



# Permissive or Blocking Pilot Protection Schemes? How to Have It Both Ways

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## Overview

- Pilot scheme fundamentals
- Pilot logic – built-in or freely programmed?
- Unified pilot logic
- Application considerations
- Crossover permissive-blocking scheme

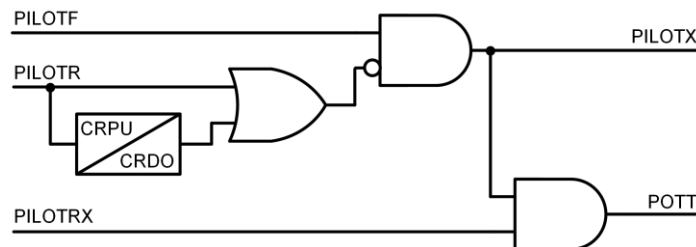




## Pilot scheme fundamentals

- Pilot scheme trips instantaneously and selectively by comparing fault direction at all line terminals
- Single-bit channel conveys fault direction
- Two basic scheme types are in use
  - **Permissive**  
Trip if the relay and all remote relays see the fault as forward
  - **Blocking**  
Trip if the relay sees the fault as forward and none of the remote relays see the fault as reverse

## Permissive pilot logic



**PILOTF**  
user-selected forward-looking overreaching protection elements

**PILOTR**  
reverse-looking protection elements matching PILOTF selection

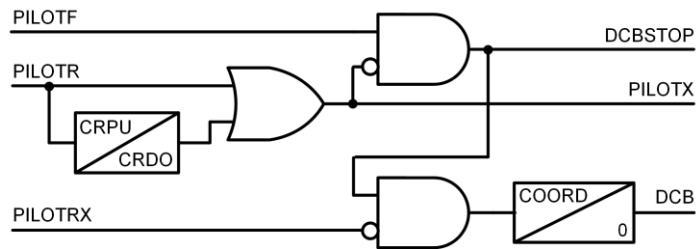
**CRPU/CRDO**  
current-reversal blocking coordination timer

**PILOTX**  
pilot signal transmitted (permission)

**PILOTRX**  
pilot signal received (permission)

**POTT**  
POTT scheme operation (trip)

## Blocking pilot logic



**PILOTF and PILOTR**  
forward- and reverse-looking protection elements

**CRPU/CRDO**  
current-reversal blocking coordination timer

**PILOTX and PILOTRX**  
pilot signal transmitted and received (blocking)

**COORD**  
DCB coordination timer

**DCB**  
DCB scheme operation (trip)

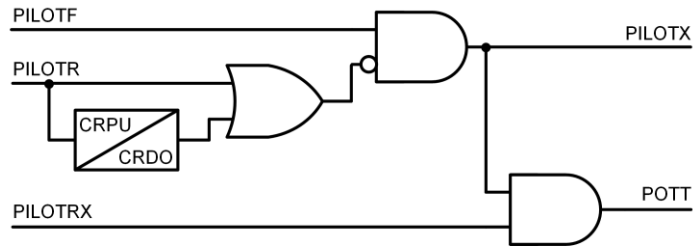
**DCBSTOP**  
Stop signal for ON/OFF channels

## Dependability and security

- Permissive and blocking schemes
  - Perform almost identically under normal conditions
  - Respond differently only under failure modes
- Failure modes
  - Failed equipment  
(relay, channel, PT, test switch left open)
  - Unusual or stressed system condition  
(weak infeed, open breaker, settings issue)
- Permissive schemes may miss faults
- Blocking schemes may overtrip

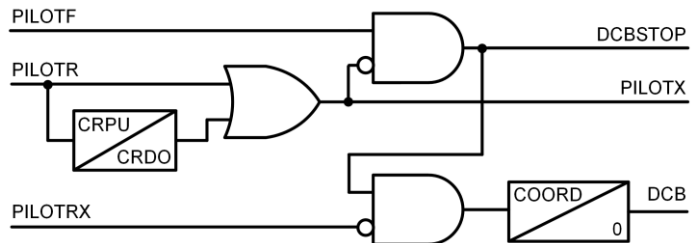
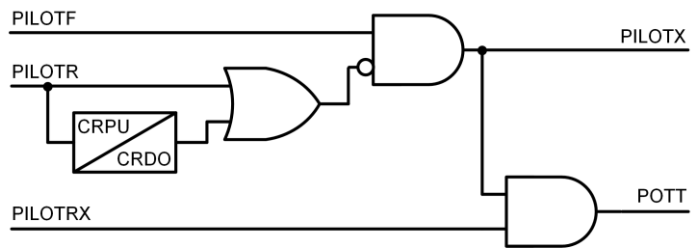


