

# Mechanical Energy Harvesting for Powering Distributed Sensors and Recharging Storage Systems

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Dissertation submitted to the faculty of the  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy  
in  
Mechanical Engineering

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April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Blacksburg, VA

**Keywords:** Electromagnetism, piezoelectricity, magnetostriction, vibration energy harvesting, wind energy harvesting, electromechanical modeling, sensor node

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## **Abstract**

Vibration energy harvesting has been widely investigated by academia and industry in the past decade with focus on developing distributed power sources. One of the prime goals of energy harvesters is to provide power to wireless sensors allowing for the placement of these sensors in the remote and inaccessible areas where battery is not an option. Electromechanical modeling approaches have been developed for enhancing the mechanical to electrical conversion efficiencies utilizing electromagnetic, piezoelectric, and magnetostrictive mechanisms. Models based upon the constitutive equations for these three conversion mechanisms, supported by extensive experimental results available in literature, suggest that power requirement through energy harvesters can be met only when the total volume is in the range of 1-100 cm<sup>3</sup>. There exists a critical volume of 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> at which above which the electromagnetic mechanism exhibits higher power density as compared to the other mechanisms. Therefore, in this thesis electromagnetic energy conversion was adopted to develop high power energy harvesters. We also present a novel vibration energy harvesting method which rivals the power density and bandwidth of the traditional methods. The overarching theme throughout the design process was selecting the structure and fabrication methodology that facilitates the transition of the technology. The experimental models were characterized at accelerations and frequencies typically found in the environmental vibration sources.

The thesis provides in-depth the design, modeling, and characterization of a vibration energy harvester which creates relative motion differently than the conventional harvesters.

Conventional designs rely on amplifying the original source displacement operating at the resonance condition. In the harvester design proposed in this thesis, the relative motion is created by cancelling the vibration at one location and transferring the source vibration directly to another location by combining a vibration isolator with a vibration absorber. In this novel configuration, termed as Direct Vibration Harvester (DVH), the energy is harvested directly from the vibrating source mass rather than a vibrating seismic mass attached to the source increasing the harvesting bandwidth and power density.

Four bar magnet and magnetic levitation architectures were modified and modeled to reach closer to the theoretical maximum power densities. Extensive FEM was utilized to understand the performance limitations of the existing structures and the results from this analysis paved the pathway towards the development of the DVH. A comparative analysis of the performance of the DVH with the traditional harvesting methods in terms of normalized power output and bandwidth was conducted. Performance improvements of DVH required development of the high efficiency rotational generators as linear to rotational conversion occurs in the DVH. The optimized rotational generator was modeled and all the predicted performance metrics were validated through experiments. The generator was applied towards the fabrication of DVH and also in a micro windmill. The power density of the micro windmill was found to be better than all the other results reported in literature. Extensive fluid and structural modeling was conducted to tailor the performance of the micro windmill in the desired wind speed range.

Combined, this thesis provides significant advancement on many fronts. It pushes the magnetic levitation and four-bar mechanism harvester systems to their theoretical limits. It demonstrates a novel direct vibration harvester that has the possibility of surpassing the power density and bandwidth of all the known vibration harvester with large magnitude of output

power. It provides a design process for an efficient small scale electromagnetic generator that can form for the backbone of many rotational and linear harvesters. This generator was used to develop the world's highest power density micro windmill in the small wind speed range.

## **Acknowledgements**

I first and foremost thank Dr. Shashank Priya for giving me the opportunity to earn my PhD in mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech. Throughout my time as a graduate student, Dr. Priya has provided me much guidance and motivation which allowed me to face and solve the technical challenges presented to me in my research. My research within the Center for Energy Harvesting Materials and Systems has focused on transitioning laboratory science to real world applications. I am thankful for the experience I have gained working at CEHMS as it will allow me to adapt quickly to the rapid pace of research and development in my future career in industry.

I also thank Ai Fukushima, Beth Howell and Erin Singleton for all of their assistance in handling the paperwork for patents, contracts, travel reimbursement, and especially the numerous order forms I have placed throughout my three years in the CEHMS lab.

I also thank Justin Farmer for his assistance in the lab and guidance in using vibration characterization equipment early in my graduate career. I also thank Carlos Guevara for his assistance and guidance in understanding digital signal processing of vibration data early in my graduate career. I also thank Darian A. Schaab for assistance in simulations for double cell array and micro wind turbine prototypes.

I also thank Dr. Srinath Ekkad, Dr. Dong S. Ha, Daniel J. Inman and Walter F. O'Brien for serving on my PhD committee.

I also thank all of my colleagues in the CEHMS lab with whom I have had research collaborations and/or shared experiences with outside the lab. I have made many friends during my three years working in the lab and hope to maintain these friendships in the future.

I also thank my parents, Bob and Monica, my brother, Michael, and my sister, Courtney for all of their support and motivation during my graduate student career. I also thank all my friends from back home and undergrad for their support and motivation, especially Andrew who I have shared many helpful and motivational conversations with throughout the three years.

I also gratefully acknowledge the financial support from Pratt & Whitney, NSF INAMM program, NSF I/UCRC: Center for Energy Harvesting Materials and Systems (CEHMS).

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# 1 CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background on energy harvesting

Energy harvesting refers to the scavenging of wasted or freely available ambient energy to generate electricity. Examples of energy sources include solar, thermal gradient, waves, wind, and vibrations. The generated electric energy is typically stored in a capacitor or rechargeable battery and dispersed to various sensors and devices on-demand. Energy harvesting provides an alternative power source to batteries in implementation of wireless sensor network (WSN), and the preferred power source in environments where replacement of a battery is complex and/or costly. A wireless sensor network can be used for a variety of purposes such as real-time monitoring of the remote condition and structural health monitoring of various components in real-world applications. Examples of these applications can include bridges, bearing and wheels on rail and vehicles, ship hulls and propeller components, and turbine blades in a jet engine.

In this thesis, the focus was on harvesting mechanical energy from vibration sources. There are several mechanisms that can be utilized to convert vibration mechanical energy into electrical energy including electromagnetic, piezoelectric, magnetoelectric, dielectric elastomers and electrets. We present a simplistic calculation that shows the scaling of output power as a function of effective material dimension for these different mechanisms. Equations (1.1) – (1.5) show the output power ( $P = U^2/R$ , where  $U$  is the output voltage and  $R$  is the load resistance) as a function of effective material volume ( $V$ ) for the different mechanisms:

$$\text{Electromagnetic:} \quad U = N \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} A = N \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} L^2 = \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} L^3 \quad (1.1)$$

suggesting  $\mathbf{P} \propto V^2$

Piezoelectric: 
$$U = \sigma_j g_{ij} t = \left(\frac{ma}{A}\right) g_{ij} L = \left(\frac{\rho L^3 a}{L^2}\right) g_{ij} L = \rho a g_{ij} L^2 \quad (1.2)$$

suggesting  $\mathbf{P} \propto V^{4/3}$

Magnetolectric: 
$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial H} = \frac{\partial \sigma_m}{\partial H} g_{ij} t_p, \text{ where } \frac{\partial \sigma_m}{\partial H} \propto \frac{q}{s} \quad (1.3a)$$

**suggesting  $\mathbf{P}$  independent of  $V$  for applied  $H$**

$$V_{induced}(H, \sigma) = -\phi_p \left(\frac{Z_c}{Z_m}\right) (\sigma A + \phi_m H) = -\phi_p \left(\frac{Z_c}{Z_m}\right) \sigma L^2 - \phi_p \left(\frac{Z_c}{Z_m}\right) \phi_m H \quad (1.3b)$$

**suggesting  $\mathbf{P} \propto V^{4/3} + \text{const}$  for applied  $H$  and  $\sigma$**

Dielectric Elastomer: 
$$U^2 \propto \frac{\epsilon_r \epsilon_0}{C_p} \cdot V \cdot E_{max}^2 \left[1 - \frac{A_{min}^2}{A_{max}^2}\right] \quad (1.4)$$

suggesting  $\mathbf{P} \propto V$

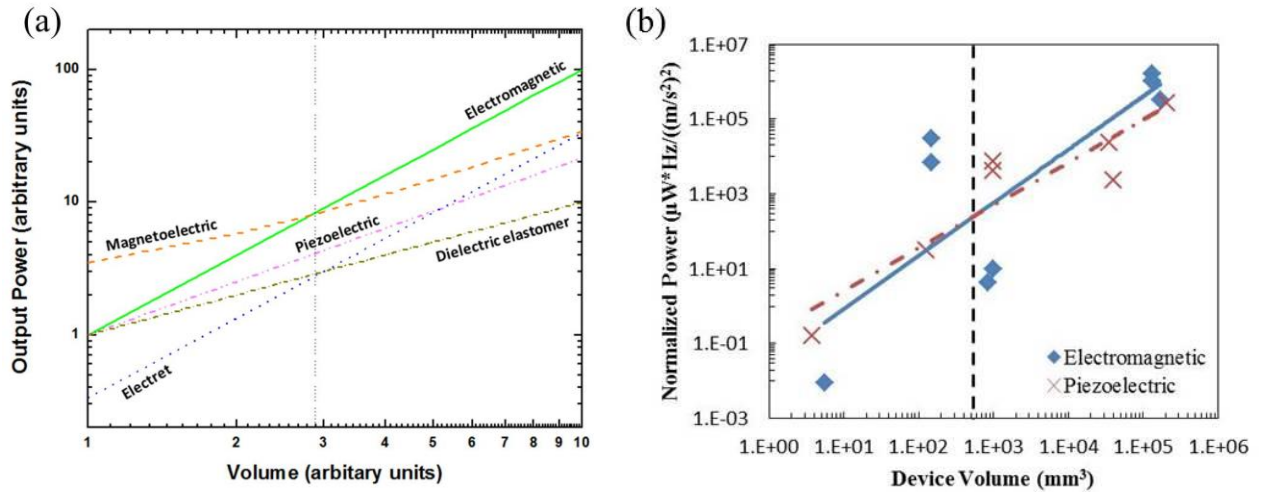
Electret: 
$$P = \frac{\sigma^2}{\frac{4\epsilon_0\epsilon_E(\epsilon_E g}{\epsilon_A t_E} + 1)} \frac{dA(t)}{dt} \propto t_E^2 \quad (1.5)$$

suggesting  $\mathbf{P} \propto V^{2/3}$

For electromagnetic harvester,  $N$  is the number of turns in coil,  $\frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$  is the change in magnetic flux cutting the coil, and  $A$  is the cross sectional area of the wire. The number of turns in coil  $N$  is an effective material dimension  $L$ , because increasing  $N$  increases the coil size. For piezoelectric,  $\sigma_j$  is the stress applied on to the piezoelectric material,  $g_{ij}$  is the piezoelectric voltage constant, and  $t$  is the thickness of the piezoelectric material. For magnetolectric,  $\sigma_m$  is the stress generated by magnetostrictive material,  $H$  is the applied magnetic field,  $t_p$  is the thickness of piezoelectric material,  $q$  is the piezo-magnetic constant, and  $s$  is the elastic compliance. For laminate composites, it has been shown that the magnetolectric coefficient saturates with the ratio of magnetostrictive layer to piezoelectric layer and further increase in coupling is solely dependent

upon the piezomagnetic coefficient and not on the dimensions [1-2]. Thus power was found to be independent of volume for the magnetoelectric mechanism. Recent research has also shown that if mechanical stress and magnetic field are simultaneously applied on the magnetoelectric composite, the induced voltage ( $V_{induced}$ ) across the piezoelectric layer in the composite can be increased as given by Eq. 1.3b. [3]. In this expression,  $-\phi_p$  is the electromechanical coupling factor,  $\phi_m$  is the magneto-elastic coupling factor,  $Z_c$  is the capacitance impedance ( $Z_c = 1/j\omega pC_0$ ) and  $Z_m$  is the mechanical impedance. The negative “—” sign indicates the reversal of phase between the applied  $F$  (or  $H$ ) and the induced voltage  $V_{induced}$ . Since power is proportional to  $V_{induced}^2$ , it will be positively affected. We capture this effect by multiplying the slope given by piezoelectric mechanism with 1.5 and having an initial intercept on the power axis. The intercept was arbitrarily selected to be twice that of piezoelectric response at small volume. For dielectric elastomer, Graf et al. have derived the energy harvested in constant charge cycle as given by Eq. (1.4). In this expression,  $C_p$  is the capacity of generator,  $A$  is the surface area,  $E_{max}$  is the maximum electric field strength,  $\epsilon_r$  is relative permittivity, and  $\epsilon_0$  is permittivity of vacuum [4]. For electret power generators, Eq.(1.5) was taken from the work of Lo and Tai. In this expression,  $\sigma$  is the surface charge density,  $A(t)$  is the variable overlap area between top and bottom electrodes,  $\epsilon_E$  is the dielectric constant of the electret,  $\epsilon_0$  is the permittivity of vacuum,  $\epsilon_A$  is the dielectric constant of air,  $g$  is the distance between top electrode and electret surface, and  $t_E$  is the electret thickness [5]. For all the mechanisms, mass  $m$  was substituted with  $\rho V$  where  $\rho$  is the density of the active material. Figure 1.1(a) plots the variation of output power as a function of volume for different mechanisms by using Eq. (1.1) – (1.5) with arbitrary units of volume. This figure indicates that at larger size scales, electromagnetic mechanism becomes more attractive as compared to other alternatives. To obtain an approximation of the critical

size, Fig. 1.1(b) plots harvester volume vs. normalized output power (normalized by vibration source frequency and acceleration) for various piezoelectric and electromagnetic prototypes reported in literature. The performance metrics used to generate the plot are listed in Table 1.1 [6-18]. From Fig. 1.1 (b) it can be determined that  $\sim 0.5 \text{ cm}^3$  is the vicinity of the critical volume. Thus in our research on macro-scale and meso-scale structures with overall volume of the order of  $1 \text{ cm}^3$ - $100 \text{ cm}^3$ , electromagnetic harvesting mechanism was selected for capturing the vibration energy for the research presented in this dissertation.



**Figure 1.1** (a) Arbitrary output power as a function of arbitrary volume for various vibration energy harvesting mechanisms, (b) Output power as a function of volume for energy harvesters found in literature and industry



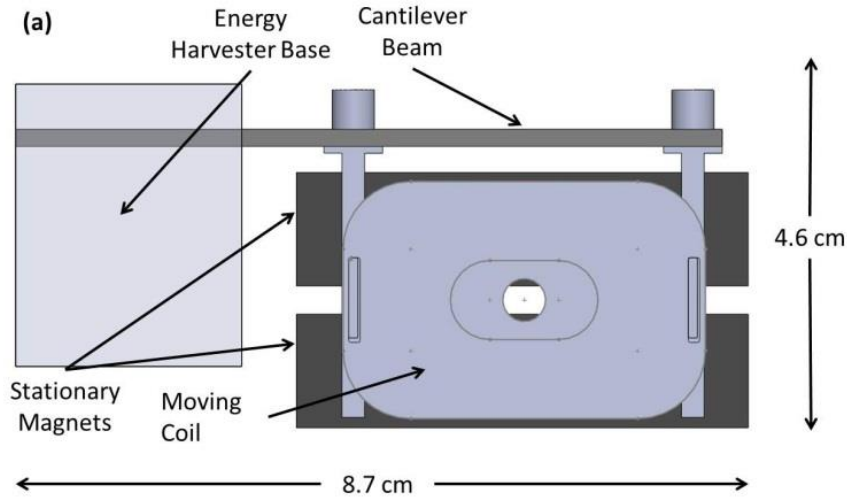
**Table 1.1** Performance metrics for various piezoelectric and electromagnetic harvesters

Source	Conversion Mechanism	Power ( $\mu\text{W}$ )	Volume ( $\text{mm}^3$ )	Frequency (Hz)	Acceleration ( $\text{m/s}^2$ )	Normalized Power ( $\mu\text{W}\cdot\text{Hz}/(\text{m/s}^2)$ )	Ref.
MIDE PEH20w	Piezoelectric	7100	39936	50	12.47	2283	6
KCF Technologies VPH300	Piezoelectric	4100	208855	360	2.34	269560	7
Cedrat VEH-APA400M-MD	Piezoelectric	95000	35200	110	21.5	22607	8
Beeby et al.	Piezoelectric	2.1	125	80.1	2.3	32	9
Roundy et al.	Piezoelectric	210	1000	120	2.5	4032	10
Roundy et al.	Piezoelectric	375	1000	120	2.5	7200	10
Kim et al.	Piezoelectric	1.13	3.75	870	78.4	0.16	11
Perpetuum PMG17	Electromagnetic	1000	130671	100	0.245	1665973	12
Perpetuum PMG37	Electromagnetic	92000	130671	22	1.41	1018057	13
FERROSolutions VEH-460	Electromagnetic	5200	170000	60	0.98	324865	14
Williams et al.	Electromagnetic	0.3	5.5	4400	382	0.009	15
Glynn-Jones et al.	Electromagnetic	37	840	322	53.2	4	2
Ching et al.	Electromagnetic	830	1000	110	95.5	10	16
Zhu et al.	Electromagnetic	156	150	67.6	0.59	30295	17
Beeby et al.	Electromagnetic	46	150	52	0.59	6872	18

## 1.2 Electromagnetic vibration energy harvester design and application

In this section, we introduce the design methodology for electromagnetic vibration energy harvesting. There are two main source conditions which affect the design of an effective vibration energy harvester for a particular application. The source conditions consist of the dominant vibration frequency and the amplitude of vibration at that frequency. To identify the dominant vibration frequency and acceleration, time domain measurements were recorded from an accelerometer attached to the vibrating structure. The time domain data was then processed into the frequency domain using fast Fourier transform method. Before proceeding with the design, the voltage and power requirement should be identified. This information is normally located on the data sheets corresponding to the sensor.

To design for a specific power requirement, we derive the relationship between power output and vibration energy harvester parameters. The derivation was originally published by Poulin et al [19]. The vibration energy harvester dynamics are typically modeled with a spring mass damper system. A schematic of a typical vibration energy harvester is shown in Fig. 1.2.



**Figure 1.2** Schematic of four-bar electromagnetic energy harvester

The dynamics for the energy harvester are governed by the following equation:

$$m(\ddot{x}) + c(\dot{x} - \dot{y}) + k(x - y) = 0 \quad (1.6)$$

where  $m$  is the seismic mass (coil),  $c$  is the total damping,  $k$  is the beam stiffness  $x$  is the motion of the mass (coil),  $y$  is the motion of the base (magnets). The harvested power is dependent upon the relative motion between magnet and coil, therefore Eq. 1.6 should be rewritten as:

$$m(\ddot{z}) + c(\dot{z}) + k(z) = -m\ddot{y} \quad (1.7)$$

When an electrical load is placed over the moving coil a force is applied opposing the motion of the coil. Accounting for this force, the following expression is the governing dynamic equation.

$$m(\ddot{z}) + c(\dot{z}) + k(z) = -m\ddot{y} + Bli \quad (1.8)$$

where  $B$  is the magnetic field strength,  $l$  is the length of wire in the moving coil, and  $i$  is the magnitude of current flow in the coil. The electrical component of the harvester can be modeled by applying Kirchoff's voltage law as:

$$U = Bl\dot{z} - R_e i - L_e \frac{di}{dt} \quad (1.9)$$

where  $-R_e i - L_e \frac{di}{dt}$  are the electrical losses in the system and  $Bl\dot{z}$  is the voltage generated by the harvester. The two governing equations can then be converted into the Laplace domain, and rearranged to develop the following transfer function between harvested voltage  $U$  and applied force  $F$ .

$$\frac{U(t)}{F(t)} = \frac{R_L B l}{(R_e + L_e j\omega + R_L) \left( \frac{k}{j\omega} + c + m j\omega \right) + (B l)^2} \quad (1.10)$$

and average power can be calculated as:

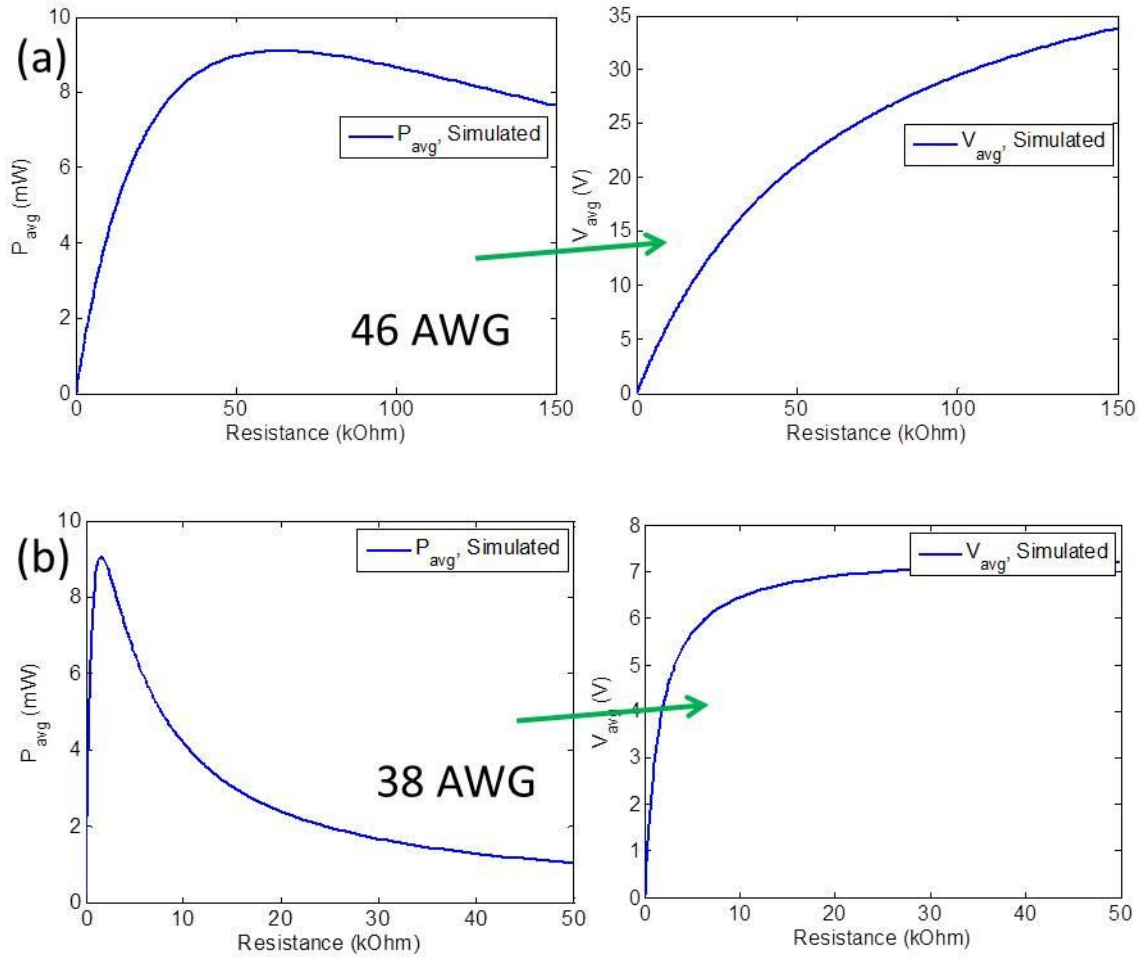
$$P_{avg} = \frac{|U(t)|^2}{2R_L} \quad (1.11)$$

$$P_{avg} = \frac{m^2 a^2 R_L (B l)^2}{2 \left| (R_e + L_e j\omega + R_L) \left( \frac{k}{j\omega} + c + m j\omega \right) + (B l)^2 \right|^2} \quad (1.12)$$

In order to meet the power requirement, given source acceleration  $a$  and source frequency  $\omega$ , we select the size of the mass  $m$ . Eq. 1.12 is maximum when the source frequency is equal to the resonance frequency  $\omega_n$  of the system. The resonance frequency may be approximated as  $\omega_n = \sqrt{k/m}$ . Therefore the next step in the design is to design the stiffness to meet the resonance condition.

The mechanical components of the harvester and the electrical components need to be designed in conjunction with each other. Thus, a new parameter, electromagnetic coupling or transformation factor quantity,  $Bl$ , is introduced at this stage. A trade-off exists between magnetic field strength and coil length when determining the coil volume. As the coil volume

and length increases, the magnetic field strength cutting the outermost coil sections decreases. Therefore, an optimum coil volume exists where any further increases only contribute to the resistance to current rather than contributing to the transduction of current. The rate of the magnetic field decrease varies depending on the permanent magnet geometry and surrounding ferromagnetic components. The distribution is difficult to accurately model analytically and is commonly simulated using finite element analysis. In this research, ANSYS electromagnetics is utilized to determine the optimum coil volume. An example of this optimization can be shown in detail in 2.2.2, 3.2.3, and 5.2.2. After determining the coil volume the wire diameter is selected. Assuming a constant coil volume and fill factor, the wire diameter can be altered to vary the voltage level. The wire diameter has no effect on power with the assumption of constant coil volume and fill factor which is a common misconception. The power does not increase by increasing the number of turns in the coil by decreasing the wire diameter. The decrease in wire diameter increases the wire resistance negating any gains in from the increase in number of turns. This effect is further illustrated by simulating Eq(s). 1.11 and 1.12 for all constant parameters except coil length and coil resistance in Fig. 1.3.



**Figure 1.3** Illustration of the affect wire diameter has on the output voltage and power

Wire diameter selection is particularly important in applications where the harvester size is small. In this application it is important to select a wire diameter small enough to produce a large enough voltage to overcome a voltage drop across a rectifier. The current produced in vibration energy harvesting is of the same form of the input vibration. Therefore, the alternating current and must be converted into a direct current which is typically a sensor requirement.

Fig. 1.3 shows that an optimum load resistance exists; a resistance where the maximum power is extracted from the mechanical system. The optimum load resistance effect is due to the matching of electrical damping constant with mechanical damping constant. The mechanical damping constant  $c_m$  and electrical damping constant  $c_e$  can be defined as:

$$c_m = 2\zeta_m \sqrt{km} \quad (1.13)$$

$$c_e = \frac{(Bl)^2}{R_L + R_c + j\omega L_c} \quad (1.14)$$

All parameters are fixed in the damping constant parameters except the load resistance. Typically, vibration energy harvesters are characterized by placing a load resistor of the value of optimum load resistance. In real applications, the impedance of the sensor is much different than the optimum load resistor. In this case, placing a resistor in series with the sensor to match resistance will cause large losses in harvestable power due to the current dissipation in the resistor. Impedance matching circuitry can be implemented to meet the matching of source and load impedance. The circuit consists of an oscillator which controls the rate at which a MOSFET passes and blocks the flow of current. The details of this circuit can be found in 2.2.3. The design methodology presented can be utilized to design an effective electromagnetic vibration energy harvester for a particular application.

### 1.3 Magnetism basics and mathematical formulations

Magnetic materials can be characterized as paramagnetic, diamagnetic, and ferromagnetic. Paramagnetic materials retain magnetic field only when under an applied magnetic field, and have a relative permeability of unity or greater than unity. Diamagnetic materials repel an applied magnetic field, and have a relative permeability of less than unity. Ferromagnetic materials remain magnetized in the absence of an applied magnetic field and have relative permeability on order of 1000 to 10000. Relative permeability  $\mu_r$  can be defined as the following:

$$\mu_r = \frac{\mu}{\mu_0} \quad (1.15)$$

where  $\mu_0$  is the magnetic permeability of free space ( $4\pi \times 10^{-7} T \cdot m/A$ ) and  $\mu$  permeability of the material. The permeability is a measure of the magnetization in a material in response to an external magnetic field.

A permanent magnet is commonly referred to as hard ferromagnetic material, and is composed of naturally magnetic materials combined with ferromagnetic materials. Materials such as iron, nickel are more commonly referred to as soft materials. The figure of merit for the permanent magnets consists of the coercivity and  $BH_{\max}$ . These values can be extracted from the demagnetization curve provided by the manufacturers. The coercivity represents the magnitude of applied magnetic field required to reduce the magnetization within a permanent magnet to zero. The most commonly used permanent magnets are Neodymium Iron Boron (NdFeB) and Samarium Cobalt (SmCo). NdFeB magnets are the strongest magnet with a coercivity of  $\sim 11$  KOe and  $BH_{\max}$  of  $\sim 41$  MGOe [20]. SmCo magnets have a coercivity of  $\sim 9.5$  KOe and  $BH_{\max}$  of  $\sim 25.5$  MGOe [21]. Though NdFeB magnets are stronger, they have a lower Curie temperature of  $310^\circ\text{C}$  as compared to  $800^\circ\text{C}$  for SmCo magnets. The Curie temperature represents the temperature at which the magnet will lose its magnetization; therefore for high temperature applications SmCo magnets are preferred. The magnets used in the following research consisted of NdFeB Iron Boron.

#### **1.4 Purpose of this thesis**

The purpose of this research is to design, fabricate, and characterize energy harvesters for various real-world applications. The end goal of each study involves powering a distributed sensor or recharging system with a specific power requirement. The research focuses mainly on harvesting vibration energy in applications such as railcars, ships, trucks, and humans. Each study begins with clear identification of the available energy and source conditions for

harvesting. After introducing the motivation behind the work, derivation of governing equations of motion, and voltage generation are presented. From analysis of the mathematical relationships, key design variables are identified. A combination of finite element analysis, analytical, and numerical solution techniques were utilized to enhance and optimize the design of the various energy harvesters presented. In each study prototypes were fabricated and experimentally characterized with for their output voltage and RMS power. The experimental data was also used to validate the theoretical models. In depth discussions on experimental and theoretical results are provided with the objective of fully understanding the electrodynamics within each harvester. Lastly, suggestions for further improvement of the energy harvesters are given with focus on meeting the power needs of the current generation of the sensors.

## **1.5 Layout of the Dissertation**

A brief synopsis is given for each study/chapter below, and is organized in the order as it will occur within the dissertation:

The first chapter of the dissertation describes design and characterization of a novel double cell harvester that combines two four-bar magnet harvesters. The double cell harvester was found to generate twice as much power as that of the traditional four-bar magnet single cell harvester and resolves the phase difference issue experienced by two-beam / two-coil harvester. This achievement provides a 55% increase in output power per unit volume and a 27% increase in output power per unit volume and mass. The harvester can be utilized for harvesting in high frequency applications (50 Hz to 200 Hz). In a separate study, the double cell harvester is integrated with an electrical system, which improves upon the performance of the previous studies in terms of operation bandwidth and mechanical to electrical power conversion. The average generator conversion efficiency for the double cell array was 45.3% which approaches



the maximum theoretical limit of 50%. The average AC to regulated DC power conversion efficiency across all frequencies was 78% which is one of the highest reported magnitude for electromagnetic vibration harvesting system.

The second chapter investigates non-linear vibration harvesting utilizing magnetic levitation based harvesters for low frequency applications ( $< 50$  Hz). Novel approaches to multi-mechanism harvesting combining the electromagnetic mechanism with piezoelectric and magnetostrictive mechanisms are investigated in an effort to increase the power density and bandwidth of the harvester. The inductive mechanism for the combined inductive/piezoelectric prototype sets the state-of-art in volume figure of merit for magnetic levitation prototypes.

The third chapter presents a novel energy harvesting concept in an effort to improve upon the harvesting bandwidth and power density limitations of the previously introduced vibration energy harvesters (four-bar magnet and levitating magnet configurations). Relative motion was created without amplification of the original source displacement by cancelling the vibration at one location and transferring the source vibration directly to another location by combining a vibration isolator with a vibration absorber. In this novel harvester configuration, termed as “Direct Vibration Harvester (DVH)”, the power is harvested directly from the vibrating source mass rather than a vibrating seismic mass attached to the source. Source displacements from real world applications are often on the level of 0.02 mm to 2 mm. As the DVH does not amplify the source displacement, this presents a challenge in harvesting the high force/energy content and low displacement vibration. To this end, we convert the linear vibration to rotational motion and amplify the rotational motion using a gear train. The fabricated prototype harvested 45 mW @ 0.9 G base acceleration and weighed 462 grams. Through analytical modeling it was determined that a prototype could generate 87 mW @ 1 G base acceleration and only weighs 243 grams.

Also, an optimal balance between the bandwidth and maximum power harvested exists as shown by the parametric analysis.

The fourth chapter describes the development of a permanent magnet rotational generator which serves as the generator for the DVH described in the third chapter. The generator is also applied as the generator for a micro wind turbine application. The application consists of harvesting airflow within HVAC ducts in residential and commercial buildings to power various sensors. HVAC ducts within Durham hall at Virginia Tech were modified in order to provide an experimental platform to evaluate the capability of the harvester. The fabricated generator sets the state-of-art for micro turbine power density.

Lastly, the fifth chapter describes the implementation of the various energy harvesters in a “smart building”. To this end, an additional energy harvester was developed which can be integrated into a common pen, and used to monitor the location and condition of the human within the building.

## **2 CHAPTER 2: HIGH FREQUENCY (50 HZ to 200 HZ) VIBRATION ENERGY HARVESTING**

### **2.1 Development of multiple cell configuration electromagnetic vibration energy harvester**

This chapter reports the design of an electromagnetic vibration energy harvester that doubles the magnitude of output power generated by the prior four-bar magnet configuration reported in literature. This enhancement was achieved with minor increase in volume by 23% and mass by 30%. The new “double cell” design utilizes an additional pair of magnets to create a secondary air gap, or cell, for a second coil to vibrate within. To further reduce the dimensions of the device, two coils were attached to one common cantilever beam. These unique features lead to improvements of 66% in output power per unit volume (power density) and 27% increase in output power per unit volume and mass (specific power density), from 0.1 to 0.17 mW/cm<sup>3</sup> and 0.41 to 0.51 mW/cm<sup>3</sup>\*kg respectively. Using the ANSYS multiphysics analysis, it was determined that for the double cell harvester, adding one additional pair of magnets created a small magnetic gradient between air gaps of 0.001T which is insignificant in terms of electromagnetic damping. Analytical model was developed to optimize the magnitude of transformation factor and magnetic field gradient within the gap.

### 2.1.1 Introduction

The performance and capabilities of wireless sensor networks continue to rise. At the same time, there has been significant progress in development of energy harvesters that can enhance the lifetime and limitations of a conventional battery. Vibration energy harvesting has been pursued both as an alternative and supplement to batteries by various researchers, and in recent years there has been a surge in the number of publications in this area [1-18, 22-27]. In the previous chapter, Fig. 1.1(a-b) showed that a critical volume exists where electromagnetic mechanism is preferred for energy harvesting. The size of the overall harvester in this study is on the order of  $100 \text{ cm}^3$  and therefore electromagnetic induction mechanism was chosen.

Electromagnetic vibration energy harvesting has been widely investigated in literature. El-hami et al. developed a harvester by attaching magnets to a vibrating beam that creates a magnetic field around a stationary coil attached to a base. As base excitation was applied, the relative motion between the magnets and coil creates a voltage in the coil [22]. Glynne-Jones et al. improved upon this design by adding another set of magnets which increased the area of magnetic field [23]. O'Donnell et al. investigated scaling conditions for output power in terms of system parameters such as magnetic field, coil parameters, electromagnetic and mechanical damping [24]. Beeby et al. suggested that four-bar magnet energy harvesters perform optimally when the mechanical damping ratio is equal to the electrical damping ratio [25]. The research at CEHMS, Virginia Tech on electromagnetic energy harvesters has utilized both four-bar configuration [26] and cylindrical configuration [27] and developed the fundamental understanding of parameters that influence the overall performance. However, the focus of previous research has been on optimizing and scaling the four-bar magnet geometry with a single vibrating beam and coil. Minimal development towards modifying the four-bar magnet geometry

to harvest energy with multiple coils has been documented in literature. Some researchers have used multiple coils for electromagnetic energy harvesting in an effort to harvest at broadband frequencies [28-29]. None of these researchers however have utilized the compact four-bar geometry in their designs or have conducted optimization of output power per unit volume and mass. The only attempt to utilize the four-bar magnet geometry with multiple coils was made by Oliver and Priya, however the enhancement in output power was limited due to voltage phase mismatch between coils disallowing complete summation of voltages [26]. Therefore, the goal in this thesis was to alter the design of the four-bar magnet energy harvester in order to increase the output power per unit volume and mass and to allow the arraying of coils without voltage phase mismatch. This chapter presents the design and experimentation of the “double cell” harvester that generates twice the output power generated by the prior published four-bar magnet geometry while only increasing the volume by 23% and mass by 30%, consequently providing a 27% increase in output power per unit volume and mass. The double cell harvester also eliminates voltage phase mismatch providing a method for efficiently arraying multiple coils in series connection.

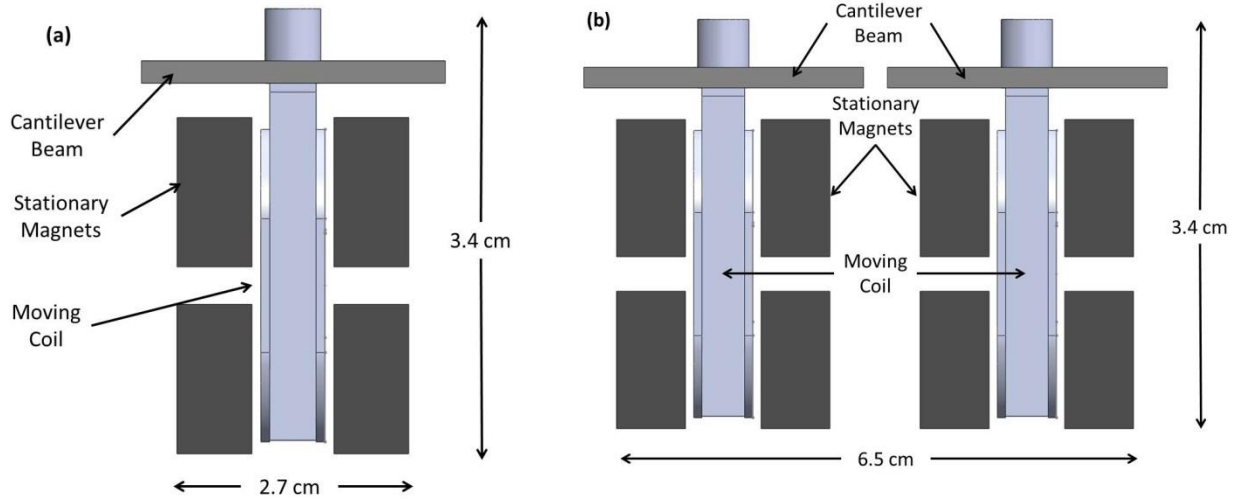
### **2.1.2 Electromagnetic harvester design**

The four-bar magnet harvester will be referred as “single cell” in this paper. Using the results from the optimization study conducted by Oliver and Priya, the dimensions of harvester components for both single cell and double cell harvesters were selected [26]. Particularly the “race track” coil design was adopted due to the advantages in terms of mechanical to electrical energy coupling. Also the coils were positioned in the same location relative to the magnets.

The target vibration source frequency and acceleration level were chosen based on vibration available from common household and industrial equipment [10]. The target vibration

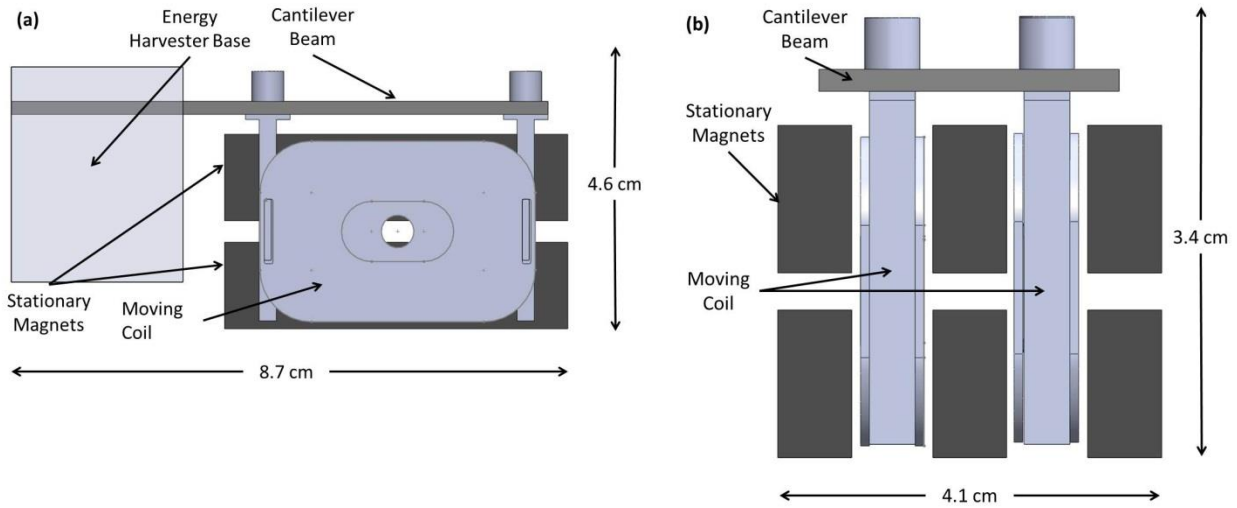
source frequency and acceleration level range were 90-200 Hz and 0.5-1 g respectively. The beams for the single cell and double cell harvesters were designed to resonate within the vibration source frequency range at similar frequencies to compare performance. The beam's natural frequency ( $\omega_n$ ) is related to beam stiffness ( $k$ ) and tip mass ( $m$ ) by the formula ( $\omega_n = \sqrt{k/m}$ ) [30]. The coil for the single cell and double cell harvester consisted of 2400 turns of 38 gauge copper wire. The difference between the two harvesters existed in the number of rows of the magnets and beam design as described below.

The single cell harvester consists of four 2" x 1/2" x 1/4" Neodymium-Boron magnets held in a rigid ABS plastic base. The magnets were used to create a stationary magnetic field that is aligned perpendicular to the plane of the coil face. The coil was permanently attached to the aluminum beam which was securely clamped to the base using aluminum brackets and a screw. The overall volume of the single cell prototype was determined to be 90 cm<sup>3</sup>. The total mass of the harvester (base, magnets, clamp, beam) was 254 g. Figure 2.1(a) shows the front view of single cell harvester illustrating the orientation of beam, coil and magnets. Another design discussed in this chapter, consisted of two vibrating cantilever beams within two separate four-bar magnet structures all sharing a common base [26]. This two-beam/two-coil design is the conventional method for making an array of the harvesters based on the four-bar mechanism as shown in Fig. 2.1(b). The overall volume of this harvester was 187 cm<sup>3</sup> and the total mass of the harvester was 486 g. It is obvious from Fig. 2.1(b), that this method for arraying is clumsy and increases the volume and weight of the overall system dramatically.



**Figure 2.1:** (a) Front view of the single cell harvester, (b) Front view of conventional method for arraying coils

The double cell harvester holds six 2" x 1/2" x 1/4" neodymium-boron magnets in a rigid ABS plastic base (3 rows of two magnets with opposite polarity). The additional pair of magnets added to the base created a gap for the second coil to be mounted. In order to decrease the width of the harvester, two coils were attached to a common aluminum cantilever beam. Figure 2.2(a) shows the side-view of the double cell harvester illustrating the spatial relationship between the coil and the magnets. The overall volume of the double cell harvester was 111 cm<sup>3</sup> and the total mass of the harvester was 330 g. The double cell design increases the volume and mass of the single cell design by 23% and 30% respectively, as compared to 107% and 91% increase in volume and mass in the two-beam/two-coil design which uses conventional arraying method. Figure 2.2(b) shows the front-view of the double cell harvester describing the orientation of the beam, coil and magnets.

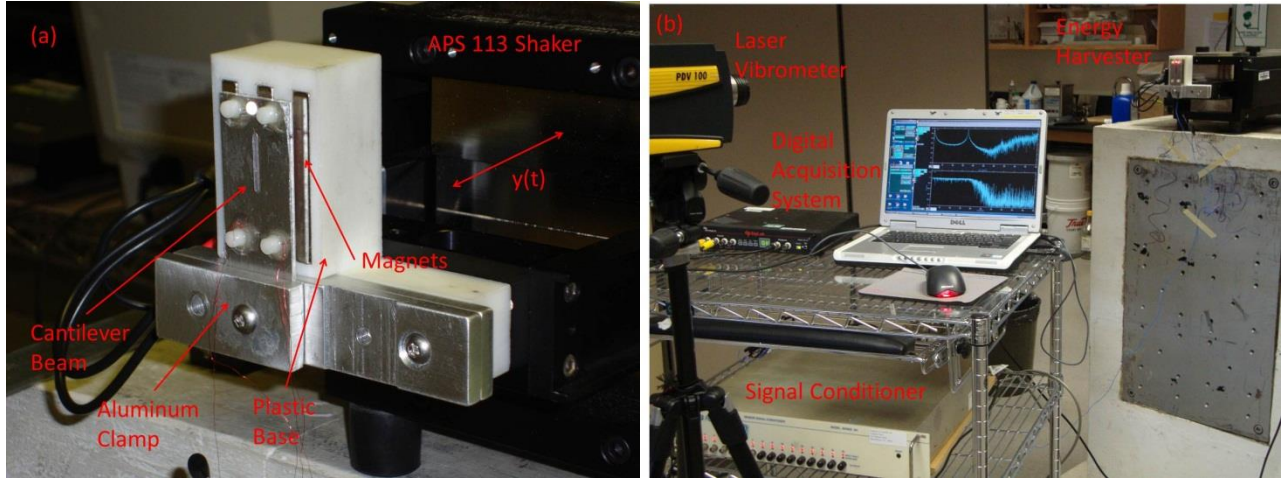


**Figure 2.2:** (a) Cross-section of the double cell harvester, and (b) Front view of the double cell harvester

### 2.1.3 Experimental setup

The experimental characterization system is shown in Fig. 2.3(a) and (b). The base of the energy harvester was mounted on the arm of a seismic shaker (Acoustic Power Systems 113). Acceleration was measured at the aluminum clamp, shown in Fig. 2.3(a), using a shear accelerometer (Piezotronics Inc.). The output signal from the accelerometer was conditioned using a signal conditioner (Piezotronics Inc.). The velocity at the tip of cantilever beam was measured using a digital vibrometer (Polytec PDV 100). Spectral Dynamics Siglab controlled with a MATLAB graphical user interface was used to generate input signals to the seismic shaker to create vibration and also to capture the output signals from accelerometer and vibrometer. Voltage generated by the harvester was measured by placing a load resistor in series with the coil(s). The RMS voltage was measured by using a digital multimeter.





**Figure 2.3:** (a) Double cell harvester mounted to shaker arm, (b) Full experimental setup

### 2.1.4 Computational analysis of magnetic field distribution within air

The variation in magnetic field strength within the air gap was evaluated by using ANSYS multiphysics for the single cell and double cell designs to determine the effect caused by the additional pair of magnets. Magnetic field gradients between air gaps would cause unequal electromagnetic damping ratios between coils. Electromagnetic damping is a physical force exerted on the coil which opposes the vibration of the cantilever beam. This force is only present when the coil is placed under an electrical load resistance. A magnetic force that acts on a current carrying conductor is determined through Eq. 2.1 [31].

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \quad (2.1)$$

Using the right hand rule the direction of this force is in the upward direction or downward direction depending on the direction of the moving coil. One would think that the forces from the top and bottom portions of the coil would cancel due to loop in the coil, but due to the polarity change between the top and bottom sets of magnets this force from the two section of coil is in

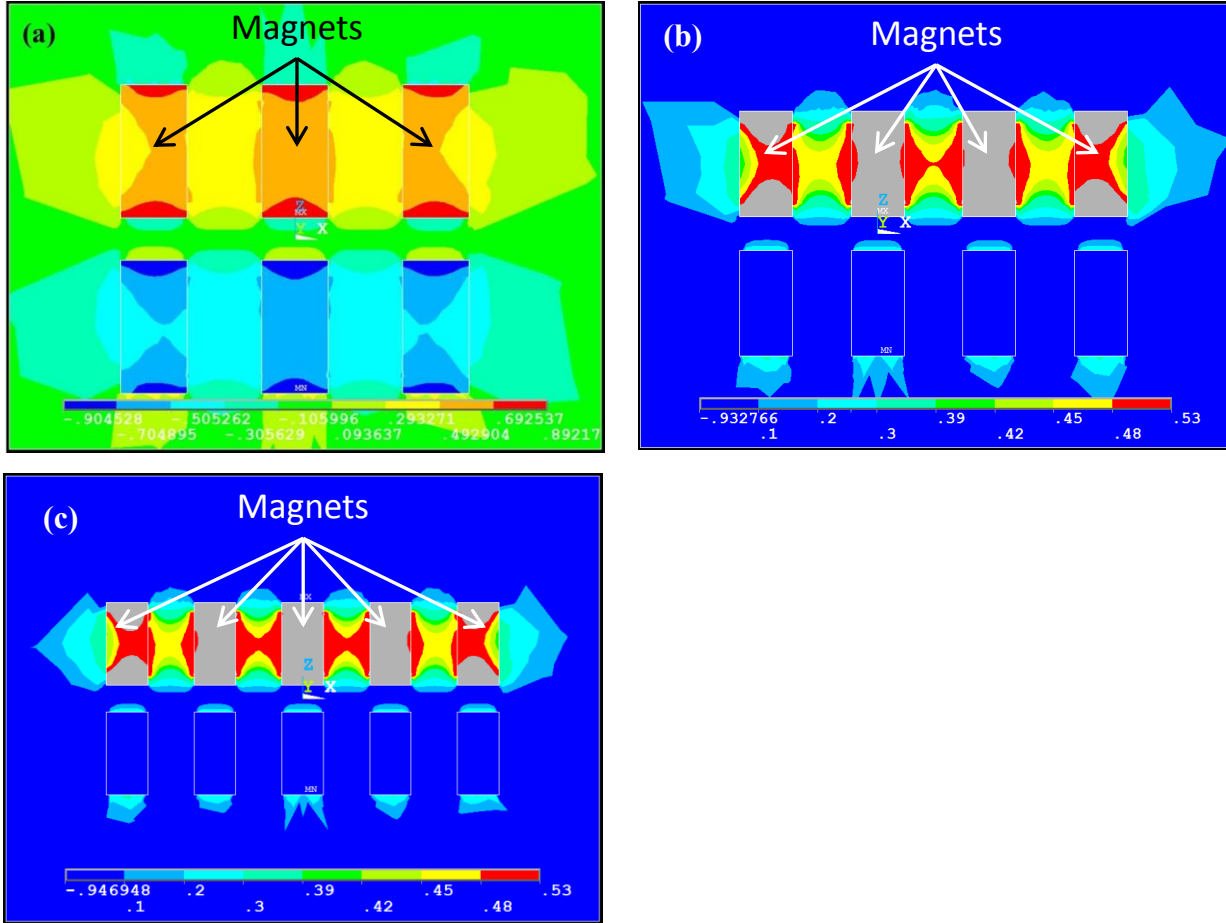
the same direction. The term  $I$  determines the magnitude of this force which is dependent upon velocity [31].

$$I = \frac{BLv}{R} \quad (2.2)$$

If there are significant differences in magnetic field strength between air gaps, these uneven forces could induce torsional vibrations in the beam. These other vibration modes could cause a phase difference in the output voltage of the individual coils and reduce the magnitude of bending vibrations. Since the coils are connected in series for the double cell design any phase difference in voltage generated in the coil is detrimental to the total output power of the harvester. The magnetic circuit was modeled with a 3D mesh and analyzed with Magnetic-Nodal analysis. Solid 96 elements were used for magnet and air elements. A coercive force of 875270 A/m was estimated from the B-H curve provided by the magnet manufacturer and assigned to the magnets. The coercive force defines the strength of the magnetic field produced by the magnet. Therefore the coercive force affects the ANSYS prediction of the magnetic field strength between two attracting magnets. Through the FEM analysis, it was determined that for the double cell harvester, adding one additional pair of magnets created a gradient between air gaps of 0.001T which is insignificant in terms of electromagnetic damping. Figure 2.4(a) illustrates the symmetry in magnetic field strength found between the two air gaps. The change in contour color only signifies a change in magnetic field direction, the magnetic field strength distribution within the top and bottom air gap remains symmetric.

In an effort to determine how many additional pairs of magnets are needed to cause a notable gradient, further FEM analysis was performed. It was found that by increasing the number of coils to three and by adding an additional pair of magnets to the double cell design, a difference in magnetic field strength of 0.02 T was created between center air gap and the outer

air gaps, which is about a 4% increase. This increase is even more apparent after adding another coil and pair of magnets. The effect is shown in Fig. 2.4(b) (three coils) and (c) (four coils) where the grey boxes outlined by white lines represent the magnets. The gradient is illustrated only for the top half of the magnet pairs, since the effect was symmetric from top to bottom. These larger magnetic field strengths were also found to be located towards the center of the harvester. Intuitively, the effect makes sense as the center magnet is surrounded by two attracting magnets on each side. Due to the increase in magnetic field strength in the center air gaps, the cantilever beam for the three cell or four cell harvesters could experience torsional vibration mode. It is interesting to note that if a torsional mode is not developed due to the 4% increase in magnetic field strength, then this increased magnetic field strength could be utilized to increase voltage output of coils located in the center cells.



**Figure 2.4:** (a) Variation in magnetic field strength between cells for the double cell harvester, (b) Plot of magnetic field strength within an air gap for a three cell design, and (c) Plot of magnetic field strength within an air gap for a four cell design

### 2.1.5 Theoretical analysis of electromagnetic harvester

Poulin et al. have developed an electromechanical model for the four-bar magnet harvester that was used in modeling the structure proposed in this study. The dynamics of the harvester were modeled as a spring mass damper mechanical system where the governing equation of motion is given as:

$$m(\ddot{x}) + c(\dot{x} - \dot{y}) + k(x - y) = 0 \tag{2.3}$$

where  $x$  is the displacement of the beam/coil and  $y$  is the displacement of the base with magnets. The harvested power is dependent upon the relative motion between the coil and magnets so Eq. 2.3 can be rewritten as:

$$m\ddot{z} + c(\dot{z}) + k(z) = -m\ddot{y} \quad (2.4)$$

As mentioned earlier that when an electrical load is placed on the mechanical system a force opposing the motion of the beam is applied. Accounting for this force Eq. 2.4 becomes the governing expression for the dynamics of the system as:

$$m\ddot{z} + c(\dot{z}) + k(z) = -m\ddot{y} + Bl\dot{i} \quad (2.5)$$

In order to model the electrical system Kirchoffs voltage law was applied to the four bar magnet circuit as:

$$U = Bl\dot{z} - R_e i - L_e \frac{di}{dt} \quad (2.6)$$

where  $R_e i - L_e \frac{di}{dt}$  are the electrical losses in the system and  $Bl\dot{z}$  is the voltage generated by the harvester. A detailed solution of how to solve these two governing system equations can be found in Poulin et al. and the following transfer function can be derived[19]:

$$\frac{U}{F} = \frac{R_L Bl}{(R_e + L_e p + R_L) \left( \frac{k}{p} + c + m p \right) + (Bl)^2} \quad (2.7)$$

The quantity  $Bl$  will be referred as the transformation factor for the rest of the analysis. Using the traditional transformation factor estimation method,  $\Phi_T = B * L_{coil}$ , a transformation factor of 67.85 T-m was calculated. Oliver and Priya have shown that this traditional method has been found to overestimate the transformation factor by ~3X for four-bar magnet geometry [26]. They presented a method for estimating the transformation factor,  $\Phi_{T,eq}$ , that directly couples the input mechanical energy to the output electrical energy through the following relationship:

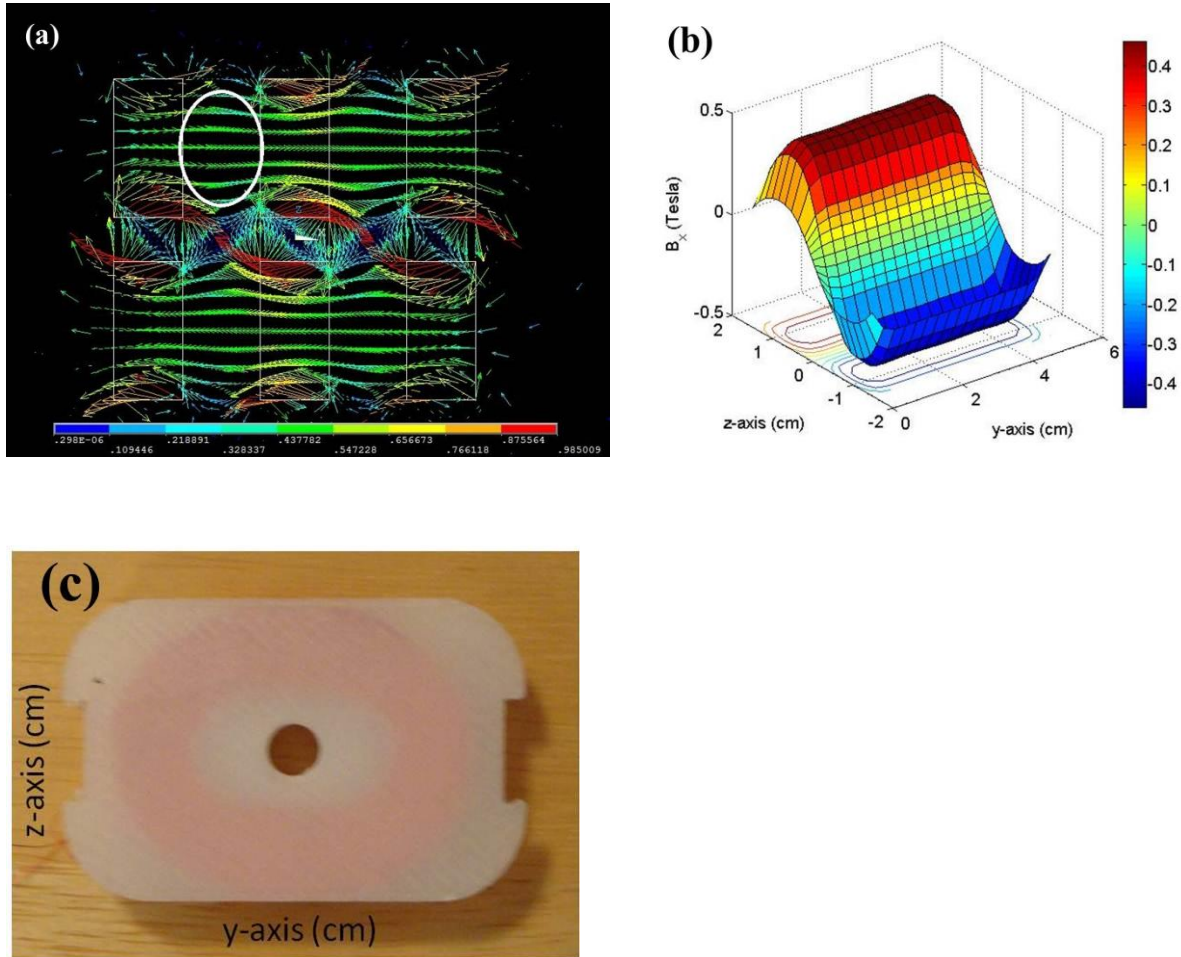
$$U_e = -\oint (\vec{z} \times \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{l} \cong -\dot{z}(y_b = L_{beam}) \Phi_{T,eq} \quad (2.8)$$

where  $\dot{z}$  is the coil velocity,  $B$  is the magnitude of magnetic field cutting the coil,  $l$  is the conductor length and  $-\dot{z}(y_b = L_{beam})$  is the velocity at the tip of the cantilever beam. Using this transformation factor estimation method with Poulin's model, they were able to closely match their theoretical results with experimental results. In order to estimate the transformation factor accurately, two modifications were made to the traditional transformation factor estimation method. The first modification considers the coil geometry and spatial distribution of magnetic field strength. By assuming that the coil velocity is orthogonal to magnetic field vectors, the line integral in Eq. (2.8) reduces to Eq. (2.9):

$$U_e = -\int_0^{L_{coil}} B(y_c, z_c) \dot{z}(y_c, z_c) dl \cos(\theta(y_c, z_c)) \quad (2.9)$$

where  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\vec{z} \times \vec{B}$  and the differential conductor length  $d\vec{l}$  and  $y_c, z_c$  are coordinates on plane of the coil. In our previous study, the assumption that the coil velocity is orthogonal to magnetic field vectors was made based on the close proximity of the magnets and coil [26]. A similar air gap dimensions were used in construction of the harvesters investigated in this study. The validity of the assumption on orthogonality was evaluated by plotting the magnetic field vectors in ANSYS as shown in Fig. 2.5(a). It can be seen in this figure that the magnetic field vectors in air gap are perpendicular to the plane of the coil face validating the assumption. In order to determine  $B(y_c, z_c)$  in Eq. (2.9), the spatial variation in magnetic field strength in air gap was evaluated by using ANSYS multiphysics. Another assumption in the analysis consists of conductor moving through constant B field during oscillation. The assumption was made due to the small deflection of the cantilever beam with respect to the magnet height. Figure 2.5(b) displays the spatial variation in magnetic field strength within one of the cells for the double cell harvester. Figure 2.5(c) shows the picture of the coil with

corresponding spatial coordinate axes. Opposite polarity exists between the top and bottom pairs of magnets in order to create a large flux gradient from the top to the bottom of the coil. The opposite polarity was also necessary to create current flow due to the shape of the coil.



**Figure 2.5:** (a) Magnetic field vector map to ensure proper alignment in air gap, (b) Spatial variation in magnetic field strength within the air gap of the double cell harvester, and (c) Cross section view of the coil

By evaluating the spatial representation of magnetic field and the angle  $\theta$  at various points on the coil face, Eq. (2.9) was used to adjust the transformation factor from 67.85 T-m to 43.49 T-m. A visual representation of these vectors is shown in Fig. 2.6 with a visual outline of the elliptical

shaped coil denoted by the red line. The green filled red circles represent the location of each discrete calculation. The left facing blue line represents the vector generated from the cross product of the velocity and magnetic field vector. The blue line which turns through a radius represents the conductor length vector. A plot of the adjusted transformation factor as a function of y and z coordinates is overlaid on the face of the actual coil as shown in Fig. 2.7(a). The discrete transformation factor at the center left and center right portions of the coil was zero due to the parallel orientation of the conductor length vector to the cross product of the velocity and magnetic field vectors. The elliptical coil shape minimizes this zero transduction region.

The second modification to the transformation factor accounts for the loss associated with a non-uniform velocity profile along the length of the beam. This velocity profile can be calculated by determining the mode shape along the beam length. Using Eq. (2.10), the mode shape was estimated [32] and compared to an experimental measurement of the mode shape,

$$\Phi\left(\frac{x_b}{L_{beam}}\right) = C_1 \left\{ \cos\left(\frac{n_i x_b}{L_{beam}}\right) - \frac{\cos(n_i) + \cosh(n_i)}{\sin(n_i) + \sinh(n_i)} \times \sin\left(\frac{n_i x_b}{L_{beam}}\right) - \cosh\left(\frac{n_i x_b}{L_{beam}}\right) + \frac{\cos(n_i) + \cosh(n_i)}{\sin(n_i) + \sinh(n_i)} \times \sinh\left(\frac{n_i x_b}{L_{beam}}\right) \right\} \quad (2.10)$$

where  $\Phi$  is the mode shape,  $x_b$  is the distance along the beam from the clamped end,  $L_{beam}$  is the total length of the beam,  $n_i$  is the mode shape number and  $C_1$  is an arbitrary constant. The mode shape number is tabulated for various tip mass to beam mass ratios in Laura et. al [32]. The tip mass to beam mass ratio for the double cell harvester was 4 providing a mode shape number of 0.9173. The experimental mode shape was determined by measuring the velocity at central points along the length of the beam. The measured velocities were then normalized to the velocity at the tip. Figure 2.7(b) plots the mode shape calculated by using Eq. (2.10) and the mode shape determined experimentally. The leftmost side of the x-coordinate scale represents the clamped end. The final term in Eq. (2.9),  $\dot{z}(y_c, z_c)$ , can now be determined. This final

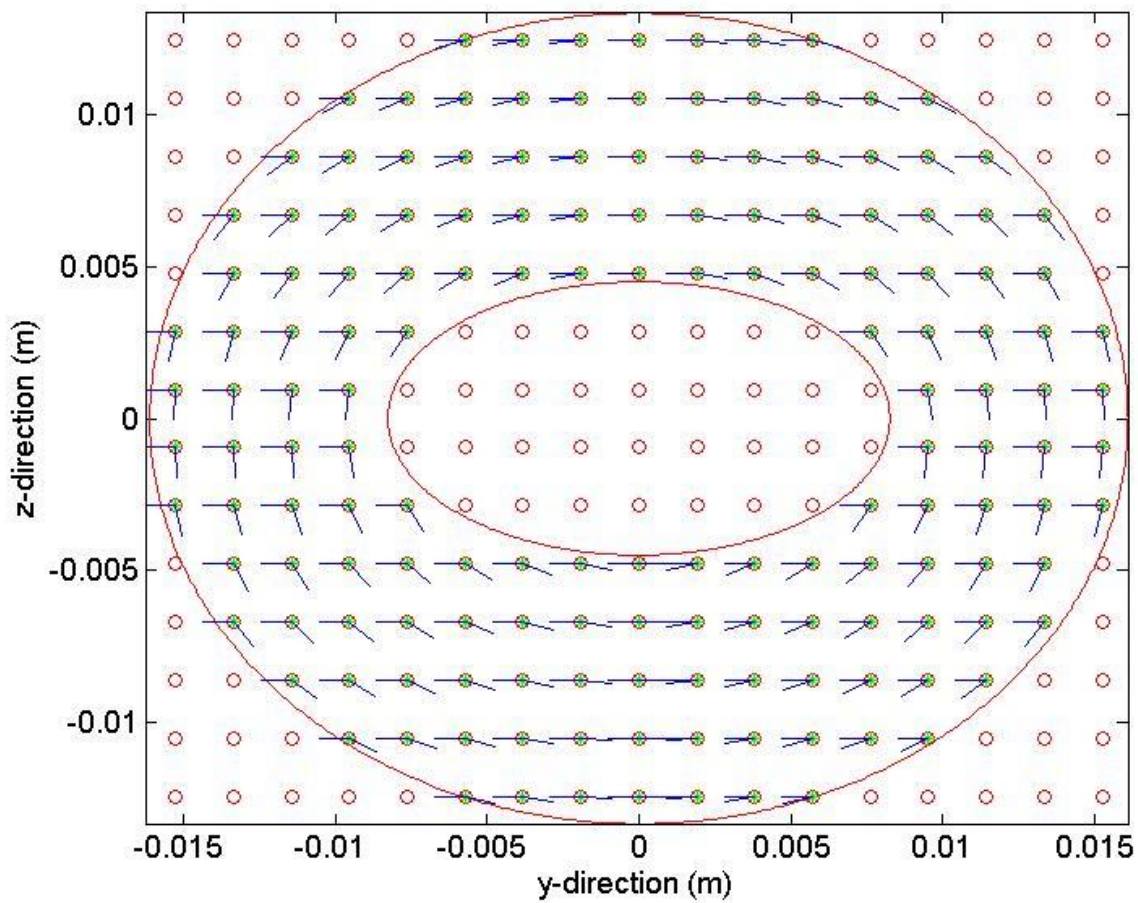


adjustment to the transformation factor reduces the original value further from 67.85 T-m to 19.4 T-m. Figure 2.7(c) shows the spatial representation of the final adjusted transformation factor overlaid on the coil face. The magnitude of the transformation factor was greater on the right side of the coil, the side closest to the free end of the cantilever beam. The transformation factor was used to compute the maximum steady state voltage and steady state power using Eq.(2.11) and (2.12) [19]:

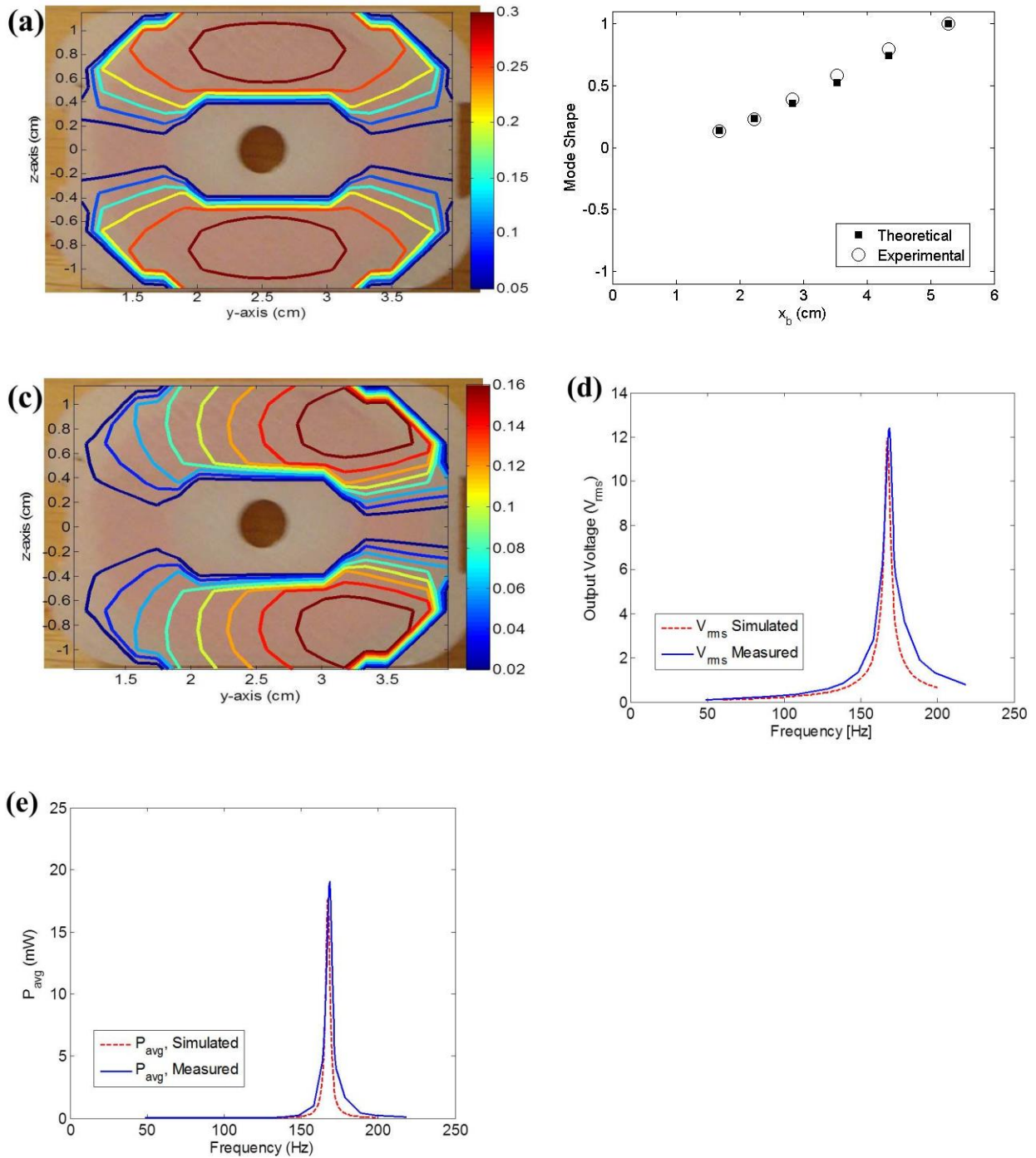
$$U(t) = \frac{R_L \times \Phi_{T,eq} \times (m\ddot{y}(t))}{(R_e + L_e j\omega + R_L) \left( \frac{k}{j\omega} + c + m j\omega \right) + (\Phi_{T,eq})^2} \quad (2.11)$$

$$P_{avg} = \frac{|U(t)|^2}{2R_L} \quad (2.12)$$

The theoretical voltage and power was doubled for the double cell harvester due to the additional coil operating in series connection. Figure 2.7(d) and (e) illustrate the agreement between experimental and theoretical results confirming that the theoretical model developed by Oliver and Priya [26], is applicable for double cell harvester geometry. With an accurate analytical model, potential improvements to the current design such as the benefit in voltage generation from adding cells could be evaluated.



