

Nordic Workshop in Relay Protection and Control  
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# Transient-Based Protection for Distribution Networks

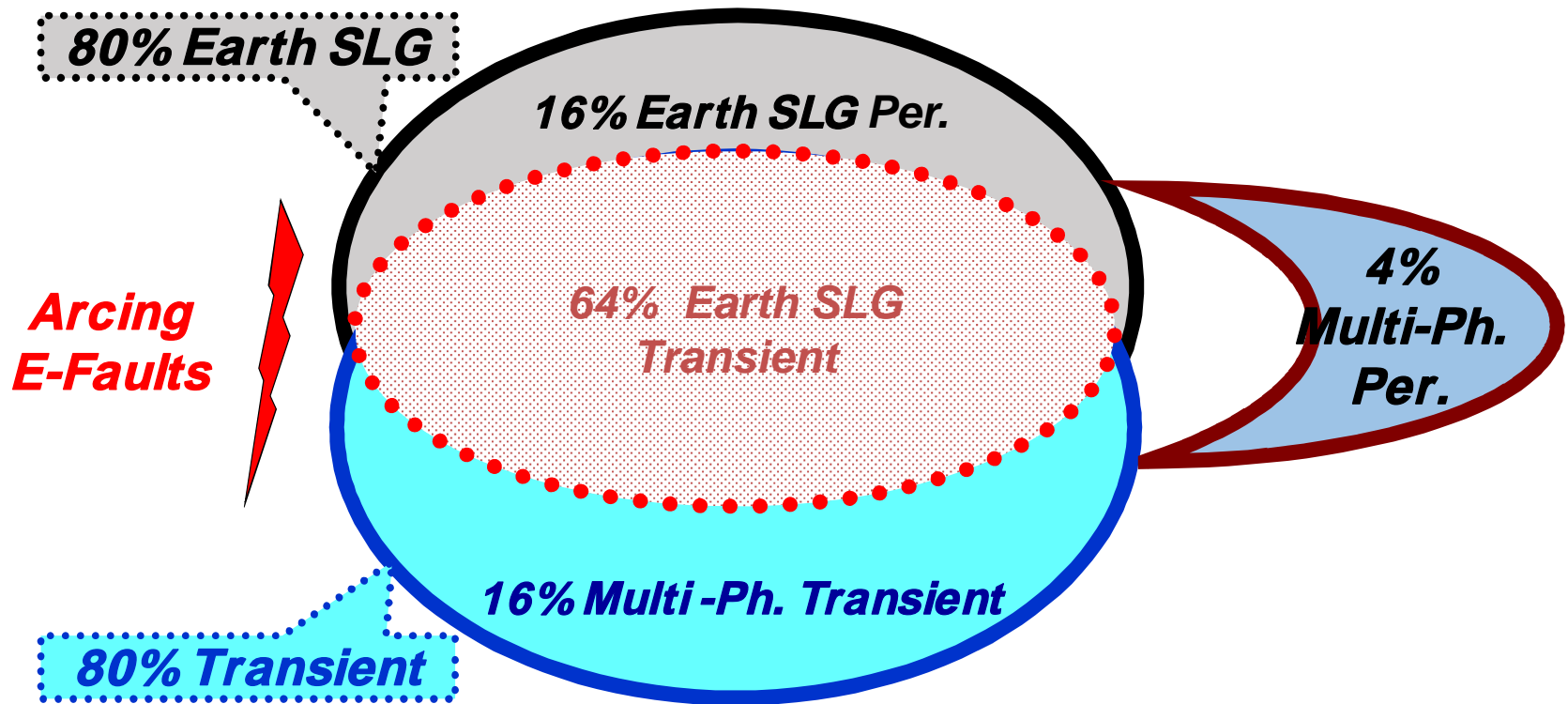
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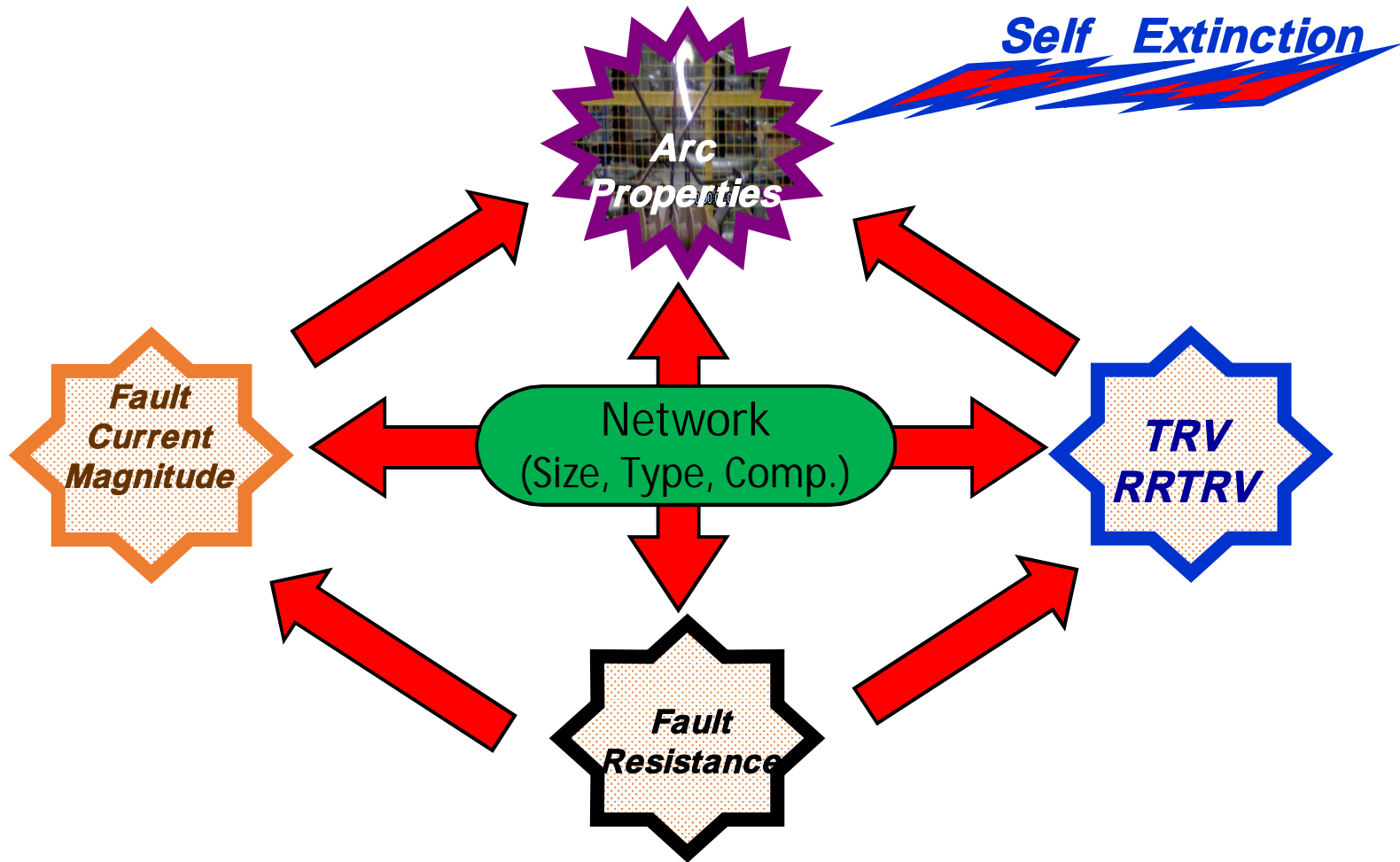


