

## Article

# Assessment of Converter Performance in Hybrid AC-DC Power System under Optimal Power Flow with Minimum Number of DC Link Control Variables

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**Abstract:** This paper presents a strategy to evaluate the performances of converter stations under the optimized operating points of hybrid AC-DC power systems with a reduced number of DC link variables. Compared to previous works reported with five DC-side control variables (CVs), the uniqueness of the presented optimal power flow (OPF) formulation lies within the selection of only two DC-side control variables (CVs), such as the inverter voltage and current in the DC link, apart from the conventional AC-side variables. Previous research has mainly been focused on optimizing hybrid power system performance through OPF-based formulations, but has mostly ignored the associated converter performances. Hence, in this study, converter performance, in terms of ripple and harmonics in DC voltage and AC current and the utilization of the converter infrastructure, is evaluated. The minimization of active power loss is taken as an objective function, and the problem is solved for a modified IEEE 30 bus system using a recently developed and very efficient Archimedes optimization algorithm (AOA). Case studies are performed to assess the efficacy of the presented OPF model in power systems, as well as converter performance. Furthermore, the results are extended to assess the applicability of the proposed model to the allocation of photovoltaic (PV)-type distributed generations (DGs) in hybrid AC-DC systems. The average improvement in power loss is found to be around 7.5% compared to the reported results. Furthermore, an approximate 10% improvement in converter power factor and an approximate 50% reduction in ripple factor are achieved.

**Keywords:** optimal power flow; AC-DC power system; HVDC link; Archimedes optimization algorithm



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## 1. Introduction

Due to the advancement in solid-state technologies, the applications of power-electronics-based converters in power systems have rapidly increased recently. In particular, high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission systems and the integration of power electronics interface-based renewable energy sources (RESs) are the dominant ones [1–3]. For example, India's total HVDC terminal capacity reached to 33,500 MW by the end of 2022 [4], and the percentage of PV-based RES in total installed capacity is around 15% [5]. The key benefits of HVDC systems are the higher-power throughputs [6], flexibility of power flow control [7,8], and ease in submarine power transmission [9,10]. Given the advantages mentioned above, transforming modern power systems from conventional AC systems to hybrid AC-DC systems and increasing the penetration of RES are inevitable trends [11,12]. Hence, the research to establish a framework for the coordinated control and optimization of hybrid power systems with RES is crucial.

However, challenges arise due to the distinct AC and DC system model, wherein HVDC converters are mainly line-commutated converters (LCCs) or voltage-source converters (VSCs) connected through HVDC cables [13,14]. The control of the HVDC link is carried out through constant current, constant ignition angle, constant voltage, constant extinction angle control, etc., and is generally performed by the adjustment of variables,

like the tap ratio, firing angle, direct current, and direct voltage [15]. However, the selection of these variables depends on the choice of the control strategy. The optimum values of these variables can be decided based on the operational requirements of a given hybrid AC-DC power system.

Of late, some studies related to the planning and operation of hybrid AC-DC power systems have been reported in the literature [16–30]. A survey revealed that the authors had performed the studies through an optimization approach called optimal power flow (OPF). Conceptually, an OPF is a non-convex and nonlinear complex optimization problem that aims to optimize certain objective(s) while obeying all operational constraints (equality and inequality) with the adjustment of control settings (variables) [31]. Generally, the power balance equations in OPF represent the equality constraints and power apparatuses' operational limits, load bus voltage limits, line flow limits, etc., forming the inequality constraints. The literature further reveals that the OPF problem becomes more complex for hybrid AC-DC power systems because of the addition of CV associated with the HVDC link and the interaction between AC and DC systems [23]. In modeling, a sequential method of load flow is used to tackle the interaction between AC and DC systems [23–30]; in solving the DC system, the AC bus voltages of either end of the DC link are kept constant, and for the AC system, the DC link is modeled with fixed reactive and active power injections. In [17–19], the converter reactive and active power injections are added in load flow equations, and the linkage between AC and DC systems is addressed by adding equality constraints associated with converters.

When viewed as an optimization problem, the solution of OPF for hybrid AC-DC systems is very challenging. Authors in the past have applied the sequential gradient-restoration algorithm [16], linear programming [19–21], steepest descent algorithm [18], interior point method [17,22], etc., to solve OPF for hybrid AC-DC systems. They have considered voltage deviation [16,17], active power loss [17–20,22], cost [16,18], and the voltage stability index [21] as objective functions in their work. A survey revealed that the conventional methods stated above are cumbersome with respect to the integration of HVDC modeling in OPF and higher computational requirements [23]. Nevertheless, they do not guarantee optimum solutions for practical nonlinear, non-convex problems. Consequently, researchers have applied metaheuristic approaches [23–30] to solve the complex OPF problem for hybrid AC-DC power systems.

Particularly, in [23], optimal reactive power dispatch (ORPD), considering active power loss minimization as an objective function, was addressed by modifying the existing differential evolution (DE) method with a novel neighborhood mutation step. The applicability of the method was tested by applying it to a large-scale practical power system (Algerian 114 bus). Similarly, in [30], a modification in the DE algorithm using a local search mutation was suggested to overcome the problems of poor exploitation and a local optima trap. The method was tested for the OPF problem with generation cost as an objective function and applied to four hybrid AC-DC power systems. In [25], the ORPD with real power loss as an objective was solved using the genetic algorithm (GA), and a comparative analysis was shown for three different test systems. In [24], by applying the artificial bee colony (ABC) optimization technique, the authors addressed the single-objective OPF problem with the aim of either generation cost or active power loss. Arithmetic crossover was suggested to enhance the performance of the moth swarm algorithm [27]. The superiority of this modified algorithm was verified by applying it to a standard benchmark test system and an OPF problem in a hybrid power system. Three objective functions, namely, the voltage stability index, power generation cost, and voltage deviation, were explored individually on a New England 39 bus system. In [28], the backtracking search algorithm (BSA) was used to solve the hybrid power system's active power loss minimization problem. Furthermore, the optimal allocation of distributed generation was also explored. Similarly, BSA was also used to solve an optimal generation cost problem for a power system with a two-terminal HVDC link [26]. A comparative analysis for CPU time and objective function

value was also provided. In [29], the authors applied the ABC algorithm to solve the loss minimization problem and presented a statistical comparison.

It has been revealed from the state of the art [23–30] that the previous authors consider as many as five CVs per HVDC link. Among these, four are related to reactive and active power injections at the inverter and rectifier stations, and the fifth one is the direct current of the HVDC link. A critical observation reveals that the simultaneous consideration of active power at both the converter stations, along with the direct current as an independent CV, may cause a mismatch at times in the power balance of the HVDC link. Moreover, the converter may operate with wider variations of firing angle. Consequently, to examine the effect of the firing angle on the utilization of the converter infrastructure, power factor, and harmonic injection, further study on converter performance is required. Therefore, the selection of proper variables for HVDC links is an important task and has not been carried out in the past. A summary of the main contributions of this work is highlighted as follows:

- The assessment of HVDC converter performances through a conventional OPF formulation is unique and presented for the first time in the literature.
- Identifying the possibilities of power imbalances in the DC link in the case of random selection of DC-side CVs, such as power at converter stations, DC link current, etc., in the OPF formulation and summarizing its impact on converter performance is novel. Based on the above, an OPF with only two CVs on the DC side is proposed for a hybrid AC-DC system.
- Analyzing the effectiveness of the devised model in converter performances side by side with power system indices can be considered the first of its kind in the literature.
- The assessment of the applicability of the proposed model to the allocation of PV-type DG in hybrid AC-DC systems is a unique contribution to the best of the authors' knowledge.

When viewed as an optimization problem, the present OPF is very complex and challenging. Of late, the trend of verifying the applicability of new metaheuristics for engineering solutions can be witnessed globally among researchers. Recently, the application of AOA was witnessed to solve OPF for AC systems [32]. The obtained results were promising, giving strong reason to continue the further investigation on verifying the search capability of AOA in order to solve the highly complex optimization problems of hybrid AC-DC systems.

