

# Investigation on a Hardware Simplified Static Synchronous Compensator

Tsao-Tsung Ma, *Member, IEEE*

**Abstract**—Inverter based flexible ac transmission system (FACTS) devices have been expected to play important roles in operating and controlling modern power systems, in which a number of potential concepts, e.g. distributed generation and micro-grid are implemented. FACTS devices can be divided into series-type and shunt-type controllers based on their connection means with the system. As one of the shunt-type FACTS devices, the static synchronous compensator (STATCOM) is the most versatile and powerful FACTS device that can provide effective means for controlling reactive power flow and improving the voltage stability of power networks. However, the STATCOM circuitry has complex and coupled system dynamics which require advanced controllers to achieve satisfactory performances. This paper presents the investigation of a hardware simplified STATCOM in providing satisfactory performances in performing various reactive power flow control functions during steady-state and dynamic operations of power systems. For comparative purposes, two topologies, i.e. 2-leg 4-switch (2L-4S) and 3-leg 6-switch (3L-6S) based STATCOM are investigated in this study. Mathematical models and simulation studies carried out in the Matlab/Simulink environment are firstly described. Typical results are then presented to verify the feasibility of the 2L-4S STATCOM and the effectiveness of the proposed controllers.

**Index Terms**—Three-phase inverter, flexible ac transmission systems (FACTS), static synchronous compensator (STATCOM), space vector pulse width modulation (SVPWM)

## I. INTRODUCTION

IN recent years, concepts concerning distributed and renewable generation, micro-grid, together with the optimal real-time system management, are being promoted to reduce the use of central fossil fired power plant, increase the reliability and efficiency in delivery of energy and reduce emissions. It is envisaged that flexible ac transmission systems (FACTS) devices or controllers are going to play a critical role in operating the new type of power systems under such a complex operating environment [1]-[5]. The basic concept drawn from the flexible ac transmission systems (FACTS) terminology emerges as a remedy to release the extremely transmission system tension. It needs the aid of modern power electronics and advanced control techniques to successfully replace the conventional mechanical controlled apparatuses in systems. By doing so, FACTS technology has been expected to offer a number of advantages, i.e. to bring the transfer capability of transmission line approaching its thermal limit without

violating the stability criteria, to re-assign power flows at will and on a real-time basis so as to facilitate an ideal electricity market and to increase the riding through capability when critical faults are encountered. Besides, FACTS devices can also enhance the operating flexibility of the power system with their fast control characteristics and continuous compensating capabilities. Of the known FACTS devices, the STATCOM being a new generation of reactive power compensating devices has been widely used in various power system control [5]-[17]. From the hardware point of view, a STATCOM is similar to the shunt branch of the unified power flow controller (UPFC) and can be controlled to provide concurrent real and reactive compensations with an external electric energy source adding to its internal dc bus. In the literature, a number of feasible hardware configurations have been proposed for the STATCOM to perform various reactive power and voltage control functions in power systems embedded with distributed generators; however, most of them are designed on a 3-leg 6-switch (3L-6S) structure operated either by SPWM or multi-module and multi-level techniques [18]-[22]. To achieve a cost-effective design without sacrificing the control performances some possible topologies with advanced controllers and fast-response features are still call for investigations.

This paper presents the feature study of a two-leg four-switch (2L-4S) STATCOM to provide satisfactory performances in performing various reactive power flow control functions during steady-state and transient operations of power systems. To verify the overall performance of the hardware simplified STATCOM, two topologies with three switching techniques, i.e. SPWM, voltage hysteresis and SVPWM, have been investigated in this paper. Comprehensive simulation studies are carried out in the Matlab/Simulink environment and results of various power flow control examples are presented to show the successful design of the 2L-4S STATCOM and the effectiveness of the proposed control strategy.

## II. STATCOM PRINCIPLES AND ITS CONTROLLERS

### A. STATCOM Review

In a conventional STATCOM system, the internal 3 phase inverter normally constructed by a 3-leg and 6-switch configuration provides the main control functions via connecting its output voltage with a controllable magnitude and phase angle in shunt with the compensated power system through a transformer. In this paper, a simple three-phase converter constituted by 2-leg and 4-switch is adopted to perform both the reactive power and voltage compensation tasks [23]-[25]. This arrangement can provide an alternative topology for STATCOM with lower system cost; however, the related controllers must be properly designed to achieve a satisfactory performance. Fig. 1 shows a simple test power

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Tsao-Tsung Ma is with the Dept. of Electrical Engineering, CEECS, National United University, Taiwan, R.O.C. (phone: +886-37-381369; fax: +886-37-327887; e-mail: tonyma@nuu.edu.tw; tonyma@ieee.org).

system model with the proposed 2-leg and 4-switch STATCOM configuration. As shown in Fig. 1, the STATCOM is connected to a distribution system at the load terminal. The overall system is represented by a three-phase voltage source behind the series  $R$ - $L$  elements in each phase. In a STATCOM system, the voltage acts essentially as a controllable synchronous ac voltage source. In addition to the dc voltage regulator, the three-phase inverter can independently generate or absorb controllable reactive power as desired and thereby provides independent shunt reactive compensation for the system. It is important to note that if a dc energy source can be added to the STATCOM the control of real and reactive power on the connected point of transmission line can be achieved by adjusting the voltage with an appropriate magnitude and angle of the inverter. In this study, the output reactive power of a STATCOM is controlled by the magnitude of q-axis current component of the proposed 2L-4S STATCOM.

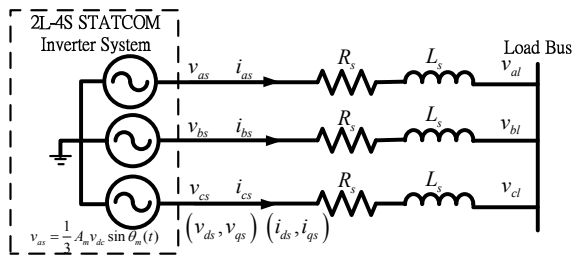


Fig. 1. Schematic representation of the test power system with a 2L-4S STATCOM.

