

# GRID INTERFACE OF A PMSG BASED WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM WITH POWER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FEATURES

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## ABSTRACT

Renewable Energy Sources are nowadays rapidly growing popularity at the distribution level which employs power electronic converters, which ensures reliable operation to customers. Among the RES, wind energy is now firmly established as a mature technology for electricity generation. This paper discusses the role of ac/dc/ac power converter for grid interface of wind energy. The generator side converter incorporates the maximum power point tracking algorithm to extract maximum energy from wind turbine system. The grid side converter plays a dual role of interfacing the wind energy to grid as well as to supply reactive power as demanded by the non-linear load connected at the PCC. A simple model of the proposed system is developed and simulated in MATLAB environment. The effectiveness of the system is validated through extensive simulation results.

**Keywords:** *Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator (PMSG), Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT), Dc-Dc Converter, Grid Side Inverter, Power Quality.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, due to the fast depleting conventional energy resources and the concerns over climatic changes, the renewable energy sources are gaining popularity around the globe. Among the available renewable energy sources, the wind energy and the solar energy are the most mature technologies for power generation. The main advantage of renewable energy is that it is clean and inexhaustible. But the major disadvantage is that it is interim in nature and depends on seasonal pattern [1]. Therefore it is difficult to operate the power system only with renewable energy due to their characteristic difference and their uncertainty of availability. The potential of renewable energy sources is fully extracted by interfacing them to the existing grid.

Power electronics, being the technology of efficiently converting electric power, plays a vital role in integration of renewable energy sources into the electric grid to achieve high efficiency and performance in power system [2]. By doing so, the system has to supply power to the grid and also support the grid during any kind of fault. Moreover voltage variations, flickers, harmonic generation

and load unbalance are the important power quality problems that need an immediate attention. The conventional WECS uses a Statcom as voltage compensators at PCC. This results in the overall cost of the system. The main idea behind this work is to extract maximum power from the wind and fully utilize the inverter, not only to interconnect the power to the grid but also to address the power quality problems. Almost all the commercial inverters for hybrid systems inject only active power to grid. It is possible to incorporate the power quality capabilities for reactive power compensation and eliminate the load current harmonics thereby maintaining the grid current almost sinusoidal.

This paper discusses the interconnection of WECS to the grid and to overcome the power quality issues [3]-[4]. The system employs a maximum power point extraction algorithm to extract the maximum power available in wind. The system consists of a PMSG connected to the grid through a back to back connected inverter. The generator side controller controls the duty ratio of the dc-dc converter to achieve MPPT. The grid side controller controls the dc-link voltage and supplies active power to the grid. It also plays a dual role of

supplying reactive power as demanded by the non-linear loads at PCC. The simulation results show that maximum power is harvested and the inverter injects real power to the grid as well as mitigate the power quality issues.

The paper is organised as follows: the wind energy conversion system is discussed in section 2. The control and MPPT for WECS is discussed in section 3. The inverter side control along with dc link control is discussed in section 4. Section 5 gives the simulation results on MATLAB platform. The conclusion is discussed in section 6.

## 2. SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Wind Energy Conversion System

The wind generator system using Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator is shown in fig.1. The kinetic energy produced by the wind turbine is the most desirable type of energy which is converted into electrical power which can be stored in batteries or linked to a utility power grid [5]. The useful power available from wind is given by

$$P = \frac{1}{2} \rho A v^3 C_p(\lambda, \beta) \quad (1)$$

where ‘ $\rho$ ’ is the air density which depends on air pressure and moisture, ‘A’ is the circular swept area, ‘v’ is the wind velocity. The power coefficient  $C_p$  is usually given as a function of the tip speed ratio  $\lambda$  and the blade pitch angle ‘ $\beta$ ’.

An important parameter of wind of wind rotor is the tip speed ratio  $\lambda$  which is the ratio of the circumferential velocity of the blade tips and the wind speed.

$$\lambda = \frac{u}{v_1} = \frac{D \Omega}{2 v_1} \quad (2)$$

where ‘D’ is the outer turbine diameter and ‘ $\Omega$ ’ is the angular rotor speed. The power coefficient, denoting the power extraction efficiency is given by,

$$C_p = 4a(1 - a)^2 \quad (3)$$

where

$$a = 1 - \frac{v_0}{v_u}$$

The power from the wind is maximized when the power coefficient is at its maximum. This occurs at a defined value of the tip speed ratio  $\lambda_{opt}$ . Hence for each wind speed there is an optimum rotor speed where maximum power is extracted from the wind.

