

Control of 3x7 matrix converter with PWM three intervals modulation

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Abstract – Direct Power conversion from fixed AC voltage into variable AC voltage is gaining a significant attention, especially in case of multi-phases machines/generators; for such reason a new algorithm to control 3x7 matrix converter (MC) is developed in this paper, wherein the main aim is to control multi-phases induction motor/generator connected to the electrical grid with a novel converter (except matrix converter), for that the PWM three intervals modulation strategy is modified from the control of 3x3 MC to 3x7 MC; which is directly connected to the network through a three phase input in order to overcome the supplying problems, on the other side seven phases have been used as an output to benefit the advantages of the multi-phases machines. This paper intends in the first place to explain the 3x3 MC, then to manipulate the control equation for the purpose of making it suitable for controlling the 3x7 MC effectively, thus a good performance can be clearly seen according to the quality of the output voltage/current under typical R-L load, the shift between phases and the THD evaluation. The obtained simulation results which demonstrate the efficiency of the new control algorithm are presented and discussed.

Keywords: 3x3 Matrix converter, 3x7 Matrix converter, PWM three intervals, R-L load, THD.

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Nomenclature

U_R, U_S, U_T	Input Voltages of matrix converter
U_A, U_B, \dots	Matrix converter output voltages
R, L	Load parameters
w_i, w_o	Input/ Output Pulsation
m, r	Modulation index, modulation rate
S_{ij}	Switch
I_i, i_o	Input / Output Currents
f_i/f_o	Input / Output frequency
m_{ij}	Relative conduction time during the Kth sequence
t	Time
U_d, U^+, U^-	Intermediate virtual potential, Virtual positive potential and Virtual negative potential
$[M_R(t)]$	Rectifier Matrix function
$[M_O(t)]$	Inverter Matrix function
U_{cmk}	Modulation function

I. Introduction:

In industrial applications the current absorbed by the machine is very high, this will demand a special calibration for the switches current/voltage, high cost and protection (means: winding in the motor and switches in the converter) [1-3]. One of many solutions to resolve this problem is to enlarge the number of output phases which will increase the number of the switches in the converter (more output phases means more switches which leads to a less current through the switches by keeping the same power) [3-5]. In order to achieve this target, the authors of this paper are interested in the multi-phases machines and converters. Moreover, these machines can reduce the amplitude and increase the frequency of torque ripple [6-10]. However, the matrix converter has several advantages compared to the conventional converter [7-8].

It is obvious that this it is an AC-AC converter without DC link connected to the input. On the other side the passive elements of the energy storage, which form the intermediate circuit (generally capacitors) between the AC-DC conversion stage and the inverter are eliminated. It is therefore possible to reduce considerably the volume and the cost of the conversion stage [9-18]. The symmetry structure of the matrix converter allows ensuring the energy recovery directly to the supply system [9] [19-20]. In previous work, researchers are working hard on the 3x3 matrix converter (used 9 switches), three-phase has been used in the input, and similarly for the output; in this paper the 3x7 matrix converter (used 21 switches) is taken for example with R-L load, supplied by a three-phase network to avoid the problem of the specific supply of the multi- phases machine[13-14], therefore the model of A. Schuster [10], is successfully modified, which will allow to write equations to facilitate the control of (3x7) matrix converter.

Current advances in power electronics and the development of computing processors can consider a finer control of these machines by using PWM techniques [15-25].

The main objective of the study of this converter is to use a modern converter and benefit from the advantages of the multi-phases machines by modifying the same equations, so a new control algorithm is developed to ensure this conversion function. In this paper, the proposed control strategy is studied and analyzed with simulation results of the waveform quality of the output voltage/ current and their THD are also discussed.

II. Modeling of the matrix converter

The matrix converter is a static frequency and voltage converter, it allows outwardly obtaining a multi-phases voltage: Amplitude and frequency, from a power supply network multi-phase voltages [11-13]. This converter topology is characterized by a matrix of twenty-one switches (3x7 matrix); network three phases in the input are connected to seven phases to feed a load through a bidirectional power switches. One switch of the matrix

converter can be modelled by two diodes and two transistors [6, 10].

