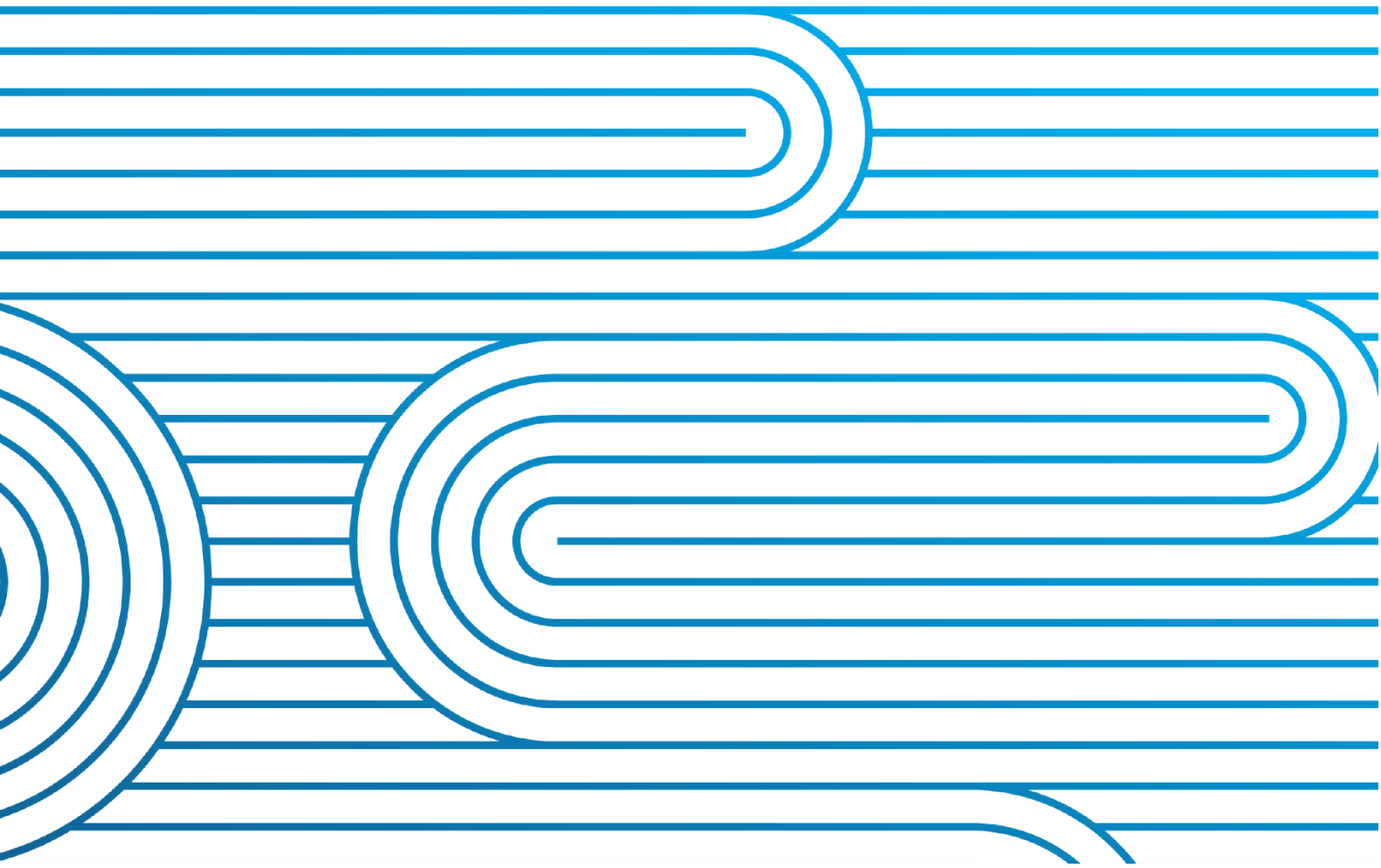


Grid Zone 9, 10, 11, 12 EMT Model User Guide

Version: 1.0

Date: July 2025



Version	Date	Change
1.0	July 2025	Initial Issue

	Name & Position	Date
Prepared By:	Power System Development Team	July 2025
Reviewed By:	Power System Development Manager	July 2025
Approved By:	Head of Power Systems Group	July 2025

IMPORTANT

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1.0 Introduction

A PSCAD model of the region covered by grid zones 9, 10, 11, 12 was developed for asset owners to conduct their own Electromagnetic Transient (EMT) connection studies in this region as per Connection Study Requirements for New Generating Assets (GL-EA-0953)¹. The model represents in detail the Upper South Island (USI), which is composed of grid zones 9, 10, 11, 12, while the rest of the South Island network is represented by equivalent voltage sources and a simplified network. The model contains synchronous generator models with their respective automatic voltage regulators (AVR) and reactive power compensation devices represented using simplified generic models.

The EMT network model components were created using E-TRAN software developed by Electranix Corporation². The power-flow solution and network equivalent were created using DigSILENT PowerFactory. This document provides guidance for loading the network model into PSCAD, along with brief descriptions of the models.

