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# **Voltage Sag Based Fault Location Algorithm**

**EPRI Workshop 04/21/2017**

Mladen Kezunovic

- 
- A thick black arrow pointing to the right, highlighting the first item in the agenda.
- **Motivation**
  - Existing Approaches
  - Our Proposed Approach
  - Advantages
  - Use Cases
  - Practical Implementation
  - Next Step

- Fault location is the core of outage management and service restoration.
- Faster and accurate fault location → Improves reliability indices i.e. customer average interruption duration index (CAIDI) and system average interruption duration index (SAIDI) .
- The challenges include
  - large scale and complex power system models,
  - loading conditions changing over time,
  - the unbalanced nature of the system,
  - heterogeneous lines,
  - the presence of laterals,
  - load taps.

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- Based on the type of the data the fault location method uses:

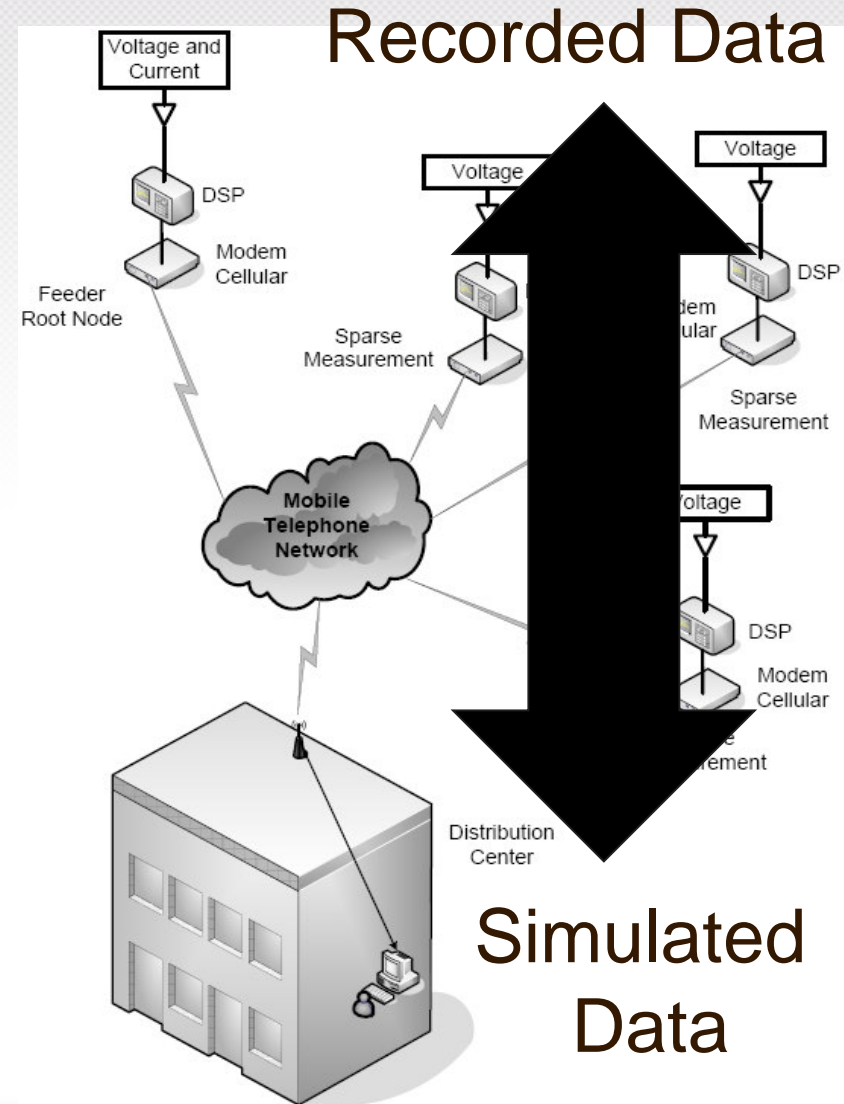
Method	Drawback
Apparent impedance measurement	Multiple estimations of fault locations
Direct three-phase circuit analysis	Requires installation of fault indicators at the beginning of each tap increases the implementation cost
Superimposed components	Multiple estimations of fault locations
Traveling waves	Requires high-frequency sampling increases the cost; Presence of laterals and load taps may reflect traveling waves
Artificial intelligence	Requires a large number of training data and a retraining subsequent to a change in power system structure (topology)

