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Wind Turbines with Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator and Full-Power Converters: Modelling, Control and Simulation

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1. Introduction

Research about dynamic models for grid-connected wind energy conversion systems is one of the challenges to achieve knowledge for the ongoing change due to the intensification of using wind energy in nowadays. This book chapter is an involvement on those models, but dealing with wind energy conversion systems consisting of wind turbines with permanent magnet synchronous generators (PMSG) and full-power converters. Particularly, the focus is on models integrating the dynamic of the system as much as potentially necessary in order to assert consequences on the operation of system.

In modelling the energy captured from the wind by the blades, disturbance imposed by the asymmetry in the turbine, the vortex tower interaction, and the mechanical eigenswings in the blades are introduced in order to assert a more accurate behaviour of wind energy conversion systems. The conversion system dynamic comes up from modelling the dynamic behaviour due to the main subsystems of this system: the variable speed wind turbine, the mechanical drive train, and the PMSG and power electronic converters. The mechanical drive train dynamic is considered by three different model approaches, respectively, one-mass, two-mass or three-mass model approaches in order to discuss which of the approaches are more appropriated in detaining the behaviour of the system. The power electronic converters are modelled for three different topologies, respectively, two-level, multilevel or matrix converters. The consideration of these topologies is in order to expose its particular behaviour and advantages in what regards the total harmonic distortion of the current injected in the electric network. The electric network is modelled by a circuit consisting in a series of a resistance and inductance with a voltage source, respectively, considering two hypotheses: without harmonic distortion or with distortion due to the third harmonic, in order to show the influence of this third harmonic in the converter output electric current. Two types of control strategies are considered in the dynamic models of this book chapter, respectively, through the use of classical control or fractional-order control.

Case studies were written down in order to emphasize the ability of the models to simulate new contributions for studies on grid-connected wind energy conversion systems.

Particularly, the contexts of possible malfunctions is an added contribution for the studies on: the pitch angle control of the turbine blades, malfunction characterized by momentarily imposing the position of wind gust on the blades; the power electronic converters control, malfunction characterized by an error choice assumed on the voltage vectors for the power electronic converter. Hence, simulation results of the dynamic models regarding the behaviours not only due to the fact that wind energy is not a controllable source of energy, but also due to possible malfunctions of devices that drive the control on wind energy conversion systems, are presented and discussed. Also, the simulation for the use of fractional-order control is a new contribution on the studies for controlling grid-connected wind energy conversion systems. A comparison between the classical control and the fractional-order control strategies in what regards the harmonic content, computed by the Discrete Fourier Transform, injected into the electric network is presented. The simulations of the mathematical models considered in this book chapter are implemented in Matlab/Simulink.

2. Modelling

2.1 Wind speed

The energy stored in the wind is in a low quality form of energy. Many factors influence the behaviour of the wind speed so it is modelised as a source intermittent and variable of energy and somehow characterized as random variable in magnitude and direction (Chen & Spooner, 2001). Although of the characterisation of wind energy as random variable, for the purpose of this book chapter the wind speed can be modelled as a deterministic sum of harmonics with frequency in range of 0.1–10 Hz (Xing et al., 2006), given by

$$u = u_0 \left[1 + \sum_n A_n \sin(\omega_n t) \right] \quad (1)$$

where u is the wind speed, u_0 is the average wind speed, A_n is the magnitude of the eigenswing n , ω_n is the eigenfrequency of the eigenswing n . The wind speed variation put into effect an action on the physical structure of a wind turbine (Akhmatov et al., 2000). This action causes a reaction of the physical structure, introducing mechanical effects perturbing the energy conversion. Hence, further consideration due to the wind speed variation was studied in order to better characterize the mechanical power associated with the energy conversion over the rotor due to the action on the physical structure.

2.2 Wind turbine

The mechanical power in the nonappearance of mechanical effects, influencing the energy conversion, on the physical structure of a wind turbine, is computed by

$$P_{tt} = \frac{1}{2} \rho A_t u^3 c_p \quad (2)$$

where P_{tt} is the mechanical power associated with the energy capture from the wind by the blades, ρ is the air density, A_t is the area covered by the rotor blades, and c_p is the power coefficient.

The power coefficient c_p is a function of the pitch angle θ of rotor blades and of the tip speed ratio λ , which is the ratio between blade tip speed and wind speed value upstream of the rotor, given by

$$\lambda = \frac{\omega_t R_t}{u} \quad (3)$$

where ω_t is the rotor angular speed at the wind turbine, R_t is the radius of the area covered by the blades. The computation of the power coefficient requires the use of blade element theory and the knowledge of blade geometry or the use of real wind turbine characteristic table. In this book chapter, the numerical approximation ascribed by (Slootweg et al., 2003) is followed. The power coefficient in this numerical approximation is given by

$$c_p = 0.73 \left(\frac{151}{\lambda_i} - 0.58\theta - 0.002\theta^{2.14} - 13.2 \right) e^{-\frac{18.4}{\lambda_i}} \quad (4)$$

$$\lambda_i = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{(\lambda - 0.02\theta)} - \frac{0.003}{(\theta^3 + 1)}} \quad (5)$$

The maximum power coefficient is at null pitch angle and for this numerical approximation it is equal to

$$c_{p\max}(\lambda_{opt}(0), 0) = 0.4412 \quad (6)$$

with the optimal tip speed ratio at null pitch angle equal to

$$\lambda_{opt}(0) = 7.057 \quad (7)$$

The maximum pitch angle for the numerical approximation is 55° , and the minimum power coefficient is equal to

$$c_{p\min}(\lambda(55), 55) = 0.0025 \quad (8)$$

with a tip speed ratio equal to

$$\lambda(55) = 3.475 \quad (9)$$

The conversion of wind energy into mechanical energy over the rotor of a wind turbine is influenced by various forces acting on the blades and on the tower of the wind turbine (e.g. centrifugal, gravity and varying aerodynamic forces acting on blades, gyroscopic forces acting on the tower), introducing mechanical effects influencing the energy conversion. Those mechanical effects have been modelled by eigenswings mainly due to the following phenomena: asymmetry in the turbine, vortex tower interaction, and mechanical eigenswing in the blades. The mechanical power over the rotor of a wind turbine has been modelled as sum of harmonic terms multiplied by the power given by (2), where the mechanical eigenswings define the harmonics. In this book chapter, the model developed in (Xing et al., 2006)-(Akhmatov et al., 2000) is followed, where the further consideration due to the action on the physical structure confers a mechanical power over the rotor given by

$$P_t = P_{tt} \left[1 + \sum_{n=1}^3 A_n \left(\sum_{m=1}^2 a_{nm} g_{nm}(t) \right) h_n(t) \right] \tag{10}$$

$$g_{nm} = \sin \left(\int_0^t m \omega_n(t') dt' + \varphi_{nm} \right) \tag{11}$$

where P_t is the mechanical power of the wind turbine disturbed by the mechanical eigenswings, m is the order of the harmonic of an eigenswing, g_{nm} is the distribution of the m -order harmonic in the eigenswing n , a_{nm} is the normalized magnitude of g_{nm} , h_n is the modulation of eigenswing n , φ_{nm} is the phase of the m -order harmonic in the eigenswing n . The eigenfrequency range of the wind turbine model is considered to be from 0.1 to 10 Hz. The values used for computing P_t (Akhmatov et al., 2000) are given in Table 1.

n	Source	A_n	ω_n	h_n	m	a_{nm}	φ_{nm}
1	Asymmetry	0.01	ω_t	1	1	4/5	0
					2	1/5	$\pi/2$
2	Vortex tower interaction	0.08	$3 \omega_t$	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
					2	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\pi/2$
3	Blades	0.15	9π	$1/2 (g_{11}+g_{21})$	1	1	0

Table 1. Mechanical eigenswings excited in the wind turbine

2.3 One mass drive train

In a one-mass drive train model all inertia components are lumped together, i.e., modelled as a single rotating mass. The equation for the one-mass model is based on the second law of Newton, deriving the state equation for the rotor angular speed at the wind turbine, given by

$$\frac{d\omega_t}{dt} = \frac{1}{J} (T_t - T_g) \tag{12}$$

where J is the moment of inertia for blades, hub and generator, T_t is the mechanical torque, T_g is the electric torque.

2.4 Two mass drive train

The equations for the two-mass model are based on the torsional version of the second law of Newton, deriving the state equation for the rotor angular speed at the wind turbine and for the rotor angular speed at the generator, given by

$$\frac{d\omega_t}{dt} = \frac{1}{J_t} (T_t - T_{dt} - T_{at} - T_{ts}) \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{d\omega_g}{dt} = \frac{1}{J_g} (T_{ts} - T_{dg} - T_{ag} - T_g)$$

(14)

where J_t is the moment of inertia for blades and hub, T_{dt} is the resistant torque in the wind turbine bearing, T_{at} is the resistant torque in the hub and blades due to the viscosity of the airflow, T_{ts} is the torque of torsional stiffness, ω_g is the rotor angular speed at the generator, J_g is the generator moment of inertia, T_{dg} is the resistant torque in the generator bearing, T_{ag} is the resistant torque due to the viscosity of the airflow in the generator. A comparative study of wind turbine generator system using different drive train models (Muyeen et al., 2006) has shown that the two-mass model may be more suitable for transient stability analysis than one-mass model. The simulations in this book chapter are in agreement with this comparative study in what regards the discarding of one-mass model.

2.5 Three mass drive train

With the increase in size of the wind turbines, one question arises whether long flexible blades have an important impact on the transient stability analysis of wind energy systems during a fault (Li & Chen, 2007). One way to determine the dynamic properties of the blades is through the use of finite element methods, but this approach cannot be straightforwardly accommodated in the context of studies of power system analysis. Hence, to avoid the use of the finite element methods it is necessary to approach the rotor dynamics in a compromising way of accessing its dynamic and preserving desirable proprieties for power system analysis programs. One straightforward way to achieve this compromise, where the blade bending dynamics is explained by a torsional system is illustrated in Fig. 1.

