

Analysis of SVC and STATCOM for voltage regulation and transfer capability

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Abstract- With the effect of restrictions on building new lines and growing demand, Transmission networks of modern power systems are becoming more stressed. One of the solutions of such a stressed system is the Flexible AC transmission system (FACTS) devices. For the proper utilization of the existing network without sacrificing the desired stability margin; FACTS devices are the most efficient in a transmission network. For the controlling of voltage and power flow, the Flexible AC Transmission System (FACTS) such as Static VAR Compensator (SVC) and Static Synchronous Compensator (STATCOM) are the most efficient power electronic switching devices in power transmission networks. From the family of flexible AC transmission systems (FACTS), the static synchronous compensator (STATCOM) is a shunt device of this family. By the controlling an amount of reactive power absorbed from or injected into power system, the STATCOM regulates its terminal voltage. STATCOM absorbs reactive power, when the voltage of system is high and it generates reactive power, when the voltage of system is low. In this paper, comparison between performance of SVC and STATCOM is done. The simulation result proves the effectiveness of these devices in improving power transfer capability.

Keywords: SVC, STATCOM, transfer, FACTS

I. INTRODUCTION

In present days, the electrical power system is facing many problems to the complexity increasing in their operation and structure. In the last few years, the power system instability is one of the problems that got wide attention. In modern power systems, some of the problems occur due to the lack of new generation and transmission facilities and over exploitation of the existing facilities by increase in load demand. Due to the industrial development at high rate, demand of electrical power is increasing rapidly at a very high rate [1]. It is necessary to increase the transmitted electric power with the existing transmission facilities to meet this demand. Thus, in electrical power systems the power flow control is evident. With the increase in loading of transmission lines, after a major fault the problem of transient stability can become a transmission power limiting factor. The power system should be flexible for the smooth and stable operation. The demand load and electrical generation must balance at all times up to some extent in an AC power system. The power system is self-regulating. The voltage and frequency drop, if generation is less than load and thereby the generation minus transmission losses is equal to the load. But for such a self-regulation, there are only a few percent margins. So there are the chances of system collapse. Generator excitation controller with the excitation control is not sufficient to maintain stability of the system for large faults occur near to generator terminals, but it can improve the transient stability for minor faults [4]. Thus, this requires a review of traditional methods and the creation of new ideas that achieve a more efficient use of existing electric power system resources without affecting the system security and system stability. In 1980s, a new approach introduced to solve the problem of designing and operating power systems by Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI); the proposed concept is known as Flexible AC Transmission Systems (FACTS). The main objectives of Flexible AC

Transmission Systems (FACTS) are to increase the control power flow and transmission capacity over designated transmission routes. FACTS are defined by the IEEE as "a power electronic based system and other static equipment that provide control of one or more AC transmission system parameters to enhance controllability and increase power transfer capability." Typical applications of FACTS in power system for the improvement of steady-state power transfer capacity, damping of power system oscillations and reduction of temporary overvoltage, effective voltage regulation and control [2]. Some of the advantages of STATCOM are that in STATCOM, maximum inductive or capacitive current can be maintained independently of the ac system voltage and the maximum var generation or absorption changes linearly with ac system voltage while in SVC maximum inductive or capacitive current decreases linearly with system ac voltage and maximum var output decreases with the square of voltage. STATCOM is more effective than SVC in improving transient stability of system because of its ability to maintain full capacitive output current at low system voltage. Response time is better than SVC. Active power control is possible in STATCOM. Installation space requirement of STATCOM is lesser as compared to SVC [1] [2] [3].

