



Transient Recovery Voltage (TRV) Studies

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The study approach to TRV investigation, using the PSCAD/EMTDC simulation tool, is discussed in this webinar. The following topics are addressed:

- Power system modeling
- Station modeling
- IEC/IEEE TRV envelopes
- TRV simulation
- Results interpretation
- TRV mitigation methods



TRV - Definition

TRV is the voltage difference observed between the breaker terminals immediately after the current interruption of the breaker.

It is simply the difference in the power system response voltages on the source side and on the load side of the circuit breaker.







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Electromagnetic Transients in Power Systems

Example: Closing/opening breakers, faults initiate electromagnetic transients.

- The energy exchange between L-C causes the oscillatory transient.
- Resistance in the circuit acts to damp the transient.





• Traveling waves on transmission lines/cables





Circuit Breaker TRV - Illustration









LC circuit oscillation frequency

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

Opening a shunt reactor



Clearing a fault on transformer secondary side



De-energizing a transformer





Circuit Breaker TRV - Definitions

The voltage across breaker the terminals upon current interruption has two successive stages; *transient recovery voltage* stage where high frequency oscillations observed followed by the *recovery voltage* stage where power frequency oscillations are observed (transient has decayed).





Key parameters:

- Rate of Rise of Recovery Voltage (RRRV)
- TRV peak

Both the above quantities must be evaluated in a TRV study





- Trip signal initiate the breaker pole movement (approximately 12 ms for contacts to fully open)
- The current is interrupted at a point of a natural current zero
- An electric arc (of very high temperature) sustains the current during the interval.
 - Weakened dielectric immediately following current interruption
 - If an 'excessive' voltage is applied across the breaker immediately after the current interruption, there is a risk of re-strike.



Breaker OPENING initiated



TRV capability is defined by a set of curves

- by breaker manufacturer
- Minimum requirements as listed in IEC/IEEE

Depends on Breaker Rating (voltage and fault current rating)

• Example: 245 kV, 40 kA breaker

Depends on the actual current being interrupted

Example: 100%, 60%, 30%, 10% of rated fault current







TRV is a 'fast event' (10s of KHz)

- The impact of the transient is limited to a local area of the station
- The transient (TRV) itself is mainly influenced by the circuit elements (R-L-C) in close vicinity to the breaker
 - Circuit components of the station has a significant impact of TRV (bushing capacitances of equipment)
 - The 'remote system' (1-2 buses away) generally has no impact on overall TRV response.
- It is important to represent station equipment layout/capacitances for TRV studies



The external network is represented in detail up to 1-2 buses away from the substation

- Accurate representation of the fault current level at the station is important
- Accurate representation of the external system using Thevanin's voltage sources

Detailed representation of substation equipment

Bushing capacitances of equipment





TRV: Modeling Considerations

Detailed representation of substation equipment

• Bushing capacitances of equipment



Single line Diagram

PSCAD Model



The specific bushing capacitance values may not be available from data sheets.

• Typical values as per IEC/IEEE (IEEE C37.011)

	Description	•	Capacitance (pF)
•	Earthing Switch		50
•	Current Transformer		200
•	Capacitive Voltage transformer – outdoor		5500
•	Surge Arrester		80
•	SF6 to Air Bushing		100
•	Voltage Transformer		200





Importance of Bushing/Stray Capacitance: Example: de-energizing a unloaded transformer



TRV in this case is due to an oscillatory transient. The frequency and magnitude of the transient is thus determined by the L and C of the circuit involved.

- Here, the TRV is mainly due to oscillations on transformer side of the breaker (E2)
- Oscillation frequency : $1/(2\pi \cdot \sqrt{(LC)})$
- The rate of rise of TRV can be limited by adding capacitance



First Pole to Clear

The three poles (of breaker) do not break the current at the same instant due to 120 degree phase shift on the 3 phases

- First pole to clear typically has the worst TRV
- Grounding conditions have an impact





Triangular TRV (Short Line Fault)- Travelling waves in lines impact TRV





Generator Breaker TRV Studies - IEEE Std. C37.013

System-Source Faults

- Fault Current through the breaker from system side
- Single envelop based on MVA rating and kV rating of the machine (No fault duty)
- Relaxed envelope compared to Generator-Source faults

Generator-Source Faults

- Fault Current through the breaker from generator side
- Single envelop based on MVA rating and kV rating of the machine (No fault duty)
- Tight envelope compared to System-Source faults

Out-of-Phase TRV

 Single envelop based on MVA rating and kV rating of the machine









Study scenarios should be carefully selected after reviewing the breaker arrangements.



- Amount of detail in the model is significant
- Study should consider different breaker ON/OFF status





Typical study Scenarios

- Station faults (breaker terminal faults)
- Short line faults (2-3 km from the station)
- Remote faults (Ex. mid line faults)
- Faults on Series compensated lines
- Reactor and transformer de-energization

Fault Types

- 3 phase unground fault
 - Typically gives the worst TRV
 - Not always a credible case
- Three phase faults
- Phase -G faults



TRV study scenarios



TRV should be studied under credible conditions: Study scenarios should be carefully selected.

- Studying the opening of the breaker under condition (a) is meaningless
- Study scenario (b) instead.



Example: 380 kV substation TRV study - 22 scenarios were studied for TRV compliance (3 selected scenarios illustrated below)



Terminal fault on Line 1



Terminal fault- reactor out of service



Short line fault on Line 1 (3km away from the Station)



TRV capability is defined by a set of curves

- TRV capability is provided by the vendor in the form of family of curves.
- If specific capability curves are not available, information in IEC Std. 62271-100 is used for the study

Pick relevant curve (to compare system TRV waveform)based on actual % current being interrupted.

• Example: if the fault current is 24 kA and the breaker is rated for 40 kA, use the 60% curve.





Breaker TRV Capability Curves

- 2 and 4 parameter curves
- Adjustments for Short Line Faults (SLF) (Breakers have higher TRV withstand capability than for station faults)



Two Parameter

Four Parameter



PSCAD TRV Envelop Module

Appropriate set of capability curves can be selected based on application:

- Breaker connected to cables
- Breaker connected to overhead lines
- Effectively grounded system
- Non-effectively grounded system
- Generator fed faults





TRV – Typical responses

Station fault







- Fault current through the breaker = 11.3 (18%)
- No violations to any TRV envelopes



TRV – Typical responses

Reactor switching (opening)



Reactor opening









TRV – PSCAD example cases

Breaker TRV Example

- 69 kV transforemr breaker has severe TRV violation BUS 5 BUS 4 - 50 nF surge capacitor installed $\begin{array}{c} \text{BUS } \frac{3}{P} = 161.2 \\ Q = -7.936 \\ V = 1.039 \end{array}$ between transformer and breaker will solve the problem 200 km Feb -2016 75 km ത് T Lalin Kothalawala **1** T4 Т6 Т6 210 km TT P = 177.4 Q = -6.726 V = 1.039 ۲ 150 BUS 2 ¢ 120 T17 R ì /120 km 120 50 **⊒** ⊺1 170 km H T31 BUS 1 BUS 6 120 \odot 69 kV 110 km **1**18 P = 321 Q = 280.1 V = 1.006 -BUS 7

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