

Dynamic voltage restorer using sliding mode controller: Experimental studies

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ABSTRACT

The simulation and implementation of a sliding mode control strategy for a single-phase dynamic voltage restorer (DVR) to mitigate load voltage sag swell and harmonics is presented in this work. The control strategy's goal is to compensate for the required voltage by regulating the DVR's voltage via an injection transformer while keeping the load voltage constant. The ability of the DVR to achieve a good performance greatly depends on its control strategy. The controller used in this work is based on SMC theory, which consists of creating a passivation output and a storage function to use as a function of Lyapunov. The proposed control scheme of the DVR is initially evaluated in simulations using MATLAB and validated using a laboratory-scale prototype of the entire system, including a source, the DVR circuit and a load. The control scheme is implemented on a dSPACE 1104 board and the MATLAB real-time toolbox. Both the experimental results have demonstrated the effectiveness the proposed control strategy of DVR in mitigating power qualities issues and therefore enhancing the performance of the network.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Grid failures caused by the power quality disturbances such as voltage sags and swells can severely affect the sensitive loads of the electrical power systems [1], and causes about 90% of average customer outages [2]. The dynamic voltage restorer (DVR) is an economical and technically effective solution for protecting sensitive loads from power quality disturbances such as voltage dips, according to research in the field of power quality improvement [3].

During a voltage disturbance, such as a voltage sag/swell, the connection node receives the necessary compensating voltage with the needed amplitude and frequency to restore the load voltage to its normal value. The DVR trades active and reactive power with the load during this operation. In the event of voltage sag, various energy storage devices such as batteries, capacitors, and flywheels are employed in conjunction with the DVR to provide the required active power.

DVRs have been proposed with a variety of topologies and control systems. There are two types of topologies that can be classified. AC/DC/AC conversion is used by the first category. A mains transformer (source side or load side) provides the appropriate DC voltage via a rectifier in this scenario. The energy required for voltage adjustment is given via an inverter from a DC capacitor or another energy storage device such as a double-layer capacitor, a super conducting magnetic energy storage device, or a lead-acid battery via an inverter [4], [5].

The proportional-integral (PI) controller and other classical linear controllers have been widely utilized in power quality to perform online adjustment of voltage or current fluctuations to protect sensitive equipment. Generally, the sinusoidal pulse width modulation (SPWM) is used as a switching method for the DVR circuits. Recently, a new switching approach for DVR using one cycle control method has been proposed [6]. This method can remove several types of voltage disturbances with a higher performance than the classical PWM for DVRs applications.

Recently, a method named single-phase SRFT (Single phase SRF d-q theory) which generates a reference for the injected voltage has been proposed and applied to the design of the DVR controller. This controller has proved its effectiveness in mitigating the voltage sags of a distorted voltage based on the moving average filter [7]. Different single-phase DVR topologies have been studied and compared with the conventional schemes [8]-[10]. In [11], the authors discussed single-phase DVR design and control. The DVR can provide bidirectional energy flow with the proposed mix of series and shunt converters. To compensate for sag and swell, DVRs based on H-bridge converters connected in back-to-back arrangement with a common dc-link capacitor.

The reliability of the DVR can be enhanced by the proper selection of the control method. Several control schemes have been proposed which can basically be classified into two types: linear and nonlinear control. Linear controls techniques such as direct control, feedback control and composite control do not usually lead to good performance due to inherent nonlinear characteristics of the inverter switching devices [12], [13].

In this paper, the design of single-phase DVR based on H-bridge converters is presented. The aim is to maintain the load voltage amplitude at the desired level for all operating conditions. A sliding mode controller is proposed in this work. SM has long been known for its ability to deal with non linearities and uncertainties in the system model and has been successful in many real-world applications. The rest of the paper is organized as follows: The DVR's operating principle is described in Section 2, its configuration, and its different operating modes Section 3 presents the model of the system and the proposed control scheme of the DVR. Some simulation results for a linear load are also included in Section 2. Section 4 describes the experimental set-up of the low-voltage DVR prototype and presents some results of the validation of the proposed control scheme. Conclusions are summarized in Section 5 of the paper.

2. PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION OF THE DVR

2.1. System configuration

A typical single-line arrangement of the DVR attached to the distribution system is shown in Figure 1. A booster transformer is connected in series with a voltage source inverter (VSI), an energy storage system, and a capacitor in DC link to make up the circuit. Instead of the VSI, other topologies employ an AC-AC converter, which eliminates the DC link from the circuit [14], [15].

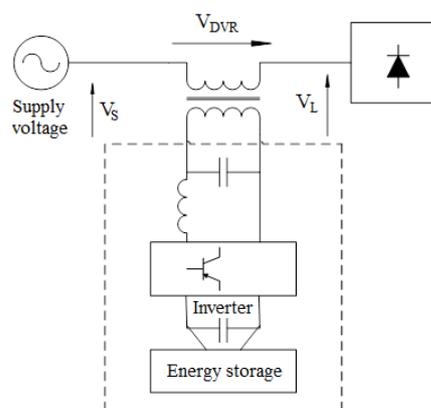


Figure 1. Typical DVR structure

2.2. Equivalent circuit

Figure 2 shows the single-line equivalent circuit of a single-phase system of a distribution feeder with a DVR. In this simplified equivalent circuit, it is assumed that the supply voltage, the DVR injection voltage and the load voltage are in series. The purpose is to maintain the amplitude of the load voltage at a fixed level and prevent phase jumps. In Figure 2, $V_g(t)$, V_{DVR} and $V_L(t)$ denote the grid voltage, the DVR output voltage (injected to the grid), and the load voltage respectively. The grid Thevenin voltage and impedance of the DVR are denoted by $V_s(t)$ and Z_g , respectively. $V_c(t)$ represented the fundamental component of the converter output voltage.

Through a coupling transformer, the DVR injects a regulated voltage in series with the bus voltage. The injected phase voltages' amplitudes are adjusted to prevent the load voltage from being harmed by a bus fault. The load bus failure level determines the system impedance Z_{th} . The DVR injects a series voltage V_{DVR} to maintain the required load voltage magnitude V_L . when the system voltage V_{th} decreases. The DVR's series injected voltage can be written as (1) and (2).

$$V_{DVR} = V_L + Z_{th} * I_L - V_{th} \tag{1}$$

$$I_L = \frac{P_L + jQ_L}{V_L} \tag{2}$$

Where, the voltage, current and impedance of the load are denoted by V_L , I_L and Z_{th} , respectively

2.3. DVR operating modes

The DVR has three modes of operation: standby, injection, and protection mode [16].

2.3.1. Standby mode

There is no voltage disturbance in standby mode, therefore the DVR does not need to inject any power into the grid, i.e $V_{DVR} = 0$. Individual converter legs are triggered in this mode of operation to create a short circuit [17], [18], as shown in Figure 3.

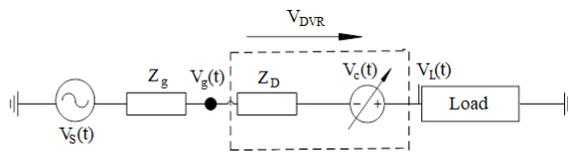


Figure 2. Equivalent circuit of a DVR

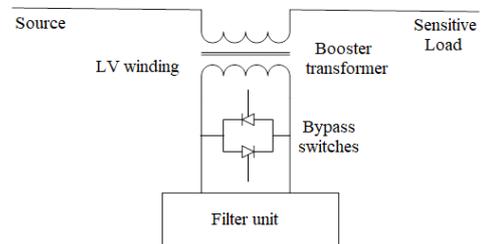


Figure 3. Standby mode of the DVR

2.3.2. Injection mode

As soon as a voltage sag is detected, the DVR operates in the injection mode and injects the appropriate compensation voltage into the grid through the booster transformer [17], [19].

2.3.3. Protection mode

The DVR will be disconnected from the system by bypass switches if the current on the load side exceeds a legal limit, such as during a load short circuit or excessive inrush current. To offer an alternative path for the load current, switches S2 and S3 will open and S1 will be closed, as shown in Figure 4 [19], [20].