¹ [Connecting generation | Transpower](#)

² [E-TRAN Runtime library for PSCAD | Electranix Corporation](#)

2.0 Files Provided by the System Operator

The system operator provides the asset owner with the GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model.zip package containing the files shown in Figure 1.

Table 1 includes descriptions of the files provided in the .zip package.










Name	Type	Compressed...
 dynamics.dyr	DYR File	1 KB
 EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx	PSCAD File	395 KB
 ETRAN.pslx	PSCAD File	178 KB
 ETRAN_IF12.lib	Object File Library	592 KB
 loads.csv	Microsoft Excel Comma S...	1 KB
 synchronous_machines.csv	Microsoft Excel Comma S...	1 KB
 update_loads.py	Python File	1 KB
 update_syncmachines.py	Python File	2 KB
 WP_USI.pswx	PSCAD File	1 KB

Figure 1: Files provided in the .zip package.

Table 1: Description of the files provided.

File Name	Description
dynamics.dyr	Dynamic record file for generator and AVR/exciter models. This file should be placed in the same folder as the EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx case.
EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx	A simulation file containing South Island grid zones 9, 10, 11, 12 in detail. The USI model has equivalent boundaries at TWZ 220 kV, NWD 220 kV and TIM 110 kV buses.
ETRAN.pslx	The runtime library developed by Electranix to be used with E-TRAN-converted PSCAD files. The latest version of this library is freely available on the Electranix' website ³ .
ETRAN_IF12.lib	The encrypted source code file for the E-TRAN runtime library. This should be loaded as a resource file in the ETRAN.pslx library.
loads.csv	A .csv file containing details of loads within the network model. The data is obtained by the PowerFactory power-flow solution.

³ [E-TRAN Runtime library for PSCAD | Electranix Corporation](#)

File Name	Description
synchronous_machines.csv	A .csv file containing details of the synchronous machines within the network model. The data is obtained from the PowerFactory power-flow solution.
update_loads.py	A python file used to update the load values based on the power-flow details provided by the loads.csv file.
update_syncmachines.py	A python file used to update the initial conditions of synchronous machines based on the power-flow details provided by the synchronous_machines.csv file.
WP_USI.pswx	This is a PSCAD workspace file which should load all necessary files into the PSCAD workspace to run the PSCAD case.

3.0 Setting up the Study Case

The package is created using **PSCAD V5.0.2** with **Intel Fortran Classic 2021.12.0 compiler** and **Visual Studio 2022** installed. Loading the package into older PSCAD versions and/or with an older Intel Fortran compiler and Visual Studio version may cause the study case to fail. This section explains the steps required to load the study case.

3.1 Loading the Case File and General Setup

Once the provided .zip file is extracted, the user can open the **WP_USI.pswx** workspace file. This should load all necessary files and resources into the PSCAD environment. If the workspace fails to load correctly, the user can follow the sequence below to load all the files manually.

Use the **File -> Open** command from PSCAD to load both files below.

1. **ETRAN.pslx**
2. **EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx**

Once these two files are loaded, expand the **ETRAN.pscx** library by clicking the + sign beside the file name in the workspace. Right-click on the **Resources** subfolder and navigate to the **Add -> Binary (*.o, *.obj, *.lib)** submenu.

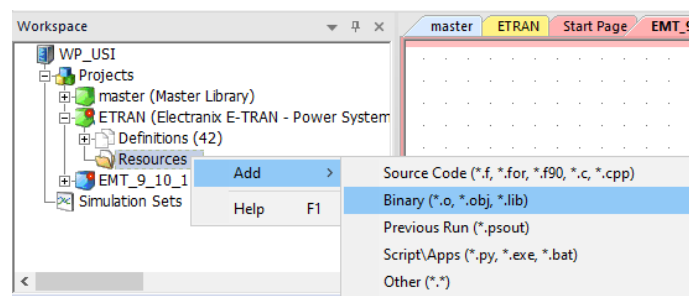


Figure 2: Adding .lib files to the project.

Then add the **ETRAN_IF12.lib** file as shown in Figure 3.

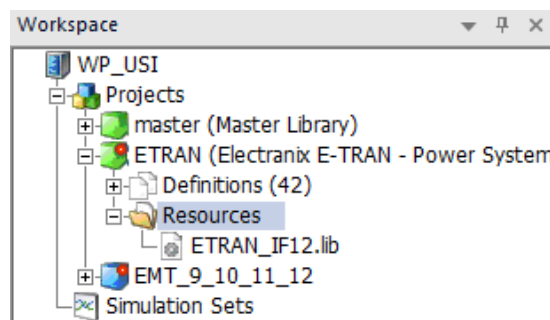


Figure 3: All the .lib files loaded in correct order.

The following figure shows a snapshot of the PSCAD workspace after the workspace **WP_USI.pswx** has been correctly loaded.

