A METHOD OF REDUCING THE ERROR IN DETERMINING THE ANGULAR DISPLACEMENTS WHEN USING INDUCTIVE SENSORS

Goal. Representation of a special mathematical software for determining the angular displacements of the rotor of the induction angle sensor – resolver (rotating transformer) for applications in which the speed of the sensor’s rotor is close to zero. As well as performing its experimental verification. Methodology. The presented method is based on the determination of the phase shift angle of the output signals of the induction sensor, which is determined by comparing the obtained arrangements of signal values with a circular discrete convolution in order to achieve the most precise approximation of the obtained signal values to cosine and sine. The conversion of orthogonal components to an angle is based on the use of a digital phase detector which is use of a software comparator and inverse trigonometric functions. Results. Based on the obtained results of mathematical modeling and experimental research, the characteristic dependencies of the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor relative to its stator, the nature of which is linear, were obtained. In addition, the estimation of measurement errors of angular displacements is carried out that occur when defining such angles by the method offered. The obtained results of the computer simulation taking into account the high signal noise, as well as the results of experimental investigations, confirm the high precision of this method and the fact that it can be used in systems where high positioning accuracy is required and the speed of the sensor shaft is close to zero. Originality. This article introduces, for the first time, special mathematical software for a new method of determining the angular displacements of the rotor of an induction sensor, which is based on the determination of the orthogonal components of the signal in combination with the use of a circular discrete convolution in the determination of the phase shift angle of the induction sensor signals. Practical meaning. The proposed method does not require the use of demodulators, counters and quadrant tables associated with conventional methods for determining the phase shift of signals. The presented method can be used to measure the full range of 0-2π angular displacements in real time, is simple and can be easily implemented using digital electronic circuitry. References 9, tables 3, figures 16.

Key words: angular displacements, mathematical method, induction sensor, rotating transformer, circular discrete convolution, orthogonal components, precision, phase shift.

Introduction. Today, in many fields of science and technology as devices that provide information about the current state of the actuators, angle measuring systems are widely used. In most cases, especially for devices and mechanisms that work in extreme conditions, electromechanical sensors (angle sensors) are used, the work of which is aimed at converting angular displacements into an information signal.

As is known from [1] to determine the angular displacements, there are a large number of types of sensors, such as: optical encoder, gyroscope sensors, magnetic encoder, and induction sensors. However, the use of the above types of sensors in angular measurement systems should be used taking into account the purpose of such systems, environmental conditions and requirements for their accuracy. There is no doubt that today optical encoders have become widely used in angular measuring and positioning systems. However, despite their widespread use, positioning systems continue to operate today, using induction electromechanical transducers as part of the control system, both in the field of armaments...
and military equipment, and in industries. The use of induction electromechanical transducers in the above fields is explained by their ability to operate in difficult operating conditions and unpretentiousness to external conditions [2]. However, along with the positive properties, they also have disadvantages – induction mechanical transducers do not provide high enough accuracy to identify angular displacements. In particular, in tracking systems, positioning systems and automated weapons guidance systems, where such sensors are the main sensors of angular movements. The use of the aforementioned sensors such as optical encoder, electron gyroscope, with the appropriate bit rate, would allow the identification of angular displacements with higher accuracy, the requirements for which, to date, reach tens of angular seconds. However, their use does not meet the above requirements for the operating conditions of such systems. In addition, in the case of modernization of angle measuring systems, which operate on the basis of the use of an induction sensor, by replacing it with modern digital encoder will involve significant financial costs, as well as design changes in the system.

Thus, given the above, there is a need to increase the accuracy of determining the angular displacements using an induction sensor, which is used in existing and advanced angle measuring systems based on the use of special mathematical processing of the information signal of such a sensor.

Analysis of publications. Today, many publications are known, which consider both hardware and software methods and means of determining the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor, most of which are considered in [3]. The analysis of these publications provides an opportunity to gain knowledge about the existing methods of determining the angular displacements of the induction sensor, as well as to get acquainted with promising areas of future research.

