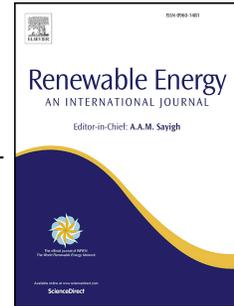


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Electrical & mechanical diagnostic indicators of wind turbine induction generator rotor faults

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## Electrical & Mechanical Diagnostic Indicators of Wind Turbine Induction Generator Rotor Faults

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# Electrical & Mechanical Diagnostic Indicators of Wind Turbine Induction Generator Rotor Faults

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## Abstract:

In MW-sized wind turbines, the most widely-used generator is the wound rotor induction machine, with a partially-rated voltage source converter connected to the rotor. This generator is a significant cause of wind turbine fault modes. In this paper, a harmonic time-stepped generator model is applied to derive wound rotor induction generator electrical & mechanical signals for fault measurement, and propose simple closed-form analytical expressions to describe them. Predictions are then validated with tests on a 30 kW induction generator test rig. Results show that generator rotor unbalance produces substantial increases in the side-bands of supply frequency and slotting harmonic frequencies in the spectra of current, power, speed, mechanical torque and vibration measurements. It is believed that this is the first occasion in which such comprehensive approach has been presented for this type of machine, with healthy & faulty conditions at varying loads and rotor faults. Clear recommendations of the relative merits of various electrical & mechanical signals for detecting rotor faults are given, and reliable fault indicators are identified for incorporation into wind turbine condition monitoring systems. Finally, the paper proposes that fault detectability and reliability could be improved by data fusion of some of these electrical & mechanical signals.

**Keywords:** Wind Turbine; Condition Monitoring; Doubly-fed induction generator (DFIG); Electrical & mechanical signature analysis; Rotor Electrical unbalance; fault indicator

**Declarations of interest: none**

## 1. Introduction

Wind energy has a crucial role in providing sustainable energy. By the end of 2017, the world-wide wind power installed capacity has risen to 540 GW [1], of which 169 GW are in the EU, approximately 153 GW onshore and 16 GW offshore [2]. Offshore wind has significant generation potential in Europe, especially in the UK, thanks to beneficial wind resources and seabed conditions. Optimising operations and maintenance (O&M) strategy through the adoption of cost-effective and reliable condition monitoring (CM) techniques is a clear target for competitive offshore wind development [3][4][5]. One of the main challenges currently facing the wind CM

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39 industry is to improve the reliability of diagnostic decisions, including component fault severity  
40 assessment [6]. Wound Rotor Induction Generators (WRIG), using a partially-rated Voltage  
41 Source Converter (VSC) to supply the rotor, known as Doubly-Fed Induction Generators (DFIG),  
42 are identified as the most widely-used generator in wind industry for MW-size variable speed  
43 applications [7][8], where Induction Generators in general are dominant, although Permanent  
44 Magnet Generators are gaining acceptance. Reliability surveys have highlighted that generator  
45 faults make a significant contribution to onshore wind turbine (WT) down-time [9][10][11]. With  
46 reduced accessibility offshore, any down-time is significantly extended. References [12][13][14]  
47 have also shown that rotor winding unbalance, caused by brush-gear or slip-ring wear/fault or  
48 winding electrical faults, are major contributors to WT generator failure rate. Monitoring  
49 generator electrical faults has not yet become standard practice in the wind industry where the  
50 majority of CM systems (CMS) are based on monitoring high-frequency vibration in gearbox and  
51 generator bearings [15]. Increasing concern about WT electrical component reliability [11],  
52 particularly offshore, could be overcome by expanding current CMS capabilities.

53 Steady-state DFIGs winding fault detection based on analysis of readily available current, power  
54 or even vibration signals has been widely researched and several diagnostic methods, based on  
55 time- or frequency-domain techniques, have been proposed to detect rotor failures. The first  
56 paper to consider current, speed and vibration measurement for detecting induction machine  
57 faults was [16] in 1982, in particular the presence of slip-dependant components in various  
58 induction machine electrical & mechanical signals has been reported in papers since 1978.  
59 However, more recent references [17]-[23] provide much greater analytical detail, at least for  
60 electrical signals. The feasibility of using mechanical signal spectra, vibration, torque or speed,  
61 as generator electrical unbalance fault indicators were investigated in [24]-[28]. However, all  
62 these papers relied on the analysis of single signals only, rather than considering the possibility of  
63 reducing effects of signal noise and improving detectability by combining multiple signals. The

64 adoption of a data fusion approach, based on the comparison of independent single signals, could  
65 contribute to increasing confidence and reduce false alarms, as already demonstrated for WT  
66 gearboxes in [29]-[31]. Despite interest in recognising generator fault signatures in multiple  
67 signals, there is a lack of literature explaining how to improve reliability by combining relevant  
68 diagnostic signals. Furthermore in WTs, the use of a VSC-connected machine monitored by a  
69 CMS now means that both electrical & mechanical signals are readily available to the operator.  
70 This paper, therefore, sets out comprehensive generator signal prediction and measurement under  
71 rotor electrical unbalance (REU), at varying load and fault levels, with the aim of measuring  
72 wide-band, fault-related, electrical & mechanical harmonic side-bands, comparing and  
73 amalgamating them to improve fault recognition and raise reliability. The work builds on  
74 previous research [17][18][22][28][32], providing a comprehensive investigation of rotor  
75 electrical fault effects on DFIG stator current,  $I_s$ , power,  $P_e$ , shaft speed,  $N_s$ , mechanical torque,  
76  $T_m$  & frame vibration,  $A_v$ .

77 First, the paper provides closed-form analytical expressions, arising from author's previous  
78 published work, linking fault-related signal frequencies to generator operating conditions. A  
79 harmonic model of a laboratory DFIG is then used to investigate REU wide-band spectral  
80 signatures. The extent to which fault-related frequencies, predicted by theory, are manifested in  
81 DFIG electrical & mechanical signals is then investigated experimentally. Finally, the correlation  
82 between the identified electrical & mechanical signal spectral components and their ability to  
83 demonstrate rotor fault severity progression within the generator operating range is explored with  
84 the aim of identifying reliable fault indicators for potential incorporation in commercial WT  
85 CMSs.

## 86 **2. Generator Rotor Electrical Unbalance: Model Study**

87 Closed-form analytical expressions defining the spectral characteristics of  $I_s$  &  $P_e$ , for a DFIG  
88 with an electrically balanced rotor were previously presented by the Authors in [17][28][32] and

89 are summarised in Table 1. These equations account for unbalanced stator supply and higher  
 90 order field harmonics, typical of practical applications. According to [16][33][34], a spectral  
 91 content of electro-magnetic origin is also detectable in the speed signal,  $N_s$ . Machine electrical &  
 92 mechanical spectra under balanced conditions, described by equations in Table 1, are defined by  
 93 a set of characteristic frequencies, referred to as carrier frequencies (CF). These frequencies are  
 94 an artefact of generator design and supply harmonic content, and depend on: rotor slip ( $s$ ), supply  
 95 frequency ( $f$ ), supply harmonic order ( $i$  and  $l$ , where  $i, l = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) and air-gap magnetic field  
 96 pole pair number ( $k$ , where  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ). The CF expressions in Table 1 contain two distinct  
 97 subgroups:

- 98 i. Supply frequency harmonic carriers (H), rotor speed invariant artefacts of supply  
 99 harmonics, corresponding to  $k = 0$  and  $i \neq 0$  for current or  $l \pm i \neq 0$  for other signals;
- 100 ii. Slot harmonic carriers (S), rotor speed dependant inter-harmonic frequencies due to  
 101 slotting, corresponding to  $k \neq 0$  and  $i \neq 0$  for current or  $l \pm i \neq 0$  for other signals.

102 **Table 1**  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$ , Carrier Frequencies (CF) and their  $\pm 2nsf$  side-bands

103 REU gives rise to additional  $\pm 2nsf$  side-bands around existing CF components in  $I_s$  spectra,  
 104 which are consequently reflected into counter-part  $\pm 2nsf$  components of the CFs identified in the  
 105  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  spectra [22][28][33][34][35], where  $n$  can take any positive integer value, i.e.  $n = 0, 1, 2,$   
 106  $3, \dots$ . The third column in Table 1 summarises analytical expressions describing possible DFIG  
 107 signal spectral content under REU operation, derived by taking account of CFs  $2nsf$  side-bands,  
 108 i.e.  $CF \pm 2nsf$ . As side-bands generally decay with order [22], only fundamental (i.e. first order  
 109 side-band) components are examined further in this work. REU-induced side-band equations can  
 110 be resolved into two distinct sub-groups depending on whether they correspond to supply  
 111 harmonic side-bands ( $H_L$  and  $H_U$ ) or slot harmonic side-bands ( $S_L$  and  $S_U$ ), where subscripts L  
 112 and U denote lower and upper  $2sf$  CF side-bands, respectively.

113 To understand REU-induced electrical & mechanical spectra, a time-stepped DFIG harmonic  
114 model was developed [18][36]. A 4-pole laboratory generator has been used in this research; the  
115 model emulated its design and operational data as model inputs. The model enables the analysis  
116 of higher order harmonic effects and was used to study the steady-state spectral content of  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$   
117 &  $N_s$  signals. Generator operation was simulated for illustration purposes at the loaded operating  
118 speed of 1590 rpm, 90 rpm above synchronous speed and speed-ripple effects were incorporated  
119 in model calculations [33][34]. The three-phase supply was modelled with 3% magnitude  
120 unbalance to match typical laboratory levels. The stator windings were modelled as balanced for  
121 the purposes of this study. To study the spectral effects of interest predicted spectra were  
122 investigated over 0-450 Hz band-width for  $I_s$  &  $P_e$ , and 0-150 Hz band-width for  $N_s$ . The  
123 harmonic model was used to evaluate the influence of supply harmonics on signal spectra for the  
124 generator operating with an electrically balanced rotor using wide-band modelling of dominant  
125 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> supply harmonics,  $H_{1+3+5+7+11+13}$ , with mean rms value limits, in terms of  
126 fundamental percentage, of 5%, 6%, 5%, 3.5% and 3%, respectively, as specified in the relevant  
127 grid code [40].

128 Predictions were obtained from the model to evaluate wide-band REU spectral signatures by  
129 increasing one rotor phase winding resistance by 300% of its rated value.

130 The predicted stator phase current,  $I_s$ , total power,  $P_e$  and generator speed,  $N_s$ , under balanced and  
131 unbalanced, 300% REU, conditions are shown in Figs 1 & 2. For each signal direct comparison  
132 of healthy and faulty spectra enables a clear understanding of REU wide-band spectra.

133 Supply harmonic carriers derived from  $I_s$  and  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  have been denoted by HI and HP,  
134 respectively; while slotting harmonic carriers have been denoted by SI and SP, respectively. For  
135 clarity, only REU first order side-band frequencies are labelled in Figs 1 & 2, where the  
136 subscripts L and U denote CF  $2sf$  lower and upper side-bands, respectively, identified by the red  
137 solid lines for H harmonic side-bands and by the blue dotted lines for S slot harmonic side-bands.

138 **Fig. 1.** Predicted  $I_s$  (a) &  $P_e$  (b) spectra at 1590 rpm

139 Spectral frequencies labelled in the graphs can be calculated for corresponding operating  
 140 conditions by appropriate expressions in Table 1. This confirms the validity of the proposed  
 141 closed-form equations for analysis of REU induced spectral signature. Tables 2-5 list equation  
 142 parameters and corresponding spectral frequency numeric values observed in model results.

