METHOD FOR CHARGING A BATTERY
WITH MAXIMUM POWER TRACKING

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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ABSTRACT

Apparatus and attendant methodology for extracting maximum power from an energy source, such as a photo voltaic panel, an array of photo voltaic panels, or a windmill and delivering that power to a battery or an array of batteries is disclosed. The apparatus determines the maximum operating point of the energy source, and circuits and circuit topologists are presented for extracting the energy. The apparatus eliminates the problem of finding local maximum points, and problems attendant variations of the absolute maximum power point as a function of temperature, insolation, array construction, and photo voltaic panel manufacturing tolerances. The energy source supplies power in the form of a voltage and charges the batteries with a controllable current source.

37 Claims, 17 Drawing Sheets