

# Traveling Wave based Wide Area Backup Protection for HVAC network interfacing MMC based HVDC system

Mahitosh Banafer, Soumya R. Mohanty, Tapan Prakash

**Abstract**—A robust & secured travelling wave (TW) based wide area backup protection scheme (WABPS) for mixed cable & overhead transmission line in HVAC grid interfacing MMC converter based HVDC grid is developed. A successive matrix pencil algorithm (SMPA) is used to estimate traveling wave arrival time (TWAT) at digital fault recorder (DFR) installed at AC buses. The estimated TWAT are next sent to the centralized graph theory based wide area real time fault localization tool for secured backup (zone-2 and zone-3) protection of the AC transmission system. The validation of proposed WABPS scheme is performed against different fault location, fault types, fault resistance as well as MMC converter control effects such as low voltage ride through (LVRT) capability.

**Keywords**—Graph theory, hybrid AC/DC system, successive matrix pencil algorithm (SMPA), traveling wave (TW), wide area backup protection scheme (WABPS).

## I. INTRODUCTION

THE AC transmission lines and cables are generally exposed to disturbances, which can threaten the power system security unless protected by a robust transmission line protection scheme. The conventional distance protection scheme may maloperate due to under reach, over reach, load encroachment and power swing which may lead to power system outages such as USA 2003 and India 2012 blackout [1]. The modern day power system is evolving to a hybrid AC/DC grid with integration of voltage source converter (VSC) based high voltage DC (HVDC) transmission system [2].

### A. Motivation and Incitement

The grid fault characteristics of the hybrid AC/DC transmission system will be different from traditional HVAC grid. The integration of HVDC transmission line leads to low short circuit ratio (SCR) [3], which will impact the behaviour of distance relaying scheme due to limited fault current from modular multilevel converter (MMC) [4], [5]. Moreover, low inertia in a hybrid AC/DC system may lead to more frequency instability, incorrect memory polarization and remote infeed issues which can cause distance relay maloperation [6].

As per the grid code requirement, during short circuit fault near point of common coupling (PCC), the reactive power control of MMC converter is activated to boost the PCC bus voltage which is known as low voltage ride through (LVRT)

control. The impact of MMC's LVRT control on distance protection scheme will be very much significant [7] and there is a need to develop a robust and secure protection scheme for hybrid AC/DC system.

### B. Related Works

The backup zone of the distance protection schemes are generally more prone to system stressed conditions such as load encroachment, power swing and voltage instability, and which is further aggravated by the MMC converter interfaced HVDC link. To solve this issue, a two criteria approach is used to discriminate system stressed conditions from symmetrical fault for secured backup protection element [8]. But it did not considered the effects of MMC converter based HVDC link control dynamics on the backup protection zone. Therefore, an accurate impedance measurement based backup protection scheme is formulated to avoid miss-coordinated zone identification in distance relaying scheme [7]. But its study is only limited to reactive power control of VSC converter and lacks detailed discussions on its effect on backup protection scheme. Another fast communication assisted distance protection for HVAC line emanating from MMC-HVDC station is proposed by [9]. Its protection criteria is based on polarity direction factor & comparison of measured and projected reference impedance at the relay location. Its main limitations are communication dependence, delayed response for primary protection of some high resistive symmetrical fault.

In summary, the protection of HVAC transmission line interfacing with MMC based HVDC link can be broadly classified into adaptive protection-based [10], robust control-based [11], differential protection-based [12], integrated AC/DC protection [13], wide area phasor measurement unit (PMU)-based [14], traveling wave (TW)-based [15], and machine learning based protection scheme [14]. Out of these, the PMU-based wide area protection is the most widely suggested backup protection scheme for HVAC transmission line. For secured relaying operation, the conventional distance relay is supervised using wide area deep neural network (DNN) based wide area backup protection scheme (WABPS) to prevent relay maloperation under system stressed conditions [14]. Although it is resilient to high impedance and noise contaminated signal, but it also has shortcoming such as limited scalability, system topology dependence, intensive training and detailed system modelling requirement. Another secured adaptive protection scheme is formulated using phase angle of the faulted current loop to determine pure fault impedance for correct relay zone

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identification [10]. But it might not work satisfactorily for noise contaminated voltage signal due to poor performance of conventional signal processing technique. To overcome this issue, a robust control based MMC converter unit is suggested for hybrid AC/DC system to avoid conventional distance relay maloperation [11]. But it is only validated for low fault resistance and it might not work satisfactorily for high fault impedance.

The TW principle is generally used for fault localization and researchers have also suggested TW based primary protection for HVAC transmission line recently [15]. Apart from the TW-based primary protection, very few researchers have also explored the TW-based wide area protection and fault localization schemes for HVAC transmission line [16]. It have mostly explored the suitability of IEC-61850 communication protocol for TW-based WABPS using high sampling frequency measurements (up to 500 kHz), but it have not studied its suitability for backup protection of MMC converter interfaced HVAC grid under low sampling frequency measurement (50 kHz). Moreover, the offshore wind farm integrated HVAC system requires overhead transmission line and submarine cables, but very few protection schemes are developed for hybrid overhead transmission line and cable system. The TW based fault localization scheme for hybrid transmission line is derived using wavelet transform technique in [17], but protection aspects are not explored.

### C. Contribution

The main contributions of the paper are -

- 1) A novel secured TW based wide area backup protection scheme for mixed cable & overhead transmission line (OHTL) of AC grid interfacing MMC based HVDC link is designed, which is robust against MMC control schemes such as LVRT.
- 2) The successive matrix pencil algorithm (SMPA) and linear regression tool is used to extract TWAT information in the digital fault recorder (DFR) installed at the local AC terminal bus using low sampling frequency measurement (50 kHz) as opposed to other traveling wave arrival time (TWAT) based scheme discussed in literature.

## II. PROPOSED TW BASED WABPS FOR HVAC GRID INTERFACING HVDC LINK

### A. Low sampling frequency TW arrival time estimation

1) *Pre-processing of relay input signal:* To eliminate mutual coupling effect between measured three phase voltage signal, a modal transformation (Karenbauer transformation) equation is used prior to TW arrival time (TWAT) estimation as shown in (1) -

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_\alpha \\ u_\beta \\ u_0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_a \\ u_b \\ u_c \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Here,  $u_\alpha$  (relaying signal input),  $u_\beta$  are aerial mode and  $u_0$  is the ground mode voltage signal respectively, whereas  $u_a$ ,  $u_b$  and  $u_c$  are the three phase AC voltage measured at the DFRs located at transmission line or cable terminal end.