### B. STATCOM Mathematical Model

From Fig. 1, the ac-side voltage equations of the STATCOM model can be expressed as:

$$v_{abcs} = R_s i_{abcs} + L_s p(i_{abcs}) + v_{abcl} \quad (1)$$

The  $P$  in the above equation is a derivative operator. In (1),  $R_s = \text{diag}\{R_s, R_s, R_s\}$ ,  $L_s = \text{diag}\{L_s, L_s, L_s\}$ , and

$$v_{abcs} = [V_{as} \ V_{bs} \ V_{cs}]^T \quad (2)$$

$$i_{abcs} = [i_{as} \ i_{bs} \ i_{cs}]^T \quad (3)$$

$$v_{abcl} = [V_{al} \ V_{bl} \ V_{cl}]^T \quad (4)$$

Considering only the fundamental components of the switching functions of the converter switches, the STATCOM terminal voltages can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{as}(t) \\ v_{bs}(t) \\ v_{cs}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} A_m v_{dc} \begin{bmatrix} \sin \theta_m(t) \\ \sin(\theta_m(t) - \frac{2\pi}{3}) \\ \sin(\theta_m(t) + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

where,  $\theta_m(t) = \omega t + \alpha_m$ .  $A_m$  and  $\alpha_m$  are respectively the amplitude and angle modulation indices.  $\omega$  is the system frequency, and  $v_{dc}$  is the dc bus voltage of the STATCOM inverter. Since the dynamic model of an electrical power system is conventionally developed in a d-q frame, it is desirable to obtain the model of STATCOM in the utility d-q frame. To transfer the  $abc$  variables to a d-q frame, a transformation matrix is selected such that the voltage and current components of STATCOM are proportional to its real and reactive power components respectively. Thus, the control of each current component regulating the corresponding power components can be achieved. The STATCOM variables in the  $abc$  frame can be transferred to the d-q frame by the Clark transformation.

$$f_{dqos} = K f_{abcs} \quad (6)$$

The transformation matrix  $K$  is defined as

$$K = \frac{2}{3} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_s & \cos\left(\theta_s - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) & \cos\left(\theta_s + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) \\ \sin \theta_s & \sin\left(\theta_s - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) & \sin\left(\theta_s + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

Substituting  $abc$  variables from (1) to (5) into (6), the voltage equations (8) of the STATCOM in the d-q frame are obtained using (7):

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} A_m v_{dc} \begin{bmatrix} \sin(\alpha_m - \alpha) \\ \cos(\alpha_m - \alpha) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = R_s i_{dqos} + L_s p(i_{dqos}) + \omega \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} L_s i_{dqos} + v_{ml} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

The  $V_m$  is the amplitude of load terminal voltage. For the dc-side circuit of the STATCOM, we have

$$p\left(\frac{v_{dc}}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{C} (i_{dc}) \quad (9)$$

and the dc-side current can be mathematically expressed as

$$i_{dc} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}} A_m \begin{bmatrix} i_{as} \sin(\theta_m) + i_{bs} \sin\left(\theta_m - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) \\ + i_{cs} \sin\left(\theta_m + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

Using abc variables from (10) and the transformation equation (6), the d-q model of the dc circuit can be obtained as (11).

$$p\left(\frac{v_{dc}}{2}\right) = \frac{-3}{2\sqrt{3}} \frac{A_m}{C} \begin{bmatrix} i_{qs} \sin(\alpha_m - \alpha) \\ + i_{ds} \cos(\alpha_m - \alpha) \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

Under steady-state and balanced three phase conditions, the three phase active power and reactive power of the STATCOM may be expressed in terms of d-q quantities as (12) and (13), where the  $v$  and  $i$  are the peak values of phase voltage and phase current respectively, and  $\theta_v$  and  $\theta_i$  are the phase angles for phase voltage  $v_a$  and phase current  $i_a$  respectively.

$$P_{STATCOM} = \frac{3}{2} (v_q i_q + v_d i_d) \quad (12)$$

$$Q_{STATCOM} = \frac{3}{2} (v_q i_d - v_d i_q) \quad (13)$$

### C. Voltage SVPWM Controllers for the Voltage Source Inverter

The modeling steps of a space vector pulse width modulation (SVPWM) algorithm are adopted from the author's previous work [21] and described again in this subsection. In practical operations, two feasible configurations are depicted in Fig. 2(a) and (b). The corresponding current paths are shown in Fig. 3 (a) to (h).

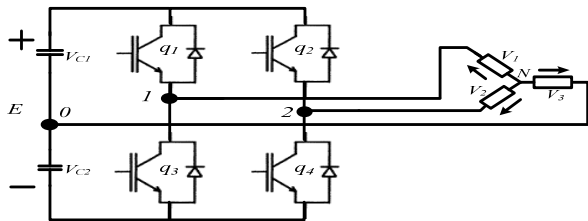


Fig. 2.(a) Topology structure of three-phase voltage source inverter(Y)

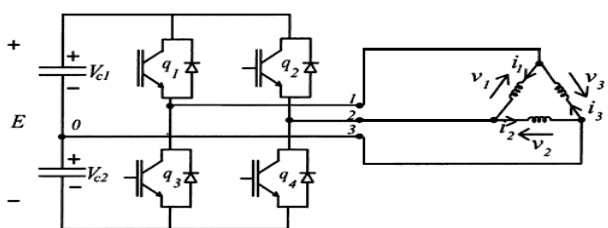


Fig. 2.(b) Topology structure of three-phase voltage source inverter(Delta)

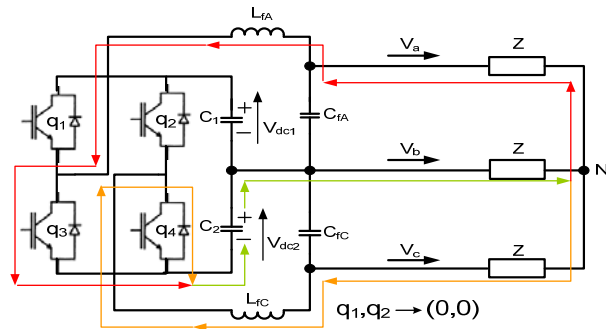


Fig. 3.(a) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Y-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (0,0)$ .

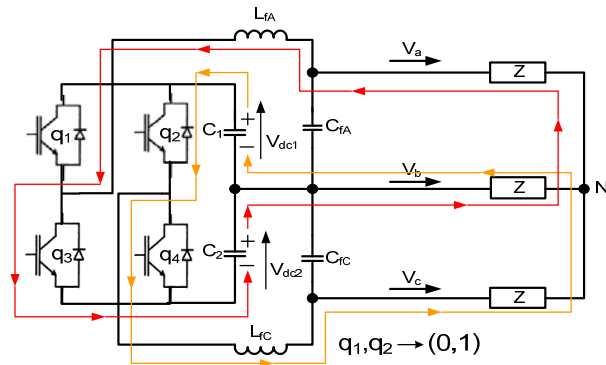


Fig. 3.(b) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Y-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (0,1)$ .

