Enhanced Frequency Adaptive Demodulation Technique For Grid-Connected Converters

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Abstract—This paper presents an enhanced frequency adaptive demodulation technique for grid-synchronization of grid-connected converters (GCC) in variable frequency condition. Demodulation works by generating demodulated voltages which contain undesired double frequency components. As a result, high-order low-pass filters (LPF) with high cutoff frequency are required to eliminate the undesired components. This reduces the dynamic performance. Frequency adaptive demodulation technique enhances the dynamic performance by rejecting the double frequency components as opposed to filtering, however, at the cost of additional computational complexity. This paper overcomes this problem by using double demodulation without recreating the double frequency component for rejection purpose. This reduces the computational complexity significantly. Suitability of proposed method is verified through numerical simulation and experimental study. Comparative study with existing frequency adaptive demodulation and second-order generalized integrator phase-locked loop (SOGI-PLL) techniques demonstrate the validity and performance improvement by the proposed technique.

Index Terms—Demodulation, Frequency Estimation, PLL.

I. INTRODUCTION

CLIMATE change is a serious concern of our time. In order to slow down the adverse effect of climate change, greenhouse gas emissions need to be reduced significantly. Approximately 60% of the global greenhouse gas emissions are linked to energy consumed by cities all over the world [1]. As such, sustainable and clean energy will play a major role to reduce the overall greenhouse gas emissions. In this context, renewable energy sources (RES) are considered to be a major player. RES are typically connected to the traditional power grid through grid-connected converters (GCC). To ensure maximum power transfer from RES to the grid, synchronized operation of the GCC is necessary. However, this require

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accurate information of the grid voltage parameters. Grid voltage parameters are an integral part of the GCC controller [2]–[9]. This motivates the current work.

Estimating the parameters of grid voltage signals can be considered as an important technical problem. To address this challenging technical problem, many techniques have been proposed in the literature. In the ideal case, grid voltage is a periodic signal with known frequency. This makes frequency domain technique such as discrete Fourier transform (DFT) [10], [11] a suitable choice to estimate the parameters of grid voltage signal. Standard DFT has high memory and processing power requirement. To overcome this issue, recursive implementations are used in practice. In the presence of off-nominal frequency, the performance of DFT suffers. This can be overcomed either by using variable sampling frequency or variable window length. However, variable sampling frequency is not suitable for control applications (issue with filter design) and variable window length can be computationally expensive. Regression-based techniques [12]–[14] are another popular technique available in the literature. This type of technique use a parameterized model of the grid voltage signal. This type of technique has a high memory requirement. Moreover, computationally expensive matrix inverse may also be required. This type of technique is often coupled with phase-locked loop (PLL) for the frequency estimation. As a result, PLL significantly influence the performance of regression-based techniques.

State-space observer [13], [15], [16] use a state-space model of the grid voltage as opposed to parameterized model used by regression-based techniques. State-space observer can either use fixed gain (e.g. Luenberger observer [15]) or variable gain (e.g. Kalman filter [13]). The performance of the Luenberger-type observer degrades heavily in the presence of disturbances (harmonics, measurement offset etc.). Kalman filter has better disturbance rejection capability (specially noise rejection), however, comes at the cost of high computational complexity. As the filter gain is continuously updated through real-time matrix inverse, it's implementation in low-cost micro-controllers can be limited.

Band-pass filter-type synchronization algorithms [17], [18] became very popular in recent times. Out of them, second order generalized integrator (SOGI) [18], [19] and adaptive notch filter (ANF) [17] are very similar in nature and uses frequency adaptive filter gain while self-tuning filter (STF) [20], [21] do not use any frequency adaptive gain. SOGI and ANF can be applied to both single and three-phase while STF is limited to three-phase. In phasor form, STF behaves

as a complex first-order band-pass filter. In the state-space framework, the model of these filters resemble to that of a simple harmonic oscillator (SHO) with eigenvalues $\pm i\omega$, where ω is the oscillation frequency. This model is based on ideal sinusoid. However, in practice, the grid voltage is not ideal. As such, in the presence of harmonic distortions, there will be modeling error. This modeling error will impact the estimation performance. One potential solution is to add additional filters (pre or in-loop). This comes at the cost of additional computational complexity and gains tuning.

Out of various techniques available in the literature, PLL [22]–[28] is probably the most popular technique used in the industrial applications. PLL is a closed-loop system and uses a linear phase detector (PD). Output of the PD is passed through a proportional-integral (PI)-type low-pass filter (LPF) to estimate the unknown grid frequency. Performance of the PLL depends heavily on the LPF tuning. The cutoff frequency of the LPF determines the dynamic response of the PLL. High bandwidth enhances the dynamic performance but at the cost of lower disturbance rejection capability. Open-loop techniques [29]–[31] present a solution to this problem by not requiring the feedback. Open-loop techniques generally use derivative to estimate the frequency. Numerical implementation of derivative can introduce estimation error at low sampling frequency. Moreover, noise can also deteriorate the performance of the derivative estimation and consequently the frequency estimation.

Demodulation uses idea originally developed for telecommunication application where received signals are mixed with known signals to extract the information (i.e. phase). Standard demodulation techniques (single-dimensional [32], [33] and multi-dimensional [34], [35]) mix the grid voltage signal (real or complex phasor) with sine and cosine signals of known frequency. As a result, two demodulated signals are obtained. Each signal is composed of a DC component containing the required information and a double frequency component. By using low-pass filter (LPF), the double frequency component can be easily removed. However, this requires a high-order LPF with high cutoff frequency e.g. between f and $2f$ with f being the nominal frequency. As such, the dynamic performance can be comparatively slow. To overcome this issue, quadrature oscillator (QO)-based demodulation technique is used in [36]. This technique compensates the double frequency component through QO. This facilitates the use of low-order LPF with low cutoff frequency.

