

RESEARCH ARTICLE



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IMPROVED ACTIVE POWER FILTER PERFORMANCE FOR INEXHAUSTIBLE POWER GENERATION SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

Renewable energy resources are being increasingly connected in distribution systems utilizing power electronic converters. Renewable energy technologies such as Photovoltaic, solar thermal electricity using dish-sterling systems, and wind turbine power are environmentally advantageous sources of energy that can be considered for electric power generation. In order to improve the performance and life of the power switches of VSI, we require an optimized control technique that reduces its switching frequency. An active power filter implemented with a four-leg voltage-source inverter using a predictive control scheme. The use of a four-leg voltage-source inverter allows the compensation of current harmonic components, as well as unbalanced current generated by single-phase nonlinear loads. This project presents a predictive current control method and its application to a voltage source inverter. A detailed simple mathematical model of the active power filter, including the effect of the equivalent power system impedance, is derived and used to design the predictive control algorithm. The algorithm is based on the system model. The compensation performance of the proposed active power filter and the associated control scheme under steady state and transient operating conditions is demonstrated through simulations using MATLAB/SIMULINK software.

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I. INTRODUCTION

During the past several years, fuzzy control has emerged as one of the most active and fruitful areas for research in the applications of fuzzy set theory, especially in the realm of industrial process, which do not lend of quantities data regarding the input-output relations. Fuzzy control is based on fuzzy logic; it is much closer in spirit to human thinking and natural language than traditional logical systems application to many industries and

residential usages. Increasing global energy consumption and noticeable environmental pollution are making renewable energy more important. However, these DG units produce a wide range of voltages [1] due to the fluctuation of energy resources and impose stringent requirements for the inverter topologies and controls. To have sustainable growth and social progress, it is necessary to meet the energy need by utilizing the renewable energy resources like wind,

biomass, hydro, co-generation, etc. In sustainable energy system, energy conservation and the use of renewable source are the key paradigm. The need to integrate the renewable energy like wind energy/PV into power system is to make it possible to minimize the environmental impact on conventional plant [1]. The integration of wind energy into existing power system presents technical challenges and that requires consideration of voltage regulation, stability, power quality problems. The power quality is an essential customer-focused measure and is greatly affected by the operation of a distribution and transmission network. The issue of power quality is of great importance to the wind turbine [2]. There has been an extensive growth and quick development in the exploitation of wind energy in recent years.

Although active power filters implemented with three-phase four-leg voltage-source inverters (4L-VSI) have already been presented in the technical literature [2]–[6], the primary contribution of this paper is a predictive control algorithm designed and implemented specifically for this application. Traditionally, active power filters have been controlled using pre-tuned controllers, such as PI-type or adaptive, for the current as well as for the dc-voltage loops [7], [8]. PI controllers must be designed based on the equivalent linear model, while predictive controllers use the nonlinear model, which is closer to real operating conditions. An accurate model obtained using predictive controllers improves the performance of the active power filter, especially during transient operating conditions, because it can quickly follow the current-reference signal while maintaining a constant dc-voltage.

So far, implementations of predictive control in power converters have been used mainly in induction motor drives [9]–[16]. In the case of motor drive applications, predictive control represents a very intuitive control scheme that handles multivariable characteristics, simplifies the treatment of dead-time compensations, and permits pulse-width modulator replacement. However, these kinds of applications present disadvantages related to oscillations and instability created from unknown load parameters [15]. One

advantage of the proposed algorithm is that it fits well in active power filter applications, since the power converter output parameters are well known [17]. These output parameters are obtained from the converter output ripple filter and the power system equivalent impedance. The converter output ripple filter is part of the active power filter design and the power system impedance is obtained from well-known standard procedures [18], [19]. In the case of unknown system impedance parameters, an estimation method can be used to derive an accurate $R-L$ equivalent impedance model of the system [20].

Conventionally, PI, PD and PID controller are most popular controllers and widely used in most power electronic appliances however recently there are many researchers reported successfully adopted Fuzzy Logic Controller (FLC) to become one of intelligent controllers to their appliances [3]. With respect to their successful methodology implementation, this kind of methodology implemented in this paper is using fuzzy logic controller with feedback by introduction of voltage respectively [21]. The introduction of change in voltage in the circuit will be fed to fuzzy controller to give appropriate measure on steady state signal. The fuzzy logic controller serves as intelligent controller for this propose. This paper presents the mathematical model of the 4L-VSI and the principles of operation of the proposed predictive control scheme, including the design procedure. The complete description of the selected current reference generator implemented in the active power filter is also presented [22]. Finally, the proposed active power filter and the effectiveness of the associated control scheme compensation, power quality improvement is simulated using MATLAB/SIMULINK.

