

**DETERMINATION OF MAXIMUM POSSIBLE  
LOADING CAPACITY OF A SINGLE GENERATOR  
UNIT: A CASE STUDY FOR THE PRESENT SRI  
LANKAN POWER SYSTEM**

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Degree of Master of Science

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Sri Lanka

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Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of  
Science in Electrical Installations

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January 2018

## **Declaration**

I declare that this is my own work and this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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Signature:

(R.S.Ranjitha)

Date:

The above candidate has carried out research for the Masters under my supervision.

Signature of the supervisor:

(Dr. W.D.A.S. Rodrigo)

Date:

## **Abstract**

Present Sri Lankan power system consists of a rich energy mix and a vast diversity within all over the island, out of which hydro power generation is predominant. Even though hydro power generation is predominant and has least operational cost, the emerging consumer demand growth cannot be catered by hydro power generation only. In addition to hydro power, nearly 50% of country's energy demand is fulfilled by three number of coal power plants which are considered as largest capacity low cost thermal power plants in the country and are operated in base load basis.

Even though these large scale coal power plants are very much cost effective and have large net output power capacity, considering the system reliability, they cannot be dispatched in full load manner during certain demand conditions and different dispatch conditions which are currently practiced by Ceylon Electricity Board, which is the country's main power utility which has the authority to large scale electricity generation, transmission and distribution. The reason is when such a large generator gets tripped, the frequency stability and voltage stability would be highly vulnerable for resulting the system collapsing due to such large generation rejection from the system.

Recently the national power network has experienced several failures due to tripping of such large generators during certain demand condition under different dispatch conditions. Hence, it has become a challenging decision to determine the loading capacity of the large generators when it comes to system operations.

A model has been implemented with PSS/E software and has been validated with actual system incidents considering latest power system parameters. This validated model has been used for simulating generation rejections according to the appropriate generation percentages during all the dispatch scenarios considering worst case demand conditions. This study evaluates the capacity percentage range of the maximum loading capacity of single generator unit considering both frequency stability and voltage stability, compromising both power system operational cost and power system reliability as a case study which is carried out considering the parameters of operational guide lines of present Sri Lankan national power system.

## **Dedication**

I dedicate this thesis to my beloved parents, who have guided and motivated me unconditionally to reach my best.

To all supporters who have encouraged me in various ways for achieving this life milestone.

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First, I pay my sincere gratitude to Dr. Asanka Rodrigo who encouraged me and guided me to develop this research idea and journey so far up to preparation of final thesis.

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to all engineers of national System Control Centre of Ceylon Electricity Board, who supported me generously and facilitated with necessary data and information whenever needed, in spite of their heavy work load.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Content

### Page

Declaration of the candidate and supervisor	i
Abstract	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Table of content	v
List of figures	ix
List of tables	xiv
List of abbreviations	xv
List of appendices	xvi
1. Background	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Issues regarding the loading percentage of large capacity generators	3
1.3 Motivation	4
1.4 Objective of the Study	5
1.5 Outcomes of the study	6
1.6 Scope of the study work	6
2. Present Generation Dispatch Scenarios and Demand Scenarios	8
2.1 Generation Dispatch Scenarios	8
2.2 Demand Scenarios	9
2.3 Economical cost analysis of loading operations of LVPS capacity under different dispatch scenarios	9
2.3.1 Hydro Maximum Scenario	9
2.3.2 Thermal maximum Scenario	10
2.3.3 Extreme Thermal maximum Scenario	11
2.4 Determination of contribution percentage range of a single LVPS generator, at off peak demand scenario	

