Investigation of a Transistor Clamped T-Type Multilevel H-Bridge Inverter With Inverted Double Reference Single Carrier PWM Technique for Renewable Energy Applications

MAHAJAN SAGAR BHASKAR1, (Senior Member, IEEE),
DHAFER ALMAKHLES1, (Senior Member, IEEE),
SANJEEVIKUMAR PADMANABAN2, (Senior Member, IEEE), DAN M. IONEL3, (Fellow, IEEE),
FREDE BLAABJERG4, (Fellow, IEEE), JIANGBIAO HE3, (Senior Member, IEEE),
AND A. RAKESH KUMAR5, (Member, IEEE)

1Renewable Energy Lab (REL), Department of Communications and Networks Engineering, College of Engineering, Prince Sultan University (PSU), Riyadh 11586, Saudi Arabia
2Department of Energy Technology, Aalborg University, 6700 Esbjerg, Denmark
3Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Power and Energy Institute Kentucky (PEIK), University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0046, USA
4Centre of Reliable Power Electronics (CORPE), Department of Energy Technology, Aalborg University, 9220 Aalborg, Denmark
5Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli 620015, India

Corresponding authors: Mahajan Sagar Bhaskar (sagar25.mahajan@gmail.com) and A. Rakesh Kumar (rakesh.a@ieee.org)

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ABSTRACT The Multilevel inverters (MLIs) are a new breed of power electronics converters. They are primarily used for the conversion of dc power to ac power. The two-level inverters are conventionally used to obtain ac power, but it requires operating the switches under very high switching frequency. Besides, the two-level inverter necessitates the use of LC filters with the switches operating under high $dv/dt$ stress.

The MLIs offer the advantage of utilizing several dc voltage sources to generate a stepped ac waveform with the proper arrangement of switches. Investigation of a Transistor Clamped T Type H-Bridge Multilevel Inverter (TC-TT-HB-MLI) with Inverted Double Reference Single Carrier PWM Technique (IDRSCPWM) for Renewable Energy Applications are discussed in this paper. A PV source is taken as an input to the TC-TT-HB-MLI. For different modulation indices like 0.85, 1 and 1.25, the FFT analysis is performed and presented, which corresponds to the variations in the irradiations from solar energy. A single unit of the TC-TT-HB-MLI is extended to a generalized MLI structure named Generalized Transistor Clamped T-Type H-Bridge Multilevel Inverter (GTC-TT-HB-MLI). The significant benefits of GTC-TT-HB-MLI are the multiple numbers of reductions in the switch count, and driver circuit counts for a higher number of MLI levels. Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) analysis is carried out on the MLI output to calculate the total harmonics distortion (THD). The experimental verification is performed using SPARTAN 3E-XCS250E; the gate signals are generated and provided to the switches.

INDEX TERMS Multilevel inverter topology, high switching frequency, double reference, single carrier, pulse width modulation scheme, total harmonics distortion.

I. INTRODUCTION

Ultimatum for energy is getting incremented every day, which is also resulting in an increased requirement of energy generation. Renewable sources are seen as an alternative to the fossil fuel-based non-renewable energy sources. The overexploitation of these sources to meet our daily requirements have put it in a degraded state. Hence there is rapid development in the research to extract power from alternate sources such as PV, wind, tidal, etc. Among them,
the energy extracted from photovoltaic systems plays a vital role. The energy extracted from a photovoltaic system (PV system) is DC in nature. The DC nature of power from the PV panel is required to be converted into AC power to meet the domestic and industrial power needs. For this, power inverters play a significant role [1]–[10]. Two-level inverters are operated under very high switching frequency, resulting in high dv/dt of output voltage, increased heating up of the switches and higher electromagnetic interferences (EMI) [11], [12]. The multilevel inverters can overcome the drawbacks associated with the two-level inverters in many ways.

With a higher number of MLI levels, a nearly sinusoidal waveform is attained. As the number of MLI levels increases, the THD present in the ac output is reduced. The multilevel inverters can maximize the power and minimize the harmonic contents in the output AC voltage side [13], [14]. The modulation scheme serves the purpose by proper switching on and off the power switches. Diode Clamped MLI, flying capacitor MLI, and Cascaded H-Bridge MLI are three conventional multilevel inverter topologies [15]–[33]. Multilevel inverters are widely used in renewable energy applications, static reactive power compensators and adjustable speed drives [30], [35]–[38].

Diode Clamped MLI (DC-MLI) and Flying Capacitor MLI (FC-MLI) have problems like voltage balancing and dynamic voltage sharing at higher output levels. Thus, among the conventional MLI topologies cascaded H-Bridge configuration is widely accepted due to their modular structure and fault-tolerant capability [34]. The switching pulses for multilevel inverters can be generated by using various modulation techniques. Sinusoidal Pulse Width Modulation (SPWM), Space Vector Modulation (SVM), and Selective Harmonic Elimination (SHE-PWM) are the most used modulation techniques [30], [37]–[42]. Further SPWM technique is classified as Phase Disposition (PD), Phase Opposition Disposition (POD), Alternate Phase Opposition Disposition (A POD) and Phase Shifted techniques (PS).

