I submit herewith the following pages as my Thesis for graduation with the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.<br> $\text{WAMewlow}.$ 



## THESIS

## INHERENT VOLTAGE RELATIONS IN

## Y AND DELTA CONNECTIONS

### by

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I wish to express my heartiest appreciation to Mr. R. W. Sorensen for his valuable assistance thruout the work, and particularly for the sections on Auto Transformers and Transformer Design, which he supplied in their entirety. The data from which Appendix II was taken was also supplied by him.

#### INTRODUCTION

In view of the fact that the relative merits of Y and delta systems have not yet been definitely established, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers has set aside the annual Pittsfield. meeting for the discussion of the subject, and has requested a number of papers for presentation at that time. The present investigation was undertaken in order to furnish material for a paper to be presented at this meeting, in the hope of bringing out some points upon which little has as yet been published.

The number of articles dealing with the subject, which have appeared, and the multiplicity of conflicting statements to be found, indicate the complexity of the problem, and the impossibility of combining into a single investigation all phases of the subject. It would seem reasonable that any choice between the several systems should be based upon certain features inherent in the method of connections, even though these fundamentals may be modified to a greater or lesa extent by the various other factors which may exist. The present mode of attack was based on this assumption. It is the purpose therefore, of this investigation to show, if possible, by means of experiments with simple Y and delta connected systems, from which all possible complications are removed, tbe fundamental relations and relative advantages of

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#### INHERENT VOLTAGE RELATIONS IN

Y AND DELTA CONNECTIONS.

GENERAL.

The simplest polyphase system which could be constructed for the distribution of electric energy would **be** that of a single three phase line supplied at one end through step up transformers by the generator and at the other end giving out its energy to the connected load thru a bank of step down transformers.

As there can be made with each three phase bank of transformers four combinations of connections, and aa the generator and the receiving motor may be connected either Y or delta, itis readily evident that even in a very simple system there may be made a large number of combinations.

The generators as a rule are connected Y because of the better wave form obtained (as seen by a comparison of Figs.land 2), and because of the convenient ground point which is then provided. Experience has practically made standard the delta connection for the low tension windings of both the step up and step down transformers, thus leaving for consideration only the arrangements of the high tension windings of step up or step down transformer banks. These may both be connected  $Y$ , as has been very generally done, and the neutral points may be ground -

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ed or not grounded, the grounded condition being, however the one in general use. They may both be connected delta or one may be connected delta and the other connected Y, a condition not usual but one which in some cases has been thought desirable. The manner of connecting the load has slight effect upon the rest of the system, and therefore need not be considered in the present investigation.

Having made a selection as to the arrangement to be adopted in any particular system, it is of course obvious that this system must be carried throughout for any points of multiple connection of transformer banks or transmission lines, because of the impossibility of delta Y banks being run in parallel with delta-delta banks.

To determine the inherent relations, a miniature system consisting of a 7.5 Kv. a., revolving field generator with coil terminals brought out so that it could. be readily connected Y or delta, and two banks of transformers each consisting of three shell type 3 Kv. a. units, was constructed. All inductive and capacity effects in the transmission line, which was in this case only the nec¢esaary leads for connecting together the high tension windings of the step up and step down transformer banks, were entirely eliminated. This must be kept in mind when considering the conclusions drawn from the tests.

All tests were made for constant conditions and the

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load used was non-inductive. Potentials **were** measured with a multicellular electrostatic voltmeter, which on closed circuits was carefully checked with a standard portable dynamometer instrument. (See Appendix I)

All connections were carefully insulated from each other and from ground, as also was the frame of the generator, except in such cases as it **was** well grounded with a copper ground. In all tests the transformer cores and cases were well grounded.

The first group of tests was made on the system connected as in fig. 3, without load, with balanced load, and with load on one phase only, for various conditions of grounding. Some typical results of these tests are shown in Table I. When one phase only is loaded such condition is obtained in one of two ways: by opening a high tension line, or by opening a low tension line on the load end.

Fig. 4 shows the no load voltage diagrams of high and low tension lines superimposed upon one another. The step up and step down transformers being identical, the delta represents voltages of generator, primaries of step up transformers and secondaries of step down transformers. Line voltages, secondaries of the step up, and primaries of the step down transformers are shown by the Y. If, as was assumed, the diagram is drawn to scale, it would be supposed that a measurement from any point on the delta

to any other point on the Y would give the voltage between corresponding points on primary and secondary of transformers. This, however, was found not to be true in many instances. With no ground point on the system except the transformer cases, the electrostatic strains would be anywhere from 50 to 100% greater than the values obtained by measurements from the diagram. The neutral point of the Y, which should normally be at ground potential, was found to be at some distance above. It was in fact found that no point on the entire system was exactly at ground potential, except of course the transformer cases, and even the frame of the alternator was found to be at a potential above ground greater than normal line voltage. These facts can lead to but one conclusion, namely, that the conditions on all systems cannot be truly represented on one plane.

