

AC Phase-Shift Control and Traditional Interleaving PWM Control to Design Two-Phase Interleaved Boost Converter



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Abstract:

The proposed inverter is placed between the wind turbine and the grid, same as a regular WEI, and is able to regulate active and reactive power transferred to the grid. The goal of this paper is to introduce new ways to increase the penetration of renewable energy systems into the distribution systems. This will encourage the utilities and customers to act not only as a consumer, but also as a supplier of energy. Moreover, using the new types of converters with FACTS capabilities will significantly reduce the total cost of the renewable energy application. The proposed control strategy regulates the active and reactive power using power angle and modulation index, respectively. The function of the proposed inverter is to transfer active power to the grid as well as keeping the PF of the local power lines constant at a target PF regardless of the incoming active power from the wind turbine. The simulations for an 11-level inverter have been done in MATLAB/Simulink.

INTRODUCTION

The power electronic devices are usually used to convert the nonconventional forms of energy to the suitable energy for power grids, in terms of voltage and frequency. In permanent magnet (PM) wind applications, a back-to-back converter is normally utilized to connect the generator to the grid. A rectifier equipped with a

maximum power point tracker (MPPT), converts the output power of the wind turbine to a dc power. The dc power is then converted to the desired ac power for power lines using an inverter and a transformer.

There are a lot of single-phase lines in the United States, which power small farms or remote houses [1], [2]. Such customers have the potential to produce their required energy using a small-to-medium-size wind turbine. Increasing the number of small-to-medium wind turbines will make several troubles for local utilities such as harmonics or power factor (PF) issues. It is often desirable to adjust the PF of a system to near 1.0. When reactive elements supply or absorb reactive power near the load, the apparent power is reduced. In other words, the current drawn by the load is reduced, which decreases the power losses. Therefore, the voltage regulation is improved if the reactive power compensation is performed near large loads.

The D-STATCOMs are normally placed in parallel with the distributed generation systems as well as the power systems to operate as a source or sink of reactive power to increase the power quality issues of the power lines. Using regular STATCOMs for small-to-medium size single-phase wind applications does not make economic sense and increase the cost of the system significantly. This is where the idea of using smarter

WEIs with FACTS capabilities shows itself as a new idea to meet the targets of being cost-effective as well as compatible with IEEE standards. The proposed inverter in this paper is equipped with a D-STATCOM option to regulate the reactive power of the local distribution lines and can be placed between the wind turbine and the grid, same as a regular WEI without any additional cost. The function of the proposed inverter is not only to convert dc power coming from dc link to a suitable ac power for the main grid, but also to fix the PF of the local grid at a target PF by injecting enough reactive power to the grid. In the proposed control strategy, the concepts of the inverter and the D-STATCOM have been combined to make a new inverter, which possesses FACTS capability with no additional cost.

The proposed control strategy allows the inverter to act as an inverter with D-STATCOM option when there is enough wind to produce active power, and to act as a D-STATCOM when there is no wind. The authors called their proposed system PV-STATCOM. Similar to wind farms (when there is no wind), solar farms are idle during nights. We proposed a control strategy that makes the solar farms to act as STATCOMs during night when they are not able to produce active power. The main purpose of the PV-STATCOM system is to improve the voltage control and the PF correction on three-phase transmission systems.

