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Application of Distance Multifunction IEDs in An Utility Distribution Network

Application of distance multifunctional IEDs in an utility distribution network

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- Speaker:
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Backgrounds

- EPCOR Utilities Inc. (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) initiates a capital project to replace aging feeder relays in their 15 KV network
- Existing relays consist of overcurrent and auto-reclosing
- Each feeder (17 total) → short express cable with aerial sections
- High SC level near substations (15 kA @ 15KV, 3P, sym)
- Fuse burning approach so OC (51P,N) elements take time to operate near the substation due to coordination
- arc flash, damages to cable, loss life to transformers
- Block AR for cable faults more reliably
- Concerns of OC sensitivity on fallen conductors (safety)
- Require accurate impedance data (especially the cable)

EPCOR's Requirements

- A sensitive means of fault detection with constant reach regardless of source impedance
- Multiple measurement zones with different time delay
- Different setting groups or protection element during hot line work
- Comprehensive events and disturbance capability
- Accurate fault locator algorithm
- Modern substation automation protocols (eg. IEC61850)
- ***Cost must be competitive to a feeder OC relay***



Modern Numerical Distance IEDs with OC backup

- But, online monitoring of operation is required before releasing the new 21 functions to tripping

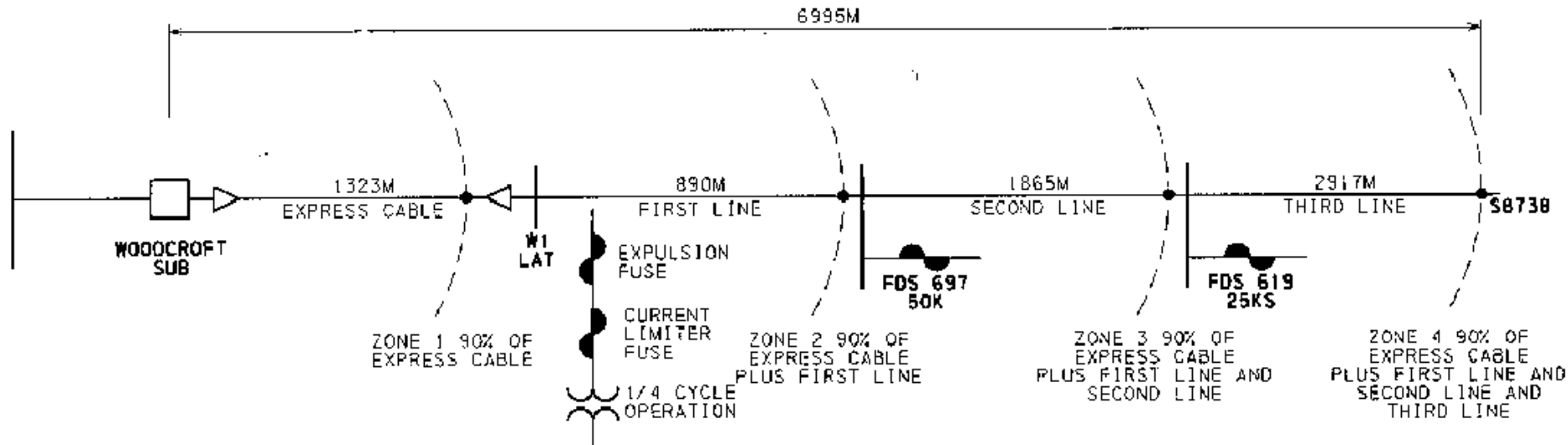
Over-Current Characteristics

- Less expensive
- Inherently non-selective and non-directional
- Mainly used on radial feeders with one way power flow
- Sensitivity varies with source impedance (reach is not constant, hard to set instantaneous operation)
- Hard to coordinate with neighboring devices in mesh networks (required directional sensing)
- Could be made selective and directional with a polarizing source (voltage) and communication infrastructure
- Distance protection

