An Advanced Fuzzy Design of Active and Reactive Power Control for Large-Scale Grid-Connected Photovoltaic Systems Using Multilevel Converters

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Abstract— Solar Cells supplemented with energy storage system are considered as the promising source of alternative energy for portable, transportation and distributed generation applications. High power density of the super capacitor and high energy storage capability of the battery make them ideal choice as the energy storage system. The integration of these three power sources however, poses several difficulties for control system designers. In this paper, it is shown that a supervisory fuzzy logic based control system can well handle the situation associated with the integration. The higher multi level supervisory controller monitors the load demand, power availability of the solar cell and state of the charge of the battery/super capacitor and decides the operating condition of the system. The operating parameters are sent to the lower level power electronics controllers. A unidirectional DC/DC converter and two bidirectional DC/DC converters are designed for the power electronics interface. All the simulations are carried out in the matlab/simulink environment. The supervisory controller is implemented using state flow and fuzzy logic toolbox of matlab.

KEYWORDS: Solar Cells, Photovoltaic System, Active and Reactive Power, multilevel converters, maximum power point tracking, H-BRIDGES INVERTER

I. Introduction

GLOBAL energy crises and environmental concerns [1]–[3] from conventional fossil fuels have attracted more and more renewable energy developments in the worldwide.

Among of these renewable energy, solar energy is much eas-ier to be harvested, converted, and delivered to grid by a va-riety of power converters [4]–[14]. In particular, large-scale grid-connected photovoltaic (PV) systems play a major role to achieve PV grid parity and have been put forward in high penetration renewable energy systems [15]. As one type of modular multilevel converters, cascaded multilevel converters share many merits of modular multilevel converters, e.g., lower electromagnetic interference, low device rating, improved har-monic spectra, modularity, etc.,

but also is very promising for the large-scale PV system due to its unique advantages such as independent maximum power point tracking (MPPT) for seg-mented PV arrays, high ac voltage capability, etc. [11]–[14].

However, cascaded multilevel converters in PV systems are different from their some successful application such as medium voltage motor drive, static synchronous compensator (STATCOM), harmonic compensator, solid state transformer, which are connected with symmetrical segmented dc sources [16]–[22]. PV systems with cascaded multilevel converters have to face tough challenges considering solar power variability and mismatch of maximum power point from each converter module due to manufacturing tolerances, partial shading, dirt, thermal gradients, etc. In a cascaded PV system, the total ac output voltage is synthesized by the output voltage from each converter module in one phase leg, which must fulfill grid codes or requirements. Because same grid current flows through ac side of each converter module, active power mismatch will result in unsymmetrical ac output voltage of these modules [14]. The converter module with higher active power generation will carry more portion of the whole ac output voltage, which may cause overmodulation and degrade power quality if proper control system is not embedded into the cascaded PV system. Several control strategies have been proposed for the cascaded PV system with direct connection between individual inverter module and segmented PV arrays [23]-[27]. But they did not consider the fact that PV arrays cannot be directly connected to the individual inverter module in high-voltage large-scale PV system application due to the PV insulation and leakage cur-rent issues. Even if there are low-frequency medium-voltage transformers between the PV converters and grid, there are still complicated ground leakage current loops among the PV con-verter modules [28]. Therefore, those methods in [23]-[27] are not qualified for a practical large-scale grid-connected cascaded PV system. Moreover, reactive power compensation was not achieved in [23]–[26], which largely limits the functions of the