A single H-bridge cell generates only a three-level output. A high switching frequency modulation scheme can be employed to generate the MLI output. However, the harmonics distortion in the three-level H-bridge is still high. To improve the THD, the levels in the H-bridge can be increased by cascading several single H-bridge units to achieve a higher number of levels. However, this leads to an increase in the number of switches and gate driver circuits. A better solution is to improve the single H-bridge circuit to generate a five-level output with the use of two additional switches as against four additional switches in case of cascaded H-bridge circuit [43]. Similar work was carried out in the T-type MLI, where a predictive model controller was used in combination with a PI controller which creates a robust control algorithm [44]. In [45], and improved high switching frequency modulation scheme was employed to reduce the THD of the five-level T-type MLI. The work had utilized multi-referenced and dual-carriers to generate the gate pulses. Apart from the implementation of the conventional T-type topology for various applications and modulation schemes, it has also been extended to other MLI topologies. One such hybrid topology is the combination of T-type MLI with cross-connected MLI topology to achieve a higher number of levels with an increase in the number of switches [46]. In [47], a cross switched T-type MLI topology is proposed. Multiple T-type topologies with half-bridge configurations are interconnected with each other to generate a higher number of levels. But as the full-bridge configuration is not used, this topology is not suitable as a single unit which will generate only a three-level output for a Module Integrated Converter (MIC). In [48], a similar half-bridge configuration for a T-type inverter is used for electric vehicle application. The work results in only a three-level output for a bidirectional converter configuration.

The Transistor Clamped T-Type H-Bridge Multilevel Inverter (TC-TT-HB-MLI) is investigated in this paper with Inverted Double Reference Single Carrier PWM Technique (IDRSCPWM) for Renewable Energy Applications and different modulation index. The TC-TT-HB-MLI topology is a modification over the existing T-type topology with a reduced number of switches. The reduction in the number of switches is very much evident with the generalized version of the TC-TT-HB-MLI for a higher number of levels. The TC-TT-HB-MLI topology is highly suitable for photovoltaic applications. The TC-TT-HB-MLI is operated for different variations in the insolation level from the sun.

In section II, the working principle of the TC-TT-HB-MLI is given. Also, Fourier Series (FS) analysis of multilevel waveform is discussed in detail to calculate the magnitude of harmonics. In Section-III, experimental results and observations for different modulation index are discussed in detail. Section-IV deals with the extension of TC-TT-HB-MLI and comparison of MLI topologies. The conclusion is given in section-V.

II. FIVE-LEVEL TRANSISTOR CLAMPED T-TYPE H-BRIDGE MLI (TC-TT-HB-MLI)

The power circuit of TC-TT-HB-MLI is shown in Fig. 1(a). The power circuit of a five-level Transistor Clamped T-Type H-Bridge Multilevel Inverter (TC-TT-HB-MLI) consists of H-Bridge inverter and an auxiliary circuit. The auxiliary circuit comprised of a power MOSFET switch. The capacitors used ‘C1’ and ‘C2’ act as two input capacitors, share the input voltage is an equal magnitude of V_{in}/2. The five-level magnitudes are V_{in}, V_{in}/2, 0, −V_{in}/2, and −V_{in}. These different magnitudes are obtained proper sequence of the gate pulses to the switches. With the help of five semiconductor switches, the TC-TT-HB-MLI achieves a five-level output. The H-bridge at the end of the MLI topology offers the positive and negative polarity to generate a complete ac waveform.
A. INVERTED DOUBLE REFERENCE SINGLE CARRIER PULSE WIDTH MODULATION (IDRSCPWM) TECHNIQUE AND MPPT

Fig. 1(b) represents the control logic of the IDRSCPWM technique. Fig. 1(c) depicts the control logic block diagram to obtain PWM pulses for switches of the TC-TT-HB-MLI. The control logic of TC-TT-HB-MLI consists of a Sinusoidal Pulse generator, Modulus Block (Mod), carrier waveform, positive biasing block, PWM Logic block along with maximum power point tracking (MPPT) controller. There is a small amount of loss (losses include semiconductor and conversion loss) while converting photovoltaic energy into electrical energy. Maximum Power Point (MPP) illustrates the maximum power (Product of $V_{PP}$ and $I_{PP}$ where $V_{PP}$ and $I_{PP}$ is the voltage and current at which maximum power is achieved) of Photovoltaic (PV) device. The use of Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) is necessary and compulsory to make sure that the output power of the photovoltaic device is maximum ($P_{max}$) because the power depends on light, temperature and environmental condition [49]–[52].

To utilize input supply ($V_{in}$) maximum MPPT is necessary to transfer power to the inverter system. When the photovoltaic voltage ($V_{PV}$) decreases then photovoltaic current ($I_{PV}$) will ultimately increase and vice-versa. Maximum power point (MPP) is needed to position by any tracking algorithm because MPP depends upon temperature, irradiance and other environmental parameters [49]–[52]. Furthermore, its position is changed dynamically when these parameters are varied.

Load resistance should be necessary and compulsory match with good possible output resistance ($R_{MPP} = V_{MPP}/I_{MPP}$) to achieve maximum power transfer [52]. The curve of current-voltage ($I-V$) and power-voltage ($P-V$) is depicted in Fig. 2(a). In an inverter system, the Maximum Power Point is tracked by a varying duty cycle of DC-DC converter before feeding power to the inverter or by varying directly modulation index PWM of the inverter system. Several MPPT algorithms are addressed to track the MPP of the photovoltaic system [49]–[53]. An idea to control the modulation index of the controlled signal of the TC-TT-HB-MLI is explained in Fig. 2(b)-2(d).

