

# Insulation Co-ordination Studies and Selection of Surge Arrester in EHV/UHV Substations

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# INTRODUCTION



Growing at a rapid pace



Increased Voltage  
levels

Selection of  
insulation  
dictates the  
cost and safety

**INSULATION COORDINATION**

**INEVITABLE**

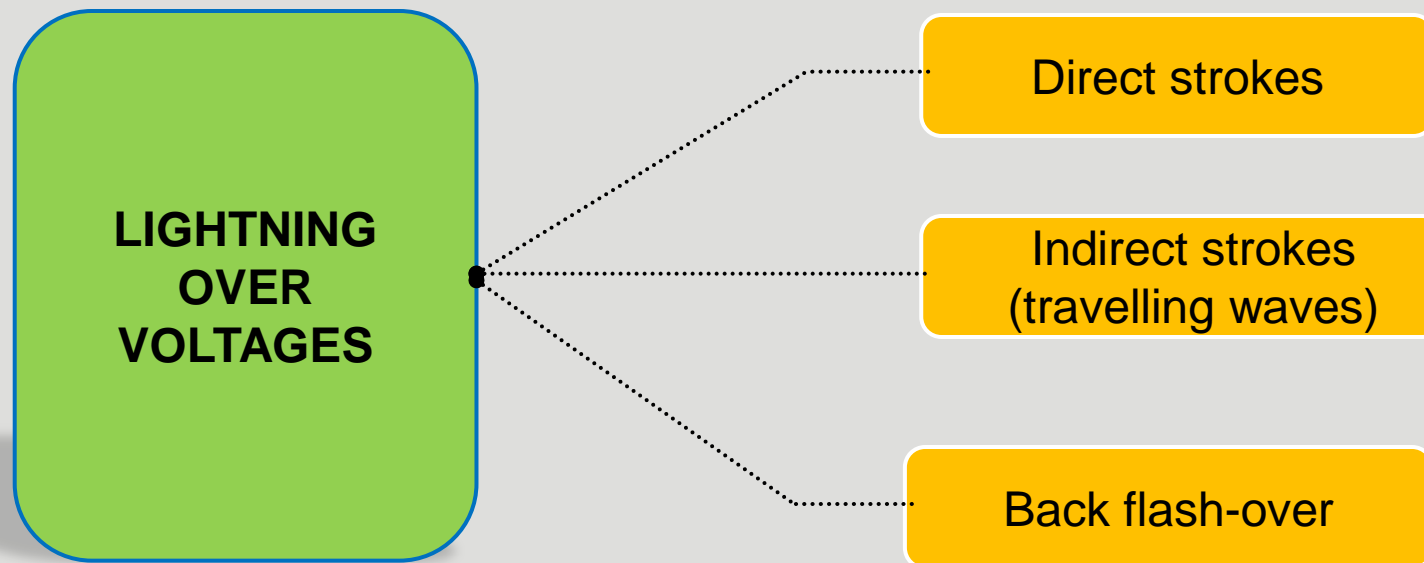
# INTRODUCTION

## Why Insulation Co-ordination Study is required?

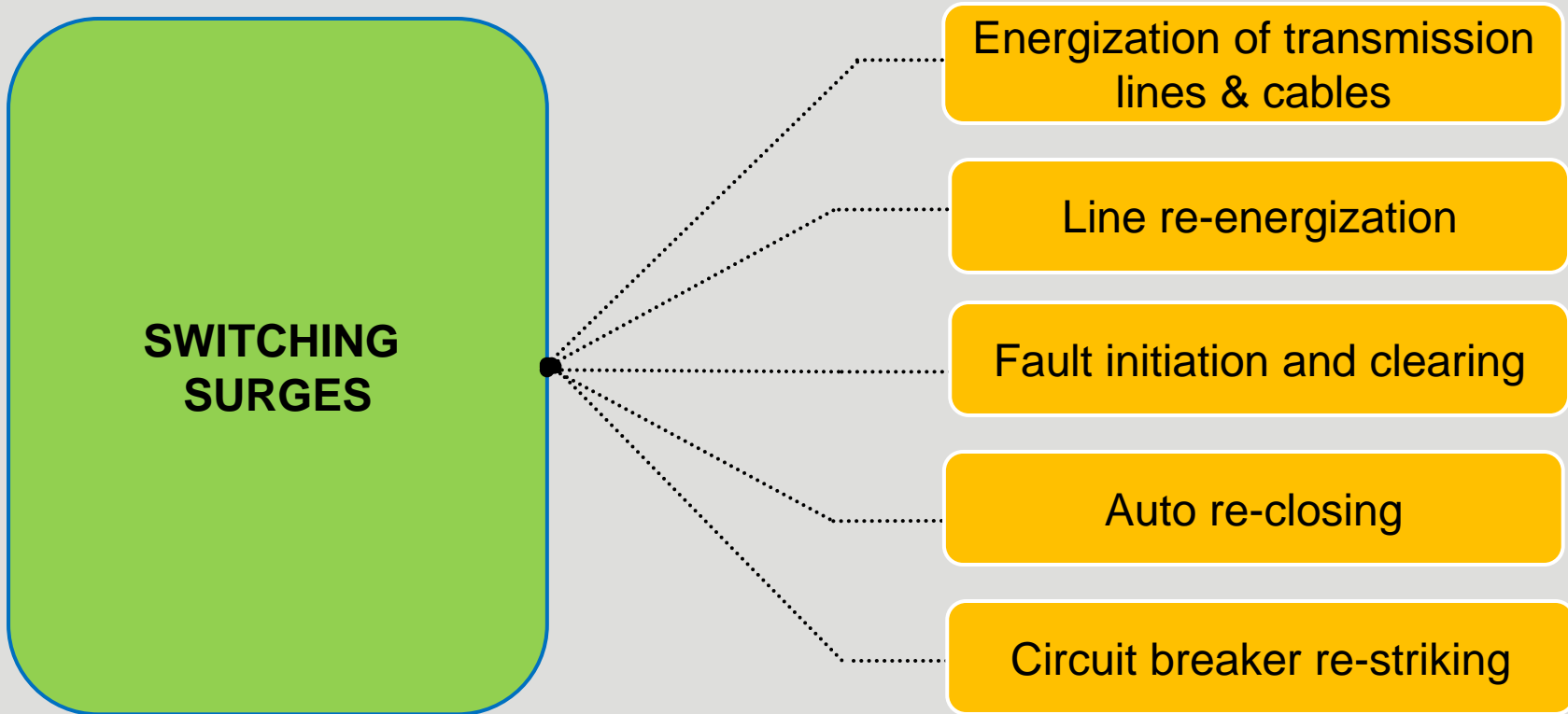
- To understand the behaviour of equipment during transient conditions.
- To verify whether the LA provided is sufficient enough to arrest the surges.

