

# Design Optimization of ESD (Emergency ShutDown) System for Offshore Process Based on Reliability Analysis

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**Abstract.** Hydrocarbon leaks have a major accident potential and it could give significant damages to human, property and environment. To prevent these risks from the leak in design aspects, installation of ESD system is representative. Because the ESD system should be operated properly at any time, It needs high reliability and much cost. To make ESD system with high reliability and reasonable cost, it is a need to find specific design method. In this study, we proposed the multi-objective design optimization method and performed the optimization of the ESD system for 1st separation system to satisfy high reliability and cost-effective. 'NSGA-II (Non-dominated Sorting Genetic Algorithm-II)' was applied and two objective functions of 'Reliability' and 'Cost' of system were defined. Six design variables were set to related variables for system configuration. To verify the result of the optimization, the results of existing design and optimum design were compared in aspects of reliability and cost. With the optimization method proposed from this study, it was possible to derive the reliable and economical design of the ESD system.

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Motivation

As more offshore plants are installed around the world, more accidents related to the offshore plant are occurring. Since 1995, the number of accidents related to the offshore plants for oil production has reached several hundred a year and a lot of people have been also injured or lost their lives[1]. Especially, most of offshore plants which are designed to drilling, production, retrieve, refine the oil are closely related to the flammable hydrocarbon gas in high temperature and high pressure.

Since the accident in Piper Alpha[2], the offshore plant industries recognized importance of safety from accident of hydrocarbon and fire/explosion in offshore plant. So, to reduce the many accidents and risks, various attempts have been made such as rule revision and creation of safety division. UK put the onus on the operator to identify the major hazards and to reduce risks with The Offshore Safety Case regulations[3]. The HSE (Health and Safety Executive) also created the 'Offshore Safety Division' and discussed the revision or verification of rules for safety. The NPD (Norwegian Petroleum Directorate) founded 'Regulations relating to management in the petroleum activities' in 2001 for safety [4].

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There are a lot of approaches to satisfy safety in offshore plant. One is to reduce the 'Probability' of accident from human and organizational factors, system failure, natural disaster, etc. The other is to reduce 'Consequence' severity of such an event when it occurs with visual alarms, fire suppression system or a process shutdown [5]. From these aspects, the ESD system is very important to reduce 'Consequence' of accident as shutdown release of hazardous material. If the ESD system doesn't work and fail to shutdown when there is release of hydrocarbon in offshore plant, this failure could cause of fire/explosion disaster. So the ESD system is required to design with high reliability to avoid failure in dangerous situation.

From reliability aspects, there are two international safety authorities governing SIL (Safety Integrity Level), IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) 61508 and IEC 61511. 61508 governs the functional safety of electrical, electronic and programmable electronic safety systems e.g. Production Inflow Control Devices (ICDs). It is applied across all industries and IEC 61511 governs the functional safety of safety instrumented systems and it is applied in the process industries. In 2000 year in Norway, OLF (The Norwegian oil industry association) tried to issue a guideline on the application of IEC 61508 and IEC 61511 in the Norwegian Petroleum Industry [6]. OLF also has defined the procedure and requirements of the ESD for offshore plant in their "Technical Safety" of 'NORSOK STANDARD S-001' [7]. DNV establish 'OFFSHORE STANDARD DNV-OS-E201: Oil and Gas Processing Systems' and to provide an internationally acceptable standard of safety for hydrocarbon production plants and LNG processing plant by defining minimum requirements for the design, materials, construction and commissioning of plant[8].

## 1.2 A literature review

For high reliability of the offshore system, reliability analysis is necessary in the early stage of design. There are a lot of domestic and overseas studies related to the reliability analysis. As for the overseas studies, there was a research that suggested the simplified technique of reliability analysis and applied it to the offshore plant mooring system for the optimal [9]. There was also a study on the fatigue reliability analysis in the structure based on the analysis of various scenarios related to the structural fatigue for the extension of lifetime of the offshore plant [10]. But they are focused on structural or fatigue reliability of system. It is differ from functional safety of electrical, electronic, programmable electronic safety-related systems or safety instrumented systems for the process industry sector such as the ESD system.

