

Simulation Comparisons of Induction Generators for Wind Power Systems

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Abstract— This paper describes the performance comparison of a wind power systems based on two different induction generators as well as the experimental demonstration of a wind turbine simulator for the maximum power extraction. The two induction machines studied for the comparison are the squirrel-cage induction generator (SCIG) and the doubly fed induction generator (DFIG). The techniques of direct grid integration, independent power control, and the droop phenomenon of distribution line are studied and compared between the SCIG and DFIG systems. Both systems are modeled in MATLAB/Simulink.

A commercial induction motor drive was programmed to emulate the wind turbine and is coupled to the experimental generator systems. The turbine experimental results matched well with the theoretical turbine operation.

Index Terms— Doubly fed induction machines, field-oriented control, maximum power tracking, wind power system.

I. INTRODUCTION

Induction generator systems have been widely used and studied in wind power system because of their advantages over synchronous generators, such as smaller size, lower cost, and lower requirement of maintenance[1],[2].The straight forward power conversion technique using squirrel-cage induction generator (SCIG) is widely accepted in fixed-speed applications with less emphasis on the high efficiency and control of power flow. However, such direct connection with grid would allow the speed to vary in a very narrow range and thus limit the wind turbine utilization and power output. Another major problem with SCIG power system is the source of reactive power; that is, an external reactive power compensator is required to hold the distribution line voltage and prevent the whole system from overload. On the other hand, the doubly

fed induction generator (DFIG) with variable-speed ability has higher energy capture efficiency and improved power quality and thus has attracted more attentions. With the advent of power electronic techniques, a back-to-back converter, which consists of two bidirectional converters and a dc link, acts as an optimal operation tracking interface between generator and grid [3]–[5]. Field-oriented control (FOC) is applied to both rotor- and stator-side converters to achieve desirable control on voltage and power [6], [7]. Generally, the

FOC has been presented based on DFIG mathematical equations only. However, a three-phase choke is commonly used to couple the stator-side converter into the grid. Therefore, this paper proposes the FOC schemes of stator-side converter involving the choke, and it turns out that both stator- and rotor side converter voltages consist of a current regulation part and a cross-coupling part.

First, this paper presents an experimental setup to emulate the wind turbine operation in torque control mode and thus to obtain a power operation curve for optimal power control. Second, the modeling and simulation of SCIG and DFIG wind

systems are studied. Comparison between SCIG without static var compensator (STATCOM) and SCIG with STATCOM as well as DFIG system clearly indicates difference in resulted distribution line voltage. The paper is organized as follows. The wind turbine is modeled and simulated using the turbine emulator, and an expression of optimal output power versus rotor speed is proposed in Section II. In Section III, the SCIG wind power system is established based on wind turbine system described in Section II. In addition, the DFIG is introduced by mathematical model in Section IV, indicating the relationship of voltage, flux, and torque. At last, steady-state and dynamic experiment/simulation results are presented and discussed in Section V.

II. WIND TURBINE

Wind energy is extracted through wind turbine blades and then transferred by the gearbox and rotor hub to the mechanical energy in the shaft, which drives the generator to convert the mechanical energy to electrical energy. The turbine model is based on the output power characteristics, expressed as [3], [8]

$$P_m = C_p(\lambda, \beta) \cdot (1/2) \rho \cdot A \cdot v_w^3 \quad (1a)$$

$$\lambda = R_{\text{blade}} \omega r / v_w \quad (1b)$$

where P_m is the mechanical output power in watts, which depends on power performance coefficient C_p , air density ρ , turbine swept area A , and wind speed v_w . $(1/2) \rho A v_w^3$ is equal to the kinetic energy contained in the wind at a particular speed v_w . The performance coefficient $C_p(\lambda, \beta)$, which depends on

tip speed ratio λ and blade pitch angle β , determines how much of the wind kinetic energy can be captured by the wind turbine system. A nonlinear model describes $C_p(\lambda, \beta)$ as [8]

$$C_p(\lambda, \beta) = c_1(c_2 - c_3\beta - c_4\beta^2 - c_5)e^{-c_6} \quad (2)$$