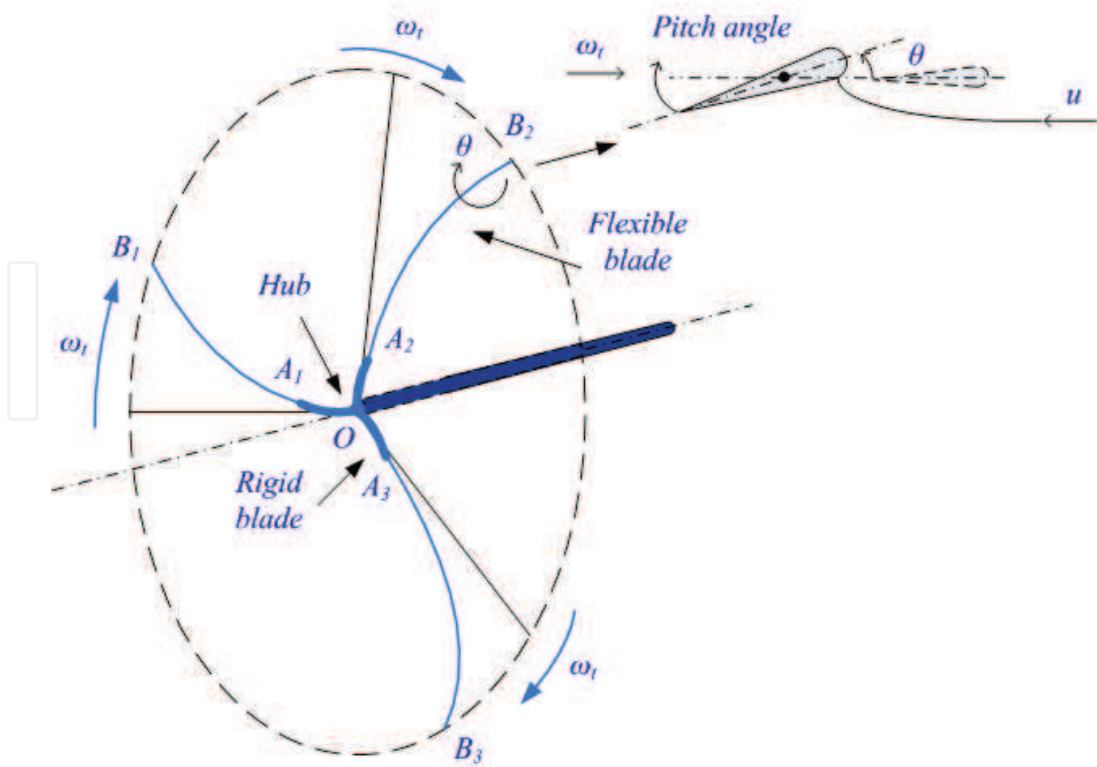


Fig. 1. Blade bending

Since the blade bending occurs at a significant distance from the joint between the blades and the hub, it is admissible to model the blades by splitting the blades in two parts: type OA parts, blade sections OA₁, OA₂ and OA₃; and type AB parts, blade sections A₁B₁, A₂B₂ and A₃B₃. Type OA parts have an equivalent moment of inertia associated with the inertia of the hub and the rigid blade sections. Type OB parts have an equivalent moment of inertia associated with the inertia of the rest of the blade sections. Type OB parts are the effective flexible blade sections and are considered by the moment of inertia of the flexible blade sections. Type OA and OB parts are joined by the interaction of a torsional element, but in addition a second torsional element connecting the rest of the inertia presented in the angular movement of the rotor is needed, i.e., it is necessary to consider the moment of inertia associated with the rest of the mechanical parts, mainly due to the inertia of the generator. Hence, the configuration of this model is of the type shown in Fig. 2.

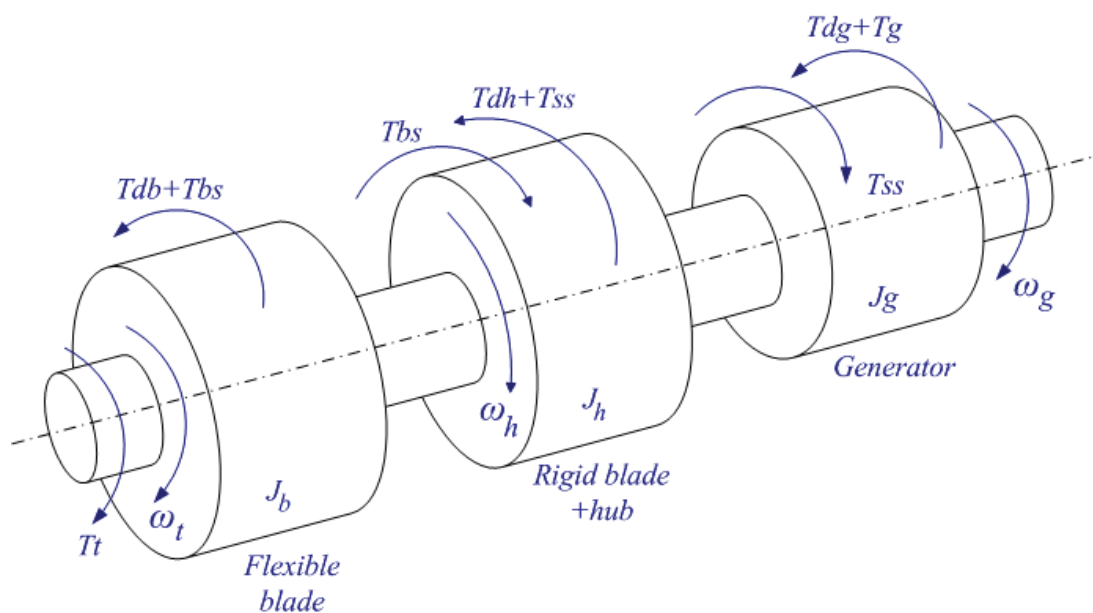


Fig. 2. Three-mass drive train model

The equations for the three-mass model are also based on the torsional version of the second law of Newton, given by

$$\frac{d\omega_t}{dt} = \frac{1}{J_b} (T_t - T_{db} - T_{bs}) \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{d\omega_h}{dt} = \frac{1}{J_h} (T_{bs} - T_{dh} - T_{ss}) \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{d\omega_g}{dt} = \frac{1}{J_g} (T_{ss} - T_{dg} - T_g) \quad (17)$$

where J_b is the moment of inertia of the flexible blades section, T_{db} is the resistant torque of the flexible blades, T_{bs} is the torsional flexible blades stiffness torque, ω_h is the rotor angular speed at the rigid blades and the hub of the wind turbine, J_h is the moment of

inertia of the hub and the rigid blades section, T_{dh} is the resistant torque of the rigid blades and the hub, T_{ss} is the torsional shaft stiffness torque, T_{dg} is the resistant torque of the generator. The moments of inertia for the model are given as input data, but in their absence an estimation of the moments of inertia is possible (Ramtharan & Jenkins, 2007).

2.6 Generator

The generator considered in this book chapter is a PMSG. The equations for modelling a PMSG, using the motor machine convention (Ong, 1998), are given by

$$\frac{di_d}{dt} = \frac{1}{L_d} [u_d + p\omega_g L_q i_q - R_d i_d] \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{di_q}{dt} = \frac{1}{L_q} [u_q - p\omega_g (L_d i_d + M i_f) - R_q i_q] \quad (19)$$

where i_d, i_q are the stator currents, u_d, u_q are the stator voltages, p is the number of pairs of poles, L_d, L_q are the stator inductances, R_d, R_q are the stator resistances, M is the mutual inductance, i_f is the equivalent rotor current. In order to avoid demagnetization of permanent magnet in the PMSG, a null stator current associated with the direct axis is imposed (Senjyu et al., 2003).

2.7 Two-level converter

The two-level converter is an AC-DC-AC converter, with six unidirectional commanded insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs) used as a rectifier, and with the same number of unidirectional commanded IGBTs used as an inverter. There are two IGBTs identified by i , respectively with i equal to 1 and 2, linked to the same phase. Each group of two IGBTs linked to the same phase constitute a leg k of the converter. Therefore, each IGBT can be uniquely identified by the order pair (i, k) . The logic conduction state of an IGBT identified by (i, k) is indicated by S_{ik} . The rectifier is connected between the PMSG and a capacitor bank. The inverter is connected between this capacitor bank and a second order filter, which in turn is connected to the electric network. The configuration of the simulated wind energy conversion system with two-level converter is shown in Fig. 3.

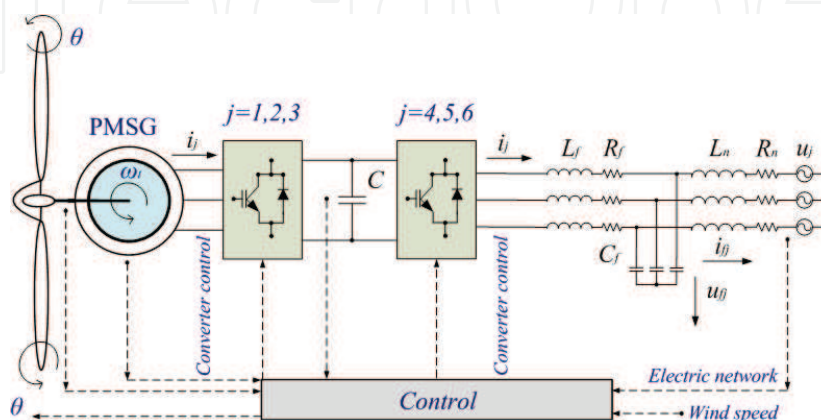


Fig. 3. Wind energy conversion system using a two-level converter

For the switching function of each IGBT, the switching variable γ_k is used to identify the state of the IGBT i in the leg k of the converter. Respectively, the index k with $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ identifies a leg for the rectifier and $k \in \{4, 5, 6\}$ identifies leg for the inverter. The switching variable a leg in function of the logical conduction states (Rojas et al., 1995) is given by

$$\gamma_k = \begin{cases} 1, & (S_{1k} = 1 \text{ and } S_{2k} = 0) \\ 0, & (S_{1k} = 0 \text{ and } S_{2k} = 1) \end{cases} \quad k \in \{1, \dots, 6\} \quad (20)$$

but logical conduction states are constrained by the topological restrictions given by

$$\sum_{i=1}^2 S_{ik} = 1 \quad k \in \{1, \dots, 6\} \quad (21)$$

Each switching variable depends on the conducting and blocking states of the IGBTs. The voltage v_{dc} is modelled by the state equation given by

$$\frac{dv_{dc}}{dt} = \frac{1}{C} \left(\sum_{k=1}^3 \gamma_k i_k - \sum_{k=4}^6 \gamma_k i_k \right) \quad (22)$$

Hence, the two-level converter is modelled by (20) to (22).

2.8 Multilevel converter

The multilevel converter is an AC-DC-AC converter, with twelve unidirectional commanded IGBTs used as a rectifier, and with the same number of unidirectional commanded IGBTs used as an inverter.

The rectifier is connected between the PMSG and a capacitor bank. The inverter is connected between this capacitor bank and a second order filter, which in turn is connected to an electric network. The groups of four IGBTs linked to the same phase constitute a leg k of the converter. The index i with $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ identifies a IGBT in leg k . As in the two-level converter modelling the logic conduction state of an IGBT identified by the pair (i, k) is indicated by S_{ik} . The configuration of the simulated wind energy conversion system with multilevel converter is shown in Fig. 4.

