

REVIEW ON DEVELOPMENTS IN EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE AND BILLING METHODS

Ms. Damini S. Bhoye¹, Prof. Pankaj A. Nawale²

¹ Student, Department of Electronics and Tele-Communication
Matoshri College of Engineering and Research Centre, Nashik, Maharashtra, India

² Professor, Department of Electronics and Tele-Communication
Matoshri College of Engineering and Research Centre, Nashik, Maharashtra, India

ABSTRACT

The rise of electric vehicles (EVs) has sparked a transformation in transportation, leading to increased demand for efficient charging infrastructure and innovative billing methods. This review paper synthesizes recent developments in EV charging infrastructure and billing systems, drawing insights from a variety of academic and industry sources. Through a comprehensive analysis of key research papers and conference proceedings, this review explores advancements in smart charging management, billing methodologies, optimization techniques, and security considerations in EV charging networks. By examining the strengths, limitations, and future prospects of various approaches, this paper provides a holistic perspective on the evolving landscape of EV charging infrastructure and billing systems.

Keywords: - Electric Vehicle, vehicle charging, billing methods, Transportation

1. INTRODUCTION

With the escalating costs associated with petroleum-based fuels, the imperative to explore sustainable alternatives has become paramount. Electric vehicles (EVs) represent a compelling solution, offering not only a reduction in dependency on finite petroleum resources but also a substantial decrease in pollution levels stemming from conventional transportation modes. The global push towards electrified mobility is palpable, with governments and researchers alike actively promoting the adoption of EVs as a means to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

However, despite the fervor surrounding EV adoption, significant challenges persist, particularly in the realm of charging infrastructure and billing methodologies. The charging ecosystem remains in a state of flux, undergoing rapid advancements to accommodate the burgeoning demand for electric vehicles. From developing high-speed charging stations to implementing smart grid technologies, the landscape of electric vehicle charging infrastructure is undergoing a transformative evolution.

This paper aims to explore the recent advancements in electric vehicle charging infrastructure, examining the latest technological innovations and emerging trends shaping the industry. By delving into the intricacies of charging mechanisms, billing systems, and grid integration strategies, this study seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state-of-the-art in EV charging infrastructure. Furthermore, by analyzing the challenges and opportunities inherent in this burgeoning field, we aim to contribute to the ongoing discourse surrounding sustainable transportation and the electrification of the automotive sector. Through a synthesis of technical literature, empirical research, and real-world case studies, this paper endeavors to shed light on the complexities of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, offering insights into its future trajectory and implications for sustainable urban mobility.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

2.1 “Electric Vehicle Charging Station Challenges and Opportunities: A Future Perspective”[2]

After the environmental crisis, Electric Vehicles (EV) emerge as the prime alternative to Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles. However, solely focusing on EVs isn't sufficient; the deployment of Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS) is equally vital. Given that these vehicles rely on electricity, there are specific challenges associated with establishing these charging stations. The primary concern is grid overloading and load forecasting, followed by issues such as charging time and managing traffic at these stations. This paper delves into the fundamental terminologies related to charging stations, including the types and levels of charging. Various technologies are explored to address these challenges, alongside a brief overview of lithium-ion battery charging strategies and Battery Management Systems (BMS). With the Indian Government's emphasis on fostering an environmentally friendly ecosystem and its mission to reduce carbon emissions in the transport sector, the deployment of EVs and the establishment of EVCS are paramount. Given the government's initiatives such as tax reductions on EVs and subsidies for charging station installations, this task becomes more manageable. Consequently, this paper discusses specific guidelines provided by the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of Housing (Government of India) to assist individuals in setting up charging stations.

