

# Comparison of Control Strategies for Shunt Active Power Filter in Distribution Systems

M.V.S.Sivakrishna, K.S.S.Prasad Raju

**Abstract:** In this paper different control schemes for shunt active power filter were discussed for the harmonic mitigation in distribution systems. Shunt active power filters are connected in distribution systems, to supply excessive real and reactive powers. Shunt Active filter is used for the compensation of harmonics from nonlinear loads by injecting equal and opposing harmonic current which gives sinusoidal wave on supply side. Harmonics on load side can be eliminated by using filters with proper control strategies. These control strategies are used for the estimation of reference currents on supply side. Triggering pulses to the converter will be generated as per the difference between the reference current and the actual current on supply side. Here Instantaneous P-Q Theory, Synchronous reference frame (D-Q) Theory, Synchronous Detection method, Perfect Harmonic Cancellation strategies are applied to the filter for elimination of harmonics. In this case we are using a 3-level Neutral Point Clamped Converter as filter and Diode Bridge rectifier connected load.

**Index Terms:** Shunt Active Power Filter, Harmonic Currents, Instantaneous P-Q Theory, Synchronous Reference Frame (D-Q) Theory, Synchronous Detection Method, Perfect Harmonic Cancellation, 3-level Neutral Point Clamped Converter.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Harmonic distortion is a major power quality issue in power systems. Now a day's distribution power systems are highly using power electronic equipment which results in higher harmonic contents on load side, which also affects supply side current wave forms. Due to this harmonic distortion increases on supply side [3] [11]. We are using different techniques to overcome these distorted waveforms. By using line reactors, passive filters, pulse converters, active filters we can reduce harmonic distortion on supply side [3]. But apart from active filters, all other techniques not giving results up to the requirements.

The line reactors are better for small correction of Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) of supply current. Passive filters will give better results than line reactor but not sufficient. Pulse converters give best results than line reactor and passive filter. But this method is also not sufficient to meet the IEEE-519 standard where the THD of 5% only acceptable [3] [12].

So for harmonic mitigation an active filter is the perfect solution. In this case we are using shunt active filter (SAF) for the mitigation of harmonics [3]. Shunt active filters use fast switching transistors (IGBT). SAFs working is mainly

depends on triggering pulses that are given to transistors [3] [11].

Shunt Active Power filters are used for the compensation of harmonics from nonlinear loads by injecting equal and opposing harmonic current which gives sinusoidal wave on supply side. Triggering pulses are generated according to the variations in compensating currents. In order to find compensating currents we have to find reference currents on supply side (which are having less harmonic content). The difference between reference and actual currents on supply side will give compensating currents [3] [11]. The equation for compensating current is shown in eq (1).

$$I_c = I_l - I_r \quad (1)$$

$I_c$ =Compensating current

$I_l$ =Actual current on supply side

$I_r$ =Reference currents on supply side.

To find reference currents we are using different control strategies [4] [10].

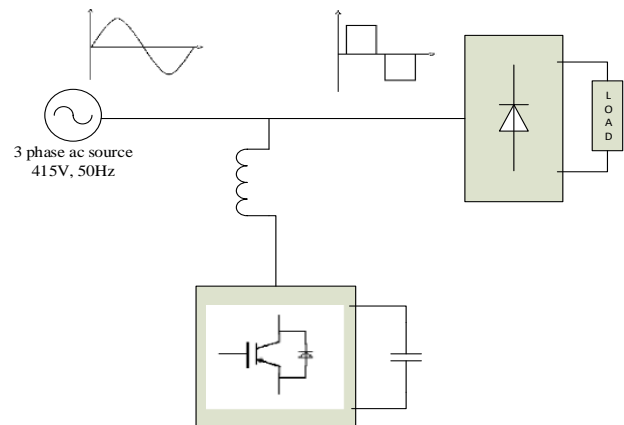


Fig.1 Shunt Active Power Filter

## II. CONTROL METHODS FOR SHUNT ACTIVE FILTER

Shunt active filters require control methods to obtain compensating currents. Here a 3-level NPC converter is used as Voltage Source Inverter (VSI) which acts like a shunt active power filter in this case. This paper discusses four different controlling schemes for shunt active power filters [4] [10].

