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A Novel Finite-Control-Set Model Predictive Directive Torque Control Strategy of Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor with Extended Output

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Abstract: The performance of conventional direct torque control strategy from the viewpoint of flux and torque ripples has been unsatisfactory. Therefore, this study aims to propose a novel finite-control-set model predictive direct torque control strategy with extended output based on two-step prediction. An appropriate pre-selected vector, which is modulated in a specific manner, is selected through a look-up table and then used to optimise the pre-selected voltage vector based on the computing result from the model prediction and output it. The proposed strategy extends the range of the vectors that can be used to enhance the flux and torque control performance and reduce ripples and computational complexity in comparison with the conventional finite-control-set model predictive direct torque control. The feasibility of the proposed method is verified by conducting a verification test using dSPACE and Typhoon HIL 402 experimental platform.

Keywords: permanent magnet synchronous motors; predictive control; ripples reduction; optimised calculation

1. Introduction

Recently, some nonlinear and linear controllers of the complex control systems are proved to be successful in various areas [1–3]. Herein, permanent magnet synchronous motors (PMSMs), as one of the staple applications in the field of motor control, are widely used in high-precision controlled drive systems [4,5] owing to their simple structure, high power density, and excellent dynamic performance [6], for instance electric vehicles [7]. Therefore, high-performance control strategies are crucial for the smooth functioning of PMSMs. Conventional control methods are divided into field-oriented control (FOC) and direct torque control (DTC) methods. FOC method has high-precision and good stability; however, it is more complicated, and its response speed is slower than that of the DTC method [8]. Currently, DTC is being widely applied as a quick-response control strategy using electromagnetic torque and flux as the control target [9–13]. DTC has a simple structure, low computational complexity, and quick-response time. However, the control effect is not good owing to the limitation of flux and torque ripples [14]. Therefore, it is necessary to overcome these limitations.

With the development of microprocessors, model predictive control has gradually been introduced into the permanent magnet synchronous motor torque control and is being developed into the model predictive DTC (MPDTC) method. This method has attracted considerable attention because it can be used to intuitively express the state of important variables and to optimise output; therefore, helping to effectively reduce ripples in the output torque [15–22]. The finite-control-set MPDTC (FCS-MPDTC)

is a novel torque control strategy, which can effectively predict the state of flux and torque under a limited switching state of the voltage source inverter (VSI). This strategy selects an optimal switching state to apply on the control target, minimising ripples in the torque and flux using a cost function with a reasonable weighting factor [17]. The cost function contains several control targets as a criterion for selecting an optimal voltage space vector (VSV), which intuitively reflects on the control cost. The optimal vector is selected via calculation in each cycle. If the range of output VSVs is limited to eight basic VSVs, there can still be large flux and torque ripples [23]. However, if the number of VSVs is increased, the computational complexity will increase, and the same applies to the computational cost of the processor, which can hamper real-time operation performance.

DTC based on duty cycle modulation improves the steady-state characteristics of flux and torque and reduces ripples. The idea was later introduced in the design of FCS-MPDTTC. The algorithm was simplified through a qualitative analysis of the extended 20 modulated VSVs [24]. After observing the flux, predictive calculations are performed on the pre-selected VSVs and the optimal VSV is selected based on the results obtained to improve flux and torque control performance. In this method, the finite set contains 20 different VSVs, and six VSVs are used in performing evaluations in each cycle. In comparison with the conventional torque control strategy, the proposed strategy has positive effects on flux and torque control performance, computational efficiency, and phase current THD. A novel hybrid control system was proposed based on PMSM-driven predictive finite state control strategy [25]. After ignoring the stator resistance voltage drop, the optimal VSV is determined using a cost function with the smallest number of control targets. This method simplifies the algorithm while optimising flux and torque performance. It also achieves good results in reducing the stator phase current THD. Therefore, it is necessary to improve the control performance of the target motor and reduce the computational complexity of the model prediction.

This study proposes a control strategy based on FCS-MPDTTC. The effects of active VSVs modulated in a specific manner on the control target are analysed. A control switching table for selecting a pre-selected VSV included in model prediction calculation is thus designed to reduce the number of prediction vectors, which lessens the computational burden. Then, based on deviation result of the target variables with respect to the reference value, the VSV output is adjusted to increase the number of VSVs, which can be outputted to 30, thereby achieving a more accurate and stable torque control. Furthermore, measurement and calculation delays in real-time control are considered in the calculation process of the model prediction. Herein, a novel comprehensive experimental platform for dSPACE and Typhoon HIL 402 is used to validate the proposed control method.

