

Cascaded Multiport Converter for SRM-Based Hybrid Electrical Vehicle Applications

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ABSTRACT:- This paper proposes a cascaded multiport switched reluctance motor (SRM) drive for hybrid electric vehicle (HEV) applications, which not only allows flexible energy conversion among the generator/ac grid, the battery bank, and the motor, but also achieves battery management (BM) function for state-of-charge (SOC) balance control and bus voltage regulation. By integrating the battery packs into the AHB converter, the cascaded BM modules are designed to configure multilevel bus voltage and current capacity for SRM drive, which can accelerate the excitation and demagnetization processes during the commutation region, extend the speed range, reduce the voltage stress on the switches, and improve the torque capability and system efficiency. According to the different operation requirements, the multiple driving modes, regenerative braking modes, and charging modes are equipped in the proposed converter. Moreover, with the proposed BM strategy, each battery pack can be separately connected or disconnected from the power supply, which will greatly enhance the fault-tolerance ability and easily avoid the overcharge and overdischarge issues during the motor operation. The feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed cascaded multiport SRM drive are verified by the experiments on a three-phase 12/8 SRM.

KEYWORDS: Cascaded multiport converter, battery management (BM), state-of-charge (SOC) balance, switched reluctance motor (SRM), hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs).

I. INTRODUCTION

With the growing concerns of fossil fuel crisis and environmental issue, the electric vehicles (EVs) and hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs) have drawn increasing attention due to their reduced fuel consumption and enhanced energy efficiency [1]-[4]. For the powertrain systems in the EV and HEV applications, permanent magnet synchronous motors (PMSMs) have always be dominated due to

their superior torque and power densities [5]-[7]. However, with the rapid depletion and increased cost of rare-earth magnet source, the rare-earth-less and rare-earth-free motors are attracting more attention [8], [9]. As one rare-earth-free motor, switched reluctance motors (SRMs) are becoming a promising alternative due to their simple structure, low cost, exceptional robustness, high reliability, and strong applicability for harsh environments [10]-[13].

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

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III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY AND DISCUSSION

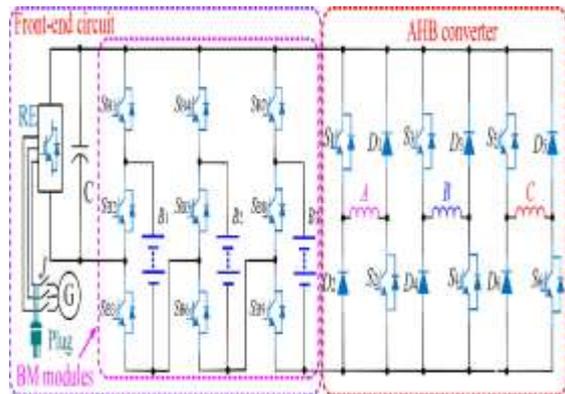


Fig. 1. Proposed cascaded multiport converter for a three-phase SRM

To achieve the high-efficiency energy conversion among the generator/ac grid, the battery bank, and the SRM for HEV applications, a highly integrated multiport converter is proposed with BM function, as shown in Fig. 1, where a relay J is used to connect the generator and the rectifier; a plug is used to connect the ac grid, and three BM modules are presented for function description. It can be seen that the generator/ac plug, the ac/dc rectifier, the BM modules, and the AHB converter are orderly connected in series. Hence, the proposed converter can be considered as the combination of a front-end circuit and an AHB converter. The generator can not only act as a starter motor, but also be used to charge the battery bank and power the SRM [33]. The battery bank can also be charged by the SRM and the ac grid. The SRM can be powered by the generator and battery bank respectively or simultaneously. To enhance the flexibility and reliability of the battery packs, more BM modules can be designed, which are separately managed and composed of a battery pack and three power switches with anti-parallel diode. By employing the proposed topology, multiple driving modes, regenerative braking modes, and charging modes are achieved to satisfy different operation conditions.

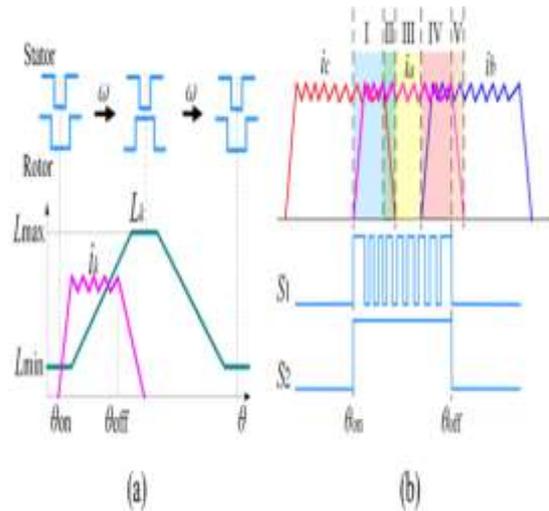


Fig.2. Driving Operation condition (a) phase current and phase inductance. (b) phase currents and drive signals.

