



Aalborg Universitet

AALBORG UNIVERSITY  
DENMARK

## Design and implementation of an improved power-electronic system for feeding loads of smart homes in remote areas using renewable energy sources

Zamanzad Ghavidel, Behnam; Maalandish, Mohammad; Hosseini, Seyed Hossein; Sabahi, Mehran; Mohammadi-Ivatloo, Behnam

*Published in:*  
IET Renewable Power Generation

*DOI (link to publication from Publisher):*  
[10.1049/rpg2.12001](https://doi.org/10.1049/rpg2.12001)

*Creative Commons License*  
CC BY 4.0

*Publication date:*  
2021

*Document Version*  
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication from Aalborg University](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Zamanzad Ghavidel, B., Maalandish, M., Hosseini, S. H., Sabahi, M., & Mohammadi-Ivatloo, B. (2021). Design and implementation of an improved power-electronic system for feeding loads of smart homes in remote areas using renewable energy sources. *IET Renewable Power Generation*, 15(1), 1-16.  
<https://doi.org/10.1049/rpg2.12001>

### General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal -

### Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at [vbn@aub.aau.dk](mailto:vbn@aub.aau.dk) providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

# Design and implementation of an improved power-electronic system for feeding loads of smart homes in remote areas using renewable energy sources

Behnam Zamanzad Ghavidel<sup>1</sup>  | Mohammad Maalandish<sup>1</sup>  |

Seyed Hossein Hosseini<sup>1,2</sup>  | Mehran Sabahi<sup>1</sup>  | Behnam Mohammadi-Ivatloo<sup>1,3</sup> 

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran

<sup>2</sup> Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran

<sup>3</sup> Department of Energy Technology, Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark

## Correspondence

Seyed Hossein Hosseini, Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran

E-mail: [hosseini116j@yahoo.com](mailto:hosseini116j@yahoo.com)

## Abstract

This paper suggests an improved step-up step-down DC-DC system along with three-input and four-output for smart home applications. In this configuration, two unidirectional power ports have been identified as an Input power supply and one bidirectional power port for the power-saving element, which can be used as a bidirectional converter for the hybrid vehicle to discharge in a dependent structure. This system can be used to combine renewable energy sources like photovoltaic (PV), fuel cell, battery and hybrid vehicle (HV) to prepare power for remote smart homes. By using this system, serving different loads with different voltage range from high voltage to ultra-low voltage is possible, also battery charge and discharge with the energy-saving method can be achieved. In this system, the condition of all possible low-voltage load and high-voltage load conditions has been assumed. In this structure, nine power switches have been used, in which all of these switches are in control with independent and dependent duty cycles. By using these cycles, maximum power can be earned from PV sources, bus-bar voltage regulation, and battery power control is possible too. In this topology, depending on environmental conditions, five scenarios have been identified. To prove the capability of the system before the build, some valid simulations are needed. In this study, the suggested system has been simulated with power system computer aided design/electromagnetic transients including DC (PSCAD/EMTDC).

## 1 | INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the demand for energy is increasing day by day. Many sources of energy achieve from fossil fuel sources. These types of fuels have many environmental issues such as a rise in temperature and consequently climate changes. Solar in photovoltaic (PV) systems is one of the most important types of clean energy sources. The main advantages of PV systems are that it is renewable, pollution-free, widespread use across the earth, long life, easy transportation, the possibility of fast installation and non-requirement of any periodic maintenance services. The main factors that are required to generate energy through PV systems are solar irradiation and temperature. The production of renewable energy from wind and sun depends on environ-

mental conditions in the day and seasonal periods. In distributed generation through solar energy, one of the problems the system faces is the fluctuation of their output energy via changing weather conditions, which is the most important problem [1]. Additionally, the complexity is intensified if the consumption of electrical demand contaminates with uncertainty [2]. In such systems, the integration of several types of energy equipment such as electrical energy generation, energy storage systems, and renewable energy sources are defined as hybrid energy systems (HESs). Hybrid systems usually use one or more energy storage elements such as ultra-capacitors, batteries and one or more other green sources such as fuel cell (FC) or even non-renewable energy sources such as diesel generators. In general, HESs are divided into two classes of AC and DC-link systems.

This is an open access article under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) License, which permits use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

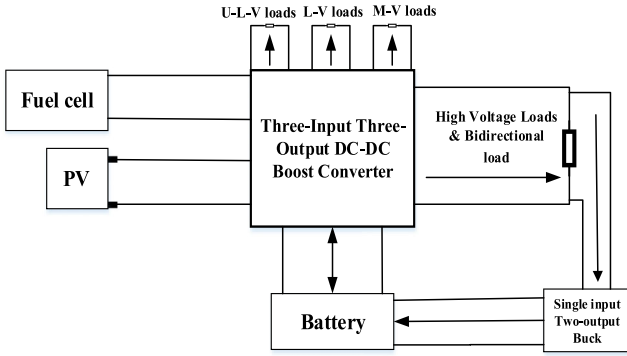
© 2020 The Authors. *IET Renewable Power Generation* published by John Wiley & Sons Ltd on behalf of The Institution of Engineering and Technology

In the previous years, the AC and DC coupling was investigated and had problems such as the number of electrical elements, high initial cost, large volume and difficult energy management [3, 4]. In recent years, in this approach, the tendency toward multi-input multi-output systems has been increased and several sources have been incorporated into an integrated structure. One of the advantages of these systems is the simplicity of the structure, the integrated control system, the very low cost and suitable for deploying on the low and medium power scale. In an isolated system, the input and output sources have been isolated from each other with high-weight transformers. [5]. Due to the low voltage level produced by renewable sources, it is very important to increase the system voltage level [6]. Increasing the voltage of the converter causes voltage pressure in the switches and increases losses and soft-switching is a way to overcome this issue [7]. Different ways to absorb the maximum power from renewable sources, with emphasis on PV maximum power tracking have been proposed in several studies. In [8], it is stated that with maximum power point tracking (MPPT), no control action is needed, and therefore the adjustment stage will be bypassed and the algorithm will update the stored energy at the end of the cycle as usual [8]. In [9, 10] a new multi-input multi-output system is considered to be fed using renewable sources without transformers which makes it inexpensive. It is considered an appropriate and simple control strategy. Also, a comprehensive power management algorithm has been implemented, to obtain maximum power from the PV, but the weak point of the system has been enhanced by the high duty cycle causing parasitic effects and increasing losses. In [11], an improved converter has been proposed for specific HV applications. One of the reasons that are considered as the disadvantage of HV can be a long time battery charging from charging stations, partly offset by the PV, which is considered a source of storage on the roof of the vehicle and battery as a source of storage. In this proposed structure, the sources are made individually and they collectively supply the load, and the switches are controlled independently. In [12], instead of using an FC, a wind turbine has been used for HES. In the presented model, the ability of connection to the power grid and energy exchange with the grid has also been considered and is designed by special application of light feeding on the street. In the presented model, a buck converter has been used to recharge the energy storage system. In this system, the energy management system has been taken into account so that the sources only charge the saving sources, if the generating energy of renewable sources is not sufficient enough, and are repeatedly fed through the grid, and if the generating energy is very small, the grid will also supply both the loads and the saving applications. In [13], a structure has been proposed for use in HV. In this case, an FC and an energy storage source have been used in which two outputs are considered and if there is no need to use this load, it is not possible to cut it in parallel. From the studied sources, it can be concluded that due to the low dynamics of the FC, it is better to use sources with high dynamics to have a more desirable transient system. In [14], the converter has been considered as dual-input single-output, which is investigated from PV and battery. The energy-saving system is used as a backup system during the night as well as to increase the system's reliability. In this system, it can be

noted that the charging of the saved source with a given voltage has been increased, which increases the size of the energy storage element. In [15], the small-signal strategy, with independent control for each switch, is considered and the classical proportional integral (PI) controller has been used. The efficiency of the system has been studied which is 97%. Note that, in this system, it is possible to mention the recharge source with a boosted voltage, which increases the size of the saving energy element. In [16], the converter has been designed to use solar arrays connected to the grid. By considering two arrays as input, all of the switches and energy only flows from sources to the load without saving element. In [17], the load as a generator has the ability to charge the battery and is also applied in energy management of priority strategy. The parallel diodes have to consider a larger amount due to the bypass route which is not economical and voltage control is easier than the parallel state. In [18], a multi-input multi-output converter has been investigated. The converter is designed particularly for HVs. All inputs are unidirectional and the storage section is bidirectional as well as the sources can be shared, jointly. This converter can be used in increasing and decreasing modes. The battery is charged using the boost side which increases the size of the battery. In [19], a multi-input multi-output converter has been introduced, which is suitable for HV systems. It has been designed as an island in the output of the converter, a DC link that is placed to connect to a DC motor. In this converter, it is proposed to switch to the battery in a brake mode. Several scenarios have been considered to be used as one of the most appropriate scenarios for this study such as charging the battery by a DC motor-generator and the PV source. For proper operation of the mentioned converters, energy management should be done in accordance with different hours and seasons of the year. In [20, 21], practical and applied projects have been done. One of the best methods of energy management in a smart home with the ability to connect an electric car has been stated in [22] in which the electronic power converter is first presented, and then energy management is addressed. Electromagnetic control (EC) is a complex control system and the amount of electromagnets requires wider power. This study has tried to propose a new improved structure of energy management for use in smart homes away from the grid, and energy management in the smart home and the amount of energy production during 24 h are briefly stated.