The structure of this paper is as follows. A mathematical model of permanent magnet synchronous motor is discussed in Section 2. The characteristics of conventional FCS-MPDTTC are presented in Section 3. The principle of operation of the proposed novel DTC strategy is presented in Section 4. Verification of performance of the proposed method based on the simulations conducted is presented in Section 5. A comprehensive experimental platform based on dSPACE and Typhoon HIL 402 is also established in Section 5 to verify the feasibility of the proposed control method.

2. Mathematical Model of PMSM

In the stationary α - β coordinate system, the mathematical model of PMSM can be described as:

$$\frac{di_s}{dt} = \frac{1}{L_s}(u_s - R_s i_s - j\omega_e \psi_s) \text{ and} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{d\psi_s}{dt} = u_s - R_s i_s, \quad (2)$$

where i_s denotes the stator current, L_s denotes the stator inductance, u_s denotes the stator voltage, R_s denotes the stator resistance, ω_e denotes the electrical angular velocity of the motor, and ψ_s denotes the stator flux.

The torque equation of PMSM can be expressed as:

$$T_e = 1.5p\psi_s \otimes i_s \text{ or} \quad (3)$$

$$T_e = 1.5p\left(\frac{\psi_f}{L_d}|\psi_s|\sin\delta - \frac{L_q - L_d}{L_d L_q}|\psi_s|^2\sin\delta\cos\delta\right), \quad (4)$$

where T_e denotes the electromagnetic torque, p denotes the pole pair of the motor, $\otimes$ refers to cross product, L_d and L_q denotes the direct and quadrature stator inductance, δ denotes the angle between the stator flux and the rotor flux.

For the surface-mount three-phase PMSM, the stator inductance $L_d = L_q = L_s$ at time T_e (4) can be expressed as:

$$T_e = \frac{3}{2} \frac{p}{L_s} |\psi_s| \psi_f \sin\delta \text{ and} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{d\omega_e}{dt} = \frac{p}{J} (T_e - T_L - B\omega_m), \quad (6)$$

where J denotes the moment of inertia, T_L denotes the load torque, B denotes the viscous friction coefficient of the rotor, and ω_m indicates the mechanical angular velocity of the motor.

3. Structure and Characteristics of the Conventional FCS-MPDTC

3.1. Structure of the Conventional FCS-MPDTC

FCS-MPDTC is an application of MPC to direct torque control to enhance its conventional DTC and improve motor flux and torque control performance [26]. The strategy can fully utilize the discrete nature of the inverter's switching state. The six active VSVs and the two zero vectors that the inverter can output are used and the optimal VSV that has the lowest cost is selected as the output using the cost function, which is then applied to the control target. The structure of the conventional FCS-MPDTC is shown in Figure 1. FCS-MPDTC can be divided into the following steps: (1) variable measurement; (2) flux estimation and model prediction; (3) cost evaluation and (4) inverter output. Herein, the stator voltage needs to be observed for estimating flux. The voltage states under the action of each switching state are shown in Table 1.

Figure 1. Structure of a conventional FCS-MPDTC.

In the control strategy, the two-phase current on the stator of the motor is required to measure and accurately predict the possible state of the PMSM when VSVs are about to be applied. The mathematical

model described in Section 2 can be discretised using first-order Forward Euler's formula for the calculation of model prediction as follows:

$$\mathbf{i}_s(k+1) = \mathbf{i}_s(k) + \frac{T_s}{L_s} \mathbf{u}_s(k) - R_s \mathbf{i}_s(k) - j\omega_e \boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k), \quad (7)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k+1) = \boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k) + T_s [\mathbf{u}_s(k) - R_s \mathbf{i}_s(k)]. \quad (8)$$

According to Equations (7) and (8), the electromagnetic torque of PMSM at time $k+1$ can be expressed as:

$$T_e(k+1) = 1.5p \mathbf{i}_s(k+1) \otimes \boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k+1). \quad (9)$$

Table 1. State of VSVs of the conventional FCS-MPDTC.

