

Comparative Study Of Various Dissolved Gas Analysis Methods To Diagnose Transformer Faults

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ABSTRACT:

Dissolved gas analysis (DGA) is a reliable technique for detecting the presence of incipient fault conditions in oil immersed transformers. In this method the presence of certain key gases is monitored. The various analysis methods are : Rogers ratio, IEC ratio, Doernenburg, Duval triangle, key gas, artificial neural network (ANN) method. In this paper the various DGA methods are evaluated and compared. The comparative study is carried out from DGA data obtained from published papers. The key gases considered are hydrogen, methane, ethane, ethylene, acetylene.

INTRODUCTION:

Mineral oils is mixture of saturated hydrocarbon paraffin whose general molecular formula is C_nH_{2n+2} with 'n' in the range of 20-40. This oil acts as dielectric medium and this heat transfer agent when used in transformers. During the occurrence of fault in the transformer, these gases are released within the unit. The rate of gas generation and its distribution indicates the severity of fault.

Fault may occur due to overheating, arcing, partial discharge, over heating in cellulose, etc. The fault gases are methane(CH₄), ethane (C₂H₆), ethylene (C₂H₄), acetylene(C₂H₂), hydrogen(H₂), carbon monoxide(CO), carbon dioxide(CO₂), non fault gasses are nitrogen(N₂), Oxygen(O₂). Depending up on the fault gas there are several technique to analyse the type if transformer fault.

METHODOLOGY:

The insulating oils breakdown to release small quantity of gases up on occurrence of fault. It is possible to distinguish fault such as partial discharge (corona), overheating, arcing, by means of DGA

1. Roger ratio method:

In this method four ratio CH₄/H₂, C₂H₆/CH₄, C₂H₄/C₂H₆ and C₂H₂/C₂H₄ are utilised. The code number that is generated can be related to a diagnostic interpretation as shown in Table 1,2 & 3. Table(1):

CH ₄ /H ₂	C ₂ H ₆ /CH ₄	C ₂ H ₄ /C ₂ H ₆	C ₂ H ₂ /C ₂ H ₄	Diagnosis
0	0	0	0	If CH ₄ /H ₂ is 0.1 or so → partial discharge, otherwise normal deterioration
1	0	0	0	Slight overheating – below 150 °C
1	1	0	0	Slight overheating – 150-200 °C
0	1	0	0	Slight overheating – 200-300 °C
0	0	1	0	General conductor overheating
1	0	1	0	Circulating currents and/or overheating joints
0	0	0	1	Flashover without power follow-through
0	1	0	1	Tap changer selector breaking current
0	0	1	1	Arc with power follow-through – or persistent sparking

Table 2.
C. E. G. B. Fault Gas Ratios.⁴

RATIO	RANGE	CODE
CH ₄ /H ₂	≤ 0.1	5
	> 0.1 < 1	0
	≥ 1 < 3	1
	≥ 3	2
C ₂ H ₆ /CH ₄	< 1	0
	≥ 1	1
C ₂ H ₄ /C ₂ H ₆	< 1	0
	≥ 1 < 3	1
	≥ 3	2
C ₂ H ₂ /C ₂ H ₄	< 0.5	0
	≥ 0.5 < 3	1
	≥ 3	2

Table 3.
C. E. G. B. Diagnostics.

CODE	DIAGNOSIS
0 0 0 0	Normal
5 0 0 0	Partial discharge
1,2 0 0 0	Slight overheating < 150°C
1,2 1 0 0	Slight overheating 150 - 200°C
0 1 0 0	Slight overheating 200 - 300°C
0 0 1 0	General conductor overheating
1 0 1 0	Winding circulating currents
1 0 2 0	Core and tank circulating currents, overheated joints
0 0 0 1	Flashover, no power follow through
0 0 1,2 1,2	Arc, with power follow through
0 0 2 2	Continuous sparking to floating potential
5 0 0 1,2	Partial discharge with tracking (note CO)
CO ₂ / CO > 11	Higher than normal temperature in insulation

2. IEC method:

This method similar to Roger's ratio method except that the ratios C₂H₆/CH₄ is excluded as it indicates only a limited range of decomposition. A detailed description of IEC method shown in table(4).