# OVERVOLTAGES

## Causes of Overvoltages



# CAUSES OF OVERVOLTAGES



**-In view of above, a detailed system analysis for switching over voltages is very important especially at EHV & UHV. From such an analysis, the energy through the surge arresters also should be estimated. This will help select proper Long Duration class of the Surge Arresters.**

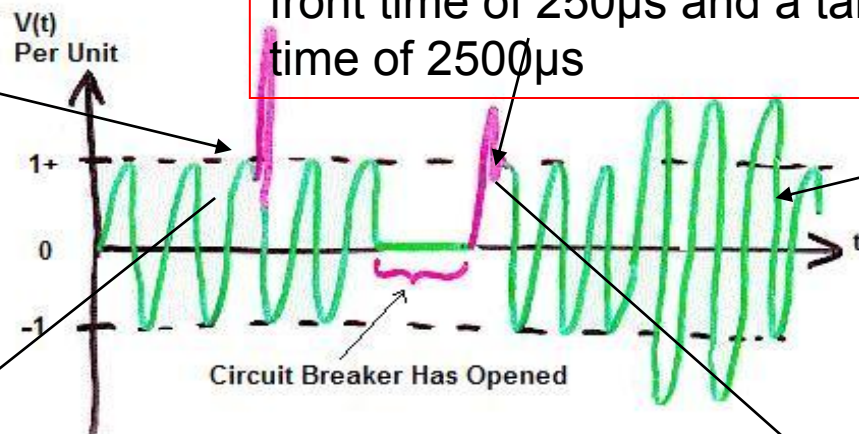
# SYSTEM OVER VOLTAGES-WAVE SHAPE

## Wave shape:

Impulse Over voltages 1.2/50 $\mu$ s impulse having a front time of 1.2  $\mu$ s and a tail time of 50  $\mu$ s

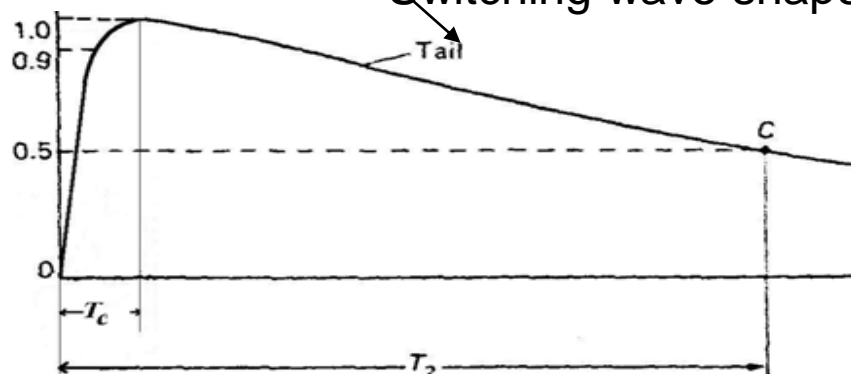
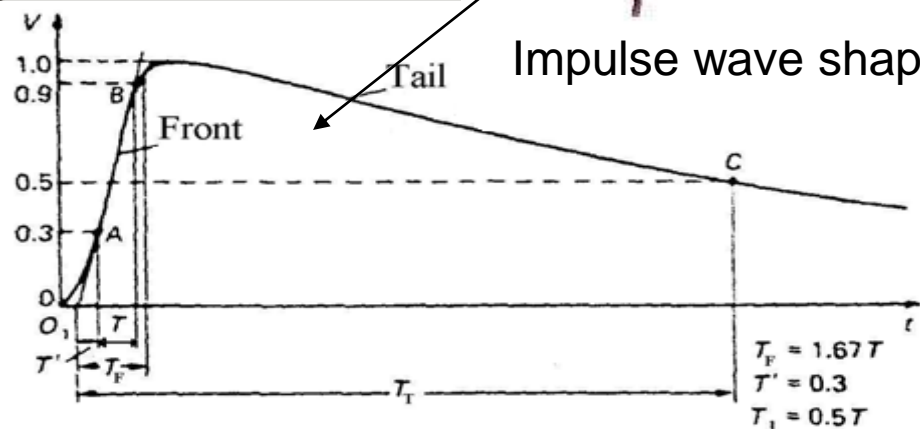
Switching Over voltages 250/2500 $\mu$ s impulse having a front time of 250 $\mu$ s and a tail time of 2500 $\mu$ s

Frequency Overvoltages



Impulse wave shape

Switching wave shape



# OVERVOLTAGES

## Insulation Levels

**Table 8** IEC 71.1: BILs are Tied to Max. System Voltages for Max. System Voltage from 1 to 245 kV

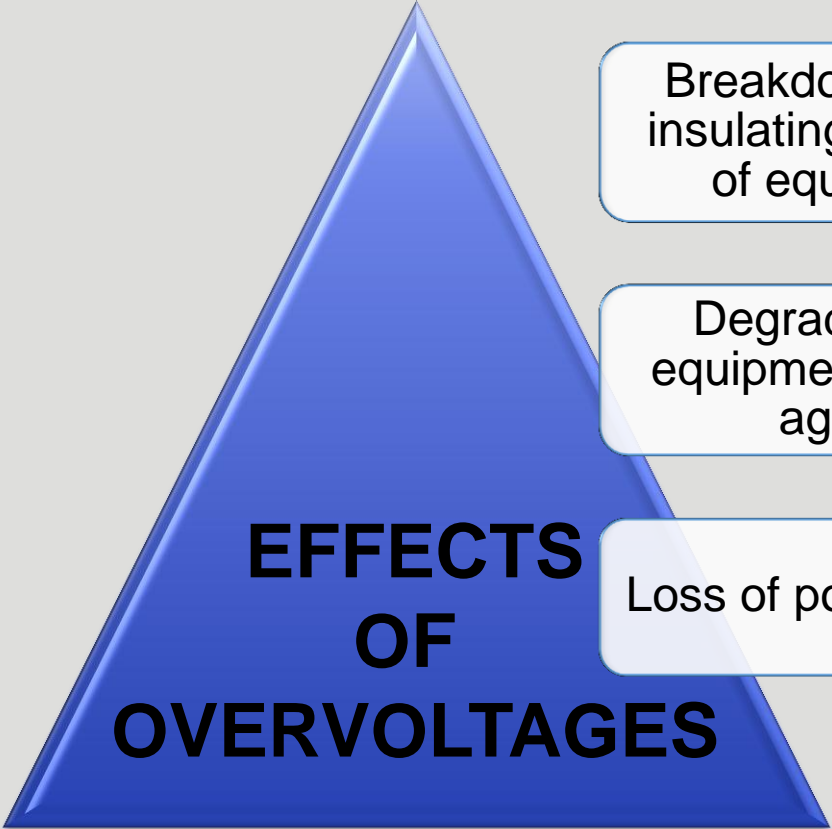
Max system voltage, kV	BILs, kV	Max system voltage, kV	BILs, kV
3.6	20 or 40	52	250
7.2	40 or 60	72.5	325
12	60, 75 or 95	123	450 or 550
17.7	75 or 95	145	450, 550, or 650
24	95, 125 or 145	170	550, 650, or 750
36	145 or 170	245	650, 750, 850, 950, or 1050

Source: Ref. 3.