II. STATIC SYNCHRONOUS COMPENSATOR (STATCOM)

A Static synchronous compensator is a shunt-connected static var compensator whose capacitive or inductive output current can be controlled independent of the ac system voltage [1]. In a STATCOM, the maximum compensating current is independent of system voltage. STATCOM regulates system voltage by absorbing or generating reactive power. The STATCOM concept was proposed by Gyugyi in 1976. Power Converter employed in the STATCOM is of two types namely: Voltage Source Converter and Current Source Converter. In Current source Converter, the direct current always has one polarity and the power reversal takes place by the reversing of dc voltage polarity, but in Voltage Source Converter dc voltage have one polarity and the power reversing takes place by the reversing of dc current polarity. The power semiconductor devices requires bidirectional voltage blocking capability used in current source converter and an additional diode must be connected in series with a semiconductor switch for achieving this characteristic which increases the cost of the system. In high power applications, Voltage source converter can operate at high efficiency. Voltage source converter is preferred over Current source converter because of the above reasons and in present days, it acts as a block of a STATCOM that converts the dc input voltage at its input into three-phase set of ac voltages with controllable magnitude and phase angle [1]. STATCOM is made from a coupling transformer, a dc energy storage device and a Voltage Source Controller. STATCOM is capable of exchanging reactive power with the transmission line because of its small dc capacitor, if this dc capacitor is replaced with dc storage battery or other dc voltage source, the controller can exchange real and reactive power with the transmission system, extending its region of operation from two to four quadrants. A functional model of a STATCOM is shown in Fig. 1.

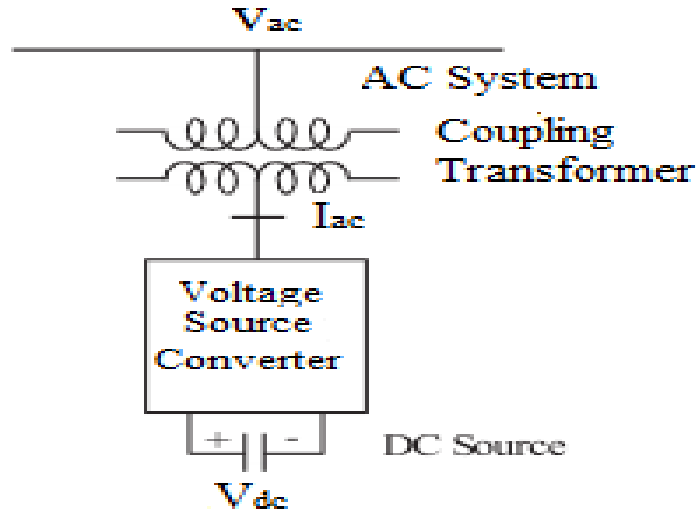


Fig. 1: Functional model of STATCOM

The relationship between fundamental components of the converter ac output voltage and voltage across dc capacitor is given as where k is coefficient which depends upon on the converter configuration, number of switching pulses and the converter controls. The fundamental component of the converter output voltage i.e. V_{out} can be controlled by varying the dc voltage across capacitor which can be done by changing the phase angle α of the operation of the converter switches relative to the phase of the ac system bus voltage.

III. STATIC VAR COMPENSATOR

A static VAR compensator is a set of electrical devices for providing fast acting reactive power on high voltage electricity transmission networks [5] [6]. SVCs are part of the Flexible AC transmission system device family, regulating voltage, power factor and harmonics and stabilizing the system [7] [8]. Unlike the asynchronous condenser which is a rotating electrical machine, a static VAR compensator having no significant moving parts other than the internal switchgear. Prior to the invention of SVC, the power factor compensation was the preserve of large rotating machines such as synchronous condensers or switched capacitor banks [9]. The SVC is an automatic impedance matching device, designed to bring the system near to the unity power factor. SVC used as transmission SVC and industrial SVC. In the applications of transmission, the SVC is used to regulate the voltage of grid. If the load of the power system is leading, the SVC consumes VAR from the system by using thyristor controlled reactors. Under lagging conditions, the capacitor banks are automatically switched in, thus providing a higher system voltage. By connecting the thyristor controlled reactor, which is continuously variable, along with a capacitor bank step, the net result is continuously variable leading or lagging power. In industrial applications, SVCs are placed near to high and rapidly varying loads such as arc furnaces [5] [10].