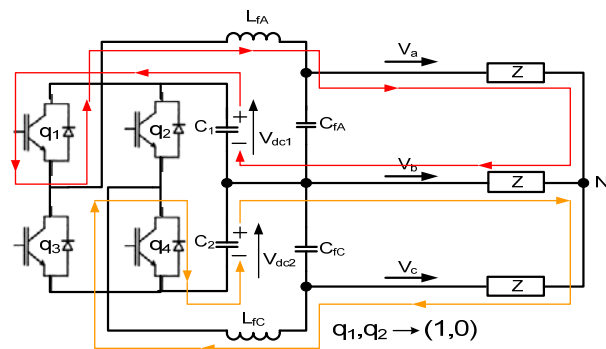


Fig. 3.(c) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Y-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (1,0)$ .

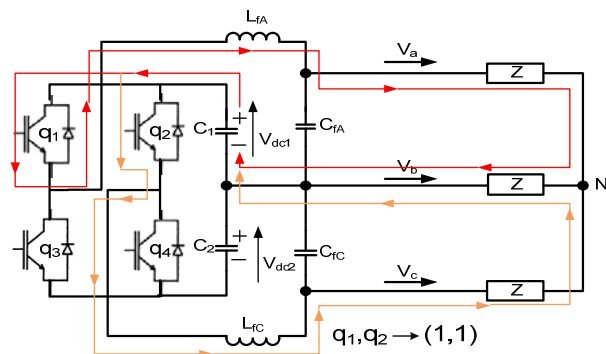


Fig. 3.(d) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Y-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (1,1)$ .

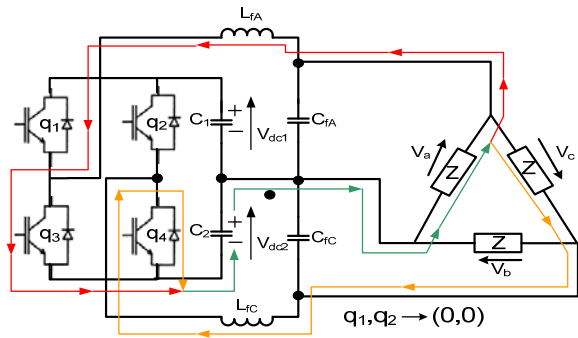


Fig. 3.(e) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Delta-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (0,0)$ .

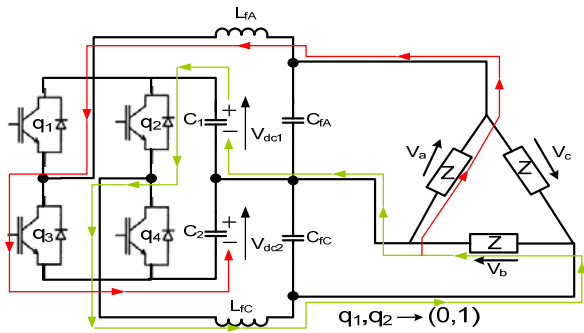


Fig. 3.(f) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Delta-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (0,1)$ .

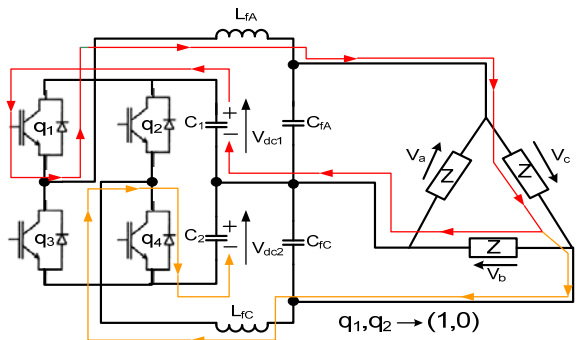


Fig. 3.(g) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Delta-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (1,0)$ .

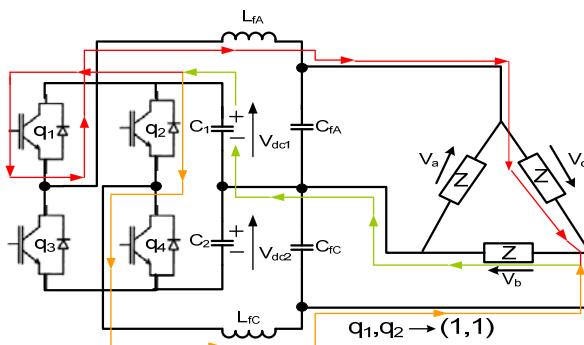


Fig. 3.(h) The current paths of three-phase voltage source inverter for Delta-connection, at  $q_1, q_2 = (1,1)$ .

In this paper, the derivations of control algorithms are based on the system setup shown in Fig. 2(b). Here, the switching status is represented by binary variables  $q_1$  to  $q_4$ ,

which are set to “1” when the switch is closed and “0” when it is open. In addition, the switches in one inverter branch are controlled complementary, therefore:

$$q_1 + q_3 = 1 \quad (14)$$

$$q_2 + q_4 = 1 \quad (15)$$

Combinations of switching S1-S4 result in 4 general space vectors  $V_1 - V_4$ , as shown in Fig.4. The components  $\alpha\beta$  of the voltage vectors are gained from  $abc$  voltages by using Clark's transformation.

The combinations of the states of the switches originate four different vectors and the related parameters in the  $\alpha\beta$  plane are given in Table 1 and 2. These vectors are phase shifted of  $\pi/2$  from each other. Using the above vector definitions one may split the  $\alpha\beta$  plane into four (I to IV) sectors as shown in Fig. 4.