## Pilot logic – built-in or freely programmed?

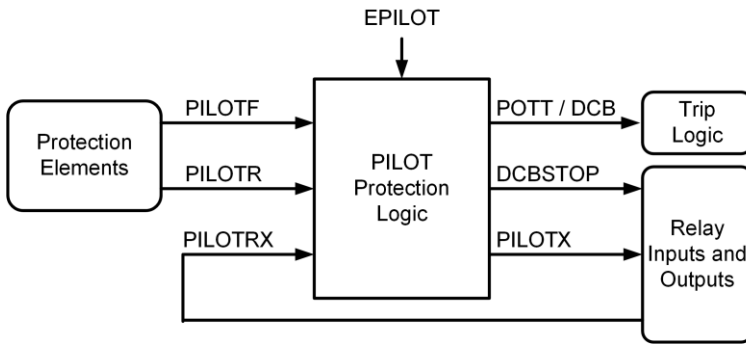


Consideration	Built-In	Freely Programmed
Multivendor consistency	✗	✓
Longevity throughout installation lifecycle	✗	✓
Familiarity and ease of testing and troubleshooting	✗	✓
Initial engineering and testing	✓	✗
Maximizing product capability	✓	✗
Single-pole tripping	✓	✗

## Can we unify permissive and blocking logic?

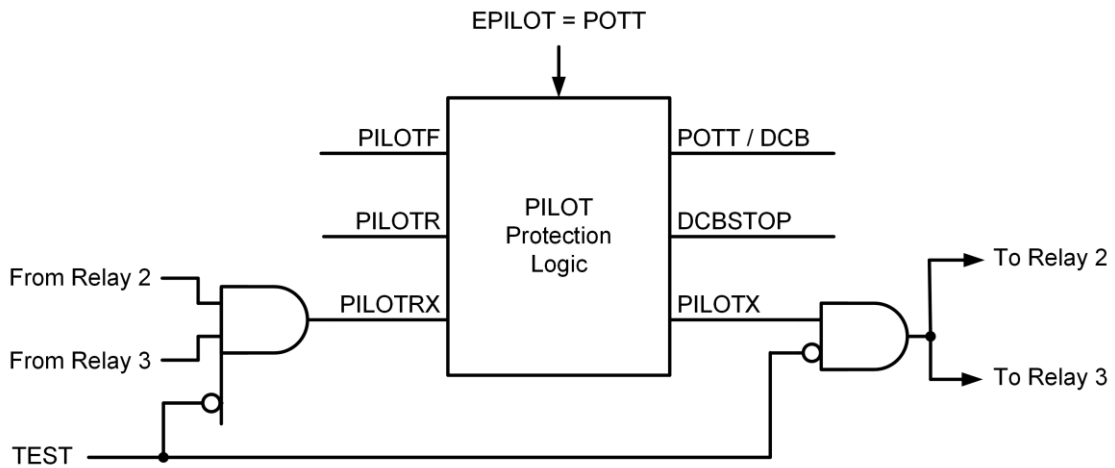


# Unified pilot logic

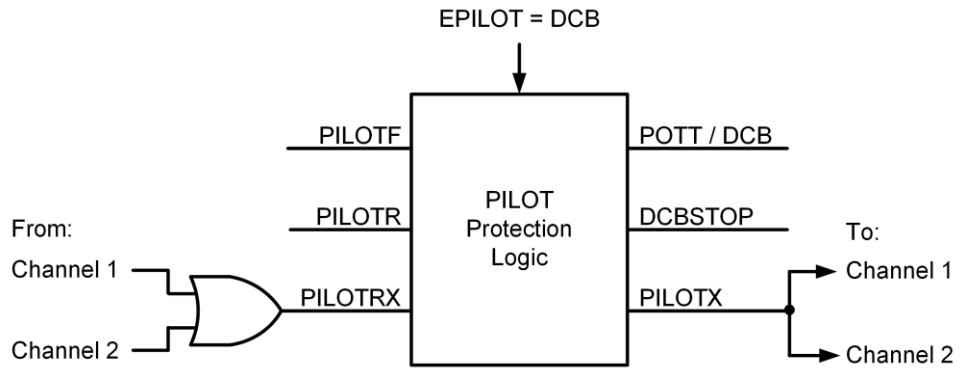


- EPILOT**  
enable setting (POTT or DCB)