2) *Successive matrix Pencil algorithm (SMPA) based TWAT estimation:* In next step, it is quite prudent to extract TWAT information from  $u_\alpha$  using signal processing techniques. A band limited signal in a time period  $T$ , such as  $u_\alpha$ , can be expressed as weighed summation of damped sinusoids or cosinusoids as shown below -

$$u_\alpha(t) = \sum_{m=1}^M A_m e^{-\alpha_m t} \sin(\omega_m t + \phi_m) \quad (2)$$

Here  $M$  is the number of sinusoids along with residue  $A_m \angle \phi_m$ . Whereas  $\alpha_m$  ( $s^{-1}$ ) and  $\omega_m$  are the real part (damping factor) and imaginary part (angular frequency) of the  $m^{th}$  complex frequency ( $\alpha_m \pm j\omega_m$ ) component. Short time discrete Fourier transform (STDFT) is generally used for residue and frequency estimation, whereas subspace based technique such as matrix pencil algorithm (MPA) [18] is used for complex frequency and residue estimation for (2).

Since, MPA or any other subspace based method uses dual degree of freedom (damping factors & sinusoids) and DFT uses only sinusoids for signal reconstruction [18]. As evident from Fig. 1(a), the matrix pencil algorithm (MPA) can reconstruct the pulse signal (TW) more effectively than discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) technique. The MPA method is applied to the TW samples inside a fixed size window extracting time-indexed complex frequency components, which slide along the time axis and it is called successive MPA (SMPA) technique as shown in Fig. 1(b). When the pulse signal (TW) enters the moving window, then the extracted damping factor ( $\alpha$ ) is positive, zero and negative for position of TW as right, center and left in the moving window respectively as shown in Fig. 1(c).

This principle can be used to extract arrival time (AT) of the TW (pulse), positioned as shown in Fig. 1(a) as -

$$\alpha_m = 0, \forall m \rightarrow AT = t_0 + T_w/2 \quad (3)$$

Where  $\alpha_m$ ,  $AT$ ,  $t_0$  and  $T_w$  are the extracted damping factor, arrival time of the TW (pulse), position and width of the moving window respectively as described in Fig. 1(b).

For damping factor ( $\alpha_m$ ) extraction via SMPA method, a Hankel matrix  $Y_{(N-L) \times (L+1)}$  is formed using samples of  $u_\alpha$  inside a  $N$  sample sized window, which is -

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} u_\alpha(1) & u_\alpha(2) & \dots & u_\alpha(L+1) \\ u_\alpha(2) & u_\alpha(3) & \dots & u_\alpha(L+2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_\alpha(N-L) & u_\alpha(N-L+1) & \dots & u_\alpha(N) \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

Where  $u_\alpha(\cdot)$  &  $N$  represents aerial mode voltage signal sample value and number of signal samples inside the moving window respectively. The pencil parameter value ( $L$ ) is advised to kept in between  $N/2$  and  $N/3$  for efficient noise filtration [17], [19]. Conventionally, singular value decomposition (SVD) is applied to matrix  $Y$  -

$$Y = USV^H \quad (5)$$

$$\sigma_s = 10^{-p} \sigma_{s \max} \quad (6)$$

Here,  $U$ ,  $V$  are the unitary matrices, whose elements are

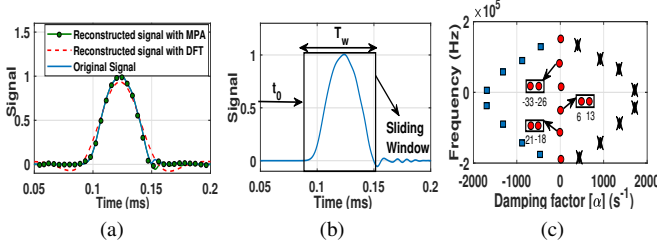


Fig. 1. (a) Reconstructed pulse signal (TW) by SMPA and short time discrete Fourier Transform (STDFT) with the same number of terms of sinusoids. (b) Pulse-shape signal and sliding window. (c) Complex frequencies extracted by applying SMPA to the pulse shown in (b).

eigenvectors of  $YY^H$  and  $Y^HY$  respectively. The  $S$  is a diagonal matrix which elements are the eigenvalue of  $Y$  and  $(.)^H$  represents the complex conjugate transpose operation on the matrix. In (5), the  $\sigma_s$  and  $\sigma_{s\max}$  are the singular value elements and the largest singular value elements of matrix  $S$ . The parameter  $p$  is the filtering parameter which is used to separate signal and noise subspace matrices for further analysis.

Further, matrix  $S$  is reduced to  $S'$  by saving its content corresponding the dominant singular value. In similar fashion, a new matrix  $V'$  is also formed from the matrix  $S$  [18].

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1 &= US'V_1'^H \\ Y_2 &= US'V_2'^H \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

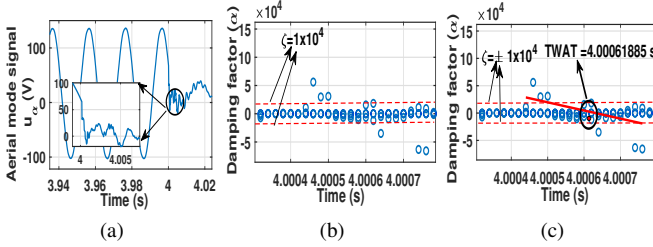


Fig. 2. (a) Aerial mode voltage signal ( $u_\alpha$ ). (b) Damping factor-time diagram obtained by applying SMPA algorithm. (c) The fitted line to the dispersed damping factors (using linear regression), and its ZCP (TWAT) estimation.

