

TECHNICAL REPORT

IEC TR 60909-1

Second edition
2002-07

Short-circuit currents in three-phase a.c. systems –

Part 1: Factors for the calculation of short-circuit currents according to IEC 60909-0

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD	11
1 General	15
1.1 Scope and object.....	15
1.2 Reference documents.....	15
1.3 Application of the factors	15
1.3.1 Factor c	15
1.3.2 Factors K_G and K_S or K_{SO}	15
1.3.3 Factors $K_{G,S}$, $K_{T,S}$ or $K_{G,SO}$, $K_{T,SO}$	15
1.3.4 Factor K_T	15
1.3.5 Factor κ	17
1.3.6 Factors μ , λ and q	17
1.3.7 Factors m and n	17
1.3.8 Contribution of asynchronous motors to the initial symmetrical short-circuit current.....	17
1.4 Symbols, subscripts and superscripts	17
1.4.1 Symbols.....	17
1.4.2 Subscripts.....	19
1.4.3 Superscripts.....	19
2 Factors used in IEC 60909-0	19
2.1 Voltage factor c for the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location	19
2.1.1 General.....	19
2.1.2 Calculation methods.....	21
2.1.3 Equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location and voltage factor c	21
2.1.4 A simple model illustrating the meaning of the voltage factor c	23
2.2 Impedance-correction factors when calculating the short-circuit impedances of generators, unit transformers and power-station units.....	31
2.2.1 General.....	31
2.2.2 Correction factor K_G	33
2.2.3 Correction factors for power station units with on-load tap changer	37
2.2.4 Correction factors for power station units without on-load tap-changer	59
2.2.5 Influence of the impedance correction factor for power-station units when calculating short-circuit currents in meshed networks and maximum short-circuit currents at worst-case load flow	67
2.3 Impedance correction factor K_T when calculating the short-circuit impedances of network transformers	73
2.3.1 General.....	73
2.3.2 Example for a network transformer $S_{rT} = 300$ MVA	75
2.3.3 Statistical examination of 150 network transformers.....	83
2.3.4 Impedance correction factors for network transformers in meshed networks	85

2.4	Factor κ for the calculation of the peak short-circuit current	89
2.4.1	General.....	89
2.4.2	Factor κ in series R-L-circuits	89
2.4.3	Factor κ of parallel R-L-Z branches.....	95
2.4.4	Calculation of the peak short-circuit current i_p in meshed networks.....	101
2.4.5	Example for the calculation of κ and i_p in meshed networks.....	105
2.5	Factor μ for the calculation of the symmetrical short-circuit breaking current	107
2.5.1	General.....	107
2.5.2	Basic concept.....	109
2.5.3	Calculation of the symmetrical short-circuit breaking current I_b with the factor μ	113
2.6	Factor λ (λ_{\max} , λ_{\min}) for the calculation of the steady-state short-circuit current	119
2.6.1	General.....	119
2.6.2	Influence of iron saturation.....	121
2.7	Factor q for the calculation of the short-circuit breaking current of asynchronous motors	127
2.7.1	General.....	127
2.7.2	Derivation of factor q	129
2.7.3	Short-circuit breaking currents in the case of unbalanced short circuits.....	135
2.8	Factors m and n for the calculation of the Joule integral or the thermal equivalent short-circuit current	137
2.8.1	General.....	137
2.8.2	Time-dependent three-phase short-circuit current	139
2.8.3	Factor m	139
2.8.4	Factor n	141
2.8.5	Factor n in IEC 60909-0, figure 22.....	143
2.9	Statement of the contribution of asynchronous motors or groups of asynchronous motors (equivalent motors) to the initial symmetrical short-circuit current	147
2.9.1	General.....	147
2.9.2	Short circuit at the terminals of asynchronous motors.....	147
2.9.3	Partial short-circuit currents of asynchronous motors fed through transformers.....	149
2.9.4	Sum of partial short-circuit currents of several groups of asynchronous motors fed through several transformers	153
	Bibliography.....	159
	Figure 1 – Model for the calculation of the coherence between the voltage deviation Δu and the short-circuit current deviation $\Delta i_k''$	23
	Figure 2 – Calculation of $\Delta i_k''$ according to equation (8) for different parameters.....	29
	Figure 3 – Partial short-circuit current $I_{kG(S)}''$ of a generator directly connected to a network	33
	Figure 4 – Calculation of $I_{kG(S)}''$ with the superposition method.....	35
	Figure 5 – Partial symmetrical short-circuit current I_{kS}'' of a power station unit S, at the high-voltage side of a unit transformer with on-load tap-changer	39
	Figure 6 – Simulation of a power station unit with on-load tap-changer	41
	Figure 7 – Partial short-circuit current of a power station unit found with the superposition method.....	45
	Figure 8 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations calculated with equation (33) [22] and [23].....	47