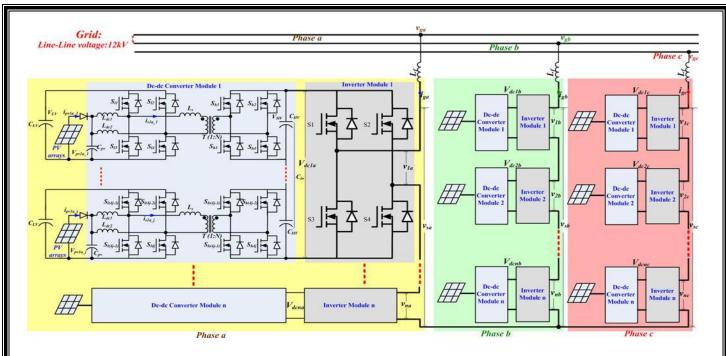


Fig. 1. Proposed grid-connected PV system with cascaded multilevel converters at 3 MW.

cascaded PV system to provide ancillary services. Proper reactive power compensation can significantly improve the system reliability, and in the meantime help the MPPT implementation for the cascaded module under unsymmetrical condition as well as comply with the system voltage requirement simulta-neously [29]. A reactive and active power control strategy has been applied in cascaded PV system with isolated dc-dc con-verters in [30] and [31]. If symmetrical active power comes from each module, active and reactive power can be equally distributed into these modules under traditional power control in [30] and [31]. However, if unsymmetrical active power is gen-erated from these modules, this control strategy will not be able to achieve decoupled active and reactive power control. Reactive power change is along with the active power change at the same direction, which may aggravate output voltage overmodulation during unsymmetrical active power outputs from segmented PV arrays.

In order to solve the aforementioned issues, this paper proposes a large-scale grid-connected cascaded PV system including current-fed dual-active-bridge (CF-DAB) dc-dc converters and cascaded multilevel inverters as shown in Fig. 1. A de-couple active and reactive power control system is developed to improve the system operation performance. Reactive power from each PV converter module is synchronously controlled to reduce the overmodulation of PV converter output voltage caused by unsymmetrical active power from PV arrays. In par-ticular, the proposed PV system allows a large low-frequency dc voltage ripple for each PV converter module, which will not affect MPPT achieved by CF-DAB dc-dc converters. As a re-sult, film capacitors can be applied to replace the conventional electrolytic capacitors, thereby enhancing system lifetime.

This paper is organized as follows: a two-stage large-scale grid-connected cascaded PV system topology and correspond-

ing power flow distribution are first introduced in Section II. A vector method is derived to help illustrate the active and reactive power distribution principle between the cascaded PV inverter modules. In Section III, a comprehensive control system with CF-DAB dc-dc converters control and cascaded multilevel in-verter control is developed.

The decoupled active and reactive power control including active and reactive components ex-traction, voltage distribution and synthesization, is executed in multilevel inverter control system to achieve independent active and reactive power distribution. Fuzzy logic can be explained in section IV A three-phase 3-MW/12-kV PV system including 12 cascaded PV inverter modules with the proposed decoupled active and reactive power control strategy is modeled in MATLAB/Simulink platform, simulation results are shown in section V and finally conclusions are presented in section VI.

II. SYSTEM Structure AND POWER FLOW ANALYSIS

A. System structure

The proposed large-scale grid-connected PV system is presented in Fig. 1, which demonstrates a three-phase two-stage power conversion system. It includes *n* cascaded multilevel inverter modules for each phase, where each inverter module is connected to *j* cascaded CF-DAB dc—dc converter modules with high voltage insulation [32]. This configuration features many impressive advantages comparing with traditional PV systems with line-frequency transformer. The cascaded multilevel inverters are directly connected to the grid without big line-frequency transformer, and the synthesized output voltage from cascaded modules facilitates to be extended to meet high grid voltage

