

# Gym's hybrid system for off-grid renewable energy solutions

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## ABSTRACT

The primary objectives behind transitioning from fossil fuels to green energy sources, with a particular focus on reducing both electricity costs and carbon emissions. This transition has prompted various sectors and sports bikes, to embrace renewable energy alternatives, with a specific emphasis on technologies such as photovoltaic systems, energy storage solutions, and power generation from machines. The core subject of investigation in this paper is the application of renewable energy sources within sports bikes, with a particular emphasis on a hybrid system. This hybrid system incorporates DC/DC, AC/DC, and DC/AC converters to meet the energy requirements of the facility. The central aim of the research is to identify the most economically efficient scale for a self-sufficient hybrid photovoltaic system that integrates stationary generators and battery storage. The research seeks to optimize the balance between cost-effectiveness and sustainable energy provision in the context of sports facilities.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The global shift from conventional to renewable energy is crucial due to escalating environmental damage and fast resource depletion [1], [2]. The adoption of renewable energy is increasing to meet growing global energy needs [3], [4]. Enhanced use of existing renewable sources provides clear benefits, while the development of hybrid systems creates research opportunities [5], [6]. In contrast, power generators for sports bikes convert physical energy into electricity, while photovoltaic (PV) systems directly convert solar energy into electricity, known for cost-effectiveness [7]-[9]. Renewable energy sources can independently power sports facilities and offer efficient resource utilization [10]. Optimizing hybrid systems with renewable sources requires a thorough assessment of target functions, connecting various sources to an isolated microgrid through a DC-Bus [11]. Evaluating renewable energy systems, whether single or multiple sources, necessitates considering long-term performance evolution [12], [13].

By leveraging energy source complementarity and temporal distribution, a hybrid system combines athlete-generated and battery-stored energy to compensate for sunlight shortages. Using an AC/DC converter for stationary generators and a photovoltaic DC/DC converter results in a more stable gym power supply with smaller system components. This approach is ideal for gyms with ample solar potential, power-generating machines, and effective resource complementarity, as shown in Figure 1.

The document is structured as follows: Section 2 explains the conversion of stationary bikes and the storage system. In section 3 covers the photovoltaic system conversion. In section 4 presents simulation results and performance evaluations. In section 5 concludes the paper.

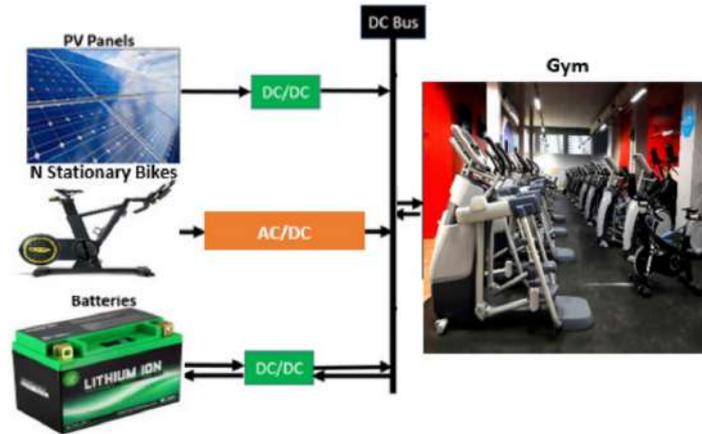


Figure 1. Hybrid system overview

## 2. STATIONARY BIKES CONVERSION AND STORAGE SYSTEM

### 2.1. Structure and system description

In Figure 2, the depicted system comprises  $N$  stationary bikes equipped with squirrel cage induction generators, and these generators are interconnected to AC/DC converters arranged in parallel with the DC-Bus voltage [14]. To facilitate efficient energy management, a buck-boost DC/DC converter is employed to oversee the charging of Li-ion batteries under conditions conducive to favorable load resistance  $R$  states. The charging process is regulated using pulse width modulation (PWM) technology [15]. This arrangement demonstrates a sophisticated approach to harnessing energy from stationary bikes, optimizing the conversion process, and efficiently managing energy storage for subsequent use. The use of AC/DC converters, combined with the buck-boost DC/DC converter and PWM control, showcases an integrated system designed for enhanced energy harvesting and storage in the context of stationary bike power generation.

