

### **SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY** (AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)

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# **Department of Biomedical Engineering**

## Course Name: 19BM0302 & WEARABLE TECHNOLOGIES 110-3

Topic :Energy Harvesting Wearable Devices Semester :6



# **INTRODUCTION**



#### What does Homeotherm mean?

Homeothermy or homothermy is thermoregulation that maintains a stable internal body temperature regardless of external influence. This internal body temperature is often, though not necessarily, higher than the immediate environment.

#### What animals are Homeotherms?

mammals, including humans, as well as most birds are homeotherms





### PRINCIPLES OF ENERGY HARVESTING BY USING HUMAN BODY HEAT

Warm blooded animals, or homeotherms, including humans constantly generate heat as a useful side effect of metabolism.

However, only a part of this heat is dissipated into the ambient as a heat flow and infrared radiation, the rest of it is rejected in a form of water vapor.

Furthermore, only a small fraction of the heat flow can be used in a compact, wearer's friendly and unobtrusive energy scavenger.

For example, nobody would like to wear a device on his or her face.

Therefore, the heat flow from the face cannot be used. The heat flow can be converted into electricity by using a thermoelectric generator (TEG), the heart of which is a thermopile.

It is known from the thermodynamics that the heat flow observed on human skin cannot be effectively converted into electricity, although a human being generates more than 100 W of heat on average.

The human body is not a perfect heat supply for a wearable TEG. The body has high thermal resistance; therefore, the heat flow is quite limited. This

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#### What is difference between warm and cold blooded animals?

Cold-blooded animals require less amount of energy as compare to Warm-blooded animals, as Warm-blooded produces heat by their own and regulate their consistent body temperature in any environment, whereas Cold-blooded animals maintain their body temperature according to changes in an environment.

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Examples : all mammals and birds are warm-blooded, and all reptiles, insects and fish are coldblooded.

#### Is man a warm blooded animal?

Actually humans are warm-blooded. They have a capacity to manufacture their own heat. Mammals all are warm-blooded. Reptiles are cold-blooded.





# HOW THERMOELECTRIC GENERATORS WORK

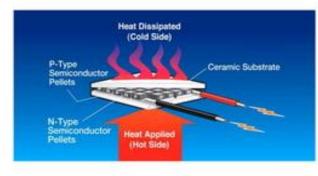


Thermpelectric Generator Hodule





# WORKING PRINCIPLE OF THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR



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Heat is applied to one side of this thermoelectric device.

It causes the electrons to flow in the completed circuit resulting in enough power to energize the light emitting diode.





### **OPERATION OF THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR**

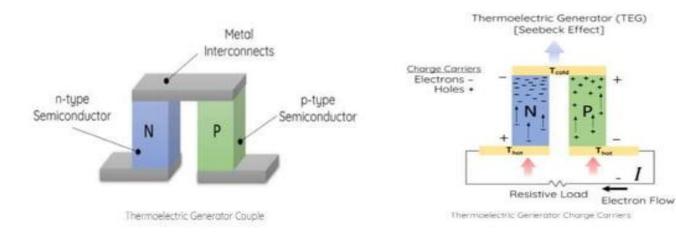
- Thermoelectric generators (TEG) are solid-state semiconductor devices that convert a temperature difference and heat flow into a useful DC power source.
- Thermoelectric generator semiconductor devices utilize the Seebeck effect to generate voltage.
- This generated voltage drives electrical current and produces useful power at a load.
- A thermoelectric generator is not the same as a thermoelectric cooler (also know as TEC, Peltier module, cooling chips, solid-state cooling).
- A thermoelectric cooler works in reverse of a thermoelectric generator.
- When a voltage is applied to thermoelectric cooler, an electrical current is produced.







# HOW DOES A THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR UTILIZE THE SEEBECK EFFECT?



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### SEEBECK EFFECT

The basic building block of a thermoelectric generator is a thermocouple. A thermocouple is made up of one p-type semiconductor and one n-type semiconductor.

The semiconductors are connected by a metal strip that connects them electrically in series. The semiconductors are also known as thermoelements, dice or pellets.

The Seebeck effect is a direct energy conversion of heat into a voltage potential.

The Seebeck effect occurs due to the movement of charge carriers within the semiconductors.

In doped n-type semiconductors, charge carriers are electrons and in doped p-type semiconductors, charge carriers are holes.

Charge carriers diffuse away from the hot side of the semiconductor. This diffusion leads to a buildup of charge carriers at one end.

This buildup of charge creates a voltage potential that is directly proportional to the temperature difference across the semiconductor.

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