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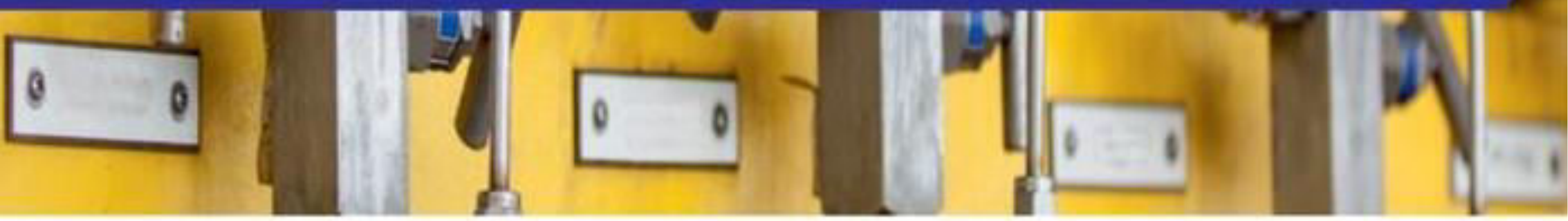

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Design of Harmonic Filters

Sushmitha K, Dr. Aijaz Ahamed Sharief

M. Tech, Dept. of VLSI Design & Embedded Systems, Shridevi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Tumakuru, India

Professor & HOD, Dept. of ECE, Shridevi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Tumakuru, India

ABSTRACT: In modern industrial power systems, the extensive use of nonlinear loads and power electronic devices has significantly increased harmonic distortion problems. Harmonics generated by converters, rectifiers, variable frequency drives, and switching devices negatively affect power quality and reduce the efficiency and reliability of electrical equipment. Excessive harmonic distortion can lead to overheating, increased losses, malfunction of protective devices, and reduced equipment lifespan.

This paper presents the design and analysis of passive harmonic filters for reducing harmonic distortion in industrial power systems. Different filter configurations such as bandpass filters, high-pass filters, C-type filters, and double tuned filters are studied for effective harmonic mitigation. The proposed methodology includes harmonic analysis, filter selection, tuning frequency calculation, and simulation-based performance evaluation. Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) is analyzed before and after filter implementation to evaluate filter effectiveness.

Simulation results demonstrate that the designed passive harmonic filters effectively reduce harmonic distortion and improve overall power quality while maintaining THD within IEEE 519 standard limits. The proposed filter design provides a simple, economical, and reliable solution for harmonic mitigation in modern industrial applications.

KEYWORDS: Harmonics, Passive Harmonic Filter, THD, Power Quality, IEEE 519, Industrial Power Systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

Modern industrial systems widely use nonlinear electrical loads such as variable frequency drives, converters, rectifiers, UPS systems, and switching devices. Although these devices improve system control and efficiency, they also generate harmonics that distort voltage and current waveforms in electrical networks.

Harmonics are unwanted frequency components that occur at multiples of the fundamental frequency. These harmonic components adversely affect power quality and create several operational problems including overheating of transformers and motors, poor power factor, additional power losses, communication interference, and malfunction of protective devices.

To reduce these problems and maintain reliable system operation, harmonic mitigation techniques are required. Among different harmonic reduction methods, passive harmonic filters are widely preferred in industrial applications because of their simple design, economical operation, and high reliability. Passive filters provide a low impedance path for harmonic currents and reduce the flow of harmonics into the main power system.

This paper focuses on the design and analysis of passive harmonic filters for improving power quality and reducing Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) in industrial electrical systems.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Several researchers have studied harmonic distortion and different harmonic mitigation techniques for industrial power systems. J. Arrillaga and N. R. Watson discussed harmonic generation and its impact on electrical system performance. Their work emphasized the importance of harmonic reduction for improving system reliability and efficiency.

Roger C. Dugan and his research team analyzed power quality issues caused by harmonics, including overheating of electrical equipment, increased system losses, and poor system performance. Their studies highlighted the need to maintain harmonic levels within standard limits.

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H. Akagi introduced active harmonic filtering techniques for dynamic harmonic compensation. Although active filters provide better performance, their implementation cost and control complexity are comparatively higher.

Many IEEE research studies concluded that passive harmonic filters are still widely used in industries because of their simple structure, low cost, easy maintenance, and reliable operation. Passive filters are mainly designed using inductors, capacitors, and resistors to suppress specific harmonic frequencies generated in the system.

III. HARMONICS IN POWER SYSTEMS

Harmonics are generated mainly due to nonlinear electrical loads that draw non-sinusoidal current from the supply. Common harmonic-producing devices include converters, rectifiers, VFDs, UPS systems, arc furnaces, and inverter-based systems.
The presence of harmonics creates several harmful effects in electrical systems such as:

- Increased heating losses
- Poor power factor
- Reduced efficiency
- Equipment malfunction
- Voltage distortion
- Communication interference
- Resonance problems

The level of harmonic distortion is represented using Total Harmonic Distortion (THD).

$$\mathrm{THD} = \frac{\sqrt{I_2^2 + I_3^2 + I_4^2 + \cdots + I_n^2}}{I_1} \times 100$$

According to IEEE 519 standards, voltage THD should generally remain below 5% in industrial power systems.