143 **Fig. 2.** Predicted  $N_s$  speed spectra, 1590 rpm, Balanced rotor winding & 300% REU

144 **Table 2** Predicted  $I_s$  supply frequency harmonics and their side-bands

145 **Table 3** Predicted  $I_s$  slotting harmonics and their side-bands

146 **Table 4** Predicted  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  supply frequency harmonics and their side-bands

147 **Table 5** Predicted  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  slotting harmonics and their side-bands

### 148 3. Generator Rotor Electrical Unbalance: Experimental validation

#### 149 3.1. Experimental Test Rig

150  
 151 Model results were experimentally validated and quantified in a series of experiments on a  
 152 laboratory test rig, illustrated in Fig. 3, comprising an industrial 4-pole, three phase, 240 V,  
 153 50 Hz, 30 kW, star-connected WRIG. The generator rotor rated phase resistance was  $0.066\Omega$ .  
 154 The WRIG was mechanically coupled with a 40 kW DC generator, used to drive the WRIG  
 155 at a pre-chosen constant speed during experiments. The generator stator windings were  
 156 connected to the grid via a three phase variable transformer, whilst the rotor windings were  
 157 short-circuited. REU conditions were emulated by introducing additional resistance into one  
 158 rotor phase winding.

159 **Fig. 3.** Schematic diagram of the experimental test rig and its instrumentation

160 The DC generator speed and torque were controlled by a commercial DC controller. A shaft  
 161 mounted 1024 ppr incremental encoder was used for speed measurement and its output  
 162 signals processed in real-time using a dSPACE 1103 platform to extract the value of  $N_s$ .  
 163 WRIG instantaneous stator currents,  $I_s$ , and voltages,  $V$ , were measured using Hall effect  
 164 sensors and synchronously recorded by a LeCroy WaveSurfer digital oscilloscope sampling  
 165 at a rate of 10 kHz. Recorded currents and voltages were used to calculate the total

166 instantaneous stator power,  $P_e$ , using the two wattmeter method. The WRIG was mounted on  
 167 a Kistler 9281B force platform, containing three-axis piezoelectric transducers, to measure  
 168 the dynamic shaft torque [37]. The piezoelectric sensor signals were acquired by a NI DAQ-  
 169 6351 card and then processed to calculate the shaft torque,  $T_m$ . The WRIG frame vibration,  
 170  $A_v$ , was measured on the horizontal axis with a Brüel&Kjaer (B&K) DT4394 piezoelectric  
 171 accelerometer, which was fitted to the generator load-side end-plate. The vibration spectrum  
 172 was recorded with 0-1 kHz band-width at 6400 lines of resolution using a B&K PULSE  
 173 vibration analysis platform. Other signals were processed using the MATLAB FFT routine  
 174 with  $2^{17}$  data points to achieve a frequency resolution of 0.0763 Hz/line. Monitored signals  
 175 were recorded during generator steady-state operation and their spectra examined for this  
 176 study over a 0-450 Hz band-width for  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$ ,  $T_m$  &  $A_v$  signals, and over a 0-150 Hz band-  
 177 width for  $N_s$ .

### 178 3.2. Electrical & Mechanical Signal Analysis

179 To allow direct comparison with model predictions presented in Section 2, tests were first  
 180 performed at 1590 rpm. An external additional resistance of  $\approx 0.198\Omega$  was introduced into  
 181 one rotor phase to give up to 300% REU.  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  spectra measured for healthy and faulty  
 182 conditions are shown in Figs 4 & 5. Detectable frequencies of interest, corresponding to  $\pm 2sf$   
 183 side-bands tabulated in Tables 2-5, are labelled in the measurements. Measured spectra are  
 184 in good agreement with predictions, where contents originating from supply-induced inter-  
 185 harmonic effects, slotting side-bands and REU side-bands are shown. As predicted by  
 186 analysis reported in section 2, the presented measurements confirm that REU causes  
 187 additional, slip-dependant side-bands at calculable frequencies, confirming this research.  
 188

*a Measured  $I_s$ , Balanced rotor winding & 300% REU*  
*b Measured  $P_e$ , Balanced rotor winding & 300% REU*

189 **Fig. 4.** Measured  $I_s$  &  $P_e$  at 1590 rpm

190 Small discrepancies between numerical and experimental results are due to inherent supply  
 191 frequency variations and velocity measurement accuracy limitations. Some REU-related  
 192 side-bands are present in the healthy generator spectra, at low magnitude, as an artefact of  
 193 inherent rotor unbalance, unavoidable in any practical generator, arising from manufacturing  
 194 imperfections [17]. Measurements are also much noisier than model predictions due to  
 195 inevitable geometrical inaccuracies in machine construction and the full air-gap electro-  
 196 magnetic effects, as well as supply secondary noise effects not represented in the model for  
 197 the sake of clarity. However, most predicted REU-specific components are clearly visible  
 198 above measurement noise. Comparison between healthy and faulty spectra indicates that  
 199 REU induces considerable change in many components, with  $I_s$  &  $P_e$  side-bands giving  
 200 clearer fault indication than  $N_s$ .

201 **Fig. 5.** Measured  $N_s$  at 1590 rpm, Balanced rotor winding & 300% REU

## 202 4. Discussion

### 203 4.1. Model Study

204 Model predictions in Fig 2 and Tables 2-5 show the presence of significant wide-band  
 205 signatures in all  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  generator signals. For operation under REU conditions additional  
 206  $\pm 2nsf$  side-band components clearly arise in supply and slot harmonic spectral components  
 207 that can be correlated across different signals. Previous work [25][26][28][32][38] has  
 208 shown that effects associated with attractive rotor-stator radial magnetic forces can also give  
 209 rise to oscillations at identical frequencies in  $T_m$  &  $A_v$  as in  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  spectra. In summary,  
 210 models identified the following components to be looked for in experimental signals:

- 211 • SI, HI lower and upper  $2sf$  side-bands in  $I_s$ ;
- 212 • SP & HP lower and upper  $2sf$  side-bands in  $P_e$ ,  $N_s$ ,  $T_m$  &  $A_v$ , respectively.

213 These side-bands correspond to those disparately described in previous literature, presented  
 214 comprehensively in this model study.

### 215 4.2. Experimental Study

216  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  model predictions are confirmed by the experimental results presented in Section  
 217 3.2 and shown in Fig 4 for  $I_s$  &  $P_e$  and Fig 5 for  $N_s$ . Fig 6 shows the experimental results for  
 218  $T_m$  &  $A_v$ . Note that, in this case, the same side-band labelling system as for  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  has been  
 219 adopted to indicate the detectable  $\pm 2sf$  frequencies.

*a T<sub>m</sub>, Balanced rotor windings & 300% REU*

*b A<sub>v</sub>, Balanced rotor windings & 300% REU*

220 **Fig. 6.** Measured  $T_m$  &  $A_v$  at 1590 rpm

221 Inherent rotor unbalance artefacts, due to manufacturing imperfections in practical  
 222 generators [17], give rise to low magnitude  $\pm 2sf$  side-bands in  $T_m$  &  $A_v$  even under healthy  
 223 operation; this is expected and clearly seen in Fig. 6.  $T_m$  &  $A_v$  spectra are noisier than  
 224 corresponding electrical signals, partly due to the mechanical instrumentation but also  
 225 because  $A_v$  is affected by both air-gap excitation and frame response [26][38][39]. The  
 226 majority of REU-related supply frequency harmonic and slotting component  $\pm 2sf$  side-bands,  
 227 predicted by the model, are clearly visible in measured  $T_m$  spectra but because of the  
 228 dependency of the vibrations on the generator frame mechanical response, not all  
 229 frequencies observed in  $T_m$  are manifested in  $A_v$ .  $A_v$  shows similar but non-identical  
 230 characteristics, compared to  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$ ,  $T_m$  &  $N_s$  because, whilst the air-gap flux density is  
 231 modulated by the fault harmonics, vibration signals are also attenuated by the resonant  
 232 vibration response of the machine stator core and frame, as described in [16][28]. Slotting  
 233 harmonic (SP) side-bands together with  $HP_{1U}$ , in the case of  $T_m$ , and with  $HP_{3U}$ , in the case  
 234 of  $A_v$ , are most prominent and, in most cases, exhibit clear increases under generator fault  
 235 conditions. The upper  $2sf$  side-band of the fundamental harmonic at zero Hz,  $HP_{1U}$ ,  
 236 traditionally used as an REU indicator [41], is invisible in  $A_v$  spectra because of the limited  
 237 frequency response of the piezoelectric accelerometer, i.e. 5 Hz-10 kHz; a similar constraint  
 238 will exist in commercial CMS sensors [15].

239 Table 6 summarises the detectable supply and slotting harmonic side-bands in  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$ ,  $N_s$ ,  $T_m$   
 240 &  $A_v$  measured signals, present in REU faults, derived directly from the generator air-gap  
 241 flux density, modulated by rotor fault harmonics, and in  $A_v$  affected by frame response.

242 **Table 6** Measured  $P_e$ ,  $I_s$ ,  $T_m$ ,  $N_s$  &  $A_v$  supply, H, and slotting, S, harmonic side-bands showing presence of REU  
 243 faults, taken from Figs 4-6, based on faults predicted in Tables 2-5

#### 244 4.3. Fault Detection

245 The influence of REU severity and generator load on the fault recognition capability of  
 246 identified  $\pm 2sf$  side-bands has been investigated by performing a series of tests under steady-  
 247 state conditions over the full generator operating range. The WRIG speed was increased in  
 248 steps of 30 rpm, from no-load, 1500 rpm, up to full-load, 1590 rpm. At each steady-state  
 249 load, the generator was first tested under balanced rotor conditions and then under three  
 250 increasing severity REU levels, shown in

251 Table 7. The REU level was estimated as a percentage of balanced phase resistance,  
 252 comparable to those used in previous studies [19][21][24].

253 **Table 7** REU progressively introduced into one rotor phase circuit

254 For each fault and load condition, five separate  $I_s$ ,  $V$ ,  $N_s$  &  $A_v$  measurements and four  
 255 separate  $T_m$  measurements were recorded. The fault signal spectra examined in steady-state  
 256 agreed with the predicted and experimental results described in Sections 2 & 3. The  
 257 magnitudes of  $\pm 2sf$  fault-related side-bands, identified in Table 6, were extracted from each  
 258 signal and averaged to minimise sensitivity to supply variations. A normalised detectability  
 259 algorithm,  $D$ , applied to the measured data has been defined as:

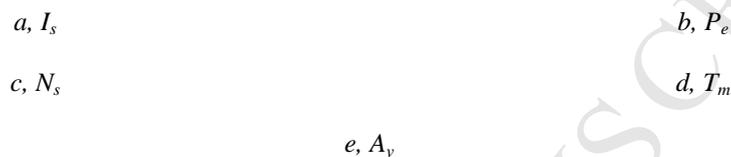
$$D = \frac{\sum_i F_i^2}{\sum_i H_i^2} \quad (1)$$

260 where:

- 261 •  $\sum_i F_i^2$  is the sum of amplitudes squared of selected fault condition CF harmonic side-
- 262 bands;

- 263 •  $\sum_i H_i^2$  is the sum of amplitudes squared of selected unfaulted condition CF harmonic  
 264 side-bands.

265 Results were then compared, in Fig 7, to investigate the ability of each identified component  
 266 to discriminate fault severity over the full generator operating range, based on the harmonics  
 267 listed in Table 6. Note that  $D$  has a floor level of 1 when  $\sum_i F_i^2 = \sum_i H_i^2$ , as indicated in Fig 7  
 268 graphs by the grey base to ordinate  $D$ .



**Fig. 7.** Normalised Detectability,  $D$ , from various separate electrical & mechanical signals, from Table 6, for varying load and rotor fault severity

269 In Fig 7  $I_s$  &  $P_e$  show the most distinct responses to REU changes, even for small fault  
 270 magnitudes;  $T_m$  also exhibits clear rising trends, with an exception at 1530 rpm, while  $N_s$  also  
 271 provides a reliable fault indicator, although with lower sensitivity as unbalance increases. Fig  
 272 7.e shows that vibration,  $A_v$ , did not exhibit side-bands giving consistent fault recognition  
 273 within the generator operating range, due to the  $A_v$ -REU signature being attenuated by  
 274 generator frame mechanical response, which, in this case, varies significantly with operating  
 275 speed [28]. In addition the accelerometer frequency response in these experiments could not  
 276 identify  $HP_{1U}$  vibration components. Fault recognition using this side-band could be possible  
 277 if low frequency resolution accelerometers, such as fibre optics, were employed.