Consequently, maximum power from the photovoltaic module is extracted by operating inverter near to MPP by varying modulation index ($m$). In this modulation technique two inverted references, one with an offset value added equal to the amplitude of the carrier is compared with the single triangular carrier to obtain the pulses for the power switches $S_1$-$S_5$. The switches $S_4$ and $S_5$ are operated with a line frequency of 50 Hz. Using equation (1), the modulation index to operate the MLI topology is designed. Where ‘$Am$’ is the amplitude of the reference wave, and ‘$Ac$’ is the amplitude of the triangular carrier wave. The modes of operation of the
**Figure 2.** (a) P-V and I-V characteristic curve of photovoltaic (PV) inverter system (b) MPPT condition when \( \Delta P = 0 \) and \( \Delta V = 0 \) (c) MPPT condition when \( \Delta P < 0 \), \( \Delta V < 0 \) and \( \Delta P > 0 \), \( \Delta V > 0 \) (d) MPPT condition when \( \Delta P > 0 \), \( \Delta V < 0 \) and \( \Delta P < 0 \), \( \Delta V > 0 \).

**Table 1.** Modes of operation of TC-TT-HB-MLI.

| \( V_o \) | \( S_1 \) | \( S_2 \) | \( S_3 \) | \( S_4 \) | \( V_{pp}(\text{Aux. switch}) \) | \( S_2 \) | \( S_3 \) | \( S_4 \) | \( S_5 \) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| \( V_o \) | OFF | ON | OFF | OFF | ON | \( V_o/2 \) | 0 | \( V_o \) | 0 |
| \( V_o/2 \) | ON | OFF | OFF | OFF | ON | 0 | \( V_o/2 \) | \( V_o/2 \) | \( V_o \) |
| 0 | OFF | OFF | ON | OFF | ON | \( -V_o/2 \) | \( V_o \) | 0 | \( V_o \) |
| \( -V_o/2 \) | OFF | ON | OFF | OFF | ON | 0 | \( -V_o/2 \) | \( V_o/2 \) | \( V_o/2 \) |
| \( -V_o \) | ON | OFF | OFF | ON | OFF | 0 | 0 | \( V_o \) |

TC-TT-HB-MLI is shown in Table 1.

\[
m = \frac{A_{ct}}{2A_c}
\]

\[
v(t) = a_v + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(2\pi nf_o t) + b_n \sin(2\pi nf_o t)
\]

\[
a_v = \frac{1}{T} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} v(t) dt,
\]

\[
a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} v(t) \cos(2\pi nf_o t) dt,
\]

\[
b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} v(t) \sin(2\pi nf_o t) dt,
\]

For odd symmetry,

\[
v(t) = -v(-t)
\]

\[
a_v = 0,
\]

\[
a_n = 0 \text{ for all } n
\]

\[
b_n = 4 \int_{0}^{T/2} v(t) \sin(2\pi nf_o t) dt,
\]

Using Fourier Series, it is possible, characterize periodic function \( v(t) \) by infinite addition of cosine and sine functions which are harmonics related [54], [55].
FIGURE 3. Working modes of transistor clamped T-Type H-Bridge multilevel inverter (TC-TT-HB-MLI) (a) Level $V_{in}$ (b) Level $V_{in}/2$ (c) Level zero (d) Level zero (e) Level $-V_{in}/2$ (f) Level $-V_{in}$.

For half-wave symmetry,

\[
\begin{align*}
\nu(t) &= -\nu(t - T/2) \\
\alpha &= 0 \\
\alpha_n &= 0, \text{ for } n \text{ even} \\
\alpha_n &= \frac{4}{T} \int_0^{T/2} \nu(t) \cos(2\pi nf_o t) dt, \text{ for } n \text{ odd} \\
\beta &= 0, \text{ for } n \text{ even} \\
\beta_n &= \frac{4}{T} \int_0^{T/2} \nu(t) \sin(2\pi nf_o t) dt, \text{ for } n \text{ odd}
\end{align*}
\]

(4)

For odd quarter-wave symmetry (with both odd and half-wave symmetry),

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha_c &= 0 \\
\alpha_n &= 0, \text{ for all } n \\
\beta_n &= 0, \text{ for } n \text{ even} \\
\beta_n &= \frac{8}{T} \int_0^{T/4} \nu(t) \sin(2\pi nf_o t) dt, \text{ for } n \text{ odd}
\end{align*}
\]

(5)

It is possible to write the equation of harmonics in terms of switching angles of the multilevel inverter by using Fourier Series (FS). The output of Multilevel Inverter (MLI) is odd quarter-wave symmetry (the combination of odd and half-wave symmetry), thus for MLI output coefficient is,

\[
b_n = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi/4} \nu(\omega t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) d\omega t
\]

(6)

For simplicity, let us consider voltage across each capacitor is $V_{in}$ and $\theta_1$, $\theta_2$, $\theta_3$... are switching angles. It is possible to calculate the magnitude of harmonics by using equation (1) to (7).

\[
\begin{align*}
b_n &= \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\theta_2} V_{in} \sin(n\omega t) d(\omega t) \\
&= \frac{4}{\pi n} V_{in} [\cos(n\theta_1) + \cos(n\theta_2) + \cos(n\theta_3) + \cdots] \\
&= \frac{4}{\pi n} V_{in} [\cos(n\theta_1) + \cos(n\theta_2) + \cos(n\theta_3) + \cdots]
\end{align*}
\]

(7)

