

A Data-Upload Strategy of Measurements for Lean Management in Distribution Network Under Certain Communication Cost

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Abstract—Distribution system lean management (DSLMM) is becoming an essential element of many distribution applications, the distribution network measurements are serving as the core data foundation of numerous DSLMM. Considering the communication cost, the most valuable measurement data should be selected and uploaded. This paper proposes a data-upload strategy (DUS) based on distribution system state estimation (DSSE), which considers both the network observability and the measurements' contribution. The measurements are first sorted, and then the most valuable data set is selected by using a particle swarm optimization (PSO) and a greedy algorithm. The method is tested on IEEE 4 node test feeder, different data sets are studied under several given communication cost constraints, its results are always in the top 5% group, and the DUS' result is also used on a period of time containing multiply time points, and is shown to have good stability. The proposed method is also applied to a IEEE 123 test system and works well.

Index Terms—data-upload strategy, lean management, distribution network, state estimation, communication cost, particle swarm optimization

I. INTRODUCTION

THE coverage of measurement equipment in the medium voltage distribution network and the low voltage distribution network has reached a high degree to support DSLMM. However, limited to the cost of data communication, the uploaded data only accounts for a small part of the measurement data. The development of communication technology has made the cost of data communication reduced, which lays the foundation for the data support of DSLMM, and the DSLMM becomes more feasible and more important. However, the development of communication technology is a long-term process, and the cost of data communication will only be reduced gradually. The cost constraints of data communication must be considered in the future for a long

period of time. It is of great practical significance to maximize the DSLMM effect under given data communication cost constraints. There are many factors that affect the DSLMM effect, including data source and state estimation algorithm, but as the base of DSLMM, data source determines the highest level of calculation results, which is the key factor.

Based on the data sources, the DSSE produces a data foundation for DSLMM. The current DSSE depends on the data sources. The measurement equipment of the distribution network has different measuring precision, the measurement data have different types and the acquisition points have different positions, so the different measurement data have different influence on the DSSE. Therefore, it is necessary to study the data uploading strategy of DSSE for DSLMM under given cost of data communication.

Now it still lacks of direct research on the DUS of measurement data for DSSE. Fortunately, the placement of measurement devices such as PMUs could be used for reference [1]-[8]. Firstly, the observability of the grid should be guaranteed so that the runtime state can be solved [9]-[14]. There are mainly two kinds of methods. One enforces the algebraic invertibility of the linearized load-flow models [9]-[11], while the other treats the grid as a graph and analyzes its topological observability [12]-[15], depending on the measurements support for the devices with uncertain state. To improve DSLMM effect, the DSSE performance should also be considered [16]-[17]. Based on a given accuracy target, the problem could be solved by various methods as an optimization model.

This paper jointly considers observability and accuracy. The measurements are first sorted, and then the most valuable data set is selected by using a particle swarm optimization (PSO) and a greedy algorithm combine. The contributions of this paper are: 1) the derivation of the observability and performance metric to evaluate the numerical property for a given DUS and 2) the PSO and the greedy algorithm solution method.

II. MEASUREMENT MODEL FOR STATE ESTIMATION

A. General Formulation

Based on the commonly used weighted least squares (WLS) approach, the model of DSSE can be described as follows [18]:

$$\min J(\mathbf{x}) = [\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})]^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} [\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})] \quad (1)$$

Where \mathbf{x} is the state variables vector, focusing on some special devices, the dimension of \mathbf{x} is usually bigger than the distribution network state variables number; $J(\mathbf{x})$ is the WLS object function, \mathbf{z} is the known measurements vector, $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})$ is the state dependent measurement function, \mathbf{R} is the diagonal covariance matrix.

B. Observability Model

The numerical observability is used in the paper. The numerical observability is typically based on the WLS model of DSSE, the observability constraints [1] can be written as follows.

$$O(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H}) > 0 \quad (2)$$

Where \mathbf{H} is the Jacobian matrix of measurements, and $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H})$ calculates the minimum eigenvalues of matrix $\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H}$.