#### 278 4.4. Improving Fault Detectability by Data Fusion

279 Various authors have advocated data fusion to improve fault detectability, notably for wind  
 280 turbine gearboxes [30] and electrical machines [41]. The principal of data fusion is to  
 281 increase detectability and detection confidence for the condition monitor and maintainer by  
 282 combining signals from different sources. The suitability of combining REU-specific  
 283 frequencies in generator signals as CMS fault indicators for data fusion can be assessed

284 using the experimental load-dependency discussed in Section 4.3. The signals considered for  
 285 data fusion from this paper, are with justification:

- 286 • Electrical,  $I_s$  or  $P_e$ , attractive as these signals are strong, closely related to the air-gap  
 287 magnetic field and hence to REU;
- 288 • Mechanical,  $T_m$ ,  $N_s$  or  $A_v$ , attractive as these signals come from reliable sources, trusted  
 289 by generator operators, but less closely related to the air-gap magnetic field and hence  
 290 REU.

291 The combination of  $I_s$  &  $A_v$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  and  $I_s$  &  $T_m$  has been investigated. In each case, the  
 292 combined normalised detectability,  $D_f$ , has been calculated by applying simplistic additive  
 293 data fusion as:

$$D_f = \left( \frac{\sum_i F_i^2}{\sum_i H_i^2} \right)_e + \left( \frac{\sum_i F_i^2}{\sum_i H_i^2} \right)_m \quad (2)$$

294 where  $\left( \frac{\sum_i F_i^2}{\sum_i H_i^2} \right)_e$  and  $\left( \frac{\sum_i F_i^2}{\sum_i H_i^2} \right)_m$  are the normalised detectability of the electrical and mechanical  
 295 signal, respectively, calculated using equation (1). The results of this simplistic additive data  
 296 fusion are shown in Fig 8, to the same scale as Fig 7.

*a,  $I_s$  &  $A_v$*

*b,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$*

*c,  $I_s$  &  $T_m$*

**Fig. 8.** Normalised Detectability,  $D_f$ , from data fusion of selected electrical & mechanical signals,  
 for varying load and rotor fault severity

297 Fig 8 demonstrates that each considered simple additive data fusion of electrical &  
 298 mechanical signals delivers increased detectability with consistent behaviour over a range of  
 299 REU fault sizes and WRIG loads, plus increased robustness and confidence for the operator.  
 300 More complex data fusion algorithms could be developed, dependant on experience and the  
 301 response features of a given system being monitored.

## 5. Conclusions

This paper presents an investigation of electrical & mechanical signatures for DFIG rotor electrical unbalance (REU), identifying the best diagnostic reliability condition monitoring indicators. It is shown that by simple additive data fusion of specific electrical & mechanical signatures fault detectability can be enhanced with the following specific conclusions:

- Closed-form analytic expressions defining electrical & mechanical signal spectral content for healthy and faulty operating conditions have been derived and validated, by comparison between model predictions and tests on a fully instrumented 30 kW WRIG laboratory test rig. A comprehensive study of DFIG REU electrical & mechanical spectral signatures has been made using this high fidelity laboratory test system.
- It has been shown that the magnitude of slip-dependant side-bands of a wide range of both supply frequency and slotting harmonics show significant experimental increases under faulty REU conditions.
- Specific side-bands, of current, power, torque and speed, giving clear fault recognition, have been identified and give consistent behaviour across the generator operating range. They will be high diagnostic reliability indicators of REU.
- Experimental results show that REU produces consistent, high fault and load sensitivity current  $\pm 2sf$  side-band spectral increases around slotting harmonic components, in addition to traditionally used upper  $2sf$  side-band of the fundamental supply harmonic component.
- In the case of  $P_e$ ,  $T_m$  &  $N_s$  signals DC component  $2sf$  side-bands have been shown to be the most sensitive and reliable REU fault indicators. However, in the case of  $P_e$ ,  $T_m$ , other side-bands of supply frequency and slotting related spectral components are also responsive to REU.
- Vibration signals,  $A_v$ , also exhibit the presence of REU as  $2sf$  side-bands, clearly detectable in the vibration spectra. However those side-bands show less consistent fault level recognition

327 across the generator operating range, because of the effect of frame response. This suggests  
 328 that, in addition to conventional electrical signals, mechanical  $A_v$ ,  $T_m$  &  $N_s$  signals could be  
 329 monitored to diagnose generator electrical fault severity or progression over time.

330 • Simplistic additive data fusion of simultaneous electrical & mechanical signals real-time  
 331 side-bands has demonstrated enhanced REU fault recognition sensitivity and could be used in  
 332 a CMS to allow assessment of damage severity. This has been confirmed experimentally in  
 333 this paper for electrical & mechanical signal combinations of  $I_s$  &  $A_v$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  or  $I_s$  &  $T_m$ .  
 334 Confirmatory fault data from disparate sources increases robustness and confidence and  
 335 would be a crucial step for successfully implementing condition-based maintenance.

336 Further work would be required to investigate how to apply the information in this paper to a  
 337 practical wind turbine generator CMS system and propose more developed methods of data  
 338 fusion than presented here to improve damage severity assessment.

## 339 6. Acknowledgments

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**Table 1**  $I_s$ ,  $P_e$  &  $N_s$ , Carrier Frequencies (CF) and their  $\pm 2nsf$  side-bands

Generator Signal	Closed-Form Analytical Expressions	
	Balanced Rotor (CF)	Unbalanced Rotor (CF $\pm 2nsf$ )
Stator Current, $I_s$	$ i \pm 6k(1 - s) f$	$ (i \pm 2ns) \pm 6k(1 - s) f$
Stator Active Power, Rotational Speed, $P_e$ & $N_s$	$ [l \pm i] \pm 6k(1 - s) f$	$ ([l \pm i] \pm 2ns) \pm 6k(1 - s) f$

**Table 2** Predicted  $I_s$  supply frequency harmonics and their side-bands

$i$	$k$	Supply Harmonic Carrier Frequencies (CF) HI		Supply Harmonic CF Side-bands			
		CF	Hz	CF+2sf	Hz	CF-2sf	Hz
1	0	HI <sub>1</sub>	50	HI <sub>1L</sub>	44	HI <sub>1U</sub>	56
3	0	HI <sub>3</sub>	150	HI <sub>3L</sub>	144	HI <sub>3U</sub>	156
5	0	HI <sub>5</sub>	250	HI <sub>5L</sub>	244	HI <sub>5U</sub>	256
7	0	HI <sub>7</sub>	350	HI <sub>7L</sub>	344	HI <sub>7U</sub>	356

**Table 3** Predicted  $I_s$  slotting harmonics and their side-bands

$i$	$k$	Slotting Harmonic Carrier Frequencies (CF) SI		Slotting Harmonic CF Side-bands			
		CF	Hz	CF+2sf	Hz	CF-2sf	Hz
1	1	SI <sub>1</sub>	268	SI <sub>1L</sub>	262	SI <sub>1U</sub>	274
1	1	SI <sub>2</sub>	368	SI <sub>2L</sub>	362	SI <sub>2U</sub>	374

**Table 4** Predicted  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  supply frequency harmonics and their side-bands

$i$	$l$	$k$	Supply Harmonic Carrier Frequencies (CF) HP		Supply Harmonic CF Side-bands			
			CF	Hz	CF+2sf	Hz	CF-2sf	Hz
1	1	0	HP <sub>1</sub>	0			HP <sub>1U</sub>	6
3	1	0	HP <sub>3</sub>	100	HP <sub>3L</sub>	94	HP <sub>3U</sub>	106
5	1	0	HP <sub>5</sub>	200	HP <sub>5L</sub>	194	HP <sub>5U</sub>	206
7	1	0	HP <sub>7a</sub>	300	HP <sub>7aL</sub>	294	HP <sub>7aU</sub>	306
7	1	0	HP <sub>7b</sub>	400	HP <sub>7bL</sub>	394	HP <sub>7bU</sub>	406

**Table 5** Predicted  $P_e$  &  $N_s$  slotting harmonics and their side-bands

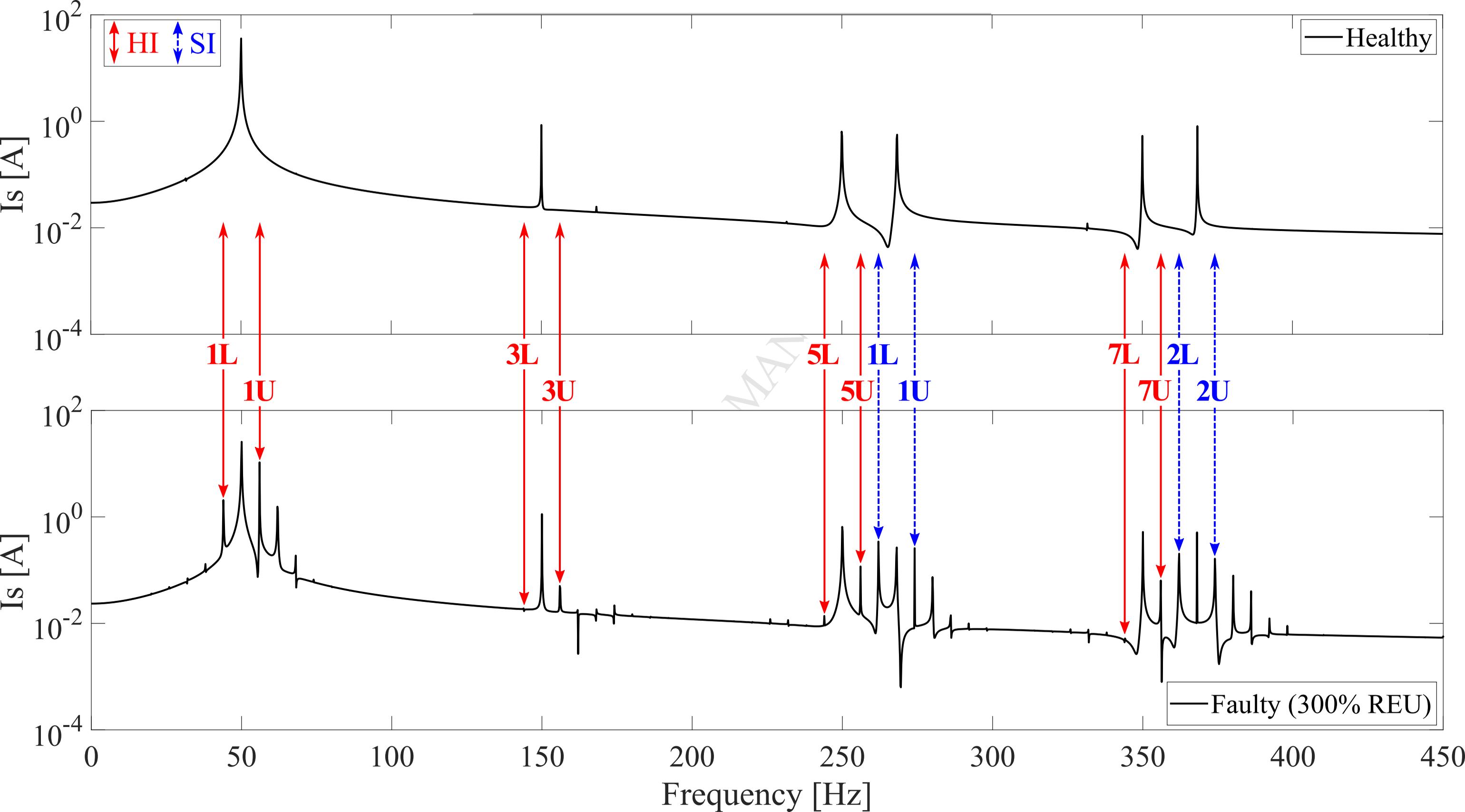
$i$	$l$	$k$	Slotting Harmonic Carrier Frequencies (CF) SP		Slotting Harmonic CF Side-bands			
			CF	Hz	CF+2sf	Hz	CF-2sf	Hz
1	1	1	SP <sub>1</sub>	218	SP <sub>1L</sub>	212	SP <sub>1U</sub>	224
1	1	1	SP <sub>2</sub>	318	SP <sub>2L</sub>	312	SP <sub>2U</sub>	324
1	1	1	SP <sub>3</sub>	418	SP <sub>3L</sub>	412	SP <sub>3U</sub>	424