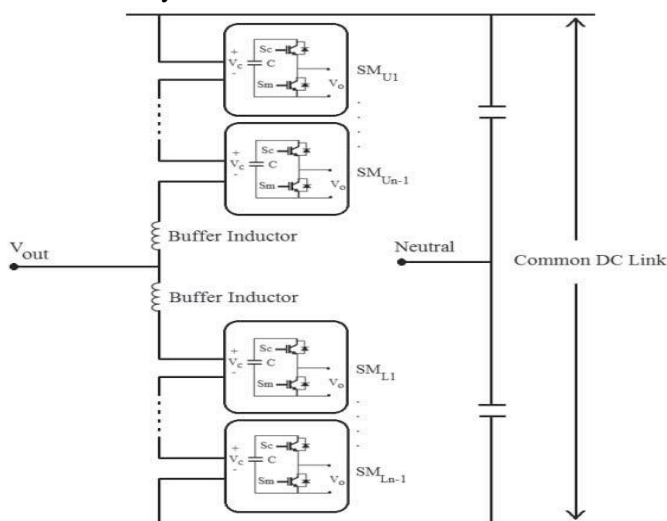


Fig 1: Structure of a single-phase MMC inverter structure

MMC TOPOLOGY

MMC has gained increasing attention recently. A number of papers were published on the structure, control, and application of this topology, but none has suggested the use of that for inverter + D-STATCOM application. This topology consists of several half-bridge (HB) submodules (SMs) per each phase, which are connected in series. An n-level single-phase MMC consists of a series connection of 2(n-1) basic SMs and two buffer inductors. Each SM possesses two semiconductor switches, which operate in complementary mode, and one capacitor. The exclusive structure of MMC becomes it an ideal candidate for medium-to-high-voltage applications such as wind energy applications. Moreover, this topology needs only one dc source, which is a key point for wind applications. MMC requires large capacitors which may increase the cost of the systems; however, this problem is offset by the lack of need for any snubber circuit.

The output voltage of each SM (v_o) is either equal to its capacitor voltage (v_c) or zero, depending on the switching states. The buffer inductors must provide current control in each phase arm and limit the fault currents. To describe the operation of MMC, each SM can be considered as a two-pole switch. If S_{ui} , which is defined as the status of the i th sub-module in the upper arm, is equal to unity, then the output of the i th SM is equal to the corresponding capacitor voltage; otherwise it is zero. Likewise, if S_{li} which is defined as the status of the i th sub-module in the lower arm, is equal to unity, then the output of the i th lower SM is equal to the corresponding capacitor voltage; otherwise it is zero. Generally, when S_{ui} or S_{li} is equal to unity, the i th upper or lower SM is ON; otherwise it is OFF. Therefore, the upper and lower arm voltages of the MMC are as follows:

$$v_{upperArm} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (S_{ui} v_{ci}) + v_{11}$$

$$v_{lowerArm} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (S_{li} v_{ci}) + v_{12}$$

The dc and ac voltages of the 11-levelMMC are described by

$$v_{DC} = v_{upperArm} + v_{lowerArm}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{10} (S_{ui}v_{ci}) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} (S_{li}v_{ci}) + (v_{11} + v_{12})$$

$$v_{out} = \frac{v_{DC}}{2} - v_{upperArm} = -\frac{v_{DC}}{2} + v_{lowerArm}$$

CONTROL STRATEGY

The aim of the designed inverter is to transfer active power coming from the wind turbine as well as to provide utilities with distributive control of volt-ampere reactive (VAR) compensation and PF correction of feeder lines. The application of the proposed inverter requires active and reactive power to be controlled fully independent, so that if wind is blowing, the device should be working as a normal inverter plus being able to fix the PF of the local grid at a target PF (D-STATCOM option), and if there is no wind, the device should be only operating as a D-STATCOM (or capacitor bank) to regulate PF of the local grid. This translates to two modes of operation: 1) when wind is blowing and active power is coming from the wind turbine: the inverter plus D-STATCOM mode.

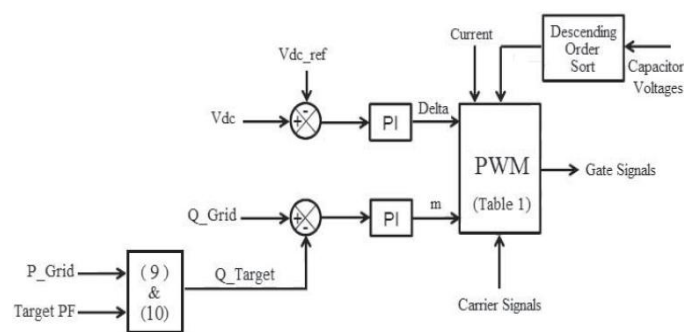


Fig 2: Schematic of the proposed controller system

In this mode, the device is working as a regular inverter to transfer active power from the renewable energy source to the grid as well as working as a normal D-STATCOM to regulate the reactive power of the grid in order to control the PF of the grid and 2) when wind speed is zero or too low to generate active power: the D-STATCOM mode. In this case, the inverter is acting only as a source of reactive power to control the PF of the

