BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

TRANSFORMER POWER PROTECTION AND ALERT SYSTEM.

BY

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A PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY.

MAY, 2016

DECLARATION

I Muhangi Ustas, Reg No. BU/UG/2011/823 solemnly, do here by, declare to the best of my
knowledge that this project proposal with all its contents was done by only me and I would like
to point it out that, no one has ever presented or duplicated this proposal or with any of its content
at any institute of higher learning.
Signature Date

APPROVAL

This is to approve that this Project under the title TRANSFORMER POWER PROTECTION AND ALERT SYSTEM has been fully and consistently worked on and submitted to the department of computer engineering under the supervision of University Supervisor:

Mr. BWIIRE FELIX

Signature:	Minesely,
Date:	

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ABSTRACT

The main intention of this project is to design and Implement a system that can be used in power transformer protection and alert system. The system checks the operating parameters of the transformer i.e. current and reports the quantity that is flowing through the transformer. The system is designed such that it is able to detect currents above the normal operating level and isolate the power transformer from the distribution line. This isolation process is to ensure that the transformer is safe from any excess current levels that can make it to overheat thus get damaged. It gives a solution to the need to reduce cost of maintenance and ensure that supply of electricity to consumers is not interrupted for long periods taken while repairing or replacing destroyed transformers.

A current sensor ACS712x series has been used in this project as the interfacing instrument between the power transformer and the Atmega328.p microcontroller. Atmega328.p controls all operations that the device does. A relay and a contactor have been used as the switching gears to isolate the transformer from the power system in case a fault occurs. A monochrome LCD has been used to show system current readings and indicate cases of over-current fault. To warn an operator of a fault occurrence, LEDs and a piezoelectric buzzer have been used. All these peripheral devices depend on the microcontroller to make them operate or otherwise. Some of the tools used in this project include MPLAB - programming software used to write the program for the microcontroller used in this project. Proteus- simulation software has also been used to test whether the design works appropriately before its implementation on hardware. Pickit3- has been used to load program into the microcontroller using MPLAB.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADC Analog to Digital Converter

DAC Digital to Analog Converter

DC Direct Current

AC Alternating Current

IC Integrated Circuit

FETS Field Effect Transistor

LDR Light Dependent Resistor

LED Light Emitting Diode

LCD Liquid Crystal Display

kV Kilo Voltage

VSM Virtual Simulation Module

CPU Central Processing Unit

UPS Uninterruptible Power Supply

Hz Hertz

GSM Global System for Mobile Communications

Op amps Operational Amplifier

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1BACKGROUND

It is clear that over time, there has been an increase in human population, economic growth and technological advancement. This has continuously made the demand for electrical power to go high because as technology, human population and economy grows; there is an increase in demand for power as many more electrical loads are introduced into the supply line. An increase in load leads to a lot of current drawn from the power line. At times the demand goes above what the power distributor can supply. The consequence of this is that electrical power overload cases become common thus posing danger to power system components.

In the design of electrical power transmission and distribution system, there are various factors that need to be considered in the quest to satisfy the needs of electricity consumers. Electrical power systems experience faults at various times due to various reasons. These faults must be foreseen and safety precautions applied to the power system. The power systems engineer must include in his design, safety measures in order to avert any destructive occurrences that the system may undergo at any given time. Power system protection is very essential and necessary for a dependable electrical power supply. It ensures that the system is protected from itself and that the consumer is also safe as he benefits from the electrical power supply. An electrical power system consists of various components such as generators, switches, transmission cables, transformers, capacitor banks among other components. It cannot therefore operate without an effective protective device to keep these components safe and the system stable. Faults in a power system refer to the undesired conditions that occur in the electrical power system. These conditions may include short circuit, over current, overvoltage, high temperatures among others.

