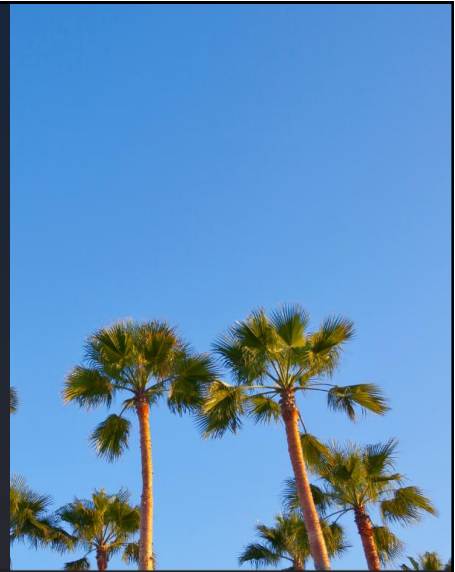


Simulating Intermittent Ground Faults in Petersen Coil Networks

Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL)



2026 APPLICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE
IRWINDALE, CALIFORNIA, USA



Agenda

- Compensated Grounded Systems
- Stable Ground Faults
- Intermittent Ground Faults
- Cable Modeling
- Petersen Coil Tuning
- Stable Fault and Intermittent Ground Fault Logic Model
- Python Automation Framework



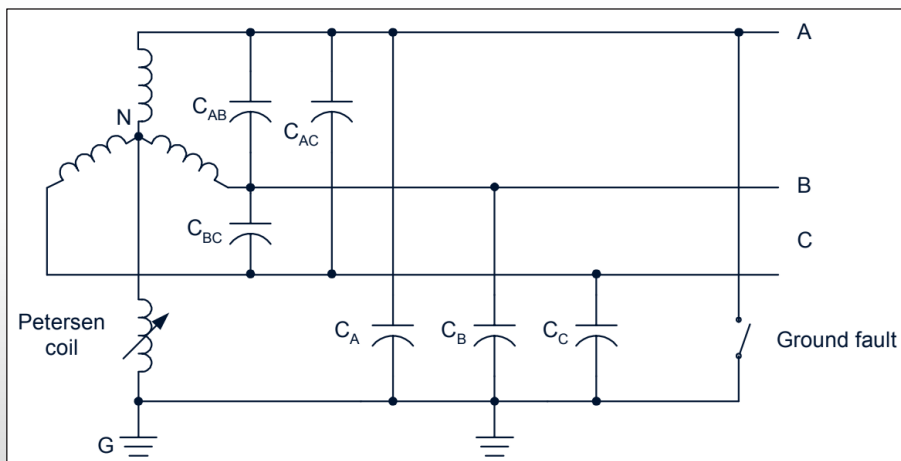
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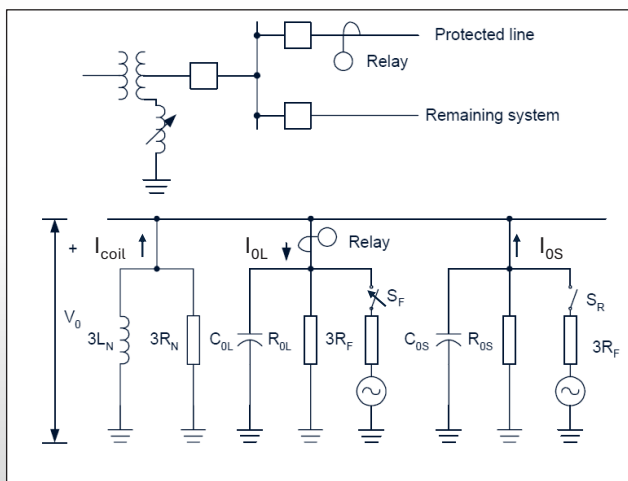
Compensated Grounded Systems

Simplified Network Representation



Stable Ground Faults

Zero-Sequence Representation



Forward Fault (close S_F):

$$I_{0L} = I_{coil} + I_{0S}$$

$$I_{0L} = -V_0 \left(\frac{1}{3R_N} + \frac{1}{R_{0S}} \right) - jV_0 \left(\omega C_{0S} - \frac{1}{3\omega L_N} \right)$$