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# Our Approach

## Voltage-Sag-Based Fault location method:

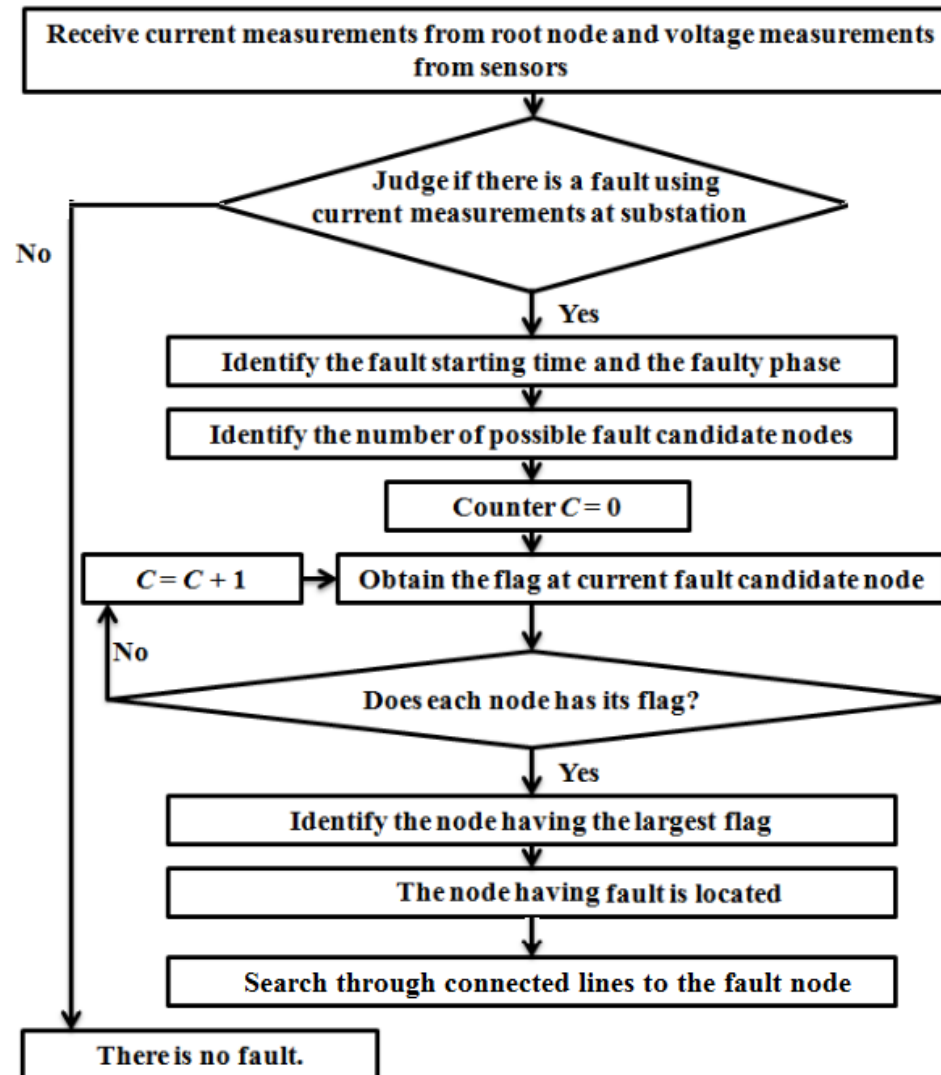
1. Voltage sag data ( $V_{recorded}$ ) is recorded at the meter locations and sent to the local distribution energy management center.
2. Simulated voltage sag data ( $V_{calculated}$ ) is computed, assuming in turn that the fault is located at each node and fault resistance is estimated based on the voltage match.
3. The node with the best match between  $V_{recorded}$  and  $V_{calculated}$  is the declared the fault node.
4. Binary search (halving) is used on the lines connected to the detected fault node to pinpoint the fault on the lines.