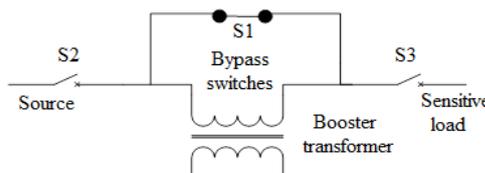


Figure 4. Protection mode

3. PROPOSED CONTROL SCHEME OF THE DVR

A detailed model of DVR and its control scheme is carried out under MATLAB/Simulink as shown in Figure 5.

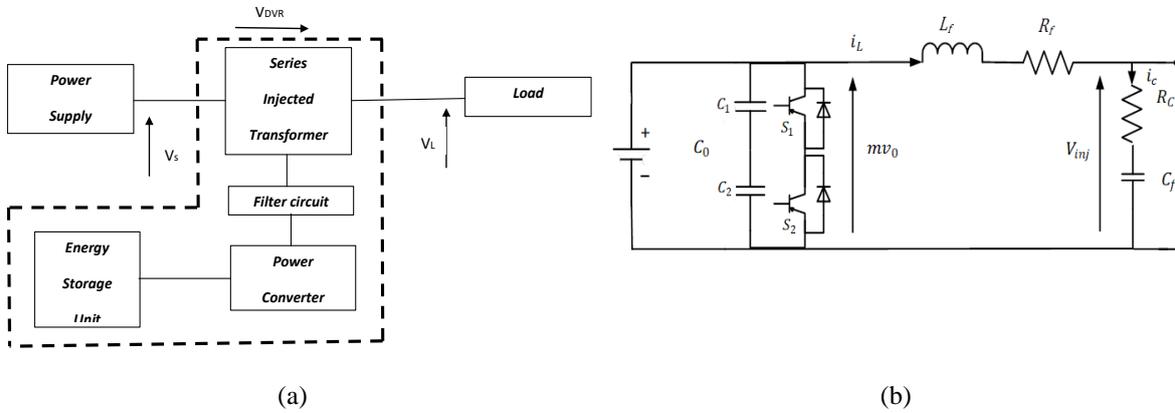


Figure 5. Diagram of single-ended electrical representation for DVR: (a) Typical DVR structure, (b) Series converter single-phase representation

In this way, the equivalent circuit of the DVR is illustrated in Figure 5(b). The use of Kirchhoff's law of tension with the closed-circuit AC obtains a mathematical formulation (3) and (4) [21].

$$mv_0 = i_L R_f + L_f \frac{di_L}{dt} + v_{inj} \tag{3}$$

$$v_{inj} = i_c R_c + \frac{1}{C_f} \int (i_c dt) \tag{4}$$

with:

- m : Control input
- i_L : Inductor current of the series converter
- v_{inj} : Output voltage
- v_0 : dc link voltage
- L_f : Filtre inductance
- C_f : Filtre capacitance
- R_f : ESR of inductor
- R_c : ESR of capacitor.

3.1. Sliding mode controller

3.1.1. Theory of SMC

The sliding mode is a specific operation mode for systems with changeable structure. Variable structure control is a non-linear control by definition. The essential feature of systems with changeable structure is that their control laws evolve in a non-linear fashion. The design of regulators by sliding modes takes care of stability and desired performance problems in a systematic way. This control mechanism is primarily implemented in three parts: selection of the surface; the establishment of the conditions and the control law.

The SMC is used in the control of the DVR to improve its dynamic performance while attenuating voltage disturbances that penetrate the system connected to the DVR's network voltage. The following state-space model of the DVR was created by applying the concept of variable structure control to the basic structure of the connected DVR system, as shown in Figure 2.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dv_{inj}}{dt} = \frac{1}{C_f} i_f - \frac{1}{C_f} i_s \\ \frac{di_f}{dt} = -\frac{1}{L_f} V_{inj} - \frac{R_f}{C_f} i_f + \frac{1}{L_f} V_{dc} u \end{cases} \tag{5}$$

Where i_f and i_s represent the filter inductor current and source current respectively.

Taking the injected voltage $x_1 = V_{inj}$ and by derivatex $_1$, $\dot{x}_1 = x_2$. Then, the model becomes (6).

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = -\frac{1}{L_f C_f} x_1 - \frac{R_f}{L_f C_f} x_2 - \frac{R_f}{L_f C_f} i_s - \frac{1}{C_f} \frac{di_s}{dt} + \frac{V_{dc}}{L_f C_f} u \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

First, consider the following general second order dynamic system as (7).

