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DC-link Control Filtering Options for Torque Ripple Reduction in Low Power Wind Turbines

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Abstract—Small Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECSs) are becoming an attractive option for distributed energy generation. WECSs use permanent magnet synchronous generators (PMSGs) directly coupled to the wind turbine and connected to the grid through a single-phase grid-tie converter. The loading produced on the DC-link is characterized by large ripple currents at twice the grid frequency. These ripple currents are reflected through the DC bus into the PMSG, causing increased heating and ripple torque. In this paper, the PMSG inverter is used to control the DC link voltage. In order to avoid reflecting the ripple currents into the PMSG, the feedback DC-link voltage is passed through a filter. The Butterworth filters, notch filters, antiresonant filter (ARF) and moving average filter (MAF) are considered. For a fair comparison, formulas are provided to tune the filter parameters so that DC-link voltage control will achieve the selected bandwidth. The different filtering options produce different levels of torque ripple reduction. Notch Filter, ARF and MAF obtain the best results and there is a trade-off between the filter implementation complexity, bandwidth, overshoot and the torque ripple reduction. Simulations and experiments using a 2.5 kW PMSG turbine generator validate the proposals.

Index Terms—Wind turbine, PMSG, torque ripple, load current, filters, Butterworth filter, notch filter, antiresonant filter, moving average filter, lead-lag.

I. INTRODUCTION

SMALL-SCALE wind turbines (of approximately 10 kW) are becoming an attractive option for distributed generation [1]. Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECSs) may be installed on even a modest-size property. WECSs mainly use Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generators (PMSGs) operating at variable frequency. The PMSG can be directly coupled to the wind turbine (no gearbox), reducing maintenance costs. The PMSG and its power inverter are used either to charge a large battery bank, or connected directly to the grid through a grid-tie converter [2]. In the case of a large battery bank, the system can operate as a standalone [3]. In cases where the main grid reaches the location of the WECSs, direct connection to the grid reduces system costs by negating the requirement for large battery banks.

The loading produced by the single-phase grid-tie converter on the DC bus is characterized by large input ripple currents at twice the grid frequency, present when using single-phase grid-tie converters. This situation is aggravated by the presence of weak grid, typical of remote areas, and local non-linear loads. These ripple currents are reflected through the DC bus into the PMSG, causing increased heating in the stator and ripple torque, which may lead to premature bearing failure and increased maintenance costs. The use of a passive diode rectifier and a boost converter connected to the PMSG is inexpensive but results in large current/torque ripple [4], [5]. The use of a full bridge three phase converter [2], [3], [6] allows sinusoidal current waveforms to be imposed on the PMSG with reduced torque ripple [4]. High power applications use NPC three level converters [7], and the use of Z-source converters has also been proposed [8]. The control of the DC-link voltage is usually performed by the grid-tie converter [9], [10]. Using the machine-side converter to control the DC-link voltage has been proposed for high [11]–[13] and low power wind turbines [2].

In order to obtain grid/generator sinusoidal currents with single-phase converters, the DC-link voltage control should be prevented from canceling the pulsation of twice the grid frequency. To achieve this aim, the DC-link voltage feedback signal should be filtered to remove this component. The

Fig. 1: Conceptual representation of the proposed control scheme for the small WECS. The machine-side inverter is used to control the DC link so as to increase stability (1). The feedback DC-link voltage is passed through the different filtering options (2). For a fair comparison between the different filtering options, formulas are provided to tune the filter parameters so that DC-link voltage control will achieve the selected bandwidth (3). The different filtering options produce different levels of torque ripple reduction (4). Notch Filter, ARF and MAF obtain the best results and there is a trade-off between the filter implementation complexity, bandwidth, overshoot and the torque ripple reduction.

Rotor
PMG
LC-filter
Converter
Single Phase
Grid-tie Converter
Non-linear
Local loads
Weak Grid
Selected Bandwidth

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A. System description

Fig. 2a represents the small WECS under study. It is comprised of a low power wind turbine, a PMSG, an LC-filter, the machine-side converter (three-phase full-bridge), the DC-link capacitor, and finally, the grid-tie converter (single-phase full-bridge). The connection filter to the grid of the grid-tie converter is modeled as a simple inductor. The inductance $L_g$ includes the grid inductance, which may be large in weak grids of remote areas, and the leakage inductance of the isolating transformer. In order to reduce dv/dt, which can lead to the failure of the insulation, an additional LC-filter [27] is incorporated at the output of the machine-side converter. Fig. 2b shows the block diagram of the overall control for the small-scale WECS system. Controlling the DC-link by using the machine-side converter was proposed in [11] for PMSG-based wind turbines connected to the grid. The PMSG-based wind turbine used in [11] was connected to the grid through a three-phase full bridge, instead of a single-phase converter as in Fig. 2a. In addition, there was an additional closed loop controller for the grid power in [11] that has been omitted in this paper. The main advantage of controlling the DC-link by using the machine-side converter is the increased capability for low voltage ride through (LVRT) [2], [28], [29]. During the short-time faults with reduced absorption capability of grid power, the machine-side converter will automatically store the energy surplus in the WECS inertia. More details on this control strategy can be found in [9], [13], [26], [30], [31].

