



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***FORMULATION OF HYBRID FINITE-DIFFERENCE TIME-DOMAIN  
DIPOLE METHOD FOR LIGHTNING INDUCED VOLTAGE DUE TO  
LIGHTNING STRIKES TO TALL STRUCTURE***

**NORHIDAYU RAMELI**

**FK 2017 105**



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LIGHTNING STRIKES TO TALL STRUCTURE**

By

**NORHIDAYU RAMELI**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in  
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

**July 2017**

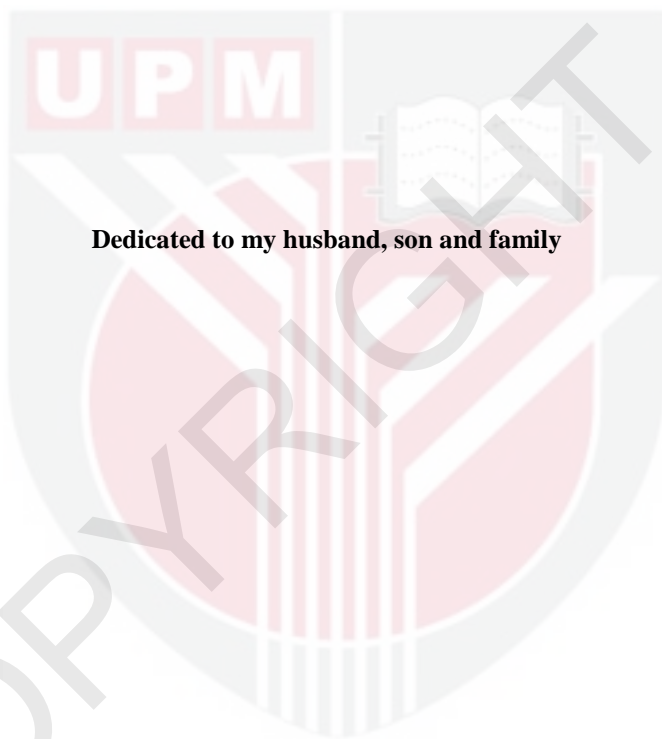


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**Dedicated to my husband, son and family**

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Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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DIPOLE METHOD FOR LIGHTNING INDUCED VOLTAGE DUE TO  
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By

**NORHIDAYU RAMELI**

**July 2017**

**Chairman : Mohd. Zainal Abidin Ab.Kadir, PhD PEng CEng**  
**Faculty : Engineering**

Lightning cloud delivers a certain amount of charge from the cloud to the earth and may affects power lines either directly or indirectly. In this case of an indirect strike, the coupling between the lightning electromagnetic field and nearby power lines causes a voltage to be induced on the power line. As far as the structure height is concerned, the higher the tower, the greater the chances of it being struck by lightning, which will result in higher induced voltage on the power line compared to the case of a strike to the ground. Consequently, such induced voltage outages and electromagnetic field may cause damage to any equipment exceed as its withstanding capability. Therefore, a proper study needs to be carried out to calculate the lightning electromagnetic field due to the lightning strike to a tall structure in which lightning induced voltages on distribution power line are created due to the lightning electromagnetic field coupling. In this study, the IEEE 1410-2010 guideline was followed to implement the stages of calculating induced voltage, namely, return stroke current, calculating the lightning electromagnetic field and evaluating the interaction of lightning electromagnetic field with the conductor line. For the stages of return stroke current, a model of DU current function as well as the engineering model which based on a distributed source representation were selected. The return stroke current was investigated based on effect of ground reflection factor, in which the effect of soil resistivity and grounding electrode arrangement were included. A new formulation of Hybrid FDTD-Dipole were proposed to calculate the lightning electromagnetic field. This method provide a straightforward formulation which is applicable to any current calculation and able to couple with the line conductor in evaluating the induced voltage. The proposed method was compared with the lightning electromagnetic field measurements at Peissenberg tower, German. Then, the Agrawal model was adopted to evaluate the induced voltage on the power line due to the lightning strike to a tall structure, in which Fukui thermal tower, Japan was used for the validation. The determination of the critical distance between the stricken tall structure and the overhead distribution line at Tanjung Rompin, Pahang, Malaysia was obtained where the results indicated that at least more than 10% reduction of the return stroke current was affected by the changes of ground reflection factor based on the relationship between the

