

DIGITAL COMPUTERS IN POWER SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

by

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INTRODUCTION

In these days of "competition" power industry is not free from the problems of optimum generation, transmission, distribution, and other cost problems. The more the demand for power, the more are the problems of "improved production economy" and "reassignment of technical personnel". Time is another very important factor to be considered. Many utilities have started the use of computers for on-line jobs for better system performance, and at the same time to free the technical staff to concentrate on more important problems involving the power of the human brain.

Computers may be used directly to obtain automatic economic operation of a power pool formed by several areas, if the several areas are considered as one. In this application the net interchange of each area is not directly controlled, but results from the scheduling of the pool generation to obtain equal incremental cost of delivered power for the pool. It is possible to use individual area computer controllers for the purpose of automatic economic operation of the power pool formed by the areas. The use of this decentralized approach of area control offers the following advantages:

1. Reduction in telemetering channel requirements.
2. Use of smaller decentralized computer controllers.
3. Ready availability of information for accounting between areas.
4. Calculation of economic interchange between areas.

5. Calculation of incremental costs of wheeling losses.
6. Calculation of flow over individual tie lines.

Computers can also be used in system design, extension of existing systems, study of system reliability problems, grounding, and many other problems. In the following discussions use of digital computers in some of these areas has been brought out.

PERFORMANCE EQUATIONS OF POWER SYSTEMS

Introduction

An engineer should be well versed with the steady-state and dynamic performance of interconnected systems as these factors are influenced by speed governing system characteristics and supplementary controllers. Study of this mathematical analysis leads to better handling of problems on digital computers.

Fundamental Definitions

a. Speed Governing System. This system includes the speed governor, the speed-control mechanism, and the governor-controlled valves. A pictorial representation of this is shown in Fig. 1.

b. Speed Governor. Such of the elements as are directly responsive to speed and which position or influence the action of other elements of the speed-governing system are included in

the speed governor.

c. Speed-control Mechanism. All equipment such as relays, servomotors, pressure or power amplifying devices, levers and linkages between the speed governor and the governor-controlled valves are included in the speed-control mechanism.

d. The Governor-controlled Valves. The valves that control the energy input to the turbine and that are normally actuated by the speed governor through the medium of the speed-control mechanism are referred to as the governor-controlled valves.

a. The Speed Changer. This is a device employed in adjusting the speed-governing system so as to enable the change of speed or power output of the turbine in operation.

Figure 2 shows an isochronous governor. In this case the valve mechanism comes to rest only when the speed returns to its initial value.

Figure 3 is the same as Fig. 2 except that there is an additional lever. Due to this lever addition a finite value of steady-state speed regulation is obtained.

The per unit steady-state speed regulation for a given speed-changer position is given by per unit steady-state speed regulation = $\frac{N_0 - N}{N_R}$, where

N_0 = speed at no load

N = speed at rated load

N_R = rated speed.

Figure 4 shows a schematic diagram of an isochronous governor

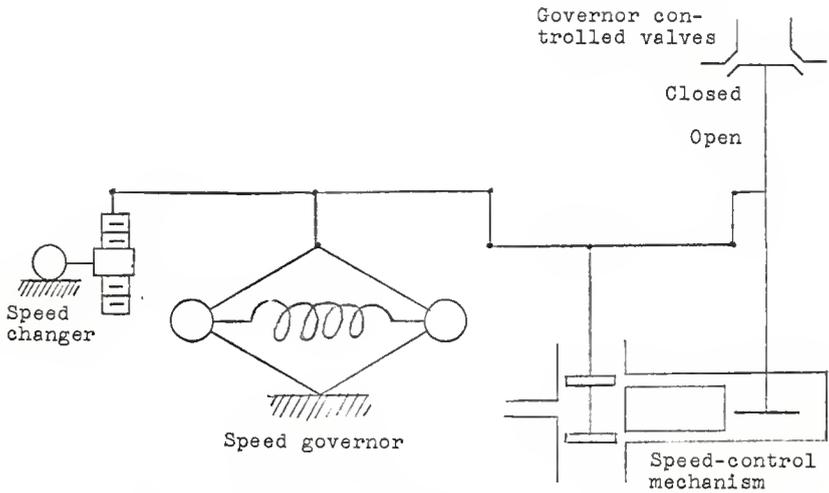


Fig. 1. Schematic representation of speed-governing system.

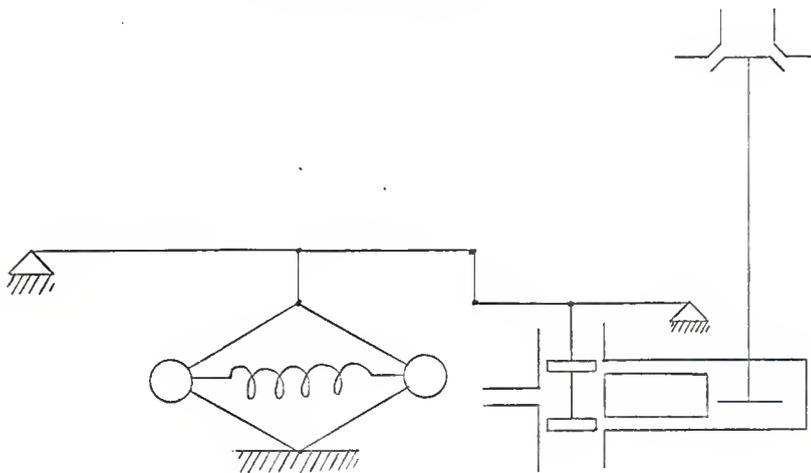


Fig. 2. Schematic representation of isochronous governor.

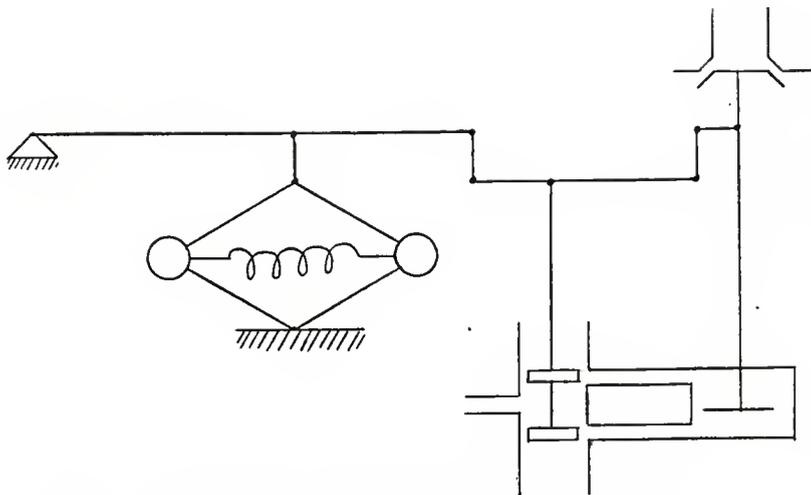


Fig. 3. Addition of feedback to provide steady-state regulation.

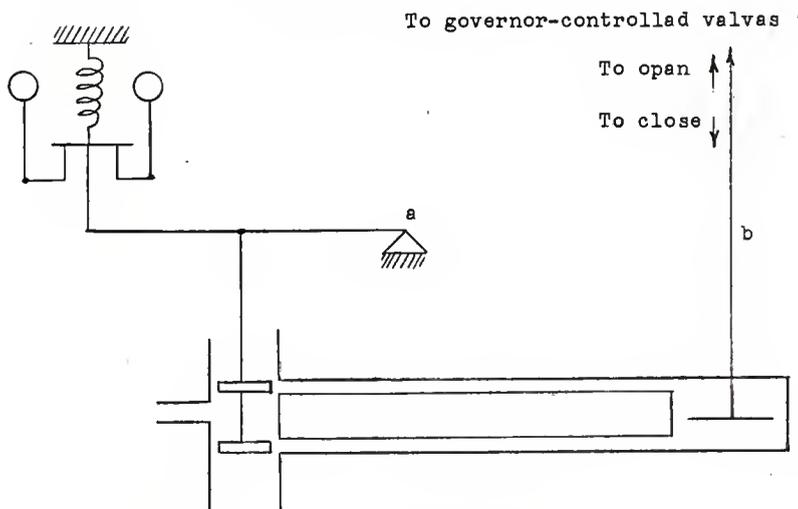


Fig. 4. Schematic representation of isochronous governor.

which has already been discussed. The addition of feedback motion from points (a) to (b) provides a steady-state regulation. Adding a separate needle valve and a lever arrangement, as shown in Fig. 5, introduces temporary droop compensation. To start with, the feedback motion is transmitted by the compensating dashpot assembly. This produces action similar to that obtained with a solid lever. After some time has elapsed, the centering spring restores the receiving position to its final position, and the system reaches a steady-state speed with zero steady-state regulation.

However, if we have the case of parallel operation, permanent speed droop is necessary. The feedback lever shown in Fig. 6 provides a finite value of steady-state regulation. If desired, a speed-level changer signal may be introduced, as shown in Fig. 7.

Performance Equations and Block Diagram

Case (a), Isolated Area. The block diagram shown in Fig. 8 represents an isolated area. The inputs to the speed-governing system, shown in Fig. 8, are the speed signal and the speed-changer position. These signals call for changes in the governor-controlled valve position which will change the input to the turbine. The change in input to the turbine causes a change in turbine torque, and the characteristics of the power system determine the change in system speed.

The following analysis pertains to the response of the

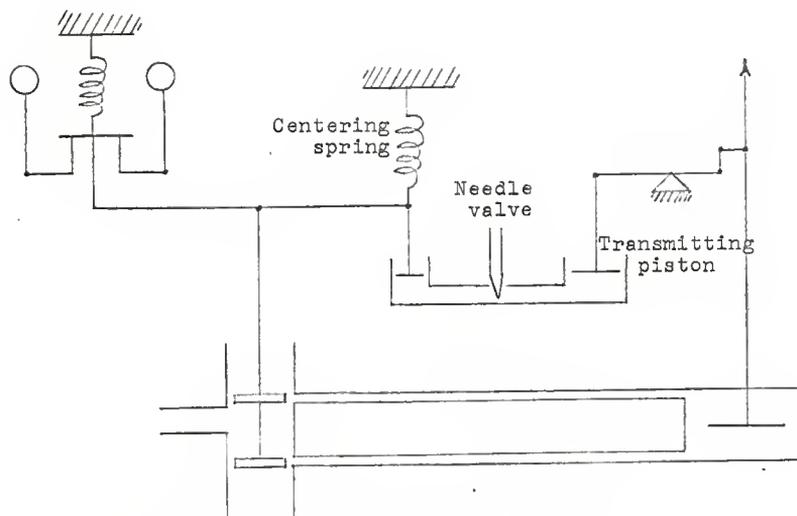


Fig. 5. Addition of temporary droop compensation.

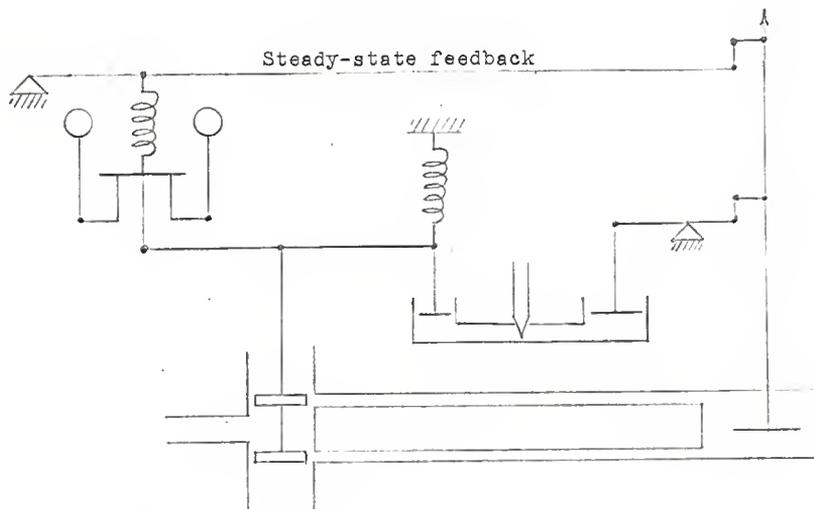


Fig. 6. Addition of steady-state feedback.

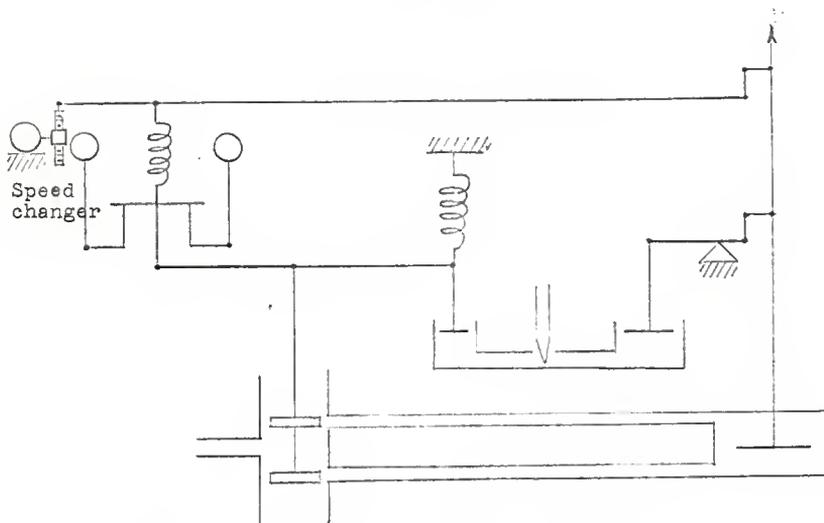


Fig. 7. Addition of speed-load changer.

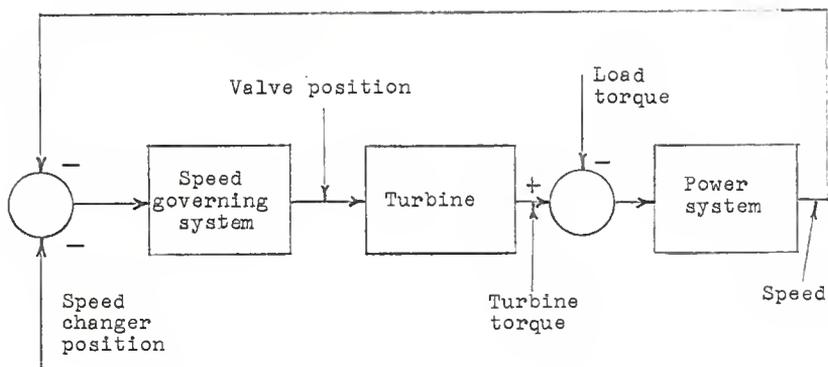


Fig. 8. Block-diagram representation of isolated area.

system for small changes. The following equation is obtained by summing up the torques acting upon the inertia of the power system.

$$M p^2 \delta + D p \delta = \Delta p - \Delta L \quad (1)$$

- where M = effective rotary inertia of aere
 p = differential operator d/dt (t = time)
 δ = deviation of rotary inertia from initial electrical angular position
 D = damping torque coefficient (that is, the inherent net change of load end prime mover torque with frequency)
 Δp = component of change in prime mover torque produced by governor-controlled valve motion
 ΔL = load change in aere (eside from inherent change with frequency)
 $p\delta$ = deviation from normal frequency or speed time and angles are in radians unless specified otherwise.

Solving Eq. (1) for $p\delta$, one obtains

$$p\delta = \frac{1}{mp + D} (\Delta p - \Delta L)$$

This relationship is illustrated schematically in the right-hand block of Fig. 9.

In this case M is directly related to the H constant used in stability studies (Vol. 2 of Power System Stability, by S. B. Crary).

$$M = 4\pi fH$$

where f = frequency in cycles per second

$$H = \frac{0.231 \times WR^2 \times \text{rpm}^2 \times 10^{-6}}{\text{kva}(\text{base})}$$

The quantity D is given by

$$D = \frac{\partial(\text{load torque})}{\partial p\delta} - \frac{\partial(\text{turbine torque})}{\partial p\delta}$$

where $\frac{\partial(\text{turbine torque})}{\partial p\delta}$ is the change in turbine torque with speed with constant valve position. This quantity can be considered approximately equal but opposite in sign to the steady-state prime mover torque.

and $\frac{\partial(\text{load torque})}{\partial p\delta}$ is the component of the damping torque developed by induction and synchronous motors with their mechanical shaft loads.

Figure 9 shows the block diagram for an isolated area with a non-reheat type of turbine. In this figure $\Delta p = \frac{1}{T_{sp} + 1} \Delta p_v$ where $\Delta p_v =$ change in valve position. However, if the turbine were of the reheat type, we have

$$\Delta p = \left(\frac{cT_{RP} + 1}{T_{RP} + 1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{T_{sp} + 1} \right) \Delta p_v$$

where $T_R =$ time lag associated with reheater

$c =$ proportion of torque developed in high-pressure element.

The response of the speed governor is given by

$$\Delta p_v = \frac{-1}{(T_{GP} + 1)} (1/R p\delta + \Delta p')$$

where T_G = governor time lag

R = speed regulation

$\Delta p'$ = change in speed changer position.

Now considering the case of a hydroelectric turbine, there is a large inertia of water (water is used as a source of energy in hydro turbines), and this larger inertia is responsible for the greater time lag in the response of prime mover torque to a change in gate position compared with the response of a steam turbine. It should be remembered that all hydroelectric turbines have the property of their torque initially tending to change in a direction opposite to that finally produced.

The transfer function of a hydro turbine is approximated as follows.

$$\Delta p = \frac{-T_\omega p + 1}{(T_\omega/2)p + 1} \Delta p_v$$

where T_ω = nominal starting time of water in penstock in seconds

$$= \frac{\mu L}{gH}$$

L = length of pipe in feet

μ = water velocity, feet per second

H = pressure head, feet

g = acceleration of gravity, feet per second².

The value of T_ω can vary from one-half to four seconds, depending on L , μ , H , G . Δp_v in the case of hydro turbines is the change in gate position.

The following equation gives approximate hydro turbine

speed governor response.

$$\Delta p_V = -\left(\frac{1}{T_{GP} + 1}\right) \left(\frac{T_{RP} + 1}{(r/R)T_{RP} + 1}\right) ((1/R)p\delta + \Delta p')$$

the parameters having the following approximate values.

R = steady-state speed regulation = 0.05 to 0.167

r = transient speed regulation = 0.3 to 1.2

T_R = time constant associated with temporary droop compensation = 0.5 to 64 seconds

T_G = governor time constant = 0.60 second

Figure 10 represents a block diagram of an isolated area with transfer functions for a hydro turbine and governor.

In the approximate hydro turbine speed governor response

equation, consider the term $1/R \left(\frac{T_{RP} + 1}{(r/R)T_{RP} + 1}\right)$. For a step

change, "p" becomes infinity and the term

$$\begin{aligned} 1/R \left(\frac{T_{RP} + 1}{(r/R)T_{RP} + 1}\right) &= 1/R \left(\frac{T_R + (1/p)}{(r/R)T_R + (1/p)}\right) \\ &= \frac{[(1/R)T_R + (1/\infty)]}{[(r/R)T_R + (1/\infty)]} = 1/r \end{aligned}$$

Thus initially, because of temporary droop compensation, the regulation appears to be "r". However, in the steady state, when $p = 0$, one gets

$$1/R \left(\frac{T_{RP} + 1}{(r/R)T_{RP} + 1}\right) = 1/R$$

Thus in the steady state there is a regulation of R .

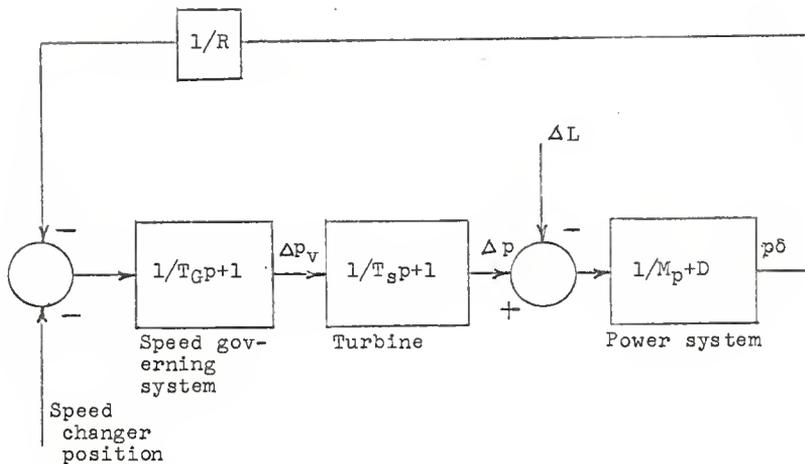


Fig. 9. Block diagram of isolated area with illustrative transfer function.

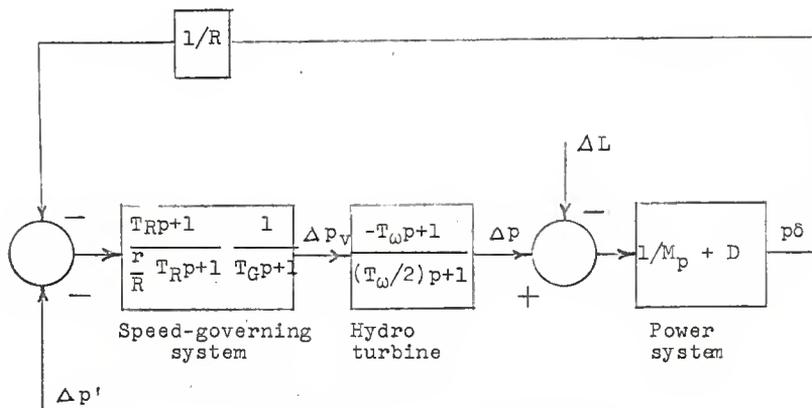


Fig. 10. Block diagram of isolated area with transfer functions for hydro turbine.

