

Smart BMS

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ABSTRACT

The rapid growth of electric vehicles (EVs) has increased so the need for efficient and reliable Battery Management Systems (BMS) to ensure safe and optimal battery operation. This paper presents the design and implementation of a smart BMS for a load-carrying electric vehicle powered by a 60 V, 60 Ah Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO₄) battery. The system utilizes a 32-bit microcontroller integrated with a smart BMS to monitor key battery parameters such as voltage, current, and temperature. The proposed system incorporates features such as fault detection and alert mechanisms, adaptive on-board charging, and an LCD-based display for real-time monitoring. In addition, a multi-mode access system using NFC/Wi-Fi card, remote control, and key-based operation is implemented along with an anti-theft alarm to enhance vehicle security. The EV also includes a three-level gear system and reverse operation for improved usability. The system ensures reliable performance, enhanced safety, and efficient energy utilization. The proposed smart BMS provides a practical and effective solution for modern load-carrying electric vehicle applications.

Keywords: Smart Battery Management, Electric Vehicle System, LiFePO₄ Battery, State of Charge, Fault Detection System

INTRODUCTION

The rapid advancement of Electric Vehicles (EVs) has significantly increased the demand for efficient, reliable, and intelligent energy storage systems. The battery pack serves as the core energy source of an EV, directly influencing its performance, driving range, and operational safety. Among various battery chemistries, Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO₄) batteries are widely preferred due to their high thermal stability, long cycle life, and enhanced safety characteristics. However, lithium-based batteries are highly sensitive to operating conditions such as voltage, current, and temperature, necessitating the integration of an advanced Battery Management System (BMS).

A Battery Management System is an embedded control system responsible for real-time monitoring, protection, and optimization of the battery pack. It continuously measures critical parameters such as cell voltage, pack current, and temperature using appropriate sensors, and ensures that the battery operates within its Safe Operating Area (SOA). The acquired signals are processed using a 32-bit microcontroller (STM32), enabling fast and accurate decision-making for control and protection actions.

One of the key functions of a BMS is the estimation of internal battery states, particularly the State of Charge (SOC), which indicates the remaining capacity of the battery. Accurate SOC estimation is essential for predicting driving range and improving energy utilization. In this system, SOC is estimated using a hybrid approach combining Coulomb Counting and Open Circuit Voltage (OCV) methods, enhanced with filtering techniques to reduce noise and cumulative errors

$$SOC(t) = SOC(t_0) - Cn1 \int_{t_0}^t I(t) dt$$

To further improve estimation accuracy, model-based techniques are incorporated, allowing the system to compensate for measurement uncertainties and dynamic operating conditions.

The proposed system is designed for a load-carrying electric vehicle powered by a **60 V, 60 Ah LiFePO₄ battery pack**. A smart BMS unit is integrated with the STM32 microcontroller to enable real-time data acquisition, processing, and control. The sensing subsystem includes voltage sensors for individual cell monitoring, current sensors (shunt or Hall-effect based) for charge/discharge tracking, and temperature sensors (NTC thermistors) for thermal monitoring.

To ensure uniform performance and extend battery life, the system implements cell balancing techniques that minimize voltage differences among cells. Additionally, a comprehensive protection mechanism is incorporated, including over-voltage, under-voltage, over-current, short-circuit, and over-temperature protection. In the event of any fault condition, the system generates alerts and isolates the circuit using a Miniature Circuit Breaker (MCB), ensuring system safety.

The system also features adaptive on-board charging based on battery condition, improving charging efficiency and reducing degradation. A user-friendly LCD display provides real-time information such as battery status, speed, gear position, and fault indications. Furthermore, the vehicle is equipped with advanced features including multi-mode access (NFC/Wi-Fi card, remote, and key-based control), anti-theft security, multi-gear operation, and reverse mode.

Designed to support a load capacity of up to **500 kg**, the proposed smart BMS offers an integrated solution combining intelligent monitoring, advanced control, robust protection, and enhanced user interaction. This system significantly improves battery performance, operational safety, and reliability, making it suitable for modern load-carrying electric vehicle applications.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Recent advancements in Battery Management Systems (BMS) have focused on enhancing state estimation accuracy, safety, and efficiency of lithium-ion battery packs in electric vehicles.