In this paper, we focus on demodulation technique. Our objective is to enhance the performance with low computational complexity. For this purpose, we propose the application of demodulation to three-phase system. First, we reduce the three-phase system to two-phase through Concordia transformation [37]. These two-phase signals are then demodulated with frequency adaptive sine and cosine signals. This helps to eliminate the double frequency component with low computational complexity. Performance of the proposed technique is compared with standard frequency adaptive demodulation [36] and second-order generalized integrator phase-locked loop (SOGI-PLL) [28] using various challenging test scenarios.

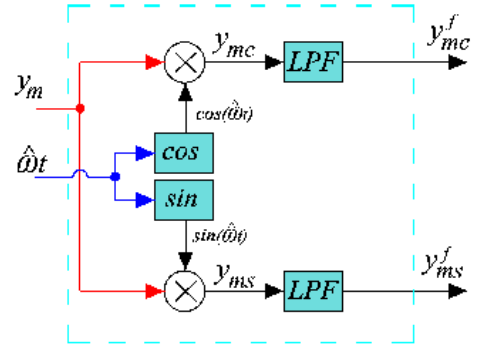The rest of this paper is organized as follows: Sec. II

Figure 1. Block diagram of the standard demodulation technique.

summarizes the existing demodulation techniques while Sec. III describes the proposed development. Numerical simulation and experimental studies are given in Sec. IV. Finally, Sec. V concludes this paper.

II. DEMODULATION TECHNIQUES: SHORT OVERVIEW

A single-phase grid voltage signal is generally modeled as a sine wave and given below:

$$y_m(t) = A(t)\sin(\underbrace{\omega t + \phi(t)}_{\theta(t)}) \tag{1}$$

where the amplitude, frequency, phase and instantaneous phase are given by $A, \omega, \phi,$ and θ respectively. The unknown frequency $\omega = \omega_n + \tilde{\omega}$, where $\omega_n = 100\pi$ is the nominal frequency and $\tilde{\omega}$ denotes the frequency deviation from the nominal frequency. Similarly, the instantaneous phase angle can be written as $\theta = \theta_n + \tilde{\theta}$ where $\theta_n = \omega_n t$ is the nominal instantaneous phase and $\tilde{\theta} = \tilde{\omega}t + \phi$ is the deviation from the nominal instantaneous phase. Demodulation technique works by generating demodulated voltages from the measured grid voltage signal (1). Basic overview of the standard demodulation technique is given in Fig. 1. For the purpose of demodulation, the grid voltage signal is multiplied with quadrature signals of known frequency. The demodulated voltages contain a double-frequency components. This can be easily rejected by a suitably designed low-pass filter (LPF). Performance of the demodulation technique relies heavily on the low-pass filtering. High rejection can only be achieved if low bandwidth is used to tune the filter. However, low bandwidth makes the dynamic response slow. Moreover, filter order plays a big role. Rejection efficiency increases with increasing order, however, comes at the cost of computational complexity. One solution to this problem could be frequency adaptive demodulation. Basic idea of frequency adaptive demodulation technique is given in Fig. 2. For the sake of conciseness, the frequency estimation block is avoided and has the same form as Fig. 3b. The main idea of this approach is to reject the double frequency components of standard demodulation. For this purpose quadrature oscillator (QO) is used in [36]. QO uses frequency adaptive quadrature signals to generate double frequency components. These double frequency components are added/subtracted with the demodulated voltages to get
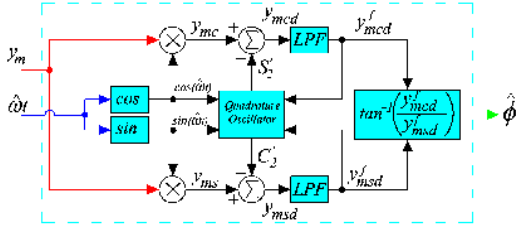
Figure 2. Block diagram of the frequency adaptive demodulation technique [36].

rid of the double frequency components. As a result, a low-order LPF with low cutoff frequency is sufficient to extract the desired signal as opposed to high-order and high cutoff frequency LPFs used in standard demodulation technique.

In the case of Frequency Adaptive Demodulation (FADM), the demodulated voltages are given by:

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{ms} &= y_m \sin\left(\omega t\right) \\
&= \frac{A}{2}\cos\left(\phi\right) - \frac{A}{2}\left(\cos\left(2\omega t + \phi\right)\right)
\end{aligned} \tag{2}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{mc} &= y_m \cos\left(\omega t\right) \\
&= \frac{A}{2}\sin\left(\phi\right) + \frac{A}{2}\left(\sin\left(2\omega t + \phi\right)\right)
\end{aligned} \tag{3}
$$

For further development, the modified demodulated voltages are denoted as y_{msd} and y_{mcd} and the low-pass filtered version of the demodulated voltages are denoted by y^f_{msd} and y^f_{mcd}. The modified demodulated voltages are given by:

$$
y_{msd} = y_{ms} - C'_2 \tag{4}
$$

$$
y_{mcd} = y_{mc} - S'_2 \tag{5}
$$

where C'_2 and S'_2 are the outputs of the quadrature oscillator. The outputs are regenerated by mixing the filtered demodulated voltages y^f_{msd} and y^f_{mcd} with $S_2 = \sin(2\hat{\omega}t)$ and $C_2 = \cos(2\hat{\omega}t)$. Finally, the outputs of the QO are given by:

$$
S'_2 = y^f_{msd}S_2 + y^f_{mcd}C_2 = \frac{A}{2}\sin\left(2\hat{\omega}t + \phi\right) \tag{6}
$$

$$
C'_2 = -y^f_{msd}C_2 + y^f_{mcd}S_2 = -\frac{A}{2}\cos\left(2\hat{\omega}t + \phi\right) \tag{7}
$$

Thanks to the QO outputs (6) and (7), double frequency components can be rejected in eq. (2) and (3). However, this comes at the cost of additional computational complexity. As a result, there is scope to improve the computational complexity.

