

# Model-based Fault Diagnosis for Voltage Source Inverters

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Doctor of Philosophy

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Motivation
- Contributions
- Literature Review
- Voltage Space Pattern-based Fault Diagnosis
- Results
- Conclusion

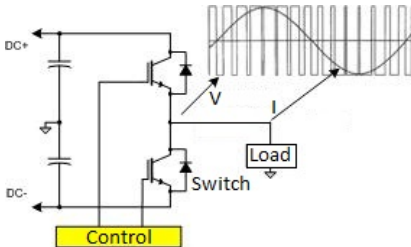


# Introduction

## Power Electronic Switches:



## Basic Structure of Voltage Source Inverters:



## Fault Diagnosis

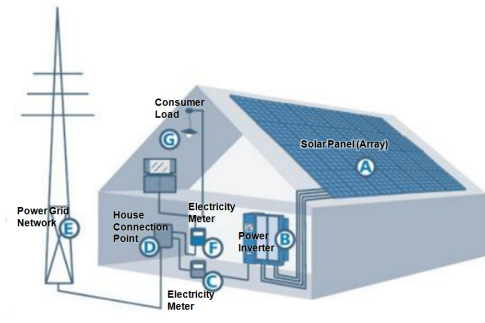
- **Fault Detection:**  
Is there any short-circuit or open-circuit fault in any of the switches?
- **Fault Isolation:**  
Where is the location of the faulty switch?

## Fault Tolerant Control

- How to protect the system in the presence of a faulty switch?
- How to reconfigure control signals in the faulty situation?

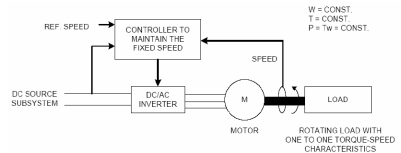
# Motivation

## Renewable electrical energy generation systems

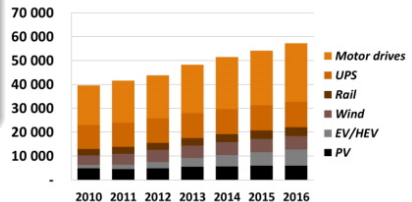


Fault diagnosis of power electronic switches is a bottle neck in growing new generation of solar systems based on micro inverters.

## AC motor drives



## Inverters market (in M\$)



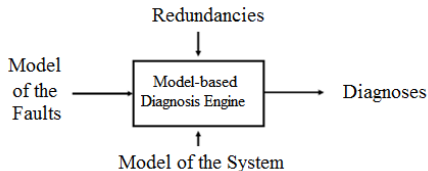
[www.powersystemsdesign.com]

# Contributions

- VSP-based FDI for diagnosis of short- and open-circuit switch faults in three-phase voltage source inverters (VSIs).
- Fault diagnosis for multi-level multi-phase inverters.
- Fault tolerant control for multi-level multi-phase inverters
- Design and implementation of an experimental set-up for fault simulation and on-line fault diagnosis
- Validation of the VSP-based FDI method by simulations and experiments
- Validation of the VSP-based FDI method for a PMSM motor-drive application

# Literature Review

## Model-based FDI

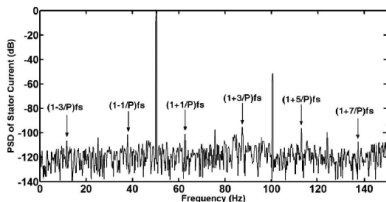


- 1 Modeling the system:**  
To describe the possible ways a certain system can behave in healthy and faulty situations.
- 2 Feature extraction:**  
To determine the fault signatures from the observations.
- 3 Fault isolation:**  
To map the features to the faults.

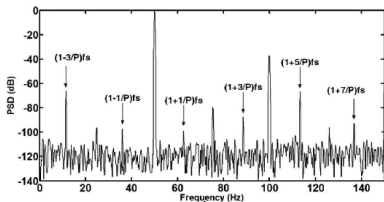
# Feature Extraction Techniques

## Fourier Transform

Normalised line-current spectra of a motor for healthy condition [1].



