Online ISSN: 2249-4596 Print ISSN: 0975-5861

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GLOBAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES IN ENGINEERING: F Electrical and Electronics Engineering

GLOBAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES IN ENGINEERING: F Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Volume 13 Issue 3 (Ver. 1.0)

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Offset Typesetting

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GLOBAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES IN ENGINEERING ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING Volume 13 Issue 3 Version 1.0 Year 2013 Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal Publisher: Global Journals Inc. (USA) Online ISSN: 2249-4596 & Print ISSN: 0975-5861

An Investigation Study of Total Harmonic Distortion in a Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter With / Without Closed-Loop Feedback Schemes

By Shanmuga Priyan.S & Dr. Ramani.K

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Abstract - This paper focuses on the investigation study of Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) in a sevenlevel Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter (FCMLI) with / without closed-loop feedback schemes. For that, a closed-loop model is designed for the existing FCMLI through this paper. Conventionally full bridge and half bridge inverter configurations are used for certain applications where DC-AC conversion is needed. But the main drawbacks of these inverters are high harmonic content and used only for limited power applications. In order to overcome this, a novel approach called closed-loop FCMLI will be proposed, which significantly increases the level number of the output waveform and thereby dramatically reduces the low-order harmonics and THD. The proposed system consists of a DC–DC power converter and a DC–AC multilevel inverter. In order to achieve low cost, easy control, high efficiency, and high reliability, a capacitor clamped DC–DC boost converter using minimal devices is introduced to interface the lowvoltage Photovoltaic (PV) module.

Keywords : capacitor clamped DC-DC boost converter; flying capacitor multilevel inverter (FCMLI); phase disposition – pulse width modulation (PD-PWM); photovoltaic (PV); total harmonic distortion (THD).

GJRE-F Classification : FOR Code: 671503, 090699



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An Investigation Study of Total Harmonic Distortion in a Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter With / Without Closed – Loop Feedback Schemes

Shanmuga Priyan.S^a & Dr. Ramani.K^o

Abstract - This paper focuses on the investigation study of Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) in a seven-level Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter (FCMLI) with / without closed-loop feedback schemes. For that, a closed-loop model is designed for the existing FCMLI through this paper. Conventionally full bridge and half bridge inverter configurations are used for certain applications where DC-AC conversion is needed. But the main drawbacks of these inverters are high harmonic content and used only for limited power applications. In order to overcome this, a novel approach called closed-loop FCMLI will be proposed, which significantly increases the level number of the output waveform and thereby dramatically reduces the low-order harmonics and THD. The proposed system consists of a DC-DC power converter and a DC-AC multilevel inverter. In order to achieve low cost, easy control, high efficiency, and high reliability, a capacitor clamped DC-DC boost converter using minimal devices is introduced to interface the low-voltage Photovoltaic (PV) module. In this paper, a Phase Disposition - Pulse Width Modulation (PD-PWM) technique, applicable for proposed FCMLI is presented. With the use of multilevel inverter, resolution is increased and also the harmonics is highly reduced. The proposed seven level FCMLI not only achieves high power ratings, but also enables the use of renewable energy sources in an efficient manner. In order to justify the merits of the proposed system, it is interfaced with the single phase lamp load and analysed through simulation investigations.

Keywords : capacitor clamped DC-DC boost converter; flying capacitor multilevel inverter (FCMLI); phase disposition – pulse width modulation (PD-PWM); photovoltaic (PV); total harmonic distortion (THD).

I. INTRODUCTION

n Recent years, there has been an increasing interest in electrical power generation from renewable-energy sources, such as photovoltaic (PV) or wind-power systems [1], [2]. The benefits of power generation from these sources are widely accepted. They are essentially inexhaustible and environmentally friendly. Among the different renewable-energy sources possible to obtain electricity, solar energy has been one of the most active research areas in the past decades, both for gridconnected and stand-alone applications [3]–[4].

Multilevel inverter is based on the fact that sine wave can be approximated to a stepped waveform having large number of steps. The steps being supplied from different DC levels supported by series connected batteries or capacitors. The unique structure of multilevel inverter allows them to reach high voltages and therefore lower voltage rating device can be used. As the number of levels increases, the synthesized output waveform has more steps, producing a very fine stair case wave and approaching very closely to the desired sine wave. It can be easily understood that as motor steps are included in the waveform the harmonic distortion of the output wave decrease, approaching zero as the number of levels approaches infinity.

Hence Multi- level inverters inverters offer a better choice at the high power end because the high volt- ampere ratings are possible with these inverters without the problems of high dv/dt and the other associated ones [5].

Nowadays different topologies have been reported for multi-level inverters. They are named as neutral point clamped (diode-clamped) inverter, flying capacitor (capacitor-clamped) inverter and cascaded multi-cell with separated dc source inverter [6]. Among them, the FCMLI does not require isolated DC sides and additional clamping diodes, the snubberless operation is possible and it is easy to be expanded to the multilevel. The FCMLI offers a great advantage with respect to the availability of voltage redundancies.

This inverter uses capacitors to limit the voltage of the power devices. They are defined as different combinations of capacitors allowing the charging or discharging of the individual flying capacitors in order to produce the same phase leg voltage. This advantage provides the special opportunity for controlling the individual voltage on flying capacitors [6]-[7]. Many studies have shown that under certain conditions, a simple open loop control guarantees natural balancing of the flying capacitor.

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In this paper, Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) controllers based closed loop system for seven level flying capacitor multilevel inverter and for capacitor clamped DC-DC boost converter have been proposed. This scheme maintains the output voltage stability, reducing the harmonic content in the output there by improving the overall system performance. This paper has been designed using a seven level flying capacitor multilevel inverter with the appropriate closed loop schemes there by THD can be significantly reduced which is confirmed through simulation investigation.

PROPOSED TOPOLOGY OF CLOSED H. LOOP SYSTEM

DC/DC DC/AC AC/AC (12/48V DC) (48V DC/48V AC) (48/230V AC) DC Boosted DC Capacitor Flying AC OUTPUT Clamped Capacitor 1 Ph 230V Step-Up Lamp Lamp Boost 7 Level Transforme DC/DC Multilevel (12V DC Converter Inverter PWM PWM Driver Driver Battery Back-up (with Actual Voltage Controller For Controller For charge DC Feedback Multilevel Inverter DC/DC Converter controller) Voltage Signal Set Value (48V DC)

a) Architecture of Proposed System

Figure 1 : Overall Block Diagram of Proposed System

For this proposed topology, DC input to the system is a solar energy which is harvested from the Sun based on the irradiation and insolation level. In this system a single stand-alone PV module of 12V capacity is used to obtain the DC voltage. Then this obtained DC voltage is given as the input to the Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter. By the boost DC-DC converter topology, the 12V DC is boosted into 48V DC.

In order to maintain the constant DC voltage from the boost converter, a closed loop block is designed in which the actual DC voltage is compared with the 48V DC set value. Based on the error signal from the comparator, the PID controller produces the control signal to the PWM pulse generator block.

Then based upon the specified switching frequency of MOSFET, switching pulses are given to the single switch in the boost converter. Then the boosted DC voltage is given as the input to the seven level FCMLI which is used for 48V DC to 48V AC conversion.

For controlling the FCMLI, a closed loop block is designed which consists of voltage measurement, voltage controller - PID controller and Sin generator block. With the help of these blocks, a closed loop design is achieved for proposed FCMLI. Then this low

voltage AC signal of 48V AC is given to the step-up transformer for stepping up the voltage level to 230V AC. Finally a resistive load - single phase lamp load is connected across the 230V AC output terminals.

b) System Composition

The described system in this paper is a standalone system which consisting of the following individual systems-:

- i. For generating the DC voltage signal, a suitable stand-alone PV module is used.
- ii. For boosting up the generated DC voltage, an appropriate Capacitor Clamped DC-DC boost converter is used.
- iii. For maintaining the constant DC output from boost converter, a closed loop controller is used for DC-DC converter.
- iv. For converting the boosted DC voltage into appropriate AC voltage, a FCMLI is used.
- v. For improving the performance of MLI, a closed loop controller is used for FCMLI.
- vi. For stepping up the generated AC voltage from MLI, a suitable step-up transformer is used.
- vii. For connecting the developed system to the resistive load, a single phase lamp load is used.
- c) System Specification

System Stages	Technical Specification
DC Input	PV Module – 12V DC
DC - DC Conversion	Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter (12/48V DC)
DC Storage	Battery back-up of 48V – Series connection of 4 batteries (12V each)
DC - AC Conversion	Seven Level FCMLI 48V DC/48V AC Stepped Waveform
AC - AC Conversion	Step-up Transformer (48/230V AC) Nearly Sinusoidal Waveform
Connected Load	Single Phase 230V AC Lamp Load

Table 1 : Technical Specification of a Proposed System

Simulation Model of Proposed System d)

The overall Simulation diagram of the proposed closed loop system for FCMLI is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2 : Overall Simulation Model of Proposed System

III. CAPACITOR CLAMPED DC-DC BOOST CONVERTER

a) Significance of Usage

A Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter with single switching element - MOSFET is proposed in this paper. Instead of using two or more than two number of switching devices as in the case of conventional half-bridge or full-bridge DC-DC converters, the proposed topology uses only one switching device there by fast switching with less switching loss is possible with this type of converter.

b) Basic Configuration



Figure 3 : Basic Configuration of DC-DC MBC for Nx or N+1 levels

The proposed circuit is based on the multilevel converter principle, where each device blocks only one voltage level achieving high-voltage converters with low-voltage devices. It is a Nx DC-DC converter based on one driven switch, 2N+1 diodes and 2N+1 capacitors. One advantage of the topology is that the number of levels can be extended by only adding capacitors and diodes and the main circuit does not need to be modified.

c) Circuit Description

The DC–DC Multilevel Boost Converter (MBC) is a PWM based DC–DC converter, which combines the boost converter and the switched capacitor function to provide different output voltages and a self-balanced voltage using only one driven switch, one inductor, 2N-1 diodes and 2N-1 capacitors for an Nx MBC.

