

A Novel Solar based NPC Grid-Tied Inverter with Integrated Battery Storage

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ABSTRACT:

A new configuration of a three level neutral point clamped inverter that can integrate solar photovoltaic with battery storage in a grid connected system is proposed in this paper. The proposed system has capability of generating correct AC voltage under unbalanced DC bus voltage conditions. This paper presents the design philosophy of proposed configuration and the theoretical framework of proposed modulating technique. The control scheme has capability of controlling the power delivery between the solar PV, battery, and grid, it simultaneously provides maximum power point tracking (MPPT) operation for the solar PV. The usefulness of the proposed methodology is investigated by the simulation of several scenarios, including battery charging and discharging with different levels of solar irradiation.

Keywords:

Battery Storage System, Solar Photovoltaic, Space Vector Pulse Width Modulation, Three-Level NPC Inverter.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Nowadays demand for power throughout the world increases and these demands cannot be met by conventional sources (like thermal and hydro generation) because of limited availability of coal and water. Hence entire world is moving forward to the renewable energy sources like wind and solar energy they never going to be vanish, and these are the most promising alternatives to replace conventional energy sources [1], [2]. But effective utilization of renewable sources and for getting maximum power output requires fast acting power electronic converters [3]. For three-phase applications, two types of power electronic configurations are commonly used to transfer power from the renewable energy resource to the grid: 1) single-stage and 2) double-stage conversion.

In the double stage conversion for a PV system, the first stage is usually a dc/dc converter and the second stage is a dc/ac inverter. In first stage the DC-DC converter provides maximum power tracking from PV module and also produces appropriate DC voltage for stage-2 inversion. In stage-2 (inversion stage) inverter produces 3- ϕ sinusoidal voltages or currents and it transfers power to load connected or to the grid.

In the case of single-stage connection, only one converter is desired to fulfill the double-stage functions, and hence the system will have a lower cost and higher efficiency, however, a more complex control method will be required. For industrial high power applications need a 3- ϕ system, single stage PV energy systems by using a voltage-source converter (VSC) for power conversion [4], [5].

Because of unpredictable and fluctuating nature of solar PV and wind energy systems the output of these systems not constant at terminal ends to overcome such difficulty a battery storage system is employed. This also can boost the flexibility of power system control and increase the overall availability of the system [2].

Usually, a converter is essential to control the charging and discharging of the battery storage system and another converter is required for dc/ac power conversion; thus, a three phase PV system connected to battery storage will require two converters. This paper is concerned with the design and study of a grid-connected three phase solar PV system integrated with battery storage using only one three-level NPC converter having the capability of MPPT and ac-side current control, and also the ability of controlling the battery charging and discharging.

All these will result the cost of conversion decreases, efficiency goes up and flexibility of power flow control increase.

II. PROPOSED SYSTEM:

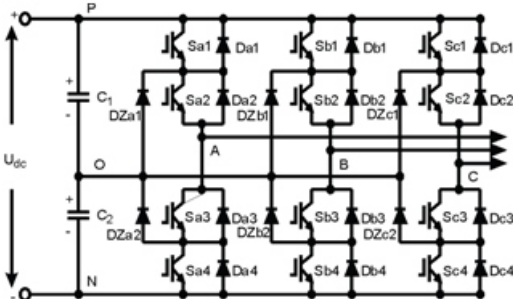


Fig. 1. Three-level NPC inverter structure diagram

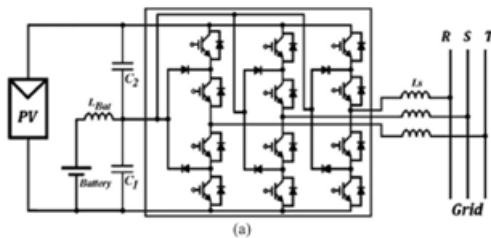


Fig. 2. Proposed configurations for integrating solar PV and battery storage:(a) basic configuration;

In the present paper, a neutral point voltage balance control strategy based on SVPWM is proposed. A voltage offset is added to the modulation wave in the regions of all the sectors as shown in Figure 2, and the neutral point voltage is controlled by changing the dwelling time of the synthesis voltage vectors. Simulation and experimental results show that the strategy has good capability for neutral point voltage balance.

