

# Power Quality Improvement by Reduction of Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) using PWM Inverter

Chitrallekha Jena, Srikanta Mohapatra, Sanhita Mishra, Babita Panda, Anwasha Majumdar



**Abstract** - In this paper, a PWM inverter is proposed for improvement of power quality i.e., reduction of total harmonic distortion (THD). The power quality problems reduce the lifetime and performance of equipments. The proposed system reduces the THD which is generated from the nonlinear loads. Because presence of harmonics leads to problems like overheating, failure of insulation etc.

Here the simulation results of the proposed system is studied using MATLAB SIMULINK. Using the system, a lower THD is achieved which shows the effectiveness of the system.

**Index Terms** - Power Quality, Total harmonic distortion(THD), PWM.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Electrical energy is one of the most productive forms of energy and is totally dependent on electric supply. Hence the power quality is a significant factor which is quite important for the effective operation for handling user side equipment. It depends upon voltage and frequency ranges of power. If the range deviates from the standard range the quality of power gets effected [3]-[7].

With the evolution in technology, there is a radical enhancement in semi conductor devices. Semi conductor devices plays a vital role in the energy sector as they help to alleviate the control of a system. But the semi conductor devices are nonlinear and draws nonlinear current from the source. Use of nonlinear loads generates harmonics and reactive power. Harmonics is considered as a critical problem of power quality. Therefore, it is very important to eliminate the harmonics in order to maintain the power quality and reduce the THD below 5% based on IEEE 519 harmonics standard[2]. So a PWM Inverter is used in this paper to serve the purpose in order to facilitate 230V or 110V steady output voltage whether it's a constant load or variable.

Compared to the conventional inverters, PWM inverters are unrivaled as they have various protection circuits and voltage control circuits.

## II. SYSTEM UNDER STUDY

Fig. 1 is showing the configuration of the proposed system for reducing THD. A three phase source is connected to a nonlinear load. Here a 3 phase full wave rectifier with resistive load is connected as a non linear load. It consists of six diodes D1, D2, D3, D4, D5 and D6.

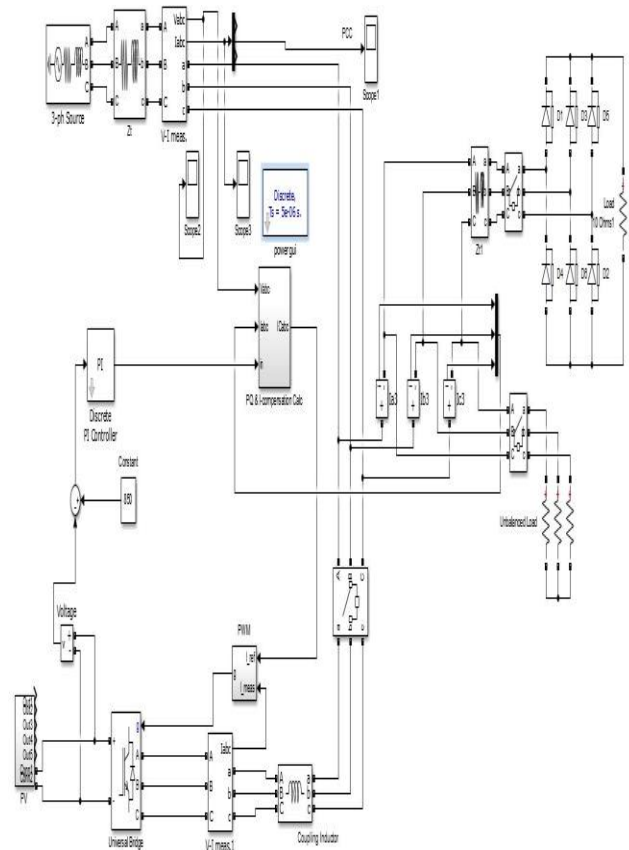


Fig 1. Configuration of the proposed system

### A. PV Module

For a Photo Voltaic module solar cell is the primary component. Basically its size varies from 4-6 inches for a small cell generation about 3 watts. Basically the cells are connected in series-parallel manner in order to track maximum power[ 1].

The PV Array block is a five parameter model using a current source  $I_L$  (light-generated current), diode ( $I_0$  and  $nI$  parameters), series resistance  $R_s$ , and shunt resistance  $R_{sh}$  to represent the irradiance- and temperature-dependent I-V characteristics of the modules.

