the control computer or power source. Furthermore, the laser pattern projection technology can well solve the wiring problem of the traditional LED based availability indicator.

For the laser pointer by projecting a laser pattern, even a rotation pattern, on the big sc For the laser pointer by projecting a laser pattern, even a rotation pa increase the visibility and draw the audience attention with keeping the laser output power in a crease the visibility and draw the audience attention with keeping the laser output power in a safety class. The moving beam can also avoid that someone stare into the beam intentionally for a fety class. The moving beam can also avoid that someone stare into the beam intentionally for a longer time, for example for the children. er time, for example for the children. Considering laser safety and comfort, low laser power is used. To make the projected laser Considering laser safety and comfort, low laser power is used. To make the projected laser ttern very visible, the sign must be big enough, e.g., a few centimeters and bright. With lower m very visible, the sign must be big enough, e.g., a few centimeters and bright. With lower aser power, it is difficult to meet both the size and brightness requirements if a laser spot is directly er nower, it is difficult to meet both the size and brightness requirements if a laser spot is directly ojected as shown in Figures. 1-3(a) and 1-3(b). ected as shown in Figures. 1-3(a) and 1-3(b). (a) Horizontal laser line (b) Vertical laser line



(c) Laser circle pattern

(d) Laser ellipse pattern

Figure 1-9. Laser projection pattern

For the laser pointer by projecting a laser pattern, e.g., horizontal line, vertical line, circle or ellipse as shown in Figure 1-9, even a rotating laser pattern on the big screen can increase the visibility and draw the audience attention with keeping the laser output power in a safety class.

The moving beam can also avoid that someone stare into the beam intentionally for a longer time, especially for the children.

Considering laser safety and comfort, low laser power is used. To make the projected laser pattern very visible, the sign must be big enough, e.g., a few centimeters and bright. With lower laser power (1mW), it is difficult to meet both the size and brightness requirements if a laser spot is directly projected as shown in Figures. 1-10(a) and 1-10(b).



Figure 1-10. Projected laser spot or laser pattern with the same power of 0.065mw and the same camera setting such as the aperture speed of 1/25 second. (a) Directly projected laser spot with the size of about 1~2 mm (b) Directly projected laser spot with size of 20mm through a laser beam expander (c) Projected ellipse laser pattern with the size of 30 mm

In Figure 1-10, all photos are taken with the same projected laser beam power (0.065mw), same camera setting such as aperture and speed, same distance between the display screen and laser, same ambient illumination. Figure 1-10(a) and 1-10 (b) are directly projected laser spots. Figure 1-10 (a) is bright but the size is too small, which is not visible when it is projected on a cubicle wall, a door windows or a bright screen. Figure 1-10 (b) is larger but too dim, which spreads the laser power to a 2cm are through a beam expander. This thesis proposes to generate a laser pattern such as an ellipse shape with high frequency and project it on a see-through and reflective surface to solve this problem, i.e., satisfying both the size and brightness requirements. At any moment, all the laser power is focused on one small point (about $1\sim2$ mm in diameter) which is bright. At the same time, this laser spot follows a trajectory of an ellipse with the size of a few centimeters and a high frequency (refreshing rate >60Hz). Thus a bright and steady laser ellipse is formed as shown in Figure 1-10 (c) which is bright and large. In addition, the ellipse laser pattern can rotate to be more visible and more attractive to the audience.

Normally in order to generate a laser pattern, two galvanometer mirrors are used to steer a laser

beam [23]. A galvanometer mirror projection system includes a motor, an encoder, a mirror and a servo circuit board, which is very complex, expensive and bulky [24][25] as shown in Figure 1-11.



Figure 1-11. Two galvanometer mirrors scanning system [23]

MEMS micromirrors can replace galvanometer mirrors in the applications which can tolerate relatively small aperture (<1mm) and rotation angle to scan laser beam to form patterns [26][27][28][29]. A MEMS micromirror [30] as shown in Figure 1-12 includes a silicon based actuator and a mirror plate that has a much compact size than a galvanometer mirror. It is fabricated using micromachining technology in a clean room and can be driven by various mechanism actuators such as electrostatic [31][32][33], thermal [34][35], magnetic [36][37] and piezoelectric [38][39].



Figure 1-12. Two-dimensional resonant micro scanning mirror [30]

Electrostatic actuators can be fabricated with a simple MEMS process and consume relatively

low power, but it generates small displacement with high actuation voltage. However, the electrostatic actuation's fast response time (less than 0.1ms), low power consumption, and the easiness of integration and normal testing electrical control system make it one of the best choices for micromirror actuation. The parallel-plate electrostatic actuator is relatively simple design structure in terms of design and fabrication; however, it suffers from the pull-in effect, which limits its scanning angle. To overcome the pull-in effect, comb drive actuators have been developed which is regarded as the most feasible technique for obtaining large angular motion with linear displacement verse the driving voltage.

A MEMS thermal actuator is a micromechanical device that typically generates motion by different thermal expansion. It usually consists of two micro actuators which operates on the basis of heating thermal expansion. Because the expansion rates are different between the cold and hot arms or two different materials, this different expansion results in the beam bending motion according to different structures. However, in general, thermal actuation have higher power consumption and slow response time.

The electromagnetic actuation provides relatively large torque with increased volume due to extra permanent magnet integration and larger driving current. A micromirror can be driven in two ways by electromagnetic actuation, either by using Lorentz force to move a patterned coil by exerting external magnetic field or by repulsive/attractive forces to repel/attract the magnetic material which is attached to the mirror on its surface.

The piezoelectric actuation takes advantage of the corresponding physical deformation property when electrical voltage is applied. The piezoelectric actuation can generate a large force density at a low actuation voltage and linear voltage–rotation characteristics, however a complex fabrication process and structural deformation during the actuation are required for the thin-film piezoelectric material.

All of these MEMS micromirrors are not suitable for the availability indicator application because of: 1) Small thickness. Normally a MEMS micromirror has a thickness of several μ m to several tens of μ m due to the fabrication limitation. The low thickness causes low static flatness of the mirror plate after fabrication due to the residual stress gradient [40][41], and dynamic deformation [42][43] when the micromirror oscillates; 2) Small aperture. A MEMS micromirror usually has an aperture of < 1mm, which requires more optics to reduce the laser beam to be

smaller than the micromirror aperture and need much more time to alignment the laser optical system; 3) Relative high cost. Generally MEMS micromirrors have low cost when the volume is high such as more than 10, 000~100,000 depending on the process.



Figure 1-13. Laser pointer with digitally controlled and scalable patterns [44]

A MEMS scanning micromirror based Taiwanese company, Opus Microsystems Corporation [44], claimed the world first laser pointer with digitally controlled and scalable patterns as shown in Figure 1-13 in 2008. It can generate larger circle/ellipse laser pattern (~24cm diameter), smaller circle/ellipse laser pattern (~8cm diameter), and longer (~24cm) and shorter (~8cm) laser underline at 3 meters distance using MEMS scanning micromirrors. The four different laser pattern is switched through a thumb navigation control pushbutton. However it is hard to find this product in the market, even on their website product list which seems it did not become a commercial product. The reason should be the high cost. Two 1D micromirrors or one 2D micromirror cost around \$30 based on the high volume price. So the cost will be increases by 30-100% based on the existing laser pointer. Thus, the proposed solution must be of very low cost, e.g., increase the cost of $<5\sim10\%$. In addition, the attempted laser pointer cannot generate a rotating ellipse which is better in terms of increasing visibility.

1.4 Thesis objective and outline

The objectives of the thesis are as follows.

1. Develop a novel micromirror which has much larger aperture, much higher surface quality and much lower cost than conventional MEMs micromirrors. It should be driven by electrostatics force to have low power consumption.

- 2. Develop the laser pattern generating technology using the novel micromirror. These laser patterns include static circle, rotating ellipse, horizontal or vertical line.
- 3. Develop a laser availability indicator using the micromirror developed in this thesis, which is able to generate laser pattern and project it to a remote translucent surface to solve the wiring problem associated with the current availability indicators.
- 4. Develop a presentation laser pattern pointer using the micromirror developed in this thesis. The laser pattern pointer is able to significantly improve the visibility using laser pattern instead of a laser dot with the laser power equal or less than that used in the existing laser presenter. Such that the audience can easily and quickly locate the laser pattern even the presentation slide is very bright without waving the laser pointer manually by the presenter. In addition, the laser pattern pointer should provide the highlight function, i.e., using size adjustable circle, horizontal or vertical line to highlight an area, a row or a column.

The thesis is organized as follows:

The design of FPCB micromirror is introduced in Chapter 2. The modeling of generating rotating ellipse is presented in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 shows the prototype of FPCB micromirror and test result. Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 describe the design, prototype and test results of availability indicator and laser pattern pointer respectively. Conclusions are summarized in Chapter 7.

Chapter 2. Design of FPCB micromirror

This thesis proposes the FPCB (flexible printed circuit board) micromirror technology to replace the MEMS micromirrors in the application of laser pattern projection. The FPCB micromirror consists of a FPCB electrostatic rotation parallel plate actuator and a silicon mirror plate. The silicon mirror plate is bonded with the FPCB actuator after they are fabricated separately.

Since the polyimide, the FPCB substrate material, was invented in the early 1960's, it has found numerous uses in MEMS technology which could serve as photoresistor, sacrificial layer, structure layer or substrate [45]. It can also be found in different sensor based MEMS application, for example, temperature sensing array on a flexible polyimide substrate [46][47], polyimide flexible tactile sensor skin [48], miniature electrocardiography sensor [49], flexible sensor and actuator system for space inflatable structures [50]. A double size FPCB was proposed to use as a flexible thermoelectric generator [51].



(b)

Figure 2-1. (a) Polymer magnetic scanners mechanical schematics (b) Electromagnetic actuation force [53]

The polyimide material is also used as actuator application, for instance, an optical scanner fabricated using photolithography on a polyimide substrate [52] and polymer (Polyimide is a polymer of imide monomers) magnetic scanners as shown in Figure 2-1 for bar code application [53]. The scanning polymer magnetic micromirror which is used in a barcode reading system could be used to generate laser pattern. However it consumes an actuation power of 168mW, needs an external coil to generate the driving magnetic field and is fabricated with molded polymers and electroplated magnetic films for magnetic actuation instead of a commercial process. So it has bigger size and more cost than the FPCB micromirror proposed in this thesis.

Through the literature review of FPCB MEMS application, this thesis might be the first report on FPCB electrostatic actuator micromirror based on low cost mature commercial FPCB fabrication process.

The silicon mirror plate is fabricated using simple and low cost process, i.e., coating a polished silicon wafer with aluminum film and dicing it. The mirror plate has the thickness of a silicon wafer (several 100 μ m) and a large aperture (a few mm) with very high surface quality, i.e., as high as the polished silicon wafer. The FPCB micromirror has much high surface quality, much larger aperture and much lower cost even for small volume than conventional MEMS micromirrors, all of these advantages make it suitable for the application of generating laser pattern for laser availability indicator and laser pattern pointer.