The organization of the paper is as follows: The modeling of the LCC-based two-terminal HVDC link and the derived OPF model for hybrid AC-DC systems are presented in Sections 2 and 3, respectively. In Section 4, a brief overview of AOA and its implementation for the considered OPF problem is given. The results of case studies on modified IEEE 30 bus systems are shown in Section 5. Comparative analysis and the converter performance evaluation at optimal points are also presented in the same section. Section 6 presents the conclusion of various case studies performed in the paper.

## 2. Modeling of HVDC

A schematic representation of the two-terminal HVDC link is illustrated in Figure 1. The HVDC link includes a DC line and two converter stations connected at either end of the HVDC line. AC buses at the sending and receiving ends are represented by bus  $r$  and bus  $i$ , respectively.

The rectifier converter is connected to AC bus  $r$  through the converter transformer at one end of the HVDC line. At the other end, the inverter is connected to AC bus  $i$ . The voltage at buses  $r$  and  $i$  are indicated by  $V_r \angle \delta_r$  and  $V_i \angle \delta_i$ , respectively. The tap ratio of converter transformers, connected at both ends of the HVDC line, are represented by  $t_r$  and  $t_i$ . The direct current flowing through the DC line is indicated by  $i_d$ .  $v_{dr}$  and  $v_{di}$  represent the DC link voltage at the rectifier and inverter end, respectively.

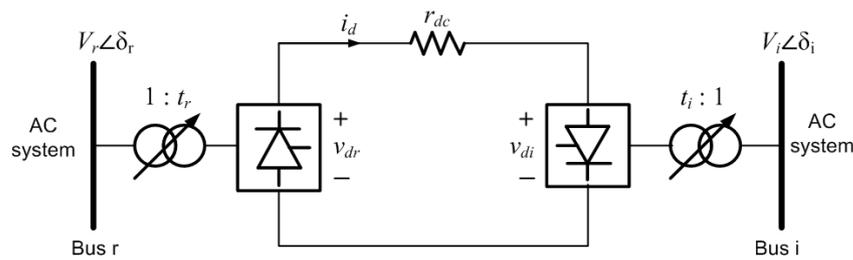


Figure 1. A schematic representation of a two-terminal HVDC link.

In Figure 2, based on assumptions pertaining to ripples, losses of transformers and converters mentioned in [25], the equivalent circuit of the LCC based two-terminal HVDC link is shown. The  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha$  denote the extinction advance and ignition delay angles for the inverter and rectifier converter, respectively. The maximum no-load DC voltage at inverter and rectifier end are denoted as  $V_{doi}$  and  $V_{dor}$ , respectively.

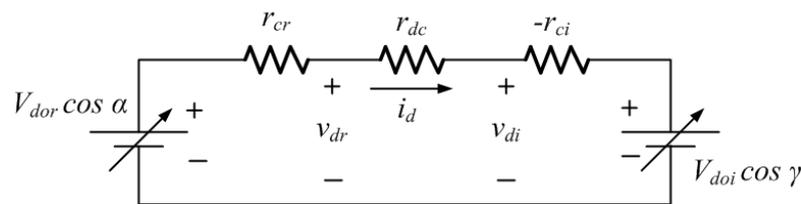


Figure 2. An equivalent circuit of a two-terminal HVDC link.

With the consideration of equal voltage and power base on both DC and AC sides, the basic equations related to the inverter and rectifier side can be expressed as follows:

$$V_{dox} = kV_x t_x, \quad \text{where } k = 3\sqrt{2}/\pi \text{ and } x = r, i \tag{1}$$

$$v_{dx} = V_{dox} \cos \theta - r_{cx} i_d, \quad \text{where } x = r, i \text{ and } \theta = \alpha, \gamma \tag{2}$$

$$v_{dx} = V_{dox} \cos \phi_x, \quad \text{where } x = r, i \tag{3}$$

$$p_{dx} = V_{dx} i_d, \quad \text{where } x = r, i \tag{4}$$

$$q_{dx} = p_{dx} \tan \phi_x, \quad \text{where } x = r, i \tag{5}$$

Here,  $q_{dr}$  and  $p_{dr}$  are the reactive and active power injections at the rectifier station and  $q_{di}$  and  $p_{di}$  are the injections at the inverter end.  $r_{ci}$  and  $r_{cr}$  denote equivalent commutating resistance of the inverter and rectifier converter, respectively, and  $\phi_i$  and  $\phi_r$  are the converter power factor angles seen from the inverter and rectifier end.

The linkage between the inverter and rectifier terminals can be expressed as follows:

$$v_{dr} = v_{di} + r_{dc} i_d \tag{6}$$

$$p_{dr} = p_{di} + i_d^2 r_{dc} \tag{7}$$

### 3. Background of the Research and Mathematical Formulation

#### 3.1. Control Variables

The following five CVs for the DC link are considered in the work reported in [23–30].

$$u_{DC} = [p_{dr}, p_{di}, q_{dr}, q_{di}, i_d] \tag{8}$$

With the given set of CVs, as per Equation (8), certain observations related to the calculation of  $v_{di}$  and DC link resistance,  $r_{dc}$ , are made to evolve the present mathematical

model. For this, 100 different random combinations of  $p_{dr}$ ,  $p_{di}$ , and  $i_d$  are generated, and the consequences are presented in Figure 3 for a DC link resistance of 0.05 pu.

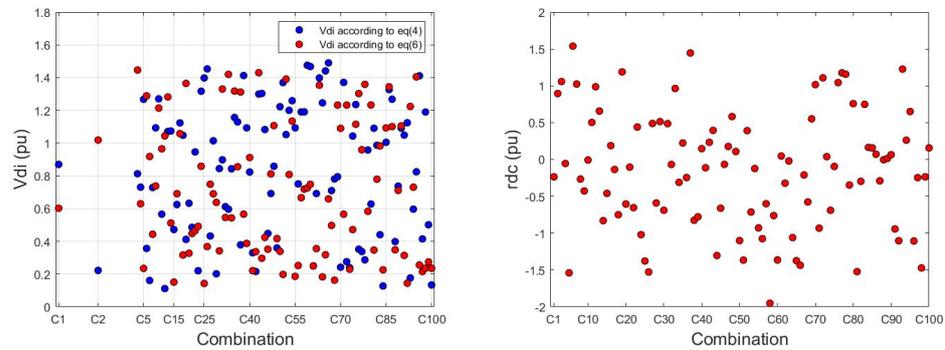


Figure 3. Combinations of CV and associated  $v_{di}$  and  $r_{dc}$ .

A careful observation reveals that due to the independent selection of  $p_{dr}$ ,  $p_{di}$ , and  $i_d$  to fulfill the power balance equation, as in Equation (7), the value of  $r_{dc}$  needs to be adjusted, as shown in Figure 3. The worst scenario arises when the independent selected value of  $p_{di}$  is greater than  $p_{dr}$ , and then,  $r_{dc}$  can even take negative values. However, due to being a physical property of the DC link, the value of  $r_{dc}$  cannot be adjusted. Moreover, one can use either a power Equation (4) or linkage Equation (6) to calculate  $v_{di}$ . However, ambiguity arises as they provide different values, creating confusion on the selection of the exact firing angles. Furthermore, the independent selection of  $p_{dr}$ ,  $p_{di}$ ,  $q_{dr}$ , and  $q_{di}$  may operate converters with wider variations in power factor.

Therefore, unlike the five CVs considered in the literature [23–30], in this work, only two CVs, namely, DC link voltage at the inverter ( $v_{di}$ ) and dc current ( $i_d$ ), are chosen as the CV of the DC side ( $u_{DC}$ ), which overcomes the above-mentioned issues. Reducing CV is beneficial when viewed as an optimization problem, as this leads to a smaller search dimension problem.

$$u_{DC} = [v_{di}, i_d] \tag{9}$$

However, other CVs related to the AC side are kept the same, as in previous works [23–30]. In this work, real power generation ( $p_g$ ) except the slack bus, the generator voltage ( $v_g$ ), the tap ratio of transformers ( $t$ ), and the reactive power output of synchronous condenser or shunt capacitor ( $q_c$ ) are selected as the CV of the AC side ( $u_{AC}$ ).

$$u_{AC} = [p_{g2}, p_{g3}, \dots, p_{gNG}, v_{g1}, v_{g2}, \dots, v_{gNG}, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{NT}, q_{c1}, q_{c2}, \dots, q_{cNC}] \tag{10}$$

where  $NG$ ,  $NT$ , and  $NC$  represent the number of generators, transformers, and reactive power compensator devices, respectively.

