

# Neural Network Based Fault Diagnosis of Three Phase Inverter Fed Vector Control Induction Motor

Bilal Djamal Eddine Cherif<sup>1\*</sup>, Azeddine Bendiabdellah<sup>1</sup>, Mokhtar Bendjebbar<sup>1</sup>, Amina Tamer<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Diagnosis Group, Laboratory LDEE, Electrical Engineering Faculty, University of Sciences and Technology of Oran, Bir El Djir, P. O. B. 1505, El-Mnaouer, Oran 31000, Algeria

\* Corresponding author, e-mail: [cherif.doc84@gmail.com](mailto:cherif.doc84@gmail.com)

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## Abstract

The paper investigates the detection and location of IGBT open-circuit faults in two-level inverter fed induction motor controlled by indirect vector control strategy. The investigation proposes two new approaches entirely based on the Artificial Neural Network (ANN) for the extraction of the exact fault angle corresponding to the IGBT switch open-circuit fault. The first approach (Approach1) based on the Clark currents transform calculates the average value of the Clark currents to find the exact fault angle  $\theta$ . The second approach (Approach2) based directly on the three-phase stator currents (without any transformation) calculates the average value of the three-phase currents to determine the exact fault angle between the phases ( $\theta_{ab}$ ,  $\theta_{bc}$ ,  $\theta_{ca}$ ). The paper conducts also a comparative study between the two approaches to assess the merits of each one of them. Experimental work is conducted to illustrate the effectiveness of the techniques and validate the results obtained.

## Keywords

vector control, open-circuit fault, detection, location, ANN

## 1 Introduction

Three-phase induction machines have been used more and more in recent years in applications requiring variable speed. The combination of static converters with induction motors has gradually replaced DC motors in many industrial applications for speed variation. The attraction for this type of motors is for its robustness, low cost and high performance that can be achieved through the development of electronic components for the implementation of sophisticated control laws. However, control algorithms can become completely inefficient for both the system and the environment when a failure occurs. For reasons of safety but also for economic reasons, it is necessary to control at all times the proper functioning of the motor. The increase in reliability, availability and dependability is currently one of the major concerns of manufacturers. In some complex systems, such as in aeronautics or nuclear power plants, the phase of detecting, locating and reconfiguring one or more faults is necessary but not sufficient to guarantee operational safety. Indeed, it is essential to modify the control law to ensure continuity of service and to maintain the minimum level of performance [1].

According to the existing literature, the most common and critical faults in the inverter mainly concern the semi-conductor switches (IGBT in our case). The internal faults of the IGBT semi-conductors of the inverter are estimated at 31 %. This percentage may be even larger if the faults due to the operating control are taken into account [2, 3].

Several researchers have studied the behavior of static power converters with internal failure, focusing particularly on the open-circuit fault of an IGBT switch. Such a fault can lead to secondary faults in other converter components that can result in high repair costs [2]. Authors [3, 4] propose the Park vector technique, the principle of this technique is based on the tracking of the current trajectory of Park ( $i_d$ ,  $i_q$ ). In the healthy case, the trajectory takes a circle shape and in the case of an IGBT switch open-circuit fault, the circle becomes a semicircle. The position of this trajectory in the ( $d$ ,  $q$ ) frame makes it possible to calculate the intervals of the angles of the fault to localize the faulty IGBT. Other researchers [5-8] have proposed the Park average current ( $i_{dmean}$ ,  $i_{qmean}$ )

technique to calculate the exact open-circuit fault angle in order to identify the faulty IGBT switch. Authors [5, 9, 10] have proposed the technique based on the spectral analysis of the stator currents. This technique is based on the study of the harmonic analysis of each phase current. The amplitude and argument of each harmonic can be used in detecting and localizing the faults. The analysis of the first harmonics shows that the difference between the healthy state and the open-circuit fault case lies in the zero-order harmonics which means the presence of the DC component in the signal. The argument of the harmonic zero with respect to the fundamental makes it possible to know the type of fault; on the other hand, the argument of this harmonic also makes it possible to know the faulty IGBT switch either the high or the lower one. The authors [11] combined normalized standard currents with additional diagnostic variables for one or more IGBT switch open-circuit faults. The diagnostic alarms were performed by the Boolean output signals. In the paper presented by [12], the same authors proposed another extension based on the use of fuzzy logic symptoms. The author [13] proposes the Clarke technique followed by the polarity of the trajectory slope in the  $(\alpha, \beta)$  frame to identify the faulty IGBT switch.

This paper investigates the detection of open-circuit IGBT faults in inverters using the artificial intelligence technique; the Artificial Neural Network (ANN) for extracting the exact angles of the fault. Two approaches are employed; Approach1 is related to the Clark currents transform for calculating the exact angle of the open-circuit fault. Approach2 based on the calculation of the mean value of the three stator currents to determine the angles between phases  $(\theta_{ab}, \theta_{bc}, \theta_{ca})$ . A comparison study between the two approaches is carried out. The experimental work performed is to evaluate the effectiveness of the two proposed new approaches and to validate the results obtained.