III. ENHANCED FREQUENCY ADAPTIVE DEMODULATION

Balanced three phase voltages are given by:

$$
y_a = A(t)\cos\left(\omega t + \phi(t)\right) \tag{8}
$$

$$
y_b = A(t)\cos\left(\omega t + \phi(t) - 2\pi/3\right) \tag{9}
$$

$$
y_c = A(t)\cos\left(\omega t + \phi(t) + 2\pi/3\right) \tag{10}
$$

By applying Concordia transformation (CT) [37], the three-phase voltages $y_{abc} = [y_a\ y_b\ y_c]^T$ can be transformed into two phase voltages using the following formula [37]:

$$
y^{(c)} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1^{(c)} \\ y_2^{(c)} \end{bmatrix} = Cy_{abc} \tag{11}
$$

where the CT matrix is given by:

$$
C = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}. \tag{12}
$$

From eq. (11), the individual phase voltages are obtained as:

$$
y_1 = A\cos(\omega t + \phi) \tag{13}
$$

$$
y_2 = A\sin\left(\omega t + \phi\right) \tag{14}
$$

By mixing frequency adaptive quadrature signals with signal y_1, the demodulated voltages can be obtained as:

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{1sd} &= y_1 \sin\left(\hat{\omega}t\right) \\
&= \frac{A}{2}\left[\sin\left\{(\omega + \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\} - \sin\left\{(\omega - \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\}\right] \\
&\approx \frac{A}{2}\left\{\sin\left(2\omega t + \phi\right) - \sin(\phi)\right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{15}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{1cd} &= y_1 \cos\left(\hat{\omega}t\right) \\
&= \frac{A}{2}\left[\cos\left\{(\omega - \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\} + \cos\left\{(\omega + \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\}\right] \\
&\approx \frac{A}{2}\left\{\cos(\phi) + \cos(2\omega t + \phi)\right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{16}
$$

In obtaining eq. (15) and (16), we have assumed quasi-locked condition i.e. $\omega \approx \hat{\omega}$. Similar to the above approach, by mixing frequency adaptive quadrature signals with signal y_2, the demodulated voltages can be obtained as:

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{2sd} &= y_2 \sin\left(\hat{\omega}t\right) \\
&= \frac{A}{2}\left[\cos\left\{(\omega - \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\} - \cos\left\{(\omega + \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\}\right] \\
&\approx \frac{A}{2}\left\{\cos\left(\phi\right) - \cos\left(2\omega t + \phi\right)\right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{17}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{2cd} &= y_2 \cos\left(\hat{\omega}t\right) \\
&= \frac{A}{2}\left[\sin\left\{(\omega + \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\} + \sin\left\{(\omega - \hat{\omega})t + \phi\right\}\right] \\
&\approx \frac{A}{2}\left\{\sin\left(2\omega t + \phi\right) + \sin\left(\phi\right)\right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{18}
$$

From the demodulated voltages (15)-(18), the following DC signals can be obtained:

$$
x_\phi = y_{1cd} + y_{2sd} \approx A\cos(\phi) \tag{19}
$$

$$
y_\phi = y_{2cd} - y_{1sd} \approx A\sin\left(\phi\right) \tag{20}
$$

From eq. (19) and (20), it is clear that the proposed technique does not require low-pass filter to generate the DC signals
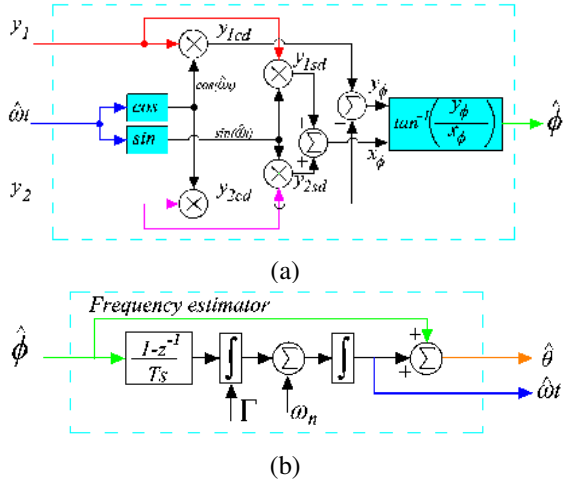
(a)

(b)

Figure 3. Block diagram of the proposed enhanced demodulation technique suitable for three-phase system: a) enhanced demodulation, b) frequency estimation.
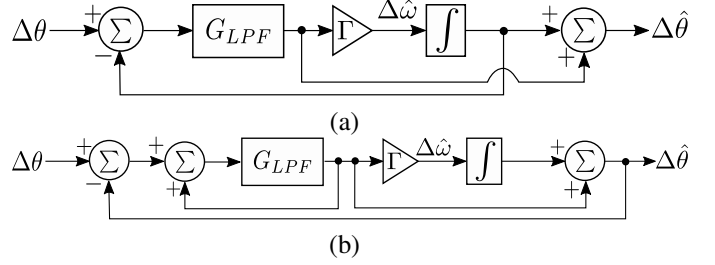

(a)

(b)

Figure 4. Mathematical model of the proposed technique, (a) small-signal model and (b) alternative feedback representation of the small-signal model.

using demodulation unlike the standard and frequency adaptive demodulation. This is a clear advantage of the proposed technique w.r.t. existing literature. However, by adding low-order low cutoff frequency low-pass filters, disturbance rejection capability of the proposed technique can be enhanced. From the DC signals, the amplitude and phase angle can be estimated as:

$$\hat{A} = \sqrt{x_\phi^2 + y_\phi^2} \tag{21}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \arctan\left(y_\phi/x_\phi\right) \tag{22}$$

Proposed technique requires an estimate of the grid frequency ω. This can be estimated from the estimated phase-angle $\hat{\phi}$. For this purpose, we consider the idea used in [14], [38]. In this approach, time derivative of the phase angle can be considered as an approximation of the frequency deviation dynamics. Whenever the signal frequency changes, estimation of ϕ also enters into the transient regime. As a result, in the transient state, ϕ also contains deviation from the nominal frequency information. By integrating the nominal frequency deviation dynamics, the actual deviation can be calculated. To tune the convergence of the frequency deviation, a positive gain Γ for the integrator can be used. Block diagram of the proposed enhanced demodulation technique is given in Fig. 3.

