

Condition Monitoring of Induction Motor for Mechanical Unbalance Loading Fault Using Vibration Signature Analysis

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Abstract-Condition monitoring of induction motor have been important task in industries as well as area of research. Fault diagnosis of rotating electrical machinery has received intense research interest. Many researcher yet fail to monitor fault which are related to mechanical fault though mechanical stresses are most faults are occurring. Recently, many researchers are developing technique for the condition monitoring of mechanical faults. Such bearing fault, load unbalance condition, air gap eccentricity. Mechanical load Imbalance is considered as the most potential cause of static or dynamic eccentricities or bearing faults propagation. Based on FFT, Motor current signature analysis (MCSA) is the reference method for diagnosis of induction machines rotor fault. Vibration Signature Analysis (MVSA) was mainly investigated for limited critical rotor faults and exclusively for mechanical unbalancing load problems related. A diagnostic procedure taking induction motor as a machine in which the load fault is needed to be monitored. With the help of condition monitoring the outage and failure of motor can be decrease with reduce cost required for maintenance. As mechanical unbalanced loading are one widely occurring mechanical fault in induction motor, there is need to develop a vibration based technique which can be implanted for monitoring induction motor under fault condition

Keywords- *Induction motor, Mechanical fault, MVSA, vibration signature analysis, Mechanical Loading*

1. INTRODUCTION

Condition monitoring of electrical machines has become a very important technology in the field of electrical systems maintenance, functions of failure prediction, fault identification, and dynamic reliability estimation. They are very robust and highly reliable machines however, they may be subjected to different types of faults. Failure of such Induction motor may cause plant shutdown, personal injuries and waste of raw material [1]. The main reason for the motor faults is mechanical and electrical stresses. Mechanical

stresses are caused by overloads and abrupt load changes, which may cause bearing faults and rotor bar breakage. The electrical stresses may produce stator winding short circuits and result in a complete motor failure. Stator winding faults including: turn to turn, coil to coil, open circuit, phase to phase, or coil to ground, generally initiated by high-resistance connections. Rotor electrical faults which include rotor open phase, rotor unbalance due to short circuits or high-resistance connections for wound rotor machines, or rotor magnet demagnetization that can be caused by an over current on the stator windings [4] [5].

Rotor mechanical faults such as broken bar(s) or cracked end-ring for squirrel-cage machines, cracked rotor magnet, bearing damage, static/dynamic eccentricity, and misalignment etc. During the last few years there has been a considerable amount of research into the development of new condition monitoring techniques for induction motors and drives, overcoming the drawbacks of traditional methods [2] [3].

Condition monitoring of induction motor are of great importance in the production lines. Condition monitoring means continuous evaluation of the health of the motor throughout its service life. There are many condition monitoring methods, including vibration monitoring, thermal monitoring, chemical monitoring, current monitoring techniques are usually applied to detect the various types of induction motor fault. In fact, correct diagnosis and early detection of faults result in fast unscheduled maintenance and short downtime for the process under consideration. They also avoid harmful, sometimes devastating consequences and reduce financial loss. Accurate measurements setup and methods are required [8] [9].

2. MVSA TECHNIQUE FOR FAULT DETECTION

When an induction motor is delivering a power output and torque to supply a given demand by the mechanical load under steady state conditions, it is assumed that the speed is constant for a given demand. The effect of changing the load of the

motor on detecting these mechanical conditions. The induction motor therefore acts like a transducer which responds to mechanical disturbances in the drive system. Loading an induction machine typically affects the stator current in two ways. The first is that it makes the motor runs stiffer. This dampens the overall motor vibration and the lower components of the stator current frequency spectrum. The second effect is that changing the load level is directly related to changing the slip. This causes the stator current frequency components associated with mechanical fault conditions to be shifted because these components are slip dependent. These two effects may influence the accuracy of indicating fault severity or the ability to detect the frequency harmonics associated with mechanical fault conditions [19].

Moreover, mechanical resonance may occur when changing the load level if the resulting rotor speed resonates with the machine or the machine mechanical system.

Mechanical resonance may cause the frequency components input and output increase drastically, and therefore, may be incorrectly diagnosed as a fault condition. In this, the effects of changing the load level on detecting mechanical fault conditions are to be examined. Therefore, it is important to validate that mechanical unbalances at these load levels are detectable. Applications that operate under varying load conditions as well as variable speeds, such as an elevator are not considered. In some applications such as aircrafts, the reliability of gears may be critical in safeguarding human lives. For this reason, the detection of load faults (especially related to gears) has been an important research area in mechanical engineering for some time. Motors are often coupled to mechanical loads and gears. Several faults can occur in this mechanical arrangement. Mechanical unbalance leads to a small displacement (vibration) that can be monitored by a suitable transducer (accelerometer) delivering a signal oscillating at rotational frequency. Mechanical unbalance loading affects the dynamics of the system revolving part. This unbalance appears primarily by the creation of an additional undesirable torque which is added to the torque imposed by the load. In addition, the total inertia of the revolving part is also modified and creates a non-uniform distribution of mass which, when the system rotates, generates a centrifugal force tending to move the rotor and creates, consequently, a dynamic eccentricity.

