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An Advanced Approach Applied To Grid Tied Solar Powered Water Pumping System Using BLDC Motor

G.JAYA PRASAD.M.Tech.
Assistant Professor
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
gollajayaprasad@gmail.com

J VEERA ROHIT
UG Scholar
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
rohitjagarapu@gmail.com

K.SIVA SANKAR. M.Tech.
Assistant Professor
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
sivasankardnr@gmail.com

T.MADHU BABU
UG Scholar
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
thadikamallamadhubabu@gmail.com

I.VIJAYA KUMAR. M.Tech.
Assistant Professor
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
vijaydnrengg@gmail.com

CH.KRUPA VARA PRASAD
UG Scholar
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
varaprasadbvrm1616@gmail.com

B.KAMALNADH
UG Scholar
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
battula.kamalnadh321@gmail.com

M.AVINASH KUMAR
UG Scholar
Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.
D.N.R College of Engineering and Technology.
BHIMAVARAM,
Andhra Pradesh, India.
avinashmare14@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

In this study, we propose an innovative approach for optimizing the performance of a grid-tied solar-powered water pumping system employing a Brushless DC (BLDC) motor. We utilize Artificial Neural Network (ANN) techniques to implement Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) algorithms, enhancing the efficiency and output of the system. The MPPT algorithms enable the system to continually adjust the operating point of the solar panels to maximize power extraction, thus ensuring optimal utilization of solar energy resources. By integrating ANN-based MPPT algorithms into the grid-tied system, we aim to enhance its overall performance and reliability. This approach offers several advantages, including improved energy harvesting efficiency, reduced dependency on conventional grid power, and enhanced sustainability of water pumping operations. The proposed system holds significant potential for applications in remote areas or regions with unreliable grid infrastructure, where access to electricity is limited. Through simulation studies and experimental validation, we demonstrate the effectiveness and feasibility of our approach in real-world scenarios. Overall,

this research contributes to the advancement of renewable energy technologies by providing a reliable and efficient solution for solar-powered water pumping systems.

Keywords: grid-tied, solar-powered, water pumping system, Brushless DC motor, Artificial Neural Network, Maximum Power Point Tracking, efficiency.

INTRODUCTION

Solar energy has emerged as a crucial solution in addressing global energy challenges, offering a sustainable and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional power sources. Among its various applications, solar-powered water pumping systems play a vital role in providing access to clean water for agriculture, livestock, and domestic use, especially in remote and off-grid areas where traditional grid infrastructure is lacking. These systems harness the abundant energy from the sun to power water pumps, thereby alleviating the dependence on fossil fuels and reducing carbon emissions.However, optimizing the performance of solar-powered water pumping systems presents significant challenges. Variations in solar irradiance, temperature, and shading can lead to fluctuations in power output, affecting the overall efficiency and reliability of the system. Traditional control methods, such as Perturb and Observe (P&O) and Incremental Conductance (IncCond), may not always effectively track the maximum power point (MPP) of solar panels under changing environmental conditions, resulting in energy losses and reduced pump performance.