**Figure 2.6:** A visual representation of the vector generated from the cross product of the velocity and magnetic field vector (left facing blue line) and the coil length vector (blue line that turns through a radius). A visual outline of the elliptical shaped coil is denoted by the red line. The green filled red circles represent the location of each discrete calculation



**Figure 2.7:** (a) Spatial representation of transformation factor after accounting for magnetic field variation and  $\theta$  at certain points on the coil, (b) Theoretical and experimental mode shape for double cell harvester beam, (c) Theoretical and experimental transformation factor for double

cell harvester beam, (d) Theoretical and experimental voltage as a function of excitation frequency and (e) Theoretical and experimental power as a function of excitation frequency

### **2.1.6 Results and discussion**

The following section compares the experimental results from three harvesters shown in Fig. 2.1 and 2.2, in terms of output power per unit volume and mass.

As mentioned earlier, an energy harvester with two-beam/two-coil design was initially fabricated using the same dimensions as that for single cell and double cell harvester. However in this case, the increase in the output power was limited by a phase difference present between the coil output voltage [26]. If a phase difference exists, incomplete summation of voltages generated from coils connected in series occurs and limits the total power harvested. A small phase mismatch can attribute to a 12.5% loss in the maximum power from two coils operating in series connection [26]. The closed and open circuit voltage signals of each coil in the double cell harvester were measured over a period of time in order to quantify the phase difference. It was determined that no phase difference existed in the output voltage from the two coils in open or closed circuit cases when the double cell design was implemented as shown in Fig. 2.8(a). Only a 3.7% loss in maximum series power occurs due to the difference in the transformation factor between coils due to small assembly related discrepancies. Each coil has 2400 turns but if the fill factors are not exactly the same it is possible that one coil face area could be different than the other which would affect the transformation factor. If the transformation factors between the coils are not exactly the same, then each coil could have a slightly different optimum load. This result was expected since both coils were attached to the same single beam. The 2% difference in the voltage magnitude between signals can be attributed to small assembly related discrepancies. This illustrates a key feature in the implementation of the array of four-bar mechanism.

The maximum power generated by each harvester was determined by operating them at resonance frequency and measuring the voltage across the optimum electrical loads. The optimum load resistance matches the electrical damping ratio ( $\zeta_e$ ) to the mechanical damping ratio ( $\zeta_m$ ), which is the optimal operation condition as stated earlier [25]. The load resistance affects electrical damping ratio according to the relationship [22]:

$$c_e = \frac{(\Phi_T)^2}{(R_L + R_c + j\omega L_c)} \quad (2.13)$$

where  $c_e$  is the electrical damping constant ( $c_e = 2\zeta_e m\omega_n$ ),  $\Phi_T$  is the transformation factor,  $R_L$  is the load resistance,  $R_c$  is the coil resistance,  $L_c$  is the induction of the coil,  $m$  is the tip mass,  $\omega_n$  is the natural frequency and  $\omega$  is the vibration source frequency. The magnitude of base acceleration was maintained constant at  $0.7g_{\text{rms}}$  for all the measurements. The single cell harvester shown in Fig. 2.1(a) was found to generate the maximum power of 9.3mW operating at resonance frequency of 179 Hz. The two-beam/two-coil energy harvester shown in Fig. 2.1(b), generated 19.3 mW operating at a resonance frequency of 179 Hz. The double cell harvester shown in Fig. 2.2(b) generated 19 mW operating at resonance frequency of 168 Hz. When placing the two coils from the double cell harvester under separate optimum load resistances the coils generated similar amounts of power that matched the output of the single cell prototype. The left coil generated 9.3 mW and the right coil generated 9 mW each at the same load resistance. The individual power and voltage data points for the single and double cell harvesters are shown in Fig. 2.8 (b,c). It can be seen in Fig. 2.8 (b) that the double cell harvester generated twice the power generated by the single cell harvester.

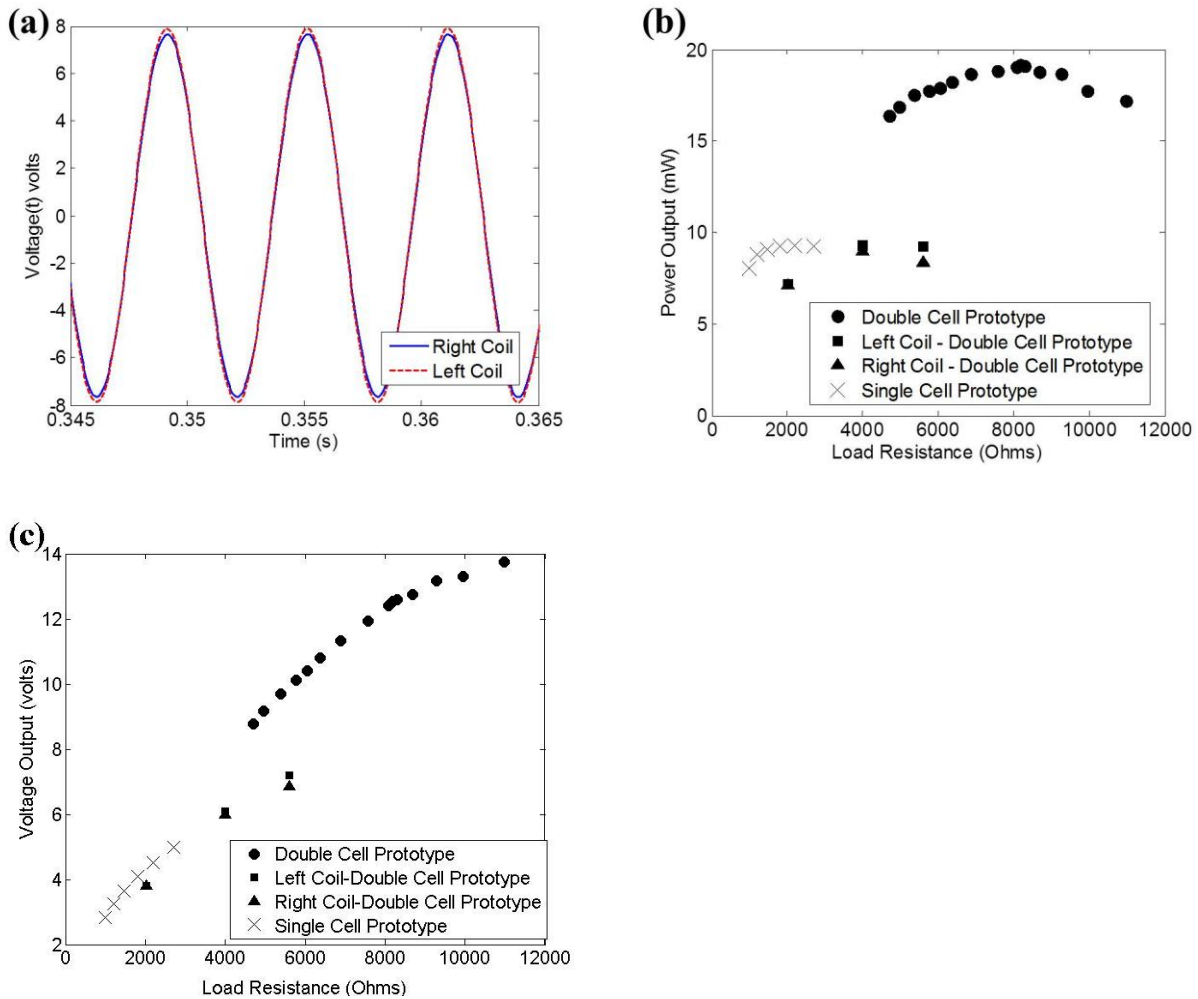
The double cell, single cell and individual coils in double cell each had different optimum load resistances. The difference between the single cell and individual coils in double cell was explained with the relationship shown in Eq. (2.13). The mechanical damping constant for each

harvester was different and therefore the optimum electrical damping constant was different. Between the two harvester designs the coil length, transformation factor and inductance remained constant. The only parameter left in Eq. (2.13) which can be modified in order to match the electrical damping constant to the mechanical damping constant for each harvester is the load resistance. Figure 2.8 (b) also shows that the optimum load resistance for the double cell harvester is twice the optimum load resistance for the individual beams in the double cell harvester. This difference is also explained by applying Eq. (2.13) to both harvester states. Between the two harvester states the mechanical damping constant stays the same. For the double cell harvester (two coils in series) the total electrical damping constant (damping from two coils) must equal the mechanical damping constant. This is due to the fact that two coils share a common beam. Therefore the total electrical damping constant must be twice the electrical damping constant of the individual beam in the double cell. In order to meet this condition, the parameters in Eq. (2.13) including load resistance must be doubled. Eq(s) (2.14) and (2.15) aid in illustrating the explanation. For individual beam in double cell,

$$c_e = \frac{(\Phi_T)^2}{(R_L + R_c + j\omega L_c)} \quad (2.14)$$

while for the double cell

$$\frac{(2\Phi_T)^2}{(2R_L + 2R_c + 2j\omega L_c)} = \frac{4\Phi_T^2}{2*(R_L + R_c + j\omega L_c)} = 2c_e \quad (2.15)$$



**Figure 2.8:** (a) Closed circuit voltage signals from each coil in the double cell harvester, (b) Comparison of power generated between the double cell and single cell harvesters, and (c) Comparison of voltage generated between the double cell and single cell harvesters

As mentioned earlier, it has been suggested that four-bar magnet energy harvesters perform optimally when the mechanical damping ratio is equal to the electrical damping ratio[25]. To meet this condition the optimum load resistances were found by varying the load resistance and measuring the power output. In order to evaluate and confirm this condition, a transfer function was generated between the acceleration at the harvester base  $Y(s)$  and the relative velocity between the beam tip and the harvester base  $X(s)$ . The transfer function was

generated by using a 90 to 200 Hz sine sweep at 0.5 g<sub>rms</sub>. In order to determine the mechanical damping ratio of the system, the double cell harvester was operated in open circuit conditions.

The transfer function was fitted using a 2 pole 1 zero curve as given by the expression below:

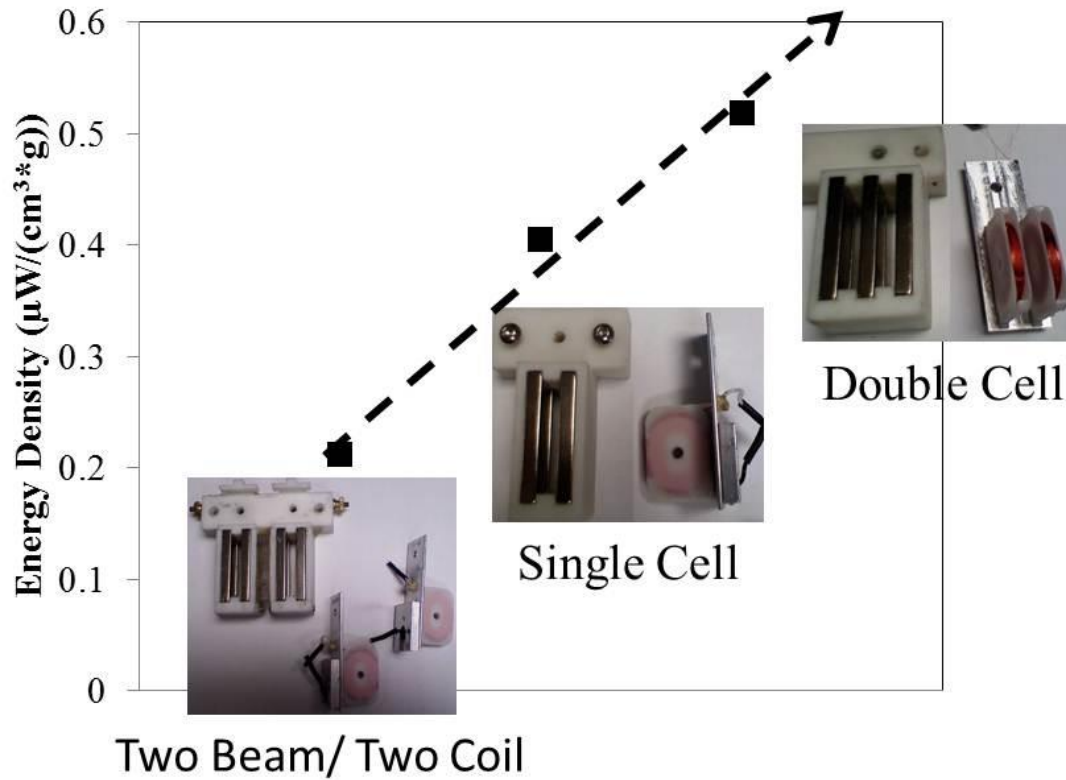
$$\frac{sX(s)}{s^2Y(s)} = \frac{-2601s-11050000}{s^2+17.33s+1104000} \quad (2.16)$$

From the above equation, the mechanical damping ratio ( $\zeta_m$ ) for the double cell harvester was determined to be 0.00825. In order to estimate the electrical damping ratio ( $\zeta_e$ ), the two coils from the double cell harvester were placed in series under various magnitudes of load resistance. At the optimum load resistance, a transfer function was acquired and curve fitted as given by the expression below:

$$\frac{sX(s)}{s^2Y(s)} = \frac{-3126s-10160000}{s^2+33.11s+1105000} \quad (2.17)$$

The damping ratio extracted from the above curve fit under an electrical load correspond to the total damping ratio for the system (mechanical and electrical). The total damping ratio for the double cell harvester was determined to be 0.01568, providing an electrical damping ratio of 0.00743. The electrical damping ratio  $\zeta_e \approx 0.00743$  is close to that of the mechanical damping ratio  $\zeta_m \approx 0.00825$  suggesting that the double cell harvester was performing at near optimal conditions. The output power per unit volume and mass was used as the figure of merit in this study with the goal of achieving small-size and light-weight energy harvester. Figure 2.9 summarizes the performance of three harvester designs in terms of this figure of merit. It is clear from this figure that double cell structure leads to significant improvement in performance. We believe this structure could be easily replicated in 2D to achieve multiple cell configurations without compromising the performance.





**Figure 2.9:** Comparison of power generated from the three different harvesters

### 2.1.7 Summary

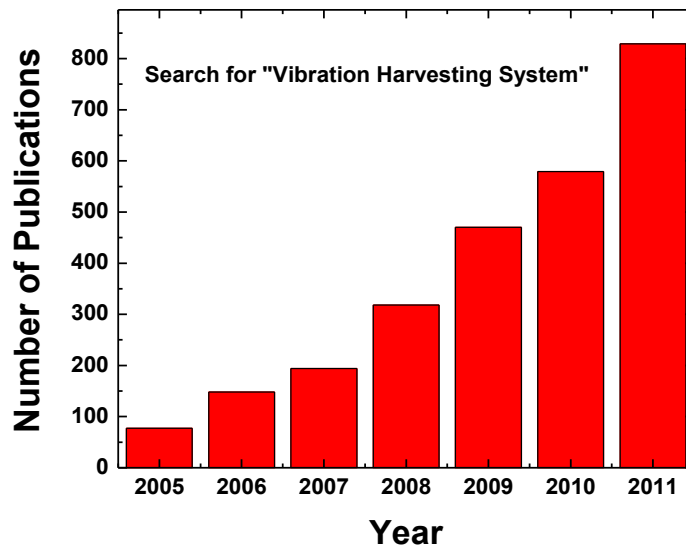
In this chapter, a novel double cell harvester design that combines two four-bar magnet harvesters was fabricated and experimentally characterized. The double cell harvester was found to generate twice as much power as that of the traditional four-bar magnet single cell harvester and resolves the phase difference issue experienced by two-beam / two-coil harvester. The double cell harvester generates twice the power of that of single cell harvester while only increasing the overall mass by 30% and overall volume by 23%. This achievement provides a 55% increase in output power per unit volume and a 27% increase in output power per unit volume and mass.

## **2.2 Application: Powering wireless sensor nodes with multiple cell configuration energy harvester**

This section discusses the design of an electromagnetic vibration energy harvesting system that provides high power density and broad bandwidth. The “double cell” harvester was chosen as the generator for this system. In order to harvest power over broad range of frequencies, four “double cell” harvesters with varying resonance were incorporated in the system architecture. The average AC to regulated DC power conversion efficiency across the 4 Hz bandwidth was 78%, which is one of the highest reported magnitude for electromagnetic vibration harvesting system. The magnetic flux density variation within the double cell array was modeled using the finite element and compared to a single cell with equivalent tip mass and magnet volume. The double cell array was found to generate similar magnitude of power as single cell but three times higher bandwidth. The average generator conversion efficiency for the double cell array was 45.3% which approaches the maximum theoretical limit of 50%.

### 2.2.1 Introduction

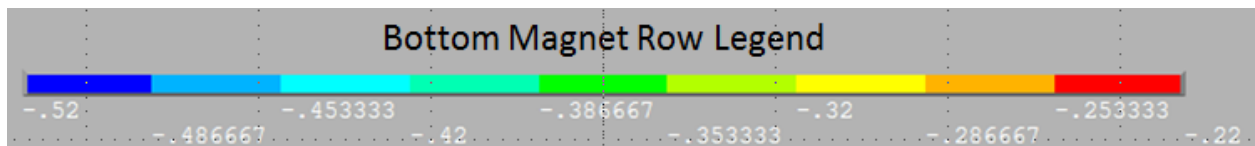
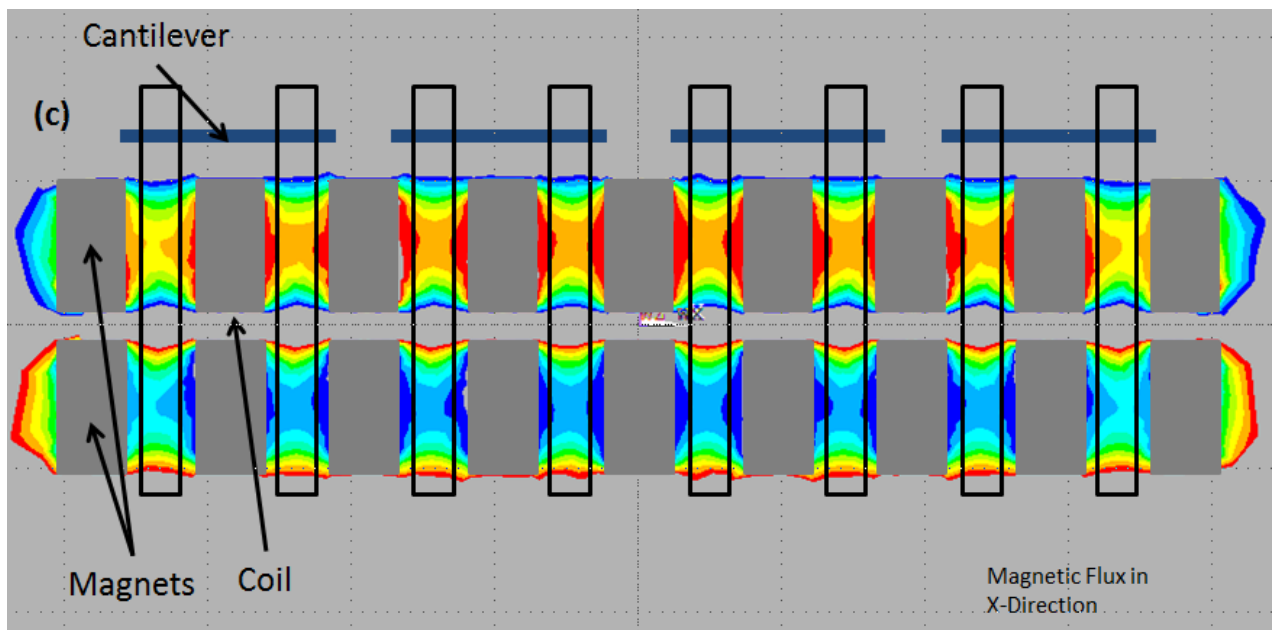
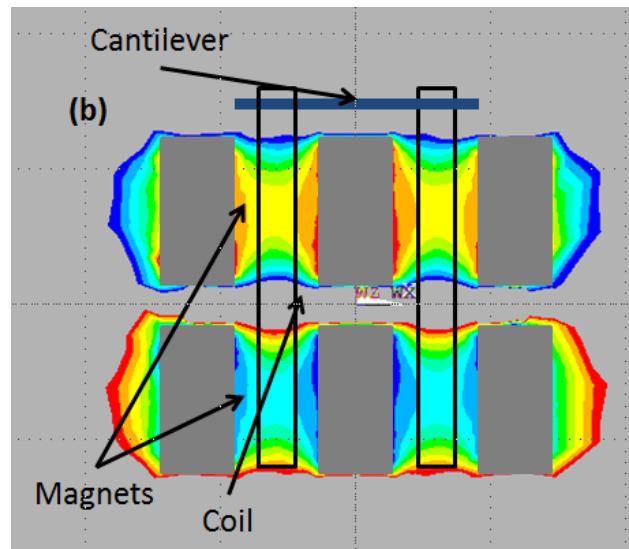
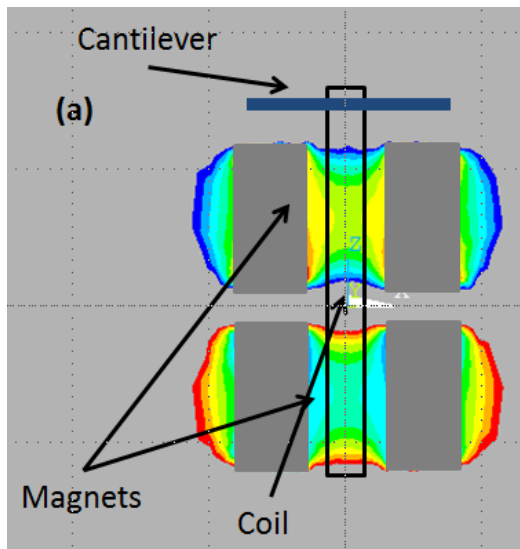
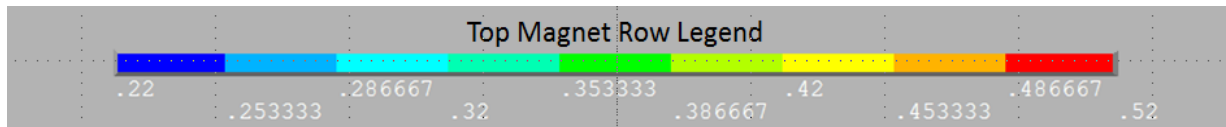
The demand for implementation of condition based health monitoring systems for railcar components such as bearing and wheel condition is growing due to expansion occurring in the railroad industry [33]. Government imposed regulations on railroad safety could lead to implementation of RFID and GPS tracking systems on rail cars [34]. Implementation of wireless sensor networks provides an efficient method for meeting the safety and security needs of the modern railroad. In past decade, there has been significant focus on the development of vibrations-based power sources for these futuristic wireless sensor networks as battery will become a limiting factor in their implementation. This is indicated by the rapid increase in the number of publication on this topic in last seven years as shown in Fig. 2.10.



**Figure 2.10:** Number of publications per year focusing on “Vibration Energy Harvesting”. Search was conducted on the INSPEC database

As discussed earlier in this thesis, the improved four-bar design allows arraying of the coils as shown in Fig. 2.11(b). This new design, referred as “double cell” harvester, can generate twice the output power generated by the prior published four-bar magnet geometry while only

increasing the volume by 23% and mass by 30%, consequently providing a 27% increase in output power per unit volume and mass [35]. The double cell harvester also eliminates the phase mismatch providing a method for efficiently arraying multiple coils in series connection. Figure 2.11(c) shows the array configuration to achieve multiplicity of harvesters.



**Figure 2.11:** (a) Schematic of four bar magnet configuration, (b) "Double Cell" configuration, (c) and configuration discussed in this section

In order to harvest mechanical energy over broadband of frequencies, a structure with four cantilevers attached to a common base was developed. Connecting multiple cantilevers together for achieving broadband performance has been reported in literature, however, limited analysis has been conducted in understanding the role of magnetic flux distribution within the closely packed cells utilizing four-bar mechanism [28-29]. In fact, this is the first study that provides fundamental information required for arraying of multiple cells such that there is no adverse effect of the stray magnetic field and there is no cross-talk. The basic questions that one can ask is “What is the effect of magnets in the adjacent compartments on the performance of a given cell?”, and “Is there an difference in optimum magnet-coil spacing, coil shape, and magnet size for the cells that are at the end then that in the middle?”. The FEM simulations and experimental results reported in this paper provide answers to these questions.

While prior research has mainly focused on developing the mechanical and electromechanical aspects of the harvester, extremely limited numbers of studies have been conducted in developing an energy harvesting system that provides design criterion for the mechanical and electrical components needed to power an actual sensor. Torah et al. have developed an energy harvesting system that combined a four bar magnet harvester having total volume of  $150 \text{ mm}^3$  and a voltage multiplier circuit with a wireless RF linked accelerometer. A demonstration for measuring and transmitting the vibration data on an air conditioner unit and air compressor was conducted. The AC to regulated DC electrical power conversion efficiency was found to be 65% [39]. Yuen et al. have developed a system combining a AA-sized vibration harvester with a voltage tripler circuit to power a wireless temperature sensor at a resonance frequency of 70.5 Hz. The AC to regulated DC electrical power conversion efficiency was found to be 48% [40]. Morais et al. have demonstrated a DC-DC converter (MAX1674) and a low-

power battery monitor (MAX6777) to condition and store the power generated from a magnetic levitation based inductive generator operating at off-resonance with a conversion efficiency of 52.4% [41]. Arroyo and Badel used an approach similar to that commonly used for piezoelectric harvesters, synchronous electric charge extraction, and proposed that this method is simpler than impedance matching but provides similar performance. The conversion efficiency for the circuit was measured to be 43% [42]. Maurath et al. have compared an adaptive charge pump for dynamic maximum power point tracking with a novel active full-wave rectifier design. The active rectifier achieved rectification efficiencies of 90% but lacked the impedance matching capability and therefore the ability to harvest the maximum power for harvester operating with optimum loads different from the sensor impedance. The adaptive charge pump circuit was connected to a harvester achieving 48% conversion efficiency over wide range of load impedances due to the impedance matching capability [43]. In this section of the thesis, a complete vibration harvesting system that improves upon the performance of all the previously reported harvesters in terms of operation bandwidth and AC to regulated DC electrical power conversion efficiency is presented.

In order to achieve the highest possible power conversion efficiency, impedance matching circuitry was developed and integrated with the mechanical system. Electromagnetic harvesters optimally operate at a specific load resistance due to the matching of mechanical and electrical damping [9]. Directly connecting a sensor with impedance which is typically lower than the optimum impedance can reduce the efficiency by as much as 70% and therefore it is necessary to modify the effective load impedance. Kong et al. have presented an impedance matching circuit for piezoelectric harvester that was modified and expanded here to meet the criterion for electromagnetic harvesting system [45].

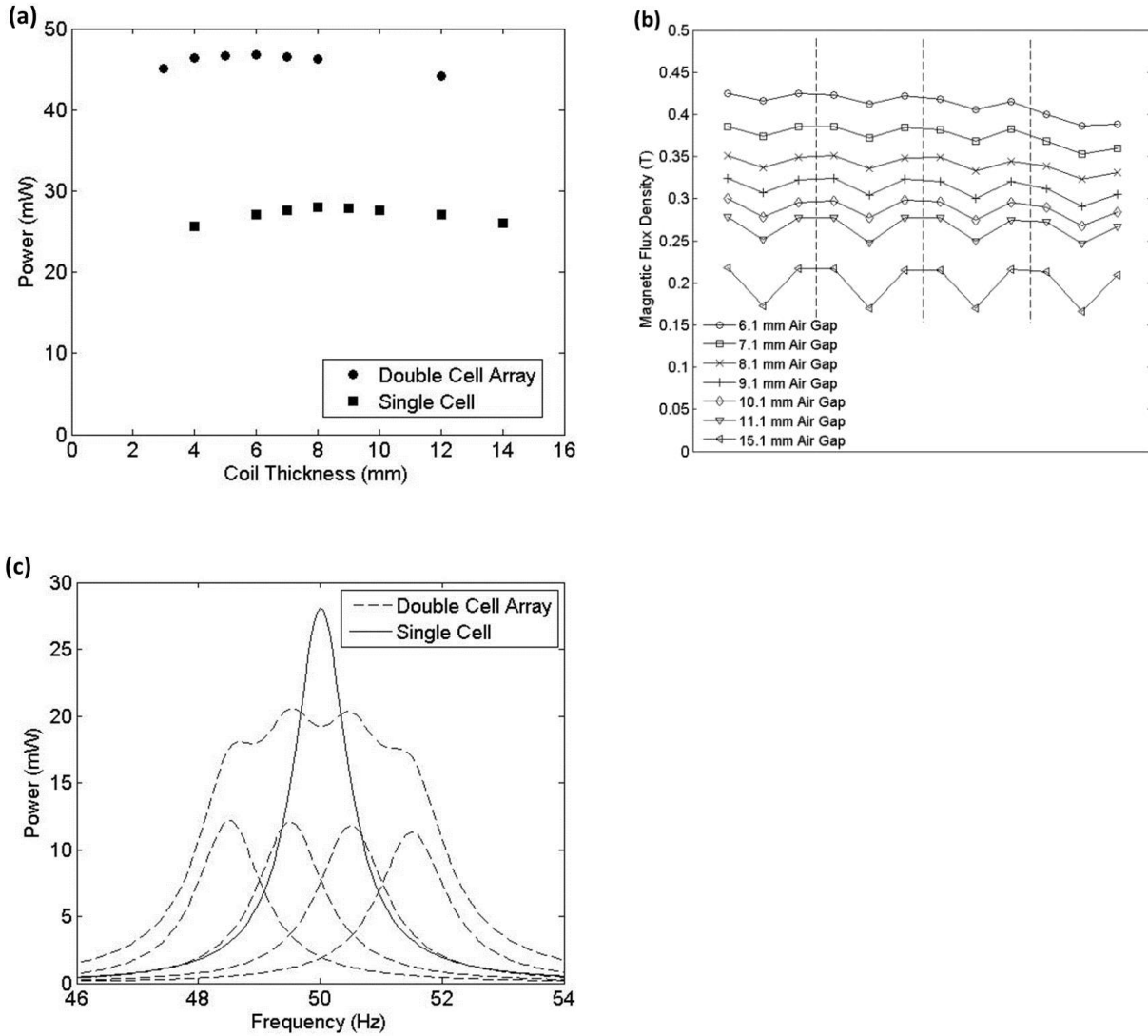
The goal of the harvester developed in this section is on generating the output power sufficient to run a typical wireless sensor node consisting of accelerometer and transmitter for structural health monitoring of a high speed rail railcar. The accelerometer chosen for this study was Analog Devices ADXL278 which requires 5 V and 2.2 mA resulting in a power requirement of 11 mW. There could be other low power commercial accelerometers available in the market which can be used, however, our goal was to demonstrate that power levels higher than 10 mW can be achieved from normal vibration conditions. Please note that the harvester was overdesigned to generate excess power at all the operating frequencies. This was done intentionally to accommodate for any random fluctuations occurring in the vibrations.

### **2.2.2 Vibration energy harvester design**

The vibration source frequency, bandwidth, and acceleration level were selected based on the vibration data available from high speed rail lines [46-47]. The target vibration source frequency, bandwidth, and acceleration level range was 50 Hz, 4 Hz, and 0.2 g respectively. The sensor required a continuous power of 11 mW. The arraying of multiple “double cell” harvesters has been briefly analyzed in a previous study [35] which was expanded to illustrate the advantage in having multiple double cell harvester array as compared to one larger coil and cantilever with equivalent tip mass. Each of the two topologies were optimized and compared by varying the magnet spacing and computing the magnetic flux density using ANSYS FEA software. The magnetic flux density was input to the formulation outlined in the previous study [35] to calculate the output power. The optimization balances the tradeoff between coil volume and magnetic flux density within the air gap. It should be noted that the magnet spacing simulated was 3.1 mm greater than the coil thickness to account for the coil casing and clearance between casing and magnet. Figure 2.12(a) displays the results of the analysis showing optimum



coil thickness of 6 mm per cell for the double cell array and 8 mm for the single cell prototype. Figure 2.12(b) plots the variation in average magnetic flux density for the right half of the double cell array as the variation was found to be symmetric. The magnetic flux density was averaged at three equidistant planes within each of the four coil regions on the right half of the harvester. The dashed lines on the figure denote the individual cells. The optimization was improved by utilizing the magnetic flux strength difference between the inner and outer air gap which was 0.0075 T for the optimal coil thickness of 6 mm. To utilize increase in magnetic flux density within the inner cells, the air gap and therefore coil thickness was increased by 1 mm to 7 mm. The increase in power from having equal inner and outer coil thickness of 6 mm to an inner coil thickness of 7 mm and outer coil thickness of 6 mm was minimal at 0.1%. Using the optimized geometries the comparative analysis between the two designs was conducted by simulating the magnitude of output power as a function of frequency. Figure 2.12(c) displays the results of the analysis showing that the single cell prototype with tip mass of 552 grams generated a higher maximum output power than the combination of the four double cell prototypes each with a tip mass of 138 grams. Although in terms of bandwidth, the double cell array outperforms the single cell, generating 17 mW over a bandwidth three times larger than the single cell prototype around 50 Hz. While the tip mass and total magnet volume remain same between the two designs, the double cell array outperforms the single cell due to the enhancement in average magnetic flux density within the inductor resulting from the splitting of the coil into multiple sections. It should be noted that the maximum power shown for the four double cell array prototype in Fig. 2.12(a) and Fig. 2.12(c) does not match because in Fig. 2.12(a) all four beams are operating at one frequency for the air gap optimization, while in Fig. 2.12(c) they are operating at different frequencies for the bandwidth comparison to single cell.



**Figure 2.12:** (a) Power as function of coil thickness for the double cell array and single cell harvester, (b) variation in average magnetic flux density for right half of double cell array (dashed lines separate the individual cells), (c) comparative analysis of a four double cell array with an equivalent single cell having same total tip mass and magnet volume

In order to meet the high power requirement, the system was designed to produce 30% more power than that required, over the majority of the bandwidth to account for any electrical losses associated with power conditioning. The source acceleration and seismic mass attached to

the beam are the key factors controlling the magnitude of the mechanical RMS power available in a vibrating cantilever beam through the relationship [36]:

$$P_{mech} = \frac{ma^2}{8\zeta_m\omega_n} \quad (2.18)$$

where  $m$  is the seismic mass,  $a$  is the source acceleration,  $\zeta_m$  is the mechanical damping ratio, and  $\omega_n$  is the source frequency. It is clear from the above relationship that since the source acceleration and frequency were fixed and the damping ratio is fixed parameter determined by the beam geometry and material, the seismic mass needs to be designed to meet the power requirement. While Eq. (2.18) shows the general relationship for the system variables that affects the output power, more rigorous simulations involving directly coupled governing equation for the electrical and mechanical systems were used to determine the tip mass [35]. The equation of motion for the cantilever beam system is given as:

$$m\ddot{z} + c(\dot{z}) + k(z) = -m\ddot{y} + \Phi_T i \quad (2.19)$$

where  $m$  is the seismic mass,  $c$  is the mechanical damping constant,  $k$  is the cantilever beam stiffness constant,  $z$  is the relative displacement between the coil and magnet,  $\ddot{y}$  is the base acceleration, and  $Bli$  is the force exerted on the beam from the electrical system. In order to predict the output power, we analyzed the electrical system by applying Kirchoff's voltage law to the electrical circuit associated with the cantilever beam:

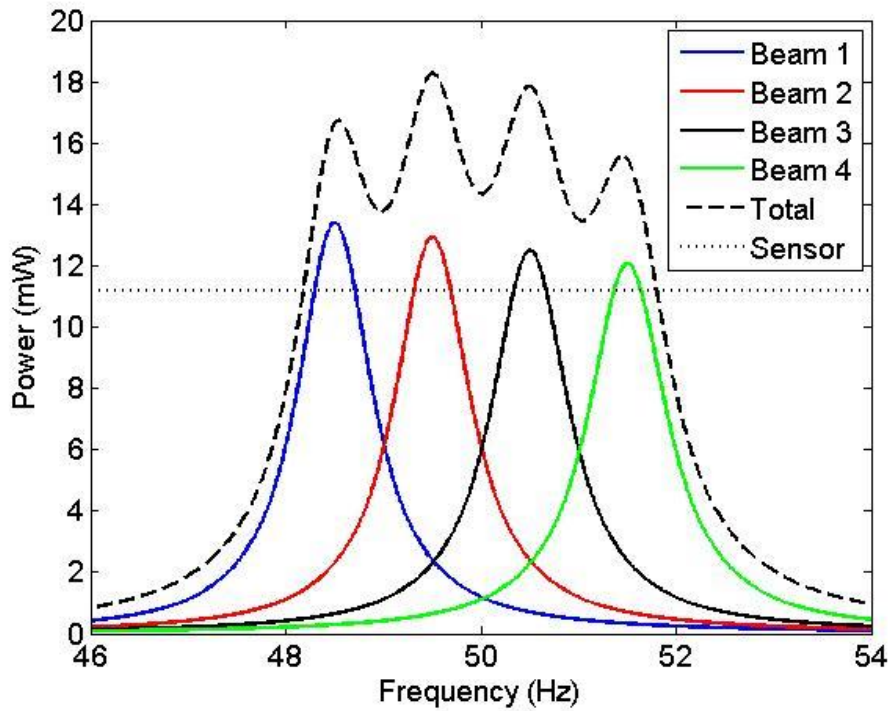
$$U = \Phi_T \dot{z} - R_s i - L_s \frac{di}{dt} \quad (2.20)$$

where  $-R_s i - L_s \frac{di}{dt}$  are the resistive and inductive electrical losses in the system and  $\Phi_T$  is the transformation factor which models the conversion of mechanical energy to electrical energy. The derivation for  $\Phi_T$  was shown in section 2.1 and described through Eqs (2.8-2.10).

Equations (2.19) and (2.20) are coupled and solved together to determine the relationship between voltage and base acceleration. Power is simply calculated as  $U^2/R_L$ .

$$U = \frac{R_L \times \Phi_T \times (m\dot{y})}{(R_s + L_s j\omega + R_L) \left( \frac{k}{j\omega} + c + mj\omega \right) + (\Phi_T)^2} \quad (2.21)$$

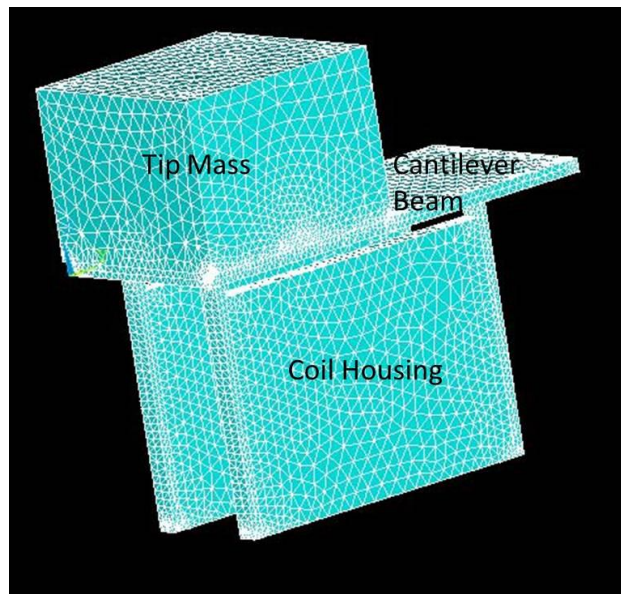
In order to achieve a 4 Hz bandwidth with 50 Hz center frequency, the four beams were set to four different resonance frequencies, 48.5, 49.5, 50.5 and 51.5 Hz. Fig. 2.13 shows the expected AC electrical power as a function of source vibration frequency using a 138 gram tip mass computed using the equation (2.21) with a load resistance value of  $8080\Omega$  as this was the load optimal resistance magnitude.



**Figure 2.13:** Expected output power from the broadband energy harvesting system predicted using equation (4) across load resistance of  $8080\Omega$

Copper was chosen as the tip mass due to its high density and reasonable cost. A copper tip mass of dimensions 25.4 mm x 25.4 mm x 19.05 mm was attached to each cantilever beam. The

combined mass of copper and the coils was measured to be 138 grams. With the mass known, the beam was designed to have the required stiffness for resonance to occur at the source frequency of 50 Hz. Finite element analysis was conducted using ANSYS software package to determine the cantilever beam dimensions that can meet the stiffness requirement. Figure 2.14 shows the cantilever beam geometry and mesh modeled in ANSYS with Solid 186 elements and Table 2.1 displays the material properties for the analysis. Note that the density of coil housing was adjusted to account for the copper wire within the housing. This adjustment was made by measuring the mass and volume of individual coil housing. The boundary condition for the aluminum beam consisted of clamped-free configuration. Based on the available thickness levels of aluminum and limitations on beam length and width due to the magnet length and width, the beam stiffness was designed to achieve a resonance of 60 Hz. It was determined that by increasing the tip mass dimension one could easily bring down the operating frequency to 50 Hz.

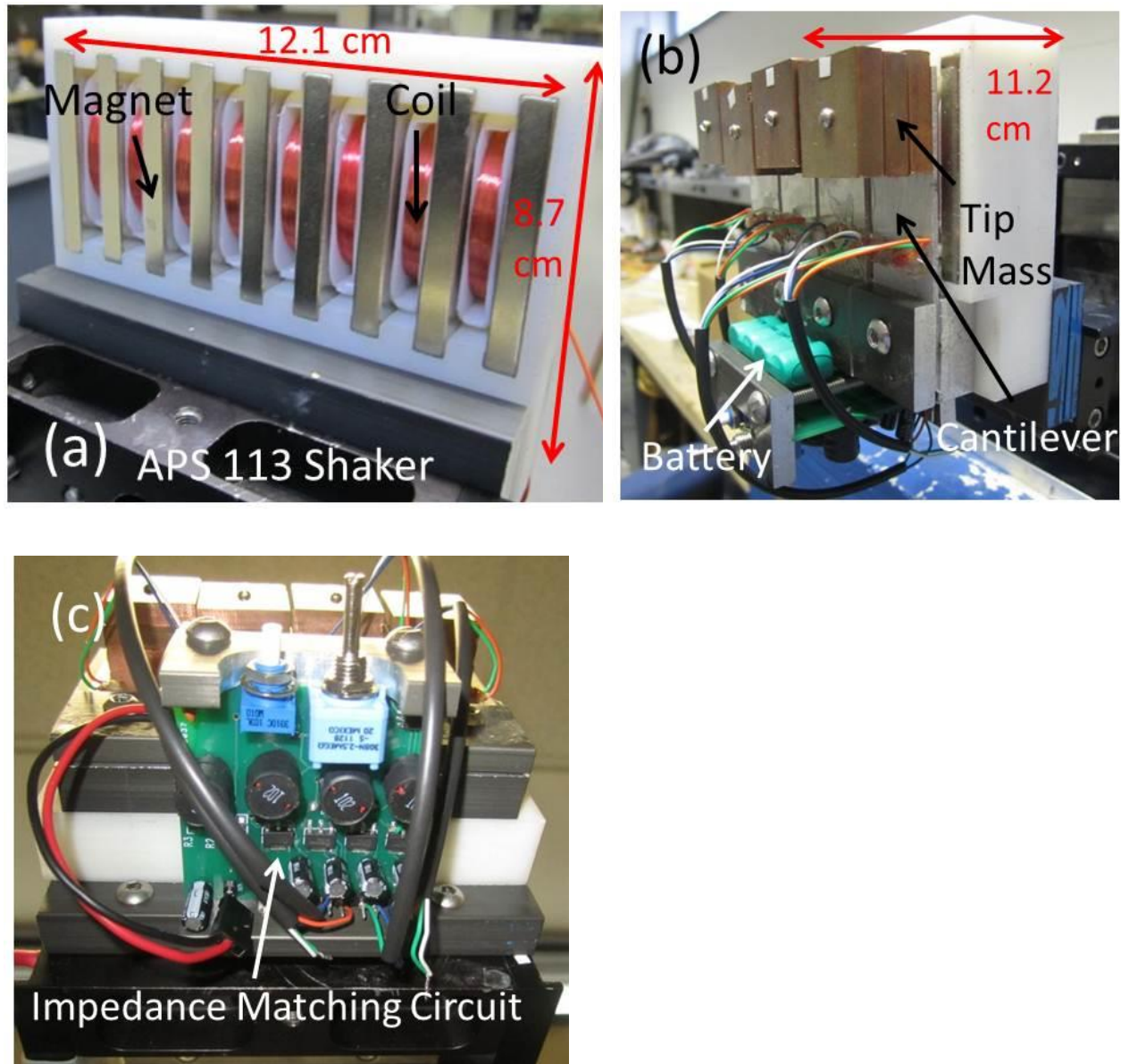


**Figure 2.14:** Mesh of cantilever beam geometry modeled in ANSYS. The mesh density within the beam element was  $1.12 \times 10^{10}$  nodes/m<sup>3</sup>

**Table 2.1:** Material Properties used in FEA modeling

	Aluminum (Beam)	Copper (Tip Mass)	ABS Plastic (Coil Housing)
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2700	8960	6979
Elastic Modulus (Gpa)	69	117	232
Poisson Ratio	0.334	0.335	0.355

The final dimensions of the beam derived from the FEM modeling were found to be 24.1 mm x 53 mm x 1.524 mm. The entire harvesting system holds eighteen 2" x 1/2" x 1/4" neodymium-boron magnets in a rigid ABS plastic base as seen from the backside of the harvester in Fig. 2.15(a). Two copper coils consisting of 2600 turns of 38 gauge copper wire connected in series were attached to the cantilever beam. At the tip of the cantilever beam was the copper mass whose position can be adjusted to fine tune the resonant frequency of the beam. Figure 2.15(b) shows the front-view of the harvesting system describing the orientation of the beam, coil, and magnets.



**Figure 2.15:** Pictures of the fabricated Vibration Energy Harvester. (a) front view, (b) side view and (c) back view. The total volume and mass of the energy harvesting system was  $1179 \text{ cm}^3$  and  $1.48 \text{ kg}$

### 2.2.3 Impedance matching circuit design

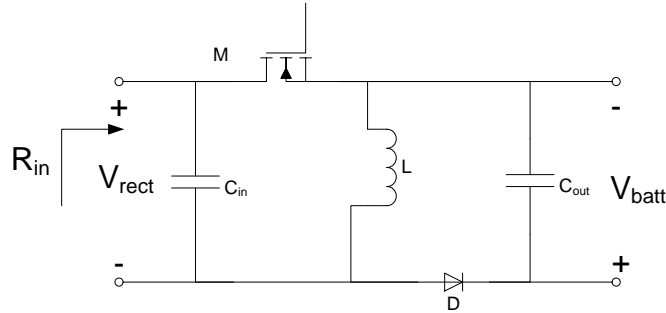
In order to extract the maximum electrical power from the vibration harvester, it is necessary to tune the input impedance of the harvesting circuit. The average power transfer can be given by Eq. (2.22),

$$P_L = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(|V_s|^2 R_L)}{(R_s + R_L)^2 + (X_s + X_L)^2} \quad (2.22)$$

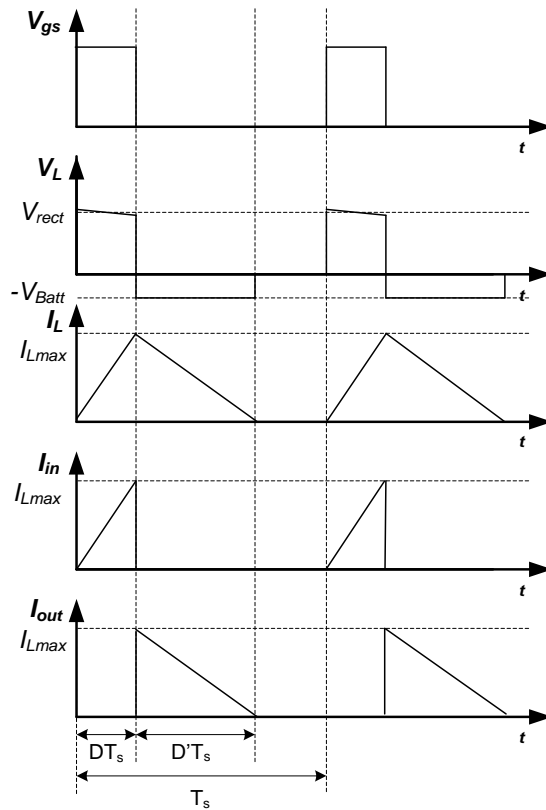
where the source impedance is  $R_s + jX_s$ , the load (input) impedance is  $R_L + jX_L$ , and  $V_s$  is source voltage. From (2.22), it can be proven that maximum power transfer occurs when  $R_s = R_L$  and  $X_s = -X_L$ . Matching reactive (imaginary) terms for this type of converter typically requires a prohibitively large capacitor, complicates rectification, and may not have a great effect on power transfer at rectification. For these reasons, only the resistive (real) term  $R_s$  and  $R_L$  was matched by the converter. By experimentally applying various resistances over the output leads of the harvester it is possible to find the ideal input resistance. The input impedance of each beam was found to be 8.5 k $\Omega$ . The output voltage was fixed at 4.8 V DC and the AC voltage input from the harvester has the potential to be above or below 4.8 V, requiring the use of a full wave rectifier and a buck-boost converter shown in Fig. 2.16 (capable of stepping up or down), consisting of an inductor (L) two capacitors ( $C_{in}$  and  $C_{out}$ ), an NMOS (M) and a diode (D). A PWM was applied to the gate of the NMOS during normal operation. When the gate of the NMOS is high, the current flows from the positive input to the negative input, charging the inductor. When the gate of the NMOS is low the stored inductor current goes from the negative terminal of the battery to the positive terminal until the stored current is empty. The output of the buck-boost converter was fixed using a 4.8V Ni-MH battery, operating in Discontinuous Conduction Mode (DCM), with typical current and voltage waveforms as shown in Fig. 2.17. Figure 2.17 shows the PWM applied to the gate  $V_{GS}$ , the voltage seen across the inductor  $V_L$ , as



well as the current across the inductor due to charging and discharging  $I_L$ .  $I_L$  is triangular in shape because near constant voltages are applied across the inductor, and the basic equation that describes an inductor is  $\frac{di}{dt} = \frac{V}{L}$ . Separating  $I_L$  into current flowing from the input into the output, we can identify  $I_{in}$  and  $I_{out}$  respectively.



**Figure 2.16:** Schematic diagram for the buck-boost converter used in this study



**Figure 2.17:** Typical waveforms for DCM operation of buck-boost converter.

In order to match the impedance of the EM coils, it is necessary to analyze the input impedance of the converter shown in Fig. 2.16. Equation (2.23) provides the maximum inductor current  $I_{Lmax}$ . In this expression,  $L$  is inductance,  $D$  is duty cycle,  $T_s$  is switching period, and  $V_{rect}$  is the input voltage to the buck-boost converter. Using Eq. (2.24) and waveforms from Fig. 2.17, the average input current  $\overline{I_{in}}$  can be derived as shown in Eq. (2.25). Because the input capacitance acts as a low pass filter, this average current acts as a DC current, despite the fact that the real signal is an intermittent current. Rearranging terms from Eq. (2.25) gives the input resistance  $R_{in}$  as shown in Eq. (2.26).

$$I_{Lmax} = \int_0^{DT_s} \frac{V_{in}}{L} dt = \frac{V_{in}DT_s}{L} \quad (2.24)$$

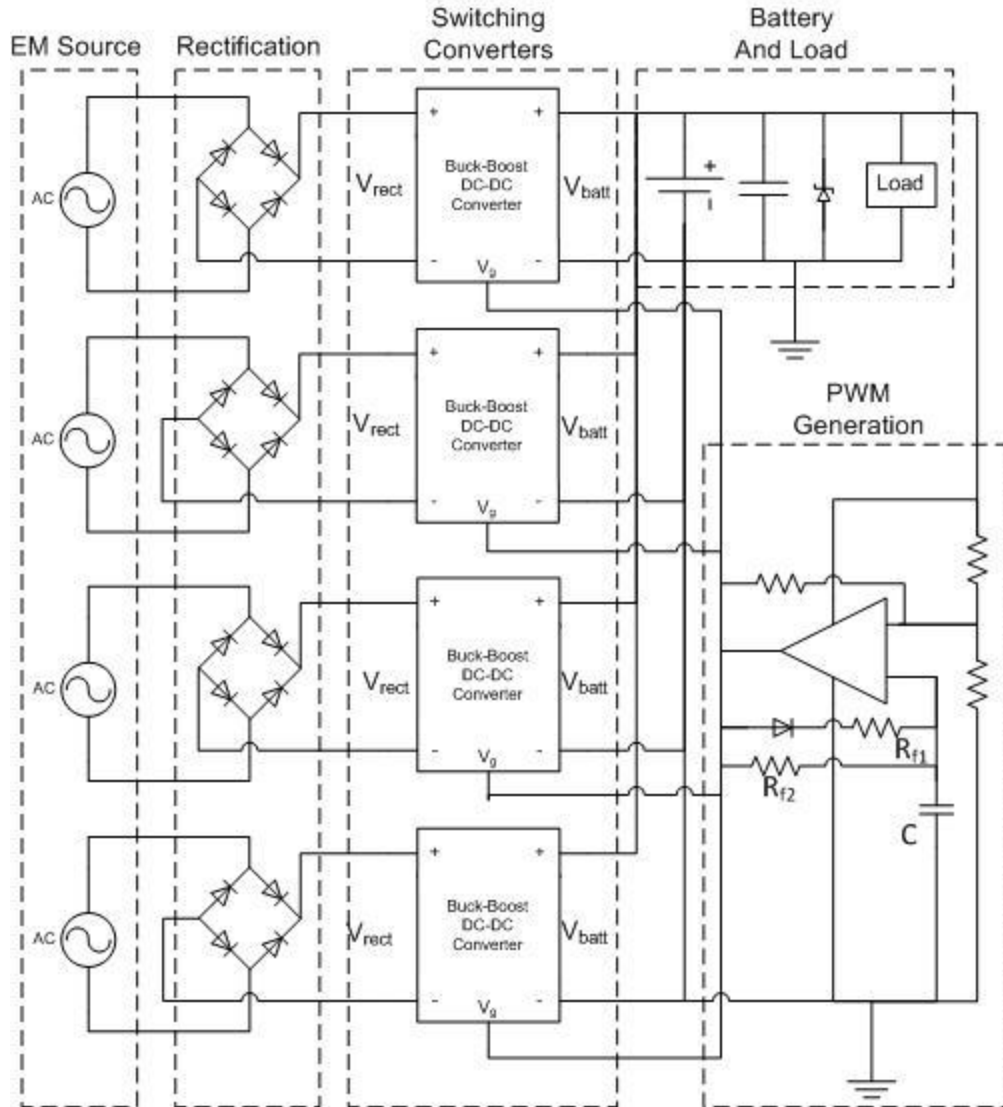
$$\overline{I_{in}} = \frac{I_{Lmax}DT_s}{2T_s} = \frac{V_{rect}D^2T_s}{2L} \quad (2.25)$$

$$\frac{V_{rect}}{\overline{I_{in}}} = R_{in} = \frac{2L}{T_sD^2} \quad (2.26)$$

Figure 2.18 shows the schematic of the circuit and Table 2.2 lists the part numbers of the components used in the circuit. The duty cycle and switching frequency are controlled by a comparator based timing circuit. This timing circuit was chosen because it provides an easily changed pulse width modulation (PWM) with low power consumption. By changing the values of  $R_{f1}$ ,  $R_{f2}$ , and capacitor  $C$ , it is possible to tune the duty cycle and frequency of the PWM output generated by the comparator to the desired value.

**Table 2.2.** Components used in circuits shown in Fig. 2.16 and Fig. 2.18

Component	Part Number
Rectifier	BAS 3007A
MOSFET	NDT3055LCT
Schottky Diode	B5817WS
Inductor	RFB1010-101L
Comparator	TLV 3491



**Figure 2.18:** Schematic of impedance matching circuit

Eq. (2.27) provides the approximate duty cycle while Eq. (2.28) shows the approximate expression for switching period [45]. It should be noted that the some tuning based on the experimental observation is typically required to adjust the operating regime.

$$D_1 \approx \frac{R_{f1}}{R_{f2}} \quad (2.27)$$

$$T_s \approx \ln(2)(R_{f1} + R_{f2})C \quad (2.28)$$

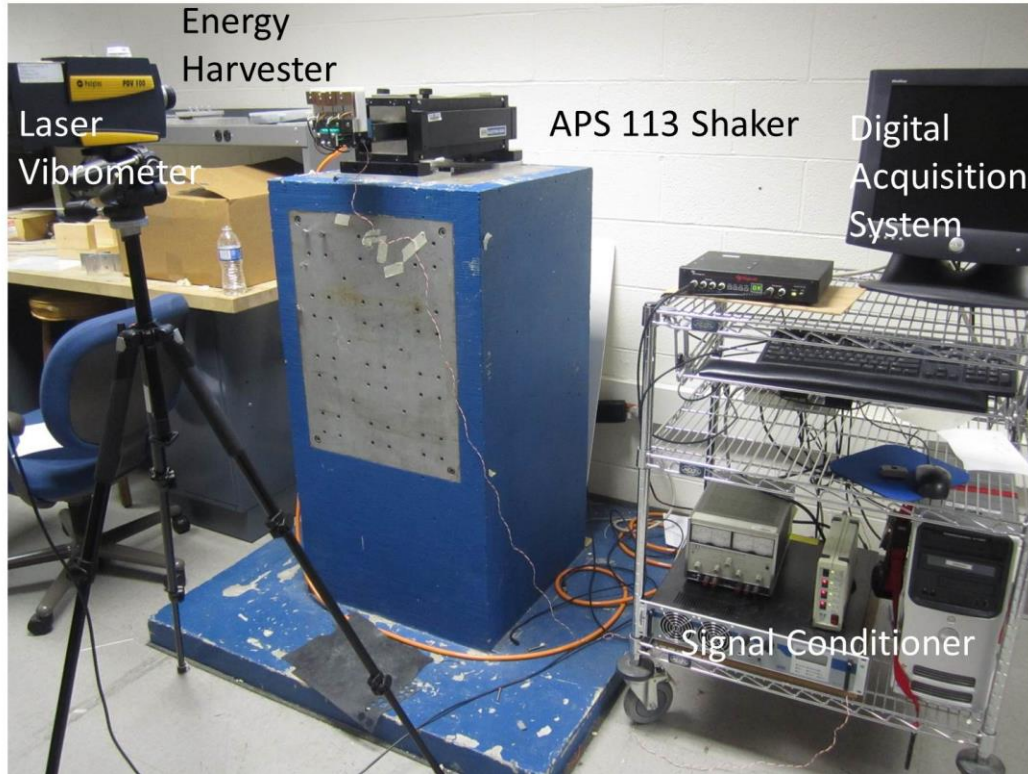
By design, each of the beams has the same source resistance of  $8.5\text{ k}\Omega$ , and therefore the same matching resistance. Four switching converters were still required in order to maintain the resonance frequency of each beam, however identical matching resistances allowed for a single PWM to be shared between all the four switching converters. Because the output battery regulates the output voltage, the output current of each buck-boost (and therefore output power) was added without any extra circuitry. Sharing the PWM and control circuitry reduces the power consumption from control by nearly a factor of four, when compared to separate control for each converter. Because the MOSFETs have relatively low gate capacitance, and the switching frequency is low, the comparator is capable of driving all four gates without a gate driver. Using this method, all four switching converters were driven with only  $0.45\text{ mW}$  of static power consumption.

## **2.2.4 Experimental results and discussion**

### ***2.2.4.1 Mechanical System Performance***

The experimental characterization system is shown in Fig. 2.19. The base of the energy harvesting system was mounted on the arm of an electrodynamic shaker (Acoustic Power Systems 113). Acceleration was measured at the base of the energy harvesting system using accelerometer (Piezotronics Inc.). The output signal from the accelerometer was conditioned using a signal conditioner (Piezotronics Inc. Model 482A16). The cantilever beam tip velocity was measured using a digital vibrometer (Polytec PDV 100). Spectral Dynamics Siglab controlled with a MATLAB graphical user interface was used to generate input signals to the electrodynamic shaker to create vibration and also to capture and analyze the output signals from accelerometer and vibrometer. Voltage generated by the harvester was measured by placing

various load resistances in series with the coil(s) (Variable Resistance Box Model iET OS-260). The RMS voltage was measured by using a digital multimeter.



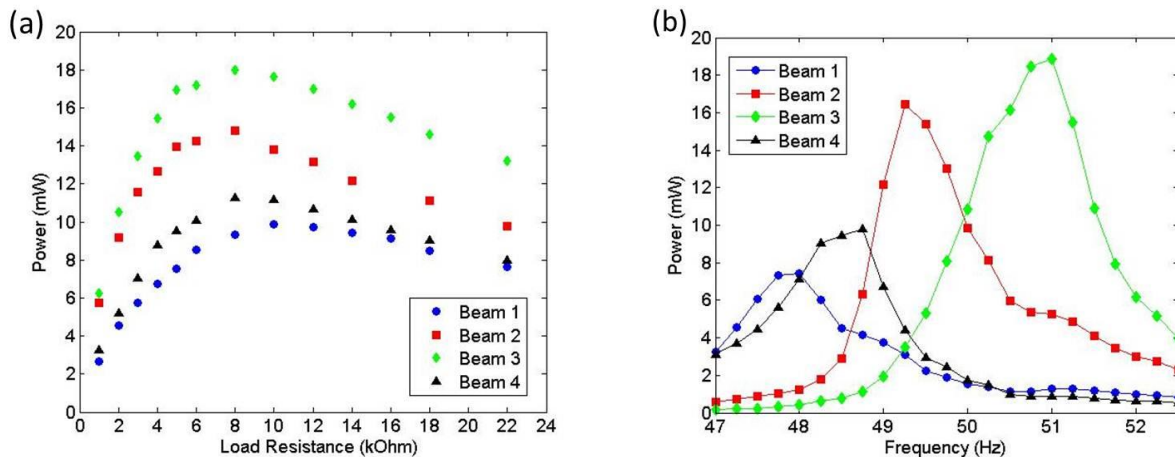
**Figure 2.19:** Experimental setup used for characterization of harvester performance

Figure 2.20(a) shows the AC power for each beam as a function of load resistance with an optimum load resistance of 8.5 k $\Omega$ . Figure 2.20(b) shows the AC power for each beam as a function of frequency at the optimum load resistance. The largest difference was between beam 3 and beam 1, where beam 3 was twice as powerful as beam 1. The discrepancy between power levels can be explained through measurement of mechanical damping ratio of each beam. The mechanical damping ratio used for each beam for determining the expected power in Fig. 2.13 was 0.00825. This value was taken from the mechanical damping ratio determined in a previous study for similar beam geometry [35]. In order to determine the mechanical damping ratio an experimental transfer function between beam tip velocity and base acceleration was generated

for each beam by using 30 to 70 Hz sinusoidal sweep at 0.2 G base acceleration. The experimental transfer function between the acceleration at the harvester base  $Y(s)$  and the relative velocity between the beam tip and the harvester base  $X(s)$  for each beam was fitted using a 2 pole 1 zero curve fit as given by the expression below:

$$\frac{sX(s)}{s^2Y(s)} \quad (2.29)$$

From the analytical transfer function the damping ratio can be calculated by following the method described in detail elsewhere [35]. Table 2.3 lists the damping ratio of each beam as well as the damping ratio for the beam in the prior study. Also listed in Table 3 is the transformation factor, which couples the mechanical energy to electrical energy as shown in Eq. (2.21). The slight differences in transformation factor between the four beams can be attributed to the difference in number of windings due to limitations in manufacturing of the coils. The transformation factor for each of the four beams is higher than the previous prototype due to an increase in number of the coil turns from ~2400 to ~2600.

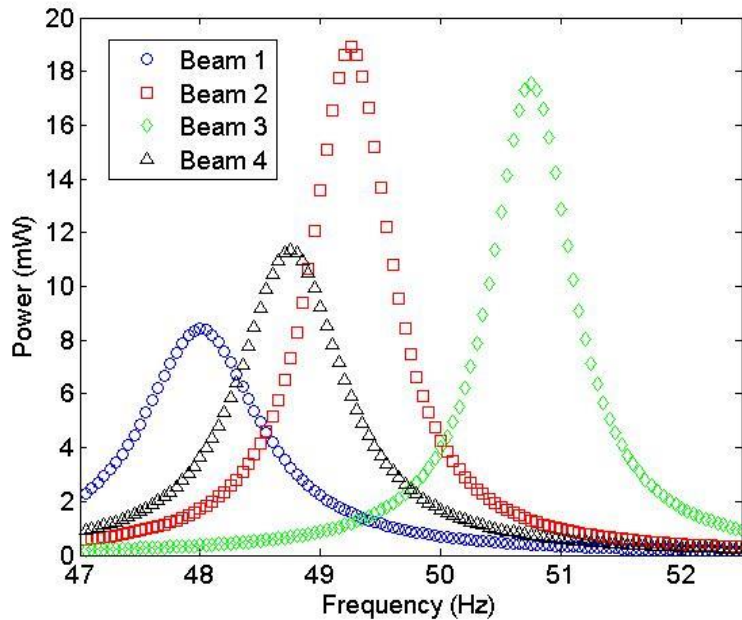


**Figure 2.20:** (a) Power vs. load resistance, and (b) Power vs. frequency at the optimum load

**Table 2.3.** Mechanical damping ratio for each beam

Beam #	Mechanical Damping Ratio ( $\zeta_m$ )	Transformation Factor ( $\Phi_T$ ) T*m
Beam 1	0.01103	22.47
Beam 2	0.006828	22.96
Beam 3	0.00684	22.6
Beam 4	0.009291	23.08
Prior Study	0.00825	19.4

Applying the damping ratios and transformation factors, along with the other parameters specified in the design section earlier to Eq. (2.21), we can compare the predictions with the experimental measurements. Figure 2.21 displays the results of the simulation with experimentally determined parameters. Comparing the experimental result shown in Fig. 2.20(b) with the simulation result shown in Fig. 2.21, it can be found that the model predicts the voltage output with an average error of 6.2 %. This confirms that the analytical model for double cell harvester can be used with reasonable accuracy for design of the system assuming that the beams of similar damping ratios can be constructed.



**Figure 2.21:** Simulated power output with corrected experimentally measured damping ratio

The mechanical to electrical power conversion efficiencies were calculated and are shown in Table 2.4. The theoretical mechanical RMS power was calculated based on Eq. (2.18). The electrical RMS was measured by applying the optimum load resistance to each beam. It should be noted here that the maximum generator power conversion efficiency achievable is 0.5 [36, 48]. In Table 2.4 there is one efficiency value which is above 0.5 which can be attributed to overestimation of the mechanical damping ratio. Alternatively, the power conversion efficiency can be calculated from the ratio between the coil resistance and load resistance as shown below in Eq. 2.30 [36]. Error in this calculation can come from the coarseness of the resistance sweep. From the analysis, it is clear that efficiency of the beam lies between 0.45 and 0.5.

$$P_{elec} = \frac{ma^2}{16\zeta_m\omega_n} \left(1 - \frac{R_s}{R_L}\right) \quad (2.30)$$

**Table 2.4.** Generator efficiency

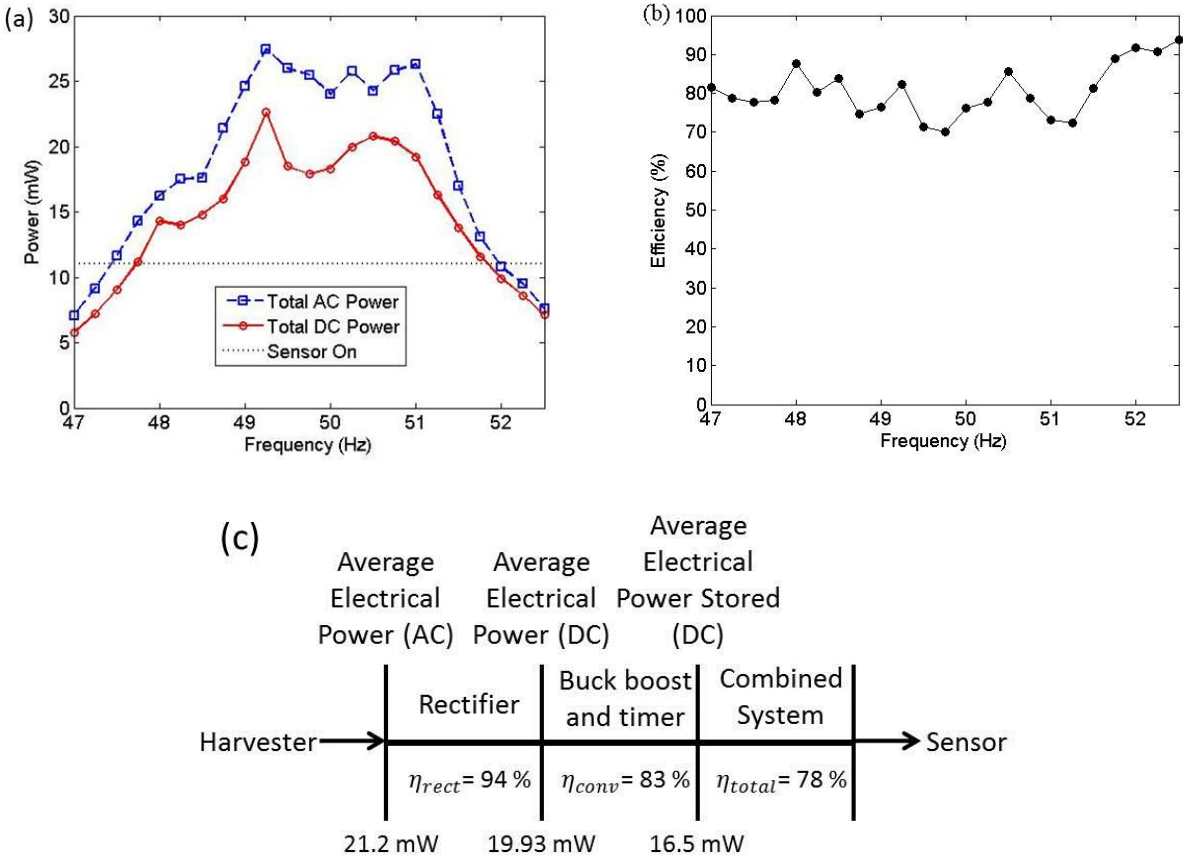
	Theoretical Mechanical RMS Power (mW)	Electrical RMS Power Harvested (mW)	AC	Generator Conversion Efficiency (Electrical/ Mechanical)	Coil Resistance ( $R_s$ )	Load Resistance ( $R_L$ )	Generator Conversion Efficiency ( $0.5*(1 - R_s/R_L)$ )
Prior Study	38.6	19		0.492	748	8080	0.454
Beam 1	19.9	9.86		0.495	786	10000	0.461
Beam 2	31.35	14.82		0.472	803	8000	0.450
Beam 3	30.2	18.86		0.596	790	8000	0.451
Beam 4	23.3	11.28		0.484	807	8000	0.450

### 2.2.4.2 Combined system performance

As the prime goal of this work was to create a vibration energy harvesting system that can power a sensor with power requirement of 11 mW regulated DC power, we next describe the combined performance of mechanical and electrical systems. Figure 2.22(a) shows the regulated DC power output as a function of frequency. The energy harvesting system meets the 11 mW power



requirement for a 4 Hz bandwidth from 47.75 – 51.75 Hz with an AC to regulated DC power conversion efficiency of 78%. At the center frequency, the system harvests an average power of 19 mW. The excess power generated from this harvester is sufficient to power the transmitter on a wireless sensor node. The Texas Instruments EZ430-RF2500T is commonly used for wireless sensor nodes, and can be programmed to transmit data with the available power. With a 3.3 V power supply, this device consumes 330  $\mu$ W of power in sleep mode, and 36.3 mW of power when actively transmitting at -12 dBm signal strength and 250 kbps. By cycling between sleep mode and transmission mode at a 10% duty cycle and 1 sec period, it is possible to get a 25 kbps link that consumes about 3.9 mW of power with a maximum latency of 1 sec. Figure 2.22(b) shows the AC to regulated DC electrical output power efficiency as a function of frequency. The average efficiency across the 4 Hz bandwidth was 78% which is one of the highest reported magnitudes for electromagnetic vibration harvesting system. Figure 2.22(c) shows the electrical efficiency breakdown at each stage within the energy harvesting system.