B. Symmetrical Optimum Criterion

The symmetrical optimum (SO) criterion is used for tuning a PI controller when the plant consists of an integrator [16]. It is the standard procedure for the DC-link voltage control in grid-tie converters [32], [33] and also for speed in servos [16]. The integrating plants correspond to the DC-link capacitance $C_{DC}$ and the motor inertia $J$, respectively. The SO criterion [34] is designed for optimal disturbance rejection and results in the highest phase margin. The proportional gain and integration time for the SO procedure are, respectively, given by:

$$K_p = \frac{C_{DC}}{aK_{cl}\tau_{td}} \quad (1a)$$

$$T_i = a^2\tau_{td} \quad (1b)$$

with $a = 2.4$ for closed loop damping $\eta = 0.707$ or $a = 3$ for triple closed loop pole with $\eta = 1$; $K_{cl}$ is a gain relating the DC-link current and the inner control current and, finally, $\tau_{td} = \tau_{cc} + \tau_{ff}$ the total delay due to the inner current control $\tau_{cc}$ and the feedback filter $\tau_{ff}$. These delays $\tau$ are the time constants of approximate first order systems. The procedure is illustrated in Fig. 3 for the DC-link voltage control performed by the machine-side converter explained later in this section. The achieved closed loop bandwidth is [32]:

$$f_{busSO} = \frac{1}{2\pi a(\tau_{cc} + \tau_{ff})} \quad (2)$$

Based on the simulations done for this paper, using $a^2$ instead of $a$ in (2) results in a better approximation for the
traditional formula relating the bandwidth and the rise time \( t_r = 0.35/f_{bwSO} \).

C. Control of the DC-link voltage by the machine-side converter

In Fig. 2b, vector control is used for the PMSG, with the reference frame aligned to the permanent magnet flux [16]. The direct current \( i_d \) is set to zero to get the maximum torque per ampere in the stator [16]. The quadrature current \( i_q \) is varied to keep the DC-link voltage \( v_{DC} \) constant. The current loops use PI controllers for DC references, properly tuned according to the technical optimum [33].

The wind turbine has a large moment of inertia, which depends on the mass and on the squared distance, due to the blades. Because of the large total inertia of the wind turbine and the electrical machine PMSG, the mechanical time constant is much larger than the electrical time constants [31]. Therefore, the mechanical speed \( \omega_t \) is considered constant for the following analysis. The power balance at the DC-link results as follows:

\[
\frac{1}{2} C_{DC} \frac{dv_{DC}}{dt} = P_{MS} - P_{GT}
\]  

(3)

where \( v_{DC} \) is the DC-link voltage, \( P_{MS} \) is the power flowing through the machine-side converter, and \( P_{GT} \) is the power flowing through the grid-tie converter. Neglecting all the losses in the machine-side converter and PMSG, it results as follows:

\[
P_{MS} = \frac{3}{2} \lambda p \omega_t i_q - \frac{3}{4} L \left( \frac{di_d^2}{dt} + \frac{di_q^2}{dt} \right)
\]  

(4)

where \( i_d \) and \( i_q \) are the direct and quadrature currents respectively, \( \lambda \) is the flux induced by the permanent magnets, \( p_p \) is the number of pole pairs of the PMSG, \( \omega_t \) is the PMSG mechanical speed, and \( L = L_d = L_q \) the d- and q-axis inductances. The first term of (4) corresponds to the mechanical power and the second one to the energy variations in the inductances. The mechanical speed \( \omega_t \) is approximately constant and so is the grid-tie converter power reference \( P_{ref}^g \) as they are related though a look-up table \( P_{ref}^g = P_{ref}^g(\omega_t) \), see Fig. 2b. Neglecting losses, energy variations in the connection inductor and assuming a fast control of the grid current, \( P_{GT} \) is approximately the grid power \( P_g \approx P_{ref}^g \approx P_{GT} \). In addition, \( i_d \approx i_{ref}^d = 0 \) and the following equation results:

\[
\frac{1}{2} C_{DC} \frac{dv_{DC}}{dt} = \frac{3}{2} \lambda p \omega_t i_q - \frac{3}{4} L \frac{di_q^2}{dt} - P_g
\]  

(5)

This equation is completely analogous to that of the three-phase grid-tie converter with the PMSG internal voltage \( \lambda p \omega_t \) acting as the grid voltage. Therefore, the very same small-signal analysis as in [35] can be applied. The operation point is:

\[
\frac{3}{2} \lambda p \omega_t i_q = P_g
\]  

(6)

where the bar indicates the quiescent value. Taking into account that the constant power behaves like a negative resistance of value \( R_{CP} = \frac{v_{DC}^2}{P_g} \), the small-signal model of the DC-link voltage control results as follows:

\[
\frac{\bar{v}_{DC}}{\bar{i}_q} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{R_{CP} \lambda p \omega_t}{v_{DC}} + \frac{L_i}{R_{CP} \lambda p \omega_t s^2} + 1
\]  

(7)

where the tilde indicates the variation around the quiescent value. Eq. (7) presents the non-minimum phase zero of the grid-tie derived converters and a pole in the right side of the s-plane due to the constant power load.

In order to overcome the presence of the non-minimum phase zero, the bandwidth of the DC-link controllers should be slower than the zero:

\[
f_{bwSO} < \frac{\lambda p \omega_t}{2 \pi L_i}
\]  

(8)

Neglecting the non-minimum phase zero and the current loop response, the SO criterion is applied to the PI controller with the following value for \( K_{cl} \) in (1),

\[
K_{cl} = \frac{3 \lambda p \omega_t}{2 \bar{v}_{DC}}
\]  

(9)

The value \( K_{cl} \) relates the quadrature current \( i_q \) with the machine-side DC-link current \( i_{MS} \), see Fig. 3. The proportional gain varies with the turbine speed, but variations in \( \omega_t \) are very slow due to the large WECS inertia. In addition, \( \omega_t \) has a minimum value determined by the cut-in speed. Under these conditions, gain scheduling can be safely used [36]. Considering the closed loop response and applying the Routh-Hurwitz criterion, the condition for stability is:

\[
P_g < f_{bwSO} C_{DC} \bar{v}_{DC}^2 \frac{\pi}{a}
\]  

(10)