### 3.2. State Variable

On the AC side, generally, the slack bus output ( $p_{gS}$ ), load bus voltage magnitude ( $v_L$ ), and generator reactive power output ( $q_g$ ) are considered as AC state variables ( $x_{AC}$ ).

$$x_{AC} = [p_{gS}, q_{g1}, q_{g2}, \dots, q_{gNG}, v_{L1}, v_{L2}, \dots, v_{LNP}] \tag{11}$$

where  $NP$  represents the total number of load buses.

However, on the DC-side tap ratio of the converter transformers ( $t_r$  and  $t_i$ ), active ( $p_{dr}$  and  $p_{di}$ ) and reactive ( $q_{dr}$  and  $q_{di}$ ) powers at the converter, delay angles ( $\alpha, \gamma$ ), and DC link voltage at the rectifier ( $v_{dr}$ ) are considered as state variables ( $x_{DC}$ ).

$$x_{DC} = [v_{dr}, \alpha, \gamma, p_{dr}, p_{di}, q_{dr}, q_{di}, t_r, t_i] \tag{12}$$

### 3.3. Objective Function

Active power loss: In this paper, due to the utilities' minimum loss energy dispatch target, the total active power loss (Ploss), including both AC and DC transmission lines, is considered an objective function. Mathematically, this is described as follows:

$$F_{loss}(x, u) = \sum_{l=1}^{NL} I_l^2 * R_l \tag{13}$$

where  $NL$  represents the number of lines, and  $R_l$  and  $I_l$  are the resistance and current of the  $l^{th}$  line.

### 3.4. Constraints

#### 3.4.1. Equality Constraints

Figure 4 illustrates the representation of AC bus  $m$  with the HVDC link. From the figure, it can be observed that the set of equality constraints in terms of the active and reactive power balance equations can be derived as follows:

$$p_{gm} - p_{lm} - p_{hm} - p_m = 0 \tag{14}$$

$$q_{gm} + q_{cm} - q_{lm} - q_{hm} - q_m = 0 \tag{15}$$

where  $p_{gm}$  and  $p_{lm}$  are the real power generation and active power demand, respectively, at the  $m^{th}$  bus. Similarly,  $q_{lm}$  is the reactive power demand wherein  $q_{gm}$  and  $q_{cm}$  are the reactive power generation from the generator and synchronous condenser or shunt capacitor, respectively.

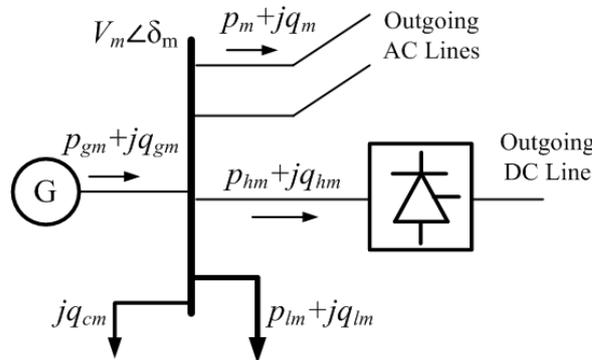


Figure 4. A representation of AC bus  $m$  connected to HVDC link.

At the  $m^{th}$  bus, the net active and reactive power injections,  $p_m$  and  $q_m$ , can be described as follows:

$$p_m = V_m \sum_{n=1}^N V_n (G_{mn} \cos(\delta_m - \delta_n) + B_{mn} \sin(\delta_m - \delta_n)) \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, N \tag{16}$$

$$q_m = V_m \sum_{n=1}^N V_n (G_{mn} \sin(\delta_m - \delta_n) - B_{mn} \cos(\delta_m - \delta_n)) \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, N \tag{17}$$

Here,  $V_m$  and  $\delta_m$  denote the magnitude and phase angle of voltage at the  $m^{th}$  bus,  $G_{mn}$  and  $B_{mn}$  can be obtained by extracting the real and imaginary parts of the element ( $m$  and  $n$ ) of the bus admittance matrix ( $Y_{bus}$ ), and  $N$  represents the total number of buses in the system.

It can be noted that in the presence of the HVDC converter at the  $m^{th}$  bus,  $p_{hm}$  and  $q_{hm}$  represent the active and reactive powers injected from the AC system into the converter.

### 3.4.2. Inequality Constraints

The inequality constraints include the limits on the control and state variables already mentioned in Equations (9)–(12). The inequality constraints formed by lower and upper bounds of these variables can be represented as follows:

$$X^{min} \leq X \leq X^{max} \text{ Where } x = p_g, q_g, q_c, v_g, t, v_L, \alpha, \gamma, i_d, v_{dr}, v_{di}, p_{dr}, p_{di}, q_{dr}, q_{di}, t_r, t_i \quad (18)$$

### 4. Archimedes Optimization Algorithm

A novel metaheuristic optimization algorithm called AOA was presented by Hashim et al. [33]. The algorithm is inspired from the law of physics named Archimedes' principle, which emulates a buoyant force experienced by a completely or partly immersed object in the fluid. Like other metaheuristic algorithms, AOA is also a population-based optimization tool wherein the optimization process starts with randomly initializing the objects (population) within the search space. The density and volume of each object are modified based on the best object, while each individual's acceleration is evaluated based on collisions with neighbors. The AOA algorithm's detailed steps and pseudo code are presented in [33]. A flowchart of AOA for the considered optimization problem is presented in Figure 5.