## 2 Experimental setup descriptions

The experimental test-rig used in this paper, includes a three-phase squirrel-cage induction motor fed by a three-phase two-level voltage source inverter. The detailed characteristics of the motor are given in the appendix. Furthermore, the motor is mechanically coupled to a dc generator supplying a bank of resistors which allows varying the load torque. Moreover, the measuring system includes three current Hall Effect sensors and three voltage sensors and a DSPACE 1104 acquisition card to generate pulses for triggering the IGBT's gates. The whole set

is connected to a computer for visualizing the processed sensed signal as shown in the photo of Fig. 1 [14].

Given the randomness of the measured signals and in order to have a reliable analysis, 05 acquisitions are made for each case. The acquisition time used is  $T_{acq} = 20$  s. It can also be noted that to study the effect of the load on the induction motor signals, only one mode of operation is considered: the rated load operation with a rated current of 7 A and an estimated torque of 20 Nm and a frequency of sampling  $F_e = 10$  KHz.

## 3 Induction motor vector control technique (IFOC)

In the following, a study of the indirect vector control technique applied to both a healthy inverter and a faulty inverter (case of an IGBT open-circuit fault at switch  $K_1$ ) is presented and investigated.

### 3.1 Indirect vector control (IFOC) of a healthy inverter fed induction motor

The purpose of the vector control is to be able to control the induction motor as a self-excited DC machine where there is a natural decoupling between the magnitude controlling the flux (the excitation current) and that related to the torque (the armature current). This decoupling makes it possible to obtain a very fast torque response [15-17]. The indirect vector control of a three-phase two-level inverter is illustrated by the synoptic diagram as shown in Fig. 2.

The vector control is that based on the orientation of the rotor flux. The  $(d-q)$  axis system is oriented so that the axis  $d$  is in phase with the rotor flux.

$$\begin{cases} \varphi_{rd} = \varphi_r \\ \varphi_{rq} = 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

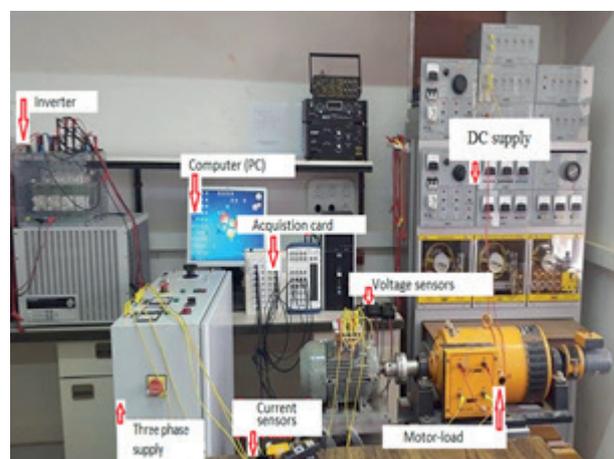


Fig. 1 Photo of the experimental test-rig [14].



