Research Article

Nonlinear Robust Disturbance Attenuation Control Design for Static Var Compensator in Power System

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The problem of designing an adaptive backstepping controller for nonlinear static var compensator (SVC) system is addressed adopting two perspectives. First, instead of artificially assuming an upper bound or inequality scaling, the minimax theory is used to treat the external unknown disturbances. The system is insensitive to effects of large disturbances due to taking into account the worst case disturbance. Second, a parameter projection mechanism is introduced in adaptive control to force the parameter estimate within a prior specified interval. The proposed controller handles the nonlinear parameterization without compromising control smoothness and at the same time the parameter estimate speed is improved and the robustness of system is strengthened. Considering the short-circuit ground fault and mechanical power perturbation, a simulation study is carried out. The results show the effectiveness of the proposed control method.

1. Introduction

With the expansion of the scale of electric network, static var compensators (SVCs) have been employed in power systems for several years in a cost-effective manner [1]. SVCs play important roles in voltage regulation and stability improvement due to simple structures and reactive power compensation [2]. Numerous control techniques with varying levels of success for SVC have been used to enhance power system stability [3, 4]. The fixed-gain PID controllers are designed for improving the dynamic impact of SVCs based on the linearization model without taking nonlinear characteristic into consideration [5]. The exact feedback linearization design depends on the basis of nonlinear SVC model [6]; however, such a solution requires a completely accurate model, which is rarely satisfying from the practical point of view. The Hamiltonian function method cannot only develop nonlinear control for the SVC, but also solve the problem of $L_2$ disturbance attenuation [7], whereas it is hard work to express the nonlinear system into a Hamiltonian system. Adaptive backstepping technique has received a considerable attention in recent robust control literatures of power systems [8, 9].

Several papers have studied the adaptive backstepping SVC control strategies and gave insights into the effect of external disturbance. There are many causes of variations in a power system’s operating conditions, such as continual changes in power consumption and changes in the generation and transmission device structure. Significant progress has been made in disturbance treatment linking with backstepping method; the $H_{\infty}$ control problem can be solved by inequality-scaling the item including disturbance in energy function [10, 11], while the scaling way may have brought conservativeness. Although many works successfully deal with the disturbances, the disturbances are always restricted with a certain bound or a certain expression [12–14]. The upper bound is difficult to be selected because of the difficulty of exact measurement in some practical applications [15]. It is the objective of this paper to provide an effective way in unknown disturbance treatment to overcome the above disadvantages. The minimax method is an efficient approach to deal with large disturbance attenuation problem by estimating the degree of damage [16, 17]; an in-depth study on the large disturbance attenuation problems of the nonlinear TCSC and STATCOM is conducted via adaptive backstepping and minimax method [18, 19].
References [18, 19] also play a key role in uncertain parameter estimation. However, conventional adaptive controls always ignore the available prior information of the uncertainties, which may lead to poor and slow convergence, because the parameter search process possibly takes place outside the region of true value. It is often reasonable to obtain the knowledge on bounds of unknown parameter of the SVC model. To absorb the prior information, the projection technique can be adopted [20, 21]. A novel adaptive control solution is provided; this approach enforces prior known upper and lower bounds of the uncertain parameters always on their corresponding estimates, without compromising control smoothness or global stability guarantees for the closed-loop dynamics [22].

This paper addresses the nonlinear robust control problem for the SVC system with unknown external disturbances and parameter uncertainties using modified adaptive backstepping and minimax approach. In order to avoid the conservativeness brought by conventional disturbance treatment, a test function related to the performance index is constructed to maximize the impact of the disturbances, and the feedback control is investigated by taking account of the worst case. Moreover, the class-𝜇 functions are used in the design procedure to keep the balance between transient response and controller gain. For the uncertainties, a projection mechanism is applied depending on the available bounds on the plant parameters, which can promote the efficiency of parameter search process. Compared with traditional adaptive backstepping method, numerical simulations of two kinds of disturbances to the SVC system demonstrate that the proposed control gives superiorities on transient performance.

