

Decoupling of the Secondary Saliencies in Sensorless PMSM Drives using Repetitive Control in the Angle Domain

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Abstract

To decouple the secondary saliencies in sensorless permanent magnet synchronous machine (PMSM) drives, a repetitive control (RC) in the angle domain is proposed. In this paper, the inductance model of a concentrated windings surface-mounted PMSM (cwSPMSM) with strong secondary saliencies is developed. Due to the secondary saliencies, the estimated position contains harmonic disturbances that are periodic relative to the angular position. Through a transformation from the time domain to the angle domain, these varying frequency disturbances can be treated as constant periodic disturbances. The proposed angle-domain RC is plugged into an existing phase-locked loop (PLL) and utilizes the error of the PLL to generate signals to suppress these periodic disturbances. A stability analysis and parameter design guidelines of the RC are addressed in detail. Finally, the proposed method is carried out on a cwSPMSM drive test-bench. The effectiveness and accuracy are verified by experimental results.

Key words: CwSPMSM, Repetitive control, Secondary saliencies, Sensorless control

I. INTRODUCTION

Sensorless control for ac machines, especially that for permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSM), has attracted a lot of attention around the world during the past two decades. The elimination of speed/position sensors for ac drive systems can reduce the cost and enhance the reliability of drive systems.

There are two major categories of sensorless control methods: (a) back electromotive-force (EMF) based methods (e.g., sliding mode [1], extended kalman filters [2], adaptive observers [3], etc.) and (b) saliency based methods [4] (normally high-frequency (HF) signal injection is required). Back EMF based sensorless methods are always utilized for machines running in the medium to high speed range.

However, these methods fail at low or zero speeds due to the weak signal-to-noise ratio of the back EMF. Fortunately, saliency based methods work well in the low-speed range and at standstill. This is due to the fact that they do not rely upon the back EMF. Instead they extract the angular position by a spatial saliency that is in a fixed relation to the rotor position. These saliencies can be classified into primary and secondary saliencies. The saliency with the maximum magnitude is used for position estimation, and is referred to as the primary saliency [5]. The other saliencies are grouped into secondary saliencies. These may result from magnetic saturation, rotor and stator geometry, manufacturing variations and so on [4], [6]. The existence of multiple saliencies is common in almost all ac machines. If these secondary saliencies are strong and not taken into consideration, they will result in an undesirable estimated position error, which degrades the performance of sensorless control and makes systems unstable [4], [7]. Therefore, this paper focuses exclusively on a method to effectively decouple the secondary saliencies in the sensorless control system.

A decoupling method for secondary saliencies was first proposed by Michael W. Degner. It used an estimated

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position to build secondary saliency models of an induction motor (IM) and then decoupled them within a phase-locked loop (PLL) [4]. It worked well when the magnitudes of the secondary saliencies were weak [6]. Nonetheless, it was shown to be invalid when the magnitudes of the secondary saliencies were larger than half of the primary saliency [8]. An adaptive controller combined with a neural network was applied to decouple the saturation induced saliencies in interior PMSMs [9]. However, this method required mass commissioning trainings, and the design rules of the neural network were complex. Hence, in the authors' opinions, it is not convenient to carry out in practice. Other similar methods based on a neural network were presented in [10] and faced similar problems. Another attempt through injecting multiple HF signals to extract position information was proposed in [11]. However, the additional HF signals brought a lot more noise and additional power losses to the system. Furthermore, some look-up tables including the HF inductances, which contain several harmonics, were built through the finite element method (FEM) or measurements to decouple the secondary saliencies [12]. Obviously, this method is not easy to extend to other machines due to the different characteristics of the HF inductances.

The methods mentioned above are either difficult to implement or have a high energy consumption. In this paper, a novel repetitive controller (RC) in the angle domain is proposed [13]. The traditional RC method aims to solve the periodic control problem in the time domain. Furthermore, it can be extended to the angle domain [13]. In this paper, the RC concept in the angle domain is applied to decouple the secondary saliencies that are periodic functions of the rotor angle. The RC in the angle domain is easy to realize in a digital controller and is robust to parameter variations when compared with other decoupling methods. The proposed method is applied to a concentrated windings surface-mounted PMSM (cwSPMSM) that shows strong secondary saliencies [8], [11]. The contributions of this paper are as follows:

- 1) A HF inductance model of a cwSPMSM is developed, which can account for the generation mechanism of the multiple saliencies in sensorless control.
- 2) A novel angle-domain RC incorporated into a PLL is proposed to decouple the secondary saliencies in the sensorless control of a cwSPMSM.

This paper is structured as follows: Section II analyzes the inductance and develops an inductance model which can demonstrate the characteristics of multiple saliencies for a cwSPMSM. Section III gives a brief introduction to RC and the detailed design principles of the proposed angle-domain RC. Experimental results are shown in section IV. The paper is concluded in section V.

II. ANALYSES OF MULTIPLE SALIENCIES OF A CWSPMSM

At the frequencies of the injected HF signal, ignoring the effect of the EMF due to the low-speed or zero-speed, the HF model for a PMSM consists only of resistance and inductance terms. With the injected HF signal, the increasing eddy current losses and hysteresis losses are responsible for the increase in the resistance [14]. In [14], [15], the authors point out that the resistances also show a saliency which is called resistive saliency and can be used to estimate the rotor position [16]. In [14], [15] the resistance is measured under different currents and frequencies in distributed windings PMSMs, and it is pointed that the resistance saliency increases with an increase in the frequency of the injected HF signal [16]. However, the inductances show inherent saliencies resulting from different magnetic saturations between direct-axis and the quadrature-axis (d - and q -axis), which are called inductive saliencies and are strong when compared with resistive saliency [14], [15]. There is no doubt that most methods utilize inductive saliencies to estimate rotor position. In this paper, the inductance model of a cwSPMSM is developed and verified by measurements.

In general, inductances consist of self-inductance and mutual-inductance. Nevertheless, for a cwSPMSM, due to the structure of the concentrated windings, the mutual-inductance between the phases is much smaller than the self-inductance to the magnetic path of the armature reaction [17]-[20]. Furthermore, a cwSPMSM exhibits an intrinsically high slot leakage inductance that is complex to model analytically [20]. Meanwhile, a cwSPMSM shows dedicated spatial saliencies caused by the stator tooth tip saturation due to the rotor zigzag leakage flux [19], which has a reversal property ($L_d > L_q$, L_d , L_q are the d -axis and q -axis inductances, respectively). Hence, a model of a cwSPMSM is different from that of a normal distributed windings SPMSM. In this paper, a simplified inductance model of a cwSPMSM considering only the self-inductance is developed, which is verified in experiments by inductance measurements and HF currents.