Therefore, stability robustness increases for higher values of the DC-link control-bandwidth, capacitance and voltage. Under these circumstances, it is advisable to feed-forward the grid power \( P_g \) [37], see Fig. 2b. Considering a small delay \( \tau_{ff} \) in the feed-forward of \( P_g \) so that \( e^{\tau_{ff}} \approx 1 + \tau_{ff} \), the small-signal average model results:

\[
\frac{\bar{v}_{DC}}{\bar{i}_q} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{R_{CP} \lambda p \omega_t}{\bar{v}_{DC}} + \frac{L_i}{R_{CP} \lambda p \omega_t s^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{R_{CP} \lambda p \omega_t s^{\tau_{ff}}}
\]  

(11)

for \( \tau_{ff} \to 0 \) the pole in the right side displaces toward the origin. Applying the Routh-Hurwitz criterion, the new condition for stability is:
where $T_w$ is the aerodynamic torque of the wind turbine, $T_e$ is the PMSG electrical torque, $J_i$ is the overall inertia and, $\omega_i$ is the wind turbine speed. Neglecting all losses, energy variations of the passive elements and fast transients, the electrical power produced by the PMSG is the power supplied to the grid $P_w \approx P_g \approx P_g^{ref}$. Therefore, the power balance results in:

$$P_w - P_g^{ref} = \frac{1}{2} J_i \frac{d\omega_i^2}{dt}$$

(16)

Linearizing around the operation point, the variation of the wind turbine speed results as follows:

$$\dot{\tilde{P}}_w - k_p^g \ddot{\omega}_t = J_i \frac{d\ddot{\omega}_t}{dt}$$

(17)

where

$$k_p^g = \frac{dP_g^{ref}(\omega_i)}{d\omega_i} \bigg|_{\omega_i=\omega_t}$$

(18)

In order to consider the wind turbine speed approximately constant for the stability analysis, the time constant of (18) should be much higher than the bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control. Therefore, the total inertia must be sufficiently high to fulfill the following condition:

$$\frac{J_i \ddot{\omega}_t}{k_p^g} \gg \frac{1}{2\tau_{f_{bus}}\pi}$$

(19)

As the wind turbine speed $\omega_t$ varies slowly, so the amplitude of the current reference does $I_g^{ref} = P_g^{ref}(\omega_t)/E_{g1}$. With weak grids and non-linear loads nearby, the grid voltage presents the following harmonics:

$$e_g = \sqrt{2}E_{g1}\sin(\omega_n t) + \sum_{i=3,5,7...} \sqrt{2}E_{gi}\sin(i\omega_n t - \varphi_i)$$

(20)

Neglecting the energy variations in the connection inductor and all the losses, the power reflected in the DC-link is $v_{DC} \approx v_{DC}^{ref}$ and $i_{ref}$, the grid voltage and current respectively and $i_{GT}$ the grid-side DC-link current. In order to calculate $i_{GT}$ the DC-link voltage is considered approximately constant and equal to the reference voltage, which is usually set 15% over the diode voltage $v_{DC} \approx 1.15\sqrt{2}E_{g1}$. The grid current is assumed to be properly regulated; it is perfectly sinusoidal and has unity power factor $i_g = \sqrt{2}I_g^{ref}\sin(\omega_n t)$. Taking into account the trigonometric identity $2\sin(a)\sin(b) = \cos(a - b) - \cos(a + b)$, the grid-side DC-link current is approximately:

$$i_{GT} \approx \frac{I_g^{ref}}{1.15\sqrt{2}} \left[1 + \sum_{j=2,4,6,...} \frac{E_{gj+1}}{E_{g1}} \cos(j\omega_n t - \varphi_{j+1}) - \sum_{j=2,4,6,...} \frac{E_{gj-1}}{E_{g1}} \cos(j\omega_n t - \varphi_{j-1}) \right]$$

(21)

It can be seen that the grid-side DC-link current always has a pulsating component at twice the grid frequency $2\omega_n$. Moreover, with distorted voltages, the grid-side DC-link current has harmonic components in the even multiples of the
fundamental frequency. Taking into account the slow variation of \( f_{\text{ref}} = P_{\text{ref}}(\omega) / E_{\text{g1}} \), the following analysis on the filtering options for the DC-link voltage will consider that the grid currents are sinusoidal with unity power factor and the grid-side DC-link current is approximately (21).

III. FILTERING OPTIONS FOR THE DC-LINK VOLTAGE

This section provides an evaluation of filters in the feedback loop to minimize the reflected ripple torque in the wind turbine. As a result of the comparative analysis, Notch filter, ARF and MAF prove to be more advantageous. The following derivations can be applied to the present case where the DC-link is controlled by the machine-side converter and also to the case where the DC-link is controlled by the grid-tie converter.

A. Padé Approximant for the Different Filters

The previous formulas (1) and (2) were derived by assuming the feedback filter as a first order system. However, in the following, higher order filters will be used and a mechanism for a fair comparison should be selected. One possible candidate could be the bandwidth as defined for the first order system. This is the frequency at which the gain is reduced to 3 dB and the phase delay becomes larger than 45 degrees [32]. However, in higher order systems, this does not happen at the same frequency and the conservative approach would be to select the lowest frequency [32]. Another plausible mechanism for comparison is to make all the filters have the same rise time \( t_r \), defined as the time required to go from 10% to 90% in the unit-step response. This would imply that all the filters have similar responses in the time domain. However, the analytical formulas to calculate the rise time of the high order filters are not straightforward.

The Padé approximant allows a fraction of polynomials \( p_{n,d}(s) \) to be obtained that is an optimal approximation of a function \( f(s) \) [39]. In the Padé approximant, \( n \) and \( d \) refer to the order of the numerator and denominator of the polynomials. The Padé approximant \( p_{n,d}(s) \) has the same Taylor series expansion, up to \( n+d \) order, as the approximated function \( f(s) \). The Padé approximant of order \( n = 0 \) and \( d = 1 \) around \( s = 0 \) corresponds to:

\[
p_{0,1}(s) = \frac{1}{\tau_{ff}s + 1} \big| p_{0,1}(0) = f(0), \quad p'_{0,1}(0) = f'(0) \tag{22}
\]

It allows a high order system to be approximated to a first order system with the same behavior at low frequency (around \( s = j\omega \approx 0 \)).