## 2 | PROPOSED TOPOLOGY

In this study, a three-input and four-output DC-DC system is proposed for the hybrid system equipped with PV, FC and battery, and its general architecture is introduced in Figure 1. This system has seven ports with three-input and four-output ports. At the output ports, four levels of standard voltage for various uses are provided, including three ports, one port for PV array, the other for FC port and another one for the battery port that can transmit power. This set of converters can feed independently/dependently on the demand of the load required. This model also has a bidirectional load that has connection capability that is considered as an HV. The converter consists of nine independent and dependent switches, which are



**FIGURE 1** The architecture of converters and sources proposed for smart home

individually controlled by nine different duty cycles. In this study, the possibility of extracting maximum power from PV sources, regulating the power of the FC and charging and discharging the battery can be done easily. In Figure 1, the overall topology of the proposed converter is shown to be carried out on a power management battery using a PV source and bidirectional load of the HV installed at the high-voltage section of the circuit, and it can be considered the role of the backup system for the battery. In this study, two different features with different characteristics are introduced. First, the analysis of each of the converters' structures has been studied, and then the accuracy of the integrated circuit performance is investigated in the next sections.

### 3 | FIRST CONVERTER

The structure of the boost DC-DC converter has been proposed in Figure 2. As it is observed, the converter has two PV and FC input in two separate ports and a bidirectional port to save power.  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  convert the voltage source into a current source that makes the DC flow from renewable sources of PV and FC.  $R_{out}$  is representative of high voltage parallel loads and voltage source at the output as an HV and is capable of charging, discharging, or even power generation by energy generation sources such as FC and electrical motor.  $T_1$  to  $T_5$  are the main elements that can handle power flow on high-voltage loads and batteries. In this topology, the switches are controlled independently with five independent duty cycles. According to this strat-

egy, the MPPT from the PV source is designed first to manage the output power of the PV, and second, to demonstrate how to charge and discharge battery power, power load management and output voltage scaling. The proposed structure also makes it possible to store the power in the battery by an HV, which a backup source for low voltage and high-voltage loads is considered for overload modes during day and night.

The proposed structure, like the conventional boost converter, converts the power flow through  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , and the battery will always be attached to the mid-voltage bus, which helps operate mid-voltage regulation. Moreover, the battery can use the HV source to charge. If the PV is not capable of sufficient ability during the night or overload, it is possible to enable a connection to sensitive loads using the battery. Based on these descriptions, in this study, five scenarios are proposed.

#### 3.1 | First scenario

In the first scenario, it is assumed that the tilt of solar irradiance and PV are in the best conditions and no load is connected to the system. In this case, the battery is charged by PV without entering the second section.  $T_1$  is switched on ( $0 < t < d_1 T$ ) and  $L_1$  is charged by the PV (Figure 3(a)), then  $T_1$  is switched off and  $T_3$  is switched on ( $d_1 T < t < d_3 T$ ) (Figure 3(b)), and the energy stored in  $L_1$  through  $T_3$  is stored in the battery.

In this scenario, current and power equations charge mode in the battery can be obtained as follows:

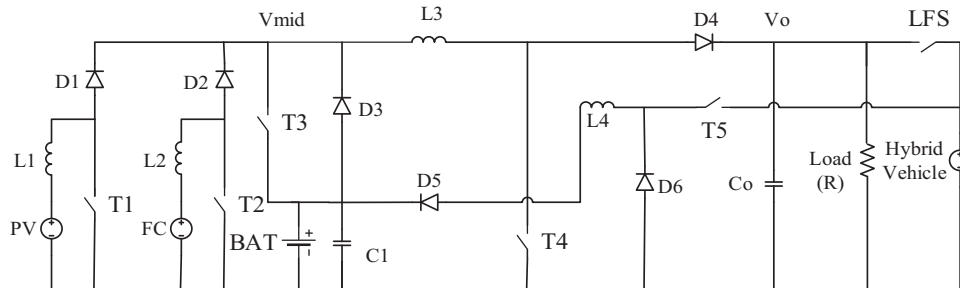
$$I_{bat} = d_3 I_{L1} \quad (1)$$

$$P_{bat} = (d_3 I_{L1}) V_{bat} \quad (2)$$

As can be seen, in this case only the  $L_1$  is charging and discharging. In Figure 8(a), the method of switching and comparison of the referenced and carrier signals, as well as the method of charging and discharging of  $L_1$  has been presented.

#### 3.2 | Second scenario

In the second scenario, it is assumed that the air temperature and light intensity are in good conditions and the PV is capable of supplying all the required loads and extra power is saved in the battery. In this case,  $L_1$  is charged by the PV through  $T_1$  during ( $0 < t < d_1 T$ ) as shown in Figure 4(a). During ( $d_1 T < t < d_3 T$ )



**FIGURE 2** Structure of cascade boost converter

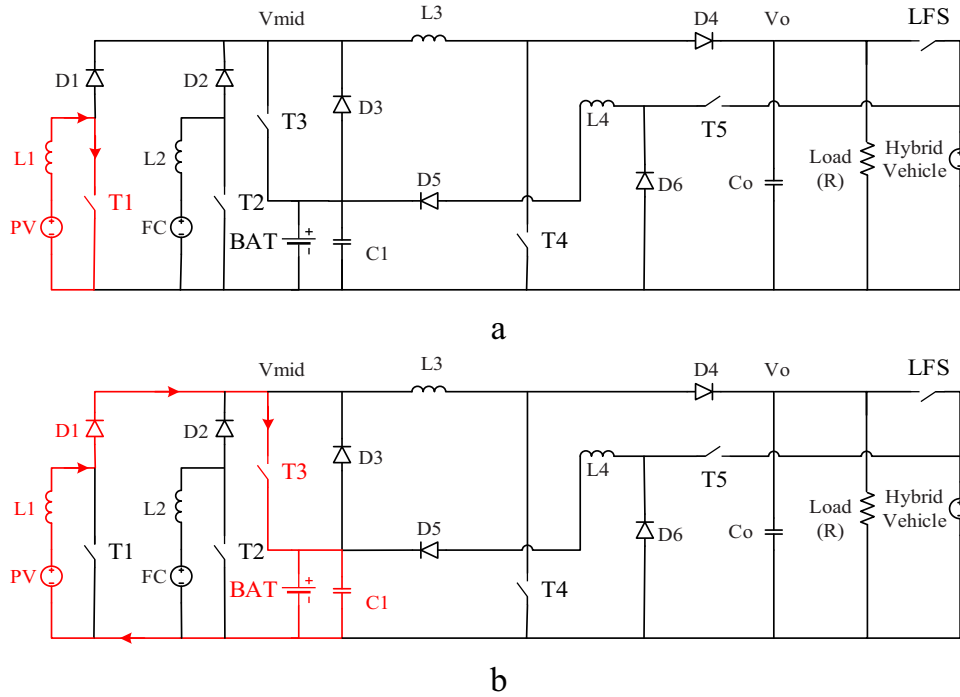


FIGURE 3 (a) The charging of the  $L_1$  through the photovoltaic (PV), (b) battery charge by PV

$T_1$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are on, the battery is charged through  $T_3$  by mid-voltage level and  $L_3$  is also charged through the  $T_4$  switch of the  $L_3$  by the mid-voltage level as shown in Figure 4(b). Finally, during ( $d_4T < t < T$ )  $T_4$  is switched off and the energy stored in  $L_3$  flows into the load, and  $T_3$  also remains on until the end of the period so that the battery charge could be completed fully (Figure 4(c)).

In the battery, assuming that  $T_3$  is on

$$I_{bat} = d_3 I_{L1} - d_4 I_{L3} \quad (3)$$

$$P_{bat} = (d_3 I_{L1} - d_4 I_{L3}) V_{bat} \quad (4)$$

For the second boost section

$$V_O = \left( \frac{1}{1-d_4} \right) \frac{1}{1-d_1} V_{pv} \quad (5)$$

$$I_O = (1-d_4)(1-d_1) I_{pv} \quad (6)$$

In Figure 8(b), the switching and comparison of the reference and carrier signal, as well as the charging and discharging of the  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  signals, are expressed.

### 3.3 | Third scenario

In the third scenario, with the assumption of night, the PV is not capable of producing energy, so the output power is supplied only by the FC and battery. The HV does not need to be charged or needs discharging. In this case, during ( $0 < t < d_2T$ ),  $L_2$  and  $L_3$  are charged by the FC and battery. In Figure 5(a),

the battery also plays the role of stabilising the mid-voltage section. In the second case, during ( $d_2T < t < T$ )  $T_2$  is switched off and the energy stored in  $L_2$  is directed toward  $L_3$ . Also, in Figure 5(b), the battery charge could be completely discharged to  $L_3$ , and the energy stored in  $L_2$  is inserted into  $L_3$ . Finally, during ( $d_4T < t < T$ ), the total energy that is charged in  $L_3$  by battery and FC are discharged into the load (Figure 5(c)).

