

Comparison of Sensor and Sensor-less Vector Control Techniques for Induction Motor in EOT Crane Low Speed Applications

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Abstract: This paper presents a comparison between Sensor or Indirect Field Oriented Control (IFOC) and Sensor-less Field Oriented Control (SFOC) in low frequency region for Induction Motor (IM). These two strategies can be considered among the family of Vector Control (VC) methods and provide a solution for high-performance drives. Most of the Electrically-operated Overhead Travelling (EOT) Crane IMs are controlled with vector control techniques. IM performance will deteriorate as frequency falls below 5 Hz due to its stator resistance drop. There are some critical requirements which needs rocket segments and satellite needs to be positioned in very precise position. For this EOT crane has to run in creep speed which needs drive has to run below 5 Hz. In this paper, the analysis is carried out on IFOC and SFOC methods and implemented to IM drives. In IFOC, flux magnitude and angle is achieved by imposing a slip frequency derived from the rotor dynamic equations with monitored rotor speed using external sensor such as encoder. Whereas SFOC does not require any sensor for estimation of flux magnitude and position, with monitored stator voltages and stator currents, flux magnitude and position can be achieved. Advantages and disadvantages of two control methods are emphasized in low frequency region (0-5Hz). The theoretical results are found to be consistent with experimental results performed on 100 HP, three phase IM. It is concluded that IFOC method is better than SFOC method in low frequency region.

Keywords: IFOC, SFOC, Vector Control, Induction Motor, low frequency region.

I. Introduction

Variable-speed alternating current (AC) drives have been used in the past to perform relatively undemanding roles in applications which preclude the use of direct current (DC) motors, either because of the working environment or commutator limits. Vector control or Field Orientation Control (FOC) techniques [1] incorporating fast microprocessors and DSPs have made possible the application of induction motor (IM) for high-performance applications where traditionally only DC drives were applied. In FOC, the current space vector is controlled both in magnitude and position to achieve decoupled control of the torque producing and the flux producing components of the stator current space phasor. To achieve decoupled control, either the stator flux, airgap flux or the rotor flux should be known both in magnitude and position. Two possible methods for achieving field orientation were identified. Blaschke [2] used Hall sensors mounted in the air gap to measure the machine flux, and therefore obtain the flux magnitude and flux angle for field orientation. Field orientation achieved by direct measurement of the flux is termed Direct Flux Orientation Control (DFOC) [3]-[5]. On the other hand Hasse [6] achieved flux orientation by imposing a slip frequency derived from the rotor dynamic equations with monitored rotor angle using encoder so as to ensure field orientation. This alternative, consisting of forcing field orientation in the machine, is known as Indirect Field Orientation Control (IFOC) [7]-[9]. IFOC has been generally preferred to DFOC implementations which use Hall probes; the reason being that DFOC requires a specially modified machine and moreover the fragility of the Hall sensors detracts the inherent robustness of an induction machine. However the typical IFOC requires the use of an accurate shaft encoder for correct operation which gives additional cost. Therefore there has been great interest in the research community in developing a high performance induction motor drive that does not require a speed or position transducer for its operation. Sensor-less Field Oriented

However, if instead of a reference frame fixed to the stator and rotor, a general reference frame with direct and quadrature axes x, y rotating at a general instantaneous speed ($\omega_{mr} = \frac{d\rho_r}{dt}$) which is fixed to the rotor flux linkage space phasor as shown in Figure1. Torque can be expressed as vector product of the rotor flux linkage and the stator current space phasors. The rotor flux-linkage space phasor in the general reference frame can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r} &= L_r \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} + L_m \bar{i}_{s\psi_r} = \bar{\Psi}_r e^{-j(\rho_r - \theta_r)} = \bar{\Psi}_r e^{j\theta_r} e^{-j\rho_r} = \bar{\Psi}_r' e^{-j\rho_r} = |\bar{\Psi}_r| e^{j\theta_r} e^{-j\rho_r} = \\ |\bar{\Psi}_r| &= \Psi_{rx} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The stator current in the general reference frame can be expressed as

$$\bar{i}_{s\psi_r} = \bar{i}_s e^{-j\rho_r} = i_{sx} + j i_{sy} \quad (3)$$

Electromagnetic torque can be expressed in general reference frame as

$$t_e = k \bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r} \times \bar{i}_{s\psi_r} = \frac{3}{2} P \frac{L_m}{L_r} \Psi_{rx} i_{sy} \quad (\because \bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r} = L_r \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} + L_m \bar{i}_{s\psi_r} = |\bar{\Psi}_r| = \Psi_{rx}) \quad (4)$$

The relationship between the stator current components in the stationary reference frame (i_{sD}, i_{sQ}) and the stator current components in the general reference frame (i_{sx}, i_{sy}) can be obtained as

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_{sx} \\ i_{sy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \rho_r & \sin \rho_r \\ -\sin \rho_r & \cos \rho_r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{sD} \\ i_{sQ} \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Rotor magnetizing current in the general reference frame is defined in terms of stator and rotor-current space phasors given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{i}_{mr} &= i_{mrx} + j i_{mry} = \frac{\bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r}}{L_m} = \frac{\Psi_{rx}}{L_m} = i_{mrx} = |\bar{i}_{mr}| = \frac{L_r \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} + L_m \bar{i}_{s\psi_r}}{L_m} = \frac{L_r}{L_m} \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} + \bar{i}_{s\psi_r} \\ &= \bar{i}_{s\psi_r} + (1 + \sigma_r) \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} \text{ Where } \sigma_r = \frac{L_{rl}}{L_m} \text{ and } L_r = L_{rl} + L_m \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Thereby torque eqn. can be represented as

$$t_e = \frac{3}{2} P \frac{L_m^2}{L_r} |\bar{i}_{mr}| i_{sy} = \frac{3}{2} P \frac{L_m}{1 + \sigma_r} |\bar{i}_{mr}| i_{sy} \quad (7)$$

Eqn. 7, shows that electromagnetic torque can be controlled by independently controlling the flux-producing current component $|\bar{i}_{mr}|$ and torque-producing stator current component i_{sy} . Under linear magnetic conditions L_m, L_r and the term $\frac{3}{2} P \frac{L_m}{1 + \sigma_r}$ are constant, and the expression for the torque is similar to that of the separately excited dc machine.

