

Description

This invention relates to a pulse width modulated (PWM) motor drive and, more particularly to an offset correction circuit for current control.

As an example, a prior art PWM inverter having a current control circuit has a block configuration shown in Figure 2. The DC power is taken via a rectifier 2 from an AC power source 1 and fed to an inverter main circuit 3, which supplies AC power with a PWM waveform having adjusted fundamental frequency and voltage to an induction motor 4 as a load. The control device of inverter main circuit 3 comprises a speed control amplifier 6 which is responsive to a difference signal on a line 6c from a summing junction 6d which compares a speed setting signal (Ns) on a line 6a and a detected signal on a line 6b from a speed detector 5 coupled to motor 4. The amplifier 6 performs a PI operation and provides an amplified signal on a line 6e to a sinusoidal wave generating circuit 7 which generates a sinusoidal signal on a line 7a for adjusting the frequency and voltage according to the speed instruction of amplifier 6. A current control amplifier 9 which amplifies (i.e., performs PI operation) an error signal on a line 9a from a summing junction 9b indicative of a difference between the magnitude of the current instruction signal on line 7a and a detected output current signal on a line 8a from a current detection circuit 8 responsive to the current provided by inverter main circuit 3 to the motor 4 by means of a sensor 8b. A PWM circuit 10 is responsive to an amplified difference signal on a line 9b from the amplifier 9 and provides PWM gating signals on a plurality of lines indicated generally by a line 10a in order to effect an appropriate output waveform for driving the motor by performing ON/OFF control for a corresponding plurality of switch elements in various phases of inverter main circuit 3.

In the conventional PWM inverter having a current control system, when there exists an offset in the current detector and/or current instruction (sinusoidal wave) that form the current control system, the offset voltage makes the output current of inverter main circuit 3 deviate from the ideal AC waveform as a DC component is overlapped on it, thus causing torque ripple and other problems.

In the conventional scheme, in order to compensate for the offset, as the motor is stopped, the offset amounts in the current instruction and the current detection signal are detected, and compensation signals corresponding to these detected offset amounts are applied during operation.

However, in long-term continuous operation, the offset amount varies as the temperature drifts. In this case, correction becomes impossible. In particular, the temperature drift is large for the current detector, and it is difficult to correct the offset caused by the current detection system. As temperature variation is

also caused by seasons, proper correction is impossible. This is a problem.

JP-A-5815492 discloses a pulse width control transducer control system wherein the current detection signal and the current command signal are compared and their difference is integrated. The result of the integration is used to control the current command to make the offset zero.

EP-A-220638 discloses a constant voltage/frequency power supply comprising a converter, connected between an AC power source and the load, for DC-converting the AC output, and an inverter for AC-inverting the DC-converted output, an inverter control and a DC component correction means.

The object of the present invention is to teach how to correct the offset in a current control for a PWM inverter and to show how to provide an offset correction circuit which can reliably and easily correct the offset in the current control system.

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided

a PWM inverter control circuit comprising:

a current control amplifier responsive to a difference signal having a magnitude indicative of the difference between the magnitude of a sinusoidal current command signal and a sensed signal indicative of the magnitude of the inverter's output current, for providing a control signal for controlling a pulse width modulator circuit; characterised in that said circuit further comprises:

an integrating amplifier, responsive to said control signal, for integrating the DC component of said control signal and providing an integrated signal having a magnitude indicative of said DC component; and

an inverting amplifier, responsive to said integrated signal, for providing an inverted signal for summation with said difference signal.

According to a second aspect, there is provided a method of correcting a DC component in a current control signal provided by a control circuit for controlling a PWM inverter responsive to a difference signal indicative of the difference between commanded and sensed current signals, characterised by the steps of:

integrating the DC component of said current control signal and providing an integrated signal; and summing said integrated signal to said difference signal for cancelling said DC component.

Thus, when a DC component is generated in the output of the current control amplifier, the DC component is detected by the integrating amplifier, and with the aid of the inverting amplifier, the detected value is inverted and added to the input of the current control amplifier to eliminate the said DC component and thereby perform the offset correction. Due to this correction, the offset amount can be kept at nil as the

correction is performed corresponding to the variation in the offset amount, such as that due to the temperature drift during operation.

These and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent in light of the following detailed description of an embodiment thereof given by way of example only, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing.

Brief Description of the Drawing

Fig. 1 is a schematic diagram illustrating an embodiment of a motor control circuit according to the present invention; and

Fig. 2 is a block diagram of a prior art PWM inverter control system.