- Simulation model used: time-domain simulation model with detailed line impedance matrix and mutual coupling information.
- Input Data:
  - Data needs to be synchronized
  - Minimum data requirement: voltage magnitude data from IED
  - Voltage angle data from IED and current angle data from the substation will improve the accuracy
  - Number of measurements will determine the precision of the result (optimal IED placement technique); we assume there are measurements available at the intersection and the end of lateral.
  - Load estimation



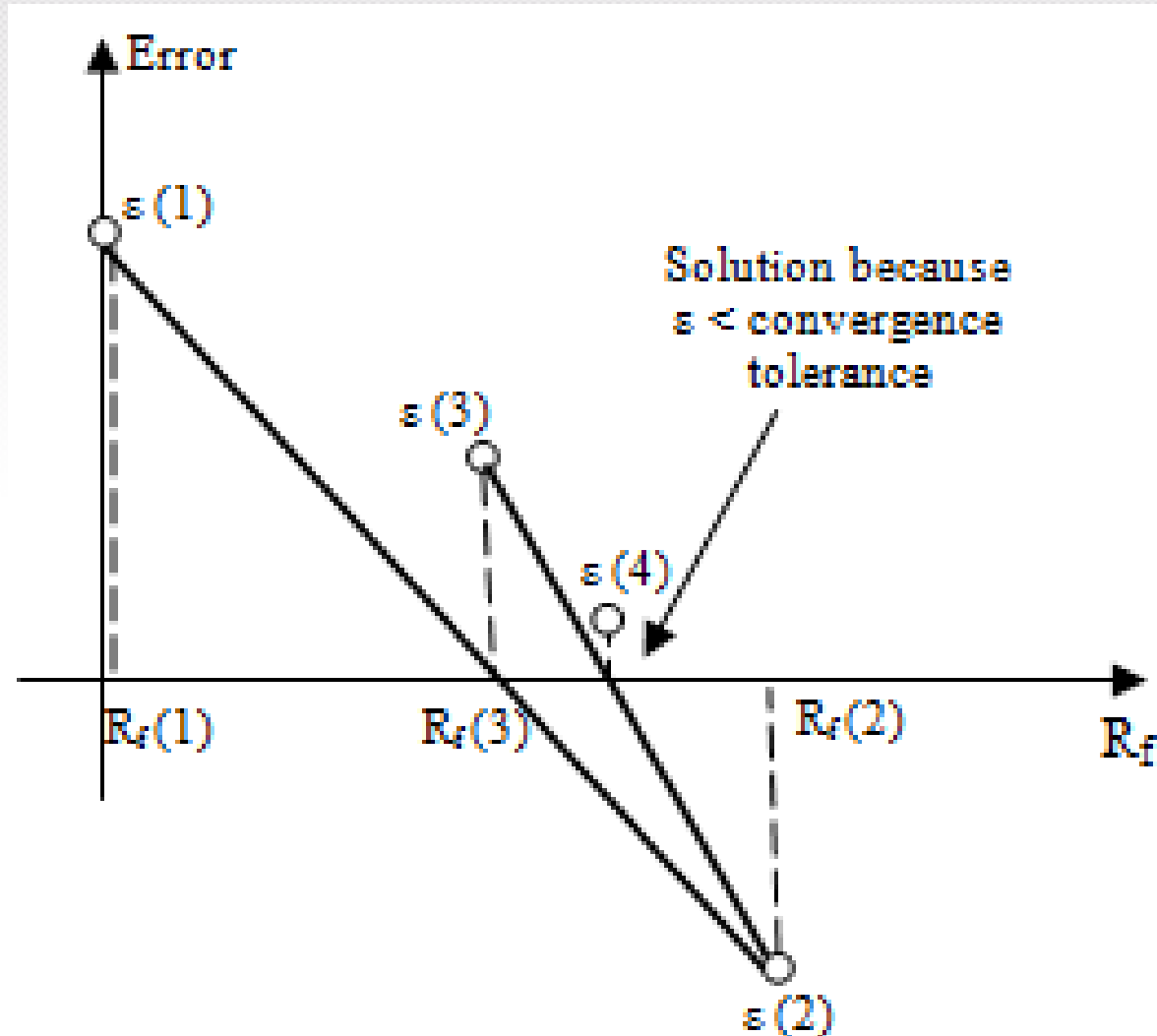
# Flow Chart



# Fault Resistance Estimation



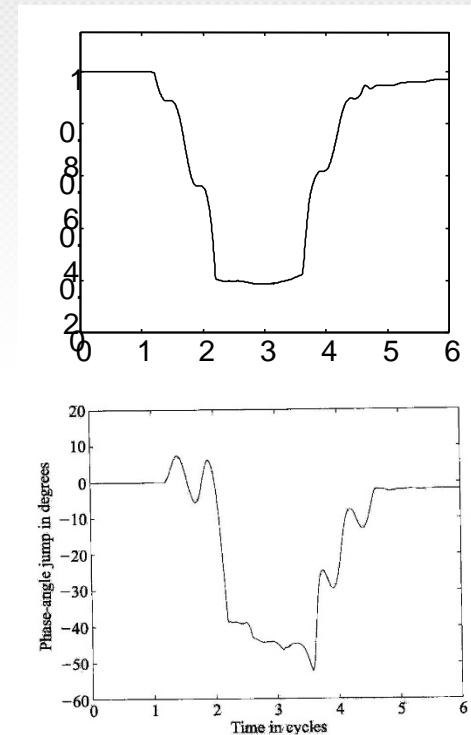
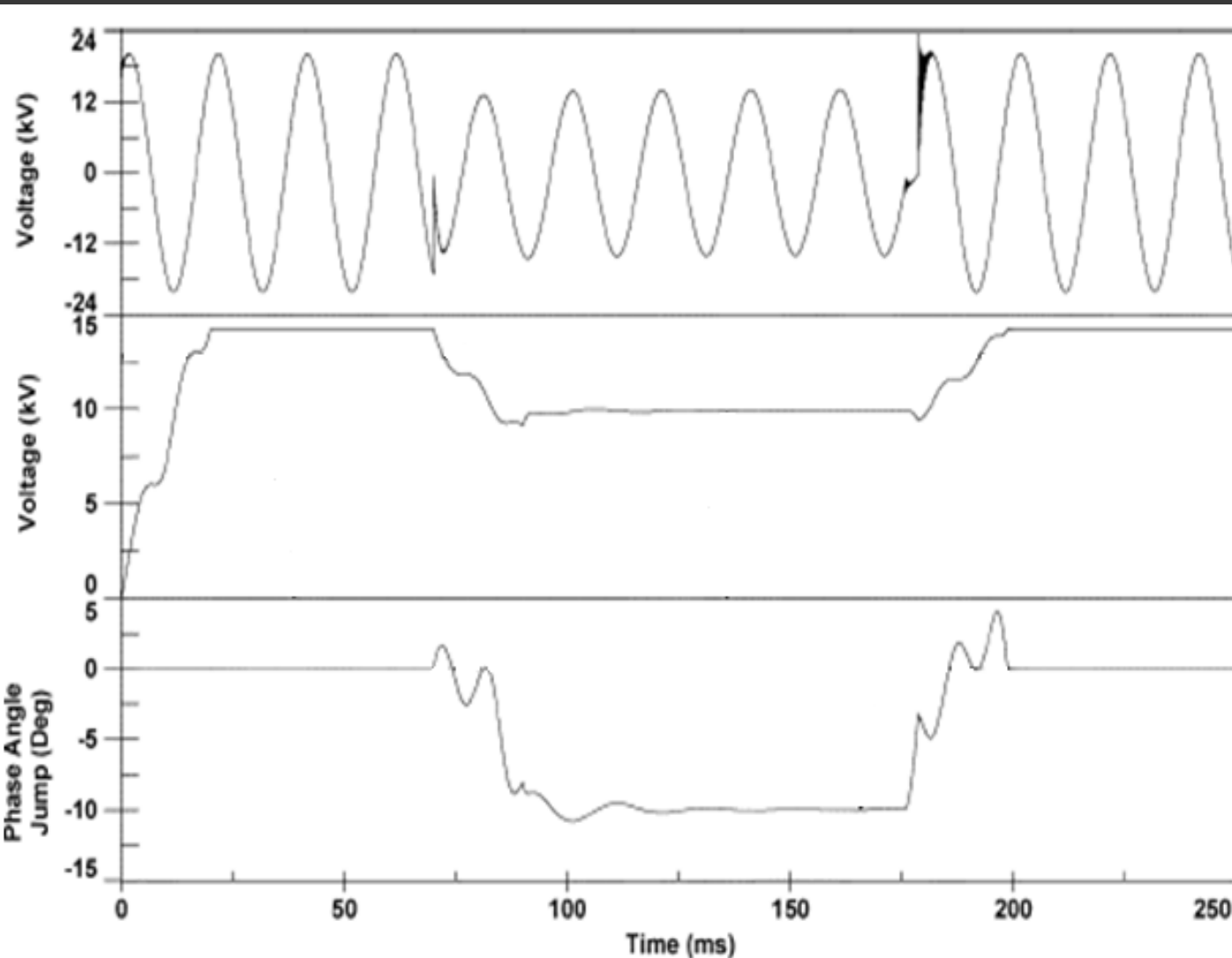
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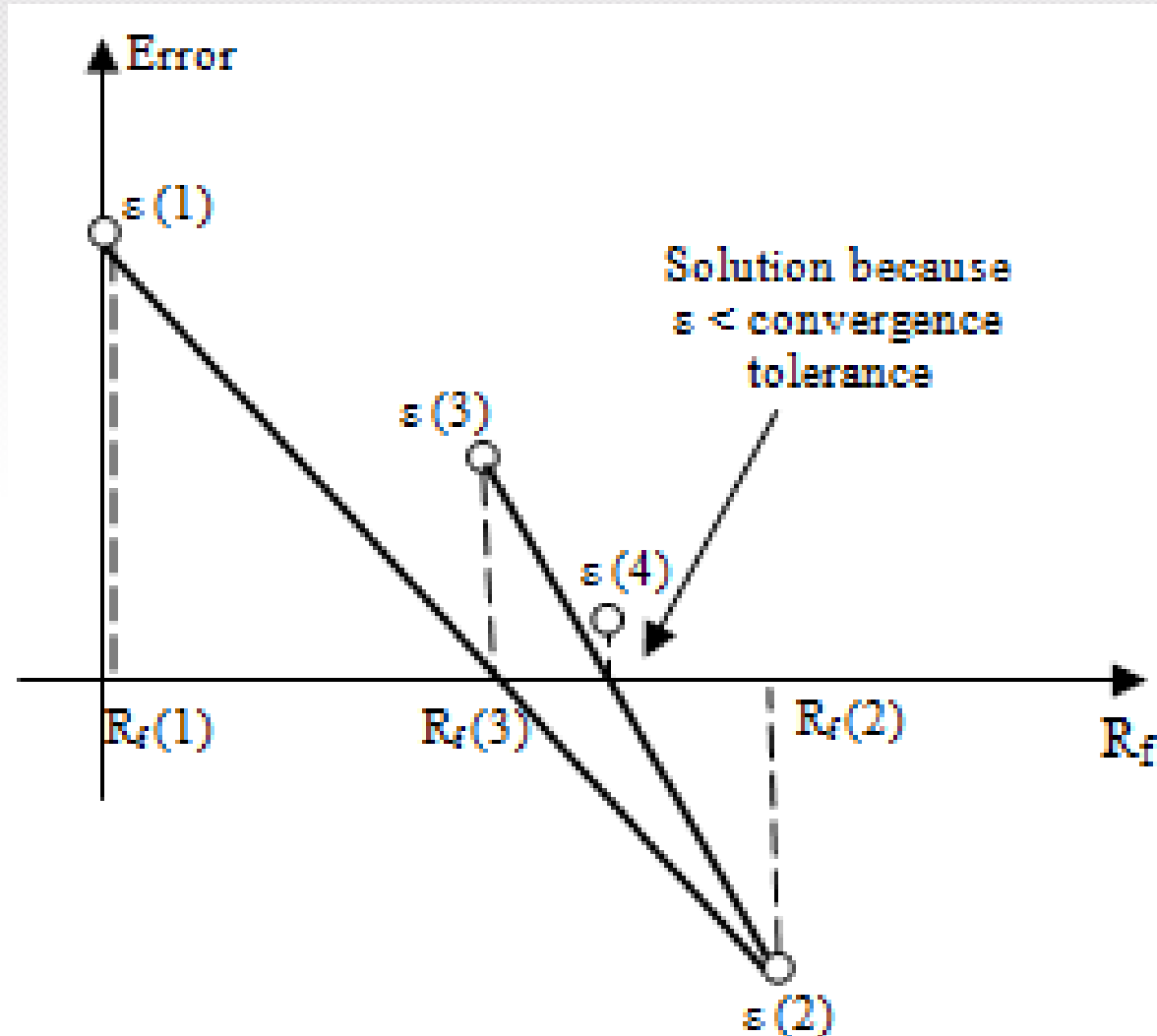
# Voltage Sag Characterization