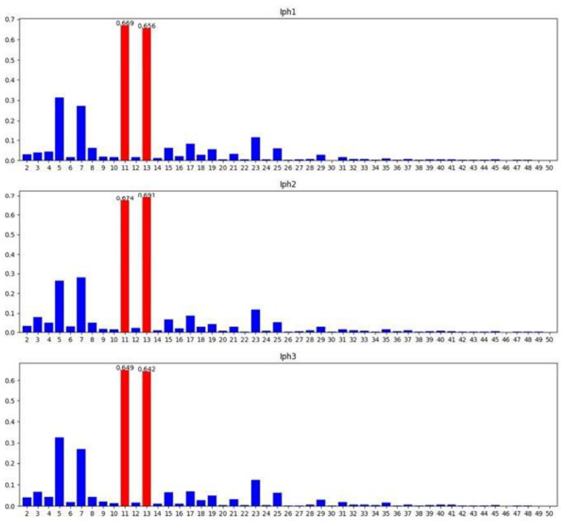

Fig.3.1 Harmonic Spectrum Before Filter Implementation

IV. PROPOSED HARMONIC FILTER DESIGN

The proposed methodology focuses on designing passive harmonic filters for harmonic mitigation in industrial power systems. The overall system consists of:

- Power supply source
- Nonlinear load
- Harmonic filter
- Measurement and analysis system

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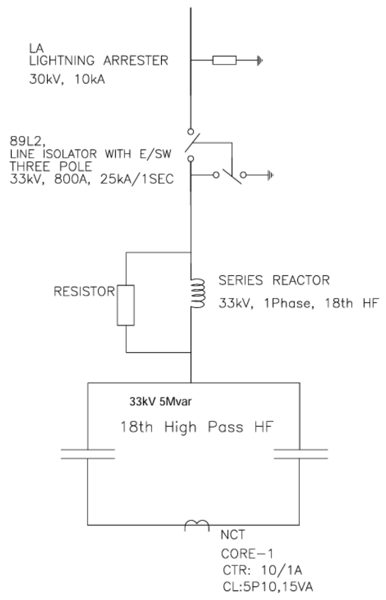

Fig.4.1 Single line diagram of proposed harmonic filter system

The harmonic filter is connected near the nonlinear load to provide a low impedance path for harmonic currents. Different passive harmonic filter configurations are studied:

- Bandpass Filter
- High-pass Filter
- C-Type Filter
- Double Tuned Filter

The tuning frequency of the filter is calculated using:

$$f_t = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

where:

- f_t= tuning frequency
- L= inductance
- C= capacitance

The filter parameters are selected based on system voltage, harmonic frequency, reactive power compensation, and desired filtering performance.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Simulation analysis is carried out to evaluate the performance of the proposed harmonic filter system. Initially, the system is analyzed without connecting the harmonic filter. Under this condition, significant harmonic distortion is observed due to nonlinear loads. Lower-order harmonics such as the 5th and 7th harmonics contribute heavily to waveform distortion.

After connecting the passive harmonic filter, the voltage and current waveforms become more sinusoidal, indicating effective harmonic reduction. The filter successfully suppresses dominant harmonic frequencies and improves overall power quality.

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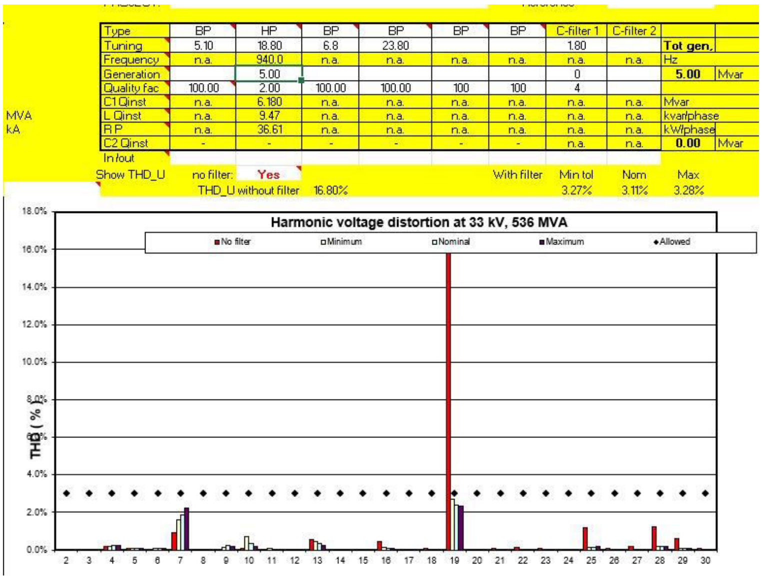

Fig.5.1 Output waveform after harmonic filter implementation

The comparison of system performance before and after filter implementation is shown below:
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Table.5.1 THD comparison before and after filter implementation

Parameters	Before Filter	After Filter
Voltage THD	12%	3%
Current THD	18%	4%
Power Factor	0.78	0.98
Harmonic Distortion	High	Reduced

The obtained results confirm that the proposed passive harmonic filter effectively reduces THD and improves system efficiency while satisfying IEEE 519 standards.

