Control Strategy for Distributed Integration of Photovoltaic and Battery Energy Storage System in Micro-grids

By Alias Khamis

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Abstract

The micro-grid deployments are growing with independently, power system designers, manufacturers and researchers for the applications where the loads are more efficient association with extra output sources such as Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), and Photovoltaic (PV) systems. Using renewable source as main sources for micro-grid system also can avoid from the pollution to occur. Energy storage when combined with PV system can provide a stronger economic performance, as well as an added benefit of backup power for critical loads. This project proposed control strategies for integration of BESS and PV in a micro-grid. The operation enables the maximum PV and BESS utilization during different operating condition of the micro-grid, grid connected, islanded mode or a process between the two operations. The project will focus on analyzing the performance between photovoltaic system and battery in the simulations of micro-grids system and validate the simulation result using MATLAB/SIMULINK software. After the simulation was analyzed, the understanding of benefit in using renewable energy source as main power supply with support from battery energy storage to supply the power to the loads and power managements is realized in the different modes on micro-grid which is grid connected or islanded states. When the power generation from PV system was not enough to accommodate electric loads, the BESS or from secondary side of transformer will supply the insufficient power.

Keywords: battery storage, photovoltaic, microgrids and controller

1. Introduction
1.1. Research Background

Renewable energy rise as an alternative energy that will not run out and can prevent pollution from occurring. Many researchers became interested in the field of power system from current conventional power system which has been long used into smart grids involving micro-grids [1]. The technologies for renewable energy source such as photovoltaic and wind have a fast development uses in integration grid to less the operational cost for loads in using the energy either to generate a DC or an AC power source [2].

Micro-grids increase dependability locally through the establishment of a reliability development plan that integrates redundant distribution, smart switches, power generation and energy storage. Local power generation and storage let portions of the grid and critical facilities to function independent of the larger grid when needed and thus eliminate blackouts.

The engagement of PV generation and energy storage system use in micro-grid system get more attention between researchers for studying in micro-grid system. In grid integration, PV supposed to work in Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) to supply the accessible power and the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) necessary to deliver the difference power in case the PV system did not meet the requirement of total load. The main grid is likely to support the balance of power and regulate the voltage.

In micro-grid system, the customer demanding domestic and industrial is all about the lesser operational cost and electrical energy uses. Other than that, conventional distribution networks that accept distributed generation connections may face serious difficulty when its control and protection functions become more complicated. This incurs a burden to the network

operation and some technical limitations will appear when a great number of distributed generations are installed [3]. A normal power system usually full supported from main grid power for a factory or house to operate. To avoid this problem, the research about the benefit and performance of PV system and battery energy storage micro-grid must be finding and new innovation must be made to settle the problem.

1.2. Micro-grids

Micro-grid that is a local grid which can connect and disconnect from the conventional grid to function autonomously and also help minimize the grid disturbances to reinforce the grid resilences. In micro-grids which are low-voltage AC grids, often use diesel generators, and are installed by the community. It also can become as an essential purpose in changing the local electricity grid system. The different between traditional electricity grid (macro-grid) and micro-grid is the scale of the grids. Micro-grid is more like a small-scale grids compare to macro-grids. Micro-grids utilize with combination of the different energy resources, such as solar hybrid or using smart wind turbine power systems which can decrease the cause of the pollution [4], The Microgrids system as shown in Figure 1.

Micro-grids can supply the thermal and electricity power plus supporting and reducing the voltage sag will improve the quality of the power. From the utility's perspective, utilization of distributed energy sources can likely lower the appeal for distribution and transmission facilities. The loads will decrease the flows in transmission and circuit of distribution with important effect which is capability to possibly substitute for network assets if distributed generation positioned close to loads. Furthermore, the service quality will be increased if the existences of the generation meet the demand of the customers. By reducing congestion and aiding restoration after faults, micro-grids can deliver the network support in times of stress. The mitigation of climate changes and the decreasing of emissions may be provided by development of micro-grids. This is because existing and emerging technologies for distributed generation units derived from renewable sources and micro source that are categorized by very low emissions.
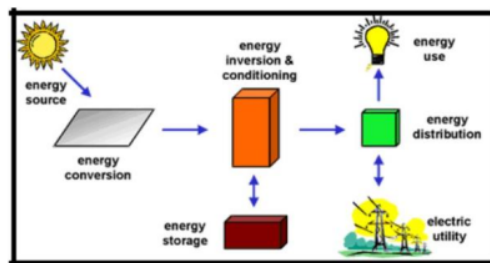

