
Location and detection of downed power line fault not touching the ground

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ABSTRACT. Occurrences of High Impedance Faults are common in Power Distribution between substation to substation, substation to rural area and within rural area. High Impedance Faults are detected based on Fault current measured by Fault Detection devices, but an important fault is the Downed or Broken power line Fault not touching the ground cannot be detected when there is not enough faults current to operate fault detection devices in Over Head power distribution. Many methods to find High Impedance Faults exist. However, no proper method exists to find the Detection and location of Downed or broken power line Fault not touching the ground. Such a condition represents no electrical abnormality and till now its detection would probably have to depend on visual sighting. This paper proposes two methods like F-PLCCG for finding fault and Hybrid AD method for finding location of fault are going to solve above problem.

RÉSUMÉ. Les défauts à haute impédance sont fréquents dans la distribution de l'électricité entre sous-stations, sous-stations rurales et dans les zones rurales. Les défauts à haute impédance sont détectés en fonction du courant de défaut mesuré par les dispositifs de détection de défaut, mais un défaut important est que le défaut de la ligne d'alimentation tombé en panne ou brisé ne touchant pas la terre ne peut pas être détecté s'il n'y a pas suffisamment de courant de défaut pour faire fonctionner les dispositifs de détection de défaut dans la distribution d'alimentation en tête à tête. Il existe de nombreuses méthodes pour rechercher les défauts de haute impédance. Cependant, il n'existe aucune méthode appropriée pour trouver la détection et l'emplacement de la défaillance de la ligne d'alimentation en panne ou brisé ne touchant pas la terre. Une telle condition ne représente aucune anomalie électrique et jusqu'à présent, sa détection devrait probablement dépendre d'une observation visuelle. Cet article propose deux méthodes telles que F-PLCCG pour la recherche de panne et la méthode hybride AD pour la localisation de la panne afin de résoudre le problème ci-dessus.

KEYWORDS: power line communication (PLC), PLG (power line guardian), high impedance faults (HIF's), active smart wires (ASW).

MOTS-CLÉS: communication de ligne électrique (PLC), PLG (gardien de ligne électrique), défauts à haute impédance (HIF's), fils intelligents actifs (ASW).

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1. Introduction

Power system protection is a critical issue for both operational and safety reasons. An efficient protection scheme should be adapted ensuring the power system operates adequately and protects the equipment's as well as public from hazardous over voltages. Hence an ideal power system Protection scheme should be introduced to make sure that no hazardous over voltages will put the human life or equipment operation at risk under any circumstances. Detection of high impedance faults on overhead distribution systems continues to be an unsolved problem for electric utilities. The root problem is that a high impedance fault does not cause a detectable change in current flow on a circuit. The much more common low impedance faults cause substantial fault current to flow and are easily detectable. Downed conductors are of major concern to electric utilities because they may result in public hazard. Downed conductors may not contact a conductive object and, therefore, have good probability of remaining energized. When lying on certain surfaces, they may look quite harmless. A person touching an energized power line conductor faces substantial risk, since no detection device known today can react fast enough to prevent injury. The only available solution to this problem today is an alert and informed public. The issue of how to respond, once a downed conductor (HIF) is detected, is paramount. This will often determine whether or not the overall risk to the public has truly been minimized (O'Brien *et al.*, 2016; Cook and Garg K., 2013; Hou, 2007; Hou and Fischer, 2005). Different types of data transmission system can be used depending upon the network requirement and conditions. New PLC communication system are created and used in Smart Grid (Galli *et al.*, 2010) to read smart meter Data, Communication systems and House automation system using Power line communication system (Cataliotti and Tinè, 2009). Power line communication is mainly used for Detection of High Impedance Fault Occurrence's (Borle *et al.*, 2013).

