DEBRA: Digital Emergency Brake Response Alert System

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DEBRA

Actually 2 different systems
 Improving highway safety
 Measuring car performance

Problem: Cars Crash

Approximately 1.5 Million rear endings each year
Rear ending ~23% of all accidents
2,000 deaths
~950,000 injuries.

Let's make a distinction between fast braking and slow braking vehicles!

DEBRA paradigm

Fast braking vehicles (FBV) realize they are braking quickly

FBV sends visual and RF warning to other cars

- FBV flashes brake lights instead of constant on during periods of high deceleration
- FBV sends RF information to other cars notifying them of deceleration

Surrounding cars react

Drivers observe attention gabbing brake pattern

Units in other cars listen for RF and play audio warning to drivers of FBV in vicinity

Functional Diagram



Accelerometer Module

Acceleration = sqrt(x^2+y^2-1)
Braking = [x y]*[xr;yr]
Operating frequency = 20Hz to block vibrations.
Tests: 0-60mph, braking, ¼ mile, open time.

Performance Interface

LCD display in cockpit. Press 0-60 button to begin test. Timer starts automatically when acceleration is detected. Acceleration is integrated once to get velocity. Test stops when velocity reaches 60.

Quarter Mile

Push button to start test.
Acceleration is integrated twice to get distance.
Timer starts when acceleration is detected and stops when integrated distance is at least ¼ mile.

Braking Test

User brings vehicle to desired start speed (e.g. 60 mph), then presses brake test button.

Timer starts when braking is detected, stops when braking stops.
Dual integral of acceleration provides distance output.