where $c_1 = 0.5$, $c_2 = 116/\lambda_i$, $c_3 = 0.4$, $c_4 = 0$, $c_5 = 5$, $c_6 = 21/\lambda_i$, and

$$1/\lambda i = (1/(\lambda + 0.08\beta)) - ((0.035)/(\beta 3 + 1)) \quad (3)$$

where R_{blade} and ω_r are the blade radius and angular frequency of rotational turbine. It is illustrated that, to achieve maximum C_p , one has $\beta = 0$ and $\lambda = 8$. The blade with fixed geometry will have fixed $C_p-\lambda$ characteristics, as described in (2) and (3). Therefore, to track the optimal output power. In order to experimentally investigate the operation of wind turbine, a wind turbine emulator system is built to operate in torque control mode, using (1a)

$$T = \frac{P}{\omega_r} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \pi R_{blade}^3 v_w^2 \frac{C_p}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \pi R_{blade}^3 v_w^2 C_m \quad (4)$$

where C_m is the torque performance coefficient. It is dependent on ω_r , v_w , and β . At any particular v_w , one could obtain different torque and, thus, power output by varying rotor speed. The ω_r is fed back to the controller for calculating C_m and, then, torque command.

III. SCIG WIND POWER SYSTEM

Fig. 1 shows the schematics of the SCIG system including the wind turbine, pitch control, and reactive power compensator. The entire system includes three stages for delivering the energy from wind turbine to the power grid. The first one is wind farm stage which handles with low voltage V_{wt} , the second is distribution stage which has medium voltage V_{dis} , and the third is grid transmission stage which has high voltage V_{grid} . The three-phase transformers take care of the interface between stages [9]. As mentioned, nominal power P_{nSCIG} is considered as active power reference to regulate the pitch angle while V_{dis} and I_{dis} denote the distribution line-to-line voltage and phase current, and they are monitored to favor the reactive power compensation for distribution line. This fairly straight forward technique was first used since it is simple and has rugged construction, reliable operation, and low cost. However, the fixed-speed essential and potential voltage instability problems severely limit the operations of wind turbine [1],[3].

Since SCIG is of fixed-speed generator, for a particular wind speed, the output active power is fixed as well. Thus, with the increase of wind speed, so does the output power until the nominal power is reached. The wind speed at this moment is called nominal wind speed. Beyond this speed, the pitch

angle system will prevent the output power from exceeding the nominal value. That is, when the wind speed is below nominal value, the power capture can vary with the change of wind speed; and when the wind speed is above nominal value, the pitch angle control system will limit the generated power by changing the pitch angle. In such way, the output power will be stabilized at nominal value where the wind speed is always above nominal speed. The pitch angle is determined by an open loop control of regulated output active power and by that shown in Fig.2. Due to the huge size of blade and, thus, inertia, pitch angle has to change in a slow rate and a reasonable range. It is also worthy to notice that, without reactive power source, in Section V, the SCIG system tends to lead to a voltage droop in distribution line which will cause overload problem. In the simulation section, the comparison between SCIG system with and without STATCOM is conducted.

