MVDC Grounding and Common Mode Current Control

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MVDC Reference Architecture



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Introduction to Common Mode

- Common mode currents are also called leakage current: the return path of common mode currents is typically through the ship's hull.
- Common mode currents flow through the hull due to a.c. voltages of a power systems neutral with respect to the hull potential interacting with parasitic capacitances.
 - The neutral voltage with respect to ground is the instantaneous average of all the power system conductor voltages with respect to ground.
- The difference in power system neutral voltages between the input and the output of a power electronics based converter is the dominant source of common mode current.
- Common mode impedances are a function of frequency.
- Common mode currents can result in safety hazards and corrosion.
- Common mode currents can be a source of Electromagnetic Interference (EMI)
- Common mode currents are impacted by the grounding method.

Simplified Model

- Common Mode model derived from 3 phase model
- Eliminates components that only impact normal "Differential Mode"
- Combines paralleled components.
- Based on method described by Brovont and Pekarek presented at ESTS 2015



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Metrics of Interest

- Magnitude of common mode impedance seen by a common mode source as a function of frequency
 - Indicator of common mode currents local to equipment
- Magnitude of common mode "transadmittance" as a function of frequency
 - Ratio of common mode current in the distribution feeder (d.c. bus) to the common mode voltage
 - Measures how well common mode current is contained to the vicinity of the equipment.
- Design Objectives:
 - Prefer to have common mode currents depend on design variables and not hard to predict parasitic values
 - Minimizing transadmittance at frequencies of interest is of higher priority than maximizing common mode impedance
 - Need to keep common mode impedance high enough to limit common mode current local to the equipment.





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A.C. Side Hard Grounding

ohms

mho



Impedance: common mode voltage associated with Rectifier Power Electronics divided by the common mode current through the Rectifier Power Electronics.

Transadmittance: common mode current through the DC bus divided by the common mode voltage associated with Rectifier Power Electronics.



Impedance Magnitude

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A.C. Side High Resistance Grounding



D.C. Side shunt capacitors



D.C. Side Choke

ohms









Approved for Public Release Distribution is unlimited 10

100

1000

Frequency (Hz)

1x10⁶

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100000

10000

Choke and Shunt Capacitors



Choke, Shunt Capacitors, and Damping







Impact of Line to Ground Fault on Common Mode Current



Reduce Common Mode Voltage

- Provide Symmetry
- Design power electronic gating algorithms to minimize common mode voltages
- Design rotating machines and associated power electronics synergistically to minimize common mode voltages
 - Consider two 3-phase systems 180 electrical degrees apart
 - Independently drive windings





Summary

- Control of Common Mode Currents must be accomplished both at the total system level and at the module level.
- Need to develop common mode models
- Common mode impedance and transadmittance are good metrics to help characterize common mode performance
- Need to consider impact of ground faults
- Need to consider methods of reducing common mode voltages