### A. Instantaneous P-Q theory

This is one of the famous control strategies for shunt active filters [1] [2] [5]. In this case triggering pulses to the

Revised Manuscript Received on June 01, 2019.

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filter generated according to the real and reactive powers for every instant. Instantaneous P-Q theory uses Clark's transformation in the calculation of real and reactive powers. Here we use positive sequence voltage detector for the measurement of positive sequence voltages. Equation for Clark's transformation is as shown eq (2), (3).

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_\alpha \\ V_\beta \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_a \\ V_b \\ V_c \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_\alpha \\ I_\beta \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_a \\ I_b \\ I_c \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

In this case  $V_0, I_0$  are equivalent to zero sequence components and are neglected. Since we are considering 3 phase 3 wire system, there was no presence of neutral wire. Zero sequence currents are flows through neutral wire only. Therefore zero sequence components are neglected because of the neutral wire absence and so  $V_0, I_0$  also neglected.

In this method triggering pulses to converter are generated as per the time to time variations in active and reactive powers. So for switching of filter we have to find time to time variations of active and reactive powers. These are calculated from components of voltages and currents. Equations for instantaneous values of active and reactive powers shown in eq (4), (5) [1] [2] [5].

$$\text{Active power } P_{cal} = V_\alpha I_\alpha + V_\beta I_\beta \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Reactive power } Q_{cal} = V_\alpha I_\beta - V_\beta I_\alpha \quad (5)$$

Here  $V$  and  $I$  are supply side voltages and load side currents. After finding  $P_{cal}$  and  $Q_{cal}$  we have to find reference currents ( $I_r$ ) i.e.  $I_{r\alpha}, I_{r\beta}$ . The reference currents equations are shown in eq (6).

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_{r\alpha} \\ I_{r\beta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_\alpha & V_\beta \\ V_\beta & V_\alpha \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

$$\text{Here } p = P_{avg} - P_{cal} + P_{loss} \quad (7)$$

$$q = -Q_{cal} \quad (8)$$

$P_{avg}$ =Average real power(from low pass filter)

$P_{loss}$ =power loss due to variation in  $V_{dc}$ .

Such that reference currents in  $\alpha$ - $\beta$  frame are calculated. Then inverse Clark's transformation can be applied to get a, b, c reference currents.

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_{ra} \\ I_{rb} \\ I_{rc} \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_{r\alpha} \\ I_{r\beta} \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

It is a well-known and simple method for harmonic mitigation in distribution systems. This method gives THD of the supply current below 5% which is as per IEEE-519 standard. But this method not effective when system supply voltages are distorted and imbalanced.

### B. Synchronous Reference Frame (D-Q) theory

This method overcomes the drawbacks of instantaneous P-Q theory [4] [6] [8]. In this method triggering pulses to the filter are generated according to the variations in load currents time to time. In Synchronous Reference Frame (SRF) Theory Park's transformation is used. This transformation is a conversion of a-b-c stationary reference frame to d-q-0 rotating reference frame. The equation for park's transformation shown in eq (10).

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_d \\ I_q \\ I_0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{2}{3} \begin{bmatrix} \sin(\omega t) & \sin(\omega t - \frac{2}{3}\pi) & \sin(\omega t + \frac{2}{3}\pi) \\ \cos(\omega t) & \cos(\omega t - \frac{2}{3}\pi) & \cos(\omega t + \frac{2}{3}\pi) \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_a \\ I_b \\ I_c \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

' $\omega t$ ' value can be obtained from Phase Locked Loop(PLL). Average values of  $I_d, I_q$  are determined by passing through low pass filter and variation of  $V_{dc}$  gives  $I_{loss}$  component, then the reference currents equations are as shown in eq (11), (12) [4] [6] [8].

$$I_{rd} = I_d - I_{davg} - I_{loss} \quad (11)$$

$$I_{rq} = I_q - I_{qavg} \quad (12)$$

Then components are converted to a-b-c components by means of Inverse Park's transformation as shown in eq (13).