A. Model of a cwSPMSM Considering Multiple Saliencies

Ideally, in a machine with sinusoidally distributed windings (sinusoidally magnetic motive force, MMF), the self-inductance and mutual-inductance consist of the dc component and secondary harmonics, shown in Equ (1).

$$\begin{aligned} L_{aa} &= L_0 + L_1 \cos(2\theta_e) \\ M_{ab} &= M_0 + M_1 \cos(2(\theta_e + \pi/6)) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where L_{aa} and M_{ab} are the self-inductance of phase a and the mutual-inductance between phase a and phase b , respectively (this notation applies to all of the self and mutual inductances), L_0 and M_0 are dc components, L_1 and M_1 are the first harmonics, and θ_e denotes the electrical position of the d -axis advancing to the axis of phase a . Furthermore, in distributed-winding machines, $M_0 = -L_0/2$

and $M_1 = -L_1$. However, in concentrated-winding machines, $M_0 \neq -L_0/2$ and $M_1 \neq -L_1$ [21]. Meanwhile, the inductances also have several harmonics [21].

Due to deficiencies in Equ. (1), the inductance model of a cwSPMSM considering harmonics is developed in Equ. (2) [21].

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{aa} &= L_0 + L_1 \cos(2\theta_e) + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} L_i \cos(2i\theta_e + \phi_i) \\
 L_{bb} &= L_0 + L_1 \cos(2(\theta_e - 2\pi/3)) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} L_i \cos(2i(\theta_e - 2\pi/3) + \phi_i) \\
 L_{cc} &= L_0 + L_1 \cos(2(\theta_e + 2\pi/3)) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} L_i \cos(2i(\theta_e + 2\pi/3) + \phi_i) \\
 M_{ab} &= M_{ba} = M_0 + M_1 \cos(2(\theta_e + \pi/6)) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} M_i \cos(2i(\theta_e + \pi/6) + \phi_i) \\
 M_{bc} &= M_{cb} = M_0 + M_1 \cos(2(\theta_e - \pi/2)) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} M_i \cos(2i(\theta_e - \pi/2) + \phi_i) \\
 M_{ca} &= M_{ac} = M_0 + M_1 \cos(2(\theta_e + 5\pi/6)) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} M_i \cos(2i(\theta_e + 5\pi/6) + \phi_i)
 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where ϕ_i is the phase of the i th harmonic. L_i and M_i are the i th harmonics of the self-inductance and mutual-inductance, respectively.

To evaluate the inductance model of a cwSPMSM, analytical calculations depending on the detailed design parameters were presented in [20]-[22], and the FEM analysis [15]. However, to implement these methods, the detailed parameters, such as the materials, geometric size, winding factors, etc., must be known exactly. It is impossible to get this information on a commercial machine from the manufacturer. Therefore, measurement methods, such as the ac standstill test [21], [23], or the small-signal perturbation method [14], [15], are preferred by researchers. In the ac standstill test, the neutral line of the stator windings must be available [23]. However, it is not easy to obtain the neutral line in commercial machines. Furthermore if there are no function signal generators or current sensors, etc., the ac standstill test cannot be executed. With respect to the small-signal perturbation method [14], [15], accurate voltage and current sensors are necessary, since the phase and magnitude of the voltages and currents are needed to calculate resistances and inductances. To realize the inductance measurements with a PMSM drive system, a convenient method is adopted here. The authors of this paper use an inverter to generate a HF sin signal, then apply this HF voltage in phases a and b , and zero voltage in phase c . Therefore, the motor stays at standstill. As a result, the

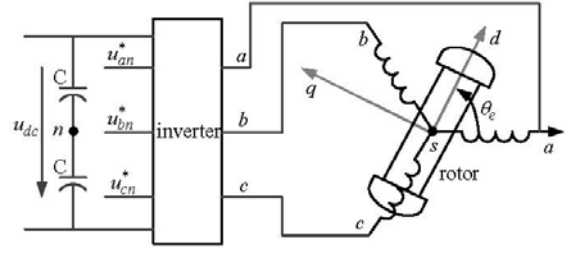


Fig. 1. Diagram of the proposed measurement of phase-to-phase inductance.

phase-to-phase inductance L_{ab} can be measured at one rotor position. Similarly, L_{bc} and L_{ca} can be measured through this method. Then the phase-to-phase inductance is measured at different rotor positions. Fig. 1 shows a diagram of the proposed measurement of the phase-to-phase inductances.

Through an inverter, the phase voltages u_{as} , u_{bs} and u_{cs} can be obtained as in Equ. (3).

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{as} \\ u_{bs} \\ u_{cs} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{an}^* \\ u_{bn}^* \\ u_{cn}^* \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

By setting the inverter reference voltages as $u_{an}^* = U_h \cos(\omega_h t)$, $u_{bn}^* = -U_h \cos(\omega_h t)$, and $u_{cn}^* = 0$, it is possible to obtain, through Equ. (3), $u_{ab} = u_{as} - u_{bs} = 2U_h \cos(\omega_h t)$ (when $i_a \approx -i_b$ and $i_c \approx 0$). Therefore, the phase-to-phase inductances can be calculated from the injected HF voltages and the response HF currents as in Equ. (4).

$$L_{ab} = \frac{\sqrt{(|u_{ab}|/|i_a|)^2 - 4R_s^2}}{\omega_h} \quad (4)$$

where the $| \ |$ is the amplitude of the sinusoidal component at the angular frequency ω_h , which is obtained by a fast Fourier transform algorithm (FFT) of the phase HF current. R_s is the phase resistances measured by a high-precise LCR meter (Model 878B manufactured by BK PRECISION).

Furthermore, the theoretical inductances between phases a and b (the other phase is left open) is given by Equ. (5).

$$L_{aa} = L_{aa} + L_{bb} - 2M_{ab} \quad (5)$$

Papers [20], [24] pointed out that the mutual inductances of a concentrated-winding PMSM account for approximately one-tenth of the self-inductance or even less. The major difference between the distributed windings and the concentrated windings is the mutual-inductance. In the design of the concentrated windings, the low mutual-inductance between the phases is required [24]. Therefore, the mutual-inductance is ignored in this analysis. Then Equ. (5) can be revised as Equ. (6).

$$L_{ab} \approx L_{aa} + L_{bb} \quad (6)$$

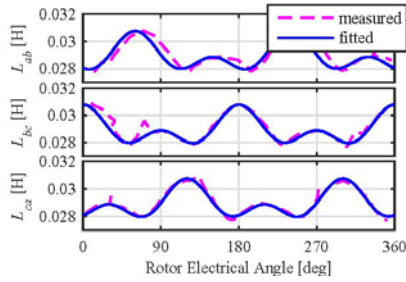


Fig. 2. Measured and fitted phase-to-phase inductances.

