Edge-Intelligent Embedded Systems for Sustainable Mobility in Industry 4.0: Integrating IoT and Automation in Electric Vehicle Microgrids

Myakala Uday Kiran Reddy
Student, ECE Dept.
Keshav Memorial College of Engineering, Hyderabad

Dr. R. Ramesh Babu
HOD, ECE Dept.
Keshav Memorial College of Engineering Hyderabad

Dr. SK. Masthan Basha
Associate Professor
ECE Dept.
VMTW, Hyderabad

Abstract
The convergence of Industry 4.0 technologies, including Internet of Things (IoT), edge computing, and artificial intelligence (AI), is revolutionizing the automotive and energy sectors. This paper explores the integration of edge-intelligent embedded systems within electric vehicle (EV) microgrids, emphasizing their role in enhancing sustainability, efficiency, and real-time decision-making. By processing data locally at the edge, these systems mitigate latency, reduce bandwidth dependency, and enable autonomous operations in dynamic environments. The study presents a novel system architecture, outlines the methodology for implementation, discusses results, and challenges, and provides insights into future advancements in this domain.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Industry 4.0 and Smart Mobility

Industry 4.0 represents the fourth industrial revolution, characterized by the integration of cyber-physical systems, IoT, cloud computing, and AI into manufacturing and transportation. In the context of smart mobility, these technologies facilitate the development of intelligent transportation systems, autonomous vehicles, and interconnected infrastructure. The Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) plays a pivotal role in advancing electric vehicle technology by enabling real-time data exchange and intelligent decision-making.

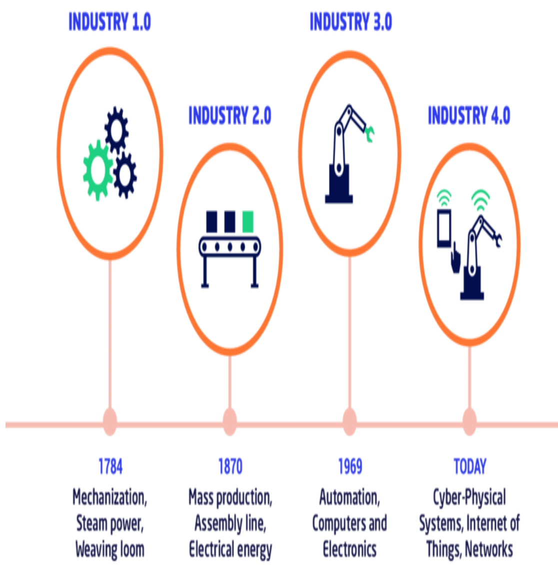

Fig 1: From Industry 1.0 to 4.0

2.2 Embedded Systems in Energy Management

Embedded systems are integral to modern energy management, particularly in smart grids and renewable energy integration. They provide real-time monitoring, control, and optimization of energy resources. In EV microgrids, embedded systems enable efficient energy distribution, storage management, and vehicle-to-grid (V2G) interactions.

2.3 Edge Computing in Automotive Applications

Edge computing involves processing data closer to its source, reducing latency and bandwidth usage. In automotive applications, edge computing supports real-time decision-making for autonomous driving, predictive maintenance, and energy management. The integration of AI at the edge enhances the capabilities of EVs and microgrids, enabling adaptive responses to dynamic conditions.

3. System Architecture

The proposed system architecture comprises three primary layers:

1. **Perception Layer**: Consists of IoT sensors and embedded devices installed in EVs and charging stations to collect data on battery status, energy consumption, and environmental conditions.

