Reactive Power Dispatch Problem using Particle Swarm Optimization Algorithm

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ABSTRACT: In this paper, a particle swarm optimization algorithm for the optimization of reactive power dispatch problem uses all the reactive power sources considerately, while planning appropriate position and size of VAR compensation in a system with minimization of system power losses and improves voltage stability. The economics of reactive power planning and preparation have a wonderful effect on the beneficial and reliable operation of power system. The proposed approach has been observed and tested on a standard IEEE-30 bus test system. The performance of particle swarm optimization seems to be better in terms of solution superiority and computational time.

KEYWORDS: reactive power dispatch, particle swarm optimization, loss minimization.

I. INTRODUCTION

Reactive power dispatch problem of the optimal power-flow which determines all kinds of suitable variables, such as reactive-power outputs of generators and taps settings of transformers and shunt VAR (capacitors/reactors) etc., the minimization of transmission losses in power systems, while rewarding a given set of physical and operating constraints. The problem of optimal dispatch is unwaveringly disturbed not only with once-over quality and consistency of supply, but also with economy and security of the power system. Therefore, the power system reactive power dispatch problem directly influences the power system stability and power dominance.

In recent times, due to the fundamental of interior-point methods handling Inequality constraints in comparison with other methods, interior-point linear programming, non-linear programming and quadratic programming methods have been widely used to solve the reactive power dispatch problem of large-scale power systems [1-5]. On the other hand, these techniques have relentless limits in handling nonlinear, discontinuous functions and limitation, and function having several restricted minima. Regrettably, the original reactive power dispatch problem does have these properties. In the last decade, many new heuristic search techniques have been developed for the global optimization problems, such as genetic algorithms (GA), simulated annealing (SA) and particle swarm optimization (PSO) which is evolutionary computational methods [15]. PSO has simplified the social system through simulation, and has been found to be a healthy technique in solving continuous nonlinear optimization problems. Although the PSO seems to be sensitive to the tuning of some weights or parameters, many researches are still in progress for proving its potential in solving complex power system problems [2]. Normally, PSO has a large global searching ability at the beginning of the run and a local search near the end of the run, with more optimal solutions for reactive power dispatch problem.

This paper on Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) technique for the solution of the reactive power dispatch (RPD) problem is based on a IEEE 30-bus test system. Simulation results show that the better solutions much faster than the previous reported approaches.

II. RELATED WORK

The main purpose of the RPD is to minimize the system real power Losses. The objective function is represented as:

\[ F = \min P_{\text{loss}} \]

The reactive power dispatch problem is subjected to the following constraints. The power loss is a non-linear function of bus voltages, which are functions of control variables. The minimization problem is subject to
operating constraints [6], which are limits to various control variables (the inequality constraints) and power flow constraints (the equality constraints)

Equality constraints:
1. Real Power Constraints:
   \[ P_{G_i} - P_{D_i} - V_i \sum_{j=1}^{N_B} V_j \left( G_{ij} \cos(\theta_i - \theta_j) + B_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \right) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, N_B \]  
   \[ (1) \]

2. Reactive Power Constraints:
   \[ Q_{G_i} - Q_{D_i} - V_i \sum_{j=1}^{N_B} V_j \left( G_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) + B_{ij} \cos(\theta_i - \theta_j) \right) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, N_B \]  
   \[ (2) \]

Inequality Constraints:
Continuous control variable:
   \[ V_{i_{\min}} \leq V_i \leq V_{i_{\max}}; \quad i \in N_B \]  
   \[ (3) \]

Discrete Control variable:
   \[ t_{k_{\min}} \leq t_k \leq t_{k_{\max}}; \quad i \in N_T \]  
   \[ (4) \]

State Variables:
   \[ Q_{g_{\min}} \leq Q_{g_i} \leq Q_{g_{\max}}; \quad i \in N_c \]  
   \[ (5) \]

   \[ Q_{g_{\min}} \leq Q_{g_i} \leq Q_{g_{\max}}; \quad i \in N_g \]  
   \[ (6) \]

   \[ |s_{i_1}| \leq |s_{i_{\max}}| \]  
   \[ (7) \]

Where,
   \[ V_i = \text{Voltage magnitude at bus } i \]  
   \[ V_j = \text{Voltage magnitude at bus } j \]  
   \[ P_i, Q_i = \text{Real and reactive powers injected into network at bus } i \]  
   \[ G_{ij}, B_{ij} = \text{Mutual conductance and susceptance between bus } i \text{ and bus } j \]  
   \[ Q_{g_i} = \text{Reactive power generation at bus } i \]  
   \[ N_B - 1 = \text{Total number of buses excluding slack bus} \]  
   \[ N_PQ = \text{Number of PQ buses} \]  
   \[ \delta_{ij} = \text{Voltage angle difference between bus } i \text{ and bus } j \]  
   \[ t_k = \text{Tap setting of transformer at branch } k \]  
   \[ Q_{g_i} = \text{Reactive power generated by } i^{th} \text{ capacitor bank} \]  
   \[ Q_{g_i} = \text{Reactive power generation at bus } i \]  
   \[ S_i = \text{Apparent power flow through the } i^{th} \text{ branch} \]  
   \[ N_B = \text{Total number of buses} \]  
   \[ N_T = \text{Number of tap-setting transformer branches} \]  
   \[ N_c = \text{Number of capacitor banks} \]  
   \[ N_g = \text{Number of generator buses} \]  

   \[ X_{i_{\max}} = X_{i_{\min}} \text{ if } X_i > X_{i_{\max}} \]
   \[ X_{i_{\min}} = X_{i_{\max}} \text{ if } X_i < X_{i_{\min}} \]
   \[ P = \frac{k}{P_T} \]  
   \[ (8) \]

Where k is a large constant this is used to amplify \( \frac{1}{P_T} \) the value of which is usually small, so that the fitness value of the chromosome will span a wider range.