To evaluate Equ. (6), the measured and fitted phase-to-phase inductances in relation to the rotor position are shown in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 2, the fitted inductances considering the two main self-inductance harmonics and a dc component are expressed in Equ. (7).

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{L}_{ab} &= 29.1 + 0.958\cos(2\theta_e - 2\pi/3) + 0.759\cos(4\theta_e + 2\pi/3) \\ \hat{L}_{bc} &= 29.1 + 0.958\cos(2\theta_e) + 0.759\cos(4\theta_e) \\ \hat{L}_{ca} &= 29.1 + 0.958\cos(2\theta_e + 2\pi/3) + 0.759\cos(4\theta_e - 2\pi/3)\end{aligned}\quad (7)$$

Substituting Equ. (2) into Equ. (6) and comparing the result with Equ. (7) yields $L_0 \approx 14.55$ mH, $L_1 \approx -0.985$ mH and $L_2 \approx -0.759$ mH.

Furthermore, to analyze the influence of inductance harmonics on sensorless control, the position estimation based on Equ. (2) using rotating HF voltage injection is analyzed in the next section.

B. Sensorless Control Based on Rotating HF Voltage Injection

The HF model for a cwSPMSM in the abc frame is shown in Equ. (8). (In this case, the stator resistance R_s is less than the reluctance, i.e., $R_s = 2.05 \Omega \ll \omega_h L_s = 0.0144 \times 455 \times 2 \times \pi \approx 41.15 \Omega$, where L_s is the stator inductance).

$$\mathbf{u}_{abch} = \mathbf{L}_{abc} \frac{d\mathbf{i}_{abch}}{dt} \quad (8)$$

where \mathbf{u}_{abch} , \mathbf{i}_{abch} and \mathbf{L}_{abc} are the stator HF voltage, current and inductance matrix in the abc frame, respectively. The subscript h stands for the HF components.

$$\mathbf{L}_{abc} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{aa} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & L_{bb} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & L_{cc} \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

Transferring the abc frame to the $\alpha\beta$ frame, the HF voltage equation can be expressed as Equ. (10).

$$\mathbf{u}_{\alpha\beta h} = \mathbf{L}_{\alpha\beta} \frac{d\mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta h}}{dt} \quad (10)$$

where $\mathbf{u}_{\alpha\beta h}$, $\mathbf{L}_{\alpha\beta}$ and $\mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta h}$ are the voltage, current and inductance in the $\alpha\beta$ frame, respectively.

The structure of a conventional rotating HF voltage injection based sensorless control scheme for PMSMs is

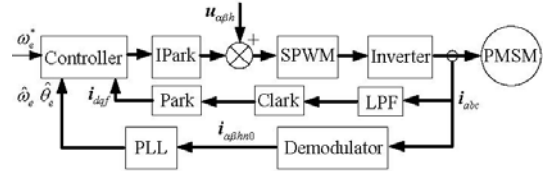


Fig. 3. Structure of the rotating HF voltage injection based sensorless control.

shown in Fig. 3, where LPF is the abbreviation for a low-pass filter.

The rotating HF carrier voltage injected into the $\alpha\beta$ frame is expressed as Equ. (11).

$$\mathbf{u}_{\alpha\beta h} = U_h \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\omega_h t) \\ \sin(\omega_h t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

First, transferring Equ. (9) to the $\alpha\beta$ frame and then using Eqs. (10) and (11), the general inductance model and the HF response currents for the rotating HF voltage injection from Equ. (11) are derived and classified below in terms of different i indexes. For simplicity, denote $\theta_{ei} = \theta_e + \phi_h / (2i)$ and consider one i^{th} harmonic.

1). For $2i = 3n + 1, \dots$, n is odd.

$$\mathbf{L}_{\alpha\beta} = L_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{L_i}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(2i\theta_{ei}) & -\sin(2i\theta_{ei}) \\ -\sin(2i\theta_{ei}) & -\cos(2i\theta_{ei}) \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

To express the HF currents clearly, complex coordinates are used, by setting the α -axis as the real-axis, and the β -axis as the imaginary-axis. The HF currents response to the HF voltages are shown in Equ. (13).

$$\mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta h} = I_{cp} e^{j(\omega_h t - \pi/2)} + I_{cn} e^{j(-2i\theta_{ei} - \omega_h t - \pi/2)} \quad (13)$$

2). For $2i = 3n + 2, \dots$, n is even.

$$\mathbf{L}_{\alpha\beta} = L_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{L_i}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(2i\theta_{ei}) & \sin(2i\theta_{ei}) \\ \sin(2i\theta_{ei}) & -\cos(2i\theta_{ei}) \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

$$\mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta h} = I_{cp} e^{j(\omega_h t - \pi/2)} + I_{cn} e^{j(2i\theta_{ei} - \omega_h t - \pi/2)} \quad (15)$$

3). For $2i = 3n + 3, \dots$, n is odd.

$$\mathbf{L}_{\alpha\beta} = (L_0 + L_i) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$\mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta h} = \frac{U_h}{\omega_h (L_0 + L_i \cos(2i\theta_{ei}))} e^{j(\omega_h t - \pi/2)} \quad (17)$$

where the magnitudes of the positive-sequence and negative-sequence HF currents are $I_{cp} = U_h L_0 / \omega_h (L_0^2 - L_i^2 / 4)$ and $I_{cn} = U_h L_i / (2\omega_h (L_0^2 - L_i^2 / 4))$, respectively. The subscripts cp and cn represent the positive-sequence and negative-sequence HF current respectively.

