

# OPTIMALNA RC ZAŠTITA TIRISTORA OPTIMAL RC PROTECTION OF THYRISTORS

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Tiristori su osjetljivi na brzinu porasta anodnog napona, prenapona oporavka i brzinu porasta struje. Zbog toga se tiristori zaštićuju dodatnim sklopovima. Ponekad zaštitni sklop projektiran za prigušenje jednog prijelaznog procesa neće biti optimalan za prigušenje drugog procesa pa je nužno nekakvo kompromisno rješenje. U radu se analiziraju optimalni uvjeti rada zaštite tiristora, s tim da su u obzir uzeti parametri tiristora, koji su karakteristični za period uklapanja i isklapanja. Analiza je provedena u normiranom obliku, što analizi daje općenitost.

Thyristors are susceptible to the increase rate of anode voltage, recovery overvoltage and current increase rate. They are therefore protected by means of supplementary circuits. Sometimes a protection circuit that has been designed to attenuate a certain transient process is not optimal for the attenuation of some other process, therefore a compromise solution is needed. In this paper, the optimal operating conditions of the thyristor protection are analyzed, where the thyristor parameters that are characteristic for the turn-on and turn-off period have been taken into consideration. The analysis has been performed in a normized form, which assures its general applicability.

**Ključne riječi:** frekvencija, napon, RC zaštita, regulacija, tiristor  
**Key words:** frequency, RC protection, regulation, thyristor, voltage



## 1 UVOD

Tiristori imaju vrlo široku primjenu na području regulacije u elektrotehnici. Sustavi uzbude sinkronih generatora realizirani su promjenom statičke uzbude, tj. primjenom tiristora, čime se postiže: visoka pogonska preciznost, pouzdanost, potrebna snaga uzbude, te regulacija napona generatora. Također je vrlo velika primjena tiristora u regulaciji brzine vrtnje elektromotora. Posebno je pogodna primjena za velike sporohodne motore, te regulaciju grupnih elektromotornih pogona, gdje su prisutni teški pogonski uvjeti.

Isto tako je važna primjena tiristora u raznim regulatorima-pretvaračima, namijenjenim za industrijske potrebe, kao što je npr. induksijsko grijanje i taljenje metala u svrhu daljnje obrade, te praktički svugdje gdje se zahtijeva regulacija napona i frekvencije u vrlo širokom rasponu.

Ograničenje brzine porasta napona [1] i ograničenje prenapona oporavka tiristora [2] postiže se pomoću RC sklopa koji se dodaje paralelno tiristoru, a ograničenje brzine porasta struje [3] i [4] postiže se dodavanjem induktiviteta u seriju s tiristorom. Na taj način se postiže tzv. RC zaštita i L zaštita. Na tu temu napisano je mnogo radova. S obzirom na način nadomještanja tiristora u periodu oporavka barijere svi ti radovi o zaštiti mogu se podijeliti u dvije grupe. U prvoj grupi radova tiristor se tretira kao idealna sklopka [5], a u drugoj grupi tiristor se nadomješta sa strujnim izvorom, čija struja eksponencijalno pada [6]. U radovima [1], [2], [3], [4], [7], [8] i [9] pri analizi navedenih pojava, tiristor je nadomješten paralelnim RC sklopom, ali bez zaštitnog RC sklopa, dok je u radu [3] pri analizi RC zaštite tiristor nadomješten nelinearnim otporom. U ovom radu analizira se naponska i strujna zaštita tiristora, pri čemu je tiristor nadomješten paralelnim RC sklopom.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Thyristors are widely applied for regulation purposes in electrical engineering. Excitation systems of synchronous generators are realized by variation of static excitation, i.e. by application of thyristors, which assures: high operating preciseness, reliability, the required excitation power and regulation of the generator voltage. Thyristors are much applied in particular to regulate the rotation speed of an electric motor. They are particularly suitable for large, low speed motors and for regulation of electrical motor drives, where operating conditions are hard.

Also, the application of thyristors is important in various regulators-converters that are used for industrial purposes, e.g. induction heating and melting of metal for further processing, and indeed wherever a wide range regulation of voltage and frequency is required.

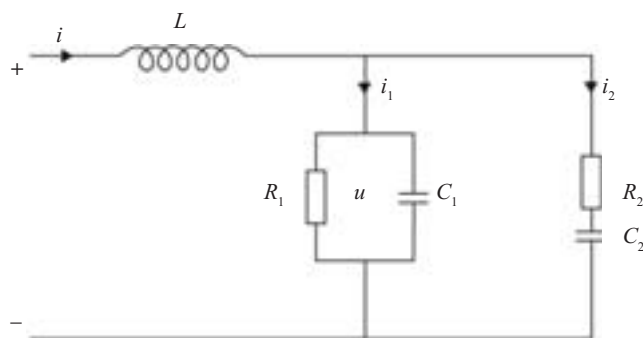
Limitation of the voltage increase rate [1] and of the thyristor recovery overvoltage [2] is achieved by an RC circuit which is added parallel to the thyristor, while limitation of the current increase rate [3] and [4] is performed by adding the inductance serially to the thyristor. In this way, the so called RC protection and L protection are realized. Many papers have been written on this topic. With regard to substitution of the thyristors in a barrier recovery period, all these papers can be grouped into two groups. In the first group, the thyristor is considered an ideal switch [5] and in the second group where the thyristor is replaced with a current source whose current decreases exponentially [6]. In the papers [1], [2], [3], [4], [7], [8] and [9] for analysis of the phenomena mentioned, the thyristor was replaced with a parallel RC circuit, but without a protective RC circuit, while in the paper [3], for analysis of RC protection, the thyristor was replaced with a non-linear resistance. In this paper, voltage and current protection of the thyristor are analyzed, where the thyristor is replaced with a parallel RC circuit.

