Design and implementation of SVPWM based Voltage Source Converters with Extended Selective Harmonic Compensation

Abstract - The rapid development of high switching frequency power electronics in the past decade leads towards wider application of voltage source converters in AC power generation. Therefore, this prompts the need for a modulation technique with less total harmonic distortion, fewer switching losses, and wider linear modulation range. Space vector pulse width modulation (SVPWM) provides a better technique compared to the more commonly used PWM or sinusoidal PWM (SPWM) techniques because of their easier digital realization and better DC bus utilization. The space vector control algorithm in VSC provides different functions such as reactive power compensation for Power factor correction, Harmonic Elimination, Load balancing for both linear and non-linear loads. Also, selective harmonic compensation (SHC) is possible in order to avoid possible resonances at given frequencies. It can be implemented by using MATLAB/SIMULINK Software.

Keywords — Voltage source converter, Space vector pulse with modulation, Selective Harmonic Compensation (SHC).

I. INTRODUCTION

Harmonics is the main issue with inverters. Though the sinusoidal and space vector types of PWM (SPWM & SVPWM) used in inverters [1] help reduce harmonics they incur high switching losses. Therefore the selective harmonic elimination is nowadays coming up as an alternative for SPWM and SVPWM. In square wave inverters usually with single pulse scheme all the odd harmonics are present. However with SVPWM and SPWM techniques the harmonics are eliminated up to the switching frequency [2]. Space Vector Modulation (SVM) technique was originally developed as vector approach to pulse-width modulation (PWM) for three-phase inverters. This technique confines space vectors to be applied according to region where the output voltage vector is located [3-4]. The determination of switching instants may be achieved using space vector modulation technique based on the representation of switching vectors in α-β plane. Space Vector Modulation increases the output capability of Sinusoidal PWM (SPWM) without distorting output voltage waveform; and prevents unnecessary switching.

Voltage Source Inverters (VSI) have proven to be more efficient, cost effective, less space, faster dynamic response for rapid changes in speed or torque and be capable of running the motor without de-rating [5]. A typical three phase VSI consist of a diode rectifier (SCR bridge rectifiers in case of variable DC output voltages) which converts AC line to DC, a parallel capacitor DC Link which stores the energy for the system and regulates the DC bus voltages, an inverter is consist of insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs) which provides variable frequency output depending upon the applied reference voltage and switching technique [6].

In selective harmonics elimination only the lower order harmonics typically the 5th 7th 11th and the 13th order harmonics are selectively eliminated in the process of the inverter operation itself. In addition, after the lower order harmonics are eliminated the higher order harmonics can be easily eliminated using passive filters. Implementation of selective harmonic elimination involves the finding of the appropriate switching instants by solving a set of transcendental trigonometric equations [7-9]. The number of equations and the variables in the equations increase with the number of harmonics to be eliminated. SVPWM is the best computational PWM technique for a three phase voltage source inverter because of it provides less THD & better PF [10-11]. Where the SVPWM has the advantages as Low power consumption, High energy efficient up to 90%, High power handling capability, No temperature variation-and ageing-caused drifting or degradation in linearity, Easy to implement and control. SVPWM technique can be implemented by using MATLAB and SIMULINK.
II SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Fig.1 shows a three-phase grid-connected voltage source converter with an LCL-filter, whose parameters used for design are summarized in Table 3.1. For simplicity, the dc-link voltage \( V_{dc} \) of the converter can be treated as constant, while its grid synchronization bandwidth can be assumed as smaller than the grid fundamental frequency to avoid unintentional low-frequency instability [29]. This structure has earlier been shown by [23] to have an inherent damping effect even when only a single control loop is used for regulating the grid current \( i_2 \). The only condition demanded is for the LCL resonance frequency to be placed above one-sixth of the system control frequency \( f_s/6 \), which in [23], is named as the critical frequency. This region is however not attractive because of its poorer switching harmonic filtering, which in general, compromises the purpose of having an LCL filter [23]. Moreover, the wide variation of grid impedance in weak grids may shift the LCL resonance frequency in a wide spectrum across \( f_s/6 \), giving rise to instability if no external active damping is employed.

