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EMBEDDED GENERATION IMPACTS TO MEDIUM VOLTAGE DISTRIBUTION NETWORK AND MITIGATION TECHNIQUES

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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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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CONTENTS

Declaration.....	i
Abstract.....	iv
Acknowledgement.....	v
List of Abbreviations.....	vi
List of Figures.....	viii
List of Tables.....	x
1 Introduction	
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Motivation.....	3
1.3 Objective.....	4
1.4 Scope of work.....	4
2 MV distribution system of Sabaragamuwa province of Sri Lanka	
2.1 Sabaragamuwa Province.....	5
2.2 Electricity Distribution Network of Sabaragamuwa Province.....	5
2.3 Rathnapura Grid Substation.....	6
2.4 Updating the map of MV distribution network.....	9
2.5 Data Collection.....	9
2.6 Modeling the network using SynerGEE.....	9
2.7 Assigning input data to the digitizing model.....	10
2.8 Modeling the network using MATLAB.....	11
2.9 MHP Data.....	16
3 Analysis and Results	
3.1 Voltage Regulation.....	18
3.2 Fault Level Analysis.....	20
3.3 Obtaining maximum fault currents.....	22
4 Proposed Solutions	
4.1 Voltage Regulation.....	25
4.2 Increasing the Fault Level.....	25

4.3	Fault Current Limiters.....	27
4.4	Application of Fault Current Limiters	29
4.5	Thyristor Control Series Capacitor as FCL	32
4.6	Introduction to TCSC.....	33
4.7	Proposed TCSC for distribution network applications	35
4.8	Selection of operation regions	37
4.8	Testing and simulation of prototype TCSC	41
5	Conclusions	
5.1	Conclusions	43
5.2	Suggestions for future works	44
	References.....	45
	Appendix A : Grid vice connected MHP s in Sri Lanka	47
	Appendix B : Conductor Data	48
	Appendix C : SynerGEE Table and Maps.....	49
	Appendix D : Calculating the source impedance.....	53
	Appendix E : Circuit Diagrams and Graphs.....	54
	Appendix F : Types of fault Current Limiters.....	60

Abstract

As a result of increasing of electricity demand, the electrical transmission and distribution systems are continuously expanding. Connection of Distribution Generators (DG) to the distribution network and upgrading of the transmission lines are more frequent expansions. Connection of new mini hydro power plants (MHPs) in Sri Lanka is one good example. In most of the cases these DGs, which are mainly based renewable energy are located in remote areas. The main bottleneck barrier of connecting DG is violation of fault current ratings at some parts of the network. Some expansions may result in higher fault current level at some points of the power system and thus exceeding the short circuit ratings of equipment such as switchgears and expulsion switches. As upgrading of equipment is not feasible both economically and technically, introduction of fault current limiting devices has become an essential requirement.

Fault Current Limiter (FCL) is series device connected to the power system, which shows the high impedance to the current during a fault while showing a zero or low impedance during normal loading condition. Although several FCL topologies were introduced by researchers, there are some technical and economical problems to be solved before introducing them to the power system effectively. It demands the investigation of new FCL topologies which are more feasible or modifications of available topologies to increase feasibility. FCL introduces additional impedance to the system depending on the system operating conditions. It is not only reduces the fault current but also effects on a number of power system related phenomena such as power losses, protection coordination, interrupting duty of switchgears, transient stability and voltage sag.

This research work is mainly focus on application of Fault Current Limiter (FCL) to overcome this problem and facilitate the equipment safety.

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List of Abbreviations

AAAC	All Aluminium Alloy Conductor
ABS	Air Break Switch
ACSR	Aluminium Conductor Steel Reinforced
CB	Circuit Breaker
CEB	Ceylon Electricity Board
CSC	Consumer Service Centre
DDLO	Drop Down Lift Off
DG	Distributed Generator
FCL	Fault Current Limiter
GSS	Grid Substation
GTO	Gate Turn Off
HTS	High Temperature Superconducting
I	Current
I_c	Critical current
J_c	Critical Current density
LBS	Load Break Switch
LT	Low Tension
LV	Low Voltage
MFCL	Magnetic Fault Current Limiter
MHP	Mini Hydro Power
MOV	Metal
MV	Medium Voltage
PSS	Primary Substation
RGSS	Rathnapura Grid Substation
SC	Superconductor
SFCL	Superconducting Fault Current Limiter
SIN	System Identification Number
SPP	Small Power Producers
SPPA	Small Power Purchase Agreement