**Table 9** IEC BIL/BSLs, from IEC Publication 71.1

Max. system voltage, kV	Phase-ground BSL, BSL <sub>g</sub> , kV	Ratio BSL <sub>p</sub> /BSL <sub>g</sub>	BIL, kV
300	750	1.50	850 or 950
	850	1.50	950 or 1050
362	850	1.50	950 or 1050
	950	1.50	1050 or 1175
420	850	1.60	1050 or 1175
	950	1.50	1175 or 1300
	1050	1.50	1300 or 1425
550	950	1.70	1175 or 1300
	1050	1.60	1300 or 1425
	1175	1.50	1425 or 1550
800	1300	1.70	1675 or 1800
	1425	1.70	1800 or 1950
	1550	1.60	1950 or 2100

# EFFECTS OF OVERVOLTAGES



## EFFECTS OF OVERVOLTAGES

Breakdown in the insulating dielectric of equipment

Degradation of equipment through ageing

Loss of power supply



SURGE  
ARRESTOR



# SURGE ARRESTOR



A device used in electrical power to protect the insulation & conductors of the system from the damaging effects

Used to clip or limit the peak values of the over voltages or their durations or both

Open switch for system voltages  
Closed switch for Over voltages



# TYPES OF SURGE ARRESTORS

As per IEC 60099-4, 2014

Class	Type	Nominal discharge current
STATION CLASS	SH - Station High	20kA
	SM – Station Medium	10kA
	SL – Station Low	10kA
DISTRIBUTION CLASS	DH - Distribution High	10kA
	DM – Distribution Medium	5kA
	DL – Distribution Low	2.5kA

# GROUND FAULT FACTOR

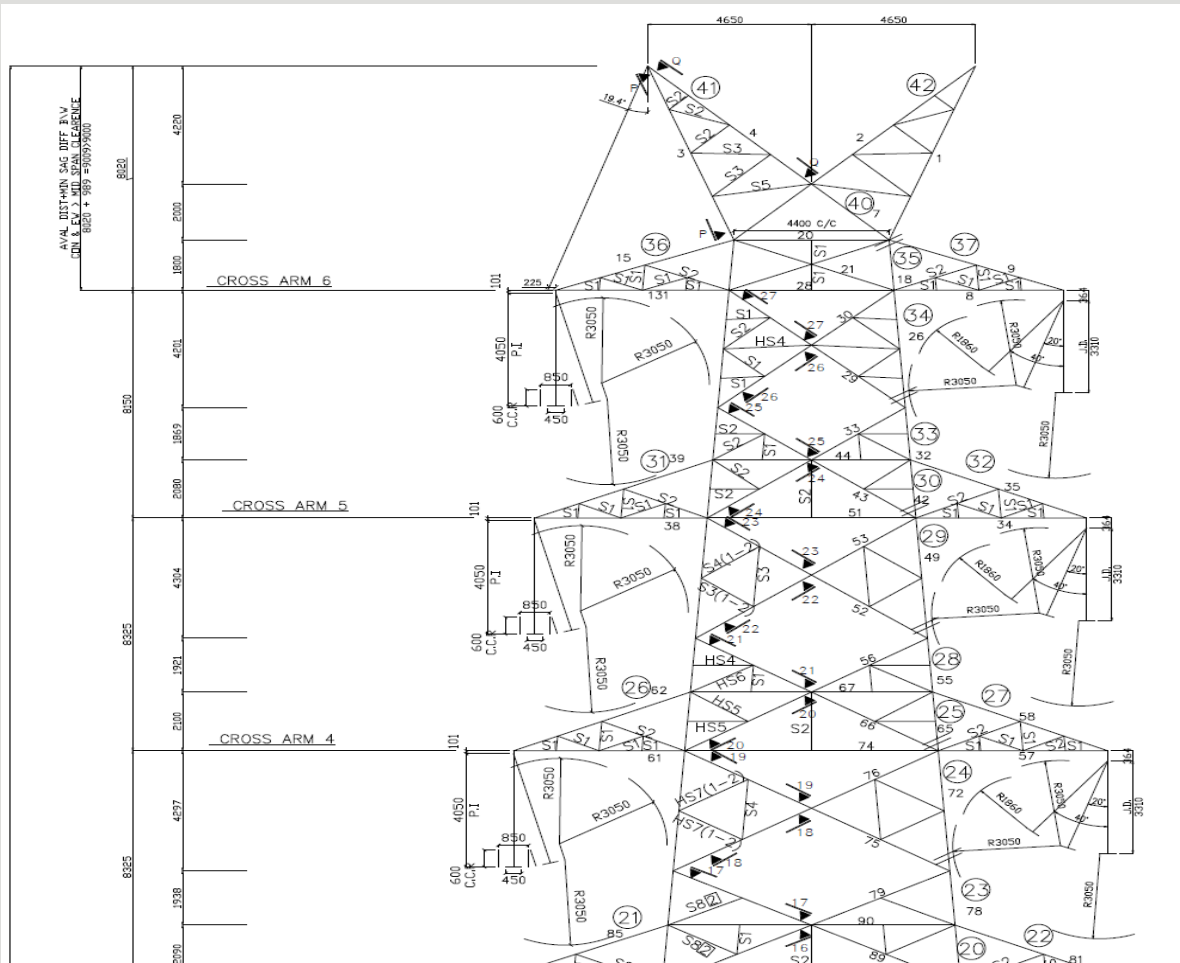
(As per IEC 60099-5 & IEEE C62.22)

Type of System	Ground Fault Factor
Solidly Grounded 4 wire systems	1.25
Uni-grounded 3 wire systems	1.4
Impedance grounded systems	1.732
Isolated Ground Systems and Delta Systems	1.732