Thus by controlling the rotor speed, the power output of turbine is controlled.

### 2.2 Electrical Generator:

Recently, the commercial trend of wind power generation is in using variable speed wind turbine driving a Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator (PMSG). PMSG is considered in many research articles, a good option to be used in WECS due to its self-excitation property, which allows operation at high power factor and efficiency. The salient pole of PMSG operates at low speed and thus the gearbox can be removed. This is a big advantage of PMSG based WECS as the gearbox is a sensitive device in wind power systems. The mathematical model of a PMSG is similar to that of a wound rotor synchronous machine and is expressed in the rotor reference frame (dq frame) [3].

$$V_q = R_s i_q + L_q \frac{di_q}{dt} + \omega_r L_d i_d + \omega_r \lambda_m \quad (4)$$

$$V_d = R_s i_d + L_d \frac{di_d}{dt} - \omega_r L_q i_q \quad (5)$$

The total input power into the machine is given by,

$$P_{in} = \frac{3}{2} (V_q i_q + V_d i_d) \quad (6)$$

Neglecting the zero sequence quantities, the mathematical output power  $P_{out}$  is given by,

$$P_{out} = \frac{3}{2} (\omega_r L_d i_d i_q + \omega_r \lambda_m i_q - \omega_r L_q i_q i_d) \quad (7)$$

Neglecting the zero sequence quantities, the mathematical output power  $P_{out}$  is given by,

$$P_{out} = \frac{3}{2} (\omega_r L_d i_d i_q + \omega_r \lambda_m i_q - \omega_r L_q i_q i_d) \quad (8)$$

where ‘ $\lambda_m$ ’ is magnetic flux, ‘ $L_d$ ’ is direct axis inductance, ‘ $L_q$ ’ is quadrature axis inductance.

Wind energy, even though abundant, varies continually as wind speed varies throughout the day. Amount of power output from WECS depends upon the accuracy with which the peak power points are tracked by the MPPT controller. The MPPT control used in this paper is based on directly adjusting the dc-dc converter duty cycle ‘D’ based on the result of the comparison of wind generator output power [6]-[7]. The wind turbine

characteristics of a typical turbine is shown in Fig2, from which we understand that the maximum power point is obtained when,

$$\frac{dP_{mech}}{d\omega_R} = 0 \tag{9}$$

The generated electric power is given by,

$$P_e = \frac{\omega_R k I_f}{R_a} (V_{dc} - k I_f \omega_e) \tag{10}$$

$V_{dc}$  is proportional to the generator phase voltage  $V_a$ .

Maximum power is at 
$$\frac{dP_{mech}}{dV_{dc}} = 0$$

The maximum power is tracked by searching the rectified dc power rather than environmental conditions. In order to search for maximum power at any wind speed, four conditions must be met. The maximum power searching process is initiated by setting an arbitrary dc side voltage reference  $V_{ref}$ . The controller then measures both the dc side current and voltage, and calculates the initial electric power

$P_o = V_{dc} I_{dc}$ . Next, the reference voltage  $V_{ref}$  is increased by  $\Delta V_{dc}$  so that.

$$V_{ref}(k) = V_{ref}(k-1) + \Delta V_{dc} \tag{11}$$

The flow chart for the MPPT is shown in fig 3. If  $P(k)$  is bigger than  $P(k-1)$ , the maximum power point has not been reached therefore, the voltage reference needs to be increased by  $\Delta V_{dc}$  and the dc power needs to be compared. This process will repeat until maximum power is reached. And if  $P(k)$  is less than  $P(k-1)$ , the dc voltage reference is then decreased by  $\Delta V_{dc}$ . In order to search for maximum power at any wind speed three conditions must be met [7].

(1). If  $P(k) \geq P(k-1)$  and  $V_{dc}(k) \geq V_{dc}(k-1)$ , the dc side voltage reference need to be increased by  $\Delta V_{dc}$ . This condition is met when the turbine operates on the low speed side of the power curve as shown in Fig.4.