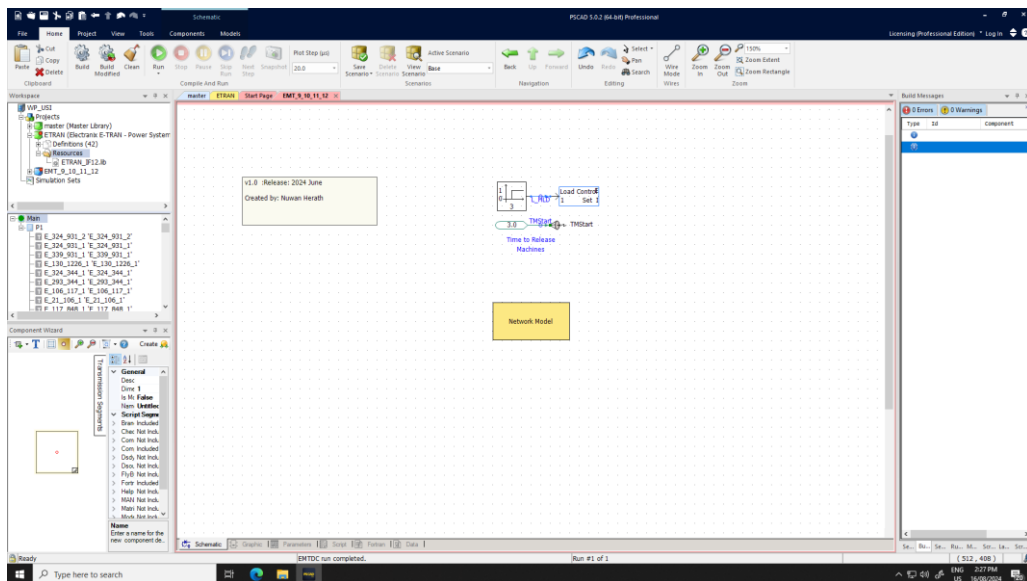


Figure 4: Screenshot of the correctly loaded PSCAD workspace and canvas.

3.2 Case File Arrangement

The network model is available within the **Network Model** subpage in the canvas. Figure 5 shows the layout of the network model.

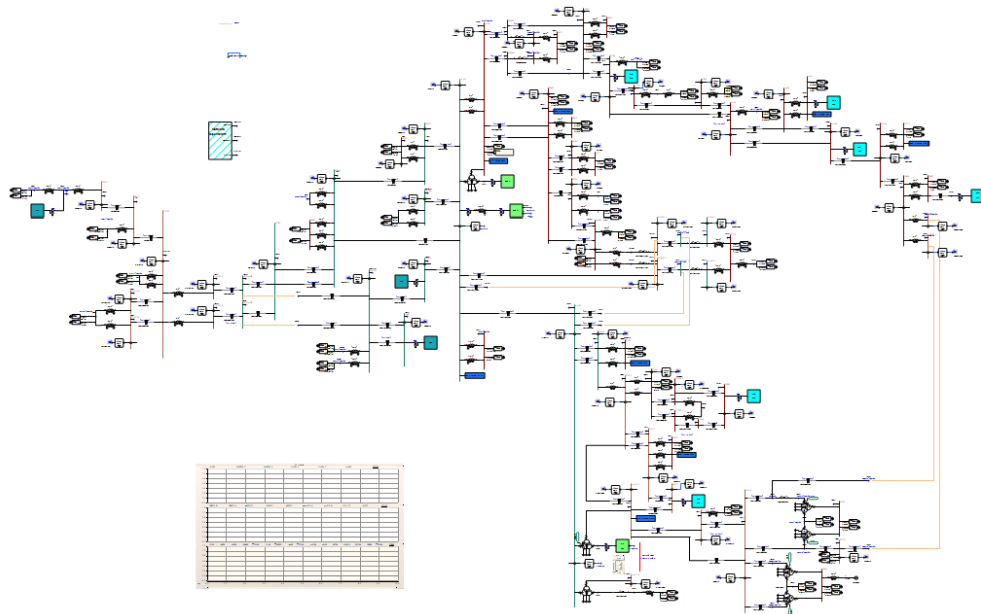


Figure 5: Layout of the network model.

3.3 Setting Up the Compiler

An Intel® Fortran Compiler is required to run the simulation case. The simulation cases were developed using **Intel® Fortran Compiler Classic 2021.12.0** compiler. The user must make sure a correct version of Intel Fortran compiler is installed on the computer⁴. The compiler can be selected by navigating to **File -> Application Options -> Dependencies** and selecting the correct Fortran compiler. Figure 6: Setting up the compiler.

shows the window to configure the Fortran compiler.

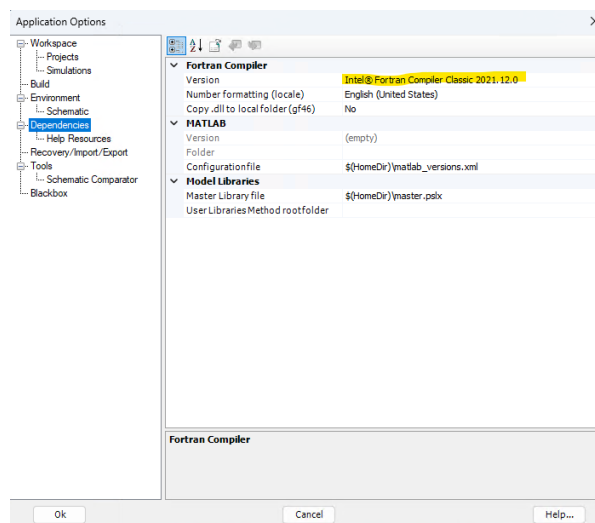


Figure 6: Setting up the compiler.

