Line protection considerations for systems with inverter-based resources

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Overview

- Negative-sequence current challenges
- Distance element considerations
- Transient-based line protection and fault locating
- Source-to-line impedance ratio (SIR)
- Directional comparison pilot schemes
- Line current differential
- Power swing blocking
- Conclusion and References

One-line diagram





Negative-sequence current challenges

Type 4 Wind AB fault at remote bus



Directional element (32)









Distance element (21)

- Calculated impedance is less than set reach
- Loop current greater than fault-detector threshold (Zone 1)
- Directional element supervision (forward/reverse)
- Fault-type Identification and Selection (FIDS) logic does not block element
- No CVT transients detected (Zone 1)





FIDS – AG fault



Internal ABG fault (reference) Internal fault



Type 4 Wind ABG fault External fault



Type 4 Wind ABG fault Sequence element behavior



I2 vs. V2





Improved performance of directional and fault type selection

IEEE Std 2800-2022 performance requirements

For unbalanced faults, in addition to increased positive-sequence reactive current, the *IBR unit* shall inject negative sequence current:

- Dependent on IBR unit terminal (POC) negative sequence voltage and
- That leads the *IBR unit* terminal (POC) negative sequence voltage by an allowable range as specified below:
 - 90 degrees to 100 degrees¹⁰⁶ for full converter-based *IBR units*
 - 90 degrees to 150 degrees for type III WTGs¹⁰⁷

Table 13—Voltage ride-through performance requirements

Parameter	Type III WTGs	All other IBR units
Step response time ^{b, c, d}	NA ^a	\leq 2.5 cycles
Settling time ^{b, c, d}	\leq 6 cycles	\leq 4 cycles
Settling band	-2.5%/+10% of IBR unit maximum current	-2.5%/+10% of IBR unit maximum current

^a The initial response from the type III WTG is driven by machine characteristics and not the control system. DC component, if present, has an impact on response, which is driven by machine parameters and time of fault occurrence. Even though the control system takes an action, it cannot control machine's natural response. As such, defining response time for type III WTGs is not necessary.

^b System conditions may require a slower response time, or *IBR units* may not be able to meet response times noted in this table for certain system conditions. If so, greater response time and *settling time* are allowed with mutual agreement between an *IBR owner* and the *TS owner*.

^c The DFT with a one-cycle moving average window is used to derive phasor quantities such as active, reactive, positive-sequence, negative-sequence currents, etc. The time delay required for the DFT measurements is included in the *step response time* and *settling time* specified in this table.

^d The specified *step response time* and *settling time* applies to both 50 Hz and 60 Hz systems.

Improved performance of directional and FIDS



Type 4 Wind ABG fault





Distance element additional considerations

I2-polarized ground quadrilateral



Memorypolarized phase mho



Distance element operating quantity

X.BG

R.BG

60

50



Self-polarized offset distance elements



Increase Zone 1 reach for tie-lines without parallel path in a meshed network





Transient-based methods

Transient-based directional element



Traveling waves

Protection and fault location





Source-to-line impedance ratio (SIR)

Line-to-line fault at remote bus



Relay voltage for line-to-line faults



Improve 21P Zone 1 security due to high SIR Reduce reach and/or add time delays

- m1 < m1RATIO ESS (SIR + 1)
 - m1 = secure reach considering SIR
 - m1RATIO = reach considering ratio errors (e.g., 0.90 pu)
 - ESS = Steady-state error (e.g., 0.03 pu)
- Consider transient CCVT errors





Directional comparison pilot schemes

Directional element security Forward Forward fight representation Forward Forward Forward Forward Forward Forward Forward Filler Fi





Hybrid POTT with weak-infeed echo and trip **←**??? → Forward CB2 CB1 Protected line **I**BR Grid **R1 R2 F2** YG/D/YG Pilot R1 trips blocking at R1 Х Weak-infeed Permissive ►To R2 echo key trip from R2 R2 trips Weak-infeed Weak-infeed trip R1 condition detected (e.g., undervoltage)



Line current differential



IBR fault response

Strong zero-sequence, but weak otherwise



Improved dependability



Internal AG fault

Improved settings



No fault Harmonics

 $87LQP_{SENS} = 1.25 \cdot \frac{S_{IBR}}{\sqrt{3} \cdot V_{HV} \cdot (CTR \cdot I_{NOM})} pu$

 $87LQP_{SECURE} =$ 1.30 • $87LQP_{SENS}$ pu

- 87LQP_{SENS} = 0.48 pu
- 87LQP_{SECURE} = 0.63 pu





Power swing blocking



Power swing blocking Transient security challenges



IBR active power Control responses



Conclusion

Conclusion

- 1. Raise negative-sequence current thresholds to improve directional element and FIDS logic performance
 - Reliable directionality, especially for phase-to-phase faults in which 32Q may be the only element to provide directionality
 - Voltage-based FIDS logic adds dependability and security
- 2. Use self-polarized phase distance with possibly offset characteristics supplemented by transient directional elements
- 3. Use ground mho or zero-sequence polarized quadrilateral
- 4. Increase Zone 1 reach at strong terminal in tie-line applications without parallel paths

Conclusion

- 5. Source-to-line impedance ratio (SIR) can be very high
 - Consider line-to-line faults also to calculate SIR
 - Reduce Zone 1 reach and/or add time delay for security or, if required, disable Zone 1 and rely on communications-assisted protection
- 6. Use Hybrid POTT scheme with weak-infeed echo and trip
- 7. Use line current differential protection with improved settings
- 8. Re-evaluate power swing blocking application and settings
- 9. Transient-based line protection elements including traveling-wave-based schemes can add dependability



References for further reading

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Questions?