(2). If  $P(k) \geq P(k-1)$  and  $V_{dc}(k) < V_{dc}(k-1)$ , the wind turbine is being operated in the high speed side and the dc reference voltage needs to be decreased by  $\Delta V_{dc}$ .

(3). If  $P(k) \geq P(k-1)$  and  $V_{dc}(k) \geq V_{dc}(k-1)$ , the dc side voltage reference need to be increased by  $\Delta V_{dc}$ . This condition is met when the turbine operates on the low speed side of the power curve as shown in Fig.4.

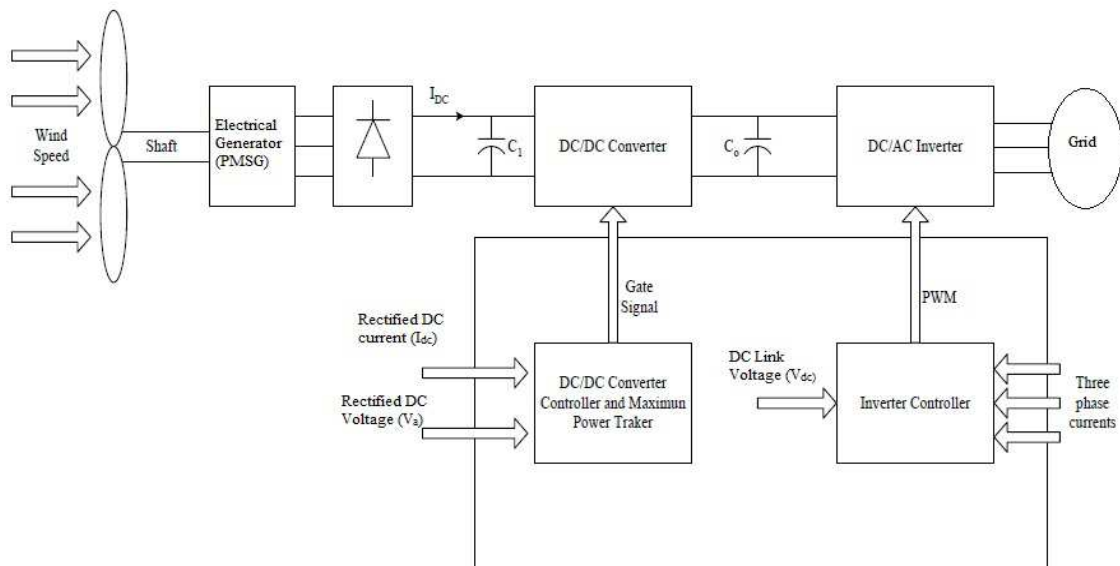


Fig.1. Grid connected WECS with MPPT controller

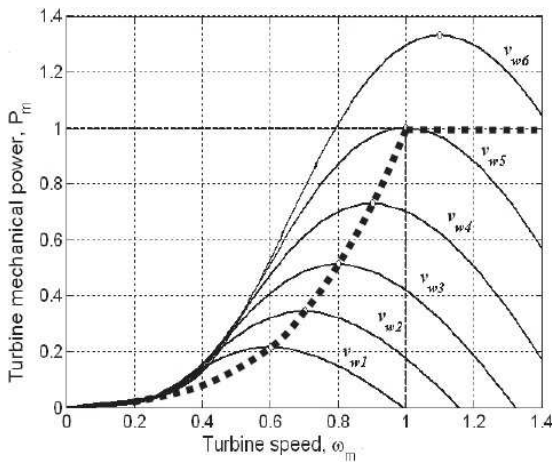


Fig. 2. Wind Turbine Characteristics

by storing enough energy in the inductor so that the output is the desired voltage throughout the switching action. When the switch is closed, the energy is stored in the inductor. Then the energy is transferred to the capacitor when the switch is open [6]-[7]. The switch is controlled by a PWM signal generated by the MPPT controller. The duty cycle of the PWM signal determines the output voltage,

$$V_o = \frac{V_i}{1 - D} \tag{12}$$

where  $V_i$  is the input voltage,  $V_o$  is the output voltage and  $D$  is the duty ratio.

