

Boost Converter and MPPT Based Grid Connected Photovoltaic System

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Abstract: In recent years, there has been a significant rise in the popularity of renewable energy sources as a substitute for traditional electrical energy sources. This paper uses MATLAB/SIMULINK to create a 100kW grid-connected solar PV system simulation model. The solar array's performance is influenced by both temperature and solar radiation. Because of the nonlinear characteristics of the system, the power output varies continuously with changing weather conditions. To address this variability, Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) is implemented to monitor and optimize the solar array's output for maximum power.

Keywords: Photovoltaic (PV), MPPT, Boost Converter, Inverter

I. INTRODUCTION

[1] Introduced a modeling methodology using MATLAB to investigate the repercussions of partial shading on PV array characteristics. Their study emphasizes the significance of accurately replicating partial shading effects and underscores the substantial impact on PV performance. [2] assessed diverse single-diode PV modeling techniques, providing crucial insights for researchers and engineers to select models tailored to their applications, considering precision and computational efficiency. This evaluation is pivotal for making informed decisions in modeling PV systems. [3] proposed a MATLAB-Simulink-based model for PV modules under nonuniform irradiance conditions, offering a more realistic representation of scenarios with varying sunlight conditions. Such models play a vital role in evaluating the performance and reliability of PV systems in dynamic environments. [4] presented a MATLAB/Simulink-based modeling approach specifically for photovoltaic cells, contributing to the understanding of individual cell behavior—an essential aspect in PV system design. This research aids in optimizing the efficiency and performance of PV arrays by focusing on the fundamental unit of photovoltaic systems. [5] suggested a comprehensive framework for modeling and simulating photovoltaic arrays, addressing the need for a holistic approach considering various parameters and dynamic factors. Their work enhances the comprehension of PV array behaviour, facilitating more accurate predictions and improved system design. Concentrating on mitigating the impact of variable shading, the study in [6] addresses challenges that significantly influence the performance of PV systems. Their approach, Sequential ESC, is designed to optimize Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) under varying shading conditions, ensuring optimal extraction of energy. [7] Explored a widely used MPPT algorithm, Incremental Conductance, shedding light on its simulation and practical design aspects. Recognized for its precision and swift tracking capabilities, Incremental Conductance's application was extended in [8] by integrating it with hardware, highlighting its potential in real-world PV systems. [9] Focused on the interface between PV arrays and MPPT controllers, offering insights into the necessary hardware components for efficient MPPT. [10] Provided valuable insights into the characteristics of battery charge controllers in PV systems. [11] Conducted scenario and data analysis to address the main challenges associated with adopting Electric Vehicles (EVs) in India. [12] Emphasized enhancing the robustness and efficiency of PV systems, especially in standalone applications. [13] Explored efficient power conversion and management strategies in standalone PV systems. [14] Investigated the modeling and dynamic interaction of EVs with the distribution grid system. [15] Aimed to maximize the utilization of PV energy sources and reduce dependence on the grid.

II. DESIGN AND MODELING OF SYSTEM

A. Modelling of solar photovoltaic system

A solar cell is represented by an equivalent model of the current source, diode, series resistance, and load. Several P-N junctions are fabricated in a thin semiconductor wafer and exposed to sunlight, these P- N junctions absorb photons with a higher energy than the band-gap of the semiconductor and produce electron-hole pair. With an external load connected to the PV panel, a direct current (also known as Photocurrent) flows through it to balance out the number of holes and electrons in the semiconductor. An equivalent circuit for a PV solar cell can be presented with a constant current source, a P-N junction diode, a series, and a shunt resistor (fig 1).