After that, the eigenvalue of  $Y_1^+Y_2$  ( $(.)^+$  represent pseudo inverse operation) is used to find the complex frequencies of the windowed signal, as shown below -

$$\lambda_m = e^{(-\alpha_m \pm j\omega_m)T_s}, \forall m = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n \quad (8)$$

Here,  $\lambda_m$  and  $T_s$  is the eigenvalue of  $Y_1^+Y_2$  and sampling time period respectively. In the next step, the time indexed complex frequency is extracted using  $\lambda_m$  as shown below -

$$\alpha_m(t) \mp j\omega_m(t) = -\ln(\lambda_m)/T_s, \forall m = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n \quad (9)$$

The SMPA is used to extract time indexed damping factor ( $\alpha_m$ ) from the sliding window as shown in Fig. 2(a) and (b). A threshold ( $\zeta = \pm 1 \times 10^4$ ) is used for applying the linear regression method to the damping factor estimated by SMPA in order to estimate the TWAT, as shown in Fig. 2(b) and (c). The threshold ( $\zeta$ ) is determined empirically for the test system by simulating the highest fault resistance at the farthest fault location under maximum noise conditions. If the damping factor is greater than  $\zeta$ , the linear regression method is applied

to estimate the TWAT or the zero-crossing point (ZCP) of  $\alpha_m$ , as shown in Fig. 2(b) and according to (3). The linear regression tool is used for accurate estimation of the ZCP of  $\alpha_m$  as shown in Fig. 2(c).

$$\alpha_d(t) = a_0 + a_1t + \varepsilon_d(t), \forall t \in (t_1, t_2), \forall m \quad (10)$$

Here  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are the start and end timestamp of the dispersed time indexed damping factor  $\alpha_d$  as shown in Fig. 2(c).  $a_1$  (slope) and  $a_0$  (constant) are the linear regression coefficient, whereas  $\varepsilon_d(t)$  is the linear regression error term. The matrix form of (10) can be re-written as -

$$\alpha_d = t_d a + \varepsilon \quad (11)$$

Here  $\alpha_d = [\alpha_m(t_1), \dots, \alpha_m(t_2)]^T$  is the vector of time indexed dispersed damping factor,  $a = [a_0, a_1]^T$  is the matrix of linear regression coefficient,  $\varepsilon = [\varepsilon_d(t_1), \dots, \varepsilon_d(t_2)]^T$  is the error vector and  $t_d = \begin{bmatrix} 1, \dots, 1 \\ t_1, \dots, t_2 \end{bmatrix}^T$  is the time vector. The regression coefficient of (11) can be calculated by solving -

$$\hat{a} = (t_d^T t_d)^{-1} t_d^T \alpha_d \quad (12)$$

Where  $\hat{a} = [\hat{a}_0, \hat{a}_1]^T$  is the estimated linear regression coefficient from (12) and  $(.)^T$  is the matrix transposition operation. The ZCP (TWAT) of  $\alpha_d$  is given as -

$$TWAT = -\frac{\hat{a}_0}{\hat{a}_1} \quad (13)$$

Moreover, the fault location error (FLE) is -

$$FLE = \frac{|AFL - CFL|}{l} * 100 \quad (14)$$

Where,  $AFL$  and  $CFL$  are the actual and calculated fault location of the AC fault in the HVAC grid and  $L$  is the length of AC transmission line or cable.

### B. TWAT based WABPS Using Graph Theory

1) *Graph theory Representation of VSC Interfaced HVAC Grid:* Any HVAC part of the hybrid AC/DC system can be represented by a un-directed weighted graph  $g = (n, b, w)$ , where  $n = \{n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots\}$ ,  $w = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, \dots\}$  and  $b = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots\}$  are the set of nodes, weights and branches respectively. In a weighted graph  $g$ ,  $P_{n_1, n_2}^{min}$  is used to represent the shortest path between two nodes  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ . Moreover, the distance between nodes  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  can be defined as sum of weights of branches involved in  $P_{n_1, n_2}^{min}$  [20], which is denoted as  $D_{n_1, n_2}$ . The weighted graph  $g$  is systematically sectionalize

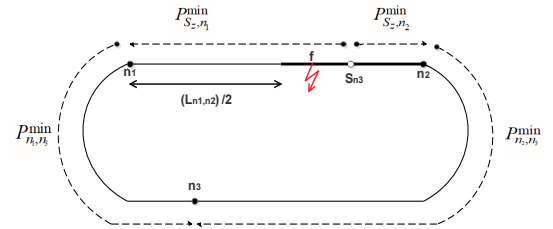


Fig. 3. Locus of symmetric point  $S_{n3}$  in graph  $G$ .

for WABPS using two lemmas [20] which are -

*Lemma I :* If a point  $f$  lies on the shortest path between two arbitrary nodes  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  on the graph  $g$ , then this path

can be represented as the union of the shortest path between node  $n_1$  and  $f$ , and the one between  $f$  and  $n_2$ .

*Lemma II* : Assuming a branch between nodes  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ , i.e.;  $(n_1, n_2) \in b$ . For any shortest path between nodes  $n_2$  and  $n_3$  passes through node  $n_1$ , then for any random point  $f$  on the branch  $(n_1, n_2)$ , the node  $n_1$  must lie on the shortest path between  $f$  and  $n_3$ .

TW will always travel the shortest path from the fault point to the DFR location and its velocity in each branch (transmission line/cable),  $(n_1, n_2)$ , is denoted by  $v_{n_1, n_2}$ . The weight of each branch  $(n_1, n_2)$  of graph  $g$  is multiplied by  $v_0/v_{n_1, n_2}$  for normalization, where  $v_0$  is the base TW velocity. Suppose a line with different segments connects two nodes  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ , and a detector is located at terminal  $n_3$  as shown in Fig. 3. The shortest path and distance from the fault point  $f$  to transient detector location  $n_3$  is calculated as -

$$\begin{aligned} P_{f, n_3}^{min} &= \min(P_{f, n_1}^{min} \cup P_{n_1, n_3}^{min}, P_{f, n_2}^{min} \cup P_{n_2, n_3}^{min}) \\ D_{f, n_3} &= \min(D_{f, n_1} \cup D_{n_1, n_3}, D_{f, n_2} \cup D_{n_2, n_3}) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

The conditions under which both the values in (15) are equal and  $S_{n_3}$  be the symmetric point between  $P_{n_1, n_2}$ , which hold equality constraint condition. By equating this two values -

$$D_{S_{n_3}, n_1} = \frac{D_{n_2, n_3} - D_{n_1, n_3} + D_{n_2, n_1}}{2} \quad (16)$$

The symmetric point  $S_{n_3}$ , whose shortest distances from node  $n_3$  exist in two possible directions, one traverses through node  $n_1$  and another through  $n_2$ , which can be determined from (16). As per *Lemma II*, the shortest path from each arbitrary point  $f$  on segment  $(S_{n_3}, n_1)$  to the node  $n_3$  would surely contain node  $n_1$ . Similarly, the shortest path between any arbitrary point  $f$  on line segment  $(S_{n_3}, n_2)$  to node  $n_3$  would pass through the node  $n_2$ .