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 + \theta_1 \varphi_1(x_1) \\ \dot{x}_2 = \theta_2 \varphi_2(x_1, x_2) + b(x_1 + x_2)u \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

Where, $\varphi_i(\cdot), i=1,2$ are smoothing functions with continuous finite time derivatives and $b(x_i)$ is invertible. To simplify the equations, the arguments of $\varphi_i(\cdot)$ and $b(\cdot)$ will be dropped in what follows. The parameters θ_1 and θ_2 are known. Let the output of the system be $V_{inj} = x_i$ for $i = 1, 2$. The error is defined as (8) and (9) [22]:

$$z_1 = V_{inj,ref} - V_{inj} = V_{inj,ref} - x_1 \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = \dot{V}_{inj,ref} - x_2 - \theta_1 \varphi_1 = z_2 \\ \dot{z}_2 = \ddot{V}_{inj,ref} - \theta_2 \varphi_2 - bu - \theta_1 \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial x_1} + (x_2 + \theta_1 \varphi_1) \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

3.1.2. Sliding surface selection

Figure 6 shows the sliding surface. The sliding surface with its derivation can be defined as (10) and (11) [22].

$$s = \lambda z_1 + z_2 \quad (10)$$

$$\dot{s} = \lambda z_2 + \dot{z}_2 \quad (11)$$

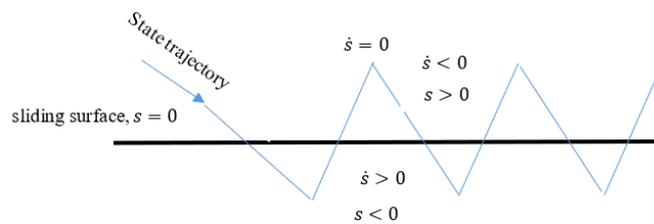


Figure 6. Sliding surface

After, using the following Lyapunov function: $V(s) = \frac{1}{2} s^2$, then its time derivative is (12).

$$\dot{V}(s) = s * \dot{s} \quad (12)$$

For stability, $\dot{V} < 0$, which results in $\dot{s} < 0$ for $s > 0$ and $\dot{s} > 0$ for $s < 0$. Then, using (11) and (9), the control law can be derived as (13).

$$u = \frac{1}{b} \left[\lambda z_2 + \ddot{V}_{inj,ref} - \theta_2 \varphi_2 - \theta_1 \frac{\partial \varphi_1}{\partial x_1} + (x_2 + \theta_1 \varphi_1) - \dot{s} \right] \quad (13)$$

The error can be defined as (14).

$$V_{inj,ref}(t) = V_{load,ref} - V_s(t) \quad (14)$$

Where $V_{load,ref}$ is the desired reference load voltage at the point of common coupling (PCC). The error between $V_{load,ref}$ and V_{load} gives the reference of the injected voltage signal provided by the injection transformer [23].

The instantaneous error signal z_1 is obtained by comparing the output of the low-pass filter with the injected reference voltage. The sliding mode controller then uses the error and its derivative ($e, \Delta e$) to form the control law u , which is converted to a PWM signal for switching the inverter IGBT devices [24], [25]. The error z_1 is derived using (15), (16) and (17). The Control block diagram of DVR as shown in Figure 7.

$$z_1 = V_{inj,ref} - V_{inj} = V_{inj,ref} - x_1 \tag{15}$$

$$\dot{z}_1 = \dot{V}_{inj,ref} - \dot{x}_1 = \dot{V}_{inj,ref} - \dot{x}_2 = \dot{z}_2 \tag{16}$$

$$\dot{z}_2 = \dot{V}_{inj,ref} = \ddot{V}_{inj,ref} + \frac{R_f}{L_f} \dot{V}_{inj,ref} + \frac{1}{L_f C_f} \dot{V}_{inj,ref} - \frac{1}{L_f C_f} z_1 - \frac{R_f}{L_f} z_2 + \frac{R_f}{L_f C_f} i_s + \frac{1}{C_f} \frac{di_s}{dt} - \frac{V_{dc}}{L_f C_f} u \tag{17}$$

