

Cost Analysis of Hybrid Restructuration for Distribution System to Improve Voltage and Minimize Losses

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Abstract

Current situation in Iraq had led to extensive blackouts which needs an expansion in generation capacity. On the other hand the government has reduced the budget allocated for energy resource development and it seems this situation will sustain for the coming years. So the fulfilment of the load demand is the biggest challenge for the ministry of electricity, Iraq with limited budget. In this paper the authors have proposed a method to reduce the power losses and therefore improve the voltage profile for low voltage (LV) distribution system that results in reduction of blackouts. The method involves the repositioning of the distribution transformer (DTR) from the existing location and the replacement of the overhead conductor cross section area for an existing low voltage distribution system (LVDS). This method has been applied to a 20-node low voltage radial distribution network in the general directorate of north distribution electricity (GDNDE), Iraq, where voltage profile and losses are unsatisfactory. The simulation has been performed using the Matlab environment and the results demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed method also in terms of the economic feasibility. It is observed that the system average voltage profile is improved by 15%, tail end voltage enhanced by 19.7% and losses are reduced by 78% for existing the LVDS.

Keywords: low voltage distribution system (LVDS), power losses, distribution transformer (DTR), average voltage

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1. Introduction

The power outage crisis in Iraq are expected to last long because of an extraordinary growing load demand due to increased population and especially conversion of agricultural land to residential land. Despite of the subsidized electricity tariff, some consumers increase the financial burden on the government by not paying the utilities, and this disturbs the ministry budget further leading to crisis. The import of the high power electrical appliances more worsens the crises. Furthermore the electricity theft puts more burden on the distribution network also leading towards blackout. The best solution to this problem is the expansion in the generation capacity but the current government's policy is negating this expansion. Another solution is to reduce the power losses which will improve the voltage profile and cut down the overhead costs [1]. Therefore in current scenario the energy saving scheme is better than the energy generation. An electric power system consists of three major segments, generation, transmission and distribution [2]. The electricity distribution is the final stage in the delivery (before retail) of electricity to end users [3]. The distribution networks are typically of two types, radial or interconnected. The radial network leaves the station and passes through the network area with no normal connection to any other supply, and this is typical with long rural lines to isolated load areas [3]. The major responsibility of the distribution system would be proper electric power distribution and guaranteeing users' normal power consumption [4]. Operating current in distribution system is much more than that in transmission systems, and hence, larger power loss (resistive) in distribution systems as compared to transmission systems [9]. With the increased loading and exploitation of the existing power structure, the probability of occurrence of voltage collapse is significantly increasing in the distribution system [10]. In distribution system and in rural areas, normally the services try to minimize wire's cross section area and

number of poles also they install three phase DTR of large capacities on the main road close to MV lines which leads to use of long LV lines, that main contributing factor of line loss subsequently voltage drop. Electrical energy losses that affect electricity utilities can be classified into two categories. They are i) Technical losses-Losses due to physical aspects and ii) Non-Technical losses-Due to unauthorized line tapping or meter bypassing [11]. Several studies [5-8] introduced HVDS concept with small capacity distribution transformers to minimize technical and non-technical power losses and improve voltage of radial distribution system. S.A. Sampath Kumar et al. [3] simulated HVDS system of Kovur SS and K. Amaresh et al. [5] introduced HVDS with small capacity distribution transformers. Md Sarwar et al. [6] presented HVDS to reduce the technical power loss in distribution systems also showed the economic viability of the method. P Ravi Babu et al. [7] discussed method for reducing the non-technical losses. K. Spandana and Varsha Reddy [8] presented restructuring of existing LVDS to HVDS in agricultural field. But unfortunately all the above mentioned research lacks the economic impacts. In this paper the authors have proposed a novel method to enhance voltage profile and minimize power losses by restructuring the LV distribution system and reposition of distribution transformer (DTR) from the existing location to another that gives minimum power losses. In this paper the authors have proposed a concept to choose the best scenario in terms of reducing financial burdens for electricity sector in the public budget.