# SELECTION OF SURGE ARRESTOR

- Continuous operating voltage with respect to the highest system operating voltage
- Rated voltage of the arrester with respect to the temporary overvoltages
- BIL & BSL of the arrester during lightning, switching based on the V-I characteristics
- Location of Arrester
- Pressure relief class of the arrester with respect to the expected fault current
- Risk of lightning strikes in the region
- Type of electrical supply network feeding the site (overhead or underground)
- The network's earthing system
- Substation BIL, BSL

# TYPICAL 400KV MULTI CIRCUIT TOWER STRIKE DISTANCES

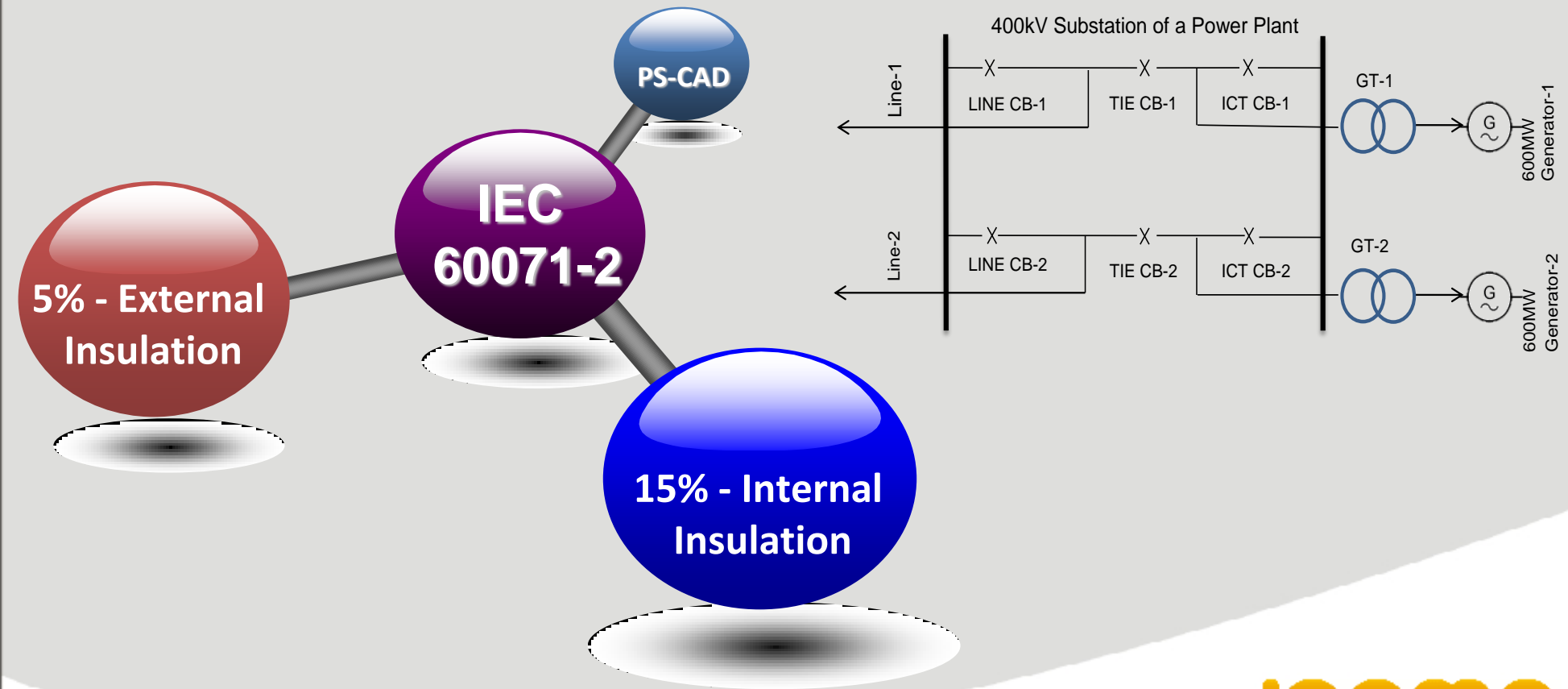


Why These  
are required?

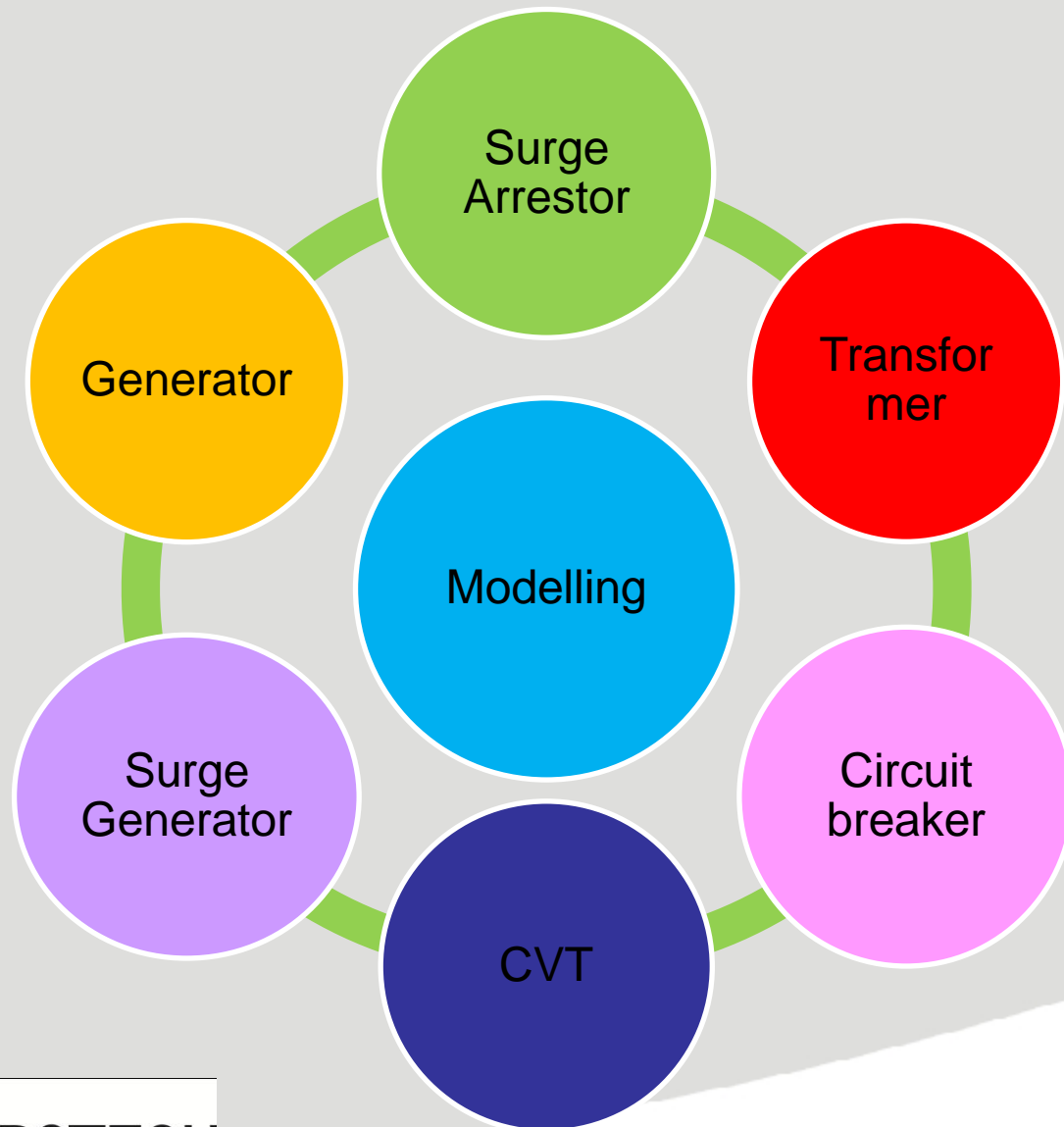
To calculate the  
Velocity of  
Travelling Wave