	under each dispatch scenario	12
2.4.1	Methodology of calculation LVPS generation contribution	12
2.4.2	LVPS contribution percentage at Off Peak demand scenario under Hydro Maximum Scenario	14
2.4.3	LVPS contribution percentage at Off Peak demand scenario under Thermal Maximum Scenario	14
2.4.3	LVPS contribution percentage at Off Peak demand scenario under Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	15
2.4.4	Study range consideration	15
3.	Existing Transmission System of Sri Lanka	16
3.1	Existing Power system and the max loading capacity of a single generator unit	16
3.2	Frequency criteria of Sri Lanka	16
3.3	Voltage criteria of Sri Lanka	17
3.4	Present UFLS scheme	18
3.5	Dispatch scenario consideration and demand scenario considerations for the study	19
3.6	Power system limitations	21
3.6.1	Frequency limitations	21
3.6.2	Voltage limitations	22
3.7	System cascade disturbances occurred with related to maximum loading capacity of a single generator unit	22
3.7.1	Tripping incident initiated with of Kosgama – Kolonnawa 132kV single circuit on 18.02.2017	23
3.7.2	LVPS governor responding behavior during the failure period	25
3.8	Transient over voltage on Sri Lankan transmission network	27
4.	Overview and PSS®E Model Validation	28



4.1	Overview	28
4.1.1	Overview of Sri Lankan power system	28
4.1.2	Overview of PSS/E	28
4.1.3	Steady State and Dynamic State analysis of power system	30
	4.1.3.1 Steady state simulation of Sri Lankan Power System in PSS/E	31
	4.1.3.2 Dynamic state simulation of Sri Lankan power system in PSS/E	31
	4.1.3.3 Analyzing results of dynamic simulation	32
4.2	Active power and Reactive power response of LVPS at a disturbance	32
4.3	Study Cases	33
	4.3.1 Study case 01: The tripping of Kelanithissa Combined Cycle Power plant (KCCP) on 15.04.2016	34
	4.3.1.1 Incident description of study case 01	34
	4.3.1.2 Frequency analysis of the study case 01	36
	4.3.1.3 Frequency analysis of the study case 01	38
	4.3.2 Study case 02: The tripping of LVPS unit 01-plant on 06.07.2016	40
	4.3.2.1 Incident description of study case 02	40
	4.3.2.2 Frequency analysis of the study case 02	42
	4.3.2.3 Voltage analysis of the study case 02	45
5.	Simulation and Analysis of Generator Rejection Incidents	47
5.1	Methodology	47
5.2	Case study of Hydro Maximum Scenario	48
	5.2.1 Generator (LVPS unit 01-216MW) tripping of 27% of total system generation	51
	5.2.2 Generator (LVPS unit 01-216MW) tripping of 25% of total system generation	54
	5.2.3 Generator (LVPS unit 01-216MW) tripping of 23% of total system generation	56
	5.2.4 Generator (LVPS unit 01-216MW) tripping of 21%	

	of total system generation	58
5.2.5	Generator (LVPS unit 01-216MW) tripping of 19% of total system generation	60
5.3	Case study of Thermal Maximum Scenario	62
5.3.1	Generator (LVPS unit 01-270MW) tripping of 27% of total system generation	65
5.3.2	Generator (LVPS unit 01-250MW) tripping of 25% of total system generation	67
5.3.3	Generator (LVPS unit 01-230MW) tripping of 23% of total system generation	69
5.3.4	Generator (LVPS unit 01-210MW) tripping of 21% of total system generation	71
5.3.5	Generator (LVPS unit 01-190MW) tripping of 19% of total system generation	73
5.4	Case study of Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	75
5.4.1	Generator (LVPS unit 01-270MW) tripping of 27% of total system generation	78
5.4.2	Generator (LVPS unit 01-250MW) tripping of 25% of total system generation	80
5.4.3	Generator (LVPS unit 01-230MW) tripping of 23% of total system generation	82
5.4.4	Generator (LVPS unit 01-210MW) tripping of 21% of total system generation	84
5.4.5	Generator (LVPS unit 01-190MW) tripping of 19% of total system generation	86
6.	Observations and Discussion	80
6.1	Observations and Discussion summary	80
6.1.1	Observation of complete case study of Hydro Maximum Scenario	89
6.1.1.1	Observations of Hydro Maximum Scenario case study-Frequency analysis	89
6.1.1.2	Observations of the Hydro Maximum	