let's assume  $I$  to be a set having indices of all nodes equipped with DFR. Suppose for branch  $(n_1, n_2)$ , the symmetric point  $S_{n_3}$  is found for detector at node  $n_3 \in I$ , then the branch  $(n_1, n_2)$  will be sectionalized into at most  $|I| + 1$  segments. Here,  $|I|$  represents the number of elements in the sets, i.e.; also known as cardinality of  $I$ . Therefore, for any fault point  $f$  on the line segment  $(n_x, n_y)$ , it is pre-decided whether the shortest path will traverse the node  $n_1$  or  $n_2$ , and it is to be noted that this property is independent on the location of  $f$  on the  $(n_x, n_y)$  segment. The wide area backup protection strategy (WABPS) involves mainly two stages as -

2) *Fault Equations for Different Segments of VSC Converter Interfaced HVAC System*: Let  $(n_x, n_y)$  be the line segment on the branch  $(n_1, n_2)$  of graph  $g$ , and  $I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)}$  &  $I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)}$  are the sets of all detectors where the TW surge emanating from  $f$  on segment  $(n_x, n_y)$  traverses through node  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  in their path respectively. It can also be mentioned that -

$$I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)} \cup I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)} = I \quad (17)$$

The following two group of TWAT equations can be formulated -

$$\begin{aligned} t_i^{AT} &= t_0 + \frac{D_{f, n_1}}{v_0} + \frac{D_{n_1, i}}{v_0}, \forall i \in I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)} \\ t_i^{AT} &= t_0 + \frac{D_{f, n_2}}{v_0} + \frac{D_{n_2, i}}{v_0}, \forall i \in I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Where,  $t_i^{AT}$  is the first TWAT at detector location  $i$ . It can

be further deduced that  $L_{n_1, n_2} = D_{f, n_1} + D_{f, n_2}$ , as the fault point  $f$  lies on the line/branch  $(n_1, n_2)$ . There are also some topology dependent parameters, such as  $T_{n_1, n_2} = L_{n_1, n_2}/v_0$ ,  $T_{n_2, i} = D_{n_2, i}/v_0$  and  $T_{n_1, i} = D_{n_1, i}/v_0$ . And the unknown term  $D_{n_1, f}/v_0$  in (18) is expressed as  $t_{f, n_1}$  and the rewritten set of equations are -

$$\begin{aligned} t_i^{AT} - T_{n_1, i} &= t_0 + t_{f, n_1}, \forall i \in I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)} \\ t_i^{AT} - T_{n_2, i} - T_{n_1, n_2} &= t_0 - t_{f, n_1}, \forall i \in I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

To solve (19), the shortest path and the distance between all node pairs (all  $D'_{n_1, n_2}$ s) need to found first, which can be achieved using the efficient algorithm proposed in [20]. The (19) can be further simplified in the matrix form as -

$$N = \begin{bmatrix} H_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)} \\ H_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} t_0 \\ t_{f, n_1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

Where  $N$  is a measurement matrix of size  $(|I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)}| + |I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)}|) \times 1$  and the  $H_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)}$  &  $H_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)}$  are generally represented as-

$$H_n^{(n_x, n_y)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Big|_{I_n^{(n_x, n_y)} \times 2}$$

(20) is the set of two linear equations with two unknown variables (inception time and real time fault distance), which can be solved using least square technique for the fault  $f$  on line segment  $(n_x, n_y)$ . Finally, the real time fault distance on transmission line (branch)  $(n_1, n_2)$  is calculated as  $v_{n_1, n_2} \cdot t_{f, n_1}$ , where  $v_{n_1, n_2}$  is the TW velocity in branch  $(n_1, n_2)$ .

3) *Fault Segment Identification for WABPS*: A wide area real time fault distance is calculated by solving (20) for a fault on the line segment on sectionalized graph  $g$ . But, the faulted segment is not known prior to solving (20). Therefore, the faulted line segment is identified by subtracting all possible equations pair in (19) as shown below -

$$\begin{aligned} t_i^{AT} - t_j^{AT} &= T_{n_1, i} - T_{n_1, j}, \forall i, j \in I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)} \\ t_i^{AT} - t_j^{AT} &= T_{n_2, i} - T_{n_2, j}, \forall i, j \in I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

It can be pointed out that the AT difference between specified detector pair  $i$  &  $j$  is not dependent on line segment  $(n_x, n_y)$ . Therefore, for all line segment  $(n_x, n_y)$  located on branch  $(n_1, n_2)$ , the following equations is constituted for TWAT at different detector location -

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\forall i, j \in I_{n_1}^{(n_x, n_y)}} |(t_i^{AT} - t_j^{AT}) - (T_{n_1, i} - T_{n_1, j})| \\ + \sum_{\forall i, j \in I_{n_2}^{(n_x, n_y)}} |(t_i^{AT} - t_j^{AT}) - (T_{n_2, i} - T_{n_2, j})| \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

As per (21), if fault is on line segment  $(n_x, n_y)$ , then (22) would be equal to zero, maybe small positive number due to rounding off error and measurement errors. hence, the faulted line segment is identified, which is prerequisite for identifying real time fault distance in WABPS.

### C. Proposed TW based WABPS

The proposed protection scheme has two stages -  
*Offline Stage:*

- 1) The graph topology of the HVAC part of the hybrid AC/DC grid is derived, which is generally fixed.
- 2) Considering the location of DFRs, all branches of the derived graph topology are sectionalized using (16). A set  $B^{new}$  is formed containing all segments whose terminal ends are either node or symmetrical nodes on the branch.
- 3) For all segment, i.e.;  $\forall(n_x, n_y) \in B^{new}$ , with respect to the branch under study say  $(n_1, n_2)$ , the set  $I_{n1}$  and  $I_{n2}$  are obtained as explained in previous section.

*Online Stage (WABPS):*

- 1) The TWATs are estimated at different DFR location across HVAC side of the hybrid AC/DC system using proposed technique low sampling frequency (50 kHz) measurements.
- 2) For all offline identified segments, i.e.;  $\forall(n_x, n_y) \in B^{new}$ , (22) is calculated and the lowest among all would be considered as the faulted segment.
- 3) In the next step, the system of equations (19) for the identified line segment, in previous step, is solved to estimate real time fault location, and a backup trip signal is sent for secured backup protection.

