The Study on the Efficient HVDC Capacity Considering Extremely Low Probability of 765kV Double Circuit Transmission Lines Trip

Bong-Soo Moon†, Boyung Ko* and Jin-San Choi**

Abstract – The load on the power grid of South Korea is expected to grow continuously until the late 2020s, and it is necessary to increase the transfer capacity from the Eastern grid to the Seoul-Gyeonggi region by reinforcing the transmission network for the electric power system to remain stable. To this end, the grid reinforcement by two bipole LCC HVDC transmission systems have been considered on account of the public acceptability and high growth of the fault current level, even though an additional 765kV system construction is more economical. Since the probability of the existing 765kV double circuit transmission line trip is extremely low, a dynamic simulation study was carried out to estimate the efficient HVDC capacity able to stabilize the transient stability by utilizing the HVDC overload capability. This paper suggests the application plan to reduce the HVDC construction capacity with ensuring the transient stability during the 765kV line trip.

Keywords: Double bipole HVDC transmission systems, 765kV double circuit transmission lines trip, HVDC continuous and overload capability

1. Introduction

The load on the power grid of South Korea is expected to experience continuous growth until the late 2020s, and the ambitious expansion plans have been made to satisfy this growth in the load. However the growth for the load and generation are geographically displaced, whereas the load center is located in the Seoul-Gyeonggi area, a substantial part of the new generation capacity consisting of nuclear and coal power plants is planned along the northeast coast.

The load in the Seoul-Gyeonggi area is currently above 40% of the total load of South Korea and this trend will continue to the late 2020s, according to the long-term load forecast. The capacity of power plants in northeast coast is of about 8GW at the present, and it will reach about 22GW by the early 2020s. However, the load in the northeast area is only of about 2GW. The transmission network in the northeast coast area consists of one 765kV transmission route and two 345kV transmission routes, and one transmission route consists of two transmission lines. The total thermal capacity of these transmission lines in the northeast coast area is only about 22 GW. Thus, the transmission network should be reinforced to increase the transfer capacity from the Eastern grid to the Seoul-Gyeonggi region so that the electric power system remains stable.

One alternative is to connect the Eastern grid with the Seoul Metro area using two bipole LCC HVDC converter systems consisting of transmission circuits rated from 3,500 to 4,500MW for each bipole. A 765kV transmission system can be more economical than an HVDC system because the distance of the transmission line will be 240km, but the construction of a 765kV transmission line will be disadvantageous in terms of public acceptability, and from a technical standpoint, the additional construction of 765kV transmission line results in a high growth in the fault current level, which is a big problem [1]. Due to the public acceptability and high growth of the fault current level, this paper considers the reinforcement of two bipole LCC HVDC transmission systems to increase the transfer capacity from Eastern grid to the Seoul-Gyeonggi area. The voltage of the two bipole HVDC transmission systems is +/- 500kV, and their rectifiers are connected to the 345kV sides of the Hanul nuclear sites while inverters are connected to the 345kV side of the 765kV station and the 345kV station in the Seoul-Gyeonggi area.

The stability of the power system is evaluated in a dynamic study using the PSS/E, and the simulated contingencies are a double circuit contingency for the existing 765kV transmission lines and the reinforced two bipole HVDC transmission systems. Several contingencies were simulated involving outages in the sections of the 765kV double circuit between the northeast coast and the Metropolitan area. Transient stability for the KEPCO system is verified by checking whether the angle between generators converges or not after the major disturbance mentioned before [2, 3].

The loss of the 765kV double circuit transmission lines is severe condition, and a double circuit contingency in
the side near the Metropolitan area of the of the 765kV transmission lines is especially severe because bypass transmission line for the tripped 765kV line is not enough.

The purpose of the two bipole LCC HVDC transmission systems is to provide a stable system that is capable of withstanding the loss of the 765kV double circuit transmission lines, which is the most severe condition. However, the probability of a 765kV double circuit transmission lines trip is extremely low. Therefore, implementing the overload capability on HVDC with reduced rated capacity is more reasonable than increasing the capacity of HVDC for continuous operation [4]. By utilizing the overloading characteristic of HVDC system, this paper verifies that rated capacity of HVDC can be reduced efficiently.

This paper consists of a dynamic study that was carried out to assess the continuous capability HVDC systems and HVDC systems with overload capability to determine the continuous and overload capability of HVDC systems in providing system stability against the loss of 765kV double circuit transmission lines. As a result, an efficient capacity for two bipole HVDC systems is proposed.

