

# Simulation Modeling and Analysis of Reactive Power Compensation using Thyristor controlled LC Compensator in smart grid

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## ABSTRACT

The Smart grid, regarded as the next-generation power grid, is considered as a promising solution for energy crisis. However, the development of smart grid brings many new challenges for power quality. Compared with traditional grid, the smart grid requires substantial renewable resources like the wind energy and the high demand of reactive power is one of the major power quality issues of wind farms.

In this thesis, a thyristor controlled LC (TCLC) compensator is proposed for dynamic reactive power compensation in smart grid. The simulations will be compared with traditional compensation methods. The effectiveness of TCLC performance can be implemented using Matlab Simulink.

*Keywords*— Harmonic currents rejection, reactive power Compensation, smart grid, thyristor controlled LC (TCLC) compensator and wind energy.

## I. INTRODUCTION

A large number of nonlinear loads are used in applications at various power levels. Examples of nonlinear loads include variable speed drives, lighting systems, switch mode power supplies and many more types besides. These devices can cause distortion to the mains supply by drawing harmonic currents and voltages. Traditionally tuned passive filters have been used to attenuate the harmonic distortion. The use of passive filters is not

desirable as they are bulky, de-tune with age and can resonate with the supply impedance. In order to overcome the limitations of passive filtering techniques, there has been much research activity in the use of active power filters (APF) to mitigate the harmonic distortion produced by semiconductor switched loads.

The APF has many advantages over using passive filters. The APF can be smaller, cheaper, more versatile, better damped, more selective and less prone to failure through component drift than its passive counterpart. It can also be used to compensate reactive power.

Wind energy is one of the fastest growing renewable energies in the world. The generation of wind power is clean and non-polluting; it does not produce any byproducts harmful to the environment. Nowadays, modeling is the basic tool for analysis, such as optimization, project, design and control. Wind energy conversion systems are very different in nature from conventional generators, and therefore dynamic studies must be addressed in order to integrate wind power into the power system. According to [Lubosny, 2003], in the case of power systems with classical sources of energy analysis, the modeling is relatively simple because the models of objects and controllers are well known and even standardized; the data are available. But in the case of wind turbine modeling, researchers meet problems related to the lack of data and lack of control-system structures due to strong competition between wind turbine

manufacturers. This leads to the situation in which many researchers model the wind energy conversion systems in relatively simple form, almost neglecting the control systems, which significantly influence the reliability of the analytical results.

### A. Objective of the thesis

The objective of this thesis is to design a thyristor controlled  $LC$  (TCLC) compensator for dynamic reactive power compensation in a smart grid system. Compared with the traditional static var compensators like a fixed capacitor-thyristor controlled reactor (FC-TCR) which generates low order harmonic currents, the proposed TCLC can significantly mitigate the injection of harmonic currents. In this thesis, the design of the TCLC parameters is investigated with the considerations of its reactive power compensation range and harmonic currents rejection. And a control method based on the generalized instantaneous reactive power theory is proposed. Moreover, representative simulation results of the proposed three-phase three-wire TCLC are presented to show its effectiveness in dynamic reactive power compensation in comparison with the traditional FC-TCR and parallel combination of FC-TCR and passive power filter. The simulations were performed in the environment of MATLAB/SIMULINK.

## II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

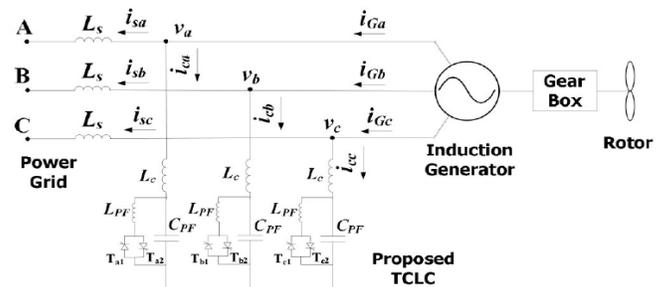
The phenomenon of harmonic currents injection by the SVCs was firstly presented in 1985 [8]. However, there was no solution provided at that time. Years later, the authors in [15] and [16] suggested using parallel combination of SVC and passive power filter (SVC+PPF) to reduce the harmonic currents injection by the SVC. However, the oscillating time and cost of these combined systems can be significantly increased. Afterwards, the authors in [17]–[20] proposed the combined systems of the SVC and STATCOM, which can eliminate the harmonic currents injection by the SVC and compensate both the

reactive power and harmonic currents of the nonlinear loads. By doing so, the initial cost of the combined systems can be very high. To reduce the initial cost, Kulkarni and Udipi [21] proposed an artificial neural network (ANN) approach to find the optimum trigger angles for the thyristor controlled reactor and thyristor switched capacitor (TCR-TSC) to reduce its harmonic currents injection. However, as the firing angles are probably not matching with the required compensating reactive power, the TCR-TSC may sacrifice its good reactive power compensation capability.

A thyristor controlled  $LC$  (TCLC) compensator is proposed in this thesis for dynamic reactive power compensation in smart grid. The contributions of this thesis are summarized as follows.

