



**Faculty of Electrical Engineering**

**MODIFIED CASCADED H-BRIDGE MULTILEVEL INVERTER  
USING PARTICLE SWARM OPTIMIZATION**

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PARTICLE SWARM OPTIMIZATION**

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in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

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## DECLARATION

I declare that this thesis entitled “Modified Cascaded H-Bridge Multilevel Inverter Using Particle Swarm Optimization” is the result of my own research except as cited in the references. The thesis has not been accepted for any degree and is not concurrently submitted in candidature of any other degree.

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## APPROVAL

I hereby declare that I have read this thesis and in my opinion this thesis is sufficient in term of scope and quality for the award of Doctor of Philosophy.

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Supervisor Name : Assoc. Prof. Ir. Dr. Rosli Bin Omar

Date : .....

## **DEDICATION**

To my beloved father, mother, brothers, sisters.

## ABSTRACT

For more than two decades, multilevel inverters in different topologies and control strategies have been involved in many applications. In contrast to conventional three-level inverters, they are more efficient and better suited for applications requiring high power and high voltage levels. The current multilevel inverter topologies available in the market include diode clamped or neutral point clamped (NPC), capacitor clamped or flying capacitor (FC), and cascaded H-bridge (CHB). It is essential to produce an effective power converter from the perspective of cost, efficiency and output quality. These factors have lead to develop a new family of multilevel inverters known as modified CHB-MLIs of a single and three phases for five, nine and thirteen levels. This topology of the modified inverters requires fewer components compared to existing inverters (particularly in the higher levels) and requires fewer carrier signals and gate drives. Therefore, the overall cost and complexity are greatly reduced, particularly for higher output voltage levels. An important issue in the power electronic converters is the modulation control method in order to produce high quality output with a minimum distortion. As there exist many strategies for modulation, still the low-switching frequency technique is widely accepted in higher power applications. There are different optimization aims for different applications utilizing the low-switching frequency technique it is possible to increase the number of output voltage levels and produce a better sinusoidal output waveform and efficiency. The modified CHB-MLIs for five, nine and thirteen levels have a reduced number of DC power supplies and switches when compared to the conventional CHB topologies designed for the same number of voltage levels. The aim of this thesis is to investigate the performance of modified CHB-MLIs of a single and three phases for five, nine and thirteen levels based on cascaded multilevel inverter using low-switching frequency modulation scheme. The modulation method for obtaining the optimum switching angles based on Newton Raphson (NR) and Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) control techniques have been proposed. A NR and PSO control techniques were presented for selective harmonics elimination (SHE) solution in a modified CHB-MLIs. These control techniques have been implemented through closed-loop control system using DSP TMS320F2812. In this thesis, the complete switching angles of the SHE has been developed by using a heuristic optimization technique namely PSO by solving the non-linear equation of the output voltage waveform and later validated with the conventional method NR. To validity of a low power prototype of the modified CHB-MLIs have been designed and implemented; analytical, simulation, and experimental results have been provided. The relative merits of the proposed modulation scheme based on the NR and PSO have been assessed based on modified inverters output quality and efficiency. Investigations of the proposed modulation scheme based on PSO have been revealed that the switching pattern of the adopted inverters has the capability of producing output voltage with minimal THD and high efficiency of the modified inverters. The results acquired from the simulation results the superiority of PSO over the conventional methods NR, where the THD reduction values in the three developed CHB-MLI namely five-level, nine level, and thirteen level are 15%, 7.8%, and 5.2%, respectively.