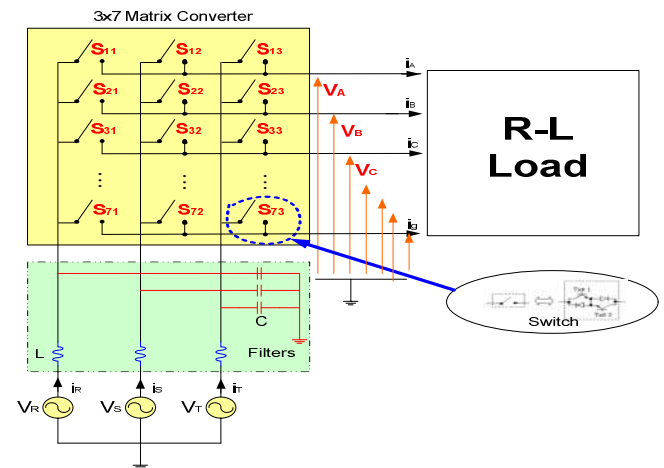


Figure 1. Schematic diagram 3x7 matrix converter

Since the converter is ideally coupled, the principle of causality leads to precise rules concerning the different states of the switches [1, 3]:

- Sources located on both sides of the group are necessarily different in their nature.
- Operating continuity requires energy to be retained, among the possible configurations of the operative part that are physically possible are: a non-zero voltage source can be short-circuited, a voltage source to zero can be set open circuit.

Finally, the number of the permissible configurations is reduced to 3^7 .

Table 1. Matrix converter configurations of one output phase

The configuration	The value of output voltage «Phase A» related to the input voltages
E_1	$U_A=U_R$
E_2	$U_A=U_S$
E_3	$U_A=U_T$

The cellular commutations present a symmetrical function and consequently a symmetrical control. The converter study intends to reduce the number of cellular commutations [10-13]; In this case three possible configurations appear, each of them is characterized by a quantity like it shown in Table 1.

III. Control strategy of matrix converter

The Principe of its control is based on the analogy of the indirect converter with an intermediate fictitious circuit (rectifier / inverter) [6, 10]. So to talk about the

complexity of the matrix converter control, the rectifier and the inverter parts are studied separately.

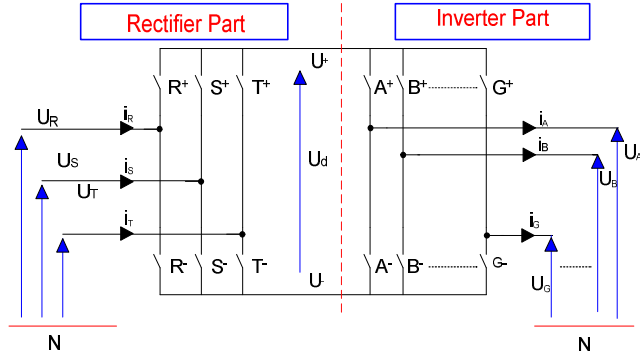


Figure 2. Model of the 3x7 matrix converter with middle fictitious circuit

The fact that at any given time, it must be at least one positive phase of the supply voltages and at least another negative one relative to neutral power, one can choose fictitious potentials U^+ and U^- like:

$$U_d = U^+ - U^- \quad (1)$$

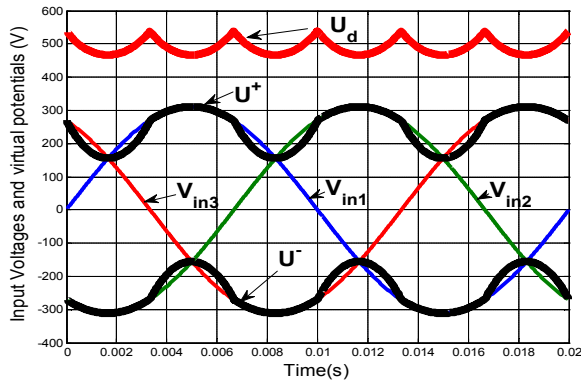


Figure 3. Curve of the input voltages and virtual potentials

In order to easily implement the rectifier, the matrix of the rectifier is defined to allow the connection between the input voltages and the intermediate part as follows [6, 10]:

$$\tau = \frac{\cos\left(\Phi - \frac{\pi}{3}\right)}{\cos(\Phi)} \quad (0 \leq \tau \leq 1) \quad (2)$$

