Project II Report

PRJ5PW_Gr.1

Project Proposal

High frequency travelling wave fault location methods

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Wels 20.10.2022

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1 Introduction

This project is designed to investigate different approaches for detecting fault location in transmission lines using high frequency travelling waves. Fault location is one of the main aspects of creating and maintaining distribution networks. Storms, vegetation, aerial animals (birds), as well as system breakdowns and lighting strikes can contribute to creation of faults in a transmission line. This can lead to interruption of businesses and infrastructure and cause fires. The goal of this project is to design a method for detecting the location of transmission line fault with travelling waves.

2 Methods and Techniques

There are two main methods associated with high frequency travelling wave fault location techniques: Single-ended and double-ended.

2.1 Single-ended

Single-ended fault location uses a locator only on one bus at one end of the transmission line. When a fault triggers in a transmission line, two surge waves in form of voltage and current propagate in opposite directions along the lines (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Propagation of travelling waves at the fault location

As the first wave travels back to the sending end of the bus, the second wave travels forward to the far end of the line and reflects back to the bus.

The propagated voltage and current waves can be represented as:

$$u(x,t) = u_1\left(t - \frac{x}{v}\right) + u_2\left(t + \frac{x}{v}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$i(x,t) = \frac{1}{Z_0}u_1\left(t - \frac{x}{v}\right) + \frac{1}{Z_0}u_2\left(t + \frac{x}{v}\right) \quad (2)$$

Where Z_0 is the characteristic impedance of the line, x is the distance the wave travelled from the fault distance, v is the speed of propagation, u_1 is the forward wave and u_2 is the backward wave.

By timing the waves to reach the locator, the distance can be found as:

$$d = \frac{v(t_b - t_f)}{2} \tag{3}$$

The propagating speed can be found as:

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L'C'}} \tag{4}$$

Where L' and C' are inductance and capacitance of the transmission line respectively per unit length.

2.2 Double-ended

The double-ended approach uses to locators at each end of the transmission line. Each end of the line is equipped with a traveling wave processing unit. Figure 2 shows the working principle of an early implementation of the approach.

Once the TW reaches the master terminal it starts an electronic counter. Once the wave reaches the remote terminal sends a signal via communication channels to the master terminal to stop the counter. In this case the delay in communications should be accounted for.

The distance to the fault can be determined as:

$$d = \frac{l - v(t_{Timer} - t_{Channel})}{2} \tag{5}$$

Where l is the length of the transmission line, t_{timer} is the time counted by the terminal and $t_{channel}$ is the delay due to the communication channels.

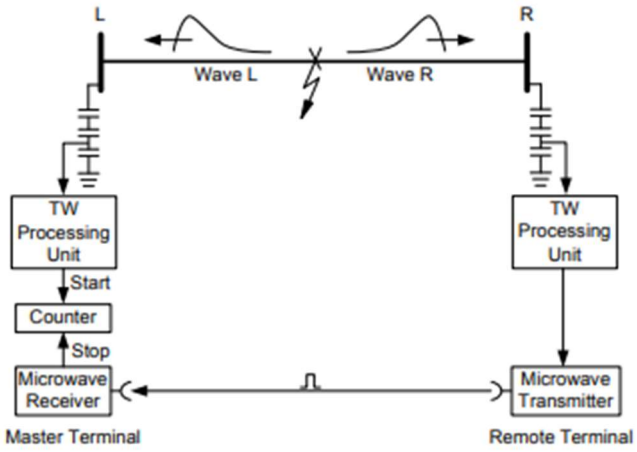

Figure 2: Working principle of double-ended fault detection approach

In modern days, the devices capturing the TW are using a common time reference. Figure 3 shows the principle of operation using a common time reference.

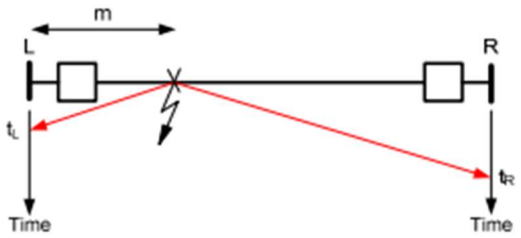

Figure 3: Fault locating principle of operation using a common time reference

From the figure above, the distance to fault can be calculated as:

$$d = \frac{l + v(t_L - t_R)}{2} \quad (6)$$

3 Project Requirement

- MATLAB/Simulink
- Research papers and scientific articles related to the topic
- Access to library

4 Resources

The project requires little to no resources. The simulations and modeling of the transmission lines will be done in MATLAB/Simulink which is provided by the university.

Any book and research papers needed can be found in vast amounts on the Internet for free.

References

[1] Reza Sirjani, “A Comparative Study of Different Traveling Wave Fault Location Techniques”, Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden, 2018

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[3] M.K. Ngwenyama, “Traveling Wave Fault Location Detection Technique for High Voltage Transmission Lines”, Tshwane University of Technology, 2021

[4] Mohammad Abdul Baseer , “Travelling waves for finding the fault location in transmission lines”, Journal Electrical and Electronic Engineering, 2013