Smart grid and secure smart grid are being used today to describe technologies that automatically and rapidly isolate faults, restore power, monitor demand, and maintain and restore stability for more reliable generation, transmission, and delivery of electric power (Jinde *et al.*, 2013; Popa, 2011; Youssef, 2018). Smart grid Provide solution for the fault or event and provides electricity free of sags, spikes, disturbances and interruptions. Active Smart Wires (ASW) is a new concept for a low-cost, high reliability method to increase or decrease power flow in a transmission line and as well as observe power line between pole to pole every time with (Milioudis *et al.*, 2012; Kreikebaum and Imayavaramban, 2010; Kreikebaum *et al.*, 2010). Transmission line Faults and fault location finding is very important for power system. As compare to impedance method, travelling wave method would give accurate results (Rohrig, 1931; Krzysztof *et al.*, 2011; Barburas *et al.*, 2015; Tian and Ma, 2009). The drawback of this method is depending upon system parameters and configuration of network (Idris *et al.*, 2012; Kawady and Stenzel, 2002). Travelling waves measured by using Current transformers (Aurangzeb *et al.*, 2001; Redfem *et al.*, 2004).

This paper discusses about Design and Working of F-PLCCG (Frequency Power Line Carrier Communication Guardian) (Sec.2), F-PLCCG working in field Flow

chart and Algorithms (Sec.3), Simulation Results of F-PLCCG (Sec. 4), Hybrid AD Method (Sec.5), Simulation Results of Hybrid AD Method (Sec.6), Acknowledgement (Sec.7) and Conclusion are presented in Section 8.

2. Design, working principal and operation of F-PLCCG

(Frequency Power Line Carrier -Communication Guardian): The proposed Design of F-PLCCG is used for Detection of unbroken/broken conductor hanging within inches from the ground fault or downed power line conductors fault between two sub-Stations and within village, (explained in Flow Chart 1 and flow chart 2), the design and operation of F-PLCCG is explained in below.

2.1. Design of F-PLCCG (Components)

The F-PLCC Contains Components like Transformer (T1), Transformer (T2), Switches S1, S2, S3, Power supply, Program Logic controller (S7-1200) with GSM connection, Communication system, FSK Demodulator, Micro controller for data recovery, Digital data converter, SCR (Silicon controller Rectifier) Circuit (ST1, ST2) and Coupling Circuit capacitor (Figure 1) and components working explained below (Figure 1)

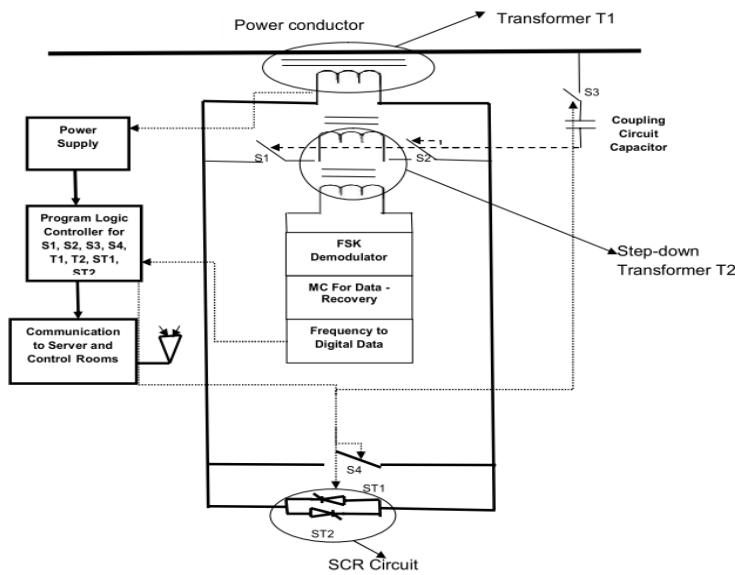


Figure 1. F-PLCCG schematic circuit

Transformer (T1) of Primary act as a Power conductor.

Transformer (T1) of Secondary act as a Primary of T2

If Switch S4 closed, Combination of Switch S4 and SCR's ST1&ST2 act as a Power line guardian Circuit.