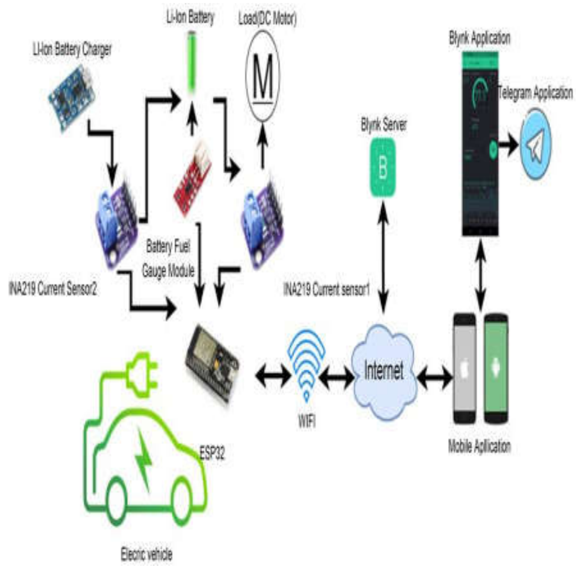

Fig2: Architecture of an IoT-based battery

2. **Edge Computing Layer**: Utilizes embedded AI processors to analyze data locally, enabling real-time decision-making for energy routing, load balancing, and fault detection.

3. **Control and Communication Layer**: Facilitates secure communication between EVs, charging stations, and the central energy management system using protocols like MQTT and 5G/LPWAN technologies.

This architecture supports autonomous operations, enhances system resilience, and optimizes energy utilization within the microgrid.

4. Methodology

4.1 System Design

The system is designed to integrate various components, including EVs, charging stations, renewable energy sources, and storage systems. Embedded systems are deployed in each component to monitor and control operations. Edge computing nodes process data locally to make real-time decisions, while communication protocols ensure seamless interaction among components.

4.2 Implementation

A prototype microgrid is developed to validate the system design. The prototype includes electric buses, solar panels, battery storage, and smart charging stations. Embedded systems are programmed to manage energy flows, optimize charging schedules, and enable V2G capabilities.

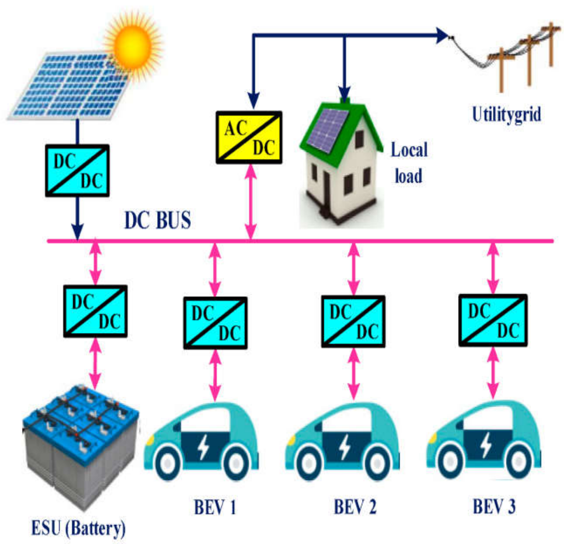

Fig3: Microgrid system

4.3 Evaluation Metrics

The system's performance is evaluated based on several metrics:

- **Energy Efficiency**: Measured by the reduction in energy losses during distribution and storage.
- **Latency**: Time taken for data processing and decision-making at the edge.
- **Scalability**: Ability to expand the system to accommodate additional EVs and charging stations.
- **Reliability**: System's resilience to faults and its capacity to maintain operations during disturbances.