2. Dynamic Model and Problem Statements

Consider the following dynamic model of single-machine infinite-bus (SMIB) power system with SVC as shown in Figure 1 [11].

The mathematical dynamics of SVC control system can be expressed by the following nonlinear differential equations [11]

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{\delta} &= \omega - \omega_0, \\
\dot{\omega} &= \frac{\omega_0}{H} \left( P_m - E_q^t V_q y_{svc} \sin \delta \right) - \frac{D}{H} \left( \omega - \omega_0 \right), \\
y_{svc} &= \frac{1}{T_{svc}} (-y_{svc} + y_{svc0} + u).
\end{align*}
\]

In the above equations, \(\delta\) is the rotor angle; \(\omega\) is the angular speed; \(H\) and \(D\) are the inertia constant and damping coefficient; \(P_m\) is the mechanical power; \(E_q^t\) and \(V_q\) are the q axis transient reactance and infinite bus voltage; \(y_{svc}\) is the susceptance of the overall system, \(y_{svc} = 1/(X_1 + X_2 + X_1X_2(B_L + B_C))\), \(X_1 = X_d + X_f + X_T\), \(X_2 = X_T\), \(X_d\), \(X_f\), \(X_T\) and \(X_L\) are, respectively, the direct axis transient reactance of the generator, the reactance of the transformer, and the line reactance, and \(B_L\) and \(B_C\) are the susceptance of the inductor and the capacitor in SVC; \(T_{svc}\) is the time constant of SVC; \(u\) is the equivalence input of SVC regulator.

Denote \(x_1 = \delta - \delta_0\), \(x_2 = \omega - \omega_0\), and \(x_3 = y_{svc} - y_{svc0}\), where \((\delta_0, \omega_0, y_{svc0})\) represent an operating point of the power system. Consider the external disturbance vector \(\epsilon = [\epsilon_1^T \epsilon_2^T]^T\); \(\epsilon_1\) and \(\epsilon_2\) are unknown functions that belong to \(L_2\) space. Then, system (1) can be transformed into the following form:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{x}_1 &= x_2, \\
\dot{x}_2 &= \theta x_2 + a_0 P_m + b_0 (x_3 + y_{svc0}) \sin (x_1 + \delta_0) + \epsilon_1, \\
\dot{x}_3 &= -m_0 x_3 + m_0 u + \epsilon_2,
\end{align*}
\]

where \(a_0 = \omega_0/H\); \(b_0 = -\omega_0 E_q^t V_q / H\); \(m_0 = 1/T_{svc}\). Let \(\theta = -D/H\) be an uncertain constant parameter in view of the damping coefficient \(D\) that cannot be measured accurately. However, it is reasonable to obtain a prior knowledge on its bound, both from literatures and practice [23–25]. Hence, the upper and lower bounds of \(\theta\) can also be acquired; we assume \(\theta \in (\theta_{min}, \theta_{max})\).

3. Adaptive Disturbance Attenuation Design for SVC Control System

In the control of large scale power system, one usually faces limited knowledge on plant parameters and the appearance of sudden large disturbances. A well-designed controller should have the ability to perform its desired function in the presence of changes and uncertainties in the system. The proposed approach is aiming to attenuate the external disturbance and estimate the uncertainty. We adopt the minimax method and parameter projection mechanism based on backstepping technique to deal with the problems.

![Figure 1: Single machine infinite bus system with SVC.](image-url)
Step 1. Start with (2a); we define 
and view 
where 
and 
Define an error variable 
representing the difference between the actual and virtual controls. Then, we can derive the dynamics of the new coordinate

\[ e_1 = -\left[c_1 + \varphi_1(|e_1|)\right] e_1 + e_2. \]  

The objective of this step is to make 
\( e_1 \to 0 \), by considering the Lyapunov function as

\[ V_1 = \frac{\sigma}{2} e_1^2, \]  

where \( \sigma > 0 \); then the time derivative of \( V_1 \) becomes

\[ \dot{V}_1 = -\sigma c_1 e_1^2 - \sigma \varphi_1(|e_1|) e_1^2 + \sigma e_1 e_2. \]  

Apparent, if \( e_2 = 0 \), then \( \dot{V}_1 = -\sigma c_1 e_1^2 \leq 0 \), and \( e_1 \) is guaranteed to converge to zero asymptotically. The coupling term \( e_1 e_2 \) will be canceled in the next step.