Coupling capacitor for allowing high frequency signals to F-PLCCG

S7-1200 (contains pre-program) and Communication system will receive power supply from Transformer (T1).

FSK Demodulator: Frequency shift key demodulator used for decreasing carrier signal frequency received from T2 secondary.

Communication system having GSM modem for sending data to Sub stations or rural transformer switch board.

2.2. Working principle and operation of F-PLCCG

F-PLCCG is following basic principle of Power Line communication system. Please follow below Steps how it will detect downed power line conductors' fault between two sub stations.

Step 1: Once Program Logic Controller signal received from Substation "A", Switches S1, S2 & S3 will closed by using Program Logic Controller (at F-PLCCG).

Step 2: Coupling Circuit Capacitor will allow high Frequency Signal, Step down Transformer T2 Step-down Voltage signal.

Step 3: Step-downed voltage signal send to FSK Demodulator, it will Demodulated Frequency to Low frequency signal.

Step 4: MC (Micro - Controller) Correct the Error in Low Modulated Frequency Signal.

Step 5: Frequency convert into Digital signal and send digital value to Programmable logic controller.

Step 6: Program logic controller will check Frequency value and send signal to Communication system "OK" or "NOK" (pre-program logic written in Ladder logic, explained below).

Step 7: Depends upon Signal Received from Communication system in F-PLCCG, send signal to substations for switch off power supply between two sub stations or Switch off power supply to rural area.

Programmable logic: Program Logic Controller Logic for Operation of switches in F-PLCCG. From program logic going to switch on/off switches "S1", "S2", "S3" and "S4" by using power off signal input and PLG input signal. (Please find Logic of operation in below diagram Figure 2.

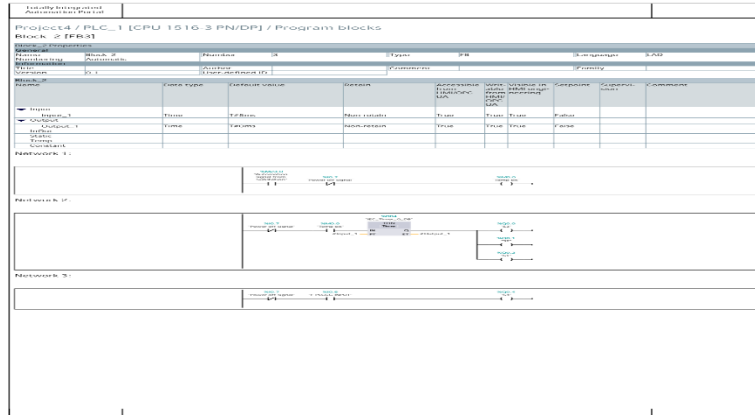


Figure 2. Operation of switches in programming logic controller

Please follow below steps to make switch's enable by Program logic explained in (Figure 2)

Step 1. To make Memory bit %M0.0 (Tag_1) ON with help of (PLC from substation is) %M23.0 should ON, (power off signal) %I0.7 should OFF.

Step 2. To make on-delay timer (#input_1 (preset time=5milli seconds)) on using (Power off signal) %I0.7 must off, Tag_1 (%M0.0) must ON.

Step 3. Once timer on All S1 (%Q0.2), S2 (%Q0.1) and S3 (%Q0.0) be ON.

Step 4 To make Switch S4 ON with help of Power off signal(%I0.7) should OFF and PLG Input(%I0.6) should ON.

3. Detection of unbroken/broken conductor hanging within inches of the ground fault or downed power line conductors fault using F-PLCCG Field operation and algorithms

According to literature survey one major problem has identified.

Problem is Downed conductors which are not touching the ground has become major concern to electric utilities because this fault cannot be measured by the fault detecting devices. This may result in public harm.

Downed conductors may not contact a conductive object, therefore is more probability of remaining energized.

When lying on certain surfaces, they may look quite harmless. When any person touches an energized power line conductor, faces substantial risk, since no detection device known today can react fast enough to prevent injury.