This paper is organized as follows. The next section describes the 765kV and double bipole HVDC system configuration in KEPCO power system. Section 3 presents the applied HVDC system parameter to simulate the overloading capability in PSS/e simulation. The comparative analysis results between the constant power order and the transient overloading operation of HVDC system is describe in Section 4. Finally, in Section 5, conclusion are drawn.

2. System Description

In South Korea, the power system is isolated without interconnection and in 2015, the peak load was 78,790MW, the thermal, nuclear power generation is 97,650MW with the remainder being hydro, and the minimum load was 44,390MW. The northern 765kV systems are connected to large thermal power plants on the west coast to the western Seoul-Gyeonggi area and also from large nuclear plants on the northeast coast to the eastern Seoul-Gyeonggi area. Now, two 765kV systems on the west coast and the northeast coastal are once again interconnected as shown in Fig. 1.

The power system in the Seoul-Gyeonggi area is double looped with a 345kV system and connected to the large power plants on the west coast and east coast by five 345kV transmission routes consisting of ten transmission lines. The other southeast 765kV system is connected from large nuclear plants in the southeast coast to the Daegu area.

According to the additional construction plan of nuclear power plant on east coast, reinforcing the transmission line between eastern grid and Seoul-Gyeonggi region is necessary. Due to the public opposition on the addition transmission line, double bipole LCC HVDC transmission system plan become influential. Therefore, in this paper, the double bipole HVDC system parallel with 765kV line, as shown in Fig. 2, will be considered in terms of a transient stability analysis through the PSS/e simulation [5].

3. HVDC System Modeling Parameter

This paper utilize the PSS/e power system simulator to conduct the transient stability during 765kV AC transmission line trip. The PSS/e generic CDC4t model is used to conduct the planning studies and detailed parameter is suggested below.

3.1 Main circuit parameters

3.1.1 HVDC overhead lines and HVDC underground cables

The total length is assumed to be 240km with 50 km consisting of cable and the rest of overhead lines. The configuration includes 3 conductors (ACSR 2156MCM, 230MCM and 250MCM).
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Table 1. The electric parameters for the HVDC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OHL</td>
<td>$R_{\text{OHL}}$</td>
<td>0.027 $\times \frac{190}{3} = 1.71 \Omega$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$L_{\text{OHL}}$</td>
<td>0.568 $\times \frac{190}{3} = 35.973 \text{mH}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable</td>
<td>$R_{\text{Cable}}$</td>
<td>0.0072 $\times \frac{50}{3} = 0.12 \Omega$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$L_{\text{Cable}}$</td>
<td>0.100 $\times \frac{50}{3} = 1.667 \text{mH}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$C_{\text{Cable}}$</td>
<td>0.500 $\times 50 \times 3 = 75.0 \mu\text{F}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Applied parameter values for the VDCOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VDCOL Parameter</th>
<th>Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$V_{\text{Block}}$</td>
<td>0.6 pu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_{\text{Unblock}}$</td>
<td>0.65 pu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T_{\text{Block}}$</td>
<td>0.1 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_{\text{SVOLT}}$</td>
<td>200 kV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_{\text{SCUR}}$</td>
<td>500 amps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_{\text{Ramp}}$</td>
<td>7 pu/sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_{\text{ramp}}$</td>
<td>7 pu/sec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.2 Converter transformers

For each pole converter, this paper assumes a 12-pulse bridge configuration consisting of two 6-pulse bridges connected in series with a 30° phase shift that are supplied in turn by two groups of converter transformers, as shown in Fig. 3.

The impedances of the converter transformer are set as typical values shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Percent impedance of the converter transformer

| dxN  | 8%        |
| drN  | 0.3%      |

3.2 Dynamic models (CDC4t)

The most dominating control parameters for the HVDC converter are related to the VDCOL (Voltage Dependent Current Order Limit) and the HVDC recovery characteristic.

VDCOL parameter should reflect the overloading capability of HVDC system. As shown in Fig. 4, the recovery characteristic is related to the ramp up ratio after the contingency occurrence. The values used for these control parameter are listed in Table 3. To verify the effect of the HVDC overloading, this paper apply the same parameter to both HVDC operation condition. One is with overloading and the other is without overloading condition.