Second, when considering two harmonics, such as those in Equ. (7) where $2i = 2$ and $2i = 4$, by using Eqs. (13) and (15), the HF currents are expressed in Equ. (18).

$$\mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta h} = I_{cp} e^{j(\omega_h t - \pi/2)} + \mathbf{i}_{\alpha\beta hn} \quad (18)$$

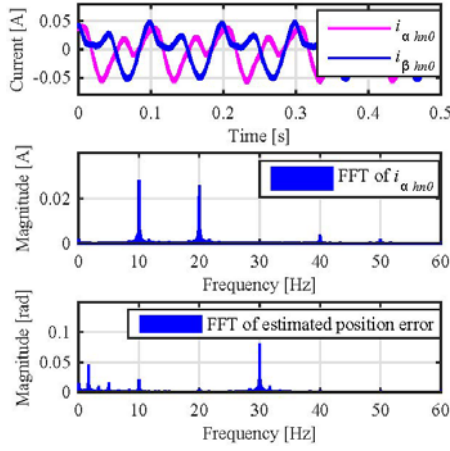


Fig. 4. Pure-NSC in $\alpha\beta$ frame (top), FFT of α -axis pure-NSC (middle), and FFT of the estimation position error (bottom).

where:

$$\begin{aligned} i_{\alpha\beta hm} &= I_{cn1} e^{j(-\omega_h t + 2\theta_{e1} - \pi/2)} + I_{cn2} e^{j(-\omega_h t - 4\theta_{e2} - \pi/2)} \\ I_{cp} &= \frac{U_h L_0}{\omega_h \left(L_0^2 - \frac{L_1^2}{4} - \frac{L_2^2}{4} - \frac{L_1 L_2 \cos(6\theta_e + 4\phi_2)}{2} \right)} \\ I_{cn1} &= \frac{U_h L_1 / 2}{\omega_h \left(L_0^2 - \frac{L_1^2}{4} - \frac{L_2^2}{4} - \frac{L_1 L_2 \cos(6\theta_e + 4\phi_2)}{2} \right)} \\ I_{cn2} &= \frac{U_h L_2 / 2}{\omega_h \left(L_0^2 - \frac{L_1^2}{4} - \frac{L_2^2}{4} - \frac{L_1 L_2 \cos(6\theta_e + 4\phi_2)}{2} \right)} \end{aligned}$$

where I_{cn1} and I_{cn2} represent the magnitudes of the 1st and 2nd negative-sequence HF currents (NSC), resulting from the 1st and 2nd inductance harmonics. I_{cp} stands for the positive-sequence HF current. From Equ. (18), the NSC $i_{\alpha\beta h}$ contains position information. It is convenient to utilize some processes and a PLL to extract the rotor position [4]. The principle diagram is shown in Fig. 3.

To verify the HF current derived above, a rotating HF voltage signal is injected into the $\alpha\beta$ frame. The frequency and magnitude of this HF voltage are 455 Hz and 20 V, respectively, and the electrical fundamental frequency is $f_e = 5$ Hz. The pure negative sequence HF currents (pure-NSC: $i_{\alpha\beta hm0} = i_{\alpha\beta hm} e^{j\omega_h t}$) in the $\alpha\beta$ frame and the FFT of the α -axis pure-NSC are depicted in Fig. 4.

Fig. 4 shows that the two main harmonic HF currents are also the 2nd-order and 4th-order, which is in accordance with the inductance harmonics and the current derivations in Equ. (18).

The error signal i_{err} is obtained by taking the vector cross-product between the measured pure-NSC $i_{\alpha\beta hm0}$ and the estimated 2nd components from the pure-NSC currents $e^{j(2\hat{\theta}_e - \pi/2)}$, expressed in Equ. (19).

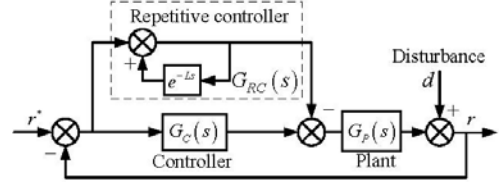


Fig. 5. Structure of plug-in RC.

$$\begin{aligned} i_{err} &= \left| e^{j(2\hat{\theta}_e - \pi/2)} \times i_{\alpha\beta hm0} \right| \\ &= I_{cn1} \sin\left(2\left(\theta_e - \hat{\theta}_e\right)\right) + d_{n2} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where $d_{n2} = I_{cn2} \sin(-4\theta_e - 2\hat{\theta}_e - \phi_2)$. When $\hat{\theta}_e$ tracks θ_e , the estimated position contains a 6th-order harmonic in one electrical period. From the FFT of the estimated position error ($\theta_e - \hat{\theta}_e$) in Fig. 4, the estimated position contains a 6th-order harmonic ($5 \times 6 = 30$ Hz). Meanwhile the 8th-order harmonic (40 Hz) is present in the pure-NSC in Fig. 4. However, in the FFT of the estimated position error, the 6th-order harmonic is obvious and the 10th harmonic is tiny, which means that the 8th-order harmonic of the pure-NSC is positive sequence. Hence, these results verify that inductance model Equ. (9) is reasonable.

III. REPETITIVE CONTROL IN THE ANGLE DOMAIN

The principle of RC originates from the internal model theory [25]. That is, the outputs can track a set of reference inputs without steady-state errors only if the models that have the same internal models of the reference signals are incorporated into the stable closed-loop system. For example, when a system is required to have a zero steady-state error for a step input whose internal model is $1/s$, then $1/s$ should be included in the loop gain. Similarly, if a periodic disturbance is injected into the system, the controller needs to generate the same periodic signal to compensate it for a zero steady-state error [26].

RC is usually implemented as a plug-in module to the original controller, shown in Fig. 5. In presence of a periodic disturbance d whose period is L , if the controller $G_C(s)$ and the plant $G_P(s)$ do not contain the internal model of the disturbance, the steady-state error cannot be eliminated due to d . According to the internal model theory, the RC, shown as $G_{RC}(s)$ containing the delay function e^{-Ls} , which can generate any periodic signal with the period L , is inserted into the system in parallel with $G_C(s)$ as a supplement to compensate for d [26].

A. Design of RC in the Angle Domain

In this paper, a modified topology of the plug-in RC, shown in Fig. 6(b), is proposed. This topology advances the

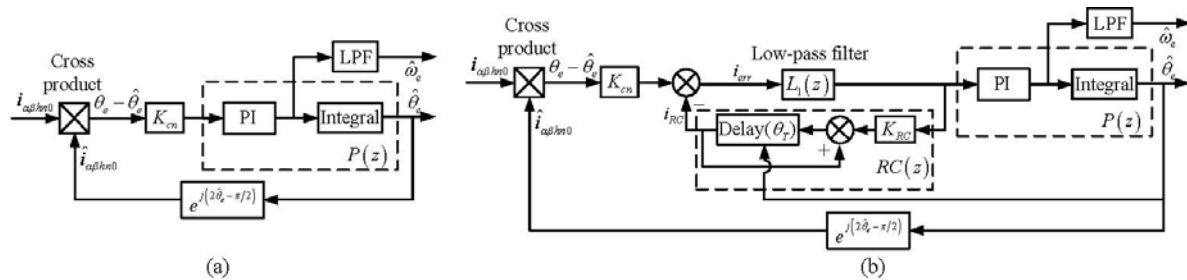


Fig. 6. Structure of the modified PLL with plug-in RC in an angle domain: (a) original PLL, (b) PLL with RC.

