

Advanced Techniques in Harmonic Suppression via Active Power Filter: A Review

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ABSTRACT

This paper intends to present the recent development of artificial intelligence (AI) applications in active power filter (APF). As a result of the development in power electronic technology, (APF) continues to attract ample attention. Compared with the traditional reactive LC filter, active power filter is considered to be more effective in compensating harmonic current generated by nonlinear loads. APF, can correct the power quality and improve the reliability and stability on power utility. A brief explanation of some important areas in AI and a comprehensive survey of the literature along the main categories of AI is presented to introduce the readers into the wide-ranging topics that AI encompasses. Plenty of relevant literatures have been selected in the review, mostly emphasized on better accuracy, robustness, efficiency, stability and tracking ability of the system.

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1. INTRODUCTION

There are many studies about harmonic distortion with techniques to improve power quality and compensate distorted signal. Usually, when a passive LC (Inductor and Capacitor) power filter is connected in parallel with the load, of parallel or series resonances because of which the passive filter cannot provide a complete solution it is used to eliminate current harmonics. This compensation equipment has some defects mainly related to the appearance [1]. For eliminating harmonic pollution in power systems, the active power filter (APF) is a very suitable tool. APF has to respond instantaneously and work with high control precision in current tracking, since the load harmonics may be very complicated and change randomly and quickly. Many advanced control and signal-processing techniques have been applied, such as pulse width modulation (PWM), hysteresis band current control (HBCC), sliding-mode control, fuzzy-logic control, neural-network theory, and adaptive signal processing and etc. [2]. Figure 1 shows the basic principle of an APF. The waveforms of the APF in the situation where the load is assumed to be a three-phase diode rectifier with an inductive load is shown in Figure 2. The APF controlled to make the source current is in the sinusoid, which injects the compensating current i_c into the source to cancel the harmonics contained in the load current i_l [3]. The target of the active filter is to compensate distorted current drawn by the non-linear loads from the source, so that only the fundamental frequency components remain in the source current. The active filter and its current control must precisely track the sudden slope change in the reference current [4].

The load current consists of fundamental component i_l and harmonic component i_h . To get the reference harmonic signal, first the load current is measured. The fundamental current is extracted from the measured system load current by using the band pass filter, with appropriate cut-off frequencies. The load current is compared to the fundamental component by using a comparator; the error is the reference

harmonics signals [5]. The AI techniques using in electric power has received large consideration from reviewer in the electric power area and the literature on these applications has become enormous in volume. Motion control and power electronics are other areas where neural networks and fuzzy logic (FL) have been applied [6]. This paper aims to presenta survey of harmonic compensation using shunt APF with an application of AI. In the past few years, many AI applications in the active power filter APF have expanded. The following is review of work documented in the literature include the application of AI techniques to APF related issues.

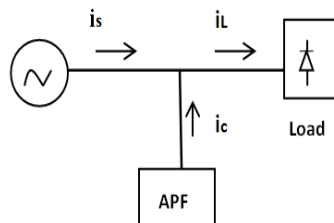


Figure 1. Basic principle of APF

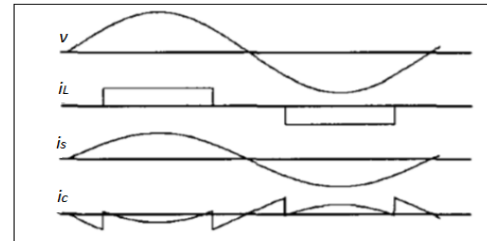


Figure 2. Theoretical waveforms

2. HARMONIC MITIGATION APPROACHES

In power distribution systems harmonic mitigation can be carried out through the following techniques: (1) Passive filter; (2) APF; (3) Hybrid APF. Due to remarkable growth in power electronics, the use of APF has become the dynamic solution for mitigation of harmonics. The fundamental rule of APF is to utilize advances in power electronics switches to produce equal and opposite current signals that eliminate the harmonic currents from the nonlinear loads [7].