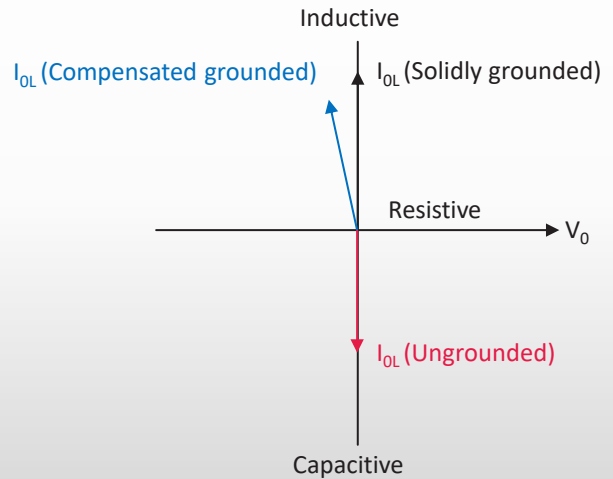
Reverse Fault (close S_R):

$$I_{0L} = V_0 \left(\frac{1}{R_{0L}} + j\omega C_{0L} \right)$$

Phasor Representation

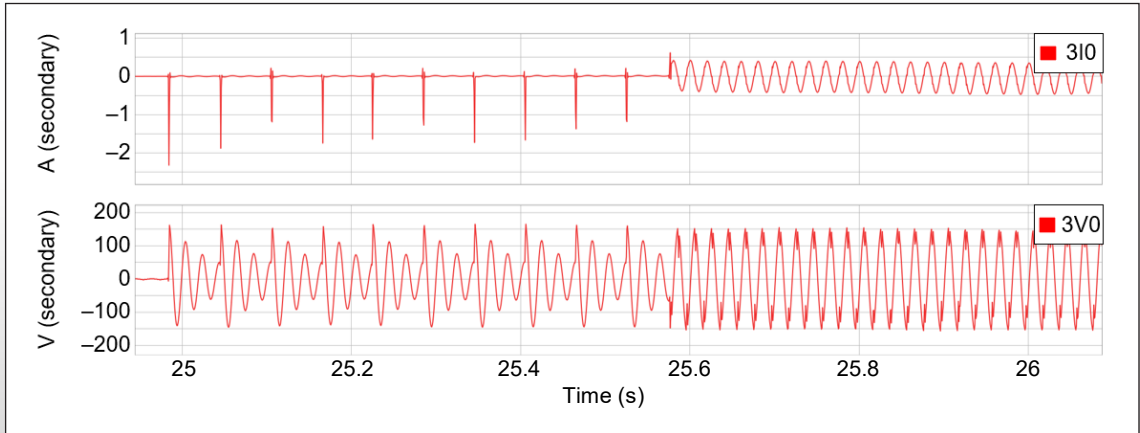
Forward Fault (close S_F):

$$I_{0L} = -V_0 \left(\frac{1}{3R_N} + \frac{1}{R_{0S}} \right) - jV_0 \left(\omega C_{0S} - \frac{1}{3\omega L_N} \right)$$

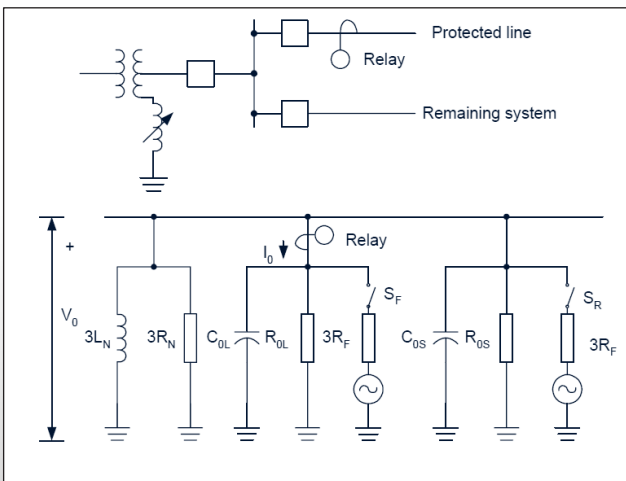


Intermittent Ground Faults

Real IGF Event



Zero-Sequence Representation

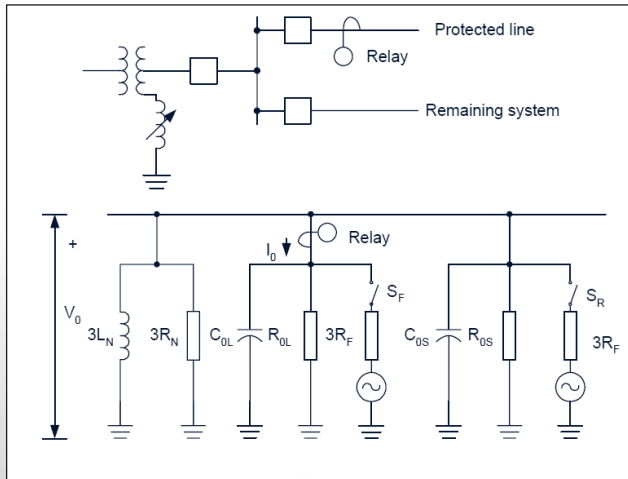


Forward Fault (close S_F):

