

# E-learning Courseware Development for Power Electronics Course

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**Abstract**—Based on the results of studies in the power electronics course, it shows that learning outcomes in the power semiconductor components and inverter are not satisfactory. Innovation in teaching materials is an alternative to increasing this competency. In this paper, an e-learning courseware for power electronics courses is developed that is valid, practical, and effective. Therefore it can improve student learning outcomes and motivation. Research and development method with the Plomp development model is employed as research methodology. The research subjects were electrical engineering education students taking power electronics course. The data analysis technique used is descriptive analysis to describe the validity, practicality, and effectiveness of the e-learning courseware. The result of the research is a learning module through e-learning that is valid, practical, and effective on the component material of semiconductor and inverter power systems that can improve student learning outcomes and learning motivation.

**Keywords**—E-learning module, power semiconductor components, inverter system

## 1 Introduction

The development of science and technology is very fast, especially in semiconductors. Power electronics is one of employing semiconductors. Power electronics is a branch of the science of processing and controlling electricity electronically [1]. Required renewal of teaching materials in power electronics learning [2], [3]. Power electronics competencies include (1) understanding power semiconductor components, (2) understanding the working principle of 1-phase and 3-phase uncontrolled rectifiers, (3) understanding the working principles of 1-phase and 3-phase controlled rectifiers, (4) explaining DC-DC converters, (5) explain the working principle of the inverter system, and (6) understand the AC-AC converter.

The problems that occur in learning power electronics include the difficulty of directly explaining the phenomena of various subsystems [4]; material concepts, loss of student interest [5], [6]; limited time for teachers and students in face-to-face sessions [7], [8]; low success and feedback during the learning process [9], [10], [11].

These problems can be overcome by using interactive learning models, problem-based learning, and projects. In addition to the learning model, the use of media and modules as teaching materials can improve the quality of learning [12], [13]. Through modules, students can easily study material at home, as well as a reference.

The learning module can be developed in the form of a digital module consisting of text, images, animation, and video to visualize the material. The digital module can reduce weaknesses in printed teaching materials [14], [15], [16], can be uploaded into e-learning so that the learning process can take place anywhere and anytime, can be updated quickly, and displays interactive information compared to paper [17], [18] and Currently, researchers combine it with a project based learning model [19].

The basis of learning theory in developing learning modules through e-learning has three perspectives, namely behavioristic, cognitive, and constructivist perspectives [20]. The three learning theories are the basis for learning based on information and communication technology [21]. Behavioristic (about facts), cognitive (about processes and principles), and constructivist (about a higher level of thinking and contextual) in learning.

Success in the learning process requires good motivation (intrinsic and extrinsic) so that it can help in understanding and explaining behavior [22]. Teaching materials are also needed for students to use in achieving the goals and learning process [23], [24], [25]. Teaching materials can be in the form of books, handouts, audio, modules, and others.

The module can be used by students individually or in groups without the presence of a lecturer [26]. The benefits of the module are that it can: 1) simplify and clarify the presentation of the message so that it is not too verbal; 2) overcoming the limitations of time, space, and sensory power for both students and lecturers; 3) increase motivation and passion for learning; 4) develop the ability to interact directly in the environment and other sources; 5) self-study according to their abilities and interests, 6) measure or evaluate learning outcomes by themselves [26], the e-module used more effective than used print guide books [27] and students can access the study material from everywhere without any time limitation [28]. Current modules can be made in electronic form (e-module) as a result of technological developments. The research objective was to produce a learning module through e-learning on the component material of semiconductor power and inverter systems.

## **2 Methods**

This type of research is research and development (R&D) which aims to develop learning modules through e-learning on power semiconductor components and inverter systems. Adopt development model [29] which consists of three stages: (1) preliminary research which includes: analysis of the syllabus, concepts, and characteristics of students; (2) prototyping phase which includes: prototype 1 and prototype 2, and (3) assessment stage.