$\mathbf{U}_x$	$S_{a,b,c}$	$\mathbf{U}_\alpha$	$\mathbf{U}_\beta$
U_0	[0 0 0]	0	0
U_1	[1 0 0]	$\frac{2}{3}V_{dc}$	0
U_2	[1 1 0]	$\frac{1}{3}V_{dc}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}V_{dc}$
U_3	[0 1 0]	$-\frac{1}{3}V_{dc}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}V_{dc}$
U_4	[0 1 1]	$-\frac{2}{3}V_{dc}$	0
U_5	[0 0 1]	$-\frac{1}{3}V_{dc}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}V_{dc}$
U_6	[1 0 1]	$\frac{1}{3}V_{dc}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}V_{dc}$
U_7	[1 1 1]	0	0

Since the time constant of the rotor is much higher than the sampling time per cycle and the rotor flux action is much slower than the stator flux action, it is assumed that $\omega_e(k) = \omega_e(k+1)$. The FCS-MPDTC requires estimating the stator flux $\boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k)$ and the electromagnetic torque $T_e(k)$ based on the measured values of the current $\mathbf{i}_s(k)$ and the angular velocity $\omega_e(k)$. Furthermore, it is critical to ensure that the appropriate cost function is designed to evaluate the predicted result of flux $\boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k+1)$ and torque $T_e(k+1)$ generated by each VSV $\mathbf{u}_s(k)$, and to select the optimal voltage based on the result obtained. The VSV acts on the next cycle. The cost function is designed in such a way that the flux and torque always track the specified value. When the value of the cost function is minimum, the currently selected VSV is the optimal VSV that will act in the next cycle. It is usually expressed as:

$$\text{ming}_i = |T_e^* - T_e(k+1)| + \lambda |\boldsymbol{\psi}_s^*| - |\boldsymbol{\psi}_s(k+1)| + I_l, \quad (10)$$

where T_e^* denotes the electromagnetic torque reference value, $\boldsymbol{\psi}_s^*$ denotes the flux reference value and λ denotes the weighting factor that determines the relative importance of stator flux and torque. The choice of weighting factor λ depends on the specific application, and there are no exact criteria for function design. It is possible to refer to the output torque range, and the corresponding flux range, as well as the trade-offs between dynamic characteristics of torque and flux in the application. Generally, λ is selected to be T_n/ψ_n , where T_n and ψ_n are the rated values of torque and stator flux, respectively. And I_l is included in it on the basis of maximum current capacity (I_m) of the stator winding as follows:

$$I_l = \begin{cases} \infty, & |\mathbf{i}_s(k+1)| > I_m \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

3.2. Characteristics of the Conventional FCS-MPDTC

First, only eight basic VSVs are introduced in the range that can be evaluated and outputted by the conventional FCS-MPDTC. This limits the control performance and all VSVs are needed per evaluation. If the number of vectors is increased to improve the performance, the computational complexity becomes very high.

Second, if the average switching frequency $\bar{f}_{sw}$ [27] and the common-mode voltages CMV_s [28] are included in the cost function of the conventional FCS-MPDTTC, the control target in the cost function will increase. It will be difficult to set weighting factors and the design of a cost function in such a situation would be complicated. Generally, in order to achieve a balance between steady-state torque fluctuations and switching times, an item on the average switching frequency is introduced into the function. However, the meaning of the coefficient (weighting factor) of the switching frequency is not very clear, so it is necessary to make repeated adjustments. In other words, the traditional method to obtain the flux trajectory between the circumference and the hexagon does not intuitively indicate what the coefficient of the frequency term should be. This also makes the design of the cost function involving multiple targets more difficult.

4. Principle of Operation of the Proposed FCS-MPDTTC

Herein, in order to overcome the limitation of the conventional FCS-MPDTTC, a novel FCS-MPDTTC is proposed. Six VSVs modulated in a specific manner are used in the evaluation of the model prediction in the proposed FCS-MPDTTC. Before calculating the model prediction, a vector switching table is used to determine the VSV included in the calculation and the selected VSV is adjusted according to the deviation of the control target used in the model prediction. In addition, a time delay needs to be considered in the real-time operation of the actual control system. The structure of the proposed control strategy is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Proposed control system.