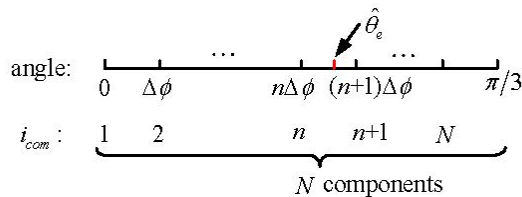


Fig. 7. Realization of RC in angle domain.

output of the RC to the input of the PLL. Because the disturbance d_{n_2} is incorporated in the PLL's input, this topology can eliminate disturbances immediately and the disturbances will not affect the other parts of the PLL.

In Fig. 6(b), L_1 is a LPF to eliminate the noise of the input of the RC; K_{RC} is the gain of the RC; $P(z)$ is the open loop gain of the original PLL; K_{cn} is equal to $2I_{cn_2}$, where I_{cn_2} can be obtained from a FFT of the pure-NSC.

The proposed RC being carried out in the angle domain means that the period is not relative to time, but to the angular position θ_e . From Equ. (19), when $\hat{\theta}_e$ tracks θ_e , the term d_{n_2} is equal to an angular periodic disturbance, which will induce the output of the PLL ($\hat{\theta}_e$) to track d_{n_2} . Hence, $\hat{\theta}_e$ contains harmonics due to d_{n_2} . Unfortunately, the period of d_{n_2} is not constant, but varies with the motor speed. Normal RC in the time domain can only handle constant frequency period disturbance compensation. However, from the aspect of the angular position, d_{n_2} reappears 6 times in one electrical circle $0 \sim 2\pi$. Independent of the motor speed, the reappearance times in one electrical circle is fixed, which means that d_{n_2} is a periodic disturbance relative to θ_e .

For the test cwSPMSM, from Equ. (19), the estimated position contains a 6th-order harmonic angular disturbance in the angle domain. This period in the angle domain is obtained as below.

$$\theta_r = \frac{2\pi}{6} = \frac{\pi}{3} \tag{20}$$

where θ_r is an angular periodic constant. i_{err} and $\hat{\theta}_e$ are sampled together as inputs to the RC. When $\hat{\theta}_e$ approaches

θ_e , the RC generates an output i_{RC} to approximate d_{n_2} . Then i_{RC} is subtracted from the input of the PLL to compensate d_{n_2} . Gradually, the term i_{err} tends to zero and d_{n_2} will be totally compensated by the RC.

To implement RC in a digital controller, a discrete RC should be designed. The angular period $\pi/3$ is equally divided into N components, shown in Fig. 7, and each component has a length of $\Delta\phi = \pi / (3N)$.

Every sampling instance, if the value of $\hat{\theta}_e$ modulo $\pi/3$ (the whole range $0 \sim 2\pi$ with respect to $0 \sim 6N$) is between $n\Delta\phi$ and $(n+1)\Delta\phi$, then the adjacent upper or lower integer should be chosen. This paper adopts the lower integer, as shown in Equ. (21).

$$i_{RC,k} = i_{com,k-1}[n] \tag{21}$$

where $i_{com,k-1}$ is an array of N lengths at $(k-1)T_s$. k is the sampling instant kT_s , and T_s is the sampling time. $i_{RC,k}$ is the output of the RC at kT_s . The learning process is expressed in Equ. (22), in which $i_{com,k}[n]$ is updated by $i_{com,k-1}[n]$ and $i_{err,k}$.

$$i_{com,k}[n] = i_{com,k-1}[n] + K_{RC}L_1(i_{err,k}) \tag{22}$$

To describe the proposed RC more clearly, Fig. 8 shows detailed processes at kT_s . At every sampling instance, the calculations of the proposed RC consist of a one-order LPF, a mod to determine the location of $\hat{\theta}_e$, and a multiplication and an addition to update the storage array i_{com} . A limitation restricts the output of the RC.

B. Design Criteria of RC

In this section, the stability criterion of the PLL with RC is derived and then the design of its parameters is introduced in detail. For simplification, assuming the motor operates at a steady speed ω_e , the analysis can be carried out in the time domain. Therefore, the delay period $\theta_r = \pi/3$ in the angle domain is equal to $T = \pi / (3\omega_e)$ in the time domain.

In Fig. 6(b), the z -transfer function between the output $\hat{\theta}_e$ and the input θ_e of the modified PLL is expressed by

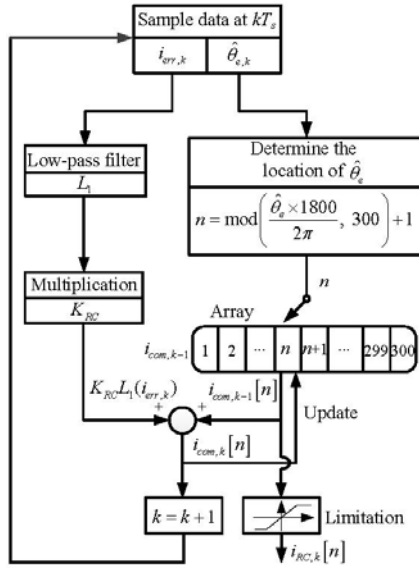


Fig. 8. Flow chart of the calculation of the proposed RC.

Equ. (23).

$$\frac{\hat{\theta}_e(z)}{\theta_e(z)} = \frac{\frac{L_1(z)}{1+L_1(z)RC(z)} \times K_{cn}P(z)}{1 + \frac{L_1(z)}{1+L_1(z)RC(z)} \times K_{cn}P(z)} = G_0(z)G_1(z) \quad (23)$$

where $G_0(z) = K_{cn}L_1(z)P(z) / (1 + K_{cn}L_1(z)P(z))$ and $G_1(z) = 1 / (1 + L_1(z)RC(z) / (1 + K_{cn}L_1(z)P(z)))$. $RC(z)$ is the z -transformer function of the RC, expressed as Equ. (24).

$$RC(z) = \frac{K_{RC}z^{-M}}{1 - z^{-M}} \quad (24)$$

where the periodic parameter M is an intermediate integer variable ($M \approx \pi / (3\omega_e T_s)$) that is introduced to analyze the stability.