# CASE STUDY - DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM

The system taken for case study is the 400kV Air Insulated Substation (AIS) of a 2x600MW Thermal Power Plant



# SYSTEM MODELLING

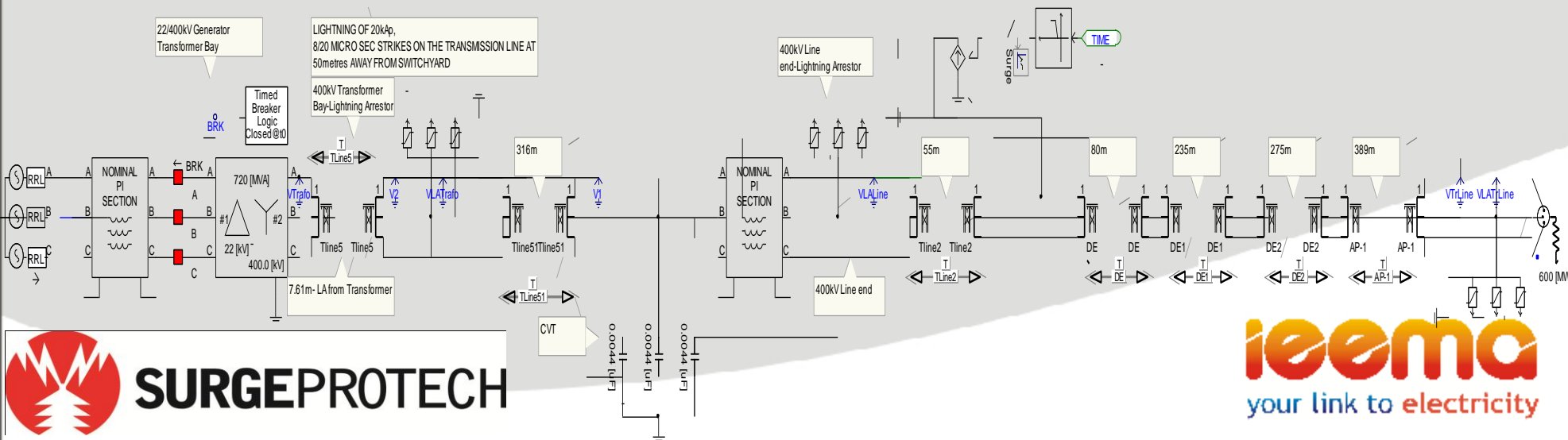




# SYSTEM MODELLING

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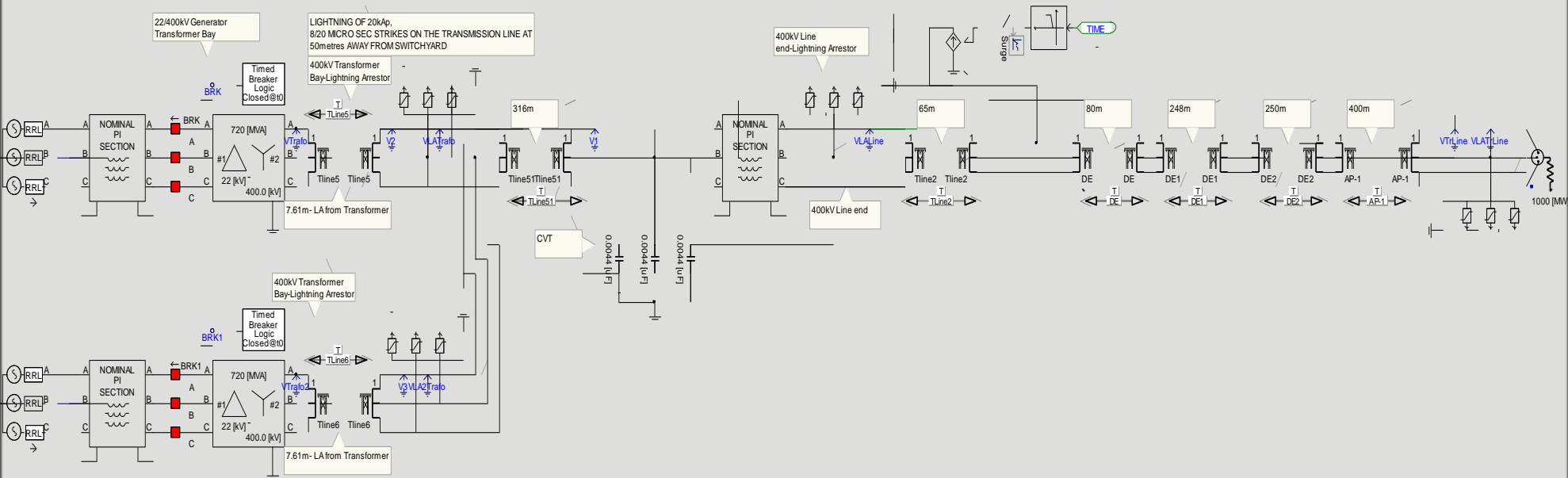
System Voltage	Insulation Level (kVp)	Type of insulation	Margin	Maximum allowable voltage (kVp)
400kV	BIL= 1425	External	1.0815	1317.61
		Internal	1.15	1239.13
	BSL=1050	External	1.0694	981.85
		Internal	1.15	913.04





