

Danfoss Drives Harmonics Review

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Agenda

- Overview of Harmonics
- Voltage Distortion VS Current Distortion
- Harmonics Mitigation Solution Options
- Passive Filter Functionality





- first harmonic (fundamental)
- third harmonic
- fifth harmonic



Energy efficiency



- Today, only 25% of all electric motors globally are frequency controlled by an AC drive. I makes sense to install drives in 40-50% of all motor-systems.
- AC drives all have the same side effect: Harmonic Distortion.
 Harmonics obstruct energy savings.



Harmonics: What they are...and are not

- All diode rectifier circuits draw non sinusoidal current.
- They are referred to as "non linear" load.
- Biggest contributors are:
 - Switch mode power supplies
 - Lighting
 - UPS
 - AC drives
- Different AC drives have different current waveform (harmonic footprint).





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Harmonics: What they are...and are not





- Any periodic signals, independent of shape, can be represented as a sum of sine-waves.
- This is called a "Fourier" representation.
- Let us make a Fourier analysis of the current waveform of the AC drive below.





The Ideal Waveform

 In public power distribution networks the ideal undistorted AC electrical signal has a typical frequency of 50Hz or 60Hz depending on the country or region.





Power Disturbances

• The power grid normally experiences huge variations of load and reacts to changes in the voltage waveform.



- Causes of power disturbances range from electrical switching circuits to lightning.
- Harmonic distortions are repetitive and continuous deformations of the voltage or current waveforms.
- All distortions result in deviations from the ideal sinusoidal waveform.





Definition of Harmonics

In a periodic signal the primary, desired frequency is the "Fundamental Frequency".

A "Harmonic" refers to a component of a periodic signal, that is itself:

"a periodic **sinusoidal** signal, with a frequency that is an integer multiple of the fundamental frequency".

Therefore in public power distribution networks:

The frequency of an *n*th Harmonic is: $f_n = n \times 50$ Hz or $f_n = n \times 60$ Hz





Causes: repetitive non linear loads



Ballast Lighting

DC switching power supplies such as computers

■AFDs,







Harmonic Producing Loads

- Harmonics are primarily caused by loads that draw current repetitively but in a non-sinusoidal manner.
- Examples of Harmonic Loads include:
 - Ballast / Fluorescent Lighting & Computer power supplies
 - Uninterruptable Power Supplies (UPS') & Variable Speed Drives
 - Charging circuits incorporating rectifiers
 - Arc Welders & 3 phase machines
- Examples of load current waveforms with harmonics.







Causes of Harmonic Currents



- The basic 6-pulse rectifier draws a non sinusoidal current.
- A pulsating current is drawn from supply grid.
- Current pulse shape is dependent on capacitor size.
- Current pulse shape is also load dependent.





Current VS Voltage Distortion



Current distortion relates to load level performance

■ I*Z=V

- Voltage distortion relates to system level performance.
- Harmonic currents of the non-linear load AND the system short-circuit impedance are required to calculate voltage distortion. It is NOT possible to predict the voltage distortion knowing only the load performance.
- Background voltage distortion is also related to system level performance. Same as secondary transformer side voltage distortion. Background distortion can be caused by energy consumers far away and is always present to some extent (0.5 - 3%).



Current VS Voltage Distortion

• Effects of current distortion. Since operation of nonlinear loads causes the distorted current, which is path dependent, the effect of current distortion on loads within a facility is minimal. Therefore, harmonic currents can't flow into equipment other than the nonlinear loads that caused them. However, the effect of current distortion on distribution systems can be serious, primarily because of the increased current flowing in the system.



Current Distortion



Problems caused by current distortion

- Transformer overload and audible noise.
- Tripping of serial relays and circuit breakers.
- Stressing of Power Factor correction capacitors.
- Premature aging of serially installed equipment.
- Overheating of cables and insulation stress.
- Overheating of transformers and insulation stress.





Current VS Voltage Distortion

 Effects of voltage distortion. Besides overheating, the other major effect of current distortion on an electrical system is the creation of voltage distortion. This distortion will have minimal effect on a distribution system, but unlike current distortion, it isn't path dependent. So harmonic voltages generated in one part of a facility will appear on common buses within that facility. Highvoltage distortion at the terminals of a nonlinear load doesn't mean high distortion will be present throughout the system. In fact, the voltage distortion becomes lower the closer a bus is located to the service transformer. However, if excessive voltage distortion does exist at the transformer, it can pass through the unit and appear in facilities distant from the origin.