L_j	Length of branch j	$C_{LVp(z)}$	Low voltage pole cost
ρ_{Al}	Resistivity of Aluminum	$C_{HVP(z)}$	High voltage pole cost
V_i	Voltage at node i	N_{LVp}	Number of LV poles before res.
I_j	Current in branch j	N'_{LVp}	Number of LV poles after res.
Z_j	Impedance of branch j	N_{HVP}	Number of HV poles before res.
R_j	Resistance of branch j	N'_{HVP}	Number of HV poles after res.
X_j	Reactance of branch j	C_{Al}	Cost of Alu. wire
PL_i	Real power at node i	A_{cs}	Cross section area of wire before res.
QL_i	Reactive power at node i	A'_{cs}	Cross section area of wire after res.
TPL^0	Total power loss before restructuring	ΔC_T	Diff. between cost aft. and bef. res.
TPL^r	Total power loss after restructuring	F_{loss}	Distribution loss factor
ΔTPL	Diff. bet. total power loss bef. & aft. res.	T_{period}	Time period
N_b	Number of branches	DLL_{KWh}	Distribution line loss in KWh before res.
N_n	Number of nodes	DLL^r_{KWh}	Distribution line loss in KWh after res
N_{Tr}	Number of transformers before res.	DTL_{KWh}	Distribution transformer loss in KWh
N'_{Tr}	Number of transformers after res.	DTL^r_{KWh}	Dist. tran. loss in KWh after res.
$P_{Loss(i,i+1)}$	Line loss before restructuring	ΔTPL_{KWh}	Diff. between total power loss in KWh
$P^r_{Loss(i,i+1)}$	Line loss after restructuring	F_{load}	Distribution load factor
$P_{TrNLoss(z)}$	No load loss of transformer	L_{av}	Average load
$P_{TrLoss(z)}$	Load loss of transformer	L_{peak}	Peak load
V_{Av}^0	Average voltage of all nodes before re	K_c	Constant for distribution system
V_{Av}^r	Average voltage of all nodes after res	$PbC_{T_{period}}$	Payback cost in time period
ΔV_{Av}	Diff. bet. average voltage aft. & bef. r	C_U	Cost of one unit (KWh)
C_T^0	Total cost before restructuring	$PbP_{T_{period}}$	Payback period for time period
C_T^r	Total cost after restructuring		
$C_{Tr(z)}$	Transformer cost		

2. Load Flow for Radial Network

Power flow is a useful tool in operation, planning and optimization of a system. Distribution systems, generally, refers to the power system network connected to loads at lower operating voltage [12]. In this paper, the load flow calculation was done by using rectangular coordinates algorithm. It is assumed that the 3-phase radial distribution network are balanced and represented by their single line representation. Considering a 20-node practical radial rural distribution system in GDNDE, Iraq whose single line diagram is shown in Figure 1.

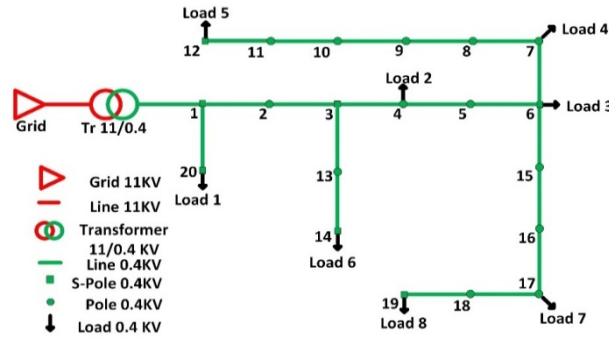


Figure 1. Single line diagram of 20 node LVDS system

2.1. Power Loss of Radial Distribution Network

The AC power flows are calculated by the following set of recursive equations derived from the single-line diagram in Figure 2, the voltages at nodes i and $i + 1$ are V_i and V_{i+1} , respectively. The current I_j from node i to node $i + 1$ is given by:

$$I_j = \frac{V_i - V_{i+1}}{Z_j} \tag{1}$$

$$Z_j = R_j + jX_j \tag{2}$$

$$PL_i - jQL_i = V_{i+1} \cdot I_j \tag{3}$$

From (1), (2) and (3), the voltage magnitude of V_{i+1} at node $i + 1$ is given by:

$$V_{i+1} = \left\{ \left[(PL_{i+1} \cdot R_j + QL_{i+1} \cdot X_j - \frac{|V_i|^2}{2}) - (R_j^2 + X_j^2)(PL_{i+1}^2 + QL_{i+1}^2) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} - (PL_{i+1} \cdot R_j + QL_{i+1} \cdot X_j - \frac{|V_i|^2}{2}) \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{4}$$

Where node i has voltage V_i and load $PL_i + jQL_i$, the branch that is connected between node i and $i + 1$, is having a resistance R_j and inductive reactance X_j . The voltages and currents should be in their permitted range.

$$V_{min1} \leq V_{min2} \leq V_i \leq V_{max}; \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, Nn$$

$$0 \leq I_j \leq I_{max}; \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, Nb$$

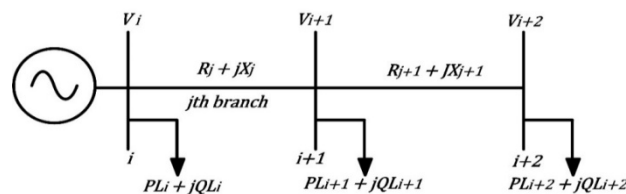


Figure 2. Simple distribution feeder

Here, PL_{i+1} and QL_{i+1} represent the total real and reactive powers at the node $i + 1$. The real power loss in the branch j from node i to node $i + 1$ is given by:

$$P_{Loss(i,i+1)} = R_j \cdot \left(\frac{PL_i^2 + jQL_i^2}{|V_i|^2} \right) \tag{5}$$

By summing up the losses of all branches and adding transformer load and no load loss, total real power loss before and after the restructuring can be determined as:

$$TPL^0 = \sum_{i=1}^{Nb} P_{Loss(i,i+1)} + \sum_{z=1}^{NTr} (P_{TrNLloss(z)} + P_{TrLloss(z)}) \quad (6)$$

$$TPL^r = \sum_{i=1}^{Nb} P_{Loss(i,i+1)}^r + \sum_{z=1}^{NTr} (P_{TrNLloss(z)}^r + P_{TrLloss(z)}^r) \quad (7)$$

By subtracting total real power loss before and after restructuring, the difference is given:

$$\Delta TPL = TPL^0 - TPL^r \quad (8)$$

2.2. Cost Analysis Calculation for RDN

Cost analysis calculation for radial distribution network tries to find out the economic viability of the proposed method. The implementation of method requires the investment on conductors, transformers, low voltage and high voltage poles, the total cost calculation before and after restructuring is given by:

$$C_T^0 = \sum_{z=1}^{NTr} C_{Tr(z)} + \sum_{z=1}^{NLVp} C_{LVp(z)} + \sum_{z=1}^{NHVp} C_{HVp(z)} + (K_n \cdot C_{Al} \cdot L_j \cdot A_{cs}^0) \quad (9)$$

$$C_T^r = \sum_{z=1}^{NTr} C_{Tr(z)}^r + \sum_{z=1}^{NLVp} C_{LVp(z)}^r + \sum_{z=1}^{NHVp} C_{HVp(z)}^r + (K_n \cdot C_{Al} \cdot L_j \cdot A_{cs}^r) \quad (10)$$

