

# Rolling bearing compound fault diagnosis based on spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition

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**Abstract.** Aiming at the vibration signal characteristics of multi-channel rolling bearing complex faults containing various shock components, a rolling bearing complex fault diagnosis model based on spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition (STIMD) method and fast spectral kurtosis method was proposed. The spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method combines the signal atomic decomposition method with the idea of signal blind source separation. Through the fast independent component analysis and the nonlinear matching pursuit method of the established overcomplete dictionary base, various fault mode components are separated. The initial phase function selected based on the high kurtosis fault frequency band obtained by the fast spectral kurtosis method can better fit the bearing fault frequency domain characteristics, so that the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method can more accurately separate various impact components in the vibration signal. The simulation model of bearing compound fault was established and the data collected from fault diagnosis experiment platform were used to verify that the STIMD method was effective in solving the problem of rolling bearing compound fault diagnosis. By analyzing the kurtosis changes under different signal noise ratio (SNR) conditions and comparing the simulation results with the fast independent component analysis method, it shows that the kurtosis index decomposed by the proposed method is more able to prove the existence of faults under the condition of low SNR, that is, the impact is completely covered by noise. Therefore, a spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method with fast spectral kurtosis optimization can solve the problem of blind source separation in the field of composite faults of multi-channel rolling bearings and realize composite fault diagnosis.

**Keywords:** bearing compound fault diagnosis, blind source separation, nonlinear matching pursuit, spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition.

## 1. Introduction

With the development of intelligent manufacturing, industrial robot rotary arms, wind power generation, etc., it is more urgent to study rolling bearing fault diagnosis [1]. In recent years, the vibration signal acquisition technology is constantly improved, and the multi-channel signal acquisition equipment is constantly optimized. The vibration response caused by different materials is different [2-4]. The multi-channel signal can contain more bearing vibration information than the single channel signal, and can reflect more fault characteristics in the case of bearing compound fault. In engineering practice, vibration signals of mechanical faults are usually generated by multiple vibration sources, and the mixing matrix of each vibration source for mixed signals is unknown, so the problem of multi-channel fault diagnosis can be regarded as the problem of blind source separation [5, 6]. Bearing compound failure is more harmful to rotating machinery, which will lead to accelerated deterioration of equipment performance and even mechanical accidents. In complex faults, multiple faults often interact with each other, which makes it more complicated to separate multiple fault components from vibration signals.

Nowadays, blind source separation methods such as fast independent component analysis [7], De-noising Source Separation [8], singular value decomposition [9], principal component analysis [10] and tensor decomposition [11] are widely used in mechanical fault diagnosis. fast independent component analysis (FastICA) is a commonly used algorithm, which adopts fixed point and Newton iteration and has a fast convergence rate [12, 13]. However, the FastICA algorithm is very sensitive to signal gauss, resulting in unstable convergence, and can not accurately separate fault components. Hou and Shi [14] proposed data-driven time-frequency analysis (DDTFA) based on Adaptive Time-Frequency Analysis (ATFA). This method uses Newton iteration method to solve nonlinear problems and achieves the sparsest representation of signals in a dictionary composed of eigenmode functions. In 2020, Seth M. Hirsh et al. [15] proposed the concept of spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition based on data driven time frequency domain analysis combined with the idea of blind source separation. This method is only applied the method to manipulate Gravitational waves from the LIGO experiment and Neural recordings from rodent hippocampus to effectively analyze its signal signatures, but not combined with mechanical fault diagnosis. The fast spectral kurtosis method is a common method to judge the position of impulse information in the frequency domain in the field of mechanical fault diagnosis. The spectral kurtosis can filter interference in the transient impact component, which improves the feature extraction effect and has great significance to enhance fault diagnosis accuracy of the rolling bearing [16]. The fast spectrum kurtosis algorithm can adaptively identify resonance bands of a signal, and fault characteristics can be extracted by analyzing the selected frequency bands. However, the bearing failure may be composed of various faults and the faults may be located in different resonant bands. Due to the interference between different fault components and noise, the weak components may be submerged when fast spectrum kurtosis is used to deal with compound fault signals [17, 18].

Bearing vibration signals can be decomposed into time modes and space modes from time scale and space scale, and the mode functions are extracted for analysis. The spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition can make full use of the rich information contained in multidimensional data and extract the fault features of multidimensional data more comprehensively by using the established over-complete dictionary. Because the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method is sensitive to the initial phase function, selecting the appropriate initial phase function by fast spectral kurtosis method [19] can realize the signal decomposition more accurately and quickly.

## 2. Spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition theory

### 2.1. Fast independent component analysis

Independent component analysis is a method to solve the problem of blind source separation. It separates signals based on signal independence and can obtain the separation matrix when the source signal is unknown. It assumes that the source signals are statistically independent, the source signals are non-Gaussian distribution, and the mixed matrix  $B$  is orthogonal.  $X = BS$  [20], where  $X$  represents the mixed signal matrix,  $B$  represents the mixed matrix, and  $S$  represents the signal matrix after unmixing. If  $S$  follows a Gaussian distribution, then a unique  $S$  cannot be reduced. If  $S$  is not Gaussian, then  $S = WX$  can be calculated by calculating  $W$ , where  $W$  represents the separation matrix. The central limit theorem states the conditions under which a large number of random variables approximate normal distribution [21, 22]. The central limit theorem is the main theoretical basis of the objective function [23]. By extension, it can be known that, compared with the source signal, the mixed signal received by the sensor is more gauss, and conversely, the non-gauss is weak. Therefore, the separation of mixed signals can be completed by performing non-Gaussian maximization operation on mixed signals. The independent component analysis algorithm [24] computes the  $B$  and  $S$  matrices using kurtosis or negative entropy by maximizing the non-Gaussian property of the source signal. Fast independent

component analysis finds the direction of maximizing non-Gaussian measurement through projection pursuit [25].

