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An Electronic Controlled Adjustable Speed Drive of PMBLDC Motor Using a Single-Stage PFC Half-Bridge Converter

Dichendra Kumar Gonu¹, Rajasekharachari k², C.B.Saravanan³

PG student, Department Of EEE, Sri Venkateswara College of Engg.& Technology, Chittoor, A.P, India¹
PG student, Department Of EEE, Sri Venkateswara College of Engg.& Technology, Chittoor, A.P, India²
Associate Professor, Department Of EEE, Sri Venkateswara College Of Engg.& Technology, Chittoor, A.P, India³

Abstract: The permanent magnet blush less dc motor (PMBLDCM) speed can be controlled with electronic equipment using a buck half-bridge DC-DC converter is used as a single-stage power factor correction (PFC) converter. This is for feeding a voltage source inverter (VSI) based permanent magnet brushless DC motor (PMBLDCM) drive. The front end of this PFC converter is a diode bridge rectifier (DBR) fed from single-phase AC mains. Here the PMBLDCM is used to drive a compressor load of an air conditioner through a three-phase VSI fed from a controlled DC link voltage. The speed of the compressor is controlled to achieve energy conservation using a concept of the voltage control at DC link proportional to the desired speed of the PMBLDCM. Therefore the VSI is operated only as an electronic commutator of the PMBLDCM. The proposed PMBLDCM drive with voltage control based PFC converter is designed, modeled and its performance is simulated in Mat lab-Simulink environment for an PMBLDC motor in air conditioner compressor. The simulated results of the proposed speed control of a PMBLDC motor in an air conditioner, With the controlling of speed as electronically using specific power electronic circuit with suitable switching technique can have a less number of harmonic content as this results gives perfect results as our requirement, here also we can have a observation on the simulation results of speed ranges at different levels, current harmonic levels at study state condition and the total harmonic distortion (THD) are specified in this proposed PMBLDC motor drive.

Index Terms: Air conditioner, Buck Half bridge converter, PFC, PMBLDCM, VSI

Key points: speed control, total harmonic distortion, Voltage control

I. INTRODUCTION

In an air conditioning (Air-Con) system compressor motor can be preferred the Permanent magnet brushless DC motors (PMBLDCMs) because of its features like high efficiency, wide speed range and low maintenance requirements. The operation of the compressor with the speed control results in an improved efficiency of the system while maintaining the temperature in the air-conditioned zone at the set reference consistently. Whereas, the existing air conditioners mostly have a single-phase induction motor to drive the compressor in 'on/off' control mode This results in increased losses due to frequent 'on/off' operation with increased mechanical and electrical stresses on the motor, thereby poor efficiency and reduced life of the motor. Moreover, the temperature of the air conditioned zone is regulated in a hysteresis band. Therefore, by improving efficiency of the Air-Con system we will certainly reduce the cost of living and energy demand to cope-up with ever-increasing power crisis.

A PMBLDCM which is a kind of three-phase synchronous motor with permanent magnets (PMs) on the rotor and trapezoidal back EMF wave form operates on electronic commutation accomplished by solid state switches. It is powered through a three-phase voltage source inverter (VSI) which is fed from single-phase AC supply using a diode bridge rectifier



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(DBR) followed by smoothening DC link capacitor. The compressor exerts constant torque (i.e. rated torque) on the PMBLDCM and is operated in speed control mode to improve the efficiency of the Air-Con system. Since, the back-emf of the PMBLDCM is proportional to the motor speed and the developed torque is proportional to its phase current, therefore, a constant torque is maintained by a constant current in the stator winding of the PMBLDCM whereas the speed can be controlled by varying the terminal voltage of the motor. Based on this logic, a speed control scheme is proposed in this paper which uses a reference voltage at DC link proportional to the desired speed of the PMBLDC motor. However, the control of VSI is only for electronic commutation which is based on the rotor position signals of the PMBLDC motor.