Design the experimental research design used the one-group pretest-posttest design method. The research subjects were 43 students of the Electrical Engineering education study program class 2LA, January–June 2018 at the Faculty of Engineering,

Universitas Negeri Padang. The instrument for collecting data on the validity of experts and the practicality of students and lecturers used a questionnaire with a Likert scale and the instrument for collecting data on the effectiveness of the aspects of learning outcomes and student learning motivation used tests.

The data analysis technique for the validity of the learning module uses Aiken’s V validity with the following steps: a) providing an answer score with a number between 1 (very unrepresentative or very irrelevant) to 5 (highly representative or very relevant); b) adding up the scores of each validator for all indicators; c) giving the percentage value of validity with the formula (1):

$$P = \frac{\sum S}{[n(c-1)]} \tag{1}$$

d) based on expert test results, the validity coefficient of Aiken’s V of items whose value is  $\geq 0.667$  is valid.

Then for the practicality of the learning module data analysis technique using the following steps: a) score answers with the criteria 1 (disagree), 2 (disagree), 3 (quite agree), 4 (agree), and 5 (strongly agree); b) determine the average score obtained by adding the scores obtained from many indicators; c) giving practicality value with the formula (2):

$$P = \frac{S}{M} \times 100\% \tag{2}$$

Where NA = Final grade; S = score obtained; M = Maximum Score; d) to determine the level of practicality using criteria. See Table 1.

**Table 1.** Practicality category

Achievement Level (%)	Category
85–100	Very Practical
75–84	Practical
60–74	Pretty Practical
55–59	Less Practical
0–54	Not Practical

Furthermore, for the effectiveness of the module in terms of learning outcomes and learning motivation. For learning outcomes in terms of two aspects, namely: 1) learning completeness, and 2) differences in pre-test and post-test.

### 3 Results

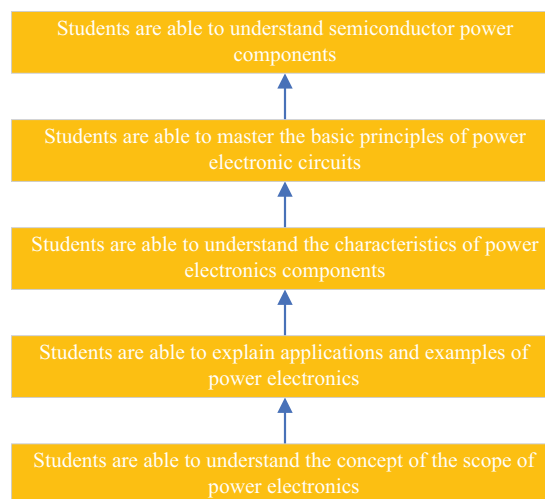
#### 3.1 Preliminary analysis results

The results of the syllabus analysis of the power electronics course obtained data that the material was under the competencies that students had to achieve. The results of this syllabus analysis are depicted in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Results of the analysis of the power electronics learning syllabus

Learning Outcomes	Learning Experiences	Material/Subjects
Students can understand power semiconductor components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the scope of power electronics</li> <li>2. Discuss applications and examples of power electronics</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The scope of power electronics</li> <li>2. Definition of power electronics</li> <li>3. Applications and examples of the use of power electronics</li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the power electronics components</li> <li>2. Discuss the characteristics of power electronic components</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Characteristics of power electronic components</li> <li>2. The basic principle of power electronic circuits</li> </ol>
Students can understand the working principles of 1-phase and 3-phase inverters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand about single-phase inverters</li> <li>2. Discuss the single-phase inverter</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Characteristics of the single-phase inverter system</li> <li>2. The working principle of the single-phase inverter system</li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand about three-phase inverter system</li> <li>2. Describe the three-phase inverter system</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Characteristics of the three-phase inverter system</li> <li>2. The working principle of the three-phase inverter system</li> </ol>

**Result of concept analysis:** The results of the analysis of the concept of the power semiconductor components and inverter material are manifested in the form of a concept map, namely the power semiconductor components concept map (Figure 1) and the inverter system concept map (Figure 2).