# SYSTEM MODELLING

## Modelling with 2 Generators



# OVERVOLTAGE STUDY

System voltage = 400 kV

Surge Arresters are single phase devices,  
hence Phase to neutral voltage  $= \frac{400}{\sqrt{3}} = 230kV$

Insulation  
Coordination  
study

During single phase to earth fault, voltage on healthy phase will go up to 1.4 to 1.5 times.

$$= 230 \times 1.4 \text{ or } 1.5 = 323 \text{ or } 346kV$$

360kV LA Selected

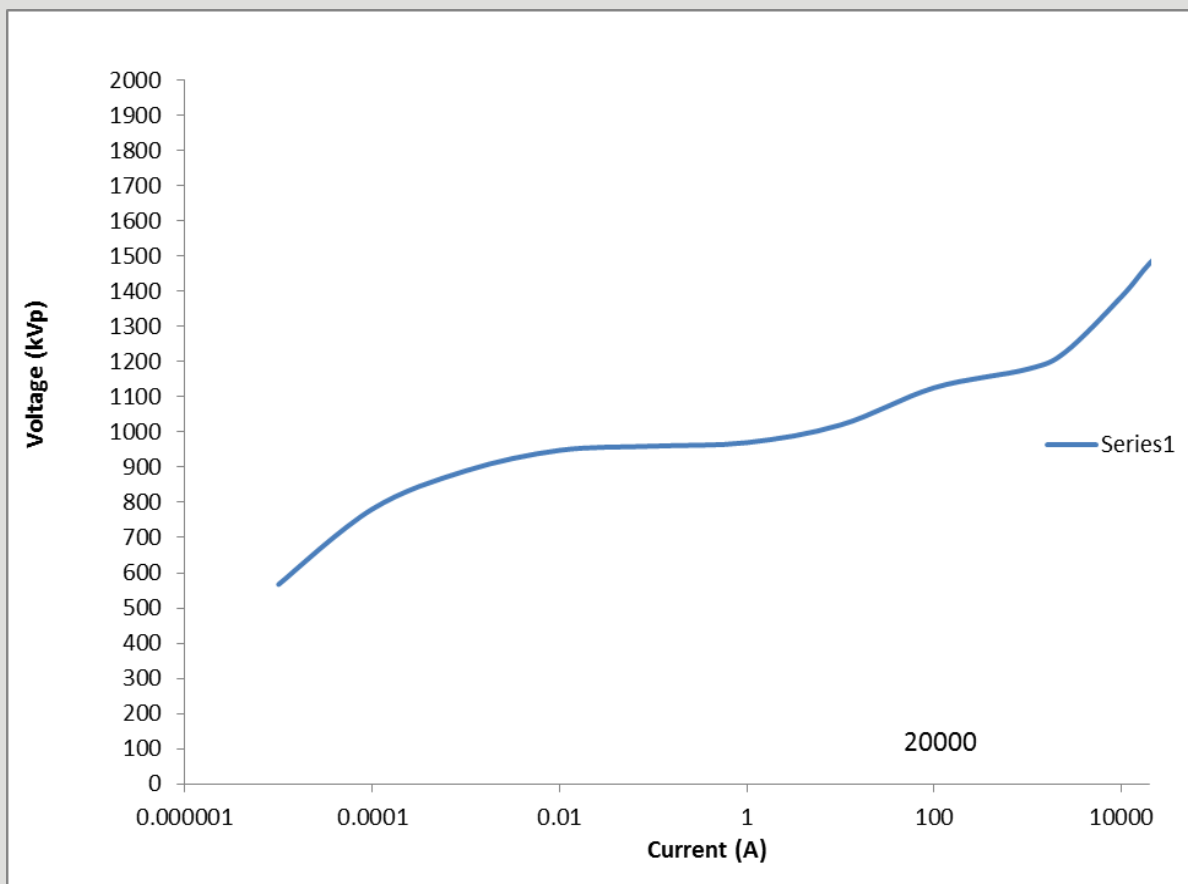


Finalized  
by

Energy  
dissipating  
capability of  
Surge  
Arrestor

# LA V-I CHARACTERISTICS

Sl.No	Discharge Current in (A)	Approximate Discharge voltage in (kVp)
1	0.00001	567
2	0.0001	781
3	0.001	890
4	0.01	948
5	0.1	960
6	1	970
7	10	1020
8	100	1126
9	1000	1179
10	2500	1227
11	10000	1385
12	20000	1480