C. Accuracy Model

According to the WLS state estimation theory, the accuracy model [1] can be defined by the mean square error and measured like

$$\max \alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \text{trace}(\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H}) \quad (3)$$

Where $\text{trace}(\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H})$ calculates the trace of matrix $\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H}$.

III. THE DUS OPTIMIZATION MODEL

The DUS target can be modeled as an optimization problem, the PSO searches an observability solution, and the greedy algorithm focuses on the accuracy and carries out the final solution.

A. Optimization Model

According to section II, considering the communication limits the optimization model can be formulated:

$$\begin{aligned} \max f(\mathbf{x}) &= \text{trace}(\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H}) \\ \text{s.t. } O(\mathbf{x}) &> 0 \\ n_s &\leq N \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Where n_s is the number of basic measurements sets (BMS), each BMS contains several measurement datas, the communication of each subset of BMS has the same cost, and

the BMS should be defined to have the maximum number of measurement datas to reduce the communication cost; N is a constant number which reflects the cost limit.

B. PSO Algorithm

The PSO algorithm [19] is an effective method for optimization model, which uses the global best position and the local best position to generate the new vector and then position. Each particle is refreshed iteratively as below:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_{t+1} = \omega \mathbf{v}_t + c_1 \text{rand}() (\mathbf{s}_p - \mathbf{s}_t) + \\ \quad c_2 \text{rand}() (\mathbf{s}_g - \mathbf{s}_t) \\ \mathbf{s}_{t+1} = \mathbf{s}_t + \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Where t is the iteration times; \mathbf{s} is the state variables vector as above; \mathbf{v} is the particle vector; ω , c_1 and c_2 are the inertia, memory, social factor, respectively; \mathbf{s}_p and \mathbf{s}_g are the local best and global best position, respectively; and $\text{rand}()$ generates random numbers vector which has the same size with \mathbf{x}_t .

The solving object of PSO is:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \text{fit}(\mathbf{x}) &= -\text{trace}(\mathbf{H}^T * \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{H}) + f_1 * o_x \\ o_x &= \begin{cases} 0, O(\mathbf{x}) > 0 \\ 1, \text{else} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Where f_1 is the penalty factor.

C. Greedy Algorithm

For each iteration, a new BMS is selected to join in an existing solution to maximum $f(\mathbf{x})$. Repeating the iteration until $n_s = N$.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The steps of the proposed algorithm are described here.

- 1) Import data and establish DSSE data base.
- 2) Determine the BMS.
- 3) Compute $f(\mathbf{x})$ for each BMS, using (4). And sort the BMS based on $f(\mathbf{x})$ value.
- 4) For each n_s value from n_m to N , using the PSO algorithm to search a solution under a certain n_s , if $O(\mathbf{x}) > 0$, turn to step 5). Where n_m is the minimum number of BMS whose total elements number is more than the \mathbf{x} dimension. It is worth noting that no solution will be found for an unobservable network.
- 5) Using the greedy algorithm to find out the solution.