By subtracting total cost after and before restructuring, the difference is given:

$$\Delta C_T = C_T^r - C_T^0 \quad (11)$$

2.3. Average Voltage Concept

It is difficult to deal with many node voltages to decide whether there has been a voltage improvement in distribution system or not, because some times improvement happened in some nodes and did not happened on the others, even in some cases voltage gets worse. In this paper, the authors have proposed the concept of Average Voltage to deal with all nodes in the system. The following equations are average voltage before and after restructuring:

$$V_{Av}^0 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{Nn} V_i}{Nn} \quad (12)$$

$$V_{Av}^r = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{Nn} V_i^r}{Nn} \quad (13)$$

$$\Delta V_{Av} = V_{Av}^r - V_{Av}^0 \quad (14)$$

2.4. Determination of Power Losses in KWh

Equations of power losses in distribution lines and distribution transformers in KWh before and after restructure are given by:

$$F_{load} = \frac{L_{av}}{L_{peak}} \quad (15)$$

$$F_{loss} = K_c \cdot F_{load} + (1 - K_c) \cdot F_{load}^2 \quad (16)$$

$$DLL_{KWh} = F_{loss} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{Nb} P_{Loss(i,i+1)} \cdot T_{period} \quad (17)$$

$$DLL_{KWh}^r = F_{loss} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{Nb} P_{Loss(i,i+1)}^r \cdot T_{period} \quad (18)$$

$$DTL_{KWh} = \left\{ (F_{loss} \cdot \sum_{z=1}^{NTr} P_{TrLloss(z)}) + P_{TrNLloss} \right\} \cdot T_{period} \quad (19)$$

$$DTL_{KWh}^r = \left\{ (F_{loss} \cdot \sum_{z=1}^{NTr} P_{TrLloss(z)}^r) + P_{TrNLloss}^r \right\} \cdot T_{period} \quad (20)$$

Total power losses in KWh in distribution power system are the summation of distribution lines losses in KWh with distribution transformers losses in KWh is given by:

$$TPL_{KWh}^0 = DLL_{KWh} + DTL_{KWh} \quad (21)$$

$$TPL_{KWh}^r = DLL_{KWh}^r + DTL_{KWh}^r \quad (22)$$

$$\Delta TPL_{KWh} = TPL_{KWh}^0 - TPL_{KWh}^r \quad (23)$$

2.5. Payback Cost & Payback Period

Payback cost is the difference between total power losses in kilowatt hour before and after restructuring in equations (21) and (22) multiplied by price of one unit as shown:

$$PbC_{T_{period}} = \Delta TPL_{KWh} \cdot C_U \quad (24)$$

Payback period is the ratio between the differences in total cost after and before restructuring in Equation (11) to payback cost, it is important to know after how many days, months or years the restructuring cover its expenses.

$$PbP_{T_{period}} = \frac{\Delta C_T}{PbC_{T_{period}}} \quad (25)$$

3. Case Study

A case study was made by given an existing distribution system of 416V in Figure 1. The low voltage distribution system which would run up to the customer are restructured by: (I) the length of a low voltage line are replaced by low voltage line with cross section area larger than the initial case. (II) Relocation in position of distribution transformer (11/0.416). (III) By taking best of case1 and best of case 2. The details of the LVDS are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Details of the LVDS

No.	Particulars	Remarks
1	Number of transformers (11/0.416)	1
2	Capacity of transformer	250 KVA
3	Nature of load on transformer	under loaded
4	Length of the LT lines	950 m
5	Number of connected loads	8
6	Sum of connected loads	237KVA
7	Distance between two poles	50 m
8	Number of LV poles	20
9	Number of LV branches	19
10	Resistance of each branches	0.028Ω
11	Initial cost	13108 USD
12	Cost of KWh	0.025USD
13	Aluminum wire resistivity	2.8×10^{-8}
14	Cost of LV pole.	416 USD
15	Cost 250 KVA Tr.	3333 USD

The voltage profile, the average voltage of 20 nodes, total power losses in KW, cost in USDollar and payback period before restructuring are given in Table 2 in a column of CASE0.