II. FOUR-LEG CONVERTER MODEL

Fig. 1 shows the configuration of a typical power distribution system with renewable power generation. It consists of various types of power generation units and different types of loads. Renewable sources, such as wind and sunlight, are typically used to generate electricity for residential users and small industries. Both types of power generation use ac/ac and dc/ac static PWM

converters for voltage conversion and battery banks for long term energy storage. These converters perform maximum power point tracking to extract the maximum energy possible from wind and sun[21]-[23]. The electrical energy consumption behavior is random and unpredictable, and therefore, it may be single- or three-phase, balanced or unbalanced, and linear or nonlinear. An active power filter is connected in parallel at the point of common coupling to compensate current harmonics, current unbalance, and reactive power. It is composed by an electrolytic capacitor, a four-leg PWM converter, and a first-order output ripple filter, as shown in Fig. 2. This circuit considers the power system equivalent impedance Z_s , the converter output ripple filter impedance Z_f , and the load impedance Z_L .

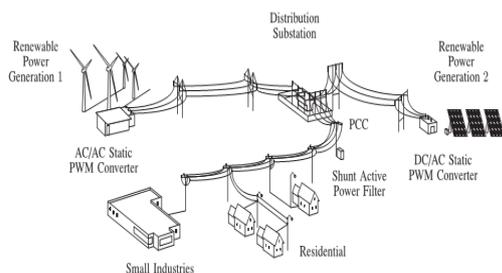


Fig. 1 Stand-alone hybrid power generation system with a shunt active power filter

The four-leg PWM converter topology is shown in Fig. 3. This converter topology is similar to the conventional three-phase converter with the fourth leg connected to the neutral bus of the system. The fourth leg increases switching states from improving control flexibility and output voltage quality [19], and is suitable for current unbalanced compensation.

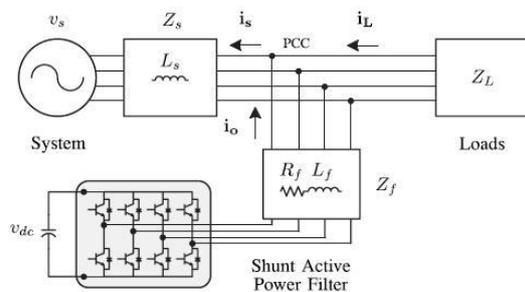


Fig. 2. Three-phase equivalent circuit of the proposed shunt active power filter

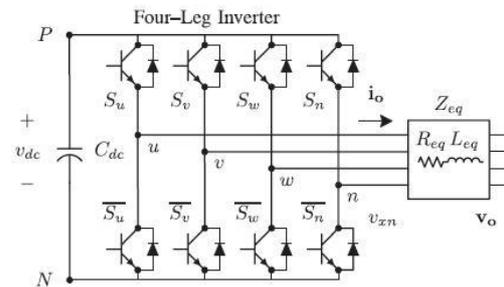


Fig. 3. Two-level four-leg PWM-VSI topology

The voltage in any leg x of the converter, measured from the neutral point (n), can be expressed in terms of switching states, as follows:

$$V_{xn} = S_x - S_n V_{dc} \quad x = u, v, w, n$$

The mathematical model of the filter derived from the equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 2 is

$$V_o = V_{xn} - R_{eq} i_o - L_{eq} \frac{di_o}{dt}$$

Where R_{eq} and L_{eq} are the 4L-VSI output parameters expressed as Thevenin's impedances at the converter output terminals Z_{eq} . Therefore, the Thevenin's equivalent impedance is determined by a series connection of the ripple filter impedance Z_f and a parallel arrangement between the system equivalent impedance Z_s and the load impedance Z_L .

$$Z_{eq} = \frac{Z_s Z_L}{Z_s + Z_L} + Z_f \approx Z_s + Z_f$$

For this model, it is assumed that $Z_L - Z_s$, that the resistive part of the system's equivalent impedance is neglected, and that the series reactance is in the range of 3–7% p.u., which is an acceptable approximation of the real system. Finally,

$$R_{eq} = R_f \text{ and } L_{eq} = L_s + L_f$$

III. REFERENCE CURRENT GENERATION SCHEME

A dq -based current reference generator scheme is used to obtain the active power filter current reference signals. This scheme presents a fast and accurate signal tracking capability. This characteristic avoids voltage fluctuations that deteriorate the current reference signal affecting compensation performance [20]. The current reference signals are obtained from the corresponding load currents as shown in Fig. 4. This module calculates the reference signal currents

required by the converter to compensate reactive power, current harmonic and current imbalance.

