

A High Efficiency Power Factor Correction Scheme Based AC/DC Converter fed PMDC Drive

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Abstract— A new power factor correction scheme based on ac to dc flyback converter fed PMDC motor is presented in this paper. In the proposed circuit, the efficiency and power factor is improved by using an auxiliary (third) winding coupled to the transformer secondary of a dc to dc flyback converter. The flyback converter is placed between the input diode rectifier and drive as PMDC motor. Where the dc to dc flyback converter is operated at very high switching frequency and produces a high frequency pulsating source, so that input current harmonics is reduced. It results in higher efficiency and power factor. This circuit is not required to use of control circuit for power factor correction. In circuit input inductor is designed to operate in discontinuous current mode to get lower harmonic content.

Index Term s— AC to DC flyback converter, power factor, power factor correction, PMDC motor.

1. INTRODUCTION

The existing system power converters with diode rectifiers have resulted in distorted input current waveforms with high harmonic contents. A two-stage scheme results in high power factor and fast response output voltage by using two independent controllers and optimized power stages. The main drawbacks of this scheme are its relatively higher cost and larger size resulted from its complicated power stage topology and control circuits, particularly in low power applications. In order to reduce the cost, the single-stage approach, which integrates the PFC Stage with a dc/dc converter into one stage, is developed. It is shown in figure 1.

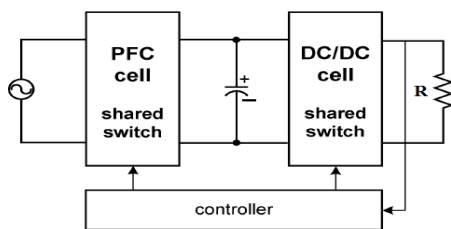


Fig.1 Typical single stage PFC converter

These integrated single-stage power factor correction (PFC) converters usually use a boost converter to achieve PFC with discontinuous current mode (DCM) operation. Usually, the DCM Operation gives a lower total harmonic distortion (THD) of the input current compared to the continuous current mode (CCM). However, the CCM operation yields slightly higher efficiency compared to the DCM operation.

Generally, single-stage PFC converters meet the regulatory requirements regarding the input current harmonics, but they do not improve the

power factor and reduce the THD as much as their conventional two-stage counterpart. The power factor could be as low as 0.8, however, they still meet the regulation. In addition, although the single-stage scheme is especially attractive in low cost and low power applications due to its simplified power stage and control circuit, major issues still exist, such as low efficiency and high as well as wide-range intermediate dc bus voltage stress. To overcome the disadvantages of the single-stage scheme, many converters with input current shaping have been presented, in which a high frequency ac voltage source (dither signal) is connected in series with the rectified input voltage in order to shape the input current. A new concept of quasi-active PFC is proposed to improve the efficiency of a single-stage converter by preventing the input current or voltage stress due the PFC cell from being added to the active switch.

The PFC circuit, operation principles, analysis and results of the proposed converter are presented in Section II. The simulation results are presented in Section III.

2. PROPOSED POWER FACTOR CORRECTION CIRCUIT

The proposed ac to dc flyback converter fed PMDC motor block diagram is shown in Fig.2. The above block diagram consists of various blocks such as rectifier, PFC cell, DC-DC Flyback Converter, microcontroller, PWM signal and PMDC motor as load. An AC supply is given to the rectifier, which converts alternating current (AC), which periodically reverses direction, to direct current (DC) which flows in only one direction. The process is known as rectification. A PFC cell is connected in

between rectifier and flyback converter. The PFC cell consists of L, C and auxiliary winding. This improves the power factor up to above 0.9. Where the dc to dc flyback converter is operated at high-switching frequency, the auxiliary windings produce a high frequency pulsating source, which results in the input current harmonics is reduced.