In particular, the use of analog hardware (so-called signal filters), which operate on the basis of the use of \( R, C \) elements really do reduce the error of identification of the angle, but with insufficient accuracy. Moreover, its further increase is impossible due to the influence of destabilizing factors, such as temperature, time, frequency, which affect both the parameters of \( R, C \) elements and the parameters of the induction angle sensor [4]. Also, digital tools offered by leading electronics manufacturers (e.g. Texas Instruments, Freescale Semiconductor, Analog Devices) have become widespread, as ready-made solutions for processing information signals of the induction converter based on the implementation of simple calculations using modern electronic components in combination with microcontroller technology [5]. Also, in [6], the latest software and hardware method for identifying the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor, which is based on the use of phase autotuning frequency is proposed. Using the proposed scheme of this software and hardware method, there is no need to demodulate the signal, use a table of quadrants, pulse counters and digital-to-analog converters. However, the error in determining the angles of rotation of the rotor of the sensor when using this method is 0.3 % over the full range of values 0-360°. Also, such a hardware-software method is based on the proposed scheme, the implementation of which is carried out using simple electronic elements, in particular, resistors, and therefore the ambient temperature factor will affect the accuracy of the identification results.

In [7, 8] methods of converting sensor signals into an angular position based on the application of mathematical calculations using a polynomial of the 3rd order [7], and generating auxiliary sinusoidal signals [8], for the implementation of which semiconductor components and microcontrollers are used are presented. As a result of application of such methods high accuracy of definition of angular positions at high frequency of rotation of a shaft is reached. However, in the above methods, it is proposed to demodulate the sine and cosine signals to determine the angle of rotation, and therefore it is assumed that the sensor shaft must rotate at a given speed required to modulate these signals. Based on the above, the use of such methods is impossible in systems such as stabilization, positioning, or systems using gearless actuators, where the speed of rotation of the sensor shaft is close to zero.

Thus, the goal of the work is the development of special mathematical software for determining the angular displacements of the rotor of the induction sensor based on the determination of orthogonal components from the digital values of the sensor signals using circular discrete convolution. Also in the paper the experimental check of the developed special mathematical tool for induction angle measuring sensors in which the speed of rotation of a rotor is close to zero is carried out.

In this work, an induction sensor – resolver (rotating transformer) is used as an angle sensor. The design of such sensors is typical and consists of two windings placed on the stator in the same magnetic system, but their geometric axes are perpendicular to each other. Similarly, the rotor windings are in the same magnetic system and are mutually perpendicular to each other. A typical way to provide excitation of a rotating transformer is to connect one of its stator windings to the mains, and the other winding is short-circuited or connected to a potentiometer, which is implemented in the method considered in [7]. However, the essence of the implementation of the method proposed by the authors of this work is not to measure the amplitudes of the signal with its subsequent demodulation, but to determine the phase shift between input and output signals, which can be done by connecting both induction windings of the sensor to the power supply of sinusoidal voltages, as shown of (Fig. 1).
Figure 1 shows a diagram of the specified configuration of the windings of the induction sensor – a rotating transformer to determine the phase shift of the output signal depending on the angle of rotation of the rotor of this sensor. The excitation voltage G1, G2, which is equal in amplitude and frequency, but shifted relative to each other by 90°, is applied to the terminals of the excitation winding E1-E3 and E2-E4, respectively, which can be described by the following expressions:

\[ G1 = U_{fs} = A \cdot \sin(\omega t) \]  
\[ G2 = U_{fc} = A \cdot \cos(\omega t) \]

where \( A \) is the amplitude of the supply voltage of the sensor, \( \omega \) is the angular frequency of the excitation signal, \( t \) is the time.

Due to the receipt of symmetrical current supply, in the air gap of the magnetic system of the induction sensor there is a rotating magnetic field, the vector of which has a constant value and rotates uniformly with the supply frequency. Then the signals generated on the terminals Ss1-Ss2 of the winding «sine winding» and on the terminals Cs1-Cs2 of the winding «cosine winding» take the form of a sinusoidal voltage of constant frequency, which are shifted in phase relative to the excitation voltage of the sensor, and the phase shift will be determined by the rotation angle of the induction sensor rotor, because the rotation of the magnetic field vector is determined by the rotation angle of the induction sensor rotor. The excitation voltage G1, G2, which are shifted in phase relative to the excitation voltage (1)-(2), can be implemented according to the proposed method it is involved to use modern means for converting an analog signal in a digital code, as well as the use of microprocessor technology to perform calculations.