**School of Science and Engineering  
Reykjavik University  
ICELAND**

# Earth Faults (%) in Distribution Networks



# Earth Faults in Distribution Networks



# Protection Philosophy for Active Networks

- A series of efficient sensors and intelligent switches with two-way wireless communication capability.
  - IEDs/smart-meters!
- **Efficient/Fast protection systems** for the detection, diagnoses and location of any fault/interruption within the network.
  - Early (pre-fault) detection possibility!
- Taking appropriate automatic/control actions to isolate the fault as quick as possible.
  - Few seconds!



# Protection Philosophy for Active Networks

- Restores power to the greatest number of customers.  
→ Self-healing reconfiguration!
- Notifying repair crews of the type and geographic location of the fault/interruption.  
→ Minimizing repair time!
- Minimum number of Interruptions with/or minimum duration/time for minimum number of customers.  
→ High reliability!



# Protection Philosophy for Active Networks

Possibility of the “sustained-operation” of the network under earth-fault condition → **Reliability!**

- Limitation of the earth fault currents levels.
- Mitigation of the generated over-voltage, during fault conditions.
  - Network compensation of the unearthed-neutral network, by compensation (Peterson) coils
  - Replacing the overhead lines by underground cables (going underground).



# Transient-Based Protection

## Smart-Grids GENERATE more Transients

- Interactive Dynamic Network (more state-changes)
- Intermittent DG/Electric Vehicles/Energy Storages
- Renewables Integration & Controllable Loads
- Fast Autonomous Corrective Actions:
  - Quick Recovery Time; few millisecond, High Reliability
  - Fast Diagnoses of Interruptions (=> *Transients-Based*)
  - More Switching Operations



# Transient-Based Protection

- Utilize the **transient component** in the fault signals.
- Detect the faults **very quickly**
- **Less** dependent on:

Network configuration

Power frequency

Fault levels/parameters (fault resistance)





# Transient-Based Protection

## *Advantages*

- Efficient for transient/temporary faults
  - ➔ very short duration; usually less than one cycle
  - Conventional algorithms usually require about two steady-state cycles, which require transient filtering, for phasor analysis at power frequency.*
- Supervising any abnormal short duration activities;
  - ➔ for early prediction of fault development possibility,
  - ➔ e.g. by utilizing partial discharge (PD) activities



# Transient-Based Protection

## *Advantages*

- Efficient for low-current faults detection, that present a challenge to conventional protection systems
  - High-Resistance Faults  
(low fault current and random behavior)
  - Earth-Faults in Compensated-Neutral Networks  
(very low fault currents)
  - Self-Clearing Faults:  
Developing Faults => Long period PD => Transient Faults  
Self-Extinguishing Arcing Faults (Self-extinction)



