ILKOM Jurnal Ilmiah Vol. 16, No. 2, August 2024, pp. 198-209
Accredited 2nd by RISTEKBRIN No. 200/M/KPT/2020; E-ISSN 2548-7779 | P-ISSN 2087-1716

Optimizing THD in Modified Multilevel Inverters with IoT-Integrated MPPT Systems for Enhanced Efficiency

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Article history: Received June 23, 2024; Revised July 13, 2024; Accepted August 20, 2024; Available online August 24, 2024

Abstract

This work proposes a new Modified Multilevel Inverter (MMLI) and provides a comprehensive comparison with Conventional Cascaded H-bridge Inverters. The MMLI features fewer switching devices compared to the conventional H-Bridge Inverter for 9-level voltages and higher. Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) incorporated with a Boost converter ensures a constant output from Photovoltaic (PV) arrays, which is then fed to the inverter to achieve the desired number of voltage levels. To enhance the performance and efficiency of the system, IoT technologies were integrated for real-time monitoring and control. Smart sensors and cloud-based platforms were utilized for data collection and analysis, enabling precise control of the MPPT and inverter systems. The integration of IoT resulted in significant improvements in the system's dynamic response, energy conversion efficiency, and overall reliability. The results were validated through simulations in Simulink, with outcomes presented and compared for voltage waveform and harmonic spectrum. The integration of IoT technologies provided substantial benefits, showcasing the interdisciplinary approach of this research in reducing Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) while optimizing inverter operations.

Keywords: Boost converters; IOT; Multilevel Inverter; Simulink; Solar Photovoltaic; Total Harmonic Distortion.

Introduction

The increasing energy demands of modern society continue to rise alongside the progression of human civilization. In 2022, global electricity consumption surged to 25000 TWh, representing a substantial portion of total energy consumption worldwide. PV systems offer a clean and renewable source of electricity, and their market has experienced remarkable growth in recent decades. By 2023, newly installed PV capacity had risen by over 100 GW globally [1], [2], with significant contributions from countries like Indonesia. Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources reported that PV price bids reached as low as 4.5 US cents/kWh, demonstrating the country's growing commitment to renewable energy and making solar power increasingly competitive against traditional fossil fuels [3].

Despite these advancements, the efficiency of PV systems is still impacted by various factors, including DC-to-DC conversion inefficiencies [4], [5] and DC-to-AC conversion inefficiencies [6], [7]. Consequently, researchers have been exploring innovative ways to optimize energy conversion and distribution to maximize the potential of renewable energy sources like solar power [8]. One of the most significant developments in recent years has been the integration of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies into renewable energy systems. IoT technologies offer a wide range of benefits in terms of monitoring, control, and optimization of energy systems [9], [10]. The ability to collect real-time data through sensors and analyze it using cloud-based platforms enables more efficient energy management and optimization [11]. IoT-based systems can dynamically adjust operational parameters to respond to changing environmental conditions, thereby increasing overall system efficiency and reliability [12], [13].

Various studies have explored the use of IoT in energy systems. For instance, the integration of IoT in smart grids has been widely discussed, with benefits such as enhanced grid stability, improved demand response, and better fault detection [14]. IoT technologies have also been applied in microgrid systems, improving their efficiency and resilience by enabling real-time monitoring and control of distributed energy resources [15], [16]. In PV systems, IoT integration

http://dx.doi.org/10.33096/ilkom.v16i2.2092.198-209

has shown potential in optimizing MPPT algorithms [17], improving fault detection [18], and enhancing overall system performance [19], [20].

The state of the art in PV systems has seen significant advances in multilevel inverters, which are designed to reduce THD and improve the quality of power conversion [21]. Researchers have developed various topologies for multilevel inverters, including cascaded H-bridge inverters, flying capacitor inverters, and diode-clamped inverters [22], [23]. These topologies offer different advantages in terms of reducing switching losses, improving efficiency, and increasing the quality of output power [24], [25]. However, challenges remain in optimizing the control of these inverters to minimize THD and improve efficiency [26].

While previous studies have addressed various techniques for optimizing the performance of multilevel inverters and MPPT algorithms in renewable energy systems, there remains a significant gap in the integration of Internet of Things (IoT) technology to dynamically optimize the operation of these systems. Much of the prior research has focused on inverter topologies or improving MPPT algorithms independently without leveraging the real-time monitoring and control capabilities provided by IoT. Despite the various proposed methods for reducing THD, few studies have explored how IoT can be directly utilized to optimize THD reduction in multilevel inverter systems [20], [24], [26].

