MANTECH Publications

Recent Trends in Electrical Machines and Drives

Volume 6, Issue 3, September- December 2021

# *IoT-Based Battery Management System for Calculation of Electrical parameters in an Electric Vehicle*

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***Abstract***

*This paper describes the application of Internet-of-Things (IoT) in managing the performance of electric vehicle battery. It is clear that an electric vehicle totally depends on the source of energy from a battery. In the Present scenario, Internal Combustion Engines [ICE] is overcome by Electric Vehicles [EV] due to advantages like reduction in carbon-di-oxide [CO2] emission, cost. Advancement in electric vehicles is extensively going on and one such concept is the Battery management system [BMS] in Battery Electric vehicle. In Battery Electric Vehicle, there are many types of batteries and from the literature survey; Lithium-Ion Battery can be concluded to be suitable as it is advantageous in weight, cost, energy density and many aspects. In Battery electric vehicle Battery plays an important role. The battery may be overcharged, or it may undergo faults. Hence a reliable management system is required to control the Electric vehicle [EV]. In this paper, two battery charge estimation models, namely, open-circuit voltage have been considered. IoT-Based Battery Management System for Calculation of Electrical parameters in an Electric Vehicle is thus verified by simulation results.*

***Keywords****: - Arduino Uno, SIM868 GSM Shield, BMS, Lithium ions batteries.*

## INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, electric vehicle (EV) is becoming popular since the fuel prices becoming more expensive. Due to these scenarios, many vehicle manufacturers looking for alternatives of energy sources



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other than gas. The use of electrical energy sources may improve the environment since there is less pollution. In addition, EV produces great advantages in terms of energy saving and environmental protection. Most EVs used rechargeable battery which is lithium ion battery. It is smaller to be compared with lead acid. In fact, it has a constant power, and energy's life cycle is 6 to 10 times greater compared with lead acid battery. Lithium ion battery life cycle can be shortened by some reasons such as overcharging and deep discharges. On the other hand, EV usually has limited range of travelling due to battery size and body structure. Now, an important reason that limits the application of EV is the safety of existing battery technology [1]. For example, overcharging battery not only could significantly shorten the life of the battery, but also cause serious safety accidents such as fire [2-4]. Therefore, a battery Management system for EV that can notify the user about battery condition is necessary to prevent the stated problems.

Previous battery Management systems only monitor and detect the condition of the battery and alarmed the user via battery indicator inside the vehicle. Due to the advancement of the design of notification system, internet of things (IoT) technology can be used to notify the manufacturer and users regarding the battery status. This can be considered as one of the maintenance support procedure that can be done by the manufacturer. IoT utilizes internet connectivity beyond traditional application, where diverse range of devices and everyday things can be connected via the internet, making the world is at the user's finger tips.

Motivating by the stated problems, in this work, the design and development of a battery Management system using IoT technology is proposed. The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 reviews the various wireless communication technologies and wireless battery Management systems for industries and EVs, section 3 presents design and implementation of the system, section 4 describes different tests performed, section 5 discusses the major issues faced and section 6 finally gives the conclusions of the work.

## RELATED WORK

### *Technology Based on Wireless Communication*

Wireless communication is a type of data communication that is performed and delivered wirelessly. This is a broad term that incorporates all procedures and forms


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of connecting and communicating between two or more devices using a wireless signal through wireless communication technologies and devices. From the previous work there are several types of technology that have been used for wireless battery Management system such as GSM, ZigBee, GPRS, Android, WIFI and Bluetooth communication.

GSM (Global system for Mobile Communication) is a type of wireless communication that are very popular worldwide. Its frequency band is either 900MHz or 1800MHz. There are some advantages and disadvantages for the GSM module. An advantage of GSM is that it has no problem with international roaming. It is also easy to be implemented and the global subscribers create much better in network effect for GSM handset maker's carrier and users. But note that, most of the technology are patented and should have license from QUALCOMM Corp. There are various literatures on battery Management and management using wireless communication.

***Technology Based on Wireless Battery Management System***

Reliable battery management is necessary for safety purposes. There are several reasons that cause battery breakdown such as deterioration of battery and design defects. Manual battery Management system are like normal battery Management system which means that it does not save the data into the database. But only show the data collected in real time. Therefore, it is essential to remotely monitor battery systems using wireless technology.