In summary, the installed DFRs at different bus location records the precise TWAT using SMPA algorithm. The estimated TWAT is retrieved from multiple wide-area sensors (DFRs) via IEC-61850 compliant communication channel and real time fault location is calculated using a graph theory-based method. By analyzing the time differences and the known network topology, the fault location can be quickly and accurately identified on real time basis. The real-time fault location using TWATs can support distance-based backup protection in HVAC transmission lines, thus improving the speed and reliability of backup protection schemes.

### III. TEST HYBRID AC/DC SYSTEM

To evaluate the performance of proposed TW based WABPS, a test hybrid AC/DC transmission system is modeled as shown in Fig. 4(a). The detailed description of hybrid AC/DC grid parameters are tabulated in Table I.

TABLE I  
MMC CONVERTERS AND AC/DC GRID PARAMETERS

Converter and grid parameters	Converter 1	Converter 2
Rated power (MVA)	1500	1500
AC grid voltage (kV)	400	400
DC grid voltage (kV)	$\pm 320$	$\pm 320$
Control mode	$V_{AC}$ and $V_{DC}$	P and Q
AC converter ratio (Grid/VSC)	400/175	400/175
Frequency (Hz)	50	50
Arm capacitance ( $\mu F$ )	33.5	33.5
Arm reactor (mH)	50	50
Arm resistance ( $\Omega$ )	0.385	0.385
Bus filter reactor (mH)	15	15

The DFRs are installed at all AC buses as shown in Fig. 4(a), which is equipped with proposed TWAT estimation tool requiring 50 kHz sampling frequency. For fault  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  in the test hybrid AC/DC grid shown in Fig. 4(a), the time

synchronized TWAT information extracted at the installed DFRs are transferred to the graph theory based centralized WABPC via dedicated communication channel conforming to IEC-61850 GOOSE message protocol as shown in Fig. 4(b). As clear from Fig. 4(b), the symmetrical nodes for node "B", "C" and "D" are  $S_{zb}$ ,  $S_{zc}$  and  $S_{zd}$  respectively. The location of  $S_{zb}$ ,  $S_{zc}$  and  $S_{zd}$  from AC bus B are 59.5 km, 39.5 km and 15.2 km respectively, which is calculated using (16). The symmetrical nodes for node B and D lies in  $L_{23}$ , instead of  $L_{26}$  and  $L_{36}$ , due to traveling wave velocity parity between short length cable and OHTL. Therefore, symmetrical nodes  $S_{zb}$  and  $S_{zd}$  are redundant and only  $S_{zc}$  will be considered for sectionalizing line  $L_{34}$  in two sections  $L_{B,S_{zc}}$  and  $L_{S_{zc},D}$ .

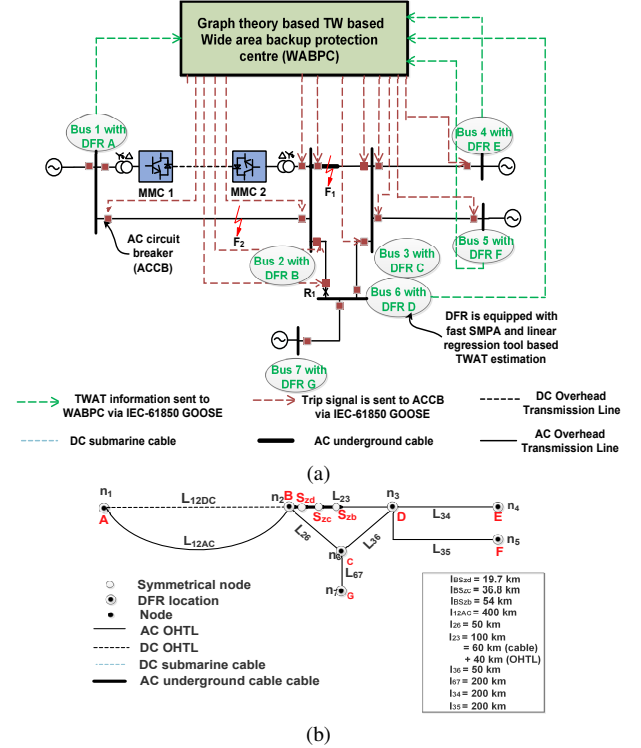


Fig. 4. (a) Schematics of proposed WABPS for test hybrid AC/DC grid interfacing offshore wind farm. (b) Associated sectionalized graph representation.

### IV. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The hybrid AC/DC transmission system shown in Fig. 4 is modeled in PSCAD/EMTDC software. The half bridge MMC converter model is developed using continuous equivalent MMC model with blocking/de-blocking and LVRT capability. The overhead transmission line (OHTL) and cable are modeled using frequency dependent (phase) models. The TW velocity for the cable & OHTL is found to be 121.30 km/ms and 255.219 km/ms respectively. The simulation time step is selected as 20  $\mu s$  corresponding to 50 kHz sampling frequency measurement and signal-to-noise- ratio is considered to be 50 dB for all simulation cases analyzed and discussed in this section. The matrix  $Y$  of SMPA technique (used for proposed WABPS) has dimensions of  $5 \times 6$ , based on the chosen values of  $N = 10$  and  $L = 10$ , with a filtering parameter  $P$  set to 3. Moreover, the predetermined threshold ( $\zeta$ ) for the test system is empirically determined by simulating a 100  $\Omega$  (highest) fault



resistance in OHTL/cable at farthest fault location under 50 dB SNR (worst) noise contaminated signal.

### A. Impact of fault location

To study the impact of fault location on the proposed TW based WABPS, a three phase (LLL) fault is simulated at 0.7s in  $F_1$  with varying fault distance in AC cable and OHTL between AC bus 2 and 3 as shown in Fig. 4(a). At first, the fault location is set at 48 km from AC bus 2 in cable part of the mixed cable/OHTL between AC bus 2 and 3 in test hybrid AC/DC system. The SMPA based algorithm employed inside the DFRs installed at the AC buses are shown in Fig. 5.