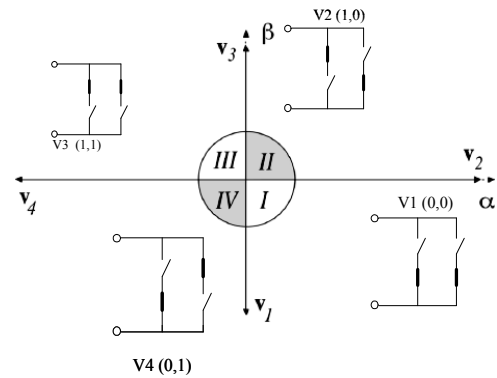


Fig. 4. Basic voltage space vectors for 2L-4S inverter

From Fig. 2(b), the following relations can be derived.

$$V_1 = V_{10} - V_{20}, V_2 = V_{20} - V_{30}$$

$$V_3 = V_{30} - V_{10}, V_2 = -V_4$$

It follows that,  $V_1, V_2$  and  $V_3$  can be derived as follows:

$$V_{10} = (2q_1 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \quad (16)$$

$$V_{20} = (2q_2 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \quad (17)$$

$$V_{30} = 0 \quad (18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_1 &= (2q_1 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} - (2q_2 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \\ &= q_1 V_{dc} - \frac{V_{dc}}{2} - q_2 V_{dc} + \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \\ &= q_1 V_{dc} - q_2 V_{dc} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

$$V_2 = (2q_2 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \quad (20)$$

$$V_3 = -(2q_1 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \quad (21)$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{V_\beta}{V_\alpha} \right) \quad (27)$$

Consequently, the voltage components,  $V_\alpha$ ,  $V_\beta$  can be obtained by performing the following Clark transformation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_\alpha \\ V_\beta \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1 V_{dc} - q_2 V_{dc} \\ (2q_2 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \\ -(2q_1 - 1) \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (22)$$

thus,

$$V_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} (q_1 - q_2) V_{dc} \quad (23)$$

$$V_\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (q_1 + q_2 - 1) V_{dc} \quad (24)$$

Let  $V_{ref}$  represents the reference voltage being synthesized by the 2L-4S inverter within a switching period of length. According to the space vector technique, the desired voltage can be mathematically expressed as:

$$V_{ref} = V_1 T_1 + V_2 T_2 + V_3 T_3 + V_4 T_4 \quad (25)$$

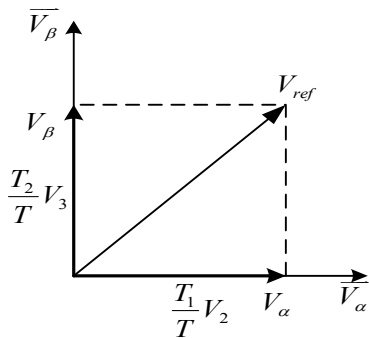


Fig. 5. Voltage vectors of the SVPWM in first section.

From Fig.5,  $T$  and  $V_{ref}$  in the section can be expressed as

$$V_{ref} = \frac{T_1}{T} V_1 + \frac{T_2}{T} V_2 = V_\alpha \alpha + V_\beta \beta \quad (26)$$

#### D. Modelling of SVPWM Control Patterns

##### Calculating the Section Data of $V_{ref}$

Using  $V_\alpha$  and  $V_\beta$ , the angle and the corresponding section data of the desired voltage signal can be obtained.

##### Calculating $T_X, T_Y$

The  $T_X, T_Y$  in Table 1 can be calculated as follows. Section(1): 270°-0 degrees.

From (23), (24),  $V_\alpha$  and  $V_\beta$  can be calculated as expressed in (29).

$$V_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} V_{dc} \beta, \quad V_2 = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} V_{dc} \alpha \quad (28)$$

$$V_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} V_{dc} \frac{T_2}{T}, \quad V_\beta = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} V_{dc} \frac{T_1}{T} \quad (29)$$

Also, the  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  can be obtained as follows.

$$T_1 = -\sqrt{2} \frac{T}{V_{dc}} V_\beta, \quad T_2 = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{T}{V_{dc}} V_\alpha \quad (30)$$

$$T_X = \sqrt{2} \frac{T}{V_{dc}} V_\beta, \quad T_Y = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} V_\alpha \quad (31)$$

With the similar method, the  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  in other sections can be readily derived.

##### Switch Sequences of the SVPWM

In normal operations, a triangle wave with proper frequency is used to compare with  $T_{aon}$ ,  $T_{bon}$  and  $T_{con}$ . The amplitude of the triangle wave represents modulated period  $T$  while the frequency of the triangle wave can be chosen based on the capability of IGBT used.

Table 1. The  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  in all sections

Sections	S1	S2	S3	S4
Values	270°-0°	0°-90°	90°-180°	180°-270°
$T_1$	$-T_X$	$-T_X$	$T_Y$	$-T_Y$
$T_2$	$-T_Y$	$T_Y$	$T_X$	$T_X$

To make an easier representation of the PWM operations, two variables CMPR1 and CMPR2 can be used in section I to IV as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. The comparator values in various sections

Sections	S1	S2	S3	S4
Values	270°-0°	0°-90°	90°-180°	180°-270°
CMPR1	Tcon	Tbon	Taon	Tbon
CMPR2	Tbon	Tcon	Tbon	Taon

The corresponding PWM switching patterns in section I is shown in Fig. (6).

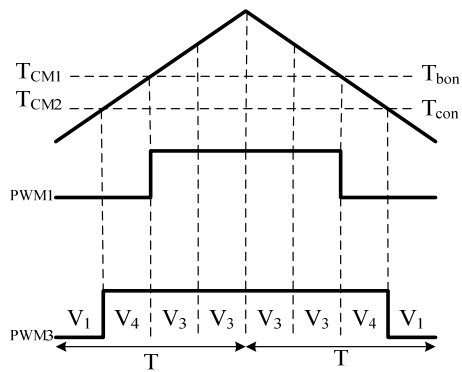


Fig. 6. The corresponding PWM switching patterns in section I.

### III. IMPLEMENTATION OF STATCOM P-Q CONTROLLERS

As mentioned previously, in a normal operation two sets of separate controllers are used for controlling the STATCOM, one for the real power (or equivalently the dc voltage) and the other for reactive power regulation. As well known, control of the STATCOM active and reactive currents can be achieved by respectively varying the active and reactive components of the internal inverter voltage. Fig. 7 shows the control system block diagram of the proposed P-Q controllers and the STATCOM circuits.

