

Micro Urban Electric Vehicle

Phase III – Regenerative Braking

Functional Description and Complete System Block Diagram

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I. Introduction

The world has been worrying about high fuel cost and the environment, for a long time there has been a movement to conserve energy. This movement has created a search for alternative energy that is cheap and environmentally friendly. This made some Bradley students to start a multi-phase project to create a urban electric vehicle. The first phase of this project done in 2009 was just to build a lightweight electric vehicle that would be street legal. The group was able to design and build a fully functional urban electric vehicle. In 2010 the next group worked on phase two of this project which was to generate the significant models of the subsystems of the vehicle. This group was able to successfully model the motor, battery, controller, vehicle dynamics and loads.

II. Functional Description

A. Introduction

This project is entering the third phase for 2013 school year. We will be focusing on getting the regenerative breaking subsystem up and running to make the vehicle even more efficient. Most of our research will be on regenerative breaking but first we will have to look at the past projects. We will need to understand what the groups have accomplished, and what they have implemented on the vehicle already. We may have to model a few things that the past group was unable to accomplish in the past before getting into the regenerative breaking portion.

B. Goals

1. Use a DC motor to drive a flywheel, and then use the motor again to slow the flywheel while using power electronics to recover the kinetic energy from the flywheel.
2. Perform multiple simulations of the design.
3. After completion of items 1 and 2 above, investigate the possibility of using a variable speed drive to recover more energy at lower speeds.
4. If the above items are satisfactory, the design will be integrated with a MEUV for additional data collection.

III. System Block Diagram

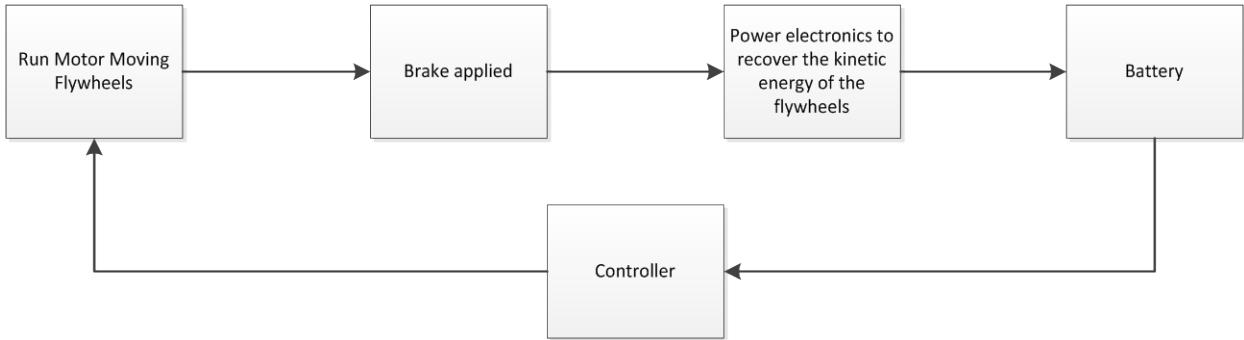


Figure 1. High-level block diagram of regenerative breaking system

Figure 1 is a high-level block diagram of the regenerative breaking system. After the flywheels are in the driver will hit the break to slow the flywheels. The power electronics will convert the kinetic energy to recharge the battery, which is supplying power to the motor.

IV. Subsystems

Power electronics to recover kinetic energy to be determined.