



DEVELOPMENT OF DYNAMIC EVOLUTION CONTROL FOR PV INVERTER IN SOLAR POWER PLANT APPLICATION

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ABSTRACT

Power inverter is a kind of power electronic converter that used to convert a dc input voltage to an ac output voltage. In solar power plant application, the PV inverter converts the dc voltage from Solar PV panel, which is usually stored in the battery, into an ac output voltage to serve the load of household appliances, such as lighting, television, mobile charger, even a washing machine and water pump. Therefore, a reliable inverter that can produce a good output voltage is necessary. The main purpose of this paper is to design and develop a dynamic evolution control (DEC) for a PV Inverter in solar power plant application. The analysis and design of the DEC control technique are provided. The performance of the PV inverter controller is verified through MATLAB Simulink. To validate the simulation results, an experimental prototype of PV inverter is developed. The controller of the PV inverter system was implemented based on dynamic evolution control. The performance of the proposed dynamic evolution control is tested through simulation and experiment.

Keywords: dynamic evolution control, inverter controller, PV inverter, solar power plant.

INTRODUCTION

The increasing of world demand for energy resources is a crucial challenge that makes renewable energy sources has gained importance. One of the most promising renewable energy sources is solar photovoltaic [1]. It can produce direct current electricity when exposed to direct sunlight. Solar photovoltaic are solid state devices that convert the energy of sunlight directly into electrical energy. Solar photovoltaic have several advantages such as pollution-free, low maintenance costs and low operating costs [1-4]. Their sources of energy, which is derived from solar energy, are also widely available and it is free.

Photovoltaic technology is a technology for generating electrical power by converting solar radiation into direct current electricity using semiconductors who have photovoltaic effect. The main component of a PV system is the solar cell, which functions to convert solar energy into direct current electrical energy. When exposed to sunlight; the solar panels will generate the direct current electricity, which is ready to supply power to the load. Because of its energy conversion systems using Photovoltaic technology, the power plant of this type is also called Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant.

The commonly used solar PV power plant system is shown in Figure-1. The solar PV power plant system consist of Solar PV Panel, Solar charge controller, energy storage element, and PV Inverter.

In this system, the PV inverter converts the dc voltage from Solar PV panel, which is stored in the battery, into an AC output voltage to supply the AC load, such as lighting, television, mobile charger, even a washing machine and water pump. Hence, a reliable inverter that can produce a good output voltage is necessary.

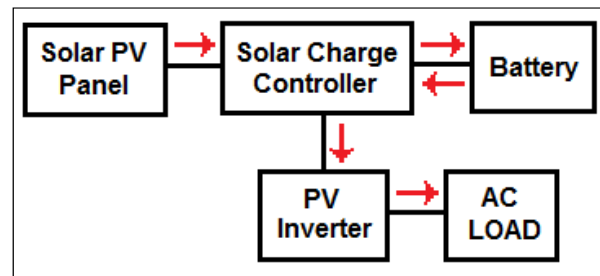


Figure-1. Solar PV power plant system.

In this paper, a Dynamic Evolution Control for PV Inverter is developed. The design and performance analysis of the controller is executed under MATLAB Simulink software. The performance of PV Inverter was tested by considering the effect of load variation. Finally, the PV inverter hardware was made to validate the effectiveness of the controller.

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC MATEMATICAL MODEL

In solar power plant application, several solar cells connected in series and parallel to form a solar module, and several solar modules can be connected in series or parallel to form a Solar Array in order to increase the output power of a solar panel system.

Here, solar cell transform solar radiation into DC current to generate electric power based on the principle of photovoltaic effect in semiconductor materials. In order to predict the energy production in every photovoltaic cell, the commonly used Solar cell model is the single diode circuit model that represents the electrical behavior of the pn-junction [5-6]. Figure-2 shows the single diode circuit model of Solar cell.

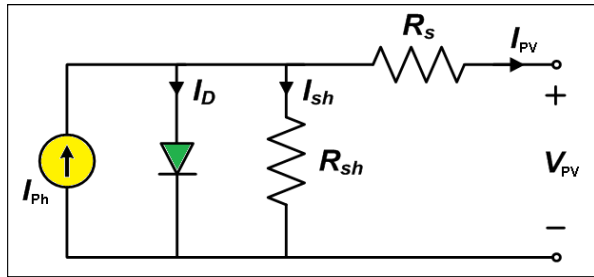


Figure-2. Solar cell equivalent circuit.