$$i_{0L}(t) = - \left(C_{0s} \frac{dv_0(t)}{dt} + \frac{v_0(t)}{R_{0s}} + \frac{1}{3L_N} \int_{t_0}^t v_0(t) dt + \frac{v_0(t)}{3R_N} \right)$$

$$i_{0L}(t) \cong - \left(C_{0s} \frac{dv_0(t)}{dt} \right)$$

Zero-Sequence Representation



Reverse Fault (close S_R):

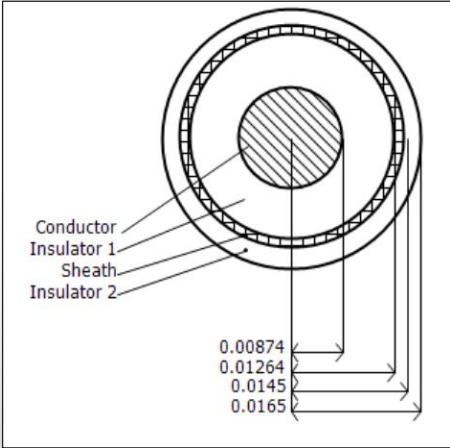
$$i_{0L}(t) = \left(C_{0L} \frac{dv_0(t)}{dt} + \frac{v_0(t)}{R_{0L}} \right)$$

$$i_{0L}(t) \cong \left(C_{0L} \frac{dv_0(t)}{dt} \right)$$

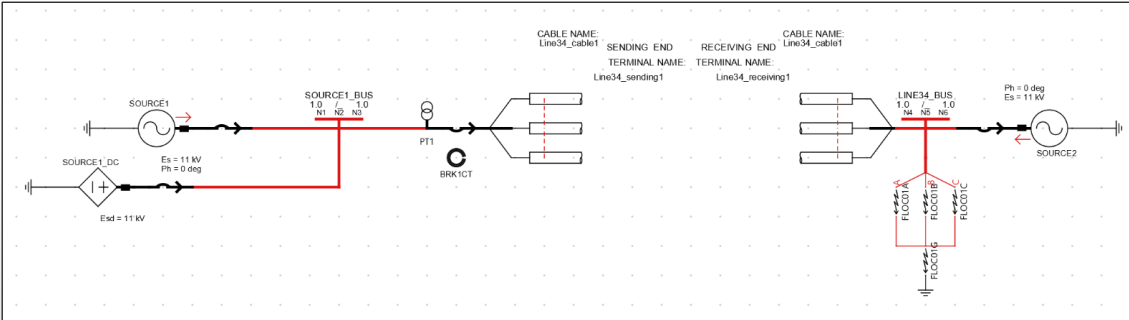
Cable Modeling

Model Parameters

- Frequency-dependent model
- Defined underground coordinates
- Double insulated layers
- Grounded sheath
- Cable lengths vary from 2 to 10 km



Cable Validation Model



Cable Validation Equations

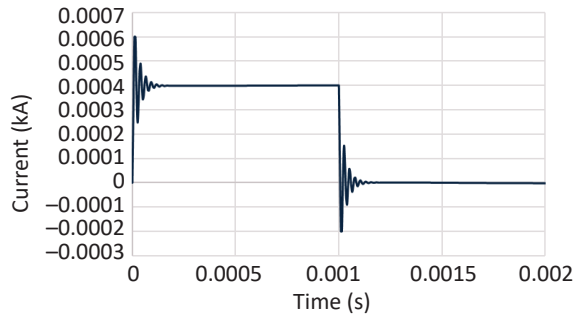
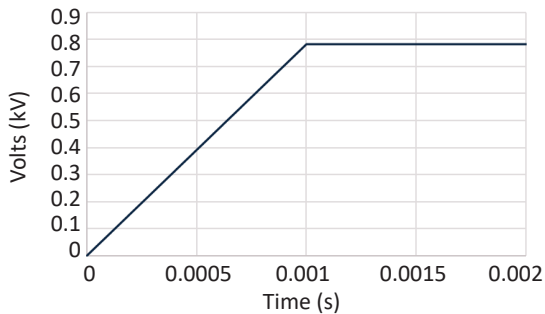
$$Z_{\text{cable}} = \frac{V_1 \angle \theta_1 - V_2 \angle \theta_2}{I_{12}} = \frac{V_2 \angle \theta_2 - V_1 \angle \theta_1}{I_{21}}$$

