

# MODELING AND ANALYSIS OF SINGLE PHASE GRID CONNECTED PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM

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**Abstract:** - This paper gives a complete computer simulation program of a single phase grid connected PV system using Matlab/Simulink and SimPower System tool in order to monitor the performance of each unit of the system during a selected day in the year representing a sunny day and another cloudy day using the hourly data of load demand, solar radiation and temperature at the college of Engineering, Pune site, as a case study. The system consists of a PV array subsystem as the primary source of energy, the electric grid as an auxiliary source of energy, the battery bank as a stand by source that feeds the electrical load in case of grid failure. This paper also focuses on the operation control of the system. This control is on/off switch control according to modes of operation of the system and there is a control of inverter using PI controller to achieve the maximum power point of the PV array. Finally this paper gives the simulation results of the required system output parameters; PV output power, grid power, load power, battery power, and battery voltage and state of charge.

**Key-Words:** - Renewable energy, Photovoltaic systems, Electric grid, Modeling, Control, Simulation.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The configuration of a single phase grid connected PV system is illustrated in Fig. 1. It consists of solar PV array, input capacitor, single phase inverter, low pass output filter and grid voltage source. The solar PV modules are connected in a series-parallel configuration to match the required solar voltage and power rating. The direct current (DC) link capacitor maintains the solar PV array voltage at a certain level for the voltage source inverter. The single phase inverter with the output filter converts the DC input voltage into AC sinusoidal voltage by means of appropriate switch signals and then the filter output pass through an isolation step up transformer to setup the filter output voltage to 220 V<sub>RMS</sub> required by the electric utility grid and load. The system also consists of a battery bank for supplying the electrical loads of the clinic in case of electric grid failure.

## 2 PV ARRAY MATHEMATICAL MODEL AND IMPLEMENTATION

The modules in a PV system are typically connected in arrays in series and parallel configurations. Electrical modeling of suggested PV array system is represented in the following equations [1]:

$$V_{PV} = \left( \frac{B \times K \times T \times N_S}{q} \right) \times \ln \left( \frac{N_P (I_L + I_{os}) - I_{PV}}{N_P \times I_{os}} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$I_{os} = I_{or} \left[ \frac{T}{T_r} \right]^3 \exp \left( \frac{qE_{GO}}{BK} \left( \frac{1}{T_r} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right) \quad (2)$$

$$I_L = [I_{sc} + K_I (T_c - 28)] \times \frac{H}{1000} \quad (3)$$

$$T_c = T_{air} + 0.2 \times H\% \quad (4)$$

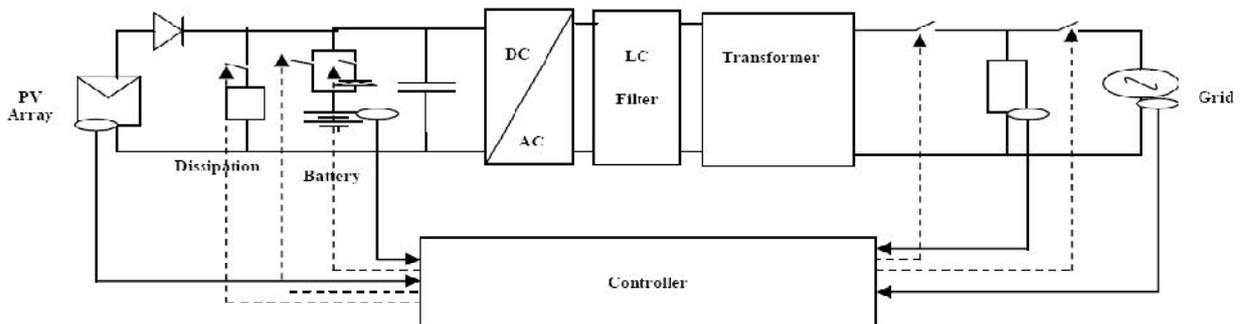


Fig. 1 Block diagram of a single phase grid connected PV system.