DIGITAL COMPUTER DISPATCHING SYSTEMS

Introduction

Since 1960 rapid progress has been made in the application of digital computers to real-time problems of power system operation. Before 1960 the digital computers were used as scientific tools in various off-line studies of system theories. At that time on-line control functions were accomplished by analog computer control arrangements. However, from 1960 onward a number of papers have been presented furnishing the details of how a digital computer can be used on a real-time basis, thus allowing one computer to be used for solving a large variety of system operating problems in both a study and on-line mode.

Requirements

The objective of the system operation is to match system generation to system load and to maintain sufficient generating reserves to maintain a high degree of system continuity. Thus in supply of power this entails the need of maintaining tie-line schedules, and keeping continuous and integrated frequency within permissible limits. The other important requirement of system operation is to generate and deliver power at lowest practical cost.

On the basis of these considerations the problem of system operation is divided into three categories.

1. Operations planning
2. Operations control
3. Operations accounting.

Operations Planning

This involves calculations necessary to reach decisions concerning the next hour, day, week, or month of system operation. In the present-day world this area of system operation is becoming of greater importance due to the increasing numbers of interconnections and the opportunities for cost savings through interchanges with neighboring companies. Some of the important areas involved in this study are:

1. Load forecasting
2. Maintenance scheduling
3. Spinning reserve determination
4. Unit commitment scheduling
5. Evaluation of future interconnection transactions
6. Selection of fuels
7. Hydroelectric coordination studies.

While dealing with items 2 to 7, load forecasts are necessary to be used as input information for making any required evaluation. A number of statistical methods can be used to improve the accuracy of such forecasts. In the case of maintenance scheduling, there should be a planned coordination between the outages of transmission and generation elements. These calculations require the details of cost of production and risk

levels incurred by various maintenance strategies. Spinning reserve determination and unit commitment scheduling are concerned with the total cost of production for various units in service and the evaluation of risk in system operation. There are a lot of possibilities of savings in systems operations by economy interchanges with other companies. Sometimes selection of fuels may involve complex system evaluations. In the case of hydroelectric operations, studies involve determination of reservoir draw-down curves, water forecasting, and the evaluation of the worth of water.

Operations Control

All problems requiring instant-by-instant determination on a real-time basis are involved in operations control. Some examples of these are:

1. Load and frequency control
2. Economic allocation of generation
3. Kilowatt supply scheduling
4. Remote supervision of switching stations, substations, and automatic hydro stations.

In load frequency control, total system generation is maintained at a magnitude such that a desired frequency and net interchange is held. Economic allocation of generation specifies and maintains the output of each of the generating sources at a value which gives minimum system production cost. Some of the other things that could be established are continuous scheduling

of kilovar supply or voltage levels, as well as remote supervision of the various devices like remote supervision of switching stations, substations, and automatic hydro stations.

Operations Accounting

These calculations involve after-the-fact evaluations such as:

1. Interconnection billing
2. System production statistics
3. Unit production statistics
4. Assessment of quality of unit and system performance.

In the above the following steps have to be performed:

1. Collection of data
2. Performance of various arithmetical and logical operations on these data
3. The preparation of statements.

Many engineers are trying to use the modern technique of digital computation and automatic data collection in solving the problems of "operations planning", "control", and "accounting". A process control computer can be used to get the integrated solution of these problems. Shown in Fig. 11 is an integrated dispatch, data collection, and reporting system. This single complex is used to solve the above problems.

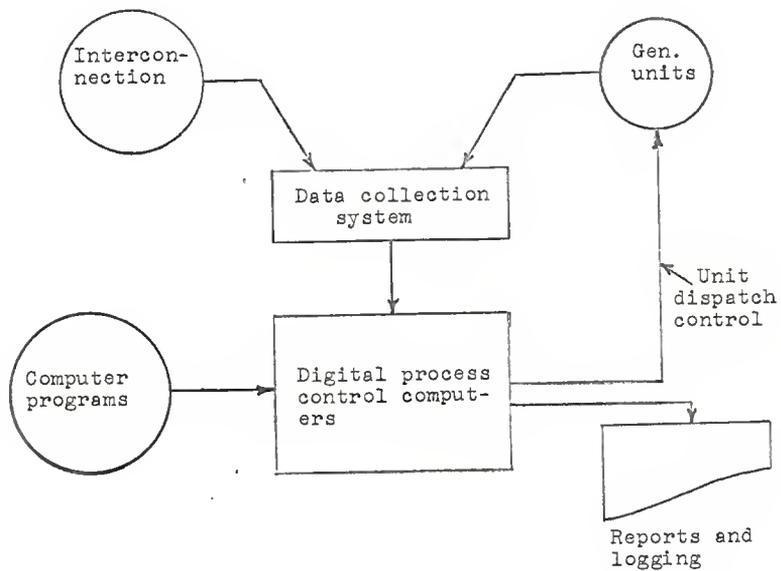


Fig. 11. Integrated dispatch, data collection, and reporting system.

Advantages of Digital Computer Control

Solutions of problems of system operation by using an integrated dispatch computer result in significant operating benefits. Some of these advantages are:

1. Fuel saving
2. Manpower saving
3. Improvements in system reliability
4. Saving in capital equipment expenditures for elements of the power system.

By using the integrated digital dispatch computer, savings in production costs over manual methods are obtained, since effectively continuous control according to the principle of equal incremental cost of delivered power may be achieved. By the use of the digital computer, maintenance and unit commitment scheduling can be examined more critically. If there is a grid system, where the neighboring companies are exchanging the power, then computers can maintain a close surveillance and accurate calculation of interchange billings, and correct interchange accounting. As a matter of fact, the computer can be used as a tool in conducting studies about the various possible operating conditions and determining the best interchange and contractual arrangements. As the grid system becomes larger and larger, more data has to be collected and processed. Man is bound to commit error when the operations are enormously large, whereas computers can do this job much faster and more accurately by automatically collecting and processing the data,

and supplying the information for decision making.

The most important thing of primary concern to a power engineer is the reliability of system operation. The computer is a device which enables the operator to get an accurate indication of system reliability as well as forecasted values to help him determine the reserve requirements. Accurate forecasting by computer helps in minimizing the spinning reserve requirements. The computer can also indicate the approaching troublesome areas of operation by alarm or in some cases it takes correcting action. Thus by use of a computer, the existing plants, transmission and distribution systems can be used more effectively, thus reducing new investment on generation, transmission, and distribution.

Digital Computer for Dispatching

The block diagram of Fig. 12 shows a general arrangement of a system designed to meet the requirements of an economic dispatch application. The major components of this are the analog input section, the digital fast-scan input section, the dispatcher's console, the central processor, the programmer's console, the peripheral output section, and the control output section. The functions of various components are as follows.

a. Analog Input Section. This section selects under program control the particular inputs such as telemetered generation and tie flows. This is accomplished by the analog scanner which consists of a group of mercury-wattad relays that are

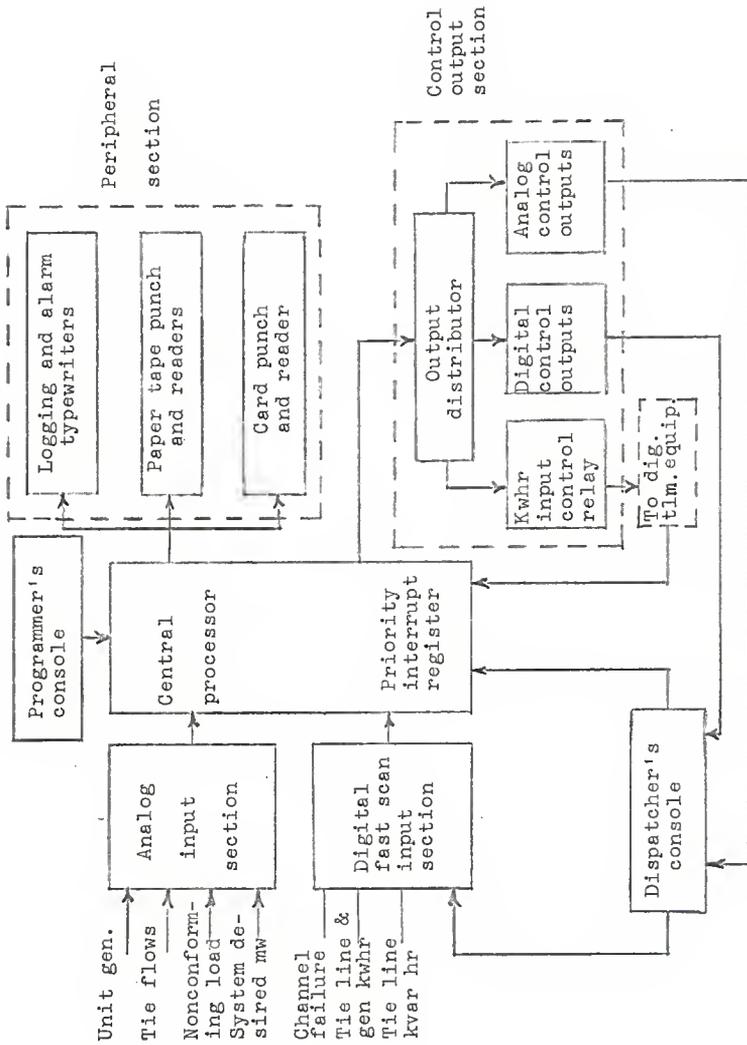


Fig. 12. Block diagram of a computer system.

individually selected using special commands that are part of the program structure. Signal conditioning circuits, low-level amplifiers, and an analog-to-digital converter allows the system to select a broad range of attenuation and gain settings for measurements which can extend from 10 millivolts to 256 volts. These measurements are converted into a 12-bit binary number, and high-speed operation permits a scan rate up to 150 points per second. The equipment includes adequate signal filtering for each analog input to eliminate electrical noise and interference.

b. Digital Test-scen Input Section. This reads all digital inputs like:

1. Digital telemetered quantities of integrated kWh from tie points and generators
2. Unit power system and study information from the dispatcher's console
3. Indication of channel failure.

The above information passes into the computer from the digital test-scen section in which the inputs are grouped into words, with each word consisting of 16 bits. The digital test-scen equipment is capable of scanning at a rate of 300,000 inputs per second. Signal conditioning filters are used for all digital inputs.

c. Central Processor. This is the most important component of the computer. It has memory storage, an arithmetic section, and a control section. This processor is provided with a core memory, which serves as a main memory. There is also a rotating

magnetic drum which serves as a back-up storage memory. Core memory in blocks of 4000, 8000, and 16,000 words is available, whereas a bulk storage drum memory up to 114,000 words is available. Drum-to-core transfer can occur by logic and arithmetic operations.

d. Peripheral Input and Output Devices. These devices include logging and alarm typewriters, paper tape punch and readers, and card punch and readers. These input-output devices are completely buffered, and these buffers permit overlapping of various computer functions without loss of time or facility. Arithmetic, making logical decisions, and shifting can be performed simultaneously by these input and output devices.

a. Program and Maintenance Console. This provides an indicating control center for the programmer and maintenance engineer.

f. Custom-designed Dispatcher's Console. This is an additional console which is provided in which the legend on all switches and panels is given in dispatcher's language. The control arrangement of the dispatcher's console is designed to permit quick and easy control and allow the operator to exercise complete command over the entire dispatch system. At the top-plate assembly are located such panels as master area control panel, interchange setting panel, generation panel, program select panel, display panel, data entry panel, and special studies panel.

Digital computers should only be used to perform those tasks which are best suited to digital techniques and solution.

A hybrid dispatch system using both digital and analog techniques compared to an all-digital approach will make available more time of the digital dispatch computer for important system operating problems. Analog elements are used to provide continuous load frequency control and economic allocation of generation. The digital computer on a time-shared basis periodically sets the analog elements in addition to undertaking many other problems of system operation.

Figure 13 illustrates a simplified hybrid dispatch system. For this diagram the upper portion illustrates the analog computer system and the lower half illustrates the digital dispatch computer system.

The input to this hybrid system in Fig. 13 is the summation of frequency bias signal and the net tie-line flow. This is termed "area control". This "area control" is then combined with the total unit requirement, resulting in a system desired m.w. This system desired m.w. is one of the inputs to the process computer. In addition to this, the other inputs to the digital process computer are unit m.w. generation, tie-line m.w. flows, nonconforming m.w. loads, and integrated readings of kwh. System desired m.w., the tie-line flows, and nonconforming loads are necessary inputs to the digital computer for the periodic determination of an economic dispatch, including transmission losses. Unit generation is used as an input for checking purposes by the digital processor. Now the digital computer sets for each unit the analog circuitry which develops the unit desired generation on a continuous basis between

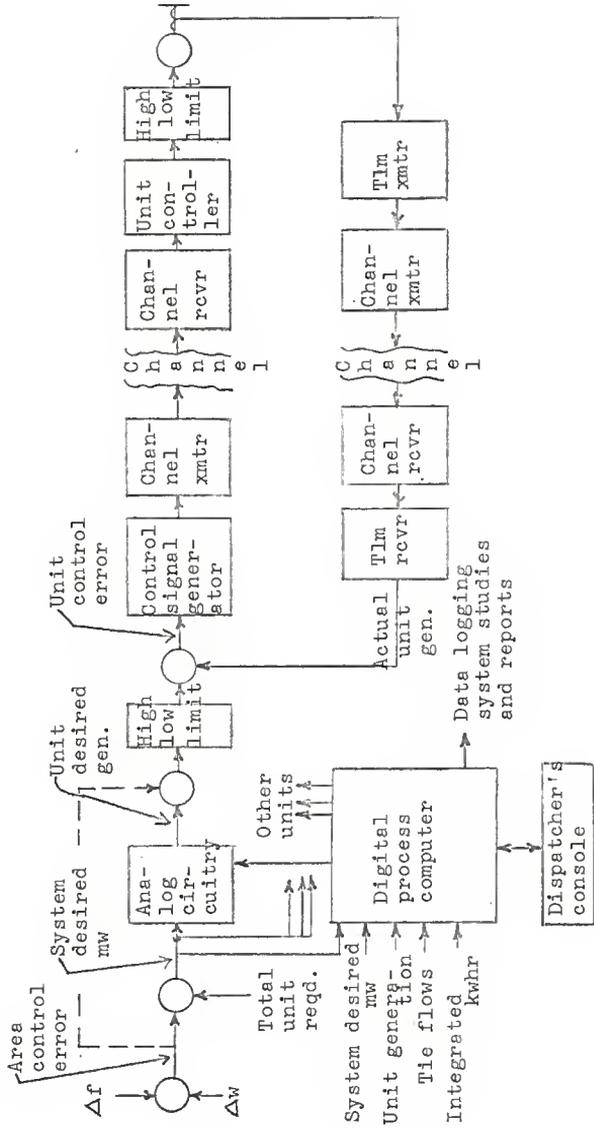


Fig. 13. Hybrid dispatch system.

digital dispatches. This results in continuous load frequency control and economic allocation.

The next step is the check of unit desired generation for high-low limits, as set by the system operator. The desired unit loading is kept within the pre-set high-low limits, and then compared with the actual unit telemetered generation. The difference between desired and actual unit generation forms the unit control error for that unit, and this is then fed into the control signal generator.

The control signal generator is specifically adjusted to take into account the response characteristics of the particular generating unit. The control signal generator develops impulses which are transmitted as shown in Fig. 13, to bring actual unit generation into balance with unit desired generation.

Now the control signal from the channel receiver is fed into the unit controller. The output of the unit is again checked for high-low limits, as set by the plant operator, before the control signal acts on the governor synchronizing motor.

The advantage of using an analog computer is that it provides continuous corrective action to satisfy area regulation requirements on an economic basis as determined by the digital data processor. Another important advantage is that units are kept on schedule without overshoot, regardless of area control error. The dotted line in the figure (assistance) provides for improved system dynamic performance.

This entire control function is made safer in case of failure of the computer; that is, if the computer goes out of

service, then economic allocation of generation can be easily achieved through semiautomatic operation of the dispatch system by manual setting of the analog circuitry for each generating unit.

In the following paragraphs we shall study the digital approach to the above discussed problem, without the use of an analog computer.

Digital Dispatch System

It is possible to incorporate all of the analog computer equipment within the digital computer. One such arrangement is shown in Fig. 14. Area control error is one input to the digital computer along with actual unit generation of each individual generator, tie-line flows, nonconforming loads, and the integrated kWh, as required. The summation of the individual unit generations and area control error forms the total desired generation at any instant of time. This information provides the basis for rapid digital computer determination of unit desired generation for load frequency control and economic allocation. The coefficients for this rapid digital computation are supplied by a periodic complete economic dispatch calculation, which calculations require the tie-line flows and nonconforming loads as inputs. As in the hybrid system, the unit control signal is proportional to each unit control error and is provided with appropriate limits. This unit control signal is transmitted by the channel equipment to the unit controller. Unit high-low limits

are provided within the computer. Station equipment is similar to the hybrid system. In the case of a digital computer going out of order, the system can be switched onto a common area control error signal generator. This function provides the ability to regulate and correct area control error, without the ability to individually dispatch generating units on an economic basis.

It is usual to use a digital computer being used for on-line jobs for solving other problems. However, it must be noted that a computer for on-line jobs like load-frequency control or regulating, will have less free time available for solving other problems. Depending upon the number of units to be controlled, and the speed and capability of the particular computer, as much as 25 per cent of the total available computer time may be required for the function of load-frequency control with economic allocation.

The following factors must be considered with regard to selection of digital or hybrid systems.

1. Whichever type of computer is used, the operation of both systems is similar. If the digital computer of the hybrid system is out of service, still the analog circuitry offers improved flexibility of operation for continuous economic allocation of generation. Any changes in the generation can be taken care of by manually resetting the circuitry.

2. Memory. An increase in memory of the digital computer becomes necessary as a result of placing the load-frequency control function within the computer.

3. In the case of a digital dispatch system the dispatching office and analog functions of the hybrid system are incorporated and a reduction in capital outlay occurs.

4. The digital computer offers increased computer time and decreased equipment investment as compared with the hybrid system. This is a very important qualification which a digital computer has over a hybrid system.

Data Collection

Analog telemetering equipment is usually furnished for those readings which are desired continuously, whether they are indicated or recorded. For example, station generation or tie-line interchange in megawatts, which are generally recorded in the load dispatcher's office, is desired continuously, thus calling for the use of analog telemetering equipment. The above information is also used in dispatch equipment as a basis for adjusting generation to meet area regulating requirements on a continuous basis.

Billing data is based on energy flow (kilowatt hours). Most utilities base their billing on energy used during a short period, like thirty minutes or an hour. As a matter of fact, this forms the basis of the contract.

Special digital telemetering equipment has been designed for the purpose of accepting and transmitting kilowatt hour readings, showing actual energy transferred in or out of a utility system. This type of equipment provides 100 per cent

accurate information, thus helping to minimize the effects of channel outages and to provide economical utilization of channel facilities.

Figure 15 shows a data collection system. In this system each remote metering point is provided with a digital telemeter transmitter and channel equipment for two-way communication with corresponding channel equipment at the computer location. The digital telemeter transmitter at the remote location serves to count impulses from the kilowatt-hour meters and to store and transmit data upon command. The data is held in temporary storage for transmission, while the counter continues to accumulate impulses. An automatic priority interrupt feature is located in the system. The digital telemeter receiver, by means of this automatic priority interrupt feature, initiates transfer of the received data through the digital fast-scan section to the computer.

By sending the "store" command from the computer to each remote station via a three-frequency channel transmitter, simultaneous storage of data at all transmitters is accomplished. After receiving this command, counts are stored at the remote location. The computer then proceeds to interrogate each remote station individually by shifting the outgoing channel transmitter. Then the remote data is transmitted to the digital receiver at the computer location by modulating the return two-frequency channel transmitter with a series of long and short pulses. Next, checks are performed on the validity of the data, and then the data is entered into the computer by means of the

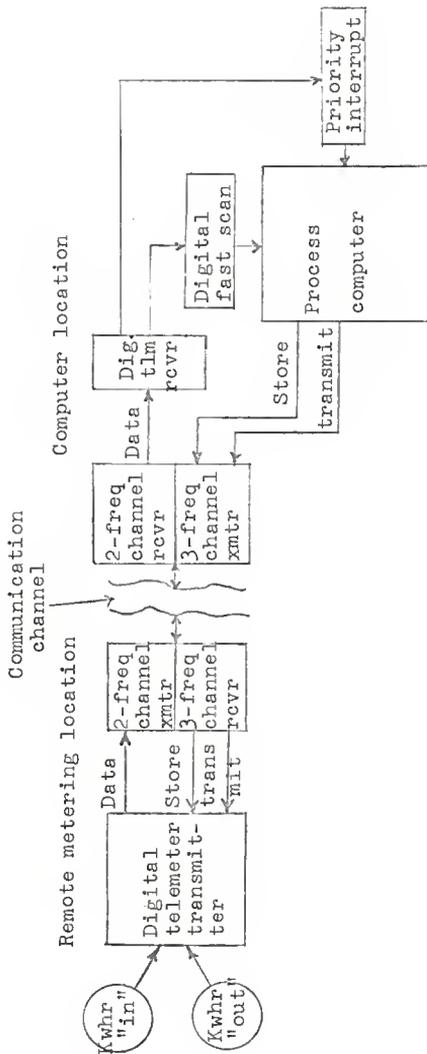


Fig. 15. Data collection system.

automatic priority interrupt for logging and processing.