As the overseas study directly related to the reliability analysis of the ESD system, FTA (Fault Tree Analysis) was used to define the failure rate of system component as the lower level and enhance the reliability of the system based on the HAZOP (HAZard and OPerability)[11]. SINTEF (Norwegian: Stiftelsen for industriell og teknisk forskning) studied reliability of subsea BOP systems for deepwater application[12]. Detailed failure statistics for the various BOP systems were analyzed and presented in the US GOM OCS (Outer Continental Shelf). Ram K. et al studied impact of reliability or the number of emergency shutdown devices on flare relief system and analyzed related factors for sizing of individual relief valves protecting equipment or process or system [13]. This paper highlighted several concerns such as standards, reliability, safety and offers practical advice to those facing relief system design decisions. A.C. Torres-Echeverri'a et al studied about multi-objective optimization for safety instrumented systems of chemical reactor system with three objective functions reliability, STR (Spurious Trip Rate) and cost[14]. They applied the reliability model to optimization of design and testing of safety instrumented systems. The models for optimization have been integrated, together with a Life cycle Cost model, as objective functions in to a multi-objective genetic algorithm. Fares Innal et al also studied safety and operational integrity evaluation and design optimization of safety instrumented monitoring systems with two objective functions reliability and STR [15].

In domestic studies, there was a study about design of the flight control system. Reliability of the system was analyzed and the method of improving reliability through simulation was proposed [16]. There was also another research in the field of fire prevention. The design of the system can be

verified whether it is proper to the SIL through the reliability analysis of fire/explosion safety device of Ethyl Benzene process [17]. In offshore industry, Bae J. H. et al performed reliability analysis of the ESD for supporting design of LNG bunkering [18].

This study was focused on not only method of design optimization for offshore process but also practical design by selecting ESD products on the market. Totally 22 types of ESD components were investigated from valve companies and online. In order to design closer to practical system, Existing system ‘Heidrun (TLP)’, has been operating in Norwegian Sea since 1995, was selected to optimize design of ESD system and to compare its results. The multi-objective design optimization was performed with two objective functions of ‘Reliability’ and ‘Cost’. ‘Reliability’ is based on PFD (Probability of Failure rate on Demand) values from reliability analysis and ‘Cost’ is composed of purchase cost, proof test cost, loss of production and etc. Design variables were set to six practical variables for configuration of system. To verify improvement of the design, the results of Heidrun design and optimum design was compared in aspects of reliability and cost.

## 2 The Emergency ShutDown system

In this thesis, the ESD system of 1st separation system in TLP at Heidrun oil field was selected for target system because it could be applicable more practically for optimization. The 1<sup>st</sup> separation and related line has high pressure and temperature conditions with hydrocarbon material. It could have high risks of fire/explosion accident. So, these separation systems are required to be controlled and monitored in all process functions on the topsides as well as Fire & Gas and the ESD for the entire FPSO. The P&ID (Piping & Instrument Diagram) of the ESD system is as shown in Figure 1 [19].