VI. APPLICATIONS

The proposed harmonic filter system can be applied in:

- Industrial power systems
- Variable Frequency Drive systems
- Renewable energy systems
- UPS systems
- Data centers
- Manufacturing industries
- Power converter stations
- Electric traction systems

VII. CONCLUSION

This paper presented the design and analysis of passive harmonic filters for industrial power systems. Harmonic distortion caused by nonlinear loads significantly affects power quality and system reliability. Different passive harmonic filter configurations were studied for harmonic reduction and power quality improvement.

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Simulation results confirmed that properly designed passive harmonic filters effectively reduce Total Harmonic Distortion and improve system performance. The designed filter system successfully maintained THD within IEEE 519 permissible limits while improving power factor and reducing harmonic-related losses.

Due to their simple structure, low cost, and reliable operation, passive harmonic filters remain one of the most practical solutions for harmonic mitigation in modern industrial electrical networks.

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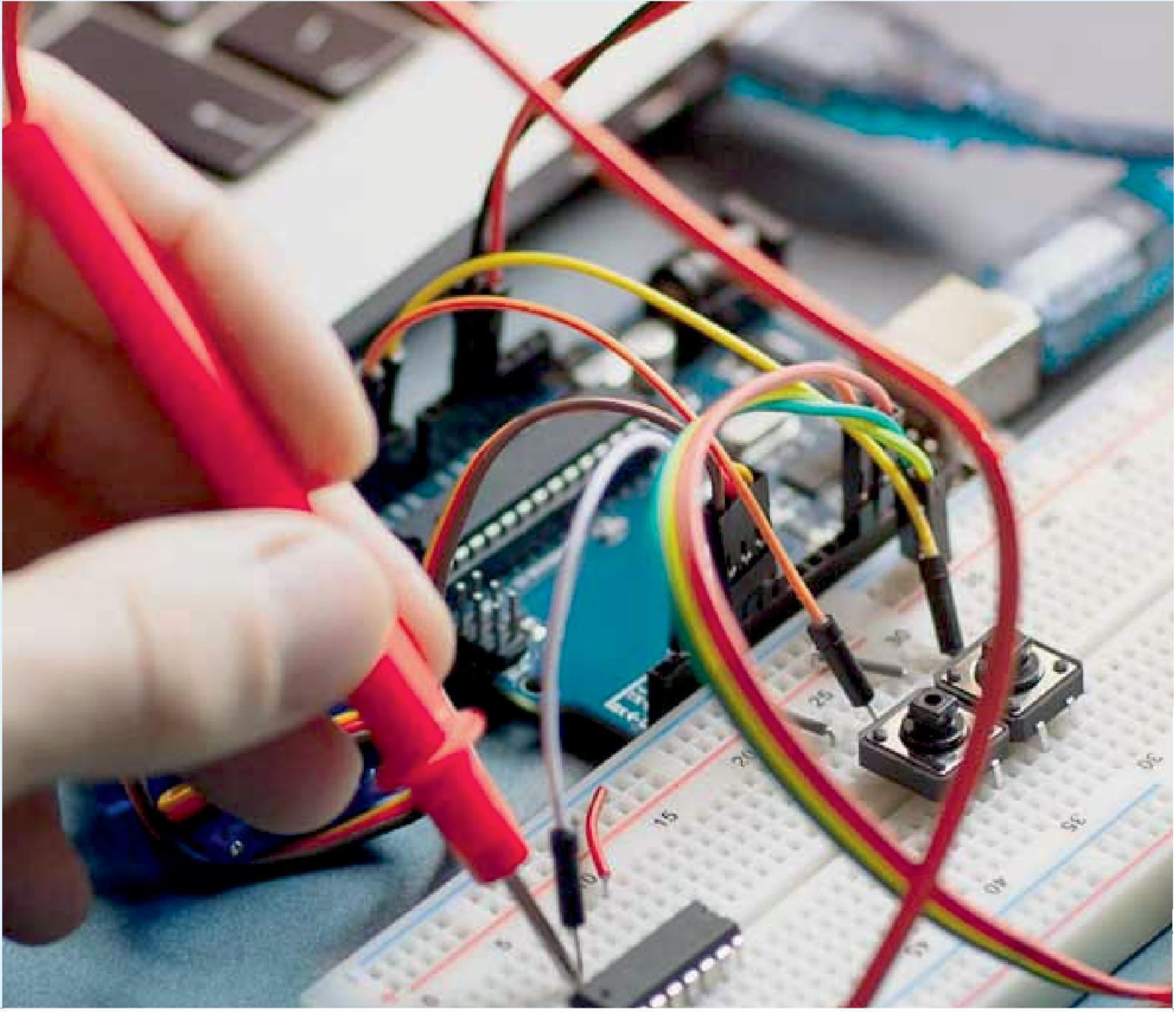

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