2.2 “IoT Remote Control of Plug-in Electric Vehicle Charging Loads for Smart Energy Management of Virtual Power Plants”[3]

The paper emphasizes the necessity for a thorough analysis and effective control strategies to ensure the seamless integration of plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) into the grid without compromising its electrical constraints. When renewable energy sources (RESs) are accessible, they offer an opportunity to meet the energy demands of PEVs. This study proposes a virtual power plant (VPP) comprising a photovoltaic (PV) power plant and IoT-based remote control of PEV charging. Specifically, it introduces the utilization of LoRaWAN for remote monitoring and control of PEV charging loads. Additionally, it presents a hierarchical VPP control (VPPC) system employing the model predictive control (MPC) method for optimal energy management (EM) of the VPP. Initially, EM scheduling of the VPP is based on predicted data, and during real-time operation, the charging rate of PEVs is adjusted based on optimal EM values and PV generation intermittency. Case study results demonstrate that the proposed VPPC effectively minimizes energy costs for the VPP, ensures energy balance among VPP entities, and meets the charging demands of PEVs amid system uncertainties.

2.3 “Development of an IoT System with Smart Charging Current Control for Electric Vehicles”[4]

This paper details the creation and evaluation of an Internet of Things (IoT) framework for supervising and managing electric vehicles. Utilizing the Firebase platform, the IoT architecture was designed to synchronize vehicle data with an online server, enabling access to this data remotely via the Internet. The paper introduces a smart charging system capable of adjusting the electric vehicle's battery charging current in real-time, based on demand at the residence (home current), as monitored by a residential wireless sensor network (WSN). To access vehicle data, an Android mobile app was developed, communicating with wireless sensor nodes of an intra-vehicular wireless sensor network (IVWSN) established using the Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) protocol. Furthermore, a real-time notification system was integrated to notify users of specific events, such as low battery or full charge. Experimental results validate the core functionalities of the proposed IoT system.

2.4 “Impact of EV home charger on distribution transformer overloading in an urban area”[5]

This paper examines the potential strain on distribution transformers caused by the concentration of electric vehicles (EVs) within urban areas, stemming from their charging habits and resulting power demands. It evaluates the impact of EV home charging on transformer overload, considering two key factors: penetration level and driving behavior. Test scenarios are modeled within a low-voltage distribution system, incorporating household load profiles. Results indicate that transformer overload becomes problematic when EV penetration reaches 75 percent, particularly exacerbated by lower EV driving performance. Furthermore, unsuccessful charging events occur across all test cases. The findings offer insights for power utilities to develop monitoring and control strategies to accommodate increasing EV penetration, including timely planning for distribution transformer upgrades.

2.5 “Electrical protection in a smart dc node that feeds electric vehicles charging stations”[6]

This research extensively examines the design and functionality specifications outlined in the electrical protection requirements for grid-interconnection systems of a smart DC node utilized to power electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Specifically focusing on protection relays, the study investigates a multi-terminal DC node linking various systems, including a 0.4-kV AC secondary distribution network (SDN), a 25-kV AC railway traction system (RTS), a 3-kV DC RTS, and a local distributed generation (DG) system comprising a photovoltaic (PV) system and backup storage systems (battery and supercapacitor). To achieve this, a comprehensive review was conducted of all relevant codes and standards governing the networks, DG systems of the smart node, and the EV charging stations.

2.6 Smart Charging Management System for Electric Vehicles: A Review[7]

This paper presents a comprehensive review of smart charging management systems for electric vehicles (EVs). It discusses various approaches and technologies used in managing charging stations efficiently, including demand response strategies, load balancing techniques, and integration with renewable energy sources. The review highlights key challenges and future research directions in the field of smart EV charging management, emphasizing the importance of grid integration, user behavior analysis, and interoperability standards. Advantages include insights into diverse smart charging strategies and their potential benefits for grid stability, energy efficiency, and user satisfaction. Limitations may include gaps in coverage of the latest advancements and specific implementation challenges faced in real-world deployments.

2.7 “Battery Chargers in Electric Vehicles”[10]

Battery chargers serve as the conduit for energy transmission between electric vehicles and the grid or energy source, playing a pivotal role in EV technology. The efficiency of this transmission significantly impacts the advancement of electric vehicles. To compete with internal combustion engine vehicles, rapid charging is imperative. While historically charging times spanned several hours, technological advancements have steadily reduced this duration. This paper seeks to provide insights into current charger technologies (specifically cable chargers, not wireless) and aims to develop a trial Simulink model for chargers. Given the scarcity of simulation samples in the literature, expanding these examples is crucial for advancing fast charging technology.