The total energy stored in the battery, charged by the PV and the HV, is discharged into the loads:

$$I_{mid} = (1-d_2)I_{fc} + I_{bat} \quad (7)$$

$$I_{bat} = (d_1)I_{L1} \quad (8)$$

$$P_{bat} = (d_1 I_{L1}) V_{bat} \quad (9)$$

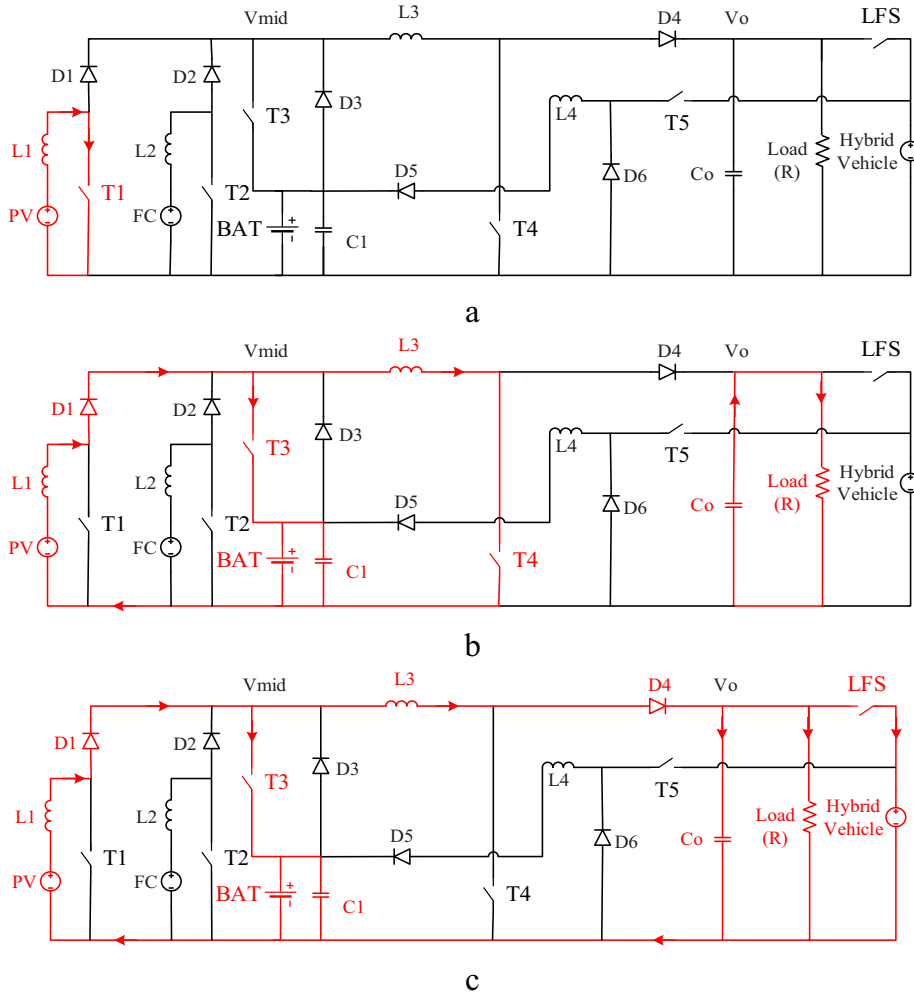
$$V_O = \left( \frac{1}{1-d_4} \right) \frac{1}{1-d_2} V_{fc} \quad (10)$$

$$I_O = (1-d_4)(1-d_2)I_{fc} + I_{bat} \quad (11)$$

In Figure 8(c), the switching and comparison of the reference and carrier signal as well as the charging and discharging of  $L_2$  and  $L_3$  signals are expressed thoroughly.

### 3.4 | Fourth scenario

In this scenario, it is assumed that during the daytime, the system is facing overload, and all sources including PV, FC, battery and HV are online and feed the mid-voltage section to supply



**FIGURE 4** (a) Charging the  $L_1$  by the PV, (b) charging the battery by PV, (c)  $L_3$  feed the output loads

the high-voltage and low-voltage sections. In the first case, all switches are on at the same time,  $L_1$  is charged by PV and  $L_2$  is charged by FC, as well as  $L_4$  transfers the energy from the HV to the battery during  $(0 < t < d_1 T)$  as shown in Figure 6(a). During  $(d_1 T < t < T)$ ,  $T_1$  is switched off and the energy stored in  $L_1$  is directed toward  $L_3$ , the battery charge could be completely discharged to  $L_3$ , and  $L_2$  is still charged from the FC because of the low dynamics of the FC (Figure 6(b)). Then, during  $(0 < t < d_2 T)$ ,  $T_2$  is switched off and the energy stored in  $L_2$  is directed toward  $L_3$  and the total energy that is charged in  $L_3$  by battery, PV and FC are discharged into the load (Figure 6(c)). In the fourth mode, energy is stored in  $L_3$ , and during  $(d_4 T < t < T)$ ,  $T_4$  is switched off and the energy stored in  $L_3$  is directed toward the load (Figure 6(d)). On the other hand, the hybrid energy compensated by the battery depletes battery energy in  $L_3$ . During  $(d_5 T < t < T)$ , the total energy that is charged in  $L_5$  by HV is discharged into the battery, which has a backup role (Figure 6(e)).

It is observed in the FC:

$$V_{bat} = V_{mid} = \frac{1}{1-d_1} V_{pv} = \frac{1}{1-d_2} V_{fc} \quad (12)$$

In this case, the voltage of mid-voltage is fed by PV, FC and battery and the battery also has a regulator role for mid-voltage section

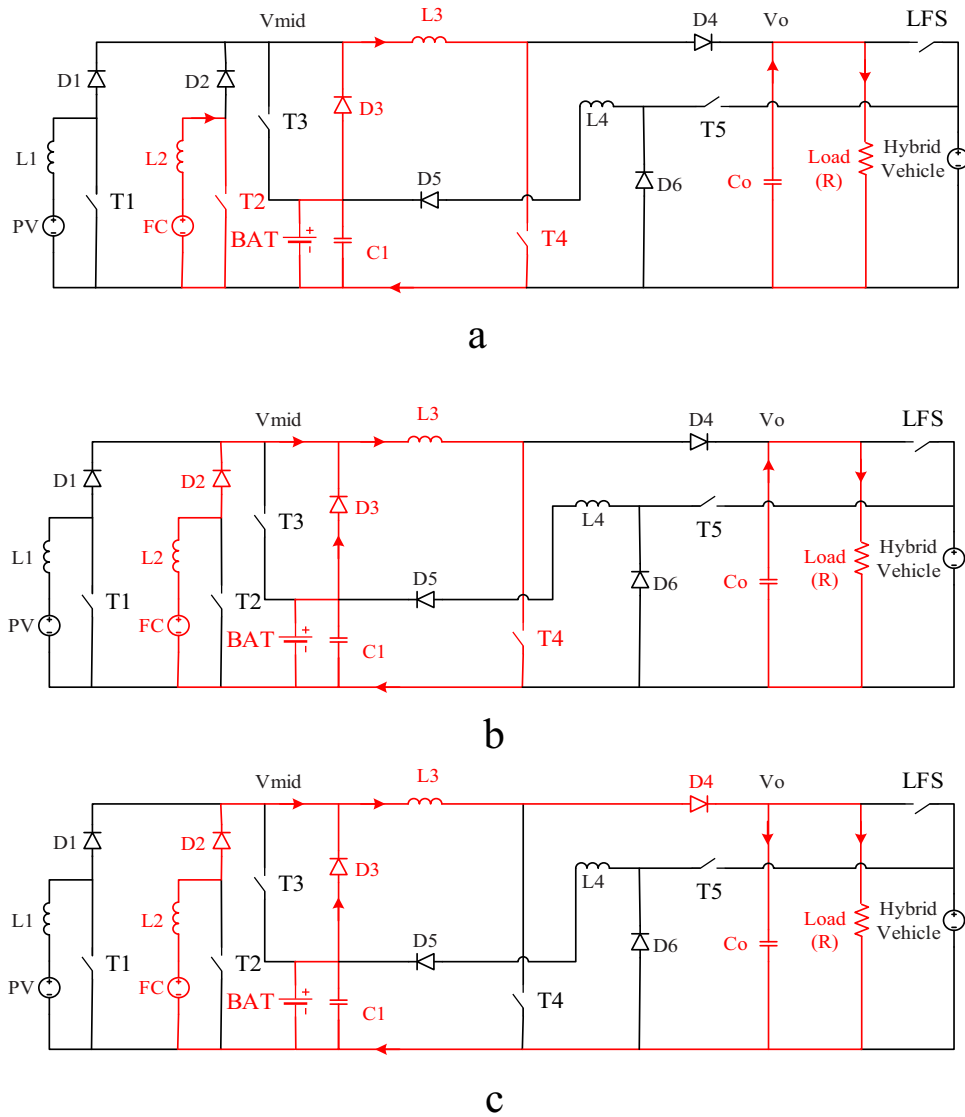
$$V_{bat} = d_5 V_{hyb} \quad (13)$$

$$I_{hyb} = d_5 I_{bat} \quad (14)$$

The method of switching and comparison of the reference signal and charging and discharging of  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ ,  $L_3$  and  $L_4$  is expressed in Figure 8(d).

### 3.5 | Fifth scenario

In this scenario, it is assumed that during the night, the system is faced with an overload and all the input sources except PV are online, which in this case the HV is fed to the battery by buck converter which causes the battery to be charged and the level of the mid-voltage section is stabilised. In the first case, during  $(0 < t < d_2 T)$ ,  $L_2$  and  $L_3$  are charged by FC and battery (Figure 7(a)). Then, during  $(d_2 T < t < T)$ ,  $T_2$  is switched off



**FIGURE 5** (a)  $L_2$  is charged by the FC and  $L_3$  is charged by the battery, (b)  $L_3$  is charged by battery and  $L_2$ , (c)  $L_3$  feeds the output loads

and the energy stored in  $L_2$  is directed toward  $L_3$ . Also, the battery charge could be completely discharged to  $L_3$  (Figure 7(b)). In the next step, during ( $d_4 T < t < T$ ), the total energy that is charged in  $L_3$  by battery and FC are discharged into the load (Figure 7(c)).

In the end step, during ( $d_5 T < t < T$ ), the total energy that is charged in  $L_5$  by HV is discharged into the battery (Figure 7(d)).