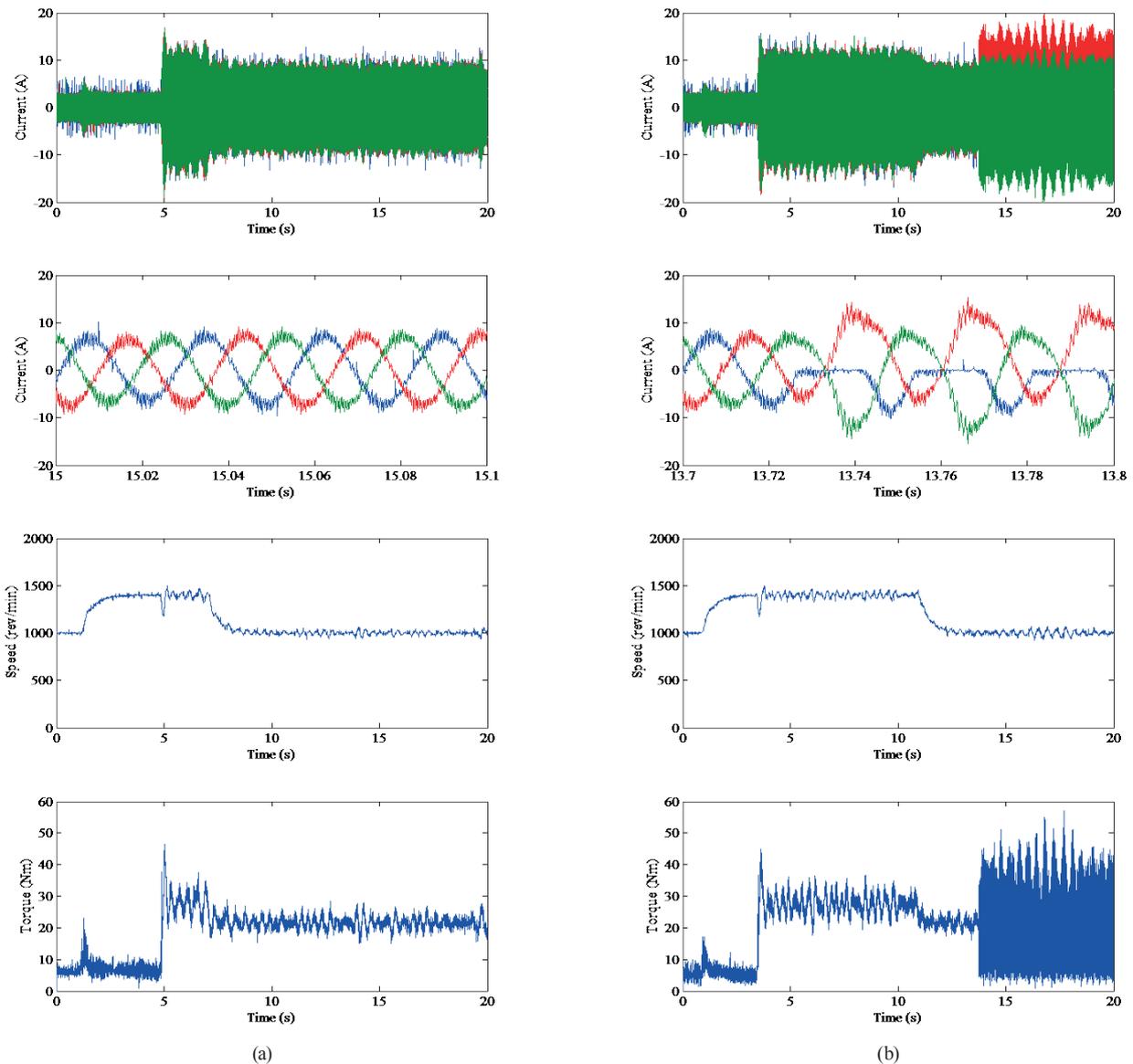


Fig. 3 Experimental results of the IFOC technique: (a) Vector control with a healthy inverter. (b) Vector control with a faulty inverter

IGBT switch open-circuit fault occurrence, the phase current connected to the faulty arm is no longer controlled as it is only negative or zero. Under these conditions the current of the other two healthy phases (zero sum) take instantaneously high values. Furthermore, it should also be noted that the IGBT fault influences the mechanical behavior of the motor. This influence is characterized by a fall in the speed value, as well as a variation (oscillations) of the electromagnetic torque resulting in a degraded operation of the motor.

#### 4 Inverter IGBT open-circuit fault detection techniques

The IGBT open-circuit fault detection techniques in this paper make use of the artificial neural network (ANN).

A presentation of this used ANN approach is therefore more than necessary.

#### 4.1 Principles of the used ANN

The ANN structures used for the two approaches are illustrated in Fig. 4 and Fig. 5.

#### 4.2 ANN structure and training/test phase

A very rich database is built for both healthy and faulty modes of operation. The dataset for training and test are obtained from real measurement system of current described in this article. The recorded data were divided in equal time (1 s) and pick up randomly for the training and the test. Finally, we get 7 types of dataset according to the healthy and faulty modes

of operations. Each type is divided in two groups (15 sets for training and 5 sets for the test). The same database will be used for the two approaches; Approach1 related to the Clark currents transform for calculating the exact angle of

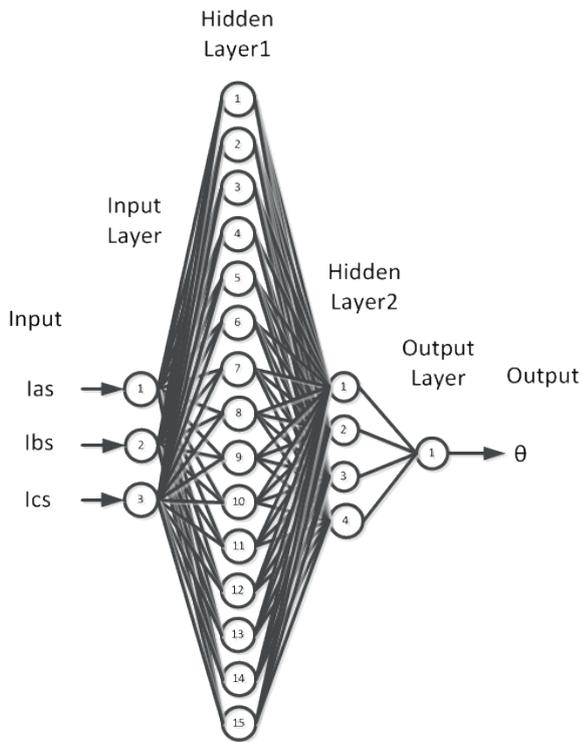


Fig. 4 ANN architecture for Approach1.

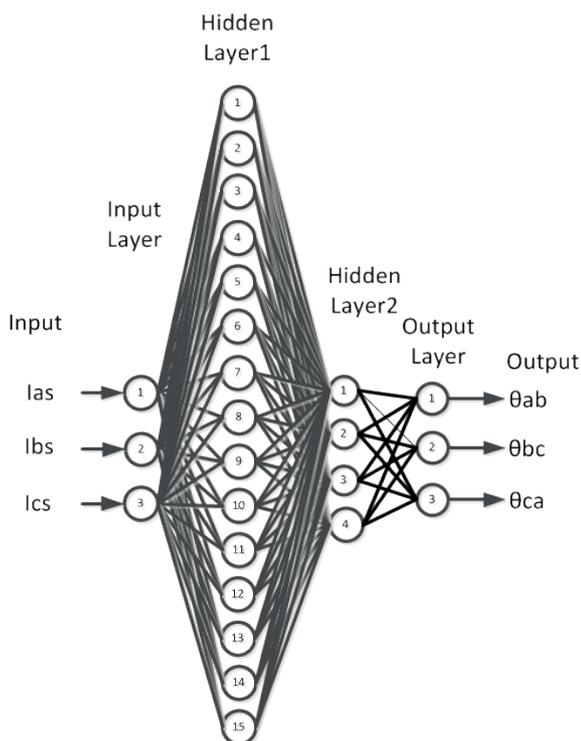


Fig. 5 ANN architecture for Approach2.