Distance Characteristics

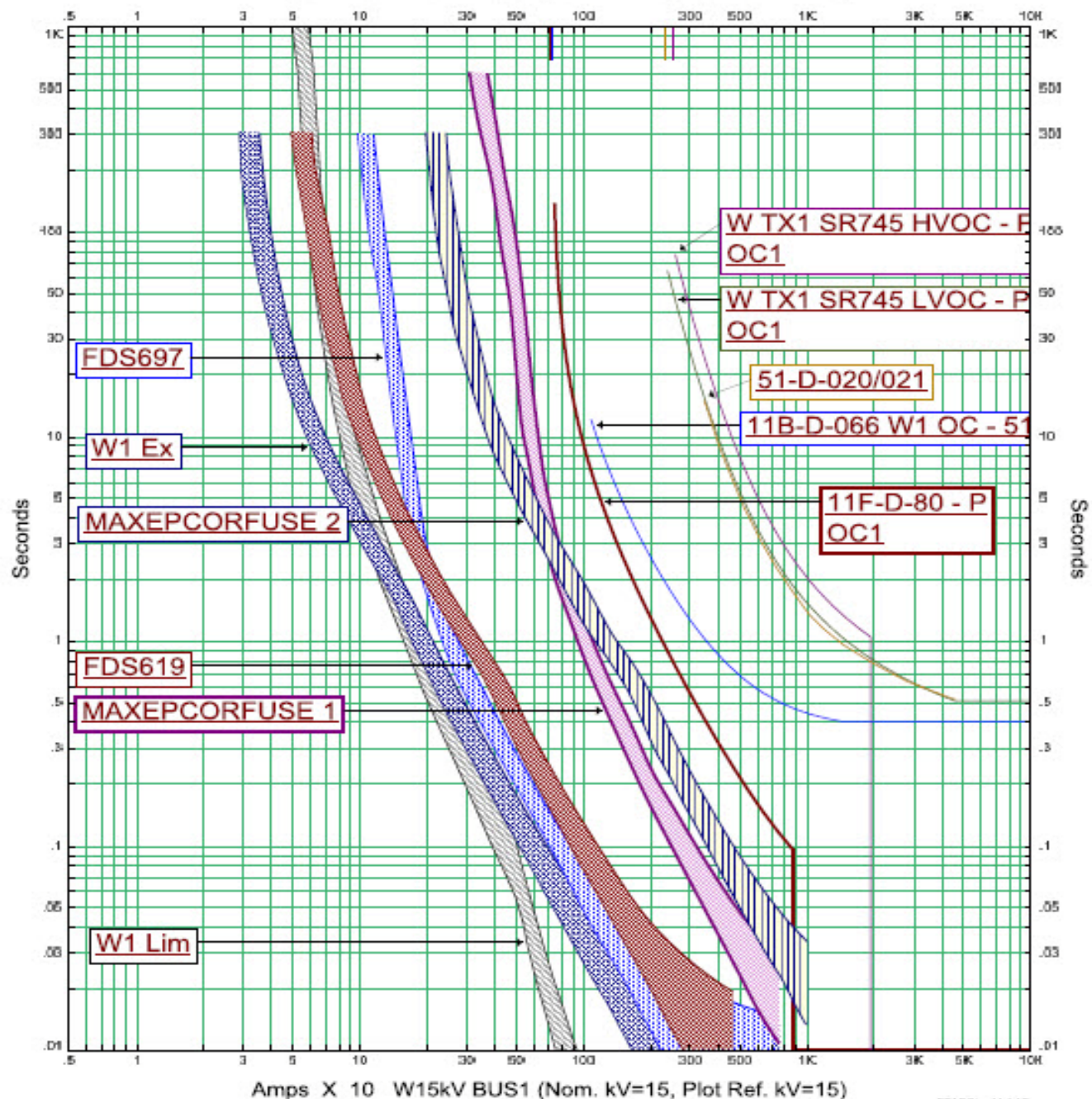
- Require both voltage and current inputs to determine fault locations (not a disadvantage cost wise anymore)
- “Reach” settings based on positive sequence transmission line impedance.
 - Not influenced by different source impedance, fixed reach
 - Greater instantaneous trip zone coverage and security
- Phase and ground faults protection
- Non-selective, but directional in nature. Require communication system to be selective
- Greater sensitivity (handled load encroachment)
- Easier setting calculations and coordination
- Multi-terminal line applications

