

ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRIBUTED SOLAR GENERATION'S FAULT CHARACTERISTICS

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents power analysis and simulations of Inverter Based Distributed Energy Sources (DER) is an inverter based distributed energy meter with low fault current negative negative series current and zero series current. In the inspection and protection of relays needs to understand the DER fault. This chapter deals with the example of Dominion Energy failure. Stopper's error analysis showed that the actual response to DER errors may differ from the previous. The current relay lock is replaced by the car door lock, all of which provide the relay current until the upper limit is exceeded three times. The current relays are no longer switched off due to delay, but only for minor change faults. For different situations, check the display by setting the DER (PVA) to reverse with the relay's counter. Use the best simulation platform to simulate an integrated MATLAB configuration for this analysis. However, more research is needed to model and carefully evaluate hypotheses developed using real-world networks to validate the effectiveness of participation.

Key Words- DER System, Sequence component, protection system, MATLAB, Simulink Solar Power Generation Fault.

1. INTRODUCTION

With the increased demands of the electrical power systems and events of electricity shortages, power quality issues, rolling blackouts and spikes in electricity price have led to research of alternate sources of energy. This led to the development of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) that is a small-scale power generation source located close to where electricity is used and primarily acts as an alternative to or an enhancement of the existing electric power grid[1].

With consideration to the construction of large, central power plants and high-voltage transmission lines, DER is a faster and less expensive option. It offers higher reliability, increased power quality, high energy efficiency and energy independence. The utilization of renewable distributed energy generation methods and green power like wind, biomass photovoltaic, geothermal or hydroelectric power provides a noteworthy environmental benefit.

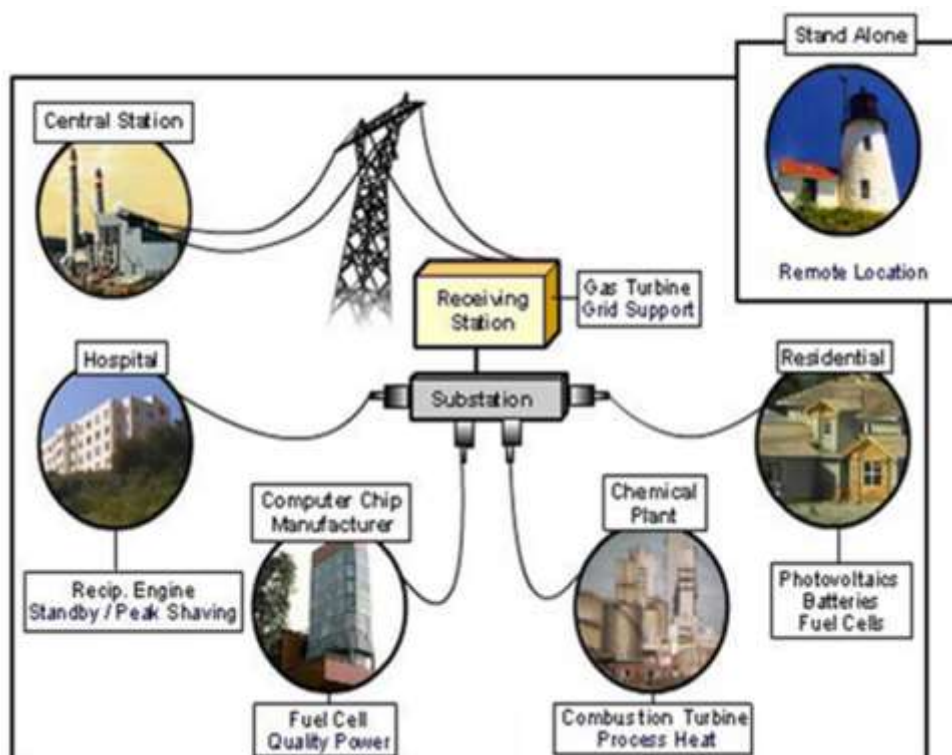


Fig. 1 Types of distributed energy resources and technologies

2. COMPONENTS OF DER TECHNOLOGIES

A DER technology mainly consists of energy generation and storage systems placed at or near the point of use which usually includes fuel cells, reciprocating engines, micro turbines, load reduction and energy management techniques. DER also engages power electronic interfaces, communications and control devices so as to obtain higher efficiency and for the operation of single generating units, multiple system packages and collective power blocks[3].

