

Inductive Sensing Touch-On-Metal Buttons Design Guide

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ABSTRACT

This application note covers the fundamentals of Touch-on-Metal (ToM) technology using an LDC1612 Inductance-to-Digital Converter (LDC) and provides guidance for constructing ToM buttons. Simple on and off buttons can be easily implemented using inductive sensing. Additionally, by using a high resolution LDC, microscopic movements in a flat metal button can be sensed and processed to determine how hard a given button was pressed. This approach allows reuse of existing metal surfaces commonly found in many applications such as consumer electronics and appliances. This report contains a design example for a multi-button brushed aluminum panel and provides guidance on the mechanical system and sensor design, as well as measured performance results of the complete system.

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1 ToM Basics

ToM buttons refers to using a flat metal surface as a button and a high resolution inductance converter such as the LDC1612 to detect the microscopic metal deflection that occurs when the button is pressed. [Figure 1](#) shows a block diagram of a touch-on-metal solution with two buttons. When even a light force is applied to a button, the inner surface of the metal sheet will be pushed towards the PCB sensors. The metal sheet does not contact the sensors but the small amount of deflection from the press causes a shift in the sensor inductance that can be detected by the LDC and then interpreted as a button press by a microcontroller (MCU). Haptics such as a vibration, audible beep, or visual indication may also be triggered to give the user an acknowledgement of an accepted button press.

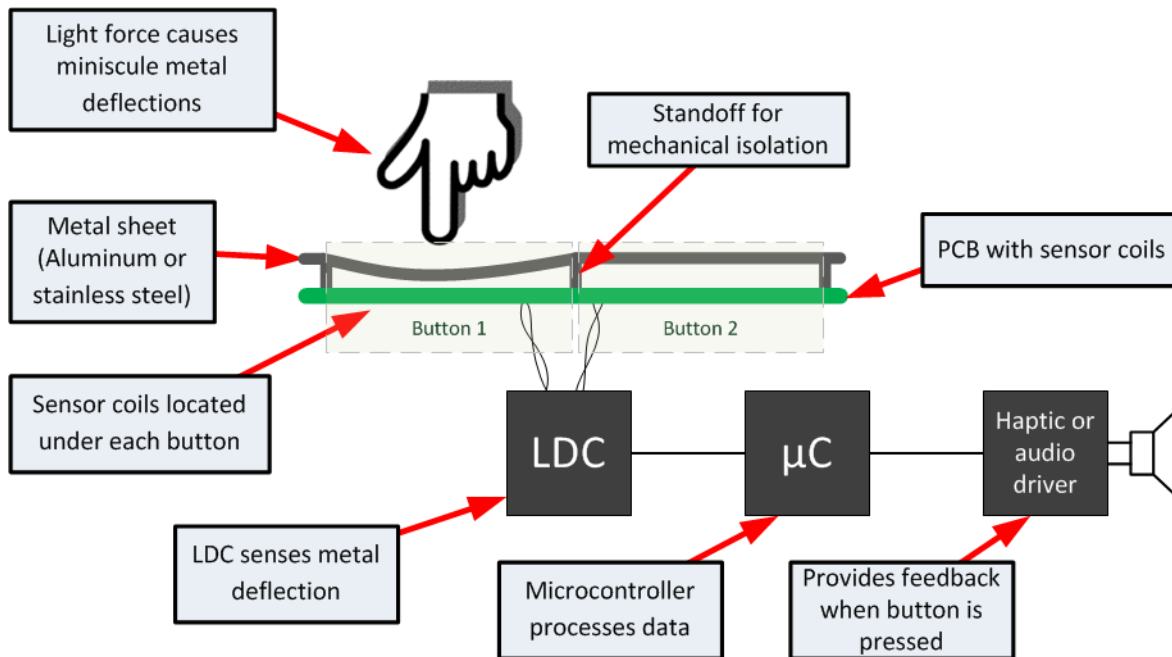


Figure 1. System Block Diagram of a Touch-On-Metal Implementation

Inductive-sensing based designs for touch-on-metal offers a completely sealed and contactless solution with a greatly simplified assembly process. In addition to being insensitive to dirt, moisture, and other contaminants, inductive touch-on-metal buttons offer a robust solution that does not use moving mechanical parts, and offers a flat surface that is easy to clean for home appliances. Unlike mechanical buttons, inductive sensing-based buttons can detect the amount of pressure on the button, allowing for adjustable sensitivity or the ability to program the button for different functions depending on the amount of pressure applied. In addition to working with grounded and ungrounded button panels, inductive sensing also provides excellent immunity towards EMI sources due to a narrow-band resonant sensing approach.

2 How Are Inductive Touch-On-Metal Buttons Implemented?

Inductive-to-Digital Converters (LDC) are able to measure proximity to metal by detecting the subtle changes in an AC magnetic field resulting from the interaction with the metal target. The LDC generates an AC magnetic field by supplying an AC current into the parallel LC resonant circuit shown in [Figure 2](#).

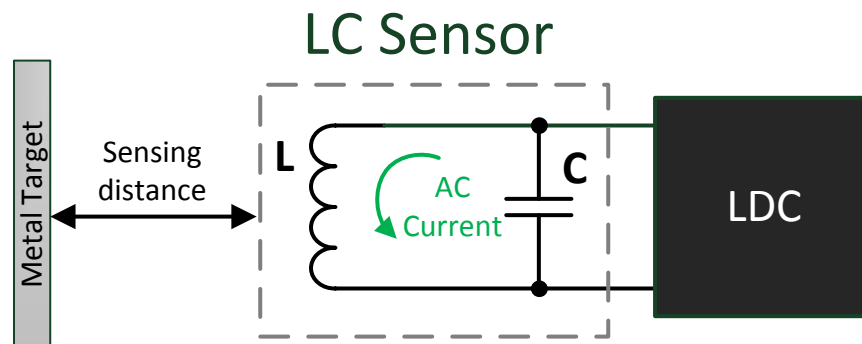


Figure 2. LC Sensor Components

If a conductive target is brought into the vicinity of the inductor's AC magnetic field, small circulating currents known as eddy currents will be induced by the magnetic field onto the surface of the conductor shown below in [Figure 3](#).

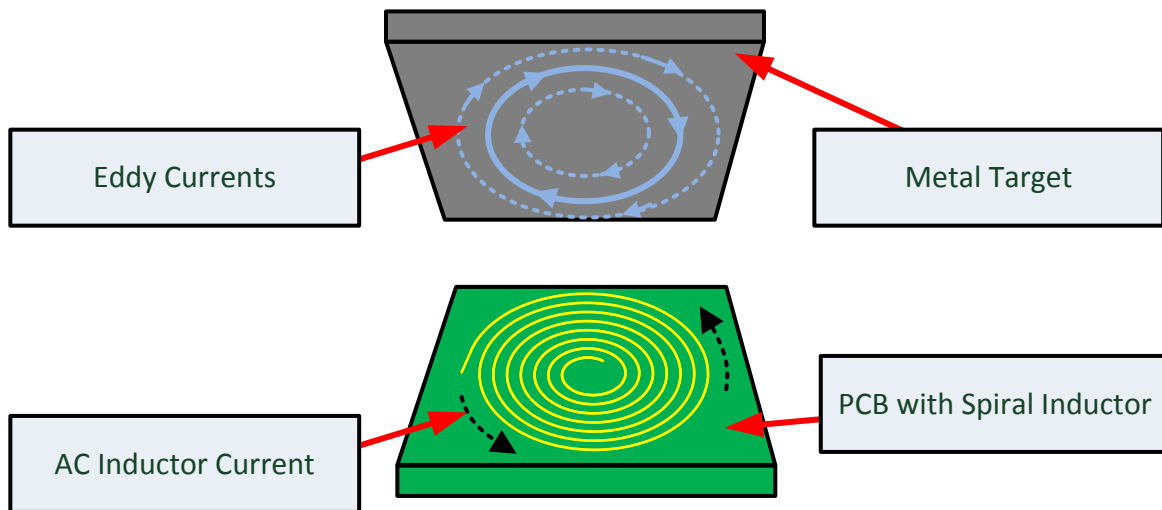


Figure 3. Eddy Currents Induced on Metal Surface

These eddy currents produce their own magnetic field that opposes the one created by the inductor which reduces the effective inductance of the coil. The resulting inductance shift is measured by the LDC and can be used to provide information about the position of the target over a sensor coil such as distance or equivalently the force of a button press.

3 System Design Procedure

In order to construct a ToM system with the optimal performance, the following should be considered:

1. Mechanical system design: The quantity, size, and arrangement of buttons as well as the optimal target-to-sensor spacing can influence the response of the system.
2. Sensor design: Best practices to LDC sensor design and shape to ensure that the LDC can detect microscopic deflection in metal.
3. Other considerations: Multiplexing multiple buttons, power consumption, detection algorithms to automatically adjust for long-term drift or permanent mechanical changes, and EMI.

3.1 Mechanical System Design

This aspect of the system design is used to address the physical interface presented to the user. Considerations such as the number of buttons, the size and shape of the buttons, and material composition all need to be determined.

A typical home appliance example with a ToM control panel might have two or more adjacent buttons. For ease of use, the buttons should not be too small; typical applications may use 20-mm diameter buttons, which is sufficiently large for easy actuation. Typically the button panel is a flat metal surface constructed from a single sheet of metal. ToM buttons may use a wide variety of metals, but many consumer and industrial systems prefer stainless steel or aluminum surfaces which are commonly available materials.