soil resistivity and grounding electrode arrangement. Consequently, it also affected the lightning electromagnetic field evaluation, as well as reducing the lightning induced voltage peak by at least 20%. Besides that, the proposed method showed a good agreement with measured values. Lastly, the critical distance obtained showed that the higher the magnitude of lightning current, the longer the distance from a tall tower to the line will be exposed to the induced voltage flashover. Thus, the outcomes of these results may provide very useful information and enhance judgement skills for an electrical power engineer when considering the protection scheme of distribution systems where the lightning induced voltage is the major cause of line outages and affected the overall performance of the system.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**FORMULASI KAEDAH HIBRID PERBEZAAN TERHINGGA DOMAIN  
MASA DIPOLE BAGI VOLTAN TERARUH KILAT DISEBABKAN OLEH  
PANAHAN KILAT PADA STRUKTUR TINGGI**

Oleh

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Kilat boleh menyampaikan sejumlah caj dari awan ke bumi dan memberi kesan pada talian kuasa samaada secara langsung atau tidak langsung. Dalam kes kilat secara tidak langsung, gandingan antara medan elektromagnet kilat dan talian kuasa berhampiran menyebabkan voltan teraruh pada talian kuasa. Dengan ketinggian struktur berkenaan, didapati lebih tinggi struktur atau menara, lebih besar peluang untuk disambar kilat, yang mana, ianya akan menghasilkan voltan teraruh yang lebih tinggi pada talian kuasa berbanding dengan kes panahan kilat ke tanah. Oleh itu, gangguan voltan teraruh dan medan elektromagnet kilat boleh menyebabkan kerosakan pada peralatan di mana melebihi keupayaan ketahanan peralatan ini. Oleh itu, kajian yang sewajarnya perlu dijalankan untuk mengira medan electromagnet kilat yang disebabkan oleh panahan kilat pada struktur tinggi di mana voltan teraruh pada talian kuasa pembahagian terhasil disebabkan oleh gandingan medan electromagnet kilat. Dalam kajian ini, garis panduan IEEE 1410-2010 diikuti untuk melaksanakan peringkat pengiraan voltan teraruh, iaitu arus sambaran kembali, mengira medan elektromagnet kilat dan menilai interaksi medan elektromagnet kilat dengan garis konduktor. Bagi peringkat arus sambaran kembali, fungsi arus DU model dan juga kejuruteraan model berdasarkan perwakilan pembahagian sumber dipilih. Arus sambaran kembali disiasat berdasarkan faktor refleksi tanah di mana kesan kerintangan tanah dan susun asas elektrod pembumian telah diperkenalkan. Satu formulasi baru iaitu kaedah Hibrid Perbezaan Terhingga Domain Masa-Dipole dicadangkan untuk mengira electromagnet kilat. Kaedah in menyediakan formulasi yang mudah, bersesuaian untuk digunakan dengan mana-mana arus pengiraan dan dapat berinteraksi dengan garis konduktor untuk menilai voltan teraruh. Kaedah yang dicadangkan telah dibandingkan dengan pengukuran medan electromagnet kilat di menara Peissenberg, Jerman. Kemudian, model Agrawal digunapakai untuk menilai voltan teraruh pada talian kuasa disebabkan oleh panahan kilat pada struktur tinggi di mana menara haba Fukui, Jepun digunakan untuk kesahihan. Penentuan jarak kritikal antara struktur tinggi dan talian kuasa diperolehi di Tanjung Rompin, Pahang, Malaysia. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahawa pengurangan sekurang-kurangnya lebih daripada 10% arus sambaran kembali terjejas oleh perubahan faktor refleksi tanah berdasarkan