By substituting Equ. (24) into Equ. (23), the denominator of $G_1(z)$ is denoted by $H(z)$, as shown in Equ. (25).

$$H(z) = z^M - 1 + \frac{K_{RC}L_1(z)}{1 + L_1(z)K_{cn}P(z)} \quad (25)$$

From Equ. (23), the stability of the modified PLL can be guaranteed only when all of the poles are located inside the unity circle centered at the origin of the z -plane. The requirement for the location of the roots of $G_0(z)$ can be satisfied through proper design of a proportional-integral (PI) controller. The condition for the roots of $G_1(z)$ to be inside the unity circle can be derived using the small gain theorem [25], [26]. By realizing that $z = e^{j\omega T_s}$ and $|z|=1$, this condition can be guaranteed under following requirement [27]:

$$\left| 1 - K_{RC}P_1(e^{j\omega T_s}) \right| < 1 \quad (26)$$

where:

$$P_1(e^{j\omega T_s}) = \frac{L_1(e^{j\omega T_s})}{1 + K_{cn}L_1(e^{j\omega T_s})P(e^{j\omega T_s})} \quad (27)$$

Extending the condition of Equ. (26):

$$\left| 1 - K_{RC}A_{P_1}(\omega)\cos(\theta_{P_1}) - jK_{RC}A_{P_1}(\omega)\sin(\theta_{P_1}) \right| < 1 \quad (28)$$

where $P_1(e^{j\omega T_s}) = A_{P_1}(\omega)\theta_{P_1}(\omega)$. Squaring both sides of Equ. (28) and rearranging the inequation, it is possible to obtain:

$$K_{RC} < \min\left(\frac{2\cos(\theta_{P_1})}{A_{P_1}(\omega)}\right) \quad (29)$$

Set $K_{RC} > 0$, then the phase condition of the modified PLL should meet Equ. (30).

$$|\theta_{P_1}| < 90^\circ \quad (30)$$

From the analyses above, the complex stability criterion Equ. (26) can be simplified to the choice of K_{RC} and the design of θ_{P_1} .

From Equ. (27), the phase of P_1 meets the condition $0 < \theta_{P_1}(\omega) < 180^\circ$ for all frequencies. Therefore, it is impossible to design such a RC to meet the sufficient criterion in Equ. (26) for all frequencies [27]. Thereby, the main consideration is that the frequency band of interest should satisfy Equ. (26). For a very low frequency band and at a standstill, this RC cannot satisfy the stability criterion. Therefore, it is desirable to stop the RC and use the learned RC which has been trained in stable frequencies (from the experiments, the performance is not as perfect as the one in the stable frequency range).

At a speed of 100 rpm ($f_e = 5$ Hz), the frequency of a disturbance d_{n2} is 30 Hz. A comparison of two bode diagrams, displaying the original PLL and a PLL with RC, is shown in

Fig. 9.

From

Fig. 9, for the PLL with RC, the disturbance suppression is greatly enhanced (the magnitude at 30 Hz is about -263 dB). Meanwhile, the performance of the position tracking stays the same compared with the original PLL in low frequency ranges. Furthermore, when the motor operates at another speed, the bode diagram will be shifted and the specific $6k$ th-order (k is a positive integer) harmonics will be suppressed by the RC due to the fixed angular period and the execution in the angle domain. In other words, the PLL with RC behaves like an adaptive notch filter to suppress the disturbance d_{n2} . Based on the above analyses, the stability has no relation to M , which means that the stability is independent of the motor speed in a desired frequency range. Hence, once the sufficient stability condition in Equ. (26) is satisfied in the frequency band of interest, the stability of the whole system is ensured. The detailed design processes are described below.

1) Choice of K_{RC}

The choice of K_{RC} will influence the stability of the whole system. Therefore, firstly the selection principle of

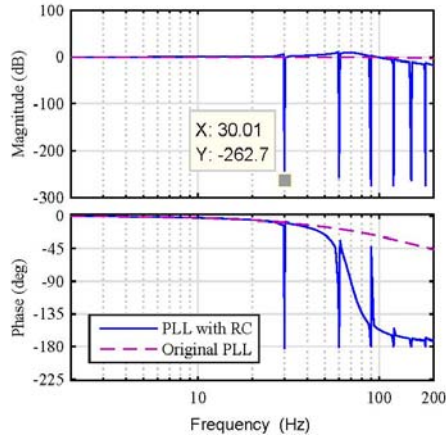
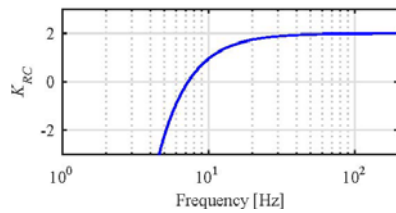


Fig. 9. Bode diagram of the original PLL and the PLL with RC.

Fig. 10. The change of K_{RC} vs. frequency.

K_{RC} is to ensure that Equ. (29) holds true, and then to obtain fast convergence. A larger K_{RC} will lead to a faster convergence, but worse stability, and vice versa [28]. Hence, the choice of K_{RC} is a tradeoff between stability and the speed of convergence. According to Equ. (29), the maximum K_{RC} varies with frequency, as depicted in

Fig. 10 (the other parameters are given in Section V).

Fig. 10 shows that K_{RC} reaches a maximum value of 2 at medium and high frequencies, and decreases sharply at low frequencies. Considering the uncertainties of a system, K_{RC} should be chosen so that it is smaller than the maximum value to ensure system stability.

2) Design of L_1

L_1 is plugged into the RC loop to attenuate noise. However, adding L_1 will change the phase and magnitude of P_1 . Hence, the stability of the modified PLL should be checked first. P_1 without L_1 is expressed as Equ. (31) (here, the cutoff frequency of L_1 is 27 Hz).

$$P_1(e^{j\omega T_s}) = \frac{1}{1 + K_{cn}P(e^{j\omega T_s})} \quad (31)$$

A comparison of the phase angle of P_1 with and without L_1 is shown in Fig. 11.

In Fig. 11, although L_1 leads to a decrease in θ_{P_1} , θ_{P_1}

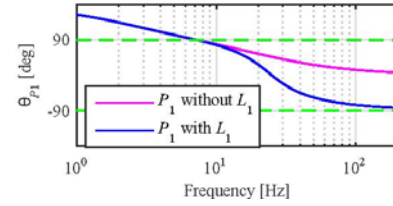
Fig. 11. The phase of P_1 with and without L_1 .

