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DISCUSSION

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I am taking this opportunity to point out an error in Table 1. Although in the past eight years, Bell Aerosystems Company has

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done development work on both the spool and the spherical (free-rotor) types of gyro spinning bearings, our present BRIG gyros incorporate a cone-type self-acting spin bearing. Furthermore, the BRIG gyros are two-degree-of-freedom instruments. Bell Aerosystems does not make a single-degree-of-freedom gyro.

Lack of gap variation with temperature is one of the interesting possibilities of the coapex conical bearing, as mentioned in the paper. At Bell Aerosystems, both the coapex and noncoapex configurations have been fabricated and tested. Our findings were that for the noncoapex geometry with similar metals

throughout a slight temperature differential between the rotor and the stationary part of the bearing can result in proportionately large changes in the operating gap. In some tests, seizure occurred. This problem is eliminated with the coapex conical bearing.

Authors' Closure

We are sorry for tabulating the Bell Aerosystem effort incorrectly and are happy to receive the updated information.