hubungan antara kerintangan tanah dan susunan asas elektrod pbumian. Oleh itu, ia juga memberi kesan pada penilaian medan electromagnet kilat, dan juga pengurangan voltan teraruh kilat puncak sekurang-kurangnya 20%. Selain itu, formulasi baru yang dicadangkan menunjukkan hasil pengesahan yang tepat dengan hasil nilai ukuran. Akhir sekali, jarak kritikal yang diperolehi menunjukkan bahawa semakin tinggi magnitud arus kilat, semakin jauh jarak dari menara yang tinggi ke talian kuasa akan terdedah kepada voltan teraruh lampau. Oleh itu, hasil keputusan ini memberi maklumat yang berguna dan meningkatkan kemahiran penghakiman bagi jurutera elektrik kuasa apabila mempertimbangkan skim perlindungan bagi sistem talian pembahagian kuasa di mana voltan teraruh adalah punca utama gangguan talian yang memberi kesan kepada prestasi keseluruhan system.



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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 31 July 2017 to conduct the final examination of Norhidayu binti Rameli on her thesis entitled "Formulation of Hybrid Finite-Difference Time-Domain Dipole Method for Lightning Induced Voltage Due to Lightning Strikes to Tall Structure" in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BG	Bruce-Golde
BIL	Basic Insulation Level
CFO	Critical Flash Over
DU	Diendorfer Uman
FDTD	Finite Difference Time Domain
GRF	Ground Reflection Factor
LEMF	Lightning Electromagnetic Field
LIOV	Lightning Induced Over-Voltage
LIV	Lightning Induced Voltage
MoM	Method of Moment
MTLE	Modified Transmission Line with Exponential Decay
MTL	Modified Transmission Line Linear
NCBC	New Channel Base Current
RS	Rolling Sphere
TCS	Travelling Current Source
TL	Transmission Line
TRF	Top Reflection Factor



## LIST OF NOTATIONS

$A$	Area of dimension grid
$a$	Diameter of rod
$a_r$	Rolling sphere radius
$B^s$	Scattered magnetic field
$B^i$	Incident magnetic field
$c$	Speed of light
$C'$	Capacitor per step distance
$d$	Space distance between rods
$E^s$	Scattered electric field
$E^i$	Incident electric field
$H$	Height of lightning channel
$h_d$	Observation point height
$h_s$	Dept of soil
$h_t$	Height of tower
$I_p$	Peak of current
$i_{first}$	Lightning current first return stroke
$i_o$	Amplitude current for channel base current function
$i_{subs}$	Lightning current subsequent return stroke
$k$	Step distance along the power line
$L_h$	Length of horizontal rod
$L_v$	Length of vertical rod
$L'$	Inductor per step distance
$N$	Number of meshes in grid
$n_r$	Number of rods
$n$	Exponent value range 2-10
$R$	Distance from $z'$ to observation point
$r$	Radial distance from tower to observation point
$u^s$	Scattered voltage
$u^i$	Incident voltage
$v$	Lightning return stroke velocity
$x$	Observation point
$z_g$	Ground impedance
$z_t$	Tower impedance
$z'$	Position height along the lightning channel
$z'^{real}$	Position height along the lightning channel with real lightning
$z'^{image}$	Position height along the lightning channel with image lightning
$\gamma_g$	Ground reflection factor
$\gamma_t$	Top reflection factor
$\Delta t$	Time step
$\Delta x$	Step distance along the power line
$\eta$	Amplitude correction factor
$\rho$	Soil resistivity
$\Gamma_2$	Decay time constant
$\Gamma_1$	Front time constant

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Lightning circumstance leads to disturbance or damage to objects on the earth. The possibilities lightning strike are either a direct strike to the object or an indirect strike to the surrounding ground surface area in the vicinity of the object. The lightning strike leads to the phenomenon of lightning induced voltage (LIV) or lightning induced overvoltage (LIOV) on an object which is located near the point of a lightning strike.

