Pressure-Induced Footstep Power Generator for Biometric Security

Report by :

1. Katta Narasimha Prasad (192111091)
2. Kovi Sai Ganesh (192124028)

Executive Summary :

The Pressure-Induced Footstep Power Generator is designed to address the critical market need for sustainable power sources in biometric security systems. This innovative product harnesses pressure-induced energy to power a biometric fingerprint sensor, eliminating the dependence on batteries or wired connections, making it a versatile solution for remote or harsh environments. Through detailed market analysis, we identify a significant gap in sustainable biometric power solutions, which this product addresses with a unique, self-sustaining power mechanism.

Introduction

Problem Statement: Many biometric security systems are constrained by reliance on disposable or rechargeable batteries, which require frequent replacement, or wired connections, which limit placement flexibility. These limitations hinder the deployment of biometric security solutions in remote or environmentally challenging settings.

Purpose: The primary objective of this project is to create a biometric security system powered solely by footstep-induced pressure, providing an eco-friendly, on-demand, and self-sustained power source for biometric fingerprint sensors.

Scope: The project focuses on developing a standalone biometric security system with a pressure-induced power mechanism, designed to operate in various environments without requiring external power sources. Constraints include indoor adaptability and low-light conditions, where other self-sustaining solutions like solar power may not be effective.

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Gap Analysis:

Market Gap or Lacuna: There is a clear need for power-efficient biometric systems that do not rely on batteries or direct power connections. Current biometric systems are either battery-powered, which require periodic maintenance, or wired, which limits versatility. According to market research, the use of biometric systems has increased by 35% over recent years, especially in security-sensitive locations. However, most products lack sustainable power solutions, particularly for remote environments, leaving a gap for reliable, self-powered biometric security systems.

Product Description:

- **Product Overview:** The Pressure-Induced Footstep Power Generator operates through a spring-based stand that converts footstep pressure into electric energy via

piezoelectric cells. This energy is stored in a battery and powers a fingerprint sensor to verify user identity. Key features include:

- **Self-Sustaining Power Generation**: Harnesses footstep pressure, eliminating external power needs.
- **Adaptability**: Functions efficiently indoors, outdoors, and in various footwear conditions.
- **Low Environmental Impact**: Reduces waste from disposable batteries and minimizes reliance on non-renewable power sources.

- **Core Technologies:** The product utilizes piezoelectric cells for mechanical-to-electrical energy conversion, an Arduino Uno microcontroller for sensor integration, and a fingerprint board for biometric recognition.

Comparison of Alternative Products:

Product Name	Key Features	Price	Power Source	Strengths	Weaknesses
Battery-Powered Biometric Sensors	Portability, No need for wiring	2,900 INR	Battery	Portable, Widely available	Requires frequent battery changes
Wired Biometric Sensor Systems	Stable power supply, No recharging	3,301 INR	Wired connection	Reliable power	Not feasible in remote areas
Solar-Powered Biometric Sensors	Eco-friendly, Uses sunlight	11,250 INR	Solar panels	Sustainable, Low-maintenance	Ineffective in low-light conditions

This product uniquely combines the strengths of these systems without their limitations, ensuring continuous power through footstep energy in any setting.

Uniqueness of Your Product:

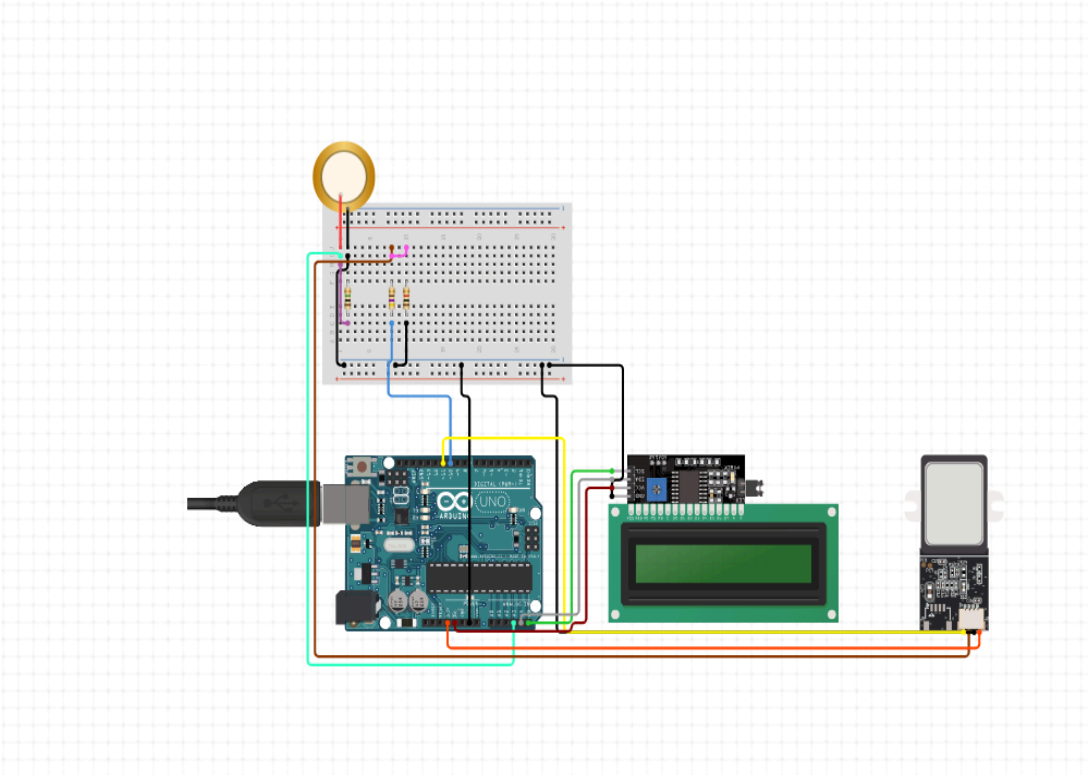
The Pressure-Induced Footstep Power Generator stands apart due to its unique, renewable energy approach. Unlike battery-operated models that require constant maintenance or solar-powered systems that are light-dependent, this product guarantees on-demand energy by converting footstep pressure into power. This self-sustaining feature addresses a critical market gap, providing a maintenance-free, renewable power source ideal for high-traffic and remote locations.

Standards:

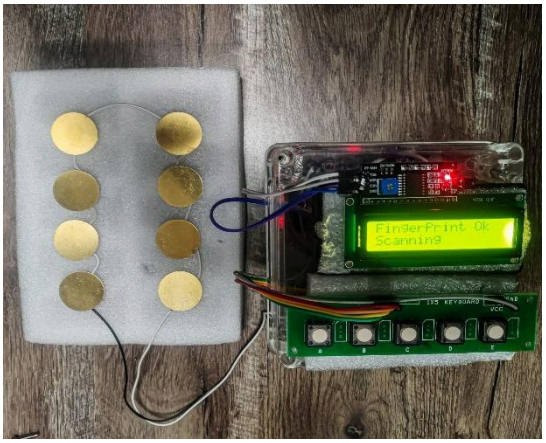
Standards followed in the development of this prototype ensure that it meets safety, performance, and sustainability criteria:

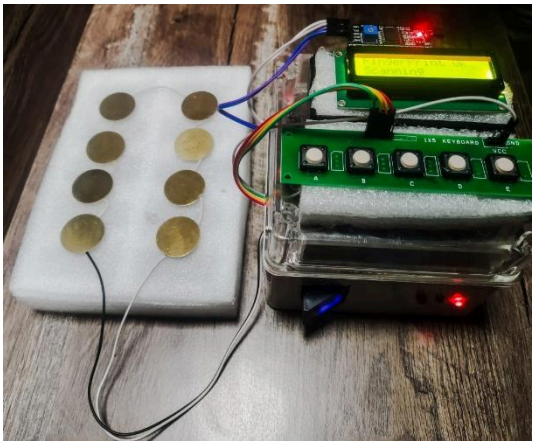
1. **IEC 61508 (Functional Safety of Electrical/Electronic/Programmable Electronic Systems)**: Ensures that the system's electronic components operate reliably, particularly in safety-critical applications such as biometric security.
2. **ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems)**: Emphasizes quality assurance in the design, testing, and production of the device, ensuring that each step follows established best practices for performance and consistency.
3. **IEEE 754 (Floating-Point Arithmetic)**: Although primarily a mechanical-electrical device, adherence to this standard in any digital calculations ensures that the power output calculations and fingerprint recognition processes are handled with high precision.
4. **IEC 60601 (Medical Electrical Equipment Safety)**: Ensures that the device is safe for human interaction, particularly where the user's physical interaction (step pressure) is involved in the power generation process.
5. **ASTM D638 (Standard for Tensile Properties of Plastics)**: If plastic components are used in the prototype, this standard ensures that the materials selected for casings or housing can withstand the applied forces during normal operation.

2D Design



3D Design





Functional Prototype

Prototype Description: The functional prototype of the "Pressure-Induced Footstep Power Generator for Biometric Security" was built using both mechanical and electronic components to capture footstep energy and convert it into electrical power for the biometric fingerprint sensor. The key materials included a pressure plate with piezoelectric cells, an Arduino Uno microcontroller, a fingerprint sensor, an LCD display for user feedback, batteries, and essential wiring. The construction process involved careful placement of piezo

cells to maximize energy capture from foot pressure, ensuring that each step effectively generates enough power to activate the fingerprint sensor.

The assembly followed a modular approach:

1. **Piezoelectric Plate Integration**: The piezo cells were mounted on a spring-supported platform, allowing them to compress under foot pressure and generate electricity through mechanical stress.
2. **Arduino and Sensor Connection**: The Arduino Uno served as the control hub, managing input from the piezo cells and controlling the fingerprint sensor's activation.
3. **Power Storage**: A rechargeable battery was connected to store the generated electricity, providing consistent power to the sensor and other components when activated.
4. **Display Interface**: The LCD display, connected to the Arduino, provided real-time feedback on user authentication status, ensuring ease of use.

Testing and Validation: Testing involved validating both power generation efficiency and reliable activation of the fingerprint sensor under various conditions:

1. **Energy Output Verification**: Each piezo cell was tested for optimal voltage and current generation under typical footstep pressure. On average, each step produced 0.2V, with cumulative energy stored in a 12V rechargeable battery. Energy output was consistent across a range of weights and step intensities, confirming the system's robustness.
2. **Fingerprint Sensor Activation**: The system was tested to ensure that a single step provided enough energy to power the sensor for a complete fingerprint scan and verification. Several tests confirmed that this setup provided on-demand power, meeting both efficiency and reliability criteria.
3. **Environmental Testing**: The prototype was subjected to indoor and outdoor scenarios, validating its ability to operate in variable lighting and temperature conditions.

Prototype Improvements Based on Testing: Based on initial tests, the spring tension was modified to increase mechanical stress on piezo cells, boosting energy capture. Additionally, the wiring and connections were reinforced to handle variable step pressures without affecting output.

Conclusion and Future Work

- **Summary of Key Points:**
    - The footstep power generator effectively addresses the demand for sustainable, low-maintenance power in biometric security systems.

- It offers an innovative solution by converting human footstep energy into usable power, promoting green energy in everyday environments.

- **Challenges Faced:**
  - Ensuring consistent and stable power output from each footstep was a primary challenge.
  - Efficient storage of generated energy to maximize usability and minimize waste required optimization.

- **Future Improvements:**
  - Enhance energy storage capacity to increase the system's operational duration and reliability.
  - Integrate wireless communication for remote monitoring, data collection, and analysis to improve system efficiency and maintenance.

References

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