**Fig. 1.** Semiconductor power component concept map

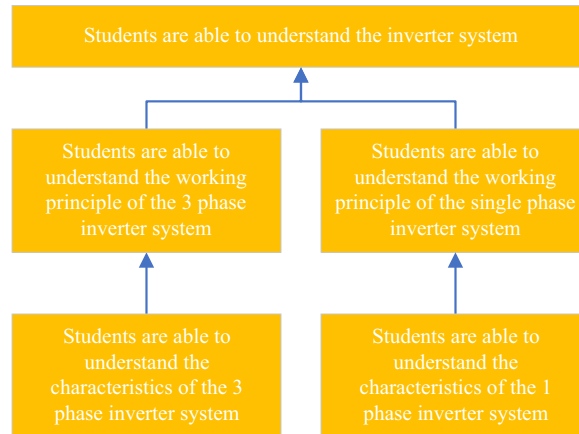


Fig. 2. Inverter system concept map

**Results of student characteristics analysis:** The results of the analysis of student characteristics include the level of intellectual development with an age range of 19–22 years. In the revised Bloom Taxonomy, the age lies in the create category where students can design, build, plan, produce, update, perfect, and change. This ability makes it possible to learn independently and use technology to explore learning materials.

**Design results:** The format of the preparation of learning modules through e-learning is based on the modified e-module systematics according to the Ministry of National Education, consisting of (a) front page, (b) content, (c) course information, (d) material content, (e) bibliography, and (f) exercises.

**Frontpage:** The front page describes the contents of the power electronics learning module and the learning topics. See Figures 3 and 4.