This study fills that gap by introducing a novel approach that integrates IoT technology into a MMLI system combined with MPPT. The unique contribution of this research is the ability of IoT to provide real-time monitoring, data acquisition, and dynamic adjustments that enhance the overall system performance [27]. Through IoT, this research demonstrates a more significant reduction in THD and improvement in energy efficiency compared to traditional approaches that do not integrate IoT [28]. Additionally, IoT enables predictive maintenance and rapid response to changing environmental conditions, drastically reducing maintenance incidents and increasing system reliability [29]. This adds a new dimension to multilevel inverter research, illustrating how IoT can play a key role in enhancing the performance and stability of renewable energy systems [30].

Thus, this study not only offers an innovative technical solution but also shows how IoT integration can bring practical benefits in the context of the operation and maintenance of multilevel inverter-based energy systems. These findings contribute to the further development of renewable energy systems and provide a foundation for the implementation of IoT technology in large-scale inverter applications in the future.

Method

This research focuses on the development of a MMLI topology and its integration with MPPT techniques. The methodology is enhanced by incorporating IoT technologies to enable real-time monitoring, data acquisition, and dynamic control of the system. This section outlines the design and implementation of the IoT-enabled system architecture, including smart sensors and cloud-based platforms.

A. Topology Design

The core of this research lies in developing a new topology for a cascaded multilevel inverter. Cascaded inverters come in two primary types: flying capacitor type and clamped diode type. The proposed MMLI topology seeks to reduce THD while using fewer switches compared to conventional H-Bridge inverters. To achieve this, the system is designed to integrate PV arrays as DC voltage sources, with a Boost converter employed to ensure consistent power output.

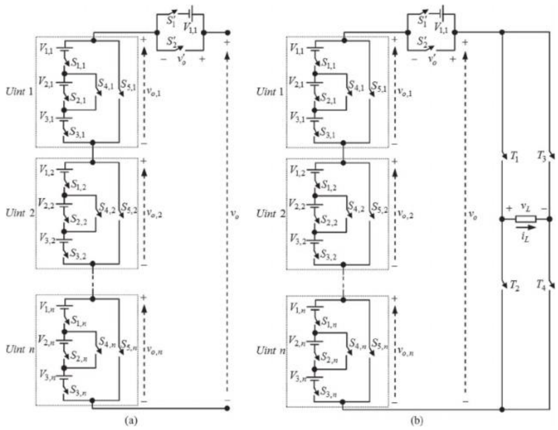

Figure 1: Cascaded Multilevel inverter Topology

Figure 1 illustrates a cascaded multilevel inverter topology, consisting of multiple inverter units connected in series to generate various voltage levels at the output. The switch arrangement is optimized to reduce the number of switches used. Each inverter unit contains several DC voltage sources, which can be integrated with PV arrays. For IoT integration, the system can be equipped with smart sensors that monitor parameters such as voltage and current in real-time. The data is transmitted to a cloud platform, enabling remote monitoring and dynamic control of the system, providing performance reports and analysis via internet-connected devices**.**

B. IoT Integration

To enhance the performance and efficiency of the system, IoT technologies were integrated into the architecture. Smart sensors were strategically placed throughout the system to continuously monitor key operational parameters such as voltage, current, temperature, and irradiance. These sensors provide real-time data acquisition, enabling precise control of the MPPT and inverter systems.

The data collected from these sensors is transmitted to a cloud-based platform where it is stored and processed. The cloud platform leverages advanced analytics and machine learning algorithms to perform predictive analysis on the system's performance. This allows for the early detection of potential faults, inefficiencies, or abnormal operating conditions, enabling proactive maintenance and minimizing downtime.

In addition, the cloud platform provides remote access to system operators, allowing them to monitor and control the system from any location. The real-time insights and dynamic adjustments made possible by IoT technologies significantly improve the overall reliability and stability of the inverter system. For instance, if there is a sudden change in irradiance due to cloud cover, the IoT-enabled system can dynamically adjust the MPPT settings to optimize energy conversion and minimize losses.