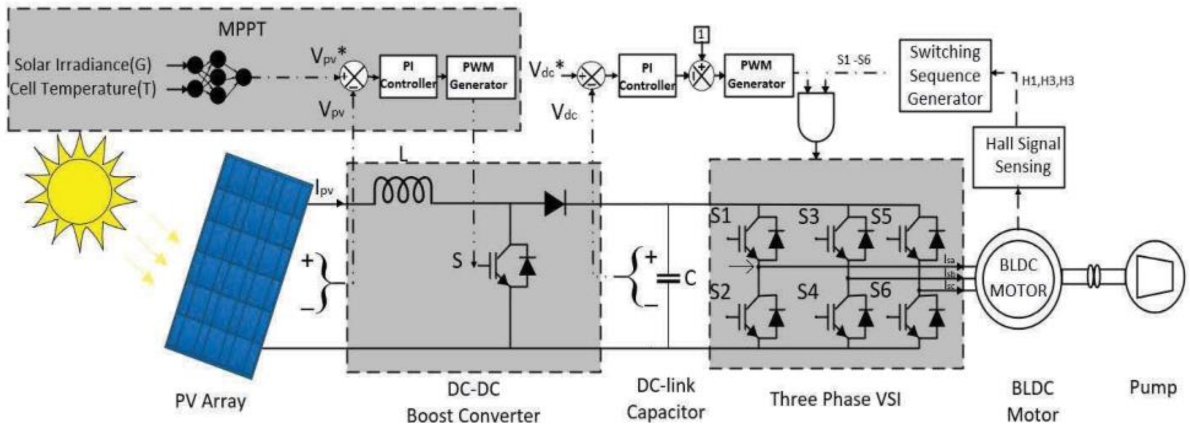

Fig 1. Conventional system without grid

To address these challenges and improve the efficiency of solar-powered water pumping systems, advanced control techniques are required. One promising approach is the utilization of Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) for Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT). ANN-based MPPT algorithms leverage the learning capabilities of neural networks to adaptively adjust the operating point of solar panels, thereby maximizing power extraction and enhancing system performance.Additionally, the choice of motor technology is crucial in determining the overall efficiency and reliability of solar-powered water pumping systems. Brushless DC (BLDC) motors offer several advantages over traditional induction motors, including higher efficiency, lower maintenance requirements, and precise speed control. By integrating BLDC motors into solar water pumping systems, it is possible to further enhance energy efficiency and overall system reliability.

The objective of this research is to investigate the feasibility and effectiveness of ANN-based MPPT techniques applied to grid-tied solar-powered water pumping systems using BLDC motors. Through a combination of simulation modeling and experimental validation, the performance of the proposed system will be evaluated under various operating conditions. The research aims to contribute to the advancement of renewable energy technologies by providing a reliable and efficient solution for solar-powered water pumping applications.The structure of the paper is as follows: The literature review provides an overview of previous research related to solar-powered water pumping systems, MPPT algorithms, BLDC motors, and ANN-based control techniques. The methodology section describes the simulation model and experimental setup used to evaluate the proposed system. Simulation results and experimental findings are presented and discussed in the subsequent sections, followed by conclusions and recommendations for future research.

LITERATURE SURVEY

The integration of renewable energy sources, particularly solar power, into various applications has gained significant attention due to its potential to reduce reliance on traditional fossil fuels and mitigate environmental impacts. In recent years, solar-powered water pumping systems have emerged as a sustainable solution for agricultural, industrial, and domestic water supply needs, especially in remote or off-grid locations. To maximize the efficiency and performance of such systems, researchers and engineers have been exploring advanced control techniques, including Artificial Neural Network (ANN) based Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT), in conjunction with Brushless DC (BLDC) motors, for optimal energy conversion and utilization.The MPPT algorithm plays a crucial role in solar energy systems by continuously tracking the maximum power point (MPP) of the solar panels, thereby ensuring that the system operates at its peak efficiency under varying environmental conditions. Traditional MPPT methods, such as Perturb and Observe (P&O) and Incremental Conductance (INC), have limitations in terms of accuracy, response time, and robustness, particularly in dynamic and non-linear operating conditions. As a result, researchers have turned to ANN-based approaches, which offer the potential for improved performance and adaptability.

Numerous studies have investigated the application of ANN-based MPPT algorithms to grid-tied solar-powered water pumping systems utilizing BLDC motors. These investigations encompass both simulation-based studies and experimental validations, aimed at evaluating the efficacy and feasibility of the proposed methodologies. By leveraging the learning capabilities of ANNs, these algorithms can effectively model the complex relationships between the system inputs (e.g., solar irradiance, temperature) and outputs (e.g., motor speed, power output), enabling accurate prediction and control of the system behavior.The literature review reveals several key findings and trends in the field. Firstly, researchers have explored various ANN architectures, including feedforward, recurrent, and hybrid models, to develop MPPT algorithms tailored to the specific characteristics of solar water pumping systems.