The rotor voltage equation of the induction machine in general reference frame can be expressed as

$$R_r \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} + \frac{d \bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r}}{dt} + j(\omega_{mr} - \omega_r) \bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r} = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$R_r \bar{i}_{r\psi_r} + L_m \frac{d |\bar{i}_{mr}|}{dt} + j(\omega_{mr} - \omega_r) L_m |\bar{i}_{mr}| = 0 \quad (\because \bar{\Psi}_{r\psi_r} = \bar{\Psi}_r e^{-j(\rho_r - \theta_r)} = L_m |\bar{i}_{mr}|) \quad (9)$$

And from the above

$$T_r \frac{d |\bar{i}_{mr}|}{dt} + |\bar{i}_{mr}| = \bar{i}_{s\psi_r} - j(\omega_{mr} - \omega_r) T_r |\bar{i}_{mr}| \quad (10)$$

$$T_r \frac{d|\bar{i}_{mr}|}{dt} + |\bar{i}_{mr}| = i_{sx} \quad (11)$$

$$\omega_{mr} = \omega_r + \frac{i_{sy}}{T_r |\bar{i}_{mr}|} \quad (12)$$

In eqn. (12) the term $\frac{i_{sy}}{T_r |\bar{i}_{mr}|}$ represents the angular rotor frequency (angular slip frequency of the rotor flux) ω_{sl} , and it follows that the angular speed of the rotor flux is equal to the sum of the angular rotor speed and the angular slip frequency of the rotor flux. If $|\bar{i}_{mr}|$ is constant, it follows from eqn (11), that $|\bar{i}_{mr}| = i_{sx}$, the modulus of the rotor flux-linkage space phasor can be kept at a desired level by controlling the direct-axis stator current i_{sx} , the electromagnetic torque is determined by the quadrature-axis stator current i_{sy} .

In indirect rotor field-oriented control method, the space angle of the rotor flux-linkage space phasor (ρ_r) is obtained as the sum of the monitored rotor angle (θ_r) and the computed reference value of the slip angle (θ_{sl}), where the slip angle gives the position of the rotor flux-linkage space phasor relative to the rotor. These angles are shown in Figure1. The required equations follow from eqn. (2), according to which the speed of the rotor magnetizing current space phasor is

$$\omega_{mr} = \omega_r + \omega_{slref} \quad (13)$$

Where ω_r is the rotor speed,

$$\omega_r = \frac{d\theta_r}{dt} \quad (14)$$

and ω_{slref} is the reference value of the slip frequency,

$$\omega_{slref} = \frac{i_{sy}}{T_r |\bar{i}_{mr}|} \quad (15)$$

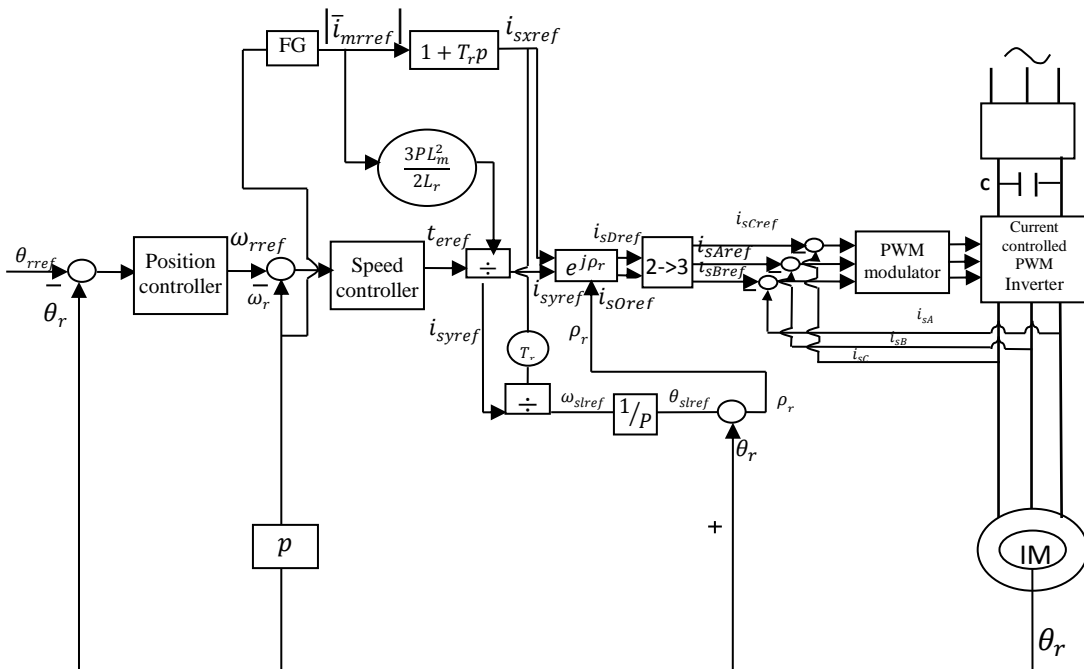


Figure 2. Schematic of the Indirect rotor-flux-oriented control of current-controlled PWM inverter-fed induction motor

Furthermore

$$\omega_{mr} = \frac{d\rho_r}{dt} \quad (16)$$

Thus it follows from eqns. (13)-(16) that

$$\rho_r = \int \omega_{mr} dt = \int (\omega_r + \omega_{stref}) dt = \theta_r + \theta_{stref} \quad (17)$$

The slip angle θ_{stref} gives the position of the rotor magnetizing-current space phasor with respect to the direct-axis of the reference frame fixed to the rotor.

$$\rho_r = \theta_r + \int \omega_{stref} dt = \theta_r + \int \frac{i_{sy}}{T_r |\bar{i}_{mr}|} dt \quad (18)$$

Which serves as the basis for obtaining the angle ρ_r in the implementation of the rotor-flux-oriented control of induction machine. According to eqn. (18) the division of the direct and quadrature axis stator currents (i_{sxref}, i_{syref}) is controlled by the slip frequency ω_{sl} and the two reference currents are used to determine the required slip frequency. When the rotor angle and reference value of the slip frequency angle are added, the position of the rotor magnetizing-current space phasor is obtained.

The schematic of the drive is shown in Figure 2. An incremental rotor position sensor is used to obtain the rotor angle (θ_r) and the rotor speed (ω_r). The actual value of the rotor angle (θ_r) is compared with its reference value (θ_{ref}) and the resulting error serves as the input to the position controller, which is a PI controller. The output of the position controller is the reference value of the rotor speed (ω_{rref}). This is compared with the monitored value of the rotor speed and the error is supplied as the input to the speed controller. Its output is the reference value of the electromagnetic torque (t_{eref}) and this is divided by the constant $\frac{3}{2} P \frac{L_m^2}{L_r}$ to yield the reference value of the stator current expressed in the rotor-flux-oriented reference frame (i_{syref}). The monitored rotor speed serves as the input to the function generator FG gives a reference value of the rotor magnetizing current ($|\bar{i}_{mrref}|$).

B. SFOC Technique-

Similar to IFOC technique, in this method also the stator currents of the induction machine can be decoupled into flux and torque producing components with rotating vectors in a complex coordinate system. Stator current components are transformed into a new rotating reference frame, which rotates together with stator-flux-linkage space vector, which is termed as Stator flux Field Oriented Control. The implementation of the stator flux FOC requires information on the modulus and space angle (position) of the stator flux-linkage space phasor which can be obtained by utilizing the monitored stator currents and voltages. Since in this there is no sensor used for monitoring rotor speed and rotor speed can be calculated by different estimation techniques. This technique also called as Sensor-less Field-Oriented Control (SFOC). In the stationary reference frame the space phasor of the stator flux linkages can be expressed as

$$\bar{\Psi}_s = \Psi_{sD} + j\Psi_{sQ} = \int (\bar{u}_s - R_s \bar{i}_s) dt \quad (19)$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_{sD} &= \int (u_{sD} - R_s i_{sD}) dt \\ \Psi_{sQ} &= \int (u_{sQ} - R_s i_{sQ}) dt \end{aligned}$$

A general reference frame with direct and quadrature axes x, y rotating at a general instantaneous speed ($\omega_{ms} = \frac{d\rho_s}{dt}$) which is fixed to the stator flux orientation as shown in

Figure 3 and ρ_s is a spatial angle with respect to the real axis of the stationary reference frame (sD).