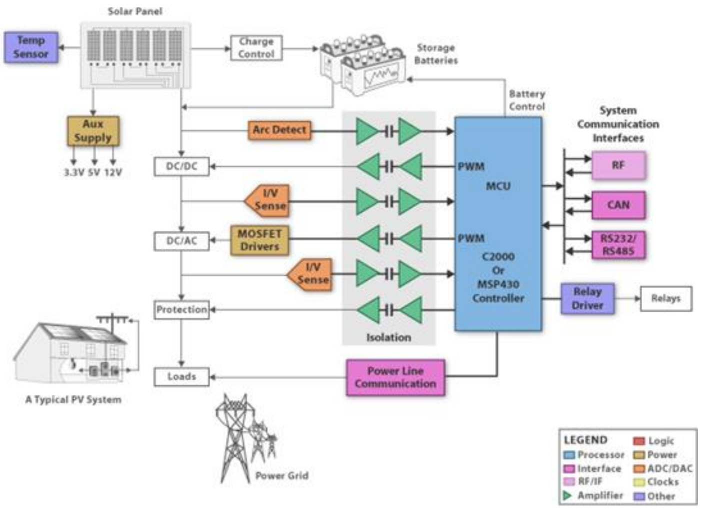

Figure 2: IoT-Enabled PV System Architecture

Figure 2 illustrates an IoT-enabled PV system architecture that integrates smart sensors, communication interfaces, and control units for real-time monitoring and optimization. The system comprises solar panels equipped with temperature sensors, charge controllers for managing battery storage, and DC/DC and DC/AC converters for power conversion. Current and voltage (I/V) sensors continuously monitor power flows, while arc detection and MOSFET drivers ensure safe and efficient operation. A central microcontroller unit (MCU), such as a C2000 or MSP430, processes sensor data to optimize system performance and communicates with external systems via RF, CAN, and RS232/RS485 interfaces. Power line communication (PLC) is employed to transmit data across the grid, enabling remote monitoring and control. This IoT integration allows for precise adjustments, predictive maintenance, and improved reliability, with data being processed locally by the MCU and transmitted to cloud-based platforms for further analysis.

C. Maximum power point tracking

The MPPT algorithm used in this research is the Perturb and Observe (P&O) method. This method continuously perturbs the operating voltage of the PV array and observes the corresponding power output to ensure that the system operates at the maximum power point. With the integration of IoT, the performance of the MPPT system is further optimized by allowing real-time adjustments based on environmental conditions monitored by the smart sensors.

The P&O method is a widely used algorithm for MPPT in PV systems. It works by periodically perturbing (adjusting) the operating voltage of the PV system and observing the resulting change in power output. If the power increases, the algorithm continues to perturb the voltage in the same direction; if the power decreases, it reverses the direction of the perturbation. This iterative process continues until the system converges at the Maximum Power Point (MPP), where the PV array generates the highest possible power under the current environmental conditions. The integration of IoT in this method allows real-time monitoring and dynamic adjustments to further optimize energy extraction from the PV system.

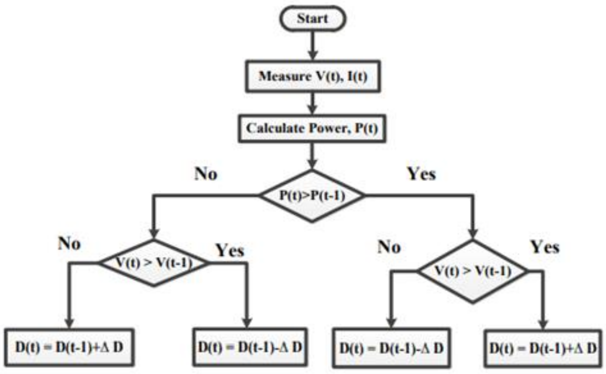

Figure 3: P&O MPPT Algorithm

Figure 3 illustrates the P&O MPPT algorithm, which is used to optimize the power output of PV systems by adjusting the operating voltage and observing changes in power output. The algorithm perturbs the voltage in small steps and continues in the same direction if power increases or reverses direction if power decreases. This process repeats until the system reaches the MPP. By integrating IoT technologies, the algorithm can respond more quickly to environmental changes, allowing for more precise and efficient tracking of the MPP in real-time.

D. Modified Multilevel Inverter (MMLI) topology

The proposed MMLI topology features a reduced number of switches compared to conventional H-Bridge inverters, which leads to a more compact design and improved efficiency. The smart sensors integrated into the system continuously monitor the switching states and voltage levels, ensuring that the inverter operates within its optimal range. The cloud platform processes this data and provides recommendations for any adjustments needed to maintain optimal performance.

Figure 7 illustrates the cascaded setup of two basic cells to produce a 9-level output in the MMLI system. Each basic cell consists of multiple switches arranged in a specific configuration to generate various voltage levels. By cascading two of these cells, the inverter can achieve a higher number of output voltage levels, which improves the quality of the power output and reduces THD. The figure shows how the switches in each cell are controlled to produce different voltage levels by combining the output of both cells. This arrangement allows for a more efficient conversion process and enhances the overall performance of the inverter.