The new signal is obtained by preprocessing the observed signal.  $w$  is the row vector in the unmixing matrix  $W$ . The FastICA algorithm maximizes the non-Gaussian property of a vector  $w^T z$  by a fixed point iterative algorithm. The most common evaluation function for non-Gaussianness is the approximation of negative entropy. The objective function of the FastICA algorithm is:

$$J(w) = [E\{G(w^T z) - E\{G(v)\}}]^2, \quad (1)$$

where  $G$  is any non-quadratic function and  $v$  is a Gaussian random variable whose mean value and unit error function is zero.  $z$  means  $z = B^T w$ . Get the best value by maximizing in  $J(w)$ . When  $\|w\|^2 = 1$ , the negative entropy  $J(w)$  is the highest, that  $E\{G(w^T z)$  is the maximum. Through the Lagrange multiplier algorithm, the objective function of the fixed point algorithm is [26]:

$$L(w) = E\{G(w^T z) + \beta \|w\|\}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\beta$  is a constant, so the optimization problem is equivalent to:

$$E\{zg(w^T z)\} + \beta w = 0, \quad (3)$$

where the function  $g$  is the derivative of  $G$ . The solution to the equation 3 is similar to the Newtonian iteration, that is, leaving the left side of the equation unchanged:

$$F(w) = E\{zg(w^T z)\} + \beta w. \quad (4)$$

The gradient of  $F(w)$  is:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial w} = E\{zz^T g'(w^T z)\} + \beta I, \quad (5)$$

where  $T$  for transpose. Since  $S$  are independent sources, it can be assumed that the variance of  $s_i$  is consistent. So the covariance of  $S$  is equal to  $I$  [27]:

$$E\{zz^T g'(W^T z)\} \approx E\{zz^T\}E\{g'(W^T z)\} = E\{g'(W^T z)\}I. \quad (6)$$

The final iteration form of the fast ICA algorithm can be obtained by approximating the equation:

$$w^+ = E\{zg(w^T z)\} - E\{g'(w^T z)\}w. \quad (7)$$

The weight vector  $w$  is normalized after each iteration:

$$w = \frac{w^+}{\|w^+\|}. \quad (8)$$

## 2.2. Nonlinear matching pursuit

Nonlinear matching pursuit (NMP) can be used to separate intrinsic mode function (IMF) from mixed signals instead of empirical mode decomposition. Assuming that the signal  $x(t)$  can be decomposed into a finite number of IMFs, the following problems can be solved:

$$x(t) = \sum_{j=1}^M s_j(t), \quad (9)$$

where  $s_j$  is assumed to contain the following interwave frequency modulated signals.  $\theta(t)$  can be known to be monotone by the invertible function theorem, and IMF  $s(\theta)$  is expressed by the function of  $\theta$ :

$$s(\theta) = a(\theta) \cos(\theta). \quad (10)$$

If the  $a(\theta)$  and  $\theta'(\theta) = \frac{d\theta}{dt}|_{\theta}$  are smoother than  $\cos(\theta)$ , then  $s(\theta)$  is defined as an interwave frequency modulated signal. That is to say, the  $a(\theta)$  and  $\theta'(\theta)$  are in the following set:

$$V(\theta, \lambda) = \text{span} \left\{ 1, \cos\left(\frac{k\theta}{2L_{\theta}}\right) \sin\left(\frac{k\theta}{2L_{\theta}}\right) : 1 \leq k \leq 2\lambda L_{\theta} \right\}. \quad (11)$$

Among them  $L_{\theta} = \left[ \frac{\theta(t_1) - \theta(t_0)}{2\pi} \right]$ ,  $\lambda = 1/2$ .

A signal that physically contains an interwave frequency modulation component can roughly correspond to the solution of the second-order differential equation:

$$\ddot{x} + b(t)\dot{x} + c(t)x = 0, \quad (12)$$

where the  $b(t)$  and  $c(t)$  are the sufficiently smooth functions.

To sum up, the IMF dictionary with an interwave frequency modulation component is:

$$D = \{a(\theta) \cos(\theta) : a \in V(\theta), \theta' \in V(\theta), \theta'(t) \geq 0\}, \quad (13)$$

when the sum of  $a_j \cos_j$  is equal to the original signal  $x$ , the quantity  $M$  is minimum. For noisy signals the equality is replaced by inequality  $\|x - \sum_{j=1}^M a_j \cos_j\|_2 \leq \delta$ .

To solve the problem of NMP method minimization, an alternate scheme is proposed, that is, fixed  $\theta$  minimization  $a$  and then fixed  $a$  updating  $\theta$ . In the minimization calculation, projecting  $a(\theta)$  onto the surface  $V(\theta)$  is equivalent to applying a low-pass filter to the  $\theta$  coordinates. The guess value of the initial phase function is generally  $2\pi ft$ .

### 2.3. Fast spectral kurtosis

Kurtosis is a dimensionless parameter index in the time domain which is very sensitive to the instantaneous characteristics of the signal. Kurtosis coefficient refers to the impact pulse generated at the defect of the working face when the working surface of rotating parts such as bearings is faulty. It is often used to detect the strength of the impact component in the vibration signal of rolling bearings [25]:

$$k = \frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^4}{\left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \right)^2}. \quad (14)$$

Spectral kurtosis (SK) is used to characterize the kurtosis value of each spectral line of the signal, so as to find the non-stationary components of the signal and their positions in the frequency domain [20]:

$$K(f) = \frac{E(|H(t, f)|^4)}{\{E(|H(t, f)|^2)\}^2} \quad (15)$$

where  $E(x)$  is the mathematical expectation;  $H(t, f)$  is the complex envelope of the original signal at frequency  $f$ . In order to obtain the transient components in the signal, the kurtosis value of each frequency band should be calculated to find the frequency band with the maximum kurtosis. In order to reduce the calculation time of spectral kurtosis significantly, fast spectral kurtosis calculation is carried out by using the 1/3 – binary tree filter banks to realize the fast calculation of spectral kurtosis of each sub-band, and the kurtosis value is represented according to the depth of the color graph [28].