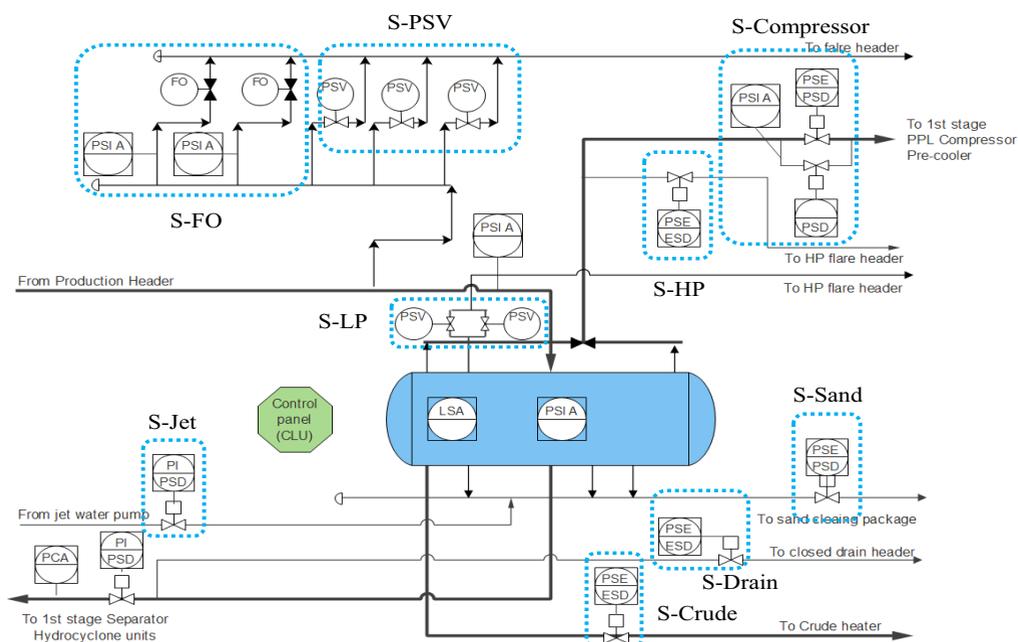


Figure 1.1 1<sup>st</sup> separation system with the ESD system [19].

Rectangular with dot line in Figure 1 presents the component of ESD system such as PSV (Pressure Safety Valve), ESD valve, PSD (Pressure ShutDown) valve, FO (Flow Orifice), PSI A (Pressure Safety Indicator/Alarm) and PSE (Pressure safety sensor). Equipment is expressed in P&ID with symbol and identification letters defined from American National Standard ‘Instrumentation Symbols and Identification’ [20]. Control panel (CLU: Control Logic Unit) is connected all of the ESD components.

### 3 Reliability Analysis

Reliability is defined by IEC 50 (191) as ‘the ability of an entity to perform a required function under given conditions for a given time interval’ and it is usually expressed in failure rate, MTTF (Mean Time To Failure), SIL (Safety Integrated Level) and etc. [21].

To perform reliability analysis for the ESD system, shutdown procedure is as follows;

1. If overpressure is detected by the sensors during separating operation, the main pump related to the 1<sup>st</sup> separator is stopped immediately.
2. The PSD/ESD control logic send shutdown signal to final elements.
3. Final elements shutdown system to prevent further accidents from occurring.

#### 3.1 PFD and Failure scenarios

Nine failure scenarios of overpressure were defined for reliability analysis (PFD calculation) as referred to ‘Component structure’[22] and The Norwegian Oil Industry Association[6]. The PFD of the E/E/PE safety-related system is determined by calculating and combining the average probability of failure on demand for all the subsystems which provide protection against a hazardous event [22].

The failure scenario ‘Flare FO’ is related to the failure of two flow orifices, two pressure safety indicators installed in the line to flare header and CLU for control. If there is the overpressure in line, CLU should order to open the flow orifice. Once one of two flow orifices operates normally in failure situation, this scenario is success as shown in Figure 2. In similar way to define scenarios such as ‘Flare FO’, the other eight scenarios were defined as shown Figure 3 to Figure 10.

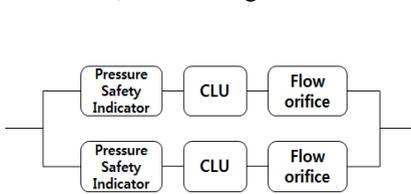


Figure 2.Scenario - Flare FO.

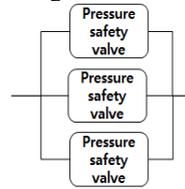


Figure 3.Scenario - Flare PSV.



