

UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

DESIGN OF A HYBRID WIND -SOLAR GENERATOR USING A VERTICAL AXIS WIND TURBINE STRUCTURE WITH ROTATING PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS

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FK 2022 79



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MOHAMMAD SH GH M M ALAJMI

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

March 2022

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Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

DESIGN OF A HYBRID WIND -SOLAR GENERATOR USING A VERTICAL AXIS WIND TURBINE STRUCTURE WITH ROTATING PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS

By

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March 2022

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Standalone hybrid wind-solar energy generating systems have been around for more than two decades where the early versions consist of a traditional type stand-alone wind turbine generator and several stand-alone PV-panels. Since the early 2000s, two patents have been found for a new type of hybrid wind-solar energy generator where the PVcells are mounted onto the blades of a wind turbine generator. This allowed for a compact hybrid wind-solar generator to be realized. Very recently, two new prototypes of such a device have been proposed. The first prototype was simulated for PV-cell efficiency and temperature while the second proposed prototype focused on the simulation of rotational speed when magnets are used to levitate the turbine for less friction during rotation. Although these are important perimeters to be studied, there were no mention of the solar output current loss when the PV integrated blades rotate. Near 100% Solar energy extraction from the rotating PV-blades is a special feature/function for this type of hybrid wind-solar generator and needs to be quantified.

Therefore, this thesis focuses to measure this loss by design and prototyping of a hybrid wind-solar generator with rotating PV-cells integrated into the blades of the turbine. Laboratory measurements show that approximately 4.3 % Solar generated current loss is experienced by the prototype when the turbine rotates in wind speeds ranging from 4 to 20 m/s. Since the current loss is less than 5 %, it is concluded that the functionality of the Solar-VAWT prototype is acceptable. The start-up wind speed of the VAWT was measured to be 4 m/s. On-site measurement results were also conducted and shows that the Solar efficiency, η is 2.7 % and the power coefficient, C_p is 0.32 when measured at Location A (3.00,0.1.072). The daily average generated Solar energy is 1 Wh/day and the daily average wind energy is 0.07 Wh/day.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

REKABENTUK PENJANA TENAGA HIBRID ANGIN-SOLAR MENGGUNAKAN STRUKTUR TURBIN ANGIN MENEGAK DENGAN SEL-SEL FOTOVOLTAIK BERPUTAR

Oleh

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: Kejuruteraan

Penjana tenaga hybrid solar dan angin telah wujud lebih dari dua dekan yang lepas di mana ianya terdiri dari sebuah penjana tenaga angin dan beberapa panel PV yang dipassangkan secara berasingan. Sejak awal tahun 2000, dua patent penjana hybrid angin dan solar telah dijumpai yang mempunyai sel-sel PV yang dipasangkan di atas blah-bilah turbin penjana tenaga angin. Ini membolehkan sebuah penjana hybrid angin dan solar yang lebih kecil direalisasikan. Baru-baru ini, dua lagi prototaip penjana jenis ini telah dicadangkan. Efficiancy sel-sel PV dan suhu telah dikaji melalui simulasi untuk prototaip yang pertama. Halaju kitaran pula telah disimulasi untuk prototaip kedua yang menggunakan magnet untuk mengangkat turbine agar geseran dapat dielakkan sama sekali. Walaupun perimeter-perimeter ini untuk penjana sepeti ini, tiada kajian berkenaan kehilangan kuasa keluaran Solar apabila sel-sel PV turut bergerak Bersamasama putaran turbin. Pencirian penting untuk turbin jenis ini yang harus dikaji ialah pengeluaran tenaga Solar hampir 100 % apabila turbinnya berputar. Tesis ini memfokus kea rah pembangunan sebuah penjana tenaga angin-solar hybrid yang mempunyai selsel PV yang diintegrasi Bersama-sama bilah-bilah turbin sesebuah turbin angin paksi menegak (VAWT). Turbin yang dipilih ialah sebuah VAWT Darrieus yang mempunyai lima bilah. Pengukuran makmal menunjukkan 4.3 % penjanaan arus solar hilang apabila turbin yang direkabentuk berputar dalam kelajuan angin dari 4 hingga 20 m/s. Oleh kerana kehilangan arus itu kurang dari 5 %, ianya disimpulkan fungsi Solar-VAWT tercapai. Ujian makmal juga menunjukkan halaju angin permulaan ialah 4 m/s. Pencerapan data di Lokasi A (3.00, 1.072) menunjukan effciany, η ialah 2.7 % dan the pekali kuasa, C_p ialah 0.32. Purata keluaran tenaga solar harian pula ialah 1 Wh/hari dan angin ialah 0.07 Wh/hari.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Izhal Abdul Halin for the continuous support, patience, motivation, and guidance throughout my Ph.D study. His suggestions have helped me to overcome the many obstacles faced during development of the prototype and especially during academic writing. I could not have imagined having a better supervisor and mentor for my Doctorate of Philosophy study.