From Figure-2, the output current can be calculated by:

$$I_{pv} = I_{ph} - I_D - I_{sh} \tag{1}$$

where

- I_{pv} = output current (ampere)
- I_{ph} = photocurrent (ampere)
- I_D = diode current (ampere)
- I_{sh} = shunt current (ampere).

The diode current follows the Shockley diode equation [7-8]:

$$I_D = I_0 \left[e^{\left(\frac{qV_D}{nkT}\right)} - 1 \right] \tag{2}$$

where

- I_0 = reverse saturation current (ampere)
- n = diode ideality factor
- q = elementary charge
- k = Boltzmann's constant
- T = absolute temperature

The shunt resistor current is calculated by:

$$I_{sh} = \frac{V_{sh}}{R_{sh}} \tag{3}$$

where R_{sh} = shunt resistance (Ω), and the voltage across R_{sh} is V_{sh} which is equal to diode voltage, V_D . Since the diode voltage is

$$V_D = V_{pv} + I_{pv} R_s$$

So, the shunt resistor current can be written as:

$$I_{sh} = \frac{V_{pv} + I_{pv} R_s}{R_{sh}} \tag{4}$$

where

- V_D = voltage across diode and resistor R_{sh} (volt)
- V_{pv} = voltage across the output terminals (volt)
- I_{pv} = output current (ampere)
- R_s = series resistance (Ω).

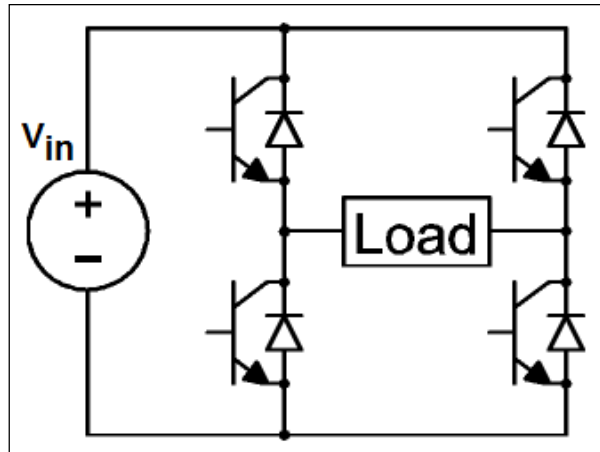


Figure-3. Schematic of full-bridge inverter.

By substituting equation (2), (3) and (4) into equation (1), the obtained characteristic equation of a solar cell that relates the output current and output voltage can be written as:

$$I_{pv} = I_{ph} - I_0 \left[e^{\left(\frac{q(V_{pv} + I_{pv} R_s)}{nkT}\right)} - 1 \right] - \frac{V_{pv} + I_{pv} R_s}{R_{sh}} \tag{5}$$

POWER INVERTER

Power inverter is a kind of power electronic converter that used to convert a dc input voltage to an ac output voltage. Power Inverter is the most important device use in many power conversions, such as dc to ac in Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS), lighting, power quality conditioner, motor drives control, renewable energy systems, HVDC power transmission, renewable energy systems and induction heating.

In many applications, load demand varies with time, therefore the inverter should be able to provide this demand with a high quality stable ac voltage. A typical power inverter requires a relatively stable DC power source capable of supplying enough current for the intended power demands of the system.

In the last few decades, many topology inverters have been used to apply power inverters, such as full bridge, half bridge and push pull. The most commonly used inverter circuit is a full bridge inverter. The typical schematic of full bridge inverter circuit shown in Figure-3.

The full-bridge inverter is widely employed in various applications. To get a high-quality output with low total harmonic distortion, sinusoidal pulse width modulation (PWM) methods are commonly used in a full-bridge inverter. Switching schemes, unipolar PWM and bipolar PWM, are well known and widely employed. In these techniques, the switches are commutated at high frequency, i.e., the frequency of the carrier signal [9-10].

Inverters can be classified based on the output waveforms, such as square wave, modified sinewave and



pure sinewave inverter output. Three types of inverter output waveform are shown in Figure-4.