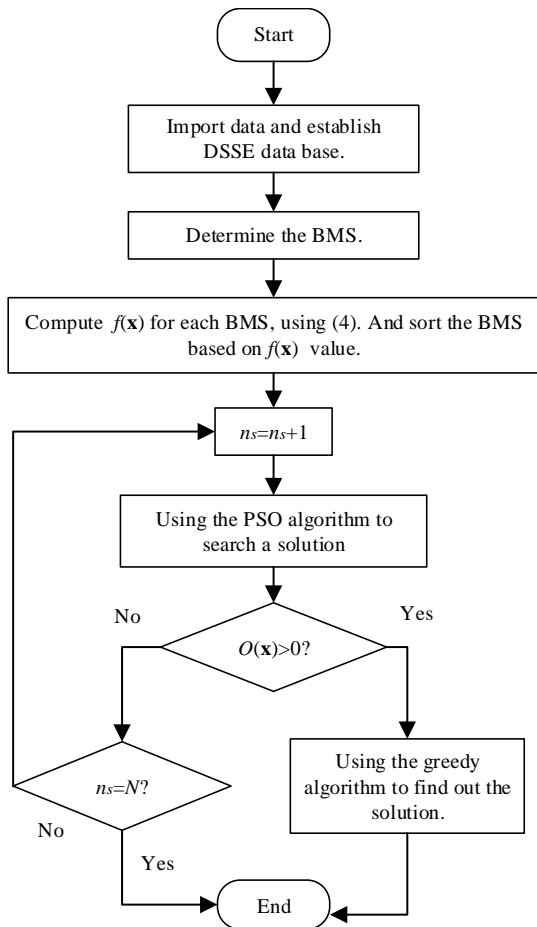


Fig. 1. The flow chart of proposed algorithm.

V. CASE STUDY

The algorithm has been implemented for verification. Two test feeder systems are used. For both networks, a reference solution is obtained from a power flow solution. Next, random noise following a normal distribution is added to the power flow reference solution for simulation.

A. IEEE 4 Node Test Feeder

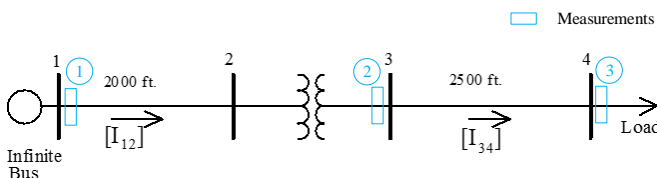


Fig. 2. The measurements configuration for IEEE 4 Node Test Feeder.

The first system is the IEEE 4 Node Test Feeder [20]. Combined with the actual situation, three measurements are configured to the system as shown in Fig.2. Voltage amplitude, current amplitude, active power and reactive power all are collected for three phases.

While $n_s=1$, the datas of the measurement with the highest

precision are selected; if all measurements have the same precision, the datas of each measurement are possible to be selected in a single experiment. While $n_s=2$, the datas of the measurements with the top two precision are selected. The results are the same as the results of the exhaustion method. To shown the DSSE performance, a set of experimental datas is listed as follows. The maximum relative is 0.1113%.

TABLE I
THE CONFIGURATION AND THE DUS RESULT

n_s	Precision [①, ②, ③]	Result [①,②,③]
2	[1%,1%,1%]	[1,1,0]

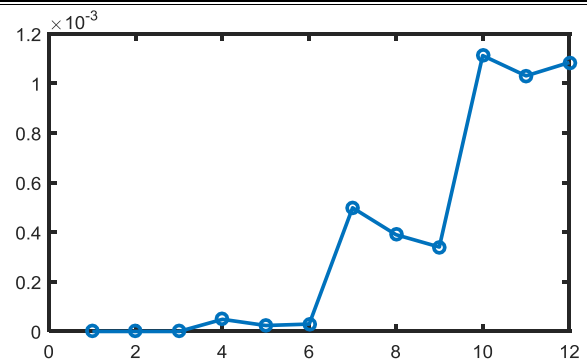


Fig. 3. The relative error of voltage amplitude between power flow and DSSE.