3.4 Setting Up the Project Simulation Time Step

Setting up the correct simulation time step is crucial for accurate results. It is essential to run the simulation at a time step (solution time step) at 20 μ s or below due to the modelling requirements. Users can use a slightly larger channel plot step to reduce the memory usage from the simulation. In this configuration, a 100 μ s channel plot step is recommended. All these parameters can be changed in the **Project Settings** by right-clicking anywhere on the canvas as shown in Figure 7.

⁴ Compatibility of compilers and Visual Studio versions with PSCAD versions can be found at <https://www.pscad.com/knowledge-base/article/102>

Project Settings - EMT_9_10_11_12

General Runtime Simulation Dynamics Mapping Fortran

Time Settings

Duration of run (sec) 10.0

Solution time step (uS) 20.0

Channel plot step (uS) 20.0

Startup Method: Standard

Input file: Browse...

Save channels to disk? No

Output file: \$(Namespace).out

Timed Snapshot(s): None

Snapshot file: \$(Namespace).snp

Time 1

Run Configuration: Standalone

runs 1

☒ Remove time offset when starting from snapshot.

☐ Send only the output channels that are in use.

☐ Start simulation manually to allow use of integrated debugger.

☒ Enable component graphics state animation.

OK Cancel Help

Figure 7: Setting up the solution time step.

4.0 Simulation Case Details

The simulation case was developed based on the EMI PowerFactory study case for 202311, available on the Electricity Authority's website⁵. The winter 2024 variation has been considered for load conditions. The ISL 220 kV bus angle has been set as 0 degrees for power-flow solution.

Users may replicate the power flow conditions by creating equivalents for other load condition variations or by updating the case using the latest version of the EMI study. For further assistance, please contact the system operator.

4.1 Network Equivalents

The network model contains network components associated with grid zones 9, 10, 11 and, 12. The rest of the network is represented by equivalent voltage sources and a reduced network model to simplify the EMT simulation.

The slack generator was set to Coleridge G2 with the voltage angle of Islington 220 kV bus at 0°. The network was reduced in PowerFactory based on the following selected boundary of the EMI PowerFactory case.

	Boundary Cubicle StaCubic	Head Folder	Busbar	Branch	Orientation
1	✓ Cub_CML-TWZ-1	✓ TWZ220	✓ TWZ220A2	✓ CML-TWZ-1	--> Busbar
2	✓ Cub_CML-TWZ-2	✓ TWZ220	✓ TWZ220A1	✓ CML-TWZ-2	--> Busbar
3	✓ Cub_OHB-TWZ-3	✓ TWZ220	✓ TWZ220A3	✓ OHB-TWZ-3	--> Busbar
4	✓ Cub_BEN-TWZ-1	✓ TWZ220	✓ TWZ220B3	✓ BEN-TWZ-1	--> Busbar
5	✓ Cub_OHC-TWZ-4	✓ TWZ220	✓ TWZ220B3	✓ OHC-TWZ-4	--> Busbar
6	✓ Cub_1	✓ LIV220	✓ LIV220	✓ LIV-NWD-1	--> Branch
7	✓ Cub_STU-TIM-1	✓ TIM110	✓ TIM110_B	✓ STU-TIM-1	--> Busbar

Figure 8: EMI PowerFactory boundary for reducing rest of the South Island power grid.

Once the network boundary is created in PowerFactory (named **Boundary-TWZ** in this example), part of the network exterior to the boundary can be reduced via **CALCULATION -> Network Reduction** in PowerFactory. This will open the **Network Reduction** window. In this window, parameters should be set as follows to create an Extended Ward Reduction. Leave other settings as default. Once the settings are configured, press **Execute**⁶.

⁵ [Electricity Authority - EMI \(market statistics and tools\) \(ea.govt.nz\)](https://www.ea.govt.nz/emissions-and-environment/emi/)

⁶ Additional information regarding Network Reduction is available in the PowerFactory user manual.

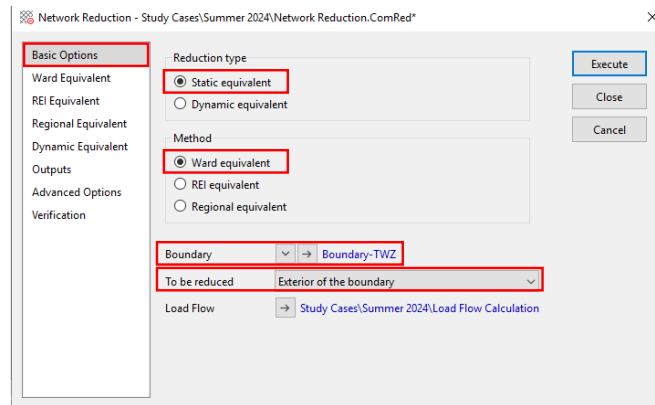


Figure 9: Network Reduction window: Basic Options.