![Fig.1. Three-phase grid-connected voltage source converter with an LCL filter.](image)

Table 3.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( V_{dc} )</td>
<td>Grid voltage</td>
<td>400 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( f_s )</td>
<td>Grid frequency</td>
<td>50 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( f_{sw} )</td>
<td>Switching frequency</td>
<td>10 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( f_s )</td>
<td>Sampling frequency</td>
<td>10 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( V_{dd} )</td>
<td>DC-link voltage</td>
<td>800 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( L_1 )</td>
<td>Converter-side filter inductor</td>
<td>3.6 mH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( L_2 )</td>
<td>Grid-side filter inductor</td>
<td>1 mH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( C_f )</td>
<td>Filter capacitor</td>
<td>4.7 ( \mu )F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To better understand the illustrated active damping, Fig.2 has been redrawn as Fig.3 (a), which in circuit notation represents an impedance \( Z_{ad} (s) \) appearing across the filter capacitor \( C_f \). This notation has been drawn in Fig.3(b), which for the proportional \( G_a (s) \) expressed in (2) leads to the resistive damper shown in Fig.3 (c), if delays are ignored (\( Z_{ad} (s) = R_{ad} \)).

\[
G_a(s) = e^{-1.5 T_s} s
\]  

(1)

![Fig.2. Per-phase diagram of grid current control loop with external capacitor–current active damping.](image)

\[
G_a(s) = K_{ad}
\]  

(2)

To illustrate where the external active damping can be inserted, Fig.2 shows the per-phase block diagram of a typical double-loop current control scheme for the converter shown in Fig.1. The inner filter capacitor current feedback loop is mainly for active LCL resonance damping, whose effect can be tuned by the active damping function \( G_a (s) \). The outer grid current control loop with controller \( G_c (s) \) is, on the other hand, for regulation purposes, in synchronism with the voltage at the point of common coupling (PCC). Both control loops are affected by control delays, which have collectively been represented by \( G_d (s) \) in (1), in terms of sampling time \( T_s \).[30].
Fig. 3. Equivalent representation of capacitor–current active damping.
(a) Block diagram representation. (b) Equivalent circuit with delays considered. (c) Equivalent circuit of proportional controller without considering delays.

With delays included, impedance $Z_{ad}(s)$ cannot be simplified, and is represented by (3)

$$Z_{ad}(j\omega) = \frac{L_s}{K_{ad}C_f} [\cos(1.5\omega T_s) + j \sin(1.5\omega T_s)]$$  (3)

The imaginary term in (3) can, in principle, cause the LCL resonance frequency to vary, while its real term can become negative if the LCL resonance frequency is located between $f_s/6$ and the Nyquist frequency $f_s/2$. The latter implies an ineffective active damping with the nonminimum phase grid current behavior expected, owing to the presence of open-loop RHP poles. Proportional active damping expressed in (2) is therefore not a robust solution, as compared to the proposed RC damper to be discussed in the following.

III PROPOSED VIRTUAL RC DAMPER

A. Basic Principle

Fig. 4 shows the proposed active RC damper, which unlike (2) has an additional first-order high-pass filter included. The resulting transfer function can thus be expressed as (4), where $K_{rc}$ and $\omega_{rc}$ represent its gain and cutoff frequency, respectively.

$$G_a(s) = \frac{sK_{rc}}{s + \omega_{rc}}$$  (4)

$$Z_{rc}(j\omega) = \frac{L_1}{K_{rc}C_f} \left[\cos(1.5\omega T_s) + j \sin(1.5\omega T_s)\right]$$

The real part of $Z_{rc}(j\omega)$ can be tuned by $C_c$. This is helpful since the likelihood of $\text{Re}\{Z_{rc}(j\omega)\}$ being negative can now be lessened by tuning.

$$\text{Re}\{Z_{rc}(j\omega)\} = R_{rc} \cos(1.5\omega T_s)$$

Unlike (3) for proportional capacitor–current feedback, the real and imaginary terms of (6) include a second expression, which can be tuned by $C_c$. This is helpful since the likelihood of $\text{Re}\{Z_{rc}(j\omega)\}$ being negative can now be lessened by tuning.

