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Control and Performance Analysis of an Indirect Matrix Converter Fed Triple Star Induction Motor

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Abstract

Efficient operation is a recommended factor in most of industrial applications. In this paper, an indirect matrix converter (IMC) topology is developed and proposed to substitute the classical (AC/DC/AC) three phase converter topologies; where the control strategy is frequently performed with a voltage source inverter (VSI). Large electrolytic capacitors are viewed as hazardous due to their short lifetime compared to ordinary capacitors and power switches, as well as their contribution to the total bulk and weight of the converter. Matrix converters may be the answer to getting rid of the capacitor, shrinking the converter, and improving its efficiency (MC). These advantages are offset by the fact that the (MC) calls for a tricky switching technique based on pulse width modulation, which is prone to commutation failure. The direct frequency conversion using the indirect matrix converter (IMC) with many advantages has appeared as an alternative to these conventional voltage inverters. This study investigates a field-oriented control (FOC) scheme for indirect matrix converter fed triple star induction motor (TSIM). After building the proposed IMC converter topology, an adequate field-oriented control strategy-based space vector modulation (SVM) is proposed and adapted for the control of the triple star induction motor. The FOC technique guarantees flux and torque decoupling while ensuring good operation performance as required in many industrial applications. The obtained numerical simulation results show and confirm the effectiveness of this control scheme. **Keywords**

indirect matrix converter, voltage source inverter, matrix converters, field-oriented control, triple star induction motor, space vector modulation

1 Introduction

Electric machines play a critical role in modern industry and are an essential part of many production processes. They are used in a wide range of applications, from powering industrial machinery to providing energy for lighting and heating systems. Their high efficiency and versatility make them ideal for use in many different industries, including manufacturing, mining, and construction. The use of electric machines has greatly increased productivity and reduced the cost of production, making them an essential component of modern industry. The increasing demand for renewable energy sources has also made electric machines even more important, as they are often used in the production of clean energy. The continued development and improvement of electric machines will continue to play a major role in

shaping the future of industry, making them an indispensable component of the modern manufacturing landscape.

The variable-speed drives are ubiquitous in manufacturing. AC motors are commonly used in industries. However, multiphase induction machines are increasingly employed as an alternative to conventional three-phase drives in industrial applications such as the automotive, aerospace, military, and nuclear sectors, where excellent reliability is essential. Among the many benefits of these machines are power segmentation, lower current stress on semiconductor devices, lower torque ripple, lower rotor harmonic currents and the ability to ensure safe operation. The ability to operate in a degraded mode with an acceptable torque ripple is another way a multiphase structure can boost dependability [1, 2].

This study looks at the triple star induction machine, or TSIM for short, a multiphase machine with a squirrel cage-style rotor and three sets of three-phase windings that are spatially moved by 20 electrical degrees in the stator [3–5]. Yet, induction motors are difficult to manage due to their nonlinear architectures and the link between the flux and the generated electromagnetic torque. Many methods for distinguishing the two have therefore been proposed. These algorithms are based on many hypotheses and investigations. The first vector control strategy for induction motors was called field-oriented control (FOC) [6]. FOC can be divided into two main groups: indirect and direct. To do this, the motor equations are rewritten in a coordinate system that revolves around the flux vector of the rotor. You can be guaranteed that the flux and torque will be separated using the FOC method.

During regenerative braking, energy from the machine is filtered and stored in a vast electrolytic capacitor connected to the DC link of an AC/DC/AC converter; this control approach is often implemented with a voltage source inverter (VSI). Large electrolytic capacitors are regarded as harmful because of their short lifetime compared to regular capacitors and power switches and their contribution to the converter's overall bulk and weight [7–10]. Matrix converters may be the answer to getting rid of the capacitor, shrinking the converter, and improving its efficiency (MC).

