

**TRANSIENT OVERVOLTAGES SUPPRESSION TECHNIQUE  
AGAINST LIGHTNING**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper presents the transient overvoltage suppression technique against lightning at UiTM Shah Alam. It involved with the development of a simulator model that can be used to analyze several transient overvoltage mitigation techniques. Power system computer aided design (PSCAD) software is used as it is user friendly and efficient in conduct power system simulations. This project used metal oxide surge arrester (MOSA) to mitigate the effect due to lightning strikes. The effect is mitigated by using three types of (MOSA) model, which are IEEE, Pincetti Giannettoni and Fernandez Diaz models. Using PSCAD software, the performance of the MOSA models were evaluated and compared. It was found that IEEE model can reduce the transient overvoltage better than Pincetti Giannettoni, and Fernandez Diaz models.

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# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

The phenomenon of lightning has been the subject of intensity study by many people. The consequences and the behavior of lightning are unpredictable but in general term it is fairly predictable. Lightning is an electrical discharge in the air between the clouds, it is provided by warm air rising into a developing cloud. Discharge may occur from cloud to cloud, or from cloud to ground. The current which flows in the cloud to ground strike ranges about 2kA to 200kA with a log normal distribution [1]. When lightning strike the electricity distribution system, surge current is generated and conducted through power system into the facilities. Large impulsive transient overvoltage is produced due to this surge current. Lightning can strike directly to the phase conductors of overhead power lines producing very high magnitude transient overvoltage. Lightning also can strike the overhead earth wire (shielded wire) that is sometimes installed above the phase conductors to protect them from a direct lightning strike. This can lead to back-flashover to the phase conductors as the voltage on the earth wire to become much greater than the voltage on the phase conductors. Beside of direct lightning strike, lightning also can induce current and voltage on power lines system without touching it, this type of behavior is call indirect strike. The large electromagnetic field produced by lightning discharge can couple into the power lines system and produce induced transients. Current that generated from this indirect lightning usually less than 2kA with voltages less than 100kA [2].