The proposed technique is motivated by the FADM [36] described in Sec. II. Proposed technique reduces the multiplication and addition/subtraction operation of FADM by two times (cf. Sec. IV for details). In addition to the computational complexity reduction, the proposed technique has a smoother response compared to FADM. FADM estimate the double frequency components and reject it. Since complete rejection is not possible in practice, high-order low-pass filter is required for steep rollover. In the proposed case, since direct rejection is considered, no low-pass filter or low-order low-pass filter is sufficient to eliminate any undesirable frequency components. High-order low-pass filter means more design parameters lead-

ing to implementation and tuning complexities. In summary, computational and design complexity reduction and smooth response are the main advantages of the proposed technique compared to FADM.

Proposed technique do not use any orthogonal signal generator. Using basic trigonometric operations together with first-order differentiation and integration for frequency estimation. These are less sensitive to sampling frequency. In contrast, SOGI for example typically use third order Adams-Bashforth discretization for the continuous integrators. As such, the performance degrades in the low sampling frequencies. In this context, relative insensitivity to sampling frequency can also be considered as an advantage of the proposed technique.

A. Small-Signal Modeling and Parameter Tuning

The proposed enhanced demodulation technique works as a phase angle detector. For the phase angle extraction purpose, instantaneous phase can be written as, $\theta = \theta_n + \Delta\theta$, where $\theta_n = \omega_n t$ is the nominal instantaneous phase and $\Delta\theta = \Delta\omega + \phi$ is the deviation from the nominal value. The proposed technique extracts the phase angle ϕ and estimate the frequency from the estimated phase angle. Then from the block diagram of the proposed technique given in Fig. 3, the small-signal model of the proposed technique can be easily obtained and given in Fig. 4. In this model, $G_{LPF}(s)$ is the transfer function of the LPF and given by $\omega_c/(s + \omega_c)$, where ω_c is the cutoff frequency of the filter. To validate the model, let us consider that $\omega_c = \omega_n/3$ rad/sec. and $\Gamma = 50$. Validation of the model is given in Fig. 5. Results in this figure show that the model is very accurate when the phase angle had a $+45°$ step change in the phase angle.

From the alternative feedback representation of the small-signal model given in Fig. 4b, the open-loop transfer function of the proposed technique is given by:

$$G_{\text{OL}}(s) = \frac{G_{LPF}(s)}{1 - G_{LPF}(s)} \frac{s + \Gamma}{s} \tag{23}$$

From the open-loop transfer function, the closed-loop transfer function of the proposed technique is given by:

$$\frac{\Delta\hat{\theta}}{\Delta\theta}(s) = \frac{G_{\text{OL}}(s)}{1 + G_{\text{OL}}(s)}$$

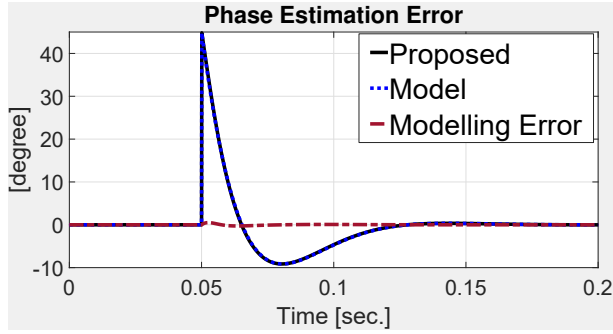$$= \frac{\omega_c s + \Gamma\omega_c}{s^2 + \omega_c s + \Gamma\omega_c} \tag{24}$$

Figure 5. Validation of the small-signal model for the proposed technique.

TABLE I
NUMBER OF MATHEMATICAL OPERATIONS INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEMODULATION TECHNIQUES

	$\times$	$\pm$	IT	TG	LPF
FADM	11	5	1	2	2
Proposed	6	2	1	2	2

IT-Inverse Tangent, TG- Trigonometric operation

By comparing the denominator polynomial of the closed-loop transfer function (24) with that of the standard second-order transfer function denominator i.e. $s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0 s + \omega_0^2$, the following formulas can be obtained for the tuning parameters ω_c and Γ:

$$\Gamma = \frac{\omega_0^2}{\omega_c}, \zeta = \frac{\omega_c}{2\omega_0} \qquad (25)$$

From the tuning formula (25), just by selecting the LPFs cutoff frequency ω_c and the damping coefficient ζ, the frequency estimation gain Γ can be easily calculated. For a $\omega_c = \omega_n/3$ rad/sec. and $\zeta = 1/\sqrt{2}$, $\Gamma = 52$ can be found.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this Section, numerical simulation and experimental study will be considered to demonstrate the suitability of the proposed enhanced demodulation technique. As comparison methods, frequency adaptive demodulation (FADM) (Sec. II and [36]) and SOGI-based PLL for three-phase system [28] have been considered. To implement FADM and the proposed technique, two low-pass filter of order 1 with cutoff frequency $\omega_n/3$ rad/sec. are considered. Moreover, the frequency estimation parameter has been chosen as $\Gamma = 50$. Gains of the SOGI-PLL are selected as $k = \sqrt{2}$, $k_p = 222$ and $k_i = 6169$ as suggested in [28]. Number of mathematical operations required to implement the proposed and the frequency adaptive demodulation technique are given in Table I. Table I shows that the proposed technique reduces the number of multiplication and summation operation by order of two. As such the proposed technique can be considered significantly simpler than the existing demodulation technique. It is to be noted here that the demodulation techniques including the proposed one use arctan function. Standard implementation of arctanfunction can be computationally expensive for microcontroller-based
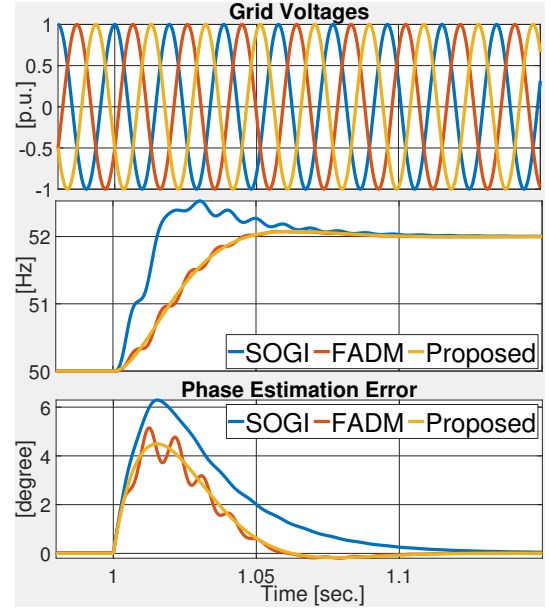
practical implementation. Coordinate Rotation Digital Computer (CORDIC) [39] approximation of arctan can significantly reduce the computational complexity for practical implementation. In this work, C2000 series microcontrollers from Texas Instruments is used for practical implementation. The IQmath library [40] for C2000 series supports CORDIC implementation of arctan and used in our work.