Figure 1. The Microgrids system with variable source and connection or interconnection directly from local electricity grid

2. Modeling Process
2.1. Photovoltaic System

Solar photovoltaic is the method where the electricity formed from sunlight radiation. A semi conducting materials are used to make the photovoltaic cell where the sunlight strikes the cells, it is transformed into electricity. The solar cells are constructed from some thin layers of silicon. The electrons inside the cell are knocked loose when the PV panels were strikes by sunlight radiation.

The negative electron gets pushed away from silicon atom by the immersion of photon and positive hole remains. The positive hole and the unbound electron together are neutral. So, the greater the solar radiation, the flow of electricity will become much more. The electricity was produce and delivered to energy distribution station thus to load or utility as shown in Figure 2.
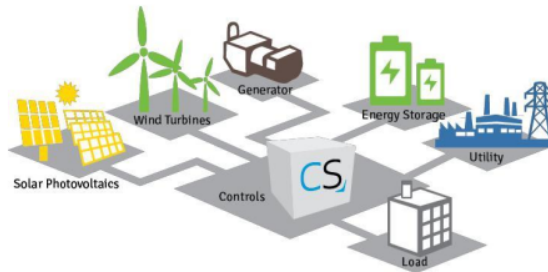
Figure 2. The component of Photovoltaic system

2.1.1. Photovoltaic Array Model

Photovoltaic cells contain of p-n junction made up in a thin layer of semiconductor. Monocrystalline and polycrystalline are the common material for PV cells. The ideal solar cell is the one in which a current supply is connected in antiparallel with a diode. When the cell is exposed to sunlight, the direct current generated which varies linearly with solar radiation. The model can be improved, including the effect of a shunt resistance and series resistance. The single-diode model for PV cells equivalent circuit is presented in Figure 3
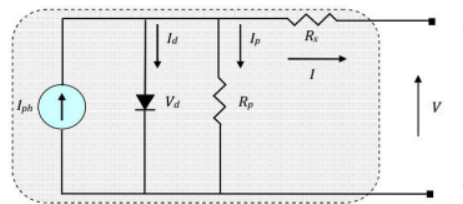

Figure 3. The model for equivalent circuit of a photovoltaic cell

2.1.2. Maximum Power Point Tracking Control Algorithm

A maximum power point tracker is an electronic DC to DC converter that optimizes the match between PV panels and the battery storage or conventional grid to maximize the output power [5]. The solar radiation and temperature have an impact on the output power characteristic of the photovoltaic system where the purpose of irradiance and temperature curves are nonlinear.

Moreover, during the day, the solar radiation has unexpected variation. For these circumstances, the photovoltaic systems operating point need to shift to maximize the generated energy when the maximum power point of the photovoltaic shifts continuously. Thus, to maintain the photovoltaic array's operating point at its maximum power point, the maximum power point tracking techniques was used.

2.1.3. Constant Voltage Method

A constant voltage method is the steady voltage of MPP algorithm that spontaneously regulated the reference voltage for unpredictable environmental conditions. The concept of this method was shown in Figure 4. A simple analog feed forward pulse width modulation controller is creating as the weather conditions differ to track the maximum power point of a solar cell array. The open circuit voltage is tested while not busting the entire source from the load since the circumstance with other constant voltage MPPT methods was configured by solar array source [6].
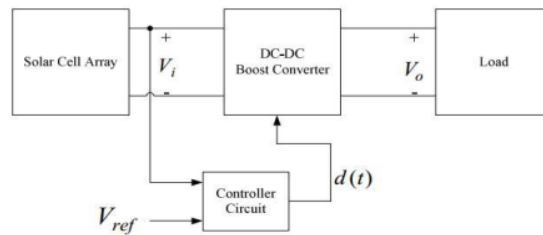
Figure 4. Solar Powered System Model

2.1.4. Incremental Conductance Methods

Based on the observation that using formula holds at the MPPT for incremental conductance methods [18];

$$\left(\frac{dI_{PV}}{dV_{PV}}\right) + \left(\frac{I_{PV}}{V_{PV}}\right) = 0 \tag{1}$$

where I_{PV} and V_{PV} are the PV array current and voltage, respectively.