Figure 4. Scenario – Compressor

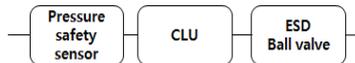


Figure 5. Scenario – HP (High Pressure) flare header

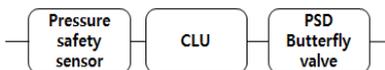


Figure 6.Scenario - Sand cleaning

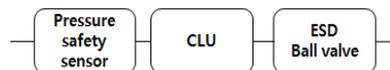


Figure 7.Scenario - Drain header

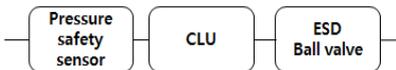


Figure 8.Scenario - Crude heater

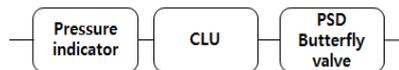


Figure 9.Scenario - Jet water pump

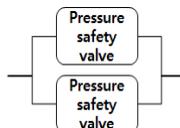


Figure 10.Scenario – LP (Low Pressure) compressor

### 3.2 Calculations of PFD and SIL

For, reliability analysis, failure data and MTTR (Mean Time To Repair) were referred from 'OREDA (Offshore and Onshore Reliability Data) 2009'[23]. From nine failure scenarios with failure data of components, PFD and SIL were calculated as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The results of reliability analysis (PFD and SIL).

Scenario	Component	Type	Failure rate (per10E+6hours)	MTTR (hours)	PFD	SIL	RequiredSIL
S-FO	Sensor	PSI	4.20E-07	4	1.21E-03	SIL 2	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	FO	4.23E-06	8			
S-Flare PSV	Final element	PSV	8.47E-06	8	1.48E-04	SIL 3	SIL 2
S-Compressor	Sensor	PSI	4.20E-07	4	1.73E-02	SIL 1	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	PSD	1.90E-05	17			
	Sensor	PSE	4.10E-07	4			
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	PSD	1.90E-05	17			
S-HP flare header	Sensor	PSE	4.10E-07	4	9.89E-03	SIL 2	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	ESD	2.58E-05	16			
S-Sand cleaning	Sensor	PSE	4.10E-07	4	9.89E-03	SIL 2	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	ESD	2.58E-05	16			
S-Drain	Sensor	PSE	4.10E-07	4	8.66E-03	SIL 2	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	PSD	1.90E-05	17			
S-Crude heater	Sensor	PSE	4.10E-07	4	9.89E-03	SIL 2	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	ESD	2.58E-05	16			
S-Jet water pump	Sensor	PSI	4.20E-07	4	8.66E-03	SIL 2	SIL 2
	Logic unit	CLU	2.85E-05	6			
	Final element	PSD	1.90E-05	17			
S-LP compressor	Final element	PSV	8.47E-06	8	1.48E-04	SIL 3	SIL 2

From, the results of reliability analysis, scenario 'S-Compressor' has lowest SIL 1 and scenarios 'S-PSV', 'S-LP' have high SIL 3. Except these 3 scenarios, all scenarios have SIL 2. Even if 'S-FO' has already SIL 2, it has more chance to reduce cost with higher PFD value in SIL 2 range. If the ESD system for 1<sup>st</sup> separation system in offshore plant is required to minimum SIL 2 as referred from The Norwegian Oil Industry Association[6], 'S-Compressor' is needed to improve design to meet SIL 2 from SIL 1, while 'S-PSV' and 'S-LP' are needed to simplify design to make SIL 2 from SIL 3 for reducing cost.

## 4 The design optimization of the ESD system

### 4.1 Definition of Optimization problem

The purpose of this design optimization is to find design variables that make minimum value of objective function. It means optimized design has high reliability with reasonable cost for the ESD system. NSGA-II is selected for optimization algorithm.