On this assumption, a great number of readings were taken and it was found that each section of the system might lie in a totally different plane, but that these planes are always approximately parallel .

An end view, then of Fig. 4 would appear as in Fig. 5, in which each line represents the plane on which the respective diagrams would have to be drawn to correctly represent the readings obtained. No definite law seems to govern the relative position of these planes. On one day the distance between them may be twice that obtained

on another. However, the primary and secondary planes are always on opposite sides of ground, as shown.

The grounding of the Y neutral brings the transmission line plane to ground potential, but maintains a nearly constant potential between this plane and the generator plane, so that the potnetial between generator plane and ground is doubled, as in Fig. 6. When the generator frame, which heretofore had been well insulated, was thoroughly grounded, all potentials were brought to the same plane and the voltages read corresponded to those measured from the diagram, in Fig. 4.

As load is added to the ungrounded system, the distance between the respective planes decreases, and appears to be some function of the load. When loaded, the difference between them is inappreciable. This is true of unbalanced as well as balanced loads. Conditions, then, are better at load than at no load, or very light load. (See Table I.)

The second group of teats was made with the same transformer arrangement but with the generator connected Y. The tests made under these conditions gave results as in Table II. which are very similar to those of the first group, in that there still remains the tendency for the voltage planes to separate on the ungrounded system, at light load. This condition is probably better, however, than the first, due to the better wave shape obtained

with the generator in  $Y$ , as can be seen by a comparison of Figs. land 2.

From these data the following conclusions for a  $Y$ connected transmission line may be drawn: The generator should be connected Y. The neutral point should be well grounded at both ends to relieve electrostatic strains. There is, of course, the objection to a grounded neutral, that if a line becomes grounded also, one phase is short circuited. The second point, which fortunately does not often arise in practice, is that all alternator frames, motor frames, and transformer cases should be thoroughly grounded, not only for the above considerations, but also to protect the lives of operators and linemen.

The disadvantages of Y connected transmission line may be summed: Difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory ground on the neutral. Overload or short circuit of one phase by partial or complete grounding of a line. Tendency for the voltage planes to separate at no load with imperfect grounds.

The third group of tests was made with the system connected as in Fig. 7 with the same load conditions as in the previous set of tests. With this arrangement the normal stresses are about the same as with the Y connections, {See Table III) and the unbalancing of load causes no serious variation in voltage relations, but there remains the tendency for the circuits to lie in difforent planes,

which separate decidedly with a removal of the ground connections to the generator frame. In this case, again, the bad wave form of the alternator connected delta is objectional. On the whole this system is not to be recom~ mended, as conditions seem to be particularly unstable. and there is no possibility of obtaining a ground point if occasion demands.

The fourth group of tests was made with the same transformer connections as in group three, but with the generator connected Y, giving the better wave form. This is apparently the ideal condition, as with such an arrangement it is unnecessary to ground this neutral to relieve abnormal electrostatic strains between windings. (See Table IV) All neutral points remain close to ground potential even under unbalanced load. There being no grounded neutral on the system, the danger of a short circuited phase by grounding is entirely obviated,unless two lines should become grounded simultaneously. As far as could be determinad, this system has no disadvantages; and is to be recommended by the facts that no ground is required, the wave form is the best obtainahle with a given generator, and that there is practically no tendency for abnormal voltages to occur due to separation of the voltage planes.

VOLTAGE DIAGRAMS.

A few voltage diagrams might help to make clear just

what happens under various conditions of load. To avoid needless repetition of similar figures, the results obtained in the fourth group of tests are taken as typical diagrams.

Fig. 8 represents conditions under balanced load, in which the Y is the generator diagram, with the neutral at Ng. The delta Al, A2, A3 represents the primaries of the step up bank of transformers, and Ll, L2, L3 the secondaries of this bank and the primaries of the step down transtransformers. The diagram of the secondaries of the step down transformers connected in Y corresponds to Al, A2, A3, and is indicated by Wl, W2, W3.

If now one line is opened between step up and step down transformers, conditions result as in Fig. 9, which is lettered to correspond with Fig.8. The heretofore symmetrical figures become considerably distorted. Wl, W2, W3 becomes a straight line, and is therefore in series from W2 to W3. The diagrams of the secondaries of the step up bank and of the primaries of' the step down bank of transformers are no longer coincident. The former is shown by the triangle Ll, L2, L3 and the latter by the straight line L'1, L2, L3. The distance L1-L'1 reprebents the voltage across the open switch.

An open line between step down transformers and the load gives Fig. 10. The distortion is not so noticeable as in the previous case.

AUTO TRANSFORMERS.