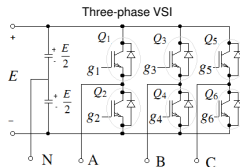
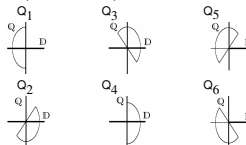
Normalised line-current spectra for a motor with short-circuit turn fault [1].



## Concordia Transform

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_D \\ i_Q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} i_C \\ i_B \\ i_C \end{bmatrix}$$

The Concordia patterns for an open-circuit fault in a three-phase VSI.



# Fault Detection and Isolation Techniques

## Fault Detection and Isolation Techniques:

- Limit checking
- Rule-based reasoning
- Neural Networks
- Bayesian Networks
- Qualitative Hybrid Bond Graph

## Challenges in Fault Diagnosis for Inverters:

- Hybrid nature of inverters
- Unknown Modes of Operation
- Fast speed of fault propagation
- Limitations in sensor placement

## Limitations:

- Expert systems need **training**; several runs of the system in the healthy and faulty condition is needed
- Access to the **internal signals** is needed
- The number of required **sensors** is proportional to the number of switches
- Robustness to the load effects
- Slow fault detection speed  
( $T_d \approx 20ms = 400 \times T_c$  for  $f_c = 20kHz, f_r = 50Hz$ )



# Voltage Space Pattern-based Fault Diagnosis I

## Modeling the VSI:

$$\mathbf{v}(t) := \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{D}(t) \quad (1)$$

Pole voltage signals:

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = [v_C(t) \quad v_B(t) \quad v_A(t)] \quad (2)$$

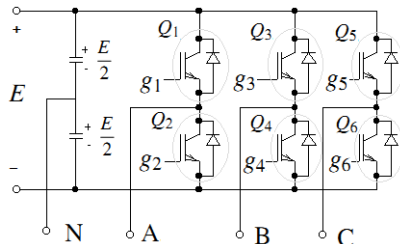
DC source value:

$$\mathbf{e} = [E_N \quad -E_N] \quad (3)$$

Dynamic model of the inverter:

$$\mathbf{D}(t) := \begin{bmatrix} d_1(t) & d_3(t) & d_5(t) \\ d_2(t) & d_4(t) & d_6(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$d_i(t) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } Q_i \text{ is on at time } t, \\ 0 & \text{if } Q_i \text{ is off at time } t. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$



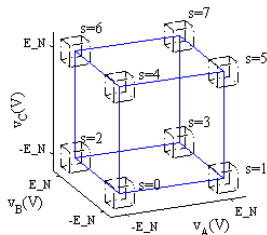
## Switching States:

$$s(t) := \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{b}, \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{b} := [4 \quad 2 \quad 1]^T, \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{u} := [1 \quad 0] \cdot \mathbf{D}(t). \quad (8)$$

# Voltage Space



Non-equal adjacent switching states:

$$X(t_0) = \langle s(t_0), s(t_1), s(t_2), \dots, s(t_n), \dots \rangle, \quad (9)$$

for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where

$$t_0 > t_1 > t_2 > \dots > t_n > \dots \quad (10)$$

and

$$s(t_n) \neq s(t_n^-). \quad (11)$$

Normal switching states

| $S$ | $\mathbf{D}_s$   | $\mathbf{v}_s$                 |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 0   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[-E_N \quad -E_N \quad -E_N]$ |
| 1   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[-E_N \quad -E_N \quad E_N]$  |
| 2   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[-E_N \quad E_N \quad -E_N]$  |
| 3   | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[-E_N \quad E_N \quad E_N]$   |
| 4   | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[E_N \quad -E_N \quad -E_N]$  |
| 5   | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[E_N \quad -E_N \quad E_N]$   |
| 6   | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[E_N \quad E_N \quad -E_N]$   |
| 7   | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $[E_N \quad E_N \quad E_N]$    |