Step 2. Consider (2b) by viewing \( x_3 \) as a virtual control variable. Define a virtual control law \( x_3^* \) and the error variable \( e_3 = x_3 - x_3^* \). Our objective in this step is to make \( e_3 \to 0 \), and then choose a Lyapunov function by augmenting (4):

\[ V_2 = V_1 + \frac{1}{2} e_3^2. \]  

Before virtual control law design, we plot out a regulated output \( z = [q_1 e_1 \ q_2 e_2]^T \) into system (2a), (2b), and (2c), where \( q_1 \) and \( q_2 \) are nonnegative weighted coefficients representing weighing proportion of \( e_1 \) and \( e_2 \). Then, construct a performance index based on minimax theory as

\[ J_1 = \int_0^\infty \left(\|z\|^2 - \gamma \|e_1\|^2\right) dt, \]  

where \( \gamma > 0 \), and \( \gamma \) is disturbance attenuation constant. Further, construct a test function related to the performance index to estimate the worst case disturbance, which means the highest degree of critical disturbance that can be endured by the system:

\[ H_1 = \dot{V}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\|z\|^2 - \gamma \|e_1\|^2\right). \]  

Substituting \( \dot{V}_2 = \dot{V}_1 + e_2 e_3 \) into (8) yields

\[ H_1 = -\sigma c_1 e_1^2 - \sigma k_1 e_3^4 + \sigma e_1 e_2 + e_2 \left(\theta x_2 + a_0 p_m + b_0 (x_3 + y'_{svc0}) \sin(x_1 + \delta_0) + e_1 + c_i x_2 + 3 k_i x_1^2 x_2\right) + \frac{1}{2} q_1 e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} q_2 e_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \gamma^2 e_1^2. \]  

We assume that the upper value of (7) is \( J_1^* \). If a disturbance exists and makes \( J_1 \) no larger than \( J_1^* \), then the degree of damage is greatest on the system performance. Thus, our task here is to maximize \( J_1 \) by making the first-order derivative of \( H_1 \) with respect to \( e_1 \) equal to zero, which is equivalent to \( e_2 - \gamma^2 e_1 = 0 \); then we derive

\[ e_1^* = \frac{e_2}{\gamma^2}. \]  

Furthermore, we compute the second-order derivative; that is, \( \partial^2 H_1 / \partial e_1^2 = -\gamma^2 < 0 \). Therefore, the maximum value of \( H_1 \) about \( e_1 \) exists, and

\[ \max H_1 = \max \left[ \dot{V}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\|z\|^2 - \gamma \|e_1\|^2\right) \right]. \]  

Integrating both sides of (II) yields

\[ \max \int_0^\infty H_1 dt = \max \int_0^\infty \dot{V}_2 dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \left(\|z\|^2 - \gamma \|e_1\|^2\right) dt. \]  

Let \( \overline{H}_1 = \int_0^\infty H_1 dt \); then (12) becomes \( \max \overline{H}_1 = \max[V_2(\infty) - V_2(0) + (1/2)J_1] \), and then

\[ \max \left(\frac{1}{2} J_1 \right) = \max (\overline{H}_1 - \Delta V_2) \leq \max (\overline{H}_1) - \min (\Delta V_2). \]  

When the system suffers sufficiently large disturbances, \( V_2 \) will not be reduced, in other words, the disturbance \( e_1 \) is assumed to reduce \( V_2 \) to 0; that is, \( \min(\Delta V_2) = 0 \). Thus, it proves that \( \max((1/2)J_1) = \max(\overline{H}_1) \), and \( e_1^* \) is the worst case disturbance for the subsystem.