The displacement power factor ($\sin \phi(L)$) and the maximum total harmonic distortion of the load ($THD(L)$) defines the relationships between the apparent power required by the active power filter, with respect to the load, as shown

$$\frac{S_{APF}}{S_L} = \frac{\sqrt{\sin^2 \phi(L) + THD(L)^2}}{\sqrt{1 + THD(L)^2}}$$

Where the value of $THD(L)$ includes the maximum compensable harmonic current, defined as double the sampling frequency $f(s)$. The frequency of the maximum current harmonic component that can be compensated is equal to one half of the converter switching frequency. The dq -based scheme operates in a rotating reference frame; therefore, the measured currents must be multiplied by $\sin(\omega t)$ and $\cos(\omega t)$ signals. By using dq -transformation, the d current component is synchronized with the corresponding phase-to-neutral system voltage, and the q current component is phase-shifted by 90° . The $\sin(\omega t)$ and $\cos(\omega t)$ synchronized reference signals are obtained from a synchronous reference frame (SRF) PLL [21]. The SRF-PLL generates a pure sinusoidal waveform even when the system voltage is severely distorted. Tracking errors are eliminated, since SRF-PLLs are designed to avoid phase voltage unbalancing, harmonics (i.e., less than 5% and 3% in fifth and seventh, respectively), and offset caused by the nonlinear load conditions and measurement errors [3], the relationship between the real currents $iLx(t)$ ($x = u, v, w$) and the associated dq components (id and iq).

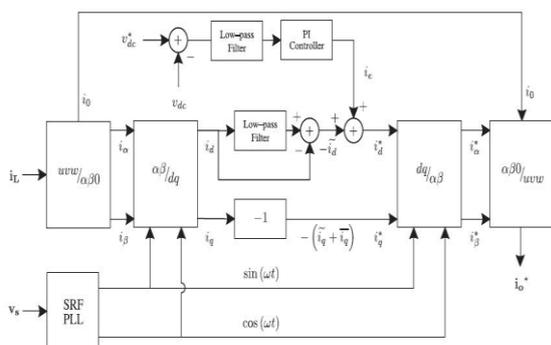


Fig.4. DQ based reference current generator block diagram.

A low-pass filter (LFP) extracts the dc component of the phase currents id to generate the harmonic reference components id . The reactive reference components of the phase-currents are obtained by phase-shifting the corresponding ac and dc components of iq by 180° . In order to keep the dc-voltage constant, the amplitude of the converter reference current must be modified by adding an active power reference signal ie with the d -component. The resulting signals i^*d and i^*q are transformed back to a three-phase system by applying the inverse Park and Clark transformation, The cut off frequency of the LFP used in this paper is 20 Hz.

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_{ou}^* \\ i_{ov}^* \\ i_{ow}^* \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin \omega t & -\cos \omega t \\ 0 & \cos \omega t & \sin \omega t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_o \\ i_d^* \\ i_q^* \end{bmatrix}$$

The current that flows through the neutral of the load is compensated by injecting the same instantaneous value obtained from the phase currents, phase shifted by 180 degrees as shown next.

$$i_{on}^* = -(i_{Lu} + i_{Lv} + i_{Lw})$$

One of the major advantages of the dq -based current reference generator scheme is that it allows the implementation of a linear controller in the dc-voltage control loop. However, one important disadvantage of the dq -based current reference frame algorithm used to generate the current reference is that a second order harmonic component is generated in id and iq under unbalanced operating conditions. The amplitude of this harmonic depends on the percent of unbalanced load current (expressed as the relationship between the negative sequence current $iL,2$ and the positive sequence current $iL,1$) [21]-[23]. The second-order harmonic cannot be removed from id and iq , and therefore generates a third harmonic in the reference current when it is converted back to abc frame [17]. Since the load

current does not have a third harmonic, the one generated by the active power filter flows to the power system.