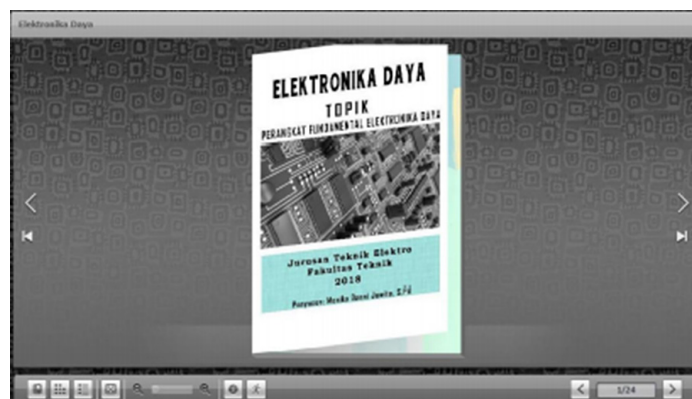


Fig. 3. The front page of the topic of power semiconductor components

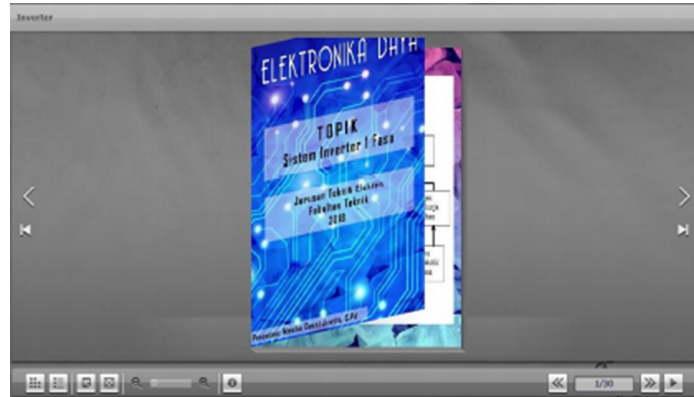


Fig. 4. Frontpage of inverter system topic

**Content:** Content is made to make it easier for students to know the content of the learning module. See Figure 5.

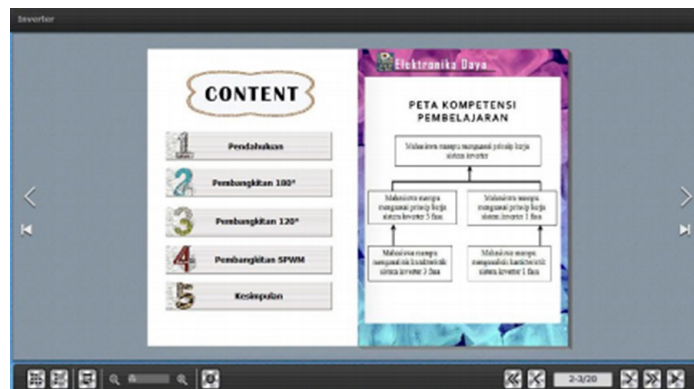


Fig. 5. Frontpage of inverter system topic

**Course information:** Subject information consists of competency maps, course descriptions, and learning outcomes. See Figure 6.

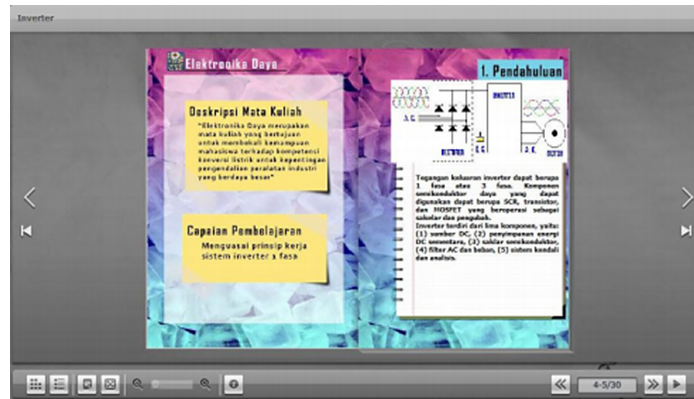


Fig. 6. Course information

**Content of the material:** The material is designed based on the competency map and learning outcomes contained in the syllabus. Besides being filled with text, the material is also equipped with pictures, animations, and videos. See Figure 7.

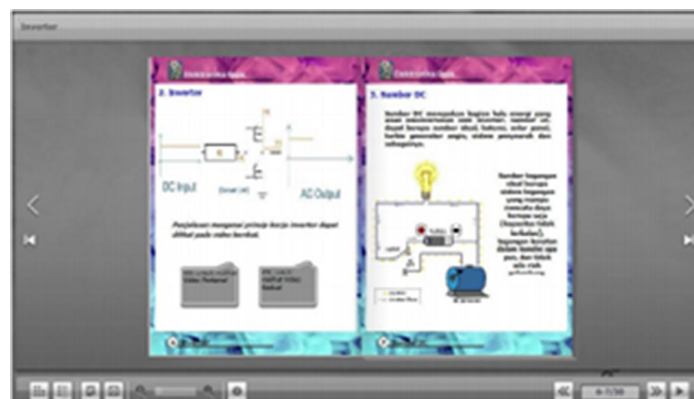


Fig. 7. Content of the material

**References:** The bibliography contains reference sources used to make learning modules also aims to provide information to students about the sources used. See Figure 8.

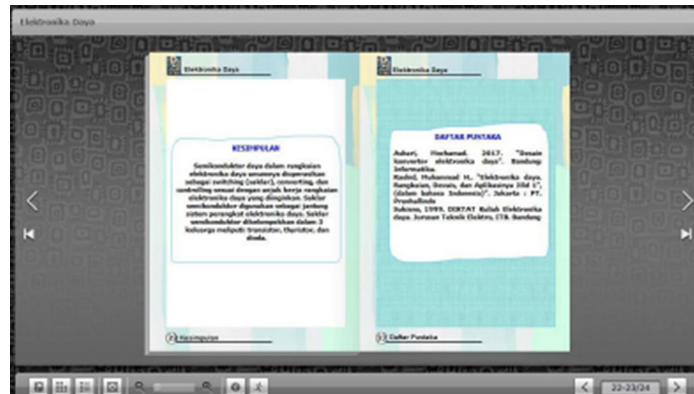


Fig. 8. Reference

**Exercise view:** Exercises are implemented through the UNP e-learning portal. Exercises in the form of essay questions that can display the results of the right or wrong answers. See Figure 9.

