

**MINIMIZING GENERATOR TRIPPING AT LAKVIJAYA
POWER STATION WITH ADAPTIVE ISLANDING
OPERATION**

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Degree of Master of Science

Department of Electrical Engineering
Faculty of Engineering

University of Moratuwa
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DECLARATION

I, A.S.W Epa, declare that this is my own work and this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any other University or Institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text. I retain the right to use this content in whole or part in future works (such as articles or books).

Signature:

Date: 25.09.2025

The above candidate has carried out research for the Master's thesis under my supervision. I confirm that the declaration made above by the student is true and correct.

Signature of the Supervisor:

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(Mr. Mahesh Rathnayake)

Signature of the Supervisor:

Date: 25.09.2025

(Dr. R.M.T. Damayanthi)

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my beloved parents, family and friends whose endless love, unwavering support, and constant encouragement.

I dedicate this thesis to my supervisors, whose mentorship and guidance have profoundly shaped this work.

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Firstly, I extend my sincere gratitude to my supervisors, Dr. Thushara Rathnayaka and Mr. Mahesh Rathnayake, for their invaluable guidance, unwavering support, and constructive feedback. Their profound expertise and mentorship have been instrumental in shaping both the direction and the quality of this research.

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ABSTRACT

Sri Lankan power system consists of broad diversity of energy sources including hydropower, coal, petroleum fuels and renewable sources such as wind, solar and biomass. Lakvijaya power station, the largest coal power complex, consisting of 3 units of 300MW generation. Based on recent statistics, Lakvijaya power plant produced 4645 GWh in 2023, which is 29.8% of the total generation [22].

In Lakvijaya Power Station, after isolating a generator unit from the grid due to a protection scheme which occurs outside the plant premises, generating units are configured to switch to fast cut back procedure, in which the generating units are operating on in house loads. However, if the grid is not ready to reconnect within 30 minutes, generating units are switched to uncontrolled complete shutdown. After an uncontrolled shutdown it requires approximately 3- 4 days and with the absence of 900MW of power from the national grid, causes a huge financial and economic losses [15].

In this study, an algorithm is proposed for implementing adaptive islanding operation to ensure continuous operation of Lakvijaya power station during a system collapse. The methodology encompasses of 3 steps. Initially, transmission line configuration is arranged in a matrix form using graph theory and using the Dijkstra algorithm shortest path between frequency controlling generator and Lakvijaya PowerStation is identified while minimizing the Load – Generation gap and the final network path is obtained. After obtaining the network path which represents the island then fed in to the PSSE software to observe the steady state and dynamic stability.

Keywords: Adaptive islanding, PSSE, Dijkstra algorithm, Graph theory

CONTENTS

DECLARATION.....	i
DEDICATION.....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	iii
ABSTRACT.....	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	x
CHAPTER 1.....	1
BACKGROUND	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Problem Statement.....	2
1.3 Motivation	3
1.4 Past Statistics	5
1.4 Objective.....	6
1.5 Scope	6
CHAPTER 2.....	7
Current Context of Sri Lankan Power System	7
2.1 Existing Generation in Sri Lankan Power System	7
2.2 Existing Transmission System in Sri Lankan Power System.....	9
2.3 Power System Reliability and Constraints	10
CHAPTER 3.....	12
METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING THE ALGORITHM.....	12
3.1. Methodology.....	12
3.2 Representation of the transmission network using graph theory.....	13

3.3 Dijkstra Algorithm.....	14
3.4 Problem formulation using graph theory.....	15
3.5 Frequency and Voltage Criteria of Sri Lankan Power System.....	17
CHAPTER 4.....	19
PSSE SOFTWARE OVERVIEW AND MODELLING.....	19
4.1 Overview	19
4.2 Modelling of Power System using PSSE Software	19
4.3 Establishing Communication with PSSE Software	20
CHAPTER 5.....	22
SIMULATION ANALYSIS OF IEEE SYSTEMS	22
5.1 IEEE 24 Bus System.....	22
5.2 Case Study 01 – Tripping of Bus 11 – Bus 13 Transmission Line	23
5.3 Case Study 02 – Tripping of Bus 15 – Bus 24 Transmission Line	26
CHAPTER 6.....	29
SIMULATION ANALYSIS OF SRI LANKAN POWER SYSTEM	29
6.1 Overview	29
6.2 Case Study 01 – Tripping of Kothmale - Biyagama Transmission Line.....	30
6.3 Case Study 02 – Tripping of Kothmale - Biyagama Transmission Line.....	33
CHAPTER 7	36
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	36
REFERENCES.....	46