4.1.1 Objective function

- Objective function ‘Reliability’

Objective function of ‘Reliability’ ( $f_1$ ) is estimated from each scenarios’ as equation (1).

$$\text{minimize } f_1 = PFD \tag{1}$$

- Objective function ‘Cost’

Objective function of ‘Cost’( $f_2$ ) is calculated from ‘Product cost’, ‘Replace cost’, ‘Proof test cost’ and ‘Loss of production’ of the ESD systems on the following equation (2).

$$\text{minimize } f_2 = C_{Product} + C_{Replace} + C_{Proof\ test} + LOSS_{Production} \tag{2}$$

- $C_{Product}$  is product price of sensors, logic unit and final element for installation at first time.
- $C_{Replace}$  is cost of replacement during lifetime that depends on MTTF.
- $C_{Proof\ test}$  is calculated based on times of proof test during lifetime, test cost of labor[24] for one equipment and number of equipment.
- $LOSS_{Production}$  is loss of production from downtime during proof test[25]. It is estimated with WTI crude oil price \$57 (April 17, 2015), production ‘65,000 bbl/day’ at ‘Heidrun’ oilfield[26] and test time ‘1 hour’[27].

4.1.2 Design variables

From a reliability point of view, system is generally consist three parts; sensor, logic unit and final element. As shown in Table 2, six design variables were set to the number of redundancy at each part, type of sensor and final element, proof test interval. Database for design space was created including information of products as MTTF and price. Eight types of sensors and fourteen types of final elements were investigated from brochure of product[28] and online market[29]. Failure data is referred to ‘OREDA 2009’ data for sensors, logic unit and final elements.

Table 2. Design variables and space.

Design variable		Unit	Range
The number of redundancy - sensor		Number	0, 1, 2
The number of redundancy - logic unit		Number	0, 1, 2
The number of redundancy - final element		Number	0, 1, 2
Type of sensor		Type	1~8 (8 types of products)
Type of final element	For blowdown	Type	1~2 (2 types of products)
	For shutdown	Type	1~12 (12 types of products)
Proof test interval		Year	1~3

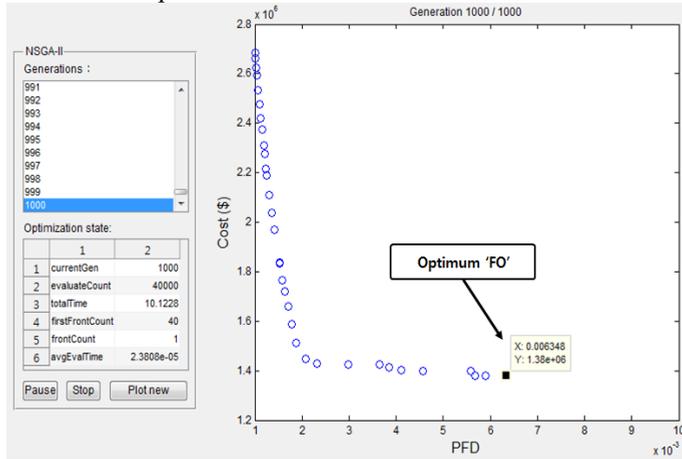
4.1.3 Constraints

The topside process in offshore plant is not extremely dangerous such as nuclear plant or has not very severe condition such as deepwater subsea well operation. Therefore generally SIL 2 is proper for offshore topside process. The Norwegian Oil Industry Association[6] also suggested minimum SIL 2 for the ESD system related to separation system. Constraints were set to SIL 2 and it has range of  $10^{-3} \leq PFD < 10^{-2}$  by PFD value.

4.2 The results of the optimization

4.2.1 ‘S-FO’ - Blowdown operation

Population of NSGA-II was set to 40, generation was 1,000 and calculation time was 9.4s for optimization. Figure 11 is Pareto-frontier results from the optimization of scenario ‘S-FO’. In this study, we focused on optimum design which has minimum cost in SIL 2. This means among the alternatives which satisfied SIL 2 ( $10^{-3} \leq \text{PFD} < 10^{-2}$ ), lowest cost alternative ‘FO’ could be chosen as shown in Figure 11. For ‘S-FO’ - Blowdown operation in ‘To flare header’ line, It should have equipment for blowdown system such as flow orifice. So, type of the final element in ‘S-FO’ was fixed to flow orifice and optimization was performed with the other design variables type of sensor, the numbers of redundancies and proof test interval.