# Transient Superimposed Components

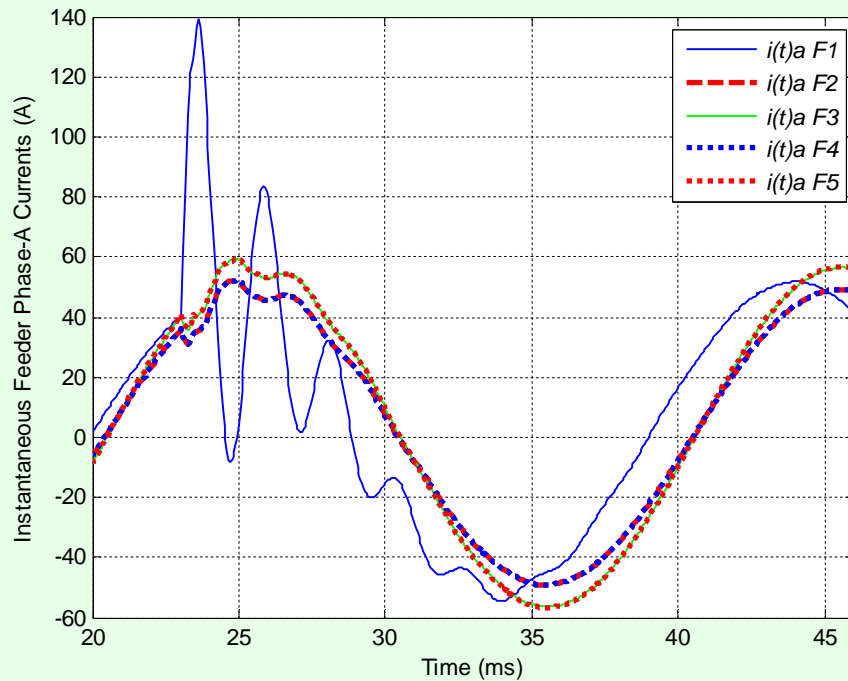
- Superimposed currents/voltages are the fault generated currents/voltages changes due to fault incidence.
- They are of zero values in any steady state; including the pre-fault and post-fault steady states
- They can be determined by storing the pre-fault values, for one power frequency period, and subtracting it from the current values during the fault
- They are very sensitive for fault incidence and less dependent on network parameters