B. WORKING MODE OF TC-TT-HB-MLI

The various operating modes of the TC-TT-HB-MLI circuit is discussed in this section. The Fig. 3(a) shows the mode...
of operation to generate the output voltage $V_{in}$. The switches $S_2$ and $S_5$ are switched ON to obtain the input voltage at the output. From Fig. 3(b), it can be observed that the switching ON the switches $S_1$ and $S_3$ generated an output voltage of $V_{in}/2$. A zero-level output is obtained by turning on the switches $S_2$ and $S_4$. It is represented in Fig. 3(c). The zero-level output is continued in Fig. 3(d) where the switches $S_3$ and $S_5$ are switched ON. It offers a balanced switching of the power switches during zero-level. The negative voltage $-V_{in}/2$ is generated by switching ON $S_1$ and $S_4$, as shown in Fig. 3(e). Fig. 3(f) represents the last level $-V_{in}$ is generated by switching ON $S_3$ and $S_4$.

![Diagram](image)

**FIGURE 4.** Common mode voltage model of the proposed converter model.

### C. COMMON MODE VOLTAGE (CMV) ANALYSIS

Fig. 4 shows the Common Mode Voltage (CMV) of the proposed model. The CMV model consists of two stray capacitances from the PV panel $C_{PV1}$ and $C_{PV2}$, a common point “Z” and a common mode current ($i_{cm}$) [56]. The common mode current is the difference of current $i_1$ and $i_2$. The common mode voltage (VCM) and common mode current ($i_{cm}$) are given by,

$$V_{CM} = \frac{V_{AZ} + V_{BZ}}{2} \quad (8)$$

$$i_{CM} = i_1 - i_2 \quad (9)$$

Based on (8)-(9), Table 2 is summarized, which shows the common mode voltages for different modes of operations.

### III. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The IDRSCPWM switching logic for the power switches of the TC-TT-HB-MLI is implemented with the help of SPARTAN-3E XCS250E FPGA trainer kit. The clock frequency of the processor is 20MHz. The family architecture of Spartan-3E is composed of the following fundamental blocks:

1. The “Input/Output Blocks (IOBs)” is responsible for collecting the data as input. After carrying out the desired operation, the output block is active to generate signals.
2. The data storage is carried out by “Block RAM” of 18-kbit memory.
3. A variety of logical operation is carried out by the “Configurable Logic Blocks (CLBs)” in the form of latches and flip flops.
4. The “Multiplier Block performs the signal multiplication”.
5. “Digital Clock Manager (DCM)” provides the reference for carrying out the various process such as dividing, delaying and phase-shifting of clock signals.

The input for the experiment is taken from PV panels. In peak times each panel can provide a maximum voltage ranging from 32V-33V. For the implementation of a transistor clamped H-Bridge MLI four PV panels are connected in series. The experiment is conducted for modulation indices 0.85, 1 and 1.25 with R and RL-Load. The output results in each case are obtained and investigated with the help of Fluke-43B power quality analyzer. Table 3 specifies the hardware specification details of the TC-TT-HB-MLI.

**TABLE 3.** Experimental hardware specifications.

| Parameters            | Specifications                           |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Input Voltage ($V_{in}$) | 4 PV Panels (Each of 32V, Internal Series Resistance, $Rs=0.40\text{ohm}$, Reference solar irradiation=1000W/m$^2$, $T_{ref} = 25^\circ C$, $V_{oc}=39.5\text{V}$, $I_{sc}=2.06\text{A}$) |

| Capacitors($C_{\text{PV1}}, C_{\text{PV2}}$) | 2200uF |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Switching frequency($f_s$) | 1kHz |
| Power resistor | 100$\Omega.5\text{A (Maximun rating)}$ |
| Inductor | 12mH |
| MOSFET | IRFP460 |
| Fast Diode | DPG10f400PA |
| MOSFET Driver IC | TLP250 |

The experimental output is shown in Fig. 5(a) and Fig. 5(b) for an under-modulation case of $m = 0.85$ with R-load. It is observed that for R-load obtained power is 114W, 114VA, 8VAR with the 79.7V and 1.442A. The experimental output is shown in Fig. 5(c) and Fig. 5(d) for an under-modulation case of $m = 0.85$ with RL-load. It is observed that for RL-load obtained power is 104W, 108VA, 31VAR with the 80.1V and 1.343A. For the same under-modulation case, the individual fundamental component of voltage and current is obtained R-load is represented in Fig. 5(e) and Fig. 5(f). It was observed that the fundamental voltage is 78.9V, 49.98 Hz with 32.4% THD. It is also observed that the fundamental current is 1.426A, 49.98 Hz with 32.0% THD. For the same under-modulation case, the individual fundamental component of voltage and current is obtained with RL-load is shown in Fig. 5(g) and Fig. 5(h). It was observed that the fundamental voltage is 79.3V, 49.98 Hz with 32.4% THD.