Indicating the location of the button can be handled with a wide range of approaches – from adhesive overlays, to painted markings, or even putting grooves or patterning onto the surface of the metal.

Figure 4 shows an example button panel which has been produced from a 0.8-mm thick sheet of Aluminum Al6061-T6 – the buttons are clearly identified by the circular grooves.

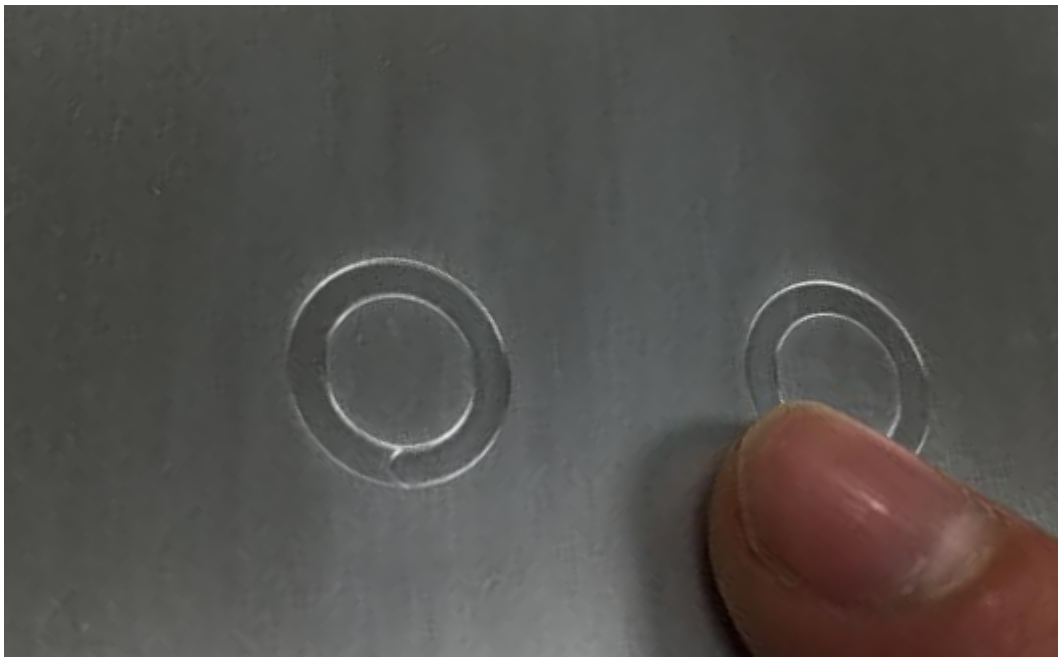


Figure 4. Manufactured Button Panel

Figure 5 shows a side view of the two adjacent buttons in this example application.

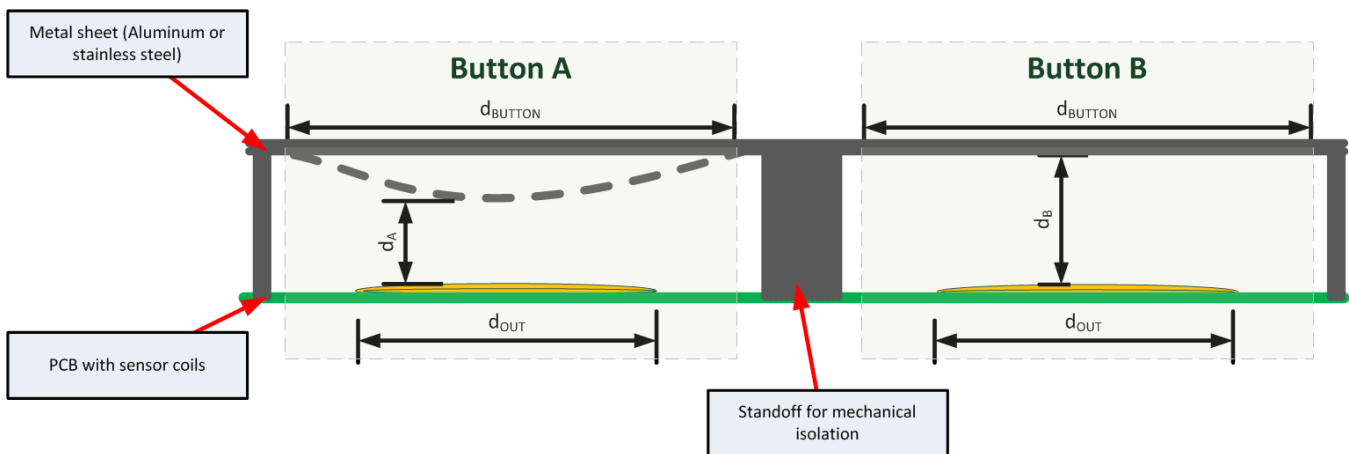


Figure 5. Using Adjacent Buttons

When a light force is applied onto button A, the inner surface of the metal sheet will be pushed towards the PCB sensors. This deflection causes a frequency shift in the LC sensor and must be enough to be easily detected by the LDC and then interpreted as a button press by the MCU in the system.

Sources of error, such as adjacent button deflection or other environmental noises, could mask the desired response and make it difficult for the MCU to distinguish the real button press. It is recommended that the desired amount of deflection for a button detection event should produce a response that is greater than the noise of the system by a factor of 10. For example, if the system noise appears like $\pm 0.5\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ movement, then a button needs to move at least $5\mu\text{m}$ to be easily detected.

There are number of factors that influence how much metal deflection is produced by a button press, such as metal material and thickness. With good system design, the deflection of the metal for a typical button press is around 20 to 50 μm .

3.1.1 Designing for Natural Button Force

A key component to designing a ToM button is the user experience and how much force is required to detect a button press. Mechanical buttons typically require between 2N and 5N of force. For buttons of non-moving parts, a consumer's natural instinct is to press with less force, typically 0.5 to 2 N. To relate the amount of applied force to the amount of metal deflection produced, it is necessary to consider metal composition, thickness, and structure of the button. In general, a larger deflection is desirable, as it provides a larger shift in inductor response and provides more flexibility for button detection threshold.

3.1.1.1 Metal Composition

The material choice can have a large impact on how much force is required to achieve the required deflection at a given metal thickness. The key parameter is Young's modulus, which is a measure of the elasticity of the metal and is measured in units of pascal (Pa). Materials with a lower Young's Modulus are typically more flexible. Aluminum (AL6061-T6) has a Young's modulus of 68.9 GPa, while Stainless Steel (SS304) has a higher Young's modulus of 203 GPa, which makes it about 3 times less flexible than aluminum. Aluminum is an excellent material choice for inductive sensing because it is both flexible and asserts a high inductance change on an inductive sensing coil. Materials such as SS304, can also be used and provide robust results. The difference in deflection for a given amount of pressure between the two materials is shown in [Figure 6](#).

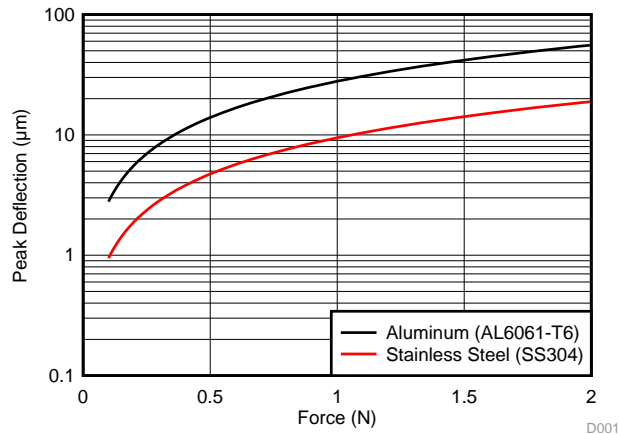


Figure 6. Force vs Peak Deflection for Different Materials, Diameter = 20 mm, Thickness = 0.25 mm

3.1.1.2 Metal Thickness

Using thinner metal sheets allows higher deformation at a given force than using thicker sheets, as illustrated in [Figure 3](#). For example, with a 20-mm diameter button of aluminum and a force of 1 N, the 0.25-mm thick sheet has a peak deflection of 27 µm, whereas a 1-mm thick sheet only has a deflection of 0.42 µm.

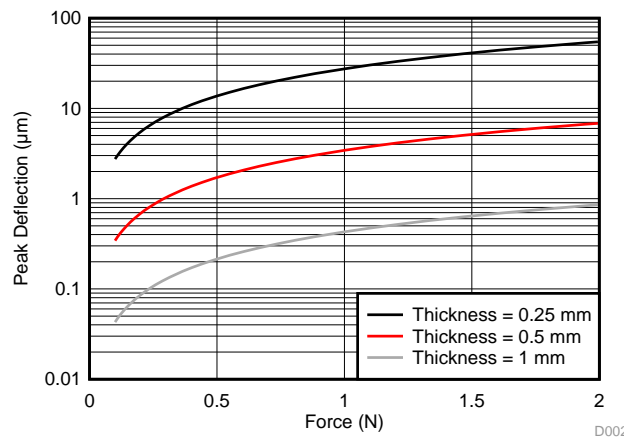


Figure 7. Force vs Peak Deflection for an Example Sheet of Al-6061-T6

3.1.1.3 Mechanical Structure of the Button

The structure and shape of the button will also determine how much deflection is achieved. A ToM design should consist of a flat sheet of metal with spacers between the metal and the PCB to allow for deflection. The width and position of the spacers act like fulcrums to the metal and can improve button deflection if narrow and placed far apart. The designer may also etch a cutout beneath the button to allow for controlled deflection. This would allow the PCB to be placed flush against the metal without the use of spacers. Additionally, the cutout will decrease the thickness of the metal localized to the button area only which will improve the deflection and thus the response of the button. Depending on the available assembly processes and cost constraints, one approach may be more desirable than the other.