The PMBLDCM drive, fed from a single-phase AC mains through a diode bridge rectifier (DBR) followed by a DC link capacitor, suffers from power quality (PQ) disturbances such as poor power factor (PF), increased total harmonic distortion (THD) of current at input AC mains and its high crest factor (CF). It is mainly due to uncontrolled charging of the DC link capacitor which results in a pulsed current waveform having a peak value higher than the amplitude of the fundamental input current at AC mains. Moreover, the PQ standards for low power equipments such as IEC 61000-3-2 emphasize on low harmonic contents and near unity power factor current to be drawn from AC mains by these motors. Therefore, use of a power factor correction (PFC) topology amongst various available topologies is almost inevitable for a PMBLDCM drive. The block diagram of a Permanent magnet blush less dc motor drive which we are discusses in the above, has been shown diagrammatically in bellow is,

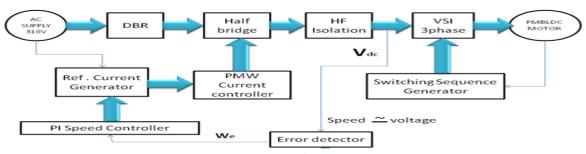


Fig 1.1: Block Diagram Of A Permanent Magnet Brushless Dc Motor Drive.

Most of the existing systems use a boost converter for PFC as the front-end converter and an isolated DC-DC converter to produce desired output voltage constituting a two-stage PFC drive. The DC-DC converter used in the second stage is usually a fly back or forward converter for low power applications and a full-bridge converter for higher power applications. However, these two stage PFC converters have high cost and complexity in implementing two separate switch-mode converters, therefore a single stage converter combining the PFC and voltage regulation at DC link is more in demand. The single-stage PFC converters operate with only one controller to regulate the DC link voltage along with the power factor correction. The absence of a second controller has a greater impact on the performance of single-stage PFC converters and requires a design to operate over a much wider range of operating conditions. For the proposed voltage controlled drive, a half-bridge Buck DC-DC converter is selected because of its high power handling capacity as compared to the single switch converters. Moreover, it has switching losses comparable to the single switch converters as only one switch is in operation at any instant of time. It can be operated as a single-stage power factor corrected (PFC) converter when connected between the VSI and the DBR fed from single-phase AC mains, besides controlling the voltage at DC link for the desired speed of the Air-Con compressor. A detailed modeling, design and performance evaluation of the proposed drive are presented for an air conditioner compressor driven by a PMBLDC motor of 1.5 kW, 1500 rpm rating.

II. PROPOSED PMBLDC MOTOR DRIVE FOR AIR CONDITIONER

The proposed PMBLDC motor speed control scheme controls reference voltage at DC link as an equivalent reference speed, thereby replaces the conventional control of the motor speed and a stator current involving various sensors for voltage and current signals. Moreover, the rotor position signals are used to generate the switching sequence for the VSI



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as an electronic commutator of the PMBLDC motor. Therefore, rotor-position information is required only at the commutation points, e.g., every 60° electrical in the three phase. The rotor position of PMBLDCM is sensed using Hall Effect position sensors and used to generate switching sequence for the VSI as shown in Table-I, the proposed speed adjustable PMBLDC motor drive scheme with embedded PFC buck converter has been shown in below fig 2.1.

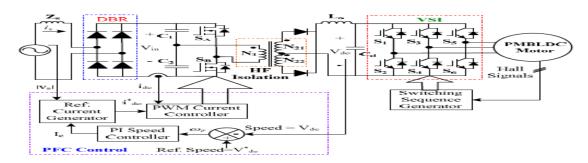


Fig 2.1: Control Schematic Of Proposed Bridge-Buck PFC Converter Fed PMBLDCM Drive

In the above shown figure the DC link voltage is controlled by a half-bridge buck DC-DC converter based on the duty ratio (D) of the converter. For a fast and effective control with reduced size of magnetic and filters, a high switching frequency is used; however, the switching frequency (fs) is limited by the switching device used, operating power level and switching losses of the device. Metal oxide field effect transistors (MOSFETs) are used as the switching device for high switching frequency in the proposed PFC converter. However, insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs) are used in VSI Bridge feeding PMBLDCM, to reduce the switching stress, as it operates at lower frequency compared to PFC switches.