In recent years observed that many cases were registered in so many countries like India, USA, Germany, etc. The only available solution to this problem today is to give an alert and inform public. To solve above problem Companies like Siemens, GE, ABB, etc. have a solution, but that solution has only 90% success rate¹

To solve above problem proposing new enhanced model circuit. It contains F-PLCCG, Program logic controller (Siemens PLC CPU -1200) for logic function operated in F-PLCCG. The Proposed solution unique approach towards solving problem compared to other proposed solutions.

The proposed solution explains how to deal with unbroken/broken conductor hanging within inches of the ground fault or downed power line conductors' fault. Here Explaining how to use proposed solution in between two sub-Stations and as well as with in Rural village.

Proposed solution solves Fault Detection between Substation to substation is explained in Flow chart 1 (Figure 3) using some Preconditions. Algorithm Steps (F-PLCCG working in field), Field connection diagram of F-PLCCG (Figure 4)

And this solution also solves Fault Detection between Substations to Rural village explained in Flow chart 1 (Figure 5) using some Preconditions, Algorithm Steps (F-PLCCG working in field), Field connection diagram of F-PLCCG (Figure 6)

3.1. Flow chart 1

F-PLCCG operation between substations to substation is explained below flow chart.

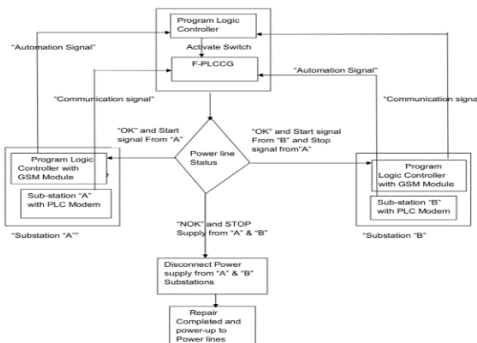


Figure 3. Flow chart: F-PLCCG operation between substations to substation

1. <http://w3.siemens.com/smartgrid/global/en/products-systems-solutions/protection/high-impedance-protection/pages/overview.aspx>;
www.library.e.abb.com;
www.store.gedigitalenergy.com

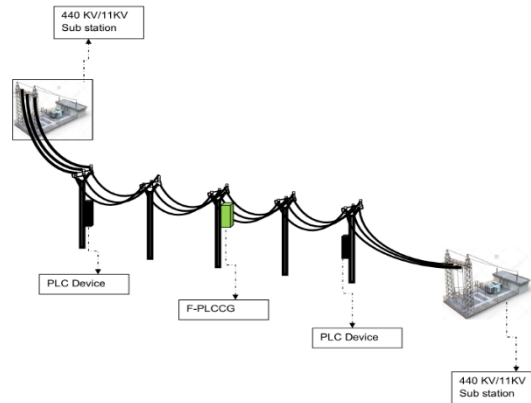


Figure 4. F-PLCCG Field connection between substation to substation

3.2. Precondition

Step 1: At equal distance between Sub-Station “A” &” B”, arrange F-PLCCG:

Step 2: F-PLCCG (Frequency Power Line Carrier Communication Guardian) has Frequency Receiver in Bi-Directional mode.

Step 3: Preferred frequency for PLC (Power Line carrier) is 100 KHZ to 140 kHz

Step 4: Sub-Station “A” &” B” contains PLC Modem and program Logic controller (Pre-program) unit with GSM connection.

Step 5: For Better understanding of Algorithms, we symbolize Power line communication signal as Communication signal and Program Logic Controller Signal as Automation signal.

3.3. Algorithms steps (Figure 3)

Step 1: Sub-station “A” PLC Modem will send “communication Signal” to “F-PLCCG “via Transmission line and as soon as signal passes from PLC modem, Program Logic Controller (at substation) sends “Automation signal’ to Program Logic Controller (at F-PLCCG) for activation of Switches (Figure 2).