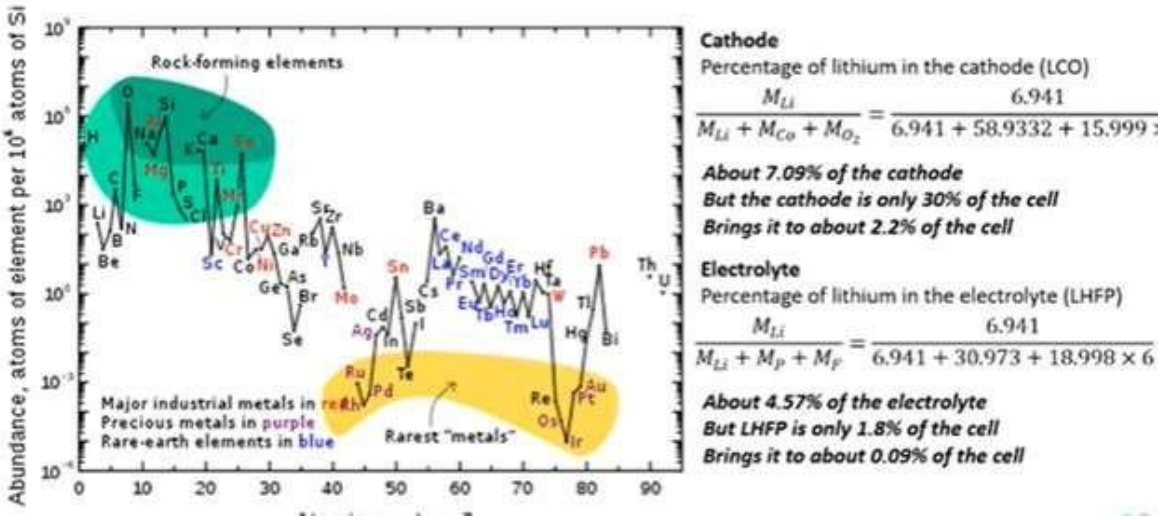



***Fig. 1: Overview of the Lithium battery deposits***


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There are various battery Management system using wireless communication that have been developed for the industry such as uninterruptible power supply (UPS) which is important to ensure continuity of power supply for domestic and commercial during power interruption. Suresh et al. proposed a PLC-based battery health Management system for an UPS using GSM modules and SCADA by providing alert messages when batteries are in critical condition and room temperature [6].

Sardar et al. also developed a battery Management system for UPS using GSM [7]. The system could monitor voltage, current and temperature of the battery. Hommalai et al. developed battery Management system using wireless communication for UPS to detect dead battery cells [8]. There are also several studies related to the development of battery Management system for EV using wireless communication. Dhotre et al. developed an automatic battery charging and engine control system for EV using GSM module [9].

EV based on GPRS communication consists of online Management terminal to measure battery parameters (voltage and temperature) with GPRS data transmitter unit and a user interface for battery Management [12].

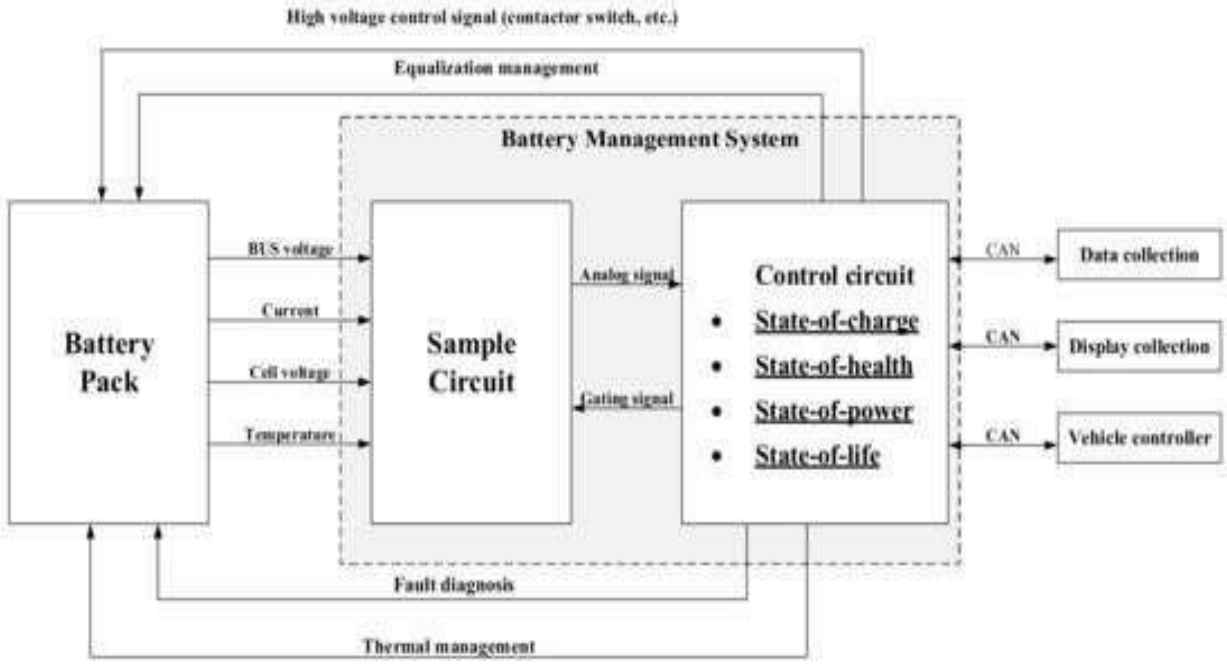



***Fig. 2: Overview of the proposed system***


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Rahman et al. proposed a battery management system for EVs using ZigBee communication and point-to-point wireless topology [13]. ZigBee was used due to its low power consumption, low-cost, high reliability and low data rates. They concluded that wireless battery management system is important for EVs mainly to balance the charge to enhance battery lifespan, but it is not efficient for controlling battery temperature. More recently, Menghua et al. presented a lithium-ion batteries Management system using WIFI communication for EVs that collects and displays voltage, current, temperature and other parameters of batteries on a smartphone [14].