Where,  $V_{PV}$  is the PV array output voltage (V),  $I_{PV}$  is the PV array output current (A),  $NS$  is the number of cells connected in series,  $NP$  is the number of cells connected in parallel,  $I_L$  is the light generated current (A),  $I_{or}$  is the reverse saturation current ( $19.97 \times 10^{-6}$ ),  $B$  is the ideality factors (1.92),  $K$  is the Boltzmann's constant ( $1.38 \times 10^{-23}$  joule/ $^{\circ}K$ ),  $q$  is the electronic charge ( $1.602 \times 10^{-19}$  coulomb),  $Tr$  is the reference temperature ( $301^{\circ}K$ ),  $I_{os}$  is the cell reverse saturation current (A),  $Tc$  is the cell temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ ),  $T$  is the cell temperature ( $^{\circ}K$ ),  $K_I$  is the short-circuit current temperature coefficient ( $0.0017$  A /  $^{\circ}C$ ),  $H$  is the cell illumination ( $W/m^2$ ),  $I_{SC}$  is the module short-circuit current at  $28^{\circ}C$  and  $1000$   $W/m^2$  (4.8 A),  $EGO$  is the band gap for silicon (1.11e.v). Fig. 2 presents the simulink block diagram of the PV array subsystem, the PV array current is used as an input feedback from the electrical circuit and the output is the PV array voltage and the PV array power.

**3. BATTERY MATHEMATICAL MODEL AND IMPLEMENTATION**

The battery model is based on a lead acid battery model. Lead acid battery cells consist of two plates, positive and negative, immersed in a dilute sulfuric acid solution.

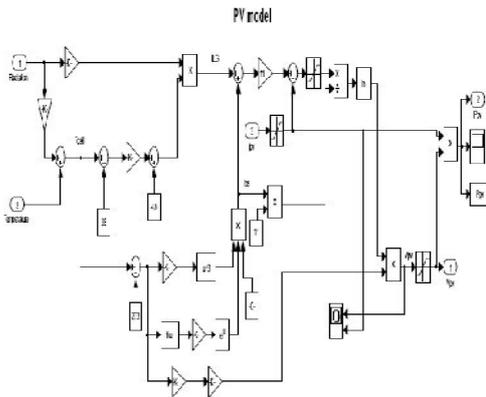


Fig. 2 Block diagram of PV array subsystem.

The positive plate, or anode, is made of lead dioxide (PbO<sub>2</sub>) and the negative plate, or cathode, is made of lead (Pb). The battery model has two modes of operation: charge and discharge. The battery is in charge mode when the battery input current is positive while the discharge mode is in case of the current is negative. The terminal voltage ( $V_b$ ) of the battery is given by [2]:

$$V_b = V_l + I_b \times R_l \tag{5}$$

Where,  $V_l$ ,  $I_b$  and  $R_l$  are the battery open circuit voltage (V), battery current (A) and the internal resistance of the battery (I) respectively.  $V_l$  and  $R_l$  are governed by a set of equations depending on which mode of operation the battery is in.

**3.1 Charge Mode**

The battery voltage and state of charge (SOC) during charging mode can be described using the following equation [2]:

$$V_l = V_{ch} [2 + 0.148 \text{ SOC}(t)] \text{ ns} \tag{6}$$

$$R_l = R_{ch} = \frac{0.758 + 0.1309 / [1.06 - \text{SOC}(t)] \times ns}{Q_m} \tag{7}$$

**3.2 Discharge Mode**

During discharging, the battery voltage – SOC relationship is given by [2]:

$$V_l = V_{dch} = [1.926 + 0.124 \times \text{SOC}(t)] \times ns \tag{8}$$

$$R_l = R_{dch} = \frac{0.19 + 0.1037 / [\text{SOC}(t) - 0.14] \times ns}{Q_m} \tag{9}$$

Where, SOC(t) is the current state of charge, ns is the number of 2V battery cells in series and  $Q_m$  is the maximum battery capacity (Wh). The SOC(t) is the ratio between the present capacity and the nominal capacity and can be estimated using the following equation [2]:

$$\text{SOC}(t) = \text{SOC}(t-1) + \int_{t-1}^t \left( \frac{K_b \times V_l \times I_b}{Q_m} - \text{SOC}(t-1) \times D \right) dt \tag{10}$$

Where,  $K_b$  is the battery charge/discharge efficiency and  $D$  is the battery self discharge rate (h-1). The SOC(t) can be found by knowing the previous condition. Since  $\text{SOC}(0) = \text{SOC}_1 =$  initial state of charge, SOC(1) can be found.