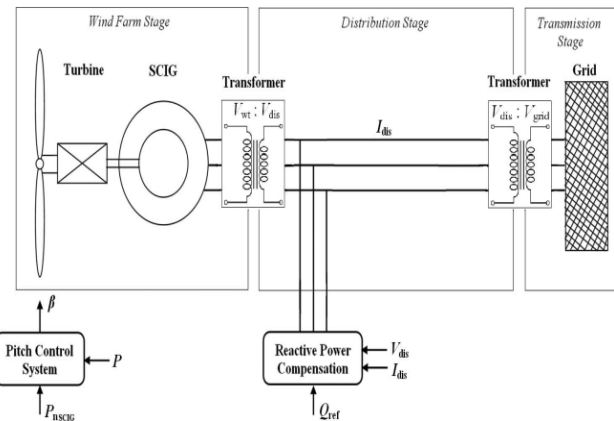


Fig. 1. SCIG wind power system topology

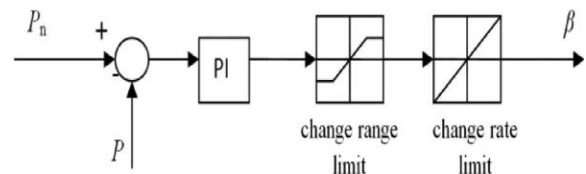


Fig. 2. Pitch angle control

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IV. DFIG WIND POWER SYSTEM

Traditionally, the dynamic slip control is employed to fulfill the variable-speed operation in wind turbine system, in which the rotor windings are connected to variable resistor and control the slip by the varied resistance [3], [10]. This type of system can achieve limited variations of generator speed, but external reactive power source is still necessary. Consequently, to completely remove the reactive power compensation and to control both active and reactive power independently, DFIG wind power system is one of most popular methods in wind energy applications [1],[3], [7]. This paper reproduces DFIG model first of all and then concentrates on the controlling schemes of power converters, in which the active and reactive power are controlled independently. In particular, the stator-side converter control involving an RL series choke is proposed. Both controlling of rotor- and stator-side converter voltages end up with a current regulation part and a cross-coupling part. The wind turbine driving DFIG wind power system consists of a wound-rotor

induction generator and an ac/dc/ac insulated gate bipolar transistor(IGBT)-based pulsewidth-modulated (PWM) converter (back-to-back converter with capacitor dclink), as shown in Fig.3. In this configuration, the back-to-back converter consists of two parts: the stator-/grid-side converter and the rotor-side converter. Both are voltage source converters using IGBTs, while a capacitor between two converters acts as a dc voltage source. The generator stator windings are connected directly to grid (with fixed voltage and frequency of grid) while the rotor winding is fed by rotor-side converter through slip rings and brushes, at variable frequency. The control system is divided into two parts—stator-side converter control system and rotor-side converter control system. An equivalent circuit of DFIG is depicted in Fig. 8, and the relation equations for voltage V , current I , flux Ψ , and torque T_e involve [4], [11], [12] are:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ds} &= R_s I_{ds} - \omega_s \Psi_{qs} + d\Psi_{ds}/dt \\ V_{qs} &= R_s I_{qs} + \omega_s \Psi_{ds} + d\Psi_{qs}/dt \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{dr} &= R_r I_{dr} - s\omega_s \Psi_{qr} + d\Psi_{dr}/dt \\ V_{qr} &= R_r I_{qr} + s\omega_s \Psi_{dr} + d\Psi_{qr}/dt \\ \Psi_{ds} &= L_s I_{ds} + L_m I_{dr} \\ \Psi_{qs} &= L_s I_{qs} + L_m I_{qr} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_{dr} &= L_r I_{dr} + L_m I_{ds} \\ \Psi_{qr} &= L_r I_{qr} + L_m I_{qs} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$T_e = (3/2) n_p (\Psi_{ds} I_{qs} - \Psi_{qs} I_{ds}) \quad (8)$$

where $L_s = L_{ls} + L_m$; $L_r = L_{lr} + L_m$; $s\omega_s = \omega_s - \omega_r$ represents the difference between synchronous speed and rotor speed; subscripts r, s, d , and q denote the rotor, stator, d -axis, and q -axis components, respectively; T_e is electromagnetic torque; and L_m, n_p , and J are generator mutual inductance, the number of pole pairs, and the inertia coefficient, respectively.

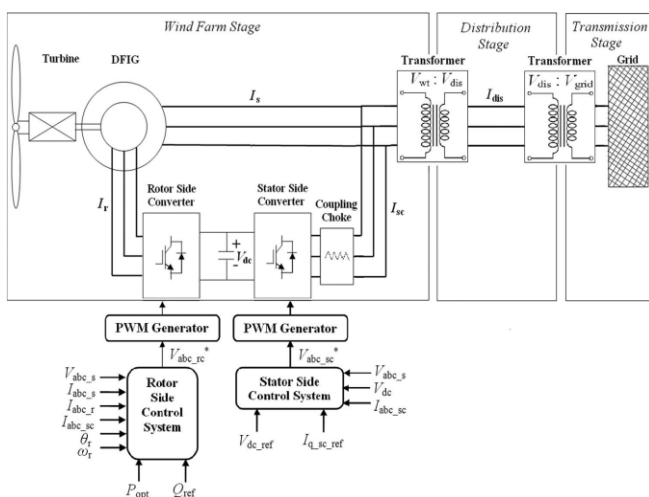


Fig.3. Wind turbine-doubly fed induction generator system configuration

A. Rotor-Side Converter Control

If the derivative parts in (5) are neglected, one can obtain stator flux as

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_{ds} &= (V_{qs} - R_s I_{qs})/\omega_s \\ \Psi_{qs} &= (V_{ds} - R_s I_{ds})/(-\omega_s) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Psi_s = \sqrt{\Psi_{ds}^2 + \Psi_{qs}^2} \quad (10)$$