2.1. Passive Filtering of Harmonics

To mitigate the harmonic distortion passive filtering is the simplest traditional resolution. The passive harmonic filters works is as follows: A filter connected in parallel with the load and in series with inductance and capacitance is a current acceptor. The harmonic frequency must be reduced to be equal the resonant frequency of the circuit. The impedance of the network and the low impedance of the filter thus eliminate the harmonic current. The general kinds of passive filters and their order are shown in Figure 3 [8]. The use of a passive filter has many disadvantages which decrease the reliability and flexibility of the filter devices such as, tuning, large size and risk of resonance problems [9].

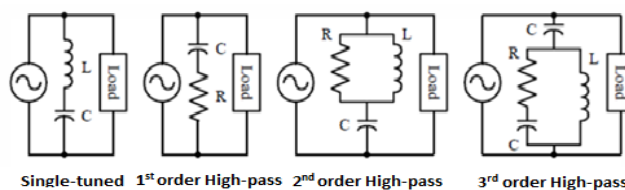


Figure 3. Common types of passive filters and their configurations

2.2. Active Filtering of Harmonics

APF is a kind of stable, highly efficient, flexible optimization power quality machine, which plays an important role in improving power quality. APF is one of most important harmonic mitigation and reactive power compensation electronic devices [10]. Active filters can be divided into single-phase active filters and three-phase (3 ϕ) active filters [11], [12], [13]. Research on single-phase (1 ϕ) active filters has been carried out, and the resultant papers have appeared in technical literature. Because 1 ϕ versions are limited to low-power applications except for electric traction or rolling stock, 1 ϕ AFs attract much less attention than 3 ϕ AFs [13]. For providing harmonic compensation to a system, active filters are commonly used by controlling current harmonics in supply networks at the low to medium voltage distribution level or for

reactive power or voltage control at high voltage distribution level. To achieve the various functions mentioned above or in separate active filters which can attack each aspect individually, these functions may be put together in a single circuit [14]. According to its procedure connection in the power system, there are two types of APFs: Series APF and parallel APF. Research and applications show that the series APF is selected to compensate the harmonic voltage-source, while shunt APF is more appropriate to compensate the harmonic current source [15]. APF which is at most used as a current or voltage harmonic compensation, can be divided into AC and DC filters. The APF can be classified as topology-based classification, converter-based classification, and supply-system-based classification, a combination of various types of PPF and APF is HPF [16].

2.3. Shunt APF

As APF eliminate the harmonics and compensate the reactive power, it is also called as active power line conditioners (APLC). The shunt or parallel connection is the more usual APF configuration. The basic scheme of the connection is shown in Figure 4, where the Metal–Oxide–Semiconductor Field-Effect Transistor MOSFET switching device represents the APF power block. The loads with current harmonics can be compensated by this APF configuration [17]. In most industrial processes, parallel active filters are by far the most vastly accept and predominant filter of choice. In parallel at the point of common coupling PCC, the active filter is connected and is supplied from the main power circuit. The SAF objective is to provide opposing harmonic current to the nonlinear load, excellently resulting in a pure harmonic current. This kind of filter can compensate harmonic currents generating from the source I_{hs} and the load I_{hl} without affecting the main component of load current I_f . In case of ideality, the parallel active filter generates a current equal to $(I_{hs} - I_{hl})$. As the internal reactance of the source against harmonic components of load current creates high impedance, these harmonic components are not able to cross the impedance of the source. In addition, harmonic components of the source current are not able to affect nonlinear load. In such a case, the load voltage will be in sine form [10], [18], and [19]. Figure 5 shows the Principle configuration of Voltage Source Inverter VSI based Shunt APF.