TABLE I System Circuit Parameters in Simulation

Parameters		Symbol	Value
PV inverter modules in each phase	Number	n	4
	DC Capacitor voltage	V_{dcki} (k=1,2n; i=a,b,c)	3000 V
	DC Capacitor size	C_{in}	400 uF
	Filter inductor	L_f	0.8 mH
	Switching frequency	fsw_AC	5 kHz
CF-DAB DC-DC converter module	Number	j	5
	Capacitor voltage in low voltage capacitor	V_{LV}	300V
	Capacitor voltage in low voltage capacitor	V_{HV}	600V
	Transformer turn ratio	N	2
	PV arrays output voltage	$V_{pvki_r}(k=1,2n; i=a,b,c; r=1,2j)$	100 V - 200 V
	Leakage inductor	L_s	2.5 μΗ
	DC inductor value	L_{dc1}, L_{dc2}	12.5 μΗ
	Capacitor in high voltage side	C_{HV}	2 mF
	Capacitor in low voltage side	C_{LV}	300 uF
	PV arrays output capacitor	C_{PV}	100 uF
	Switching frequency	fsw_DC	50 kHz
Grid (three phase)	Rated real power	P_g	3 MW
	Rated reactive power	Q_g	1.5 MVAR
	Rated RMS line-line voltage	V_{gL-L}	12 kV

requirement due to the modular structure. Each dc-dc converter module is interfaced with segmented PV arrays and therefore the independent MPPT can be achieved to harvest more solar energy. Moreover, it is immune to the double-line-frequency power ripple propagation into PV arrays. Particularly, the ground leakage current and PV insulation issues are effectively suppressed. In addition, flexible control strategies are able to be explored and applied in this topology owing to more control variables and control degree-of-freedom. Although there is no accurate number about the cost benefits comparing with the traditional PV system with line-frequency transformer, it is obvious that the proposed PV system will have lower cost due to high power density and modular structure, which will significantly reduce the cost of the power platform using to install the PV system. This paper is focused on active and reactive power distribution control of the cascaded multilevel inverters in the proposed PV system. The detailed dc-dc converter design has been provided in [32] and will not be repeated in this paper. The selected application is a 3-MW/12-kV PV system in this paper. The n is selected to be 4 considering the tradeoff among the cost, lifetime, passive components, switching devices and frequency selection, and power quality. As a result, power rating of each inverter module is 250 kW. The average dc voltage of each in-verter module is 3000 V based on the requirement of inverter output voltage, power devices as well as power quality. The second-order voltage ripple on the dc side is allowed to 20% even higher. Hence, film capacitor with 400 μ F, C_{in} , is eligible to improve the system lifetime. In addition, the modular structure enables the highvoltage high-frequency SiC power devices for the HVHP PV application. The switching frequency for each power device is 5 kHz. Due to the phase-shift carrier-based phase-width modulation (PWM) control, the PV inverter will generate nine level output voltage and the equivalent output PWM frequency is 40 kHz for each phase. The current ripple of ac inductor is selected to be less than 20% of the rated output current. Therefore, the ac inductor with 0.8 mH, L_f , is acted as

the filter. In each dc—dc converter module, $L_{\rm dc1}$ and $L_{\rm dc2}$ are dc inductors, and $L_{\rm S}$ is leakage inductor. $C_{\rm PV}$ is high-frequency filter capacitor paralleled with PV arrays. High-frequency trans-former with turn ration N is connected between low-voltage side (LVS) converter and high-voltage side (HVS) converter. $C_{\rm LV}$ are LVS dc capacitor and $C_{\rm HV}$ are HVS dc capacitor. The detailed parameters have been provided in Table I.

B. Power Flow Analysis

In the cascaded PV system, power distribution between these modules is primarily dominated by their respective ac output voltage because the same grid current flows through these modules in each phase as shown in Fig. 1. Vector diagrams are derived in Fig. 2 to demonstrate the principle of power distribution between four PV inverter modules in phase a. The same analysis can be applied for phases b and c. Considering the relative stability of the grid voltage, $v_{g\ a}$ is used for the synchronous signal. The a-axis is in phase with grid voltage and the β -axis lags the a-axis by 90° as shown in Fig. 2(a). The a-axis is aligned with the grid voltage by the phase-locked loop (PLL) control [8] and the a-axis lags the a-axis by 90°. The components of grid voltage in $a\beta$ stationary frame and a0 rotating frame can be written in (1) and (2), respectively

$$\begin{cases} v_{ga_\alpha} \\ v_{ga_\beta} \end{cases} = \frac{v_{ga} \sin \omega t}{-v_{ga} \cos \omega t}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{ga_d} \\ v_{ga_q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \omega t & -\cos \omega t \\ \cos \omega t & \sin \omega t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{ga_\alpha} \\ v_{ga_\beta} \end{bmatrix} \qquad 2$$