When the ideal operating point in the P-V plane would be to the right of the MPP, we have (dI_{PV}/dV_{PV})+(I_{PV}/V_{PV}) < 0, while the ideal operating would be to the left of the maximum power point, we have (dI_{PV}/dV_{PV}) + (I_{PV}/V_{PV}) > 0. The maximum power point will be followed by differentiating the immediate conductance (I_{PV}/V_{PV}) to incremental conductance (dI_{PV}/dV_{PV}). Hence the mark of the quantity (dI_{PV}/dV_{PV}) + (I_{PV}/V_{PV}) shows the appropriate direction of perturbation causing to the MPPT. The operation of photovoltaic array is retaining at this point and the perturbation ended unless a change in dI_{PV} is noted once maximum power point was achieve. In this instance, the algorithm decrement or increment of Vref to track the new maximum power point [7].

When the MPPT has been achieved, it is theoretically likely to discover when the perturbation can be stopped by the incremental algorithm. The incremental algorithm provides a great performance under quickly shifting atmospheric conditions. The advantages for incremental conductance techniques are the efficiency is high which is about 98% and the reliability is accurate. While for disadvantages, the design complexity is more difficult. The cost for this design also expensive and more complex compare to other technique [8].

2.2. Battery Energy Storage System

Energy storage can provide much more versatility as well as balancing to the grid, offering an important backup in order to intermittent renewable energy. It may enhance the controlling regarding to distribution networks, increasing efficiency and reducing the cost. By doing this, it could convenience the market benefit of renewable energy, ensuring higher security for energy supply, speed up the carbonization of utility grid, and also enhance the protection and efficiency for transmission and distribution of electricity.

For distribution area, BESS can regulate the electricity source from variable renewable energy sources to the low or medium voltage of utility grid to match up with load demand. This also happen by managing the power flow and keeping voltage in suitable range and mitigating blockage.

2.2.1. Photovoltaic Output Smoothing with Energy Storage

The battery was functional as to increase the power to the photovoltaic output or decrease which is to smooth out the excessive frequency of the photovoltaic power that happen through interval with passing cloud shadows over the photovoltaic panels. While preventing overworking the electrical battery when it comes to capacity and ramp functionality, the control system is pushed with the challenge to decreasing temporary photovoltaic output variability. The control framework provides two extra inputs in order for battery to respond. For instance, the

actual battery might react to photovoltaic variability, load variability or area control error or a mix of the three [9].

The system parameter supposed to be fixed photovoltaic system rating, the rating of converters and size of the battery capacity. A modify in the nominal parameter values needed to generate continued adequate overall performance should be effected with different battery parameter values. The result of temperature, charge or discharge rating, equalization and efficiency charging wasn't regarded. This kind of improvement might be included into the model. However, their effect on the entire controller functionality is just not likely to be very considerate [10].

2.2.2. Control of BESS in Microgrid for Islanded Operation

The actual microgrids works in grid connected mode, however when fault happen in the upstream grid, it will detach as well as change into islanded mode. For grid connected mode, the managing power at the point of common coupling is essential management operation as opposed to the frequency and voltage. The harmonized control strategy involving diesel generator and battery energy storage system is required for the controlling the frequency and voltage when inquired in islanded mode. Almost all Plus Integral Controller (PIC) own set Plus Integral (PI) gains however, real time current gains are usually applied to PI controller applying Fuzzy logic. Therefore, output feature of battery energy storage system utilized real time current gains to PI controller by applying fuzzy logic is quicker and much more precise that using fixed gains [11]. Overall configuration of fuzzy logic controller as shown in Figure 5.