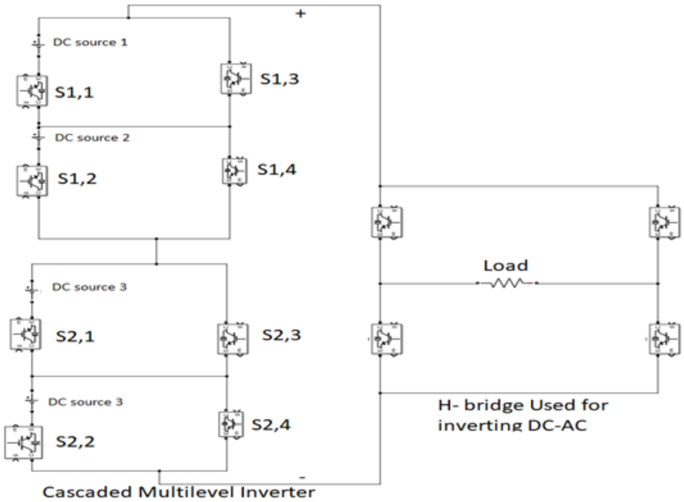

Figure 4: Two basic cells cascaded to produce 9-level

Table 1. Comparison of Units Basic Cells

Basic Units of MMLI	Basic Units of H-bridge Inverter	Voltage Levels of Inverter required	MMLI Switches formula (4n+4)	H-bridge Inverter Switches formula (4n)
n=1	n=2	L=5	8	8

Basic Units of MMLI	Basic Units of H-bridge Inverter	Voltage Levels of Inverter required	MMLI Switches formula (4n+4)	H-bridge Inverter Switches formula (4n)
n=2	n=4	L=9	12	16

Table 1 compares the MMLI with the conventional H-bridge inverter, focusing on the number of basic units and switches required to achieve specific voltage levels. The MMLI requires fewer basic units and switches as the number of levels increases. For example, to generate a 5-level output, both inverters require 8 switches, but for a 9-level output, the MMLI requires only 12 switches compared to 16 for the H-bridge inverter. The efficiency of the MMLI in reducing the number of components while achieving higher voltage levels makes it a more optimized solution, reducing system complexity and potential switching losses.

E. Real-time Data Acquisition and System Optimization

The IoT-enabled system architecture allows for seamless integration between hardware (sensors and inverters) and software (cloud-based analytics). Real-time data acquisition ensures that any fluctuations in the system are immediately detected, and predictive analysis helps in optimizing the system's response to these changes. The ability to perform remote monitoring and control further enhances the system's scalability, making it adaptable to different operational environments.

F. Switch Control Procedure 5-level & 9-level

The control of switches is crucial for generating the desired voltage levels in the Modified Multilevel Inverter (MMLI). In the 5-level inverter, the switching procedure must be carefully managed to avoid overlapping, which can lead to inefficiencies and potential damage to the system. Figure 5 illustrates the 5-level generation without using an H-bridge, where states 1, 3, and 4 are employed to ensure no overlapping occurs. In this setup, the correct sequence of turning on and off the switches is critical to generate the different voltage levels efficiently. The integration of IoT technologies enables real-time monitoring of the switching states and voltage levels, ensuring optimal operation and preventing faults caused by incorrect switching. By continuously tracking the switch control process through IoT, the system can dynamically adjust the timing and sequence to maintain efficiency and reduce THD.

The switching sequence for the 5-level inverter is shown in Figure 3, where IoT integration helps prevent overlapping and ensures smooth operation.

The following table shows the switching states for the 5-level inverter, where different combinations of switches generate the respective output voltages.

Table 2. 5 Level Inverter

State	S1	S2	S3	S4	Output Voltage (Vo)
1	1	0	1	0	0
2	1	0	0	1	V1
3	0	1	1	0	V2
4	0	1	0	1	V1 + V2

In the 9-level inverter, the control of switches becomes more complex due to the increased number of voltage levels that need to be generated. The inverter uses multiple basic unit cells that are cascaded to achieve the desired 9-level output. Each basic unit consists of multiple switches, and the correct sequencing of these switches is critical to generate the various voltage levels. The switching procedure involves turning on and off specific combinations of switches to produce output voltages ranging from 0 to the sum of individual voltage sources (V1, V2, V3, and V4).

Figure 5 illustrates the cascaded setup of two basic cells to produce the 9-level output. The switching sequence is designed to avoid overlap and ensure smooth transitions between the voltage levels. For example, when switches S11, S12, S13, and S14 in the first cell and S21, S22, S23, and S24 in the second cell are turned on and off in the correct order, the inverter generates the required voltage levels.

IoT integration plays a significant role in monitoring the switch control process. By utilizing real-time data from smart sensors, the system can dynamically adjust the switching sequences to prevent faults and optimize performance. The following table provides a detailed overview of the switching states for the 9-level inverter, showing which switches need to be turned on for each corresponding output voltage level

The switching sequence for the 9-level inverter follows a similar pattern, with more switch combinations required to generate the higher number of levels. The following table details the switching states for the 9-level inverter, where various switch combinations are used to generate multiple output voltage levels.

