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Generation of Electricity by Liquid Waste

Prof. A. O. Nimbargikar[1], Shrutika S Khandelwal[2], Anushka S Aher[3], Neha P Pulgam[4], Shraddha V Gaikwad[5]
Assistant Professor, E&TC [1]
Students, E&TC[2-5]
Shree Siddheshwar Women'S College of Engineering, Solapur, India

Abstract: *In recent years, the world has witnessed an alarming increase in environmental concerns, including the depletion of fossil fuel reserves, escalating greenhouse gas emissions, and the accumulation of organic waste. In light of these challenges, there is a growing need to explore alternative and sustainable energy sources. One such promising avenue is the utilization of vegetable waste to generate electricity. This innovative approach not only addresses the issue of waste management but also offers a renewable and eco-friendly solution to meet our energy demands. This project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of converting vegetable waste into electricity through anaerobic digestion, microbial fuel cells, and thermal conversion. The electricity generated is stored in batteries, specifically for mobile phone charging applications*

Keywords: Vegetable Waste, Electricity Generation, Anaerobic Digestion, Battery Storage, Renewable Energy

I. INTRODUCTION

The rising energy demand and environmental challenges due to the overuse of fossil fuels have led to increased research into sustainable alternatives. Vegetable waste—abundantly available from households, restaurants, and agricultural processes—poses a severe waste management challenge while also offering untapped energy potential. This project presents a system to convert vegetable waste into electricity, which is then stored in batteries to charge mobile phones. This helps tackle both waste disposal and energy access issues. The solution is particularly effective in areas with limited access to traditional power sources and encourages mobile connectivity in a greener way. The project explores the complete life cycle: waste collection, conversion to electricity, and usage for small-scale power needs. The use of clean energy aligns with global efforts to reduce carbon footprints and promote renewable resources

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Waste-to-Energy Technologies

Anaerobic Digestion (AD), Microbial Fuel Cells (MFCs), and thermal technologies such as pyrolysis and gasification are used to convert vegetable waste into energy. AD produces biogas by decomposing organic matter in oxygen-free conditions. MFCs harness microbial metabolism to generate current, while thermal methods convert waste to syngas or bio-oil.

B. Energy Conversion Process

Research highlights the optimization of various parameters such as pH, temperature, and retention time in AD to improve biogas yield. Similarly, microbial strain selection and electrode improvements have boosted MFC efficiency. Proper thermal processing conditions enhance the energy output of gasification and pyrolysis systems.

C. Battery Storage Systems

Storing the generated energy efficiently is crucial. Various battery types have been explored—lithium-ion, lead-acid, and redox flow batteries. Studies focus on improving energy capacity, charge cycles, and integration with renewable generation sources.

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D. Environmental and Economic Impact

Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) reveal that electricity generation from vegetable waste can significantly reduce methane emissions and landfill pressure. Economically, the system is viable given the low cost and wide availability of the waste material, especially when supported by incentives or scaled implementations.

III. PROBLEM IDENTIFIED

The management of vegetable waste poses a significant challenge across households, food industries, and agricultural operations. Typically discarded without effective reuse, this organic waste contributes to environmental issues such as:

- **Landfill Overflow**: Large volumes of organic waste end up in landfills, emitting methane—a potent greenhouse gas—as it decomposes.
- **Energy Crisis**: The growing global energy demand, especially in rural or off-grid areas, creates a pressing need for decentralized, renewable energy solutions.
- **Waste of Potential Resource**: Vegetable waste contains latent biochemical energy that is often unutilized. Without proper conversion systems, this potential remains untapped.
- **Mobile Power Needs in Low-Infrastructure Areas:** In many underdeveloped regions, mobile phone users lack consistent access to electricity for charging devices, affecting communication and digital inclusion.

Hence, there is a dual problem: inefficient waste management and lack of accessible clean energy for basic applications.