1) Butterworth Filter: The transfer function of a second order Butterworth filter corresponds to this:

\[
G_{\text{BW 2nd}}(s) = \frac{1}{\frac{s^2}{\omega_c^2} + \frac{2\xi}{\omega_c} + 1} \tag{23}
\]

where \( \omega_c \) is the cut off frequency defined for -3 dB. The frequency responses of the 1st order and 2nd order Butterworth filters roll off at 20 dB and -60 dB per decade respectively, and are shown in Fig. 4. The Padé approximant \( p_{n,d}(s) \) of (23) corresponds to:

\[
p_{\text{BW 2nd 0,1}}(s) = \frac{1}{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\omega_c} s + 1} \tag{24}
\]

Therefore, at low frequency the second order Butterworth filter behaves as the first order system (24). Intuitively, it can be seen that, for low frequency \( (\omega < \omega_c) \), the term \( s^2 / \omega_c^2 \) can be neglected in the denominator of (23).

2) Notch Filter: The notch filter adds a double zero in the numerator of (23) to annul the output at the notch frequency \( \omega_{\text{notch}} \), as shown in Fig. 4. The transfer function of the notch filter is:

\[
G_{\text{notch}}(s) = \frac{s^2}{\omega_{\text{notch}}^2} + 1 + \frac{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\omega_{\text{notch}}} s}{\omega_{\text{notch}} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\omega_{\text{notch}}} s + 1} \tag{25}
\]

The frequency response results in a narrow notch that will cancel the component at \( \omega_{\text{notch}} \), as shown in Fig. 4. The notch can safely be very narrow, as the notch frequency is related to the grid frequency, which is a very stable magnitude and which is continuously estimated in the synchronization PLL. The Padé approximant of (25) corresponds to:

\[
p_{\text{notch 0,1}}(s) = \frac{1}{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\omega_{\text{notch}}} s + 1} \tag{26}
\]
which is the same as (24) because the zeros of the notch in (25) only have an effect around \( \omega_{\text{notch}} \) and do not affect the low frequency region.

The notch frequency must be located at the first harmonic component of the grid-side DC-link current (21), which is \( 2\omega_n \). If there is a voltage with low order harmonics, the notch filter may be unable to cancel the other alternating components. In such cases, several sections tuned to the different component can be used at the expense of additional computations and smaller notch widths. The transfer function of multiple notch filter is:

\[
G_{\text{notch}}(s) = \prod_{k=2,4,6,\ldots} \frac{s^2 + \frac{2}{k\omega_n^2} s + 1}{s^2 + \frac{2}{k\omega_n^2} s + \frac{1}{\omega_n^2} + 1} \quad (27)
\]

Selecting \( \xi = \xi_j \), the Padé approximant \( p_{n,d}(s) \) of (27) corresponds to:

\[
p_{\text{notch}} 0,1(s) = \frac{1}{\sum_{k=2,4,6,\ldots} \frac{1}{\omega_n^2}} 2\xi s + 1 \quad (28)
\]

Intuitively, (35) can be explained by approximating the sinc function to the unity for low frequency and doing the series expansion of the pure time delay \( e^{-sT_d/4} \).

4) Moving average filter: The moving average filter (MAF) can be defined in the continuous domain as an integral with varying limits [22] as:

\[
MAF(t) = \frac{1}{T_w} \int_{-T_w}^{t} u(t) d\tau = \frac{1}{T_w} \left( \int_{0}^{t} u(t) d\tau - \int_{-T_w}^{t-T} u(t) dt \right) \quad (33)
\]

where \( T_w \) is the window period. Applying the Laplace transform, the transfer function of the MAF in the continuous domain is:

\[
G_{\text{MAF}}(s) = \frac{1}{T_w} \left( \frac{1}{s} - e^{-T_w s} \right) = 1 - e^{-T_w s} \quad (34)
\]

Substituting \( s = j\omega \) and remembering that \( \sin(j\omega) = j\sin(\omega) \), the frequency response of the continuous MAF is:

\[
G_{\text{MAF}}(j\omega) = \frac{\sin(\frac{T_w}{2} \omega)}{T_w \omega} e^{-\frac{T_w}{2} j\omega} = \sin(\frac{\omega}{w_{\text{MAF}}}) e^{-\frac{T_w}{2} j\omega} \quad (35)
\]

The frequency response of the MAF in (35) consists of two factors. The sinc function of the first factor has periodic notches at all the frequencies multiple of \( \omega_{\text{MAF}} = 2\pi / T_w \) and has no phase delay (real part). The second factor is a pure time delay of \( T_w/2 \). The Padé approximant \( p_{n,d}(s) \) of (34) is:

\[
p_{\text{MAF}} 0,1(s) = \frac{1}{T_w^2 s + 1} \quad (36)
\]

Intuitively, (35) can be explained by approximating the sinc function to the unity and the series expansion of the pure time delay \( e^{-sT_w/2} \).

The frequency response of the MAF is shown in Fig. 4. It can be seen that when selecting \( \omega_{\text{MAF}} = 2\omega_n \), the notches are located at the same frequencies as the components of the grid-side DC current (21). Therefore, the MAF will be very effective when the grid voltages are highly distorted.

B. Considerations on Discretization

The discrete implementation of the Butterworth filter (23) should employ the bilinear rule (Tustin method) with pre-warping at the frequency double the grid frequency. Similarly, the discrete implementation of notch filter (25) should employ the bilinear rule (Tustin method) with pre-warping at \( \omega_{\text{notch}} \) in order to preserve the notch characteristics.

