

## **Modeling and Simulation of Non-Grid-Connected Wind Energy Conversion System**

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**Abstract** Method for wind turbine controller design and test in laboratory still remains a problem. This paper presents a real time simulator of non-grid-connected wind energy conversion system suitable for controller design and test. The simulation model, which is composed of a fixed-pitch wind turbine, a permanent magnet synchronous generator with PWM voltage source vector control and DC-DC converter with peak current control, is especially suitable for electrochemical industries. High energy efficiency can be achieved by adjusting the rotor speed according to the wind speed. Simulation results show the validity of system modeling and control strategy.

**Keywords**—Wind power; non-grid-connected; simulation model; HIL real-time simulation

## I. INTRODUCTION

The terminal loads of non-grid-connected wind energy conversion system are no longer the conventional power grid, the characteristic of it lies in that power can be applied to single unit immediately, which makes it quite suitable for high energy consuming electrochemical industries such as electrolytic aluminum and seawater desalination. Cancellation of auxiliary appliances that needed for grid connection introduces simplicity of configuration to the plants which helps to reduce the manufacturing cost of the system and the price of wind power energy can also be cut down [1].

With the fast development of wind power technology, the need for rapid prototyping and testing of wind power apparatus is also increasing. The traditional way of testing, integration and validation of complex controlled consists on systematic analysis of the behavior of individual components, mostly by simulation, before complete integration on real apparatus. A more advanced testing/integration approach is needed to diminish the probability of damage, personal injuries and time to market.

With rapid advances in computer technologies, it is increasingly advantageous to make a more efficient approach to system prototyping using Hardware-in-the-Loop (HIL) digital simulation, where one or more devices (wind turbine controllers) are tested while connected to a real-time dynamic equivalent of plant. If the system is correctly modeled, the wind generator controllers under test will behave as if they were connected to the real system. The tested controllers can therefore be tested over a wide range of parameters without risk to the main system.

In this paper, a non-grid-connected direct drive fixed-pitch variable speed wind energy conversion system real-time simulator with advanced hardware-in-the-loop capabilities is discussed. First, the mathematical model of the key components is presented, then the simulation platform based on RT-LAB will follow, the last section presents the experimental results made with the simulator to demonstrate the validity of system modeling and control strategy.

## II. SYSTEM MODELING

Topology of non-grid-connected wind energy conversion system this paper discussed is shown in Fig.1. PMSG that with PWM voltage source vector control which can enable a high energy efficiency by adjusting the rotational speed, is directly driven by a fixed pitch wind turbine, DC bus voltage is constant under the control of Boost converter which ensures the power balance of the system, Buck converter is introduced to maintain the output voltage a constant. The basic control strategy is to achieve maximum peak power tracking of wind turbine while operating in below rated power condition and to limit the power while operating in the above rated power condition.

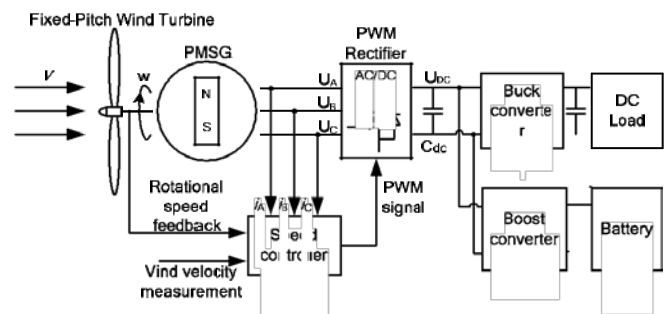


Figure 1. Topology of non-grid-connected wind energy conversion system.

### A. Fixed-pitch wind turbine model [2]

Ignore the complex aerodynamic equations, fixed-pitch wind turbine model is determined by the following simple equations:

$$\begin{cases} P_m = 0.5\rho\pi R^2 v^3 C_p(\lambda) \\ T_m = P_m / \omega_m \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $T_m$  and  $P_m$  represent the aerodynamic torque and aerodynamic power of wind turbine,  $Z_m$  the rotational speed,  $Y$  the air density,  $R$  the blade radius,  $v$  the wind velocity,  $O$  the tip ratio speed, which is defined as:  $O = Z_m R / v$ ,  $C_p$  the power coefficient which is a function of  $O$ . Parameters used in simulation are all from a real wind turbine, for example,  $C_{pmax}$  equals 0.37, blade radius of wind turbine is 4 meters,  $O_{opt}$  is 6.75,  $v_{cut-in}$  and  $v_{cut-out}$  is 4.5m/s and 25m/s respectively,  $v_{rated}$  is 12m/s, air density equals  $1.25\text{kg/m}^3$ , and the rated output power of the wind turbine is 10kW.