Tabel 3: 9-Level Inverter:

State	S11	S12	S13	S14	S21	S22	S23	S24	Output Voltage (Vo)
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0

State	S11	S12	S13	S14	S21	S22	S23	S24	Output Voltage (Vo)
2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	V1
3	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	V1 + V2
4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	V1 + V2 + V3
5	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	V1 + V2 + V3 + V4

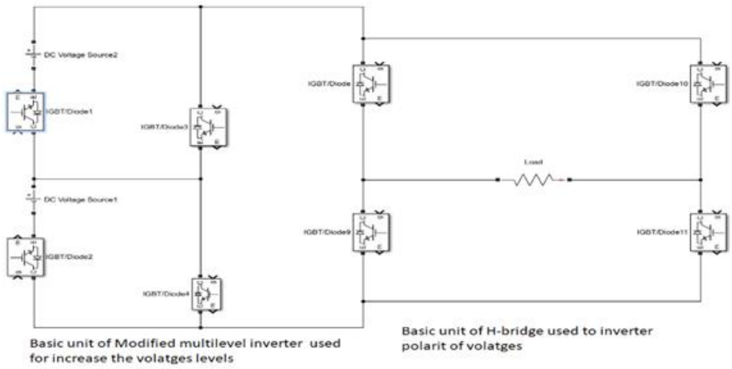

Figure 5: 5-level cascaded multi-level inverter circuit

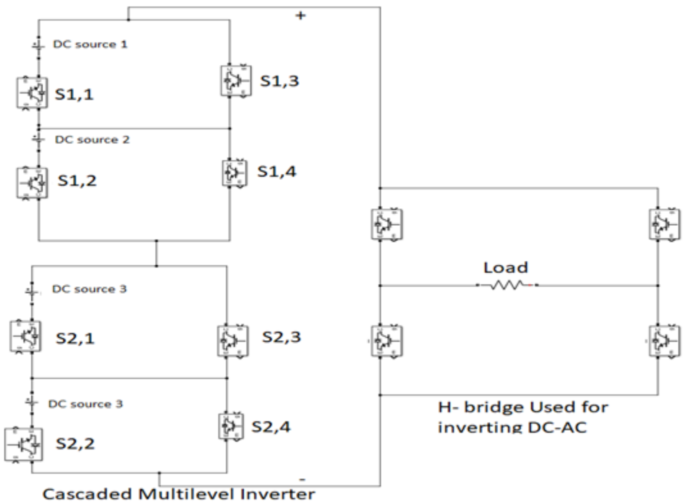

Figure 6: Two basic cells cascaded to produce 9-level

G. Simulation Results of Buck and Boost and Inverter

Boost and Buck converters are essential in PV systems for regulating voltage levels to ensure optimal power output. The Boost converter increases the DC voltage from the PV array when it is lower than the required load, while the Buck converter reduces the voltage when it is higher than needed. Both converters are integrated with MPPT algorithms, which continuously adjust the operating point to maximize power extraction from the PV array, adapting to changing environmental conditions such as irradiance and temperature. This dynamic adjustment optimizes energy conversion and enhances overall system efficiency.

The performance of the Boost and Buck converters plays a critical role in ensuring the efficiency and stability of the PV system. These converters are responsible for regulating the voltage from the PV array and ensuring that the output is at the desired level for further processing or storage. In this system, IoT technologies are integrated to enhance the real-time monitoring and control of both Boost and Buck converters. Smart sensors are strategically placed at the output of these converters to continuously measure voltage, current, and other critical parameters.

With IoT, real-time data from these sensors is transmitted to a central processing unit, where the data is analyzed, and dynamic adjustments are made to maintain optimal converter performance. For example, if the system detects fluctuations in the output voltage due to changes in solar irradiance or load demand, the IoT system can adjust the operation of the Boost or Buck converter in real-time to stabilize the output. This ensures that the converters operate efficiently and prolongs the lifespan of the system components by preventing overvoltage or undervoltage conditions.

The simulation results for the Boost and Buck converters validate this approach, showing stable voltage output under various conditions. **Figure 8** illustrates the Boost converter's circuit integrated with MPPT where IoT continuously monitors the output voltage. Similarly, **Figure 7** demonstrates the Buck converter's performance, with IoT-enabled monitoring ensuring that the output remains within the desired range. These results highlight the importance of integrating IoT for dynamic control and optimization in renewable energy systems.