Based on the described previous work, it shows that there are no automatic Management system available to notify the user with regard to the performance of the battery. Therefore, the used of IoT technology that incorporates together within the Management system can help in improving the preventive maintenance in ensuring the battery quality and increase the safety of the user.

## METHODOLOGY

### *System Overview*

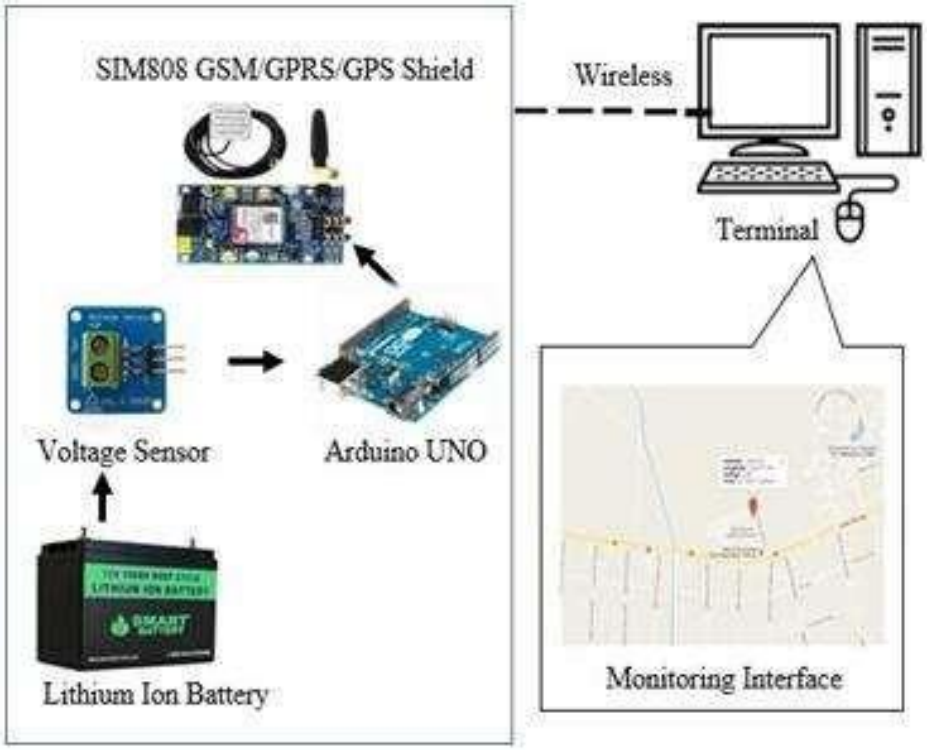



***Fig. 3: Overview of the proposed system***


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**Figure 3:** depicts the overview of the proposed system. In order for the system to work, initially, the voltage sensor measures the lithium-ion battery's voltage level. At the same time, a SIM868 GSM/GPS/GPRS shield reads the location of the vehicle by using the GPS function. The battery's voltage level readings and location of the vehicle are conveyed to an Arduino Uno microcontroller for processing. As shown in the figure, the processed data are sent to a battery Management user interface in a computer wirelessly using the SIM868 shield. Once data transfer is successful, the battery Management interface on the computer will show the updated data of battery status. When the battery produced low voltage level, a notification email is sent to notify the user. The online battery system not only can measure the voltage of the batteries but also communicate with the battery Management system to get the parameter of batteries. The detail design of the system is described in the next sections.

### *System Flowchart*

**Figure 4:** illustrates the source code flow of the system. Once the system is switched ON, it will starts to initialize. Then, voltage sensor measures the battery voltage and conveys it to an Arduino microcontroller. Next, based on the received voltage data, the source code will verify the battery condition. If the battery voltage is higher than threshold, it will continue to read battery voltage level. If the battery voltage level is low, a notification email is sent to the system administrator using the GSM module. The administrator can inform the customer about the critical battery condition.