III. CONTROL STRATEGY: SVPWM scheme for NPC three-level inverter:

In the three-phase three-level NPC inverter, each phase has three output switching states “P”, “O” and “N”, which can be combined into a total of 27 possible switching states, the total 27 switching states correspond to 19 space voltage vectors, the space vector diagram is shown in Figure 2, it is composed of two hexagons.

The plane is divided into six 60° sectors (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5 and S6) by large vectors. And each sector can be divided into four regions (R1, R2, R3 and R4, R1 contains two small regions R11 and R12, R3 contains two small regions R31, R32).

For the nearest three vectors (NTV) SVPWM strategy, reference output voltage is synthesized by the nearest three vectors according to the equivalence of the voltage-second integral. Based on the vector magnitude, space voltage vectors can be divided into four types: large vectors, medium vectors, small vectors and zero vectors. The large vectors have the magnitude of $2/3 U_{dc}$, which are located at the vertices of the outer hexagon, the medium vectors have the magnitude of $3/3 U_{dc}$, which are located at the middle of the outer hexagon, the small vectors have the magnitude of $1/3 U_{dc}$, which are located at the vertices of the inner hexagon, and the zero vectors have the magnitude of zero. Each small vector has two switching states, one contains “P” state, which is called positive small vector, and the other contains “N” state, which is called negative small vector.

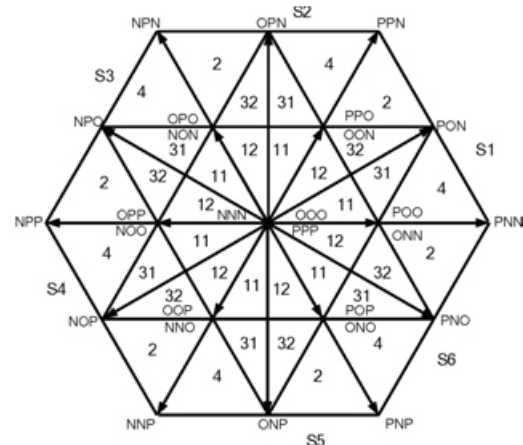


Fig.3. Voltage space vector distribution

The four types of vectors have different effect on neutral point voltage deviation, it is summarized that the zero and large vectors do not affect the neutral point voltage; the medium vectors affect the neutral point voltage, but the influence depends on the operation condition; the small vectors have specific effect on the neutral point voltage, the neutral point voltage will rise when positive small vector operates, and the neutral point voltage will drop when negative small vector operates in motoring mode.

The power flow is from DC-link to the load when the system is in motoring mode; and the power flow is from the load to DC-link when the system is in regenerative mode. The mode depends on the direction of the DC-link current. In contrary, the neutral point voltage will rise when positive small vector operates, and the neutral point voltage will drop when negative small vector operates in regenerative mode.

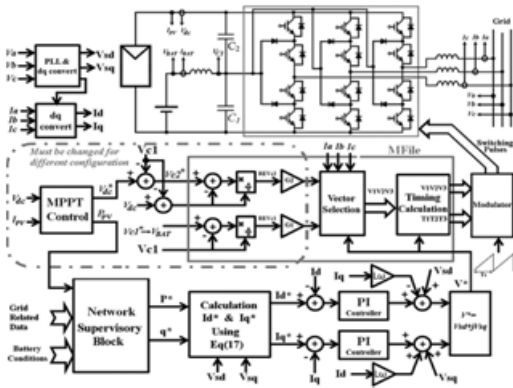


Fig. 3. Control system diagram to integrate PV and battery storage.