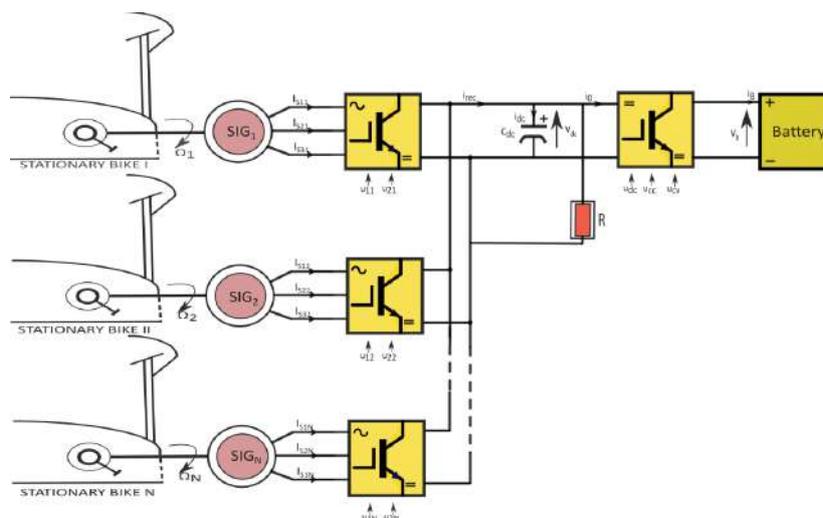


Figure 2. Conversion process of stationary bikes and storage systems

## 2.2. System modeling

The mathematical model presented is as (1)-(9), depicting the analyzed system, is derived using standard Kirchhoff laws, where  $k$  ranges from 1 to  $N$ . The complete model in the  $(\alpha, \beta)$  coordinate system is as (1)-(9) [16].

$$\dot{x}_{1i} = -\frac{f}{J}x_{1i} + \frac{M_{sr}}{L_r} \frac{p}{J}(x_{3i}x_{4i} - x_{2i}x_{5i}) - \frac{T_{Gi}}{J} \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{x}_{2i} = \frac{R_r M_{sr}}{\sigma L_s L_r^2} x_{4i} + \frac{p M_{sr} x_5}{\sigma L_s L_r} x_{1i} - \gamma x_{2i} + \frac{V_{dc}}{\sigma L_s} u_{1i} \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{x}_{3i} = \frac{R_r M_{sr}}{\sigma L_s L_r^2} x_{5i} - \frac{p M_{sr} x_{4i}}{\sigma L_s L_r} x_{1i} - \gamma x_{3i} + \frac{V_{dc}}{\sigma L_s} u_{2i} \quad (3)$$

$$\dot{x}_{4i} = -\frac{R_r}{L_r} x_{4i} + \frac{R_r}{L_r} M_{sr} x_{2i} - p x_{1i} x_{5i} \quad (4)$$

$$\dot{x}_{5i} = -\frac{R_r}{L_r} x_{5i} + \frac{R_r}{L_r} M_{sr} x_{3i} + p x_{1i} x_{4i} \quad (5)$$

$$\dot{x}_6 = \frac{1}{C_{dc}} \sum_{i=1}^N (u_{1i} x_{2i} + u_{2i} x_{3i}) - \frac{1}{RC_{dc}} x_6 - \frac{u_{34}}{C_{dc}} x_7 \quad (6)$$

$$\dot{x}_7 = -\frac{r_0}{l_0} x_7 - \frac{1}{l_0} x_8 + \frac{u_{34}}{l_0} x_6 \quad (7)$$

$$\dot{x}_8 = \frac{1}{C_0} x_7 - \frac{1}{R_b C_0} x_8 + \frac{1}{R_b C_0} x_9 \quad (8)$$

$$\dot{x}_9 = \frac{1}{R_b C_b} x_8 - \left( \frac{1}{R_b C_b} + \frac{1}{R_p C_b} \right) x_9 \quad (9)$$

The state variables are selected as follows:  $x_{1i} = \bar{\Omega}_{1i}$ ,  $x_{2i} = \bar{i}_{s\alpha i}$ ,  $x_{3i} = \bar{i}_{s\beta i}$ ,  $x_{4i} = \bar{\phi}_{r\alpha i}$ ,  $x_{5i} = \bar{\phi}_{r\beta i}$ ,  $x_6 = \bar{v}_{dc}$ ,  $x_7 = \bar{i}_l$ ,  $x_8 = \bar{v}_b$ ,  $x_9 = \bar{v}_c$ . Where  $\bar{\Omega}_{1i}$ ,  $\bar{i}_{s\alpha i}$ ,  $\bar{i}_{s\beta i}$ ,  $\bar{\phi}_{r\alpha i}$ ,  $\bar{\phi}_{r\beta i}$ ,  $T_G$  the average variables for the  $i^{th}$  stationary bicycle, including angular speed, stator currents, rotor fluxes, and generator torque,  $\bar{v}_{dc}$ ,  $\bar{i}_l$ ,  $\bar{v}_b$  and  $\bar{v}_c$  are respectively represent the DC/DC converter input voltage, inductor current, battery voltage, and battery internal voltage, respectively. The parameters  $\gamma$  and  $\sigma$  are defined as:

$$\sigma = 1 - \frac{M_{sr}^2}{L_s L_r} ; \quad \gamma = \frac{M_{sr}^2 R_r + L_s^2 R_s}{\sigma L_s L_r^2}$$

The stator voltages  $v_{s\alpha i}$ ,  $v_{s\beta i}$  produced by the asynchronous generator, can be individually regulated through the rectifier with the commands  $u_{1i}$  and  $u_{2i}$ . These voltages are determined based on the control action and the rectifier's output voltage.

$$v_{s\alpha i} = v_{dc} u_{1i} ; \quad v_{s\beta i} = v_{dc} u_{2i}$$

The rectifier's output current  $i_r$  is calculated using the following relationship.

$$\bar{i}_r = \sum_{i=1}^N (u_{1i} x_{2i} + u_{2i} x_{3i})$$

The switching signals  $u_{1i}$  and  $u_{2i}$  are represented in the reference frame  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and are generated using a PWM circuit based on the three-phase duty cycle values  $(s_{1i}, s_{2i}, s_{3i})$ . These duty cycle values are binary inputs that can take on finite set values, either  $(s_{ii} = 0$  if  $S_{ii}$  is off and  $S'_{ii}$  is on) or  $(s_{ii} = 1$  if  $S_{ii}$  is on and  $S'_{ii}$  is off). The internal structure of the AC/DC/DC converters and the Li-ion battery is illustrated in Figure 2.

### 2.3. Design and analysis of controllers

Designing a regulator for electromagnetic torque and rotor flux magnitude: applying the nonlinear backstepping control, taking into consideration the following tracking errors [17].

$$z_{1i} = T_{emi}^* - T_{emi} \tag{10}$$

$$z_{2i} = \Phi_{ri}^{*2} - (x_{4i}^2 + x_{5i}^2) \tag{11}$$

The torque and flux control laws of stationary generators are given as (12).

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_{1i} \\ u_{2i} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{0i} & \varphi_{1i} \\ \varphi_{2i} & \varphi_{3i} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} -\zeta_{1i}z_{1i} - \dot{T}_{emi}^* + \mu_{3i} \\ \zeta_{3i}z_{3i} + \zeta_{2i}z_{2i}(2\frac{R_r}{L_r} - \zeta_{2i}) + \mu_{4i} \end{pmatrix} \tag{12}$$

With,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{0i} &= \frac{pM_{sr}v_{dc}}{\sigma L_r L_s} x_{5i} \varphi_{1i} = -\frac{pM_{sr}v_{dc}}{\sigma L_r L_s} x_{4i} \\ \varphi_{2i} &= \frac{2R_r M_{sr} v_{dc}}{\sigma L_r L_s} x_{4i} \varphi_{3i} = \frac{2R_r M_{sr} v_{dc}}{\sigma L_r L_s} x_{5i} \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\zeta_1, \zeta_2$  and  $\zeta_3$  are positive design parameters.

And,

$$\mu_{3i} = \frac{pM_{sr}}{L_r} (\gamma + \frac{R_r}{L_r}) (x_{2i}x_{5i} - x_{3i}x_{4i}) - \frac{(pM_{sr})^2}{\sigma L_s L_r^2} x_{1i} (x_{4i}^2 + x_{5i}^2) - \frac{p^2 M_{sr}}{L_r} x_{1i} (x_{2i}x_{4i} + x_{3i}x_{5i}) \tag{13}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{4i} &= 4\Phi_{ri}^* \dot{\Phi}_{ri}^* + 2(\dot{\Phi}_{ri}^{*2} + \Phi_{ri}^* \ddot{\Phi}_{ri}^*) - \frac{2R_r M_{sr} p}{L_r} x_{1i} (x_{3i}x_{4i} - x_{2i}x_{5i}) - \frac{2R_r^2 M_{sr}^2}{L_r^3 \sigma L_s} (x_{4i}^2 + x_{5i}^2) + 2M_{sr} (\frac{R_r}{L_r} + \gamma) \\ &\quad (x_{2i}x_{4i} + x_{3i}x_{5i}) - 2(\frac{R_r}{L_r M_{sr}})^2 (x_{2i}^2 + x_{3i}^2) \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