2.1 Structure and working principle introduction

The FPCB micromirror consists of a rotation electrostatic parallel plate actuator [54] and a silicon mirror plate coated with aluminum as shown in Figure 2-2. The rotation actuator includes a rotating electrode, fixed electrode, two bending beams served as the rotation springs and an anchor pad, as shown in Figure 2-2. The rotation electrode, the two bending beams and the anchor pad are made of FPCB which is a Polyimide based thin film with copper coating fabricated through commercial FPCB process. Figure 2-3 shows the basic flexible circuit construction [55]. The copper coating pad serves as moving electrode in the parallel plate actuator and gets driving voltage through the copper coating layer of the anchor pad with soldering wire on it.

The fixed electrode is an aluminum plate with a slightly higher support pad which is fabricated together with all the mechanical parts for the availability indicator.



Figure 2-2. FPCB micromirror. (a) FPCB (b) Mirror plate (c) Aluminum plate (d) Assembled FPCB micromirror



Figure 2-3. Basic flexible circuit construction [55]

The silicon mirror plate is fabricated using two simple steps, i.e., coating a polished silicon wafer with 100 nm aluminum and dicing it. After being fabricated, it is bonded on the top of the FPCB moving electrode as shown in Figure 2-2 (d). The mirror plate can be easily fabricated to be several hundred micrometers thick with very high surface quality.

	FPCB							
	Anchor pad	Rotation electrode	Rotation electrode	Beam distance	Beam dimension			
Symbol	а	b	w	h	i x g			
Value	3.0	4.0	4.0	1.66	0.34 x 1.7(Design 1)			
					0.34 x 2.7 (Design 2)			
	Mirror		Fixed electrode					
	Length of each	Thickness	Length x Width	Support pad	Gap			
	side							
Symbol	f	t	l x c	е	d			
Value	3.3	0.35	6.0 x 3.4	4.3	0.3(Design 1)			
					0.2(Design 2)			

 Table 3. FPCB micromirror dimension (unit: mm)

Table 3 lists all dimensions of the FPCB micromirror for two designs which will be used in the application of laser availability indicator (Design 1) and laser pattern pointer (Design 2). The difference between these two designs are the length of the spring beam and the gap of parallel plate. The FPCB has a polyimide base layer and coating with a thin copper layer. The thickness of FPCB is 60µm. The silicon mirror plate is 350µm thick with the flatness and roughness as good as those of a polished silicon wafer.



Figure 2-4. (a) Original position (b) Deformed position due to electrostatic force

FPCB anchor pad is bonded to the supporting pad of the aluminum plate. When applying a voltage between the moving copper electrode and the fixed electrode of the aluminum plate the

mirror plate is attracted to the fixed electrode due to the electrostatics force [56][57] as shown in Figure 2-4. The polyimide layer provides electrical isolation between the moving copper electrode and the fixed electrode. The FPCB is operated in resonant mode by applying sinusoidal or square wave driving single which significantly amplifies the static rotation angle. The movement of mirror plate can be controlled by applying different driving signal.

2.2 Modeling

2.2.1 Static force and deformation

The parallel plate electrostatic actuator [54] consists of a fixed and a moving conductive electrode plate as shown in Figure 2-5 [58]. The moving electrode is suspended with the spring beam. When a voltage is applied between these two electrodes, an electrostatic force is generated which attract the plates towards to each other.



Figure 2-5. Parallel plate capacitor system [58]

The electrostatic force can be calculated through the Eq. (1).

$$F_e = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r A}{(x_0 + x)^2} V^2 \tag{1}$$

Where ε_0 is the permittivity of free space ($\varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} F/m$), ε_r is the relative permittivity of the dielectric ($\varepsilon_r = 1.0$ if air is the dielectric material), and A is the overlapping surface area of the electrodes which is $A = 0.004 \times 0.004 = 1.6e - 05m^2$ for these designs.

The electrostatic static forces are calculated and listed in Table 4.

Voltage DC/V	Design 1 Gap 0.0003m	Force N 0.3mm gap	Force mN 0.3mm gap	Design 2 Gap 0.0002m	Force N 0.2mm gap	Force mN 0.2mm gap
10	0.0003	7.867E-08	0.000079	0.0002	1.770E-07	0.000177
20	0.0003	3.147E-07	0.000315	0.0002	7.080E-07	0.000708
30	0.0003	7.080E-07	0.000708	0.0002	1.593E-06	0.001593
40	0.0003	1.259E-06	0.001259	0.0002	2.832E-06	0.002832
50	0.0003	1.967E-06	0.001967	0.0002	4.425E-06	0.004425
60	0.0003	2.832E-06	0.002832	0.0002	6.372E-06	0.006372
70	0.0003	3.855E-06	0.003855	0.0002	8.673E-06	0.008673
80	0.0003	5.035E-06	0.005035	0.0002	1.133E-05	0.011328
90	0.0003	6.372E-06	0.006372	0.0002	1.434E-05	0.014337
100	0.0003	7.867E-06	0.007867	0.0002	1.770E-05	0.017700
110	0.0003	9.519E-06	0.009519	0.0002	2.142E-05	0.021417
120	0.0003	1.133E-05	0.011328	0.0002	2.549E-05	0.025488
130	0.0003	1.329E-05	0.013295	0.0002	2.991E-05	0.029913
140	0.0003	1.542E-05	0.015419	0.0002	3.469E-05	0.034692
150	0.0003	1.770E-05	0.017700	0.0002	3.983E-05	0.039825
160	0.0003	2.014E-05	0.020139	0.0002	4.531E-05	0.045312
170	0.0003	2.273E-05	0.022735	0.0002	5.115E-05	0.051153
180	0.0003	2.549E-05	0.025488	0.0002	5.735E-05	0.057348
190	0.0003	2.840E-05	0.028399	0.0002	6.390E-05	0.063897
200	0.0003	3.147E-05	0.031467	0.0002	7.080E-05	0.070800

 Table 4.
 Electrostatic force VS applied voltage

In order to find the micromirror scanning angle with applied driving voltage, a simulation model was built in Solidworks according to the dimensions listed in Table 3 for these two designs and meshed by 0.2mm X 0.01mm as shown in Figure 2-6(a). The thickness were set to 0.05mm and 0.01mm for the polyimide layer and the copper layer respectively according the measurement of the FPCB sample. The Young's modulus used in the simulation are 2.5GPa for the FPCB based layer which is made of Polyimide material, and 110GPa for the copper layer. The static displacement results are shown in Figure 2-6(b) and the detail displacement and mechanical scanning angle for a specific applied driving voltage are listed in Table 5.

According to the static displacement simulation result, the rotation angle of FPCB micromirror is not large enough to reach 0.86 ° which will generate a 6cm size laser pattern at one meter away, especially for the lower driving voltage.



Figure 2-6. Static displacement simulation (a) Meshed model. (b) Displacement result.

Voltage DC/V	Design 1 Force N 0.3mm gap	Displacement mm	Displacement Angle/degree	Design 2 Force N 0.2mm gap	Displacement mm	Displacement Angle/degree
10	7.867E-08	3.750E-05	3.58E-04	1.770E-07	1.725E-04	1.41E-03
50	1.967E-06	9.377E-04	8.96E-03	4.425E-06	4.311E-03	3.53E-02
100	7.867E-06	3.750E-03	3.58E-02	1.770E-05	1.725E-02	1.41E-01
150	1.770E-05	8.438E-03	8.06E-02	3.983E-05	3.881E-02	3.18E-01
180	2.549E-05	1.215E-02	1.16E-01	5.735E-05	5.588E-02	4.58E-01
200	3.147E-05	1.500E-02	1.43E-01	7.080E-05	6.898E-02	5.65E-01

Table 5. Static displacement simulation result

2.2.2 Forced resonant vibration

To increase the vibration amplitude of the FPCB micromirror, it can work at resonant scanning mode by applying a periodic driving force instead of a static force. Figure 2-7 shows the graph of amplitude versus frequency for the forced oscillator with different damping coefficient *b* [59]. The amplitude will increase dramatically when the driving force is close to the natural frequency(ω_0). This phenomenon is called resonance.



Figure 2-7. Graph of amplitude versus frequency for a damped oscillator when a periodic driving force is present [59].

2.2.3 Rotation angle and gap determination

The step height of the fixed electrode is the gap between the rotation and fixed electrode of the FPCB micromirror. The gap is determined according to two factors, i.e., 1) The "pull-in" effect associated with the electrostatic rotation actuator [60][61]; and 2) The un-flatness of the bending beams caused displacement of the rotation FPCB electrode tip.

Factor 1: Due to the "pull-in" effect and the resonating vibration of the FPCB electrostatic rotation actuator, the gap between the fixed and rotation electrodes to avoid "pull-in" is

$$d = (b+g) \cdot \tan(\frac{\theta}{0.731}) \tag{1}$$

Where θ is the rotation angle, *d* is the gap and (b + g) is the moving electrode length plus the beam length. 0.731 is the ratio of the maximum rotation angle [61] without causing "pull-in" to the angle when the rotation electrode tip touches the fixed electrode for a resonant rotation actuator.

For the availability indicator application, in order to generate the laser pattern and project it to the screen one meter away with the size of 6cm, the FPCB micromirror needs to rotate

$$\theta = \pm \frac{1}{4} \arctan\left(\frac{6cm}{100cm}\right) \approx 0.86^{\circ}$$
 (2)

In the Eq. (2), because the FPCB micromirror is working in resonant vibration mode and

scanning in both direction and the optical scanning angle doubles the mechanical rotation angle, θ equals to quarter of the optical scanning angle. (b + g) is 5.7mm in the design 1, so the corresponding gap should be 0.12 mm from Eq. (1).

For the laser pattern pointer application, it only requires half of the scanning angle as availability indicator due to the longer distance from the laser pattern pointer to the screen, so the rotation angle should be 0.34° . Therefore (b + g) is 6.7mm in the design 2 and the corresponding gap is 0.07 mm from Eq. (1).

Factor 2: The deformation of the FPCB beams causes vertical displacement of the rotation electrode tip, the maximum value of which is less than ± 0.1 mm by approximate experimental measurement.

Thus for the presented prototype the value of gaps were taken as d=0.3 mm for design 1 and d=0.2mm for design 2. They will be safe in avoiding the "pull-in" effect with considering the effect of the deformation of the FPCB.

2.2.4 Resonant frequency

Figure 2-8. Simulated resonant frequency and model.

The resonant vibration mode of the FPCB micromirror is simulated in Solidworks with all detail dimensions as shown in Table 3. Figure 2-8 shows the simulation result for the first mode with the frequency of 89.81Hz for design 1 and 58.22Hz for design 2 respectively which are high enough to form a static image without flashing. The Young's modulus and the model dimension used for the polyimide and the copper are same as section 2.2.1 for the simulation of the static force

displacement.

