Transformers – Parallel Operation



Adding a transformer in parallel to an existing transformer is often preferred over upsizing existing transformer. Following specifications must be identical:

Primary/secondary voltage ratings.

Secondary winding polarity (dot convention): Incorrect connections can create a short circuit.

Turns ratio: Difference can result in unequal loading.

Per-unit leakage impedance: Difference can result in unequal loading + power factor difference.

Phase sequence (abc or acb): Risk of short circuit.

Secondary line voltages of parallel transformers shall have zero phase displacement between them.



Voltage drop must be equal through each transformer winding.

$$\begin{split} I_{1}Z_{eq,1} &= I_{2}Z_{eq,2} \rightarrow \frac{I_{1}}{I_{2}} = \frac{Z_{eq,2}}{Z_{eq,1}} \\ Z_{pu,1} &= \frac{Z_{eq,1}}{Z_{base,1}} = \frac{Z_{eq,1}}{V^{2}/S_{base,1}} \rightarrow Z_{eq,1} = Z_{pu,1} \times \frac{V^{2}}{S_{base,1}} \\ Z_{pu,2} &= \frac{Z_{eq,2}}{Z_{base,2}} = \frac{Z_{eq,2}}{V^{2}/S_{base,2}} \rightarrow Z_{eq,2} = Z_{pu,2} \times \frac{V^{2}}{S_{base,2}} \end{split}$$

$$\frac{I_{1}}{I_{2}} = \frac{Z_{pu,2} \times \frac{V^{2}}{S_{kVA,2}}}{Z_{pu,1} \times \frac{V^{2}}{S_{kVA,1}}} = \frac{Z_{pu,2} \times S_{kVA,1}}{Z_{pu,1} \times S_{kVA,2}} \qquad \qquad \frac{S_{load1}}{S_{load2}} = \frac{Z_{pu,2} \times S_{kVA,1}}{Z_{pu,1} \times S_{kVA,2}}$$



