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15/10N 80/2011

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SMOOTHING OF COMBINED CYCLE STEAM TURBINE GOVERNOR PERFORMANCE BY MODELING AND SIMULATION

A dissertation submitted to the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Moratuwa in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science

by



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February 2011

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DECLARATION

The work submitted in this dissertation is the result of my own investigation, except where otherwise stated. It has not already been accepted for any degree, and is also not being concurrently submitted for any other degree.

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I endorse the declaration by the candidate.



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Abstract

The combined cycle power plant is a non-linear closed loop system, which consists of the gas turbine (GT), heat recovery steam generator (HRSG), high pressure (HP) and low pressure (LP) steam turbines. The gas turbine and HP, LP steam turbines operate concurrently to generate power. Through the fuel combustion process taking place inside the combustion chamber, the gas turbine is driven, after which the exhaust gas of the combustion flows into the HRSG to generate superheated steam to be used for driving the HP and LP steam turbines.

The steam turbine in a combined cycle power plant is similar to that of a steam turbine in a conventional steam plant. The major difference is in the control philosophy of the turbine. In a combined cycle system, the steam turbine can be operated in two different modes; sliding pressure or fixed steam inlet pressure control. In practice, a combination of these operation modes is commonly used for combined-cycle power plants, depending on the level of power output required.

During sliding pressure control, the throttling or control valves are fully open. The steam pressure is a function of the steam mass flow entering the steam turbine. When operating near the base load most of the steam turbines of combined cycle plants operate on sliding pressure mode.

In this thesis, the cause for fluctuation of the HP steam turbine governor after it gets fully opened (governor hunting), is investigated. A dynamic model is developed to represent this status of the steam turbine mainly based on the sliding pressure control mode. Being the components that cause major influence, only the HRSG's HP section, HP governor and HP, LP turbines are used for modeling. This component level modeling is done using the realistic plant operating data. The solutions are simulated using C programming with derived plant data. Whenever plant data is not available, approximated data is being used with reasonable assumptions. When compared the simulation results with the corresponding plant data, it is seen that they are in good agreement. This indicates that the developed models for the components could be used to represent the combined cycle power plant's high pressure section, when operating on sliding pressure control mode.

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Through the analysis of simulation results, it can be seen that the HP governor hunting takes place due to variation of the pre-defined sliding pressure set point. Generally that happens due to ageing of the HP turbine that is reflected through reduced plant efficiency.



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Acknowledgement

My sincere gratitude is offered to my supervisor Dr. A.M. Harsha S. Abeykoon, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Moratuwa, for being supportive and giving guidance and inspiration throughout my work.

I gratefully mention the names of Eng. D.N. Navarathne (Chief Engineer Instrumentation & Control, Asset Management Branch of Ceylon Electricity Board) and Dr. W.D. Asanka Sanjeewa Rodrigo (Senior Lecturer of Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Moratuwa) for providing advice, guidance, and encouragement during the entire period of my study.

Many thanks go to the academic staff of the Department of Electrical Engineering of University of Moratuwa, including the Head of the Department and the Course Coordinator, for being enormously helpful for me to successfully complete this project within the stipulated time period.

It is not fair if I do not acknowledge the support extended by Eng. V.V. Janeth (Electrical Engineer - Steam Turbine, Kelanitissa Combined Cycle Power Station) to make this study a success. The management of the Ceylon Electricity Board is also acknowledged with many thanks.

Finally I wish to thank my beloved family members for being helpful and many individuals including my colleagues for their assistance in various ways to bring this academic activity a success.

T.N. Nishantha

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

- ST Steam Turbine
- CEB Ceylon Electricity Board
- GT Gas Turbine
- HRSG Heat Recovery Steam Generator
- TFM Turbine Following Mode
- BOF Boiler Following Mode
- SPM Sliding Pressure Mode
- KCCP Kelanitissa Combined Cycle Power Station
- HP High Pressure
- LP Low Pressure
- SH Super Heater
- O&M Operation and Maintenance
- SC Sul

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