1. A low cost TCLC compensator is proposed for dynamic reactive power compensation with less harmonic injection.
2. Its parameter design method is proposed not only based on the consideration of the reactive power compensation range but also harmonic currents rejection analysis, which is different from the traditional SVCs.
3. Its corresponding control method is proposed based on the generalized instantaneous reactive power theory [10] instead of the traditional definition of reactive power [5]–[8].

## III. CIRCUIT CONFIGURATION AND DESIGN PARAMETERS



**Fig.3.1. Circuit configuration of three-phase three-wire TCLC**

The three-phase three-wire wind farm system with a shunt Connected TCLC compensator is shown in Fig.3.1. The subscript “x” denotes phase a, b and c.  $V_x$  is the grid voltage;  $I_{sx}$ ,  $I_{Gx}$  and  $I_{cx}$  are the power grid system, wind farm generation and the TCLC compensating currents for each phase, Fig. 3.1.  $L_s$  is the system inductance;  $L_c$  is the coupling inductor of TCLC compensator;  $L_{PF}$  and  $C_{PF}$  are the parallel inductor and capacitor of the TCLC compensator. In Fig. 3.1, the detailed modeling and design procedures of wind turbine (WT) and generator are similar to those proposed in [22] and [23]. Due to page-length limit, the design of wind farm will not be included in this paper. Fig.3.1 shows that the TCLC compensator is composed of a coupling inductor  $L_c$  connected in series with the combination of a fixed capacitor  $C_{PF}$  in parallel with a thyristor controlled reactor  $TCR(\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha$  is the firing angle. Therefore, the equivalent fundamental impedance of the TCLC compensator can be expressed as:

$$X_{TCLC}(\alpha) = \frac{X_{TCR}(\alpha) \cdot X_{CPF} + X_{Lc}}{X_{CPF} - X_{TCR}(\alpha)} = \frac{\pi X_{L_{PF}} X_{C_{PF}}}{X_{C_{PF}}(2\pi - 2\alpha + \sin 2\alpha) - \pi X_{L_{PF}}} + X_{Lc}$$

Where,  $X_{Lc}$ ,  $X_{L_{PF}}$  and  $X_{C_{PF}}$  are the fundamental impedances of the coupling inductor  $L_c$ , parallel inductor  $L_{PF}$  and capacitor  $C_{PF}$ , respectively. The equivalent fundamental impedance of the thyristor controlled reactor  $TCR(\alpha)$  can be given as:

$$X_{TCR}(\alpha) = \frac{\pi}{2\pi - 2\alpha + \sin 2\alpha} \cdot X_{L_{PF}}$$

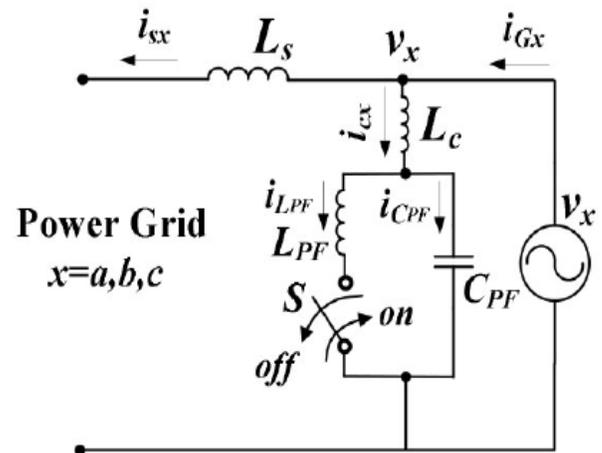
In addition, the proposed TCLC compensator can be connected in either star or delta connection, and the following analysis and discussion are valid for both cases. In this section, the design parameters of TCLC compensator are proposed with the considerations of its reactive power compensation range and harmonic currents rejection. Based on the required reactive power

compensation range, the parallel TCLC inductor ( $L_{PF}$ ) and capacitor ( $C_{PF}$ ) can be calculated accordingly. Through the harmonic currents rejection analysis, the design criteria of the coupling  $L_c$  can then be set. With the proposed design of  $L_c$ , the problem of harmonic currents injection by the thyristor controlled part can be significantly alleviated.

The purpose of the TCLC compensator is to provide the same amount of compensating reactive power  $Q_{cx}$  as the wind farm generated reactive power  $Q_{GX}$ . The compensating reactive power  $Q_{cx}$  is related to the controllable fundamental impedance of the TCLC compensator  $X_{TCLC}(\alpha)$  (1), which can be expressed as:

$$Q_{cx} = \frac{V_x^2}{X_{TCLC}(\alpha)} = \frac{V_x^2}{\frac{\pi X_{L_{PF}} X_{C_{PF}}}{X_{C_{PF}}(2\pi - 2\alpha + \sin 2\alpha) - \pi X_{L_{PF}}} + X_{Lc}}$$

where  $V_x$  is the root mean square (rms) phase grid voltage. In (3), the phase compensating reactive power  $Q_{cx}$  depends on  $X_{Lc}$ ,  $X_{L_{PF}}$ ,  $X_{C_{PF}}$  and  $\alpha$ . Hence, the required reactive power compensating range can be used to design the TCLC compensator parameters.