Step 2: Once the Communication signal signals reached “F-PLCCG”, Status of the Transmission line is sent to Two Sub-Stations via Communication system arranged in “F-PLCCG”.

Step 3: F-PLCCG sends only “OK” or “NOK” Signal to Two Sub stations. If F-PLCCG signal status is “OK” it will execute as in Step 4, if “NOK” then it will execute as in Step 6&7

Step 4: Stop Communication signal from Substation “A” and from substation “B” send Communication signal to “F-PLCCG” and when signal passes from PLC modem, Program Logic Controller sends automation signal to F-PLCCG for activation of Switches (Figure 2).

Step5: Once Communication signal reaches “F-PLCCG”, Status of Transmission line send to Two Sub-Stations via Communication system arranged in “F-PLCCG” and F-PLCCG send only “OK” or “NOK” Signal to Two Sub stations. If F-PLCCG status is “OK” it will execute as in Step 1, if it’s “NOK”, it will execute as in Step 6&7

Step 6: Communication signal not reached “F-PLCCG “, It will Generate “NOK” Signal i.e. Transmission line broken and sent this Automation signal to Sub stations “A” & “B” and Generates Alarm for Disconnect Power supply from Both “A” & “B” Substation or automatic Disconnection of Power supply By SCADA System in Both “A” & “B” Substation.

Step 7: Once the line repair is executed, then Operator has to press Ready button then controller start power supply to village and it will execute as in step 1.

3.4. Flow chart 2

F-PLCCG operation between substations to Village is explained below flow chart:

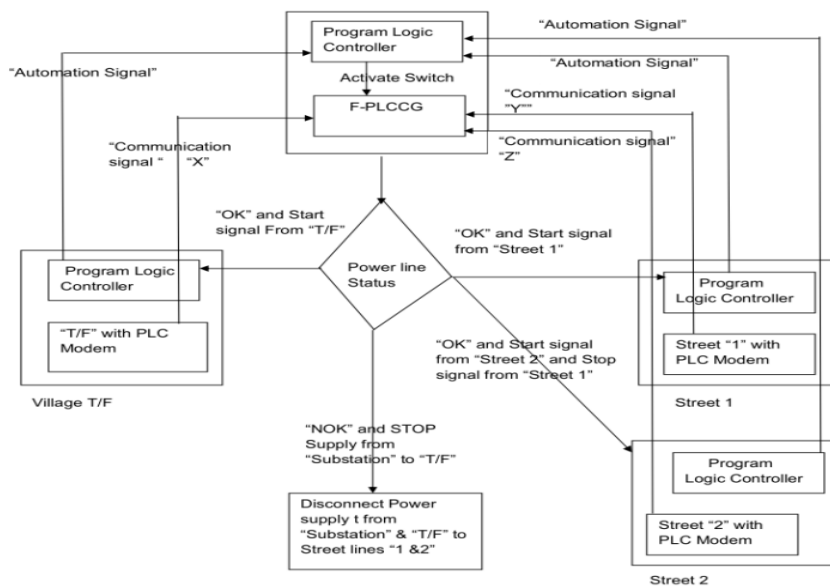


Figure 5. Flow chart: F-PLCCG operation between substations to Village

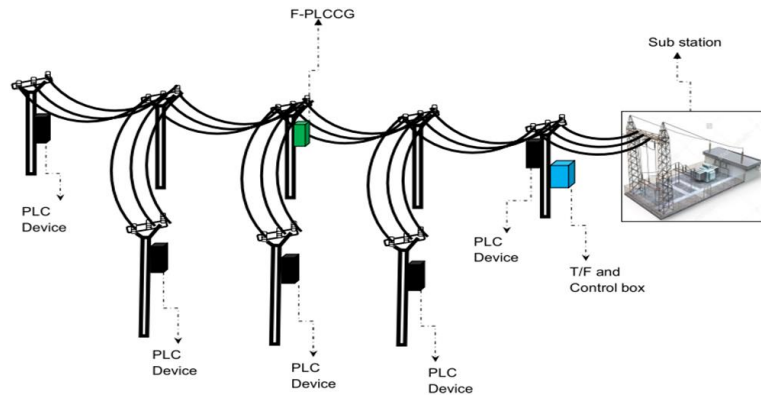


Figure 6. F-PLCCG Field connection between substations to Village

3.5. Precondition for flow chart 2

Step 1: F-PLCCG connected at every power distribution node for streets.

