

# Dragonfly Optimization based Reconfiguration for Voltage Profile Enhancement in Distribution Systems

T. K. Abhiraj  
Assistant professor,  
Department of EEE  
Ilahia School of Science and Technology  
Pezhakkappilly, Muvattupuzha, Ernakulam,  
Kerala-685573,  
India

P. Aravindhababu  
Professor  
Electrical Engineering,  
Annamalai University  
India

## ABSTRACT

Dragonfly Optimization (DO) is a nature inspired optimization technique that imitates the static and dynamic swarming activities of dragonflies. The static swarm possessing smaller number of dragonflies hunts for preys in a small area, while the dynamic swarm with more number of dragonflies travels over long distances; and they represent the exploration and exploitation phases of the DO. This paper applies DO in solving reconfiguration problem of distribution systems with an objective of enhancing the voltage profile. It presents the results of 33 and 69-node distribution systems for illustrating the superiority of the proposed method.

## General Terms

distribution systems, optimization

## Keywords

network reconfiguration, dragonfly optimization.

## Nomenclature

BBO	biogeography based optimization
$[C]$	branch-to-node matrix that describes the topological structure of the distribution network
DO	dragonfly optimization
DORM	DO based reconfiguration method
GA	genetic algorithm
$i_{km}$	current in branch between nodes-k and -m
$i_{km}^{max}$	maximum permissible current through branch between nodes-k and -m
LVM	lowest node voltage seen in the network
NVD	net voltage deviations
$nn$	number of nodes
$OS_j$	binary variable that represents status of $j$ -th tie switch
PSO	particle swarm optimization
VPI	voltage profile improvement
$V_m$	voltage at node-m
$w_b$ & $w_c$	weight coefficients
$\mathfrak{R}$	a set of limit violated branches

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Network reconfiguration is a process of changing the topological structure of the distribution networks by altering the status of the open/close switches. Under normal operating conditions, networks are reconfigured to lower the system real

power loss. Several mathematical methods such as branch-and-bound-type optimization [1], Benders decomposition [2], mixed-integer programming [3,4] etc. have been outlined. Besides, many heuristic approaches for minimizing network loss have been developed [5-7]. These heuristic approaches are usually fast but may not yield the global best configuration. Recently, nature-inspired optimization algorithms such as hyper-cube ant colony optimization [8], bacterial foraging optimization [9], particles swarm optimization [10], artificial immune systems [11], adaptive imperialist competitive algorithm [12], genetic algorithm [13] and biogeography based optimization [14] have been applied for solving reconfiguration problems. The nature-inspired optimization approaches can solve the reconfiguration problems with fewer limitations in the objective space and possess the ability in offering robust solution without using the derivatives of the cost function.

Recently, a Dragonfly Optimization (DO), a meta-heuristic optimization technique imitated from the static and dynamic swarming activities of dragonflies, has been outlined for solving optimization problems by Seyedali Mirjalili [15]. It has been applied to a variety of optimization problems [16-18] and found to yield satisfactory results.

The consumers requires quality power supply with a voltage nearer to nominal voltage. This paper thus aims to develop a new reconfiguration scheme that minimizes the net deviation between the node voltages and the nominal voltage value, using DO. The method is tested on 33- and 69-node radial networks and the results are presented.

## 2. PROPOSED METHOD

This section builds a DO based reconfiguration method (DORM) for enhancing the voltage profile (VP) through minimizing the net voltage deviations (NVD) of Eq. (1) without causing any thermal violations, while retaining the radial structure. The reconfiguration problem can be formulated as an optimization problem [14]

$$\text{Minimize } NVD = \sum_{j=1}^{nn} |V_j - 1.0| \quad (1)$$

Subject to

$$\left| \sum_{j=1}^{nn} C_{1,j} - nn \right| = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$|i_{km}| \leq i_{km}^{max} \quad (3)$$