The PFC control scheme uses a current control loop inside the speed control loop with current multiplier approach which operates in continuous conduction mode (CCM) with average current control. The control loop begins with the comparison of sensed DC link voltage with a voltage equivalent to the reference speed. The resultant voltage error is passed through a proportional-integral (PI) controller to give the modulating current signal. This signal is multiplied with a unit template of input AC voltage and compared with DC current sensed after the DBR. The resultant current error is amplified and compared with saw-tooth carrier wave of fixed frequency (fs) in unipolar scheme (as shown in Fig.2) to generate the PWM pulses for the half-bridge converter. For the current control of the PMBLDCM during step change of the reference voltage due to the change in the reference speed, a voltage gradient less than 800 V/s is introduced for the change of DC link voltage, which ensures the stator current of the PMBLDCM within the specified limits (i.e. double the rated current).

III, A PFC BUCK HALF-BRIDGE CONVERTER DESIGE BASED ON PMBLDCM DRIVE

The proposed PFC buck half-bridge converter is designed for a PMBLDCM drive with main considerations on PQ constraints at AC mains and allowable ripple in DC link voltage. The DC link voltage of the PFC converter is given as,

 $V_{dc} = 2 \text{ (N2/N1) } V_{in} \text{ D and N2= N21=N22} -----(1)$

Where N1, N21, N22 are number of turns in primary, secondary upper and lower windings of the high frequency (HF) isolation transformer, respectively. The resultant current error is amplified and compared with saw-tooth carrier wave of fixed frequency (fs) in unipolar scheme to generate the PWM pulses for the half-bridge converter has been shown in fig 3.1.



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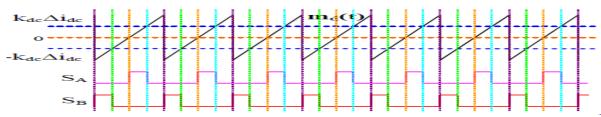


Fig 3.1: PWM Control Of The Buck Half-Bridge Converter

 V_{in} is the average output of the DBR for a given AC input voltage (Vs) related as,

$$V_{in} = 2\sqrt{2V_S/\pi}$$
 ----(2)

A ripple filter is designed to reduce the ripples introduced in the output voltage due to high switching frequency for constant of the buck half-bridge converter. The inductance (Lo) of the ripple filter restricts the inductor peak to peak ripple current (Δ ILo) within specified value for the given switching frequency (fs), whereas, the capacitance (Cd) is calculated for a specified ripple in the output voltage (Δ VCd) [7-8]. The output filter inductor and capacitor are given as,

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Lo= (0.5-D) Vdc/ \{fs (\square ILo)$\}-------(3)} \\ \text{Cd=Io/(2ω\Delta$VCd)} -------(4) \end{array}$$

The PFC converter is designed for a base DC link voltage of Vdc = 400 V at Vin = 198 V from Vs = 220 Vrms. The turns ratio of the high frequency transformer (N2/N1) is taken as 6:1 to maintain the desired DC link voltage at low input AC voltages typically at 170 V. Other design data are fs = 40 kHz, Io = 4 A, $\Delta \text{VCd} = 4 \text{ V}$ (1% of Vdc), $\Delta \text{ILo} = 0.8 \text{ A}$ (20% of Io). The design parameters are calculated as Lo=2.0 mH, Cd= 1600 \muF .

H _a	H _b	H _c	Ea	E _b	E _c	S ₁	S_2	S_3	S ₄	S ₅	S ₆
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	-1	+1	0	0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	-1	+1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	-1	0	+1	0	1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	+1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	+1	-1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	+1	-1	0	0	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table I: VSI Switching Sequence Based On The Hall Effect Sensor Signals

IV. MODELING OF THE PROPOSED PMBLDCM DRIVE

The main components of the proposed PMBLDCM drive are the PFC converter and PMBLDCM drive, which are modeled by mathematical equations and the complete drive is represented as a combination of these models.

A) PFC Converter

The modeling of the PFC converter consists of the modeling of a speed controller, a reference current generator and a PWM controller as given below.