IV. MULTI MACHINE POWER SYSTEM MODEL

The two power grids of rating 2600 MVA and 2300 MVA are connected by a 500-kV transmission line of 500-km long. The "natural" power flow on the transmission line is 930 MW from bus B1 to B3, when the STATCOM is not in operation. The location of STATCOM is at the midpoint of the line (bus B2).

The rating of the STATCOM is 100MVA. The STATCOM model shown is a phasor model of three-level PWM STATCOM. The impedance represents the transformer leakage reactance and the phase reactor of the IGBT Bridge of an actual PWM STATCOM. The functional model using STATCOM is shown in fig. 2.

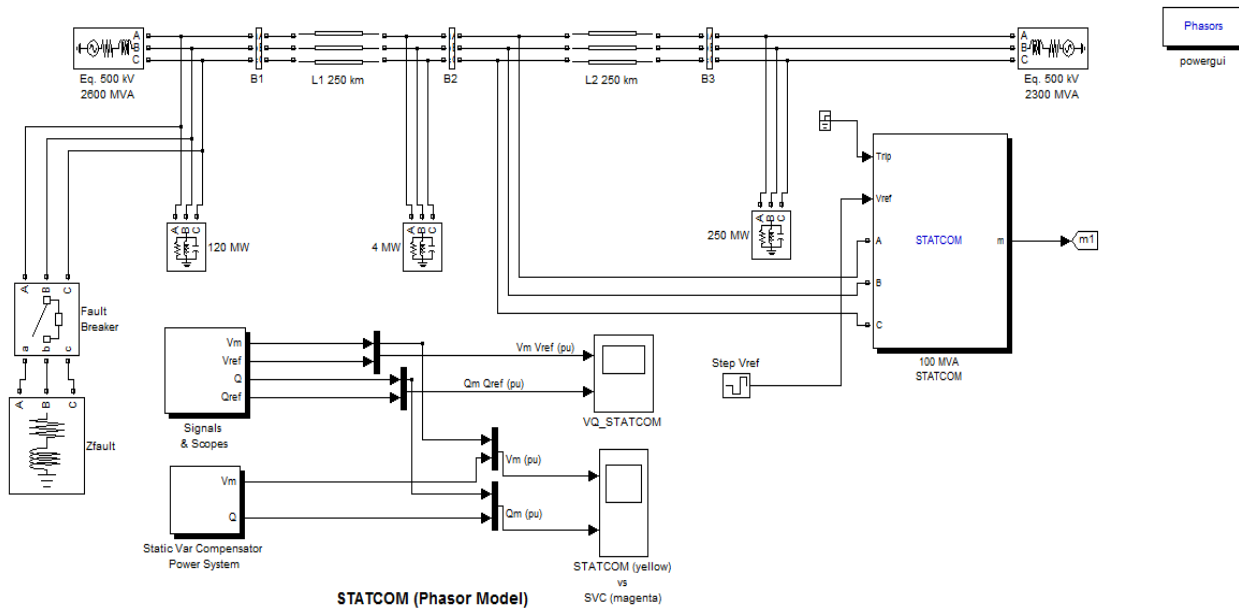


Fig. 2: Simulation test with FACT devices

The fig. 3 shows the model of signals and scopes. Here Vabc_B1, Iabc_B1, Vref, Vm, Qref, Qm, Id, Iq, Idref and Iqref are the signals in this model. PQ_L1, VI_STATCOM and IdIq are the scopes which show the graph as shown in figure 6, 7 and 8.

