Wavelet and ANN Based Relaying for Power Transformer Protection

1S. Sudha and 2A. Ebenezer Jeyakumar
1Government College of Technology, Coimbatore-641 013, India
2Government College of Engineering, Salem-636 011, India

Abstract: This paper presents an efficient wavelet and neural network (WNN) based algorithm for distinguishing magnetizing inrush currents from internal fault currents in three phase power transformers. The wavelet transform is applied first to decompose the current signals of the power transformer into a series of detailed wavelet components. The values of the detailed coefficients obtained can accurately discriminate between an internal fault and magnetizing inrush currents in power transformers. The detailed coefficients are further used to train an Artificial Neural Network (ANN). The trained ANN clearly distinguishes an internal fault current from magnetizing inrush current. A typical 750 MVA, 27/420KV, Δ/Y power transformer connected between a 27KV source at the sending end and a 420KV transmission line connected to an infinite bus power system at the receiving end were simulated using PSCAD/EMTDC software. The generated data were used by the MATLAB software to test the performance of the proposed technique. The simulation results obtained show that the new algorithm is more reliable and accurate. It provides a high operating sensitivity for internal faults and remains stable for inrush currents of the power transformers.

Key Words: Power Transformer, Differential Protection, Wavelet Transform, Artificial Neural Network.

INTRODUCTION

Power transformer is one of the most essential elements in the power system. Power transformer functions as a node to connect two different voltage levels. Therefore, the continuity of the transformer operation is of vital importance in maintaining the reliability of power system. Any unscheduled maintenance, especially replacement of faulty transformer is very expensive and time consuming. In order to detect faults, high speed, highly sensitive and reliable protective relays are required.

For this purpose, differential protection has been employed as the primary protection for most of the power transformers. Differential protection is based on the fact that any fault within an electrical equipment would cause the current entering it, to be different from that leaving it. Thus, we can compare the two currents either in magnitude or in phase or both and issue a trip output if the difference exceeds a predetermined set value. This method is very attractive when both the ends of the apparatus are physically near each other.

A differential scheme is supposed to respond only to internal faults and restrain from tripping on inrush currents and external faults. The differential current is small for external and normal operating conditions. The differential current becomes significant for internal faults, the relay operates if the difference exceeds a predetermined set value.

When an unloaded transformer is energized, the primary windings draw large magnetizing inrush current from the power system. As this current flows only on the primary side of the transformer, it looks like an internal fault to the differential scheme and ends up as spill current and the relay maloperates. Distinguishing an inrush current from an internal fault current is still a challenging Power Transformer Protection problem. The inrush waveform is rich in harmonics whereas the internal fault consists of the fundamental and small amount of second harmonics. Conventional transformer protection schemes use second harmonic component as the discriminator factor between an inrush and internal fault current [1]. The main drawback of this approach is during CT saturation, the second harmonic component may also be generated during internal faults and the new low-loss amorphous materials in modern Power transformers may produce low second harmonic content in inrush current [2].

A number of micro processor based algorithms have been suggested in the past [3, 4]. Fuzzy logic techniques have been implemented for reliable protection [5, 6]. Artificial Neural networks have been
applied to single phase power transformer protection to
distinguish internal faults from magnetizing inrush
currents \cite{7, 8}. However the above techniques are based
on either time or frequency domain signal and not both
time and frequency features of the signal.

The wavelet transform is a new and powerful tool
which can extract information from the transient signals
simultaneously in both the time and frequency domains
unlike Fourier Transform which can only give the
information in the frequency domain. Wavelet
transforms have been extensively used for analyzing the
transient phenomena in a Power transformer for
distinguishing internal fault currents from inrush
currents \cite{9-10}.

Wavelet transform combined with Artificial Neural
Network (ANN) have been implemented for this
purpose \cite{11-13}.

This paper proposes a new wavelet and ANN based
three phase transformer protection algorithm to
distinguish inrush currents from internal fault currents
in three phase power transformers. The proposed
algorithm extracts fault and inrush generated transient
signals using Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT). The
signals are then tuned by DWT multi resolution filter
bank. The detail 1 coefficients (d1) of the transient
signals are got by the decomposition using DWT. DWT
has considerably reduced the volume of input data of
the ANN without any loss of information. The d1
coefficients of transient signals of various fault and
inrush currents are used to train a feed forward neural
network. The ANN architecture has 3 inputs, 10 first
hidden layer neurons, 20 second hidden layer neurons
and one output. Finally, the wavelet and ANN based
relay clearly classifies whether the fault is an internal
fault or inrush current.