# Fault Banned Zones

A set of states,  $\mathbf{F}_j$ , that are not achievable in the presence of a fault in  $Q_j$ ;

$$\mathbf{F}_j := \mathbf{Y}_j^u \cup \mathbf{Y}_j^l - \mathbf{Y}_j^u \cap \mathbf{Y}_j^l. \quad (12)$$

$$\mathbf{Y}_j^u = \{s(t) | d_j(t) = 1, \forall g_i(t) \in \{0, 1\}\}, \quad (13)$$

$$\mathbf{Y}_j^l = \{\tilde{s}(t) | d_j(t) = 1, \forall g_i(t) \in \{0, 1\}\}. \quad (14)$$

$$\mathbf{l} := [0 \ 1] \cdot \mathbf{D}(t), \quad (15)$$

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{l} = [1 \ 1 \ 1], \quad (16)$$

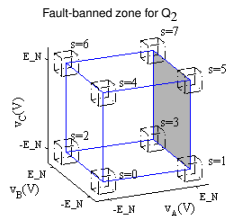
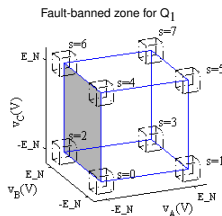
thus, from (6),

$$\tilde{s}(t) := ([1 \ 1 \ 1] - \mathbf{l}) \cdot \mathbf{b}. \quad (17)$$

In the no-fault situation,  $\tilde{s}(t) = s(t)$ .

## Fault-banned zones of short-circuit faults

| Short-circuit fault location ( $Q_j$ ) | Fault-banned zone ( $\mathbf{F}_j$ ) |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| $Q_1$                                  | $\{0, 2, 4, 6\}$                     |
| $Q_2$                                  | $\{1, 3, 5, 7\}$                     |
| $Q_3$                                  | $\{0, 1, 4, 5\}$                     |
| $Q_4$                                  | $\{2, 3, 6, 7\}$                     |
| $Q_5$                                  | $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$                     |
| $Q_6$                                  | $\{4, 5, 6, 7\}$                     |



## Properties of VSP for SPWM Inverter

PWM signal:

$$p_{\varphi}(t) := \begin{cases} 1, & r_{\varphi}(t) \geq c(t) \\ 0, & r_{\varphi}(t) < c(t) \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

Reference signal:

$$r_{\varphi}(t) := A_r \sin(2\pi F_r t + \phi_{\varphi}), \quad \text{for } \varphi = A, B, C$$

$A_r$ , and  $F_r$  are the amplitude and frequency of the reference signal. The

Displacement angle  $\phi = 0, -\frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}$ , for  $\varphi = A, B, C$ 

Carrier signal:

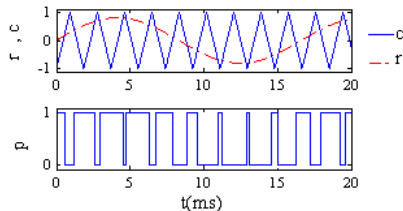
$$c(t) := \begin{cases} 4A_c(F_c t - k - \frac{1}{4}), & \text{if } kT_c \leq t < (k + \frac{1}{2})T_c \\ -4A_c(F_c t - k - \frac{3}{4}), & \text{if } (k + \frac{1}{2})T_c \leq t < (k + 1)T_c \end{cases} \quad k = \lfloor \frac{t}{T_c} \rfloor.$$

Frequency modulation ratio:

$$N := \frac{F_c}{F_r} = \frac{T_r}{T_c} = 3m_1, \quad m_1 \in \mathbb{N}^+$$

Modulation index:

$$M := \frac{A_r}{A_c} \quad 0 < M < 1 \quad (19)$$



- 1 The switching state  $s$  changes whenever one of the PWM signals of a phase leg varies;
- 2 The state transitions occur at the edges of the cube rather than its diagonals;
- 3 The state transitions occur at different time instances within one carrier period.
- 4 For a healthy inverter, six transitions occur within one carrier period.