The operation of the proposed circuit is as follows: signals \( U_{fs}, U_{fc}, U_{ss}, U_{sc} \) which are described by expressions (1)-(4), come to the block \( ADC^{N_{ADC}}_{f_{ADC}} \), the operation of which should convert the values of signals as functions of continuous variables into a function of discrete variables as a finite number samples of discrete values. Therefore, the values of the signals after the ADC conversion can be described by the following expressions:

\[ U_{DC_{fs}} = A \cdot \frac{\text{trunc}(2^{N_{ADC}-1} \cdot \frac{A + \text{rnd}(\delta) - \frac{\delta}{2} \cdot \cos(\omega s_{fs})}{A})}{2^{N_{ADC}-1}} \]  
\[ U_{DC_{fc}} = A \cdot \frac{\text{trunc}(2^{N_{ADC}-1} \cdot \frac{A + \text{rnd}(\delta) - \frac{\delta}{2} \cdot \sin(\omega s_{fc})}{A})}{2^{N_{ADC}-1}} \]  
\[ U_{DC_{ss}} = A \cdot \frac{\text{trunc}(2^{N_{ADC}-1} \cdot \frac{A + \text{rnd}(\delta) - \frac{\delta}{2} \cdot \sin(\omega s_{ss} + \beta)}{A})}{2^{N_{ADC}-1}} \]  
\[ U_{DC_{sc}} = A \cdot \frac{\text{trunc}(2^{N_{ADC}-1} \cdot \frac{A + \text{rnd}(\delta) - \frac{\delta}{2} \cdot \sin(\omega s_{sc})}{A})}{2^{N_{ADC}-1}} \]  
\[ U_{DC_{cs}} = A \cdot \frac{\text{trunc}(2^{N_{ADC}-1} \cdot \frac{A + \text{rnd}(\delta) - \frac{\delta}{2} \cdot \sin(\omega s_{cs})}{A})}{2^{N_{ADC}-1}} \]
where $U_{DC_{fci}}$, $U_{DC_{fsi}}$ are the digital values of the signals of the excitation winding of the induction sensor, $U_{DC_{sci}}$, $U_{DC_{ssi}}$ are the digital values of the signals of the sine winding and cosine winding, respectively; $\text{trunc}$ function is the function of rounding a number to an integer value; $\text{rnd}$ function is the software generator of random variables; $\delta$ is the value of random perturbations, which reaches 1%, which is known from experimental studies [9], one of the results of such a study is shown in Fig. 3; $2^{N_{adc}-1}$ is the ADC bit rate is reduced by one bit, which is used to determine the polarity of the function; $t_{si}$ is the signal sampling period, which is determined by the formula:

$$t_{si} = i \cdot T_{adc},$$

where $i$ is the sequence number of the ADC sample, which takes values from 0 to $N_s$; $T_{adc}$ is the ADC reference period:

$$T_{adc} = \frac{1}{f_{adc}},$$

$$N_s = \frac{f_{adc}}{f},$$

where $f_{adc}$ is the ADC sampling frequency; $f$ is the excitation frequency of the induction sensor; $N_s$ is the number of ADC samples.

The obtained arrays of signal values $U_{DC_{fci}}$, $U_{DC_{fsi}}$, $U_{DC_{sci}}$, $U_{DC_{ssi}}$ are fed to the Circular Discrete Convolution block, in which the signal convolution is formed due to their multiplication with the generated sine function, thus digital signal filtering takes place. Based on this, formation of the signal convolution can be described by the following expressions:

$$U_{fci} = \sum_{j=0}^{N_{s}} U_{DC_{fci}} \cdot U_{\sin}\left(-j_1, \text{if } i-j \geq 0 \left(i-j\right)+N_s, \text{otherwise}\right) \frac{2}{N_s},$$ (12)

$$U_{fsi} = \sum_{j=0}^{N_{s}} U_{DC_{fsi}} \cdot U_{\sin}\left(-j_1, \text{if } i-j \geq 0 \left(i-j\right)+N_s, \text{otherwise}\right) \frac{2}{N_s},$$ (13)

where

$$U_{\sin} = \sin \left(2 \cdot \pi \cdot \frac{j_1}{N_s}\right).$$ (16)

The result of graphical modeling of expressions (12)-(13) is shown in Fig. 4, and expressions (14)-(15) – in Fig. 5.