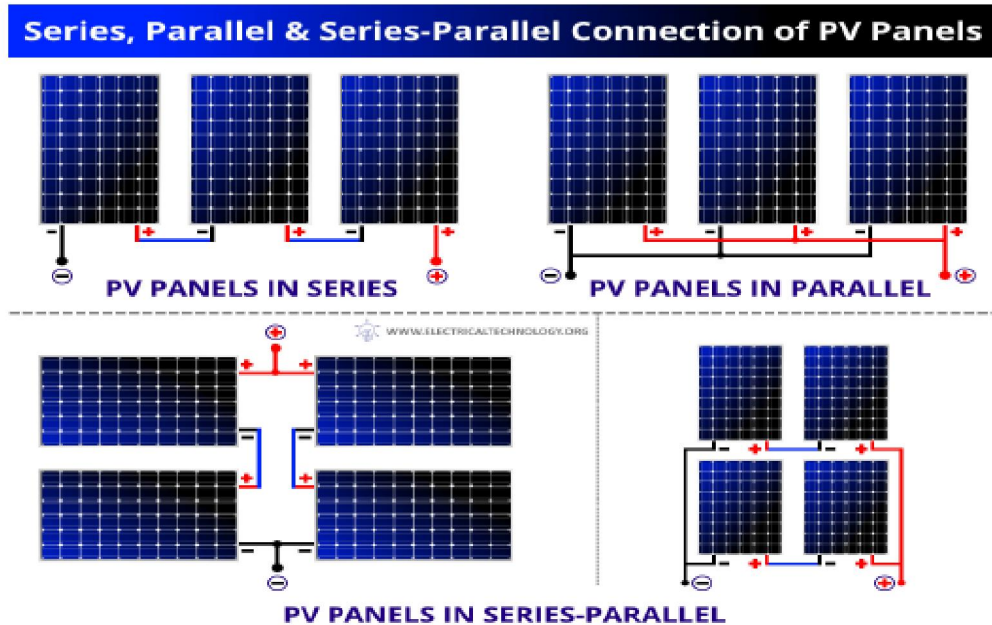


Fig.1 Electrical configurations of solar cells

$$I = I_{PV} - I_0 \left[\exp\left(\frac{V + IR_S}{aV_T}\right) - 1 \right] - \left(\frac{V + IR_S}{R_P}\right) \tag{1}$$

The open-circuit voltage, generally denoted as V_{OC} .

$$V_{OC} = \eta \cdot V_T \cdot \ln\left(\frac{I_f}{I_0} + 1\right); V_T = \frac{K \cdot T_{cell}}{q} \tag{2}$$

B. Boost Converter

DC-DC converters are versatile electrical circuits that can adjust voltage levels in DC systems. They can step up (boost), step down (buck), or perform both functions (buck-boost) as needed. One of the most critical factors that permits voltage management is the duty ratio, which regulates the converter's on-off time of a switch

Boost Converter: This kind is appropriate for circumstances when you need to step up the voltage, like charging batteries, because it raises the output voltage level relative to the input voltage.

C. Maximum Power Point Tracking

MPPT is an algorithm that forces the point of operation of the panel to be at the MPP. The perturb&Observe algorithm, which is the most used MPPT algorithm, uses a simple feedback arrangement and a few measured parameters (specifically V and I of the PV panel)

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A photovoltaic system with a capacity of 100 kilowatts is linked to the 25-kilovolt grid using a 3-phase, 3-level Voltage Source Converter (VSC) with a boost converter shown in fig3. The Maximum Power Point (MPP) controller inutilizes the Perturb and Observe (P&O) algorithm. When exposed to 1000 watts per square meter of solar radiation, the solar array can produce up to 100 kilowatts of power. The voltage generated by the solar array increases from 5 kHz and reaches the boost converter, which converts the initial 273 volts DC from the photovoltaic (PV) system to 500 volts DC. Through the P&O algorithm, the MPPT controller adjusts the switching duty cycle to maximize electrical energy extraction from the photovoltaic system. The MPPT system further adjusts the duty cycle to meet the required voltage for the 1980 Hz 3-phase, 3-level VSC. This VSC maintains a unity power factor while converting the 500-volt DC input to a 260-volt AC output. The VSC control system has two control loops: an inner loop regulating the P and Q current components (grid Iq and Id currents), and an outer control loop adjusting the DC link voltage within a range of plus or minus 250 volts.

The output of the external DC voltage controller determines the reference current for Id. To maintain a unity power factor, this sets the reference current for Iq to zero. The voltage controller outputs, V_d and V_q , are then used to generate three modulated signals. The PWM generator utilizes these signals with a reference to U_{abc} .

TABLE -1

Parallel strings	66
Series connected modules per string	5
Cells per module	96
P_m (W)	305.226
V_{oc} (V)	64.2
I_{sc} (A)	5.96
V_{mp} (V)	54.7
I_{mp} (A)	5.58

Fig.2 shows 10-kvar bank is utilized to filter out harmonics generated by the VSC. A three-phase connection transformer with a rating of 100 kVA is employed to convert between 260V and 25 KV, facilitating connection to the utility grid. The utility grid operates at a transmission level comparable to 120 KV and a 25 KV distribution feeder.