- PILOTF**  
user-selectable list of forward-looking protection elements (level/zone 2)
- PILOTR**  
relay-matched list of reverse-looking protection elements (level/zone 3, 4, or 5)
- PILOTX and DCBSTOP**  
output bits freely configurable to drive any relay outputs
- PILOTRX**  
programmable equation to receive pilot signal from any relay input
- POTT / DCB**  
POTT or DCB operation signal

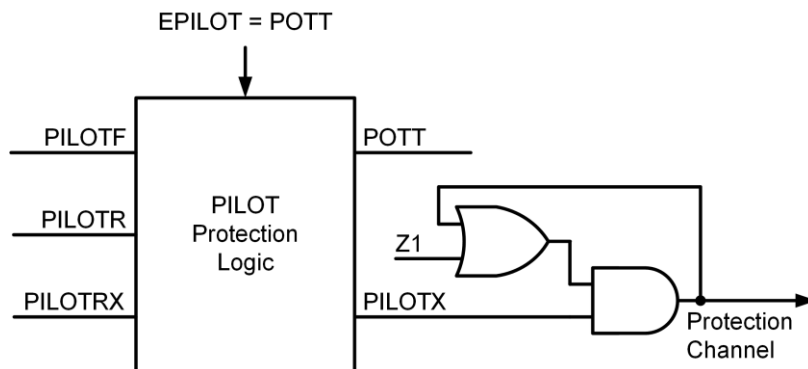
# Three-terminal POTT with test bit



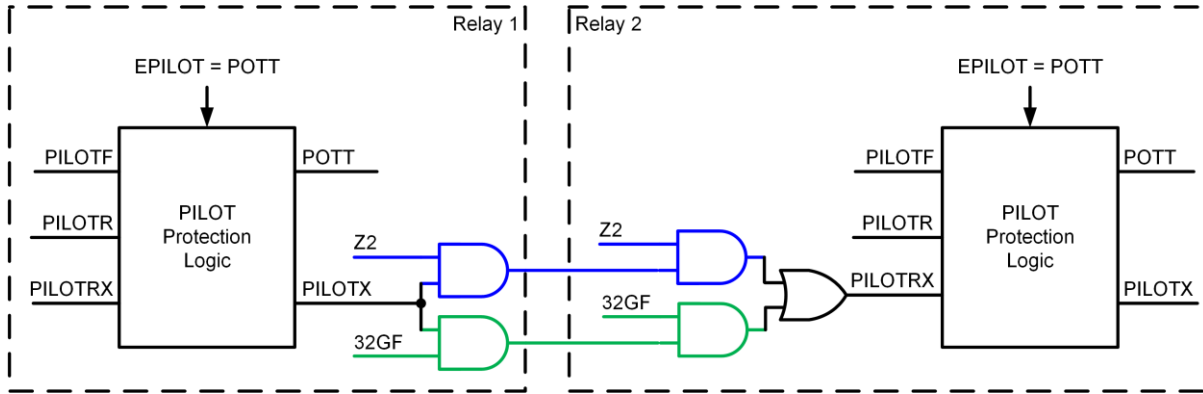
## Two-terminal DCB with redundant channels