## 2 NADOMJESNA SHEMA I OSNOVNE RELACIJE

Dimenzije tiristora rastu s dopuštenom snagom pa se u nekim režimima rada ne mogu zanemariti parametri tiristora. U ovom se radu tiristor nadomješta paralelnim  $R_1$ ,  $C_1$  linearnim elementima (slika 1) dok se paralelni zaštitni krug  $R_2$ ,  $C_2$  smatra bezinduktivnim, a u serijskom zaštitnom krugu s induktivitetom  $L$  se zanemaruje otpor  $R$ , koji je obično malog iznosa u odnosu na otpor tiristora  $R_1$ .

## 2 EQUIVALENT SCHEME AND BASIC RELATIONS

The dimensions of thyristors increase with the increase of the power allowed, and therefore the thyristor parameters in certain operating regimes cannot be disregarded. In this paper, the thyristor is replaced with linear elements  $R_1$ ,  $C_1$  (Figure 1), the parallel protective circuit  $R_2$ ,  $C_2$  is considered non-inductive and in a serial protection circuit of inductance  $L$ , the resistance  $R$ , which is usually low in comparison with the thyristor resistance,  $R_1$ , is disregarded.



**Slika 1**  
Nadomjesna shema tiristora i elemenata zaštite  
**Figure 1**  
Equivalent scheme of the thyristor and protective elements

Početni uvjeti za analizu brzine porasta napona su  $i(0) = 0$  i  $u_{C_1}(0) = u(0) = 0$ , dok je za analizu prenapona oporavka uzeto da je početni uvjet  $i(0) = I_{2M}$  (maksimalna inverzna struja), a napon na kapacitetu je  $u(0) = U < E$  [2].

Analizu je pogodno provesti u normiranom obliku, radi poopćenja rezultata pa se kao prvo definira bezdimenziono vrijeme  $\tau = \omega t$ . Kružna frekvencija  $\omega$  naknadno će biti određena. Nadomjesna shema (slika 1) može se opisati sljedećim jednadžbama:

Initial conditions for analysis of the voltage increase rate are  $i(0) = 0$  and  $u_{C_1}(0) = u(0) = 0$ , while for analysis of the recovery overvoltage it has been taken that the initial condition is  $i(0) = I_{2M}$  (maximal inverse current) and voltage at the capacitance is  $u(0) = U < E$  [2].

The analysis must be performed in a normized form, for generalization of results, therefore non-dimensional time  $\tau = \omega t$  is initially defined. Circular frequency  $\omega$  will be determined later. An equivalent scheme (Figure 1) can be described by the following equations:

$$\omega L \frac{di}{d\tau} + u = E, \quad (1)$$

$$i = i_1 + i_2, \quad (2)$$

$$i_1 = \frac{u}{R_1} + \omega C_1 \frac{du}{d\tau}, \quad (3)$$

$$u = R_2 i_2 + \frac{1}{\omega C_2} \int i_2 d\tau, \quad (4)$$

gdje je:

$E$  – istosmjerni napon,  
 $u$  – napon na tiristoru.

Primjenom Laplaceove transformacije na relacije (1) do (4) dobiva se da je normirani napon na tiristoru:

where:

$E$  – direct voltage,  
 $u$  – voltage at thyristor.

If the Laplace transformation is applied to the relation (1) to (4), the following normalized voltage is obtained at the thyristor:

$$\frac{U}{E} = \frac{b_3 p^3 + b_2 p^2 + b_1 p + 1}{p(a_3 p^3 + a_2 p^2 + a_1 p + 1)}, \quad (5)$$

gdje je:

where:

$$a_1 = \omega \left( \frac{L}{R_1} + R_2 C_2 \right), \quad (5a)$$

$$b_1 = \omega \left( \frac{Li(0)}{E} + R_2 C_2 \right), \quad (5b)$$

$$a_2 = \omega^2 LC_1 \left( 1 + \frac{C_1}{C_2} + \frac{R_1 C_1}{R_2 C_2} \right), \quad (5c)$$

$$b_2 = \omega^2 \left( \frac{Li(0)}{E} R_2 C_2 + LC_1 \frac{u(0)}{E} \right), \quad (5d)$$

$$a_3 = \omega^3 LC_1 R_2 C_2, \quad (5e)$$

$$b_3 = \omega^3 LC_1 R_2 C_2 \frac{u(0)}{E}. \quad (5f)$$

Za definiranje nepoznate frekvencije  $\omega$  pogodno je odabrati da član  $a_3$  karakteristične jednačbe (5) bude jednak jedinici ( $a_3 = 1$ ) pa slijedi:

For defining the unknown frequency  $\omega$  it is suitable to establish that the value of the member  $a_3$  of the characteristic equation is equal to one ( $a_3 = 1$ ), from which follows:

$$\omega^3 = \frac{1}{LC_1 R_2 C_2}. \quad (6)$$

Zbog pojednostavljenja i poopćavanja proračuna uvode se sljedeće supstitucije:

For simplification and generalization of the calculation, the following substitutions are introduced:

$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_1}}, \quad (7)$$

$$\rho = \sqrt{\frac{L}{C_1}}, \quad (8)$$

$$\delta = \frac{\rho}{R_1}, \quad (9)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\omega_0 Li(0)}{E} \quad \text{– faktor početne struje / initial current factor,} \quad (10)$$

$$\beta = \frac{u(0)}{E} \quad \text{– faktor početnog napona / initial voltage factor,} \quad (11)$$

a umjesto nepoznatih elemenata  $R_2$  i  $C_2$  sljedeći normirani parametri:

and, instead of the unknown elements  $R_2$  and  $C_2$ , the following normized parameters are introduced:

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{R_2}{\rho}, \quad (12)$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{C_2}{C_1}. \quad (13)$$

Karakteristična jednačba može se prikazati na sljedeći način:

The characteristic equation can be presented as follows:

$$p^3 + a_2 p^2 + a_1 p + 1 = (p + p_0) (p^2 + 2\zeta \omega_n p + \omega_n^2) = 0, \quad (14)$$

gdje je:

$\zeta$  – relativno prigušenje, a  
 $\omega_n$  – relativna kružna frekvencija.

Usporedbom koeficijenata relacije (14) slijedi da je:

where:

$\zeta$  – relative attenuation,  
 $\omega_n$  – relative circular frequency.

From comparison of the coefficients in the relation (14) it follows:

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$$p_0 = \frac{1}{\omega_n^2}, \quad (15)$$

$$a_1 = \omega_n^2 + \frac{2\zeta}{\omega_n}, \quad (16)$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{\omega_n^2} + 2\zeta\omega_n. \quad (17)$$

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Relativno prigušenje  $\zeta$  i relativna kružna frekvencija  $\omega_n$  ne mogu se jednostavno izraziti u ovisnosti o koeficijentima  $a_1$  i  $a_2$ . Radi daljnjeg pojednostavljenja proračuna uvode se sljedeće supstitucije:

Relative attenuation  $\zeta$  and relative circular frequency  $\omega_n$  cannot be unambiguously expressed in dependence on the coefficients  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ . For further simplification of the calculation, the following substitutions are introduced:

$$\lambda = \sqrt[3]{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}, \quad (18)$$

$$z = \frac{\lambda}{\omega_n}, \quad (19)$$

$$x = \omega_n \tau. \quad (20)$$

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Uzimajući u obzir dane supstitucije i izraze  $a_1$  i  $a_2$ , jednačbe (5), (15), (16) i (17), dobiju se sljedeće dvije jednačbe:

If the substitutions and expressions  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ , the equations (5), (15), (16) and (17), are taken into consideration, the following two equations are obtained:

$$\frac{\delta}{z\omega_n^3} + z^2 = \frac{2\zeta}{\omega_n^3} + 1, \quad (21)$$

$$\frac{1 + \lambda_2}{z^2 \omega_n^3} + \delta z = 2\zeta + \frac{1}{\omega_n^3}. \quad (22)$$

Iz jednadžbi (21) i (22) dobije se da je:

From the equations (21) and (22) it is obtained as follows:

$$\omega_n^3 = \frac{2\zeta z - \delta}{z(z^2 - 1)}, \quad (23)$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{(2\zeta - \delta z)(2\zeta z - \delta)}{z^2 - 1} z + z^2 - 1. \quad (24)$$

Danim supstitucijama nije izgubljeno ni jedno rješenje, a postiglo se da je relativna kružna frekvencija  $\omega_n$  izražena eksplicitno u ovisnosti o samo dvije varijable  $\zeta$  i  $z$ . Koeficijenti  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  i  $b_3$  u relaciji (5) mogu se također izraziti u ovisnosti o  $\zeta$  i  $z$  na sljedeći način:

None of the solutions has been lost due to the substitutions, whereas the relative circular frequency  $\omega_n$  is explicitly expressed in dependence of only two variables,  $\zeta$  and  $z$ . The coefficients  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  and  $b_3$  in the equation (5) can be also expressed in dependence of  $\zeta$  and  $z$  as follows:

$$\frac{b_1}{\omega_n^2} = \frac{\alpha}{z\omega_n^3} + z^2, \quad (25)$$

$$\frac{b_2}{\omega_n} = \alpha z + \frac{\beta}{z^2 \omega_n^3}, \quad (26)$$

$$b_3 = \beta. \quad (27)$$

Na taj način parametri jednadžbe (5) ovise o dvije varijable  $\zeta$  i  $z$  i tri faktora  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  i  $\delta$ .

The parameters of the equation (5) depend at the end on two variables  $\zeta$  and  $z$  and on three factors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$ .



### 3 ODREĐIVANJE PRVOG MAKSIMUMA NAPONA

Za određivanje prenapona oporavka kao i brzine porasta na tiristoru potrebno je odrediti prvi maksimum napona na tiristoru. Taj napon ovisi o faktorima  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  i  $\delta$  i varijablama  $\zeta$  i  $z$ , koje ovise o parametrima  $\lambda_1$  i  $\lambda_2$ . Iz karakteristične jednačbe (14) proizlazi da postoje četiri karakteristična slučaja. Za svaki slučaj se razmatra oblik napona  $u(\tau)$ .