→ **Recommended for transient-based fault detection.**

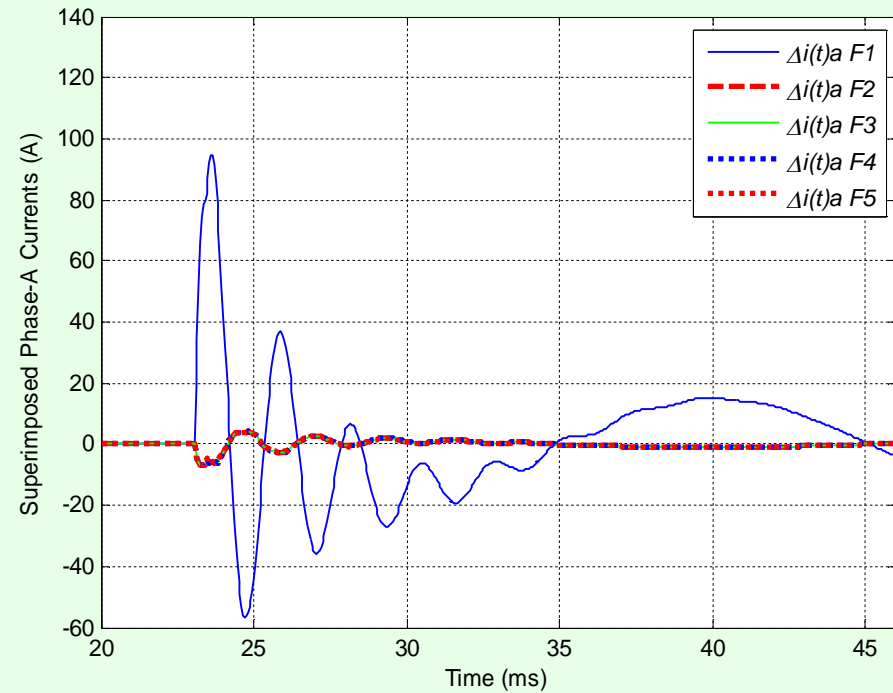


# Superimposed Components

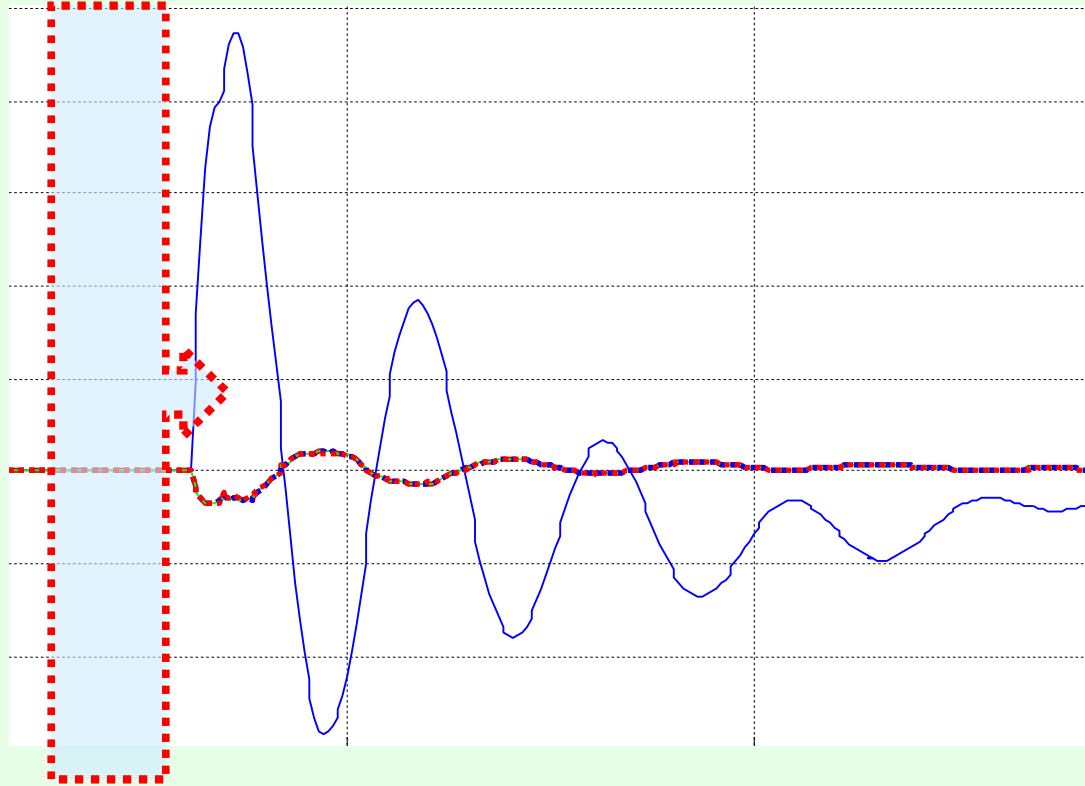
$$i_a(t)$$



$$\Delta i_a(t) = i_a(t) - i_a(t - T)$$



# Sub-Cycle Moving Window (2-3 ms)

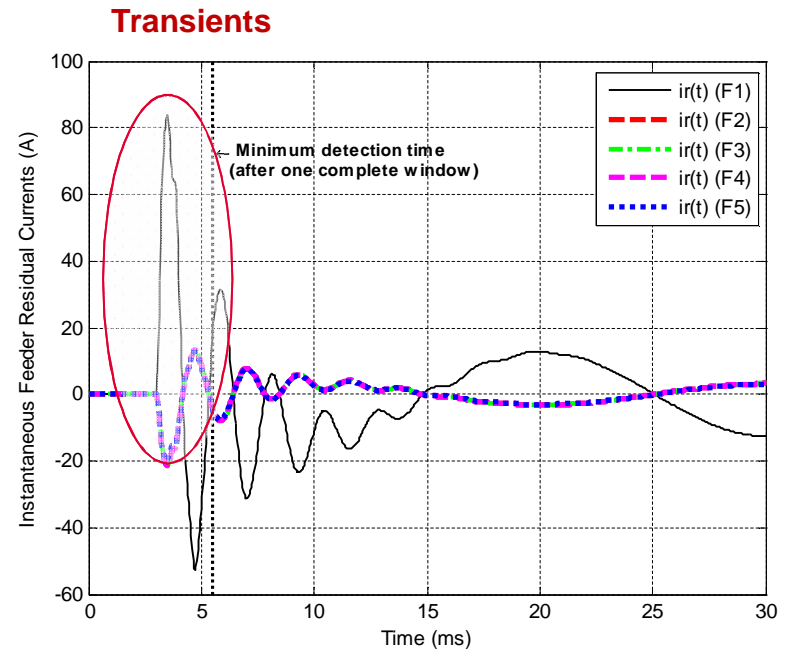
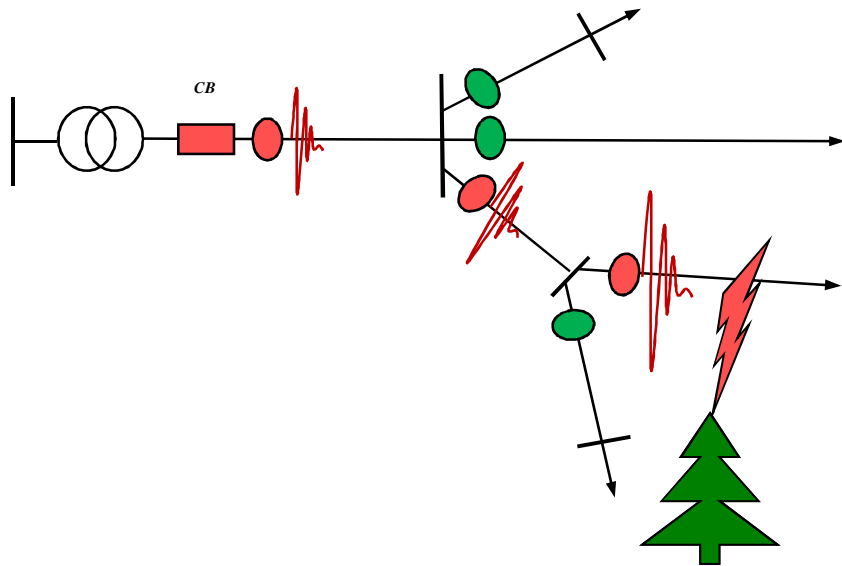


# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

Using generated transient components during fault condition.