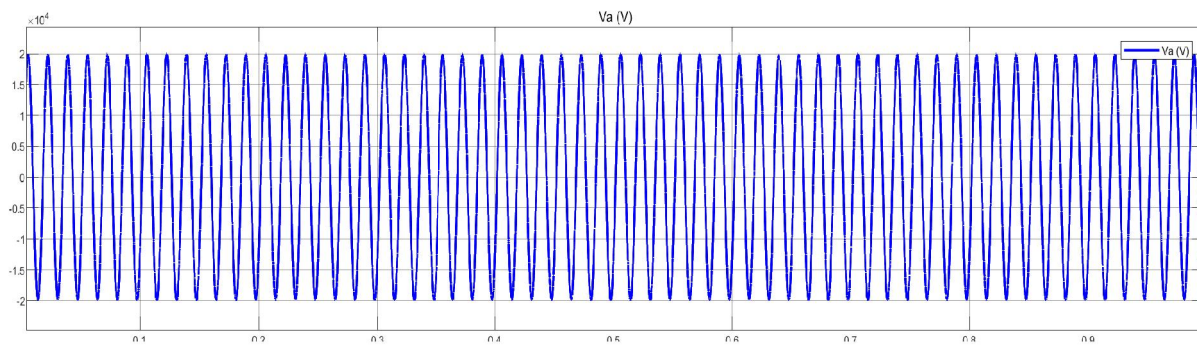


Fig.2 Grid Voltage Waveform

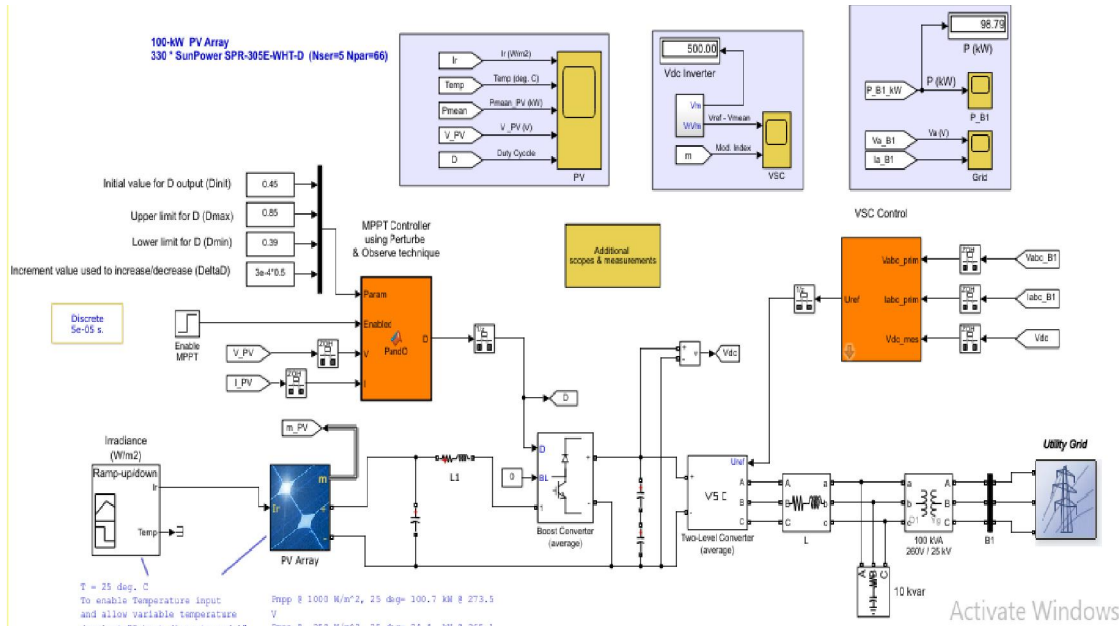


Fig. 3 Simulation model of 100 Kw PV system with grid-connected using a converter