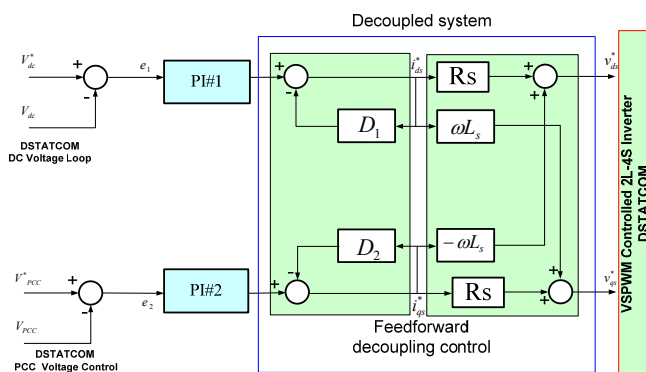


Fig. 7. The control system block diagram of the proposed P-Q controllers

### IV. TEST POWER SYSTEMS AND RESULTS

For identifying and controlling the dynamics of the power system and the 2-leg 4-switch STATCOM, the single-machine infinite-bus (SMIB) power system as shown in Fig. 8 is simulated in a Matlab/Simulink environment. Simulink model tool is a commercial grade transient simulator of electric networks with the capability of modeling complex power electronics, controls and the nonlinear power network. The power system shown in Fig. 8 comprises a voltage source (normally a synchronous generator with an automatic voltage regulator (AVR) is used), which is connected to a load bus through a transmission lines. The STATCOM is placed at the load bus to support the voltage. This simple system is chosen in order to evaluate the power flow control performances of the proposed new STATCOM configurations with two basic control strategies, i.e. reactive power and voltage regulations. The detailed control structure for the proposed STATCOM and the related system parameters can be found in Fig. 8. In Fig. 8, the control scheme shown in

Fig. 7 (PI and decoupled controllers) is used to perform the P&Q power flow control functions. Fig. 9 to 10 show a set of typical simulation results obtained in this study. In Fig. 9 to 10, the control results concerning the real and reactive power regulations of a STATCOM are presented.

To demonstrate the performance of the proposed hardware simplified STATCOM in voltage regulation, Fig. 11 to Fig. 16 show a set of comparative simulation results concerning the PCC voltage regulations under load disturbances (two-steps in load changes) with the various switching methods working on both the 3-leg 6-switch and the 2-leg 4switch inverter topologies.

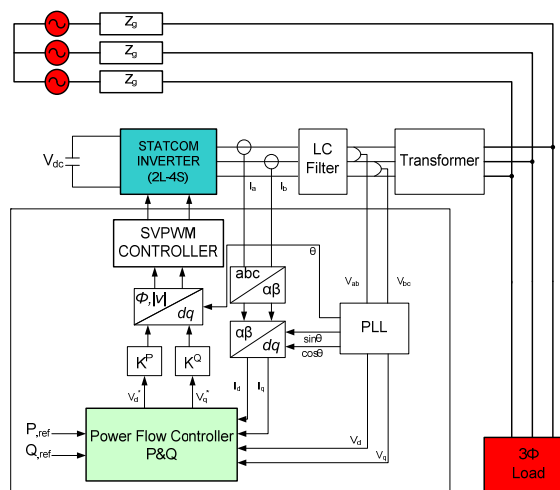


Fig. 8. The overall control system and parameters

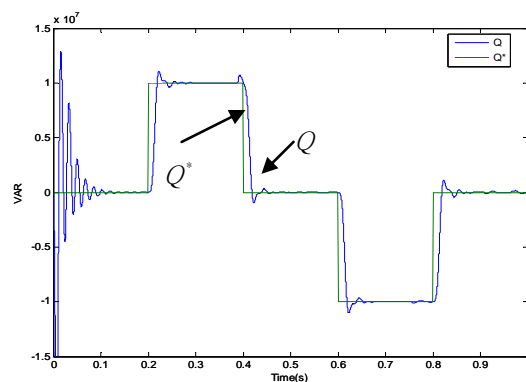


Fig. 9. (a) Reactive power regulations (two-steps in Q command changes) with the proposed SVPWM controller.

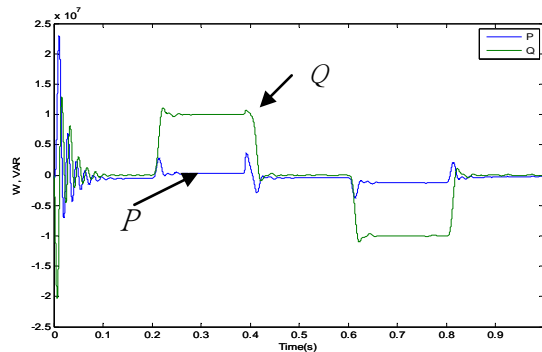


Fig. 9. (b) The effects of reactive power regulations (two-steps in Q command changes) on the real power (the blue line) with the proposed SVPWM controller.

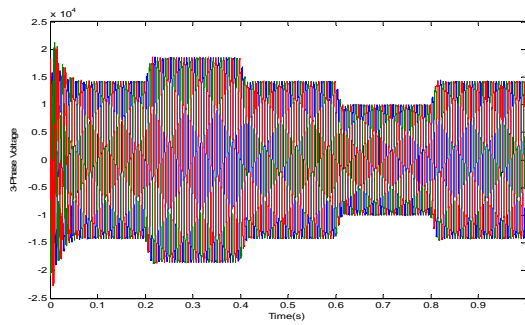
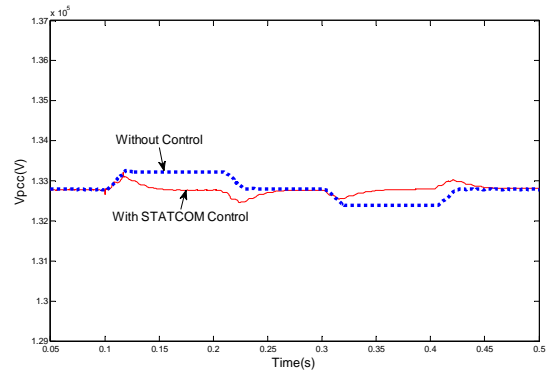


Fig. 9. (c) The terminal voltages of the STATCOM in reactive power regulations (two-steps in Q command changes) with the proposed SVPWM controller.



(A) The controlled  $V_{pcc}$ .