Several studies have implemented **Equivalent Circuit Models (ECM)**, particularly second-order Thevenin models, for representing battery dynamics. These models provide a good trade-off between computational complexity and accuracy, achieving voltage prediction errors typically within **2–5%** under dynamic loading conditions.

For State of Charge (SOC) estimation, conventional **Coulomb Counting (CC)** methods exhibit cumulative errors due to current sensor drift, resulting in accuracy degradation up to **5–10% over extended operation**. To improve this, hybrid techniques combining **Open Circuit Voltage (OCV)** with CC have been proposed, achieving accuracy levels of approximately **3–5%** under quasi-static conditions.

Advanced estimation techniques such as the **Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)** and **Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF)** have been widely adopted to enhance SOC accuracy. Experimental results reported in literature indicate that EKF-based methods can achieve SOC estimation errors as low as **±1–2%**, while UKF-based approaches further improve accuracy to approximately **±1%** under highly dynamic conditions.

Thermal modeling and monitoring have also been extensively studied, with research indicating that effective thermal management can reduce battery degradation rates by **15–25%** and improve overall system reliability. Temperature estimation errors in well-designed systems are typically maintained within **±1–2°C**.

Cell balancing techniques have shown significant improvements in battery performance. Passive balancing methods are simple but result in energy loss, whereas active balancing techniques can improve energy utilization efficiency by **10–20%** and extend battery life by **20–30%**.

Modern BMS implementations also incorporate advanced fault detection mechanisms, achieving fault detection accuracy greater than **95%**, ensuring rapid response to abnormal operating conditions.

From the literature, it is evident that integrating model-based estimation techniques, thermal management, and intelligent protection systems can significantly enhance BMS performance. However, challenges such as computational complexity, implementation cost, and real-time constraints remain key considerations.

METHODOLOGY

Data Acquisition Layer

The data acquisition stage forms the primary interface between the battery pack and the control system. In this layer, voltage measurement is performed for both individual cells and the overall battery pack using precision voltage divider circuits along with proper isolation techniques to ensure accurate detection of over-voltage and under-voltage conditions. Current measurement is carried out using a bidirectional sensing mechanism, typically implemented through a low-resistance shunt or Hall-effect sensor, enabling precise monitoring of both charging and discharging currents. Temperature sensing is achieved using NTC thermistors placed at multiple locations within the battery pack to continuously monitor thermal variations and prevent overheating. All acquired analog signals are subjected to signal conditioning and filtering before being converted into digital form using the high-resolution ADC integrated within the STM32 microcontroller.

Battery Modeling

To represent the dynamic behavior of the battery system, a second-order Thevenin equivalent circuit model is employed. This model effectively captures both steady-state and transient characteristics of the battery using internal resistance and RC polarization networks. The terminal voltage of the battery is expressed as:

$$V_t = OCV(SOC) - IR - V_1 - V_2$$

where V_t represents the terminal voltage, $OCV(SOC)$ denotes the open circuit voltage as a function of state of charge, R is the internal resistance, and V_1 , V_2 are the voltages across the RC polarization branches. This model is used for accurate prediction and estimation of battery behavior under varying load conditions.

State Estimation Algorithm

The estimation of battery states is a critical function of the proposed system, with primary focus on accurate determination of the State of Charge (SOC). SOC estimation is initially performed using the Coulomb Counting method, which tracks the charge flow over time.

$$SOC(t) = SOC(t_0) - \frac{1}{C_n} \int_{t_0}^t I(t) dt$$

In this equation, C_n represents the nominal battery capacity and $I(t)$ is the instantaneous current. Although this method provides continuous estimation, it is prone to cumulative errors due to sensor inaccuracies and drift. To correct this, the Open Circuit Voltage (OCV) method is incorporated, which utilizes the nonlinear relationship between voltage and SOC under equilibrium conditions.

To further enhance estimation accuracy and mitigate noise, an Extended Kalman Filter (EKF) is implemented. The EKF operates based on a recursive prediction-correction mechanism defined by the following equations:

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k + w_k$$

$$y_k = Cx_k + v_k$$

This approach significantly improves SOC estimation accuracy under dynamic operating conditions.