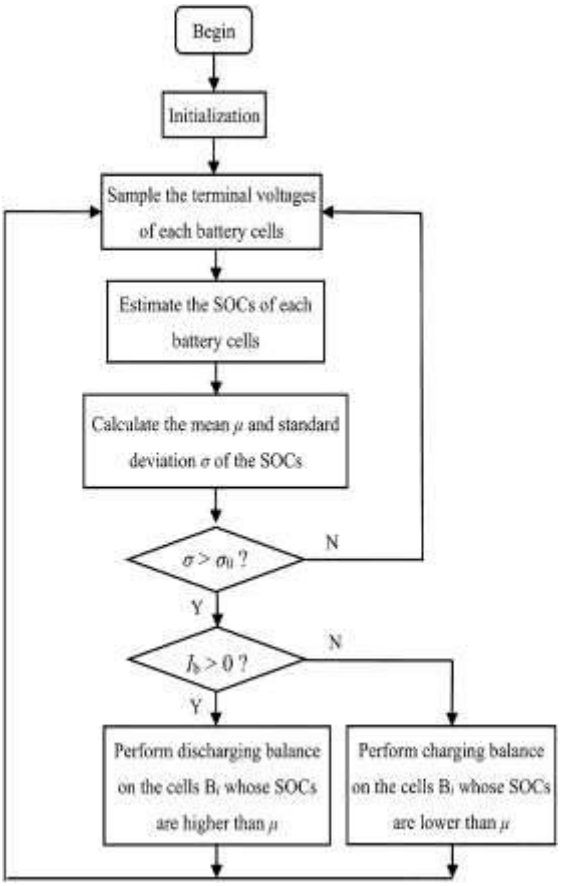



***Fig. 4: System flowchart***

### *Hardware Design*

Initially, in order to verify the suitability of the hardware parts, the design of the system was developed using Fritzing software. **Figure 5:** illustrates the circuit


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design of the system. The figure shows the


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system is consists of a voltage sensor, an Arduino Uno microcontroller, a SIM868 GSM/GPRS/GPS module and a 9V battery for power supply. **Figure 6** shows the actual hardware design of the proposed IoT-based battery Management system. As shown in the figure, the design of the system is similar to the circuit prepared using the Fritzing software.