#### 2.4. Spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition methods

The spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method establishes an over-complete dictionary base through empirical mode decomposition as the constraint condition of nonlinear matching pursuit method, which can effectively separate the impact component from the vibration signal of hybrid bearing. The STIMD method integrates the idea of nonlinear matching pursuit, so that it can detect the frequency characteristic component of mixed signal near the initial phase function, so it can still effectively separate various mixed components in the case of high noise. The STIMD method combines the advantages of fast independent component analysis and nonlinear matching pursuit. It can separate the multi-dimensional signal blind source to obtain the component signal generated by each vibration source and analyze the component signal to get the fault characteristics of the rolling bearing vibration signal. By nonlinear modelling of complex multidimensional mixed signals and constructing the eigenmode function dictionary conforming to the characteristics of bearing vibration signals, the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method can effectively extract the impact signal components of bearing vibration from the mixed signals. By analyzing the envelope spectrum of the component, the characteristic frequency of the fault can be seen and the fault type can be determined.

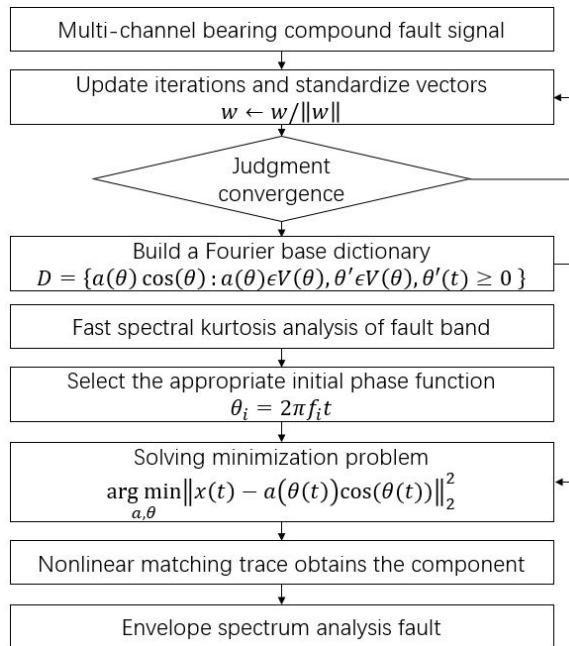


Fig. 1. Flow chart of STIMD

It is particularly important to select the initial phase function of the initial parameter, which can directly affect the accuracy of the solution of the following minimization problem. The selection of the initial phase function can be based on the fault frequency band with high kurtosis found by the fast spectral kurtosis method, and then the center frequency of the fault band can be determined. A suitable initial phase function is selected for nonlinear matching pursuit of the newly formed signal to obtain the source signal component. In the field of actual mechanical fault diagnosis, the initial phase function can be expressed as  $2\pi ft$ ,  $f$  is the center frequency determined by the fast spectral kurtosis method. The specific flow chart is shown in Fig. 1.

### 3. Simulation analysis of bearing compound fault diagnosis

When the rolling bearing inner and outer rings and other local failure, the vibration signal will produce the corresponding impulse signal. The vibration of rolling bearings can be divided into two categories. One is the natural vibration of rolling bearing; The other is the abnormal vibration of rolling bearings, which is related to the surface state of bearings. This section verifies the effectiveness of the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method in processing bearing composite fault signals through simulation analysis. The bearing vibration signal monitored in the actual industrial production working environment is bound to be interfered by various factors, such as noise, electromagnetic interference, etc. In practical work, the bearing often generates vibration signals based on modulated signals. Therefore, the vibration simulation signal of bearing compound fault is established as follows:

$$s(t) = [B] \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} + B(t) + n(t), \quad (16)$$

$$x(t) = \sum_{\tau=1}^M A_m h_1(t - mT_i - \tau_m), \quad (17)$$

$$y(t) = \sum_{\tau=1}^M h_2(t - mT_o - \tau_m), \quad (18)$$

$$B(t) = 0.3 \cos(2\pi f_1 t) + 0.2 \cos(2\pi f_2 t), \quad (19)$$

$$A_m = 1 + A_0 \cos(2\pi f_i t), \quad (20)$$

$$h_1 = e^{-c_1 t} \cos(2\pi f_{n1} t), \quad (21)$$

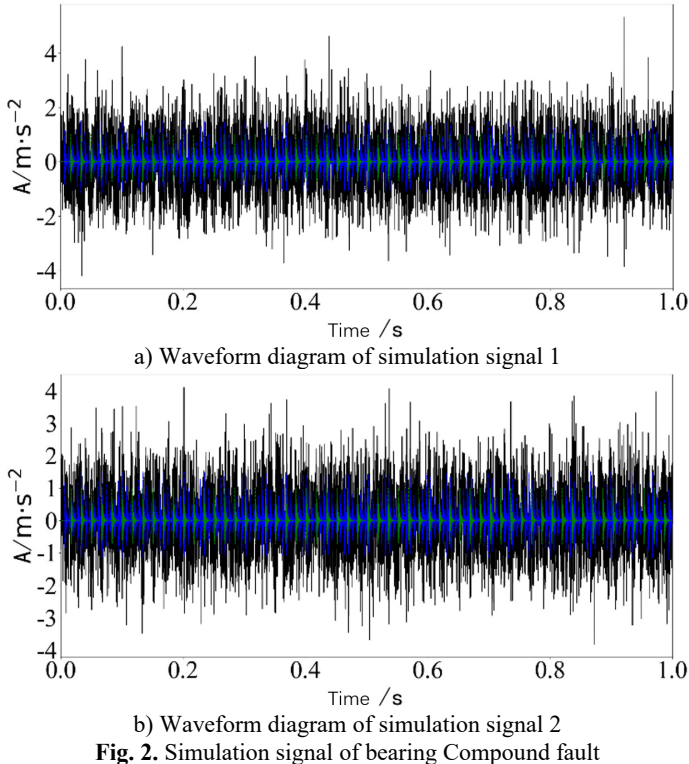
$$h_2 = e^{-c_2 t} \cos(2\pi f_{n2} t). \quad (22)$$