3.1.2 Target Distance

The nominal spacing between the inner metal surface and the PCB sensor is important to consider for both mechanical/assembly and electrical considerations. As the metal target approaches the sensor, the amount of inductance shift increases rapidly. The optimal target distance is where the sensor sensitivity is at its peak, but still has room for mechanical deflection. Metals that approach the sensor capture more of the electromagnetic field such that the highest sensitivity of the system occurs when the metal target is as close to the sensor as possible. However, to account for manufacturing tolerances and to ensure that there is still room for metal deflection, it is recommended for a nominal metal to sensor spacing be kept above 0.2mm. This spacing can be achieved by creating recessed area in the metal above the sensor for systems where the PCB is placed flush to the metal or by using a small spacer between the metal and the PCB sensor with a cutout to allow the metal to deflect, as shown in [Figure 18](#). Additionally, the sensitivity rapidly decreases beyond 20% of the coil diameter, therefore it is recommended to place the sensor within this distance while leaving >0.2 mm of room for deflection, as shown in [Figure 8](#).

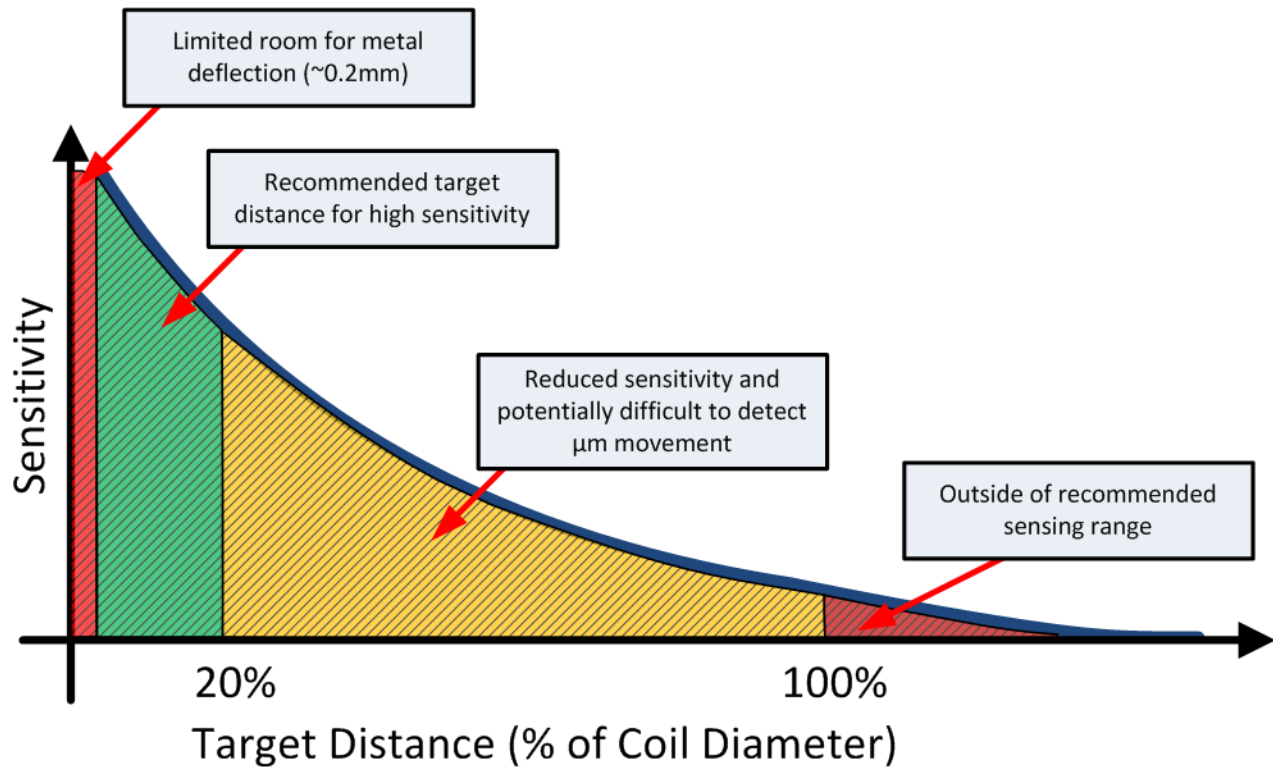


Figure 8. Optimal Target Distance

3.1.3 Mechanical Isolation

When multiple buttons are present in a system, it is possible for undesirable mechanical interaction between different buttons to occur. For example, when pressing button A, the contiguous metal surface may deform in such a manner that a significant amount of movement occurs over the neighboring button B sensor, and could appear as an unintended button press of button B. The following principles can be applied to reduce the mechanical crosstalk between adjacent buttons during an active press:

1. Physical supports between buttons or standoffs can facilitate stronger metal deformation on the button that is pressed, as shown in [Figure 5](#).
2. Ensuring a larger physical deflection for the intended button. From an electrical perspective, a large signal-to-noise ratio between a true button press versus an undesired detection is the easiest way to detect the correct button press event. Using thinner metal or selecting materials with a low Young's modulus ensures that metals are easier to deform and have less impact on the neighboring buttons. For example, aluminum is more flexible than many stainless steel alloys.
3. Increasing the distance or adding grooves between adjacent buttons improves mechanical isolation. For cross-talk minimization, button-to-button separation should also be greater than one coil diameter.

3.1.4 Mounting Techniques

For effective operation of ToM button, the sensor PCB should be fixed at a constant offset from the metal surface. If the sensor PCB is not held firmly, then it could move or vibrate away from the metal surface, which could be misinterpreted as a button press or change the desired button sensitivity.

In many applications the sensor coil can be part of the main PCB and mounting holes can be used to align the sensor to the outline of the metal button. The height at which the metal button sits above the PCB will have the largest impact on the operating point of the LDC. In other applications where there is not much space for a monolithic PCB, the sensor may be put onto a flex PCB board and attached to the main PCB with a connector. The same mechanical design considerations must be taken into account as well as adding stiffeners to the sensor to prevent false detection. Some applications may also be restricted in mechanical arrangement, so that the distance between the sensor PCB and button panel cannot be reduced sufficiently. In such cases, a wire-wound surface-mount inductor may be used instead of a PCB coil.

For a standard FR4 PCB implementation, either of the two following assembly stack-ups are recommended:

1. A metal panel with a recessed area directly beneath the button on the bottom of the panel which can be created by either milling or etching a cavity into the metal, as shown in [Figure 9](#). In this case, the left-over areas act as standoffs which support the PCB and ensure that there is room for metal deflection above the sensor coil. Double-sided adhesive (such as 3M 300LSE adhesive tape), or epoxy can be used to attach the PCB to the metal panel. If using adhesive tape, bubbles in the adhesive can form causing a non-uniform button response and potentially cause false detections. These air bubbles can be eliminated by either using adhesive with micro-channels or by adding non-plated vias to the PCB and applying force during the assembly process to compress the structure and force the air out and create a secure bond between the metal and PCB.

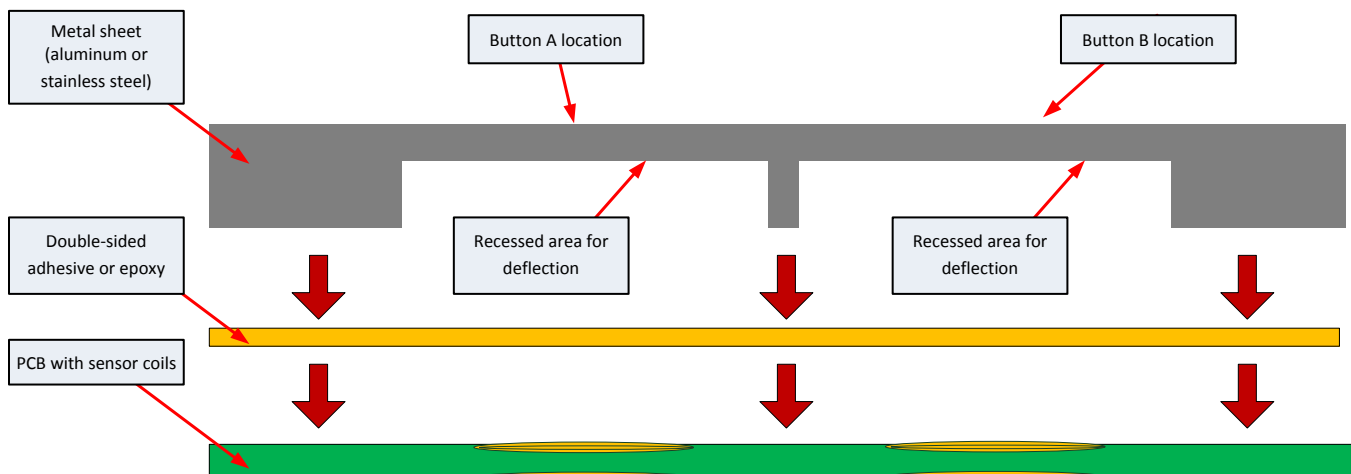


Figure 9. Assembly with Standoffs in the Metal Sheet

2. A plastic spacer with cutouts can be placed between the metal panel and the PCB. This approach is useful in systems where a flat sheet of metal is used and it is not possible to do additional cutouts or milling to the metal. The spacer provides the necessary air gap between the metal sheet and the sensor to allow for deflection. Therefore, the cut-outs are of the same dimension and location as the button itself. Double-sided adhesive or epoxy can also be used to secure the assembly. Adding non-plated vias to both the PCB and the spacer that are aligned and adding sufficient pressure during the assembly process is important to remove the air bubbles that could accumulate and create undesired offsets or crosstalk between the channels.