The difference between the MBC and the conventional one is that in the MBC, the output is Vc times N, where N+1 is the converter's number of levels taking into account the zero level as shown in Figure 3. This behavior is achieved, thanks to the voltage multiplier in the boost converter's output that is driven by the only switch in the converter.

IV. Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter (FCMLI)

a) Basic Configuration

The FCMLI requires a large number of capacitors to clamp the device (switch) voltage to one capacitor voltage level. Provided all the capacitors are of equal value, the size of the voltage increment between two consecutive legs of the clamping capacitors defines the size of voltage steps in the output waveform, if the voltage of the main dc-link capacitor is Vdc the voltage of the innermost capacitor clamping the innermost two devices is Vdc/ (n-1).

The voltage of the next innermost capacitor will be Vdc/(n-1) + Vdc/ (n-1) = 2 Vdc/(n-1) and so on. Each next clamping capacitor will have the voltage increment of Vdc/(n-1) from its immediate inner one. The voltage levels and the arrangements of the flying capacitors in the FCMLI structure assures that the voltage stress across each main device is same and is equal to Vdc/(n-1) for an n- level inverter.



Figure 4 : One Phase Leg of a Seven Level lying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter

A one phase leg of seven-level inverter as shown in Figure 4. For a three phase inverter, two more legs of same construction are coupled to the same dc-link battery Vdc. In this figure each switch SA1 to SA6 and S'A1 to S'A6 consists of a power semiconductor device (e.g. GTO, IGBT) and an anti-parallel diode. Voltages VC, Vc2, Vc3, Vc4, Vc5, and Vc6 are Vdc, 5/6 Vdc, 2/3 Vdc, Vdc/2, Vdc/3, and Vdc/6 respectively, as n=7.

b) Features of FCMLI

The FCMLI has the following features.

- i. Voltage stresses across the devices are equal.
- ii. Switching combination chosen affects the current rating of the capacitor
- iii. Redundancy of switching combinations.
- iv. Single capacitor voltage regulating circuit is required.

V. Results and Analysis

The proposed topology of closed loop system for Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter (FCMLI) consists of various models. They are

- i. Photovoltaic Generation Model.
- ii. Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter Model.
- iii. Open Loop FCMLI Model.
- iv. Closed Loop FCMLI Model.

a) Photovoltaic Generation Model

The Simulation diagram for the PV Generation by a single stand-alone 12V PV module is shown in Figure 5.



Figure 5 : MATLAB Model of Photovoltaic Generation

It consists of Insolation block, Single PV module block for DC voltage generation and display & scope blocks for displaying the output in numerical and graphical form respectively. The technical specifications of the PV module used in the proposed system are listed in the TABLE II.

Table 2 : Technical Specifications of Pv
Module

S. No	Parameters	Specifications	Units
1	Short Circuit Current (Isc)	5.45A	Amperes
2	Open Circuit Voltage (Voc)	12V	Voltage
3	Current at Pmax	4.95A	Amperes
4	Voltage at Pmax	17.2V	Voltage
5	Insolation	1000 W/m ² (Constant)	Watts / metre ²

The Simulated output is taken for 1000 watts/m² of Insolation and 25°C of Temperature under Standard Test Condition (STC).

The corresponding output voltage waveform of 12V PV Panel is shown in the Figure 6.



Figure 6 : Output Voltage Waveform of PV Module

Thus from the PV Panel, a 12V DC of Unidirectional Voltage is produced. Then this low value of DC voltage is given to the Boost converter for achieving desired DC voltage for giving input to the Multilevel Inverter.

b) Capacitor Clamped Dc-Dc Boost Converter Model

From the PV module a 12V DC voltage is obtained. This unidirectional DC voltage is then given to the Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter for boosting up the voltage up to 48V DC.

The Simulation diagram of the Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter is shown in Figure 7.



Figure 7 : MATLAB Model of Capacitor Clamped Boost Converter

It consists of various circuit elements such as Boost Inductor, MOSFET, Clamping Capacitor and freewheeling diodes for boosting up the DC voltage from PV panel – 12V DC into 48V DC. It also consists of a comparator, PID controller, pulse generator and PWM block for producing pulses for MOSFET.

The corresponding output voltage waveform of the proposed Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter is shown in Figure 8.



Figure 8 : Output Voltage Waveform of Boost Converter Model

From the above output, the main inference is initially the voltage signal is raised to nearly 60V DC and then it is settled down to the 48V of DC. The reason behind that is because of the presence of the boosting inductor in the initial stage of boost converter, the voltage raise takes place and after that based on the set value in comparator it falls to actual pre-defined value.

c) Open Loop FCMLI Model

From the Boost Converter Model, a 48V of DC is given to the Seven Level FCMLI for converting a DC voltage into stepped output waveforms.

The Figure 9 shows the corresponding overall simulation model of proposed Multilevel Inverter which includes the Inverter model and pulse generation model.



Figure 9 : MATLAB Model of FCMLI

The proposed Seven Level FCMLI will produce the seven levels of stepped AC output waveforms at its output. The switching sequence of various switches used in the Inverter model are determined by the PWM pulses from the pulse generation model. In this Pulse Generation Model, there are six number of carrier signals which are produced by Repeating sequence concept and these signals are compared with the Sinusoidal signal with the help of the relational operator (>=).

Here Multicarrier PWM in turn PD-PWM technique is employed for generating appropriate PWM pulse signals for respective switches in the MLI.

The Figure 10 shows the Pulse Generation Model Using Multicarrier PWM – PDPWM technique for Seven Level FCMLI.



Figure 10 : Pulse Generation Model for Multilevel Inverter Using Multicarrier (PDPWM) Technique

The Figure 11 shows the six number of carrier signals in PD-PWM Pulse Generation Model.



Figure 11 : Carrier Signals Used in Pulse Generation Model

The six carrier signals used in pulse generation model are generated based on the repeating sequence concept which is listed in the Table III.

Table 3 : Carrier Signal Generation For Pulse
Generation Model

S. No	Carrier Signals	Time Values (Sec)	Output Values (Volts)
1	1 st Carrier	[0 0.005/20 0.01/20	[0.50.50]
		0.015/20 0.02/20]	
2	2 nd Carrier	[0 0.005/20 0.01/20	[.5 1 .5 1 .5]
		0.015/20 0.02/20]	
3	3 rd Carrier	[0 0.005/20 0.01/20	[1 1.5 1 1.5 1]
		0.015/20 0.02/20]	
4	4 th Carrier	[0 0.005/20 0.01/20	[05 05 0]
		0.015/20 0.02/20]	
5	5 th Carrier	[0 0.005/20 0.01/20	[5 -15 -1 -
		0.015/20 0.02/20]	.5]
6	6 th Carrier	[0 0.005/20 0.01/20	[-1.5 -2 -1.5 -2
		0.015/20 0.02/20]	_1.5]

The Figure 12 shows the comparison of six number of carrier signals and the sinusoidal modulating signal. In which the sinusoidal signal is superimposed over the carrier signals for generating appropriate PWM pulses.

The Figure 12 shows the comparison of six number of carrier signals and the sinusoidal modulating signal. In which the sinusoidal signal is superimposed over the carrier signals for generating appropriate PWM pulses.



Figure 12 : PDPWM Modulation Scheme

The corresponding open loop output voltage waveform of proposed Multilevel Inverter is shown in Figure 13.



Figure 13 : Open Loop AC Output Voltage Waveform of FCMLI

From the Open loop output, it is observed that seven level stepped output waveform with the magnitude of nearly 48V is achieved but it is slightly distorted. Because of this the Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) of open-loop output is having more percentage values. Thus in order to reduce the THD level of Multilevel Inverter output and to improve the performance of the system, a closed-loop design is essential for Multilevel Inverter. By implementing the closed-loop system, the THD level can be reduced to certain extend.

d) Closed Loop FCMLI Model

i. Voltage Controller Model

For designing closed-loop system for proposed MLI, various blocks such as Voltage Controller block, Sin Generator block are used.

The Figure 14 shows the voltage controller – PID controller model for closed-loop design of Seven Level FCMLI.

The various blocks used in the voltage controller model are Zero-order Hold, gain, Abs - absolute, comparator, discrete-time integrator, saturation and rate transition blocks.



Figure 14 : Simulation Model of Voltage Controller in Closed-loop System

ii. Sin Generator Model

The output of the voltage controller model is given as the three input parameters of sin generator model. This model is used to produce the sinusoidal modulating signal which is used in pulse generation model for producing PWM output pulses.

The Figure 15 shows Sin Generator model for closed-loop design of Seven Level FCMLI.



Figure 15 : Simulation Model of Sin Generator in Closedloop System

The corresponding single phase sinusoidal outputs of Sin Generator Model are shown in the Figure 16.