1) Speed Controller: The speed controller, the prime component of this control scheme, is a proportional-integral (PI) controller which closely tracks the reference speed as an equivalent reference voltage. If at kth instant of time, V* dc(k) is reference DC link voltage, Vdc(k) is sensed DC link voltage then the voltage error Ve(k) is calculated as,

$$Ve(k) = V*dc(k)-Vdc(k)$$
 -----(5)



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The PI controller gives desired control signal after processing this voltage error. The output of the controller Ic(k) at kth instant is given as,

$$Ic(k) = Ic(k-1) + Kp\{Ve(k) - Ve(k-1)\} + KiVe(k) -(6)$$

where Kp and Ki are the proportional and integral gains of the PI controller.

2) Reference Current Generator: The reference input current of the PFC converter is denoted by idc* and given as,

$$i*dc = Ic (k) uVs ---- (7)$$

Where uVs is the unit template of the voltage at input AC mains, calculated as,

$$uVs = vd/Vsm$$
; $vd = |vs|$; $vs = Vsm \sin \omega t$ ----- (8)

Where Vsm is the amplitude of the voltage and ω is frequency in rad/sec at AC mains.

3) **PWM Controller:** The reference input current of the buck half-bridge converter (idc*) is compared with its sensed current (idc) to generate the current error \Box idc=(idc* - idc). This current error is amplified by gain kdc and compared with fixed frequency (fs) saw-tooth carrier waveform md(t) (as shown in Fig.2) in unipolar switching mode to get the switching signals for the MOSFETs of the PFC buck half-bridge converter as,

If kdc
$$\square$$
 idc > md (t) then SA = 1 else SA = 0-----(9)
If -kdc \square idc > md (t) then SB = 1 else SB = 0-----(10)

Where SA, SB are upper and lower switches of the half-bridge Converter as shown in Fig. 1 and their values '1' and '0' represent 'on' and 'off' position of the respective MOSFET of the PFC converter.

B) PMBLDCM Drive

The PMBLDCM drive consists of an electronic commutator, a VSI and a PMBLDC motor.

- 1) Electronic Commutator: The electronic commutator uses signals from Hall effect position sensors to generate the switching sequence for the voltage source inverter based on the logic given in Table I.
- 2) Voltage Source Inverter: Fig. 3 shows an equivalent circuit of a VSI fed PMBLDCM. The output of VSI to be fed to phase 'a' of the PMBLDC motor is given as,

Where vao, vbo, vco, and vno are voltages of the three-phases and neutral point (n) with respect to virtual midpoint of the DC link voltage shown as 'o' in Fig. 3. The voltages van, vbn, vcn are voltages of three-phases with respect to neutral point (n) and Vdc is the DC link voltage. S= 1 and 0 represent 'on' and 'off' position of respective IGBTs of the VSI and considered in a similar way for other IGBTs of the VSI i.e. S3- S6. Using similar logic vbo, vco, vbn, vcn are generated for other two phases of the VSI feeding PMBLDC motor.

3) PMBLDC Motor: The PMBLDCM is represented in the form of a set of differential equations [3] given as,

Van = Ria + p
$$\lambda$$
a +ean ----- (15)
Vbn = Rib + p λ b +ebn---- (16)
Vcn = Ric + p λ c +ecn ---- (17)

Where p is a differential operator (d/dt), ia, ib, ic are three phase currents, λa , λb , λc are flux linkages and ean, ebn, ecn are phase to neutral back emfs of PMBLDCM, in respective phases, R is resistance of motor windings/phase. Figure 3. Equivalent Circuit of a VSI fed PMBLDCM Drive The flux linkages are represented as,



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$$\lambda a = \text{Lia} - M \text{ (ib + ic)} ----- (18)$$

 $\lambda b = \text{Lib} - M \text{ (ia + ic)} ----- (19)$
 $\lambda c = \text{Lic} - M \text{ (ib + ia)} ----- (20)$

Where L is self-inductance/phase, M is mutual inductance of motor winding/phase. Since the PMBLDCM has no neutral Connection, therefore,

$$ia + ib + ic = 0$$
 ----- (21)

From Esq. (14-21) the voltage between neutral terminal (n) and mid-point of the DC link (o) is given as,

$$vno = \{vao + vbo + vco - (ean + ebn + ecn)\}/3$$
 ----- (22)

From Esq. (18-21), the flux linkages are given as,

$$\lambda a = (L+M) \text{ ia}, \ \lambda b = (L+M) \text{ ib}, \ \lambda c = (L+M) \text{ ic}, \ ------ (23)$$

From Esq. (15-17 and 23), the current derivatives in generalized state space form is given as,

$$pix = (vxn - ix R - exn)/(L+M)$$
 ----- (24)

Where x represents phase a, b or c.