The fifth scenario equations as follows:

$$V_{bat} = d_5 V_{byb} \quad (15)$$

$$I_{byb} = d_5 I_{bat} \quad (16)$$

$$V_O = \left( \frac{1}{1-d_4} \right) \frac{1}{1-d_2} V_{fc} \quad (17)$$

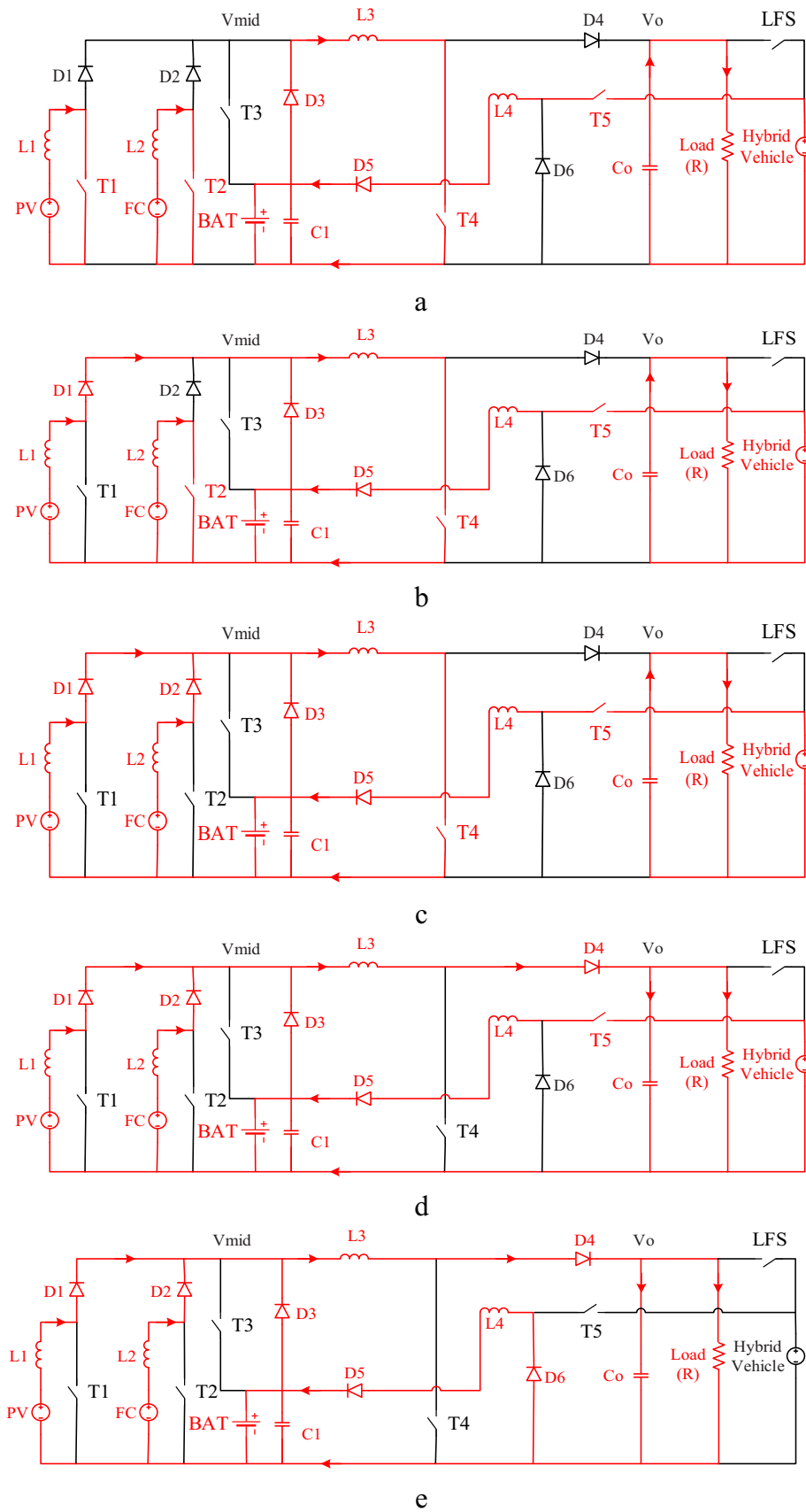
$$I_O = (1-d_4)(1-d_2)I_{mid} + I_{bat} \quad (18)$$

The method of switching and comparison of reference and output signals as well as the charging and discharging mode of  $L_2$ ,  $L_3$  and  $L_4$  have been expressed in Figure 8(e).

## 4 | SECOND CONVERTER

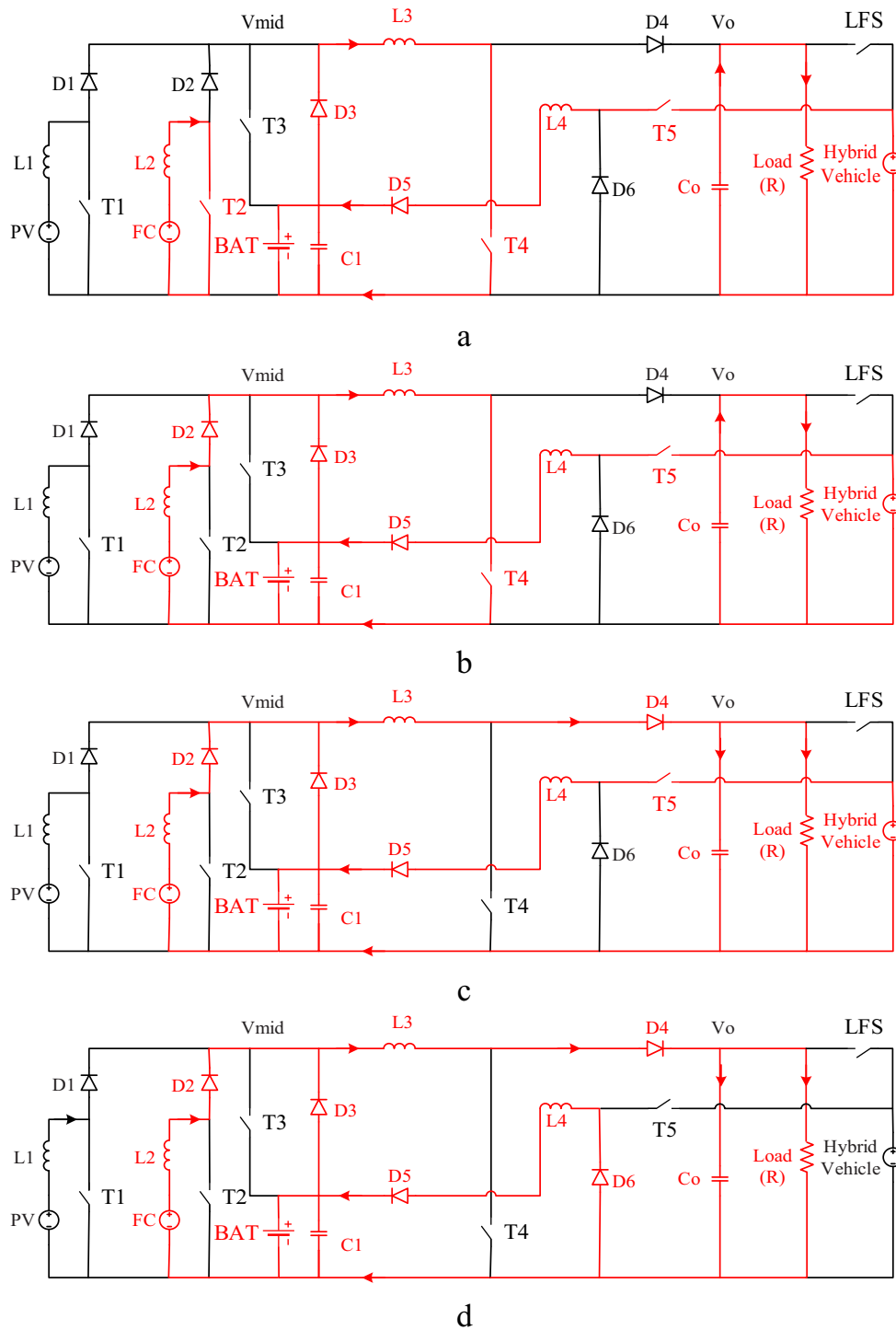
The structure of the DC-DC buck converter single-input two-output is proposed, which is shown in Figure 9. As it is observed, the converter has a DC input that is produced at the output of two voltages of medium and ultra-low voltage.