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_a \\ I_b \\ I_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\omega t) & -\sin(\omega t - \frac{2}{3}\pi) & 1 \\ \cos(\omega t - \frac{2}{3}\pi) & -\sin(\omega t - \frac{2}{3}\pi) & 1 \\ \cos(\omega t + \frac{2}{3}\pi) & -\sin(\omega t + \frac{2}{3}\pi) & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_d \\ I_q \\ I_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

This is also one of the simple method for harmonic mitigation in distribution systems. It also gives THD under 5%, and can improve the transient behavior of the system. But this method is also not completely effective when it is applied to systems with distorted and imbalanced supply voltages [4] [8].

### C. Synchronous Detection Method (SDM)

This method is similar to instantaneous p-q theory [9] [10]. It is suitable for three-phase, three wire systems only. Synchronous detection method assumed that after compensation three-phase supply currents are balanced. Because of the balanced currents average power will be divided equally between three phases.

In this method we have to find the amplitude of three-phase supply currents.

Calculation of instantaneous power [9] [10]

$$P(t) = \begin{bmatrix} V_a(t) & V_b(t) & V_c(t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_a(t) \\ I_b(t) \\ I_c(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

( $V(t), I(t)$  are instantaneous quantities)

$P_{dc}$  is the average power which is acquired by passing  $P(t)$

through a low pass filter [9] [10].

$$P_a = P_{dc} \times \frac{V_{sa}}{V_{sa} + V_{sb} + V_{sc}} \quad (15)$$

$$P_b = P_{dc} \times \frac{V_{sa}}{V_{sa} + V_{sb} + V_{sc}} \quad (16)$$

$$P_c = P_{dc} \times \frac{V_{sc}}{V_{sa} + V_{sb} + V_{sc}} \quad (17)$$

(where  $V_s$  is the root mean square quantity,  $V$  is the peak quantity)

$$\text{But } P_a = V_{sa} \times I_{sa} = \frac{V_a}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{I_a}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{V_a \times I_a}{2} \text{ and so}$$

$$I_a = 2 \times \frac{P_a}{V_a} \quad (18)$$

and Reference currents are

$$I_{ra}(t) = \frac{2 \times V_a(t) \times P_a}{V_a^2} \quad (19)$$

$$I_{rb}(t) = \frac{2 \times V_b(t) \times P_b}{V_b^2} \quad (20)$$

$$I_{rc}(t) = \frac{2 \times V_c(t) \times P_c}{V_c^2} \quad (21)$$

Even though this technique implementation is easy, it can be easily effected by harmonics in supply voltages and it has slower performance compared to P-Q theory [9] [10].

#### D. Perfect Harmonic Cancellation Method (PHC)

This method is the improved version of previous control strategies [4] [7] [8]. This method objective is the compensation of different harmonic currents in distribution systems. It also supplies fundamental reactive power requirements of load and eliminates imbalance. This method assumes that, after compensation the current on supply side is in phase to positive sequence component of fundamental voltage on supply side [4] [7] [8].

This method also uses Clark's transformation

$$\text{In this } I_{sref} = K * V_p \quad (22)$$

Where  $V_p$  is positive sequence voltage of the supply Power delivered to load

$$P_s = V * I_{sref} = V * K * V_p = K * (V_\alpha * V_{p\alpha} + V_\beta * V_{p\beta}) \quad (23)$$

$K$  is the constant which is determined with a condition that the source power is equal to the dc component of instantaneous demand of active power by the load [4] [7] [8].

$$P_{l\alpha\beta} = V_\alpha \cdot I_\alpha + V_\beta \cdot I_\beta \quad (24)$$

$$P_{l0} = V_0 \cdot I_0 \quad (25)$$

$$K = \frac{P_{l\alpha\beta} + P_{l0}}{(V_{1p0}^2) + (V_{1p\alpha}^2) + (V_{1p\beta}^2)} \quad (26)$$

$$I_{sref} = K * V_p = \frac{P_{l\alpha\beta} + P_{l0}}{(V_{1p0}^2) + (V_{1p\alpha}^2) + (V_{1p\beta}^2)} \begin{bmatrix} V_{1p0} \\ V_{1p\alpha} \\ V_{1p\beta} \end{bmatrix}$$

(27)

Where  $V_{1p}$ =fundamental positive sequence voltage  
This method is considering fundamental and constant components of voltage and currents only.