TABLE I
PARAMETERS OF THE CWSPMSM

Parameter	Value
DC link voltage	582 V
Rated power	2.2 kW
Stator resistance	2.05 Ω
Stator inductance	14.4 mH
Pole pairs	3
Slots	9
Permanent flux linkage	0.26 Wb

still meets the phase condition of Equ. (30). Furthermore, it is apparent from Fig. 11 that the frequency ranges whose phases are between 90° and -90° are identical for the original PLL and the PLL with RC. Hence, L_1 does not affect the stability of the original PLL. In addition, a high cutoff frequency of L_1 introduces a lot of noise to the RC, while a low cutoff frequency will decrease the dynamic response of the PLL. Therefore, a suitable cutoff frequency for L_1 should be chosen considering both the anti-noise performance and the dynamic performance of the PLL. A first order LPF is designed using the zero-order hold discretization method, as shown in Equ. (32).

$$y_k = ay_{k-1} + (1-a)x_{k-1} \quad (32)$$

where $a = e^{-2\pi f_{cL1}T_s}$; f_{cL1} denotes the cutoff frequency; and y_k and x_k are the output and input of L_1 at kT_s .

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The proposed strategy is applied to a cwSPMSM on an experimental test bench, and the parameters of the cwSPMSM are given in Table 1. A 3 kW induction machine, driven by a LUST (a drive manufacturer) 14 kVA inverter, is used as a load machine. The cwSPMSM is driven by a modified SEW (a drive manufacturer) 5.0 kW inverter which provides full control of the insulated gate bipolar translator (IGBT) gates and has a dead time of 1 μ s. A laboratory built 3.06 GHz real time Pentium computer system is used as a digital controller. The sampling frequency is 16 kHz, while the pulse-width modulation (PWM) frequency is 8 kHz. The rotor position is measured by a 4096-point incremental encoder. The structure of the sensorless control cwSPMSM

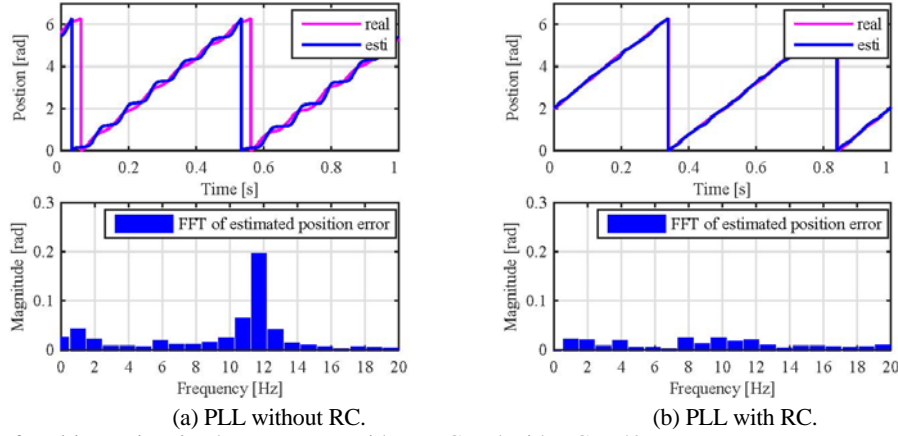


Fig. 12. Comparison of position estimation between PLL without RC and with RC at 40 rpm.

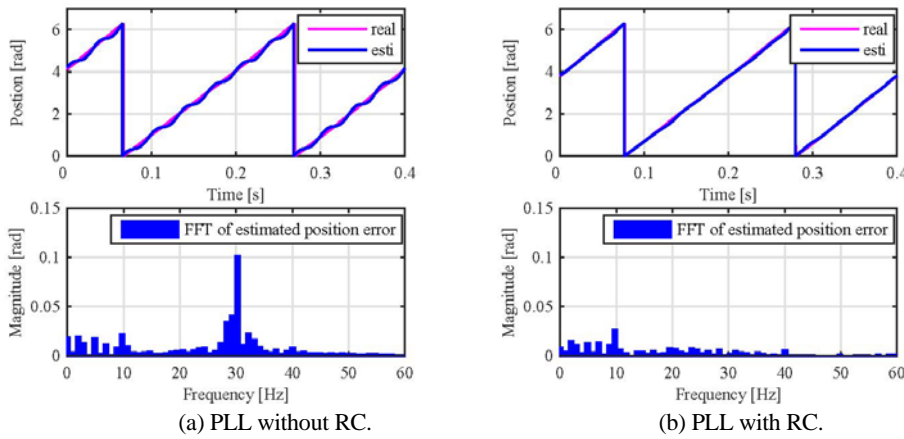


Fig. 13. Comparison of position estimation between PLL without RC and with RC at 100 rpm.

drive system is shown in Fig. 3. The control strategy is vector control realized by sinusoidal PWM (SPWM). The speed and current loops adopt PI controllers.

The frequency and magnitude of the rotating HF voltage are 455 Hz and 10 V, respectively. The parameters of the PLL are: $K_p = 600$, $K_i = 8000$ and $K_{cn} = 0.26$. The RC is designed according to the criteria described in Section III. The cutoff frequency of L_1 is $f_{cL1} = 27$ Hz. $N = 300$ is selected in the experiment, which means that the phase-interval between two adjacent points is $60^\circ / 300 = 0.2^\circ$. The maximum value of N has the condition that $60^\circ / N \approx 360^\circ / 4096 = 0.088^\circ$. Nevertheless, a large N means a large store memory in the digital controller. In this experiment, $N = 300$ is large and accurate enough to compensate for disturbances. The RC gain K_{RC} , according to Equ. (29) and the experimental adjustments, is set to 0.1 in the experiment. The d -axis current reference is 3 A (to increase the saliency ratio) and the motor operates under the sensorless speed closed-loop control. With regard to the initial position estimation for the test cwSPMSM, this method is well described in [29].

Fig. 12 shows the position tracking performance of the

PLL with and without RC at 40 rpm ($f_e = 2$ Hz) with half of the rated torque (about 3.6 N.m). Fig. 12 shows that both the real position and estimated position contain a 6th-order harmonic (12 Hz). From the FFT of the estimated position error ($\theta_e - \hat{\theta}_e$) in Fig. 12(a), the magnitude of the 6th-order harmonic is approximately 0.2 rad. After adopting the proposed method shown in Fig. 12(b), the real position and estimated position become much smoother and the magnitude of the 6th-order harmonic is near to 0.