These are direct AC/AC power converters that can simultaneously change the amplitude and frequency of three-phase voltages. They have many advantages, including a smaller footprint and lower weight due to the absence of DC-link electrochemical capacitors, reversible power flow with an adjustable input power factor, and a nearly sinusoidal current flow at the input and output. These advantages are offset by the fact that the (MC) calls for a tricky switching technique based on pulse width modulation, which is prone to commutation failure [11–13].

Instead of using a traditional matrix converter, which has the drawbacks listed above, an indirect matrix converter topology (IMC) can be employed, which has all the benefits of a traditional matrix converter (MC). However, the primary use of IMC over a traditional matrix converter is the simplified commutation process. All load side switches commutate like a standard DC/AC converter [14– 18], but all line side switches operate at zero current.

This paper introduces the implementation of the indirect field oriented control for (IMC) fed (TSIM). The novelty of the proposed work is given below.

• The nonlinear behavior of the indirect matrix converter, as well as the triple star induction motor model, is critical for executing and improving the control performance of the given system. To obtain an accurate system model, a mathematical model is being developed.

• By simulation tests, the strength of the indirect field oriented technique is investigated in order to counteract the detaining effect caused by the link between the flux and the generated electromagnetic torque, reversible power flow with an adjustable input power factor, and a nearly sinusoidal current flow at the input and output.

This document is organized as follows: After the Introduction section, a description of IMC topology used to feed TSIM and its modelation are given in Section 2. The control startegy, which is indirect field oriented control is discussed in Section 3. In Section 4, the simulation results representing the analysis performances of IMCs-TSIM combination are discussed. Section 5 concludes the article.

2 Topology and Modulation for the indirect matrix converter

2.1 Topology of the IMC

Three voltage source inverters are typically used to feed a TSIM via a standard current source rectifier with dc link part. In this paper, an indirect matrix converter for TSIM is investigated, with a bidirectional current source converter on the mains side and three phase voltage inverters connected to a common imaginary dc-link, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

2.2 Modulation method

The indirect matrix converter's principal circuit is composed of an LC filter, bidirectional current source rectifier and three six-switch inverters. To show the quality of the waves obtained with this structure and the smooth nature of the switching, the presentation of SVM algorithm is more than necessary. This control strategy's goal is to synthesize output voltages from input voltages and input currents from output currents. The modulation is carried out by uniformly combining the switching states of the rectifier stage and the inverter stage by choosing the right vectors and establishing their duty cycles [17, 18].

This relationship describes the rectifier output voltage as a function of the input voltages. The parameters of all equations are included in (Appendix Table A.2):

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_p \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{ap} & m_{bp} & m_{cp} \\ m_{an} & m_{bn} & m_{cn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_a \\ v_b \\ v_c \end{bmatrix}$$
(1)



Fig. 1 Main circuit of indirect matrix converter fed TSIM



Fig. 2 Representation of the windings of TSIM

The voltage relationship for the inverters stages is provided by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{Ak} \\ v_{Bk} \\ v_{Ck} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{pAk} & m_{nAk} \\ m_{pBk} & m_{nBk} \\ m_{pCk} & m_{nCk} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_p \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$$
(2)

Where: k = 1, 2, 3

As a result, the relationship between IMC's output and input voltages is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{Ak} \\ v_{Bk} \\ v_{Ck} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{pAk} & m_{nAk} \\ m_{pBk} & m_{nBk} \\ m_{pCk} & m_{nCk} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_{ap} & m_{bp} & m_{cp} \\ m_{an} & m_{bn} & m_{cn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_a \\ v_b \\ v_c \end{bmatrix}$$
(3)

Where: k = 1, 2, 3

2.2.1 Rectifier stage control

The rectifier's bidirectional switches are regulated to prevent input line shorts, deliver DC voltage to the inverter stage, and maintain sinusoidal input currents with the potential to control power factor. To ensure all this, the rectifier switches can only be configured in six different ways, which are then presented by six active inputs current I_1 to I_6 vectors (Fig. 3) [19, 20].