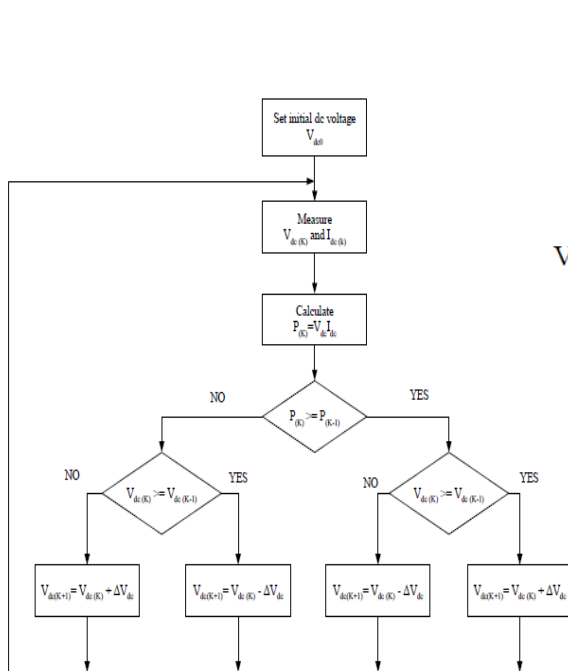


Fig.4. MPPT Tracking process

### 3. POWER ELECTRONIC INTERFACE

#### 3.1 DC-DC converter controller

The AC output voltage from the wind generator is rectified using a three phase bridge rectifier. The DC output is then fed to a DC-DC converter whose main purpose is to increase the variable dc voltage from the diode rectifier to a constant DC voltage which is fed into the inverter. The circuit for the boost converter is shown in the Fig 5, which works

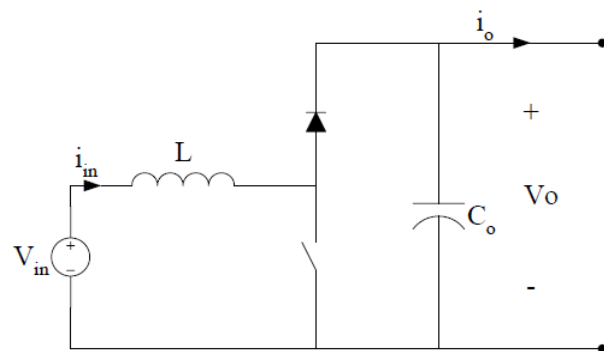


Fig.5. DC-DC Boost Converter

The DC-DC converter uses a simple feedback controller. The DC voltage reference is compared with the actual DC voltage, and the error signal is fed to a PI controller. The output signal is compared with a triangular waveform to generate the pulse which will turn ON or OFF the MOSFET switch.

#### 4. GRID SIDE INVERTER CONTROLLER

The purpose of the grid-side inverter control is to balance the power between the AC grid and the DC link[3],[4],[8],[9]. The power transferred via the DC link should be fed to the grid immediately. And the dc-link voltage needs to be controlled to assure a constant value within the dc-link as shown in Fig. 6. The three phase grid side voltage in synchronous d-q reference frame is given by,