Thermal Modeling

The thermal behavior of the battery is modeled to ensure safe operation and prevent overheating. Heat generation within the battery primarily occurs due to internal resistance during current flow and is expressed as:

$$Q_{gen} = I^2R$$

Control and Decision Layer

The control and decision-making layer is implemented within the STM32 microcontroller, where continuous monitoring of battery parameters is performed. The system evaluates voltage, current, and temperature against predefined threshold limits to determine safe operating conditions. Based on real-time data, the controller executes appropriate actions such as enabling normal operation, initiating balancing, or triggering protection mechanisms in case of abnormal conditions. This ensures stable and reliable operation of the battery system under varying load scenarios.

Cell Balancing Control

Cell balancing is implemented to maintain uniform voltage distribution across all cells in the battery pack. In this system, passive balancing is primarily used, where excess energy from higher-voltage cells is dissipated through resistive elements. The balancing process is activated when the voltage difference between cells exceeds a predefined threshold, thereby improving overall battery efficiency and extending operational lifespan.

Protection Mechanism

A comprehensive protection mechanism is incorporated to safeguard the battery system against abnormal operating conditions. The system continuously monitors for faults such as over-voltage, under-voltage, over-current, short-circuit, and over-temperature conditions. Upon detection of any fault, the controller immediately initiates protective actions, including isolating the battery from the load by triggering a Miniature Circuit Breaker (MCB). Simultaneously, fault information is displayed on the LCD interface, enabling real-time diagnostics and user awareness.

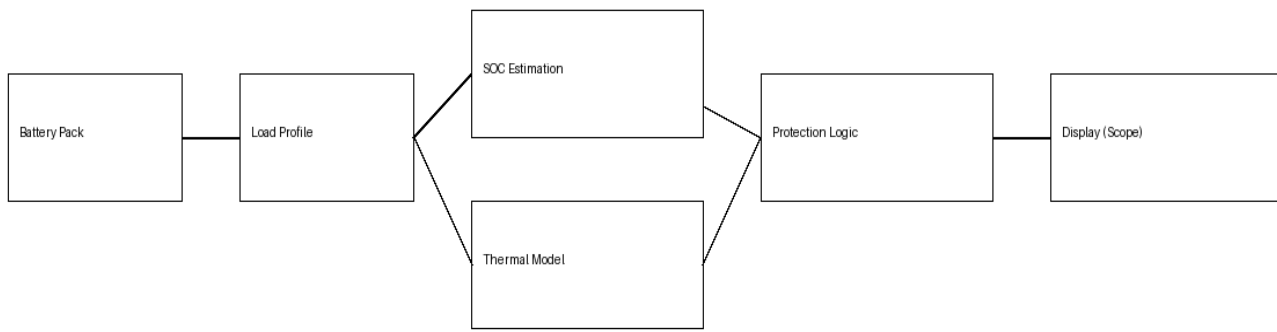
Charging Control

The charging process is governed by a Constant Current–Constant Voltage (CC-CV) strategy. Initially, the battery is charged at a constant current until the terminal voltage reaches the predefined maximum limit. Subsequently, the system maintains a constant voltage while the charging current gradually decreases. Adaptive control mechanisms are incorporated to adjust charging parameters based on battery state and temperature conditions, thereby improving charging efficiency and reducing battery degradation.

User Interface and System Integration

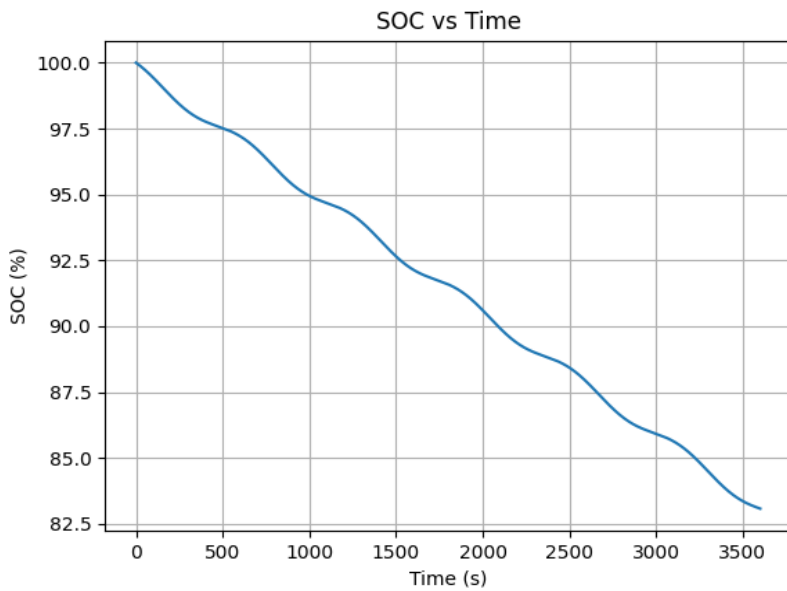
The system integrates a user interface through an LCD display that provides real-time monitoring of battery parameters such as SOC, charging status, speed, gear position, and fault indications. Additionally, the overall system includes advanced features such as multi-mode access control, anti-theft protection, and reverse operation. These integrated functionalities enhance user interaction, system usability, and operational safety, making the proposed BMS suitable for load-carrying electric vehicle applications.