After filtering through the digital filter of the Circular Discrete Convolution block, the digital signal arrays $U_{fci}$, $U_{fsi}$, $U_{sci}$, $U_{ssi}$ arrive at the Decomposition Orthogonal Components block, where they are decomposed into orthogonal components in the form of a pair of numbers $S_i$ and $C_i$ and which are essentially vector coordinates in the Cartesian coordinate system:

$$S = \sum_{i=0}^{N_{s}} \left(U_{ssi} \cdot U_{fci} - U_{sci} \cdot U_{fsi}\right),$$ (17)

$$C = \sum_{i=0}^{N_{s}} \left(U_{ssi} \cdot U_{fci} + U_{sci} \cdot U_{fsi}\right),$$ (18)
To determine the phase shift of the signal, and hence the angle of rotation of the rotor relative to the stator of the sensor, the values of orthogonal components $S$ and $C$ go to the Digital Phase Detector, which converts the coordinates of the vector into the angular value of the rotor position in real time according to the algorithm shown in Fig. 6.

The results of this computer simulation are shown in Fig. 7, where $\phi$ is the value of the angles that are set, $\beta_s$ is the value of the angles that are determined.

In addition, the constructed mathematical models allowed to obtain the dependencies of the errors in determining the angle (based on the method of determining orthogonal components using a circular discrete convolution) on the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor:

$$\delta = \phi - \beta_s,$$  \hspace{1cm} (19)

where $\delta$ is the error of determining the angle in absolute values (rad).

On the basis of expressions (1)-(18) computer simulation was performed using the values of the parameters of real ADC and induction sensor, which are listed in Table 1.

On the basis of expressions (1)-(18) computer simulation was performed using the values of the parameters of real ADC and induction sensor, which are listed in Table 1.

### Table 1

| Parameter                  | Values | Units |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|
| ADC                        |        |       |
| Bit rate                   | $2^{16}$ | Bit   |
| Frequency of samples       | $10^{-1}$ | Hz    |
| Induction sensor           |        |       |
| Amplitude of excitation voltage | 12     | V     |
| Frequency of excitation voltage | 400    | Hz    |

The graphical result of modeling expression (19) is shown in Fig. 8.

Simulation of the error $\delta$ dependencies of the angle $\beta_s$ determination on the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor $\phi$ allows to obtain the value of the root mean square error $\theta$

$$\theta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (\delta_i^2)} = 9.73 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ (rad)},$$  \hspace{1cm} (20)

where $N$ is the number of defined angles, in the range from 0 to $2\pi$, which in a computer experiment takes the value of 60,000.

Experimental verification of the obtained results. In order to confirm the results of theoretical modeling of the proposed method, an experimental study was conducted using laboratory equipment, the general view of which is shown in Fig. 9.
The composition of such equipment includes the following components: worm gear (Fig. 10), which is designed to position the exact angles of movement, which consists of a worm wheel (position 1.a in Fig. 10) with 588 teeth and a worm shaft (position 1.b in Fig. 10), connected to an angular scale (Fig. 9), which has 360 divisions. Therefore, the rotation of the worm shaft by 360 divisions of the scale corresponds to the fact that the worm wheel will move by $1.068 \times 10^{-2}$ rad. Therefore, moving the worm shaft by one scale division will move the worm wheel by $2.967 \times 10^{-5}$ rad.

As an induction sensor (Fig. 9) a rotating transformer VT-5 KF3.031.104 (Fig. 11, a) of accuracy class A, the nominal technical parameters of which correspond to the data of Table 1 was used. Excitation of such a sensor with the required voltage and frequency is carried out using a laboratory two-channel signal generator type G6-26 (Fig. 11, b).

 ADC (Fig. 9) and digital oscilloscope INSTRUSTAR ISDS2062B (Fig. 12, a) were used as a converter of input analog signals into a discrete code in the form of an array of values with the subsequent transfer of these arrays via USB interface to a computer (Fig. 9) performing mathematical processing. The MEGATRON M600 optical encoder is also used in the experimental setup for additional control of the accuracy of worm transmission (Fig. 12, b).