This converter is used to provide medium voltage and ultra-low-voltage loads to use in applications such as lighting, security systems and monitoring as well as ultra-low voltage such as smart phones, phones and control systems. In this converter, two proposed voltage levels are adjusted according to the international standards for electrical installation (ICE) standard,



**FIGURE 6** (a)  $L_1$  by PV,  $L_2$  by the FC and  $L_3$  by battery are charged, also battery is charged by HV, (b)  $L_3$  is charged by battery and  $L_1$ , also battery is charged by HV, (c)  $L_3$  is charged by battery,  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , also battery is charged by HV, (d)  $L_3$  feeds the output loads, (e)  $T_5$  switched off and battery charge could be completed





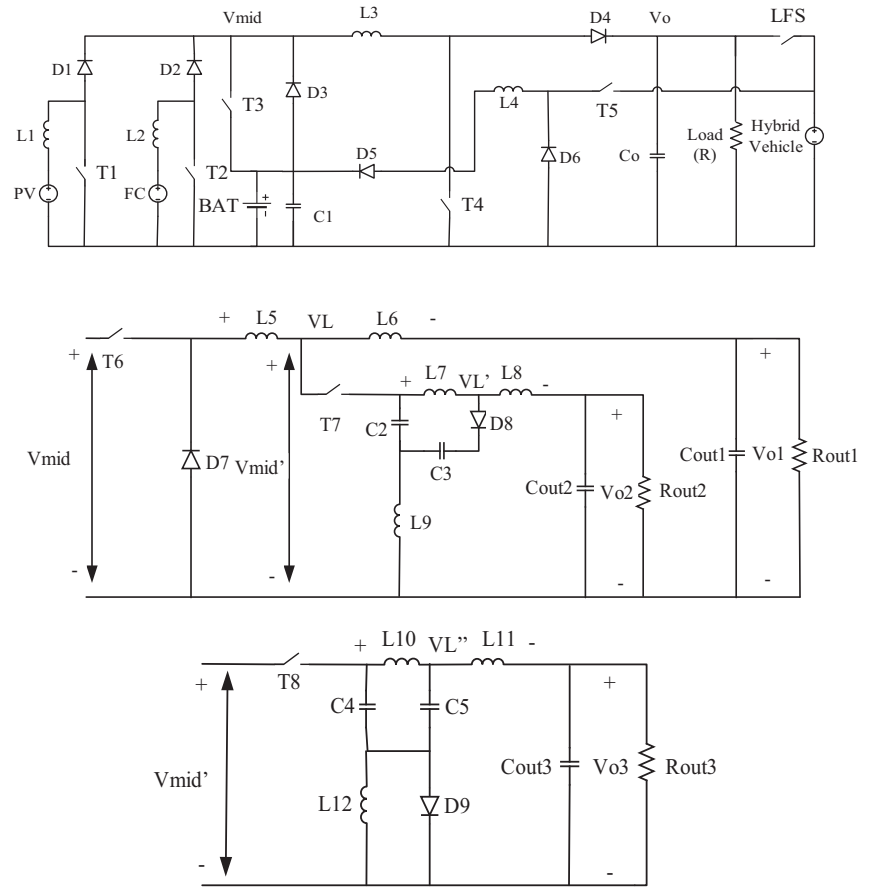
**FIGURE 7** (a)  $L_2$  by the FC and  $L_3$  by battery are charged, also battery is charged by HV, (b)  $L_3$  is charged by battery and  $L_2$ , also battery is charged by HV, (c)  $L_3$  feeds the output loads, (d)  $T_5$  switched off and battery charge could be completed

where the converter input from the previous converter switch is split in parallel and can be used if problems arise from the previous system's storage source. This converter is considered to be identical with the switching frequency but can be achieved by changing the duty cycle to different voltages based on the need. As shown in Figure 9,  $L_2$ ,  $L_5$  and  $L_6$  can be integrated into three heads to be able to feed very low loads using two

capacitors and a very small inductance, as well as a step-down gain. According to the calculations done in the duty cycle, 0.5 is reduced to 30 times the voltage. As can be seen, the  $V_{mid}$  is first received from the previous circuit and enters  $L_5$ , via  $T_6$ , and some of the energy is lowered into the voltage by  $T_7$  and is reduced to very low-voltage loads after the buck is passed. As shown in the topology, by changing the free circulation phase of



**FIGURE 11** The general topology is shared by putting all resources and consumers together



$$V_L'' = \left( V_{mid} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} d_6 \right) - \frac{1}{2} V_{O1} \right) d_8 \quad (30)$$

Assuming  $T_8$  is off:

$$\begin{aligned} & V_{mid}' \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} d_6 - d_6^2 \right) + V_{C4} (d_8 - 1) + V_{L12} \left( d^{\frac{2}{3}}_8 - 1 \right) \\ & + V_{O3} (1 - d^{\frac{2}{3}}_8) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

In the end, the output voltage of the lower voltage equation is obtained as

$$V_{O3} = K' d_6^2 d^{\frac{2}{3}}_8 V_{mid} \quad (32)$$

The topology is integrated into the form of three converters in parallel in Figure 11.

As can be seen, in the proposed system, more switches are used, but considering goals such as the simultaneous use of the system in boost and buck mode, several voltage levels of charging and charging of the HV as a source is negligible.

To investigate the losses of switching and the loss related to the resistance of each of the elements that are represented by  $P_{SW}$  and  $P_{cond}$ , total losses of the system are presented by  $P_{total}$ .

$$P_{total} = P_{SW} + P_{cond}$$

To simplify the calculations, the loss of capacitors is neglected ( $r_c = 0$ ) and only the loss of resistance, the internal resistance of the sources, diodes, switches and inductances in the conduction mode are investigated:

$$P_{cond,S_i} = r_{S_i} \cdot (I_{S_i,rms})^2 \quad (33)$$

$$P_{cond,L_i} = r_{L_i} \cdot (I_{L_i,rms})^2 \quad (34)$$

$$P_{cond,D_i} = [V_{Fd,D_i} \cdot I_{D_i,ave}] + [r_{D_i} \cdot (I_{D_i,rms})^2] \quad (35)$$

$$P_{cond,T_i} = [V_{Fd,T_i} \cdot I_{T_i,ave}] + [r_{T_i} \cdot (I_{T_i,rms})^2] \quad (36)$$

$$P_{cond} = P_{cond,S_i} + P_{cond,L_i} + P_{cond,D_i} + P_{cond,T_i} \quad (37)$$

In order to investigate the switching losses, the uncontrollable and controllable switches should be investigated in two cases. In addition, the diodes and the switches must first be studied in light of the voltage of the diodes and the switches, which are shown with the peak inverse voltage (PIV) under the  $t_{on}$  under and  $t_{off}$  state and finally to the system efficiency relations [13]:

$$P_{SW,D_i} = \frac{1}{6} (V_{PIV,D_i}) (f_s) (I_{ave,on}) (t_{on} + t_{off}) \quad (38)$$

$$P_{SW,T_i} = \frac{1}{6} (V_{PIV,T_i}) (f_s) (I_{ave,on}) (t_{on} + t_{off}) \quad (39)$$

$$P_{SW} = P_{SW,D_i} + P_{SW,T_i} \quad (40)$$

**TABLE 1** Comparison between the proposed structure and other structures

Reference	Input port	Bidirectional port	Output power delivery	Number of switches	Number of Diodes	Buck & boost (same time)	Connecting hybrid vehicle ability	Output voltage level	Efficiency (average)
[9]	2	✓	Medium	4	4	Boost	Only charge	1	80%
[11]	2	✓	Medium	4	5	Boost	Only charge	1	85%
[12]	2	✓	High	4	3	Boost	Only charge	1	—
[13]	N	✓	Medium	N + M + 1	N+M+1	Boost	Only charge	M	~80.5%
[14]	1	✓	Medium	3	3	Boost	Only charge	1	~98%
[15]	N	✓	Medium	N + 1	N	Boost	Only charge	1	~97%
[16]	2	✗	Medium	2	2	Boost	Only charge	1	—
[17]	N	✓	Medium	N + 3	N	Buck	Only charge	1	~92%
[18]	N	✗	Medium	N + 2	N	Buck Or boost	Only charge	1	—
[19]	1	✓	Medium and low	4	5	Boost	Charge and discharge	1	~90.2%
Proposed	2	✓	Medium and low	8	9	Both	Charge and discharge	4	~91.53%

$$P_{Loss} = P_{cond} + P_{SW} \quad (41)$$

$$P_{out} = V_o I_o + V_{o1} I_{o1} + V_{o2} I_{o2} + V_{o3} I_{o3} \quad (42)$$

$$P_{in} = P_{out} + P_{Loss} \quad (43)$$

$$\eta = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \cdot 100 = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{out} + P_{Loss}} \cdot 100 \quad (44)$$

The efficiency and efficiency of the proposed method in the third scenario are:

$$P_{Loss} = P_{cond} + P_{SW} = 1149.195W \quad (45)$$

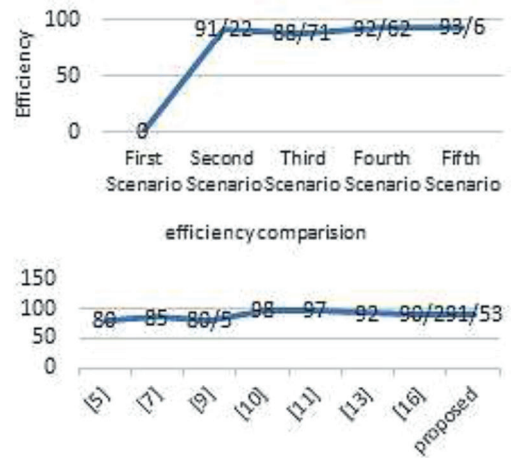
$$P_{out} = V_o I_o + V_{o1} I_{o1} + V_{o2} I_{o2} + V_{o3} I_{o3} = 9807 \quad (46)$$

$$\eta = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \cdot 100 = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{out} + P_{Loss}} \cdot 100 = \frac{9807}{10956.195} = 89.5\% \quad (47)$$

In Table 1, a comparison is made between the proposed hybrid system and other structures. As is observed, the proposed system has some advantages and disadvantages compared to other topologies. Also, in Figure 12(a), the comparison efficiency between the proposed system and other topologies is presented, and in Figure 12(b), the comparison of the system efficiency in different scenarios is also performed.

## 6 | ENERGY FLOW CONSIDERING IN THE ISLANDED HOME

Using the stated topics, a smart house can be considered as an island by determining the minimum and maximum load. In this



**FIGURE 12** (a) Comparison efficiency between proposed system and other topologies, (b) comparison of the system efficiency in different scenario

case, by examining the loads used in smart homes, the input sources can be evaluated and measured. In Figure 13, power flow in the system and the connection between the hybrid vehicle and the converter are schematically represented. Also, Figure 14 shows the evaluation of the power generation during 24 h. In Table 2, the method of production and consumption of power in different scenarios is summarised.