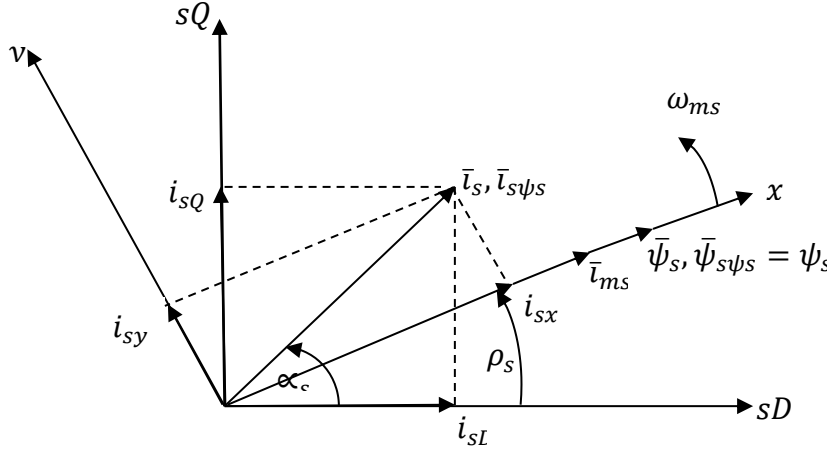


Figure 3. Relation between the stationary reference frame and the general reference frame fixed to the stator flux-linkage space phasor

Figure 3 shows the relationship between the general and the stationary reference frame. The space phasors of the stator current and stator current and the stator flux linkages are

$$\bar{i}_s \psi_s = \bar{i}_s e^{-j\rho_s} = (i_{sD} + j i_{sQ}) e^{-j\rho_s} = i_{sx} + j i_{sy} \quad (20)$$

$$\bar{\Psi}_s \psi_s = \bar{\Psi}_s e^{-j\rho_s} = (\Psi_{sD} + j \Psi_{sQ}) e^{-j\rho_s} = \Psi_{sx} + j \Psi_{sy} = |\bar{\Psi}_s| e^{j\rho_s} e^{-j\rho_s} = |\bar{\Psi}_s| = \Psi_{sx} \quad (21)$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_{sx} \\ i_{sy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \rho_s & \sin \rho_s \\ -\sin \rho_s & \cos \rho_s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{sD} \\ i_{sQ} \end{bmatrix} \quad (22)$$

Which gives the relationship of i_{sD} , i_{sQ} and the transformed currents i_{sx} , i_{sy} .

The space phasor of the stator flux linkages in the general reference frame is expressed in terms of the stator and rotor currents can be expressed as

$$\bar{\Psi}_s \psi_s = L_s \bar{i}_s \psi_s + L_m \bar{i}_r \psi_s \quad (23)$$

The stator magnetizing current \bar{i}_{ms} in the general reference frame can be expressed as

$$\bar{i}_{ms} = i_{msx} + j i_{msy} = \frac{\bar{\Psi}_s \psi_s}{L_m} = \frac{\Psi_{sx}}{L_m} = i_{msx} = |\bar{i}_{ms}| = \frac{L_s}{L_m} \bar{i}_s \psi_s + \bar{i}_r \psi_s = (1 + \sigma_s) \bar{i}_s \psi_s + \bar{i}_r \psi_s \quad (24)$$

The electromagnetic torque can be expressed as

$$t_e = \frac{3}{2} P \bar{\Psi}_s \psi_s \times \bar{i}_s \psi_s = \frac{3}{2} P |\bar{\Psi}_s| i_{sy} = \frac{3}{2} P L_m |\bar{i}_{ms}| i_{sy} \quad (25)$$

The stator-voltage equation expressed in the stator-flux-oriented reference, which rotates at the speed of the stator flux-linkage space vector ($\omega_{ms} = \frac{d\rho_s}{dt}$), can be expressed as

$$\bar{u}_s \psi_s = R_s \bar{i}_s \psi_s + \frac{d|\bar{\Psi}_s|}{dt} + j \omega_{ms} |\bar{\Psi}_s| \quad (26)$$

By separating real and imaginary components

$$\frac{d|\bar{\Psi}_s|}{dt} = u_{sx} - R_s i_{sx} \quad (27)$$

And the speed of the stator-flux space vector is obtained as

$$\omega_{ms} = \frac{u_{sy} - R_s i_{sy}}{|\bar{\Psi}_s|} \quad (28)$$

From Eqn. (28) $|\bar{\Psi}_s|$ can be estimated from $\int (u_{sx} - R_s i_{sx}) dt$ and the angle ρ_s can be obtained by the integration of ω_{ms} . For estimation of rotor speed, rotor voltage space vector equation in stationary reference frame can be expressed as

$$R_r i_{rd} + \frac{d\psi_{rd}}{dt} + \omega_r \psi_{rq} = 0 \quad (29)$$

$$\text{Where } \psi_{rd} = L_r i_{rd} + L_m i_{sD} \quad (30)$$

ψ_{rd}, ψ_{rq} and i_{rd}, i_{rq} are instantaneous values of direct- and quadrature-axis rotor flux linkage components and rotor current components respectively expressed in the stator reference frame. Space phasor of the rotor flux linkages expressed in the stator reference frame can be expressed as

$$\bar{\Psi}_r' = \psi_{rd} + j\psi_{rq} \quad (31)$$

and

$$\bar{\Psi}_r' = \frac{L_r}{L_m} (\bar{\Psi}_s - L_s' \bar{i}_s) \quad (32)$$

rotor speed can be expressed as

$$\omega_r = \left[-\frac{d\psi_{rd}}{dt} - \frac{\psi_{rd}}{T_r} + \frac{L_m}{T_r} i_{sD} \right] / \Psi_{rq} \quad (33)$$

Figure 6 shows the stator flux model in stator-flux-oriented reference frame. This model is derived from eqns. (30)-(47).