$$R_{\text{cable}} = \text{Re}\{Z_{\text{cable}}\}$$

$$X_{\text{cable}} = \text{Im}\{Z_{\text{cable}}\}$$

$$C_{\text{cable}} = \frac{I_{V_t} \times T_{V_t}}{V_t}$$

Cable Charging Characteristics



Cable Validation Results

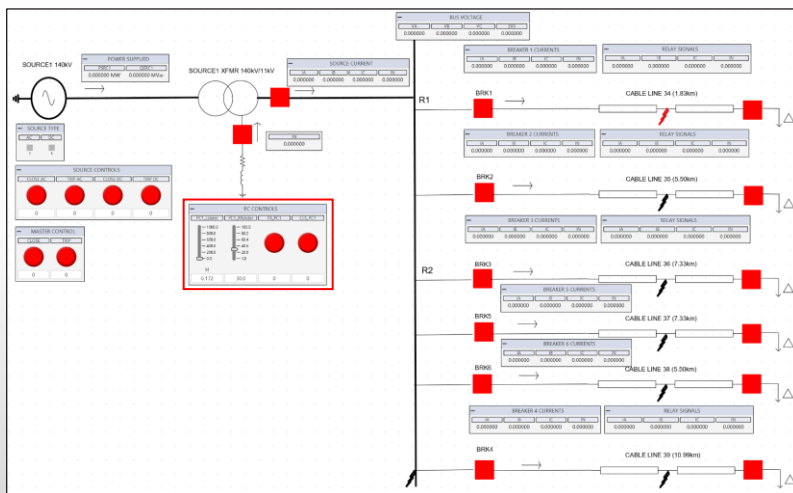
Parameter	Calculated	Expected
Resistance (per km)	0.14 Ω	0.13 Ω
Inductance (per km)	0.28 mH	0.25 mH
Capacitance (per km)	0.51 μF	0.46 μF

Fault Model

Objectives of Fault Model

- Adjust tuning of Petersen coil
- Trigger stable and intermittent faults based on the following:
 - User-defined point on wave of bus voltage
 - User-defined fault location
 - User-defined fault type
 - User-defined fault duration
 - User-defined fault impedance
 - User-defined time between arcs (IGF-type fault only)
 - User-defined arc duration (IGF-type fault only)

Model in RSCAD FX



Petersen Coil Tuning

Determine Tuned Petersen Coil Inductance

1. Determine the total per-phase system capacitive current ($I_{C_{ph}}$)
2. Determine the total per-phase system capacitance