1) Slučaj ( $\zeta < 1$ )

Izraz za normirani napon na tiristoru ima sljedeći oblik:

$$\frac{u}{E} = 1 + Ae^{-\alpha\omega_n^2} + e^{-\zeta x} [A_1 \sin mx + A_2 \cos mx]. \quad (28)$$

Izrazi za konstante  $A$ ,  $A_1$  i  $A_2$  su vrlo složeni pa ovdje nisu navedeni. Prvi maksimum se može približno odrediti iz drugog dijela jednačbe (28), a numeričkim postupkom se može točno odrediti taj maksimum.

2) Slučaj ( $\zeta = 1$ )

Traženi normirani napon ima oblik:

$$\frac{u}{E} = 1 + Ae^{-\alpha\omega_n^2} + e^{-x} [A_1 x + A_2], \quad (29)$$

čiji se prvi maksimum može približno odrediti iz drugog dijela jednačbe, a točno numeričkim postupkom.

3) Slučaj ( $\zeta = \omega_n = 1$ )

Traženi normirani napon je oblika:

$$\frac{u}{E} = 1 + e^{-\tau} + e^{-x} \left[ \frac{A_1 \tau^2}{2} + A_2 \tau + A_3 \right]. \quad (30)$$

Prvi maksimum se može točno odrediti iz relacije (30).

4) Slučaj ( $\zeta > 1$ )

### 3 DETERMINING OF THE FIRST VOLTAGE MAXIMUM

In order to determine the recovery overvoltage and increase rate at the thyristor, the first voltage maximum at the thyristor must be determined. This voltage depends on factors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  and variables  $\zeta$  and  $z$ , which depend on the parameters  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ . It is to be concluded, based on the characteristic equation (14), that there are four characteristic cases. For each case, the voltage form  $u(\tau)$  is considered.

1) Case ( $\zeta < 1$ )

The equation for the normized voltage on the thyristor is as follows:

The expressions for the constants  $A$ ,  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are very complex, and therefore they are not presented here. The first maximum can be approximately determined from the second part of the equation (28), this maximum can be exactly determined by means of a numerical method.

2) Case ( $\zeta = 1$ )

The subject normized voltage has the following form:

whose first maximum can be approximately determined from the second part of the equation, this maximum can be exactly determined by means of a numerical method.

3) Case ( $\zeta = \omega_n = 1$ )

The subject normized voltage has the following form:

The first maximum can be exactly determined from the equation (30).

4) Case ( $\zeta > 1$ )

Traženi normirani napon je:

The subject normized voltage is:

$$\frac{u}{E} = 1 + A e^{-\alpha \omega_0 z} + A_1 e^{s_1 z} + A_2 e^{s_2 z}, \quad (31)$$

gdje je:

where:

$$s_1 = \zeta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}, \quad (31a)$$

$$s_2 = \zeta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 + 1}. \quad (31b)$$

Prvi maksimum se može približno odrediti iz drugog dijela relacije (31), a točnu vrijednost numeričkim putem. Navedene konstante  $A$ ,  $A_1$  i  $A_2$  za pojedine slučajeve dane su u [9], kao i odgovarajući numerički postupak za određivanje prvog maksimuma.

The first maximum can be approximately determined from the second part of the equation (31), the exact value can be determined by means of a numerical method. The mentioned constants  $A$ ,  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  for particular cases are given in [9], as well as a numerical method for determining the first maximum.

#### 4 DIJAGRAMI MAKSIMALNOG NAPONA I ODGOVARAJUĆEG VREMENA PORASTA NAPONA

#### 4 DIAGRAMS OF MAXIMAL VOLTAGE AND RELATED VOLTAGE INCREASE TIME

Pri određivanju zaštite tiristora, prvo se definira strujna zaštita s induktivitetom  $L$ , a zatim se definira naponska zaštita preko  $R_2$  i  $C_2$ . Ta naponska zaštita ne smije dopustiti prekoračenje graničnog prenapona oporavka i granične brzine porasta napona na tiristoru. Postoji veliki broj parova  $R_2$  i  $C_2$  koji zadovoljavaju samo jednu vrijednost, a manji broj i drugu naponsku vrijednost. Za praktičnu primjenu potrebno je odrediti sljedeće normirane funkcije:

In determining the protection of the thyristor, the current protection with an inductance  $L$  must be determined first, afterwards the voltage protection is defined using  $R_2$  and  $C_2$ . The voltage protection will prevent the thyristor critical recovery voltage and critical voltage increase rate being exceeded. There are numerous pairs of values  $R_2$  and  $C_2$  that fulfil one value only, while fewer of them fulfil another value as well. The following normized functions will be determined for practical application:

– Normirani prenapon (prvi maksimum):

– Normized overvoltage (the first maximum):

$$M_n = \frac{U_m}{E} = f(\alpha, \beta, \delta, \zeta, z). \quad (32)$$

– Normirano vrijeme porasta prvog maksimuma:

– Normized increase time of the first maximum:

$$T_n = \omega_0 t_1 = z x_1 = g(\alpha, \beta, \delta, \zeta, z). \quad (33)$$

Obje definirane funkcije ovise o faktorima  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  i  $\delta$  i varijablama  $\zeta$  i  $z$ , koje ovise o parametrima  $\lambda_1$  i  $\lambda_2$ . Treba odrediti takav par  $\lambda_1$  i  $\lambda_2$  koji uz zadane faktore  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  i  $\delta$  zadovoljavaju normirane vrijednosti  $M_n$  i  $T_n$ . Tako se npr. funkcija  $f$  za razne vrijednosti  $M_n$  može prikazati u ravnini  $\lambda_1$  i  $\lambda_2$  kao familija krivulja. Na isti način može se prikazati i  $g$  funkcija. Na osnovu toga nacrtano je niz familija krivulja  $M_n$  i  $T_n$  u ovisnosti o parametrima  $\lambda_1$  i  $\lambda_2$  te različitim faktorima  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  i  $\delta$ . Na slici 2 prikazane su familije krivulja  $M_n$  i  $T_n$  za  $\delta = 0,01$ ,  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ .

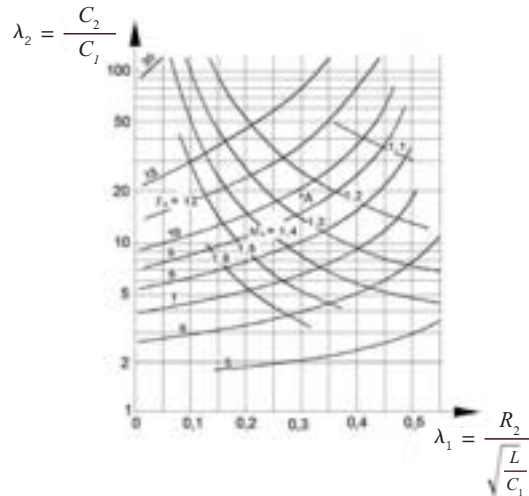
Both defined functions depend on the factors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  and on the variables  $\zeta$  and  $z$ , which depend on the parameters  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ . The pair of values  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  must be so determined that along with the specified factors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  they meet the normalized values  $M_n$  and  $T_n$ . For example, the function  $f$  for various values  $M_n$  can be presented in the plane  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  as a family of curves. The function  $g$  can be presented the same way. Based on this, a group of curves  $M_n$  and  $T_n$  has been plotted, dependent on the parameters  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  and on various factors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$ . The family of curves  $M_n$  and  $T_n$  for  $\delta = 0,01$ ,  $\alpha = \beta = 0$  is presented in Figure 2.

**Slika 2**

Normirani dijagrami prenapona oporavka  $M_n$  i vremena  $T_n$  za ( $\delta = 0,01$ ;  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ )

**Figure 2**

Normalized diagrams of the recovery overvoltage  $M_n$  and time  $T_n$  for ( $\delta = 0,01$ ;  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ )



## 5 IZBOR TIRISTORA I RC ZAŠTITE

### 5.1 Izbor tiristora i osnovni podaci

Izbor tiristora vezan je uz dobro poznavanje dinamike rada sklopa. Pri tome je potrebno uzeti u obzir niz navedenih specifičnih osobina tiristora kao što su: nominalna i dozvoljena vrijednost napona i struje, struja pridržavanja, vrijeme uključanja i odmaranja,  $du/dt$ ,  $di/dt$  itd.

Obično se poteškoće javljaju kod projektiranja pretvarača s višim frekvencijama. Povećanje radne frekvencije ograničeno je sljedećim faktorima: kritičnim vrijednostima brzine porasta direktnog napona ( $du/dt$ ) i struje uključanja ( $di/dt$ ), vremenom komutacije (uključanja i odmaranja) i gubitcima snage u tiristoru.

Operativnost tiristora u značajnoj mjeri ovisi o frekvenciji. Pri povišenim frekvencijama rastu komutacijski gubici, osobito gubici uključanja tiristora. Za pouzdan rad tiristora nužno je uskladiti gubitke u periodu komutacije s gubi-

## 5 SELECTION OF THYRISTOR AND RC PROTECTION

### 5.1 Selection of thyristor and basic data

The selection of the thyristor demands a thorough knowledge of the circuit operating dynamics. Many of the specified thyristor properties need to be taken into consideration here: nominal and allowed current and voltage, holding current, turn-on time and resting time,  $du/dt$ ,  $di/dt$  etc.

Difficulties usually occur when converters of higher frequencies are designed. Increase of operating frequency is limited by the following values: critical values of the direct voltage increase rate ( $du/dt$ ) and of the turn-on current increase rate ( $di/dt$ ), commutation time (turn-on and resting) and power losses in the thyristor.

The loadability of the thyristor depends on frequency to a significant degree. At higher frequencies commutation losses increase, particularly turn-on losses of the thyristor. For reliable operation of the thyristor, losses in the commutation period must

cima u periodu vođenja da ne dođe do većih temperaturnih oscilacija, zbog čega brže dolazi do umora materijala tiristora. Pojava umora, uvjetovana različitim temperaturnim koeficijentom širenja sastavnih dijelova tiristora, dovodi do uništenja tiristora nakon određenog broja ciklusa zagrijavanja i hlađenja. Pri tome svemu značajnu ulogu ima brzina porasta struje uključanja ( $di/dt$ ). Pravilnim izborom zaštite tiristora mogu se znatno smanjiti komutacijski gubici uključanja.

Svi navedeni parametri tiristora neće istodobno biti jednako kritični, a to ovisi o režimu rada. U tu svrhu izgrađeni su razni tipovi tiristora koji odgovaraju zahtjevima pojedinih vrsta pretvarača.

Tiristor 501PBQ110 proizvod IR izabran je za prikaz proračuna RC zaštite. Ne ulazeći u kompletnu analizu rada određenog pretvarača, treba odrediti RC zaštitu tiristora za sljedeće uvjete rada:

$$\frac{du}{dt} = 300 \frac{V}{\mu s},$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = 25 \frac{A}{\mu s},$$

$I_T = 250A$  – istosmjerna struja provođenja tiristora,

$E = 600V$  – istosmjerno.