CHARACTERISTICS AND APPLICATION OF DER

The primary application of DER includes:

Premium power: lesser frequency variations, voltage transients and other disruptions

Back-up power: used as a back-up in the event of an outage

Peak shaving: used when electric use and demand charges are high

Low-cost energy: locally available and economical primary power source

Combined heat and power (cogeneration): increase the efficiency during power generation by using the waste heat for existing thermal process Basically, the DER provides better reliability, helps to reduce overloaded transmission lines, adequate power quality, manage price fluctuations, build up energy security and provides superior stability to electric grid.

3. SOLAR ENERGY POWER GENERATION

The conversion of sun's radiation into electricity via the use of solar photovoltaic cells is termed as solar power generation. Photovoltaic effect is the basic principle of this power conversion[5].

A minimum number of steps are included in the power generation as compared to conventional generation methods which paves way for wide range of applications. Converting sunlight into electricity can be mainly done in two ways. First method is where solar energy is used as a source of heat which is further used to produce the steam that drives the steam turbine.

This method of power generation is termed as solar thermal power generation. Second method makes use of silicon PV cells to directly convert solar energy into electricity and is termed as solar power generation.

Major factor for choosing the solar power generation are:

- free availability
- lesser time is needed for installation of solar power plants
- clean energy production
- economical as only one-time initial investment is needed

PV CELLS

A PV cell also termed as solar cell is a semiconductor device which converts the sunlight energy falling on it into electricity without carrying out much energy conversion steps. This conversion takes place by photovoltaic effect and thereby they are called Photovoltaic (PV) cells. It generates voltage and current at its terminals when sunlight is incident on it [4].

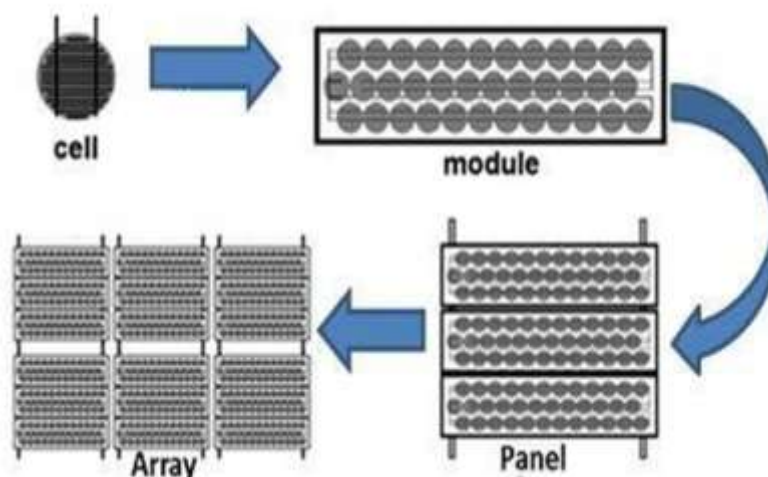


Fig. 2 PV CELLS

4. POWER SYSTEM PROTECTION

- The main objective of power system protection is to isolate a faulty section of electrical power system from rest of the healthy system so that this portion can function suitably without any serve damage because of fault currents.
- The circuit breaker isolates the faulty system from rest of the live system as they automatically open during fault condition because of its trip signal which comes from the protection relay.
- The system cannot be fully prevented from fault currents but we can prevent the continuation of flow of fault current by quickly disconnecting the short circuit path from the system for which the protection relays should have following functional requirements[4].
- **Reliability:** Relays remain inoperative for a long time before a fault occurs; but it must respond instantly and accurately during fault occurrence.
- **Selectivity:** The relay must be operated only in those conditions for which relays are custom-made in electrical power system i.e. at some fault point it should not be operated or must be operated at some definite time.
- **Sensitivity:** The relaying equipment must be sufficiently sensitive to operate precisely when level of fault condition just crosses the predefined limit.
- **Speed:** The protective relays must operate at the required speed i.e. it should neither be too slow which may result in damage to the equipment nor it should be too fast which may result in undesired operation[6].
- Inverter-based distributed energy resources (DERs) are characterized with low fault current and negligible amount of negative and zero sequence currents.
- Understanding DER's fault characteristics is critical for fault analysis and protective relay setting. Despite the abundant work on DER modelling, few research studies have been done to analyse DER's fault behaviours during actual fault events.
- This thesis explores recorded fault events collected by Dominion Energy. Fault magnitude, angle, and sequence components are analysed to show that actual DER fault response may differ from previous understandings.
- The general reclosure over current relay is replaced with counter set reclosure over current relay which completely triggers off when the restricting number crosses 3 times. So, the over current relay only closes to short transient faults but not long-time faults.
- The analysis with respect to different conditions is checked using a DER (PVA) connected to this counter set reclosure over current relay.