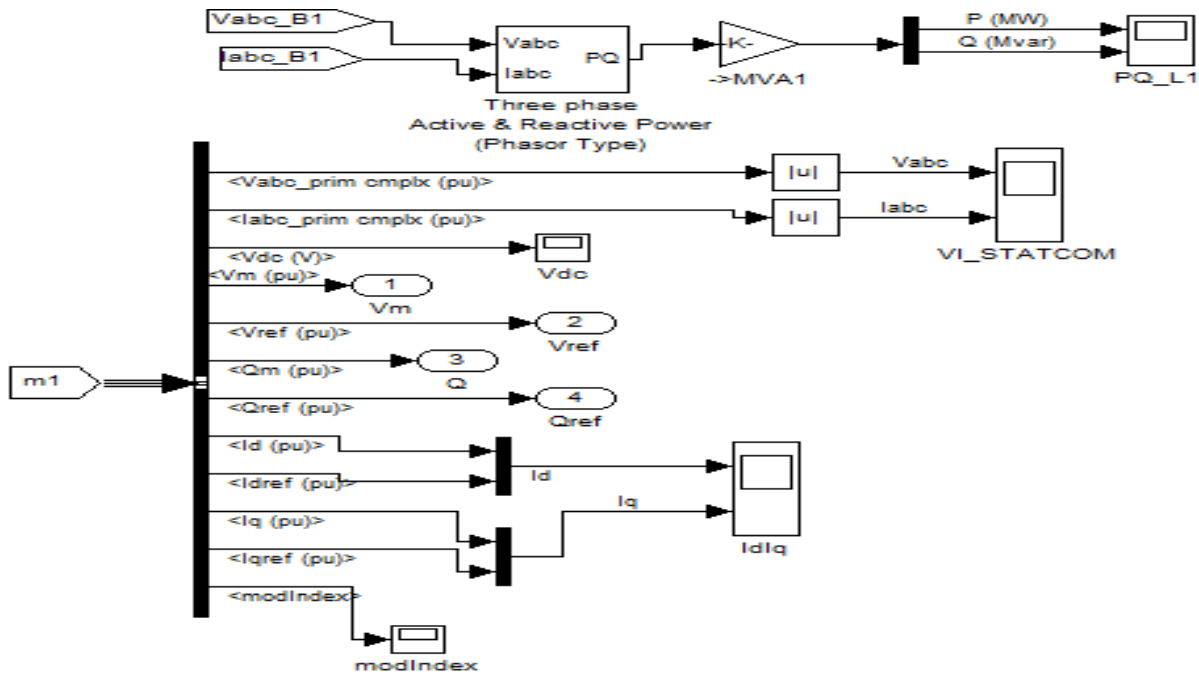


Fig. 3: Signal and Scopes

The Fig. 4 shows the model of SVC power system. The two power grids of rating 2600 MVA and 2300 MVA are connected by a 500-kV transmission line of 500-km long. A Fault occurs between the grid and bus bar B4 in the connected load. The Static Var Compensator is connected between the bus bar B5 and B6.