the open-circuit fault, and the second Approach2 based on the calculation of the mean value of the three stator currents to determine the angles between phases ( $\theta_{ab}, \theta_{bc}, \theta_{ca}$ ).

The structure of the proposed ANN model is shown in Table 1. The network consists of four layers, an input layer with three (3) neurons corresponding to the current measured from sensors of the three phases  $a, b,$  and  $c$  for the first approach, and  $I_{amean}, I_{bmean}$  and  $I_{cmean}$  for the second approach.  $I_{amean}, I_{bmean}$  and  $I_{cmean}$  were calculated from recorded data. The structure of the ANN changes according to the target; we get two structures, the first one with one (01) neuron in the output layer corresponding to the target  $\theta$ . The second structure will be with three (03) neurons in the output layer corresponding to  $[\theta_{ab}, \theta_{bc}, \theta_{ca}]$  angles between phases. Finally, the hidden layer is the same for the both approaches, two (02) hidden layers with fifteen (15) neurons in the first layer and four (04) neurons in the second one. Fig.6 depicts the ANN proposed model

At the end of the training process, the model obtained consists of the optimal weight and the bias vector. The minimum performance gradient was set to  $1 * 10^{-8}$  and training will stop when any one of these conditions is met:

1. The maximum number of epochs = 3297.
2. The mean square error =  $1.3294 * 10^{-9}$ .
3. The performance gradient  $\leq 1 * 10^{-9}$ .

Table 1 Characteristics of the proposed ANN model.

	ANN structure for the Approach1		ANN structure for the Approach2	
Number of inputs nodes	3	Current measured from phases $a, b$ and $c$	3	mean value of the three stator currents
Number of outputs nodes	1	Target output = [angle $\theta$ ];	3	Target output = $[\theta_{ab}, \theta_{bc}, \theta_{ca}]$ ; angles between phases
Number of Hidden layers			2	
Number of Hidden nodes			Layer1:15 Layer2:4	

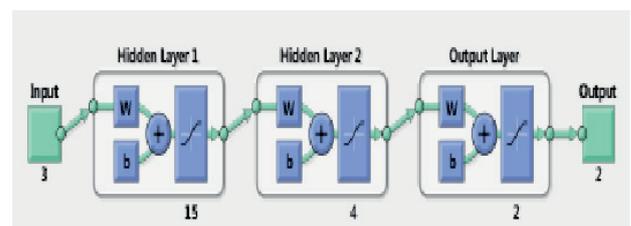


Fig. 6 ANN proposed model.

### 4.3 ANN test results

An automatic learning of the ANN is performed until a small squared error of  $1.3294e^{-09}$  is obtained, see Fig. 7. It should be noted that this small error is obtained after 3297 iterations.

### 4.4 Approach1: extraction of the IGBT open-circuit fault angles based on ANN by the use of Clark transform approach

In the following, the flowchart for Approach1 used to compute the exact fault angle extraction is presented in Fig. 8.

The mathematical model of Approach1 is presented by the following steps:

**1<sup>st</sup> step:** Extraction of the three currents of the stator ( $i_{as}, i_{bs}, i_{cs}$ ) as follows:

$$\begin{cases} i_{as} = i \cos(\omega t + \varphi) \\ i_{bs} = i \cos\left(\omega t + \varphi - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) \\ i_{cs} = i \cos\left(\omega t + \varphi - \frac{4\pi}{3}\right) \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

**2<sup>nd</sup> step:** Calculation of the Clark currents:

$$\begin{cases} i_{\alpha s} = \frac{2}{3}i_{as} - \frac{1}{3}i_{bs} - \frac{1}{3}i_{cs} \\ i_{\beta s} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(i_{bs} - i_{cs}) \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

**3<sup>rd</sup> step:** Calculation of the intervals of the fault angles of each IGBT:

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{i_{\beta s}}{i_{\alpha s}}\right) \quad (11)$$

**4<sup>th</sup> step:** Calculation of the mean value of Clark currents:

$$\begin{cases} i_{\alpha smean} = \text{sum}\left(\frac{i_{\alpha s}}{\text{length}(i_{\alpha s})}\right) \\ i_{\beta smean} = \text{sum}\left(\frac{i_{\beta s}}{\text{length}(i_{\beta s})}\right) \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

**5<sup>th</sup> step:** Calculation of the trajectory surface:

$$S = S_H - S_F \quad (13)$$

Where  $S_H$  and  $S_F$  are the trajectory surfaces for healthy and faulty inverter cases respectively.

