

SIZING OPTIMIZATION OF PV-BATTERY HYBRID FOR PUBLIC LIGHTING SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

This paper deals about sizing of hybrid renewable source application to supply power for public lighting system for entire village without connection to the electrical grid. Such hybrid renewable power systems are suitable in remote area where grid connection is unavailable or connection to grid is expensive. Hybrid system in this paper consists from photovoltaic power plant and large battery bank to storage electricity. Battery bank is supposed to be large because time when electricity is needed is completely different from time when photovoltaic power plant produce power from sun.

Keywords: photovoltaic, hybrid system, battery, grid- off

1. INTRODUCTION

Integrated Renewable Energy System (IRES) has been proposed by various researchers to electrify remote areas. In IRES, energy demand of a remote area is met by using energy potential of locally available renewable energy sources. In this technology, renewable energy sources like solar, wind, MicroHydro Power (MHP), biomass, biogas etc. can be considered for power generation.

IRES have the potential to aggregate benefits such as energy efficiency and energy conservation, resulting from the combination of renewable energy sources. Integrated use of different renewable energy resources minimizes energy storage requirement, increases reliability of power supply and quality of power. For stand-alone applications, these systems are always incorporated with storage devices in order to manage the stochastic behaviour of renewable energy sources like solar and wind. Control system is the heart of IRES that provides the information and communication among various components of system. Control system regulates the output of renewable energy sources and also, generates the signals for scheduling of storage subsystem and dump load. It protects the storage system from overcharging and it help to operate the storage system in prescribed limit. Whenever surplus energy is available, it is sent to storage subsystem to store the surplus energy and if storage system is fully charged, it is wasted in dump load that can be utilized in cooking, water heating, baking etc. Under condition when demand exceeds generation stored energy is used in order to fulfil deficit load demand [1], [2].

Some remote places have not sufficient availability of renewable energy resources, under such conditions it is required to add some conventional option like diesel/petrol/gasoline based generator, along with renewable energy resources to fulfil load demand. As diesel generator based integrated system pollutes the environment, it is therefore analysis of greenhouse gas emission level must be carried out. This scheme is not appropriate for hilly terrain and remote areas as problems associated with transportation of fuel [3].

1.1. Advantages and disadvantages of hydropower

In general, a hybrid energy system could be integrated as Fig. 1 shows. This kind of energy systems are called “hybrid” because they include more than one energy source in order to cover a determined electrical load, commonly an

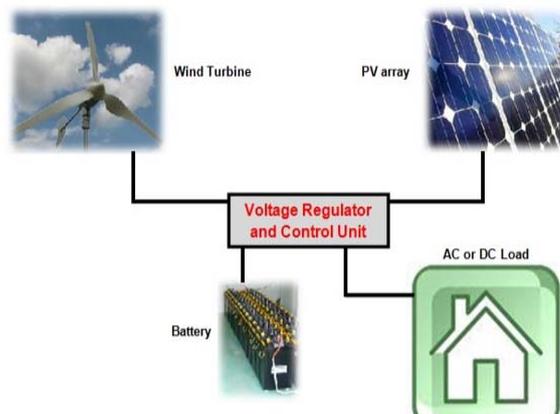


Fig. 1 General hybrid energy system architecture

AC load; however, it may also supply a DC load or both at the same time. Energy sources may be alternative (i.e. renewable) as well as conventional (i.e. electrical grid or diesel generator), or energy storage components (i.e. battery bank or fuel cells); in this way, weakness of some energy sources is complemented by strengths of the other sources in a natural or controlled way. To illustrate that, despite the unpredictable availability of some alternative energy sources (like solar and wind), usually, they present complementary patterns. Hybrid energy systems can operate either in presence of grid (grid-connected) where the main priority of the system is to cater the local energy demand and occasionally to feed the grid with any energy surplus, or as a stand-alone system for producing energy independently of the grid utility in isolated areas. When a hybrid energy system includes solar or wind energy, most

of times is required an auxiliary source of energy (e.g. coming from battery banks, fuel cells, or utility grid), the aforementioned is in order to overcome the stochastic availability of those energies. Sometimes, depending on the availability of an energy source, it is necessary to find a balance; in other words, a control unit which decides which energy source will supply the electrical load [4], [5].

2. HOMER

HOMER is a simulation tool developed by the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to assist in the planning and design of renewable energy based microgrids. The physical behavior of an energy supply system and its lifecycle cost, which is the sum of capital and operating costs over its lifespan, is modelled using HOMER. Options such as distributed generation (DG) units, stand-alone, off-grid and grid-connected supply systems for remote areas, and other design options, can also be evaluated using HOMER. HOMER is designed to overcome the challenges of analysis and design of microgrids, arising from the large number of design options and the uncertainty in key parameters, such as load growth and future fuel prices. Simulation, optimization, and sensitivity analysis are the three principal tasks performed in HOMER [6].

