

An efficient Detection Algorithm for CT Saturation using linear predictive coding

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Abstract - This paper proposes an algorithm for CT saturation by behavior of distorted secondary current. The purpose of current transformer is to convert the primary current in the secondary circuit in a most accurate way. However, during fault conditions CT gets saturated. Some reasons due to current transformer (CT) can saturate like: attempting to mal operation of CT, heavy burden apply on the secondary side or due to transient DC offset fault current. Fortunately, due to the ever changing nature of the alternating current, even if the CT is pushed into saturation, in each cycle of the waveform, there are times during which magnetic core comes out of saturation. During these times the transformation of CT is correct but as soon as the magnetic core enters in to deeper saturation the current transformer will start exhibiting enormous errors. Thus, the key to correct these errors is to detect the instant when the saturation sets in and the instant when saturation ends. The idea of linear predictive coding (an autoregressive model) is to express the nth sample of signal as a sum of the past K known weighted samples. When analyzing disturbance signals the optimal prediction coefficients will change for each system state (e. g. pre-fault, fault and post fault) and therefore must be estimated continuously. The method for CT saturation detection that has been simulated is, CT saturation detection using linear predictive coding, in this method can successfully detect the onset of CT saturation. The test results clearly indicate that the proposed algorithm successfully detects the interval of saturation

Keywords - Current Transformer Saturation, linear predictive method.

I. INTRODUCTION

Current transformers secondary current distorted due to mal operation of CT, the current transformer is used for transform the primary current in secondary circuit, CT play a vital role in any protective system in transmission line. The healthy operation of the relay entirely depends upon the of the CT to transform the fault current waveforms. In a normal condition, the CT would operate good degree of accuracy and However, in some situation CTs facing problems. due of this CTs gets saturate, during the fault condition i.e. the hole protective system inflowing fault current. Thus, researchers are always finding new technique better methods of mitigating the effect of CT saturation. If we are in mitigating these problems than it can be cost saving due to CT saturation problem. In electrical transmission systems, due to current transformer saturation relays behave as in abnormal condition. In this paper, investigates the transient behavior of current transformer, these problems may cause severe mal-operation of protection to various plants thus causing damages the critical electrical equipment. To address this problem, the IEEE guide for the application current transformer (IEEE standard C37.110 and C57.13-1993) contains steps to avoid the effects of AC and DC current transformer saturation. Unfortunately, many of these steps result in impractically large current transformers, which are economically not acceptable. These papers implement the CT saturation detection using linier predictive coding method.

II. METHODS OF MITIGATION OF CT SATURATION

Some of the methods which can be used for mitigate CT saturation are as follows

1. Construction of CT according to IEEE standards specification to avoid Saturation
2. Replacement of conventional CT by optical current sensor

III. SIMULATION CIRCUIT

Current Transformer Saturation

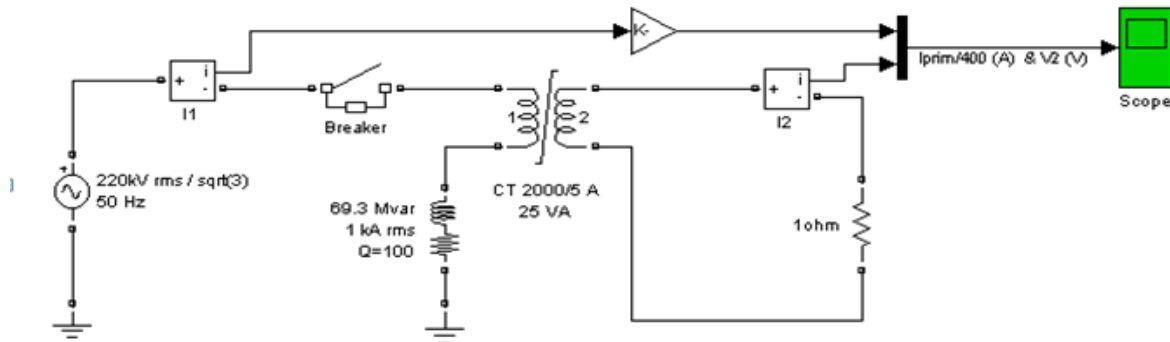


Fig:1 Current Transformer saturation simulation circuit

Circuit description

A current transformer (CT) is used to measure current in a shunt inductor connected on a 220 kV, 50 Hz network. The CT is rated 2000 A / 5 A, 25 VA. The primary winding which consists of a single turn passing through the CT toroidal core is connected in series with the shunt inductor rated 69.3Mvar,69.3kv.The secondary winding consisting of $1 \times 2000/5 = 400$ turns is short circuited through a 1.0 ohm load resistance.