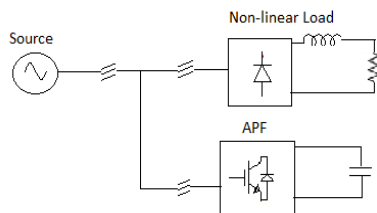


Figure 4. Basic diagram of shunt APF

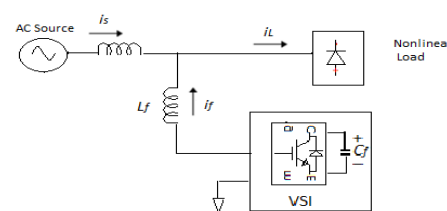


Figure 5. Principle configuration of VSI based Shunt APF

2.4. Series APF

As shown in Figure 6, the series power filter compensates for the harmonics and improves the power quality in the system. The series active filter ideally behaves as a controlled voltage source; subsequently the load voltage will have only a positive-sequence at the fundamental frequency component [20]. Figure 6 shows the basic connection diagram for series APF and Figure 7 shows the principle configuration for a VSI-based APF. By producing a PWM voltage waveform which is subtracted or added against the supply voltage waveform, the main object of the series active filter is to maintain a net sinusoidal voltage waveform across the load is carried out. The voltage-fed PWM inverter without a current minor loop is the choice of power circuit used in most cases. These Series APFs are not commonly used in power system like the shunt APF [21]. Series active filters act as voltage sources connected in series with the electrical grid, and they can compensate for voltage harmonics. Three-phase series APFs can also compensate unbalances in the phase voltages. The compensation capabilities of the series APF increases, allowing also the compensation of voltage sags, voltage swells and flicker, If the dc link of the power inverter is connected to other power supplies [22], [23]. Series active power filters were introduced to operate mainly as a voltage regulator and as a harmonics isolator between the nonlinear load and the utility system. The series connected filter protects the system from an in adequate supply voltage quality [24].

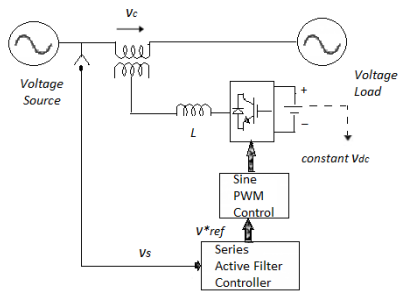


Figure 6. Series Active Power filter

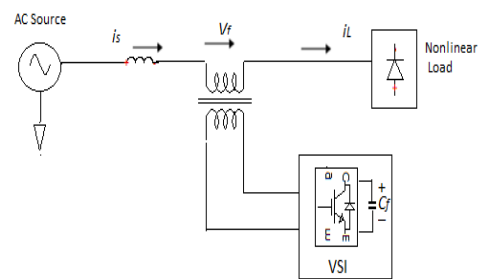


Figure 7. Principle configuration of Voltage Source Inverter (VSI) based APF

2.5. Hybrid Active Power Filter

A combination of static and passive filters using to reduce the cost of the static compensation is called as hybrid active power filter. To cancel the most relevant harmonics of the load, the passive filters are used and the active filter is dedicated to cancel other harmonics components or to improving the performance of passive filters and thus, the total cost decreases without decrease of efficiency [17]. Figure 8 shows the more usual hybrid topologies [25]. Formerly, many of the controllers for APF operation were implemented based on analogue circuits. Due to this, the performance of the APF is affected by the signal deviation. Digital controllers using microcontrollers or Digital Signal Processor DSPs are selected, primarily due to its immunity to noise and flexibility. By using digital methods, the high-order harmonics are not filtered effectively, because of the hardware limitation of sampling rate in real-time application. In addition, the utilization of fast switching power electronic switches (i.e. Insulated-Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBTs), Metal–Oxide–Semiconductor Field-Effect Transistor (MOSFETs)) in APF application causes switching frequency noise to appear in the compensated source current. Additional filtering circuit is required to reduce this switching frequency noise and to prevent interference with other sensitive equipment [26] [27].