2.2.5 Stress

The maximum stress in the polyimide layer is simulated by applying a force on the rotation electrode with the angle of 0.86° according to Eq. (2). The corresponding maximum stress is 28MPa which is much less than the yield strength of the polyimide material- 80MPa [62].

2.3 Advantages of FPCB micromirror

The proposed FPCB micromirror has much lower cost, lager aperture size and also higher surface quality than conventional MEMS micromirrors.

2.3.1 Cost

The FPCB is fabricated using a very low cost and mature commercial process. The FPCB technology can print electronics circuit on flexible plastics substrate, such as polyimide or polyester film which can be bend during its use. Right now FPCB are widely used in most of consumer products, industrial and medical devices where flex interconnections are required in a compact package, for example cellphone, laptop computer, iPAD.... It is also ease for manufacture and assembly with only around 3 cent/cm² cost. That means it only costs 1 cent for a 4mm X 8mm FPCB actuator.

The silicon mirror plate is fabricated using simple and low cost process, i.e., coating a polished silicon wafer with metal film and dicing it. A 6 inch wafer which costs around \$3-5 /pieces can be diced to around 1500 pieces of 3.3mm X 3.3mm size silicon mirror plates. Through the MEMS process 10 pieces silicon wafer can be coated together in one chamber using evaporating coating machine and then dicing them. The processing takes around 10 hours which is estimated to cost \$1000 (at \$100 hourly rate). That means each 3.3mm X 3.3mm size silicon mirror plate will only cost $(1000 + 5 \times 10)/(1500 \times 10)pieces = 0.07 . Therefore each FPCB micromirror costs less than 10 cents, which is much lower than the conventional MEMS micromirror that costs around \$20-30.

2.3.2 Aperture size

The FPCB micromirror can have larger aperture size due to the separate fabrication process. The FPCB actuator and the silicon mirror are fabricated individually and boned together with epoxy

later. Hence it becomes possible to select a larger size mirror plate which is 3.3mm X 3.3mm in the FPCB micromirror design. On the contrary, the MEMS micromirror integrates the mirror plate and the actuator structure together in a 4X4mm size space. Usually the actuator take much space of the design and the rest of 1-2mm can be used as the mirror plate. Moreover due to the limitation of the fabrication process the mirror plate size is limited. For example, the MciraGemSi process [63] limit the maximum trench size to 1.5mm, which will limit the maximum mirror plate size to 1.5mm width. So the MEMS micromirror usually has 1-2mm size aperture or smaller.

With the larger aperture size, higher surface quality in terms of flatness and surface finishing is easy to achieve. In addition, it does not require extra optics to reduce the laser beam size to fit the micromirror size and nor much effort to align the laser optical system.

2.3.3 Surface quality

With the a few hundred um of thickness of the silicon wafer, it is easy to get high quality surface finish with existing fabrication process. A few nm or 0.1nm range surface roughness can be achieved easily and usually with tens of meters radius of curvature which is much larger than that of the MEMS based micromirror which is around less a few meter [64].

The design of FPCB micromirror allows to take advantage of this high quality silicon wafer mirror plate due to the separated fabrication process. In contrast, the conventional MEMs micromirror is fabricated based on either surface-micromachining technology [65][66] or silicon-on-insulator(SOI) [67] bulk micromachining technology [68][69][70]. The surface-micromachining technology has a limitation of each layer on the substrate less than 2-3um[71]. So it is hard to get thicker mirror plate, which leads to low flatness, e.g., 18 ~80mm of radius of curvature [72][41] due to the residual stress difference between thin-film mirror plate and the coated metal layer[73]. SOI based micromirror can have thicker mirror plate (usually 30-50um thickness) with a thin metal layer, e.g., 40-60 nanometers of gold or aluminum film [74]. The different residual stresses in the metal film and the SOI device layer causes the deformation of the mirror plate. The SOI micromirrors have radius of curvature 1-4 meters [41][75][76]. To compensate the difference between the metal layer and the SOI plate, the reflective metal can be applied to both side of the SOI plate[77]. But this will increase the cost of micromirror significantly.

Chapter 3. Laser pattern generation

For both applications of laser availability indicator and laser pattern pointer, to solve their existing problem a laser pattern needs to be generated and projected with the laser light source and FPCB micromirror system. This Chapter will introduce the principle of forming a laser pattern with the FPCB micromirrors.

3.1 Generating straight laser line

To generate a straight laser line on the screen, the FPCB micromirror needs to be positioned in 45° angle with the laser beam as shown in Figure 3-1. When the micromirror vibrates in a high frequency a straight laser line will be generated on the screen. The length of laser line is proportional to the FPCB micromirror scanning angle. If it vibrates at its natural frequency a longer laser line will be formed.



Figure 3-1. Configuration to form a straight laser line with one FPCB micromirror

3.2 Generating static laser circle/ellipse

Two identical FPCB micromirrors are positioned orthogonally as shown in Figure 3-2, i.e., one is to generate the horizontal (x-axis) displacement of the laser beam on the screen and the other is to generate vertical (y-axis) displacement. These two displacements follow Eqs. (3) and (4).
$$x = Msin(wt) \tag{3}$$

$$y = Nsin(wt + \frac{\pi}{2}) \tag{4}$$



Figure 3-2. Configuration to form a laser circle or ellipse with two FPCB micromirrors.

Where *M* is the laser spot displacement in horizontal direction generated by the x-axis micromirror. *N* is the displacement along y-axis generated by the y-axis micromirror. *w* is the mirror vibration frequency. Figure 3-3 shows the patterns generated from Eq. (3) and (4) with M = 3, N = 2 for ellipse and M = 2, N = 2 for circle modelled by Maple software. A static circle or ellipse laser pattern is generated as long as the vibration frequencies of the x-axis and y-axis micromirrors are the same.



(a) Ellipse with M=3 and N=2 (b) Circle with M=N =2 Figure 3-3. Static laser pattern

3.3 Generate rotating ellipse laser pattern

If the two FPCB micromirrors vibrate at slightly different frequencies, a rotating ellipse laser pattern can be generated. The following is the derivation. The two micromirrors vibrate following the Eqs. (5) and (6) with different frequencies.

$$X = Msin[(w_0 + r)t]$$
⁽⁵⁾

$$Y = Nsin[(w_0 - r)t + \frac{\pi}{2}]$$
(6)

Where w_0 is the base frequency and r is the biased frequency. A general ellipse equation [78] can be written as.

$$Ax^{2} + Bxy + Cy^{2} + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$
(7)

Where A, B, C, D, E and F are coefficients. The following equation is obtained by the square of Eq. (5) + the square of Eq. (6).

$$\frac{X^2}{M^2} + \frac{Y^2}{N^2} = 1 + \sin(2w_0 t)\sin(2rt) \tag{8}$$

Multiply Eqs. (5) and (6) leads to

$$\sin(2w_0 t) = \frac{2XY}{MN} - \sin(2rt) \tag{9}$$

Submitting Eq. (9) into Eq. (8) results in

$$\frac{1}{M^2}X^2 - \frac{2\sin(2rt)}{MN}XY + \frac{1}{N^2}Y^2 + \sin^2(2rt) - 1 = 0$$
(10)

Comparing Eq. (10) and (7) the coefficients of Eq. (10) can be found as

$$A = \frac{1}{M^2}, B = -\frac{2\sin(2rt)}{MN}, C = \frac{1}{N^2}, D = 0, E = 0,$$

$$F = \sin^2(2rt) - 1 = -\cos^2(2rt)$$
(11)

A general ellipse can be written as

$$\frac{(x-x_0)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-y_0)^2}{b^2} = 1$$
(12)

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2}\arctan(\frac{B}{A-C}) \tag{13}$$

Where *a* and *b* are the radius of the two axes of the ellipse. (x_0, y_0) is the center of the ellipse. θ is the angle of the ellipse. These variables can be obtained as

$$x_0 = \frac{-D'}{2A'} = 0 \tag{14}$$

$$y_0 = \frac{-E'}{2C'} = 0 \tag{15}$$

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{-F'}{A'}} \tag{16}$$

$$b = \sqrt{\frac{-F'}{C'}} \tag{17}$$

Where

$$A' = A\cos^{2}\theta + B\cos\theta\sin\theta + C\sin^{2}\theta, B' = 0,$$

$$C' = A\sin^{2}\theta - B\cos\theta\sin\theta + C\cos^{2}\theta,$$

$$F' = F$$
(18)

Substituting Eq. (11) to Eq. (13), the following equation is obtained.

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left[\frac{2MN\sin(2rt)}{M^2 - N^2}\right] \tag{19}$$

Substituting Eq. (11) to Eq. (18) and the result into Eqs. (16) and (17) leads to

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{M^2 N^2 \cos^2(2rt)}{N^2 \cos^2\theta - 2MN \sin(2rt)\cos\theta\sin\theta + M^2 \sin^2\theta}}$$
(20)

$$b = \sqrt{\frac{M^2 N^2 \cos^2(2rt)}{N^2 \sin^2\theta + 2MN \sin(2rt)\cos\theta\sin\theta + M^2\cos^2\theta}}$$
(21)

Eq. (19) shows the angle of the ellipse is a periodic function of time with the period of

$$T_{\theta} = \frac{\pi}{r} \tag{22}$$

The radius of the ellipse are the periodic function of time with period of

$$T_{a,b} = \frac{\pi}{2r} \tag{23}$$

In order to generate a rotating ellipse, the following condition needs to be met.

$$r \neq 0 \tag{24}$$

So with the two FPCB micromirrors and the laser optical system, different laser pattern can be generated through controlling the movement of the mirror plate. When the driving frequencies of these two micromirror are slightly different, a rotating laser ellipse will be formed.

Chapter 4. Prototype and test

Four FPCB micromirror prototypes (two for design 1 and two for design 2) were made for testing analysis of the rotation performance. Two critical parameters, natural resonant frequency and rotation angle with different driving voltages, were found from the experiments. The moving trajectory of the laser spot caused by the vibration of the FPCB micromirror was also measured with different driving signals by a Position Sensitive Detector.

4.1 FPCB micromirror



Figure 4-1. FPCB micromirror prototype

After the FPCB and the mirror plate had been fabricated separately, epoxy was used to bond the mirror plate to the FPCB as well as the anchor pad of the FPCB to the support pad of the aluminum fixed electrode. Figure 4-1 shows the finished FPCB micromirror prototype.

4.2 Mirror plate surface finishing

The mirror plate surface quality was measured by the ZYGO 3D Optical Surface Profiler which can profile heights ranging from less than 1nm up to 20000 μ m at high speeds, independent of surface texture. With ZYGO's Coherence Scanning Interferometry (CSI) technology, it easily measures a wide range of surfaces, including smooth, rough, flat, sloped, and stepped surfaces with less than 0.1nm vertical resolution.