Sample Feeder Single Line



- Multiple sections
- Tapped transformers protected by high-speed current limiting fuses from First Line Section
- Multiple line branches after First Line
- Maximum 4 – 5 feeder sections
- Ideal for modern 5-zone numerical distance IED applications

Amps X 10 W15kV BUS1 (Nom. kV=15, Plot Ref. kV=15)



Project Scope

- Product evaluation + procurement
- Cable impedance measurement
- Protection Implementation
- FAT + Commissioning
- Remote Monitoring

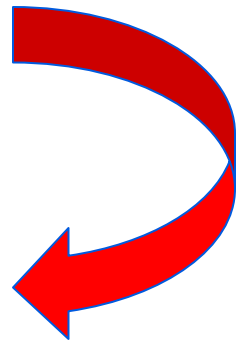
Product Evaluation + Procurement

- Functional testing 5 selected vendor products
- Focus on:
 - quad characteristics
 - setting sensitivity
 - fault location accuracy
 - broken conductor algorithm
 - cost advantage
 - disturbance handling

Product Evaluation + Procurement (2)

DESCRIPTION					TRIP	RECLOSE	RECLOSE OP CORRECT	TRIP INDICATION
NAME	PHASE	REACH	Z-FAULT	HLT				
EXPRESS CABLE FAULT	A-N	50.00%	0	OFF	OK	NO	OK	ZONE 1
EXPRESS CABLE FAULT	3 PH	25.00%	0	OFF	OK	NO	OK	ZONE 1
EXPRESS CABLE FAULT	B-C	75.00%	0	OFF	OK	NO	OK	ZONE 1
GRID FAULT	3 PH	25.00%	0	OFF	OK	YES	OK	ZONE 2
GRID FAULT	C-N	90.00%	2	OFF	OK	YES	OK	ZONE 3
GRID FAULT	A-B	75.00%	15	OFF	OK	YES	OK	ZONE 3