Scenario case study-Voltage analysis	90
6.1.1.3 Generator (LVPS unit 01-176MW)	
tripping of 22% of total system generation	
at Hydro Maximum Scenario	92
6.1.2. Discussion of complete case study of	
Hydro Maximum Scenario	94
6.1.3 Observation of complete case study of	
Thermal Maximum Scenario	94
6.1.3.1 Observations of Thermal Maximum Scenario	
case study-Frequency analysis	94
6.1.3.2 Observations of Thermal Maximum Scenario	
case study-Voltage analysis	95
6.1.3.3 Generator (LVPS unit 01-260MW)	
tripping of 26% of total system generation	
at Thermal Maximum Scenario	97
6.1.4 Discussion of case study of Thermal Maximum Scenario	99
6.1.5 Observation of complete case study of Extreme	
Thermal Maximum Scenario	99
6.1.5.1 Observations of Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	
case study-Frequency analysis	99
6.1.5.2 Observations of Extreme Thermal Maximum	
Scenario case study-Voltage analysis	100
6.1.5.3 Generator (LVPS unit 01-260MW)	
tripping of 26% of total system generation	
at Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	102
6.1.6 Discussion of case study of Extreme Thermal Maximum	
Scenario	104
7. Conclusion and Recommendation	105
7.1 Conclusion	105
7.2 Recommendation	108
References List	110
Appendix A	111

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>Figure</b>		<b>Page</b>
Figure 1.1:	Average demand of a typical day variation of five years (2012 to 2016)	2
Figure 2.1	Graphical represent of LVPS single unit contribution to the national grid	13
Figure 3.1	Frequency variation during the fault period at Biyagama 220kV bus	24
Figure 3.2	Voltage variation during the disturbance period at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	25
Figure 3.3	Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus and active power variation of LVPS each generator, during the disturbance period	26
Figure 3.4	Voltage variations at different 220kV busses during the total system failure on 27/09/2016	27
Figure 4.1	PSS/E steady state power flow interface of Sri Lankan power system	29
Figure 4.2	PSS/E interface of generator governor and exciter parameter console	33
Figure 4.3	Simulation frequency plot of the failure-study case 01 at Biyagama 220kV bus	36
Figure 4.4	Simulation frequency and actual frequency comparison of the failure-study case 01	36
Figure 4.5	Simulation voltage plot of the failure-study case 01 at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	38
Figure 4.6	Simulation voltage and actual voltage comparison of the failure-study case 01	39
Figure 4.7	Simulation frequency plot of the failure-study case 02 at Biyagama 220kV bus	42

Figure 4.8	Simulation frequency and actual frequency comparison of the failure-study case 02	42
Figure 4.9	Simulation voltage plot of the failure-study case 02 at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	45
Figure 4.10	Simulation voltage and actual voltage comparison of the failure-study case 02	45
Figure 5.1	Generator tripping simulation of LVPS unit-01 in PSS/E	47
Figure 5.2	Incident 5.2.1-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	51
Figure 5.3	Incident 5.2.1-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	51
Figure 5.4	Incident 5.2.2-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	54
Figure 5.5	Incident 5.2.2-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	54
Figure 5.6	Incident 5.2.3-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	56
Figure 5.7	Incident 5.2.3-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	56
Figure 5.8	Incident 5.2.4-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	58
Figure 5.9	Incident 5.2.4-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	58
Figure 5.10	Incident 5.2.5-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	60
Figure 5.11	Incident 5.2.5-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	60
Figure 5.12	Incident 5.3.1-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	65
Figure 5.13	Incident 5.3.1-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	65
Figure 5.14	Incident 5.3.2-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	67
Figure 5.15	Incident 5.3.2-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	67
Figure 5.16	Incident 5.3.3-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	69
Figure 5.17	Incident 5.3.3-220kV Voltage variation at	