Remark 1. From the equivalent analysis of \( \max (\overline{H}_1) \) and \( \max((1/2)J_1) \), it is obvious that if \( e_1 \) allows \( \overline{H}_1 \) to obtain the maximum value, \( e_1 \) also allows \( J_1 \) to obtain the maximum value. That is, system performance damage via \( e_1 \) is the largest.

The stabilizing function \( x_3^* \) needs to be designed by undertaking the disturbances with such damage degree into system; our approach is to replace \( e_1 \) in (9) with (10):

\[ H_1 = -\sigma c_1 e_1^2 - \sigma k_1 e_3^4 + \sigma e_1 e_2 + e_2 \left(\theta x_2 + a_0 p_m + b_0 (x_3 + y'_{svc0}) \sin(x_1 + \delta_0) + e_1 + c_i x_2 + 3 k_i x_1^2 x_2\right) + \frac{1}{2} q_1 e_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} q_2 e_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \gamma^2 e_1^2 \]  

(14)
Suppose that $h_1 = \sigma c_1 - (1/2)q_1^2; h_2 = c_2 + (1/2)q_2^2 + 1/2y^2$, $c_2 > 0$; $f_{\sin} = \sin(x_1 + \delta_0)$. Now we select

$$x_3^* = -\frac{1}{b_0 f_{\sin}} \left[ h_2 e_2 + \varphi_2 (|e_2|) e_2 + \sigma e_1 + \bar{\theta} x_2 ight] + c_1 x_2 + a_\theta P_m + 3k_1 x_1^2 x_2 - y_{\text{svc}},$$

(15)

where $\varphi_2(\cdot)$ is a class-$\kappa$ function; we choose $\varphi_2(|e_2|) = k_2 e_2^2$, $k_2 > 0$; $\bar{\theta}$ is an estimate of $\theta$, and $\bar{\theta} = \theta - \hat{\theta}$. If the rotor angle $\delta = k\pi$, $k = 0, 1, \ldots$, synchronism of the power system will be lost. Fortunately, under the normal operating conditions in the system $0 < \delta < \pi$ holds, and therefore, the condition $\sin(x_1 + \delta_0) \neq 0$ can be guaranteed.

Then, $H_1 = -h_1 e_1^2 - \sigma k_1 e_1^4 - c_2 e_2^2 - k_2 e_2^4 + e_2 \bar{\theta} x_2 + b_0 e_2 e_3 f_{\sin}$. In the final step, the coupling term $b_0 e_2 e_3 f_{\sin}$ will be canceled, and the uncertainty item $e_2 \bar{\theta} x_2$ will be dealt with.

Step 3. For the uncertainty, as mentioned in Section 2, it is reasonable to expect availability of a prior knowledge in terms of lower and upper bounds of $\theta$ in (2a), (2b), and (2c). Thereby, we reparameterize the uncertain parameter $\theta$ in an associated uncertain variable $\phi$ as follows [22]:

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2} (\theta_{\text{max}} - \theta_{\text{min}}) (1 - \tanh \phi) + \theta_{\text{min}}.$$
It is clear that for all values of $\phi \in R$, $\tanh \phi \in (-1,1)$, hence, $\theta$ is restricted to lie within the region of $(\theta_{\min}, \theta_{\max})$. Consequently, the system governing equation in (2b), which is linear in terms of $\theta$, immediately becomes nonlinear in terms of $\phi$. We are in the position to develop a smooth adaptive controller in order to handle the nonlinear parameterization of (16). We define $z = \phi - \bar{\phi}$, wherein $\bar{\phi}$ is the estimate of $\phi$; then choose the following nonnegative, and therefore, lower-bounded function of $z$ and $\phi$ as

$$V_z = \frac{1}{2} (\theta_{\max} - \theta_{\min}) \left[ \ln \cosh (z + \phi) - z \tanh \phi \right].$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

Consider the candidate Lyapunov function as

$$V_3 = V_2 + \frac{1}{2} \dot{e}_3^2 + \frac{1}{\rho} V_z.$$  \hspace{1cm} (18)