A. Simulation Study

In this Section, Matlab/Simulink-based simulation studies are considered. All the techniques have been implemented in Simulink with a sampling frequency 10 kHz. To test the performance of the algorithms, the following tests are considered:

- Test-I: +2Hz change in frequency
- Test-II: +45° change in phase
- Test-III: Harmonics robustness study
- Test-IV: +0.1p.u. DC offset in phase a.

Numerical simulation results for Test-I are given in Fig. 6. Test results as shown in Fig. 6 reveals that all the techniques can successfully track the change in frequency. FADM and the proposed technique are similar in nature and almost identical performance can be observed. However, it is to be noted here that the proposed technique has a very smooth response as opposed to FADM. FADM estimates the double frequency components and reject it by taking the opposite sign. Whenever any parameters in the grid voltage change, the FADM estimator enters into transient state. This contributes to the oscillatory response of FADM. In the proposed approach, the double frequency components are directly rejected. This leads to a smother response compared to FADM. The peak phase estimation error overshoot is $\approx 1°$ less for the proposed technique. Unlike the demodulation techniques, SOGI-PLL has a relatively slow response w.r.t. the change in frequency.

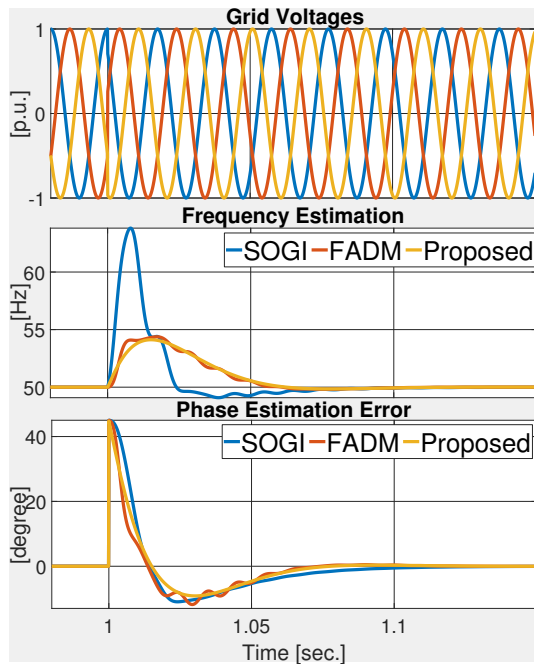Figure 6. Numerical simulation results for Test-I: +2Hz change in frequency.

Figure 7. Numerical simulation results for Test-II: $+45°$ change in phase.
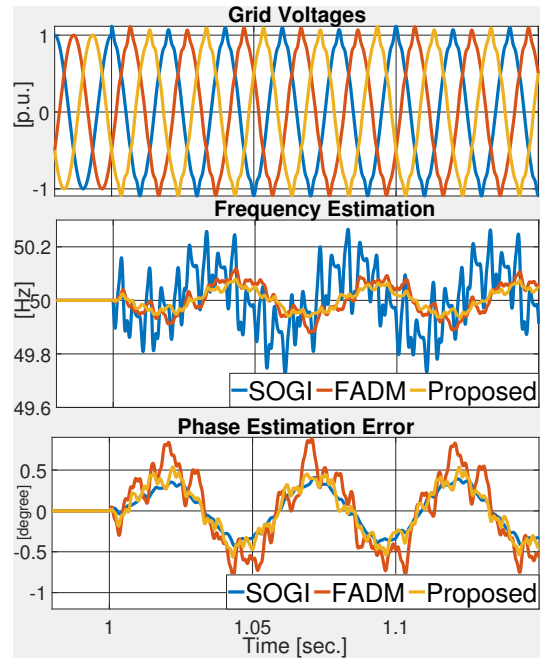

Figure 8. Numerical simulation results for test-III: harmonic robustness study.

Figure 9. Simulation results for test-IV: $+0.1$p.u. DC offset in phase a.

In addition, the peak phase estimation error overshoot is also higher.

Sudden change in the grid phase is a challenging scenario for grid-synchronization techniques. Test-II considers that the grid suddenly experience a $+45°$ phase change. Numerical simulation results for this test can be seen in Fig. 7. All the techniques performed similar to Test-I. FADM and the proposed technique were very quick to detect the change in phase and estimated the frequency and instantaneous phase within few cycles. The comparative techniques have very similar peak overshoot value for the frequency estimation. In case of phase estimation error, proposed technique's convergence time is very similar to FADM, however, a very smooth second-order response can be observed unlike FADM.