The economic advantage of using auto transformers for changing from one phase to another and for making slight voltage changes when it has not been necessary to keep the two systems insulated from each other, has caused them to be quite extensively used.

Example: A certain large power company had as one source of supply a plant which delivered power to the main distribution center over a 125 mile line at a potential of 50,000 volts. In the new development 60,000 volts was selected as the standard for long distribution feeders, and as the line insulation would not permit the old system to be raised to this voltage, the two projects were tied together by means of three auto transformers, which were connected Y and would carry, on the 50,000 volt taps, 5000 Kv.a. The connections and currents for this bank of auto transformers are shown in Fig.11.

This is the most common arrangement of auto transformers because it is both convenient and economic, and the only one which will be considered, although either the extended delta or the delta connection, as shown in Fig.12 a and b, might have been used to good advantage.

When such an auto transformer is used, it is connected as in Fig. 13. For such an arrangement there may be two conditions, grounded neutral and ungrounded neutral. With grounded neutral the triple frequency e.m.f. which exists

from line to ground may become very dangerous, particularly if the line has considerable electrostatic capacity, as would be the case in the assumed problem, because of the intensifying effect of the third harmonic in the charging current. In some tests made the maximum stress was found to approach three times normal potential for the neutral of the auto transformer bank grounded.

With the neutral of the auto transformer bank ungrounded, stresses running up to  $50\%$  of line voltage may be measured from ground to neutral, which is of course not a serious matter, as the maximum stress will remain from line to ground and will not be changed from normal value o

Laboratory tests for this connection andicated that the maximum voltage strain from the lower potential lines to ground would be about half the sum of the high voltage and the low voltage, which in this case would be one half 60,000 plus 50,000 volts, or 55,000 volts. TRANSFORMER DESIGN.

When transformers were made in small sizes only, particularly if they were shell type, there was some advantage in having the windings connected Y for the high tension side of the bank, as this allowed a smaller number of coils and less insulation, oecause the normal strain was <sup>57</sup> e?"k that of delta connected transformers. The increase *<sup>I</sup>* in size of units and the provision for maximum strain where one line becomes grounded has made these economic

advantages obsolescent, except in some very special cases of small, high voltage units. Hence, from the point of design and manufacture, there is no advantage for either Y or delta construction.

*<u>CONTRACTOR</u>* 

#### APPENDIX I.

When measuring the electrostatic strain between two points having no electrical connection, as between the primary and secondary windings of a transformer, the ordinary voltmeter is useless, being only an ammeter, and re~ quiring a return circuit for the current it draws, before the instrument will indicate. It was therefore necessary to procure an electrostatic voltmeter for all such readings. Two were found to be available. One had a range from 40 to 160 volts and the other from 500 to 10,000 volts. **As** the voltages it was desired to measure lay quite frequently between 160 and 500 volts these readings could not be obtained. The low reading instrument was equipped with a multiplier for reading up to 600 volts, but as this was of the resistance type, it could not be used on electoostatic readings. It was then attempted to construct a multiplier with condensers, but with no success. Combinations were tried with the voltmeter and condenser in series; in parallel; and with the voltmeter and condenser in parallel in series with a second condenser, but on trying to check with a standard voltmeter on closed circuits it was found that a definite ratio of multiplication could not be obtained. Although probably the construction and calibration of such a multiplier is possible, it could not be undertaken in the limited time available, and was abandoned.

It was next attempted to reduce the range of the high

reading instrument, but this also was found to be impractible. To overcome this difficulty it was finally necessary to reduce the ratio of transformation sufficienty so that comparatively few of the readings exceeded the upper limit of the low reading voltmeter.

#### APPENDIX II.

It may be of interest to consider in this connection the actual network diagram of the system of The Pacific Light and Power Corporation, as shown in Fig. 14. The following nomenclature is used:

*A-* Engine-driven alternator.

TA- Turbine "

T- Transformers.

AT- Auto~transformers.

The numerals indicate the voltage at various points on the system.

For simplicity, the location of switches has not been shown. Several small generating stations on the system are not shown.

Power house No. 1 contains three (shown as one in diagram) engine driven alternators delivering power at 15,000 volts directly to the bus-bars. The two turbogenerator sets generate at 9000 volts and step up to the bus bar voltage thru auto~transformers. In substation No.1 this is stepped. up thru transformers to connect with **a**  50,000 volt line> and in substation Na.2 it connects with **a** 60,000 volt line thru transformers.

Power house No. 2 (not shown) is a hydro-electric plant. The generator voltage is stepped up with delta-y transformers to  $150,000$  volts, at which voltage it is delivered to substation No.2, where it is transformed to 60,000 volts as shown. The 50,000 volt line from power house No.3 is connected to this thru auto transformers. Substation No.l contains a bank of transformers connected Y-dalta, with the neutral grounded and the secondary on open circuit. This is merely a dead end for the purpose of obtaining a ground point.