**Figure 2.22:** (a) DC Power as a function of frequency, (b) Harvester AC mechanical power to DC power output as function of frequency, (c) Breakdown of electrical efficiency losses within the energy harvesting system

While the harvesting system developed in this study uses a battery and capacitor in parallel to regulate the output voltage, in future battery-free operation is desirable. Future work could use a power converter to regulate a time varying voltage (such as the input) to a constant voltage. The power converter would require a feedback loop to vary the duty cycle and frequency of the switching PWM. Because changing the duty cycle or frequency alters the input impedance as well, it is impractical to use a single switching converter for voltage regulation and impedance matching. A possible solution is to use two cascaded switching converters where the

first one matches the impedance and stores the energy in a capacitor, with a second converter that regulates the voltage. The control for this becomes more complicated, and additional efficiency losses will be incurred by the second stage. However, it is possible to remove the need for a battery as an energy storage element in this way.

To compare our prototype to the state-of-the-art, we can calculate a volume figure of merit  $F_0M_v$  and a bandwidth figure of merit  $F_0M_{BW}$  [49] as:

$$F_0M_v = \frac{\text{Useful Power Output}}{\frac{1}{16}Y_0\rho_{AU}Vol^{\frac{4}{3}}\omega^3} \quad (2.31)$$

$$F_0M_{BW} = F_0M_v \times \frac{BW_{1\text{ db}}}{\omega} \quad (2.32)$$

where  $Y_0$  is the source displacement,  $Vol$  is the total prototype volume,  $\omega$  is the resonant frequency or center frequency and  $BW_{1\text{ db}}$  is the bandwidth 1 decibel down from the value at the center frequency. Table 2.5 shows a summary of the various inductive harvesters reported in literature along with the harvester developed in this study. Given the fact, that we overdesigned our generator to generate excess power at all the operating frequencies, the overall system was found to perform relatively well. As it can be seen from Fig. 2.22(a), the power requirement for the sensor can be easily met with just three cantilevers resulting in drastic reduction in volume. In that case the performance our harvester will be dramatically higher compared to published literature. However, an overdesigned system has advantage in terms of accounting for any random fluctuations that can occur during the deployment.

**Table 2.5.** Summary of the state of art for inductive energy harvesters.

<b>Displacement (m)</b>	<b>Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>Frequency (Rad)</b>	<b>Power (W)</b>	<b><math>F_0M_v</math> (%)</b>	<b><math>BW_{1\text{ db}}</math> (Hz)</b>	<b><math>F_0M_{BW}</math> (%)</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
2.76E-04	3.75E-06	188.5	6.20E-05	0.048	6	0.0096	[50]
5.00E-04	4.00E-05	289	0.18	0.9	2.5	0.0491	[51]
8.59E-04	7.34E-06	106.8	3.89E-03	2.16	0.75	0.0953	[52]
6.15E-07	2.30E-04	750.8	1.70E-03	0.0385	0.8	0.000258	[38]*
6.90E-06	0.00017	377	5.20E-03	0.124	1	0.00207	[14]*
1.99E-05	0.001179	314.2	2.55E-02	0.0276	2.38	0.00131	This work
1.99E-05	0.001179	314.2	1.97E-02	0.0213	2.26	0.00096	This work*
3.27E-06	1.46E-06	424.7	1.56E-04	3.12	0.25	0.0115	[17]
8.8E-06	0.000111	1058.7	1.90E-02	0.0282	1.625	0.000272	[35]

\*denotes metrics calculated with DC power

### 2.2.5 Summary

This section presented the design of an electromagnetic vibration energy harvester system which improves upon the performance of the previous studies in terms of operation bandwidth and mechanical to electrical power conversion. The mechanical and electrical components are integrated into one assembly and experimentally characterized. A continuous output power of 11 mW across a bandwidth of 4 Hz was demonstrated that meets the demands of the sensor power consumption typically used for condition health monitoring. Excess power of 8 mW was continuously generated at the center frequency which is enough to power a wireless transmitter at 10% duty cycle and 1 second period. The average efficiency across the 4 Hz bandwidth was 78% which is one of the highest reported values for electromagnetic vibration harvesting system.

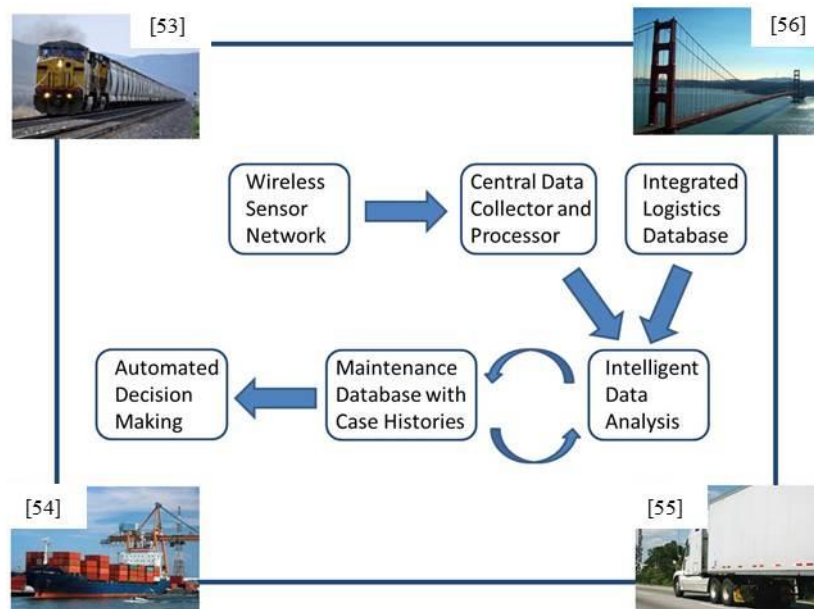
### **3 CHAPTER 3: LOW FREQUENCY (< 50 Hz) VIBRATION ENERGY HARVESTING**

#### **3.1 Multi-mechanism non-linear vibration harvester combining inductive and magnetostrictive mechanisms**

In this study, we focus on developing a Multi-Mechanism Energy Harvester (MMEH) which combines magnetostrictive and inductive mechanisms with overall shape and size similar to AA battery. The multi-mechanism harvester was theoretically modeled, fabricated and experimentally characterized. The theoretical model combining analytical and FEM modeling techniques provides the system dynamics and output power for specific generator and magnetostrictive geometry at various source conditions. The prototype consisted of a cylindrical tube consisting of a magnetic levitation cavity where a center magnet oscillated through a copper coil. Magnetostrictive rods were mounted on the bottom and top cap of the cylindrical tube. In response to external vibrations, electrical energy was harvested from the relative motion between magnet and coil through Faraday's effect and from the magnetostrictive material through the Villari effect. The experimental results were compared to theoretical predictions for both mechanisms which showed reasonable agreement. The difference between model predictions and experiments are discussed in detail. The inductive mechanism generated 5.3 mW, 2.57 mW, 0.27 mW at 0.9 G, 0.7 G and 0.4 G respectively.

### 3.1.1 Introduction

Condition based health monitoring systems are utilized on a wide spectrum of platforms including railways, trucks, bridges, and ships. The condition of the critical components in these platforms must be monitored in real-time and communicated to a central data processing unit typically via wireless transmission. Figure 3.1 represents a typical condition based monitoring system which can be used in all of the platforms [53-56]. Many of the sensors and wireless transmitters used in diagnosing the state of these systems are currently battery powered which increases the operation cost and limits feasibility in implementing in extreme environments. Energy harvesting has emerged as an effective way to either reduce the number of batteries or increase their lifetime [57-60]. Therefore in this study, we develop a vibration energy harvester that has similar form factor as that of a battery which simplifies the integration with the existing sensors and transmitters.



**Figure 3.1:** Real time condition-based health monitoring system

The dominant vibration magnitudes available within railways, trucks, bridges, and ships typically exist at frequencies below 20 Hz. Within this frequency range the vibration frequency can fluctuate requiring the capability to harvest at broad range of frequencies [47, 61-68]. These conditions require a low frequency, high power density, and broadband vibration energy harvester. In vibration energy harvesting there are predominately two types of harvesters; cantilever beam and magnetic levitation based designs. Cantilever beam harvesters consist of a beam clamped at one end and free at the opposite end. Under applied vibration, relative motion between the free end and the end clamped to the harvester structure is created. Piezoelectric material can be bonded to the beam surface or an inductive coil attached to the free end to generate energy by harvesting strain or velocity. Magnetic levitation harvesters consist of a levitating magnet suspended by top and bottom stationary magnets attached to the harvester structure usually of cylindrical form factor. A coil is wrapped around the structure in order to harvest energy through electromagnetic induction. A magnetic flux density change occurs within the coil due to the oscillating center magnet. Cantilever beam based harvesters typically optimally operate at frequencies greater than 50 Hz [6, 9, 17, 23, 25, 35, 38]. Magnetic levitation based harvesters typically operate below 50 Hz [50-52, 69-71]. The difference in operation frequency range between the two harvester types is due to stiffness magnitude control. The stiffness created by repulsive magnets in a magnetic levitation system can be decreased by decreasing the strength of the outer magnets or distance between the top and bottom magnets, whereas cantilever beam stiffness is determined by the beam geometry. Cantilever beam stiffness cannot be decreased to the lower levels achieved by magnetic levitation harvesters without sacrificing the structural integrity of the beam or by increasing the cantilever length that results in impractical size of the harvester. Another advantage inherent to the magnetic levitation

systems is a non-linear stiffness profile. This is due to the repulsive force between magnetic poles that varies as the square of the distance between them. The non-linear stiffness profile causes magnetic levitation harvesters to have a non-linear frequency response which allows harvesting more power within a broad range of frequencies as compared to linear frequency response. Therefore a magnetic levitation based harvester was chosen for this work.

To further increase the capability of this harvester multi-mechanism energy harvesting was investigated. Multi-mechanism vibration energy harvesting consists of harvesting vibration through two different mechanisms simultaneously. Multi-mechanism harvesters have been developed for both cantilever based designs [73] and magnetic levitation based harvesters [52]. Each of these designs combined the inductive mechanism with the piezoelectric mechanism. In this study, we combined the inductive mechanism with the magnetostrictive mechanism. Magnetostrictive energy harvesters utilize the Villari effect of magnetostrictive materials such as TbDyFe (Terfenol-D) or FeGa (Galfenol). The Villari effect describes the change in magnetic permeability of a magnetostrictive material under an applied varying stress. The structure typically consists of a coil wound around a magnetostrictive material that is magnetically biased with permanent magnets. As stress is applied, the magnetostrictive material strains generating a magnetic flux density change within the coil inducing current flow. The Villari effect was first utilized for energy harvesting using a cylindrical Terfenol-D rod of 30 mm diameter and 25 mm length that was pre-stressed and magnetically biased along the axial direction at values of 25 MPa and 500 Oe respectively. Electromechanical models were developed predicting 350 mW of power generation under an applied stress of 0.9 MPa at 1000 Hz [74]. In another study, researchers compare the performance of Terfenol-D and Galfenol utilized in the cylindrical configuration. Terfenol-D was biased at values of 200 Oe and 12.5 MPa and Galfenol at values



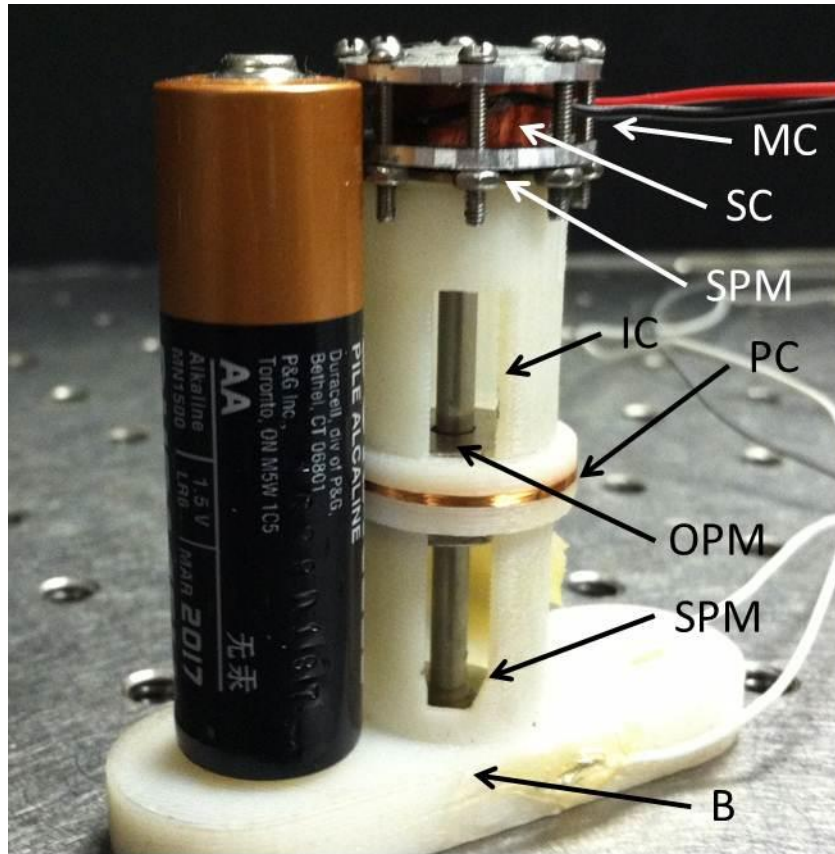
of 25 Oe and 12.5 MPa. Under an applied stress of 12.5 MPa the harvester consisting of a Terfenol-D rod generated 135 W at 1000 Hz while the Galfenol based harvester generated 15 W at 1000 Hz [75]. The decrease in performance was attributed to Galfenol having a relative permeability that is 20 times higher than that of Terfenol-D which led to higher eddy current losses. Eddy currents are generated within the magnetostrictive materials due to the change in magnetic flux density causing small current to flow within the electrically conductive rod. The eddy currents cancel some of the generated magnetic flux density change, therefore reducing power produced. Other researchers determine through modeling that an optimum pre-stress exists which is independent of frequency. The proposed models were compared to experiments and show good agreement suggesting an optimum pre-stress for a Terfenol-D rod of length 50 mm and diameter 15 mm to be 14.1 MPa generating 156 W at 500 Hz and applied stress of 56.5 MPa [76]. In another study, the same researchers determine an optimum pre-stress and bias exist for maximum power generation. Simulations showed a Terfenol-D rod of 28.6 mm length and 6.9 mm diameter had an optimum magnetic bias of 930 Oe and pre-stress of 32.86 MPa. At this condition 3.2 W of power was generated at 100 Hz with displacement input of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  [77].

In this study, the force or stress applied to magnetostrictive material consists of the repulsive force between the oscillating center magnet and stationary top and bottom magnets within the inductive portion of the multi-mechanism harvester. The stationary magnets were multi-functional by creating the magnetic levitation as well as providing the magnetic bias to the magnetostrictive material. While many of the previous researchers used Terfenol-D, Galfenol was chosen to limit the cost of the prototype and increase the robustness. The appropriate pre-stress and bias conditions were determined through combination of review of published literature and also our experimentation due to the input stress and frequency differing from values

published in previous studies. The repulsive force was 2 N during resonance of the inductive system which occurred at 14 Hz. Nickel rods were also evaluated as an alternative to Galfenol in an effort to further reduce the cost of the prototype. The inductive portion of the harvester provided low frequency and broadband capability. With the addition of the magnetostrictive portion we aimed to improve upon the power density of the inductive portion delivering a high power density, broad band, and low frequency multi-mechanism harvester.

### **3.1.2 Multi-mechanism energy harvester design**

The multi-mechanism energy harvester developed in this study is shown in Fig. 3.2. The device includes outer housing (not shown) to cover a primary coil (PC) and two secondary coils (SC), inner cover to support coil and stainless steel rod (magnet bearing surface) (IC), stationary permanent magnet (SPM) at the top and bottom, oscillating permanent magnet (OPM), base for attaching to vibration shaker (B), and magnetostrictive cap material (MC) at top and bottom. Energy will be harvested by two mechanisms: (1) from the magnetostrictive material in top and bottom cap which induces voltage in the surrounding secondary coil due to the Villari effect, and (2) from the levitating permanent magnet which oscillates within the cylindrical cavity and induces current in the coil through Faraday's principle.



**Figure 3.2:** Image of the multi-mechanism energy harvester prototype

The oscillating center magnet consists of a composite of two magnets with opposite poles separated by a soft magnetic metal (steel). Previous researchers have shown that the center magnet composite generated magnetic fields that were twice as strong as the single center magnet of same total volume [70]. Fig. 3.3 (a)-(b) details the design of the magnetostrictive portion of the harvester. The diameter of the Galfenol rod was 10 mm and the diameter of the Nickel rod was 9.525 mm each with a length of 5 mm. The Galfenol and nickel rods were pre-stressed by securing two aluminum clamps with 8 0-80 stainless steel screws and nuts. The magnitude of the pre-stress applied to the magnetostrictive material depended on the amount tension within the screws. The screws were tightened with a Wiha Tools Torque Vario-S micro

torque wrench range of 0.1-0.6 N-m. The applied torque is related to applied total pre-stress by (3.1-3.4) [78]:

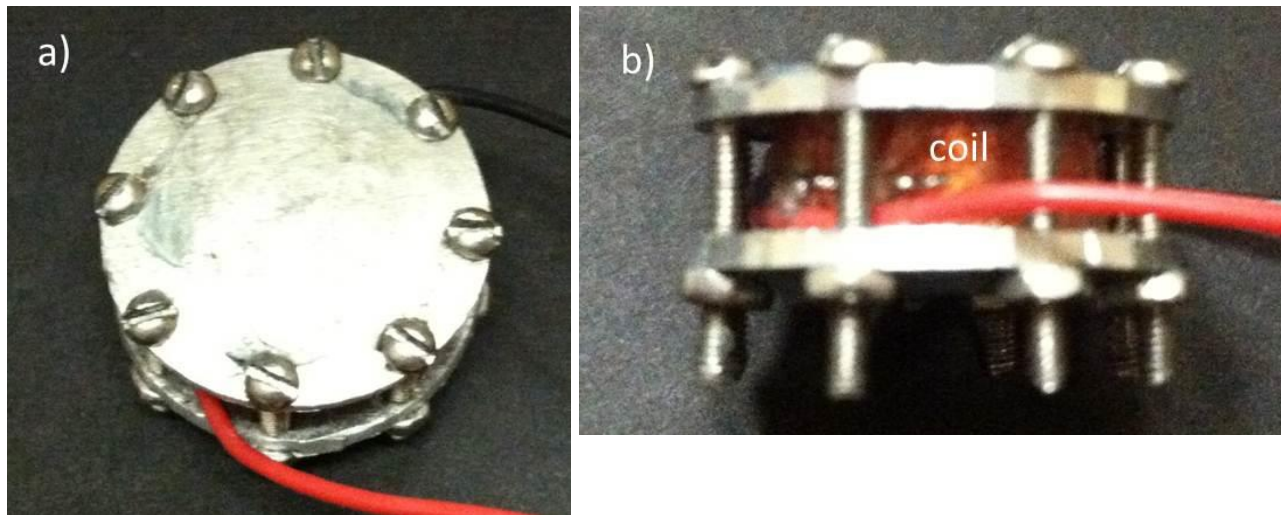
$$T_n = KF_n d \quad (3.1)$$

$$T_n = \frac{K\sigma_{total}A_{total}d}{N} \quad (3.2)$$

$$\tan \lambda = \frac{l}{\pi d_m} \quad (3.3)$$

$$K = \left(\frac{d_m}{2d}\right) \left(\frac{\tan \lambda + f \sec \alpha}{1 - f \tan \lambda \sec \alpha}\right) + 0.625f_c \quad (3.4)$$

where  $T_n$  is torque applied to each bolt,  $F_n$  is tension within each bolt,  $d$  is diameter of bolt,  $N$  is number of bolts,  $d_m$  is the mean diameter,  $\lambda$  is the lead angle,  $f$  is the coefficient of friction,  $\alpha$  is half of the thread angle. The clamped magnetostrictive material was placed on the top and bottom of the inner tube and held in place by the outer cover.



**Figure 3.3:** (a) Galfenol clamp top view (b) side view

### 3.1.3 Analytical model for energy harvester

#### 3.1.3.1 Inductive mechanism

In order to predict the output power of harvester, the dynamics of center magnet composite and the magnetic flux density distribution within the harvester was theoretically modeled. The dynamics of the oscillating center magnet composite were modeled by using a nonlinear spring-mass-damper mechanical system with an external applied base excitation given as:

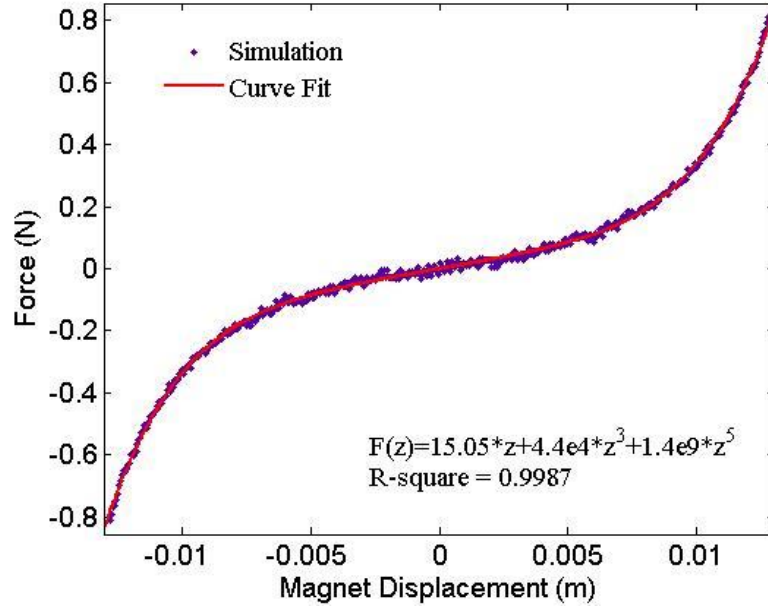
$$m\ddot{z}(t) + c_m\dot{z}(t) + kz(t) + k_3z(t)^3 + k_5z(t)^5 = -m\ddot{y}(t) - mg \quad (3.5)$$

where  $m$  is a vibrating mass,  $c_m$  is the mechanical damping constant,  $k$  is the linear stiffness constant of the spring,  $k_3$  and  $k_5$  are the nonlinear stiffness constants of the spring,  $\ddot{z}(t)$  is the relative acceleration between the base of the structure  $\ddot{y}(t)$  and the vibrating mass  $\ddot{x}(t)$ ,  $g$  is the gravitational constant. In linear systems, gravity is normally canceled by the static equilibrium with the spring, but due to the nonlinear stiffness constants gravitational force is included. In the mechanical system discussed in this paper, the mass refers to mass of the center magnet composite. The stiffness refers to the stiffness created by the repulsive force exerted on the center magnet by the top/bottom magnets. The stiffness constants for the system were approximated using the following non-linear relationship:

$$F = kx + k_3x^3 + k_5x^5 \quad (3.6)$$

where  $F$  is the repulsive force exerted by the outer magnets on the center magnet composite,  $x$  is the displacement of the center magnet composite,  $k$  is the linear stiffness constant, and  $k_3$  and  $k_5$  are the non-linear stiffness constants. Computational simulations using ANSYS magnetics package were used to estimate the repulsive force as a function of center magnet composite displacement. Solid 236 elements for magnets, air, soft magnetic material (steel) were used in the

analysis. Figure 3.4 shows the variation in net force on center magnet (repulsive force) as a function of center magnet composite displacement.



**Figure 3.4:** Force as a function of center magnet composite displacement predicted by ANSYS

The stiffness terms were estimated by fitting the computational data with a 5<sup>th</sup> order non-linear curve as described by Eq. (3.6) shown in Fig. 3.4. From this curve fit the constants were determined to be:  $k = 15.05 \text{ N/m}$  and  $k_3 = 4.371e^4 \text{ N/m}^3$  and  $k_5 = 1.439e^9 \text{ N/m}^5$ . The last term defining the mechanical system is the mechanical damping constant  $c_m$ . The mechanical damping constant is a function of other system parameters given as:

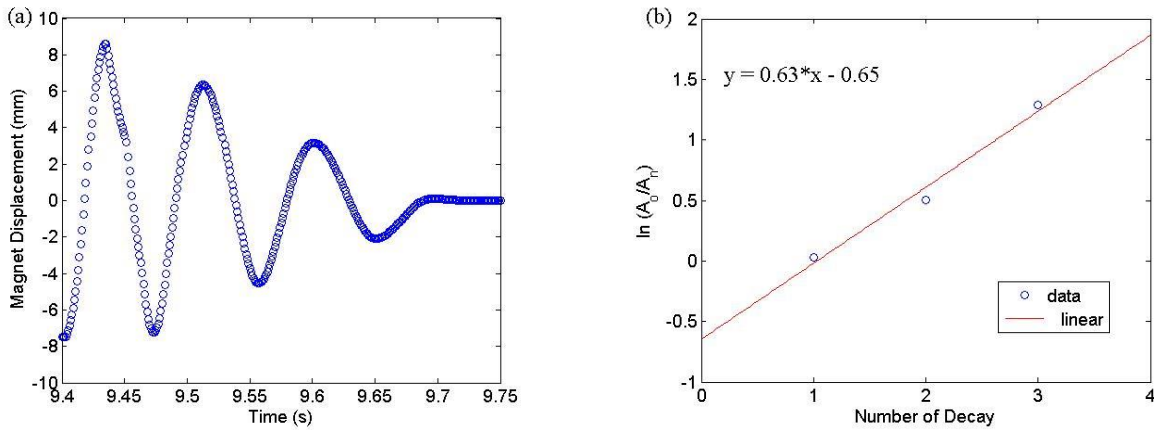
$$c_m = 2\zeta_m\sqrt{km} \quad (3.7)$$

where  $k$  is the stiffness,  $m$  is the mass, and  $\zeta_m$  is mechanical damping ratio. The damping ratio can only be determined experimentally. The damping ratio for the system was determined by applying an initial displacement and measuring the amplitude of the decay of this displacement to the neutral position. The displacement was measured with a Polytec laser vibrometer (Model

OFV3001). Assuming a linear variation, the envelope of the amplitude decay can be modeled with the following relationship shown in Eq. (3.8) [73]:

$$\ln \left| \frac{A_0}{A_n} \right| = \frac{2\pi n \zeta}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}} \quad (3.8)$$

where  $A_0$  is the first amplitude of motion,  $n$  is the decaying cycle and  $\zeta_m$  is the damping ratio. The damping ratio was calculated to 0.0994. Figure 3.5 (a) displays the measured displacement and Fig. 3.5 (b) shows the measured data compared to the linear assumption.



**Figure 3.5:** (a) Response of decay from initial displacement, (b) Ratio of decaying amplitudes

After modeling the dynamics the distribution of the magnetic flux density within the harvesters was determined to identify the effect that electrical system has on the harvester dynamics and to predict the voltage and power output. Under an electrical load the harvester dynamics change due to the added electrical damping force. This force opposes the motion of the center magnet composite and is governed by the following equation:

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \quad (3.9)$$

From Eq. (3.9), we can see that this force  $F$  is dependent on the magnitude of current flow  $I$  due to the coil length and magnetic flux density  $B$  remaining constant. The magnitude of current flow is determined by the following equation:

$$I = \frac{BLv}{(R_e + R_L)} \quad (3.10)$$

From Eq. (10), the current is dependent upon the relative velocity  $v$  between magnet and coil as the coil resistance  $R_e$ , load resistance  $R_L$  magnetic flux density  $B$ , and coil length  $L$  are constant. The magnetic field was assumed to not vary in time for the initial modeling. Only the maximum magnet flux  $B_{max}$  and relative velocity  $v_{max}$  were predicted with the modeling, therefore only the peak voltage and peak power were predicted accurately. Therefore the electrical damping constant can be derived from the following relationship:

$$F_{max} = B_{max}LI_{max} = B_{max}L \frac{(B_{max}Lv_{max})}{R} = \frac{(B_{max}l)^2}{(R_e + R_L)} v_{max} = c_e v_{max} \quad (3.11)$$

The electrical damping force is only applied when the magnet is within the coil volume. Due to large range of motion of the center magnet composite as compared to the thin region of coil, this additional damping term cannot be applied for all  $x(t)$ . A piecewise function was added to Eq. (3.5) to incorporate the additional damping effect only when the center magnet passes through the coil. In order to predict the relative velocity between center magnet and coil we numerically solve Eq. (3.5) using the ode 45 solver in MATLAB 7.12.0 (R2011a). A MATLAB script was written to predict the response of the mechanical system for a range of excitation frequencies; therefore the input signal to the system was a sinusoidal wave form of 7 – 18.5 Hz frequency content. The initial position and velocity at  $t=0$  used for the simulations was the center magnet equilibrium position (-3.8 mm) and zero initial velocity. As the MATLAB script sweeps through the various frequencies, the same equilibrium position was used for the initial position condition, but the initial velocity condition is updated from the steady state velocity of the previous frequency. Peak power can be calculated by evaluating Eqs. (3.12-3.14) as determined by applying Kirchoff's law to the magnetic circuit.

$$U = Bl\dot{z} - R_e i \quad (3.12)$$



$$U_{peak} = \frac{B_{max}lv_{max}}{R_L+R_e} R_L \quad (3.13)$$

$$P_{peak} = \left( \frac{B_{max}lv_{max}}{R_L+R_e} \right)^2 R_L \quad (3.14)$$

where the quantity  $v_{max}$  represents the maximum relative displacement of the center magnet with respect to coil,  $R_L$  is the load resistance,  $B_{max}$  is the maximum magnetic flux density within the coil,  $l$  is the length of coil,  $R_e$  is the coil resistance. The coil inductance was not included in the modeling of the electrical system. It has been stated that inductance in inductive harvesters operating at low frequencies ( $< 1$  kHz) can be neglected [24,79]. To confirm the assumption, the inductance of the coil was measured to be 6.95mH at 100 Hz. The resistance of the coil was 348 ohms and the resistance of the load was 700 ohms. To compare the magnitudes of the terms we convert the inductance to impedance by multiplying by the frequency in radians to obtain an equivalent impedance of 4.36 ohms. Therefore, the assumption that the inductance can be neglected is confirmed.

Every term in Eqs. (3.12-3.14) can be determined except for the quantity  $B_{max}l$  which will be referred to as the transformation factor  $\Phi$  for the rest of the analysis. In order to estimate the transformation factor  $\Phi$  we determine the spatial distribution of magnetic flux density and discretize the coil length using an experimentally verified approach described in literature [26, 35, 52]. The transformation factor  $\Phi$  which governs mechanical energy to electrical energy conversion is determined through the relationship:

$$U_e = - \int (\vec{z} \times \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{l} \cong \dot{z}\Phi \quad (3.15)$$

where  $\vec{z}$  is the relative velocity between center magnet composite and coil,  $\vec{B}$  is the magnetic flux density cutting the coil,  $l$  is the conductor length. By assuming that the coil velocity is orthogonal to magnetic field vectors, the line integral in Eq. (3.15) reduces to Eq. (3.16):

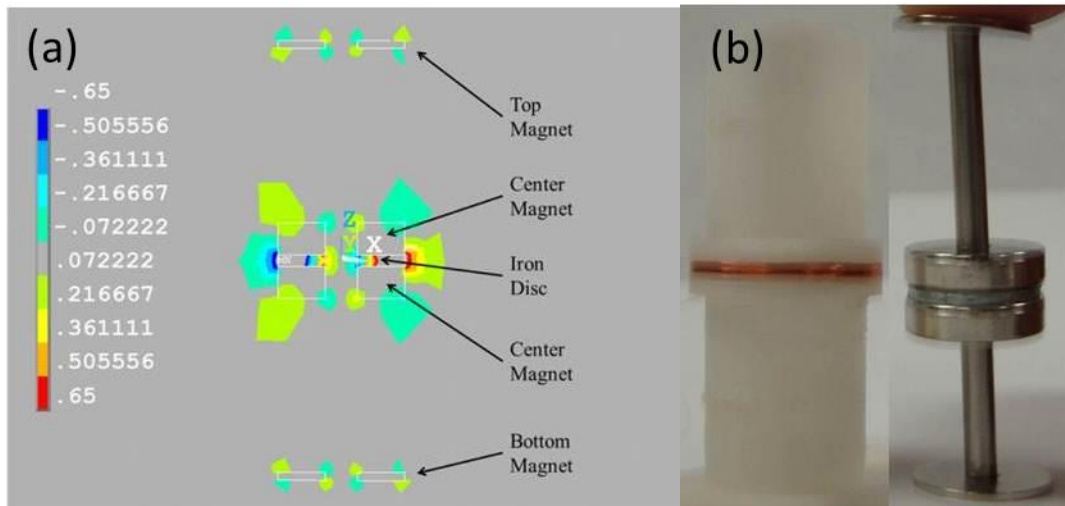
$$U_e = -\dot{z} \int_0^{L_{coil}} B(r) dl \quad (3.16)$$

By discretizing the coil volume, Eq. (3.16) is reduced to Eq. (3.17) as:

$$\Phi \cong \sum B(r) \Delta L_{coil}(r) \quad (3.17)$$

$$\Delta L_{coil}(r) = \frac{L_{coil}}{\# \text{ of volumes}} \quad (3.18)$$

To model the radial variation in magnetic flux density  $B(r)$  simulations were run using ANSYS electromagnetics. Solid 96 elements were used to model the magnetic circuit. Figure 3.6 (a) shows the distribution of magnetic flux density within the harvester next to an image of the harvester (b).



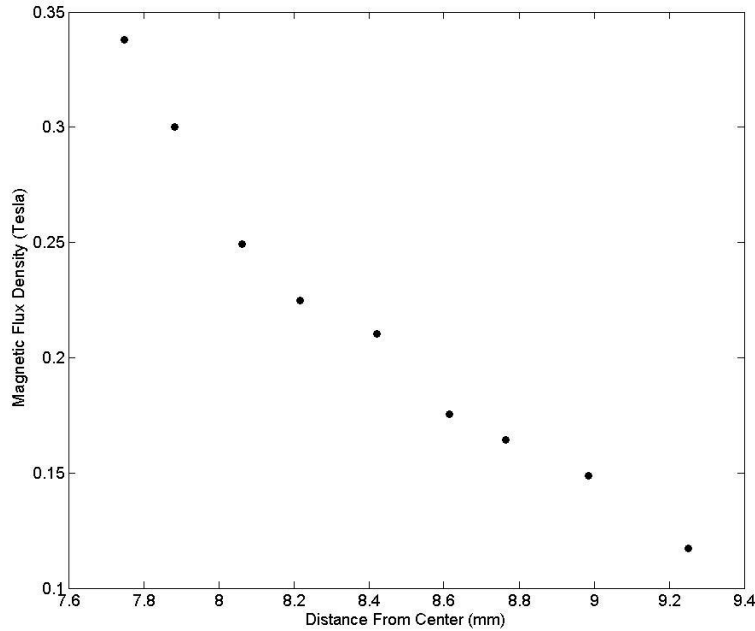
**Figure 3.6:** (a)Magnetic flux density in radial direction (magnetic flux density units are in Tesla)

(b) Image of center magnet with respect to coil

While Fig. 3.6 (a) shows the spatial distribution of magnetic flux density for the entire prototype.

The area of interest for predicting the voltage generation is located within the coil volume.

Figure 3.7 shows the radial variation of the magnetic flux density within the coil volume.



**Figure 3.7:** Magnetic flux density in the radial direction within the coil volume.

The change in coil length with respect to radius  $\Delta L_{coil}(r)$  within the discretized volumes of coil was characterized with simple trigonometry equations. Eq. (3.17) was used to determine the transformation factor of 5.05 T-m. Revisiting Eq. (3.14) the power output can now be predicted for various accelerations and frequencies

### 3.1.3.2 *Magnetostrictive mechanism*

An analytical model for the magnetostrictive harvesting mechanism was investigated based on previous researchers approach [74-75] and numerical simulations performed in our previous study [37]. The magnetostrictive material used in the top and bottom cap can harvest energy from vibration using the inverse magnetostrictive effect. This implies that under an applied stress or strain on the magnetostrictive material, the magnetic permeability changes resulting in change in the magnetic flux density that can be converted into current by a pickup coil. Schematic diagram for modeling of the magnetostrictive energy harvester structure is

shown in Fig. 8. The top and bottom magnetostrictive coils were attached to load impedance  $Z_1$ . The applied stress from the repulsive force between center and bottom magnets was assumed to be sinusoidal at frequency  $\omega$ .

The magnitude of the applied stress from the shaker during testing can be assumed to be the force applied per unit area on the magnetostrictive material due to the repulsive force when the base vibrates at an acceleration  $a$ . The repulsive force was determined through simulation to be 2 N at an acceleration of 1 G. Therefore, the applied stress to the Galfenol and nickel rods can be approximated as:

$$T = \frac{xF}{A} \quad (3.19)$$

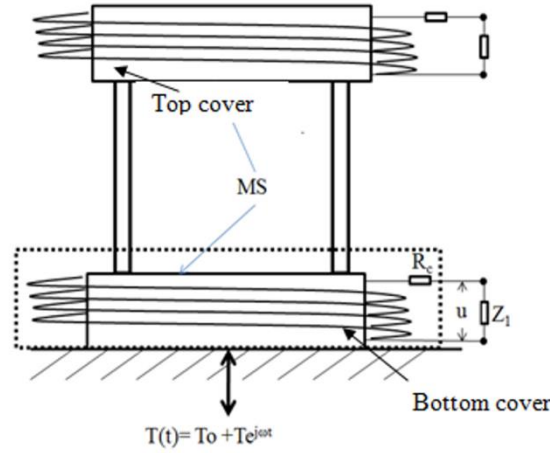
where  $F$  is the repulsive force between center and bottom/top magnets,  $x$  is uncertainty factor and  $A$  is the cross-sectional area of the magnetostrictive material. The equivalent inductance of the coil surrounding the magnetostrictive rods can be given as:

$$L_c = \frac{\mu_0 n^2 A_L}{l} \quad (3.20)$$

where  $A_L = \pi D(r_0 + D/3)$ ,  $\mu_0$  is the permeability of free space,  $n$  is the number of winding,  $l$  is the length of the wire,  $D$  is the thickness of the coil, and  $r_0$  is the coil inner diameter. As stress is applied to the magnetostrictive rod, the magnetic flux density through the rod changes inducing change in electric field. As a result, eddy current will flow around the rod axis. The eddy current coefficient can be obtained as [75]:

$$\chi = \frac{2J_1(r_0\sqrt{-j\omega\mu^T\sigma})}{r_0\sqrt{-j\omega\mu^T\sigma} J_0(r_0\sqrt{-j\omega\mu^T\sigma})} \quad (3.21)$$

where  $J_0$  and  $J_1$  are the zero and first order Bessel functions of the first kind,  $\sigma$  is the conductivity,  $\mu^T$  is the magnetic permeability at constant stress, and  $\omega$  is the frequency.



**Figure 3.8:** Magnetostrictive energy harvester where current is induced in the surrounding pick-up coil.

Considering the resistance of coil ( $R_e$ ) and the external load impedance ( $Z_1$ ) as serially connected as shown in figure 8, the total impedance of the magnetostrictive circuit can be written as:  $Z_0 = Z_1 + R_e$ . The voltage across the magnetostrictive rod is calculated by the following relationship [75]:

$$u = \frac{j\omega n l A Z_0 \left(\frac{d^*}{d}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{d\chi}\right)(Z_0 + j\omega L_c)l + j\omega n^2 A \left(\frac{\mu^T}{d}\right)} T \quad (3.22)$$

where  $u$  is the voltage across the coil surrounding the magnetostrictive rod,  $d$  is the magnetostrictive coefficient, and  $d^*$  is the conjugate of  $d$ . By principle of voltage division between the impedances, the voltage at the load resistor is given as:

$$u_1 = \frac{Z_1}{(Z_1 + R_e)} u \quad (3.23)$$

Finally, the peak electrical output power across an impedance load  $Z_1$  can be estimated from:

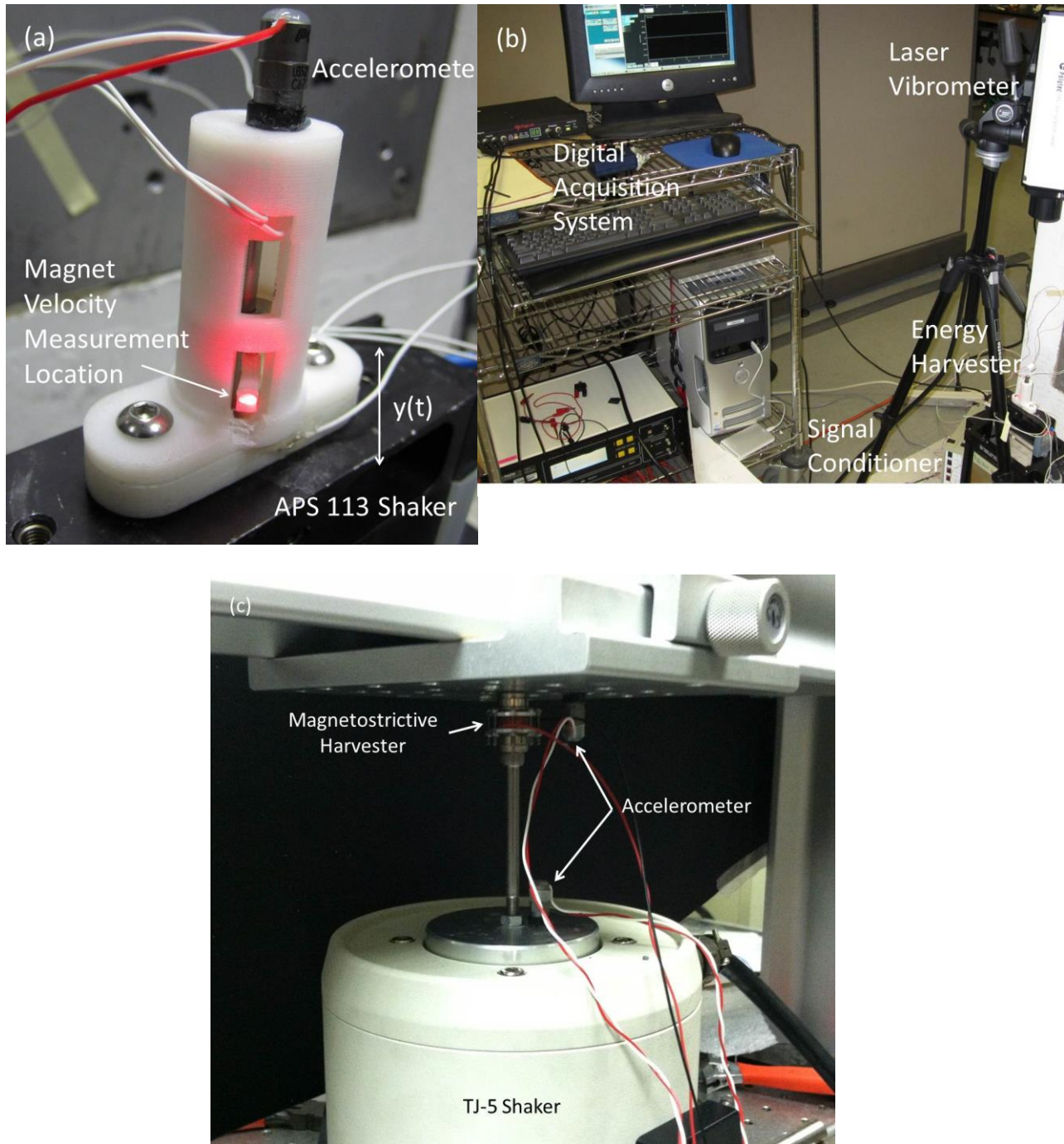
$$P_e = \frac{|u_1|^2}{Z_1} \quad (3.24)$$

The impedance was assumed to be purely resistive, i.e.  $Z_1 = R_L$ .

### 3.1.4 Experimental setup

The experimental characterization system is shown in Fig. 3.9 (a), (b), and (c). The base of the energy harvester was mounted on the arm of a seismic shaker (Acoustic Power Systems

113). Acceleration was measured on the top of the outer cover as shown in Fig. 3.8 (a) using accelerometer (Piezotronics Inc.). The output signal from the accelerometer was conditioned using a signal conditioner (Piezotronics Inc. Model 482A16). The velocity of the center magnet was measured using a digital vibrometer (Polytec OFV 353). A L-shaped plastic bar which protrudes outside the outer cover was attached to the center magnet composite in order to measure the velocity. The weight of the bar was small compared to the weight of center magnet composite, therefore significant influence on center magnet composite dynamics was not expected. Spectral Dynamics Siglab A/D converter controlled with a MATLAB graphical user interface was used to generate input signals to the seismic shaker to create vibration and also to capture the output signals from accelerometer and vibrometer. Three sets of leads provide access to the inductive coil and top and bottom magnetostrictive coils. Voltage generated by the harvester was measured by placing a load resistor in series with the individual coil(s). The RMS voltage was measured by using a digital multimeter. The magnetostrictive portion of the harvester was also characterized separately due to magnetic field interaction between oscillating and stationary magnets, which will be discussed in the magnetostrictive results section. Due to the interaction, the magnetostrictive harvester was mechanically stressed with a 2 N force using the experimental setup shown in Fig. 3.9 (c). The magnetostrictive harvester is attached to the shaker and accelerated into a stationary frame. An accelerometer is placed on the moving component and stationary component in order to determine the relative acceleration at the time of impact.



**Figure 3.9:** (a) Harvester mounted to shaker arm, (b) Full experimental setup, (c) magnetostrictive harvester experimental setup

### **3.1.5 Results and discussion**

The analytical models presented earlier were used to simulate the electrodynamics and power generated by inductive (electromagnetic) and magnetostrictive mechanisms. The simulations were then compared to the experimental results to validate the proposed models. Any discrepancies present between model and experiments are discussed in detail. A discussion is given on the presence of the nonlinearity and broadband capabilities within the inductive mechanism. Magnetic bias level and pre-stress level effect on power generation in the magnetostrictive part was investigated. Discussion on future improvements to the current designs of both inductive and magnetostrictive mechanisms are presented and discussed.



### 3.1.5.1 Inductive mechanism

The following parameters and associated values were applied in the inductive harvester simulations using Eqs. (3.12-3.14) and used in the fabrication of the inductive portion prototype listed in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1:** List of prototype parameters

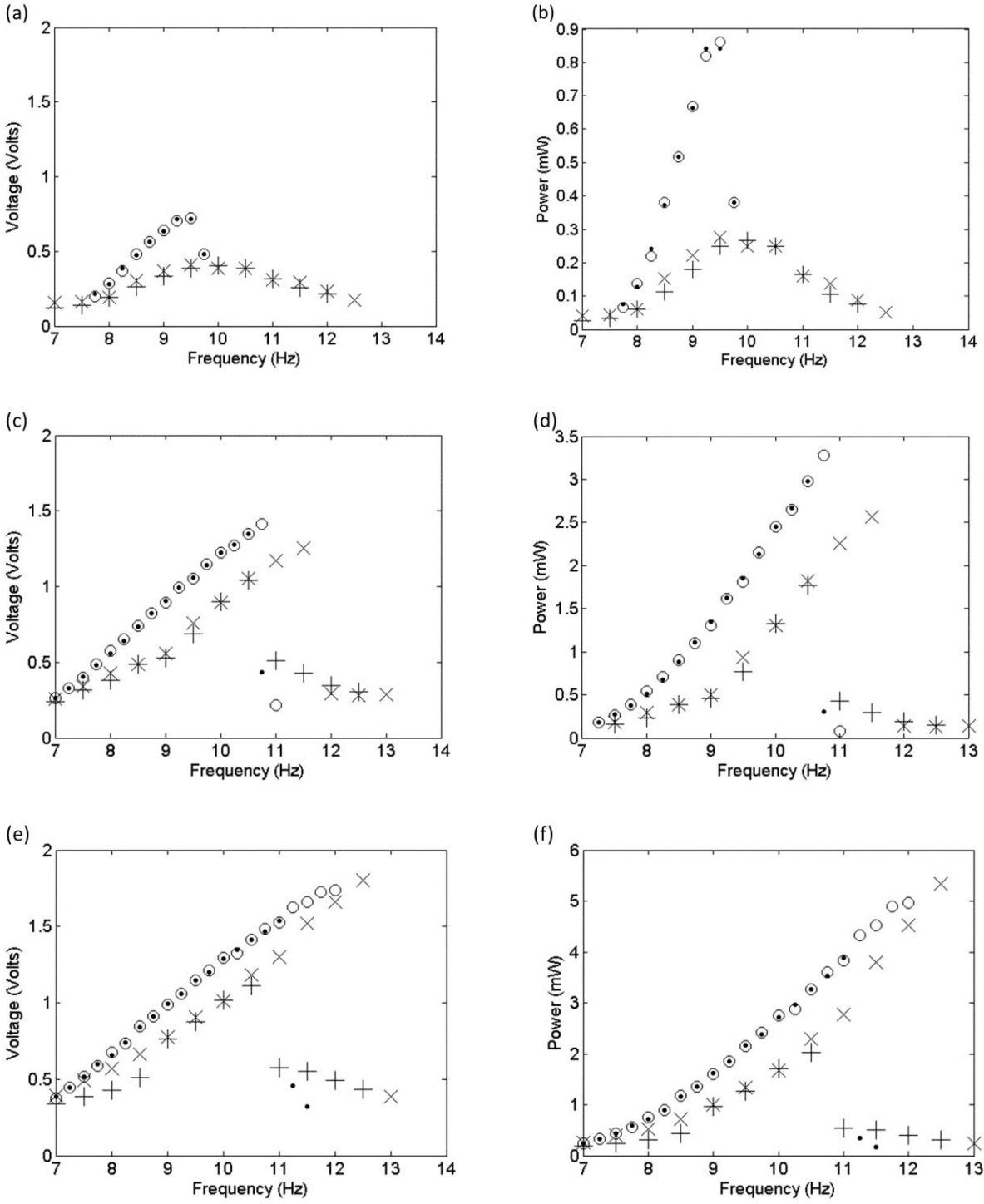
Parameters	Values
Cylinder (mm)	50 long x 16 OD
Center Magnet (mm)	12.7 OD x 3.2 ID x 3.2 THK
End Magnet (mm)	12.7 OD x 3.2 ID x 0.8 THK
Soft Magnetic (mm)	12.7 OD x 3.2 ID x 1.2 THK
Mechanical Mass (g)	6.53
Stiffness, k (N/m)	15.05
Stiffness, $k_3$ (N/m <sup>3</sup> )	4.37E+04
Stiffness, $k_5$ (N/m <sup>5</sup> )	1.44E+09
Damping ratio, $\zeta_m$	0.0994
Coil Size (mm)	15.5 ID x 18.5 OD x 1 THK
Coil Length (m)	25.2
Coil Resistance (ohms)	348
Wire Diameter (micron)	44
$\Phi$ (T*m)	5.05

OD= outside diameter, ID= inside diameter, THK = thickness

To investigate the bandwidth and dynamic response of the harvester, frequency response functions between base velocity and center magnet composite velocity were simulated within 7 Hz – 18.5 Hz range. The frequency response functions were generated for three different base accelerations  $\ddot{y}(t)$  (0.4 G, 0.7 G and 0.9 G) to determine the effect of acceleration on bandwidth and power. Forward and backward frequency sweeps were applied to capture the influence from the jump phenomena on the frequency response function caused by the non-linear stiffness relationship. This is common effect seen in non-linear mechanical systems [71, 80]. Voltage predictions were calculated from velocity predictions using Eq. (3.13) and compared to the measured voltage rather than comparing simulated and experimental velocity directly. The

velocity could not be measured for the full range of base amplitudes due to coil volume limiting the range of motion of the L-shaped lip which is attached to the center magnet composite as shown in Fig. 3.9 (a).

Figure 3.10 (a-c) displays the results of the simulation compared with experimental results for the specified geometry in Table 3.1 for 0.4 G, 0.7 G and 0.9 G base excitation magnitudes. The inductive mechanism generated 5.3 mW, 2.57 mW, 0.27 mW of peak power at 0.9 G, 0.7 G and 0.4 G respectively. The model agrees with experimental data better at the higher base excitation than at the low excitation magnitudes. The discrepancy was attributed to the following causes. The coil is positioned at the center of the top and bottom magnets. Due to the force of gravity, the equilibrium for the center magnet composite is not at the center of the top and bottom magnets; it is rather 3.8 mm lower. For the simulations it was assumed that when the center of the magnet passes the center of the coil this velocity stays constant through the thickness of the coil; thus any velocity gradient in the thickness direction of the coil was neglected. This would be true for system where the coil is positioned at the equilibrium position but due to the equilibrium being lower than coil position it is possible that the gradient cannot be neglected. Another assumption that was made was that the damping constant was assumed to be linear through the full range of center magnet composite displacement. The damping was measured by displacing the magnet by 10 mm from equilibrium position and measuring the decay back to equilibrium. Therefore for lower base accelerations where the magnet may never reach of maximum displacement of 10 mm the damping constant may vary.



**Figure 3.10:** Peak voltage and peak power as a function of frequency for 0.4 G (a-b), 0.7 G (c-d), and 0.9 G (e-f) base acceleration. Circles represent simulated forward sweeps and dots

represent simulated backward sweeps. X represents experimental forward sweeps and + represent experimental backward frequency sweeps

To compare our prototype to the state-of-the-art energy harvesters operating below 50 Hz we can calculate a volume figure of merit  $F_0M_v$  and a bandwidth figure of merit  $F_0M_{BW}$  [49] as:

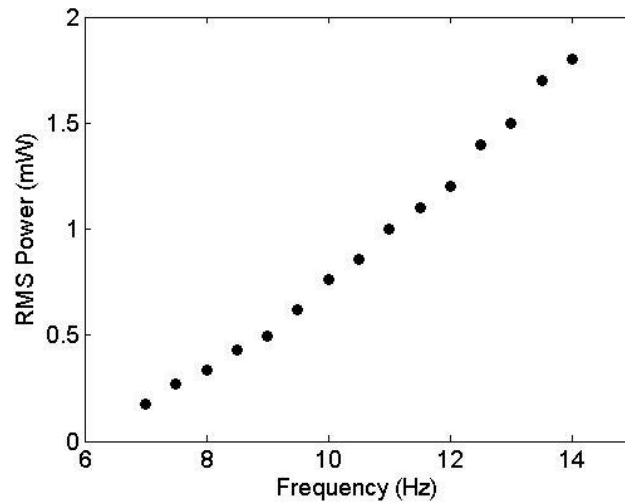
$$F_0M_v = \frac{\text{Useful Power Output}}{\frac{1}{16}Y_0\rho_{AU}Vol^{\frac{4}{3}}\omega^3} \quad (3.25)$$

$$F_0M_{BW} = F_0M_v \times \frac{BW_{1\text{ db}}}{\omega} \quad (3.26)$$

Where  $Y_0$  is the peak amplitude of the source displacement,  $Vol$  is the total prototype volume,  $\omega$  is the resonant frequency or center frequency and  $BW_{1\text{ db}}$  is the bandwidth 1 decibel down from the value at the center frequency. Table 3.2 shows a summary of the various inductive magnetic levitation harvesters referenced in this study as compared to the harvester developed through this study. The inductive portion of our harvester is comparable to the state of the art in both volume and bandwidth figure of merit. It should be noted that at the lower acceleration level the nonlinearity is not present in the frequency response function due to damping limiting the range of motion of the center magnet composite as seen in Fig. 3.10 (a-b). Therefore at the lower acceleration levels the bandwidth figure of merit could decrease. Fig. 3.11 displays the 1 G experimental data used for the calculations.

**Table 3.2:** Summary of state-of-art for inductive magnetic levitation based harvesters

Displacement (m)	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Frequency (Rad)	Power (W)	$F_0 M_v$ %	$BW_{1\text{ db}}$ (Hz)	$F_0 M_{BW}$	Ref.
2.76e-4	3.75e-6	188.5	6.2e-5	0.048	6	0.0096	[50]
5e-4	4e-5	289.03	0.18	0.9	2.5	0.0491	[51]
1.5e-4	1.25e-5	50.27	1.46e-5	0.22	N/A	N/A	[70]
3.45e-3	1.57e-5	37.7	8.09e-6	0.0092	N/A	N/A	[81]
1.27e-3	8.44e-6	87.96	1.8e-3	1.01	0.8	0.0575	This work
8.59e-4	7.34e-6	106.8	3.89e-3	2.16	0.75	0.0953	[52]
2.25e-3	1.76e-5	65.34	6e-3	1.7	N/A	N/A	[69]



**Figure 3.11:** Frequency response function for 1 G base excitation

### 3.1.5.2 Magnetostrictive mechanism

The parameters and associated values that were applied in the magnetostrictive simulations using Eq. (3.19-3.24) and in the fabrication of the prototype are listed in Table 3.3.

**Table 3.3.** Simulation parameters for magnetostrictive energy harvester.

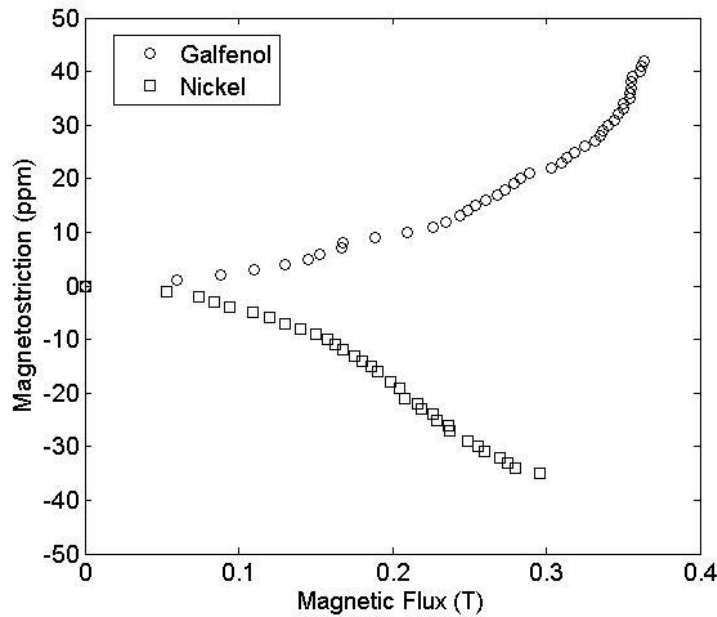
Parameters	Values
Magnetic relative permeability at constant stress for Galfenol <sup>74</sup>	290
Conductivity of Galfenol <sup>74</sup> [S/m]	$2.15 \times 10^6$
Piezomagnetic coefficient of Galfenol <sup>74</sup> [m/A] d	$4.2 \times 10^{-8}$
Piezomagnetic coefficient [m/A] <sup>34</sup> d*	$3.4 \times 10^{-8}$
Outside diameter of end magnet [mm]	11.11
Thickness of center magnet [mm]	3.2
Thickness of bottom magnet [mm]	0.8
Density of magnet [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$8.5 \times 10^3$
Total mass of the harvester (including magnets, magnetostrictive caps, coil and housing) [gm]	30.2
Thickness of Galfenol rod [mm]	5
Diameter of Galfenol rod [mm]	10
Density of Galfenol <sup>54</sup> [gm/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	7.6
Coil size (mm)	10.7 ID x 12.1 OD x 5 THK
Wire diameter [μm]	44
Number of turns	1833
Resistivity of coil (Ω m)	$1.68 \times 10^{-8}$
Coil resistance (Ω)	850 calculated; 903 measured
Coil length (m)	63.6

The magnetostrictive mechanism of harvester was characterized with six different levels of magnetic bias (0.77 T, 0.74 T, 0.67 T, 0.6 T, 0.5 T, and 0.37 T) and 3 different levels of pre-stress (11 MPa, 13.2 MPa, and 15.4 MPa) to determine the optimum magnetic bias and pre-stress combination. Various thicknesses of permanent magnets were placed on the top and bottom of the magnetostrictive harvester to create the magnetic bias. The magnetic flux values within the

magnetostrictive material were determined through ANSYS electromagnetics simulations. The magnetic flux values in Tesla correspond to a magnetic field strength values in the Galfenol material ranging from 72.6 Oe to 34.9 Oe. The conversion assumes a relative magnetic permeability of Galfenol to be 106 as provided by the manufacturer, Etrema Products, Inc [82]. The relative magnetic permeability of the Galfenol was also measured as a function of frequency and found to be 130 confirming the value provided by the manufacturer [83]. The magnetic flux density is equal to the product of relative magnetic permeability and magnetic field strength  $H$ . The relationship between magnetostriction vs. applied magnetic field has been measured by previous researchers for Galfenol of similar size was found to be between 25 and 30 Oe [84-85]. The researchers also showed that pre-stress levels of 6-25 MPa were sufficient to increase the level of magnetostriction. Further increases in pre-stress level showed minimal increase in magnetostriction and require higher magnetic bias. As the magnets currently incorporated in the inductive portion of only provide a bias of 0.1595 T or 15 Oe within the Galfenol rod, we aim to avoid significant modifications to the existing configuration. The relative magnetic permeability of the pure nickel (99%) was also measured and found to be 2.5 which agrees with a value found by previous researchers [86].

To confirm the optimum bias values determined in previous studies and to determine the values to use in this study, we analyzed magnetostriction by applying a magnetic field and measuring the resulting strain. The optimum magnetic bias exists where the piezomagnetic coefficient ( $d$ ) is maximum. The piezomagnetic coefficient at constant stress consists of the partial derivative of strain ( $\epsilon$ ) with respect to magnetic field strength ( $H$ ). Therefore, by finding the bias magnitude that corresponds to the greatest strain rate we can determine the optimum bias. In these experiments no pre-stress was applied to the magnetostrictive materials. Due to the

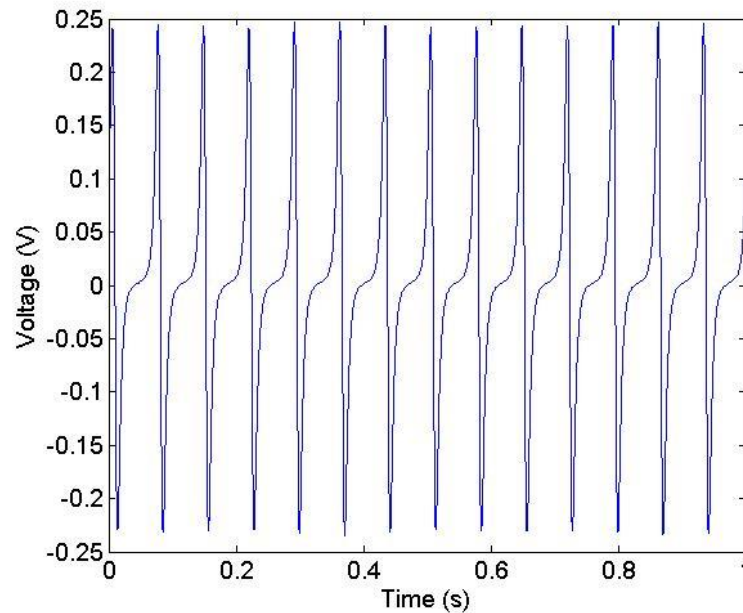
limitations of the two Helmholtz coils used to generate the magnetic field, magnetic flux density higher than 0.36 T in air was unachievable. The magnetic flux density measurements were made with a Walker LDJ Scientific Model 6010 Gaussmeter. Figure 12 displays the results for both Galfenol and nickel. Magnetostriction in the Galfenol begins to increase rapidly with applied magnetic field at a value of 0.35 T and in nickel the change in magnetostriction is maximum around 0.22 T. In the previous literature all magnetic bias are given as magnetic field strength rather than magnetic flux. The magnetic flux density near the Galfenol and nickel rods was measured so that one can assume that the magnetic flux density is similar even though it may be slightly smaller. Assuming a relative permeability of Galfenol to be 106, the magnetic flux value can be converted to magnetic field strength of 33 Oe. The optimum magnetic bias determined from the magnetostriction experimentation is higher than the values found in literature in the no pre-stress condition due to the difference in relative permeability, 106 as compared to 290 [84-85].



**Figure 3.12:** Magnetostriction vs. magnetic flux density for Galfenol and nickel rods



As mentioned in the experimental setup section, the magnetostrictive prototype was characterized by mechanically applying a 2 N force at 14 Hz. This corresponds to the repulsive force level that would occur during resonance at 1 G base acceleration. The magnetostrictive prototype could not be characterized while integrated with the inductive mechanism due to the oscillating center magnet displacing the magnetic fields around the stationary magnet which provides a bias to the magnetostrictive rod. To illustrate the interaction, the magnetostrictive secondary coil was placed in the inductive harvester without the Galfenol rod present. The center oscillating magnet was excited at resonance and the voltage in the secondary coil surrounding the Galfenol was measured. Fig. 3.13 shows the voltage generated over a 1000 ohm load showing that 62  $\mu\text{W}$  of power is generated solely through induction caused by the displacement of magnetic fields. To eliminate the effect from the inductive harvester, the magnetostrictive prototype was characterized separately to quantify the power generated solely from the magnetostrictive mechanism.

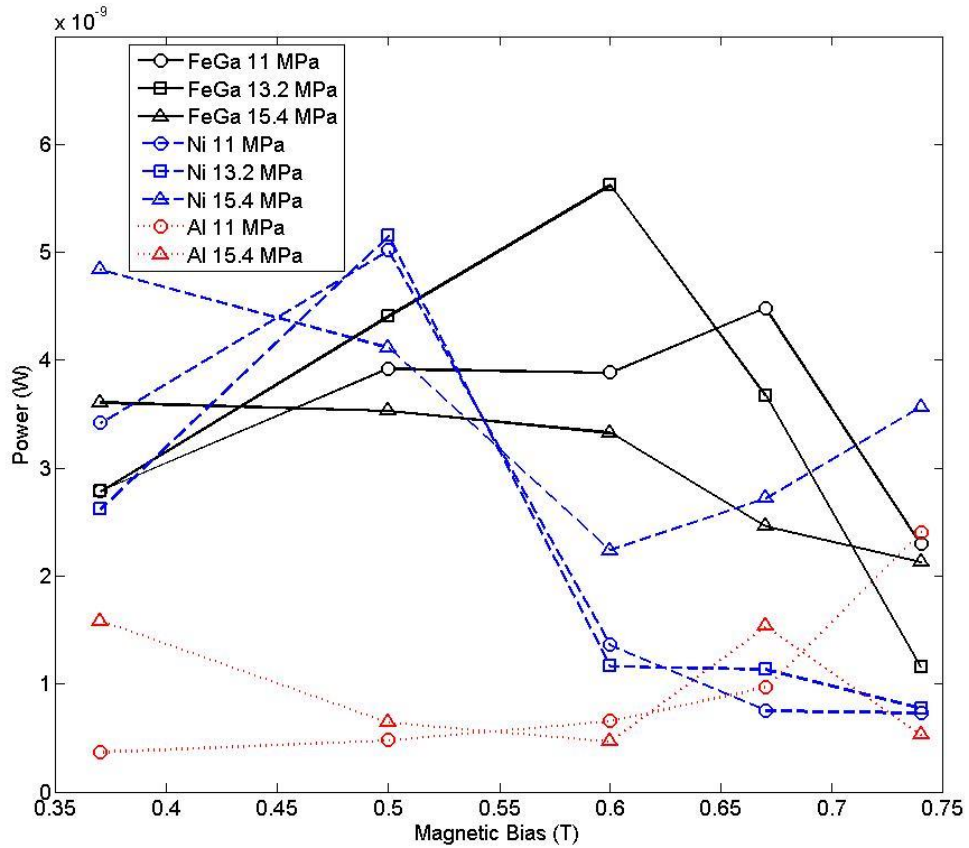


**Figure 3.13:** Voltage waveform taken from secondary coil without the Galfenol present to illustrate the effect that the center magnet has on the magnetic fields surrounding the bottom and top stationary magnets

Figure 3.14 displays the results of the experimentation for Galfenol, nickel, and aluminum at the various bias and pre-stress conditions. Each of the Galfenol and nickel samples show an optimum bias and pre-stress condition. Galfenol and nickel had optimum bias of 0.6 T and 0.5 T respectively. It is important to note that the actual bias within the nickel rod was not 0.5 T but 0.26 T due to the lower relative permeability of nickel. Furthermore, the magnet configuration which generates the 0.5 T bias in the Galfenol rod is the same configuration that generates a 0.26 T bias in the nickel rod. In Fig. 3.12 we displayed the magnetostriction vs. applied bias curves showing nickel having an optimum bias of  $\sim 0.22$  T and Galfenol of 0.35 T. While the values for nickel are similar a discrepancy exists for the Galfenol rod. This can be explained by the medium of which the magnetic flux was measured. The magnetic flux measurements to generate Fig. 3.12 were made with a Walker LDJ Scientific Model 6010

Gaussmeter. The probe was placed near the Galfenol but the measurements were made in air. If the Galfenol is substituted with air in the simulations the values of magnetic flux at the same location would be 0.3083 T as compared to 0.6 T which is similar to the value measured with the gaussmeter. Figure 3.14 also displays that an optimum pre-stress of 13.2 MPa for both nickel and Galfenol existed for maximum power generation which agrees with previous studies [75-76]. The effect of the compression of the clamp on power generation was also investigated. To study the effect, the Galfenol sample was replaced with aluminum which is a non-ferromagnetic material. It can be seen that roughly 12 % of the power generated was generated due to the distance change between the two sets of magnets biasing the Galfenol. As the distance changes between the two magnetic poles, the magnitude of magnetic flux density within the coil changes.

Figure 3.14 shows that at the optimum conditions the power output of the Galfenol and nickel rods are similar although it was shown in a previous study and in Fig. 3.12 that the magnetostriction of Galfenol is much higher than in nickel [87]. The result can be explained by the level of stress applied to the magnetostrictive materials. The level of stress from the 2 N force is 25 KPa which leads to small strain. This indicates that the materials are not being strained to the point where the higher magnetostriction in the Galfenol can be utilized.

