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Footstep Power Generation

K. R. Hanumantha Rao[1], Sachin Saurav[2], Prashant Raj[3*], Suraj Kumar[4], Tamanna[5]
[1]*Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Sambhram Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, India*
[2,3,4,5]*Student, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Sambhram Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, India*

***Abstract*: Growing global energy demands necessitate exploration of sustainable alternatives. This paper investigates the feasibility of a "Foot Step Power Generation System" utilizing piezoelectric technology. Piezoelectric materials convert pressure from footsteps into electricity. A prototype system with 12 sensors in a 1 ft² area was implemented to evaluate the concept. The experiment successfully harnessed mechanical energy from footsteps, demonstrating the potential of this approach for sustainable energy solutions. Furthermore, the possibility of integrating this technology on an individual level, such as in shoes, is explored for future development. However, limitations in static measurements and environmental sensitivity were identified. Further research will focus on optimizing the system for broader deployment in public spaces and for individual applications, contributing to energy efficiency and sustainable practices.**

***Keywords*: energy harvesting, foot step power generation, piezoelectric materials, piezoelectric sensors, public spaces, shoe integration, sustainable energy.**

1. Introduction

The ever-growing global population has led to a significant increase in energy demands to support daily activities and infrastructure. Traditional methods of electricity generation often come with environmental concerns and resource depletion. In this context, there is a pressing need for innovative and sustainable approaches to generate electricity. This paper explores the feasibility of harnessing energy from human activities, specifically through a "Foot Step Power Generation System" utilizing piezoelectric technology. Piezoelectric materials possess the unique property of converting mechanical pressure into electrical signals. This research investigates the potential of this technology to create an alternative and eco-friendly power source, promoting sustainable energy practices.

2. Objective

Charging Mobile Devices with Footwear: Integrate the technology into everyday footwear to allow charging of mobile devices, providing a practical and convenient power source for individuals on the move.

Tile Implementation in Crowded Places: Install the system in tiles at crowded places, such as malls or public areas, where numerous footsteps can collectively generate significant power.

Footwear Integration for Hiking and Warmth: Implement the system in hiking boots, utilizing the increased pressure during hikes for power generation. Additionally, incorporate a coil in the footwear to provide warmth, enhancing the user experience in cold environments.

3. Methodology

Piezoelectric materials form the core of the Foot Step Power Generation System. These materials exhibit a fascinating property known as the piezoelectric effect. When subjected to mechanical stress, such as pressure from footsteps, their internal crystalline structure deforms. This deformation creates an electric charge proportional to the applied force. This principle allows piezoelectric sensors to convert the mechanical energy of footsteps into electrical signals.

A schematic diagram illustrating the system's operation is presented in Figure 1. The diagram outlines the following steps:

1. *Mechanical Input:* Footsteps apply pressure onto the piezoelectric sensors.
2. *Piezoelectric Effect:* The pressure deforms the sensors, generating an electrical charge.
3. *Signal Conditioning:* The raw electrical signal from the sensors might require amplification or filtering to improve its quality for further processing.
4. *Data Acquisition and Processing:* The conditioned voltage signal is measured and converted into usable data for analysis.
5. *Energy Storage:* Depending on the application, the generated electricity might be stored in a battery or other energy storage devices for later use.

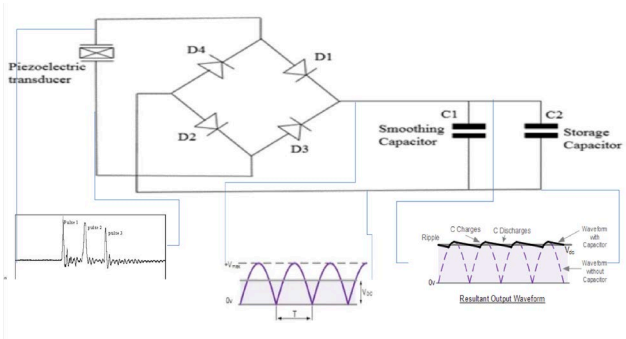

Fig. 1. Circuit diagram

*Corresponding author: prashantrajcse2024@gmail.com

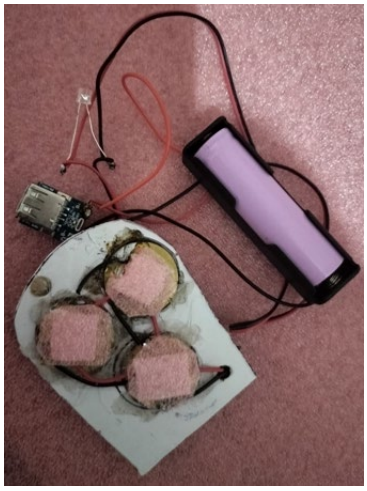

Fig. 2. Hardware model

4. Conclusion

This paper presented the implementation of power generation using footsteps.

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