3. Neutral point balance control based on SVPWM:

In this paper, a SVPWM strategy is proposed to maintain the neutral point voltage balance. The switching sequence of this strategy is the same as that of conventional NTV SVPWM algorithm. The negative small vector is chosen to be the first given vector, Figure 3 shows the synthesis vectors sequence when the reference voltage vector v_{ref} is located in S1, R11. For the proposed neutral point voltage balancing strategy, in each region of the six sectors, a voltage offset is added to the adjusting phase u_k (k is a, b or c), and the dwelling times of operation vectors change. The adjusting phase u_k is the phase whose absolute value is the largest of three phases,

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS:

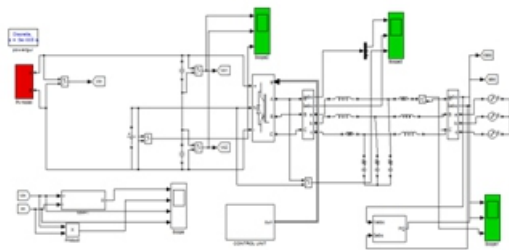


Fig. 4. Simulation circuit

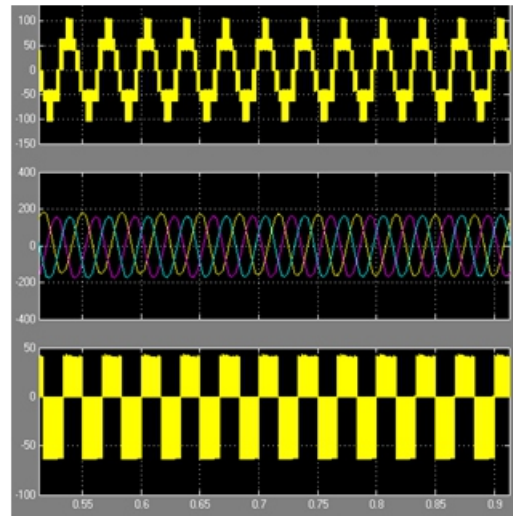


Fig. 5 Phase-phase inverter voltage, inverter current and V_{a0}

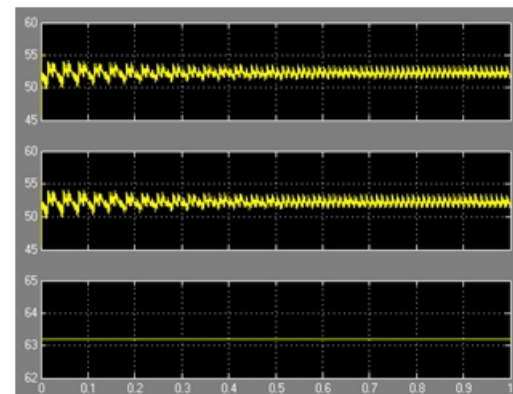


Fig. 6 Dc capacitors and battery voltage

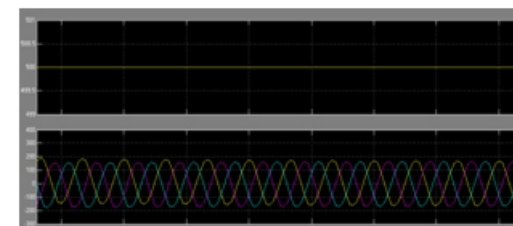


Fig. 7 Output power and Grid Current

V. CONCLUSION:

A novel topology for a three-level NPC voltage source inverter that can integrate both renewable energy and battery storage on the dc side of the inverter has been presented. A theoretical framework of a novel extended unbalance three-level vector modulation technique that can generate the correct ac voltage under unbalanced dc voltage conditions has been proposed.

A new control algorithm for the proposed system has also been presented in order to control power flow between solar PV, battery, and grid system, while MPPT operation for the solar PV is achieved simultaneously. The effectiveness of the proposed topology and control algorithm was tested using simulations and results are presented. The results demonstrate that the proposed system is able to control ac-side current, and battery charging and discharging currents at different levels of solar irradiation.

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