Step 2: Connect PLC Device at Transformer (in rural area) and Transformer power connection Switch on/Switch off operation using by Pre-Programmable logic controller (Control Box).

Step 3: Each street end at the last electric transmission pole is connected to PLC Device and Village T/F (Transformer) having PLC Modem and when Communication signal passes from PLC modem of T/F, Program Logic Controller (located at street end last electric transmission pole) it sends Automation signal to Program Logic Controller (at F-PLCCG) for activation of Switches (Figure 2).

Step 4: Preferred frequency for PLC (Power Line carrier) is 100 KHZ to 140 kHz

Step 5: In village/rural area each Home contains Smart Meter and each smart meter contains Wave Trap unit.

Step 6: For Better understanding of Algorithms, we symbolize Power line communication signal as Communication signal and Program Logic Controller Signal as Automation signal.

3.6. Algorithms steps

Step 1: T/F PLC Modem will send communication Signal "X" to F-PLCCG via Transmission line

Step 2: F-PLCCG receives "X" signal and status of Transmission line send to Sub-Station "A" & Control Box at T/F (Transformer) via Communication system arranged in "F-PLCCG". F-PLCCG sends only "OK" or "NOK" Signal to Sub stations. If F-

PLCCG status is “OK” it will execute as in Step 3, if it’s “NOK”, it will execute as in Step 5.

Step 3: Stop “X” Signal from Transformer PLC. F-PLCCG Receives Communication signal “Y” from Street 1 of PLC Modem and Status of Transmission line send to Sub-Station “A” & Control Box at T/F (Transformer) via Communication system arranged in “F-PLCCG” and F-PLCCG sends only “OK” or “NOK” Signal to Sub stations. If F-PLCCG status is “OK” it will execute as in Step 4, if it’s “NOK”, it will execute as in Step 5.

Step 4: Stop “Y” Signal from Street 1.F-PLCCG Receives Communication signal “Z” from Street 2 of PLC Modem and Status of Transmission line send to Sub-Station “A” & Control Box at T/F (Transformer) via Communication system arranged in “F-PLCCG” and F-PLCCG sends only “OK” or “NOK” Signal to Sub stations. If F-PLCCG status is “OK”, it will execute as in Step 5, if it’s “NOK”, it will execute as in Step 5

Step 5: If F-PLCCG generated “NOK” Signal and send Automation Signal to within rural village Transformer and substation. Transformer control box having Program Logic controller loaded with Preprogram with all these conditions, once received “NOK” signal from F-PLCCG controller will disconnect power supply to Village. Once line repair executed then Operator has to press Ready button in control box, after controller start power supply to village and it will execute as in Step 1.

4. Simulation results of F-PLCCG

We used MATLAB for this simulation results. Inputs for Simulation Results: From Substation “A”: Power line communication with frequency 1 kHz, Normal powers supply 440v AC, 50Hz. Output measured across Secondary of T2.

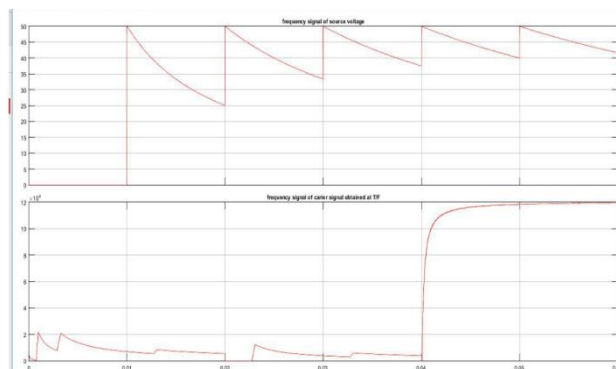


Figure 7. Secondary of T2 transformer output frequency

As per Simulation results (Figure 7.) at 0.04 sec output frequency of T2 Transformer is input for FSK, FSK output is input for Frequency to Digital conversion,

Digital conversion frequency is equal to output signal frequency at F-PLCCG.it indicates down conductor fault not occurred. If both frequencies not equal it's indicated down conductor fault occurred.