Operation of Digital Computer Dispatching System

Let us examine a typical hour's operation of a typical dispatching system. A complete economic dispatch is performed every three minutes. In between such calculations, computer-control arrangement insures a continuous and accurate economic allocation of generation. At the beginning of each hour the kWh readings are automatically collected and stored within the digital computer. These data together with other information in memory provides the basis for the determination of out-of-pocket costs for the previous hour's transaction. It is also possible to prepare during this time hourly system statistics for the last hour. Toward the end of the hour, the computer is used in a forecast mode to determine incremental and decremental costs for various possible interconnection transactions. The remaining free time may be used for various other problems of operations planning and accounting.

Figure 16 illustrates a dispatch system which logically links the automatic priority interrupt, the interrupt subroutines, the executive control program, and the functional programs. The functional programs are all the routines needed to perform the economic dispatch calculations; the routines to obtain the desired elements, outputs, and displays; and the routine to undertake free-time functions such as those listed in Fig. 16.

The executive control program provides the actual time

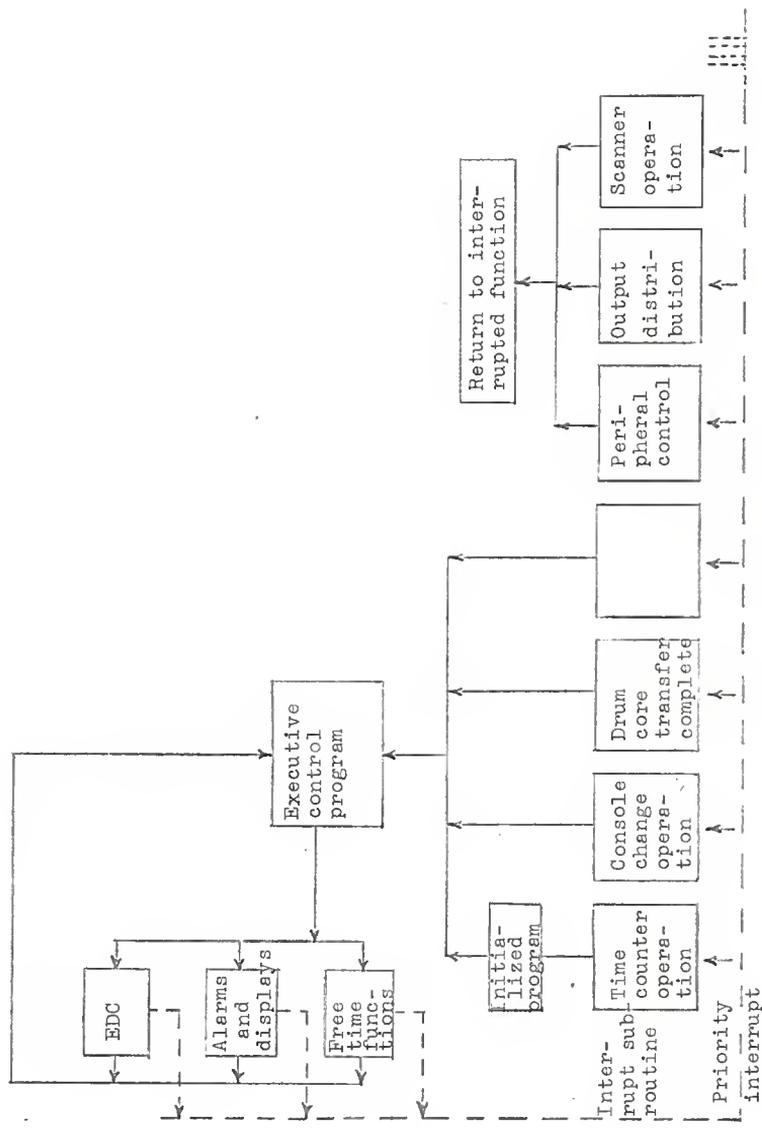


Fig. 16. System monitor.

scheduling of the functional programs, as indicated by the arrow leading from the executive control program to the functional programs. The arrow leading from the functional programs to the executive control program is the means to indicate completion of the corresponding functional program. The arrow from the interrupt subroutine indicates the path for the interrupt subroutines to call upon the functional programs.

System Research

The successful application of a computing control system depends to a large extent on the successful prediction of the dynamic performance of the entire system for various control and prime mover arrangements. Potentiality of digital control computer arrangements can be optimally exploited only by continuing efforts devoted to the development of new and improved theories of system operation. One unique quality of the digital computer is its amenability to incorporation of improved techniques as they are developed.

Careful study of dynamic performance of different control schemes and different operating conditions will facilitate an optimum design of digital dispatching computer arrangements. In Fig. 17 are shown basic system elements to be considered in such studies. The simulation must recognize the dynamic characteristics of the supplementary control as well as the dynamic characteristics of the prime mover and power system. Recognition must be given to the governor turbine lags, the inertia and

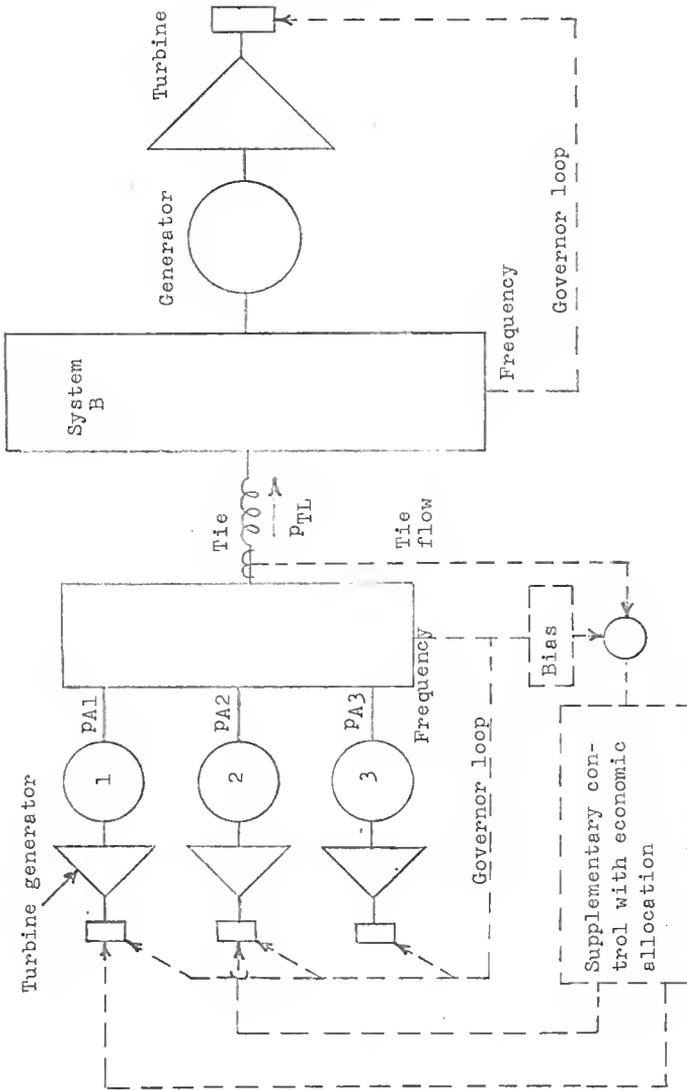


Fig. 17. Elements of simulation study.

damping constants, governor incremental regulation, and the synchronizing power coefficients between machines and between power systems. Account must also be taken of realistic transformer and transmission lags in the measurement of machine power and area control error. The data sampling delay, as well as the nature of impulses formed by the control signal generators, also must be accurately simulated, performance comparison of hybrid and digital systems was a matter of study, and under this study both mandatory and permissive arrangements of each of these systems were compared.

In the mandatory system, as illustrated in Fig. 13, control action is implemented by impulsing each unit synchronizing motor in proportion to that generator's unit control error. In a permissive arrangement the impulses to the synchronizing motors are proportional to the area control error and economic allocation is accomplished by only allowing impulses to be transmitted to generating units in accordance with the sign of the unit control error. Several important conclusions of exhaustive studies conducted on both the hybrid and digital arrangements and both the permissive and mandatory controls have been indicated below.

The system dynamic performance for the digital dispatching system can be equivalent to that for the hybrid dispatching system by suitable design of the digital filtering, and by proper choice of sampling rate and means of stabilization.

In the case of the mandatory system versus the permissive system, the mandatory control system has the following advantages:

1. The units will follow economic loading more closely, resulting in reductions in fuel costs.

2. Continuous zero-threshold use of assist action is possible with significant improvement of the area's ability to follow load changes and consequently to minimize area control error while maintaining the units average loading at correct economic values. This would not be possible in the permissive case.

Hydro Thermal Optimization

Work has been undertaken recently in the field of hydro thermal coordination. In this case, constraints such as unit capabilities, forebay elevations, tailrace elevations, etc., should be recognized.

Related System Research

Many investigations relating to theories of system operation have been conducted recently. Computation of valve loop heat rates on multivalve turbines and a new method of scheduling based on dynamic programming have been presented by various authors. This work shows that recognition of valve throttling losses may be achieved by use of stepped incremental cost curves. These stepped curves may be much more easily handled by digital dispatch computers than by analog computer control arrangements, because of the problem involved with analog control stability.

Thus a number of utility companies faced with the problem

of system expansion are beginning to realize the advantages of digital and hybrid computers for on-line jobs as well as for system designs.

Table 1. Digital versus analog computers in system operation.

	Digital :	Analog
<u>Operations planning</u>		
1. Load forecasting	X	
2. Maintenance scheduling	X	X (partially)
3. Spinning reserve determination	X	
4. Unit commitment scheduling	X	X (partially)
5. Evaluation of future interchange transactions	X	X (partially)
6. Selection of fuels	X	X (partially)
7. Hydroelectric coordination studies	X	
<u>Operations control</u>		
1. Load and frequency control	X	X
2. Economic allocation of generation	X	X
3. Kilovar supply scheduling	X	X (partially)
4. Remote supervision	X	
<u>Operations accounting</u>		
1. Interconnection billing	X	X (partially)
2. System production statistics	X	
3. Unit production statistics	X	
4. Assessment of quality of unit and system performance	X	

A FEW TYPES OF COMPUTERS

An optimum economy of production of power for a given combination of machines is obtained when the incremental cost of received power is the same for all variable sources; i.e.,

$$\frac{dF_n}{dp_n} L_n = \lambda$$

where dF_n/dp_n = incremental production cost of source n in
dollars per mwh

L_n = penalty factor of source n

λ = incremental cost of received power in
dollars per mwh.

The penalty factor of source n is defined as follows.

$$L_n = \frac{1}{1 - (\delta P_L / \delta p_n)}$$

where $\delta P_L / \delta p_n$ = incremental transmission loss of source n. The
incremental transmission loss may be determined from a trans-
mission loss formula, like

$$\frac{\delta P_L}{\delta p_n} = \sum_m 2B_{mn} p_m + B_{no}$$

where B_{mn} , B_{no} are transmission-loss-formula coefficients.

Though determination of the most economical combination of units
for power generation is a complex problem by itself, yet the
above equations could well be used to determine the allocation
of loading among units chosen to be operated.

Tie-line frequency-bias control of frequency and net inter-
change is accomplished by developing correcting signals from the
area requirement. These signals drive the speed-changer motors
of the units within the area such that the area requirement is
returned to zero. Area requirement is equal to net interchange
error plus a constant times the frequency error.

Figure 16 illustrates the basic tie-line frequency control

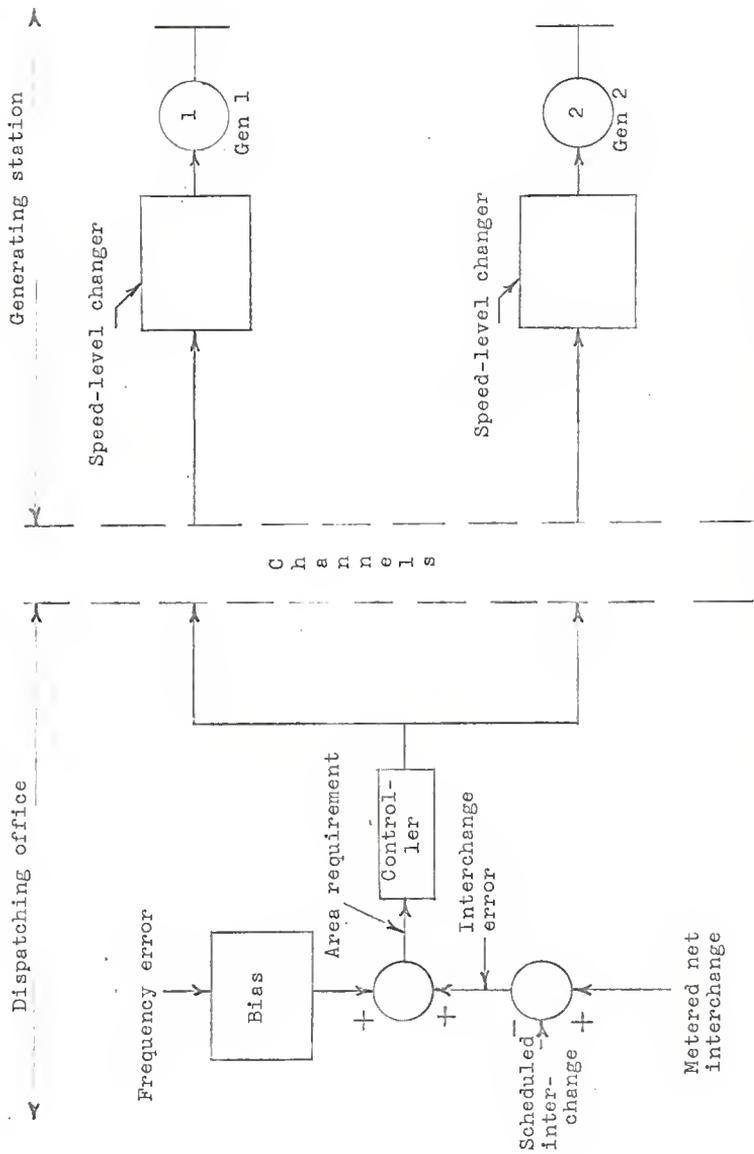


Fig. 18. Basic tie-line frequency control method.

method. In this illustration, fundamental components common to all tie-line frequency bias controllers are shown. The area requirement signal is developed from the frequency and net interchange errors, and is acted upon by the controller to develop a correcting signal to be sent to the speed-level-changer-motors of all units under control. This control system, in turn, takes care of all load changes in the area.

Figure 19 illustrates a similar arrangement as in Fig. 18. However, in this case an economic control is superimposed upon the system of Fig. 18 by means of the economic loading equipment. This economic controller is used to compare the actual unit output with desired unit output. This comparison gives a correcting signal which brings the actual output in agreement with the desired output.

Figure 19 illustrates a two-unit system. Let us consider the operation of this system, neglecting the transmission losses. As is shown earlier, for optimum economy the incremental cost of power of each generating unit should be equal to the same number λ . Thus the equation for this is $dF_n/dp_n = \lambda$.

Figure 20 illustrates a system for automatic dispatching at equal incremental costs. Supposing the signal generated by the controller is equal to " λ ". This incremental cost, which is generated at the dispatching office, is sent to all units and accomplishes two functions.

1. One function is the rapid regulating control to reduce the area requirement signal to zero.

2. The other function is the slower reset action to

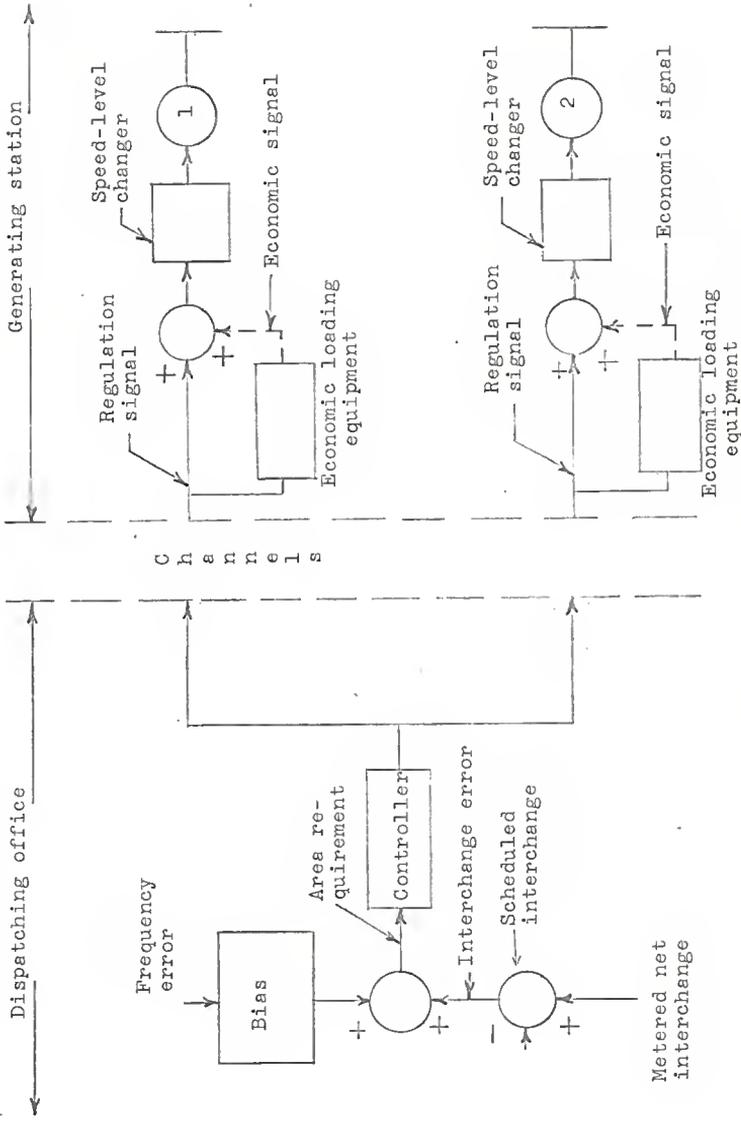


Fig. 19. Addition of economic loop to system of Fig. 18.

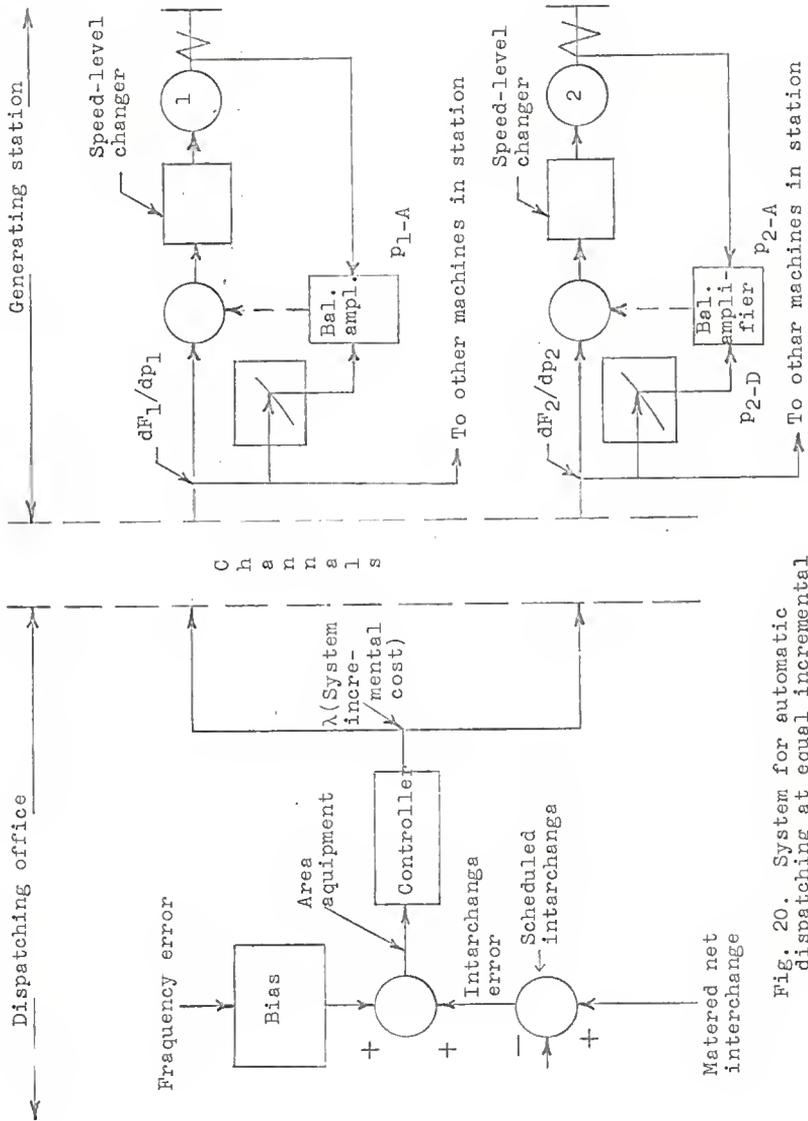


Fig. 20. System for automatic dispatching at equal incremental costs.

reallocate generation in the most economical manner corresponding to equation $dF_n/dp_n = \lambda$.

