AUTOMATIC SOLAR PV COOLING SYSTEM

(A GREEN ENERGY SOLUTION)

Done by

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GREEN ENERGY

Any energy generated or obtained from the natural resources, such as sunlight, wind or water etc. constitutes the term green energy.

Advantages:-

- ✓ Clean energy;
- ✓ Inexhaustible energy source;
- ✓ No carbon emissions or greenhouse gases;
- ✓ Energy independence;
- ✓ Environmentally-friendly



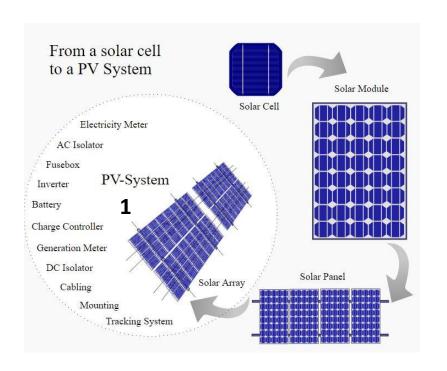
GREEN ENERGY SOLUTION

A solution to harvest energy from the natural resources more effectively than the available methods. In this study, a novel solution or method to harvest more energy from the sun is proposed.

SOLAR ENERGY

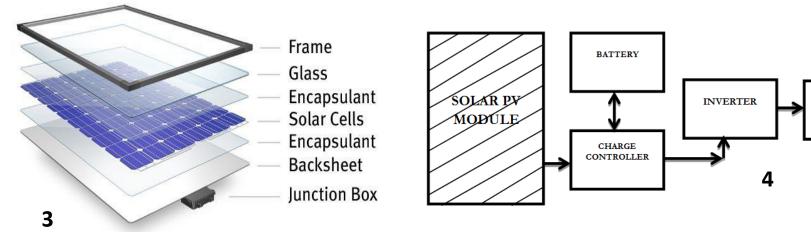
- Energy obtained from the principle energy source sun is known as Solar energy [1].
- In the past few decades, researchers proposed various means to convert energy from the sun in to effective mean (electrical or thermal form) through a medium called solar energy conversion device (SECD) [2].
- Among the proposed SECD's, photovoltaic module (PVM) is a device which converts energy from the sun in to electrical form via photovoltaic effect [3].
- Various classification of PVM's are proposed by the researchers in the past one decade. However the common research problem experienced from all the proposed category remains same [4].
- The electrical performance delivered by the PVM is more sensitive to its operating temperature. In other words, the electrical performance delivered by the PVM is inversely proportional to its operating temperature [5].
- In order to fix this, varieties of research works are attempted by the researchers. Such works are classified in to two types. They are (i) direct-contact cooling and (ii) indirect-contact cooling of PVM.
- Among the two methods, direct-contact cooling is identified as effective than the second type. Even though, rigorous effects are made to reduce or control the operating temperature of PVM, still the need to harvest more energy exists [6].
- Thus, in this study a novel and automatic direct-contact cooling method for PVM is proposed. The results of this proposed PVM with novel cooling and without cooling are compared under the same operating conditions (tilt angle, latitude, longitude etc.)

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULE





LOADS



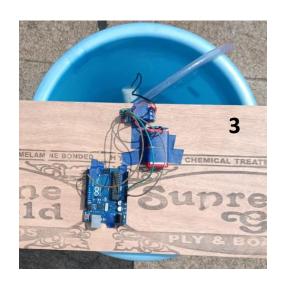
Figs. The PVM and its relevant theory

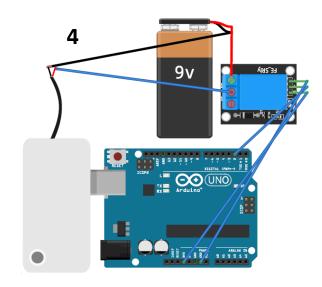
REAL TIME TEST RIG – INSTRUMENTS - SPECIFICATIONS