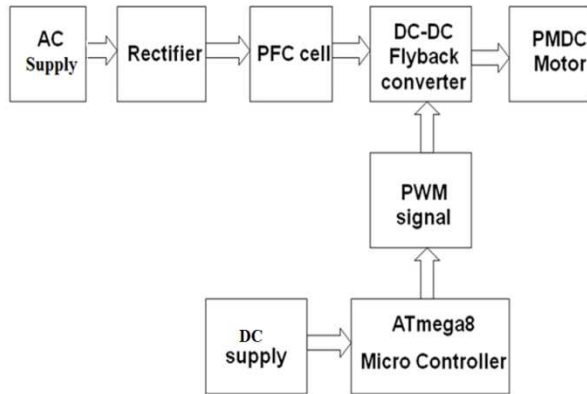


Fig.2 Block diagram of PFC

The Controller generates PWM signal for MOSFET switch used in flyback converter is fed to PMDC motor. The input inductor L_B operates in DCM such that a lower THD of the input current can be achieved. The proposed quasi-active PFC circuit is analyzed in this section. As shown in Fig.3, the circuit comprised of a bridge rectifier, a boost inductor L_B , a bulk capacitor C_a in series with the auxiliary windings L_3 , an intermediate dc-bus voltage capacitor C_B , and a discontinuous input current power load, such as flyback converter. The flyback transformer (T) has three windings N_1 , N_2 , and N_3 . The secondary winding $N_2 = 1$ is assumed. In the proposed PFC scheme, the dc/dc converter section offers a driving power with high-frequency pulsating source. The quasi active PFC cell can be considered one power stage but without an active switch. All the capacitors are high enough so that the voltage across them is considered constant.

2.1 Principles of Operation of the Proposed Circuit

To facilitate the analysis of operation, Fig. 4(a) and (b) shows the topological stages and the key waveforms of the proposed circuit. It is assumed that both the input inductor L_B and the magnetizing inductance of the flyback converter operate in DCM. Therefore, currents i_{LB} , i_m , and i_2 are zero at the beginning of each switching period. It is also assumed that the average capacitor voltage V_{Ca} is greater than the average rectified input voltage $|v_{in}|$. To ensure proper operation of the converter, the Transformer's turn's ratio should be $(N_1/N_3) \geq 2$ and the boost inductor $L_B < L_m$. In steady-state operation, the topology can be divided into four operating stages.

1) Stage 1 (to – t1): When the switch (SW) is turned on at $t = t_0$, diodes D_1 and D_o are OFF, therefore, the dc-bus voltage V_{CB} is applied to the magnetizing inductor L_m , which causes the magnetizing current to linearly increases. This current can be expressed as

$$i_m = \frac{V_{CB}}{L_m}(t_o - t_1)$$

And since diode D_1 is OFF, the input inductor L_B is charged by input voltage, therefore, the inductor current i_{LB} is linearly increased from zero since it is assumed that the PFC cell operates in DCM. At this stage, $i_{LB} = -i_3$ and the capacitor C_a is in the charging mode. On the other hand, D_o is reversed biased and there is no current flow through the secondary winding. Since the transformer is assumed ideal, based on Ampere's Law, it has

$$N_1 i_1 + N_2 i_2 - N_3 i_{LB} = 0$$

The proposed circuit has less switch current stress, therefore, the conduction loss and switching losses are reduced, and the efficiency is improved correspondingly.