## ABSTRAK

Lebih dari dua dekad penyongsang pelbagai peringkat dalam topologi dan kawalan strategi yang berbeda telah banyak terlibat dalam aplikasi. Bertentangan dengan penyongsang tiga aras konvensional, penyongsang pelbagai aras adalah lebih cekap dan amat sesuai penggunaannya untuk kuasa tinggi dan paras voltan tinggi. Topologi penyongsang pelbagai peringkat yang terdapat dipasaran sekarang adalah termasuk diod diapit atau titik neutral diikat (NPC), kapasitor diikat atau kapasitor terbang (FC) dan penyongsang pelbagai peringkat Jambatan-H sambungan Lata CHB. Adalah amat penting untuk menghasilkan penyongsang kuasa yang berkesan dari segi persepektif kos, kecekapan dan kualiti keluaran. Faktor-faktor ini mempengaruhi untuk memajukan satu keluarga baru penyongsang pelbagai aras yang dikenali sebagai penyongsang pelbagai peringkat Jambatan-H sambungan Lata (CHB-MLI) yang diubah suai untuk fasa tunggal atau tiga fasa bagi aras lima, Sembilan dan tigabelas. Topologi ini bagi penyongsang yang diubahsuai memerlukan kurang komponen berbanding penyongsang yang terdapat dipasaran sekarang (terutamanya untuk aras yang lebih tinggi) dan ianya memerlukan kurang isyarat pembawa dan pemacu pintu. Oleh sebab itu kos keseluruhan dan kerumitan dapat dikurangkan terutamanya untuk aras voltan keluaran tinggi. Isu yang lebih penting dalam elektronik kuasa ialah kaedah kawalan modulasi kearah menghasilkan keluaran kualiti tinggi dengan minimum keherotan. Seperti banyak strategi modulasi yang ada sekarang, teknik penyuisan frekuensi rendah masih digunakan secara meluas untuk penggunaan kuasa tinggi. Terdapat perbezaan pengoptimuman bertujuan untuk penggunaan yang berbeza dengan menggunakan teknik penyuisan frekuensi rendah. Adalah tidak mustahil untuk meningkatkan bilangan paras voltan keluaran dan menghasilkan gelombang dan kecekapan output sinusoidal yang lebih baik. CHB yang telah diubahsuai untuk aras lima, sembilan dan tiga belas mempunyai bilangan bekalan kuasa DC dan suis yang dikurangkan apabila dibandingkan dengan topologi CHB konvensional yang direka untuk bilangan voltan yang sama. Tujuan tesis ini adalah untuk menyiasat prestasi CHB yang diubahsuai untuk satu dan tiga fasa untuk aras lima, sembilan dan tiga belas berdasarkan penyongsang pelbagai peringkat dengan menggunakan skim modulasi frekuensi rendah. Kaedah modulasi untuk mendapatkan sudut pensuisan optimum berdasarkan teknik-teknik Newton Raphson (NR) dan Pengoptimuman kelompok zarah (PSO) telah dicadangkan. Teknik-teknik kawalan NR dan PSO telah dibentangkan untuk penyelesaian SHE dalam CHB yang diubah suai. Teknik kawalan Penyongsang telah diubahsuai telah digunakan untuk peringkat lima hingga tiga belas aras bagi CHB-MLIs yang telah diubahsuai. Teknik kawalan ini telah dilaksanakan melalui sistem kawalan gelung tertutup menggunakan DSP. Dalam tesis ini, sudut pensuisan yang lengkap untuk penyelesaian penghapusan harmonik terpilih (SHE) diterbitkan menggunakan teknik pengoptimuman heuristik iaitu PSO dengan menyelesaikan persamaan tidak serentak dari gelombang voltan keluaran dan kemudian disahkan menggunakan teknik konvensional NR. Untuk mengesahkan kesesuaian prototaip kuasa rendah CHB-MLIs yang telah dimodifikasi reka bentuk dan dilaksanakan; analisis, simulasi, dan keputusan eksperimen seperti disediakan. Kebaikan relatif skim modulasi yang dicadangkan berdasarkan NR dan PSO telah dinilai berdasarkan kualiti dan kecekapan keluaran penyongsang yang diubah suai. Penyelidikan skim modulasi yang dicadangkan berdasarkan PSO telah membuktikan bahawa sistem penyuisan penyongsang yang diterima pakai mempunyai keupayaan menghasilkan voltan keluaran dengan THD yang minimum dan kecekapan tinggi dalam penyongsang yang diubahsuai. Keputusan diperoleh daripada hasil simulasi dari kelebihan PSO melalui kaedah konvensional NR, di mana nilai pengurangan THD dalam tiga CHB-MLI yang dibangunkan iaitu tahap lima, sembilan tahap, dan tahap tiga belas adalah 15%, 7.8%, dan 5.2% secara keseluruhannya.

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