

Space Vector based Pulse Width Modulation Scheme for a Five - Level Inverter using Open - End Winding Induction Motor

Shiny G, M.R.Baiju

Abstract — A Space Vector based Pulse Width Modulation (SVPWM) scheme for a 5-level inverter is presented. Sector identification is carried out using an approach based on fractal concept. To represent the space vectors, 60° coordinate frame work is used. The use of 60° coordinate system eliminates fractal arithmetic compared to Cartesian coordinate system, and increases speed of computation. No look up tables are used to generate sectors and switching vectors. The scheme also works in over modulation region. Experimental results for a 5-level inverter using induction motor in open-end winding configuration are presented to validate the scheme.

Index Terms—Space vector, fractal, inverter, open-end winding

I. INTRODUCTION

Multilevel inverters found wide application in the field of industrial drives. Typical applications include pumps, fans, compressors, grinding mills, wind energy conversion and railway traction [1-3]. Advantages of multilevel inverters such as reduced dv/dt stresses, low electromagnetic compatibility problems, low switching losses and smaller common mode voltage have been reported in literature [1-4]. Different multilevel inverter topologies like Neutral Point Clamped multilevel inverter, diode clamped multilevel inverter, flying capacitor multilevel inverter and cascaded multilevel inverters with separate DC sources are proposed in [5]. Realization of a 3-level inverter structure by feeding an open-end winding induction motor from both ends by two 2-level inverters with symmetric DC link voltage is proposed in [6]. If the 2-level inverters in open-end winding configuration are fed with asymmetric DC link voltages, it will result in 4-level inverter configuration [7]. Higher multilevel inverter structures can also be realized if an open-end winding induction motor is fed with a 3-level inverter at one end and a 2-level inverter at the other end [8]. The 3-level inverter structure in the above topology is realized by cascaded connection of two 2-level inverters. The modulation and control strategies used for multilevel inverters like carrier based PWM, space vector PWM and selective harmonic elimination PWM are also discussed [3]. This paper proposes a Space Vector based Pulse Width Modulation (SVPWM) scheme for a 5-level inverter.

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Sector identification is one of the steps in the implementation of SVPWM, even though schemes without sector identification are also been proposed [9]. In SVPWM, as the number of levels of the inverter increases, identification of the sector to locate the instantaneous reference space vector will become a tedious process. The space vector pulse width modulation scheme proposed in [10] uses an approach based on fractal concept to find the sector of operation. Identification of sector by fractal approach involves progressively dividing the basic sector to locate the instantaneous reference space vector. The fractal based scheme discussed in [10] uses the Cartesian coordinate system to represent the space vectors. Representation of space vectors in Cartesian coordinate system build up large number of fractional values and this will increase the computational complexity of the scheme. In this paper a low computation PWM scheme based on fractal concept is presented. Instead of the Cartesian coordinate system, 60° coordinate frame work is used to represent the space vectors [11-13]. In 60° coordinate system the switching vectors will have integer values and hence this scheme reduces the computation time significantly [11]. The switching vectors needed to realize the reference space vector are automatically generated, without using look up tables.

II. POWER CIRCUIT OF FIVE-LEVEL INVERTER USING INDUCTION MOTOR IN OPEN-END WINDING CONFIGURATION

Fig. 1 shows the power circuit configuration of the 5-level inverter structure. The 5-level inverter is realized by feeding an open-end winding induction motor from both ends by a 3-level inverter at one side and a 2-level inverter at the other side. The 3-level inverter (inverter-A) uses a cascaded connection of two 2-level inverters, inverter-1 and inverter-2. Inverter-3 (inverter-B) is a 2-level inverter. The phase winding of the open-end induction motor is connected across the poles of inverter-2 and inverter-3. The inverters are fed with asymmetric DC link voltages. Inverter-1 and inverter-3 are fed with DC link voltages of $V_{DC}/4$. The DC link voltage of a conventional 2-level inverter. The pole voltage of a given phase of inverter-2 can assume three possible values: 0,

 $V_{DC}/2$ and $3V_{DC}/4$, which is the characteristic of a 3-level inverter. The pole voltage of inverter-3 assumes two values viz. 0 and $V_{DC}/4$, depending on whether the bottom switch or the top switch of a given phase leg is turned ON.

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When these inverters drive the induction motor from both ends, each phase of the induction motor can achieve five different voltage levels. The voltage levels realized for the proposed 5-level inverter are $-V_{DC}/4$, 0, $V_{DC}/4$, $V_{DC}/2$ and $3V_{DC}/4$. These five voltage levels can be represented by vectors 0,1,2,3 and 4 respectively.



Figure 1 : 5-level inverter structure realized by feeding an open-end winding induction motor from both ends by a 3-level inverter and a 2-level inverter.



