Designing of Three Level 3 Phase Inverter Using Improved SPWM Modulation for different Loads

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\textbf{Abstract:} Many high voltage applications require three-phase inverters. The major challenge in inverter designing is the mitigation of harmonic distortion (HD) to achieve better inverting performance. Usually, sinusoidal pulse width modulation (SPWM) is widely used to trigger the inverting switches for controlling the total HD performance in the inverter. To provide the option of multiple operating ranges the multilevel inverters are designed for higher voltage operations. This paper contributes in two passes, first, an improved SPWM modulation is generated for designing the three levels inverter. Then in the second pass, the performance of the THD is evaluated under the different load conditions using V-I measurement. THD is present in the system due to the use of switches. Therefore, this paper has evaluated the performance of the proposed improved SPWM based multilevel inverter for analysis. In order to improve the performance, the modulation index of the SPWM block is varied. The performance of the component report is also presented in the short. The output waveform of the line current and the voltage are compared; The FFT analysis is done to evaluate the comparison of THD performance. It is concluded that improving the SPWM performance and the loading conditions may improve the THD performance also.

\textbf{Keywords:} Three Phase Inverter, Three-level Inverter, FFT Analysis, THD, SPWM, Modulation Index

\section{1. Introduction}

With the invention of the fast switching characteristic of the different electrical inverting switches, the harmonic performance of inverters has become a great challenge during the last decades. Many Inverting challenges have been proposed by the researchers [1,2 and,3]. Therefore it is highly desired to minimize the total harmonic distortion (THD) performance of the high voltage Inverters.

The task of the inverting action is to produce the AC voltage from the input battery-operated DC Power source. The process of inverting operation is shown in Figure 1.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{figure1.png}
\caption{Process of the Inverting Operation}
\end{figure}

Many high voltage industrial applications are required to use multilevel inverters (MLI). Thus improving the performance of designed MLI is require to improve the utilization for industrial uses.

As there are various types of inverters available in the literature thus in the beginning the classification of the inverter design is presented in Figure 1. The broadly inverting operation is classified as single-phase and three-phase. Then our main concern is to focus on cascaded H bridge inverters. The inverters are classified based on the level of trace used in multilevel inverters. In this paper, our prime concern will be to compare the performance of each of these inverters based on the THD and FFT analysis. It is highly desired to minimize the THD in inverter designs.
The basic structure of SPWM based inverting pulse generation is shown in Figure 3. It can be observed that by varying the parameters of the sine waves and the trigger pulses the output pulses can be controlled. Thus using SPWM may improve the performance of the conventional multi-level inverters. A comparator is used for gemmating the error signal for deciding transition.

Figure 3 The operation of triangular pulses to based SPWM process

Figure 4 SPWM Blokes used for triggering the A, B C three-phase cycles of the voltage switches.
The basic model structure for the generation of the SPWM trigger for the switching operations is shown in Figure 4 and the corresponding output pulses are given in Figure 5. It can be observed from the Figure that the PWM pulses are produced for switching using SPWM input.

**Figure 5.** The switching waveforms of the single-phase SPWM system used here.

2. **Why MLI Designs**

There are many applications of the MLI designs the basic advantages of using the MLI design are as follows.

Benefits of Using MLI:
- It provides the higher power using medium sources
- MLI operated through using the number of switches
- May reduce very Low Distortion
- Reduce the dv/dt stresses

Common-mode voltage: (MLI) Multilevel may produce a lesser CM voltage range.

**Applications**

Major applications of MLI inverters are there the major applications are shown in Figure 6.

**Figure 6** Applications of Cascaded H bridge inverters
Mostly the ML inverters are used in the high voltage drives-based applications. HVDC and electric vehicle are another heavy load applications

3. Review of Multilevel Inverters

The operation efficiency of the inverting operation depends on the performance of switches used for designing. Many architectures of cascaded H bridge (CHB) inverters were designed to improve the performance. A. Ali et al [1] have used pulse width modulation (PWM) for improving the performance of the multi-level CHB inverters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Type of Inverter</th>
<th>Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Anubha Gupta et al [2]</td>
<td>Three-phase inverter</td>
<td>Have designed the three-phase inverter using the SPWM technique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Anuja Namboodiri et. al. [4]</td>
<td>Three-phase SPWM inverter</td>
<td>Design using SPWM analysis and reported THD of 96%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Avinash Bajpayee et al [6]</td>
<td>3 phase SPWM Bi-polar inverter</td>
<td>Designed Bi-polar inverters by controlling triangular trigger pulse have achieved THD of 88%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Our Proposed approach</td>
<td>3 level inverter SPWM</td>
<td>with modified modulation methodology for different snubber loads</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anubha Gupta et al [2] have designed the 2 phase inverter based on the SPWM approach and presented a good comparison of the line and phase waveforms. The PWM is used for controlling the performance of switching. Anuja Namboodiri et. al. [4] have designed an inverter using SPWM analysis and reported the FFT analysis of the THD achieved to 96%. E. Lee, et al [2] have opted for the modified PWM8 approach with phase-shifting to improve CHB inverting performance. The PWM is used for controlling the performance of cascaded H bridge inverter.