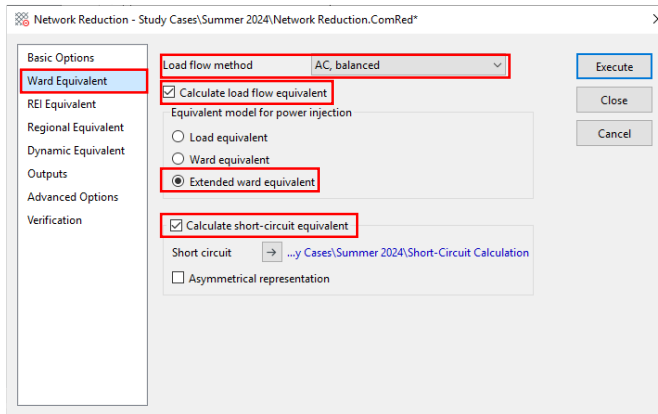


Figure 10: Network Reduction window: Ward Equivalent.

Once the network is reduced, AC voltage sources and Common Impedances appear in the PowerFactory network data. The magnitude, angle, initial active and reactive powers of the equivalent network AC voltage sources, as well as network impedances between equivalent AC voltage sources in the EMT model were set based on the power-flow solution of the reduced PowerFactory case.

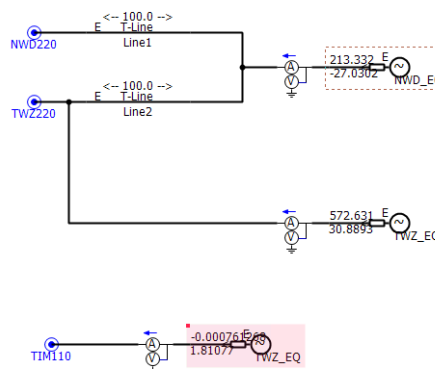


Figure 11: Network equivalent in EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx.

4.2 Network Models

The network model consists of a detailed model of the USI region including hydro generation in the region, a generic STATCOM at Kikiwa, and two generic SVCs at Islington. The region of the South Island network within the green line in Figure 12 is covered in the network model.

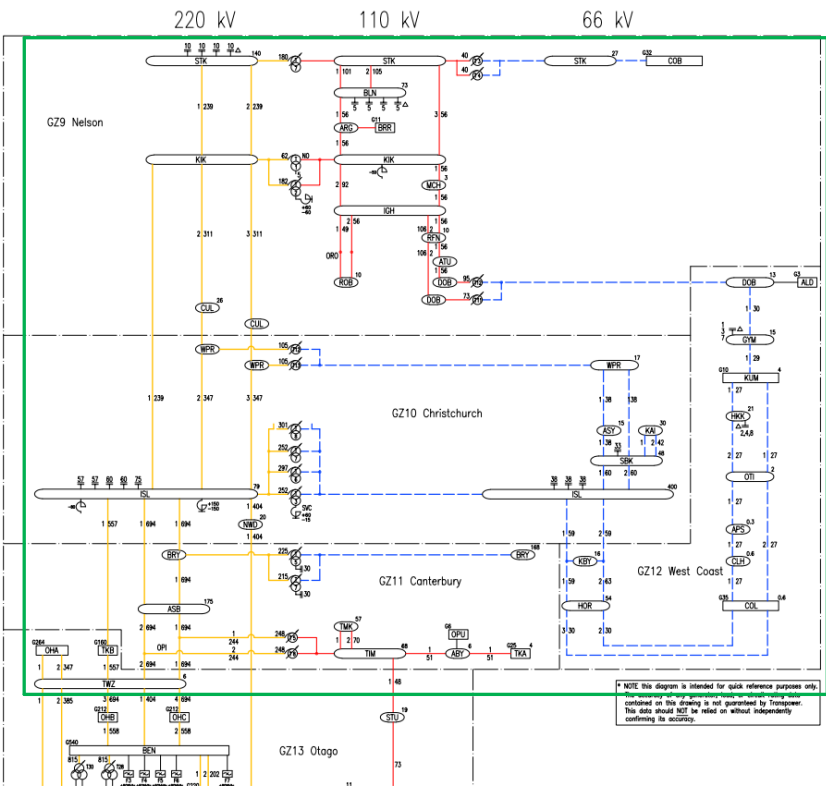


Figure 12: Region represented in the network model.