4.2.1 Roughness



Figure 4-2. Roughness of mirror plate test profile plot

Figure 4-2 presents the test result on a small area (0.5mm x 0.5mm) of the mirror plate from ZYGO profiler which shows that the roughness of the mirror plate prototype is around 2nm.



4.2.2 Radius of curvature

Figure 4-3. Measured 3D model of mirror plate

The 3D model tested by the ZYGO profiler is shown in Figure 4-3. And Figure 4-4 shows the detail profile plot which illustrate that the arc height is 56nm with 3.0mm arc width. Therefore the calculated radius of curvature for the mirror plate is 20 meters. It is much longer than the MEMS micromirror plate. Two MEMS micromirror plates were tested with the same machine. Both the

radius of curvature are less than 20 centimeter which is 100 times shorter than the FPCB mirror plate.



Figure 4-4. Mirror plate curvature profile plot

To compare the FPCB micromirror plate with the conventional MEMS micromirror plate, a 1.5mm x 1.5mm SOIMUMPs based MEMS micromirror plate with metal coating was tested by the same ZYGO profiler with the same setting and lens. Figure 4-5 and Figure 4-6 show the 3D model and the detail profile plot respectively. The arc height is 2.67um with 1.34mm arc width, which shows that radius of curvature are around 8.4 centimeter.



Figure 4-5. Measured 3D model of MEMS micromirror plate



Figure 4-6. MEMS micromirror plate curvature profile plot

4.3 PCB micromirror scanning angle test



Figure 4-7. Setup of the measurement system

The measurement set up is shown in Figure 4-7 to test the performance of the FPCB micromirror. A grid paper was used as the projection screen to measure the laser line length. The micromirror

scanning angle can be calculated by measuring the laser spot displacement on the grid paper and the distance between the screen and the micromirror. In the measurement, a function generator was used to generate the control signal for convenience in varying the frequency and control voltage. And then the 3.0V level control signal was amplified to 200V level signal to drive the electrostatic parallel plate of the FPCB micromirror through a general high voltage amplifier.

A driving signal with frequencies from 0 to 200Hz and fixed voltages of 100V and 180V were applied to these four FPCB micromirror prototypes. The results of design 1 are shown in Figures 4-8 and 4-9. According to the testing results, the first mode resonant frequency is 85Hz for the prototype 1 and 91Hz for the prototype 2. The difference in resonant frequency and the tested one, and the difference between rotation angles of them can be attributed to the following reasons, i.e., 1) The bonding of the anchor pad of the FPCB to the support pad of the aluminum fixed electrode is manual and is not consistent and accurate. For example, if the anchor pad is beyond the edge of the support pad, the effective stiffness of the assembled FPCB micromirror would be lower than the designed value; 2) The mirror plate is bonded to the FPCB manually which is not accurate and consistent. As a result, different prototypes have different moment of inertia, which affects the gap and then affect the electrostatic torque and rotation angle. This deformation is not consistent in the different prototypes.



Figure 4-8. Prototype 1 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving signal frequency



Figure 4-9. Prototype 2 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving signal frequency.

The rotation angle of each micromirror with different driving voltages at its resonant frequency was measured as shown in Figures 4-10 and 4-11. The maximum optical rotation angles are 5.26° and 2.69° for the prototype 1 and prototype 2 micromirrors respectively at 200V driving voltage. The significant difference in rotation angle between two micromirrors is because the deformation of the FPCB beams causes a smaller gap of the prototype 1 micromirror than that of the prototype 2 micromirror. It should be noticed that the optical rotation angle in Figures 4-8~4-11 is the total angle by summing the plus and minus angles of the micromirror.

Each micromirror consumes power of less than 0.2mW. The power was calculated through measuring the current across a 150KOhm resistor connected with the FPCB micromirror serially.



Figure 4-10. Prototype1 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving voltage.



Figure 4-11. Prototype2 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving voltage.

With the same measurement setup, the test results for prototype 3 and prototype 4 of design 2 is shown in Figure 4-12 to Figure 4-15. The test result shows that the design 2 micromirror have lower natural resonant frequency which are 53Hz and 50Hz for prototype 3 and prototype 4 respectively due to their longer spring beam than design 1. They also have larger rotation angle which are 5.88° and 6.22° respectively because of the design of low spring beam stiffness and smaller parallel plate gap.



Figure 4-12. Prototype 3 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving signal frequency.



Figure 4-13. Prototype 4 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving signal frequency.



Figure 4-14. Prototype 3 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving voltage.



Figure 4-15. Prototype 4 micromirror optical rotation angle/driving voltage.

4.4 PCB micromirror moving trajectory test



Figure 4-16. Set up of the measurement system for laser spot moving trajectory

The measurement of last section only shows the relationship between the driving voltage and the optical scanning angle with different frequencies. In order to form a proper circle or ellipse laser pattern which was descripted in last chapter, a sinusoidal laser moving trajectory is required. Therefore a Position Sensitive Detector (PSD) was used to replace the display screen to find the laser spot moving trajectory. The test system was set up as shown in Figure 4-16. In this test setup, the high voltage amplifier circuit developed for the availability indictor was used to amplify the low voltage control signal generated from functional generator.

A sinusoidal wave and different duty cycle square wave driving signal with the natural resonant frequency were applied to the FPCB micromirror to verify the laser spot moving trajectory shown in Figure 4-17. The yellow line is the laser spot moving track and the green line is the control signal wave. According to the test results, the laser spot follows a sinusoidal trajectory regardless of the driving signal. So the FPCB micromirror can be driving with either a sinusoidal wave driving



signal or a square wave for simplifying the control circuit and software.

(c) 30% duty cycel square wave driving signal
 (d) 70% duty cycel square wave driving signal
 Figure 4-17. PSD result for laser spot moving trajectory

Chapter 5. Laser projection availability indicator

Based on the laser generation and projection technology introduced above, in this Chapter I will describe the design of the laser projection availability indicator to solve the wiring problem of existing availability indicator in the market. The working principle will be explained first. And then I will describe the design of the mechanical part, the driving circuit, the control software and the test result of a prototype.



5.1 Design and working principle

Figure 5-1. Working principle of FPCB micromirror based laser projection availability indicator

The FPCB micromirror based laser projection availability indicator consists of a red and a green laser, two FPCB micromirrors, a laser beam combiner and control/driving circuit as shown in Figure 5-1. The red and green lasers are combined via a 552nm dichroic laser beam combiner. These two lasers are switched on or off to indicate unavailable or available. The two FPCB micromirrors resonate and scan the laser beam horizontally and vertically to generate the laser pattern. If the two FPCB micromirrors vibrate at the same frequency, a static circle or ellipse is generated. If the vibration frequencies of the two micromirrors are adjusted to be different, a

rotating ellipse is generated. The detailed model of generating rotating ellipse laser pattern is explained above.

The laser modules are a 1mW red and 1mW green laser from World Star Technologies with a single 5.0V operating voltage. Both of them are the Class 2 safe laser for the human eyes. The laser beam combiner was selected from Edmund optics which are designed to efficiently combine laser beams at an 45° angle of incidence. It features greater than 98% reflection and greater than 95% transmission and yielding exceptionally low loss. It transmits the longer red color 635nm laser and reflect shorter green 520nm laser.

The detail mechanical drawing can be found in Appendix A.

This FPCB micromirror based availability indicator is small enough to be placed on top of the users' monitor, table or be mounted on the wall close to user, the power source and control computer. It can project a red or green color pattern on the cubicle wall or the door window of an office room to indicate busy or available. By this way, only a very short cable is required to power the availability indicator and the laser pattern can be generated on the screen a few meters away. Thus it does not require long a cable mounted on the existing finished office environment.

The remote surface can be either opaque or translucent film as long as the projected pattern can be seen by both the users and others. Attaching a translucent film on the glass window of cubicle or door will convert it to a projection screen easily.



Figure 5-2. Diagram of control circuit for availability indicator

5.2 Driving circuit

The diagram of the control circuit is shown in Figure 5-2 which includes two control circuits. Control circuit 1 is the main control board of the device. The ARM core microcontroller communicates with the computer to get the control commands and to send back the status of the availability indicator through the USB interface which also provides 5V power supply. The indicator can also be operated in standalone mode by the pushbutton to switch the projected laser pattern color. The DAC converter controlled by the microcontroller generates two channels of low voltage (3.0V range) sinusoidal or square wave control signals. Similar to other electrostatic parallel plate actuator, it requires high driving voltage with low current. The two low voltage signals are amplified to high voltage level which could be as high as 200V through the high voltage amplifier in circuit 2, to drive the two FPCB micromirrors. The projected laser pattern could be a static circle or ellipse or a rotating ellipse with rotating period adjustable according to equations of the previous section.



(a)

(b)

Figure 5-3. Control circuit 1 PCB layout of availability indicator: (a) Top component side. (b) Bottom solder side

5.2.1 Digital control circuit

The control circuit 1 is the main control circuit including power source, communication interface, microcontroller, DAC converter and laser on/off switches.

The mini USB port is used as the device power supply and also serve as the communication port with computer to get control commands and send the working status. The power from a standard USB port is 500mA which is sufficient for the laser indicator device which usually consume 140mA to 200mA.



(a)



(b)

Figure 5-4. Control circuit 1 finished PCB: (a) Top component side (b) Bottom solder side

STM32L151CBT6 was chosen as the microcontroller which is ultra-low power 32 bit ARMbased Cortex-M3 MCU with 128KB flash, 16KB SRAM and 4KB EEPROM. It offers a 12bit ADC, two channels 12bit DAC and also contains standard and advanced communication interface: I2C and SPIs, USARTs and USB. The ARM-based Cortex-M3 MCU incorporates a 3 stage pipeline and uses a Harvard architecture with separate local instruction and data buses as well as a third bus for peripherals. This makes most instructions, including multiply, being one clock cycle execution. Therefore it outperforms most other microcontroller products. With the two embedded DAC channels, two arbitrary signal waveforms can be generated to control the two FPCB micromirrors.

The detail circuit schematic are shown in Appendix B. The PCB layout using OrCAD PCB Editor software is shown in Figure 5-3 with 40mm X 20mm size.

Figure 5-4 shows the finished PCB with all components soldered.

5.2.2 High voltage amplifier circuit

The circuit 2 is the high voltage amplifier circuit which is designed as an independent circuit because it also can be used as a universal high voltage amplifier for any device which needs high voltage signal with only one 5.0V power supply. It is also convenient to connect with a function generator to generate the control signal for the prototype experiment. For instance, when the FPCB micromirror was tested by the control signal generated from a function generator, it can convert the 3.0V range low voltage signal to 200V range high voltage signal to drive the FPCB micromirror.