This λ signal which is acting on the speed-level changer of each unit is also fed into the incremental cost function generator for each unit. This function generator is an electronic data storage device, whose function is to indicate the relationship between the incremental production cost and output of the particular unit. If a value is fixed for λ , then the function generator will indicate the relationship between the incremental production cost and output of the particular unit. Thus for this particular value of λ , the economic schedule corresponding to operation of all units at the same incremental cost λ is indicated by the function generators. If λ does not represent the value to be generated, then small changes in the area requirement signal occur, which correct the value of λ to correspond to generation required.

A good explanation for this can be as follows. In this example let the frequency and interchange be initially at their scheduled values, and all units are loaded equally incrementally. Suppose there is an increase in the load requirement in the area. Then there is generated an area requirement signal. This signal calls for increased generation. Thus λ changes, and this change facilitates generation to be maintained at equal incremental cost. Then in the steady state after the load change has been absorbed by the units within the area, the area requirement signal is again zero, and all units are operating at equal incremental cost.

In the case where transmission losses are pretty high, optimum economy is obtained when the incremental cost of received power is the same from all generating units. This brings into the picture the penalty factor. Each unit's incremental cost now is modified by a penalty factor. Thus the equation $dF_n/dp_n = \lambda$ now becomes $dF_n/dp_n = \lambda/L_n$.

Figure 21 illustrates how the penalty factor signals are introduced in the functional diagram of an automatic dispatching system. As usual λ is again considered as the output of the controller. This λ is now modified by the penalty factor, as shown in the diagram. Now the signal sent to each station is the proper incremental cost for that station. The penalty-factor computer requires a knowledge of station loads, interconnection flows, and values of nonconforming loads for its inputs. These values could be telemetered information into the penalty factor computer. The $1/L_n$ signals are developed by analog circuitry.

Semiautomatic System Based on Precalculated Schedule

Figure 22 illustrates a semiautomatic dispatching system. This system is based on the knowledge of the optimum schedule corresponding to the given system conditions. This schedule can be precalculated. To denote each plant layout as a function of total generation, the above mentioned schedule is set into a program console. Thus required total generation is obtained by summing the existing plant outputs and the area requirement. The output of the program console is the value of the desired

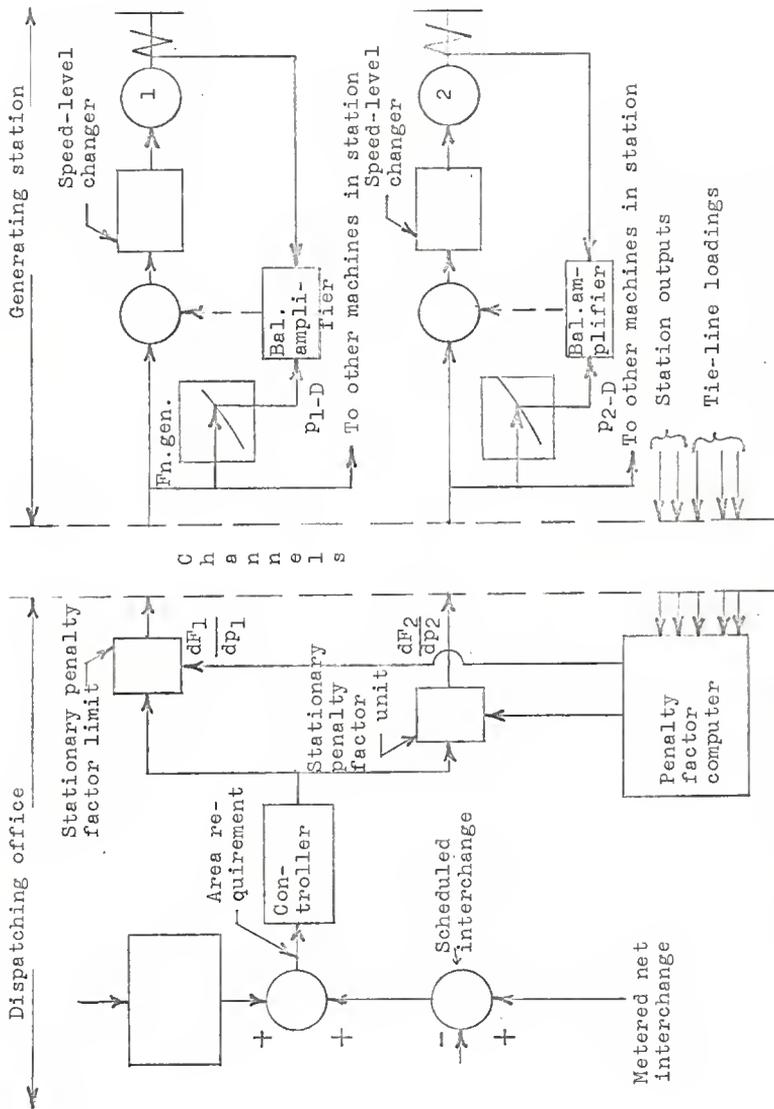


Fig. 21. Functional diagram of automatic dispatching system, including penalty factor computation.

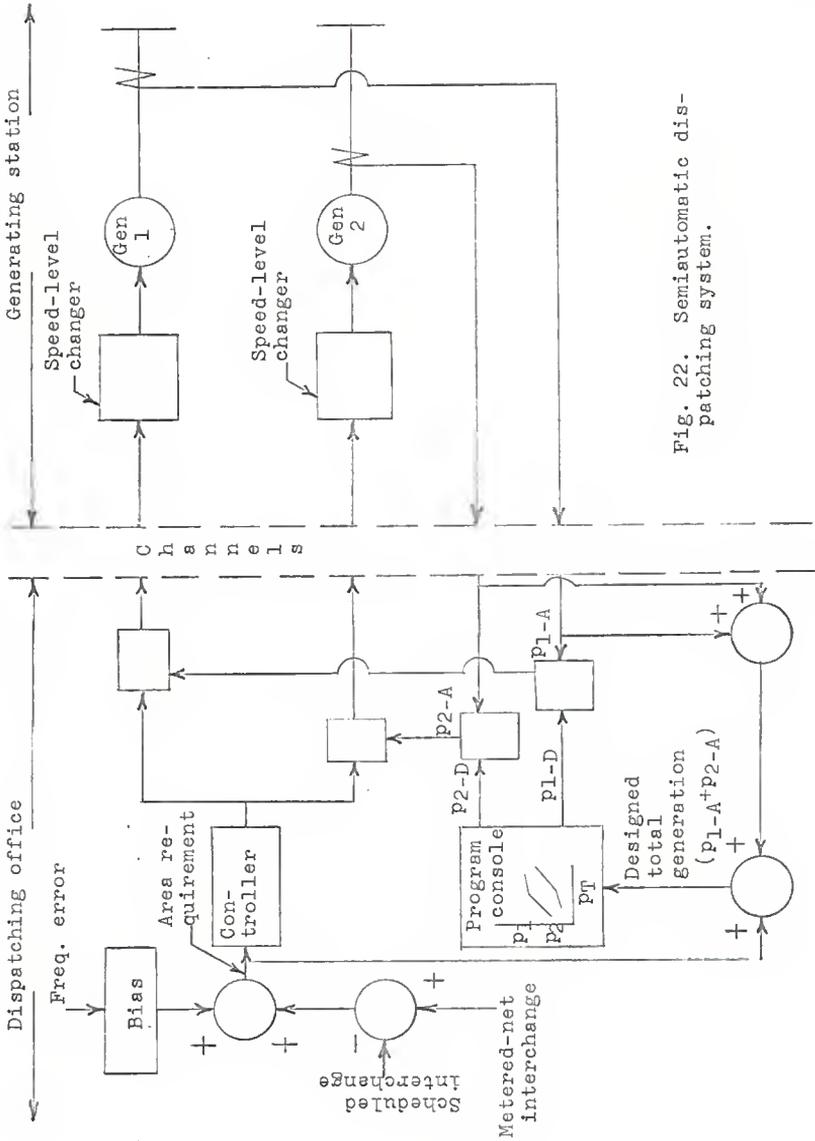


Fig. 22. Semiautomatic dispatching system.

generation, denoted by P_{1-D} and P_{2-D} . By comparison of the actual generation P_{1-A} and P_{2-A} with the desired generation P_{1-D} and P_{2-D} , correction signals may be obtained which are sent to the generating stations. Such a unit will enable the dispatcher to make a unit or station basis comparison in his office. If comparison is made on a unit basis, then it is necessary to have communication to and from each unit, and the program console must indicate the desired output of each unit. Instead, if comparison is made at the dispatcher's office on a station basis, the station must include equipment to insure that the station total is properly divided among the units.

The setting in the program console involves the setting of a regulating point, ratio settings, and station high and low limits. The dispatcher has to set the regulating point and ratio settings periodically in order to follow the precalculated schedules. Use of an impulse-control system facilitates program console to allow the impulses to pass when they are in a direction to bring the stations into economic balance. When the error requirement signal becomes sufficiently great, correcting impulses are sent to the stations irrespective of the economic comparisons.

Generation-Scheduling Computers

The above explained precalculated schedule method is inconvenient. Generation-scheduling computers remove the necessity of precalculated schedules.

Figure 23 illustrates a generation-scheduling computer to control a system automatically. In this case an analog computer capable of calculating the economic allocation of generation for a given value of " λ " replaces the program console of the semi-automatic dispatching system. The inputs to the computer are determined tie-line flows and λ . The individual tie-line flows are required as they enter the mutual terms for the steam-plant incremental losses. It is also desired to know the incremental cost of delivered power over the tie. By matching the desired total generation with the total generation obtained from the computer, the value of λ is obtained. If the total generation from the computer does not equal the desired total generation, the value of λ is driven by the incremental cost error to bring these two quantities into balance. Just as in the case of a semiautomatic dispatching system, the desired values of plant generation are compared with actual values and correction signals are obtained.

Incremental Cost Comparison Computer

Computers that can provide a comparison of the incremental cost of delivered power from each source can be used to provide a method of automatic economic allocation. This type of automatic operation calls for various source loadings as input signals to an automatic penalty factor computer, and also to units representing incremental production cost. An illustration is shown in Fig. 24.

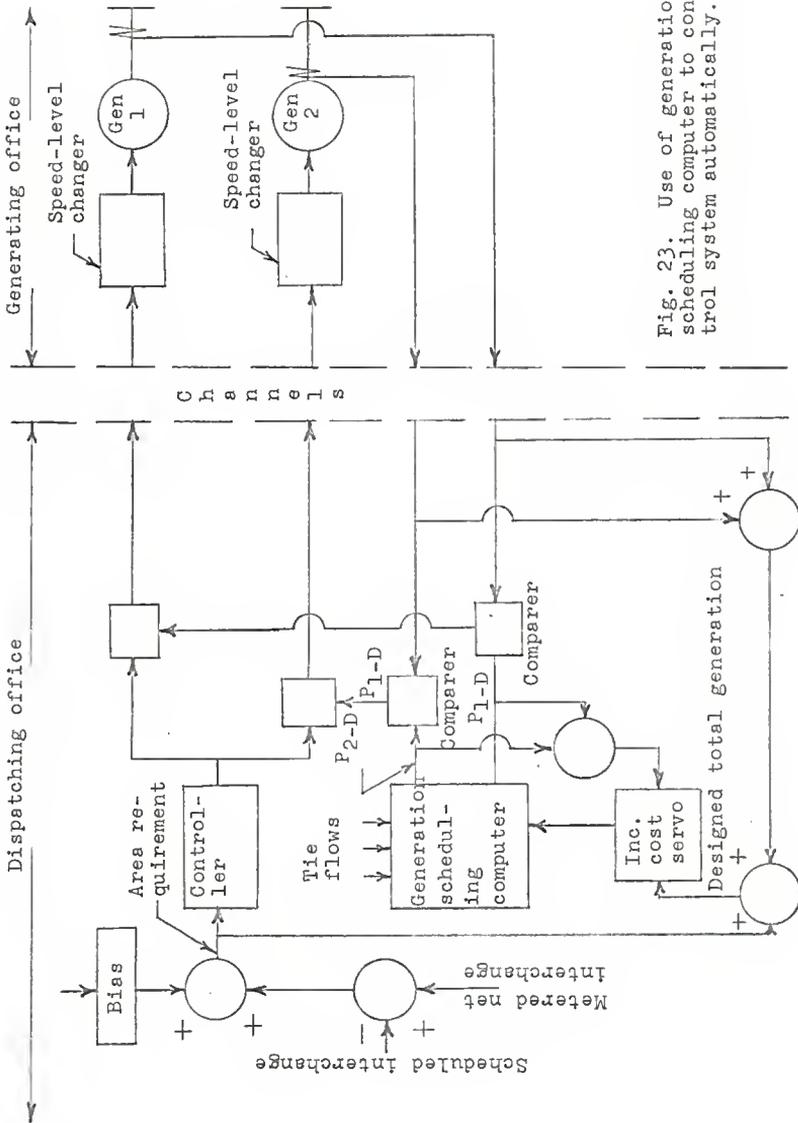


Fig. 23. Use of generation-scheduling computer to control system automatically.

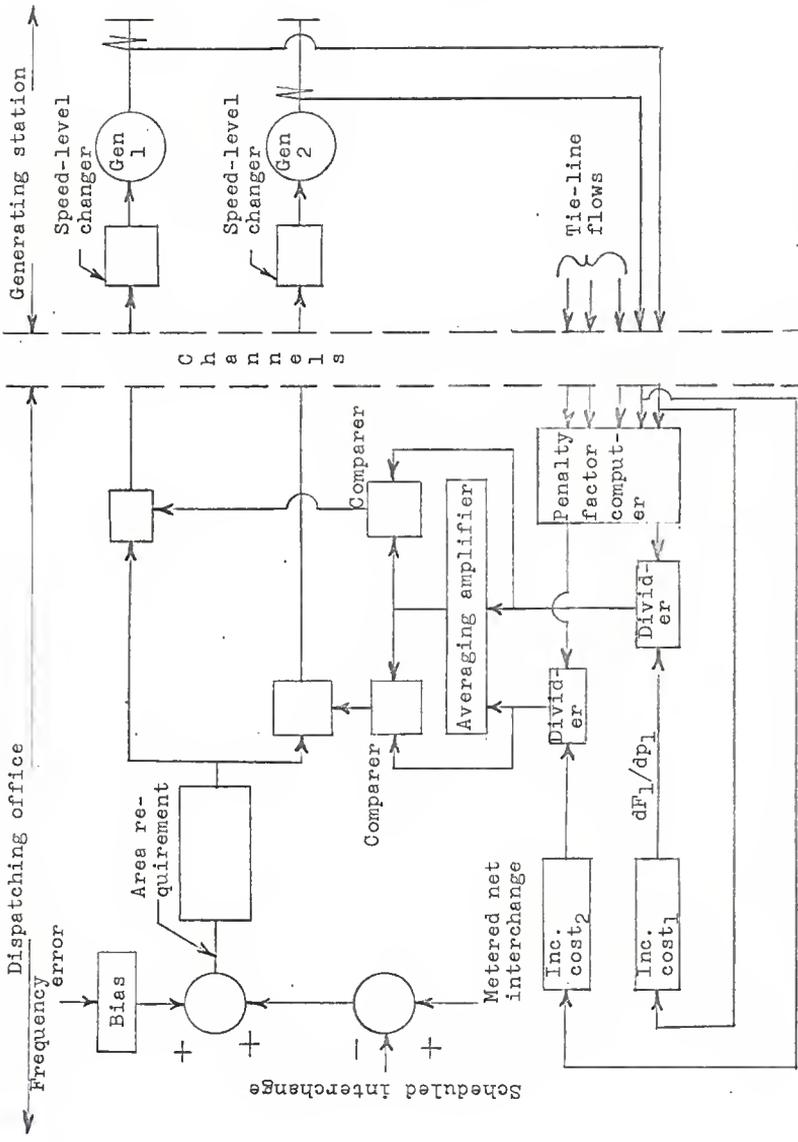


Fig. 24. Use of incremental cost comparison computer to control system automatically.

In the equations,

$$\lambda_1 = dF_1/dp_1 (1/(1/L_1))$$

and

$$\lambda_2 = dF_2/dp_2 (1/(1/L_2))$$

It is seen that the outputs of the dividers are λ_1 and λ_2 respectively. Taking the average of the two, λ_{average} is obtained. By the process of comparison of λ_{average} with λ_1 and λ_2 , correction signals are obtained, so that signals to increase generation are sent to units with λ below average; and signals to decrease generation are sent to units with λ above average.

INTERCONNECTED AREAS CONTROLLED BY COMPUTERS

In this chapter a study of automatic economic operation of interconnected areas is made. If a number of areas are interconnected, then this system can be termed as a pool. To obtain an economic operation of this pool, the several areas interconnected should be treated as one area. Then only one computer will be necessary to centrally control all the areas of the pool. Information regarding the load on each plant and external interconnection flow has to be fed in the computer. There is also a control system which is connected to each of the areas by means of a control channel. This control system sends in commands through the control channel to the various connected areas to increase or decrease their power delivery to the grid system. By this method various areas connected to the grid are automatically operated; however, there are a few disadvantages of this system when compared with decentralized approach. The

following are some of these disadvantages of a centralized system.

1. Greater increase in telemetering channel requirements.
2. Use of larger centralized computer controllers.
3. Information for accounting between areas is not readily available.

Consider a case where two areas are connected in a pool. This is the simplest case for study purposes. These two areas must be considered as one area, and these two areas should be delivering power to the grid system at equal incremental costs of received power. Figure 25 illustrates the interconnection of two areas by a single tie, whereas Fig. 26 illustrates a centralized control for the pool. This latter illustration shows the requirement of two channels between each plant and the central control location. One should find a loss formula that treats both the plants as one.

In earlier treatment of this work it was brought out that for economic dispatching within a given area, the incremental cost of received power from each source must be the same. This condition is a necessity.

Figure 27 illustrates two areas A and B interconnected by a single tie. In this case

$$c_{1a}L_{1a} = \lambda_a \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dF_2}{dp_2} L_{2a} = \lambda_a \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{dF_3}{dp_3} L_{3a} = \lambda \quad (3)$$

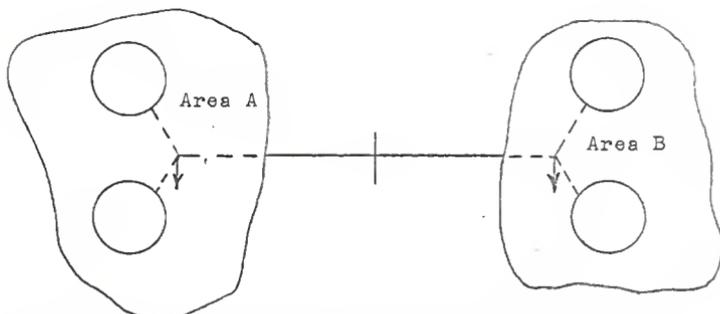


Fig. 25. Pool formed by interconnection of areas A and B by a single tie.

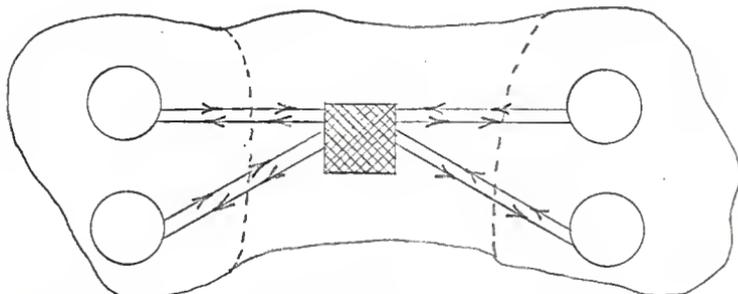


Fig. 26. Centralized control for pool of Fig. 25.

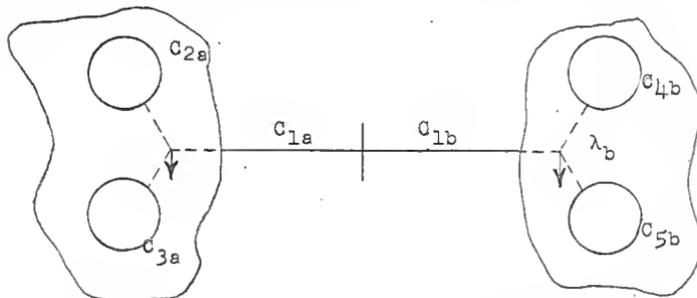


Fig. 27. Incremental cost relations.

where c_{1e} = incremental cost at bus 1 referred to area A

L_{ne} = penalty factor of source n in area A

λ_e = incremental cost of received power in area A

$\frac{dF_n}{dp_n}$ = incremental production cost of plant n.

In the same fashion the equations for area B to operate most economically are

$$c_{1b}L_{1b} = \lambda_b \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{dF_4}{dp_4} L_{4b} = \lambda_b \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{dF_5}{dp_5} L_{5b} = \lambda_b \quad (6)$$

where c_{1b} = incremental cost at bus 1 referred to area B

L_{nb} = penalty factor of source "n" in area B

λ_b = incremental cost of received power in area B.