The developed electromagnetic torque Te in the PMBLDCM is given as,

Te = (ean ia + ebn ib +ecn ic)/
$$\omega$$
 ----- (25)

Where ω is motor speed in rad/sec,

The back emfs may be expressed as a function of rotor position (θ) as,

$$exn = Kb fx(\theta) \omega$$
 ----- (26)

Where x can be phase a, b or c and accordingly $fx(\theta)$ represents function of rotor position with a maximum value ± 1 , identical to trapezoidal induced emf given as,

fa (
$$\theta$$
) = 1 for $0 < \theta < 2\pi/3$ ------ (27)
fa (θ) = {(θ / π)(π - θ)}-1 for $2\pi/3 < \theta < \pi$ ----- (28)
fa (θ) = -1 for $\pi < \theta < 5\pi/3$ ----- (29)
fa (θ) = {(θ / π)(θ -2 π)}+1 for $5\pi/3 < \theta < 2\pi$ ----- (30)

The functions $fb(\theta)$ and $fc(\theta)$ are similar to $fa(\theta)$ with a phase difference of 120° and 240° respectively.

Therefore, the electromagnetic torque is expressed as,

Te = Kb {fa (
$$\theta$$
) ia + fb (θ) ib+ fc (θ) ic} ------ (31)

The mechanical equation of motion in speed derivative form is given as,

$$P\omega = (P/2) (Te-TL-B\omega)/(J)$$
 ----- (32)

The derivative of the rotor position angle is given as,

$$P\theta = \omega$$
 ----- (33)

Where P is no. poles,

TL is load torque in Nm,

J is moment of inertia in kg-m2 and

B is friction coefficient in Nms/Rad.

These equations (15-33) represent the dynamic model of the PMBLDC motor.



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V. SIMULATION OF ADJUSTABLE SPEED CONTROLLED PMBLDCM DRIVE

The proposed PMBLDCM drive is modeled in Matlab- Simulink environment and evaluated for an air conditioning compressor load. The compressor load is considered as a constant torque load equal to rated torque with the speed control required by air conditioning system. A 1.5 kW rating PMBLDCM is used to drive the air conditioner compressor, speed of which is controlled effectively by controlling the DC link voltage.

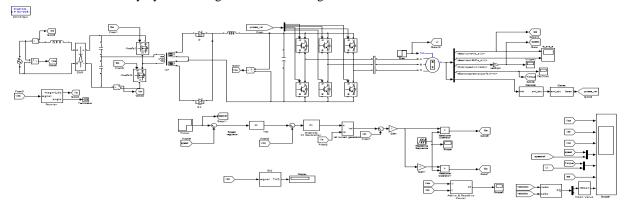


Fig 5.1: Simulation Model Of A Adjustable Speed Controlled PMBLDC Motor Drive

The performance of the proposed PFC drive is evaluated on the basis of various parameters such as total harmonic distortion (THDi) and the crest factor (CF) of the current at input AC mains, displacement power factor (DPF), power factor (PF) and efficiency of the drive system (ndrive) at different speeds of the motor. Moreover, these parameters are also evaluated for variable input AC voltage at DC link voltage of 416 V which is equivalent to the rated speed (1500 rpm) of the PMBLDCM. The THD of AC mains current remains less than 5% along with nearly unity PF in wide range of speed as well as load as shown in Table-II. The performance of the proposed PMBLDCM drive in terms of various PQ parameters such as THDi, CF, DPF, PF is summarized in Table-II