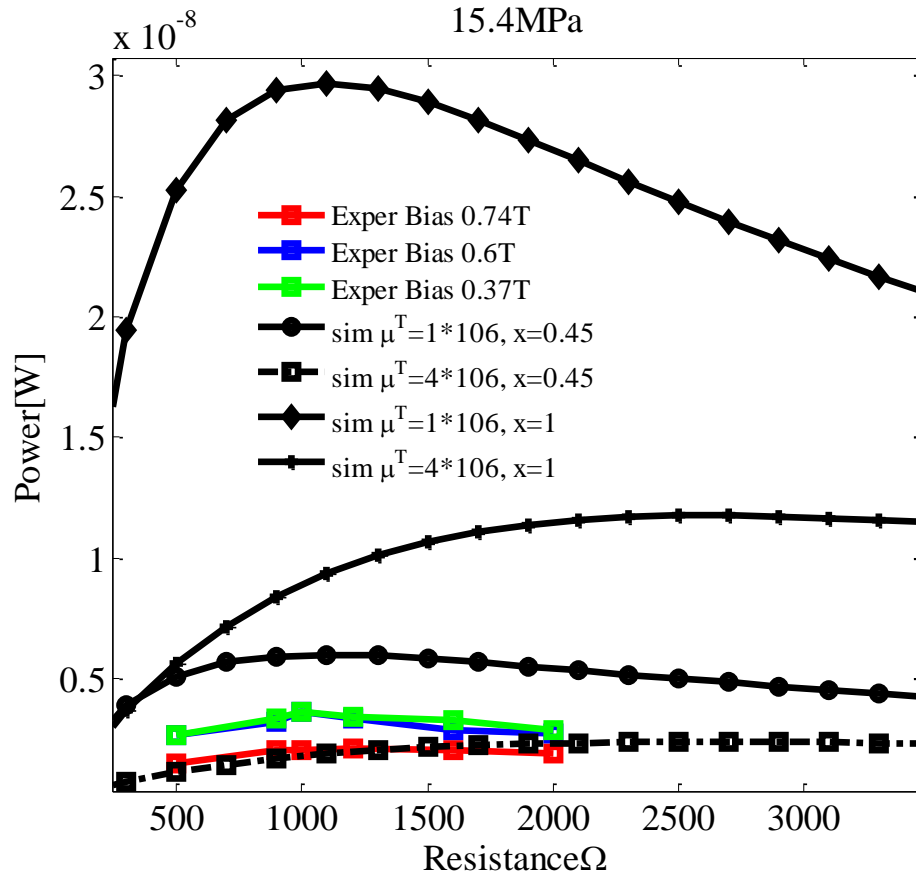


**Figure 3.14:** Performance of Galfenol and nickel under various pre-stress and bias conditions

To predict the output power, numerical simulations were performed based on the Eqs. (3.19-3.24) presented in the magnetostrictive modeling section and parameters listed in Table 3.3. The simulations were compared with the experimentally measured power output of the magnetostrictive part and the variations of parameters were studied in matching the experimental data. The relative permeability of the magnetostrictive material was measured separately as a function of various bias stress and found to be 110 and 90 at 1 ksi (6.9 MPa) and 7 ksi (48.3 MPa) compressive stress respectively. Based on this data and linear interpolation, the value of the permeability of Galfenol at 15 MPa was estimated and found to be 106. This value was used in the numerical simulations which provide the estimate of system parameters about the bias

point (field and stress). Both experimental and simulated values are shown in Fig. 3.15. In this graph, a 2N input force at 14 Hz was applied that corresponded to 1G base acceleration. The 2N force was obtained by displacing the center magnet a distance the magnet travels at 1G acceleration and 14 Hz frequency using ANSYS. It is to be noted that there might be some variation of input force obtained from ANSYS simulation. Therefore a correction factor  $x$  was introduced earlier in Eq. (19). The relative permeability was also multiplied by a factor to observe if the variation brings change in the magnitude just in the vicinity of the bias stress and field. In Fig. 3.15, two values of modifying coefficients that bound the experimental values are used to simulate using the modeling equations. The relative permeability of Galfenol has been reported to show a value greater than 800 at low bias field, during the characterization of the alloy for 0-600Oe and -200MPa to + 50 MPa [88]. Some authors used 290 at 200 Oe and 12.5 MPa [75]. This study suggest that the highly dependence of the parameter in the bias stress, the alloy composition, and the method of making the alloy.

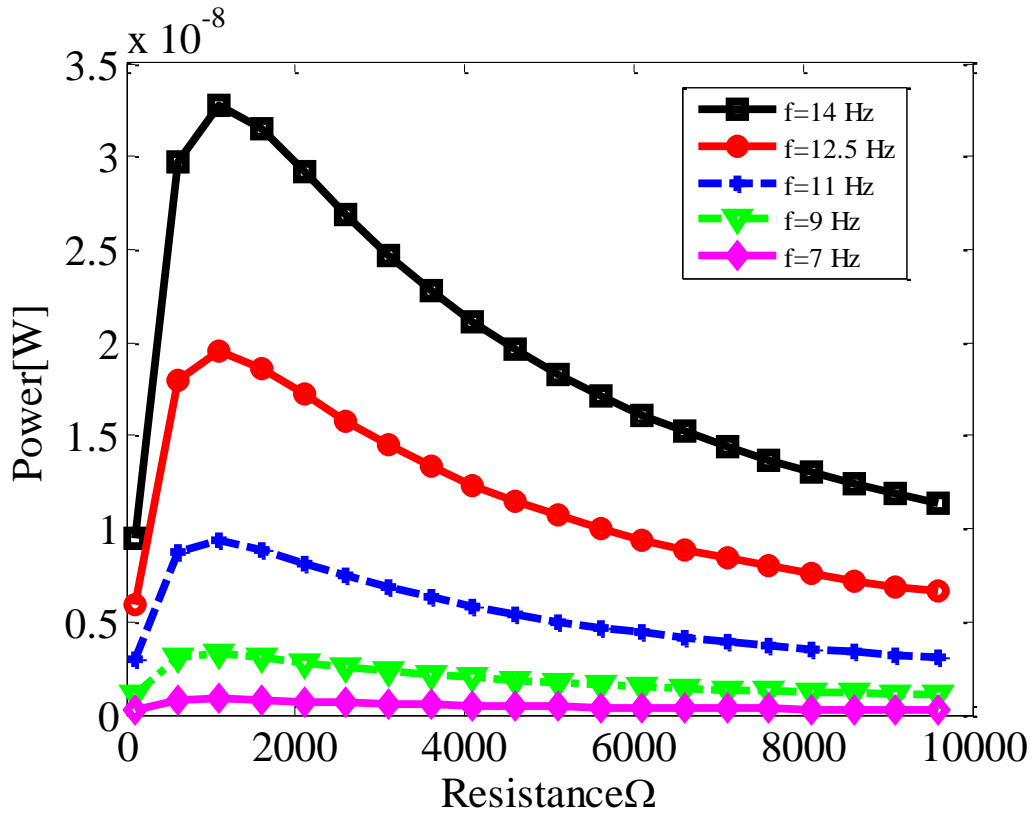
As can be seen in Fig. 3.15, at low stress level (15.4MPa), the peak power in both the experimental and theoretical case increases initially and the theoretical values drift highest power at higher range of resistive loads. Using the linear model used in this paper and no correction values for the force and permeability, the output power has large deviation from the experiment. As seen in the diamond data points ( $\mu^T=1*10^6$  and  $x=1$ ) and ( $\mu^T=4*10^6$  and  $x=1$ ), the experimental values could not be bounded. Whereas if the force correction factor is reduced the simulated power outputs bound the experimental values ( $\mu^T=1*10^6$  and  $x=0.45$ ) and ( $\mu^T=4*10^6$  and  $x=0.45$ ).



**Figure 3.15:** Theoretical and experimental values of peak power obtained from the magnetostrictive part at 2N input force (input force correction factor  $x= 1$ , and  $0.45$ ) and magnetic permeability ( $\mu^T= 1*10^6 \mu_o$  and  $4*10^6*\mu_o$ ) at 14 Hz using linear model

Numerical simulations were also performed to observe the power output as the frequency of operation changes. Figure 3.16 demonstrates the power versus resistance load for a low frequency vibration matching the inductive part; in this case the peak power values were observed at a resistance around  $1k\Omega$  load. The model shows that the power increases as the operating frequency increases from 7 to 14 Hz for all load resistances. The input forces which were applied to the Galfenol during the numerical simulation were obtained through ANSYS simulations. The first resonance frequency of the energy harvesting device occurs at 14 Hz and

the corresponding force is 2N and decreases as the frequency decreases (at 7 Hz, the force was 0.64N). The simulations showed that at 14 Hz and 2N force, the power output was 0.015 $\mu$ W.



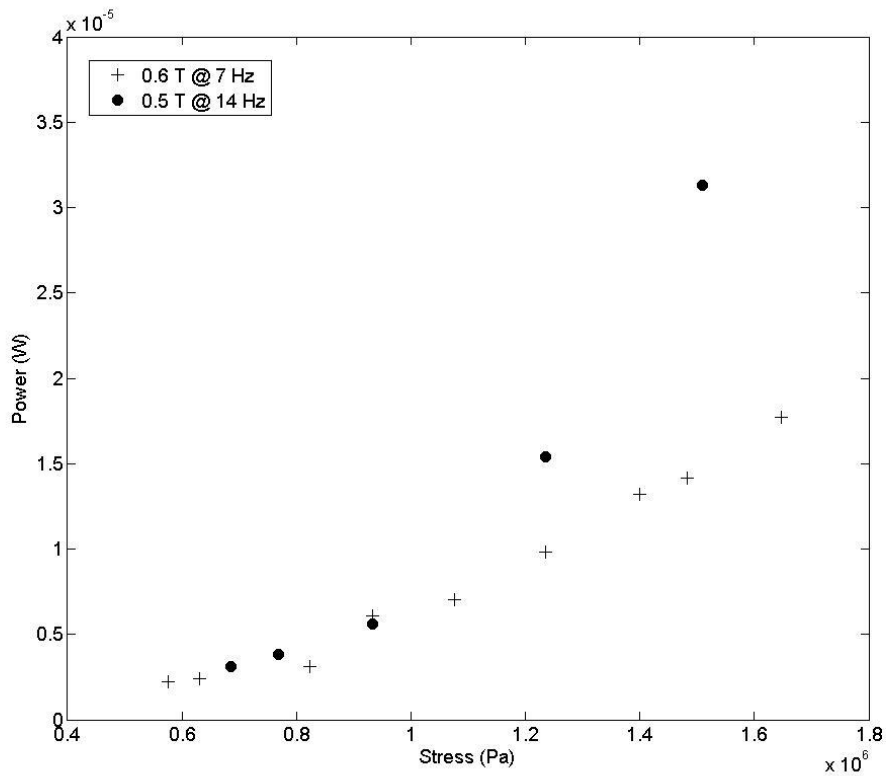
**Figure 3.16:** Simulated power output at low frequency of the magnetostrictive parts at various values of input force from a look up table and magnetic permeability ( $\mu^T = 106 \mu_o$ ). The input forces were 2.1, 1.79, 1.39, 0.99, and 0.64 N at 14, 12.5, 11, 9, and 7 Hz frequencies respectively

It can be seen that the linear model presented in this chapter, to validate the multimodal energy harvesting device didn't match very close to the experimental values. The main reasons could be (1) though linear model is simple and allows the prediction of overall behavior in a bounded region; the nonlinear model might not be a good way of predicting the exact behavior of the harvester at low frequency region near resonance. (2) The input forces assumed in the molding are obtained from simulation and there might be some variation of the simulate value than the

one practically seen while the center magnet applied. (3) The equations were derived for a direct input oscillating stress about the bias pre-stress and in our case the force applied to the Galfenol was assumed to be the force that is applied by the center magnet during base excitation (4) the uncertainty of the system parameters described in the table. A more rigorous modeling is required to predict the system behavior of the magnetostrictive parts in such a hybrid system.

At low frequency of operation (14 Hz) and optimum bias 0.6T and 13.2 MPa stress, the experimental power output of magnetostrictive part is  $0.0055\mu W$ . The low power output can be attributed to the level of input energy for this particular application (25 KPa @ 14 Hz). Many of the previous research in magnetostrictive energy harvesting have characterized the prototypes at extremely high input energy and frequency (10-15 MPa @ 100-1000 Hz). To investigate the capability at higher stress levels we provide additional experimental results. Figure 3.17 displays the results of the magnetostrictive portion of the energy harvester at higher energy input. Higher frequencies were not possible due to the limitations of the vibration equipment. Simply increasing the applied stress magnitude by two orders of magnitude showed gains in power of 4 orders of magnitude generating  $35\mu W$  at 1.6 MPa of applied stress. Additional increases in applied stress and frequency to the levels shown in literature should show reasonable agreement to the power levels generated on the order of 100 mW to 1 W.





**Figure 3.17:** Performance of magnetostrictive harvester at higher input energy level.

### 3.1.6 Summary

In this study, a multi-mechanism energy harvester was designed and analyzed. The proposed prototype harvests energy using both inductive and magnetostrictive mechanisms. The harvester was designed to attain AA-battery size and shape which enhances the integration with existing wireless sensors in the field. The experimental results were compared to theoretical predictions for both mechanisms and showed reasonable agreement. The model can be approved to account for a time varying magnetic field therefore allowing for prediction of average voltage and average power. The nonlinear model used for the magnetostrictive mechanism was able to bound the experimental values with some variation in system parameters and offers a quick way of predicting the system behavior. A more rigorous nonlinear model might provide accurate

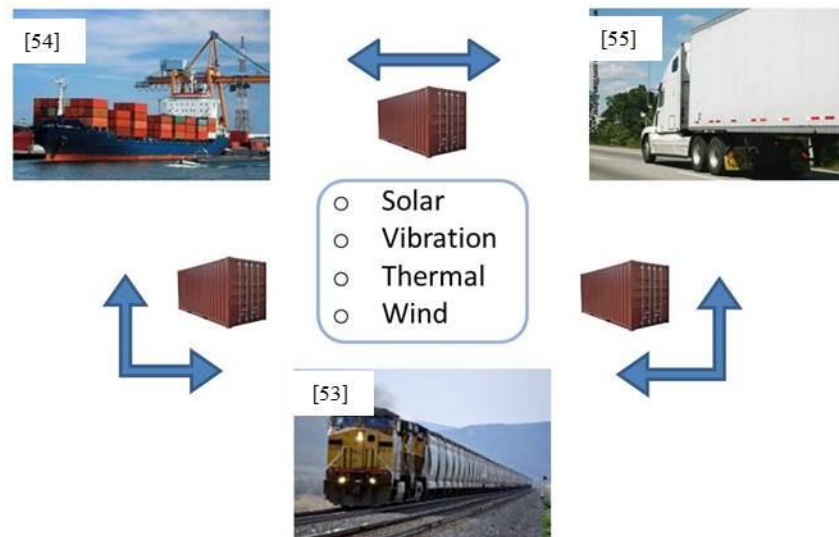
solution in matching experimental results. The inductive mechanism generated 5.3 mW, 2.57 mW, 0.27 mW at 0.9 G, 0.7 G and 0.4 G respectively. The maximum power harvested using the magnetostrictive mechanism was  $\sim 0.0055 \mu\text{W}$  at the stress level pertaining to the repulsive force in the inductive mechanism. For applications with higher input energy, power generated in the magnetostriction mechanism should be comparable to the previous prototypes in literature. In future work other magnetostrictive configurations aside from the cylindrical configuration could be investigated that strain at the low stress and frequency levels. In the future work section (8.2) we propose an alternative configuration utilizing a cantilever beam and discuss its capabilities.

### **3.2 Multi-mechanism non-linear vibration harvester combining inductive and piezoelectric mechanisms**

In order to enhance the power density of existing energy harvesters, a variety of multimodal energy harvesting techniques have been proposed. Multimodal energy harvesters can be categorized as: (i) Multi-Source Energy Harvester (MSEH), (ii) Multi-Mechanism Energy Harvester (MMEH), and (iii) Single Source Multi-Mode Energy Harvester ( $S^2M^2EH$ ). In this study, the focus was on developing MMEH which combines the inductive and piezoelectric mechanisms. The multi-mechanism harvester was modeled using FEM techniques and theoretically analyzed to optimize the performance and reduce the overall shape and size similar to that of AA battery. The theoretical model combining analytical and FEM modeling techniques provides the system dynamics and output power for specific generator and cymbal geometry at various source conditions. In the proposed design, a cylindrical tube contains a magnetic levitation cavity where a center magnet oscillates through a copper coil. Piezoelectric cymbal transducers were mounted on the top and bottom sections of the cylindrical shell. In response to the external vibrations, electrical energy was harvested from the relative motion between magnet and coil through Faraday's effect and from the piezoelectric material through the direct piezoelectric effect. Experimental results validate the predictions from theoretical model and show the promise of multimodal harvester for powering wireless sensor nodes in automobile, aircraft, and rail applications.

### 3.2.1 Introduction

With increasing demand for wireless sensor nodes in automobile, aircraft and rail applications, the need for energy harvesters has been growing. For example, cargo container security over the past decade has become an initiative for the United States Department of Homeland Security as exemplified by the issuing of the Container Security Initiative passed in 2002. In order to implement the security systems, sensors monitoring the condition and location of the containers from shipment to delivery are embedded within the containers. As more than 11 million cargo containers are shipped and off loaded at U.S. seaports each year, this provides a market for developing alternatives to powering these sensors with batteries [89]. Throughout the duration of shipment many different sources of energy can be harvested as illustrated in Fig. 3.18.



**Figure 3.18:** Harvesting various forms of energy through the various transportation modes of the cargo container shipment.

In order to integrate the harvester into existing sensors we design for high power density. To this end, we investigate various multi-functional energy harvesters to power the sensors. Multifunctional energy harvesters can be categorized as: (i) Multi-Source Energy Harvester (MSEH), (ii) Single Source Multi-Mode Energy Harvester ( $S^2M^2EH$ ), and (iii) Multi-Mechanism Energy Harvester (MMEH). MSEH could consist of harvesting solar, wind and vibration simultaneously during the container shipment. An example of  $S^2M^2EH$  could be harvesting energy through various modes of vibration: such as simultaneously harvesting energy from harmonics of first bending mode or bending and torsional modes. MMEH could consist of harvesting vibration through various mechanisms such as piezoelectric and inductive mechanisms simultaneously. Of the different multi-functional harvesting techniques presented, we choose to fabricate and characterize a MMEH combining piezoelectric and inductive mechanisms due to the possibility of fabricating a high power density harvester having similar size as an AA battery.

During the travel lifecycle, the cargo container shipped via ship, rail or truck experiences various magnitudes and frequency of vibration as summarized in Table 3.4.

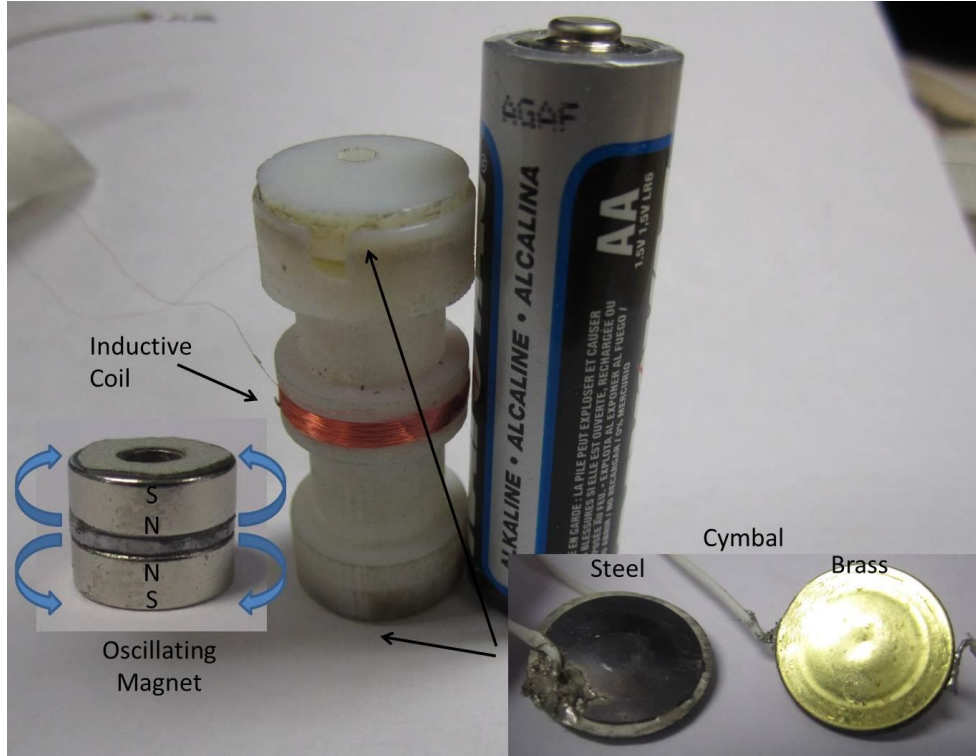
**Table 3.4.** Summary of various magnitudes and frequencies of vibration available from the various modes of transport

Source	Accel.	Freq.	Ref.
Rail	0.11 G	12 Hz	[64]
Rail	0.16 G	16 Hz	[47]
Truck	0.35 G	10 Hz	[90]
Truck	0.25 G	15 Hz	[64]
Truck	0.2 G	8 Hz	[65]
Ship	0.114 G	13 Hz	[67]
Ship	0.25 G	13 Hz	[67]
Ship	0.1 G	12 Hz	[68]
Ship	0.14 G	12 Hz	[68]

The dominant magnitudes of vibration typically exist at frequencies in the 10-15 Hz range and the acceleration magnitudes are in the range of 0.2-0.35 G. We present a levitating magnet harvester having low stiffness characteristic allowing for resonance to occur at these low frequencies. Nonlinearity in the response of the center magnet to external vibration allows for broadband operation; therefore harvesting sufficient power during all modes of transportation. The multi-mechanism harvester was modeled using FEM techniques and theoretically analyzed to optimize the performance and reduce the overall shape and size similar to that of AA battery. In the proposed design, a cylindrical tube contains a magnetic levitation cavity where a center magnet oscillates through a copper coil. Piezoelectric cymbal transducers were mounted on the top and bottom sections of the cylindrical shell. Experimental results validate the predictions from theoretical model and show the promise of MMEH for powering wireless sensor nodes within cargo containers.

### 3.2.2 Multi-mechanism energy harvester (MMEH) design

The MMEH generates electrical energy from vibrations through two mechanisms: inductive and piezoelectric. The energy harvester was designed to have the same form factor as that of AA battery for easy integration with existing sensor nodes. As shown in Fig. 3.19, the energy harvester is shorter than the AA battery which allows space for the addition of the conditioning circuitry and energy storage. The inductive mechanism consists of a levitating magnet suspended between two magnets located on the top and bottom of the harvester which are not visible in Fig. 3.19. The oscillating or levitating magnet is shown and consists of two magnets attached with opposite polarity separated by a soft magnetic disc (steel). The configuration has been shown by previous researchers to create a magnetic field that is 2X the strength of a single oscillating magnet of the same size [70]. The wire size used for the coil was 46 AWG in order to create sufficient voltage to avoid losses in rectification of voltage signal. The coil fill factor was 0.67 and the coil resistance was 1034 ohms. During vibration the center oscillating magnet exerts an equal and opposite force on the top and bottom magnets. We propose to harvest this force with a piezoelectric cymbal transducer. Two cymbal transducers were evaluated which are also shown in Fig. 3.19. Brass and steel were evaluated as the cap material. The cap thickness was 0.25 mm and cavity height 0.3 mm. The piezoelectric material thickness was 1 mm for both caps. The piezoelectric material diameter was 15 mm for the steel cymbal and 12.7 mm for the brass cymbal.



**Figure 3.19:** Image of fabricated MMEH

### 3.2.3 Theoretical modeling

In order to maximize power output of the inductive part of the harvester the transformation factor  $\Phi$  was optimized. The transformation factor directly couples the mechanical vibration energy to electrical energy harvested. The transformation can be estimated as  $B \cdot l$ , but we apply a rigorous estimation of the quantity using an experimentally verified approach described in Marin et al. [35]. In order to estimate the transformation factor  $\Phi$  we determine spatial distribution of magnetic field and discretize the coil length. The transformation factor  $\Phi$  was determined through the following relationship:

$$U_e = - \int (\vec{z} \times \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{l} \cong z\Phi \quad (3.27)$$



where  $\vec{z}$  is the relative velocity between center magnet and coil,  $\vec{B}$  is the magnetic field cutting the coil,  $l$  is the conductor length. By assuming that the coil velocity is orthogonal to magnetic field vectors, the line integral in Eq. (3.27) reduces to Eq. (3.28):

$$U_e = -\dot{z} \int_0^{L_{coil}} B(r) dl \quad (3.28)$$

By discretizing the coil volume, Eq. (3.28) is reduced to Eq. (3.29) as:

$$\Phi \cong \sum B(r) \Delta L_{coil}(r) \quad (3.29)$$

$$\Delta L_{coil}(r) = \frac{L_{coil}}{\# \text{ of volumes}} \quad (3.30)$$

To model the radial variation in magnetic field strength,  $B(r)$ , simulations were conducted using ANSYS electromagnetics. The magnetic field was assumed to not vary in time for the initial modeling approach. Only the maximum magnet flux  $B_{max}(r)$  and the maximum relative velocity  $v_{max}$  are predicted with the modeling approach, therefore only the peak voltage and peak power are predicted accurately. Solid 96 elements were used to model the magnetic circuit. With the transformation factor calculated, we applied Kirchoff's voltage law to the magnetic circuit to predict peak voltage and power output.

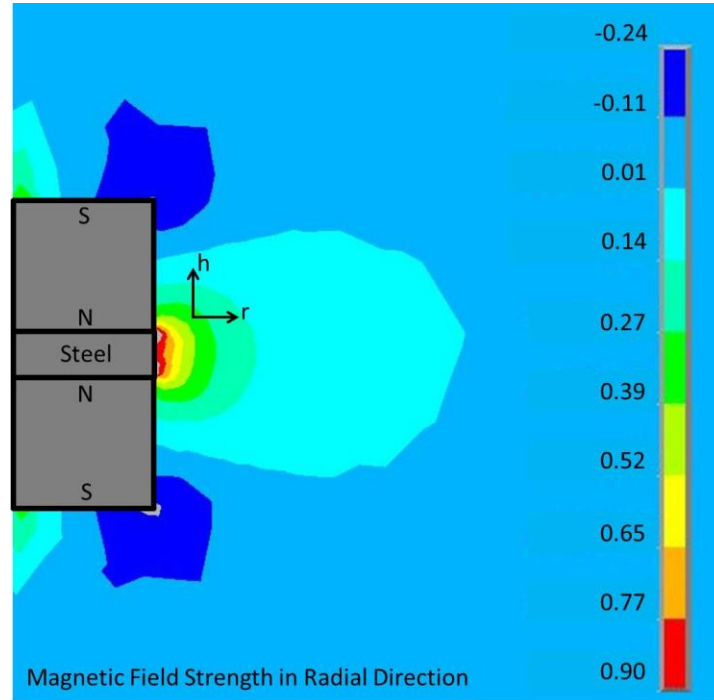
$$U = Bl\dot{z} - R_e i \quad (3.31)$$

$$U_{peak} = \frac{B_{max} l v_{max}}{R_L + R_e} R_L \quad (3.32)$$

$$P_{peak} = \left( \frac{B_{max} l v_{max}}{R_L + R_e} \right)^2 R_L \quad (3.33)$$

Here the quantity  $v_{max}$  represents the relative displacement of the center magnet with respect to coil,  $R_L$  is the load resistance,  $B_{max}$  is the maximum magnetic flux density within the coil,  $l$  is the length of coil,  $R_e$  is the coil resistance. Utilizing the above formulation we optimized the coil volume. The optimization balances the strength of magnetic field cutting the coil and coil length. As coil length increases by increasing the coil volume in the height or radius direction the

magnetic field decreases as shown in Fig. 3.20. Therefore after a certain distance in the height and radius directions, the increase in coil length adds more to the resistance and contributes less to the transduction of current.



**Figure 3.20:** Magnetic field strength distribution surrounding oscillating center magnet

For the optimization, the coil height was set at 2 mm due to the thickness of the magnet composite. If the coil height is too large, cancelation of voltage can occur due to the difference in direction of magnetic field at the top/bottom of the magnet composite and the magnetic field at the center. In order to predict the power using Eq. (3.33), the velocity must be predicted. The transformation factor affects magnet velocity and therefore an arbitrary velocity cannot be used for the optimization study. The effect is caused by an electrical damping force which opposes the motion of the center magnet and is governed by the following equation:

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \quad (3.34)$$

From Eq. (3.34), we can see that this force  $F$  is dependent on the magnitude of current flow  $I$  due to the coil length and magnetic flux density  $B_{max}$  remaining constant. The current is dependent upon the velocity  $v$  as the coil resistance  $R_e$ , load resistance  $R_L$ , maximum magnetic flux density  $B_{max}$ , and coil length  $L$  are constant. Therefore the electrical damping constant can be derived as:

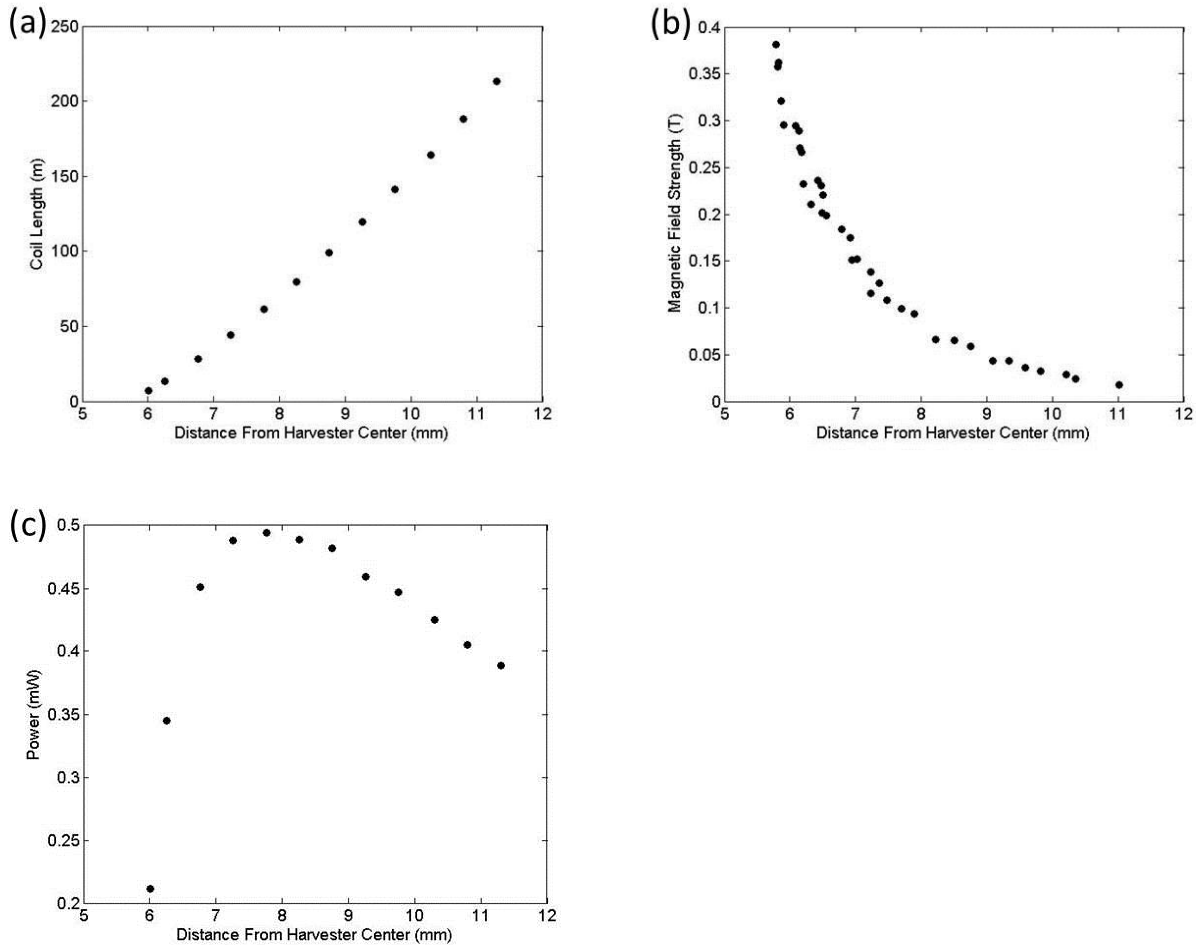
$$F_{max} = B_{max}LI_{max} = B_{max}L\frac{(B_{max}Lv_{max})}{R} = \frac{(B_{max}L)^2}{(R_e+R_L)}v_{max} = c_e v_{max} \quad (3.35)$$

In order to predict the velocity we numerically solve the governing equation of motion for the harvester given as:

$$m\ddot{z}(t) + c_m\dot{z}(t) + c_e\dot{z}(t) + kz(t) + k_3z(t)^3 + k_5z(t)^5 = -m\ddot{y}(t) - mg \quad (3.36)$$

where  $m$  is the mass of the center magnet composite,  $c_m$  is the mechanical damping constant,  $c_e$  is the electrical damping constant,  $k$  is the linear stiffness constant of the spring,  $k_3$  and  $k_5$  are the nonlinear stiffness constants of the spring,  $\ddot{z}(t)$  is the relative acceleration between the acceleration of the harvester  $\ddot{y}(t)$  and the vibrating magnet  $\ddot{x}(t)$ ,  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration constant. The mechanical damping constant,  $c_m$  was assumed to have a value of 0.055 based upon a previous work on a similar harvester configuration [71]. The stiffness terms were estimated by simulating the repulsive force as a function of center magnet displacement using ANSYS Electromagnetics. The analysis was executed by using Solid 236 elements for magnets, air, and soft magnetic material (steel). Fig. 3.21 (a-c) shows the radial variation of the magnetic field strength, coil length, and RMS power as function of distance from center of tube. The peak power was predicted and halved to approximate the average or RMS power. In section 3.1 RMS power was not experimentally recorded for the inductive mechanism, so this study provides the ability to compare this approximation to experimental data. From the simulations, it

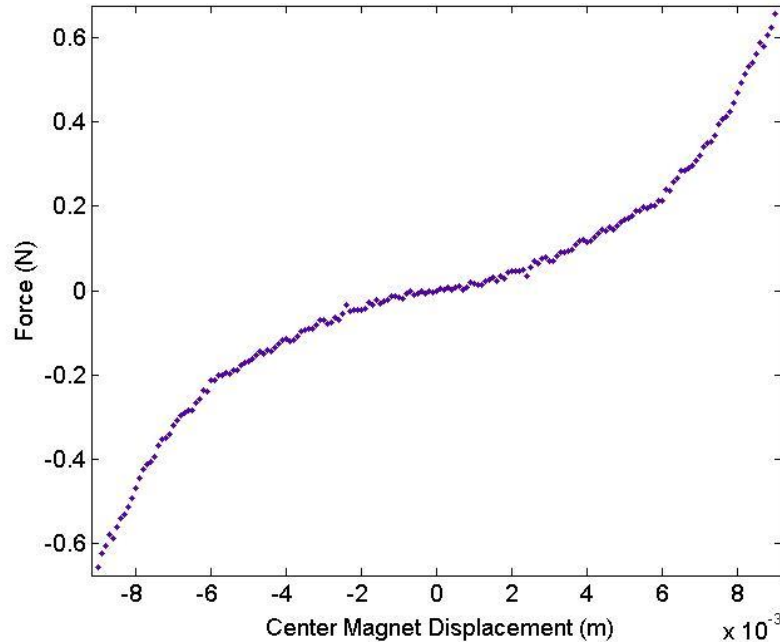
is clear that a coil with outer radius 7.75 mm was optimum and was used for the harvester fabricated in this study.



**Figure 3.21:** Simulation results from optimization study (a) coil length, (b) magnetic field strength, (c) RMS power induced in harvester at 0.35 G acceleration

In an effort to increase the power density of the device, we incorporated the piezoelectric mechanism into the harvester. As mentioned previously, the stiffness of the inductive mechanism is dependent on the repulsive force on the center magnet from the top and bottom magnets. Therefore during vibration the center magnet exerts an equal and opposite on the top and bottom magnets. We plan to harvest the force with a piezoelectric cymbal transducer. To determine the magnitude of the repulsive force we analyze the result of our stiffness curve generated by

ANSYS electromagnetics in the previous section shown in Fig. 3.22. From analysis, the magnet and piezoelectric cymbal transducer will experience a maximum force of 0.6 N.

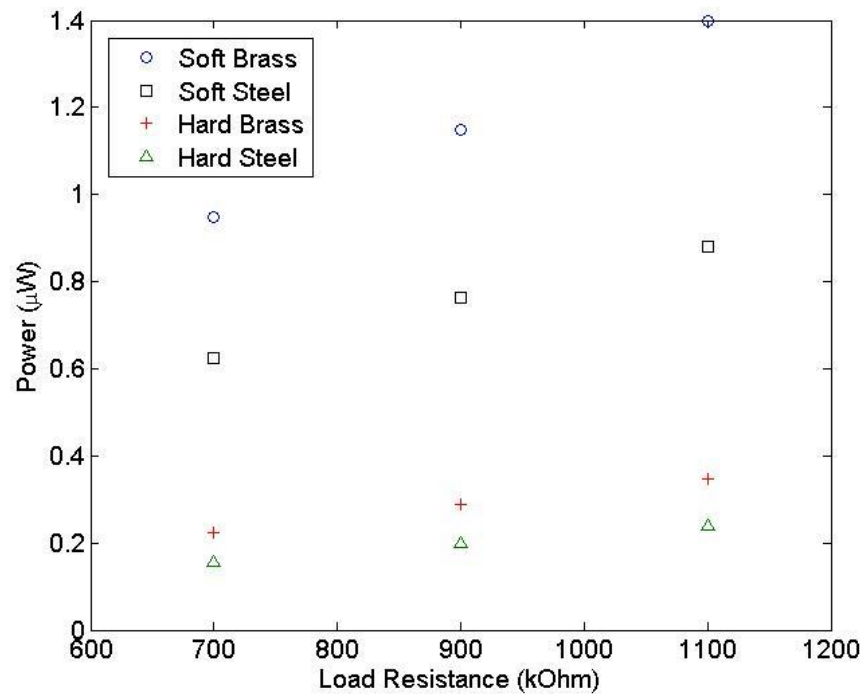


**Figure 3.22:** Net force on center magnet as a function of center magnet displacement

To assist in design and investigate the capability of the cymbal we performed simulations in ANSYS structural and multiphysics to predict the power output of the piezoelectric cymbal. First, we determined the type of piezoelectric suitable for harvesting. In the off resonance condition the center magnet experiences minimal displacement and therefore minimum force is transferred to the piezoelectric cymbal transducer. Therefore the optimum operating condition for the harvester will be in the 10-20 Hz frequency range which is typical resonant region for magnetic levitation harvester. Soft piezoelectric material exhibits high performance coefficients (such as  $d_{33}$  and  $k_{33}$ ) while hard piezoelectric material provides high mechanical quality factor ( $Q_m$ ) or low hysteretic losses. The magnitude of  $Q_m$  plays an important role at resonance. At resonance, an approximation of the strain ( $x$ ) of a longitudinally vibrating bar can be given as:

$$x = \left(\frac{8}{\pi^2}\right) Q_m d_{31} E \quad (3.37)$$

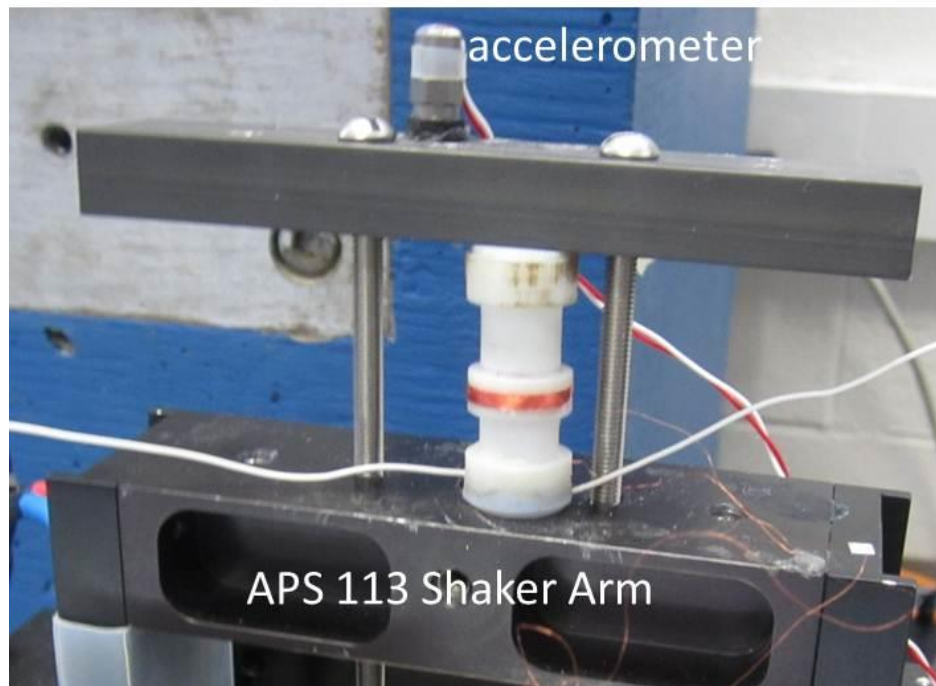
where  $d_{31}$  is the transverse piezoelectric constant. Basically, the higher the  $Q_m$ , the narrower is resonance curve, and accordingly, higher the displacement. Soft piezoelectric materials have  $Q_m$  in the range of  $\sim 100$  while hard piezoelectric materials have  $Q_m$  in the range of  $\sim 1000$ . Therefore, during off resonance operation, soft piezoelectric material should be used. The cap material was also varied in the simulation. In previous studies it has been shown that the cymbal transducer can harvest power from 5-15 mW at low frequencies (10-30 Hz). However the harvester was excited at force loads of 70 N and steel was used as the material for the cap [91]. We evaluate steel and brass as a cap material. Brass has a lower modulus of elasticity than steel therefore it could maximize strain transferred to the piezoelectric under same applied load. The selection of soft material was confirmed and the cap material effect was quantified through simulation as presented in Fig. 3.23.



**Figure 3.23:** Simulation results as predicted by ANSYS multiphysics

### 3.2.4 Results and discussion

Both inductive and piezoelectric mechanisms were experimentally characterized to examine the frequency response in the 10-20 Hz range at 0.2-0.25 base acceleration. The MMEH was mounted on an electrodynamic shaker (APS 113) and the base acceleration was measured with an accelerometer (Piezotronics Inc.) as shown in Fig. 3.24. Optimum load resistances were placed on the leads from the inductive and piezoelectric mechanisms to measure the voltage and power output of the device. The optimum load resistance was determined by applying a resistor sweep. The optimum load resistance for the inductive mechanism was 1900 ohms and the optimum load resistance of the piezoelectric mechanism was 400 kohm. Base excitation sine sweep was applied using Spectral Dynamics Siglab A/D converter controlled with a MATLAB graphical user interface. The voltage response waveform was measured and recorded with NI LabVIEW. RMS voltage was calculated from the raw voltage waveform and used to calculate power.



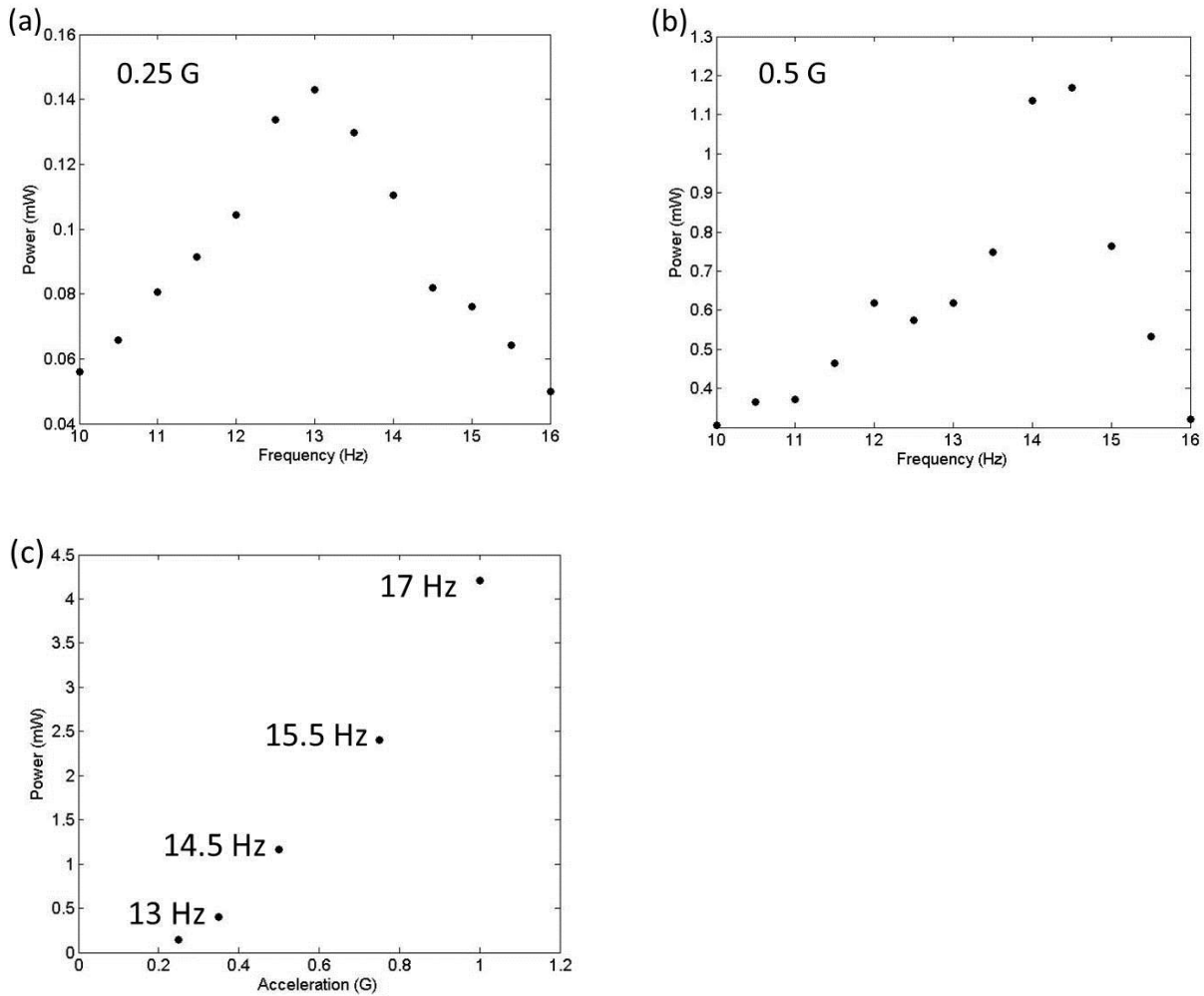
**Figure 3.24:** Image of experimental setup

As mentioned in the theoretical modeling section the nonlinear stiffness profile creates a nonlinear frequency response between the velocity of the center magnet and acceleration of harvester base. Fig. 3.25 (a-b) displays the results from the sine sweep with base excitation of 0.25 and 0.5 G. At 0.25 G the nonlinearity is not present which was due to the limited oscillation of the center magnet at the low acceleration magnitude. At 0.5 G the magnet begins to experience the nonlinear force and therefore the frequency response is slanted to the right, exhibiting the response of hardening spring. Slanting of the frequency response allows for harvesting significant power levels over broader frequency band. The hardening response shape and jump-down in power level is commonly seen in nonlinear mechanical systems [71-80]. In the current version of the prototype, the broadband characteristic is only present at base acceleration 0.5 G or higher. Fig. 3.25 (c) displays the maximum RMS power and frequency at which the jump-down occurs for base accelerations of 0.25, 0.35, 0.5, 0.8 and 1 G. Within the given source acceleration range, the inductive portion of the MMEH generates 0.14 – 0.4 mW of power. In order to increase the power output at these lower acceleration levels to the 1-2 mW level the damping or friction must be decreased. The damping constant greatly affects the frequency at which the jump down occurs.

The experimental results were in reasonable agreement to the theoretical results ~18%. The error could be attributed to inaccuracy in estimating the damping constant which was input into the dynamic equation for the system. In future studies the damping could be estimated by the logarithmic decrement method by measuring the decay of the oscillating magnet displacement in response to a step input. Also the error could be attributed to the assumption that the average power is half of the peak power prediction. This would be a reasonable approximation if the voltage waveform was sinusoidal, but due to center magnet composite which creates a magnet



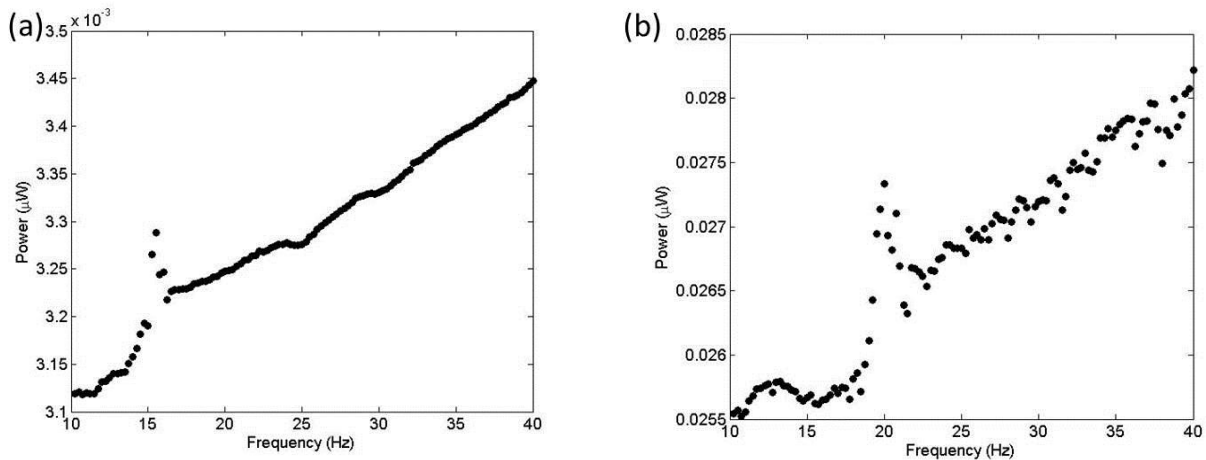
flux density reversal between the top, middle, and bottom of the magnet the waveform is not sinusoidal.



**Figure 3.25:** Inductive mechanism experimental results (a) frequency response for 0.25 G (b) frequency response for 0.5 G (c) and maximum RMS power at various accelerations

The piezoelectric mechanism was tested under similar conditions to the inductive mechanism. The cymbal with the steel cap was used for the experimentation due to faulty electrodes on the cymbal with the brass cap. Fig. 3.26 (a-b) displays the results from the sine sweep with base excitation of 0.35 and 1 G. At both 0.35 G and 1 G base excitation the interaction between the inductive and the piezoelectric mechanisms was present. The interaction is illustrated by the

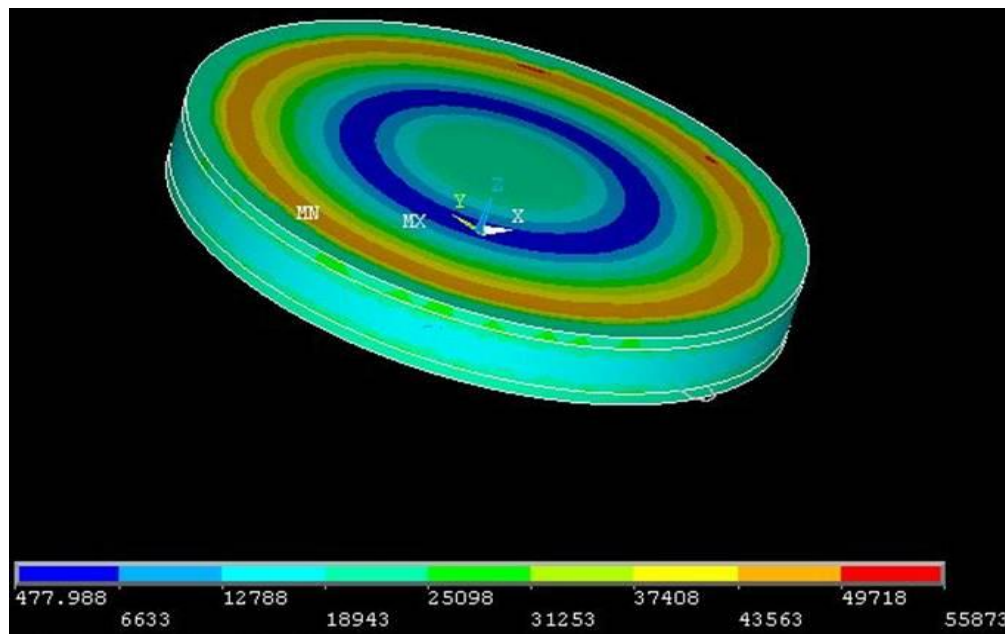
spike which occurs in the cymbal cap frequency response at frequencies where resonance of the center magnet occurs in the inductive mechanism. For the 1 G case we can assume that the force applied to the piezoelectric cymbal at resonance is 0.6 N. This was determined by increasing the acceleration to a level at which the center magnet strikes the top and bottom magnets. At 1 G, the experimental power levels are one order of magnitude different than what was predicted. The error could originate from discrepancies between the material properties and dimensions of the cymbal that was modeled and fabricated. The optimum load resistance found experimentally was much different than the load resistance seen in the simulations which could support this reasoning.



**Figure 3.26:** Piezoelectric mechanism experimental results (a) frequency response for 0.35 G (b) frequency response for 1 G

The power level of the inductive mechanism was five orders of magnitude greater than piezoelectric mechanism. In order to improve the power density and multi-functionality of the harvester the piezoelectric power output should be increased. It should be noted that while the friction characteristic of the inductive mechanism was not optimized, the transformation factor of the inductive harvester was optimized. The piezoelectric mechanism underwent no optimization, simply the groundwork for the optimization was established. Also, only the steel cap was

characterized. The simulations show that the brass cap could increase the power output by ~53%. An optimization study varying all cymbal parameters and materials should be conducted to increase the power output of the piezoelectric mechanism. Fig. 3.27 displays the stress distribution within the cymbal cap. The von Mises stress in the cap (55 kPa) is four orders of magnitude lower than the yield strength of brass (200 Mpa) suggesting that there is opportunity to decrease the cap thickness without damaging the structural integrity of the cap. Decreasing the cap thickness should provide larger strain and therefore increase the power output of the piezoelectric mechanism.



**Figure 3.27:** Image of von Mises stress distribution within cap

### 3.2.5 Summary

In this study, a multi-mechanism energy harvester combining inductive and piezoelectric mechanisms was designed and analyzed. The transformation factor which directly couples mechanical energy to electrical energy was optimized for the inductive mechanism. The MMEH was designed and fabricated to have overall shape of AA battery to allow for easier integration

into existing sensor networks. The inductive mechanism generates between 0.4 and 4.2 mW at accelerations between 0.2 and 1 G. The maximum power harvested occurs within the source frequency range, and at accelerations 0.5 G or higher an increase in the bandwidth of the harvester is achieved. The coupling or multi-functionality of the prototype was confirmed through analysis of the piezoelectric transducer and experimental characterization. While the power output of the piezoelectric mechanism is low the parameters for future optimization were identified. With completion of the piezoelectric mechanism optimization study and decrease in friction present in the inductive mechanism, the MMEH could serve as a substitute for batteries in the sensor node application.

## **4 CHAPTER 4: DESIGN FOR HIGH EFFICIENCY VIBRATION ENERGY HARVESTING**

### **4.1 Combined isolator and absorber to create relative motion for high efficiency vibration energy harvesting**

Relative motion is required for vibration energy harvesting: inductive (magnet moving past coil) and piezoelectric (strain). Typically relative motion is created by amplifying the source displacement and storage of mechanical energy in an auxiliary vibrating mass. The amount of power that can be extracted from a vibration source depends on the magnitude of the force of the vibrating mass attached to the vibrating structure. Therefore, in this study a novel technique was developed create the relative motion without amplification of original source displacement by cancelling the vibration at one location and transferring the source vibration directly to another location through combination of a vibration isolator with a vibration absorber. In this novel configuration, termed as Direct Vibration Harvester (DVH), the power is harvested from the force of the vibrating source mass rather than an auxiliary mass allowing for enhancements in the harvester bandwidth and power density. A prototype was designed and fabricated which harvested 45 mW @ 0.9 G base acceleration and weighed 462 grams. Through analytical modeling it was determined that a prototype could generate 87 mW @ 1 G base acceleration and only weigh 243 grams. Also, an optimal balance between the bandwidth and the maximum power harvested was identified through parametric analysis.

### 4.1.1 Introduction

Vibration energy harvesting has been widely researched in an effort to provide power source to the distributed wireless sensor nodes. The power requirements of various health and condition monitoring systems continue to decrease and thus many industries may find it more economical to use vibration energy harvesting in some scenarios to power the sensors. Currently, at the larger dimensions, induction based vibration energy harvesters are preferred and within this category there are two suitable mechanisms, namely four bar magnet configuration [9, 17, 19, 22-24, 36] and magnetic levitation [50-51, 69-72]. The four bar magnet design consists of a cantilever beam attached to a base which is mounted on a vibration source. Towards the free end of the cantilever beam a copper coil is attached. The harvester base houses four bar magnets which are placed on each side of the coil. As the source vibrates, relative motion is created between the magnets (base) and coil (cantilever beam) generating voltage through electromagnetic induction. The magnetic levitation harvester consists of a levitating magnet suspended between the two magnets with opposite polarity attached to the top and bottom base within a cylindrical tube. A coil is wrapped around the base (tube) in order to harvest electrical energy through electromagnetic induction. Our contribution to both the existing four bar magnet [26, 35] and magnetic levitation [37, 52] have focused on enhancing the electromagnetic coupling which is the factor relating the conversion of mechanical to electrical energy.

Stephen has derived the maximum mechanical power available in these harvesters and the maximum achievable mechanical to electrical efficiency by using the typical spring-mass-damper modeling approach [36]. The magnitude of the mechanical RMS power available in these prototypes can be determined through the following relationship:

$$P_{mech} = \frac{ma^2}{8\zeta_m\omega_n} \quad (4.1)$$

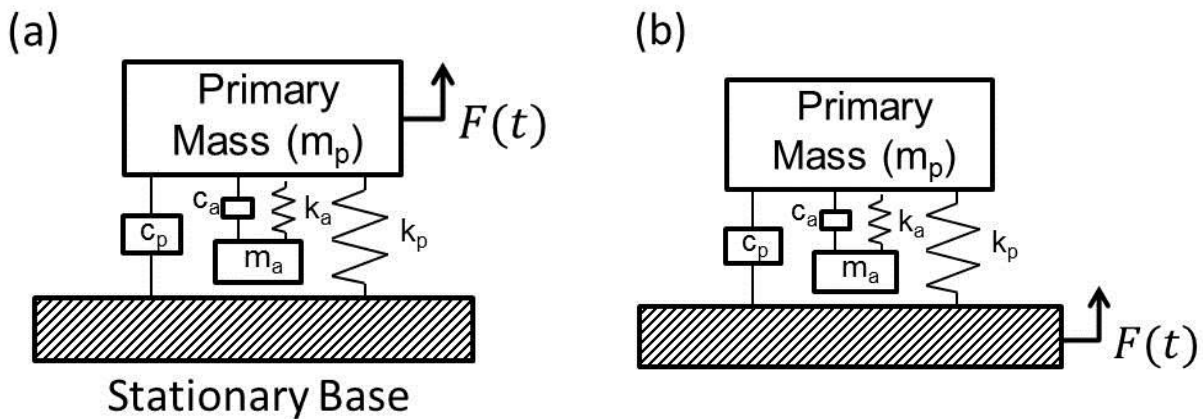
where  $m$  is the seismic mass,  $a$  is the source acceleration,  $\zeta_m$  is the mechanical damping ratio, and  $\omega_n$  is the source frequency. As the source acceleration and frequency are fixed in a typical application and the damping ratio is dependent upon the material properties or dynamic friction, the seismic mass limits the amount of power that can be harvested. This is an additional mass which is attached to a larger vibrating source mass. Stephen also shows that maximum electrical power that can be extracted from the mechanical power is described through the following relationship:

$$P_{elec} = \frac{ma^2}{16\zeta_m\omega_n} \left(1 - \frac{R_s}{R_L}\right) \quad (4.2)$$

where  $R_s$  is the coil resistance and  $R_L$  is the load resistance. From Eq. 4.2 it is clear that the maximum conversion efficiency achievable is 0.5. In the previous chapter, a high efficiency of 0.454 was demonstrated through design improvement of the existing four bar magnet prototype [35].

Researchers have also started to consider alternatives to the four bar magnet and magnetic levitation prototypes to further improve the power density. In this aspect, efforts have been made to utilize vibration absorbers as vibration attenuators and energy harvesters. Cornwell et al. were one of the first investigators that considered vibration absorbers for energy harvesting [92]. A cantilever beam with tip mass, which acts as an absorber mass, and spring was attached to a host structure that represented a three story building representing the primary mass and spring. The base of the structure was rigidly attached to the ground and the structure was excited with an electrodynamic shaker. Figure 4.1(a) displays the spring-mass-damper representation for this arrangement. The disadvantage of this absorber arrangement is that it cannot be mounted on a vibrating body but is useful for buildings which are excited by wind induced vibration. Other researchers have considered dynamic magnifiers which are essentially vibration absorbers

excited with base excitation rather than at the location at which one is trying to eliminate motion, with the intent to increase the bandwidth of harvesting [93-100]. Figure 4.1(b) displays the schematic of the spring-mass-damper modeling representations for these two types of absorber based energy harvesting methods. While the dynamic vibration absorber increases the harvesting bandwidth by creating two peaks around the designed frequency the power is still limited by the same theory as the four bar magnet and magnetic levitation based prototypes. Zhou et al. claim that the dynamic magnifier is 25.5 times more powerful than the traditional cantilever but they neglected to normalize there results by mass and frequency. The tip mass added to the traditional cantilever to include the dynamic magnifier was 15 times more than just the tip mass for the traditional cantilever. Also, the harvesting frequencies for these two methodologies are different [100]. The relationship between the available mechanical power for harvesting is shown in Eq. 4.1 and it varies linearly with mass and frequency. Therefore the performance in terms of the magnitude of the power generation is similar. A more accurate comparison would consist of keeping the total mass equal between the two methodologies.

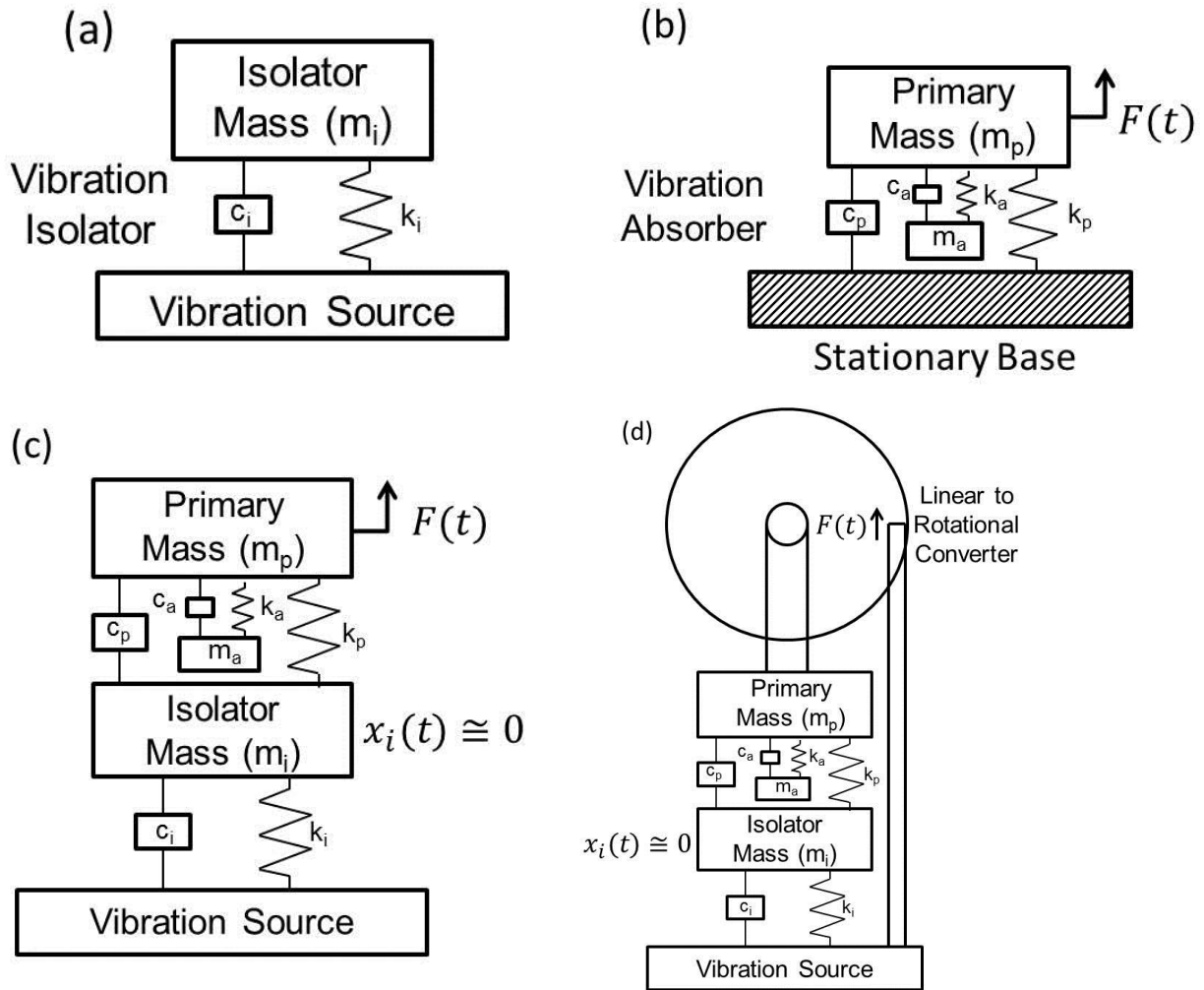


**Figure 4.1:** Schematic description of vibration absorber for energy harvesting (a) stationary base and (b) moving base



In this study, we designed, modeled and fabricated a vibration energy harvester that creates relative motion without amplification of the original source displacement. This is achieved by cancelling the vibration at one location and transferring the source vibration directly to another location through combination of a vibration isolator with a vibration absorber. In this novel configuration, termed as Direct Vibration Harvester (DVH), the power was harvested from the force of the vibrating source mass rather than from vibrating auxiliary mass allowing for higher bandwidth and power density than the traditional resonant based harvester. Fig. 4.2 (a-d) schematically describes the DVH concept. Fig. 4.2(a) represents the spring-mass-damper model of a vibration isolator. The vibration isolator damping constant  $c_i$  and spring constant  $k_i$  were designed to reduce the displacement transmissibility from the vibration source to the isolator mass  $m_i$ . This was achieved by choosing the isolator spring constant and mass which results in a natural frequency that is at least 1.4 times less than the frequency of the vibration source. Increasing the frequency ratio further and decreasing the damping allows for near cancellation of the isolator mass displacement. Fig. 4.2(b) represents the spring-mass-damper model of a vibration absorber. The vibration absorber consists of two spring-mass-damper systems where masses and springs were designed to protect the primary mass from vibrating while under an applied harmonic force. The primary mass  $m_p$  and spring  $k_p$  and absorber mass  $m_a$  and spring  $k_a$  were designed such that their natural frequencies match. By choosing a ratio between the absorber and primary masses between 0.05 and 0.25, the energy supplied to the primary mass from the applied force was transferred to the absorber mass leading to large oscillations of the absorber mass. The presence of the damping eliminates the possibility of moving the primary mass and therefore it is desirable to reduce the damping constants  $c_p$  and  $c_a$ . There was a limitation in the performance of the vibration absorber in that the absorber spring

stiffness must be able to withstand the full force of excitation and the deflection that results. Later in this chapter, we will discuss in detail how this limitation affects the performance of DVH and how the electromechanical damping constant  $c_e$  limits the amount of power extracted from the system. By combining the two systems (absorber and isolator) we propose to create relative motion between the moving vibration source and the almost stationary primary mass as shown in Fig. 4.2(c). The energy from the relative motion is not limited by the amount of energy stored in vibrating mass attached to the vibrating source at resonance; rather the energy from the vibrating source can be directly harvested. Source displacements from real world applications are often on the level of 0.02 mm to 2 mm. As the DVH does not amplify the source displacement, this presents a challenge to harvest the high force/energy content and low displacement vibration. To this end, we can convert the linear vibration to rotational motion and amplify the rotational motion using a gear train as shown in Fig. 4.2(d).



**Figure 4.2:** Direct Vibration Harvesting concept described through representative spring-mass-damper models. (a) vibration isolator, (b) vibration absorber, (c) vibration isolator and absorber combined to create relative motion between the vibration source and almost stationary base, and (d) implementation of a linear to rotational motion converter to amplify the relative motion.

## 4.1.2 Direct Vibration Harvester design

### 4.1.2.1 Macro scale harvester design

Initially, in order to validate the DVH concept experimentally, a model 210 Rectilinear Control System manufactured by Education Control Products was modified to physically represent the spring mass damper schematically shown in Fig. 4.2 (c-d). This prototype will be

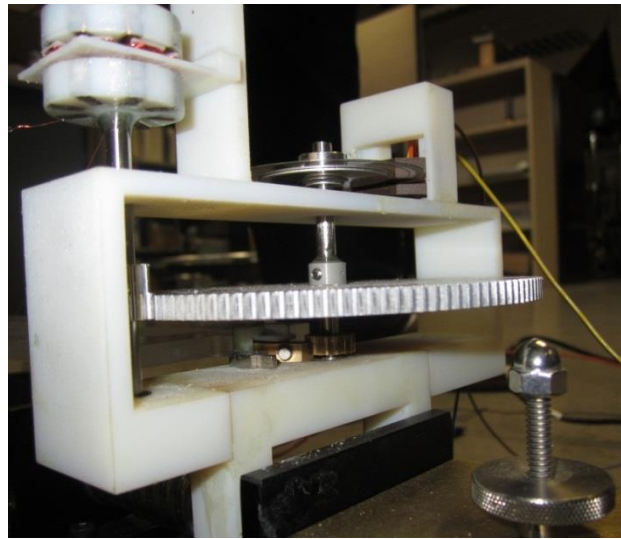
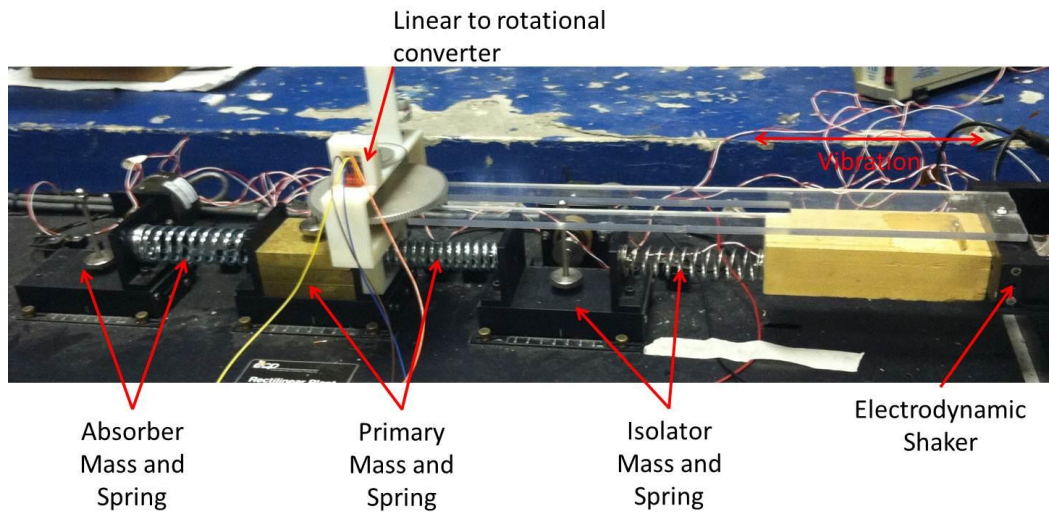
referred as the macro scale prototype in this chapter and is shown in Fig. 4.3 (a). It should be noted that the system rests on the floor and therefore is not practical, though the setup provided a convenient way to confirm the concept and initial modeling approach. The system consisted of three carts which act as seismic masses ( $m_i, m_p, m_a$ ). The damping was from the kinetic friction within the linear slide bearings for each mass cart. The stiffness was provided by the steel mechanical compression springs. An electodynamic shaker (APS 113) was attached to the isolator spring to represent the vibration source. The isolator was designed to have a natural frequency of 4 Hz and the natural frequency of the primary mass and absorber mass were 13 Hz. The values of the mass and spring constants are listed in Table 1. The damping ratio are also listed in this table as provided by the manufacturer.

**Table 4.1:** Macro scale DVH mechanical system parameters

Component	Mass	Stiffness	Damping Ratio	Natural Frequency
Isolator	0.59 kg	390 N/m	0.04	4.09 Hz
Primary Mass	2.82 kg	18843 N/m	0.04	13.01 Hz
Absorber Mass	0.693 kg	4932 N/m	0.06	13.43 Hz

A linear to rotational converter, gear train and electromagnetic generator were attached to the primary mass in an effort to extract the electrical energy from the mechanical system. The relative motion between the shaker arm (base) and the primary mass will be used to rotate the primary shaft. Fig. 4.3(b) shows the linear to rotational conversion mechanism which consisted of a pawl and ratchet. During oscillation the relative motion between the base and primary mass allows the pawl to turn the ratchet transferring rotational motion to the primary shaft. Attached to the primary shaft was an encoder which was used to measure the angular displacement. A gear ratio of 1:10.83 was used to amplify the rotational velocity from the primary shaft to the

secondary shaft. Attached to the secondary shaft was a permanent magnet generator that was used to convert the mechanical energy to electrical energy.