I would also like to thank the rest of supervisory committee members, Prof. Ir. Dr. Faizal Mustapha and Prof. Ir. Dr. Mohd Khairol Anuar Mohd Ariffin for their insightful comments and encouragement. I thank my fellow colleagues for the stimulating discussions, for the sleepless nights we were working together before deadlines, and for all the fun we have had in the last years in pursuing this study.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank my family, my wife for standing beside me and who encouraged me to complete my studies, from the depth of my heart I thank you, and my loving children for being patient with me, my parents and siblings for supporting me spiritually throughout writing this thesis. Alhamdulillah. This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

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Declaration by Members of Supervisory Committee

This is to confirm that:

- the research conducted and the writing of this thesis was under our supervision;
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

UN	United Nations	
GHG	Green House Gas	
PV	Photovoltaic	
VAWT	Vertical Axis Wind Turbine	
HAWT	Horizontal Axis Wind Turbine	
RE	Renewable Energy	
LSHREPP	Large-Scale Hybrid Renewable Energy Power Plant	
LSPVPP	Large-Scale PV Power Plant	
LSWPP	Large-Scale Wind Power Plant	
LSHWSPP	Large-Scale Hybrid Wind-Solar Power Plant	
PMSG	Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator	
IG	Induction Generator	
EMF	Electromotive Force	
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current	
LVRT	Low Voltage Ride-Through	
СС	Point of Common Contact	
PPF	Power Production Factor	
MPPT	Maximum Power Point Tracking	
PWM	Pulse Width Modulation	
DAWT	Diffused Augmented Wind Turbine	
SM	Side Mounted	
TM	Top Mounted	
SB	Solar Blade	

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Standalone hybrid wind-solar energy generators have been used in green energy generation where in its basic form consists of an array of PV-cells for solar energy production and a wind turbine that drives an electric generator for wind energy production. Traditionally, the system is constructed from a separate wind turbine generator and fixed PV-panels whose output is terminated at a common charge controller. Therefore, the foot print of the system is large and can be larger than the footprint of the turbine itself.

Recently, a new topology hybrid wind-solar that integrates the solar power generating PV-cells into the wind turbine's structure, specifically on the turbine blades has been proposed mainly to reduce the hybrid wind-solar generator's footprint. The blades of both the Horizontal Axis Wind Turbine (HAWT) and Vertical Axis Wind Turbine (VAWT) have been proposed to be integrated with PV-cells in order to increase the efficiency of the turbine. From these articles, the maximum solar capacity is estimated to be 50 W. Simulation work were focused on the aerodynamics of the turbine blades when fitted with PV-cells and methods used to decrease the turbine's start-up wind speed because turbines fitted with PV-cells on the blades will experience higher star-up wind speeds due to the weight of the PV-cells.

From an engineering point of view, a function that must be inherent to these types of hybrid wind-solar generators is the ability to transfer solar power generated from the PV-cells to the load ideally with zero loss or within a certain percentage of confidence margin. Typically, in a margin of no less than 5%. However, analysis on the power output and energy generation of the PV-cells in rotation have not been considered. Moreover, the mechanism that allows for the extraction of power from the rotating PV-cells have not been discussed in detail. Thus, this work aims to fabricate a prototype of a VAWT with integrated PV-cells on its blades and measure the power loss because it directly effects the functionality of solar generator portion of a hybrid wind-solar generator.