Fig. 1 is a circuit diagram of the main portion of a single phase as an application example according to the teachings of the present invention. The symbols used here are identical to those used in Fig. 2. From an output current detection circuit 8, which may be responsive to a current transformer 8b or the like, the signal level of a detected current signal on a line 8c is adjusted to obtain a low-output-impedance sinusoidal detected signal on a line 8d. Current control amplifier 9 may consist of an operational amplifier 9₁, a serial feedback circuit made of capacitor 9₂ and resistor 9₃, and resistors 9₄ and 9₅ of an input adder which serves the same function as the summing junction 9b shown in Fig. 2, except that the input adding circuit of Fig. 1 also has a resistor 9₇ for performing input addition of an offset correction signal to be described later. Amplifier 9 performs PI operation for the error between the sinusoidal current instruction of sinusoidal wave generating circuit 7 and the sinusoidal detected signal of current detection circuit 8. In addition, current control amplifier 9 has an analog switch 9₆ which is parallel to the feedback circuit of operational amplifier 9₁ and is used to perform the ON/OFF control by a start/stop signal on a line 9₈ of motor 4. In the PWM circuit 10, an output signal on a line 9₉ from current control amplifier 9 and an output signal on a line 10₃ from a triangular wave generator 10₁ are taken as the inputs to a comparator 10₂, and a waveform with a width proportional to the output level and polarity of amplifier 9 is obtained.

In the illustrated case, in order to correct the offset, an integrating amplifier 11 and inverting amplifier 12 are arranged as shown. Integrating amplifier 11 is responsive to and integrates an output signal on the line 9₉ of current control amplifier 9 by using operational amplifier 11₁, feedback capacitor 11₂ and input resistor 11₃. Also, it has an analog switch 11₄ in parallel with capacitor 11₂. This analog switch is responsive to a signal on a line 11₅ which turns the switch 11₄ off (open circuited or non-conducting) when motor 4 is in operation or when the rotating speed is higher than a selected level (integration is allowed in this

case); on the other hand, it turns on when motor 4 is stopped or the rotating speed is lower than the selected level (reset). Inverting amplifier 12 is responsive to an integrated signal on a line 11₆ from integrator 11 and has an operational amplifier 12₁ and resistors 12₂, 12₃. It inverts and amplifies the output signal on the line 11₆ from integrating amplifier 11 and provides, via the resistor 9₇, an offset correcting signal on a line 12₄ to the summing junction in current control amplifier 9.

The integrating time constant T of integrating amplifier 11, which is the product of the capacitance C of capacitor 11₂ and the resistance R of resistor 11₃, is sufficiently larger than period 1/f of the inverter's output frequency f₀ to effectively integrate only the DC component thereof. In addition, resistance 9₇ of current control amplifier 9 is much larger than the resistances of resistors 9₄ and 9₅.

In this configuration, the output of current control amplifier 9 has an ideal AC waveform. When there exists a DC component due to temperature drift of the current detector, etc., and when the DC component varies, this offset component is integrated and amplified by integrating amplifier 11 and it then has its polarity adjusted by inverting amplifier 12 so that a DC bias with a polarity and level which cancels the offset component is fed back to current control amplifier 9 and offset correction is thus realized. As this correction is performed corresponding to the offset component, the offset can be kept at nil at all times.

As mentioned, in the illustrated case, the integrating time constant T of integrating amplifier 11 has a time constant much longer than the period of the sinusoidal signal so that only the DC component is corrected. Also, analog switch 11₄ may be turned off during operation or when the rotating speed of the motor is higher than a preset level, so that the offset correction is enabled. It is then turned on when the motor is stopped or in low speed operation so that the integrated output is reset. Also, as current control amplifier 9 is controlled OFF/ON in correspondence to the start/stop state of analog switch 9₆, reset is performed while stopped. Control of these analog switches 11₄, 9₆ enables offset correction to be performed only during operation or when the rotating speed is higher than a selected or preset level. Hence, it is now possible to prevent the adverse influence of offset on the current control system.

Although the invention has been shown and described with respect to an embodiment thereof, it should be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes, omissions, and additions in the form and detail thereof may be made therein without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the claims.



Claims

1. A PWM inverter control circuit comprising:
a current control amplifier (9) responsive to a difference signal having a magnitude indicative of the difference between the magnitude of a sinusoidal current command signal (7) and a sensed signal (8c) indicative of the magnitude of the inverter's output current, for providing a control signal (9_a) for controlling a pulse width modulator circuit (10); characterised in that said circuit further comprises:

an integrating amplifier (11), responsive to said control signal, for integrating the DC component of said control signal and providing an integrated signal (11_a) having a magnitude indicative of said DC component; and

an inverting amplifier (12), responsive to said integrated signal, for providing an inverted signal for summation with said difference signal.

2. A circuit as claimed in claim 1 wherein said integrating amplifier (11) includes switch means (11₄) arranged to reset the integrator when a motor driven by the inverter is stopped or running below a predetermined speed.