Figure 16 : Single Phase Sinusoidal Output of Sin Generator For Pulse Generation Model

Thus after the comparison of Sinusoidal modulating signal and generated carrier signals using PDPWM Technique in Pulse Generation Model, the appropriate PWM switching pulses are generated. These pulses are used to trigger the switching devices in proposed MLI in a proper sequence to produce the stepped AC waveform from the output of MLI.

In order to reduce the THD level of MLI output a closed-loop model is developed and its corresponding output voltage is shown in Figure 17.



Figure 17 : Closed Loop AC Output Voltage Waveform of FCMLI

e) Load Voltage Waveform

For connecting a Single Phase resistive lamp load, the 48V AC stepped output waveform from the MLI is given to the 48/230V AC step-up transformer.

The Figure 18 shows the corresponding output voltage waveform of a step-up transformer (48/230V AC). This AC voltage is fed to the Single Phase Lamp Load.



Figure 18 : Output Load Voltage Waveform

f) Total Harmonic Distortion

The Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) is used to characterize the linearity of audio systems and the power quality of electric power systems.

The formula below shows the calculation for THD on a voltage signal. The end result is a percentage comparing the harmonic components to the fundamental component of a signal. The higher the percentage, the more distortion that is present on the mains signal.

$$THD = \frac{\sqrt{(V_2^2 + V_3^2 + V_4^2 + \dots + V_n^2)}}{V_1} * 100\%$$
 (1)

The results of THD analysis performed for both open-loop and closed-loop systems are shown in the Figures 19 and 20.



Figure 19 : Open Loop THD Result of Seven Level FCMLI

From the Figure 19, it is observed that THD value of **37.15%** is obtained for Open-Loop Multilevel Inverter. This value can be reduced by Closed-Loop design.

The result of THD analysis performed for closed-loop systems is shown in Figure 20.



Figure 20 : Closed Loop THD Result of Seven Level FCMLI

From the Figure 18, it is observed that THD value of **10.18%** is obtained for Closed-Loop Multilevel Inverter. This is comparatively lesser value than the THD obtained in Open-Loop system.

VI. Conclusion

Thus the investigation study for seven level FCMLI was performed with / without closed-loop feedback schemes.

In the proposed method, a closed-loop system was implemented for a Seven Level FCMLI. The newly developed design will improve the system performance and maintains the voltage stability there by stable operation can be ensured without more disturbances. The closed loop controller is also designed for Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter there by constant output voltage at the output of the boost converter can be achieved.

The performance was verified through simulation models by using MATLAB software tool. From the simulation study, the important conclusions are,

- i. From the output of Stand-alone single PV Module, a unidirectional DC voltage of 12V DC was produced based on the panel parameters and Insolation level.
- ii. From the output of Capacitor Clamped DC-DC Boost Converter, a boosted DC voltage of 48V DC is produced with the help of single switching device there by switching loss and circuit complexity are reduced.
- iii. From the output of FCMLI, an AC output voltage of 48V AC stepped signals are obtained. There by THD level is reduced.

Seven Level Flying Capacitor Multilevel Inverter					
FeedbackWithWithouSchemesClosed-LoopClosed-LoopSchemeSchemeScheme					
Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) in percentage	10.18%	37.15%			

Investigation Report:

The main inference from the proposed concept is, for the developed Seven Level FCMLI system the THD value of open-loop model is 37.15% and for the closed-loop model is 10.18%. Thus the percentage of THD value can be minimized by implementing the closed-loop control for FCMLI there by better performance in its output can be achieved.

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GLOBAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES IN ENGINEERING ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING Volume 13 Issue 3 Version 1.0 Year 2013 Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal Publisher: Global Journals Inc. (USA) Online ISSN: 2249-4596 & Print ISSN: 0975-5861

Analysis of FWM Effect in Multichannel Optical Communication System

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Abstract - Long haul multichannel optical communication system is extremely affected by crosstalk due to Four wave mixing (FWM). The FWM effect depends on channel separation and number of channels. The paper presents the design and performance analysis of FWM effect on bit error rate, Q-factor, output spectrums and eye opening by varying channel spacing and number of channels. Results show that FWM effect reduces with increase in channel spacing and decrease in number of channels. Further it can be reduced by unequal channel spacing.

Keywoeds : four wave mixing, wavelength division multiplexing, bit error rate.

GJRE-F Classification : FOR Code: 090605, 100506



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Analysis of FWM Effect in Multichannel Optical Communication System

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Abstract - Long haul multichannel optical communication system is extremely affected by crosstalk due to Four wave mixing (FWM). The FWM effect depends on channel separation and number of channels. The paper presents the design and performance analysis of FWM effect on bit error rate, Q-factor, output spectrums and eye opening by varying channel spacing and number of channels. Results show that FWM effect reduces with increase in channel spacing and decrease in number of channels. Further it can be reduced by unequal channel spacing.

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I. INTRODUCTION

ptical fibers in telecommunication systems now carry more channels and higher optical powers than ever before. Systems are operating in which the fiber carries such a high optical power density that signals can modify the transmission properties of the fiber. An optical channel can then affect how it and other channels propagate through the fiber - leading to nonlinear effects. By the term nonlinear, we mean that the optical signal leaving the fiber at a given wavelength no longer increases linearly with the input power at that wavelength.

In order to meet the huge capacity demands imposed on the core transmission network by the explosive growth in data communications the number of optical channels in dense-WDM optical networks is being increased. Since the gain bandwidth of EDFAs is limited, these requirements for a very large number of channels mean that the channel spacing will have to be small. The current ITU grid specifies 100 GHz channel spacing, but systems are being considered with 50 GHz to 25GHz channel spacing. At these spacing, the nonlinear effects of the optical fiber can induce serious system impairments. Four-Wave-Mixing (FWM) is another non linear effect that can limit the performance of WDM systems [1].

When high power optical signal is launched into a fiber Linearity of optical response is lost. Four-wave

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is due to changes in the refractive index with optical mixing power called optical Kerr effect. Four-wave mixing (FWM) is a parametric process in which different frequencies interact and by frequency mixing generate new spectral components. When new frequencies fall in the transmission window of original frequency it causes severe cross talk between channels propagating through an optical fiber. Degradation becomes very severe for large number of WDM channels with small spacing. In this paper, we have simulated the effect of FWM products in WDM environment by varying the channel spacing and number of channels.

II. FOUR WAVE MIXING

Four-wave mixing (FWM) is a type of optical Kerr effect, and occurs when light of two or more different wavelengths is launched into a fiber. Fig.1 is a schematic diagram that shows four-wave mixing in the frequency domain. As can be seen, the light that was there from before launching, sandwiching the two pumping waves in the frequency domain, is called the probe light (or signal light). The idler frequency f_{idler} may then be determined by

$$f_{idler} = f_{p1} + f_{p2} - f_{probe}$$
(1)

Where f_{p1} and f_{p2} are the pumping light frequencies, and f_{probe} is the frequency of the probe light [3]. This condition is called the frequency phase-matching condition.



Fig. 1 : Two channel pump wave

FWM can have important deleterious effects in optical fiber communications, particularly in the context of wavelength division multiplexing where it can cause cross-talk between different wavelength channels, and/or an imbalance of channel powers [4].

FWM can transfer data to a different wavelength. A continuous wave pump beam is launched into the fiber together with the signal channel. Its wavelength is chosen half-way from the desired shift.

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FWM transfers the data from signal to the idler beam at the new wavelength [5, 7, 9].

Applications of FWM:

- i. Parametric amplification.
- ii. Optical phase conjugation.
- iii. Demultiplexing of OTDM channels.
- iv. Wavelength conversion of WDM channels.
- v. Super-continuum generation.

Four-wave mixing (FWM) (also called fourphoton mixing) is one of the major limiting factors in WDM optical fiber communication systems that use the low dispersion fiber or narrow channel spacing. Normally, multiple optical channels passing through the same fiber interact with each other very weakly. In the FWM effect, three co- propagating waves produce nine new optical sideband waves at different frequencies. When this new frequency falls in the transmission window of the original frequencies, it causes severe cross talk between the channels propagating through an optical fiber.

The number of the side bands due to the FWM increases geometrically, as shown in Fig.2.



Fig. 2: Number of FWM sidebands

III. Schematic Model

The transmitter section consists of a laser, modulator driver, pn-sequence generator i.e. data source and modulator. The wavelength of various channels is set by keeping the difference equal to the spacing required. Then all these transmitted signals are combined/multiplexed together. Then the combined signal is amplified so that it can be transmitted over long distances without its degradation. Then the signal is transmitted over the non linear fiber which adds the nonlinearities into the signal. At the receiver side, the signal is demultiplexed. The receiver consists of a photodiode and a filter.