The presence of harmonics can often be unavoidable. As such, grid-synchronization algorithms need to be harmonic robust. To test the harmonic robustness of the considered techniques, test-III considers a lightly distorted grid. The harmonic grid voltage components are: $3^{rd}-1.1\%$, $5^{th}-2.8\%$, $7^{th}-1.4\%$, $9^{th}-2.3\%$, $11^{th}-1.5\%$, 30 Hz sub-harmonics-1.1%, and 180 Hz inter-harmonics -1.3%. Simulation results for test-III are given in Fig. 8. When the grid switches from undistorted to distorted mode, all the techniques show estimation ripple. However, out of the three methods, the proposed technique has the lowest estimation ripple. In the case of phase estimation error, FADM and the proposed technique have very similar performance while SOGI-PLLs estimation ripple is significantly higher than the other two techniques. Results in Fig. 8 show the suitability of the proposed technique even in distorted grid.

DC offset is another issue that can present significant challenge to grid-synchronization algorithms. DC offset may arises from the conversion of analog voltage signal to digital signal
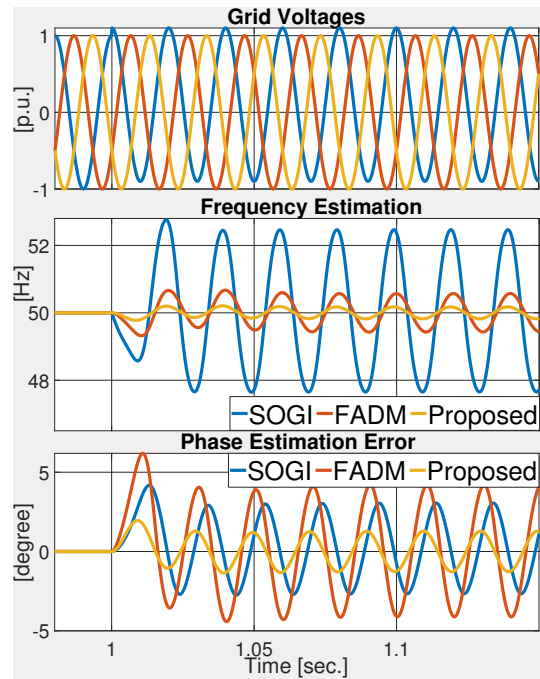
to be used inside micro-controller for control and monitoring purpose. Test-IV considers a DC offset of $+0.1$ p.u. in the phase a of the three-phase voltage signals. Simulation results for this case are given in Fig. 9. These figures reveal that the presence of DC offset effects the performance of the all the considered techniques. Out of three techniques, the proposed technique has the lowest ripple magnitude for the frequency estimation. The ripple magnitude of FADM and SOGI-PLL are few times higher with respect to the proposed technique. In the case of phase estimation error, similar to test-III, proposed technique has the lowest ripple magnitude while the performance of SOGI-PLL and FADM are significantly worse than that of the proposed technique.

Numerical simulation results as presented in Figs. 6-9 demonstrate that despite being computationally simpler than FADM, proposed technique performed either similar/better than FADM and SOGI-PLL. This shows that effectiveness of the proposed technique over similar literature.

B. Experimental Study

The experimental platform shown in Fig. 10 is used to investigate the performance of the studied algorithms. The platform is designed using a digital signal processor TMS320F28379D and associated measurement circuit. Three LEM LV 25-P Hall effect transducers are used to measure the phase voltages at the PCC (point of common coupling). The studied algorithms are modeled in Matlab/Simulink and integrated into the DSP using Code Composer Studio™ (CCStudio) through code generation. Six experimental tests are considered and they are: voltage sag and swell, frequency drop and jump, harmonics, and DC offset. To observe the effects of voltage harmonics on the algorithms, a non-linear load is used to draw harmonically distorted currents. The consumed distorted currents generate a voltage drop on the line inductors and this action creates harmonic distortion on the PCC voltages. Frequency variation is obtained by using a synchronous generator where the speed of the machine is controlled to obtain the frequency variations.

In the first two tests, ± 2 Hz frequency change are considered. Comparative experimental results for this test are given in Figures 11 and 12. Experimental results show that the proposed technique has good convergence speed compared to the other techniques. Moreover, the peak overshoot is also within acceptable limit for the proposed technique. The numerical simulation and experimental results have close match.

In the third and fourth tests, voltage sag and swell are considered and the experimental results are given in Figures 13 and 14. These figures show that the proposed technique is very insensitive to voltage sag/swell. In both cases, the frequency variation in the transient state was between ± 0.03 Hz. This demonstrates the suitability of the proposed technique in the presence of voltage sag/swell.

Experimental results for harmonic distortion case are given in Fig. 15. Results show that the proposed technique can robustly estimate the frequency even in heavily distorted grid. Moreover, the proposed technique also has the lowest estimation ripple among the comparative methods. Similar performance can be observed for DC offset case also (cf.
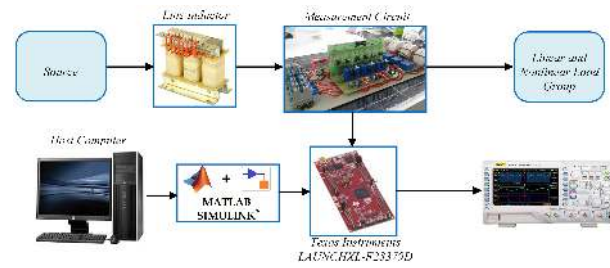

Figure 10. Overview of the considered experimental setup.

Fig. 16). These results show that the proposed technique is less sensitive to grid abnormalities such as distortion and DC offset.

All the experimental results given in this section show that the proposed technique is very suitable for practical implementation.

V. Conclusion and Future Works

An enhanced demodulation technique is proposed in this paper for the synchronization of grid-connected converters. The proposed technique enhances the performance of existing frequency adaptive demodulation technique using lower computational complexity. This is a significant advantage of the proposed technique. Using various scenarios, including frequency and phase variations, harmonic distortions (odd, inter, and sub-harmonics), and DC offset, the performance of the proposed technique is evaluated and compared with two other advanced techniques. Results demonstrated that the proposed technique has fast convergence and good disturbance rejection capability. To further enhance the harmonic disturbance rejection property of the proposed technique, Kalman filter-based pre-loop filter will be considered as a future work.