To schedule most economical operations of the pool, it is essential that the net interchange between areas A and B be of such magnitude that the incremental cost of the interchange at bus 1 will be the same when referred to either area; i.e.,

$$c_{1e} = c_{1b} \quad (7)$$

Equations (1) and (4) can be used in relating the cost of the received power in each area to the incremental cost at bus 1.

Therefore

$$c_{1e} = \lambda_a/L_{1a} \quad (8)$$

$$c_{1b} = \lambda_b/L_{1b} \quad (9)$$

If the values of λ_a , λ_b , L_{1a} , L_{1b} are known from area dispatching systems, then c_{1e} and c_{1b} may be calculated from the

equations (8) and (9). From the values of c_{1s} and c_{1b} , it is possible to find how the net interchange scheduling for each area should be modified. This is done by comparing c_{1a} and c_{1b} . Figure 28 suggests a method of the above scheme. By this method c_{1a} and c_{1b} are compared, and $(c_{1s} - c_{1b})$ is obtained. If it is found that the cost of c_{1s} is less than c_{1b} , then a signal is sent to the automatic dispatching equipment in area "A", with a command to increase the scheduled net interchange out. Also the same signal with an opposite sign is sent to station "B", with a command to decrease the scheduled net interchange by an amount equal to the amount by which the scheduled net interchange at "A" was increased. This process of correcting is carried on until $c_{1a} = c_{1b}$. For proper operation of load frequency controllers, the sum of the net interchange schedules for this two-area system should be equal to zero. This is with the assumption that there are no external interconnections. This relationship between the interchange schedule should be maintained; if not there will occur sustained frequency error. If, however, these two areas have external interconnections with other adjoining areas, then the sum of the net interchange schedules for the two areas must be equal to the desired total interchange to the external areas.

Description of the Control Equipment

Figure 29 illustrates a control equipment arrangement which can effect the above mentioned automatic operation. The

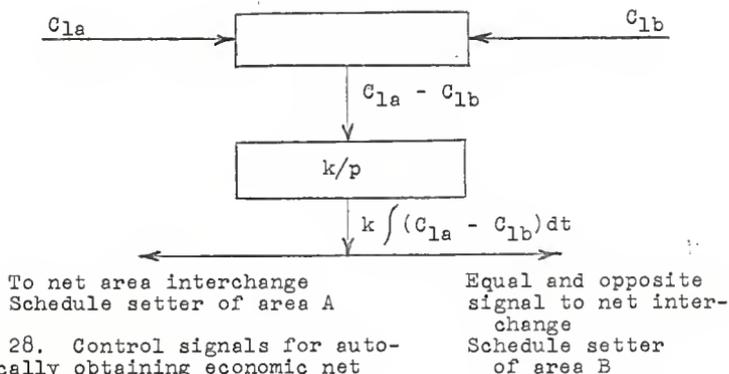


Fig. 28. Control signals for automatically obtaining economic net interchange.

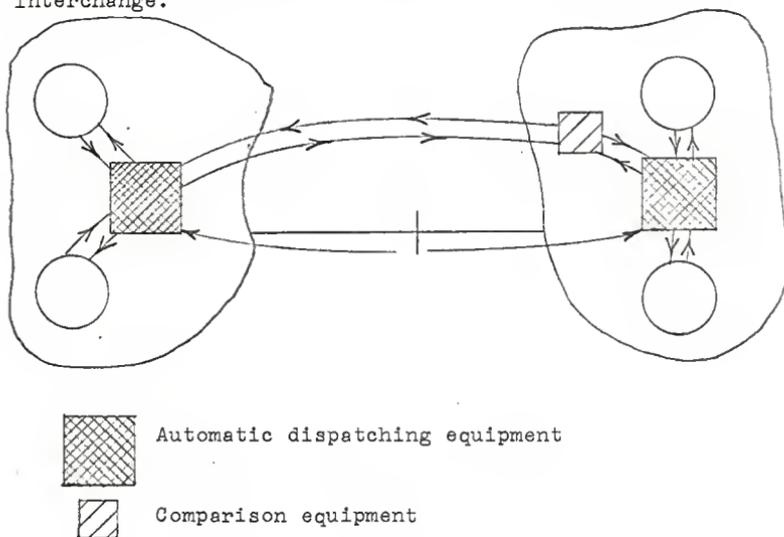


Fig. 29. Computer control equipment arrangement.

prerequisites for automatic control of these areas for maximum economy are the following:

1. To obtain equal incremental cost of delivered power within the boundary of each area, one must dispatch each area individually.

2. The value of power at the common tie point must be available.

Some dispatching systems automatically furnish this information. As discussed earlier, the incremental cost of power at tie points should be compared and signals of equal magnitude and opposite signs should be sent to the areas for achieving maximum overall economy of operations. These signals operating as a net interchange schedule setter bring about equal incremental cost at the common tie point by varying the generation of the two areas. For this to be accomplished in a two-area pool, comparison equipment should be provided at one area and two telemetering channels should be provided between the two areas.

Figure 30 is an illustration of a system used to operate a two-area pool in an economical fashion. Signals representing cost of power at the comparison point are provided by the existing automatic dispatching system. These are compared by two motor-synchro units driving a mechanical differential; thus shaft motion proportional to the difference between the two cost signals results. Individual pointers are driven by the motor shafts through appropriate gearing. These individual pointers indicate the two costs. The potentiometer-battery combination indicated

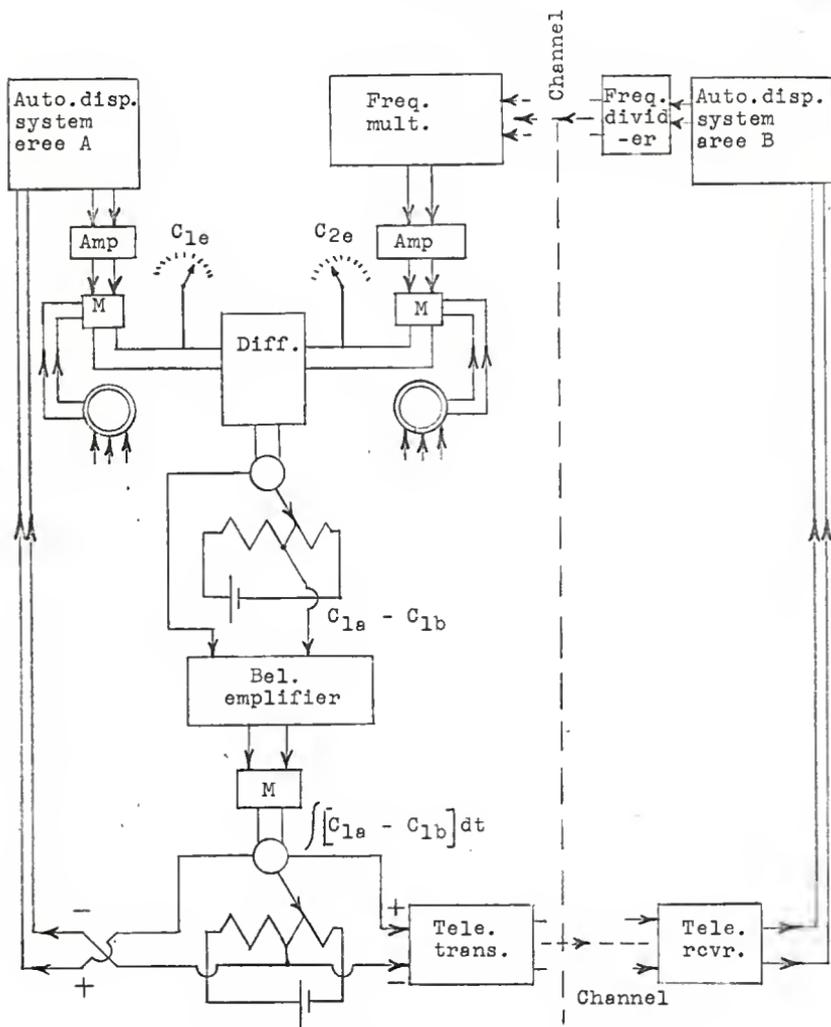


Fig. 30. Schematic diagram of equipment.

in the illustration is actuated by the differential output shaft to provide a direct-current signal proportional to the cost difference. The potentiometer energizes, through a balancing amplifier, a slow-speed servo motor which in turn drives another potentiometer-battery combination. The signal developed by this potentiometer is used to supplement the existing schedule signals in the automatic dispatching system. A speed proportional to cost error is obtained by using a negative feedback in the balancing amplifier.

Suppose if the cost of power delivered to the common comparison point from area B is higher than from area A, then motor-selsyn units will cause the potentiometer to move in a direction so as to send a reduced "out schedule" signal to area B, and an increased "out schedule" to area A. This action is of a reset nature, which means the interchange signals will continue to change until the condition of cost equality is met.

Areas With Multiple Ties

In the earlier discussion a single tie between two areas was considered, whereas now the case of two areas having multiple ties between them is to be considered. Figure 31 is an illustration of a pool with multiple ties. Surely enough it is essential to consider the incremental losses incurred over each of the parallel paths.

If p_{sa} = net interchange or excess flow out of area A, then

$$p_{sa} = p_{1b} + p_{2b} = -p_{1a} - p_{2a} \quad (10)$$

Let c_{ea} = incremental cost at boundary referred to area "A" for delivering an increment of power from the hypothetical load of area A to the hypothetical load of area B.

c_{eb} = incremental cost at boundary referred to area B for delivering an increment of power from hypothetical load of area A to the hypothetical load of area B, or equals incremental cost at boundary referred to area B for delivering an increment of power from the hypothetical load of area B to the hypothetical load of area A.

It has been established by various authors that

$$c_{ea} = \lambda_a + \lambda_a \left(\frac{\delta L_{Ta}}{\delta p_{1a}} \frac{\delta p_{1a}}{\delta p_{ea}} + \frac{\delta L_{Ta}}{\delta p_{2a}} \frac{\delta p_{2a}}{\delta p_{ea}} \right) \quad (11)$$

and

$$c_{eb} = \lambda_b - \lambda_b \left(\frac{\delta L_{Tb}}{\delta p_{1b}} \frac{\delta p_{1b}}{\delta p_{ea}} + \frac{\delta L_{Tb}}{\delta p_{2b}} \frac{\delta p_{2b}}{\delta p_{ea}} \right) \quad (12)$$

and for optimum economy

$$c_{ea} = c_{eb} \quad (13)$$

In the above equations

$\frac{\delta L_{Ta}}{\delta p_{1e}}$ = ratio of change in transmission loss in area A to change in tie flow p_{1a} when delivering an increment of power from bus 1 to the hypothetical load of area A, assuming that no change in the remaining variables occurs.

$\frac{\delta L_{Ta}}{\delta p_{2a}}$ is similarly defined for p_{2a} .

$\frac{\delta L_{Tb}}{\delta p_{1b}}$, $\frac{\delta L_{Tb}}{\delta p_{2b}}$ are similarly defined for area B.

$\frac{\delta p_{1e}}{\delta p_{ea}}$ = ratio of change in the flow into area A at bus 1 to the change in excess flow out of area A, when an increment of power is delivered from the hypothetical load of area A to the hypothetical load of area B.

$\frac{\delta p_{2e}}{\delta p_{ee}}$ = same as above but with respect to the flow into area A at bus 2.

Since $p_{1b} = -p_{1e}$

$$p_{2b} = -p_{2e}$$

then

$$\frac{\delta p_{1b}}{\delta p_{ea}} = - \frac{\delta p_{1a}}{\delta p_{ea}}$$

$$\frac{\delta p_{2b}}{\delta p_{ee}} = - \frac{\delta p_{2e}}{\delta p_{ee}}$$

If the ratios of X/R for the transmission systems in the two areas are the same, the comparison cost calculations are greatly simplified. The incremental cost calculations need not include an extra factor to account for differences in X/R ratios. As an example of such simplification the cost of delivering an increment of power from area A to tie point 1, including the parallel path offered by area B, may be closely approximated by

$$c_{1e} = \lambda_e / L_{1a} \quad (14)$$

$$L_{1e} = \frac{1}{1 - (\delta L_{Ta} / \delta p_{1e})} \quad (15)$$

In the same fashion the cost of delivering an increment of power from area B to tie-point 1, including the parallel path

offered by A, is clearly approximated by

$$c_{1b} = \lambda_b / L_{1b} \quad (16)$$

$$L_{1b} = \frac{1}{1 - (\delta L_{Tb} / \delta p_{1b})} \quad (17)$$

It is possible to bring the net interchange between the two areas into economic balance by comparison between c_{1a} and c_{1b} . Indeed, the costs at bus 1 and bus 2 are different. This scheme can now be extended to pools formed by more than two areas. The extension and reductions of the above formulae are a matter of routine.

Multiarea Economic Dispatch Computer

The following tasks are accomplished by multiarea economic dispatch computers:

1. Calculation of economic interchange between areas.
2. Calculation of weighted incremental costs at boundaries for interconnection accounting.
3. Calculation of incremental costs of wheeling losses.
4. Calculation of flows over individual tie lines.

There are two types of computers that will be of interest.

They are:

1. Single-area economic dispatch computer.
2. Multiarea economic dispatch computer.

Let us first consider the single-area economic dispatch computer. Figure 32 indicates a single area, and the problem is to study the type of computer required for calculating the

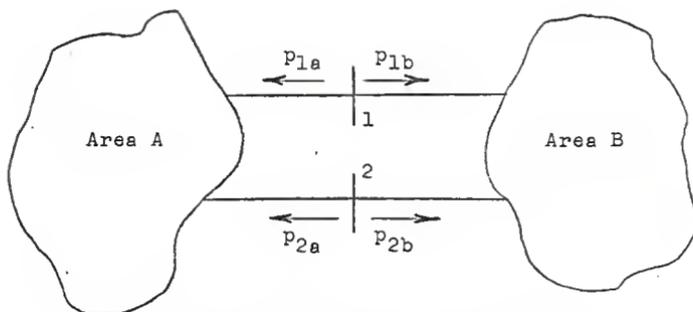


Fig. 31. Pool with multiple ties between two areas.

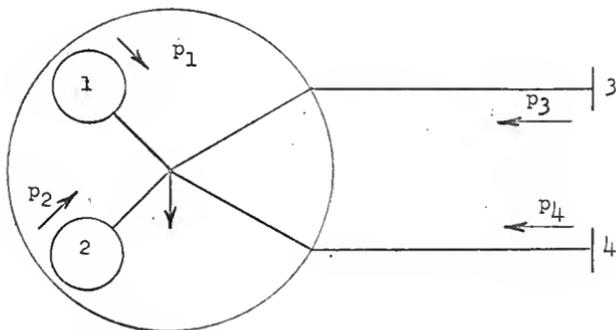


Fig. 32. Illustrative single-area problem.

economic allocation of generation for the single area. Consider the following equations defining the economic operation within an area.

$$\frac{dF_1}{dp_1} + \lambda \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_1} = \lambda \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{dF_2}{dp_2} + \lambda \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_2} = \lambda \quad (15)$$

where $\frac{dF_n}{dp_n}$ = incremental production cost of plant n in dollars per mwh

λ = incremental cost of received power in dollars per mwh

$\frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_n}$ = incremental transmission loss with respect to p_n when only p_n changes.

The incremental cost of an increment of power delivered to tie-points 3 and 4, respectively, is given by

$$c_3 = \lambda - \lambda \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_3} \quad (16)$$

$$c_4 = \lambda - \lambda \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_4} \quad (17)$$

where c_n is the incremental cost of power delivered to point n. The following loss formula is used in calculating incremental transmission losses.

$$\frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_n} = \sum 2 B_{mn} p_m + B_{no}$$

where p_m = various steam plant loadings, hydro plant loadings, tie loadings, and nonconforming loads. The B_{mn} and B_{no} terms

are transmission-loss-formula coefficients.

Figure 33 shows a schematic representation of a single area computer that solves the above mentioned equations. p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 are inputs to the transmission-loss-formula matrix.

$\frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_1}, \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_2}, \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_3},$ and $\frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_4}$ are the outputs of these matrices.

These incremental losses are multiplied by λ by means of a gang potentiometer to obtain $\lambda(\delta L_T/\delta p_1), \lambda(\delta L_T/\delta p_2), \lambda(\delta L_T/\delta p_3),$ and $\lambda(\delta L_T/\delta p_4),$ respectively.

Equations (1) and (2) can be written as,

$$\frac{dF_1}{dp_1} = \lambda - \lambda \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_1} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{dF_2}{dp_2} = \lambda - \lambda \frac{\delta L_T}{\delta p_2} \quad (19)$$

The operations indicated by the above two equations are the inputs to the function generator. These function generators indicate the relationship between output cost and the incremental production cost. In Fig. 33, p_1 and p_2 are shown as the output of the function generators. These calculated values of p_1 and p_2 are the input to the transmission loss matrix, together with the setting of p_3 and p_4 . If there are a number of units in a plant, then a number of function generators are connected in parallel. Calculations of c_3 and c_4 are indicated in Fig. 33. The λ -servo indicated at the top of Fig. 33 aids the computer in automatically obtaining the desired value of total steam plant generation. In this case desired total steam generation is matched with total steam generation from the computer. If

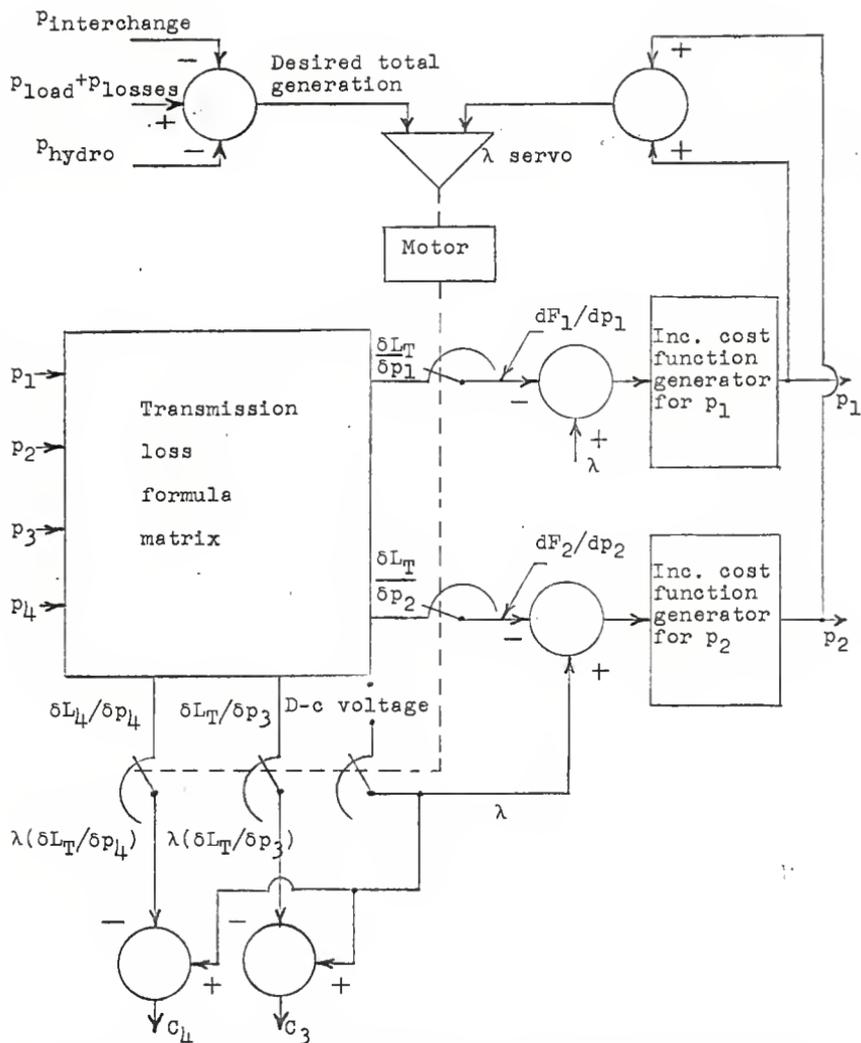


Fig. 33. Schematic representation of single area computer.

there is an error, the λ potentiometers are driven at a rate proportional to this error so that in the steady state the desired total generation and the computed total generation are identical.

The desired total generation is calculated as

$$P_{total} = P_{load} - P_{hydro} - P_{interchange} + P_{losses}$$

Multiarea Computers

Figure 34 illustrates two areas connected by a single tie. Equations for economic operations within each area are considered in the form

$$\frac{dF_a}{dp_{G_a}} + \lambda_a \frac{\delta L_{T_a}}{\delta p_{G_a}} = \lambda_a \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{dF_b}{dp_{G_b}} + \lambda_b \frac{\delta L_{T_b}}{\delta p_{G_b}} = \lambda_b \quad (21)$$

where $\frac{dF_a}{dp_{G_a}}$ = incremental product cost in dollars per
mwh of a particular plant G_a in area A

$\frac{dF_b}{dp_{G_b}}$ if the same as above, except for area B

λ_a, λ_b = incremental cost of received power in areas
A and B, respectively

$\frac{\delta L_{T_a}}{\delta p_{G_a}}$ = incremental transmission loss in area A for a
particular plant G_a when only that plant changes

$\frac{\delta L_{T_b}}{\delta p_{G_b}}$ is the same as above except for area B.