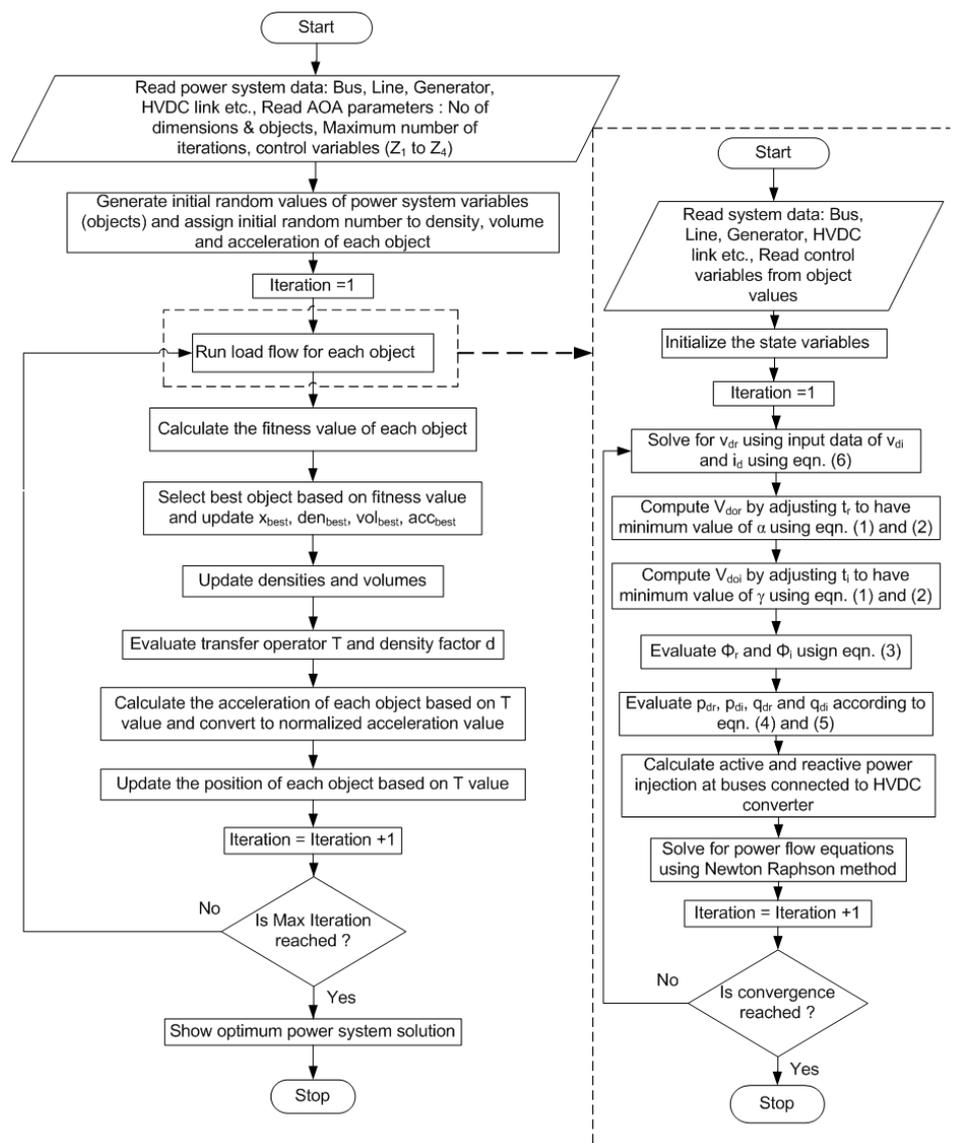


Figure 5. Flowchart of AOA for OPF for hybrid AC-DC system.

## 5. Simulation Results and Discussion

To demonstrate the efficacy of the presented strategy for the selection of CV, the proposed OPF model is solved using the metaheuristic AOA for modified IEEE 30 bus systems (Appendix A). The modified IEEE 30 bus system data are taken from [28,34]. A description of various case studies performed in this work is given in Table 1.

The programs were developed in MATLAB, version 2020b, on a computer with an Intel Core i5 processor, 1.60 GHz, and 8 GB RAM. The tuning parameters of AOA were properly adjusted before declaring the optimum results. The  $Z_1$ ,  $Z_2$ ,  $Z_3$ , and  $Z_4$  values were selected as 2, 6, 2, and 0.5, respectively, in all cases. Again, a population size of 30 and a maximum iteration of 200 were found to be suitable for the case studies. The feasibility results were obtained through a penalty-based approach. The optimized results were declared after 30 trial runs. The search capability of AOA was compared with methods reported in the state-of-the-art literature. To assess the converter performance, various power quality indices (Appendix B) were evaluated based on the results through the proposed OPF and reported OPF with five CVs.

**Table 1.** Description of case studies.

Test System	HVDC Link		Without DG	With DG
	Rectifier Bus	Inverter Bus		
IEEE 30 bus	2	14	Case 1	Case 3
system	2	16	Case 2	Case 4

### 5.1. Result Analysis without Considering DG

In Case 1 and Case 2, the OPF problem is solved to minimize the active power loss for the modified IEEE 30 bus systems. Altogether, 13 CVs are adjusted during the optimization, among which 2 CVs are related to the asynchronous tie. The best results for both cases are presented in Table 2. The optimized values of CV and a few important state variables are also mentioned in Table 2. The shaded portions in Table 2 represent the optimized values of the CV obtained and reported in various research works. It can be observed that under the optimized CV, the minimum power losses obtained with AOA are 11.47 MW and 11.0246 MW for Case 1 and Case 2, respectively. A comparison with other reported methods available in the literature reveals that AOA is able to optimize the real power loss by maximum value among all other methods. Moreover, to verify the feasibility of the obtained solution, the bus voltage magnitudes are plotted in Figure 6, showing that all bus voltages are within their permissible limits [28,29]. Moreover, the parametric analysis to select the tunable parameters is presented in Table 3. As mentioned in [33], 24 different combinations are explored, and the optimum value of power loss for each combination is presented in Table 3. The values of 2, 6, 2, and 0.5 are found to be best for  $Z_1$ ,  $Z_2$ ,  $Z_3$ , and  $Z_4$ , respectively.

To assess the converter performance, the converters' power factor angles, extinction advance angle, and ignition delay angle were analyzed. It is worth noting that the lower values of the above-mentioned angles would ensure better operational aspects of the power system from a reactive power and voltage management point of view. The numerical values of the angles obtained for various methods are mentioned in Table 2 and plotted in Figure 7. It can be observed that the angles obtained through the proposed model are significantly lower than other contemporary methods, as the proposed strategy for CV selection ensures the operation of the converter at the smallest possible firing angle. Furthermore, the operation of the converter at a higher power factor is ensured due to a lower firing angle. For example, in Case 1, the inverter station operates at a power factor of 0.8944 in the case of the previously reported OPF with five CVs, while in the case of the proposed OPF, the power factor is 0.9853.

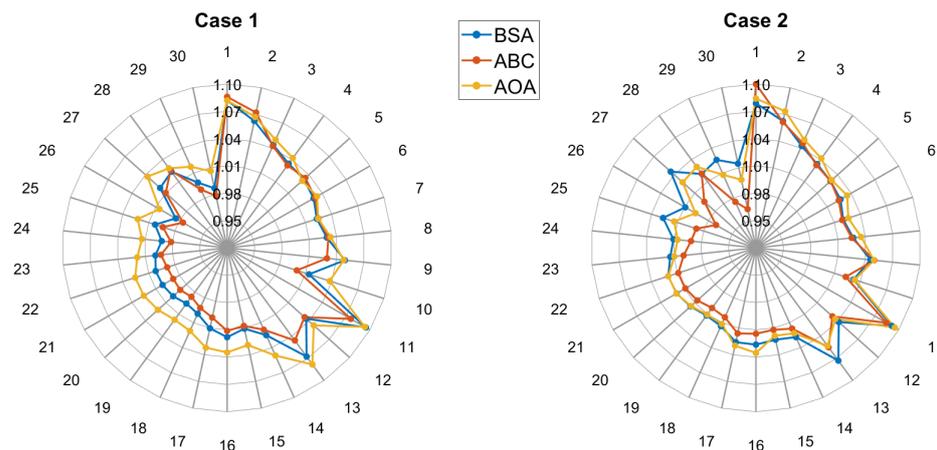


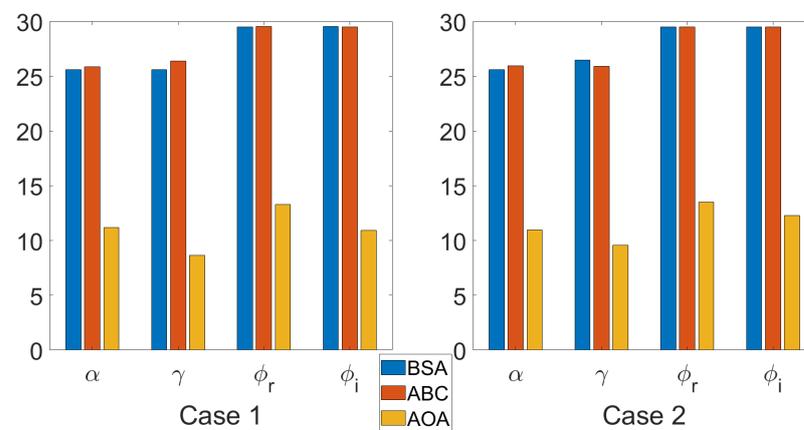
Figure 6. Voltage profiles for Case 1 and Case 2.

Table 2. Optimized CV with corresponding state variables and comparison of results for Case 1 and Case 2.