Controllers for DC voltage and battery current: to ensure the stability of the DC-Bus and regulate battery current, the following errors are presented as (15)-(18) [18], [19].

$$z_4 = x_6 - v_{dc}^* \tag{15}$$

$$z_5 = i_b - i_b^* = \frac{1}{R_b} (x_8 - x_9) - i_b^* \tag{16}$$

$$u_{dc} = \frac{1}{x_7} [\sum_{i=1}^N (u_{1i}x_{2i} + u_{2i}x_{3i}) + C_{dc}\zeta_4 Z_4 - C_{dc}v_{dc}^*] \tag{17}$$

$$u_{cc} = \frac{1}{x_6} [\lambda_1 z_5 + \lambda_2 z_6 + \lambda_3 x_7 + \lambda_4 x_8 + \lambda_5 x_9] \tag{18}$$

With,

$$\lambda_1 = -(1 - \zeta_5^2) l_0 C_0 R_b$$

$$\lambda_2 = -(\zeta_5 + \zeta_6) l_0 C_0 R_b$$

$$\lambda_3 = r_0 + \alpha_1 l_0$$

$$\lambda_4 = 1 - \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{R_b C_0} + \frac{\alpha_2}{R_b C_b} \right) l_0 C_0$$

$$\lambda_5 = \left[ \frac{\alpha_1}{R_b C_0} + \left( \frac{1}{R_b C_b} + \frac{1}{R_p C_b} \right) \alpha_2 \right] l_0 C_0$$

Where  $\zeta_4, \zeta_5, \zeta_6$  are positive design parameters.

Table 1. Controller parameters

Regulators	Symbol	Value
Generator torque and flux regulators	$\zeta_{1i}, \zeta_{2i}, \zeta_{3i}$	$15 \cdot 10^2, 5 \cdot 10^2, 50$
DC-Link voltage regulator	$\zeta_4$	$10^4$
Current battery regulator	$\zeta_{5i}, \zeta_{6i}$	$10^2, 10,$

Table 2. Characteristics of the system

Parameters of the system	Notation	Value
Induction machine		
Nominal power	$P_n$	3.63 KW
Stator resistor	$R_s$	0.77 $\Omega$
Rotor resistor	$R_r$	0.31 $\Omega$
Stator cyclic inductor	$L_s$	0.076 H
Rotor cyclic inductor	$L_r$	0.043 H
Rotor resistor	$R_r$	0.22 $\Omega$
Mutual inductor	$M_{sr}$	0.045 H
Rotor inertia	J	11.6 Nm/rd/s <sup>2</sup>
Viscous resistance	f	0.017 Nm/rd/s
Number of pole pairs	p	2
AC-DC-DC converters		
DC-Bus capacitor	$C_{dc}$	410 $\mu$ F
Inductor	$l_0, r_0$	16/0.3 mH/ $\Omega$
Battery		
Battery capacitor	$C_0$	550 $\mu$ F
Battery ESR	$R_b$	0.6 $\Omega$
Battery EPR	$R_p$	1.1 K $\Omega$
Battery capacitance	$C_b$	600 F

### 3. PHOTOVOLTAIC CONVERSION SYSTEM

The photovoltaic system is analyzed using SimPowerSystems and SimElectronics, utilizing electronic components and integrating power point tracker (MPPT) control perturb and observe (P&O) [20]. The MPPT algorithm's purpose is to optimize the PV system's power output [21]. The boost converter model, which employs the P&O algorithm, is shown in Figures 3 and 4. The primary focus is on constructing the DC-DC converter model, specifically the boost converter, allowing the MPPT controller to adjust the duty cycle, affecting the input-output voltage ratio [22]. In essence, changing the duty cycle adjusts either the PV system's output voltage or the boost converter's input voltage, with the input voltage of the boost converter considered as the photovoltaic system's output [23]. A PV panel generates electrical power and employs MPPT with the P&O algorithm. An additional boost converter is used to stabilize the DC-Bus voltage [24]. Solar panels are made up of multiple cells arranged in parallel and series configurations, producing energy influenced by weather conditions like solar radiation and temperature [25]. In Figure 5, the model is a SunPower SPR-400E-WHT-D multicrystalline silicon panel with 14 cells in parallel for a max current of 82.18 A and 6 cells in series for a max voltage of 511.8 V. This panel serves as the primary energy source, following the stationary generator system when athletes aren't using stationary bikes. The photovoltaic power optimization depends on the battery's state of charge (SOC). When this condition is met, the MPPT control function regulates the DC-Bus voltage, as shown in Figure 5.

