



Energy harvesting feasibility for safety buckle belt

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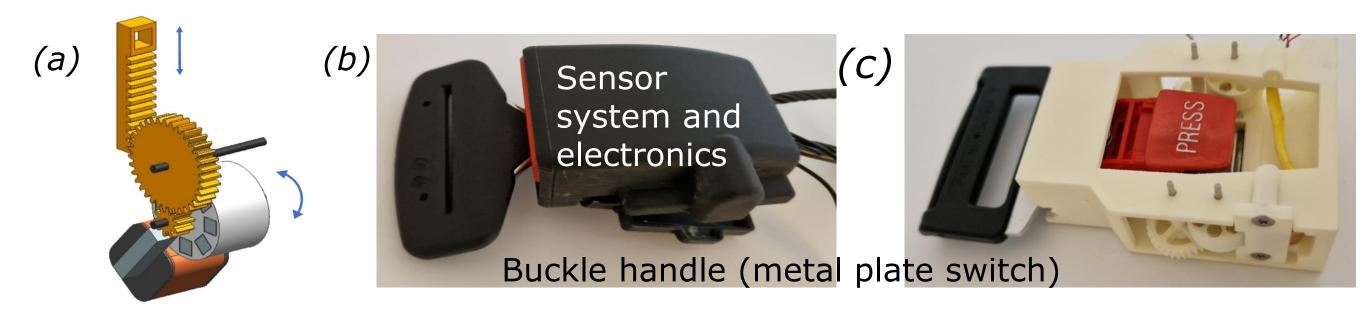
ABSTRACT: The potential of energy harvesting for powering a safety sensor on a belt buckle is studied. We develop an electromagnetic energy harvester converting vertical buckle-in/-out events into rotations of a circular array of magnets, varying the flux through a coil. Both measurements and simulations are performed, the later showing a potential energy of 4mJ for a single buckle-in event.

Energy Harvester

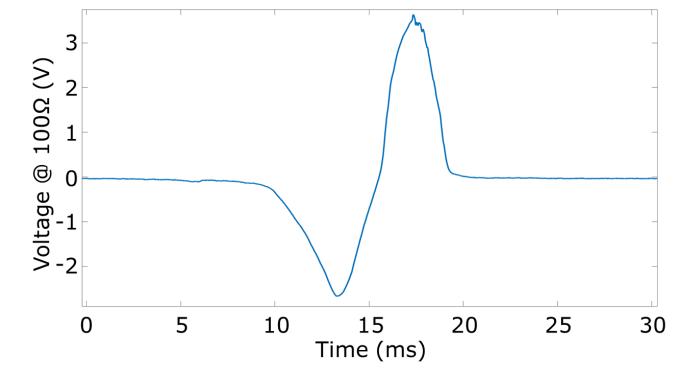
- Electromagnetic energy harvester (EH) converts vertical buckle-in/-out events into rotations of a circular array of magnets, varying the flux through a coil.
- Manual actuation of buckle for Autoliv design:
 - Average time for buckle-in/-out ca. 0,1 s
 - Maximum measured energy output for:

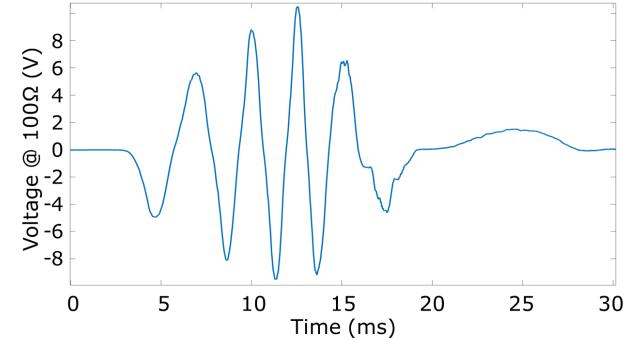
buckle-in: 300µJ buckle-out: 400µJ

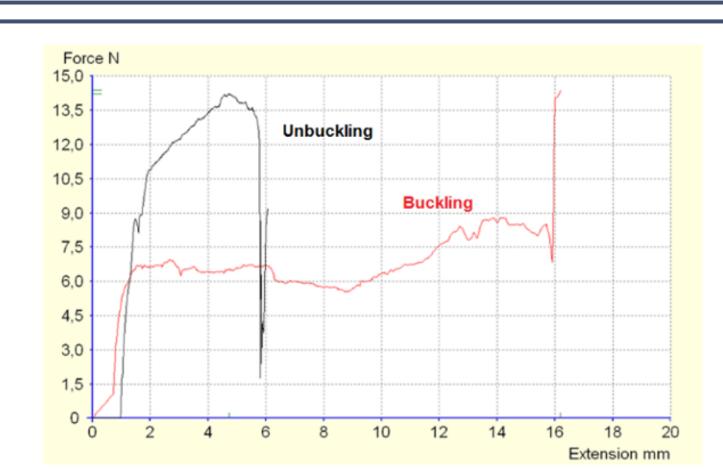
- Wireless energy transmission
- 1m activation of RF RX/TX Qiachip 433MHz
- Bluetooth® low energy evaluation board BLE-SWITCH001-GEVB



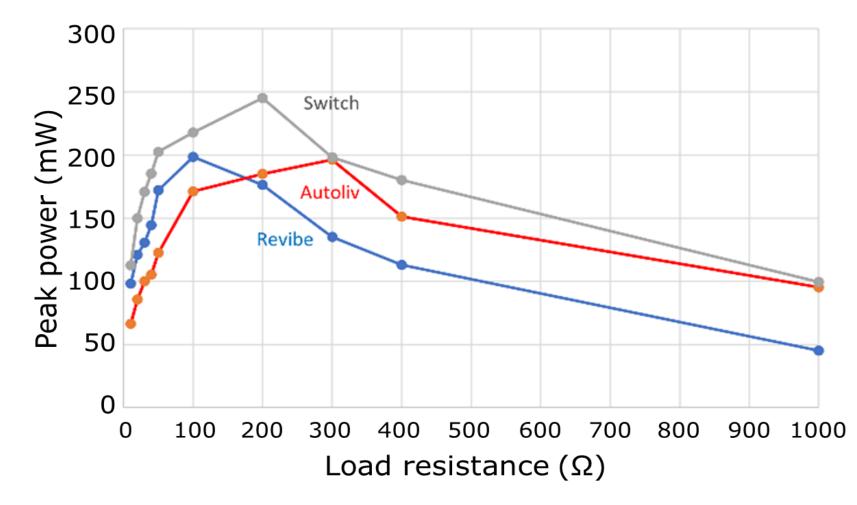
(a) Sketch mechanical transient EH using angular movement of permanent magnets in electric coil used inside buckle; (b) Autoliv, (c) Revibe Energy

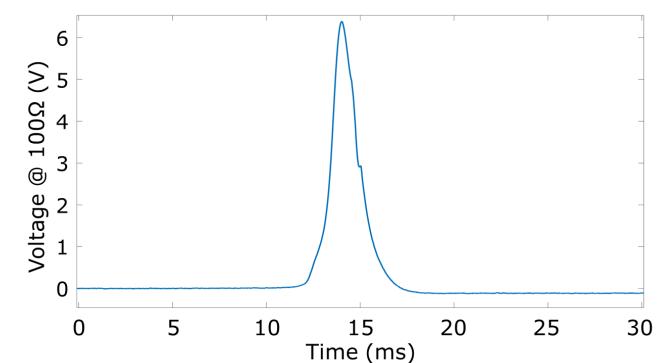






Measured force and displacement required to buckle in/out of a standard belt buckle.





Typical open-circuit voltage from harvester-buckle prototype (a) Autoliv, (b) Revibe , (c) mechanical switch by using evaluation kit

Conclusions

- Easy, robust, and elegant solution to harvest energy for safety belt.
- Dual energy harvesters would potentially produce up to 8mJ in 0.1 s.
- A buckle sensor may consume in μW range, thus buckle sensor could work continuously for up to 15 min, from a single buckle event.

This work is funded by SSF "Energy harvester and sensing for safety in autonomous car" and ECSEL JU "Energy ECS" project (https://energyecs.eu/)



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