Iz danih podataka lako se izračuna potrebni induktivitet  $L = E/(di/dt) = 24 \mu H$ .

Vrijednosti otpora  $R_1$  i  $C_1$  nije moguće jednoznačno odrediti jer se u nekim slučajevima, kao npr. kod serijskog spajanja tiristora, tiristoru dodaje paralelno otpor, a u kapacitet  $C_1$  treba uključiti i parazitni kapacitet spojnih vodova. Iz dimenzija tiristora procijenjeno je da je  $R_1$ , u oba smjera oko  $50 \Omega$ , a odgovarajući kapacitet  $C_1$  oko  $1nF$ .

## 5.2 Proračun RC zaštite za $du/dt$

Brzina skupljanja kritičnog napona u bazama ovisi i o obliku anodnog napona. Kritična ili granična vrijednost  $du/dt$  je ona vrijednost kod koje je tiristor još sposoban da blokira napon određene amplitude linearnog porasta. Ta se vrijednost određuje eksperimentalno. U realnim uvjetima valni oblik napona razlikuje se od ispitnog napona pa je potrebno utvrditi funkcionalnu vezu između eksperimentalno utvrđene kritične vrijednosti

be aligned with losses in the conducting period, in order to prevent significant temperature oscillations that speed up fatigue of the thyristor material. The fatigue, caused by different thermal expansion coefficients of the thyristor components, will after a certain number of warming-up and cooling-down cycles destroy the thyristor. In this, the turn-on current increase rate ( $di/dt$ ) plays an important role. Proper selection of the thyristor protection can contribute to a significant decrease of the commutation turn-on losses.

All the thyristor parameters mentioned will not be equally critical at the same time, it depends on the operating regime. For this purpose, many various types of thyristors meeting the demands of particular types of converters have been designed and produced.

The thyristor 501PBQ110 product IR has been selected for calculation of the RC protection. Without performing an overall analysis of operation for a certain converter, RC protection of the thyristor must be determined for the following operating conditions:

$$\frac{du}{dt} = 300 \frac{V}{\mu s},$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = 25 \frac{A}{\mu s},$$

$I_T = 250A$  – direct conducting current of the thyristor

$E = 600V$  – direct.

From the above data, the inductance  $L = E/(di/dt) = 24 \mu H$  is calculated.

The resistance values of  $R_1$  and  $C_1$  cannot be unambiguously determined, as in certain cases, e.g. when the thyristors are serially connected, the resistance is added in parallel to the thyristor and a parasitic capacitance of the connecting lines must be included in the capacitance  $C_1$ . From the thyristor dimensions, it is estimated that  $R_1$ , in both directions is about  $50 \Omega$ , the referring capacitance  $C_1$  is approximately  $1nF$ .

## 5.2 Calculation of RC protection for $du/dt$

The collection rate of the critical voltage in bases depends on the anode voltage form. A critical or boundary value  $du/dt$  is the value at which the thyristor is still capable of blocking the voltage of the specific linear increase amplitude. This value

$du/dt$  i  $du/dt$  kod stvarnog valnog oblika. Kritična vrijednost  $du/dt$  može se definirati kao:

$$\left(\frac{du}{dt}\right)_{kr} = k \frac{U_m}{t_1}, \quad (34)$$

gdje je:

$U_m$  – vršna vrijednost rastućeg napona,  
 $t$  – vrijeme kroz koje se postigne taj maksimalni napon,  
 $k$  – faktor korekcije.

Neki proizvođači ispituju brzinu porasta s eksponencijalnom funkcijom. Kritična brzina porasta napona definira se nagibom pravca koji prolazi kroz točku čija je vrijednost  $0,632 U_m$ . Može se smatrati da nakon tri vremenske konstante  $\tau$  eksponencijalna funkcija poprimi maksimalnu vrijednost pa je u ovom slučaju  $k_1 = 1,9$ .

U slučaju sinusnog ispitnog napona uzima se da je nagib određen pravcem koji prolazi kroz  $0,5 U_m$  pa je u tom slučaju  $k_2 = 1,5$ . Takva definicija najbliža je slučaju linearnog porasta napona jer postoji neznatno odstupanje.

Prilikom priključenja tiristora sklopa (slika 1) na napon  $E$ , napon na tiristoru raste od neke početne vrijednosti  $u(0)$  do prvog maksimuma  $U_m$  tokom vremena  $t_1$ . Na osnovi toga može se odrediti normirana brzina porasta napona na tiristoru:

$$\left(\frac{du}{dt}\right)_n = \frac{1}{k\omega_0 E} \frac{du}{dt} = \frac{M_n}{T_n} \quad (35)$$

Tako npr., ako je  $R_1 = 4,9 \text{ k}\Omega$  i  $C_1 = 10 \text{ nF}$  slijedi iz jednačbi (7), (8) i (9) da je  $\delta = 0,01$ , a početni napon i struja su nula, pa je  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ . Odgovarajuća familija krivulja  $T_n$  i  $M_n$  za navedene podatke prikazana je na slici 2. Uz dane podatke za  $E$  i  $du/dt$  i  $k = 1,9$  dobije se da je normirani napon  $(du/dt)_n = 0,129$ .