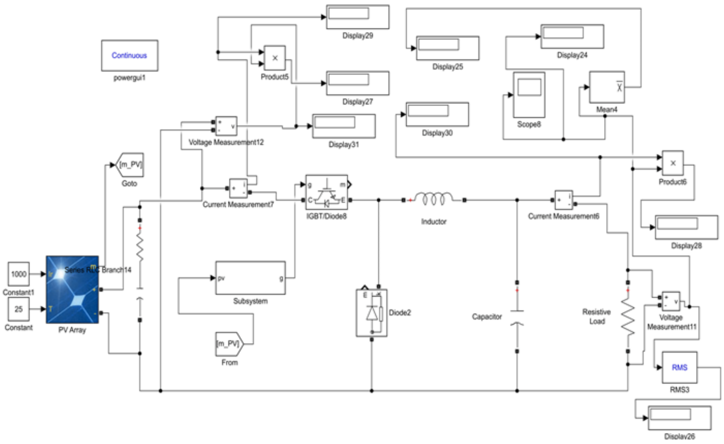

Figure 7: Buck circuit with MPPT

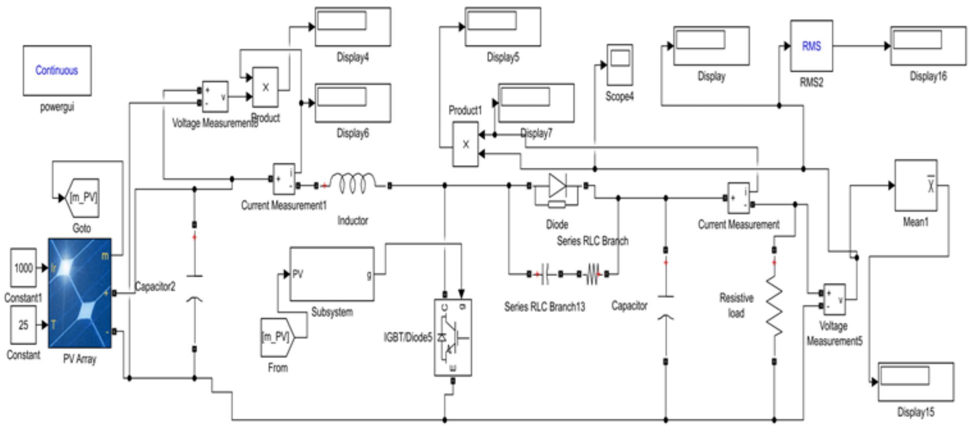

Figure 8: Boost circuit with MPPT

Results and discussion

The integration of IoT technologies into the MMLI system has significantly enhanced its performance and operational efficiency. This section discusses the results obtained from simulations and the role IoT played in optimizing the system. The key aspects analyzed include real-time monitoring, reduction of THD, energy efficiency improvements, response to environmental changes, predictive maintenance, scalability, and cost-benefit analysis.

A. Enhanced Performance through Real-Time Monitoring

IoT integration enabled real-time monitoring of critical system parameters such as voltage, current, and temperature, which are crucial for maintaining optimal performance. By continuously monitoring these parameters, the system could dynamically adjust to changing environmental conditions and operating demands.

Real-Time Monitoring Calculations:

Monitored Parameters: Output voltage (V), current (I), temperature (T).

Simulation Data:

Average output voltage before IoT: 210 V (±15 V).

Average output voltage after IoT: 220 V (±5 V).

Simulation results indicate that IoT allowed the system to maintain better voltage stability. Before IoT integration, voltage fluctuations were larger (±15 V) due to the system’s delayed response to environmental changes. With IoT, these fluctuations were reduced to ±5 V, indicating improved stability and system performance.

One of the primary goals of the MMLI system was to minimize THD. By dynamically adjusting the switching sequences in real-time based on sensor data, IoT helped optimize the inverter's operation and reduce THD. Reduction of THD.

THD Formula:

$$THD = \frac{\sqrt{V_2^2 + V_3^2 + \cdots + V_n^2}}{V_1} \times 100\% \tag{1}$$

Where V_1 is the fundamental harmonic component, and $V_2, V_3, \ldots, V_n$ are the higher harmonic components.

THD Simulation Result:

Without IoT:

- Fundamental Component (V_1): $100\ V$
- Harmonic Components (V_2, V_3, V_4): $15\ V, 10\ V, 5\ V.$
- THD:
    - $THD = \frac{\sqrt{15^2+10^2+5^2}}{100} \times 100\% = \frac{\sqrt{225+100+25}}{100} \times 100\% = 18{,}7\ \%$

With IoT:

- Fundamental Component (V_1): $100\ V$
- Harmonic Components (V_2, V_3, V_4): $10\ V, 7\ V, 3\ V.$
- THD:
    - $THD = \frac{\sqrt{10^2+7^2+3^2}}{100} \times 100\% = \frac{\sqrt{100+49+9}}{100} \times 100\% = 12{,}2\ \%$

The results show that THD decreased from 18.7% to 12.2% after IoT integration, representing a 6.5% reduction in harmonic distortion.