Objective of the work

The following are the objectives of this thesis

1. To develop a distributed solar energy with circuit breaker but without relay.
2. To develop a distributed solar energy with circuit breaker and over current relay.
3. To develop a distributed solar energy with circuit breaker and Counter Set reclosure over current relay.

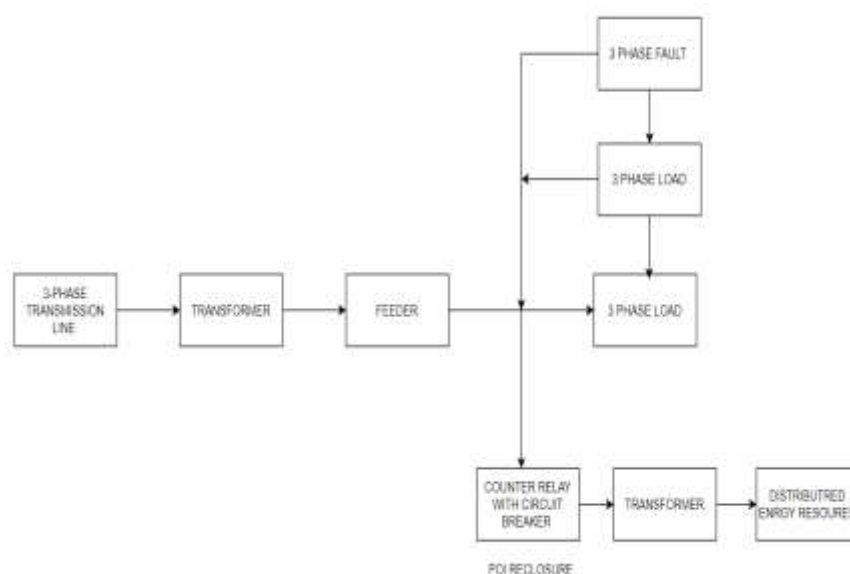


Fig. 3 Proposed system of Fault Characteristic of DER System

5. SIMULATION RESULTS

Simulation Parameter of Proposed system

Name	Unit and Value
Supply Voltage	132KV
Power	2500MVA
Step-up down Transformer	132KV/34.5KV
Power rating of step-up transformer	47MVA
Frequency	50Hz
Phase to phase voltage	34.5KV
Active Power	100KW
Reactive Power	50KVAR
Circuit Breaker Resistance	0.01 Ohm
Solar irradiation	1000 W/m ²
Temperature	35 Degree
Duty Cycle	0.5
Capacitor	1000 Micro Farad
Resistance	0.005 Ohm
Inductor	5Mh

Case I. Simulation of the system without the use of relay

Here the system can be represented as shown in the Fig 4 which is the simulation model that is been analysed for faults.

From this we can infer the result that the system remains unprotected during the occurrence of fault that leads to large system currents (Fig 6), instant high voltage spikes (Fig 5) and also damages the circuit and related equipment