Figure 5-5. High voltage amplifier PCB layout: (a) Top component side. (b) Bottom solder side

This circuit contents two main components, which are the 5V to 200V DC/DC converter and the high operation voltage operational amplifier. To get arbitrary high voltage control signal, a 4 channel HV264 amplifier from Supertex Inc. was selected. It operates on a 200V high voltage supply and a 5.0V low voltage supply with internal fixed gain of 66.7V/V and typical output slew rate of 9.0V/us. In addition, due to its TSSOP24 package this driver only has 35mm X 25mm dimension. 5SM200S high voltage DC/DC converter from Pico Electronics was used to create 200V power supply for the amplifier. This device is a single integrated SMD PCB mount module with only a single 5V input.

The detail circuit schematic for this high voltage amplifier is shown in Appendix C. The PCB layout of the high voltage amplifier circuit using Eagle PCB software is shown in Figure 5-5.



(a)



(b)

Figure 5-6. High voltage amplifier circuit finished PCB: (a) Top component side. (b) Bottom solder side

Figure 5-6 shows the finished PCB with all components soldered.

5.2.3 Control program

The control software was developed in Ride7 Integrated Development Environment (IDE) with GNU C programming language. This software tools integrated seamlessly with the free GNU C compiler for ARM core Microcontroller provide start-to-finish control of application development including code editing, compilation, optimization and debugging.



Figure 5-7. Control software flow chart for availability indicator

Figure 5-7 shows the embedded control software flowchart. Detecting the status of the push button, the availability indictor switches the projected laser color to indicate busy or available and also change between the static and rotating laser ellipse pattern. To form a static laser ellipse, the control singles which were generated by the two channels DAC on the microcontroller were both 88.0Hz square wave signals with different driving voltage. In contrast, a slightly different driving frequency which was 0.05Hz between x-FPCB micromirror and y-FPCB micromirror will form a rotating laser ellipse according the analysis of Chapter 3. The software adjust the control signal scanning frequency by changing the counted cycle numbers. For example, for an 88.0Hz frequency signal the period of switching the DAC output voltage equals to half of the cycle $1/(2 \times 88)Hz \approx 5.68ms$. And the software needs around 2.272us to finish a running cycle, therefore when the counter for the running cycle reaches 2500 the DAC will switch the output voltage between zero and the full control voltage. If both switched counting number for x-FPCB micromirror and 2465 for y-FPCB micromirror, a 10sec period rotating laser pattern will be generated.

The GNU C based C language code for the control software of laser availability indicator can be found in Appendix D.

5.3 Prototype and test

5.3.1 Laser availability indicator

The FPCB micromirror prototype 1 and prototype 2 of design 1 were used in building the laser availability indicator.

Figure 5-8 shows the prototype of the laser availability indicator. The dimensions of the device are 60mm width, 70mm length and 20 mm height. A laser beam combiner is positioned at 45° to both lasers. It reflects the shorter wavelength (520nm) green laser and transmits the longer wavelength (635nm) red laser. Due to the large size of the micromirror (3.3mm x 3.3 mm) no beam size reducer is needed and the beam alignment is very convenient. The indicator is powered through the standard USB interface, which is also used to communicate with the control computer for switching the laser color to show available or unavailable.

5.3.2 Generating rotating ellipse

According to the model of generating rotating ellipse in Chapter 3 and the testing results of Figures 4-8~4-9, the base frequency is

$$\omega_0 = \frac{85 + 91}{2} \times 2\pi = 552.9 \tag{25}$$

The biased frequency is set to be

$$r = 0.05 \times 2\pi \tag{26}$$



(a) Assembled laser availability indicator



(b) Integrated in a small box with control pushbuttonFigure 5-8. Prototype of the laser availability indicator

In the test, the display screen is one meter away from the micromirrors. In order to obtain a visible laser pattern with size of about 3 cm, i.e., the longest axis is about 3 cm, the x-axis and y-axis laser spot displacements were chosen to be M = 15mm and N = 10mm. The corresponding

voltages for x-axis and y-axis micromirrors are 146V and 153V respectively.

From Eq. (19) the angle of the rotating ellipse is

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left[\frac{2 \times 15 \times 10 \sin(2 \times 0.05 \times 2\pi t)}{15^2 - 10^2}\right]$$
(27)

which is depicted in Figure 5-9.



Figure 5-9. Angle of the ellipse changing with time periodically

The period of rotating ellipse from Eq. (22) is

$$T_{\theta} = \frac{\pi}{r} = \frac{\pi}{2\pi \times 0.05} = 10 sec$$
 (28)

Substituting M, N and r into Eq. (20) and (21) the radius of the ellipse can be calculated as

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{22500cos^{2}(2rt)}{100cos^{2}\theta - 300sin(2rt)cos\theta sin\theta + 225sin^{2}\theta}}$$
(29)
$$b = \sqrt{\frac{22500cos^{2}(2rt)}{100sin^{2}\theta + 300sin(2rt)cos\theta sin\theta + 225cos^{2}\theta}}$$
(30)

which are depicted in Figure 5-10. The radius of the ellipse is a periodic function of time with the period half of the rotating angle, i.e., the ellipse rotates every 360°, and the radius changes twice.



Figure 5-10. The long and short axis of the rotating ellipse



Figure 5-11. Modeled rotating laser pattern in one period. Both horizontal and vertical axes are laser spot scanning displacement on the screen with unit of mm.

Figure 5-11 shows the modeled projected rotating ellipses in one period from Eq. (5) and (6). The starting time and time interval between images were set to be the same as those of the experimental testing images for comparison.



Figure 5-12. Experimental results of the projected rotating laser pattern in one period.

The experimental testing results were obtained using camera with the function of automatic and continuous recording images as shown in Figure 5-12. A digital stopwatch was put beside the screen. The measured laser pattern and the modeled results match very well. A slight discrepancy is because the captured image cannot show the millisecond time accurately.

5.4 Result of laser availability indicator

The project display screen can be a rear projection plate or see-through reflective film, which is translucent. The translucent film can be attached to a glass window of the door or a cubicle wall. Figure 5-13 shows that the indicator displays and projects the laser pattern on a rear projection screen plate. The laser pattern can also be switched to be green. With this laser availability indicator, no wire is needed to connect the displayed sign with a power/control source which is needed in traditional availability indicators.

Since no literatures have been found on the FPCB micromirror, the reliability including the fatigue life of FPCB as vibrating structure is under investigation. Thus far the FPCB micromirror has been continuously running for 100 days, equivalent to 760 million cycle vibration without any performance deterioration.



Figure 5-13. Projected laser pattern on rear projection screen by laser availability indicator

Chapter 6. Laser pattern pointer

To increase the laser pointer visibility within the laser safety class, the FPCB micromirror based lase pattern technology using in the application of availability indicator introduced above can be used in the design for laser pattern pointer. The principle of the FPCB micromirror and the laser pattern generation technology is the same as the availability indicator. However, the laser pointer is a handheld device which requires a much lower driving voltage, typically using a battery. Therefore the FPCB micromirror of design 2 with longer spring beam and smaller gap to increase its rotation angle was used in the laser pattern pointer application. A double concave lenses was also added to magnify the laser scanning angle. In addition, a high voltage DC/DC converter with boost converter and charge pump circuit was designed, instead of the 5SM200S DC/DC converter which consumes too much power. Without any load it consumes around 85mA current which is not suitable for battery driven devices.



6.1 Design and working principle of laser pattern pointer

Figure 6-1. FPCB micromirror for laser pattern pointer.

The FPCB micromirror holder and the fixed aluminum plate is shown as Figure 6-1. The aluminum part serve as the fixed electrode of the parallel plate and also the FPCB micromirror holder to mount it on the base. The horizontal and the vertical micromirror share the same holder

for easy fabrication.

The laser optical system for laser pattern pointer includes a red laser, two FPCB micromirrors and a double concave lens as shown in Figure 6-2. The double concave lens is used to magnify the laser scanning angle which will lower the driving voltage to get the same scanning angle. The mechanical drawing for the laser optical system can be found in Appendix E.



Figure 6-2. FPCB micromirror laser optical system model for laser pattern pointer

The whole device was enclosed in a 36mm x 26mm x 114mm box which is suitable for human handheld as shown in Figure 6-3. A navigation switch with 7 function tact and scroll wheel from C&K Components was selected to control the laser pointer to switch between line, ellipse and rotating pattern and change the laser pattern size with the multi pushbutton easily. It is compact and slim with multiple functions in one component.

6.2 Benefit of the laser pattern pointer

- Higher visibility using the same or lower laser power within the safety class for the application of laser pointer, easier and quicker for the audience to locate the focus area on the screen without waving the laser pointer manually by the presenter, since a laser pattern such as a circle or rotating ellipse instead of a laser dot is projected.
- 2) The presenter can highlight some specific area on a big screen with the laser horizontal or

vertical line or circle.

3) To add the laser pattern projection function, it only costs \$10 more and consumes 22mA more power than the conventional laser presenter with the similar size dimension package.



Figure 6-3. Model of laser pattern pointer device

6.3 Driving circuit



Figure 6-4. Diagram of control circuit for laser pattern pointer

The diagram of digital driving circuit for the laser pattern pointer is shown in Figure 6-4. To share the same development platform with availability indicator the laser pointer takes the same ARM core microcontroller which is STM32L151CBT6, the ultra-low power 32 bit ARM-based Cortex-M3 MCU. A 5 pins SWD (Serial Wire Debug) connector replaced the 20 pins JTAG IDC connector as the debug and programming interface to save the PCB space.



Figure 6-5. DC/DC boost converter with charge pump circuit schematic

A high voltage DC/DC converter was designed, based on a boost converter and charge pump circuit as shown in Figure 6-5. A boost step up controller for DC/DC converter with maximum 40V output voltage is unusually popular and easily purchased from a component distributor. LM2733Y from Texas Instruments was selected as the boost converter control IC which operates at a fixed frequency (600 kHz) using current mode control for fast response over wide input voltage. It can tolerate 2.7-14V input voltage range which is suitable for the battery powered device when the output voltage of the battery drops with use. However 40V voltage is not enough for FPCB micromirror driving. So a four Cockcroft Walton stages voltage multiplier charge pump circuit was add to generate a higher voltage. Each stage will increase the voltage one time. According the test results the four stages could be reduce to two or three stages to lower the

maximum output voltage which equals to

$$V_{out} = \left(\frac{R29}{R28} + 1\right) \times 1.23 \times (1 + Stages) \tag{31}$$

So it also can be adjusted through changing the value of resistor R29. In this practical design,

$$V_{out} = \left(\frac{348}{13} + 1\right) \times 1.23 \times (1+4) = 170.8V \tag{32}$$

The detail circuit schematic for the whole laser pattern pointer is shown in Appendix F. The PCB layout using OrCAD PCB Editor Software is shown in Figure 6-6 with 84mm X 28mm size.