Because of being directly connected to the grid, the stator voltage shares constant magnitude and frequency of the grid. One could make the d -axis

align with stator voltage vector; it is true that $V_s = V_{ds}$ and $V_{qs} = 0$, thus $\Psi_s = \Psi_{qs}$ and $\Psi_{ds} = 0$, which is of stator-voltage-oriented vector control scheme. According to (7)–(9), the rotor-side converter reference current is derived as

$$I_{dr_ref} = - (\sqrt{2} L_s T_e) / 3 n_p L_m \Psi_s \quad (11)$$

Where,

$$P_{e_ref} = P_{opt} - P_{loss} = T_e \omega_r \quad P_{loss} = R_s I_{2s}^2 + R_r I_{2r}^2 + R_c I_{2sc}^2 + F \omega_2 r \quad (12)$$

where I_{sc}, R_c , and F are stator-side converter current, choke resistance, and friction factor, respectively. P_{opt}, P_{e_ref} , and P_{loss} are desired optimal output active power, reference active power, and system power loss. Combining (10)–(12), the active power is used as command inputs to determine current reference I_{dr_ref} . Meanwhile, the output reactive power is the stator reactive output power since the stator-side converter's reactive power is set to be zero. Then, one has

$$Q_o = Q_s + Q_{sc} = Q_s = \text{Im}[(V_{ds} + jV_{qs})(I_{ds} + jI_{qs})^*] = -V_{ds} I_{qs} = -V_{ds} L_s (\Psi_s - L_m I_{qr}) \quad (13)$$

Thus, the regulation of reactive power can lead to I_{qr_ref} , and then, the rotor-side converter voltage signals V_{1dr} and V_{1qr} are derived by the regulation of currents. In addition, the feed forward coupling parts V_{2dr} and V_{2qr} are derived based on (6) and (8), as

$$\begin{aligned} V_{2dr} &= R_r I_{dr} - s\omega_s (L_r I_{qr} + L_m I_{qs}) \\ V_{2qr} &= R_r I_{qr} + s\omega_s (L_r I_{dr} + L_m I_{ds}) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where the superscripts 1 and 2 denote the current regulation part and cross-coupling part, respectively. At last, rotor-side converter voltage signals in dq -axes are expressed as

$$V_{drc} = V_{dr} = V_{1dr} + V_{2dr} \quad V_{qrc} = V_{qr} = V_{1qr} + V_{2qr} \quad (15)$$

where subscript rc denotes the rotor-side converter. After the conversion of dq to abc , the rotor-side converter voltage V_{abcrc} can be obtained. Fig. 10 exhibits the control scheme for the aforementioned procedure.

B. Stator-Side Converter Control

Concerning the use of three-phase series RL choke between stator- and stator-side converter, a cross-coupling model is required to derive the voltage signal of stator-side converter ,

$$\begin{aligned} V_{dsc} &= V_{ds} - V_{dch} \\ V_{qsc} &= V_{qs} - V_{qch} \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where the subscripts sc and ch denote the variables of stators ide converter and choke. The coupling part of voltage signals, V_{2dch} and V_{2qch} is expressed as

$$V_{2dch} = R_c I_{dsc} - \omega_s L_c I_{qsc}$$

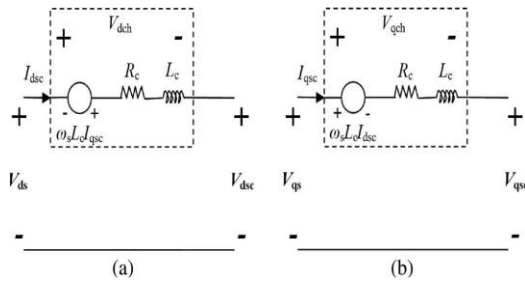


Fig. 4. Equivalent circuit of stator-side-converter choke. (a) *d*-axis model. (b) *q*-axis model.