Pole voltage of 3-level inverter (V_{A2O})	Pole voltage of 2-level inverter $(V_{A3O'})$	Motor phase voltage in A-phase winding (V_{A2A3})	Realized switching vector
0	$\frac{V_{DC}}{4}$	$-\frac{V_{DC}}{4}$	0
0	0	0	1
$\frac{V_{DC}}{2}$	$\frac{V_{DC}}{4}$	$\frac{V_{DC}}{4}$	2
$\frac{V_{DC}}{2}$	0	$\frac{V_{DC}}{2}$	3
$\frac{3V_{DC}}{4}$	$\frac{V_{DC}}{4}$	$\frac{V_{DC}}{2}$	3
$\frac{3V_{DC}}{4}$	0	$\frac{3V_{DC}}{4}$	4

Table-I shows pole voltage of the individual inverters and the corresponding motor phase voltage. Since isolated power

supplies are used to feed the individual inverters, the harmonic components of triplen order will be dropped across the points O and O' (Fig. 1). Therefore triplen harmonics will be absent in the motor phase voltage. Fig. 2 shows the space vector representation of a 5-level inverter. The space vector diagram of multilevel inverters can be viewed as a hexagonal structure with one inner hexagon and several outer sub hexagons as shown in Fig. 2. Each hexagon is identified with a center referred as Sub Hexagon Center (SHC). The sub hexagon center of the inner hexagon is named as 'O'. The centers of the outer sub hexagons are designated as A1 - A6, B1-B12 and C1-C18. Each hexagon is also divided into small triangular region called sectors. There are 96 such sectors in the space vector diagram of a 5-level inverter. This also shows the complexity in the identification of sector enclosing the tip of the reference space vector, when the number of sectors involved are more. As can be seen from the space vector representation shown in Fig. 2, redundant states are possible at lower modulation indices, or at any point other than those on the outer most hexagons. For example, switching vector $(2 \ 0 \ 0)$ located at vector location B1 has redundant states (3 1 1) and (4 2 2). Redundant switching states differ from each other by an identical integral value, i.e., (2 0 0) differs from (3 1 1) by (1 1 1) and from (422)) by (2 2 2). The number of redundant switching states for an

n-level inverter is $(n-1)^3$. Fig. 3 shows the space vector representation of the 5-level inverter in 60° coordinate system. Computational efficiency can be increased by representing the space vectors in 60° coordinate framework [11].

III. MODULATION SCHEME FOR THE FIVE – LEVEL INVERTER

The proposed space vector based pulse width modulation scheme involves the following steps to realize the reference space vector OX shown in Fig. 4.

- *a.* Determine the small sector which encloses the tip of the reference space vector *OX* and to find the sub hexagon center which is nearest to the tip of the reference space phasor.
- b. Mapping to determine the duration of switching vectors. This is done by shifting the sub hexagon enclosing the tip of reference space vector to coincide with the inner sub hexagon with center 'O'. The reference space vector OX gets mapped to OX' as shown in Fig. 4.
- *c*. Generation of actual switching vectors which forms the vertices of the sector enclosing the tip of reference space phasor.

A. Identification of Sector and Sub Hexagon Center

In the proposed work an approach based on fractals is used to find the sector which encloses the tip of the reference vector. Since the space vector representation of multilevel inverters has an inherent fractal structure, the sectors of higher level inverter can be generated by a technique called triangularization [10].



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Figure 3 : Space vector representation of a 5-level inverter in 60° coordinate system



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Figure 4 : Space vector representation of a 5-level inverter showing reference vector OX and mapped vector OX'

Fig. 5 shows the space vector representation of a 5-level inverter (only the vectors in the periphery are shown) and a reference space vector **OX** situated in basic sector 3. Here the term basic sector is used to represent the sector which is equivalent to the sector of a conventional 2-level inverter. The 60° coordinates corresponding to basic sector 3 are (0,0), (-4,4) and (-4,0). In triangularization, each basic sector is divided into similar small triangular regions. This is achieved by finding the midpoints of the lines joining the vertices of the basic sector. Applying triangularization to basic sector 3 generates four similar sectors as shown in Fig. 6. The new switching vectors formed by the process of triangularization are (-2,2), (-2,0) and (-4,2). Further triangularization will generate sixteen small sectors as shown in Fig. 7. The centroid of each sector is also calculated as the average value of the vertices enclosing the sector. The sector with its centroid closest to the tip of the reference space vector is taken as the sector of operation. As shown in Fig. 7, the sector of operation identified for reference space vector OX is sector with number 14.



Figure 5: Space vector representation of a 5-level inverter with reference space vector OX situated in basic sector number 3.



Figure 6 : First triangularization of the basic sector generates four small sectors, numbered 1 to 4.



Figure 7: Second triangularization generates sixteen sectors, numbered 1 to 16. The tip of the reference space vector is located in small sector with number 14.