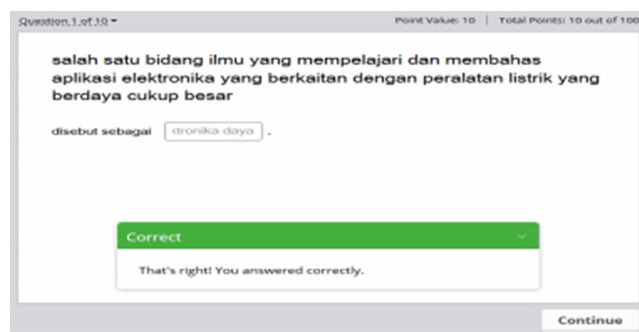


Fig. 9. Exercise view

If the questions have been answered, the results of the training scores obtained will be displayed along with the answer questions that are declared true and false. See Figure 10.



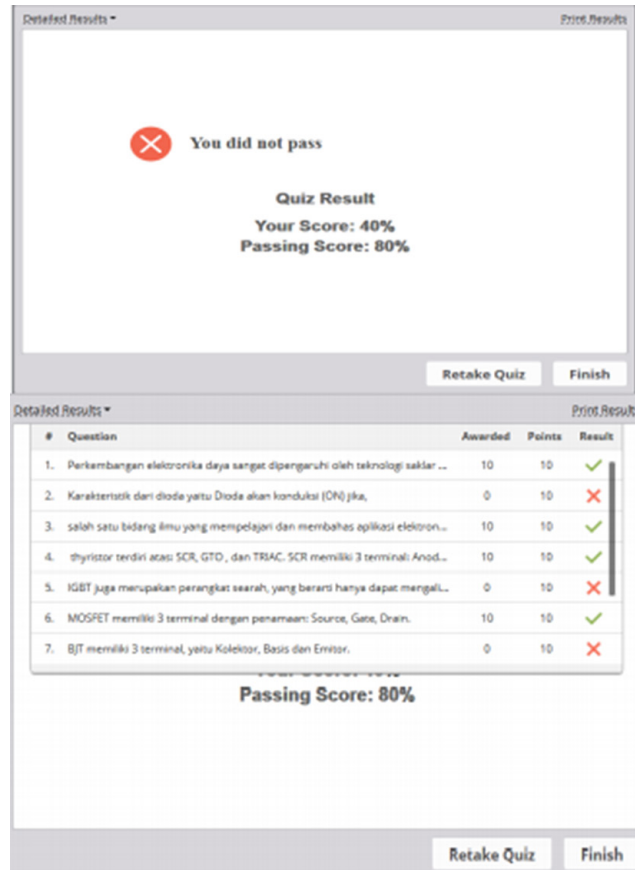


Fig. 10. Exercise scoring view

### 3.2 Prototype 1 results

The results obtained are valid values for the learning module design. See Figure 11.