### APPENDIX III.

NOTES ON TABLES. Table I is practically a complete record of all the first group of tests made with the generator frame grounded. Table II is not complete, since, as was noted before, the results of the second group of tests were approximately identical to those of the first group. Tables III and IV contain results of only those tests needed for comparison.

It should be noted that the per cent volts from high tension to low tension will vary for every ratio of trans• formation, so that the figures given will be true only for the ratio employed, namely 1 to 1.154.



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FIG.Z.



 $FIG. 3.$ 



FIG. 4.



# STEP-UP TRANSFORMERS

FIG. 5.

FIG. 6.



 $FIG.7$ .



 $FIG. 8.$ 





FIG. 10.







 $FIG.12.$ 



FIG. 13.





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\* READINGS WITH UNGROUNDED GENERATOR FRAME ARE OMITTED, AS THIS COMDITION SO RAAELY EXISTS IN PRACTICE.  $\left( EXCEPT\right) ^{*}$  IN WHICH IT WAS NOT GROUNDED.)

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#### ADDENDA.

### ORIGINAL DATA,

The following pages contain the results of the original tests, and form the basis for the statements made, and conclusions drawn, in the first (GENERAL) and second (VOLTAGE DIAGRAMS) sections of this investigation.

The letters correspond to those of Figs. 3 and?. The figures opposite each pair of letters indicates the voltage between the two points represented by the letters, under the given conditions.

For the sake of brevity, and ease of reference, the following outline has been followed:

A-Group I- Delta-delta Y-Y delta.

1. No load.

(a) Neutral not grounded. Gen. frame grounded. (b) " " " Gen. frame not grounded. (c) Neutral grounded. Gen. frame grounded. (d) " " Gen. frame not grounded. 2. Balanced non-inductive load.

(a), (b), **(c),** and (d) as above. 3. One phase loaded.

(1) Switch open in Ll.

(a), (b), **(c),** and (d) as above.

(2) Switch open in Wl.

 $(a)$ ,  $(b)$ ,  $(c)$ , and  $(d)$  as above.

4. Balanced load. Hogh resistance ground on Ll.

 $(a)$ ,  $(b)$ ,  $(c)$ , and  $(d)$  as above. B-Group II- Y-delta Y-Y delta.

lo No load.

(a) No ground point. (Except transformer cases.)

(b) Both gen. and line neutrals grounded.

2. Balanced non-inductive load.

(a) and (b) as above.

C-Group III- Delta-delta delta-delta delta.

1. No load.

(a) Generator frame grounded.

(b) Generator frame not grounded.

2. Balanced non-inductive load.

(a) and (b) as above.

3. One phase loaded.

(1) Switch open in L1.

(a) and (b).

 $(2)$  Switch open in Wl.

 $(a)$  and  $(b)$ .

4., No load. Ground on Ll.

(a) and (b).

D-Group IV- Y-delta delta-delta delta.

1., No load.

(a) Gen. frame and gen. neutral grounded.

(b) No ground point. (Except transformer cases.) 2. Balanced non-inductive load.

 $(a)$  and  $(b)$ .

3. One phase loadedo

(1) Switch open in Ll.

 $(a)$  and  $(b)$ .

(2) Switch open in Wl.

 $(a)$  and  $(b)$ .

4. No load. Ground on Ll.

 $(a)$  as above.

(b) Generator frame only grounded.

5. Balanced load. Ground on Ll.

(a) and (b) as in 4 above.

 $2.50 \times 10^{-11}$ 

The preceding outline indicates nearly all the combinations ahich could be made on the system used for test purposes. A number of the tests listed above were not made as frequently a few readings would suffice to show that conditions were the same as in some preceeding test, and time was not taken to continue that particular test. The reason for omitting any part is noted under its proper heading.

The upper limit of the electrostatic voltmeter used was 160 volts, and readings given as "160 plus" are off the scale. Their exact value may be determined, if necessary, by constructing a diagram to scale, and measuring

the required voltage, having due regard for the separation of the planes, if any exists.

The original data follow:





AlA2 131 134 134 130 135 137 137 136 A2A3 134 136 137 132 119.5 120.5 120 120 AlA3 110 116 116 108 115 117 116 116 LlN 73 76 75 80 156 158 158 156





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Only one set tests was made under B (Group II) as the results are practically identical to those of Group I, as determined by a number of readings taken at random.

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The subdivisions (b) under C-3 and 4 are similar to corresponding ones under  $A$ .  $D=2$  (b) is similar to  $D=1$  (b) 



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The subdivisions (b) under  $D=3$  and  $D=5$  correspond almost exactly to subdivisions (a).

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In the above data *N* denotes the line neutral; Ng the generator neutral, when connected Y; and G denotes ground.