The time derivative of $V_3$ becomes

$$\dot{V}_3 = \dot{V}_2 + \dot{e}_3 \dot{e}_3 + \frac{1}{2} \rho \left( \dot{\theta}_{\max} - \dot{\theta}_{\min} \right) \left[ \tanh (z + \phi) - \tanh \phi \right] \dot{z}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (19)

The performance index is expressed as

$$J_2 = \int_{0}^{\infty} \left( \|z\|^2 - \gamma^2 \|e\|^2 \right) dt.$$  \hspace{1cm} (20)

The test function is

$$H_2 = V_3 + \frac{1}{2} \left( \|z\|^2 - \gamma^2 \|e\|^2 \right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (21)

Substituting (19) into (21) yields

$$H_2 = - \dot{h}_1 e_1^2 - \sigma \dot{k}_1 e_4^2 - \dot{c}_2 e_2^2 - k_2 e_4^2 + e_3 \dot{\theta}_x x_2 + b_0 e_2 e_3 f_{\sin} + e_3 \left[ -m_0 x_3 + m_0 u + e_2 + \frac{1}{b_0 f_{\sin}} \times \left( \left( \sigma + \dot{\theta} \right) x_2 + 6 k_1 x_1 x_2^2 \right. \right. \left. + \left( h_2 + 3 k_2 e_2^2 \right) \left( c_1 x_2 + 3 k_1 e_1 x_2 \right) \right. \right. \left. \left. + \left( \dot{\theta} + c_1 + 3 k_1 x_1^2 + h_2 + 3 k_2 e_2^2 \right) \times \left( \theta x_2 + a_0 P_m + b_0 (x_3 + y_{svca}) f_{\sin} + \frac{e_2}{\gamma^2} \right) \right] \right]$$

$$- \frac{f_{\cos} x_2}{b_0 f_{\sin}} \left( h_2 e_2 + k_2 e_3^2 + \sigma e_1 + \dot{\theta} x_2 + c_1 x_2 + a_0 P_m + 3 k_1 x_1^2 x_2 \right)$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \gamma^2 e_3^2 + \frac{1}{2 \rho} \left( \theta_{\max} - \theta_{\min} \right) \times \left[ \tanh (z + \phi) - \tanh \phi \right] \dot{z},$$  \hspace{1cm} (22)

where $f_{\cos} = \cos (x_1 + \delta_0)$. A similar procedure is employed to make $\partial H_2 / \partial e_2 = 0$; we can obtain the worst case disturbance $(\partial^2 H_2 / \partial e_2^2 = -\gamma^2 < 0)$

$$e_2^* = \frac{e_3}{\gamma^2}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (23)

Taking (23) into account, (22) is rewritten as

$$H_2 = - \dot{h}_1 e_1^2 - \sigma \dot{k}_1 e_4^2 - \dot{c}_2 e_2^2 - k_2 e_4^2 + e_3 \left[ b_0 e_2 f_{\sin} - m_0 x_3 + m_0 u + \frac{e_3}{2 \gamma^2} + \frac{1}{b_0 f_{\sin}} \times \left( \left( \sigma + \dot{\theta} \right) x_2 + 6 k_1 x_1 x_2^2 \right. \right. \left. + \left( h_2 + 3 k_2 e_2^2 \right) \left( c_1 x_2 + 3 k_1 e_1 x_2 \right) \right. \right. \left. \left. + \left( \dot{\theta} + c_1 + 3 k_1 x_1^2 + h_2 + 3 k_2 e_2^2 \right) \times \left( \theta x_2 + a_0 P_m + b_0 (x_3 + y_{svca}) f_{\sin} + \frac{e_2}{\gamma^2} \right) \right] \right]$$