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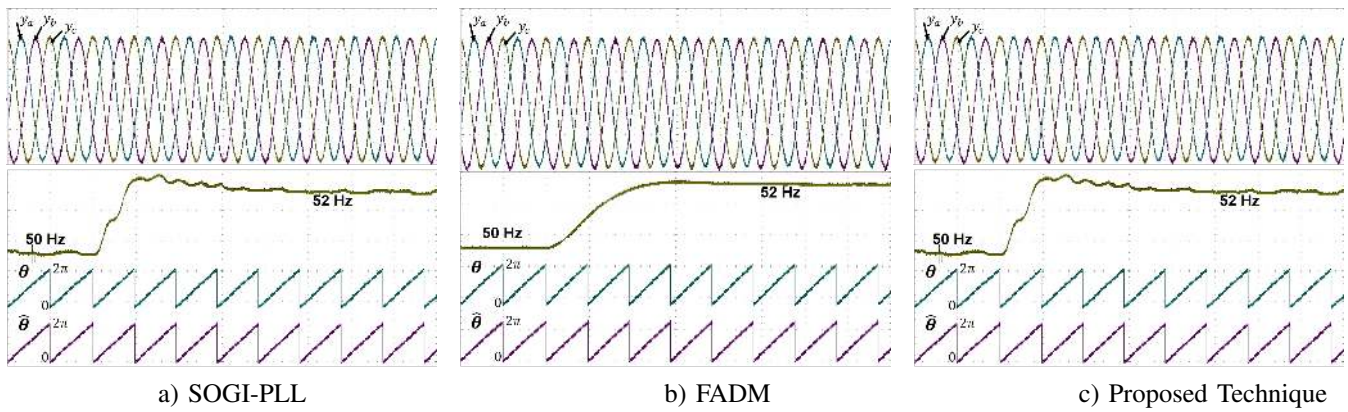
a) SOGI-PLL   b) FADM   c) Proposed Technique

Figure 11. Experimental results for $+2$ Hz frequency jump: a) SOGI-PLL, b) FADM, and c) proposed technique.

a) SOGI-PLL   b) FADM   c) Proposed Technique
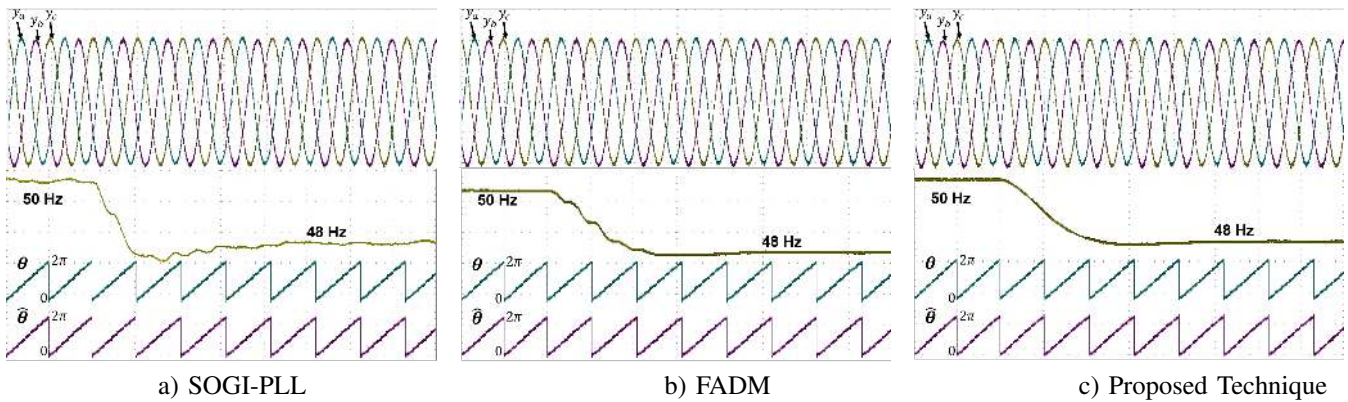
Figure 12. Experimental results for -2 Hz frequency drop: a) SOGI-PLL, b) FADM, and c) proposed technique.

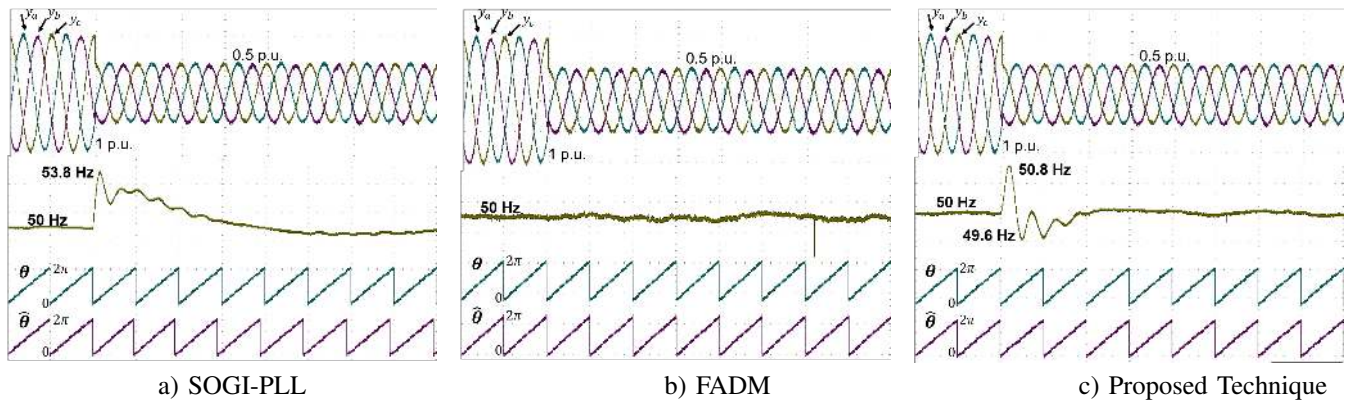a) SOGI-PLL   b) FADM   c) Proposed Technique

Figure 13. Experimental results for -0.5 p.u. voltage sag: a) SOGI-PLL, b) FADM, and c) proposed technique.

