



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

**TRANSIENT ANALYSIS OF CURRENT TRANSFORMERS**

**MUHAMMAD RAMZAN GHUMMAN**

**FK 2001 18**

# **TRANSIENT ANALYSIS OF CURRENT TRANSFORMERS**

**By**

**MUHAMMAD RAMZAN GHUMMAN**

**Thesis Submitted in Fulfilment of the Requirement for the  
Degree of Master of Science in the Faculty of Engineering  
Univeristi Putra Malaysia**

**October 2001**



## **DEDICATION**

**This report is dedicated to my parents  
for their patience and tolerance  
during my study in  
Malaysia.**



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

## **TRANSIENT ANALYSIS OF CURRENT TRANSFORMERS**

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**October 2001**

**Chairman : Nasrullah Khan, Ph.D.**

**Faculty : Engineering**

The objective of <sup>the</sup> present work is to investigate the performance and transient behavior of conventional electromagnetic current transformers in comparison to the unconventional current transducers during power system faults. The research has been carried out using PSPICE simulation tools and experimental testing of current transducers. Different types of transducers considered in this research include normal electromagnetic current transformers (EMCT) and its various types, Hall effect current transformers (HECT) and Opto-couplers. The simulation results have shown that electromagnetic current transformers (EMCT) can suffer from transient saturation during high frequency disturbances or permanent saturation during high fault currents.

The electromagnetic current transformers (EMCT) were found to saturate above 20 kHz current surges whilst the Hall effect current transducers (HECT) were found to work up to several 100 kHz. The transformation capability of opto-coupler current transducers, using LED/Si based opto-coupler, was found to be more than 1 MHz.



It was estimated that a laser and avalanche photo-detector (APD) based magneto-optic current transformer (MOCT) could effectively translate 1 GHz frequency surges. The simulation results have been experimentally tested and found to be correct within the accuracy resolution of available test and measurement equipment. Based on this work it is safe to declare that EMCT can be used for normal monitoring and measurement applications in utility. It is not good for the reliable protection and control application. Anyway, it does not compete the alternate options such as HECT and MOCT in protection and control applications regarding bandwidth, rise time and fault current diagnostics.



## ANALISIS FANA BAGI PENGUBAH ARUS

Oleh

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Tujuan kajian penyelidikan ini adalah untuk menguji keupayaan dan tabiat fana bagi pengubah arus elektromagnet lazim dalam mambandingkannya dengan pengubah arus bukan lazim semasa kerosakan sistem kuasa. Kajian ini telah menghasilkan keluaran dengan menggunakan perisian simulasi PSPICE dan diikuti oleh ujikaji pengujian pengubah arus. Kajian ini merangkumi pelbagai jenis pengubah ianya meliputi pengubah arus elektromagnetik normal (EMCT), pengubah arus kesan Hall (HECT) dan gandingan-opto. Keputusan simulasi menunjukkan bahawa pengubah arus elektromagnetik (EMCT) boleh melalui ketepuan fana semasa gangguan frekuensi tinggi dan ketepuan kekal semasa kerosakan arus tinggi.

Pengubah arus elektromagnetik (EMCT) mencapai ketepuan melebihi 20kHz pusuan manakala pengubah arus kesan Hall (HECT) dapat berfungsi sehingga mencecah

melebihi 100kHz. Pengubah arus gandingan opto yang menggunakan diod pemancar cahaya (LED/Si) berasaskan gandingan opto, berkeupayaan memperolehi lebih daripada 1MHz.

Laser dan fotopengesan jenis APD berasaskan magneto-optic ( MOCT ) dijangkakan lebih efektif untuk mentafsirkan pusingan frekuensi 1 GHz. Keputusan simulasi telah diuji secara eksperimen dan didapati ianya adalah tepat merujuk kepada ketepatan resolusi dengan menggunakan alat penguji dan pengukuran. Berdasarkan kepada kajian ini, boleh diistiharkan bahawa EMCT boleh digunakan untuk pengawasan normal dan penggunaan pengukuran oleh pihak pembekal. Ia tidak berapa baik untuk kegunaan perlindungan dan kawalan yang tetap. Bagaimanapun, ia tidak setanding dengan pilihan alternatif seperti HECT dan MOCT dalam kegunaan perlindungan dan kawalan berhubung dengan lebar jalur, masa menaik dan diagnostik arus rosak.