The objective and constraints can be calculated from the load flow solution [19] for a given load data, and status of tie/sectionalizing switches. The above problem can be solved by applying DO. The solution process involves representation of problem variables and formation of a fitness function. The decision variable in the reconfiguration problem is the open-switch numbers. Each dragonfly of the DO is therefore represented to denote the open-switches in vector form as

$$dragonfly = [OS_1, OS_2, \dots, OS_n] \quad (4)$$

The DO generates real numbers and hence to obtain integer values for open-switches, the real numbers are rounded off to the nearest integer values. The DO searches for optimal open-switches by maximizing a fitness function, which can be tailored from the problem objective and constraint functions as

Maximize

$$Fit = \frac{1}{1 + \left( NVD + w_b \sum_{m \in \mathfrak{R}} \left( |i_{km} - i_{km}^{\max}| \right)^2 + w_c \left| \sum_{j=1}^m C_{1,j} - nm \right| \right)} \quad (5)$$

An initial swarm of dragonflies is formed by generating random values within their respective limits. The fitness function is calculated by altering the network topology according to the status of open-switches of each dragonfly; and the exploration and exploitation phases, which represent social interaction of dragonflies in navigating and searching for foods and avoiding enemies, are performed for all the dragonflies in the swarm with a view of maximizing their fitnesses. The iterative process is continued till convergence. The algorithmic steps of the proposed DORM are summarized below [15,16].

1. Read reconfiguration problem data
2. Choose DO parameters such as swarm size and maximum number of iterations for convergence check.
3. Randomly generate a swarm of dragonflies that represent open switches
4. Generate the initial velocity vector, food source and enemy.
5. Set iteration counter  $k = 0$
6.  $k = k + 1$
7. For each dragonfly,
  - a. Obtain the details of open-switches
  - b. Alter the distribution network according to the details of open-switches
  - c. Carryout distribution power flow and then compute fitness function using Eq. (5)
8. Update the food source and enemy
9. For each dragonfly,
  - a. Obtain the status of open switches for each dragonfly
  - b. Compute the Euclidean distance of each dragonfly with other members in the swarm and select the number of neighbours.
  - c. Based on the number of neighbours, update the velocity and position vectors.
10. Check for convergence. If converged, go to next step. Else, go to step (6).
11. The best food source represents optimal open-switches.
12. Stop.

### 3. NUMERICAL RESULTS

The DORM has been applied on 33 and 69 node distribution systems [20, 21]. The 33 node network, operating at 12.66 kV with net loads of 3715 kW and 2300 kVar, contains 5 normally opened switches and 32 normally closed switches. While 69 node network, operating at 12.66 kV with network load of 3802.19 kW and 2694.60 kVar, possesses 5 tie-loops. The results of the DORM have been compared with those of the BBO, GA and PSO based methods [14].

**Table.1 Summary of Results for 33 node network**

		Open-switches	NVD	LVM
33 node system	Initial Configuration	33,34,35,36,37	1.8046	0.9038
	DORM	7,9,14,36,28	1.0619	0.9378
	BBO	7,14,9,17,28	1.0668	0.9327
	GA	33,34,10,17,28	1.0927	0.9313
	PSO	33,34,11,36,28	1.0865	0.9319
69 node system	Initial Configuration	69,70,71,72,73	1.8370	0.9092
	DORM	14,58,64,69,70	0.7846	0.9383
	BBO	14,57,64,69,70	0.8273	0.9382
	GA	69,14,70,56,61	0.9189	0.9495
	PSO	69,14,70,58,62	0.8421	0.9483

The status of open-switches, NVD and lowest voltage magnitude (LVM) before and after reconfiguration of 33 and 69 node network are given in Table-1.

It is very clear from the results that the proposed DORM reduces the initial NVD of 1.8046 to 1.0619 through opening the tie-switches in lines 7, 9, 14, 36 and 28, which leads to %VP improvement (%VPI) of 41.16%, while the BBO, GA and PSO offer 40.88%, 39.45% and 39.79% of %VPI for 33 node system for 33 node system. In case of 69 node system, the proposed DORM opens the tie-switches of 14,58,64,69 and 70 and reduces the initial NVD of 1.8370 to 0.7846, while the BBO, GA and PSO can reduce the NVD to 0.8273, 0.9189, and 0.8421 respectively.