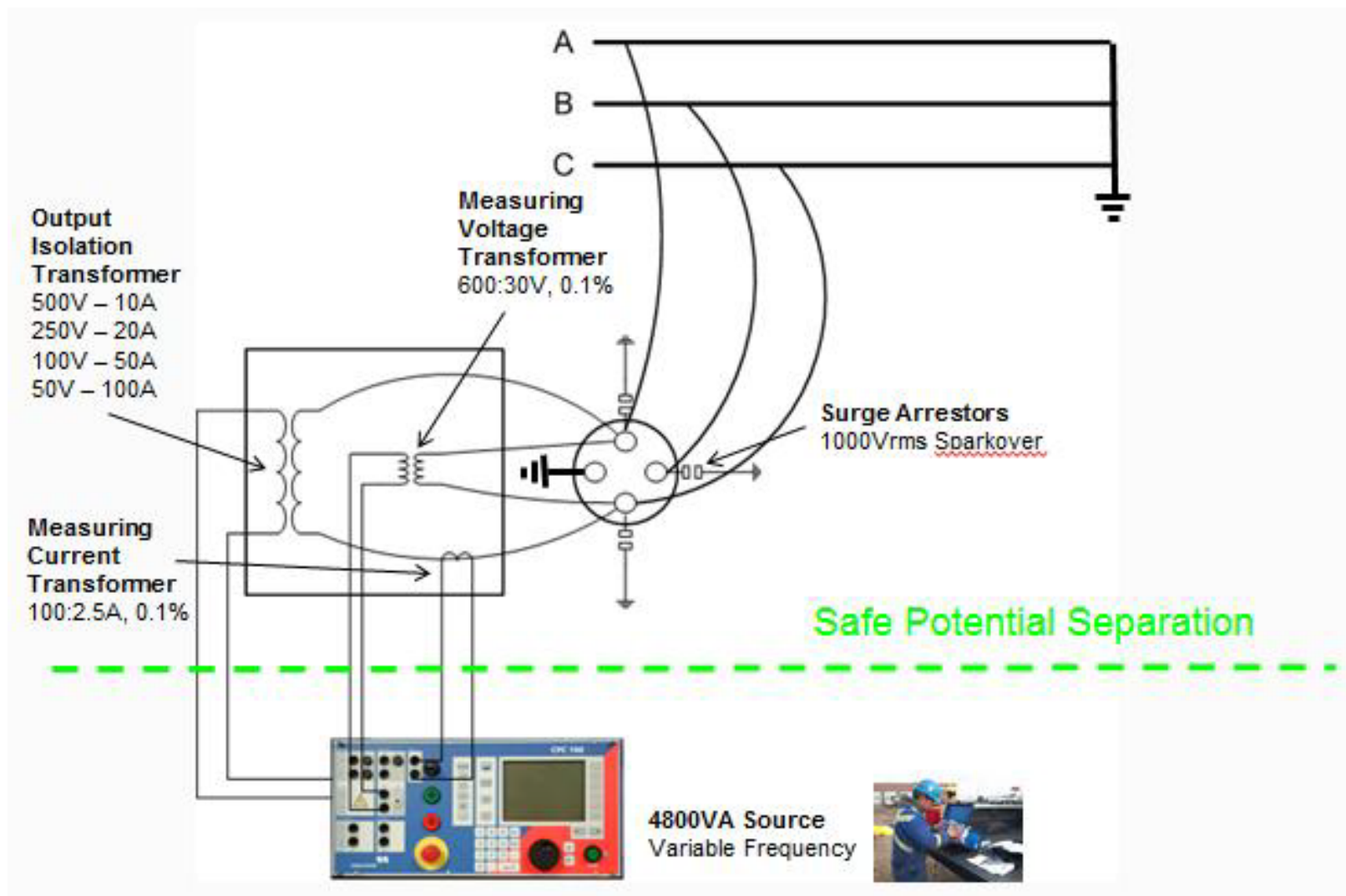
TRIP PHASE INDICATION	FAULT LOCATION	TRIP TIME (ms)	RECLOSE TIME (ms)	WAVEFORM CAPTURE
A-N	0.62%	26.4	-	OK
A-B-C	0.43%	28.5	-	OK
B-C	1.31%	43.5	-	OK
A-B-C	24.94%	60.9	3027	OK
C-N	89.00%	2025	3026	OK
A-B	72.72%	2031	3031	OK



Cable Impedance Measurement

- The 90% Zone 1 reach setting requires accurate cable impedance data
- Z_1 and Z_0 are typically calculated with conductor geometric data and assumption of ground return for cables→ prone to errors over 20% sometimes
- Ground compensation factor (K_n) can be erroneous
- Accurate cable impedance can be measured by primary injection technique
- Single phase Current injected at 40Hz and 80 Hz
- Z_1 & Z_0 impedance calculated at the same frequency. 60Hz values are interpolated
- Correct K_n factor for ground compensation can be calculated

Cable Impedance Measurement (2)



Protection Implementation

Distance Functions

- Up to 4 distance measuring zones (ph + gnd) loops and one supervisory zone are applied
- Quadrilateral characteristics
- Resistive reach set to 2 times reactive reach for phase loops. Ground loops set 2 times more sensitive
- Zone picked up configured as SCADA alarms
- Not all zones enabled to trip at this moment. Behavior is being monitored online to ensure security and increase confidence
- Used as a tool to learn dynamic load profile

Protection Implementation

Zone 1 Distance

- Protect the express cable
- Instantaneous operation must block auto-reclosing
- 90% vs 110% reach (EPCOR operators demand reclosing for entire aerial sections to maintain service continuity)
- Accurate cable impedance (Z_1 , Z_0) – measurement required
- Tripping enabled

