A Comparative Study of Z-Source Inverter Fed Three-Phase IM Drive with CSI and VSI fed IM

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ABSTRACT

This paper cite comparative performance characteristics of Z-Source inverter fed IM drives with mostly used VSI & CSI fed IM drives. ZSI has both voltages buck and boost capabilities as they allow inverters to be operated in the shoot through state. It employs an exclusive Z-Source network (LC component) to dc-link the main inverter circuit to the power source. By controlling the shoot-through duty cycle, the inverter system using IGBTs reduces the line harmonics, improves power factor, increases reliability and extends output voltage range. Simulation results are given to compare the behavior of conventional and proposed topology and also demonstrate the new features of the improved topology i.e ZSI fed IM. Simulation results of ZSI fed IM gives different performance characteristics as compared to VSI & CSI fed IM drives as shown for stator & rotor current characteristics, speed characteristics, torque characteristics which put a gloss on the VSI & CSI fed IM performance.

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper presents a functional model of Z-source inverter and VSI using switching function based on PWM approach concept is studied and the Simulation of the developed model is done with the help of MATLAB/Simulink. The conventional inverters used for Adjustable Speed Drives (ASDs) are voltage source inverter (VSI) and current source inverter (CSI) which consists of a diode rectifier front end, dc link and Inverter Bridge. The voltage source inverter is a buck converter that can only produce an ac voltage limited by the dc link voltage. Because of using the DC link reactor in the CSI drives, the rate of rise of current under short circuit will be limited. So the drives can be easily protected under short circuit. On the other hand, the presence of DC link reactor will result in slow dynamic response of the drive [1, 4]; hence CSI fed IM drives are used where fast dynamic response is not needed. The main disadvantage of CSI fed IM drive is nonlinearity and complexity. Because of this nature, the voltage source inverter and current source inverter are characterized by relatively low efficiency because of switching losses and considerable EMI generation. The voltage source inverter requires an output LC filter to provide sinusoidal voltage compared with current source inverter. The LC filters causes additional power loss and control complexity. The voltage source converter is widely used. However, the ac output voltage is limited below and cannot exceed the dc bus voltage or the dc bus voltage has to be greater than the ac input voltage. For applications where over drive is desirable and the available dc voltage is limited, an additional dc-dc boost converter is needed to obtain a desired ac output. The additional power converter stage increases system cost and lower the efficiency.
The upper and lower devices of each phase leg cannot be switched on simultaneously, otherwise, a shoot through would occur and destroy the devices [1]. Dead-time to block both upper and lower devices has to be provided in the voltage source converter, which causes waveform distortion, etc.

Alternatively, Current source inverters could be employed with boost control. A dc current source feeds the main converter circuit, a three-phase bridge. The dc current source can be a relatively large dc inductor fed by a voltage source such as a battery or diode rectifier. Six switches are used in the main circuit; each is composed traditionally by a semiconductor switching device with reverse block capability. However, the current source converter has the following conceptual and theoretical barriers and limitations.

At least one of the upper devices and one of the lower devices have to be gated on and maintained on at any time. Otherwise, an open circuit of the dc inductor would occur and destroy the devices. Overlap time for safe current commutation is needed in the current source converter, which also causes waveform distortion, etc.

In addition, both the voltage source converter and the current source converter have the following common problems. They are either a boost or a buck converter and cannot be a buck-boost converter. That is, the output voltage range is limited to either greater or smaller than the input voltage. The main circuit is not being interchangeable. In other words, neither the voltage source converter main circuit can be used for the current source converter and nor vice versa. They are vulnerable to EMI noise in terms of reliability.

2. Z SOURCE INVERTER

To overcome the problems in the conventional inverters there is an Impedance source inverter which is used. This impedance source inverter consists of a unique impedance network coupled with the inverter main circuit to the power source. The Z-source inverter advantageously utilizes the shoot through states to boost the dc bus voltage by gating on both the upper and lower switches of the same phase leg [1, 11]. Shoot through mode allows simultaneous conduction of devices in same phase leg. Therefore, a Z-source inverter can boost or buck voltage to a desired output voltage that is greater/less than the dc bus voltage based on the boost factor [18]. The inverter bridge is equivalent to a short circuit when the inverter bridge is in the shoot-through zero state, as shown in Figure 1, whereas the inverter bridge becomes an equivalent current source as shown in Figure 2 [1]. The diode is used to prevent the reverse flow of current in the circuit. The energy which is stored in the inductors in the shoot through state when both the switches on the same leg of the inverter are gated is then transferred in addition to the supply voltage to the load side when normal gating of the inverter switches occur [5].