Fuzzy logic offers strength to nonlinear design evaluation as well as don't have to use mathematical model when comparing to general PI controller. Therefore, utilizing Fuzzy PI controller at battery energy battery storage system will be much more precise and faster than PI controller at battery energy storage system. Beside to robustness is much more outstanding than PI controller [12]
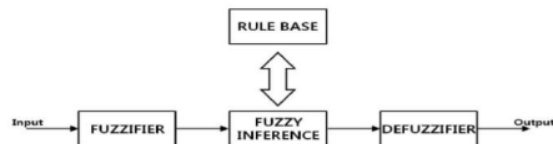

Figure 5. Overall configuration of fuzzy logic controller

2.3.   System Configuration and Operation
2.3.1. The Micro-grid Structure

The micro-grid design is shown in Figure 6. The micro-grid systems are made up of PV system connected through battery energy storage and three of loads. The primary source for this system is PV system which is to operate at MPPT. The BESS is use to balance the difference power between the PV power system and load demand in islanding mode. The simulation of the micro-grid system will be designed using MATLAB/SIMULINK software as shown in Figure 7. The duration for simulation to be running was 86400 second (24 hour).
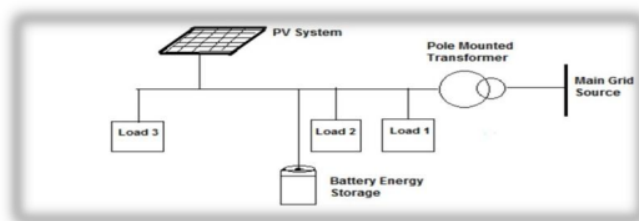

Figure 6. Microgrid desgin

2.3.2. Photovoltaic System

Solar photovoltaic is the method where the electricity formed from sunlight radiation. In the simulation, the total power output for PV was set by using 1-D lookup table and the example was shown in Figure 8 which is from 401 minute to 412 minute. As example, the output of PV system at 401 minute was 1250W. The maximum power can be generating by PV system was 5kW.
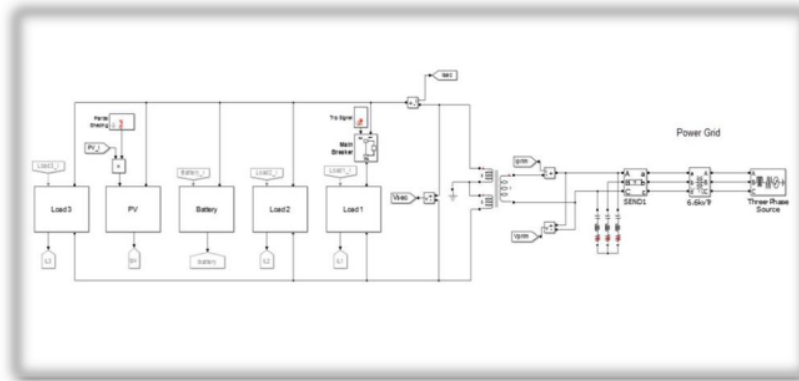

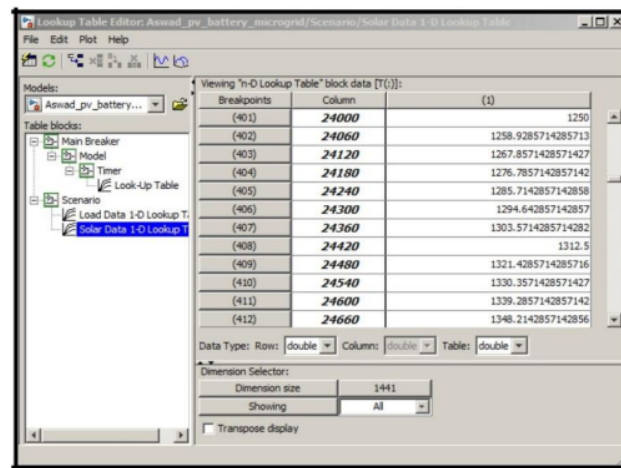Figure 7. The simulation circuit of micro-grid system using MATLAB/SIMULINK software