In the Eq. (17) and Eq. (18),  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  represent the periodic fault impact signals of the inner and outer rings, respectively. The amplitude  $A_0 = 0.5$ , the frequency  $f_r = 30$  Hz, the attenuation coefficients  $C_1 = 500$  and  $C_2 = 600$ . The resonant frequencies  $f_{n1} = 4000$  Hz and  $f_{n2} = 3000$  Hz, the carrier frequencies in the interference harmonic  $B(t)$  are  $f_1 = 70$  Hz and  $f_2 = 50$  Hz, the inner ring fault characteristic frequencies are  $f_i = 1/T_i = 150$  Hz, and the outer ring fault characteristic frequencies are  $f_o = 1/T_o = 60$  Hz. The sampling frequency is 8192 Hz, and white noise with a signal-to-noise ratio of  $-5$  dB is introduced. The number of analysis points is 8192. Hybrid matrix  $[B] = \begin{bmatrix} 1.3 & 1.4 \\ 1.2 & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$ . The time domain diagram of simulated signals is shown in Fig. 2. In the Fig. 2, the inner ring fault is represented by blue, the outer ring fault signal is represented by green, and the black signal is the mixed signal after adding noise. In the figure, the impact signal features are completely submerged in the noise, and there is no obvious impact fault in the time-domain signal.

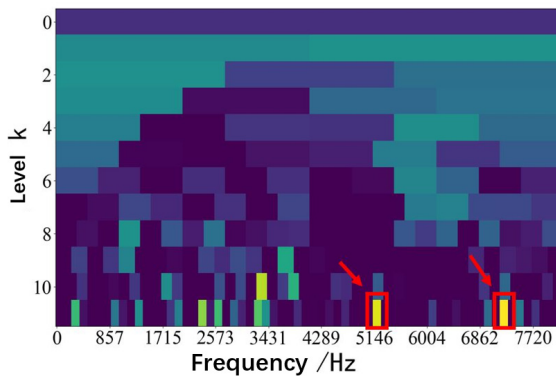
Fast spectral kurtosis analysis is carried out on simulation signals of bearing compound faults, as shown in Fig. 3.

According to the selected area in the red box in Fig. 3, it is concluded that there are impact characteristics in two frequency bands in the simulation signal. The center frequency is extracted,

and the initial phase function of the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method is selected according to the frequency band, and its decomposition component is obtained, as shown in Fig. 4.



**Fig. 2.** Simulation signal of bearing Compound fault



**Fig. 3.** Fast spectral kurtosis diagram of simulation signal

Component 1 approximately represent the inner ring fault component in the rolling bearing compound fault model. Component 2 approximately represent the outer ring fault component in the rolling bearing compound fault model. The fault characteristics of impulse impact exist in time domain diagram. The envelope spectrum analysis of the component obtained by the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method was conducted, as shown in Fig. 5.  $f_i$  is the inner ring fault frequency, and  $f_o$  is the outer ring fault frequency.