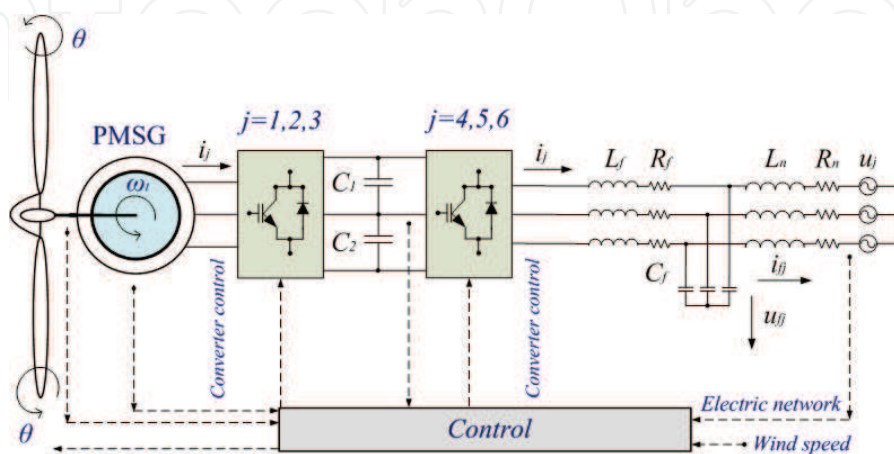


Fig. 4. Wind energy conversion system using a multilevel converter

For the switching function of each IGBT, the switching variable γ_k is used to identify the state of the IGBT i in the leg k of the converter. The index k with $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ identifies the leg for the rectifier and $k \in \{4, 5, 6\}$ identifies the inverter one. The switching variable of each leg k (Rojas et al., 1995) are given by

$$\gamma_k = \begin{cases} 1, (S_{1k} \text{ and } S_{2k}) = 1 \text{ and } (S_{3k} \text{ or } S_{4k}) = 0 \\ 0, (S_{2k} \text{ and } S_{3k}) = 1 \text{ and } (S_{1k} \text{ or } S_{4k}) = 0 \\ -1, (S_{3k} \text{ and } S_{4k}) = 1 \text{ and } (S_{1k} \text{ or } S_{2k}) = 0 \end{cases} \quad k \in \{1, \dots, 6\} \quad (23)$$

constrained by the topological restrictions given by

$$(S_{1k} \cdot S_{2k}) + (S_{2k} \cdot S_{3k}) + (S_{3k} \cdot S_{4k}) = 1 \quad k \in \{1, \dots, 6\} \quad (24)$$

With the two upper IGBTs in each leg k (S_{1k} and S_{2k}) of the converters it is associated a switching variable Φ_{1k} and also with the two lower IGBTs (S_{3k} and S_{4k}) it is associated a switching variable Φ_{2k} , respectively given by

$$\Phi_{1k} = \frac{\gamma_k(1 + \gamma_k)}{2} ; \quad \Phi_{2k} = \frac{\gamma_k(1 - \gamma_k)}{2} \quad k \in \{1, \dots, 6\} \quad (25)$$

The voltage v_{dc} is the sum of the voltages v_{C1} and v_{C2} in the capacitor banks C_1 and C_2 , modelled by the state equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dv_{dc}}{dt} = & \frac{1}{C_1} \left(\sum_{k=1}^3 \Phi_{1k} i_k - \sum_{k=4}^6 \Phi_{1k} i_k \right) + \\ & + \frac{1}{C_2} \left(\sum_{k=1}^3 \Phi_{2k} i_k - \sum_{k=4}^6 \Phi_{2k} i_k \right) \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Hence, the multilevel converter is modelled by (23) to (26).

2.9 Matrix converter

The matrix converter is an AC-AC converter, with nine bidirectional commanded insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs). The logic conduction state of an IGBT is indicated by S_{ij} . The matrix converter is connected between a first order filter and a second order filter. The first order filter is connected to a PMSG, while the second order filter is connected to an electric network. The configuration of the simulated wind energy conversion system with matrix converter is shown in Fig. 5.

The IGBTs commands S_{ij} are function of the on and off states, given by

$$S_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, (\text{on}) \\ 0, (\text{off}) \end{cases} \quad i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\} \quad (27)$$

For the matrix converter modelling, the following restrictions are considered

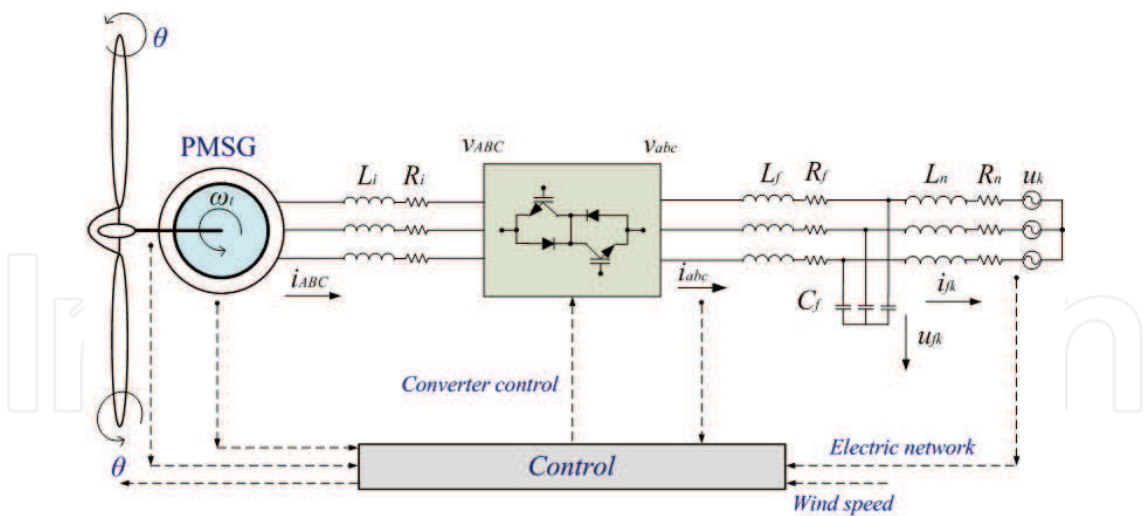


Fig. 5. Wind energy conversion system using a matrix converter

$$\sum_{j=1}^3 S_{ij} = 1 \quad i \in \{1, 2, 3\} \tag{28}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 S_{ij} = 1 \quad j \in \{1, 2, 3\} \tag{29}$$

The vector of output phase voltages is related to the vector of input phase voltages through the command matrix. The vector of output phase voltages (Alesina & Venturini, 1981) is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_A \\ v_B \\ v_C \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & S_{13} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & S_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_a \\ v_b \\ v_c \end{bmatrix} = [S] \begin{bmatrix} v_a \\ v_b \\ v_c \end{bmatrix} \tag{30}$$

The vector of input phase currents is related to the vector of output phase currents through the command matrix. The vector of input phase currents is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_a & i_b & i_c \end{bmatrix}^T = [S]^T \begin{bmatrix} i_A & i_B & i_C \end{bmatrix}^T \tag{31}$$

where

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_a & i_b & i_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} i_4 & i_5 & i_6 \end{bmatrix} \tag{32}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_a & v_b & v_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_4 & v_5 & v_6 \end{bmatrix} \tag{33}$$

Hence, the matrix converter is modelled by (27) to (33). A switching strategy can be chosen so that the output voltages have the most achievable sinusoidal waveform at the desired frequency, magnitude and phase angle, and the input currents are nearly sinusoidal as possible at the desired displacement power factor (Alesina & Venturini, 1981). But, in general terms it can be said that due to the absence of an energy storage element, the matrix converter is particular sensitive to the appearance of malfunctions (Cruz & Ferreira, 2009).

2.10 Electric network

A three-phase active symmetrical circuit given by a series of a resistance and an inductance with a voltage source models the electric network. The phase currents injected in the electric network are modelled by the state equation given by

$$\frac{di_{fk}}{dt} = \frac{1}{L_n}(u_{fk} - R_n i_{fk} - u_k) \quad k = \{4, 5, 6\} \quad (34)$$

where R_n and L_n are the resistance and the inductance of the electric network, respectively, u_{fk} is the voltage at the filter and u_k is the voltage source for the simulation of the electric network.

3. Control strategy

3.1 Fractional order controllers

A control strategy based on fractional-order PI^μ controllers is considered for the variable-speed operation of wind turbines with PMSG/full-power converter topology. Fractional-order controllers are based on fractional calculus theory, which is a generalization of ordinary differentiation and integration to arbitrary non-integer order (Podlubny, 1999). Applications of fractional calculus theory in practical control field have increased significantly (Li & Hori, 2007), regarding mainly on linear systems (Çelik & Demir, 2010).

The design of a control strategy based on fractional-order PI^μ controllers is more complex than that of classical PI controllers, but the use of fractional-order PI^μ controllers can improve properties and controlling abilities (Jun-Yi et al., 2006)-(Arijit et al., 2009). Different design methods have been reported including pole distribution, frequency domain approach, state-space design, and two-stage or hybrid approach which uses conventional integer order design method of the controller and then improves performance of the designed control system by adding proper fractional order controller. An alternative design method used is based on a particle swarm optimization (PSO) algorithm and employment of a novel cost function, which offers flexible control over time domain and frequency domain specifications (Zamani et al., 2009).

Although applications and design methods regard mainly on linear systems, it is possible to use some of the knowledge already attained to envisage it on nonlinear systems, since the performance of fractional-order controllers in the presence of nonlinearity is of great practical interest (Barbosa et al., 2007). In order to examine the ability of fractional-order controllers for the variable-speed operation of wind turbines, this book chapter follows the tuning rules in (Maione & Lino, 2007). But, a more systematic procedure for controllers design needs further research in order to well develop tuning implementation techniques (Chen et al., 2009) for a ubiquitous use of fractional-order controllers.

The fractional-order differentiator denoted by the operator ${}_a D_t^\mu$ (Calderón et al., 2006) is given by

$${}_a D_t^\mu = \begin{cases} \frac{d^\mu}{dt^\mu}, & \Re(\mu) > 0 \\ 1, & \Re(\mu) = 0 \\ \int_a^t (d\tau)^{-\mu}, & \Re(\mu) < 0 \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

where μ is the order of derivative or integral, which can be a complex number, and $\Re(\mu)$ is the real part of the μ . The mathematical definition of fractional derivative and integral has been the subject of several approaches. The most frequently encountered one is the Riemann–Liouville definition, in which the fractional-order integral is given by

$${}_a D_t^{-\mu} f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \int_a^t (t-\tau)^{\mu-1} f(\tau) d\tau \quad (36)$$

while the definition of fractional-order derivative is given by

$${}_a D_t^{\mu} f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\mu)} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \left[\int_a^t \frac{f(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{\mu-n+1}} d\tau \right] \quad (37)$$

where

$$\Gamma(x) \equiv \int_0^{\infty} y^{x-1} e^{-y} dy \quad (38)$$

is the Euler's Gamma function, a and t are the limits of the operation, and μ identifies the fractional order. In this book chapter, μ is assumed as a real number that for the fractional order controller satisfies the restrictions $0 < \mu < 1$. Normally, it is assumed that $a = 0$. In what follows, the following convention is used ${}_0 D_t^{-\mu} \equiv D_t^{-\mu}$. The other approach is Grünwald–Letnikov definition of fractional-order integral given by

$$D_t^{-\mu} f(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h^{\mu} \sum_{r=0}^{\frac{t-a}{h}} \frac{\Gamma(\mu+r)}{r! \Gamma(\mu)} f(t-rh) \quad (39)$$

while the definition of fractional-order derivative is given by

$$D_t^{\mu} f(t) = \lim_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0 \\ nh \approx t-a}} h^{-\mu} \sum_{r=0}^n (-1)^{\mu} f(t-rh) \quad (40)$$

An important property revealed by the Riemann–Liouville and Grünwald–Letnikov definitions is that while integer-order operators imply finite series, the fractional-order counterparts are defined by infinite series (Calderón et al., 2006), (Arijit et al., 2009). This means that integer operators are local operators in opposition with the fractional operators that have, implicitly, a memory of the past events. The differential equation for the fractional-order PI^{μ} controller $0 < \mu < 1$ is given by

$$u(t) = K_p e(t) + K_i D_t^{-\mu} e(t) \quad (41)$$

where K_p is the proportional constant and K_i is the integration constant. Taking $\mu = 1$ in (41) a classical PI controller is obtained. The fractional-order PI^{μ} controller is more flexible than the classical PI controller, because it has one more adjustable parameter, which reflects the intensity of integration. The transfer function of the fractional-order PI^{μ} controller, using the Laplace transform on (41), is given by

$$G(s) = K_p + K_i s^{-\mu} \quad (42)$$

A good trade-off between robustness and dynamic performance, presented in (Maione & Lino, 2007), is in favour of a value for μ in the range $[0.4, 0.6]$.