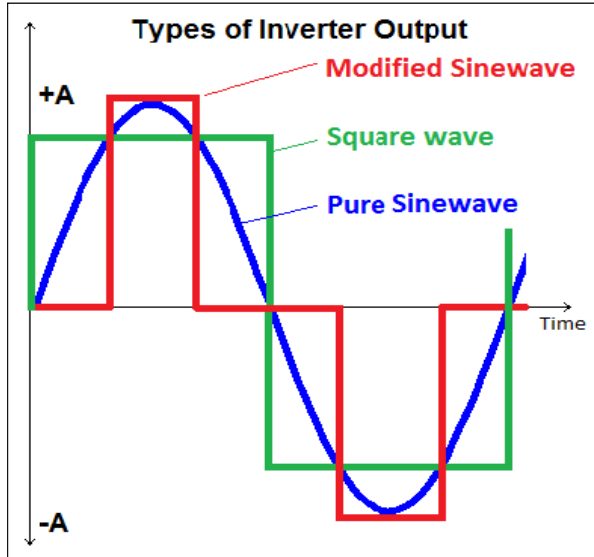


Figure-4. Inverter output waveform.

MODEL OF POWER INVERTER

Power inverter is used to convert a DC input voltage source to an AC output voltage. Here, a single phase fullbridge inverter with LC Filter is used.

Single phase Fullbridge inverter with LC Filter scheme is depicted as Figure-5.

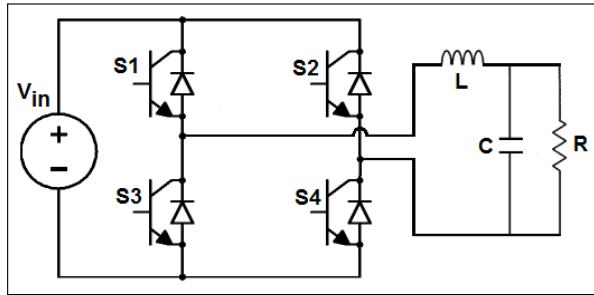


Figure-5. Fullbridge inverter with LC filter.

The operation condition of Full-bridge inverter can be divided to two conditions as follows:

State 1. Switch S1 and S4 are on, while switch S2 and S3 are off. In this state the voltage equation of inverter can be written as:

$$V_{in} = L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_o \tag{6}$$

$$V_{in} \cdot t_{ON} = (L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_o) \cdot t_{ON} \tag{7}$$

State 2. Switch S2 and S3 are on, while switch S1 and S4 are off. In this state the voltage equation of inverter can be written as:

$$-V_{in} = L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_o \tag{8}$$

$$-V_{in} \cdot t_{OFF} = (L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_o) \cdot t_{OFF} \tag{9}$$

By summing (7) and (9),

$$V_{in} \cdot (t_{ON} - t_{OFF}) = (L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_o) \cdot (t_{ON} + t_{OFF}) \tag{10}$$

By dividing (10) with the switching period T, thus the dynamic equation of single phase Fullbridge inverter is obtained as follows:

$$V_{in} \cdot (2D - 1) = L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_o \tag{11}$$

Where V_{in} is the dc input voltage, $D = t_{ON}/T$ is duty cycle, i_L is inductor current, V_o is output voltage, L is inductor inductance.

Rearranging (11), the output voltage of inverter can be written as:

$$V_o = V_{in} (2D - 1) - L \frac{di_L}{dt} \tag{12}$$

DYNAMIC EVOLUTION CONTROL

The dynamic evolution control is a new control method for power electronic converter. This control method has been used in many references in recent years. The dynamic evolution control forces the error state in the system to follow a specific path that ensures the error state goes to zero in an increase of time. The specific path is called the dynamic evolution path [11-13].

Here, the dynamic characteristic of the system is forced to do evolution by following an evolution path. When the selected evolution path is an exponential function as shown in Figure-6, the value of the dynamic characteristic of the system will decrease exponentially to zero by equation

$$Y = Y_o \cdot e^{-mt} \tag{13}$$

where, Y is the dynamic characteristic of the system, Y_o is the initial value of Y, and m is a design parameter specifying the rate of evolution.

Hence, the dynamic evolution function of this controller can be written as



$$\frac{dY}{dt} + mY = 0, \quad m > 0 \quad (14)$$

In order to obtain the control law that guarantees the dynamic characteristic of system decreased to zero by following the evolution path, the synthesis process should be done. In power inverter, the corresponding control law is the duty cycle equation of the inverter.

The duty cycle $D(V_o, V_{in}, i_L)$ represents D as a function of the state V_o , V_{in} and i_L . The duty cycle equation $D(V_o, V_{in}, i_L)$ is obtained by analyzed and substituted the dynamic equation of the inverter system into the dynamic evolution function (14).