Table(4):

Range Of Ratio	Code		
	C2H2 / C2H4	CH4/ H2	C2H4/ C2H6
	R2	R1	R5
<0.1	0	1	0
0.1to1.0	1	0	0
1.0 to 3.0	1	2	1
>3.0	2	2	2

Different fault types can be identified by typical phenomena. Partial discharge of low energy density

is observed by discharged in gas filled cavities from incomplete impregnation. Partial discharge of high energy density leads to perforation of solid insulation. Thermal faults are observed by overheating of insulation conductors.

3. Doernenburg Ratio Method:

In this method the gas concentration from ratio of CH_4/H_2 , C_2H_2/CH_4 , C_2H_4/C_2H_6 and C_2H_2/C_2H_4 are utilised. The value of gases must exceed the concentration L1 when there is fault at the unit. Table (5) shows the key gases and their concentration L1.

Table (5):

Key Gas	Concentrations L1 (ppm)
Hydrogen (H ₂)	100
Methane (CH ₄)	120
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	350
Acetylene (C ₂ H ₂)	35
Ethylene (C ₂ H ₄)	50
Ethane (C ₂ H ₆)	65

To diagnose the fault the step by step procedure in this method is:

- Gas concentrations are obtained by extracting the gases and separating them by chromatograph
- If at least one of the gas concentrations (in ppm) for H₂, CH₄, C₂H₂, and C₂H₄ exceeds twice the values for limit L1 (see table 7) and one of the other three gases exceeds the values for limit L1, the unit is considered faulty; proceed to Step 3.
- Determining validity of ratio procedure: If at least one of the gases in each ratio CH_4/H_2 , C_2H_2/CH_4 , C_2H_2/CH_4 and C_2H_4/C_2H_6 exceeds limit L1, the ratio procedure is valid. Otherwise, the ratios are not significant, and the unit should be resample and investigated by alternative procedures.
- Assuming that the ratio analysis is valid, each successive ratio is compared to the values obtained from table 8 in the order of ratio CH_4/H_2 , C_2H_2/CH_4 , C_2H_2/CH_4 and C_2H_4/C_2H_6

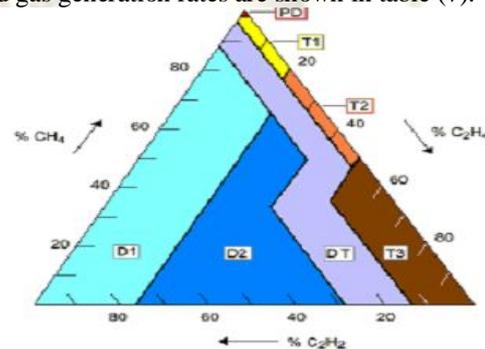
If all succeeding ratios for a specific fault type fall within the values (column) given in table(6), the suggested diagnosis is valid.

Table(6):

Suggested Fault diagnosis	1.thermal decomposition	2.corona(low Intensity PD)	3.arcing (high intensity PD)
CH ₄ /H ₂	>1.0 >0.1	<0.75 <1.0	<0.3 <0.1
C ₂ H ₂ /C ₂ H ₄	<0.1 <0.01	Not significant	<0.3 <0.1
C ₂ H ₂ /CH ₄	<0.1 >0.01 <1.0 <0.1	>0.75 >1.0	>0.3 >0.1

4. Duval Triangle method:

This method was developed in 1960 by M.Duval. To determine whether the problem exists at least the one of the hydro carbon gases or hydrogen must be at L1 level or above, and the gas generation rate must be at least G2[. The L1 level and gas generation rates are shown in table (7).