**Figure 11.** Pareto-frontier of scenario ‘S-FO’ and optimum alternative  
 Details of alternative ‘FO’ (0.006348, 1.38e+6) are as shown in Table 3.

**Table 3.** Optimum alternative of ‘S-FO’

Design variable	Value	Details
Sensor	0	No redundancy
Logic unit	1	1 redundancy
Final element	0	No redundancy
Type of sensor	2	Pressure indicator ‘P Series’
Type of final element (blowdown)	2	Flow orifice
Proof test interval	3.000	3 years

**4.2.2 Summary of the results include other eight scenarios**

The total results and comparisons of optimization results to Heidrun system are as shown in Table 4.

**Table 4.** The total results and Comparison of optimization results.

Scenario	Heidrun			Optimum		
	PFD	SIL	Cost(\$)	PFD	SIL	Cost (\$)
S-FO	0.0012	SIL 2	4,220,513	0.0063480	SIL 2	1,379,840
S-Flare PSV	0.0001	SIL 3	4,035,682	0.0048284	SIL 2	1,384,680
S-Compressor	0.0173	SIL 1	4,220,463	0.0098441	SIL 2	1,452,460
S-HP flare header	0.0099	SIL 2	4,047,008	0.0065769	SIL 2	1,383,100
S-Sand cleaning	0.0099	SIL 2	4,047,008	0.0065769	SIL 2	1,383,100
S-Drain	0.0087	SIL 2	4,047,008	0.0065769	SIL 2	1,383,100
S-Crude heater	0.0099	SIL 2	4,047,008	0.0065769	SIL 2	1,383,100
S-Jet water pump	0.0087	SIL 2	4,047,008	0.0065769	SIL 2	1,383,100
S-LP compressor	0.0001	SIL 3	3,975,550	0.0044857	SIL 2	1,353,610
Total cost			36,687,248	12,486,090		

Every scenario is optimized to meet the minimum SIL 2 and total cost of final design also decreased \$24,191,186 from origin design.

### 4.3 Discussion

As shown in Figure 12, all PFD values of scenarios are in the range of SIL 2 and this means they satisfied the required reliability through the optimization. Although SIL of the scenario ‘S-FO’ is the same as SIL 2 before the optimization, PFD is increased up to about 0.005 for reducing cost by design modification. In case of the scenario ‘S-FO’, redundancy was removed and another element among the database that has lower PFD was selected to reduce the cost of system in SIL 2. PFD of ‘S-PSV’ and ‘S-LP’ scenarios were also increased and their SIL was degraded to SIL 2 from SIL 3 to reduce the cost. To design system with higher reliability needs more cost because they need generally high quality products and complex system. But from the results PFD and cost as shown Figure 12, it was possible to improve reliability and reduce cost simultaneously.

PFD values of eight scenarios except ‘S-Compressor’ could not reached close to boundary of SIL 2 and SIL 1 as shown in Figure 12. It means they could have still more possibilities of improvement with reduction of cost. Despite convergence of optimization in this study, to reach near the ideal optimum point ‘boundary of SIL 2 and SIL 3’ was difficult because there were discrete design variables such as type of element and the number of redundancy. One of the methods of improve the result of optimization is to adding various elements for increasing database in order to make design space almost continuous.

