A Comparative Study between DPC and DPC-SVM Controllers Using dSPACE (DS1104)

Adel Mehdi, Salah-eddine Rezgui, Houssam Medouce, and Hocine Benalla

ABSTRACT
The aim of this paper is to compare two different control structures. The Simple Direct Power Control (DPC) and the Direct Power Control with Space Vector Modulation (DPC-SVM) for two-level converter applications. The first strategy (DPC) has been developed to control the instantaneous active and reactive power directly by selecting the optimum switching state of the converter. Applied to the Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) converter its main feature is to improve the total power factor and efficiency, even harmonics components existence. In the second structure, the active and reactive powers are used as (PWM) control variables instead of the three-phase line currents usually used in other techniques. It is shown that DPC-SVM exhibits several properties; good dynamic response, constant switching frequency, and in particular it provides a sinusoidal line currents. Simulation and experimental results has shown that both control structures achieve good performances.

1. INTRODUCTION
As DC power supplies are extensively used, not only in industrial fields, but also in consumer products, several problems with regard to their diode rectifiers have been observed in recent years, like the low input power factor, and the presence of harmonics in the input currents. Consequently, the pulse width modulation (PWM) converters are adopted in applications that require less distortion in the current waveforms, thus the unity power factor operation can be easily performed by regulating the currents in phase with the power-source voltages [1].

Development of control methods for PWM rectifiers was possible thanks to advances in power semiconductor devices and digital signal processors, which allow fast operation and cost reduction. It offers possibilities for implementation of sophisticated control algorithms. Appropriate control can provide both the rectifier performance improvements and reduction of passive components. Various control strategies have been proposed in recent works for this type of PWM rectifier [2]. A well-known method of indirect active and reactive power control which is based on current vector orientation with respect to the line voltage vector (voltage oriented control VOC ) [3].

VOC guarantees high static performance via internal current control loops. However, the final configuration and performance of the VOC system largely depends on the quality of the applied current control strategy [4]. Another less known method based on instantaneous direct active and reactive power control is called direct power control (DPC) [1][5]. But both strategies mentioned do not perform sinusoidal current when the line voltage is distorted. Only DPC based on virtual flux [6] instead of the line voltage vector orientation [7], called VF-DPC, provides sinusoidal line current and lower harmonic distortion [6].

However, it contains a several disadvantages as:

- Variable switching frequency (difficulties of LC input filter design)
• High sampling frequency needed for digital implementation of hysteresis comparators

• Fast microprocessor and A/D converters requirements

Therefore, it was difficult to implement VF-DPC in industry. But all of the above drawbacks can be eliminated when instead of the switching table a PWM voltage modulator is applied [8].

2. DIRECT POWER CONTROL

Direct power control is based on the same control principles as in the direct torque control technique (DTC). In DTC, it’s the electromagnetic torque and the rotor flux which are directly controlled, while in DPC, it’s the stator active and reactive powers that are directly controlled [9]. Also, in DPC no internal current control loops or PWM modulator block are required, because the converter switching states are selected by a switching table based on the instantaneous errors between the commanded and measured values of active and reactive power. Therefore, the main feature of the DPC implementation is a correct and fast extraction of the active and reactive power [1].

![Figure 1. Configuration of DPC Controller for PWM converter [6]](image-url)

2.1. Instantaneous Power Source Calculation

the active and reactive powers are obtained by the following equations

\[
P = v_a i_a + v_b i_b + v_c i_c
\]

(1)

\[
Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [v_a (i_c - i_b) + v_b (i_a - i_c) + v_c (i_b - i_a)]
\]

(2)

2.2. Line Voltage Vector Position

The phase of the power-source voltage vector is converted to the sector signal \( \theta_i \). For this purpose, the stationary coordinates are divided into 12 sectors, as shown in Table I, and the angle can be deduced from equation (3) [5].

\[
\theta = \arctan \left( \frac{v_{\beta}}{v_{\alpha}} \right)
\]

(3)

2.3. Switching Table

the selection of the adequate vector is determined by the following table according to the variation in the active and reactive power with the position of voltage vector.
3. DIRECT POWER CONTROL WITH PWM

The DPC-SVM with constant switching frequency uses closed-loop power control, as shown in Figure 2. The commanded reactive power $Q_{\text{ref}}$ set to zero for unity power factor operation and delivered from the outer PI dc voltage controller. The reference active power $P_{\text{ref}}$ and reactive power $Q_{\text{ref}}$ which are in the DC frame and flowing between the supply and the dc link are compared with the calculated $P_{\text{mes}}$ and $Q_{\text{mes}}$ respectively. The errors are delivered to a PI controller to eliminate steady-state error, and the output signals are transformed to the fixed frame and used for switching signals generation by the space-vector modulator (SVM)[10].

![Figure 2](image)

3.1. Synthesis of Active and Reactive Power Controllers

The synthesis of active and reactive power controllers can be done analytically using a simplified model. In this model the switching waveforms created by the PWM converter are replaced by its average value within the switching period [3]. The active and reactive power in (dq) coordinates has the form after orientation the frame.

![Figure 3](image)
\[ P = UI_{qs} \]  

(4)  

\[ Q = -UI_{ds} \]  

(5)  

4. SIMULATION RESULTS

4.1. Direct Power Control  

4.2. Direct Power Control with Modulation

Figure 4. Simulated basic signal waveforms and line current harmonic spectrum under purely sinusoidal line voltage for DPC. From the top: instantaneous active and reactive power, DC link voltage, line current, and harmonic spectrum of the line current (THD = 4.87%).