Protection Implementation

Zone 2 Distance

- Protect faults up to the first branch fuse
- Pad-mounted transformer taps (protected by high speed current limiting fuse)
- Initiate auto-reclosing (single-shot only)
- Coordination is not a concern. Time delay 33 millisec to avoid racing with Zone 1 (which blocks 79)
- Reduce fault clearing time compared to OC
- Tripping not enabled at this moment. behavior monitored

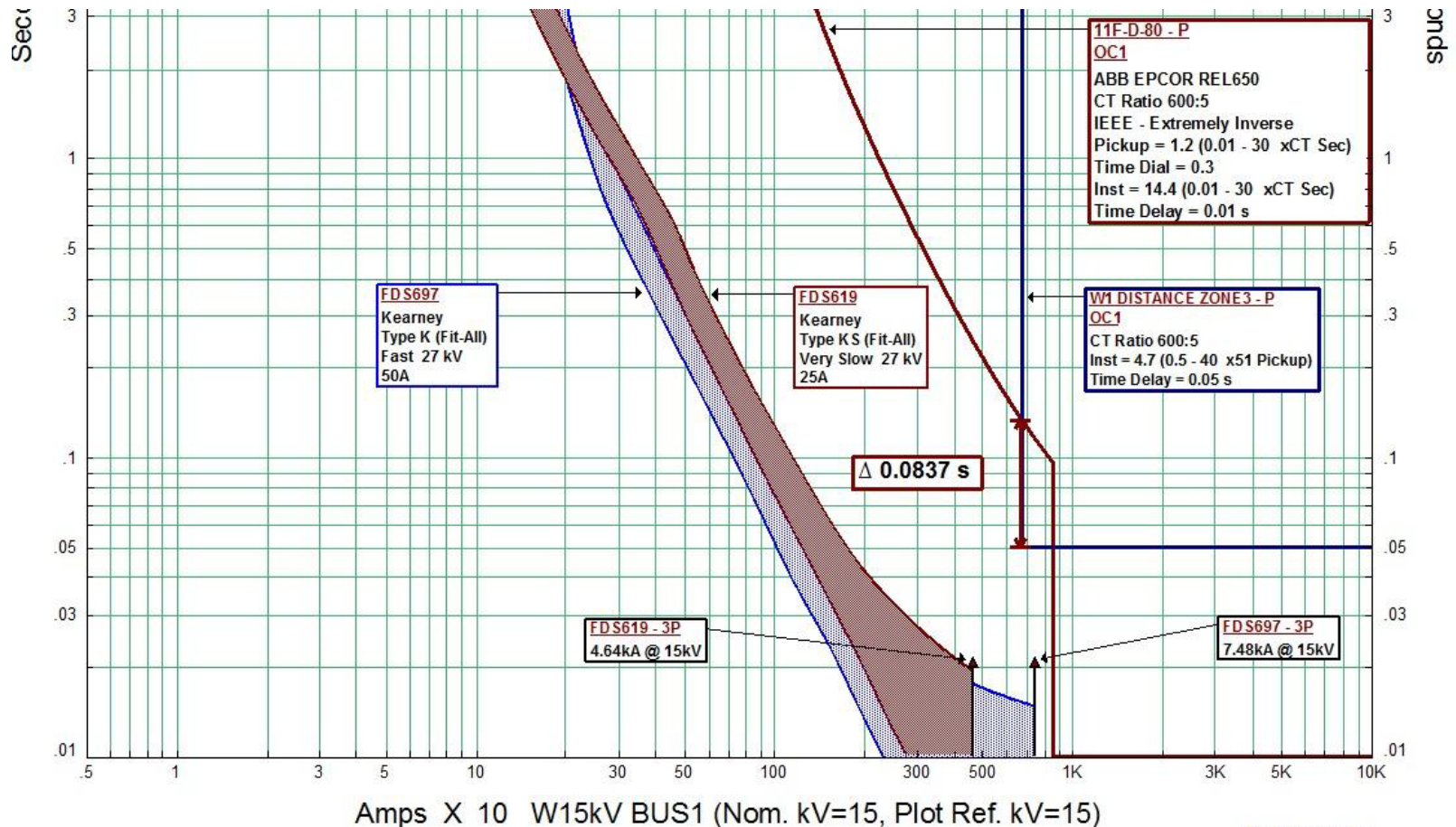
Protection Implementation

Zone 3 Distance

- Protect all previous sections plus 90% of Second Line (up to 2nd branch fuse)
- Coordination with branch fuse is required
- Gain speed over OC (51) element (EPCOR owns relay and fuse)
- Initiates auto-reclosing
- Depending on length of Second Line, might not always be enabled (Requirement: length > 20% of previous sections)
- Tripping not enabled at this moment. behavior monitored

Protection Implementation

Zone 3 Distance