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I certify that an Examination Committee met on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2001 to conduct the final examination of Muhammad Ramzan Ghuman on his Master of Science thesis entitled “Transient Analysis of Current Transformers” in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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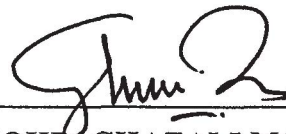
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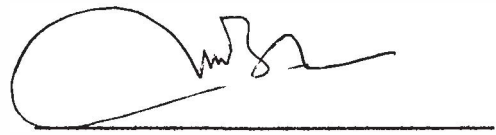
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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations, which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
APPROVAL SHEETS	viii
DECLERATON FORM	x
LIST OF TABLES	xiii
LIST OF FIGURES	xiv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xvii
 <b>CHAPTER</b>	
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Aims and Objectives	2
1.3 Scope Of Work	
 <b>2 LITERATURE SURVEY</b>	
2.1 Instrument Transformer	5
2.2 Current Transformer (CTs)	7
2.2.1 Types of CTs	8
2.2.2 Electromagnetic CTs (EMCT)	8
2.2.3 Magnetic Saturation of CTs	13
2.2.4 Classification of CTs	17
2.2.5 Testing Current Transformers	22
2.2.6 Working on EHV CTs	32
2.3 Air-Gapped Core CTs	33
2.3.1 Linear Coupler CT	35
2.3.2 Choice of CT for Protection Relays	36
2.4 Hall Effect Current Transformer (HECT)	38
2.5 Rogowski Current Transducers	45
2.6 Magneto-optic CT (MOCT)	47
2.6.1 Bandwidth Analysis	53
2.6.2 Optocoupler	54
2.7 Technology of current transformer	56
 <b>3 METHODOLOGY</b>	
3.1 Introduction	58
3.2 Simulation of CTs	58
3.2.1 Simulation of EMCT	59
3.2.2 Simulation of HECT	63



3.2.3	Simulation of Optocoupler	65
3.3	Experimental Study of CTs	67
3.3.1	Transient Analysis of EMCT	67
3.3.2	Transient Analysis of HECTs	73
3.3.3	Transient Analysis of Opto-couplers	76
3.4	Problem and Remedies	79
<b>4</b>	<b>RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS</b>	
4.1	Introduction	81
4.2	Simulation Results	81
4.3	Experimental Results	84
4.3.1	Transient Behavior of EMCT	84
4.3.2	Transient Behavior of HECT	87
4.3.3	Transient Behavior of Opto-couplers	88
4.4	Discuss of Results	90
4.4.1	Analytical Discussion	90
<b>5</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
5.1	Conclusion	95
5.2	Future Work	96
	<b>REFERENCES</b>	97
	<b>BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR</b>	99



## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table</b>		<b>Page</b>
2.1	Limits of errors in different accuracy class CTs	18
2.2	Name-plate data of commercial high voltage CTs.	20
2.3	Protection applications of CTs	37
2.4	Performance characteristics of CTs.	53
2.5	Performance characteristics of optocouplers	56
3.1	Measured parameters of 5P10 class 20/5	60



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
2.1	Single and multi-turn designs of CTs	8
2.2	AC flux coupled windings	9
2.3	A typical 11kV CT	9
2.4	Basic constructions of typical CTs	10
2.5	Examples of earthed tank, cross coil and live tank CTs	11
2.6	A Messwandler type CT under shut down at 220kV,G/S, Ghakhar	12
2.7	Equivalent and phasor diagrams of CT	12
2.8	Testing saturation of an EHV CT	15
2.9	Typical excitation curve of a CT	15
2.10	Accuracy standard chart for the C-class current transformers	16
2.11	Typical over-current ratio curves for T-class current transformers	17
2.12	Residual connections of CT	21
2.13	Connections of core balance CT	21
2.14	Measurement of CT magnitude error by primary injection method	23
2.15	Layout out of turns ratio test	24
2.16	Current measurement of CTs	24
2.17	CT balance test	25
2.18	Circuit diagram for CT polarity test	26
2.19	Equivalent circuit of a current transformer	27
2.20	Core flux variation for resistive burden	30
2.21	Air-gapped CT: Characteristics and Core structure	34



2.22	Linear coupler	36
2.23	Principle of Hall Effect Current Transformer	38
2.24	Principle of a non-linearity compensated HECT	39
2.25	Principle of HECT and a clamp ammeter based on HECT	41
2.26	Transducer with high sensitivity	44
2.27	Experimental equipment circuit of HECT	44
2.28	Integrator circuit with low frequency cut-off	46
2.29	Equivalent circuit diagram of Rogowski transducer	47
2.30a	Configuration of an optical CT (OCT)	49
2.30b	Configuration of fiber optic CT (FOCT)	49
2.30c	Schematic diagrams of magnetostrictive fiber optic CTs and VTs	49
2.31	Slotted optocoupler device	54
2.32	Reflective optocoupler	55
2.33	Typical $I_c/I_f$ characteristics of a simple optocoupler at various value	55
3.1	Pspice simulation circuit of EMCT	59
3.2	Measurement of EMCT parameters using LCR meter	60
3.3	EMCT performance for 50 Hz input current signals	61
3.4	EMCT performance for 50 Hz input signals at saturation of CT	62
3.5	EMCT performance for 20 kHz input signal	62
3.6	PSPICE simulation circuit diagram of a HECT	63
3.7	HECT performance for 50 Hz input signal	64
3.8	HECT performance for 20kHz input signals	64
3.9	HECT performance for 100kHz input signals	65
3.10	PSPICE simulation circuit diagram of an optocoupler	65