**Fig.3.2. Equivalent single phase TCLC compensator model for harmonic currents rejection analysis**

Then the corresponding harmonic orders generated can be given as:

$$n_1 = \frac{\omega_1}{2\pi f} = \frac{1}{2\pi f \sqrt{L_c C_{PF}}}$$

$$n_2 = \frac{\omega_2}{2\pi f} = \frac{1}{2\pi f \sqrt{L_c L_{PF} C_{PF}}}$$

where the harmonic orders  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  mainly depend on the  $L_c$ ,  $L_{PF}$  and  $C_{PF}$  values.

#### IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

In this Chapter, the proposed model of simulation results is presented for both inductive and capacitive load. In order to validate the proposed topology, simulation is carried out using the Matlab/Simulink.

In this section, the compensating performances of the proposed TCLC compensator will be verified by simulations in comparison with the traditional FC-TCR and FC-TCR+PPF [15], [16].

	Parameters	Physical values
Power Grid	$v_s, f, L_s$	110V, 50Hz, 1mH
FC-TCR	$L_{PF}, C_{PF}$	30mH, 160μF
PPF of FC-TCR+PPF	$L_P, C_P$	8mH, 50μF
TCLC Compensator	$L_c, L_{PF}, C_{PF}$	5mH, 30mH, 160μF

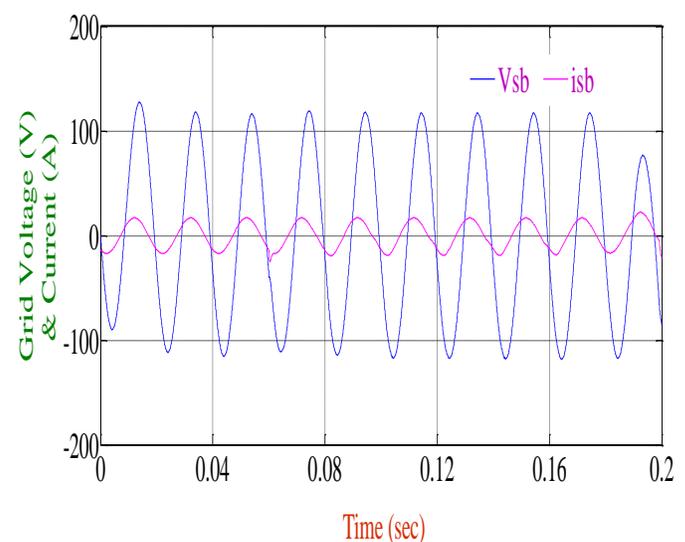
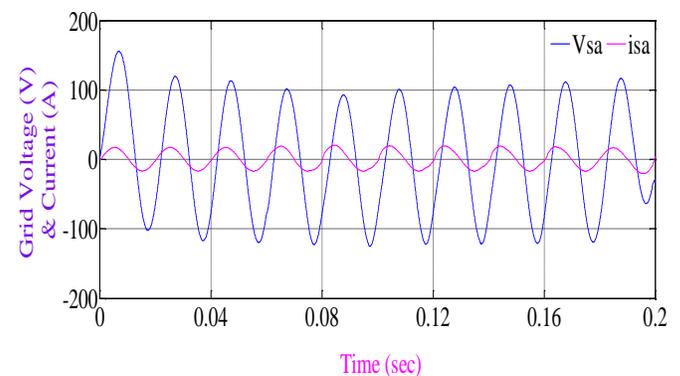
**Table 4.1: System parameters of Power Grid and Compensators**

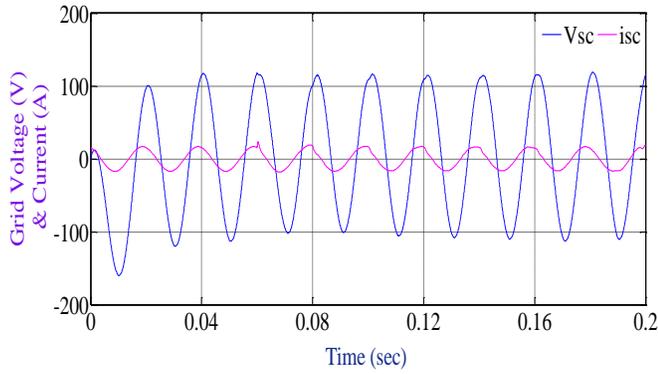
When FC-TCR is applied, Fig. 4.1 and Fig.4.4, Table 4.2 show that the simulated power factors (PFs) of the worst phase have been compensated from the original 0.72 (inductive PF) and 0.66 (capacitive PF) to 0.98 for both cases. As shown in Fig. 4.1 and Fig.4.4, Fig. 4.7(a) and (d), the system current total harmonic distortions ( $THD_{isx}$ ) are increased after FC-TCR compensation.