Figure 8. The PV system output data using 1-D lookup table

2.3.3. The Loads in the Simulation

In the micro-grid system simulation, there are three of loads of the system. The loads can compare as a house or factory in the micro-grid system. In the simulation, the total power for each load was set by using 1-D lookup table and some of loads data was shown in Figure 9 which is from 585 minute to 596 minute. As shown in Figure 9, at 592 minute the total power need by load was 1312.5W. The maximum power need for each load was 2.5kW. The condition for power needs by each loads are same. At load 3, there's a circuit breaker that will activate at 28800s (8.00am).
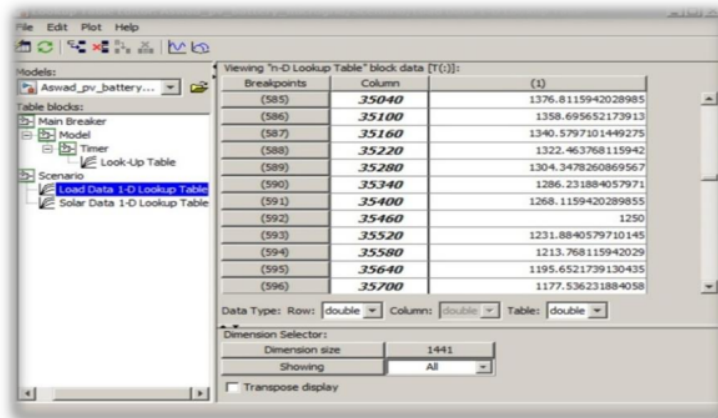
Figure 9. The data of total power for each load using 1-D lookup table

2.3.4. Modeling of Battery Energy Storage System

The model of the battery was use in the simulation are example from MATLAB/SIMULINK software which call battery simple dynamic where the capacity of the battery was 1000Ah and the rating was 150V, 30A/h which means the maximum power generated by battery was 4.5kW.
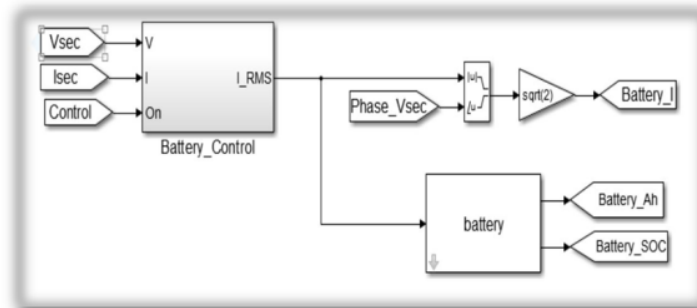

Figure 10. The structure of battery controller

The battery control is performed by battery controller. The system performs by tracking control of the current which means that the active power which flows into power system from the secondary side of the pole mounted transformer is set to 0. Thus, the active power for secondary side of the pole mounted transformer is continuously around zero. When the battery controller is performed, the micro-grid system was in islanded mode. The structure of battery controller was shown in Figure 10. In the simulation, the battery control performs from 0s (12.00am) to 43200s (12.00pm) and 64800s (6.00pm) to 86400s (12.00am).

2.3.5. Operating Modes of Grid

The system must run with connected to the utility grid or islanding mode where the battery controller was performed. The management of the system has to control the bus voltage in different operating modes. The different modes are described in Table 1.

In mode 1, the main grid is connecting to micro-grids and operating high load condition which is the PV is working in maximum power point and energy storage charging or off state. In mode 2, this usually happen when low load process. The PV and BESS are in the same state in mode 1 but the main grid will deliver the power when the power is insufficient.

Table 1. The Operating Modes for Micro-grid

	Main grid state	PV condition	Condition of Batery
1	Supply	MPPT	Charging/off
2	Receive	MPPT	Charging/off
3	Off	MPPT	Discharging/off
4	Off	MPPT	Charging/off
5	Receive	OFF MPPT	Off

Operating mode 3 and 4 is occur during islanding state of the micro-grid where PV is working in MPPT and the BESS will be charging or discharging for balancing the insufficient power. For mode 5, the BESS is fully charged in islanded micro-grid and the power need for load is less than maximum power of PV system.