5. Hybrid AD method

In above sections explained about travelling wave method for finding open-circuit location, Power line guardian (PLG) for power flow control, Harmonics in Power system (2nd harmonic). Using Travelling wave method, Power line guardian and 2nd harmonic, we are going to propose new method to find Location of Downed or Broken power line Fault not touching the ground. The proposed method is very simple, and less cost and it will give exact location. In this method PLG (Power line guardian) would play big role and using 2nd harmonic travelling wave, we are going to find Location of Downed or Broken power line Fault not touching the ground. PLG having Current transformer and it will measure High frequency ranges (Travelling wave frequency). To find distance of fault please follow below Operation of Hybrid AD Method.

5.1. Operation of hybrid AD method

Please follow below Steps how to detect Location of downed power line conductors' fault between two sub stations. Precondition: 1. First calculate Distance between two sub-stations (distance D)

2. PLG connected between equal distance (at Pont P) (Figure 8) from two sub-stations A and B. Please follow below cases how Hybrid AD method help to detect location of fault.

5.2. Case 1: Fault occurred between station A and PLG

Step 1: When Downed or Broken power line Fault not touching the ground occurred (at Point F) (Figure 9) at that point 2nd harmonic first travelling wave generated and travelled towards Station A and Station B (Figure 9).

Step 2: measure 2nd harmonic first forward travelling wave timing between fault point "F" to PLG Point "P".

Step 3: measure 2nd harmonic first forward travelling wave from fault point "F" to Station B.

Step 4: measure first reflected travelling wave from station B to fault point (at point F).

Step 5: measure first reflected travelling wave from station B to at Point P.

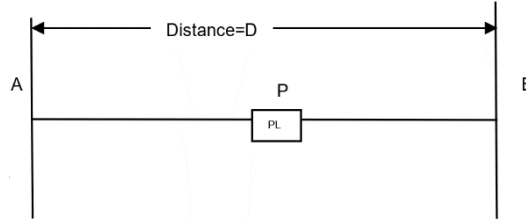


Figure 8. PLG between two substations

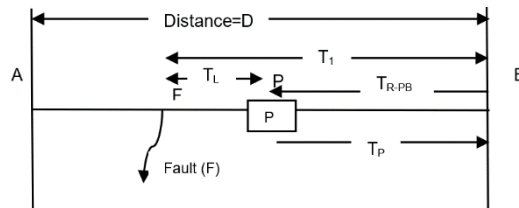


Figure 9. Type AD Method for fault near to station B

D=Total distance between station A and Station B[m];

D_x = Fault location distance from Station B[m];

F=Fault point location, P= Power Line Guardian arranged on transmission line;

T_L =First forward travelling wave time between Fault point (F) and PLG point (P) [s];

T_{PB} =First forward travelling wave time between PLG point (P) and Station B[s];

T_{R-PB} =First reflected travelling wave time between PLG point (P) and Station B[s];

T_x =First forward travelling wave time between Fault point (F) and Station B[s];

PLG=Power Line Guardian, V=wave velocity [m/s], T_x =Total travelling time [s].

$$T_x = \left(\frac{T_{PB} + T_{R-PB}}{2} + T_L \right) / 10, \text{ Fault location distance from Station B } D_x = T_x \cdot V$$

5.3. Case 2: Fault occurred between station B and PLG

Step 1: When Downed or Broken power line Fault not touching the ground occurred (at Point F) (Figure 10) at that point 2nd harmonic first travelling wave generated and travelled towards Station A and Station B (Figure 10).