$$V_{2qch} = R_c I_{qsc} + \omega_s L_c I_{dsc} \quad (17)$$

Moreover, V_{1dch} and V_{1qch} are determined by the regulation of currents I_{dsc} and I_{qsc} in which the current reference I_{qsc_ref} is given directly while I_{dsc_ref} is determined by the regulation of dc-link voltage V_{dc} . Thus, above all, the stator-side converter voltage signals V_{dsc} and V_{qsc} are obtained as follows

$$\begin{aligned} V_{dsc} &= V_{ds} - V_{1dch} - V_{2dch} \\ V_{qsc} &= V_{qs} - V_{1qch} - V_{2qch} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

V. EXPERIMENTAL AND SIMULATION RESULTS

A. Wind Turbine and Operation Curves

where a 3-hp induction motor, driven by ABB ASC550 was operated in torque-control mode to simulate a turbine. The wind turbine model is programmed into the DSP based control card from microchip. The controller takes the wind turbine parameters and operating conditions from the user. Moreover, the controller measures the generator speed and then produces the torque command to the induction machine drive. A generator system is coupled to the induction motor to be able to apply variable loading conditions. For a given wind speed of $v_w = 13$ m/s, the $T-\omega_r$ characteristics are simulated by implementing different operation points on the curve. By varying generator load, the rotor speed and C_m are varied according to (1)–(4), and the torque is calculated in DSP and fed to generator. It is shown in Fig.5 that the operation points of the experimental system match those derived from theoretical calculations.

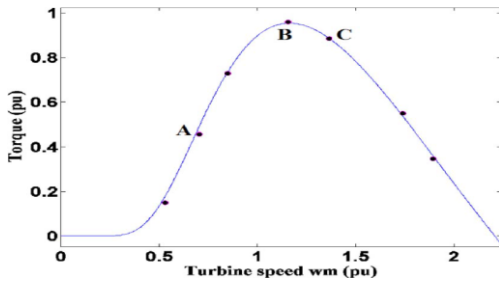


Fig. 5. Experimental turbine operation torque results (solid line refers to theoretical result; spots refer to experimental results).

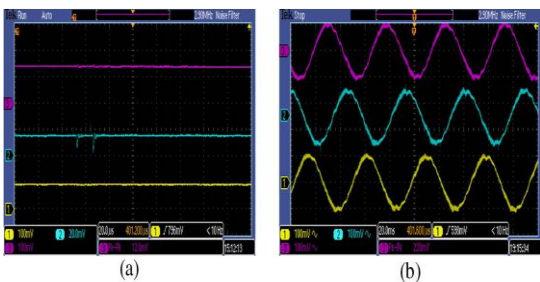


Fig. 6. Operation point A of Fig. 14. (a) (Lower trace) Torque. (Middle trace) Speed. (Upper trace) Armature current using 1/50 probe. (b) Phase currents of induction motor—10 mV/A.

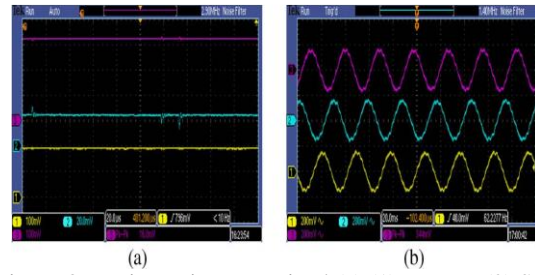


Fig. 7. Operating point B on Fig. 4 (a) (1) Torque. (2) Speed. (3) Armature current—1/50 probe. (b) Phase currents of induction motor—10 mV/A.

Of Fig.5. The torque and speed quantities are presented in per unit (p.u.) as base turbine torque being 41 N/m and base turbine speed being 553.8 r/min, which leads to 0.457-p.u. torque and 0.7-p.u. speed for point A. Similarly, the torque and speed are 0.96 and 1.157 p.u., respectively, for point B. The experimental power results are scaled into p.u. by base power of 1116.8W. The results are plotted in Fig. 8, indicating an optimal power operation point at C, where the power is maximum for this particular wind speed.