Z-source inverter based induction motor drives provides a low cost and highly efficient single stage structure for reliable operation.

3. MODULATION METHODS

In Pulse Width Modulation variable speed drives are increasingly applied in many new industrial applications that require superior performance. A number of Pulse width modulation (PWM) schemes are used to obtain variable voltage and frequency supply. The most widely used PWM schemes for three-phase voltage source inverters are carrier-based sinusoidal PWM i.e. used here. In this method, a fixed dc input voltage is given to the inverter and a controlled ac output voltage is obtained by adjusting the on and off
periods of the inverter components. The carrier-based PWM technique fulfils such a requirement as it defines the on and off states of the switches of one leg of a VSI by comparing a modulating signal $v_c$ (desired ac output voltage) and a triangular waveform $v_\Delta$ (carrier signal) \[7, 11\]

For VSI, Amplitudes of the triangular wave (carrier) and sine wave (modulating) are compared to obtain PWM waveform as shown in Fig 3. Similar PWM control technique is used for CSI fed IM drive which is shown in Figure 4 for G1 to G6 of all the three legs.

The Z-source inverter intentionally utilizes the shoot-through zero states to boost dc voltage and produce and output voltage greater than the original dc voltage. But the shoot-through zero states does not affect the PWM control of the inverter, because it equivalently produce the same zero voltage to the load terminal but to achieve the high output voltage, it is required to increase the shoot through duty ratio. So, Z source inverter shoot through states are also inserted using 0.626 as deviation for operating the switch of same leg simultaneously as shown in Figure 5.

4. MATLAB MODELS

In VSI type of inverter input voltage is maintained constant and the amplitude of output voltage does not depend on the load. However, the waveform of load current as well as its magnitude depends upon the nature of the load impedance.

The upper and lower power switches of the same leg are complimentary in operation, i.e. if the upper switch is ON the lower must be OFF, and vice-versa.

VSI model, CSI Model & ZSI model are shown in Figure 6, 7 & 8 respectively and there output under under load, rated load, overload & step load is shown further for comparison between them.

In this study, reduced order dynamic models of a CSI-IM drive have been developed which is shown in Figure 6 \[14\].
As shown, Z source inverter uses a unique impedance network, coupled between the power source and converter circuit, to provide both voltage buck and boost properties, which cannot be achieved with conventional voltage source and current source inverters.

5. SIMULATION RESULTS

A. Rotor & Stator Currents Comparison

VSI:

Figure 9. Ir and Is at rated load 
Tl=17.5 Nm for VSI fed IM

Figure 10. Ir and Is at no load 
T=0 Nm for VSI fed IM

Figure 11. Ir and Is at T=1 Nm 
for VSI fed IM

Figure 12. Ir and Is at Tl=10 Nm 
for VSI fed IM

Figure 13. Ir and Is at Tl=50 Nm 
for VSI fed IM

Figure 14. Ir and Is with step load 
torque from 0 to 10 Nm at t=1sec 
for VSI fed IM
The result of rotor current and stator current for VSI, CSI & ZSI under different load condition are shown from Figure 9 to 14, 15 to 19 & 20 to 26 respectively for 1 sec time duration (x axis). This clearly shows that with Z source inverter, settling time for current is decreased as compared to traditional CSI & VSI i.e. In case of ZSI, current reaches to its steady state value soon.

**CSI:**

![CSI fed IM](image1)

**ZSI:**

![ZSI fed IM](image2)

It is also clearly seen that VSI has more ripple component as compared to ZSI and it increases in hazardous manner for overload case in VSI as compared to ZSI. With ZSI fed IM inrush current and harmonic current is reduced as shown.
For step load at \( t=1 \) sec, rotor and stator currents shown for VSI, CSI and ZSI in Figure 14, 19 & 26 respectively signify that the response of ZSI fed IM shows less ripple and accept the load more frequently. The rotor heating is also reduced due to reduction in rotor currents. Also, it is possible to limit the peak stator phase currents to tolerable levels.