The grid current is relatively stable to the grid voltage in steady state. Therefore, the new d-axis (d^I) can be aligned with the grid current. It is obvious that the d^{I} -axis component of the inverter output voltage $v_{Sd\ d}$ determines the active power

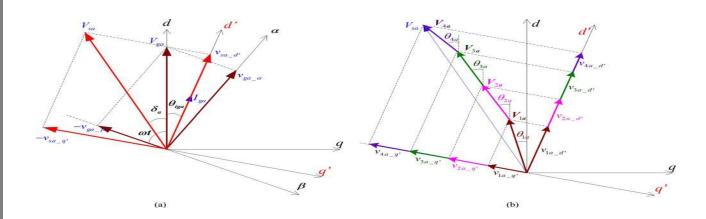


Fig. 2. Vector diagrams showing relation between $a\beta$ frame, dq frame, and d^-q^- frame. (a) The relationship between the grid current, grid voltage, and inverter output voltage in phase a. (b) The voltage distribution of PV inverter in phase a.

generation, and the q-axis component $v_{sa\,q}$ decides the reactive power output. Fig. 2(b) describes clearly the power distribution between four PV inverter modules under different active power generation. The output voltage of the total inverter V_{sa} is synthesized by the four inverter module output voltage with different amplitude and angles. In particular, the $v_{k\ a-\ d}^{-1}$ and $v_{ka-\ q}^{-1}$ ($k=1,\ 2,\ldots 4$) can be independently controlled to implement the decoupled active and reactive power control.

III. CONTROL SYSTEM DESIGN

Fig. 3 shows the proposed control system of the grid-connected cascaded PV converters including CF-DAB dc-dc converters control and cascaded multilevel inverters control in phase a. The same control system can be applied in phases b and c.

A. CF-DAB DC-DC Converters Control

Fig. 3(a) shows the CF-DAB dc-dc converters control for one unit of dc-dc converter module 1 in Fig. 1 [32]. The same control can be used to other units. Due to the dual-activebridge struc-ture, this control has two degrees of freedom: the duty cycle D and the phase shift angle ϕ , by which the PV voltage $V_{pv-1a-1}$ and LVS dc-link voltage V_{LV} are controlled, respectively. $V_{pv \ 1a \ 1}$ is directly controlled by the duty cycle D so that it can be well kept at the reference voltage V_{pv}^{*} _{1a 1} which is generated from MPPT algorithm [32]. Usually the bandwidth of the duty cycle loop is about several kHz (e.g., 10 kHz in this paper), which is much higher than 120 Hz; thus, the double-frequency component in the LVS or HVS is blocked and high utilization factor of MPPT is reached in the PV side. For simplicity, a simple high band-width PI controller is applied. The PV voltage and current are both sensed for the calculation of $P_{pv\ 1a\ 1}$, $i_{pv\ 1a\ 1}$ / $v_{pv\ 1a\ 1}$, and i_{pv} / v_{pv} which are used in MPPT algorithm. The MPPT algorithm generates a reference voltage V_{pv^*-1a-1} for the PV voltage regulation. Power transferred from LVS to HVS is determined by the phase shift angle ϕ . By regulating LVS voltage through ϕ , the power generated from the PV arrays and the power delivered to HVS are matched. To minimize the peak transformer, the LVS dc-link voltage V_{LV} is controlled to follow the reference V_{HV}/N, that is HVS voltage

divided by turn ratio N, so that they are balanced. Proportional resonant (PR) controller is employed to obtain enough gain at double frequency to ensure the LVS voltage to dynamically follow the reference voltage.