IV. SIMULATION AND DESCRIPTION



Fig. 4 : Schematic model for WDM system

The simulation setup for showing the effect of changing spacing between the input channels on fourwave mixing is shown in Fig 4. The continuous wave laser is used to create the carrier signal. In this setup, eight users are taken in account whose wavelengths have a specific difference i.e. spacing between them. The data source is used to generate the random input data bit sequence at the rate of 10 Gbps. The light signal modulates the input data. The modulator is driven by the modulator driver which decides the input data format. The input data format used here is NRZ raised cosine. The modulated data from all the users is combined using a combiner. The post amplifier amplifies the signal before allowing it to enter into the fiber to avoid losses. Then this signal is sent over the fiber. At the receiver, the signal is demultiplexed by using optical splitter which splits this signal into the same number of signals as were transmitted. The photodiode is used for optical to electrical conversion. Then the signal is passed through the Raised cosine filter and the final output signal is received. An optical scope is attached at the output of combiner to examine the input signal. Another optical scope is placed at the output of splitter to examine the four wave mixing effect in frequency spectrum. An electrical scope is kept at the receiver output to examine the eye diagram. Initially the four wave mixing effect has been compared for different values of channel spacing and the performance has been evaluated in terms of output spectrums, eye diagrams, BER, eye opening and Q-factor. Here, all the channels are spaced evenly but at different values like 20 GHz, 30GHz, 50GHz, 70 GHz, 75 GHz, 90GHz and 95GHz.

Also FWM effect is analyzed for unequal channel spacing and by varying the number of channels in WDM system.

V. Results and Discussion



Fig.5 (a) : Input pattern for 20GHz channel spacing and

Fig 5 (b) : Output Pattern



Fig. 6(a) : Input pattern for 30GHz channel spacing and *Fig. 6 (b) :* Output Pattern



Fig. 7(a) : Input pattern for 50GHz channel spacing and

Fig. 7 (b): Output Pattern



Fig. 8 (a) : Input pattern for 60GHz channel spacing and *Fig. 8 (b) :* Output Pattern

Using simulation setup, the value of BER, Qfactor, eye diagrams, input and output optical spectrums are measured. Optical scope measures the input and output wavelength spectrums. BER, eye diagrams and Q-factor is measured at the receiver output by using an electrical scope, Q estimator and BER estimator.



Fig. 9(a) : Input pattern for 70GHz channel spacing and

Fig. 9 (b) : Output Pattern



Fig. 10 (a) : Input pattern for 75GHz channel spacing and *Fig. 10 (b) :* Output Pattern



Fig. 11 (a) : Input pattern for 90GHz channel spacing and *Fig. 11 (b) :* Output Pattern





Fig 5(a) shows the input optical spectrum for the spacing of 20 GHz between input channels. On changing the spacing between the different users, the peaks get shifted to the frequencies as specified in the laser. It is observed that there are no unnecessary side peaks at the input of the fiber. There are eight input channels so eight peaks appear in the input spectrum. Fig 5 to Fig 12 represents the input and output spectrum for the various values of spacing between the input users. The four wave mixing effect is clearly seen in the above output spectrum for 20GHz spacing as unnecessary peaks at various frequencies are occurring at the sides of the input spectrum. Moreover, the peaks at the input frequencies have also diminished due to four wave mixing occurred after crossing the non linear fiber.



Fig. 13 (a) : Eye pattern for 20GHz channel spacing, *Fig. 13 (b) :* Eye pattern for 30GHz channel spacing



Fig. 14 (a): Eye pattern for 50GHz channel spacing, *Fig. 14 (b) :* Eye pattern for 60GHzchannel spacing



Fig. 15 (a) : Eye pattern for 70GHz channel spacing, *Fig. 15 (b) :* Eye pattern for 75GHz channel spacing



Fig. 16 (a): Eye pattern for 90GHz channel spacing, *Fig. 16 (b):* Eye pattern for 95GHz channel spacing

The above spectrums shows that as the spacing between the input channels increases, the four wave mixing effect goes on decreasing. The unwanted peaks are more when the spacing is 20GHz and are less when the spacing is 95GHz. This shows that lesser the spacing between different input channels, more is

the interference between the input frequencies i.e. more is the four wave mixing effect. On increasing the spacing between the input channels, the four wave mixing decreases.

Fig 13 to Fig 16 shows the eye diagrams for the various values of channel spacing. The above eye diagrams show that the eye diagram clarity goes on increasing with the increasing spacing between the input channels. This shows that the interference between the input frequencies and hence the four wave mixing effect decreases with the increasing channel spacing.

Fig 17 shows the variation of BER on the basis of spacing between the input channels. The Fig shows that BER goes on decreasing with the increasing spacing.

Fig 18 shows the variation of Q-factor with the spacing between the input channels. The graph shows that the Q-factor increases as the channel spacing increases. It is highest when the channel spacing is 95 GHz and is lowest when the channel spacing is 20 GHz.



Fig. 17: BER factor Vs channel spacing



Fig.18: Q factor Vs channel spacing

The comparative study of all the measured parameters for different channel spacing is as given in Table 1.

In a WDM system if channels are equally spaced, the new waves generated by FWM will fall at channel frequencies and thus will give rise to crosstalk.

Also much channel spacing is blocked by bandwidth constraints so channel spacing must be optimized.

Para-	Channel spacing in GHz						
meter	50	60	70	75	90	95	
Q-factor (linear)	2.00000	2.00000	2.58070	3.34055	4.30506	4.34502	
Q-factor (dB)	6.02060	6.02060	8.23474	10.47636	12.67959	12.75983	
BER	0.22750 E-01	0.22750 E-01	0.52921 E-02	0.37681 E-03	0.83581 E-05	0.86281 E-05	
Eye opening	0.22340 E+03	0.46430 E+03	0.16669 E+04	0.59204 E+04	0.71059 E+04	0.75052 E+04	

Table 1 : Comparative Study of Measured Parameters

Hence we have change the channel spacing and for three different cases Q factor and BER is measured as shown in Fig. 19 and Fig 20.

As discussed earlier, FWM effect increases as number of channels increases. Hence the same is analyzed for varying number of channels and change in Q factor and BER has been observed as shown in Fig 21 and Fig 22.







Fig. 20 : BER measured with unequal channel spacing







Fig. 22 : Q factor Vs number of channels

VI. Conclusion

In this paper, the design, implementation and performance analysis of four waves mixing in optical communication system on the basis of channel spacing and number of channels is presented. The comparison of four wave mixing effect at various values of channel spacing revealed that 95 GHz spacing has the edge over 20 GHz spacing in optical communication system. It is found that spacing of 95GHz has the lowest BER and better system performance. Also FWM effect increases as number of channels increases. Hence, the higher spacing values between the input channels are recommended for long distance transmission without four wave mixing. It can be seen from the graphs of BER, Q-factor and eye opening that higher channel spacing gives the best performance as compared to lower channel spacing. Hence, it is concluded that higher channel spacing is best suitable to be employed in the optical communication systems minimizing the four wave mixing effect. Also further improvement in FWM effect can be achieved by unequal channel spacing. The results are in accordance with the study reported in [3,8].

In the transmission of dense wavelengthdivision multiplexed (DWDM) signals, FWM is to be avoided, but for certain applications, it provides an effective technological basis for fiber-optic devices. A tradeoff between advantages and disadvantages of FWM effect can be achieved by proper system design to utilize its potential to the fullest.

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GLOBAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES IN ENGINEERING ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING Volume 13 Issue 3 Version 1.0 Year 2013 Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal Publisher: Global Journals Inc. (USA) Online ISSN: 2249-4596 & Print ISSN: 0975-5861

Implementation of Closed Loop System for Diode Clamped Multilevel Inverter with Stand-Alone Photovoltaic Input

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Abstract - Multilevel inverter is as one of the most recent and popular type of advances in power electronics. It synthesizes desired output voltage waveform from several dc sources used as input for the multilevel inverter. This paper describes a diode-clamped five-level inverter-based battery/super capacitor direct integration scheme for photovoltaic energy systems. The study is carried out for three cases. In the first case, one of the two dc-link capacitors of the inverter is replaced by a battery bank and the other by a super capacitor bank. In the second case, dc-link capacitors are replaced by two battery banks. In the third case, ordinary dc-link capacitors are replaced by two super capacitor banks. The first system is supposed to mitigate both long-term and short-term power fluctuations while the last two systems are intended for smoothening long-term and short-term power fluctuations, respectively. These topologies eliminate the need for interfacing dc–dc converters and thus considerably improve the overall system efficiency. The major issue in aforementioned systems is the unavoidable imbalance in dc-link voltages. An analysis on the effects of unbalance and a space vector modulation method, which can produce undistorted current even in the presence of such unbalances, are presented in this paper. Simulation work is done using the MATLAB software which validates the proposed method and finally THD comparison is presented for analysis.

Keywords : diode-clamped five-level inverter, direct integration of battery energy storage systems, space vector modulation, unbalanced operation of diode-clamped five-level inverter.

GJRE-F Classification : FOR Code: 090699



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Implementation of Closed Loop System for Diode Clamped Multilevel Inverter with Stand-Alone Photovoltaic Input

Venus.V^a & K.Ramani^o

Abstract - Multilevel inverter is as one of the most recent and popular type of advances in power electronics. It synthesizes desired output voltage waveform from several dc sources used as input for the multilevel inverter. This paper describes a diode-clamped five-level inverter-based battery/super capacitor direct integration scheme for photovoltaic energy systems. The study is carried out for three cases. In the first case, one of the two dc-link capacitors of the inverter is replaced by a battery bank and the other by a super capacitor bank. In the second case, dc-link capacitors are replaced by two battery banks. In the third case, ordinary dc-link capacitors are replaced by two super capacitor banks. The first system is supposed to mitigate both long-term and short-term power fluctuations while the last two systems are intended for smoothening long-term and short-term power fluctuations, respectively. These topologies eliminate the need for interfacing dc-dc converters and thus considerably improve the overall system efficiency. The major issue in aforementioned systems is the unavoidable imbalance in dclink voltages. An analysis on the effects of unbalance and a space vector modulation method, which can produce undistorted current even in the presence of such unbalances, are presented in this paper. Simulation work is done using the MATLAB software which validates the proposed method and finally THD comparison is presented for analysis.