3.2 Converters control

Power electronic converters are variable structure systems, because of the on/off switching of their IGBTs. Pulse width modulation (PWM) by space vector modulation (SVM) associated with sliding mode (SM) is used for controlling the converters. The sliding mode control strategy presents attractive features such as robustness to parametric uncertainties of the wind turbine and the generator, as well as to electric grid disturbances (Beltran et al., 2008). Sliding mode controllers are particularly interesting in systems with variable structure, such as switching power electronic converters, guaranteeing the choice of the most appropriate space vectors. Their aim is to let the system slide along a predefined sliding surface by changing the system structure.

The power semiconductors present physical limitations that have to be considered during design phase and during simulation. Particularly, they cannot switch at infinite frequency. Also, for a finite value of the switching frequency, an error exists between the reference value and the control value. In order to guarantee that the system slides along the sliding surface, it has been proven that it is necessary to ensure that the state trajectory near the surfaces verifies the stability conditions (Rojas et al., 1995) given by

$$S(e_{\alpha\beta}, t) \frac{dS(e_{\alpha\beta}, t)}{dt} < 0 \quad (43)$$

in practice a small error $\varepsilon > 0$ for $S(e_{\alpha\beta}, t)$ is allowed, due to power semiconductors switching only at finite frequency. Consequently, a switching strategy has to be considered given by

$$-\varepsilon < S(e_{\alpha\beta}, t) < +\varepsilon \quad (44)$$

A practical implementation of this switching strategy at the simulation level could be accomplished by using hysteresis comparators. The output voltages of matrix converter are switched discontinuous variables. If high enough switching frequencies are considered, it is possible to assume that in each switching period T_s the average value of the output voltages is nearly equal to their reference average value. Hence, it is assumed that

$$\frac{1}{T_s} \int_{nT_s}^{(n+1)T_s} v_{\alpha\beta} dt = v_{\alpha\beta}^* \quad (45)$$

Similar to the average value of the output voltages, the average value of the input current is nearly equal to their reference average value. Hence, it is assumed that

$$\frac{1}{T_s} \int_{nT_s}^{(n+1)T_s} i_q dt = i_q^* \quad (46)$$

The output voltage vectors in the $\alpha\beta$ plane for the two-level converter are shown in Fig. 6.

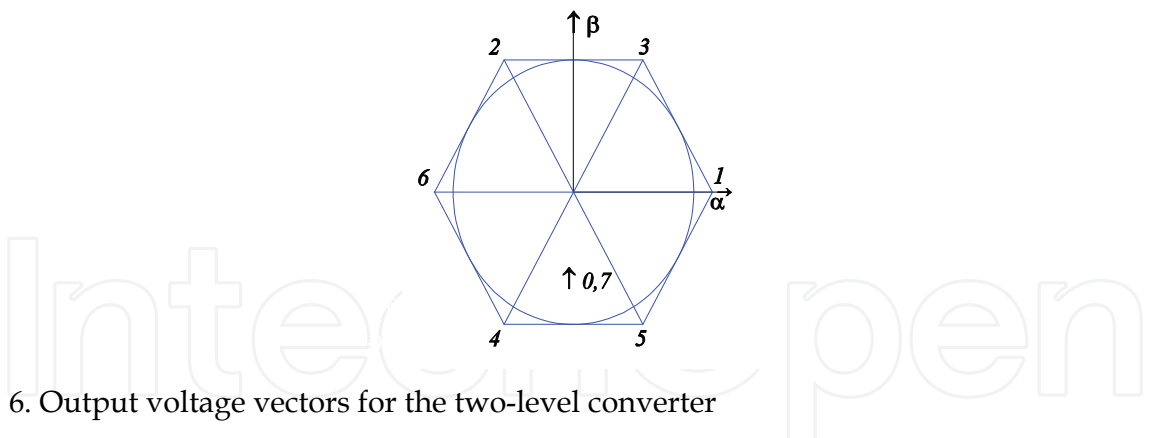


Fig. 6. Output voltage vectors for the two-level converter

Also, the integer variables $\sigma_{\alpha\beta}$ for the two-level converter take the values

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} \text{ with } \sigma_{\alpha}, \sigma_{\beta} \in \{-1, 0, 1\} \tag{47}$$

The output voltage vectors in the $\alpha\beta$ plane for the multilevel converter are shown in Fig. 7.

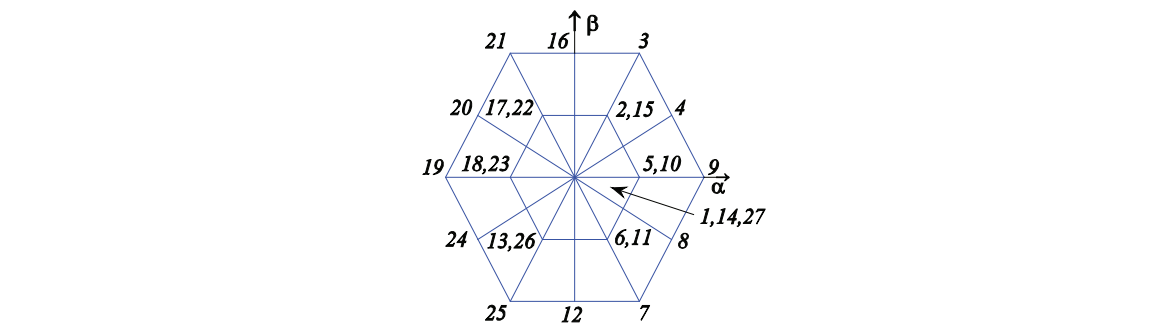


Fig. 7. Output voltage vectors for the two-level converter

The integer variables $\sigma_{\alpha\beta}$ for the multilevel converter take the values

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} \text{ with } \sigma_{\alpha}, \sigma_{\beta} \in \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\} \tag{48}$$

If $v_{C1} \neq v_{C2}$, then a new vector is selected. The output voltage vectors and the input current vectors in the $\alpha\beta$ plane for the matrix converter are shown respectively in Fig. 8 and Fig. 9.

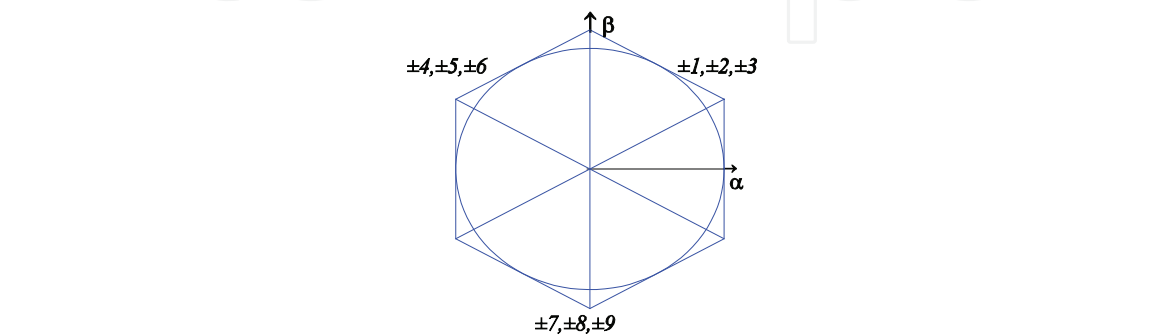


Fig. 8. Output voltage vectors for the matrix converter

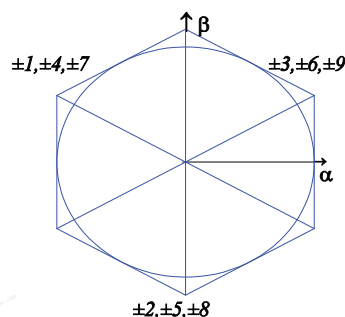


Fig. 9. Input current vectors for the matrix converter

The outputs of the hysteresis comparators are integer variables (Melício et al., 2010a). The voltage integer variables $\sigma_{\alpha\beta}$ for the matrix converter take the values

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} \text{ with } \sigma_{\alpha}, \sigma_{\beta} \in \{-1, 0, 1\} \quad (49)$$

The current integer variables σ_q for the matrix converter in dq coordinates take the values

$$\sigma_q \in \{-1, 1\} \quad (50)$$

Hence, the proposed control strategy for the power electronic converters is given by the consideration of (43) to (50). Design of PI^μ controllers on the wind energy conversion systems is made over the respective configurations. The design of PI^μ controllers follows the tuning rules in (Maione & Lino, 2007). Power electronic converters are modelled as a pure delay (Chinchilla et al., 2006) and the left-over dynamics are modelled with a second order equivalent transfer function, following the identification of a step response.

4. Power quality evaluation

The harmonic behaviour computed by the Discrete Fourier Transform is given by

$$X(k) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-j2\pi kn/N} x(n) \text{ for } k = 0, \dots, N-1 \quad (51)$$

where $x(n)$ is the input signal and $X(k)$ is a complex giving the amplitude and phase of the different sinusoidal components of $x(n)$. The total harmonic distortion THD is defined by the expression given by

$$\text{THD (\%)} = 100 \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{H=2}^{50} X_H^2}}{X_F} \quad (52)$$

where X_H is the root mean square (RMS) value of the non-fundamental H harmonic, component of the signal, and X_F is the RMS value of the fundamental component harmonic. Standards such as IEEE-519 (Standard 519, 1992) impose limits for different order harmonics and the THD. The limit is 5% for THD is considered in the IEEE-519 standard and is used in this book chapter as a guideline for comparison purposes.

5. Simulation results

Consider a wind power system with the moments of inertia of the drive train, the stiffness, the turbine rotor diameter, the tip speed, the rotor speed, and the generator rated power, given in Table 2.

Blades moment of inertia	$400 \times 10^3 \text{ kgm}^2$
Hub moment of inertia	$19.2 \times 10^3 \text{ kgm}^2$
Generator moment of inertia	$16 \times 10^3 \text{ kgm}^2$
Stiffness	$1.8 \times 10^6 \text{ Nm}$
Turbine rotor diameter	49 m
Tip speed	17.64-81.04 m/s
Rotor speed	6.9-30.6 rpm
Generator rated power	900 kW

Table 2. Wind energy system data

The time horizon considered in the simulations is 5 s.

5.1 Pitch angle control malfunction

Consider a pitch angle control malfunction starting at 2 s and lengthen until 2.5 s due to a total cut-off on the capture of the energy from the wind by the blades (Melício et al., 2010b), and consider the model for the wind speed given by

$$u(t) = 15 \left[1 + \sum_k A_k \sin(\omega_k t) \right] \quad 0 \leq t \leq 5 \tag{53}$$

This wind speed in function of the time is shown in Fig. 10.