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# Fault Resistance Estimation



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- Using measurements (e.g. smart meter) from and substation; the input data quantity depends on the availability of measurement
- No ambiguity in feeder/lateral
- High accuracy performance
- Computationally efficient

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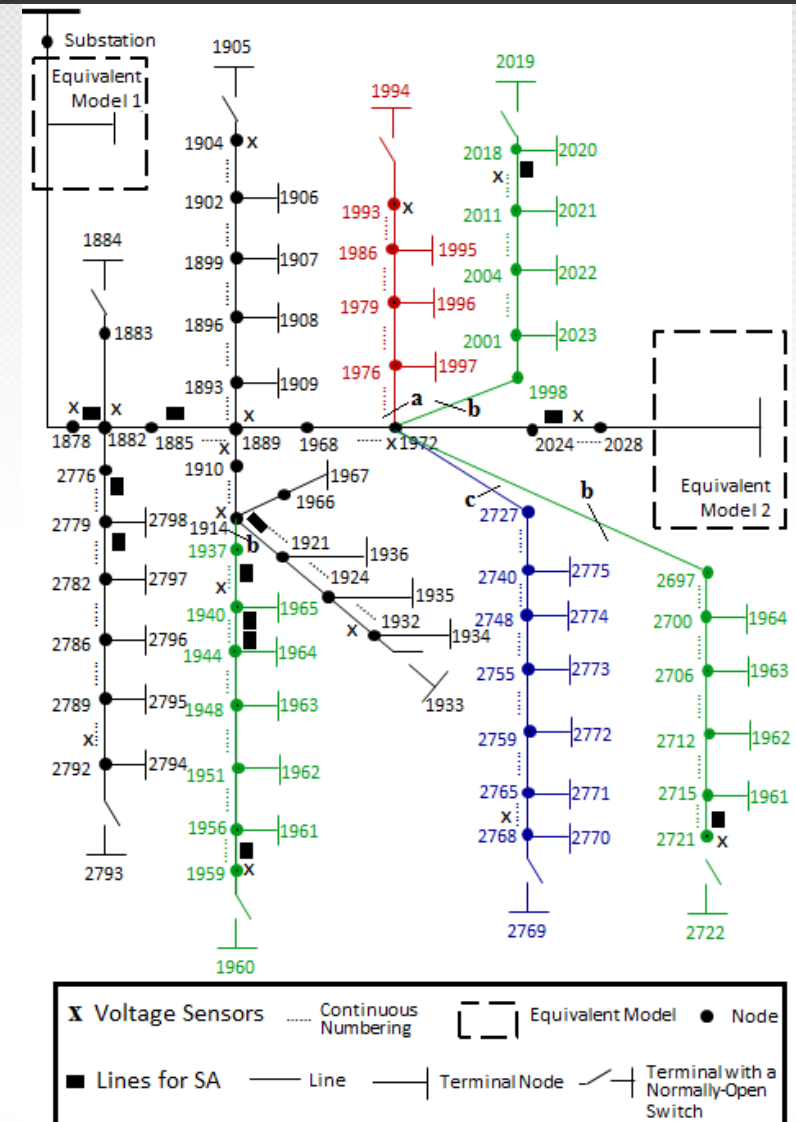
# Network under Study



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Table I: Network Component Details

Total Number of Components	4352
Number of Line Components	1828
Total length of Line Components (Foot)	655617.6
Total Connected Load (kVA)	33606