Keywords : diode-clamped five-level inverter, direct integration of battery energy storage systems, space vector modulation, unbalanced operation of diodeclamped five-level inverter.

I. INTRODUCTION

Multilevel converters are mainly utilized to synthesis a desired single or three-phase voltage waveform. The desired multi staircase output voltage is obtained by combining several dc voltage sources. Solar cells, fuel cells, batteries and ultra capacitors are the most common independent sources used. The intermittent nature of renewable energy sources can create serious system stability issues, especially at increased levels of penetration [1], [2]. Renewable energy resources will be an Increasingly important part of power generation in the new millennium. Besides assisting in the reduction of the emission of greenhouse gases, they add the muchneeded flexibility to the energy resource mix by decreasing the dependence on fossil fuels. Recently, batteries and super capacitors have emerged as leading energy storage devices [3]-[6].Furthermore, the combination of battery and super capacitor provides an excellent match that can cover a wide range of power and energy requirements [5],[15].



Fig. 1 (a) : Direct connection to the dc link







Fig. 1 (c) : Proposed battery/super capacitor five level inverter direct integration scheme

The simplest way of adding a battery (or a super capacitor) bank is the direct connection to the dc link of the grid side inverter, as shown in Fig. 1(a). But it suffers from several drawbacks such as large internal resistance, fixed current distribution governed by internal resistors, and lack of control over the power flow [8]. Effects of these issues can somewhat be reduced if an intermediate dc–dc converter is placed between the

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battery (or the super capacitor) bank and the dc link as shown in Fig. 1(b). But the disadvantage of this topology is the increased number of components, cost, and power losses.

Therefore, the possible alternative ways of connection to avoid additional dc-dc converter while maintaining the control flexibility. The result is the simple configuration shown in Fig. 1(c). In the figure, the dc-link capacitors of a standard diode-clamped five-level inverter are replaced by a battery bank and a super capacitor bank. Latter part of this paper discusses two more cases: one with two super capacitor banks and the other with two battery banks. If a change in the source or the load happens, the power imbalance will be compensated by the battery bank and/or super capacitor bank.

The main issue with this particular topology is the imminent imbalance of the neutral point potential which is due to unequal states of charge of the battery bank and the super capacitor bank. Comprehensive analysis on capacitor voltage unbalance and balancing techniques used in diode-clamped inverters can be found in the literature [1], [8].A new Space Vector Modulation (SVM) method has been developed for diode-clamped five-level inverters with variable dc-link voltages. Furthermore, full controllability over small vector selection is available in the proposed SVM method. Relevant equations and diagrams are given in Section III with a detailed analysis. The proposed SVM technique involves more computations compared to simplified SVM techniques proposed in the literature. The THD values for the Traditional, Conventional and proposed inverters are compared and analysed.

II. UNBALANCED DC-LINK VOLTAGES EFFECTS

For the diode-clamped Five-level inverter, shown in Fig. 1(c), line-to-ground voltages can be derived from switching states *Sa, Sb*, and *Sc*, and the results are given in Table I. If the inverter is connected to a balanced three-phase load, corresponding phase voltages can be derived from line-to-ground voltages using (1). Then, these phase voltages are transformed into the *dq* reference frame by (2).

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{as} \\ v_{bs} \\ v_{cs} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{ag} \\ v_{bg} \\ v_{cg} \end{bmatrix}$$
(1)

Table 1 : Switching States And Line-To-Ground Voltages

Switching	IGBT Switching	Line to ground
state	Sequence of the	Voltages
S_a, S_b, S_c	leg (Top to	v_{ag}, v_{bg}, v_{cg}
	Bottom)	
0	0011	0
1	0110	V_L
2	1100	$V_L + V_U$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{ds} \\ v_{qs} \\ V_0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{2}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{as} \\ v_{bs} \\ v_{cs} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2)

The locations of small and medium vectors vary with dc-link voltages as shown in Fig. 2. However, locations of large vectors (2 0 0, 2 2 0, 0 2 0, 0 2 2, 0 0 2, and 2 0 2) depend only on the total dc-link voltage and would remain unchanged if the total voltage is constant. When capacitor voltages are balanced, positive and negative small vectors (211, 221, 121, 1 22, 112, 212, 100, 110, 010, 011, 001, and 10 1) coincide and only one inner hexagon is formed as shown in Fig. 2(b). Furthermore, medium vectors (2 1 0, 1 2 0, 0 2 1, 0 1 2, 1 0 2, and 2 0 1) reach midpoints of the outer hexagon. If an unbalance is present, small vectors split and two separate inner hexagons appear as shown in Fig. 2(a) and (c). In addition to that, medium vectors move toward large vectors. The size of the inner hexagon formed with negative small vectors depends on the battery voltage, which is nearly constant in the proposed system. Similarly, the size of the inner hexagon formed with positive small vectors varies with the super capacitor voltage. The circles marked with dotted lines in Fig. 2 represent the path of the reference voltage vector. In the proposed method, the super capacitor voltage is allowed to vary in a way that this circle will always remain within the outer hexagon and middle inner hexagon. If the normal SPWM with two equal carriers, as shown in Fig. 3(b),



Fig. 2 (a) Space vector diagram for VU < VL



Fig. 2 (b) : Space vector diagram for VU = VL



Fig. 2 (c) : Space vector diagram for VU > VL

is used, a dc offset will be present in the inverter output voltage. This effect is clearly visible in the fundamental component shown in Fig. 3(c).where the carriers are modified according to the voltage imbalance as shown in Fig. 3(e). Equations (3) and (4) are used to determine the amplitudes *AU* and *AL* of new carriers

$$A_U = \frac{2V_U}{V_U + V_L} \tag{3}$$

$$A_L = \frac{2V_L}{V_U + V_L} \tag{4}$$

Therefore, a novel space vector modulation method has been developed, from the scratch, to reduce voltage stresses and to produce desired fundamental components even at large imbalanced conditions. The result of the proposed SVM technique is shown in Fig. 3(h). Its fundamental component is very similar to that of the waveforms shown in Fig. 3(g), and hence, it is not shown here exclusively. A detailed description of the proposed SVM technique is given in Section III.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF SVM TECHNIQUE



Fig. 3 : Block diagram of the proposed technique

A simplified block diagram of the proposed SVM technique is shown in Fig. 3. The amplitude r and of the reference voltage vector are the anale generated by the grid side inverter controller. Currently, serving sector of the space vector diagram is derived from the phase angle. However, due to the presence of two candidate triangles, four different limit angles, θ 1, θ_2 , θ_3 , and θ_4 , need to be calculated for a given sector. First two limit angles (θ 1 and θ 2) are related to the triangles formed with lower small vectors as shown in Fig. 5(a) whereas the other two limit angles (03 and θ_4) are associated with the triangles formed with positive small vectors as shown in Fig. 5(b). For the simplicity of subsequent calculations, dc-link voltages are transformed into two variables x and y using (5). These two values are directly related to the lengths of triangles as marked in Fig. 4. Limit angles are calculated using (6)–(10), where α is an intermediate variable.



Fig.4 (a) : Limit Angles for Triangles Formed with Lower Small Vectors



Fig. 4 (b) : Limit Angles for Triangles Formed with Upper Small Vectors

$$x = \frac{2}{3}V_U$$
, $y = \frac{2}{3}V_L$ (5)

$$\alpha = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3y}}{2\sqrt{(x+y)^2 - 3xy}}\right) \tag{6}$$

$$\theta_1 = \alpha - \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3y^2}}{2r\sqrt{(x+y)^2 - 3xy}}\right)$$
(7)

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3y}}{2r}\right) \tag{8}$$

$$\theta_3 = \frac{\pi}{3} - \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3x}}{2r}\right) \tag{9}$$

$$\theta_1 = \alpha - \frac{\pi}{3} - \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{r}\sin\left(\alpha - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right) \tag{10}$$

$$z = d_1 V_1 + d_2 V_2 + d_3 V_3 \tag{11}$$

$$d_1 + d_2 + d_3 = 1 \tag{12}$$

The limit angles given in (7)–(10) are valid only for sector 1. Once the limit angles are calculated, the triangle and corresponding three vectors can easily be derived. After finding the three vectors, the next step is to determine switching times. According to the wellknown volt-second balancing principle, a given reference vector can be synthesized by three adjacent vectors. Equations (11) and (12) provide the mathematical description of this process. Equations (13)–(16) are used to calculate corresponding switching times d1 - d3 that are expressed as fractions of the sampling time.

$$\Delta = (x_1y_2 - x_2y_1) + (x_2y_3 - x_3y_2) + (x_3y_1 - x_1y_3)$$
(13)

$$d_1 = \frac{\left(x_0(y_2 - y_3) + y_0(x_3 - x_2)\right) + \left(x_2y_3 - x_3y_2\right)}{\Delta} \tag{14}$$

$$d_2 = \frac{(x_0(y_3 - y_1) + y_0(x_1 - x_3)) + (x_3y_1 - x_1y_3)}{\Delta}$$
(15)

$$d_3 = \frac{(x_0(y_1 - y_2) + y_0(x_2 - x_1)) + (x_1y_2 - x_2y_1)}{\Delta}$$
(16)

Where (xn, yn)n = 0, ..., 3 are the coordinates of vector points.