Figure 9 – Power station unit with on-load tap changer and auxiliary transformer F1, F2, F3: short-circuit locations ($I''_{kMF1} = I''_{kMF2}$).....	49
Figure 10 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations $\Delta_{G(v)}$ according to equation (39) for partial short-circuit currents of generators in 47 power station units with on-load tap changer [23]. Short circuit location $F1$ in figure 9.....	53
Figure 11 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations $\Delta_{T(v)}$ according to equation (42) for the partial short-circuit currents of unit transformers in 47 power station units with on-load tap-changer [23]. Short-circuit location $F1$ in figure 9.	55
Figure 12 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations $\Delta_{T(v)}$ according to equation (42), see figure 11, for the calculation of $I''_{kT(S)}$ if only overexcited operation is anticipated [23]	57
Figure 13 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations $\Delta_{F2(v)}$ according to equation (46) for the partial short-circuit current I''_{kF2} (figure 9) in the case of over- or under-excited operation before the short circuit.....	59
Figure 14 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations calculated with equation (50) [22] and [23]	61
Figure 15 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations calculated with equation (39) for 27 generators of power station units without on-load tap changer	63
Figure 16 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations calculated with equation (42) for 27 unit transformers of power station units without on-load tap changer.....	65
Figure 17 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations calculated with equation (46) for the partial short-circuit current I''_{kF2} (figure 9) of power station units without on-load tap changer.....	67
Figure 18 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations Δ [13].....	71
Figure 19 – Calculation of $I''_{kT(S)} = I''^b + I''_{kTU}^b$ with the superposition method [19] and [25] ...	75
Figure 20 – Short-circuit currents $I''_{kT(S)}$ depending on t , U^b and S''_{kQ} for the network transformer $S_{rT} = 300$ MVA (data see text).....	77
Figure 21 – Deviations Δ_{NT} calculated with equation (64) for the transformer $S_{rT} = 300$ MVA.....	81
Figure 22 – Cumulative frequency H of the deviations Δ_{NT} calculated with equation (64) 1: $K_T = 1,0$; 2: K_T according to equation (63) with $I_T^b / I_{rT} = 1$	85
Figure 23 – Calculation of the factor κ in the case of a single-fed three-phase short circuit (series R-L-circuit).....	91
Figure 24 – Factor κ and t_p ($f = 50$ Hz) as a function of R/X or X/R	95
Figure 25 – Equivalent circuit diagram for the calculation of κ in case of two parallel branches (positive-sequence system).....	97
Figure 26 – Factor κ for the calculation of $i_p = \kappa \sqrt{2} I_k''$ for the case of two parallel branches as shown in figure 25, with $Z_I = Z_{II}$, $0,005 \leq R_I/X_I \leq 1,0$ and $0,005 \leq R_{II}/X_{II} \leq 10,0$	99
Figure 27 – Deviations $\Delta\kappa_a$, $\Delta(1,15 \kappa_b)$ and $\Delta\kappa_c$ from the exact value κ with $0,005 \leq Z_I/Z_{II} \leq 1,0$ for the configuration of figure 25.....	101
Figure 28 – Example for the calculation of κ and i_p with the methods a), b) and c) (IEC 60909-0, 4.3.1.2).....	105
Figure 29 – Network configuration (single fed short circuit) and relevant data to demonstrate the decay of the symmetrical a.c. component of a near-to-generator short circuit.....	111