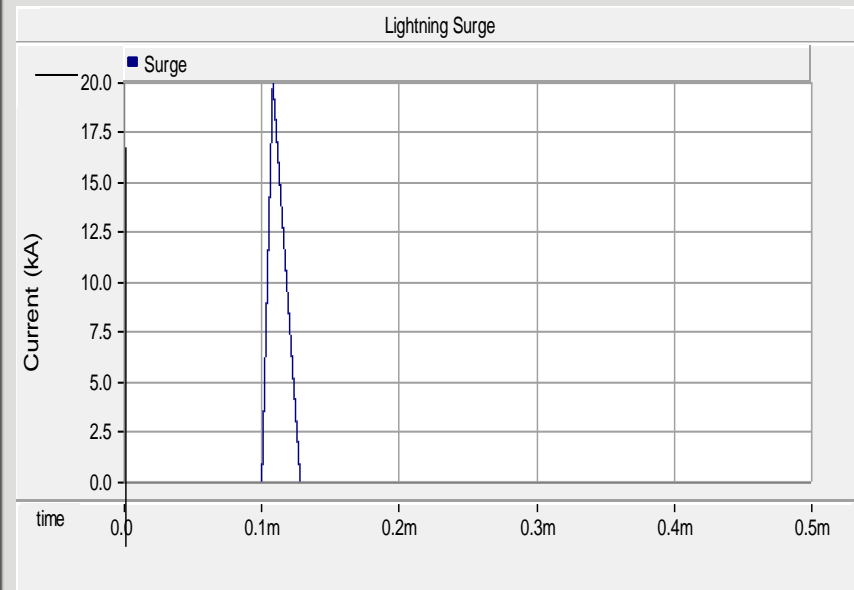


# LIGHTNING OVER VOLTAGE STUDY

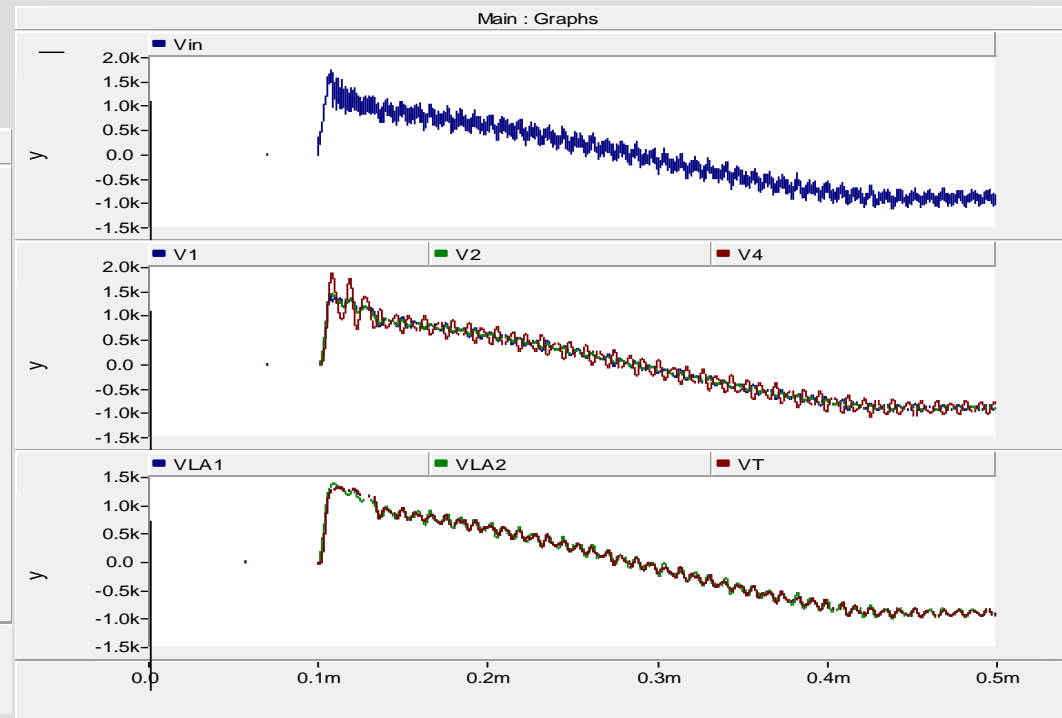
- **One Generator feeding line**
  - **Two Generators feeding the same line (Generators in Parallel)**
- 

# LIGHTNING OVER VOLTAGE STUDY

Lightning surge enter into the substation in the form of a travelling wave



Current Surge (20kAp, 8/20 $\mu$ s)



Voltage across Line end and Transformer bay

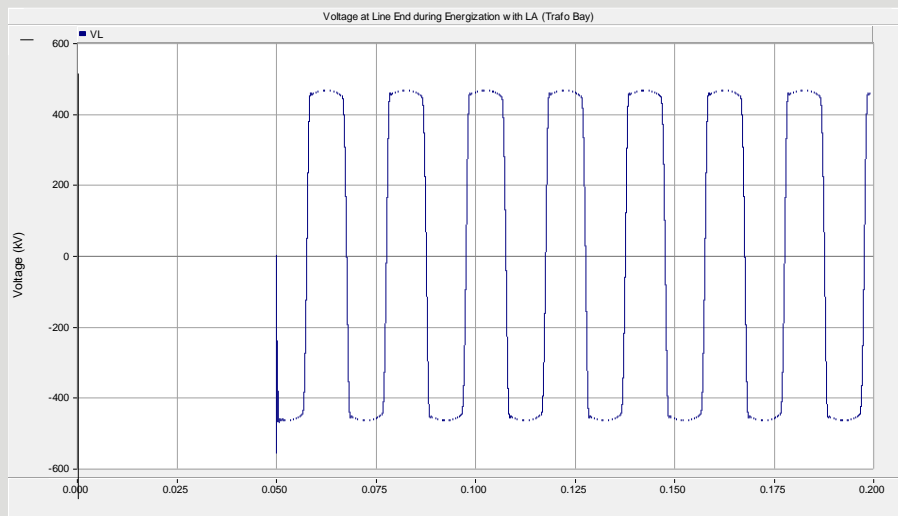
# SWITCHING OVER VOLTAGE STUDY

- Line energization
- Line re-energization
- Switching during Fault
- Switching during Fault clearing

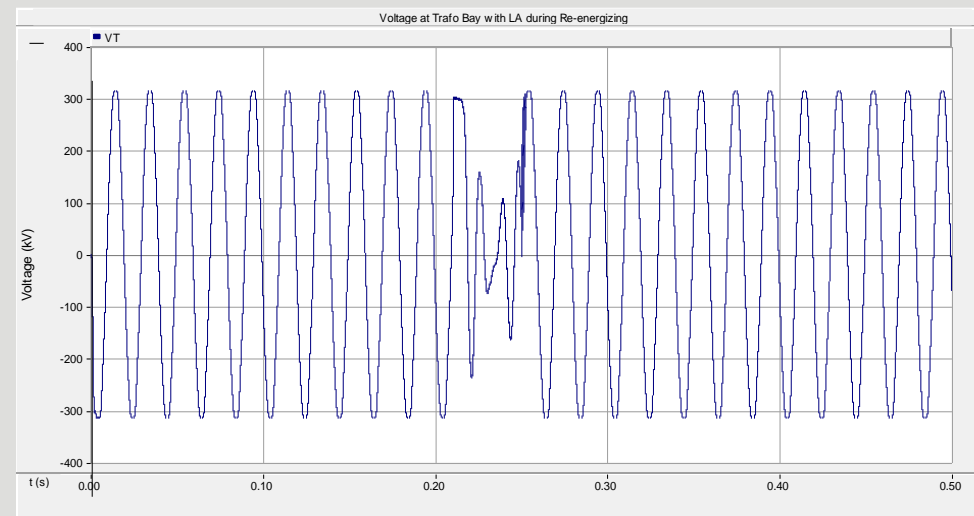
# SWITCHING OVER VOLTAGE STUDY

## Line Energization & Re-Energization:

- A three-phase line energization or re-energization produces switching overvoltages on all three phases of the line.
- Closing time plays an important role on the value of overvoltage during energization.