Avinash Bajpayee et al [6] have improved the triangular trigger pulse for the SPWM switching and reported improvement of THD up to 88%. A. Palanisamy et al [11] have presented the good application of the PWM based inverter for the solar PV cell of THD for various multi-level CHB inverters and concluded 23.54% for 9 level and 10.84% THD for 11 level CHB inverters. L. K. Gupta et al [6] have presented the design of CHB inverter and presented minimum voltage THD of 28.9% for single-phase 4 level inverter.

4. A 3 Level MLI Proposed Inverter

There are various architectures designed for multilevel inverters the proposed three-level three-phase multilevel inverter is shown in Figure 6. Switch inversion operation is used for phase conversion. The proposed design is used for model creation in the final phase.
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Figure 6 Design of the MLI inverter using

It can be observed that corresponding to each phase (amb,c) the colorswise switched are named as S1a, to S4a, S1b to S4b, and S3c to S6C respectively. It can be observed that during the positive cycle switch S1 and S3 are on and during the negative cycle of the sine wave the switches are inverted to S2 and S4 will be Turn on. The 12 switches are used in this proposed design. In this work, it is proposed to change the modulation index and frequency of the PWM signal for evaluating the THD performance of the system. Besides, the duty cycle of the triangular wave can be used to change the trigger of the comparator block thus controls the switching of the waveforms. The proposed inverter design implemented the diodes in parallel with basic RC snubber circuits as shown in Figure 6. In on-state, the Diode model has an internal resistance (Ron) and inductance (Lon).

Besides, the Resistive and inductive loads are used for performance evaluation. The VL measurement block is used for analysis. Paper compared the FFT-based THD analysis of the different load conditions which may consider as the filter.

5. Evaluations Of Multilevel Inverter

Different simulation parameters consider for the modified inverter design are shown in Table 2. The approach of design is to modify the PWM design parameters for evaluating the THD performance. The THD analysis is done for voltage and current both waves also it may be advantageous to improve the trigger triangular pulse sample times to improve the performance.

Table2 various design parameters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Modulation</td>
<td>SPWM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Modulation index</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Reference Frequency</td>
<td>50 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Modulation Frequency</td>
<td>15Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Switch internal resistance</td>
<td>Rin =0.001 ohm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Snuber resistance</td>
<td>1e5 ohm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The section presents a performance evaluation of the various THD values achieved by the different CHB inverters. The waveform of the line voltage for the five-level cascade inverters is shown in Figure 8. It can be observed the there are three levels of the waveform and each voltage phase has a 120-degree phase difference between them.
Table 3 Comparison of TSD for existing inverters and proposed methodologies.

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>90.16 %</td>
<td>87.37</td>
<td>61.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>With Modified proposed SPWM</td>
<td></td>
<td>60.05%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **Parametric Comparison**

Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) is defined degree of closeness of the shape between output and its fundamental FFT component and is mathematically given as:

\[
\text{THD} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{n=2}^{N} V_n^2}{V_1^2}}
\]
7. Conclusions

This paper proposed to design the modified SPWM based approach for improving the THD performance of the three levels 3 phase inverter. The reduction in harmonic distortion is a challenge in inverter design. It is required to achieve a good approximation of the sinusoidal nature of voltage output. The major focus of the paper is to evaluate the current and voltage waveform for THD using the FFT analysis by powergui block. The model is designed in MATLAB using Simulink. The proposed approach varied the modulation index of the SPWM wave for improving the performance.
It is found that it is required to analyze the FFT performance for evaluating harmonic distortions. It is concluded that reduction in modulation index and frequency combination of SPWM may improve the performances of THD. It is concluded that THD performance is minimized by the proposed work. The RL snubber performs well enough.

It is also recorded to work to further reduce distortion in the current wave and the significant improvement may report in the future.

8. Acknowledgment
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