2.1. Simulation in Homer

In the area of simulation, HOMER determines technical feasibility and lifecycle costs of a microgrid for each hour of the year. In addition, the microgrid configuration and the operation strategy of the supply components are tested to examine how these components work in a given setting over a period of time. The simulation capability of HOMER is the long-term operation of a microgrid. The optimization and sensitivity analysis of HOMER depends on this simulation capability [7].

2.2. Sizing optimization in Homer

In the optimization section, HOMER displays the feasible systems with their configurations under the search space defined by the user, sorted by the minimum cost microgrid depending on the total net present cost. After the simulation finds out the system configuration of a microgrid, the optimization is calculated and displays the optimal microgrid configuration. HOMER defines the optimal microgrid configuration, which is that configuration with the minimum total net present cost and meeting the modeller’s constraints [6].

2.3. Sensitivity analysis

In this section, the modeller can analyze the effects of parameter variations with time. HOMER finds out the optimal values for the different sizes and quantities of the equipment that is considered in the microgrid and the associated constraints. The sensitivity variables are those variables which have been entered by the user and have different values. The main objective of using the sensitivity analysis in HOMER is that if the user isn’t sure

which is the best value of a particular variable, then the user will enter different values and the sensitivity analysis will show how the results behave dependent on these values. Many optimizations have to be performed in this section by HOMER, each using different values of input assumptions [8].

3. MODELLING OF HYBRID SYSTEM

A hybrid energy grid-off system generally consists of a primary renewable sources as wind and photovoltaic working in parallel with a standby by battery storage units.

Fig. 2 illustrates a small-scale hybrid configuration that will be used as the basis of the case study simulation.

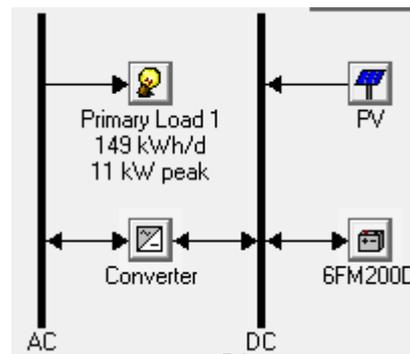


Fig. 2 Implementation of hybrid system

3.1. Electrical load

Lighting systems of public lighting comprises a total of 640 pieces of lighting equipment. Power consumption of 18,18kW system is ignoring losses. Overall, the lighting major, minor roads and paths used three types of lamps. They are Archilede S power consumption with 36W, and Archilede E with 27W CARIBONI LEVANTE SMALL 24W. Overview of luminaires and representation can be seen in the the following Table 1.

Table 1 Types of used lamps

Type of lamp	Input power	Number of pieces
Archilede S	36W	80
Archilede N	27W	150
Cariboni	24W	180

Typical daily energy consumption can be seen on Fig. 3.

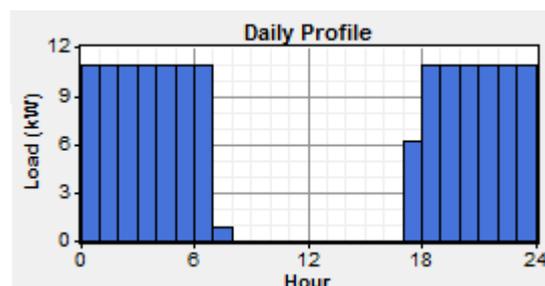


Fig. 3 Daily load profile of simulated public lighting system

3.2. Solar irradiance data

Budimir's monthly solar radiation values are obtained with HOMER from NASA. For coordinates in HOMER, 49°19' N latitude and 21°9'E longitude are used. This is the coordinates of Centre of Budimir. HOMER synthesizes solar radiation values for each 8760 h of the year by using Graham algorithm. This algorithm produces realistic hourly data, and it is easy to use because it requires only the latitude and the monthly averages. The synthetic data displays realistic day-to-day and hour-to-hour patterns. If one hour is cloudy, there is a relatively high likelihood that the next hour will also be cloudy. Similarly, one cloudy day is likely to be followed by another cloudy day. The synthetic data is created with certain statistical properties that reflect global averages. So data generated for a particular location will not perfectly replicate the characteristics of the real solar resource. But tests show that synthetic solar data produce virtually the same simulation results as real data. Monthly average values of solar data are shown in Fig. 4.