**6<sup>th</sup> step:** Calculation of the exact angle of the open-circuit fault:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{i_{\beta smean}}{i_{\alpha smean}}\right) \quad (14)$$

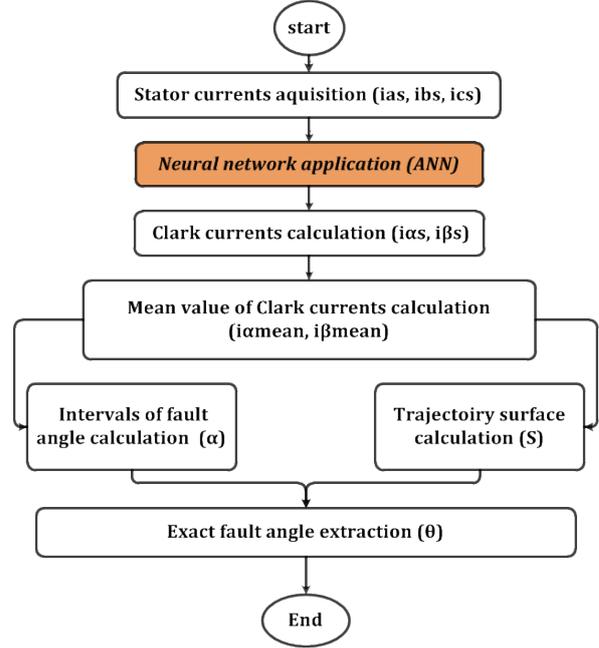


Fig. 8 Flowchart the ANN faults detection system (Approach1).

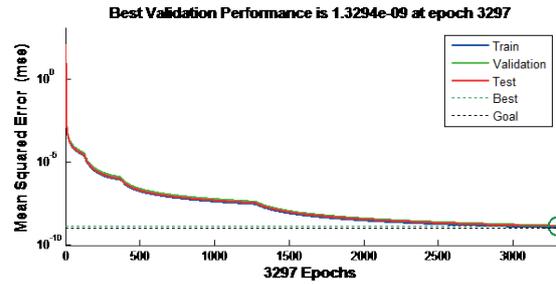


Fig. 7 Quadratic error evaluation as a learning iterations number function (gradient retro-propagation method).

Fig. 9 depicts the Clark current trajectories and the intervals of fault angles  $\alpha$  for the healthy and faulty inverter case, with an open-circuit IGBT switch at  $K_1$  and its complimentary  $K_2$ .

The information of each ANN output quantity for the healthy and faulty inverter cases are summarized in Table 2.

### 4.5 Approach2: Extraction of the IGBT open-circuit fault angles based on the ANN by the use of the three stator currents mean value approach

Fig. 10 presents the flowchart of Approach2 for the exact fault angles extraction

The mathematical model of Approach2 is presented by the following steps:

**1<sup>st</sup> step:** Extraction of the three currents of the stator ( $i_{as}, i_{bs}, i_{cs}$ ) as follows:

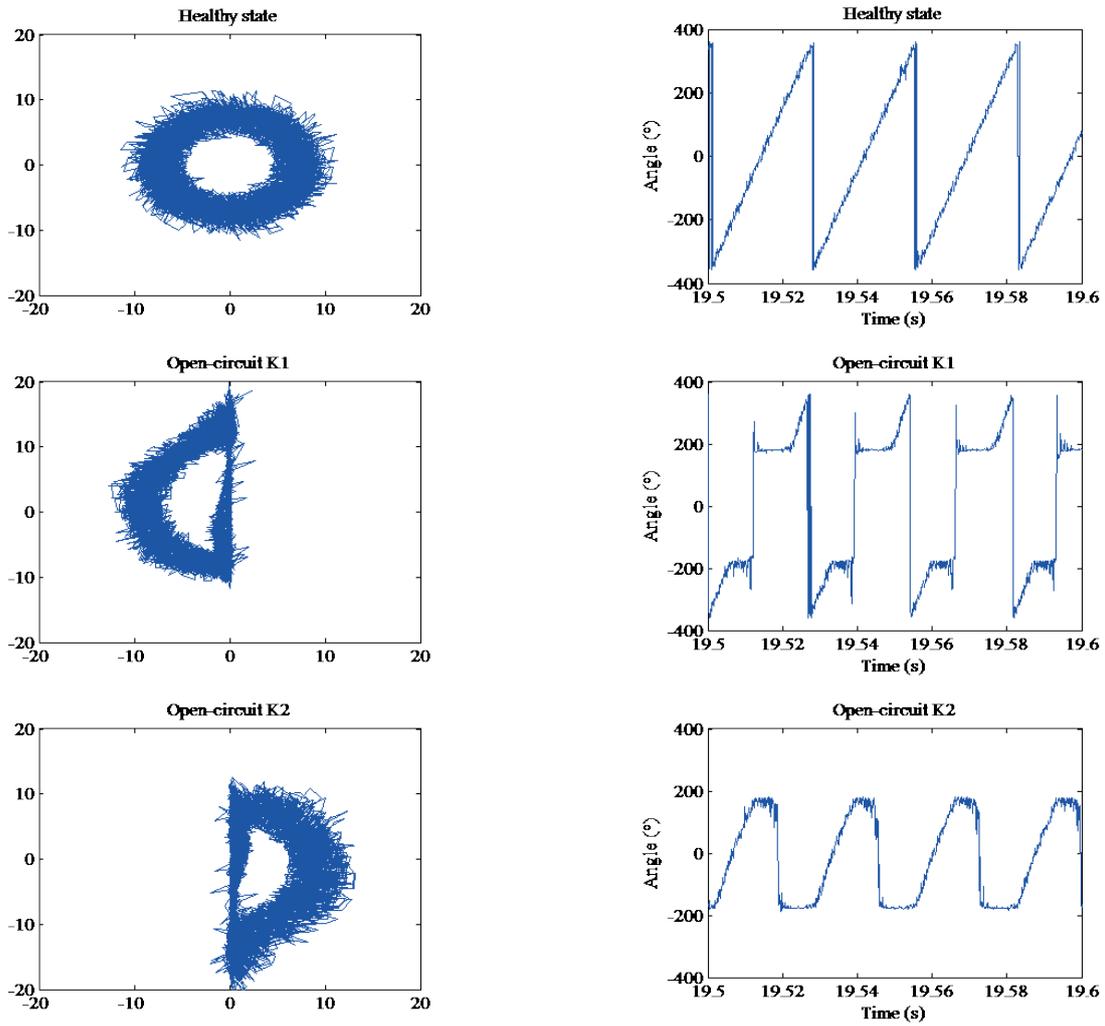


Fig. 9 Clark current trajectories and intervals of fault angles  $\alpha$  for healthy and faulty inverter open-circuit  $K_1$  and its complimentary  $K_2$ .

Table 2 Diagnostic characteristics by ANN based on Clark transform (first approach).

IGBT	The ANN outputs				
	$I_{\alpha mean}$	$I_{\beta mean}$	Angles intervals $\alpha$ ( $^\circ$ )	Surface $S$	Exact angles $\theta$ ( $^\circ$ )
Healthy case	0.0274	0.0156	[0, 360]	$7.5688e^{-005}$	29.5561
Open-circuit $K_1$	-5.7511	0.3127	[150, 210]	7.8202	176.8882
Open-circuit $K_2$	5.4361	-0.0361	[330, 30]	7.6575	359.6198
Open-circuit $K_3$	1.3236	-3.1518	[270, 330]	7.7224	292.7804
Open-circuit $K_4$	-1.3563	3.5092	[90, 150]	7.5196	111.1316
Open-circuit $K_5$	1.3041	3.4924	[30, 90]	7.2918	69.5234
Open-circuit $K_6$	-1.5625	-3.2893	[210, 270]	7.7647	244.5908

$$\begin{cases} i_{as} = i \cos(\omega t + \varphi) \\ i_{bs} = i \cos\left(\omega t + \varphi - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) \\ i_{cs} = i \cos\left(\omega t + \varphi - \frac{4\pi}{3}\right) \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{cases} i_{as} = \text{sum}\left(\frac{i_a}{\text{length}(i_a)}\right) \\ i_{bs} = \text{sum}\left(\frac{i_b}{\text{length}(i_b)}\right) \\ i_{cs} = \text{sum}\left(\frac{i_c}{\text{length}(i_c)}\right) \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

2<sup>nd</sup> step: Calculation of the mean value of the three stator currents:

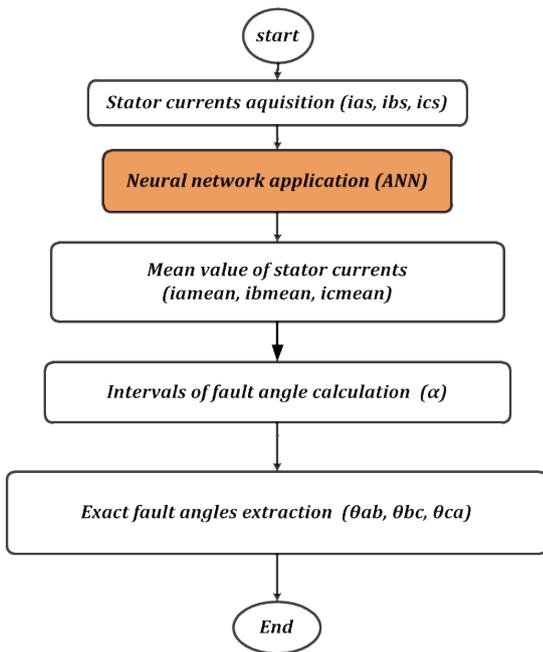


Fig. 10 Flowchart ANN faults detection system (Approach2).

3<sup>rd</sup> step: Calculation of the exact fault angles between phases of the open-circuit fault of each IGBT:

$$\begin{cases} \theta_{ab} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{I_{bmean}}{I_{amean}}\right) \\ \theta_{bc} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{I_{cmean}}{I_{bmean}}\right) \\ \theta_{ca} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{I_{amean}}{I_{cmean}}\right) \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

Fig. 11 depicts the stator currents trajectories and the intervals of fault angles  $\alpha$  for the healthy and faulty inverter case open-circuit  $K_1$  and its complimentary  $K_2$ .