Figure 30 – Decay of the symmetrical short-circuit current (factor μ) based on test measurements and calculations [5]	117
Figure 31 – Characteristic saturation curve method to find the Potier reactance X_p in accordance with [4]	123
Figure 32 – Equivalent circuit with the source voltage $E_0(I_f)$ and the Potier reactance X_p	123
Figure 33 – Factor q from measured and calculated values of $I_{bM} = \mu q I_{kM}''$, equation (91), at different values t_{min} in comparison to $q = q_{IEC}$ (IEC 60909-0, figure 17)	129
Figure 34 – Time functions μ , q , μq and $e^{-t/T_{AC}}$ for the calculation of the symmetrical short-circuit breaking current $I_{bM} = \mu q I_{kM}''$ in the case of a short circuit at the terminals of an asynchronous motor	131
Figure 35 – Effective time constants T_{AC} for the determination of the symmetrical short-circuit breaking current I_{bM} and in comparison $T_{\mu q} = -t_{min}/\ln(\mu q)_{IEC}$	135
Figure 36 – Time function I_{bM} / I_{kM}'' in the case of a balanced short circuit (I_{b3M} / I_{kM}'') and a line-to-line short circuit (I_{b2M} / I_{kM}'') at the terminals of an asynchronous motor	137
Figure 37 – Contribution of one asynchronous motor or a group of asynchronous motors to the initial symmetrical short-circuit current $I_k'' = I_{kQ}'' + I_{kM}''$	147
Figure 38 – Example for the estimation of the partial short-circuit current I_{kM}'' supplied by a single asynchronous motor or an equivalent motor	149
Figure 39 – Partial short-circuit currents from several groups of asynchronous motors fed through several transformers (see text for restrictive conditions)	153
Figure 40 – Investigation of the left and right side of equation (118) to determine the deviation Δ according to equation (120): $u_{kr} = 0,06 \Rightarrow 6\%$, $I_{LR} / I_{rM} = 5$ for both the transformers and motor groups	157
Table 1 – Voltages and currents before the short circuit at the low-voltage side of the network transformers	83
Table 2 – Results of calculations in meshed high-voltage networks with impedance correction factors for power station units and with K_T according to equation (65) for the deviations Δ from equation (66) [19]	87
Table 3 – Values of κ for the example in figure 28	107
Table 4 – Data of low-voltage and medium-voltage asynchronous motors (50 Hz) and calculated values	133
Table 5 – Data for the model generator [15]	143

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENTS IN THREE-PHASE AC SYSTEMS –**Part 1: Factors for the calculation of short-circuit currents
according to IEC 60909-0**

FOREWORD

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Technical reports do not necessarily have to be reviewed until the data they provide are considered to be no longer valid or useful by the maintenance team.

IEC 60909-1, which is a technical report, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 73: Short-circuit currents.

This technical report shall be read in conjunction with IEC 60909-0.

The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
73/120/DTR	73/125/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical report can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

This document, which is purely informative, is not to be regarded as an International Standard.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2010. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
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SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENTS IN THREE-PHASE AC SYSTEMS –

Part 1: Factors for the calculation of short-circuit currents according to IEC 60909-0

1 General

1.1 Scope and object

This part of IEC 60909 is a technical report applicable to short-circuit currents in three-phase a.c. systems. This technical report aims at showing the origin and the application, as far as necessary, of the factors used to meet the demands of technical precision and simplicity when calculating short-circuit currents according to IEC 60909-0.

Thus this technical report is an addition to IEC 60909-0. It does not, however, change the basis for the standardized calculation procedure given in IEC 60909-0.

NOTE References are given in some cases to offer additional help, not to change the procedure laid down in the standard.

1.2 Reference documents

IEC 60038:1983, *IEC standard voltages*

IEC 60909-0:2001, *Short-circuit currents in three-phase a.c. systems – Part 0: Calculation of currents*

IEC/TR 60909-2:1992, *Electrical equipment – Data for short-circuit current calculations in accordance to IEC 60909 (1988)*

IEC/TR 60909-4:2000, *Short-circuit currents in three-phase a.c. systems – Part 4: Examples for the calculation of short-circuit currents*

1.3 Application of the factors

1.3.1 Factor c

The voltage factors c_{\max} and c_{\min} are used together with the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location in order to calculate maximum and minimum initial short-circuit currents (see 2.1).

1.3.2 Factors K_G and K_S or K_{S0}

The impedance correction factors K_G and K_S or K_{S0} are introduced when calculating the short-circuit impedances of generators and power station units (with or without on-load tap changer) (see 2.2).

1.3.3 Factors $K_{G,S}$, $K_{T,S}$ or $K_{G,S0}$, $K_{T,S0}$

The impedance correction factors $K_{G,S}$, $K_{T,S}$ or $K_{G,S0}$, $K_{T,S0}$ are introduced when calculating the partial short-circuit currents in case of a short circuit between generator and unit transformer (with or without on-load tap changer) of a power station unit (see 2.2.3.2 or 2.2.4.2).

