

Role of UPFC in Power Flow Control of Distribution Line

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Abstract: In this paper the performance of Unified Power Flow Controller (UPFC) is investigated in controlling the flow of power over the transmission line. The technology of power system utilities around the world has rapidly evolved with considerable changes in the technology along with improvements in power system structures and operation. The ongoing expansions and growth in the technology, demand a more optimal and profitable operation of a power system with respect to generation, transmission and distribution systems. Power quality is an issue that is becoming increasingly important to electricity consumers at all levels of usage. Sensitive equipment and non-linear loads are commonplace in both the industrial and the domestic environment; because of this a heightened awareness of power quality is developing [2].

Keywords: FACTS, UPFC, Power Quality

1. Introduction

The power-transfer capability of long transmission lines are usually limited by large signals ability. Economic factors, such as the high cost of long lines and revenue from the delivery of additional power, give strong incentives to explore all economically and technically feasible means of raising the stability limit. On the other hand, the development of effective ways to use transmission systems at their maximum thermal capability has caught much research attention in recent years. Fast progression in the field of power electronics has already started to influence the power industry. This is one direct outcome of the concept of flexible ac transmission systems (FACTS) aspects, which has become feasible due to the improvement realized in power-electronic devices. In principle, the FACTS devices could provide fast control of active and reactive power through a transmission line. The unified power-flow controller (UPFC) is a member of the FACTS family with very attractive features. This device can independently control many parameter, so it is the combination of the properties of a static synchronous compensator (STATCOM) and static synchronous series compensator (SSSC) [1]

The conversion from DC voltage to AC voltage is obtained by using standard bridge circuits. These bridge circuits use GTO as their building blocks. Since these circuits convert DC voltage to AC voltage, they are termed as voltage source converters (VSC). The control system associated with VSC allows it to adjust its magnitude and phase angle. The term "inverter" has also been used to denote the VSC.

Consider now the connection of two VSC connected back to back with a common DC Link capacitor 'C' as shown in Fig. 1.1. Such an arrangement allows for all the three functions namely series, shunt and phase angle compensation to be unified in one unit. Inverter 1 is connected to a shunt transformer and the inverter 2 is connected to a series transformer. It is readily seen that the VSC connected to the shunt transformer can perform the function of a variable reactive power source similar to that of shunt compensator. In addition, the inverter 1 can charge the DC link capacitor. Inverter 2 can provide series or phase angle compensation by injecting a series voltage of proper phase relationship. In the case of series compensation, inverter 2 can function independent of the inverter 1, as inverter 2 supplies/consumes only reactive power and does not have any real power exchange with inverter 1. In such a case, the DC link capacitor voltage will ideally be constant

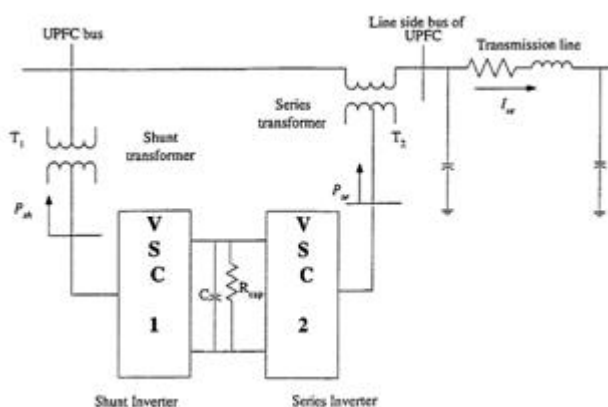


Figure 1.1: UPFC constructions.

2. UPFC Modeling

2.1 Load Flow Models

Different load flow models have been used to model the UPFC in varying degree of complexity and have been discussed here briefly. As mentioned in chapter-1, a UPFC consists of two inverters connected back to back with a DC link capacitor. One inverter is connected in shunt and the other in series with the transmission line as shown in Fig.1.2. The early modelling efforts for a UPFC were focussed on the series inverter modelling. The reason being that commercial software did not have series voltage source models. American Electric Power (AEP) and Westinghouse came up with a load flow model [8]. The requirement for the inclusion of the model was that the Load flow should be a

solved one. Basically, what was required was that the voltages and the angles of the power system buses had to be known in advance to include the UPFC model. The Load flow model for UPFC consisted of two generators, one representing the shunt inverter and the other the series inverter. Different configurations of these generators were needed to model different operating conditions. Fig.1.3 shows the model that was used to include the UPFC into Load flow studies [8]. Here the process of solving starts with the opening of the series line, and the generator G_2 generates the scheduled real and reactive power. The scheduled power in the transmission line is converted into an equivalent load at the terminal where the generator G_1 is connected. The generator G_1 generates the required reactive power to maintain scheduled bus voltage.

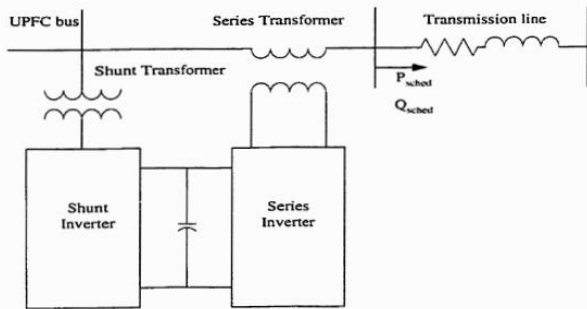


Figure 1.2: A UPFC connected to a Transmission line.