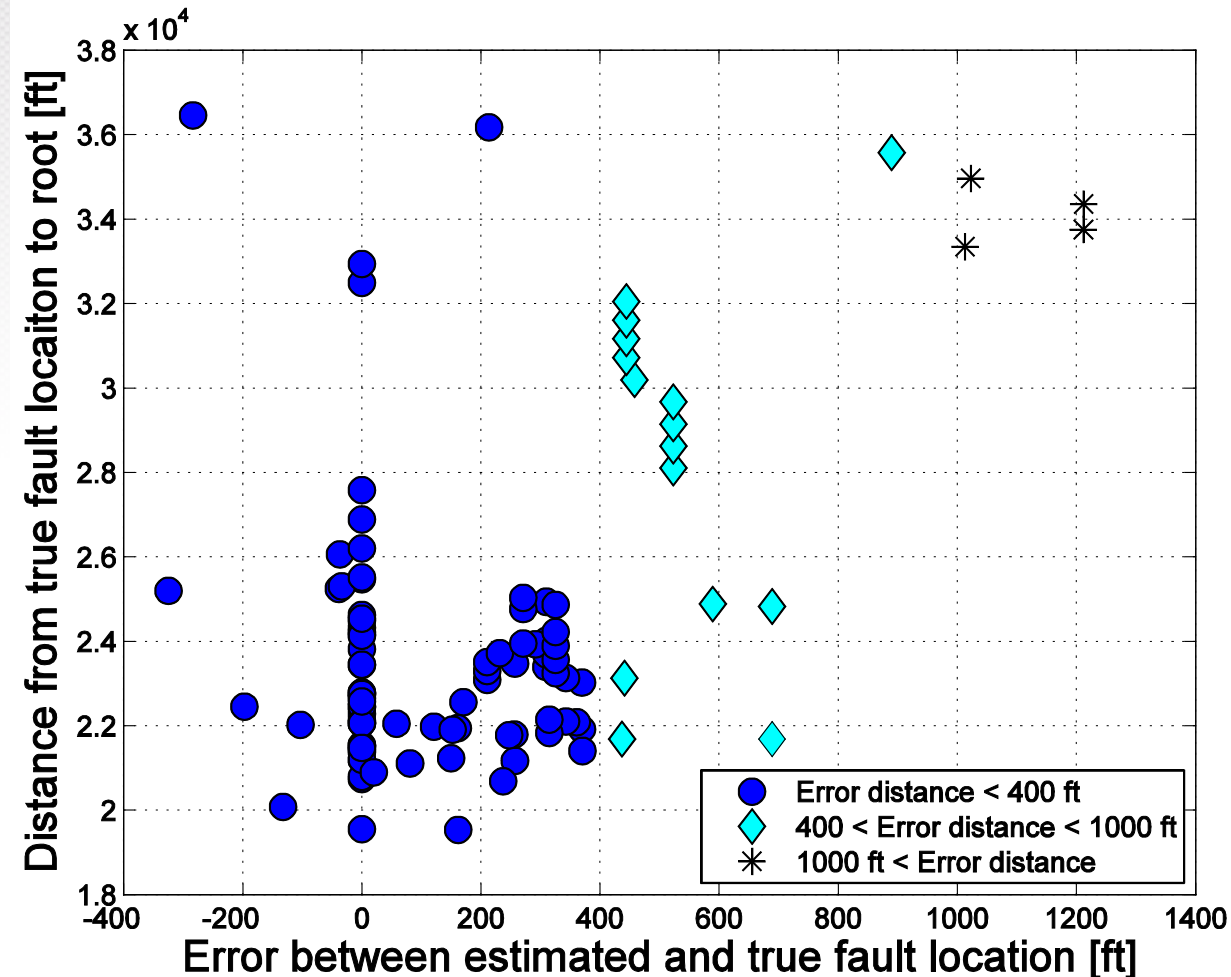



# Validations



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- Always detects FL on the same lateral as the true FL.
- In most cases, the detected FL are downstream of the true FL.
- In 44% of cases, the error distance  $< 100$  ft
- In 83% of cases, the error distance  $< 400$  ft.



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# Algorithm Implementation

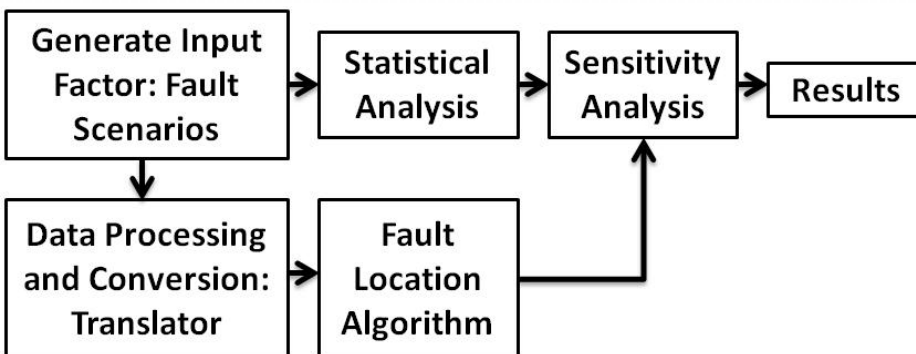


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## Software Utilization

Software	Fault Simulation	Fault Location	Sensitivity Analysis
ATP-EMTP	X	X	
C++		X	
SimLab			X
Matlab			X