## 7 | SIMULATION AND EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

In this section, the simulation and experimental works are provided for verifying the operation of the proposed system.

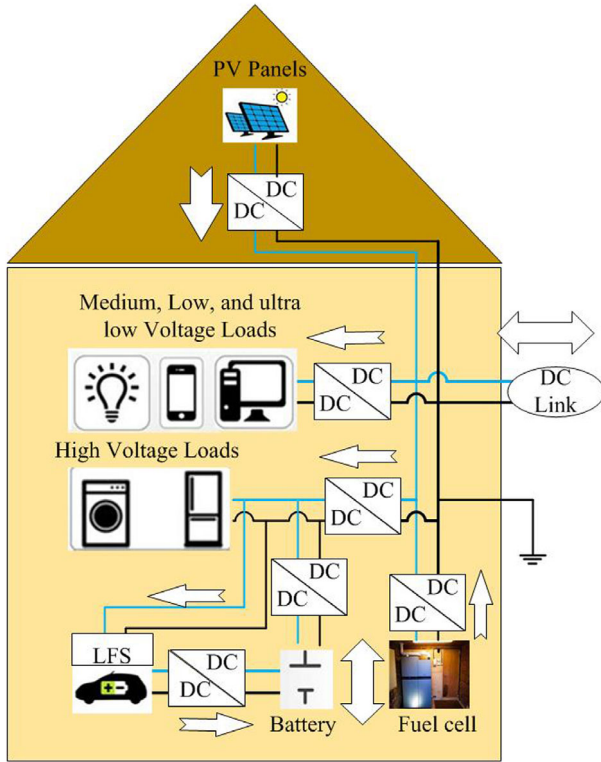


FIGURE 13 Power flow in smart home

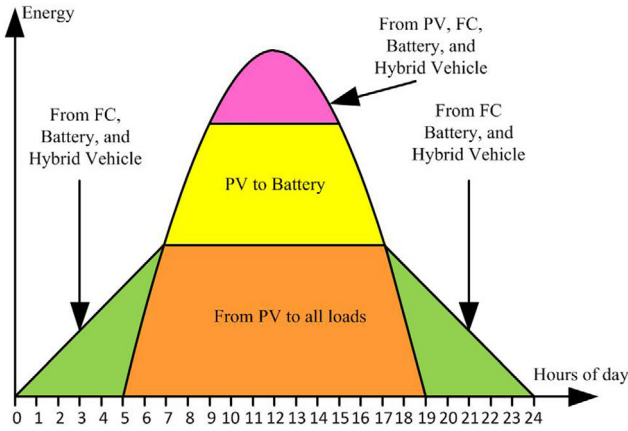


FIGURE 14 Evaluation of the power generation during 24 h

TABLE 2 Power flow at the system

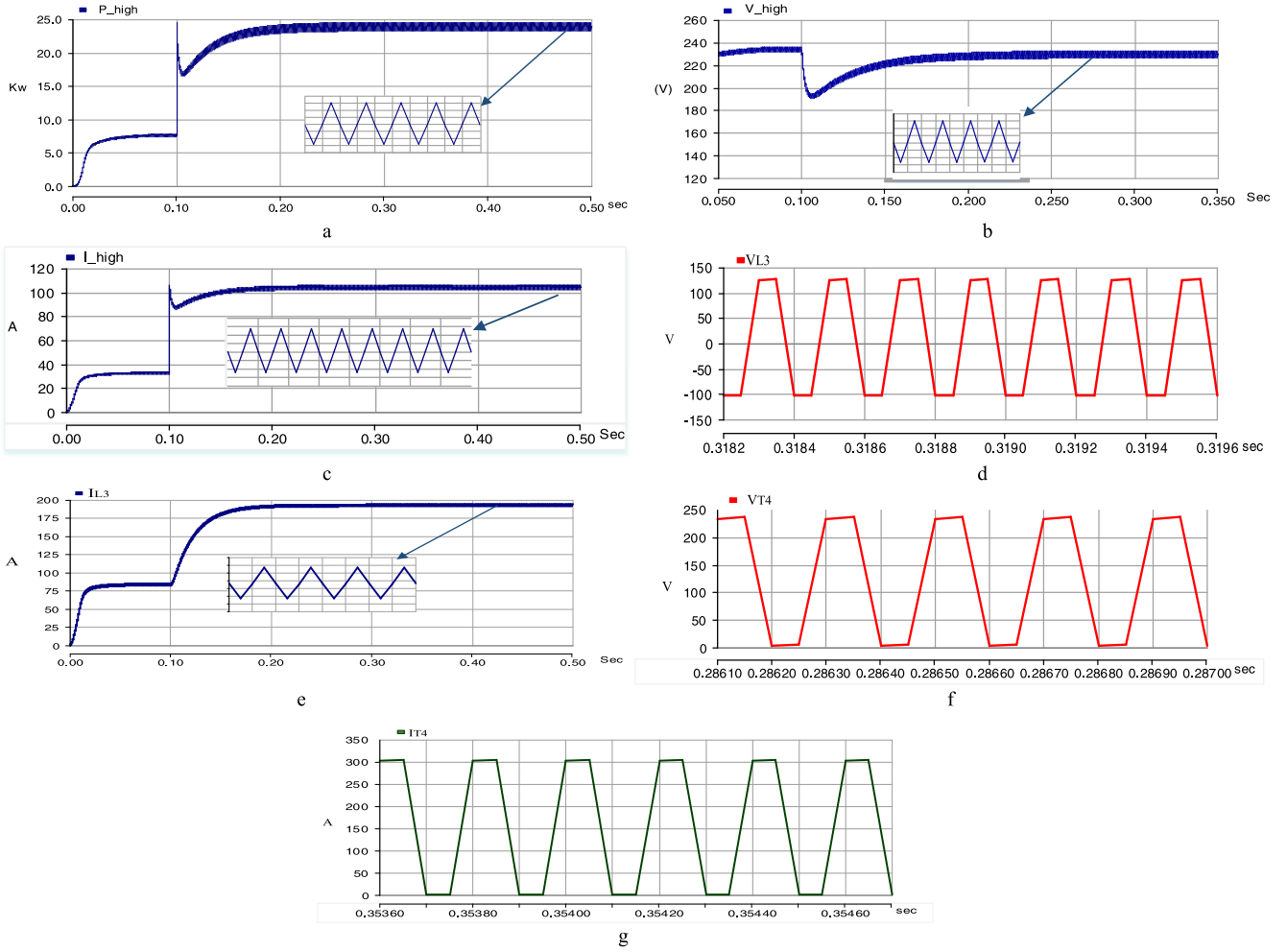
Balance between production and consumption	Explanation
$P_{load} = 0 \hat{=} P_{pv} = P_{bat}$	First scenario: There are no load in the smart home, and in this scenario, all energy generated in the photovoltaic (PV) array is stored in the battery
$P_{pv} = P_{Load} + P_{bat} + P_{lyb}$	Second scenario: The power generated in the PV array divided between battery, load and hybrid vehicle.
$P_{fc} + P_{bat} = P_{load}$	Third scenario: In the absence of hybrid vehicle and during the night, energy production of fuel cell and energy stored in the battery is used.
$P_{pv} + P_{fc} + P_{bat} + P_{lyb} = P_{load}$	Fourth scenario: In this condition, system is faced with overload during daytime and all sources product energy for loads.
$P_{pv} = 0 \hat{=} P_{fc} + P_{bat} + P_{lyb}$	Fifth scenario: In this condition, system is faced with overload during night time and all sources, except PV array, product energy for loads

TABLE 3 The values of the parameters

Symbols	Parameters
$L_1 = L_2 = L_4$	1000
$L_3$	2000
$C_1$	2000
$C_{out}$	3000
$R_{load}$	1~2
$R_{int}$	0.1
$L_5 = L_6$	500
$C_2 = C_4 = C_5$	10
$L_7 = L_8 = L_{10} = L_{11}$	250
$L_9$	20
$C_3$	10
$C_{out1}$	500
$C_{out2} = C_{out3}$	200
$R_{o1}$	3
$R_{o2}$	5
$R_{o3}$	4

Simulation works are done using the PSCAD/EMTDC software. The prototype of the experiment at different duty cycles and power rated is of almost 25 kW. Also, the used parameters in the proposed system are provided in Table 3.