# Procedure of VSP-based FDI

## 1 Monitoring the pole voltages:

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = [v_C(t), v_B(t), v_A(t)] \quad (20)$$

## 2 Extracting switching states:

$$\mathbf{H}_s =: \{\mathbf{h}_s | \forall 1 - \varepsilon_m \leq \varepsilon_\phi < 1 + \varepsilon_m\} \quad (21)$$

$$\mathbf{h}_s = \mathbf{v}_s \cdot \mathbf{diag}(\varepsilon_C, \varepsilon_B, \varepsilon_A), \quad (22)$$

$$s(t) := \begin{cases} \kappa, & \text{if } \mathbf{v}(t) \in \mathbf{H}_\kappa \\ s(t^-) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

## 3 Comparison of seven non-equal adjacent switching states with the fault-banned sets.

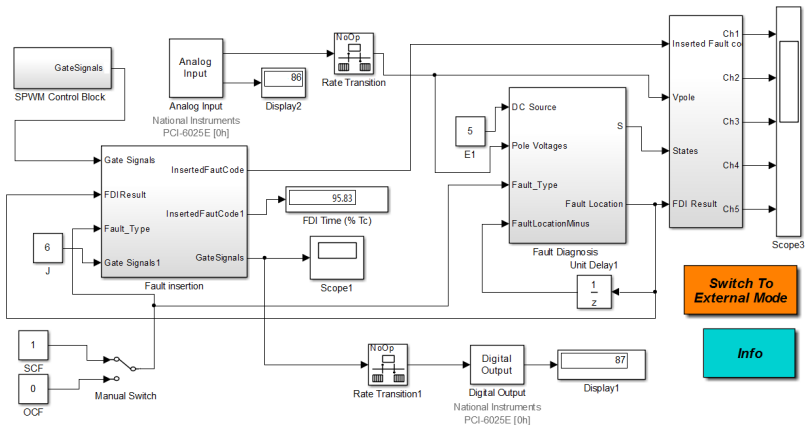
$$W(t_e) = \langle x_{\lambda-2}, x_{\lambda-1}, \dots, x_{\lambda+3} \rangle \quad (24)$$

- If the phase voltages are monitored for a period of  $T_c$ , the value of all phase voltages will definitely change from one level to another one. Therefore, the VSP will not remain inside one face of the cubic pattern for  $t_w = t_0 - T_c$ .
- If none of the monitored states was a subset of  $F_j$ ,  $Q_j$  is diagnosed as the faulty switch, i.e., if

$$W(t_e) \cap F_j = \emptyset \quad (25)$$

then  $Q_j$  is isolated as the faulty switch.

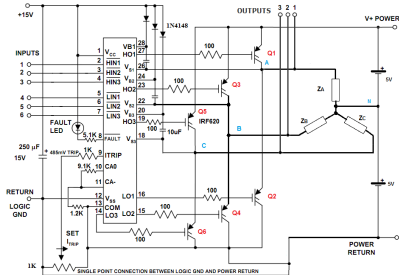
# Fault simulator set-up



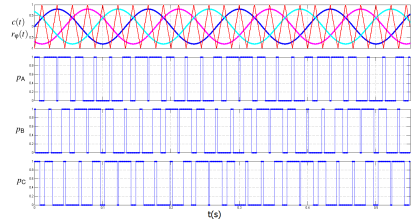
Hardware-In-Loop implementation in MATLAB Simulink using National Instrument Input/Output Card.