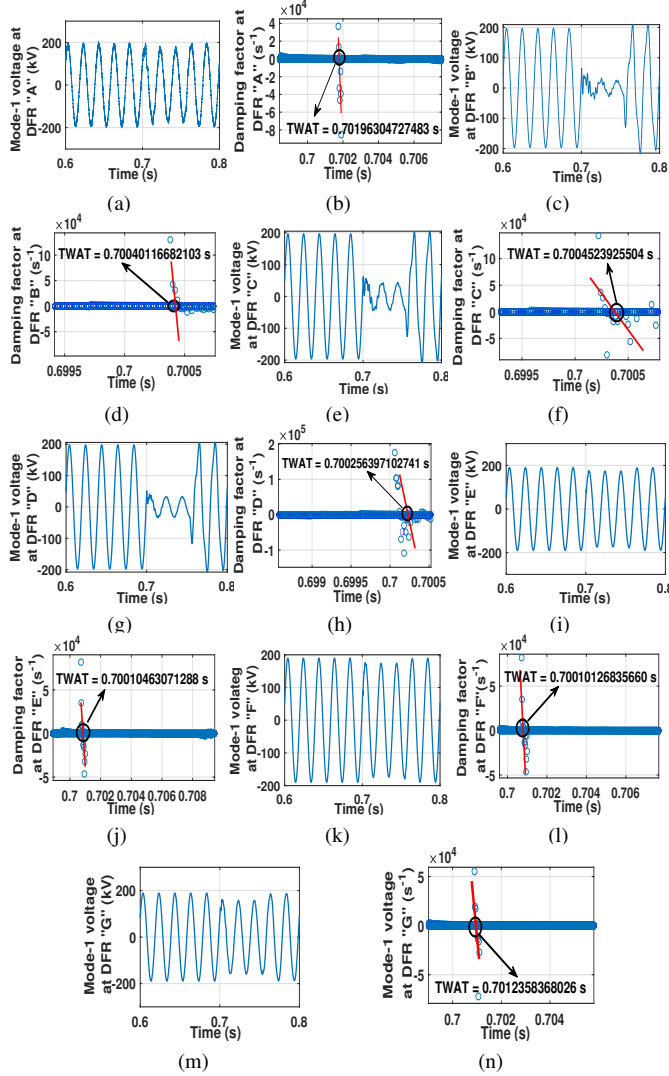


Fig. 5. SMPA performance (a)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "A", (b) TWAT at DFR "A", (c)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "B", (d) TWAT at DFR "B", (e)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "C", (f) TWAT at DFR "C", (g)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "D", (h) TWAT at DFR "D", (i)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "E", (j) TWAT at DFR "E", (k)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "F", (l) TWAT at DFR "F", (m)  $u_\alpha$  at DFR "G", (n) TWAT at DFR "G".

The extracted TWATs at all 7 DFRs for fault induced TW are sent to WABPC, where graph theory algorithms are used to identify the fault segment and real time fault localization. (22) is used to identify (coarse estimation) the faulted segment in the HAVC network, whereas (20) is used to estimate the real time fault location. If the CFL falls in the protected zone for zone-2 and zone-3 of assumed relay location  $R_1$ , then a

supervisory trip signal will be sent to assist secured backup protection of HVAC grid. Similarly, the TWATs estimated using SMPA algorithm at 7 DFRs location in test system is tabulated in Table II for 48 km, 20 km, 10 km, 30 km and 50 km fault location from AC bus 2. As evident from Table II, the TW based wide area real time fault location is estimated using graph theory tool and the maximum fault location error (FLE) (14) comes out to be 0.132 % . It also correctly identifies the fault zone for Relay  $R_1$  (Zone 1 - 40 km (80 % of  $L_{26}$ ), Zone 2 - 60 km (120 % of  $L_{26}$ ) and Zone 3 - 450 km (100 % of  $L_{26}+100$  % of  $L_{12AC}$ )) as observed in Table II for fault  $F_1$ .

TABLE II  
PERFORMANCE OF PROPOSED WABPS FOR DIFFERENT FAULT LOCATION IN  $L_{23}$  (FAULT DISTANCE IS CALCULATED FROM BUS 2)

AFL (km)	TWAT at DFR location							Fault zone	FLE (%)
	DFR A	DFR B	DFR C	DFR D	DFR E	DFR F	DFR G		
48	0.701963	0.7004016	0.700452	0.700256	0.700104	0.700101	0.701235	Zone-3	0.068
20	0.700948	0.700166	0.700362	0.700488	0.701273	0.701270	0.701145	Zone-3	0.101
10	0.701651	0.700083	0.700278	0.700476	0.701258	0.701255	0.701063	Zone-2	0.03
30	0.701815	0.700249	0.700444	0.700404	0.701188	0.701189	0.701227	Zone-3	0.132
55	0.702020	0.700454	0.700395	0.700199	0.700983	0.700981	0.701176	Zone-3	0.051

### B. Impact of fault impedance

To study the impact of fault impedance on the performance of proposed WABPS, a single phase to ground (LG)  $F_1$  with fault impedance of 20  $\Omega$ , 60  $\Omega$  and 100  $\Omega$  is simulated at 0.7 s in  $L_{23}$  at a distance of 30 km from AC bus 2 (Node "B") in the test hybrid AC/DC system. The SMPA algorithm's performance is evaluated at DFR "B" in Fig. 6, where the estimated TWAT is 0.7002473170 s, 0.700247016 s and 0.700246932 s for 20  $\Omega$ , 60  $\Omega$  and 100  $\Omega$  respectively. It is clear from Fig. 6 that the effect of fault type has non-significant effect on proposed SMPA's algorithm accuracy for fault resistance up to 100  $\Omega$ . Concurrently, the extracted TWAT for other DFRs are estimated and tabulated in Table III and (22) & (20) of the graph theory algorithm is used to identify the fault zone and fault location.

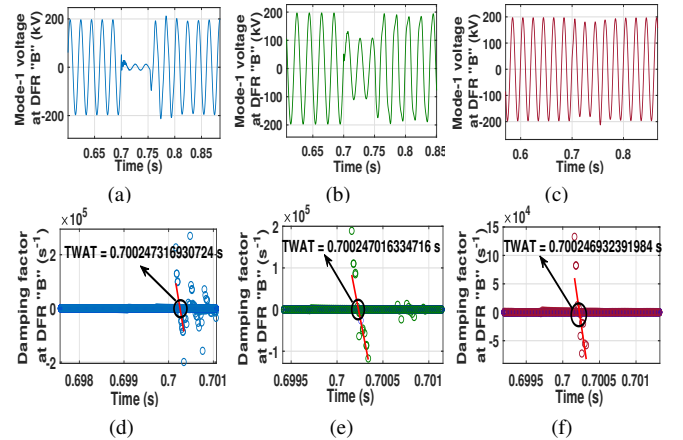


Fig. 6. Impact of fault impedance on the proposed SMPA based TWAT estimation (a) TWAT at DFR "B" for 20  $\Omega$  fault resistance, (b) TWAT at DFR "B" for 60  $\Omega$  fault resistance, (c) TWAT at DFR "B" for 100  $\Omega$  fault resistance.