Extensive simulation studies have been conducted
using PSCAD/EMTDC software to verify the
feasibility of the proposed protection scheme for inrush
currents at different voltage closing angles and various
types of internal faults such as single phase to ground
faults, double phase to ground faults, three phase to
ground faults, two phase faults and three phase faults.

Analysis reveals that the technique is able to
clearly distinguish an inrush current from a fault
condition reliably and accurately and avoids relay
maloperation during inrush currents.

**Wavelet Transform:** DWT is an ideal way to capture
the transient phenomena for transformer. The wavelet
transform gives the frequency information of the signal
and also the times at which these frequencies occur.
Combining these two properties make the Fast Wavelet
Transform (FWT), an alternative to the conventional
Fast Fourier Transform (FFT). Wavelet is a waveform
of limited duration. Wavelets tend to be irregular,
asmetric, short and oscillatory waveforms.

To detect the transformer faults, only dominant
transients within the certain bands play the important
role. Therefore the wavelet filter banks are designed to
extract the required transient currents. DWT is capable
of extracting both fast and slow events in a desired
resolution. The DWT of a signal \( x \) is calculated by
passing it through a series of filters. First the original
signal \( x[n] \) is passed through a half band low pass filter
with impulse response \( g[n] \), resulting in a convolution
of the two.

\[
y[n] = (x * g)[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k] \cdot g[n - k]
\]

where \( x \) is the signal in discrete time function., the
sequence is denoted by \( x[n] \), \( n \) is an integer, \( g[n] \) is the
impulse response of the low pass filter and \( y[n] \) is the
output of the filter.

The signal is also decomposed simultaneously using
a half band high-pass filter \( h[n] \). The outputs from the
high pass filter give the detail coefficients and the
outputs from the low-pass filter give the approximation
coefficients. It is important that the two filters are
related to each other and they are known as a
quadrature mirror filter. However, since half of the
frequencies of the signal have now been removed, half
the samples can be discarded according to Nyquist’s
rule. The filter outputs are then downsampled by 2.Hence the equation 1 becomes,

\[
y[n] = (x * g)[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k] \cdot g[n - k]
\]

\[
y_{\text{low}}[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k] \cdot g[2 \cdot n - k]
\]

This decomposition has halved the time resolution since
only half the number of samples now characterizes the
entire signal. However, this operation doubles the
frequency resolution, since the frequency band of the
signal now spans only half the previous frequency
band. The Block diagram of filter analysis is shown in
figure 1.

**Fig. 1: Block Diagram of Filter Analysis**
**Neural Networks:** The ANN is an exact simulation of a real nervous system. A multi layered Feed Forward Neural Network (FFNN) consists of an input layer, an output layer and one or more hidden layers between its input and output layer. Each layer consists of a certain number of neurons. Back propagation algorithm is commonly used for training multi layer FFNN. It can be used to solve complex pattern-matching problems.

Network learns a pre-defined set of input-output training pairs by using a two phase propagate-adapt cycle. The applied input pattern to the first layer propagates through each upper layer until an output is generated. This output pattern is compared with the desired output and an error signal is computed for each output unit. The error signals are then transmitted backward from the output layer to each node in the intermediate layer. This process repeats layer by layer. Based on the error signal received, the connection weights are updated to cause the network to converge toward a state that allows all the training patterns to be encoded. After training, when presented with an arbitrary input pattern, the network will respond with an active output if the new input contains a pattern that resembles the feature the individual units learned to recognize during training.

**Proposed algorithm:** The flowchart of the proposed algorithm is shown in fig. 2 and is explained in steps.

Step 1: The current and voltage signals are obtained from the three phase transformer using PSCAD / EMTDC software for different types of fault and inrush currents.

Step 2: The differential currents of the transformer are calculated.

Step 3: Wavelet transform of the three phase differential currents are obtained using MATLAB software.

Step 4: The DWT analysis of the differential current is studied.

Step 5: The detail coefficients of the signal are obtained.

Step 6: Nature of the transient spikes in the DWT analysis and the value of the detail coefficients and spectral energy determines whether the current is an inrush or internal fault current.

Step 7: The d1 coefficients of different fault and inrush currents are fed to ANN and trained.

Step 8: Wavelet based ANN relay distinguishes internal fault current from inrush current.

**Simulation Model:** A Part of power system consisting of a power transformer connected to an alternator and an infinite Busbar is modelled using PSCAD/EMTDC software to obtain the required current signals for investigation of the proposed algorithm.