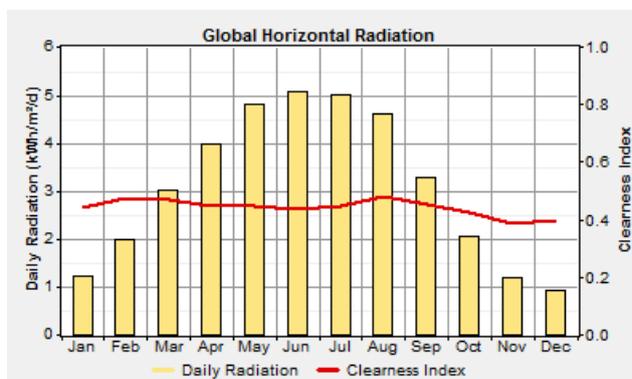


Fig. 4 Solar irradiance profile

3.3. PV system

A solar cell is a semiconductor device designed to turn solar irradiance into electricity. If solar cells are connected in series, then the current stays the same and the voltage increases. If solar cells are connected in parallel, the voltage stays the same, but the current increases. Solar cells are combined to form a module to obtain the voltage and current (and therefore the power) desired. A PV array is a group of PV modules put together to generate electricity. A PV array produces DC voltage and current those are used to power the load.

HOMER always deals with the PV array in terms of rated kW, not in m^2 . So it does not need to know the efficiency. By the way, HOMER assumes that the output of the PV array is linearly proportional to the incident radiation, so if the radiation is $0.75 \text{ kW}/m^2$, the array will produce 75% of its rated output.

3.4. Converter

The inverter and rectifier efficiencies were assumed to be 90% and 85% respectively for all sizes considered. HOMER simulated each system with power switched between the inverter and the generator. These devices were not allowed to operate in parallel. In this simple

system, power cannot come from both the generator and the batteries at the same time.

Description and value of individual objects in the program is as follows.

3.5. Batteries

HOMER uses the Kinetic Battery Model and represents batteries as a “two tank” system. One tank provides immediately available capacity while the second can only be discharged at a limited rate. Vision 6FM200D were chosen because they are a popular and inexpensive option. HOMER considered up to 54 of these batteries. In a real installation a smaller number of larger batteries, such as the Vision 6FM200D, would be preferable. The economic analysis performed by HOMER would not be significantly affected by this distinction. Vision 6FM200D has nominal voltage 12V and nominal capacity 200 Ah.

4. SIMULATION RESULTS

After the system components setting, modelling and simulations of the micro power system is carried out. HOMER, optimization model is used to simulate the system. Large number of options are available for different sizes of the components used, components to be added to the system which make sense, cost functions of components used in the system. HOMER's optimization and sensitivity analysis algorithms evaluated the possibility of system configuration.

Fig. 5 shows optimal sizing of hybrid systems which are based at simulation. This systems can provide full electricity for the model off-grid public lightning load consumption. This system consist from PV cells field with size 100kW, 180 batteries Vision 6FM200D and converter with size 12kW.

	PV (kW)	6FM200D	Conv. (kW)	Initial Capital	Operating Cost (\$/yr)	Total NPC	COE (\$/kWh)	Ren. Frac.	Capacity Shortage
	100	180	12	\$ 143,668	2,040	\$ 169,746	0.276	1.00	0.13

Fig. 5 Sizing of calculated hybrid system

Fig. 6 shows daily balance characteristic. There are showed characteristics of battery state of charge, production from PV field and also load curve.

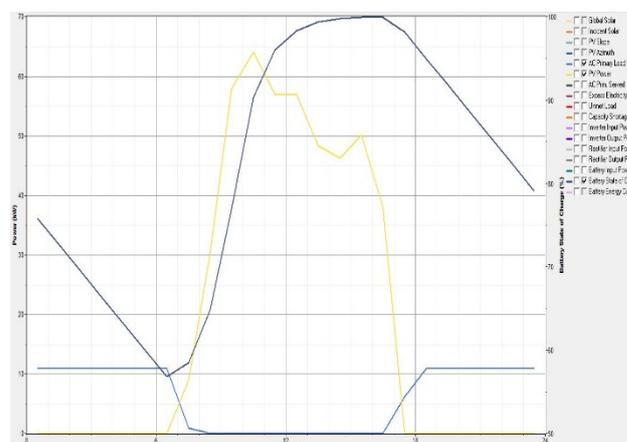


Fig. 6 Sizing of calculated hybrid system

As it can be seen system cover whole consumption of model house when production is lower than consumption battery bank works as a reserve source of electricity and when production is higher battery bank accumulates surplus of electricity.

5. CONCLUSION

The proposed modelled hybrid system fully cover daily consumption of modelled house. System consists from 100kW sized PV field, battery bank consists from 180 batteries Vision 6FM200D and converter with size 12kW. This confirmation caused difference in time of photovoltaic production and time when is public lighting system usually used.

Hybrid systems are suitable way to cover electricity consumption of public lighting systems in areas where good weather conditions are. Choosing optimal sizes of elements of hybrid systems is important from economic view because these systems are expensive and right sizing of elements of hybrid system can reduce amount of money needed for purchase such system. Hybrid systems are solution to bring electricity to remote areas where building grid is expensive or unlikely. In recent days purchasing prices for such systems are getting lower and these systems are becoming available.

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