

Harmonic components of photovoltaic inverters

Do photovoltaic inverters cause harmonic distortion?

The increasing penetration of photovoltaic (PV) systems, consisting of PV panel and PV inverter, may introduce power quality issues to the distribution power system. One critical concern is the harmonic distortion. This paper proposes an analytical harmonic model of PV inverters to assess its harmonic impacts on the distribution systems.

Does a PV inverter have a harmonic impact on distribution systems?

This paper proposes an analytical harmonic model of PV inverters to assess its harmonic impacts on the distribution systems. The model is also verified by both simulation and laboratory experimental results. The proposed model indicates that the PV inverter has both harmonic source characteristic and harmonic impedance characteristic.

Why does PV inverter output voltage contain high order harmonics?

According to the previous analysis, the increase of the PV inverter output power may cause PV output voltage to contain high order harmonics under the weak grid, which are mainly distributed near the resonance peak of output filter LCL of PV inverter.

Does a PV inverter have a harmonic source and impedance characteristic?

The proposed model indicates that the PV inverter has both harmonic source characteristic and harmonic impedance characteristic. Furthermore, the harmonic emission of PV inverters is affected by two grid operating conditions, namely the grid impedance and background harmonic voltage.

Why are current harmonics dominant in a PV inverter?

During low power mode of PV inverter operation, current harmonics is dominant due to the fundamental current being lower than the non-fundamental current of PV inverter. The current harmonics in PV inverter is mainly dependent on its power ratio (P_o / P_R), where P_o is the output power and P_R is the power rating of the PV inverter.

What causes harmonics in a PV inverter?

These harmonics are caused by the DC-link voltage ripple, and a time-varying model is proposed to analyze this phenomenon in Section 4. In order to analyze and design the PV inverter, the DC-link voltage is assumed as constant in the traditional model of a PV inverter. However, this is not always the case.

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