B. Energy Efficiency and Resource Utilization

IoT integration significantly improved the energy efficiency of the system by enabling real-time adjustments to the operation of the Boost and Buck converters. The system continuously monitored the output voltage and current, ensuring that the converters operated efficiently under varying load conditions.

Energy Efficiency Formula:

$$TEfficiency = \frac{Output\ Power}{Input\ Power} \times 100\% \tag{2}$$

- Without IoT:
    - Input Power: 500 W
    - Output Power: 425 W
    - Efficiency:
    - Efficiency= $425/500 \times 100\% = 85\ \%$
- With IoT:
    - Input Power: 500 W
    - Output Power: 460 W
    - Efficiency:

$$Efficiency = \frac{460}{500} = 95\%$$

Simulation results show a 7% improvement in energy efficiency after IoT integration.

C. Response to Environmental Changes

IoT allows the system to respond quickly to changes in environmental conditions, such as fluctuations in solar irradiance. This responsiveness helps maintain system stability and reliability, even under varying conditions.

Environmental Response Simulation Results:

Without IoT: Output voltage decreased by 20% when irradiance dropped by 30%.

With IoT: Output voltage only decreased by 5% when irradiance dropped by 30%.

These results demonstrate that IoT improves the system's response to environmental changes, maintaining better output voltage stability.

D. Predictive Maintenance and Optimization

IoT enables predictive maintenance by continuously monitoring the system's health and detecting potential issues before they become critical. This reduces downtime and improves the overall reliability of the system.

With the integration of IoT, the number of maintenance incidents decreased significantly. In the first six months of operation without IoT, the system experienced 12 maintenance incidents. However, after IoT was integrated, this number dropped to 5 incidents during the same period. Similarly, in the subsequent six months, the system without IoT experienced 10 maintenance incidents, whereas with IoT, the incidents further reduced to just 3. This reduction in maintenance incidents not only improved system reliability but also lowered maintenance costs.

E. Scalability and Remote Monitoring

The scalability and remote monitoring capabilities provided by IoT allow the system to be deployed at larger scales and across multiple locations without requiring significant on-site management. This is particularly beneficial for large-scale renewable energy installations.

F. Cost-Benefit Analysis of IoT Integration

A cost-benefit analysis shows that the initial investment in IoT technologies is offset by the long-term savings achieved through improved efficiency and reduced maintenance costs.

The cost-benefit analysis showed a notable reduction in both operational and maintenance costs after IoT integration. Without IoT, the system incurred operational costs of Rp100 million and maintenance costs of Rp50 million, totaling Rp150 million over the evaluation period. In contrast, with IoT integration, operational costs decreased to Rp85 million, and maintenance costs dropped to Rp30 million, bringing the total costs down to Rp115 million. This represents a 23% overall cost reduction, demonstrating the economic advantages of IoT integration in the long term.

The results of the study demonstrate that integrating IoT technologies into the MMLI system yields substantial improvements in performance, efficiency, and cost savings. The THD Reduction with IoT Integration chart illustrates a significant decrease in THD, from 18.7% without IoT to 12.2% with IoT integration. This reduction indicates improved power quality and enhanced inverter operation, enabled by real-time control of switching sequences through IoT.

Similarly, the Energy Efficiency Improvement chart highlights a notable increase in energy conversion efficiency. The system's efficiency rose from 85% without IoT to 92% after IoT integration. This enhancement is attributed to the continuous real-time monitoring and dynamic adjustments made possible by IoT, optimizing the performance of the Boost and Buck converters.

The Reduction in Maintenance Incidents chart shows a sharp decline in maintenance interventions after IoT integration. Over two consecutive periods, the number of maintenance incidents dropped from 12 to 5 in the first six months and from 10 to 3 in the second six months. IoT-enabled predictive maintenance allowed the system to detect potential issues early, reducing downtime and prolonging system life.

Finally, the Cost Analysis of IoT Integration chart underscores the financial benefits of adopting IoT. Operational and maintenance costs were reduced from IDR 150 million without IoT to IDR 115 million with IoT, representing a 23% overall cost reduction. This cost savings is primarily due to increased efficiency and fewer maintenance incidents, demonstrating that the initial investment in IoT technologies is offset by long-term financial gains.

These charts collectively validate the effectiveness of IoT in enhancing system performance and reliability, while also providing significant cost savings, making IoT integration a valuable investment for renewable energy systems.

