

Improved transient characteristics of output voltage of marine synchronous generator

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Abstract: Maintaining a constant voltage in a power system is very important for the protection of the electrical and electronic equipment connected to the power system. There are many types of equipment available to keep power quality high, but the most important is an automatic voltage regulator. The control method of an automatic voltage regulator of a synchronous generator is mostly phase control or proportional–integral–derivative (PID) control. However, this paper compares neural-network predictive control with PID control, and confirms that the proposed neural-network predictive control is effective in adjusting the voltage through experiments conducted by computer simulation.

It is shown that the terminal voltage of the PID control was measured with a rise time of 0.863 s, a settling time of 3.08 s, and an overshoot of 8.23%. The proposed method measured a rise time of 0.58 s, a settling time of 1.02 s, and an overshoot of 0.23%. Through the use of the proposed control method, therefore, the output voltage was improved for 48% of rising time, 3.02 times for the settling time, and 10% in overshoot. In this paper, it is proven that neural-network-predictive control is more effective than PID control in maintaining the constant output voltage of synchronous generators.

Keywords: Terminal voltage control, Synchronous generator, Neural networks, Predictive control, PID

1. Introduction

In a power system, voltage stability is an essential element to protect electric and electronic equipment. If the voltage of the power system is not stable, such devices could be frequently damaged due to voltage distortion. In order to keep the quality of a power system high, there is a range of equipment, such as automatic voltage regulators, power system stabilizers and filters, that are available. This paper focuses on the control method used by the automatic voltage regulator of a generator.

Various control methods implemented in the automatic voltage regulators of synchronous generators have been studied. These include PID, PID-combination control, genetic algorithm, slide mode, adaptive-optima control, teaching-learning-based optimization, multi-objective-external optimization, fractional-adaptive control, self-tuning control and neural networks [1]-[20]. In keeping with these studies, this paper demonstrates an improvement in the terminal voltage control of a synchronous generator by neural-networks-(NN) predictive control, compared with that by PID control. Furthermore, it confirms that the proposed

control method is superior to other neural-networks methods.

2. Modeling of Synchronous Generator

The excitation system of a synchronous generator is composed of an amplifier, an exciter, a generator and a sensor as displayed in **Figure 1**. Parameters of the transfer function of the system are configured such that $k_a=10$ & $\tau_a=0.1$ for the amplifier, $k_e=0.4$ & $\tau_e=1$ for the exciter, $k_g=1$ (depending on the load, this varies from 0.7 to 1.0) & $\tau_g=1$ for the generator, and $k_s=1$ & $\tau_s=0.01$ for the sensor [10].

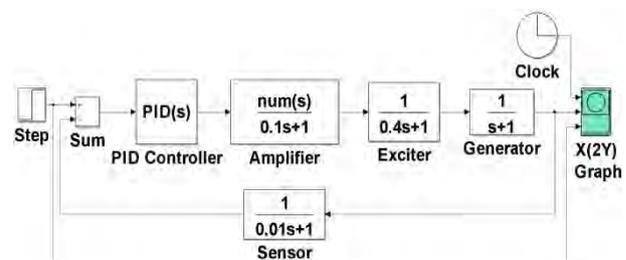


Figure 1: Simulink Model to the Plant with PID

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3. Neural Networks Predictive Control

3.1 Predictive Control

Predictive control is one of the types to predict the estimated value prior to the plant. The predicted control value is obtained by using the predictive value of the model, the optimization function, and the control method. Given performance function roles to minimize predictive values during optimization process, the performance function given as below [21].

$$J = \sum_{j=N_1}^{N_2} (y_r(t+j) - y_m(t+j))^2 + \rho \sum_{j=1}^{N_0} (u'(t+j-1) - u'(t+j-2))^2 \quad (1)$$

N_1 & N_2 : Constant values to indicate the following error and the relevant time range

N_u : Value indicating the time region on the control input

u' : Provisional control input value to the neural networks

y_r : Following target value

y_m : Output value of the neural-networks model

The objective of **Equation (1)** is to define a control value based on a target value. Control values should continuously be updating in order to minimize the J value in the predictive control.