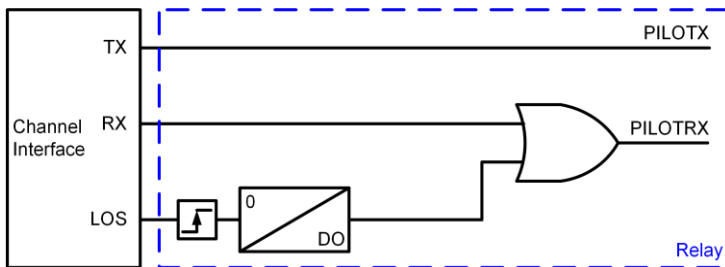
## PUTT application



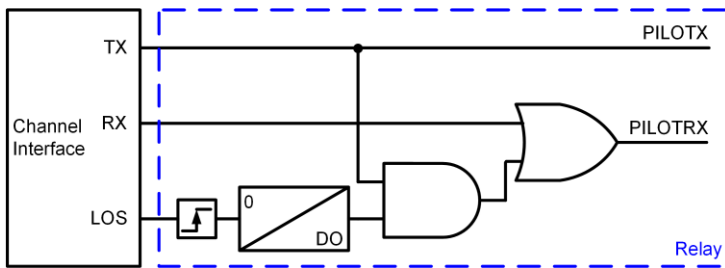
# Separating permissive bits



# POTT channel failure considerations



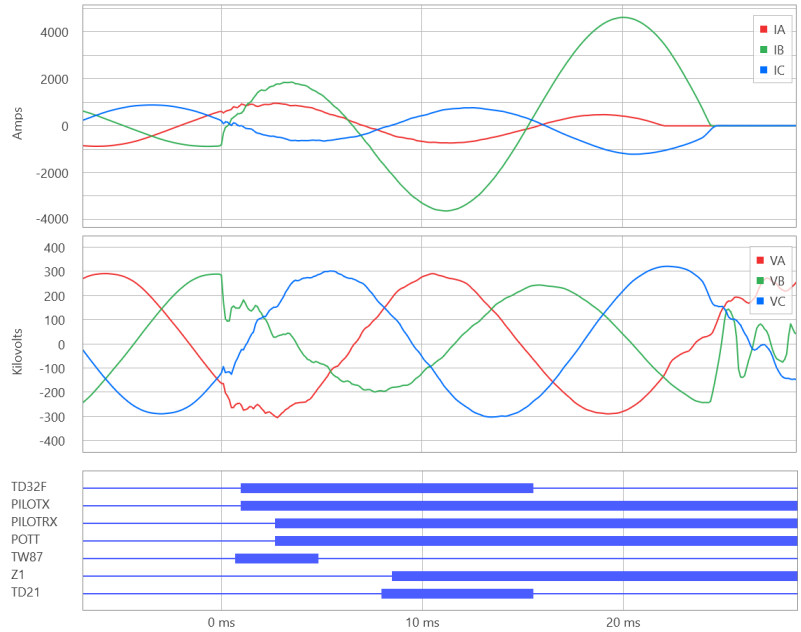
Channel Failure Key Logic ("DCUB")



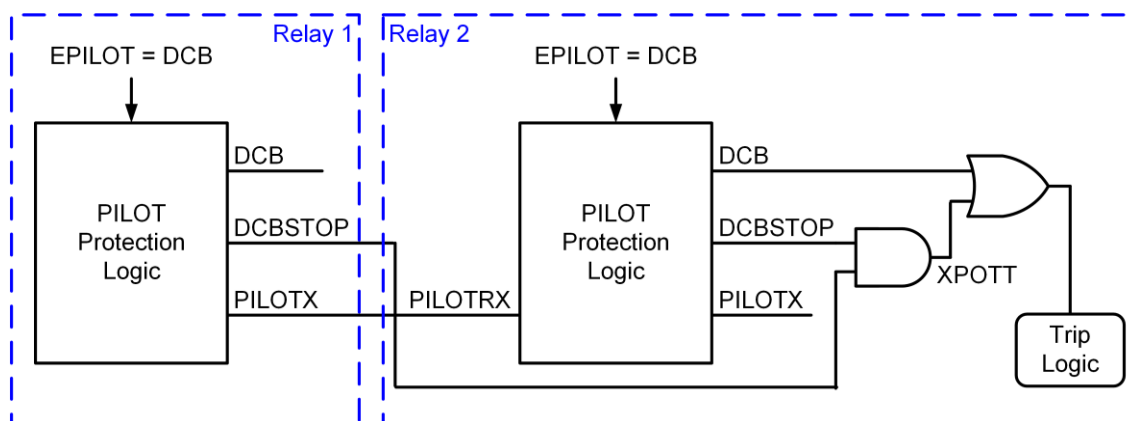
Channel Failure Echo Logic

# POTT schemes just got much faster!

- 09/12/2019 fault on a 345 kV, 109 mi line
- TD32 asserted in 1 ms (PILOTX sent)
- PILOTRX received in 2.6 ms
- POTT tripped in 2.6 ms
- TW87 tripped in 1 ms
- Fault cleared in 25 ms