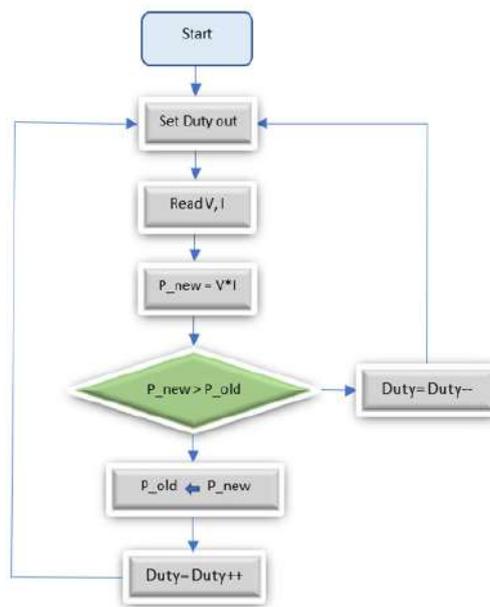


Figure 3. P&O algorithm

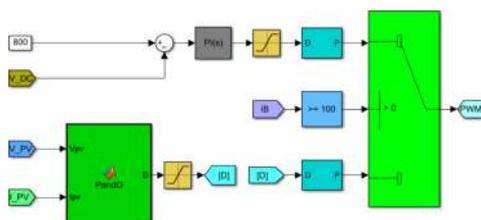


Figure 4. PWM signal of the boost converter

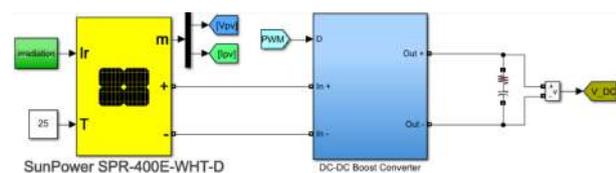


Figure 5. Chain of photovoltaic system conversion

#### 4. SIMULATION RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

The MATLAB/SIMULINK simulation results align with the initial objectives and are examined in detail for each goal. To validate theoretical findings, the system in Figure 2 was tested with two stationary bikes ( $N = 2$ ), considering the values in Tables 1 and 2. Figure 6 illustrates the successful torque tracking objective, with each stationary bike ( $T_{em1}$  or  $T_{em2}$ ) operating at its optimal torque level. These values closely match their respective references  $T_{em1}^*$  or  $T_{em2}^*$  with precision and robustness. Figure 7 demonstrates the successful tracking of the rotor flux controller to its reference  $\phi_r^*$ . Figure 8 affirms the steady control of the DC-Bus voltage, converging towards the target voltage  $v_{dc}^* = 800$  V. This result is achieved through the well-designed backstepping control-based controller and the MPPT control of the photovoltaic system, crucial for DC-Bus regulation. Figures 9 and 10 showcase the storage system's effective performance and resilience, with battery current rapidly converging to its reference  $i_b^* = 100$  A in Figure 9. Figure 10 illustrates how the battery's state of charge (SOC) varies based on energy flow within the DC-Bus, charging during excess energy availability and discharging to power the sports hall's loads. The primary goal of minimizing energy consumption costs is achieved by favoring renewable energy sources (photovoltaic system and stationary bike generators) when coupled with a storage system. Figure 11 displays a robust hybrid system effectively combining various energy sources to meet the sports facility's energy demands. As exemplified in Figure 11, the storage system compensates for slow responses and low irradiation during  $[0s, 0.125s]$ , while during  $[1.5s, 2s]$ , it charges gradually when the photovoltaic and stationary bike energy generation meets demand, then discharges within  $[2s, 2.625s]$  to fulfill the hall's energy needs.