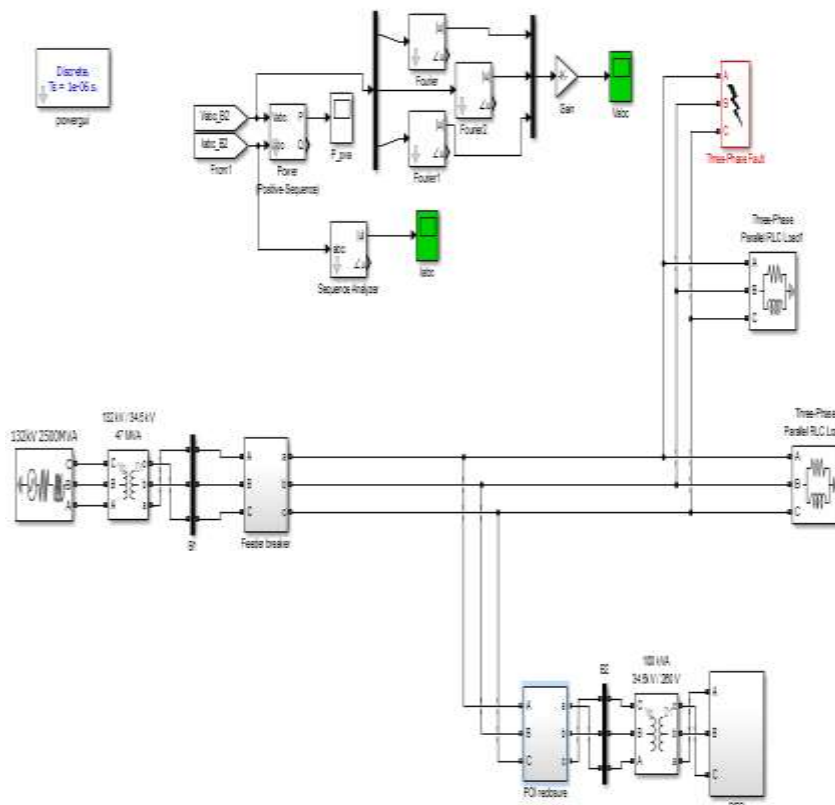


Fig. 4 simulation model of DER system without relay

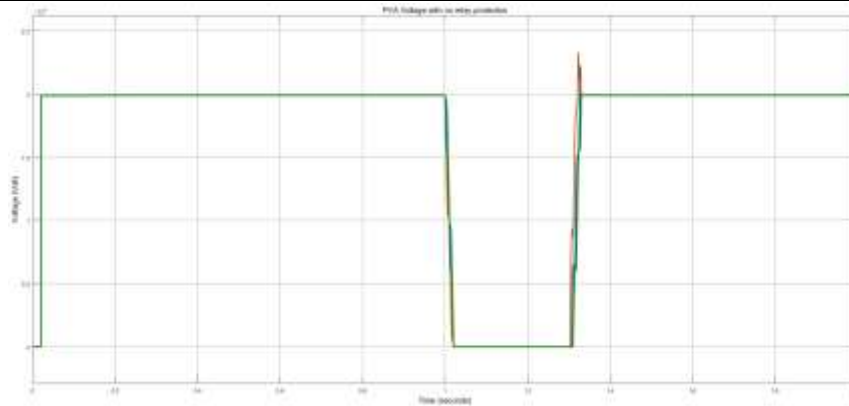


Fig. 5 PVA voltages with no relay protection with fault from 1 to 1.3sec

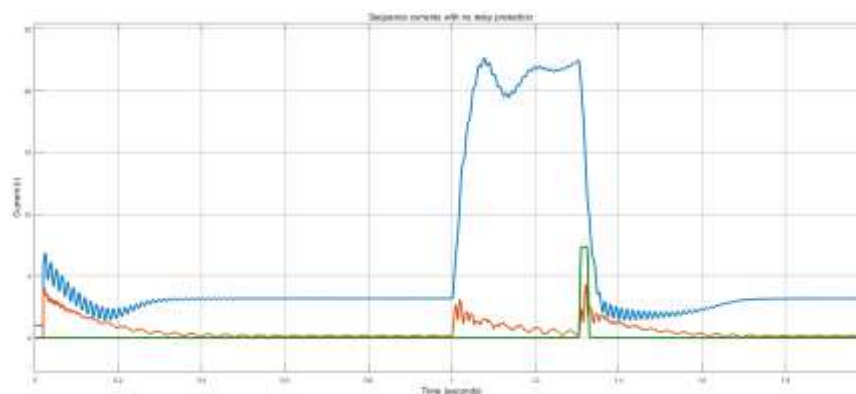


Fig.6 Sequence currents with no relay protection with fault from 1 to 1.3sec

Case II: Simulation model with over current relay

- Here we can see in the simulation model (Fig.7) that in addition to above mentioned model an over current relay has been included in the circuit.
- The circuit breaker with over current relay is separately depicted in Fig 8. On analysis of this circuit we can see that during the occurrence of small transient faults the system may work appropriately but in times of persistent faults where there may be many continuous triggers (Fig.9)
- This over current relay may not work or in other words is not able to handle the situation and thereby leads to high voltage spikes (Fig.10) and high valued sequence currents (Fig. 11) for the time of fault interval and leads to the malfunction or total damage of the system.