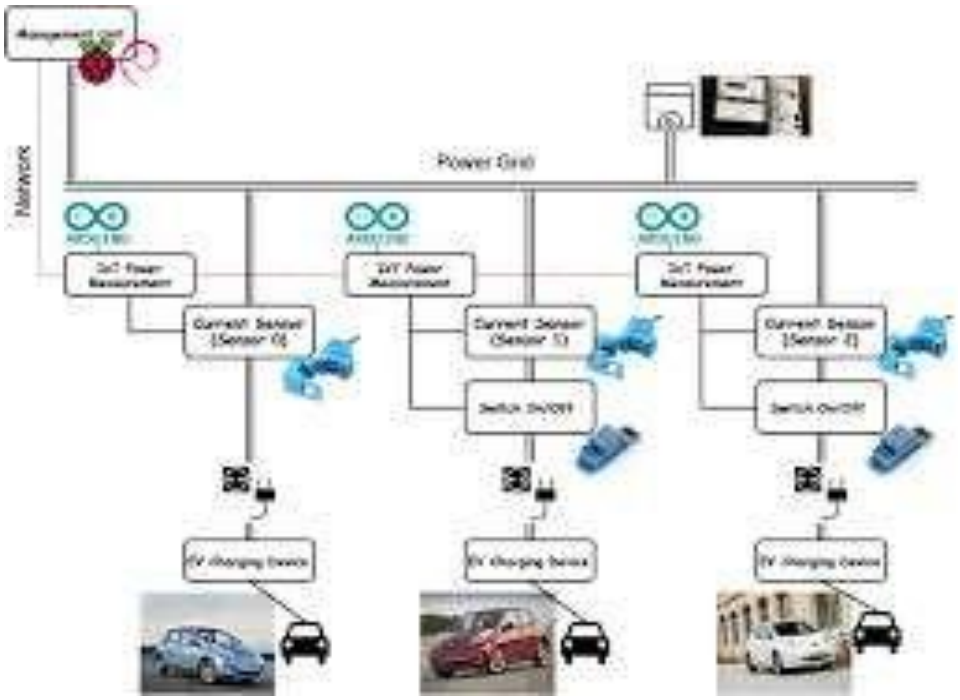


***Fig. 5: The design of the circuit using Fritzing software***

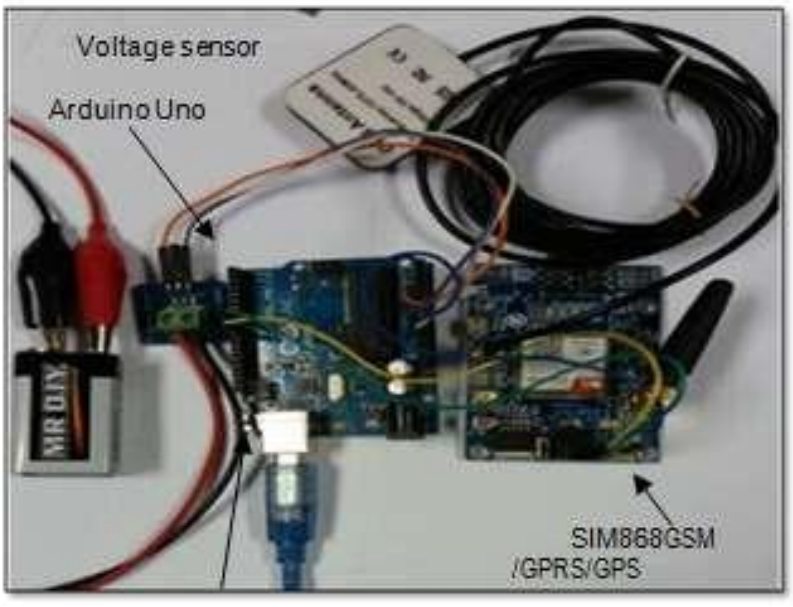



***Fig. 6: The actual design of the hardware for the proposed battery Management system***


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## EXPERIMENTS AND ANALYSIS

This section reports the experiments and analysis of the system. First, experiment steps and results on the characteristics of voltage sensor, GSM module will be described. This is to make sure the circuits are in good condition. Then, experiments and results to verify degradation of battery will be explained.

### *Voltage Sensor Experiment*

In this experiment, the values of five (5) batteries were measured using a multimeter as shown in **Figure 7**. Then, these values were compared with the values of the same batteries that were connected to the voltage sensor circuit as shown in **Figure 8**. The purpose is to show the differences and accuracy percentage between both values. The selected batteries were varied in voltage values. The batteries were a mixed of new and used ones. The results of measurement will show these differences.




***Fig. 7***

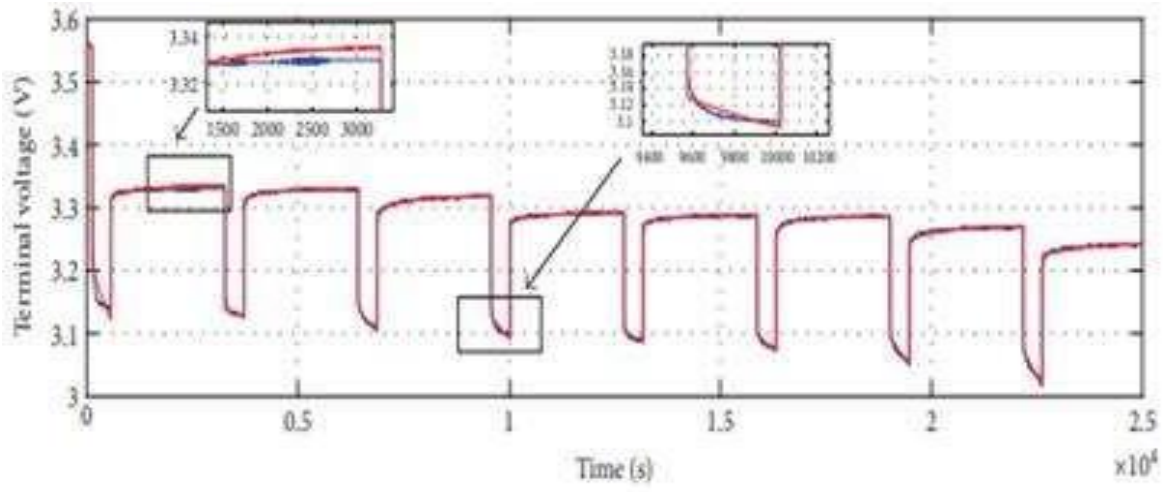



***Fig. 8***


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***Table 1: Voltage measurements results***

| Battery | Voltage measurement results | | Accuracy percentage (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Voltage sensor | Multimeter | |
| 1 | 3.81 | 3.79 | 99.47 |
| 2 | 9.98 | 9.91 | 99.29 |
| 3 | 8.70 | 8.55 | 98.27 |
| 4 | 1.25 | 1.23 | 98.40 |
| 5 | 3.81 | 3.79 | 99.48 |

Table 1 shows the result of the experiments. As shown in the table, since the batteries were a mixed of used and new batteries, the values are different from each other.

From the results, it shows that the accuracy of the voltage measurements taken from voltage sensor is quite similar to the measurements taken using multimeter. The accuracy percentages for all of the measured batteries are above 99%. Therefore, it can be concluded that the voltage sensor provides valid measurement values of the batteries.

***GPS Module Experiment***

In this subsection, the characteristic of the SIM868 GSM/GPRS/GPS module was verified to determine the accuracy of the GPS coordinate. Furthermore, this experiment will also determine the functionality of the module. **Figure 9** shows the experimental setup of the module.

The experiments were done at five (5) different target locations, where the coordinates of each location were collected via GPS. These GPS coordinates were then compared with the coordinates derived from Google Maps website.