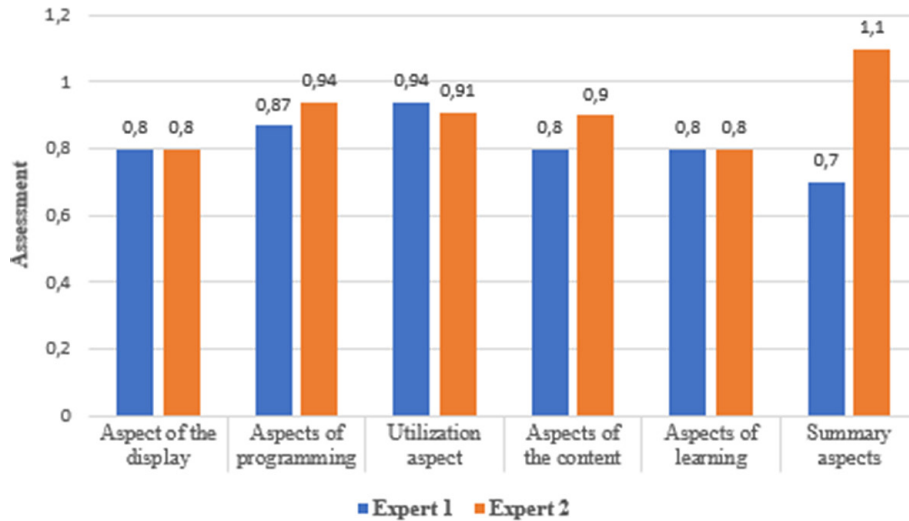


Fig. 11. The results of the validation of the e-learning module

Based on Figure 11, the results of the analysis of the validity test to media experts obtained an average aspect of  $0.875 > 0.667$ , which is categorized as valid. Furthermore, the results of validation with material experts obtained an average of  $0.885 > 0.667$ , so the material contained in the learning module through e-learning was declared valid.

### 3.3 Prototype 2 results

The results of prototype 2 to see the practicality of the lecturers and students are as follows.

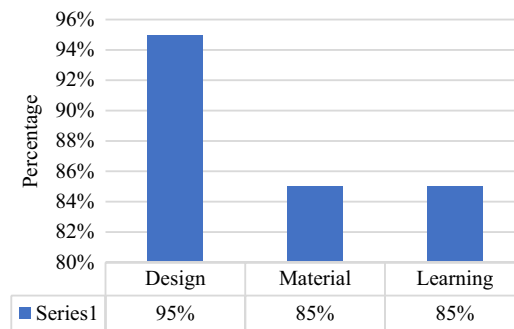
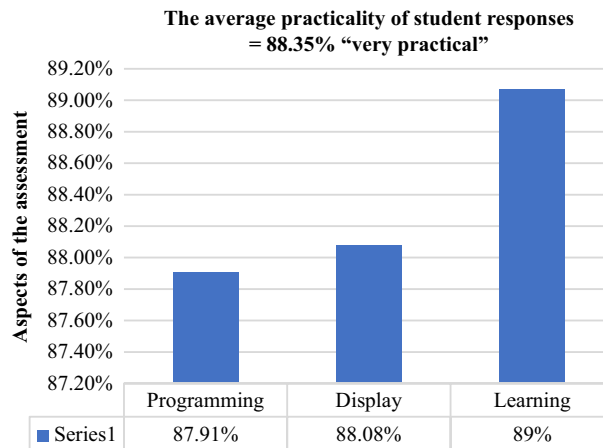


Fig. 12. Practicality based on lecturer responses

From Figure 12 the practicality based on the lecturers' responses obtained a percentage value of 88.33% with the very practical category.



**Fig. 13.** Practicality based on lecturer responses

From Figure 13 practicality based on student responses obtained a percentage value of 88.35% so it can be concluded that the learning module through e-learning is included in the very practical category.

### 3.4 Rating result

The results of the assessment which are the final results of a series of learning modules are carried out four times. The data obtained from the effectiveness of learning outcomes in terms of classical completeness aspects were obtained from as many as 41 students (95.34%) and data from the pre-test and post-test results. for learning motivation, the effectiveness test was obtained by an average of 85.56%.

## 4 Discussion

### 4.1 Learning module through e-learning

Power electronics products are compulsory subjects in the Electrical Engineering Education study program. One of the competencies that must be achieved is to understand the power semiconductor components and explain the working principles of the inverter system. These competencies include an understanding of components, circuits, how to work, and the basic theory of power electronics.

Topics 1 to 2 discuss the scope of power electronics, applications for the use of power electronics, components of power electronics, and their characteristics. On topics 1 and 2, it is intended that students can understand the components of semiconductor power. Topics 3 and 4 discuss the characteristics and working principles of single-phase and 3-phase inverter systems. This learning module will later be uploaded to the UNP e-learning portal so that it can be downloaded and opened offline by students. Exercises on each topic will be applied through the UNP e-learning portal, where this exercise

is online. The learning module through e-learning can direct students to understand the concept of material on power electronics. After the learning module through e-learning has been developed is complete, then the validity, practicality, and effectiveness of the module are tested.