Fig. 3 Switching state vector of current source rectifier (a) and its SVM in sector 1 (b)

During a switching phase, I_{in} is formed from the neighboring active vectors I_{γ} and I_{δ} , which have duty cycles of d_{γ} and d_{δ} , respectively. If the input currents are assumed to be constant over a switching period T_{sw} , the reference current vector is as follows.

$$I_{in} = d_{\gamma}I_{\gamma} + d_{\delta}I_{\delta} + d_{0}I_{0}$$
⁽⁴⁾

The calculation of the duty cycles d_{γ} and d_{δ} are relative to the currents I_{γ} and I_{δ} , are given by the following equations:

$$d_{\gamma} = \frac{t_{r1}}{T_{sw}} = m_R \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - \theta_i\right)$$
(5)

$$d_{\delta} = \frac{t_{r2}}{T_{sw}} = m_R \sin\left(\theta_i\right) \tag{6}$$

$$d_0 = 1 - d_\gamma - d_\delta \tag{7}$$

Where, m_p is modulation factor; $0 \le m_p \le 1$

In the case where the null vector is eliminated from the switching sequence and the duty cycles are scaled back to the unit so as to satisfy the following expression:

$$I_{in} = d_{\gamma}^{R} I_{\gamma} + d_{\delta}^{R} I_{\delta} \tag{8}$$

The adjusted duty cycles of the rectifier stage are determined by the relationship (9), (10), where the modulation index $m_R = 1$ for maximum voltage at the DC bus [21]:

$$d'_{\gamma} = \frac{d_{\gamma}}{d_{\gamma} + d_{\delta}} \tag{9}$$

$$d_{\delta}' = \frac{d_{\delta}}{d_{\gamma} + d_{\delta}} \tag{10}$$

2.2.2 Inverter stage control

The three-phase output voltage inverter can, like any three-phase quantity (v_{Ak}, v_{Bk}, v_{Ck}) be decomposed into three other quantities: direct V_a , inverse V_β and homopolar V_0 using the Concordia or Park matrix [P(0)]. Since the voltage of each arm can only take two values, then there are eight possible combinations between these voltages for each inverter Figs. 4–6.

The principle of the space vector modulation control is to determine the output state of the inverter such that the three-phase system it generates, when brought back to two-phase, is approximately equal to the reference vector. Generally, the duty cycles d_a , d_β and d_0 for each inverter can be determined from Figs. 4–6.







(b) Fig. 4 Switching state vector of first voltage inverter (a) and its SVM in sector 1(b)

$$d_{\alpha} = \frac{T_{\alpha}}{T_{sw}} = m_{v} \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - \theta_{v}\right)$$
(11)

$$d_{\beta} = \frac{T_{\beta}}{T_{sw}} = m_{v} \cdot \sin(\theta_{v})$$
(12)

$$d_0 = 1 - d_\alpha - d_\beta \tag{13}$$

Where, m_v is modulation factor, $0 \le m_v \le 1$.

Finally, coordination between the control switches of the rectifier and the switches of the inverter is required to manage the indirect matrix converter under the restrictions



Fig. 5 Switching state vector of the second voltage inverter (a) and its SVM in sector 1(b)

of a variable input power factor, the two-way transit of power, and zero-current switching commutation. When the current is zero, the rectifier level is activated. Fig. 7 shows a control cycle during the sector **2** for the input current and sector **1** for the output voltage to demonstrate this coordination. The active vectors of the first inverter may



Fig. 6 Switching state vector of the third voltage inverter (a) and its SVM in sector 1 (b)

obviously be applied to the second one while taking into account the shifted angle of $\pi/9$ between them. Therefore, the following relationships can be used to obtain the duty ratios that correspond to the inverters stage [22]:



Fig. 7 Switching sequences of IMC (input current sector 2 and output voltage sector 1)

$$\begin{cases} t_{r1} = d_{\gamma}^{R} \cdot T_{sw} \\ t_{i1} = \frac{1}{2} d_{\gamma}^{R} \cdot d_{0} \cdot T_{sw} \\ t_{i2} = d_{\gamma}^{R} \cdot d_{\alpha} \cdot T_{sw} \\ t_{i3} = d_{\gamma}^{R} \cdot d_{\beta} \cdot T_{sw} \\ t_{i4} = \frac{1}{2} d_{\delta}^{R} \cdot d_{0} \cdot T_{sw} \\ t_{i5} = \frac{1}{2} d_{\delta}^{R} \cdot d_{\beta} \cdot T_{sw} \\ t_{i6} = \frac{1}{2} d_{\delta}^{R} \cdot d_{\alpha} \cdot T_{sw} \end{cases}$$
(14)

3 Field-orientd control (FOC) for TSIM

The field-oriented control works in the same way that an independently excited DC motor does. Both the current and the torque can be adjusted individually in this motor. PI regulators are all that is needed to implement the control algorithm. If the induction motor's coordinate system is tied to the rotor's flux vector, flux and torque can indeed be controlled independently.

To summarize, Fig. 8 shows an illustration of the IFOC in a block form for TSIM. The main components of this type of control are the speed control loop, the θ_s calculation block and the direct PARK transformations. Speed is regulated through the block's external loop. The output of its regulator is the reference electromagnetic torque T_{em}^{*} or the reference currents i_{sq}^{*} . Parallel to this internal loop is a control loop for i_{sd}^{*} . The reference i_{sd}^{*} currents are calculated from the flux to be imposed. This



Fig. 8 An illustration of the IFOC in a block form for TSIM

flux corresponds to its nominal value for the speed range below the base speed and finally, the inverse PARK.

Fig. 9 depicts the d-q rotational coordinate system.

In our case, a *d*-*q* frame that rotates with the rotor flux vector Φ_r is chosen. This yields Eq. (15) shown below:

$$\begin{cases} \Phi_{rd} = \Phi_r \\ \Phi_{rq} = 0 \end{cases}$$
(15)

By imposing, $\Phi_{rd} = \Phi_r$ and $\Phi_{rq} = 0$, the TSIM equations in a reference frame related to the rotating field become:

$$\begin{cases} V_{sd1} = R_{s1}i_{sd1} + \frac{d\Phi_{sd1}}{dt} - w_s\Phi_{sq1} \\ V_{sq1} = R_{s1}i_{sq1} + \frac{d\Phi_{sq1}}{dt} - w_s\Phi_{sd1} \\ V_{sd2} = R_{s1}i_{sd2} + \frac{d\Phi_{sd2}}{dt} - w_s\Phi_{sq2} \\ V_{sq2} = R_{s1}i_{sq2} + \frac{d\Phi_{sq2}}{dt} - w_s\Phi_{sd2} \\ V_{sd3} = R_{s1}i_{sd3} + \frac{d\Phi_{sd3}}{dt} - w_s\Phi_{sq3} \\ V_{sq3} = R_{s1}i_{sq3} + \frac{d\Phi_{sq3}}{dt} - w_s\Phi_{sd3} \\ 0 = R_ri_{rd} + \frac{d\Phi_r}{dt} \\ 0 = R_ri_{rd} + (w_s - w_r)\Phi_r \end{cases}$$
(16)

with

$$\begin{cases} \Phi_{sd1} = L_{sd1}i_{sd1} + L_m(i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3} + i_{rd}) \\ \Phi_{sq1} = L_{sq1}i_{sq1} + L_m(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3} + i_{rq}) \\ \Phi_{sd2} = L_{sd2}i_{sd2} + L_m(i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3} + i_{rd}) \\ \Phi_{sq2} = L_{sq2}i_{sq2} + L_m(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3} + i_{rq}) \\ \Phi_{sd3} = L_{sd3}i_{sd3} + L_m(i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3} + i_{rd}) \\ \Phi_{sq3} = L_{sq3}i_{sq3} + L_m(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3} + i_{rq}) \\ \Phi_r = L_ri_{rd} + L_m(i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3} + i_{rd}) \\ 0 = L_ri_{rq} + L_m(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3} + i_{rq}) \end{cases}$$
(17)