Variable	Case 1			Case 2		
	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA
$p_{g2}$	1.4000	1.3211	1.4000	1.40	1.39982	1.4000
$V_1$	1.0821	1.086	1.0821	1.0788	1.1000	1.0841
$V_2$	1.0626	1.072	1.0671	1.0624	1.0614	1.0734
$q_{c5}$	0.4000	0.3600	0.3265	0.38	0.40	0.2935
$q_{c8}$	0.4000	0.4000	0.3956	0.40	0.40	0.4000
$q_{c11}$	0.2400	0.2400	0.2400	0.24	0.18	0.2400
$q_{c13}$	0.2400	0.0900	0.2399	0.24	0.17	0.1236
$t(6-9)$	0.96	0.99	1.01	1.00	0.96	1.00
$t(6-10)$	1.05	1.08	0.90	0.91	0.94	0.92
$t(4-12)$	0.97	0.94	1.00	0.98	0.96	0.98
$t(28-27)$	0.97	0.98	0.96	0.94	1.00	0.97
$p_{dr}$	0.3074	0.1261	0.2740	0.2782	0.4210	0.3940
$p_{di}$	0.3025	0.1254	0.2710	0.2746	0.4136	0.3890
$q_{dr}$	0.1537	0.0631	0.0580	0.1391	0.2105	0.0850
$q_{di}$	0.1513	0.0627	0.0470	0.1373	0.2068	0.0760
$i_d$	0.2540	0.100	0.1853	0.2181	0.3129	0.2655
$v_{di}$	1.1912	1.2539	1.4659	1.2592	1.3219	1.4678
$v_{dr}$	1.2102	1.2614	1.4790	1.2755	1.3453	1.4870
$p_{g1}$	1.5585	1.6375	1.5513	1.55249	1.56880	1.5495
$q_{g1}$	0.1264	0.0318	0.0058	0.05625	0.59452	-0.0637
$q_{g2}$	0.2671	0.4248	0.2638	0.3328	0.02932	0.5000
$V_5$	1.0328	1.035	1.0303	1.0296	1.0298	1.0313
$V_8$	1.0294	1.031	1.0336	1.0269	1.0251	1.0355
$V_{11}$	1.0949	1.076	1.0937	1.0914	1.0845	1.0951
$V_{13}$	1.0676	1.046	1.0783	1.0730	1.0549	1.0531
$t_r$	0.94	0.97	1.05	0.99	1.05	1.05
$t_i$	0.96	1.02	1.05	1.02	1.08	1.07
$\alpha$	25.5893	25.855	11.1700	25.5899	25.9525	10.9570
$\gamma$	25.5952	26.387	8.6450	26.4719	25.8957	9.5580
$\phi_r$	26.5651	26.5832	11.9519	26.5651	26.5651	12.1742
$\phi_i$	26.5726	26.5651	9.8391	26.5651	26.5651	11.0548
$p_{loss}(MW)$	11.9679	12.3874	<b>11.4700</b>	11.4923	11.9300	<b>11.0246</b>

**Table 3.** Parametric analysis for Case 1 and Case 2.

Scenarios	Parameter Value				$P_{loss}$ (MW)	
	$Z_1$	$Z_2$	$Z_3$	$Z_4$	Case 1	Case 2
1	1	2	1	0.5	12.0107	11.5050
2	1	2	1	1	13.1057	13.0687
3	1	2	2	0.5	11.7952	11.5628
4	1	2	2	1	12.1605	11.4449
5	1	4	1	0.5	11.7125	11.0981
6	1	4	1	1	12.5809	11.9604
7	1	4	2	0.5	11.5763	11.1384
8	1	4	2	1	11.5254	11.0643
9	1	6	1	0.5	11.6948	11.1663
10	1	6	1	1	12.3014	11.7696
11	1	6	2	0.5	11.5007	11.0332
12	1	6	2	1	11.5002	11.0379
13	2	2	1	0.5	11.7392	11.1290
14	2	2	1	1	11.8307	12.2741
15	2	2	2	0.5	11.9015	11.2261
16	2	2	2	1	12.2811	11.3594
17	2	4	1	0.5	11.9269	11.1986
18	2	4	1	1	11.9347	11.4218
19	2	4	2	0.5	11.6119	11.0854
20	2	4	2	1	11.5357	11.0796
21	2	6	1	0.5	11.6670	11.5911
22	2	6	1	1	12.8450	11.4789
23	2	6	2	0.5	<b>11.4700</b>	<b>11.0246</b>
24	2	6	2	1	11.5045	11.0405

**Figure 7.** Comparison of  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\phi_r$ , and  $\phi_i$  for Case 1 and Case 2.

Furthermore, the harmonic components in the DC link voltage and AC currents were analyzed. The harmonics of the 6th, 12th, and 18th orders in the DC link voltage, as a percentage of the no-load maximum DC voltage, were evaluated for the results obtained through various optimization techniques and are plotted in Figures 8 and 9. For all the

orders of harmonics, a significant reduction can be observed in the case of AOA, which results from obtaining a lower value in the ignition delay and extinction advance angle with the proposed minimum CV. Similarly, the reduction factor for the harmonics of the 5th, 7th, 11th, and 13th orders of the AC current was evaluated and is presented in Tables 4 and 5. The obtained results for AOA are better than BSA [28] and ABC [29], as the overlap angles obtained under the proposed OPF are the highest.

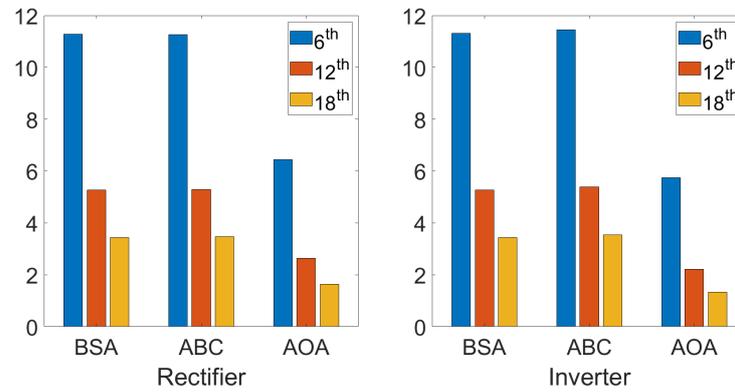


Figure 8. Harmonics in DC voltages in Case 1.

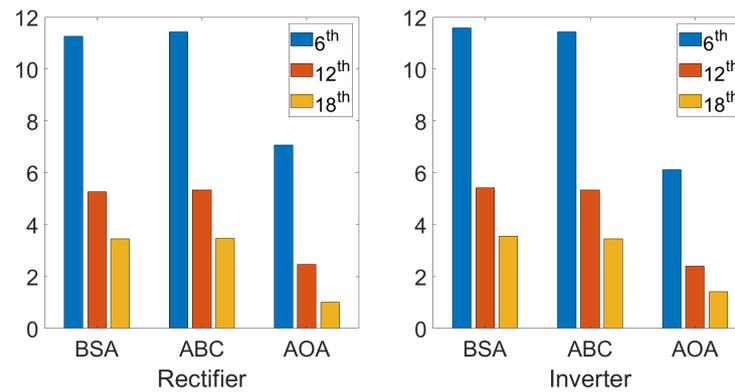


Figure 9. Harmonics in DC voltages in Case 2.

Table 4. Reduction factor of the harmonic components in AC current in Case 1.

Order of Harmonics	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA
5th	0.9995	0.9999	0.9988	0.9994	0.9999	0.9982
7th	0.9991	0.9999	0.9976	0.9988	0.9998	0.9964
11th	0.9977	0.9997	0.9941	0.9970	0.9996	0.9911
13th	0.9967	0.9996	0.9917	0.9959	0.9995	0.9875

Table 5. Reduction factor of the harmonic components in AC current in Case 2.

Order of Harmonics	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA
5th	0.9997	0.9994	0.9832	0.9996	0.9992	0.9968
7th	0.9994	0.9989	0.9673	0.9992	0.9985	0.9938
11th	0.9984	0.9972	0.9204	0.9981	0.9964	0.9847
13th	0.9978	0.9961	0.8899	0.9973	0.9949	0.9786

Moreover, the performance parameters, like the valve utilization factor (VUF), form factor (FF) [35], ripple factor (RF) [35], transformer utilization factor (TUF) [35], and total demand distortion (TDD) [36], were also evaluated for the optimal solution from the proposed OPF, as well as from the reported OPF with five CVs. The values obtained for both cases are tabulated in Tables 6 and 7. A careful observation reveals that in the case of the proposed OPF, the obtained values of FF and RF are lowest among all the methods, indicating the minimum harmonic content in the DC link voltage. Similarly, the lowest value is achieved for VUF, which signifies the better utilization of converter infrastructure. The lowest values of FF, RF, and VUF are the result of the proposed selection of CVs, which ensures the operation of the converter with a lower firing angle. Likewise, the obtained values of TDD for AOA in both cases are slightly better compared to other methods due to higher value of overlap angles.