The table of the function of modulation τ is elaborated by A. Schuster [10]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} U^+ \\ U^- \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} R^+ & S^+ & T^+ \\ R^- & S^- & T^- \end{bmatrix}}_{M_R(t)} \begin{bmatrix} V_R \\ V_S \\ V_T \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{cases} V_R = V_m \sin(\omega_i t) \\ V_S = V_m \sin(\omega_i t - 2\pi/3) \\ V_T = V_m \sin(\omega_i t - 4\pi/3) \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Considering the symmetry founded in the recovery period, six intervals will appear as shown in Figure 3.

The functions u_{cmk} of modulations will be introduced to be able to take continuous values between 0 and 1 to define the matrix modulation $[M_0]$. This allows to create a link between the middle potential and the output voltages of the matrix converter, as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_A \\ V_B \\ V_C \\ V_D \\ V_E \\ V_f \\ V_g \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} U_{cm1} & 1-U_{cm1} \\ U_{cm2} & 1-U_{cm2} \\ U_{cm3} & 1-U_{cm3} \\ U_{cm4} & 1-U_{cm4} \\ U_{cm5} & 1-U_{cm5} \\ U_{cm6} & 1-U_{cm6} \\ U_{cm7} & 1-U_{cm7} \end{bmatrix}}_{Mo(t)} \begin{bmatrix} U^+ \\ U^- \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

The equation (6) is obtained from the combination of the two equations (3) and (5):

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_A \\ V_B \\ V_C \\ V_D \\ V_E \\ V_f \\ V_g \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} U_{cm1} & 1-U_{cm1} \\ U_{cm2} & 1-U_{cm2} \\ U_{cm3} & 1-U_{cm3} \\ U_{cm4} & 1-U_{cm4} \\ U_{cm5} & 1-U_{cm5} \\ U_{cm6} & 1-U_{cm6} \\ U_{cm7} & 1-U_{cm7} \end{bmatrix}}_{[F^g]} \begin{bmatrix} R^+ & S^+ & T^+ \\ R^- & S^- & T^- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_R \\ V_S \\ V_T \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

It finally comes to characterize the matrix $[F^g]$ which allows to define the complete algorithm for the frequency conversion such as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_A \\ V_B \\ V_C \\ V_D \\ V_E \\ V_f \\ V_g \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_{RA}^g & F_{SA}^g & F_{TA}^g \\ F_{RB}^g & F_{SB}^g & F_{TB}^g \\ F_{RC}^g & F_{SC}^g & F_{TC}^g \\ F_{RD}^g & F_{SD}^g & F_{TD}^g \\ F_{RE}^g & F_{SE}^g & F_{TE}^g \\ F_{RF}^g & F_{SF}^g & F_{TF}^g \\ F_{RG}^g & F_{SG}^g & F_{TG}^g \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_R \\ V_S \\ V_T \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

The output reference voltage phases are defined as follows:

$$\begin{cases} V_A = V_m \sin(\omega_o t) \\ V_B = V_m \sin(\omega_o t - 2\pi/7) \\ V_C = V_m \sin(\omega_o t - 4\pi/7) \\ V_D = V_m \sin(\omega_o t - 6\pi/7) \\ V_E = V_m \sin(\omega_o t - 8\pi/7) \\ V_F = V_m \sin(\omega_o t - 10\pi/7) \\ V_G = V_m \sin(\omega_o t - 12\pi/7) \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