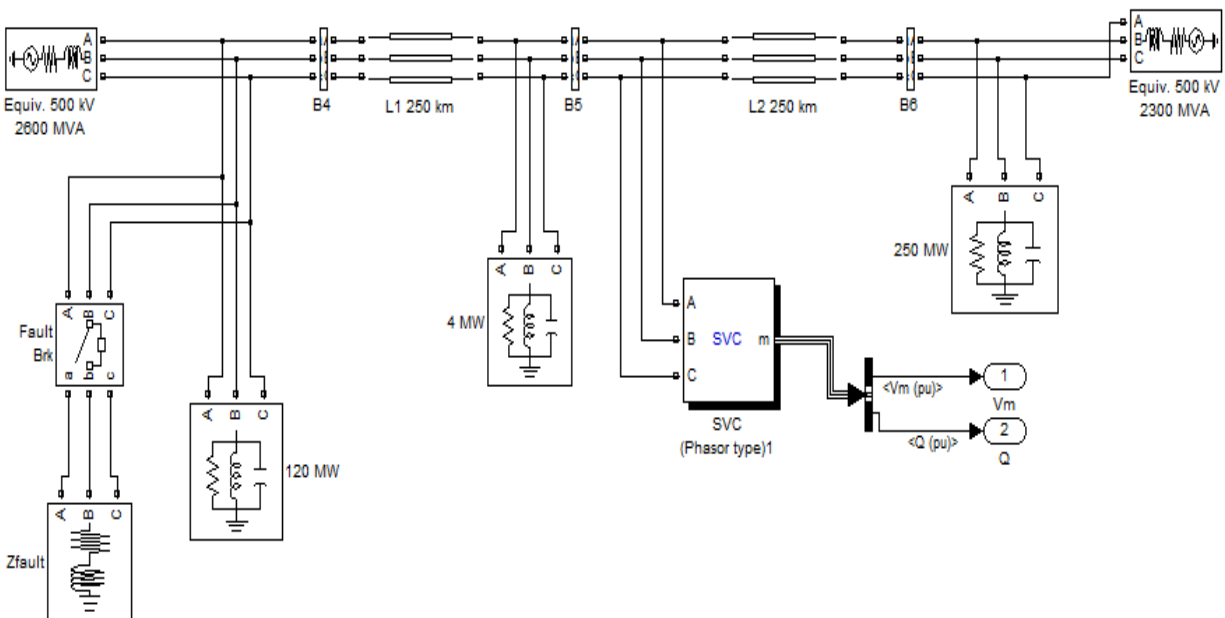


Fig. 4: SVC Power System

V. SIMULATION AND RESULT

The simulation shows the result of the model through the scope. VQ_STATCOM scope shows the graph of active and reactive V_m , V_{ref} and Q_m , Q_{ref} in Fig. 5. The first graph shows the V_{ref} signal along with the measured positive-sequence voltage V_m at the STATCOM bus. The second graph shows the reactive power Q_m absorbed or generated by the STATCOM. We found that the closed-loop time constant of Q_m signal is about 20 ms. The time constant depends on the strength of power system at B2 of the STATCOM. The impact of the regulator gains can be seen by the multiplication of two gains of Vac Regulator by two and the simulation gives the faster response with a small overshoot. Now the comparison between STATCOM models with a SVC model having the same rating 100 MVA is done. By clicking on the SVC Power System block, a SVC connected to a power grid similar to the power grid on which our STATCOM is connected is observed. On both systems using a fault breaker, a remote fault will be simulated in series with fault impedance. The graph of V_m and Q_m between the SVC and STATCOM is shown in the Fig. 6. The first graph shows the comparison of V_m between the SVC and STATCOM and the second graph shows the comparison of Q_m between SVC and STATCOM. During the 10-cycle fault, a key difference between the SVC and the STATCOM can be observed. The reactive power generated by the SVC is -0.48 pu and the reactive power generated by the STATCOM is -0.71 pu. The graph between active power, P (MW) and reactive power, Q (Mvar) is shown in Fig. 7. The graph between voltage and Current with STATCOM is shown in Fig. 8. The graph between I_d and I_q is shown in Figure 9.