The other optimal power operation points for different wind speeds are emulated in the same way so that the optimal power curve can be applied as a reference to the generator controller. In this paper, for different wind speeds and fixed $\beta = 0^\circ$, the $P_m-\omega_r$ curve is presented in Fig. 18 for wind speeds ranging

from 6 to 14 m/s. By connecting the maximum points of all curves, the relationship between maximum output power and the rotor speed can be proposed as

$$P_{opt} = 0.5572\omega_3 r - 0.5081\omega_2 r + 0.4792\omega r - 0.1449 \quad (19)$$

which is reference for optimal active power control.

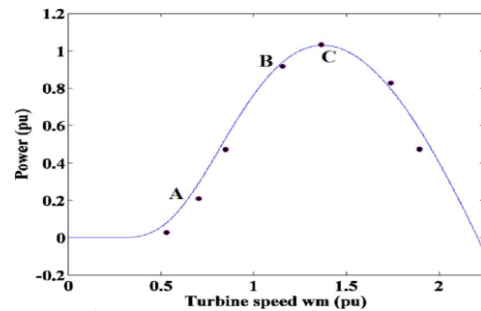


Fig.8. Experimental turbine operation power results (solid line refers to theoretical result; spots refer to experimental results).

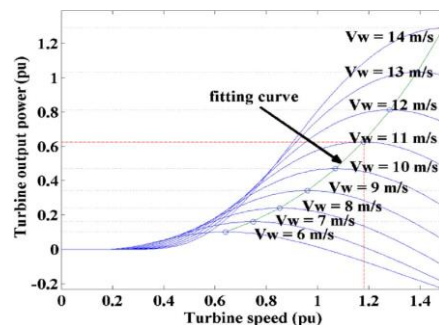


Fig. 9. $P_m-\omega_r$ curve for the turbine model.

B. SCIG

A traditional SCIG wind power system is developed in Matlab/Simulink. In order to investigate the system performances, a ramp wind speed v_w is assumed that varies from $t = 10$ s to $t = 16$ s and, then, it remains constant to the end of simulation $t = 40$ s. Fig.10(a)-(e) shows the dynamic variations and steady states of pitch angle β , generator speed ω_r , produced active power P , and consumed reactive power Q . First, the fluctuation in the results during $t = 0$ to 2.5 s is due to the initial conditions. In the simulation, the initial speed of generator is set at slip $s = -0.01$ p.u. with respect to synchronous speed and, then, response to the wind speed input disturbance. Other initial values for power and voltages are zero. The steady-state results for $v_w = 8$ m/s indicate the operation

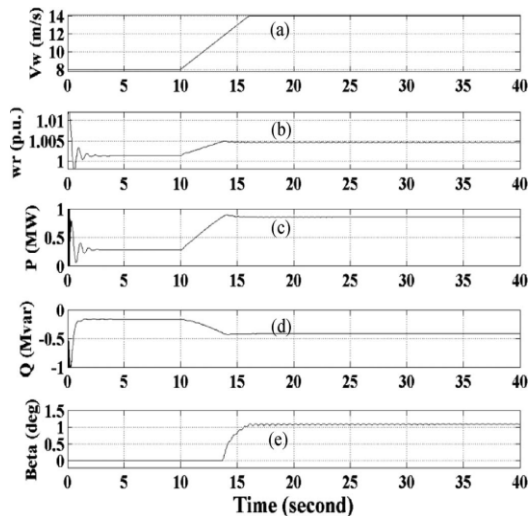


Fig. 10. Simulation results for SCIG system: (a) Wind speed v_w ; (b) generator speed ω_r ; (c) active power P ; (d) reactive power Q ; (e) pitch angle β .