grid, as a D-STATCOM. This option eliminates the use of additional capacitor banks or external STATCOMs to regulate the PF of the distribution feeder lines. Obviously, the device is capable of outputting up to its rated maximum real power and/or reactive power, and will always output all real power generated by the wind turbine to the grid. The amount of reactive power, up to the design maximum, is dependent only on what the utility asks the device to produce.

In the proposed control strategy, active and reactive power transferred between the inverter and the distribution grid is controlled by selecting both the voltage level of the inverter and the angle δ between the voltages of inverter and grid, respectively. The amplitude of the inverter voltage is regulated by changing the modulation index m and the angle δ by adding a delay to the firing signals which concludes

$$P_S = -\frac{m E_S E_L}{X} \sin \delta$$

$$Q_S = -\frac{m E_S E_L \cos \delta - E_L^2}{X}$$

Several assumptions should be considered for the proposed controllers which are as: 1) the load on the feeder line should be considered fixed for a small window of time and there is no change in the load during a cycle of the grid frequency; 2) the feeder line can be accurately modeled as a constant P, Q load. This means that the power produced by a wind turbine will displace other power on the feeder line and not add to it; and 3) although making a change in m or δ has effect on both (7) and (8), it is assumed that a change in the modulation index will predominantly affect Q, while a change in delta will predominantly affect P. Any effect on Q from a small change in delta is thus ignored.

In an 11-level CPWM technique, ten carrier signals are compared with a reference sinusoidal signal, based on the phase of the reference signal (v_r), there are 11 operating regions where each region defines a voltage level in the output

$$n_{upperArm} + n_{lowerArm} = 10$$

In an 11-level MMC inverter, there are ten upper and ten lower SMs where each SM has a capacitor. For instance, in voltage level 1 of Table I, all the upper SMs should be OFF and all the lower SMs should be ON, which translates to the fact that the main switches S_m of all upper SMs and the auxiliary switches (S_c) of all lower SMs have to be ON and all the other switches have to be OFF.

The most critical issue to control MMC is to maintain the voltage balance across all the capacitors. Therefore, the SMs' voltages are measured and sorted in descending order during each cycle. If the current flowing through the switches is positive, so that capacitors are being charged, n -upper Arm and n -upper Arm of the SMs in upper arm and lower arm with the lowest voltages are selected, respectively. As a result, ten capacitors with lowest voltages are chosen to be charged. Likewise, if the current flowing through the switches is negative, so that capacitors are being discharged, n -upper Arm and n -upper Arm of the SMs in upper arm and lower arm with highest voltages are selected, respectively. As a result, ten capacitors with highest voltages are chosen to be discharged. Consequently, the voltages of the SMs' capacitors are balanced. Considering Table I and based on the direction of the current flowing through the switches, the proper algorithm will be selected to maintain capacitor balance.

SIMULATION RESULTS

The design of an 11-level MMC inverter was carried out in MATLAB/Simulink. Before $t = 6$ s, there is no wind to power the wind turbine; therefore, the dc link is open-circuited. At $t = 6$ s, the input power of the inverter is ramped up to 12 kW in 5 s, and then ramped down to 3.5 kW 4 s later.