**Figure 4.3:** (a) Image of the experimental setup of macro scale DVH, and (b) linear to rotational converter, gear train, and generator

#### 4.1.2.2 Meso scale harvester design

The macro scale prototype rested on the floor and therefore could not be applied in real world application. To this end, we designed a meso-scale prototype which can be mounted on a vibrating source or electrodynamic shaker in lab as shown in Fig. 4.4(a-b). The meso-scale

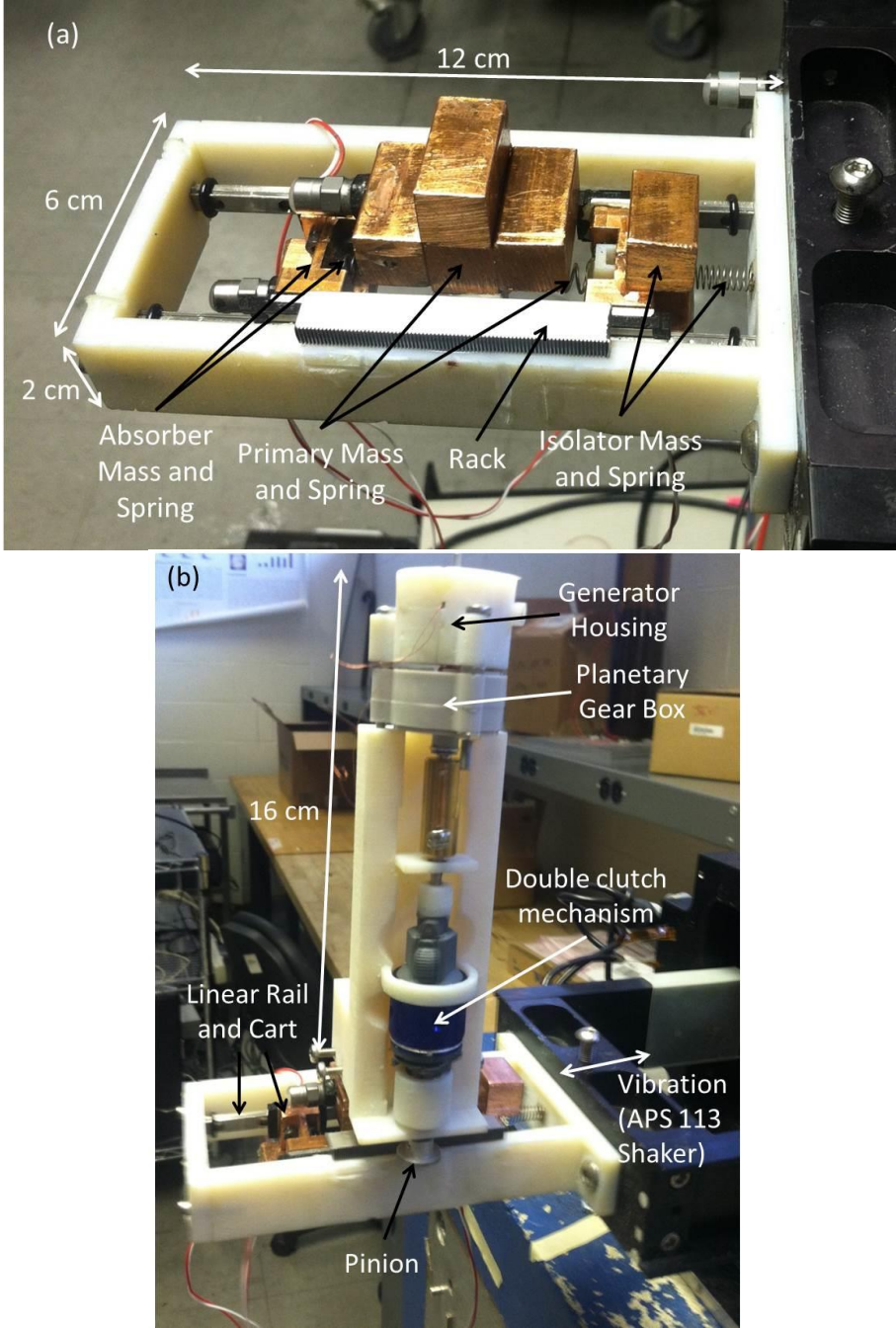
prototype consists of three masses which can vibrate freely along low friction linear rail bearings. The masses are connected by various steel mechanical springs to provide the required stiffness. The structure is mounted on an electrodynamic shaker (APS 113) which provides the source displacement as shown in Fig. 4.4(a). The values for the mass and spring constants are listed in Table 4.2 below.

**Table 4.2:** Meso-scale DVH mechanical system parameters

Component	Mass	Stiffness	Damping Ratio	Natural Frequency
Isolator	0.083 kg	42 N/m	Unknown	3.58 Hz
Primary Mass	0.3 kg	2189 N/m	Unknown	13.6 Hz
Absorber Mass	0.079 kg	618 N/m	Unknown	14.04 Hz

A linear to rotational converter, gear train, and electromagnetic generator assembly are attached to the primary mass as shown in Fig. 4.4(b). The relative motion between the shaker arm (base) and primary mass was used to rotate the primary shaft. The linear to rotational motion converter consists of a rack and pinion in an effort to enhance the conversion efficiency. With a rack and pinion the force is transferred to the shaft in multiple directions and therefore rotates the shaft in two directions. This is undesirable as the generator would spin in one direction and then reverse preventing the ability to utilize the inertia of the generator. Therefore, a double clutch and differential was implemented to convert the oscillatory rotation to uni-directional rotation. Rather than designing a custom mechanism, Kobalt manufactured Double Drive screw driver that contains this mechanism was utilized. A similar mechanism was also custom designed for an energy harvester integrated in a suspension damper [101]. The rotational velocity was amplified using a planetary gear set which was purchased from Edmund Scientific. The planetary gear set can achieve gear ratios from 1:4 to 1:400. Attached to the secondary shaft was a permanent magnet generator used to convert the mechanical energy to electrical energy. The details of the

modeling and design of this rotational generator can be found in Section 5 of the dissertation. The resistance of the generator was 1964 ohms and the generator constant was 16.82 V\*s/m.



**Figure 4.4:** Image of meso-scale direct vibration harvester (a) close-up of combined isolator and absorber system (b) close-up of linear to rotational converter, gear train, and generator

### 4.1.3 Analytical Modeling and Theoretical Analysis

To model the dynamics of the direct vibration harvester a spring-mass-damper approach was used. The equation of motion for the isolator under constant displacement from a vibration source consisted of:

$$m_i \ddot{x}_i + c_i(\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_s) + k_i(x_i - x_s) + c_p(\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_p) + k_p(x_i - x_p) = c_i x_s \omega_s \cos \omega_s t + k_i x_s \sin \omega_s t \quad (4.2)$$

where  $m_i$  is the isolator mass,  $c_i$  and  $c_p$  are the isolator and primary mass damping constants,  $k_i$  and  $k_p$  are the isolator and primary mass spring constants,  $x_s$ ,  $x_i$ , and  $x_p$  are the displacements of the source mass, isolator mass, and primary mass, and  $\omega_s$  is the source vibration frequency. Eq. 4.2 can be re-arranged to a more convenient form and expressed as:

$$m_i \ddot{x}_i + (c_i - c_p) \dot{x}_i + (k_i - k_p) x_i - c_p \dot{x}_p - k_p x_p = c_i a \omega_s \cos \omega_s t + k_i a \sin \omega_s t \quad (4.3)$$

The equation of motion for the primary absorber mass with applied force from the vibrating source consisted of:

$$m_p \ddot{x}_p + c_p(\dot{x}_p - \dot{x}_i) + k_p(x_p - x_i) + c_a(\dot{x}_p - \dot{x}_a) + k_a(x_p - x_a) = F_s \sin \omega_s t \quad (4.4)$$

where  $m_p$  is the primary mass and  $F_s$  is the force applied to primary mass from source. Eq. 4.4 can be rewritten in a more convenient form and expressed as:

$$m_p \ddot{x}_p + (c_p + c_a) \dot{x}_p - c_p \dot{x}_i - c_a \dot{x}_a + (k_p + k_p) x_p - k_p x_i - k_a x_a = F_s \sin \omega_e t \quad (4.5)$$

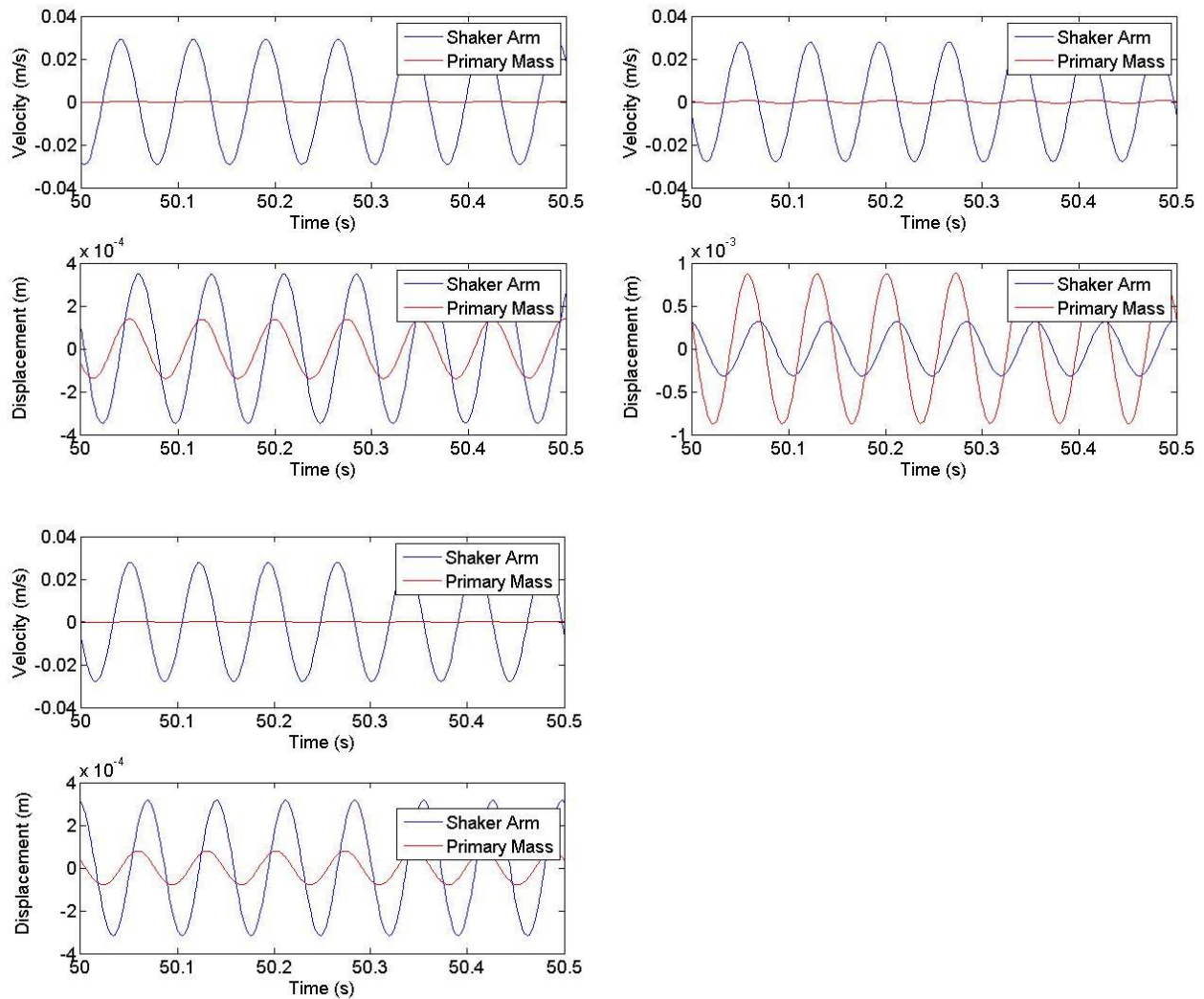
The equation for the motion of the secondary absorber mass was:

$$m_a \ddot{x}_a + c_a(\dot{x}_a - \dot{x}_p) + k_a(x_a - x_p) = 0 \quad (4.6)$$

The coupled equations of motion were separated into mass, damping and stiffness matrices and numerically solved using MATLAB ode 45 solver. The analysis was utilized to design the two different size scale harvesters introduced above. To first determine if relative motion between the harvester base and primary mass could be created through combination of isolator and absorber the dynamics of the system were simulated without the electromechanical



coupling term which will be added later in this section. Fig. 4.5 (a-c) displays the results of the dynamic simulation for the macro and meso scale prototypes under a base excitation of 0.25 G. The force of the source was calculated using the mass of the shaker arm which was 2.3 kg for the APS 113. The macro scale prototype was excited at 13.4 Hz which leads to a base velocity and base displacement of 29.2 mm/s and 0.347 mm at 0.25 G. For the macro scale prototype, motion is essentially canceled at the primary mass and 29.1 mm/s and 0.272 mm of relative motion existed. The meso scale prototype was excited at 14 Hz which leads to a base velocity and base displacement of 27.8 m/s and 0.316 mm at 0.25 G. For the meso scale prototype under the same base excitation as the macro scale prototype, 27.3 mm/s and 0.739 mm of relative motion existed. As shown in Fig. 4.5 (a-b), unlike the macro scale prototype, the meso scale prototype was not cancelling the motion of the primary mass. It is clear from the plot of displacement in Fig. 4.5b that the primary mass is moving more than the primary mass suggesting that absorber is unable to transfer the force. The absorber spring in the macro scale prototype is 8 times stiffer than the meso scale prototype. The meso scale system was then simulated with a 0.25 G base excitation from a smaller shaker with moving mass of only 0.2 kg and the results are shown in Fig 4.5(c). At this cancellation is achieved, 27.8 mm/s and 0.273 mm of relative motion existed. The following simulations prove the relative motion between the shaker arm and primary mass with the combination of a vibration isolator and absorber. We confirm these theoretical results in the experimental results section of this study.



**Figure 4.5:** Dynamic simulation of (a) macro scale prototype in response to base excitation of 0.25 G and 13.4 Hz (b) meso scale prototype in response to base excitation of 0.25 G and 14 Hz with larger shaker (c) meso scale prototype in response to base excitation of 0.25 G and 14 Hz with smaller shaker

The simulation results in Fig. 4.5(a) did not include any conversion from mechanical to electrical energy as we did not include the electromechanical coupling term. In order to add the coupling term we have to modify Eqs. (4.4-4.5). The dynamic model assumes that all the applied force from the source is transferred to the primary mass and then to the absorber mass. When we attach a linear to rotational converter to the primary mass, the force applied from the shaker arm does

not transfer directly to the primary mass due to the moment arm of the pinion. When we place an electrical load on the generator the backwards coupling torque is applied to the shaft and due to the moment arm of the pinion a force is applied to the primary mass. In our modeling approach we assume that the force from the source can overcome any electrical load that we place on the system. To derive the backwards coupling force at the rotational generator we start with the force on a moving conductor in a magnetic field which consists of:

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \quad (4.7)$$

According to the above equation the force is solely dependent upon the magnitude of current flow since the coil length  $L$  and magnetic flux density  $B$  remain constant in the rotational generator. If the velocity vector is perpendicular to the magnetic flux vector the magnitude of current flow can be determined by Eq. (4.8):

$$I(t) = \frac{B(t)Lv(t)}{(R_c+R_L)} \quad (4.8)$$

From Eq. (4.8), the current is solely dependent upon the velocity  $v(t)$  and magnetic flux density  $B(t)$  as the coil resistance  $R_c$ , load resistance  $R_L$ , and coil length  $L$  are all constant in the rotational generator. For the rest of the analysis, we replace  $B(t)l$  with  $\Phi(t)$  which provides a more accurate representation of the electromagnetic coupling term [35]. The force can be derived by the following relationship:

$$F(t) = \Phi(t)I(t) = \Phi(t) \frac{(\Phi(t)v)}{(R_c+R_L)} = \frac{(\Phi(t))^2}{(R_c+R_L)} v \quad (4.9)$$

Eq. (4.9) contains a coupling term which varies with time. Through simulation we predict the maximum  $\Phi$  and divide by  $\sqrt{2}$  as the variation  $\Phi(t)$  is sinusoidal. Therefore, the average generator torque in terms of angular velocity can be derived by the following relationship:

$$\tau_{generator,avg} = F_{avg}r_{gen} = \frac{\Phi}{\sqrt{2}}I(t)r_{gen} = \Phi \frac{\Phi}{2(R_c+R_L)}r_{gen}^2\dot{\theta} = \frac{(\Phi)^2r_{gen}^2}{2(R_c+R_L)}\dot{\theta} \quad (4.10)$$

where  $r_{gen}$  is the radius of the generator which was 10 mm. To relate the torque at the generator to a force at the pinion which translates to a damping force applied to the primary mass we set torque at the pinion equal to the torque at the generator to derive the electrical damping constant  $c_e$ . Therefore the torque at the pinion can be written as:

$$\tau_{pinion} = c_e(\dot{x}_p - \dot{x}_s)r_{pin} \quad (4.11)$$

where

$$\dot{x}_s = x_s \omega_s \cos \omega_s t \quad (4.12)$$

where  $r_{pin}$  is the radius of the pin which was 6.5 mm. In Eq. (4.11), the relative velocity varies with time with sinusoidal relationship. The relative velocity in Eq. (4.10) is a constant. In order to relate the relative velocity to a constant angular velocity, the maximum value of the relative velocity divided by the sqrt (2) for one period during steady state is used for the approximation for the angular velocity of the pinion.

Setting the  $\tau_{generator} = \tau_{pinion}$  and solving for  $c_e$  leads to the following relationship:

$$c_e = \frac{N^2(\Phi)^2 r_{gen}^2}{2r_{pin}^2(R_c + R_L)} \quad (4.13)$$

The equation of motion for the primary absorber mass with the electromechanical coupling term included now consists of:

$$m_p \ddot{x}_p + (c_p + c_a + c_e) \dot{x}_p - c_p \dot{x}_i - c_a \dot{x}_a + (k_p + k_p) x_p - k_p x_i - k_a x_a = c_e x_s \omega_s \cos \omega_s t \quad (4.14)$$

Kirchhoff's voltage law was applied in Eqs. (4.15-4.18) to compute the maximum steady state voltage and steady state power.

$$0 = \Phi(t) r_{gen} N \frac{\dot{\theta}_{gen}}{\sqrt{2}} - R_c i(t) - R_L i(t) \quad (4.15)$$

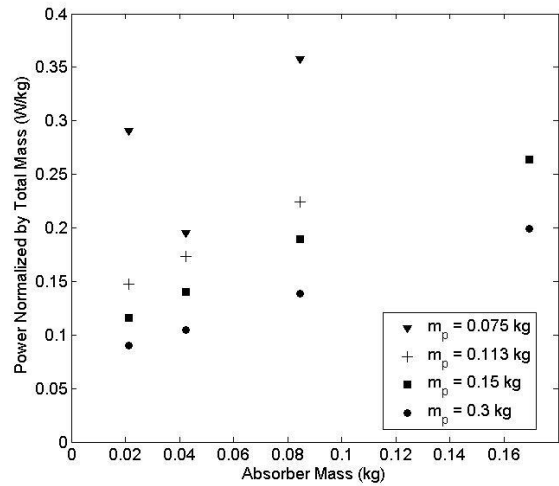
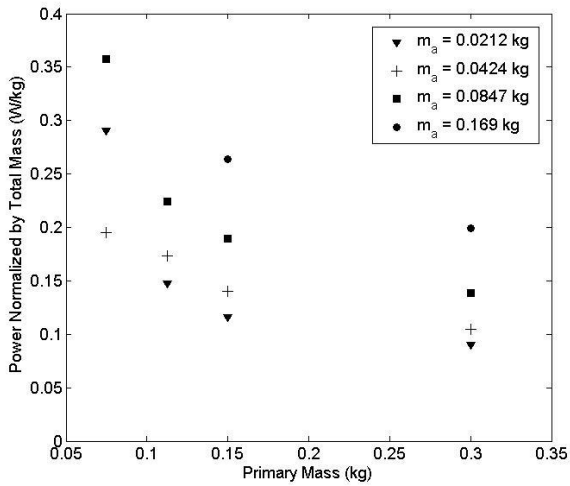
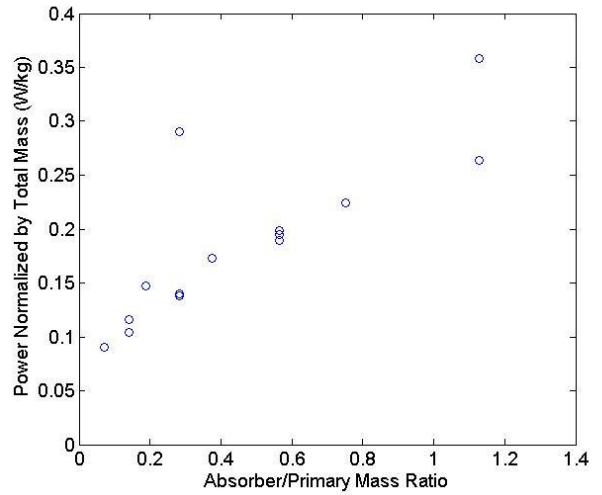
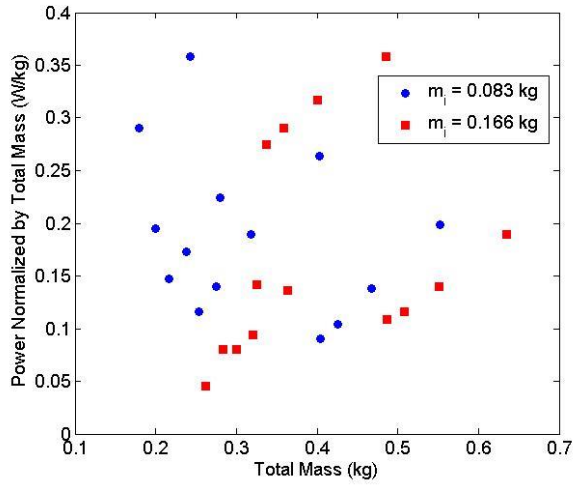
$$i(t) = \frac{\Phi(t) r_{gen}}{R_c + R_L} N \frac{\dot{\theta}_{gen}}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (4.16)$$

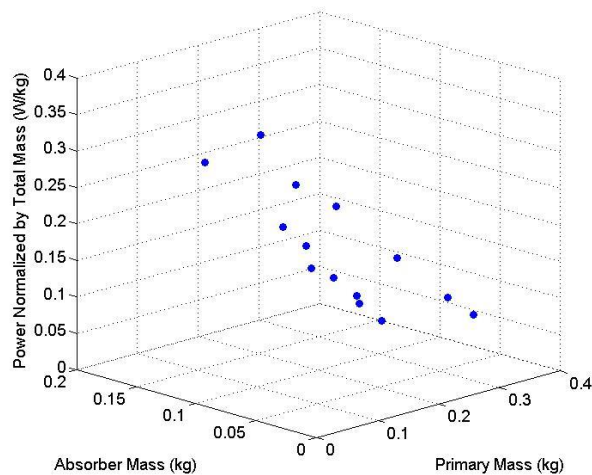
$$P = i(t)^2 R_L = \frac{N^2 \Phi(t)^2 r_{gen}^2 \dot{\theta}_{gen}^2}{2(R_e + R_L)^2} R_L \quad (4.17)$$

$$P_{avg} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{N^2 \Phi(t)^2 r_{gen}^2 \dot{\theta}_{gen}^2}{(R_e + R_L)^2} R_L \quad (4.18)$$

To investigate the scaling relationship of the energy harvester we vary the gear ratio which varies the magnitude of the electromechanical coupling term  $c_e$  to determine the optimum gear ratio for a variety of different isolator, primary, absorber mass values. While the primary and absorber mass values were varied the spring constants were varied accordingly so the natural frequency was 13.6 Hz for all combinations. The performance of each configuration is compared in terms of power output normalized by total mass. A base excitation of 1 G and a linear to rotational conversion efficiency of 62% is used for the parametric analysis. Fig. 4.6 (a-e) displays the results of the analysis. In Fig. 4.6(a), 14 different configurations of primary and absorber masses for two isolator mass values are compared to determine if the mass of the isolator affects the power output. From Fig. 4.6(a), it was determined that there was no correlation between normalized power output and isolator mass. Therefore, for the rest of the analysis only the 14 primary/absorber mass combinations are analyzed. Fig. 4.6(b) analyzes the effect of the absorber/primary mass ratio on normalized power output. From the analysis a linear and direct relationship between mass ratio and power output existed. The result is somewhat unexpected as it is typical for a well-designed absorber mass ratio to be between 0.05 and 0.25 [30]. To investigate the affect further, we analyze the dependence of the magnitude of both the primary mass and absorber mass on the power output. The results of the analysis shown in Fig. 4.6(c-e) clearly illustrate the effect. Power output normalized by mass is linearly and directly dependent on the absorber mass for every value of the primary mass as seen in Fig. 4.6(d). The primary mass has a different effect; power output normalized by mass seems increase with the

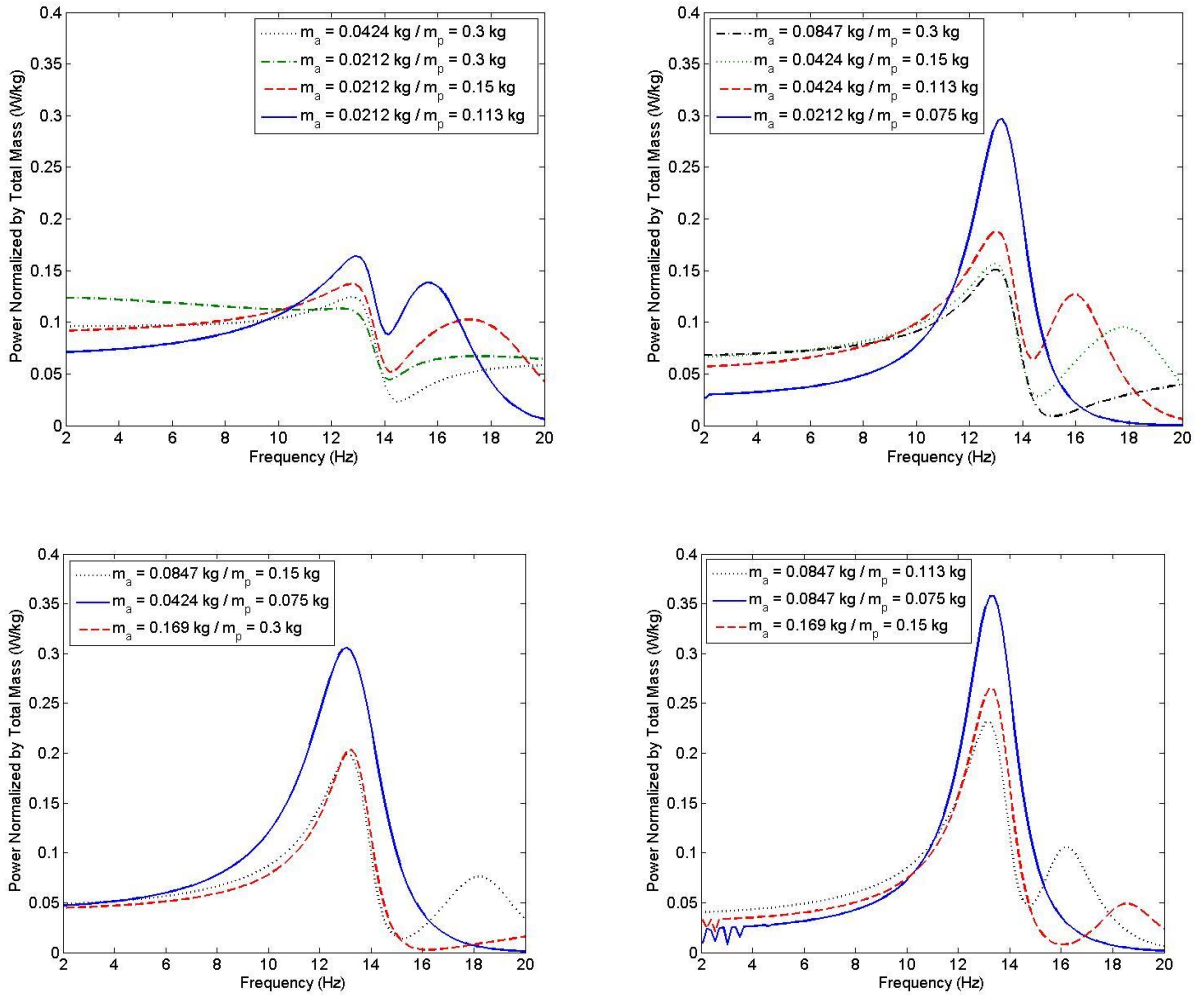
decrease in primary mass squared as seen in Fig. 4.6 (c). Both effects are clearly shown by simultaneously comparing the two relationships as shown in Fig. 4.6(e). Again the result is unexpected as an absorber should perform worse and therefore decrease the relative motion between the base and the primary mass.





**Figure 4.6:** (a) 14 different configuration of primary and absorber masses for two isolator mass values are compared to determine if the mass of the isolator affects the power output, (b) analysis of the effect of the absorber/primary mass ratio on normalized power output. From this analysis a linear and direct relationship between mass ratio and power output was found to exist, (c) power output normalized by mass seems to increase with the decrease in primary mass squared, (d) power output normalized by mass is linearly and directly dependent on the absorber mass for every value of the primary mass, (e) both effects are clearly shown by simultaneously comparing the two relationships

To investigate the results further we evaluate the dynamic response for a frequency sweep from 1-20 Hz. Fig. 4.7(a-d) displays the results of the analysis grouped by a range of mass ratios (0-0.25,0.25-0.5,0.5-0.75,0.75-1.13). The results shown in Fig. 4.7(a-b) are what one would expect for the frequency response of an absorber with a natural frequency of 13.6 Hz canceling the motion effectively and as a result increasing the power output. Analyzing results with mass ratios higher than 0.5 in Fig. 4.7(c-d) shows that response is similar to what one would expect for a resonant system.

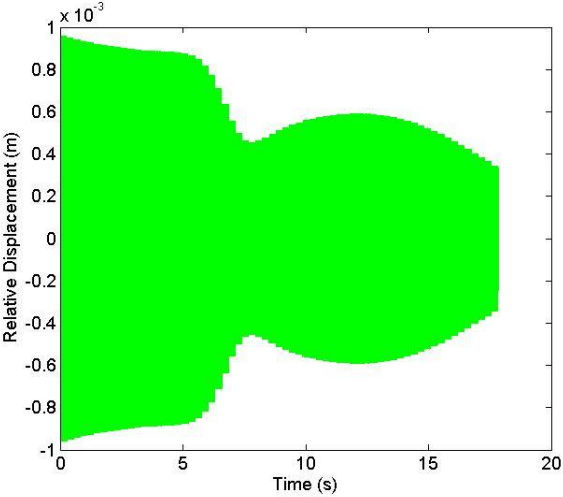
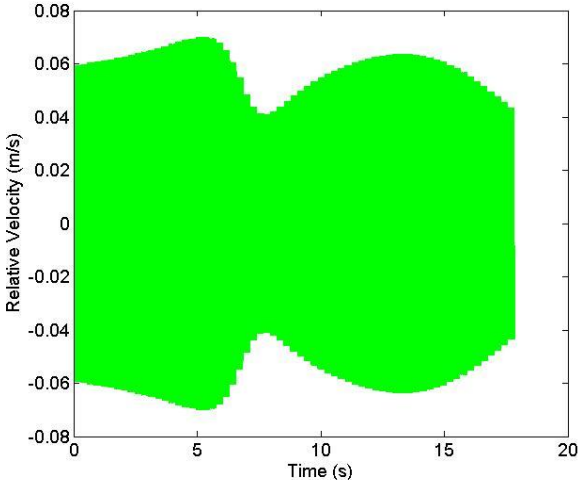
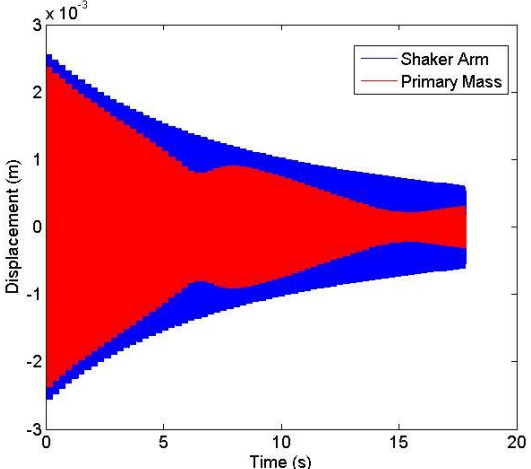
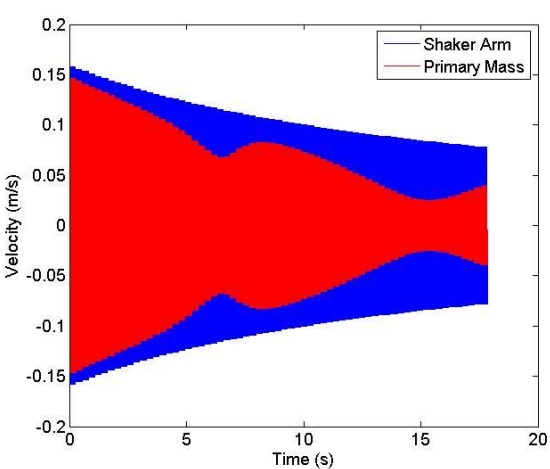


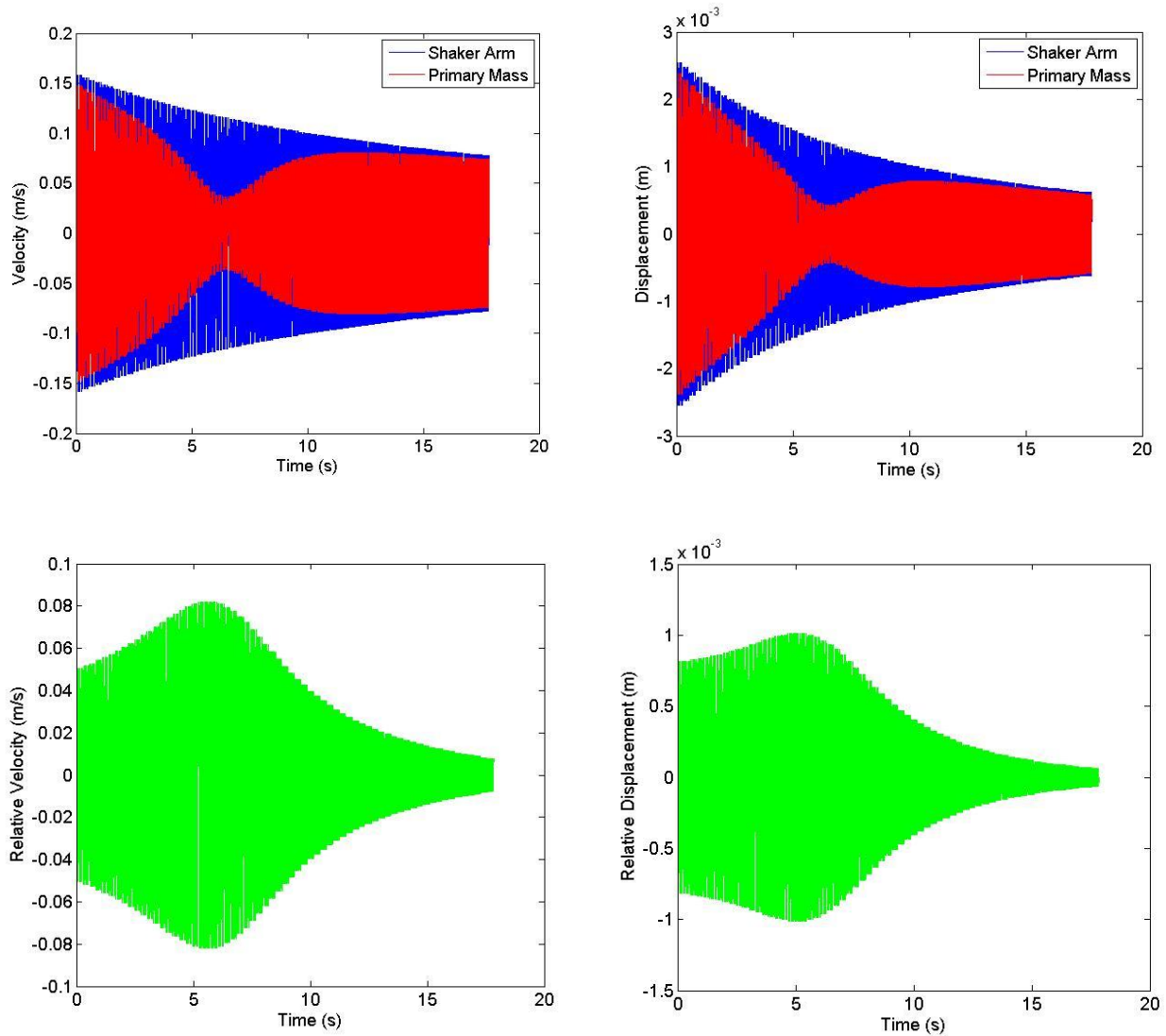
**Figure 4.7:** (a) Frequency response of systems with mass ratio of 0-0.25, (b) 0.25-0.5, (c) 0.5-0.75, (d) 0.75-1.13

To evaluate the system behavior further we analyze the response for mass ratio less than 0.25 and greater than 1 in the time domain as shown in Fig. 4.8(a-h). Fig. 4.8(a-b) show the velocity and displacement as a function of time for a frequency sweep from 10 to 20 Hz for  $m_a = 0.0212 \text{ kg}$  and  $m_p = 0.113 \text{ kg}$ . From the analysis, cancellation occurs at the primary mass and relative motion occurs between the shaker arm and primary mass. Fig. 4.8(c-d) show the magnitude of relative velocity and displacement. Fig. 4.8 (e-h) show the same analysis except for  $m_a = 0.0847 \text{ kg}$  and  $m_p = 0.075 \text{ kg}$ . From the analysis, the system with mass ratio of 1.13 is



cancelling the vibration and creating more relative motion than the system with mass ratio of 0.19. While the system with the mass ratio of 1.13 has a higher power density than the system with mass ratio of 0.19, 0.358 W/kg as compared to 0.164 W/kg, the bandwidth is limited for the system with a mass ratio of 1.13. In a future study, optimization of the mass ratio will allow for an optimal balance between power density and bandwidth.





**Figure 4.8:** Harvester with  $m_a = 0.0212 \text{ kg}$  and  $m_p = 0.113 \text{ kg}$  (a) velocity of shaker arm and primary mass, (b) displacement of shaker arm and primary mass, (c) relative velocity of shaker arm and primary mass, (d) relative displacement of shaker arm and primary mass, harvester with  $m_a = 0.0847 \text{ kg}$  and  $m_p = 0.075 \text{ kg}$  (e) velocity of shaker arm and primary mass, (f) displacement of shaker arm and primary mass, (g) relative velocity of shaker arm and primary mass, (h) relative displacement of shaker arm and primary mass

In the next section we compare the simulation of the prototype fabricated to the experimental results. We also explain how we determined the linear to rotational efficiency of 62%.

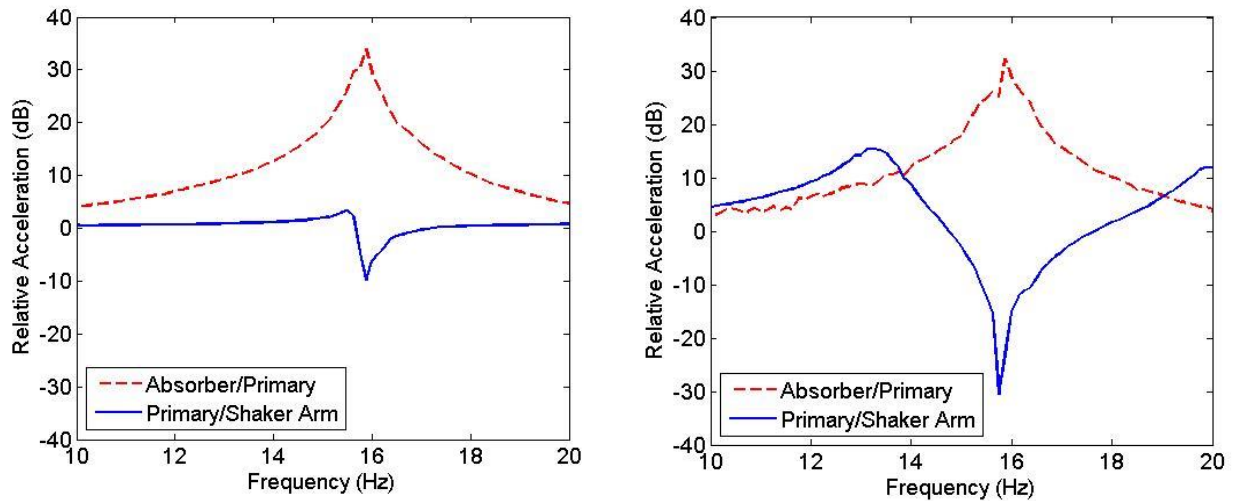
#### **4.1.4 Experimental results**

##### **4.1.4.1 Macro scale harvester**

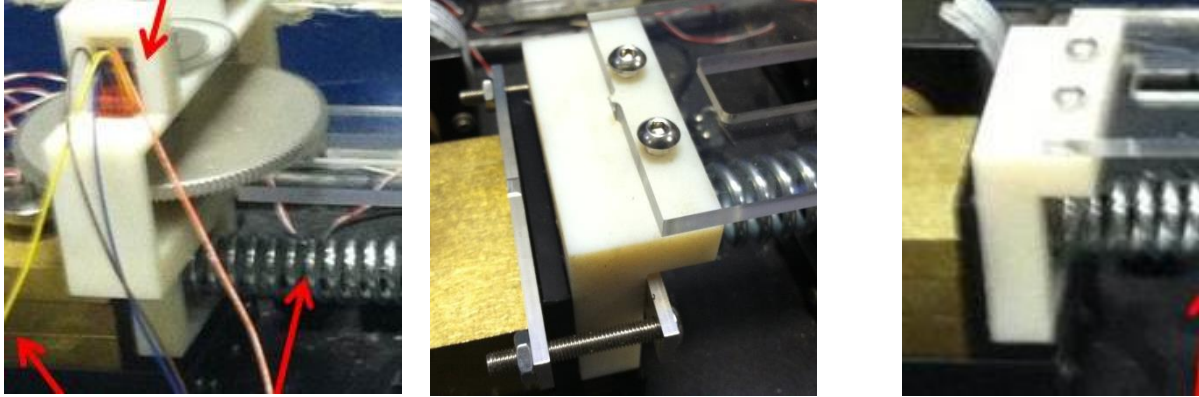
###### **4.1.4.1.1 Performance of isolator and absorber combination**

To characterize the performance of the isolator and absorber combination we evaluated (1) the magnitude of vibration for which isolator and absorber combination reduces the vibration at the primary mass (2) if the force applied to the primary mass from the shaker arm can be transferred to the absorber mass and (3) the magnitude of relative motion created between the shaker arm and primary mass. In order to evaluate these questions, vibration frequency sweeps were applied to the macro scale system from 10 Hz to 20 Hz as the designed operation frequency of the harvester was  $\sim 13.43$  Hz. Accelerometers were placed on the shaker arm and on each mass (isolator, primary, and absorber). Figure 4.9(a-b) displays the transfer functions between the primary mass and the shaker arm and between the absorber mass and the primary mass for two different operating conditions: (a) rigid connection was placed between the shaker arm and primary mass, and (b) semi-rigid connection between the shaker arm and primary mass. When the rigid connection is attached, the condition represents the maximum force transfer condition as little or no relative motion should exist between primary mass and shaker arm as is shown in Fig. 4.9(a). Although Fig. 4.9(a) shows that at 15.8 Hz some relative motion existed due to cancelation of the vibration at the primary mass location. Even though a rigid connection was used the acrylic connector shown in Fig. 4.3 (a) bends allowing for the small relative motion. To determine how much relative motion existed with the applied force from the shaker a semi-rigid connection was applied to the system. In this condition, in addition to the flexing of the acrylic

connector the ABS plastic primary mass connector can also flex. Figure 4.9(b) displays the relative acceleration between the primary mass and the shaker arm at 15.8 Hz. With a base acceleration of 0.28 G or  $2.7 \text{ m/s}^2$ , a relative acceleration of  $2.2 \text{ m/s}^2$  was achieved. Acceleration higher than 0.28 G would cause the absorber spring to detach from its connector to the absorber mass due to the severity of the vibration magnitude. The experimental results further confirm the theoretical predictions in that on the macro scale we can cancel the vibration at one location to create relative motion to harvest energy directly from the vibration source. The various connections and also linear to rotational motion converter are shown in Fig. 4.10(a-c).



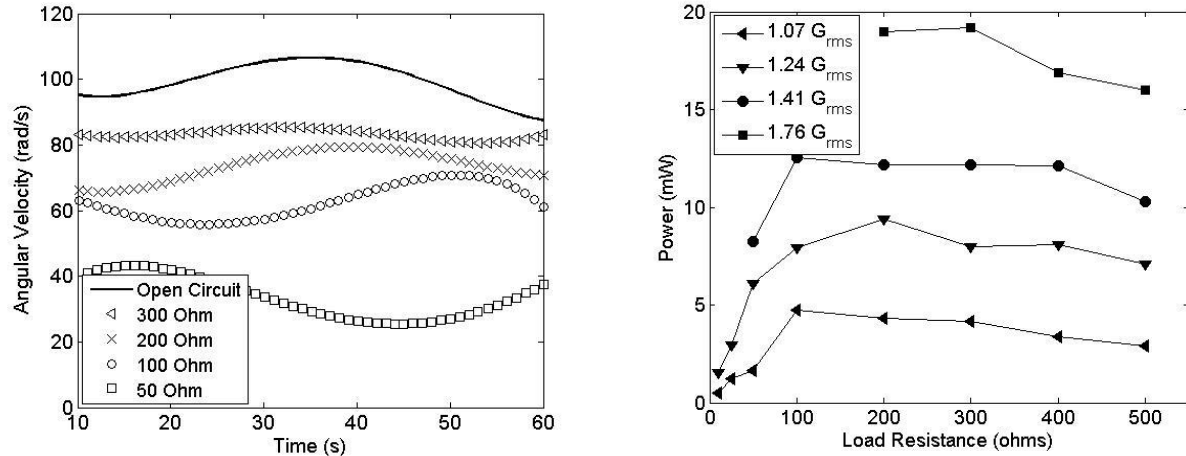
**Figure 4.9:** (a) Transfer function analysis for system with rigid connection, (b) transfer function analysis for system with semi rigid connection



**Figure 4.10:** Images of the various connections used in the analysis (a) linear to rotational coupler (b) rigid connection, (c) semi-rigid connection.

#### 4.1.4.1.2 Energy harvesting capability and performance

To determine the energy harvesting capability electrical loads were placed at the output of the permanent magnet generator. The macro scale energy harvester was tested at four different base acceleration values of  $1.07 G_{\text{rms}}$ ,  $1.24 G_{\text{rms}}$ ,  $1.41 G_{\text{rms}}$  and  $1.76 G_{\text{rms}}$ . The steady state velocities of the primary shaft were measured in both open circuit and closed circuit with various resistances to determine the electrodynamic effect on the system as shown in Fig. 4.11(a). As the load resistance is decreased towards short circuit condition, the electrodynamic force due to current flowing in the generator decreases the steady state angular velocity demonstrating that we are extracting electrical energy out of the system. Figure 4.11(b) displays the power as a function of load resistance at each base acceleration level. An optimum load resistance which leads to maximum power extraction exists for each acceleration value. This optimum load resistance increases in value as the base acceleration is increased.



**Figure 4.11:** (a) Rotational velocity of primary shaft as a function of resistive load (b) power as a function of base acceleration

In the previous section we showed that relative motion can be created from a combination of isolator and absorber. In this section, results will be presented which show that electrical energy can be extracted from the relative motion to realize the direct vibration energy harvester concept.

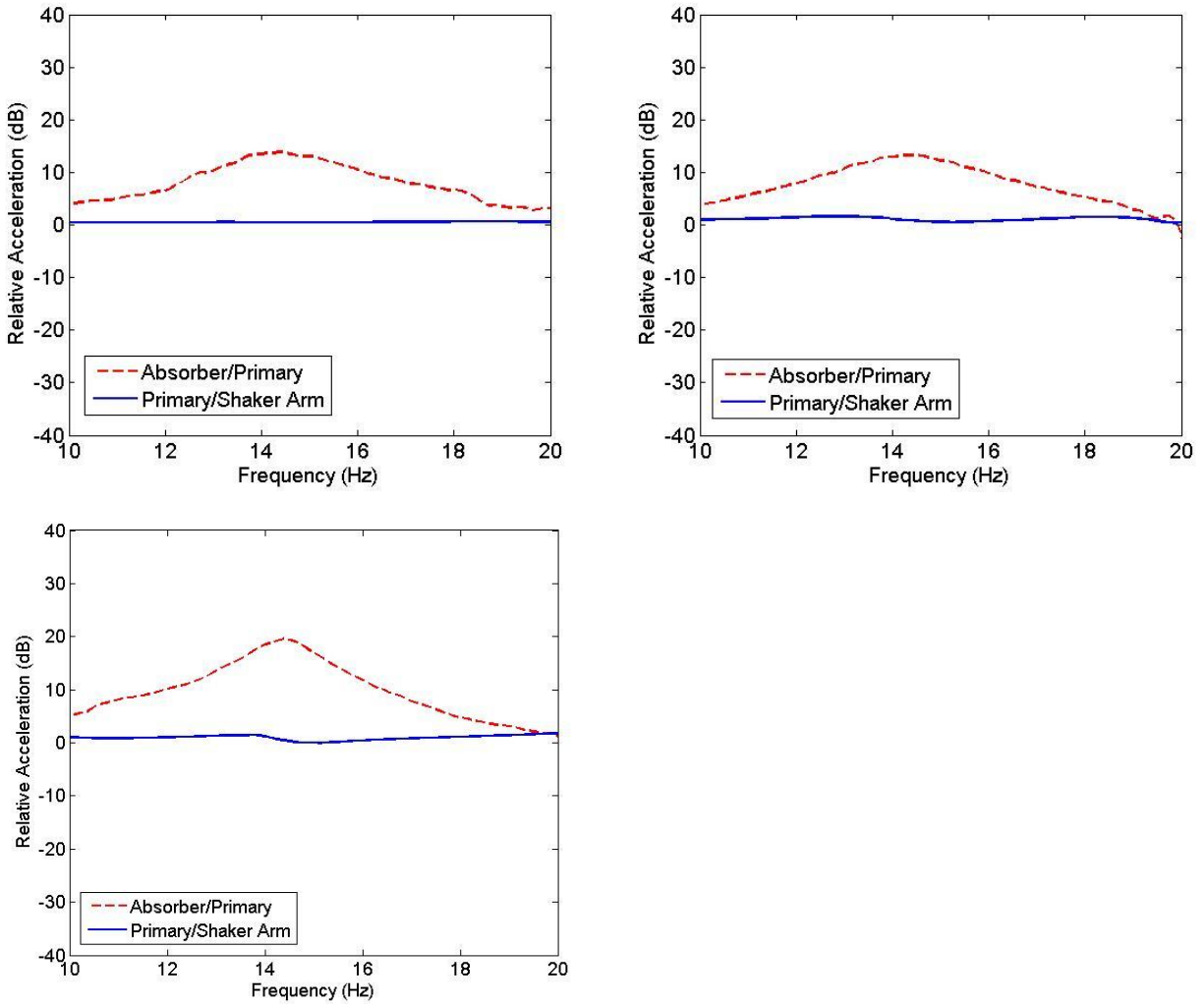
#### 4.1.4.2 Meso scale harvester

##### 4.1.4.2.1 Isolator and absorber performance

To characterize the performance of the isolator and absorber combination for the meso-scale prototype again we evaluate (1) the magnitude of vibration to which isolator and absorber combination reduces the vibration at the primary mass (2) if force applied to the primary mass from the shaker arm can be transferred to the absorber mass and (3) the magnitude of relative motion created between the shaker arm and primary mass. In order to evaluate these conditions vibration frequency sweeps were applied from 10 Hz to 20 Hz as the designed operation frequency of the harvester was 14 Hz. Accelerometers are placed on the shaker arm and on each mass (isolator, primary, and absorber). Figure 4.12 (a-c) displays the transfer functions between the primary mass and the shaker arm and between the absorber mass and the primary mass for two different operating conditions: (a) rigid connection was placed between the shaker arm and

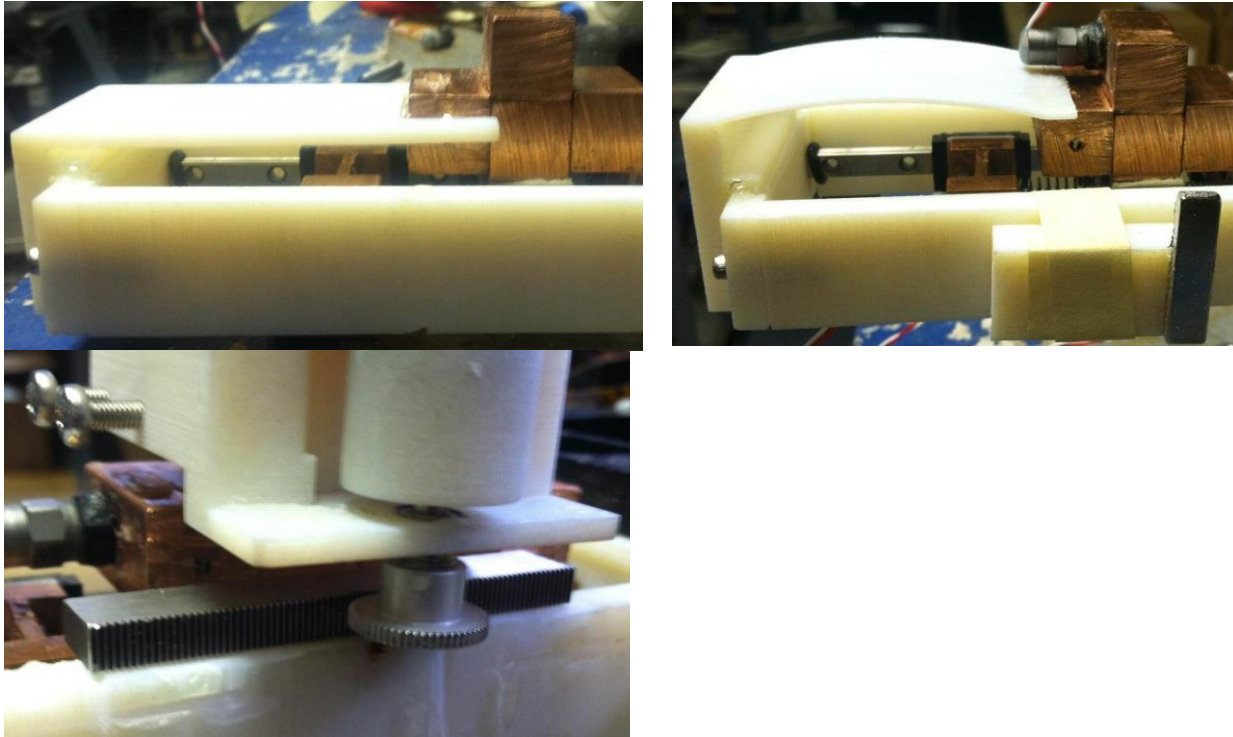
primary mass, (b) semi-rigid connection between the shaker arm and primary mass and (c) the linear to rotational converter between the shaker arm and the primary mass. The shaker used for the experimentation was a model TJ-5 from TmcSolution, rather than the APS 113 due to the effective moving mass (shaker arm) being 0.2 kg rather than 2.3 kg. The theoretical modeling showed that cancellation of the primary mass was only achievable with the smaller shaker. When the rigid connection is attached (Fig. 4.13(a)), the condition represents the maximum force transfer condition as little or no relative motion should exist between primary mass and shaker arm as is shown in Fig. 4.12(a). Unlike the macro scale prototype no relative motion was measured between the shaker arm and primary mass. The primary mass actually moved slightly more than the shaker arm. The amplitude of the absorber mass is highly damped as compared to the macro prototype suggesting that the linear rail bearings have higher friction as compared to the bearings on the macro scale system. To determine if relative motion existed with the applied force from the shaker, a semi rigid connection was applied to the system shown in Fig. 4.13(b). In this condition, the ABS plastic connector is bowed to allow for more flexing during vibration. Again relative motion did not exist although the difference was closer to zero than with the rigid connection. Another experiment was run which consisted of connecting the primary mass and harvester base (shaker arm) with a rack and pinion which also acts as the linear to rotational coupler. The generator was loaded with a very high gear ratio in order to prevent substantial motion. In this condition, the primary mass is able to move slightly with an applied force from the shaker, similar to the condition that would be true during operation. This type of configuration was not tested on the macro scale prototype. Figure 4.12 (c) displays the relative acceleration between the primary mass and the shaker arm at the operation frequency of 14.25 Hz. While the relative motion was much smaller than the macro scale prototype, we have

confirmed the theoretical predictions with experimental results showing that we can cancel the vibration at one location to create relative motion to harvest energy directly from the source of vibration.



**Figure 4.12:** (a) Transfer function analysis for system with rigid connection, (b) transfer function analysis for system with semi rigid connection, (c) transfer function analysis for system with linear to rotational converter connected



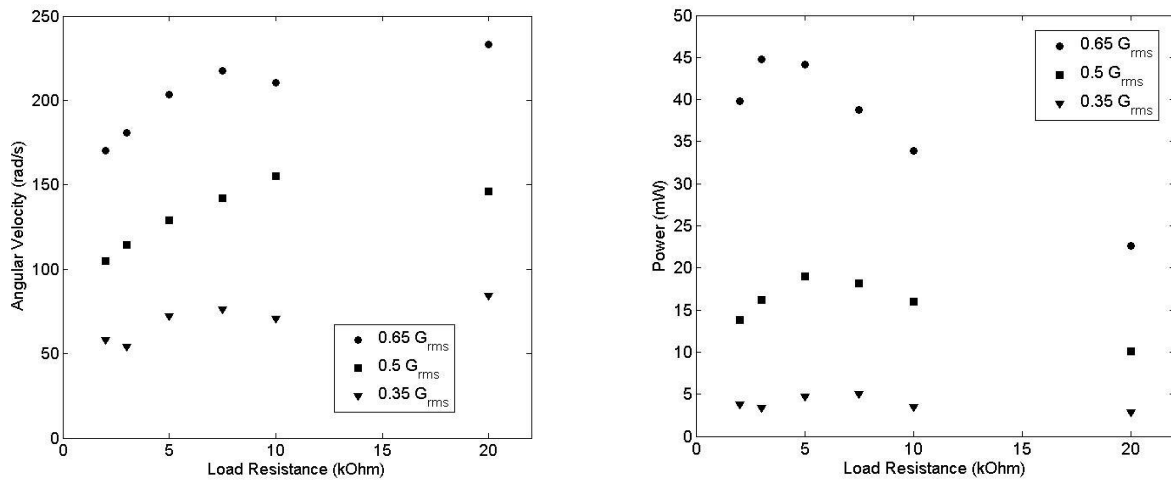


**Figure 4.13:** Images of the various connections used in the analysis (a) rigid connection, b) semi-rigid connection, and (c) linear to rotational coupler (rack and pinion)

#### 4.1.4.2.2 Energy harvesting capability and performance

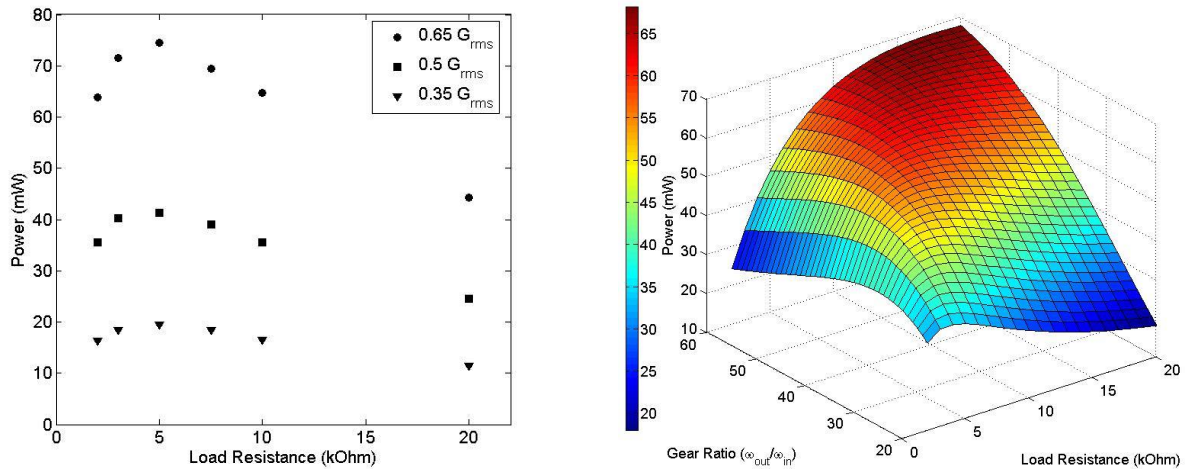
To determine the capability of the energy harvester electrical loads are placed on the output of the permanent magnet generator. The gear ratio from the primary shaft to the generator shaft was 25:1. The macro scale energy harvester was tested at three different base acceleration values of  $0.35 G_{\text{rms}}$ ,  $0.5 G_{\text{rms}}$  and  $0.65 G_{\text{rms}}$  at a frequency of 14 Hz. The steady state velocities of the generator shaft are measured in both open circuit and closed circuit with various resistances to determine the electrodynamic effect on the system as shown in Fig. 4.14(a). As the load resistance is decreased towards short circuit condition the electrodynamic force due to current flowing in the generator decreases the steady state angular velocity suggesting we are extracting electrical energy out of the system. Fig. 4.14(b) displays the power as a function of load resistance at each base acceleration level. An optimum load resistance which leads to maximum

power extraction exists for each acceleration value. This optimum load resistance increases in value as the base acceleration is increased. In the previous section we showed that relative motion can be created from a combination of isolator and absorber. In this section the following result shows that electrical energy can be extracted from this relative motion to realize the direct vibration energy harvester concept.



**Figure 4.14:** (a) Rotational velocity of primary shaft as a function of resistive load (b) power as a function of base acceleration

To evaluate the accuracy of the theoretical modeling we compare the experimental results to the theoretical results. Figure 4.15 displays the results of the simulation with mass values of the prototype. The trend of optimum load resistance matches well with the theoretical predictions although the theoretical predictions over predict the power output. This is due to the simulations assuming 100% linear to rotational energy conversion efficiency. For the analysis in the theoretical section a factor of 0.62 was applied to the power output to account for the linear to rotational motion lost.



**Figure 4.15:** (a) Load resistance vs. power as simulated by the model presented in the modeling section, (b) Load resistance and gear ratio vs. power as simulated with correction factor of 0.62

#### 4.1.5 Summary

This study described the design, modeling, fabrication, and characterization novel vibration harvester named Direct Vibration Harvester (DVH). The relative motion was created without amplification of original source displacement by cancelling the vibration at one location and transferring the source vibration directly to another location by combining a vibration isolator with a vibration absorber. The fabricated prototype harvested 45 mW @ 0.9 G base acceleration and weighed 462 grams. Through analytical modeling it was determined that a prototype could generate 87 mW @ 1 G base acceleration and only weighs 243 grams. Also, an optimal balance between bandwidth and maximum power harvested exists as a result of parametric analysis.

## **4.2 Constant displacement and low frequency harvester utilizing a crank shaft to convert linear motion to rotational motion.**

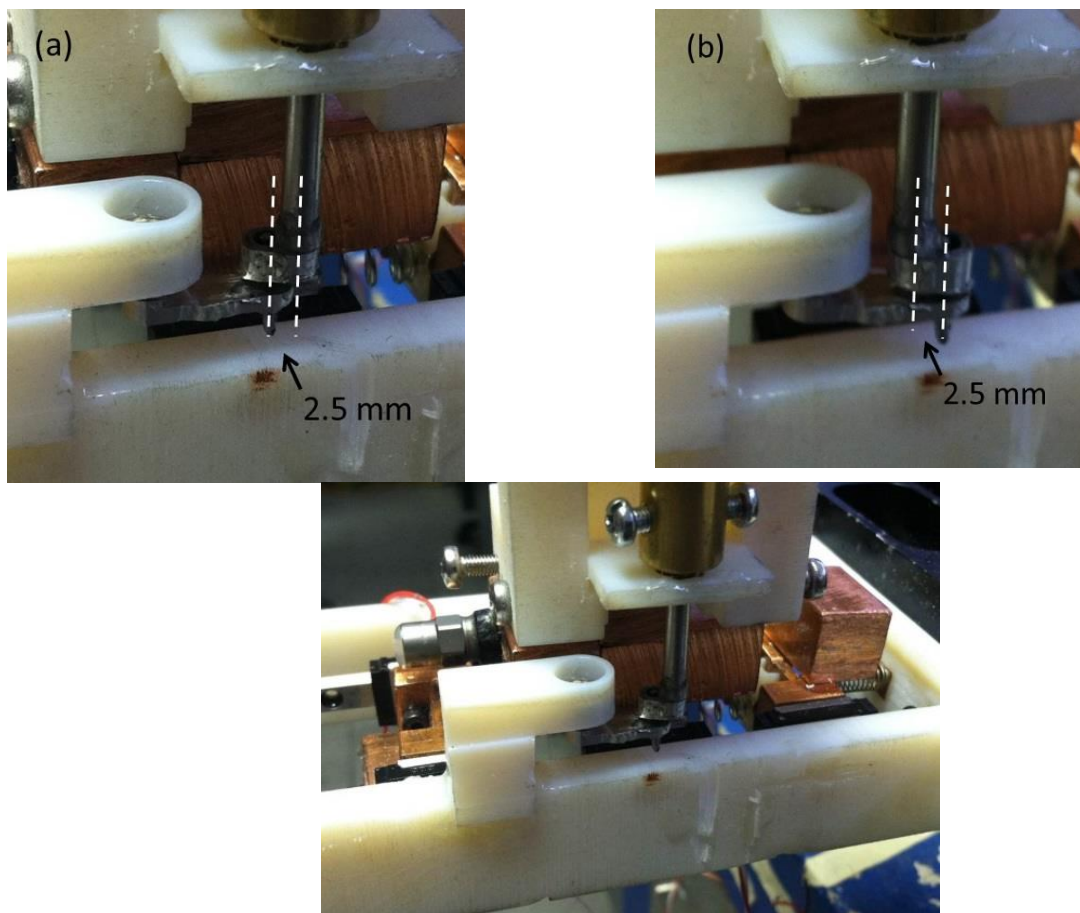
In the previous study, an attempt was made to utilize a crankshaft mechanism to apply the force to the primary mass to create the relative motion between the base and the primary mass and also convert the linear motion into rotational motion. During initial characterization it was seen that cancellation of the motion of the primary mass was not achieved, although the harvester was able to harvest high levels of power, 142 mW at 1.12 G and 10 Hz base excitation. The operation concept of this harvester is different than DVH for a few reasons. The harvester needs a constant displacement which is equal to the length of the crankshaft link. Therefore, the performance in harvesting bandwidth is less than the DVH. Also the harvester requires a mechanical kick start to initiate shaft rotation. Therefore, we analyze the crankshaft harvester in a separate study. The performance is compared to the DVH and traditional harvesters in terms of bandwidth and power density.

### 4.2.1 Introduction

Linear to rotational conversion has been investigated by several researchers in an effort to enhance power density and bandwidth of vibration energy harvesters. Energy harvesting utilizing linear to rotational motion was first invented by Seiko watch company in 1988 [102]. The concept consists of using a concentric mass which can rotate when imbalanced. Magnets can be attached to the rotor and passed over coils to harvest electricity. While the concept was developed much earlier, the first researchers to utilize linear to rotational conversion for vibration energy harvesting were Spreeman et al. in 2006 [103]. The researchers developed an energy harvester of total volume  $1.5 \text{ cm}^3$  and was capable of producing 0.4-3 mW for a vibration amplitude ranging from 100-75  $\mu\text{m}$  at frequencies ranging from 30 to 80 Hz. The harvester consists of a pendulum with embedded magnets which can rotate over induction coils. The prototype required an initial rotation, but at steady state follows the frequency of excitation showing harvesting at a wide bandwidth. Many researchers have published on the eccentric mass harvester focusing on efficient power management [104-106], powering biomedical devices [107-109], harvesting energy from automobiles [110-111]. In each of these previous studies the prototype eccentric mass was attached to a pendulum and used to rotate a rotor over a stator. In this study we describe the design, modeling, and fabrication of a linear to rotational energy harvester which utilizes a crank shaft to convert linear motion to rotational motion. One end of the crank shaft is attached to the base of the harvester which can be mounted on a vibration body and the other end is attached to a mass which is free to slide relative to the base on linear rail bearings.

## 4.2.2 Crankshaft harvester design

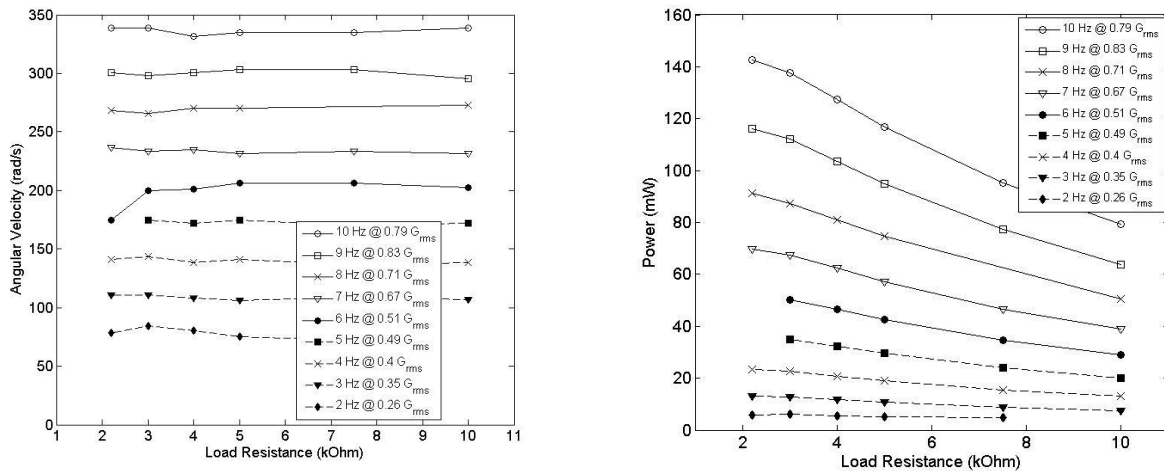
All of the design components including isolator, absorber, gear train, and generator from the DVH are used for the crankshaft harvester. However the linear to rotational mechanism is changed from rack and pinion with double drive to a simple crankshaft mechanism. The operation principle of the crank shaft mechanism is different than the double drive in that crank shaft requires a constant relative displacement between the primary mass and the base which is determine by the distance between center of the primary shaft and bearing connection point (2.5 mm) which connects the crank shaft to the base as shown in Fig. 4.16.