### III. SIMULATION RESULTS

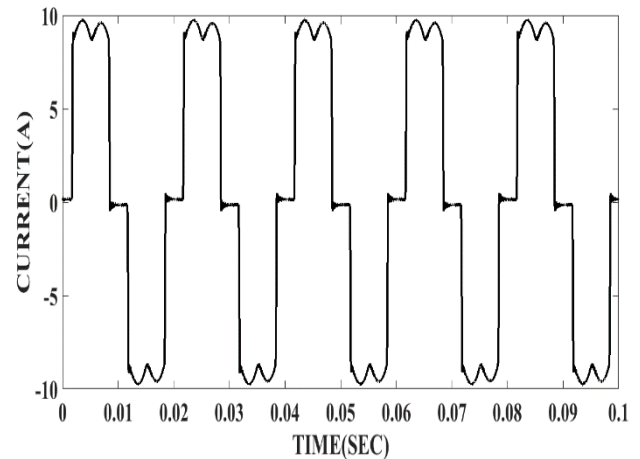


Fig.2 Simulation of Current Harmonics due to the presence of Nonlinear Loads

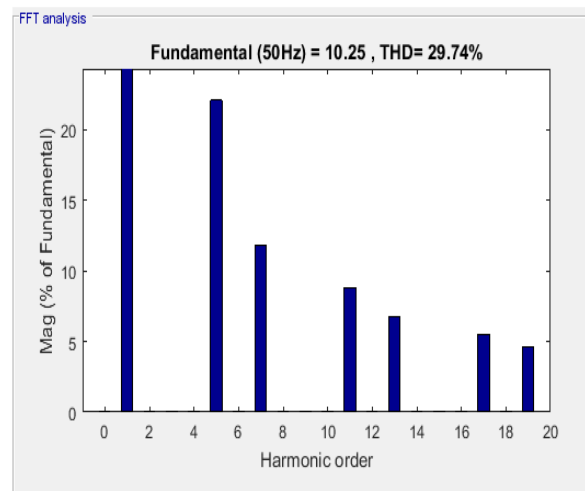


Fig.3 THD Analysis of Current Harmonics due to the presence of Nonlinear Loads

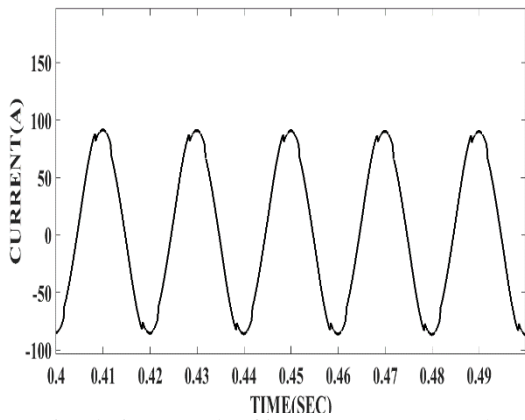


Fig.4 Simulation Result of instantaneous P-Q Theory Based Shunt Active Power Filter