**Voltage across Line-1 Bay with Surge Arrester during Line-Energization**



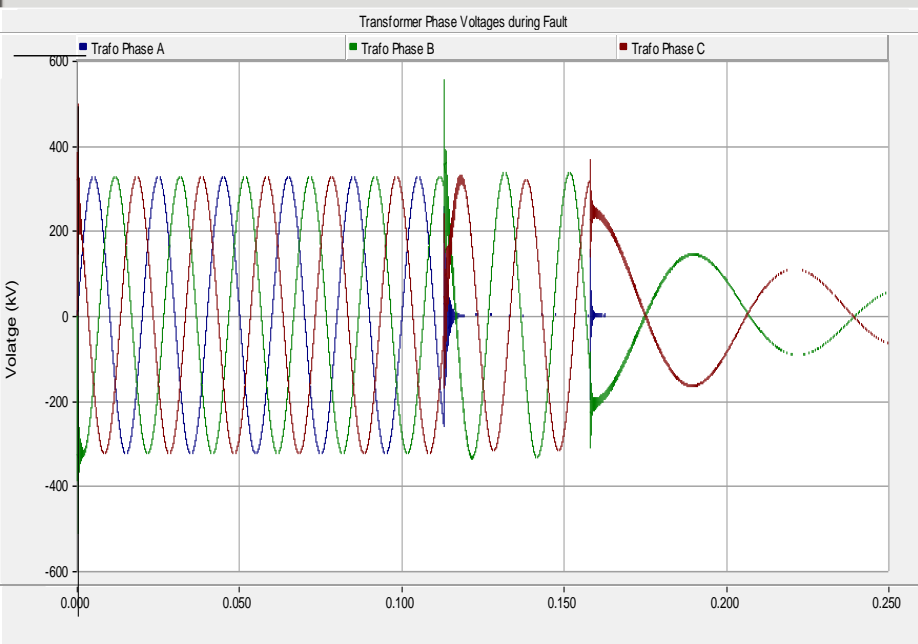
**Voltage across Transformer Bay with Surge Arrester during Line-Re-Energization**



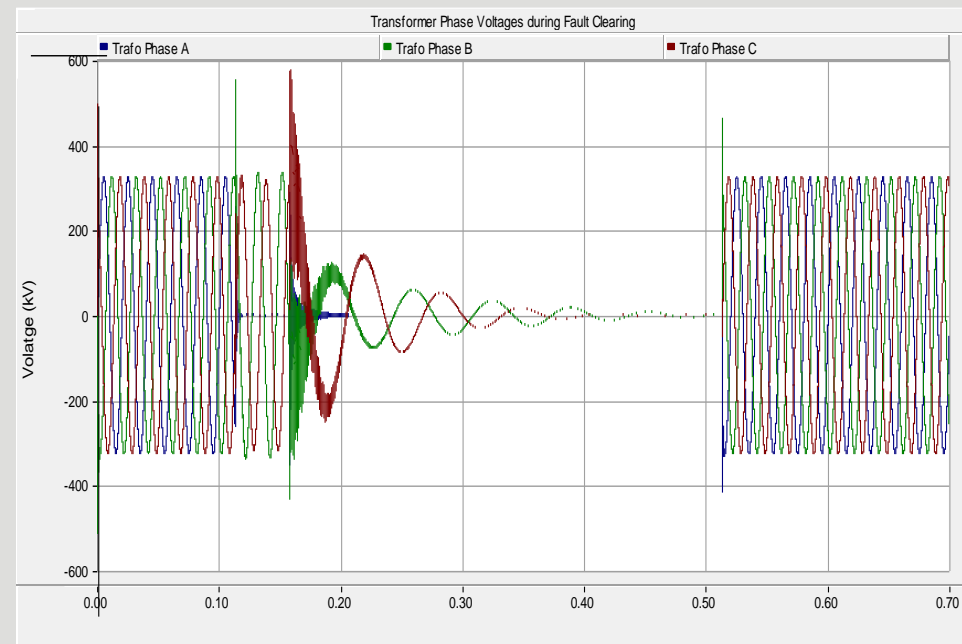
# SWITCHING OVER VOLTAGE STUDY

## Switching overvoltages due to faults and fault clearing

- Switching overvoltages can arise at the initiation of a fault and also during fault clearing



**Voltage across Transformer Bay with Surge Arrester – Switching during Fault**



**Voltage across Transformer Bay with Surge Arrester – Switching during Fault clearing**



# RESULTS - LIGHTNING

Voltage at	Maximum Allowable Voltage	With Surge Arrestors		W/O Surge Arrestor in Transformer Bay		W/O Surge Arrestor in Line End		W/O Surge Arrestors	
		1 Gen	2 Generators	1 Gen	2 Generators	1 Gen	2 Generators	1 Gen	2 Generators
Line End	1239.1 kVp (3.09 p.u)	2.52	2.45	2.9	2.9	5.5	5.63	5.5	5.7
Transformer Bay		1.9	1.67	2.1	1.89	2.58	2.37	5.4	5.6
Load End		1.56	1.47	1.6	1.47	2.09	2.01	5.6	5.8
Breaker Terminals		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

# RESULTS - SWITCHING

Voltage at	Maximum Allowable Voltage	Switching Study Case	W/O Surge Arrestor in Transformer Bay		W/O Surge Arrestor in Line End	
			1 Gen	2 Generators	1 Gen	2 Generators
Line End	913.04 kVp  (2.28 p.u)	Line Energization	2.05	2.4	1.17	1.39
		Line Re-Energization	2.03	3.2	1.92	2.3
Transformer Bay		Line Energization	12.26	13.1	1.97	1.65
		Line Re-Energization	12.33	13.4	1.92	2.3
Switching during Fault		14.88	-	2.02	-	
Switching During Fault Clearing		18.47	-	2.02	-	
Breaker Terminals		Line Energization	12.14	12.96	1.97	1.65
		Line Re-Energization	12.08	12.42	1.88	2.6
		Switching during Fault	14.88	-	2.19	-
		Switching During Fault Clearing	18.27	-	2.07	-

# RESULTS

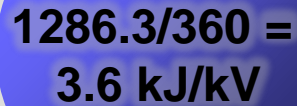
*Maximum overvoltage due to lightning is 1068 kVp, which is well within the limits of the protective level of the offered Surge Arrestor (1425kVp).*

*Maximum overvoltages due to switching of Breaker is 848 kVp, which is well within the limits of the protective level of the offered Surge Arrestor (1050 kVp).*

**Voltage is within the limits in both Lightning and Switching studies, but the important parameter that needs to be evaluated is energy capability of Surge Arrestor**

# RESULTS

The minimum energy rating of 360kV LA :


$$1286.3/360 = 3.6 \text{ kJ/kV}$$

This is sufficient for one generator feeding one line.



**390 KV LA  
SELECTED**

The minimum energy rating of 390kV LA :


$$2271/390 = 5.8 \text{ kJ/kV}$$

This Arrester has passed all worst conditions

# CONCLUSIONS

**360kV and 390kV Surge Arrestors were analyzed based on the manufacturing data sheets available at that point. The voltage rating and energy handling capability of Surge arresters provide sufficient protection for the switchyard equipment.**

**The selection of Surge Arrestor can be done considering minimum rating of Surge Arrestors with high energy discharge capability available in the present manufacturing industry, but a detailed Insulation Co-ordination study is necessary to check the voltage profile of the EHV Substation.**

# Thank You !