3.1. Scenario 1

In the following LVDS, the cross section area of low voltage lines conductor is converted to value larger than the initial lines conductor size. Changing in cross section area will lead to a change in resistance of branches thus the voltage drop will decrease and enhancing voltage profile then minimizing in power losses. The conductor cross section area that give reasonable cost (Equilibrium Point) is chosen.

3.2. Scenario 2

Relocation of distribution transformer into each node in the system and installation of new network considering existing LV poles and exchanging specific of LV poles with new HV poles including its extensions. The transformer relocation cost depends on the new position. DTR repositioned at every 20 nodes and position of minimum power losses is chosen.

3.3. Scenario 3

To give the result of case2 additional improvement in voltage profile to reach V_{min2} and extra minimizing in power losses, hybrid case is proposed by taking the best point in case1 and added to best location in case2.

4. Simulation Results and Discussion

The following results were obtained with the proposed method on LV distribution network, the voltages ranges area $0.9 \text{ pu}(374\text{V}) \leq 0.95 \text{ pu}(395\text{V}) \leq V_i \leq 1 \text{ pu}(416\text{V})$, simulation results can be classified into three cases:

4.1. Case1

By restructuring the cross section area of conductor for each branch from 50 to 120 mm^2 the conductor resistance change also from 0.028 to 0.011 Ω , the system average voltage is enhanced from 351.03 to 392.92 Volt, the total power losses minimized from 51.39 to 18.14 KW. The average voltage enhanced by 12% and the loss reduced by 64.7%, but the cost increased by 15.44%. Therefore it is not wise to take the best voltage while the cost is very high, for this reason the authors took the voltage at equilibrium point at 70 mm^2 cross section area that give 373.54V average voltage, 32.28KW total power losses. As shown in Table 2 in a column of CASE1. Where base cost is 22333 USD, base TPL is 52 KW and base voltage is 416V.

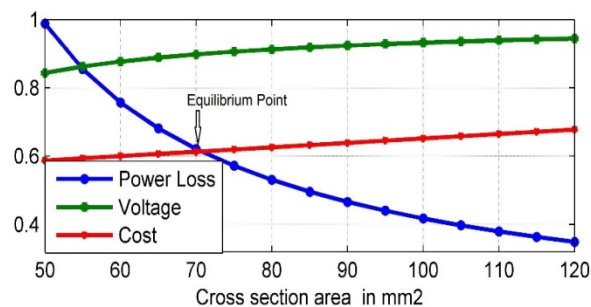


Figure 3. Cross section area of Alum. Conductor with Power Loss, Avg. Voltage and Cost

4.2. Case2

The 250 KVA DTR located in the main road near to medium voltage (MV) lines at node1 as shown in Figure 1. They used long low voltage (LV) lines that leads voltage drop and power losses. In case 2 the authors tried to find at which node can relocate the DTR that give minimum power losses. The relocation of DTR leads also to restructure in some LV poles and change to HV poles, the cost was calculated for each reposition step. From simulation results, the best position that give minimum power losses is in node 5 that is 14.78 KW, the relocation of DTR to node 5 considering restructuring of 4 LV poles to HV poles plus installation of 4 HV branches, cost of that restructuring was 14775USD and the power losses were minimum. In this case, all node voltages is above 0.9 PU and only voltage of six nodes is less than 0.95 pu (V_{min2}) as shown in Table 2 in a column of CASE2.

4.3. Case3

For more enhancement in voltage profile and further minimization in power losses, in this case the authors took the best position in case2 with result of case 1 at Equilibrium Point that mean reposition of the 250 KVA DTR into node 5 considering restructuring of 4 LV poles to HV

poles plus installation of 4 HV branches and also restructuring wire cross section area of LV lines. In this case the voltage of all nodes is above 0.95 PU, TPL is 11.27 KW, average voltage of all system nodes is 404 volts, and tail end voltage at node 19 improved upto 19.7%.The results of 3-cases with reference case are shown in Table 2. Figure 4 showing voltage magnitude comparison of study case.