The usual discrete version of the ARF results from discretizing (30) [40] and is:

\[
G_{\text{ARF}}(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + z^{-N_{\text{d}}} \right) \quad (37)
\]
with \( N_{d2} = T_d/(2T_s) \) the window duration measured in number of samples. Because the DSP is optimized for multiply and accumulate operations and uses circular buffers, digital filters have very simple and efficient implementation. In cases where \( N_{d2} \) does not result in an integer number, it is clear that it should be rounded to the closest integer. In general, \( T_s \) is very small and \( T_w \) is related to the grid period, which is a very constant magnitude [15]. Hence, provision should be done to obtain an integer \( N_{d2} = T_d/(2T_s) \). For non integer \( N_{d2} = T_d/(2T_s) \) the output of the continuous ARF (33) can be written as follows:

\[
y(s) = \frac{1}{2} \left( u(s) + e^{N_{d2}T_s}e^{-(N_{d2}+N_{d2})T_s}u(s) \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( u(s) + e^{-N_{d2}T_s}\mathcal{L}\{u(t-(N_{d2}+N_{d2})T_s)\} \right)
\]

(38)

with \( N_{d2} = \text{floor}[T_d/(2T_s)] \). Using linear interpolation between \( u(kT_s) \) and \( u(kT_s-T_s) \), the following approximation can be made:

\[
u(t-(N_{d2}+N_{d2})T_s) \approx u(k)((1-N_{d2}+N_{d2})T_s) + u(k-1)(N_{d2}-N_{d2})T_s
\]

(39)

Substituting (38) in (39), the discrete transfer function of the ARF filter with non-integer \( N_{d2} \) is as follows:

\[
G_{ARF}(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + (1-N_{d2}+N_{d2})z^{-N_{d2}T_s} + (N_{d2}-N_{d2})z^{-(N_{d2}+N_{d2})T_s-1} \right]
\]

(40)

It can be seen that when \( N_{d2} \) is close to \( N_{d2} \), (40) is close to (37), and when \( N_{d2} \) is close to \( N_{d2} = N_{d2} + 1 \), (40) is close to (37) plus a unit delay.

The usual discrete version of the MAF results from discretizing (34) by using zero-pole matching [40] and is:

\[
G_{MAF}(z) = \frac{1}{N_w} \frac{1 - z^{-N_w}}{1 - z^{-1}}
\]

(41)

with \( N_w = T_w/T_s \), the window duration in number of samples. As for the case of the ARF, when \( N_w \) does not result in an integer number it is clear that it should be rounded to the closest integer and provision should be made to obtain an integer. If it is not possible to do so, [41] proposes that a weight mean value between the discrete MAF for the ceiling value of \( N_w = \text{ceiling}(T_w/T_s) \) and \( N_f = \text{floor}(T_w/T_s) \) be used, while in [42], linear interpolation is used. As with the ARF, when \( N_w = T_w/T_s \) is not an integer, the output of the continuous MAF (33) can be written as follows:

\[
y(s) = \frac{1}{T_w} \left( \frac{1}{s} u(s) - \frac{e^{-N_fT_s}e^{-(N_w-N_f)T_s}u(s)}{s} \right) = \frac{1}{T_w} \left( \frac{1}{s} u(s) - \frac{e^{-N_fT_s}e^{-(N_w-N_f)T_s}u(s)}{s} \right)
\]

(42)

As previously, using linear interpolation between \( u(kT_s) \) and \( u(kT_s-T_s) \) the following approximation can be made:

\[
u(t-(N_w-N_f)T_s) \approx u(k)((1-N_w+N_f)+u(k-1)(N_w-N_f)
\]

(43)

Finally, discretizing by using zero-pole matching [40] and substituting in (42), the discrete transfer function of the MAF filter with non-integer \( N_w \) is obtained as follows:

\[
G_{MAF}(z) = \frac{1}{N_w} \frac{1 - (1-N_w+N_f)z^{-N_f} - (N_w-N_f)z^{-(N_f-1)}}{1 - z^{-1}}
\]

(44)

It can be seen that, when \( N_w \) is close to \( N_f \), (44) is close to (41), and when \( N_w \) is close to \( N_w = N_f + 1 \), (44) is close to (41) plus an additional unit delay.

C. Lead-lag filter for bandwidth selection in the MAF and ARF

For a fair comparison, all the filters must result in the same bandwidth (1) with the same time constant \( \tau_{ff} \). The main source of perturbation in (20) is at double the grid frequency, and the notches of the notch filter (25), ARF and MAF should be located at that frequency \( 2\omega_n \). Thus, the parameters for the notch filter, ARF and MAF should be selected as:

\[
\omega_{n\text{atch}} = 2\omega_n
\]

(45a)

\[
T_d = \frac{1}{2f_n}
\]

(45b)

\[
T_w = \frac{1}{2f_n}
\]

(45c)

The equivalent time constants for the Butterworth filter, notch filter, ARF and MAF correspond to:

\[
x_{Bw2nd} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\omega_c}
\]

(46a)

\[
\tau_{n\text{atch}} = \frac{\xi}{2\pi f_n}
\]

(46b)

\[
\tau_{ARF} = \frac{1}{8f_n}
\]

(46c)

\[
\tau_{MAF} = \frac{1}{4f_n}
\]

(46d)

respectively. Finally, the bandwidths achieved in the DC-link voltage closed loop control are:

\[
f_{Bw2nd} = \frac{\omega_c}{2\pi a(\tau_{wd}\omega_c + \sqrt{2})}
\]

(47a)

\[
f_{n\text{atch}} = \frac{\omega_n}{2\pi a(\tau_{wd}\omega_n + \xi)}
\]

(47b)

\[
f_{ARF} = \frac{4f_n}{2\pi a(\tau_{wd}4f_n + 1)}
\]

(47c)

\[
f_{MAF} = \frac{8f_n}{2\pi a(\tau_{wd}8f_n + 1)}
\]

(47d)