Fig. 3 shows the lead acid battery bank subsystem implementation in the Simulink toolbox. There is only one input to this subsystem ( $I_b$ ) and the outputs of the system are battery voltage ( $V_b$ ), battery power ( $P_b$ ) and battery state of charge (SOC).

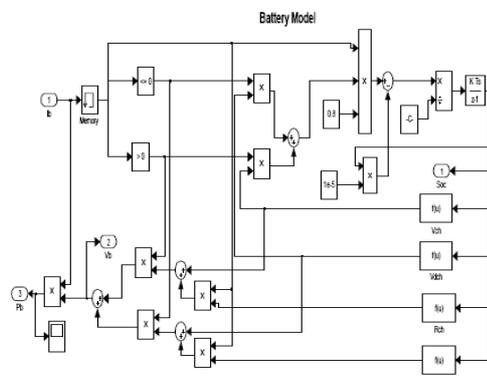


Fig. 3 Block diagram of battery subsystem.

#### 4. INVERTER MODEL

Single phase inverters are used to convert the DC output voltage of the PV array into AC voltage required for an AC load or to be connected to the electric utility grid. The single phase full bridge voltage source inverter circuit configuration is shown in Fig. 4. It is composed of a DC voltage source (PV array), an input decoupling capacitor C and four power switching blocks. C is used to filter the noise on the DC bus. After the inverter an LC harmonic filter is used to eliminate the high frequencies in the output inverter voltage. Each block of the switching blocks consists of a semiconductor switch (IGBT) and an anti-parallel diode. AC output voltage is created by switching the full bridge in an appropriate sequence [3-5]. To create proper gating signals for switches, pulse width modulation (PWM) is used. A high-frequency signal is compared with a specific sinusoidal signal with specific frequency. A PWM inverter output with filtering generally meets the total harmonic distortion (THD) requirements for different applications. The two main advantages of PWM are the control of the output voltage amplitude and fundamental frequency as well as decreasing the filter requirements for minimizing the harmonics. The reference waveform is called the modulation or control signal and it is compared to a carrier signal. Carrier signal is usually a triangular signal which controls the switching frequency while the reference signal controls the output voltage amplitude and its fundamental frequency [3, 4].

#### 5. OUTPUT FILTER MODEL AND DESIGN

Output filter of the full bridge is filtered using a low pass filter to create a clean output sinusoidal voltage. The LC low pass filter is a second order filter which eliminates all high order harmonics from PWM waveform so that the inverter output is 50 Hz, low distortion, pure sinusoidal output voltage wave [6]. The cut off frequency of the low pass filter ( $f_c$ ) is selected such that the output total harmonic distortion (THD) is less than 5% [5]. The value of  $f_c$  is kept below 1/25th of the inverter switching frequency. The filter inductor value ( $L_f$ ) is calculated such that the voltage drop across the inductor is less than 3% of the inverter output voltage ( $V_f$ ) as given in (12) [6, 7]:

$$I_{load\ max} \times 2\pi f L_f < 0.03V_f \quad (11)$$

Where,  $I_{load\ max}$  is the maximum RMS load current,  $V_f$  is the RMS value of inverter output voltage and  $f$  is the output frequency (50 Hz). The filter capacitance value ( $C_f$ ) is then calculated from the resonance relation:

$$C_f = \frac{1}{(2\pi f_c)^2 L_f} \quad (12)$$

#### 6. SYSTEM CONTROL

All power systems must have a control strategy that describes the interactions between its components. There are two main modes of operation for the proposed grid connected PV system; grid connected PV system without battery, while in case of grid failure, the system operates as standalone PV system with battery storage. The control is achieved using ON/OFF switch logic controller for the system according to these modes of operation. This controller is based on sensing of the grid status, PV array output power, load power and state of charge (SOC) of the battery and compare them to each other or to a reference value and then send a control signal to the system switches to open or close according to the mode of operation.

Table 1 summarizes the modes of operation of the proposed system. PL, PPV, PG, PB, and PDiss are the load power, PV array output power, Grid power, Battery power and dissipated power respectively.