Speed(rpm)	$V_{DC}(v)$	$THD_i(\%)$	DPF	Pf	$\eta_{drive}(\%)$	Load (%)
300	100	4.84	0.9999	0.9987	74.2	20.0
400	126	3.94	0.9999	0.9991	79.1	26.7
500	153	3.33	0.9999	0.9993	81.8	33.3
600	179	2.92	0.9999	0.9995	83.8	40.0
700	205	2.63	0.9999	0.9996	85.3	46.6
800	232	2.40	0.9999	0.9996	86.1	53.3
900	258	2.24	0.9999	0.9996	87.0	60.0
1000	284	2.16	0.9999	0.9997	87.6	66.6
1100	310	2.09	0.9999	0.9997	88.1	73.3
1200	337	2.03	0.9999	0.9997	88.1	80.0
1300	363	2.05	0.9999	0.9997	88.2	86.6
1400	390	2.07	0.9999	0.9997	88.1	93.3
1500	416	2.09	0.9999	0.9997	88.1	100.0

Table II: Performance Of Drive Under Speed Control At 220 V Ac Input

Performance evaluation of the proposed PMBLDCM drive is carried out under varying input AC voltage at rated load (i.e. rated torque and rated speed) to demonstrate the operation of proposed PMBLDCM drive for air conditioning system in various practical situations as summarized in Table-III.



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$V_{AC}(V)$	$THD_i(\%)$	DPF	PF	CF	$I_{\mathcal{S}}(A)$	$\eta_{drive}(\%)$
170	2.88	0.9999	0.9995	1.41	10.4	84.9
180	2.59	0.9999	0.9996	1.41	9.7	85.8
190	2.40	0.9999	0.9996	1.41	9.2	86.3
200	2.26	0.9999	0.9996	1.41	8.6	87.2
210	2.14	0.9999	0.9997	1.41	8.2	87.6
220	2.09	0.9999	0.9997	1.41	7.7	88.1
230	2.07	0.9999	0.9997	1.41	7.4	88.2
240	2.02	1.0000	0.9998	1.41	7.1	88. <i>4</i>
250	1.99	1.0000	0.9998	1.41	6.8	88.7
260	2.01	1.0000	0.9998	1.41	6.5	88.7
270	2.01	1.0000	0.9998	1.41	6.2	89.0

Table III. Variation Of Pq Parameters With Input Ac Voltage (Vs) At 1500 Rpm (416 Vdc)

VI. WAVE FORMS FOR THE CORRESPONDING SIMULATION CIRCUIT

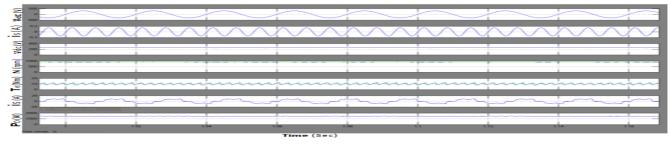


Fig 6.1: Starting performance of the PMBLDCM drive at 900 rpm

Above fig 6.1 shows the performance of the proposed PMBLDCM drive fed from 220 V AC mains during starting at rated torque and 900 rpm speed. A rate limiter of 800 V/s is introduced in the reference voltage to limit the starting current of the motor as well as the charging current of the DC link capacitor. The PI controller closely tracks the reference speed so that the motor attains reference speed smoothly within 0.35 sec while keeping the stator current within the desired limits i.e. double the rated value. The current (is) waveform at input AC mains is in phase with the supply voltage (vs) demonstrating nearly unity power factor during the starting.

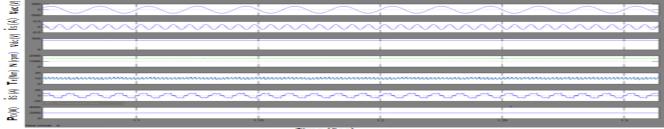


Fig 6.2: PMBLDCM drive under speed variation from 900 rpm to 1500 rpm.