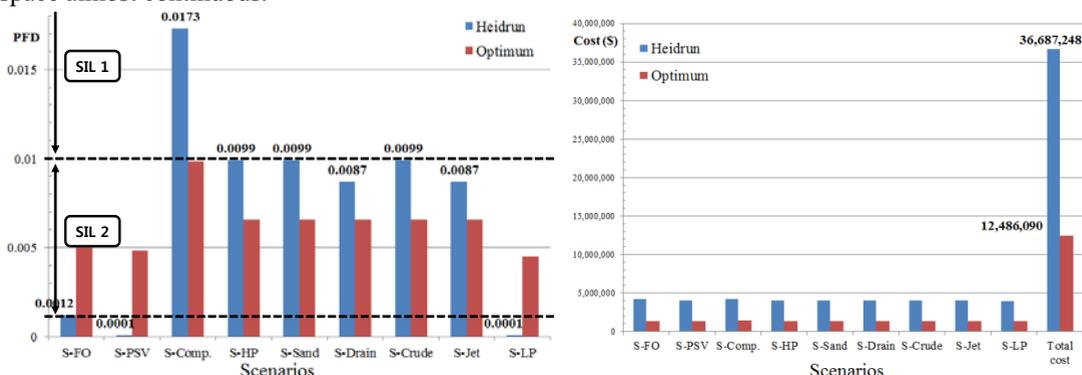


Figure 12. PFD and cost comparison of the results.

As comparison of design variables of Heidrun and optimum as shown in Table 5, all of test intervals are increased and all structures of S-L-F (Sensor-Logic unit-Final element) are changed. Number in S-L-F column of Table 5 means the number of element in each scenario. The number of sensor and final element are modified to the same as one except ‘S-PSV’ and ‘S-LP’. It seems they tried to decrease the number of redundancy for reducing cost of each scenario. From the results of ‘Type (sensor)’ in Table 5, ‘1: Pressure safety indicator’ and ‘2: Pressure safety Sensor’ are considered suitable for the ESD system in this study.

Table 5. Comparison of design variables of Heidrun and optimum.

Operation mode	Scenario	Heidrun					Optimum						
		S-L-F (structure)			Type (sensor)	Type (final element)	Proof test interval	S-L-F (structure)			Type (sensor)	Type (final element)	Proof test interval
Blowdown	S-FO	2	2	2	1	2	1.000	1	2	1	2	2	3.000
	S-PSV	0	0	2	-	1	1.000	0	0	1	-	1	3.000
Shutdown	S-Comp.	1	1	1	1	3	1.000	1	2	1	2	3	2.999

		1	1	1				1	2	1			
	S-HP	1	1	1	2	8	1.000	1	2	1	1	2	3.000
	S-Sand	1	1	1	2	12	1.000	1	2	1	2	2	3.000
	S-Drain	1	1	1	2	8	1.000	1	2	1	2	2	3.000
	S-Crude	1	1	1	2	8	1.000	1	2	1	2	2	3.000
	S-Jet	1	1	1	2	12	1.000	1	2	1	2	2	3.000
Blowdown	S-LP	0	0	2	-	1	1.000	0	0	1	-	1	3.000

From Table 5, the number of logic unit for six scenarios ‘S-Comp.’, ‘S-HP’, ‘S-Sand’, ‘S-Drain’, ‘S-Crude’, ‘S-Jet’ are increased to two from one. We can estimate that this reason from graph of PFD comparison as shown in Figure 12. All of six scenarios’ PFD values are decreased and this means redundancy of logic unit was be used for reduction of PFD.

## 5 Conclusions

In this study, following were carried out in order to attain final goals.

- Reliability analysis of the existing ESD system for offshore process was performed with defined scenarios and failure data.
- The multi-objective design optimization was performed with defined two objective functions of ‘Reliability’ and ‘Cost’. Six design variables and ‘SIL 2’ constraints were defined. Optimum design was selected from Pareto-frontier and it satisfied both reliability SIL 2 and cost reduction.
- In order to design closer to practical system, existing system was selected to optimize design of ESD system. Database for design space was also created including information of product on the market.

With these results, more practical method of design optimization was proposed for the ESD system of offshore process and it could be applied to other similar process. One of the methods of improve the result of optimization is to adding various ESD elements for increasing database and makes design space almost to be a continuous.

## Acknowledgements

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