Table 1 Modes of Operation of the reposed Grid Connected PV System

Mode of operation	Grid connected PV system	Stand alone PV system
PPV = 0	PL = PG	PL = PB
PPV <= PL	PL = PPV + PG	PL = PPV + PB
PPV > PL, SOC >= SOCmax	PG = PPV - PL	PB = 0, PDiss = PPV - PL
PPV > PL, SOC < SOCmax	PG = 0, PB = PPV - PL	PB = PPV - PL

#### 7. MAXIMUM POWER POINT TRACKING (MPPT)

Tracking the maximum power point (MPPT) of a PV array is usually an essential part of a PV system. A linear current control is used based on the fact that a linear relationship exists between  $IMPP$  and the level of solar radiation. The current  $IMPP$  is thus found by sensing the solar radiation level using look-up table method [8-10]. In this case, the measured values of PV current are compared to reference values, which correspond to the operation in the maximum point under standard climatologically conditions. This will

be implemented using a simple current feedback loop with a Proportional Integral (PI) controller which used such that PV array current follows IMPP. The control signal used as a suitable modulation technique like pulse width modulation (PWM). The modulation index of the PWM inverter will be used to control the output power so as to operate at MPP. The block diagram of the control scheme used is shown in Fig. 4 [6-8]. Fig. 5 shows the simulink block diagram for the simulated PV solar array and battery interfaced with the utility grid through pulse width modulation (PWM) driven voltage source inverter and its control.

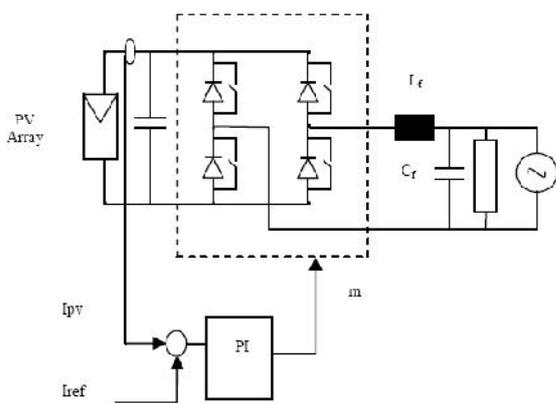


Fig. 4 Control of Full bridge single phase voltage source PWM inverter.

The DC/AC inverter is simulated as a universal bridge from Mat lab library, this bridge consists of four switches (IGBT's) with anti-parallel diodes as discussed above. The electric utility grid represented by a single phase AC voltage source.

## 8. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 8.1 PV Subsystem Results

Fig. 6 represents the controlled PV array output current against the reference maximum current. This is performed using different constant values of solar radiation. The maximum value of PV array current changes according to the solar radiation based on a linear relationship that exists between solar radiation and PV array output current. It is also clear from this figure that the system controller tracks the maximum current and so the PV array operates at maximum power point. the system controller tracks the maximum current and so the PV array operates at maximum power point. For studying system behavior under different circumstances over a complete day, variable radiation profiles are taken representing sunny day and cloudy day. Fig. 7 illustrates the PV output power versus maximum reference power for a sunny day, it is clear that the system tracks the maximum power point. The reference power values have been taken under standard climatologically conditions. It also observed

from curves that the shape of power curves is the same that of solar radiation curve as shown in Fig. 8 which illustrates the incident solar radiation in  $W/m^2$  starting from 0 at 5 AM and increasing as the sun rises until reaching a maximum value at 12 PM and decreasing again until sunset at 7 PM