### C. Impact of fault type

In this subsection, the effect of fault type is initially studied on the accuracy of proposed SMPA algorithm by simulating

TABLE III

PERFORMANCE OF PROPOSED WABPS FOR DIFFERENT FAULT LOCATION & FAULT IMPEDANCE ON TRANSMISSION LINE AND CABLE IN  $L_{23}$  (FAULT DISTANCE IS CALCULATED FROM BUS 2)

Fault resistance ( $\Omega$ ) & AFL (km)	TWAT at DFR location							Fault zone	FLE (%)
	DFR A	DFR B	DFR C	DFR D	DFR E	DFR F	DFR G		
20 & 30	0.701813	0.700250	0.700445	0.700403	0.701188	0.701188	0.701227	Zone-3	0.125
60 & 30	0.701814	0.700251	0.700444	0.700404	0.701188	0.701188	0.701226	Zone-3	0.105
100 & 30	0.701814	0.700249	0.700444	0.700404	0.701189	0.701188	0.701227	Zone-3	0.111
20 & 80	0.702038	0.700472	0.700274	0.700079	0.700863	0.700864	0.701058	Zone-3	0.189
60 & 80	0.702036	0.700471	0.700273	0.700080	0.700865	0.700864	0.701059	Zone-3	0.192
100 & 80	0.702037	0.700472	0.700273	0.700078	0.700863	0.700864	0.701060	Zone-3	0.206

line-to-ground (LG) fault, line-to-line (LL) fault and three phase or line-line-line (LLL) fault  $F_1$  in transmission line at 25 km distance from node B in cable between node B and D. The extracted TWAT is 0.700368071 s, 0.700360819 s and 0.700360281 s for LG, LL and LLL fault respectively as shown in Fig. 7, which indicates that the proposed TWAT estimation technique is robust against fault types. To further evaluate the performance of proposed graph theory based WABPS, the estimated TWAT at other DFRs for LG, LL and LLL fault are tabulated in Table IV. (22) and (20) are used to locate fault and identify the fault zone for relay  $R_1$ , which comes out to be zone-3. Similarly, other fault location and types are simulated in a test hybrid AC/DC grid and its performance is tabulated in Table IV, which verifies that the proposed WABPS is insensitive to different fault type.

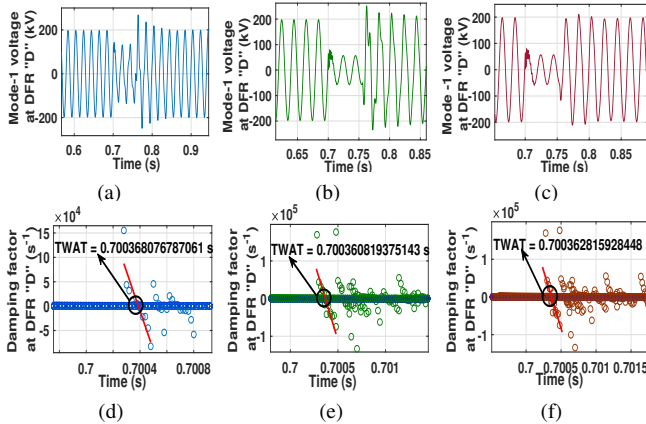


Fig. 7. Impact of fault type on the proposed fast SMPA based TWAT estimation (a) TWAT at DFR "D" for LG fault type, (b) TWAT at DFR "D" for LL fault type, (c) TWAT at DFR "D" for LLL fault type.

TABLE IV

PERFORMANCE OF WIDE AREA PROTECTION SCHEME FOR DIFFERENT FAULT LOCATION AND FAULT TYPE IN  $L_{23}$  (FAULT DISTANCE IS CALCULATED FROM BUS 2)

Fault type & distance (km)	TWAT at DFR location							Fault zone	FLE (%)
	DFR A	DFR B	DFR C	DFR D	DFR E	DFR F	DFR G		
LG & 30	0.701814	0.700252	0.700443	0.700400	0.701189	0.701187	0.701228	Zone-3	0.140
LL & 30	0.701813	0.700255	0.700441	0.700399	0.701190	0.701188	0.701230	Zone-3	0.220
LLL & 30	0.701815	0.700253	0.700440	0.700402	0.701191	0.701189	0.701231	Zone-3	0.153
LG & 55	0.702022	0.700456	0.700397	0.700201	0.700987	0.700982	0.701177	Zone-3	0.404
LL & 55	0.702021	0.700455	0.700398	0.700199	0.700984	0.700982	0.701178	Zone-3	0.521
LLL & 55	0.702020	0.700454	0.700395	0.700199	0.700983	0.700981	0.701176	Zone-3	0.382

#### D. Impact of LVRT control of MMC converter

There will be an impact of LVRT controller of MMC converter on the apparent impedance seen by the conventional

distance (mho) relay, which is given as [21] -

$$Z_{app}^{AG} = \frac{(Res_F + pZ_L^1)I_{R_1}^a + Res_f I_{grid}^a + 3pZ_L^1 I_{tr}^0}{I_{R_1}^a + 3kI_{tr}^0} \quad (23)$$

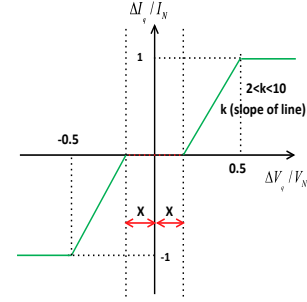


Fig. 8. LVRT control characteristics of MMC controller

Where  $Z^{AG}$ ,  $Res_F$ ,  $p$ ,  $Z_L^1$ ,  $I_{Res_A}^a$ ,  $I_{grid}^a$ ,  $I_{tr}^0$  and  $k$  are the apparent fault (phase A to ground fault) impedance, fault resistance, per unit length, positive sequence line impedance, relay faulted phase current, grid faulted phase current, transformer zero sequence current and  $k = \frac{Z_L^0 - Z_L^1}{3Z_L^1}$  respectively. In (23), the component  $\frac{(Res_F + pZ_L^1)I_{R_1}^a}{I_{R_1}^a + 3kI_{tr}^0}$  highlights dependence of the apparent impedance on the converter side current (remotely contributed from bus 2), which is limited by 1.15-1.2 pu (saturation limit). The denominator part of (23) ( $I_{R_1}^a + 3kI_{tr}^0$ ) further dominated by positive sequence converter current (remote contribution) component, which further influence the apparent impedance trajectory seen by the relay  $R_1$ .