3.11	Optocoupler performance for 20 kHz input signal	66
3.12	Optocoupler performance for 5 MHz input signal	67
3.13	Circuit diagram and Experimental arrangements for testing EMCT	68
3.14	EMCT input-output current profiles during steady state	70
3.15	EMCT input-output current profiles during capacitor switching	71
3.16	EMCT input-output current profiles during capacitor discharging	71
3.17	Failure of EMCT input-output current profiles	72
3.18	Failure of EMCT input-output current profiles	72
3.19	Circuit and experimental arrangement for testing HECT	74
3.20	HECT input-output current profiles during capacitor switching	75
3.21	HECT input-output current profiles during transient	75
3.22	Circuit diagram and Experiment arrangement of opto-coupler	77
3.23	Opto-coupler input-output current profiles for 0.5-1 kHz signal	78
4.1	Simulated characteristics of EMCT at 20 kHz in put	82
4.2	HECT performance for 100kHz input signals	82
4.3	Optocoupler performance for 5 MHz input signal	83
4.4	Impact of capacitor switching on wave shapes	85
4.5	Spectral characteristics of surges at medium currents	86
4.6	Spectral characteristics of surges at medium currents	88
4.7	Spectral characteristics of surges at medium currents	89
4.8	Transient AC and DC components	91



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Alternating Current
DC	Direct Current
CT	Current Transformer
DACT	Distributed Air-gap Current Transformers
EMCT	Electromagnetic Current Transformer
FOCT	Fiber Optic Current Transformer
EOPT	Electro-optic current transducer
HECT	Hall Effect Current Transformer
LCCT	Linear Coupler Current Transformer
MOCT	Magneto-optic Current Transformer
OCT	Optical Current Transformer
PT	Potential Transformer
VT	Voltage Transformer
OPGW	Optical Ground Wire
YIG	Yttrium Garnet
$I_p$	Primary current
$I_s$	Secondary current
$I_e$	Excitation current
$V_v$	Verdet constant
LED	Light emitting diode



# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

Current transformers are an important integral component of electric power generation, transmission and distribution systems. All types of protection and control devices require current transformers to perform measurement of current and voltage at ground level. It is well known that current and voltage profiles may carry several transient features about the nature of fault. Some of these features are very high frequency components. To perfectly transform these transients the electromagnetic current transformers sometime are found incapable due to their magnetic saturation [1].

Recent advances in electronics and integrated circuit technology have miniaturized the size of relays. Electromechanical relays previously used to understand signals on average basis but the recent digital/numerical relays sample the signal many times in every cycle. Thus the potential susceptibility of protection and control devices is becoming more and more dependent on the instantaneous values of the current signals [2]. The electromagnetic current transformers (EMCT) have natural tendency of transient or permanent saturation due to ferroresonance [2].

There is a general trend to switch over to alternate types of current transformers that can better transform the fault details instant by instant. Now a days two types of

such unconventional current transformers (CT) namely 1- Hall effect current transformers (HECT) and 2- Faraday effect magneto-optic current transformers (MOCT) are under intensive research [3-5]. Several international power equipment manufacturing companies such as ABB (USA), Siemens (Germany), Hitachi Japan and Next-Phase (Canada) have started building prototypes of optical and fiber optic CTs for subsequent commercial designs after field testing [3]. This research has been carried out to test the transient performance of conventional and unconventional current transformers.

## **1.2 Aim and Objectives**

The aim of this project is to investigate the transient performance of electromagnetic, Hall effect and magneto-optic current transformers. This study has been carried out on normal single-phase 220 voltages.

The main objectives of this research are,

- to simulate and test the transient performance of EMCTs,
- to simulate and test the transient performance of HECTs, and
- to simulate and test the transient performance of Opto-couplers/or MOCTs.

## **1.3 Scope of Work**

The work was initiated by simulation of EMCT, HECT and opto-coupler.

To verify the simulation results the experimental study of input-output characteristics of EMCT, HECT, Opto-coupler and MOCT was under taken.