**TABLE 2.** CMV analysis of the TC-TT-HB-MLI.

| Level | $V_{AZ}$ | $V_{BZ}$ | $V_{CM}$ |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| $V_{in}$ | 0       | 0       | $V_{in}/2$ |
| $V_{in}/2$ | 0       | $V_{in}/2$ | 0       |
| Zero  | $V_{in}/2$ | $V_{in}/2$ | $V_{in}/2$ |
| $-V_{in}$ | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| $-V_{in}/2$ | 0       | $V_{in}/2$ | $V_{in}/2$ |

* $V_{PV}$ is the PV voltage
FIGURE 5. Experimental results (a) Output power of TC-TT-HB-MLI for \( m = 0.85 \) with R-load. (b) Output voltage and current of TC-TT-HB-MLI for \( m = 0.85 \) with R-load. (c) Output power of TC-TT-HB-MLI for \( m = 0.85 \) with RL-load (d) Output voltage and current of TC-TT-HB-MLI for \( m = 0.85 \) with RL-load (e) 1st harmonics (voltage) or fundamental for \( m = 0.85 \) with R-load. (f) 1st harmonics (current) or fundamental for \( m = 0.85 \) with R-load. (g) 1st harmonics (voltage) or fundamental for \( m = 0.85 \) with RL-load. (h) 1st harmonics (current) or fundamental for \( m = 0.85 \) with RL-load.

32.9% THD. It is also observed that the fundamental current is 1.337A, 49.98 Hz with 19.4% THD.

Fig. 6(a) and Fig. 6(b) shows the output power, output voltage and output current for a modulation index of \( m = 1 \) (Unity Modulation) with R-load, respectively. It is observed that for R-load obtained power is 152W, 152VA, 10VAR with the 91.6V and 1.654A. Fig. 6(c) and Fig. 6(d) shows the output power, output voltage and output current for a modulation index of \( m = 1 \) (Unity Modulation) with RL-load respectively. It is observed that for RL-load obtained power is 142W, 146VA, 33VAR with the 92.0V and 1.577A. A separately fundamental component of voltage and current is obtained for a modulation index \( m = 1 \) and R-load as shown in Fig. 6(e) and Fig. 6(f). It is observed that the fundamental voltage is 91.0V, 49.98 Hz with 22.6% THD. It is also observed that the fundamental current is 1.638A, 49.98 Hz with 22.5% THD. The separately fundamental component of voltage and current is obtained for a modulation index \( m = 0.85 \) with RL-load is shown in Fig. 6(g) and Fig. 6(h).

It is observed that the fundamental voltage is 91.2V, 49.98 Hz with 23.6% THD. It is also observed that the fundamental current is 1.574A, 49.98 Hz with 13.7% THD.

Fig. 7(a) and Fig. 7(b) shows the output power, output voltage and output current for a modulation index of \( m = 1.25 \) (Over Modulation) with R-load respectively. It is observed that for R-load obtained power is 183W, 183VA, 9VAR with the 100.8V and 1.821A. Fig. 7(c) and Fig. 7(d) shows the output power, output voltage and output current for a modulation index of \( m = 1.25 \) (Over Modulation) with RL-load respectively. It is observed that for RL-load obtained power is 177W, 180VA, 33VAR with the 101.7Vand 1.769A. Fig. 7(e) shows the fundamental voltage component while Fig. 7(f) shows the fundamental current component with R-load. The modulation index set for this purpose is \( m = 1.25 \). It is observed that the fundamental voltage is 100.1V, 49.98 Hz with 18.2% THD. It is also observed that the fundamental current is 1.805A, 49.98 Hz with 18.0% THD. Fig. 7(g) fundamental voltage while Fig. 7(h) shows the fundamental voltage.
It is observed that the fundamental voltage is 101.1V, 49.98 Hz with 18.5% THD. It is also observed that the fundamental current is 1.760A, 49.98 Hz with 12.5% THD.

The THD results are summarized in Table 4. The graphical analysis is done based on the results obtained from the power quality analyzer (Fluke 43B). Henceforth, the THD, and odd harmonics of both the current and voltage of TC-TT-HB-MLI is performed for modulation indices in 0.85, 1 and 1.25 with R and RL-load. Fig. 8(a) and Fig. 8(b) show the voltage, and current harmonic spectrum analysis with R-load is graphically represented. Fig. 8(c) and Fig. 8(d) show the graph study of voltage and current harmonic spectrum of TC-TT-HB-MLI with RL-load, respectively. Fig. 8(e) and Fig. 8(f) show the Total Harmonic Distortions of both voltage and current of TC-TT-HB-MLI for modulation indices of 0.85, 1 and 1.25 with R and RL load respectively. From the observations, it is found that: The THD content of over modulated (m = 1.25) condition is low for TC-TT-HB-MLI but their odd harmonics (3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th) contents are higher compared to m = 0.85 and m = 1. Using the same input DC supply the over modulated condition can produce more output voltage compared to unity modulated and under modulated condition. TC-TT-HB-MLI can produce...
M. Sagar Bhaskar et al.: Investigation of a Transistor Clamped T-Type Multilevel H-Bridge Inverter With IDRSCPWM Technique

FIGURE 7. Experimental results (a) Output power of TC-TT-HB-MLI for $m = 1.25$ with R-load. (b) Output voltage and current of TC-TT-HB-MLI for $m = 1.25$ with R-load. (c) The output power of TC-TT-HB-MLI for $m = 1.25$ with RL-load (d) Output voltage and current of TC-TT-HB-MLI for $m = 1.25$ with RL-load (e) 1$^{st}$ harmonics (voltage) or fundamental for $m = 1.25$ with R-Load. (f) 1$^{st}$ harmonics (current) or fundamental for $m = 1.25$ with R-Load. (g) 1$^{st}$ harmonics (voltage) or fundamental for $m = 1.25$ with R-Load. (h) 1$^{st}$ harmonics (current) or fundamental for $m = 1.25$ with R-Load.