4.1. Pre-selected VSVs

As shown in Figure 3, six VSVs, V_1 – V_6 , are used in the proposed control strategy. However, not all the six VSVs are used in evaluating the model prediction. Each of the VSVs is modulated by two fixed duty cycles adjacent to the basic active VSVs, as shown in Table 2. In addition, to determine the position angle of the stator flux ψ_s , it is necessary to divide the sector along the plane of the α - β coordinate axis. The position angle of the stator flux ψ_s can be expressed as:

$$\theta_s = \arctan\left(\frac{\theta_{\beta s}}{\theta_{\alpha s}}\right). \quad (12)$$

In the two-phase stationary coordinate system (α - β), the active VSVs of two-level VSI (2L-VSI) are periodically changed by $\pi/3$, and the coordinate plane can be divided into six sectors, as shown in Table 3. This can be expressed as:

$$\frac{\pi}{3}(n-1) < S_n < \frac{\pi}{3}n. \quad (13)$$

The stator flux is located in the sector S_n , $n \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$.

Figure 3. VSVs involved.

Table 2. VSVs in α - β Planar.

Vector	Modulated by
V_1	$0.4(U_1 + U_2)$
V_2	$0.4(U_2 + U_3)$
V_3	$0.4(U_3 + U_4)$
V_4	$0.4(U_4 + U_5)$
V_5	$0.4(U_5 + U_6)$
V_6	$0.4(U_6 + U_1)$

Table 3. Sector division in α - β Planar.

θ_s	$0 \sim \frac{1}{3}\pi$	$\frac{1}{3}\pi \sim \frac{2}{3}\pi$	$\frac{2}{3}\pi \sim \pi$	$\pi \sim \frac{4}{3}\pi$	$\frac{4}{3}\pi \sim \frac{5}{3}\pi$	$\frac{5}{3}\pi \sim 2\pi$
n	1	2	3	4	5	6

4.2. VSVs Involved in the Calculation of Model Prediction

Herein, a DTC switching table is used to select VSVs that are used in evaluating the model prediction. Using the deviation of the flux and torque, the flux and torque increase and decrease signals can be obtained. Combined with the sector where the stator flux is located, the VSV used in calculating the model prediction can be selected. After applying the VSVs shown in Table 2, different effects are generated on the motor. Taking the stator flux in the S_1 sector as an example, the control effect of each VSV on the flux and torque is analysed, as shown in Figure 4. Assuming the motor rotates in a counterclockwise direction, there will be $\theta_s \in (0 \sim \frac{1}{3}\pi)$ at this time.

Figure 4. The effect of applying VSVs.

It can be seen from Figure 4 that when the stator flux is at S_1 , the VSVs V_2 or V_3 acts on the inverter to increase the torque, whereas V_5 or V_6 can lead to a reduction in the torque. The VSV V_2 or V_6 acts on the inverter to increase the flux, whereas V_3 or V_5 can lead to a reduction of the flux. When the stator flux is in other sectors, the analysis of the control effect can analogise similarly. The torque control

switching table used in this strategy is shown in Table 4, where the flux deviation can be expressed as $\delta\psi_s = |\psi_s^*| - |\psi_s|$, and the torque deviation as $\delta T_e = T_e^* - T_e$. At a certain point, the stator flux would be in a certain sector in the plane, $\delta\psi_s > 0$ denotes the flux increase signal, $\delta\psi_s < 0$ denotes the flux reduction signal and the torque increase or decrease signal also behaves in a similar manner. Based on the proposed FCS-MPDTC strategy, the selected VSV is included in the calculation of model prediction. There is only one VSV included in the calculation per cycle and the computing time is reduced by 23% compared with the conventional FCS-MPDTC.

Table 4. Torque control switching table.