The information of each ANN output quantity for the healthy and faulty cases is summarized in Table 3.

It is to conclude that the results obtained and summarized in Table 2 and Table 3 when applying the two approaches

proposed for fault detection and location, indicate clearly that the exact open-circuit fault angles lay always within the intervals fault angles  $\alpha$ . By considering a study case example where the inverter IGBT switch open-circuit fault is supposed to occur at  $K_2$ , its fault angle interval  $\alpha$  is found to lie within  $[330^\circ, 30^\circ]$ . It is to note that for Approach1, the given open-circuit fault at  $K_2$  is identified by a single exact fault angle whose value is equal to  $\theta = 359.6198^\circ$ . However, for the Approach2, the fault at  $K_2$  is identified by no less than three different exact fault angles whose values are equal to  $\theta_{ab} = 346.0386^\circ$ ,  $\theta_{bc} = 227.7555^\circ$  and  $\theta_{ca} = 12.7230^\circ$ . From these findings it can be deduced that the detection and location of the fault can be obtained from one of the two proposed approaches but Approach2 offers a supplementary advantage related to the fact that the detection and the location of the fault is identified and confirmed each time by three exact fault angles at the same time making it a sure and more reliable tool than Approach1.

Fig. 12 depicts a graphical representation related to Table 2 and Table 3 for the calculation of the fault angles by both approaches; the Clark currents transform and the three-phase stator mean currents approaches.

As it can be seen from Fig. 12, for the case of the IGBT switch  $K_2$  open-circuit fault, It can be noticed for Approach2 that three vectors related to the three exact fault angles corresponding to the faulty inverter IGBT switch are in the range of the interval fault angle  $\alpha$ , whereas for Approach1, one single vector related to the exact fault angle lies within the fault interval angle  $\alpha$ .

### 5 Comparative study between the two proposed approaches

It can be deduced from the various tests of the ANN, that the mean value of the three stator currents using Approach2 has some advantages compared to that of the mean value of the Clark currents transform using Approach1 detection

Table 3 Diagnostic characteristics by ANN based on the three stator currents (Approach2).

IGBT	The ANN outputs			Exact fault angles			
	$I_{amean}$	$I_{bmean}$	$I_{cmean}$	Fault angles intervals $\alpha$ (°)	$\theta_{ab}$ (°)	$\theta_{bc}$ (°)	$\theta_{ca}$ (°)
Healthy state	0.0247	-0.0044	0.0061	[0, 360]	-10.1773	-35.9173	-13.9197
Open-circuit $K_1$	-5.5271	1.3515	1.2621	[150, 210]	166.2600	46.9587	192.8625
Open-circuit $K_2$	5.5391	-1.3771	-1.2506	[330, 30]	346.0386	227.7555	12.7230
Open-circuit $K_3$	1.2391	-5.5508	1.3976	[270, 330]	282.5838	284.1322	311.5604
Open-circuit $K_4$	-1.2195	5.5329	-1.3810	[90, 150]	102.4296	104.0144	131.4463
Open-circuit $K_5$	1.3826	1.2727	-5.5594	[30, 90]	42.6307	167.1057	76.0346
Open-circuit $K_6$	-1.3861	-1.2584	5.5326	[210, 270]	222.2356	347.1861	255.9352