Transient ➔ Fast Transients ➔ Travelling Waves

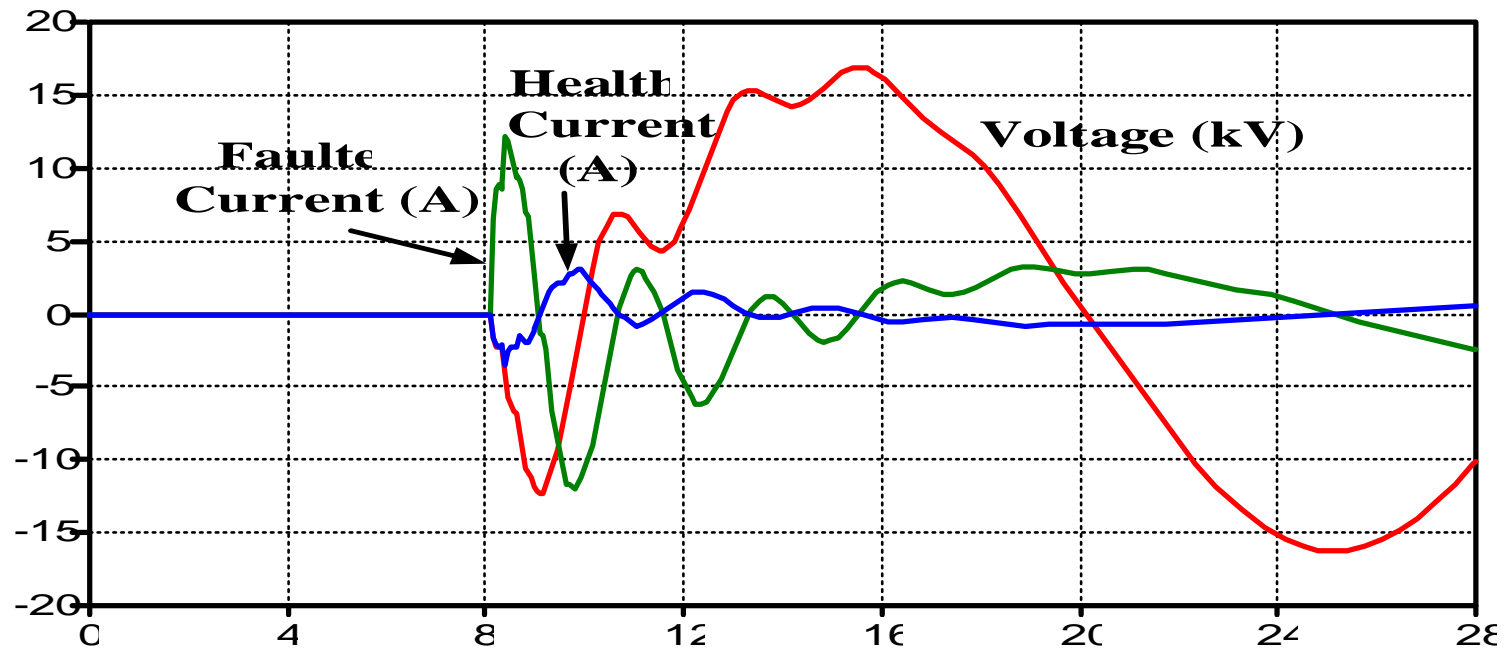


# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

*Using generated transient components during fault condition.*

### Polarity Comparison

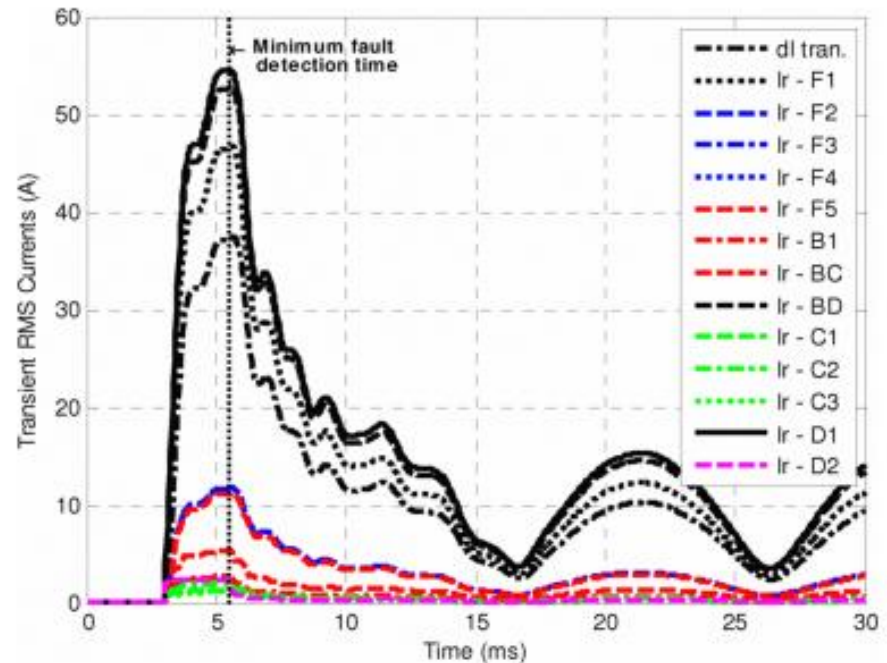
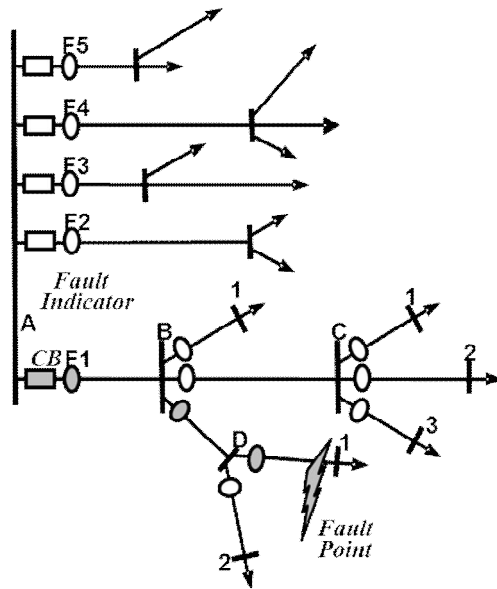


# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

Using generated transient components during fault condition.