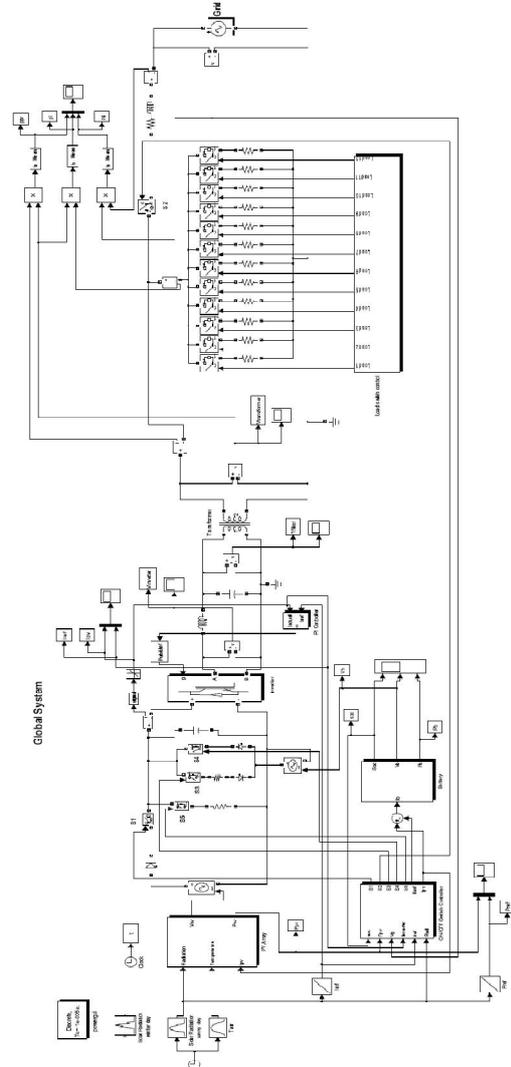


Fig. 5 Block diagram of the system as implemented in Matlab Simulink.

a maximum value at 12 PM and decreasing again until sunset at 7 PM. Simulation also was done using a radiation values for a cloudy day. Fig. 9 illustrates the PV array output power versus maximum power. It is observed from these figures that the solar radiation decreases and increases according to the existence of clouds and so the PV output power decreasing and increasing along the day taking the shape of solar radiation curve represented in Fig. 10. It can also be noted that the PI controller of the inverter tracks the maximum power point as the power curves of the PV output power and reference maximum power under these climatologically conditions almost coincides.

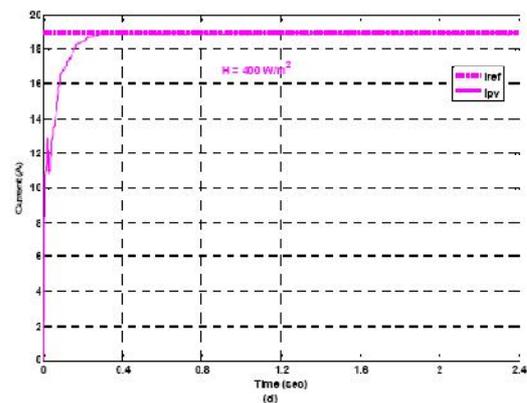
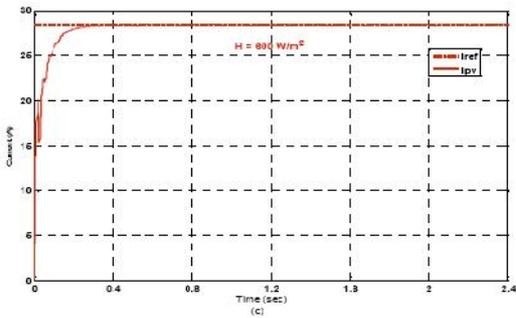
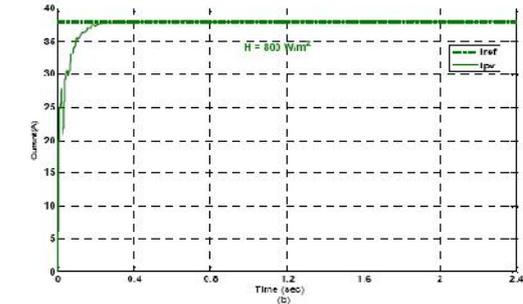
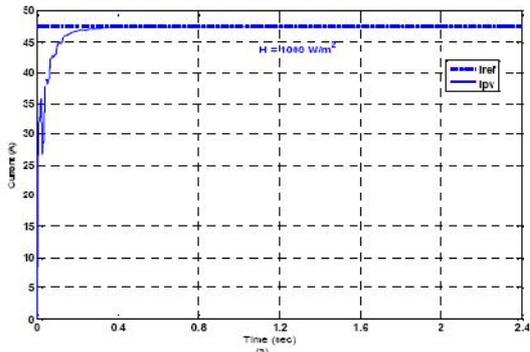


Fig. 6 The simulated PV array output currents for constant radiation values against reference maximum current.