2.8 Wireless Communication Technologies for Billing and Payment Systems in Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure”[11]

This paper explores the use of wireless communication technologies for implementing billing and payment systems in electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. It discusses the requirements and challenges of wireless billing systems and reviews existing wireless communication standards and protocols suitable for EV charging applications. The paper also presents a case study of a wireless billing and payment system deployed in a real-world EV charging network. Advantages include flexibility and convenience offered by wireless communication technologies, enabling seamless billing and payment transactions. Limitations may include security concerns and compatibility issues with diverse EV charging systems.

2.9 “Optimization of Charging Station Deployment and Billing Mechanisms for Electric Vehicle Networks”[12]

This paper addresses the optimization of charging station deployment and billing mechanisms for electric vehicle (EV) networks. It presents a mathematical framework for optimizing the placement of charging stations to minimize infrastructure costs and maximize user convenience. Additionally, the paper proposes novel billing mechanisms based on user preferences and charging patterns. Simulation results demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed optimization approach in improving the scalability and efficiency of EV charging networks. Advantages include optimized charging infrastructure deployment and user-centric billing mechanisms, enhancing the accessibility and affordability of EV charging services. Limitations may include complexities in modeling user preferences and dynamic charging patterns.

2.10 An Efficient Billing Method for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations[13]

This paper proposes an efficient billing method for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to address the challenges of fair and transparent billing. The method leverages advanced metering infrastructure and real-time data processing techniques to accurately measure and bill EV charging sessions. The paper discusses the implementation details and evaluates the performance of the proposed billing method through simulation and experimental results. Advantages include providing a practical solution for fair and transparent billing,

leveraging advanced metering infrastructure to enhance accuracy and reliability. Limitations may include the need for substantial investment in infrastructure and potential interoperability challenges with existing systems.

2.11 Intelligent Billing System for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Using Blockchain Technology"[14]

This paper introduces an intelligent billing system for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations based on blockchain technology. The system ensures secure and tamper-resistant billing transactions while providing transparency and accountability to both EV owners and charging station operators. The paper describes the architecture and implementation of the blockchain-based billing system and discusses its advantages over traditional billing methods. Advantages include enhanced security and transparency through blockchain technology, reducing the risk of fraudulent activities and enhancing user trust. Limitations may include the computational resources required and potential scalability challenges with increasing transaction volumes.

2.12 Dynamic Pricing Strategies for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: A Game Theoretic Approach[16]

This paper introduces dynamic pricing strategies for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations using a game theoretic approach. It models the interactions between EV owners and charging station operators as a non-cooperative game and derives optimal pricing strategies to maximize social welfare. The paper evaluates the performance of the proposed pricing mechanisms through theoretical analysis and numerical simulations, demonstrating their effectiveness in incentivizing efficient use of EV charging infrastructure. Advantages include incentive-driven pricing strategies promoting efficient resource allocation and grid stability. Limitations may include complexities in implementing dynamic pricing mechanisms and potential user resistance to fluctuating electricity prices.

3. ANALYSIS

3.1 Smart Charging Management Systems:

The integration of smart charging management systems for electric vehicles (EVs) has been a significant focus in recent research. Papers such as "Smart Charging Management System for Electric Vehicles: A Review" [7] provide insights into the development and implementation of these systems. Smart charging management systems offer benefits such as demand response capabilities, grid integration, and optimization techniques. They enable efficient scheduling of charging sessions based on grid conditions, energy prices, and user preferences [1][3]. Furthermore, these systems facilitate remote monitoring and control of charging processes, enhancing the overall efficiency and reliability of EV charging infrastructure [1-6].

Smart charging management systems leverage advanced algorithms and real-time data analytics to optimize charging schedules and minimize grid impact [4]. These systems consider factors such as electricity prices, grid capacity, and vehicle battery state-of-charge to dynamically adjust charging rates and schedules. Additionally, they support bi-directional communication between charging stations, vehicles, and grid operators, enabling demand response and load management strategies [3]. As EV adoption continues to grow, smart charging management systems will play a crucial role in ensuring the efficient and sustainable operation of charging infrastructure.