Transient RMS  $I_r = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N (i_{r,k})^2}$



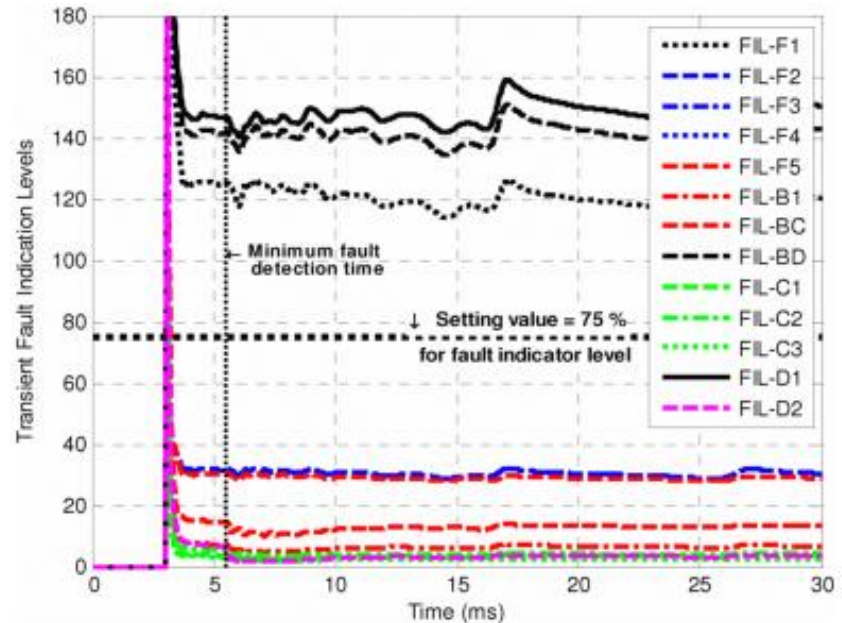
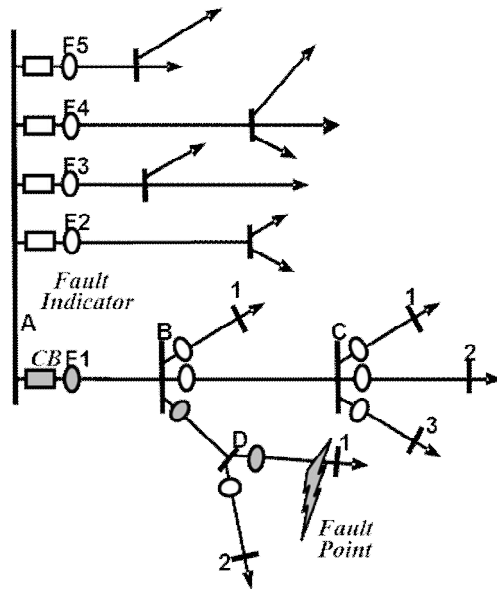


# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

Using generated transient components during fault condition.

Transient RMS 
$$I_r = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N (i_{r,k})^2}$$