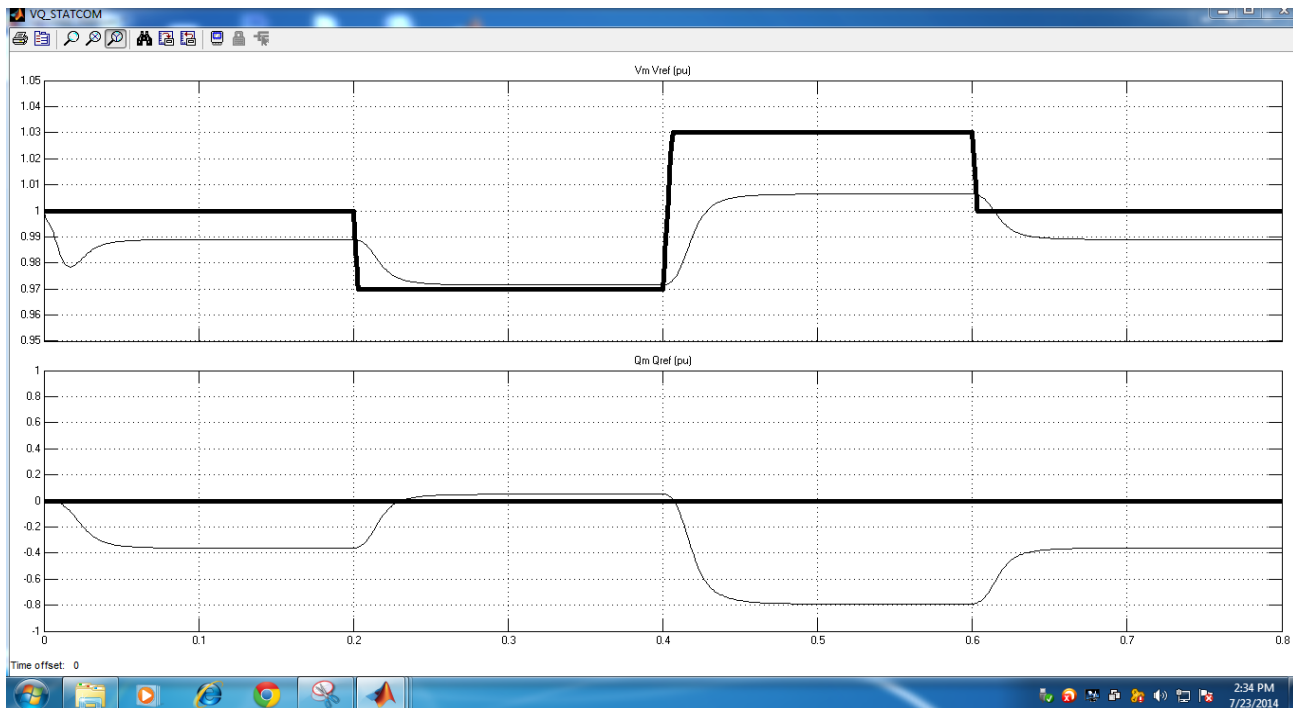


Fig. 5: Graph of V_m , V_{ref} and Q_m , Q_{ref}



Fig. 6: Graph between STATCOM and SVC

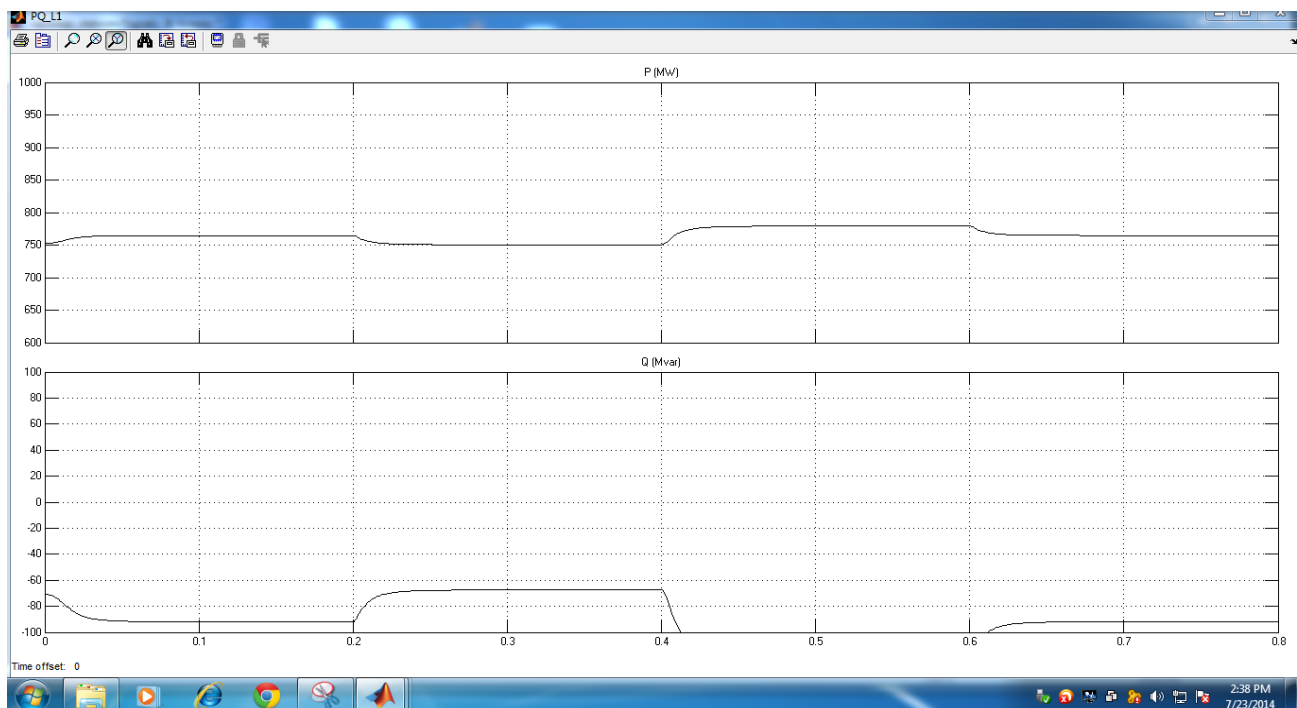


Fig. 7: Graph between P (MW) and Q (Mvar)

