Loads and Load Curves



Demand factor

Demand factor = Maximum demand Connected load

Demand factor < 1

Load factor

Load factor = Average load
Peak load

Group diversity factor

Group diversity factor = Sum of individual maximum demand

Maximum demand of the group

Group diversity factor > 1

Peak diversity factor

Peak diversity factor = Maximum demand of a consumer group

(Demand of the consumer group at the time of system peak demand)

Capacity factor

Capacity factor = $\frac{\text{Average annual load}}{\text{Rated plant capacity}}$

Capacity factor = $\frac{\text{Maximum load}}{\text{Plant capacity}} \times \text{Load factor}$

Capacity factor = Load factor × Utilisation factor

Utilisation factor

Utilisation factor = Maximum load
Rated plant capacity

Remember:

- Plant capacity factor is also known as plant factor.
- A graph showing the variation of the system load during the 24 hours of the day is known as the system chronological load curve.
- The area under a chronological load curve gives the energy consumed during the 24 nours.
- Load duration curve is a rearrangement of all the load elements of a chronological curve in a descending order
- Mass curve is plotted with energy as ordinate and time as abscissa.
- A mass curve is used in the study of variations between the rate of water flow and the electrical load and determination of the necessary storage.