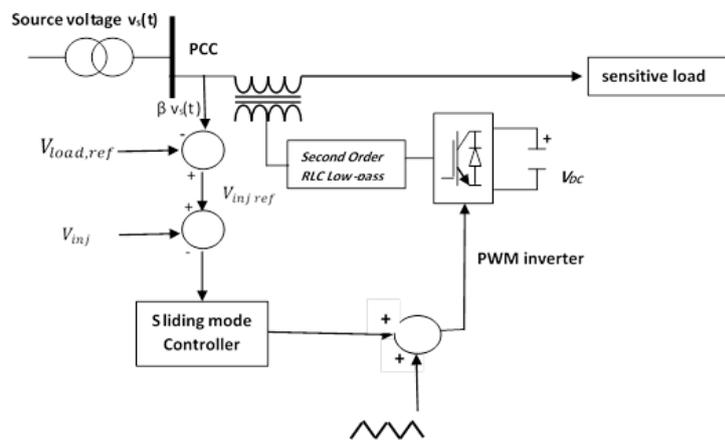


Figure 7. Control block diagram of DVR

The selected sliding surface was $s = K_1 z_1 + K_2 z_2$ along with the control law as (18).

$$\dot{s} = f(s) * Ksgn(s) \tag{18}$$

Where (19)

$$f(s) = -[1/q(s)] \tag{19}$$

And $q(s)$ is given by (20)

$$q(s) = [\gamma + (1 - \gamma)e^{-\alpha|s|} \cos(\beta|s|)] \tag{20}$$

After, using (12) to obtain the SM control law.

3.1.3. Determination of control law

Finally, the control law can be derived using (12), (17) and (18) as (21).

$$u = \frac{L_f C_f}{V_{dc}} \left[\frac{k_1}{k_2} z_2 + \ddot{V}_{inj,ref} + \frac{1}{L_f C_f} x_1 + \frac{R_f}{L_f} x_1 + \frac{R_f}{L_f C_f} i_s + \frac{1}{C_f} \frac{di_s}{dt} \right] + \frac{1}{k_2} \left[\frac{ksgn(s)}{q(s)} \right] \tag{21}$$

4. EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF THE DVR

This section discusses the hardware used to design the experimental set-up of the DVR and its auxiliary circuits.

4.1. Experimental setup of the DVR

Figure 8 shows the experimental set-up of the DVR and overall system block diagram designed in this work for mitigation of voltage sags/swells and harmonics. Parameters of the DVR hardware setup as shown in Table 1. The single-phase DVR consists of the following components [26]:

- Booster transformer.
- Programmable AC power source
- SEMIKRON IGBT based inverter.
- filter.
- Voltage regulators.
- Analyzer ca-8335-qualistar
- Load and oscilloscope.
- Programmable DC power source.
- A dSPACE DS1104 board and PC computer.

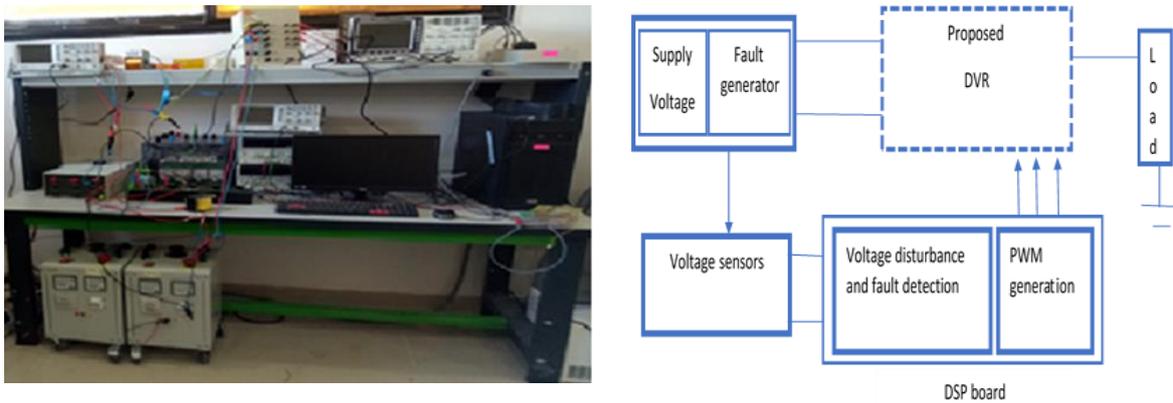


Figure 8. Experimental set-up of the single-phase DVR and overall system block diagram

