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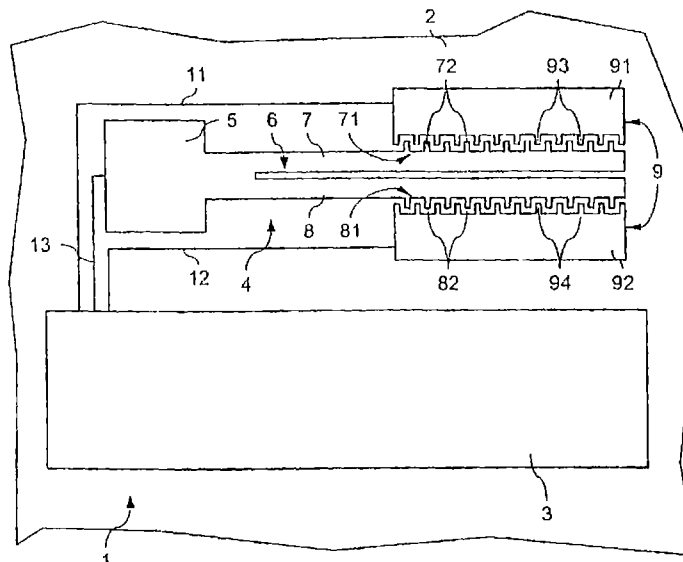
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(54) Title: TIME BASE COMPRISING AN INTEGRATED MICROMECHANICAL TUNING FORK RESONATOR



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(57) Abstract: There is described a time base comprising a resonator (4) and an integrated electronic circuit (3) for driving the resonator into oscillation and for producing, in response to this oscillation, a signal having a determined frequency. The resonator is an integrated micromechanical tuning fork resonator (4) supported above a substrate (2) and adapted to oscillate in a plane substantially parallel to the substrate. The tuning fork resonator comprises a base member (5) extending substantially perpendicularly from the substrate, a free-substantially parallel fork tines (7, 8) and an electrode structure (9) disposed adjacent to the fork tines and connected to the integrated electronic circuit.

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