B. Cascaded Multilevel Inverter Control

In the cascaded multilevel converter control showing in Fig. 3(b), active power distribution between cascaded PV converter modules is decided by the individual maximum power available from PV arrays. Considering dc capacitors connected with cascaded multilevel inverter modules have the same capacitance, reactive power from each module can be synchronously controlled to reduce the overmodulation risk regardless of active power change. Therefore, the proposed control strategy can be called decoupled active and reactive power distribution control. The double-loop dq control based on discrete Fourier transform PLL method [8] is applied to achieve the active and reactive power distribution.

The unique features of this control strategy is that active and reactive power is decoupled in each module by synchronizing with the grid current as described in Sec-tion II, which are not achieved in traditional control methods in [30] and [31].

Due to the same grid current goes through ac side of each module, only grid voltage synchronization is not able to perform the separation of active and reactive power in each module under unsymmetrical active power generation. In the proposed control, individual voltage outer loop controls DC voltage of each inverter module to track the reference V $_{\rm dc}$ by fuzzy logic.

1) Active and Reactive Components Extraction: The "active and reactive components extraction" module is used to transfer the outputs of inner loops v_{sa-d} and v_{sa-q} in dq frame to v_{sa-d} and v_{sa-q} in dq frame. The angle of grid current $\theta_{ig\,a}$ is the key to achieve the transformation. The grid current $i_{g\,a}$ can be measured and act as the signal i_{ga-a} in the α -axis. The imaginary quadrature signal $i_{ga-\beta}$ of the grid current can be generated by a variable transport delay block as shown in Fig.3.

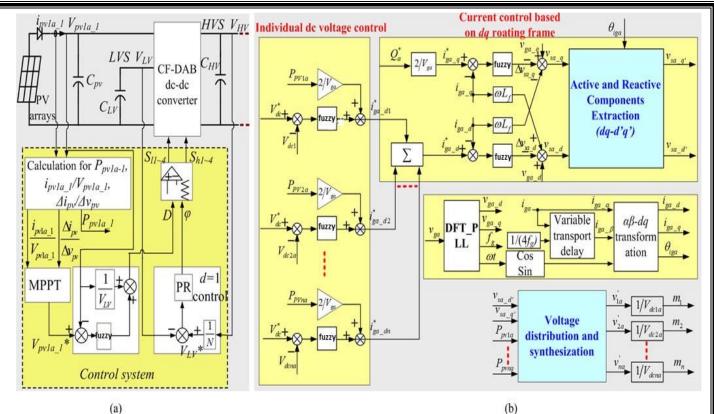


Fig. 3. Proposed control system of the grid-connected cascaded PV converters in phase a. (a) CF-DAB dc-dc converters control of one unit in module 1. (b) Cascaded multilevel inverters control.

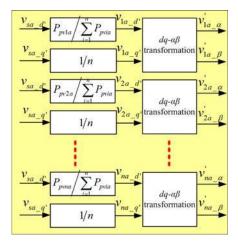


Fig. 4. Proposed voltage distribution and synthesization of the cascaded PV inverters in phase a.

Therefore, θ_{iga} can be obtained based on the dq components Of grid current $i_{ga\text{-}d}$ and $i_{ga\text{-}q}$ by the $\alpha\beta$ -dq transformation as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_{ga_d} \\ i_{ga_q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \omega t & -\cos \omega t \\ \cos \omega t & \sin \omega t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{ga_\alpha} \\ i_{ga_\beta} \end{bmatrix}$$
 3

Where $\theta_{iga} = tg^{-1}$ $(i_{ga\text{-q}}/i_{ga\text{-d}})$ is the grid current angle.