3. A circuit as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein said current control amplifier (9) performs a PI control operation and includes switch means (9_a) arranged to reset the amplifier when a motor driven by the inverter is stopped or running below a predetermined speed.

4. A method of correcting a DC component in a current control signal provided by a control circuit for controlling a PWM inverter responsive to a difference signal indicative of the difference between commanded and sensed current signals, characterised by the steps of:

integrating the DC component of said current control signal and providing an integrated signal; and

summing said integrated signal to said difference signal for cancelling said DC component.

latorschaltung (10) zu liefern, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Schaltung weiterhin aufweist: einen Integrier-Verstärker (11), der auf das Steuersignal anspricht, um die Gleichstromkomponente des Steuersignals zu integrieren und ein integriertes Signal (11_a) zu liefern, dessen Größe kennzeichnend für die Gleichstromkomponente ist; und einen invertierenden Verstärker (12), der auf das integrierte Signal anspricht, um ein invertiertes Signal zur Summenbildung mit dem Differenzsignal zu liefern.

2. Schaltung nach Anspruch 1, bei der der Integrier-Verstärker (11) eine Schalteinrichtung (11₄) aufweist, die dazu dient, den Integrator zurückzusetzen, wenn ein von dem Wechselrichter gespeister Motor angehalten wird oder unterhalb einer vorbestimmten Drehzahl läuft.

3. Schaltung nach Anspruch 2, bei der der Stromsteuer-Verstärker (9) einen PI-Steuerbetrieb durchführt und eine Schalteinrichtung (9_a) aufweist, die dazu dient, den Verstärker dann zurückzusetzen, wenn ein von dem Wechselrichter gespeister Motor angehalten wird oder unter einer vorbestimmten Drehzahl läuft.

4. Verfahren zum Korrigieren einer Gleichstromkomponente in einem Stromsteuersignal, welches von einer Steuerschaltung zum Steuern eines PWM-Wechselrichters in Abhängigkeit eines Differenzsignals geliefert wird, welches kennzeichnend ist für die Differenz zwischen Soll- und Ist-Stromsignalen, gekennzeichnet durch die Schritte:

Integrieren der Gleichstromkomponente des Stromsteuersignals und Bildung eines integrierten Signals; und

Aufaddieren des integrierten Signals auf das Differenzsignal, um die Gleichstromkomponente zu beseitigen.

Revendications

1. Un circuit de commande d'onduleur PWM comprenant :

un amplificateur de commande de courant (9) répondant à un signal différence ayant une valeur indicative de la différence entre l'amplitude d'un signal de commande de courant sinusoïdal (7) et un signal capté (8c) indicatif de l'amplitude de courant de sortie de l'onduleur, pour fournir un signal de commande (9_a) servant à commander un circuit modulateur de largeur d'impulsions (10) ; caractérisé en ce que ledit cir-

Patentansprüche

1. PWM-Wechselrichter-Steuerschaltung, umfassend einen Stromsteuerverstärker (9), der auf ein Differenzsignal anspricht, dessen Größe kennzeichnend ist für die Differenz zwischen der Größe eines sinusförmigen Sollsignals (7) und einem für die Größe des Wechselrichter-Ausgangsstroms kennzeichnenden Ist-Signal (8c), um ein Steuersignal (9_a) zur Steuerung einer Pulsbreitenmodu-

cuit comprend en outre :

un amplificateur intégrateur (11), qui répond audit signal de commande, pour intégrer la composante continue dudit signal de commande et fournir un signal intégré (11₆) ayant une valeur indicative de ladite composante continue ; et

un amplificateur onduleur (12) qui répond audit signal intégré en fournissant un signal ondulé destiné à être additionné audit signal différence.

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2. Circuit selon la revendication 1, dans lequel ledit amplificateur intégrateur (11) comprend des moyens d'interruption (11₄) pour remettre l'intégrateur à zéro lorsqu'un moteur entraîné par l'onduleur est arrêté ou est en marche à une vitesse inférieure à une vitesse prédéterminée.

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3. Circuit selon la revendication 1 ou 2, dans lequel ledit amplificateur de commande de courant (9) effectue une opération de commande PI et comprend des moyens interrupteurs (9₆) agencés pour remettre l'amplificateur à zéro lorsqu'un moteur entraîné par l'onduleur est arrêté ou est en marche à une vitesse inférieure à une vitesse prédéterminée.

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4. Procédé pour corriger une composante continue contenue dans un signal de commande de courant émis par un circuit de commande servant à commander un onduleur PWM en réponse à un signal différence indicatif de la différence entre des signaux de courant commandé et capté, caractérisé par les phases consistant à :

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intégrer la composante continue dudit signal de commande de courant et fournir un signal intégré ; et

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additionner ledit signal intégré audit signal différence pour annuler ladite composante continue.

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