It can be seen that the bandwidth is selectable for the Butterworth and notch filters by varying \( \omega_c \) and \( \xi \) respectively. However, the bandwidth for the ARF and MAF is fixed and determined by \( f_n \). The large equivalent delay of the MAF in (46d) can result in insufficient bandwidth in the DC-voltage control. A lead filter can be used to increase the filter speed:

\[
LD\mathcal{F}(s) = \frac{T_{ld}s + 1}{T_{ld}s + 1}
\]

(48)
with $T_{nld}$ and $T_{dld}$ the numerator and denominator time constants. The combined MAF (34) and lead filter (48) must have a Padé approximant equivalent to the first order system that results in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control. To achieve this aim, the zero of the lead network is used to compensate the phase delay in (36) $T_{num} = T_w/2$. The time constant $T_{dld}$ is required to obtain the selected bandwidth $f_{bwSO}$:

$$T_{dld} = \frac{1}{2\pi a f_{bwSO}} - \tau_{cc}$$  \hspace{1cm} (49)

The maximum bandwidth is limited and should be verified by simulation. Simulations showed that a higher order lead filter results in oscillatory behavior and, thus, the first order lead filter (48) is sufficient for increasing the bandwidth.

If the bandwidth achieved by the ARF is excessively large, it can be reduced by using a lag filter:

$$LGF(s) = \frac{1}{T_{dfl} + 1}$$  \hspace{1cm} (50)

As with the combined MAF and lead filter, the combined ARF (29) and lag filter (50) must have a Padé approximant equivalent to the first order system that results in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control. Using (46c) and (2), the resulting value is obtained:

$$T_{dfl} = \frac{1}{2\pi a f_{bwSO}} - \tau_{cc} - T_{ff}^{\text{ARF}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (51)

The discrete implementation of (48) and (50) should be obtained by using bilinear rule (Tustin method) with pre-warping at $\omega = \omega_n$ in order to preserve the characteristics at low frequency.

### IV. Simulation results

Table I shows all the data of the set-up used for the filter comparison, simulations and experiments. The current loops of the PMSG vector control were tuned according to the technical optimum criterion. Due to robustness concerns, the current loop bandwidth was reduced to 75% of the previous values while still maintaining a bandwidth of 560 Hz. This results in a time delay in the current control of $\tau_{cc} = 0.28$ ms, the achieved DC-voltage control bandwidth for the MAF and ARF according to (47c) and (47d) are respectively 14.81 Hz and 27.86 Hz. A reduced bandwidth prevents the DC-link voltage control from canceling the pulsation of twice the grid frequency. At the same time, the bandwidth should not be so small to require large capacitors in order to avoid excessive overshoot [43]. The bandwidth achieved by the ARF is acceptable, but the bandwidth for the MAF falls short, making necessary to use the auxiliary lead filter. The DC-voltage control bandwidth selected for simulations and experiments is 20 Hz leading to a rise time of 28.25 ms, which can be considered reasonably fast [43].

![Fig. 5: Frequency response of the DC-link voltage control for the different filtering options.](image)

Table I: Parameters of the experimental set-up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Machine side converter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rated power</td>
<td>$S_n$ 2.2 kVA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rated ac voltage</td>
<td>$V_s$ 380 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rated frequency</td>
<td>$f_n$ 60 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC link voltage</td>
<td>$v_{DC}$ 200 V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampling frequency</td>
<td>$f_s$ 15 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWM frequency</td>
<td>$f_{sw}$ 15 kHz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Capacitor                      | $C_f$ 4.7 μF  |
| Inductor                       | $L_o$ 1.8 mH  |
| Damping resistor               | $R_d$ 6 Ω  |

**Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator**

| Direct inductance               | $L_d$ 1.8 mH  |
| Quadrature inductance           | $L_q$ 1.8 mH  |
| Magnetic flux                   | $\lambda$ 1.8 T  |
| Inertia                         | $I$ 0.00062 kgm$^2$ |
| Pole pairs                      | $p_p$ 4 |

The discrete implementation of (48) and (50) should be obtained by using bilinear rule (Tustin method) with pre-warping at $\omega = \omega_n$ in order to preserve the characteristics at low frequency.

Fig. 5 shows the Bode diagrams of the DC-link voltage control for the different filtering options. It can be seen that all of them result in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control with amplitude -3 dB at 15.7 Hz and phase -45 degrees at 6.47 Hz, which allows a fair comparison between the different filtering options. The responses result in the same low frequency behavior and, for higher frequencies, the response of the DC-link voltage control presents notches: at $2\omega_n$ in the notch filter, at $2\omega_n$ and $4\omega_n$ in the double notch filter, at odd multiples of $2\omega_n$ in the ARF+lag filter, and at all the multiples of $2\omega_n$ in the MAF+lead filter.
The rise time $0.35/(28 \text{ ms}) = 12.45 \text{ Hz}$. The quadrature current in (2), the resulting value 12.87 Hz is very close to 0.35 over change in the grid-side DC-link current (load step) and Fig. 7b of the lead filter. Fig. 7a shows the time response to unit step overshoot and is slightly faster due to the derivative action of the lead filter. Hence, the grid-side DC-current was synthesized to be like converter was assumed to have perfect sinusoidal regulation. PLL uses the voltage measurements at the PMSG terminals to estimate the rotor position and speed [44]. The grid-side current control. It can be seen that the responses of all the filtering options result in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control for a fair comparison, the time domain responses to steps variations are very close to each other. The load step response of the MAF+lead filter case has slightly higher overshoot as is slightly due to the derivative action of the lead filter.