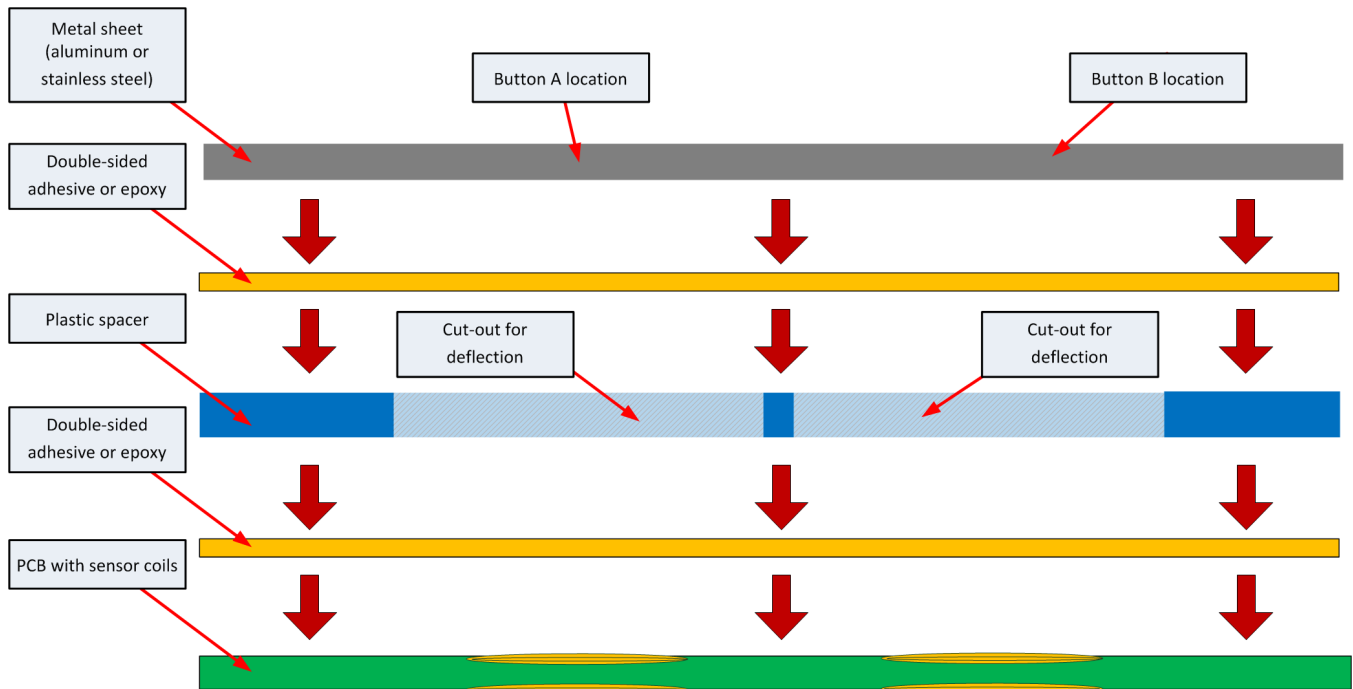


Figure 10. Assembly with Plastic Spacer

3.2 Sensor Design

3.2.1 PCB Design

LDCs typically utilize a multi-layer PCB spiral inductor as the inductive element for the LC resonator circuit. An external capacitor is added in parallel to the sense coil as shown in Figure 2, whose value remains static regardless of metal proximity. The key coil parameters are shown in Figure 11.

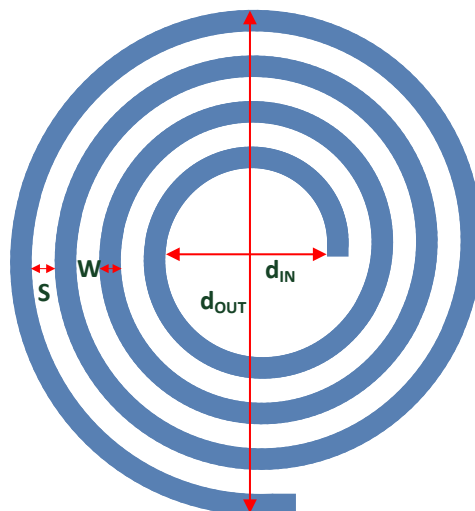


Figure 11. PCB Coil Parameters

LDC sensor design guidelines are described in detail in the *LDC Sensor Design* application note (SNOA930).

When determining the geometries of the sensor coil for ToM applications, it is generally recommended to match the shape of coil to the metal button so that the deflection is evenly distributed over the sensor coil.

The outer diameter (d_{OUT}) of the coil should be large enough to sense the metal proximity at the nominal distance, but due to the concave nature of a button press, very little metal is deflected at the edges of the metal button. Therefore it is recommended to keep the outer diameter between 50% to 60% of the metal button diameter to maximize the sensitive area of the coil to the metal deflection. Once the diameters of the metal button and the coil have been determined, the sensor PCB coil can be placed ideally within 20% of the coil diameter from the metal according to Figure 8. This nominal spacing can be achieved by using a spacer that is 20% of the coil diameter thick or by milling out the metal above the sensor.

The coil fill ratio is also important to consider for ToM applications, because the metal target deforms the most at the center when pressed and causes an uneven amount of coverage over the sensor coil with the closest proximity to the coil at the center. This deflection shape makes the inner turns more useful and therefore ToM sensors should use many inner turns as possible to achieve a d_{IN} / d_{OUT} - ratio of less than 0.4. This effect can be seen by examining the eddy currents produced on the surface of the metal button.

There is a higher density of eddy currents where the most magnetic field lines are concentrated as shown in Figure 12. Therefore by increasing the number of inner turns more eddy currents are generated on the surface of the metal which increases the sensitivity of the ToM system.

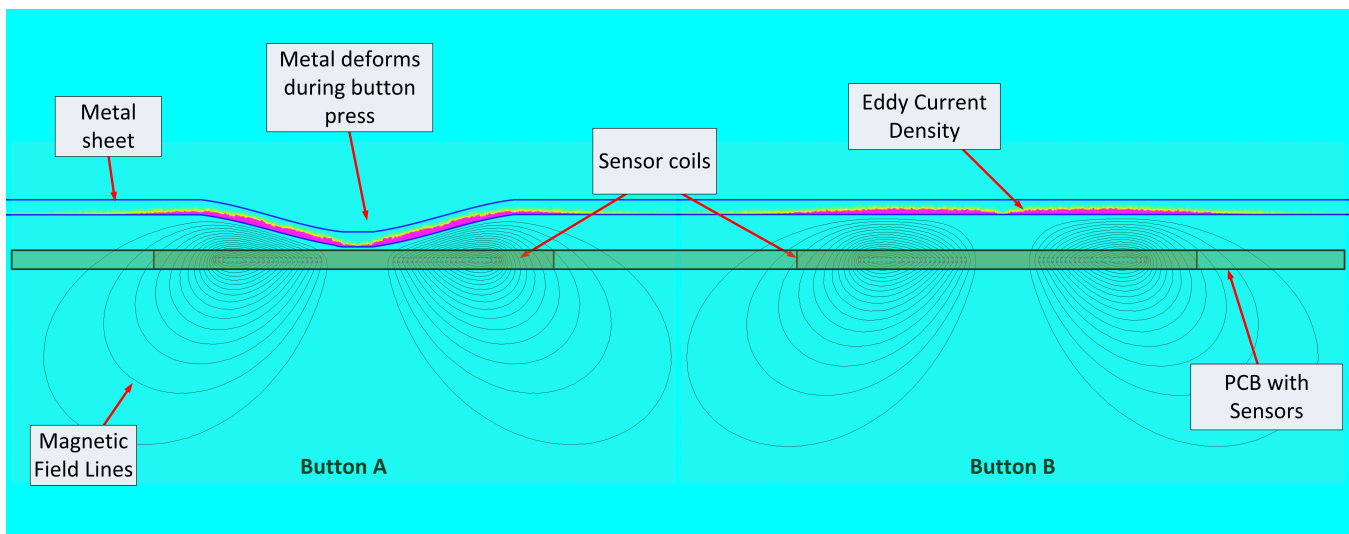


Figure 12. Eddy Current Density Induced by an AC Magnetic Field

For this example application, a PCB with the coil characteristics in Table 1 was designed on a two-layer PCB, as shown in Figure 13 to Figure 15.

Table 1. Sensor Coil Parameters

| PARAMETER | VALUE |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| d_{OUT} | 12 mm |
| d_{IN} | 3.3 mm |
| Number of turns / layer | 14 |
| Number of layers | 2 |
| Trace width (W) | 6 mil (0.15 mm) |
| Trace spacing (S) | 6 mil (0.15 mm) |

With an inner metal surface-to-sensor distance of $d_1=0.55$ mm, the coil design produces a nominal inductance of 3 μ H. Note that although the metal button is 12 mm, the outer silkscreen with 20-mm diameter indicates the portion on the bottom of the metal panel which has been recessed by 0.55 mm to provide room for deflection of the button, refer to Figure 18.