4.3 Generation within the Region

Name of the Generator	Capacity (MVA)	Dispatch (MW)	Energy Source	Model
Coleridge (COL)	11.5	9.5	Hydro	GENSAE
	13.4	6.4		
	13.4	OOS ⁷		
	3.53	OOS		
	3.53	OOS		

⁷ OOS- Out of service

Amethyst (AMS)	9.25	3.0	Hydro	GENSAE
Kumara (KUM)	9.23	4.7	Hydro	GENSAE
Arnold (ALD)	1.8 1.8	OOS OOS	Hydro	GENSAE
Cobb (COB)	3.75 3.75 3.75 3.75 11.1 11.1	2.6 2.6 2.6 2.6 8.9 OOS	Hydro	GENSAE
Argyle (ARG)	4.23	3.1	Hydro	GENSAE
Wairau (WAU)	7.778	OOS	Hydro	GENSAE
Ohau A (OHA)	73.33 73.33 73.33 73.33	65.9 65.9 48.0 12.1	Hydro	GENSAE
Tekapo B (TKB)	88.9 88.9	77.2 66.0	Hydro	GENSAE
Tekapo A (TKA)	35.0	12.2	Hydro	GENSAE

4.4 Generator Models

Due to the sensitivity of the information regarding models of generators, generic models have been used to model the generators. Synchronous machines are modelled using GENSAE models, with their automatic voltage regulators using respective IEEE generic models.

4.5 Load Model

The active and reactive power components of the loads at grid exit points (GXPs) are modelled as constant current sources and constant impedance models respectively to align with the widely accepted load dynamic characteristics⁸.

⁸ Kundur, Prabha S., and Om P. Malik. 2022. Power System Stability and Control. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw Hill.

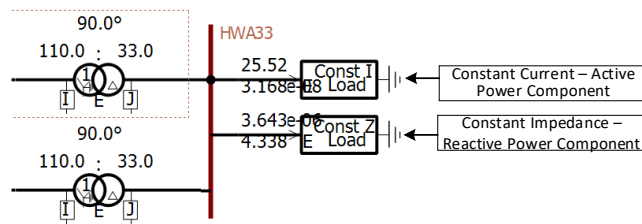


Figure 13: Example load representation.

4.6 Reactive Power Compensation Devices

The network model consists of three active reactive power devices.

- Kikiwa STATCOM
- Islington SVC3
- Islington SVC9

The reactive power compensation devices are developed with generic controls **without** their special protection mechanisms.

5.0 Update Initial Conditions using Power-flow Data

The [update_syncmachines.py](#) and [update_loads.py](#) scripts can be used along with [synchronous_machines.csv](#) and [loads.csv](#) to rapidly update the initial conditions of the synchronous machines and load values based on the power-flow solution.

5.1 Update Synchronous Machines

Step 1

First, the [synchronous_machines.csv](#) needs to be updated based on the power-flow solution. Figure 14 gives an overview of the .csv file data format opened in Excel.

Note: the user must not change the data order or format.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Generator	PSCAD Bus	PSCAD circuit	Out of service	PF Voltage (pu)	PF angle (deg)	PF Pgen (MW)	PF Qgen (MW)
2	ALD-G1			1				
3	ALD-G2			1				
4	AMS-G1			0	0.99000001	169.3452	3	2.754774272
5	ARG-G1			0	0.987087067	-63.45942	3.109999895	-0.180684443
6	BEN-G6			1				
7	COB-G1			0	0.986264005	-31.82612	2.599999905	-0.701018407
8	COB-G2			0	0.986264005	-31.82612	2.599999905	-0.701018407
9	COB-G3			0	0.986264005	-31.82612	2.599999905	-0.701018407

Figure 14: Data format of the synchronous_machines.csv file.

The same generator name used in the EMI case is used in the first column. Columns B and C can be left null or populated. Columns D to H need to be updated based on the PowerFactory power-flow solution. Once the .csv file is updated, save it in the same folder where the PSCAD case is saved.

Step 2

Add [update_syncmachines.py](#) as a resource to the PSCAD case. Figure 15 gives a snapshot of adding the python file to [EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx](#)

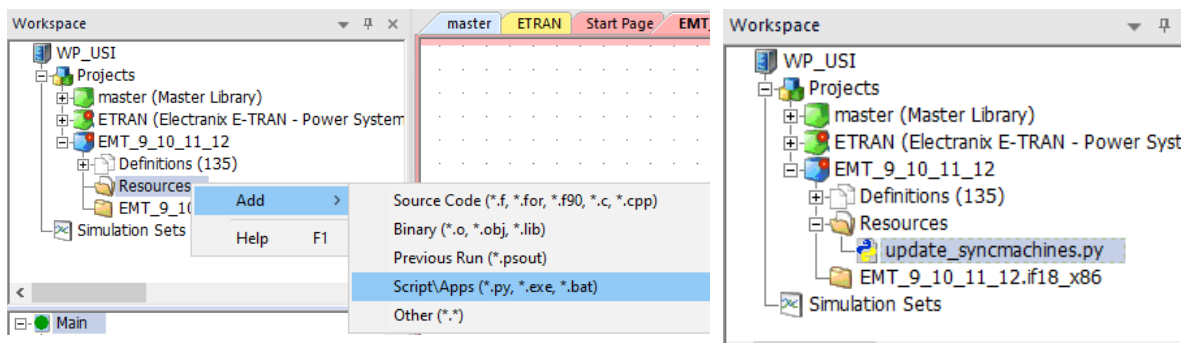


Figure 15: Addition of update_syncmachines.py script.

Step 3

Double-click the added **update_syncmachines.py** file. This will open a scripts pane in the PSCAD environment.