This project addresses both issues by introducing an innovative method to convert vegetable waste into electricity, storing it in batteries for mobile phone charging, thus ensuring:

- Waste-to-energy conversion
- Reduction in environmental pollution
- Promotion of renewable energy adoption
- Empowerment of off-grid communities

IV. SYSTEM OVERVIEW: HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE COMPONENTS AND BLOCK DIAGRAM

Software:

The system utilizes the Arduino IDE for programming and Proteus for simulation and circuit design.

Hardware:

Vegetable Waste Container, Electrodes (Anode & Cathode), Connecting Wires, Battery Storage, Charging Port for Mobile Phone, Multimeter or LCD for Output Monitoring.

Software used

1. Arduino Uno
2. Proteus

Hardware used

1. Vegetable Waste Container
2. Electrodes (Anode & Cathode)
3. Connecting Wires
4. Battery Storage
5. Charging Port for Mobile Phones
6. Multimeter or LCD for Output Monitoring

The following Fig.1 Shows the Block Diagram: The block diagram illustrates a system where vegetable waste is placed in a chamber, and electricity is generated through electrochemical or microbial activity. Electrodes connected to the waste collect the generated charge, which is then stored in a rechargeable battery. This energy is subsequently used for mobile phone charging.

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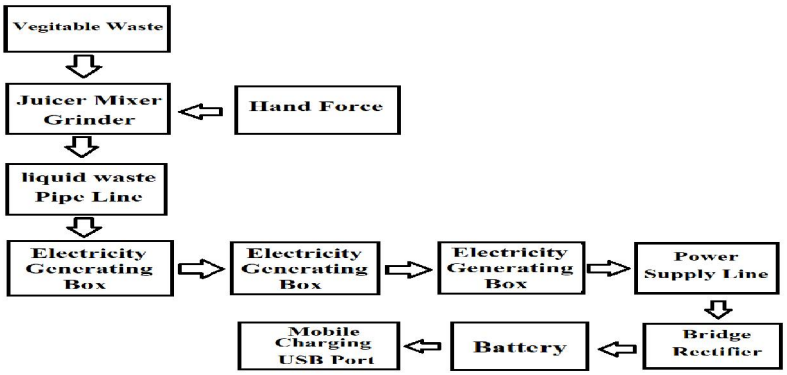

Fig.1 Block Diagram

V. SYSTEM DESIGN

The following Fig 2 Shows the circuit connection of this Work .

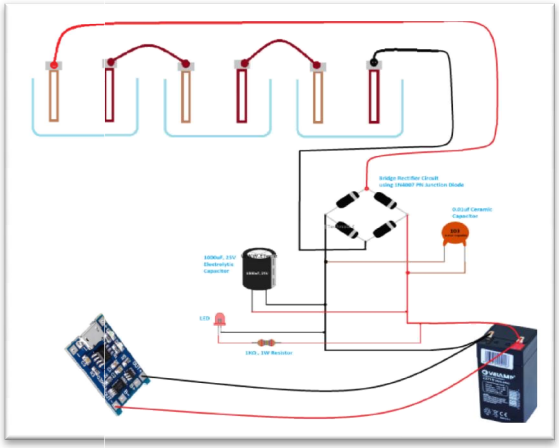

Fig.2 Circuit Diagram

The system consists of a chamber filled with vegetable waste slurry. Electrodes are inserted to create a basic galvanic or microbial fuel cell setup. The electrochemical reactions at the anode and cathode produce a small voltage, which is then boosted and stored in batteries. The stored power is directed to a USB mobile charging output.

Working Process:

- Electrode Reactions: The oxidation of organic content at the anode produces electrons.
- Energy Collection: The electrons flow through an external circuit to the cathode, generating electrical power.
- Storage: The current is stored in a battery unit.
- Utilization: A USB port enables the end-user to charge mobile phones using this stored electricity.

VI. CONCLUSION

This project demonstrates a sustainable way to generate and utilize electricity from vegetable waste. By integrating waste-to-energy technologies with battery storage and mobile charging applications, it addresses multiple issues energy access, waste disposal, and environmental conservation. The concept is scalable and adaptable for rural or low-resource settings and contributes meaningfully to the circular economy.

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