Voltage Distortion



Problems caused by voltage distortion

- Malfunction of electronic equipment
- Breakdown of electronic equipment
- Increased Electromagnetic Interference (EMI)
- Increased losses at direct online motors
- Torque ripples from direct online motors
- Erratic operation





Harmonic effects on the power grid



DOL Motor with 8% THvD can only be loaded to 85%

$\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{h}} = \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{h}}$

Harmonics lead to:

- Poor utilization of supply infrastructure
- Reduced equipment life
- Lower equipment efficiencies
- Increased likelihood of trips and production stops





What is a **safe level?**



Odd harmonics Non-multiple of 3		Odd harmonics Multiple of 3		Even harmonics	
Order `h'	Harmonic Voltage (%)	Order `h'	Harmonic Voltage (%)	Order `h'	Harmonic Voltage (%)
5 7 11 13 17	6 5 3.5 3 2	3 9 15 21 21 <h≤45< td=""><td>5 1.5 0.3 0.2 0.2</td><td>2 4 6 8 10</td><td>2 1 0.5 0.5 0.5</td></h≤45<>	5 1.5 0.3 0.2 0.2	2 4 6 8 10	2 1 0.5 0.5 0.5
17 <h≤49< td=""><td>2.27(17/h)-0.27</td><td></td><td></td><td>10<h≤50< td=""><td>0.25(10/h)+0.25</td></h≤50<></td></h≤49<>	2.27(17/h)-0.27			10 <h≤50< td=""><td>0.25(10/h)+0.25</td></h≤50<>	0.25(10/h)+0.25

Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) level is 8%

- You can be sure your supply is already polluted with harmonics.
- Current distortion is less important but restrict voltage distortion.
- Product immunity has to be higher than system distortion to prevent breakdown but product life is a function of distortion level.
- Good practice is aiming at system THDv of 5-8% to avoid damage to components.



Fast guidance



Reflect/calculate on harmonics if:

- Drive load on transformer is >30%
- The transformer is >90% loaded
- Generator fed supply

If problems occur consider:

- Use special drives
- Use filter(s)
- Change layout of transformer/generator
- Mix single and three phased non-linear loads

Do not use mitigation equipment if not needed.







Mitigation Techniques

Non-VFD Mitigation Techniques







- Oversize hardware components, still abiding to regulations, and allow harmonics to flow.
 - Oversize distribution transformers.
 - Oversize switchgear and distribution cabling to reduce risk of insulation breakdown.
 - Use "K-factor" system transformers to increase heat tolerance.
- Hardware for over-sizing is expensive.
- Harmonic energy is dissipated in the form of heat which is also expensive.
- Harmonics can also be reduced by:
 - Balancing loads on phases.
 - Improving Displacement Power Factor



Mitigation Techniques

Non-VFD Harmonic Solutions Pros and Cons

Non-VFD Solution	Pro	Con
Balance Distortions	No added hardware	Expensive or impractical to move loads
Balance Distortions	Take advantage of system capability	May just be "moving" problem
Oversize	Simple	Low Efficiency
Oversize	Relatively low cost	Limited Solution
Transformer	Relatively low cost	Low Efficiency
Transformer	Adapts to Load Cause	Very limited Solution



Mitigation Techniques

Drive Based Passive Harmonic Solution Features & Benefits

Passive Solution	Feature	Benefit	
DC Inductor	1. Reduce THiD~40%	Smooth & Efficient	
	2. Built-in top of VFD	Reliable, less heat	
Trapping Filter	 Reduce THID to 5or 10% Power match Danfoss VFD 	Smooth & Efficient Easy to install	
System Trapping Filter	 Reduce THiD <5% Small system solution 	Smooth & Efficient Space saving	
Multi-Pulse	1. 12P=9-15% THID 2. Very robust	Smooth & Efficient Reliable, durable	



Input Line Reactors or DC Links

AC & DC Inductors



AC-Inductors



DC-Inductors

- DC-Inductors are typically built-in as standard.
- Overlapping of magnetic fields in the inductor reduces distortion.
- Offers moderate mitigation performance.
- Great RMS current reduction.
- Practical / Easy production.
- Cost efficient.