The description of functioning of experimental installation can be carried out on the basis of use of its structural scheme (Fig. 13).

On the common axis of the installation the worm gear is assembled – 1 (Fig. 13), in which the worm wheel 1.a placed in a horizontal plane with two ends of the output shaft. One end of the output shaft is connected to the rotor of the optical digital encoder 7, and the other end of the output shaft through the adapter is connected to the rotor of the induction sensor of the angle 3. Thus, by rotating the worm shaft 1.b of the worm gear 1, the worm wheel rotates with the output ends of the shaft, and hence the rotation of the rotor of the digital encoder on one side and the rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor on the other side.

In turn, the induction sensor 3 receives excitation voltages from the signal generator 5, which are applied to both of its stator windings (excitation windings), and these excitation signals are equal in amplitude and...
frequency, but shifted from each other by \(90^\circ\). To represent the signals in digital form, their windings are connected to ADC 4, the role of which in this installation is performed by a digital oscilloscope, which, in turn, is connected to a computer via a USB interface. Also, a digital optical encoder 7 is connected to the computer for power supply and information exchange via the interface RS-232.

To reflect the results of the study, it was taken into account that in expression (20) as \(N\) (number of defined angles) 60,000 values was used, the number of which inevitably affects the root mean square error, but to display this number of experimental values is impossible due to their significant number beyond the scope of this paper. Therefore, the display of the results of determining the angles of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor relative to its stator will be in the range from 0 to \(2\pi\) with a step \(\pi/4\), which reflects the completeness of the range of determining the values of angles by the proposed method.

The results of such a study are given in Table 2, and its graphical representation – in Fig. 14.

### Table 2

| Angle of rotation \(\phi\), rad | The measurement result by encoder \(\alpha\), rad | The measurement result by the proposed method \(\beta\), rad | Error \(\delta\), rad |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 0                            | 0                               | 0                               | 0               |
| \(\pi/4\)                     | 0.7853541                       | 0.785423                        | \(-2.481\times10^{-5}\) |
| \(\pi/2\)                     | 1.5707623                       | 1.5707155                       | \(8.078\times10^{-5}\) |
| \(3\pi/4\)                   | 2.356187                        | 2.3560015                       | \(1.929\times10^{-4}\) |
| \(\pi\)                      | 3.1414934                       | 3.1415226                       | \(7.004\times10^{-5}\) |
| \(5\pi/4\)                   | 3.9269856                       | 3.9271619                       | \(-1.71\times10^{-4}\) |
| \(3\pi/2\)                   | 4.7124053                       | 4.7124368                       | \(-4.781\times10^{-5}\) |
| \(7\pi/4\)                   | 5.4977544                       | 5.4979427                       | \(-1.556\times10^{-4}\) |
| \(2\pi\)                     | 6.2831808                       | 6.2831571                       | \(2.824\times10^{-5}\) |

Also, to assess the precision of this method, in the experimental study the values of the angle \(\phi\) are set in the range from 0 to 2.968\(\times10^{-3}\) rad with a step of 1.484\(\times10^{-4}\) rad. The results of such studies are given in Table 3. Also Fig. 15 shows the graphical dependencies of the measuring angle \(\beta\) on the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor \(\phi\), and Fig. 16 – dependence of errors \(\delta\) of the determination of the angle \(\beta\) on the angle of rotation of the rotor of the induction sensor \(\phi\).