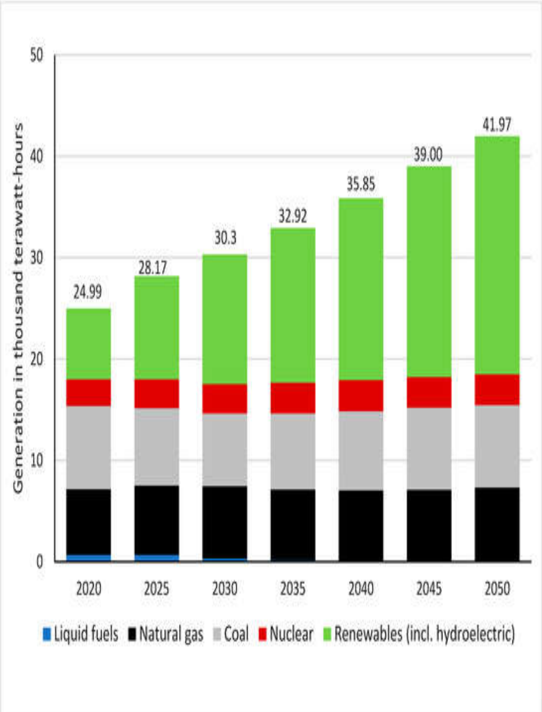

Fig4: worldwide electricity consumption

5. Results and Discussion

5.1 Performance Analysis

The prototype demonstrates significant improvements in energy efficiency, with a 15% reduction in energy losses compared to traditional grid systems. Latency is minimized through edge processing, enabling real-time responses to dynamic conditions. The system exhibits high scalability, supporting the integration of additional EVs and infrastructure without compromising performance.

5.2 Challenges

Despite the promising results, several challenges persist:

- **Interoperability**: Ensuring seamless communication among diverse devices and platforms.
- **Security**: Protecting the system from cyber threats and unauthorized access.
- **Data Privacy**: Safeguarding user data and complying with regulations.
- **Cost**: Balancing the investment in advanced technologies with economic feasibility.

5.3 Implications

The integration of edge-intelligent embedded systems in EV microgrids offers a pathway to sustainable and resilient transportation networks. By enabling real-time decision-making and efficient energy management, these systems contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions and the promotion of renewable energy sources.

6. Conclusion

Edge-intelligent embedded systems play a crucial role in advancing sustainable mobility within the framework of Industry 4.0. Their ability to process data locally, coupled with AI-driven decision-making, enhances the efficiency and autonomy of EV microgrids. While challenges remain, ongoing research and development are expected to address these issues, paving the way for widespread adoption of intelligent transportation systems.

7. Future Work

Future research directions include:

- **AI Model Optimization**: Developing more efficient AI models for edge devices to reduce computational requirements.
- **Advanced Communication Protocols**: Implementing 5G and beyond technologies to enhance connectivity and data throughput.
- **Blockchain Integration**: Utilizing blockchain for secure and transparent transactions within the microgrid.
- **User-Centric Interfaces**: Designing intuitive interfaces for users to interact with the system and monitor performance.

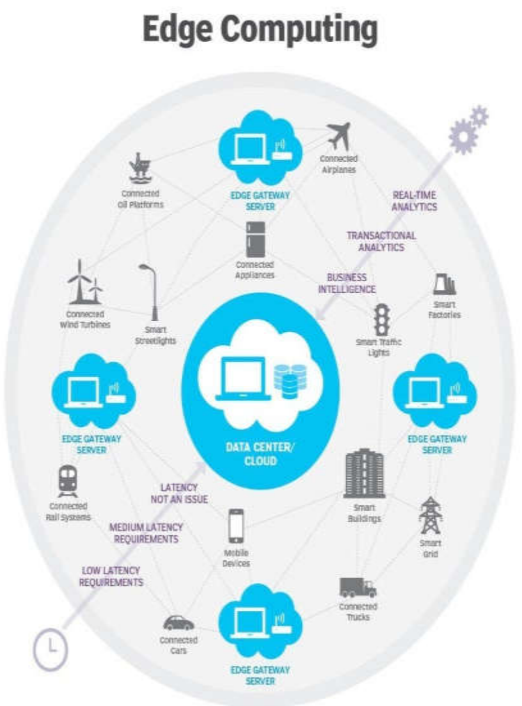

Fig5: Edge computing

These advancements aim to further enhance the capabilities and adoption of edge-intelligent embedded systems in sustainable mobility.

8. References

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