# Crossover permissive-blocking scheme



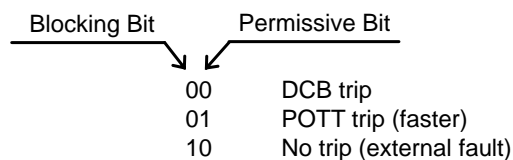


## Crossover scheme benefits

- Simple engineering and settings
  - No need for open-breaker echo logic (DCB trips)
  - No need for weak-infeed logic (DCB trips)
  - No need for channel failure or echo logic (DCB trips)
  - Generous DCB coordination time setting (DCB security)
- Fast operation (POTT trips)
- Dependable operation (DCB trips)
- Requires one more input, output, and channel bit
- Caution: reverse elements must be set carefully

## Key takeaway

- If you are a permissive scheme user, consider the crossover scheme to simplify your application
- If you are a blocking scheme user, consider the crossover scheme for speed of operation



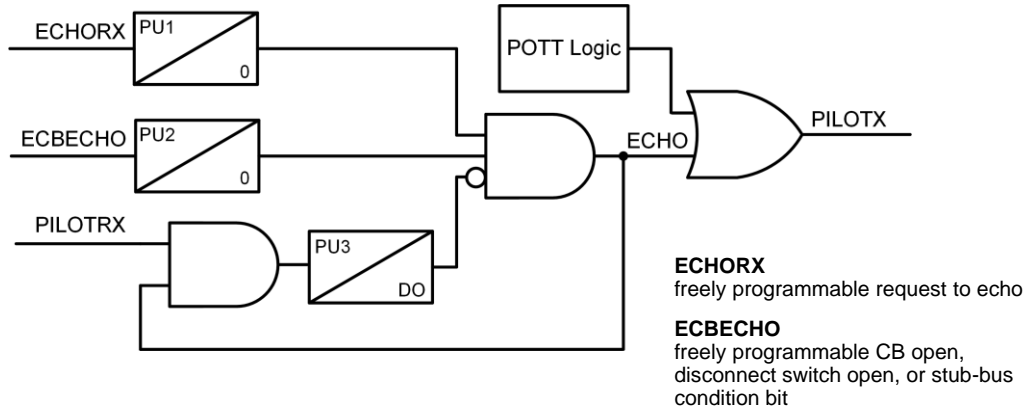


## Summary

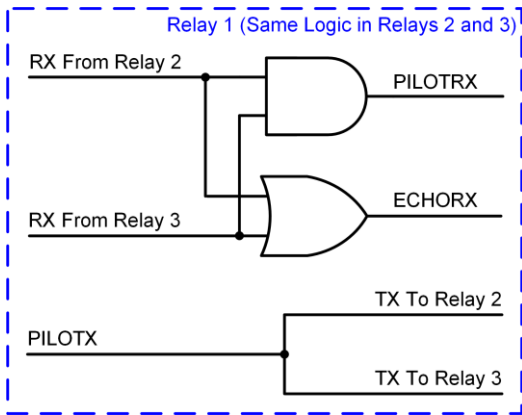
- Programmable logic equations allow good compromise between using built-in logic and the need to customize
- Test bits, redundant channel logic, multiterminal line logic, and channel failure logic are best left to programmable logic equations
- Crossover permissive-blocking scheme offers good compromise between speed, security, and dependability

**Backup slides for discussion**

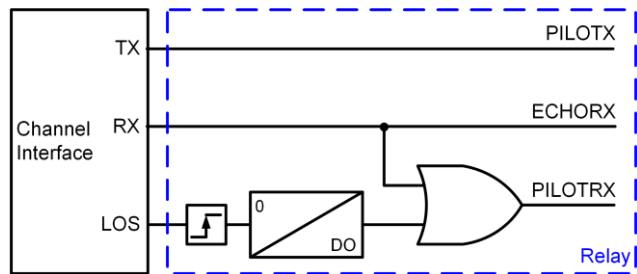
# POTT open-breaker echo logic



# Open-breaker echo applications



Three-Terminal Line Application



Channel Failure Echo Logic

## POTT weak-infeed echo logic