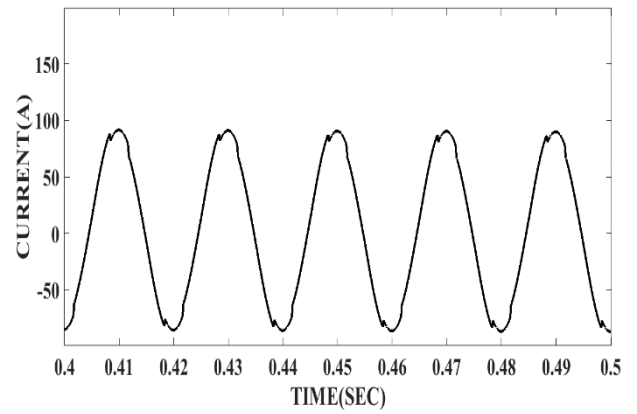


Fig.7 Simulation Result of D-Q Theory Based Shunt Active Power Filter

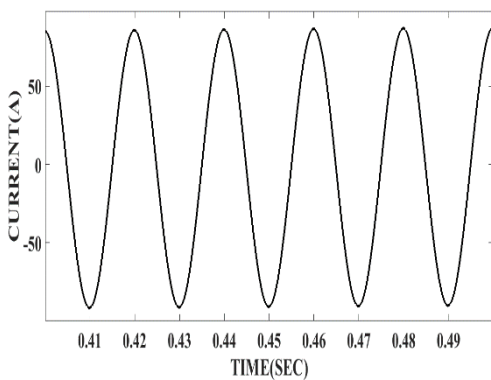


Fig.5 Injected currents in Instantaneous P-Q theory

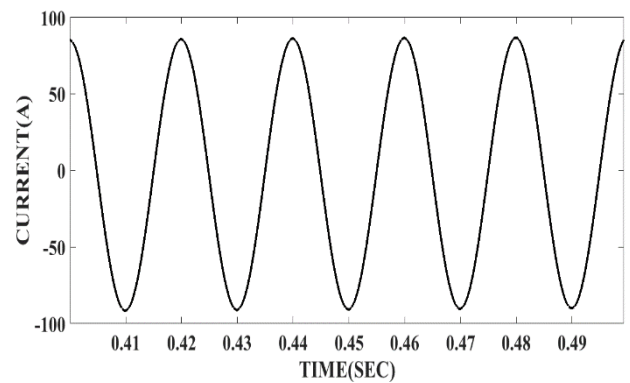


Fig.8 Injected currents in D-Q theory

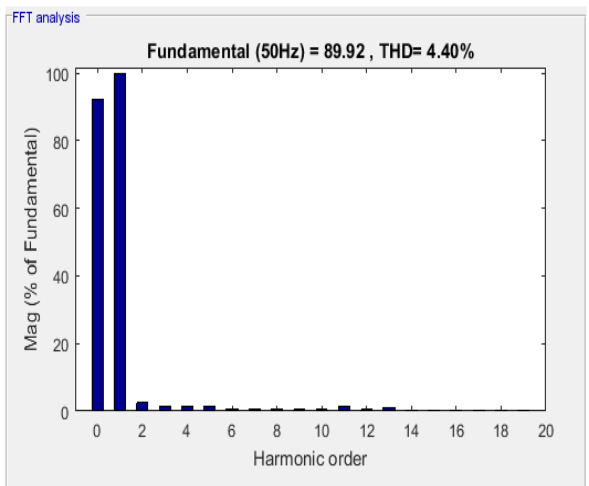


Fig.6 THD analysis of Instantaneous P-Q theory based Shunt Active Power Filter

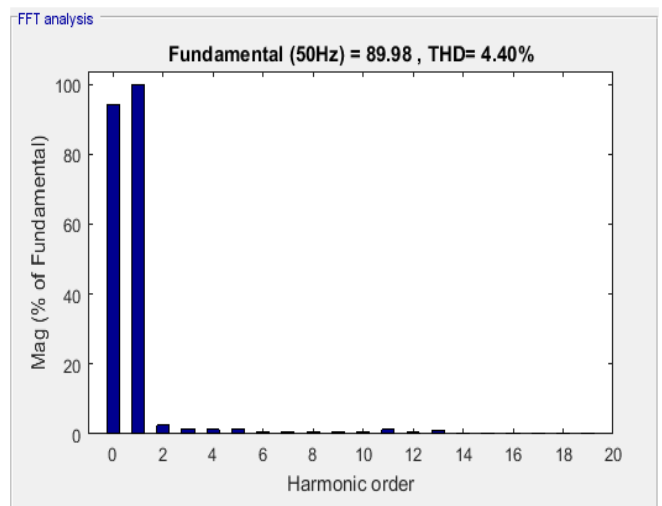


Fig.9 THD Analysis of D-Q Theory Based Shunt Active Power Filter

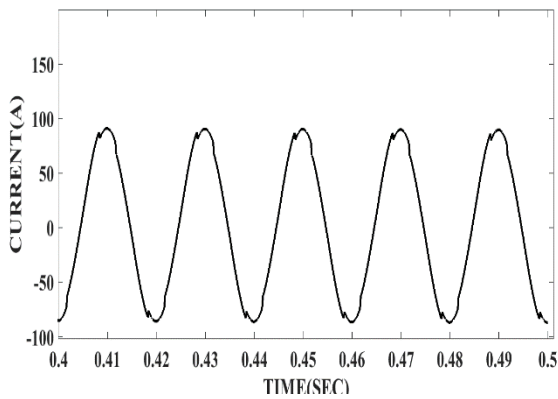


Fig.10 Simulation Result of SDM Based Shunt Active Power Filter

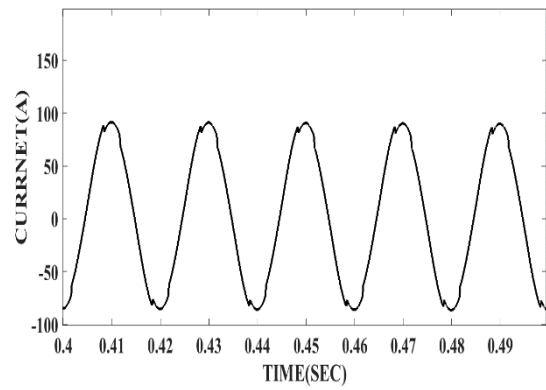


Fig.13 Simulation Result of PHC Based Shunt Active Power Filter

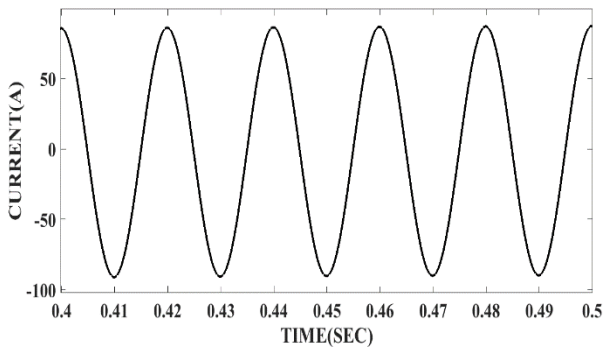


Fig.11 Injected currents in SDM technique

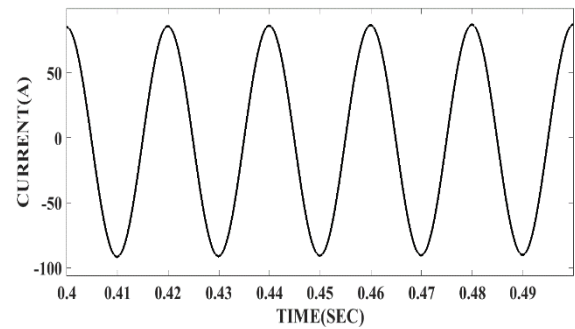


Fig.14 Injected currents in PHC method

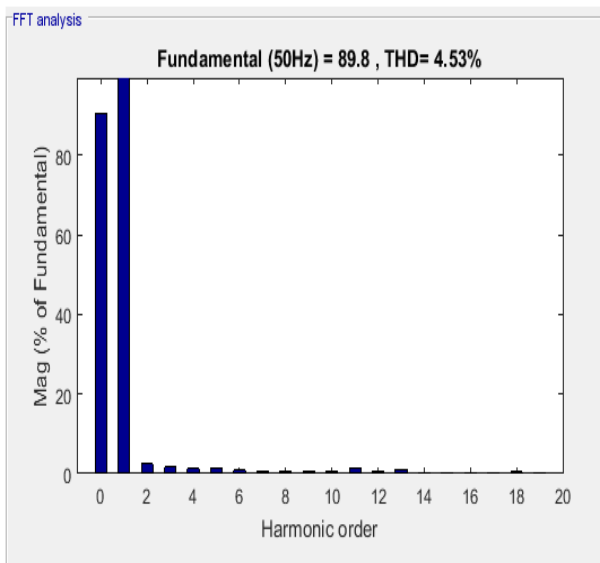


Fig.12 THD Analysis of SDM Based Shunt Active Power Filter

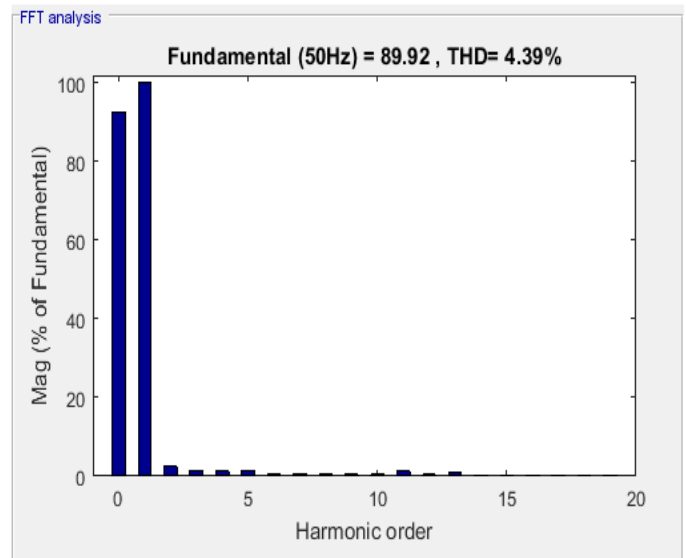