points $\omega_r = 1.0015$ p.u. and $P = 0.29$ MW on Fig. 18. Since it is lower than nominal value of 0.855 MW, pitch angle control is not working. After $t = 10$ s, with the increase of v_w , so do the ω_r and P until $t = 13$ s when v_w exceeds the nominal value (11 m/s). This is because the pitch control is triggered to limit the increase of output power P and Q as shown in Fig.10(b)-(d). In this way, the pitch control effectively limits the output P around the nominal value of 0.855 MW and settles a new pitch angle at roughly $t = 17$ s. This nominal operation point can also be observed in Fig.9 ($v_w = 11$ m/s; $P = 0.855$ MW; $\omega_r = 1.005$ p.u.). It is noted that the rotor speed can only vary in very small scope around 1 p.u. (fixed-speed system) and, thus, impossible to achieve optimal active power output. Thus, the active power outputs at $v_w = 8$ m/s and ≥ 11 m/s in SCIG are 0.29 and 0.855 MW which are lower than those in later DFIG system. Also, without independent control ability, SCIG system consumes reactive power of 0.41 Mvar in the steady state, which will lead to line voltage droop.

To provide necessary reactive power, a STATCOM is added on the distribution line to investigate the improvement. As in Fig.11, distribution line voltage can drop by approximately 0.055 p.u. in SCIG system with out STATCOM, which will be a potential induction of overload in system. In contrast, SCIG system with STATCOM can hold distribution voltage to 0.99 p.u. and favorable to grid system stability. The compensated

reactive power from STATCOM is shown in Fig. 21 and is equal to 0.3 Mvar in the steady state, a little bit less than the real consumed value in Fig. 19(d). Although STATCOM provides impressive help on constant distribution line voltage, the DFIG presents better result and does not need the help from STATCOM, as shown in Fig. 20.

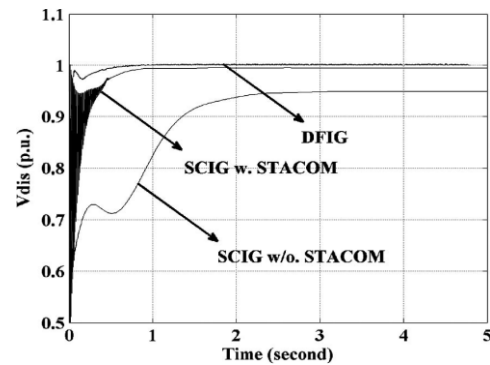


Fig. 11. Distribution voltages for SCIG system with/without STATCOM and DFIG system.

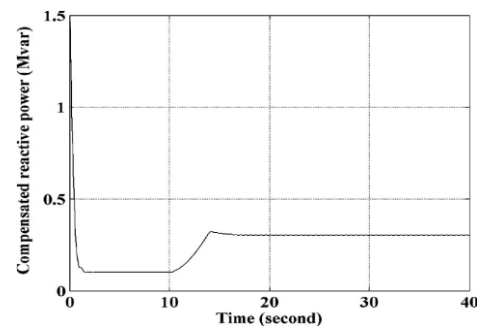


Fig. 12. STATCOM compensated reactive power.

C. DFIG

The DFIG system allows the optimal (maximum) output power operation in the absence of reactive power source. Also, the independent control of active and reactive power is achieved. In the MATLAB/Simulink model, the converter switch frequency is set to be 27 times the grid frequency f . To achieve acceptable accuracy, the power circuit and the control circuit models are discretized at different time steps. It is worthy to note that the nominal apparent power and nominal active power are considered as nominal electrical power and nominal mechanical power in this wind power system [3], [13]. Simulation and control system parameters are listed in Table IV and are preloaded into workspace before running the simulation and easy to be modified in m file. First of all, the steady-state results of the system are shown in Fig. 13(a)-(d), where four wind speed cases $v_w = 7, 9, 10,$ and 12 m/s to verify the optimal power output tracking are presented. All of them kept the bus voltage at 1200 Vdc, indicating the well operation of stator-side converter, while the reactive power is set to be zero as the input command. In order to track the optimal active power output, optimal rotor speeds are implemented accordingly. For instance, one could recall in Fig. 18 that, at $v_w = 7$ m/s, the optimal output active power is 0.17 p.u. with nominal power of 1.5 MW, i.e., 0.255 MW. A little bit power droop could be observed from simulation results which are caused by power loss in (12). Meanwhile, the optimal rotor speed is also achieved at 0.75 p.u., same as the value in Fig. 18. Similarly, the optimal trackings of output power and rotor speed are exhibited in other wind speed cases as well.