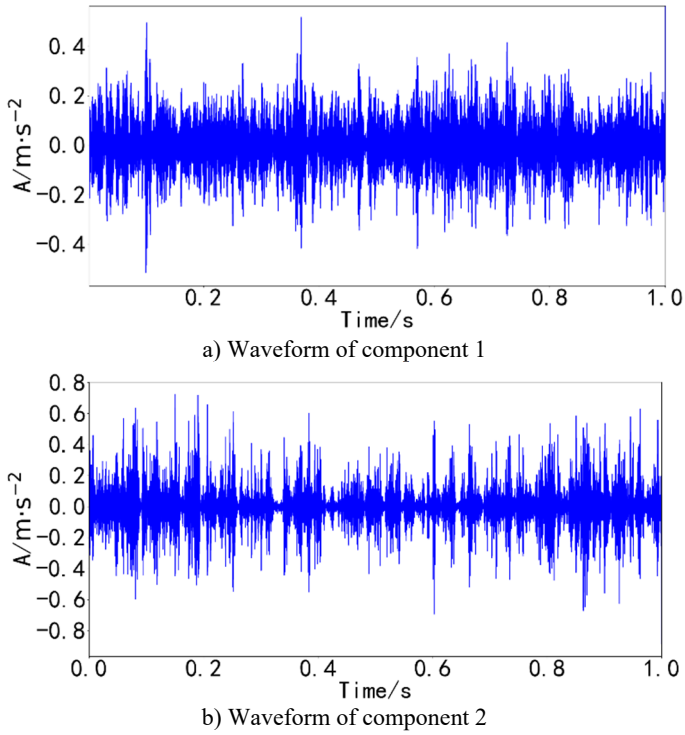


Fig. 4. Time domain diagram of simulation analysis results of STIMD

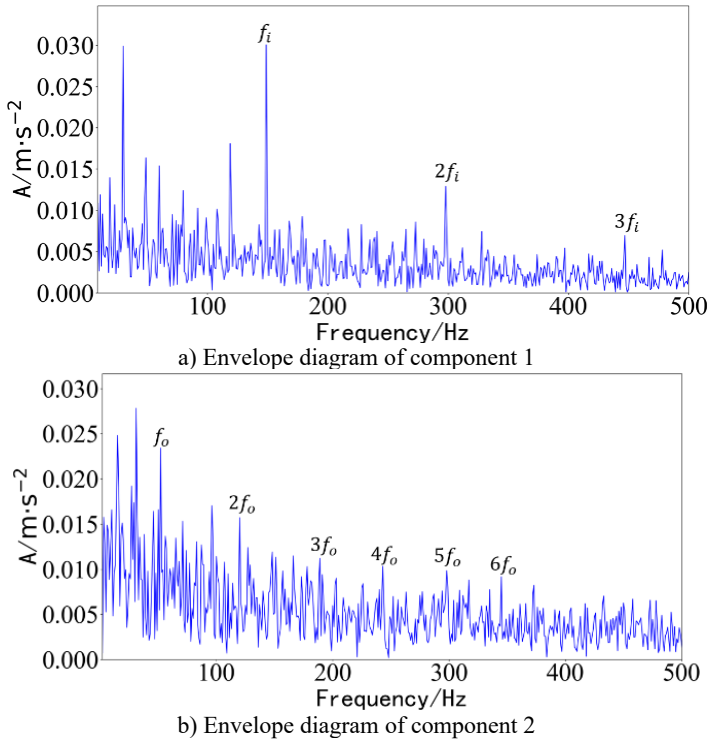
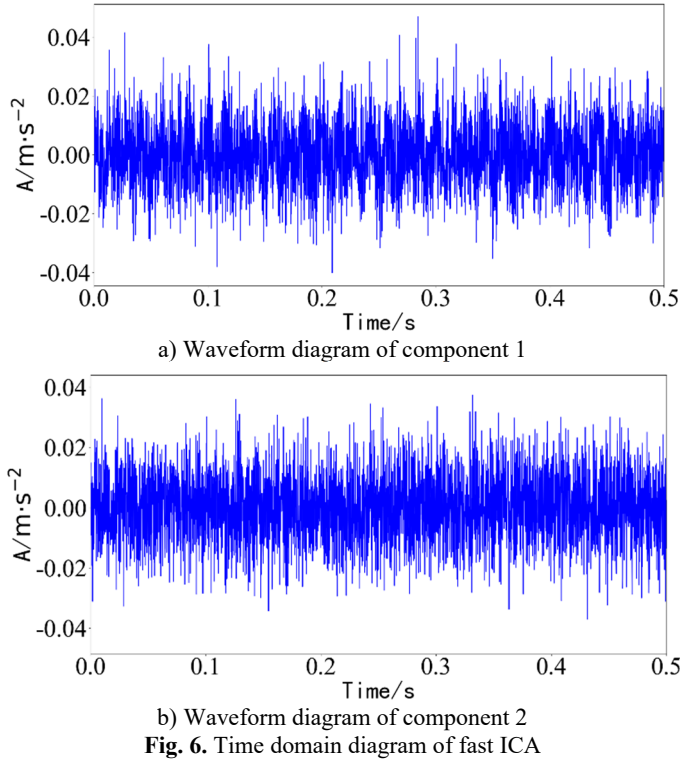


Fig. 5. Envelope spectrum of simulation results of STIMD



It can be proved from Fig. 5 that the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method can separate the fault frequency of the outer ring and the inner ring as well as the double frequency and triple frequency respectively. The fault frequency is obvious and the fault separation is accurate.

Fast independent component analysis method was used to analyze the vibration simulation signals of the same bearing compound fault. And the waveform diagram of components are shown in Fig. 6.



**Fig. 6.** Time domain diagram of fast ICA

No obvious impact feature exists in the time domain diagram obtained by decomposition. The envelope spectrum of the time-domain component obtained by the fastICA method is analyzed, as shown in Fig. 7.  $f_i$  is the inner ring fault frequency.

It can be seen from Fig. 7 that the envelope spectrum of the component obtained by fastICA analysis method can only judge the inner ring fault frequency and its frequency doubling, but cannot extract the outer ring impact frequency, so it cannot effectively separate the compound fault.

By analyzing the simulation signal model of the bearing compound fault, it can be verified that the STIMD method can accurately separate the inner ring fault from the outer ring fault. Selecting the initial phase function by fast spectral kurtosis can solve the minimization problem more quickly. Compared with the fastICA method, the STIMD method can realize the inner and outer ring fault separation in bearing compound fault diagnosis, and embody multiple frequency doubling.

To verify the effect of STIMD under different signal-to-noise ratios (SNR) and to further compare with the fast independent component analysis method. Kurtosis, as an index to measure the impact characteristics of the signal, can reflect whether the fault impact characteristics in the component are obvious to a certain extent. The kurtosis change of the decomposition component is analyzed when the signal-to-noise ratio is from  $-10$  dB to  $10$  dB. In order to make the trend

more obvious, the abrupt value generated by random noise is ignored and the polynomial is used to fit the data, so that the curves of signal-to-noise ratio and kurtosis are smoother and more intuitive. The signal-to-noise ratio and kurtosis curves of the two channels of the simulated signal and the two corresponding components obtained by the decomposition method are shown in Fig. 8.