**B. Speed Comparison**

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Figure 30. Speed at $T_l=1$ Nm for VSI fed IM

Figure 31. Speed at $T_l=10$ Nm for VSI fed IM

Figure 32. Speed at $T_l=50$ Nm for VSI fed IM

Figure 33. Speed with step load 0 to 10 Nm at $t=1$ sec for VSI fed IM

Speed of induction motor with voltage source inverter fed induction motor under different load torque condition is shown from Figure 27 to Figure 33.

CSI:

Figure 34. Speed at $T_l=15$ Nm for CSI fed IM

Figure 35. Speed at 20 Nm CSI fed IM at $T_l=20$ Nm, CSI fed IM takes more time to attain the required speed

Figure 36. Speed at $T_l=25$ Nm CSI fed IM at load Torque 25 Nm CSI fed IM fails to attain the required speed.
The output of inverter is used to control the speed of an induction motor. The speed responses of z source inverter fed induction motor are shown further.

**ZSI:**

- Figure 37. Speed at Load Torque 1 Nm CSI fed IM
- Figure 38. Speed for Step Load Torque at $t=1$ sec, $T_l=0$ to 10 Nm for CSI fed IM

- Figure 39. Speed at Rated Load $T_l=17.5$ Nm for ZSI fed IM
- Figure 40. Speed at No Load for ZSI fed IM
- Figure 41. Speed under Load $T_l=1$ Nm for ZSI fed IM

- Figure 42. Speed under Load at $T_l=10$ Nm for ZSI fed IM
- Figure 43. Speed at Overload, $T_l=30$ Nm for ZSI fed IM
- Figure 44. Speed at Overload, $T_l=50$ Nm for ZSI fed IM
C. Torque Comparison

The torque output curves of induction motor under different load condition for VSI, CSI and ZSI are shown from Figure 47 to Figure 51, Figure 52 to Figure 57 and from Figure 58 to Figure 65 respectively.

VSI:

Figure 47. Torque at $t=17.5$ Nm for VSI fed IM  
Figure 48. Torque at $T=0$ Nm for VSI fed IM  
Figure 49. Torque at $T=1$ Nm for VSI fed IM  
Figure 50. Torque at $T=10$ Nm for VSI fed IM  
Figure 51. Torque at $T=50$ Nm for VSI fed IM  
Figure 52. Torque with step load 0 to 10 Nm at $t=1$ sec for VSI fed IM

The result of speed under different load condition for VSI, CSI and ZSI is shown from Figure 27 to Figure 33, Figure 34 to Figure 38 & Figure 39 to Figure 46 respectively. When the motor is fed by z-source inverter then its speed increases and settling time decreases. Also, motor is able to run at rated speed for heavy load in case of ZSI. For step load at $t=1$ sec shown for CSI, VSI & ZSI fed IM indicates that speed variation and time taken by ZSI fed IM to new load is quite less as compared to VSI & CSI. CSI takes larger time to adjust to new load as compared to VSI & ZSI.
CSI:

Figure 53. Torque at 15 NM for CSI fed IM

Figure 54. Torque at 1Nm CSI fed IM

Figure 55. Torque at 20 Nm CSI fed IM Drive

Figure 56. Torque at Tl=25Nm CSI fed IM drive

Figure 57. Torque for step load 0 to 10 Nm at t= 1sec for CSI fed IM

ZSI:

Figure 58. Torque at rated load 17.5Nm for ZSI fed IM

Figure 59. Torque at no load for ZSI fed IM

Figure 60. Torque at under load T=1 Nm for ZSI fed IM
Electromagnetic torque (Te) tracks the load torque (TL) and ripple of the electromagnetic torque is small [20]. It is also noted that with the ZSI scheme motor attain the load torque with less time as compared to VSI.

6. CONCLUSIONS

This paper presents a comparative study on performance of the VSI, CSI and Z-Source Inverter (ZSI) based fed induction motor drive using simulink. The performance parameters of 3-phase induction motor such as rotor current, stator current, rotor speed, and electromagnetic torque was investigated for the different load conditions. It is evident that the proposed scheme of three-phase induction motor drive with Z-source and PWM technique is fast enough, reduces inrush current and harmonic current and leads to a satisfactory operation in open loop systems as compared to induction motor drive with VSI. Thus, it can be said that three phase inverter based on impedance (z)-source network with its boosting capability suitably controls and regulates the IM variable voltage and load variations.

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