



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***DISTRIBUTION OF TRANSIENT OVERVOLTAGE IN WIND TURBINE  
SYSTEMS UNDER DIRECT LIGHTNING STRIKES***

**REBAZ JAMAL AHMED**

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**DISTRIBUTION OF TRANSIENT OVERVOLTAGE IN WIND TURBINE  
SYSTEMS UNDER DIRECT LIGHTNING STRIKES**

By

**REBAZ JAMAL AHMED**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science**

**July 2014**

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## DEDICATION

To the bright memory of **Bakhtiyar J. Thenon**



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

**DISTRIBUTION OF TRANSIENT OVERVOLTAGE IN WIND TURBINE SYSTEMS UNDER DIRECT LIGHTNING STRIKES**

By

**REBAZ JAMAL AHMED**

**June 2014**

**Chairman: Chandima Gomes, PhD**

**Faculty: Engineering**

Wind turbines are tall structures, and the reflections of a direct lightning at various interfaces have a significant effect on the voltage distribution; hence they should be taken into account in the computation models. Thus, this thesis contains a brief introduction to lightning, lightning discharge process and the consequences of a direct lightning strike to an elevated structure (such as a wind turbine), an analysis on the effects of overvoltage produced by electromagnetic environment, and the effects of the reflections.

All parts related to the power generation in a wind turbine, including step up transformers are modeled by lumped parameters using the Matlab/Simulink software. The transient response is obtained by applying the lightning impulse current to the equivalent circuit under several values of the grounding resistance (i.e. 1 ohm, 10 ohm and 20 ohm) and several cable sheath grounding methods with different lightning strike waveforms.

For the channel base lightning representation, many current functions were considered in the past. Some of these functions were found to have problems related to their discontinuities or the discontinuities of their derivatives at the onset. Such problems appear in the double exponential function and its modifications. However, these problems have been solved in Heidler functions, where they are used and modeled for the purpose of this study.

The main contribution of the thesis is that; real lightning current source parameters have been used for the lightning current source which in the other studies only standard parameters is used and they do not resemble the direct lightning current, and this causes underestimation of the results.

The results show that the location of the cable shield grounding, the lightning current type and the grounding resistance values have significant influence on the produced overvoltage at the input and output of transformer terminals. For instance if the cable shield is grounded from both the top and the bottom ends of the transformer, the lowest overvoltage is obtained on the transformer terminals. Also, appropriate surge protection devices are designed to reduce harmful effects due to dangerous overvoltage impulses. And it's shown that with these surge arresters the overvoltage values are lowered to a safe level.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

**PENGAGIHAN VOLTAN LAMPAU FANA DALAM SISTEM TURBIN ANGIN SEMASA PANAHAN KILAT LANGSUNG**

Oleh

**REBAZ JAMAL AHMED**

**Jun 2014**

**Pengersui: Chandima Gomes, PhD**

**Fakulti: Kejuruteraan**

Turbin angin adalah struktur tinggi, dan pantulan kilat langsung di pelbagai antara muka mempunyai kesan penting ke atas pengagihan voltan; oleh itu mereka perlu diambil kira dalam model pengiraan. Oleh itu, tesis ini mengandungi pengenalan ringkas kepada kilat, proses pelepasan kilat dan akibat mogok kilat langsung kepada struktur bertingkat (seperti turbin angin), analisis mengenai kesan-kesan voltan yang dihasilkan oleh persekitaran elektromagnet, dan kesan-kesan pantulan.

Semua bahagian yang berkaitan dengan penjanaan kuasa di turbin angin, termasuk langkah sehingga pengubah dimodelkan oleh parameter tergumpal menggunakan perisian Matlab / Simulink. Sambutan fana diperolehi dengan mengenakan semasa kilat gerak hati ke litar setara di bawah beberapa nilai-nilai rintangan pembumian (iaitu 1 ohm, 10 ohm dan 20 ohm) dan beberapa kaedah kabel sarung asas dengan bentuk gelombang yang berbeza kilat.

Bagi perwakilan saluran asas kilat, banyak fungsi semasa dianggap pada masa lalu. Antara fungsi-fungsi ini didapati mempunyai masalah yang berkaitan dengan tidak berterusan mereka atau tidak berterusan derivatif mereka di permulaan. Masalah seperti muncul dalam fungsi eksponen berganda dan pengubahsuaian itu. Walau bagaimanapun, masalah ini telah diselesaikan dalam fungsi Heidler, di mana ia digunakan dan model untuk tujuan kajian ini.

Sumbangan utama tesis ialah; kilat parameter sumber semasa sebenar telah digunakan untuk sumber semasa kilat yang pada kajian-kajian lain hanya parameter standard digunakan dan mereka donot menyerupai semasa kilat langsung, dan ini menyebabkan memandang rendah keputusan.

Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa lokasi asas perisai kabel, kilat Jenis semasa dan nilai rintangan pbumian mempunyai hubungan yang signifikan voltan yang dihasilkan di input dan output terminal pengubah. Sebagai contoh jika perisai kabel adalah berasaskan dari kedua-dua bahagian atas dan hujung bawah pengubah, voltan yang paling rendah diperolehi pada terminal pengubah Juga, peranti perlindungan lonjakan yang sesuai direka untuk mengurangkan kesan negatif kerana impuls voltan berbahaya. Dan ia menunjukkan bahawa dengan arresters lonjakan nilai voltan diturunkan ke tahap yang selamat.





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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 15 August 2014 to conduct the final examination of Rebaz Jamal Ahmed on his thesis entitled “DISTRIBUTION OF TRANSIENT OVERVOLTAGE IN WIND TURBINE SYSTEMS UNDER DIRECT LIGHTNING STRIKES” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the University Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Science.

Members of the Thesis Examination Committee were as follows:

**Maryam bt. Mohd. Isa, PhD**

Senior lecturer  
Faculty of Engineering  
Universiti Putra Malaysia  
(Chairman)

**Wan Fatinhamamahbt. Wan Ahmad, PhD**

Senior lecturer  
Faculty of Engineering  
Universiti Putra Malaysia  
(Internal examiner)

**Noor Izzri b. Abd.Wahab, PhD**

Senior lecturer  
Faculty of Engineering  
Universiti Putra Malaysia  
(Internal Examiner)

**Azah Mohamed, PhD**

Professor Eng.  
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
Malaysia  
(External Examiner)

---

**NORITAH OMAR, PhD**

Associate Professor and Deputy Dean  
School of Graduate Studies  
University Putra Malaysia

Date: 5 June 2014

This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

**Chandima Gomes, PhD**

Professor

Faculty of Engineering

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Chairman)

**Mohd Zainal Abidin b. Ab. Kadir, PhD**

Professor

Faculty of Engineering

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Member)

**Mohd. Amran b. Mohd. Radzi, PhD**

Associate Professor

Faculty of Engineering

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Member)

---

**BUJANG BIN KIM HUAT, PhD**

Professor and Dean

School of Graduate Studies

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

## DECLARATION

### Declaration by graduate student

I hereby confirm that:

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Name and Matric No: Rebaz Jamal Ahmed ,GS31792

## Declaration by Members of Supervisory Committee

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of **Chandima Gomes**  
Chairman of **, PhD**  
Supervisory  
Committee:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of **Mohd. Amran**  
Member of **b. Mohd. Radzi, PhD**  
Supervisory  
Committee:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of **Mohd Zainal Abidin**  
Member of **b. Ab. Kadir, PhD**  
Supervisory  
Committee:

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