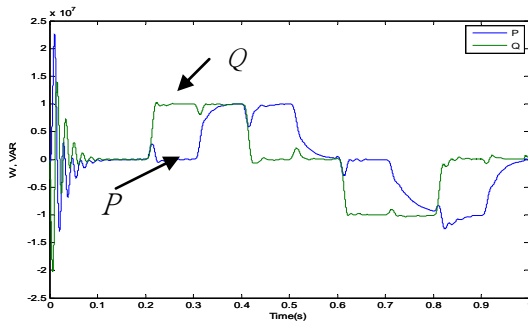
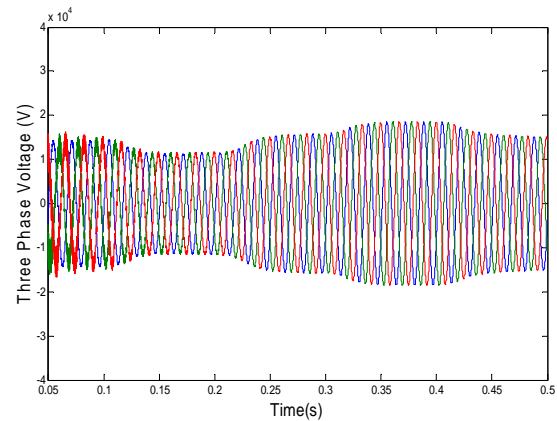


Fig. 10. (a) The P-Q regulation results (two-steps in P-Q command changes) with the proposed SVPWM controller (with a dc energy storage added).



(B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM.

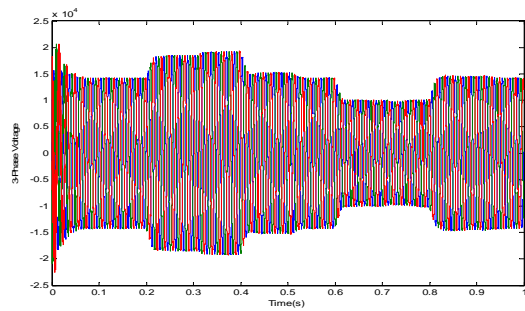
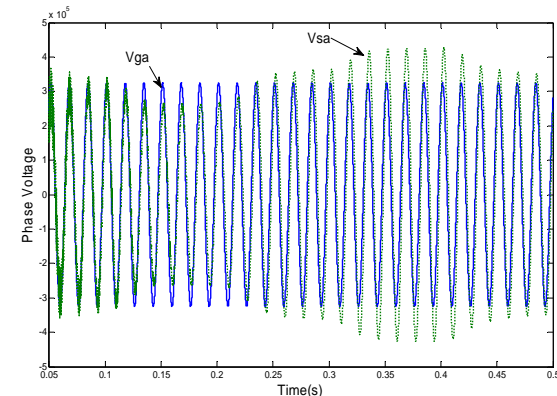
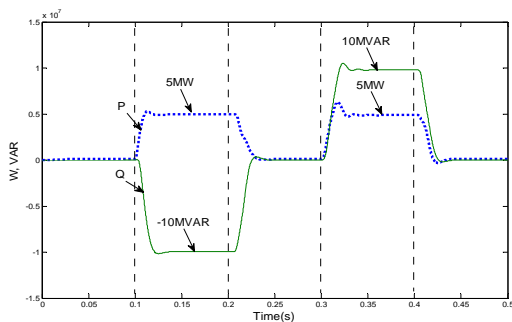


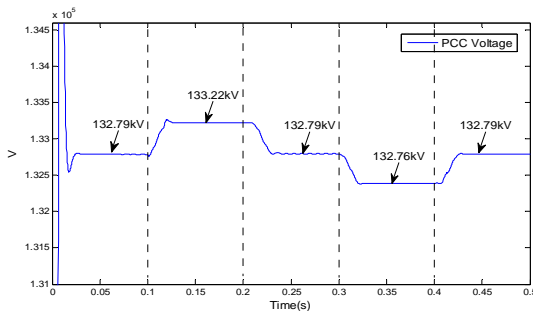
Fig. 10. (b) The terminal voltages of the STATCOM in P-Q regulations (two-steps in P-Q command changes) with the proposed SVPWM controller.



(C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM.

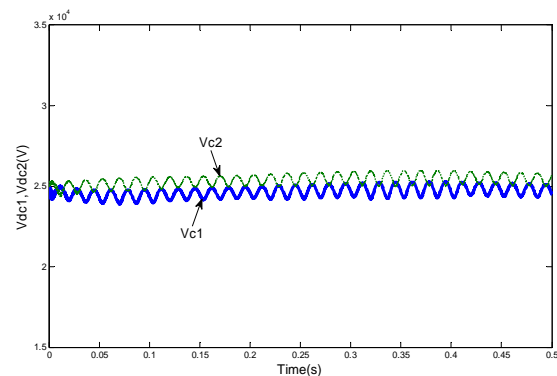


(A) The variations of P and Q.



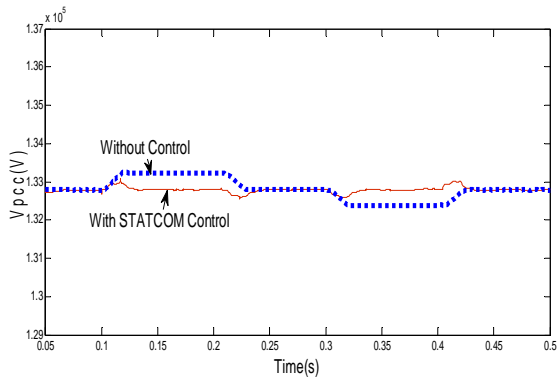
(B) PCC Voltage profile (uncontrolled)

Fig. 11. The initial system states with two-steps in load changes: (A) The variations of P and Q; (B) PCC Voltage profile (uncontrolled).

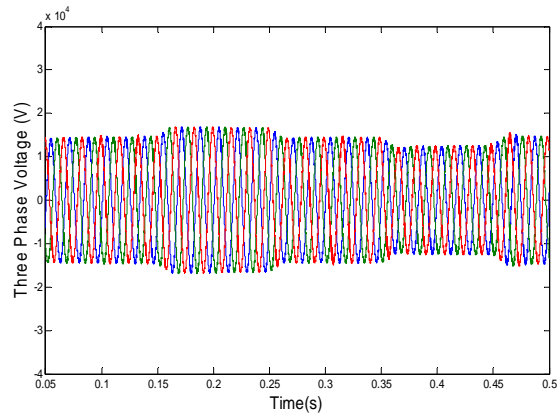


(D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.

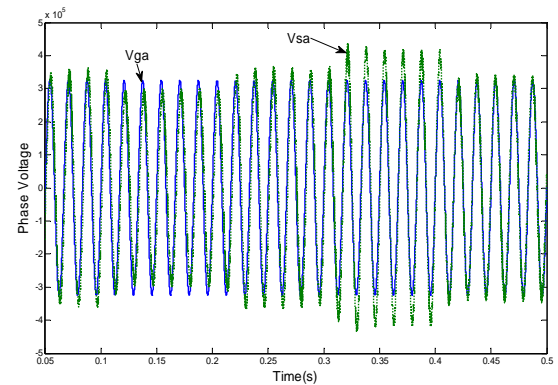
Fig. 12. The system states with the 2L-4S STATCOM in operation (SPWM control); (A) the controlled  $V_{pcc}$ , (B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM; (C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM; (D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.