StFCL	Static Fault Current Limiter
T_c	Critical Temperature
TCSC	Thyristor Control Series Capacitor
TCR	Thyristor Controlled Reactor



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Modelled Parameters of Power System	10
Verification of design	11
- Current at the point of J, without DG's	17
- Current at the point of J, with DG's	17
- Current at the point of J, with FCL	17
- Current at the point of H, without DG's	18
- Current at the point of H, with DG's	18
- Current at the point of H, with FCL	18
- Current at the point of S, without DG's	19
- Current at the point of S, with DG's	19
- Current at the point of S, with FCL	19

List of Figures

Figure		Page
Figure 2.1	Single Line Diagram of Rathnapura Grid Substation	07
Figure 2.2	Single line Diagram of Feeder No: 05	12
Figure 2.3	Single line Diagram of Feeder No: 06	14
Figure 2.4	Single line Diagram of Feeder No: 08	15
Figure 4.1	FCL at primary distribution feeder	30
Figure 4.2	FCL at distribution transformer circuit	31
Figure 4.3	FCL at connection point of DG	32
Figure 4.4	Basic structure of TCSC	33
Figure 4.5	Impedance characteristic of TCSC	34
Figure 4.6	Configuration of TCSC and control system	36
Figure 4.7	Expected firing angle variation of line current	37
Figure 4.8	Wave forms of the firing pulses	39
Figure 4.9	Circuit Diagram of TCSC	40
Figure C.1	Feeder 05	50
Figure C.2	Feeder 06	51
Figure C.3	Feeder 08	52
Figure E.1	Modeled Feeders of RGSS without DG s	54
Figure E.2	Modeled Feeders of RGSS with DG s	55
Figure E.3	Application of designed FCL to the network	56
Figure E.4	Fault Current at the point of J, without DG s	57
Figure E.5	Fault Current at the point of J, with DG s	57
Figure E.6	Fault Current at the point of J, with FCL	57
Figure E.7	Fault Current at the point of H, without DG s	58
Figure E.8	Fault Current at the point of H, with DG s	58
Figure E.9	Fault Current at the point of H, with FCL	58
Figure E.10	Fault Current at the point of S, without DG s	59
Figure E.11	Fault Current at the point of S, with DG s	59
Figure E.12	Fault Current at the point of S, with FCL	59

Figure		Page
Figure F.1	Layout of Resistive type SFCL	61
Figure F.2	Layout of Magnetic Shielding type SFCL	62
Figure F.3	Layout of Saturated Inductive type SFCL	63
Figure F.4	Equivalent circuit of Flux Lock type SFCL	64
Figure F.5	Equivalent circuit of Magnetic switch based MFCL	65
Figure F.6	Passive MFCL with series biasing	66
Figure F.7	Passive MFCL with parallel biasing	67
Figure F.8	GTO thyristor switch based	68
Figure F.9	Thyristor controlled series tune circuit based StFCL	69
Figure F.10	Impedance characteristics of TCSC	69



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List of Tables

Table		Page
Table 2.1	MV distribution facilities of Rathnapura Grid Substation	07
Table 2.2	MV Feeder Data	08
Table 2.3	Data of connected MHP s	08
Table 2.4	Conductor Data of Feeder No: 05	13
Table 2.5	Conductor Data of Feeder No: 06	14
Table 2.6	Conductor Data of Feeder No: 08	16
Table 2.7	MHP Generator Data 01	16
Table 2.8	MHP Generator Data 02	17
Table 2.9	MHP Generator Data 03	17
Table 2.10	MHP Generator Data 04	17
Table 3.1	Voltage variation of feeder sections	20
Table 3.2	Comparing fault currents and without DG s	23
Table 4.1	Performance Data for FCL	42
Table A.1	Grid vice connected MHP s in Sri lanka	47
Table B.1	Resistances and reactances of conductor types	48
Table C.1	SynerGEE Table and Maps	49