IV. EFFECT OF TRANSIENT BEHAVIOR OF CT's ITS SATURATION

CT performance is affected significantly by the dc component of the ac current. When a current change occurs in the primary ac system, one or more of the three-phase currents may contain some dc offset [1]. This dc results from the necessity to satisfy two conflicting requirements that may occur: (1) in a highly inductive network, the current wave must be near maximum when the voltage is at or near zero and (2) the actual current at the time of the change, which is determined by the prior networks conditions. During asymmetrical faults, the fault current can be represented by two parts, namely the dc and ac components follows:

$$I_{Fault} = I_{dc} + I_{ac} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

The total fault current can be rewritten as: $I_{Fault} = I_f e^{-\left(\frac{R}{L}t\right)} - \cos(\omega t) \dots\dots\dots (2)$

Below Figure shows the shaded volt-time area produced by asymmetrical fault current. Here I_f is the magnitude of the fault current in the secondary, Z_b is the burden impedance, and L/R is the time constant of the primary fault circuit. The sine wave and exponential components of the wave are shown dashed for comparison. The sine wave and the exponential represent the asymmetrical fault in equation. The plot shows the change of burden voltage with the time. The volt-time area of the asymmetrical fault is increased compared to the normal sine wave and hence will affect the performance of the CT[1].