Figure 15 indicates the simulation waveforms of the high voltage section. Figure 15(a) illustrates that the value of the output of the high-voltage section is about 230 V, and after step-change at the system loads, the system voltage is regulated to 230 V again after the voltage drops. Also, the values of the other parameters are  $P_{bigb} = 24$  kW,  $I_{bigb} = 101$  A as shown in Figures 15(b) and (c), and the waveform of  $L_3$ 's voltage and current are illustrated in Figures 15(d) and (e). Also, the waveform of  $T_4$ 's voltage and current are illustrated in Figures 15(f) and (g). Figure 16 indicates the simulation of the medium-voltage section. Figure 16(a) illustrates that the value of the output of the medium-voltage section is about 52 V and after step-change at the system loads, the system voltage is regulated to 50 V. In this part, a voltage drop of 4% is observed and its effect on the current and power of the part is observed in Figures 16(b) and (c). The values of the parameters are  $P_{medium} = 1.25$  kW and  $I_{medium}$



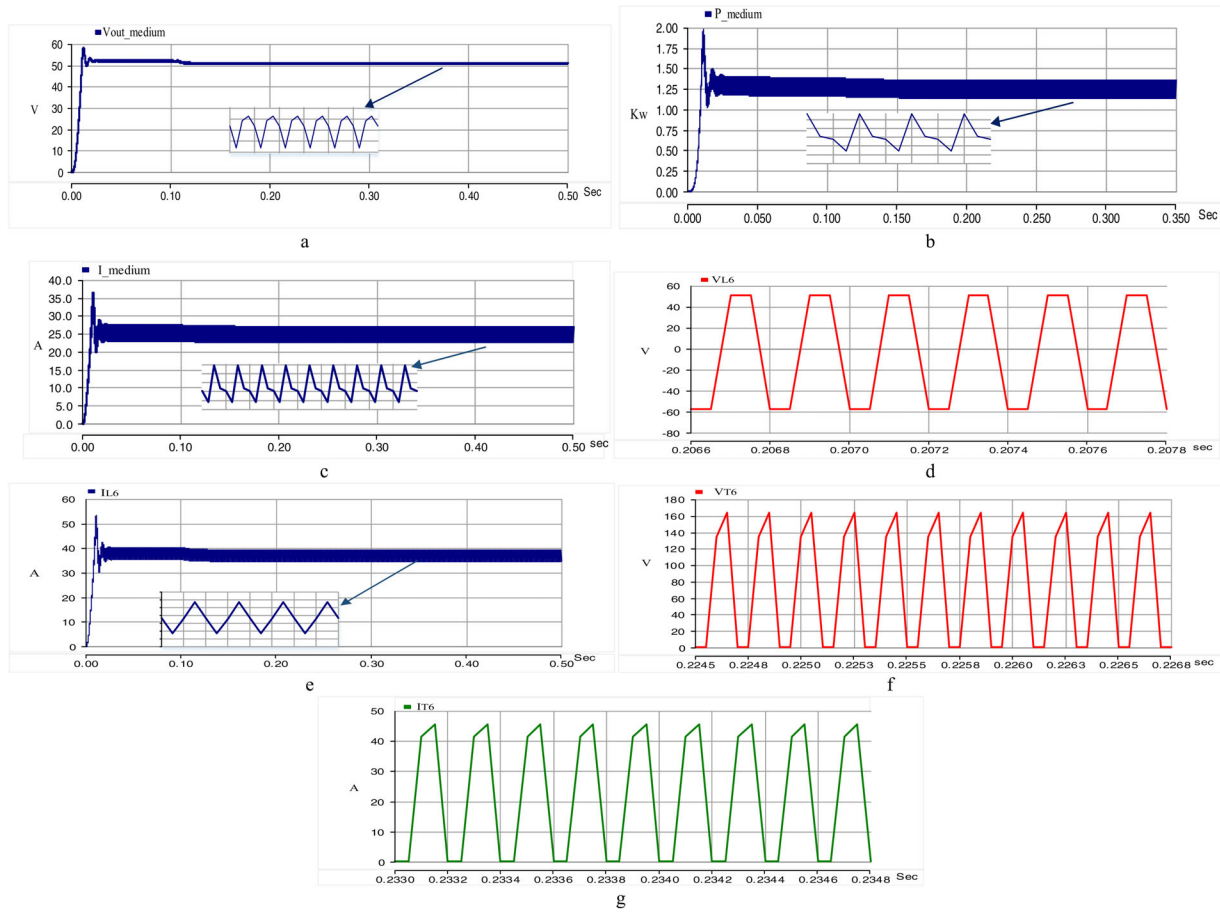
**FIGURE 15** (a) High-voltage section’s voltages in step-change mode, (b) power delivery for the high-voltage section in step-change mode, (c) high-voltage section’s current in step-change mode, (d)  $L_3$ ’s voltage in steady-state mode, (e)  $L_3$ ’s current in step-change mode, (f)  $T_4$ ’s voltage in steady-state mode, (g)  $T_4$ ’s current in steady-state mode

= 25 A. Also, the waveform of  $L_6$ ’s current and  $T_6$ ’s voltage and current are illustrated in Figures 16(d) to(g).

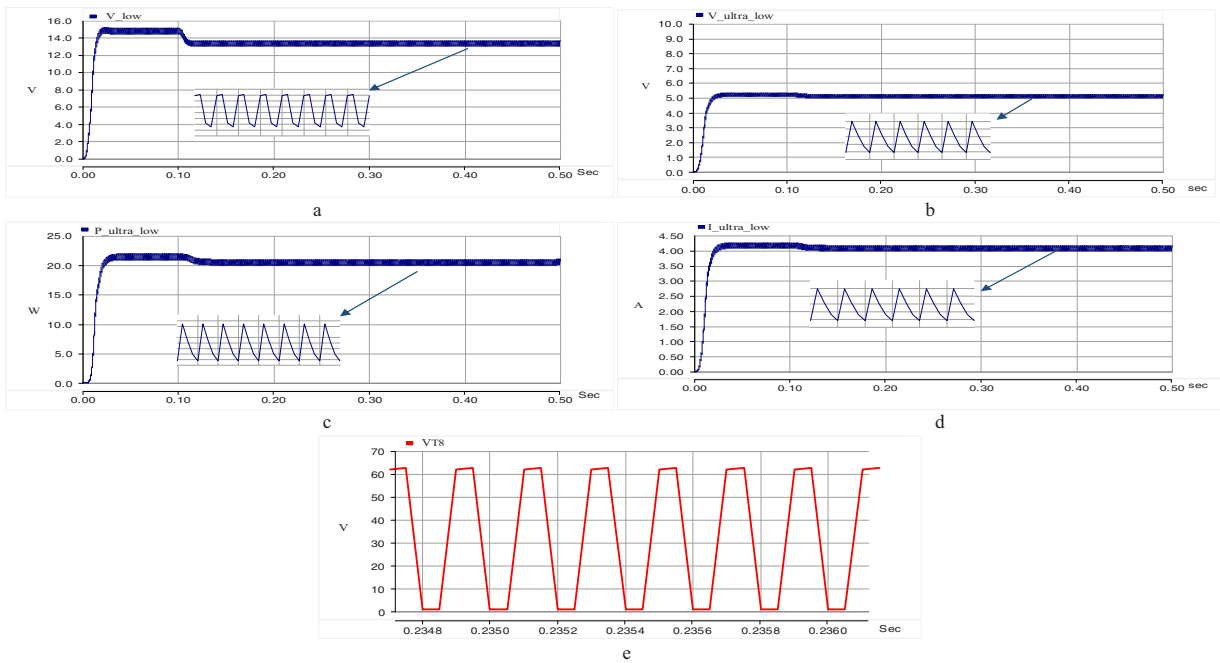
Figure 18 indicates the experimental results of the system. Figure 18(a) illustrates that the value of the output of the medium-voltage section is about 57 V and it matches with Figure 16(a). The difference between the two waveforms is about 8.7%. Figure 18(b) illustrates that the value of the output of the medium-voltage section is about 57 V and it matches with Figure 16(a). The difference between the two waveforms is about 8.7%. Figure 18(c) illustrates that the value of the output of the low-voltage section is about 18.6 V and it matches with Figure 16(a). The difference between the two waveforms is about 22%. Unfortunately, it should be noted that this difference is a bit large. Figure 18(d) illustrates that the value of the output of medium-voltage current is about 28 A and it matches with Figure 16(c). The difference between the two waveforms is about 10%. Figure 18(e) illustrates that the value of the output of ultra-low-voltage current is about 4 A it matches with Figure 17(c). The difference between the two waveforms is

about 0% and they completely match. Finally, Figures 18(f) and (g) are relatively consistent with Figures 16(e) to (g) and 15(e).