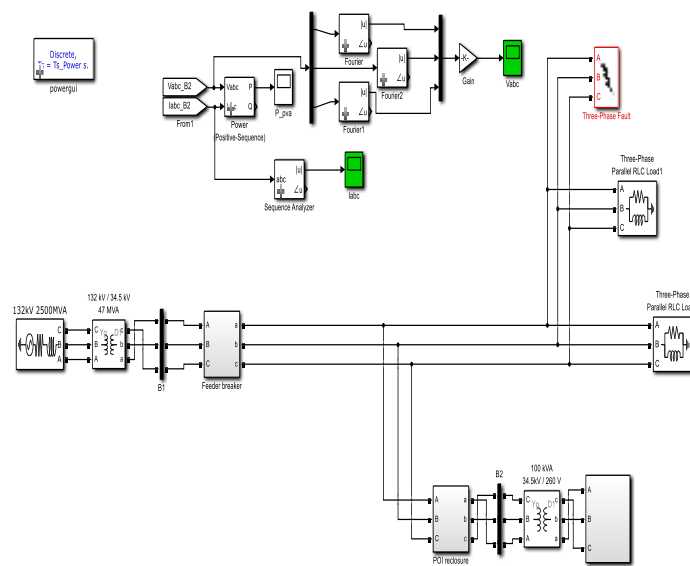


Fig. 7 simulation model with over current relay

Page | 139

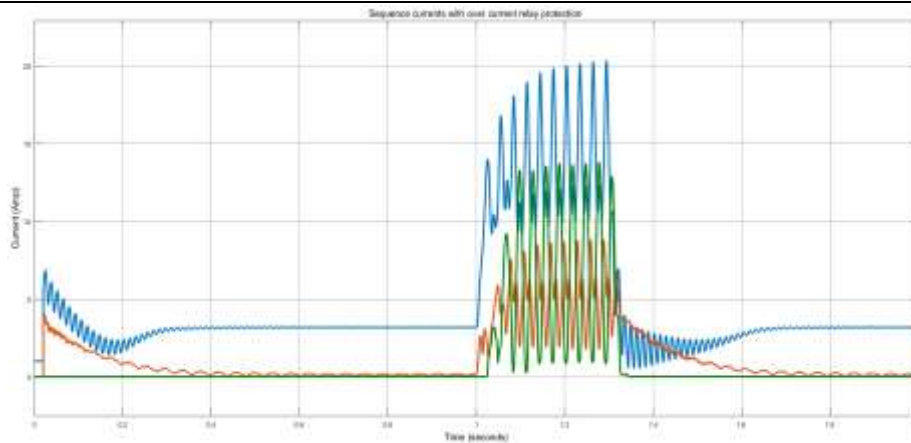


Fig. 11 Sequence currents with over current relay protection with fault from 1 to 1.3sec

Case III: Simulation Model with Counter Set Reclosure Over Current Relay

- The below shown model (Fig 12) is the proposed model of the dissertation that is been analysed.
- This model consists of a set reclosure over current relay that is designed in such a way that it triggers off completely over 3 times crossing of restrike (Fig 13).
- This setting of relay not only limits the voltage spikes (Fig 5.14) but also limits the sequence currents (Fig 5.15) in such a way during fault that if the nature of faults is persistent then it gets triggered and switches on the over current relay thereby protecting the whole system
- The same working is followed for small transient faults also. The whole system can be controlled by setting the trigger value of the set reclosure over current relay.