Table 2 shows the results of the experiment. As shown in the table, there are five (5) different target locations. The table shows the coordinates of all target locations taken from Google Maps and SIM868 module. From the results, it shows that the accuracy of the coordinates taken from SIM868 module is quite similar to the coordinates derived from Google Maps. The accuracy percentages for all of the measured coordinates are near 100% accurate.


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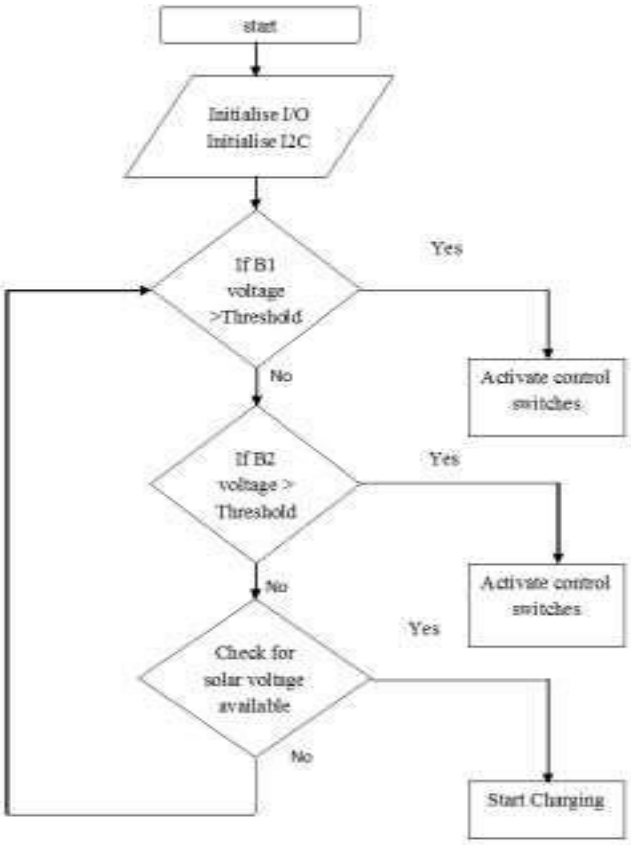



***Fig. 9: Flowchart of battery monitoring and charging***

***Table 2: Coordinate measurements results***

| No. | Place | Coordinates from Google Maps | Coordinates from SIM868 module | Accuracy percentage (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Taman Universiti | 1.852154, 103.073998 | 1.852150, 103.073798 | 99.99 |
| 2 | HEP of UTHM | 1.856250, 103.084588 | 1.856240, 103.084580 | 99.99 |
| 3 | McDonald's, Taman Universiti | 1.848993, 103.075913 | 1.848980, 103.075920 | 99.99 |
| 4 | FKEE Block G, UTHM | 1.859067, 103.088704 | 1.859073, 103.088704 | 99.98 |
| 5 | KKTDI, UTHM | 1.862602, 103.089685 | 1.862638, 103.089680 | 99.96 |

Therefore, it can be concluded that the SIM868 module provides valid coordinates that can be used in the proposed Battery Management System. **Figure 10** shows an example of the output from SIM868 module showing the location of a target position.


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*Fig. 10: Output from SIM868 showing the location of a target position*

***Battery Management System***

The proposed battery Management system in this work is consists of a voltage sensor and SIM868 module. Experiments and analysis to show the characteristics and usefulness of the sensor and module have been presented in the previous subsections. Therefore, in this subsection, the battery Management system usefulness is demonstrated. **Figure 11** shows the developed hardware circuit of the battery Management system. In the figure, the voltage sensor is connected to the SIM868 module. The system has been verified to display voltage values and coordinates simultaneously. The voltage values and coordinates are updated in real time with a one (1) minute delay. The marker will bounce when the battery voltage value is lower than 2.8V with duration less than 2.4 hours.

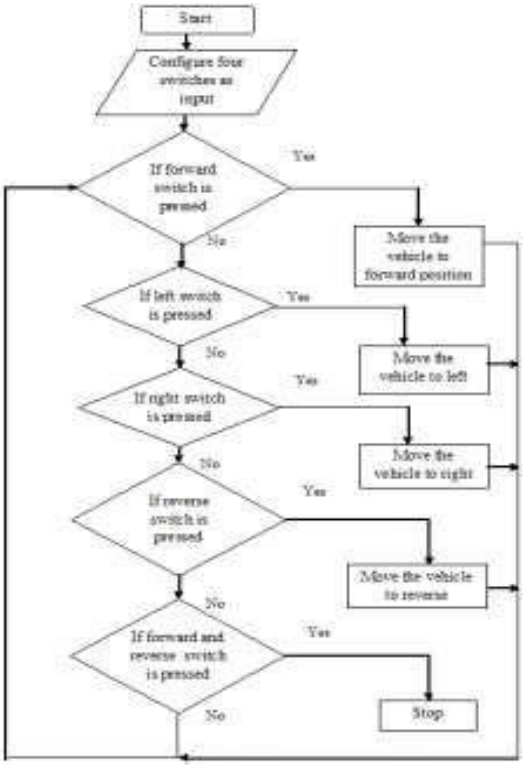



*Fig. 11: Flowchart of vehicle control*


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***Experiment to Determine Degraded Battery***

Analyses have been carried out to determine degraded batteries by measuring the discharge rates of the battery against time. Basically, EVs utilize lithium ion batteries in bulk quantity. Therefore, in this project an experiment has been conducted to determine battery degradation by using two (2) 3.7V Li-MN batteries, where one (1) battery was in a new condition and another one was a degraded battery. Figure 12(a) shows an image of the 3.7V Li-MN battery.