**Figure 4.16:** (a-b) Image of the crank shaft mechanism at two different positions. The relative displacement must be  $\sim 2.5$  mm for rotation to occur, (c) image showing crankshaft mechanism relative to other components

### 4.2.3 Experimental results

The crankshaft harvester was connected to an APS 113 electrodynamic shaker and excited with vibration magnitudes ranging from 0.26  $G_{rms}$  to 0.83  $G_{rms}$  and frequencies ranging from 2 Hz to 10 Hz. Figure 4.17 displays the results of the power generated by the crank shaft mechanism with only a 5:1 gear ratio. As the frequency increases the magnitude of the acceleration at the base increased in order to maintain the 2.5 mm of relative displacement during oscillation. The increase in acceleration increases the energy input in the system and therefore the harvester output. At 0.8  $G_{rms}$  and 10 Hz the DVH with crankshaft mechanism generated 142 mW. It should be noted that the relative motion was not between the base of the harvester and primary mass but rather between the primary mass and base. Also, as the harvester requires a constant relative displacement the bandwidth of the harvester is limited to a single frequency. An advantage though of this harvester is that the harvester generates power at frequencies 10 Hz and below without being extremely large in volume. The only other vibration harvester which could compare in power normalized by volume would be magnetic levitation prototypes.



**Figure 4.17:** Power generated using the crank shaft mechanism as the linear to rotational motion converter

#### 4.2.4 Summary

In this study, we described the design and experimental characterization of a novel linear to rotational energy harvester which differs than the traditional approach of mounting an eccentric mass on a pendulum. The system utilizes a crankshaft connecting the vibration source to a mass which can freely move linearly along guide rails. While the prototype required an initial velocity or “kick” start, the prototype generated 142 mW at 0.79  $G_{\text{rms}}$  and 10 Hz showing promise as an energy harvesting solution. To fully understand the capability of the prototype the governing equations of motion should be derived and a parametric analysis should be conducted in a future study.



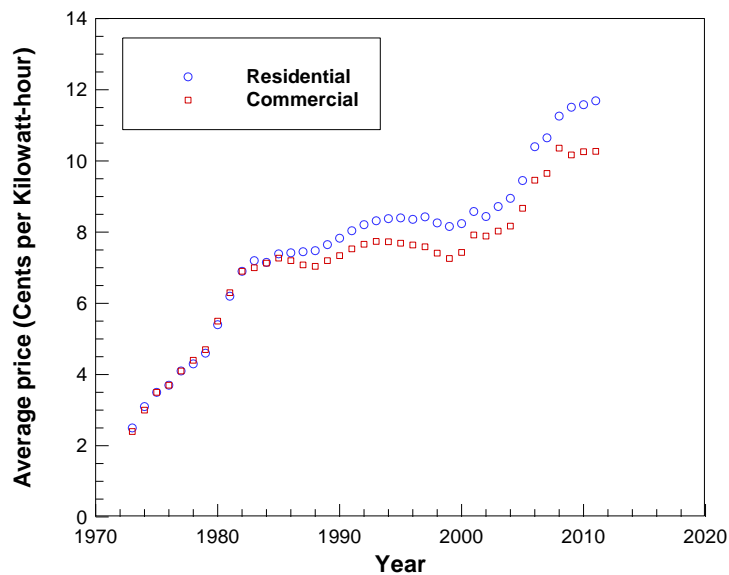
## **5 CHAPTER 5: MICRO WIND TURBINE GENERATOR DEVELOPMENT**

### **5.1 Electrodynamics modeling of rotational generator for micro wind turbine energy harvester**

The goal of this study was to develop a computational model for micro wind turbine design having dimensions on the order of 1-10 cm<sup>3</sup> and validate the model with experiments. ANSYS CFX 13.0 computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations were utilized to predict the stall torque, steady state angular velocity, and the relationship between blade torque and angular velocity. The details of the fluid dynamics are not covered as the work was completed by a collaborator, but is only referenced for completeness. ANSYS electromagnetic simulations were conducted to determine the voltage generated from the permanent magnet generator. The coupling factor between the blade section and generator section was derived analytically and based upon this analysis, the relationship between the output voltage as a function of incoming wind speed was developed. A prototype was designed and fabricated to validate the proposed computational model. The blade diameter and depth was 72 mm and 9 mm respectively. The generator diameter was 28 mm with total volume of 5.7 cm<sup>3</sup>. It was found that the micro windmill generated output RMS AC power of 0.43 mW, 1.7 mW and 4.5 mW at 2.5 m/s, 6.5 m/s and 11 m/s respectively. The comprehensive system model was found to predict the generated output voltage as a function of wind speed with an average difference of 12%. This difference was partly associated with experimental measurements. The generator model was able to predict the output voltage as a function of angular velocity with average difference of 6%.

### 5.1.1 Introduction

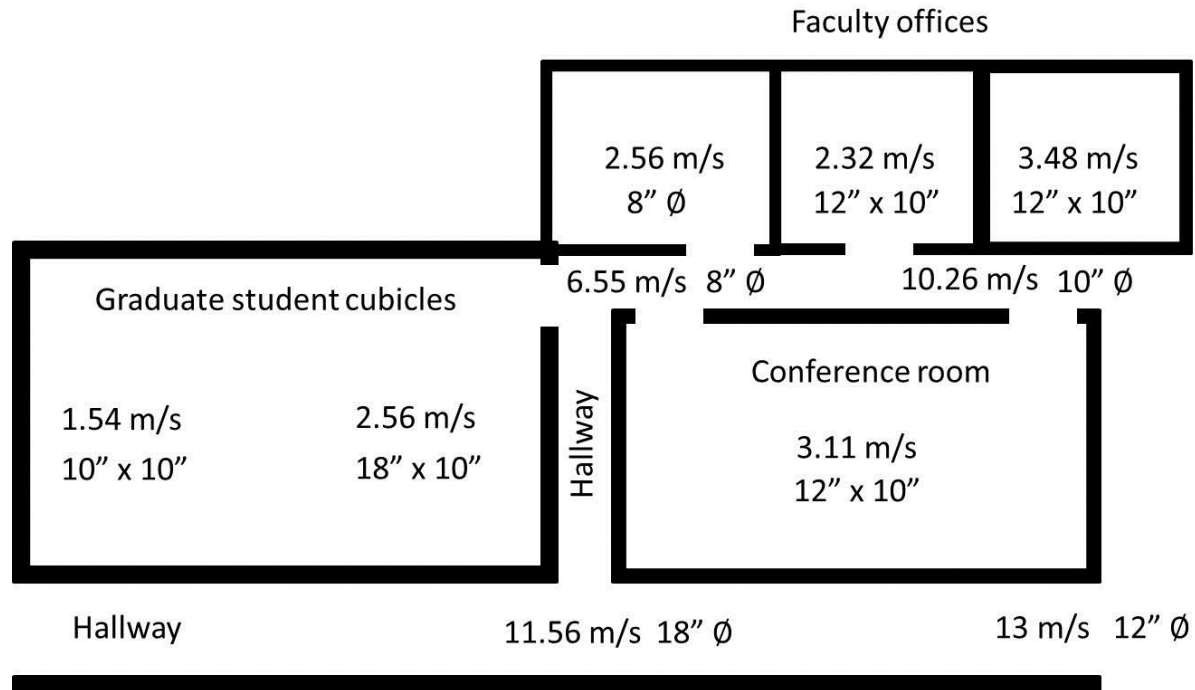
The cost of energy has steadily increased over the past 40 years and even more rapidly within the past decade, as shown in Fig. 5.1 [112]. With increasing energy cost the demand for energy efficient residential and commercial buildings is growing. To this end, the US Department of Energy is investing significant resources in Building Technologies Program to incorporate both energy saving and energy generation concepts [113]. This is exemplified by The Greater Philadelphia Innovation Cluster (GPIC) for Energy Efficient Buildings which received \$129 million from the Federal Government's Energy Regional Innovation Cluster (E-RIC) Initiative (<http://gpichub.org/>). The award included \$122 million from the U.S. DOE to create an Energy Innovation Hub to develop innovative energy efficient building technologies, designs and systems.



**Figure 5.1:** Timeline of energy cost for residential and commercial buildings. Data taken from U.S. Energy Information Administration

Whole building design incorporates strategy to optimize the efficiency through control system that actively diagnoses and modifies building conditions, such as localized climate and lighting control. This requires distributed sensor network to collect real-time data and feedback to the control loop. For example, temperature and lighting conditions of various rooms and hallways within the building should be monitored in real-time. Establishing a wireless sensor network to acquire, collect and organize the data eliminates the need for extensive wiring. Currently wireless sensor nodes are predominately powered by batteries which have limited lifetime. Depending upon the number and location of wireless sensor nodes required for maintenance, replacing batteries can be impractical and expensive. Therefore there is critical need to develop alternatives for powering the wireless sensor network.

In this paper, we propose the concept of micro turbines driven by HVAC flow. We have determined that within HVAC ducts there is sufficient airflow to generate electricity for wireless sensors. While placing the micro turbine energy harvesters within the flow will cause the HVAC blower to consume slightly more energy to achieve same airflow, the gains in building energy conservation through climate and lighting control should outweigh the losses in blower efficiency. Typical flow speeds within HVAC ducts in various areas of a typical academic building are shown in Fig. 5.2. Duct flow speeds can vary from 2 m/s to 13 m/s depending on the location. The diameter of the HVAC ducts are also shown in Fig. 5.2 and were taken into account for design of prototype discussed in this paper.

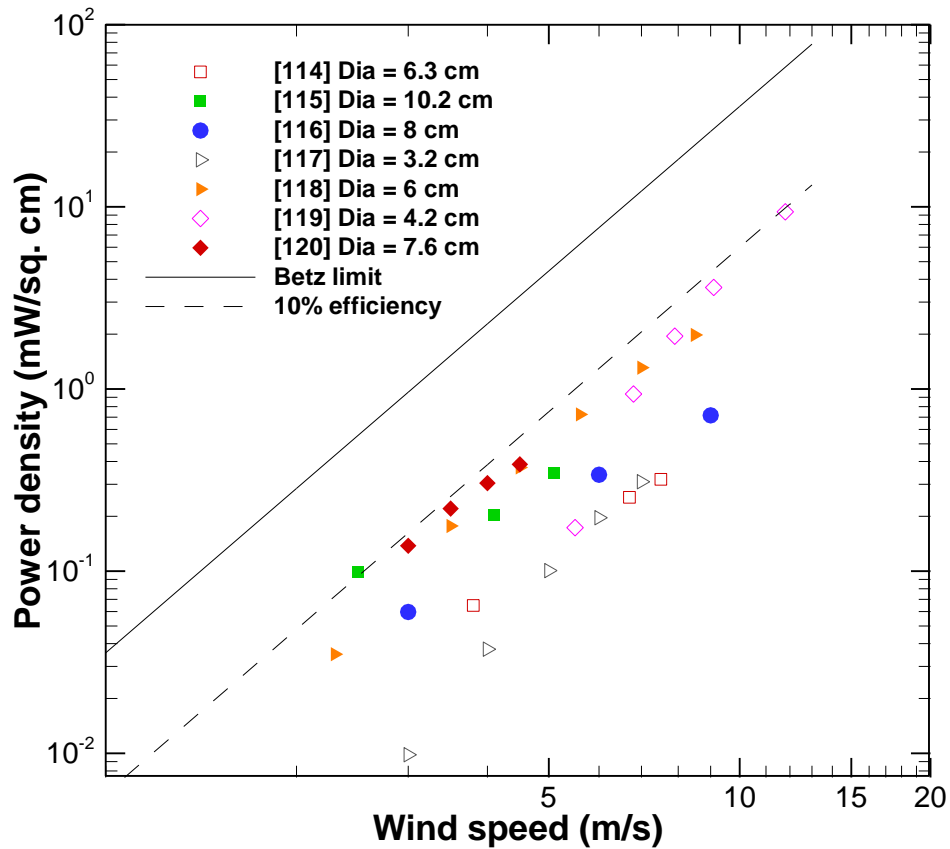


**Figure 5.2:** Air flow speeds within duct and duct size for typical academic building. Values were taken from actual building plans of a building on Virginia Tech campus.

Several researchers have published results on small scale wind turbine design for HVAC systems. The performances of these published prototypes are compared in Fig. 5.3, by plotting DC power output normalized by device cross sectional area as a function of wind speed [114-120]. It should be noted that Ref. 117 was single phase AC power as the authors did not rectify the voltage, presumably due to the low voltage levels. Although, if a smaller diameter wire was used for generator fabrication the voltage could potentially be increased. The decrease in wire diameter does not increase the power due to the higher resistance associated with the smaller diameter wire. It can be assumed that three phase AC rectification would be higher than 95%, therefore allowing for reasonable comparison to DC power generating prototypes. Federspiel et al. built a micro wind turbine using off the shelf turbine blades and three-phase, brushless DC servomotor with a blade diameter of 10.2 cm [115]. Rancourt et al. built a smaller (4.2 cm blade

diameter from S.C. Johnson) micro wind turbine using off the shelf generator (Graupner Speed 265). An experimental analysis was performed with 3 different blade types to investigate efficiency as a function of wind speed. The prototype had maximum efficiencies of 1.85% and 9.5% at 5.5 m/s and 11.83 m/s respectively [119]. Flammini et al. compared the performance of three prototypes comprised of commercial blades and three different motors consisting of a brushless DC servomotor (AD0612 HB-C76GL Dr. Cooler), a brushless three phase AC servomotor (nuvoDisc 32BF Portescap) and a DC servomotor (1624T 1,4 G9 Faulhaber) [116]. It was determined that the prototypes with DC servomotors were more efficient. Carli et al. developed a buck-boost maximum power point (MPPT) circuit aiming to increase the conversion frequency for micro wind turbines that generated DC voltage [114]. The optimum electrical load for the generator was dependent upon rotational rate and therefore wind speed as well. MPPT alters the electrical load based upon the wind speed therefore harvesting energy more efficiently over a broad range of wind speeds. Kheng et al. developed a comprehensive circuit for connecting a micro wind turbine which generates AC voltage to a wireless sensor node. The circuit is comprised of active rectifier, MMPT boost converter, super capacitor for energy storage and regulating buck converter [118]. An efficiency of 9.6% was achieved at 3.62 m/s. Xu et al. presented an equivalent circuit model for micro wind turbine which suggested a theoretical maximum efficiency of 14.8% for their prototype. The model formulation was validated with experimental results by evaluation with measured generator coupling and wind torque constants [120]. Although Betz showed the maximum efficiency for an ideal wind turbine is 59% [125], Rancourt et al. used Schmitz' theory along with literature and CFD analysis to suggest that a realistic maximum efficiency for turbines operating in low Reynolds number ( $Re < 10^5$ ) is 40% [119]. Kimura has recently developed a brushless DC motor with 96% efficiency [121]. Taking

into account these developments a maximum efficiency for micro wind turbine can be predicted to be ~38%. Howey and Bansal et al. designed and fabricated a custom shrouded micro turbine of total diameter 3.2 cm and used a blade element momentum (BEM) model was used to predict the aerodynamic performance. Although this simple model neglected the effect of the shroud, neglected swirl in the wake, and ultimately over-predicted the peak efficiency of their turbine, their computational and experimental results were still in acceptable agreement [117].



**Figure 5.3:** Performance comparison of published micro wind turbines. Output power is normalized by device cross-sectional area and plotted as a function of wind speed.

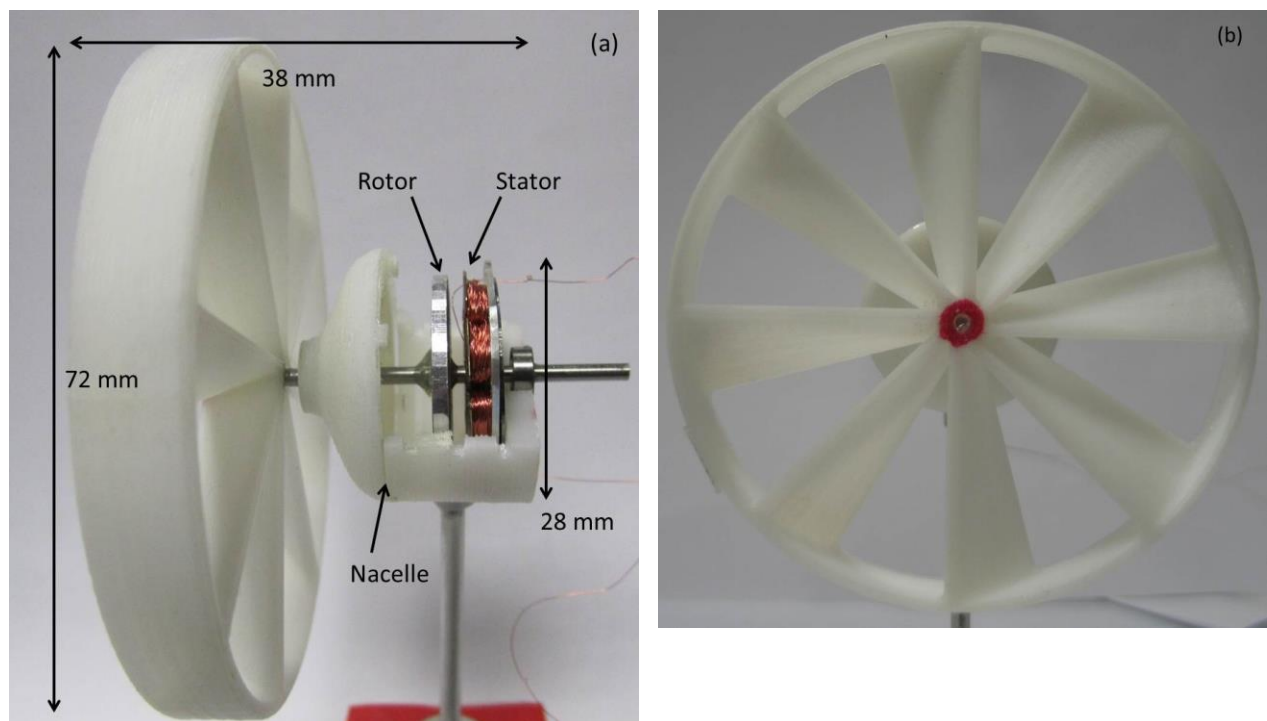
In this study, we attempt to develop and validate a comprehensive system level computational model addressing all components of a micro wind turbine. The model combines computational analysis conducted using ANSYS software with rotational dynamics and electromagnetic induction mathematics. For the blade section, CFD simulations performed with ANSYS CFX 13.0 were used to predict stall torque, steady state angular velocity and the relationship between blade torque and angular velocity. ANSYS electromagnetic simulations were used to characterize the spatial distribution of magnetic field flux density within generator section. The transformation factor  $\Phi$  that couples the angular velocity with the generated voltage was derived, allowing for investigation of generator influence on torque generated from blade section. The coupling term allows for the prediction of voltage and power as function of incoming wind speed. To validate the model a micro wind turbine was designed and fabricated with blade diameter of 72 mm and generator volume of 5.7 cm<sup>3</sup>. The prototype was tested in a wind tunnel for a wide range of input flow velocities corresponding to Fig. 5.2. The results from the simulation are compared to experimental data which shows good agreement with an average difference of 12%. This difference was partly associated with the experimental measurements as the generator model predicted voltage as a function of angular velocity with average difference of 6%.

### 5.1.2 Micro wind turbine design

The micro wind turbine design used to validate the computational model consists of a blade section and a generator section. The dimension and structure of the prototype is shown in Fig. 5.4 (a) with the top half of the generator housing removed to show internal components. Leung et al. [122] found that micro wind turbine blade rotors with solidity values (the ratio of total blade area to area swept by the turbine blade rotor) greater than 50% captured wind energy most efficiently; a value considerably greater than that found in most contemporary large scale wind turbines. It was also shown that high solidity turbines can be well suited for low wind speeds [123]. Since the intent of this study was to present a system model and not an optimized turbine design, we forewent a detailed blade design process which typically involves performing BEM analysis to estimate ideal pitch angles and number of blades. Loosely using the findings of Leung et al. [122] as a guide, our blade rotor was designed with 54.9% solidity, achieved by using eight blades with a root pitch angle of  $12^\circ$ , tip pitch angle of  $55^\circ$ , and a rotor depth of 9 mm. Each of the blade tips were joined by a 1.5 mm concentric ring which was added for structural support. A front view of the blade profile can be seen in Fig. 5.4 (b). A nacelle was positioned behind the blade section to minimize the disruption of flow over the blade section. The nacelle includes a flow director which transitions to a cylindrical generator housing in order to increase the aerodynamic efficiency as shown in Fig. 5.4 (a). The aluminum stator in the generator houses eight copper wire wound coils with a fill factor of 34% and having total resistance of 25.4 ohms. The shape of each coil was designed to maximize the mechanical to electrical energy conversion therefore increasing the efficiency of prototype. A steel ring of 305  $\mu\text{m}$  thickness was attached at the back of the stator to pole the magnetic field perpendicular to the coil face, which increases generator efficiency. The total diameter of the circular stator was



22 mm and the thickness was 3 mm (coil – 2 mm, aluminum – 1 mm). The generator rotor houses eight 6.35 mm x 3.175 mm x 1.588 mm (length x width x thickness) rectangular neodymium iron boron permanent magnets (B4201 K&J magnetics) arranged in a circular array with adjacent magnets having alternate polarity. Opposite polarity exists between adjacent magnets to allow for series connection of all eight coils. Rectangular magnets were chosen to maximize the magnetic field strength in the regions of the tear drop shaped coil that are critical for energy conversion. The enhancement in energy conversion due to coil and magnet geometry will be discussed further in the computational modeling section.

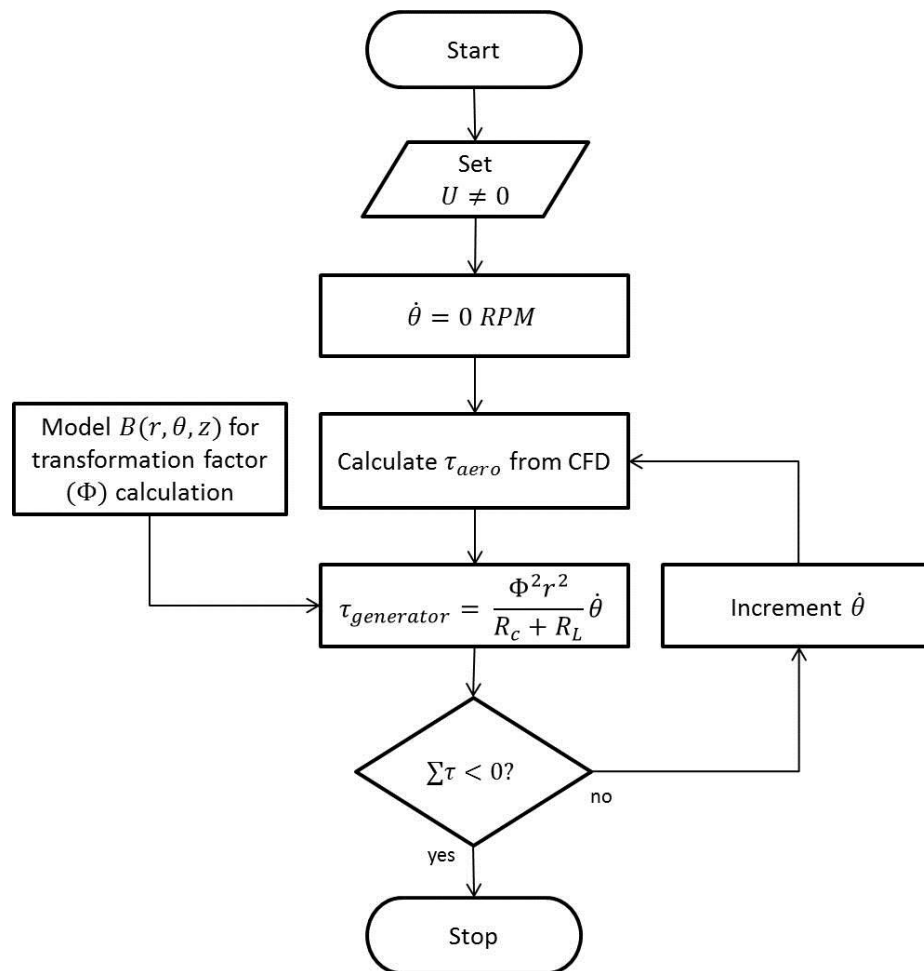


**Figure 5.4:** (a) Side view of micro wind turbine prototype with dimensions, and (b) Front view

### 5.1.3 Computational methods

For the generator, the magnetic circuit was modeled with a 3D mesh of ~473000 elements and analyzed with Magnetic-Nodal analysis. Solid 96 elements were used for magnet, soft magnetic material (steel) and air elements. A coercive force of 875270 A/m was estimated

from the B-H curve provided by the magnet manufacturer and assigned to the magnets. The coercive force defines the strength of the magnetic field produced by the magnet. Magnetic field strength in direction perpendicular to the face of the coil was spatially calculated and used for the transformation factor prediction which is described in detail in the following section. Fig. 5.5 explains the order and coupling between ANSYS CFD and electromagnetics computational modeling, where  $U$  is the free stream velocity in front of the turbine,  $\dot{\theta}$  is the angular velocity of the turbine,  $\tau_{aero}$  is the torque imparted to the turbine by the wind,  $\tau_{generator}$  is the load on the blades from generator,  $\Phi$  is the coupling between mechanical and electrical energy which estimated by modeling the magnetic flux density  $B(r, \theta, z)$ .



**Figure 5.5.** Process for obtaining CFD results for a given wind speed.  $U$  is the free stream velocity in front of the turbine,  $\dot{\theta}$  is the angular velocity of the turbine,  $\tau_{aero}$  is the torque imparted to the turbine by the wind,  $\tau_{generator}$  is the load on the blades from generator,  $\Phi$  is the coupling between mechanical and electrical energy which estimated by modeling the magnetic flux density  $B(r, \theta, z)$

#### 5.1.4 Analytical model for micro wind turbine harvester

In order to develop a computational model for the entire wind turbine system, the governing equations for each system were derived. When the turbine is stationary, the maximal torque or stall torque  $\tau_{stall}$  is produced on the blades due to the angle of attack  $\alpha$  also being maximal. Local angle of attack can be defined as:

$$\alpha_r = \phi - \gamma \quad (5.3)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the local pitch angle and  $\phi$ , the angle between the rotor plane and the relative velocity, is given by

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{U(1-a)}{\dot{\theta}r(1+a')} \right) \quad (5.4)$$

at radius  $r$  where  $a$  and  $a'$  are the axial and tangential induction factors. These factors represent the interaction between the flow and the rotating blade rotor:  $a$  is the fractional decrease in velocity as the free stream flow is decelerated axially, and  $a'$  is the fractional increase in tangential velocity due to the reaction from torque being imparted to the rotor. As  $\dot{\theta}$  increases, the angle of attack becomes shallower and torque declines, eventually balancing with losses due to drag. At this operating point where the sum of torques is equal to zero, all harvested wind energy has been converted to rotational energy and steady state angular velocity  $\dot{\theta}_{ss}$  is reached. The equilibrium at  $\dot{\theta}_{ss}$  is given by Eq. (5.5):

$$\Sigma\tau(\dot{\theta}_{ss}) = \tau_{aero}(\dot{\theta}_{ss}) - \tau_{drag}(\dot{\theta}_{ss}) - c_e\dot{\theta} = J\ddot{\theta}_{ss} = 0 \quad (5.5)$$

where  $J$  is the rotational moment of inertia and  $\ddot{\theta}_{ss}$  is the steady state angular acceleration, which is zero by definition,  $c_e$  is the generator torque constant. Note that torque loss from bearings was neglected due to the magnitude of the loss being three orders of magnitude less than the expected torque from the blades. Using the following equation the bearing friction torque was calculated:

$$M_r = F * f * \left(\frac{d}{2}\right) \quad (5.6)$$

Where  $M_r$  is the Friction torque,  $f$  is the coefficient of friction of rolling bearing,  $d$  is the diameter of the bore of the bearing. The coefficient of friction used for the bearings was 0.0015 [124]. Using the mass of the blade section (7.39 g) and rotor (2.84 g) the axial force was calculated to be 0.1 N. The bore diameter was 2 mm therefore the bearing friction torque was  $1.5e^{-7}$  N-m for each bearing. Since there were two bearings the total loss is  $3e^{-7}$  N-m. In order to determine the generator torque constant, the distribution of the magnetic fields within the harvester was determined to derive the coupling factor and complete the computational electromechanical model. Under an electrical load the harvester rotor dynamics change due to the added due to a generator loading torque. The torque opposes the rotor motion due to force created by the magnetic interaction with the coils and is governed by the following equation [31]:

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \quad (5.7)$$

According to the above equation the force is solely dependent upon the magnitude of current flow since the coil length  $L$  and magnetic flux density  $B$  remain constant in the generator. The magnitude of current flow if the velocity is perpendicular to the magnetic flux density can be determined by Eq. (5.8):

$$I(t) = \frac{B(t)Lv}{(R_c+R_L)} \quad (5.8)$$

From Eq. (5.8), the current is solely dependent upon the velocity as the coil resistance  $R_c$ , load resistance  $R_L$ , magnetic flux density  $B$ , and coil length  $L$  are all constant in the generator.

Therefore the force as a function of time can be derived by the following relationship:

$$F(t) = B(t)LI(t) = B(t)L \frac{(B(t)Lv)}{(R_c+R_L)} = \frac{(B(t)l)^2}{(R_c+R_L)} v \quad (5.9)$$

As the model predicts the maximum  $B(t)l$  quantity we can define an average or RMS force as:

$$F_{avg} = \frac{B_{max}l}{2(R_c+R_L)} v \quad (5.10)$$

An average force damping constant as a function of  $v$  can be defined as:

$$c_{e,avg} = \frac{(B_{max}l)^2}{2(R_c+R_L)} \quad (5.11)$$

The generator torque in terms of angular velocity can be derived by the following relationship:

$$\tau_{generator,avg} = F_{avg}r = \frac{B_{max}Llr}{2} = B_{max}L \frac{(B_{max}Lv)}{2(R_c+R_L)} r = \frac{(B_{max}l)^2 r^2}{2(R_c+R_L)} \dot{\theta} \quad (5.12)$$

An average force damping constant as a function of  $\dot{\theta}$  can be written in terms of angular velocity as:

$$c_{e,avg} = \frac{B_{max}l^2 r^2}{2(R_c+R_L)} \quad (5.13)$$

The following approach for deriving the transformation factor  $\Phi(t) \equiv B(t)l$  follows the method applied in [35] but modified for a rotational system rather than a linear vibration system. The transformation factor  $\Phi(t)$  which governs rotational energy to electrical energy conversion is determined through the relationship:

$$U(t) = - \int (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{l} \cong -\dot{\theta} r \Phi(t) \quad (5.14)$$

where  $\vec{v}$  is the tangential coil velocity,  $\vec{B}$  is the magnetic flux density cutting the coil,  $l$  is the conductor length,  $U_e$  is the emf or instantaneous voltage generated, and  $\dot{\theta}$  is the rotor angular

velocity. By assuming that the coil velocity is orthogonal to magnetic field vectors, the line integral in Eq. (5.13) reduces to Eq. (5.14):

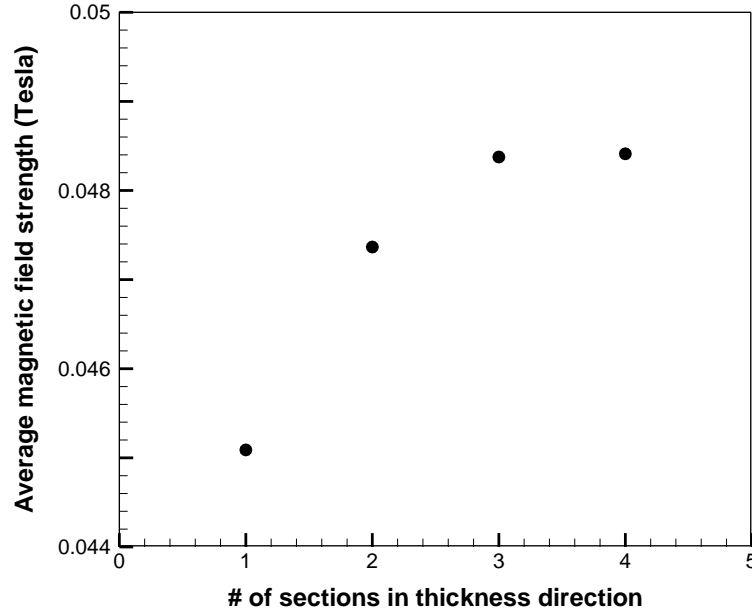
$$U(t) = -\dot{\theta}r \int_0^{L_{coil}} B(t)(r, \theta, z) \frac{r(r, \theta, z)}{r} dl \cos(\varphi(r, \theta, z)) \quad (5.15)$$

where  $\varphi$  is the angle between  $\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$  and the differential conductor length  $d\vec{l}$ ,  $r, \theta, z$  are coordinates within the coil volume,  $r(r, \theta, z)$  is the distance from the center of rotation to the coordinate  $(r, \theta, z)$ , and  $r$  is the radius at edge of rotor. By discretizing the coil volume, Eq. (5.14) is reduced to Eq. (5.15) as:

$$\Phi(t) \cong \sum B(t)(r, \theta, z) \Delta L_{coil} \left( \frac{r(r, \theta, z)}{r} \right) dl \cos(\varphi(r, \theta, z)) \quad (5.16)$$

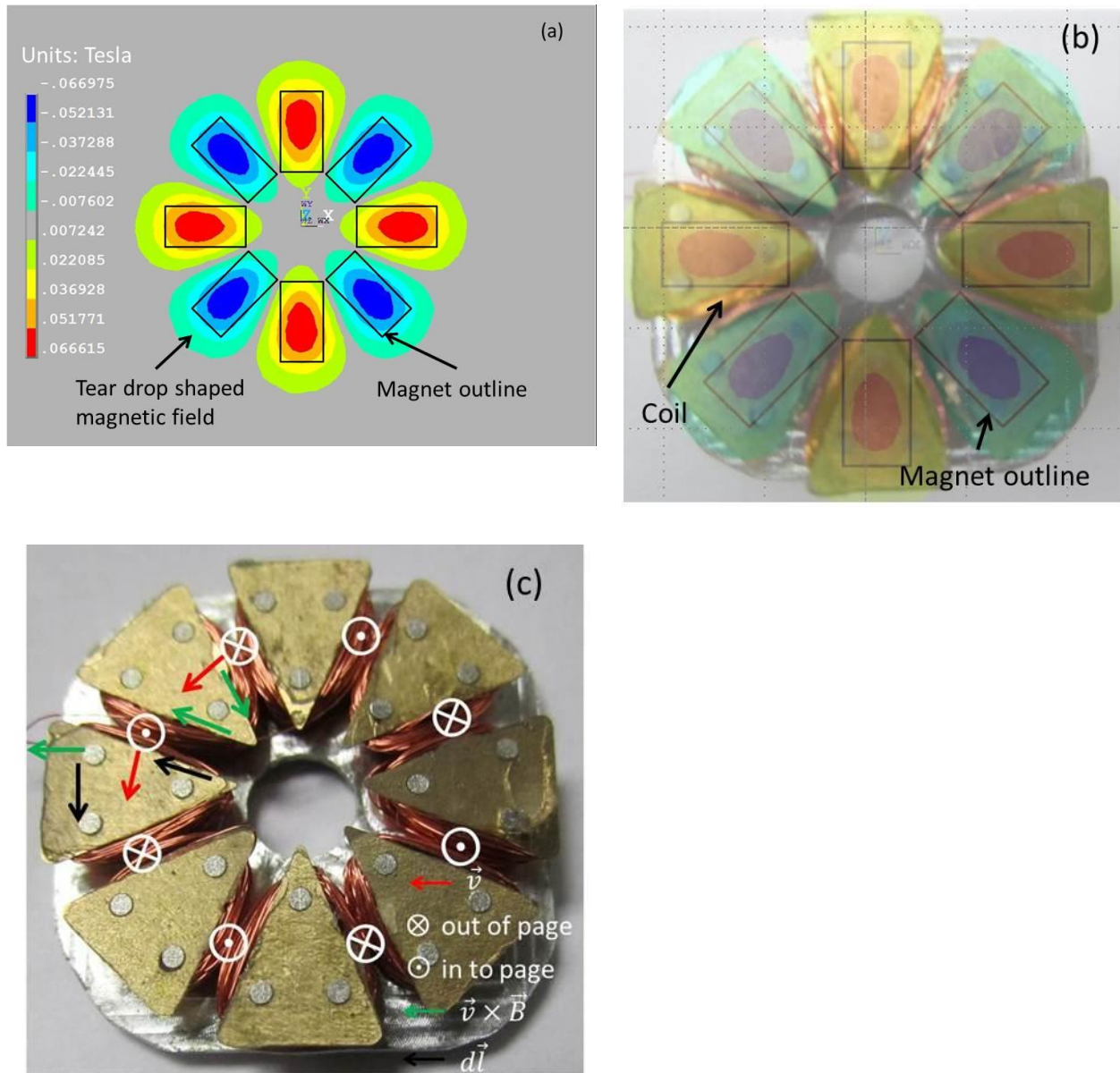
$$\Delta L_{coil} = \frac{L_{coil}}{\# \text{ of volumes}} \quad (5.17)$$

In order to determine  $B(t)(r, \theta, z)$  in Eq. (5.15), the spatial variation in magnetic flux density within the coil volume was evaluated by using ANSYS electromagnetics. Before analyzing the variation in magnetic flux density in the  $r$  and  $\theta$  directions, we needed to determine how many sections the coil volume should be discretized in the  $z$  direction. Fig. 5.6 displays the average magnetic flux density of all sections in  $z$  direction versus number of sections in  $z$  direction. It was determined that the difference between 3 and 4 sections was less than 0.01%, therefore for this analysis the coil volume was split into 3 equal sections in the  $z$  direction for the ANSYS analysis.



**Figure 5.6:** Average magnetic flux density within coil volume as a function of the number of sections in the z section

Fig. 5.7(a) displays the spatial variation in magnetic flux density in  $r$  and  $\theta$  direction at the center of the z direction of the coil, while Fig. 5.7(b) shows a picture of the coil that the magnetic flux passes through in our prototype. Based on the number of nodes where the magnetic flux density calculations were made in one coil volume, Eq. (5.15) was evaluated at 292 separate volumes. The magnet outline was overlaid on Fig. 5.7 (b) to show how the rectangular array of magnets creates a tear drop shaped magnetic flux density profile to match the shape of the coil. The coils were designed to have a tear drop shape rather than a circular shape in order minimize the angle  $\varphi$  and hence maximizing the transformation factor  $\Phi$ . When  $\varphi = 90$  degrees  $\Phi = 0$  and where  $\varphi = 0$  degrees  $\Phi$  is maximum. Fig. 5.7 (c) illustrates how the tear drop shaped coil enhances this region where transduction is maximal.

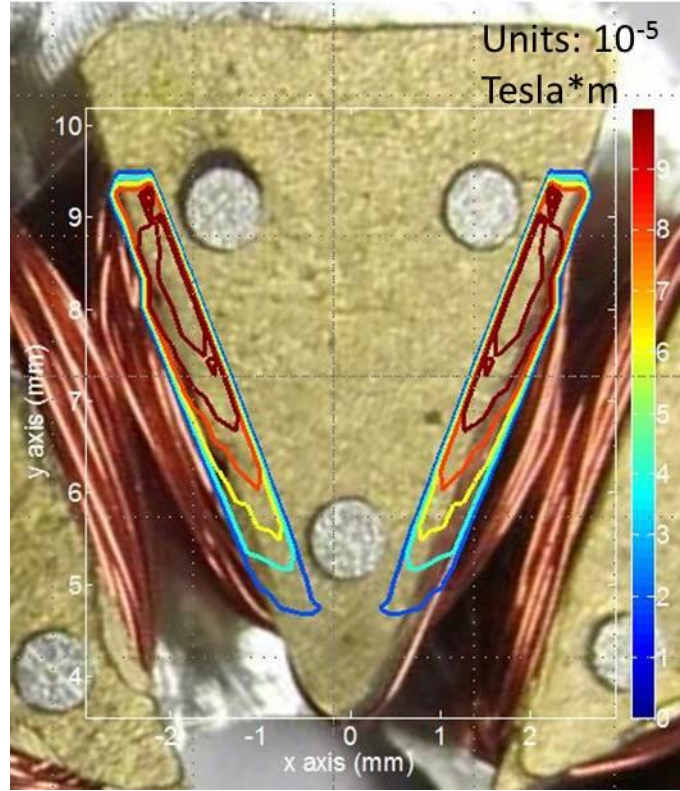


**Figure 5.7:** (a) Variation in magnetic flux density  $B(r, \theta)$  strength for the middle section of the coil volume (b) Same contour plot overlaid onto picture of actual stator with eight coils, (c) Arrangement of magnetic field and velocity vectors within coil volume

By evaluating the spatial representation of magnetic flux density, angle  $\varphi$ , and tangential velocity as a function of radius at 292 discrete locations within the coil volume, Eq. (5.15) was used to calculate the transformation factor to be  $0.2535 \text{ T}\cdot\text{m}$  or  $\text{V}\cdot\text{s}/\text{m}$ . Fig. 5.8 shows the spatial distribution of the transformation factor for the middle coil section where the units are  $10^{-5} \text{ T}\cdot\text{m}$ .



The region of the highest transformation factor is towards the outer portion of the triangular shaped coil. This is due to the increase in tangential velocity at locations further away from the center of rotation. An optimization study should be conducted to maximize the cumulative transformation factor. Shifting the magnets further inward or the coils further outward so that the region of highest transformation factor is at the center of the coil may be desirable.



**Figure 5.8:** Spatial representation of  $\Phi$  for one coil for the middle section

Now that the coupling factor  $\Phi$  is derived, Eq. (5.5) was revisited and the coupling term was added to determine the governing equation for the dynamics of the micro wind turbine.

$$\sum \tau(\dot{\theta}_{ss}) = \tau_{aero}(\dot{\theta}_{ss}) - \tau_{drag}(\dot{\theta}_{ss}) - c_e \dot{\theta} = J\ddot{\theta}_{ss} = 0 \quad (5.18)$$

Kirchhoff's voltage law was applied in Eqs. (5.18-5.21) to compute the maximum peak steady state voltage and steady state power.

$$0 = \Phi(t)r\dot{\theta} - (R_e + R_L)i(t) \quad (5.19)$$

$$i(t) = \frac{\Phi(t)r}{R_e+R_L} \dot{\theta} \quad (5.20)$$

$$U_L(t) = i(t)R_L = \frac{\Phi(t)r}{R_e+R_L} \dot{\theta} R_L \quad (5.21)$$

$$P_L(t) = i(t)^2 R_L = \frac{\Phi(t)^2 r^2 \dot{\theta}^2}{(R_e+R_L)^2} R_L \quad (5.22)$$

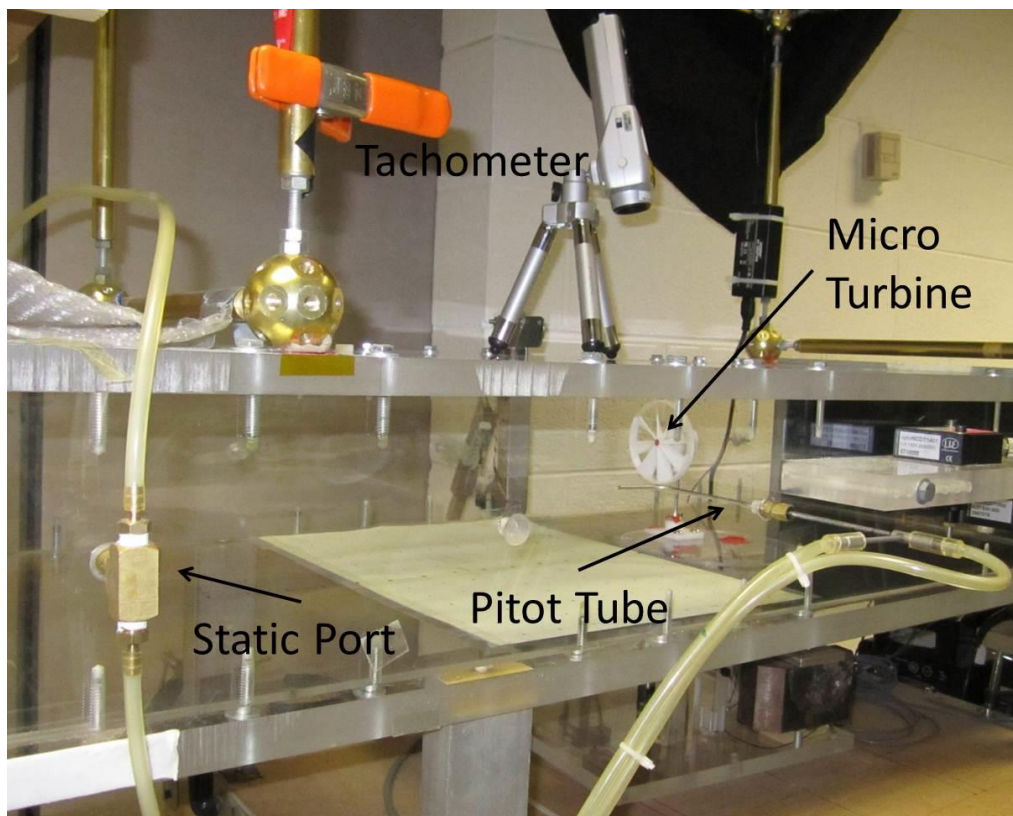
With the assumption that  $\Phi(t)$  has sinusoidal variation the average power can be calculated as:

$$P_{avg} = \frac{\Phi_{max}^2 r^2 \dot{\theta}^2}{2(R_e+R_L)^2} R_L \quad (5.23)$$

### 5.1.5 Experimental setup

In order to guide the development of the theoretical model, the prototype micro wind turbine was characterized in an open return wind tunnel. Figure 5.9 shows the setup at the test section, which measured 14” wide and 5.375” tall. The rotational velocity was measured using a Shimpo DT-209X tachometer with software acquiring and recording measurements in real time. Wind tunnel velocity was calculated from dynamic pressure measured by two different methods: with a Pitot-static tube and with dual static ports mounted on opposite walls at the entrance of the test section. The differential pressure from the Pitot-static tube was measured with a model 668-5 transducer from Dwyer Instruments, Inc. The Dwyer transducer measurement range was 0 – 5 in. W.C. with 1% accuracy. The pressure difference between the static ports and atmosphere (corrected for room temperature) was measured with a model 267 transducer from Setra Systems, Inc. The Setra transducer measurement was 0 – 2.5 in. W.C with 0.25% accuracy. Due to the better accuracy and more useful measurement range, the Setra transducer and static ports were used. It should be noted that the velocity calculated from these static pressure measurements was the average velocity across the profile and would be lower than the free stream velocity, although this error may be negligible because of their location at the beginning of the test section where the boundary layer is thin. Voltage generated by the harvester was

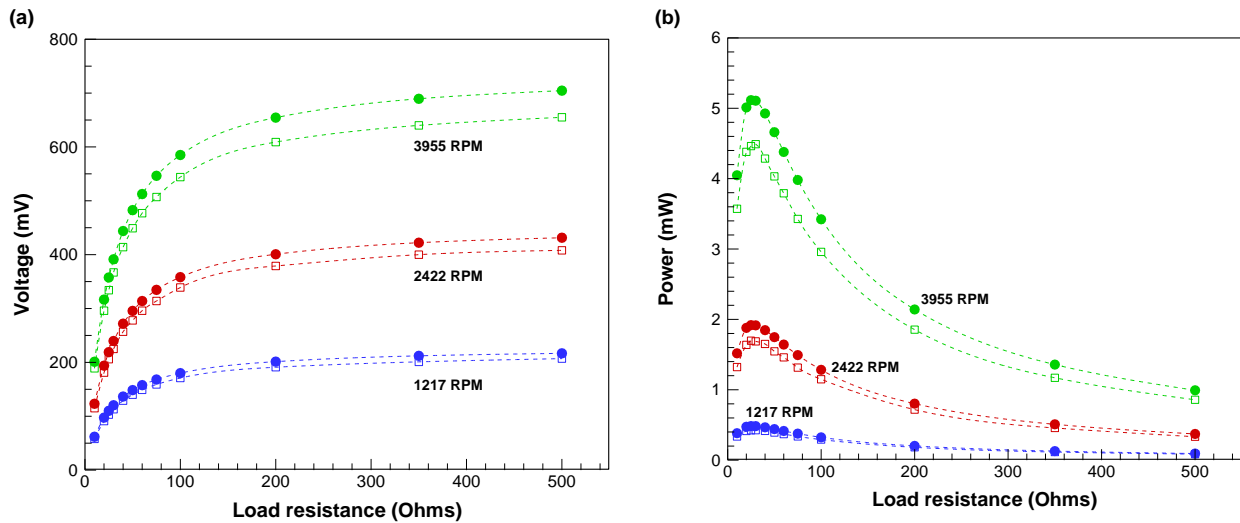
measured by placing a load resistor in series with the coil. The RMS voltage was measured by using a digital multimeter. The torque was calculated from the measured velocity profile acquired from startup to steady state condition. The velocity profile was curve fitted and differentiated to obtain an acceleration curve. The acceleration curve was multiplied by the moment of inertia of the micro wind turbine rotating components. To calculate stall torque the curve is extrapolated to  $t=0$ . The moment of inertia for the rotating components was calculated using SolidWorks and was  $6.35 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kg.m}^2$ .

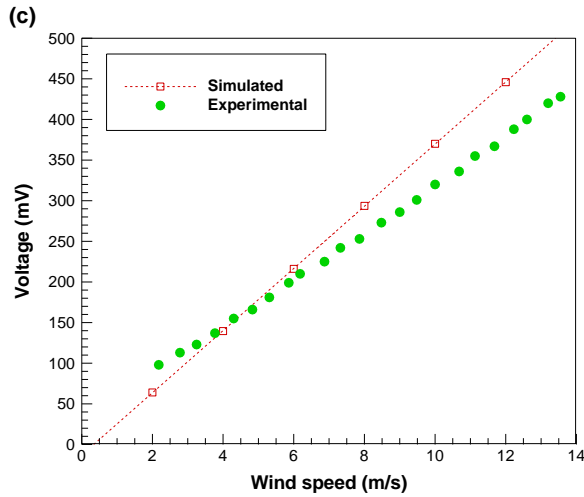


**Figure 5.9:** Experimental characterization setup

### 5.1.6 Results and discussion

The average difference between predicted and measured RMS voltage for all angular velocities was 6%. The model assumes that the coil volume is uniform in the thickness direction. The small error originates from the limits of hand winding a perfectly uniform coil. Fig. 5.10(a) and (b) show the agreement between theoretical and experimental results for three different angular velocities spanning the range of the measured results. Fig. 5.10 (c) shows a reasonable agreement between the simulation and experimental results for the complete model. The average error for the complete model was 12%.





**Figure 5.10:** Empty squares represent experimental data and filled circles represent theoretical values. (a) Comparison of experimental and theoretical voltage generated at various RPM (b) Comparison of experimental and theoretical power generated at various RPM (c) Voltage output from the generator over the operating range of the wind turbine as predicted by the simulation along with the experimental measurements

While the blade design for our prototype was based from an optimization study conducted by other researchers the generator underwent no optimization, therefore explaining the low voltage and power output even though reasonable aerodynamic power coefficient (0.185) was achieved. The goal of this study was to develop a computational and computational model for micro wind turbine design. A complete model for predicting voltage as function of wind speed was validated with a reasonable average difference of 12%. Further validation is needed for stall torque predictions with more accurate experimental equipment. This further validation could also lower the overall error across the full wind speed range for steady state angular velocity and voltage predictions. In order to increase the power output in subsequent prototypes many generator variables will be optimized with the model such as air gap (distance between coil and magnet), coil thickness, soft magnetic material thickness and magnet thickness. Also various

permanent magnet generator configurations will be investigated and compared based on power/volume using the model presented in this study.

### **5.1.7 Summary**

In this study, a combinatory computational and computational model for small scale wind turbine design (1-10 cm<sup>3</sup>) was developed. A prototype was designed and fabricated to validate the proposed computational model. The prototype was characterized at wind speeds that are typical of HVAC air flow. The average difference associated with predicting steady state velocity as a function of wind speed through CFD simulations was 5.9% at wind speeds above 4 m/s. The average difference associated with predicting generated voltage as a function angular velocity with the generator model was ~6%. The coupled comprehensive system model which predicts generated voltage as a function of wind speed was 12%. A novel coil/magnet shape was presented which enhances the conversion of rotational energy into electrical energy. Aside from this design feature, the generator underwent no further optimization and therefore explains the low power output for the prototype presented in the study. To summarize, the important performance parameters for the prototype were: start-up/cut-in speed was about 1 m/s and the maximum output power was 6.2 mW at wind speed of 13 m/s. It should be noted that the sole purpose of the prototype was to validate the computational model. The computational model presented is the first model in literature that couples the two systems: generator and blades. With the formulation we can predict the torque load that the generator places on the wind turbine. With the model presented in this study we will be able to optimize the generator and therefore increase the overall efficiency of a future micro wind turbine prototype.

## 5.2 Design of high power density generator for micro wind turbine

In the previous study, we present a model for generator design for micro wind turbine. Reasonable agreement between experimental result and predictions of 6% were achieved. In this study, we optimize a new generator design which increases the generator constant or transformation factor from 0.2535 V\*s/m to 11.89 V\*s/m. The new configuration consists of two circular arrays of magnets with a coil section in between as opposed to the old configuration of one array of magnets and a soft magnetic poling piece. A micro wind turbine with a blade diameter of 72 mm and generator volume of 5.7 cm<sup>3</sup> is fabricated. At the 2 m/s, 3 m/s, 3.7 m/s, 6 m/s, and 8 m/s condition the power density was 0.0386, 0.151, 0.27, 1.063, and 2.231 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> respectively which sets the state of art for micro wind turbine performance.

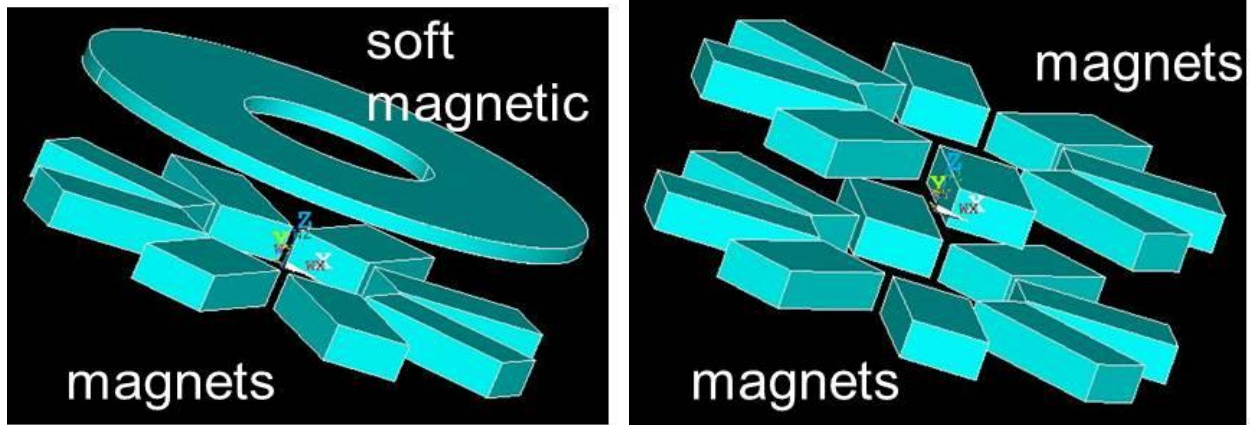
### **5.2.1 Introduction**

Many researchers have developed micro scale wind turbine to harvest flow within HVAC system in order to power wireless sensor nodes. We have summarized these works in section 5.1 showing previous state of the art power density numbers of 0.222, 0.725, and 1.309 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> at 3.5 m/s, 5.6 m/s, and 7 m/s respectively. In section 5.1, we developed and introduced an optimization model for the coupled blade and generator systems as the previous researchers have either optimized just the blades or the generator. In this study we use the model to achieve higher efficiencies than the previous state of the art.

### **5.2.2 Micro wind turbine design**

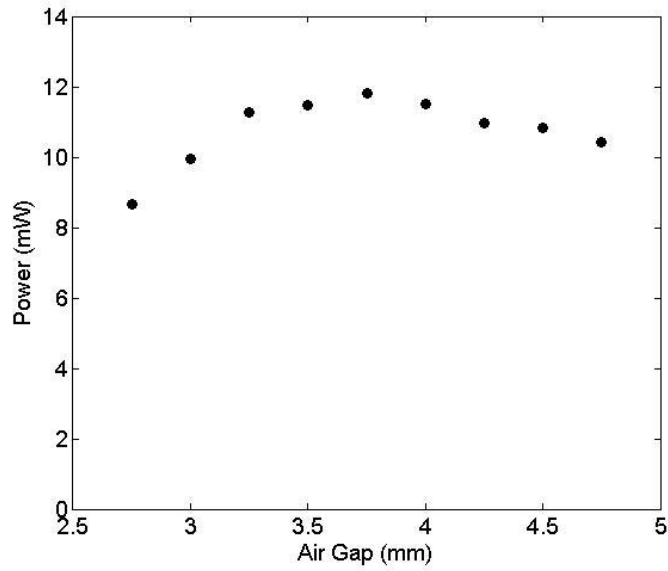
The generator described in the section 5.1 will be referred to as the 1<sup>st</sup> generation generator. The 2<sup>nd</sup> generation generator developed in this study consisted of two rotors each housing 8 rectangular magnets arranged in a circular array. This was a design improvement upon the 1<sup>st</sup> generation which only had one rotor and stator. The design changed increased the generator constant from 0.254 V\*s/m to 2.04 V\*s/m with load resistances of 25.4 ohms and 42 ohms respectively. Figure 5.11 displays a drawing of the magnet coil arrangement for the generator topologies.





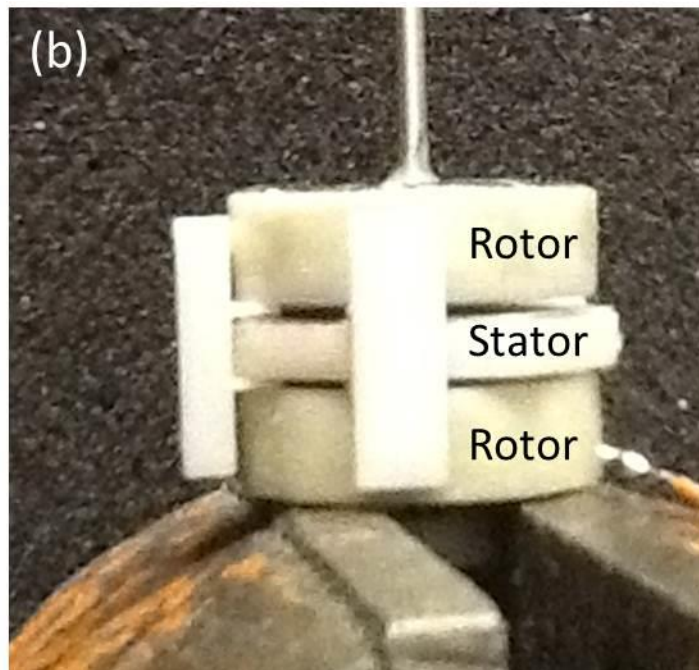
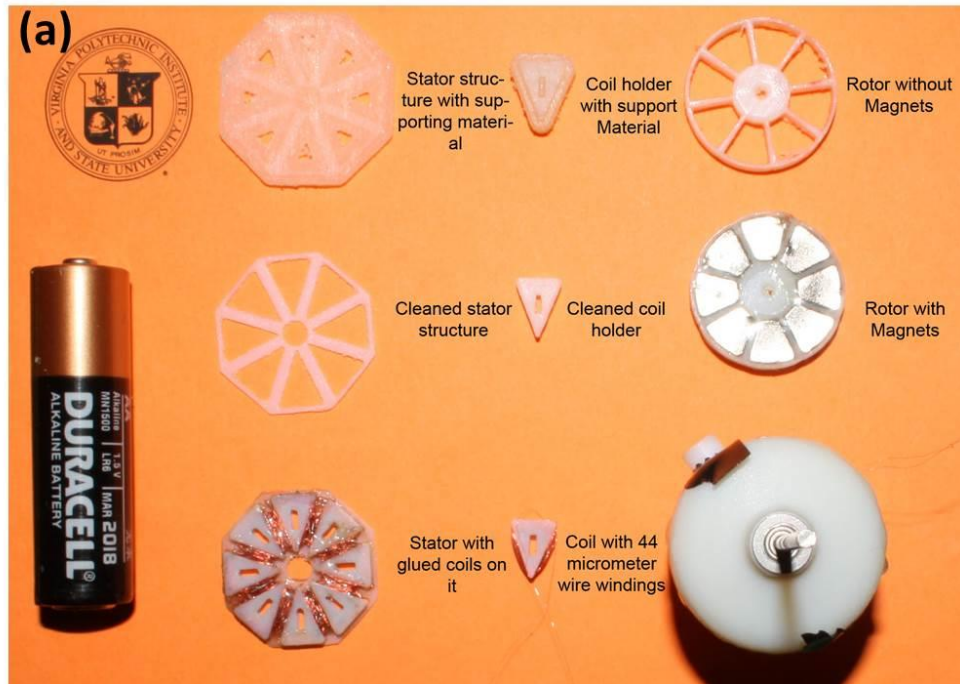
**Figure 5.11:** (a) 1<sup>st</sup> generation generator magnetic circuit layout, (b) 2<sup>nd</sup> generation generator magnetic circuit layout

The stator housed eight triangle shape coils as this was the magnetic field distribution generated by the eight rectangular magnets. The length width and thickness of the magnets were 1/8” by 1/4” by 1/8” respectively leading to an overall generator with diameter of 22 mm for the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation generator. Using the previously developed model we optimized the generator air gap or distance between the rotors due to the tradeoff between coil volume and magnet spacing existing [2]. The coil thickness was varied according to the air gap. Due to the thickness of the coil housing and allowable spacing between coil housing and magnet face the coil thickness was 2 mm less than the air gap. Fig. 5.12 displays the results from the simulation which shows an optimum air gap of 3.75 mm. The power reported refers to the power over a load resistance equal to the resistance of the coil. However, during construction the allowable 0.5 mm gap between coil housing and magnet face was not achieved due to issues with coil winding. Therefore, the coil thickness within the 3.75 mm gap was 1.25 mm rather than the simulated 1.75 mm.



**Figure 5.12:** Air gap optimization illustrating the tradeoff between coil volume and magnet spacing

A 3<sup>rd</sup> generation generator was fabricated due to the low voltage generated by the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation generator causing large losses in rectification (38% loss in power at low wind speed). Therefore, the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation generator was built with same dimensions except smaller diameter wire to increase the voltage magnitude. The change in wire size was expected to not affect the power output due to the increase in wire resistance that cancels out the additional transduction due to the number of turns. The generator constant and load resistance for the new generator consisted of 11.89 V\*s/m and 1964 ohms. A 4<sup>th</sup> generation generator was built which used arc shaped magnets rather than rectangular shaped magnets in an effort to enhance the magnetic flux density through the coils. The dimensions of the arc shaft magnets were 10.55 mm outer radius x 4.2 mm inner radius x 6.35 mm thickness. The overall diameter of the generator stayed the same as the previous generations at 22 mm. The generator constant and coil resistance for the new generator consisted of 16.99 V\*s/m and 2700 ohms. Fig. 5.13 displays images of the final generator components and their assembly.



**Figure 5.13:** (a) Image of generator components, (b) image of generator assembly

### 5.2.3 Analytical modeling and optimization of power output

The analytical modeling of the generator follows the same method as described in 5.1. Previously we have optimized the generator air gap in an effort to enhance the transformation factor and therefore power generation. It is also known that through simulation the generator that the maximum power delivered to the electrical domain occurs when  $R_L = R_c$ . However, the usable power that can be extracted with an electrical load is only 50% of the total electrical power in the electrical domain. Therefore, we derive the equation for maximum power delivered to an electrical load and provide a simple method to compare the generator efficiency for any wind turbine found in literature. Applying Kirchoffs's voltage law to the magnetic circuit due the following relationship for current can be derived:

$$\Phi(t)r\dot{\theta} - (R_e + R_L)i(t) = 0 \quad (5.23)$$

$$i(t) = \frac{\Phi(t)r}{R_e + R_L} \dot{\theta} \quad (5.24)$$

Where power delivered to electrical domain consists of:

$$P_{elec}(t) = i(t)^2(R_e + R_L) \quad (5.25)$$

And usable power delivered to an electrical load consists of:

$$P_{load}(t) = i(t)^2 R_L \quad (5.26)$$

Where generator efficiency can be defined as:

$$\eta = \frac{P_{load}}{P_{elec}} = \frac{i(t)^2 R_L}{i(t)^2 (R_e + R_L)} = \frac{R_L}{R_e + R_L} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{R_{coil}}{R_{load}}} \quad (5.27)$$

Enhancing the efficiency of the generator by increasing the coupling  $\Phi$  also increases generator torque decreases the angular velocity of blades and shaft. The incoming torque from the blades varies with the angular velocity, therefore the generator in turn affects the available power for

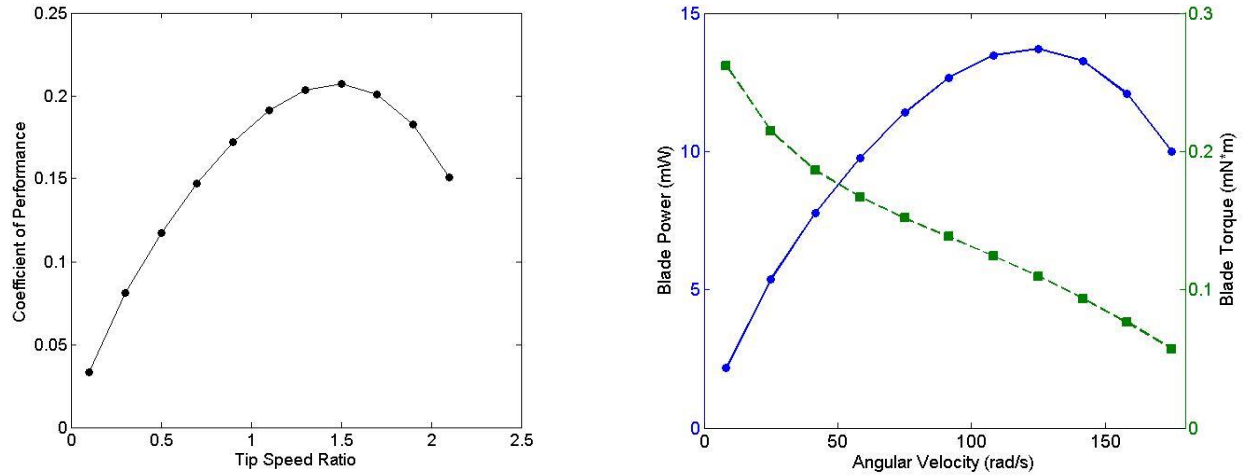
harvesting. For this reason a coupled model between the blades and the generator should be derived in order to enhance overall efficiency of the micro wind turbine.

The blades implemented in the micro wind turbine that were used for the validation of the model in this study were optimized through Blade Element Momentum theory. The theoretical performance for the blades at 3 m/s flow velocity is summarized in Fig. 5.14(a-b). Fig. 5.14 (a) describes show the coefficient of performance ( $C_p$ ) vs tip speed ratio (TSR) where TSR and  $C_p$  are defined as Eqs. 5.27-5.28:

$$TSR = \frac{\omega R}{v} \quad (5.28)$$

$$C_p = \frac{\tau_{blade}\omega}{\frac{1}{2}\rho\pi R^2 v^3} \quad (5.29)$$

Where  $\omega$  is the angular velocity of the blade,  $R$  is the radius of the blade,  $v$  is the wind velocity,  $\tau_{blade}$  is the torque on the blade, and  $\rho$  is the density of air. We can convert the  $C_p$  vs. TSR relationship to blade power (available power for harvesting) vs. angular velocity to understand how the generator should be designed in order to maximize the output power of the wind turbine and overall efficiency. Fig. 5.14 (b) displays the blade power and blade torque vs. angular velocity relationship suggesting that 13.7 mW can be harvested with the generator at 125 rad/s with 0.11 mN\*m of torque.



**Figure 5.14:** (a) Theoretical  $C_p$  vs TSR for 3 m/s wind speed, (b) blade power and blade torque vs angular velocity for 3 m/s wind speed

As mentioned in Section 5.1, the generator torque decreases the angular velocity and is described through the relationship:

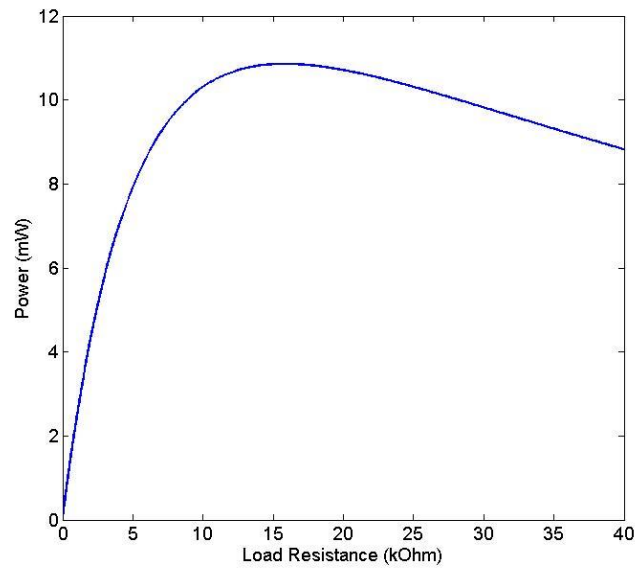
$$\tau_{generator,avg} = F_{avg}r = \frac{B_{max}LI}{2}r = B_{max}L \frac{(B_{max}Lv)}{2(R_e+R_L)}r = \frac{(B_{max}l)^2r^2}{2(R_e+R_L)}\dot{\theta} = \frac{(\Phi_{max})^2r^2}{2(R_e+R_L)}\dot{\theta} \quad (5.30)$$

where coil resistance  $R_e$ , load resistance  $R_L$ , magnetic flux density  $B$ , coil length  $L$ , generator constant  $\Phi$ , radius of generator  $r$ , and angular velocity  $\dot{\theta}$ .

By setting the generator torque equal to the blade torque we can determine the optimum load resistance which matches the optimal operation points. The relationship between blade torque is assumed linear and Eq. 5.30 is generated from a linear curve fit of the blade torque/angular velocity trend in Fig. 5.14 (b).

$$\tau_{blade} = -1.1e - 6\omega + 0.00024 \quad (5.31)$$

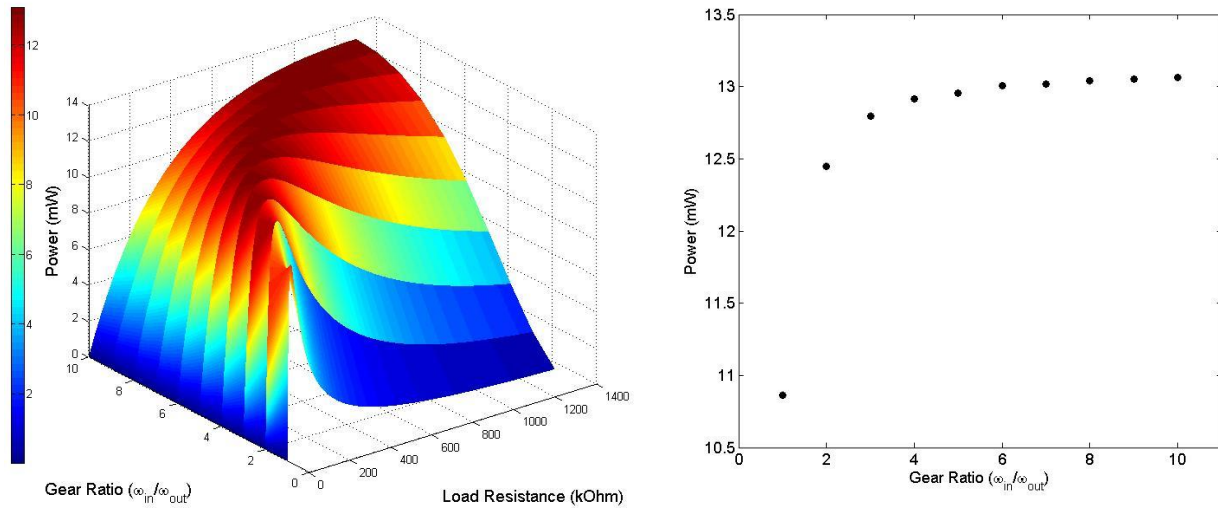
Figure 5.15 displays the results of the simulation showing an optimum load resistance of 16 kOhm generating 10.86 mW. This leads to a generator efficiency of 85.6 %, combined system efficiency of 79.2%, and wind turbine efficiency of 16.4%.