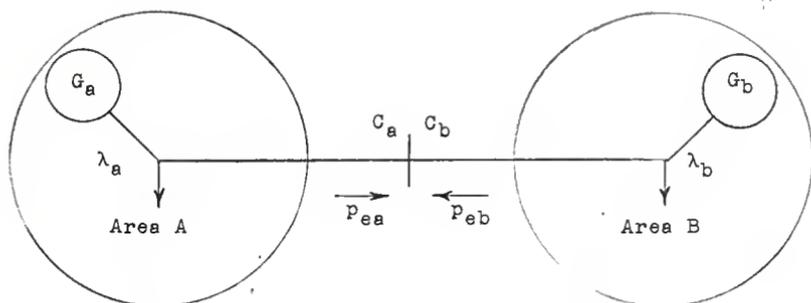


Fig. 34. Two areas connected by single tie.

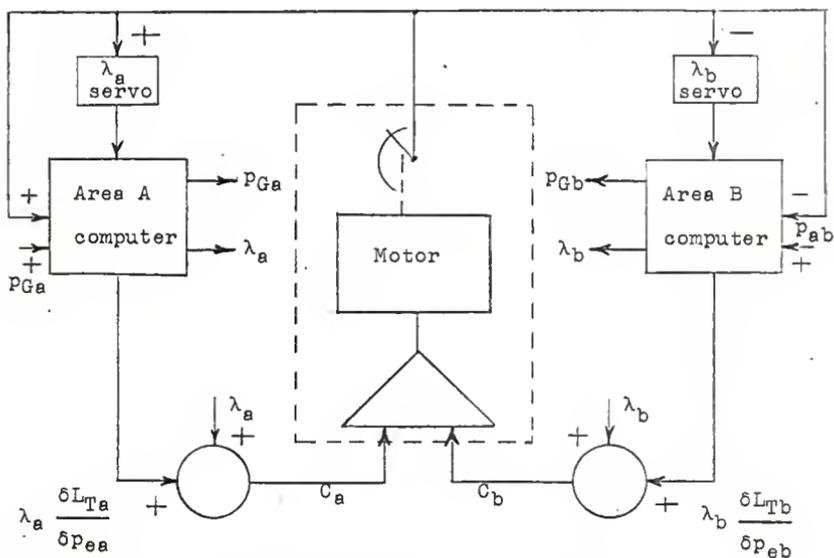


Fig. 35. Computer system for two areas connected by a single tie.

For an economical operation of the pool formed by these two areas, it is essential that the net interchange between areas A and B be of such magnitude that the incremental cost of the interchange at the metering point will be the same when referred to either area. Thus when

$$c_a = c_b \quad (22)$$

optimum economy is obtained, where

c_a = incremental cost at the boundary referred to area A for delivering an increment of power from the hypothetical load of area A to the hypothetical load of area B

c_b = incremental cost at the boundary referred to area B for delivering an increment of power from the hypothetical load of area B to the hypothetical load of area A.

Values of c_a and c_b can be obtained from the following equations.

$$c_a = \lambda_a + \lambda_a \frac{\delta L_{T_a}}{\delta p_{aa}} \quad (22a)$$

$$c_b = \lambda_b + \lambda_b \frac{\delta L_{T_b}}{\delta p_{bb}} \quad (23)$$

where p_{ea} = net interchange or excess flow out of area A.

$$p_{ea} = -p_{ab} \quad (24)$$

Figure 35 illustrates a computer system for two areas connected by a single tie. Each of the areas has a dispatching computer. Costs c_a and c_b are calculated by dispatching computers A and B, respectively. If it is found that the rates c_a and c_b are not equal, then using a rate proportional to the

difference between c_a and c_b , the interchanges for each of the two areas are modified by equal and opposite amounts. Thus $c_a = c_b$ will be the steady state. The servo that is used in balancing these values of c_a and c_b is called an interarea servo.

A similar procedure is carried on for two areas connected by multiple ties.

A TYPICAL COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR OPERATION OF ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION

Planning groups within electric utilities have devoted much effort to selection of size, type, and location of generating capacity additions. There are many variables to consider in planning new generation. Some examples of these variables are:

1. Should the generating unit be located in the high fuel cost area near the load so as to have short transmission lines, or should it be located in a low fuel cost area remote from the load, and requiring long transmission lines?
2. Should units to carry the peak loads be steam driven or should oil-burning units such as diesels or gas turbines be used?
3. What size units should be installed?

Questions like those above have to be answered by a planning group.

In this era, even a modest addition to the existing electric generation system will cost somewhere from 20 to 50 million dollars, and during its life it may burn coal costing in the order of two times the original construction cost. Thus it is

seen that any planning which reduces the above cost is a worthwhile venture. For this reason many utility planning groups set up models of the generating system (sometimes including transmission systems) to attempt to evaluate the effect of various types of expansion patterns. Many groups have recently employed the digital computer as a tool to secure more data to guide their decisions. Looking at the magnitude of the planning task, the use of such a computer is well justified.

In the past the conventional method used is to fill the area under an annual load duration curve with generating capability to meet the load and reserve requirements. Referring to Fig. 36, it can be seen that certain classes of units are considered base units and the others as peakers. The upper portion of the curve is filled with peaking-type units and the lower portion of the curve is filled with base-type units. These curves are called "load duration curves". This type of approach will be adequate on a large system, with relatively uniform fuel cost over the area. However, on a large system with many units there can be one or more extra base-type units to fill in when base units are out for maintenance. Similarly, there can be one or more extra peaking types to cover maintenance of peaking units. Thus there will be little need for peakers filling in as base units when such a unit is out for maintenance.

On a medium-sized system the effects of maintenance outages may be more complicated. The number of base-type units is not great enough so that there is always one or more out for maintenance and so it is neither practical nor desirable to have an

extra base unit to cover this maintenance; similarly, with peaking-type units. The planning problem then becomes more involved for if a peaking-type unit is selected as the next new unit, it can do peaking service part of the time but some of the time it must fill in as a base-loaded unit while the turbine overhaul is in progress on a base unit. Similarly, if a base unit is selected, there may be excess base capacity when all base units are available and this or other base-type units will be doing peaking service.

The above factors are further complicated by a 50 per cent fuel cost differential in the possible plant locations; thus the planning problem is even more complicated. An example of this statement is that a peaking-type unit in the low fuel cost area is able to produce energy at lower cost than a base unit in the higher fuel cost area.

The following computer program is for evaluating a generation expansion plan with many variables, and this estimates annual fuel costs for future years. This program requires a machine with core storage and indexing registers. The B-portion of the program can be run on a machine without a tape unit while the A-B combination would require a tape unit. The program is written in such a way that highly repetitive portions are done in core storage to take advantage of the shorter access time.

Specification of the Program

A program which has to meet the requirements for the

planning problem should have the following characteristics:

1. It must be a realistic simulation
 - a. It must maintain the specified spinning reserve
 - b. It must load units incrementally
 - c. It must recognize maintenance outages
 - d. It must follow a designated priority schedule for the units.
2. It must give suitable detail in the output, such as:
 - a. System, plant, and unit costs
 - b. Fuel burned at each plant
 - c. Average cost per mwh at the unit, plant, and system levels
 - d. It should give an indication of the unit capacity factor and load duration to aid in design of the unit.
3. It must be a practical program
 - e. Input data preparation should be simple
 - b. It should be suitable for running on a medium-size computer
 - c. Running time should be short since many cases will be run.
4. It should, if practical, be made versatile so that it can be used for other purposes such as short-term maintenance scheduling.

Description of Program

Basic Concept. The basic operation of the program is quite simple. The program receives a load to be met and the length of the time block which this load represents, a list of available machines, and the order in which these are to be put on the line. It determines how many machines to put on so as to meet the load and reserve requirements, then it loads these incrementally, thus determining the generation by each unit and each plant. It also determines the total and average cost of fuel for each unit, each plant, and for the system. Unit capacity factors and block load duration curves are calculated. The program can be used to determine annual fuel cost using different length time blocks.

The general version of the program will accept the following:

1. A loading table (usually in incremental form although it may be in any desired order).
2. A priority table (shows the units to be installed and the order in which the units are to be put on the system).
3. A conversion table (shows at which plant each unit belongs and gives the description of the unit).
4. Period data (specifies load peak, reserve required, and plant fuel costs).
5. A section deck (shows the fraction of peak for this section, the number of hours represented, and the

units out for maintenance in this section).

Theory of Outages with a Load Duration Curve Approach

All planning programs which try to simulate system operation must take into consideration the outages which occur during the period. These outages may be of three main types.

1. The scheduled outage which is planned in advance and during this time annual inspection and maintenance are accomplished.
2. The second type might be termed unscheduled outage although a name such as "short-term scheduled outage" could be used. This may bring in the problem of shutting down and again starting the unit. However, this difficulty can be overcome by not shutting down the unit. Instead, continue to operate it, until a low load period, when the cost of shutting down is smaller.
3. The third type of outage, perhaps the most expensive from the operating point of view, is that which occurs during high load periods and is of such a nature as to require the immediate removal of the unit from the system.

A simulation program should include all these types of outages. The first type can easily be determined since generally standard schedules are observed for annual overhaul and inspection of units and for major overhauls at five years or greater intervals. The second and third type are a little more difficult

to find. These outages must be established from experience. The amount of such outages differs from unit to unit, depending upon the type of unit and its past history.

The computer program takes outages into account in the following manner. Annual cases are run using a load duration curve divided into a hundred sections. The approach taken is to make certain units unavailable for various of these sections used in constructing the load duration curve. Since each of the one hundred sections represents one per cent of the time, it is obvious that making a unit unavailable for eight sections makes it unavailable for eight per cent of the year. Thus it is evident that making a unit unavailable for eight sections really makes it unavailable at eight specific load levels, whereas the eight per cent of time during the actual year that it is unavailable would be at many more load levels. Thus this type of representation is not quite as simple as could be obtained by real time simulation. Further discussion on how these eight sections should be selected is to follow.

The load duration curve in 100-section form has been broken into three sections, as shown in Fig. 37. The lower 60 per cent is considered off-peak. The top 40 per cent is considered to be on-peak periods. The top 40 per cent is further subdivided into two parts, the lower 30 per cent and the top 10 per cent. These two parts are considered to be the normal on-peak periods and the top 10 per cent the on-peak periods during the highest load months of the year. It is considered acceptable on the basis of experience to represent the eight per cent outages during the

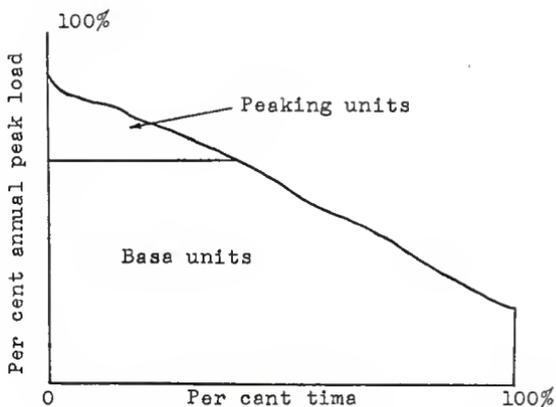


Fig. 36. Annual load duration curve.

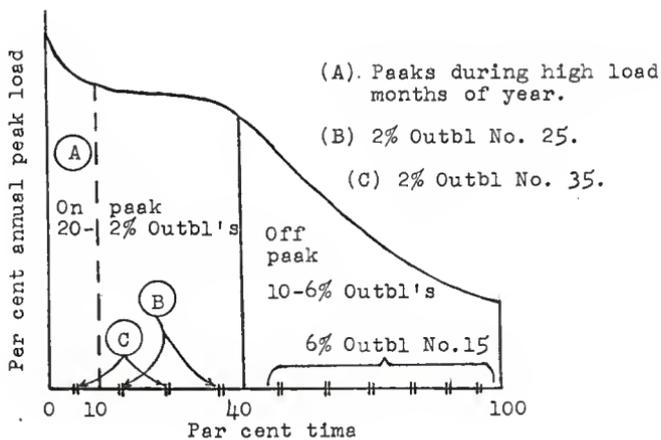


Fig. 37. Annual load duration curve division.

year by putting six per cent of them in the lower 60 per cent of the curve and two per cent in the upper 40 per cent of the curve.

In addition to the annual scheduled outages for inspection and maintenance, there occurs on each unit at intervals of five yeere or more an outege of longer length during which time the turbine unit itseif is torn down for inspection and maintenance. The amount of work involved requires a considerably longer outege in this cese. An outage of epproximately two months, or 15 per cent of the time, ie required for this overhaul. These outeges occur after 40,000 hours of operation by the unit. These will occur once in five years for a unit that ie operating continuously. Combining these turbine overhaul outages with estimated short-time maintenance echeduled outages and forced outege, leads to use outeges of 12 per cent in the off-peak period and six per cent in the on-peak period for the year in which a unit hae turbine overhaul.

Multiple Outeges. With many units in e system e point is soon reached where there is not sufficient time during the yeer to inspect or overhaul each of the units one at a time. Conee- quently it is necessary to have two or more units out at a time. This ie also recognized in the planning program which permite as many units as desired to be made unavailable for each section of the load duration curve.

Partial Outage Model. Many times in actual operation e unit may be running but it ie restricted in output beceuee of the failure of some component. In such cases a method which can

be utilized to evaluate the cost of such partial outages is to say that there are two units, one which has the full capability of the unit being simulated and a second similar unit whose maximum is equal to the reduced capability of the unit being simulated. Thus in any given section one or the other of these is made available as required. If the real unit is to be completely down, then both models are made available. This method is shown in the B-1 program to follow.

After determining the amount of such outages, their approximate placement along the load duration curve has been specified, the job of actually getting these outages into the program remains. The problem with a fixed number of units is not particularly difficult, because once a deck of outage cards is made up little change needs to be made. On the contrary, in planning a study which considers many years, many types and number of new units, there are many required variations in the outage listing. This is because the machine which will have a turbine overhaul varies with years and because the placement of the larger machines in the most optimum portion of the year will vary, depending upon the number of the larger machines. Thus considerable time was being expended to specify outages for each case as nearly as practical to what seems to be the actual practice, if the new machines indicated were in actual operation.

Theory of Loading Used by Program

Determination of Unit Running. The reserve routine

determines which of the available units must be operated to carry a specific load. It starts with the unit having priority number 1. It determines whether this unit will supply the necessary load. If not, it goes to the unit with priority number 2 and adds on its maximum, again checking to see whether the total will supply the required load. It continues to add units, skipping over those out for maintenance, until a sufficiently large total is achieved to carry the load. The program then checks further to see if the total of the units put on is equal to the load plus the specified fraction of the largest of these held for reserve. If another unit must be put on to meet the reserve requirements, the program again checks to see whether this unit could have been larger than any previous one put on and, if so, readjusts the reserve accordingly. When the number of units put on meets both the load requirement and the reserve requirement, the program goes on to loading.

Unit Loading

The loading procedure is based on an incremental or loading table stored in the computer. A part of a typical loading table is shown in Table 2.

The minimum block for each machine is at the beginning of the table on the left. Additional blocks of energy are stacked following these minima in order of average incremental cost. The size of these blocks could vary from two megawatts up to ten megawatts. The size of the block is based on the slope of the

Tabla 2. Portions of a loading table.

Storage location :	MACHN :	INCLO :	INGCO
1	10	09	5369
2	09	13	5588
3	08	13	5588
4	07	13	6026
5	06	26	6452
6	05	26	6452
7	04	15	4075
8	03	15	4075
9	02	32	6688
10	01	32	6688
--	--	--	--
--	--	--	--
70	08	02	0563
71	09	02	0563
72	07	07	2032

incremental curva. The units with practically flat curves can have rather large blocks without there being a very large difference in the incremental cost from one block to the next. Units having steep curves must have smaller sized blocks in order to keep the change in incremental cost between blocks within acceptable limits. This method results in a loading table with a reasonable number of blocks and without an unduly large cost step from one block to the other.

After having determined which units must be operated to meet the load and reserve requirements, the load carried by each unit is then determined. This is accomplished by starting at the bottom of the loading table and going up step by step. Each item in the loading table carries the machine number which will supply this amount of load. The program starts at the first block, which will be a machine minimum. It determines from the

reserve routine whether this machine is running. If this machine is running, it adds the megawatts corresponding to minimum into an accumulator. It adds the cost of the megawatt into another accumulator. It continues this on through all the machine minimum adding in only those which are running. It then goes to the first incremental block above the machine minimum end, if the machine is running, adds in both the load and the cost of this load. The program continues step by step up the table accumulating load and cost of this load. Machines not operating are skipped over and the program goes to the next table's step. After each addition a check is made to determine whether the accumulation of load increments equals or exceeds the specified load. At such time as the total equals or exceeds the required amount, the program stops stepping up the table. If the accumulation of increments exactly equals the required load, then the program breaks out of this loop. If, however, the accumulation exceeds the actual required load, the program goes into an adjustment routine and takes just the required fraction of the last bracket, so that the accumulated totals equal the exact required load. As the program was stepping up the incremental table, the load and cost of each step were added into system load and cost. At the same time, each load and cost was added to the proper unit totals, thus keeping a cumulative total of the load and operating cost on each unit. Bracket information is figured for each unit following the adjustment.

Preparation of Loading Table

Program "A" helps in preparing the incremental table by an IBM-650 program. This program contains the description of all the machines desired in a particular series of runs. This descriptive information specifies unit blocks and the heat input corresponding to these blocks. The program selects the required machines, multiplies the heat inputs by the appropriate fuel costs, and then merges the selected machines to obtain a loading table according to increasing incremental cost. This table is then inserted into the main program (program B).

Number of Machines Accommodated by the Program

The bank on the IBM-650 has 50 words. Thus the program will accommodate up to 24 machines. Consequently each band was split into two parts and since the 25th position on some bands was needed for transfer, this left only 24 words for machine descriptive information. After using the program for a while certain modifications became apparent, which could utilize storage more effectively. The General Electric Company seems to be working on these modifications.

Interconnections

Interchanges can be handled by the program simply by making them inputs in the form of machines of fixed rating. Flow into

the system should be simulated by considering a machine of the same minimum and maximum as having first priority for these sections. Placing the machine first in priority would assure that energy from this source would come ahead of any other units. Similarly, energy flowing from the system could be handled by minus quantities. For example, a machine of minus 20 megawatts minimum and minus 20 megawatts maximum could be set up. Again such a machine would be placed first in priority if this were a firm interchange amount.

Such interchanges commonly occur when agreements are made with a neighboring company, so that company "A" will supply energy to company "B" when company "B" has one of its major units out for overhaul. Company "B" will return the energy to company "A" when company "A" has its major unit out for overhaul. This shows that such interchange of energy would materially postpone the installation date of new machines because of the ability to obtain energy from the neighboring company during the time when largest amount of generation is out for maintenance and overhaul. The economic value of such an agreement can be readily evaluated by this program.

Other types of interchange could also be simulated by placing a machine higher in the incremental table. Such an interchange simulating machine would come into use when the load reached this level, but would not be used at lighter loads. It is also possible to place a block of interchange energy at the lowest priority position. This then would not be called on unless at some time the system was short of reserve. If this

block was placed on with a minimum of zero, and the maximum of some desired quantity, then the unit could be called on for reserve and still not deliver any energy.

A typical program for estimating system fuel costs based on actual or estimated loads is shown below. This program recognizes maintenance outages and estimates of forced outages.

Some of the program uses are as follows:

1. Fuel cost for unit installation schedules having different unit sizes and types may be compared.
2. Economy of interchange contracts may be evaluated.
3. The real time version may be used for maintenance scheduling by determining costs of unit outages at various load levels.
4. Actual hourly loads may be fed in to determine the theoretical fuel consumption for comparison to actual consumption.
5. Short- or long-term fuel consumption at each plant may be estimated for budgeting.
6. Unit operating hours may be estimated for planning plant manpower.

Comparison of Annual Fuel Cost

The program may be used in several ways to determine annual fuel costs.

1. Hourly loads together with the units available each hour may be fed in.

2. Monthly load duration curves may be used.

3. Annual load duration curves may be used.

In the above cases the primary difference is in the amount of computer time required. Simulation of one year on the IBM-650 seems to require approximately the following times.

<u>Method</u>	<u>Running time, hours</u>
1. 4,380 - 2-hour time period	2
2. 12-40 section monthly load duration curves	1/2
3. 1-100 section annual load duration curve	1/10

Monthly load duration curves are prepared. Hourly loads are punched into cards which show the year, month, hour, and system load. All of these cards for a certain year are restored according to load. A sequence number is assigned to each card calling the highest load 1 and the lowest load 8,760. By calculation a bracket number is determined with the first 88 cards being bracket one and the next 87 being bracket two, etc. These bracket numbers from 1 to 100 are placed in each card to show where that hour's load fell during the year. Then the cards are restored to chronological order and a print-out made showing the bracket in which each hour of the year fell. Typical scheduled outages for spring, fall, or summer months are selected. A count is made of the number of hours falling in each of the 100 brackets during the days of scheduled outages. By dividing the outages into eight groups having equal numbers of hours, it could be seen how the distribution falls over the load duration curve. As it may be expected, the maintenance periods falling

in summer or winter tended to be rather uniformly scattered from the top to the bottom of the load duration curve. Consequently, an outage at the middle of each of the eight blocks appears to reasonably well represent the scheduled outages. The distribution further shows spring or fall maintenance periods as slightly lower on the load duration curve. Consequently, outages placed a little lower adequately represent these spring or fall outages.

Input Data

Three distinct forms of the program can be written. These differ primarily in the form of the input data required. These three versions and the required input data for each version are furnished below.