When a 3.7V Li-MN is discharged, there is a low cut-off voltage value that determines the battery is fully discharged. When it reaches the cut-off value, it means that the battery is at 0% discharged or 100% Depth-of-Discharge (DOD). In this experiment, in order to determine the degraded battery, the duration of the discharge battery per time was calculated. If the speed of the discharge state to reach the cut-off value is approximately 30% or less than from the speed of the healthy battery, it means that the battery is categorized as degraded battery. Usually, a 3.7V Li-MN battery takes 8 hours to completely reaching the minimum voltage of discharge state. Table 2 shows the grading of condition of the battery based on the duration taken to reach the cut off.

The time taken for a battery to discharge is depends on the capacity of the battery. The capacity of the battery is reduced as the maximum cycles are reached. Due to this reason, the time taken to complete the discharge state is shorten. From Table 3, it shows that if the duration takes 2.4 hours to complete the discharge state, it means that the battery is near to degrading condition.

An experiment has been carried out to test the degrading condition of batteries using electronic cigarettes or vape. Figure 10(b) shows an image of the vape. Two (2) 3.7V Li-MN batteries (one (1) new condition and another one is in degraded condition) have been used in this experiment. Initially, both batteries were fully charged. Then, both batteries were inserted into vapes and the voltage readings were taken every one (1) hour for comparison. Table 4 shows the results of voltage readings for both batteries. As shown in the table, the new battery takes 8 hours to complete the discharge state. Furthermore, the cut-off voltage value for the battery is 2.8V.


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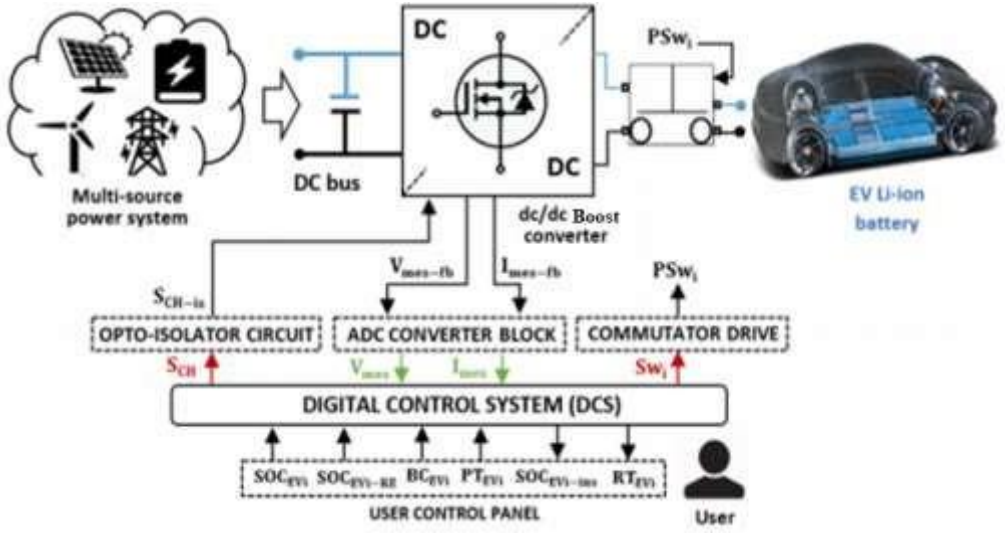



***Fig. 12: (a) Algorithm to integrate electrical parameters and calculate SOC, SOH***

***Table 3: Battery grading based on duration to reach cut-off voltage value***

| Duration taken to reach the cut off (hour) | Percentage of time taken to reach the cut off (%) | The condition of the battery |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | 100 | Good |
| 4 | 50 | Moderate |
| 2.4 | 30 | Bad |
| Duration taken to reach the cut off (hour) | Voltage readings for new battery (V) | Voltage readings for degraded battery (V) |
| 0 | 3.79 | 3.20 |
| 1 | 3.68 | 3.04 |
| 2 | 3.45 | 2.80 |
| 3 | 3.20 | 2.80 |
| 4 | 3.01 | 2.80 |
| 5 | 2.93 | 2.80 |
| 6 | 2.90 | 2.80 |
| 7 | 2.85 | 2.80 |
| 8 | 2.80 | 2.80 |


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***Battery Management System User Interface***

The developed battery Management system is also consists of a web-based user interface. The user interface is capable to monitor multiple battery Management devices' locations, and the conditions of batteries. Therefore, the idea of the user interface has taken into consideration the situation where there is a need to monitor multiple batteries conditions.