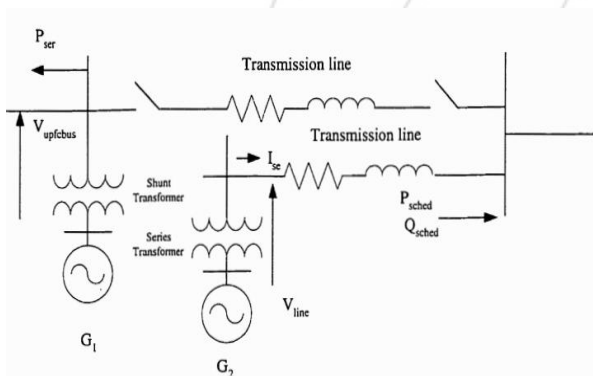


Figure 1.3: Coupled source model for UPFC

Generator G_2 also supplies the real power demand of the series inverter. The series injected voltage is the phase difference between V_{line} and V_{upfcus} . The product of series injected voltage and the current I_{se} gives the amount of volt-ampere of the series inverter. The real part of the volt-ampere (P_{ser}) of the series inverter is added as a load at the shunt inverter bus. The algorithm to perform the addition of equivalent loads at the shunt inverter bus, to open the appropriate lines, have been included in their program. The problem is that it needs a solved load flow case. The idea of solving a load flow with an UPFC is to obtain the shunt and the series inverters' injected voltages for a given operating condition. This procedure is crude for solving a load flow with UPFC.

2.2 Dynamic Model

The dynamic model for a UPFC is centered round the dynamics of the DC link capacitor. It is well known that the DC link capacitor dynamics is a function of the series and the shunt inverter control variables. The need for including

the DC link capacitor dynamics while conducting dynamic studies arises from the fact that it provides the link between the series and the shunt inverter operation in terms of real power balance. Exchange of real power between the series injected voltage by the series inverter and the transmission line current causes the DC link capacitor voltage to either increase or decrease depending on the direction of real power exchange between them. The decrease/increase of the DC link capacitor voltage is sensed by the shunt inverter which absorbs/supplies the necessary real power through the shunt transformer to regulate the DC link capacitor voltage. The models present in the literature Vary on the basis of the model used for the shunt and series inverter.

3. Introduction to FACTS Devices

Flexible transmission system is akin to high voltage dc and related thyristors developed designed to overcome the limitations of the present mechanically controlled ac power transmission system. Use of high speed power electronics controllers, gives 5 opportunities for increased efficiency[12].

- 1) Greater control of power so that it flows in the prescribed transmission routes.
- 2) Secure loading (but not overloading) of transmission lines to levels nearer their required limits.
- 3) Greater ability to transfer power between controlled areas, so that the generator reserve margin- typically 18 % may be reduced to 15 % or less.
- 4) Prevention of cascading outages by limiting the effects of faults and equipment failure.
- 5) Damping of power system oscillations, which could damage equipment and or limit usable transmission capacity.

Flexible system requires tighter transmission control and efficient management of inter-related parameters that constrains today's system including –

- 1) Series impedance- phase angle.
- 2) Shunt impedance- occurrence of oscillations at various frequencies below rated frequency.
- 3) This results in transmission line to operate near its thermal rating. Eg- a 1000kv line may have loading limit 3000-4000Mw .but the thermal limit may be 5000Mw[1].
- 4) SVC- Uses thyristor valves to rapidly add or remove shunt connected reactors and or capacitors often in coordination with mechanically controlled reactors and/or capacitors.
- 5) NGH-SSR damper- a resonance damper:- A thyristor ac-switch connected in series with a small inductor and resistor across the series capacitor[1].
- 6) Statcon (static condenser):- A 3 phase inverter that is driven from voltage across a dc storage capacitor and whose three output voltages are in phase with the ac system voltage. when the output voltages are higher or lower than the ac system voltage the current flow is caused to lead or lag and difference in voltage amplitudes determine how much current flows[2]. Reactive power and its polarity can be controlled by controlling voltage.
- 7) Phase Angle Regulator:-The phase shift is accomplished by adding or subtracting a variable voltage concept that is perpendicular to the phase voltage of the line

- 8) Unified power control :- In this concept an ac voltage vector generated by a thyristor based inverter is injected in series with phase voltage. The driving dc voltage for inverter is obtained by rectifying the ac to dc from the same transmission line. In such an arrangement the injected voltage may have any phase angle relationship to the phase voltage. It is possible to obtain a net phase and amplitude voltage change that confers control of both active and reactive power[5].
- 9) Dynamic Brake :- A shunt connected resistive load, controlled by thyristor switches. such a load can be selectively applied in each pass, half cycle by half cycle to damp any specific power flow oscillation, so that generating unit run less risk of losing synchronism ,as a result more can be transferred over systems subjected to stability constraints.

4. Advantages of TCR in FACT

- 1) Accuracy of compensation-Very good
- 2) Control flexibility-Very good
- 3) Reactive power capacity- Lagging or leading indirect
- 4) Control – Continuous
- 5) 5 Response Time- Fast, 0.5 to 0.2 cycles
- 6) Harmonics- Very high(Large size filters are needed)
- 7) Losses- Good but increase in lagging mode
- 8) Phase balancing ability- good
- 9) Cost-moderate

5. Conclusion

Voltage, active power, reactive power with UPFC and without UPFC will be studied and compared. When the transmission line is without UPFC, the real and reactive power flow cannot be controlled. Transmission capability of existing transmission line is highly improved with the presence of UPFC. But the difference between the sending end real power and receiving end real power is high in the transmission line with UPFC. This is due to increase in transmission losses, which include losses in both converters and coupling transformers.

The modeling of UPFC and analysis of power systems embedded with UPFC has been presented, which is capable of solving large power networks very reliably with the UPFC.

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