When the TCLC compensator is applied, Figs. 4.3 and 4.6 and Table 4.1 show that the simulated PFs of the worst phase are compensated to close to unity for inductive and capacitive reactive power compensations. As shown in Figs. 4.3 and 4.6, and Figs.4.7(c) and (f), the simulated

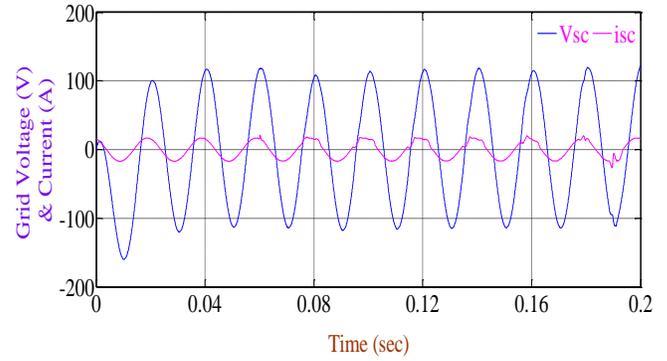
system current  $THD_{isx}$  of the worst phase are compensated to 7.5% for inductive case and 8.1% for capacitive case, in which the simulated  $THD_{isx}$  satisfies the IEEE, 519-2014 standards [25]. Moreover, Figs. 4.7(c) and (f) clearly show that much smaller 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> order harmonic currents are injected into the power grid system after TCLC compensation. In addition, Fig. 4.6 shows that the proposed TCLC compensator can dynamically compensate the inductive and capacitive reactive power.

Based on simulation results, both FC-TCR+PPF and the proposed TCLC compensator can achieve better performance than FC-TCR. Comparing FC-TCR+PPF with TCLC, they obtain similar compensation performances but TCLC requires fewer components, thus resulting in lower cost.

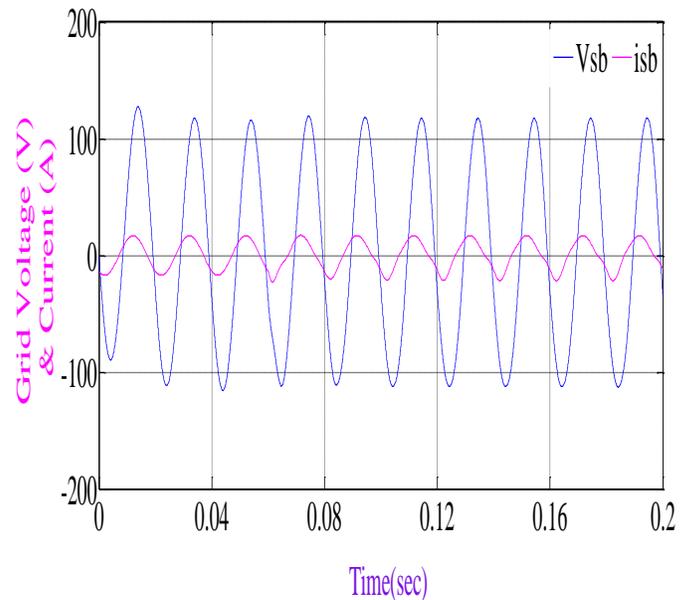
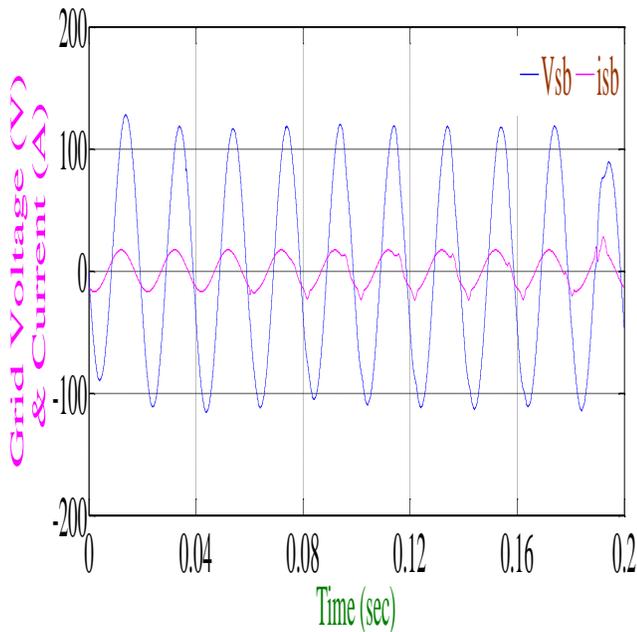
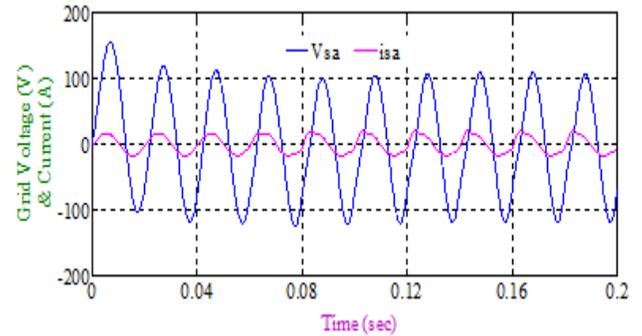
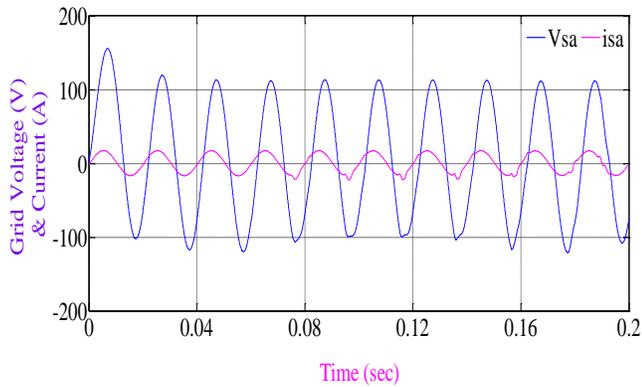


