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Controlling the Unbalanced Voltages of a Series-Connected Lead-Acid Batteries in a PV Power Storage System using Dynamic Capacitor Technique

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ABSTRACT

Lead-acid batteries have been used increasingly in recent years in solar power systems, especially in homes and small businesses, due to their cheapness and advanced development in manufacturing them. However, these batteries have low voltages and low capacities, to increase voltage and capacities, they need to be connected in series and parallel. Whether they are connected in series or parallel, their voltages and capacities must be equal otherwise the quality of service will be degraded. The fact that these different voltages are inherent in their manufacturing, but these unbalanced voltages can be controlled. Using a switched capacitor is a method that was used in many methods for balancing voltages, but their responses are slow. To increase the response and control of the balancing process, this research proposes a novel technique that consists of a dynamic capacitor for controlling the unbalanced voltages of series-connected lead-acid batteries. The proposed technique uses a main capacitor and an inductor with two switches their on/off states are controlled through a pulse width modulation. The technique is designed and validated using MATLAB/Simulink and the results for different cases are compared with other techniques such as switched capacitor technique. Results show that the proposed method promised the balancing control in a shorter time and better performance than other techniques which are crucial in the battery's voltage balancing.

Keywords: PV power system, Lead-acid battery, Voltage balancing control, Dynamic capacitor.

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التحكم في الفولتية غير المتوازنة لبطاريات الرصاص الحمضية المتصلة بالسلسلة في نظام تخزين الطاقة الشمسية باستخدام تقنية المكثفات الديناميكية

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الخلاصة

تستخدم بطاريات الرصاص الحامضية بشكل متزايد في السنوات الأخيرة في أنظمة الطاقة الشمسية ، خاصة في المنازل والشركات الصغيرة بسبب رخص ثمنها والتطور المتقدم في تصنيعها. ومع ذلك ، فإن هذه البطاريات ذات جهد منخفض وسعة منخفضة ، لزيادة الجهد والقدرات ، يجب توصيلها على التوالي والتوازي. سواء كانت متصلة على التوالي أو التوازي ، يجب أن تكون الفولتية والقدرات متساوية وإلا ستنخفض جودة الخدمة. حقيقة أن هذه الفولتية المختلفة متأصلة في تصنيعها ، ولكن يمكن التحكم في هذه الفولتية غير المتوازنة. يعد استخدام السعة المبدلة طريقة مستخدمة في العديد من الطرق لموازنة الفولتية ، لكن استجاباتها بطيئة. لزيادة الاستجابة والتحكم في عملية الموازنة ، تم اقتراح تقنية مكثف ديناميكي في هذا البحث للتحكم في الفولتية غير المتوازنة لبطاريات الرصاص الحامضية ذات ربط التوالي. تستخدم التقنية المقترحة السعة الرئيسية والتحريض مع مغتاجين يتم المتوازنة لبطاريات الرصاص الحامضية ذات ربط التوالي. تستخدم التقنية مكثف ديناميكي في هذا البحث للتحكم في الفولتية غير المتوازنة لبطاريات الرصاص الحامضية ذات ربط التوالي. تستخدم التقنية محمة دي المقترحة السعة الرئيسية والتحريض مع مغتاجين يتم المتوازنة لبطاريات الرصاص الحامضية ذات ربط التوالي. تستخدم التقنية المقترحة السعة الرئيسية والتحريض مع مغتاجين يتم المتوازنة لبطاريات الرصاص الحامضية ذات ربط التوالي. تستخدم التقنية المقترحة السعة الرئيسية والتحريض مع مغتاجين يتم المتحلم في حالات التشغيل / الإيقاف من خلال تعديل عرض النبضة. صممت هذه التقنية والتحقق من صحتها باستخدام التحكم في حالات التشغيل / الإيقاف من خلال تعديل عرض النبضة. صممت هذه التقنية والتحقق من صحتها باستخدام المعرب في صلية التوازن وقوقت أقصر وبأداء أفضل من التقنيات الأخرى التي يتعتبر حاسمة في موازنة ومالطرية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: نظام الطاقة الشمسية ، بطارية الرصاص الحامضية ، التحكم في موازنة الجهد ، المكثف الديناميكي.