	New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	69
Figure 5.18	Incident 5.3.4-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	71
Figure 5.19	Incident 5.3.4-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	71
Figure 5.20	Incident 5.3.5-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	73
Figure 5.21	Incident 5.3.5-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	73
Figure 5.22	Incident 5.4.1-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	78
Figure 5.23	Incident 5.4.1-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	78
Figure 5.24	Incident 5.4.2-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	80
Figure 5.25	Incident 5.4.2-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	80
Figure 5.26	Incident 5.4.3-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	82
Figure 5.27	Incident 5.4.3-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	82
Figure 5.28	Incident 5.4.4-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	84
Figure 5.29	Incident 5.4.4-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	84
Figure 5.30	Incident 5.4.5-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus	86
Figure 5.31	Incident 5.4.5-220kV Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus	86
Figure 6.1	Summary of the final stabilization frequency value variation in Hydro Maximum Scenario	90
Figure 6.2	Summary of the final stabilization voltage value variation in Hydro Maximum Scenario	91
Figure 6.3	6.1.1.3 incident-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus due to the generator (LVPS unit 01-176MW) tripping of 22% of total system generation	92
Figure 6.4	6.1.1.3 incident-Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus due to the generator (LVPS unit 01-176MW) tripping of 22% of	

	total system generation	92
Figure 6.5	Summary of the final stabilization frequency value variation in Thermal Maximum Scenario	95
Figure 6.6	Summary of the final stabilization voltage value variation in Thermal Maximum Scenario	96
Figure 6.7	6.1.3.3 incident-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus due to the generator (LVPS unit 01-260MW) tripping of 26% of total system generation	97
Figure 6.8	6.1.3.3 incident-Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus due to the generator (LVPS unit 01-260MW) tripping of 26% of total system generation	97
Figure 6.9	Summary of the final stabilization frequency value variation in Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	100
Figure 6.10	Summary of the final stabilization voltage value variation in Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	101
Figure 6.11	6.1.5.3 incident-Frequency variation at Biyagama 220kV bus due to the generator (LVPS unit 01-260MW) tripping of 26% of total system generation	102
Figure 6.12	6.1.5.3 incident-Voltage variation at New Anuradhapura 220kV bus due to the generator (LVPS unit 01-260MW) tripping of 26% of total system generation	102
Figure 7.1	Summary of the complete case study	107

## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table</b>		<b>Page</b>
Table 3.1	Allowable frequency variation	17
Table 3.2	Allowable voltage variation	17
Table 3.3	Prevailing Under frequency load shedding scheme	18
Table 3.4	Features of different dispatch Scenarios	20
Table 3.5	Typical average demand values of different demand scenarios under different dispatch scenarios in 2016	20
Table 3.6	Largest generator (LVPS) capacity percentages when dispatched full load, during different demand scenarios under different dispatch scenarios in 2016	21
Table 4.1	Generation status just before initiating the failure-study case 01	35
Table 4.2	Generation status just before initiating the failure-study case 02	41
Table 5.1	Study cases for Hydro Maximum Scenario	49
Table 5.2	Sample generator dispatch for the study cases of Hydro Maximum Scenario	50
Table 5.3	Study cases for Thermal Maximum Scenario	63
Table 5.4	Sample generator dispatch for the study cases of Thermal Maximum Scenario	64
Table 5.5	Study cases for Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	76
Table 5.6	Sample generator dispatch for the study cases of Extreme Thermal Maximum Scenario	77
Table 7.1	Summary of the simulation case studies	105
Table 7.2	Summary of the complete case study	106



## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Description</b>
CEB	Ceylon Electricity Board
LECO	Lanka Electricity Company
GSS	Grid Sub Station
NCRE	Non Conventional Renewable Energy
LVPS	Lakvijaya Power Station
PSS/E	Power System Simulator for Engineers
KCCP	Kelanitissa Combined Cycle Plant
WCP	West Coast Plant
GT	Gas Turbine
Gen	Generator
T/F	Transformer
SCC	System Control Centre
PS	Power Station
UFLS	Under Frequency Load Shedding
SCADA	Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition
DFR	Digital Fault Recorder
IPP	Independent Power Producers

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

<b>Appendix</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Page</b>
Appendix A	The map of Sri Lankan Transmission System in 2016	110