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ABSTRACT

Economic, environmental and legislative problems limit the scope of electric utilities in regards to construction of generation facilities and new transmission lines. In this respect, power electronics based FACTS technology was initiated by the EPRI in the late 1980s which aimed to enhance power transmission capabilities of existing transmission corridors. The FACTS Controllers achieve this objective by controlling the power system parameters like series impedance, shunt admittance, current, voltage and phase angles. A variety of FACTS Controllers have been envisaged, designed and installed in transmission utilities worldwide.

The emergence of FACTS Controllers has followed two different technical approaches to develop two different groups of controllers – thyristor based and self-commutated converter based. The former include the Static VAR Compensator (SVC), the thyristor controlled series capacitor (TCSC) and phase shifter. STATCOM, SSSC and UPFC comprise the later.

Among the thyristor based FACTS Controllers, the thyristor controlled series capacitor (TCSC) is one which is predominantly used for power flow control. It is a series FACTS device which can be used for rapid and continuous control of the effective series impedance of a line. Since the active power flow in a line is inversely proportional to its reactance, the TCSC can be used to control the active power flow in the line to any specified value, within operating limits.

For power system planning, design, operation and control, power flow solution of the network installing TCSC is an essential requirement. This necessitates a TCSC power flow model.

The earliest algorithms for power flow were based on the Gauss-Siedel iterative scheme. However, Gauss-Siedel method was found to be system dependent. For large system size, it sometimes failed to converge. Later, the Newton-Raphson algorithm came into being. It possessed quadratic convergence characteristics. Subsequently, the Newton-Raphson algorithm emerged as the de-facto standard for power flow in industry.

In light of this, a Newton-Raphson model of the TCSC has been an essential requirement for power flow solutions of networks installing TCSCs. In this work, two separate Newton power flow models of the TCSC have been developed. The first one is a susceptance model, which

subsequently employs a separate Newton Raphson loop for solving the TCSC firing angle. The second one is a more comprehensive Newton-Raphson model, which treats the firing angle itself as one of the state variables along with the bus voltages and angles.

Both the proposed models demonstrate very good convergence characteristics when tested on a small six bus system and the IEEE 30 bus test system.

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Basic SVC module

Figure 2.2: Basic TCSC Module

Figure 2.3: Typical STATCOM connected in a line

Figure 2.4: The Static Synchronous Series Compensator (SSSC)

Figure 2.5: Typical UPFC configuration

Figure 2.6: The Interline Power Flow Controller (IPFC)

Figure 2.7 Operational limits of transmission lines for different voltage levels

Figure 3.1: Two-Machine Power System

Figure 3.2: Phasor diagram of Series compensated two machine Power System

Figure 3.3: A TCSC Module connected between two buses

Figure 3.4: Operating region of TCSC Reactance

Figure 3.5: TCSC operating under Thyristor blocked mode

Figure 3.6: TCSC operating under Thyristor bypassed mode

Figure 3.7: TCSC module under capacitive vernier operation mode

Figure 3.8: Thyristor Controlled Reactor (TCR)

Figure 3.9: Simplified TCSC Circuit

Figure 3.10: Reactance plot for $K=3.5$

Figure 3.11: Reactance plot for $K=6.0$

Figure 4.1: Equivalent circuit for firing angle model

Figure 5.1: 6-Bus system used for Implementing TCSC

Figure 5.2: Voltage profile for 6-Bus system (base case)

Figure 5.3: Voltage profile for the 6-Bus system with TCSC in line 2-5

Figure 5.4: Voltage profile for the 6-Bus system with TCSC in line 3-5

Figure 5.5: IEEE 30-Bus test system

Figure 5.6: Voltage profile for 30-Bus system (base case)

Figure 5.7: Voltage profile for the 30-Bus system with TCSC in line 14-15

Figure 5.8: Voltage profile for the 30-Bus system with TCSC in line 13-15

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
Acknowledgement	i
Abstract	ii
List of figures	iv
Chapter 1: Introduction	1-3
1.1 Literature Review	1
Chapter 2: FACTS Technology	4-15
2.1 Introduction	4
2.2 Types of FACTS Controllers	6
2.2.1 Principle of Series Controllers	6
2.2.2 Principle of Shunt Controllers	6
2.2.3 Principle of Combined series-series Controllers	6
2.2.4 Principle of Combined series-shunt Controllers	6
2.3 Static VAR Compensator (SVC)	7
2.4 Thyristor Controlled Series Compensator (TCSC)	8
2.5 Static Synchronous Compensator (STATCOM)	9
2.6 Static Synchronous Series Compensator (SSSC)	10
2.7 Unified Power Flow Controller (UPFC)	11
2.8 Interline Power Flow Controller (IPFC)	13
2.9 Applications of FACTS Devices	13
Chapter 3: Thyristor Controlled Series Compensator (TCSC)	16-30
3.1 Series reactive power compensation	16
3.2 Introduction to TCSC	18
3.3 Practical Installations of TCSC worldwide	19
3.3.1: Raipur substation, India	20
3.3.2: Imperatriz, Brazil	21
3.3.3: Bheramara, Bangladesh	21
3.5 Operating Principle of TCSC	22
3.5.1 Different Operating Modes of TCSC	23

3.6 Analysis of TCSC	25
3.6.1 Analysis of Thyristor Controlled Reactor (TCR)	25
3.6.2 Analysis of TCSC Equivalent Circuit	27
Chapter 4: TCSC power flow model	31-47
4.1 Real and Reactive Power Injected in a Bus	31
4.2 Classification of Buses	33
4.3 Newton Raphson Method	34
4.4 Load flow by Newton Raphson Method	37
4.4.1 Load flow algorithm	38
4.4.2 Formation of jacobian matrix	39
4.5 Characteristics of Newton Raphson Method	43
4.6 Powerflow Analysis with TCSC	43
4.6.1 Susceptance Model of TCSC	44
4.6.2 Firing Angle Model of TCSC	47
Chapter 5: Case Studies and Results	48-56
5.1 Case 1: Base case for the 6-Bus system	48
5.2 Case 2: TCSC installed in 6-Bus system (first line)	50
5.3 Case 3: TCSC installed in 6-Bus system (second line)	51
5.4 Case 3: Base case for the 30-Bus system	53
5.5 Case 4: TCSC installed in 30-Bus system (first line)	54
5.6 Case 5: TCSC installed in 30-Bus system (second line)	56
Chapter 6: Conclusions and Future Scope of Work	59-60
Reference	61-65
Appendix	66-68