**Table 6.** Performance parameters of converters in Case 1.

Performance Parameters	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA
FF	1.0116	1.0119	1.0029	1.0116	1.0125	1.0022
RF	0.1530	0.1549	0.0761	0.1530	0.1583	0.0659
TDD	23.32	23.39	23.20	23.30	23.39	23.10
TUF	0.1833	0.0752	0.1634	0.1804	0.0748	0.1616
VUF	1.3497	1.2949	1.1044	1.3712	1.3027	1.1143

**Table 7.** Performance parameters of converters in Case 2.

Performance Parameters	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [29]	AOA
FF	1.0116	1.0120	1.0033	1.0125	1.0119	1.0025
RF	0.1531	0.1552	0.0810	0.1586	0.1548	0.0706
TDD	23.35	23.31	21.45	23.34	23.28	22.91
TUF	0.1659	0.2510	0.2349	0.1637	0.2466	0.2319
VUF	1.2806	1.2142	1.0985	1.2972	1.2357	1.1128

## 5.2. Result Analysis Considering DG

This section examines the applicability of the devised model in determining the DG allocation problem in hybrid AC-DC systems. In previous work [28], three numbers of PV-type DGs were considered. Hence, here, in Case 3 and Case 4, the OPF is also solved to find the optimal location and size for three DGs, with the objective of real power loss minimization. In the problem formulation, two inequality constraints for each DG are added, and PV power is the added inequality constraint of the active power Equation (14). The best results obtained by AOA for both cases are tabulated in Table 8. Moreover, the values of all CVs and a few important state variables are presented in Table 8. The shaded portions in Table 8 represent the optimized values of the CV obtained and reported in various research works. The optimal locations of DGs in Case 3 are 5, 19, and 30, and in Case 4, the optimal locations are 5, 24, and 30. Moreover, the optimal size of all DGs is 10 MW by AOA, indicating the highest penetration of DGs. A comparison of the results with the methods reported in the recent literature is presented in Table 8. The best value of 8.5842 MW is obtained for real power loss in Case 3 using AOA, and it is better by 6.99% using BSA [28] and 8.90% using ABC [28]. Similarly, the real power loss in Case 4 is 8.0435 MW, which is the lowest among all the methods. Compared to Cases 1 and 2, it

can be observed that a considerable reduction in power loss in Cases 3 and 4 is achieved due to the optimal allocation of DGs. To show the feasibility of the solutions, the voltage magnitude of all buses in both cases is shown in Figure 10.

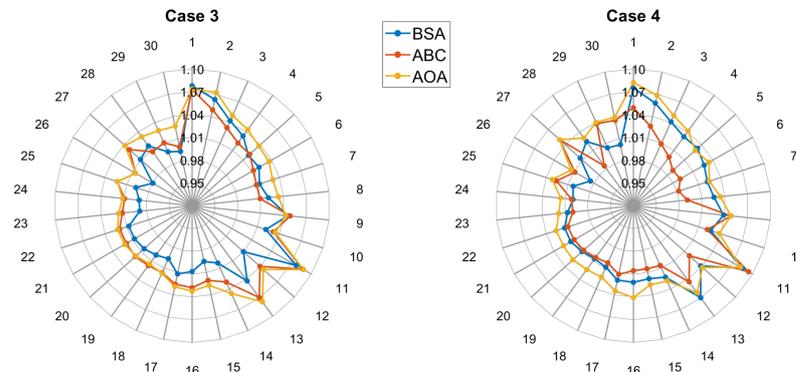


Figure 10. Voltage profiles for Case 3 and Case 4.

In order to showcase the effectiveness of the proposed selected CV, the firing angle and power factor angle of the converters were evaluated for the optimal solutions and are presented in Figure 11. All the angles obtained in the case of the proposed OPF are lower compared to other reported methods, which is due to the facility of the proposed strategy to ensure the operation of the converter with the minimum firing angle. Because of the same reason, the converter station operates at a higher power factor. For example, in Case 3, the rectifier and inverter station operate at power factors of 0.9776 and 0.9836, respectively, which are the highest among all the considered methods.

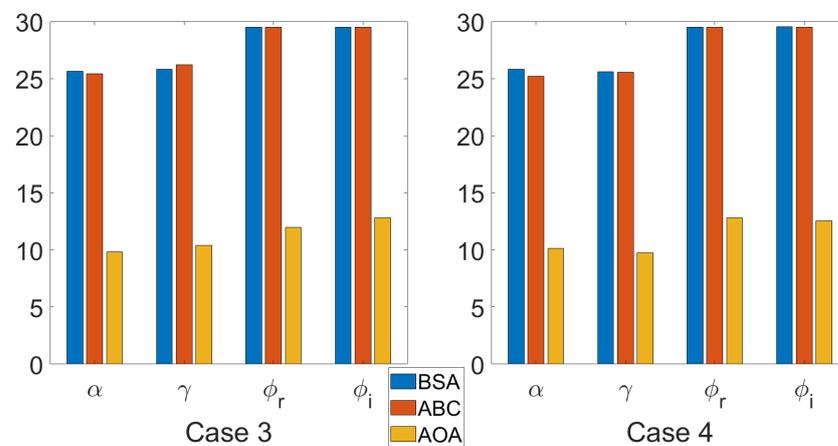


Figure 11. Comparison of  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\phi_r$ , and  $\phi_i$  for Case 3 and Case 4.

Furthermore, similar to previous cases, the harmonic components in the DC link voltage and AC currents were evaluated for the results obtained through AOA and reported in the literature and are presented in Figures 12 and 13 and Tables 9 and 10. Due to the assurance of the lower values of the ignition delay and extinction advance angle with the proposed strategy of CV selection, the values for all orders of harmonics in the DC link voltage are minimum in the case of AOA. For example, in Case 3, the 6th, 12th, and 18th harmonics evaluated as a percentage of no-load maximum DC voltage at the rectifier side are 6.4772, 2.6607, and 1.6643, respectively, which are the minimum values among all the methods. Similarly, due to higher value of the overlap angle, the obtained values of all harmonics in the AC current are minimum in the case of AOA.

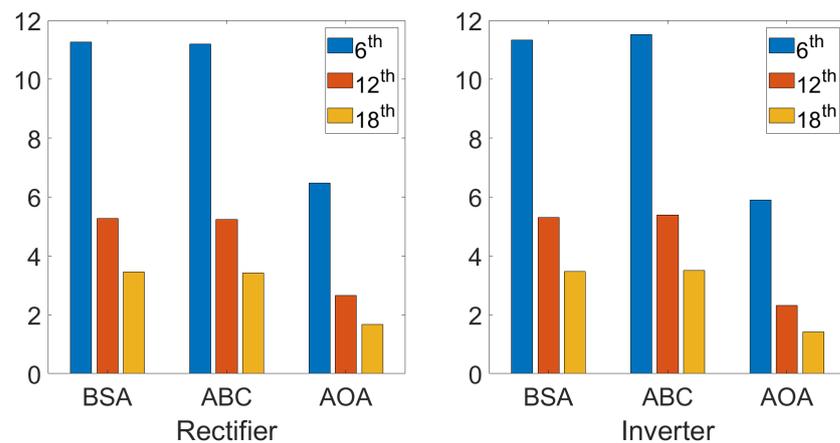


Figure 12. Harmonics in DC voltages in Case 3.

Table 8. Optimized CV with corresponding state variables and comparison of results for Case 3 and Case 4.