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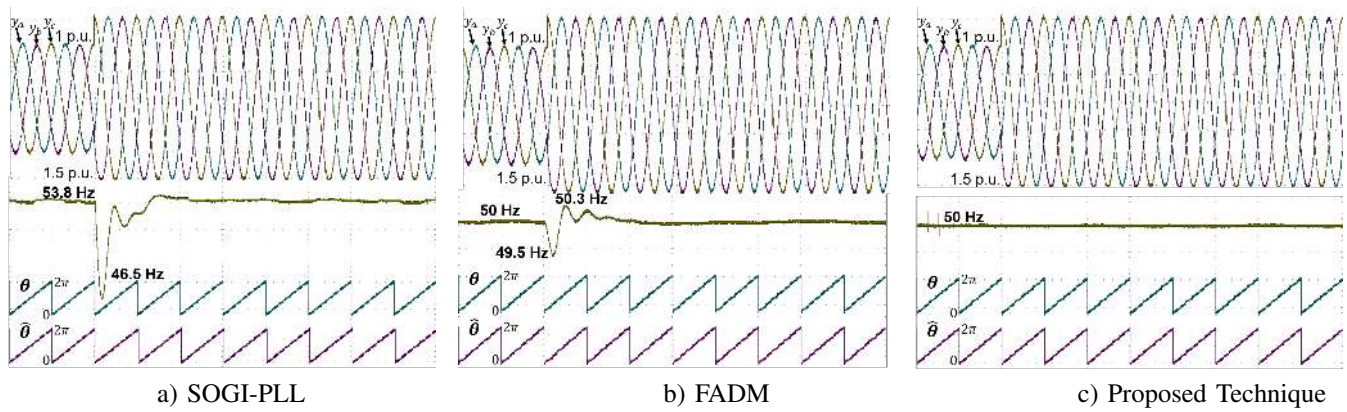
Figure 14. Experimental results for $+0.5$ p.u. voltage swell: a) SOGI-PLL, b) FADM, and c) proposed technique.
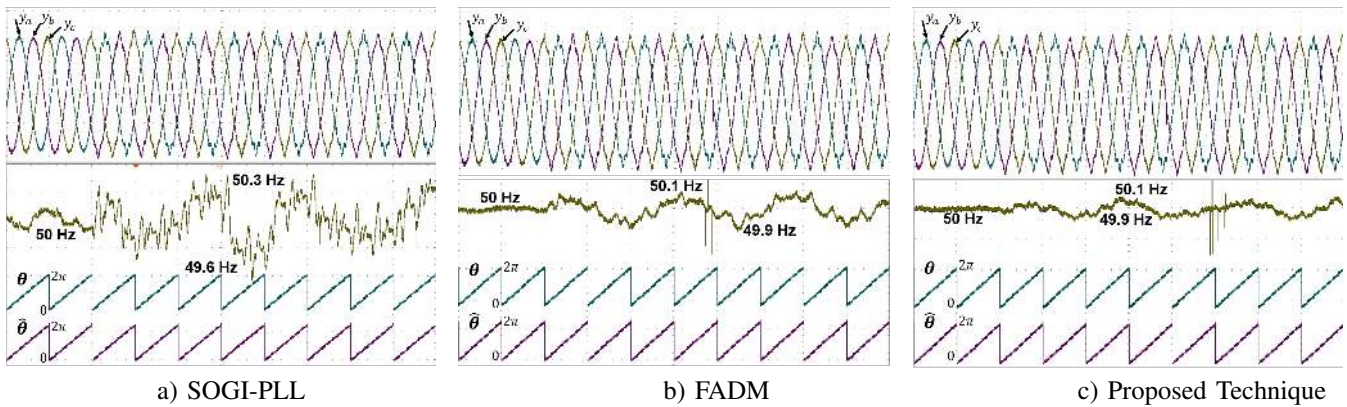

Figure 15. Experimental results for harmonic disturbance: a) SOGI-PLL, b) FADM, and c) proposed technique.
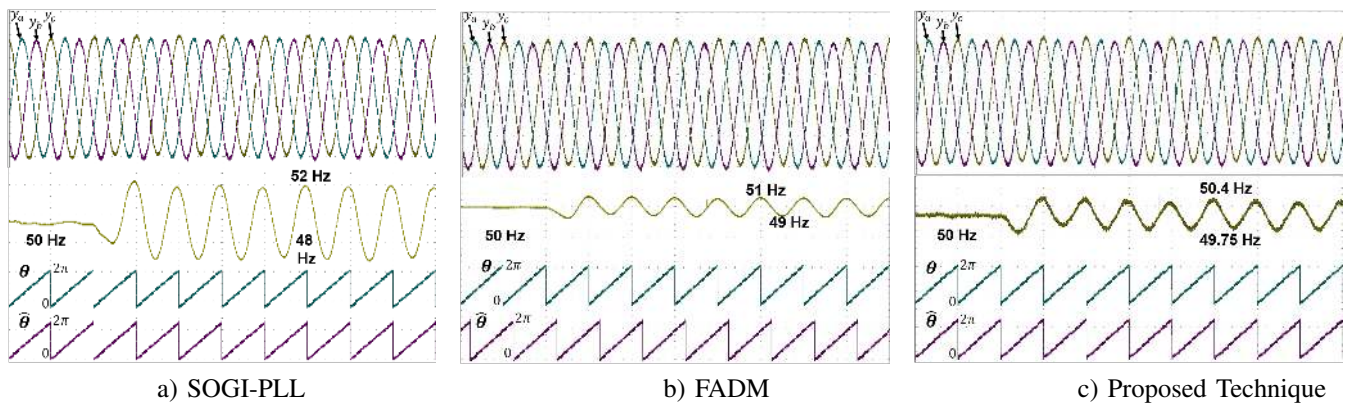

Figure 16. Experimental results for $+0.05$ p.u. DC offset in phase a: a) SOGI-PLL, b) FADM, and c) proposed technique.

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