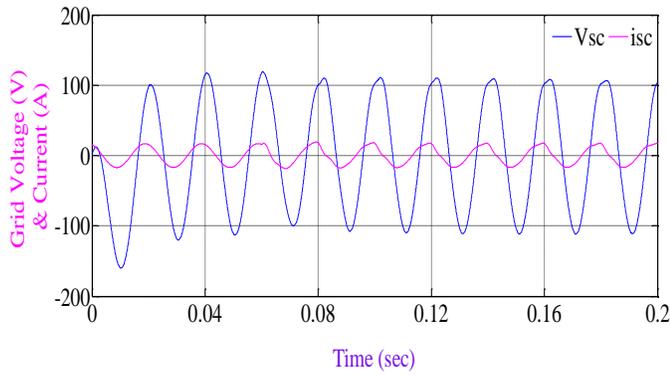


**Fig.4.1: Inductive reactive power compensation using FC-TCR**

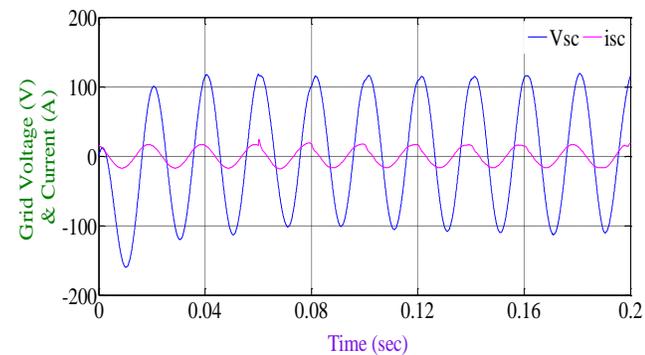
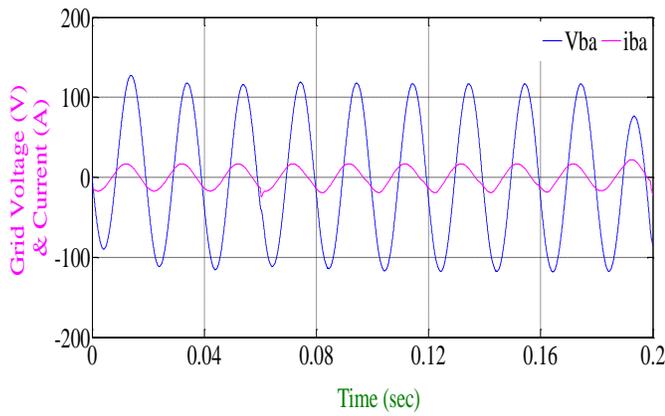
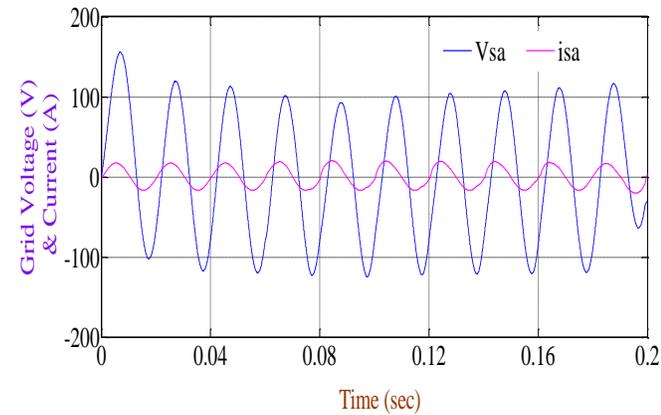