TABLE 5. Experimental results for varying irradiation conditions on TC-TT-HB-MLI.

| Solar irradiation (W/m²) | Modulation Index | R-Load           | Power Generated (W) | RL-Load       | Power Generated (W) |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|
|                         |      | rms voltage (V) | rms current (A) | Voltage THD (%) | Current THD (%) | Voltage THD (%) | Current THD (%) | Voltage THD (%) | Current THD (%) |
| 1000                    | 1.25  | 100             | 1.80              | 18.2            | 18.0            | 183             | 101             | 1.76            | 18.5            | 12.5            | 177               |
| 850                     | 1     | 91              | 1.64              | 22.6            | 22.5            | 152             | 91.2            | 1.57            | 23.6            | 13.7            | 142               |
| 750                     | 0.85  | 78.9            | 1.43              | 32.4            | 32.0            | 114             | 79.3            | 1.38            | 32.9            | 19.4            | 104               |

a five-level output with five power switches, whereas conventional cascaded CHB-MLI requires eight power switches, thereby reducing the power circuit complexity.

Table 5 shows the consolidated experimental results for varying irradiation conditions on TC-TT-HB-MLI for R and RL load. As observed from the table, for different irradiation conditions, the modulation index varied from a maximum of 1.25 corresponding to 1000 W/m². With a decrease in the solar irradiation condition, the modulation index decreases, which results in a lower output rms voltage, rms current and power generated.

IV. EXTENSION AND GENERALIZED STRUCTURE OF TC-TT-HB-MLI AND COMPARISON

In this section, the extension of TC-TT-HB-MLI named as Generalized TC-TT-HB-MLI (GTC-TT-HB-MLI) is explained, and it is also compared with conventional and recently addressed proposed Multilevel Inverter (MLI).
Fig. 9 shows the generalized structure of the TC-TT-HB-MLI for N-Level. For extend the TC-TT-HB-MLI circuit additional, each stage required one controlled switch and four uncontrolled devices along with the capacitor. The GTC-TT-HB-MLI can generate any number of MLI levels with the cascaded operation of TC-TT-HB-MLI with proper capacitor balancing algorithm. For this purpose, for any specific level of GTC-TT-HB-MLI, it is necessary to take into account all the possible switching modes for achieving a particular MLI level. Depending upon the state of charge of the capacitors of each TC-TT-HB-MLI module, the suitable switching mode of all the possible modes can be selected so that the capacitor charging and discharging is balanced. Fig. 10 shows the capacitor voltage balancing algorithm where the status of capacitor charges is taken into account in the first step [57]. This is followed by measuring the current direction to decide upon the positive or negative mode of operation. A hysteresis comparator algorithm is utilized where a reference voltage for each capacitor is set to compare the actual voltage and decide upon the duty cycle of the power switches to charge or discharge the capacitor.

Conventional MLI consist of Diode Clamped Multilevel inverter (DC-MLI), Flying capacitor Multilevel Inverter (FC-MLI) and Cascaded Bridge Multilevel Inverter.
Numerous MLI are addressed in the literature based on the cascaded structure and arrangement of switches [60]–[67]. In [60], [61], seven-level Inverter is proposed with seven and nine switches, respectively. These both structures extended to generate the number of levels by adding n number of sources and additional switches, as shown in Fig. 11(a) and Fig. 11(b). Inverter depicted in Fig. 11(a) required one switch and an additional one voltage source to extend one stage of power circuit (or to add two levels in the output). Similarly, inverter depicted in Fig. 11(b) required two switch and additional one voltage source to extend one stage of the circuit (or to add two levels in the output). In [62], a nine-level inverter is proposed using seven switches, and extended multilevel structure of this inverter is shown in Fig. 11(c). Inverter depicted in Fig. 11(c) required one switch, one diode and additional one voltage source to extend one stage of the circuit (or to add two levels in the output). In [63], a new Multilevel Inverter (MLI) structure is proposed using fewer numbers of switches and its power circuit shown in Fig. 11(d). The noticeable feature of this inverter is that it only generates 3, 7, 11, 15, 19… number of levels. Inverter depicted in Fig. 11(d) required two

**FIGURE 11.** Recently addressed multilevel inverter structure (a) MLI proposed in [60] (b) MLI proposed in [61] (c) MLI proposed in [62] (d) MLI proposed in [63] (e) MLI proposed in [64].
switches, eight diodes and additional two voltage sources to extend one stage of the circuit (or to add four levels in the output). In [64], a new cascaded Multilevel Inverter (MLI) is proposed by cascading new primary cell, which consists of additional switches and power circuit of the inverter is shown in Fig. 11(e). The noticeable feature of this inverter is that it only generates 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, ... number of levels. For extend this topology (or to add four levels in the output), additional six switches with anti-parallel diodes and two sources are required. In Fig. 12(a)-(i), the requirement of number of capacitors to design conventional MLI, recently addressed MLI [62]–[67] and GTC-TT-HB-MLI is shown graphically as radar plot. First, it is observed that the Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter (FC-MLI) required the number of capacitors compared to all discussed multilevel inverter (MLI). Second, it is observed that there is no requirement of the number of capacitors for recently addressed and discussed MLI. Third, it is also observed that GTC-TT-HB-MLI, diode clamped MLI, and conventional cascaded MLI required the same number of capacitors.