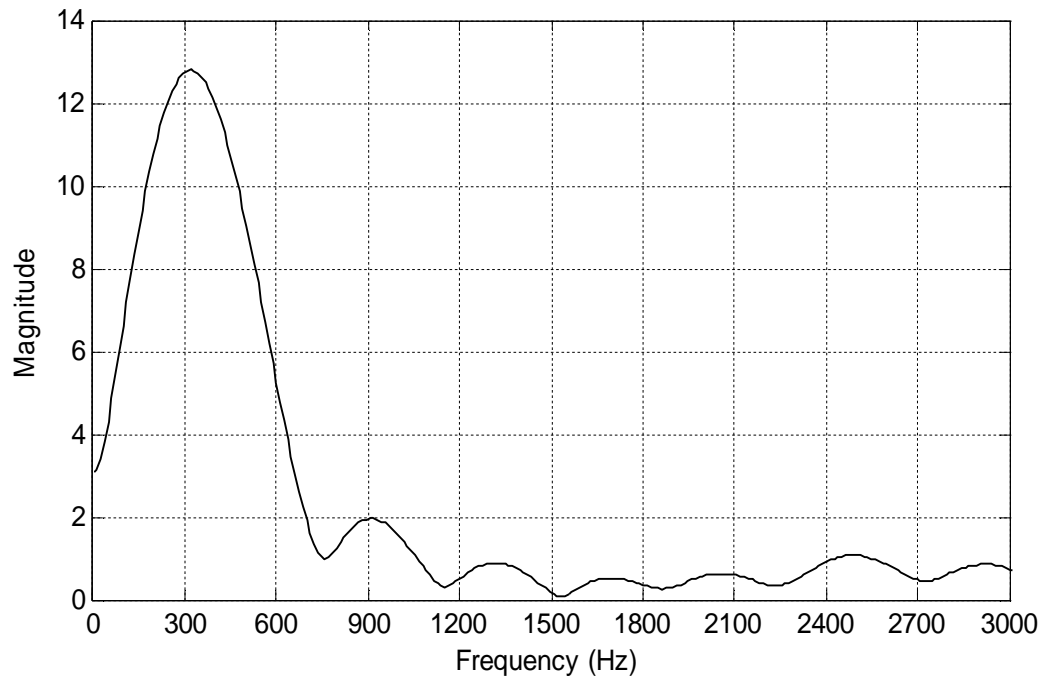


# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

*Using generated transient components during fault condition.*

### *Dominant Transient Frequency*



# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

*Using generated transient components during fault condition.*

### *Dominant Transient Frequency*

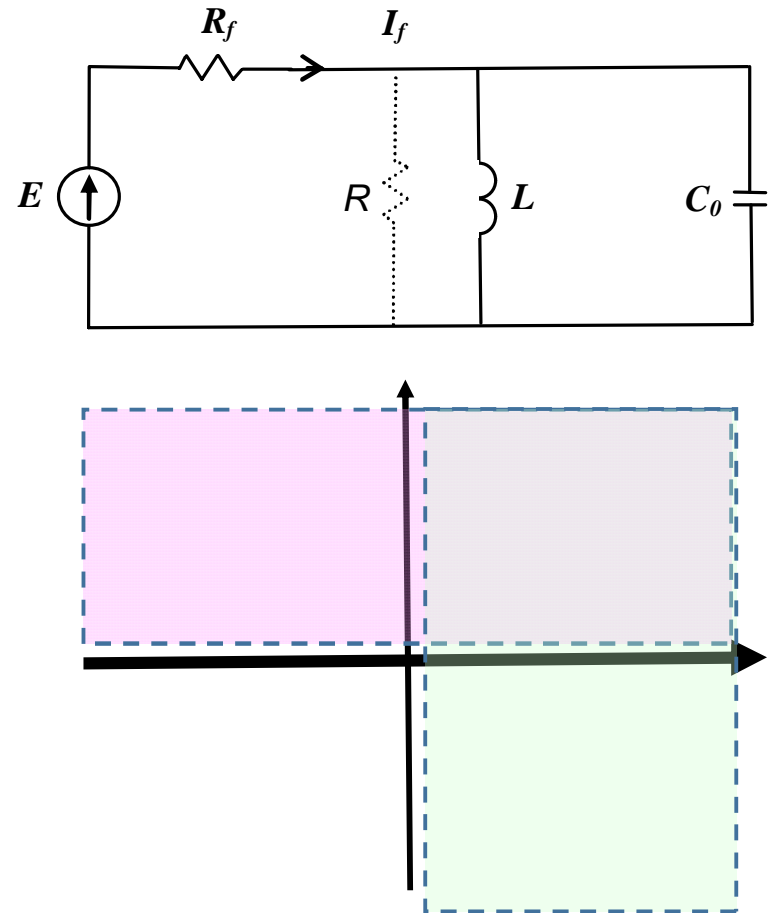
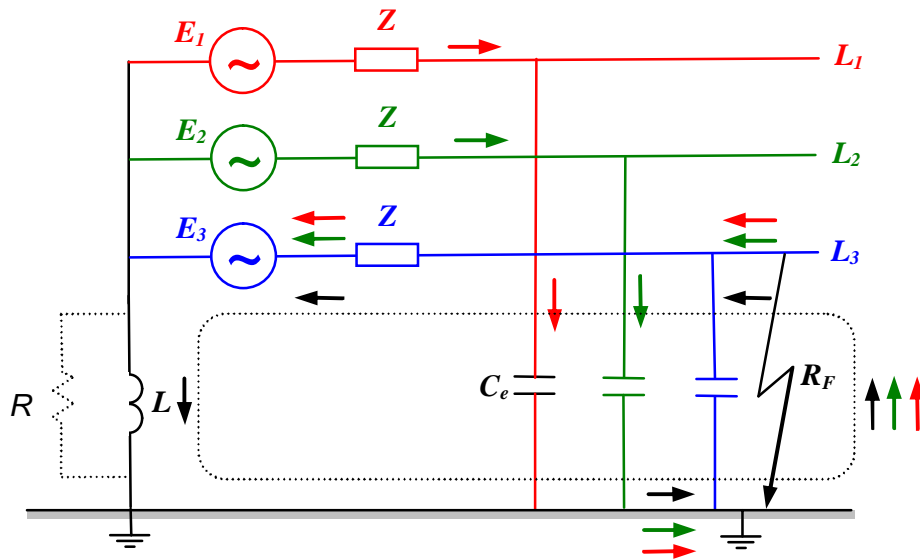
$$I_{Fault} \propto C_{Back} \quad C_e = \frac{1}{2\pi f_{tr} Z_0} \quad K_c = \frac{C_{e, Calculated}}{C_{e, Total}}$$

- Transient Impedance: from residual voltage and currents (earth modes) samples, in the window.
- Dominant Transient Frequency: from DFT (Discrete Fourier Transform)
- Earth capacitance → Indicates the faulted feeder
- Earth fault indication:  
→ e.g. 5-feeders: Faulty – 80%, Healthy +20%