Variable	Case 3			Case 4		
	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA
$p_{g2}$	1.4000	1.28270	1.4000	1.4000	1.18985	1.3996
$V_1$	1.078	1.073	1.0737	1.075	1.049	1.0823
$V_2$	1.063	1.049	1.0724	1.058	1.027	1.0687
$q_{c5}$	0.26	0.40	0.3037	0.40	0.31	0.2601
$q_{c8}$	0.36	0.29	0.3021	0.35	0.40	0.3868
$q_{c11}$	0.16	0.20	0.2357	0.24	0.24	0.1747
$q_{c13}$	0.24	0.23	0.2393	0.24	0.19	0.1510
$t(6-9)$	0.96	0.97	1.02	1.01	0.94	1.00
$t(6-10)$	0.92	0.91	0.90	0.90	0.91	0.90
$t(4-12)$	1.03	0.97	1.00	0.97	0.96	0.98
$t(28-27)$	0.98	0.95	0.97	0.99	0.90	0.95
DG1 size(loc)	10.00 (5)	10.00 (5)	10.00 (30)	9.50 (5)	9.75 (5)	10.00 (30)
DG2 size(loc)	10.00 (19)	9.75 (19)	10.00 (7)	7.25 (21)	8.75 (19)	10.00 (19)
DG3 size(loc)	6.75 (30)	9.25 (25)	10.00 (5)	10.00 (30)	8.00 (30)	10.00 (5)
$p_{dr}$	0.2500	0.2604	0.2650	0.3462	0.4320	0.4360
$p_{di}$	0.2472	0.2566	0.2620	0.3409	0.4213	0.4300
$q_{dr}$	0.1250	0.1302	0.0570	0.1731	0.2160	0.0900
$q_{di}$	0.1236	0.1283	0.0480	0.1705	0.2106	0.0850
$i_d$	0.1940	0.2246	0.1767	0.2651	0.3773	0.2916
$v_{di}$	1.2743	1.1422	1.4875	1.2859	1.1167	1.4758
$v_{dr}$	1.2888	1.1591	1.5000	1.3058	1.1450	1.4970
$p_{g1}$	1.26162	1.36131	1.2209	1.25923	1.48930	1.2208
$q_{g1}$	0.11841	0.25962	-0.2188	0.12143	0.18268	0.0646
$q_{g2}$	0.38353	0.15983	0.5000	0.25626	0.41020	0.3538
$V_5$	1.019	1.022	1.0375	1.033	0.990	1.0288
$V_8$	1.020	1.010	1.0335	1.026	0.991	1.0344
$V_{11}$	1.077	1.088	1.0882	1.085	1.094	1.0818
$V_{13}$	1.042	1.070	1.0766	1.070	1.044	1.0616
$t_r$	1.00	0.91	1.06	1.02	0.92	1.06
$t_i$	1.05	0.92	1.07	1.04	0.92	1.07
$\alpha$	25.6475	25.4202	11.334	25.8082	25.2163	10.3270
$\gamma$	25.8038	26.1961	9.2970	25.6037	25.5373	9.4100
$\phi_r$	29.5167	29.5167	12.1390	29.5167	29.5167	11.6633
$\phi_i$	29.5167	29.5167	10.3818	29.5242	29.5107	11.1818
$p_{loss}(MW)$	9.2298	9.4227	<b>8.4534</b>	8.7459	8.9475	<b>8.0041</b>

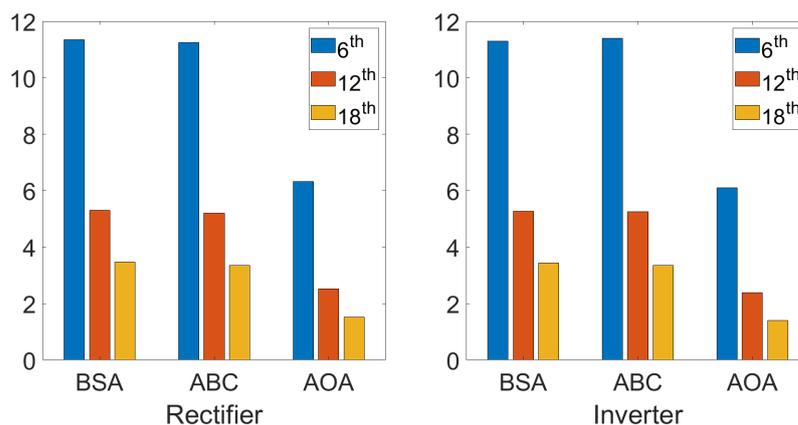


Figure 13. Harmonics in DC voltages in Case 4.

Table 9. Reduction factor of the harmonic components in AC current in Case 3.

Order of Harmonics	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA
5th	0.9997	0.9996	0.9989	0.9997	0.9994	0.9985
7th	0.9994	0.9993	0.9979	0.9993	0.9987	0.9971
11th	0.9986	0.9983	0.9949	0.9983	0.9969	0.9929
13th	0.9980	0.9976	0.9928	0.9977	0.9957	0.9901

Table 10. Reduction factor of the harmonic components in AC current in Case 4.

Order of Harmonics	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA
5th	0.9996	0.9988	0.9972	0.9995	0.9985	0.9965
7th	0.9992	0.9977	0.9946	0.9990	0.9971	0.9932
11th	0.9981	0.9944	0.9867	0.9974	0.9927	0.9833
13th	0.9974	0.9922	0.9815	0.9964	0.9899	0.9768

Moreover, for both cases, the performance parameters, like VUF, FF, RF, TUR, and TDD, were also evaluated and are tabulated in Tables 11 and 12. Due to obtaining a lower value in the firing angle with the selected CV, the lowest value is achieved for FF, RF, TDD, and VUF. This ensures operation with a lower harmonic content in the DC link voltage and AC current and better utilization of the converter infrastructure. Moreover, the value of TUF is also highest in both the cases, which signifies the better utilization of the converter transformer.

Table 11. Performance parameters of converters in Case 3.

Performance Parameters	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA
FF	1.0117	1.0115	1.0037	1.0119	1.0122	1.0023
RF	0.1535	0.1520	0.0860	0.1544	0.1568	0.0682
TDD	23.35	23.34	20.13	23.35	23.30	23.16
TUF	0.1491	0.1553	0.1580	0.1474	0.1530	0.1562
VUF	1.2674	1.4092	1.0889	1.2818	1.4301	1.0981

**Table 12.** Performance parameters of converters in Case 4.

Performance Parameters	Rectifier			Inverter		
	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA	BSA [28]	ABC [28]	AOA
FF	1.0119	1.0113	1.0027	1.0117	1.0115	1.0025
RF	0.1544	0.1505	0.0735	0.1531	0.1524	0.0701
TDD	23.34	23.22	22.98	23.32	23.16	22.88
TUF	0.2064	0.2576	0.2600	0.2033	0.2512	0.2564
VUF	1.2509	1.4266	1.0911	1.2703	1.4627	1.1068

## 6. Conclusions

This study presented an OPF formulation with objective of active power loss for hybrid AC-DC systems with minimum CV at the DC links. For the first time, in this study, an analysis on the performance of HVDC converter stations under OPF in hybrid AC-DC systems was carried out. The considered OPF was applied to a modified IEEE 30 bus system and solved using AOA. The major findings of the presented work are summarized below:

1. With the proposed OPF model, the active power loss (without considering DG) was found to be 4% (8%) better than that reported in the existing literature with BSA (ABC).
2. The DC link converter station could operate with 10% improved power factor conditions, as compared to the reported OPF with five CVs. The main reason for this is the ability of the converter stations to operate at lower firing angles. Typically, this is 15° smaller in comparison to the reported results.
3. Furthermore, the lower value of the firing angle led to a noteworthy reduction of about 10–30% in VUF. Similarly, in all cases, the obtained value of RF was near about half compared to the methods reported in the literature. Likewise, improvements in other performance parameters, like FF, TUF, and TDD, were also observed with the selected CV.
4. The proposed OPF model was also suitable for optimal DG allocation in hybrid power systems. Along with highest DG integration and improved converter performance, a notable reduction of 8% (10%) in active power loss was found compared to the reported results by BSA (ABC).