#### **4.2 Validity**

Media validation has been carried out on three aspects, namely (1) media appearance, (2) ease of program, (3) module utilization. This validation was assessed by two validators. The average result of media validation was 0.875 with the valid category. The results of the validation of the learning module from the media aspect show that the module display is good, easy to operate and the module components are by the electronic module systematics. Based on the validation results that have been analyzed, it can be concluded that the learning module developed from the media aspect is valid and as expected. By the opinion [30] where the digital module must consider the quality and quantity of the media display so that it is easy to read.

Material validation was carried out on three aspects, namely (1) suitability of material content, (2) learning, (3) summary. This validation was assessed by two validators. The average result of material validation is 0.885 with a valid category. The results of the validation of the learning module in the material aspect show that the material in the learning module is by the learning outcomes, the content of the material is clear and the summary is displayed correctly. Based on the validation results that have been analyzed, it can be concluded that the learning module is valid from the material aspect. This is in line with the research results [31] states that the interactive module is suitable for use as a learning tool if it is seen from the aspect of the suitability of the material by the learning objectives, the up-to-date concept, and the systematics of presentation.

#### **4.3 Practicality**

This practicality test was carried out to reveal the readability of the learning module by lecturers and students, how easy it was to use the learning module and student interest in the learning module. The average percentage of the results of the practicality questionnaire analysis from the lecturer's point of view was 88.33% with the very practical category. The average percentage of the results of the practicality questionnaire analysis from the student's point of view is 88.35% which is very practical [32] said that a product is said to be practical if the target of achieving practicality value is more than 75%.

Based on the results of the questionnaire analysis conducted with students and lecturers, it can be concluded that the learning modules that have been designed in this study can be read clearly and understood by students and lecturers, are easy to use, and students are interested in the learning modules used. The conclusion is that the learning module through e-learning is said to be practical. This is in line with the research results [33] states that the digital learning module is suitable for use as a learning resource.

#### **4.4 Effectiveness**

The effectiveness of the learning module is seen from the learning outcome test after using the learning module through e-learning, it was found that 95.34% of students were declared complete, whereas many as 41 students scored above C-. The results of effectiveness are also seen from the differences in learning outcomes between before and after the application of the learning module through e-learning, where there are differences after using the learning module through e-learning. Therefore, the learning module is effective in terms of learning outcomes. By the research results [34] states that learning achievement using digital modules is significantly different from learning outcomes that do not use digital modules

This is in line with the results of research conducted by [35] that digital learning modules equipped with text, animation, and video can help students who are slow to understand the material become interested and feel happy learning so that students understand better concepts. The effectiveness of this module is also seen from the aspect of student learning motivation. This effectiveness test is seen from the aspects of intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation to assess the motivation included in and outside the learning situation [36]. Based on data analysis, there is average result of the effectiveness of learning motivation after using the learning module through e-learning is 85.86% in the effective category, so that the learning module through e-learning can be said to be effective in terms of learning motivation. In line with research results [37] that the virtual module is assessed to increase motivation, interest, and learning activities.

## **5 Conclusion**

This research has produced an e-learning courseware for power electronics courses which contains chapter on power semiconductor components and chapter on inverters. This courseware has been tested and verified. The results show that this courseware is valid, practical, and effective. This courseware can be used to improve student learning outcomes and motivation.

It is recommended to students after using this e-learning courseware, they can be more active and motivated during learning thus encouraging self-potential in improving learning outcomes. It is recommended to lecturers who teach power electronics course, in order to help improve learning outcomes and learning motivation students, one of which is by using the learning module through e-learning that has been valid, practical, and effective in power electronics learning.

## **6 Acknowledgment**

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