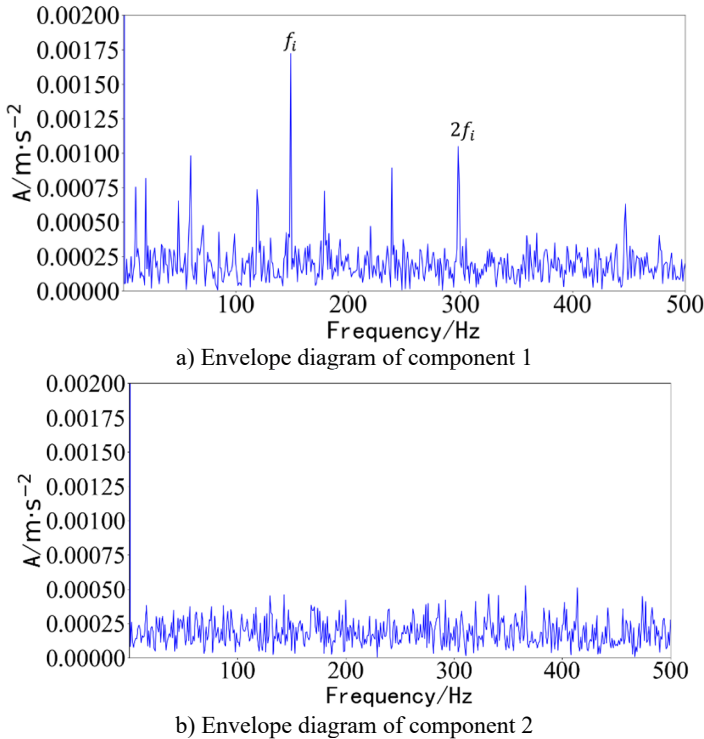


Fig. 7. Component envelope spectra obtained by fastICA

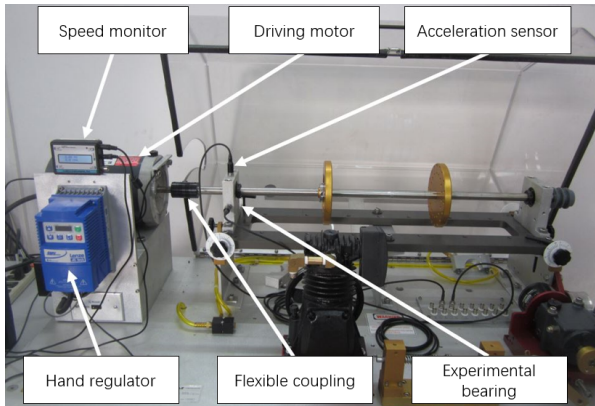
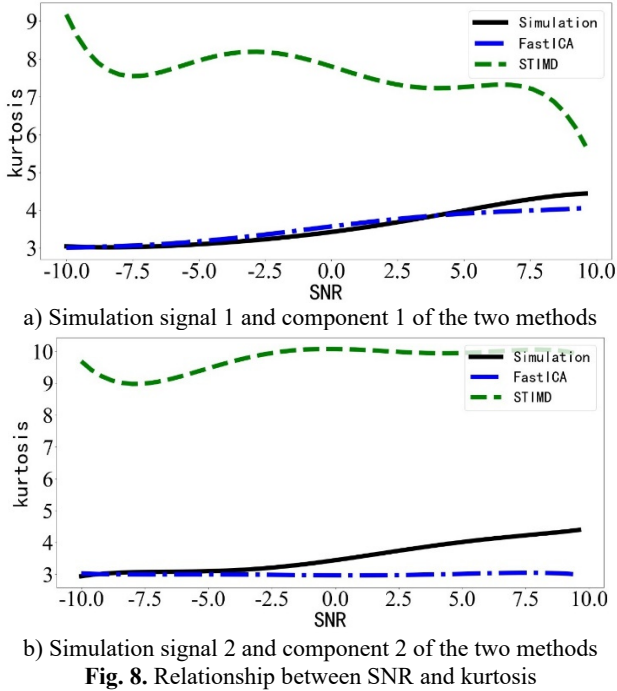
It can be seen from Fig. 8 that compared with the fastICA method and the STIMD method has a significant improvement in component kurtosis. As shown in Fig. 8, the kurtosis of the STIMD method after fast spectral kurtosis optimization is about 8, while the kurtosis of fastICA and simulation signal is about 3.5. Through numerical comparison, it can be seen that the fault impact component can still be extracted by the STIMD method under the condition of a low signal-to-noise ratio, i.e. the impact characteristics are not obvious. In conclusion, the STIMD method can realize the separation of inner and outer ring faults and diagnose the existing faults under the condition of a low signal-to-noise ratio in the simulation and verification of bearing composite fault simulation signal model.

## 4. Case analysis of bearing compound fault diagnosis

### 4.1. Test equipment

In order to further verify the practicability of the proposed method, the vibration signals collected in the actual experiment is analyzed. Relevant experimental research is conducted in Guilin University of Electronic Science and Technology with the help of corresponding author Yanxue Wang in 2021. The MFS-MG mechanical fault comprehensive simulation test bench is used to conduct the test. The test system consists of a driving motor, a speed monitor, an acceleration sensor, a hand regulator, a flexible coupling, a load gearbox and an experimental

bearing. The test bench is shown in Fig. 9. ER-12K type rolling bearings were selected for the test bearing, whose dimensions were shown in Table 1. Bearings with compound faults were installed near the driving motor and multi-channel vibration information was collected by piezoelectric acceleration sensors. The signal acquisition position was shown in Fig. 10. The faulty bearing is shown in Fig. 11.



**Table 1.** ER-12K bearing parameters

Outer ring diameter / mm	Inner ring diameter / mm	pitch circle diameter / mm	Number of rollers	Roller diameter / mm	Contact angle / (°)
52	25.4	33.4772	8	7.9375	0

In the test process, the motor frequency  $f_r = 29.87$  Hz, sampling frequency  $f_s = 25.6$  kHz, analysis sampling number 25600, that is, analysis sampling time 1s. According to the basic dimension parameters of bearings, the frequency information of motor rotation and Eq. (16) and

(17), the inner ring fault frequency is  $f_i = 147.81$  Hz, and the outer ring fault frequency is  $f_o = 91.15$  Hz:

$$f_o = \frac{Z}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{d}{D} \cos\theta \right) f_r, \quad (23)$$

$$f_i = \frac{Z}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{d}{D} \cos\theta \right) f_r, \quad (24)$$

where,  $Z$  is the number of rolling bodies, and  $d$  is the diameter of rolling bodies;  $D$  is the pitch circle diameter and  $\theta$  is the contact Angle.

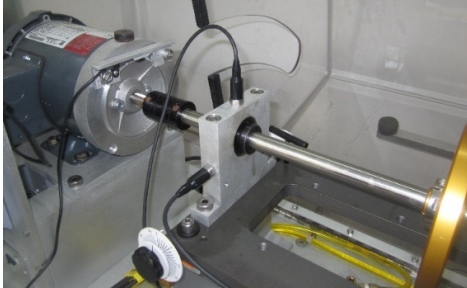


Fig. 10. Signal acquisition position of the experiment platform



Fig. 11. Compound fault bearing

#### 4.2. Bearing compound fault diagnosis

The bearing compound fault collected by the test equipment is a signal containing an inner ring fault and outer ring fault. And the time-domain waveform is shown in Fig. 12.