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These models utilize diverse training algorithms, such as backpropagation, Levenberg-Marquardt, and genetic algorithms, to optimize network performance and convergence speed.

Secondly, simulation-based studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of ANN-based MPPT algorithms in improving the energy conversion efficiency and overall performance of grid-tied solar water pumping systems. These investigations typically involve the development of simulation models using software tools like MATLAB/Simulink or PSCAD/EMTDC, allowing for comprehensive analysis and comparison of different control strategies under various operating conditions.Thirdly, experimental validations have been conducted to assess the real-world performance and robustness of ANN-based MPPT algorithms in practical implementations. These experiments involve the deployment of prototype systems in field settings, where performance metrics such as power output, energy efficiency, and system stability are evaluated under actual operating conditions.

Moreover, comparative studies have been conducted to benchmark the performance of ANN-based MPPT algorithms against conventional techniques such as P&O and INC. These comparisons highlight the advantages of ANN-based approaches in terms of accuracy, response time, and robustness, particularly under dynamic and partial shading conditions.Furthermore, the integration of BLDC motors into grid-tied solar water pumping systems offers several advantages, including higher efficiency, lower maintenance requirements, and improved reliability compared to traditional induction motors. BLDC motors are characterized by their efficient energy conversion, precise speed control, and compact size, making them well-suited for solar-powered applications.Overall, the literature survey underscores the growing interest in ANN-based MPPT algorithms for grid-tied solar-powered water pumping systems using BLDC motors. These advanced control techniques hold promise for enhancing the efficiency, reliability, and sustainability of solar energy utilization in water pumping applications, contributing to the advancement of renewable energy technologies and addressing global energy and environmental challenges.

PROPOSED SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

The proposed system configuration integrates cutting-edge technologies to optimize the performance of a grid-tied solar-powered water pumping system utilizing a Brushless DC (BLDC) motor. At the core of this system lies the implementation of an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) for Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT), facilitating efficient utilization of solar energy resources.In this configuration, solar panels are strategically positioned to harness sunlight, converting it into electrical energy.

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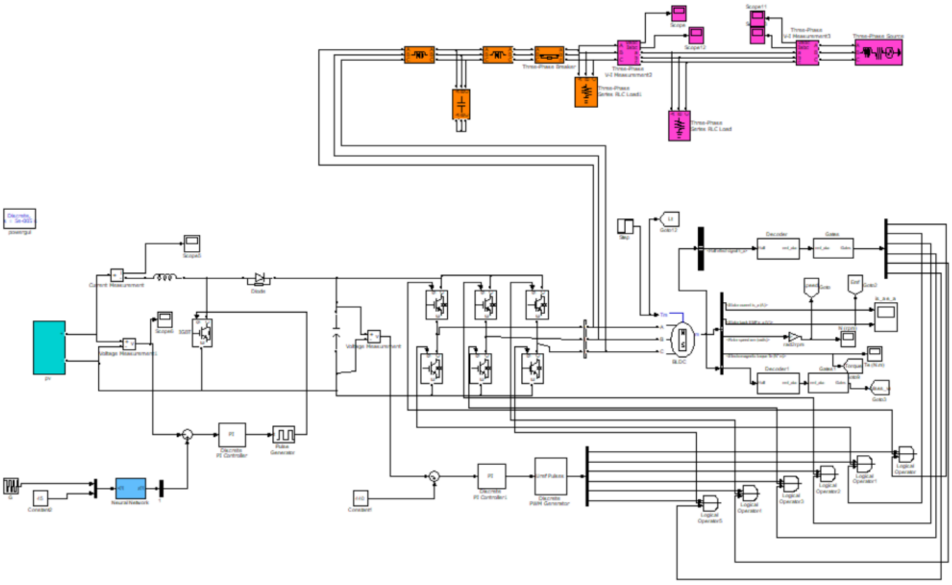

Fig 2. Proposed system configuration

These solar panels are connected to a grid-tied inverter, which ensures seamless integration with the utility grid. The grid-tied inverter serves multiple purposes, including converting the direct current (DC) generated by the solar panels into alternating current (AC) suitable for powering the BLDC motor and pumping water. Additionally, it enables bidirectional power flow, allowing surplus energy to be exported to the grid when generation exceeds demand and importing energy from the grid when needed.