1.3.4 Factor K_T

The impedance correction factor K_T is used when calculating the short-circuit impedances of network transformers (see 2.3).

1.3.5 Factor κ

The peak short-circuit current is calculated by using this factor (see 2.4).

1.3.6 Factors μ , λ and q

Factors used when calculating the decay of the a.c. component of the short-circuit current of a near-to-generator or a near-to-asynchronous-motor short circuit (see 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7).

1.3.7 Factors m and n

The factors m and n are used for the calculation of the Joule integral or the thermal equivalent short-circuit current (see 2.8).

1.3.8 Contribution of asynchronous motors to the initial symmetrical short-circuit current

Derivation and validity of relevant equations for checking the contribution of asynchronous motors or groups of asynchronous motors to the initial symmetrical short-circuit current (see 2.9).

1.4 Symbols, subscripts and superscripts

The following symbols, subscripts and superscripts are used in addition to those already defined in IEC 60909-0.

1.4.1 Symbols

E	Voltage behind the synchronous direct axis reactance X_d of a synchronous machine
E'	Voltage behind the transient direct axis reactance X_d' of a synchronous machine
E''	Voltage behind the subtransient direct axis reactance X_d'' of a synchronous machine
E_Q''	Subtransient voltage behind the impedance of a network feeder connected at Q
$E_0(I_f)$	Terminal voltage of a saturated synchronous machine at no-load ($I_G = 0$)
I^b	Branch current (load current) before the short circuit
I_f	Field current of a synchronous machine
$i_k(t)$	Time-dependent short-circuit current
I_{kUb}''	Initial symmetrical short-circuit current caused by the voltage $-U^b$, when calculating short-circuit currents using the superposition method
p_G or p_T	Relative values to define the region for the variation of terminal voltages, for instance $U_G = U_{rG} (1 \pm p_G)$ or $U_{THV} = U_{rTHV} (1 \pm p_T)$
T_{AC}	AC time constant of an asynchronous motor
T_N''	Mean value of the time constants T_{dN}'' and T_{qN}''
$T_{\mu q}$	Time constant calculated with the product μq (see 2.7.2)
t_p	Time duration from the beginning of a short circuit until the peak short-circuit current
U^b	Voltage at the short-circuit location before the short circuit
X_p	Potier reactance
Y	Admittance
γ	Impedance angle
Δ	Deviation
φ_U	Voltage angle

1.4.2 Subscripts

0	No load (T_{d0}'')
a	Approximation
ad	Admissible
d	Direct axis
e	Exact
f	Field of the synchronous machine
IEC	according to IEC 60909-0, for example $K_{S(IEC)}$
i	Internal
L	Load
MAX	Maximum (short-circuit current at worst-case load flow)
N	Network
q	Quadrature axis
S	Superposition method
*	Per unit quantity

1.4.3 Superscripts

b	Before
'	Transient
"	Subtransient

2 Factors used in IEC 60909-0

2.1 Voltage factor c for the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location

2.1.1 General

The magnitude of a short-circuit current in a three-phase a.c. system (maximum or minimum short-circuit current) at any location depends primarily on the network configuration, the generators or power-station units and the motors in operation and secondarily on the operational stage of the network before the short circuit.

The variations during operation in a three-phase a.c. system are very large. Therefore, it is difficult to find the special load flow that leads either to a maximum or to a minimum short-circuit current at the different locations of the network. In a given system, there are as many different short-circuit current magnitudes as there are possible different load-flow conditions for every location. Normally, extreme load-flow cases are not empirically known.

IEC 60909-0 therefore recommends a calculation method with the equivalent voltage source $cU_n / \sqrt{3}$ at the short-circuit location. This method, described in IEC 60909-0, is an approximation method without special conditions of operation. The aim of this standard is to find the maximum short-circuit currents with sufficient accuracy, mainly taking into account safety aspects and as far as possible economical aspects.

During the planning stage of a network, the different future load-flow conditions are unknown. Therefore, the equivalent voltage source $cU_n / \sqrt{3}$ is based on the nominal system voltage U_n and the voltage factor $c = c_{\max}$ or $c = c_{\min}$ for the calculation of the maximum or the minimum short-circuit currents. These factors c are given in table 1 of IEC 60909-0. The introduction of a voltage factor c is necessary for various reasons (IEC 60909-0, 1.3.15). These are:

- voltage variation depending on time and place;
- changing of transformer taps;

- neglecting loads and capacitances by calculating according to IEC 60909-0 (see 2.3.1);
- the subtransient behaviour of generators, power-station units and motors.