**Fig.4.2: Inductive reactive power compensation using PPF**

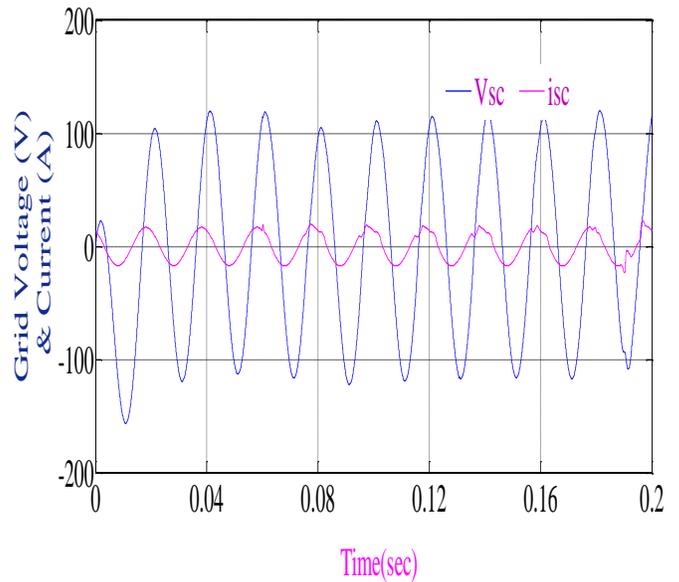
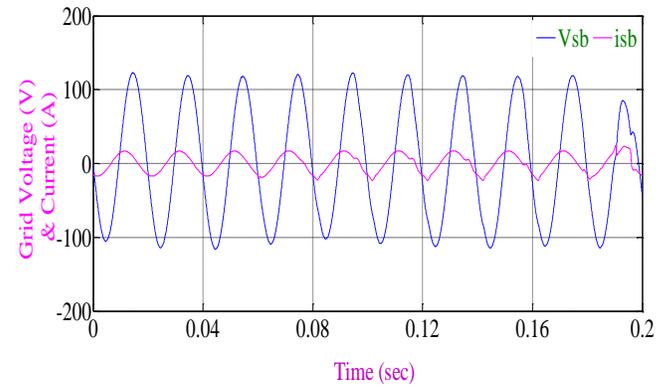
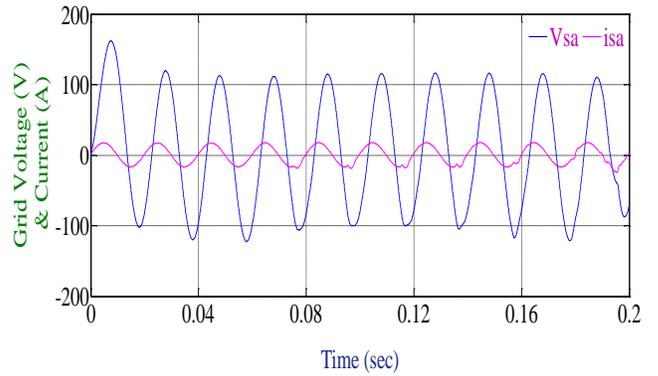




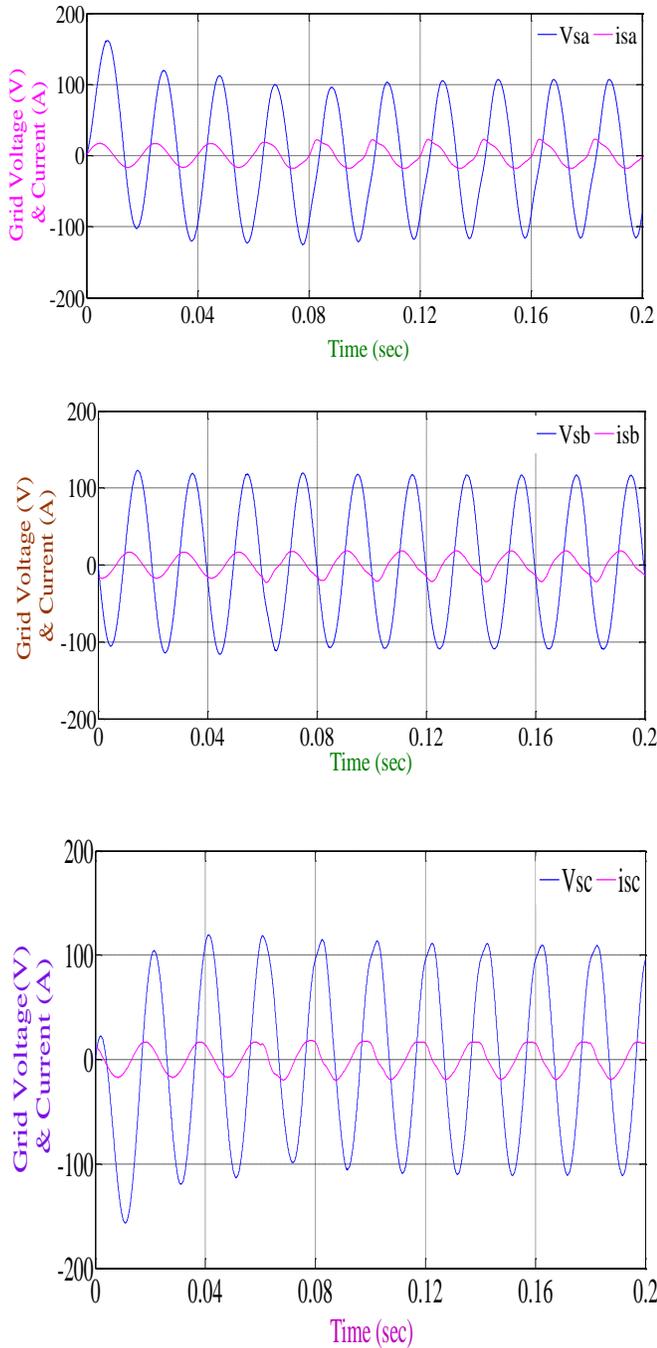
**Fig.4.3: Inductive reactive power compensation using TLC**



