

By Ahmad Faza 19 November 2021 **ADVANCED** DITHERING **TECHNIQUES** FOR POWER **ELECTRONICS** AND CONTROL

ELECTRIC POWER CONVERSION

• Switched-Mode AC/DC Power Supply [1]



• DC/AC Power Converter [2]



POWER CONVERTERS COMPONENTS & PWM [3]









CONVENTIONAL CONTROL

• SPWM [3]

• SVPWM [4]





FREQUENCY RESPONSE [3]



CONTROL DESIGN GOALS

• Spreading power conversion harmonic content artifacts [4] • Noise Shaping

Noise Shaped Spectrum



POWER ELECTRONIC CONVERTERS



• Single Phase AC/DC Converters [1]

• Single Phase DC/AC Converters [2]

MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL (MPC) [6]

$$\min_{\Delta \mathcal{U}(k)} V(k) = \sum_{i=H_w}^{H_p} \|\hat{z}(k+i|k) - r(k+i|k)\|_{Q(i)}^2 + \sum_{i=0}^{H_u-1} \|\Delta \hat{u}(k+i|k)\|_{R(i)}^2$$

 $\|w\|_M = \sqrt{w^T M w}$ weights: $Q(i), R(i) \ge 0$ reference signal r(k + i|k)prediction horizon $H_p \ge co$ window parameter $H_w \ge 1$





WHAT IS DITHERING?

• Dithering: is a process by which a form of noise is intentionally applied to a signal to randomize the quantization error (e.g. due to intended resolution reduction) [3].



DITHERING EXAMPLE

1-bit dithered 8-bit 8-bit + noise 0/0 **Ideal Quantization** 8-bit 1-bit 85% 0 5% 10000000 55% 10000000

Dithered system



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How can *improved modelling* of switched-mode devices enhance the performance in existing control schemes as well as predicting the performance when applying dithering.
- How can signals, suitable for dithering, be **generated** when there are simultaneous specifications for the value / **probability** and frequency / **spectral** distribution.
- When designing improved dither signals, it is of interest to investigate the properties of applying such signals in *closed loop*.
- What **potential applications** in the broad variety of switched-mode non-linear power converters control would dithering techniques prove to be **most useful**, feasible to implement and hold **a competitive edge** over other predominant and/or emergent control techniques.



INNOVATION IN RESEARCH

- The attempt to utilize well-proven dithering techniques characteristics in the field of power conversion applications is **novel**.
- Recognizing the quantization effect out of the usual context of digital to analog conversion to optimize simplistic control methods such as **PID**, **PWM**.
- The approach opens the door to target **noise spectrum spreading** as an inherent feature that can be used in forming the optimization problem.
- Allows for a viable trade-off for computationally intensive state of the art methods such as Model Predictive Control (**MPC**).

COMMERCIAL IMPACT



Can be easily retrofit into currently available topologies (add a "**noise**" with special properties) at as low costs as adding a prerecorded storage unit for an application specific noise.



Drastically reduce inherent radiated noise by spreading the noise profile over the power spectrum which in turn saves spatial complexity and alleviates **EMI** constraints.



Could potentially promise a compromise between system component sizes and control complexity at unprecedented reasonable performance; therefore, a paradigm shift in control design for certain applications.

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THANK YOU