Fig. 13 shows similar results at 100 rpm ($f_e = 5$ Hz). The 6th-order harmonic (30 Hz) is also suppressed effectively. Fig. 14 illustrates the convergence of the estimated position error with different values of K_{RC} at 100 rpm without a load (under sensor closed-loop control). It is obvious that a larger K_{RC} results in a faster error convergence, and vice versa. However, when $K_{RC} = 2$, as shown in Fig. 14(c), the RC estimated position error fails to converge which means that a larger K_{RC} induces instability of the original PLL. From Fig. 10, the maximum value of K_{RC} is 2. To ensure the stability margin of the modified PLL, set $K_{RC} = 0.1$ and the theoretical range of stable frequencies observed from Fig. 10

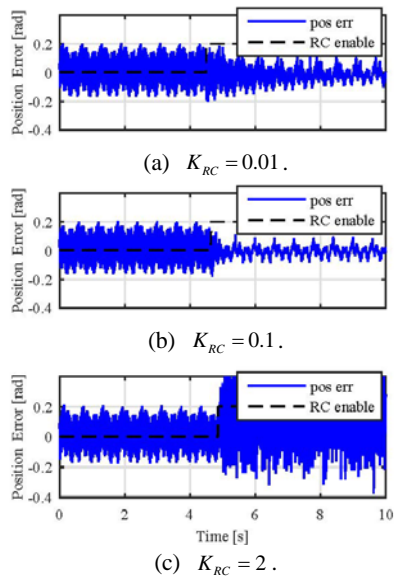


Fig. 14. Speed of convergence with different K_{RC}

is above 7.25 Hz ($f_e = 7.25/6 = 1.21$ Hz). However, in practice, the stable frequencies start from 9 Hz

($f_e = 9/6 = 1.5$ Hz). This difference may result from other harmonic components and other uncertainties.

Fig. 15 shows a comparison of the PLL with and without RC under a step change of half of the rated torque at 100 rpm. The original PLL can track the step change. However, due to the high ripple of the estimated position, the estimated speed and current contain large harmonics, as shown in Fig. 15(a). Adopting the PLL with RC, the ripple of the estimated position, the estimated speed and the q -axis current are reduced in Fig. 15(b).

The dynamic performance of the step speed command with half of the rated torque is shown in Fig. 16. When the speed command steps from 100 rpm to 200 rpm, using the proposed method, the estimated position, the estimated speed and the q -axis current in Fig. 16(b) (PLL with RC) become more accurate than those in Fig. 16(a) (PLL without RC).

Fig. 16 illustrate that the proposed RC in the angle domain can effectively decouple the secondary saliency under different torques and speeds, achieving better dynamic and steady performance than the original PLL.

Through adopting RC into the PLL in the case of a

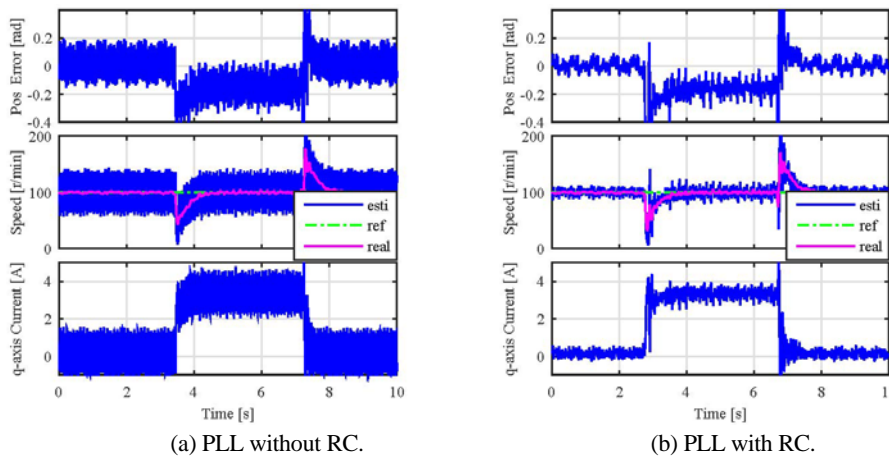


Fig. 15. Comparison of the dynamic performance for a step in the load torque to half rated torque at 100 rpm.

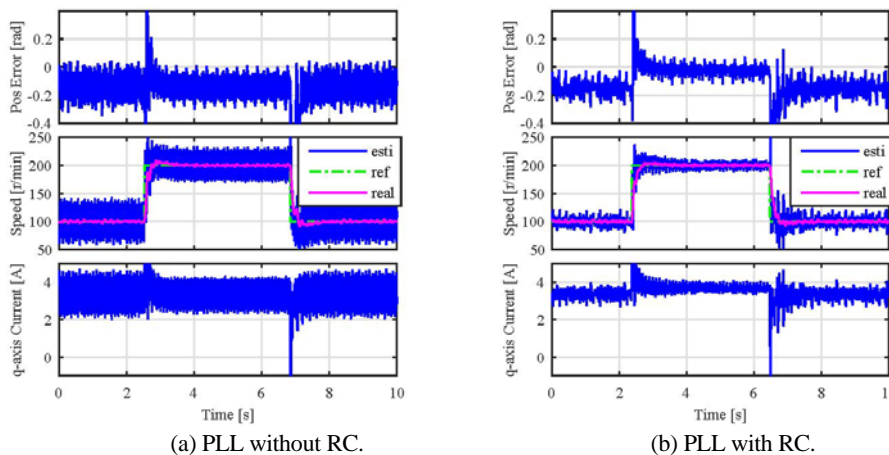


Fig. 16. Comparison of the dynamic performance for a step in the reference speed at half rated torque.

cwSPMSM, it is possible to reduce the ripple of the estimated position, the estimated speed and the motor current, which will improve the dynamic performance to some extent when compared with the PLL without RC. The increase in the gain of the PLL will extend the bandwidth of the PLL, and accelerate the convergence rate of the estimated position and estimated speed. However, a larger gain of the PLL will introduce more noise to the estimated position and estimated speed, and degrade the steady-state performance. Hence, the choice of the gain of the PLL is a compromise between dynamic and steady performances.

V. CONCLUSION

This paper proposes a novel angle-domain repetitive control (RC) method to decouple the strong secondary saliencies in sensorless PMSM drives. A simplified inductance model considering only the self-inductance is developed for the test cwSPMSM. The strong secondary saliencies can be attributed to the harmonics of the inductance. The estimated position using the HF signal injection based method contains harmonics relative to the angular position due to the secondary saliencies. The stability analysis and parameter choices of the RC are introduced in detail. The proposed RC is parameter independent. Only the frequencies of the secondary saliencies are needed, which are easily obtained by the FFT analysis of the estimated position error. Hence, it is easy to implement in a digital controller and can act as a supplement to the original PLL to suppress harmonic disturbances. The application of this novel decoupling method is applied to a test cwSPMSM. The experimental results validate its effectiveness of decoupling the secondary saliency under different speed and load conditions. The proposed method is valid for other machines with three or more saliencies through RC in parallel mode. Furthermore, this method can be extended to compensate or track periodic disturbances relative to the angular position in other areas.

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