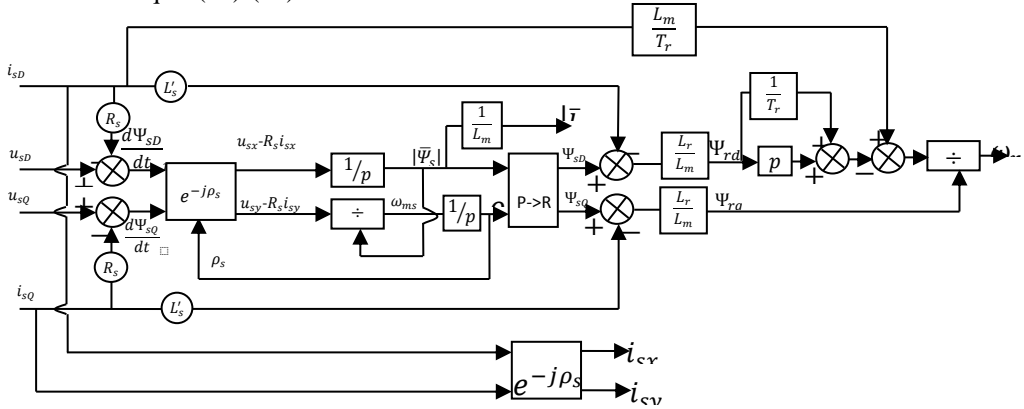


Figure 6. Stator flux model in stator-flux-oriented reference frame

The schematic of the drive using SFOC technique is shown in Figure 7. In place of encoder, stator flux model is used for rotor speed estimation. Inputs for stator flux model is monitored stator voltages and stator currents. Outputs from the model is stator magnetizing current, space angle of the stator flux linkage space vector, rotor speed and stator quadrature axis current component. The reference value of the rotor speed (ω_{rref}) is compared with the estimated value of the rotor speed (ω_r) and the error is supplied as the input to the speed controller. Its output is the reference value of the electromagnetic torque (t_{eref}) and $\frac{3}{2} PL_m |\bar{i}_{ms}| i_{sy}$ gives the estimated value of the rotor torque (t_e) and the error is supplied to the torque controller to yield the reference value of the stator quadrature current expressed in the stator-flux-oriented reference frame (i_{syref}). The estimated stator magnetizing current ($|\bar{i}_{ms}|$) and reference value

stator flux-linkage components and these depend on the precision of the monitored voltages and currents, and also on integration techniques. For accurate flux-linkage estimation, the stator resistance must be adapted to temperature changes. The integration can become problematic at low frequencies, where the stator voltages become very small and are dominated by the ohmic voltage drops.