Legend

- PD = Partial Discharge
- T1 = Thermal Fault Less than 300 °C
- T2 = Thermal Fault Between 300 °C and 700 °C
- T3 = Thermal Fault Greater than 700 °C
- D1 = Low Energy Discharge (Sparking)
- D2 = High Energy Discharge (Arcing)
- DT = Mix of Thermal and Electrical Faults

Table(7):

Gas	L1 limits	G1 limits (ppm per month)	G2 limits (ppm per month)
H ₂	100	10	50
CH ₄	75	8	38
C ₂ H ₂	3	3	3
C ₂ H ₄	75	8	38
C ₂ H ₆	75	8	38
CO	700	70	350
CO ₂	7000	700	3500

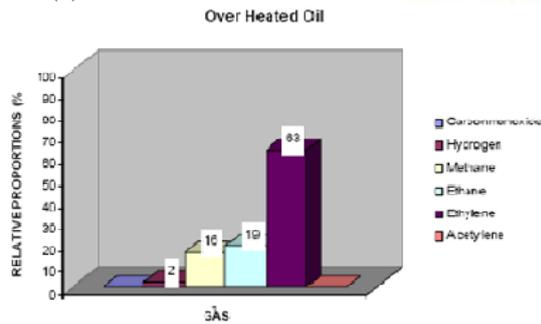
Once a problem has been detected, calculate the total accumulated Amount of the three Duval triangle gases (CH₄, C₂H₂, C₂H₄) and divide each gas by the total.

This will give the percentage of each gas of the total. Plot the obtained percentage of the total on the triangle to obtain the diagnosis.

5. Key Gas method:

The principle of the key gas method is based on the quantity of individual fault gases released from the insulating oil during the occurrence of a fault. In this method, individual gas is considered rather than the gas ratio for fault detection is calculated.

Table(8): Over Heated Oil Characteristic



Table(9): Overheated Cellulose Characteristic

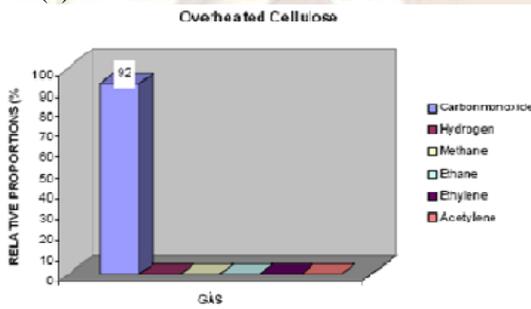


Table (10): Corona in Oil Characteristic

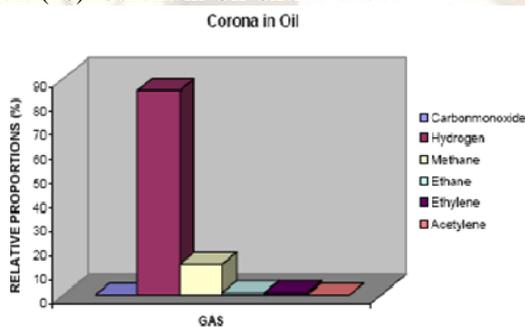
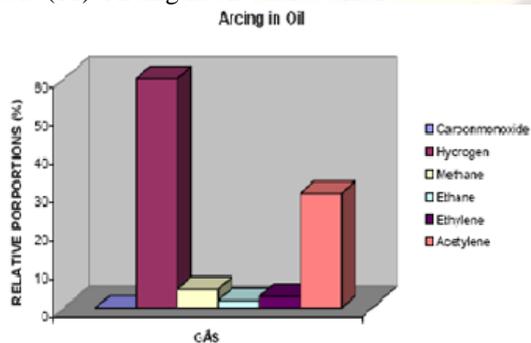
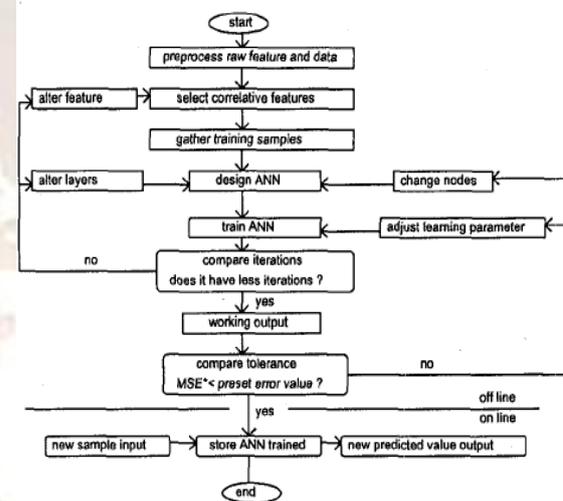