Accordingly the desired V_{sa-d}, and V_{sa-q}, can be derived by

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{sa-d^1} \\ v_{sa-q^1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_{iga} & \sin \theta_{iga} \\ -\sin \theta_{iga} & \cos \theta_{iga} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{sa-d} \\ v_{sa-q} \end{bmatrix}$$
 4

2) Voltage Distribution And Synthesization: The voltage and distribution and synthesization module as shown in Fig4 is

developed to perform the active and reactive power distribution for each module. The active components $V_{\rm ka-d}{}^{\rm l}$ (k=1,2...n) Of each module output is determined by their respective active power contribution which the ratio is

 P_{pvka} / $\sum_{i=1}^{n} P_{pvia}$ (k=1,2....n). The reactive power output from each module is controlled to be the same in order to mitigate output voltage overmodulation caused by unsymmetrical active power from segmented PV arrays[29]. Hence the corresponding reactive components Vka-q¹ (k=1,2...n) are distributed with the same ratio 1/n accordingly the output voltage of each module can be expressed by.

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{ka-\alpha}^1 \\ v_{ka-\beta}^1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin(\omega t + \theta_{iga}) & \cos(\omega t + \theta_{iga}) \\ -\cos(\omega t + \theta_{iga}) & \sin(\omega t + \theta_{iga}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{ka-d}^1 \\ v_{ka-q}^1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(k=1,2...n)$$

Where $v'_{ka} = v'_{ka-\alpha}$ is the desired output voltage of each module $v'_{ka-\beta}$ is the imaginary quadrature signal with v'_{ka} and can be ignored in this control system.

Therefore the modulation index of respective output voltage can be obtained by $m_k = V^{'}_{ka} / V_{dcka}$ shown in fig 3(b). As a result the active and reactive power can be properly distributed in each module which achieves the MPPT and augments the security and stability of the cascaded PV system operation simultaneously.

IV. Proposed Technique

Fuzzy logic controller

A fuzzy logic controller has four main components as shown in Figure 5: fuzzification interface, inference mechanism, rule base and defuzzification interface. FLCs are complex, nonlinear controllers. Therefore it's difficult to predict how the rise time, settling time or steady state error is affected when controller parameters or control rules are changed.

Implementation of an FLC requires the choice of four key factors: number of fuzzy sets that constitute linguistic variables, mapping of the measurements onto the support sets, control protocol that determines the controller behaviour and shape of membership functions. Thus, FLCs can be tuned not just by adjusting controller parameters but also by changing control rules, membership functions etc. The main advantages of adaptive fuzzy control over non adaptive fuzzy control are: better performance is usually achieved because the adaptive fuzzy controller can adjust itself to the changing environment, and less information about the plant is required because the adaptation law can help to learn the dynamics of the plant during real time operation. However, these approaches still have some problems. The adaptive control scheme proposed by Wang guarantees the uniform bounded ness of all signals of the control system but it is applicable only to single-input single-output system. In many applications, the structure of the model of the plant may be known, but its parameters may be unknown and/or change with time. Recently, the concept of incorporating fuzzy logic control into the model reference adaptive control has grown into an interesting research topic Moreover, it can eliminate multiple harmonics in the circulating current with a single repetitive controller. However, the repetitive controller and the FUZZY controller are paralleled. Such an arrangement imposes unnecessary limitation on the FUZZY controller design and also complicates the repetitive controller design. This paper proposes a different repetitive-plus-FUZZY control scheme. The improved plug-in configuration of the repetitive controller avoids the above problems while keeping all the advantageous features.

In some control tasks, such as those in robot manipulation, the systems to be controlled have constant or slowly-time varying uncertain parameters. Unless such parameter uncertainty is gradually reduced on-line by an appropriate adaptation or estimation mechanism, it may cause inaccuracy or instability for the control systems. In many other tasks, such as those in power systems, the system dynamics may have well known dynamics at the beginning, but experience unpredictable parameter variations as the control operation goes on. Without continuous redesign of the controller, the initially appropriate controller design may not be able to control the changing plantwell.