$\delta\psi_s$	δT_e	S_1	S_2	S_3	S_4	S_5	S_6
$\delta\psi_s > 0$	$\delta T_e > 0$	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_1
	$\delta T_e < 0$	V_6	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5
$\delta\psi_s < 0$	$\delta T_e > 0$	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_1	V_2
	$\delta T_e < 0$	V_5	V_6	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4

4.3. Delay Compensation

A large number of calculations are required when multiple information sampling and complex control method like FCS-MPDTC are implemented [29]. The digital control in the actual system has a one-step control delay when performing a real-time calculation, so that the optimal VSV selected in the current sampling period cannot be applied to the system until the next cycle. Therefore, this would affect the control performance and will require one-step delay compensation [16]. It is done by a two-step ahead prediction [30]. The one-step prediction is used to compensate the time delay and another one-step prediction is used to predict the control effect of the flux and torque after the VSV is about to be applied. According to Equations (7)–(9), the flux $\psi_s(k+1)$ and torque $T_e(k+1)$ after the compensation of time delay are used to calculate the deviation values $\delta\psi_s$ and δT_e that are used in selecting the pre-selected VSV included in the model prediction. Furthermore, the flux $\psi_s(k+1)$ and the stator current $i_s(k+1)$ are used in calculating the model prediction as the initial state at the time instant $k+2$. The stator current and flux equations after the delay compensation are as follows:

$$i_s(k+2) = i_s(k+1) + \frac{T_s}{L_s} [u_s(k+1) - R_s i_s(k+1) - j\omega_e \psi_s(k+1)] \quad \text{and} \quad (14)$$

$$\psi_s(k+2) = \psi_s(k+1) + T_s [u_s(k+1) - R_s i_s(k+1)]. \quad (15)$$

According to Equations (9), (14) and (15), the electromagnetic torque can be expressed as:

$$T_e(k+2) = 1.5p i_s(k+2) \otimes \psi_s(k+2). \quad (16)$$

4.4. Adjustment of the Pre-Selected VSV

If the VSV that is applied to the inverter has only six VSVs, as shown in Table 2, it is undoubtedly similar to the conventional DTC. Although the structure is simple and the operation speed is fast, there would be large flux and torque ripples, which affects the control effect of the motor. Therefore, to reduce the flux and torque ripples, the proposed control strategy adjusts the VSV to be the output with respect to the deviation of $\psi_s(k+2)$ and $T_e(k+2)$, calculated using Equations (14)–(16). The extended VSVs for adjustment are shown in Table 5. The flux deviation can be expressed as:

$$g_f = |\psi_s^*| - |\psi_s(k+2)|. \quad (17)$$

The torque deviation can be expressed as:

$$g_T = T_e^* - T_e(k+2). \quad (18)$$

Table 5. Modulation of the extended VSVs.

Vector	Modulation of Extended VSVs				
V_1	V_{11} $0.4(U_1 + U_2)$	V_{12} $0.5(U_1 + U_2)$	V_{13} $0.3(U_1 + U_2)$	V_{14} $0.08U_1 + 0.72U_2$	V_{15} $0.72U_1 + 0.08U_2$
V_2	V_{21} $0.4(U_2 + U_3)$	V_{22} $0.5(U_2 + U_3)$	V_{23} $0.3(U_2 + U_3)$	V_{24} $0.08U_2 + 0.72U_3$	V_{25} $0.72U_2 + 0.08U_3$
V_3	V_{31} $0.4(U_3 + U_4)$	V_{32} $0.5(U_3 + U_4)$	V_{33} $0.3(U_3 + U_4)$	V_{34} $0.08U_3 + 0.72U_4$	V_{35} $0.72U_3 + 0.08U_4$
V_4	V_{41} $0.4(U_4 + U_5)$	V_{42} $0.5(U_4 + U_5)$	V_{43} $0.3(U_4 + U_5)$	V_{44} $0.08U_4 + 0.72U_5$	V_{45} $0.72U_4 + 0.08U_5$
V_5	V_{51} $0.4(U_5 + U_6)$	V_{52} $0.5(U_5 + U_6)$	V_{53} $0.3(U_5 + U_6)$	V_{54} $0.08U_5 + 0.72U_6$	V_{55} $0.72U_5 + 0.08U_6$
V_6	V_{61} $0.4(U_1 + U_6)$	V_{62} $0.5(U_1 + U_6)$	V_{63} $0.3(U_1 + U_6)$	V_{64} $0.08U_1 + 0.72U_6$	V_{65} $0.72U_1 + 0.08U_6$