In Fig. 13(a)-(i), the requirement of number of diodes to design conventional MLI, recently addressed MLI [62]–[67] and GTC-TT-HB-MLI is shown graphically as radar plot. First, it is observed that Diode Clamped MLI (DC-MLI) required the number of diodes compared to all discussed multilevel inverters. Second, it is also observed that Flying Capacitor MLI (FC-MLI) and conventional cas-
observed that recently addressed MLI and GTC-TT-HB-MLI required fewer diode count in comparison to conventional MLI recently addressed MLI in [63].

In Fig. 14(a)-(i), the requirement of the number of switches to design conventional MLI, recently addressed MLI [62]–[64], [66], [67] and GTC-TT-HB-MLI is shown graphically like a radar plot. The first and foremost observation is that the GTC-TT-HB-MLI required relatively fewer switches count as compared to the conventional MLI topologies. The second observation is the equal number of components count for all the conventional MLI topologies. The third observation is the fewer switch count requirement by the GTC-TT-HB-MLI in comparison to the recently proposed MLI [62]–[67].

In Fig. 15(a), GTC-TT-HB-MLI is compared with conventional MLI (DC-MLI, FC-MLI, and CHB-MLI). In comparison to a CHB-MLI, the GTC-TT-HB-MLI required a fewer number of sources. The GTC-TT-HB-MLI, DC-MLI and FC-MLI required single source to generate any required MLI levels, but the magnitude of each level equals Vin/N. Moreover, the peak level voltage is equal to the magnitude of that single source. In Fig. 15(b), GTC-TT-HB-MLI is compared with recently addressed MLI [60]–[64]. With a smaller number of components, the GTC-TT-HB-MLI topology is observed better than the recently developed MLI topologies. In Table 6, the requirements of components are tabulated for conventional, recently addressed [60]–[64] and GTC-TT-HB-MLI; where N is the number
of levels. It is observed that in overall, GTC-TT-HB-MLI required a smaller number of components, and hence the circuit of GTC-TT-HB-MLI is cheaper and has less conduction loss.

V. CONCLUSION
A Transistor Clamped T-Type H-Bridge MLI (TC-TT-HB-MLI) was investigated with Inverted Double Reference Single Carrier PWM (IDRSCPWM) technique at differ-
ent modulation index for renewable energy application. Five-level PWM was achieved using an inverted double reference and single-carrier pulse signals; thus, the complexity of control logic was reduced. Fourier Series (FC) equations are discussed in detail to calculate the magnitude of harmonics. The applicability of PV input to the TC-TT-HB-MLI topology, a detailed study of the harmonic spectrum of the TC-TT-HB-MLI was done for modulation indices 0.85, 1 and 1.25 with R and RL load using Fluke-43B power quality analyzer. The extension of the TC-TT-HB-MLI was compared with conventional and recently addressed MLI considering the number of the capacitor, diodes, switches, sources and comparison was graphically shown by radar plot. TC-TT-HB-MLI required fewer component counts in comparison to recently addressed MLI and conventional MLI.

Experimental results proved the real-time justification of the TC-TT-HB-MLI topology with the presented modulation scheme.

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MahaJan sagar bhaskar (Senior Member, IEEE) received the bachelor’s degree in electronics and telecommunication engineering from the University of Mumbai, Mumbai, India, in 2011, the master’s degree in power electronics and drives from the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT University), India, in 2014, and the Ph.D. degree in electronic and electrical engineering from the University of Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2019. He is currently with the Renewable Energy Lab, Department of Communications and Networks Engineering, College of Engineering, Prince Sultan University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He has published scientific articles in the field of power electronics, with particular reference to XY converter family, multilevel dc/dc and dc/ac converter, and high gain converter. He has authored 100 plus scientific articles and has received the Best Paper Research Paper Awards from the IEEE-CENGON’19, the IEEE-ICCPCT’14, IET-CEAT’16, and ETAEEE’16 sponsored Lecture note in electrical engineering, Springer book series. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE Industrial Electronics, Power Electronics, Industrial Application, and Power and Energy, Robotics and Automation, Vehicular Technology Societies, Young Professionals, and the various IEEE councils and technical communities. He is a reviewer member of various international journals and conferences, including the IEEE and IET. He received IEEE Access Award “Reviewer of Month,” in January 2019, for his valuable and thorough feedback on manuscripts, and for his quick turnaround on reviews.

DhafEr almakhles (Senior Member, IEEE) received the B.E. degree in electrical engineering from the King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in 2006, and the master’s (Hons.) and Ph.D. degrees from The University of Auckland, New Zealand, in 2011 and 2016, respectively. Since 2016, he has been with Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia, where he is currently the Chairman of the Communications and Networks Engineering Department, and the Director of the Science and Technology Unit. He is also the Leader of the Renewable Energy Laboratory, Prince Sultan University. He has authored many published articles in the area of control systems. He served as a reviewer for many journals including, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON FUZZY SYSTEMS, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON CONTROL OF NETWORK SYSTEMS, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON CONTROL SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY, the IEEE CONTROL SYSTEMS LETTERS, and the International Journal of Control.

SanjeeviKumar Padmanaban (Senior Member, IEEE) received the bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from the University of Madras, Chennai, India, in 2002, the master’s degree (Hons.) in electrical engineering from Pondicherry University, Puducherry, India, in 2006, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy, in 2012.