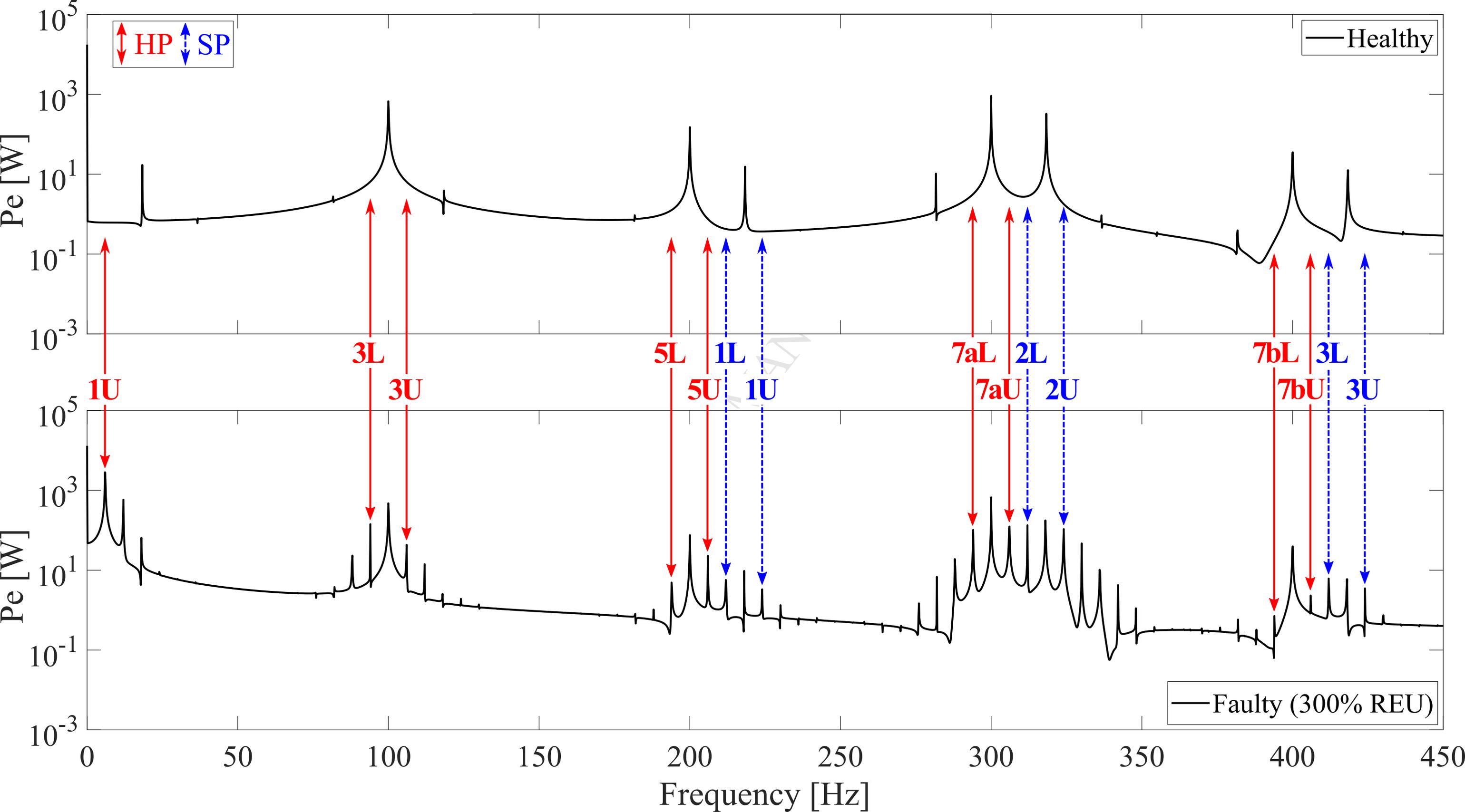
**Table 6** Measured  $P_e$ ,  $I_s$ ,  $T_m$ ,  $N_s$  &  $A_v$  supply, H, and slotting, S, harmonic side-bands showing presence of REU faults, taken from Figs 4-6, based on faults predicted in Tables 2-5

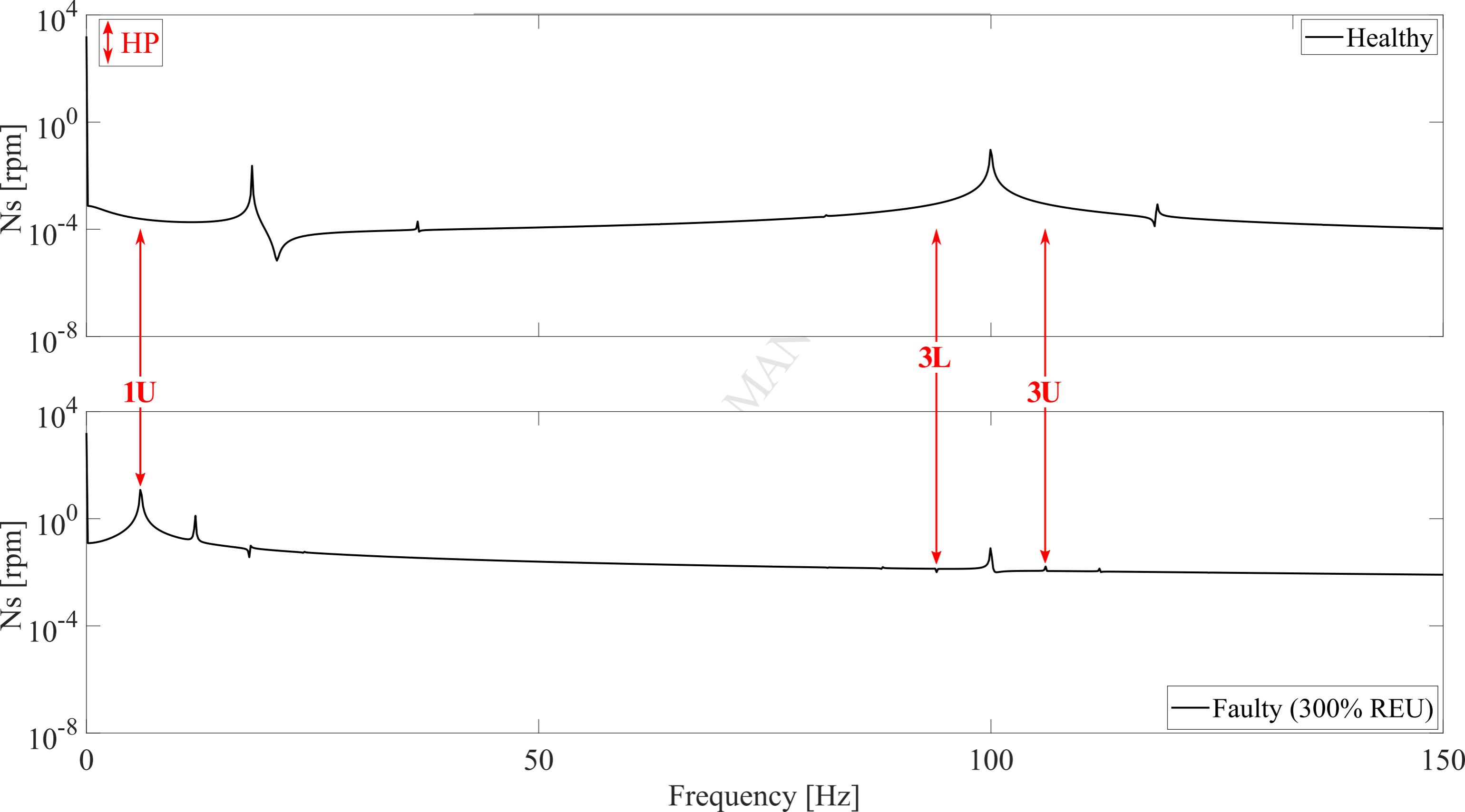
		$I_s$	$P_e$	-
<b>Electrical Signals</b>	Supply frequency	HI <sub>1U</sub>	HP <sub>1U</sub>	-
	harmonic side-bands	HI <sub>3U</sub>	HP <sub>3L</sub> , HP <sub>3U</sub>	-
		HI <sub>5U</sub>	HP <sub>5U</sub>	-
		HI <sub>7U</sub>	HP <sub>7aL</sub> , HP <sub>7aU</sub>	-
Slotting side-bands	SI <sub>1L</sub> , SI <sub>1U</sub>	SP <sub>1L</sub>	-	
	SI <sub>2L</sub> , SI <sub>2U</sub>	SP <sub>2L</sub> , SP <sub>2U</sub>	-	
		$N_s$	$T_m$	$A_v$
<b>Mechanical Signals</b>		HP <sub>1U</sub>	HP <sub>1U</sub>	
			HP <sub>7aU</sub>	HP <sub>3U</sub> HP <sub>7bL</sub>
	Slotting side-bands		SP <sub>1U</sub>	
			SP <sub>2L</sub> , SP <sub>2U</sub>	SP <sub>2L</sub> , SP <sub>2U</sub>
		SP <sub>3L</sub>	SP <sub>3L</sub>	

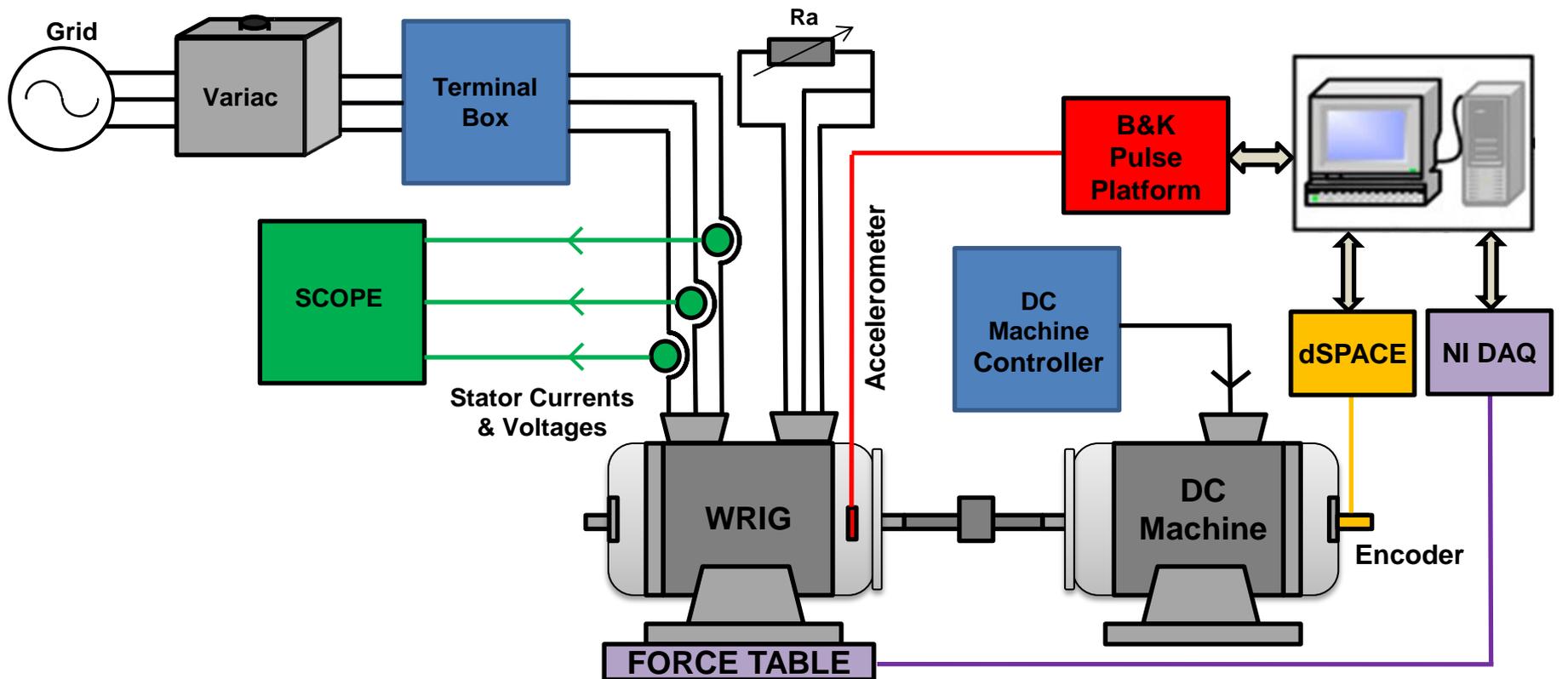
**Table 7** REU progressively introduced into one rotor phase circuit