Today, the level of the lightning phenomenon has increased probably due to climate change. This situation causes lightning to represent a major contribution in the damage and disturbance that occurs to an object when it suffers from either a direct or indirect lightning strike. This may require the utility companies to pay great attention since such incidents can cause interruptions to systems, as well as have destructive effects on electrical equipment. It also causes economic loss when it becomes necessary to repair and replace equipment. There is also the possibility of having to pay compensation, penalties and fines to customers and/or regulatory authorities for damages incurred. Moreover, most researchers appear to agree that the performance of overhead distribution power lines will be affected by the influence of LIV [1]. As reported by Busrah [2], at least 35% of distribution power lines in Malaysia have been damaged by the effect of lightning and at least 32% of electronic devices have been damaged due to surge overvoltage. Also, in Malaysia, the breakdown statistics for medium voltage distribution power lines show at least 27% of faults were due to lightning events. In [3], it is reported that lightning was struck to the Telecom Malaysia towers, in which lead to the breakdown of the power line in residential houses, damage of wiring system and disruption of communication systems.

Furthermore, LIV on a distribution power lines can be expected to produce higher values of voltage due to the effect of a lightning strike on a nearby tall tower. Previous reseachers agree that the LIV created by the LEMF interaction with the conductor line is estimated to increase by at least 50% to 80% [4, 5]. In addition, with the presence of a tall tower at a flat ground surface and a tower height of more than 100 m, the tall tower has a higher chance of being struck by lightning [6-8]. This is due to the height of the tower itself that produces a large electric field at the top, so that upward connecting leaders from the tower will start earlier than the surrounding ground, and thus an attachment with the stepped leader of the lightning could be easily appeared [9, 10]. Thus, with the higher voltages that are created at the line and the frequency at which it is struck by lightning, the distribution power line is vulnerable to this lightning event. Consequently, users may be inconvenienced by such lightning-induced voltage outages. Also, it may cause damage to the equipment's due to the voltage exceeding from equipment withstanding capability. Therefore, the study of the interaction of lightning with tall towers on nearby distribution power lines becomes very important in order to avoid the possibility of damage to the lines. Also, it would be beneficial to the utility

companies to build a new distribution line when faced with the presence of a tall tower in the surrounding area.

## 1.2 Problem Statement

Various studies have been undertaken to evaluate the LIV on objects caused by a direct lightning strike to a tall tower, either through measurement or simulation work. Measurement work was started by Yokohama et al. [11-13] and later on by Michishita et al. [14], in which, the LIV is characteristically measured based on the termination point along the power line. It has been found that, the LIV has a positive waveform for the closest distance and a negative waveform for far distances of the termination point. On the other hand, for the simulation work, various studies have mostly focused on the method of LEMF calculation, LIV, as well as investigating the parameter influence of LIV at the power line. It should be noted that, the simulation work in LIV determination requires several stages. It includes the stages of lightning return stroke current, the calculating of LEMF at several points of power lines as well as the calculation of LIV through the implementation of field-to-transmission line coupling model as documented in [15-20].

Furthermore, in order to calculate the LIV with the presence of a tall tower in the vicinity, the field-to-transmission line coupling models are proposed [10, 21-23]. The extended Rusck model which takes into account the presence of the tall tower is introduced [21-22]. The result indicates that the simulated works are in good agreement with the measure one in [14]. In addition, the parameters of the tower height and the current front time influence the LIVs on the distribution power line. It indicates that the LIVs have an increasing trend for the increases of tower height at the current front time reduction. However, they do not consider the reflection tower.

Moreover, the method of the 3D-FDTD was used to evaluate the LIV [10]. The simulated result showed good agreement with the measured ones and also, they found that LIVs were increased at the closest distance from the tall tower and according to the tower height [14]. Also, the LIVs experienced with the increasing trend at the highest and lesser value of reflection factors and lightning current front time, respectively. The study also indicated that the LIV with respect to the presence of the tall tower is able to produce the higher voltages compared to the LIV that strikes to the ground. However, the 3D-FDTD methods may consume memory storage, in which case, the grid meshes and discretization simulation are considered.