1. INTRODUCTION

Recently, the demand for photovoltaic (PV) technology in producing electricity has increased substantially (Victoria et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2021; IEA, 2022). On the other hand, the continuously reducing costs for building PV power plants make them successfully be used to supply electricity not just for large areas but for small businesses and households as well. However, the intermittency behavior of PV power systems especially during the night and cloudy days remains the main drawback of them. A battery storage system is counted as one of the best practical solutions to the PV drawback (Salameh et al., 2022; Apribowo, 2022). In the last decade, the growth of PV power systems and the development of electric vehicles have made huge progress in adopting new technologies for manufacturing different types of batteries (Chen et al., 2020). Batteries now have more charge/discharge cycles, longer life, stronger, higher capacities, and low costs (Lipu et al., 2022; Pan et al., 2022). However, these batteries are still available in low voltage mostly 12 DC voltage that need to use more batteries in series and parallel connection combination to increase their voltages and capacities to follow the ratings of inverters in PV power systems (Manimekalai et al., 2013; Fortenbacher et al., 2017; Bagalini et al., 2019, Wu et al., 2022).

One of the most drawbacks of almost all types of batteries is self-discharging. This selfdischarging reduces battery voltage and its impact will be worse when batteries are connected in series and parallel. This impacts the operation of inverters, decreases the



storage capacity, decreases cycle charging/discharging, and shortens the battery's life. In general, parallel operation of batteries may balance their voltages to the level that all have the same voltage. While in series connecting, self-balancing does not achieve, therefore, an external procedure is required to maintain the same voltage of all batteries (Wang, et al. 2017).

Different techniques have been used for equalizing batteries' voltages. (Kim, et al., 2014) presented a switched capacitor and the method was applied to lithium-ion batteries. (Ye, et al., 2017) proposed a series of switched-capacitors for battery and super-capacitor balancing strings and to increase the speed of balancing different topologies were proposed with resistors. A bi-directional Cuk converter was presented by (Zheng et al., 2018; Rasheed, 2020), and a fuzzy control method was used for controlling the Cuk converter for voltage balancing of lithium-ion batteries. (Moghaddam and Van den Bossche, 2019; Ho, et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2023) presented different types of switched capacitor models in which these models were simulated on lithium-ion batteries operating at voltages 3 to 4.2V (Zau et al., 2022). However, many studies have been done on unbalancing lithium-ion batteries but a few are dealing with lead-acid batteries. Charge equalization systems were proposed for serial lead-acid batteries in hybrid power systems (Belmokhtar et al., 2016; Akash and Sumana, 2021), two systems were included: active and passive systems, the passive was based on a resistor element to remove the excess charge until matching high voltage batteries to lower voltages.

Recently, lead-acid batteries have been widely used in households' electricity storage systems due to their lower prices, and availability in different capacities, moreover, new technology in manufacturing these types of batteries makes them last longer (**Dufo-López**, **et al., 2021; Rajanna and Kumar, 2021)**. With the growth of using lead-acid batteries, especially in PV storage systems, and they are subjected to voltage differences during operations, therefore, an efficient voltage balancing technique is highly recommended for retaining the voltage balance of all batteries in a shorter time in low power consumption **(Geoffrey et al., 2018; Kavaliauskas et al., 2023)**.

This study proposes a dynamic capacitor technique for controlling the unbalanced voltages of lead-acid batteries which are connected in series. The proposed technique is applied on a 12V, 200Ah lead-acid battery and simulated on MATLAB/Simulink® for validating the results, and results are compared to the switched-capacitor technique. The result outcomes for different cases show that the proposed technique achieves the voltage balance in a shorter time than the other technique. The technique can be implemented on most batteries in PV power storage systems in residences and small businesses.