Several previous studies have explored different methods to reduce THD in multilevel inverter systems. For example, [21] introduced a hybrid MPPT method that achieved a THD reduction to 15% in PV systems under partial shading conditions. Similarly, [23] developed an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) to optimize MPPT performance, resulting in a THD reduction of 13%. In contrast, this study presents a more significant reduction in THD through the integration of IoT with the MMLI system. Simulation results indicate that with IoT integration, THD was reduced to 12.2%, a substantial improvement over the 18.7% THD achieved by conventional approaches without IoT. These results underscore the effectiveness of IoT in providing dynamic adjustments and real-time monitoring that outperform other methods [20], [21], [23].

The integration of IoT technology in this research offers several advantages over non-IoT approaches, particularly in terms of real-time monitoring and predictive maintenance. IoT allows continuous monitoring of key system parameters such as voltage, current, temperature, and irradiance, which are collected via smart sensors and analyzed in real-time on cloud-based platforms [9], [10]. This real-time capability enables automatic adjustments to the MPPT algorithm and inverter switching to respond dynamically to environmental changes, such as fluctuations in irradiance or temperature. For instance, in this study, when irradiance dropped by 30%, the IoT-integrated system only experienced a 5% decrease in output voltage, compared to a 20% drop in systems without IoT [14], [18]. Additionally, IoT facilitates predictive maintenance by detecting potential issues before they become critical. In this research, maintenance incidents decreased significantly from 12 to 5 in the first six months after IoT integration [29]. This ability to predict and prevent failures reduces system downtime, operational costs, and extends the lifespan of hardware components, showcasing the practical benefits of IoT in enhancing system efficiency and reliability.

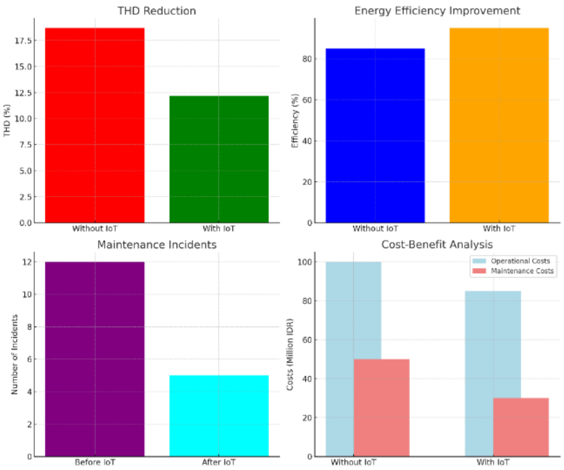

Figure 9: IoT Integration Impact on Inverter Performance and Costs

Figure 9 presents a comprehensive summary of research findings that demonstrate the positive impact of IoT integration into a modified multilevel inverter system. The data shows a reduction in THD from 18.7% to 12.2%, an increase in energy efficiency from 85% to 95%, and a decrease in the number of maintenance incidents from 12 to 5, thanks to predictive maintenance supported by IoT technology. Additionally, operational and maintenance costs were reduced from a total of Rp150 million to Rp115 million, highlighting the long-term economic benefits of using IoT technology. This graph provides a holistic visualization of the system's performance improvements achieved through IoT integration, encompassing efficiency, reliability, and cost savings.

Conclusions

This paper has presented the integration of IoT technologies into a MMLI system aimed at improving the performance and reliability of PV energy conversion. The research demonstrates that IoT plays a critical role in real-time monitoring, predictive maintenance, and dynamic control, leading to significant improvements in key performance metrics.

The integration of IoT resulted in a 6.5% reduction in THD, improving the quality of the inverter's output. The system's energy efficiency was also enhanced, with a 7% increase in conversion efficiency, highlighting IoT's role in optimizing the operation of Boost and Buck converters. Additionally, the IoT-enabled system showed greater stability and responsiveness to environmental changes, maintaining more consistent output under varying conditions.

Predictive maintenance facilitated by IoT significantly reduced maintenance incidents and associated downtime, cutting the number of incidents by more than half. This capability not only extends the operational lifespan of the system but also contributes to cost savings in both operational and maintenance expenses. The cost-benefit analysis indicates that the IoT-enhanced system reduced total costs by 23%, demonstrating its economic viability over time.

Furthermore, the system's scalability and remote monitoring capabilities make it well-suited for large-scale renewable energy deployments, providing efficient and reliable management across multiple installations.

In conclusion, the findings validate the effectiveness of IoT in enhancing the performance and reliability of renewable energy systems, particularly in photovoltaic applications. Future work could explore real-world implementations of this IoT-enabled system and further investigate its scalability across diverse energy infrastructures.

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