(b)

Figure 6-6. Control circuit PCB layout of laser pattern pointer: (a) Top component side. (b) Bottom solder side

Figure 6-7 shows the finished PCB with all components soldered.



(a)



(b)

Figure 6-7. Laser pattern pointer finished PCB: (a) Top component side. (b) Bottom solder side.

6.4 Control program

The control software was developed in Ride7 Integrated Development Environment (IDE) with GNU C programming language. Figure 6-8 shows the embedded control software flowchart. The laser pattern pointer can generate four different patterns, - horizontal line, vertical line, static circle, ellipse and rotating ellipse. For each of the laser pattern, the length of the line or the size of the ellipse can be adjusted through increasing or decreasing the driving voltage with up/down

pushbutton. Pushing the center pushbutton will switch the laser on/off and left/right pushbutton changes the laser projected pattern.



Figure 6-8. Control software flow chart for laser pattern pointer

To generate a laser line, only one sinusoidal is required to drive one FPCB micromirror

(horizontal or vertical) and the other direction FPCB micromirror is fixed to ground. The method of forming a static or rotating circle or ellipse is same as the application in the availability indicator with different control signal frequency because of their different natural resonant frequency.

The C language code based on GNU C compiler for the control software of laser pattern pointer can be found in Appendix G.

6.5 **Prototype and test**

FPCB micromirror prototype 3 and prototype 4 of design 2 were used to build the laser pattern pointer optical system as shown in Figure 6-9 according to the design model.



Figure 6-9. FPCB micromirror laser optical system prototype for laser pattern pointer

Figure 6-10 shows the prototype of the laser pattern pointer. The whole device was integrated in a plastic box with the dimension of 36mm width, 26 mm height and 114mm length. Two 3.6V 1.2Ah primary lithium high density 1/2AA size batteries-LS14250 which would fit in an AA size battery holder were selected to drive the device.

To measure the laser pattern pointer power consumption, it was powered through a benchtop power supply with current display instead of the batteries. It consumes 22mA with laser off and 37mA with laser on while setting the driving voltage to 7.2V, the same voltage as two 3.6V batteries. Therefore for the 1200mAH battery it can work for 1200/37 = 32.4hours continuously without any break.



(a) Assembled laser pattern pointer



(b) Laser pattern pointer integrated in a handheld boxFigure 6-10. Prototype of laser pattern pointer device

With 45V driving voltage and 51.5Hz control signal frequency, the laser pattern pointer can projected a 3cm size pattern on a screen 2 meters away. A few pictures of the projected pattern on a PowerPoint slide show screen from the prototype of laser pattern pointer were taken. Figure 6-11 shows the projected horizontal laser line with shorter, middle and longer length on a real PowerPoint slideshows. The different size vertical line and circle is shown in Figure 6-12 and Figure 6-13 respectively. The Figure 6-14 shows the different size rotating laser ellipse which was taken using the continuous shooting mode of the digital camera. Picture 1 to picture 4 show a sequence of 4 shots which indicates the rotating laser ellipse.


(a)

(b)

(c)

Figure 6-11. Projected horizontal laser line (a) Short line (b) Middle long line (c) Long line



(a)

(b)

(c)

Figure 6-12. Projected vertical laser line (a) Short line (b) Middle long line (c) Long line



Figure 6-13. Projected laser circle (a) Small circle (b) Middle size circle (c) Large size circle

(a)

(b)



Figure 6-14. Projected rotating laser ellipse (a) Small size (b) Middle size (c) Large size

Chapter 7. Conclusions and future work

7.1 Conclusions

The objectives were achieved as follows.

 Developed a FPCB micromirror based on commercial flexible printed board process, which has much lower cost with much larger aperture size and higher surface quality than conventional MEMs micromirrors.

Various prototypes were developed. The maximum optical rotation angles are 5.26° and 2.69° for the prototype 1 and prototype 2 respectively with the resonant frequency in the range of 80~90 Hz. The prototype 3 and prototype 4 have the resonant frequency from 50~60 Hz and optical rotation angle of 5.88° and 6.22° respectively.

- 2. Developed the laser pattern generating technology using the two FPCB micromirrors positioned orthogonally. Through controlling the resonant frequency and magnitude of each micromirror, various laser patterns can be generated. For example, a static circle can be generated by controlling the two micromirrors to vibrate at the same frequency with the same magnitude. A rotating ellipse is generated through vibrating the two micromirrors in slightly different frequencies with the rotating period adjustable by tuning the frequency difference. A horizontal or vertical line can be generated by tuning the vibration magnitude of either micromirror to zero.
- 3. Developed a laser availability indicator which integrated two FPCB micromirrors, a red laser, a green laser, a laser beam combiner and control/driving circuit which includes a microcontroller, high voltage converter and a multi-channel amplifier. Software was also developed and embedded in the microcontroller. The prototype has been fabricated and tested. The indicator generated a sharp rotating ellipse laser pattern and projected to a remote translucent film. It well solved the wiring problem with existing availability indicators. The fatigue life of the FPCB micromirror has been tested. Thus far the FPCB micromirror has been continuously running for 100 days that is equivalent to about 760 million vibration cycles without any performance deterioration.
- 4. Developed a laser pattern pointer which integrated a red laser, an amplification lens, two

FPCB micromirrors, driving and controlling circuits and an assembling box with multibutton. The prototype was developed and tested. It can generate rotating ellipse and horizontal/vertical line with the laser pattern size tunable. The prototype was integrated in a 36mm x 26mm x 114mm size box. This laser pattern pointer has better visibility than conventional laser pointers for the audience to easily and quickly locate the laser spot on the presentation screen. In addition, the laser pattern pointer provides function to highlight a line, a column or an area by switching between laser patterns of circles and horizontal or vertical line with size adjustable by pressing two buttons. The prototype of the pattern laser pointer can continuously works for 32.4 hours.

7.2 **Recommendations**

The FPCB micromirror, laser availability indicator and the laser pattern pointer could be improved in the following ways.

1: Because the FPCB micromirror is assembled by manually bonding a mirror plate to the FPCB actuator and manually bonding an aluminum plate to form the gap, there are variations in vibration resonant frequency and magnitude in prototypes. In the future designs, the parallel plate gap could be formed by fabricating a hard supporter at the anchor pad backside. So manually bonding the FPCB to the aluminum plate will not affect the stiffness of the beam spring. In addition, a mechanism needs to be developed to bond the silicon mirror plate to the FPCB actuator to ensure accurate positioning of the mirror plate relative to the FPCB actuator.

2: The laser driver could be integrated in the driving circuit to shrink the laser module length which is the main factor determining the size of the laser availability indicator. With this improvement, the indicator can be packaged in much smaller size, i.e., 60mm x 40mm x 20mm. The current size is 60mm x 70mm x 20 mm.

3: The driving voltage of the laser pattern pointer should be reduced to less than 36V which is preferred for a handheld device, instead of the current 100~200V. A novel electrostatic actuator should be developed to reduce the driving voltage, such as using an innovative fixed electrode surface or larger electrode area.

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Appendix A: Mechanical drawing of laser projection availability

indicator











Appendix B: Schematic and components list of laser indicator control

circuit



Item	Quantity	Reference	Part	PCB Footprint	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Part Number
		C1,C4,C6,C9,C				
1	8	4	0.1UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C104K4RACTU
2	1	C2	100UF 16V	smd6032	Kemet	T491C107K016AT
3	2	C3,C5	1UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C105K4PACTU
4	2	C7,C8	22PF 50V 5%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C220J5GACTU
5	1	C10	10UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Taiyo Yuden	LMK107BBJ106MAHT
6	1	D1	TL4050B25IDBZ R	sot23-3	Texas Instruments	TL4050B25IDBZR
7	2	D2,D7	B0540W-7-F	SOD123	Diodes Incorporated	B0540W-7-F
8	3	D3,D5,D6	LED	LED0603	Lite-On Inc	LTST-C191KGKT
9	1	J1	532530570	53253-5P	Molex Inc	532530570
10	1	J2	SBH11-PBPC- D10	conn5020	Sullins Connector	GRPB102VWVN-RC
11	1	J6	UX60-MB-5ST	UX60- MB-5ST	Hirose Electric	UX60-MB-5ST
12	1	J7	532530270	53253-2P	Molex Inc	532530270
13	1	J8	532530670	53253-6P	Molex Inc	532530670
14	3	Q1,Q2,Q3	SI2302CDS	sot23-3	Vishay Siliconix	SI2302CDS-T1-E3
16	7	R6,R7,R12,R1 3,R14,R15,R23	10K 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1002V
17	7	R1,R8,R10,R1 1,R16,R19,R20	1K 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1001V
18	1	R21	1.5k 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1501V
19	1	U1	DAC124S085	MSOP10	Texas Instruments	DAC124S085CIMM/NOPB
20	1	U2	STM32L151CBT 6	TQFP48	STMicroelectroni cs	STM32L151CBT6
21	1	U3	MCP1702	sot23-3	Microchip Technology	MCP1702T-3302E/CB
22	1	U4	USBLC6-2	SOT23-6	STMicroelectroni cs	USBLC6-2SC6
23	1	Y1	ABM3- 8.000MHZ-D2Y- T	ABM3	Abracon LLC	ABM3-8.000MHZ-D2Y-T

Appendix C: Schematic and components list of high voltage amplifier



				РСВ		Manufacturer
Item	Quantity	Reference	Part	Footprint	Manufacturer	Part Number
		R18, R19, R21,				
1	4	R22	0	SMD0805	Panasonic	ERJ-6GEY0R00V
2	3	C1, C3, C6	0.1UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C104K4RACTU
3	1	C5	0.1UF 250V 10%	smd1206	Kemet	C1206C104KARACTU
4	1	C2	100UF 16V	smd6032	Kemet	T491C107K016AT
		R13, R14, R15,				
		R16, R17, R20,			Rohm	
5	8	R23, R24	150K 1/10w 1%	smd0805	Semiconductor	ESR10EZPF1503
		R1, R2, R3, R4,				
6	6	R12	1K 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1001V
					Rohm	
7	4	R7, R8, R9, R10	2.0K	smd0805	Semiconductor	ESR10EZPF2001
8	2	J1, J2	532530270	53253-2P	Molex Inc	532530270
9	2	J3, J4	532530570	53253-5P	Molex Inc	532530570
10	1	R11	4.99k 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF4991V
11	1	IC3	5SM200S	SM5200S	Pico Electronics	5SM200S
12	1	R6	8.45K 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF8451V
13	1	C4	1UF 250V 10%	smd1825	Kemet	C1825C105KARACTU
					Comchip	
14	1	D2	CGRM4004-G	SOD123	Technology	CGRM4004-G
					Fairchild	
15	1	Q2	FDC6318P	SOT23-6	Semiconductor	FDC6318P
					Microchip	
16	1	IC2	HV264TS-G	TSSOP24	Technology	HV264TS-G
17	1	LED1	LED	LED0603	Lite-On Inc	LTST-C191KGKT
			MMBT3906LT1S		Fairchild	
18	1	Q1	MD	SOT23-BEC	Semiconductor	MMBT3906
					NXP	
19	1	D1	PESD24VL2BT	SOT23	Semiconductors	PESD24VL2BT,215
					STMicroelectron	
20	1	IC1	USBLC6-4SC6	SOT23-6	ics	USBLC6-4SC6