3.2 Innovative Billing Methods:

The evolution of billing methods for electric vehicle charging stations has been another area of exploration. Studies like "An Efficient Billing Method for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations" by Johnson and Williams (2019) delve into the development of billing mechanisms tailored to the unique requirements of EV charging infrastructure [12][13]. Innovative billing methods aim to address challenges such as cost allocation, revenue management, and user billing transparency [13]. Solutions may involve dynamic pricing strategies, blockchain technology, or secure billing infrastructure [16]. By leveraging advanced billing methods, stakeholders can ensure fair and equitable pricing while promoting the adoption of electric vehicles.

Innovative billing methods enable flexible pricing structures, allowing charging station operators to adapt to changing market conditions and user demand [12]. These methods may incorporate time-of-use pricing, peak-demand pricing, or subscription-based models to incentivize off-peak charging and optimize revenue generation. Additionally, blockchain technology offers secure and transparent transaction processing, enhancing trust and accountability in billing systems[14]. As EV charging networks expand, innovative billing methods will become increasingly important for managing costs, revenue, and customer satisfaction.

3.3 Optimization Strategies:

Optimization strategies play a crucial role in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Research papers like "Optimization of Charging Station Deployment and Billing Mechanisms for Electric Vehicle Networks" by Green and Davis (2016) explore optimization techniques aimed at improving charging station deployment and operation [12]. Optimization strategies may involve algorithms for station siting, demand forecasting, and load balancing. These techniques help maximize the utilization of charging infrastructure, minimize grid impact, and optimize resource allocation[4][5]. By implementing optimization strategies, stakeholders can achieve cost savings, energy efficiency, and better service quality in EV charging networks.

Optimization strategies leverage advanced modeling and simulation techniques to analyze charging infrastructure performance and identify opportunities for improvement [12]. These strategies consider factors such as geographic location, user demand patterns, and grid constraints to optimize charging station placement and configuration. Additionally, they incorporate predictive analytics and machine learning algorithms to forecast charging demand and dynamically adjust charging schedules in real-time [8]. As EV adoption accelerates, optimization strategies will play a critical role in ensuring the reliability, scalability, and sustainability of charging infrastructure.

3.4 Security Considerations:

Security considerations are paramount in the design and operation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Papers such as "Design and Implementation of Secure Billing Infrastructure for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations" by Smith and Wilson (2013) address security challenges and solutions in EV charging systems [15]. Security considerations encompass data privacy, authentication, authorization, and protection against cyber threats. Robust security measures are essential to safeguard user information, prevent unauthorized access, and ensure the integrity and reliability of charging infrastructure [5]. By prioritizing security considerations, stakeholders can build trust and confidence in EV charging systems, fostering widespread adoption and acceptance.

Security considerations involve the implementation of encryption, authentication, and access control mechanisms to protect sensitive data and prevent unauthorized access to charging infrastructure [6]. These measures help mitigate risks such as data breaches, identity theft, and cyber-attacks, ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of charging services. Additionally, security awareness training and compliance with industry standards and regulations are essential to promote a culture of security and accountability among stakeholders [15]. As EV charging infrastructure becomes increasingly interconnected and digitized, security considerations will remain a top priority for ensuring the resilience and reliability of charging networks.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this review paper provides a comprehensive overview of recent advancements in EV charging infrastructure and billing methods. While significant progress has been made, several challenges remain, including interoperability issues, standardization efforts, and cybersecurity concerns. These developments contribute to the evolution of EV charging networks, enabling efficient, reliable, and secure charging services that support the transition to sustainable transportation. As technology continues to evolve and EV adoption expands, ongoing research and innovation will be essential to address emerging challenges and opportunities in the electrification of transportation.

5. FUTURE SCOPE

The future scope of research in electric vehicle charging infrastructure encompasses a wide range of areas, including smart charging management systems, innovative billing solutions, optimization of infrastructure deployment, cybersecurity, interoperability, integration with renewable energy sources, and user experience enhancement. Continued research and innovation in these areas will be essential to accelerate the transition to sustainable transportation and realize the full potential of electric vehicles in reducing carbon emissions and mitigating climate change.

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