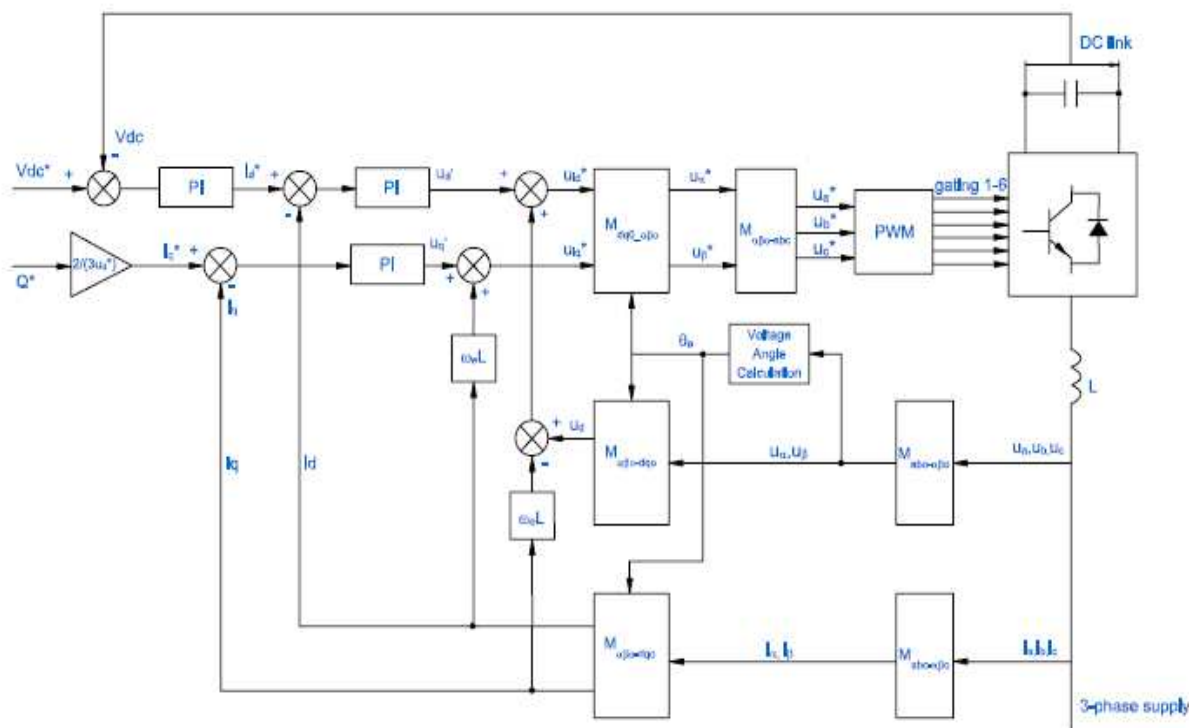


Fig.6. Grid Side Inverter Control Structure

$$V_d = V_{sd} - Ri_d - L \frac{di_d}{dt} + \omega_s Li_q \quad (13)$$

$$P = \frac{3}{2} (V_q i_d) \quad (17)$$

$$V_q = V_{sq} - Ri_q - L \frac{di_q}{dt} - \omega_s Li_d \quad (14)$$

$$Q = \frac{3}{2} (V_d i_q) \quad (18)$$

Since the three-phase grid voltages are with constant amplitude and with constant frequency,  $V_d$  and  $V_q$  are constant. In a balanced three-phase system, active and reactive powers in the d-q reference frame can be expressed as:

$$P = \frac{3}{2} (V_d i_d + V_q i_q) \quad (15)$$

$$Q = \frac{3}{2} (V_d i_q - V_q i_d) \quad (16)$$

The power transferred via the DC link should be equal to the power fed into the grid. Therefore,

$$\frac{3}{2} V_d i_d = V_{dc} I_{dc} \quad (19)$$

From the above equation, it can be seen that the active power control can be achieved by controlling direct axis current  $i_d$ .

Since the rotating reference frame is aligned with the d-axis,  $V_q$  is zero, the above equation can be expressed as,

The reactive power is also implemented in the control,  $i_q^*$  is set according to the reactive power  $Q$  and  $V_d$ . Because the reactive power cannot be determined from the dc grid, the amount of reactive power will be given as an external nominal value

according to the need of the grid. Fig.6 shows the grid side inverter control scheme.

From equation (4) and (5),

$$Ri_d + L \frac{di_d}{dt} = V'_d \quad (20)$$

$$Ri_q + L \frac{di_q}{dt} = V'_q \quad (21)$$

From equation (1) and (2),

$$V_{sd}^* = V'_d + (-\omega_s Li_q + u_d) \quad (22)$$

Since [  $T(s) = \frac{1}{Ls + R}$  ]

$$V_{sq}^* = V'_q + (\omega_s Li_d + u_q) \quad (23)$$

where  $V_{sd}^*$  and  $V_{sq}^*$  are the reference output voltages for the grid-side inverter.  $V_{sd}^*$  and  $V_{sq}^*$  are then transformed to  $V_{\alpha}^*$  and  $V_{\beta}^*$  using dq- $\alpha\beta$  transformation. Finally  $V_a^*$ ,  $V_b^*$ ,  $V_c^*$  are calculated using inverse transformation ie,  $\alpha\beta$ -abc transformation with the help of grid voltage phase angle  $\theta$ . The grid synchronizing phase angle is extracted using the PLL technique. The reference voltages are then applied to the PWM controller to generate control signals for grid side inverter.