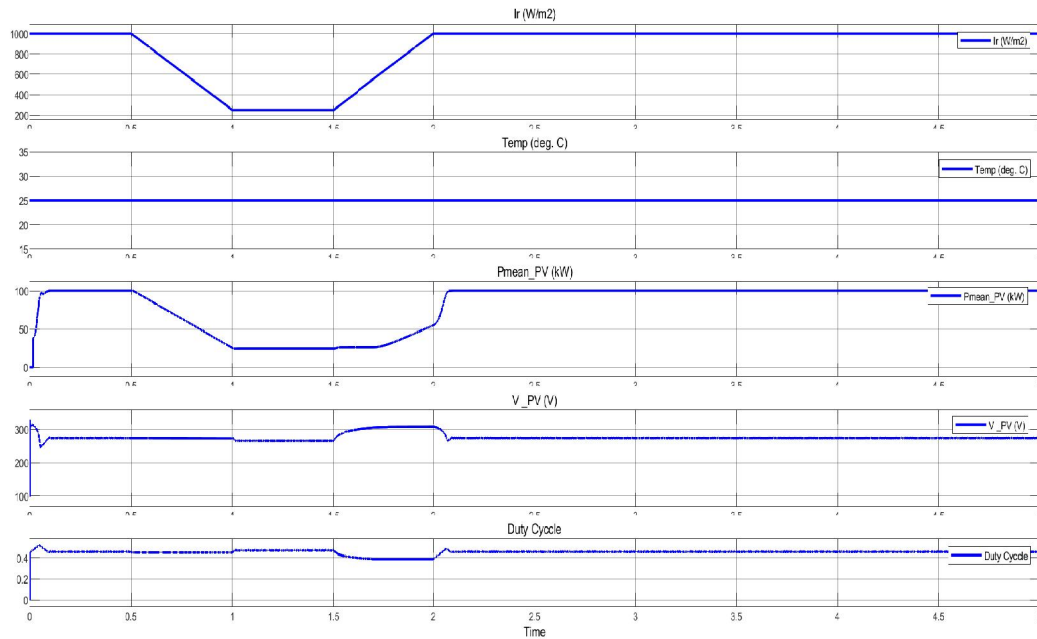


Fig. 4 PV Panel waveform (a)Irradiation (b) Temperature (c) Power (d) Panel voltage (e) Duty Cycle

The PV array consists of 330 SunPower modules, which collectively generate 100 KW of power. These modules are arranged in 66 strings, with each string comprising five series-connected modules that are connected in parallel. This configuration results in a total power output of 100.7 KW. Each individual module, according to the manufacturer's specifications, contains 96 series-connected cells and exhibits the following characteristics Voc of 64.2 volts, Isc of 5.96 amperes, and at maximum power, Imp of 5.58 amperes and Vmp of 54.7 volts

In Fig 4, The simulation begins with the use of standard test settings, where the temperature is 25 degrees Celsius, and the solar irradiance is set to 1000 watts per square meter (W/m^2). Between $t=0.05$ seconds and $t=0$ seconds, the pulses sent to both the VSC and the Boost converters are halted. During this period, the PV voltage equals the open-circuit voltage, calculated as the product of the number of N_{ser} and the V_{oc} , resulting in a value of 321 volts. capacitor is charged 500 volts, and the three-level bridge in the system functions as a diode rectifier. At $t=0.05$ seconds, the VSC and Boost converters are re-activated. The regulation voltage for the DC link is set at $V_{dc}=500$ volts. The D for the boost converter is fixed at 0.5, as indicated on the PV scope. By $t=0.25$ seconds, the system has reached a steady state. The PV voltage (V_{PV}) is calculated as $(1-D)$ times V_{dc} , resulting in $(1-0.5)*500 = 250$ volts, as observed in the V_m trace on the PV scope. The solar array's initial P_0 is 96 kilowatts, while the P_{max} under $1000 W/m^2$ irradiation conditions is 100.7 kilowatts. The voltage and current in phase A at the 25-KV bus are in phase according to the grid's scope. The MPPT system is activated at $t=0.4$ seconds.

Fig .5 and fig 6 shows , P_{max} , the MPPT controller initially adjusts the solar voltage by modifying the duty cycle. When the duty cycle D is set to 0.454, it achieves P_{max} at 100.4 KW. The specifications of the solar module, calculated as the product of the number of N_{ser} and the V_{mp} , indicate that the mean voltage of the PV array at $t=0.6$ seconds will be approximately 274 volts. Meanwhile, the solar irradiance gradually decreases from $1000 W/m^2$ to $250 W/m^2$ between $t=0.6$ and $t=1.1$ seconds. Throughout this period, the MPPT system continuously tracks and maintains the P_m By $t=1.2$ seconds; when the irradiance has fallen to $250 W/m^2$, the duty cycle is adjusted to $D=0.461$, resulting in a PV $V_m=268$ volts and an associated power output of $P_m=24.3$ kilowatts. The MPPT's effective tracking of the maximum power during this rapid change in illumination conditions is worth noting.