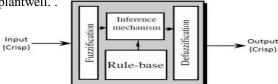


Fig 5: Fuzzy Logic Controller.

The problem of adaptation of dynamical systems having parameter uncertainty has attracted a lot of research efforts in all times. In particular, for nonlinear systems, several approaches have been proposed to deal with this important problem. On the other hands, as a model free design method, fuzzy logic systems have been successfully applied to control complex or mathematically poorly understandable systems. However, the fuzzy control has not been regarded as a rigorous science due to the lack of guaranteed global stability and acceptable performance.

To overcome these drawbacks, during the last decade, there has been growing interest in systematic analysis and design of fuzzy control systems such as stability and robustness. In recent years, in order to deal with the uncertainties of nonlinear systems in the fuzzy control system literature, a lot of effort has been put to adaptive fuzzy control system such as neural network based approaches, and the TS model based approaches.

Rulebase, inference mechanism and defuzzification methods are the sources of nonlinearities in FLCs. But it's possible to construct a rule base with linear input-output characteristics. For an FLC to become a linear controller with a control signal U=E+CE. Where

E is error and CE is change of error, some conditions must be satisfied :

- 1. Support sets of input linguistic variables must be large enough so that input values stay in limits.
- 2. Linguistic values must consist of symmetric triangular fuzzy sets that intercept with neighbouring sets at a membership value of so that for any time instant, membership values add to 1.
- 3. Rule base must consist of -combinations of all fuzzysets Output linguistic variables must consist of singleton fuzzy sets positioned at the sum of the peak positions of input fuzzy sets.
- 4. Should be multiplication and defuzzification method must be centre of gravity (COGS).

V.Simulation Results

The large scale grid connected cascaded PV system with proposed control strategy is validated in cosimulation platform with MATLAB. The equivalent switching function model in phase a is shown in fig 6. The same model can be used in phase b and c. The single phase (a) results is shown in fig 7 and three phase results are shown in fig 8 and the fig 9 represents the total harmonic distortion in three phase voltage of the grid, the total harmonic distortion (THD) is reduced to 0.05% by using fuzzy logic.

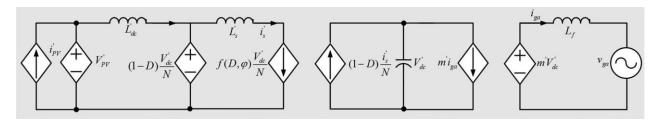


Fig. 6. Equivalent switching function model of the cascaded PV system in phase a.

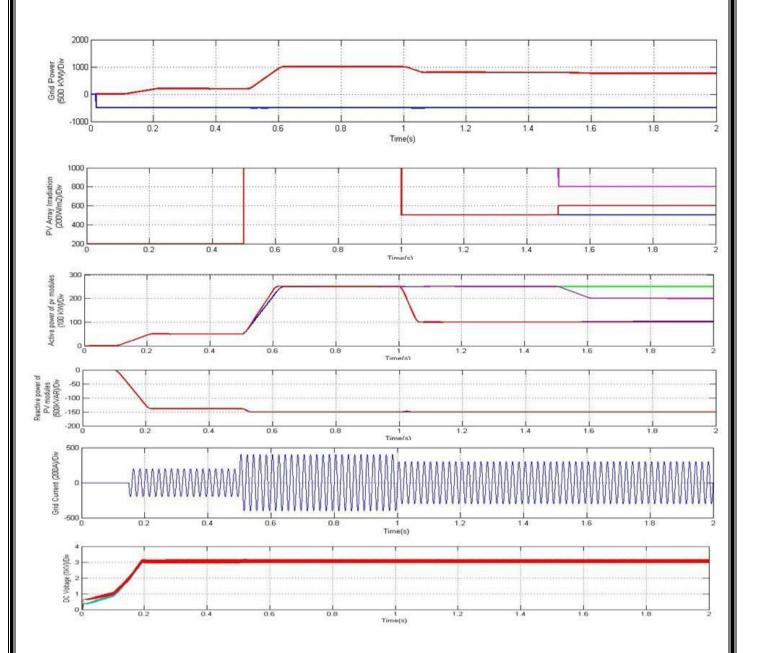


Fig. 7 Simulation results of PV system with the proposed control in $\,$ phase a.