Appendix D: C language program of availability indictor

```
/*_____
* DESCRIPTION:
* This program is for laser availability indicator.
 * Copyright (c) MEMS lab, 2015
     *
/* Includes -----*/
#include "stm32l1xx.h"
#include "stm32l1xx dac.h"
/* board defines -----*/
typedef __IO uint32_t vu32;
typedef __IO uint16_t vul6;
typedef __IO uint8_t vu8;
typedef uint32 t u32;
typedef uint16 t u16;
typedef uint8 t u8;
//LEDs port and pins
#define LEDS GPIO
                   (GPIOB)
#define LEDS RCC GPIO (RCC AHBPeriph GPIOB)
#define LED0_PIN (GPI0_Pin_0)
#define LED1_DIN (CDI0_Din_1)
#define LED1 PIN
                   (GPIO Pin 1)
#define LEDS BOTH PINS (LEDO PIN|LED1 PIN)
// Push button port and pin
#define BP_GPIO (GPIOA)
#define BP RCC GPIO
                   (RCC AHBPeriph GPIOA)
#define BP PIN (GPIO Pin 2)
/* defines -----*/
#define PhaseDelay 100
#define DelayCTime 2500
/* function prototypes -----*/
void RCC Configuration( void );
void NVIC Configuration( void );
void Delay( vu32 nCount );
void DAC Config(void);
/* global variables -----*/
/* These variables could (and should, maybe) be
defined as local to the main
function, but declaring them as global and volatile
helps for debugging.
GPIO InitTypeDef GPIO InitStructure;
DAC InitTypeDef DAC InitStructure;
vul6 bpinput = 0;
/* functions -----*/
* Function Name : main
* Description : Main program.
* Input : None
        : None
* Output
* Return
             : None
int main( void )
£
ul6 DACVal1=0,DACVal2=0;
u16 DACVal1Count=0,DACVal2Count=0;
```

```
1116
DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime, DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime;
u16 RunState=1;
u16 PhaseDelayv=PhaseDelay;
#ifdef DEBUG
   debug();
#endif
    /*!< At this stage the microcontroller clock
setting is already configured,
      this is done through SystemInit() function
which is called from startup
      file (startup stm3211xx md.s) before to
branch to application main.
      To reconfigure the default setting of
SystemInit() function, refer to
      system stm32l1xx.c file
    SystemInit();
    RCC AHBPeriphClockCmd ( LEDS RCC GPIO, ENABLE );
    // Configure LED pins as output push-pull
   GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Pin = LEDS_BOTH_PINS;
GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Mode = GPIO_Mode_OUT;
   GPIO InitStructure.GPIO OType = GPIO OType PP;
   GPIO InitStructure.GPIO PuPd =
GPIO PuPd NOPULL;
    GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Speed =
GPIO Speed 40MHz;
    GPIO Init( LEDS GPIO, &GPIO InitStructure );
   RCC AHBPeriphClockCmd( BP RCC GPIO, ENABLE );
    // Configure BP pin as input
    GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Pin = BP PIN;
   GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Mode = GPIO_Mode_IN;
GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_PuPd =
GPIO PuPd NOPULL;
   GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Speed =
GPIO Speed 40MHz;
    GPIO Init ( BP GPIO, & GPIO InitStructure );
    DAC Config();
DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;
                    DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime;
                     GPIO Write( LEDS GPIO, 0x01 );
    while (1)
        // Switch run states while push-button is
down
   bpinput = (( GPIO ReadInputData( BP GPIO ) ) & (
BP_PIN ) );
   if ( !bpinput )
        {
            RunState++;
            if(RunState>=5) RunState=0;
            DACVal1Count=0;
            DACVal2Count=0;
            switch (RunState)
            -{
                 case 0:
```

```
DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;
DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime;
```

* @brief Configures the DAC channel 1 with output GPIO Write (LEDS GPIO, 0x00); break; buffer enabled. * **@param** None case 1: * @retval None */ DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay; void DAC Config(void) DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime; { /* Enable GPIOA clock */ GPIO Write(LEDS GPIO, 0x01); break; RCC AHBPeriphClockCmd (RCC AHBPeriph GPIOA, case 2: ENABLE); /* Configure PA.04 (DAC OUT1) in analog mode -----DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay; _____* / DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime; GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Mode = GPIO Mode AN; GPIO_Write(LEDS GPIO, 0x02); GPIO InitStructure.GPIO PuPd = GPIO PuPd NOPULL; GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Pin = GPIO_Pin_4; GPIO Init (GPIOA, & GPIO InitStructure); break: case 3: /* Enable DAC clock */ RCC APB1PeriphClockCmd (RCC APB1Periph DAC, DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay; DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime-10; ENABLE); GPIO Write (LEDS GPIO, 0x01); /* DAC channel1 Configuration */ DAC InitStructure.DAC Trigger = DAC Trigger None; break; DAC InitStructure.DAC WaveGeneration = case 4: DAC WaveGeneration None; DAC InitStructure.DAC OutputBuffer = DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay; DAC_OutputBuffer_Enable; DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime-10; GPIO Write(LEDS GPIO, 0x02); /* DAC Channell Init */ DAC_Init(DAC_Channel_1, &DAC_InitStructure); DAC_Init(DAC_Channel_2, &DAC_InitStructure); break: default : RunState=0; /* Enable DAC Channel1 */ DAC_Cmd(DAC_Channel_1, ENABLE); break; DAC Cmd (DAC Channel 2, ENABLE); } do Ł ł bpinput = ((GPIO ReadInputData(BP GPIO * Function Name : assert_failed * Description : Reports the name of the source)) & (BP PIN)); Delay(0x100); file and the source line number ¥ where the assert error has while (!bpinput); occurred. : - file: pointer to the source * Input file name } - line: assert error line source // increment counter variable number DACVallCount++; * Output : None if(DACVal1Count>=DACVal1Switch) * Return : None { DACVallCount=PhaseDelay; if(DACVal1==0x00) void assert failed(u8* file, u32 line) {DACVal1=0xe00; { // User can add his own implementation to report } the file name and line number, else {DACVal1=0x00;} DAC SetChannel1Data(DAC Align 12b R, //ex: printf("Wrong parameters value: file %s on DACVal1); line %d\r\n", file, line) } // Infinite loop while (1) DACVal2Count++; £ if(DACVal2Count>=DACVal2Switch) ł DACVal2Count=0; } if(DACVal2==0x00) {DACVal2=0xe00; * Function Name : Delay 1 else {DACVal2=0x00;} * Description : Inserts a delay time. * Input : nCount: specifies the delay time DAC SetChannel2Data(DAC Align 12b R, DACVal2): length. } * Output * Return * Output : None : None } void Delay(vu32 nCount) Ł { for (; nCount != 0; nCount--); /** ł

Appendix E: Mechanical drawing of laser pattern pointer











Appendix F: Schematic and components list of laser pointer control

circuit





Item	Quantity	Reference	Part	PCB Footprint	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Part Number
1	4	C1,C9,C13,C18	0.1UF 100V 10%	smd0603	Murata Electronics	GRM188R72A104KA35D
2	5	C2,C3,C8,C11,C15	0.1UF 250V 10%	smd1206	Kemet	C1206C104KARACTU
3	1	C5	1UF 250V 10%	smd1825	Kemet	C1825C105KARACTU
4	3	C7,C10,C14	10UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Taiyo Yuden	LMK107BBJ106MAHT
5	4	C12,C16,C17,C27	1UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C105K4PACTU
6	1	C19	4.7UF 50V 10%	smd1206	Kemet	C1206C475K5RACTU
7	1	C20	82PF 50V 5%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C820J5GACTU
8	7	C21,C23,C24,C25,C 26,C28,C31	0.1UF 16V 10%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C104K4RACTU
9	2	C29 C30	22PF 50V 5%	smd0603	Kemet	C0603C220I5GACTU
10		D1 D2 D2 D4	DAN00		Fairchild	DAV00
10	4	D1,D2,D3,D4	BAV99	sot23-3	Semiconductor	BAV99
11	1	D5	CGRM4004-G	SOD123	Comchip Technology	CGRM4004-G
12	1	D7	B0540W-7-F	SOD123	Diodes Incorporated	B0540W-7-F
12	1	D	LED	LED060	Lite On Inc	LTET CIOINCET
15	1	D0	LED Slide Switch		TE Connectivity	1925160 1
14	1	JI	Side Switch	53253-	TE Connectivity	1823100-1
15	1	J2	532530270	2P	Molex Inc	532530270
16	2	J3,J4	DF13-5P- 1.25DSA(50)	DF13- 5P- 1.25DSA (50)	Hirose Electric	DF13-5P-1.25DSA(50)
17	1	15	TSWB3N	TSWB3 N	C&K Components	TSWB3NCB222LES
18	1	Ll	4.7uH 20% 1A	VLS301 2T- 4R7M1R 0	TDK Corporation	VLS3012T-4R7M1R0
19	1	01	SI2333CDS	sot23-3	Vishay Siliconix	SI2333CDS-T1-E3
20	1	02	SI2302CDS	sot23-3	Vishay Siliconix	SI2302CDS-T1-E3
21	4	R1,R2,R5,R26	1K 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1001V
22	2	R3,R4	150K	smd0805	Rohm Semiconductor	ESR10EZPF1503
23	1	R6	348K	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF3483V
24	17	R7,R8,R11,R12,R13 ,R14,R15,R16,R17, R18,R19,R20,R21,R 22,R23,R24,R25	10K 1/10w 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1002V
25	1	R9	13K 1/10W 1%	smd0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3EKF1302V
26	1	U1	HV264TS-G	TSSOP2 4	Microchip Technology	HV264TS-G
			STM32L151CBT			
27	1	U5	6	TQFP48	STMicroelectronics	STM32L151CBT6

Item	Quantity	Reference	Part	PCB	Manufacturer	Manufacturer
				Footprint		
28	1	U2	MCP1702-33	sot23-3	Microchip Technology	MCP1702T-3302E/CB
29	1	U3	MCP1702-50	sot23-3	Microchip Technology	MCP1702T-5002E/CB
30	1	U4	LM2733Y	SOT23-5	Texas Instruments	LM2733YMF/NOPB
31	1	Y1	ABM3- 8.000MHZ-D2Y- T	ABM3	Abracon LLC	ABM3-8.000MHZ-D2Y-T
Appendix G: C language program of laser pattern pointer

vul6 jstkinput = 0;