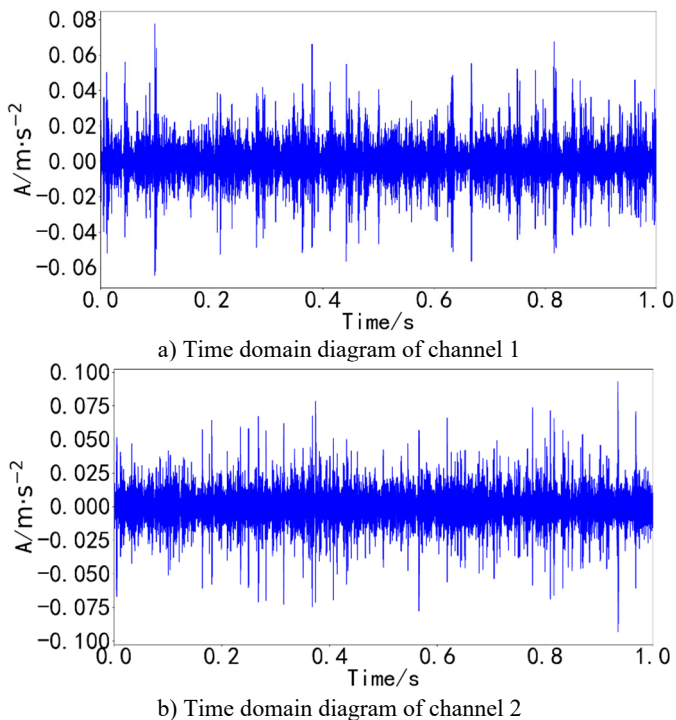


Fig. 12. Time domain diagram of the signal of bearing composite fault

There is no obvious impact characteristic in the time domain vibration signal, and the fault type cannot be judged. Rapid spectral kurtosis analysis is performed on the bearing composite vibration signals collected in the experiment, as shown in Fig. 13.

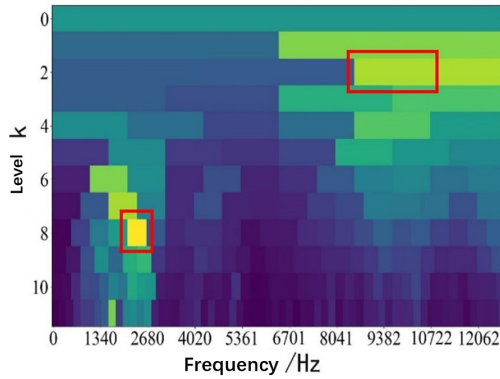


Fig. 13. Fast spectral kurtosis of experimental signal

Two fault bands with high energy are obtained by fast spectral kurtosis analysis and then filtered and analyzed by the STIMD method. The result is shown in Fig. 14.

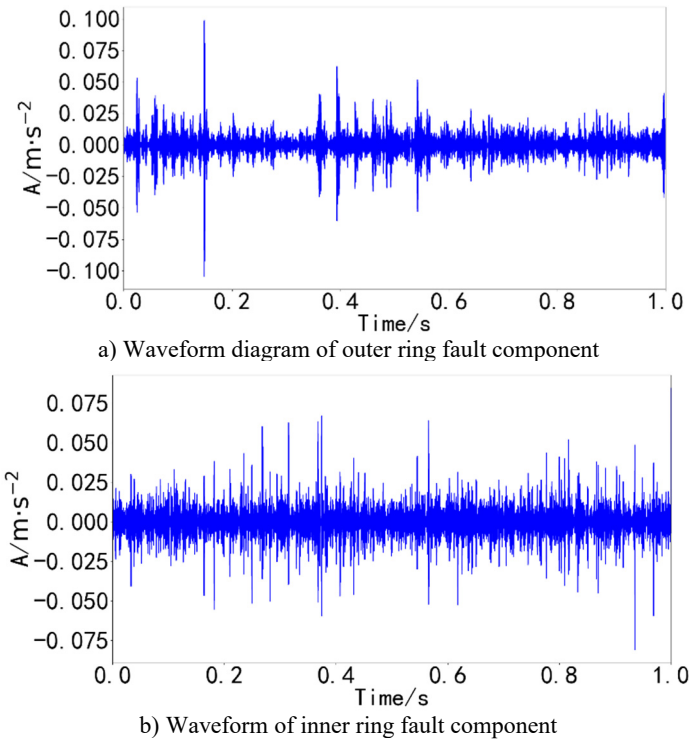
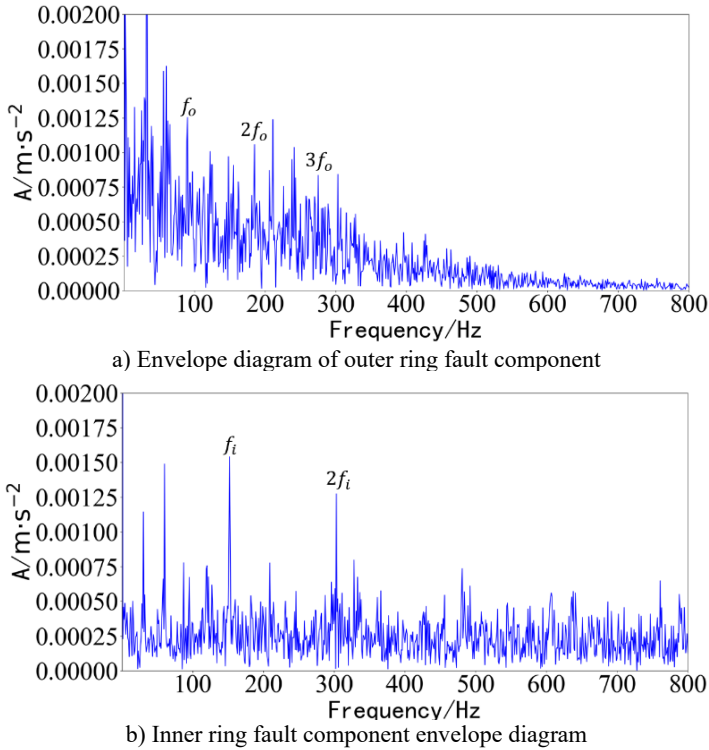


Fig. 14. Decomposition result waveforms of STIMD

It is not difficult to find periodic impact signals in the time domain waveform in Fig. 14. The envelope spectrum analysis of the fault component obtained by the STIMD method is carried out, as shown in Fig. 15.  $f_i$  is the inner ring fault frequency, and  $f_o$  is the outer ring fault frequency.