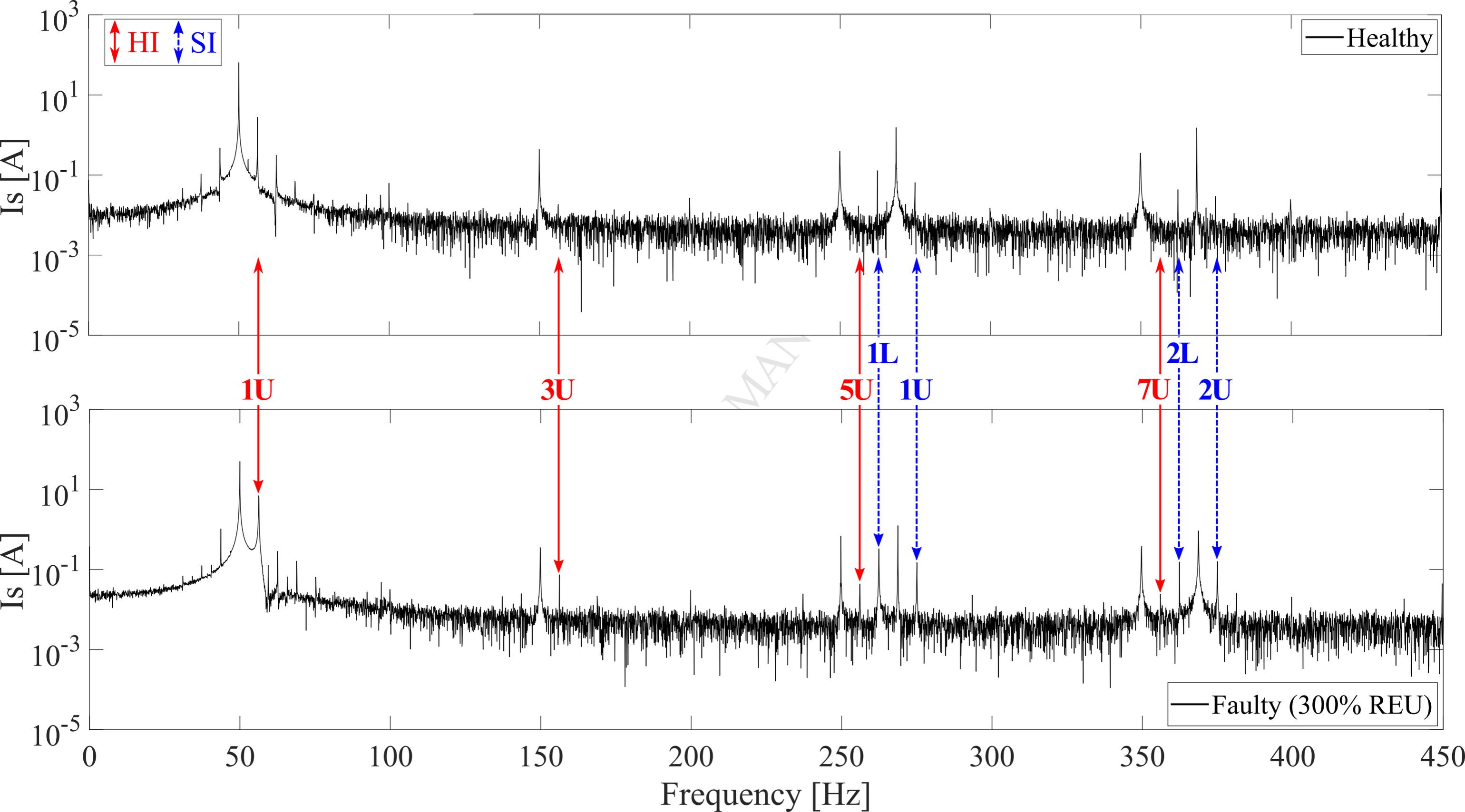
Additional Phase Resistance [ $\Omega$ ]	REU Level [%]
0.099	150
0.1485	225
0.198	300