Later, the Hybrid Electromagnetic Circuit (HECM) model was proposed to evaluate the LIV [23]. The HECM method was developed by the current source among the Resistance, Inductance and Capacitance (RLC) components, with each one of them presented by a source of transversal and longitudinal currents [24]. They found that their approach was in good agreement with the measured one. However, their model was strictly in frequency domain and the inverse Laplace transform solution was used to transform it into the time domain.

In addition, in order to calculate the LIV with the presence of a tall tower, the LEMF approach and the field-to-transmission line coupling model was adopted [14-15, 25]. As shown by Michishita et al. [14], the LEMF approach was expressed through the Norton approximation and the LIVs described by the Agrawal model. They found that the LIVs were influenced by the finite ground conductivity at the farther end of the tall tower. Then, the 2D-FDTD method employed for determination of LEMF and the Agrawal model to generate the LIV [15]. The results indicated that the LIV depended on the ground conductivity, influenced to a certain extent by the return stroke speed and independent of the return stroke model. Finally, the simulated works were expended to evaluate the other parameter influence on the LIV such as the frequency dependent soil [25]. They concluded that the frequency dependent soil parameter was able to reduce the peak of the LIV. From the previous studies, most of the results were computed for the close distance range, which took into account the impact of ground conductivity [14-15, 25]. However, the ground conductivity can be neglected for distances of less than 2 km [26-27]. Although many studies have been undertaken in this area to date, more studies need to be conducted in terms of:

1. the reflected current due to the effect of ground reflection factor.
2. the computational method that needs to be accurate.
3. availability of the standard to determine the critical distance due to the lightning strike to a tall structure.

Therefore, these limitation are addressed in this work. It is identified as being of importance to electrical power engineers when considering a protection scheme for an electrical system since the LIV is recognised as a major cause of line outage which severely affects the overall performance of a system.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The aim of this work is to formulate the lightning induced voltage due to lightning strikes to a tall structure. As such, in order to achieve this aim, a few objectives are set as:

1. To investigate the effect of ground reflection factor on the relationship of soil resistivity and the grounding arrangement of the tall tower on the lightning currents, LEMF and LIV.
2. To propose a hybrid formulation of FDTD and a dipole method for solving lightning electromagnetic field due to a tall tower, taking into account the charge position along the channel.
3. To evaluate the lightning induced voltage at distribution power line due to lightning strikes of a nearby tall tower.
4. To obtain the critical distance on lightning induced voltage flashover between a tall tower and distribution power line.

## **1.4 Scope of Work**

This work has some limitations in order to achieve the following objectives:

1. It is assumed that the single lightning channel without branches strikes the tower vertically with the constancy of the return stroke velocity and disregarding any upward connecting leader.
2. The tower is assumed to be a uniform tower where the propagation speed along the tower is the speed of light and the tower reflection coefficient is frequency-independent.
3. The surface of the ground is assumed to be flat with perfect ground conductivity.

## **1.5 Thesis Organisation**

This thesis comprises five chapters. Chapter 1 as an introduction to the thesis includes an overview, followed by the problem statement regarding the gap in the literature on this subject area. It includes also the objectives and the scope of the work.

A review of the available literature is presented in Chapter 2. This covers the procedures for determining the induced voltage as an effect of a direct lightning strike on a tall tower.

Chapter 3 is devoted to an explanation of the methodology adopted to conduct the work and meet its objectives. The chapter explains the development of an algorithm for the calculation of the lightning induced voltage (LIV) resulting from a direct lightning strike on a tall tower. Also, attention is paid to the validation work of the algorithm with measured work.

In Chapter 4, results are analysed and discussed with a consideration of limitation from previous works. Finally, Chapter 5 concludes this thesis and gives recommendations for future work.

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