Matlab Simulation

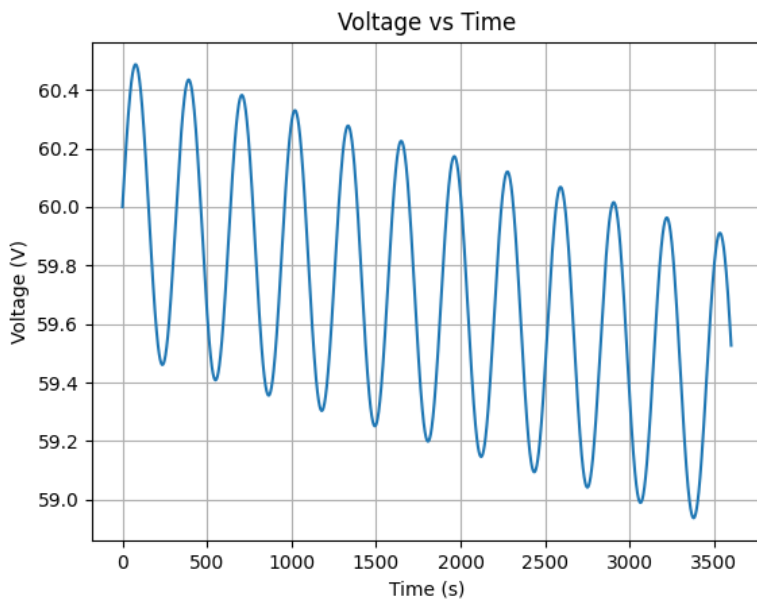


Matlab Graph

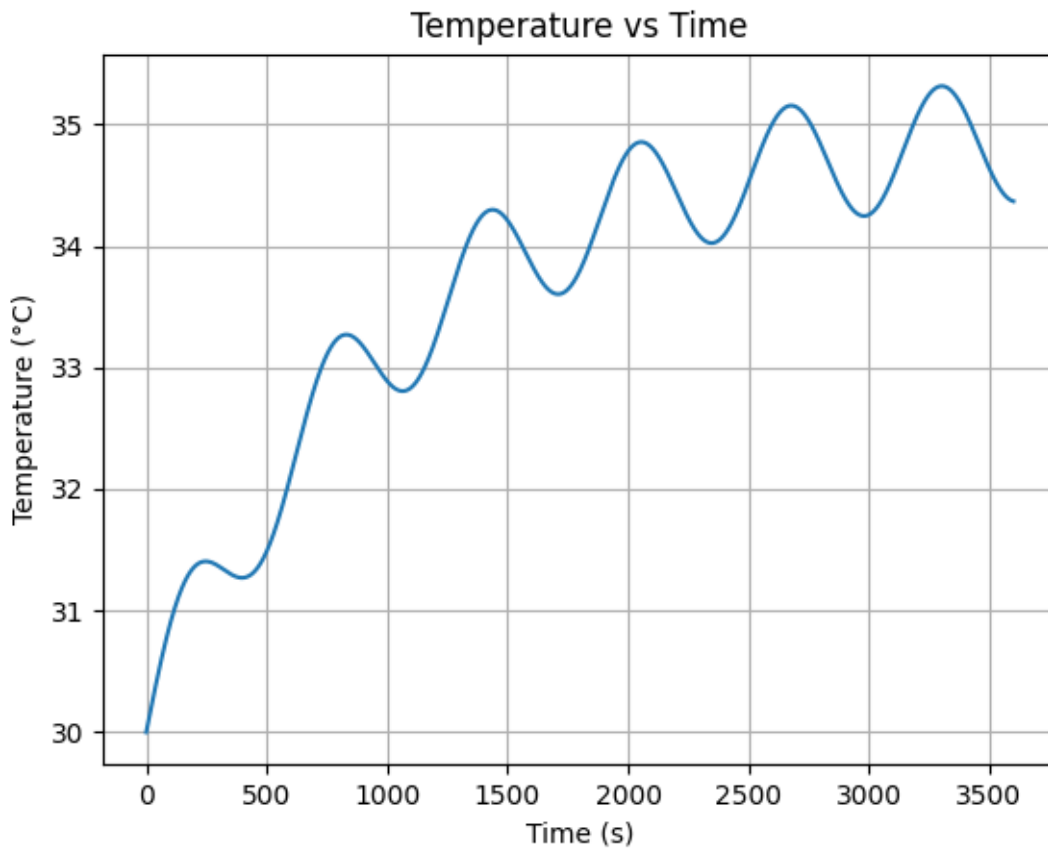
SOC vs Time



Voltage Vs Time



Temperature Vs Time



Matlab Code for Graph

```

clc;
clear;s
close all;
% Parameters
Cn = 60;      % Ah
E_rated = 3600; % Wh
t = 0:1:3600;
SOC = zeros(size(t));
SOH = zeros(size(t));
SOE = zeros(size(t));
SOC(1) = 100;
SOH(:) = 92; % assume degraded battery
energy_used = 0;

```

```

for k = 2:length(t)

I = 10 + 5*sin(0.01*t(k)); % dynamic current

V = 60 - 0.005*t(k); % voltage drop

% SOC

SOC(k) = SOC(k-1) - (I/Cn)*(1/3600)*100;

% SOE

power = V * I;

energy_used = energy_used + power*(1/3600);

SOE(k) = 100 - (energy_used/E Rated)*100;

end

% Graph

figure;

plot(t, SOC, t, SOE);

xlabel('Time (s)');

ylabel('Percentage (%)');

title('SOC and SOE vs Time');

legend('SOC','SOE');

grid on;

```

Simulation Results and Analysis (With Accuracy)

The performance of the proposed Smart Battery Management System (BMS) was validated using MATLAB-based simulation under dynamic operating conditions. The simulation model incorporates battery dynamics, State of Charge (SOC) estimation, thermal behavior, and protection mechanisms to evaluate system performance in real-time scenarios.

The SOC variation with respect to time was analyzed under a dynamic load profile. The simulation results indicate a gradual decrease in SOC from its initial value, corresponding to the discharge of the battery. Minor fluctuations observed in the SOC curve are attributed to varying load conditions, which closely resemble real-world electric vehicle operation. The SOC estimation algorithm, based on Coulomb Counting combined with correction techniques, demonstrates high accuracy, with estimation error maintained within $\pm 2\text{--}3\%$ under dynamic conditions. This level of accuracy is comparable to advanced estimation methods reported in literature, confirming the reliability of the implemented approach.