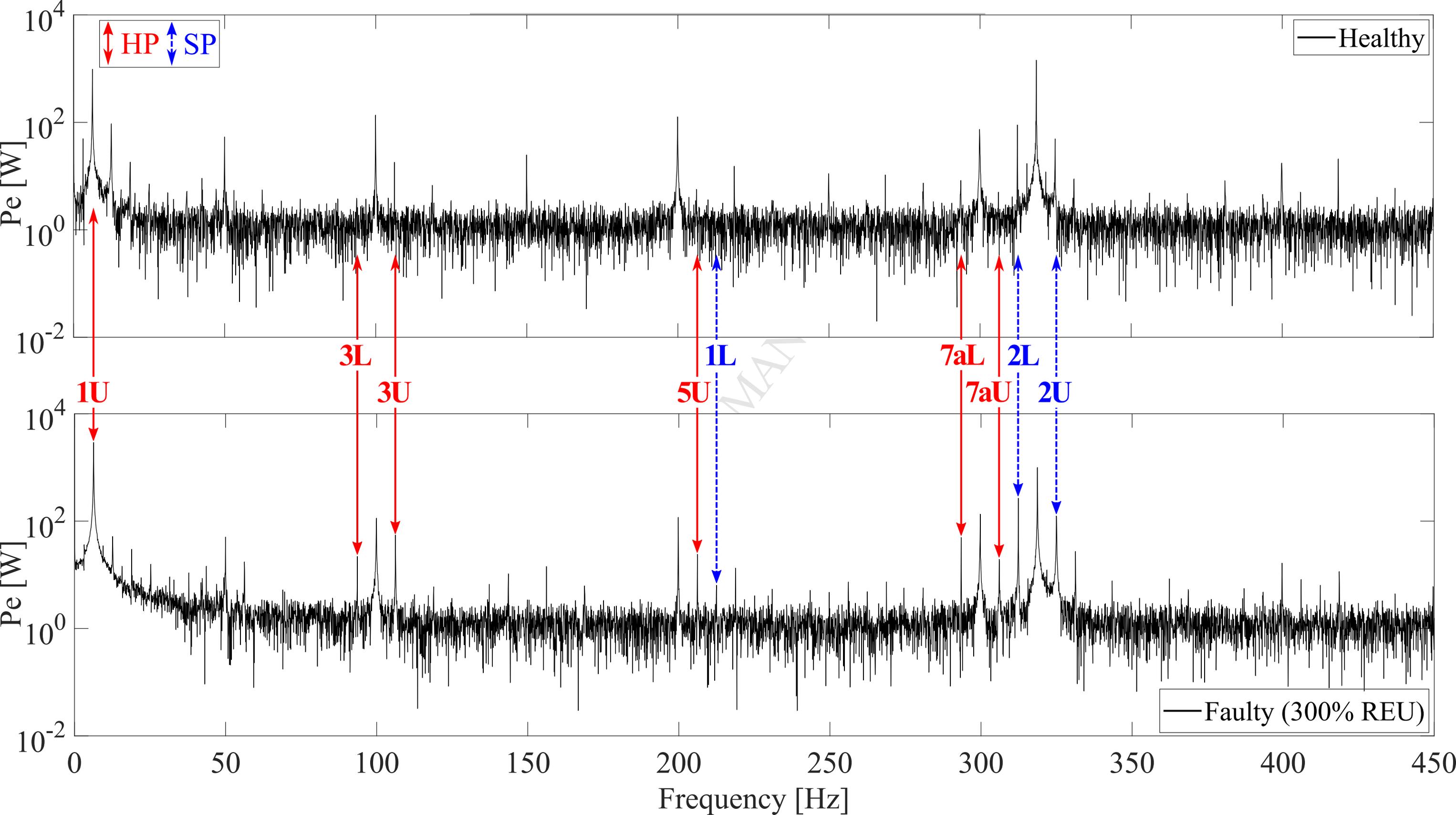


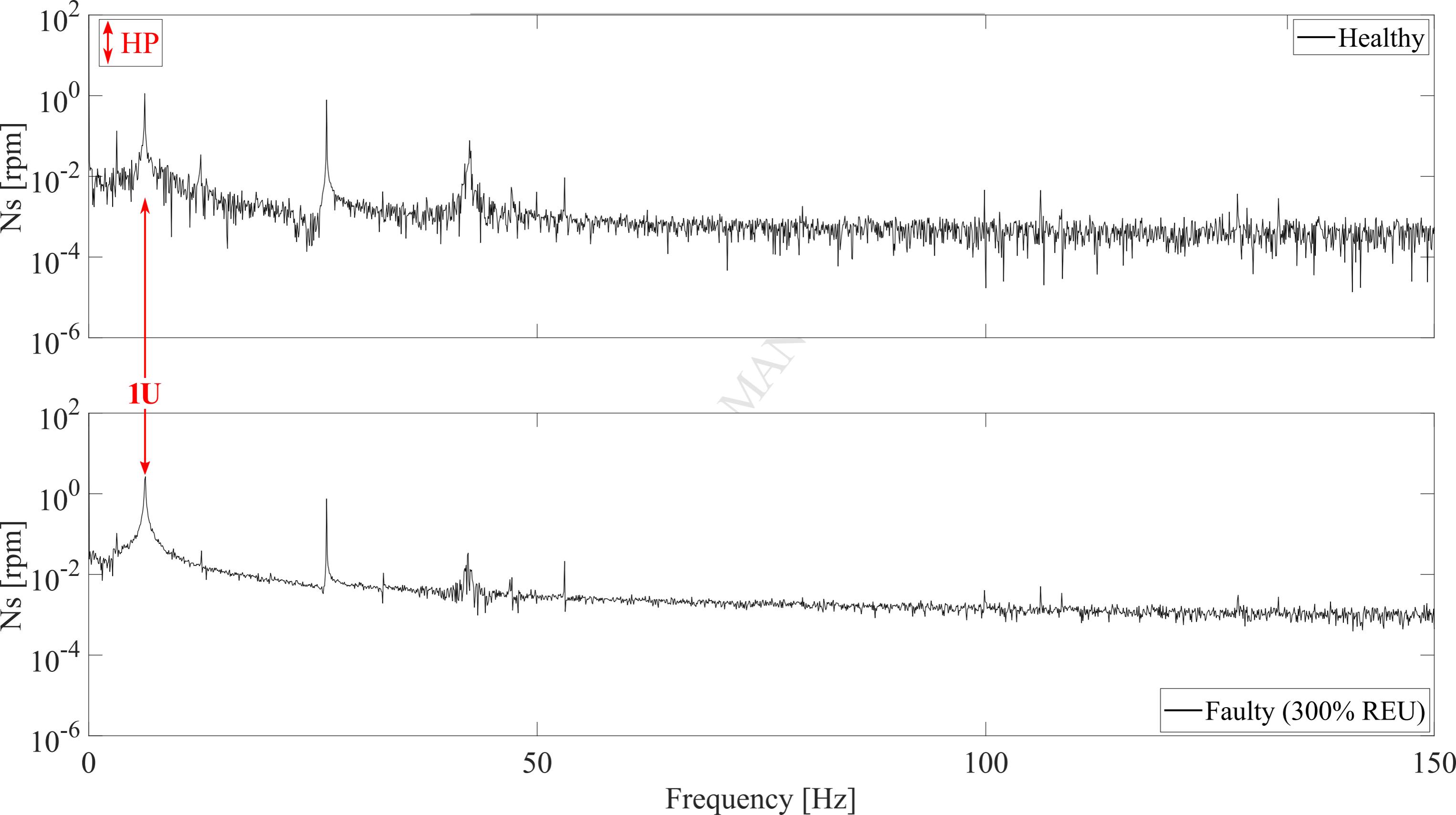




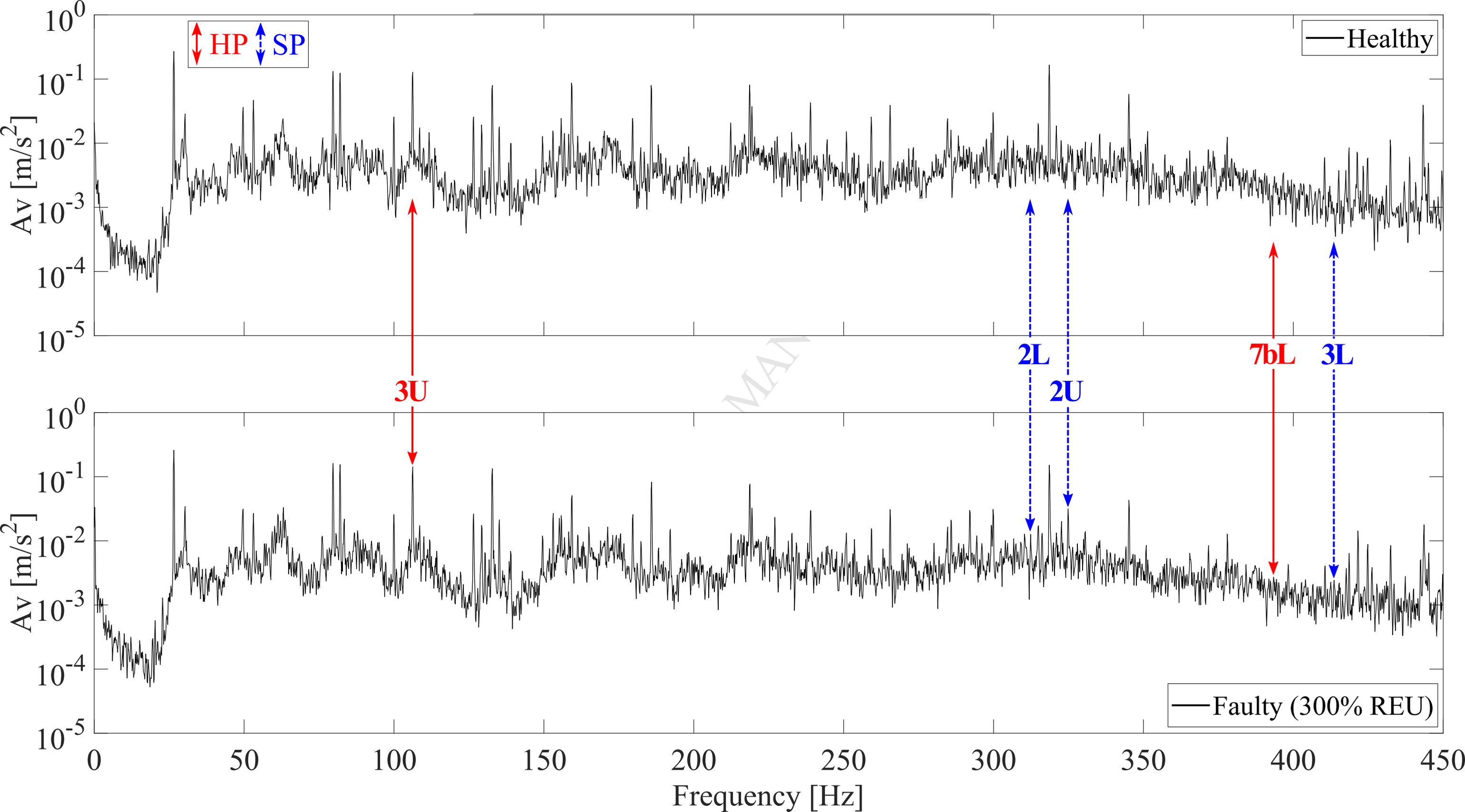


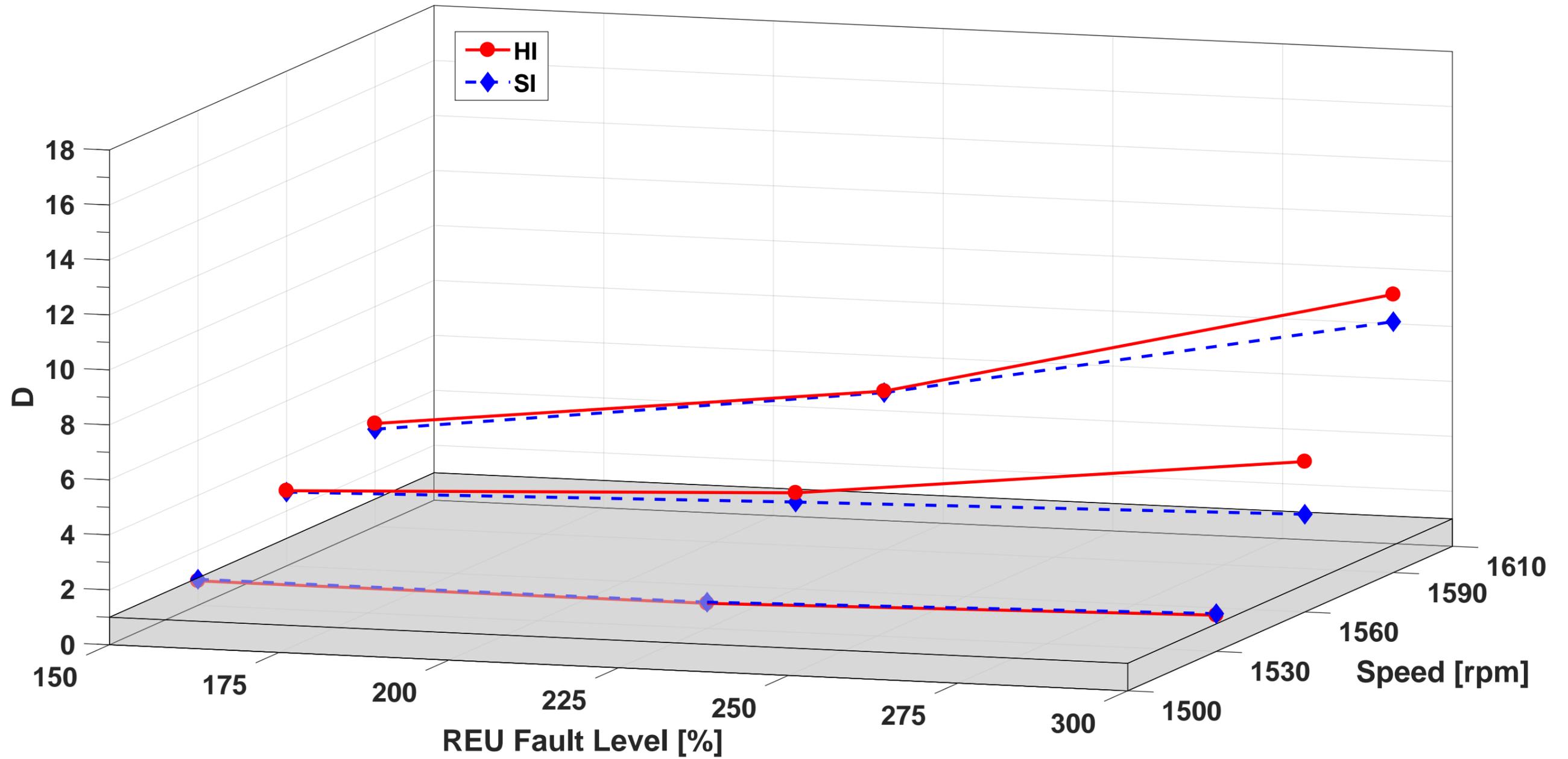


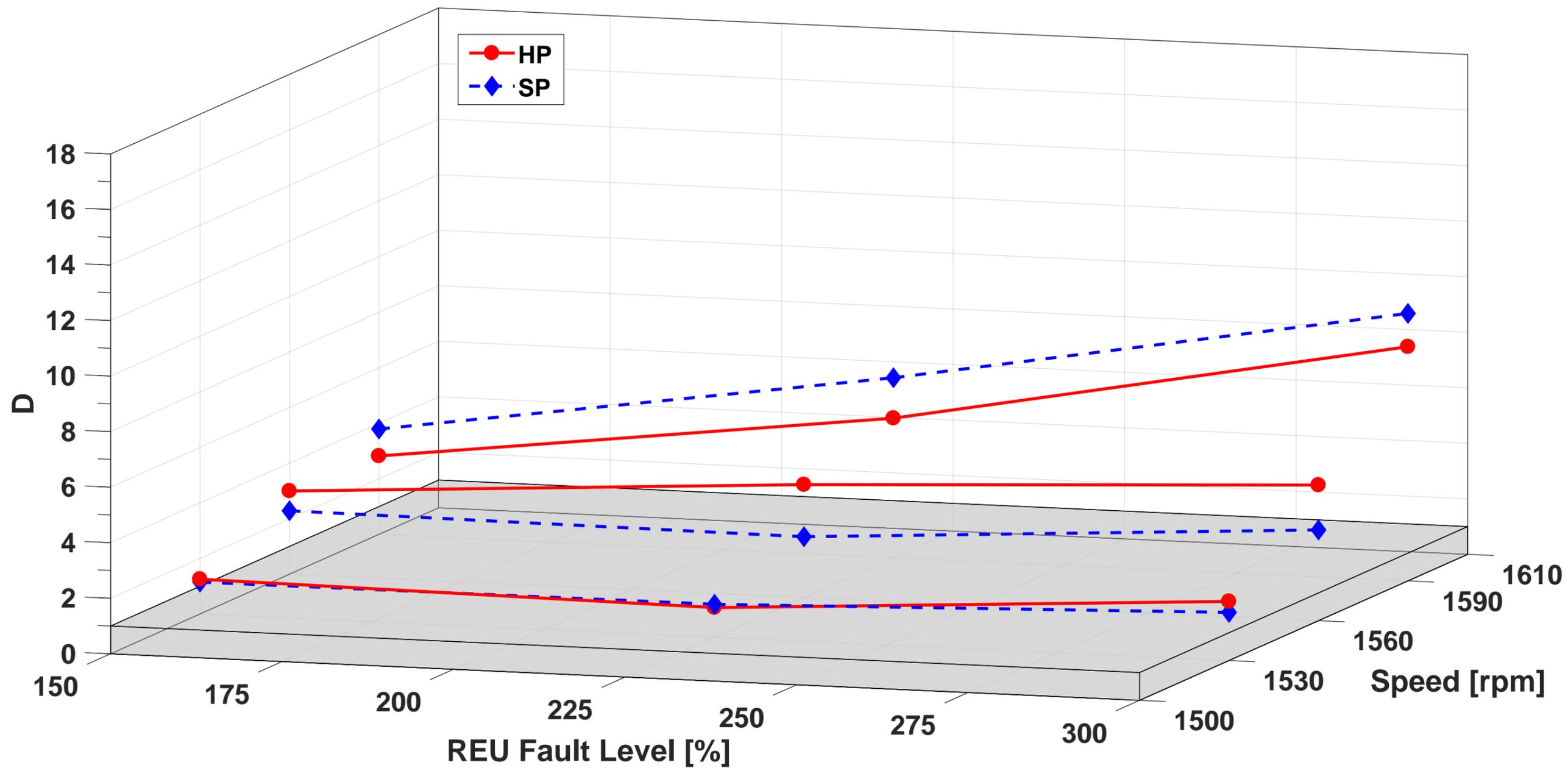


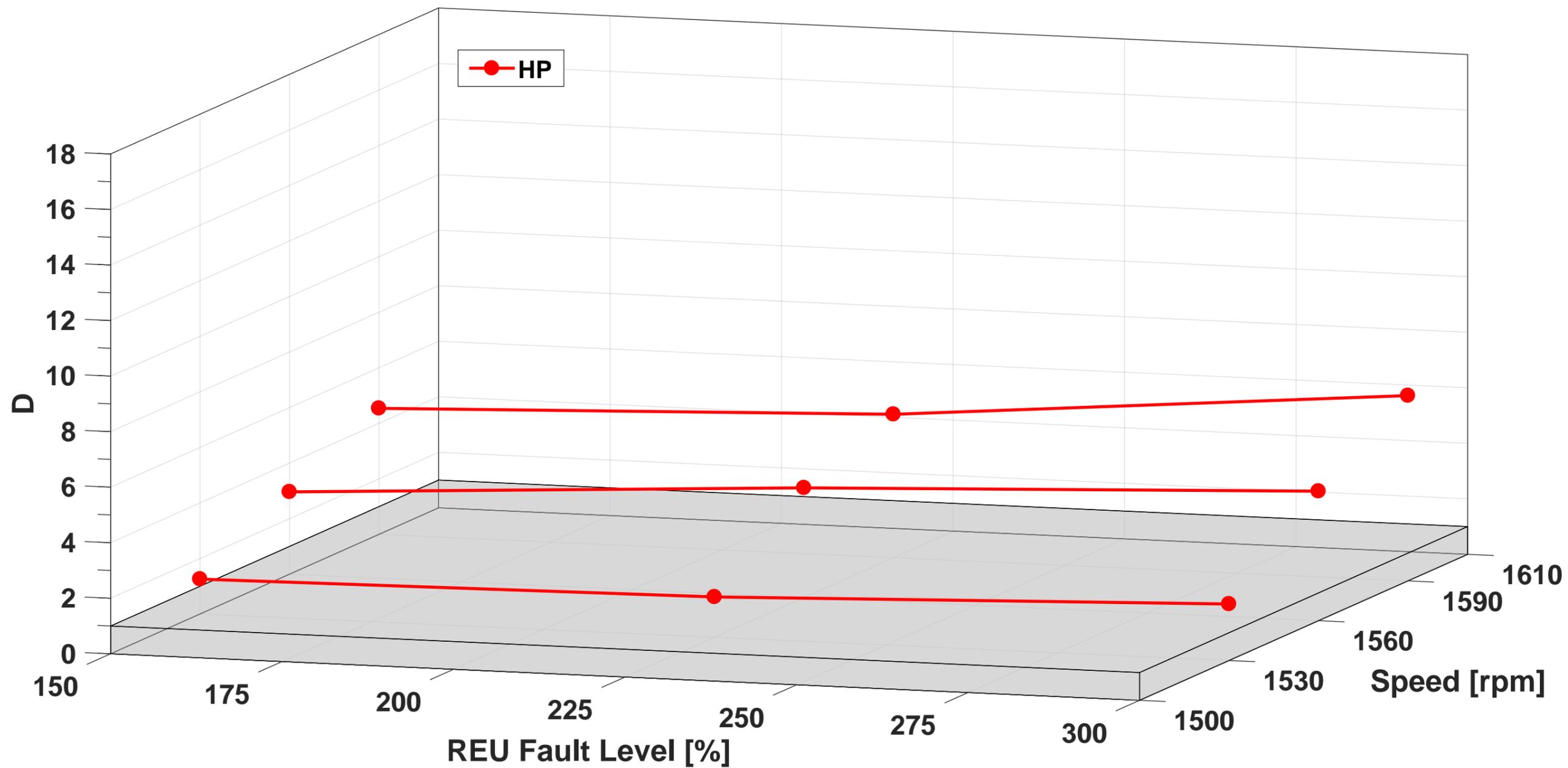


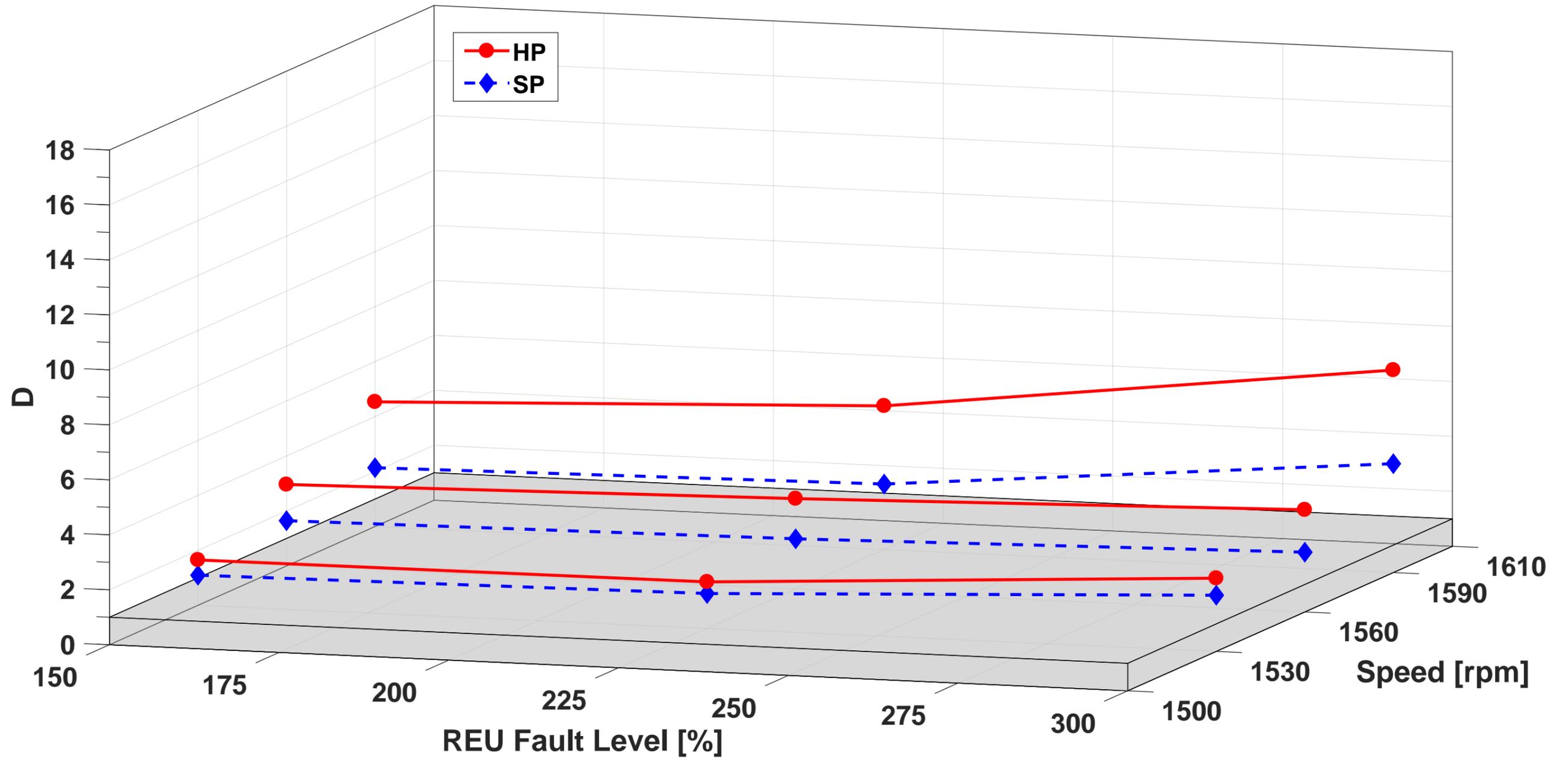


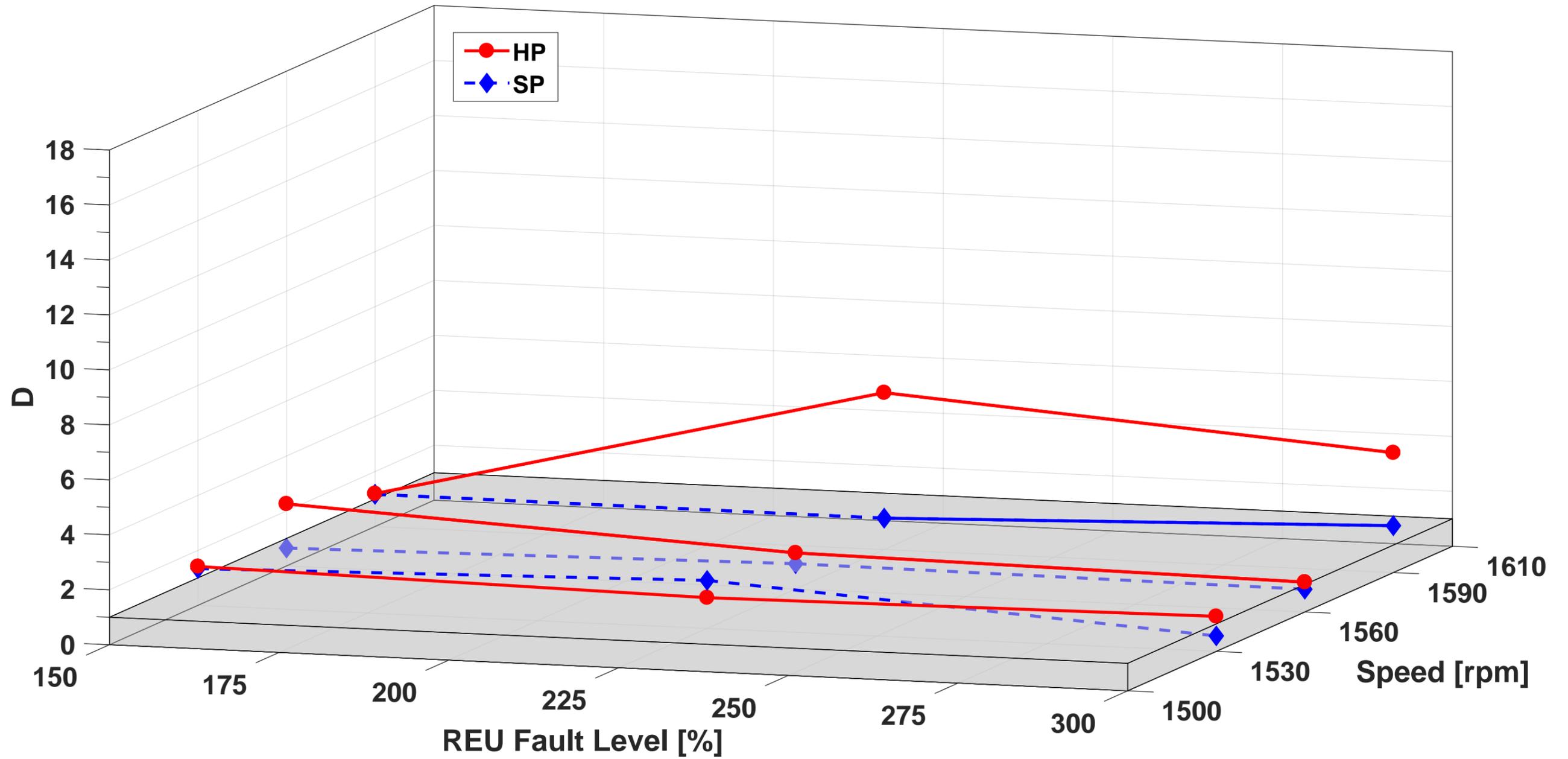