# Experimental set-up

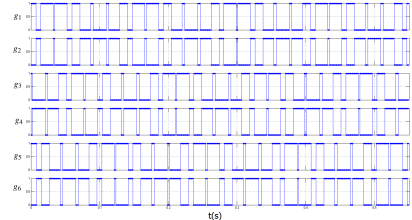
## Schematic of the implemented three-phase two-level inverter with IR2130 driver



## SPWM control signals:



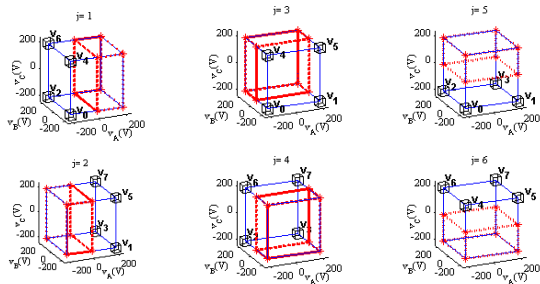
## Gate control signals:



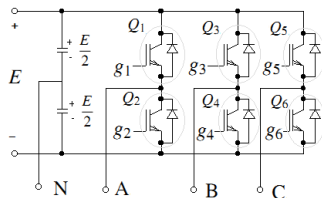




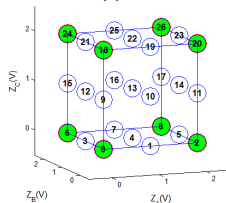
# Fault isolation results for short-circuit faults



| Fault location ( $Q_j$ ) | Diagnosis time (% $T_c$ ) |                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
|                          | Primary approach          | Modified approach |
| $Q_1$                    | 70.83                     | 60.42             |
| $Q_2$                    | 158.33                    | 95.83             |
| $Q_3$                    | 106.25                    | 95.83             |
| $Q_4$                    | 131.25                    | 95.83             |
| $Q_5$                    | 70.83                     | 70.83             |
| $Q_6$                    | 131.25                    | 95.83             |
| Average FDI time         | 111.42                    | 85.76             |



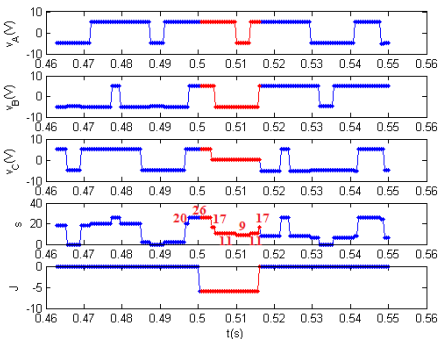
Modified approach with 27 states:



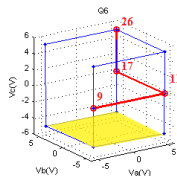
# Fault isolation results for open-circuit faults

## Open-circuit fault in $Q_6$

- $Q_6$  is open-circuited at  $t_f = 0.5s$
- The faulty situation is indicate by  $v_C \approx 0$
- $W = \{20, 26, 17, 11, 9, 11, 17\}$

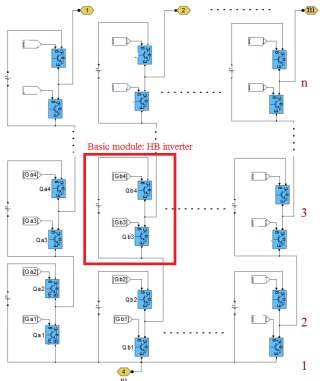


| Fault location ( $Q_j$ ) | Diagnosis time for OCF (% $T_c$ ) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| $Q_1$                    | 95.83                             |
| $Q_2$                    | 60.42                             |
| $Q_3$                    | 95.83                             |
| $Q_4$                    | 95.83                             |
| $Q_5$                    | 95.83                             |
| $Q_6$                    | 70.83                             |
| Average FDI time         | 70.83                             |



# Fault Diagnosis for Multi-Level Inverters

## Schematic of a 3-phase 4-level HB inverter



## Modeling the $n$ -level $m$ -phase inverter:

In each phase leg,  $N = n - 1$  HB inverter and  $q = 2N$  switches exist.