A. DC Link Voltage Control

The dc-voltage converter is controlled with a traditional PI controller. This is an important issue in the evaluation, since the cost function is designed using only current references, in order to avoid the use of weighting factors. Generally, these weighting factors are obtained experimentally, and they are not well defined when different operating conditions are required. Additionally, the slow dynamic response of the voltage across the electrolytic capacitor does not affect the current transient response. For this reason, the PI controller represents a simple and effective alternative for the dc-voltage control [21]. The dc-voltage remains constant (with a minimum value of sqrt of 6vs(rms)) until the active power absorbed by the converter decreases to a level where it is unable to compensate for its losses. The active power absorbed by the converter is controlled by adjusting the amplitude of the active power reference signal i_e , which is in phase with each phase voltage. In the block diagram shown in Fig. 5, the dc-voltage v_{dc} is measured and then compared with a constant reference value v_{dc}^* [22][23]. The error (e) is processed by a PI controller, with two gains, K_p and T_i . Both gains are calculated according to the dynamic response requirement. Fig. 5 shows that the output of the PI controller is fed to the dc-voltage transfer function G_s which is represented by a first-order system.

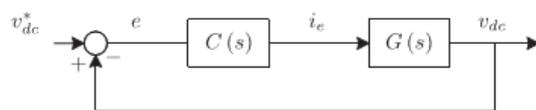


Fig. 5. DC-voltage control block diagram.

$$G(s) = \frac{v_{dc}}{i_e} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{3K_p v_s \sqrt{2}}{C_{dc} v_{dc}^*}$$

The equivalent closed-loop transfer function of the given system with a PI controller is shown in

equation

$$C(s) = K_p \left(1 + \frac{1}{T_i \cdot s} \right)$$

$$\frac{v_{dc}}{i_e} = \frac{\frac{w_n^2}{a} \cdot (s + a)}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n \cdot s + \omega_n^2}$$

Since the time response of the dc-voltage control loop does not need to be fast, a damping factor $\zeta=1$ and a natural angular speed $\omega_n=2\pi \cdot 100$ rad/s are used to obtain a critically damped response with minimal voltage oscillation. The corresponding integral time $T_i = 1/a$ and proportional gain K_p can be calculated as

$$\zeta = \sqrt{\frac{3 K_p v_s \sqrt{2} T_i}{8 C_{dc} v_{dc}^*}}$$

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{3 K_p v_s \sqrt{2}}{2 C_{dc} v_{dc}^* T_i}}$$

IV. INTRODUCTION TO FUZZY LOGIC CONTROLLE

L. A. Zadeh presented the first paper on fuzzy set theory in 1965. Since then, a new language was developed to describe the fuzzy properties of reality, which are very difficult and sometime even impossible to be described using conventional methods. Fuzzy set theory has been widely used in the control area with some application to power system [5]. A simple fuzzy logic control is built up by a group of rules based on the human knowledge of system behavior. Matlab/Simulink simulation model is built to study the dynamic behavior of converter. Furthermore, design of fuzzy logic controller can provide desirable both small signal and large signal dynamic performance at same time, which is not possible with linear control technique. Thus, fuzzy logic controller has been potential ability to improve the robustness of converters. The basic scheme of a fuzzy logic controller is shown in Fig 6 and consists of four principal components such as: a fuzzy fication interface, which converts input data into suitable linguistic values; a knowledge base, which consists of a data base with the necessary linguistic definitions and the control rule set; a decision-making logic which, simulating a human decision process, infer the fuzzy control action from the knowledge of the control rules and linguistic variable definitions; a de-fuzzification interface

which yields non fuzzy control action from an inferred fuzzy control action [10].

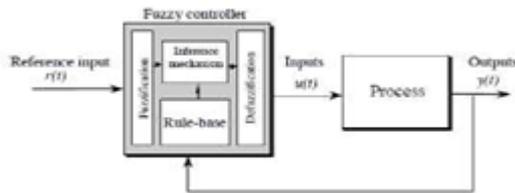


Fig.6. General structure of the fuzzy logic controller

The fuzzy control systems are based on expert knowledge that converts the human linguistic concepts into an automatic control strategy without any complicated mathematical model [10].