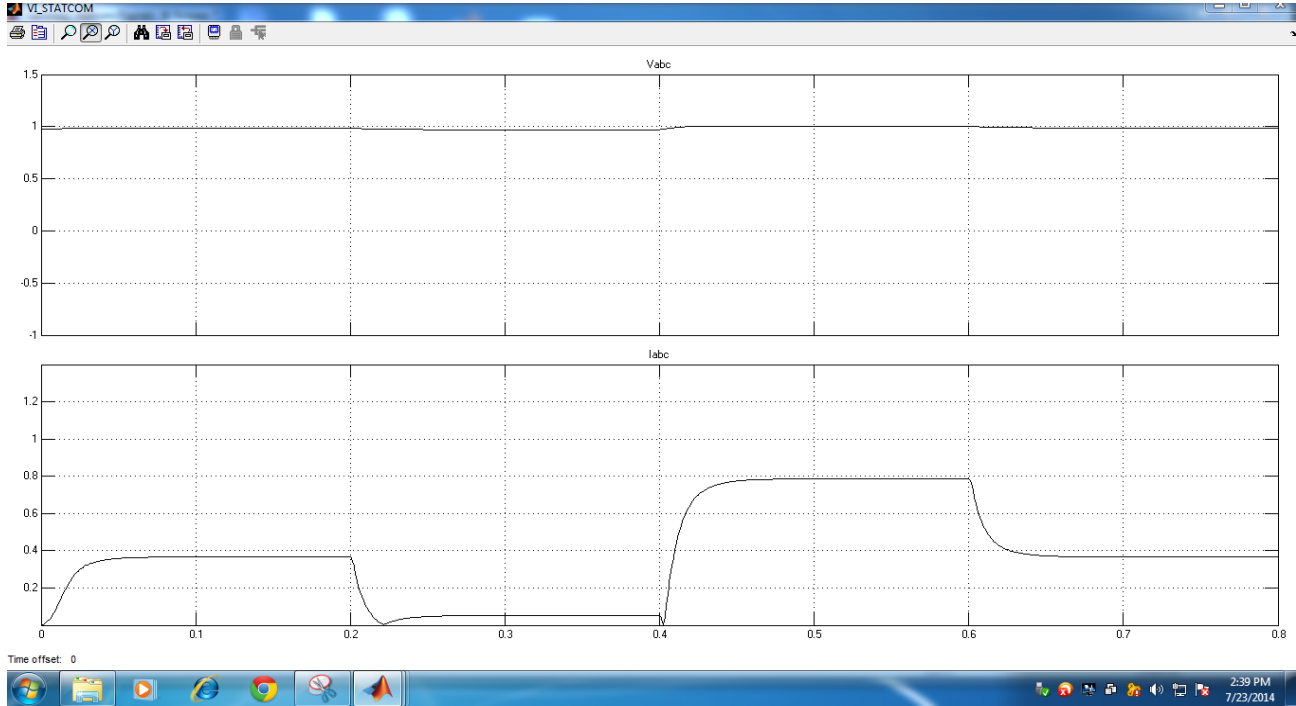


Fig. 8: Graph between voltage and Current with STATCOM

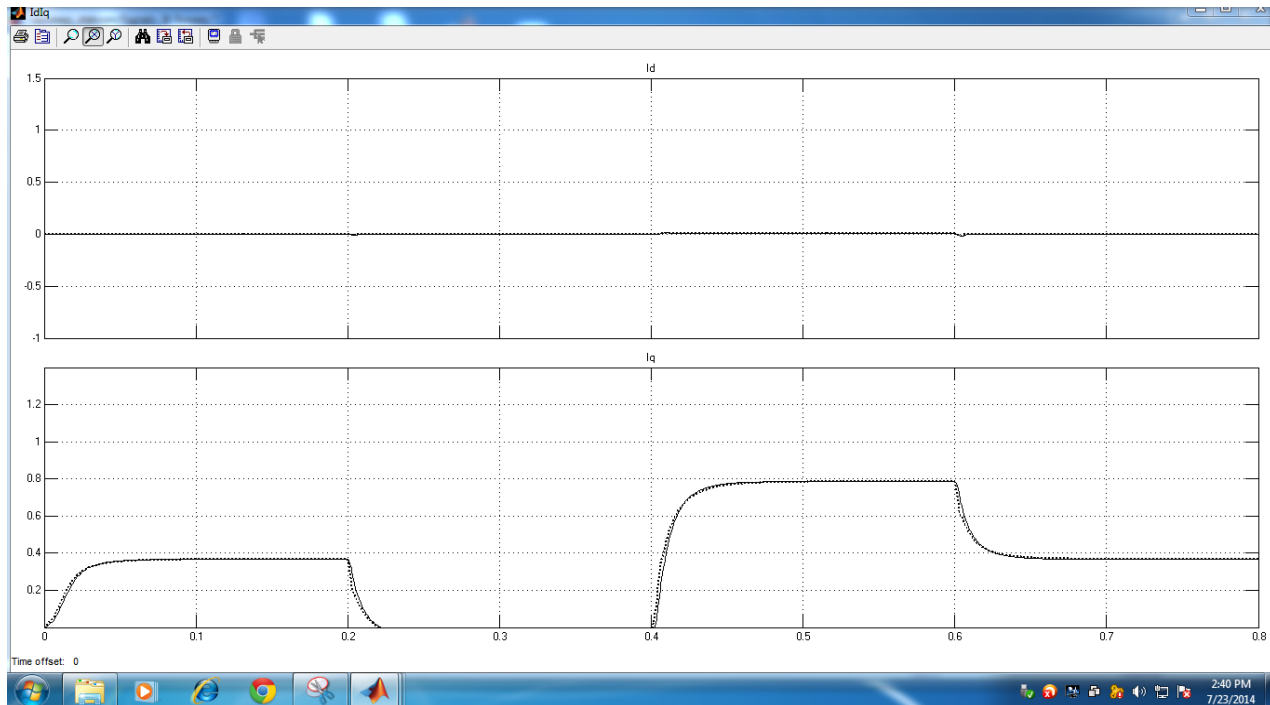


Fig. 9: Graph between Id and Iq

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper based on the applications of SVC and Statcom. The models of using STATCOM and SVC are implemented and tested in the MATLAB/Simulink software. These models are used for the voltage stability analysis. The effects of the FACT devices such as SVC and STATCOM are shown in graph. The best performance is achieved by introducing Fact devices which compensates the reactive power. Its conclusion is that by introducing the FACT devices such as STATCOM and SVC, the system performance, voltage regulation and transmission capability also improves.

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