The mathematical equation to model the driving train consist of aerodynamic torque and electromagnetic torque is shown in equation (2):

$$T_m - T_e = J \frac{d\omega}{dt} + B\omega \quad (2)$$

When the aerodynamic torque  $T_m$  is not equal to the electromagnetic torque, rotational speed is about to change, which means the rotational speed can be adjusted by means of adjusting the electromagnetic torque of PMSG.

### B. Permanent magnet synchronous generator model

The PMSG is modeled under the following simplifying assumptions: sinusoidal distribution of stator winding, electric and magnetic symmetry, negligible iron losses and unsaturated magnetic circuit. Under these assumptions, the generator model in the so-called steady-state (or stator) coordinates is first obtained. Another simpler model can be obtained in (d,q) rotor coordinates, conversion between (a,b,c) and (d,q) coordinates can be realized by means of the Park Transform. Then, after neglecting the homopolar voltage,  $u_0$ , by virtue of symmetry, the (d,q) PMSG model becomes [3]

$$\begin{cases} u_d = Ri_d + L \frac{di_d}{dt} - p\omega i_q \\ u_q = Ri_q + L \frac{di_q}{dt} + p\omega i_d + p\Psi_f \omega \\ T_e = \frac{3}{2} p\Psi_f i_q \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where  $R$  is the stator resistance,  $u_d, u_q$  are d and q stator voltages,  $i_d, i_q$  are d and q stator currents,  $p$  is the number of pole pairs,  $\Psi_f$  is the flux that is constant due to permanent magnets, as the permanent magnets are mounted on the rotor surface, d, q inductances are equal, they are represented as  $L$ . By introducing the coordinate transformation, electromagnetic torque is only determined by  $i_q$ , which highly simplifies the controller design of PMSG.

### C. Model of DC-DC converters [4]

DC-DC converters applied in wind power system have special characteristics, for example, they are not only used to perform voltage transformation, but are also used to accomplish MPPT of wind power. In order to finish such tasks

feedback variables including normal output voltages, input voltages, currents, or even output power. Besides that, comparing with the analog control of conventional DC-DC converters, complex digital control using DSP is a must in order to finish the desired functions.

Boost converter discussed in this paper is used to maintain the DC bus voltage a constant, so as to assure the power flow of the whole system is balanced. When the wind speed is under the rated value, power generated from PMSG is less than the amount acquired by load, then the boost converter behaves like a "generator", extra power can be absorbed from battery through boost converter in order to maintain the energy balance, on the contrary, if the power needed is less than that of generated, the excess part of it is stored in battery through boost converter. As mentioned above, the boost converter is required to handle the bidirectional power flow, this is achieved by replacing the diode with MOSFET, and while one MOSFET is on, the other is off. Models of Boost and Buck converter can be established by means of circuit averaging technique, their equivalent small signal circuits are shown in Fig.2&3

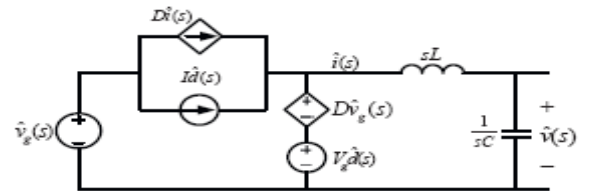


Figure 2. Equivalent small signal circuit of Buck converter.

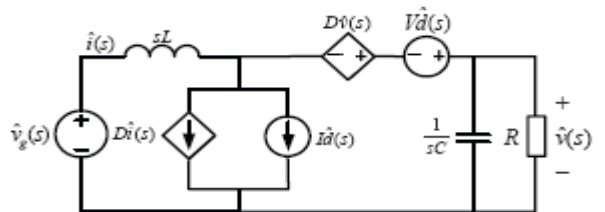


Figure 3. Equivalent small signal circuit of Boost converter.