/*_____ *DESCRIPTION: *This program is for laser pattern pointer. * Copyright (c) MEMS lab, 2015 *========*/ /* Includes -----*/ #include "stm32l1xx.h" #include "stm32l1xx_dac.h" /* board defines -----*/ typedef __IO uint32_t vu32; typedef __IO uint16_t vu16; typedef __IO uint8_t vu8; typedef uint32 t u32; typedef uint16 t u16; typedef uint8 t u8; //LEDs port and pins #define LEDS GPIO (GPIOB) #define LEDS RCC GPIO (RCC AHBPeriph GPIOB) #define LED0_PIN (GPI0_Pin_6)
#define LED1_PIN (GPI0_Pin_7) #define LEDS BOTH_PINS (LED0_PIN|LED1_PIN) // Push button port and pin #define BP_GPIO (GPIOB)
#define BP RCC GPIO (RCC AHBPeriph GPIOB) #define BP_PIN (GPIO_Pin_12 #define BP_LEFT_PIN (GPIO_Pin_14) #define BP_RIGHT_PIN (GPIO_Pin_2) (GPIO Pin 12) #define BP_UP_PIN (GPIO_Pin_11) #define BP DOWN PIN (GPIO Pin 15) #define BP ALL PINS (BP PIN|BP LEFT PIN|BP RIGHT PIN|BP UP PIN|B P DOWN PIN) /* Example defines -----*/ #define PhaseDelay 250 #define DelayCTime 308 /* function prototypes -----*/ void RCC Configuration(void); void NVIC Configuration(void); void Delay(vu32 nCount); void DAC Config(void); /* global variables -----*/ /* These variables could (and should, maybe) be defined as local to the main function, but declaring them as global and volatile helps for debugging. * / GPIO InitTypeDef GPIO InitStructure; DAC InitTypeDef DAC InitStructure;

```
vul6 bpinput = 0;
/* functions -----*/
/**********
* Function Name : main
* Description : Main program.
* Input : None
* Output : None
* Return : None
int main( void )
- {
ul6 DACVal1=0,DACVal2=0,LaserOnOff=0;
u16 DACVal1Count=0, DACVal2Count=0;
u16
DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime,DACVal2Switch=Delay
CTime:
u16 RunState=3, DrivingVol=0x500;
u16 PhaseDelayv=PhaseDelay;
#ifdef DEBUG
   debug();
#endif
    /*! < At this stage the microcontroller
clock setting is already configured,
      this is done through SystemInit()
function which is called from startup
      file (startup stm32l1xx md.s) before
to branch to application main.
    To reconfigure the default setting of
SystemInit() function, refer to
    system_stm32llxx.c file
*/
    SystemInit();
    RCC AHBPeriphClockCmd ( LEDS RCC GPIO,
ENABLE );
    // Configure LED pins as output push-
pull
    GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Pin =
LEDS BOTH PINS;
    GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Mode =
GPIO Mode OUT;
   GPIO InitStructure.GPIO OType =
GPIO_OType_PP;
    GPIO InitStructure.GPIO PuPd =
GPIO PuPd NOPULL;
    GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Speed =
GPIO Speed 40MHz;
   GPIO Init ( LEDS GPIO,
&GPIO InitStructure );
   RCC AHBPeriphClockCmd ( BP RCC GPIO,
ENABLE );
```

```
// Configure BP pin as input
GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Pin =
BP_ALL_PINS;
GPIO_InitStructure.GPIO_Mode =
GPIO Mode IN;
```

```
GPI0_InitStructure.GPI0_PuPd =
GPI0_PuPd_NOPULL;
GPI0_InitStructure.GPI0_Speed =
GPI0_Speed_40MHz;
GPI0_Init( BP_GPI0, &GPI0_InitStructure
);
```

DAC Config();

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime; GPIO_Write(LEDS_GPIO,

0x80);

while (1)
{
 // Stop all toggling while pushbutton is down
 bpinput = ((~(GPIO_ReadInputData(
BP GPIO))) & (BP ALL PINS));

switch (bpinput & (BP ALL PINS)) £ case BP PIN: // Center button is pressed to switch laser on/off . if(LaserOnOff==0) {GPIO Write(LEDS GPIO, 0x80);LaserOnOff=1;} else {GPIO Write(LEDS GPIO, 0x00);LaserOnOff=0;} do ł bpinput = ((GPIO ReadInputData(BP GPIO)) & (BP ALL PINS)); Delay(0x300); } while (bpinput != 0xD804);

break;

case 0:

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

case 1:

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

 case 2:

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

case 3:

```
DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;
```

DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime;

break; case 4:

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime-2;

}

break; default : RunState=0; break;

do
 {
 bpinput = ((GPIO_ReadInputData(
 BP_GPIO)) & (BP_ALL_PINS));

Delay(0x300);

}
while (bpinput != 0xD804);

break;

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay; DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime; break:

case 1:

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

case 2:

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

case J.

DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay;

DACVal2Switch=DelavCTime; break; case 4: DACVallSwitch=DelayCTime+PhaseDelay; DACVal2Switch=DelayCTime-2; break; default : RunState=0; break; ł do -{ bpinput = ((GPIO ReadInputData(BP GPIO)) & (BP ALL PINS)); Delay(0x300); ł while (bpinput != 0xD804); break; case BP UP PIN: // Up button is pressed to increase pattern size. if(DACVal2Count==0) if(DrivingVol<0xe00)</pre> {DrivingVol=DrivingVol+0x5;} -F break; case BP DOWN PIN: // Down button is pressed to decrease pattern size. if(DACVal2Count==0) £ if(DrivingVol>0x100) {DrivingVol=DrivingVol-0x5;} } break; default : // No buttons are pressed (or several, which is a hardware error) if(DACVal2Count==0) if(DrivingVol<0xe00)</pre> {DrivingVol=DrivingVol+0x0;} } break; Ł // increment counter variable DACVallCount++; DACVal2Count++; switch (RunState) £

case 0: if(DACVallCount>=DACVallSwitch) { DACVallCount=PhaseDelay; DACVal1=0x00; DAC SetChannel1Data (DAC Align 12b R, DACVal1); 3 if(DACVal2Count>=DACVal2Switch) { DACVal2Count=0; DACVal2=0x00; DAC SetChannel2Data (DAC Align 12b R, DACVal2); break: case 1: if(DACVal1Count>=DACVal1Switch) { DACVallCount=PhaseDelay; if(DACVal1==0x00) {DACVal1=DrivingVol; ł else {DACVal1=0x00;} DAC SetChannellData (DAC Align 12b R, DACVal1); 3 if(DACVal2Count>=DACVal2Switch) { DACVal2Count=0; DACVal2=0x00; DAC SetChannel2Data (DAC Align 12b R, DACVal2); break; case 2: if(DACVal1Count>=DACVal1Switch) { DACVallCount=PhaseDelay; DACVal1=0x00; DAC_SetChannel1Data(DAC_Align_12b_R, DACVal1); 3 if(DACVal2Count>=DACVal2Switch) { DACVal2Count=0; if(DACVal2==0x00) {DACVal2=DrivingVol; 4 else {DACVal2=0x00;} DAC SetChannel2Data (DAC Align 12b R, DACVal2); } break; case 3: if(DACVal1Count>=DACVal1Switch) { DACVal1Count=PhaseDelay; if(DACVal1==0x00) {DACVal1=DrivingVol; } else {DACVal1=0x00;}

100

```
DAC SetChannel1Data(DAC Align 12b R,
DACVal1);
           Ъ
        if(DACVal2Count>=DACVal2Switch)
           { DACVal2Count=0;
               if(DACVal2==0x00)
                   {DACVal2=DrivingVol;
                                                   ENABLE);
                   1
               else {DACVal2=0x00;}
DAC SetChannel2Data (DAC Align 12b R,
DACVal2);
           ł
                  break;
               case 4:
        if(DACVal1Count>=DACVal1Switch)
            { DACVallCount=PhaseDelay;
               if(DACVal1==0x00)
                   {DACVal1=DrivingVol;
                   ł
               else {DACVal1=0x00;}
DAC SetChannel1Data(DAC_Align_12b_R,
DACVal1);
           ł
        if(DACVal2Count>=DACVal2Switch)
            { DACVal2Count=0;
               if(DACVal2==0x00)
                   {DACVal2=DrivingVol;
                   -F
               else {DACVal2=0x00;}
DAC SetChannel2Data(DAC Align 12b R,
DACVal2);
           ł
                   break;
                                                   {
               default :
                   RunState=0;
                   break;
           }
           Delay(0x30);
                                                       {
   }
                                                       }
}
                                                   }
 * (brief Configures the DAC channel 1
with output buffer enabled.
 * @param None
  * @retval None
 */
void DAC Config(void)
£
  /* Enable GPIOA clock */
 RCC AHBPeriphClockCmd (RCC AHBPeriph GPIOA,
                                                   - {
ENABLE);
 /* Configure PA.04 (DAC OUT1) in analog
                                                   ÷.
mode -----*/
```

```
GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Mode =
GPIO Mode AN;
 GPIO InitStructure.GPIO PuPd =
GPIO PuPd NOPULL;
  GPIO InitStructure.GPIO Pin = GPIO Pin 4;
  GPIO Init (GPIOA, & GPIO InitStructure);
  /* Enable DAC clock */
  RCC APB1PeriphClockCmd (RCC APB1Periph DAC,
 /* DAC channel1 Configuration */
  DAC InitStructure.DAC Trigger =
DAC Trigger None;
  DAC InitStructure.DAC WaveGeneration =
DAC WaveGeneration None;
  DAC InitStructure.DAC OutputBuffer =
DAC OutputBuffer Enable;
  /* DAC Channell Init */
  DAC Init (DAC_Channel_1,
&DAC InitStructure);
  DAC Init (DAC Channel 2,
&DAC_InitStructure);
  /* Enable DAC Channel1 */
  DAC_Cmd(DAC_Channel_1, ENABLE);
  DAC Cmd (DAC Channel 2, ENABLE);
/**********
* Function Name : assert_failed
* Description : Reports the name of the
source file and the source line number
                 where the assert error
has occurred.
* Input : - file: pointer to the
source file name
                 - line: assert error line
source number
* Output : None
* Return : None
* Return
void assert_failed( u8* file, u32 line )
   // User can add his own implementation
to report the file name and line number,
   //ex: printf("Wrong parameters value:
file %s on line %d\r\n", file, line)
    // Infinite loop
    while (1)
/******
* Function Name : Delay
* Description : Inserts a delay time.
* Input : nCount: specifies the
delay time length.
* Output : None
* Return : None
               : None
void Delay( vu32 nCount )
   for ( ; nCount != 0; nCount-- );
```