The LVM of all the four methods is found to lie in between the lower and upper limits. Similar kind of improvement in performances can be observed from the results of 69 node system. The VP for 33 and 69 node systems before and after reconfiguration is graphically plotted in Fig.A.1 and A.2 respectively. It is seen from the figure that there is significant improvement in the VP after reconfiguration.

The above results and discussions clearly indicate that the proposed DORM offers a better configuration that reduces the NVD and offers a good VP.

### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Dragonfly Optimization (DO), inspired from the static and dynamic swarming activities of dragonflies, has been applied for reconfiguring the distribution networks with an objective of improving the VP, unlike the usual process of lowering the system real power loss. This DO optimally selects the open-

switches based on a fitness function built from the problem objective function and constraints. The results on two test systems have exhibited that the proposed DORM is able to provide enhanced VP without any extra infrastructural facilities. The suggested method is suitable for practical application on networks of any size. The suggested method

can be modified to enhance voltage stability of the distribution networks.

## 5. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## 6. APPENDIX

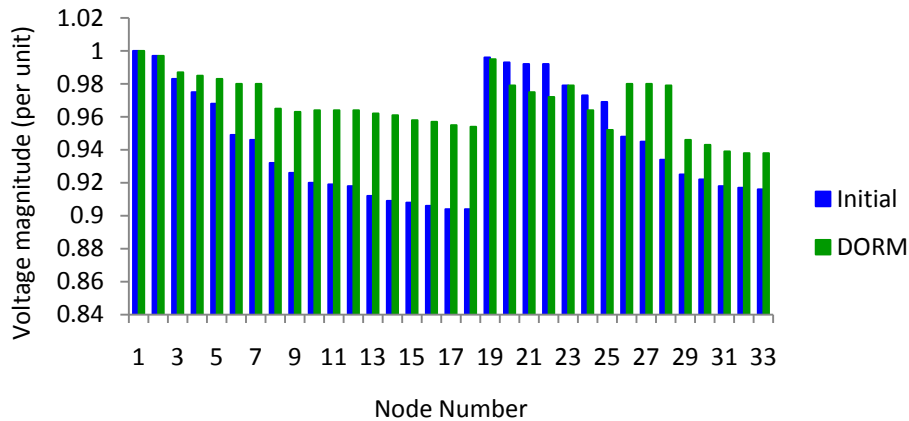


Fig. A.1 VP of 33 node network

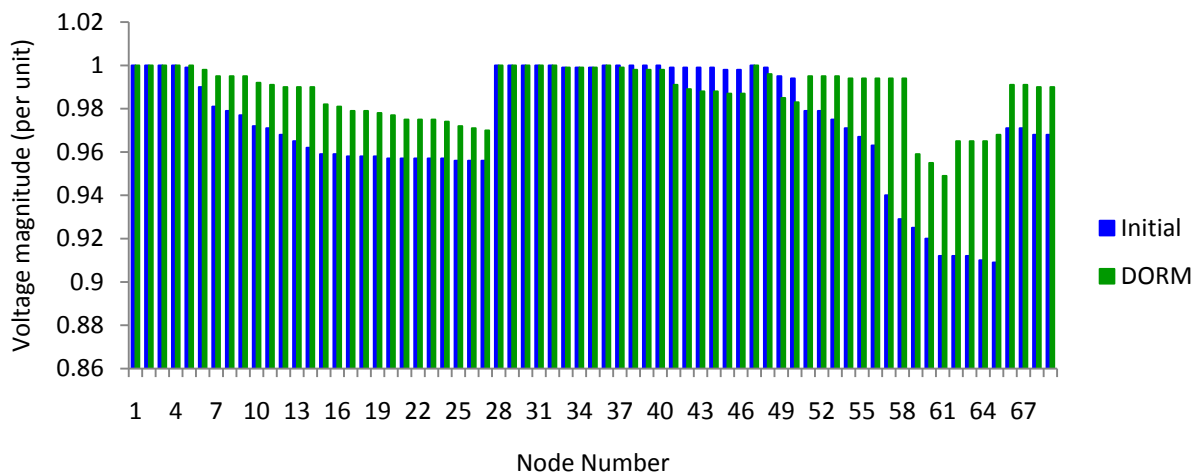


Fig. A.2 VP of 69 node network

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