AC vs DC Impedance



As AC impedance increases on the AC side of the VFD, the DC bus voltage decreases
As DC impedance increases on the DC bus, the voltage becomes more stable



6-Pulse rectifier

- When we convert 3 phase AC to DC, we get a DC waveform with AC content or AC ripple
- This gives us "6 Pulses" per cycle





Six-pulse rectifier

-with AC or DC inductor—Passive Solution





HARMONI	C CURRENT
Fund.	38.57 A
THID	104.52%
RMS curre	ent
	55.79 A



HARMONIC CURRENT

36.22 A

42.51%

39.47 A

Fund.

THiD

RMS current



AC

HARMONIC	CURREN
Fund.	36.84 A
THID	

43.84% RMS current 40.22 A





Multi-pulse rectifiers—Passive solution

Many different types available. Autotransformers are the cheapest solution









18 Pulse Solutions

12 & 18 Pulse Rectifiers



12-pulse rectifier



18-pulse rectifier

Well-known technology.

- The power coming into the rectifier sections is phase shifted by a special transformer to cause cancellation of harmonics.
- Offers fair mitigation performance
- Dependent on high load and grid stability
- Optimal for step-down / step-up solutions
- Robust



Harmonic Performance





Passive Harmonic Filtering



- Simple solution
 - 3 wires in & out
- Several manufacturers
- Off the shelf design
- Retrofitable
- Typically 2 options
 - 10% THiD
 - 5% THiD



PHD Passive Panel solution



- Exceeds IEEE-519 5% requirements at full load
- Exceeds IEEE-519 5% requirements to almost 50% load
- Best overall performance achieving THD levels to almost 3%
- High overall system efficiency (typically 98%)
- Lower heat dissipation due to higher efficiencies
- Utilizes all standard components
- Robust
- Generally small size
- If the filter fails, the drive still operates
- Excels other harmonic mitigation techniques with imbalanced line applications.
- Now offered as a 3-wire in, 3-wire out standard panel solution



PHD Passive Panel Performance



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Active Filters and Low Harmonic Drives



- Induces "Anti-harmonics"
- Sized to allow some distortion, but is an engineered solution
- Preconfigured drive packages
- Can be a system solution
 - sized for total THiD
 - can increase PF
- If filter fails, drives still operate

Current waveform



Active Harmonic Filters

Active Filters



Active Filter

- Offers high performance mitigation
- The filter cancels the distortion by sensing it and inserting an equal signal with the opposite phase.
- Tolerant with load and grid imbalances
- More Expensive than passive solutions
- Customer / System level PCC installation possible. Group compensation, power factor correction and load balance correction)
- Danfoss Active Filter Products:
 - Active Filter AAF
 - Low Harmonic Drive LHD



Active Harmonic Filters





Active Filter Principles



Active filter principles

An Active Filter is

- a paralleled installed device,
- that measures the distortion,
- and compensates for the unwanted currents,
- by actively imposing signals in counter phase to the unwanted current signals.

The working principle can be compared to a set of noise cancelling headphones.



Active Front End - REGENERATIVE

- Pulls voltage more uniformly to maintain the DC bus based on actual load by controlling the front end to eliminate generation of harmonics
 - final cleanup is in the input LCL
- Boosts DC voltage which can effect dv/dt to motors
- Typically used for regenerative applications
- If IGBT's fail, drive is inoperable
- HI FREQ HARMONICS potentially an issue
- Higher losses (heat) due to twice the IGBT's....more complex





6 Pulse MTE vs AFE Regen drive



- Full load
 performance good
- Passive filter shows better performance at reduced loads
- Ref: MTE
 Whitepaper
 December 2012



Matrix Filter Functionality



Fig.6. Matrix AP filter diagram

REF: MTE White paper December 2012 Todd Shudarek, Principal Engineer



Fig. 7. MTE MAPP0044D adaptive passive filter

Ls and C are tuned to near the dominant 5th harmonic generated by 6-pulse drives. Li prevents the filter from importing the 5th harmonic from other sources and overloading the filter. The series combination of Li, Ls and C set the tuning frequency to the power system well below the 5th harmonic. Lo reduces the voltage boost due to the capacitors. Both Li and Lo also reduce the THID by adding wideband line filtering impedance.



Matrix Filter Losses



- Fig. 8. Power loss comparison
- Losses of low HP AFE Regen drives vs. 6 Pulse with Matrix filter $\sim 15\%$
- Losses nearly double as HP increases

- Efficiency of typical AFE Regen drive VS 6
 Pulse with Matrix AP
- Most AFE Regen drives are at least 1.5% LESS efficient that 6 Pulse with Matrix Filter





Total Harmonics Performance



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