IV. SIMULATION AND RESULTS

The five level diode clamped multilevel inverter simulation results and analysis describe in this section. It has described open loop and closed loop output of DCMLI phase voltage of DCMLI,

a) Simulation Diagram for PV System

The simulation diagram for five levels DCMLI with PV is shown in the Figure 5.The PV is used as the input source. The PV simulation model diagram is given below with clearly. in this two Panels are connected.





b) Simulation Diagram for Open Loop Diode Clamped Multilevel Inverter



Fig 6 : Simulation Diagram for Open Loop Diode Clamped Multilevel Inverter

The simulation diagram for open loop DCMLI with PV is shown in the Figure 6.The modeling of five levels DCML inverter has been developed by using MATLAB. The simulation model parameters are given in

table 3. With the use of this proposed method harmonics are eliminated. Therefore the efficiency of inverter is increased.

c) Simulation Diagram for Space Vector Modulation



Fig. 7: Simulation Diagram for SVPWM Techniques

The simulation diagram for space vector Modulation is shown in Figure 7.With the use of this proposed method harmonics are eliminated. Therefore the efficiency of the inverter is increased. Some soft switching method can be used for multilevel inverter to reduce the switching loss and to increase the efficiency.

d) Simulation Diagram for DCMLI with SVPWM



Fig. 8 : Simulation Diagram for DCMLI with SVPWM

The simulation of DCMLI with SVPWM is shown in the figure.8. This is done by using space vector PWM.A reference signal is compared with two triangular carrier signals that are phase shifted by 90 degree. The resulting PWM signals control the corresponding switches. This control strategy is used to get accurate five level stepped outputs for Diode clamped multilevel inverter.

V. Result and Analysis





Fig. 9 : Input Voltage from Solar Panel

An input voltage of 12V is shown in the Figure 9.An accurate PV module electrical model is presented based on the Shockley diode equation. The general model was implemented on MALTAB scrip file, and accepts irradiance and temperature as variable parameters and outputs the I-V characteristic.

b) Simulation Waveform for Open Loop



Fig. 10 : Output Voltage Waveform for Open Loop

The output of DCML Phase voltage is shown in Figure 10.It has 100V, 50 Hz frequency. The phase voltage has three levels, positive half cycle of hundred volts and negative half cycle of hundred voltages. The five level output are in stepped waveform the X-axis consists of time period in milliseconds and Y- axis consists of voltage in volts.

c) Simulation Waveform for Space Vector Modulation



Fig. 11 : Space Vector Modulation Output Voltage

The Space Vector Modulation Output Voltage is shown in Figure 11.lt has 40V, 50 Hz frequency. The phase voltage has five levels, positive half cycle of fourty volts and negative half cycle of fourty voltage. The five level output are in stepped waveform the X-axis consists of time period in milliseconds and Y- axis consists of voltage in volts. d) Line Voltage Waveforms of the Diode Clamped Multilevel Inverter Output



Fig. 12 : Line Voltage Waveforms of the DCMLI

The Figure 12 is the Line Voltage Waveforms of the Diode Clamped Multilevel Inverter Output.

It has 100V, 50 Hz frequency. The phase voltage has five levels, positive half cycle of hundred volts and negative half cycle of hundred voltages. The five level output are in stepped waveform the X-axis consists of time period in milliseconds and Y- axis consists of voltage in volts.

e) Simulation Waveform for DCMLI with SVPWM



Fig. 13 : Closed Loop Inverter Output Voltage

The output of Diode clamped multilevel inverter with space vector modulation phase voltage closed loop inverter output voltage is shown in Figure 13.It has 40V, 50 Hz frequency. The phase voltage has five levels, positive half cycle of hundred volts and negative half cycle of hundred voltages. The five level output are in stepped waveform the X-axis consists of time period in milliseconds and Y- axis consists of voltage in volts.

f) Total Harmonics Distortion Analysis

The Total Harmonics Distortion for open loop system is given figure 14.



Fig. 14 : THD Analysis for Open Loop System

The figure 14 Total Harmonics Distortion for open loop system. The Total harmonic distortion of a signal is a measurement of the harmonic distortion present and is defined as the ratio of the sum of the powers of all harmonic components to the power of the fundamental frequency. THD is used to characterize the linearity of audio systems and the power quality of electric power systems.



Fig. 15 : Total Harmonics' Distortions waveform for Closed Loop System with SVM

The figure 15 Total Harmonics Distortion for closed loop system. In power systems, lower THD means reduction in peak currents, heating, emissions, and core loss in motors. The output voltage THD is less than 12%. Thus by using the proposed scheme THD and switching losses are reduced.

Table 2: THD comparison

Kind of	Kind of 2 Level		5 Level	
the MLI	he MLI MLI		Propose	
THD	58.84%	53.84%	10.16%	

From the table 3 different inverter THD values are compared. The proposed inverter THD value is obtained as 10.16%, which is the best among all. This shows that quality of the five level inverter is improved.

V. Conclusion

This paper is the first step to develop a photovoltaic power complete solar electronic conversion system in simulation. The Proposed topologies eliminate the need for additional dc-dc converters by connecting two battery banks, two super capacitor banks or a battery bank, and a super capacitor bank directly across dc links of a diode clamped five-level inverter. Unavoidable dc-link voltage imbalance is the major issue with these topologies. This problem is handled by a novel space vector modulation technique. Further work is needed to improve the efficiency by reducing THD and the hardware will be designed for different power levels. The THD values for the Traditional, Conventional and proposed inverters are compared and analysed.

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GLOBAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES IN ENGINEERING ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING Volume 13 Issue 3 Version 1.0 Year 2013 Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal Publisher: Global Journals Inc. (USA) Online ISSN: 2249-4596 & Print ISSN: 0975-5861

A Qualitative Segmentation of Drinking Water Market in Tunisia: Regional Diversification

By Ali Bouchrika & Dr. Fakhri Issaoui

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Abstract - How does the Tunisian consumer react to drinking water quality? This question is still unexplored because quality was always assumed to be homogeneous while it is not. This paper provides answers and allows us to test the importance of the variable "quality" as a key determinant of global and regional drinking water demand function (Greater Tunis, Sousse and Gabes).

Design / methodology / approach : We have used, through an exploratory survey of a sample of 1200 households, econometric estimates to determine the weight that Tunisian consumers ascribe to the variable quality in their water demand functions.

Results : The estimated demand functions in the regions of Greater Tunis, Sousse and Gabes, revealed the importance of quality as a fundamental determinant of quantities requested by consumers. The empirical analysis has shown that in Greater Tunis water quality is not a constraint on demand. However, in the regions of Sousse and Gabes, water quality is an important factor in determining consumer behaviour.

Research limitations / implications : The empirical results depend on the 2004 survey.

Keywords : drinking water management - drinking water quality - demand function - consumer preferences - social equity.

GJRE-F Classification : FOR Code: A11-Q20-Q56



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A Qualitative Segmentation of Drinking Water Market in Tunisia: Regional Diversification

Ali Bouchrika^a & Dr. Fakhri Issaoui^o

Abstract - How does the Tunisian consumer react to drinking water quality? This question is still unexplored because quality was always assumed to be homogeneous while it is not. This paper provides answers and allows us to test the importance of the variable "quality" as a key determinant of global and regional drinking water demand function (Greater Tunis, Sousse and Gabes).

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Originality / value : In most developing countries, we notice absence of real drinking water markets which did not lead to a true and fair valuation of drinking water. The integration of the variable quality to estimate regional demand functions allows Tunisian policymakers to rethink current drinking water management. Market segmentation based on qualities will create a fairer market where the consumer pays a fair price consistent with the quality received.

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I. INTRODUCTION

here is no doubt that water is vital for both humans and for other species. Thus, according to Frederico Mayor [1999] "Water is first a natural and ecological good that plays an important role in the biosphere and whose functions are useful to mankind. It can not be reduced to that of a raw material exploitable and expendable at will. It is a social and economic good whose uses by humans are regulated by law. "

However, despite the importance of this resource, we notice that it exists in limited quantities and is unevenly distributed in the world. Moreover, very large spatial and regional disparities in the quality of fresh water are recorded. To this shortage is added a quantitative mismanagement which is explained by many factors (patterns of unsustainable development, population growth, drought, ecological imbalances etc.). The figures show that more than a billion people do not always have access to clean and safe water. The problem of quality is one of the leading causes of death and disease in the world. Climate change and pollution threaten drinking water which represents only 3% of the world's water.

Faced with this multidimensional challenge (political, socio-economic and ecological), the World Bank, in recent statistics, estimated that water supply would require \$ 180 billion a year for developing countries in the next 25 years, while the current investment is around 70 to 80 billion. Henceforth, it is necessary to review current use patterns of this resource in terms of production and consumption so that any water use is done while preserving the interests of future generations.

Tunisia, like many countries in the world, can be classified as a disadvantaged geographical area where available water resources continue to decline and where reserves have reached their threshold. The relative scarcity of this resource is one of the major challenges facing the Tunisian decision-makers for a more effective and efficient management of the said resource.

The current principle of water management depends, in a large measure, on recorded rainfall. In other words, the surplus in years of high rainfall must be used and operated in low rainfall years. But as long as these resources are often limited, random and unevenly distributed across the country, this solution remains inadequate and highly risky. Indeed, a policy of sustainable development should be based on stable water resources in order to promote the productive sectors (agriculture, tourism, agribusiness, etc.).