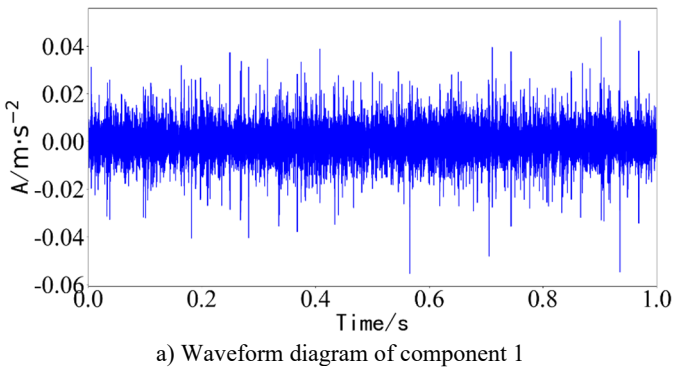


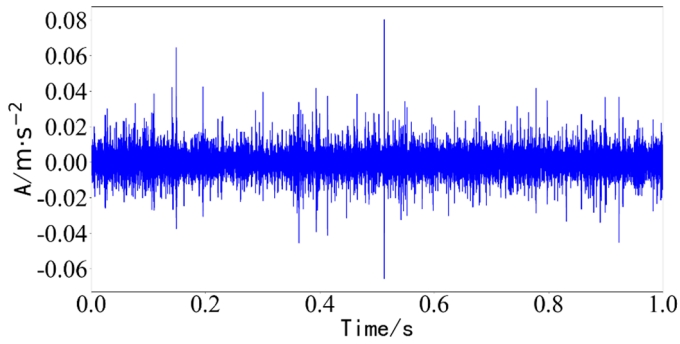
**Fig. 15.** Decomposing component envelope diagram of STIMD

The existence of inner and outer ring faults can be determined from the envelope spectrum of components, and the effective separation and extraction of fault types can be realized. From Fig. 15(a), the outer ring failure frequency with a large value can be analyzed; from Fig. 15(b), the inner ring failure frequency and its double frequency can be analyzed. It is shown that the inner and outer ring faults can be decomposed and separated from the multi-channel bearing vibration signals by the STIMD method which selects the initial phase function by fast spectral kurtosis optimization, and the bearing compound fault diagnosis can be realized.

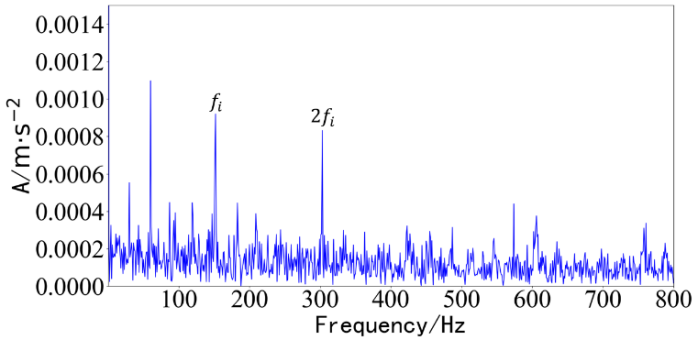
When the same test data is used to analyze the bearing vibration compound fault signals through the fast ICA method, the result is shown in Fig. 16.

The time domain signal component does not have an obvious impact component. The envelope analysis is carried out on the time domain component decomposed by the fast ICA method, and the envelope spectrum as shown in Fig. 17 is obtained.  $f_i$  is the inner ring fault frequency.

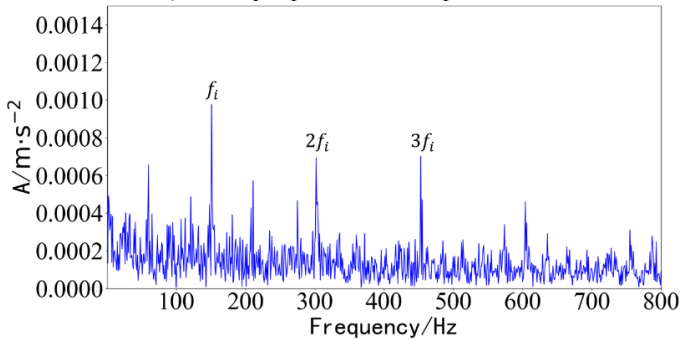




b) Waveform diagram of component 2  
**Fig. 16.** Time domain diagram of fast ICA



a) Envelope spectrum of component 1



b) Envelope spectrum of component 2

**Fig. 17.** Envelope spectrum of results of fast ICA

In the envelope spectrum of fast independent component analysis, only the inner circle fault can be detected, but the outer circle fault cannot be distinguished. Therefore, the composite bearing fault diagnosis method applied in the test cannot realize the separation and judgment of the fault frequency of the inner ring and the outer ring.

In conclusion, the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method selects the key parameter of the initial phase function through fast spectral kurtosis optimization, which can effectively solve the problem that the fast independent component analysis method cannot effectively judge and separate the inner and outer ring faults in bearing compound fault diagnosis.

## 5. Conclusions

Aiming at the problem that it is difficult to separate multiple fault characteristic components

from multi-channel composite fault signals of rolling bearings, a composite fault diagnosis method of rolling bearings based on spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method combined with fast spectral kurtosis was proposed. High kurtosis frequency band in vibration signal is determined by fast spectral kurtosis, and the center frequency of frequency band is selected as the basis of initial phase function selection. The simulation signal model was established according to the composite fault signal characteristics of the rolling bearing. The signal model contained two impact components and the signal-to-noise ratio was  $-5$ , which completely covered the impact characteristics. In addition, the kurtosis index of the proposed method is higher than that of the contrast method and mixed signal under different signal-to-noise ratio. In this paper, the compound faults of the inner and outer rings of experimental rolling bearings are analyzed. By comparing nonlinear with the comparison method, it is shown that the method can effectively separate the two fault characteristic components and reflect the impact characteristics more comprehensively, which proves that the spatiotemporal intrinsic mode decomposition method with fast spectral kurtosis optimization can realize the compound fault diagnosis of rolling bearings.

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### Data availability

The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

### Author contributions

Zhixing Li: conception of the study. Yuanxiu Zhang: analysis and manuscript preparation, performed the data analyses and wrote the manuscript. Yanxue Wang: perform the analysis with constructive discussions.

### Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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