



Simulation and Controller Design of an Interline Power Flow Controller in MATLAB

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ABSTRACT

An Interline Power Flow Controller (IPFC) is basically a FACTS controller which finds its utility in series compensation supplemented with power flow control within the transmission line. It contains a minimum two Voltage Source Converters (VSCs) with a common dc-link. In this work we propose to develop a control scheme of an IPFC system with two VSCs to compensate the impedances of two similarly dimensioned parallel transmission lines . The model is simulated using MATLAB Simulink to demonstrate the system behavior of the IPFC.

Keywords : FACTS controller, Interline Power Flow Controller, MATLAB Simulink, STATCOM, SSSC

I. INTRODUCTION

Voltage or Current Source convertor based Flexible AC Transmission Systems (FACTS can be used to control steady-state as well as dynamic/transient performance of the power system. Such Converter-based FACTS controllers provide an advantage of generating/absorbing reactive power without the use of ac capacitors and reactors supplemented with control of active and reactive power flow in the system[1].

Series connected converter-based FACTS controllers include Static Synchronous Series Compensator (SSSC), Unified Power Flow Controller (UPFC), and Interline Power Flow Controller (IPFC). A SSSC is a series compensator with ability to operate in capacitive/inductive modes to improve system stability [3,4]. The UPFC includes a Static Synchronous compensator

(STATCOM) and a SSSC that share a common dc-link.

The IPFC consists of two or more SSSC with a common dc-link. They provide independent control of reactive power of each individual line, while active power could be transferred via the dc-link between the compensated lines and can also be used to equalize active/ reactive power between transmission lines.

This paper presents models of the IPFC which are based on [1,2]. In section II the methodology is discussed followed by the control scheme in section III. Section IV presents the results.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Power Circuit

An IPFC (Figure 1) uses two or more VSCs that share a common dc-link. Each VSC injects a voltage

- with controllable amplitude and phase angle - into the power transmission line through a coupling transformer. Each VSC provides series reactive power compensation for an individual line and it can also supply/absorb active power to/from the common dc-link.

Thus, an IPFC has an additional degree of freedom to control active power flow in the power system when compared to a traditional compensator. This capability makes it possible to transfer power from over- to under-loaded lines, reduce the line resistive voltage drop, and improve the stability of the power system. The coupling transformer primary windings of the master and slave converters are star-connected while their secondary windings are connected in series with each phase of the transmission line. In addition, the transformer leakage reactance allows regulation of the output voltage magnitude and phase angle, with respect to the transmission line current, and offers stable control of the VSC power output.

Figure 1 shows the scheme of an IPFC having two VSCs. In this scheme, a master control system is used to compensate both resistive and inductive impedances of the Line 1 power system, and the slave control system is used to regulate the reactance of Line 2 and maintain the common dc-link voltage

B. Converter model

The VSC is the fundamental building block of the IPFC. Various types of pulse-width modulation (PWM) or multi-pulse converters i.e. multi-level converters, are feasible for power conversion.

Irrespective of the VSC topology, a large number of switches must be connected in series to provide the

required valve voltage rating. Therefore, appropriate snubber circuits are used to minimize the switching stresses on each device.

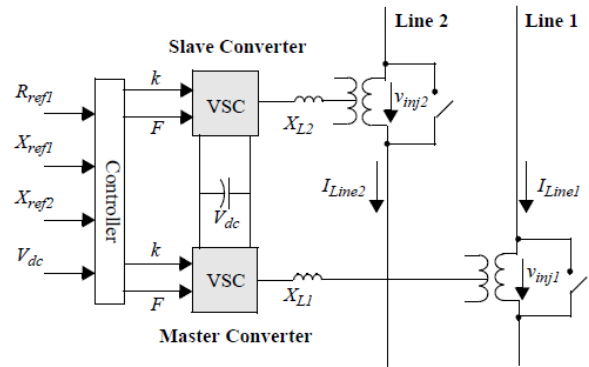


Figure 1. Schematic of an IPFC

We propose to use 3-level Neutral Point Clamped (NPC) PWM VSC. This topology is suitable for high power applications and, when compared to a 2-level topology, it produces fewer harmonics, has smaller dc capacitors, lower switch blocking voltages and lower switching losses. The drawbacks, however, of the 3-level NPC topology are: requirement for a large number of switches, different duties for semiconductor switches and a requirement for balancing the dc capacitor voltages. For the converter model, a 3-phase 3-level NPC VSC with a switching frequency of 900 Hz is used. Each converter consists of 12 valves and 2 dc capacitors C1 and C2. Each valve consists of a switch with turn-off capability and an anti-parallel diode.