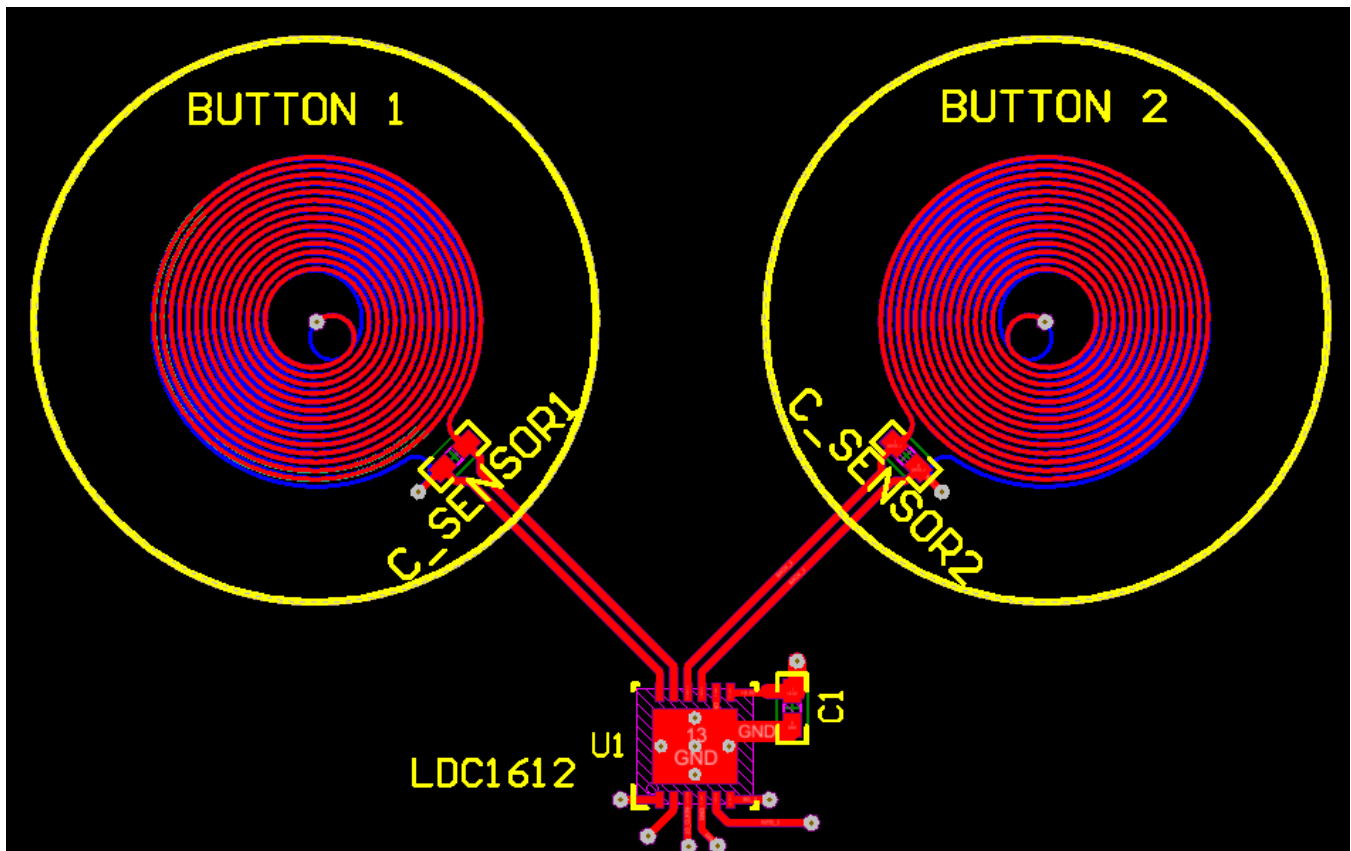


Figure 13. Sensor PCB (All Layers)

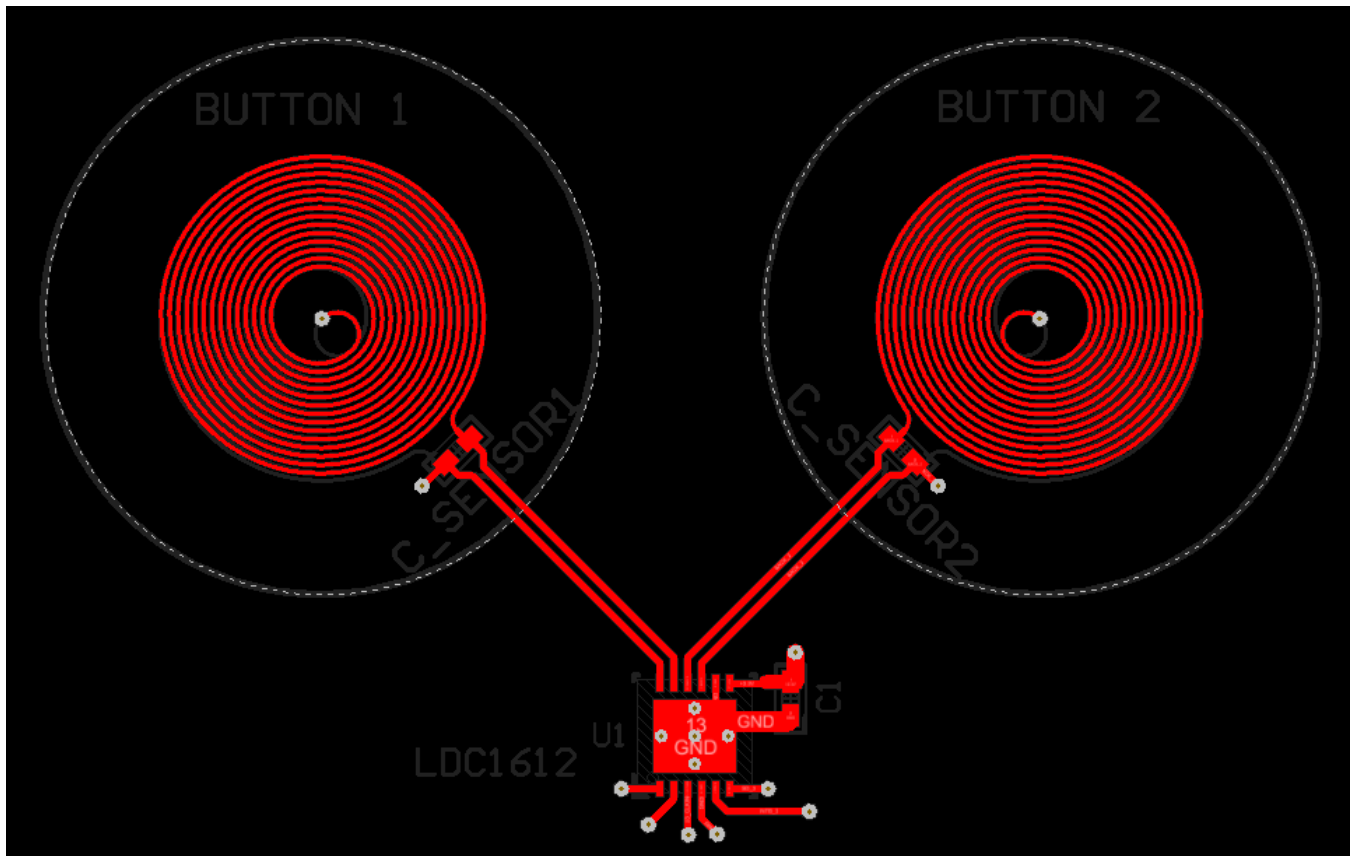


Figure 14. Sensor PCB (Top Layer)