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Power Generation by Source. Adapted from [22]	2
Figure 2.1: Daily power generation pattern. Adapted from [22]	9
Figure 2.2: Transmission Network of Sri Lanka. Adapted from [16]	10
Figure 3.1: IEEE 24 bus system represented using Graph theory	15
Figure 4.1: Initializing communication with PSSE using Python script	21
Figure 5.1: Steady state operation of the IEEE 24 bus system	22
Figure 5.2: Steady state operation of the determined island	23
Figure 5.3: Frequency Variation at Swing Bus	24
Figure 5.4: Active power Variation at Bus Swing Bus	24
Figure 5.5: Voltage Variation at Swing Bus	25
Figure 5.6: Steady state operation of the determined island	26
Figure 5.7: Frequency Variation at Swing Bus	27
Figure 5.8: Active power Variation at Bus Swing Bus	27
Figure 5.9: Voltage Variation at Swing Bus	28
Figure 6.1: Steady state operation of Sri Lankan power system	29
Figure 6.2: Steady state operation of the determined island	30
Figure 6.3: Frequency Variation at Swing Bus (Kotmale)	31
Figure 6.4: Active power Variation at Bus Swing Bus (Kotmale)	31
Figure 6.5: Voltage Variation at Swing Bus (Kotmale)	32
Figure 6.6: Steady state operation of the determined island	33
Figure 6.7: Frequency Variation at Swing Bus (Kotmale)	34
Figure 6.8: Active power Variation at Bus Swing Bus (Kotmale)	34
Figure 6.9: Voltage Variation at Swing Bus (Kotmale)	35
Figure 7.1: Steady state operation of the IEEE 9 bus system	37
Figure 7.2: Steady state operation of the determined island (Case 01)	38
Figure 7.3: Steady state operation of the determined island (Case 02)	38
Figure 7.4: System frequency behavior after the fault (IEEE 24 Bus - Case 01)	39
Figure 7.5: System frequency behavior after the fault (IEEE 24 Bus - Case 02)	40

Figure 7.6: System frequency behavior after the fault (National power system - Case 01) 42

Figure 7.7: System frequency behavior after the fault (National power system - Case 02) 43

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1: Uncontrolled Shutdown incidents of Lakvijaya Power Station. Adapted from [15]	5
Table 2.1: Major Hydropower Plants and their generation. Adapted from [15]	7
Table 2.2: Major Thermal power Plants and their generation. Adapted from [15]	8
Table 3.1: Maximum allowable frequency variation during a fault. Adapted from [16]	17
Table 3.2: Maximum allowable Voltage variation during a fault. Adapted from [16]	18
Table 7.1: Summary of the test conditions and results	44
Table 7.2: Summary of the connected nodes in the stable island	44

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
<i>IEEE</i>	<i>Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers</i>
<i>PSSE</i>	<i>Power System Simulator for Engineers</i>
<i>CEB</i>	<i>Ceylon Electricity Board</i>
<i>RMS</i>	<i>Root Mean Square</i>
<i>AC</i>	<i>Alternating Current</i>
<i>DC</i>	<i>Direct Current</i>
<i>PES</i>	<i>Power Engineering Society (IEEE)</i>
<i>ICEE</i>	<i>International Conference on Engineering Education</i>
<i>UFLS</i>	<i>Under Frequency Load Shedding</i>
<i>SCADA</i>	<i>Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition</i>
<i>NCRE</i>	<i>Non-Conventional Renewable Energy</i>