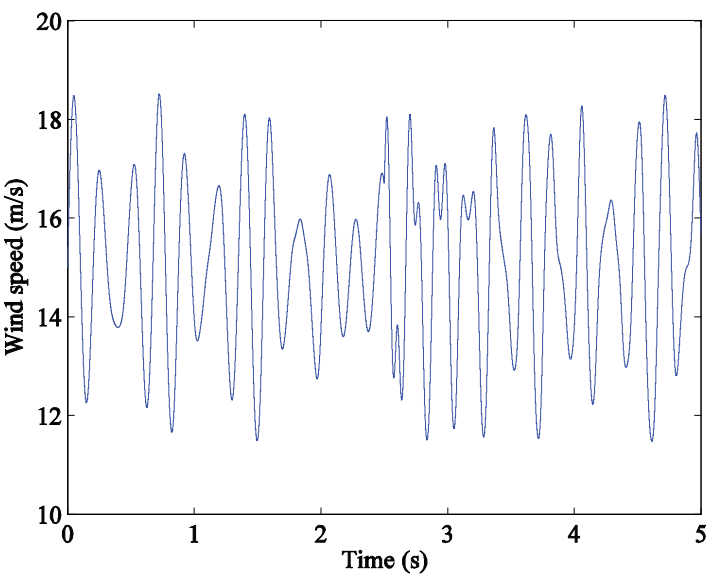


Fig. 10. Wind speed

In this simulation after some tuning it is assumed that $\mu = 0.5$. The mechanical power over the rotor of the wind turbine disturbed by the mechanical eigenswings, and the electric power of the generator is shown in Fig. 11.

Fig. 11 shows an admissible drop in the electrical power of the generator, while the mechanical power over the rotor is null due to the total cut-off on the capture of the energy from the wind by the blades. The power coefficient is shown in Fig. 12.

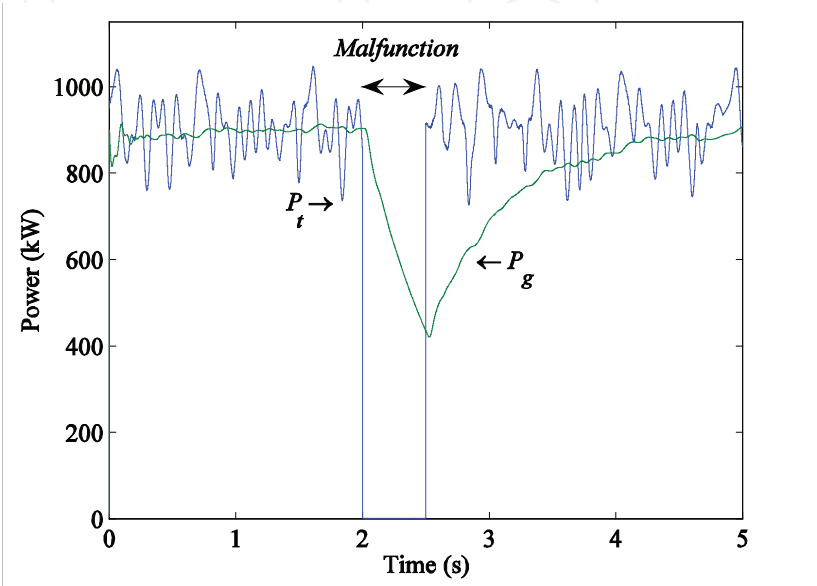


Fig. 11. Mechanical power over the rotor and electric power

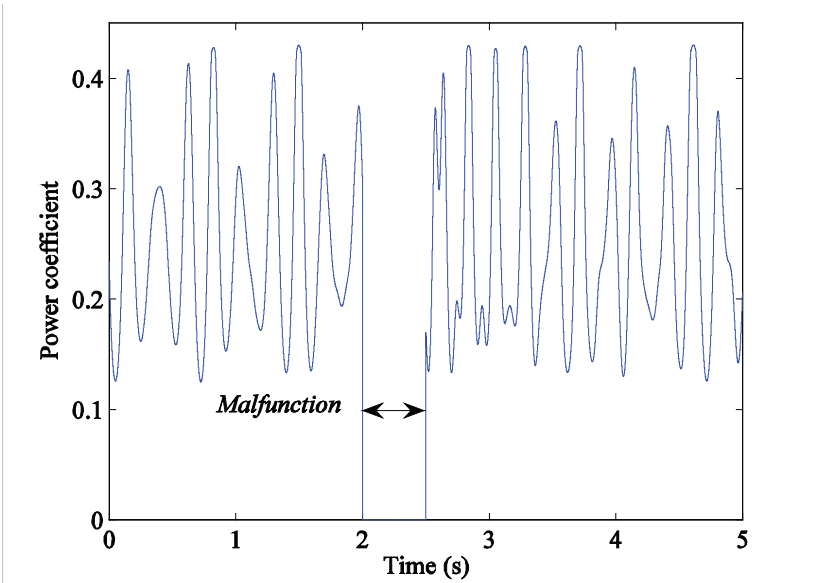


Fig. 12. Power coefficient

The power coefficient is at the minimum value during the pitch control malfunction, induced by the mistaken wind gust position. The voltage v_{dc} for the two-level converter with the fractional order controller, respectively for the three different mass drive train models are shown in Fig. 13.

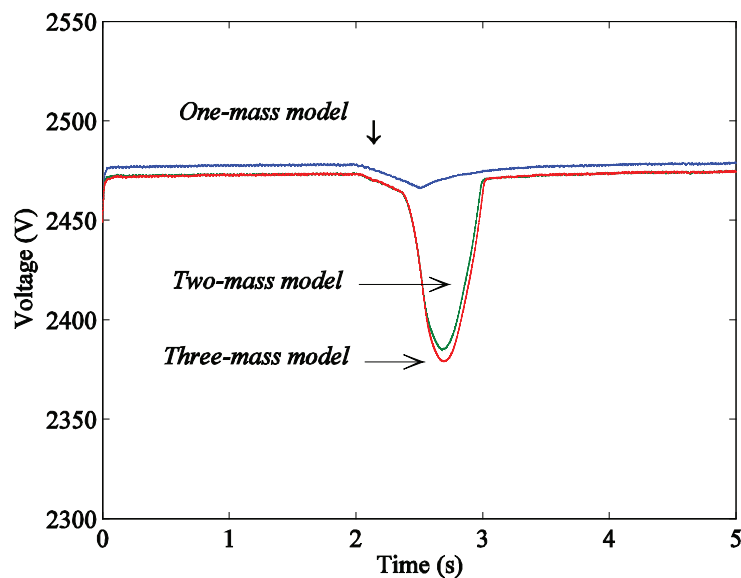


Fig. 13. Voltage at the capacitor for two-level converter using a fractional-order controller

The voltage v_{dc} for the two-level converter presents almost the same behaviour with the two-mass or the three-mass models for the drive train. But one-mass model omits significant dynamic response as seen in Fig. 13. Hence, as expected there is in this case an admissible use for a two-mass model; one-mass model is not recommended in confining this behaviour. Nevertheless, notice that: the three-mass model is capturing more information about the behaviour of the mechanical drive train on the system. The increase on the electric power of wind turbines, imposing the increase on the size of the rotor of wind turbines, with longer flexible blades, is in favour of the three-mass modelling.

5.2 Converter control malfunction

Consider a wind speed given by

$$u(t) = 20 \left[1 + \sum_k A_k \sin(\omega_k t) \right] \quad 0 \leq t \leq 5 \quad (54)$$

The converter control malfunction is assumed to occur between 2.00 s and 2.02 s, imposing a momentary malfunction on the vector selection for the inverter of the two-level and the multilevel converters and on the vector selection for the matrix converter. This malfunction is simulated by a random selection of vectors satisfying the constraint of no short circuits on the converters. In this simulation after some tuning it was assumed $\mu = 0.7$. Simulations with the model for the matrix converter were carried out, considering one-mass, two-mass and three-mass drive train models in order to establish a comparative behaviour (Melício et al., 2010c).

The mechanical torque over the rotor of the wind turbine disturbed by the mechanical eigenswings and the electric torque of the generator, with the one-mass, two-mass and three-mass drive train models, are shown in Figs. 14, 15 and 16, respectively. As shown in these figures, the electric torque of the generator follows the rotor speed at the PMSG, except when it is decreased due to the malfunction. For the same fault conditions, the transient

response of the three-mass drive train model is significantly different than that of the two-mass model, since it captures more information about the behaviour of the system. The results have shown that the consideration of the bending flexibility of blades influences the wind turbine response during internal faults (Melício et al., 2010d).

The voltage v_{dc} for the two-level and the multilevel converters with a three-mass drive train model is shown in Fig. 17. As expected during the malfunction this voltage suffers a small increase, the capacitor is charging, but almost after the end of the malfunction voltage recovers to its normal value (Melício et al., 2010e).

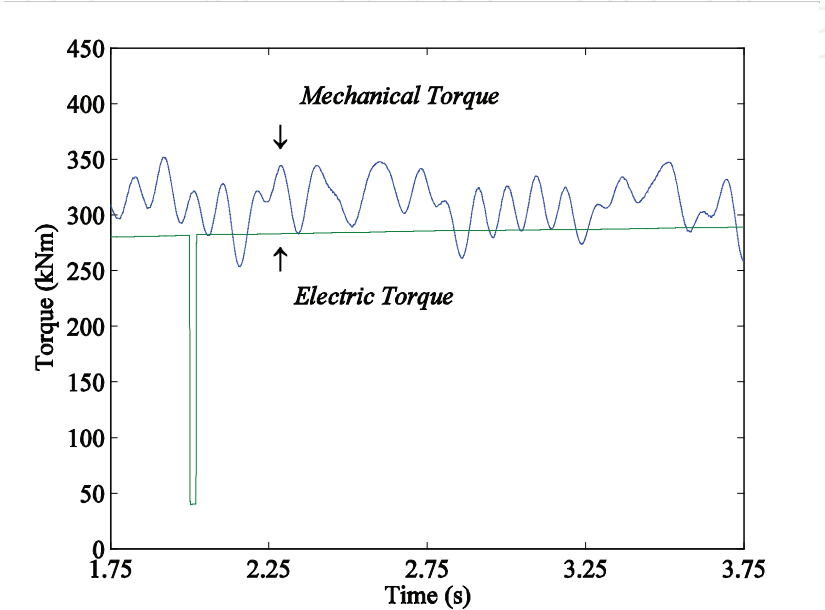


Fig. 14. Mechanical and electric torque with the one-mass drive train model and using a matrix converter

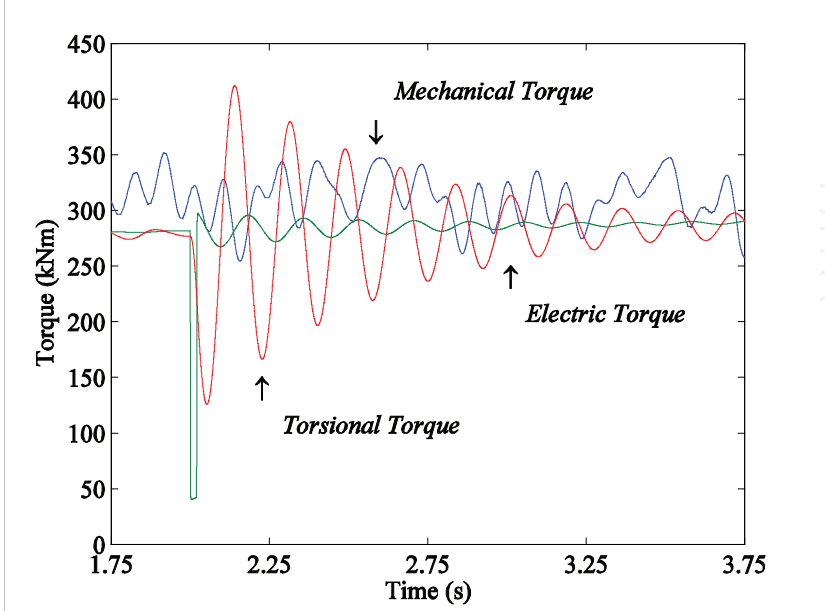


Fig. 15. Mechanical and electric torque with the two-mass drive train model and using a matrix converter