TABLE V

PERFORMANCE OF PROPOSED WABPS AGAINST LVRT CONTROL IN MMC CONVERTER FOR FAULT IN  $L_{12AC}$  AND  $L_{23}$ .

Fault type & AFL (km)	TWAT at DFR location							Fault zone	FLE (%)
	DFR A	DFR B	DFR C	DFR D	DFR E	DFR F	DFR G		
LG & 5 in $L_{12AC}$	0.201548	0.200020	0.200198	0.200390	0.201175	0.201177	0.200980	Zone-2	0.202
LL & 5 in $L_{12AC}$	0.201547	0.200019	0.200200	0.200392	0.201174	0.201176	0.200981	Zone-2	0.184
LG & 20 in $L_{12AC}$	0.201489	0.200077	0.200274	0.200469	0.201254	0.201253	0.2010579	Zone-3	0.138
LG & 10 in $L_{23}$	0.201650	0.200084	0.200278	0.200475	0.201258	0.201259	0.201062	Zone-2	0.152
LL & 30 in $L_{23}$	0.201812	0.200250	0.200443	0.200405	0.201188	0.201189	0.201225	Zone-3	0.140

As per the LVRT control characteristic as shown in Fig 8, the additional converter reactive current ( $\Delta I_q$ ) support should be directly proportional to the voltage drop ( $\Delta V$ ) at the PCC, expressed as  $\Delta I_q = k \times \Delta V / V$ , where the reactive current droop ( $k$ ) can be adjusted within a range of 2-10 pu. But it does not activates if voltage drop lies within dead band of  $\pm 0.1$  pu as shown in Fig. 8.

At 0.2 s, a LG fault  $F_2$  is simulated for 400 ms at a distance of 5 km from AC bus 2 in OHTL  $L_{12AC}$  of test hybrid AC/DC grid shown in Fig. 4, which lies in zone-2 for conventional mho relay  $R_1$  located at bus 6 in test system. The LVRT controller of MMC converter 2 will get activated, when PCC voltage (Bus 2) falls below the threshold voltage (0.9 pu in test system) set by the grid code, during fault and it will support the converter bus (Bus 2) voltage by injecting reactive power as shown in Fig. 9(a). The grid bus (Bus 3) also contribute reactive power to the system as shown in Fig. 9(a). The active power support from MMC 2 drops down to zero during fault

as shown in Fig. 9(b). The DC current and voltage response to the AC fault  $F_2$  is shown in Fig. 9(g) and (h), which shows the recovery of HVDC grid after the fault event clearance. The apparent impedance ( $Z_{app}$ ) trajectory for LG fault  $F_2$  in the test hybrid AC/DC system, with and without HVDC, is plotted for mho relay  $R_1$  in Fig. 9(i). As evident from Fig. 9(i), the mho relay correctly identifies the fault  $F_2$  in zone-2 for test system without MMC based HVDC system, whereas the mho relay classifies the fault  $F_2$  as zone-3 fault which highlights the underreach issue with conventional mho relay. Moreover, the SMPA based TWAT information at all DFRs are tabulated in Table V for fault  $F_2$  with different combination of fault type and fault location in OHTL  $L_{12AC}$  and cable  $L_{23}$ .

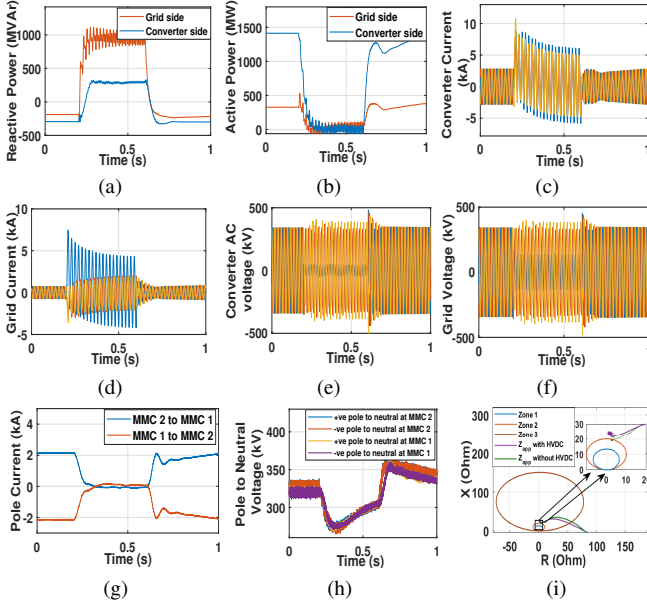


Fig. 9. Impact of LVRT control on conventional distance protection scheme (a) Reactive power flow from MMC 2 &  $L_{23}$  from bus 3, (b) Active power flow from MMC 2 &  $L_{23}$  at bus 3, (c) Current contribution from MMC 2, (d) Current contribution from  $L_{23}$  at bus 3, (e) AC voltage at MMC 2, (f) AC voltage at bus 3, (g) DC current in HVDC link, (h) DC pole voltage at MMC 1 and MMC 2 terminal, (i)  $Z_{app}$  seen by Relay  $R_1$  with and without HVDC LVRT controller

## V. CONCLUSION

A robust and secured TW based WABPS is designed for mixed cable & OHTL of the HVAC grid interfacing MMC converter based HVDC link. A SMPA algorithm is used to estimate TWAT in DFR located at the AC bus terminal using low sampling frequency (50 kHz) measurement and sent to WABPC via dedicated communication channel conforming to IEC-61850 communication protocol. A graph theory based wide area real time fault location is estimated and a distance protection based supervisory backup trip signal is sent to the associated circuit breaker in the HVAC grid. The performance of proposed WABPS is validated against fault types, fault resistance, fault distance, measurement noise (up to 50 dB SNR) and LVRT control of MMC converter, and its application could also be extended for wide area real time fault localization in the HVAC transmission network. While the proposed method has been validated through detailed simulations, practical implementation and field testing are key next steps. We are currently exploring collaboration opportunities with an

industrial partner to evaluate the feasibility and performance of the technique in real-world conditions. This future work will focus on hardware-in-the-loop testing and measurement-based validation to further support the applicability of the proposed approach.

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