As all the filtering options result in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control for a fair comparison, it is expected that the time domain responses to steps variations will be also equivalent. Fig. 6a shows the time response to the unit step change in the voltage reference and Fig. 6b shows the quadrature current $i_q$. The PI controller output is the quadrature current reference $i_q^{ref}$. The current $i_q$ is approximately a delayed version of $i_q^{ref}$ by $\tau_{cc}$ due to the fast current control. It can be seen that the responses of all the filtering options are very close to each others. Considering $a^\frac{q}{2}$ in (2), the resulting value 12.87 Hz is very close to 0.35 over the rise time $0.35/(28 \text{ ms}) = 12.45 \text{ Hz}$. The quadrature current $i_q$ response of the MAF+lead filter case has slightly higher overshoot and is slightly faster due to the derivative action of the lead filter. Fig. 7a shows the time response to unit step change in the grid-side DC-link current (load step) and Fig. 7b shows the quadrature current $i_q$. The final value of the grid-side DC-link current step is constant with no superimposed harmonic content. For this case, the responses are also close to each other. The response of the MAF+lead filter case has slightly higher overshoot as is slightly due to the derivative action of the lead filter.

Simulations were done using Matlab/Simulink blocks. A PLL uses the voltage measurements at the PMSG terminals to estimate the rotor position and speed [44]. The grid-side converter was assumed to have perfect sinusoidal regulation. Hence, the grid-side DC-current was synthesized to be like (21) through a controlled current source.

In order to evaluate the performance in steady state, it was assumed that the grid voltage was heavily distorted with harmonics $3^{rd}$ (30% / 10$^\circ$), $5^{th}$ (20% / 20$^\circ$) and $7^{th}$ (10% / 30$^\circ$). The average value of the grid-side DC-current is 1.5 A. For the comparative analysis, torque ripple will also be represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1$^{st}$ order filter. Fig. 8 shows the simulation results of the different filtering options during steady state. It can be seen that Butterworth 1$^{st}$ order and 2$^{nd}$ order filters result in the maximum torque ripple with 0.3479 Nm (100% normalization value) and 0.2294 Nm (65.94%), respectively. The rest of the filters have similar performance, the best being the MAF, with 0.0789 Nm (22.68%), followed by the double notch filter with 0.0869 Nm (24.98%), the ARF with 0.1060 Nm (30.47%) and finally the notch filter with 0.1194 Nm (34.32%). It is clear that the filters with a notch at $\omega_n$ result in the maximum reduction of torque ripple. In addition, the double notch filter has a notch at $4\omega_n$, which cancels harmonics coming form the $3^{rd}$ and $5^{th}$ voltage harmonics and produces better results than the ARF. The electrical torque $T_e$ is proportional to the $q$-current. As the $d$-current is regulated to be zero, the $q$-current is approximately the amplitude of the PMSM phase-current. Therefore, the more torque ripple the more harmonic content in the PMSM phase-current. This can be seen in Fig. 8, where the values of the PMSM phase-current THD are shown.
Fig. 8: Simulation results: steady state responses of the different filtering options. Torque ripple is also represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1st order filter. Butterworth 1st order (100% normalization value) and 2nd order (65.94%) filters result in highest torque ripple. The rest of the filters have similar performance, the best being the MAF (22.68%), followed by the double notch filter (24.98%), the ARF (30.47%) and finally the notch filter (34.32%). The filters with a notch at \(2\omega_n\) result in the maximum reduction of torque ripple. The double notch filter has a notch at \(4\omega_n\), which cancels harmonics coming from the 3rd and 5th voltage harmonics and produces better results than the ARF.

Fig. 9 shows the simulations results of the different filtering options for the transients. The tests consists of applying a step of 1.5 A in the grid-side DC-current. The grid-current reference depends on the slowly-varying wind-turbine speed and in practice transients of the grid-side DC-current are much smoother than a sharp step, see Subsection II-D. For this case, the grid voltage was perfectly sinusoidal. As all the filters result in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control for a fair comparison, the transient responses for all the cases are very similar to each other as in the filter comparison. The transient duration, measured in the DC-voltage, is in all cases approximately the same: 92.62 ms. For the comparative analysis, torque overshoot will also be represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1st order filter. The torque overshoot for the Butterworth 1st order (4.3968 Nm 100% normalization value) and 2nd order (4.3218 Nm 98.29%) filters is higher because of the presence of torque ripple. For the rest of the filters, the MAF (4.2748 Nm 97.22%)
results in slightly higher overshoot than the rest of the filters (notch filter 4.2453 Nm 96.55%, double notch filter 4.2456 Nm 96.56%, and ARF 4.2401 Nm 96.44%) due to the presence of the lead filter, as explained previously.

V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Fig. 10 shows the experimental set-up. The PMSM is driven by a DC machine supplied by constant DC power supply that emulates the aerodynamic torque. The PMSG is connected to a three-phase, two-level PWM converter controlled by a dSpace system. The same Simulink blocks used for the simulations were used in the dSpace system. An electronic load is connected to DC-link in order to emulate the connection to the grid through a single phase converter. The DC-link voltage was measured using an inexpensive sensor, which consists of a resistive divider plus an isolation amplifier. In order to obtain a noise-free signal, the electric torque $T_e$ is estimated from the reference quadrature current. The $dq$-currents can be approximated to the references, $i_d \approx i_d^{ref}$ and $i_q \approx i_q^{ref}$, because of the elevated bandwidth. The direct
current is regulated to be zero, as explained in Section II, and the electric torque is approximately \( T_e \approx 1.5 p_p \lambda_{ref} \). The current reference \( i_{ref} \) is displayed using a DAC connected to the oscilloscope with AC-coupling.