8.2 Grid-Connected Mode Results

Fig. 11 shows the average power curves of the grid connected PV system for a sunny day. During night and early morning, the load is fed completely from the utility grid (S1 is off and S2 is on). At sunshine, the PV power becomes greater than 0 and the load is fed firstly from the PV array and the deficit power is supplied from the utility grid (S1 is on and S2 is on) while at peak sun hours from 7 AM to 8 AM and

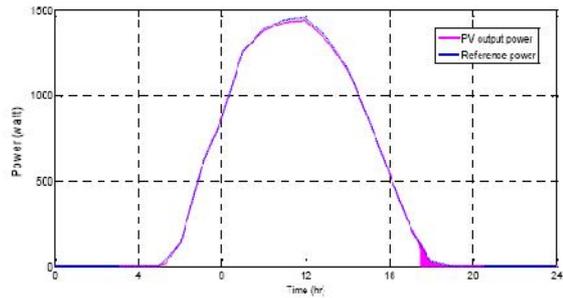


Fig. 7 Maximum PV output power and reference maximum power for a sunny day.

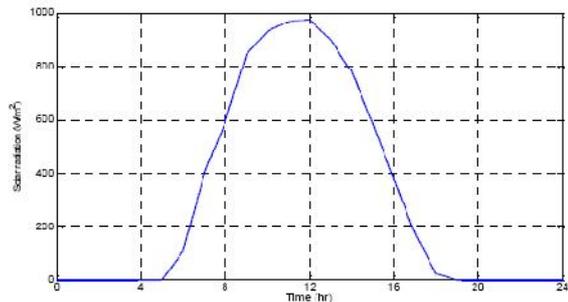


Fig. 8 The incident solar radiation in W/m2 for a sunny day.

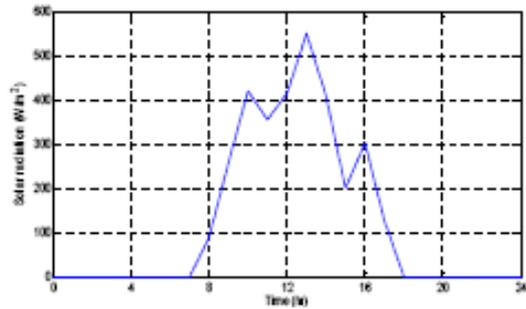


Fig. 9 Maximum PV output power and reference maximum power for a cloudy day

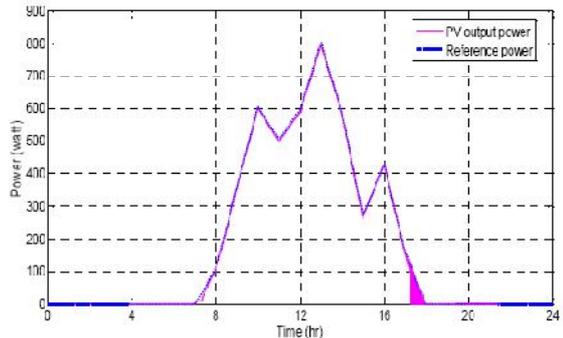


Fig.10 The incident solar radiation in W/m2 for a cloudy day.

from 9 AM to 4 PM, the PV output power is greater than the load power and so the excess power is delivered to the electric grid. The average power curves of grid connected PV system for a cloudy day are illustrated in Fig. 12, the PV output power is low and the grid supply the deficit energy until 12 PM, so the power sold to the electric utility grid is lower than the power sold during sunny days. The value of

energy sold to the electric utility grid is 2.941 kWh/day for a sunny day and 0.42125 kWh/day for a cloudy day. Where, the energy purchased from the electric utility grid during cloudy days (10.74 kWh/day) is higher than the energy that purchased during sunny days (8.31 kWh/day) regarding that the load power consumption during summer is higher.

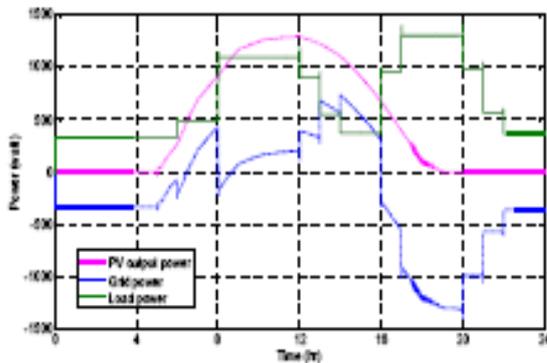


Fig. 11 Simulated generated power of PV, electric utility grid and load consumption for a sunny day.