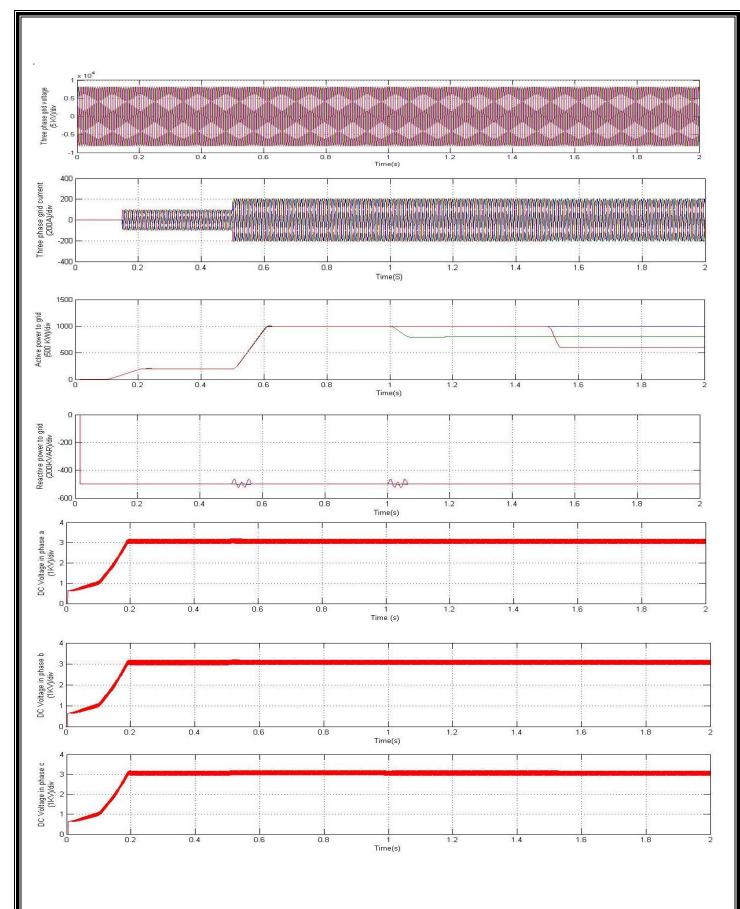


Fig. 8 Simulation results of PV system with the proposed control in three phase.

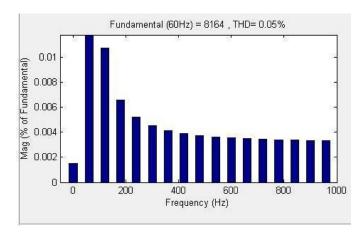


Fig 9 Harmonic spectrum of three phase voltage with the proposed control

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper addressed the active and reactive power distribution among cascaded PV inverter modules and their impacts on power quality and system stability for the large-scale gridconnected cascaded PV system. The output voltage for each module was separated based on grid current synchronization to achieve independent active and reactive power distribution. A decoupled active and reactive power control strategy was developed to enhance system operation performance. The proposed control strategy enabled the cascaded PV inverter modules to adequately embody their respective reactive power compen-sation capability regardless of their active power generation. Moreover, it was demonstrated that the risk of overmodulation of the output voltage from the cascaded PV inverter modules can be effectively reduced, which improves system power qual-ity and stability. Correspondingly, the simulation and experimental results confirmed the validity of the proposed control strategy.

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