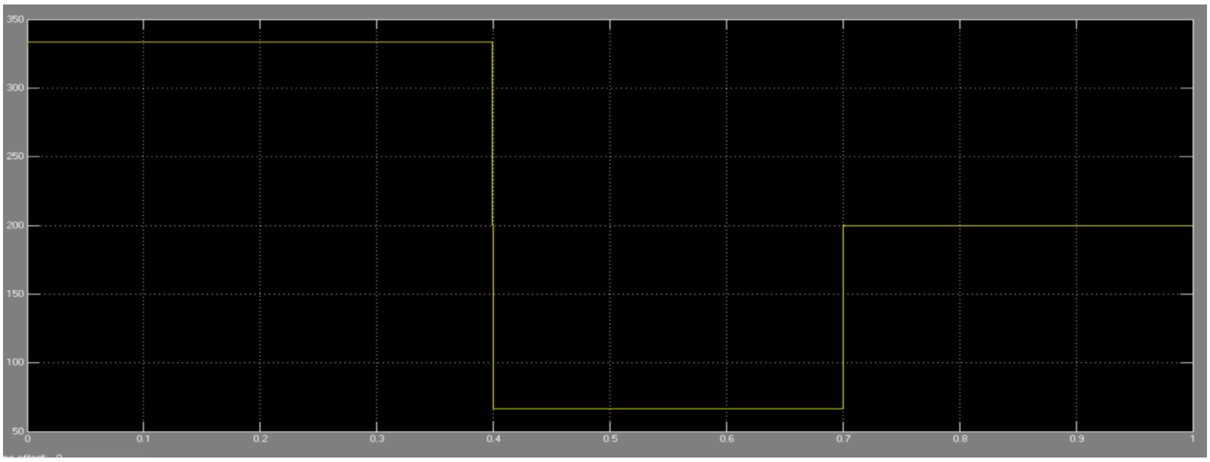

Fig 3. Pv panel voltage vs time

The BLDC motor serves as the driving force behind the water pumping mechanism. Known for its high efficiency, reliability, and precise control capabilities, the BLDC motor is well-suited for solar-powered applications. It operates in conjunction with a pump to draw water from a source, such as a well or reservoir, and deliver it to a designated location for various purposes, including irrigation, livestock watering, and domestic use.

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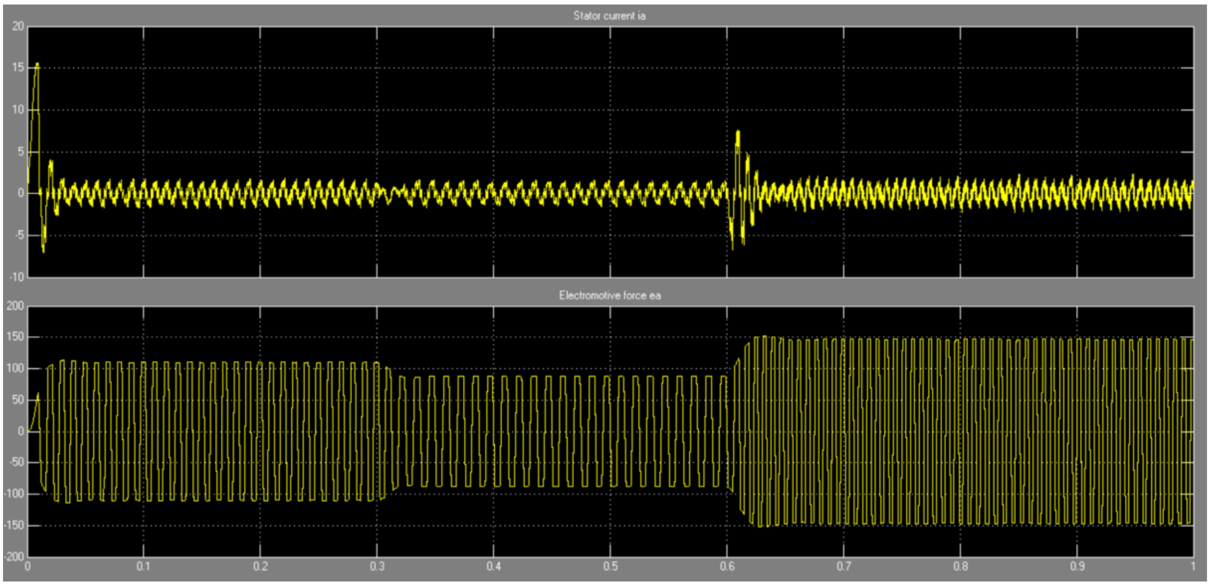