Fig.15 THD Analysis of PHC Based Shunt Active Power Filter



**IV. SIMULINK PARAMETERS**

Control strategies for shunt active filters are performed with Simulink parameters shown in table below [6] and simulation is done by using MATLAB 2016a software.

Table 1: Simulation Parameters

S.No.	PARAMETER	VALUE
1.	Supply	415V,50Hz
2.	Source resistance(Rs)	0.1 Ω
3.	Source inductance(Ls)	0.15mH
4.	Filter inductance(Lf)	12mH
5.	Load(R-L)	20 Ω, 60mH
6.	Capacitor	300V,35uF
7.	PI controller Kp Ki	0.01 1.5

Table 2: Comparison of Control Strategies for Shunt Active power Filter

S.No.	Control Strategy Name	Reduction THD (Original Is 29.47%)
1.	Instantaneous P-Q theory	4.40%
2.	Synchronous reference Frame (D-Q) theory	4.40%
3.	Synchronous Detection Method	4.53%
4.	Perfect harmonic cancellation method	4.39%

**V. COMPARISON OF CONTROL STRATEGIES RESULTS**

By comparison of four control strategies we can observe that instantaneous P-Q theory was best for systems with less variations in supply voltages since they are very sensitive to voltage variations. D-Q theory somewhat better in this phenomenon but not completely effective, and D-Q theory have got poor results when harmonics presents at Point of Common Coupling (PCC) [4] voltages. Synchronous detection method was an old method and this technique is not suitable for latest fast acting systems.

Perfect harmonic cancellation is the only method which gives best results compared to other control methods. This method is also useful in distributed generation systems since it is considering voltages at PCC. The comparison of control methods shown in following table.

**VI. CONCLUSION**

In this paper four control strategies for shunt active filters are applied and verified. Although each control strategy has its advantages, except perfect harmonic cancellation method rest of all are failed in different cases. So as per IEEE -519 standard and for requirements of load in distribution systems Perfect Harmonic Cancellation (PHC) is the only best solution. It also meet power quality problems like fundamental reactive power compensation, imbalances in distribution systems.

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