$$- \frac{f_{\cos} x_2}{b_0 f_{\sin}} \left( h_2 e_2 + k_2 e_3^2 + \sigma e_1 + \dot{\theta} x_2 + c_1 x_2 + a_0 P_m + 3 k_1 x_1^2 x_2 \right)$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \gamma^2 e_3^2 + \frac{1}{2 \rho} \left( \theta_{\max} - \theta_{\min} \right) \times \left[ \tanh (z + \phi) - \tanh \phi \right] \dot{z}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (22)
\[ + \left[ e_2 x_2 + \frac{e_3 x_2}{b_0 f_{\sin}} \left( \bar{\theta} + c_1 + 3 k_1 x_1^2 + h_2 + 3 k_2 e_2 \right) \right] \bar{\theta} \]
\[ + \frac{1}{2 \rho} \left( \theta_{\text{max}} - \theta_{\text{min}} \right) \left[ \tanh (z + \phi) - \tanh \phi \right] z, \]

where \( \bar{\theta} = (1/2)(\theta_{\text{max}} - \theta_{\text{min}})(1 - \tanh \phi) + \theta_{\text{min}}, \) and then
\[ \bar{\theta} = (1/2)(\theta_{\text{max}} - \theta_{\text{min}})(\tanh \phi - \tanh \phi) \phi. \]  

(24)

If we define \( V(x) = 2V_3(x) \) as the overall Lyapunov function, then it follows readily that
\[ \dot{V} \leq y^2 \|e\|^2 - \|z\|^2. \]  

(29)

Equation (29) indicates that all increased energy of SVC system from \( t = 0 \) to any final time is always smaller than or equal to the ones from outside; that is, the system energy is decreasing.

**Theorem 2.** For the given disturbance attenuation constant \( \gamma > 0 \), the \( L_2 \) disturbance attenuation problem of system (1) can be solved by adaptive controller (25) to (27), and a positive storage function \( V(x) \) exists such that the dissipation inequality
\[ V(x(t)) - V(x(0)) \leq \int_0^T \left( y^2 \|e\|^2 - \|z\|^2 \right) dt \]  

(30)

holds for any final time \( T \), and the closed-loop system is characteristic with disturbance rejection.

When \( \epsilon_1 = 0, \epsilon_2 = 0 \), the closed-loop system is asymptotically stable. When \( \epsilon_1 \neq 0, \epsilon_2 \neq 0 \), the \( L_2 \) gain from the disturbance to the output of the system is smaller than or equal to \( \gamma \). According to the definition of virtual control, the \( x_1, x_2, \) and \( x_3 \) are bounded convergences.

**Remark 3.** The class-\( \kappa \) function \( \varphi_i(\cdot) \) is introduced into the selection of stabilizing function \( x_i^\ast, i = 1, 2, 3 \), during the recursive design procedure, in order to keep the balance between transient response and controller gain. This approach promotes convergent speed remarkably without increasing the controller gain.

**Remark 4.** Exist disturbance treatment usually assumes the plant with bounded disturbance or zooms the items of the energy function about the disturbance, which probably increase the conservativeness. This paper adopts the minimax method to maximize the effects of disturbances. The control law is designed by undertaking the worst case disturbance to ensure the stability of the closed-loop system. Thus, the system is theoretically not sensitive to disturbance effects.

**Remark 5.** Different from the previous adaptive method in power systems, we fully and properly utilize all the available prior information on the bound of unknown parameter by adopting parameter projection technique. We select a specific uncertain parameter structure to force the parameter estimate to stay within the valid region and generate a smooth adaptive control law. Accordingly, the transient performance is significantly improved.

**4. Results and Discussion**

We will consider two kinds of disturbances in the digital simulation for the single-machine infinite-bus system with SVC. The physical parameters are selected as follows: \( H = 5.9 \) s, \( D = 1.0, E_i = 1.123 \) pu, \( V_i = 1.0 \) pu, \( T_{\text{sys}} = 0.02 \) s, \( X_1 = 0.84 \) pu, \( X_2 = 0.52 \) pu, and \( B_L + B_C = 0.3 \) pu. The operating point is \( \delta_0 = 0.9 \) rad, \( \omega_0 = 314.159 \) rad/s, and
The control parameters are selected as follows: $q_1 = 0.4, q_2 = 0.6, c_1 = 2, c_2 = 2, c_3 = 2, k_1 = 1, k_2 = 1, k_3 = 1, \gamma = 0.2,$ and $\rho = 1$. The upper and lower bound of uncertain parameter are $\theta_{\text{max}} = 0$ and $\theta_{\text{min}} = -0.5$.