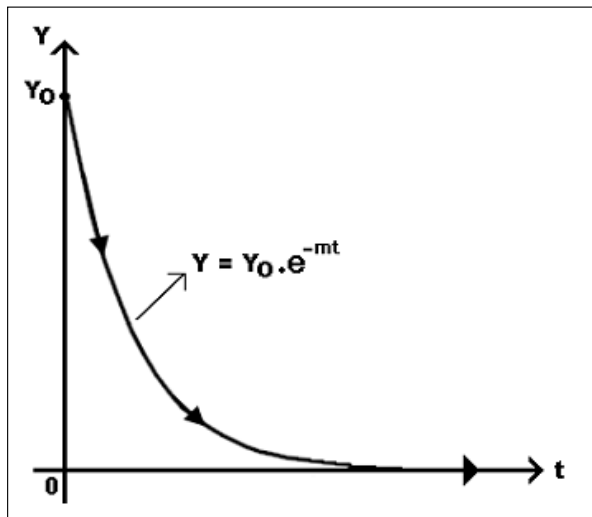


Figure-6. Dynamic evolution path.

POWER INVERTER CONTROLLER SYNTHESIS

The dynamic evolution synthesis of the controller begins by defining the state error function (Y) as

$$Y = k \cdot V_{err} \quad (15)$$

Where k is a positive coefficient and V_{err} is error voltage.

$$V_{err} = V_{ref} - V_o$$

The derivative of Y is given by:

$$\frac{dY}{dt} = k \cdot \frac{dV_{err}}{dt} \quad (16)$$

Substitution (15) and (16) into (14), yields

$$k \cdot \frac{dV_{err}}{dt} + m \cdot k \cdot V_{err} = 0 \quad (17)$$

$$k \cdot \frac{dV_{err}}{dt} + (m \cdot k - 1)V_{err} + V_{ref} = V_o \quad (18)$$

Directly substituting the inverter voltage output V_o from (12) into (18) we get:

$$k \cdot \frac{dV_{err}}{dt} + (m \cdot k - 1)V_{err} + V_{ref} = V_{in}(2D - 1) - L \frac{di_L}{dt} \quad (19)$$

Solving for D , the obtained duty cycle is given by:

$$D = \frac{k \cdot \frac{dV_{err}}{dt} + (m \cdot k - 1)V_{err} + L \frac{di_L}{dt} + V_{ref} + V_{in}}{2 \cdot V_{in}} \quad (20)$$

Table-1. Specification of solar world SW50 module [14].

| Parameters | Symbol | Value |
|--------------------------|----------|--------|
| Maximum power | P_m | 50 W |
| Voltage at max power | V_m | 18.2 V |
| Current at max power | I_m | 2.75 A |
| Open circuit voltage | V_{oc} | 22.1 V |
| Short circuit current | I_{sc} | 2.98 A |
| Number of Series Cells | N_s | 36 |
| Number of Parallel Cells | N_p | 1 |

Here, the duty cycle D is the control action for the inverter controller.

The duty cycle equation (20) forces the state error ($Y = k \cdot V_{err}$) to satisfy the dynamic evolution function (9). Consequently, the state error (Y) is forced to make evolution by following (8) and decrease to zero ($Y = 0$) with a decrease rate m . Hence, the state error function (Y) satisfy the equation

$$Y = k \cdot V_{err} = 0$$

Thus the state error of the inverter will converge to zero.

$$V_{err} = 0 \quad (21)$$

Since $V_{err} = V_{ref} - V_o$, from (21) we get the output voltage of inverter converges to the inverter reference.

$$V_o = V_{ref}$$

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Solar power plant simulation result

Based on the equations (6) to (10), and using the electrical parameter specifications of Solar World SW50 module, Solar Cell model has been developed. The model



of the Solar Cell was implemented in MATLAB-Simulink software. Specification of Solar World SW50 Module is presented in Table-1. Figure-7 shows the model of the Solar Cell with input parameters irradiance and voltage.

The Solar PV Panel model was developed using 10-modules Solar Cell in series connection. The developed model of the Solar PV Panel is shown as Figure-8. The performance of Solar PV Panel model is tested through simulation. Figure 9 shows the Current-Voltage curve and Figure 10 shows the Power-Voltage curve of the Solar PV Panel.