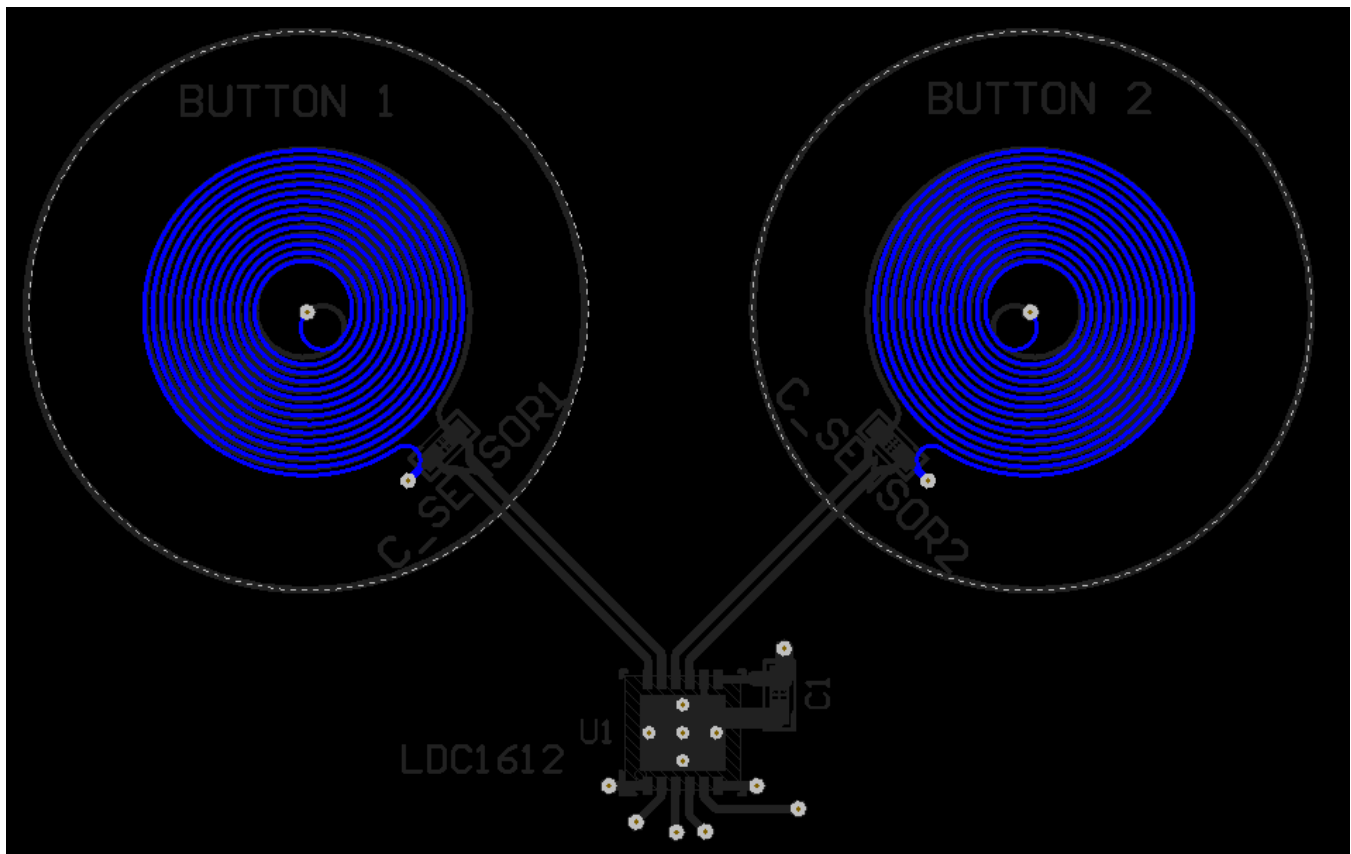


Figure 15. Sensor PCB (Bottom Layer)

3.2.2 Sensor Frequency Selection

The choice of sensor capacitor value and type is important to maintain a stable oscillation of the resonant circuit and is critical for optimum signal-to-noise ratio. The capacitor characteristics can affect the resonant behavior, so a high quality dielectric is recommended. A NP0/C0G capacitor is chosen because it does not exhibit common non-idealities such as piezo-electric effects, dC/dV, or a significant temperature coefficient. The combination of inductance and sensor capacitance determines the sensor frequency of the LC tank determined by [Equation 1](#).

$$f_{\text{SENSOR}} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times \sqrt{LC}} \quad (1)$$

The optimal choice of sensor frequency depends on the selection of metal material and thickness. Metals with higher conductivity, such as aluminum have a shallower skin depth which moves the induced eddy currents to surface of the material. This dense concentration of eddy currents produces a greater shift in the AC magnetic field of the LC sensor, making the metal deflection easier to detect. This also enables use of a wider sensor frequency range and thinner metal surfaces. Alloys with a lower conductivity such as stainless steel do not produce as much inductance shift at low sensor frequencies and therefore require an increased sensor frequency to produce an equivalent response. As a rule of thumb, it is better to operate at a high sensor frequency to provide the most flexibility in material selection, especially when a small metal thickness is used. The LDC1612 has a maximum sensor frequency of 10 MHz, but to allow manufacturing tolerance, a value of 100 pF is chosen to achieve a sensor frequency of 9.1 MHz and provide some system margin.

3.2.3 Sensor Amplitude Selection

The oscillation amplitude of the LDC1612 sensor is determined by the drive current strength and is adjustable by the device register settings. Larger sensor oscillation amplitudes improve system SNR, but could result in higher emissions. The oscillation amplitude has been chosen to be $1.3 V_P$, which is in the recommended range according to datasheet specifications. It is important to note that as the metal approaches the sensor, the oscillation amplitude will decrease. Therefore it is important to set the oscillation amplitude with the metal present in the system to maintain good system SNR.

3.3 Other Considerations

3.3.1 Button Quantity and Multiplexing

The dual-channel LDC1612 supports two buttons. With the quad-channel LDC1614, four-button systems can be implemented. For systems with more than four buttons, multiplexing may be utilized with a single LDC1614. [Table 2](#) shows the recommended device for the required amount of buttons

Table 2. Button Quantity vs Device Selection

| Number of Buttons | Recommended Device |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1-2 | LDC1612 |
| 3-4 | LDC1614 |
| 5+ | LDC1614 + external multiplexing |

3.3.2 Power Consumption

The full sample speed of the LDC is not required for HMI application which allows for duty cycling and power consumption savings. The LDC can be sampled at periodic intervals to conserve power consumption, while still providing real-time button detection.

The Inductive Sensing Design Calculator Tool spreadsheet ([SLYC137](#)) can calculate the average current consumption in duty-cycled applications. A typical application with two buttons and a sample rate of 10 samples per second may have an average current consumption of 225 μA (113 μA per button), as shown [Table 3](#). In battery powered applications, the tradeoff between sample rate and resolution can be adjusted for further power savings.

Table 3. Average Current Consumption

| Parameter | Value | Unit |
|---|---------|-----------------------|
| $f_{REFERENCE}$ input to CLKIN | 20 | MHz |
| RCOUNT Setting (range:0x0003 to 0xFFFF) | 1000 | hex |
| Desired Sample Rate | 10 | sps |
| Number of channels of measurement | 2 | |
| Sensor Frequency (open air) | 8 | MHz |
| Sensor Frequency (in presence of Aluminum at 0.55mm distance) | 9.1 | MHz |
| Sensor Q (max) | 20 | |
| I2C Data rate | 400 | kbit/s |
| Sensor RP | 10 | k Ω |
| LDC Device | LDC1612 | |
| Programmed settle count | 64 | |
| Minimum Settle Count Register Setting | 0x4 | (registers 0x10:0x13) |
| single conversion time | 3.28 | ms |
| LDC Current consumption using Shutdown Mode | 225.29 | μA |
| LDC Current consumption using Sleep Mode | 256.24 | μA |

3.3.3 Software Algorithm

The LDC measures the oscillation frequency of the sensor and converts it to a raw output code from which the sensor inductance can be calculated. An I2C interface is used to stream the 28-bit digitized data to the processor or microcontroller for post-processing. An interrupt driven method is efficient for button applications because the microcontroller does not have to poll the LDC for information.

An algorithm is required to interpret the raw output code received by the microcontroller. A straight-forward implementation uses a simple moving average function (SMA) with a dynamically adjusted threshold to determine when a button has been pressed. This algorithm is sufficient to neglect changes due to environmental factors such as temperature, while checking for fast changes that signal button press events.

For applications that do not need to detect simultaneous button presses, a simple comparison function can be implemented where the button with the strongest force applied that exceeds the detection threshold is selected. More advanced algorithms can allow for simultaneous button presses or multiple thresholds to distinguish between different levels of force. Even compensation for mechanical twisting or permanent damage from a dented panel can be handled algorithmically which allows the inductive sensing ToM solution to excel in reliability and user experience.

After the MCU has identified the button press, an acknowledgement needs to be provided to the user to indicate that the button press was recognized. In the absence of moving parts, the MCU can send a trigger to an audible, haptic, and/or visual feedback device. TI offers several haptic drivers such as the DRV2605 which can be used to drive a small motor or buzzer for button recognition.

3.3.4 EMI Emissions Testing

The system was tested in a certified EMI test facility according the CISPR-22 emissions standard. During testing, there were two active buttons with a sensor oscillation frequency of 9MHz and an oscillation amplitude of 1.3 V_p.

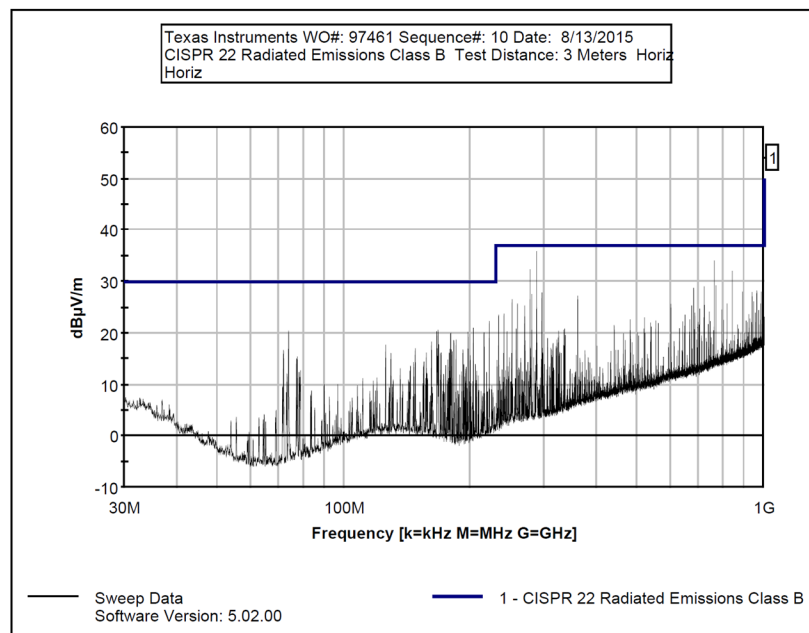


Figure 16. EMI data of LDC1612 with CISPR 22 mask

The blue line shows the maximum allowed emissions as per CISPR22 standard. The measured results in [Figure 16](#) show that the LDC solution passes the CISPR22 test across the whole frequency range of interest.

When using short trace lengths between the sensor and the IC, no external components are required to reduce emissions in order to pass this test. When using larger sensors or remote sensing in a system with long wires between the sensor and the IC, external passive components such a common-mode choke and capacitor solution may be needed to pass emissions testing.