The meaning of the voltage factor c is illustrated for a simple model of a radial network in 2.1.4. Furthermore, results of extended calculations given in 2.2.5 and 2.3.4 demonstrate the possible deviations of calculations with the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location against the worst-case values found with a special procedure using the superposition method.

2.1.2 Calculation methods

In principle, there are two methods for the calculation of the initial symmetrical short-circuit current at the short-circuit location (IEC 60909-0, figures 1 and 2):

- the superposition method, derived from Helmholtz's or Thevenin's principle;
- the method using the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location (see 2.1.3).

Examples for the superposition method are given in 2.2 and 2.3. There the results of the superposition method are compared with the results found with the method using the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location.

If a certain load flow in an existing network is known, then it is possible to calculate the initial symmetrical short-circuit current with the superposition method, but this method gives the short-circuit current only related to the load flow presupposed. Therefore, it does not necessarily lead to the maximum short-circuit current. The reason is that for one short-circuit location there are as many short-circuit currents as load-flow conditions without exceeding the boundary conditions of voltages and currents during normal operation, even if the same operational voltage at the short-circuit location is given.

To overcome this problem and to find the worst-case load flow that leads to the maximum short-circuit current at one short-circuit location, a special method was developed by varying the operation conditions [9], [13], [26]¹⁾. Further information is given in 2.2.5 and 2.3.4.

2.1.3 Equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location and voltage factor c

The procedure for the calculation of the initial symmetrical short-circuit current using the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location is described in IEC 60909-0. This method, which is normally based only on the rated data of electrical equipment, is an essential simplification compared to the superposition method or a transient calculation, because also in this case it is necessary to know the load-flow conditions before the short circuit.

Using this simplified procedure, the equivalent voltage source $cU_n / \sqrt{3}$ at the short-circuit location is the only active voltage in the positive-sequence system. All network feeders, synchronous machines and asynchronous motors are short-circuited behind their internal (subtransient) reactances (IEC 60909-0, 3.6.1). All the shunt capacitances and the shunt admittances (loads), except those of the motors, are to be omitted in the positive- and the negative-sequence system (IEC 60909-0, 2.3). Capacitances of the zero-sequence system are to be considered in general. The zero-sequence capacitances are to be omitted in low-voltage systems and in high-voltage effectively grounded systems (i.e. earth fault factor $\delta \leq 1,4$). Special considerations are necessary in high-voltage networks with long-distance lines and, of course, in the case of isolated neutral or resonant earthed networks (IEC 60909-0, 1.1). An example for the application of the calculation using the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location F is given in IEC 60909-0, figure 4.

¹⁾ The figures in square brackets refer to the bibliography.

The factor c_{\max} or c_{\min} is introduced according to table 1 of IEC 60909-0. Corresponding to c_{\max} or c_{\min} special conditions are introduced for the calculation of the maximum and minimum short-circuit currents (see IEC 60909-0, 2.4 and 2.5). The introduction of the voltage factor c aims at finding a short-circuit current, for instance, a maximum short-circuit current, as near as possible to the real value. Using the impedance correction factors (IEC 60909-0, 3.3.3, 3.6.1, 3.7.1 and 3.7.2) together with the voltage factor c realistic values even for the partial short-circuit currents shall be obtained, even though compromises are necessary to a certain extent (see 2.2.5).

The following clause deals with the reliability of the method using the equivalent voltage source at the short-circuit location and gives the fundamental relation between the admissible or usual relative voltage drops Δu and the maximum possible deviation $\Delta i_k''$ and furthermore the dependence of the factor c_{\max} from the voltage $U_{Q\max}$.

2.1.4 A simple model illustrating the meaning of the voltage factor c

The following simple model in figure 1 illustrates the fundamental meaning of the voltage factor c in the case of a non-meshed radial network, for instance, in a distribution network. Complex models and their calculation results used to find the coherence between the relative voltage deviations Δu and the voltage factor c are given in [10] and [17].

The positive-sequence system of the model in figure 1a is given in figure 1b. It is presumed that the voltage U_Q at the beginning of the line is constant ($I_{kQ}'' \Rightarrow \infty$). The load is concentrated and simulated by the shunt impedance Z_A at the variable location A between the line impedances αZ_L and $(1-\alpha)Z_L$ with $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$.