The voltage level of phase  $\phi$  at time  $t$ :

$$L_{\phi}(t) = \frac{v_{\phi}}{E} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}_N \cdot \mathbf{G}^{\phi}, \quad (26)$$

where

$$\mathbf{G}^{\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} G_2^{\phi}(t) & G_4^{\phi}(t) & \dots & G_{2N}^{\phi}(t) \end{bmatrix}^T. \quad (27)$$

The operating mode of the system at time  $t$ :

$$\mathbf{M}^{\phi}(t) := \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{G}^{\phi}, \quad (28)$$

where

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 2^0 & 2^1 & 2^2 & \dots & 2^{N-1} \end{bmatrix}_N. \quad (29)$$

# Control of the $n$ -level $m$ -phase Inverter I

The control block generates  $N$  PWM pulses  $p_{\phi 1}(t), p_{\phi 2}(t), \dots, p_{\phi N}(t)$ , by comparing the reference modulating signal,  $r_{\phi}(t)$ , to  $N$  triangular carrier waveforms  $c_1(t), c_2(t), \dots, c_N(t)$ . For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , and  $\phi = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$ ,

$$p_{\phi i}(t) := \begin{cases} 1, & r_{\phi}(t) \geq c_i(t) \\ 0, & r_{\phi}(t) < c_i(t) \end{cases}, \quad (30)$$

where,

$$r_{\phi}(t) := A_r \sin(2\pi F_r t + \phi_{\phi}) \quad (31)$$

The displacement angle between reference and carrier signals,  $\phi_{\phi}$ , is determined by (32),

$$\phi_{\phi} = (\phi - 1) \frac{2\pi}{m}. \quad (32)$$

The carrier signals,  $c_i(t)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , is defined as

$$c_i(t) = \frac{c(t) + (n-2i)}{N}.$$

$$c(t) := \begin{cases} 4A_c(F_c t - k - \frac{1}{4}), & \text{if } kT_c \leq t < (k + \frac{1}{2})T_c \\ -4A_c(F_c t - k - \frac{3}{4}), & \text{if } (k + \frac{1}{2})T_c \leq t < (k+1)T_c \end{cases}$$

$$\text{where } k = \lfloor \frac{t}{T_c} \rfloor. \quad (33)$$

Based on the PWM signals, the level of the pole voltage is determined,  $H(t) = \mathbf{H}(1, h)$ , where

$$h = 1 + \log_2(1 + \sum_{i=1}^N 2^{N-i} p_{\phi i}), \quad (34)$$

The switching modes are selected with two criteria:

- 1 All of the even voltage levels (**normal levels**) must be obtained with the selected modes.
- 2 The selected modes should result in different voltage levels under each fault scenario so that all of the switch faults be **isolable**.

All of the voltage levels that can be achieved for different modes of the system:

$$\mathbf{L}_j (1 \times 2^N) = \mathbf{T}_j (1 \times N) \cdot (\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{A}_j) (N \times 2^N), \quad (35)$$

where the columns of  $\mathbf{G}$  are the mode numbers in base 2, i.e., and  $\mathbf{G}(x, y)$  is the  $x^{th}$  digit of  $y$  in base 2, and  $\mathbf{A}_j(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = k \wedge j = 2k, \\ 0 & \text{Otherwise.} \end{cases}$

$$\mathbf{T}_j = [t_1 \quad t_2 \quad \dots \quad t_N],$$

$$t_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = k, \\ 2 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (36)$$

$$k = 1 + \lfloor \frac{j-1}{2} \rfloor, \quad (37)$$

and  $j \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, q\}$  is the location of the faulty switch.