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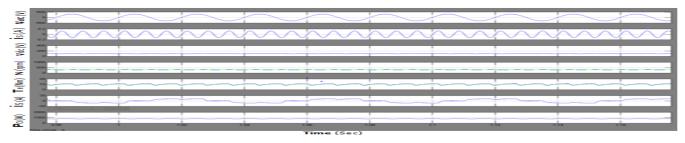


Fig 6.3: PMBLDCM drive under speed variation from 900 rpm to 300 rpm

Figs. 6.2-6.3 show (under speed variations at 220VAC input) the performance of the drive during the speed control of the compressor at 220VAC input. The reference speed is changed from 900 rpm to 1500 rpm for the rated load performance of the compressor; from 900 rpm to 300 rpm for performance of the compressor at light load. It is observed that the speed control is fast and smooth in either direction i.e. acceleration or retardation with power factor maintained at nearly unity value. The speed control of the PMBLDCM driven compressor under steady state condition is carried out for different speeds and the results are shown in Table-II to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed drive in wide speed range.

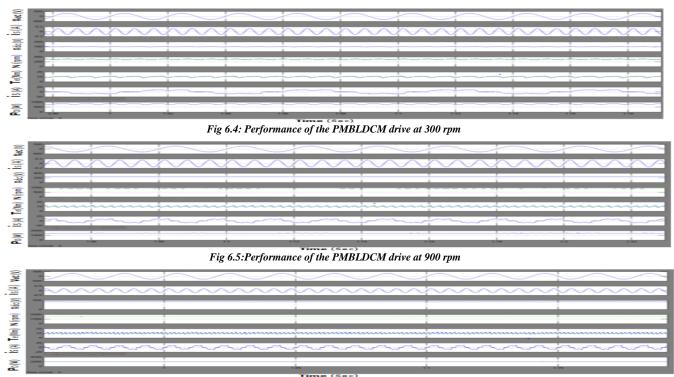


Fig 6.6: Performance of the PMBLDCM drive at 1500 rpm

Figs.6.4-6.6 show (under steady state condition at 220 VAC input) voltage (vs) and current (is) waveforms at AC mains, DC link voltage (Vdc), speed of the motor (N), developed electromagnetic torque of the motor (Te), the stator current of the PMBLDC motor for phase 'a' (Ia), and shaft power output (Po) at 300 rpm, 900 rpm and 1500 rpm speeds.



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VII. CONCLUSION

A new permanent magnet brushless dc motor drive speed controlled technique has been presented here in a air conditioner composer system with the help of PFC drive. Here the PMBLDCM drive is validated for a compressor load of an air conditioner which uses the reference speed as an equivalent reference voltage at DC link. The speed control is directly proportional to the voltage control at DC link; the proposed PMBLDCM drive has a good speed control with energy efficient operation of the drive system in the wide range of speed and AC voltage. The proposed drive has been found as a promising candidate for a PMBLDCM driving Air-Con load in 1-2 kW power range. The performance evaluation of PMBLDCM drive has been evaluated with voltage and current THDs, and corresponding load variations, speed controls the efficiency has been calculated here. The evaluated performance parameters have been shown in tabular columns and corresponding simulated wave forms are also shown.

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Dichendra Kumar Gonu received B.Tech (EEE) degree, First class from kuppam engineering college kuppam Affiliated to JNTU, Anantapur in May 2011. At present he is pursuing his M.Tech (Power Electronic & Electrical drives) at Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering and Technology, Chittoor, Affiliated to JNTU, Anantapur, A.P, India.



Rajasekharachari K received B.Tech (EEE) degree, First class from Sri Sai Institute Of Technology And Science Rayachoti Affiliated to JNTU, Anantapur in May 2011. At present he is pursuing his M.Tech (Power Electronic & Electrical drives) at Sri Venkateswara College Of Engineering And Technology, Chittoor, Affiliated to JNTU, Anantapur, A.P, India.



C.B.Saravanan received B.Tech (EEE) degree, First class from Annamacharya institute of technology & sciences Rajampet Affiliated to JNTU, Hyderabad in May 2002. He received M.Tech (power systems) degree First class with distinction from bharat institute of higher education & research Chennai in 2005. He is in teaching profession for last 10 years. At present he is working as Associate Professor in Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering and Technology, Chittoor, Affiliated to JNTU, Anantapur, A.P, India.