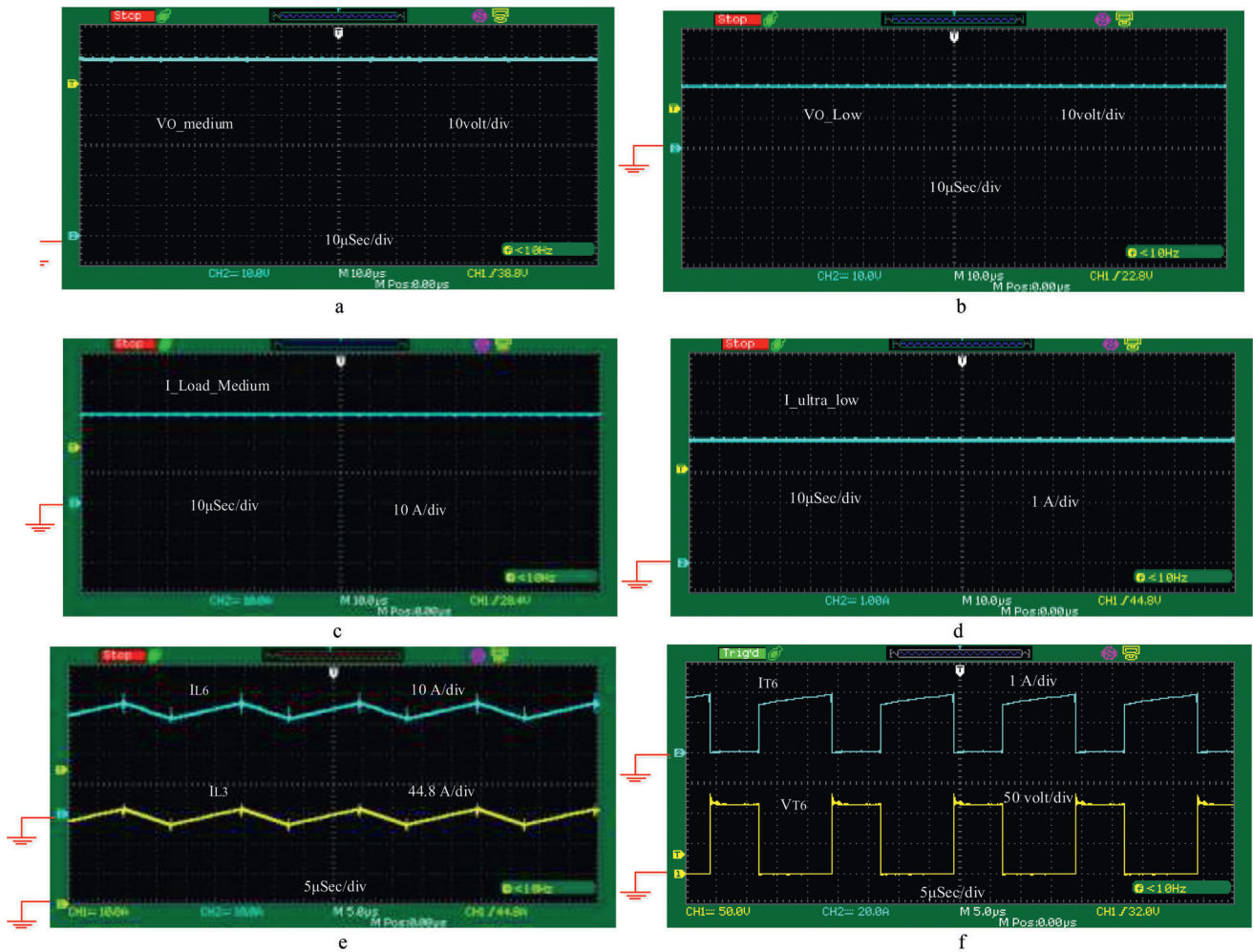
Figure 17 indicates the simulation of the low and ultra-low-voltage sections. Figure 17(a) illustrates that the value of the output of the low-voltage section is about 14.2 V and after step-change at the system loads, the system voltage is regulated to 13.8 V. In this part, a voltage drop of 2.8% is observed in Figure 17(a). Also, for the ultra-low-voltage section, Figure 17(b) illustrates that the value of the output of the ultra-low-voltage section is about 5.1 V and after step-change at the system loads, the system voltage is regulated to 5 V. In this part, a voltage drop of 2% is observed. The values of the parameters are  $P_{ultra-low-voltage} = 20$  W and  $I_{ultra-low-voltage} = 4$  A, and its effect on the current and power of the part is observed in Figures 17(c) and (d). Also, the waveform of  $T_8$ ’s voltage is illustrated in Figure 17(e). To evaluate the simulation results and experimental results, the prototype is built, based on this it is observed by adapting the laboratory and simulation results that there is a slight difference with acceptable accuracy.



**FIGURE 16** (a) Medium-voltage section's voltages in step-change mode, (b) power delivery for the medium-voltage section in step-change mod, c) medium-voltage section's current in step-change mode, (d)  $L_6$ 's voltage in steady-state mode, (e)  $L_6$ 's current in step-change mode, (f)  $T_6$ 's voltage in steady-state mode, (g)  $T_6$ 's current in steady-state mode



**FIGURE 17** (a) Low-voltage section's voltages in step-change mode, (b) ultra-low-voltage section's voltages in step-change mode, (c) power delivery for the ultra-low-voltage section in step-change mode, (d) medium-voltage section's current in step-change mode, (e)  $T_8$ 's current in steady-state mode



**FIGURE 18** (a) Medium-voltage section's out-put voltage, (b) low-voltage section's out-put voltage, (c) medium-voltage section's out-put current, (d) ultra-low-voltage section's out-put current, (e)  $I_{L6}$  and  $I_{L3}$ 's current, (f)  $T_6$ 's voltage and current

## 8 | CONCLUSION

In this study, in order to improve the quality of hybrid systems, the modified power-electronic system is introduced. A three-input/four-output DC–DC system has been proposed.

In addition, to cover the objectives and features of input energy sources, such as charging and discharging of the battery via determining the power of sources, lead to supplying the loads and responding to dynamic load variations. In this study, first, the proposed system's architectures and then the discussion of source management and power distribution in the proposed structure has been studied, and finally, the performance modes of the proposed system have been validated by using PSCAD/EMTDC software and experimental results. The feature of this system is itemised in detail as using renewable and endless resources to generate energy for remote areas of the national grid and its usability, even in urban areas, to be deployed near the national grid. With the capability of producing several voltage levels for different loads, removing buck

converters by house electric devices, and determining voltage levels with valid standards, all low power loads are organised in all scenarios so that the control systems and monitoring system may not be cut off.

### ORCID

*Behnam Zamanzad Ghavidel* <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7753-3284>

*Mohammad Maalandish* <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9346-9881>

*Seyed Hossein Hosseini* <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3716-0126>

*Mebram Sababi* <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4332-6460>

*Behnam Mohammadi-Ivatloo* <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0255-8353>

### REFERENCES

- Masoumi, A., et al.: Application of neural network and weighted improved PSO for uncertainty modeling and optimal allocating of renewable energies along with battery energy storage. *Appl. Soft Comput.* 88, 105979 (2020)



2. Ghavidel, B.Z., Babaei, E., Hosseini, S.H.: An improved three-input DC-DC boost converter for hybrid PV/FC/battery and bidirectional load as backup system for smart home. In: 2019 10th International Power Electronics, Drive Systems and Technologies Conference (PEDSTC), Shiraz, Iran, pp. 533–538 (2019)
3. Wang, C., Nehrir, M.H.: Power management of a stand-alone wind/photovoltaic/fuel cell energy system. *IEEE Trans. Energy Convers.* 23, 957–967 (2008)
4. Wang, C., et al.: A nonlinear-disturbance-observer-based DC-bus voltage control for a hybrid AC/DC microgrid. *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.* 29, 6162–6177 (2014)
5. Phattanasak, M., et al.: Control of a hybrid energy source comprising a fuel cell and two storage devices using isolated three-port bidirectional DC–DC converters. *IEEE Trans. Ind. Appl.* 51, 491–497 (2014)
6. Mohseni, P., et al.: A new high step-up multi-input multi-output DC–DC converter. *IEEE Trans. Ind. Electron.* 66, 5197–5208 (2018)
7. Maalandish, M., et al.: High step-up DC–DC converter using one switch and lower losses for photovoltaic applications. *IET Power Electron.* 11, 2081–2092 (2018)
8. Patil, S., Prasad, R.: Design and development of MPPT algorithm for high efficient DC-DC converter for solar energy system connected to grid. In: 2015 International Conference on Energy Systems and Applications, Pune, India, pp. 228–233 (2015)
9. Nejabatkhah, F., et al.: Modeling and control of a new three-input DC–DC boost converter for hybrid PV/FC/battery power system. *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.* 27, 2309–2324 (2011)
10. Hosseini, S., et al.: Multi-input DC boost converter for grid connected hybrid PV/FC/battery power system. In: 2010 IEEE Electrical Power & Energy Conference, Halifax, NS, Canada, pp. 1–6 25–27 Aug. (2010). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1109/EPEC.2010.5697177>
11. Ahrabi, R.R., et al.: A novel step-up multiinput DC–DC converter for hybrid electric vehicles application. *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.* 32, 3549–3561 (2016)
12. Hosseini, S., et al.: Multi-input dc boost converter supplied by a hybrid PV/Wind turbine power systems for street lighting application connected to the grid. In: 2012 47th International Universities Power Engineering Conference (UPEC), London, UK, pp. 1–6 (2012)
13. Nahavandi, A., et al.: A nonisolated multiinput multioutput DC–DC boost converter for electric vehicle applications. *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.* 2012 47th International Universities Power Engineering Conference (UPEC), London, UK, 30, 1818–1835 4–7 Sept. (2014). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1109/UPEC.2012.6398632>
14. Wu, H., et al.: Topology derivation of nonisolated three-port DC–DC converters from DIC and DOC. *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.* 28, 3297–3307 (2012)
15. Banaei, M.R., et al.: Non-isolated multi-input–single-output DC/DC converter for photovoltaic power generation systems. *IET Power Electron.* 7, 2806–2816 (2014)
16. Zhou, L.-W., Zhu, B.-X., Luo, Q.-M.: High step-up converter with capacity of multiple input. *IET Power Electron.* 5, 524–531 (2012)
17. Varesi, K., et al.: Performance and design analysis of an improved non-isolated multiple input buck DC–DC converter. *IET Power Electron.* 10, 1034–1045 (2017)
18. Kumar, L., Jain, S.: Multiple-input DC/DC converter topology for hybrid energy system. *IET Power Electron.* 6, 1483–1501 (2013)
19. Cheng, T., Lu, D.D.-C., Qin, L.: Non-isolated single-inductor DC/DC converter with fully reconfigurable structure for renewable energy applications. *IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. II Express Briefs* 65, 351–355 (2017)
20. Taufik, T., and Muscarella, M.: Development of DC house prototypes as demonstration sites for an alternate solution to rural electrification. In: 2016 6th international annual engineering seminar (InAES), (Yogyakarta, Indonesia, pp. 262–265 2016)
21. Yoshimi, K., et al.: Practical storage and utilization of household photovoltaic energy by electric vehicle battery. In: 2012 IEEE PES Innovative Smart Grid Technologies (ISGT), Washington, Washington DC, pp. 1–8 (2012)
22. Monteiro, V., Pinto, J., and Afonso, J.L.: Operation modes for the electric vehicle in smart grids and smart homes: Present and proposed modes. *IEEE Trans. Veh. Technol.* 65, 1007–1020 (2015)

**How to cite this article:** Zamanzad Ghavidel B, Maalandish M, Hosseini SH, Sabahi M, Mohammadi-Ivatloo B. Design and implementation of an improved power-electronic system for feeding loads of smart homes in remote areas using renewable energy sources. *IET Renew Power Gener.* 2021;15:1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1049/rpg2.12001>