A power system consisting of a 27KV source, three phase750MVA, 27/420KV, 60 Hz, \( \Delta/Y \) Transformer connected to an infinite busbar is modeled and simulated as shown in the fig. 3.

**Implementation of Wavelet Transform:** The Wavelet transform has been used to analyze the transients in the power transformers. The data obtained from the PSCAD simulations are given to the MATLAB
software to calculate DWT coefficients of the signals. There are many types of wavelets such as Haar, Daubechies, Coiflet and symmlet wavelets. In this paper, as we are interested in detecting and analyzing low amplitude, short duration, fast decaying and oscillating type of high frequency current signals, Daubechies wavelet of type 6 (DB6) suited well to this type of high frequency current. Therefore DB6 was used as the mother wavelet. Wavelet decomposition is done on the signal and the DWT coefficients of level 1 of the signal are obtained.

**Wavelet Transform of Inrush current:** The magnetizing inrush current under steady state operating condition is only 1-2% of the transformer rated current. But when the primary of an unloaded transformer is energized, the primary windings of the transformer draws a large magnetizing current which is ten times greater than the rated current. Due to the slow attenuation of this current, it may take around 10 cycles to settle down. This current looks like a fault current to the differential relay and the relay maloperates.

The DWT Analysis of the three phases of an inrush current when the transformer is energized at voltage closing angle 18 degree is shown in the fig. 4. It is found that the transient spikes in detail 1 appear at the start of the inrush current, the spikes decay slowly and continues for more than ten cycles.

Maximum value of d1 coefficient for each phase during magnetizing inrush current at voltage closing angle 36 degree is shown below.

A Phase = 0.0097
B Phase = 0.0175
C Phase = 0.0228

![Fig. 4: The DWT Analysis of the three phases of an inrush current at voltage closing angle 36 degree](image)

**Wavelet Transform of Internal fault current:** Faults which occur between the two CT’s of the transformer are called internal faults. These currents occur due to some short circuit in the transformer windings and cause a large current to flow. The heavy current will damage the power system components, hence immediate action to isolate the faulty transformer is to be taken. The DWT analysis is shown in the graphs taking the samples in the x-axis and coefficients in the Y-axis.

The DWT analysis of the three phase currents for single phase ‘C’ to G fault is shown in the fig. 5.

![Fig. 5: The DWT Analysis of the three phases of C-G fault current](image)

It is found that the transient spikes occur immediately at the start of the fault and rapidly decay within a cycle. Maximum value of d1 coefficient for each phase during single phase ‘C’-g fault with fault resistance of 1Ω is shown below.

A Phase = 0.0321
B Phase = 0.0321
C Phase = 0.0509 (faulty phase)

It is very clear that the d1 coefficient of the faulty phase is greater when compared to the d1 coefficient of the inrush current. It is also found that the d1 coefficient of the faulty phase is greater than the d1 coefficients of the healthy phases. Hence, the proposed relay can easily distinguish an inrush current from the internal fault current based on the d1 coefficients and send a trip signal if the d1 coefficient is high.

The DWT analysis of the three phase currents for double phase to ground fault (BC-G) with fault resistance of 2Ω is shown in the fig. 6. It is found that the transient spikes occur immediately at the start of the fault and rapidly decay within a cycle.
Maximum value of d1 coefficient for each phase during double phase to ground fault (BC-G) with fault resistance of 2Ω. It is shown below.

A Phase = 0.0136  
B Phase = 1.338  (faulty phase)  
C Phase = 1.608  (faulty phase)

Fig. 6: The DWT analysis of the three phase currents for double phase to ground fault (BC-G)

It is very clear that the d1 coefficients of the faulty phases are greater when compared to the d1 coefficient of the inrush current. It is also found that the d1 coefficients of the faulty phases are greater than the d1 coefficient of the healthy phase.

Hence, the proposed relay can easily distinguish an inrush current from the internal fault current based on the d1 coefficients and send a trip signal if the d1 coefficient is high.

**Implementation of Neural Network:** Neural networks have proved to be very efficient in the field of classification. In this paper, back propagation algorithm is used for classifying inrush and internal fault currents in the transformer. The choice of number of hidden layers and the number of neurons in each layer is one of the most critical problems in the construction of neural architecture. ANN with too many neurons will take long training time while ANN with too few neurons may prevent the training process to converge.