**Figure 13** shows the main page for the web-based user interface. A user needs to login prior to use the interface. The login page is built for a secure data handling, where user is required to key-in username and password.




***Fig. 13: User interface for the proposed battery Management system***

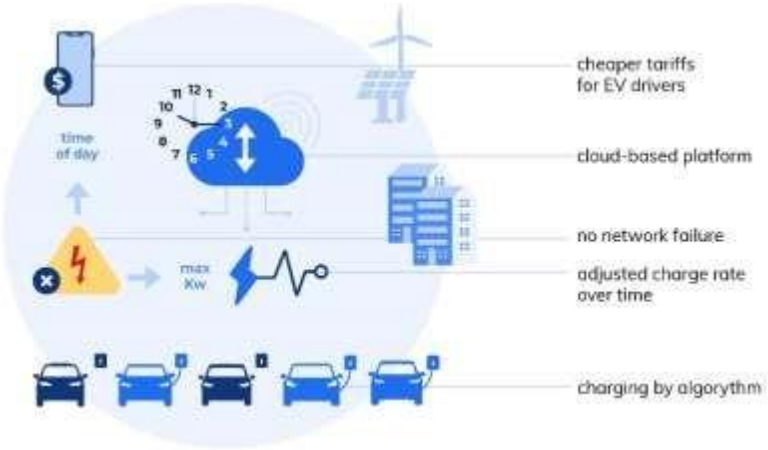



***Fig. 14: Battery Management interface showing detail of a battery Management device. The location, battery voltage reading and time are shown.***


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Once the user has successfully login into the user interface, the battery Management interface is displayed. The interface shows a map based on Google Maps application of the location of registered battery Management devices marked by red markers. If the battery voltage condition of a device is approaching cut-off discharge state, the red marker will bounce continuously at the location. Clicking the bouncing red marker will show the information of the device such as location (latitude and longitude), battery voltage reading and measured time as shown in **Figure 14**: This information can be used for the user/admin to inform the users/clients about their battery condition especially during critical battery condition or degraded battery. Using Proteus Software Raspberry Pi application status can be known to user with new enhanced coulomb counting algorithm .Furthermore, based on **Figure 14,** the upper left of the interface (red box) shows a selection window where the user/admin can choose *Logout*, *View customer* and *Add customer*. The user can opt to log out safely by clicking *Logout. View customer* is to view the list of battery Management devices that are being monitored. Add customer is used to add new battery Management devices to be monitored.

When *View customer* is clicked, the interface shows the list of battery Management devices as shown in **Figure 15**: The list shows detail information about the registered battery Management devices, such as user name, phone number and users' address.

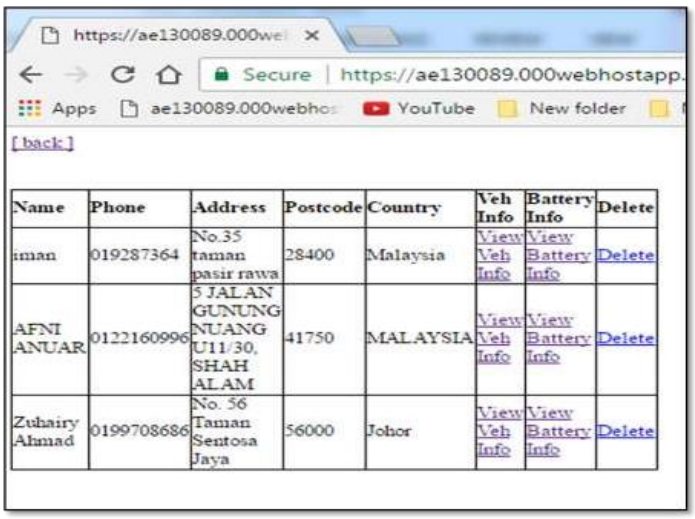



***Fig. 15: Clicking View customer displays an information list of registered battery Management device***


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***Figure 16.***

## CONCLUSION

The paper describes the design and development of an IoT-based battery management system for electric vehicle to ensure the battery performance degradation can be monitored online. The objective is to proof that the concept of the idea can be realized. The development of the system consists of the development of the hardware for the battery Management device and a web-based battery Management user interface. The system is capable to show information such as location, battery condition and time via internet by incorporating GPS system to detect the coordinate and display it on the Google Maps application.

Further modification can be done to improve the system by adding more functions into the system. The system can be used in smartphones by developing smartphone application that can help user to monitor battery and as a battery degradation reminder. In order to enhance the internet connection, Ethernet can be used to get a better internet connection compared to GPRS.

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