The voltage levels that can be observed in mode  $M$  of the system under fault condition  $Q_j$  are determined as

$$O(M, j) := \mathbf{W}(1 + j, 1 + M), \quad (38)$$

where

$$\mathbf{W} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_0 \\ \mathbf{L}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}_j \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}_{q-j} \end{bmatrix}_{(q+1) \times 2^N}, \quad (39)$$

From  $\mathbf{W}_{(q+1) \times 2^N}$ , proper modes of operation can be chosen such that all of the normal states are achieved in the no-fault situation. There exist  $V$  selections where

$$V_{max} = \binom{2^N}{n} = \frac{2^N!}{(2^N - n)!(n!)}. \quad (40)$$

Proper modes of operation are shown in  $\mathbf{W}_v$  ( $(q+1) \times n$ ) for  $v = 1, 2, \dots, V$ , where

$$\forall y, z \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq y \leq n, 1 \leq z \leq 2^N | y = 1 + \frac{\mathbf{W}(1, z)}{2} \implies \mathbf{W}_v(x, y) = \mathbf{W}(x, z), \quad (41)$$

for  $x = 1, 2, \dots, q+1$ .

Several  $\mathbf{W}_v$  matrices may be achieved from the above condition. One of them should be chosen by selecting  $v$  such that isolability of all of the switch faults is obtained. To achieve this objective, an identification vector  $\mathbf{D}_v$ , is assigned to  $\mathbf{W}_v$ , i.e.,

$$\mathbf{D}_v(x) = \sum_{h=1}^n 2 \mathbf{W}_v(x, h). \quad (42)$$

If the members of  $\mathbf{D}_v$  are unique, all of the switch faults are isolable using selected  $v$ . In this case, the operating modes are calculated by (43),

$$\mathbf{M}_v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{q+1} \cdot \mathbf{W}_v. \quad (43)$$

# Fault detection and Isolation for n-level inverters

For  $Z_\phi = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 2N$ ,

$$L_\phi(t) = \begin{cases} Z_\phi & \text{if } \leq |v_\phi(t) - (Z_\phi - N)E| \leq \varepsilon \\ L_\phi(t - T_s) & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (44)$$

If

$$L_\phi(t_d) = 2k - 1, \quad (45)$$

a fault in phase  $\phi$  is detected at  $t = t_d$ . The isolating modes of the system are applied:

$$M(t_d + w.T_s) = \mathbf{M}_V(1, w), \quad (46)$$

and the system's responses are collected in vector  $\mathbf{O}$  for  $w = 1, 2, \dots, n$  observations, where

$$\mathbf{O}(w) = L_\phi(t_d + w.T_s). \quad (47)$$

Then the collected voltage levels are compared to the rows of  $\mathbf{W}_V$ . If for  $y = 1, 2, \dots, n$   $\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{W}_V(j+1, y)$ , then  $Q_j$  of phase  $\phi$  is diagnosed as the faulty switch, i.e.,

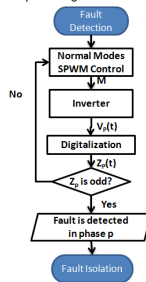
$$\forall y \in \mathbb{N}, 1 < y < n, \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{W}_V(i+1, y) \implies j = i. \quad (48)$$

This procedure needs maximum  $n$  observations of the system, thus, diagnosis time is

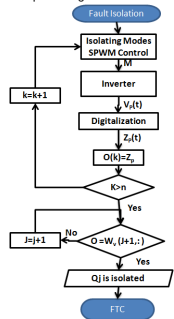
$$t_g = nT_s,$$

that is equal to a few microseconds.