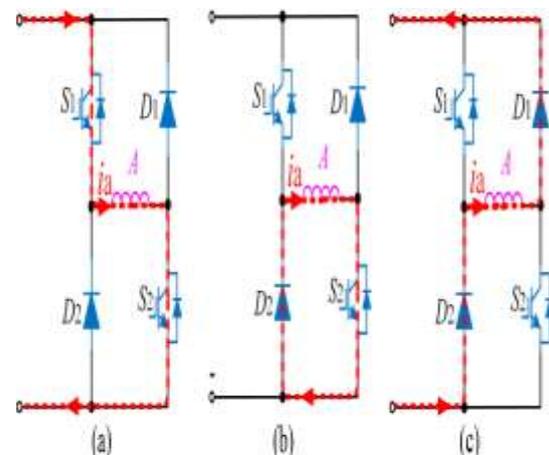


Fig. 3. Operation states of AHB converter (a) Excitation states (b) Freewheeling states (c) Demagnetization states.

When the SRM is under driving modes, the relationship between phase current and phase inductance is presented in Fig. 2(a), where θ is the rotor position angle; θ_{on} and θ_{off} are the turn-on and turn-off angles, respectively, and i_k and L_k are the k th phase current and phase inductance, respectively. According to the SRM characteristic, the phase winding should be conducted during the positive torque region, where the phase inductance is increasing. Fig. 2(b) shows three phase currents and the phase A signals under driving modes, where S1 and S2 are the corresponding switching signals. As illustrated in the figure, the whole conduction range of phase A can be divided into five regions. In Region I, the phases C and A are simultaneously conducting. In Region II, the phase

C is turned off and its current starts to decrease. In Region III, the phase C current reduces to zero and only phase A is conducting. In Region V the phase A is turned off. There are two switching states in the first four regions for phase A, including excitation state and zero-voltage freewheeling state. When the upper- and lower-switch of phase A (i.e., S1 and S2) are both turned on, the positive dc voltage is supplied to the phase winding, which is the excitation state, as shown in Fig. 3(a). With the upper switch S1 off and the lower switch S2 on, the voltage of phase winding is zero, which is the zero-voltage freewheeling state, as shown in Fig. 3(b). In Region V, the phase A winding is in the demagnetization state, as shown in Fig. 3(c), where the switches are both turned off, and the energy stored in the phase winding is fed back to the power supply through diodes D1 and D2. 2) Driving Modes by the Generator.

III. CONTROL TECHNIQUE

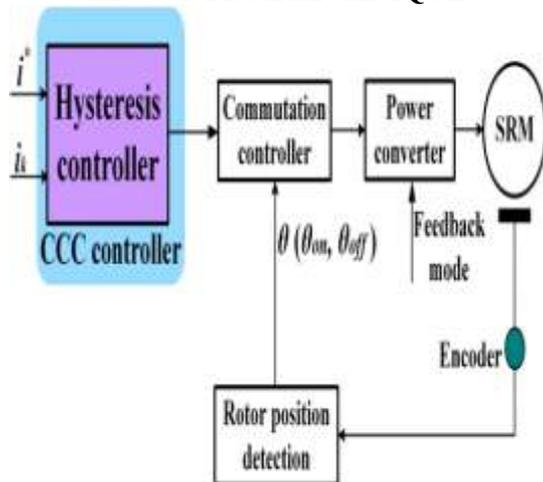


Fig.4. control strategy under regenerative braking modes.

When the motor is under the regenerative braking mode, the SRM control system is illustrated in Fig. 12. The regenerative braking mode is used for braking with energy feedback, which can be considered to be independent from the driving mode. To avoid the overcurrent damage and implement the pulsed charging process [38]-[40], the CCC is employed to regulate the phase current. According to braking operation, the different braking current can be set for the inertial braking, slow braking, and quick braking. Meanwhile, the energy stored in the phase windings can be used to charge the battery packs.

IV. CONCLUSION

In this project, a BMS including two different battery types and an isolated bidirectional Cuk converter for EVs was proposed. Li-ion battery is dominant type of battery in EVs due to its advantages, while other types like lead-acid can be employed in this application. Here, reducing fast charging stresses on the main battery was achieved by utilizing a lead acid battery as an auxiliary battery. An isolated Cuk converter was utilized to manage contribution of the batteries and enhance battery lifetime by achieving low voltage ripple and continues current. Three possible scenarios were considered to evaluate the performance of the proposed topology and control algorithm. The results confirm that the proposed converter is able to handle different functions in various conditions, desirably.

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