For low levels of mechanical unbalance, this effect on the machine eccentricity can be neglected. The load has been simulated by a magnetic brake which is stiffly coupled to the induction machine shaft and, via its control unit, allows user to apply different load torque levels and acquire speed and torque signals. This type of fault occurs in motor when there is unbalance loading as if the load is not divided equally at 120 degrees symmetrically on the axis of rotor. Because of initial manufacture and ageing phenomenon, rotating machines present an inherent mechanical disequilibrium. When a small mechanical unbalance fault affects the driving system part ensured by an induction machine, an additional undesirable torque will be superposed to the torque imposed by the load. This supplementary torque is a time varying signal according to rotor position. This time torque variation will be reflected

on stator and rotor currents amplitudes by modulation behavior at rotational frequency. Stator current spectrum will contain sideband harmonics that are characteristic of mechanical unbalance defect. Moreover, flux beaming around machine body, which results of rotor and stator currents variations, will be affected. In addition, the total inertia of the revolving part is also modified and creates a non-uniform distribution of mass which, when the system rotates, generates a centrifugal force tending to move the rotor axis in radial direction. A suitable transducer allows the measurement of vibration signal that can be a useful amount to detect the apparition of the considered defect.

3. TEST SETUP FOR UNBLANCED MECHANICAL LOADING

A. Experimental Setup

Mechanical load unbalance is investigated for 0.5 H.P. three phase induction motor. In order to emulate a realistic mechanical fault; a revolving mass m is fixed on a disk mounted on the motor shaft as presented in Fig. 1 (right). A 0-380 V is used as motor regulated supply. An accelerometer MPU6050 is used for the vibration measurement, mounted for measuring radial movement of the shaft in core motors as presented in Fig. 1 (left). An Arduino model ATmega328 as a signal conditioner is used. In this section, the detect ability of mechanical load unbalance using vibration signature analysis in frequency domain, is presented and discussed. A sampling rate of 3.2 kHz is adopted with a data acquisition window of 100 number of samples.

The sample from the Arduino is sampled using Matlab and analyzed sample are sampled.

The Arduino software version 1.6.9 is used in order to sample the signal.



Figure 1. Test bench details; (right on motor) positions of the accelerometer, (right) load unbalance introduced on the disc mounted on the motor.

3. RESULTS

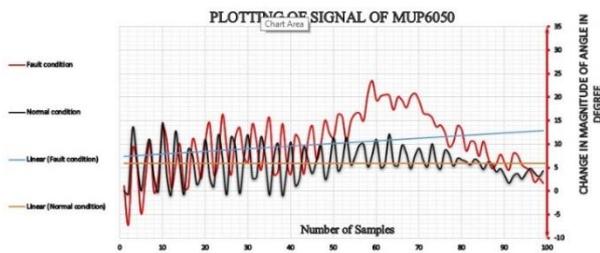


Figure 2. Radial vibration spectra at 1) load and 2) unbalanced condition for load of 0.75 kg with disc

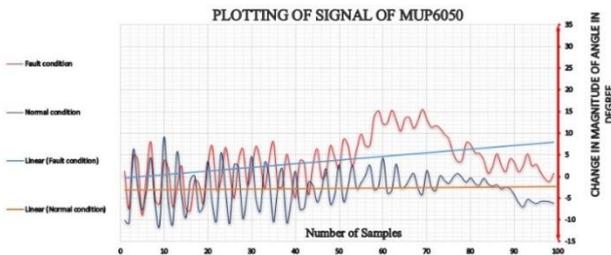


Figure 3. Radial vibration spectra at 1) load and 2) unbalanced condition 0.5 kg with disc

The proposed approach was applied to the radial vibration signal. The above result shown in the figure 2 and figure 3 shows about the change in spectra at load condition and unbalanced load condition.

The spectra is also being linearized and a signal of both is showing the magnitude change in angle deflection of the vibration sensor.

The figure 2 suggests the result when the unbalanced load condition of weight measured is for 0.75 kg with weight of disc. The graph shows that deflection of this signal in terms of angle and suggests that a 13 degree angle deflection is seen with respect to the normal load condition. This shows for 0.5Hp motor shows a significant deflection in change of magnitude. The accelerometer gives the deflection in terms of G- gravity force of rotating object. For 1 degree deflection it corresponds to 2.5g, thereby showing significant change in the force for 13 degree deflection.

The figure 3 suggests the result when the unbalanced load condition of weight measured is for 0.5kg with weight of disc. The graph shows the vibration deflection in magnitude. For both the condition of load and unbalanced load the signal is sampled and analysed. The deflection when compared to the 0.75kg weight of unbalanced load the vibration deflection is significantly less. For the 0.5 kg the angle deflection is of 10 degree in magnitude. The linear value shows that with lesser load on the induction motor for unbalanced condition the magnitude also decreases and vice versa.

As the motor is more loaded the unbalanced force reaction increases and slight deflection can also be noted.

5. CONCLUSION

This dissertation describes the practical design and analysis of fault detection for mechanical unbalanced load. The concept of using the vibration sensor for mechanical fault was explained. A system is designed in order to analyse the mechanical unbalanced load fault. It has been observed that the magnitude of the vibration in terms of angle increases when an induction motor system is connected to the unbalanced load.

When the fault condition is taken into consideration a sustainable change is found in the vibration of induction motor. This may result in the wear and tear of motor and thereby increase the cost of maintenance. The change in vibration was effectively observed and this proves to be a viable tool for analysis for condition monitoring of machine.

Future research could be performed in detection by using more sensitive sensor technology of more complex systems. Additionally, other faults such as electrical fault detection and current signature analysis can be implemented. This will result in more accurate results for fault detection. A better signal conditioner can be used for a better spectrum. Wireless contact type sensor can be used for better flexibility. A MATLAB simulation comparing the result of vibration and current signature analysis together will improve the accuracy for sensitive faults.

6. REFERENCES

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