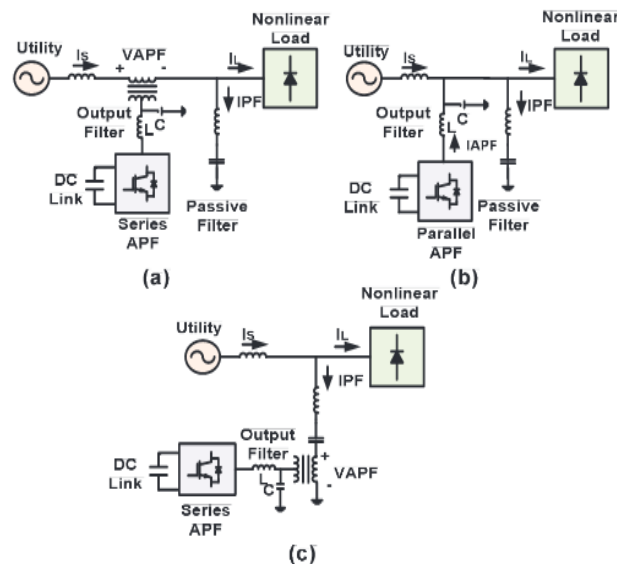


Figure 8. Hybrid active power filter (HAPF) Topologies (a) series active power filter +shunt passive filter, (b) shunt active power filter + shunt passive filter, (c) active power filter connected in series with shunt passive filter

3. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

To detect and compensate harmonic current there are many classical techniques. A general outline for the research literature on how to solve harmonic distortion problems using AI is presented in this paper.

The automation of activities that are associated with human thinking is abroad definition of AI, such as learning, decision making, perception, problem solving, and reasoning. The AI tools of benefit to the electric power community include expert systems, Fuzzy Logic (FL), adaptive FL, genetic algorithms (GAs) and artificial neural networks (ANNs) [6].

3.1. An Application of FL in APF

FL, the logic of approximate reasoning, continues to grow in importance, as its application to a number of practical problems further demonstrates of its usefulness. FL has been used in areas such as control, process, diagnostics, estimation, medicine, identification, agriculture, the stock market, etc. However, process control is by far its most important and visible application [28]. Fuzzy modeling provides the ability to linguistically specify approximate relations between the input and output, when a system is too complex or too poorly understood to be described in accurate mathematical terms. Recently, in more applications, FL controllers (FLCs) have been of interest as a good alternative. The fuzzy systems do not need a precise mathematical model; the advantage of it is that: They can handle non-linearity; can work with imprecise inputs and they are more robust than traditional nonlinear controllers [29]. A FLC divided into four areas: knowledge base, Fuzzification, inference mechanism, and defuzzification. The knowledge base is designed to obtain a good dynamic response under uncertainty in process parameters and for external disturbances and is composed of a data base and rule base and the data base consisting of input and output membership functions provides information for the appropriate fuzzification operations, i.e. the defuzzification and inference mechanism. To convert the input conditions into a fuzzified output, the inference mechanism uses a collection of linguistic rules. At last, defuzzification is used to convert the fuzzy outputs into control signals. The formulation of fuzzy rule set plays a key role in improvement of the system performance in designing of its control system [30], [31]. Structure of a FLC can be seen in Figure 9. In fact, with FL for different working conditions, it's possible to design a control system adjusting the control surface, so the control can follow the reference current even when very high peaks occur. Besides, dc capacitor voltages can be maintained at constant levels with fuzzy control [32], [33]. Fuzzy arithmetic is used for adjustment of the proportional-integral coefficients in a timely fashion, while the generalised integrator is used to divide frequency integral control. Results have shown that the new dividing frequency control method is easy to calculate, implement, and is very effective in reducing harmonics. Figure 10. Shows an adaptive fuzzy dividing frequency control method [34]. The most commonly used current control strategy is the fixed band hysteresis method. But it has the disadvantage of uncontrollable high switching frequency. To improve this control, an adaptive hysteresis band current control technique can be programmed as a function of the active filter and supply parameters to minimize the influence of current distortions on modulated waveform. [35]. Figure 11 shows the schematic diagram of fuzzy control scheme.