An updated method for finding the minimum value of J, which is presented in this paper, adopts gradient descent methods that obtain a minimum point by moving in the direction of the negative gradient of the given function. The gradient descent method can be illustrated with **Equation (2)** as follows,

$$u(k+1) = u(k) - \gamma \frac{\delta J}{\delta u(k)} \quad (2)$$

where,

γ : Constant

$\frac{\delta J}{\delta u(k)}$: Change in J for the current control input

Future control input values are expressed as future control input vectors in **Equation (3)**,

$$U(k) = [u(k+1)u(k+2) \dots u(k+N)] \quad (3)$$

The objective function J given by **Equation (4)** is the first partial differential equation for U,

$$\frac{\delta J}{\delta U(k)} = \left[\frac{\delta J}{\delta U(k+1)} \frac{\delta J}{\delta U(k+2)} \dots \frac{\delta J}{\delta U(k+N)} \right] \quad (4)$$

3.2 Structure of Neural Networks

In general, the nonlinear dynamic model equation is determined by the past data of the input and the output as shown in **Equation (5)**.

$$y(k+1) = f[y(k), y(k-1), \dots, y(k-n), u(k), u(k-1), \dots, u(k-m)] \quad (5)$$

Therefore, in order to train the dynamic model equation using neural networks, a Time Delay Neural Network (TDNN) can be used as shown in **Figure 2**.

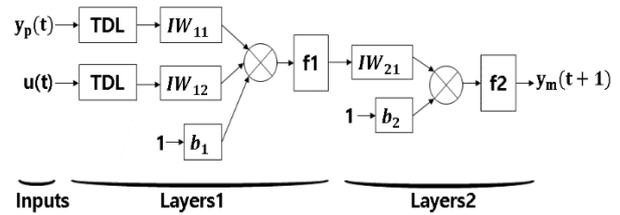


Figure 2: Structure of Time Delay Neural Networks

Considering the neural-network model, the input and output values of the plant are entered in the input part of the neural network, respectively, and each time-delay value is entered. The output of the neural network must be observed. The output of the neural network configured to learn the plant output value of the next sampling step that is that predictive control function is structured. The learning data necessary for the neural-network learning should be extracted from the results obtained by operating the plant.

The output of the TDNN model is depicted as,

$$\hat{y}(k+1) = bs + \sum_{i=1}^N W_2(1, i) \cdot S(X_i) \quad (6)$$

and

$$X_i = b(i, 1) + \sum_{j=1}^N w_1(i, j) \cdot y(k-j+1) + \sum_{j=1}^N w_1(i, n+j) \cdot y(k-j+1) \quad (7)$$

3.3 Differential equation of a Neural Networks System

Generally, the output derivative for the processor input is calculated in order to apply the control theory,

$$\frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+1)}{\delta u(k)} = \frac{\delta}{\delta u(k)} (bs + \sum_{i=1}^N W_2(1, i) \cdot S(X_i)) \quad (8)$$

Equation (9) can be transformed as follows,

$$\frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+1)}{\delta u(k)} = \frac{\delta}{\delta u(k)} (bs + \sum_{i=1}^N W_2(1, i) \cdot S'(X_i) \frac{\delta X_1}{\delta u(k)}) \quad (9)$$

Then,

$$S' = \frac{dS}{dX_i} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\delta X_1}{\delta u(k)} &= \frac{\delta}{\delta u(k)} b(i, 1) + \frac{\delta}{\delta u(k)} \sum_{j=1}^n W_1(i, j) \cdot y(k - j + 1) + \\ &\frac{\delta}{\delta u(k)} \sum_{j=1}^n W_1(i, n + j) \cdot u(k - j + 1) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Considering $y(k - 1), y(k - 2), \dots, y(k - n)$ values and that $u(k - 1), u(k - 2), \dots, u(k - m)$ are past values that are not influenced by $u(k)$, Accordingly, all summation is zero except for $j = 1$,

$$\frac{\delta X_1}{\delta u(k)} = W_1(i, n + 1) \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+1)}{\delta u(k)} = \sum_{i=1}^N W_2(1, i) \cdot S'(X_i) \cdot W_1(i, n + 1) \quad (13)$$

Finally, **Equation (12)** and **Equation (13)** is an expression that TDNN neural network represents input & output characteristics.

3.4 Neural-Networks Predictive Control

Predictive control is a method of calculating the control input literally using the predicted value of the system. Therefore, if an appropriate neural-network model is selected and the learning is done well, the neural-network model can express the dynamic characteristics of the actual dynamic system well.

The prediction control algorithm can be constructed using the error between the reference input and the predicted value. **Figure 3** is a block diagram illustrating the neural-network predictive control system.