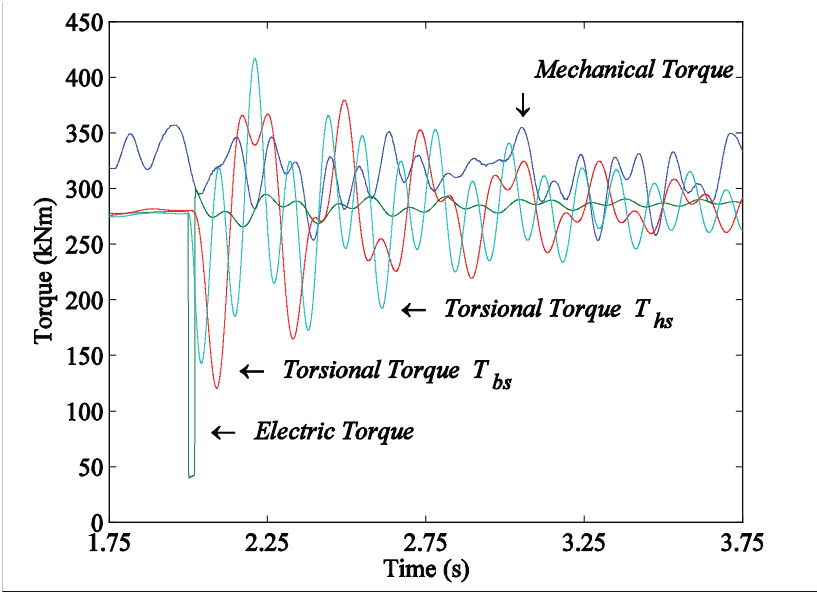


Fig. 16. Mechanical and electric torque with the three-mass drive train model and using a matrix converter

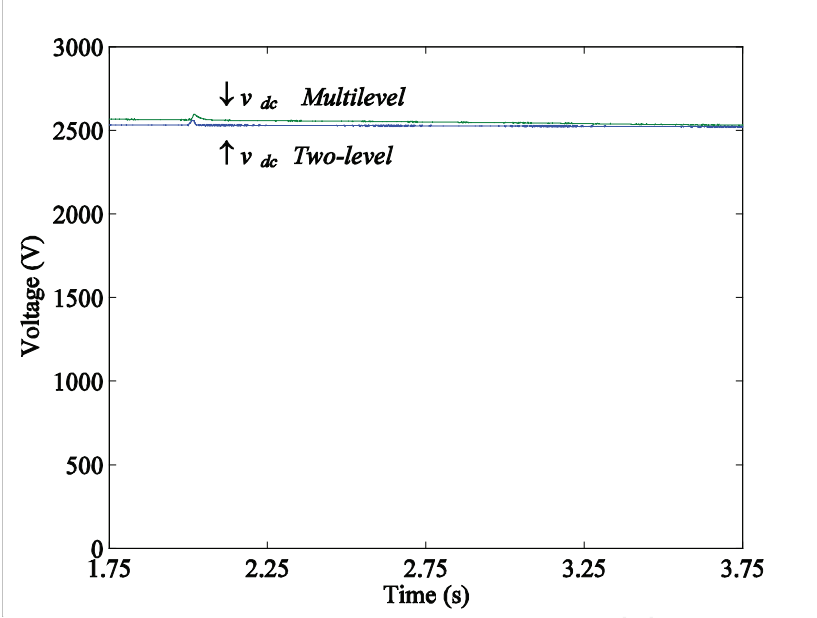


Fig. 17. Voltage v_{dc} for the two-level and the multilevel converter using a three-mass drive train model

The currents injected into the electric grid by the wind energy system with the two-level converter and a three-mass drive train model are shown in Fig. 18.

The currents injected into the electric grid for the wind energy system with a multilevel converter and a three-mass drive train model are shown in Fig. 19.

The currents injected into the electric grid for the wind energy system with matrix converter and a three-mass drive train model are shown in Fig. 20.

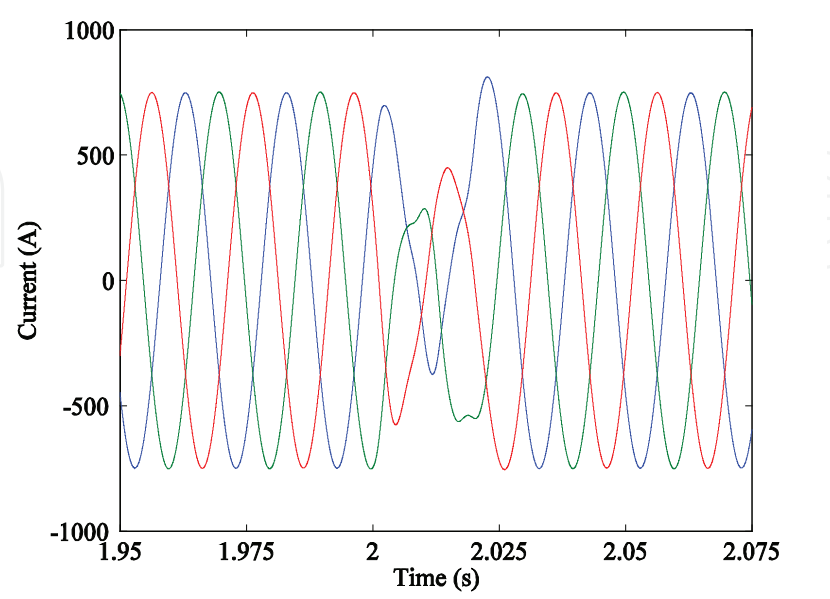


Fig. 18. Currents injected into the electric grid (two-level converter and a three-mass drive train model)

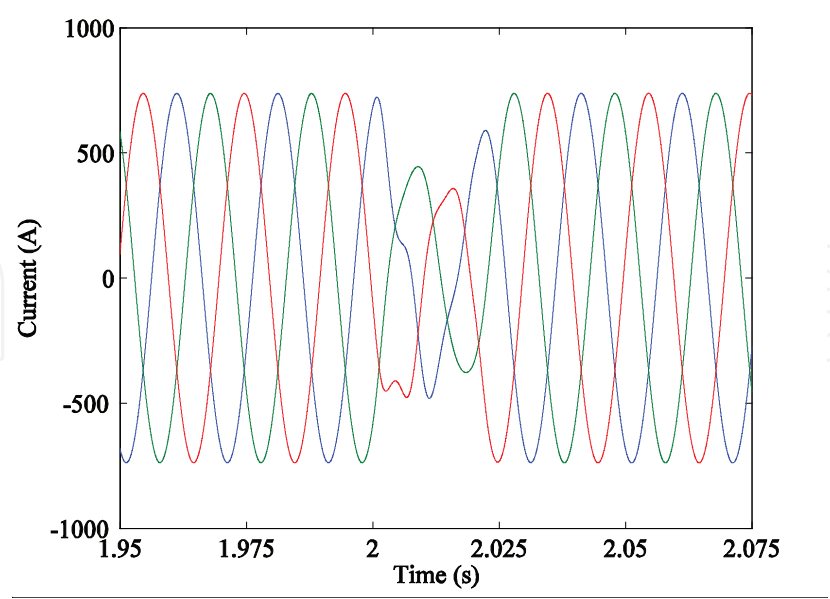


Fig. 19. Currents injected into the electric grid (multilevel converter and three-mass drive train model)

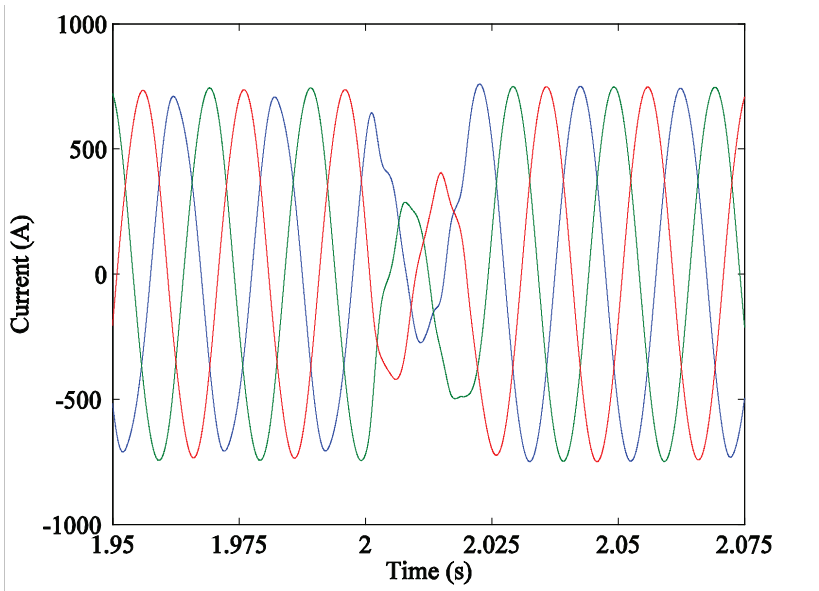


Fig. 20. Currents injected into the electric grid (matrix converter and three-mass drive train model)

As shown in Figs. 18, 19 or 20, during the malfunction the current decreases, but almost after the end of the malfunction the current recovers its normal behaviour.

5.3 Harmonic assessment considering ideal sinusoidal voltage on the network

Consider the network modelled as a three-phase active symmetrical circuit in series, with 850 V at 50 Hz. In the simulation after some tuning it is assumed that $\mu = 0.5$. Consider the wind speed in steady-state ranging from 5-25 m/s. The goal of the simulation is to assess the third harmonic and the THD of the output current.

The wind energy conversion system using a two-level converter in steady-state has the third harmonic of the output current shown in Fig. 21, and the THD of the output current shown in Fig. 22. The wind energy conversion system with multilevel converter in steady-state has

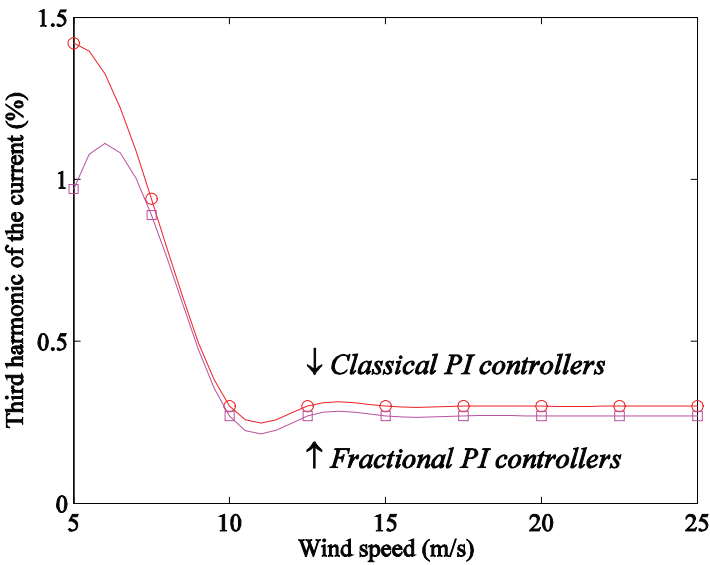


Fig. 21. Third harmonic of the output current, two-level converter

the third harmonic of the output current shown in Fig. 23, and the THD of the output current shown in Fig. 24. The wind energy conversion system with matrix converter in steady-state has the third harmonic of the output current shown in Fig. 25, and the THD of the output current shown in Fig. 26.

