

1.2 Consequences of occurrence of Faults

Faults are of two type

- Short circuit fault- current
- Open circuit fault- voltage

In terms of seriousness of consequences of a fault , short circuits are of far greater concern than open circuits, although some open circuits present some potential hazards to personnel

Classification of short circuited Faults

- Three phase faults (with or without earth connection)
- Two phase faults (with or without earth connection)
- Single phase to earth faults

Classification of Open Circuit Faults

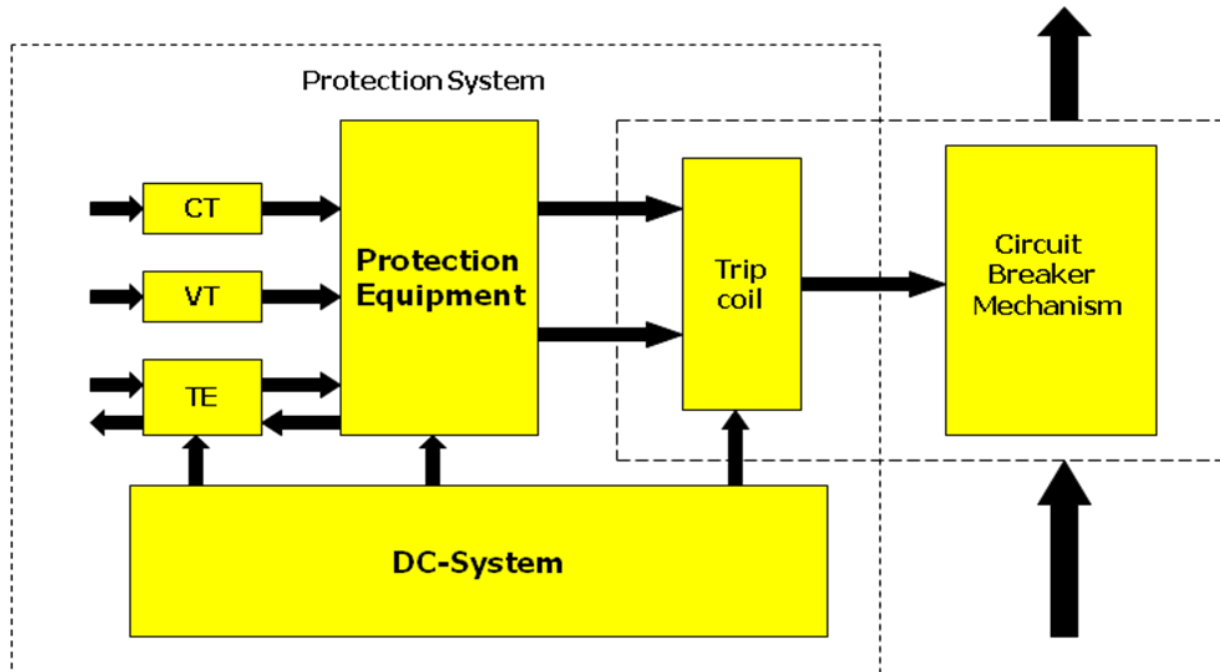
- Single Phase open Circuit
- Two phase open circuit
- Three phase open circuit

Consequences

- Damage to the equipment due to abnormally large and unbalanced currents and low voltages produced by the short circuits
- Explosions may occur in the equipments which have insulating oil, particularly during short circuits. This may result in fire and hazardous conditions to personnel and equipments
- Individual generators with reduced voltage in a power station or a group of generators operating at low voltage may lead to loss of synchronism, subsequently resulting in islanding.

- Risk of synchronous motors in large industrial premises falling out of step and tripping out.

The general layout of a protection system may be viewed as given in the following figure

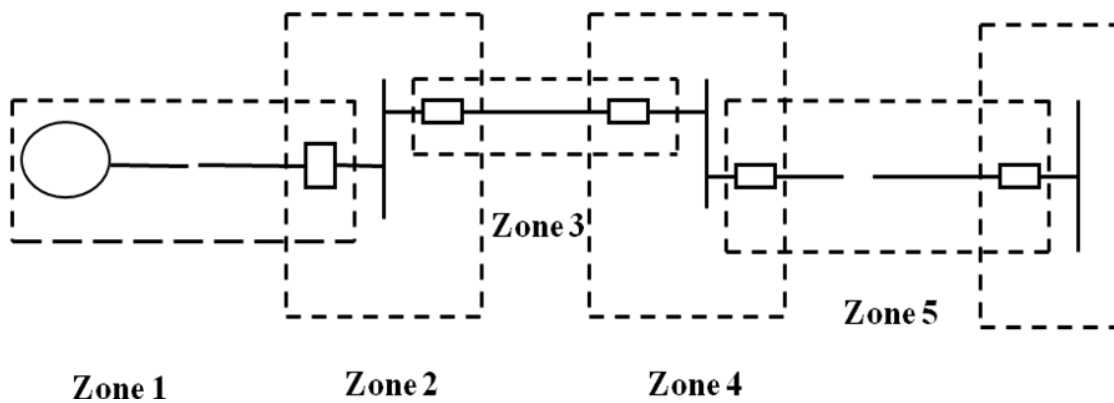
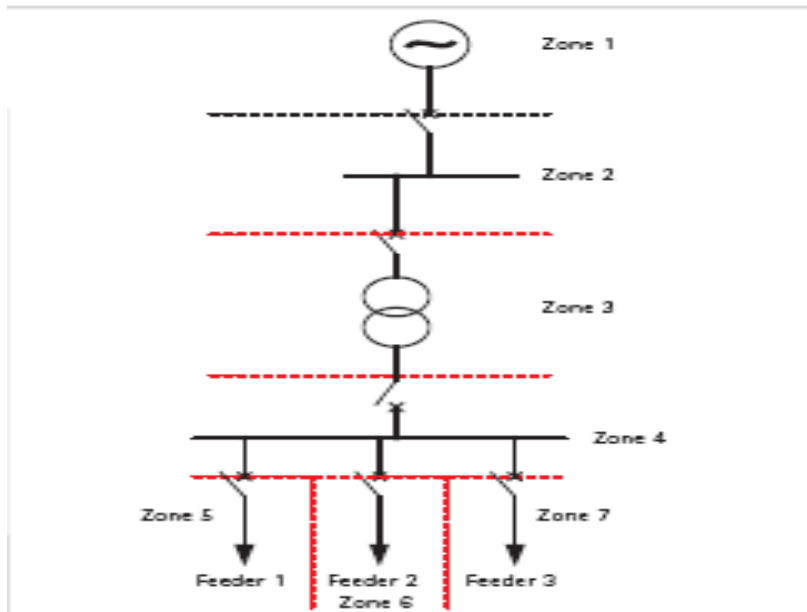


1.3 Zones and types of Protection system

1.3.1 Zones of Protection system

- An electric power system is divided into several zones of protection. Each zone of protection, contains one or more components of a power system in addition to two circuit breakers.
- When a fault occurs within the boundary of a particular zone, then the protection system responsible for the protection of the zone acts to isolate (by tripping the Circuit Breakers) every equipment within that zone from the rest of the system.
- The circuit Breakers are inserted between the component of the zone and the rest of the power system. Thus, the location of the circuit breaker helps to define the boundaries of the zones of protection.

- Different neighbouring zones of protection are made to overlap each other, which ensure that no part of the power system remains without protection. However, occurrence of the fault with in the overlapped region will initiate a tripping sequence of different circuit breakers so that the minimum necessary to disconnect the faulty element



1.3.2 Types of Protection (Primary and Back-up Protection)