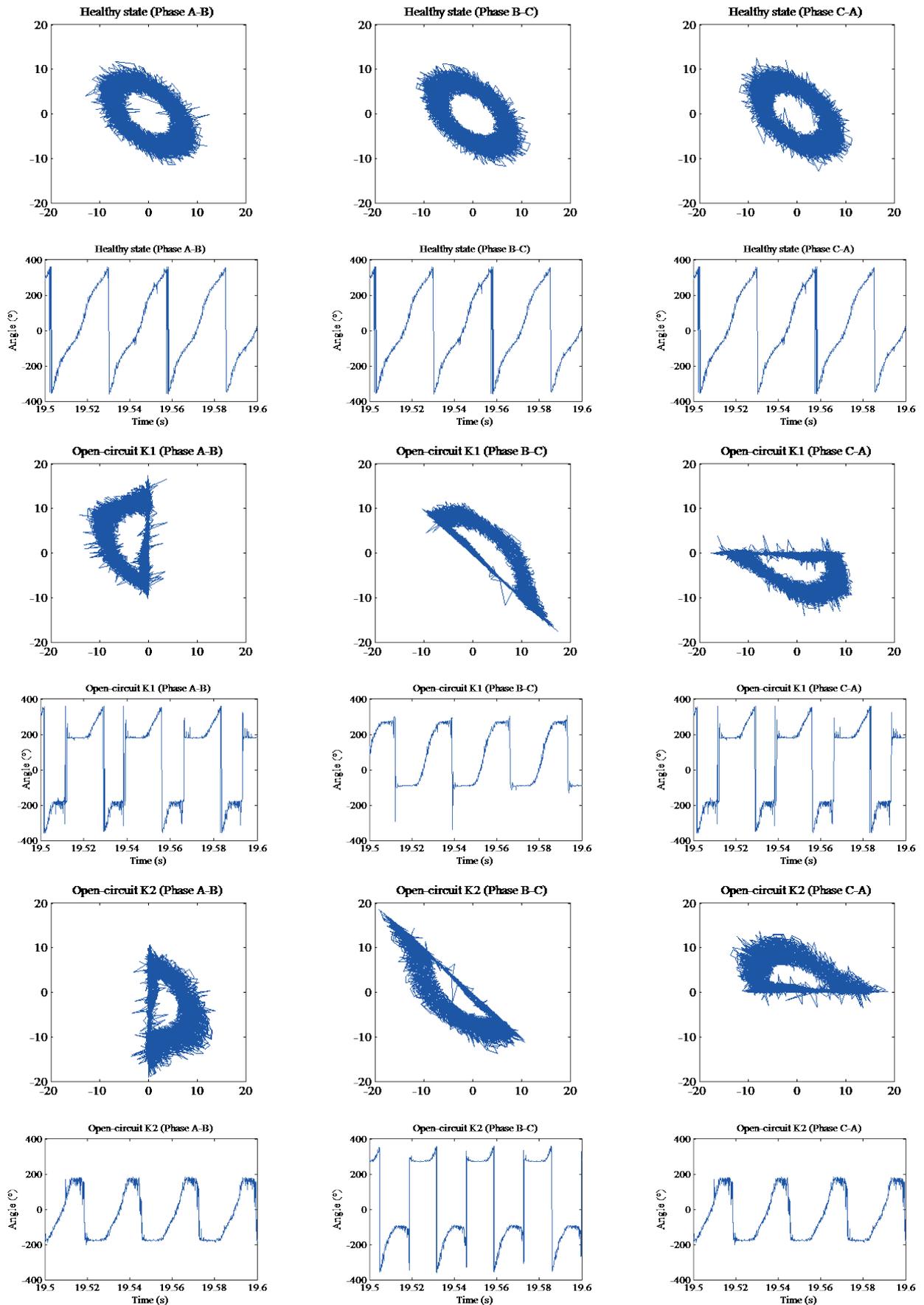
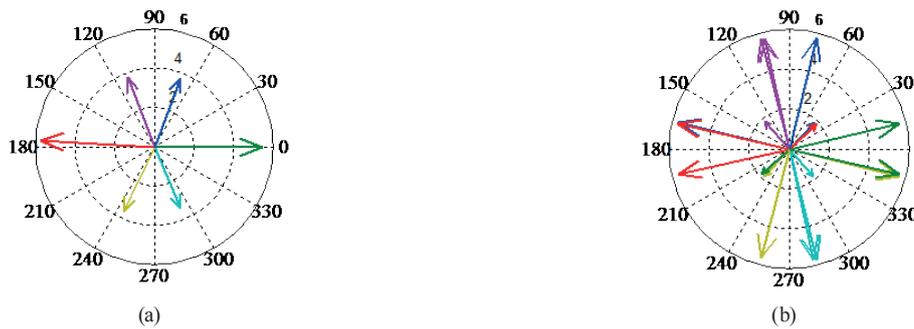


Fig. 11 Stator current trajectories and intervals fault angles  $\alpha$  for healthy and faulty inverter open-circuit  $K_1$  and its complimentary  $K_2$ .



**Fig. 12** Exact fault angles calculation of each approach based on the ANN. (a) Clark currents transform (Approach1)  
 (b) Three stator mean currents (Approach2)

**Table 4** Comparative study between proposed Approach1 and Approach2

Techniques	ANN structure	ANN execution time for output loop calculation (ms)	Open-circuit fault detection time (ms)	Number of calculating loops required for fault angle extraction
Clark currents transform (Approach1)	(3-15-4-1)	1.1829	5	6
Three stator currents (Approach2)	(3-15-4-3)	0.7528	2.5	3

time of 5 ms in comparison to the fast detection time of 2.5 ms obtained for Approach2. The reason is related to the number of calculating loops required for the computation of the extraction of the exact open-circuit fault angle in each approach as indicated in Table 4. From the information in Table 4, Approach1 indicates a slow.

### 6 Conclusions

The present paper addresses a performance comparative study of two proposed new approaches for the diagnosis of a two-level three-phase voltage inverter feeding an induction motor controlled by an indirect vector control strategy. The characteristics of the used ANN play a vital role for detecting and locating the IGBT switch open-circuit fault in both proposed approaches with simple calculations.

Several ANN tests of the healthy inverter and the faulty inverter are conducted. The experimental results obtained for the two diagnostic proposed approaches are

discussed and the characteristics of each approach are thoroughly illustrated. These characteristics are used to compare the identification response of the fault angles. The set of the ANN tests performed presents globally satisfactorily performances in the case of the open-circuit fault of each IGBT. It is to note that the ANN open-circuit fault identification of each approach is performed more than 30 times for information extraction.

As it can be deduced from the comparative Table 4, not only Approach2 can detect the inverter IGBT switch open-circuit fault with more reliability and ensured way but also with a faster detection time of 2.5 ms compared to Approach1 where the detection time is rather slow equals to 5 ms.

Finally to assess the effectiveness of both proposed approaches and validate the obtained results, experimental tests conducted in the LDEE laboratory by the diagnostic group are presented and discussed.

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