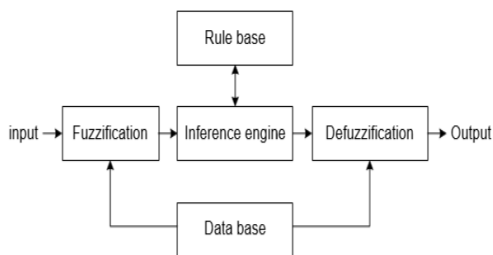


Figure 9. Structure of a fuzzy logic controller

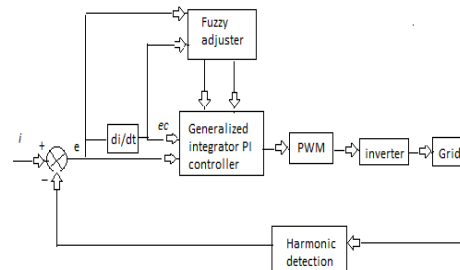
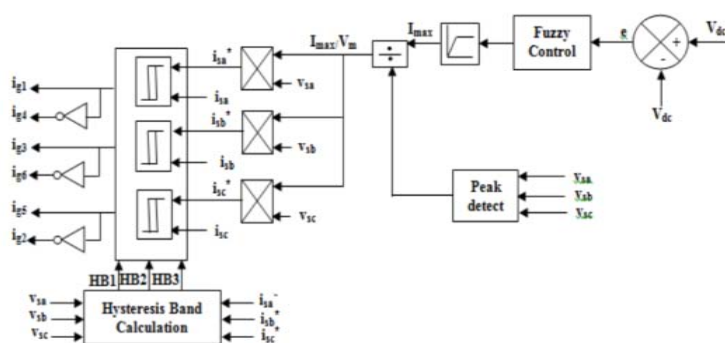
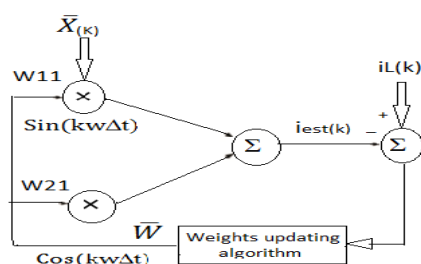


Figure 10. The Adaptive Fuzzy Dividing Controller Configuration



3.2. Neural Networks Application



3.3. Genetic Algorithms

searching are the inductor filter (L_f), dc bus voltage (V_{dc}), and the hysteresis band (HB) [43]. Figure 13 illustrate how to search the parameters of APF using the GA method.

3.4. GA and a Fuzzy Neural Network

Figure 14 shows the structure of APF with fuzzy neural network predictive control. In the strategy, to predict future harmonic compensating current, the fuzzy neural network is employed, in order to make the predictive model compact and precise i.e. to optimize the model parameter, a GA with an efficient search is developed [44]. Control vector u in the form of gating patterns of the inverter switches based on the predictive output, can be figured out by the model predictive control algorithm, which maintains tracking of dynamic reference current without time delay. All results prove that the GA and the fuzzy neural network - based predictive controller cancel voltage distortion and supply current greatly and the performance of harmonic compensation better than a PI controller.

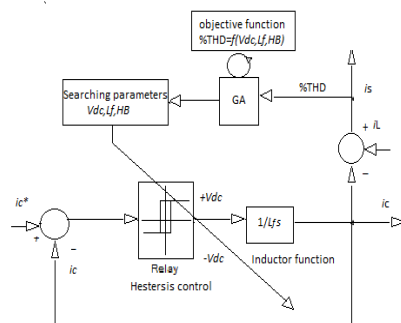


Figure 13. The GA approach for APF design

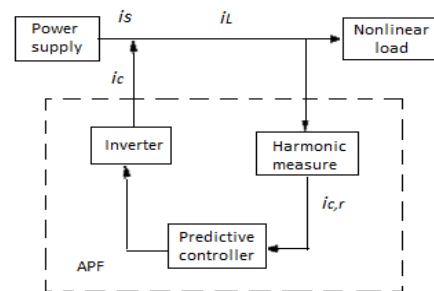


Figure 14. The structure of APF

4. SUMMARY

All AI techniques presented in this paper are summarized in Figure 15, to give the reader an idea of a large percentage of recent developments of artificial intelligence in APF.