The diodes ensure bi-directional current flow and, therefore, the converter can operate in either rectifier or inverter modes.

The switch model consists of two snubber circuits to limit dv/dt and di/dt in the VSC switches.

If the VSC losses are neglected, the injected voltage from the converter can be set to either lead or lag

the transmission line current by exactly 90°, depending upon the requirement of the reactive power.

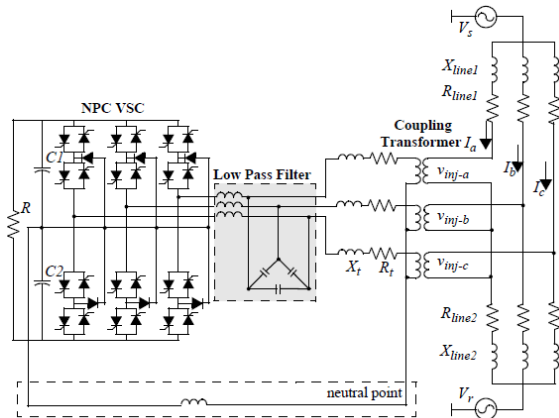


Figure 2. Schematic of 3-level Neutral Point Clamped VSC

The neutral point of the coupling transformer and dlink of the slave system VSC are connected with a large inductor L_o . This path is employed to equalize the dc capacitor voltages of the VSC. However, the master converter system of the IPFC (that regulates the resistive and inductive impedances of the transmission line) has no such connection between the neutral of the coupling transformer and dc-link of the IPFC (Figure 2). Since the output voltage of the VSC contains high-order harmonic components, low-pass and tuned filters are used to provide a clean sinusoidal waveform in both master/slave systems.

III. CONTROL SCHEME OF IPFC

The IPFC is designed to maintain the impedance characteristic of the two transmission lines. The IPFC consists of two converter systems:

- (a) a master converter system that is capable of regulating both resistive and inductive impedances of Line 1; and,
- (b) a slave converter system that regulates Line 2 reactance and keeps the common dc-link voltage of

the VSC at a desired level. So, each VSC is independently controllable.

Balancing the dc voltages V_{dc1} and V_{dc2} on the capacitors $C1$ and $C2$ respectively, is an important concern in multi-level converters (Figure 2). Uneven voltage charging on the capacitors can cause over-voltages on the switching devices and that could be destructive for them. The problem may be solved by either

- (a) a modified PWM switching pattern [11],
- (b) by a voltage regulator for each level using an additional charge balancing leg [12],

or (c) separate dc sources. In order to maintain an equal voltage in the dc-side, the voltage of the neutral point must be regulated.

Here, based on [15], the zero sequence current i_0 is used to equalize voltages on the dc-link capacitors of the VSC.

C. Reference Wave Generator (RWG)

The 3-phase transmission line currents are used as the reference signals by the controller to generate either lagging or leading voltages by a 90° phase shift with respect to the transmission line current. The output reference waves are synchronized continuously with the original input waveforms (that could be distorted or contain harmonics). This method, when compared to a conventional PLL, has a fast response to any distortion and suffers very little transient delay.

D. PWM Block

This block provides the firing pulses for the 3-level VSC switches

E. Balancing Controller

The zero sequence current is used to balance the voltages of the dc-link capacitors in a 3-level Neutral-Point-Clamped (NPC) VSC [15]. This is

achieved by connecting the neutral points of the slave system's coupling transformer and the dc-link

of the IPFC through a large inductor L_o (Figure 2).