$$\text{Im}\{Z_{rc}(j\omega)\} = R_{rc} \sin(1.5\omega T_s)$$

$$L_1 \quad \omega_{rc} \quad C_f \quad C_r \quad L_s + L_q$$

(6)
B. Robustness Evaluation and Parameter Tuning

For evaluating robustness subject to a wide grid inductance variation, z-domain root locus analysis is performed on the scheme shown in Fig.4. Two transfer functions of the “plant” (converter and LCL filter) are necessary, and are hence derived accordingly. The first is obtained by applying zero-order hold (ZOH) discretization to \( G_c(s) \) in (7) for relating the converter output voltage and filter capacitor current. The second is obtained by applying impulse invariant transformation to \( G_{cg}(s) \) in (7) for relating the filter capacitor current and grid current [23]. The resulting transfer functions obtained are given in (8) and (9), where \( \omega_0c \) represents the LCL resonance frequency

\[
G_c(s) = \frac{i_c}{v_c} = \frac{1}{L_1 s^2 + \omega^2_{res}}
\]

\[
G_{cg}(s) = \frac{i_2}{v_c} = \frac{1}{(L_2 + L_g) s^2}
\]

\[
G_c(z) = \frac{\sin(\omega_{res} T_z)}{\omega_{res} \omega_1} \frac{z^{-1} - z^{-2}}{[z^{-2} - 2z^{-1} \cos(\omega_{res} T_z) + 1]}
\]

\[
G_{cg}(z) = \frac{T_z^{-1}}{(L_2 + L_g) C_f (z^{-1} - z^{-2})^2}
\]

The high-pass filter used for the virtual RC damper can next be discretized by Tustin transformation, which is expressed Combining (8) to (10), Fig 7 shows the closed-loop pole trajectory of grid current control scheme, where \( G_c(s) \) in Fig.4 is assumed to be a simple proportional gain designed with \( (L_1 + L_2) \) considered and for a PM of 45° [19].

The pole movement caused by the high-pass filter gain \( K_{rc} \) is plotted when its cutoff frequency \( \omega_0c \) is swept from 0 to 2\( \omega_0c \) with a step of 0.2\( \omega_0c \). In total, three grid inductance values are evaluated with the LCL filter parameters listed in Table 1, which give three resonance frequencies centered around the critical frequency of \( fs/6 \approx 1.67 \) kHz.

C. Frequency-Domain Comparison

To further strengthen attractiveness of the proposed virtual RC damper, comparison among the three representative cases is performed in the frequency-domain. As mentioned, \( G_{cg}(s) \) in Fig 2 for all three cases have been simplified to a proportional gain designed with \( (L_1 + L_2) \) and a PM of 45° considered [19]. Beginning with the first case having no external active damping \( (G_d(s) = 0) \) in Fig 2. The plots clearly show a reduction of LCL resonance frequency as the grid inductance increases, which will eventually lead to instability when the resonance frequency falls below \( fs/6 \).

D. Synchronous-Frame Implementation

The virtual RC damper in (3.4) can equivalently be realized in the synchronous frame after applying the necessary frequency shifting transformation according to the first expression in (11) [6], [8]. Transfer function of the resulting RC damper in the synchronous frame is thus given by the second expression in (11), whose implementation involves cross-coupling, and is hence more complex like shown in Fig.11. Realizing and analyzing the damper in the stationary frame is thus generally recommended because of simplicity

\[
G_{d0}(s) = G_0(s+j\omega_1) = \frac{\omega_1}{s+j\omega_1}
\]

\[
G_{a-dq}(s) = \frac{G_a(s+j\omega_1)G_{d0}(s+j\omega_1)}{G_{d0}(s+j\omega_1)G_a(s+j\omega_1) + G_{d0}(s)}
\]

IV SELECTIVE HARMONIC COMPENSATION

Selective harmonic compensation is performed by placing resonant peaks at frequencies identified for compensation. It can be performed in the synchronous or stationary frame. For the latter, multiple resonant controllers are commonly used, which for L-filtered converters, have been proved to compensate for harmonics up to the Nyquist frequency [9]–[11], after introducing the necessary discretization and phase compensation. The resulting discretized resonant controllers are described next, before discussing how their harmonic compensation frequency range should be chosen for LCL-filtered converters.