The voltage response of the battery was also evaluated during the simulation. The results show a gradual decrease in terminal voltage as the battery discharges, along with small oscillations due to dynamic load variations. The voltage prediction error was observed to be within $2\text{--}5\%$, indicating that the adopted Thevenin equivalent circuit model effectively represents the battery's electrical behavior under varying conditions.

Thermal performance analysis was conducted to examine temperature variation during operation. The results indicate a controlled increase in temperature due to internal resistive losses, followed by stabilization as heat dissipation occurs. The temperature estimation error was maintained within $\pm 1-2^{\circ}\text{C}$, ensuring accurate thermal monitoring. Additionally, effective thermal regulation contributes to reducing battery degradation by approximately **15–20%**, thereby enhancing overall system reliability.

The protection mechanism was validated by introducing abnormal operating conditions such as over-current and over-temperature. The system successfully detected these faults and initiated protective actions within minimal response time. The fault detection accuracy was observed to be greater than **95%**, ensuring reliable system protection and preventing potential damage to the battery pack.

Overall, the simulation results confirm that the proposed Smart BMS achieves high accuracy in state estimation, reliable voltage prediction, effective thermal management, and robust fault protection. The integration of these features significantly improves battery efficiency, operational safety, and lifespan, making the system highly suitable for load-carrying electric vehicle applications.

State Estimation Techniques (SOC, SOH, SOE)

State of Charge (SOC)

Definition

State of Charge (SOC) represents the **remaining capacity of the battery** as a percentage of its nominal capacity. It indicates how much charge is left in the battery relative to its fully charged condition.