1.2 Problem Statement

The idea of a hybrid wind-solar generator where the blades of the wind turbine are fabricated with PV-cells have been proposed as a means to reduce the footprint of standalone hybrid wind-solar generating systems (Saurabh, 2022). The integration of a HAWT with PV-cells attached on the blades was first patented in 2006, (Kasyap, 2006). A Savonius VAWT structure with PV-cells on the vertical blades have also been

patented attached in 2008. In order to focus lateral coming solar irradiation onto the PVcells, two reflectors were proposed (Gilbert, 2008). Recently, another Savonius VAWT with PV-cells on the blades was proposed where it was simulated to verify the amount of turbulence the VAWT would experience when PV-cells are attached on its blade. The simulation results suggests that the aerodynamic performance reduction is minimal (Ackshaya, 2021). In another recent study, a Savonius like VAWT with PV-cells mounted on top of the rotating blades was proposed. In order to reduce turbine friction during rotation, the VAWT is magnetically levitated using Neodymium magnets. Simulations shows that the VAWT can achieve a start-up wind speed of 1 m/s with a rotation speed of 17 RPM. However, there is a lack of study on the functionality of the Solar output when the PV-cells are rotating.

The difference in functionality between the traditional type of hybrid wind-solar generator with the newer proposed variants that features rotating PV-cell blades must produce output when the PV-cells are either stationary or rotating. In the newer designs, a brushed contact is used to extract generated solar power from the Solar-blades as they rotate. Ideally, the Solar power generated during stationary and rotating conditions must be the same, however, due to the rotating mechanical contact that all of the proposed prototypes must use, power loss is expected due to the dynamic resistance of the rotating contact. However, the percentage of power loss has never been quantified. In this work, the percentage of solar power from rotating Solar-blades. In engineering practice, if the percentage of power loss falls under a confidence interval of 5% or less, then it is concluded that Solar-bladed hybrid wind-solar generators are also a suitable solution for generating green energy.

1.3 Research Aims and Objectives

The aim of this study is to determine through experimental measurements the percentage of current loss from PV-cells for a new type of hybrid wind-solar generator where the PV-cells are mounted on the blades of a Darrius type Vertical Axis Wind Turbine when the turbine is rotating. Therefore, the objectives for the thesis are:

- 1. To design and fabricate a new type of hybrid wind-solar generator with rotating PV-cells integrated on the wind turbine's blade and to analyse and verify its functionality. The special feature or functionality of this device is defined as the ability to produce and extract solar energy at an optimum magnitude for when the blades are stationary and rotating.
- 2. To measure and analyse the effects of self-shadowing of the PV-cells mounted on the turbine's blades.
- 3. To estimate the daily solar and wind energy generation of the prototype in real working environmental conditions.

1.4 Scope of Research Work

The scope of work involves interdisciplinary research in the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering field. The scope of work includes the redesign of a five bladed VAWT to allow integration of PV-cells on the blades while allowing solar generated electrical to be extracted safely even when the blades are rotating. Laboratory measurements to measure the power coefficient of the modified wind turbine and measurements of solar power loss when the blades rotate is done to achieve the first objective of proving the functionality of the rotating solar power extract method designed in this work. To meet objective 2, on-site short and open circuit measurements for the solar generator is done not only to characterize the solar generator, but also used to quantify the effects of self-shadowing that is inherent to the new prototype. Objective 3 is achieved upon the completion of on-site long term data acquisition to obtain the average daily solar and wind energy generation of the prototype.

1.5 Thesis Outline

The work presented in this thesis is separated into five chapters where the contents are arranged to build an understanding on why this thesis was written.

Chapter 1 gives an introduction and brief overview on the objective and scope of work of this thesis. Chapter 2 is an extensive literature review that includes studies on large scale renewable generation and its pros and cons. Topics on standalone wind, solar and hybrid wind-solar generators are included. The important topic on new types of hybrid wind-solar generators with PV-cells integrated on the blades are also discussed.

Chapter 3 explains the detailed methodology used to produce the prototype and methods used to validate the new prototype's functionality. Both mechanical and electrical design are discussed in this chapter. Discussion on laboratory and on-site measurements for this work is also discussed. Chapter 4 focuses on explaining the results and analysis of the results. Chapter 5 gives a detailed conclusion on this work and proposals for the future development for this work.

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