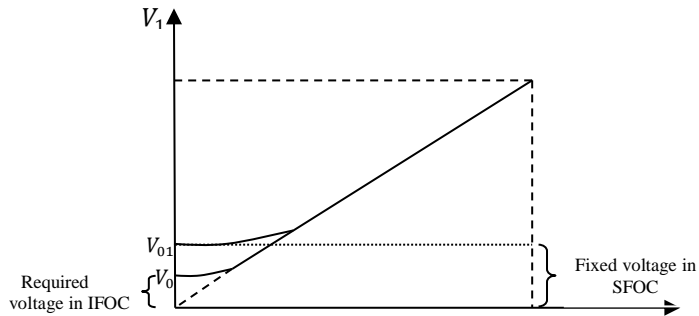


Figure 7. v/f characteristics with IFOC and SFOC

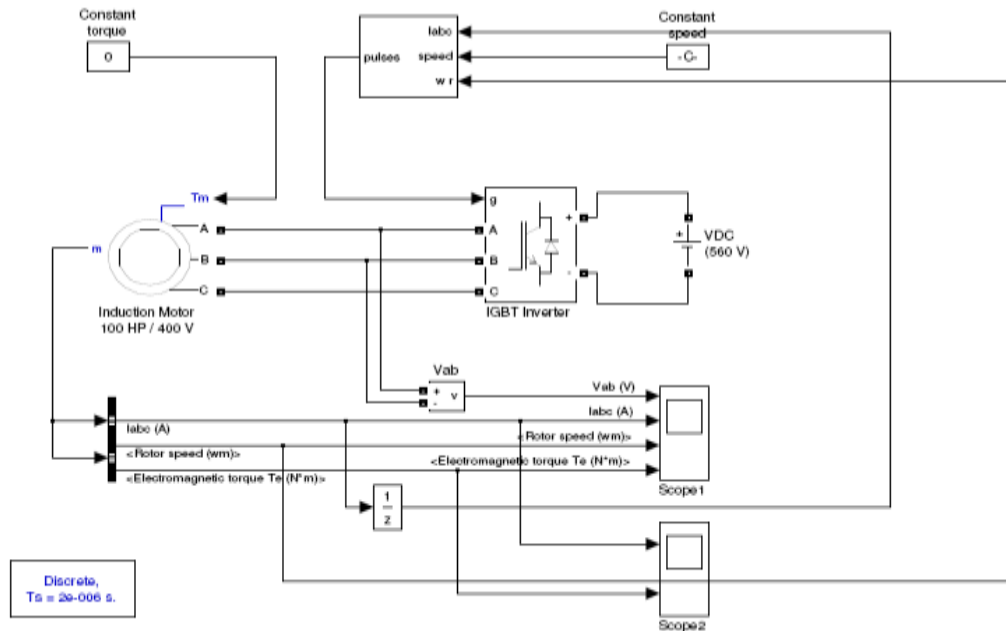


Figure 8. IFOC technique with Simulink

4. MATLAB Simulation