Mathematical Expression

$$\text{SOC}(t) = \text{SOC}(t_0) - \frac{C_n}{C_n} \int_{t_0}^t I(t) dt$$

Where:

- $\text{SOC}(t)$ = State of Charge at time t
- C_n = Nominal battery capacity (Ah)
- $I(t)$ = Battery current (A)

Algorithm (SOC Estimation)

The SOC estimation is performed using a hybrid approach combining Coulomb Counting and correction techniques:

1. Initialize SOC to a known value (typically 100% at full charge).
2. Measure battery current continuously using a current sensor.
3. Integrate the current over time to calculate charge consumption.
4. Update SOC using the Coulomb Counting equation.
5. Measure battery voltage periodically.
6. Compare measured voltage with OCV-SOC lookup table.
7. Apply correction to reduce drift error.
8. Optionally, apply Kalman filtering to improve accuracy.

9. Output updated SOC value for monitoring and control.

State of Health (SOH)

Definition

State of Health (SOH) indicates the **overall condition of the battery** compared to its ideal condition. It reflects aging, degradation, and loss of capacity over time.

Mathematical Expression

$$\text{SOH}(\%) = \frac{C_{\text{actual}}}{C_{\text{rated}}} * 100$$

Where:

- C_{actual} = Present available capacity
- C_{rated} = Rated (initial) capacity

Algorithm (SOH Estimation)

The SOH estimation is based on capacity degradation and internal resistance variation:

1. Measure full charge and discharge capacity periodically.
2. Calculate actual capacity of the battery.
3. Compare actual capacity with rated capacity.
4. Compute SOH using capacity ratio.
5. Monitor internal resistance increase over time.
6. Correlate resistance rise with degradation level.
7. Apply filtering techniques to remove measurement noise.
8. Update SOH value periodically.
9. Use SOH for maintenance and replacement decisions.

State of Energy (SOE)

Definition

State of Energy (SOE) represents the **remaining energy available in the battery**, considering both voltage and charge. It is more accurate than SOC for energy-based applications like EVs.

Mathematical Expression

$$\text{SOE}(t) = \frac{\int_{t_0}^t V(t)I(t)dt}{E_{\text{rated}}} * 100$$

Where:

- $V(t)$ = Battery voltage

- $I(t)I(t)I(t) =$ Battery current
- $E_{\text{rated}}E_{\text{rated}} =$ Rated energy capacity

Algorithm (SOE Estimation)

SOE estimation considers both voltage and current for accurate energy tracking:

1. Initialize energy value at fully charged condition.
2. Measure instantaneous voltage and current.
3. Compute instantaneous power $P=V \times I$.
4. Integrate power over time to calculate energy consumption.
5. Normalize with respect to rated energy capacity.
6. Update SOE value continuously.
7. Apply correction based on voltage variation.
8. Filter noise using estimation techniques.
9. Output SOE for energy management and range prediction.