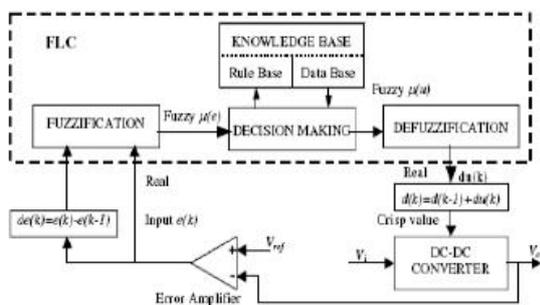


Fig.7. Block diagram of the Fuzzy Logic Controller (FLC) for proposed converter

With the hysteresis control, limit bands are set on either side of a signal representing the desired output waveform [6]. The inverter switches are operated as the generated signals within limits. The control circuit generates the sine reference signal wave of desired magnitude and frequency, and it is compared with the actual signal. As the signal exceeds a prescribed hysteresis band, the upper switch in the half bridge is turned OFF and the lower switch is turned ON. As the signal crosses the lower limit, the lower switch is turned OFF and the upper switch is turned ON. The actual signal wave is thus forced to track the sine reference wave within the hysteresis band limits.

VI. MATLAB MODELEING AND SIMULATION RESULTS

Here compensator is turned on at 0.05 seconds, before we get some harmonics coming from non-linear load, then distorts our parameters and get sinusoidal when compensator is in on.

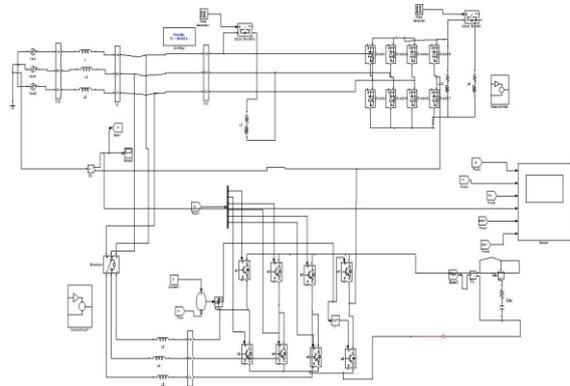


Fig.9 Matlab/simlink Model of Proposed RES Fed 4-leg APF system with formal PI & Intelligence Controllers

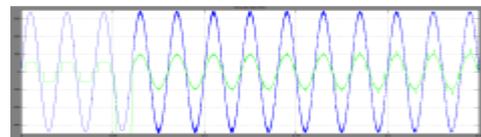


Fig. 10 shows the power factor it is clear from the figure after compensation power factor is unity.

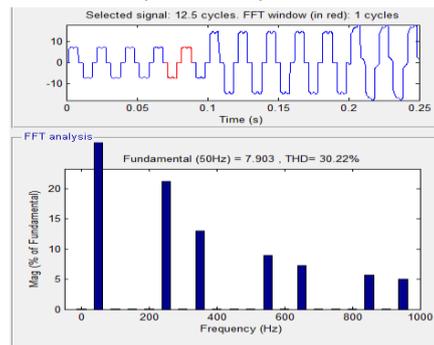


Fig.12 shows the FFT Analysis of Phase-A Source Current without any compensation, here we get 30.22%.

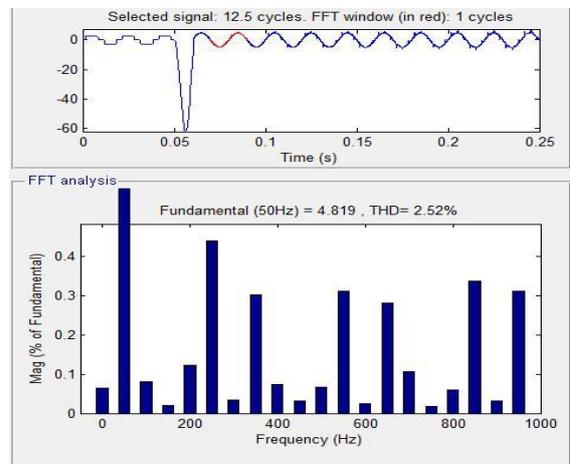


Fig.13 shows the FFT Analysis of Phase-A Source Current with PI Controlled APF, here we get 2.52%.