Table 2. Results of three-cases with refference case

	CASE0	CASE1	CASE2	CASE3
V1	416.00	416.00	401.37	405.66
V2	398.99	404.84	403.82	407.39
V3	382.04	393.70	406.27	409.12
V4	366.59	383.60	410.11	411.83
V5	353.47	375.08	416.00	416.00
V6	340.39	366.57	405.17	408.40
V7	335.24	363.21	400.90	405.41
V8	332.17	361.24	398.38	403.65
V9	329.11	359.26	395.86	401.89
V10	326.05	357.28	393.34	400.12
V11	322.99	355.30	390.82	398.36
V12	319.94	353.33	388.30	396.60
V13	380.56	392.68	404.89	408.14
V14	379.09	391.66	403.50	407.16
V15	334.69	362.89	400.48	405.13
V16	329.01	359.22	395.80	401.86
V17	323.33	355.55	391.12	398.59
V18	320.24	353.56	388.59	396.82
V19	317.16	351.58	386.06	395.05
V20	413.63	414.31	398.92	403.94
V_{Av}	351.03	373.54	398.98	404.06
$TPLinKW$	51.39	32.28	14.78	11.27
C_TinUSD	13108	13683	14775	15350
ΔV_{Av}	-	22.51	47.95	53.03
ΔTPL	-	19.11	36.61	40.12
$\Delta C_Tin USD$	-	575	1666	2241
$PbPinmonths$	-	5.04	7.50	9.32

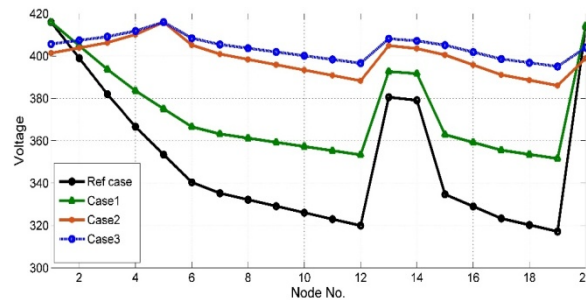


Figure 4. Voltage magnitude comparison of 20-node system

Table 3. Load Data

Load No.	Pole No.	P in KW	Q in KVAR	Load in KVA
Load 1	20	29.75	18.43	35
Load 2	4	25.50	15.80	30
Load 3	6	22.95	14.22	27
Load 4	7	21.25	13.17	25
Load 5	12	29.75	18.43	35
Load 6	14	17.00	10.53	20
Load 7	17	25.50	15.80	30
Load 8	19	29.75	18.43	35

Table 4. Load Particulars of Transformers (11/0.4) Losses

No.	KVA rating	Tr. no load losses KW	Tr. load losses KW
1	30	0.10	0.60
2	50	0.13	0.87

3	63	0.15	1.04
4	80	0.18	1.25
5	100	0.20	1.50
6	125	0.24	1.80
7	160	0.28	2.20
8	200	0.34	2.60
9	250	0.40	3.05

5. Conclusion

Based on the case study results, voltage profile of case3 for all nodes is more than 0.95 PU and much more efficient than the other cases. In the light of above reduced financial allocations, the proposed case3 enhanced system average voltage profile by 15%, reduce the power losses of LVDS by 78% and improved the tail end voltage by 19.7%. The payback period for current method is about 9 months only. The proposed method, enhances voltage profile and consequently enhances the system performance. Since losses are reduced considerably, power can be supplied to additional loads without any further expenditure in generation sector. Moreover applying this method can reduce fuel cost, which also contributes to reducing CO₂ emissions. This method can also be applied to other distribution systems to get same benefits.

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