**Figure 5.15:** Power as a function of load resistance

The generator and system efficiency can be enhanced further by increasing the coupling term without increasing the resistance. As shown in Eq. 5.27, the generator efficiency increases as the difference between optimum load resistance and coil resistance increases. To maintain the same matched torque, Eq. 5.30 shows that if  $\Phi$  increases without an increase in coil resistance, the optimum load resistance will increase. Therefore, a higher overall system efficiency can be achieved. The increase is limited as you cannot increase the coil size as the resistance is increased. The only method is to use thicker magnets which increase the overall volume of the prototype. Another method to increase the coupling is to implement a gear train. Planetary gear trains can create a variety of different gear ratios in small compact volume. Figure 5.16(a) displays the results with implementation of gear train into the model showing that increasing a gear ratio increases the load resistance and therefore the power output. To analyze how much the power output increases with increase in gear ratio we plot power at optimum load resistance vs. gear ratio in Fig. 5.16(b). A 14.6% increase in power is gained from the addition of a 2:1 gear ratio and an additional increase of 2.8% in power is gained from a 3:1 gear ratio. The increase

hereafter is minimal (0.89%) and therefore is not recommended as increasing the gear ratio will increase the startup speed of the prototype. With a 3:1 gear ratio 12.8 mW of power is generated at 120 kOhm optimum load. This leads to a generator efficiency of 97.8 %, system efficiency of 93.4%, and wind turbine efficiency of 19.4%. These increases are assuming no loss in efficiency due to the gearing. In future study, the effect of the gearing efficiency should be considered.



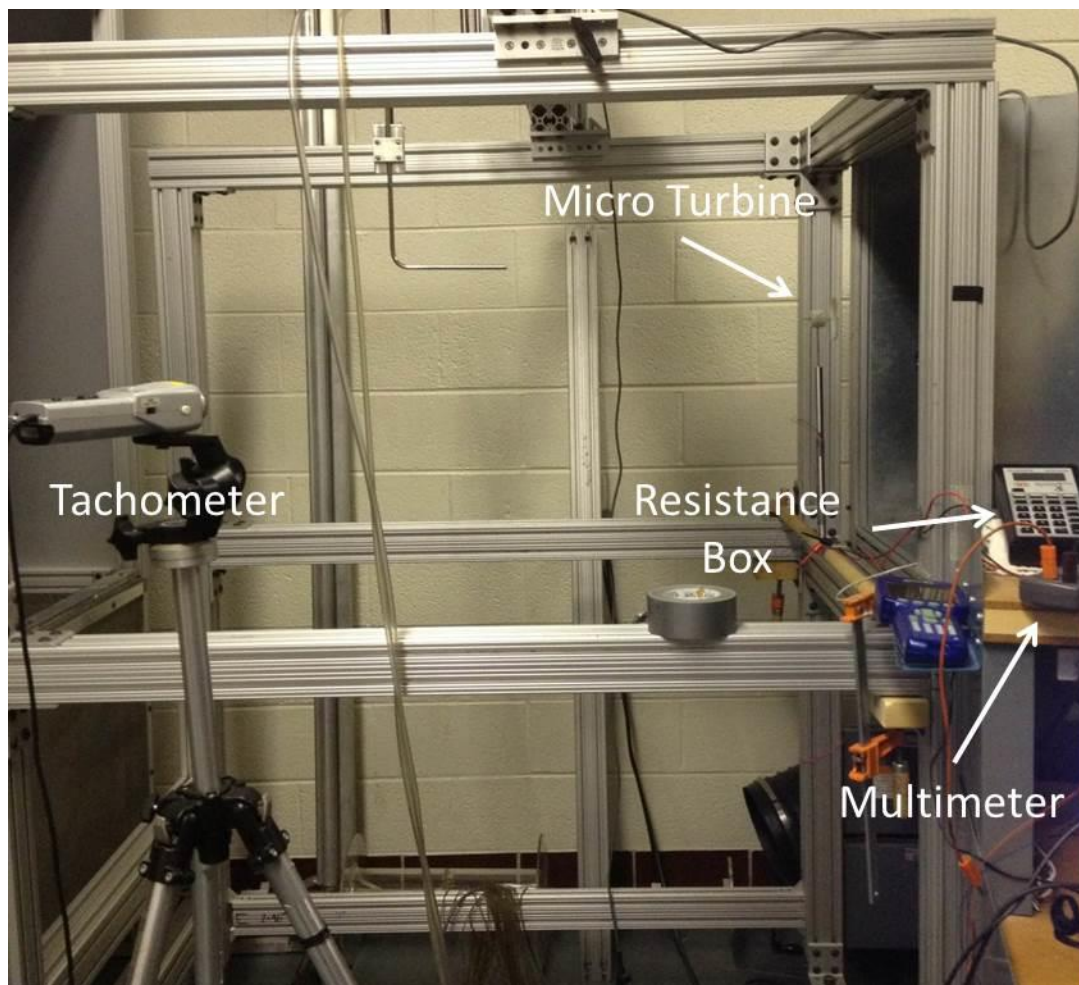
**Figure 5.16:** (a) Performance with implementation of gear train into the model showing that increasing a gear ratio increases the load resistance and therefore the power output (b) power at optimum load resistance vs. gear ratio

## 5.2.4 Experimental results

The micro wind turbine was experimentally characterized in an open jet wind tunnel with a square 0.7 m by 0.7 m test section. The rotational velocity was measured using a Shimpo DT-209X tachometer with software acquiring and recording measurements in real time. Wind tunnel velocity was measured using an Xplorer GLX PS-2002 vane anemometer. Voltage generated by the wind turbine was measured by placing a load resistor in series with the coil. The RMS voltage was measured by using a digital multimeter. For DC voltage measurements a full bridge



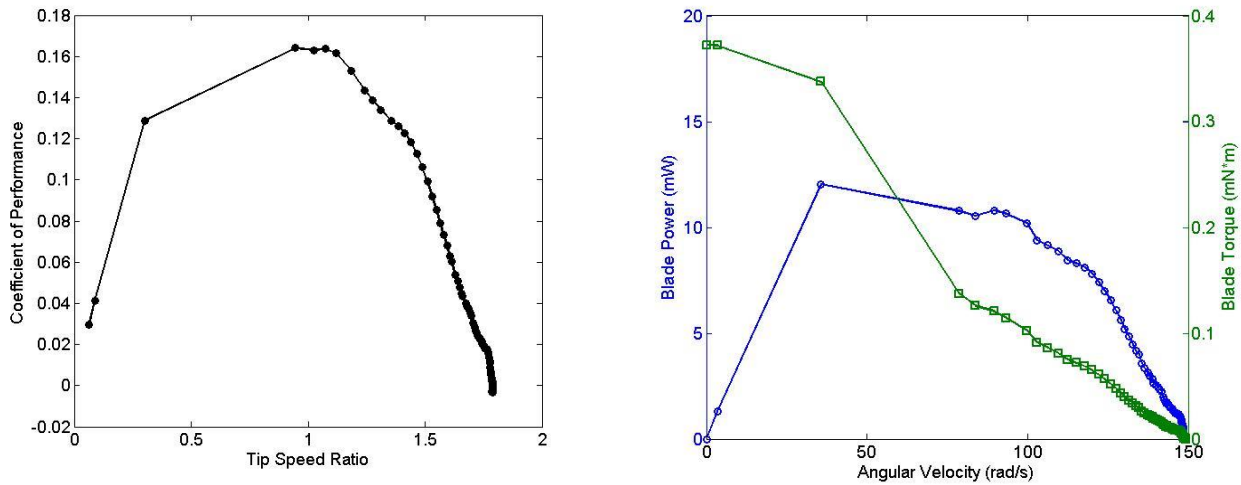
rectifier using Schottky diodes was placed on the output of the wind turbine. The torque was calculated from the measured velocity profile acquired from startup to steady state condition. The velocity profile was curve fitted and differentiated to obtain an acceleration curve. The acceleration curve was multiplied by the moment of inertia of the micro wind turbine rotating components. To calculate stall torque the curve is extrapolated to  $t=0$ . The moment of inertia for the rotating components was calculated using SolidWorks and was  $3.023 \times 10^{-7} \text{ kg.m}^2$ . Fig. 5.17 displays a picture of the experimental setup.



**Figure 5.17:** Experimental setup using open jet wind tunnel

Figure 5.18 (a-b) displays the results of the blade power and torque vs. angular velocity that was determined experimentally. The experimental  $C_p$  and blade power were 21% lower than

the theoretical predictions. This is due to the limitations of the BEM model that were briefly mentioned in 5.1. Experimentally it was determined that 10.81 mW of power are available to harvest from blades within 3 m/s wind speed. Fig. 5.18 (b) displays the blade power and blade torque vs angular velocity relationship suggesting that 10.81 mW can be harvested with the generator at 85 rad/s with 0.123 mN\*m of torque.



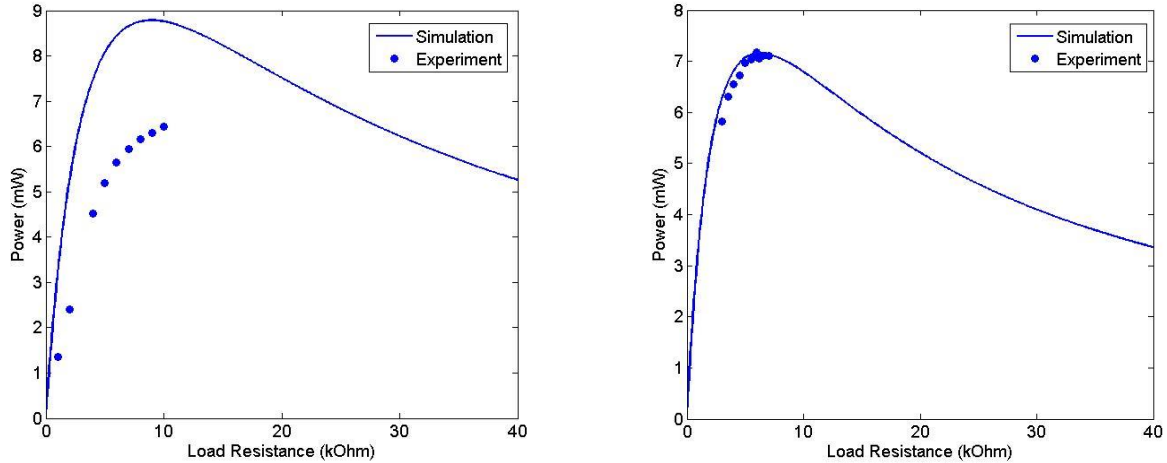
**Figure 5.18:** (a) Experimental  $C_p$  vs TSR for 3 m/s wind speed, (b) blade power and blade torque vs. angular velocity for 3 m/s wind speed

To validate the propose model Eq. 5.30 is generated from a linear curve fit of the blade torque/angular velocity trend in Fig. 5.18 (b).

$$\tau_{blade} = -2.3e - 6\omega + 0.00034 \quad (5.32)$$

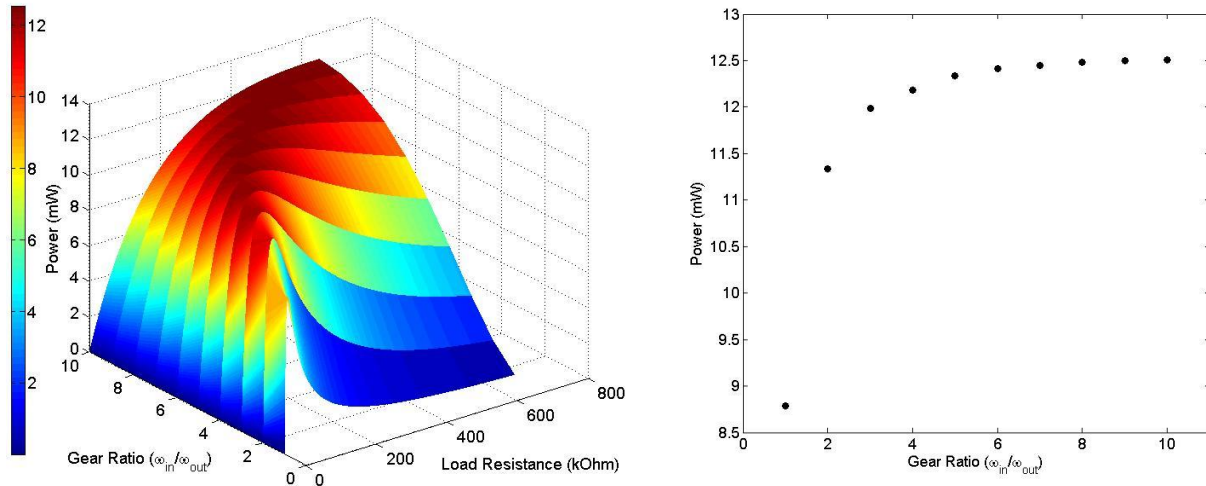
Figure 5.19(a) displays the results of the simulation as well as the experimental results. The simulation shows an optimum load resistance of 8.9 kOhm generating 8.79 mW. This leads to a generator efficiency of 76.7 %, combined system efficiency of 64.2%, and wind turbine efficiency of 13.3%. The experimental data does not agree with the theoretical data due to damaged bearings during fabrication. Additional data with the 4<sup>th</sup> generation generator taken in a

previous experiment with a larger air gap (lower  $\Phi$ ) is used for validation of the proposed model and is shown in Fig. 5.17(b). The experimental data and simulations are in good agreement.



**Figure 5.19:** (a) Model comparison with experiments with 4<sup>th</sup> generation generator (b) model comparison with experiments with 4<sup>th</sup> generation generator with larger air gap

Assuming that the simulation is correct in Fig. 5.19(a) with undamaged bearings, Fig. 5.20(a) displays the increase in performance that could be achieved with implementation of gear train for the experimental blade torque vs. angular velocity relationship. To analyze how much the power output increases with increase in gear ratio we plot power at optimum load resistance vs. gear ratio in Fig. 5.20(b). A 29% increase in power is gained from the addition of a 2:1 gear ratio and an additional increase of 5.7% in power is gained from a 3:1 gear ratio. The increase hereafter is minimal (1.6%) and therefore is not recommended as increasing the gear ratio will increase the startup speed of the prototype. With a 3:1 gear ratio 11.98 mW of power is generated at 56 kOhm optimum load. This leads to a generator efficiency of 95.4 %, system efficiency of 87.4%, and wind turbine efficiency of 18.1%. These increases are assuming no loss in efficiency due to the gearing. In future study, the effect of the gearing efficiency should be considered.

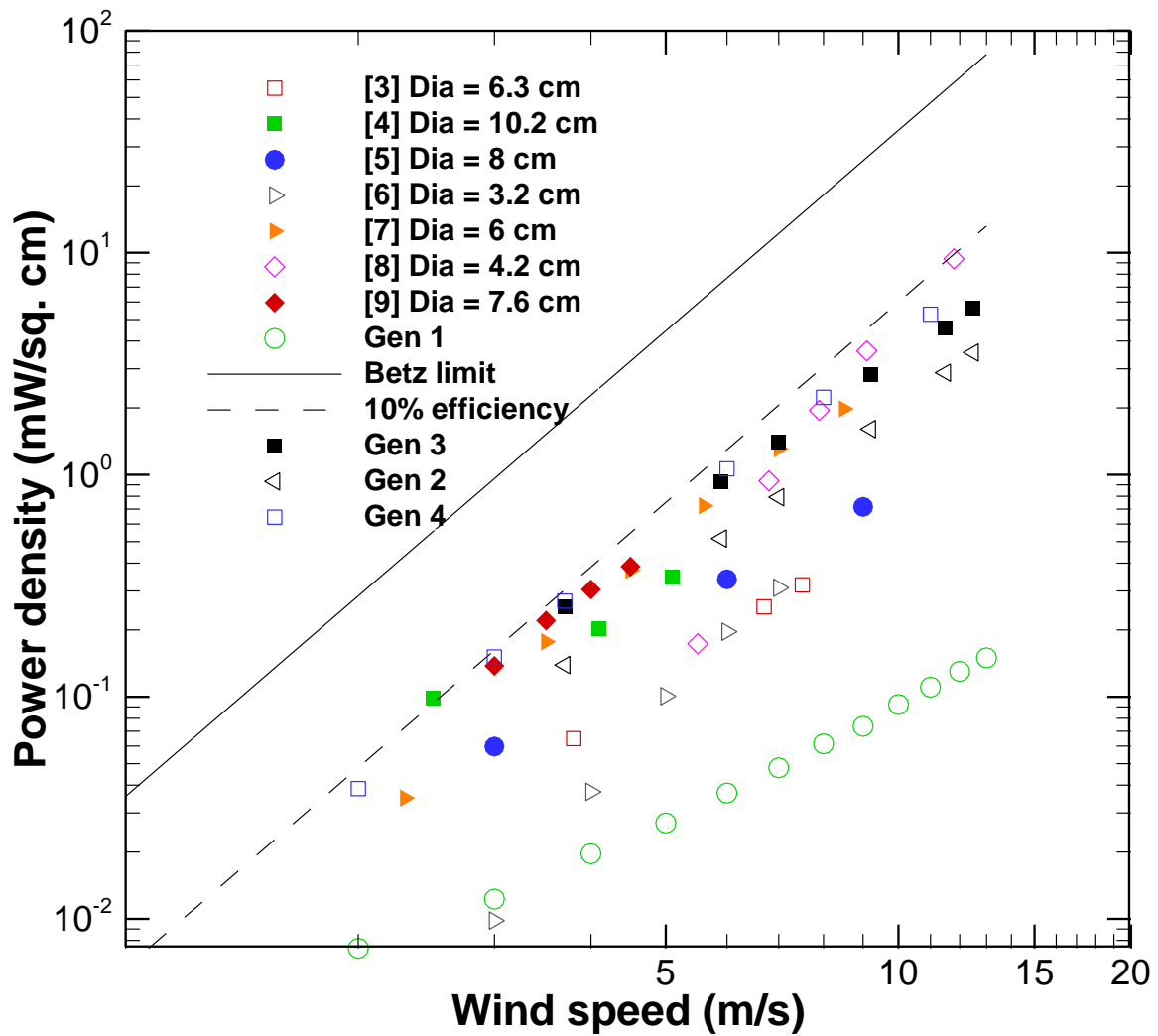


**Figure 5.20:** (a) Performance with implementation of gear train into the model with experimental blade torque-velocity relationship, showing that increasing a gear ratio increases the load resistance and therefore the power output (b) power at optimum load resistance vs. gear ratio

The micro wind turbine was experimentally characterized at several different wind speeds ranging from 2 m/s to 12.5 m/s as these were the values found in a typical commercial HVAC system as shown in 5.1. Table 5.1 summarizes the performance of each generator developed throughout this study and Fig. 5.21 compares the prototypes to the state of the art showing that our prototype is state of the art for all wind speeds.

**Table 5.1:** Summary of generator performance

Generator	Wind Speed	Angular Velocity (RPM)	Angular Velocity (rad/s)	AC Voltage (V)	AC Load Resistance (ohm)	AC Power (mW)	DC Voltage (V)	DC Load Resistance	DC Power
<b>1st</b>	2.18	1047	109.64	0.098	30	0.320	N/A	N/A	N/A
	3.25	1337	140.01	0.113	25	0.511	N/A	N/A	N/A
	3.77	1480	154.99	0.126	25	0.635	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4.83	1791	187.55	0.166	30	0.919	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6.18	2302	241.07	0.21	30	1.47	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7.86	2723	285.15	0.233	25	2.172	N/A	N/A	N/A
	10	3456	361.91	0.293	25	3.434	N/A	N/A	N/A
	12.23	4162	435.84	0.388	30	5.018	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>2nd</b>	3.7	1011	105.87	1.08	100	11.66	1.2	200	7.2
	5.9	1870	195.83	1.98	100	39.20	1.79	120	26.70
	7	2221	232.58	2.27	90	57.25	2.397	140	41.04
	9.2	3165	331.44	3	80	112.5	3.026	110	83.24
	11.5	4003	419.19	3.7	70	195.6	3.665	90	149.3
	12.5	4258	445.9	3.449	50	237.9	4.29	100	184.0
<b>3rd</b>	3.7	923	96.656	7.7515	4925	12.2	7.37	5325	10.2
	5.9	1782	186.61	14.254	4725	43	15.481	6325	37.89
	7	2162	226.40	16.8	4425	63.78	19.776	6825	57.3
	9.2	3062	320.65	23.715	4425	127.1	27.381	6525	114.9
	11.5	3911	409.56	29.502	4125	211	29.749	4725	187.3
	12.5	4209	440.77	32.56	4125	257	31.888	4425	229.8
<b>4th</b>	2	550	57.596	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.68	37500	1.573
	3	858	89.85	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.37	17500	6.145
	3.7	1097	114.88	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.84	15000	10.99
	6	1965	205.77	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.8	10000	43.26
	8	2728	285.68	N/A	N/A	N/A	26.1	7500	90.83
	11	4060	425.16	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.8	7000	215.1



**Figure 5.21:** Performance comparison of published micro wind turbines with the micro wind turbines developed in this study. Output power is normalized by device cross-sectional area and plotted as a function of wind speed

### 5.2.5 Summary

In this study, we used the model developed in Section 5.1 to design a generator to operate at the angular velocity corresponding to maximum coefficient of power for the blades. Utilizing the model, a method of optimizing the overall system efficiency by increasing  $\Phi$  and decreasing  $R_c$  was determined. While we set the state of the art with our 4<sup>th</sup> generation generator implemented in the micro wind turbine, there was still room for improvement through further generator optimization and implementation of gear train.

## **6 CHAPTER 6: DESIGNING ENERGY HARVESTERS FOR WIRELESS SENSOR NETWORK IMPLEMENTATION IN SMART BUILDINGS**

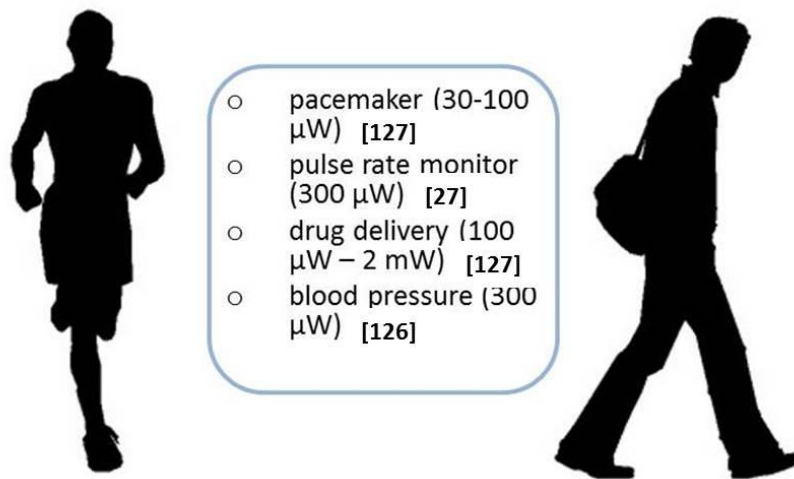
### **6.1 Pen harvester for integration within smart buildings**

With the continued advancement in electronics the power requirement for micro-sensors has been decreasing opening the possibility for incorporating on-board energy harvesting devices to create self-powered sensors. The requirement for the energy harvesters are small size, light weight and the possibility of a low-budget mass production. In this study, we focus on developing an energy harvester for powering a pulse rate sensor. We propose to integrate an inductive energy harvester within a commonly available pen to harvest vibration energy from normal human motions like jogging and jumping. An existing prototype was reviewed which consists of a magnet wedged between two mechanical springs housed within a cylindrical shell. A single copper coil surrounds the cylindrical shell which harvests energy through Faraday's effect during magnet oscillation. This study reports a design change to the previous prototype providing a significant reduction in the device foot print without causing major losses in power generation. By breaking the single coil in the previous prototype into three separate coils an increase in power density was achieved. Several pulse rate sensors were evaluated to determine a target power requirement of 0.3 mW. To evaluate the prototype as a potential solution, the harvester was excited at various frequencies and accelerations typically produced through jogging and jumping motion. The improved prototype generated 0.043 mW at 0.56 g<sub>rms</sub> and 3 Hz; and 0.13 mW at 1.14 g<sub>rms</sub> at 5 Hz. The design change allowed reduction in total volume from 8.59 cm<sup>3</sup> to 1.31 cm<sup>3</sup> without significant losses in power generation.



### 6.1.1 Introduction

Energy harvesting represents the process in which electrical energy is generated from freely available ambient environment sources such as solar energy, thermal energy, wind energy and kinetic energy. The mechanical energy can be converted into electric energy through various mechanisms such as inductive, piezoelectric, magnetoelectric, electrets and electroactive polymers. In this study, we develop a harvester that can convert vibration energy generated from typical human motion into electrical energy. The generated electricity can be provided wirelessly to implantable and body worn medical sensors. Common medical sensors with their respective power requirements are shown in Fig. 6.1.



**Figure 6.1:** Power requirement for various implantable and body worn medical sensors

The requirement for vibration energy harvester in the body sensor network is that it should be small, lightweight, and comfortably fit within the clothing and/or belongings carried every day. Also the vibration energy harvester should be designed to operate optimally at the source conditions. In a study conducted by Jaeseok et al., the magnitude of vibration was measured at six different locations on eight different people with accelerometers [128].

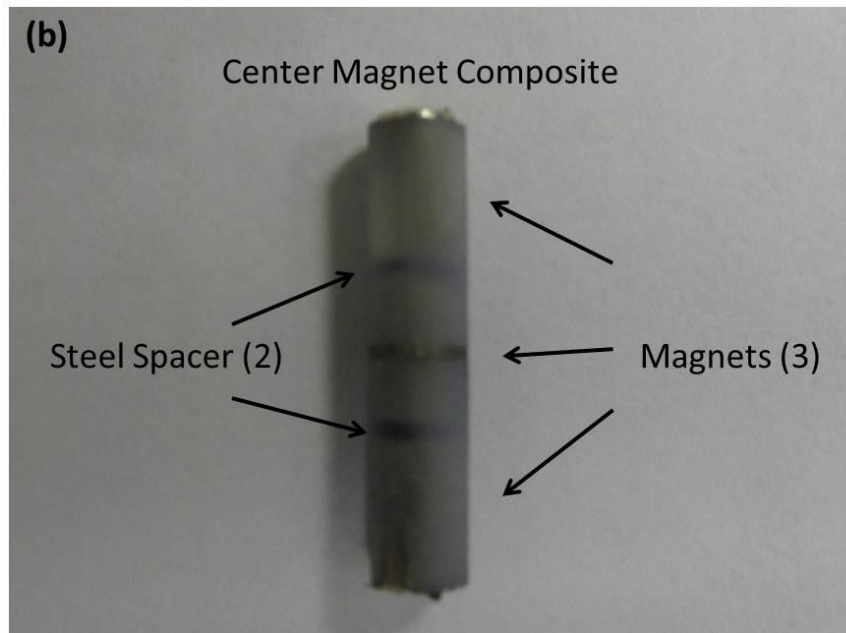
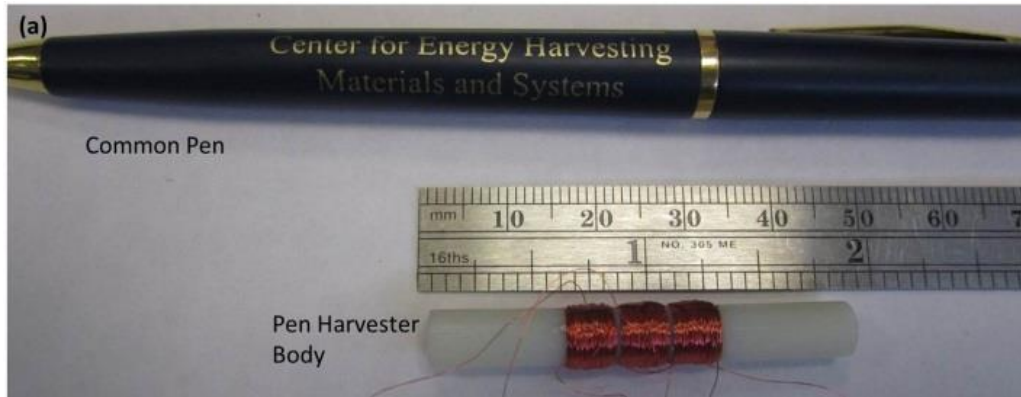
Analyzing the results from their study, the vibration frequencies and accelerations typically generated during human motion are between 0.5 - 5 Hz and 0.2 - 1.6 G. These frequencies and accelerations are similar to reported data in studies conducted by Saha et al. and Naruse et al. [70, 129].

In a previous study, we developed a vibration energy harvester for human body and integrated the prototype into a marker pen [27]. The energy harvester generated 0.37 mW at 3.5 Hz and 1.17 mW at 5 Hz meeting the power requirement of a common pulse rate sensor (~ 0.3 mW). While the power requirement was met, a marker pen is typically not carried every day by the average human. Therefore the focus of this study was to reduce the form factor of the energy harvester to integrate into a common pen, while maintaining the 0.3 mW power requirement. To this end, we present the design and analysis of a prototype which improves upon the magnet geometry and coil configuration of the previously developed prototype. We discuss the results of a detailed analysis of the design changes effect on power output. The improved pen harvester incorporates magnetic springs instead of mechanical springs used in the previous version in order to decrease friction. As a result, the transduction of mechanical energy to electrical energy was enhanced. We present a method for modeling the nonlinear dynamics which improves upon the modeling presented in the previous work. The pen harvester was fabricated and experimentally characterized to evaluate the capability of powering various implantable and body worn medical devices

### **6.1.2 Pen harvester design**

The overall length and diameter of the previous prototype was 70 mm and 12.5 mm respectively. The prototype developed in this study has an overall length of 45 mm and overall diameter of 6.1 mm as shown in Fig. 6.2 (a). In the previous prototype a single cylindrical

magnet oscillated within one coil. In an effort to decrease the size of the harvester without significantly decreasing electromagnetic transduction, we modified the design which contains an oscillating center composite magnet as shown in Fig. 6.2 (b). The center composite magnet consists of three 2.54 mm diameter by 4.76 mm long cylindrical magnets. It has been shown that a center composite magnet consisting of two magnets with opposite polarity generates magnetic fields that are twice as strong as the single center magnet of same total volume [70]. As the prototype length was decreased, the coil was split into three sections to enhance the transduction within the limited oscillation range. Each coil section was 5 mm in length consisting of 38 AWG wire. The increase in electromagnetic transduction as a result of the two design changes was analyzed and explained in the theoretical analysis section of the paper. To reduce friction, we incorporated magnetic springs rather than mechanical springs used in the previous prototype. The magnetic springs were created by oscillating a levitating magnet between two magnets which have opposite polarity. The magnetic levitation introduces nonlinearity to the system. The benefit of the nonlinear response of the center magnet velocity to base acceleration was modeled and analyzed in the theoretical analysis section of the paper.



**Figure 6.2:** Improved prototype Images (a) Pen harvester (b) Composite magnet.

### 6.1.3 Theoretical analysis

In order to theoretically determine the output power of harvester the dynamics of center magnet and the magnetic field distribution within the pen harvester was determined. The dynamics of the oscillating magnet was modeled using a nonlinear spring-mass-damper mechanical system with an external applied base excitation given as:

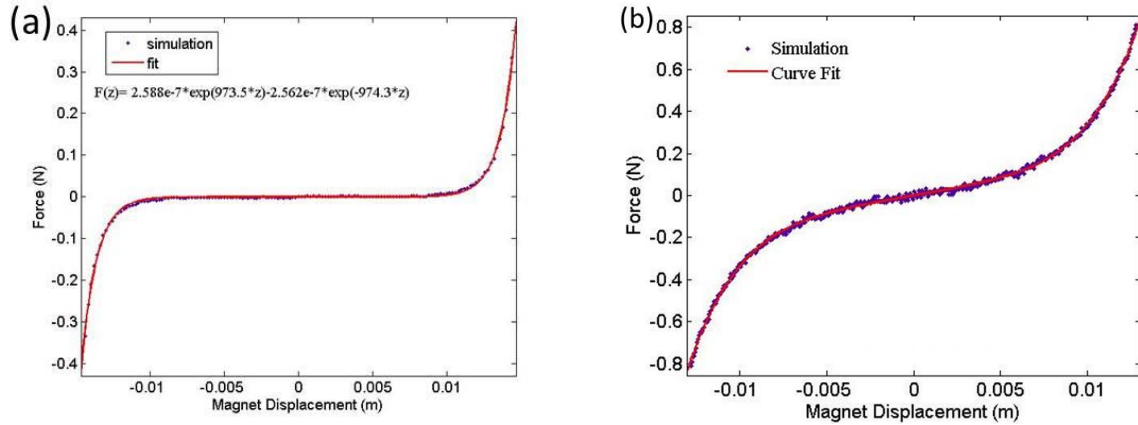
$$m\ddot{z}(t) + (c_m + c_e)\dot{z}(t) + A\exp(Bz(t)) - C\exp(Dz(t)) = -m\ddot{y}(t) - mg \quad (6.1)$$

where  $m$  is the total mass of the center magnet composite,  $c_m$  is the mechanical damping constant,  $c_e$  is the electrical damping constant,  $A, B, C, D$  are the nonlinear stiffness constants,  $\ddot{z}(t)$  is the relative acceleration between the acceleration of the structure  $\ddot{y}(t)$  and the vibrating mass  $\ddot{x}(t)$ ,  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity ( $9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ ). The stiffness refers to the stiffness created by the repulsive force exerted on the center magnet by the top/bottom magnets. The stiffness constants for the system were approximated using the following non-linear relationship:

$$F(z) = A \exp(Bz(t)) - C \exp(Dz(t)) \quad (6.2)$$

where  $F$  is the repulsive force exerted by the outer magnets on the center magnet,  $z$  is the relative displacement of the center magnet,  $A, B, C, D$  are the nonlinear stiffness constants. In order to estimate the repulsive force as a function of center magnet displacement, computational simulations using ANSYS magnetics package was performed. The analysis was executed by using Solid 236 elements for magnets, air, soft magnetic material (steel). Fig. 6.3 (a) shows the variation in net force on center magnet (repulsive force) as a function of center magnet displacement. In order to approximate the stiffness constants, the computational data was fitted with a combination of two exponential curve fit as described by Eq. 6.2 shown in Fig. 6.3(a). From the curve fit the constants were determined to be:  $A = 2.588e - 7$  and  $B = 973.5 \text{ N/m}$ ,  $C = 2.562e - 7$  and  $D = -974.3 \text{ N/m}$ . Typically the stiffness profile of magnetic levitation energy harvesters can be curve fit with a third order polynomial which converts Eq. 6.1 into the form of the Duffing equation [71]. Fig. 6.3 (b) represents an example of a stiffness profile curve fit with a third order polynomial. Fig. 6.3 (a) displays a large range of center magnet displacement where the center magnet is not repelling from either the top or bottom magnets. Fig. 6.3 (b) displays that the center magnet is always repelling the top and bottom magnets. The

effect of this region of no magnet to magnet interaction on pen harvester performance is discussed in the results and discussion section of the paper.



**Figure 6.3:** Force as a function of center magnet composite displacement predicted by ANSYS (a) pen harvester (b) magnetic levitation harvester

The last term defining the mechanical system is the mechanical damping constant,  $c_m$ . The mechanical damping constant is a function of other system parameters given as:

$$c_m = 2\zeta_m\sqrt{km} \quad (6.3)$$

where  $k$  is the stiffness constant,  $m$  is the mass, and  $\zeta_m$  is mechanical damping ratio. The damping ratio of a spring mass damper system can be only determined experimentally and affects the range of motion of the center magnet. The damping ratio is typically calculated through the logarithmic decrement method or curve fit of frequency response functions. In order to predict the power output, we applied Kirchoff's voltage law to the magnetic circuit given as:

$$U = Bl\dot{z} - R_e i \quad (6.4)$$

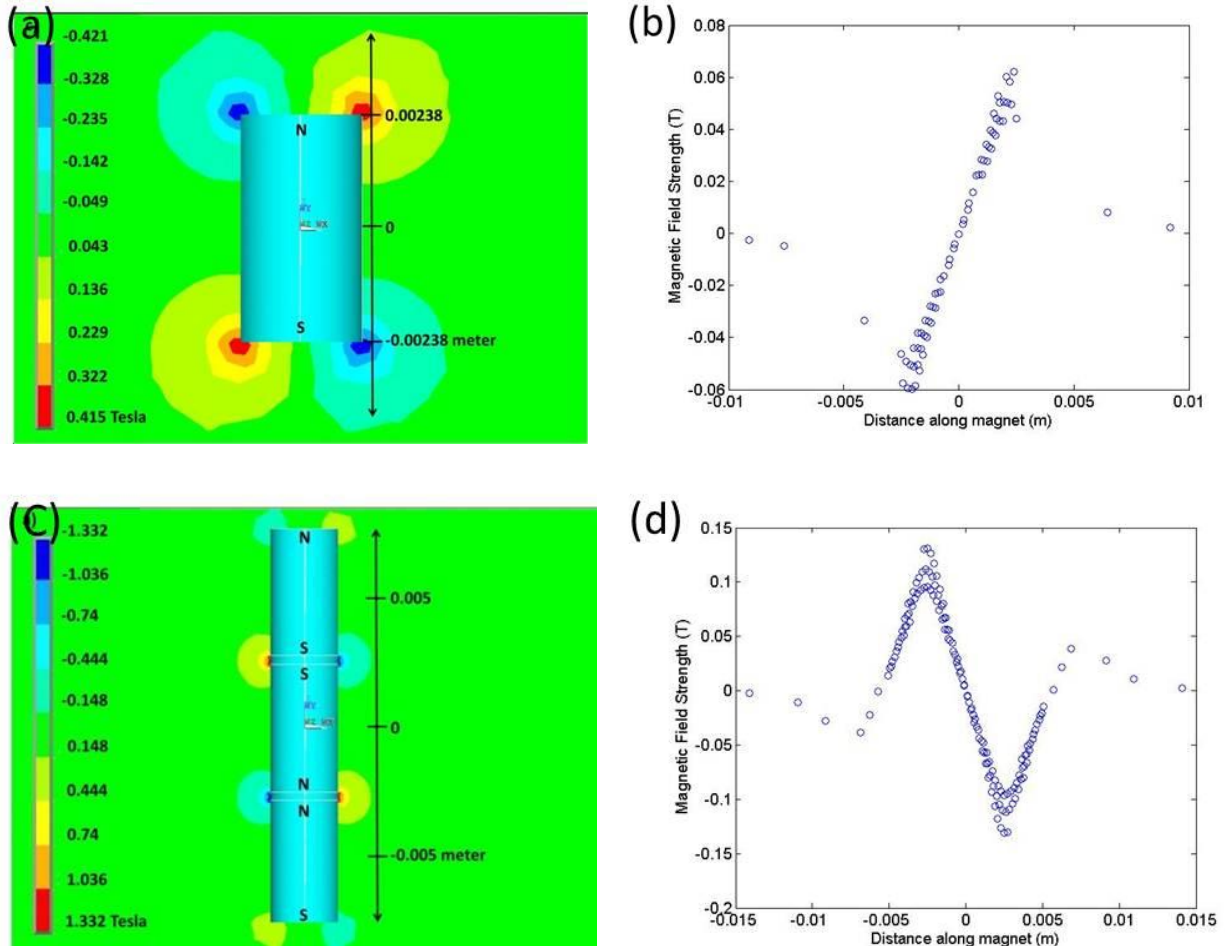
$$U = \frac{Bl\dot{z}}{R_L + R_e} R_L \quad (6.5)$$

$$P = \left( \frac{Bl\dot{z}}{R_L + R_e} \right)^2 R_L \quad (6.6)$$

where the quantity  $\dot{z}$  represents the relative displacement of the magnet with respect to coil,  $R_L$  is the load resistance,  $B$  is the magnetic field,  $l$  is the length of coil,  $R_c$  is the coil resistance. The coil inductance was not included in the modeling of the electrical system. It has been stated that inductance in electromagnetic harvesters operating at low frequencies ( $<1$  kHz) can be neglected [24, 79]. Eq. (6.1) can be numerically solved for velocity that can be inserted into Eq. (6.6). The transformation factor  $Bl$  which directly quantifies the transduction of mechanical energy into electrical energy can be estimated by modeling the variation in magnetic field strength along the length of the magnet using ANSYS. The model presented above allows for the prediction of power given certain base excitation frequency and acceleration. The prototype fabricated did not allow for center magnet velocity measurement because the center magnet is enclosed in the prototype casing. Estimation of damping ratio requires center magnet velocity measurement, therefore the prediction of power output for given conditions and direct comparison to experimental results was not evaluated. In a future study the design will be modified to measure the center magnet velocity and perform an optimization of the harvester dynamics.

As the goal of this work was to improve the transformation factor ( $Bl$ ), we model the increase in the transformation factor gained through the two main design improvements. Fig. 6.4 (a) shows the average distribution of magnetic field around a single cylindrical magnet. Fig. 6.4 (b) shows the variation in the average magnetic field strength in the  $z$  direction that cuts the coil section for the same single cylindrical magnet. Fig. 6.4 (c-d) shows the same magnetic field distributions as Fig. 6.4 (a-b) except for the new center magnet composite. Note that the magnets are not drawn to scale; therefore the magnets are dimensioned in Fig. 6.4. The magnetic field strength increase gained from using a center magnet composite as compared to a single center magnet is more than 2X. As shown in Eq. 6.6, the magnetic field strength is related to

power squared, thus the design change was a significant improvement to the previous prototype which consisted of a single center magnet.

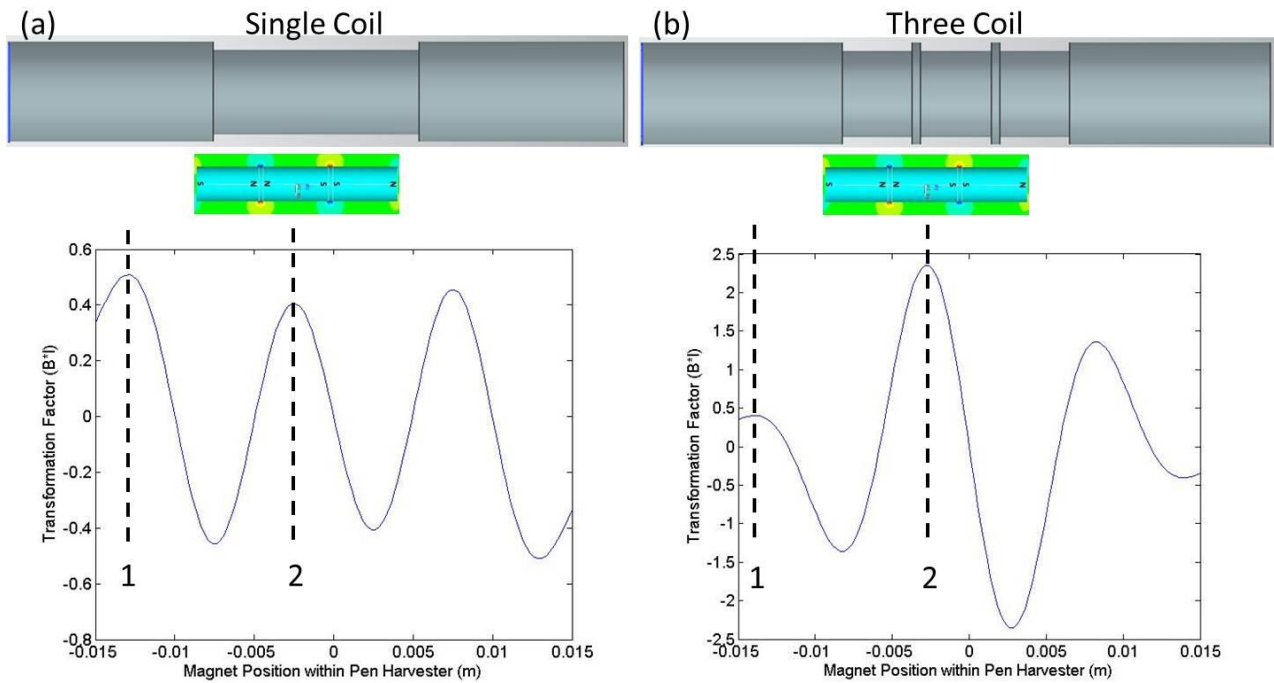


**Figure 6.4:** Magnetic field distribution for single center magnet (a-b) and composite center magnet (c-d)

In the previous prototype, a single coil was used with length greater than the length of magnet. The design was not optimum since during significant regions of center magnet displacement no voltage was created due to cancellation of current transduction within the coil. The cancellation occurs because the direction of the magnetic field vectors at each end of the magnet is opposite. For the new prototype the single coil is split into three separate coils of similar length to the middle magnet within the center magnet composite. All three coils are connected therefore the



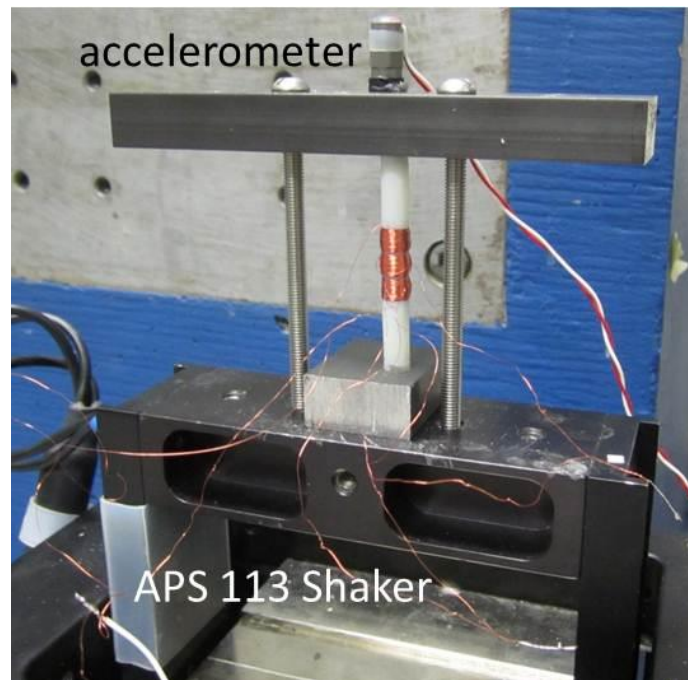
total resistance stays the same between the two coil designs. The leads of the middle coil are switched to prevent cancellation of voltage transduction. Fig. 6.5 (a-b) shows the increase in the transformation factor gained from the three coil configuration. At position 1 the transformation factor value is the same between the two coil configurations for two reasons. The magnetic field strength at the leading edge of the center magnet composite is the same and the center magnet has entered only the first coil section of the three coil prototype. As the center magnet moves to position 2 one end of the magnet moves through the first coil section the other end of the same magnet which has magnetic field in opposite direction is moving through the second coil section. Due to the switching of the middle coil leads the transformation factor within the three coil configuration is ~6X higher than the single coil configuration.



**Figure 6.5:** Transformation factor as a function of magnet position within pen harvester (a) single coil (b) three coil

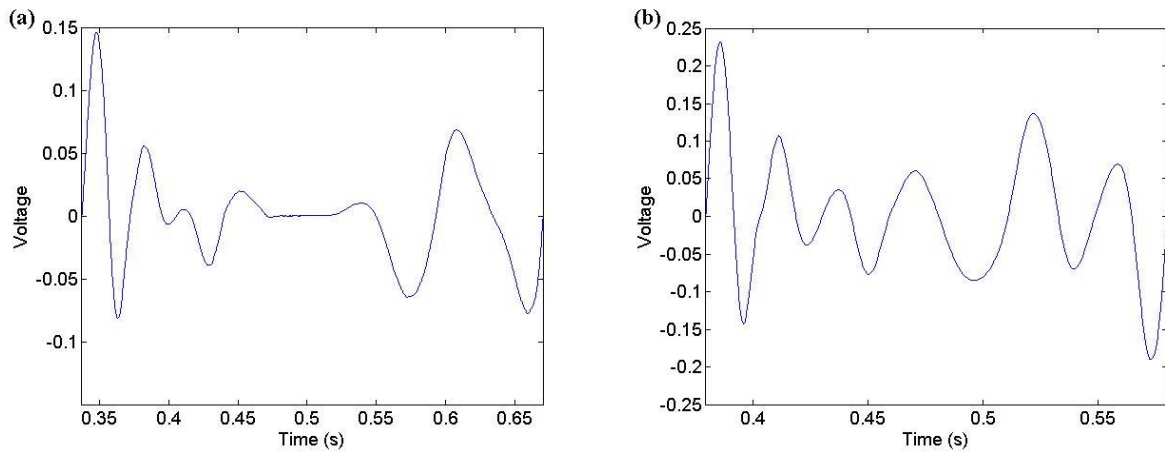
#### 6.1.4 Results and discussion

The pen harvester was experimentally characterized at frequencies of 3 Hz and 5 Hz. The previous version of the pen harvester was able to generate 0.37 mW at 3.5 Hz and 1.17 mW at 5 Hz. The second version of the pen harvester was tested under similar conditions to present the comparative analysis. The pen harvester was mounted on an electrodynamic shaker (APS 113), and the base acceleration was measured with an accelerometer (Piezotronics Inc.) as shown in Fig. 6.6. An optimum load resistance of 40 ohms was placed on the leads of the pen harvester to measure the voltage output of the device. The optimum load resistance was determined by applying a resistor sweep. The voltage response waveform was measured and recorded with NI LabVIEW. RMS voltage was calculated from the raw voltage waveform and used to calculate power.



**Figure 6.6:** Image of experimental setup.

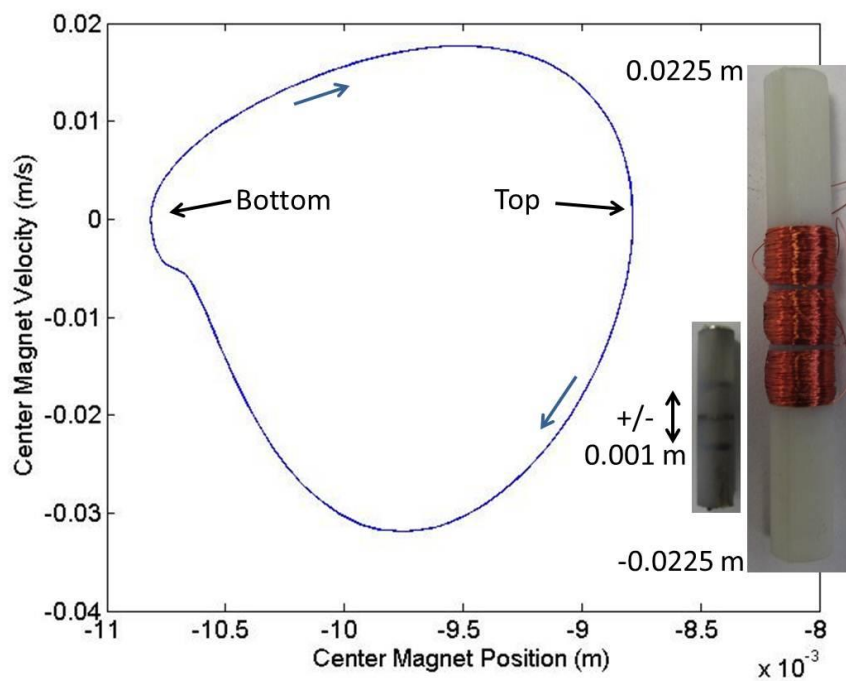
Fig. 6.7 (a-b) shows the voltage waveforms for the improved pen harvester. The power output was 0.043 mW at 0.56  $g_{rms}$  and 3 Hz and 0.16 mW at 1.14  $g_{rms}$  at 5 Hz. While these power levels were lower than power levels achieved with the previous prototype, the volume of the new prototype was 6X smaller than the previous prototype and can be easily incorporate into a common pen. The goal of the study was to power medical sensors with power requirement of 0.3 mW. To meet this goal, future modifications will need to be made to harvester presented in this study. As shown in Fig. 6.7 (a-b) a significant bias is present in the voltage waveforms and for the 3 Hz condition the voltage waveform is non-sinusoidal.



**Figure 6.7:** Voltage waveform for (a) 0.56  $g_{rms}$  and 3 Hz (b) 1.14  $g_{rms}$  at 5 Hz

To investigate the experimental observations, we predict the harvester dynamics using an arbitrary damping factor. Figure 6.8 shows a simulated center magnet velocity as a function of center magnet displacement predicted by the formulation presented in the theoretical section of this paper. The simulation was executed at the 3 Hz and 0.56 $g_{rms}$  condition. The voltage bias can be attributed to the influence of gravity forcing the magnet to travel faster downward than upward during oscillation as shown in Fig. 6.8. The equilibrium position of center magnet oscillation relative to location of coil on the pen harvester could be the cause of the non-

sinusoidal waveform and low power output. The cause of the equilibrium position located far down from the center of the pen harvester was mostly due to the large range of center magnet displacement where the center magnet was not repelling from either the top or bottom magnets as mentioned in the theoretical section. An image of the center magnet and pen harvester casing is also shown in Fig. 6.8. The image illustrates to scale, the center magnet velocity equilibrium position relative to the coil position.



**Figure 6.8:** Simulation results: Center magnet velocity as a function of center magnet position

In future studies, the stiffness profile should be optimized with the goal of positioning the center magnet oscillation closer to the middle of the harvester to allow for harvesting over a greater range of oscillation. After optimization of the stiffness profile, the coil position can be relocated to the equilibrium position. The coil height and magnet height should also be optimized with respect to the center magnet oscillation range. Coil sections which do not experience magnet field gradients will only contribute to resistance. Therefore thicker magnets may be used

on the top and bottom of the composite since the ends of these magnets will not be contributing to the transduction of current. Increasing magnet thickness would increase the moving mass and magnetic field strength at the center. As a result, the harvested power would be enhanced.

### **6.1.5 Summary**

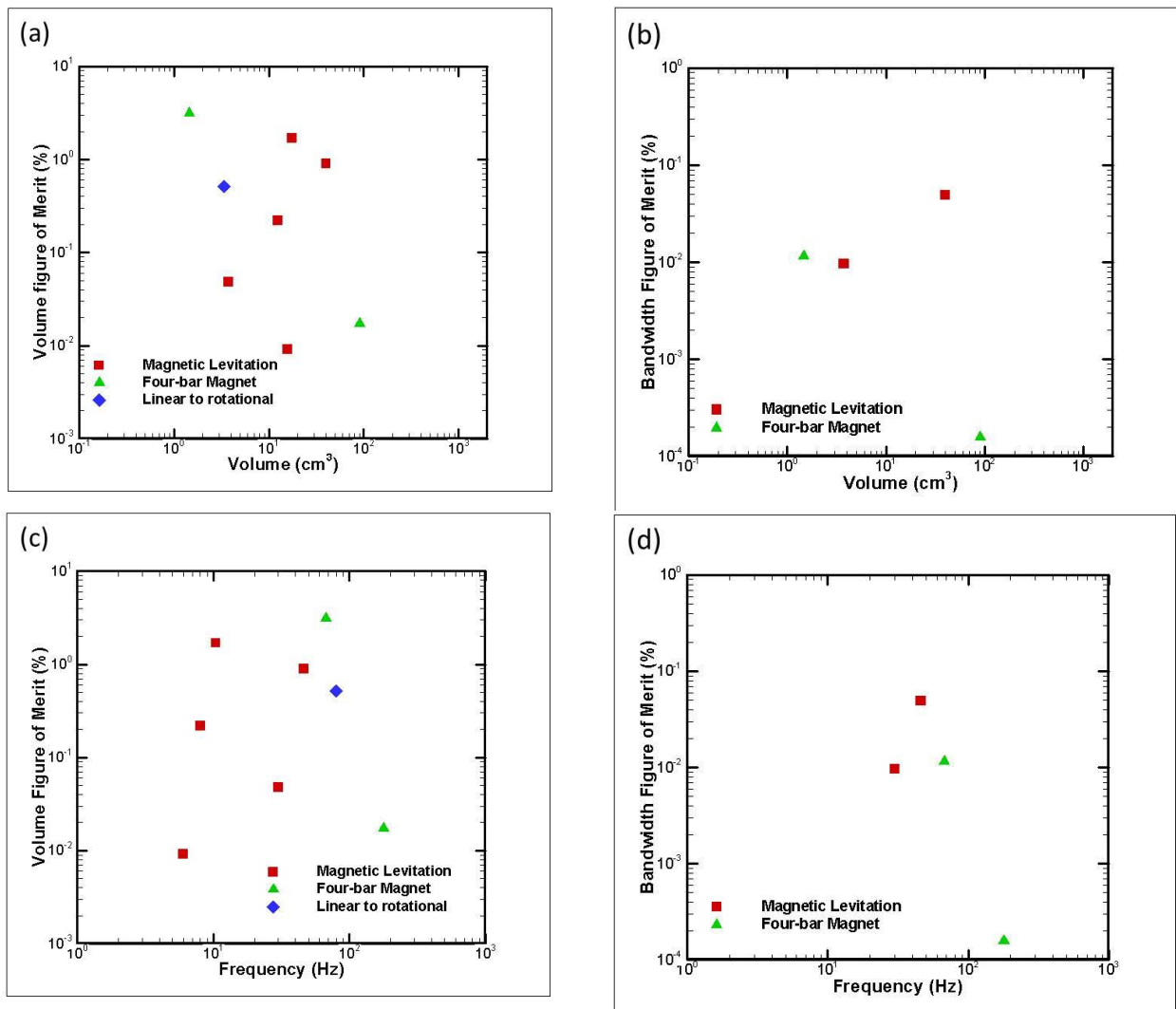
The improved version of pen harvester decreases the volume of the previous prototype reported in literature by 6X while generating power close to the power requirement of the medical sensors. The newly designed pen harvester generated 0.043 mW at 0.56 g<sub>rms</sub> and 3 Hz and 0.16 mW at 1.14 g<sub>rms</sub> at 5 Hz. The harvester can be easily integrated inside a pen in order to harvest energy from human daily motions. The size was decreased without major losses in power generation through two design modifications which increase the transformation factor. Theoretical simulations show that the center magnet composite and the new coil configuration increased the transformation factor by 2X and 6X respectively. Further optimization of the stiffness profile, magnet height, coil height and coil position are needed, that should greatly improve the performance of the current prototype. With these future improvements the pen harvester could provide solution for powering implantable and body worn medical devices.

## 7 CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Summary

Three very different types of inductive vibration energy harvesting prototypes developed previously and documented in literature were reviewed in Sections 2, 3 and 4 (four-bar magnet, magnetic levitation and linear to rotational). Our advancements to the previous art are documented in Sections 2 and 3. In section 4, to enhance the performance further upon the existing technology we introduce a new method to harvest vibration energy. To illustrate how we improve and add to the existing literature we will review the performance of the state of the art in terms of volume and bandwidth figures of merit. These figure of merits were introduced in Section 3.1.5 and provide a method for fairly comparing the performance of inductive prototypes by normalizing by volume and available mechanical energy based on the device volume and vibration amplitude and frequency. Figure 7.1 displays the state of art before the work described in the dissertation was completed. Throughout the dissertation the energy harvesters are applied to various applications which require power on the order of 12-82 mW. Given the acceleration and frequencies which are available for harvesting in these applications, using existing four-bar magnet and magnetic levitation the volume of the harvester would have to be greater than 100 cm<sup>3</sup> as shown in Figure 1.1 (b). From Figure 7.1 it is clear that overall the magnetic levitation prototype is preferred over the four-bar magnet and linear to rotational prototypes. Although for applications with vibration source frequencies over 50 Hz the magnetic levitation prototypes cannot be used due to the method by which the stiffness is created. The magnetic repulsion can be increased to increase the frequency but higher amplitudes than typical in environment are required to excite the harvester, therefore we also developed the four-bar magnet technology further. Figure 7.1 shows that there is a large difference in the two four-bar magnet prototypes

which is due to the smaller prototype positioning the magnets on the cantilever beam rather than the less heavy coil. Therefore, the volume is used more efficiently as the power varies linearly with the tip mass. At the larger volumes however the magnets are very strong and it is difficult to position them on the cantilever beam. Throughout this section the key advancements in each of the three harvesting technologies will be discussed. At the end of each conclusion the figure of merit plots will be revisited and the improvements in performance discussed.



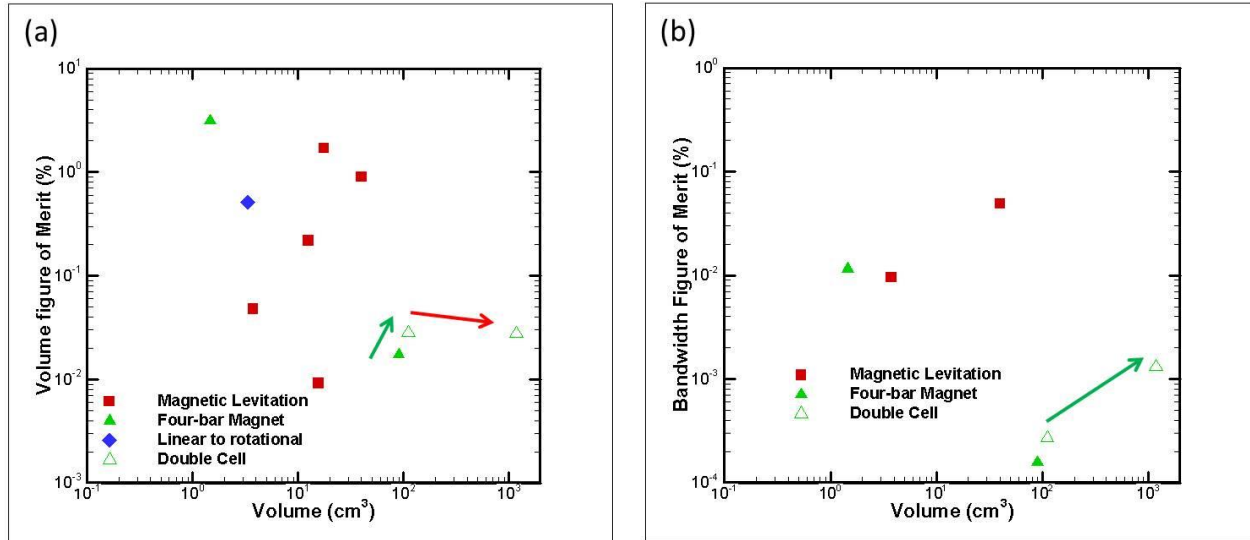
**Figure 7.1:** State of art before the work described in this dissertation was completed (a) Volume figure of merit as function of volume, (b) bandwidth figure of merit as a function of volume, (c)

volume figure of merit as a function of frequency, and (d) bandwidth figure of merit as a function of frequency.

The first chapter of the dissertation described a novel double cell harvester design that combines two four-bar magnet harvesters. The double cell harvester was found to generate twice as much power as that of the traditional four-bar magnet single cell harvester and resolves the phase difference issue experienced by two-beam / two-coil harvester. This achievement provided a 55% increase in output power per unit volume and a 27% increase in output power per unit volume and mass. The harvester can be utilized for harvesting in high frequency applications (50 Hz to 200 Hz). In a separate study, the double cell harvester is integrated with an electrical system, which improves upon the performance of the previous studies in terms of operation bandwidth and mechanical to electrical power conversion. The average generator conversion efficiency for the double cell array was 45.3% which approaches the maximum theoretical limit of 50%. The average AC to regulated DC power conversion efficiency across all frequencies was 78% which is one of the highest reported magnitude for electromagnetic vibration harvesting system. Figure 7.2 (a-b) displays the performance of the double cell harvester and double cell array with the previous state of the art; where the green arrows represent improvements and red arrows represent reductions. The double cell prototype of overall volume 111 cm<sup>3</sup> improved upon the existing four-bar magnet technology in volume and bandwidth figures of merit. The double cell array of total volume 1179 cm<sup>3</sup> slightly decreased in terms of volume figure of merit as compared to the double cell prototype, although performed better than just a single cell due to the successful arraying of cantilever beams. While the performance of the harvesters developed in this section improved upon the performance of the existing technology the gains did not



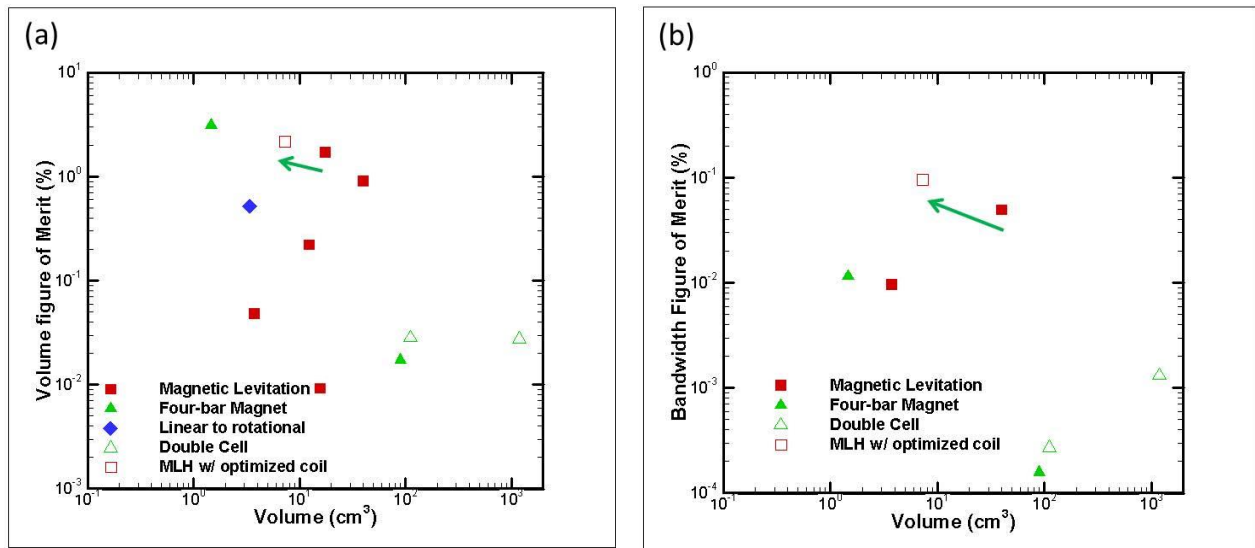
outgain the performance of the magnetic levitation harvesters. Therefore, the next section discussed our contributions to the existing magnetic levitation prototypes published in literature.



**Figure 7.2:** Performance of double cell and double cell array compared to the previous state of the art (a) volume figure of merit as a function of volume and (b) bandwidth figure of merit as a function of volume

The second chapter investigated non-linear vibration harvesting utilizing magnetic levitation based harvesters for low frequency applications (< 50 Hz). Novel approaches to multi-mechanism harvesting combining the electromagnetic mechanism with piezoelectric and magnetostrictive mechanisms are investigated in an effort to increase the power density and bandwidth of the harvester. The inductive mechanism for the combined inductive/piezoelectric prototype sets the state of art in volume figure of merit for magnetic levitation prototypes as shown in Fig. 7.3. The addition of either magnetostrictive or piezoelectric mechanisms did not enhance the power density. Based on our studies, we proposed future studies in order to enhance the power output of the piezoelectric and magnetostrictive portions of the harvester which can be found in Section 7.2 While the state of the art was enhanced through optimization of the coil

volume the prototype created was  $\sim 8 \text{ cm}^3$ . To determine if the prototype can be scaled to volumes similar to the four bar magnet and double cell prototypes we propose to do a scaling study in our future work section 7.2. While the research presented in these studies enhanced the existing state of the art in four bar magnet and magnetic levitation prototypes each of these prototypes has limitations. The four-bar magnet prototype has a linear resonance response and therefore the harvesting bandwidth is limited. While the nonlinearity introduced in the magnetic levitation prototype enhances the band width for harvesting, the harvester can only operate at frequencies less than 50 Hz. To this end, we enhance the figure of merits by introducing a new way to harvest vibration energy which is detailed in the next section.

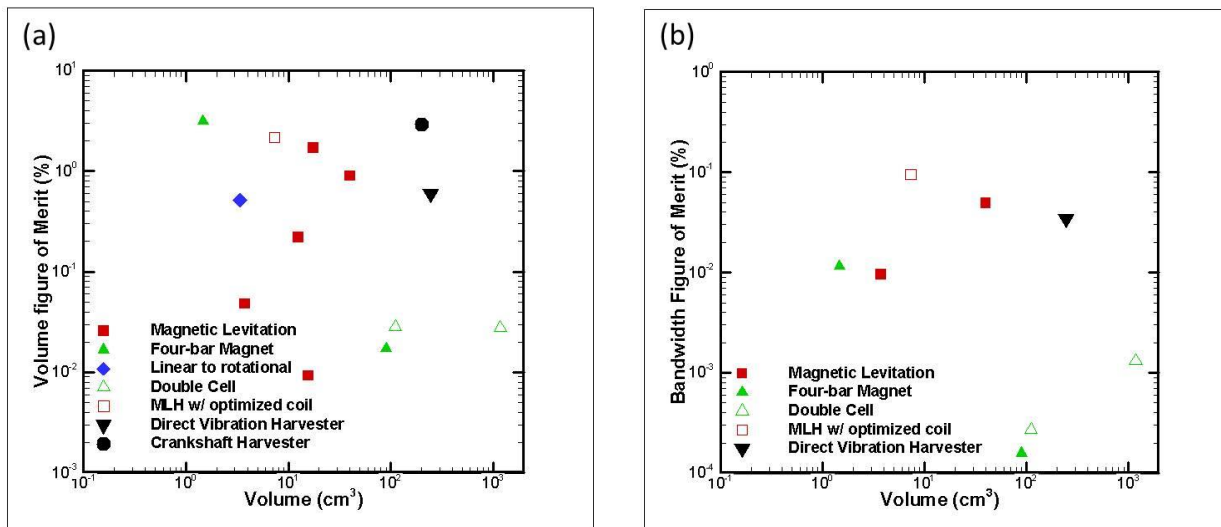


**Figure 7.3:** The performance of the magnetic levitation harvester developed in this work compared to the existing state of the art (a) volume figure of merit as a function of volume and (b) bandwidth figure of merit as a function of volume

The third chapter presented a novel energy harvesting concept in an effort to improve upon the harvesting bandwidth and power density limitations of the previously introduced vibration energy harvesters (four-bar magnet and levitating magnet configurations). This study described the design, modeling, fabrication, and characterization novel vibration harvester

named Direct Vibration Harvester (DVH). The relative motion was created without amplification of original source displacement by cancelling the vibration at one location and transferring the source vibration directly to another location by combining a vibration isolator with a vibration absorber. The fabricated prototype harvested 45 mW @ 0.9 G base acceleration and weighed 462 grams. Through analytical modeling it was determined that a prototype could generate 87 mW @ 1 G base acceleration and only weighs 243 grams. Also, an optimal balance between bandwidth and maximum power harvested exists as a result of parametric analysis. The ability to alter the harvesting bandwidth and power magnitude is an advantage over the existing vibration energy harvesting technologies. Also, through simulation it was shown that the critical mass for the system was the absorber mass. In Fig. 4.6 it was shown that the power normalized by total mass increases with the increase in absorber mass and decrease in primary mass. The reason for the result is still undetermined, but in future work the trend will be confirmed experimentally which should allow to further insight on the results. Also in this chapter, we described the design and experimental characterization of a novel linear to rotational energy harvester which differs than the traditional approach of mounting an eccentric mass on a pendulum termed as crank shaft harvester. The system utilizes a crankshaft connecting the vibration source to a mass which can freely move linearly along guide rails. While the prototype required an initial velocity or “kick” start, the prototype generated 142 mW at 0.79  $G_{\text{rms}}$  and 10 Hz showing promise as an energy harvesting solution. To fully understand the capability of the prototype the governing equations of motion should be derived and a parametric analysis should be conducted in a future study. Figure 7.4 displays the performance of the direct vibration harvester and the crankshaft harvester as compare to the previous state of the art. The crank shaft harvester sets the state of the art for volume figure of merit in the larger volume regime, but has limited bandwidth due to the

constant displacement input required to create rotation discussed in section 4.2. The direct vibration harvester performance was similar to the magnetic levitation prototypes but improved upon the performance of the four-bar magnet prototypes. The mechanisms in the direct vibration harvester are more complicated than all of the other harvesters yet the performance of the initial prototype was still comparable. The results suggests that while there were extra losses in efficiency due to linear to rotational converter, clutches, and gear train the performance to existing technologies is similar which does not have the extra losses. Based on simulation the power normalized by mass could increase by 3X by varying the absorber and primary masses. Therefore, with further optimization of the direct vibration harvester both volume and bandwidth figures of merit have potential to be state of art in vibration energy harvesting.