2. PROPOSED BALANCED BATTERY VOLTAGE SYSTEM

The proposed voltage balancing system for lead-acid batteries connected in series is depicted in **Fig. 1**. The system consists of lead-acid batteries connected in series, these batteries have the same capacities, rated voltages, same type, and same manufacturer. A voltage detector is used to detect the voltages of all batteries for any inequality. The pulse Width Modulation (PWM) controller sends signals to the switches in the dynamic capacitor according to the rate of the imbalanced voltage detection **(Alvarez et al., 2020)**. The dynamic capacitor circuit consists of the capacitor, inductor, and switches to process the balancing in the batteries' voltages.





Figure 1. Block diagram of the balanced voltage system

3. LEAD-ACID BATTERY MATHEMATICAL MODEL

The equivalent mathematical model of a lead-acid battery of a cell is shown in **Fig. 2 (Raji and Kubba, 2020; Wang and Zhu,2020)**. The model is based on a 12 V 200Ah lead-acid battery. The main element of this battery is a voltage source, *Em*, which represents the open circuit voltage of the state of charge for the battery. However, due to a chemical reaction inside the lead-acid battery, this open circuit voltage is overlaid by the overvoltage. The battery open circuit voltage is given by (Maraud et al., 2016; Hamed et al., 2018);

$$E_m = E_{mo} - K_e (273 + Th_e)(1 - SOC)$$
(1)

where K_e is the voltage temperature coefficient of the battery, Th_e is the electrolyte temperature in which (273+Th_e) is temperature measured in *Kelvin*, and *SOC* is the state-of-charge which is given by:

$$SOC = 1 - \frac{Q_e}{C_{10}}$$
 (2)

where Q_e is the battery consumed charge in Ah, and C_{10} is the rated charge capacity of the battery in Ah.

The cell main branch resistors R_{i1} and R_{i2} are given by:

$$R_{i1} = -R_{10} \ln(DOC)$$
(3)

$$R_{i2} = R_{20} \frac{e^{A_{21}(1-SOC)}}{1+e^{A_{22}} \frac{I_m}{I_0}}$$
(4)

where R_{10} , R_{20} , A_{21} , and A_{22} are battery internal parameters and they are constant for a particular battery, I_m is the actual main branch current, I_0 is the rated battery cell current, and *DOC* is the depth of charge and is given by **(Collath et al., 2022)**;

$$DOC = 1 - \frac{Q_e}{C_1} \tag{5}$$

where C_1 is the actual battery capacity under the actual discharge current and is given by:



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$$C_1 = \frac{\tau_c}{R_{i1}}$$

where τ_c is the time constant of the cell.

The output resistance of the equivalent circuit, *R*_o, is given by (Maraud et al., 2016):

$$R_o = R_{00} [1 + A_0 (1 - SOC)] \tag{7}$$

where R_{oo} and A_o are constant parameters .

The parasitic branch current, *I_p*, is given by (Maraud et al., 2016);

$$I_P = E_P G_{PO} e^{\frac{E_P}{E_{PO}} + A_P \frac{1 - Th_e}{Th_f}}$$
(8)

where E_{po} , G_{po} , and A_p are battery cell constants, E_p is parasitic branch voltage, and Th_f is the electrolyte freezing temperature (-40°C).



Figure 2. A cell lead-acid battery equivalent electrical circuit (Raji and Kubba, 2020).

4. DYNAMIC CAPACITOR

The main components of the dynamic capacitor are an inductor, *L*, a capacitor, *C*, *L*_{in}*C*_{in} filter, and two switches, *S*₁ and *S*₂. The electrical circuit diagram for the dynamic capacitor is shown in **Fig. 3 (Aula, 2022).**



Figure 3. Dynamic capacitor circuit diagram (Aula, 2022).

The capacitor voltage, *v_c*, can be computed from the following relationship (Aula, 2022);

$$v_C = \frac{1}{1-D} v_{in} \tag{9}$$

where v_{in} is the input voltage (supply voltage), and *D* is the duty cycle and is given by;

(6)



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$$D = \frac{t_{on}}{t_{on} + t_{off}} \tag{10}$$

where t_{on} and t_{off} are switching times for both switches accounted when S_1 is on, S_2 is off, and vice versa.