Several networks by varying the number of hidden layers and the number of neurons were trained and tested. A sample of the test conducted is shown in the table 1.

| ANN Size | Error   |
|----------|---------|
| 5 / 1    | 0.1137  |
| 12/1     | 0.0400  |
| 20/1     | 0.0489  |
| 10/20/1  | 0.00419 |
| 20/10/1  | 0.02013 |

The neural network with less number of neurons takes less training time but the error is high. The neural network with two hidden layers with ten neurons in the first layer and 20 neurons in the second layer was found to give good performance with less error. Fig. 7 shows the architecture of ANN designed for classification on inrush currents and internal fault currents.

Fig. 7: Architecture of the proposed WNN

The ANN has three input neurons one for each phase of three phase differential current. The fundamental frequency of the differential current is 50Hz. Time period of a cycle is 20ms. Time period of 1/8th of a cycle is 2.5ms. Samples in 1/8th of a cycle are only given as input data for training. There are 5 coefficients in 1/8th of a cycle. The first 5 coefficients after the occurrence of a fault or inrush are given as input for training. The input data given to ANN has been reduced to a great extent. The data reduction contributes a significant role in the reduction of tripping time. It has one output neuron to classify whether it a fault or inrush current. The target output is assigned 1 for internal fault currents and 0 for inrush currents during training. Back propagation algorithm is used for training. Tansigmoid function is chosen to be the transfer function of each node. Total iteration is set to 3000. Error goal is set to 0.001. The learning rate is set to 0.7.

110 cases are simulated using PSCAD software for different fault conditions and 110 cases are simulated for different inrush conditions. Out of 110 cases, 90
cases are used for training and 20 cases for testing both fault and inrush conditions.

Totally 220 cases are simulated. The three phase differential currents are obtained. Wavelet d1 coefficients are obtained for the simulated three phase differential currents for both the fault and inrush conditions and given as input for the designed neural network.

RESULTS

The designed neural network is trained for various training patterns of fault and inrush conditions. The goal of 0.001 error is achieved in 2194 iterations. The target for internal fault currents are trained to be 1 and the target for inrush currents are trained to be 0. Figure 8 shows the graph between training performance and no. of iterations to train the designed neural network.

The trained neural network is tested for testing patterns of various fault and inrush conditions. 1/8th of first significant cycle (5 coefficients) is used as input for the ANN. Table II shows the outputs of the ANN for various internal and inrush conditions.

Table 2: Test results of the WNN based relay

| Case                        | Target output | ANN output |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Inrush current at voltage   | 0             | 0.0001     |
| closing angle 36 degrees.   | 0             | 0.0001     |
|                             | 0             | 0.0001     |
|                             | 0             | 0.0411     |
|                             | 0             | 0.0094     |
| Inrush current at voltage   | 0             | 0.0001     |
| closing angle 18 degrees.   | 0             | 0.0020     |
|                             | 0             | 0.0007     |
|                             | 0             | 0.0095     |
|                             | 0             | 0.0085     |
| Phase C-G fault             | 1             | 1.0000     |
| With fault resistance of    | 1             | 1.0000     |
| 3.5Ω                        | 1             | 1.0000     |
|                             | 1             | 1.0000     |
| Double phase AB-G fault     | 1             | 1.0000     |
| with fault resistance       | 1             | 1.0000     |
| 2.5 Ω                       | 1             | 0.9998     |
|                             | 1             | 1.0000     |
|                             | 1             | 1.0000     |
| Three phase ABC-G fault     | 1             | 1.0000     |
| with fault resistance 5.5 Ω | 1             | 1.0000     |
|                             | 1             | 1.0000     |
|                             | 1             | 1.0000     |
|                             | 1             | 0.9897     |
The target output is assigned 1 for internal fault currents and 0 for inrush currents during training. The output of the ANN is very close to 0 for inrush currents and very close to 1 for internal currents. The designed neural network is found to accurately discriminate internal fault current and inrush currents. The input to the ANN is the 5 coefficients in the 1/8th of the first significant cycle. Therefore the ANN is able to distinguish and give the trip signal within 1/8th of the first significant cycle i.e 2.5ms from the switching instant. The output of wavelet and ANN based relay for internal faults and inrush currents are shown in the fig. 8(a) and 8(b) respectively.

The wavelet combined neural network has reduced the input data and tripping time of the relay.

**CONCLUSION**

The results clearly show that the proposed Wavelet combined neural network relay accurately distinguishes internal fault and magnetizing inrush currents in three phase transformers. The WNN effectively distinguishes and gives trip signal within 1/8th of cycle which is considered to be very fast. The relay also provides high sensitivity for internal fault currents and high stability for inrush currents.

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