## 5. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed system consisting of PMSG based variable speed WECS is simulated using MATLAB/SIMULINK. The results of simulation are shown in fig 7. It is seen from the figure that the power from the generator increases as the speed of the wind increases, which is indicated by an increase in magnitude of PMSG phase voltage and phase current. It is also seen that the input current of the rectifier is in phase with the voltage waveform, therefore leading to unity power factor. The current controller voltage source inverter is actively controlled to achieve the balanced sinusoidal signals even in the presence of non-linear loads. The waveforms of grid voltage, grid currents and inverter output are shown in Fig 8.

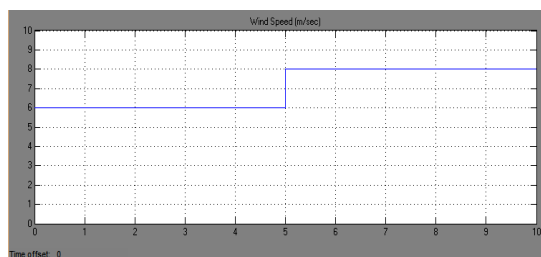


Fig. 7. Wind Speed profile

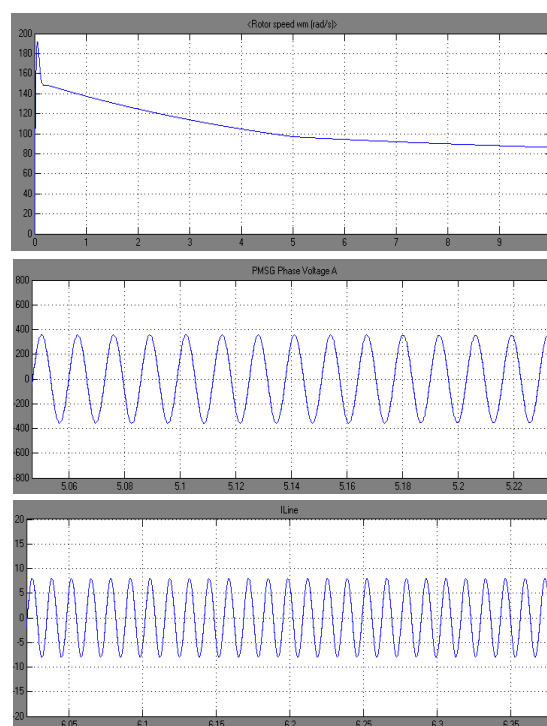


Fig. 8. PMSG phase A voltage and phase current for wind speed 6m/s.

At the beginning the inverter is not connected at PCC. At time  $t=0.2$ sec, the switch is closed and the inverter is now connected to the PCC. After  $t=0.2$ sec, the inverter starts to inject the current in such a way that the grid currents starts changing from unbalanced to balanced sinusoidal currents. The DC link voltage is maintained at constant value irrespective of the different operating conditions, thus maintaining and facilitating the active and reactive power flows. Thus it is evident from the simulation results that the WECS operates with MPPT and also the inverter is effectively used to integrate the WECS to the grid and also used to compensate the unbalance current thus improving the power quality of the system. Although the MPPT

is proved using simulation, a hardware can be constructed in order to implement the controller in real time. Further the maximum power point tracker can be implemented for bigger generators.

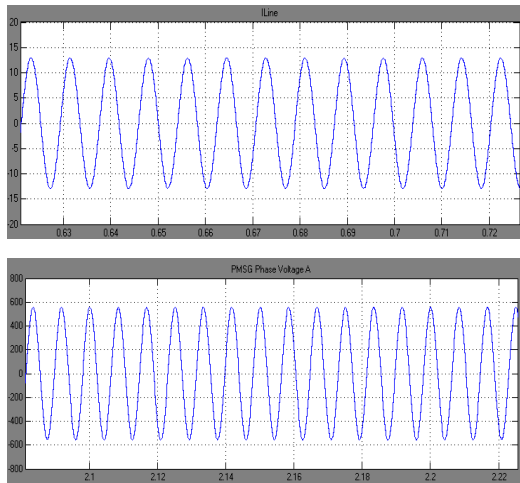


Fig. 9. PMSG Phase A Voltage And Phase Current For Wind Speed 8m/S

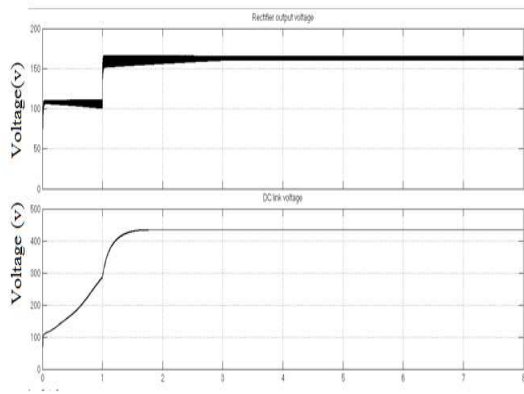


Fig.10. DC Link Voltage.