3. Result and Discussion
3.1. The Micro-grid System

The main power sources for this micro-grids system are photovoltaic system and battery energy storage. The PV system maximum power generate at 5kW as RES. The power source for this micro-grid was a PV system, from main grid and battery energy storage. The battery rating was 150V A/h which is maximum power for the battery storage to deliver was 4.5kW and the capacity of the battery was 1000Ah. If there's surpluses power in micro grid, the battery controller will deliver to battery storage or deliver to loads if there's insufficient power. When the battery controller is performed, there's no power from secondary side of the transformer. The Figure 8 shows the simulation circuit of the ideal micro-grid. Figure 11 show the general result of power management of micro-grid in 24-hour duration.
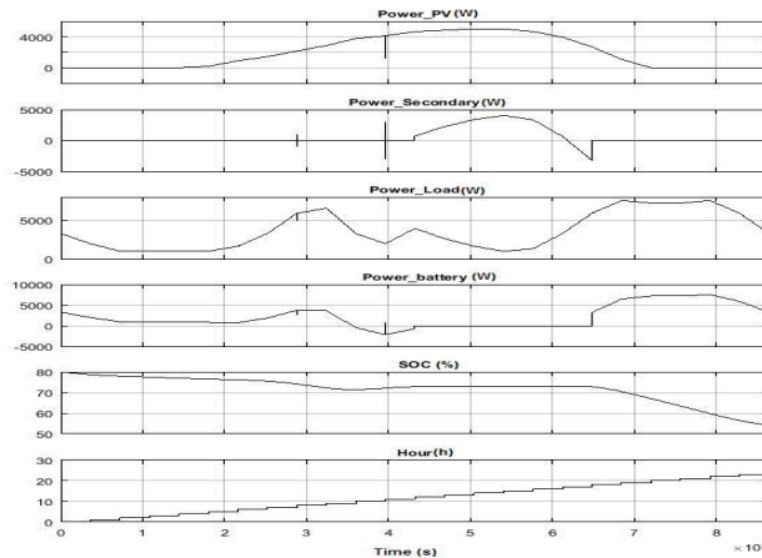
Figure 11. The micro-grid system operation, (a) PV Power (W), (b) Secondary side power (W), (c) Load power (W), (d) Battery Power W), (e) State of Charge (%), (f) Time (s) in 24 hour durations

The maximum power for loads consume as electric loads was 7.5kW. Each load has 2.5kW maximum power demand. The micro-grid is connected to the system power via a pole-mounted transformer. The solar power generation and the storage battery are DC power sources converted into single- phase AC. These are both connected to the micro-grid. It is assumed that in control strategy, the micro-grid does not depend on system power for power consumption, and required power is provided by solar power generation and the storage to the extent possible. The analysis of the system will be discussed in the next sub topic.

3.2. Analysis of the Simulation Result

From the simulation result, there are six situations that happen when the simulation was running. In each situation, it describes the power management between PV system, BESS and power from the secondary side of the transformer to the load. If the power generation from PV system was not enough to accommodate electric loads, the BESS or from secondary side of transformer will supply the insufficient power. It also happens in two conditions which is the micro-grid system was connected to the grid or in islanded mode.

3.2.1. Situation 1

In this situation which is from 8.00pm until 4.00am, the PV power generation is 0W. This happen because there's not have sunlight ray for PV system to convert to electrical energy. As shown in Figure 12 which is from 0s (12.00am) until 14400s.
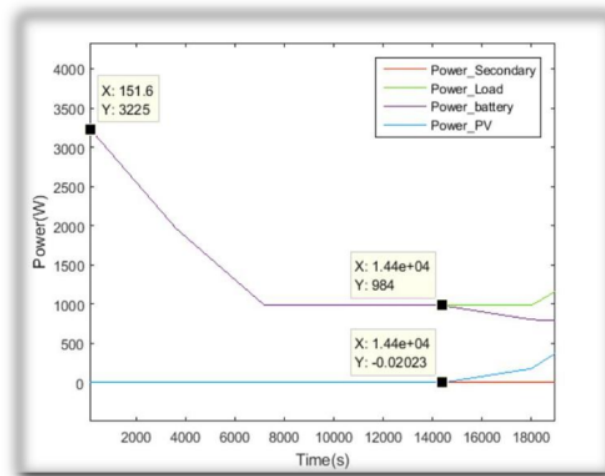

Figure 12. The comparison between power (W) of Load, PV, battery storage and secondary side of transformer when only battery as power supply