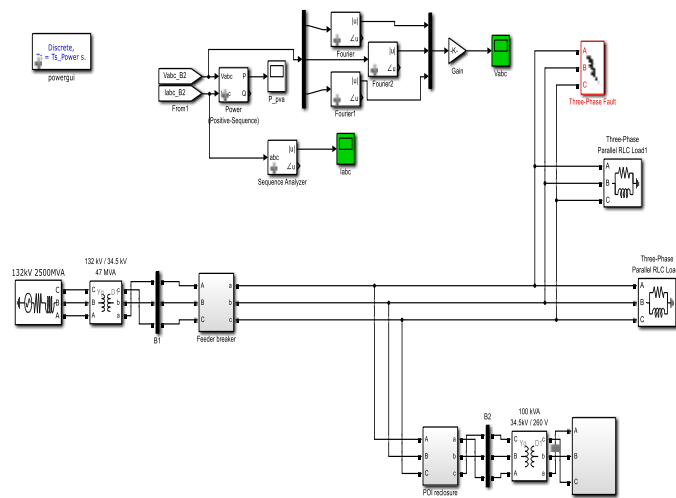


Fig.12 Circuit breaker with counter set reclosure over current relay

The restriking times is limited to 3, after three times the relay completely triggers OFF and eliminate the fault from DER.

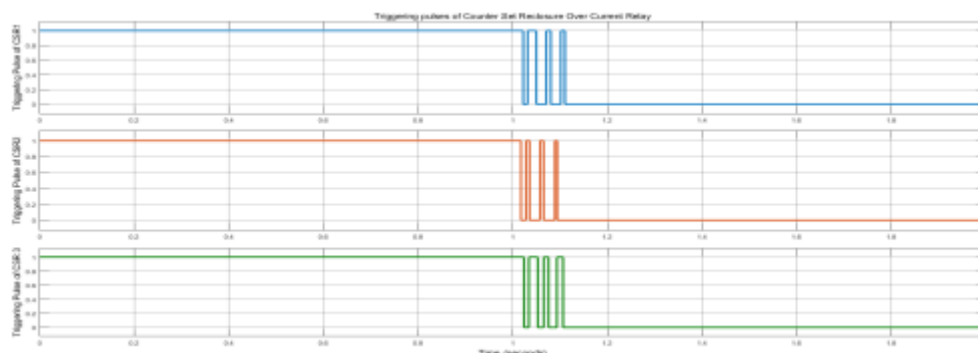


Fig. 13 Triggering pulses of Counter Set Reclosure Over Current Relay

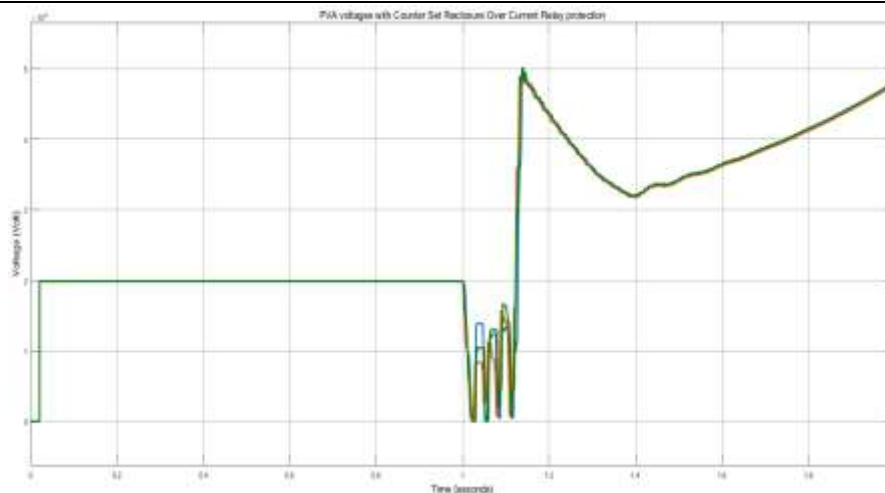


Fig. 14 PVA voltages with Counter Set Reclosure Over Current Relay protection with fault from 1 to 1.3sec