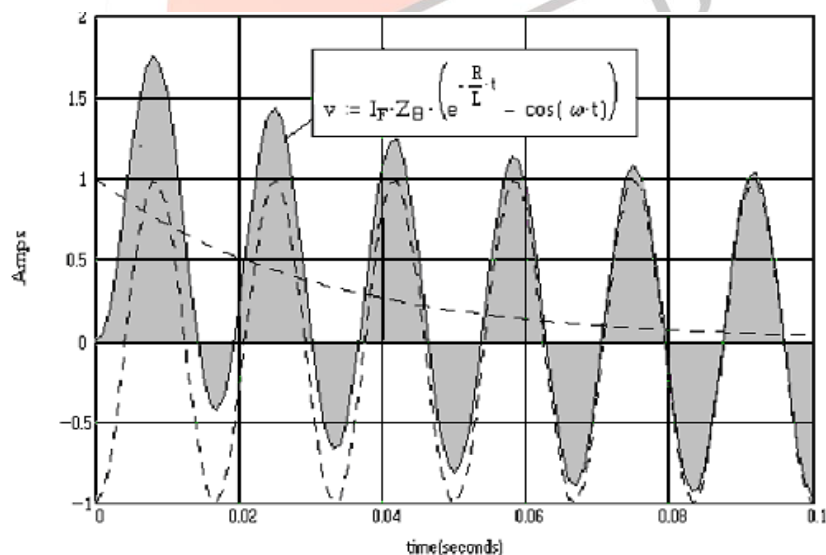


Fig:2 Fault current with AC and DC Components

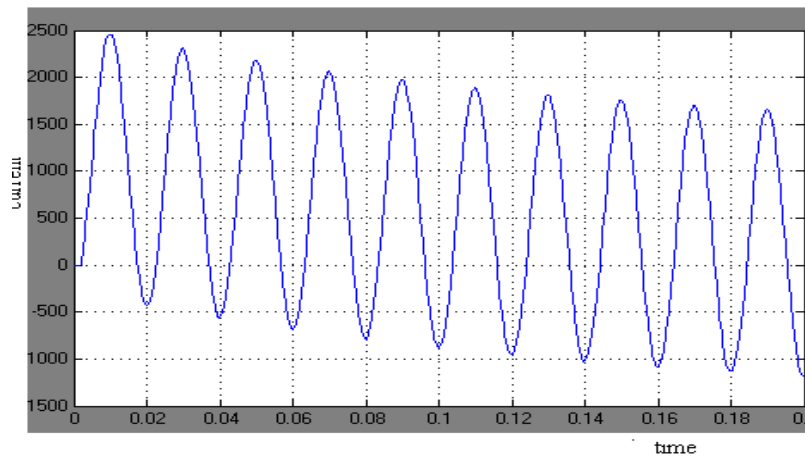


Fig: 3 Primary current due to fault Current with AC and DC components

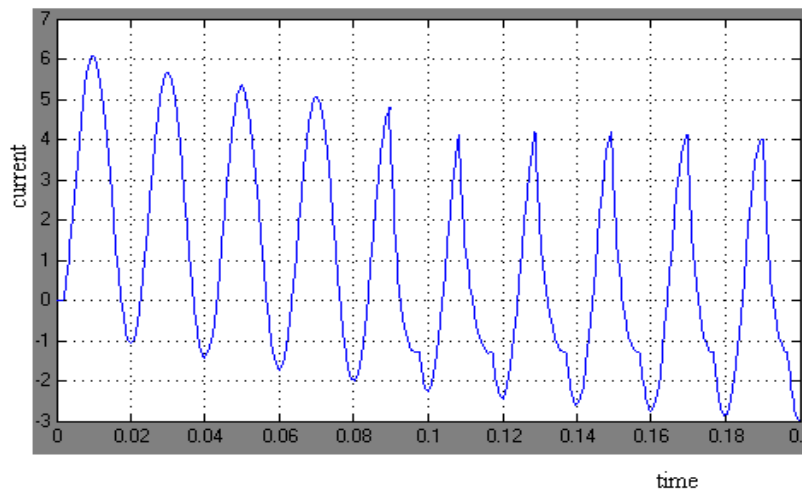


Fig:4 Secondary saturated current due to AC and DC Components

V. CT SATURATION DETECTION BY LINEAR PREDICTIVE CODING

In most protective relays, operating decisions are based on the RMS value of the fault current at the Secondary of the CT. If the signal supplied by the CT is distorted by saturation, the sensed RMS value will be much lower than the actual fault current, which may delay or even prevent tripping of the relay. This may lead to a loss of coordination with other relays in the system. Detecting the start and end of the saturation is an important step before correcting the secondary current, so that algorithm for correction will work only during saturation and by pass the secondary current when there is no saturation[2]. In this paper right approach are presented to detect the CT saturation, Method for detecting CT saturation is

CT saturation detection by linear predictive coding method

The idea of linear predictive coding (an autoregressive model) is to express the n th sample of signal as a sum of the past K known weighted samples.

$$\hat{x}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^K a_k x(n-k) \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

The prediction error ϵ_x can be expressed as

$$\epsilon_x(n) = x(n) - \hat{x}(n) \quad \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

The prediction coefficients a_k with $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ are calculated by solving a least square problem that minimizes with $a = [a_1, \dots, a_K]$.

$$\min_a f(a) = \sum_n \epsilon_x(n)^2 \quad \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

When analyzing disturbance signals the optimal prediction coefficients will change for each system state (e. g. pre-fault, fault and post fault) and therefore must be estimated continuously. This needs a lot of computation. In practice, it has been found that one set of estimated coefficients over the whole Signal $x(n)$ produces good results. When the system state changes the prediction error signal $\epsilon_x(n)$ contains impulses. The height of the impulse depends on the smoothness of the transition or discontinuity in the signal $x(n)$. For predicting current samples $X = i_s$ is a threshold value has to be defined to determine if an impulse in the error signal is caused by saturation

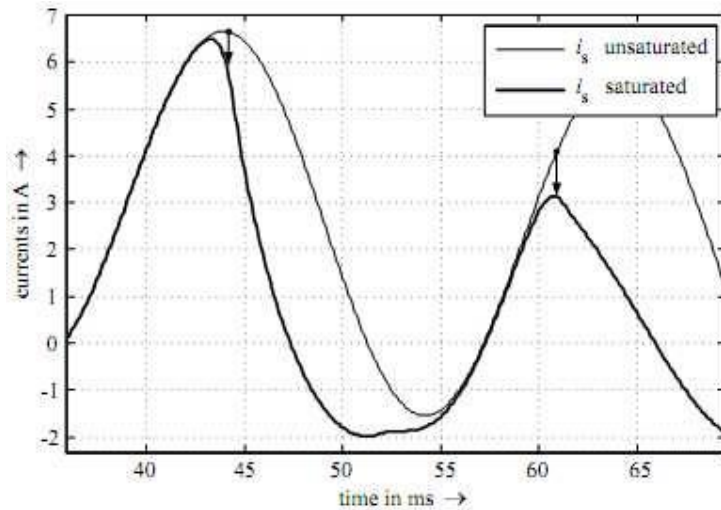


Fig 5 Differences at saturation occurrence

Assuming the DC component of a fault current is positive the error signal will always be negative each time saturation occurs (Above Fig.)[4].

$$\epsilon_x = i_s - \hat{i}_s \quad \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

To detect saturation occurrence precisely a model order of $K=6$ was chosen. Depending on the sign of the DC component either negative or positive error signals

$$\epsilon_{is} = \begin{cases} |i_s - \hat{i}_s| & \text{for } i_s - \hat{i}_s < 0 \wedge DC \text{ comp.} > 0 \\ |i_s - \hat{i}_s| & \text{for } i_s - \hat{i}_s > 0 \wedge DC \text{ comp.} < 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

are compared with the threshold value

$$\xi_\epsilon = 1.1 \hat{I}_{50Hz} \left(2 \sin \frac{\pi}{N}\right)^2 \quad \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

An impulse in ϵ_{is} is greater than the threshold value indicates an abrupt change in signal parameters i. e. saturation occurs. The advantage using this method is the higher number of considered samples K and therefore a higher robustness to noise [5].