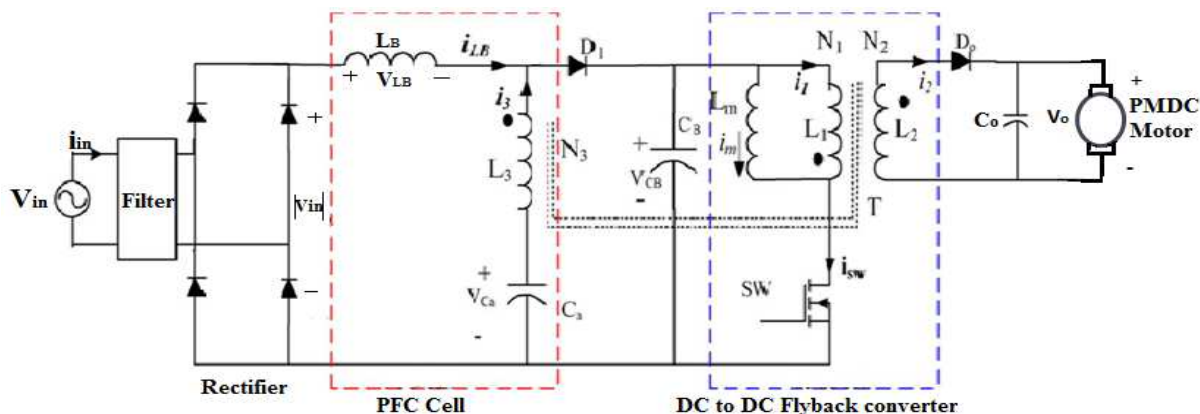


Fig.3 Proposed PFC circuit diagram

2) **Stage 2 (t1 – t2):** When the switch is turned OFF at $t = t_1$, output diode D_o begins to be forward biased. Therefore, the energy stored in the transformer magnetizing inductor is delivered to the load through the secondary winding. Similarly, the diode D_1 is also forward biased and the voltage across LB now $V_{in} - V_{CB}$. Therefore, the current i_{LB} is linearly decreased to zero at $t = t_2$ (DCM operation), and the energy stored in LB is delivered to the dc bus capacitor CB . Therefore

$$i_{LB} = \frac{|V_{in}| - V_{CB}}{L_B} (t_1 - t_2)$$

The capacitor (C_a) is also discharging its energy to the dc bus capacitor CB and the current i_3 reverse its direction. Therefore, the capacitor current is given by

$$i_{D1} = i_{CB} = i_{LB} + i_3$$

3) **Stage 3 (t2 – t3):** At this stage, the input inductor current i_{LB} reaches zero and the capacitor C_a continues to discharge its energy to the dc bus capacitor CB . Therefore, $i_{D1} = i_{CB} = i_3$. At $t = t_3$, the magnetizing inductor releases all its energy to the load and the currents i_m and i_2 reach to zero level because a DCM operation is assumed.

4) **Stage 4 (t3 – t4):** This stage starts when the currents i_m and i_2 reach to zero. Diode D_1 still forward biased, therefore, the capacitor C_a still releasing its energy to the dc bus capacitor CB . This stage ends when the capacitor C_a is completely discharged

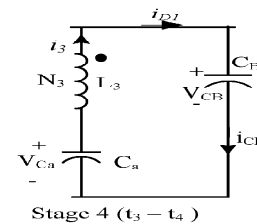
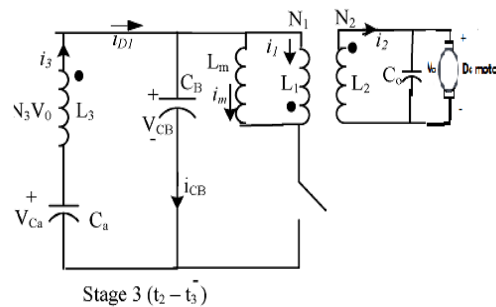
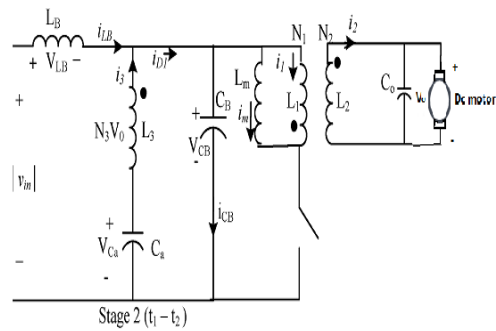
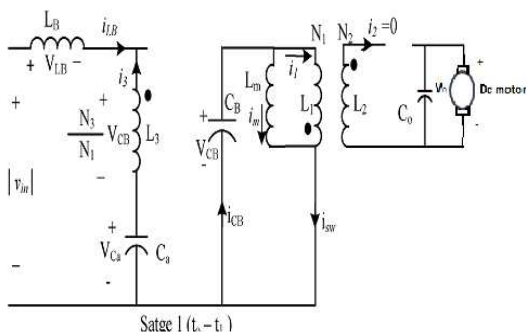


Fig.4 Equivalent circuit operation stages of the proposed PFC circuit during one switching period

3. EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION

In order to verify the proposed concept, a prototype of the converter shown in Fig.3 was constructed and experimentally tested. To ensure proper operation of the converter, the dc bus voltage (V_{CB}) must be higher than the input voltage, such that the diode D_1 is OFF and the inductor LB stores energy when the switch (SW) is ON. Therefore, the inductor L_m must be higher than the input inductor LB . The DCM flyback converter was designed and implemented for 50 V/80 W output,

The major components of the circuit are follows: transformer turns ratio ($N_1 = 30, N_2 = 10, N_3 = 15$) with core ETD34, $L_m = 200 \mu\text{H}$, $L_B = 80 \mu\text{H}$, $C_B = 47 \mu\text{F}$, $C_a = 22 \mu\text{F}$, $C_o = 470 \mu\text{F}$, the switch SW (SPW22N60), the bridge rectifier and diodes D_1, D_o using MUR1560. Fig. 6 shows the measured harmonic content of the input current compared to the Classes A and D regulation standards. Note that, in order to improve the visibility of the higher order harmonics, class A limits are scaled down by a factor of 5. The measured THD = 7% and the power factor is 0.997. Obviously, the input current is much closer to the



sinusoidal waveform and it meets the regulation standards. Fig. 5 shows the DC to DC Flyback converter circuit.

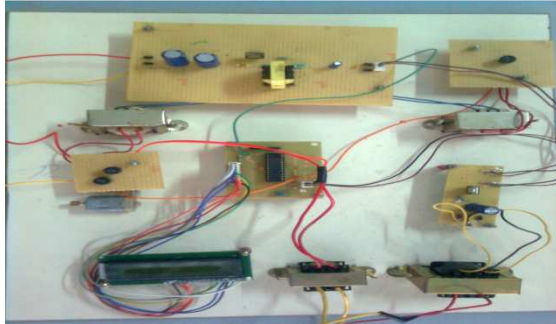


Fig.5 DC to DC Flyback Converter Circuit

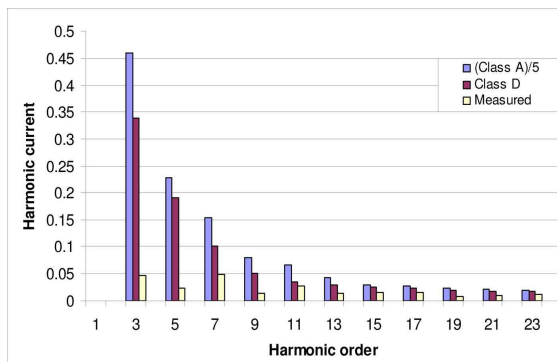


Fig.6 Measured harmonics content of the input current

4. SIMULATION CIRCUIT

The Simulink model for the proposed quasi active PFC with ac/dc converter is given in the Fig.7. A 230V AC voltage is given as the input to the rectifier. The circuit consists of INPUT rectifier along with a three winding linear transformer. The AC source power factor is improved in simulation circuit.

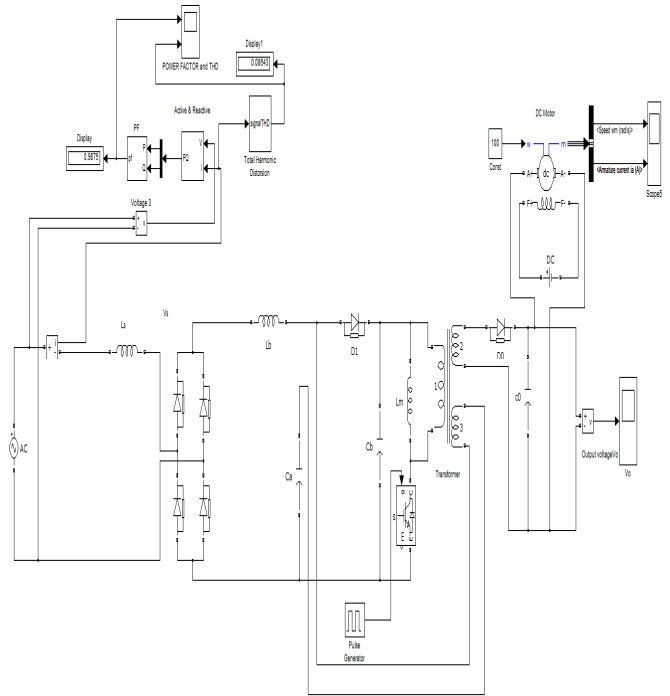


Fig.7 Simulation circuit of the proposed quasi active PFC

5. OUTPUT WAVEFORMS

From fig.8 it clearly shows that the power factor has been improved. The proposed PFC converter gives power factor about 0.987 and also harmonics are reduced. It shows the fig.9.