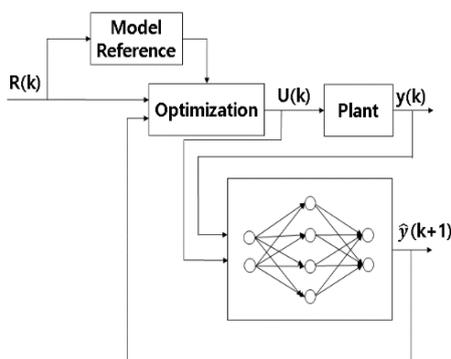


Figure 3: Neural-Network Model Predictive Control System

k : Sampling time

$r(k)$: Reference input signal

$u(k)$: Control input value to the plant

$y(k)$: Output of the plant

$e(k)$: Difference value (Error value) between $r(k)$ & $y(k)$

$\hat{y}(k + 1)$: Predicted plant output

The control input value is calculated using the predicted value rather than the actual output value. By definition, the prediction controller minimizes the objective function J , and the objective function can be composed of error values as follows.

$$J = \frac{1}{2} e^2(k + 1) \quad (14)$$

$$e(k + 1) = r(k + 1) - \hat{y}(k + 1) \quad (15)$$

In order to improve the control performance, this study uses the gradient descent method as follows.

$$u(k + 1) = u(k) - \gamma \frac{\delta J}{\delta u(k)} \quad (16)$$

Using the J value and $e(k + 1)$,

$$\frac{\delta J}{\delta u(k)} = \frac{1}{2} [-2e(k + 1) \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+1)}{\delta u(k)}] = -e(k + 1) \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+1)}{\delta u(k)} \quad (17)$$

Considering TDNN,

$$\frac{\delta J}{\delta u(k)} = -e(k + 1) \sum_{i=1}^n W_2(1, i) \cdot S'(X_i) \times W_1(i, n + 1) \quad (18)$$

$$u(k + 1) = u(k) + \gamma e(k + 1) [\sum_{i=1}^n W_2(1, i) \cdot S'(X_i)] \cdot W_1(i, n + 1) \quad (19)$$

The scalar values may be represented by prediction vectors as follows.

$$R = [r(k + 1), r(k + 2), \dots, r(k + T)] \quad (20)$$

$$Y_e = [\hat{y}(k + 1), \hat{y}(k + 2), \dots, \hat{y}(k + T)] \quad (21)$$

$$U = [u(k), u(k + 1), \dots, u(k + T - 1)] \quad (22)$$

$$E = [e(k + 1), e(k + 2), \dots, e(k + T)] \quad (23)$$

By definition, the prediction controller minimizes the objective function J , and the objective function can be expressed in terms of error values as follows,

$$J = \frac{1}{2} [E \cdot E^T] \quad (24)$$

To update the control performance, the gradient descent method is used as follows,

$$U(k+1) = U(k) - \gamma \frac{\delta J}{\delta U(k)} \quad (25)$$

$$\frac{\delta J}{\delta U(k)} = -E \frac{\delta Y_e}{\delta U(k)} \quad (26)$$

The Jacobian matrix $\frac{\delta Y_e}{\delta U(k)}$ is obtained as follows,

$$\frac{\delta Y_e}{\delta U(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+1)}{\delta u(k)} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta Y_e}{\delta u(k)} = \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+2)}{\delta u(k)} & \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+2)}{\delta u(k+1)} & 0 \\ \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+T)}{\delta u(k)} & \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+T)}{\delta u(k+1)} & \frac{\delta \hat{y}(k+T)}{\delta u(k+T-1)} \end{bmatrix} \quad (27)$$

4. Simulation and result

4.1 PID control simulation and the result

Firstly, each gain of the PID control through the Ziegler Nichols tuning method in **Figure 1** was measured as $K_{cr} : 1.702$, $P_{cr} : 1.08$, $K_p : 0.54$, $T_i = 0.54$ and $T_d = 0.135$ as shown in **Figure 4**.