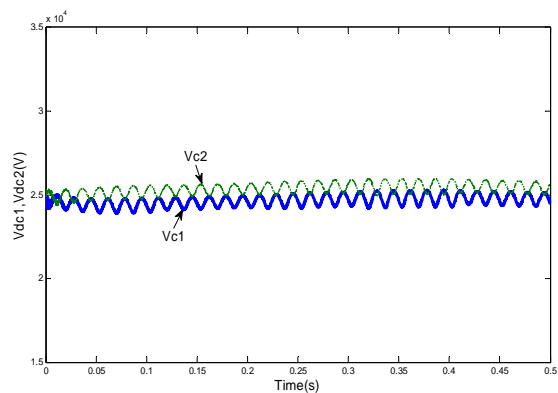
(A) The controlled  $V_{pcc}$ .



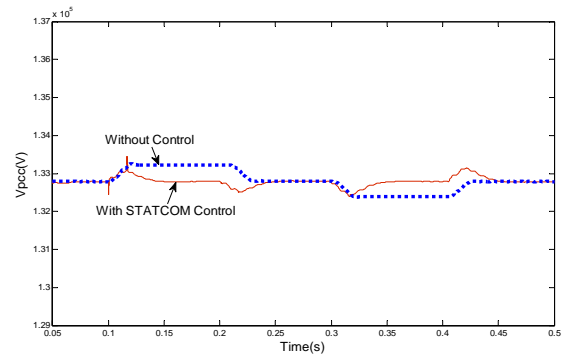
(B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM.



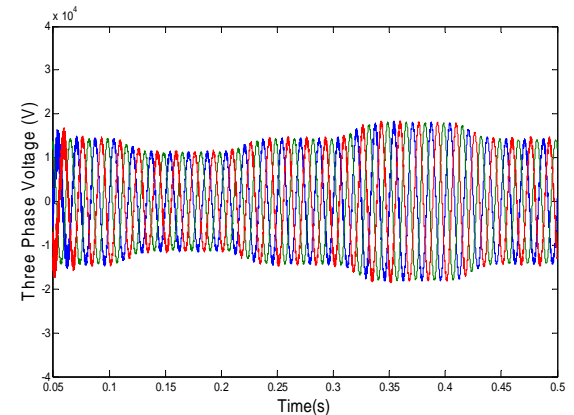
(C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM.



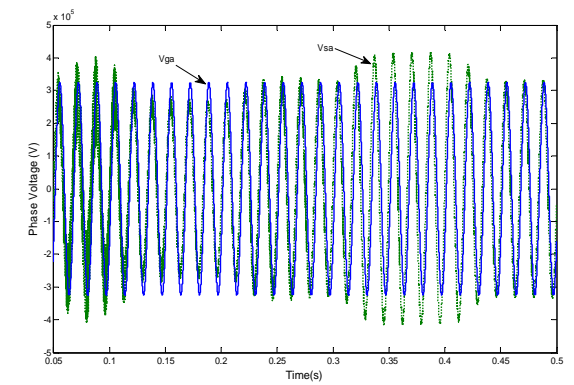
(D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.



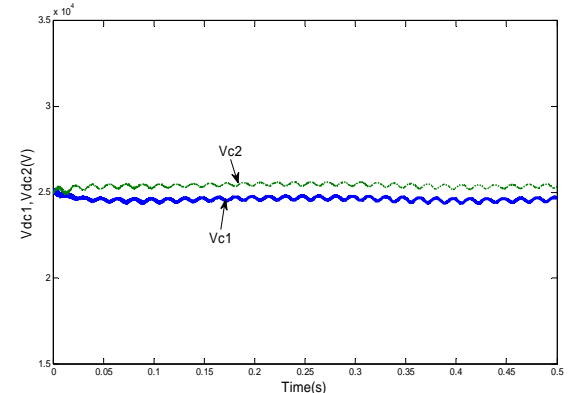
(A) The controlled  $V_{pcc}$ .



(B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM.



(C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM.

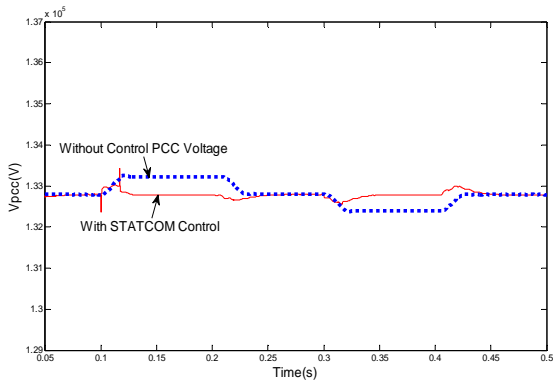


(D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.

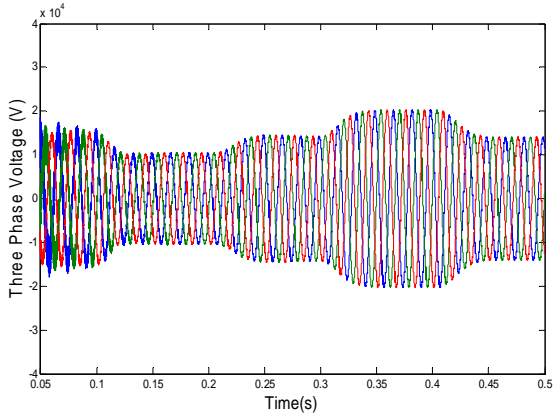
Fig. 13. The system states with the 2L-4S STATCOM in operation (Hysteresis control); (A) the controlled  $V_{pcc}$ ; (B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM; (C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM; (D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.

Fig. 14. The system states with the 2L-4S STATCOM in operation (SVPWM control); (A) the controlled  $V_{pcc}$ ; (B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM; (C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM; (D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.