ETAP Star 11.1.1C

IFC SETTINGS

W01 TCC

EPCOR P&C ENGINEERING

Protection Implementation

Zone 4 Distance

- Protect to the end of the feeder
- Very sensitive resistive reach (15 ohm for phase loops, 30 ohms for ground loops)
- Operation blocked when OC picks up. Ensure coordination with fuses. Operate only on low fault current
- >5.0 sec operation delay (coordination)
- Alarms to SCADA when picked up
- Serve as a circuit trouble annunciator (eg. fallen conductor).
- Tripping not enabled at this moment. behavior under load is being monitored.

Protection Implementation

OC Functions (50 P,N + 51 P,N)

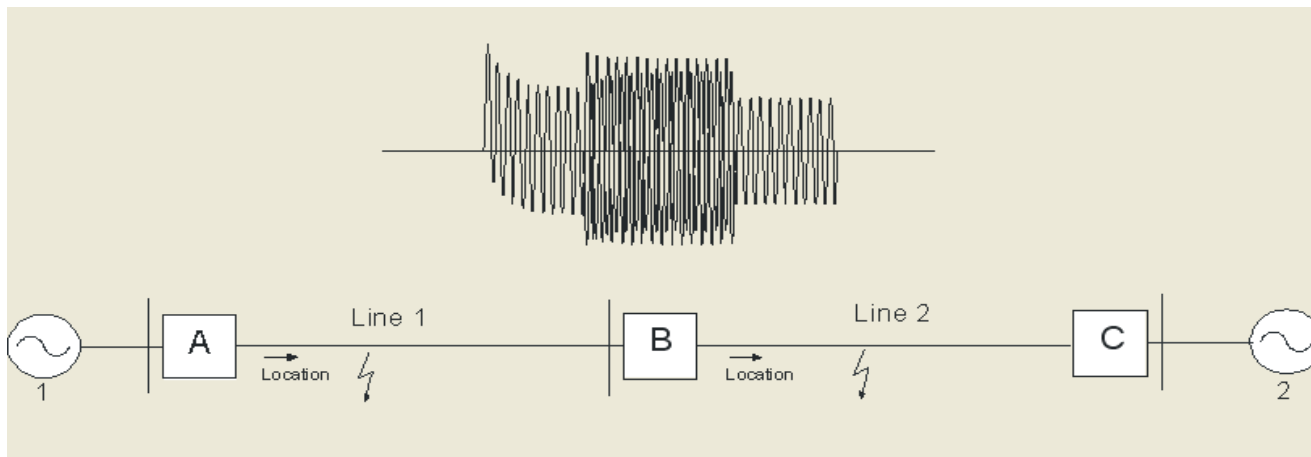
- Backup protection to distance zones 1 – 3
- 50 P,N set up to only protect the express cable when applicable (eg. Length of cable and source impedance).
Block auto-reclosing
- 51 P,N picked up blocks Zone 4 operation. 51P,N operation initiates auto-reclosing
- Tripping at all times