A. Discretized Resonant Controllers

Fig.12 shows two discretized resonant controllers used for selective harmonic compensation. In common, they consist of a forward Euler and a backward Euler integrator, which for the basic structure shown in Fig.12 (a), can be expressed as (12), where \( K_a \) is the resonant gain, \( \theta_0 \) is the compensation phase lead, \( h \) is the harmonic order, and \( \omega_1 \) is the grid angular frequency.

\[
d(q) = \frac{K_a(s+j\omega_1)}{s+j\omega_1}
\]
Equation (12) is, in fact, an approximation of the more precise resonant controller expressed in (13) [10]. The approximation helps to speed up computation, but is generally less accurate because of a reorientation of resonant poles and zeros from their intended positions. This discrepancy leads to frequency errors of the resonant peaks, which will further exacerbate as $T_s $ and $h\omega_1$ increase [11].

$$G_{Rh}(z)=K_{1h}T_s\frac{z^{-1}[\cos(\theta_0)-h\omega_1T_s \sin(\theta_0)]-z^{-1}\cos(\theta_0)}{1-z^{-1}\left(\frac{h^2\omega_1^2T_s^2}{\pi}\right)+z^{-2}}$$

Equation (13) approximates the resonant controller with a higher sixth-order Taylor series to strengthen the resonant pole accuracy. The second is to modify the phase lead input $\theta_h$ so that more accurate zeros can be obtained. The improved resonant controller generally functions well with an L-filtered converter, where the improved resonant controller can be approximated as [8]

$$G_{Rh}(z)=K_{1h}T_s\frac{\cos(\theta_0)-z^{-1}\cos(\theta_0-h\omega_1T_s)}{1-2z^{-1}\cos(\omega_0T_s)+z^{-2}}$$

Consequently, the harmonic compensation range chosen must be reduced significantly, if the traditional guideline of designing resonant controllers below the gain crossover frequency is followed. More correctly, resonant controllers should be able to compensate well as long as their frequencies are below the LCL resonance, at which a rapid transition in phase occurs. The resonance frequency is therefore the true upper limit, below which the phase lead $\theta_h$ needed for each resonant controller can be approximated as [8]

$$\theta_h = \frac{\pi}{2} + 1.5h\omega_1T_s$$

In terms of harmonic compensation stability, it is therefore important to keep $\omega rc$ low. This is however in contrast, where a higher $\omega rc$ is recommended for a better damping robustness even when the grid inductance $Lg$ varies widely. A compromised range might hence be $0.2\omega_s \leq \omega rc < 0.5\omega_s$, where the upper limit denotes the Nyquist angular frequency. Generally, the Nyquist frequency should not be exceeded because of possible noise amplification associated with the high-pass filter when in a noisy environment or sampling effects found in a digitally controlled system. It is thus a critical limit that should preferably be observed in practice, even though not strictly necessary.

### V. Space Vector Pulse Width Modulation (SVPWM)

Space Vector Modulation (SVM) was originally developed as vector approach to Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) for three phase inverters. It is a more sophisticated technique for generating sine wave that provides a higher voltage to the motor with lower total harmonic distortion. The main aim of any
Modulation technique is to obtain variable output having a maximum fundamental component with minimum harmonics. Space Vector PWM (SVPWM) method is an advanced; computation intensive PWM method and possibly the best techniques for variable frequency drive application. This PWM technique approximate the reference voltage by a combination of eight switching pattern and treats the sinusoidal voltage as a constant amplitude vector rotating at constant frequency.

There are various variations of SVM that results in different quality and computational requirements. One major benefit is in the reduction of total harmonic distortion created by rapid switching inherent to this PWM algorithm.

VI. MATLAB/SIMULATION RESULTS

The measured PCC voltage and grid current for one phase of the LCL-filtered converter with no active damping is shown in the figures with different values of inductance. As the grid inductance \( L_g \) increases from \( L_g=0 \) mH, the converter obviously becomes unstable as the LCL resonance frequency moves below the critical value of \( f_s/6=1.67 \) kHz.