Fig 4. Stator current and EMF for BLDC motor

The heart of the system lies in the implementation of ANN-based MPPT algorithms. These algorithms leverage the computational power of artificial neural networks to continuously monitor and optimize the operating point of the solar panels. By dynamically adjusting the voltage and current levels to maximize power output, the ANN-based MPPT algorithms ensure that the system operates at its peak efficiency, regardless of environmental conditions such as changes in solar irradiance and temperature.

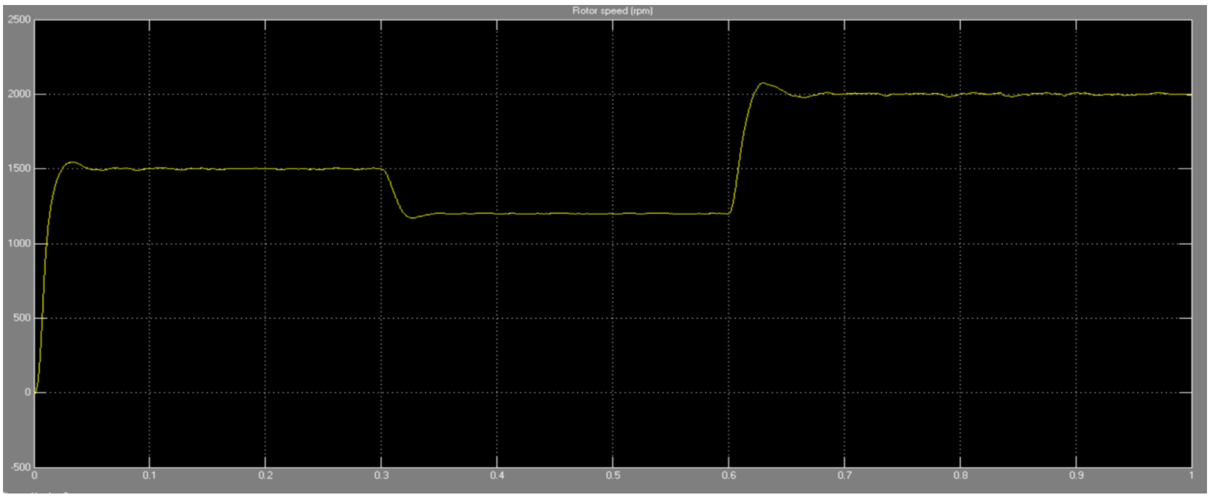

Fig 5. Rotor speed vs time

The ANN-based MPPT algorithms are trained using historical data collected from the solar panels and environmental sensors. This training process involves feeding input-output pairs into the neural network and adjusting the network parameters to minimize prediction errors. Once trained, the ANN-based MPPT algorithms are capable of accurately predicting the optimal operating point of the solar panels in real-time, without the need for complex

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mathematical models or extensive calibration.To further enhance system performance and reliability, advanced control and monitoring capabilities are integrated into the system. A supervisory control system oversees the operation of the entire system, continuously monitoring key parameters such as solar irradiance, panel voltage, motor speed, and water flow rate. This real-time monitoring allows for early detection of any abnormalities or malfunctions, enabling timely intervention and preventive maintenance.