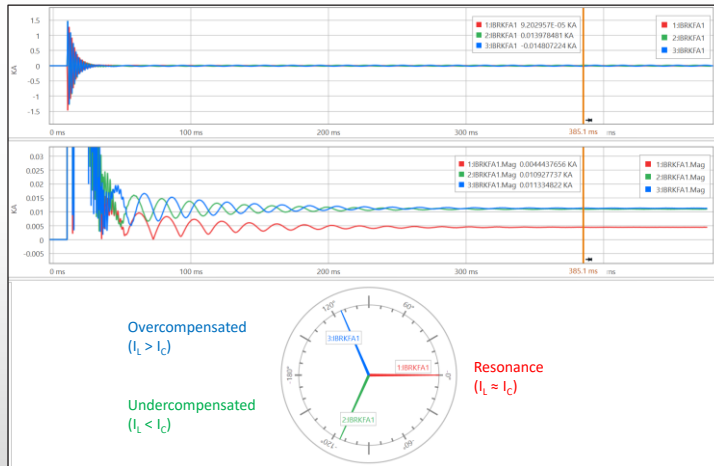
$$C_{sys} = \frac{V_{ph}}{I_{C_{ph}}}$$

3. Determine the per-phase capacitive current during ground fault

$$I_{C_{ph-fault}} = \frac{\sqrt{3} \times V_{ph}}{C_{sys}}$$

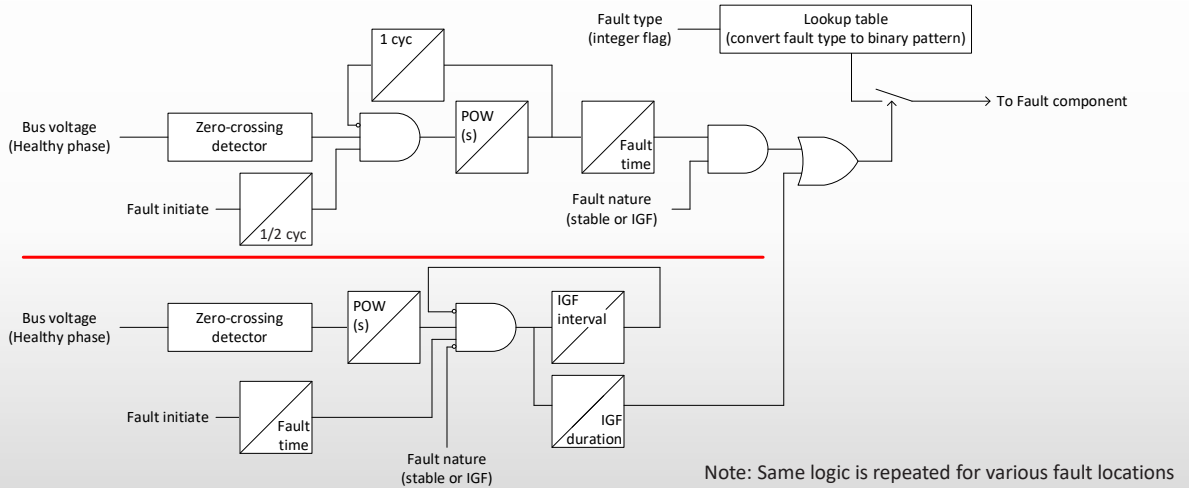
4. Determine Petersen coil inductance based on the desired tuning