The purpose of the adjustment is to extend the range of the finite set of the output VSV, which enhances the tracking ability of the stator flux and the electromagnetic torque in the control system to reduce the flux and torque ripples. For instance, at a specific moment, the stator flux is in the S_1 sector, at which time $\delta\psi_s > 0$, $\delta T_e > 0$ and the VSV V_2 to be outputted is selected from Table 4. According to Equations (14)–(16), the flux and torque after V_2 is about to be applied to the inverter are predicted to be $\psi_s(k+2)$ and $T_e(k+2)$, respectively. At this point, the predicted flux deviation value g_f has three possibilities, $g_f > 0$, $g_f < 0$ and $g_f = 0$, and the predicted torque deviation value may be $g_T > 0$, $g_T < 0$ and $g_T = 0$. According to the signs of g_f and g_T , the effect of the pre-selected VSV V_2 can be known. $g_f > 0$ indicates that the sign of deviation value is still positive after the VSV is applied and the flux amplitude needs to be increased. $g_f < 0$ indicates that the amplitude is increased excessively and the pre-selected VSV needs to be adjusted to reduce the extent of flux magnitude increase. $g_f = 0$ implies that the flux has reached the reference value after the pre-selected VSV is about to be applied. $g_T > 0$ implies that the torque still needs to be increased after the VSV is applied. $g_T < 0$ implies that the torque needs to be reduced based on the extent of torque increase. $g_T = 0$ implies that the torque is already equal to the reference value. The pre-selected VSV is adjusted according to the sector and the prediction of the stator flux, as shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5. Adjustment of the pre-selected VSV when the stator flux position is in S_1 .

To reduce the complexity of the control algorithm, this paper designs and adjusts the control table of the pre-selected VSV based on the control switching table for the conventional DTC [9] strategy. The adjustment of the VSVs V_1 – V_2 is as shown in Table 6 and the VSVs V_3 – V_6 can be explained in line with the above analysis.

Table 6. The adjustment table of the pre-selected VSV.

Vector	g_f	g_T	S_2	S_3	S_5	S_6
V_1	$g_f > 0$	$g_T > 0$	V_{14}	V_{13}	V_{15}	V_{12}
		$g_T < 0$	V_{12}	V_{14}	V_{13}	V_{15}
	$g_f < 0$	$g_T > 0$	V_{13}	V_{15}	V_{12}	V_{14}
		$g_T < 0$	V_{15}	V_{12}	V_{14}	V_{13}
	$g_f = 0$ or $g_T = 0$		V_{11}			
V_x	g_f	g_T	S_1	S_3	S_4	S_6
V_2	$g_f > 0$	$g_T > 0$	V_{22}	V_{24}	V_{23}	V_{25}
		$g_T < 0$	V_{25}	V_{22}	V_{24}	V_{23}
	$g_f < 0$	$g_T > 0$	V_{24}	V_{23}	V_{25}	V_{22}
		$g_T < 0$	V_{23}	V_{25}	V_{22}	V_{24}
	$g_f = 0$ or $g_T = 0$		V_{21}			

The specific steps of the proposed FCS-MPDTTC control strategy are summarised as follows:

1. The phase current $i_s(k)$, the DC voltage $V_{dc}(k)$, and the electrical angular velocity $\omega_e(k)$ are sampled.
2. Apply the VSV $V_x(k)$ to the power device.
3. Estimate the stator flux $\psi_s(k)$.
4. The stator current $i_s(k+1)$ and the stator flux $\psi_s(k+1)$ are predicted for delay compensation.
5. The VSV $V_x(k+1)$ included in the prediction calculation is selected according to Tables 3 and 4.
6. The VSV selected in the fifth step is predicted. The predicted flux $\psi_s(k+2)$ and the predicted torque $T_e(k+2)$ are calculated using Equations (14)–(16) and the VSV to be outputted is adjusted and outputted according to the cases of g_f , g_T and Table 6.

5. Simulation and Experiment

In order to verify the feasibility and control performance of the proposed FCS-MPDTTC, relevant simulations and experiments were completed. This paper proposes an experimental approach by using a new comprehensive experimental platform. The control strategy is implemented using dSPACE DS1006 R&D controller board with ControlDesk and MATLAB/Simulink software packages and Typhoon HIL 402 with digital hardware models. The development process of the simulation and experiment is shown in Figure 6. After the offline simulation based on MATLAB/Simulink is completed by using the developed control strategy, online operation and monitoring are implemented in the established experimental platform.

Figure 6. The development process based on the experiment platform.