I. B-1 program (original program with minor modifications)

1. Loading table (1/c or with m-2, 7/c) (up to 400 words)
2. Priority table (up to 25 cards)
3. Case card (1 card)
4. Fuel cost card (\$/ton) (1 card)
5. Section deck (with machine outages on each card).
(One card for each section--100 cards for 100-point load duration curve.)

II. B-1 with m-11 and m-12

Same as for I except the machine outage need not be on each card in the section deck. They are on separate outage cards merged with the section deck.

Outages remain the same until a new outage card is read. This program is used primarily for real-time simulation where the machines out are the same for many sections.

III. A, B-3 (B-3 is B-1 with m-10)

1. Priority table (with outage blocks for each unit)
2. Fuel cost card ($\$/10^6$ btu)
3. Case card
4. Fuel cost card ($\$/\text{ton}$).

The loading table contains the unit incremental cost information, while the priority table contains the ratings of the units and the order in which the units are to be placed on the line. The period data contains information applying the entire period such as a year, and the section data contains that information applying to each section, such as each of the 100 sections into which an annual load duration curve may be divided. The detailed items contained in each will be described as follows.

Incremental Table

The incremental table is the most important thing in the program. The incremental table on cards from a previous calculation may be loaded into storage in either seven words per card or one word per card form. The table may also be calculated directly by program A.

Each word of the table contains a two-digit machine number

(MACHN), a two-digit number showing the size of the step (INCLO), and a six-digit number showing the dollar cost of this step (INCCO). The cost is shown to the nearest cent and may thus be as much as \$9999.99.

Priority Table Deck

The deck contains one card for each generating unit included in a given case. Each card describes the properties of one unit, and covers the following items.

1. The maximum rating of the machine (MAMAX).
 2. The minimum rating of the machine (MAMIN).
 3. The machine number associated with the particular unit for this priority table (MACHN).
 4. The conversion word which contains the following:
 - a. Plant number with which this unit is associated (PLANO)
 - b. The unit number of this unit within the plant
 - c. The priority sequence in which the unit is to be put on (PRINO)
 - d. The description number which identifies the incremental heat rate data used to prepare the incremental cost blocks (DESC).
 5. The number of machines in this priority table.
 6. The table number.
 7. Outage blocks (OUTBL), (required only for program B-3).
- The last card of the priority table is an end-of-table card.

In the PRINO position it contains the next number in the priority sequence. This is required to get the card past the input checks. In the MACHN position it contains a 25 regardless of the number of the last machine. The 25 is used to signal the end of the table loading sequence and to go to the next portion of the program. When used with the B-3 program, the OUTBL of this last card must have a "9" in the high-order position. (See Table 3).

Period Input Cards

The period input for each of these cases consists of two cards. The first of these two cards contains the following items:

1. Case number (CASNO).
2. Number of hours in the period (PH).
3. The peak load for the period (Load P).
4. The fraction of the largest unit to be maintained on reserve (RESF).
5. The present worth factor for the period (PWF).
6. The fuel cost for plant 8 (PFC-8).
7. The fuel cost for plant 9 (PFC-9).
8. A card identification 8 in Column 71.
9. For identification only a year may be punched on Column 79-80.

The second period input card contains the following information:

Table 3. Priority table.

MAMAX	MACHN	MAMIN	OUTBLS	No. of :mschines:	CASNO	PLANO	UNNO	PRINO	MESC
139	1	32	10 20	10	6783	1	01	1	1325
139	2	32	11 16 21	10	6783	1	02	2	1325
46	3	15	12 22	10	6783	2	01	3	1375
46	4	15	13 23	10	6783	2	02	4	1375
72	5	26	14 24	10	6783	2	03	5	1425
72	6	26	15 25	10	6783	2	04	6	1425
100	7	13	17 27	10	6783	3	05	7	1475
33	8	13	13 18 28	10	6783	4	04	8	1525
33	9	13	19 29	10	6783	4	03	9	1525
23	10	09	14 30	10	6783	4	02	10	1575

1. The section number (SECNO).
2. The load duration multiplier (LDM).
3. The number of hours which the section represents (SECH).
4. Outage word number one (OUT 1).
5. Outage word number two (OUT 2).
6. The deck number (including a modification number).
7. The month and/or year which the section deck represents (MOYR).
8. The continuous machine sequence number (CMS).

Table 4. A sample of section input deck.

SECNO	SECH	CMS	LDM	OUT 1	OUT 2	YEAR	Deck No.
1	87.6	03	1000	00		64	29
2	87.6	03	898	08		64	29
3	87.6	03	888	00		64	29
4	87.6	03	878	00		64	29
5	87.6	03	868	00		64	29
6	87.6	03	858	00		64	29

Load Duration Multiplier (LDM)(X.XXX)

The load for each section is obtained by multiplying the peak load (Load P) by the load duration multiplier (LDM). By changing the pssk shown on the period input, the same set of information in the section cards may be used as long as the load duration curve remains the same.

Hours Represented by the Section (SECH)(XX.X)

This three-digit number tells the number of hours to the nearest tenth which it represents by this section. In the annual load duration curve approach with 100 sections, each section is usually taken as 87.6 hours. It is possible to use 100 or any other number of sections with unequal hour increments. Unequal increments may be used to obtain greater resolution near the peak of the load duration curve, where the number of hours may be quite small.

Outage Ones (OUT 1)(11 22 33 44 55). OUT 1 is the first outage word and in a 650 program contains 10 digits. This 10-digit word can specify as many as five units being unevaluated. Each unit is specified by punching its two-digit machine number in the outage word. If the number of outages exceeds five, the additional ones are punched in OUT 2, which is identical in form with OUT 1, and for input purposes it may be considered as the second half of a 20-digit sequence. OUT 1 must not be all zeros if there are any outages in OUT 2, for the outage routine

will stop looking as soon as it finds a word of all zeros. OUT 3 is placed in the program to stop the search for outages in the case where OUT 1 and OUT 2 are filled. Otherwise, the program never reaches OUT 3. If more than 10 outages are desired, it is possible to place additional ones in OUT 3 by continuing on into this word if the next word can be made all zeros.

Section Number (SECNO)(XXXX). Each section input card should carry a number and these numbers should be in sequence. This number is the order in which the sections are run. This number is used in the program only in two situations. If detailed output is obtained for each section, such output is then identified by this section number. A second situation is that in which the machines available are not adequate to maintain the required load or reserve. In this case a card is punched out showing the amount of deficiency and is identified by section number.

Program Output

Various details are available in the output from the program. The most complete program will punch out cards for each unit, for each section, showing the load carried by each unit, and the corresponding cost for that section, as well as the summary cards at the end of the period.

System Information. The normal output from the program punches cards for system information, plant information, and unit information. The cards for system information show the

following items:

1. Month and year.
2. The system megawatt hours.
3. The fuel costs for these megawatt hours.
4. The present worth of this fuel cost.
5. The number of hours in the period as well as two check totals on hours.
6. The average cost in dollars per megawatt hour for the period.

Plant Information. The type 2 plant cards show the following:

1. Total number of megawatt hours generated by the plant.
2. The cost of these megawatt hours.
3. The quantity of fuel required to produce these megawatt hours.
4. The cost per unit of fuel.
5. The average cost per megawatt hour for the plant.

Unit Information. The type 3 unit output cards show for each unit the following:

1. Unit number, description, priority number, and the plant location.
2. Ratings of the unit, namely, the maximum and minimum.
3. Megawatt hours produced by the unit.
4. Cost of these megawatt hours.
5. Capacity factor.
6. Average dollar per megawatt hour.

A second card for each unit, card type number 4, shows

bracket information for each unit. This includes:

1. A description of the unit similar to the previous unit card.
2. The number of hours under each of the following conditions:
 - a. The additional times the unit would have been operated if it had been available whenever required
 - b. The times the unit did not operate
 - c. The time the unit operated at minimum load
 - d. Times in the 0-1 bracket
 - e. Time in the 2-3 bracket
 - f. Time in the 4-5 bracket
 - g. Time in the 6-7 bracket
 - h. Time in the 8 bracket
 - i. Time in the 9 bracket
 - j. Time at maximum load.

Description of Unit Bracket. To obtain an idea of the number of hours the unit would operate at various loads, a set of bracket calculations has been included. Such information may be useful in planning new units, for determining the types of feed pumps, fans, and other auxiliary equipment which should be installed for most efficient operation. The bracket calculation permits a step-type load duration curve to be drawn for each unit based upon nine different steps between the maximum and minimum of the unit. The meaning of the above mentioned brackets is as follows.

$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{\text{Load} - \text{Min}}{\text{Max} - \text{Min}}$$

Order of Output Cards. The order in which the cards are punched by the program is not at all a good order for listing them. The first card or cards which may come from the program are those punched during the running of the case showing a shortage of the system reserve, or in some cases system load capability. The cards obtained for the summary are in order by machine number and plant number. They should be sorted by card type number before listing. Heading cards are sorted in at this time. Figure 37a illustrates a typical generation system cost program.

COMPUTERS IN POWER SYSTEM RELIABILITY PROBLEMS

In this section the application of the reliability calculation techniques to actual power system networks will be discussed. Also a digital computer program to facilitate reliability calculations is to be described, and a comparison of calculated and observed reliability on an actual system shall be presented.

Application of Calculation Methods

Indexes of Reliability. It is a well known fact that no single measure of system reliability can completely describe a system's ability to give satisfactory service. Therefore a

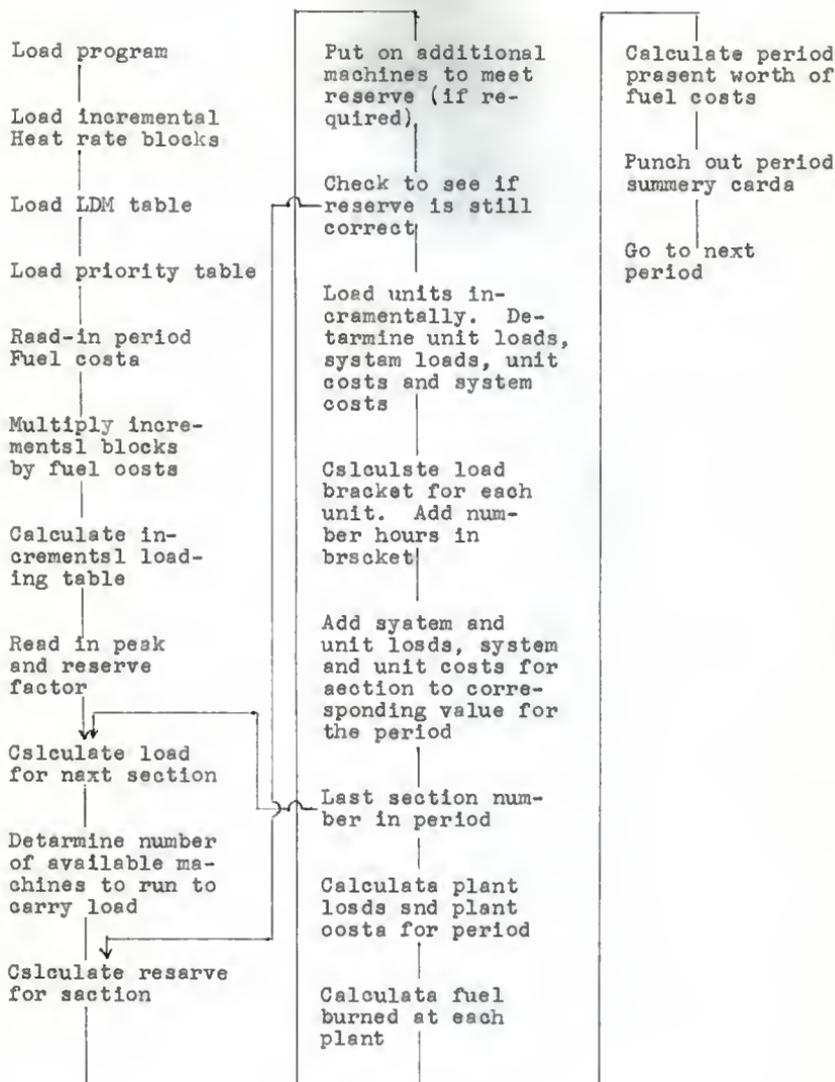


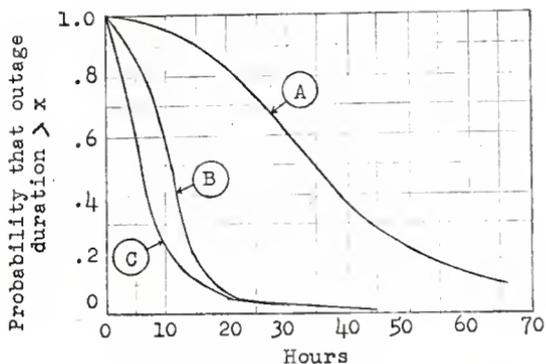
Fig. 37a. Generation system fuel cost program.

number of important indexes of system reliability together with the methods for calculating them have been proposed. These indexes are as follows:

1. Average number of service interruptions per customer served per year (often referred to as average interruption frequency).
2. Average customer restoration time per customer served per year.
3. Average total interruption time per customer served per year.
4. Maximum expected number of interruptions experienced by any one customer per year.
5. Maximum expected restoration time experienced by any one customer.
6. Probability that any customer will be out of service at any one time longer than a specified time.

In the above list the first three quantities represent measures of average service reliability, and the last three quantities represent the poorest service reliability afforded any customer on the system.

System Component Data. In calculation of various system reliability measures, two basic types of line and equipment data are necessary. These data are outage rates and outage duration (repair time) distributions. Table 5 and Fig. 38 show outage rates and outage duration data for subtransmission and distribution system components obtained from operating records for 1960-1963 by an electric utility. Data shown for transformers,



- (A) Permanent underground cable.
- (B) Prearranged overhead and underground.
- (C) Permanent open wire.

Fig. 38. Distribution of outage durations for subtransmission lines.

circuit breakers, end regulators is supposed to be regarded as estimates as too few outages were observed during the four-year data-gathering period to permit outage rates or durations to be determined exactly.

The "permanent" outage statistics of Table 5 and Fig. 38 are said to have been extracted from punched-card outage records. The term "permanent outage" indicates that the faulted component must be repaired or replaced before it can be returned to service. The repair times given are the times to actually perform such repairs or replacements. Failures which are not of severe nature and which have occurred during less severe storms are shown in Fig. 38. The data in Fig. 38 does not include "catastrophe type" storms. As a matter of fact, these "catastrophe type" storms are defined as storms which interrupt at least 10 per cent of all customers served. The main reason for the exclusion of this data is because of its unavailability. "Maintenance outage" is the term used to describe prearranged outages to maintain, replace, or rearrange components. Maintenance outage rates and duration shown in Table 5 and Fig. 38 were obtained by analyzing a random sample of daily operation reports. Due to a number of prearranged outages, sampling has been adopted as the best way to estimate maintenance outage data at a reasonable cost.

"Temporary outage" is defined as an outage that clears itself; that is, any faulted component can be returned to service by a reclosing operation or by replacing a fuse.

Service restoration time often depends on the sectionalizing

or switching arrangement of the supply system. Restoration times which follow temporary component outage are the intervals required to perform the necessary reclosing operation or to replace a blown fuse. If switching operation permits an interruption to be restored before faulted components can be repaired or replaced, switching time becomes the effective repair time of the components in question. This effective repair time is then the repair time used in the reliability calculation methods.

Distribution of Repair Times. The data in Fig. 38 shows that the repair times for open-wire circuits are roughly exponentially distributed, while the repair times for cable circuits and maintenance outage durations are nearly normally distributed. Thus a study has been conducted on parallel systems' calculation methods. This study on a simple system consisting of two parallel lines feeding a single bus leads to the following conclusions.

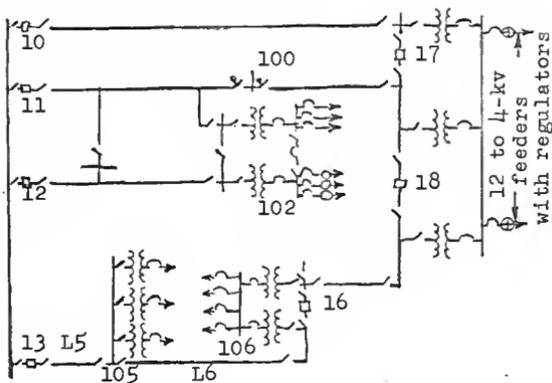
1. Any system which has two parallel paths has its outage rate essentially independent of the individual component's distributional form of the outage durations.

2. The average value of outage durations for a system consisting of two parallel paths is independent of the distributional form of component outage durations. However, for this condition, such component outage duration distributions should be identical regardless of distributional form. When a component forced outage overlaps a component maintenance outage, then the condition of identical outage duration distribution is not fulfilled. In such a case, if we assume that both component

outage durations are exponentially distributed, then the method of determining the expected value of duration is somewhat in error. In the case of calculations made on the basis of exponential component outage duration distribution, there may be 15 to 30 per cent over estimates of the expected values of outage durations as compared to more accurate calculations. However, this magnitude in errors is not considered as important since errors in data may be of greater magnitude.

Sample Network. A typical subtransmission network supplying a 4-kv substation, as shown in Figs. 39 and 40, has been used to illustrate the method of reliability calculation methods, and also to permit a comparison between observed and calculated reliability indexes.

Reliability Diagrams and Expressions. The first step in calculating the index of service reliability is the visualization of reliability diagrams for each bus or point in the system at which reliability is to be calculated. These diagrams give an idea about the connections of components in reliability schemes and how they are formed into series and parallel paths of supply to a bus. Four different reliability diagrams are required to completely describe the reliability performance of each bus. These four diagrams are called the permanent interruption diagram, the manual-switching diagram, and the automatic switching diagrams for temporary and permanent component outages. The permanent interruption diagram is used in the calculation of service interruptions due to permanent component outages which can only be restored by repair or replacement of one or more



Sources

Fig. 39. Typical subtransmission network supplying 4-kv substations, first period, 1960.

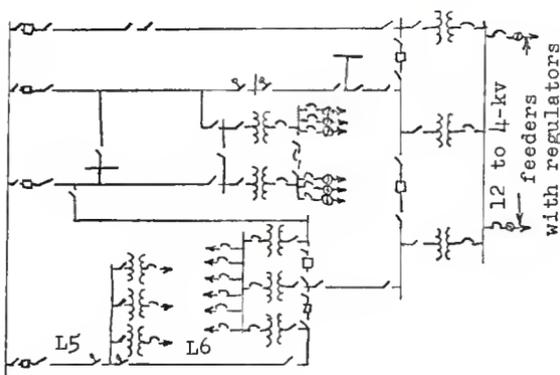


Fig. 40. Typical subtransmission network supplying 4-kv substations, second period, 1961 through 1963.

components. The manual-switching diagram is used for the calculation of service interruptions caused by either temporary or permanent component outages which can be restored by manual reclosing, sectionalizing, or switching operations. The automatic switching diagrams for temporary and permanent component outages are used in the calculation of interruptions due to temporary and permanent component outages, respectively, when such interruptions can be restored by automatic switching operations.

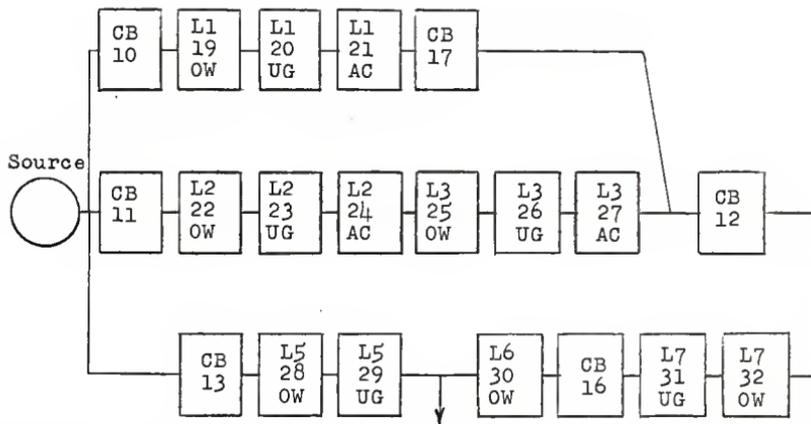
Let us consider an example for understanding clearly the preparation of reliability diagrams. Consider bus 105 of the sample network shown in Fig. 39. Considering the undermentioned types of components to be fallible, reliability diagrams are to be drawn: open-wire circuits, transformers, circuit breakers, and underground and aerial circuits. Buses and switches are to be considered infallible, just for the purpose of this example. The main reason for this last assumption is lack of reliable data; however, the failure rate of these components is very small. The "source" bus for the sample network is taken as the reference bus for the diagrams; reliability of supply to the source bus is not evaluated.

Figure 41 illustrates a permanent interruption diagram for bus 105. Permanent interruption is one whose duration depends upon the time required to repair the faulted component. These can occur only if lines L5 and L6, or components in series with these lines, suffer overlapping permanent outages. Therefore bus 105 is shown connected to the source through two complex parallel paths. Elements in series in a path indicate that the

outage of any element will cause an outage of the path. Component repair times for use with the permanent interruption diagram are the times to actually repair or replace faulted components.

Figure 42 illustrates the manual-switching diagram for bus 105 of the system of Fig. 39. A single permanent outage of Lines L5 or L6, breakers 13, 14, or 16, or transformer 15 will interrupt bus 105 until an operator can isolate the fault and restore service through the unfaulted path with manually-operated disconnect switches. Therefore bus 105 in the diagram is shown connected to the source through a series path composed of the elements mentioned above.