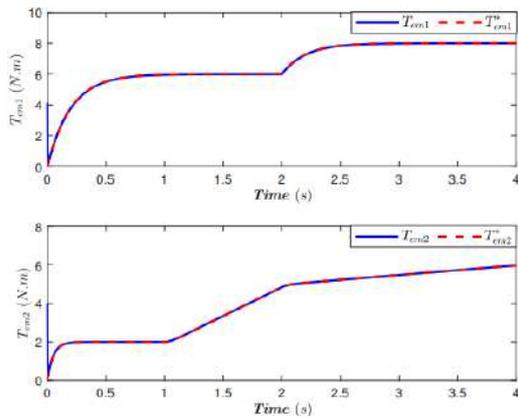


Figure 6. Electromagnetic torques of stationary bikes

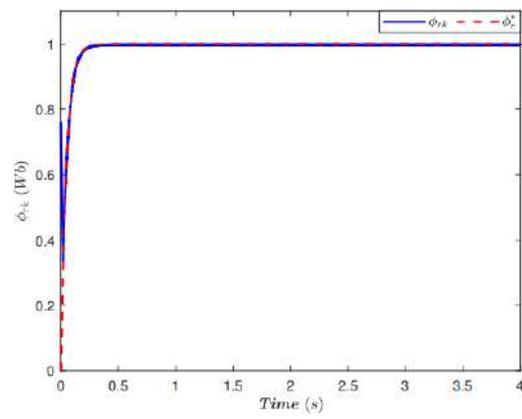


Figure 7. Flux rotor

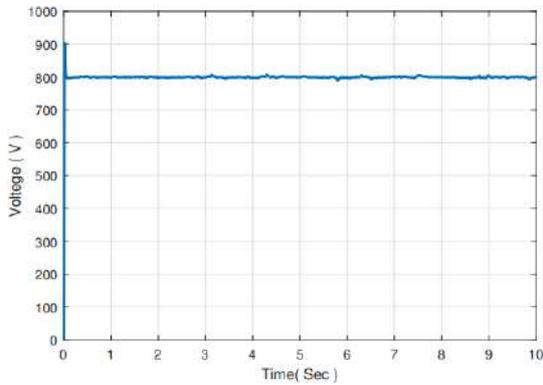


Figure 8. DC-Bus voltage

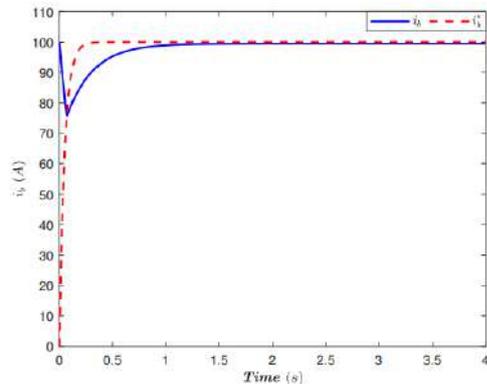


Figure 9. Current of the battery

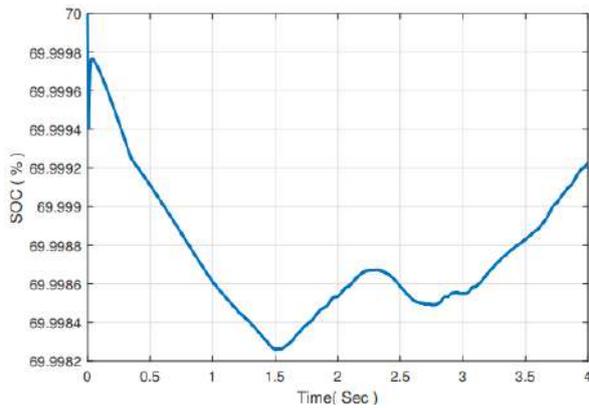


Figure 10. SOC of the battery

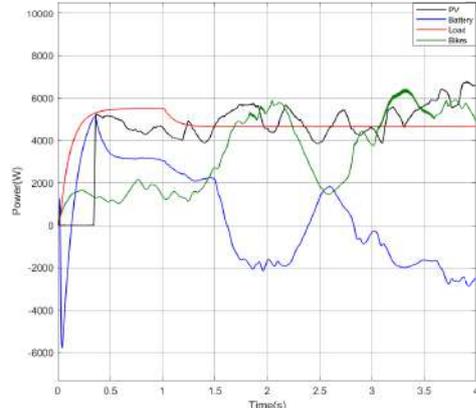


Figure 11. Power management

**5. CONCLUSION**

This article is part of the drive for fitness centers to optimize their electricity consumption. It aligns with the ambitious global goals for renewable energy sources within the framework of climate change mitigation and reducing electricity costs. With the utilization of electricity generated from stationary bikes, modern sports facilities can establish their autonomous micro-grid through a hybrid system that combines multiple energy sources, including stationary bike generators, photovoltaic energy, and a storage system.

Governed by an energy management algorithm, this system ensures a balance between the gym's energy demand and the supply from the hybrid system.

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