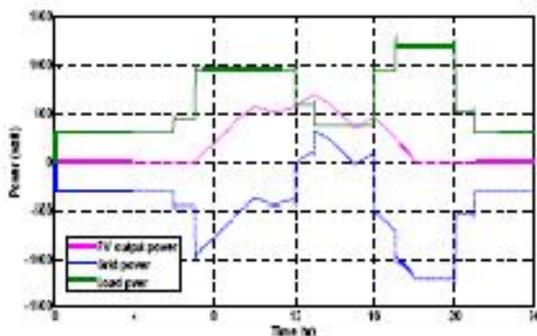


Fig. 12 Simulated generated power of PV, electric utility grid and load consumption for a cloudy day.

Fig. 13.a shows the current injected by the PV solar array after passing through power conditioning equipments (inverter, filter and transformer) with total harmonic distortion (THD) 0.81 %, the grid line current with THD of 1.08 % and the load current with THD 0.23%. The time interval of that figure is the early morning and sunshine period when the PV array starts to generate electrical power. The load is fed from utility grid, and then when the PV power exists, the load is fed from PV array and the deficit energy will be supplied from the utility grid. In the other hand, Fig. 13.b represents the current injected by the PV solar array, the grid line current and the load current during peak sun hour's period. It is observed that PV output current is higher than load current and so the surplus energy is being injected to the utility grid. During night, the PV output current is zero as shown in Fig. 13.c. It is also so clear that the load current and grid line current coincide which means that the load is fed completely from utility grid.

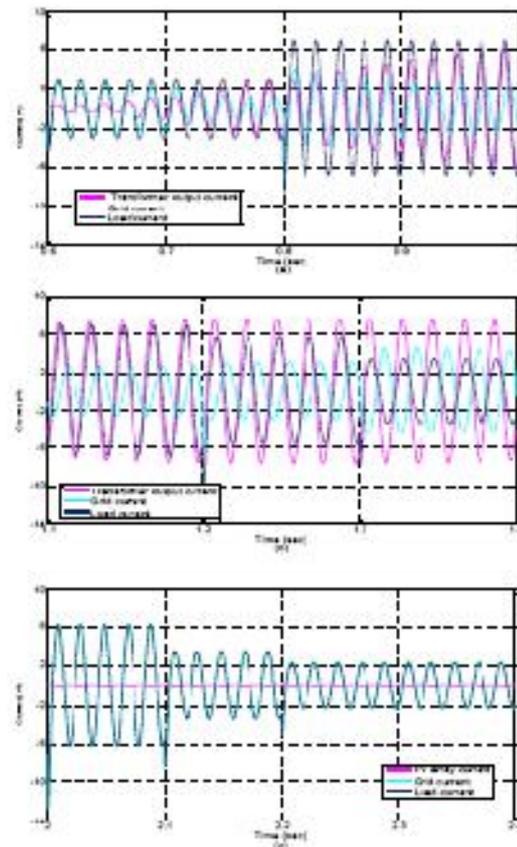


Fig. 13 Simulated transformer output current, grid current and load current.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper the mathematical model of all system components was introduced in order to investigate the dynamic behavior of each subsystem. Also the proposed control technique of the system was presented. This includes ON/OFF switch control of the system according to the modes of operation and inverter control using PI controller to track the maximum power point. The proposed system components models are implemented in Matlab/Simulink environment and interfaced with SimPower System toolbox. The dynamic behavior of each subsystem is investigated showing the interaction between different components of grid connected PV system. The system gives a very good behavior for grid connected PV system mode and stand alone mode. The electrical loads of the clinic are completely supplied with electrical energy. The maximum power point is achieved. In case of stand alone mode and with the worst mode of operation (grid failure and cloudy day), the system gives good performance and the electrical loads are also completely supplied with electrical energy during the day. In that mode, the battery discharged until 57.7% above the discharging limit (30%) which means that there is a reserve capacity in the battery bank. The power conditioning units are well designed as the

total harmonic distortion (THD) in the output voltage of the filter is 1.01% (below the world standard 3%) representing a very good signal to be delivered to the electrical grid and load. The current injected by the PV solar array after passing through power conditioning equipments (inverter, filter and transformer) has a THD of 0.81 %, the grid line current has a THD of 1.08% and the load current has a THD 0.23%.

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