Table (11): Arcing in oil Characteristic



6. Artificial Intelligence:

The relationship between released gas and incipient fault condition is interpreted by ANN and is used to develop the gas- in- oil data. An ANN design includes selection of input, output, network topology and weighted connection of nodes. The network topology is chosen experimentally through a repeated process of optimization of the number of hidden layers. Figure () illustrates over all ANN design process with step by step adjustment to achieve desired structure. The back propagation learning algorithm used involves repeatedly passing the training sets through the neural network until it weights minimise the output error over the entire set. Once a process has done, the weights will be retained and ready for future use. New samples can be fed to this trained ANN to obtain the output readily.



*MSE ----- Mean Square Error

Results and Conclusions:

The percentage of successful prediction and consistency are calculated using the following formulas:

$$S_{Fn} = \frac{R_{Fn}}{\text{Number of cases of } Fn} \times 100$$

$$C_{Fn} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{n=5} S_{Fn}}{\text{Number of fault types}}$$

where:

$$F_n = \text{type fault code } (n=1,2,3,4,5)$$

Method	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	F ₄
Roger	Slight overheating <150°C Overheating 150°C-200°C Overheating 200°C-300°C	Conductor overheating Winding circulating current Core/tank circulating current	Flashover. Arcing Continuous sparking.	PDs PDs with tracking
IEC	Thermal fault <150°C Thermal fault 150°C-300°C	Thermal fault 300°C-700°C Thermal fault > 700°C	Discharge of low energy Discharge of high energy	PDs of low energy density PDs of high energy density
Nomograph	Heating	Heating and Discharge	Arcing Arcing and heating	Arcing, heating and discharge Arcing and discharge Corona
Doernenburg	Thermal decomposition with very high ratio 4	Thermal decomposition	Arcing	
Duval	Thermal fault <300°C	Thermal fault 300°C-700°C Thermal fault > 750°C	Low energy discharge High energy discharge	PDs Mix thermal and electrical faults
Key Gas	Principal gas: CH ₄ and C ₂ H ₆	Principal gas: C ₂ H ₄	Principal gas: C ₂ H ₂	Principal gas: H ₂

TABLE(13):

Method	Faults Code	Number of predictions (P)	Number of correct predictions (R)	% Successful prediction (S)	Consistency (C)
Roger	F ₁	10	5	50%	45%
	F ₂	13	13	39%	
	F ₃	13	12	55%	
	F ₄	9	8	57%	
	F ₅	4	3	23%	
IEC	F ₁	6	5	50%	60%
	F ₂	26	26	79%	
	F ₃	19	18	82%	
	F ₄	9	9	64%	
	F ₅	6	3	23%	
Nomograph	F ₁	15	2	20%	74%
	F ₂	24	23	70%	
	F ₃	19	18	82%	
	F ₄	20	14	100%	
	F ₅	14	13	100%	
Doernenburg	F ₁	3	2	20%	40%
	F ₂	15	15	45%	
	F ₃	9	8	36%	
	F ₄	7	6	43%	
	F ₅	8	7	54%	

From the results summarised in the table the following observations are made

- For f1 faults key gas and duval methods ds gave 100% successful predictions.
- For F2 faults key gas method gave 100% successful prediction.
- For f3 faults the IEC method gave the highest percentage of successful prediction at 82%
- F4 faults had the lowest percentage of successful prediction among all fault types.

F5 faults Duval Gas method gave 100% successful prediction. It can be observed that the most consistent method is the duval gas method followed by key gas method.

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