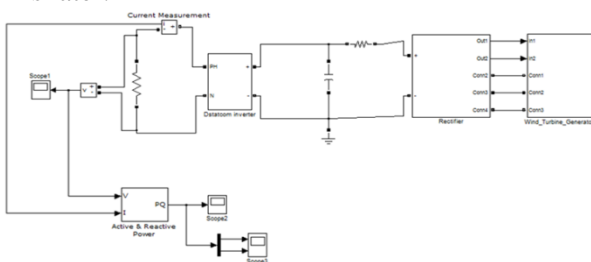


Fig 3: Simulation circuit of proposed converter

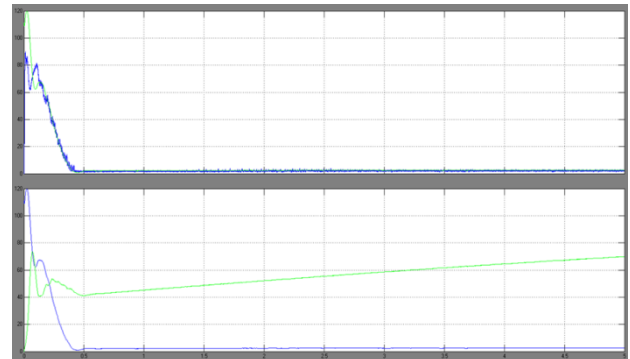


Fig 4: Torque of the Wind turbine Generator

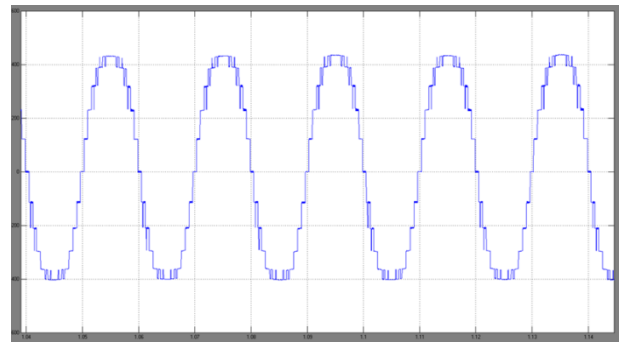


Fig 5: Output voltage of the proposed 11-level inverter

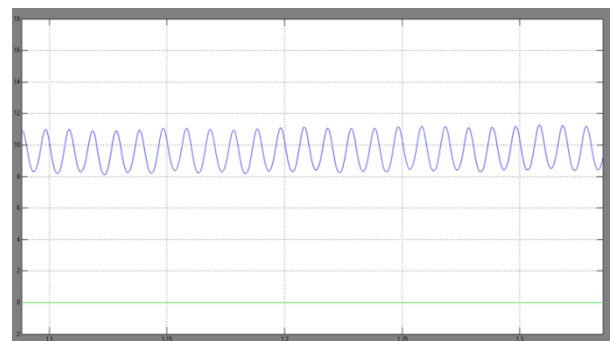


Fig 6: Active power

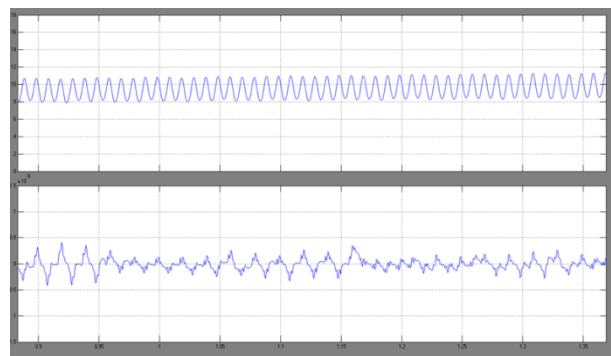


Fig 7: Active and reactive power

CONCLUSION

Replacing the traditional renewable energy inverters with the proposed inverter will eliminate the need of any external STATCOM devices to regulate the PF of the grid. Clearly, depending on the size of the compensation, multiple inverters may be needed to reach the desired PF. This shows a new way in which distributed renewable sources can be used to provide control and support in distribution systems. The proposed controller system adjusts the active power by changing the power angle (δ) and the reactive power is controllable by the modulation index m . The simulation results for an 11-level inverter are presented in MATLAB/Simulink.

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