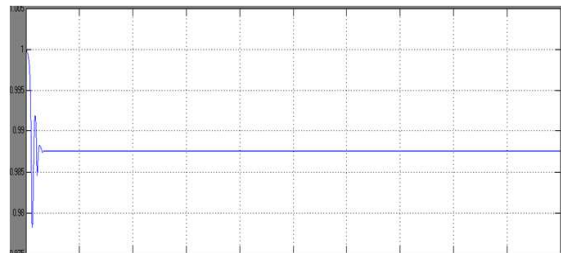


Fig-8 Power factor waveform

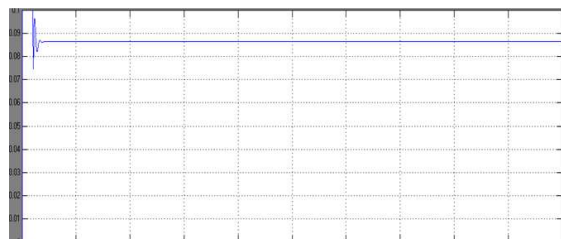


Fig.9 Total harmonic distortion waveform

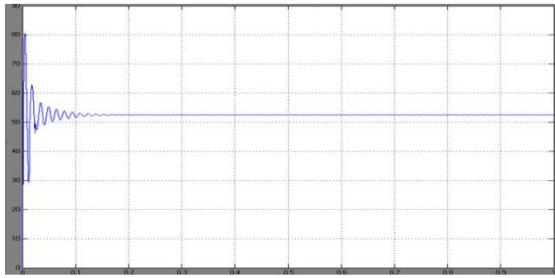


Fig.10 Converter Output voltage Waveform

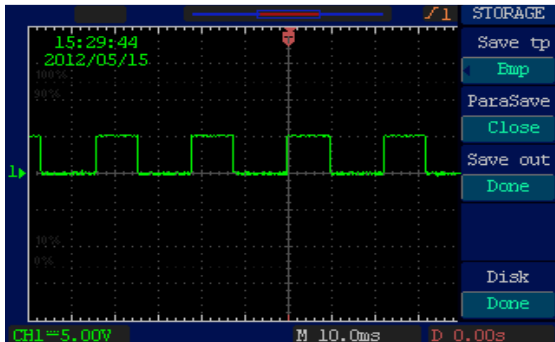


Fig.11 PWM Signal

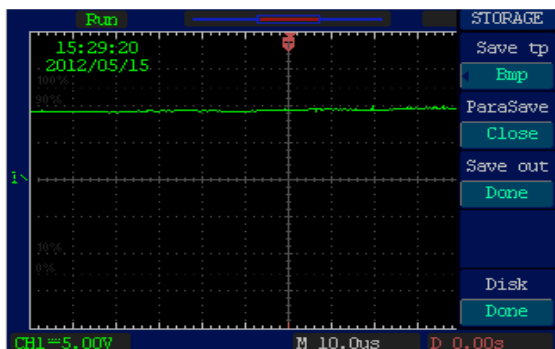


Fig. 12 Converter Output voltage Waveform

6. CONCLUSION

In this paper, a new ac/dc converter based on a quasi-active PFC scheme has been presented. The proposed method produces a current with low harmonic content to meet the standard specifications as well as high efficiency. This circuit is based on adding an auxiliary winding to the transformer of a cascade dc/dc DCM flyback converter. The input inductor can operate in DCM to achieve lower THD and high power factor. By properly designing the converter components, a trade off between efficiency and harmonic content can be established to obtain compliance with the regulation and efficiency as high as possible. Operating principles, analysis, and experimental results of the proposed method are presented.

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