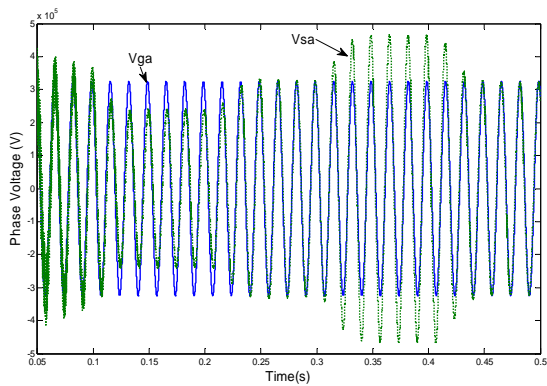




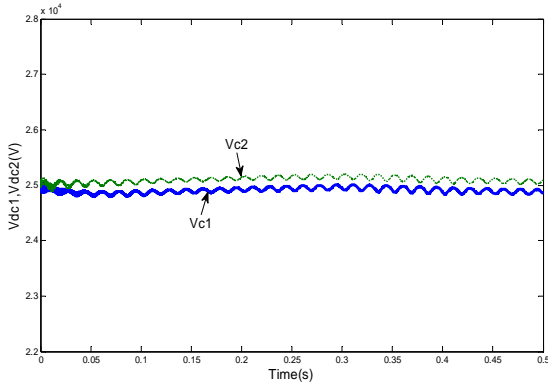
(A) The controlled  $V_{pcc}$ .



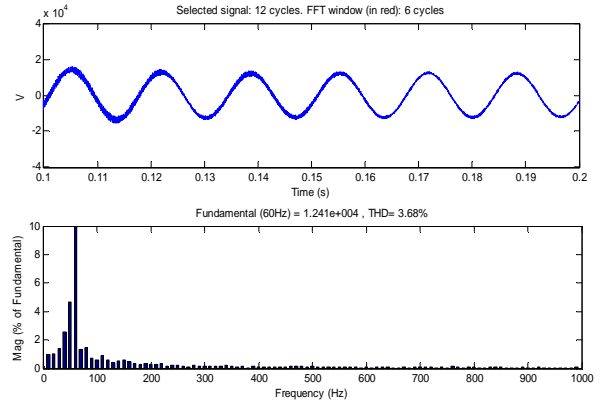
(B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM.



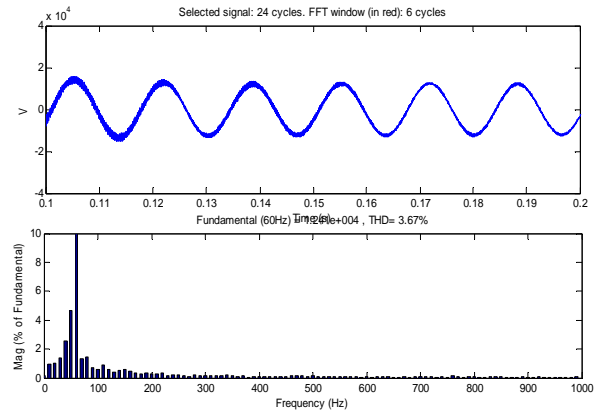
(C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM.



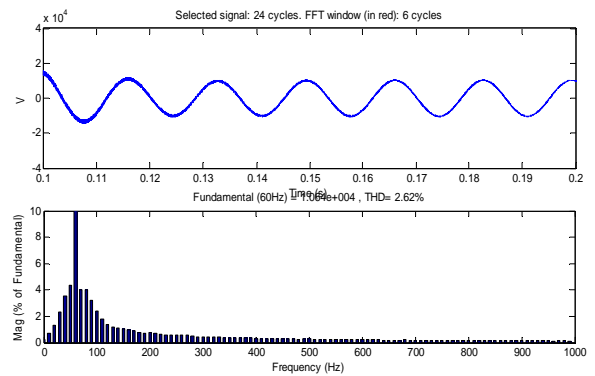
(D) The internal voltages on the two capacitors.



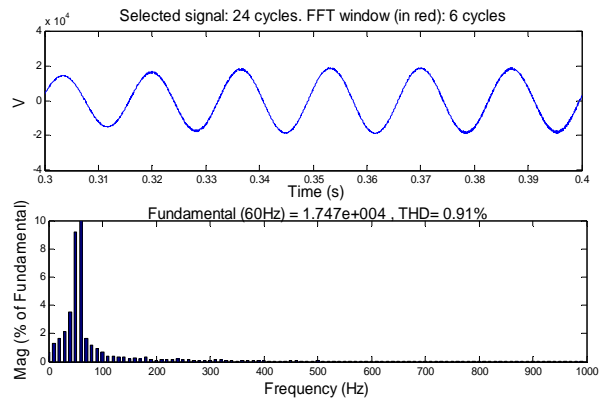
(A) The SPWM controlled 2L-4S STATCOM.



(B) The voltage hysteresis controlled 2L-4S STATCOM.



(C) The SVPWM controlled 2L-4S STATCOM.



(D) The SVPWM controlled 3L-6S STATCOM.

Fig. 15. The system states with the 2L-4S STATCOM in operation (3L-6S, SVPWM control); (A) the controlled  $V_{pcc}$ , (B) The three-phase voltages of the STATCOM; (C) The voltage difference between the grid and the STATCOM; (D) Internal voltages on the two capacitors.

Fig. 16. The spectra of voltage harmonics of the 2L-4S STATCOM under different switching control strategies: (A) The SPWM controlled STATCOM, (B) The voltage hysteresis controlled STATCOM; (C) The SVPWM controlled STATCOM; (D) The 3L-6S Inverter based STATCOM with SVPWM control.

## V. CONCLUSION

This paper has presented both the theoretical and numerical investigations on a hardware simplified STATCOM based on a two-leg four-switch inverter. The proposed STATCOM is designed to provide satisfactory performances in performing various reactive power flow regulation functions during steady-state and dynamic voltage control of power systems. To verify the overall performance of the designed STATCOM, two topologies, i.e. 2L-4S and 3L-6S with three switching techniques, i.e. SPWM, voltage hysteresis and SVPWM, have been investigated. Based on comprehensive simulation studies carried out in this study, the proposed inverter circuit with SVPWM switching strategy exhibits a number of good features in that it can fast modify the switching patterns of the internal power electronic switches of the STATCOM to achieve the desired output voltage with only 2 thirds of the number of power devices required in a conventional design. This paper has also developed a detailed dynamic model of the proposed 2L-4S STATCOM in d-q frame. The derived model has been verified with a practical design case in which the basic P-Q power flow control and voltage stabilization functions in a STATCOM are tested. Feasibility and control performance of the new STATCOM system, including the simplified power circuitry and control subsystems have been verified via comprehensive digital time-domain simulations. Results have shown the feasibility and effectiveness of the design.

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