Other Applications

- Hot Line Mode: switch on a dedicated 50 P,N element with sensitive pick up set point (matching 51P) and block auto-reclosing
- Switch-on-to-fault: non-directional Zone 2 P,N picked up to trigger. Reduce arc-flash energy near substation due to high fault current and wrongful energization
- Broken conductor algorithm: measures current in three phases and picks up for large differences. Alarms only.
- Fault locator algorithm: impedance based
- Local annunciation: programmable LED + front IED display showing SLD, BKR status and selector switch (79, HLT) positions
- SCADA communication (IEC 61850 GOOSE + Client/Server)

FAT and Commissioning

- Initial product evaluation and FAT after engineering are performed in the EPCOR test lab
- A two-section feeder model with correct source/line impedances were created using the Network Simulation Software of the test equipment
- Secondary injecting voltage/current automatically mimicking the real-time network condition
- Verifying relay settings, local annunciation, functional operation under different network conditions
- Advanced test modules were used to verify 50, 51, and 21 characteristics.



Substation Automation and Online Monitoring

Utility SCADA
Control center



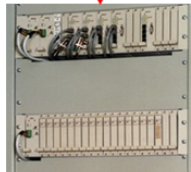
Engineering Department/
Monitoring/
Disturbance Analysis



DNP 3.0/TCPIP via SONET

Remote Access

RTU



Gateway and
HMI for SCADA
Control Center



Gateway for
Engineering
Department
(with HMI
functionality)



Router switch



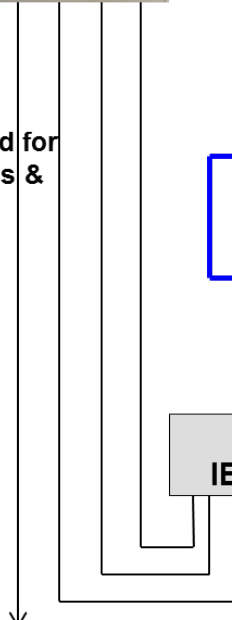
100 Mps Ethernet in ring with switches



Station bus
IEC61850-8-1



Hard-wired for
indications &
control



Substation Automation and Online Monitoring (2)

- Two standard substation gateways (1x RTU, 1x data concentrator + HMI). A third gateway under planning for the purpose of system disturbance analysis and monitoring
- RTU (hardwired and DNP slave)
 - Most critical information (eg. protections operated, relay failures, breaker status)
 - Apparatus control commands including HLT
- Standardized Data concentrator + HMI (61850 client/server + DNP slave)
 - Collect same RTU information via 61850
 - Other alarm points (TCM, MCB open etc)
 - Analog measurement (S, P, Q, V, I, freq)
 - Fault location estimation
 - No control

Substation Automation and Online Monitoring (3)

- Generic Object Oriented Substation Events (GOOSE)
 - Any protection operation in an IED would publish GOOSE
 - Subscribed by IEDs in other bays to trigger DFR
 - Aid substation wide post disturbance analysis (eg. Sympathetic tripping)
 - No protection grade of applications were implemented
- Engineering data concentrator and HMI (61850 client/server and secure remote access)
 - Collect same information as standard gateway
 - Plus detailed information of protection functions as needed
 - Recreate IED front faceplate (inc. LEDs, PB status)
 - Disturbance recording (Comtrade)
 - Used to learn system behavior and improve system modeling and relay settings

Conclusions

- Joint efforts among EPCOR engineers, contractors and vendors
- Apply both distance (21) functions and conventional OC (50, 51) functions for distribution feeder protection
- Benefits of applying multifunctional distance IEDs:
 - Improve operation speed, reduce equipment damage and enhance personnel safety near the substation
 - More constant and selective fault coverage (auto-reclose blocking)
 - Sensitive detection of high-resistive faults and circuit troubles
 - Multiple instances of protection functions and setting groups aid applications under different operating conditions
 - Variety of local annunciation options
 - Embedded SCADA communication for efficient post events analysis and real-time system state monitoring

Questions