The values of *C* and *L* are computed by (Aula, 2022);

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$$C = \frac{Q_C}{2\pi f v_C^2}$$

$$L = \frac{v_{in} x_c}{2R_f v_C} Dt$$
(11)
(12)

where $Q_C = \frac{v_c^2}{x_c}$, R_f is a ripple factor of the inductor current, x_c is the capacitive reactance of C, and f is the switching frequency, which is supplied by pulse width modulation (PWM).

5. CONTROLLING UNBALANCED BATTERY VOLTAGES

The principle of controlling the unbalanced voltages of batteries, in this research, is using a dynamic capacitor by dividing the *LC* filter according to the number of batteries in series. A proposed technique for controlling the unbalanced voltages of two series-connected batteries using a dynamic capacitor is depicted in **Fig. 4**.

The principle operation of the unbalancing voltage controller is based on four sequential modes. To simplify the analysis of these modes and since the values of *L*_{in} and *C*_{in} are very small in comparison to *L* and *C*, thus, the circuit diagram in **Fig. 4** can be simplified to one as shown in **Fig. 5**.



Figure 4. Series-connected two batteries controlling balancing circuit diagram.



Figure 5. Simplified circuit diagram for batteries' unbalanced voltages.

Mode1

The first mode of controlling the unbalanced voltage represents switch S_1 ON and switch S_2 OFF, the simplification circuit diagram of **mode 1** is shown in **Fig. 6**. The current passed through the inductor, no energy storage in this mode, from both batteries can be represented as:

$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{R_1} (1 - e^{-\frac{R_1}{L}Dt}) (v_{b1} + v_{b2})$$
(13)

$$v_L(t) = (v_{b1} + v_{b2})e^{-\frac{R_1}{L}Dt}$$
(14)

where v_{b1} and v_{b2} are battery voltages, i_L and v_L are inductor current and voltage in **mode 1**, and R_1 is the inductor internal resistance.



Mode 2

In the second mode, switch S_1 is *OFF* and switch S_2 is *ON*, and the equivalent circuit diagram that represents this mode is shown in **Fig. 7**. The stored energy in the inductor in **mode 1** in time *t* will increase the capacitor voltage v_L , which can be expressed by the following state-space representation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_L \\ v_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{R_2}{L} & -\frac{1}{L} \\ \frac{1}{C} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_L \\ v_c \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} (v_{b1} + v_{b2})$$
(15)

where v_c and i_L are capacitor voltage and inductor current in **mode 2**. In which $i_L = -i_c$ (capacitor current), and R_2 is the summation of inductor and capacitor internal resistance. The eigenvalues of the system in **mode 2** are given by:

$$\lambda^2 + \frac{R}{L}\lambda + \frac{1}{LC} = 0 \tag{16}$$

From Eq. (16), the undamped natural frequency is $1/\sqrt{\text{LC rad/sec}}$, and the damping ratio, ζ , is equal to $\frac{R_2}{2}\sqrt{\frac{C}{L}}$. Usually, the capacitor value is much smaller than the inductor, thus, the two eigenvalues become:

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -\frac{R_2}{2L} \pm j \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}$$
(17)

Hence, the response of the second order system and according to the damping ratio is the underdamped response which undamped natural frequency decays exponentially. The inductor current in *mode 2* after solving the system Eq. (15) with the assumption that capacitor voltage is initially zero can be represented by the following expression:

$$i_L(t) = i_{Lu}(t) + i_{Lf}(t) = -i_c(t)$$
(18)

where

$$i_{Lu}(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} e^{-\frac{R_2}{2L}(1-D)t} \left[\sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} \cos \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$D(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \left[(1-\frac{R_2}{2L})^2 (1-D)t + \frac{R_2}{L} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t \right]$$

$$i_{Lf}(t) = \frac{1}{L\sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} e^{-\frac{R_2}{2L}(1-D)t} \sin\sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t (v_{b1} + v_{b2})$$
(20)

where i_{Lu} represents the unforced inductor current, i_{Lf} represents the forced current . The capacitor voltage is given by:

$$V_{c}(t) = v_{cu}(t) + v_{cf}(t)$$
(21)

where

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 $V_{b1} + V_{b2} + V_{b1} + V_{b2} + V_{b2} + V_{b1} + V_{b2} + V$