Figure 5. Simulated basic signal waveforms and line current harmonic spectrum under purely sinusoidal line voltage for DPC-SVM. From the top: instantaneous active and reactive power, DC link voltage, line current, and harmonic spectrum of the line current (THD = 3.87%).
5. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

5.1. Direct Power Control

5.2. Direct Power Control with Modulation

Figure 6. Experimental results for DPC. From the top: instantaneous active and reactive power, DC link voltage, line current, and a focused part of the line current.

Figure 7. Experimental results for DPC-SVM. From the top: instantaneous active and reactive power, DC link voltage, line current, and a focused part of the line current.

6. EXPERIMENTAL SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

An experimental study has been developed to examine operating characteristics of both techniques DPC and DPC-SVM. The power circuit of the PWM converter is constituted by an insulated gate bipolar transistor (IGBT)-
based full-bridge (SEMIKRON) circuit. The electrical parameters are shown in Table II. Hall-effect current and voltage sensors (LEM LA 25-NP) and (LEM LV 25-P) are employed to detect the line currents and voltages and the dc-bus voltage. The estimation of the instantaneous power and the voltages is proceeded by a dSPACE card (DS1104), it is essential to make the control period as short as possible, because the estimating equations have to be changed every time of the switching state of the converter is changed. The interface circuits which deal with detection of the line currents are specially designed to attain a fast data acquisition corresponding to the control period of the DSP [4]. For this purpose, high-sampling-rate and high-resolution analog-to-digital converters (ADC’s-12bit) are employed in the system. All symbols that have not been mentioned in the equation should be explained in the following text.

### Table 2. Parameters Used In Simulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Power</td>
<td>7(kW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grid voltage</td>
<td>250(V)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DC link voltage</td>
<td>720(V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>24(A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switching frequency</td>
<td>10(kHz)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grid frequency</td>
<td>50(Hz)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grid side inductor</td>
<td>2e-3(H)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grid side resistor</td>
<td>3.87e-3(Ω)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC link capacitor</td>
<td>1e-3(F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load resistor(DC link)</td>
<td>68.8(Ω)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple time (DPC)</td>
<td>1e-6(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple time (DPC-SVM)</td>
<td>2e-6(S)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 3. Parameters Used In Experiment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Power</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>DC link voltage</td>
<td>190(V)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switching frequency</td>
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<td>Grid frequency</td>
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<td>Grid side inductor</td>
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<td>Grid side resistor</td>
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<td>DC link capacitor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Load resistor(DC link)</td>
<td>68.8(Ω)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple time (DPC)</td>
<td>8e-5(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple time (DPC-SVM)</td>
<td>8e-5(S)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.1. Simulation Results and Analysis

Fig.4-A and Fig.5-A show the behaviours of the instantaneous active and reactive power under step variation, between 5 and 7 kW we can see that the responses of both structure provides an excellent performances, the quick variation of the active power don’t affect the reactive power which is keeping at his references (value 0 VAR ), thus, decoupled control between active and reactive power is achieved.

Fig.4-B and Fig.5-B show the DC link capacitor voltage, when a step voltage is applied at t=0.6s, one can see, that the DPC-SVM structure need 0.1s to attend the references value.

The phase current $i_a$ waveform is depicted on the Fig.4-C and Fig.5-C, the FFT analysis displays the frequency spectrum of the current grid. As expected, The Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) is displayed above the spectrum (THD=4.87% for DPC and THD=3.87% for DPC-SVM).

6.2. Experimental Results and Analysis

Several experimental tests have been done to verify feasibility of the proposed techniques. Fig.6 and Fig.7 presents the experimental results under the unity power factor operation in the steady state. The power dissipated in the load resistance was 750 (W) in DPC and 450 (W) in DPC-SVM, it can be seen that the power-source voltage is successfully estimated. The line current $i_a$ shown on Fig.6(C-D) and Fig.7(C-D) is in phase with the actual power-source voltage because the reactive power is controlled to be zero. The current waveform slightly contains lower order harmonic distortion.

Fig. 6-A; Fig. 7-A; presents results of a step response against the disturbance load power under the unity power factor operation. The load power was changed stepwise from 750 to 850 (W) in DPC and from 450 to 550 (W). It can be observed that the estimation of the power and voltages can be performed and that the unity power factor operation is successfully achieved, even in transient state, it can be observed that the active power control and the reactive power control are independent of each other.
7. CONCLUSION

This paper has described two concepts to improve the total power factor and efficiency of the PWM converter. The first method is direct instantaneous active and reactive power control of the converter, in this method the active and reactive power can be regulated directly by relay control of the power, which is implemented by hysteresis comparators and a switching table. In this configuration, the errors between the power commands and the feedback signals are compared by the hysteresis elements, and the specific switching state of the converter is appropriately selected by the switching table, so that the errors can be restricted within the hysteresis bands.

Also it is shown that DPC-SVM has proven excellent performance and verifies the validity of the proposed control system. The DPC-SVM system constitutes a viable alternative to the conventional control strategies and it has the following features and advantages:

- Lower sampling frequency (than a conventional DPC)
- Good dynamic response
- Offers sinusoidal line currents (low THD), for ideal and distorted line voltage
- Constant switching frequency

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REFERENCES


BIOGRAPHY OF AUTHOR

Adel Mehdi is a Ph.D. student and member at the electro-technique laboratory of Constantine LEC with Master of management and transformation of Electrical Energy from University of Constantine 1 Algeria (2011). He obtained Licence Degree in Electrical Engineering from Institute the sciences of Technology in 2009. His researches are in fields of control systems, digital signal processing, direct power control, microprocessors, renewable energy, and micro-grids. He is affiliated with IEEE as student member from 2012 and at university agency of francophone AUF from 2011.