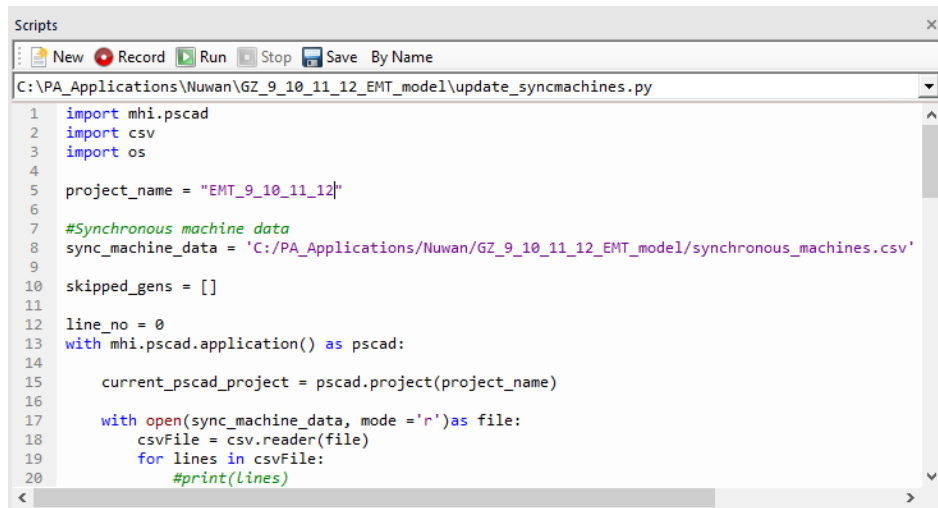


Figure 16: Scripts pane with the loaded script.

Step 4

Update the **project_name** variable with the current PSCAD case that needs to be edited.

Update the **sync_machine_data** variable with the absolute file location of the **synchronous_machines.csv** file. See Figure 17.

```

Scripts
New Record Run Stop Save By Name
C:\PA_Applications\Nuwan\GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model\update_syncmachines.py
1 import mhi.pscad
2 import csv
3 import os
4
5 project_name = "EMT_9_10_11_12"
6
7 #Synchronous machine data
8 sync_machine_data = 'C:/PA_Applications/Nuwan/GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model/synchronous_machines.csv'
9
10 skipped_gens = []
11
12 line_no = 0
13 with mhi.pscad.application() as pscad:
14
15     current_pscad_project = pscad.project(project_name)
16
17     with open(sync_machine_data, mode='r') as file:
18         csvFile = csv.reader(file)
19         for lines in csvFile:
20             #print(Lines)

```

Figure 17: Update the project name and sync_machine_data variables.

Step 5

Press the **Run** button available in the Scripts pane. This should update the synchronous machines within the PSCAD case with the data provided in the **synchronous_machines.csv** file. The **Script Output** will be populated with generators that are being updated.

5.2 Update Loads

Step 1

Update the **loads.csv** based on the power-flow solution. Figure 18 gives an overview of the .csv file data format opened in Excel.

Note: The user must not change the data order or format.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Load name	PSCAD bus no	Out of service	PF Voltage (pu)	PF P (MW)	PF Q (MVAR)
2	ABY		0	1.007909413	-0.4	0.09669994
3	APS		0	1.006437148	0	0
4	ASB-66		0	1.031879893	62	-16.5937977
5	ASY-11-MPAS		0	1.02308206	7	2.0686574
6	ASY-11-MPOW		0	0.99717401	6.8000002	2.01E+00
7	ATU		0	1.021518492	0	0
8	BLN		0	1.040995306	0	0
9	BRY-66		0	1.025660942	88.699997	-8.90E+00
10	CLH		0	1.019317334	0.5	-0.14776124
11	COL		0	1.023125025	0.2	-0.05755429
12	CUL-33		0	1.045028068	5.3000002	-1.72314584
13	CUL-66		0	1.029835522	5.0999999	-7.63E-01

Figure 18. Data format of the loads.csv file.

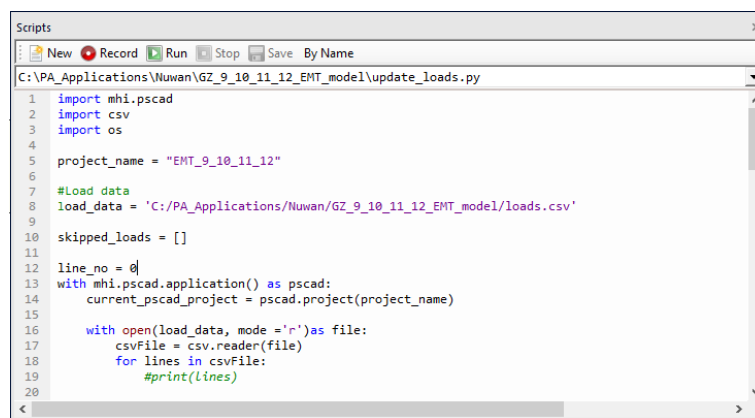
The same load name used in the EMI case is used in the first column. Column B can be left null or populated. Columns C to F need to be updated based on the PowerFactory power-flow solution. Once the .csv file is updated, save it in the same folder where the PSCAD case is saved.