The expression of the electromagnetic torque will in this case have the following form:

$$T_{em} = \frac{L_m}{L_r + L_m} P\Big(\Phi_r \left(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3}\right)\Big)$$
(18)

From the Eq. (7) of the two systems (16) and (17), the expression of the rotor flux becomes

$$\frac{d\Phi_r}{dt} = \frac{r_r L_m}{(L_m + L_r)} (i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3}) - \frac{r_r}{(L_m + L_r)} \Phi_r$$
(19)

From Eqs. (18) and (19) one can see that if the rotor flux is kept constant, the torque depends solely on the quadrature component $(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3})$, while only the direct component $(i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3})$ influences the amplitude of the rotor flux. As a result, a structure that is comparable to that of a separately excited MCC is produced.



Fig. 9 Position of the frame to the rotor flux vector

The FOC is essentially based on the use of a coordinate transformation system. The latter requires the knowledge of the PARK angle θ_s . Depending on how this angle is determined. Two types of FOC techniques can be distinguished: the direct and indirect field oriented control (DFOC, IFOC) [6–9].

Unlike DFOC, IFOC does not use the magnitude of the rotor flux but only its position [8, 9]. It eliminates the need for a flux sensor or estimator or observer, but requires the use of a speed sensor. The phase of the flux is then determined using a mathematical model that can be incorporated into the control structure. The PARK angle θ_s is calculated from the stator pulsation, which is itself reconstructed using the machine speed and the rotor pulsation w_s .

$$w_s = w_{gl} + P w_r \tag{20}$$

Where, w_{gl} denotes the slip angular speed. It is available as follows:

$$w_{gl} = \frac{1}{\left(i_{sd1} + i_{sd2} + i_{sd3}\right)} \frac{R_r}{\left(L_r + L_m\right)} \left(i_{sq1} + i_{sq2} + i_{sq3}\right)$$
(21)

4 Simulation results

To demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed method, a numerical simulation of the dynamic behaviour of TSIM (Appendix Table A.1) fed by indirect matrix converters and controlled by IFOC is performed. The simulation parameters are: The reference flux $\Phi_{rref} = 1$ web, $T_L = 14$ N m for $2 \le t(s) \le 3$; $w_{rref} = 157.07$ rps for $0 \le t(s) \le 3.5$ and $w_{rref} = -157.07$ rps for $3.5 \le t(s) \le 5$. The electrical rotor speed is depicted in Fig. 10. It can be noticed that it tracks precisely its reference. The rotor speed keeps tracking its reference even in case of load torque variation ($T_L = 14$ N m for $2 \le t(s) \le 3$) and speed reference modification from $w_{rref} = 157.07$ rps to $w_{rref} = -157.07$ rps at t = 3.5 s.

The rotor flux waveforms in d-q axis components are shown in Figs. 11 and 12, it is clear that the both Φ_d and Φ_q reach their references and remain almost constant which it guarantees the decoupling between the rotor speed, electromagnetic torque and the rotor flux.

Figs. 13–16 show simulation results for the torque dynamic, the stator currents d-q axis components i_{sq1} , i_{sq2} , and i_{sq3} , respectively, one can see that the Electromagnetic torque form is the same as the $i_{sq1,2,3}$ currents and follows the Electromagnetic torque reference.

Figs. 17 and 18 show the waveforms of the stator currents and their zoom.









Fig. 18 Zoom of stator currents waveforms

Figs. 19 and 20 illustrate the DC link voltage waveform and the indirect matrix output voltage waveform.

Finally, Figs. 21 and 22 depict the input voltage, current, and filtered input current, respectively. As it can be seen, the control has a unity input power factor.

5 Conclusions

The efficiency of an indirect field oriented control controlled triple star induction motor (TSIM) with an indirect matrix converter is investigated in this paper. The converter is composed of three inverters linked by a fictitious DC link to a standard bidirectional current source rectifier. For the converter, a space vector modulation was envisaged; in this method, three conventional SVM of indirect matrix converters with particular switching vector location patterns are used. In the rectifier stage, the space vector modulation strategy results in an adjustable input displacement power factor and near sinusoidal input current. The simulation findings showed the decoupling of motor speed



Fig. 19 DC link voltage

and rotor flux while maintaining excellent drive performance and a power factor at unity. Add to this the benefits of the IFOC, which ensures precise decoupling between rotor flux and motor speed in dynamic and steady states.