**Fig.4.4: Capacitive reactive power compensation using FCTCR**

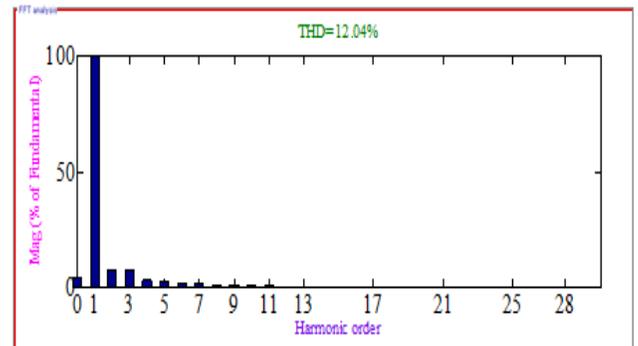


**Fig.4.5: Capacitive reactive power compensation using PPF**

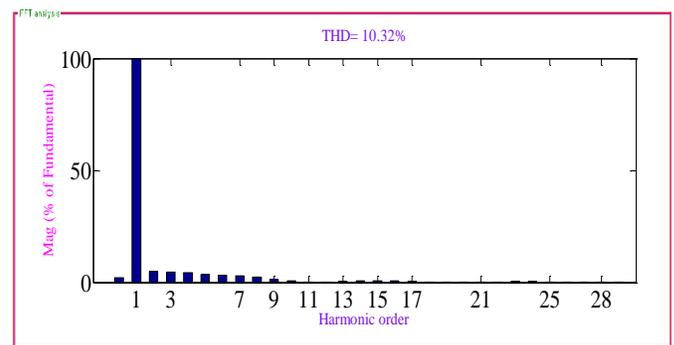


**Fig.4.6: Capacitive reactive power compensation using TCLC**

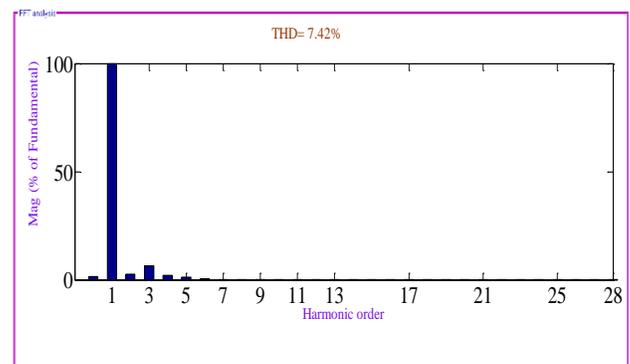
The simulations are carried out by using Matlab/Simulink. Table 5.1 shows the system parameters of the power grid, traditional FC-TCR, FC-TCR+PPF and the proposed TCLC compensator.