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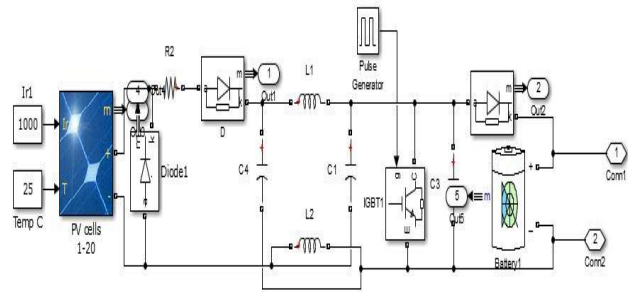


Fig. 2 Subsystem of the PV module

Here the inputs of the PV module are irradiance and Temperature. DC voltage is being generated from the PV module. A boost converter is used to step up the voltage from its input. The DC voltage is being saved in the battery.

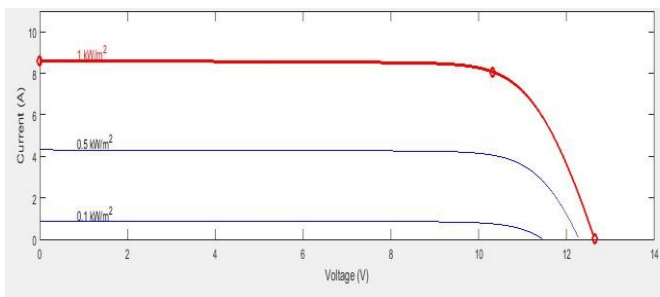


Fig. 3 V-I curve

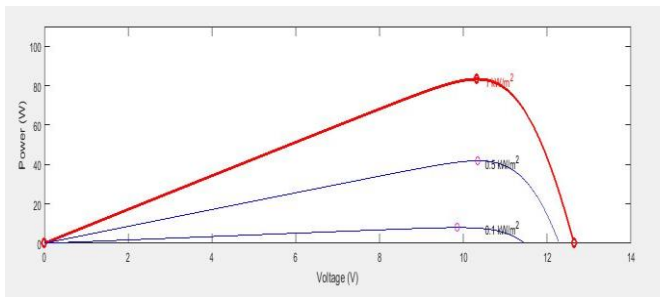


Fig. 4 P-V curve

**B. PQ and I compensation calculation**

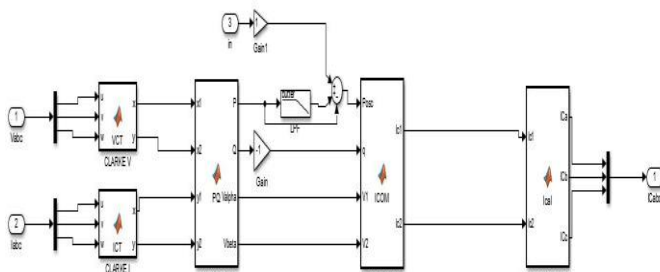


Fig. 5 PQ and I compensation calculation block

Inside this block the voltage  $V_{abc}$  from source and current  $I_{abc}$  from load is being converted into PQ using Clarke's Transformation. Then it is converting into Alpha Beta and then into compensation current  $I_{abc}$ .

**C. PWM**

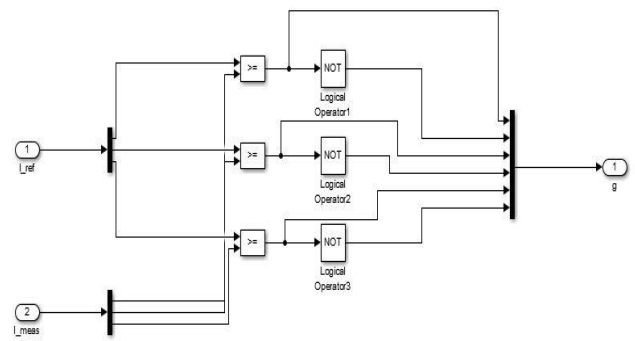


Fig. 6 PWM inverter block

Both the currents  $I_{abc}$  ( $I_{ref}$ ) and  $I_{abc}$  ( $I_{meas}$ ) are compared by the PWM block. And the difference between both the currents is injected into the universal bridge as we can see in Fig. 1.

**III. SIMULATION RESULT**

The simulation result here demonstrates both the cases i.e., before applying PWM and after applying PWM. Here the current waveform and THD is displayed for both the cases.