3.3 Overload characteristic of HVDC system

Controllability of HVDC system can increase the transient stability of the AC system. With consideration on the thermal capacity of the rectifiers, HVDC system can be controlled in a manner such as ramped up and down quickly to balance the power between generation side and load side. This capability of HVDC system is very useful in helping the system from transient instability after a system fault. The HVDC overload capability can be applied as three type, i.e. continuous overload, short-time overload and transient overload [6, 7]. In this paper, considering the active power ramp-up ratio and the equipment capability, the transient overload is implemented. By reducing the rated HVDC capacity through the overloading operation, it will be verified that the efficient HVDC construction is possible with stable condition during the 765kV circuit contingency. After the disturbance occurs, the active power of each pole is overrated by 1.25 times of rated value. Through the simulation, the effect of

Fig. 3. Configuration of two bipole HVDC system with 12-pulse thyristor bridge

Bluebird) per pole for the overhead line section and 3 conductors per pole (2400 mm2 Cu) for the underground section. The capacities for the overhead line and the cable section are 4,869A and 4,500A, respectively. The electric parameter for the HVDC OHL and the cable are shown in Table 1.
Overloading on the power system transient stability is verified.

4. Dynamic Simulation

In this paper, PSS/e dynamic simulation is conducted to confirm the effects of power system stability after the 765kV AC circuit fault with double bipolar LCC HVDC operation. Fig. 5 indicates the flowchart to estimate the efficient HVDC capacity maintaining the transient stability. Power flow convergence and ESCR analysis are conducted in terms of a steady-state analysis, and angle stability evaluation is performed as transient stability.

The power system stability was evaluated by carrying out a dynamic simulation on the angle spread of the power system, and the power flow on the HVDC system. Fig. 6 shows the dynamic simulation process given from the KEPCO’s transient stability test rule. This process considers the time delay for fault detecting and generation tripping. The transient stability will be investigated whether the angle system of the system can converge or not.

In this paper, two major 765kV line trip contingency is analyzed in terms of transient stability. Fig. 7 shows the location of the line trip on 765kV AC circuit. This is the most severe possible contingency on the 765kV transmission line between the northeast coast to the Seoul-Gyeonggi area.

Contingency 1: 1020-5040 765kV circuit trip
Contingency 2: 5040-5010 765kV circuit trip

Fig. 8 and 9 shows the transient characteristic of power system. With the increasing HVDC capacity, the system angle spread and DC power flow performances are improved as shown in Fig. 8. The DC power flow become more stable with increased capacity. The angle spread of
AC system is reduced as well. The transient stability can be judged by angle spread of AC system, and the lower maximum value of spread angle means that the system is more stable. The power system with larger capacity of HVDC system shows robust characteristic in the 765kV line disturbance. However, larger capacity of HVDC system requires construction cost more, the capacity should be calculated with consideration on the cost and transient system stability. Through the PSS/e simulation, when the overloading operation is not applied, the HVDC capacity to stabilize the transient stability during 765kV line trip is required up to 9GW.

This paper considers the effect of the overloading capability of HVDC system on transient stability. Overloading characteristic is applied in the manner described in Sec. 3, and the result is shown in Fig. 10, 11. When the overloading capability is applied, 7.5GW HVDC system is enough to stabilize the transient stability during the 765kV contingency. Therefore, through the simulation, it is verified that overloading capability is effective on the system stabilization.

### 4.2 Contingency 2: Circuit trip between Bus5040-5010

For the purpose of estimation on the HVDC capacity, the possible contingencies on 765kV should be considered.

Circuit trip between Bus 5040 and 5010 is also severe contingency and therefore it should be considered. The capacity estimation is conducted by similar process with contingency 1. As shown in Fig. 12 and 13 below, the double bipole HVDC system capacity without the overloading operation should reach 9GW to be in stable.

Fig. 14 and 15 represent the system result with overloading operation. By utilizing the overloading operation of HVDC system, 7.5GW of HVDC system is sufficient to make the power system stable during 765kV line trip contingency.

Through the abovementioned process, the HVDC capacity requirement for stabilizing the KEPCO power...
system can be estimated as Table 4. Considering the possible sever contingencies, 10GW of HVDC capacity is required without overloading operation. However, by utilizing the overloading capability of HVDC system, the required HVDC capacity can be reduced up to 8GW. The HVDC capacity is directly related to the construction cost. Therefore, calculation on the efficient HVDC system capacity should be considered on a planning stage.

5. Conclusion

The transmission network reinforcement to increase the transfer capacity from the Eastern grid to the Seoul-Gyeonggi region is required to ensure stability in the electric power system. One alternative is to connect the Eastern grid with the Seoul Metro area using a 765kV transmission system that is more economical than an HVDC system, but on account of the public acceptability and the high growth of the fault current level this paper considers the reinforcement of two bipole HVDC transmission systems instead.

The probability of 765kV double circuit transmission lines trip is extremely low. For further research, overloading capability application on MTDC (Multi-terminal HVDC) topology can be worth considering, as 765kV line can be connected to HVDC system through an additional terminal.

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