**Fig.5.9a**



**Fig.4.7b**



**Fig.4.7c**

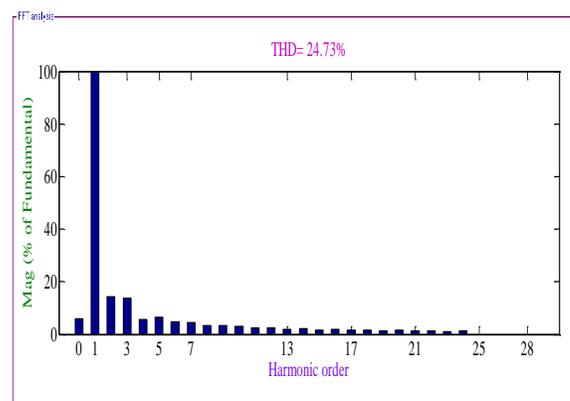


Fig.4.7d

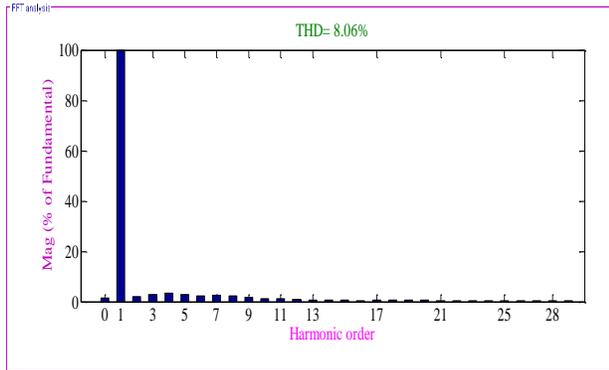


Fig.4.7e

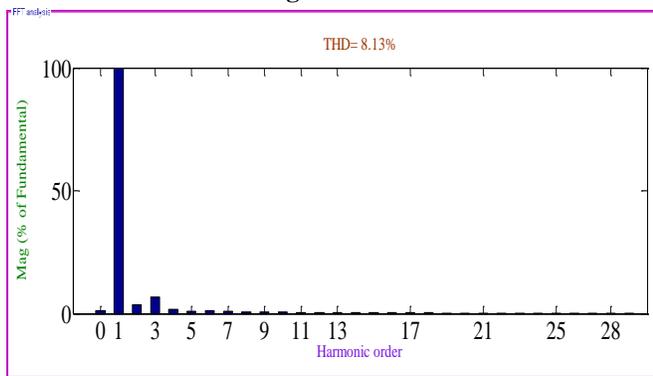


Fig.5.9f

Fig.4.7: Simulated grid systems current spectrums for inductive and capacitive reactive power compensation

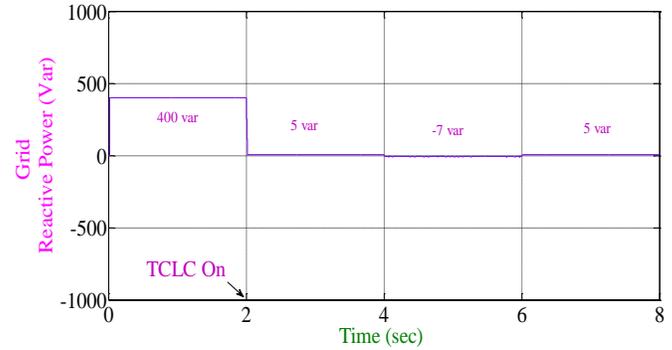


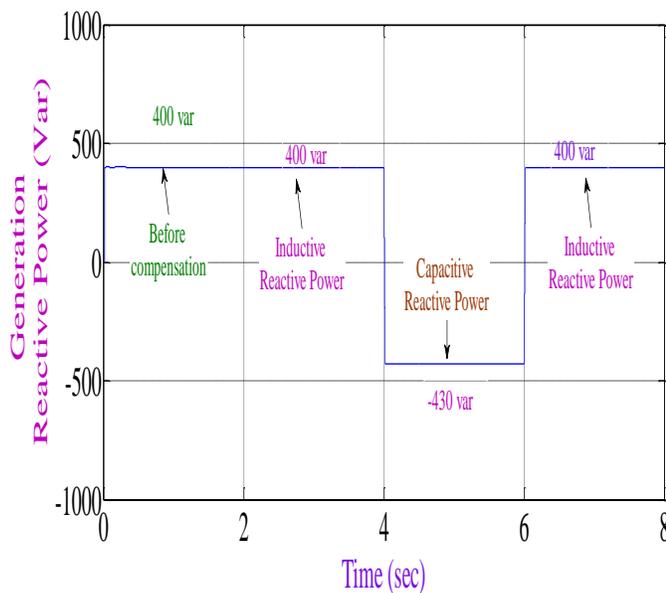
Fig.4.8: Simulation results of TCLC compensator dynamic reactive power compensation

	Inductive reactive power				Capacitive reactive power			
	Before Comp.,	FC-TCR	PPF	TCLC	Before Comp.,	FC-TCR	PPF	TCLC
$i_{sx}$ (A)	6.102	3.9	3.9	3.899	5.07	3.6	3.501	3.501
$Q_{sx}$ (var)	400	8.996	6.036	5.1	-430	-8.952	-7.149	-6.979
PF	0.731	0.98	0.99	0.99	0.66	0.98	0.99	0.99
$THD_{V_s}$ (%)	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.1	1.747	0.3	0.348
$THD_{i_{sx}}$ (%)	0.1	12.04	10.33	7.501	0.17	24.72	8.08	8.104

Table 4.2: Simulation results for Inductive and Capacitive reactive power compensations

## V. CONCLUSION

In this thesis, a three-phase three-wire TCLC compensator for dynamic reactive power compensation in a smart grid system is proposed, simulated and tested in the laboratory. The design of the TCLC parameters is proposed and discussed with the considerations of its reactive power compensation range and the harmonic currents rejection analysis and the control method is proposed based on the generalized instantaneous reactive power theory. From the simulation and experimental results, it is proved that the proposed TCLC compensator could provide dynamic reactive power compensation with acceptable grid voltage and system current *THD* levels, while the traditional FC-TCR may not satisfy the *THD* standard due to its self-harmonics injection characteristic of its thyristor controlled part. Even



though this problem of FC-TCR can be reduced by adding PPF, the total cost of FC-TCR+PPF are significantly increased. Therefore, the proposed TCLC can be considered as a cost-effective solution for reactive power compensation with less harmonic injection in smart grid system.

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