The automatic switching diagram for temporary component outages for bus 105 is the same as the diagram drawn for manual switching. A temporary outage of any element in the diagram of Fig. 42 will cause a temporary interruption to bus 105. The duration of the interruption will be the time to perform a reclosing operation. An automatic switching diagram for permanent component outages does not exist for bus 105 of the system of Fig. 39. This is because bus 105 cannot be isolated from faulted circuits with automatic devices. However, when motor-operated switches are installed at bus 105 in the system of Fig. 40, an automatic switching diagram for permanent component outages does exist. However, the diagram is the same as that of Fig. 42, since a permanent outage of any element in that diagram will cause an interruption to bus 105. The duration of interruption will be the time to perform a sectionalizing



Key

OW = open wire

UG = underground cable

AC = aerial cable

CB = circuit breaker

TR = transformer

E = equivalent

B = bus

p = parallel

S = series

N = No. of customers served from bus

Fig. 41. Permanent interruption diagram, equivalent and success expressions for bus 105.

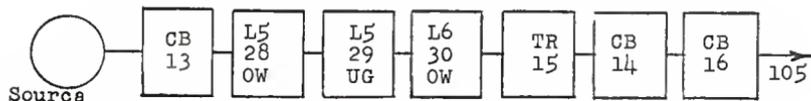


Fig. 42. Manual-sectionalizing diagram, equivalent and success expressions for bus 105.

operation at bus 105 with the motor-operated disconnect switches.

Calculations for the Sample System

Calculated and observed indexes of reliability of subtransmission network shown in Figs. 39 and 40 will be compared for purposes of study. Calculations for subtransmission substation transformer portions of the system were performed by the reliability calculation computer program in accordance with the equations that have been developed by various authors. The input data for this program include success and equivalent equations for each bus similar to those shown in Figs. 41 and 42 for bus 105. The output includes reliability indexes for each bus plus indexes indicating average reliability of the complete sample network.

The above mentioned "success" and "equivalent" expressions are used to represent bus reliability diagrams for input to the reliability calculation computer program. These expressions can often be written down by inspection, thereby eliminating the need for drawing reliability diagrams after some experience in system reliability analysis has been obtained. Proper "success" and "equivalent" expressions for bus 105 of the sample system are shown beneath the diagrams of Figs. 41 and 42.

Subtransmission and Substation System Characteristics

The observed values of these indexes are compared with certain calculated indexes for this sample subtransmission

subststion network. The characteristics that should be considered in selecting these indexes are as follows:

1. It should be considered that the outage of any single component rarely causes interruption of service to customers. Such transmission substations are completely redundant. However, reliability comparisons for redundant systems are much more difficult than for nonredundant systems since many more years of experience are necessary to obtain dependable statistics. Thus the most suitable comparison appears to be between calculated values for the sample network and observed values for the entire system.

2. Records of average customer interruption frequency and restoration time are available for the entire subststion sub-transmission system; these particular measures of reliability can be selected for this comparison.

3. Because of the arrangement of the sample network, customer interruption times will practically always be less than two minutes for temporary component outages or where a single permanent outage can be cleared by automatic sectionalizing. Such cases can be excluded from these sample calculations.

Comparison of Calculated and Observed Reliability

In the above discussion, the reliability indexes selected for comparisons are the customer interruption frequencies and restoration times for cases where service is interrupted by permanent faults and then restored by either manual switching

or component repair. Calculated indexes for the sample network and observed values for the entire system are shown in Fig. 43. In this figure the first bar chart shows that the calculated interruption frequencies for the sample subtransmission substation network agree pretty well on the average with values for the entire subtransmission substation system. This indicates that the method of calculation is reasonably valid.

The second bar chart in Fig. 43 shows that the calculated restoration times for the sample network are somewhat higher than the actual experience on the entire system. This is because of the use of many expedients like temporary cutovers and mobile substations by the operator for restoring immediate service. This is the reason for overestimated restoration times. This indicates that more realistic repair times must be derived from the outage data or estimated to improve the calculated restoration times.

Table 6 indicates four-year averages of frequency and restoration times for the sample network compared with the actual experience on this network and with system-wide values. The data about the sample network obtained on basis of experience is primarily determined by a single substation outage during a four-year period. This type of record is not a good basis for comparison. However, results happen to be pretty good.

Effect of Storms. The effect of outage "bunching" due to storms is an important factor for utility operators. The average annual reliability indexes calculated with the outage data on Table 1 are not sensitive indicators of this effect. Separate

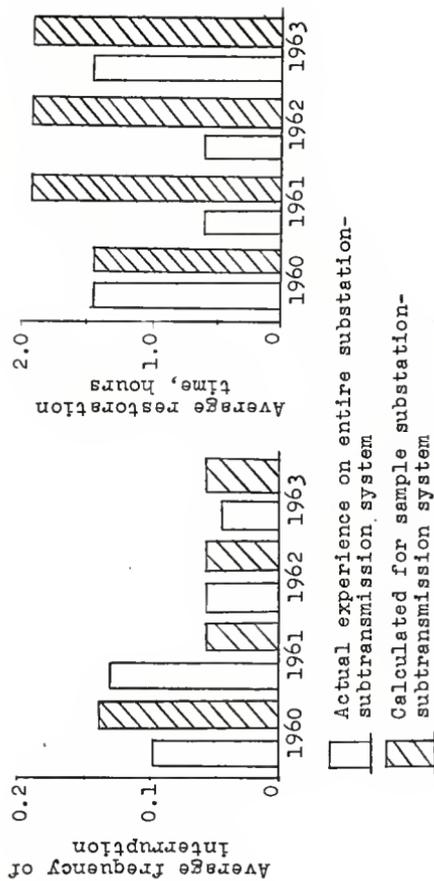


Fig. 43. Reliability indexes for substation-subtransmission systems.

indexes of reliability for storm periods are desirable.

Outages Due to Overloads. As mentioned earlier, the existing subtransmission system is normally designed so that the outage of one path will not overload any of the remaining parallel paths. However, the effect of overloads which might occur due to the outage of parallel paths is a factor to be considered when comparing expansion plans for such a system. One particular method of calculating the number and duration of interruptions due to these overloads has been incorporated in the computer program. This method is based on the assumption that if the outage of two paths, or even one path, supplying a bus increases the load in one of the remaining paths above its maximum capacity, then load on that bus is dropped to relieve the overload.

The data necessary to estimate the probability of such overloads are as follows:

1. The annual peak load on the most critical parallel path which remains in service. For complex networks a load flow analysis will usually be necessary to determine the critical loads.
2. Element capacities corresponding to these critical loads.
3. The probability that contingency loads can be successfully carried. This is a factor which accounts for the fact that loads are less than the annual peak during a substantial portion of the year. This probability depends on the duration of the outage periods and the

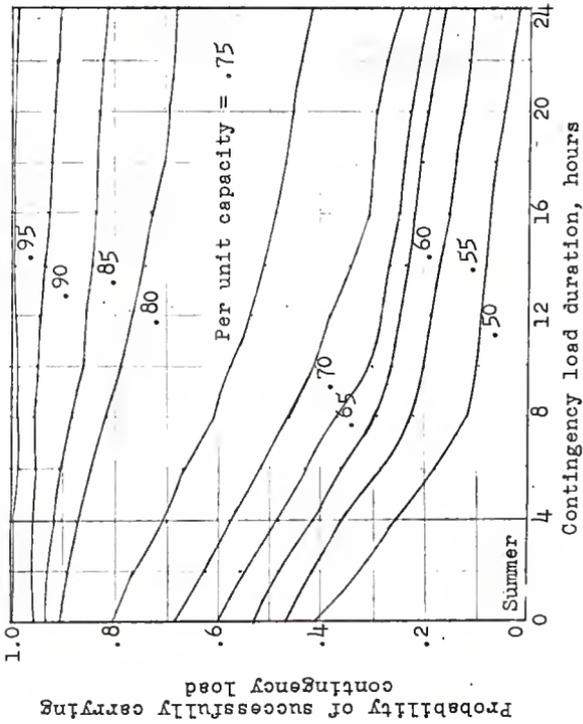


Fig. 44. Probability that contingency load can be carried successfully, May through October.

relative value of load to capacity for the critical elements. One possible assumption is that component capacity is constant over the year. The earlier assumption that a component, once overloaded, remains out of service until a failed parallel component is repaired and restored to service proved too pessimistic. This is especially true when the failed component has a long expected repair time. The reason is that load does not usually stay at a high enough level to cause overloading for a period as long as most repair times. Further, switching procedures can usually restore most load dropped because of an overload in a reasonably short time. Therefore the reliability calculation computer program has been modified to set overload outage durations equal to an input value, if the expected repair time of a faulted parallel component exceeds that time.

Computer Program for Reliability Calculations

A program for an IBM digital computer is developed to calculate reliability in general power system networks using the methods discussed above. This program calculates various measures of service reliability as seen at each load bus specified for a system, then calculates measures of reliability which are descriptive of the average reliability provided to all customers served by the system. A simplified logic flow diagram

of the computer diagram is shown in Fig. 45. Also extensive data checks are made in the program to insure insofar as possible that correct data is used in this case.

Input Data. Input data for the reliability calculations program is separated into six groups or decks, namely, title and miscellaneous, element type data, element specifications, matrix of probabilities of successfully carrying contingency load, multiple path overload outage data, and equivalent and success expressions. The specific data required in each data group is given below.

1. Title and miscellaneous

- a. One 72-character title card
- b. Expected value of duration of fair weather period in years
- c. Expected value of storm duration in years
- d. A time "t" in hours (one measure of reliability which is calculated for each bus in the system is the probability of a single interruption longer than t)
 - a. Maximum overload outage duration in years.

2. Element type data. Each type of system element which exhibits distinctive failure and repair characteristics and which is to be represented in the reliability calculations is assigned a type number. The element failure rates in per unit of the appropriate dimensions of this type of element (miles of line, number of transformers, etc.) and repair and maintenance time are given for

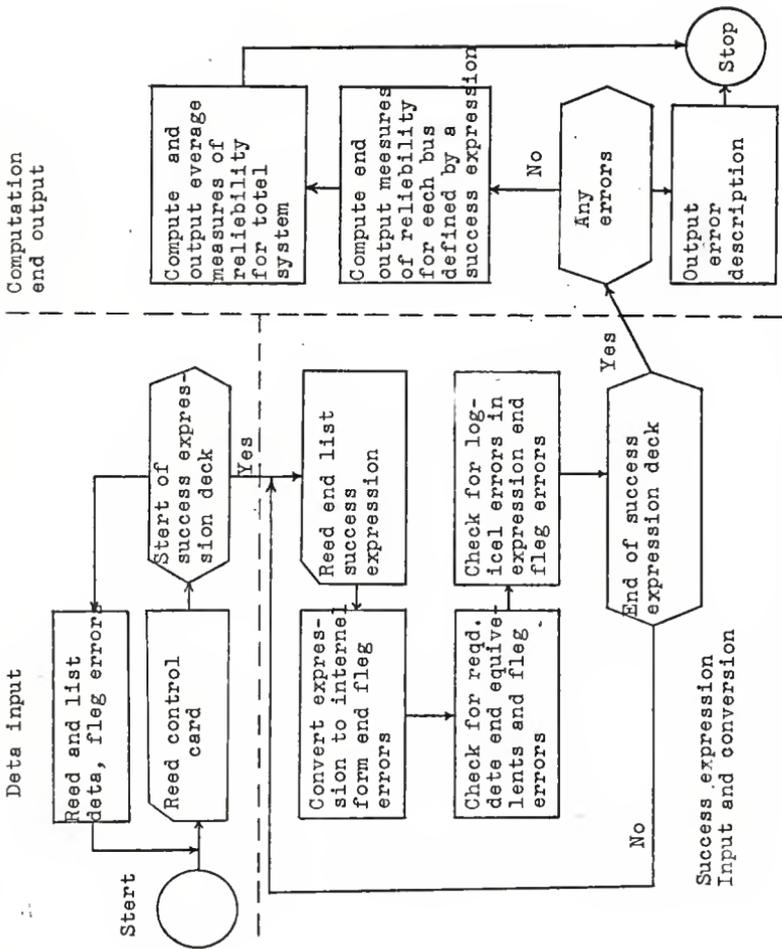


Fig. 45. Simplified logic flow diagram of reliability calculation program.

each element type.

- a. Fair weather failure rate in failures per year of fair weather per unit
- b. Stormy weather failure rate in failure per year of stormy weather per unit
- c. Maintenance outage rate in outages per calendar year per unit
- d. Expected value of forced outage repair time in years
- e. Expected value of maintenance outage duration in years.

3. Element data. Each system element which is to be uniquely identified is assigned an element number; then the following data is given for each element.

- a. Element type number
- b. Capacity of remaining parallel paths should this element fail
- c. Peak load on remaining parallel paths should this element fail
- d. Dimension of element (i.e., miles of line).

It is to be noted that (b) and (c) can have any units, but units must be consistent.

4. Matrix of probabilities of successfully carrying contingency load. This matrix consists of a set of probabilities of successfully carrying contingency load as a function of the per unit capacity of remaining elements and contingency load duration. The matrix represents a

family of probability curves such as those shown in Fig. 44.

5. Multiple path overload outage data. If it is desired to calculate overload outages in a system having more than two lines or paths in parallel where overloads can occur only if two paths are out of service at the same time, equivalent expressions must be specified for each parallel path. Then for each possible pair of equivalents unavailable the capacity of and the peak load on the remaining paths are specified.
6. Equivalent and success expressions. Examples of equivalent and success expressions and the form in which they are to be written are presented in a number of publications. The primary function of equivalent expressions is to reduce calculating and success expression writing time by reducing complex portions of the system to single equivalent elements. Success expressions defining the supply system configuration are required for each bus for which reliability is to be calculated. Each success expression is subscripted with the identifying number of the bus being studied and the number of customers or kw of load served from the bus.

Program Output. The output of the reliability calculation program consists of a listing of all input data, measures of reliability calculated for each bus in the system and overall measures of reliability for the system. Average system measures of reliability are calculated by averaging the measures of

reliability calculated for all buses in the system weighted according to the number of customers or kw of load served. Output data for each bus is as follows:

1. Annual interruption rate.
2. Expected value of duration of a single interruption will exceed "t" hours.

Output data on total system reliability is as follows:

1. Average annual interruption rate per customer served.
2. Average duration of a single interruption in hours.
3. Average annual interruption time in hours per customer served.
4. Maximum annual interruption rate for any bus in the system.
5. Maximum expected value of duration of a single interruption for any bus in the system.

CONCLUSIONS

Increasing emphasis within the electric utility industry is being placed upon improvement in economic system performance, both with respect to fuel and manpower expenditures. The increasing number of interconnections offers opportunity for system savings but requires additional calculation and accounting to secure the maximum power pool benefits. The digital process control computer offers an important function, in effecting improved system performance by providing automatic means of solving a wider range of system operating problems than previously

Table 5. Outage rates and average repair times for subtransmission distribution system facilities.

Outage type	Facility	Unit	Rate		Stormy outages : per unit per year of stormy weather	Average repair time hours
			Normel outages : per unit per year of normal weather	Stormy outages : per unit per year of stormy weather		
Permanent forced outages	Subtransmission open wire	Per mile	.045	1.7		8
	Underground cable	Per mile	.110	--		34
	Aerial cable	Per mile	.050	--		34
	Circuit breaker	Per 3-phase breaker	.003	--		6
	Transformer	Per 3-phase transformer	.003	--		48
Time for manual switching operation						
	4 kv					0.9
Maintenance (prearranged outages)	Open wire	Per mile	.045	3.2		2
	Regulator	Per regulator	.005	--		0.8*
	Circuit breaker	Per breaker	.005	--		0.8*
Maintenance (prearranged outages)	Subtransmission open wire end	Per mile	2.0	--		11
	Underground cable					
	Circuit breaker Transformer	Per breaker Per transformer	0.7 1.0	-- --		1.5 1.2

*Time to transfer feeder to spare position.

Tsbla 6. Comparison of calculated relisbility indexes with systam experianca.

	: Frequency	: Rastoration time
	:Averaga number of in-	:Averaga number of
	:tarruptions per cus-	:hours sarvica is
	:tomer servad per jaar:	interrupted, par in-
	:dua to outages of	:tarruption, due to
	:subtransmission or	:outsges of subtrnsa-
	:substation components:	mission or substa-
	:	:tion components
Actual experianca		
Entire systam	.08	1.0
1960-1963		
Ssmpla network		
1960-1963	.04	0.9
Calculated for		
sample network	.08	1.7

feasible through analog computer means. Most important thing is the flexibility of the digital computer to readily encompass new theoretical concepts and aids to system operation without requiring fundamental changes in the hardware systems.

Some of the methods of computer control which accomplish the simultaneous and automatic maintenance of frequency net interchange, and economic allocation of generation for typical operating systems are discussed. These automatic dispatching systems provide the following advantages for savings over manual or semiautomatic methods.

1. Decreases in expenditures for fuel.
2. Reassignment of personnel previously employed in duties now performed by the dispatching system.

A discussion has been presented on the decentralized approach to obtaining automatic economic operation of interconnected areas. This decentralized approach involves comparison devices which by comparison of appropriate cost between areas determine the economic interchanges of the areas. Each of these areas has a computer controller arrangement. Any number of interconnecting arrangements for the comparison of cost can be designed depending on the fancy of the designer. Any number of areas can be connected in a grid system, and controlled by the multiarea computer. The multiarea computer accomplishes the following calculations.

1. Economic allocation of generation within each area.
2. Economic interchanges between areas.
3. Weighted incremental costs at boundaries for

interconnection accounting.

4. Incremental cost of wheeling losses.

5. Power flow over individual tie lines.

A broad based discussion on writing computer programs is included. This includes discussion of programs for generating system fuel cost calculations and planning maintenance scheduling. Techniques for applying reliability calculation methods are discussed. These techniques permit the reliability of proposed system designs to be calculated and compared quantitatively with that of existing systems or alternative proposed systems.

Apart from the above few topics discussed, computers can be used in almost all the branches of system design. A few of the important ones where studies can be conducted are hydro-thermal economic scheduling, optimized distribution and sub-transmission planning, optimization of transmission voltages, automatic remote reading of residential meters, and other areas.

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DIGITAL COMPUTERS IN POWER SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

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Until the end of the year 1960, digital computers were primarily used as scientific tools in various off-line studies of system theories and in the preparation of system guides. At that time the on-line control functions were accomplished entirely by various analog computer control arrangements. Since the beginning of the year 1961, digital computers are being used for solving a large variety of system operating problems in both a study and on-line mode. Several of these digital computers are discussed in the report.

System operations can be broken down into three basic categories.

1. Operation planning
2. Operation control
3. Operation accounting.

The above analysis involves the collection of data, the performance of various arithmetical and logical operations on these data, and preparation of statements. Computer control is used for an automatic dispatching system capable of simultaneously and automatically maintaining frequency, net interchange, and economic allocation of generation for a given operating area. Many devices have been discussed which may be used directly to obtain automatic economic operation of a power pool formed by several areas.

Computer control offers opportunities for operating savings compared to manual or semiautomatic operations. Some of the results of integrated digital dispatch computer systems are:

1. Fuel saving

2. Manpower saving
3. Improvements in system reliability
4. Possible savings in capital equipment expenditures.

Thus due to the above results, we have

1. Improved production economy
2. Reassignment of technical personnel for more important jobs.

Computers performing the on-line jobs can be taken out of service as part of the control loop and used as an aid for such problems as:

1. Interconnection transactions
2. Economic scheduling of maintenance
3. Future system studies
4. Economic scheduling of unit commitments.

A discussion covering the computer requirements for the various calculations needed by the load dispatcher is included in the report. Areas connected in a grid could be controlled by centralized or decentralized approach. Though centralized control is mostly employed, yet in certain cases decentralized control has the following advantages.

1. Reduction in telemetering channel requirements
2. Use of smaller decentralized computer controllers
3. Ready availability of information for accounting between areas.

A discussion of decentralized approach to obtaining automatic economic operation of interconnected areas has been included in the report. The decentralized approach involves

comparison devices which by comparison of appropriate costs between areas determine the economic interchanges between the areas.

Multiarea dispatching computers accomplish the following tasks which are not performed by single-area dispatch computers.

1. Calculation of economic interchange between areas.
2. Calculation of weighted incremental costs at boundaries for interconnection accounting.
3. Calculation of incremental costs of wheeling losses.
4. Calculation of flows over individual tie lines.

Generally, multiarea dispatch computers are based on the use of individual dispatching computers representing each individual area, together with supplementary devices, which determine the economic interchange between areas and flows over the individual tie lines.

Two typical programs, one to simulate operation of an electric generating system and the other for power system reliability, are included. The program which simulates operation of an electric generating system provides a method of applying maintenance outages to the load duration curve approach adaptable to medium-size computers. The program for power system reliability permits the determination of various measures of service reliability in power systems from basic component parameters and weather data, thus enabling the engineers to predict the reliability of proposed system designs.

As a result of various advantages, utilities have started using digital computers for both on-line and off-line jobs. This use enables the utilities in improving economic system

performance both with respect to fuel and manpower expenditures. The big advantage in using the digital computer is the flexibility it offers to adopt new theoretical concepts and aids to system operation without requiring fundamental changes in the hardware system.