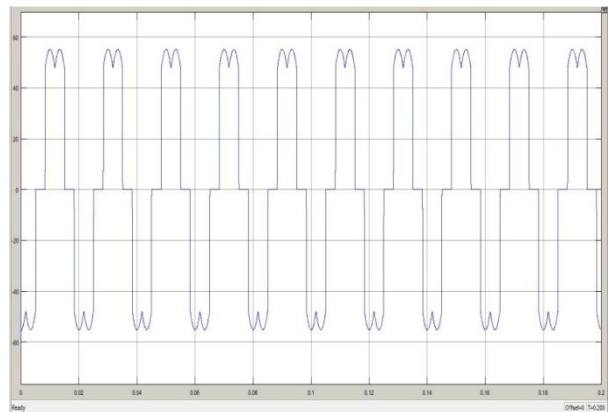


Fig. 7 Current waveform before applying PWM

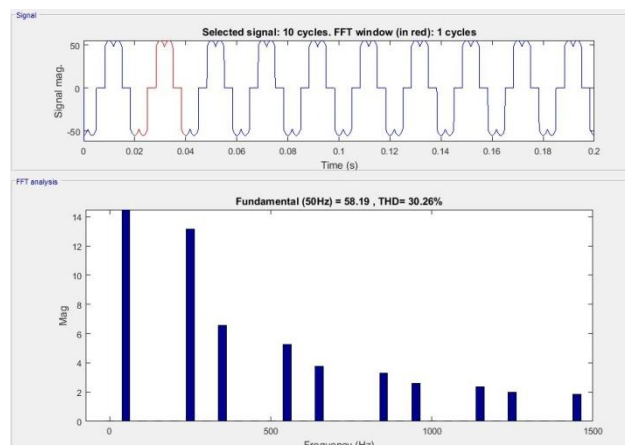


Fig. 8 Total harmonic distortion before applying PWM

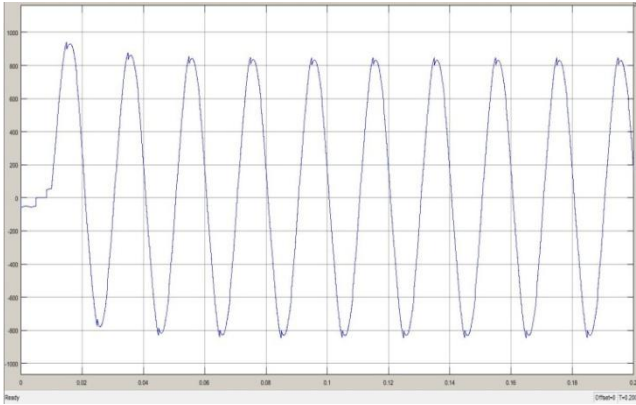


Fig. 9 Current waveform after applying PWM

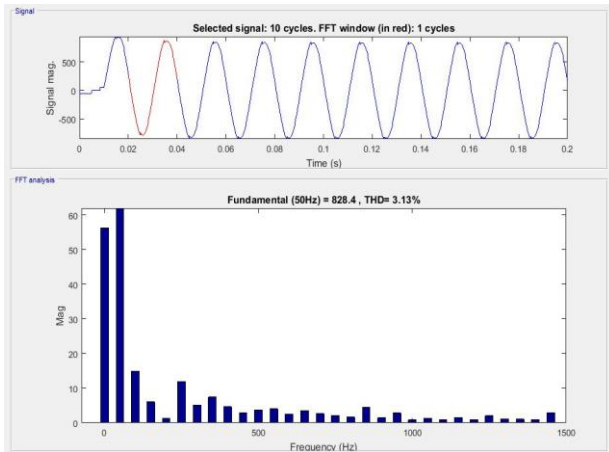


Fig. 10 Total harmonic distortion after applying PWM

Here the current waveforms and THD can be seen. Fig. 7 shows the waveform of current before applying PWM where distortion can be seen and Fig. 8 shows the THD which is 30.26%. In Fig. 9 current waveform is seen with less distortion which is after applying PWM and Fig. 10 shows the THD which is 3.13%.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper a three phase system with nonlinear load is analysed and simulated where a PWM inverter is used for reduction of THD. The simulation result shows that THD has been reduced from 30.26% to 3.13% after applying PWM. Since based on IEEE 519 harmonics standard THD should be below 5%, this method can be considered for improving the quality of power.

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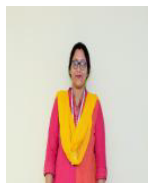
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