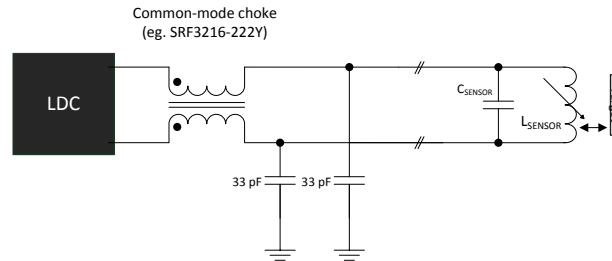


Figure 17. Using a Common-Mode Choke to Reduce EMI Emissions

3.4 Design Implementation

The panel for this example was manufactured as shown in Figure 18 to Figure 20 from a 0.8-mm thick sheet of aluminum Al6061-T6 (all dimensions are in mm).

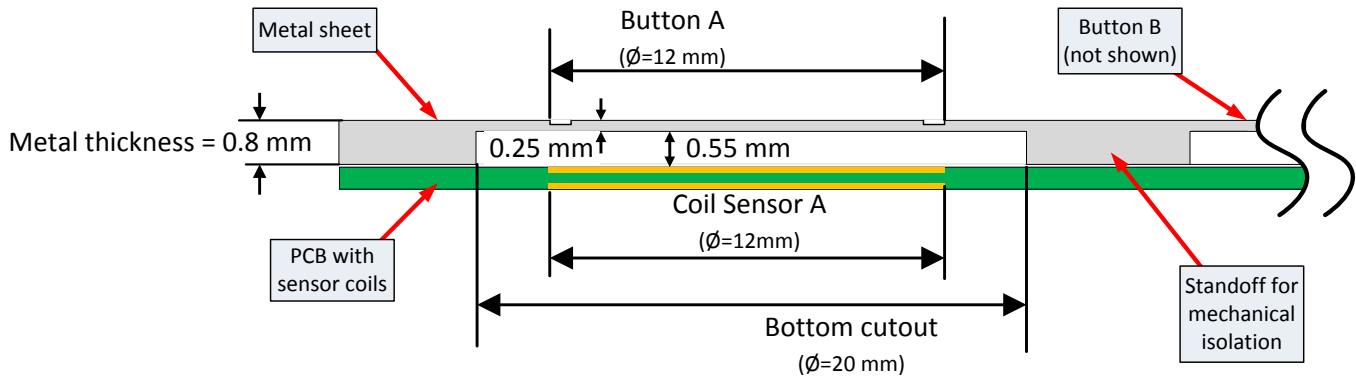


Figure 18. Side View (Button A)

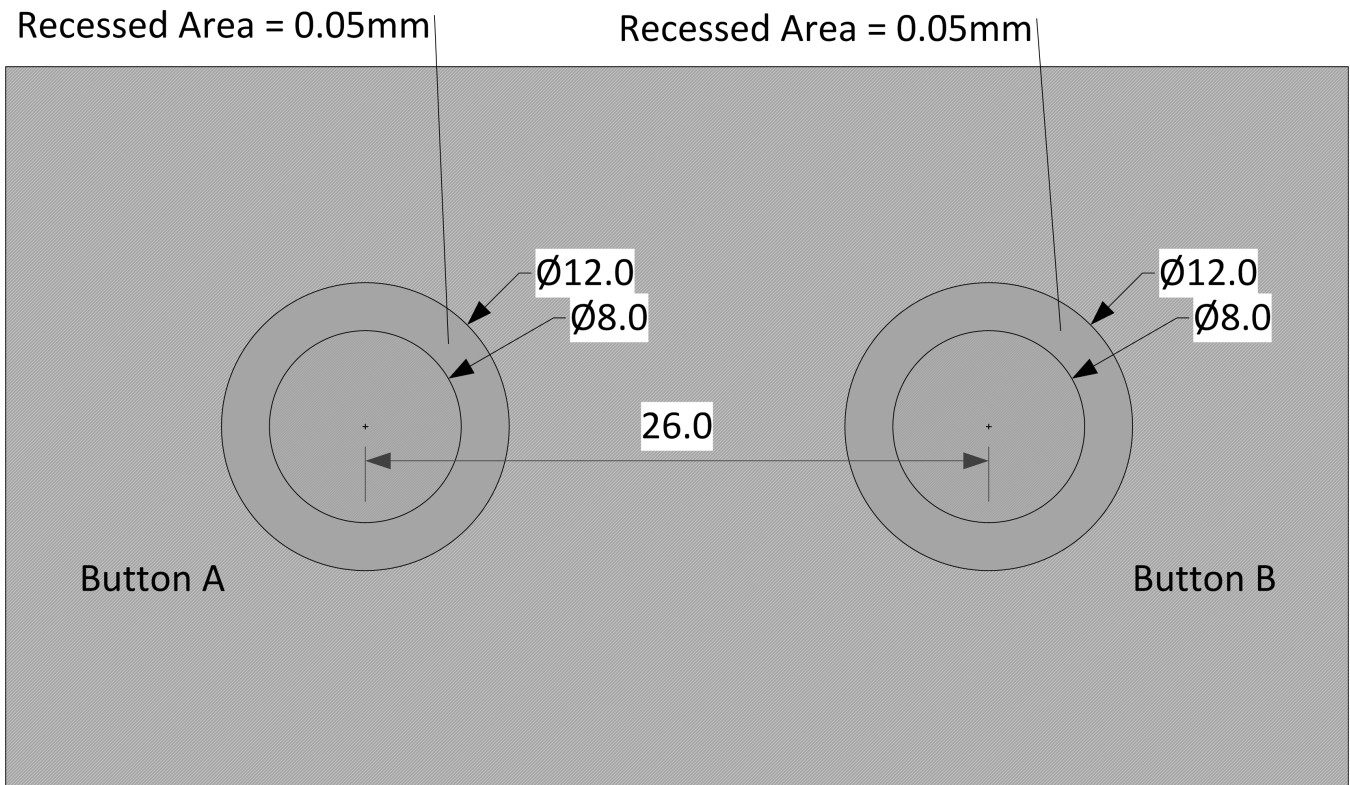


Figure 19. Top View

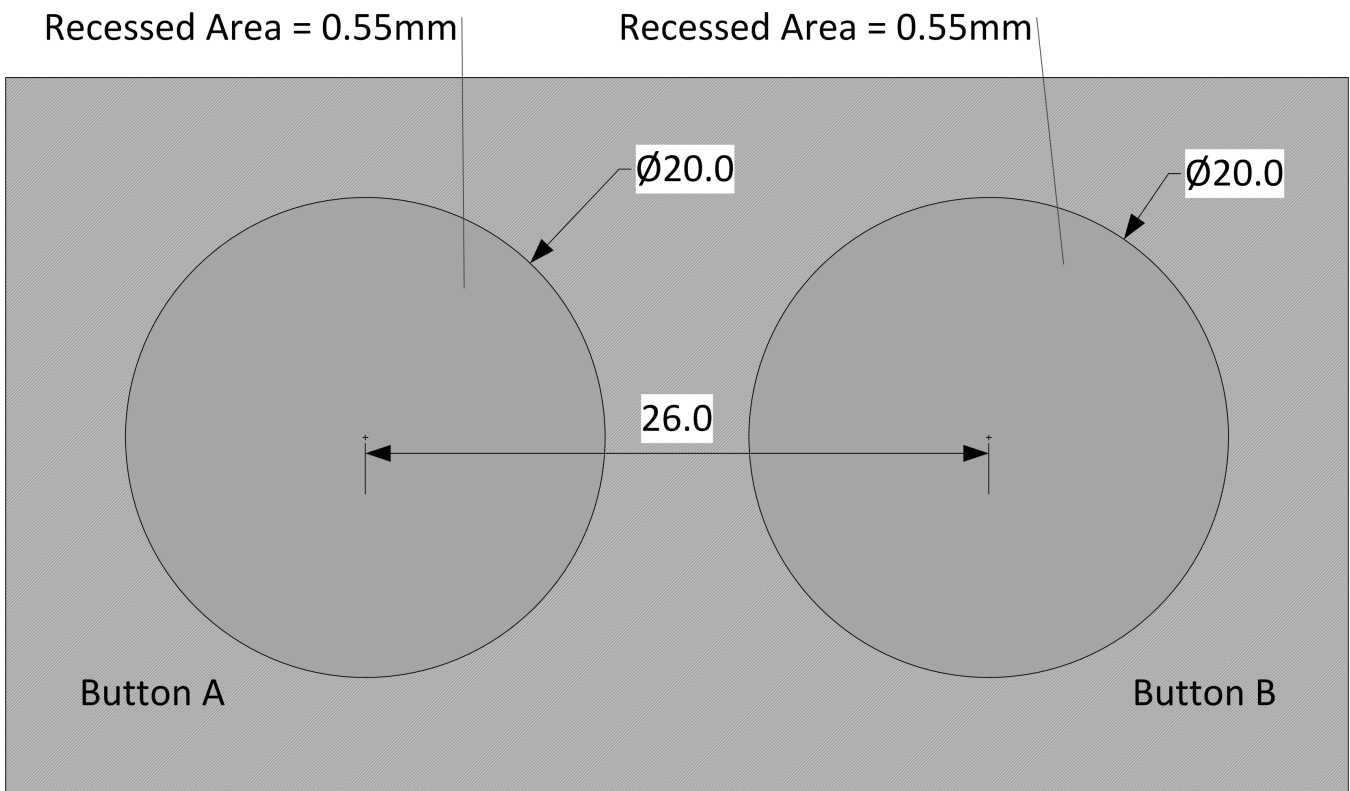


Figure 20. Bottom View

The recessed area on the outside metal surface, as shown in Figure 19, provides a clear indication to users on where to physically press.