III. PARTICLE SWARM OPTIMIZATION

PSO algorithm, originally introduced by Kennedy and Eberhart (1995) is an evolutionary computational technique. The PSO system simulates the knowledge evolution of a Social organism, in which N individuals, a potential Solution to
a problem is represented as a particle flying in D-dimensional search space, with the position vector \(X_i = (X_{i1}, X_{i2}, X_{i3}, \ldots, X_{iD})\) and velocity \((V_{i1}, V_{i2}, V_{i3}, \ldots, V_{iD})\) each particle records its best previous position (the position giving the best fitness value) as \(P_{best_i} = P_{best_{i1}}, P_{best_{i2}} \ldots P_{best_{id}}\) called personal best position. The global version of the PSO keeps track of the overall best value (\(g_{best}\)), and its location, obtained thus far by any particle in the population. At each iteration, each particle competes with the others in the neighborhood or in the whole population for the best particle (with best fitness value among neighborhood or the population) with best position \(g_{best} = g_{best_{1}}, g_{best_{2}} \ldots g_{best_{id}}\) called global best position. Then utilize those memories to regulate their own velocity and position of each particle can be calculated as shown in the following formulas:

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{id} &= w V_{id} + C_1 rand_1 + C_2 rand_2 (g_{bestid} - X_{id}) \\
X_{id} &= X_{id} + V_{id}
\end{align*}
\] (9)

(10)

where \(i\) is the number of iteration; \(C_1\) and \(C_2\) are the cognitive and social components that are the acceleration constants responsible for varying the particle velocity towards \(P_{best}\) and \(g_{best}\), respectively; \(rand_1\) and \(rand_2\) are two random numbers within \((0, 1)\); and the parameter \(W\) is the inertia weight introduced to accelerate the convergent speed of the PSO [4].

The weighting function is usually utilized in the above equation (9):

\[
w_i = w_{max} - \frac{w_{max} - w_{min}}{Iter_{max} - iter} \times iter
\]

(11)

Where,

- \(w_{max}\) = initial weight
- \(w_{min}\) = final weight
- \(Iter\) = current iteration
- \(Iter_{max}\) = maximum iteration

Using the above equation (11), a certain velocity which gradually gets close to \(P_{best}\) and \(g_{best}\) can be calculated. The current position can be modified by equation (10). The right hand side of Equation (9) consists of three terms. The first term is the previous velocity of the agent. The second term and third terms are utilized to change the velocity of agent. Without second third terms, the agent will keep on flying in the same direction until it hits the boundary. It’s to explore new areas and, therefore, first term corresponds to diversification in the search procedure. On other hand, without the first term, velocity of the flying agent is only determined by using its current position and best position in history. It keeps track of its coordinates in hyperspace which are associated with its previous best fitness solution, and also of its counterpart corresponding to the overall best value acquired thus far by any other particle in the population. Vectors are taken as presentation of particles since most optimization problems are convenient for such variable presentations. In fact, the fundamental principles of swarm intelligence are adaptability, diverse response, proximity, quality, and stability. It is adaptive corresponding to the change of the best group value [9]. The allocation of responses between the individual and group values ensures a diversity of response. The agents will try to converge to their \(P_{best}\) and \(g_{best}\), therefore, the terms correspond to intensification in the search procedure. The flow chart of the PSO algorithm is shown in Fig.1.
The implementation of particle swarm optimization algorithm for reactive power optimization consists mainly of identification objective and handling of constraints. The control variable selected for reactive power optimization are the generator voltage except for Generator bus voltage, reactive power generated by the capacitor and transformer tap settings. PSO algorithm is employed to find the best control setting starting from a randomly generated initial population of control variables[15]. Preparatory wherever in the search space, the algorithm ensures the meeting to the most favorable explanation.

V. SIMULATION RESULTS

The particle swarm optimization based reactive power dispatch problem was implemented using MATLAB code was executed on a PC. The proposed algorithm was run minimization of real power loss as the objective function. 

PSO based parameters
Maximum no. of generations : 50  
Population size : 30  
$W_{max}$ : 0.9  
$W_{min}$ : 0.4  
$C_1$ : 2  
$C_2$ : 2
Table 1. Results control variables setting for IEEE 30-bus system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>PSO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vvar</td>
<td>1.050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0284</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0279</td>
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<td></td>
<td>0.9833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.9924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tvar</td>
<td>1.054</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.9247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cvar</td>
<td>11.7351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.8529</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>0.592</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.6846</td>
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<tr>
<td>Power Loss (MW)</td>
<td>5.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Comparison of simulation results of RPD with other methods for IEEE-30 bus systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P_{loss} (MW)</th>
<th>PSO</th>
<th>EP</th>
<th>NLP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.71</td>
<td>5.17</td>
<td>5.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. CONCLUSION

Particle swarm optimization algorithm is applied to the reactive power dispatch problem of power system. The proposed algorithm is applied to a IEEE 30-bus test system for the minimization of power losses. From the reproduction learning, it has been found that PSO converges to the global optimum. The optimization strategy is all-purpose and can be used to other power system optimization problems as well. In addition, to intensify the superior search ability in local region, local search procedure is employed and hybridized with PSO algorithm. Based on the
above constraints and restricted explore method, the PSO algorithm model is proposed for reactive power dispatch difficulty. The computational results verify its good presentation in terms of solution excellence, computational cost as well as the meeting stability.

REFERENCES