Fig. 21 Input voltage and input current



Fig. 22 Input voltage and filtered input current

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Appendix

Power	$P_n = 4.5 \text{ Kw}$
Based speed	$N_r = 2922 \text{ rpm}$
Stator winding resistance	$R_s = 3.75 \ \Omega$
Stator winding resistance	$R_r = 2.12 \ \Omega$
Stator leakage inductance	$L_{ls} = 0.022 \text{ H}$
Rotor leakage inductance	$L_{lr} = 0.006 \text{ H}$
Mutual inductance	$L_m = 0.3672 \text{ H}$
Number of pole pairs	P = 1
Moment of inertia	$J = 0.0625 \text{ Kg m}^2$

Table A.2 Nomenclature, Greek letters and abbreviatio	ns
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Nomenclature	
A_{s1}, B_{s1}, C_{s1}	
$\begin{array}{c} A_{s2}, B_{s2}, C_{s2}, \\ A_{s3}, B_{s3}, C_{s3} \end{array}$	Three TSIM stator winding systems.
A_r, B_r, C_r	Rotor winding system
$v_j (j = a, b, c)$	Single voltages relative to grid neutral
v_p, v_n	Positive and negative potential of the fictitious IMC DC bus
$v_j (j = Ak, Bk, Ck)$	Single voltages with respect to TSIM neutral
t_1, t_2, t_3, t_0	The application times of the vectors bordering a sector and the zero vector
T_{sw}	Switching period
$egin{aligned} & V_{sd1}, \ V_{sd1}, \ V_{sd2}, \ V_{sd2}, \ V_{sd2}, \ V_{sd2}, \ V_{sd3} \end{aligned}$	Star voltages 1, 2 and 3 in PARK reference frame (d, q)
V _{rd} , V _{rq}	Rotor voltages in PARK reference frame (d, q)
$i_{sd1}, i_{sq1}, i_{sq1}, i_{sd2}, i_{sq2}, i_{sd2}, i_{sq3}$	Star currents 1, 2 and 3 in PARK reference frame (d, q)
i_{rd}, i_{rq}	Rotor currents in PARK reference frame (d, q)
$i^*_{ds1}, i^*_{qs1}, i^*_{qs1}, i^*_{ds2}, i^*_{qs2}, i^*_{qs4}$	Reference currents of star 1, 2 and 3 in PARK reference frame
W _r , W _{rref}	Fundamental electrical pulse of rotor magnitudes and its reference
T_{em}, T_{em}^*	Electromagnetic torque and its reference
Greek letters	
α, β	Stator reference frame
d_{γ}, d_{δ}	Input current vector duty cycle I_{γ} , I_{δ}
$d_{\gamma}^{R}, d_{\delta}^{R}$	Adjusted input current vector duty cycle I_{γ}, I_{δ}
$d_{_{lpha}}, d_{_{eta}}$	Output voltage vector duty cycle V_a, V_β
$\Phi_{sd1}, \Phi_{sq1}, \Phi_{sq2}, \Phi_{sq2}, \Phi_{sd3}, \Phi_{sq3}, \Phi_{sq3},$	Star flux 1, 2 and 3 in PARK's reference frame (d, q)
$\Phi_{_{rd}}, \Phi_{_{rq}}$	Rotor flux in the PARK frame of reference (d, q)
θ_{s}	PARK angle
Φ_r, Φ_{rref}	TSIM rotor flux vector and its reference
Abbreviations	
IMC	Indirect matrix converter
VSI	Voltage source inverter
СМ	Matrix converter
FOC	Field oriented control
TSIM	Triple star induction motor
SVM	Space vector modulation