Step 2: measure 2nd harmonic first forward travelling wave timing between fault point “F” to PLG Point “P”

Step 3: measure 2nd harmonic first forward travelling wave from fault point “F” to Station A

Step 4: measure first reflected travelling wave from station A to fault point (at point F)

Step 5: measure first reflected travelling wave from station A to at Point P

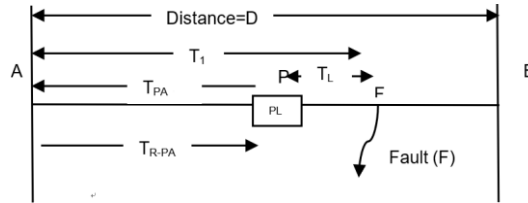


Figure 10. Type AD Method for fault near to station A

D =Total distance between station A and Station B[m]; D_x = Fault location distance from Station B[m];

F =Fault point location; P = Power Line Guardian arranged on transmission line;

T_L =First forward travelling wave time between Fault point (F) and PLG point (P) [s];

T_{PA} =First forward travelling wave time between PLG point (P) and Station A [s];

T_{R-PA} =First reflected Travelling wave time between PLG point (P) and Station A[s]

T_1 =First forward travelling wave time between Fault point (F) and Station A[s];

PLG=Power Line Guardian, V =wave velocity [m/s], T_x =Total travelling time [s],
 $T_x = (\frac{T_{PA}+T_{R-PA}}{2} + T_L)/10$, Fault location distance from Station A $D_x=T_x \cdot V$

6. Simulation results of hybrid AD method

We used PSCAD V4.2 for this simulation results. if we apply in Theoretical calculation to simulation for Case 1, Distance between station A and B is 100 Kilo meters. If Downed or Broken power line Fault not touching the ground occurred at 25 Km from Station A.

Figure 11 & 12 Explain how 2nd harmonic generated at fault point and fault travelling wave travelling towards station B.

From Simulation Results, $T_{PB} = 0.188ms$, $T_{R-PB} = 0.376ms$, $T_L = 0.6837ms$

$T_x = (\frac{T_{PB}+T_{R-PB}}{2} + T_L)/10$, Fault location distance from Station B, $D_x=T_x \cdot V=28.97KM$.Final value near to fault location.

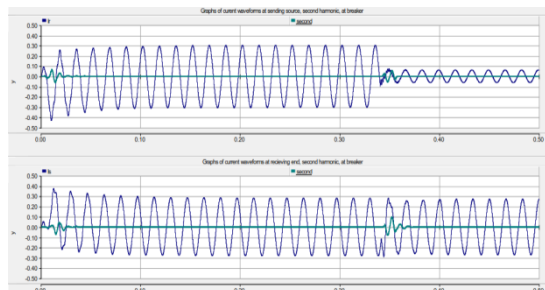


Figure 11. 2nd harmonic wave Generated at fault point

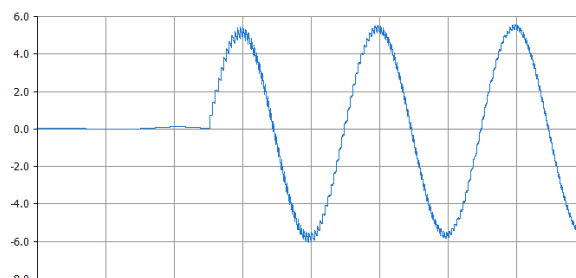


Figure 12. First forward Travelling wave travelling towards station B

8. Conclusion

As compare to all of that's methods and process, the proposed solution will give better Solution, economic and within less time. I hope it will give almost 100% accurate solution for Detect and location of Downed power lines Fault without touching ground. This Paper provides solution used for rural area/village and between two substations for fault detection and location between two sub stations. Further Research work will be F-PLCCG used for Power line communication booster and detection of fault location.

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