**Figure 7.4:** Comparing the direct vibration harvester and crankshaft harvester to the previous state of art for inductive vibration energy harvesters (a) volume figure of merit as a function of volume and (b) bandwidth figure of merit as a function of volume.

The fourth chapter described the development of a permanent magnet rotational generator which serves as the generator for the DVH described in the third chapter. The generator is also applied as the generator for a micro wind turbine application. The application consists of

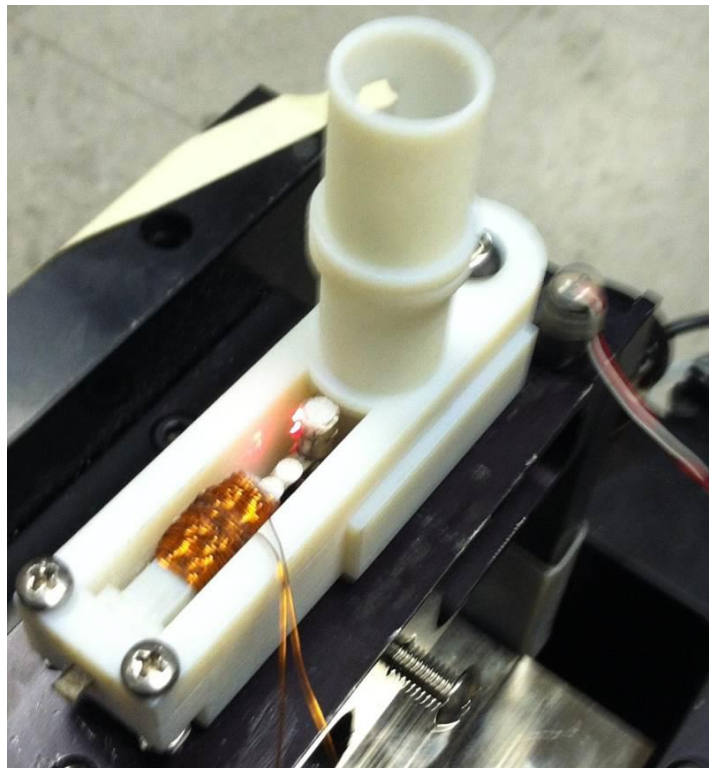
harvesting airflow within HVAC ducts in residential and commercial buildings to power various sensors. HVAC ducts within Durham hall were modified in order to provide an experimental platform to evaluate the capability of the harvester. A computational model to optimize overall micro wind turbine efficiency was presented and validated experimentally with micro wind turbine prototype. The micro wind turbine prototype set the state of the art in terms of power density.

Lastly, the fifth chapter describes the implementation of the various energy harvesters in a “smart building”. To this end, an additional energy harvester is developed which can be integrated into a common pen, and used to monitor the location and condition of the human within the building.

## **7.2 Future work**

In Section 3.1 we designed, fabricated, and characterized an energy harvester which combined the inductive mechanism with a magnetostrictive mechanism. The prototype used a cylindrical shaped piece of Galfenol with an inductive coil wrapped around it. This configuration in the other studies has shown promise for harvesting of high force - high frequency vibration. We attempted to utilize this geometry for the low force - low frequency repulsive force through the magnetic levitation harvester and determined that it was not suitable in this regime. To this end, a second configuration was also fabricated and characterized which included a Galfenol cantilever at the bottom of the harvester. Two additional magnets were added at the bottom of the harvester with reverse polarity so as to not affect the dynamic performance of the inductive mechanism. The reversal in magnetic field within the cantilever during oscillation causes a magnetic flux change through a coil which is wrapped around the cantilever beam. This configuration was previously developed by Xing et. al, who had two rectangular bar magnets to

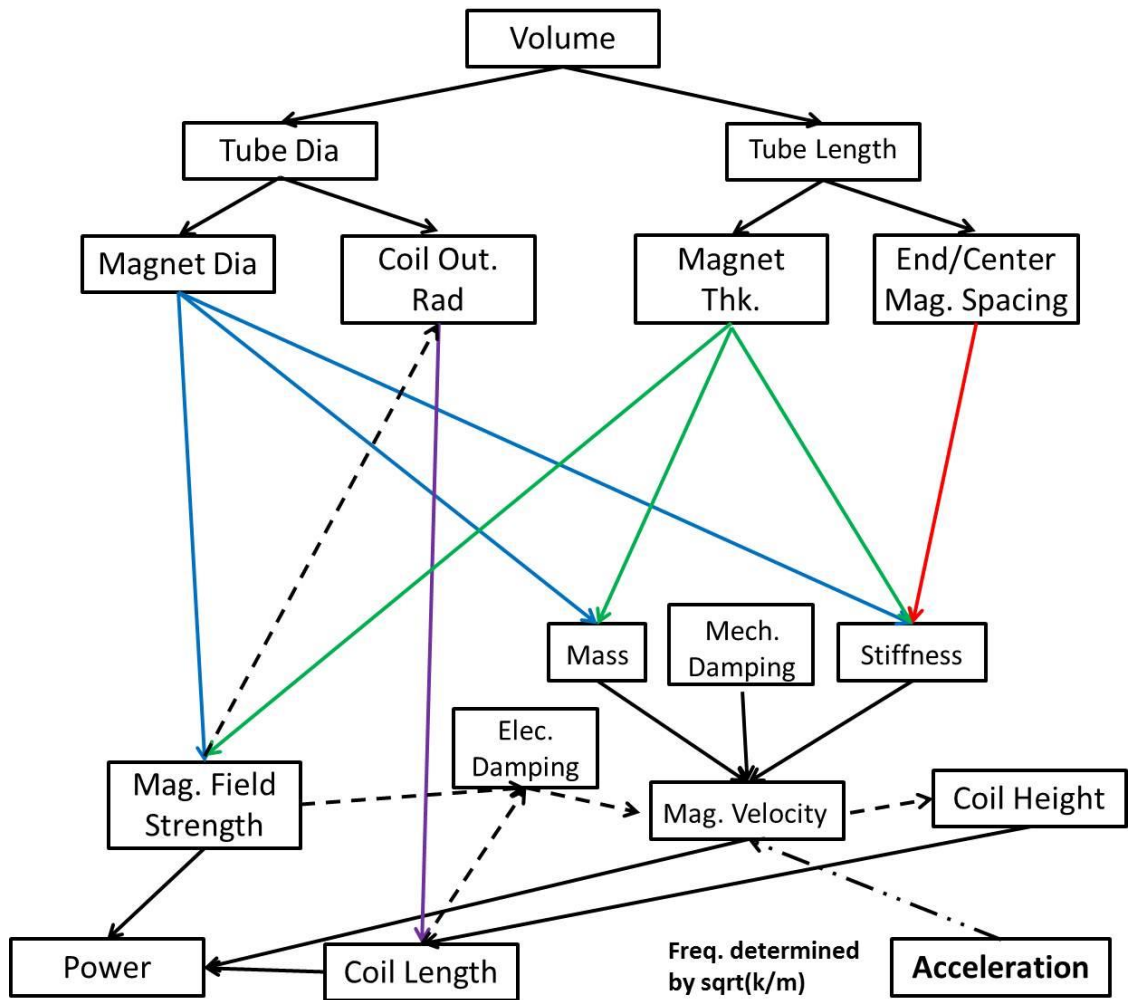
apply the bias [130]. Our modification in using three cylindrical magnets arranged with opposite polarity should lead to an increase in power normalized by volume and mass. In order to achieve resonance at the low frequencies we mounted a cantilever beam at the base of the harvester in order to generate higher strain than with the cylindrical configuration. Higher strain leads to greater change in magnetic permeability in the Galfenol and therefore higher flux change within the coil. Figure 7.5 displays a picture of the fabricated prototype.



**Figure 7.5:** Picture of magnetostrictive cantilever beam prototype

In Section 3.2 we combined the inductive mechanism with the piezoelectric mechanism. The piezoelectric mechanism underwent no optimization; simply the groundwork for the optimization was established. The simulations showed that the brass cap could increase the power output by ~53%. An optimization study varying all cymbal parameters and materials should be conducted in the future to increase the power output of the piezoelectric mechanism.

Throughout this thesis, three very different size scale levitating magnet prototypes ( $400\text{ cm}^3$ ,  $8\text{ cm}^3$ , and  $1\text{ cm}^3$ ) were experimentally characterized. To this date, there has not been an experimental study that clearly identifies how the performance of these prototypes scales with size. In my research, key parameters have been identified which greatly affect the optimum operation frequencies and accelerations of magnetic levitation prototypes. We derived the scaling relationship for mass, stiffness, and electromagnetic coupling. Interactions between the different parameters were expected. For the magnetic levitation prototype the magnetic field strength is dependent upon the surface area and thickness of the magnet. Both of these parameters also affect the stiffness of the system dynamics of the harvester therefore, can only be increased to limited extent. The use of a center magnet composite instead of a single cylindrical magnet creates an increase in magnetic field strength and aligns the magnetic fields perpendicular to the coil. Unlike the four bar magnet prototype, the optimization of the coil shape does not increase the power output. For the magnetic levitation prototype the coil volume (outer radius and height) was optimized. At some outer radius of the coil, the gain in voltage transduction from the additional magnetic field is cancelled by the additional resistive losses in the coil due to the decay of the magnetic field in the radial direction. This optimization was utilized in a previous study to determine the coil volume in the radial direction [52]. Also the coil height must be optimized, as the range of motion of the center magnet was large as compared to the height of the coil. This height was optimized to decrease the amount of cancellation of voltage transduction within the coil due to direction of the magnetic fields. Therefore, coil height, magnetic field strength (outer radius), and stiffness in the dynamic system are all interrelated. The relationships are summarized in Fig. 7.6. The results from the study should provide a blueprint for levitating magnet harvester design.



**Figure 7.6** The relationship between volume and power are shown as well as the relationship between acceleration (input energy) and mechanical damping are shown as these affect the power output but are independent of size

Therefore in this study, we investigated wide range of both mechanical and electrical parameters. As shown in Fig. 7.6, the volume of the harvester can be broken into the tube diameter and length. Three different tube length-width ratios for four different lengths were investigated. The mechanical parameters consisting of mass (oscillating magnet) and stiffness (magnetic) and the electrical parameters consisting of coil size and magnetic field strength were all different for each of the twelve length-width combinations. The damping factor for each



prototype at three different levels was also varied. Each of the configurations needs to be analyzed with focus on characterizing the effect of harvester dimension on the operation frequency and power generation. Existing experimental data can then be used to compare with the analytical results. The results from the study should provide guideline for designing electromagnetic magnetic levitation prototype for a wide range of applications.

In Section 4.1, the performance of a novel vibration energy harvester termed as direct vibration harvester was investigated. The overall mechanical energy to electrical energy efficiency was assumed to be 62% based upon an empirical analysis. A more detailed theory would consist of performing an energy analysis which will be conducted in a future study. The energy loss between the shaker arm and primary shaft (linear to rotational conversion efficiency), generator efficiency and overall energy loss between the shaker arm to generator (harvesting efficiency) will be calculated. To calculate energy at each of the locations the mass and mass moment of inertias need to be calculated. The equivalent inertia which can be used to calculate the rotational energy within the primary shaft is determined by Eq. 7.1:

$$I_{eq} = I_p + N^2 I_s \quad (7.1)$$

In addition to the energy analysis the theoretical analysis descibeied in Sec. 4.1.3 should be expanded to a full parametric analysis in order to optimize the prototype.

In Section 4.2 we describe the design and experimental characterization of a novel linear to rotational energy harvester which differs than the traditional approach of mounting an eccentric mass on a pendulum. The system utilizes a crankshaft connecting the vibration source to a mass which can freely move linearly along guide rails. While the prototype required an initial velocity or “kick” start, the prototype generated 142 mW at 0.79  $G_{rms}$  and 10 Hz showing

promise as an energy harvesting solution. To fully understand the capability of the prototype the governing equations of motion should be derived and a parametric analysis should be conducted.

In Section 5.1 we described an analytical model which can be used to design a generator to optimally operate at the maximum coefficient of power for a given set of blades maximizing overall system efficiency. In Section 5.2 we used the model to design a generator to operate near the optimum point. While the state-of-the-art was achieved with the 4<sup>th</sup> generation generator, still there was room for improvement. Through further experimentation, the extent to which the system efficiency can be enhanced through increasing  $\Phi$  and decreasing  $R_C$  will be determined. Again the physical limitation is the magnetic field strength which varies with magnet thickness. Also, the integration of gear train to operate at matching torques but with different velocities should be investigated to determine the performance. We also plan to implement the prototype in a HVAC duct for powering a wireless motion sensor. HVAC ducts in Durham Hall can serve as a useful experimental platform.

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## APPENDIX A: ANSYS FEA CODES

### A.1 Single cell magnetic flux analysis

```
/PREP7
coilthickin=0.004
airgap=0.0071
magthk=0.00635
BLOCK,-airgap/2,airgap/2,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143
BLOCK,-airgap/2,airgap/2,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016
BLOCK,-airgap/2,airgap/2,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143
BLOCK,airgap/2,(airgap/2)+magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143
BLOCK,airgap/2,(airgap/2)+magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016
BLOCK,airgap/2,(airgap/2)+magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143
BLOCK,-airgap/2,(-airgap/2)-magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143
BLOCK,-airgap/2,(-airgap/2)-magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016
BLOCK,-airgap/2,(-airgap/2)-magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143
SPHERE,0,0.0508*1.5,0,90
SPHERE,0,0.0508*1.5,90,180
SPHERE,0,0.0508*1.5,180,270
SPHERE,0,0.0508*1.5,270,360
SPHERE,0,0.0508*3,0,90
SPHERE,0,0.0508*3,90,180
SPHERE,0,0.0508*3,180,270
SPHERE,0,0.0508*3,270,360
vovlap,all
et,1,SOLID96
mp,mgxx,1,875270
mp,mgxx,2,-875270
mp,murx,1,1
mp,murx,2,1
mp,murx,3,1
```

vsel,s,,,23,,,,1  
vatt,1,1,1  
vsel,s,,,27,29,,,1  
vatt,1,1,1  
vsel,s,,,36,,,,1  
vatt,2,1,1  
vsel,s,,,40,42,2,,1  
vatt,2,1,1  
vsel,s,,,45,,,,1  
vatt,2,1,1  
vsel,s,,,18,21,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,22,26,2,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,25,,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,30,35,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,37,39,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,41,43,2,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,44,,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,,46,49,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
allsel  
SMRT,1  
MSHAPE,1,3D  
MSHKEY,0  
VSEL,ALL

```

VMESH,ALL
NSEL,S,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,R,LOC,X,2*(-airgap/2),2*airgap/2
nrefine,all,,3
allsel
finish
/SOLU
magsolv,3,,,,1
finish
/POST1
nset,all
wprota,0,90,0
wprota,0,0,90
/cplane,1
sucr,center,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
SUPL,center,xflux,0
SUPR,center,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,left,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,left,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,2*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,right,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x

```

/GO

!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0

SUPR,right,xflux

## A.2 Double cell magnetic flux density analysis

/PREP7

\*SET,coilthickin,0.008

\*SET,airgap,0.0111

\*SET,magthk,0.009525

BLOCK,-airgap/2,airgap/2,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143

BLOCK,-airgap/2,airgap/2,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016

BLOCK,-airgap/2,airgap/2,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143

BLOCK,airgap/2,(airgap/2)+magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143

BLOCK,airgap/2,(airgap/2)+magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016

BLOCK,airgap/2,(airgap/2)+magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143

BLOCK,-airgap/2,(-airgap/2)-magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143

BLOCK,-airgap/2,(-airgap/2)-magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016

BLOCK,-airgap/2,(-airgap/2)-magthk,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,0,90

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,90,180

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,180,270

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,270,360

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,0,90

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,90,180

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,180,270

SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,270,360

vovlap,all

et,1,SOLID96

mp,mgxx,1,875270

mp,mgxx,2,-875270

mp,murx,1,1

mp,murx,2,1  
mp,murx,3,1  
vsel,s,,23,,,1  
vatt,1,1,1  
vsel,s,,27,29,,,1  
vatt,1,1,1  
vsel,s,,36,,,1  
vatt,2,1,1  
vsel,s,,40,42,2,,1  
vatt,2,1,1  
vsel,s,,45,,,1  
vatt,2,1,1  
vsel,s,,18,21,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,22,26,2,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,25,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,30,35,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,37,39,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,41,43,2,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,44,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
vsel,s,,46,49,,,1  
vatt,3,1,1,  
allsel  
SMRT,1  
MSHAPE,1,3D

```

MSHKEY,0
VSEL,ALL
VMESH,ALL
NSEL,S,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,R,LOC,X,2*(-airgap/2),2*airgap/2
nrefine,all,,3
allsel
finish
/SOLU
magsolv,3,,,,,1
finish
/POST1
nset,all
!wprot,0,90,0
wprot,0,0,90
/cplane,1
sucr,center,cplane,,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,center,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,left,cplane,,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,left,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,2*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1

```

```

sucr,right,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,right,xflux
/REPLOT,RESIZE
/REPLOT,RESIZE
FINISH

```

### A.3 Double cell array magnetic flux density analysis

```

/PREP7
airgapin=0.0071
airgapout=0.0071
coilthickin=0.004
coilthickout=0.004
magthk=0.00635
BLOCK,-magthk/2,magthk/2,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143
BLOCK,-magthk/2,magthk/2,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016
BLOCK,-magthk/2,magthk/2,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143
VGEN,2,1,3,1,airgapin+magthk,,,
VGEN,2,7,9,1,(airgapout+magthk),,,
VGEN,2,1,3,1,-1*(airgapin+magthk),,,
VGEN,2,19,21,1,-1*(airgapout+magthk),,,
BLOCK,magthk/2,(magthk/2)+airgapin,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143
BLOCK,magthk/2,(magthk/2)+airgapin,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016
BLOCK,magthk/2,(magthk/2)+airgapin,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143
VGEN,2,28,30,1,airgapin+magthk,,,
BLOCK,(magthk/2)+2*magthk+2*airgapin,(magthk/2)+2*magthk+2*airgapin+airgapout,-
0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143
BLOCK,(magthk/2)+2*magthk+2*airgapin,(magthk/2)+2*magthk+2*airgapin+airgapout,-
0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016

```



BLOCK,(magthk/2)+2\*magthk+2\*airgapin,(magthk/2)+2\*magthk+2\*airgapin+airgapout,-  
 0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143  
 VGEN,2,34,36,1,airgapout+magthk,,,  
 BLOCK,-magthk/2,(-magthk/2)-airgapin,-0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143  
 BLOCK,-magthk/2,(-magthk/2)-airgapin,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016  
 BLOCK,-magthk/2,(-magthk/2)-airgapin,-0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143  
 VGEN,2,40,42,1,-1\*(airgapin+magthk),,,  
 BLOCK,(-magthk/2)-2\*magthk-2\*airgapin,(-magthk/2)-2\*magthk-2\*airgapin-airgapout,-  
 0.0254,0.0254,0.0016,0.0143  
 BLOCK,(-magthk/2)-2\*magthk-2\*airgapin,(-magthk/2)-2\*magthk-2\*airgapin-airgapout,-  
 0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,0.0016  
 BLOCK,(-magthk/2)-2\*magthk-2\*airgapin,(-magthk/2)-2\*magthk-2\*airgapin-airgapout,-  
 0.0254,0.0254,-0.0016,-0.0143  
 VGEN,2,46,48,1,-1\*(airgapout+magthk),,,  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,0,90  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,90,180  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,180,270  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*1.5,270,360  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,0,90  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,90,180  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,180,270  
 SPHERE,0,0.0508\*3,270,360  
 vovlap,all  
 et,1,SOLID96  
 mp,mgxx,1,875270  
 mp,mgxx,2,-875270  
 mp,murx,1,1  
 mp,murx,2,1  
 mp,murx,3,1  
 vsel,s,,,28,31,,,1  
 vatt,1,1,1

```
vsel,s,,,33,35,2,,1
vatt,1,1,1
vsel,s,,,36,37,,,1
vatt,1,1,1
vsel,s,,,41,47,2,,1
vatt,2,1,1
vsel,s,,,53,55,2,,1
vatt,2,1,1
vsel,s,,,56,59,3,,1
vatt,2,1,1
vsel,s,,,24,27,,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
vsel,s,,,32,34,2,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
vsel,s,,,38,40,,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
vsel,s,,,42,54,2,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
vsel,s,,,49,51,2,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
vsel,s,,,57,58,,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
vsel,s,,,60,67,,,1
vatt,3,1,1,
allsel
SMRT,1
MSHAPE,1,3D
MSHKEY,0
VSEL,ALL
VMESH,ALL
```

```

NSEL,S,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,R,LOC,X,magthk/2,(magthk/2)+airgapin
NSEL,A,LOC,X,(magthk/2)+airgapin+magthk,(magthk/2)+2*airgapin+magthk
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,A,LOC,X,(magthk/2)+2*airgapin+2*magthk,(magthk/2)+2*airgapin+airgapout+2*magthk
k
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,A,LOC,X,(magthk/2)+2*airgapin+airgapout+3*magthk,(magthk/2)+2*airgapin+2*airgapout+3*magthk
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,A,LOC,X,-magthk/2,(-magthk/2)-airgapin
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,A,LOC,X,(-magthk/2)-airgapin-magthk,(-magthk/2)-2*airgapin-magthk
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,A,LOC,X,(-magthk/2)-2*airgapin-2*magthk,(-magthk/2)-2*airgapin-airgapout-2*magthk
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
NSEL,A,LOC,X,(-magthk/2)-2*airgapin-airgapout-3*magthk,(-magthk/2)-2*airgapin-2*airgapout-3*magthk
NSEL,R,LOC,Y,-0.0254,0.0254
NSEL,R,LOC,Z,-0.0143,0.0143
nrefine,all,,2
allsel
finish
/SOLU

```

```

magsolv,3,,,,,1
finish
/POST1
nset,all
wprot,0,0,90
wpoffs,0,0,(magthk/2)+(airgapin/2)
/cplane,1
sucr,R1cent,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R1cent,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R1left,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R1left,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,2*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R1right,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R1right,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickin/3)
wpoffs,0,0,(magthk)+(airgapin)
/cplane,1
sucr,R2cent,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x

```

```

/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R2cent,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R2left,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R2left,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,2*(coilthickin/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R2right,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R2right,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickin/3)
wpoffs,0,0,(magthk)+(airgapin/2)+(airgapout/2)
/cplane,1
sucr,R3center,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R3center,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickout/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R3left,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0

```

```

SUPR,R3left,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,2*(coilthickout/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R3right,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R3right,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickout/3)
wpoffs,0,0,(magthk)+(airgapout)
/cplane,1
sucr,R4center,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R4center,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,-1*(coilthickout/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R4left,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R4left,xflux
wpoffs,0,0,2*(coilthickout/3)
/cplane,1
sucr,R4right,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,x
/GO
!SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,R4right,xflux

```

## A.4 Magnetic levitation magnetic flux density analysis

```
/PREP7
d=0.001
CYLIND,0,0.003175,-0.003175-d/2-0.011-0.00079375,-0.003175-d/2-0.011,0,360,
CYLIND,0,0.0015875,0.0047625,-0.003175-d/2,-d/2,0,360,
CYLIND,0,0.0015875,0.0047625,-d/2,d/2,0,360,
CYLIND,0,0.0015875,0.0047625,d/2,d/2+0.003175,0,360,
CYLIND,0,0.003175,d/2+0.003175+0.011,d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375,0,360,
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*3,0,90
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*3,90,180
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*3,180,270
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*3,270,360
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*6,0,90
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*6,90,180
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*6,180,270
SPHERE,0,(d/2+0.003175+0.011+0.00079375)*6,270,360
vovlap,all
et,1,SOLID96
mp,mgzz,2,875270
mp,mgzz,3,-875270
mp,murx,4,100
mp,murx,3,1
mp,murx,2,1
mp,murx,1,1
vsel,s,,18,21,,1
vatt,3,1,1
vsel,s,,26,29,,1
vatt,2,1,1
vsel,s,,30,33,,1
vatt,4,1,1
vsel,s,,34,37,,1
vatt,3,1,1
vsel,s,,22,25,,1
vatt,2,1,1
vsel,s,,14,17,,1
vatt,1,1,1
vsel,s,,38,41,,1
vatt,1,1,1
allsel
SMRT,1
MSHAPE,1,3D
MSHKEY,0
VSEL,ALL
VMESH,ALL
```

```

nselect,all
nselect,s,loc,x,-0.008,0.008
nselect,r,loc,y,-0.008,0.008
!refining the region of interest for better calculations
nselect,r,loc,z,-0.002-d/2,0.002+d/2
nrefine,all,,2
allsel
finish
/SOLU
magsolv,3,,,,,1
finish
/POST1
nselect,all
!nselect,s,loc,x,-0.05,0.05
!nselect,r,loc,y,-0.05,0.05
!nselect,u,loc,x,-0.0137,0.0137
!nselect,u,loc,y,-0.0137,0.0137
wprota,0,90,0
/cplane,1
sucr,tonyd,cplane,,,,,
SUMAP,xflux,B,X
/GO
SUPL,TONYD,xflux,0
SUPR,TONYD,xflux

```

## A.5 Magnetic levitation magnetic force analysis

```

/PREP7
CYLIND,0.0015875,-d/2-0.00079375,-d/2,0,360, ! lower magnet volume
CYLIND,0.00079375,0.00238125,d/2,d/2+0.0015875,0,360, ! upper (moving) magnet volume
CYLIND,0.00079375,0.00238125,d/2+0.0015875,d/2+0.0016375,0,360,
CYLIND,0.00079375,0.00238125,d/2+0.0016375,d/2+0.003225,0,360,
BLOCK,-2*(d+0.009),2*(d+0.009),-2*(d+0.009),2*(d+0.009),-2*(d+0.009),2*(d+0.009) ! air
    box
vovlap,all
! Finite element model
et,1,SOLID236 ! magnetic solid
keyop,1,7,1 ! condense forces to the corner nodes
SMRT,1
MSHAPE,1,3D

```



```

MSHKEY,0
VSEL,ALL
VMESH,ALL
! Material properties
mp,mgzz,2,875270
mp,mgzz,3,-875270
mp,murx,4,100
mp,murx,3,1
mp,murx,2,1
mp,murx,1,1
vsel,s,,1,,1
emod,all,mat,2
vsel,s,,2,,1
emod,all,mat,3
vsel,s,,6,,1
emod,all,mat,4
vsel,s,,7,,1
emod,all,mat,2
vsel,s,,8,,1
emod,all,mat,1
allsel
esel,s,mat,,2,3
eplot
allsel
fini
/SOLU
solve
fini
/POST1
vsel,s,,1,,1      ! select lower magnet along with the
! associated elements and nodes

```

```

esln
EMFT                ! sum up magnetic forces
allsel
esel,s,mat,,2,3
allsel
fini
*SET,dist(i),d
*SET,F(i,1),_fzsum      ! FX sum calculated by EMFT
*SET,d,d+0.00025        ! upper magnet displacement update
*enddo
/COM,ANSYS RELEASE 12.0.1 UP20090415    03:08:58    03/29/2013
/axlab,x,Distance d (m)
/axlab,y,Forces acting the magnet (N)
/gcol,1,Fz
*vplot,dist(1),F(1,1)
*CREATE,ansuitmp
*CFOPEN,'config12d','txt',' '
*VWRITE,dist(1), , , , , , , ,
(e13.4)
*CFCLOS
*END
/INPUT,ansuitmp
*CREATE,ansuitmp
*CFOPEN,'config12f','txt',' '
*VWRITE,F(1), , , , , , , ,
(e13.4)
*CFCLOS
*END
/INPUT,ansuitmp
/REPLOT,RESIZE

```

## A.6 Rotational generator magnetic flux analysis for rectangular magnets

```
/PREP7
block,-0.0015875,0.0015875,0.0043,0.01065,-0.00455,-0.001375
block,-0.0015875,0.0015875,-0.0043,-0.01065,-0.00455,-0.001375
CSYS,1
VGEN,4,1, 2, , ,45,, , ,
CSYS,0
block,-0.0015875,0.0015875,0.0043,0.01065,0.001375,0.00455
block,-0.0015875,0.0015875,-0.0043,-0.01065,0.001375,0.00455
CSYS,1
VGEN,4,9, 10, , ,45,, , ,
CSYS,0
SPHERE,,0.0319,0,360,
SPHERE,,0.0639,0,360,
vovlap,all
ET,1,SOLID96
MP,MGZZ,2,875270
MP,MGZZ,3,-875270
MP,MURX,1,1
MP,MURX,2,1
MP,MURX,3,1
VSEL,S,,,1,2,1,1
vatt,2,1,1
VSEL,S,,,9,10,1,1
vatt,2,1,1
VSEL,S,,,5,6,1,1
vatt,2,1,1
VSEL,S,,,13,14,1,1
vatt,2,1,1
VSEL,S,,,3,4,1,1
vatt,3,1,1
VSEL,S,,,11,12,1,1
vatt,3,1,1
VSEL,S,,,7,8,1,1
vatt,3,1,1
VSEL,S,,,15,16,1,1
vatt,3,1,1
VSEL,S,,,19,20,,1
vatt,1,1,1
allsel
SMRTSIZE,1
MSHAPE,1,3D
MSHKEY,0
VSEL,ALL
VMESH,ALL
```

```

allsel
nselect,all
nselect,s,loc,x,-0.013825,0.013825
nselect,r,loc,y,-0.013825,0.013825
nselect,r,loc,z,-0.001375,0.001375
nselect,u,loc,x,-0.001125,0.001125
nselect,u,loc,y,-0.001125,0.001125
nrefine,all,,,2
allsel
finish
/solu
magsolv,3,,,,,1
finish
/SOLU
FINISH
/PREP7
FINISH
/POST1
/REPLOT,RESIZE
/REPLOT,RESIZE
wpoff,0,0,0
/cplane,1
sucr,tonyd,cplane,,,,,
SUMAP,zflux,B,Z
/GO
SUPL,TONYD,ZFLUX,0
SUPR,TONYD,ZFLUX

```

## **A.7 Rotational generator magnetic flux analysis for arc shaped magnets**

```

/PREP7
wpoff,0,0,0.002025
CYL4,0,0,0.0042,-9,0.01055,31,0.006350
CYL4,0,0,0.0042,171,0.01055,211,0.006350
CSYS,1
VGEN,4,1, 2, , ,45,, , ,
CSYS,0
wpoff,0,0,-0.002025
wpoff,0,0,-0.002025
wpoff,0,0,-0.006350
CYL4,0,0,0.0042,-9,0.01055,31,0.006350

```

CYL4,0,0,0.0042,171,0.01055,211,0.006350

CSYS,1

VGEN,4,9, 10, , ,45,, , ,

CSYS,0

wpoff,0,0,0.006350

wpoff,0,0,0.002025

SPHERE,,0.025,0,360,

SPHERE,,0.04,0,360,

vovlap,all

ET,1,SOLID96

MP,MGZZ,2,875270

MP,MGZZ,3,-875270

MP,MURX,1,1

MP,MURX,2,1

MP,MURX,3,1

VSEL,S,,,1,2,1,1

vatt,2,1,1

VSEL,S,,,9,10,1,1

vatt,2,1,1

VSEL,S,,,5,6,1,1

vatt,2,1,1

VSEL,S,,,13,14,1,1

vatt,2,1,1

VSEL,S,,,3,4,1,1

vatt,3,1,1

VSEL,S,,,11,12,1,1

vatt,3,1,1

VSEL,S,,,7,8,1,1

vatt,3,1,1

VSEL,S,,,15,16,1,1

vatt,3,1,1

```

VSEL,S,,19,20,,1
vatt,1,1,1
allsel
SMRTSIZE,1
MSHAPE,1,3D
MSHKEY,0
VSEL,ALL
VMESH,ALL
allsel
nset,s,loc,x,0,0.013825
nset,a,loc,y,0,0.013825
nset,a,loc,z,-0.002,0.002
nrefine,all,,1
allsel
/solu
magsolv,3,,,,1
/POST1
/REPLOT,RESIZE
wpoff,0,0,0
/cplane,1
sucr,tonyd,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,zflux,B,Z
/GO
SUPL,TONYD,ZFLUX,0
SUPR,TONYD,ZFLUX
FINISH
wpoff,0,0,0.00042
/cplane,2
sucr,darian1,cplane,,,,
SUMAP,zflux,B,Z

```

/GO

SUPR,darian1,ZFLUX





## APPENDIX B: MATLAB CODES

### B.1 Double cell array analysis

Below are five sets of text which correspond to five different m files. The first m file titled “Automatic.m” calls the other functions (4 files). The following code takes the output from the ANSYS results from A.1 to A.3 and sorts the data, breaks the coil face into many discrete areas, and calculates the angle phi, average y, and average B for each of the areas. The output from ANSYS should be saved as “R1LEFT.DATA” to allow the MATLAB code to extract the data. The title can be changed but also must be changed in automatic.m. The MATLAB code will output variables for every ANSYS file input. The four column variable contains the y-coordinate, z-coordinate, B, angle phi.

```
%NAME TEXT BELOW Automatic.m

disp('Welcome for Extracting and Angle Calculation');
disp('Written by Darian A.Schaab (02/20/2013) v.3.0');

%% Extracting data from ansys file
%Change here the source files

extract_data1 = sortData('R1LEFT.DATA');
extract_data2 = sortData('R1CENT.DATA');
extract_data3 = sortData('R1RIGHT.DATA');
extract_data4 = sortData('R2LEFT.DATA');
extract_data5 = sortData('R2CENT.DATA');
extract_data6 = sortData('R2RIGHT.DATA');
extract_data7 = sortData('R3LEFT.DATA');
extract_data8 = sortData('R3CENTER.DATA');
extract_data9 = sortData('R3RIGHT.DATA');
extract_data10 = sortData('R4LEFT.DATA');
extract_data11 = sortData('R4CENTER.DATA');
extract_data12 = sortData('R4RIGHT.DATA');

%% Cutting and averaging data to area of interest

select_data1 = averagedata(extract_data1,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
select_data2 = averagedata(extract_data2,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
select_data3 = averagedata(extract_data3,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
select_data4 = averagedata(extract_data4,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
select_data5 = averagedata(extract_data5,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
select_data6 = averagedata(extract_data6,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
select_data7 = averagedata(extract_data7,-16.2e-3,16.2e-3,-13.4e-3,13.4e-3,17,14);
```



```
1.19262238973405e-18;-0.00190588235294118;-0.00571764705882353;-
0.00381176470588235];
YNEED(1:158,1) = [-0.01052857;-0.008614285;-0.00861428;-0.006700000;-
0.006700000000000000;-0.006700000000000000;-0.00478571428571429;-
0.00478571428571429;-0.00478571428571429;-0.00287142857142857;-
0.00287142857142857;-0.00287142857142857;-0.00287142857142857;-
0.000957142857142857;0.000957142857142857;-
0.000957142857142857;0.000957142857142857;-0.000957142857142857;-
0.000957142857142857;0.000957142857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.0028714285714
2857;-0.00287142857142857;-0.00478571428571429;-0.006700000000000000;-
0.00861428571428572;-0.0105285714285714;-0.0105285714285714;-
0.00861428571428572;-0.006700000000000000;-0.00478571428571429;-
0.00478571428571429;-0.006700000000000000;-0.00861428571428572;-
0.0105285714285714;-0.0124428571428571;-0.0124428571428571;-
0.0124428571428571;-0.0105285714285714;-0.00861428571428572;-
0.006700000000000000;-0.00478571428571429;-0.00478571428571429;-
0.006700000000000000;-0.00861428571428572;-0.0105285714285714;-
0.0124428571428571;-0.0124428571428571;-0.0105285714285714;-
0.00861428571428572;-0.006700000000000000;-0.00478571428571429;-
0.00478571428571429;-0.006700000000000000;-0.00861428571428572;-
0.0105285714285714;-0.0124428571428571;-0.00478571428571429;-
0.006700000000000000;-0.00861428571428572;-0.0105285714285714;-
0.0124428571428571;-0.0105285714285714;-0.00861428571428572;-
0.006700000000000000;-0.00478571428571429;-0.0105285714285714;-
0.00861428571428572;-0.006700000000000000;-0.00478571428571429;-
0.00861428571428572;-0.006700000000000000;-0.006700000000000000;-
0.00478571428571429;-0.00478571428571429;-0.00287142857142857;-
0.00287142857142857;-0.00287142857142857;-0.00287142857142857;-
0.00287142857142857;-0.000957142857142857;-0.000957142857142857;-
0.000957142857142857;-
0.000957142857142857;0.000957142857142857;0.000957142857142857;0.000957142857
142857;0.000957142857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.0028714
2857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.00478571428571429;0.0047
8571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.0
0478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;
0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.004785714285714
29;0.000957142857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.00287142857142857;0.00287142857
142857;0.00478571428571429;0.00478571428571429;0.006700000000000000;0.00670000
0000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.00
6700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.00
6700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0
.006700000000000000;0.006700000000000000;0.00861428571428572;0.0086142857142857
2;0.00861428571428572;0.00861428571428572;0.00861428571428572;0.0086142857142
8572;0.00861428571428572;0.00861428571428572;0.00861428571428572;0.0086142857
1428572;0.00861428571428572;0.00861428571428572;0.00861428571428572;0.0105285
714285714;0.0105285714285714;0.0124428571428571;0.0105285714285714;0.01052857
14285714;0.0105285714285714;0.0105285714285714;0.0105285714285714;0.010528571
4285714;0.0105285714285714;0.0105285714285714;0.0105285714285714;0.0124428571
428571;0.0124428571428571;0.0124428571428571;0.0124428571428571;0.01244285714
28571;0.0124428571428571;];
```

```
%PlotEllipse %Uncomment to see Plot
plot(XNEED(1:158,1),YNEED(1:158,1),'g*')

coil1 = 0;
test = 0;
```

```

%% Selecting data from select_data variable

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data1(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data1(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data1(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data1(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil1(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data1(jj,3)];

            end
        end
    end
end

coil2 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data2(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data2(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data2(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data2(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil2(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data2(jj,3)];

            end
        end
    end
end

coil3 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data3(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data3(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data3(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data3(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;

```

```

        coil3(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data3(jj,3)];

        end
    end
end

coil4 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data4(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data4(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data4(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data4(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil4(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data4(jj,3)];
            end
        end
    end
end

coil5 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data5(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data5(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data5(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data5(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil5(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data5(jj,3)];
            end
        end
    end
end

coil6 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

```

```

        if (select_data6(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data6(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data6(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data6(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil6(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data6(jj,3)];
            end
        end
    end
end

coil7= 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data7(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data7(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data7(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data7(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil7(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data7(jj,3)];
            end
        end
    end
end

coil8 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data8(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data8(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data8(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data8(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil8(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data8(jj,3)];
            end
        end
    end
end
end

```

```

coil9 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data9(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data9(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data9(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data9(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil9(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data9(jj,3)];

            end

        end

    end

end

coil10 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data10(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data10(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data10(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data10(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil10(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data10(jj,3)];

            end

        end

    end

end

coil11 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data11(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data11(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data11(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data11(ii,2)-10e-8 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil11(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data11(jj,3)];

            end

        end

    end

end

```

```

        end
    end
end

coil12 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:238
    for jj = 1:1:158

        if (select_data12(ii,1)+10e-08 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data12(ii,1)-
10e-08 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data12(ii,2)+10e-08 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data12(ii,2)-10e-08 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil12(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data12(jj,3)];
            end
        end
    end
end

clear jj;
clear ii;
clear test;
clear XNEED;
clear YNEED;

phil = phiArray(coil1,13.35/16.1, 4.5/8.26);

coil1(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil2(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil3(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil4(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil5(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil6(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil7(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil8(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil9(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil10(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil11(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
coil12(1:158,4) = phil(1:158,4);
clear phil;
disp('Finished algorythm');

%NAME TEXT BELOW averagedata.m

function [ listdata ] = averagedata( dataF, minval_x, maxval_x, minval_y,
maxval_y, numblock_x, numblock_y )
%UNTITLED Summary of this function goes here

```



```

% Detailed explanation goes here

ii = 1;
kk = 0;
dataF1 = 0;

while ii <= size(dataF,1)

    if ((dataF(ii,1)> minval_x) && (dataF(ii,1)<maxval_x))
        if ((dataF(ii,2)> minval_y) &&(dataF(ii,2)<maxval_y))
            kk = kk +1;
            dataF1(kk,1:4) = dataF(ii,1:4);
        end
    end

    ii = ii+1;
end

disp('Lines of data in the specific array:');
disp(kk);
disp('Scanned data points:');
disp(ii);

% plot3(dataF1(:,1),dataF1(:,2),dataF1(:,4),'o')
% xlim([minval_x maxval_x]);
% ylim([minval_y maxval_y]);
% xlabel('y-direction in m')
% ylabel('z-direction in m')
% zlabel('Magnet Field in T')

averagecell =dataF1;

datasort = sortcase(dataF1, maxval_x, minval_x, maxval_y, minval_y,
numblock_x, numblock_y);

figure;

for kk = 1:1:numblock_x

    for jj = 1:1:numblock_y

        if datasort(kk,jj,2) ~= 0
            polisheddata(kk,jj) =
datasort(kk,jj,1)/datasort(kk,jj,2);
        else
            polisheddata(kk,jj) = 0;
        end

        delta_x = (maxval_x-minval_x)/(numblock_x);
        delta_y = (maxval_y-minval_y)/(numblock_y);

        if polisheddata(kk,jj) ~= 0

```

```

        plot3((minval_x + kk*delta_x-delta_x/2),(minval_y +
jj*delta_y-delta_y/2),polisheddata(kk,jj),'o')
%         disp(polisheddata(kk,jj))
        else
            plot3((minval_x + kk*delta_x-delta_x/2),(minval_y +
jj*delta_y-delta_y/2),polisheddata(kk,jj),'ro')
        end

        listdata((kk*numblock_y-numblock_y+jj),1:3) = [(minval_x +
kk*delta_x-delta_x/2),(minval_y + jj*delta_y-delta_y/2), polisheddata(kk,jj)
];

%         disp(listdata((kk*numblock_y-numblock_y+jj),1:3));
%         disp(polisheddata(kk,jj));

        hold on
        xlim([minval_x maxval_x]);
        ylim([minval_y maxval_y]);
        xlabel('y-direction in m')
        ylabel('z-direction in m')
        zlabel('Magnet Field in T')

    end

end

%
%
% while ii <= size(dataF,1)
%
%     if ((dataF(ii,1)> minval_x) && (dataF(ii,1)<maxval_x))
%         if ((dataF(ii,2)> minval_y) &&(dataF(ii,2)<maxval_y))
%             kk = kk +1;
%             dataF1(kk,1:4) = dataF(ii,1:4);
%         end
%     end
%
% end
%
% ii = ii+1;
% end

end

function [datasort] = sortcase(dataF2, maxval_x, minval_x, maxval_y,
minval_y, numblock_x, numblock_y)

ii = 1;
datasort = zeros(numblock_x,numblock_y,2);

delta_x = (maxval_x-minval_x)/(numblock_x);
delta_y = (maxval_y-minval_y)/(numblock_y);

```

```

while ii <= size(dataF2,1)
%ii goes through all values of dataF1

    for kk = 1:1:numblock_x
%kk goes through all cols to numblock_x

        if ((dataF2(ii,1)> (minval_x +(kk-1)*delta_x)) && (dataF2(ii,1)<
(minval_x + kk*delta_x)))

            for jj = 1:1:numblock_y
%%jj goes through all lines to numblock_y

                %                test1 = dataF1(ii,2)

                    if ((dataF2(ii,2)> (minval_y + (jj-1)*delta_y))
&&(dataF2(ii,2)< (minval_y + jj*delta_y)))

                        %                test= size(datasort)

                            %                if ([size(datasort,1) size(datasort,2)] == [kk,jj]) &&
(initialised (datasort(1,1) ~= 0) %Checks if datasort must be
initialised
                                datasort(kk,jj,1) = datasort(kk,jj,1)+ dataF2(ii,4);
                                datasort(kk,jj,2) = datasort(kk,jj,2) +1;
                            %                else
                            %                datasort(kk,jj,1) =dataF1(ii,4);
                            %                datasort(kk,jj,2) = 1;
                            %                end
                        end

                    end

                end

            end

        end

    end

    ii = ii + 1;
end

end

%datasort(column, line, 1)= B_sum
%datasort(column, line, 2)= number

%NAME TEXT BELOW phiArray.m

function [ all ] = phiArray( allpoints , start_ratio, end_ratio)
% Function calculates angles in dependency of a point and a ellipse
% wich is runnding through. start_ration and end_ration are the ratios of
% the coating ellipses. A interpolation was established, which changes
% it linearly vom start_ratio to end_ratio.

```

```

ratiof = @(tt)start_ratio-(end_ratio -start_ratio)*tt;    %linear
interpolation of ratio in dependency of tt element [0 1]

for ii = 1:1:size(allpoints,1)

    phi = phicircle([allpoints(ii,1);allpoints(ii,2)], ratiof);

    if phi > (pi/2)
        phi = pi-phi;
    end

    all(ii,1:4)= [allpoints(ii,1) allpoints(ii,2) phi cos(phi)];

end

end

function [ angl_phi ] = phicircle(xx, ratiof)
%PHICIRCLE Calculates Angle of Wire in the round section
% Define center position of rotation axis. Also define position of
% coilpin. The function will find angle between coil and middle vector.

dir_vcrossB = [1 0];

%% Interpolating ratio

% Radii of outside and inside ellipses
ay1 = 8.26e-3;        %inside ellipse y-radius
bz1 = 4.5e-3;        %inside ellipse z-radius

ay2 = 16.1e-3;       %outside ellipse y-radius
bz2 = 13.35e-3;     %outside ellipse z-radius

anglealpha = atan(xx(2)/xx(1));                % Calculating angle
anglealpha in relation to point coordinates

r_min = sqrt((ay1*cos(anglealpha))^2+bz1*sin(anglealpha)^2); %minimum and
maximum radius at angle anglealpha
r_max = sqrt((ay2*cos(anglealpha))^2+bz2*sin(anglealpha)^2);

ratio = ratiof((sqrt(xx(1)^2+xx(2)^2)-r_min)/(r_max-r_min));

%% Generating angle

dir_tanci = [-sin(anglealpha);
ratio*cos(anglealpha)]./sqrt((sin(anglealpha))^2+(ratio*cos(anglealpha))^2);
%Builds tangential vector with length 1

```

```

angl_phi = acos(dir_tanci(1)*dir_vcrossB(1)+dir_tanci(2)*dir_vcrossB(2));
% Calculates angle phi

%return; %Shut off plotting

%% Ploting for understanding

plot([xx(1) xx(1)-(dir_vcrossB(1)/1000)], [xx(2) xx(2)-
(dir_vcrossB(2)/1000)]);
hold on;
plot([xx(1) xx(1)-(dir_tanci(1)/1000)], [xx(2) xx(2)-(dir_tanci(2)/1000)]);

%rectangle('Position', [vec_pin(1)-norm(xx-vec_pin), vec_pin(2)-norm(xx-
vec_pin), 2*norm(xx-vec_pin), 2*norm(xx-vec_pin)], 'Curvature', [1,1]);
axis equal;

end

% NAME TEXT BELOW PlotEllipse.m

%% Draws the Ellipse Area in which the simulation points lie

t = 0:0.01:(2*pi);
%% Radii for the ellipses
ay1 = 8.26e-3;      %inside ellipse y-radius
bz1 = 4.5e-3;      %inside ellipse z-radius

ay2 = 16.1e-3;     %outside ellipse y-radius
bz2 = 13.35e-3;   %outside ellipse z-radius

%% Plotting

y1 = ay1*cos(t);
z1 = bz1*sin(t);

y2 = ay2*cos(t);
z2 = bz2*sin(t);

hold on;
plot(y1, z1, 'r')
plot(y2, z2, 'r')

clear t y1 z1 y2 z2 ay1 bz1 ay2 bz2;

%NAME TEXT BELOW sortData.m

% sortedData expects the name of a file that is in the directory
% of the function.
% It returns cell array with Colume [x y z B]

function sortedData = sortData(data_url)

rawdata = fopen(data_url, 'r');

```

```

n = 1; % line counter
currentLine = fgetl(rawdata);

while ischar(currentLine) ~= 0
    if strncmpi(currentLine, '          XYZ',13)
        parts = strread(currentLine, '%s', 'delimiter', ' ');
        X = str2double(parts(3));
        Y = str2double(parts(4));
        Z = str2double(parts(5));

        sortedData(n,3) = X;
        sortedData(n,1) = Y;
        sortedData(n,2) = Z;

    elseif strncmpi(currentLine, '          Sval',14)
        parts = strread(currentLine, '%s', 'delimiter', ' ');
        B = str2double(parts(3));
        sortedData(n,4) = B;
        n = n+1;

    end

    currentLine = fgetl(rawdata);

end

fclose(rawdata);

```

## B.2 Magnetic levitation analysis

Below are three sets of text which correspond to three different m files. The first m file titled “numerical\_live.m” calls the other functions (2 files). The following code takes the mechanical parameters of the magnetic levitation harvester from “f.m” and performs a frequency sweep through 1.7 to 81.7 rad/s. The code automatically takes the steady state velocity and position from the previous frequency and sets it as the initial conditions for the next frequency. The “piecewisepie.m” file only applies the damping constant ce when the magnet is within the coil volume.

%NAME TEXT below numerical\_live.m

```

clear all
close all

xo=[-0.0087;0];

```

```

ts=[0 5];
wt=[1.7:1:81.7];
%wt=fliplr(wtt);

for i = 1:length(wt)
    w=wt(i);
    global w;

[t,x]=ode45('f',ts,xo);

velocity(i)=min(x(0.8*length(x):0.9*length(x),2));
position(i)=max(x(0.8*length(x):0.9*length(x),1));
positionlow(i)=(min(x(0.8*length(x):0.9*length(x),1)));

% xo=[0;velocity(i)];

xo=[(position(i)+positionlow(i))/2;velocity(i)];

% figure
% plot(t,x(:,1))
% figure
% plot(t,x(:,2))

end

figure
plot(t,x(:,1))
figure
plot(t,x(:,2))
% figure
% hold on
% plot(wt/(2*pi),(((((((velocity*-
1)*(17.91))/(3088+(3088*2.5)))*(3088*2.5))/sqrt(2)).^2)/(3088*2.5))*1000,'o')

figure
plot(wt/(2*pi),velocity*-1,'o')
%
% figure
% plot(wt/(2*pi),position,'r',wt/(2*pi),positionlow,'b')

%NAME TEXT BELOW fspie.m

function v=f (t,x)
global w

m=0.0037;k=15.74;k3=670200;k5=3846000000;c=(2*0.115*sqrt(k*m));ce=(0.029);Fo=
9.8*.35;Fg=-9.8;
v=[x(2);x(1).*-k/m+(x(1).^3).*-k3/m+0*(x(1).^5).*-k5/m+x(2).*-
c/m+(piecewisespie(x(1))*x(2).*-ce/m))-Fo*cos(w*t)+Fg];

%NAME TEXT BELOW piecwisespie.m

```

```

function em=piecewisepie(x)

if x < -0.0015
    em = 0;
elseif x > 0.0015
    em = 0;
elseif x < -0.001 && x > -0.0015
    em = 0.5;
elseif x > 0.001 && x < 0.0015
    em = 0.5;
else
    em = 1;

% if x < -0.00395 && x > -0.00495
%     em=0.33;
% elseif x > 0.00395 && x < 0.00495
%     em=0.33;
% elseif x > -0.0005 && x < 0.0005
%     em = 1;
% else
%     em=0;
End

```

### B.3 Direct vibration harvester analysis

Below are two sets of text which correspond to two different m files. The first m file titled “varyratio.m” calls the other functions “total\_meso\_electsinglefinal”. The following code takes the mechanical parameters of the direct vibration harvester from “total\_meso\_electsinglefinal” and varies parameters such as gear ratio, load resistance and input frequency. The output consists of position and velocity of the isolator, absorber and primary masses as well as the power output of the harvester.

% NAME TEXT BELOW varyratio.m

```

clear all
close all

% nfft=8192;
% fs=1000;

xo=[0;0;0;0;0;0];
ts=[0 30];

N=[20:1:60];
RL=[2000:1000:20000];
%wt=[3:1:126]';
% R=[2000:100:20000];

for i=1:length(N)

w=14*2*pi;

```



```

%
global w;

N_gear=N(i);
global N_gear;
% global Rl

for j=1:length(RL)

    load=RL(j);
    global load;

[t,x]=ode45('total_meso_elecsinglefinal',ts,xo);

base_velocity=((9.8*0.91)/w)*cos(w*t);
base_displacement=((9.8*0.91)/(w^2))*sin(w*t);

primary_velocity=x(:,5);
primary_disp=x(:,2);
absorber_disp=x(:,3);

relativevelocity(i,j)=max(base_velocity(5000:5500)-
primary_velocity(5000:5500));
relativedisp(i,j)=max(base_displacement(5000:5500)-primary_disp(5000:5500));
absorberdisp(i,j)=max(absorber_disp(5000:5500));

ce(i,j)=((N_gear.^2).*((0.01^2)/(0.0065^2)).*((11.885)^2)./(1964+load));
power(i,j)=(((N_gear.^2).*((0.01^2)/(0.0065^2)).*((11.885)^2)./(1964+load))
).*(max(base_velocity(5000:5500)-
primary_velocity(5000:5500))./sqrt(2)).^2)/(1964+load))*load;

% iso_velocity=x(:,4);
% iso_disp=x(:,1);
%
%
%
%
% absorber_velocity=x(:,6);
end

end

surf(RL,N,power)
% ce=(N.^2).*((0.01^2)/(0.0065^2)).*((10.06)^2)./(1964+3000);
% power=((ce.*((relativevelocity./sqrt(2)).^2))/(1964+3000))*3000;
%
% figure
% plot(N,power)
%
% figure
%
% plot(N,((relativevelocity./sqrt(2))./0.0065).*N)

```

```

% figure
% plot(base_velocity,'b')
% hold on
% plot(base_velocity-primary_velocity,'g')
% hold on
% plot(primary_velocity,'r')
%
% figure
% plot(base_displacement,'b')
% hold on
% plot(base_displacement-primary_disp,'g')
% hold on
% plot(primary_disp,'r')
%
% figure
% plot(absorber_disp,'r')

% NAME TEXT BELOW total_meso_elecsinglefinal.m

function v=total_meso_elecsinglefinal(t,x)
global w
% global N_gear
% global load
% global Rl

mp=0.3;
ma=0.0847;
mi=0.083;

kp=2189;
ka=618;
ki=42;

wi=sqrt(ki/mi);
wp=sqrt(kp/mp);
% wb=wp;
wa=sqrt(ka/ma);

zetai=0.04;
zeta=0.04;

cp=zetai*2*mp*wp;
ca=zeta*2*ma*wa;
ci=zetai*2*mi*wi;
ce=((35^2).*((0.01^2)/(0.0065^2)).*((11.885)^2)/(1964+2000));

Y=(9.8)./(w).^2;
% Y=0.002207;

M=[mi 0 0; 0 mp 0; 0 0 ma];

```

```

C=[ci+cp -cp 0; -cp cp+ca+ce -ca; 0 -ca ca];
K=[ki+kp -kp 0; -kp kp+ka -ka; 0 -ka ka];
B=[ci*Y*w*cos(w*t)+ki*Y*sin(w*t); (1*(ce*Y*w*cos(w*t)))); 0];

```

```

A1=[zeros(3) eye(3); -inv(M)*K -inv(M)*C];
g=inv(M)*B;

```

```

v=A1*x+[0;0;0;g];

```

## B.4 Micro wind turbine analysis for calculating $\Phi$

Below are five sets of text which correspond to five different m files. The first m file titled “Automatic.m” calls the other four m files. The following code takes the output from the ANSYS results from A.6 or A.7 and sorts the data, breaks the coil face into many discrete areas, and calculates the angle phi, average y, and average B for each of the areas. The third line in Automatic.m extracts the data and therefore the name and location of ANSYS file goes here.. The MATLAB code will output variables for the ANSYS file input. The four column variable contains the y-coordinate, z-coordinate, B, angle phi.

```

%NAME TEXT BELOW Automatic.m

```

```

disp('Welcome for Extracting and Angle Calculation');
disp('Written by Darian A.Schaab (10/28/2012)');

```

```

extract_data = sortData('C:\Users\darian.schaab\Maschbau\5. Semester\ME4015 -
Senior Design
Project\Generator\Simulation\gap_optimizing\2_75\10252012_gap_275_z_025.txt')
;
select_data = averagedata(extract_data,-0.0035,0,0.003,0.0117,8,24);

```

```

XNEED(1:38,1) = [-0.00328125;-0.00284375;-0.00284375;-0.00284375;-
0.00240625;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-
0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-
0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00153125;-0.00153125;-0.00153125;-0.00153125;-
0.00153125;-0.00153125;-0.00153125;-0.00153125;-0.00109375;-0.00109375;-
0.00109375;-0.00109375;-0.00109375;-0.00109375;-0.00109375;-0.00109375;-
0.000656250;-0.000656250;-0.000656250;-0.000656250;];
YNEED(1:38,1) = [ 0.00861875; 0.00861875; 0.00825625; 0.00789375; 0.00680625;
0.00716875; 0.00753125; 0.00789375; 0.00825625; 0.00861875; 0.00825625;
0.00789375; 0.00753125; 0.00716875; 0.00680625; 0.00644375; 0.00608125;
0.00571875; 0.00463125; 0.00499375; 0.00535625; 0.00571875; 0.00608125;
0.00644375; 0.00680625; 0.00716875; 0.00608125; 0.00571875; 0.00535625;
0.00499375; 0.00463125; 0.00426875; 0.00390625; 0.00354375; 0.00535625;
0.00499375; 0.00463125; 0.00426875;];

```

```

XNEED(1:19,2) = [-0.00328125;-0.00328125;-0.00284375;-0.00284375;-
0.00284375;-0.00284375;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-0.00240625;-
0.00240625;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00196875;-0.00153125;-
0.00153125;-0.00153125;];

```

```

YNEED(1:19,2) =
[0.00898125;0.00934375;0.00898125;0.00934375;0.00970625;0.0100687500000000;0.
00898125;0.00934375;0.00970625;0.0100687500000000;0.0104312500000000;0.009343
75;0.00970625;0.0100687500000000;0.0104312500000000;0.0107937500000000;0.0104
312500000000;0.0100687500000000;0.00970625;];

XNEED(1:7,3) = [-0.000656250;-0.000656250;-0.000656250;-0.000218750;-
0.000218750;-0.000218750;-0.000218750;];
YNEED(1:7,3) =
[0.00318125;0.00354375;0.00390625;0.00426875;0.00390625;0.00354375;0.00318125
;];

coil1 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:192
    for jj = 1:1:38

        if (select_data(ii,1)+10e-019 >= XNEED(jj,1) && select_data(ii,1)-
10e-019 <= XNEED(jj,1))

            if (select_data(ii,2)+10e-019 >= YNEED(jj,1) &&
select_data(ii,2)-10e-019 <=YNEED(jj,1))
                test = test+1;
                coil1(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,1),YNEED(jj,1),
select_data(jj,3)];

            end
        end
    end
end

coil2 = 0;
test = 0;

for ii = 1:1:192
    for jj = 1:1:19

        if (select_data(ii,1)+10e-019 >= XNEED(jj,2) && select_data(ii,1)-
10e-019 <= XNEED(jj,2))

            if (select_data(ii,2)+10e-019 >= YNEED(jj,2) &&
select_data(ii,2)-10e-019 <=YNEED(jj,2))
                test = test+1;
                coil2(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,2),YNEED(jj,2),
select_data(jj,3)];

            end
        end
    end
end

coil3 = 0;
test = 0;

```

```

for ii = 1:1:192
    for jj = 1:1:7

        if (select_data(ii,1)+10e-019 >= XNEED(jj,3) && select_data(ii,1)-
10e-019 <= XNEED(jj,3))

            if (select_data(ii,2)+10e-019 >= YNEED(jj,3) &&
select_data(ii,2)-10e-019 <=YNEED(jj,3))
                test = test+1;
                coil3(test,1:3) = [XNEED(jj,3),YNEED(jj,3),
select_data(jj,3)];

            end
        end
    end
end

```

```

clear jj;
clear ii;
clear test;
clear XNEED;
clear YNEED;

```

```

phi1 = straightcoil(coil1);
coil1(1:38,4) = phi1(1:38,4);
clear phi1;
disp('Calculated all Angles for Area 1');

```

```

phi2 = phiArray(coil2, [-0.0015138;0.0088646]);
coil2(1:19,4) = phi2(1:19,4);
clear phi2;
disp('Calculated all Angles for Area 2');

```

```

phi3 = phiArray(coil3, [0 ;0.0050013]);
coil3(1:7,4) = phi3(1:7,4);
clear phi3;
disp('Calculated all Angles for Area 3');

```

%NAME TEXT BELOW averagedata.m

```

function [ listdata ] = averagedata( dataF, minval_x, maxval_x, minval_y,
maxval_y, numblock_x, numblock_y )
%UNTITLED Summary of this function goes here
% Detailed explanation goes here

```

```

ii = 1;
kk = 0;
dataF1 = 0;

```

```

while ii <= size(dataF,1)

```

```

    if ((dataF(ii,1)> minval_x) && (dataF(ii,1)<maxval_x))
        if ((dataF(ii,2)> minval_y) &&(dataF(ii,2)<maxval_y))

```

```

        kk = kk +1;
        dataF1(kk,1:4) = dataF(ii,1:4);
    end

    end

    ii = ii+1;
end

disp('Lines of data in the specific array:');
disp(kk);
disp('Scanned data points:');
disp(ii);

plot3(dataF1(:,1),dataF1(:,2),dataF1(:,4),'o')
xlim([minval_x maxval_x]);
ylim([minval_y maxval_y]);
xlabel('x-direction in m')
ylabel('y-direction in m')
zlabel('Magnet Field in T')

averagecell =dataF1;

datasort = sortcase(dataF1, maxval_x, minval_x, maxval_y, minval_y,
numblock_x, numblock_y);

figure;

for kk = 1:1:numblock_x

    for jj = 1:1:numblock_y

        if datasort(kk,jj,2) ~= 0
            polisheddata(kk,jj) =
datasort(kk,jj,1)/datasort(kk,jj,2);
        else
            polisheddata(kk,jj) = 0;
        end

        delta_x = (maxval_x-minval_x)/(numblock_x);
        delta_y = (maxval_y-minval_y)/(numblock_y);

        if polisheddata(kk,jj) ~= 0
            plot3((minval_x + kk*delta_x-delta_x/2),(minval_y +
jj*delta_y-delta_y/2),polisheddata(kk,jj),'o')

        else
            plot3((minval_x + kk*delta_x-delta_x/2),(minval_y +
jj*delta_y-delta_y/2),polisheddata(kk,jj),'ro')
        end
    end
end

```

```

        listdata((kk*numblock_y-numblock_y+jj),1:3) = [(minval_x +
kk*delta_x-delta_x/2),(minval_y + jj*delta_y-delta_y/2), polisheddata(kk,jj)
];

```

```

        hold on
        xlim([minval_x maxval_x]);
        ylim([minval_y maxval_y]);
        xlabel('x-direction in m')
        ylabel('y-direction in m')
        zlabel('Magnet Field in T')

```

```

    end

```

```

end

```

```

%
%
% while ii <= size(dataF,1)
%
%     if ((dataF(ii,1)> minval_x) && (dataF(ii,1)<maxval_x))
%         if ((dataF(ii,2)> minval_y) &&(dataF(ii,2)<maxval_y))
%             kk = kk +1;
%             dataF1(kk,1:4) = dataF(ii,1:4);
%         end
%     end
%
% end
%
% ii = ii+1;
% end

```

```

end

```

```

function [datasort] = sortcase(dataF1, maxval_x, minval_x, maxval_y,
minval_y, numblock_x, numblock_y)

```

```

ii = 1;
datasort = zeros(numblock_x,numblock_y,2);

```

```

delta_x = (maxval_x-minval_x)/(numblock_x);
delta_y = (maxval_y-minval_y)/(numblock_y);

```

```

while ii <= size(dataF1,1)
%ii goes through all values of dataF1

```

```

    for kk = 1:1:numblock_x
%kk goes through all cols to numblock_x

```

```

        if ((dataF1(ii,1)> (minval_x +(kk-1)*delta_x)) && (dataF1(ii,1)<
(minval_x + kk*delta_x)))

```

```

        for jj = 1:1:numblock_y
%%jj goes through all lines to numblock_y

        %           test1 = dataF1(ii,2)

                if ((dataF1(ii,2)> (minval_y + (jj-1)*delta_y))
&&(dataF1(ii,2)< (minval_y + jj*delta_y)))

        %           test= size(datasort)

                %           if ([size(datasort,1) size(datasort,2)] == [kk,jj]) &&
(initialised (datasort(1,1) ~= 0) %Checks if datasort must be
                datasort(kk,jj,1) = datasort(kk,jj,1)+ dataF1(ii,4);
                datasort(kk,jj,2) = datasort(kk,jj,2) +1;
                %           else
                %           datasort(kk,jj,1) =dataF1(ii,4);
                %           datasort(kk,jj,2) = 1;
                %           end
                end

        end

    end

end

ii = ii + 1;
end

end

%datasort(column, line, 1)= B_sum
%datasort(column, line, 2)= number

%NAME TEXT BELOW phiArray.m

function [ all ] = phiArray( allpoints, vec_pin )
%UNTITLED2 Summary of this function goes here
% Detailed explanation goes here

for ii = 1:1:size(allpoints,1)

    phi = phicircle([allpoints(ii,1);allpoints(ii,2)], vec_pin);

    if phi > (pi/2)
        phi = pi-phi;
    end

    all(ii,1:4)= [allpoints(ii,1) allpoints(ii,2) phi cos(phi)];

```



```
end
```

```
end
```

```
function [ angl_phi ] = phicircle(xx, vec_pin)  
%PHICIRCLE Calculates Angle of Wire in the round section  
% Define center position of rotation axis. Also define position of  
% coilpin. The function will find angle between coil and middle vector.
```

```
%%Location Definition
```

```
vec_center = [0;0];
```

```
%pin1
```

```
%vec_pin = [-0.0015138;0.0088646];
```

```
%pin2
```

```
%vec_pin = [0 ;0.0050013]
```

```
%% Generating angle
```

```
dir_xxcen = (xx-vec_center)/norm(xx-vec_center);
```

```
dir_tanci = [cos(atan((xx(1)-vec_pin(1))/(xx(2)-vec_pin(2))));-  
sin(atan((xx(1)-vec_pin(1))/(xx(2)-vec_pin(2))))];
```

```
angl_phi = acos(dir_xxcen(1)*dir_tanci(1)+dir_xxcen(2)*dir_tanci(2));
```

```
%return; %Shut off plotting
```

```
%% Ploting for understanding
```

```
plot([xx(1) xx(1)-(dir_xxcen(1)/1000)], [xx(2) xx(2)-(dir_xxcen(2)/1000)]);  
hold on;
```

```
plot([xx(1) xx(1)-(dir_tanci(1)/1000)], [xx(2) xx(2)-(dir_tanci(2)/1000)]);
```

```
plot(vec_center(1),vec_center(2), 'o');
```

```
plot(vec_pin(1),vec_pin(2), 'rx');
```

```
%rectangle('Position',[vec_pin(1)-norm(xx-vec_pin),vec_pin(2)-norm(xx-  
vec_pin),2*norm(xx-vec_pin),2*norm(xx-vec_pin)], 'Curvature',[1,1]);
```

```
axis equal;
```

```
end
```

```
%NAME TEXT BELOW sortData.m
```

```
% sortedData expects the name of a file that is in the directory  
% of the function.
```

```
% It returns cell array with Columns [x y z B]
```

```
function sortedData = sortData(data_url)
```

```
rawdata = fopen(data_url, 'r');
```

```

n = 1; % line counter
currentLine = fgetl(rawdata);

while ischar(currentLine) ~= 0
    if strncmpi(currentLine, '          XYZ',13)
        parts = strread(currentLine, '%s', 'delimiter', ' ');
        X = str2double(parts(3));
        Y = str2double(parts(4));
        Z = str2double(parts(5));

        sortedData(n,1) = X;
        sortedData(n,2) = Y;
        sortedData(n,3) = Z;

    elseif strncmpi(currentLine, '          Sval',14)
        parts = strread(currentLine, '%s', 'delimiter', ' ');
        B = str2double(parts(3));
        sortedData(n,4) = B;
        n = n+1;

    end

    currentLine = fgetl(rawdata);

end

fclose(rawdata);

% NAME TEXT BELOW straightcoil.m

function [ all ] = straightcoil( allpoints )
%UNTITLED Summary of this function goes here
% Detailed explanation goes here

for ii = 1:1:size(allpoints,1)

    phi = straight([allpoints(ii,1);allpoints(ii,2)]);

    if phi > (pi/2)
        phi = pi-phi;
    end

    all(ii,1:4)= [allpoints(ii,1) allpoints(ii,2) phi cos(phi)];

end

```

```

end

function [phi] = straight(xx)

%%Location Definition
vec_center = [0;0];
%pin1
vec_pin1 = [-0.0015138;0.0088646];
%pin2
vec_pin2 = [0 ;0.0050013];

dir_coil = (vec_pin1-vec_pin2)/norm(vec_pin1-vec_pin2);

dir_xxcen = (xx-vec_center)/norm(xx-vec_center);

phi = acos(dir_xxcen(1)*dir_coil(1)+dir_xxcen(2)*dir_coil(2));

end

```

## B.5 Micro wind turbine analysis for determining varying gear ratio and load resistance effect on power

```

clear all
%% Defining variables and values
syms w Rl Phi transmission

Phi= 11.97; %1.4; 12.2; 11.2
Rc= 2700; %41.5; 2700; 2700

[RloadM, transM] = meshgrid(1:1000:100000,1:0.125:5);

%% Defining functions of system

slopeBl=0.00041./transmission./(180.*transmission);
startupT=0.00041./transmission;

generator_torque = Phi.^2*0.01.^2.*w./(2*(Rc+Rl));
blade_torque = startupT-slopeBl.*w;

%% solving for SS-velocity

wss = solve(generator_torque-blade_torque==0,w)

%% Creating functionhandles

wfcthdl = matlabFunction(wss)
genetrifcthdl = matlabFunction(generator_torque)

%% Evaluating functions on mesh

w_ss = wfcthdl(RloadM,transM);

```

```

powergenerator = Phi.^2*0.01.^2*w_ss.^2.*RloadM./(2*(Rc+RloadM).^2);

%% Plotting functions
hSurface = surf(RloadM,transM,w_ss);
set(hSurface,'FaceColor',[1 0 0],'FaceAlpha',0.5);

xlabel('load resistance in Ohm')
ylabel('transmission ratio w_i_n/w_o_u_t')
zlabel('Steady state velocity in 1/s')
view(3)

figure
hSurface2 = surf(RloadM,transM,powergenerator);
set(hSurface2,'FaceColor',[1 1 0],'FaceAlpha',0.5);

xlabel('load resistance in Ohm')
ylabel('transmission ratio w_i_n/w_o_u_t')
zlabel('Generatorpower in W')
view(3)

```