The fractional-order control strategy provides better results comparatively to a classical integer-order control strategy, in what regards the third harmonic of the output current and the THD.

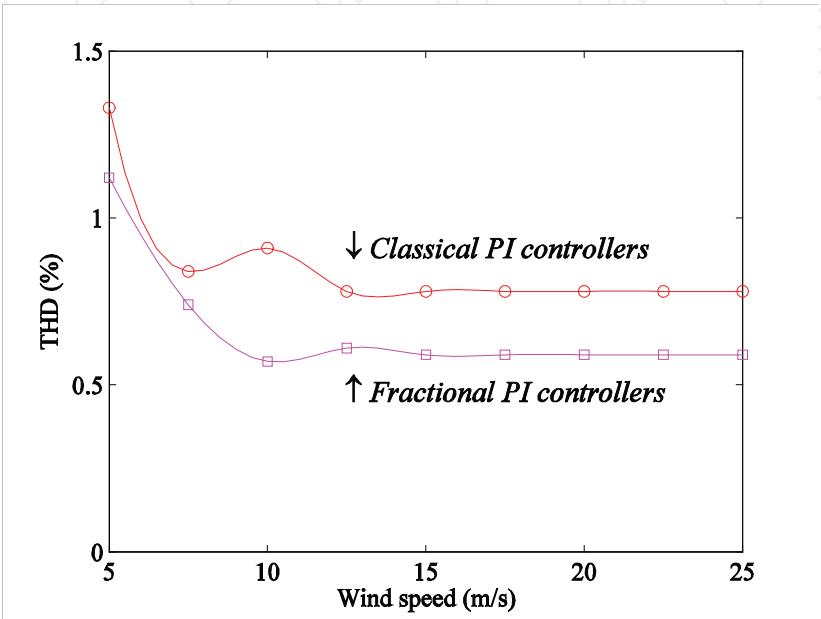


Fig. 22. THD of the output current, two-level converter

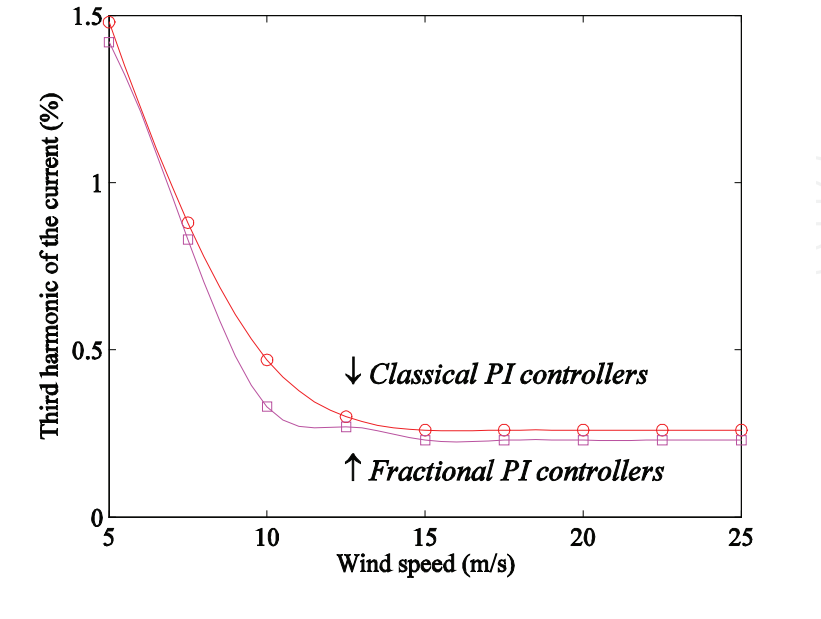


Fig. 23. Third harmonic of the output current, multilevel converter

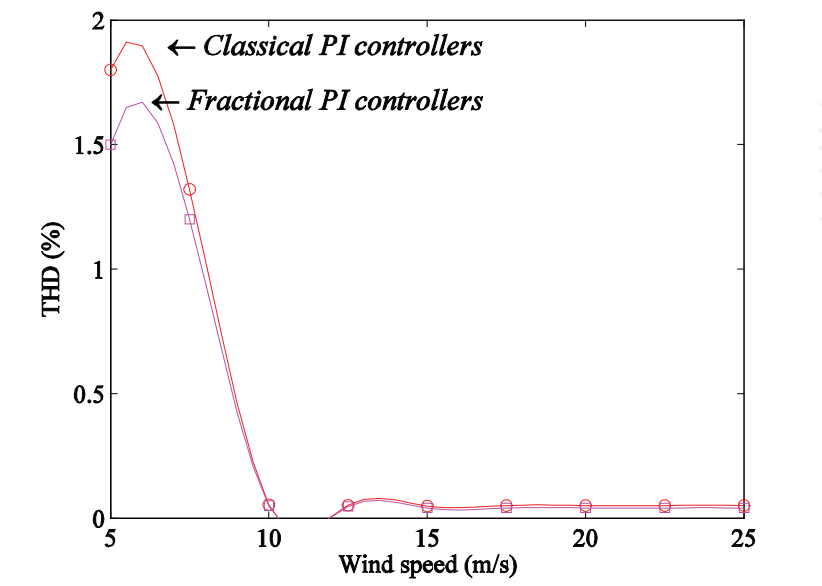


Fig. 24. THD of the output current, multilevel converter

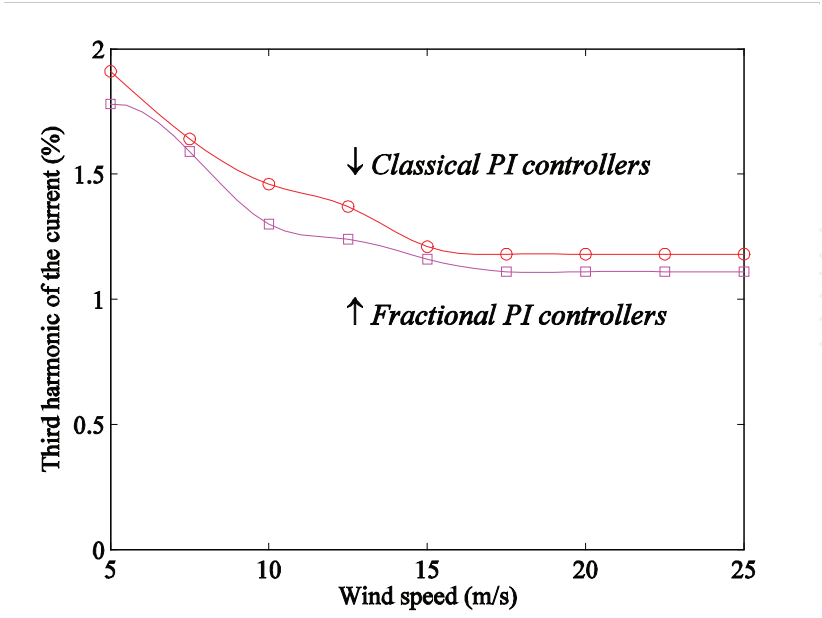


Fig. 25. Third harmonic of the output current, matrix converter

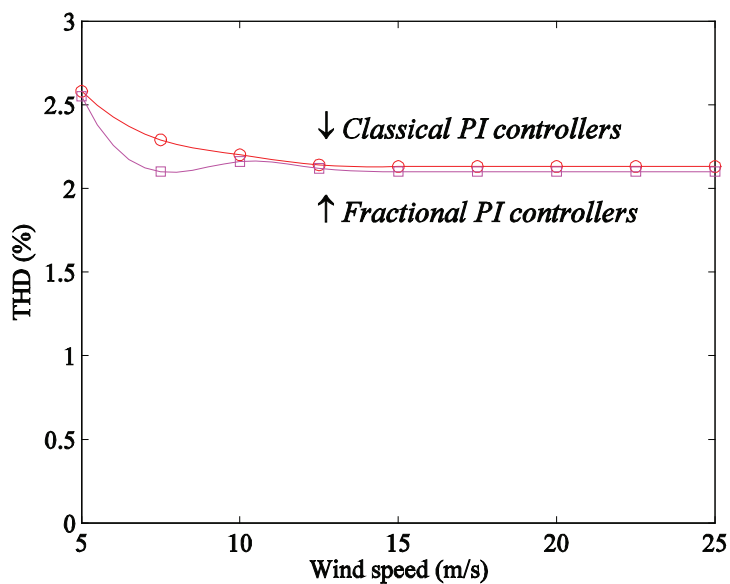


Fig. 26. THD of the output current, matrix converter

5.4 Harmonic assessment considering non-ideal sinusoidal voltage on the network

Consider the network modelled as a three-phase active symmetrical circuit in series, with 850 V at 50 Hz and 5 % of third harmonic component. In this simulation after some tuning it is assumed that $\mu = 0.5$. Consider the wind speed in steady-state ranging from 5-25 m/s. The wind energy conversion system using a two-level converter in steady-state has the third harmonic of the output current shown in Fig. 27, and the THD of the output current shown in Fig. 28. The wind energy conversion system with multilevel converter in steady-state has the third harmonic of the output current shown in Fig. 29, and the THD of the output current shown in Fig. 30. The wind energy conversion system with matrix converter in steady-state has the third harmonic of the output current shown in Fig. 31, and the THD of the output current shown in Fig. 32.