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## Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

OPF	Optimal power flow
CV	Control variable
HVDC	High-voltage direct current
AOA	Archimedes optimization algorithm
PV	Photovoltaic
DG	Distributed generation
RES	Renewable energy source

LCC	Line-commutated converter
VSC	Voltage-source converter
ORPD	Optimal reactive power dispatch
DE	Differential evolution
GA	Genetic algorithm
ABC	Artificial bee colony
BSA	Backtracking search algorithm
VUF	Valve utilization factor
TUF	Transformer utilization factor
TDD	Total demand distortion
FF	Form factor
RF	Ripple factor
$V_r$	Voltage magnitude at bus r
$\delta_r$	Angle of voltage at bus r
$i_d$	Direct current
$v_{dr}, v_{di}$	Direct voltage at rectifier and inverter end, respectively
$v_{dor}, v_{doi}$	No-load maximum DC voltage at rectifier and inverter end, respectively
$r_{dc}$	DC link resistance
$t_r, t_i$	Tap ratio at rectifier and inverter, respectively
$\alpha$	Ignition delay angle
$\gamma$	Extinction advance angle
$p_{dr}, q_{dr}$	Rectifier active and reactive power
$p_{di}, q_{di}$	Inverter active and reactive power
$\phi_r, \phi_i$	Rectifier and inverter end power factor
$u_{DC}$	DC link control variable
$u_{AC}$	AC-side control variable
$x_{DC}$	DC link state variable
$x_{AC}$	AC-side state variable
$p_{gi}, q_{gi}$	Active and reactive power of $i^{th}$ generator
NG	Number of generators
$t_m$	Tap ratio of $m^{th}$ transformer
NT	Number of transformers
$q_{cn}$	Reactive power injection by $n^{th}$ synchronous condenser
NC	Number of synchronous condensers
NP	Number of load buses
$P_{loss}$	Active power loss
NL	Number of lines
$R_l$	Resistance of $l^{th}$ line
$I_l$	Current through $l^{th}$ line
Ybus	Bus admittance matrix

## Appendix A

The single-line diagram of modified IEEE 30 bus test system is presented in Figure A1. The two-terminal LCC-based HVDC link is inserted in IEEE 30 bus system to make it a hybrid AC-DC system. Particularly, HVDC link is inserted between bus 2 and bus 14 in Case 1 and Case 3, whereas the link is connected between bus 2 and bus 16 in Case 2 and Case 4.

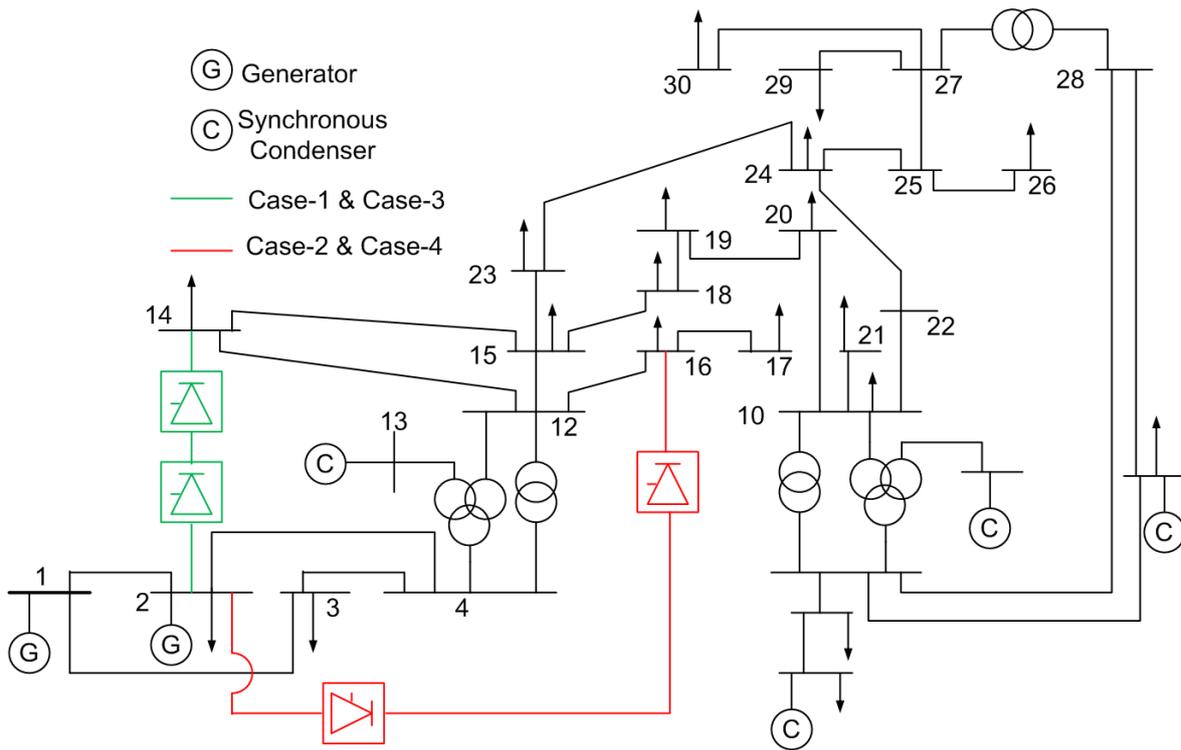


Figure A1. Modified IEEE 30 bus test system.

### Appendix B

The equations for the performance evaluation of the LCC-based HVDC converter are as follows:

1. Converter power factor

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{Q_d}{P_d} \right) \tag{A1}$$

where  $Q_d$  and  $P_d$  are the reactive and active power injection at the converter station, respectively.

2. Form factor (FF)

$$FF = \frac{V_{rms}}{V_{avg}} \tag{A2}$$

where  $V_{rms}$  and  $V_{avg}$  are the rms and average value of voltage.

3. Ripple factor (RF)

$$RF = \frac{\sqrt{V_{rms}^2 - V_{dc}^2}}{V_{dc}} \tag{A3}$$

where  $V_{dc}$  is the dc value of voltage.

4. Total demand distortion (TDD)

$$TDD = \frac{\sqrt{i_s^2 - i_{s1}^2}}{i_{smax}} \tag{A4}$$

where  $i_{s1}$  and  $i_s$  are the rms values of the fundamental component and total current, respectively, and  $i_{smax}$  is the maximum value of current.

5. Transformer utilization ration (TUF)

$$TUF = \frac{P_d}{VA \text{ rating of transformer}} \tag{A5}$$

## 6. Valve utilization factor (VUF)

$$VUF = \frac{PIV}{v_d} \quad (A6)$$

where  $PIV$  and  $v_d$  are the peak inverse voltage of the valve and the direct voltage of the converter, respectively.

## 7. Reduction factor for harmonics in AC current

$$\frac{i_h}{i_{ho}} = \frac{\sqrt{M^2 + N^2 - 2MN \cos(2\alpha + \mu)}}{\cos(\alpha) - \cos(\alpha + \mu)} \quad (A7)$$

$$M = \frac{\sin[(h-1)\mu/2]}{h-1}$$

$$N = \frac{\sin[(h+1)\mu/2]}{h+1}$$

where  $i_h$  is the harmonic current of  $h^{th}$  order,  $i_{ho}$  is the harmonic current of  $h^{th}$  order without the overlap angle,  $\alpha$  is the firing angle, and  $\mu$  is the overlap angle.

## 8. Harmonics in DC voltage

$$\frac{v_{dh}}{v_{do}} = \sqrt{H^2 + K^2 - 2HK \cos(2\alpha + \mu)} \quad (A8)$$

$$H = \frac{\sin[(h-1)\mu/2]}{h-1}$$

$$K = \frac{\sin[(h+1)\mu/2]}{h+1}$$

where  $v_{dh}$  is the harmonic voltage of  $h^{th}$  order and  $v_{do}$  is the no-load maximum direct voltage.

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