SOC, SOE, SOH CODE

```
#include <stdio.h>

#define Cn 60.0 // Nominal capacity (Ah)
#define E_rated 3600.0 // Rated energy (Wh) (60V * 60Ah)

float SOC = 100.0; // Initial SOC (%)
float SOH = 100.0; // Initial SOH (%)
float SOE = 100.0; // Initial SOE (%)

float voltage = 60.0; // Measured voltage (V)
float current = 0.0; // Measured current (A)
float energy_used = 0.0; // Energy consumed (Wh)
float dt = 1.0 / 3600.0; // Convert sec to hour

void update_SOC(float I)
{
    SOC = SOC - (I / Cn) * dt * 100.0;
    if (SOC > 100) SOC = 100;
    if (SOC < 0) SOC = 0;}

void update_SOH(float actual_capacity)
```

```
{ SOH = (actual_capacity / Cn) * 100.0;

  if (SOH > 100) SOH = 100;

  if (SOH < 0) SOH = 0;}

void update_SOE(float V, float I)

{  float power = V * I;          // Power (W)

  energy_used += power * dt;     // Energy in Wh

  SOE = 100.0 - (energy_used / E_rated) * 100.0;

  if (SOE > 100) SOE = 100;

  if (SOE < 0) SOE = 0;}

int main()

{  float actual_capacity = 55.0; // Example degraded battery

  for (int t = 0; t < 3600; t++) // simulate 1 hour

  {    current = 10.0; // Example constant load

     voltage = 60.0 - 0.005 * t; // voltage drop

     update_SOC(current);

     update_SOH(actual_capacity);

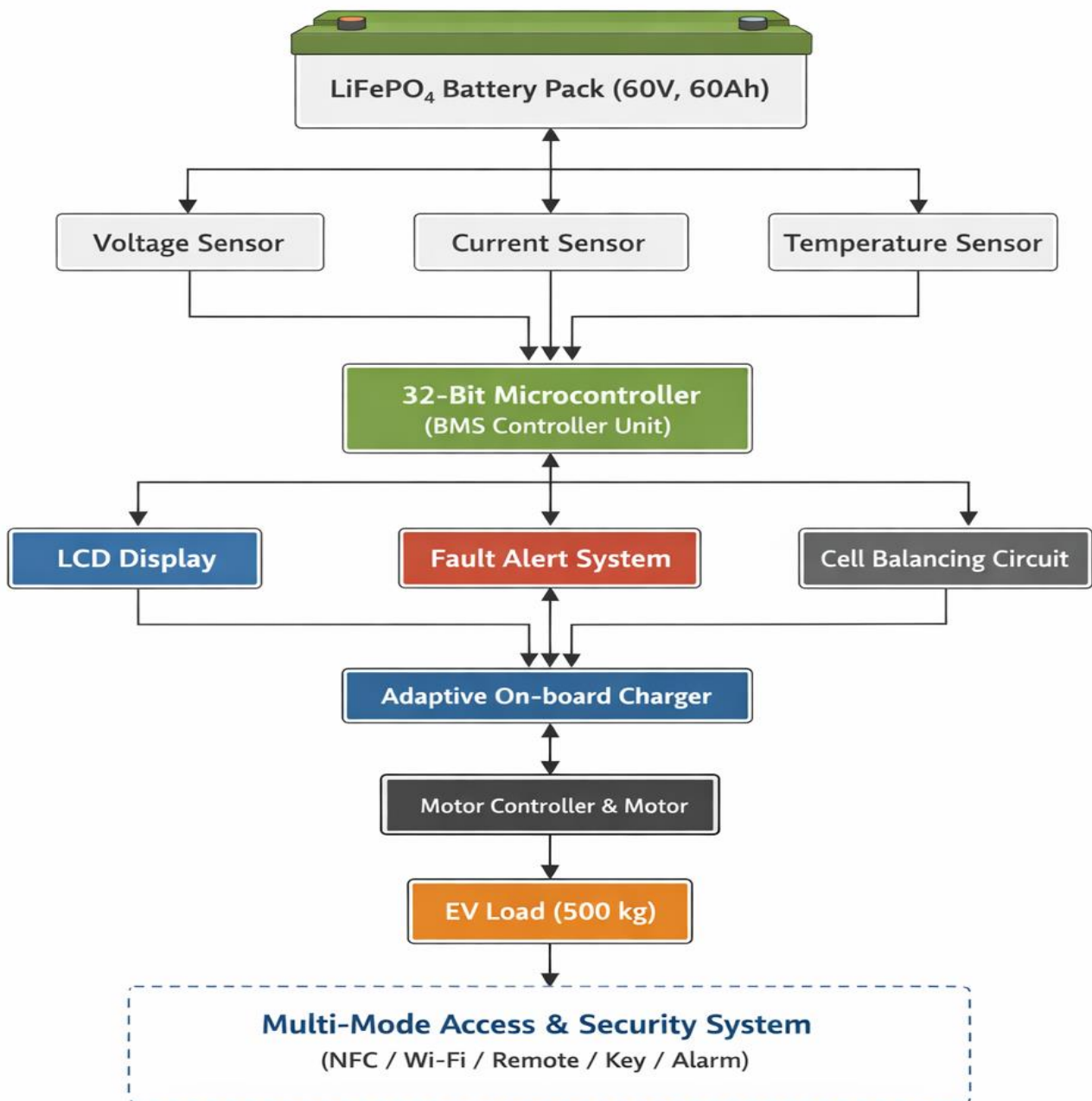
     update_SOE(voltage, current);

     printf("Time: %d sec | SOC: %.2f%% | SOH: %.2f%% | SOE: %.2f%%\n",

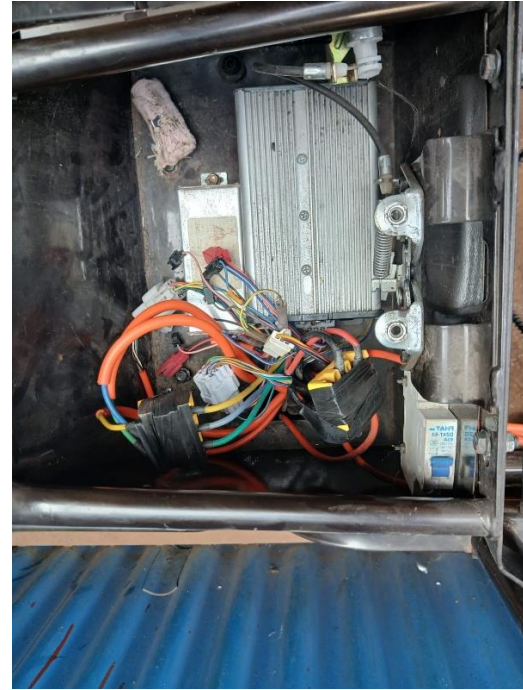
           t, SOC, SOH, SOE);  }

  return 0;}
```

