BATTERY CHARGE CONTROLLER FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SYSTEM

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MOHD AZHAR BIN ZAMRI FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING UNIVERSITI TEKNOLGI MARA 40450 SHAH ALAM SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN MALAYSIA MAY 2009

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ABSTRACT

This thesis presents a report on the development of battery charge controller for stand alone Photovoltaic (PV) system. Battery charge controller is a most importance part in stand-alone photovoltaic (PV) systems and it is the components that require completing the system. In general, a standalone PV system consists of a PV array, which converts sunlight to direct-current electricity, energy storage in the form of secondary batteries, loads or appliances, and a control system, which battery charge controller charging and operation of the load.

This paper presents typical strategies for battery charge regulation or controller and load control used in stand alone PV systems. The project was developing to introduce 5 stages of development which are literature review, conceptual design, physical design, program or unit testing, and experimental test and hardware modification. Experimental tests have shown satisfactory results during the testing process at the Power Electronic Laboratory and Photovoltaic Monitoring Center (PVMC). The result shows the battery voltage increase during the charging using Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) method and the controller able to monitor battery temperature increases.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

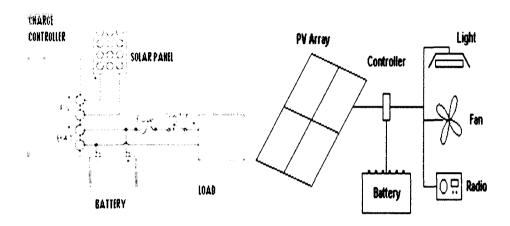


Figure 1.1: Solar PV system diagram.

Energy is the most basic and essential of all resources. All the energy we use on Earth comes from fission or fusion of atomic nuclei, or from energy stored in the Earth. The problem with both fission and fusion is that they have dangerous radioactivity and side effect [1]. Very much exploitation and research for new power has been done not only in the area of nuclear power generation but also in the area of unlimited energy sources such as wind power generation and solar energy transformation. The most effective and harmless energy source is probably solar energy. For many applications it is so technically straight forward to use. Solar energy can be harvested by the use of photovoltaic (PV) array.

Photovoltaic (PV) is a technology of converting sunlight directly into electricity. The PV power generation is caused by radiation separating positive and negative charge carriers in an absorbing material [2]. The electric produce, will flow to charge controller and finally to the battery. The Renewable energy systems and particularly the photovoltaic system are now experiencing a fast development. As a consequence,