This therefore throws in the need for devices that can monitor the rate of power consumption in accordance with the level that a given system is designed to sustain. Such a device must be designed to cut off consumption if the system oversteps its ability thus being dangerous to users and the components. In this project, we look at the protection of power transformer from various faults that may occur and may be destructive to the component if left undetected. The transformer is a very important component in an electrical power system as distribution of electrical power to consumers is more efficiently effected. Every transformer is designed to comfortably supply a given load. Cases of overload or short circuits can lead to transformer being damaged. To combat

such occurrence, an elaborate system that monitors these excesses in supply parameters needs to be built. Such a device controls the flow of electrical power to the load so that the transformer is not overworked. Over current relays and overvoltage relays have been used for a long period of time and have been electromechanically controlled. In this system, a microcontroller is used to monitor cases of electrical faults and communicate to a switch to isolate the transformer from the system.

1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Due to over-voltage in primary windings and over-loading in the secondary windings, many step-down transformers used in distribution systems have ended up blowing. This results in power consumers being in a blackout until an appropriate replacement of the affected transformer is done. The concerned people from power center end up not knowing what has happened to the transformer and it is very hard to repair or replace the damaged transformer. This system therefore, protect a transformer from both over-voltage and over-loading in primary and secondary windings respectively and giving some consumers opportunity to remain using ac power from backup battery when the transformer is off and alerting the concerned person from the power center.

1.3OBJECTIVE

1.3.1General objective

The main objective of this project was to design and implement a system that uses microcontroller and other peripheral devices to protect power transformer and alert system.

1.3.2 Specific objectives.

- 1. To determine the failures and implications of transformer power protection and alert system.
- 2. To design and implement an over current relay using microcontroller and a current sensor
- 3. To develop ADC program for convert and LCD program for displaying the sensed levels and relay control system program.
- 4. To test and validate the designed system

1.4JUSTIFICATION

Power transformers are key components for electrical energy transfer in a Power system. Burning of a Step-down transformer is a serious problem due to an undesirable condition occurs in the

power system. In order to protect the transformers from over-voltage and over-loading different protective methods are adopted [6].

Power sensors is used for the Power Transformer Protection. It is sensing the over-voltage and over-loading of about +5% from normal voltage and send signal to microcontroller to trip the relay, driver circuit and the power transformer will automatically get isolated from the system. The aim reason is to provide an alternative, effective, efficient and more reliable method of protecting fault from power transformer which may arose as a result of overload, high temperature or a high input voltage. Generally, fault may occur in transformers due to the stated reasons. To safeguard the damage of the transformer with the aid and help of microcontroller, Am monitoring and controlling the entire circuitry [7]. Thereafter regarding the monitoring and control, information about the operation of the parameters will be sent to a power Centre (UMEME Offices) for alerting them what has happened to the transformer. This will avoid the need of the lines men who will go to the transformer station without knowing what has happened. Lastly, a working system will ensure that the power consumers will be on using A.C bank up power when the transformer will be off. The statistical data in form of voltage levels of the backup power will be alphanumerically displayed on an LCD. This data can be used to define the efficiency and degree of reliability of the battery. The alarm will notify the end user that they are on backup power basing on the statistical data of voltage variations

1.5 SCOPE

1.5.1Technical scope

The investigation carried out in this project was limited to power transformer protection methods. The extent of the work is to build a device that detects current spikes/overload in the primary and secondary sides of a single phase transformer and isolate it from the power system.

1.5.2 Geographical scope

The system is only focus on the places where transformers are serviced in power Centers, and where there are technical expertise for maintaining / installing transformer in case of any problem.

1.5.3 Time scope

The project is developed for a period of 5 months and is now ready for use.

1.6 LIMITATIONS

- Since it is not monitoring system based, real time monitoring of transformer is not possible.
- Also the system is not in position to keep records of transformer behavior as it is not a data logger.
- Absence of electronic laboratories in and around Busitema University made it expensive to develop my system.
- Limited funds / finances to facilitate me in making movement in trying to access components and experts.
- Limited access to e-resources most especially internet facilities at Busitema main campus.

APPENDIX

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