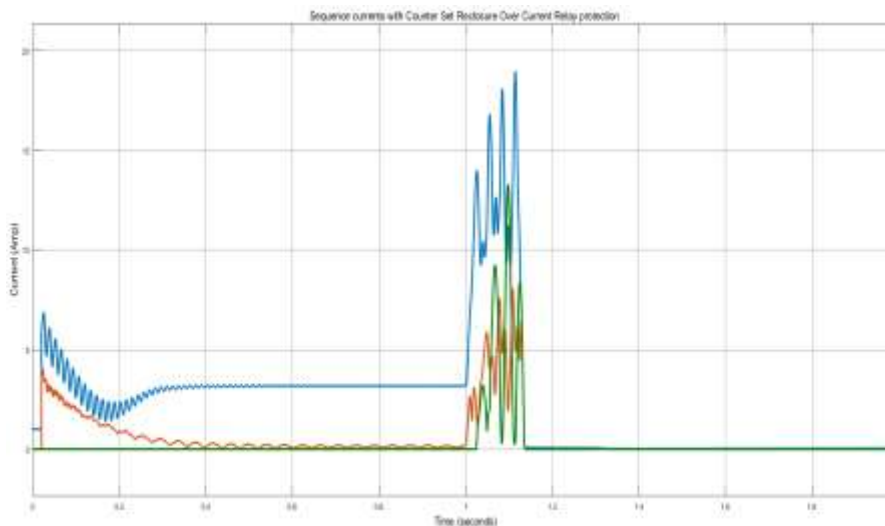


Fig. 15 Sequence currents with Counter Set Reclosure Over Current Relay protection with fault from 1 to 1.3sec

- With the counter set reclosure over current relay is shown in fig 12 the number of restriking are limited with 3 times, which trigger the circuit breaker completely OFF when the fault is persistent beyond 3 times of reclosure.
- For a traditional over current relay the number of re-closures are numerous as the circuit breakers continuously trips ON after the current magnitude gets below the threshold value. For a temporary fault for few milli seconds the traditional over current relay works fine with less re-closure times.
- Considering a permanent fault on the line the traditional over current relay trips ON and OFF continuously until the fault is removed. As it is a permanent fault where the lines are sabotaged by direct contact to each other or to ground. This continues tripping of the breaker by the relay will damage the equipment connected to the system.
- To avoid this damage to the system the traditional over current relay is replaced with counter set re-closure over current relay which permanently trips OFF the circuit breaker after specific number of re-closures. When the fault is removed manually, the breaker is tripped back ON.
- This protects the system from temporary faults and also permanent faults. The counter set re-closure over current relay trips back ON for temporary faults and permanently trips OFF for permanent fault.

6. CONCLUSION

In the given comparison the reclosure over current relay has less fault current converging at the fault location as compared to over current relay and no relay models. However, the no relay model is a completely failed model as the fault remains in the line and the modules are damaged. The overcurrent relay continuously triggers ON and OFF during the fault and damages the modules connected to the test system. The reclosure over current relay helps the breaker to shut OFF completely after some restrickings and the test system is protected from the fault and the modules remain intact. Any numerical models, i.e. mathematical simulation models have limitations. A mathematical simulation model will provide correct simulation results to the type of phenomena to be observed or examined by

including appropriate individual model component (such as protections, controls and capabilities). Thus, the proper selection of the mathematical simulation model needs to be performed by power system engineers in academia as well as in industry. However, the proper selection of the mathematical simulation model is not an easy task. Distributed generation is expected to play a greater role in power generation over the coming decades, especially close to the end-use low voltage consumer side. There is a growing interest on the part of power consumers for installing their own generating capacity in order to take advantage of flexible DG technologies to produce power during favorable times, enhance power reliability and quality, or supply heating/cooling needs. The range of DG technologies and the variability in their size, performance, and suitable applications suggest that DG could provide power supply solutions in many different industrial, commercial, and residential settings. In this way, DG is contributing to improving the security of electricity supply. If DG does take a large share of the generation market, the role of distribution utilities will become vastly more important than currently. There will be a need to reform distribution system design requirements to accommodate DG. Undertaking further studies to identify the technical capabilities, the operating strategies, and the skill requirements of distribution network operators would help prepare electricity markets for a more decentralized electricity system.

7. FUTURE SCOPE

In the given proposed system, the model can be updated with other renewable source like wind farm or fuel cell and can be protected with the proposed relay protection from faults. The relays can also be updated with directional over current relay or time inverse over current relay for better protection.

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