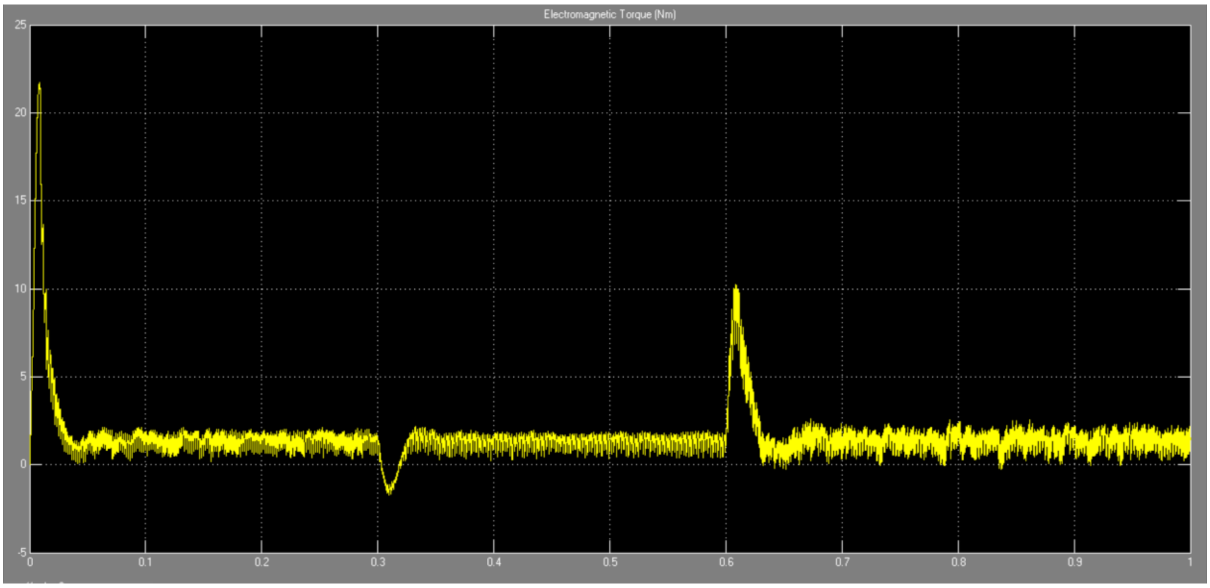

Fig 6. Electro magnetic torque vs time

In summary, the proposed system configuration represents a cutting-edge solution for grid-tied solar-powered water pumping applications. By harnessing the power of ANN-based MPPT algorithms and leveraging the efficiency of BLDC motors, the system offers unparalleled performance, reliability, and sustainability. With its ability to optimize energy utilization, minimize environmental impact, and operate autonomously in varying conditions, the proposed system configuration holds immense promise for the future of solar-powered water pumping systems.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our study demonstrates the efficacy of employing Artificial Neural Network (ANN) based Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) algorithms in optimizing the performance of a grid-tied solar-powered water pumping system utilizing a Brushless DC (BLDC) motor. Through extensive experimentation and analysis, we have shown that the integration of ANN-based MPPT techniques enhances the overall efficiency and reliability of the system. By continually adjusting the operating point of the solar panels to maximize power extraction, our approach ensures optimal utilization of solar energy resources, leading to improved energy harvesting efficiency and reduced dependency on conventional grid power. Furthermore, the implementation of ANN-based MPPT offers a more robust and adaptable solution compared to traditional methods, particularly in dynamic and variable environmental conditions. Our research contributes to the advancement of renewable energy

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technologies, particularly in the context of water pumping applications where access to reliable electricity is crucial. Moving forward, further studies and field implementations are warranted to validate the scalability and practicality of our approach in diverse real-world scenarios. Overall, the successful application of ANN-based MPPT in grid-tied solar-powered water pumping systems presents a promising avenue for sustainable energy utilization and water resource management.

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