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Once the sector of operation is found out by applying triangularization, the sub hexagon which is closest to the tip of the reference space vector is also identified. For the

reference space phasor OX, the subhexagon center identified is C7, with coordinate (-3,3).

B. Mapping to 2-Level and Determination of Duration of Switching Vectors

To find the dwell time of the switching vectors, the reference vector is mapped to the inner hexagon (2-level) by appropriate coordinate transformation [14]. In mapping, the identified sub hexagon is shifted to coincide with the center of the inner sub hexagon 'O'. The principle of mapping is shown in Fig. 8. The mapped reference space vector is shown in Fig. 8 as OX'. Let the instantaneous amplitudes of the three phase reference sinusoid are denoted as V_a , V_b and V_c . The corresponding 'm' and 'n' coordinates of reference space vector OX are calculated as

$$V_m = V_a - V_b \tag{1}$$

$$V_n = V_b - V_c \tag{2}$$



Figure 8: Principle of mapping. The sub hexagon center C7 is shifted to coincide with the inner hexagon with center O. The mapped vector is designated as OX'

The (m,n) coordinates of the sub hexagon center are represented as (V_{ms}, V_{ns}) . For sub hexagon center **C7**, the values of (V_{ms}, V_{ns}) are (-3,3). Then the coordinates of the mapped reference vector **OX'** are found out by using the following equations.

$$V_{m_map} = V_m - V_{ms} \tag{3}$$

$$V_{n_map} = V_n - V_{ns} \tag{4}$$

The new phase values of the mapped reference vector OX' are denoted as V_{as} , V_{bs} and V_{cs} and are also found out.

$$V_{as} = (2V_{m_map} + V_{n_map})/3$$
⁽⁵⁾

$$V_{bs} = (V_{n_map} - V_{m_map})/3 \tag{6}$$

$$V_{cs} = \left(-V_{m_map} - 2V_{n_map}\right)/3 \tag{7}$$

The phase voltage timings T_{ga} , T_{gb} and T_{gc} for the three phases are calculated as given in [15].

C. Actual Switching Vector Generation

Generation of actual switching vectors for realizing the reference vector is performed by reveres mapping. If (V_{ms}, V_{ns}) represent the (m, n) coordinates corresponding to the sub hexagon center, it is converted to switching vectors S_a , S_b and S_c as given in Table-II. For the sub hexagon center **C7**, the (m, n) coordinates are (-3,3). Since the sub hexagon center is situated in basic sector number 3, the switching vectors calculated are

$$S_a = 0$$

$$S_b = -V_{ms} = 3$$

$$S_c = -V_{ms} - V_{ns} = 3$$

Thus the switching vector corresponding to the sub hexagon center C7 is (030). This vector is then added with the vectors corresponding to the mapped reference space vector OX' to generate the actual switching vectors for reference space phasor OX [16], as shown in Fig. 9.

0

 TABLE II

 CONVERSION OF (m, n) COORDINATES OF SUB HEXAGON

 CENTER INTO CORRESPONDING SWITCHING VECTORS

Basic	Switching Vectors			
Sector (2-Level)	S _a	S_b	S _c	
1 and 2	$V_{ms} + V_{ns}$	V _{ns}	0	
3 and 4	0	$-V_{ms}$	$-V_{ms} - V_{ns}$	
5 and 6	V_{ms}	0	$-V_{ns}$	

D. Operation in Over Modulation Region

The proposed scheme also works in over modulation region. If the tip of the reference space vector OX lies outside the hexagon, it will be considered as over modulation region of operation. During over modulation, the vector representing sub hexagon center is not switched. The two other active vectors will switch for the entire sample period.





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IV. EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION

The proposed SVPWM scheme is experimentally verified by implementing the scheme on a 2 HP, 3 - phase induction motor drive in open loop with v/f control for different modulation indices. The gating pulses for the three inverters are generated using the dSPACE DS 1104 RTI platform and FPGA Xilinx Virtex. The gating signals used to drive the inverters in 3-level (modulation index, m = 0.4), 4-level (m = 0.53), 5-level (m = 0.85) and over modulation operation (m = 1.1) are shown in Fig. 10, Fig. 11, Fig. 12 and Fig. 13 respectively.



Fig. 10. Gating signal for inverters for 3 - level operation. Upper three traces for inverter-2 Lower three traces for inverter-3 (Modulation index, m = 0.4)

In the 3-level operation mode, the tip of the reference vector is within the sectors numbered from 7 to 24. Only inverter-2 and inveter-3 are switched in this speed range (Fig.10) and no switching losses are contributed by inverter-1 in this case. For 4-level operation, the reference vector is confined to sectors 25 to 54. In this mode also, inverter-1 can be clamped to zero and only inverter-2 and inverter-3 are switched to realize the reference space vector (Fig.11). For the higher modulation indices, when the tip of the reference vector is in the outermost region (sectors 55 to 96) all the three inverters are switched (Fig.12). The gating signals for over modulation operation is shown in Fig. 13.