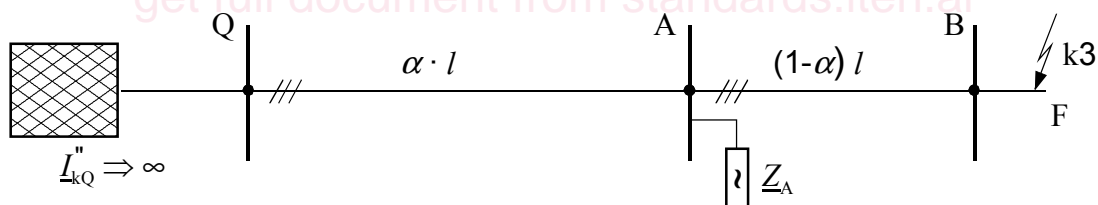


Figure 1a – Three-phase a.c. model (non-meshed radial network)

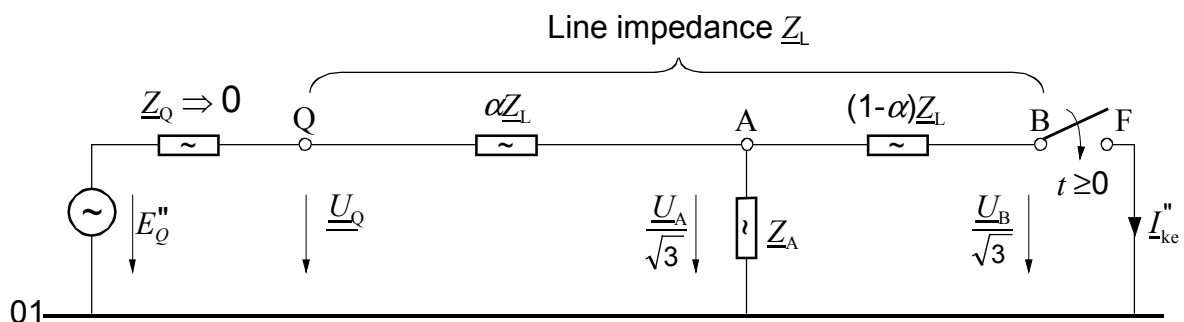


Figure 1b – Equivalent circuit diagram, positive-sequence system, before the short circuit at F

Figure 1 – Model for the calculation of the coherence between the voltage deviation Δu and the short-circuit current deviation $\Delta i_k''$

It shall be shown that the short-circuit current deviation $\Delta i_k''$ depends on the voltage deviation Δu . The following definitions are used:

$$\Delta u = \left| \frac{U_Q}{U_B} \right| - 1 \quad (1)$$

$$\Delta i_k'' = \left| \frac{I_{ka}''}{I_{ke}''} \right| - 1 \quad (2)$$

where

a is the subscript for the approximation of the short-circuit current when Z_A is neglected;

e is the subscript for the exact value of the short-circuit current when Z_A is taken into account.

The following equation, giving the voltage conditions before the short circuit, can be derived from figure 1b if U_Q is taken as a constant value:

$$U_Q = U_A (1 + \alpha Z_L Y_A) = U_B (1 + \alpha Z_L Y_A) \quad (3)$$

with $U_A = U_B$ (see figure 1b) and $Y_A = 1/Z_A$.

Using equation (3) the voltage deviation can be expressed as follows:

$$\Delta u = \left| \frac{U_Q}{U_B} \right| - 1 = \left| 1 + \alpha Z_L Y_A \right| - 1 \quad (4)$$

The exact value of the initial symmetrical short-circuit current can be calculated with the help of figure 1b:

$$I_{ke}'' = I_Q \cdot \frac{1}{1 + (1 - \alpha) Z_L Y_A} \quad (5a)$$

with

$$I_Q = \frac{U_Q}{\sqrt{3} Z_L} \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha + \frac{(1 - \alpha)}{1 + (1 - \alpha) Z_L Y_A}} \quad (5b)$$

Introducing I_Q from equation (5b) to equation (5a) leads to

$$I_{ke}'' = \frac{U_Q}{\sqrt{3} Z_L} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \alpha(1 - \alpha) Z_L Y_A} \quad (6)$$

The approximation I_{ka}'' is found from figure 1b with $Z_A = \infty$ (or $Y_A = 0$) and the voltage U_B at the prospective short-circuit location, using equation (3):

$$I_{ka}'' = \frac{U_B}{\sqrt{3} Z_L} = \frac{U_Q}{\sqrt{3} Z_L} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \alpha Z_L Y_A} \quad (7)$$