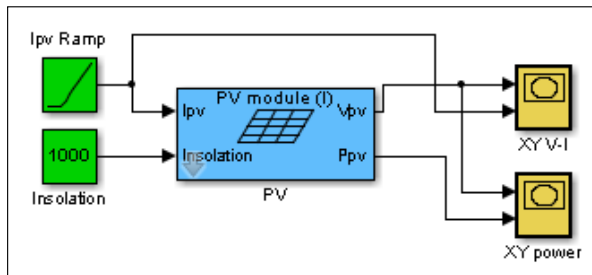


Figure-7. Model of solar cell.

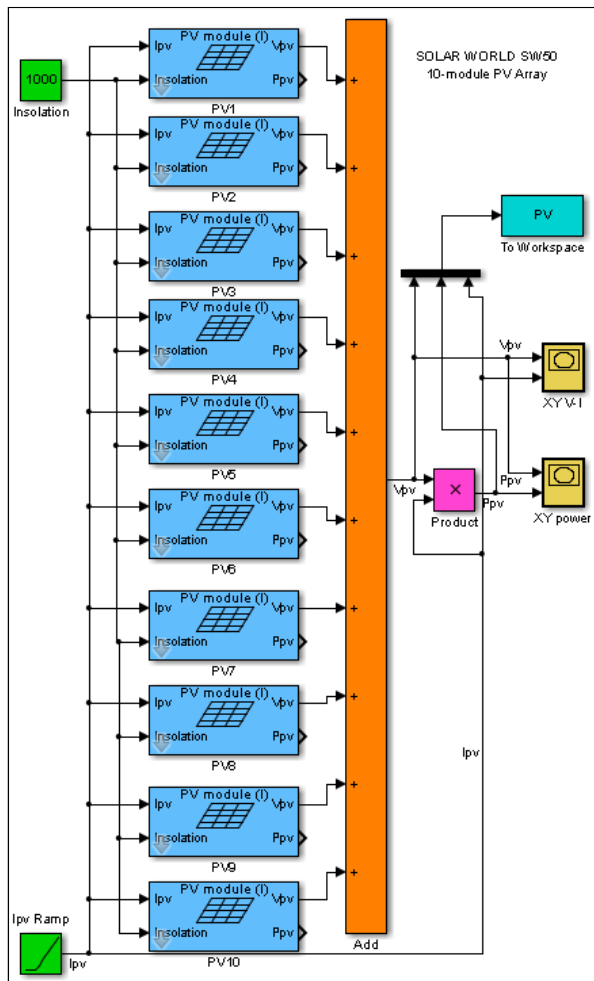


Figure-8. Model of solar PV panel.

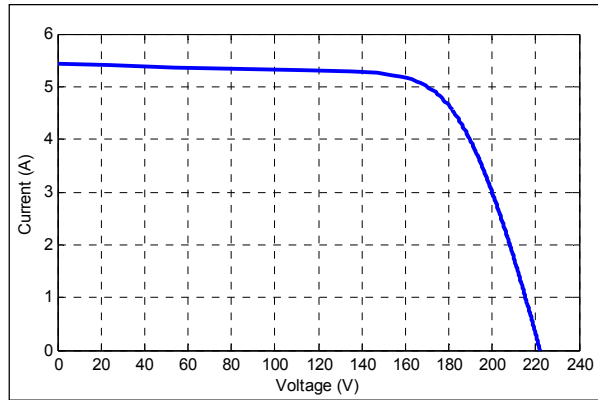


Figure-9. Current-voltage curve of solar PV panel.

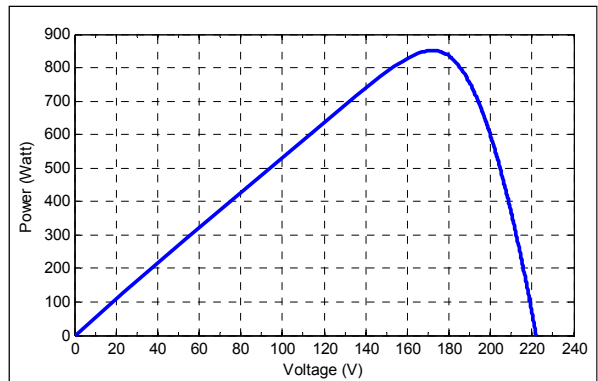


Figure-10. Power-voltage curve of solar PV panel.