VI. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

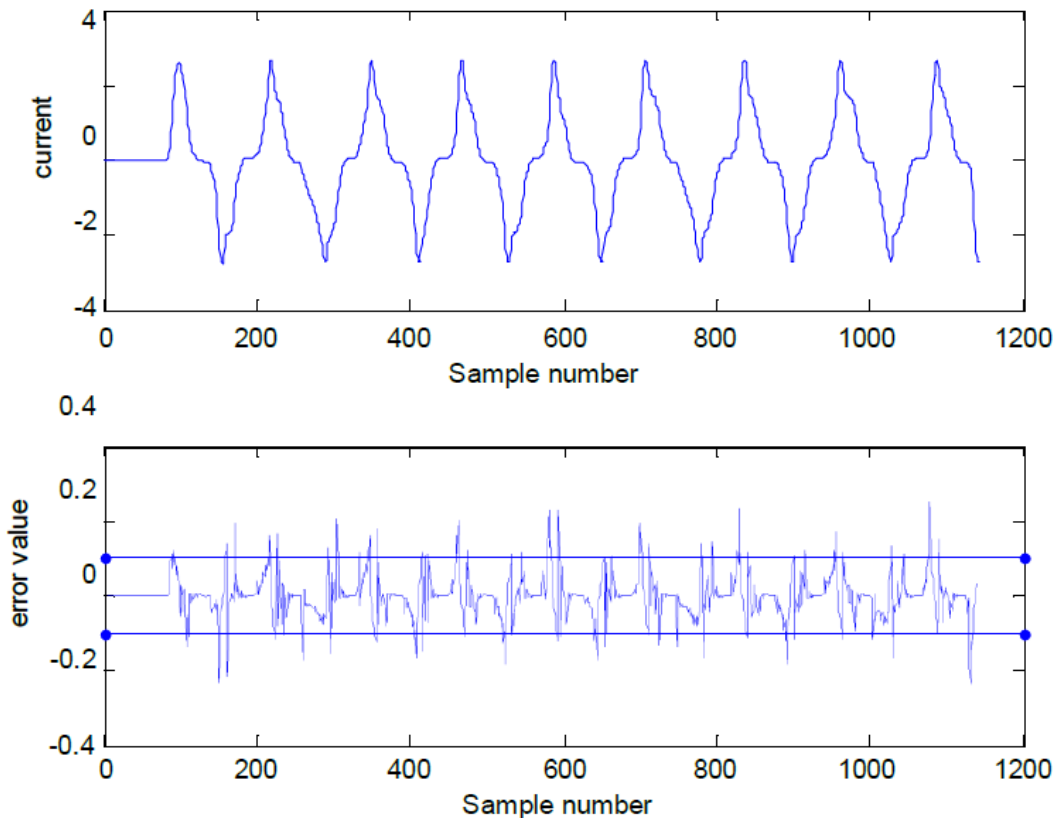


Fig: 6 a) current samples b) LPC error

A 2000:5 ratio CT simulated in MATLAB to get current samples. Samples are estimated using a third order forward predictor and compare with original samples. We are computing predictor coefficients, estimated samples an error. Now this error is plotted against samples. Larger error indicates CT saturation is more. Threshold for detecting CT saturation calculates as follows

$Th = 1.1 * I_{50} * [2 * \sin(\pi/N)]^2$ By Assuming $N = 64$ samples/cycle, $I_{50} = 10$ amp (Expected fault current on secondary side If $I_f = 4000$ A on primary side) $Th = 0.105$ The error threshold indicates the saturation. Threshold is indicated by two dark lines.

VII CONCLUSION

The current transformer model was implemented in MATLAB. This model is very suitable to simulate the saturation behavior of CT. This method simulated for detection of CT saturation is linear predictive coding. This method takes secondary current samples from CT model. Third order forward linear predictor used to estimate the samples. These estimated samples compare with the original samples used to find the error. Threshold value is computed and this value compare with error. If the error value is more than threshold indicates saturation.

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