To investigate the effect of temperature increase, the solar irradiance is maintained at $1000 W/m^2$ between $t=1.2$ and $t=2.5$ seconds, after which the temperature is raised to 50 degrees Celsius. It should be noted that as the temperature increases from $25 ^\circ C$ to $50 ^\circ C$, the output power of the PV array decreases from 100.7 KW to 93 KW.

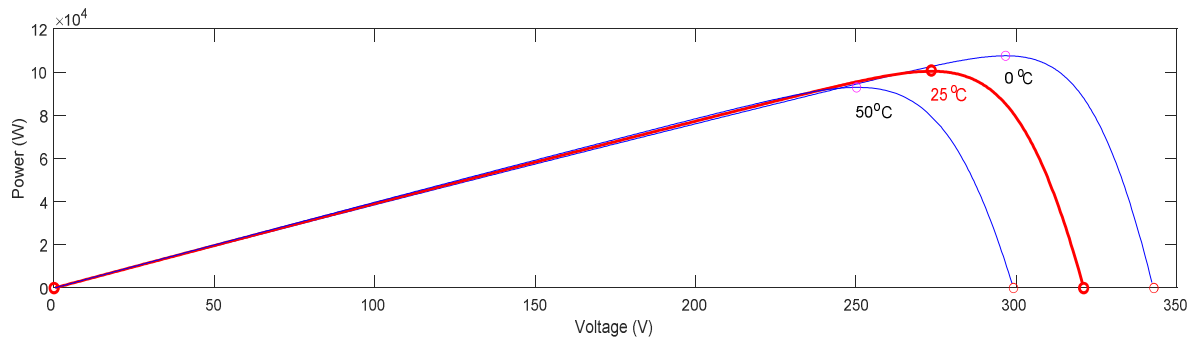


Fig. 5 P-V Array at 1000 w/m² irradiation and different temperatures

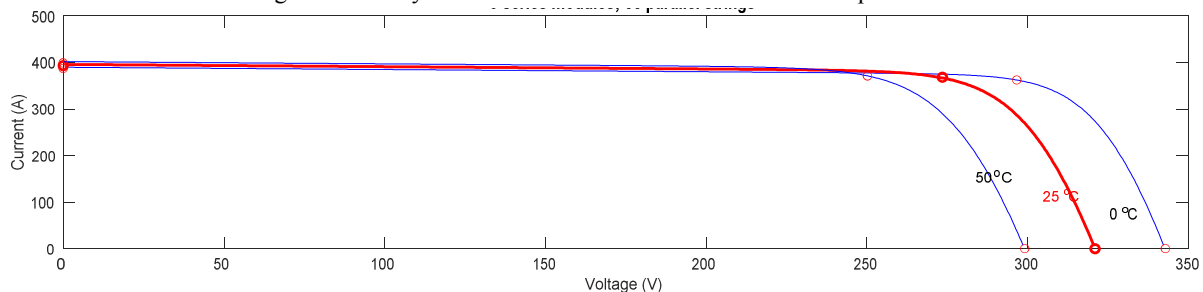


Fig. 6 V-I at 1000 w/m² irradiation and different temperatures

IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, the various waveforms generated during the simulation, serve as evidence of the successful MPPT results. In comparison to a more detailed model, this simplified model offers a significant advantage in terms of speed and efficiency. Additionally, we examined the performance of Perturb and Observed MPPT controllers under varying

irradiance conditions. Notably, it becomes evident that this type of MPPT controller is most effective when irradiance levels remain relatively constant. In the paper, our aim was to design an efficient and cost-effective solar PV power generation system, and we accomplished this objective using MATLAB software.

Future endeavors in this field can explore different Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) methods and modified algorithms to enhance efficiency, particularly in rapidly changing environmental conditions. There's potential for designing a more compact and cost-effective model for solar PV systems, with reduced operating and maintenance expenses to make it more appealing to users.

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