Then, the transfer function that we are interested in can be easily obtained. The output-to-current and current-to-control transfer functions of the two converters are shown respectively.

Transfer functions of Boost converter:

$$\begin{cases} G_{vi}(s) = \frac{\hat{v}(s)}{\hat{i}(s)} \Big|_{\hat{d}(s)=0} = \frac{V}{I} \frac{-\frac{LI}{V(1-D)} + 1}{\frac{VC}{I(1-D)}s + 1} \\ G_{id}(s) = \frac{\hat{i}(s)}{\hat{d}(s)} \Big|_{\hat{v}(s)=0, \hat{v}_g(s)=0} = \frac{V}{Ls} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Transfer functions of Buck converter



current controller can be designed respectively. Take controller of  $i_q$  as an example, the control block diagram, which takes sampling delay of current and inertia property of PWM converter into account, is illustrated in Figure 5.

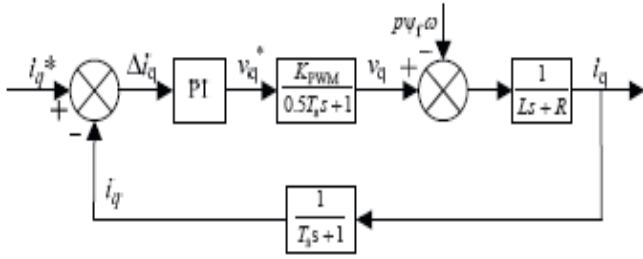


Figure 5. Current control block diagram of PMSG

The set point of  $i_q$  is derived from the equation:  $i_q^* = T_e^* / 1.5 p \psi_f$ .  $T_s$  is PWM switching period,  $K_{PWM}$  is PWM equivalent gain. Controller designed by PI method has the following form:

$$G_c(s) = \frac{K_{ip}(\tau s + 1)}{s} \quad (8)$$

Omit the perturbation effects of  $p\psi_f\omega$  temporarily, and combine the time constant together, a simplified block diagram can be obtained as Figure 6 showed:

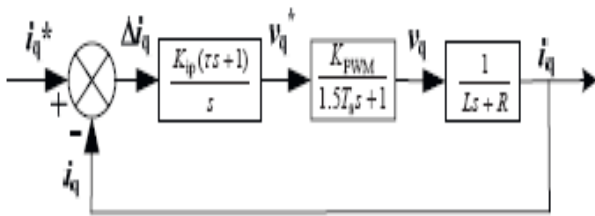


Figure 6. Simpler equivalent current control block diagram of PMSG

Let the zero point of  $G_c(s)$  compensate the pole point of the plant, which requires  $\tau = L/R$ , then we can get the open-loop transfer function of the system:

$$G(s) = \frac{K_{ip} K_{PWM}}{R} \frac{1}{s(1.5T_s s + 1)} \quad (9)$$

Set the parameters as type I required, consider the damping ratio to be 0.707, which yields:

$$\frac{K_{ip} K_{PWM}}{R} \times 1.5T_s = \frac{1}{2} \quad (10)$$

Then, the two parameters,  $\tau$  and  $K_{ip}$ , can be calculated by the following equations:

$$\begin{cases} K_{ip} = \frac{R}{3K_{PWM}} f_s \\ \tau = \frac{L}{R} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

At last, the closed loop transfer function of current loop can also be obtained:

$$\Phi_i(s) = \frac{i_q(s)}{i_q^*(s)} = \frac{G(s)}{1 + G(s)} = \frac{1}{4.5T_s^2 s^2 + 3T_s s + 1} \quad (12)$$

#### IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Several tests have been carried out to study the performance of a 10kW non-grid-connected wind energy conversion system based on RT-LAB. DSP controller based on TMS320x2407 is connected with RT-LAB through the I/O port. All the information the controller need, for example, the rotational speed of PMSG, stator voltage, stator current are first transformed into analog signals using the DAC in RT-LAB, then they are transmitted to DSP controller. PWM signals produced by DSP which are used to control the virtual plant simulation model are sent to ADC port of RT-LAB, the wind generator controllers under test behave as if they were connected to a real system.