With: $\omega_o = 2\pi f_o$

Determining the functions of waves (standard reference functions) consists to modulate the fictitious middle voltage given above:

$$U_{cmk} = r \cos(\Phi) \sin\left(\omega_o t - 2(k-1)\frac{\pi}{7}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \quad (9)$$

$k = 1, 2, \dots, 7.$

The PWM is a well-established technique for the multi-pulse converters. For that, the control of matrix converter in each output phase must be switched at each input phase during a specified range of the pulse period; therefore, the pulse period must be divided into three intervals (Number of input phases). For such reason, a technique similar to the one used in the conventional PWM modulators has been adopted [9]; the saw tooth reference signal will be compared to a control signal, a binary signal by phase will be generated according to the comparison, for the purpose of indicating the state of the power switch.

The carrier equation is defined as follows:

$$U_p = \frac{t}{T} \quad 0 < t < T_p \quad (10)$$

The output binary signals X_i of PWM modulator is defined as follow [10]:

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \tau_{xi} > U_p \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

By taking into account the previous equations, the reference signals τ_x are defined as:

$$\begin{cases} \tau_{x1k} = R^+ U_{cmk} + R^- (1 - U_{cmk}) \\ \tau_{x2k} = S^+ U_{cmk} + S^- (1 - U_{cmk}) \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

IV. Simulations and Results

To have an overview about the behaviours of the presented algorithm, which has been tested by a simulation with $R - L$ load ($R = 20\Omega, L = 10mH$), the

input voltages of the matrix converter is considered as a typical three-phase system which is characterized by a magnitude of 220 V and 50 Hz as a frequency, the switching frequency is chosen to be 2500Hz with a modulation index $r=0.8$. The output voltages and currents obtained by the application of the modified PWM three intervals algorithm are presented in Figure 4 and Figure 5 respectively, the output voltages follow perfectly the reference, whereas in Figure.5 the output currents are shown, it is clearly noticed that the resulting output current drawing a nearly sinusoidal waveform.

The shift between voltage and the current ($5x I$) are showed in Figure.6 and Figure.7.

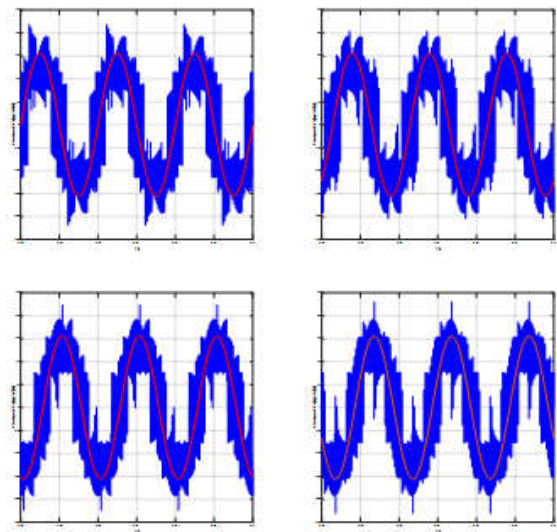
Whereas in Figure. 8 the input currents of 3x7 matrix converter are presented.

Figure 9 Output Voltage compared to the Output Current on the other side the harmonic spectrum of the output voltage, output current and the input current are represented in Figure 9, Figure 10 and Figure 11 respectively.

In Table .2, a summary of some results including THD and the fundamental values of the output voltage and input/output currents. It is obvious that the using of this algorithm ensures the maximum magnitude with a less THD compared with 3x3 matrix converter [6]; or 3x5 matrix converter [13]; on the other hand, the obtained output current is better and acceptable THD results from point of view of the sine waveform quality. The output current resulting from the adaptation of the proposed algorithm presents more important ripple which is characterized by THD = 15.87%.