Table 1. Parameters of the DVR hardware setup

Parameters	Values
Supply voltage, V_s	8.5 Vrms
Load resistance, R_L	20 Ω
LC filter capacitance, C_f	1 nF
LC filter inductance, L_f	24.6 mH
Transformer	12 V/ 230 V/ 1 kVA
DC-bus capacitor	2200 μ F
Reference voltage, V_{dc}^*	37 V

4.2. Experiment results

To validate the simulation results of the proposed DVR control method, an experimental test designed under a Texas Instruments dSPACE card 1104 platform, inserted into a Pentium PC allowing for automatic implementation of the algorithms of the control. Design of prototype of DVR and its performance during voltage sag and swell condition is elaborated both for load.

The experimental results of a single-phase DVR are described in this part to demonstrate the capabilities of the proposed DVR for load-side voltage regulation. The switching frequency of the converter is set at 20 kHz. Only the faults generated by the source have been considered. The load-generated faults are not explored in this work.

Two experimental tests are presented. The first test aims to demonstrate the ability of proposed DVR in compensating voltage sags for a period of a few cycles. In this test, it is assumed that the system can experience a voltage sag of up to 38 % of the nominal voltage, the injected voltage is in phase. The results are shown in Figure 9. On the left panel, are shown snapshots of the voltages and the right panel shows the zoomed waveforms.