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

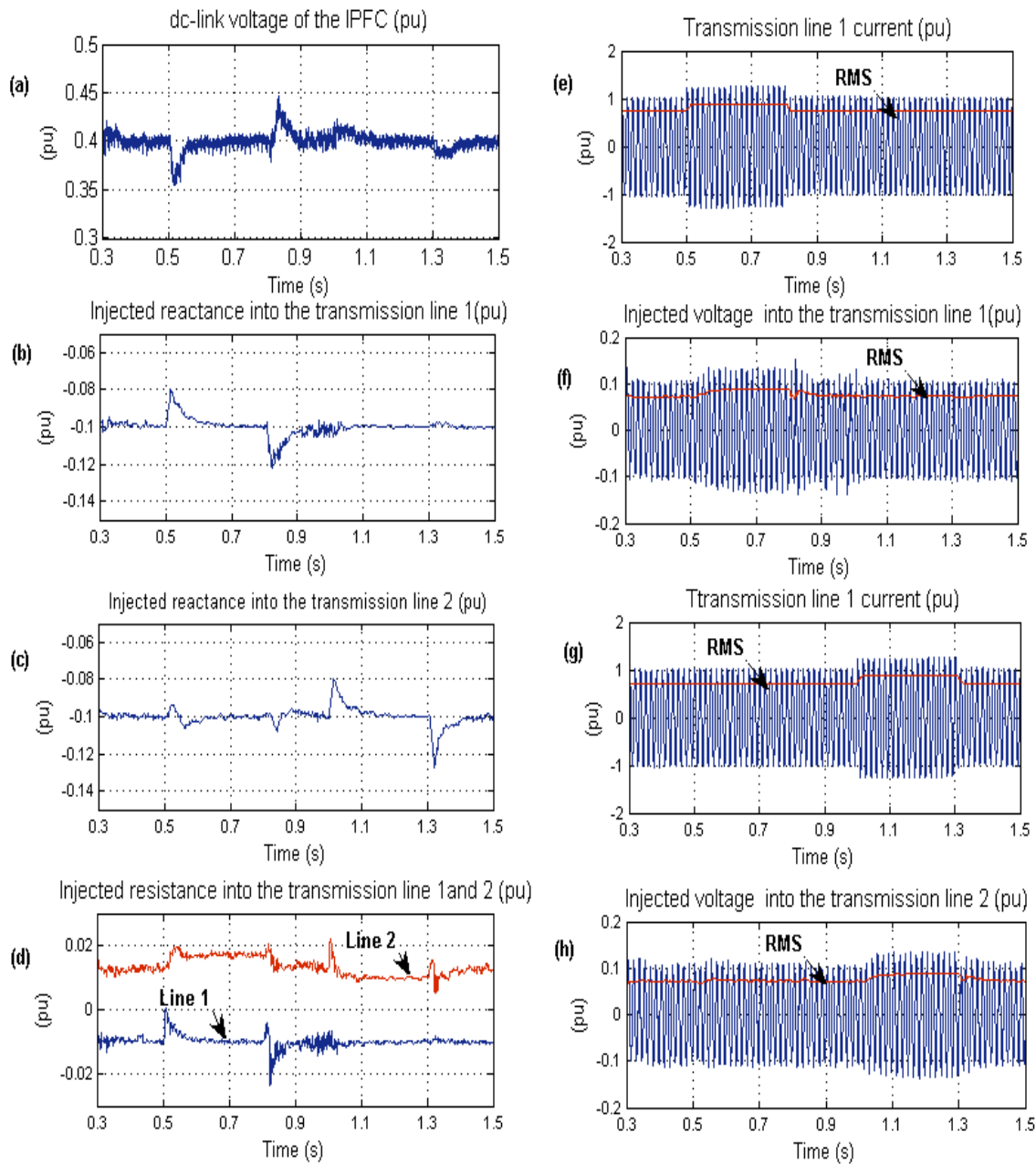
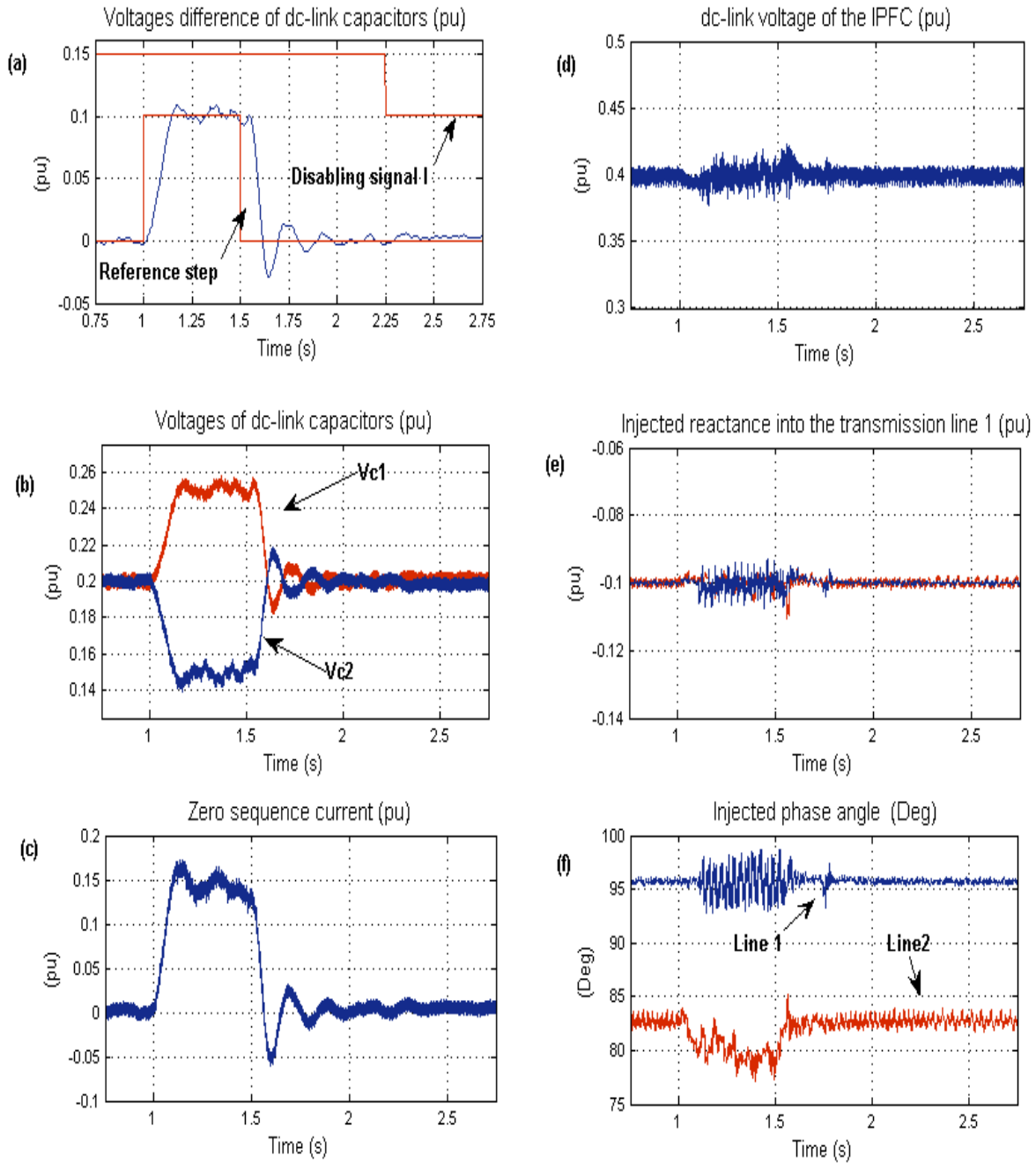
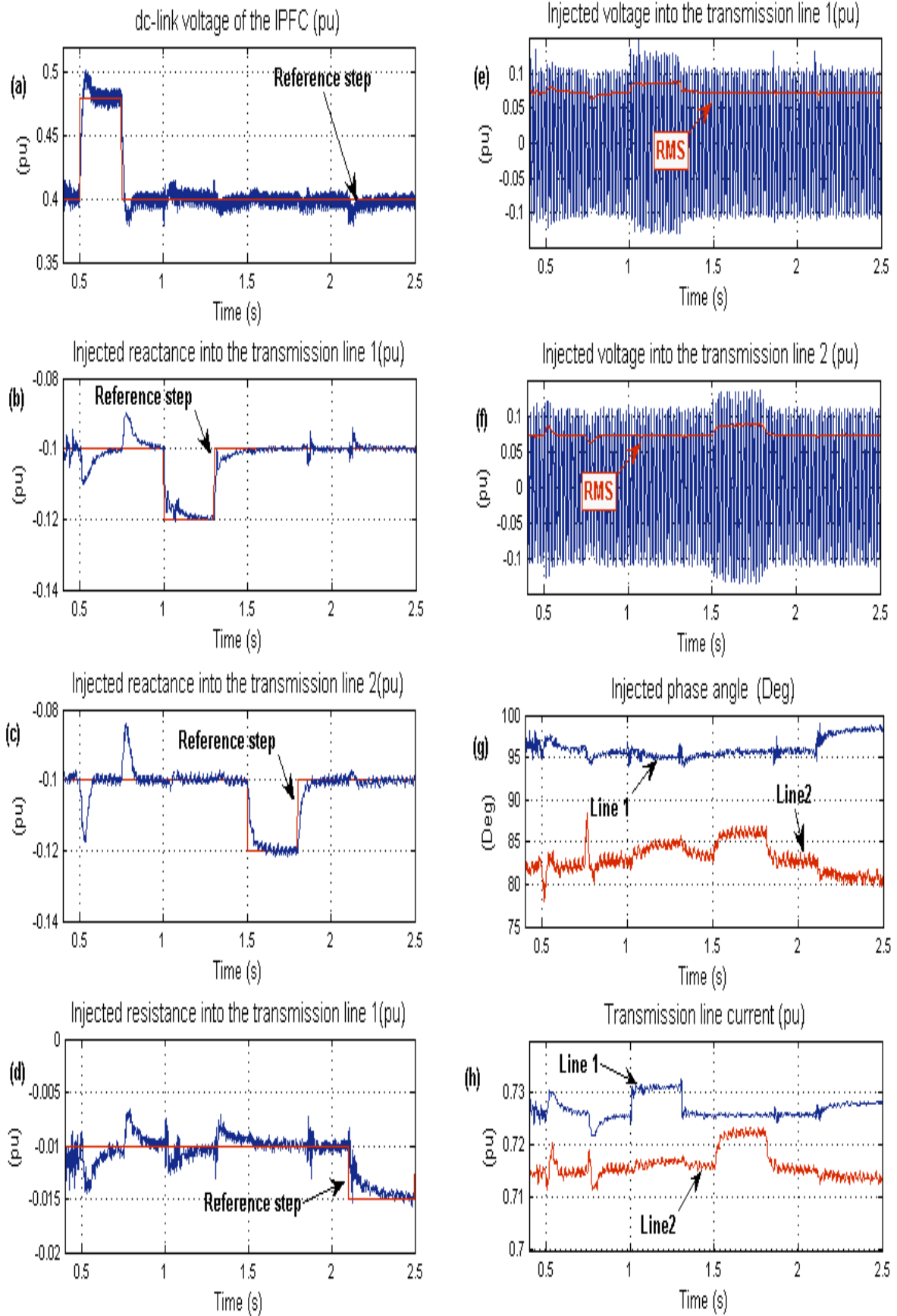


Figure 3. shows the Impact of load variation (a) Dc-link voltage (b) Injected reactance into the Line 1 (c) Injected reactance into the Line 2 (d) Injected resistance into the Lines 1 and 2 (e) Current in Transmission Line 1 (f) Current in Transmission Line 2 (g) Injected voltage into the Line 1 (h) Injected voltage into the Line 2



Impact of dc voltage balancing circuit (a) Voltage difference of two dc-link capacitors (b) dc-link voltages V_{dc1} and V_{dc2} (c) Zero sequence current (d) Net dc-link voltage ($V_{dc1} + V_{dc2}$) (e) Injected reactance into the transmission line (f) Phase angle of injected voltage.



System response to step change of the controller reference values (a) Dc-link voltage (b) Injected reactance into the Line 1 (c) Injected reactance into the Line 2 (d) Injected resistance into the Line 1 (e) Injected voltage into the Line 1 (f) Injected voltage into the Line 2 (g) Phase angle between the injected voltage and the transmission line current (h) Receiving-end reactive power in Line 1 and Line 2.

V. CONCLUSION

We conclude that we will have to develop an IPFC system and will simulate it in MATLAB observe the operation of IPFC.

VI. REFERENCES

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