Urbanization, migration to the capital (Tunis) and coastal governorates and climate change have created an imbalance between water supply and demand. The adjustment to be done is primarily quantitative and the central constraint to take into account. It is that of satisfying global demand. However, this quantitative water resources management did not often integrate water quality as a decision variable in pricing policy. That quality is considered homogeneous by SONEDE despite the huge variation in the physicochemical nature of water distributed within and across regions.

Thus, the underlying objective of this paper is to study the influence of the variable quality on the structure of the global and spatial drinking water demand in Tunisia. The variable "quality" that was excluded in the policy of SONEDE may present a critical factor in changing consumer preferences.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: the second section presents an analysis of drinking water quality. The third section will describe the empirical methodology checking for the quality problem in water resources management. The fourth section gives the estimation results of the econometric models and their interpretation. The last section concludes the paper.

II. DEFINITION AND ANALYSIS OF THE QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER IN TUNISIA

In a crude way, quality of drinking water needs to satisfy two basic criteria. The first takes into account the enforced national and international standards determining the physico-chemical characteristics that water should meet in order to be a drinking water (taste, clarity, smell ... etc..). The second criterion relates to the quality of different services and facilities necessary to ensure efficient production and a continuous distribution.

In Tunisia, the issue of water quality is always raised as we easily notice that this good is not homogeneous either within or across regions. By way of illustration and not exclusive, treatment of surface waters in the North of Tunisia offers water quality that complies with that required by international standards. However, this quality can cause problems especially in Centre and in the South of the country. Although the Tunisian strategy recommends nationally serving water salinity less than 1.5 g / I. This objective is not fully achieved between different regions of the country and even within the same region.

While aware of this problem, in the context of an approach aimed at improving quality of services to its customers, "the SONEDE conducted a satisfaction survey in April 2003 and had two fundamental objectives. First, assess current quality of service provided by SONEDE and secondly to measure level of quality expected by customers. The selected sample covered 2100 subscribers (in domestic drinking water) spread over 33 districts and centres and including all social levels. The results indicate that 19% of customers believe that quality of supplied water is excellent, 30% judge it as good, 32% consider it average, while the rest (19%) consider it bad."³

Low levels of satisfaction are recorded especially in the South where salinity is relatively high. These results confirm bacteriological studies and analyzes by samples that showed evolution (in percentage) of filthy water (i.e. quality of drinking water is a consumption problem for users) for the whole of Tunisia, reaching 1.5% in 2009 and ranged from a It follows from what has been mentioned above that quality of drinking water is a serious problem in the Tunisian context which makes its current management inefficient and unfair especially that the constraints faced by decision-makers are numerous (scarcity, unequal distribution, quality heterogeneity etc..). In other words, variability of water quality within and across regions needs a price discrimination policy that takes into account scarcity of the resource and financial resources of users.

III. Empirical Methodology

To analyze the problem of drinking water quality in Tunisia, we used a study of a statistical survey conducted on a sample of 1,200 households. The underlying thinking behind this study is to cover and represent all professional categories of consumers who are served water from the SONEDE. Variation in consumer preferences is detected by the personal assessment of households questioned about their drinking water consumption (taste, smell, clarity, etc.).

a) Presentation of the Survey

As already mentioned, the survey we conducted during 2004, allowed us to better understand households behaviour with respect to their consumption of drinking water and their reactions towards a set of independent variables of strategies of consumption. To meet the ratio of 10% of the population base as minimum size of the sample, the total size of the sample is 1200 households. To involve all socio-professional categories we had recourse to a stratified sampling desian which allowed us to ensure their representativeness. Each stratum includes a definite socio-professional category and classified according to a given number of individuals. Finally, each stratum is distributed in their appropriate cities.

The questions of the questionnaire are designed to clarify two distinct problems. First, how consumers feel they current water management and secondly, how they know to evaluate the water quality they consume. The basic unit of our sample is the "household" while the independent variables of demand function are household income, quality of drinking water, the quantity of bottled water consumed, existence of alternative sources, type of occupied residency, household size and education level (Point (1993) and Howe (1982)).

b) Functions of Global and Regional Demand

Research focusing on estimating water demand function are scarce and mostly exploratory in nature, since consumed water quantity is often independent of current costs incurred by distribution companies. According to Point [1993] analysis of drinking water demand is primarily focused on the needs. Quantity of water consumed and prices depend on the particular evolution of population as well as their lifestyle.

Among the few studies that have focused on estimating drinking water demand function include those of Howe [1982] and Point [1993]. The first has linked consumption and price through a cross-sectional analysis. Point [1993] focused on the problem of sharing water resources between different users. To do this, the author took into account three categories of use; commercial, industrial and domestic. The results indicate that price elasticity is around -0.167 compared to average price for the department of Gironde in France (such a study is conducted to estimate drinking water demand, throughout Tunisia and for "domestic use" category in 2004, which reached an elasticity approaching - 0.42 compared to the average).

Like in several countries of the world and Tunisia, the demand function model does not include water quality as a variable. This variable can be fixed in advance by the supervisory authority as in France where it offers a multitude of water agencies available to consumers. In other countries such as Tunisia quality is considered, or rather assumed, as a homogeneous entity, although it is not.

Therefore, the introduction of the variable quality in the demand function model aims at anticipating changes in consumer preferences due to a change in the nature of quality offered. Indeed, these variations can be explained by the negative or positive effect that the variable quality may have on the quantities consumed by households expressed by the amount of the bill. To achieve this goal, drinking water demand function model should take the following form:

$$y_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_i + \alpha_2 z_i + e_i$$

Where y_i represents the amount spent by a household to purchase drinking water, x_i represents a vector of variables related to water management and z_i represents a vector of variables related to households' socio-economic characteristics.

Therefore, according to the followed empirical procedure, this model will be estimated in various ways. At first, demand function estimation will include all observations in the sample, and this to see and understand the inter-regional impact and how quality varies from one region to another. In a second step, estimation of demand function is done separately in three major geographical areas of Tunisia, namely Greater Tunis, Sousse and Gabes, to infer intra-regional information on drinking water management.

IV. Results and Discussion

a) Descriptive Analysis

Through a rough view of the information gathered from the questionnaire, we can draw the following conclusions:

- i. The most frequent quarterly amount of the bill is 30 dinars. This amount is spent by 138 households which represent 11.5% of our sample.
- ii. Availability of drinking water is not generally a problem for the Tunisian consumer given that this resource is distributed continuously throughout the year (359.11 / d 365) and given a rate of availability approaching 98.6%. The few disturbances and interruptions are recorded during summer season.
- iii. Households with higher incomes are more likely to put at risk current water quality and this because they have the means to substitute it. The figures confirm the hypothesis that the proportion of households (86.4%), who had a poor evaluation (to an average limit) of water quality provided by SONEDE mostly belongs to the class of rich households.
- iv. Most respondents have no idea about SONEDE pricing policy. Those who know pricing (16.9%) generally have a secondary second cycle or higher education level.
- v. Analysis also indicates that 24% of households have alternative sources (Magin, Well, others ...) in favour of domestic consumption. This category of consumers is assumed to be in search of new water sources substitutable to SONEDE water especially if that category believes that drinking water quality is bad.
- vi. According to the results of the survey, 57.1% of households use bottled water. This type of good is indeed an effective solution for a broad class of consumers, especially in the case where drinking water quality poses problems in terms of consumption. Most respondents believe that bottled water is a necessity especially for those who have some diseases (renal failure, etc.) or who have fear of having them. Faucet water and irrespective of its quality is assumed to have a lower quality than that of bottled water. We note that in average each household consumes 5.19 liters per week.
- vii. Most respondents felt that drinking water quality is bad or average at most (86.4%) while only 13.6% consider it satisfactory.

b) Econometric Analysis

Data processing of the statistical survey indicates that water demand depends on a complex structure of variables which are alternative sources, household size, how consumers evaluate faucet water quality, occupation of housing and income level. These

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variables have a significant effect on determining consumer behaviour towards demanded water quantity.

The econometric analysis aims at estimating the coefficients of these variables based on econometric methods appropriate for estimating evaluation functions in order to have highly significant results, which may be consistent with economic intuition, and useful to the design and implementation of all appropriate policies for sustainable management of a resource that is becoming dramatically scarce.

In this context, the main objective of the various econometric estimation is to determine the variables that are capable of influencing consumer behaviour. Then, the variables retained the in various econometric regressions are given by:

- i. MFEPT : Amount of Quarterly Water Bill
- ii. SAE : an alternative water source of household.
- iii. Achat : amount spent on the purchase of bottled water.
- iv. LIT : number of liters of bottled water consumed per week.
- v. Qualité : quality of tap water.

- vi. Prop: a variable for the legal nature of housing occupation (1 if owner is 0 otherwise).
- vii. Taille: household size.
- viii. Nivist: educational level of the interviewee.
- ix. Nbdac: number of people in the household.
- x. Prof: occupation of the interviewee.
- xi. Revenu: household income.