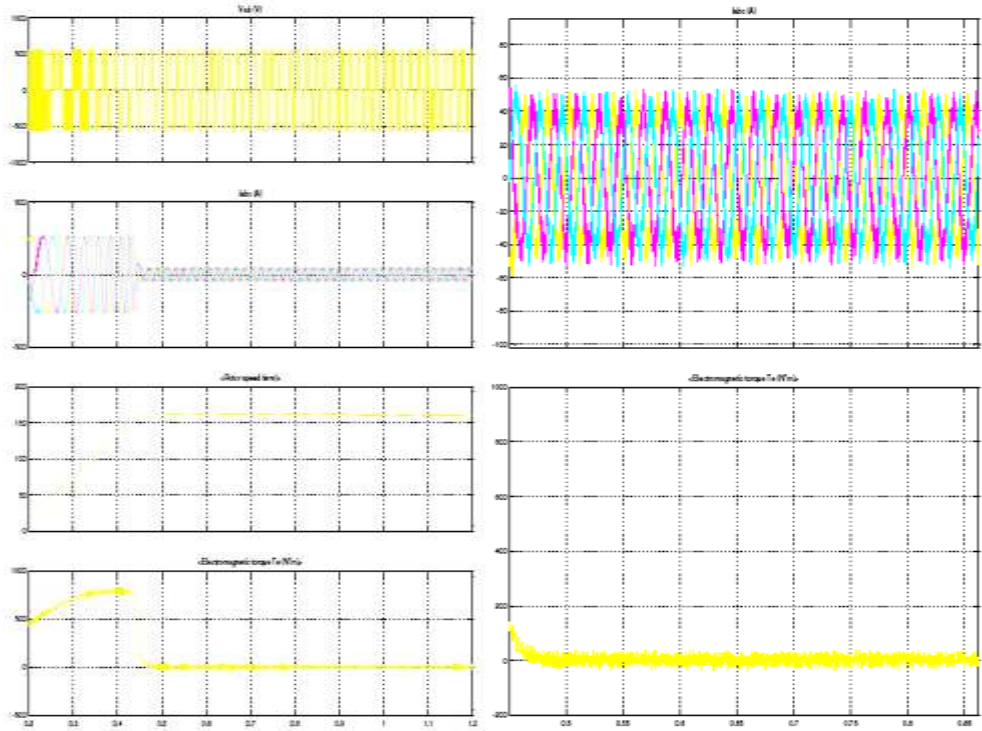


Figure 9. a) IFOC: V, I, N and T at 50 Hz b) IFOC: I and T at 50 Hz

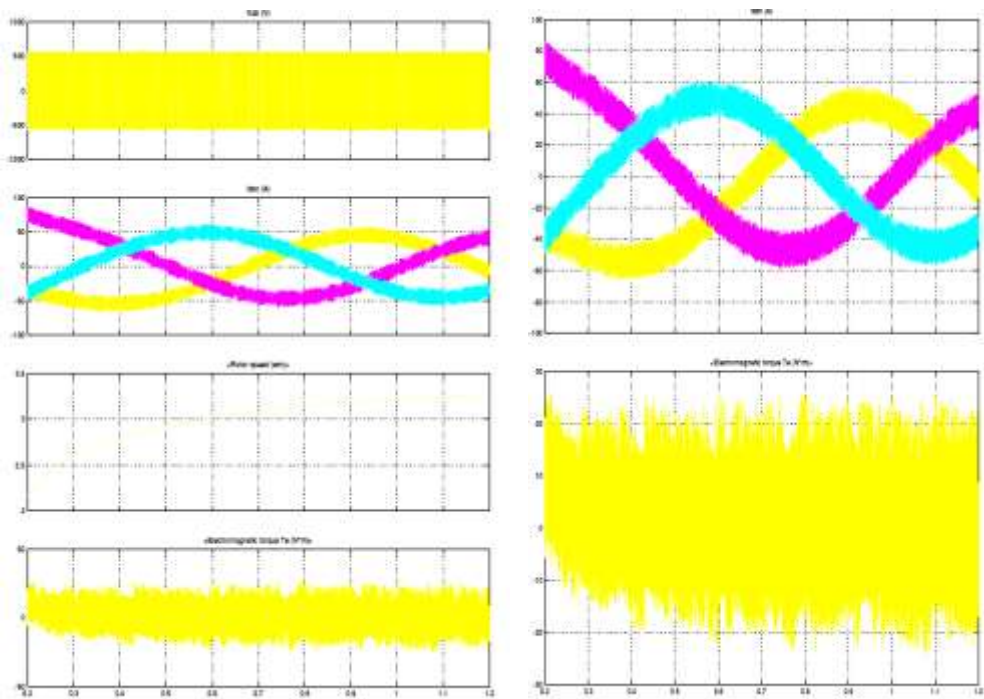
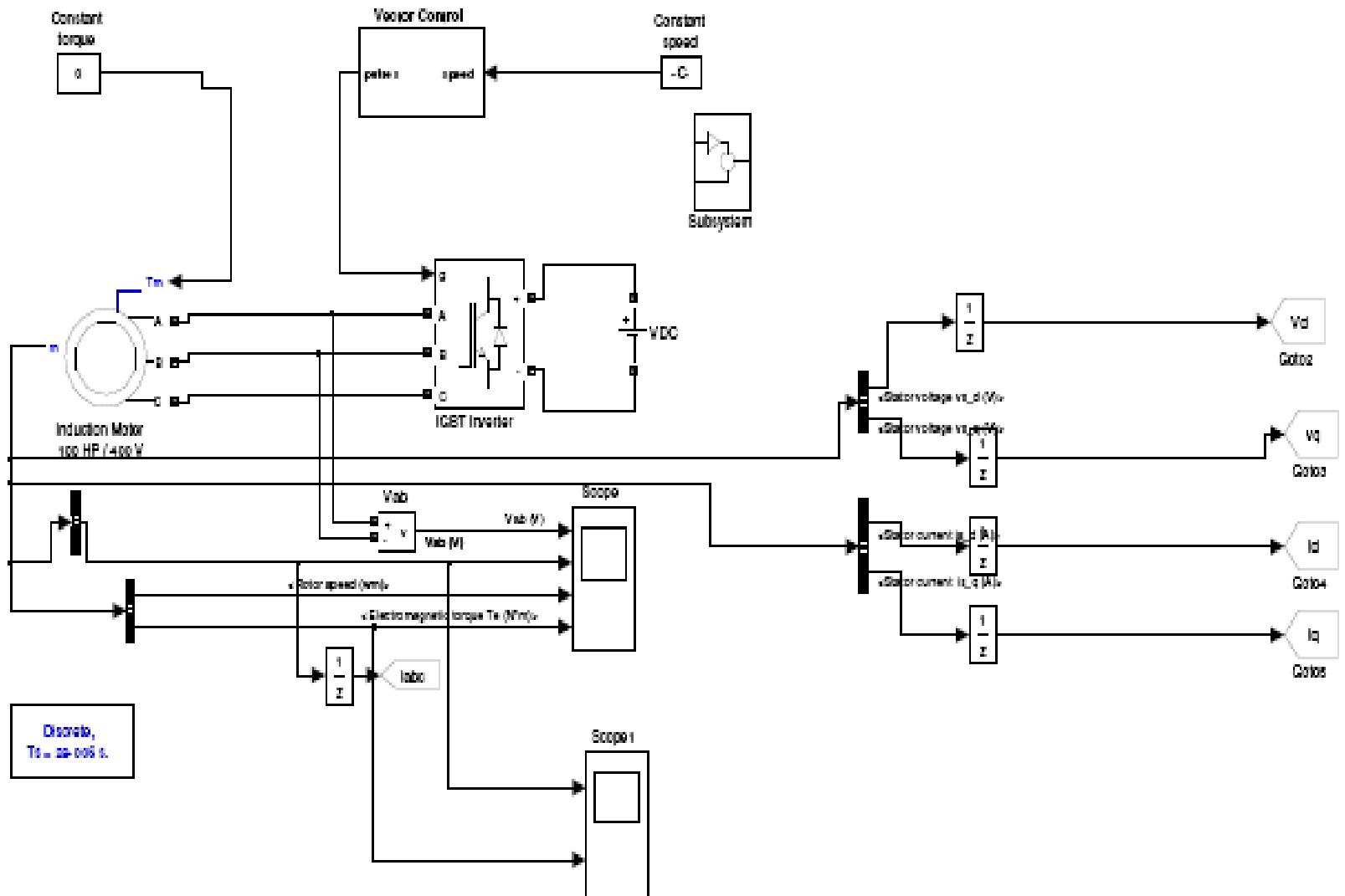