##### A. Simulation below the rated wind speed

The initial wind speed is 4m/s, at the moment  $t=20s$ , it begins to increase at a constant slope, 0.1s later, it reaches a new steady value of 9m/s. Variables we concerned about are captured by oscilloscope and are used to analyze the working condition of the plant.

It can be seen from Fig.7 (a) ( $C_p$  vs  $v$  plot) that  $C_p$  remains its maximum value near 0.37 during the whole process, which means the MPPT algorithm works properly. This is accomplished by adjusting rotational speed linearly with respect to wind speed, which can be seen from Fig.7 (b



( $Z_m$  vs  $v$  plot). The initial steady value of  $Z_m$  is 8 rad/s, when wind speed begins to rise, there is an increase in  $Z_m$  accordingly, as wind speed reaches a new steady value,  $Z_m$  remains at a final value of 16m/s. Changes of wind speed and rotational speed will definitely cause the output power of wind turbine vary accordingly. As we can see from Fig.7 (c) ( $P_m$  vs  $v$  plot),  $P_m$  varies from 740W to 8400W during the dynamic process, simulation value well matches theoretical values calculated in equation (1).

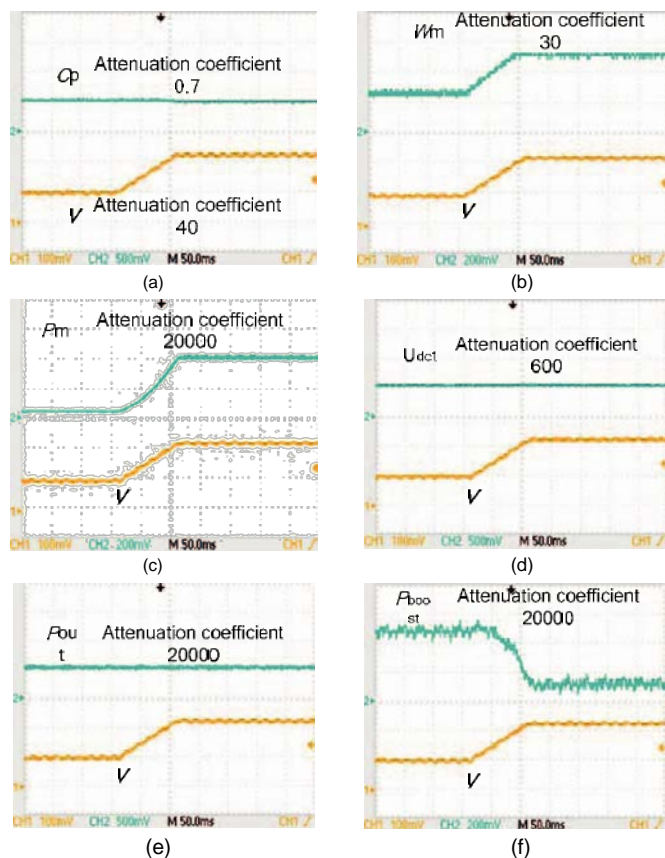


Figure 7. Experimental result in low wind condition

Load of the plant absorbs a constant power of 10kW, as can be seen in Fig.7 (e) ( $P_{out}$  vs  $v$  plot). The maximum power the wind turbine can provide is only 8400W in the setting low wind condition, the extra power is provided by battery through Boost converter. Power flow is balanced because  $P_m$  plus  $P_{boost}$  equals  $P_{out}$ , and when  $P_m$  increases,  $P_{boost}$  decreases

accordingly. Besides that, the voltage of DC bus remains at a constant value of 300V, there is no change of it when wind speed varies, which also proves the power flow is balanced.

#### V. CONCLUSION

The modeling of non-grid-connected wind energy conversion system has been discussed, and HIL real-time simulation platform has been established on basis of that. Simulation results on different wind speed conditions prove the validity of system modeling and speed controller design, MPPT on low wind condition and constant output power of wind turbine on high wind condition are realized, which improves working efficiency of the plant. DC-DC converters maintain the balance of energy flow by keep the DC bus voltage a constant. Besides that, MAT-LAB proves to be a powerful tool which is suitable for the design and test of wind turbine apparatus and controllers. The experimental results also show that the accuracy of the real-time simulation based on MAT-LAB is as good as general variable-step simulation but much less time consuming.

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