## Study Procedure



## Search Precise FL on A Line

Flag values on the line as an ordered search table : 1...2...3.....9.....3

Maximum Flag Value  
↓

○ The Searched Line ○ Node M

## FL Algorithm Implementation: Coding

**Output:** Estimation of fault location and fault resistance

**read** ABB network file in .csv format

**read** input settings in .txt format

**read** input factor file in .csv

**for each** group of input factor of the sensitivity analysis **do**

**convert** the ABB network .CSV file into an ATP netlist .NET and call it as “base case no fault”

**run** base case no fault in ATP and obtain results

**store** data into network data vector

**check** input settings and obtain information of desired fault type and locations

**create** an ATP netlist and call it as “fault base case”, which represent the real case of fault

**run** fault base case in ATP and obtain results, which is referred as “recorded data”

{recorded data obtained}

**store** data into network data vector

**add** assumed random error from user-given error range into recorded data which represents the IED errors

**for each** potential candidate fault node **do** {i.e. 3-phase fault cannot be at 1-phase node}

**run** fault resistance estimation and determine if this potential candidate fault node is a candidate fault node

**if** this is a candidate fault node **then**

{Step 1}

**obtain** fault resistance by fault resistance estimation procedure using substation current difference.

{Step 2}

**obtain** the “calculated data” {including voltage sag data at measurement nodes and substation current phase difference} from the case running with fault resistance estimated from previous step.

{Step 3}

**obtain** the flag value by comparing the “calculated data” and “recorded data”

**if** find the fault node A which has the largest flag value **then**

**if** there are lines connecting to END A **then**

**pinpoint** the fault location by performing sufficient enough number of binary search from Step 1 to 3 on the lines connecting to A {divide the lines}

**return** the estimated fault location and fault resistance of the maximum flag value on the lines connected to END A

**else**

**return** the fault node A and the estimated fault resistance of A {cannot find any larger flag value}

**else**

**return** the guesses of fault location and fault resistance

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- How the algorithm uses the accessible data may be different from the raw data seen by the IEDs depend upon functionality of that IED.
- How to reduce the error comes from the difference between the simulated model and the real system.
- How to more effectively estimate the fault resistance.

# Related Publications

- R. A. F. Pereira, et al., "Improved Fault Location on Distribution Feeders Based on Matching During-Fault Voltage Sags," IEEE Trans. Power Del., Vol. 24, No. 2, pp. 852-862, Apr. 2009
- S. Lotfifard, M. Kezunovic, M. J. Mousavi, "Distribution Fault Location Using Voltage Sag Data" IEEE Trans. Power Del., Vol. 26, No. 2, pp. 1239-1246, Apr. 2011.
- M. Kezunovic, "Smart Fault Location for Smart Grids," IEEE Trans. Smart Grid, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 61-69, Mar. 2011.
- S. Lotfifard, M. Kezunovic and M. J. Mousavi, "A Systematic Approach for Ranking Distribution Systems Fault Location Algorithms and Eliminating False Estimates," IEEE Trans. Power Del., vol. 28, no. 1, pp. 285-293, Jan. 2013.
- Y. Dong, C. Zheng, M. Kezunovic, "Enhancing Accuracy While Reducing Computation for Voltage-Sag Based Distribution Fault Location," IEEE Trans. Power Delivery, vol. 28, no. 2, pp. 1202-1212, Apr. 2013.
- P.-C. Chen, V. Malbasa, and M. Kezunovic, "Locating Sub-Cycle Faults in Distribution Network Applying Half-Cycle DFT Method," IEEE/PES Transmission and Distribution Conference and Exposition (T&D), Apr. 2014.
- P.-C. Chen, Y. Dong, V. Malbasa, and M. Kezunovic, "Uncertainty of Measurement Error in Intelligent Electronic Devices", IEEE/PES General Meeting, Jul. 2014.
- P.-C. Chen, V. Malbasa, and M. Kezunovic, "Sensitivity Analysis of Voltage Sag Based Fault Location Algorithm," in Proceeding 18th Power Systems Computation Conference (PSCC), Aug. 2014.
- P.-C. Chen, et al., "Sensitivity of Voltage Sag Based Fault Location in Distribution Network to Sub-Cycle Faults", in Proceeding 46th North American Power Symposium (NAPS), Sep. 2014.
- P.-C. Chen, V. Malbasa, Y. Dong, and M. Kezunovic, "Sensitivity Analysis of Voltage Sag Based Fault Location with Distributed Generation," IEEE Trans. Smart Grid, Jan. 2015.





# **Thank you for listening!**

## **Questions and Comments?**