Fault Current Characteristics

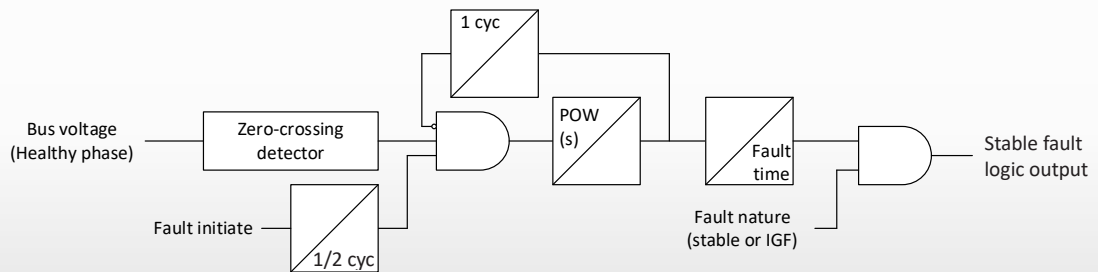


Stable Fault and IGF Logic Model

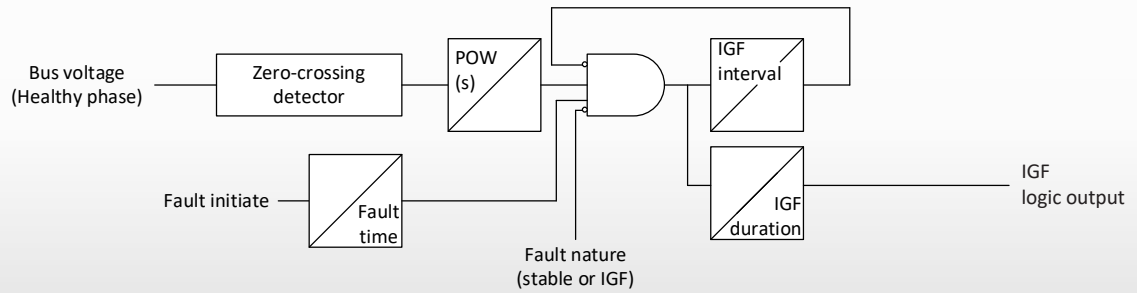
Fault Logic



Stable Fault Logic

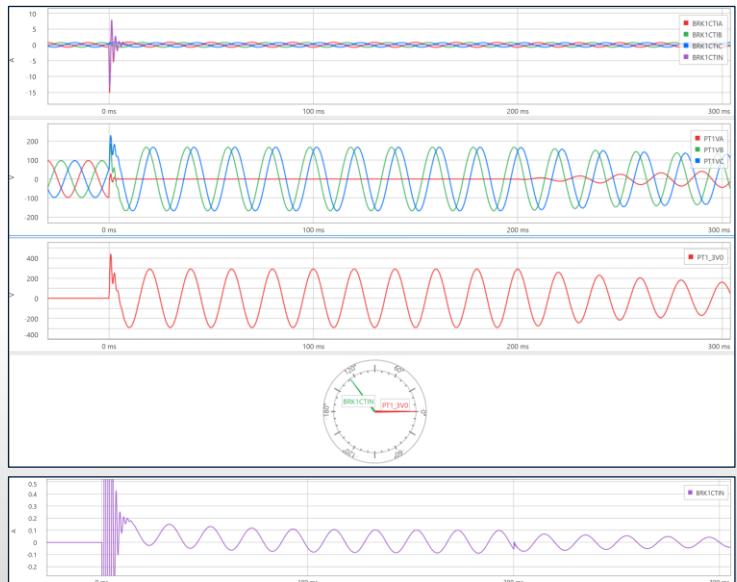


IGF Logic



Logic Response: Stable Fault

Fault POW: 90 deg on VA
 Faulted Phase: A-phase
 Fault duration: 10 cycles (200 ms @ 50 Hz)



Logic Response: IGF

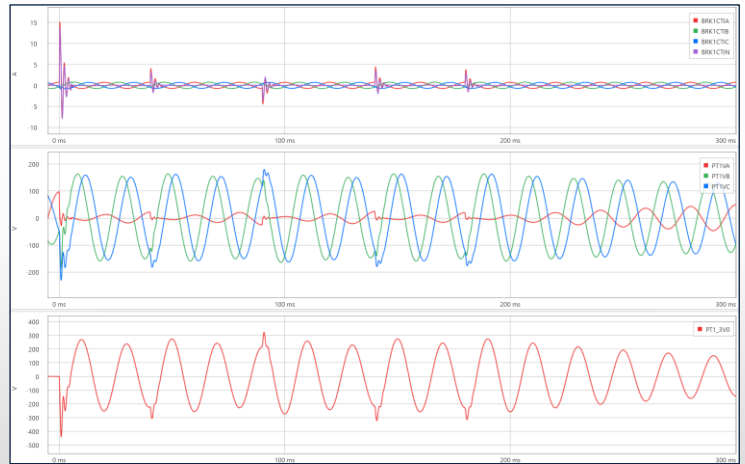
Fault POW: 90 deg on VA

Faulted Phase: A-phase

Fault duration: 10 cycles (200 ms @ 50 Hz)

IGF Interval: 2 cycles (40 ms @ 50 Hz)

IGF duration: 1/4 cycle (5 ms @ 50 Hz)



Python Automation Framework

Fault Automation

1. Read user-defined CSV file that identifies the following:
 - Fault locations
 - Fault types (phase involvement) and nature (stable or IGF)
 - Fault impedances
 - Fault point on wave
 - Arc length and duration (for IGF-type fault)
2. Download event report and event recorder data from relay
3. Save relay response obtained through GOOSE protocol in CSV file

Customized Functions

RTDS functions:

```
button_pulse(button_name)  
slider_setval(slider_name,  
slider_value)  
dial_setval(dial_name,dial_value)
```

Relay functions:

```
relay_connect(relay_address)  
relay_ser(relay_object)  
relay_clear_ser(relay_object)  
relay_setting(relay_object,  
setting_str,setting_value)
```

Python Execution Example

```
import telnetlib
Relay is Enabled
RSCAD FX is not connected.
Establishing connection to 127.0.0.1:153738
Forcing connection to user-defined rack
LAUNCHING MODEL IN RSCAD FX
Case opened. [#####] 100.00%
The RSCADFX compile completed successfully. [#####] 100.00%

SENDING RELAY SETTINGS
INITIALIZING MODEL WITH USER SETTINGS
Created directory to save events

SETTING CT BURDEN
RUNNING MODEL
Case started. [#####] 100.00%
[##### .....] 50.00%

SETTING FAULT POW
SETTING LINE ANGLE
RUNNING TEST CASES: | POW = 0.6deg | X/R = 100.0
CLOSING ALL LOAD BREAKERS
SETTING FAULT TYPE
RESETTING CT 1 FLUX
RESETTING CT 2 FLUX
TRIGGERING TRIP TIMER
TRIGGERING FAULT
TRIP OCCURRED
Event downloaded
```



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Questions?



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