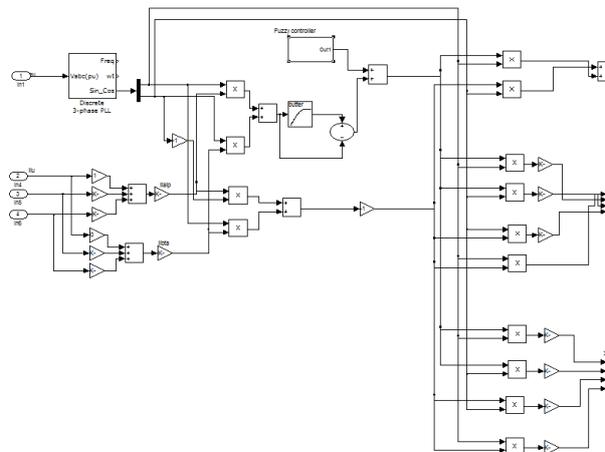


Fig.13 Matlab/simlink Implementation of Fuzzy Controller for Shunt Active Power Filter.

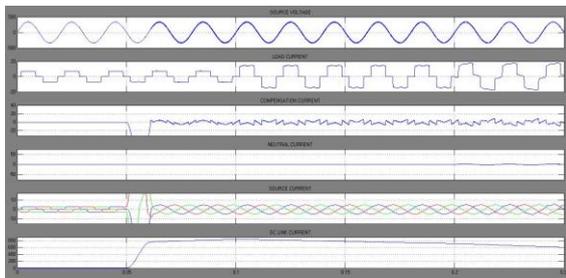


Fig.14 Proposed APF with Intelligence based Fuzzy Controller

Fig.14 Simulation results for APF with Fuzzy Controller (a) Source Voltage. (b) Load current. (c) Compensator Current, (d) Neutral Current, (e) Source Current (f) DC Link Voltage. Here compensator is turned on at 0.05 seconds, before we get some harmonics coming from non-linear load, then distorts our parameters and get sinusoidal when compensator is in on.

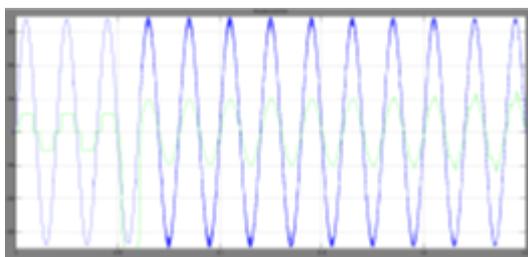


Fig. 15 shows the power factor it is clear from the figure after compensation power factor is unity.

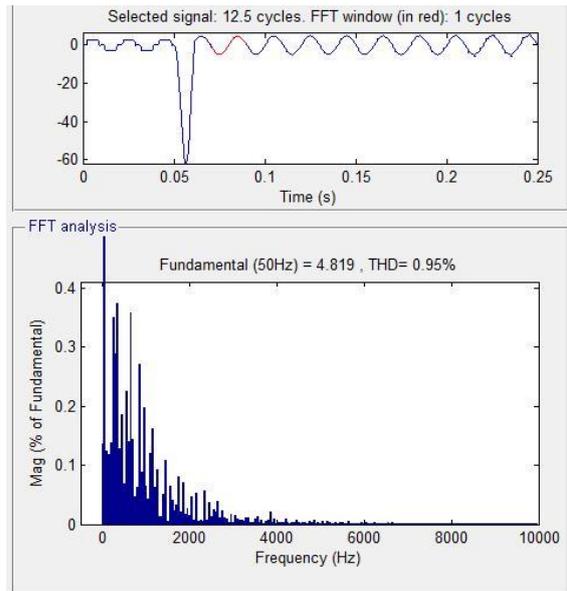


Fig.16 shows the FFT Analysis of Phase-A Source Current with Fuzzy Controlled APF, here we get 2.52%.

Sl. No.	Type of Controller	THD
1.	Without Active Power Filter	25.31 %
2.	With Active Power Filter	2.52 %
3.	With Fuzzy controller	0.95 %

Comparisons of Total Harmonic Distortion

V. CONCLUSION

Improved dynamic current harmonics and a reactive power compensation scheme for power distribution systems with generation from renewable sources has been proposed to improve the current quality of the distribution system. Advantages of the proposed scheme are related to its simplicity, modeling, and implementation. This paper has presented a novel control of an existing RES interfacing APF using conventional PI controller & fuzzy logic controller to improve the quality of power at PCC for a 3-phase 4-wire system. It has been shown that the APF system can be effectively utilized for power conditioning without affecting its normal operation of real power transfer. By using conventional controller we get THD value is 2.52%, but using the fuzzy logic controller THD value is 0.95%.

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