Fault detection procedure for one phase leg:



Fault isolation procedure for one phase leg:



# Fault tolerant Control I

## 1 Protection:

$$\hat{G}_{2k}^{\Phi}(t) = 0, \quad \text{for } j = 2k - 1, \quad (49)$$

$$\hat{G}_{2k-1}^{\Phi}(t) = 0, \quad \text{for } j = 2k. \quad (50)$$

## 2 Reducing total harmonic distortion (THD):

$$THD = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{\alpha=2} I_{\alpha}^2}}{I_{rms}}. \quad (51)$$

$$1 \leq y \leq 2^{N-1}, 0 \leq i \leq N : \mathbf{W}(j+1, y) = 2i \implies j\hat{\mathbf{M}}(x) = y-1, \quad (52)$$

## 3 Balancing the faulty Inverter:

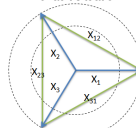
$$|\hat{X}_1(t) - \hat{X}_2(t)| = |\hat{X}_1(t) - \hat{X}_3(t)|, \quad (53)$$

$$|\hat{X}_1(t) - \hat{X}_2(t)| = |\hat{X}_2(t) - \hat{X}_3(t)|, \quad (54)$$

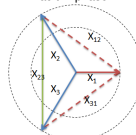
$$|\hat{X}_1(t) - \hat{X}_3(t)| = |\hat{X}_2(t) - \hat{X}_3(t)|. \quad (55)$$

Phasor diagrams of the three-phase 4-level inverter for different situations:

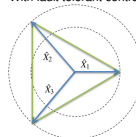
No-fault situation



Fault in phase 1

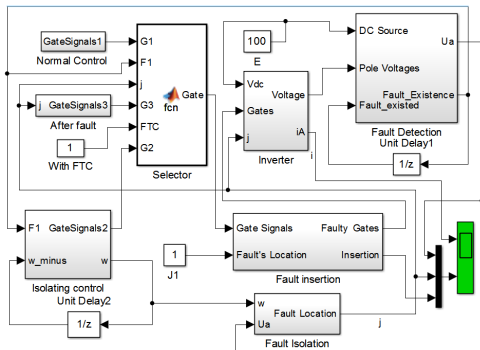


With fault tolerant control

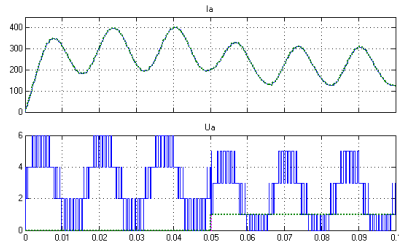


# Fault tolerant Control II

## Integrated Fault detection, Fault Isolation, and Fault Tolerant Control for Multi-level Voltage Source Inverter

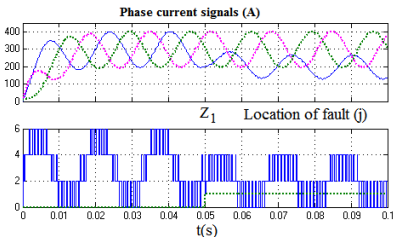


Fault in  $Q_1$ :



Time offset: 0

With Fault tolerant Control:





# Conclusion

- VSP-based FDI method was developed for detection and isolation of the short- and open-circuit switch faults in the Voltage source inverters.
- This FDI method is the fastest one in the field
- The FDI method is robust to the load side effects and is applicable to a wide range of semiconductor switches
- VSP-based FDI was successfully extended to solve the FDI problem of the multi-level inverters.
- The number of required FDI sensors was successfully reduced to only one sensor per phase leg.
- The FDI method was successfully validated through mathematical proofs, simulations, and online experiments

# Recommendations for Further Research

- VSP-based FDI method for vector-space modulated inverters
- Multiple fault detection with VSP
- VSP for diagnosis of incipient faults, aging, and degradation of semiconductor switches and diodes
- VSP for the prognosis of mechaeelectronic systems
- Diagnosis of load side faults, such as motor windings
- Integrated fault diagnosis and tolerant motor drive lcs

**Thanks For Your Attention!**

# References



B. Mahdi Ebrahimi and J. Faiz, "Feature extraction for short-circuit fault detection in permanent-magnet synchronous motors using stator-current monitoring," *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.*, vol. 25, pp. 2673–2682, Oct. 2010.