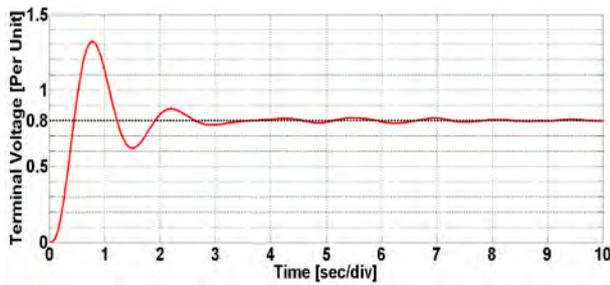


Figure 4: PID control with the Ziegler Nichols tuning method

Secondly, PID controller parameters were acquired as 0.172486 for P gain, 0.167368 for I gain, 0.020729 for D gain and 5.172102 for the filter coefficient (N) using the automatic tuning method.

The compensator formula is given as follows,

$$P + 1 \frac{1}{s} + D \frac{N}{1+N \frac{1}{s}} \quad (28)$$

As shown in **Figure 5**, automatic tuning of the PID control of the synchronous generator resulted in values of 0.863 s for the

rise time, 3.08 s for the settling time, and 8.23% for the overshoot being obtained.

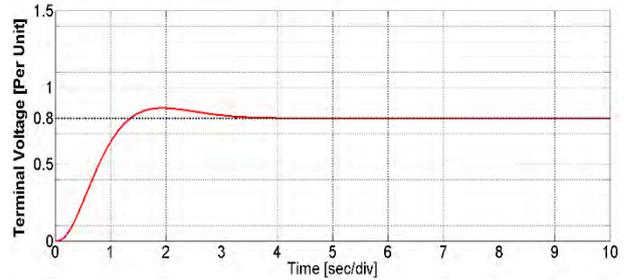


Figure 5: PID auto-tuning control of the automatic voltage regulator

4.2 NN Predictive control simulation and the result

The Simulink Model of the plant in **Figure 6** includes the same transfer functions of a synchronous generator.

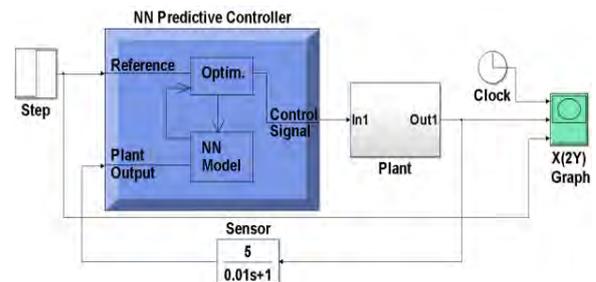


Figure 6: Plant Model with NN Predictive Controller

The parameter input for the NN predictive controller was set as in **Figure 7**. N_2 of cost horizon enters 10 for time steps that predicted errors are minimum. ρ , Nu of control horizon, is 2 that control increasement values are minimized. The search parameter was 0.001 for the determination of the line search. The minimization routine used was *csrchbac*.

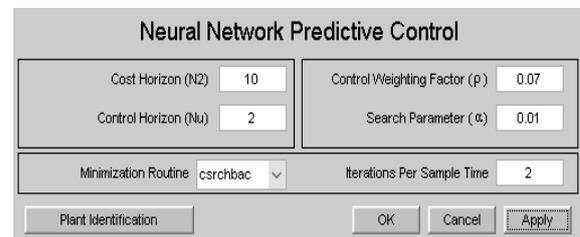


Figure 7: Parameter input window of the NN Predictive Controller

The synchronous generator plant model network was 20 at the first layer as seen in **Figure 8**. The training function was *trainlm* which refers to Levenberg-Marquardt. Furthermore, the objective function was Mean Square Error.

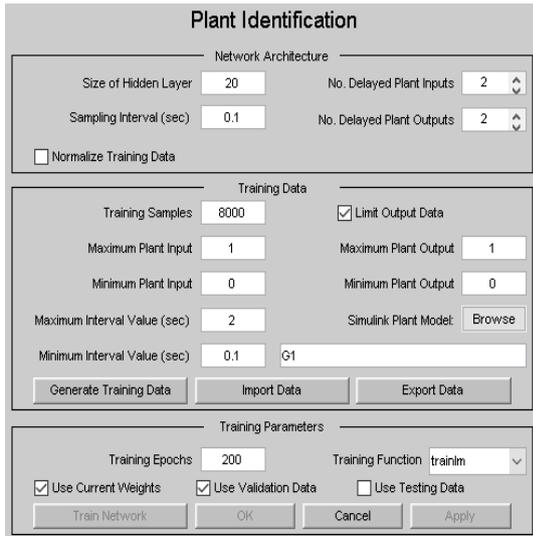


Figure 8: Input window for the Plant Identification

As shown in Figure 9, after training the neural-networks predictive control, the configuration was obtained.