3.2.2. Situation 2

At 39600s (11.00am) as shown in the Figure 13, the graph line for power of PV suddenly change and also the battery. The solar panel of PV system has partial shading which is leading to the maximum power of the PV system suddenly decreases in 20 second duration from 4131W to 1239W. While this happen, the battery energy storage supply the insufficient power 738.7W to the loads. After 20 second duration, the PV system back to normal state. The battery will support the PV as backup in deliver the insufficient power for loads. The micro-grid in mode 5 then change to mode 3.
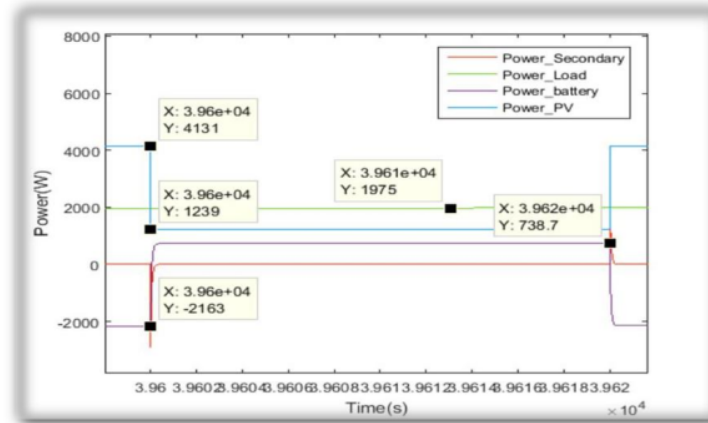
Figure 13. The comparison of the total powers when the PV system have a partial shading condition

3.2.3. Situation 3

For this situation, the Figure 14 shows that the State of Charge of the battery storage was increased from 71.47% to 72.85%. This happen because the surpluses power from PV system delivered to battery storage (charging). The surpluses power did not deliver to main grid because of the battery controller that was already performed which is from 6.00pm until 12.00pm at the primary side the current was set to zero (as the micro-grid was disconnected from main grid/islanded state). This situation happens as in mode 4 of the micro-grid.

The charging process begins at 35600s (9.54am) when surpluses power from the PV system delivered to battery storage. At 38210s (10.37am), the maximum power generate by PV system was 3992W but the total of power loads demand was 2474W. A 1519W of surpluses power was delivered to the battery which is leads to battery storage in charging state, Shown in Figure 15.
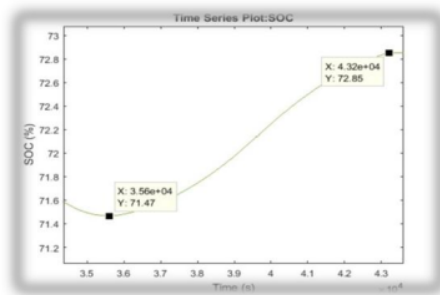

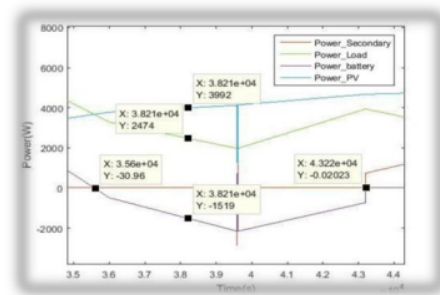Figure 14. The SOC plot when in charging state

Figure 15. The comparison of powers when battery in charging state

3.2.4. Situation 4

This situation operates in mode v. From 12.00pm until 6.00pm, the control for the battery was not active as shown in Figure 16. The SOC of the battery storage was not changed at 72.85% because there's no charge or discharge of the battery storage where the power from PV only was supply to the loads and surplus power was transfer to main grid.

At 44960s (12.30 pm), the total load power was 3295W and the maximum power for PV system is 4757W which is there got surplus power from PV system, then 1462W surplus power

was supply to main grid as shown in Figure 17 that resulting the changing of secondary side of transformer power graph line.
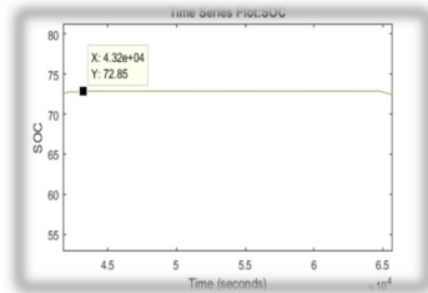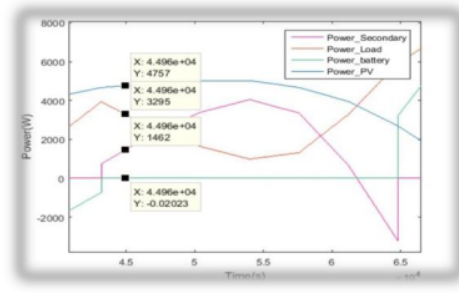

Figure 16. The percentage of SOC

Figure 17. The comparison between power (W) of load, PV, battery storage and secondary side of transformer when SOC in off state