PV inverter simulation result

Power Inverter scheme and the dynamic evolution control equation, which is described by (15), are modeled in Simulink as shown in Figure-11. Model parameters are listed in Table-2. The control goal is to produce 120V, 60 Hz sinusoidal output voltage. The reference of the output voltage is specified based on the desired output voltage.

$$V_{ref} = 120\sqrt{2} \sin 120\pi t \tag{22}$$

Figures 12 and 13 show the result for steady-state performance of the proposed dynamic evolution control for no-load and full-load condition. The results give a satisfactory performance which indicates that the proposed dynamic evolution control is capable to avoid voltage output level from dropping when a load is connected.

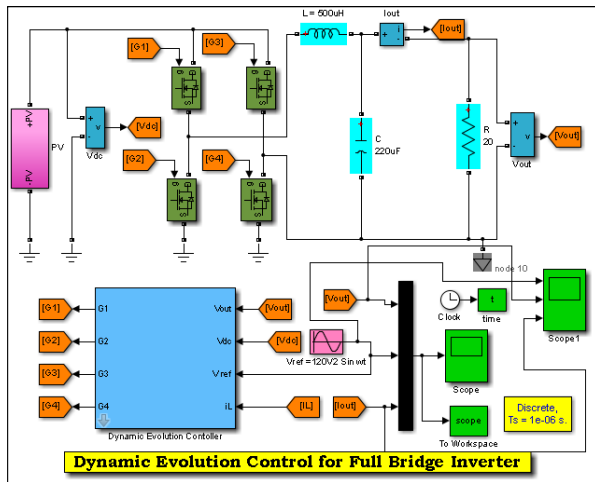


Figure-11. Power inverter simulation model.

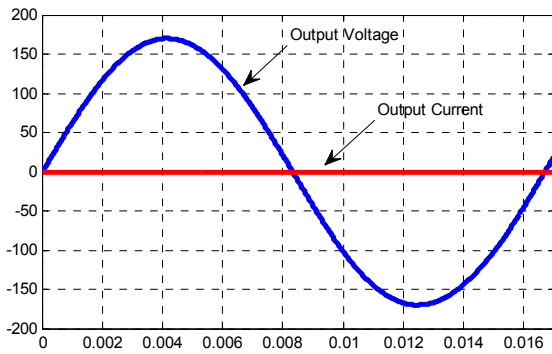


Figure-12. Steady-state performance (no-load).

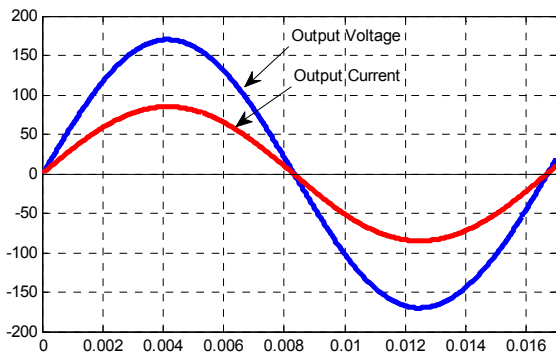


Figure-13. Steady-state performance (full-load).

Experiment results

To validate the effectiveness of dynamic evolution control technique, a hardware prototype of fullbridge inverter was built as shown in Figure-14. Power Inverter part was built using four of power IGBT HGTG20N60B3D, and the gate driver circuit was built using HCPL 3120.

A DSP based dynamic evolution controller has been implemented. The DSP Board TMS320F2812 is employed to implement the dynamic evolution control and the PWM signal generator. The experiment results are shown in Figures 15 and 16.

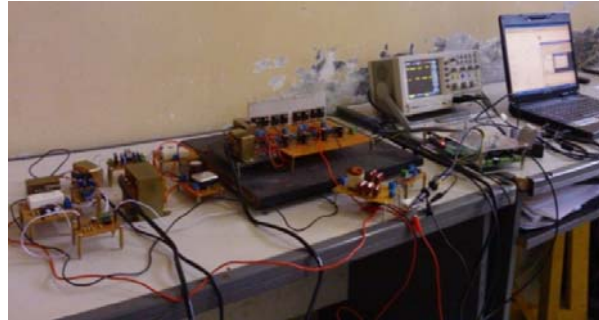


Figure-14. Hardware prototype of inverter system.



Figure-15. Output voltage when no load condition.



Figure-16. One cycle output voltage.

CONCLUSIONS

This paper presents a dynamic evolution control for PV inverter. The performance of dynamic evolution



control has been investigated under simulation and experiment test. The results show the dynamic evolution control accomplishes to produce 120V, 60 Hz sinusoidal output voltage, and regulate the PV Inverter output voltage keep on steady-state at 120 V, 60 Hz reference.

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