Step 2

Add [update_loads.py](#) as a resource to the PSCAD case like in section 5.1.

Step 3

Double-click the [update_loads.py](#) file. This will open a scripts pane in the PSCAD environment.



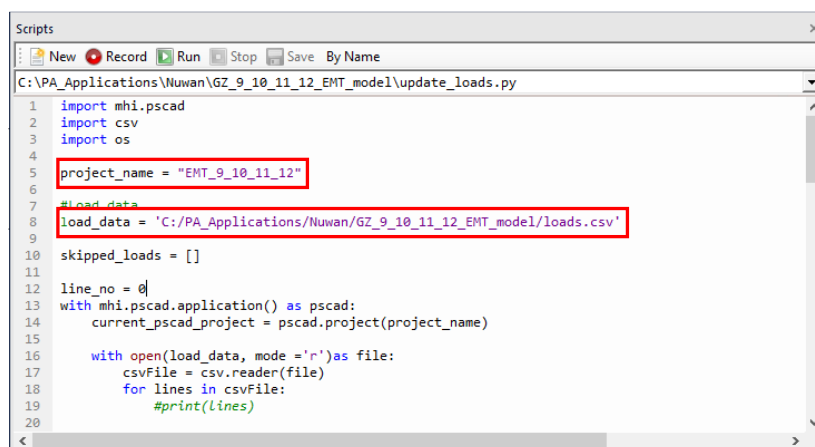
```
Scripts
New Record Run Stop Save By Name
C:\PA_Applications\Nuwan\GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model\update_loads.py
1 import mhi.pscad
2 import csv
3 import os
4
5 project_name = "EMT_9_10_11_12"
6
7 #Load_data
8 load_data = 'C:/PA_Applications/Nuwan/GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model/loads.csv'
9
10 skipped_loads = []
11
12 line_no = 0
13 with mhi.pscad.application() as pscad:
14     current_pscad_project = pscad.project(project_name)
15
16     with open(load_data, mode='r') as file:
17         csvFile = csv.reader(file)
18         for lines in csvFile:
19             #print(lines)
20
```

Figure 19: Scripts pane with the loaded script.

Step 4

Update the [project_name](#) variable with the current PSCAD case that needs to be edited.

Update the [load_data](#) variable with the absolute file location of the [loads.csv](#) file. See Figure 20.



```
Scripts
New Record Run Stop Save By Name
C:\PA_Applications\Nuwan\GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model\update_loads.py
1 import mhi.pscad
2 import csv
3 import os
4
5 project_name = "EMT_9_10_11_12"
6
7 #Load_data
8 load_data = 'C:/PA_Applications/Nuwan/GZ_9_10_11_12_EMT_model/loads.csv'
9
10 skipped_loads = []
11
12 line_no = 0
13 with mhi.pscad.application() as pscad:
14     current_pscad_project = pscad.project(project_name)
15
16     with open(load_data, mode='r') as file:
17         csvFile = csv.reader(file)
18         for lines in csvFile:
19             #print(lines)
20
```

Figure 20. Update the project name and load_data variables.

Step 5

Press the **Run** button in the Scripts pane. This will update the synchronous machines within the PSCAD case with the data provided in the **loads.csv** file. The **Script Output** will be populated with loads that are being updated.

6.0 Assumptions and Limitations of the Model

The [EMT_9_10_11_12.pscx](#) PSCAD network model is provided with the following assumptions and limitations.

- It contains Grid Zone 9, 10, 11 and 12 transmission networks modelled in detail, including all the associated voltage control system models for generators. The rest of the South Island network is modelled as equivalent networks, with equivalent generators modelled as a constant frequency AC voltage source. This PSCAD network model is suitable for fault ride through and other voltage-related system studies.
- The simulation model requires an Intel® Fortran Compiler Classic 2021.12.0 to compile the simulation case.
- The simulation case was built using PSCAD version 5.0.2.0.
- The simulation case was developed with Visual Studio 2022.
- The EMT model has been created for a specific operating point of the power system (2024 Summer loading in EMI case). Users can modify the system for different study scenarios using the python script provided.
- The dynamics of machines are released at 3.0 s of the simulation run. Thus, it is recommended to run the simulation further about 3-5 s to ensure the system is in steady state. Verify the system is in steady state prior to conducting the studies.
- The EMT model was converted from the power-flow file using a 20 μ s simulation time step. Users could reduce the time step further if required, but increasing the simulation time step would likely result in errors when performing the simulation.
- The simulation model used simplifies generic models for STATCOMs and SVCs due to the restrictions of using detailed models. The response of the generic models may not fully represent the behaviour of the actual asset(s).
- The python scripts provided with the model only update the initial condition of generators and load values. The transformer tap positions, equivalent network initial conditions, and equivalent network impedances, solar PV farm power outputs, filter configurations, STATCOM and SVC setpoints and static capacitors and inductors within the system are **NOT** updated automatically. It is highly recommended that users verify all parameters and dispatch against the PowerFactory case.