Figure 10 a) IFOC: V, I, N and T at 1 Hz b) IFOC: I and T at 1 Hz

Comparison of Sensor and Sensor-less Vector Control Techniques



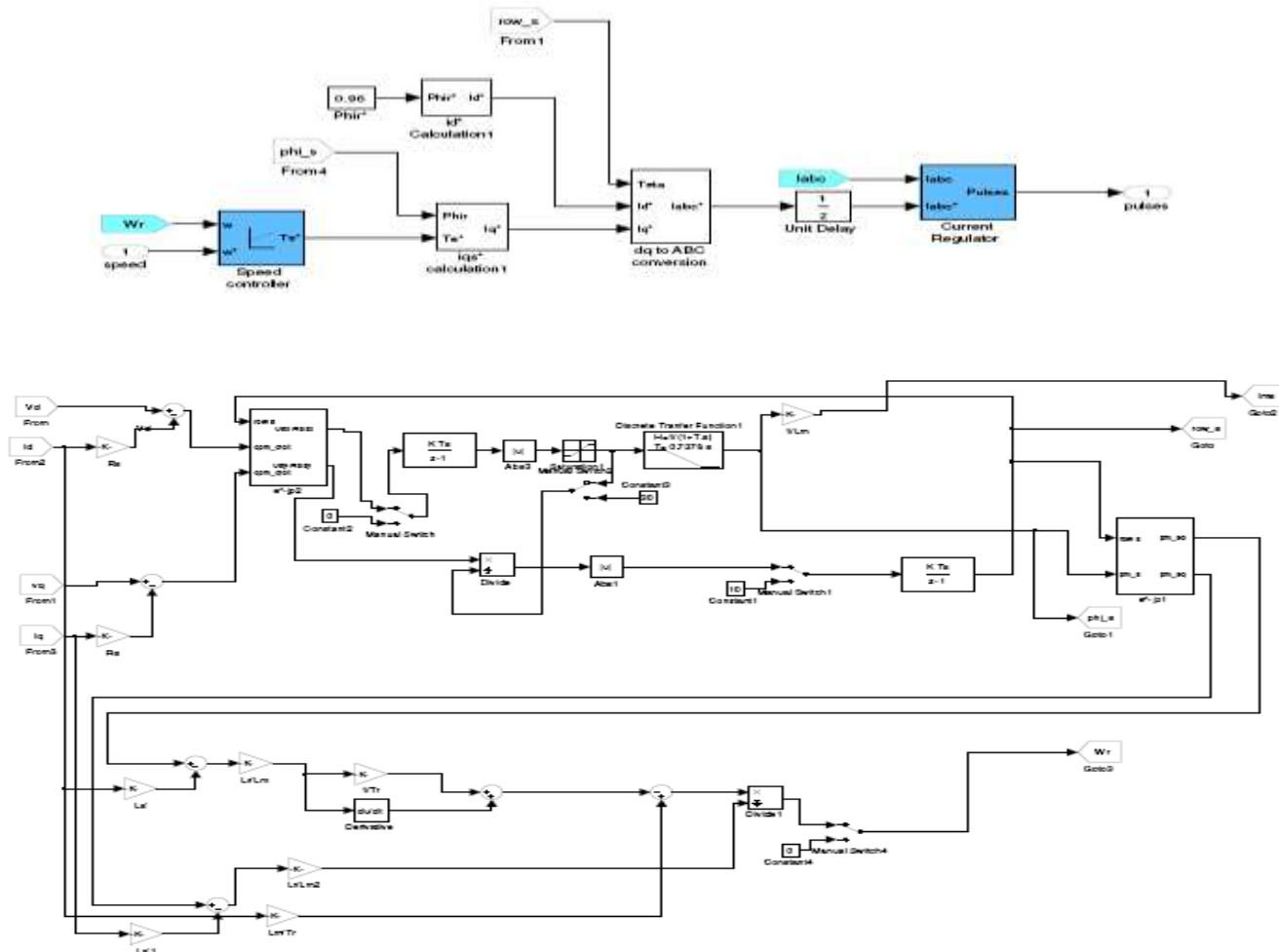


Figure 11. SFOC technique with simulink

Comparison of Sensor and Sensor-less Vector Control Techniques

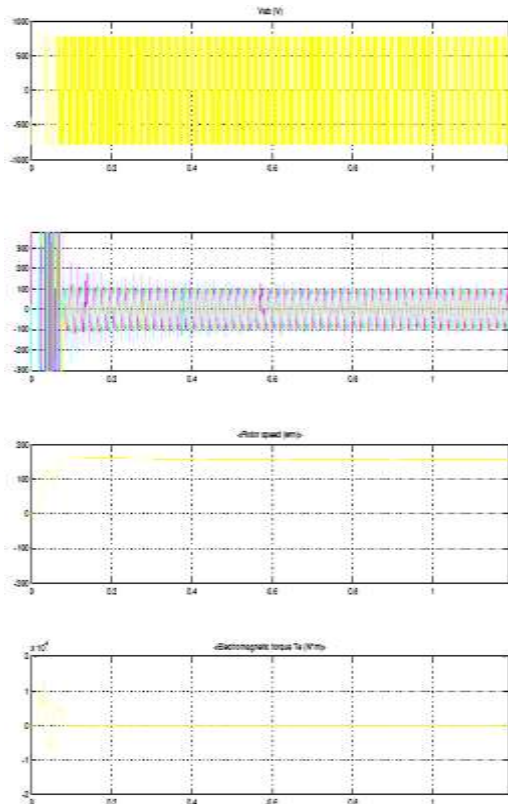


Figure 12 SFOC: V, I, N and T at 50 Hz

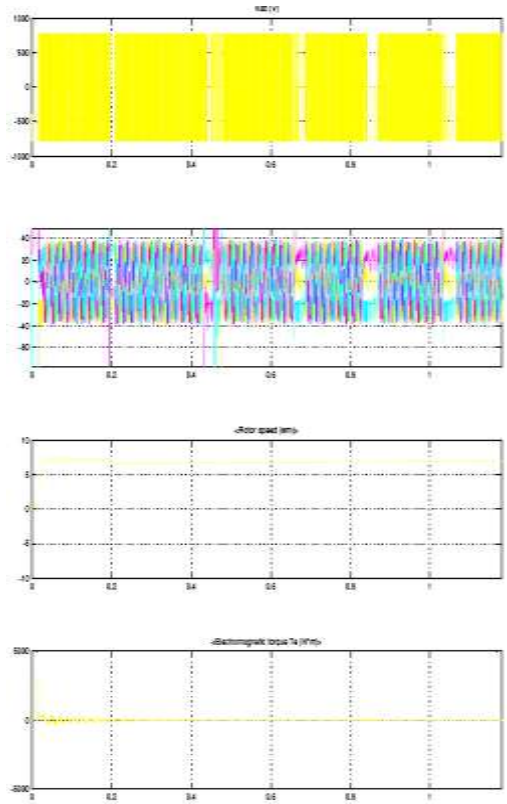
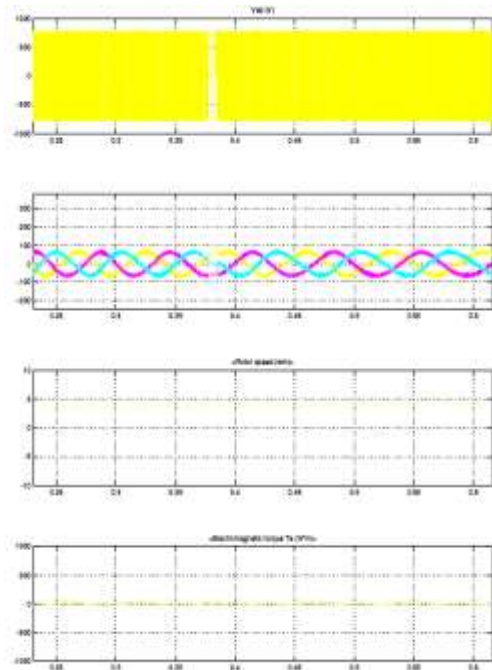
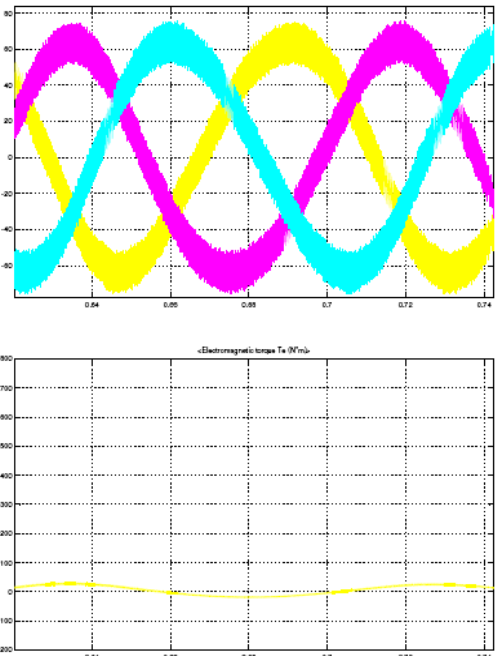


Figure 13 SFOC: V, I, N and T at 1 Hz



a.



b.

Figure 14 a) SFOC: V, I, N and T at 1 Hz With the additional boost voltage b) SFOC: 1 and T at Hz With the additional boost voltage

Figure 14 shows the SFOC technique at 1 Hz. Due to stator resistance drop, the flux developed across the magnetic circuit is insufficient to develop the torque and increases the speed. For compensating flux reduction, a suitable amount of additional voltage is added to meet the flux requirement; it is developing more than required current with rated speed irrespective of load.

V. Experimental Results

Theoretical analysis and Experimentation results were carried out on 60t critical handling crane with hoist motion in up-ward direction. The motor details are shown in Table I. Table I shows the 100 HP induction motor parameters, based on the above parameters theoretical calculations are carried out.

Table 1. 60t VVVF drive based EOT crane motor details

Rated power	100 HP
Rated voltage	415V AC
Number of phase	3
Number of poles	8
Rated frequency	50 Hz
Line current	154 A
Rated speed	740 rpm
Rotor type	Squirrel cage
No load slip	0.9%
Stator resistance (R_1)	0.177 Ω
Stator reactance (X_1)	5.63 Ω
Magnetizing reactance (X_m)	10.89 Ω
Rotor resistance (R_2)	0.052 Ω
Rotor reactance (X_2)	7.92 Ω
VVVF Drive rating	75 kW

Figure 15 depicts the theoretical values between v/f and $slip/f$ characteristics of 100 HP induction motor. From Figure15, it is observed that as frequency decreasing, voltage is decreasing and slip is increasing. This is due to Figure4 states that flux was constant below the rated frequency and shows that slip speed will be constant for constant torque. As the slip speed is constant below the rated frequency, slip was increasing with decrease in frequency. As the slip increases, rotor resistance referred to stator was decreasing with frequency thereby total impedance is decreasing so that voltage is decreasing in proportionate with stator impedance for constant motor torque. Figure 16 shows the theoretical and experimental results of 100 HP induction motor with encoder feedback. Theoretical and experimental values are matching with respect to voltage and current. From Figure16, it is observed that as frequency decreases, voltage was decreasing in linear up to 5 Hz, below 5 Hz, voltage variation was not linear due stator resistance voltage drop which is comparable with rotor resistance drop.