He was an Associate Professor with VIT University, from 2012 to 2013. In 2013, he joined the National Institute of Technology, India, as a Faculty Member. In 2014, he was invited as a Visiting Researcher with the Department of Electrical Engineering, Qatar University, Doha, Qatar, funded by the Qatar National Research Foundation (Government of Qatar). He continued his research activities with the Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin, Ireland, in 2014. Further, he served as an Associate Professor with the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa, from 2016 to 2018. Since 2018, he has been a Faculty Member with the Department of Energy Technology, Aalborg University, Esbjerg, Denmark. He has authored more than 300 scientific articles. He was a recipient of the Best Paper cum Most Excellence Research Paper Award from IET-SEISCON’13, IET-CEAT’16, the IEEE-EECS’19, the IEEE-CENGON’19, and five best paper awards from ETAEEE’16 sponsored Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering, Springer book. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, India, the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers, India, and the Institution of Engineering and Technology, U.K.

He is an Editor/Associate Editor/Editorial Board for refereed journals, in particular the IEEE SYSTEMS JOURNAL, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRY APPLICATIONS, IEEE ACCESS, IET Power Electronics, IET Electronics Letters, and International Transactions on Electrical Energy Systems (Wiley), a Subject Editorial Board Member of Energy Sources journal (MDPI), and a Subject Editor of IET Renewable Power Generation, IET Generation, Transmission & Distribution, and FACTS journal (Canada).

Dan M. Ionel (Fellow, IEEE) received the M.Eng. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania. His Ph.D. program included a Leverhulme Visiting Fellowship with the University of Bath, Bath, U.K. He was a Postdoctoral Researcher with the SPEED Laboratory, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, U.K. He is currently a Professor of electrical engineering and the L. Stanley Pigman Chair in Power with the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, USA, where he is also the Director of the Power and Energy Institute of Kentucky and of the SPARK Laboratory. He previously worked in industry, most recently as a Chief Engineer for Regal Beloit Corporation, Grafton, WI, USA, and before that, as the Chief Scientist at Vestas Wind Turbines. Concurrently, he was also a Visiting and Research Professor with the University of Wisconsin and Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, USA. He has authored or coauthored two books and more than 200 technical articles, including five that received IEEE awards, and holds 30 patents. He has contributed to technology developments with long lasting industrial impact. He was the Inaugural Chair of the IEEE Industry Applications Society Renewable and Sustainable Energy Conversion Systems Committee and an Editor of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY. He is the Editor-in-Chief of Electric Power Components and Systems journal, the past Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society Electric Motor Subcommittee and of the IEEE WG 1812, and was the General Chair of the IEEE 2017 Anniversary Edition of the International Conference on Electrical Machines and Drives.
FREDE BLAABJERG (Fellow, IEEE) received the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from Aalborg University, in 1995. He was with ABB-Scandia, Randers, Denmark, from 1987 to 1988. He became an Assistant Professor in 1992, an Associate Professor in 1996, and a Full Professor of power electronics and drives in 1998. In 2017, he became a Villum Investigator. His current research interests include power electronics and its applications, such as in wind turbines, PV systems, reliability, harmonics, and adjustable speed drives. He has published more than 600 journal articles in the fields of power electronics and its applications. He is the coauthor of four monographs and an editor of ten books in power electronics and its applications. He has received 32 IEEE Prize Paper Awards, the IEEE PELS Distinguished Service Award, in 2009, the EPE-PEMC Council Award, in 2010, the IEEE William E. Newell Power Electronics Award 2014, the Villum Kann Rasmussen Research Award 2014, the Global Energy Prize, in 2019, and the 2020 IEEE Edison Medal. He has been a Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE Power Electronics Society, from 2005 to 2007, and of the IEEE Industry Applications Society, from 2010 to 2011 and from 2017 to 2018. From 2019 to 2020, he serves the President of the IEEE Power Electronics Society. He is also the Vice-President of the Danish Academy of Technical Sciences. He is nominated by Thomson Reuters to be between the most 250 cited researchers in Engineering in the world, for the period of 2014–2019. He is also Honoris Causa at the Politehnica University of Timisoara (UPT), Romania, and the Tallinn University of Technology (TTU), Estonia, in 2017.

JIANGBIAO HE (Senior Member, IEEE) received the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, USA. He is currently an Assistant Professor in power energy with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Kentucky, USA. Previously, he worked in industry, most recently as a Lead Engineer with GE Global Research, Niskayuna, NY, USA. Before joining GE Global Research, in 2015, he also worked with Eaton Corporation and Rockwell Automation. His research interests include high-performance propulsion drives for electric transportation, renewable energies, and fault-tolerant power conversion systems for safety-critical applications. He has authored more than 80 technical articles and holds ten U.S. patents in power electronics and motor drives areas. He was a recipient of the 2019 IEEE IAS AWS Outstanding Young Member Achievement Award. He has served in the organizing committees for the various IEEE international conferences (IEMDC-2017, ECCE-2018, and ITEC-2019), and has been an active member of multiple IEEE standards working groups. He has served as an Editor or Associate Editor for several prestigious journals in electric power area.

A. RAKESH KUMAR (Member, IEEE) received the B.E. degree (Hons.) in electrical and electronics engineering from the DMI College of Engineering, Chennai, India, in 2011, the M.Tech. degree in power electronics and drives from the Jerusalem College of Engineering, in 2013, and the Ph.D. degree from the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Chennai Campus, in 2020. He worked as an Assistant Professor with the Department of EEE, Rajalakshmi Engineering College, Chennai, from 2013 to 2015. He was working as a Teaching cum Research Assistant with VIT, Chennai, from 2015 to 2019. He is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Department of EEE, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, India. His fields of interests include multilevel inverters, inverter modulation techniques, smart grid, and its applications.

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