In order to show the effectiveness of the proposed modified parameter projection adaptive backstepping minimax (PBMK) controller, we will make comparisons with the adaptive backstepping minimax (ABM) controller [18] and the conventional adaptive backstepping (AB) controller [10] under the same nonzero initial condition. Note that the control parameters for ABM controller and AB controller are selected as $c_1 = 3, c_2 = 3,$ and $c_3 = 3$.

### 4.1 Short Circuit Ground Fault

In 4 s, a transient three-phase short-circuit fault occurred on the transmission line. In 4.5 s, the fault disappears, and the system restores to the normal structure. The reactance of the transformer varies in different stages after a short circuit ground fault as follows:

- the period of pre-fault $X_L = 0.52$ pu;
- the period of fault procedure $X_L = \infty$;
- the period of after-fault $X_L = 0.52$ pu;
- the transient response curves of the system are shown in Figures 2 and 3.
Figures 2(a)–2(c) show that, under the proposed controller PBMK, the response is improved without remarkably increasing the controller gain; the convergent speed is faster; the system reaches the stable state more rapidly than the ones under ABM and AB controller. Moreover, PBMK and ABM controllers, which are both designed by minimax method, have advantages in the ability of disturbance attenuation. Figure 2(d) shows that the proposed adaptive control in this paper ensures that the estimates of the uncertain parameter are always within the prior bounds, while for the ABM and AB controllers, the parameter search process takes place outside the feasible region where the corresponding "true" parameters lie.

Figure 3 shows that, under PBMK controller, the control input requires bigger energy in the initial period, but it reaches the stable state in short time, and the amplitude of oscillation is relatively smaller. The selected class-κ functions converge to zero along with the convergence to zero of the errors. Then the control energy also coincides with that of ABM controller.

**4.2. Mechanical Power Perturbation.** Unrecoverable mechanical power perturbation occurs at 4 s, and the mechanical power \( P_m \) changes to another value; that is,

\[
P_m = \begin{cases} 
0.9, & 0 \leq t < 4.0 \ s \\
0.9 + \Delta P_m, & 4.0 \ s < t, \quad \Delta P_m (t) = 30\%P_m 
\end{cases}
\]

(31)

The dynamic responses of closed-loop system are shown in Figures 4 and 5.

Figures 4 and 5 show that, after the presence of mechanical power perturbation, the states are stable in a new equilibrium point. And the proposed PBMK controller on the convergence time and the amplitude of oscillation still has advantages compared with ABM and AB controllers. The dynamic response of the system does not change significantly with the variety of disturbance form. Therefore, the controller is insensitive to the change in disturbance.

**5. Conclusions**

In this paper, we present an improved robust disturbance attenuation scheme for the nonlinear uncertain SVC system based on improved adaptive backstepping and minimax method. The proposed control strategy gives some advantages, such as the following. (a) The nonlinearities of the SVC system model are completely retained for no linearization process is put on the original system. (b) Our disturbance treatment does not inquire artificially imposing an upper bound on the disturbance or unequally scaling the disturbance items existing in the energy function; then the conservativeness is greatly reduced. (c) The closed-loop system is insensitive to the disturbances because of taking account of the maximum effect of the damage. (d) The class-κ functions introduced into the backstepping procedure are helpful to speed up the response without significantly increasing the control gain. (e) We develop a nonlinear smooth function to map the uncertain parameter \( \theta \) into \( \phi \) in order to restrict \( \theta \) to be lying within the prior specified interval, and guarantee that the parameter estimate has a higher convergence rate. Simulation research is under two disturbances that; the results indicate that the proposed control strategy has advantages in terms of the convergence time and oscillation amplitude in comparison with traditional adaptive backstepping approach.

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