5.1. Simulation

Herein, the proposed FCS-MPDTC is simulated using MATLAB/Simulink. The parameters of PMSM and the control system are listed in Table 7. All methods have a sampling frequency of 10 kHz.

Table 7. Motor and control parameters used in the simulation.

Parameters	Symbol	Value
Stator resistance	R_s	1.2 Ω
Stator inductance	L_s	8.5 mH
Permanent magnet flux	ψ_f	0.175 Wb
Number of pole pairs	p	4
Moment of inertia	J	0.0008 kg·m ²
Torque limiting	T_{lim}	10 N·m
DC bus voltage	V_{dc}	311 V

A comparative study of conventional DTC, conventional FCS-MPDTC, and the proposed FCS-MPDTC is shown in Figure 7. The motor was run at 600 rpm and an external load of 1.5 N·m was applied at $t = 0.2$ s. For further comparative analysis, the standard deviation is introduced to measure torque and flux [31]. The formula for evaluating the torque and flux standard deviation can be expressed as:

$$S_{Te} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{n=1}^N (T_e(n) - \bar{T}_e)^2}{N}} \text{ and} \quad (19)$$

$$S_{flux} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{n=1}^N (|\psi_s(n)| - |\bar{\psi}_s|)^2}{N}}, \quad (20)$$

where $T_e(n)$ denotes the torque of the n th sampling point, $\bar{T}_e$ denotes the average torque, $|\psi_s(n)|$ denotes the flux amplitude of the n th sampling point, $|\bar{\psi}_s|$ denotes the average of the flux, and N denotes the number of sampling points.

Figure 7. Cont.

(c)

Figure 7. Simulation of the corresponding speed, torque, flux and stator current at 600 rpm and 1.5 N·m load changes. The methods used in generating these signals are: (a) Conventional DTC; (b) Conventional FCS-DTC and (c) Proposed FCS-MPDTC.

The simulation results show that the conventional DTC torque standard deviation (S_{T_e}) and flux standard deviation (S_{flux}) are higher at steady state, i.e., 0.2761 N·m and 0.0035 Wb, respectively. For the conventional FCS-MPDTC, S_{T_e} and S_{flux} are 0.0668 N·m and 0.0020 Wb, respectively, which are lower than those for the conventional DTC. However, the proposed FCS-MPDTC has the best effect. In comparison with the conventional DTC, S_{T_e} and S_{flux} are reduced by 0.2269 N·m and 0.0021 Wb, respectively. Similarly, when compared to the conventional FCS-MPDTC, its S_{T_e} and S_{flux} are reduced by 0.0176 N·m and 0.0006 Wb, respectively.

Additionally, the THD analysis of the A-phase stator current under different control strategies was performed at a simulation time ranging from 0.075 s to 0.175 s, as shown in Figure 8. The FCS-MPDTC phase current THD in the proposed method is the lowest; it is 1.48% and 0.21% lower than the conventional DTC and FCS-MPDTC, respectively. Table 8 shows a quantitative comparison of the steady-state control effects of the three control strategies. Obviously, the proposed FCS-MPDTC torque and flux ripples are significantly reduced, the phase current THD is correspondingly reduced and the motor control performance improved.

Figure 8. Cont.

Figure 8. THD analysis of phase current i_a . The methods used in generating these signals are: (a) Conventional DTC; (b) Conventional FCS-DTC and (c) Proposed FCS-MPDTC.

Table 8. Comparison of the steady-state control effects of the three control strategies.

Strategy	Torque Standard Deviation	Flux Standard Deviation	Phase Current THD
DTC	0.2761 N·m	0.0035 Wb	3.16%
Conventional FCS-MPDTC	0.0668 N·m	0.0020 Wb	1.89%
Proposed FCS-MPDTC	0.0492 N·m	0.0014 Wb	1.68%