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$$v_{cu}(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 C \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} e^{-\frac{R_2}{2L}(1-D)t} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{R_1}{L}t}\right) \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t(v_{b1} + v_{b2})$$
(22)
$$v_{cf}(t) = \{1 - e^{-\frac{R_2}{2L}(1-D)t} [\cos \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2} (1-D)t - \frac{R_2}{2L \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - (\frac{R_2}{2L})^2}} \sin \sqrt$$

where v_{cu} represents the unforced capacitor voltage, v_{cf} is the forced capacitor voltage, and D is the duty cycle for switching ON/OFF as defined in Eq. (10).





Figure 7. Mode 2 equivalent circuit diagram.

Modes 3 and 4

After the second mode in which the second cycles of switches begin, the inductor current, i_{L_1} , in Eq. (18) becomes the initial current to Eq. (13), and the same occurs for inductor voltage, v_{L_2} . Also, the capacitor voltage in Eq. (21) will be the initial capacitor voltage in the consecutive cycles. The sequence of charging/discharging capacitor voltage according to both switches, S_1 and S_2 , at 5kHz PWM pulses are shown in **Fig. 8**. The switching *ON/OFF* operations which control the inductor and capacitor voltages proceed through pulse width modulation (pulses). The rate of these pulses (pulses per second) determines the inductor voltage simultaneously.



Figure 8. Capacitor and inductor voltage correspond to switch operations.



6. SIMULATION AND RESULTS

For most solar power systems, lead-acid batteries for their cost affordable, and acceptable capacities effectivity are used as backup storage. Therefore, in this research, lead-acid batteries were used with a capacity that matches the currently commercially available ones. A 12 V, 200Ah is used for all batteries throughout this research, and their parameters are given in **Table 1. Fig. 9** shows the MATLAB/Simulink model which is implemented for validating the model and method proposed in this research. For the optimum controlling of both switches, the PWM is chosen to be 5kHz. The inductor and capacitor values, *L* and *C*, are *3mH* and *200µF*. The internal resistances for both the inductor are set to 0.005Ω and 0.003Ω , respectively. The filter inductor and capacitor is sufficient to be used, and the number of capacitors depends on the number of batteries in the series, for example, for two batteries, two filleter capacitors are used, and for four batteries in series, four filter capacitors are used, and so on. **Fig. 4** is an example of how these elements were connected to batteries .



Figure 9. MATLAB simulation model for two lead-acid batteries in series with dynamic capacitor implementation.

Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
Emo	2.18 V	R10	0.2 mΩ
Ke	0.84 x 10 ⁻³ V/ ⁰ C	A22	-4.225
Roo	1 mΩ	τ _c	7200s
Gp0	2 PS	R20	7.5 mΩ
Ap	2	A ₀	-0.2
A ₂₁	-8	Thf	-40°C

Table 1. Assumption 12 V 200Ah lead-acid battery parameters

For validating the proposed technique, different cases are considered. In the first case, some homes used an inverter that had a rating of 24 V battery voltage. Hence, the simulation is





Figure 10. Balancing of two batteries' voltages connected in series for SOC 90% case.



Figure 11. Batteries SOC for case 90%.

In the second case, the conditions for the first case are repeated by changing the SOC from 90% to 95%. The simulation results are shown in **Figs. 12** and **13**, respectively.



Figure 12. Balancing of two batteries' voltages connected in series for SOC case 95%.

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Figure 13. Batteries SOC case 95%.

In the third case, since other homes use inverters that are rated 48 V for batteries, therefore, four lead-acid batteries are used in series. Their SOCs are set as 100%, 97%, 95%, and 90%, respectively. The simulation results are shown in **Figs. 14** and **1**5.



Figure 14. Balancing of four batteries' voltages connected in series.



Figure 15. SOC for all four batteries during the balancing control procedure.