This research work was carried out by a detailed literature review followed by PSPICE simulation and experimental verification of the transient performance of both conventional and unconventional current transformers. Critical review of literature was used to optimize the PSPICE simulation and subsequent experiments. The bandwidth analysis of current transformers was initiated by PSPICE simulation of Electromagnet, Hall effect and Opto-coupler current transformers. Current signals of different randomly chosen frequencies such as 50 Hz, 20 kHz, 100kHz, 1.0 MHZ, 5.0 MHz were passed through primary circuit/winding of the devices to observe their transient transformation into the secondary side. This study helps to set limits on useful bandwidth of various type of current transformers.

To verify the above findings from the simulation, three experiments were conducted on EMCT, HECT, and Opto-couplers. Approximate currents were circulated through primary circuit within the rating of current transformers. The switching of reasonable size capacitors (connected in series/shunt) generated 5-100 kHz current surges. Transformation capability of the current transformers within and outside the bandwidth range was checked through simulation. Initially it was proposed to work on magneto-optic current transformer (MOCT) but due to non-availability of crystals only bandwidth test of opto-coupler is under taken instead of MOCT. The bandwidth of LED based opto-coupler is much less than the laser based MOCT. The bandwidth and rise

time of Opto-coupler and Hall Effect current transducer found much better than conventional electromagnetic current transformer.

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Instrument Transformer

An instrument transformer may be either a current transformer or a potential (voltage) transformer (VT). The instrument transformers reproduce primary currents or voltages at reduced level and are used for measurement and protection in high voltage circuits. They work on the principle of conventional voltage transformers in which an alternating current flows in the primary winding causing magneto-motive-force (mmf) that creates alternating flux in the core. This alternating flux results in electromotive force in all the windings on the core. The instrument transformer of N: 1 or N: 5 ratio may be connected either in shunt or series mode [1-2].

In shunt mode the voltage is applied to the terminals as in conventional power or voltage transformer but in series mode the primary winding of instrument transformer is connected in series with power system. In shunt mode all the primary current excites the core whereas in series mode only a part of primary current excites the core so as to produce sufficient emf that can drive the necessary current in secondary circuit of the instrument transformer.

The current or voltage of primary winding is transformed in secondary winding according to the transformation ratio of the turns in both windings. The instrument

transformers due to their high insulation from HV circuits provide safety to persons for measuring electrical and protective apparatus. The standard for instruments transformers, relays and meters are of 5 or 1A, 110 or 120 V and 50 or 60 Hz [1, 2, 6, 7]. All the equipment in substation is used of the same standard whatever is chosen. However, various standards can be mixed but it is not possible to feed a 5 A or 120 V relay or meter with 1A or 110 V instrument transformers. At least combination of one set of protective relays and measuring meters must be one standard. The 5A or 120 V standard is gradually being replaced by 1A or 110 V standard [7-9].

Recent developments in numerical relaying techniques and general miniaturization trend in power industry demands the need for even lower current level standards [3]. This if accepted would be more compatible to direct magneto-optic and electro-optic transducers that are being developed for protective relaying applications. New relays are being developed that can take optical inputs instead of electrical inputs. The conventional electrical instrument transformers have certain polarity restrictions that are marked on their terminals like  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  or  $H_1$  or  $H_2$ . If it is not marked then polarity can be determined. The polarities need to be observed for relays performing addition or subtraction of signals. The single-phase over current relays do not observe these polarities.

The connections of three phase instrument transformers are done so as to allow the relay to look into its specified zone of protection. As a rule of thumb the neutral star point of BBC distance relays (model L8b) is generally towards the bus not that of the GEC distance relays (PYTS) it is towards the line [1,8]. The general theory of both types



of instrument transformers i.e. CT and PT also known, as VT is that of conventional transformer used for stepping up before transmission in the power house and stepping down after transmission in the substations.

## **2.2 Current Transformers (CT)**

The current transformers reproduce primary currents at reduced level. The current transformers (CTs) are used both for measurement of load current by ammeter or energy consumed by energy meter as well as protection of power equipment through various types of relays. The CT may be connected in delta and star. Its rating and ratio are chosen according to the maximum fault level at their location on power system. The commercial CTs have many CT ratios like (1200:1000:800:600:400:200/5) and protection engineer chooses the desired one depending upon the maximum rated current flow in the circuit [1,2,8]. If the cable capacity is for example 190A maximum then it is advisable to choose CT ratio of 200/5. Normally secondary of CT is star connected, if it is delta connected then line current must be divided by  $\sqrt{3}$ . The high quality stable CTs are recommended for relays. The CTs around a transformer with larger differences should use matching CTs between them.

### **2.2.1 Types of CTs**

There are three possible types of current transformers which are conventional electromagnetic, Hall effect and magneto-optic CTs. The electromagnetic type CTs are