3.2.5. Situation 5

In this situation, the point in Figure 18 shown at 63600s (5.40pm) where the total loads power was 5029W. The maximum power supply from PV system was 3113W. The battery controller was not performed, so the secondary side of the transformer (main grids) has to supply the insufficient power which is 1916W to the loads. This condition more focuses in mode 1.
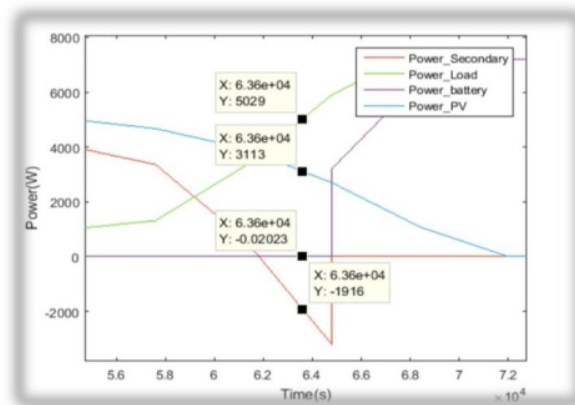

Figure 18. The comparison power between total loads, main grids, PV system and battery storage

3.2.6. Situation 6

At 28800s (8.00am), the circuit breaker was set to ON for 30 second at load 1. From the Figure 19, the total power loads suddenly decrease from 5903W to 4921W. The PV maximum power at that time was 2157W and the supported power for load from battery suddenly changes from 3748W to 2764W because of the total loads power was change. The graph for power from secondary side of the transformer did not change because the battery controller was performed (islanded mode).
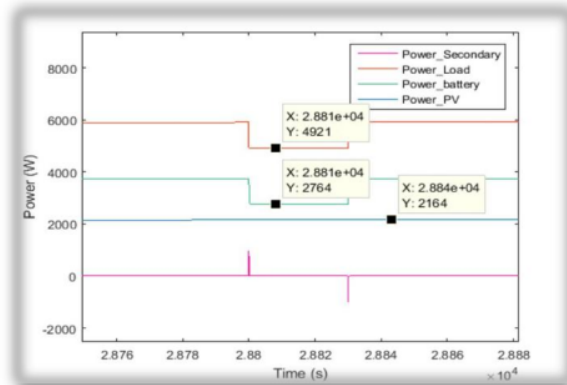
Figure 19. The comparison power (W) between load, PV system, battery storage and secondary side of the transformer

3.2 Cost Estimation

The use of renewable resources can help reduce costs because there is no payment for using RES as the main source of power systems. If the power system to make full use RES as primary source, this can indirectly make the cost of electricity consumption is zero. The example of calculation of electricity cost as in analysis of situation 5 where the total power needs by loads was 5029W and the maximum power supply by the PV system was 3113W and the 1916W of insufficient power was supplied from main grid.

The cost of the electricity was calculated from this situation as per hour and based on the calculation of electricity in Malaysia. From the Table 2, it shows that without support from the PV system, the total cost for power usage was MYR 1.10 compare with support from PV system which is only MYR 0.43. Thus, PV system helps in reduce the cost of electrical energy uses.

Table 2. The Cost of Power Usage

	Power Usage (kWh)	Cost (MYR)
From PV system	3.113	0.00
From Main grid	1.96	0.43
Total Loads	5.029	1.10

4. Conclusion

This project proposes a control strategy for distributed integration of PV and battery energy storage in micro-grid where the battery controller will track control of the current in primary side of the transformer thus set the micro-grid system in grid connected or islanded mode. The understanding of benefit in using renewable energy source as main power supply with support from battery energy storage to supply the power to the loads and power managements is realized in the different modes on micro-grid which are grid connected or islanded states. When the power generation from PV system was not enough to accommodate electric loads, the BESS or from secondary side of transformer will supply the insufficient power. The RES also helps in reduce the cost of power usage from main grid. The concept for charging and discharging for battery was reliable which the charging process is begins when surpluses power from the PV system delivered to battery storage.

The solar energy is one of renewable energy that safe more money and environment. Energy storage when combined with PV system can provide a stronger economic performance, as well as an added benefit of backup power for critical loads. Micro-grid with PV and battery energy storage can provide energy storage at zero upfront for cost and improvement in technology.

Acknowledgement

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