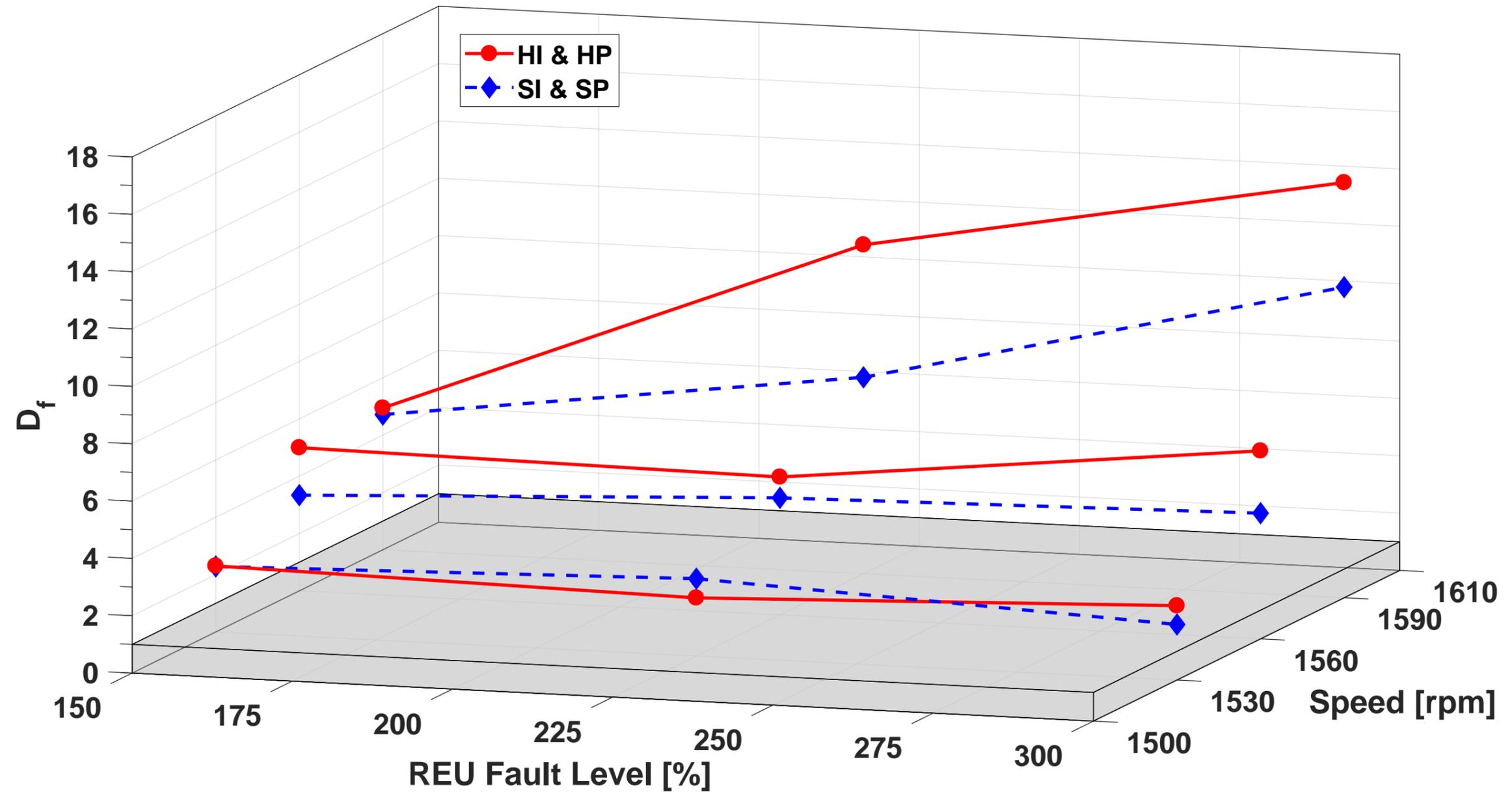


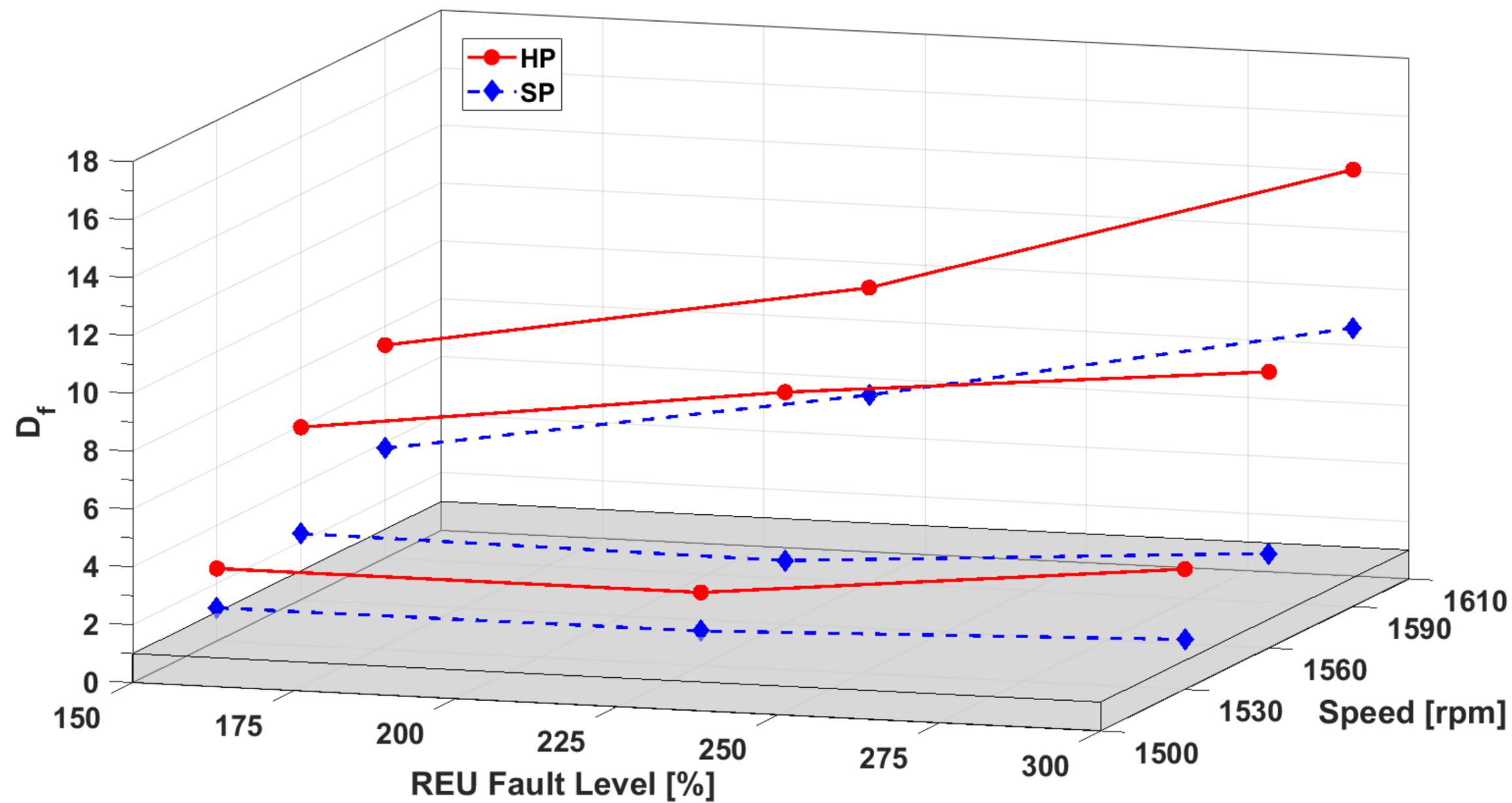


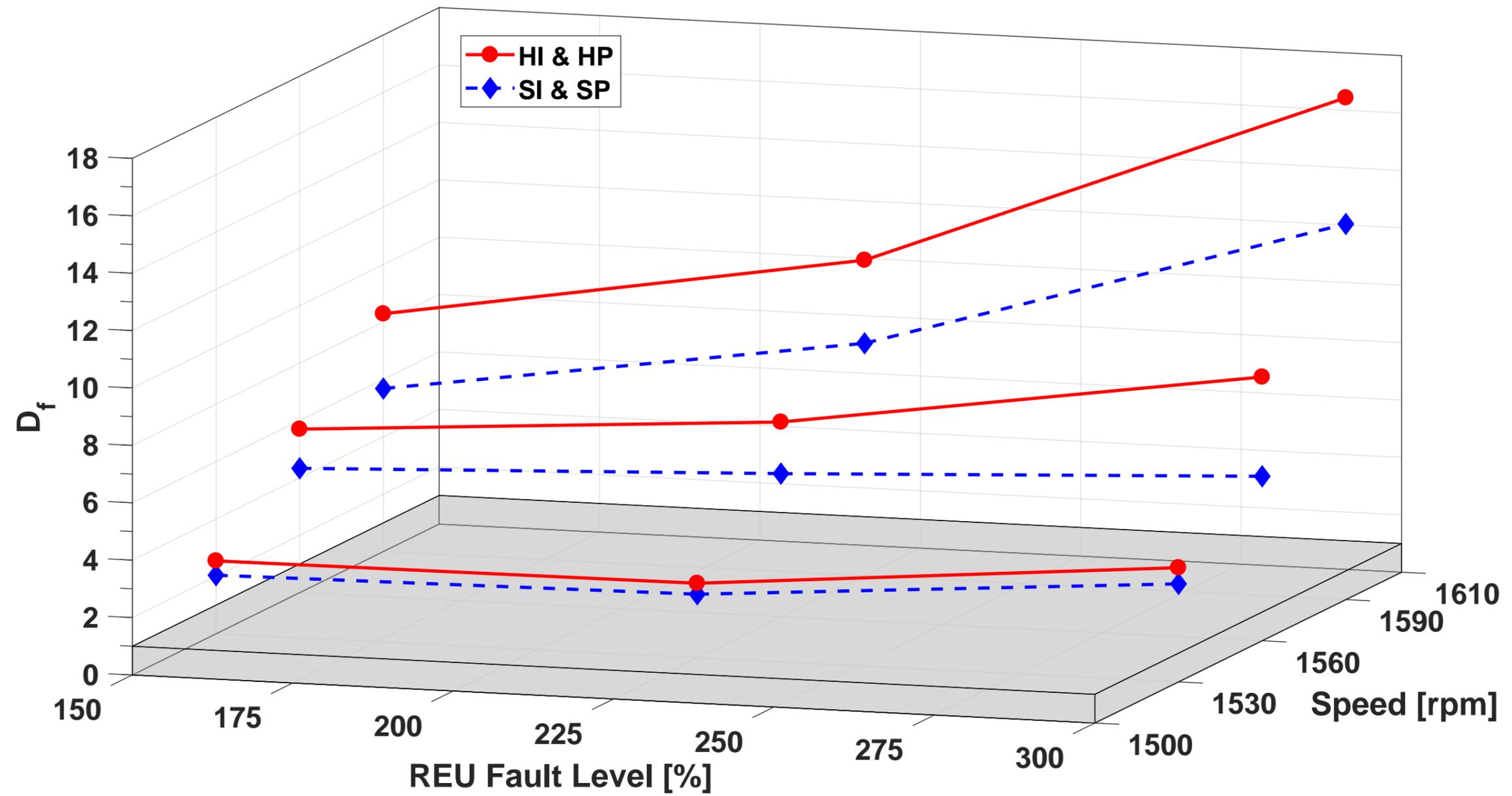












**'Electrical & Mechanical Diagnostic Indicators of Wind Turbine Induction Generator Rotor Faults'** by D. Zappalá, N. Sarma, S. Djurović, C. J. Crabtree, A. Mohammad & P. J. Tavner.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Investigation of doubly-fed induction generators (DFIG) rotor electrical unbalance
- Comprehensive predictions and tests of electrical & mechanical signals
- Fault indicators for incorporation into wind turbine condition monitoring systems
- Additive data fusion preliminary analysis indicates improved fault detectability