Construction of econometric models resulted in a mixed set of independent variables; in this case we speak of covariance models. The goodness of fit of these models also depends on the choice of predictors. It is desirable to select a limited number of variables, non-redundant and with predictive power. The most common technique used to select the most explanatory variables is the Forward Stepwise Regression method⁴.

i. Global Demand Function

Applying a "Forward Stepwise Regression" allows us to overcome problems encountered in a multicolinearity model. Therefore, the model chosen (after testing normality of errors) and corrected of all the problems of heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation of errors allowed us to obtain the following results:

 $MFEPT_{i} = 7,870 + 4,009 \\ _{(5,553)} + (20,406) \\ Taille_{1i} + 0,0123 \\ _{(14,918)} \\ Revenu_{2i} - 21,400 \\ _{(-21,408)} \\ SAE_{3i} - 0,305 \\ _{(-4,130)} \\ LIT_{4i} + 1,125 \\ _{(1,692)} \\ Qualite_{5i}$ (1)

$$R^2 = 0,523 \ \overline{R}^2 = 0,521$$

Indeed, it is observed that the size variable has a positive and significant coefficient with an error risk of 1%, which means that water consumption increases with number of people who constitute the household. The coefficient on household income is also positive and significant at an error risk of 1%. This result is consistent with economic predictions as long as the richer the household is the more water it consumes. Thus, a household with a high income had to pay a higher MFEPT.

The variable SAE coefficient is negative and significant at the 1% level. This means that when the household has alternative water sources, drinking water consumption decreases. This confirms the economic theory that states that a demand for a good decreases when the consumer makes use of perfect or near perfect substitutes.

The coefficient on LIT is negative and significant at the 1% level. Indeed, as consumers use mineral water they spend less on purchasing drinking water delivered by SONEDE.

ii. Spatial Demand Function

In this section we try to estimate demand function in the regions of Greater Tunis, Sousse and Gabes to know the specifics of consumption structure and consumer behaviour in each of them. To this end, we will introduce permanent and fundamental variables in the construction of a valid econometric model for each region.

a. The Greater Tunis Area

For this region the estimated model has the following results:

$$MFEPT_{i} = \begin{array}{c} 6,737 \\ {}_{(3,381)} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} 4,691 \\ {}_{(13,348)} \end{array} Taille_{1i} + \begin{array}{c} 19,588 \\ {}_{(-10,627)} \end{array} Revenu_{2i} - \begin{array}{c} 0,00677 \\ {}_{(5,176)} \end{array} SAE_{3i}$$
(2)

$$R^2 = 0,560$$
 $\overline{R}^2 = 0,556$

The estimated model indicates that the coefficients of size and household income are positive

and significant with an error risk of 1%. These results are perfectly logical because large families or who have high

incomes consume more water. In addition, the variable SAE coefficient is negative and significant at an error risk of 1%, which means that consumption decreases with the existence of alternative sources, in which case consuming SONEDE water becomes smaller.

b. The Sousse Area

amount spent by consumers.

c. The Gabes Region

gave the following results:

In this region the linear regression estimated is given by:

are positive and significant at the 5% level. As

household income increases, more water is consumed.

Moreover, when drinking water quality improves then

consuming water increases, thereby increasing the

The linear regression estimated in this region

$$MFEPT_{i} = 41,761 - 1,553 Taille_{1i} + 0,00451 Revenu_{2i} + 4,827 Qualité_{3ii} (3)$$

$$R^2 = 0,228 \ \overline{R}^2 = 0,220$$

In this region, the coefficient on Taille (Size) is negative and significant at an error risk of 1%. This result is not consistent with reality, since in principle water consumption increases with household size. Can we say that there is some correlation between family size and household wealth? A priori, the answer is positive, which means that a small family is probably richer and therefore it consumes more water.

The coefficients on income and water quality

$$MFEPT_{i} = 11,454 + 2,436 Taille_{1i} + 0,00949 Revenu_{2i} -15,975 SAE_{3i} - 0,663 LIT_{4i} + 2,074 Nbdac_{5i} (4)$$

$$R^2 = 0,355 \ \overline{R}^2 = 0,338$$

The coefficients on Size, SAE and income are significant at the 1% risk level. Size and income have positive coefficients but SAE has a negative coefficient. The coefficient of the variable Nbdac is positive and significant at the 10% risk level, which means that when the number of people in a household increases there will probably be a wealth effect that is created and encourage the said household to consume more drinking water, resulting on a positive effect on MFEPT. The coefficient on LIT is negative and significant at an error risk of 5%. This means that in this region, there's a general movement towards consuming bottled water to replace SONEDE water especially for drinking.

V. CONCLUSION

The estimation of water demand function indicated that the dependent variable (MFEPT) in the different models is influenced by many variables that need to be integrated in water management. The most important variable is the quality variable which essential in household consumption structure. The estimation of regional demand functions in the areas of Greater Tunis, Sousse and Gabes showed that variation of the variable MFEPT is mainly due to household size, income, SAE and especially the variable quality which differs significantly between these three regions. In Greater Tunis, this variable is not problematic while in the other two regions of Sousse and Gabes, the situation becomes more complicated. In these two regions faucet water quality is a dominant factor in explaining consumer behaviour. Indeed, in the region of Sousse bill amount varies directly with the level of quality offered, while in the region of Gabes this variation is explained by the fact that consumers are looking for substitutable goods (SAE, LIT).

However, despite its importance in water management, the variable quality is still neglected by decision-makers. Should we rethink SONEDE pricing policy and restructure it so that it is fairer and more effective? The answer is, a priori, positive because the current strategy of drinking water management in Tunisia has reached almost its limits. Thus, it would be wiser to recognize heterogeneity in the quality of water distributed and price according to the quality offered taking into account households' socio-economic status and this to ensure their right to healthy and pure water consumption.

Footnotes

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4. When the number of variables is important and to avoid multicolinearity problem between the independent variables, it is necessary to have methods for the automatic selection of variables: forward stepwise regression, back ward stepwise regression or a combination of both methods.

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Appendix 1

 Phase 1 : questions relatives à la gestion de l'eau.
Q1 : Pouvez vous m'indiquer le montant de votre facture d'eau trimestrielle ? Combien ?
Q2 : Avez-vous une idée sur la tarification de l'eau potable ?
Non Oui
Q3 : Quel est le nombre de jours pendant lesquels l'eau est régulièrement disponible dans l'année ?/365.
Q4 : Avez-vous des sources alternatives d'eau (magin, puits, autres)
Non Oui
Q5 : Achetez-vous de l'eau en bouteilles ?
Non Oui
Q5 a: Combien de litre par semaine ?
Phase 2 : questions relatives à la qualité de l'eau potable.
Q6 : Que pensez-vous de la qualité de l'eau de robinet ?
Bonne Moyenne Mauvaise
Q7 : Quelles sont les raisons de cette appréciation ?
Son goût Oui Non
Sa limpidité Oui Non
Son odeur Oui Non
Phase 3 : questions relatives aux caractéristiques socioéconomiques.
Q8: Genre : Homme Femme
Q9: Etes vous locataire Propriétaire
Q 10 : Quelle est la taille de votre ménage ?
Q 11 : Quel est votre niveau d'instruction ?
Analphabète Secondaire 2eme cycle
Primaire Supérieur
Secondaire 1 ^{er} cycle
Q 12 : Quel est le nombre d'actifs dans votre ménage ?
Q 13 : Quelle est votre profession
Journalier Ouvrier Indépendant agricole
Indépendant industriel Indépendant commercial Cadre
Q 14 :Quel est le montant total des revenus mensuels nets de votre ménage?

Combien ?.....

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Appendix 2

Analyse statistique du questionnaire

Tableau 1 : Connaissance de la tarification		Tableau 2 : Sources alternatives d'eau potable							
		Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentag e valide			Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentage valide
	Non	997	83,1	83,1		Non	911	75,9	76,0
Valide	Oui	203	16,9	16,9	Valide	Oui	289	24,0	24,0
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0		Total	1200	99,9	100,0

	Tableau 3 : Qualité de l'eau de robinet								
		Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentage valide	Rourcentage cumulé				
	Mauvaise	561	46,8	46,8	46,8				
Valida	Moyenne	476	39,7	39,7	86,4				
valide	Bonne	163	13,6	13,6	100,0				
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0					

Tableau 4 : Consommation d'eau embouteillée				
		Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentage valide
Valide	Non	515	42.9	42,9
	Oui	685	57.1	57,1
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0

<i>Tableau 5 :</i> Genre				
		Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentage valide
	Féminin	473	39,4	39,4
Valide	Masculin	727	60,6	60,6
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0

Tableau 6 : Occupation du logement				
		Fréquence Pourcentage		Pourcentage valide
	Locataire	326	27,2	27,2
Valide	Propriétaire	874	72,8	72,8
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0

	Tableau 7 : Niveau d'instruction du chef de ménage					
		Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentage valide	Pourcentage cumulé	
	Néant	128	10,7	10,7	10,7	
Valide	Primaire	179	14,9	14,9	25,6	
	Secondaire 1er cycle	165	13,8	13,8	39,3	
	Secondaire 2ème cycle	245	20,4	20,4	59,8	
	Supérieur	483	40.3	40.3	100.0	
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0		

Tableau 8 : Profession du chef du ménage				
		Fréquence	Pourcentage	Pourcentage valide
Valide	Journalier	139	11,6	11,6
	Ouvrier	216	<u>1</u> 8,0	18,0
	Ind. agricole	134	11,2	11,2
	Ind. Industriel.	274	22,8	22,8
	Ind. commercial	178	14,8	14,8
	Cadres	259	21,6	21,6
	Total	1200	100,0	100,0

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(g) Discussion should cover the implications and consequences, not just recapitulating the results; conclusions should be summarizing.

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ISSN 9755861

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