Therefore, it can be concluded that the system works well to follow the optimal power control at steady-state operation. It is noticed that P and Q are vanished during the first cycle (1/60 s) in displayed result because of the calculation time cost. Second, the system dynamic response to varied wind speeds is investigated. Due to the large H of the system, dynamic variation can last and be observed in a long time period before converging to the steady-state values. To shorten such period, $H=0.1$ s is used in this part of simulation. With stable steady-state initial values, three regular types of wind speeds are examined for dynamic responses, including step, ramp, and gusty winds. The varied winds and corresponding results for V_{dc} , ω_r , P , and Q are shown in Figs. 14 and 15, where the system can always reach a new optimal steady state after a few seconds. In the aforementioned results, the reduced inertia constants can only decrease the converging time, making the system reach a new steady state quicker, and it has no effects on steady-state values. At last, the system dynamic response to a grid disturbance is investigated. At $v_w = 9$ m/s, a remote voltage droop in grid is programmed from $t = 0.09$ to 0.29 s. The dynamic responses

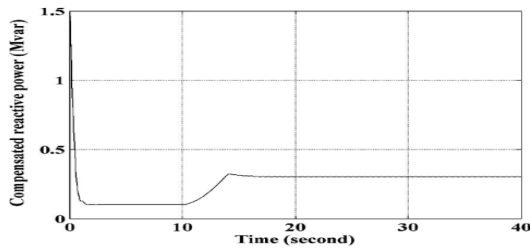


Fig. 14. Wind step response. (a) DC-link voltage V_{dc} . (b) Rotor speed ω_r . (c) Active power P . (d) Reactive power Q . (e) Wind speed v_w .

are presented in Fig.15. During this process, since the wind speed remains the same, control system effectively makes the system recovers in approximate 0.1 s.

D. Comparison Between Two Systems

The comparison shows the superiority of DFIG system over SCIG system in terms of efficiency, controllability, and high-power applications. Also,

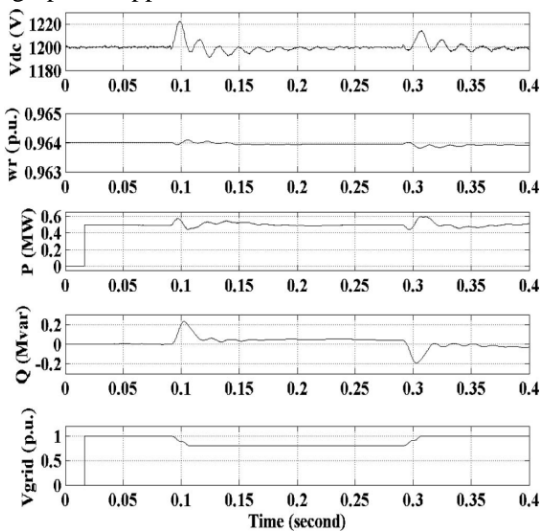


Fig. 15. Dynamic responses to grid voltage droop. (a) DC-link voltage V_{dc} . (b) Rotor speed ω_r . (c) Active power P . (d) Reactive power Q . (e) Grid voltage V_{grid} .

the higher cost of slip rings and power electronics can be compensated by more power output.

CONCLUSION

With the experimentally investigated wind turbine model, a SCIG and a DFIG wind power systems are modeled and simulated in Matlab/Simulink. An optimal active-power-versus-rotor-speed relationship has been proposed for turbine model first, and it functions as a lookup table for tracking the maximum output active power. The SCIG system presents the need of external reactive power source to support grid voltage, and it can keep the output power at the nominal level by pitch control but cannot accordingly change the rotor speed to achieve maximum wind power capture at different wind speeds. In contrast, the DFIG system does not need reactive power compensator to hold distribution line voltage and achieves optimal active power controlling. Both voltage control schemes for two converters consist of a current regulation part and a cross-coupling part. The turbine emulator system performs well and follows the theoretical and simulated maximum power extraction points in different operating conditions.

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