# Transient-Based Techniques

## Neutral Treatment Effect



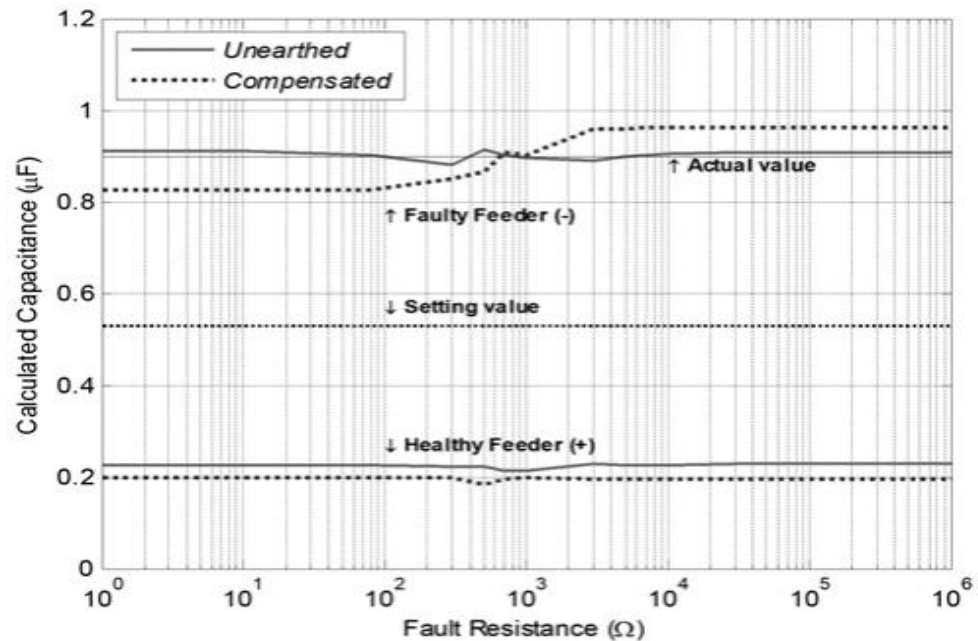
# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

Using generated transient components during fault condition.

Transient-Based  
Earth Capacitance  
Estimation [\*]

$$C_{OB} = \frac{T_s \sum_{k=1}^N i_{0k}}{V_{0N} - V_{01}}$$



[\*] M.F. Abdel-Fattah and M. Lehtonen, "Transient algorithm based on earth capacitance estimation for earth-fault detection in medium-voltage networks," *IET Gener. Transm. Distrib.*, 2012, Vol. 6, Iss. 2, pp. 161–166.



# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Other Methods

*Based on:*

- ☺ Active Energy
- ☺ Wavelet
- ☺ ANN
- ☺ Probabilistic Analysis
- ☺ Mathematical Morphology



# Transient-Based Techniques

## ➤ Transient Components

Using generated transient components during fault condition.

### Correlation Analysis [\*]

$$Cor(i_1, i_2) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^N (i_{1k} - M_{i1})(i_{2k} - M_{i2})}{\sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^N (i_{1k} - M_{i1})^2 \sum_{k=1}^N (i_{2k} - M_{i2})^2}}$$

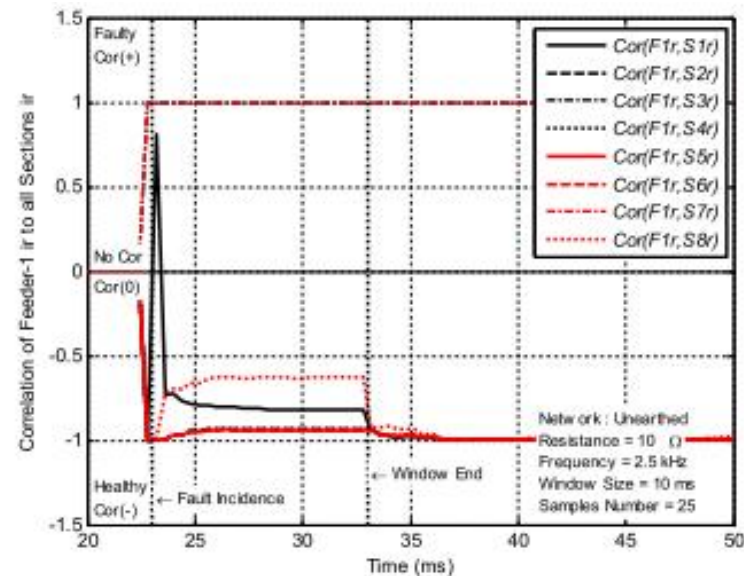
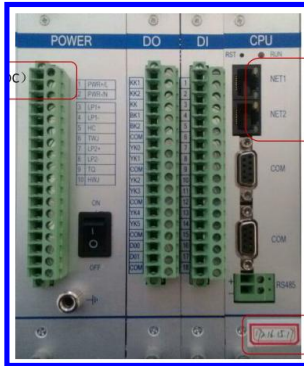


Fig. 5. Correlation of Feeder-1  $i_1$  to all Sections  $i_r$

[\*] M. F. Abdel-Fattah, M. Lehtonen and X. Bingyin, "A New Correlation-Based Earth Fault Indication Algorithm Using Only Transient Current Measurements," *International Review of Electrical Engineering (IREE) Journal*, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 111-121, May-June 2014.



# Relay Functions for Transient Faults

## ➤ Transient Components

*Using generated transient components during fault condition.*

*E.g. Siemens SIPROTEC 5*

*Includes detection of transient ground faults*

*Frequency could reach 8 kHz with limitations!*

*Algorithm?*





*Thanks!*

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