4 Results

Figure 21 shows the real-time output response when pressing the buttons with a finger. The LDC output is repeatable and button presses do not cause significant interference. A configurable threshold is added in software to detect button press events. More sophisticated software algorithms can also be applied to add functionality such as multi-button support and multi-level force sensitivity, and to remove unwanted effects which are caused by drastic changes in temperature or humidity, or permanent deformation of the metal. These algorithms can be run on ultra-low power microcontrollers such as an MSP430.

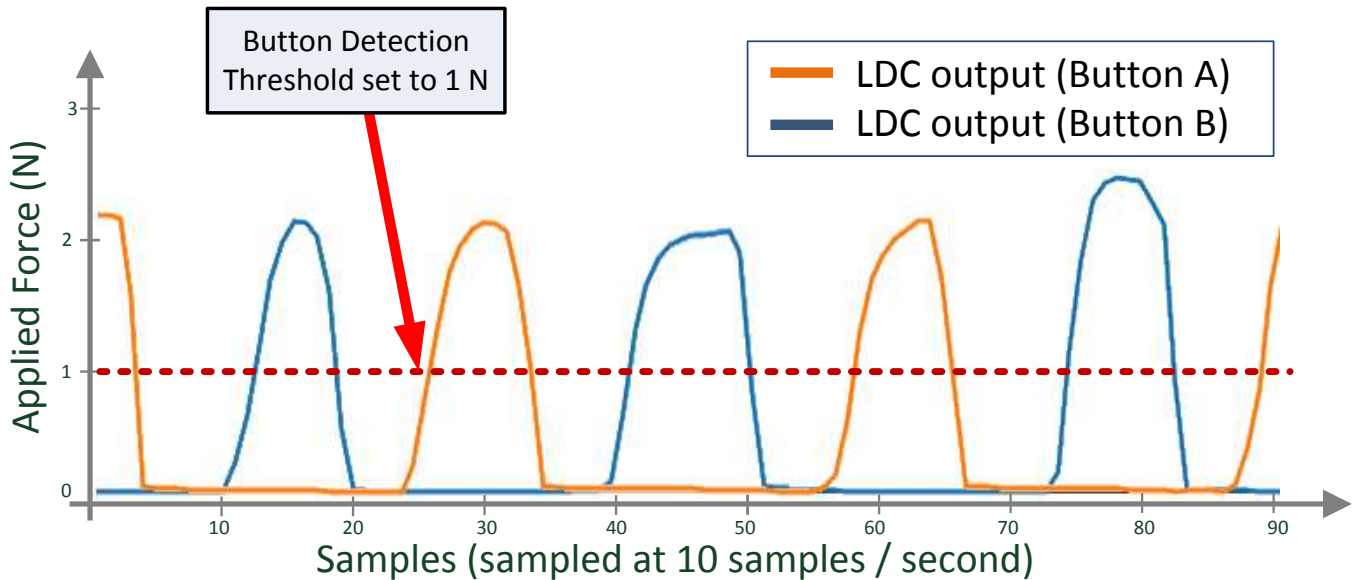


Figure 21. Real-Time Button Response Output

The buttons can be characterized by measuring the output response while different amounts of force are applied to the center of the button.

Figure 22 shows the measurement data of the average metal deflection for the panel. From the data, it can be seen that deflections as high as 15 μm can be achieved with as little as 1 N of force, which represents a light button press.

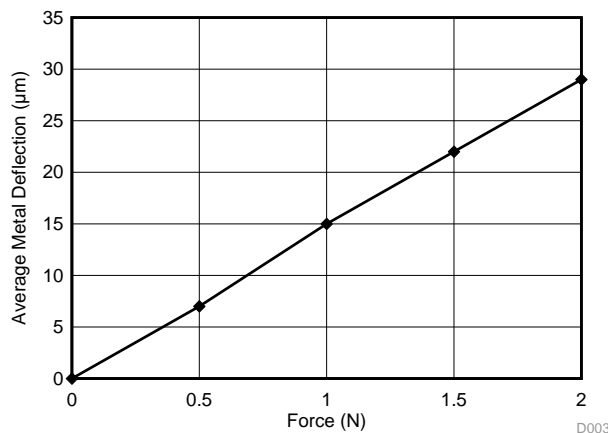


Figure 22. Force vs Metal Deflection (Button A)

Figure 23 shows that applying 1 N of force to Button A results in a clearly detectable inductance change of -1.07%.

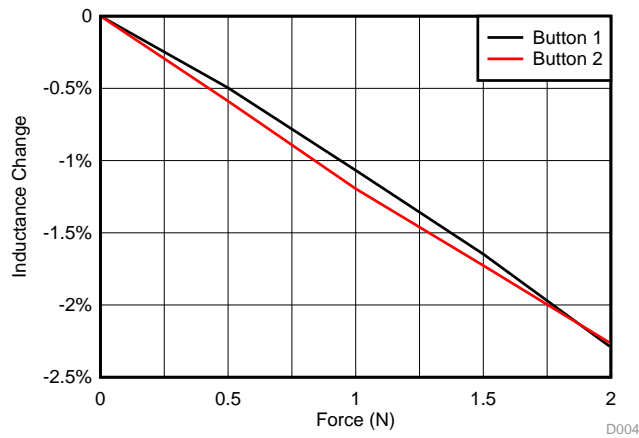


Figure 23. Applied Force vs Sensor Frequency Change

Figure 24 shows how small the mechanical crosstalk is between the two buttons. Due to the mechanical structure of the panel, the output reading in button B moves by 0.03% into the opposite direction. In systems with poor mechanical isolation this opposite response could be larger, which could represent a problem when the metal relaxes making it look like a button press. As long as the amount of opposite deflection is less than button detection threshold it will not trigger a button press. This can be achieved when following the guidelines detailed in this report.

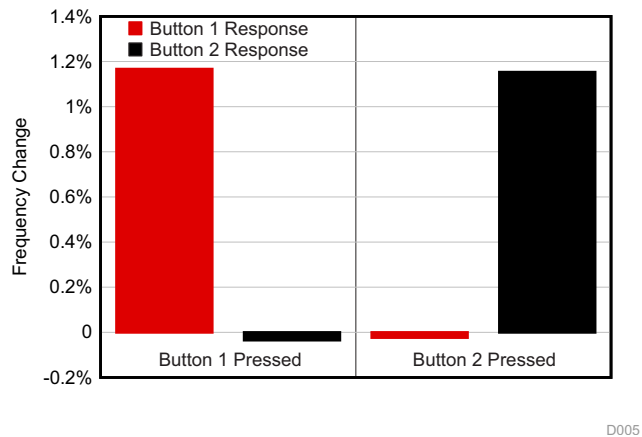


Figure 24. Isolation Between Button A and Button B (1-N Force)

To calculate the SNR, Equation 2 is used.

$$SNR = 20 \times \log_{10} \left(\frac{\text{Code change from baseline}}{6 \times \sigma_{\text{noise}}} \right) \tag{2}$$

Even at a very light button press of 0.5 N of force, the signal-to-noise ratio exceeds 47 dB, as shown in Figure 25. This SNR is much higher than the recommended minimum SNR of 20 dB, which is required by simple software algorithms to reliably detect button presses.

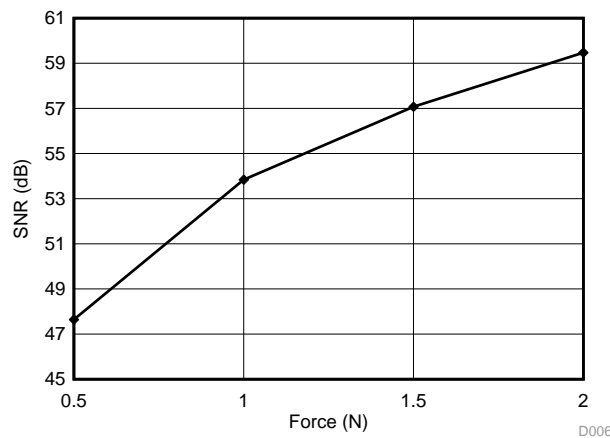


Figure 25. Signal-to-Noise Ratio

5 Summary

LDC technology can be used to create robust, non-wearing, and versatile buttons for human-machine interface needs. With proper mechanical and sensor design, an inductance-to-digital converter can detect even very light button presses of 0.5 N.

The following guidelines are presented in this report:

1. Mechanical system design considerations including the metal material, thickness, and shape of the buttons are discussed. The quantity and arrangement of buttons for mechanical isolation as well as the optimal target-to-sensor spacing which influences the response of the system. Metal etching and mounting techniques are also presented.
2. Best sensor design practices ensure that the LDC can detect microscopic deflection in metal.
3. Other considerations such as multiplexing multiple buttons, advanced button detection algorithms, power consumption, and EMI performance are explained.

This design is scalable in both resolution and sample rate making the LDC useful in a wide variety of applications from systems that need to detect small μm changes to systems that require update rates of several hundred times per second.

6 Additional resources

- Find out more about the LDC1612 and download the [LDC1612 datasheet](#).
- Design your sensor coil and start your system design in seconds with [WEBENCH® Inductive Sensing Designer](#).
- LDC sensor design guidelines are described in the [LDC Sensor Design application note](#).
- More information on TI's inductive sensing technology, including additional applications and devices, can be found on the [LDC homepage](#).

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