Fig. 11. Gating signal for inverters for 4 - level operation. Upper three traces for inverter-2 Lower three traces for inverter-3 (Modulation index, m = 0.53)



Fig. 12. Gating signal for inverters for 5 - level operation. Upper three traces for inverter-1 Middle three traces for inverter-2 Lower three traces for inverter-3 (m = 0.85)





$$m = 1.1$$
)

The experimental results of pole voltage, phase voltage and motor current for all regions of operation including over modulation are shown from Fig. 14 to Fig. 25. The pole voltage for a modulation index of m = 0.4 (3-level operation) is shown in Fig. 14. The effective pole voltage $(V_{A2O} - V_{A3O'})$ is captured using the MATH subtraction feature of the scope. The effective pole voltage show a three level waveform with levels $-V_{DC}/4$, 0 and $V_{DC}/4$. The phase voltage and motor current in A-phase winding for a modulation index of m = 0.4 are shown in Fig. 15 and Fig. 16. The corresponding voltages and motor current for 4-level operation are shown in Fig. 17, Fig. 18 and Fig. 19 respectively. In Fig. 17, the pole voltage show four distinct levels viz., $-V_{DC}/4$, 0, $V_{DC}/4$ and $V_{DC}/2$. The experimental results for 5-level operation (m = 0.85) are shown in Fig. 20 to Fig. 22. In 5-level operation mode, the pole voltage show all the five levels of operation. When the modulation index is increased, the phase voltage waveform also gets refined and show more number of steps compared to lower modulation indices. The results for over modulation operation are shown from Fig. 23 to Fig. 25. In over modulation, the reference space vector traces the boundary of the outer hexagon. The inverters show less switching in this region, since only the active vectors are switched during over modulation. The phase voltage also shows reduced switching during this mode of operation.



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Fig. 14. Experimental waveforms of pole voltage for 3 level operation (m = 0.4) Upper trace pole voltage of inverter-2 Middle trace pole voltage of inverter-3 Lower trace effective pole voltage



Fig. 15. Experimental waveform of phase voltage for 3 level operation (m = 0.4) Scale: X-axis: 20ms/div; Y-axis: 25V/div



Fig. 16. Experimental waveform of motor current for 3 level operation (m = 0.4) Scale: X-axis: 20ms/div; Y-axis: 2A/div



Fig. 17. Experimental waveforms of pole voltage for 4-level operation (m = 0.53) Upper trace pole voltage of inverter-2 Middle trace pole voltage of inverter-3 Lower trace effective pole voltage



Fig. 18. Experimental waveform of phase voltage for 4 level operation (m = 0.53) Scale: X-axis: 20ms/div; Y-axis: 50V/div



Fig. 19. Experimental waveform of motor current for 4 level operation (m = 0.53) Scale: X-axis: 20ms/div;

Y-axis: 2A/div



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Fig. 20. Experimental waveforms of pole voltage for 5-level operation (m = 0.85) Upper trace pole voltage of inverter-2 Middle trace pole voltage of inverter-3 Lower trace effective pole voltage



Fig. 21. Experimental waveform of phase voltage for 5 – level operation (m = 0.85) Scale: X-axis: 10ms/div; Y-axis: 50V/div



Fig. 22. Experimental waveform of motor current for 5 level operation (m = 0.85) Scale: X-axis: 10ms/div; Y-axis: 2A/div



Fig. 23. Experimental waveforms of pole voltage for over modulation operation (m = 1.1) Upper trace pole voltage of inverter-2 Middle trace pole voltage of inverter-3 Lower trace effective pole voltage



Fig. 24. Experimental waveform of phase voltage for over modulation operation (m=1.1) Scale: X-axis: 10ms/div; Y-axis: 50V/div



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Fig. 25. Experimental waveform of motor current for over modulation operation (m=1.1) Scale: X-axis: 10ms/div; Y-axis: 2A/div

V.CONCLUSION

A space vector based pulse width modulation scheme for a 5-level inverter in open-end winding configuration is presented. The induction motor is driven by a 3-level from one side and a 2-level inverter from the other side. The combined inverter structure produces voltage space vectors similar to that of a 5-level inverter. All the computations are done in 60° coordinate frame work, thereby avoiding computational complexity. No look up tables are used to generate the switching vectors. The vectors are automatically generated. The space vector diagram of the 5-level inverter consists of 96 sectors and to simplify the task of sector identification, a method based on fractal approach is employed. Experimental results are presented along with the gating signals used to drive the inverters in all the regions of operation, including operation in over modulation.

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