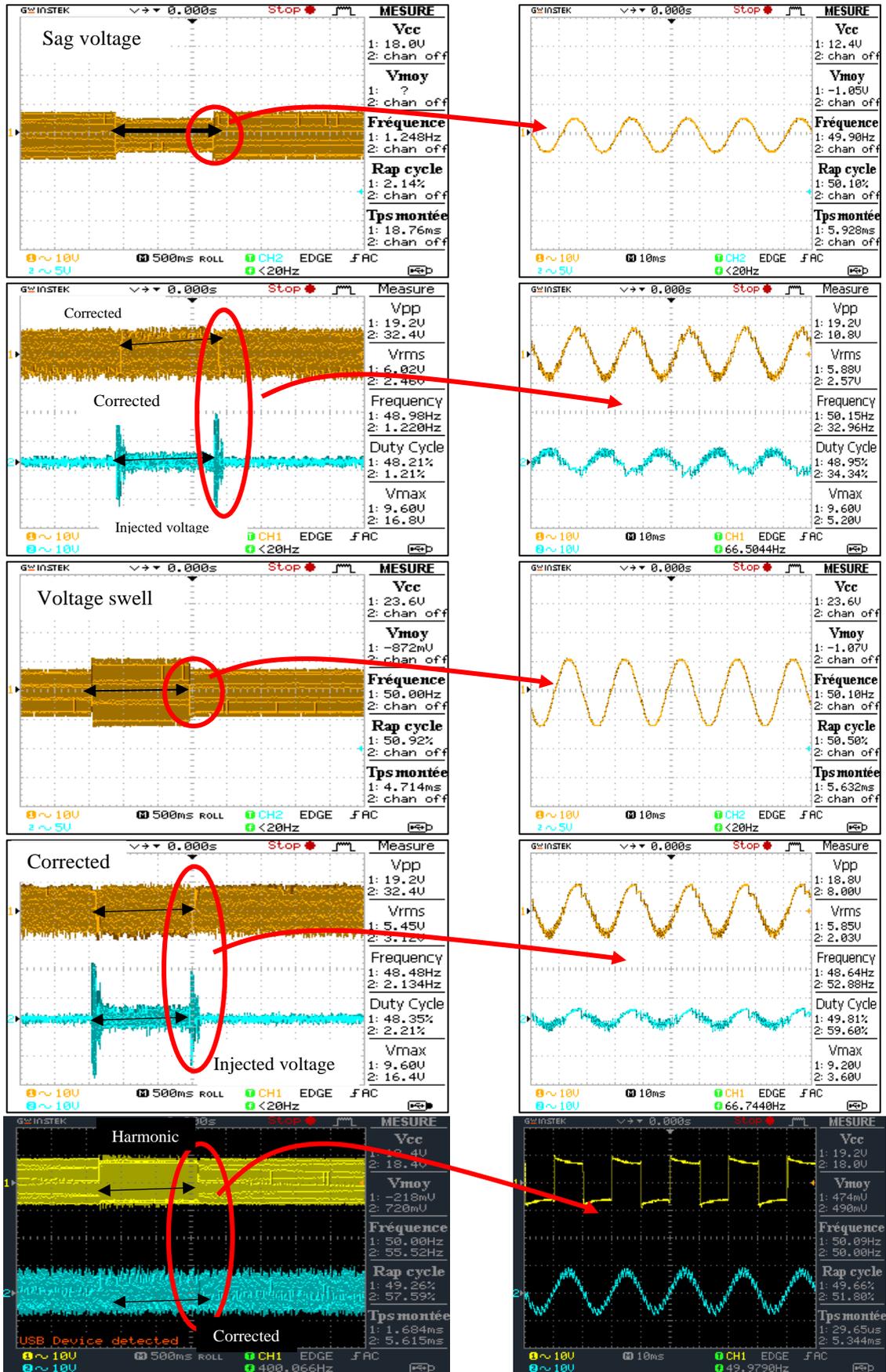


Figure 9. Experimental results: Voltage sag/swell and harmonics

The second experiment is aimed to test the ability of the proposed DVR control scheme to compensate voltage swells; injected voltage is out of phase. To simulate this fault scenario, the source voltage is increased by 20% for a period of a few cycles as shown in Figure 9. Once the fault is cleared, the source voltage is restored to its initial value. Both voltage sag and swell are initiated at $t = 12.8$ s and cleared at $t = 15.8$ s, i.e., they last for 3 s. An injection transformer connected between the supply and the load compensates the load voltage by injecting a voltage in series with the supply voltage.

Harmonics can be eliminated using the proposed DVR. To demonstrate the suggested DVR's capabilities, it is assumed that the source voltage is significantly distorted due to harmonics. Figure 10 depicts the results.

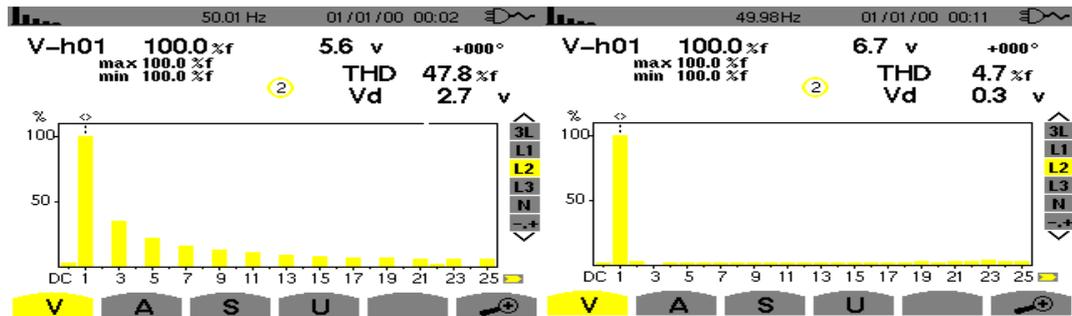


Figure 10. Total harmonic distortion. Electrical grid and Protected load

6. CONCLUSION

A dynamic voltage restorer is employed in this study to mitigate voltage sags in the distribution system, thereby improving the performance of the system. As a result, the quality of the output voltage waveform is significantly improved. In a MATLAB environment, the DVR was modeled and simulated, and its performance was evaluated under fault situations with a linear load. The results show that the DVR is able of improving power quality in distribution systems. In the present paper a fuzzy logic-based controller was proposed the DVR. This topology can be easily extended to n-phase systems such as three-phase based on the same principle of the operation, it's not needing high voltage switches when it operates.

The ability of SMC-based DVR to compensate for disturbance of voltage on the distribution side has been validated experimentally and a good dynamic response has been achieved for the fault conditions considered. The compensated voltage in harmonics case was within the IEEE standards IEEE 519-1992 and IEEE 1159-1995.

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