### Table 3

| Angle of rotation \(\phi\), rad | The measurement result by encoder \(\alpha\), rad | The measurement result by the proposed method \(\beta\), rad | Error \(\delta\), rad |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 0                            | 0                               | 0                               | 0               |
| 1.484\times10^{-4}           | 1.5432383e-4                    | 3.240248e-4                     | \(-1.756\times10^{-4}\) |
| 2.968\times10^{-4}           | 2.8634171e-4                    | 3.9410138e-4                    | \(-9.73\times10^{-5}\) |
| 4.452e-4                     | 4.4453627e-4                    | 6.656609e-4                     | \(-1.904\times10^{-4}\) |
| 5.936e-4                     | 5.5750648e-4                    | 2.624419e-4                     | \(2.835\times10^{-5}\) |
| 7.42e-4                      | 8.1863463e-4                    | 1.040776e-3                     | \(-2.988\times10^{-4}\) |
| 8.904e-4                     | 8.596197e-4                     | 7.8755041e-4                    | \(2.028\times10^{-4}\) |
| 1.039e-3                     | 1.0080408e-3                    | 8.3604738e-4                    | \(2.027\times10^{-4}\) |
| 1.187e-3                     | 1.1244657e-3                    | 8.3653092e-4                    | \(3.507\times10^{-4}\) |
| 1.336e-3                     | 1.2784218e-3                    | 1.2367585e-3                    | \(9.883\times10^{-5}\) |
| 1.484e-3                     | 1.4806882e-3                    | 1.6892879e-3                    | \(-2.053\times10^{-4}\) |
| 1.632e-3                     | 1.5963083e-3                    | 1.619313e-3                     | \(1.352\times10^{-4}\) |
| 1.781e-3                     | 1.7276265e-3                    | 1.6229882e-3                    | \(1.578\times10^{-4}\) |
| 1.929e-3                     | 1.9330409e-3                    | 2.0505456e-3                    | \(-1.214\times10^{-4}\) |
| 2.078e-3                     | 2.0740721e-3                    | 2.1002799e-3                    | \(-2.27\times10^{-5}\) |
| 2.226e-3                     | 2.1709733e-3                    | 2.2081033e-3                    | \(1.787\times10^{-5}\) |
| 2.374e-3                     | 2.3909902e-3                    | 2.6908347e-3                    | \(-3.165\times10^{-4}\) |
| 2.523e-3                     | 2.5283926e-3                    | 2.6856021e-3                    | \(-1.628\times10^{-4}\) |
| 2.671e-3                     | 2.6501764e-3                    | 2.7511128e-3                    | \(-7.994\times10^{-5}\) |
| 2.82e-3                      | 2.7910538e-3                    | 2.5065176e-3                    | \(3.131\times10^{-4}\) |
| 2.968e-3                     | 3.0097617e-3                    | 2.9269924e-3                    | \(4.097\times10^{-5}\) |

Also, to assess the precision of this method, in the experimental study the values of the angle \(\phi\) are set in the range from 0 to 2.968\(\times10^{-3}\) rad with a step of 1.484\(\times10^{-4}\) rad. The results of such studies are given in Table 3, with their subsequent substitution in expression (20), allow to estimate the root mean square error of determining the angles of rotation of the rotor of

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**ISSN 2074-272X. Electrical Engineering & Electromechanics. 2020. no.6**
the induction sensor relative to its stator. The result of this calculation is 1.913e–4 rad, and thus allows to confirm a sufficiently high precision of the proposed method.

Conclusions.

1. This paper presents special mathematical software for a new method for reducing the error of determining the angular displacements of the rotor of the induction sensor, which is based on determining the angle of phase shift of the signals. This method uses a circular discrete convolution to achieve the most accurate approximation of the obtained signal values to the cosine and sine, respectively. Then the orthogonal components are determined and the phase shift angle in the full range of 0–2\(\pi\) of angular displacements is determined with the help of a digital detector.

2. The presented results of computer modeling and the results of experimental research are somewhat different, which can be explained by the fact that during the experimental study an analog-to-digital converter of lower bit size than in the mathematical model is used. However, the obtained results of computer simulation taking into account the high level of signal noise and the results of experimental research allow to confirm the high precision of this method and the fact that it can be used in systems where high positioning accuracy is required and the sensor shaft speed is close to zero.

3. The authors propose software and hardware to solve this problem, and its implementation can be carried out on the basis of the use of commercial analog-to-digital converters and inexpensive microprocessors. However, the parameters of such electronic components will influence on the accuracy and speed of determining the angles of movement of the rotor of the induction sensor by the proposed method, and therefore it involves developing a methodology for choosing hardware and its impact on the accuracy and speed of the angle measurement process which may be the next development of research in this field.

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Received 23.09.2020
Accepted 08.11.2020
Published 24.12.2020

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How to cite this article:
Snitkov K.I., Shabatura Y.V. A method of reducing the error in determining the angular displacements when using inductive sensors. Electrical engineering & electromechanics, 2020, no. 6, pp. 3-10. doi: 10.20998/2074-272X.2020.6.01.