5.2. Experiment

Herein, dSPACE and Typhoon HIL 402 were used to build a comprehensive experimental platform for theoretical verification. The dSPACE central processing system used the DS1006 driver board; DS2004 and DS2103 were used for A/D and D/A conversion, respectively, and the control system used DS5202 as the AC speed control board. Since the development of complex power electronics and drive systems is a very time-consuming process, requiring different tools and complex steps [32–36], the hardware Typhoon HIL 402 was chosen for the experiment. It is a test platform integrated with high-precision power electronic hardware model, which can simulate the working state of the hardware under actual working conditions and the physical simulation model can be downloaded to the target machine for hardware-in-the-loop (HIL) testing [37]. The integrated hardware experiment platform is shown in Figure 9. The composition of the experimental platform is in turn by the host computer, dSPACE as the controller and Typhoon HIL 402 used as the control object. In the hardware of dSPACE, a DS1006 processor board, a DS5202 FPGA base board and EV1048 signal conditioning hardware (piggy-back) are required for AC Motor Control (ACMC). The controller model designed by the user is executed on the DS1006. The ACMC Real-Time Interface (RTI) block-set is an interface between the DS1006 and the DS5202. After downloading the hardware model of the control target established in the software called Typhoon HIL Control Center to the hardware of Typhoon HIL 402, online HIL test can be performed. dSPACE and Typhoon HIL 402 can be seamlessly connected through I/O interface. Specific connection settings of the experiment platform are shown as Figure 10. Typhoon HIL 402 has 16 analog I/O interfaces, three of which are used for the acquisition of phase current and DC voltage. In addition, it has 32 digital I/O interfaces, three of which are used for the acquisition of encoder signal and 3/6 of them are used for PWM signals. The hardware interacts with the host computer through ControlDesk and SCADA software.

Besides, the hardware digital models of the control target built in the experimental test is shown in Figure 11. The model consists of three parts: single phase rectification, 2L-VSI and PMSM. After it is finished, it is compiled and built into an executable code for download to the target hardware. The settings for the model parameters and control parameters can be made in the relevant software of Typhoon HIL 402. The specific settings of the parameters are as follows: The DC side voltage V_a

= 311 V, the stator resistance $R_s = 1.2 \, \Omega$, the stator inductance $L_s = 8.5 \times 10^{-3} \, \text{H}$, the rotor flux $\psi_f = 0.175 \, \text{Wb}$, the number of motor pole pairs $p = 4$ and the moment of inertia $J = 8 \times 10^{-4} \, \text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2$. Furthermore, the sampling frequency is set to 10 kHz, the dead time of the IGBT is set to 5 s, and the motor speed can be outputted and obtained using the internal 1024-pulse incremental encoder.

Figure 9. Experiment platform based on dSPACE and Typhoon HIL 402.

Figure 10. Specific connection settings of the experiment platform.

Figure 11. Hardware model based on the software of Typhoon HIL 402.

Figure 12 shows the state of the stator flux and the electromagnetic torque during steady-state no-load operation of the motor under three control strategies captured by ControlDesk and SCADA software, respectively. It can be observed from the figure that the conventional DTC strategy flux ranges from 0.28 Wb to 0.34 Wb, whereas the torque ranges from $-2 \, \text{N} \cdot \text{m}$ to $2.5 \, \text{N} \cdot \text{m}$. The conventional FCS-MPDTDC strategy flux ranges from 0.29 Wb to 0.31 Wb, whereas the torque ranges from $-1.8 \, \text{N} \cdot \text{m}$

to 2.0 N·m. For the proposed FCS-MPDTC, the strategy flux ranges from 0.295 Wb to 0.31 Wb and the torque ranges from -1.2 N·m to 1.2 N·m with the smallest flux and torque ripples and the best control effect.

Figure 12. Experimental steady-state response of flux and torque at no load. The methods used in generating these signals are: (a) Conventional DTC, (b) Conventional FCS-DTC; and (c) Proposed FCS-MPDTC.

6. Conclusions

This study presents a novel DTC strategy based on two-step prediction, which can extend the range of output VSVs. In comparison with the conventional FCS-MPDTC, herein, there is no need to introduce a cost function. Based on the analysis of the effects of six VSVs modulated in a specific manner, only one VSV is selected to participate in the evaluation of model prediction at a time, and the pre-selected vector is adjusted and outputted to the power device based on the result of the computation. At the same time, to improve the tracking capability of magnetic flux and torque, the number of vectors that can be outputted is expanded to 30. In comparison with conventional DTC and conventional FCS-MPDTC, the proposed strategy has lower flux and torque ripples as well as lower phase current THD, which improves the steady-state performance of torque and computational efficiency. In addition, the construction and implementation of the new experimental platform can also provide a new reference for the experiment and development of power electronics and drive systems.

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