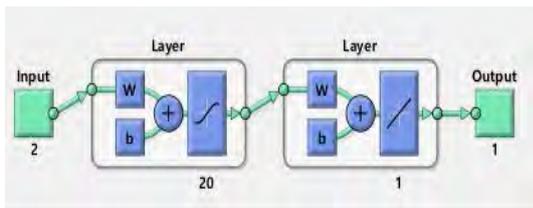


Figure 9: Configuration of Neural Networks

Following the completion of the training of the system, training performance could be comparatively shown between Figure 10 and Figure 11.

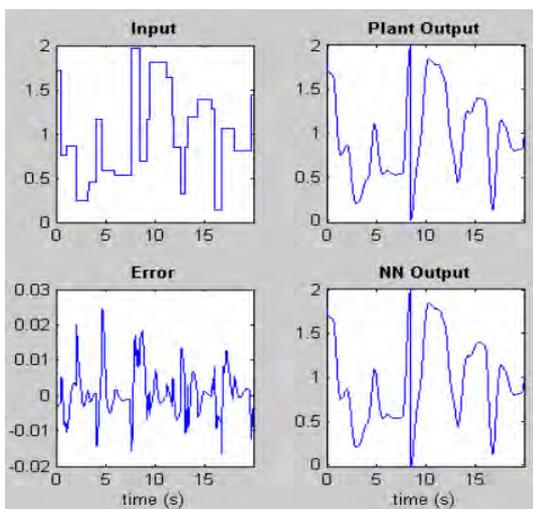


Figure 10: Validation data for the NN Predictive Control

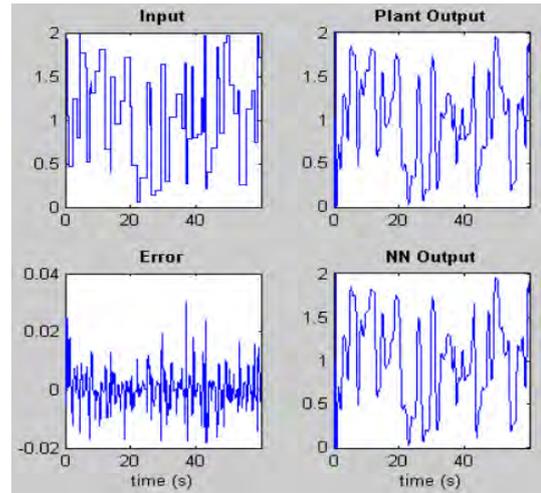


Figure 11: Training data for the NN Predictive Control

By using NN predictive control in a synchronous generator, the result in Figure 12 was acquired. Through the proposed control method, 0.58 s for the rise time, 1.02 s for the settling time, and 0.23% for the overshoot on the system were obtained.

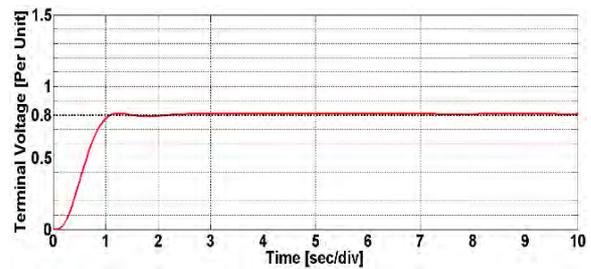


Figure 12: Results of NN Predictive Control

5. Conclusion

Frequent changes in voltage cause damage to electric and electronic devices through switching loss and thermal loss. Therefore, maintaining the specified voltage in a power system is important. A range of equipment, such as automatic voltage regulators, power system stabilizers and filters, can be used to keep the voltage of a power system stable.

This paper dealt with the control method of the automatic voltage regulator of a synchronous generator. To verify the validity of the proposed method, the results obtained were compared with those obtained using PID control.

Following computer simulations, the terminal voltage from PID control is measured with 0.863 s for the rise time, 3.08 s for the settling time, and 8.23% for the overshoot. The proposed method measured 0.58 s for the rise time, 1.02 s for the settling

time, and 0.23% for the overshoot. Through the use of the proposed control method, therefore, output voltage was improved 48% for rise time and 3.02 times for setting time and 10% for overshoot. This paper verified that the output voltage of the synchronous generator using neural-networks predictive control can be improved compared to that obtained using PID control.

Acknowledgements

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