Table 2. Values of the fundamentals and their THD

Values	THD	fundamental
Output voltage	59.74 %	290.00 V
Output current	15.87 %	14.32 A
Input current	52.61 %	31.39 A



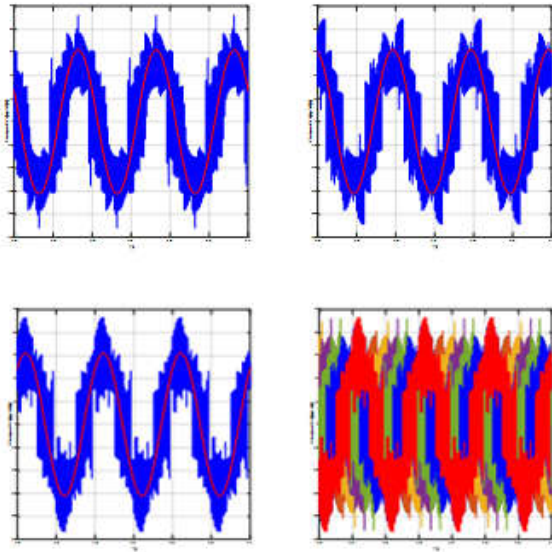


Figure 4. Output voltages of 3x7 matrix converter

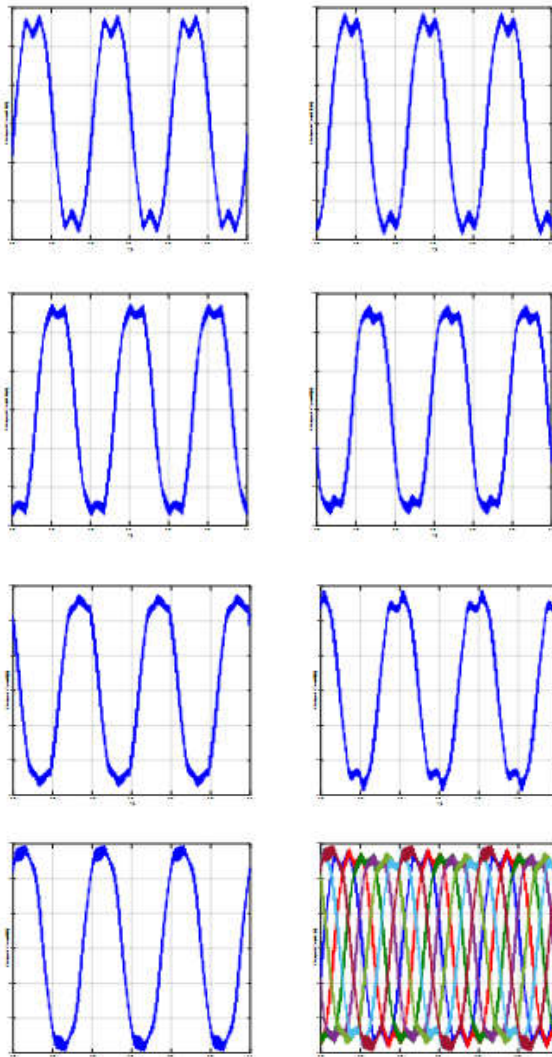


Figure 5. Output currents of 3x7 matrix converter

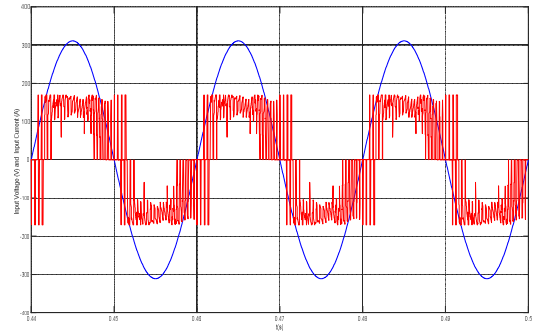


Figure 6. Input Voltage compared to the Input Current

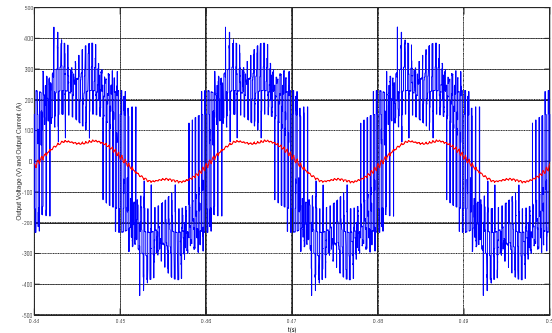


Figure 7. Output Voltage compared to the Output Current

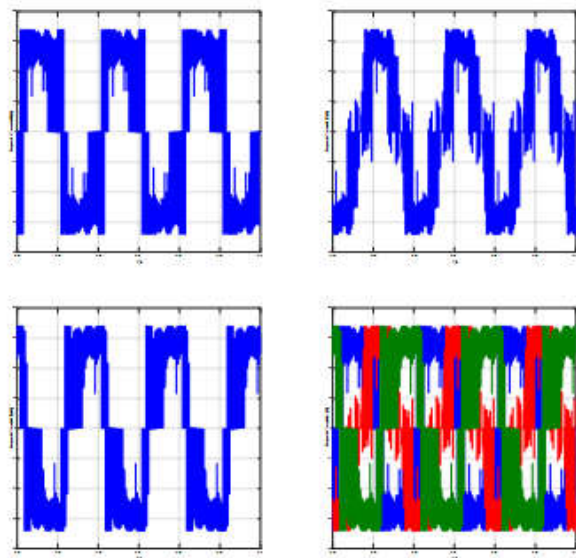


Figure 8. Output currents of 3x7 matrix converter

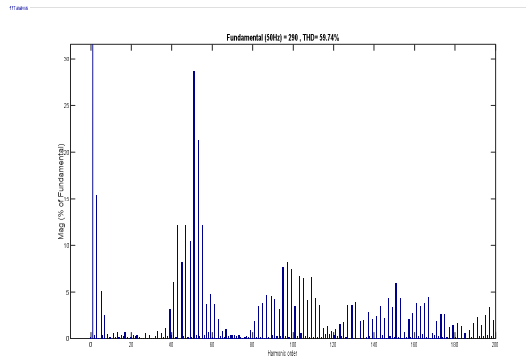


Figure 9. The harmonic spectra of output voltage

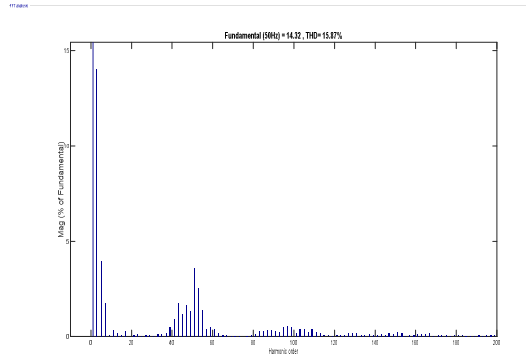


Figure 10. The harmonic spectra of output current

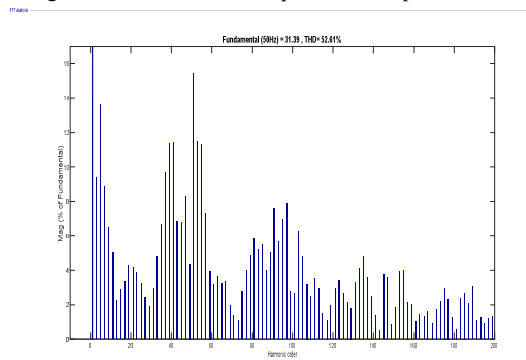


Figure 11. The harmonic spectra of input current

V. Conclusion

In the present work, a modified PWM three intervals algorithm is applied to control a 3x7 matrix converter. Simulation experiments of the proposed approach are achieved and the results which clarifying its behaviour are presented and discussed; after the examination of this method, it was found that the output voltages and input/output currents have an acceptable waveform, and thus allows obtaining better results. On the other side, the output voltages of 3x7 matrix converter are following perfectly their reference, which has been given a value of 290 V with a THD of 59.74 %. The shift between phases is equal to $\pi/7$ rad or 51.43° , which represents the shift phase between the output voltages and the output currents. Finally, the proposed algorithm gives better results and ensuring more flexibility and suitability when used for the control of the 3x7 matrix converter.

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