B. IEEE 123 Node Test Feeder

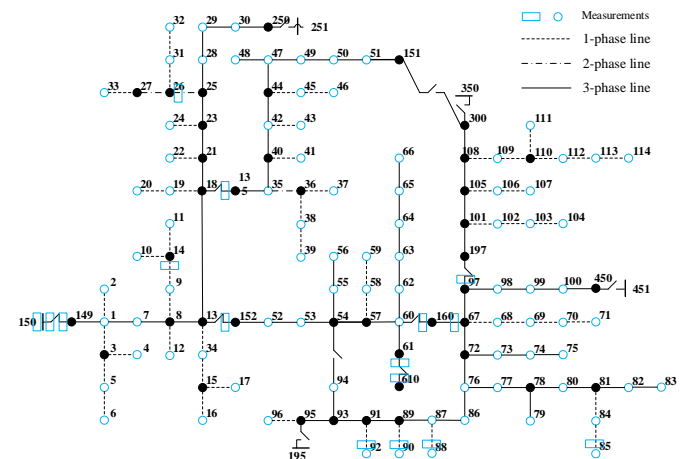


Fig. 4. The measurements configuration for IEEE 123 Node Test Feeder.

The IEEE 123 Node Test Feeder [20] is considered next. The measurements are configured on the loads, source, switches, transformer, regulators and capacitors. As shown in Fig.4, there are total 101 measurements; some measurements seem at the same position, but they locate on different devices in fact; taking node 150 for example, the three measurements configure on the source, regulator and switch respectively. Voltage amplitude, current amplitude, active power and reactive power all are collected for existing phases. To simplify the configuration, all devices has the same maximum error of 1.0%.

and each device is treated as a BMS.

Set $n_s=50$, the system observability can be satisfied while $n_s=38$, the data upload strategy is shown in Fig.5; and the last result is shown in Fig.6.

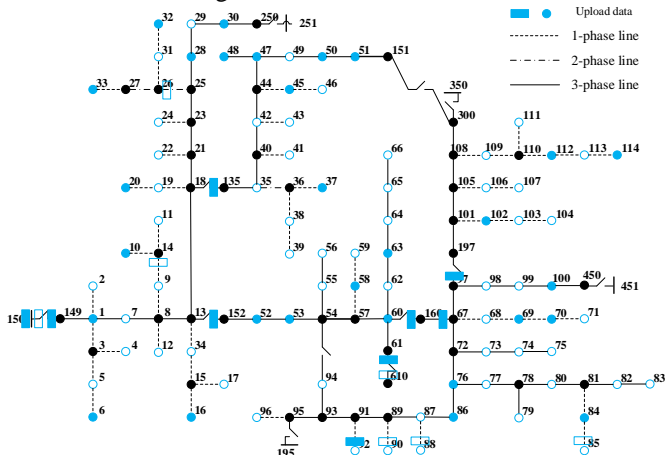


Fig. 5. The measurements upload while $n_s=38$.

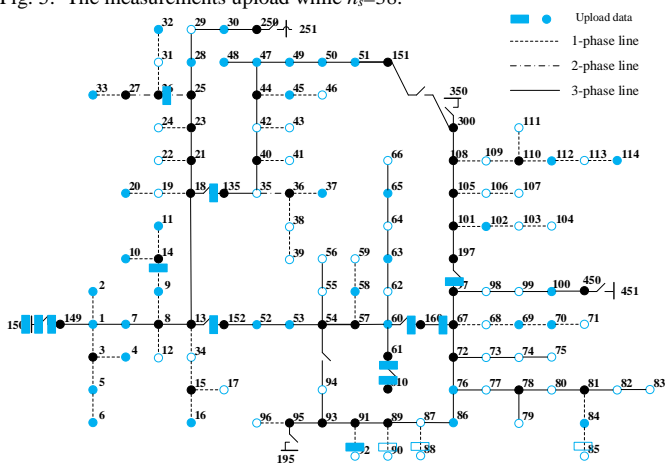


Fig. 6. The measurements upload for $n_s=50$.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

This paper presents a data-upload strategy of measurements for lean management in distribution network under certain communication cost. The proposed approach is based on DSSE, both observability and performance are considered. It is also shown in this paper how to use PSO and greedy algorithm collaboratively to search solution. In the first study, the proposed algorithm is shown to find the optimal solution stably. The second study, executed on a larger scale distribution network, highlights robust of the proposed approach.

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