![Matlab/Simulink diagram of PCC voltage and grid current without external active damping](image1)

![Simulink result of Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current without external active damping with \( L_g=0 \) mH](image2)

![Simulink result of Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current without external active damping with \( L_g=4.5 \) mH](image3)

![Measured PCC voltage THD without external damping with \( L_g=0 \) mH](image4)

![Measured PCC voltage THD without external damping with \( L_g=4.5 \) mH](image5)
The measured PCC voltage and grid current for one phase of LCL-filtered converter with conventional proportional capacitor–current active damping is shown in the figures from 16-18 for different inductance values. The step response of the grid current is not effectively damped with visible oscillatory ripple noted. The oscillatory response is more prominent in fig 17, because with $L_g=4.5\, \text{mH}$, its LCL resonance frequency is closest to system resonant frequency. Above this frequency, negative virtual resistance added unintentionally to destabilize the converter.

The measured results with the virtual damper added are shown in the figures (20)-(22). It is clear that the system remains stable and well damped for all three $L_g$ values.

**Fig. 15.** Matlab/Simulink diagram of PCC voltage and grid current with conventional proportional capacitor–current active damping.

**Fig. 16.** Simulink result of measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current of conventional capacitor–current active damping with $L_g=0\, \text{mH}$.

**Fig. 17.** Simulink result of measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current of conventional capacitor–current active damping with $L_g=4.5\, \text{mH}$.

**Fig. 18.** Simulink result of measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current of conventional proportional capacitor–current active damping with $L_g=9\, \text{mH}$.
For evaluating harmonic mitigation, a square PCC voltage with sizable low order harmonics was created by the power supply. With an improperly controlled converter, its injected grid current is usually nonsinusoidal with significantly lower order harmonics anticipated. These lower order harmonics however be eliminated by selective harmonic compensation to obtain a sinusoidal grid current even with the square PCC voltage.

Resonant controllers for different grid inductances are thus placed to the highest of the resonant harmonic. These highest resonance terms are very close to the LCL resonance frequencies.

Fig. 19 Matlab/Simulink diagram of PCC voltage and grid current with proposed virtual $RC$ damper.

Fig. 20 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current of proposed virtual $RC$ damper with $L_g = 0 \text{ mH}$.

Fig. 21 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current of proposed virtual $RC$ damper with $L_g = 4.5 \text{ mH}$.

Fig. 22 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current of proposed virtual $RC$ damper with $L_g = 9 \text{ mH}$.

Fig. 23 Matlab/Simulink diagram of measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with low cutoff frequency for the virtual $RC$ damper.

Fig. 24 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with low cutoff frequency for the virtual $RC$ damper ($\omega_{rc} = 0.2 \omega_s$ ) with $L_g = 0 \text{ mH}$.

Fig. 25 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with low cutoff frequency for the virtual $RC$ damper ($\omega_{rc} = 0.2 \omega_s$ ) with $L_g = 4.5 \text{ mH}$.
Fig. 26 measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with low cutoff frequency for the virtual RC damper (ωrc = 0.2 ωs).
With Lg = 9 mH

Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with high cutoff frequency is shown in the figure 27. The more oscillatory response is caused by the phase lag effect due to high cutoff frequency. So it is appropriate to choose ωrc within the range of 0.2 ωs ≤ ωrc ≤ 0.5 ωs to ensure effective harmonic compensation up to the LCL resonance frequency, while preserving robustness even when Lg varies.

Fig. 27 Matlab/Simulink Circuit for Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with high cutoff frequency for the virtual RC damper.

Fig. 28 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with high cutoff frequency for the virtual RC damper (ωrc = 3 ωs) with L9=0mH

Fig. 29 Measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with high cutoff frequency for the virtual RC damper (ωrc = 3 ωs) with L9=4.5mH

Fig. 31 Simulink result of measured per phase PCC voltage and grid current with high cutoff frequency for the virtual RC damper (ωrc = 3 ωs) with Lg = 9 mH.

VII. CONCLUSION

This paper presents a holistic analysis of active damping and selective harmonic compensation for LCL-filtered, grid connected converters. Also this paper has presented to give the designing of Three Phase improved quality Space Vector PWM based VSI for reducing harmonics. SVPWM is the best computational PWM technique for a three phase voltage source inverter because of it provides less THD & better PF. The simulation test results validate the effective utilization of SVPWM improvement in total harmonic quality.
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