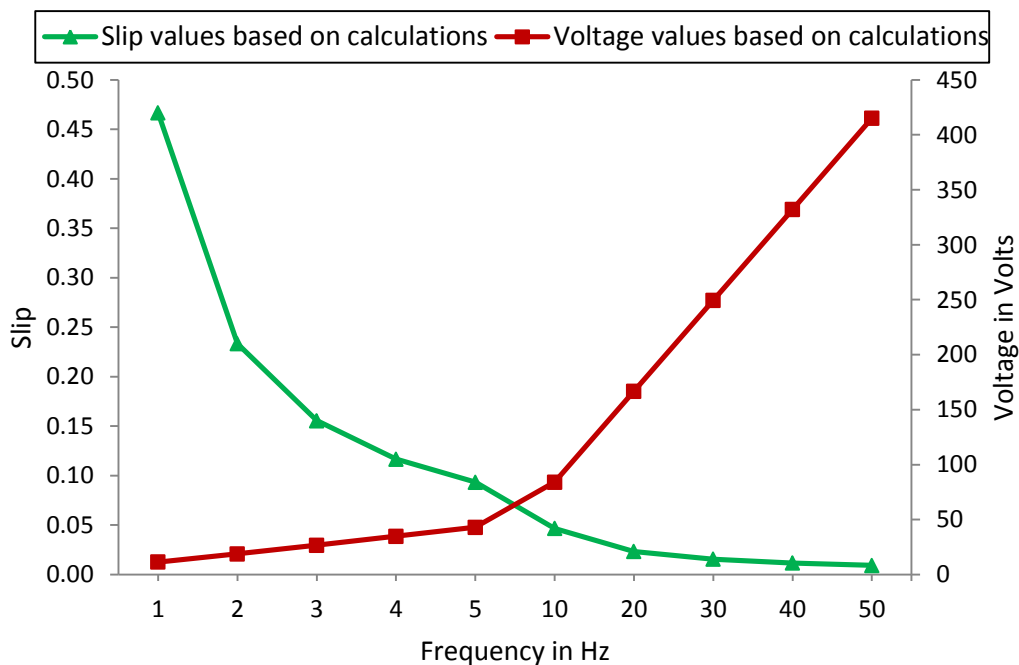


Figure 15. Theoretical results of 100 HP motor v/f and Slip/f characteristics

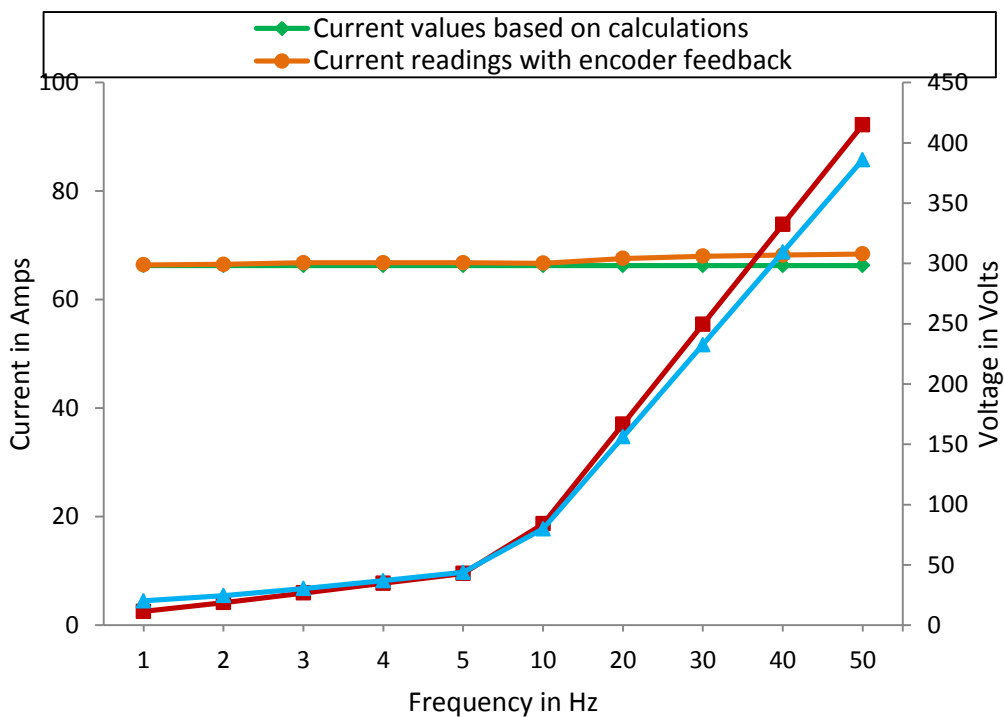


Figure 16. Theoretical and experimental results of 100 HP motor v/f and i/f characteristics at no-load

Figure 17 shows the typical test results of v/f and i/f characteristics of 100 HP induction motor with and without encoder feedback. These modes resemble IFOC technique for with encoder and SFOC technique for without encoder. From Figure17, in SFOC technique, it is observed that at low frequency region i.e at 4 Hz, voltage is increased from 43.9 V to 50.7 V and current is raised from 66.8 A to 129.1 A. This incremental current is almost 43% to 84% of rated current from 5 Hz to 4 Hz. This increment is due to addition of boost voltage for compensating stator resistance drop. Continuous operation of motor with boost voltage will create more heat in stator and rotor conductors, causing torque pulsations and vibrations which will cause severe damage to motor. Whereas with encoder feedback, due to continuous monitoring of rotor angle and making slip speed as constant voltage is reduced from 43.9 V to 36.9 V from 5 Hz to 4 Hz and making current is 66.8A as constant. The reduction in voltage from 5 Hz to 4 Hz is not proportional due to adding of stator voltage drop compensation.

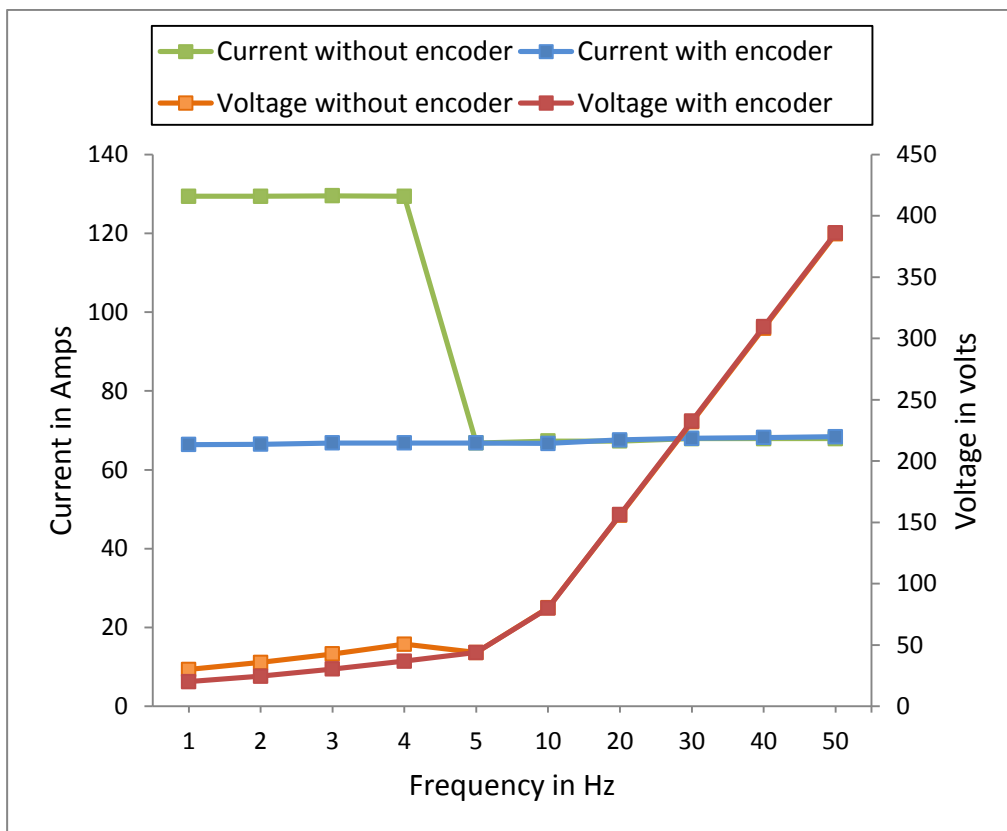


Figure 17. Typical Test results of 100 HP motor v/f and i/f characteristics with IFOC and SFOC techniques at no-load

Table 2 shows the comparison between IFOC and SFOC methods based on experimental results in low frequency region.

Table 2. Comparison of IFOC and SFOC methods in low frequency (0-5 Hz) region

Parameters	IFOC	SFOC
Dynamic response for torque	Quicker	Slower
Current	Only the motor current flows which is required for the actual torque.	Current impressed corresponds to the full load torque required, independent of the actual load torque at that time.
Voltage	Required voltage only will be applied to meet the actual torque.	Fixed voltage will be applied to meet the full load torque, independent of the actual load torque at that time.

Parameters	IFOC	SFOC
Feedback requirement	Encoder required.	No feedback
Speed Accuracy	More	Less
Magnetic saturation	Less	More
Thermal motor stressing	Lower	Higher
Vibration	Less	More
Bearing life	More	Less
Audible noise	Less	More
Complexity and process requirements	Higher	Lower

V. Conclusion

The aim of the paper was to give a fair comparison between IFOC and SFOC techniques at low frequency operation, to allow the users to identify the more suitable solution for any application that requires constant torque. The proposed techniques has been applied to 60t EOT crane having hoist motor capacity of 100 HP, three phase, squirrel cage induction motor. For 100 HP motor, v/f and i/f characteristics are demonstrated at low frequency region with IFOC and SFOC techniques. From simulation and experimental analysis, it is concluded that IFOC method is better technique than SFOC method in low frequency region.

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