Ako se izabere da je normirani prenapon  $M_n = 1,26$  dobije se normirano vrijeme porasta  $T_n = 9,77 \text{ s}$ . Na slici 2 to je točka A iz čega proizlazi da je optimalna RC zaštita određena s  $R_2 = 14,7 \Omega$  i  $C_2 = 0,185 \mu\text{F}$ .

is experimentally determined. In real conditions, the voltage waveform differs from the test voltage, therefore functional relationship between the experimentally determined critical value  $du/dt$  and  $du/dt$  under the realistic waveform shall be found out. The critical value  $du/dt$  can be defined as follows:

where:

$U_m$  – peak value of the increasing voltage,  
 $t$  – time for obtaining the maximal voltage,  
 $k$  – correction factor.

Some manufacturers test the increase rate with an exponential function. The critical voltage increase rate is defined by the slope of the line passing through the point whose value is  $0,632 U_m$ . It can be considered that after the three time constants  $\tau$  the exponential function reaches the maximal value, therefore  $k_1 = 1,9$ .

In the case of the sine testing voltage, it is considered that the slope is determined by a line passing through  $0,5 U_m$ , therefore  $k_2 = 1,5$ . This definition is closest to the linear increase of voltage, as the deviation is insignificant.

When the thyristor circuit (Figure 1) is connected to the voltage  $E$ , the voltage at the thyristor increases from the initial value  $u(0)$  to the first maximum  $U_m$  during the time  $t_1$ . Based on this, the normalized voltage increase rate at the thyristor is:

For example, if  $R_1 = 4,9 \text{ k}\Omega$  and  $C_1 = 10 \text{ nF}$ , from equation (7), (8) and (9) it follows that  $\delta = 0,01$ , while the initial voltage and current are equal to zero, therefore  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ . The referring curve family  $T_n$  and  $M_n$  for the specified data is presented on Figure 2. With the given values for  $E$  and  $du/dt$  and  $k = 1,9$ , the normalized voltage  $(du/dt)_n = 0,129$  is obtained.

If the normalized overvoltage  $M_n = 1,26$  is selected, the normalized increase time  $T_n = 9,77 \text{ s}$  is obtained. In Figure 2 it is the point A, which implies that the optimal RC protection is defined by  $R_2 = 14,7 \Omega$  and  $C_2 = 0,185 \mu\text{F}$ .

Na temelju numeričke analize u [9] došlo se do zaključka da na izbor elemenata RC zaštite ne utječe otpor  $R_1 \geq 4,9 \text{ k}\Omega$ , dok je utjecaj kapaciteta  $C_1$  očit. Treba imati na umu da kapacitet inverzno polarizirane barijere opada s porastom napona.

Proizvođač za promatrani tiristor daje sljedeće vrijednosti za RC zaštitu:  $R_2 = 15 \text{ }\Omega$ ,  $C_2 = 0,2 \text{ }\mu\text{F}$ , dok prema [5] slijedi da je:  $R_2 = 11,8 \text{ }\Omega$  i  $C_2 = 0,175 \text{ }\mu\text{F}$ . Treba istaći da je dobra podudarnost rezultata provedene analize i rezultata dobivenih iz [5] samo u području najmanje osjetljivosti na paraziti kapacitet  $C_1$ , koji nije uzet u obzir u [5].

### 5.3 Prenapon u inverznom režimu rada tiristora

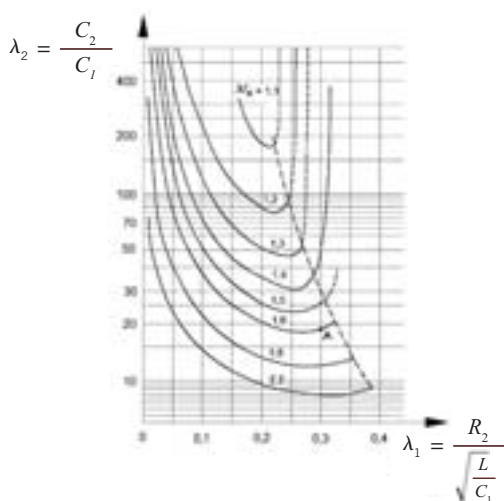
Analiza u inverznom režimu rada provedena je na istoj shemi (slika 1). Budući da oscilacije u inverznom režimu rada započnu u trenutku kada inverzna struja dosegne svoj maksimum  $I_{RM}$  [1], za navedeni tiristor ta struja je  $I_{RM} = 55 \text{ A}$ , tako da faktor početne struje  $\alpha$  u ovom slučaju nije jednak nuli. U [9] je numerički prikazano da faktor početne struje  $\alpha$  ima dominantan utjecaj na iznos prenapona, dok je faktor početnog napona  $\beta$  zanemariv, jer se dobivaju gotovo iste vrijednosti za  $\beta = 0$  i  $\beta = 1$ . Također je pokazano da otpor  $R_1 \geq 4,9 \text{ k}\Omega$  nema utjecaja, dok kapacitet  $C_1$  znatno utječe jer s porastom kapaciteta  $C_1$  raste inverzni prenapon. Zbog toga radnu točku treba izabrati tako da je RC zaštita što manje osjetljiva na promjena kapaciteta  $C_1$ .

Based on the results of the numerical analysis in [9] it has been concluded that the resistance  $R_1 \geq 4,9 \text{ k}\Omega$  does not affect the selection of elements of RC protection, whereas the influence of the capacitance  $C_1$  is evident. It must be taken into consideration that the capacitance of the inversely polarized barrier decreases with the increase of voltage.