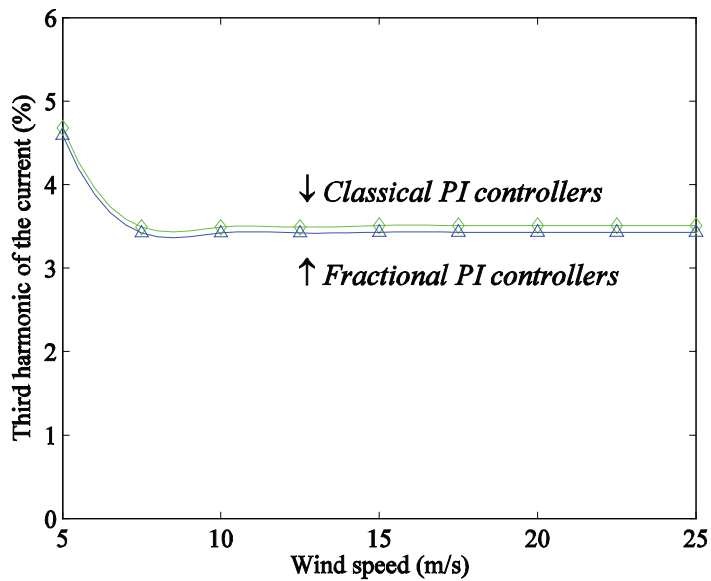


Fig. 27. Third harmonic of the output current, two-level converter

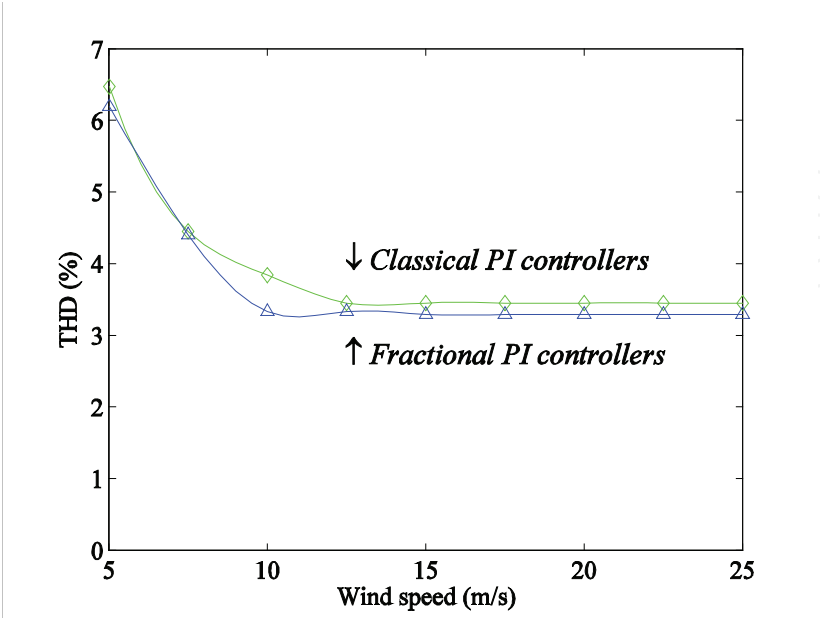


Fig. 28. THD of the output current, two-level converter

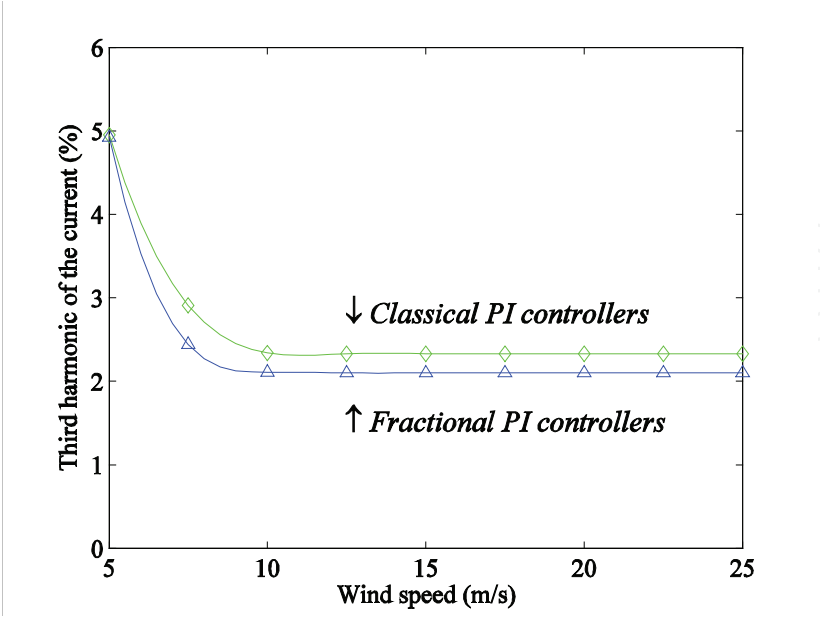


Fig. 29. Third harmonic of the output current, multilevel converter

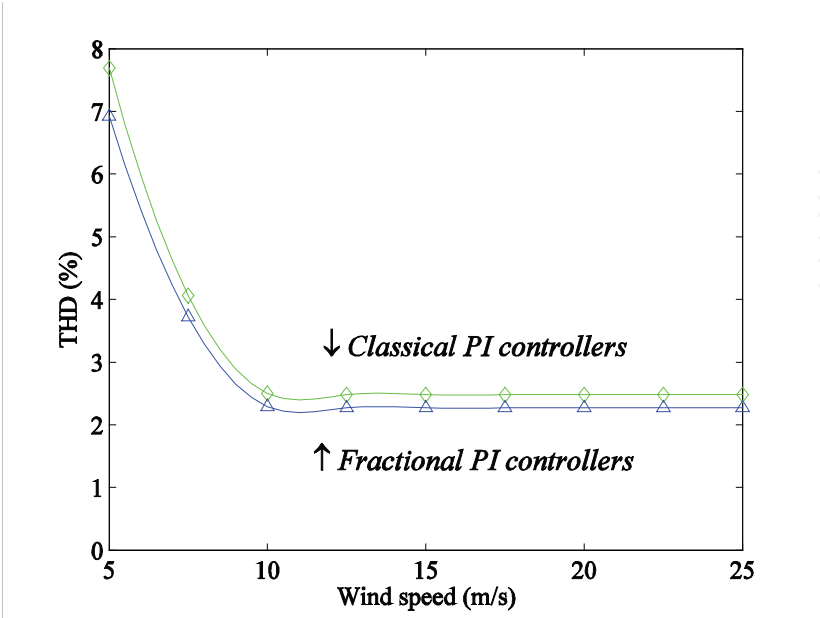


Fig. 30. THD of the output current, multilevel converter

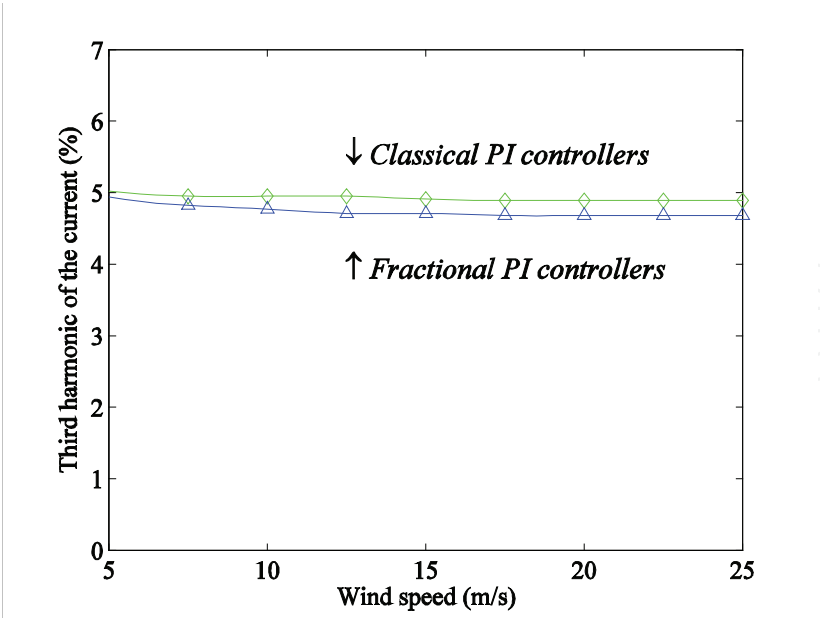


Fig. 31. Third harmonic of the output current, matrix converter

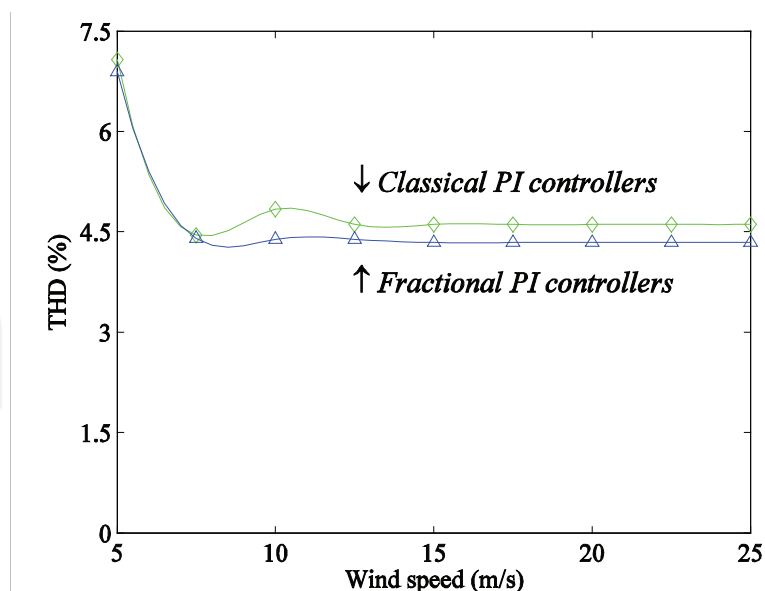


Fig. 32. THD of the output current, matrix converter

The THD of the current injected into the network is lower than the 5% limit imposed by IEEE-519 standard for the two-level and multilevel converters, and almost near to this limit for the matrix converter.

The fact that a non-ideal sinusoidal voltage on the network has an effect on the current THD of the converters can be observed by comparison of Fig. 21 until Fig. 26 with Fig. 27 until Fig. 32.

Also, from those figures it is possible to conclude that the fractional-order controller simulated for the variable-speed operation of wind turbines equipped with a PMSG has shown an improvement on the power quality in comparison with a classical integer-order control strategy, in what regards the third harmonic of the output current and the THD.

6. Conclusion

The assessment of the models ability to predict the behaviour for the drive train is in favour of the two-mass model or the three-mass model for wind energy conversion systems with electric power in the range of the values used in the simulations.

But, with the increase on the electric power of wind turbines, imposing the increase on the size of the rotor of wind turbines, with longer flexible blades, the study on the transient stability analysis of wind energy conversion systems will show a favour for a three-mass modelling.

The fractional-order controller simulated for the variable-speed operation of wind turbines equipped with a PMSG has shown an improvement on the power quality in comparison with a classical integer-order control strategy, in what regards the level for the third harmonic on the output current and the THD.

Accordingly, it is shown that the THD of the current for the wind energy conversion system with either a two-level or a multilevel converter is lower than with a matrix converter.

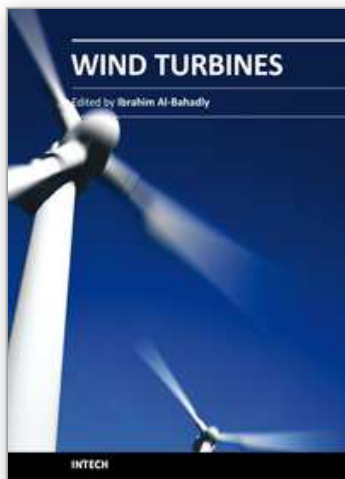
Finally, the results have shown that the distortion on the voltage of the electric network due to the third harmonic influences significantly the converter output electric current.

Particularly, in what concerns to the use of the two-level, multilevel and matrix converters the last one can be the first to be out of the 5% limit imposed by IEEE-519 standard, if a major harmonic content on the voltage of the electric network is to be considered.

7. References

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The area of wind energy is a rapidly evolving field and an intensive research and development has taken place in the last few years. Therefore, this book aims to provide an up-to-date comprehensive overview of the current status in the field to the research community. The research works presented in this book are divided into three main groups. The first group deals with the different types and design of the wind mills aiming for efficient, reliable and cost effective solutions. The second group deals with works tackling the use of different types of generators for wind energy. The third group is focusing on improvement in the area of control. Each chapter of the book offers detailed information on the related area of its research with the main objectives of the works carried out as well as providing a comprehensive list of references which should provide a rich platform of research to the field.

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