2

Electrical Characteristics	Ratings
Maximum Power (P _{max})	10W
Max. Voltage (V _{max})	16.8V
Max. Current (I _{max})	0.59A
Short circuit current (I _{sc})	0.65A
Open circuit voltage (V _{oc})	21V
Area (m²)	0.062





PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF PV MODULE

Electrical Power Output (P_E)

Power output of PV module is calculated using product of open circuit voltage and short circuit current.

$$P_F = V_{OC} * I_{SC} \tag{1}$$

Electrical Efficiency (η_E)

Efficiency of a PV module is calculated using an equation which gives relationship between electrical power output (P_E), Irradiance (G) and Area of PV Module (Am)

$$\eta_E = \frac{P_E}{G*A_{PV}} \tag{2}$$

Table 1 The measured electrical parameters of stand-alone solar PVM (Without Cooling)

Exp. No	t	G	U	ISC	voc	Tm	PE	EE
	Hours	W/m2	m/s	Ampere	Voltage	°C	Watts	%
2	11	894.41	1.045	0.5	17.9	53	8.95	11.91
3	12	994.72	1.705	0.47	17.7	62	8.319	9.96
4	13	978.42	2.26	0.43	17.7	56	7.611	9.26
5	14	897.89	0.735	0.43	17.5	54	7.525	9.98
						56.25	8.10	10.28

Table 2 The measured electrical parameters of stand-alone solar PVM (With Cooling)

Exp. No	t	G	U	ISC	voc	Tm	PE	EE
	Hours	W/m2	m/s	Ampere	Voltage	°C	Watts	%
2	11	894.41	1.045	0.5	19.7	34	9.85	13.11
3	12	994.72	1.705	0.5	19.3	37	9.65	11.55
4	13	978.42	2.26	0.5	19.2	36	9.6	11.68
5	14	897.89	0.735	0.5	19.1	35	9.55	12.66
						35.50	9.66	12.25

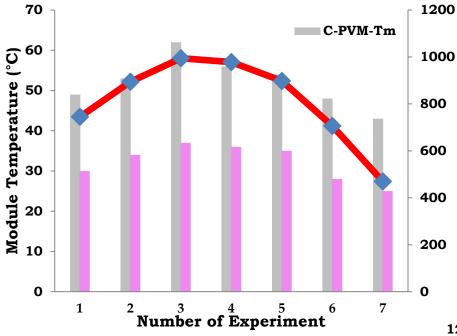


Fig. Variations in the module temperature of conventional and novel PVM with respect to the irradiance.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

- The operating temperature of the PVM with automated cooling system is 36.80% lower than the conventional one.
- The electrical power output delivered by the PVM with automated cooling system is 16.10% higher than the conventional one.

Solar Irradiance (W/m²)

- ✓ The electrical efficiency delivered by the PVM with automated cooling system is 16.08% higher than the conventional one.
- ✓ Simultaneous cooling and removal of dust particles of the PVM is attained. It may leads to higher return on investment and the life of the PVM.

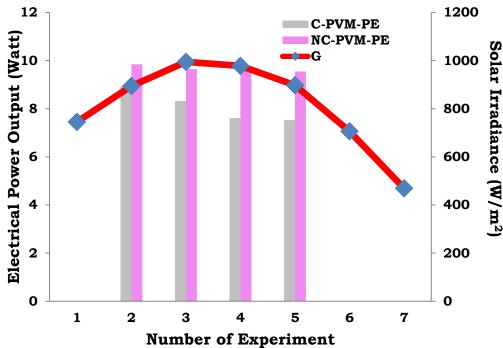


Fig. Variations in the electrical power output of conventional and novel PVM with respect to the irradiance.

APPLICATIONS

✓ Flexible to all the situations where PVM is used for power generation. (Ex. Domestic, Industrial, E-Vehicles, Street lights etc.)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIETY

- ✓ A novel, automated, simple and flexible approach to reduce the operating temperature of the PVM.
- ✓ Power loss due to the accumulation dust particles will be reduced significantly.

FUTURE WORK

✓ It involves the design of IoT controlled cooling system with the capacity to actuate based on the variations in the temperature of the PV module using Raspberry-Pi board.

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