Fig. 11 shows the experimental results of the different filtering options during steady state. The DC-load emulated the grid-tie converter by producing the same DC-current as in the simulations, corresponding to heavily distorted grid voltage. The average value of the grid-side DC-current is 1.5 A. For the comparative analysis, torque ripple will also be represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1st order filter. It can be seen that Butterworth 1st order and 2nd order filters result in the highest torque ripple with 0.44 Nm (100%) and 0.40 Nm (90.91%), clearly at double the grid frequency. The notch filter results in 0.38 Nm (86.36%), and the double notch filter in 0.36 Nm (81.82%): it can be seen that torque ripple has a higher frequency than twice the grid frequency. The MAF has the best results with 0.07 Nm (15.9%), practically eliminating the torque ripple. The ARF presents the best second results, with 0.11 Nm (25%). The results of the ARF and MAF are very close to those predicted in the simulations. This is because their multiple notches cancel the noise due to non-modeled dynamics (non-ideal passive elements and switches, shaft misalignment, asymmetries in the machines, inaccuracies in the dc-load and sensor noise).

Fig. 12 shows the experiment results of the different filtering options for the transients. The tests consists of applying a step of 1.5 A in the grid-side DC-current. For this case, the grid voltage was sinusoidal. For the comparative analysis, the torque overshoot will also be represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1st order. The results for all the cases are very similar to each other, as in the previous filter comparison and simulations. This is because all the filters result in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control for a fair comparison. The transient duration, measured in the DC-voltage, is about 130 ms. The overshoot for the Butterworth 1st order and 2nd order is 3.42 Nm (100%), which is the highest value, and which is caused by the presence of torque ripple. The MAF (3.67 Nm 107.3%) results in slightly higher overshoot than do the rest of the filters (notch filter 3.25 Nm 95.03%, double notch filter 3.34 Nm 97.66%, and ARF 3.36 Nm 98.24%) due to the presence of the lead filter, as explained. The transient is slower and the overshoot is smaller in the experiments than in the simulations because the non-modeled losses of the passive elements and the machine provide additional damping to the system.

Table II shows the summary of results (Simulation and Experimental results, torque normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1st order) and the computational cost of the different filtering options. It can be seen that the MAF requires an increased number of memory words (126 memory words) and the ARF filter requires a half this value (64 words). However, these amounts of memory are perfectly affordable by current, low-cost DSPs.

**VI. CONCLUSION**

This paper show the advantage in terms of stability of using the machine-side inverter to control the DC-link voltage in Small Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECSs). The Butterworth filter (first and second order), notch filter, antiresonant filter (ARF) and moving average filter (MAF) are considered as means of filtering the DC-link voltage. The Padé approximant is used to calculate the parameters so that the filters result in the same low frequency behavior. In order to obtain flexibility in selecting the bandwidth with the ARF and MAF, an auxiliary lead-lag filter is used. It is shown that the notch filters require few memory words and produce a substantial reduction in the torque ripple. For moderate bandwidth, MAF practically annihilates the torque ripple but requires an increased number memory positions, and results in larger overshoot. The ARF requires half the MAF memory positions and produces better results compared to the notch filters. These consideration allow the designer to choose the best option for filtering the DC-link voltage in order to reduce torque ripple.

**REFERENCES**


Fig. 11: Experimental results: steady state responses of the different filtering options. Torque ripple is also represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1st order filter. Butterworth 1st order (100% normalization value) and 2nd order (90.91%) filters result in the highest torque ripple at double the grid frequency. The notch filter (86.36%) and the double notch filter (81.82%) present torque ripple at a higher frequency than twice the grid frequency. The MAF has the best results (15.9%), practically eliminating the torque ripple. The ARF presents the best second results (25%). The results of the ARF and MAF are very close to those predicted in the simulations because the multiple notches cancel the noise due to non-modeled dynamics (non-ideal passive elements and switches, shaft misalignment, asymmetries in the machines, inaccuracies in the dc-load and sensor noise).

TABLE II: Summary of results (Simulation and Experimental results, torque normalized to the value corresponding to Butterworth 1st order) and computational cost of the different filtering options. The best result of each column is highlighted in bold type.

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Butterworth 1st order</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterworth 2nd order</td>
<td>65.94%</td>
<td>98.29%</td>
<td>90.91%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notch filter</td>
<td>34.32%</td>
<td>96.55%</td>
<td>86.36%</td>
<td>95.03%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double notch filter</td>
<td>24.98%</td>
<td>96.56%</td>
<td>81.82%</td>
<td>97.66%</td>
<td>2+2</td>
<td>2+3</td>
<td>6+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARF + lag filter</td>
<td>30.47%</td>
<td>96.44%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>98.24%</td>
<td>2+2</td>
<td>2+3</td>
<td>6+3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAF + lead filter</td>
<td><strong>22.68%</strong></td>
<td>97.22%</td>
<td><strong>15.9%</strong></td>
<td>107.3%</td>
<td>1+2</td>
<td>2+3</td>
<td>125+1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Fig. 12: Experimental results: transient response of the different filtering options for a step of 1.5 A in the grid-side DC-current. As all the filters result in the selected bandwidth of the DC-link voltage control for a fair comparison, the transient responses in the experiments for all the cases are very similar to each other. The transient duration, measured in the DC-voltage, is about 130 ms. Torque overshoot is also represented (in parentheses) normalized to the value corresponding to the Butterworth 1\(^{st}\) order filter. The torque overshoot for the Butterworth 1\(^{st}\) order filter (100\% normalization value) and 2\(^{nd}\) order (100\%) is the highest value, and is caused by the presence of torque ripple. The MAF (107.3\%) results in slightly higher overshoot than do the rest of the filters (notch filter 95.03\%, double notch filter 97.66\%, and ARF 98.24\%) due to the presence of the lead filter. The transient is slower and the overshoot is smaller in the experiments than in the simulations because the non-modeled losses of the passive elements and the machine provide additional damping to the system.

(a) Butterworth 1\(^{st}\) order filter.

(b) Butterworth 2\(^{nd}\) order filter.

(c) Notch filter.

(d) Double Notch filter.

(e) ARF plus lag filter.

(f) MAF plus lead filter.


[29] S. Dong, Y. Wang, and H. Li, “Coordinated control for active and reac-


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