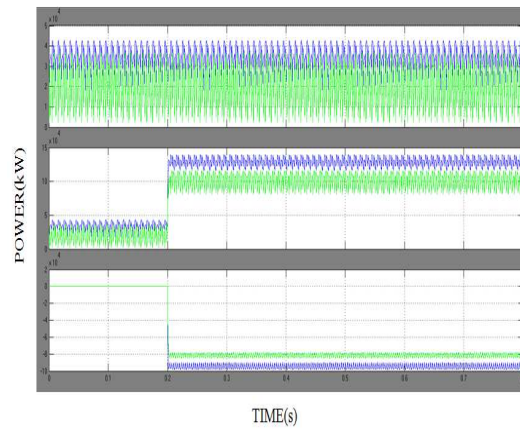
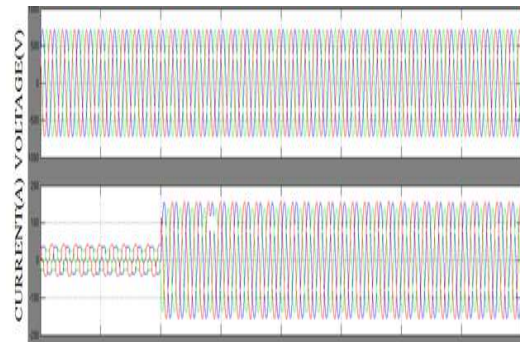
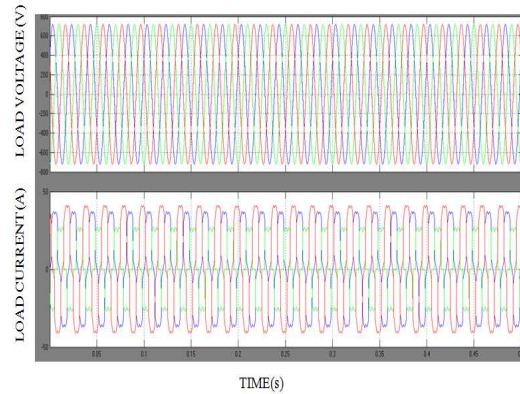
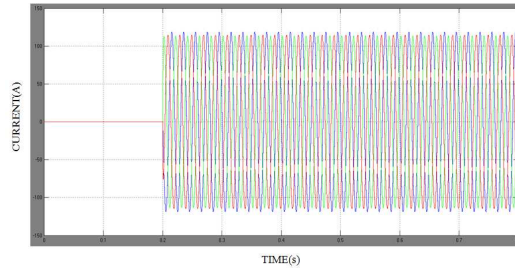


Fig.11 Grid voltages, currents and power

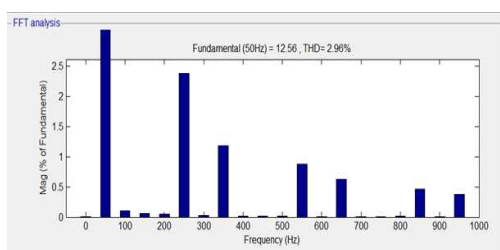


Fig.12. THD of load current

## 6. CONCLUSION

The performance of PMSG based WECS incorporated with MPPT is presented for varying wind conditions. The various components of the proposed system like the wind turbine, dc-dc converter and grid interfacing inverter are modelled first in MATLAB. The complete system is tested for different wind speeds. The MPPT controller achieves its objective of extracting maximum power from the wind at any speed without the knowledge of wind speed. The grid side inverter synchronizes and interfaces the wind energy to the existing grid. The grid interfacing inverter is able to inject real and reactive power into the grid and simultaneously compensates the harmonics and reactive power, thus improving the power quality and maintaining the grid currents balanced and sinusoidal at unity power factor.

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