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ASDs and Reflected Waves – A review of problems and solutions

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Outline

- What is the problem?
- Possible solutions
- Comparison of solutions
- Conclusions



What is the problem?







Typical PWM Drive Output Voltage – Drive End



for Humanity



- $V_{motor} = (1 + \Gamma) \times V_{drive}$
- Reflection:
- $\Gamma = \frac{Z_{motor} Z_0}{Z_{motor} + Z_0}$
- > Cable critical length:

$$l_c = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \pi \cdot c \cdot t_{rise}$$





Erik Persson, "Transient Effects in Application of PWM Inverters to Induction Motors"





Drive End Voltage

Motor End Voltage







Effects of Reflected Waves

Insulation Breakdown

Stray dv/dt current







Why do they keep coming back?

Faster Switching Devices

Cable Critical Length





Increasing Cable

Length



Why do drives use fast switching?

Reduce switching losses

Reduce harmonics

for Humanity



Is the problem always reflected waves?

Harmonics can be significant

- Rule of thumb: < 10% THD of motor current</p>
- If motor is in a high temperature or low ventilation application, THD restrictions may be more severe.
- Voltage harmonics also have an impact, even if current harmonics are low.



Solutions





Ideal Solution

- Drive End Voltage = Motor Voltage
- No voltage overshoot at the motor

- Zero or minimal additional cost
- Reliability is maintained or improved

- Low harmonic content
- Motor current = drive current

- Additional components are readily available
- No increase in size/weight of complete motor and drive system





Filtering



Filter can be at drive end or motor end



Filters

Voltage drop if series filter

- Will reduce harmonics, often significantly
- Motor current could deviate from drive current

- Filter may be a significant cost factor.
- Engineering design required to ensure filter is not the weak point
- Filter components add size, and require system engineering
- Filters can be drive end or motor end





Voltage Clamp/Line Termination





Voltage Clamp/Line Termination

- Drive End Voltage = Motor Voltage
- Voltage overshoot may not be 100% eliminated

- Cost lower than some other solutions
- Possible reliability issues

- Little or no impact on harmonics
- Motor current could deviate from drive current

- May need system engineering or long delivery components
- Must be at the motor end





Upgraded cables

- Drive End Voltage = Motor Voltage?
- May not necessarily eliminate motor overshoot

- Cable cost may increase, possibly significantly
- Can the enhanced cable be used in your environment?

- Does not improve harmonics
- Motor current = drive current

- Cable delivery TBD
- No increase in size/weight of complete motor and drive system





Upgraded Motor

- Drive End Voltage = Motor Voltage
- Does not eliminate overshoots, merely survives.
- Motor cost will increase, possibly significantly

- Does not improve harmonics
- Motor current = drive current

- Motor delivery TBD
- Motor size will likely increase





Drive Topology – Multi-level Drive

2 level Voltage

3 level Voltage







Drive Topology – Multi-level drive

- Drive End Voltage = Motor Voltage
- Reduced voltage overshoot at the motor

- Reduces harmonics
- Motor current = drive current

- Cost not necessarily higher than equivalent 2 level solution.
- Reliability may be lower, but not significantly

- Delivery time TBD
- No increase in size/weight of complete motor and drive system





Comparing Strategies





Comparison of Techniques

Method	V@mot	THD	Cost	Reliability	Size	Loc
Filters	≠ drive	improve	\$\$\$	TBD	1	both
Termination	NC	??	\$\$	TBD	1	motor
Upgrade cable	NC	NC	\$\$	TBD	NC	cable
Upgrade motor	NC	NC	\$\$	TBD	1	motor
Multilevel drive	NC	improve	\$	TBD	?	drive









Combination of faster devices and longer cables will cause issue to re-occur



 Both voltage overshoots and harmonics are issues that can cause premature motor failures







- Do the engineering needed to determine your optimum solution:
- Each method has different impacts on cost, reliability and system performance.