For the observed thyristor, the manufacturer gives the following values for RC protection:  $R_2 = 15 \text{ }\Omega$ ,  $C_2 = 0,2 \text{ }\mu\text{F}$ , while in accordance with [5] the values are as follows:  $R_2 = 11,8 \text{ }\Omega$  and  $C_2 = 0,175 \text{ }\mu\text{F}$ . It is to be emphasized that the compliance of the results of the performed analysis and the results obtained from [5] is good only in the range where susceptibility to the parasitic capacitance  $C_1$ , which has not been taken into account in [5], is lowest.

### 5.3 Overvoltage in the thyristor inverse operating regime

The analysis in an inverse operating regime was performed in line with the same scheme (Figure 1). As the oscillations in an inverse operating regime start at the moment when the inverse current reaches its maximum value  $I_{RM}$  [1], the current value for the subject thyristor is  $I_{RM} = 55 \text{ A}$ , therefore the initial current factor  $\alpha$  in this case is not equal to zero. In [9] it is numerically presented that the initial current factor  $\alpha$  has a predominant influence on the overvoltage value, whereas the initial voltage factor  $\beta$  is negligible, as almost the same values are obtained for  $\beta = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$ . It is also shown that the resistance  $R_1 \geq 4,9 \text{ k}\Omega$  has no influence, whereas the influence of capacitance  $C_1$  is significant, as an increase of the capacitance  $C_1$  affects an increase of the inverse overvoltage. Therefore the operating point needs to be chosen so that RC protection is susceptible to a change of the capacitance  $C_1$  as little as possible.



**Slika 3**  
 Normirani dijagram inverznog prenapona  $M_n$  ( $\delta = 0,01$ ,  $\alpha = 4,49$  i  $\beta = 0$ )  
**Figure 3**  
 Normized diagram of the inverse overvoltage  $M_n$  ( $\delta = 0,01$ ,  $\alpha = 4,49$  and  $\beta = 0$ )

Na slici 3 dana je familija krivulja normiranog prenapona  $M_n$  za sljedeće faktore  $\delta = 0,01$ ,  $\alpha = 4,49$  i  $\beta = 0$ . Za već izabrane parametre zaštite slijedi da je u ovom slučaju normirani prenapon  $M_n = 1,6$  (točka A), dok je za izabrani tiristor dopuštena vrijednost  $M_n = 2$ . Pomoću metode dane u [1] dobije se za dati prenapon da je  $R_2 = 13,2 \Omega$ ,  $C_2 = 0,2 \mu\text{F}$ . Treba istaći da je ta analiza provedena pod pretpostavkom da struja oporavka trenutno pada na nulu, a da napon prepolarizacije ima skok, što ne odgovara stvarnosti.

## 6 ZAKLJUČAK

Posebno je važna primjena zaštite tiristora pri pretvaranju istosmjernje struje u izmjeničnu, visoke frekvencije i velike snage, npr. kod pretvarača za indukcijsko grijanje, vjetroelektrane i dr.

Prigušenje prenapona oporavka i brzine porasta napona na tiristoru postiže se RC zaštitom, a ograničenje brzine porasta struje ograničuje se induktivitetom. U radu je pokazano da izbor zaštite tiristora ovisi i o parametrima tiristora. Posebno je ukazano da na optimalni izbor RC zaštite u znatnoj mjeri utječe kapacitet inverzno polarizirane barijere kao i paralelni parazitni kapacitet spojnih vodova. To se može izbjeći tako da se bira radna točka u kojoj je osjetljivost na promjenu parazitnih kapaciteta zanemariva. Numerički postupak je složen, ali se može napraviti niz dijagrama za karakteristične faktore  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  i  $\delta$  čime se postupak izbora optimalnih parametara RC zaštite pojednostavljuje.

The curve family of the normalized overvoltage  $M_n$  for the following factors  $\delta = 0,01$ ,  $\alpha = 4,49$  i  $\beta = 0$  is provided on Figure 3. For the selected parameters of protection, the normalized overvoltage in this case is  $M_n = 1,6$  (point A), whereas the allowed value for the chosen thyristor is  $M_n = 2$ . Using the method provided in [1], for the given overvoltage, the following values are obtained  $R_2 = 13,2 \Omega$ ,  $C_2 = 0,2 \mu\text{F}$ . It is to emphasize that this analysis has been performed under the assumption that the recovery current falls to zero momentarily, whereas there is a jump of the repolarization voltage, which is not in accordance with the actual situation.

## 6 CONCLUSION

Application of thyristor protection is particularly important for conversion of direct current into alternating current, for high frequencies and high powers, e.g. for the induction heating converters, wind power plants, etc.

Attenuation of the recovery voltage and of the voltage increase rate at the thyristor is achieved by RC protection, whereas the current increase rate is limited by inductance. It is presented in the paper that the thyristor parameters affect the selection of the thyristor protection. It is particularly emphasized that capacitance of the inversely polarized barrier, as well as parasitic capacitance of the connecting lines, have a significant impact on optimal selection of RC protection. It can be avoided by selection of the operating point where sensitivity to change of the parasitic capacities is negligible. The numerical procedure is complex, but referring diagrams for characteristic factors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  can be made, which significantly simplifies the selection procedure for the optimal parameters of RC protection.

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Uredništvo primilo rukopis:  
2006-11-29

Manuscript received on:  
2006-11-29

Prihvaćeno:  
2006-12-12

Accepted on:  
2006-12-12