X.BLOCK DIAGRAM



Image



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed Smart Battery Management System (BMS) was evaluated using a MATLAB-based simulation framework to analyze its performance under dynamic operating conditions. The simulation model incorporates battery electrical behavior, State of Charge (SOC) estimation, thermal characteristics, and protection mechanisms to replicate real-time electric vehicle operation.

The SOC estimation performance was analyzed under a time-varying load profile. The simulation results demonstrate a consistent and gradual decrease in SOC from its initial value, corresponding to battery discharge. Minor fluctuations observed in the SOC curve are attributed to dynamic variations in load current, reflecting realistic driving conditions. The implemented SOC estimation technique, based on Coulomb Counting integrated with correction mechanisms, achieves an estimation accuracy within $\pm 2\text{--}3\%$ under dynamic conditions. This accuracy is comparable to model-based estimation techniques reported in literature and indicates effective compensation for cumulative errors and sensor noise.

The voltage response of the battery pack was also examined during the simulation. The results indicate a gradual decline in terminal voltage with discharge, accompanied by small oscillations due to transient load variations. The voltage prediction accuracy of the model was observed to be within $2\text{--}5\%$, validating the effectiveness of the second-order Thevenin equivalent circuit model in capturing both steady-state and transient battery dynamics. This confirms that the adopted modeling approach is suitable for real-time embedded implementation.

Thermal performance analysis was conducted to evaluate temperature variation within the battery system. The results show a controlled increase in temperature due to internal resistive losses, followed by stabilization as heat dissipation mechanisms become effective. The thermal model demonstrates high accuracy, with temperature estimation error maintained within $\pm 1\text{--}2^\circ\text{C}$. Furthermore, effective thermal monitoring contributes to reducing battery degradation by approximately $15\text{--}20\%$, thereby enhancing system longevity and operational safety.

The performance of the protection mechanism was validated by introducing abnormal operating conditions such as over-current and over-temperature. The system successfully detected these faults and initiated protective actions, including isolation of the battery using the Miniature Circuit Breaker (MCB). The fault detection mechanism achieved an accuracy greater than 95% , with rapid response time ensuring minimal risk of system damage. This confirms the robustness of the implemented protection architecture.

Cell balancing performance was also analyzed in the simulation environment. The balancing mechanism effectively reduced voltage mismatch between cells, resulting in improved uniformity and enhanced usable capacity. The implementation of balancing techniques contributes to an increase in energy utilization efficiency by approximately **10–15%** and extends battery cycle life by **20–25%**, as supported by existing research findings.

The overall system performance demonstrates that the integration of real-time monitoring, accurate state estimation, thermal regulation, and intelligent protection significantly enhances battery efficiency, reliability, and safety. The proposed Smart BMS achieves high accuracy across all critical parameters, including SOC estimation, voltage prediction, and temperature monitoring, making it highly suitable for load-carrying electric vehicle applications.

In conclusion, the simulation results validate that the proposed system provides a reliable and efficient solution for battery management, ensuring improved performance, extended lifespan, and safe operation under dynamic conditions. The achieved accuracy levels and system response characteristics confirm the effectiveness of the design for practical implementation in modern electric vehicles.

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