As depicted in all simulation results' figures, the proposed technique provided the promised results. When there are two batteries in a series, the balancing control has reached the settling time within 100 seconds for a lower than 4% error. For comparison, a switched capacitor with the same type of battery's voltage and capacity and at the same PWM frequency is tested **(Shang et al., 2017)**. The results show that the switched-capacitor technique balanced the batteries' voltages much slower and far from the result obtained in the proposed technique. **Fig.s 16, 17**, and **18** show the simulation results of the switched capacitor for balancing voltages for two and four lead-acid batteries that are connected in series. The switched capacitor method for SOC 90% and 95% after 400s was able to balance the batteries' voltages for only up to 0.6 voltage difference while it was less than 0.04 voltage and less than 100s in the proposed technique. Similarly, for four series-connected batteries, the proposed technique was faster in balancing the variation of all voltages in less time reaching less than 0.02 voltage difference in less than 100s while in the switched-capacitor after 500s of operation, the difference of voltages still more than 0.2 voltage.



Figure 16. Two series connected batteries for SOC 90% for switched-capacitor technique.



Figure 17. Two series connected batteries for SOC 95% for switched-capacitor technique.



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Figure 18. Four series connected batteries for switched-capacitor technique.

It is wealth to note that for either technique, voltages of lead-acid batteries can be balanced in a shorter time when the PWM pulses are increased. However, this is left for future work to be studied and implemented.

7. CONCLUSIONS

In this study, a dynamic capacitor is proposed for controlling the unbalanced voltages of lead-acid batteries that are mostly used in residence as well as small business solar power systems to back up the surplus power and to be used later mainly during the night. The details of the mathematical model of the lead-acid batteries and the operation of the dynamic capacitor technique were presented. The dynamic capacitor technique consisted of two switches in which one is on while the other is off and vice versa during each cycle of operation. The PWM is used for controlling the *ON/OFF* of both switches. The simulation was carried out using MATLAB/Simulink to validate the proposed technique. Simulation results showed the effectiveness of the proposed technique in which the voltages of all lead-acid series-connected batteries were balanced in a shorter time as other techniques can provide such as the switched-capacitor technique. The balancing voltages in two batteries reached the settling time within 100 seconds for as low as 4% differences, while these took above 500 seconds and just a 20% difference in the switched-capacitor method.



NOMENCLATURE

Symbol	Description	Symbol	Description
Ao	Constant parameters	Q_c	Ripple factor of the inductor current
A21	Battery internal parameters	Q_e	Battery consumed charge in Ah
A22	Battery internal parameters	R_o	Output resistance, Ω
A_p	Battery cell constants	Roo	Constant parameters
С	Capacitor, F	R_1	Inductor internal resistance, Ω
<i>C</i> ₁	Actual battery capacity, Ah	R_2	Summation of inductor and capacitor internal resistance, Ω
C10	Rated charge capacity of the battery, Ah	<i>R</i> 10	Battery internal parameters
Cin	Filter capacitor, F	R20	Battery internal parameters
D	Duty cycle	R _{i1}	First main branch resistor, Ω
DOC	Depth of charge	R _{i2}	Second main branch resistor, Ω
Em	Battery voltage, V	S_1	First switch
Ema	Battery internal voltage, V	S_2	Second switch
E_p	Parasitic branch voltage	SOC	The state-of-charge
E_{po}	Battery cell constants	ton	Switching ON time, s
f	Switching frequency, Hertz	t_{off}	Switching OFF time, s
Gpo,	Battery cell constants	Th_e	Electrolyte temperature, Kelvin
İc	Capacitor current, A	Th_f	Electrolyte freezing temperature
İL	Inductor current, A	V_b	Battery voltage, V
İLf	Forced current, A	Vc	Capacitor voltage, V
İLu	Unforced inductor current, A	Vcf	Forced capacitor voltage, V
Im	Actual main branch current, A	Vcu	Unforced capacitor voltage, V
Io	Rated battery cell current, A	v_{in}	Input voltage, V
Ip	Parasitic branch current	VL	Inductor voltage, V
Ke	Voltage temperature coefficient of the battery, Kelvin	Xc	Capacitive reactance, Ω
L	Inductor, H	λ	Eign value
Lin	Filter inductor, H	ζ	Damping ratio
PWM	Pulse width modulation	τ_c	Time constant of the cell, s

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