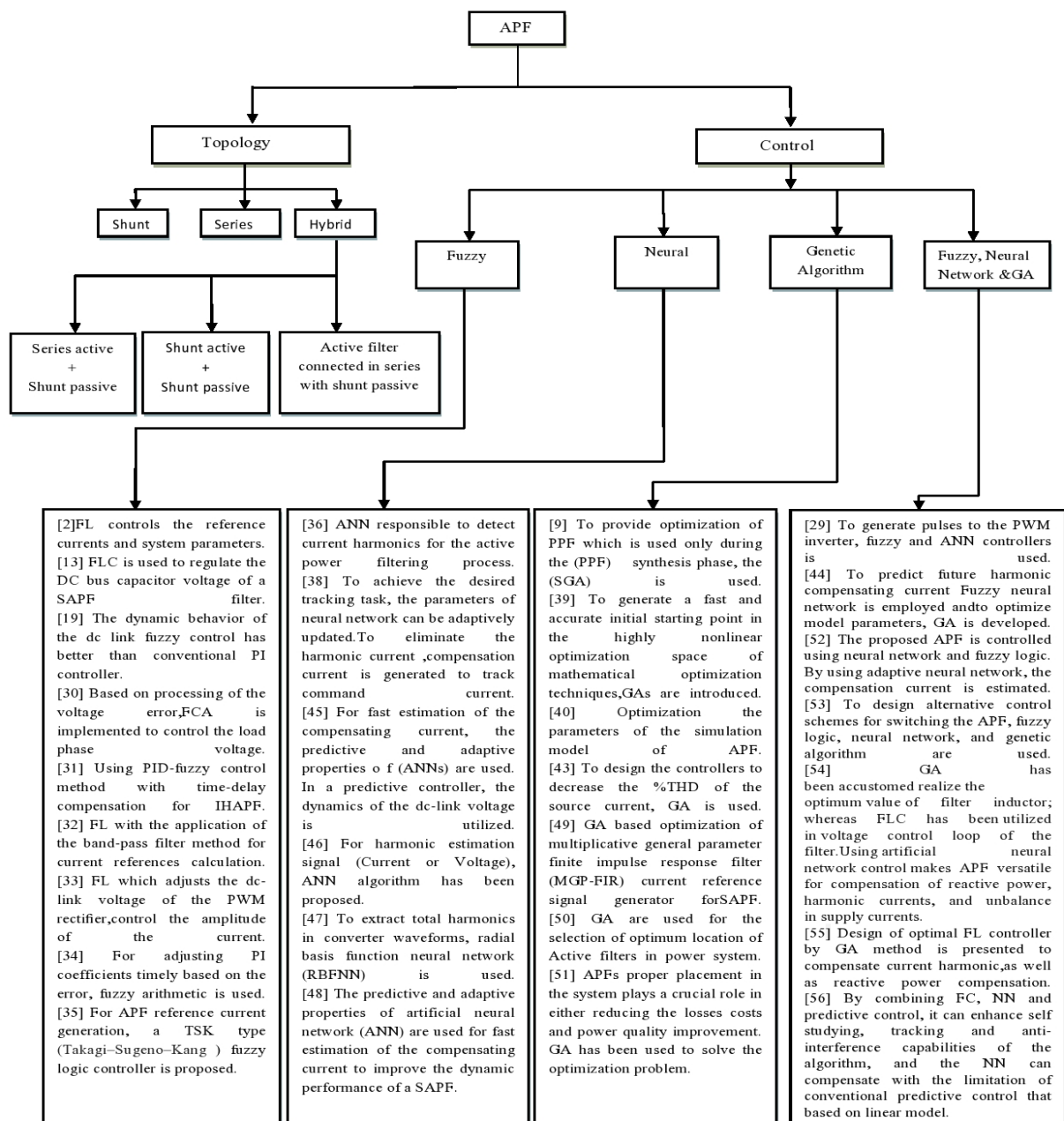


Figure 15. Summary of AI in APF application

5. CONCLUSION

The main focus of the review was the use of FL, neural networks, and GAs in APF applications. This paper suggests different AI approaches to advance signal processing techniques to improve the power quality and the system performance. An extensive literature survey of AI techniques in APF is presented to provide a clear perspective on various aspects of AI to the researchers and engineers working in this field. These methods have the advantages of quick response, good current tracking accuracy of the APF, and minimal current ripple. Simulation and application results have shown that using AI in control methods is not only easy to calculate and implement, but also very effective in reducing harmonics. From the reviews described in the paper, it is revealed that most of FLC has been applied to regulating the dc bus capacitor voltage of an APF filter, while most of ANN has been applied to detecting current harmonics for the active power filtering process. The GA has been applied to optimize the parameters of the simulation model of the APF.

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