

Distribution State Estimation:

Implementation Challenges and Toolkit



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Power System State Estimation

 A mathematical method with which underlying power network behavior can be determined from operating information





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Provided Data versus DSE Benefits



DSE Toolkit

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- SGS has prepared a software toolkit for New York utilities and other interested parties:
 - Set up DSE on an example network
 - Explore DSE concepts in a sandbox environment
 - Measurement placement
 - Observability
 - Accuracy of resulting state
- Run test cases:
 - 1. Determining necessary measurements for an observable network
 - 2. Identifying and removing bad data with limited measurements
 - 3. Improving performance with redundant measurements



Example DSE Implementation

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- Simple radial network
- Measurements at substation, end of line
- 15-minute P&Q forecasts at each bus (AMI-powered)
- We can use the DSE toolkit to determine:







- This system is observable.
- State estimation improves upon load flow and load allocation methods
- This system cannot detect bad data.
- How performance can improve with more measurements

Best Practices for Distribution State Estimation

- 1. Set expectations based on measurement capability
 - Full benefits of DSE require extensive measurement placement.
- 2. Develop CIM-based on-line network model
 - Update control actions, automation, and manual switches in real time.
- 3. Use granular forecasts and load allocation
 - Forecasts will usually make up vast majority of measurements.
 - Machine learning with AMI and weather data improves DSE.
 - Feedback loop: DSE can improve forecasts, iterative process.
- 4. Leverage redundant measurements in the substation
 - Remove erroneous measurement devices
 - Detect incorrect switch positions.



DSE Minimum Requirements

O solutions





Questions and Discussion

Project materials will be available on the NYSERDA webpage:

https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/About/Publications/Research-and-Development-Technical-Reports/Electric-Power-Transmission-and-Distribution-Reports





Appendix Material



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Benefits of DSE

- 1. Real-time visibility
 - Invaluable to many advanced distribution applications
- 2. Reducing uncertainty
 - Accuracy improvement based on most likely power flow
 - Feeds better data into most other advanced distribution applications
- 3. Bad data detection
 - Network model calibration

DSE is a powerful tool, but the benefits are entirely dependent on the data that can be provided by the utility.

Implementation Challenges

- 1. Not enough measurements
 - Almost no distribution system is observable without the use of load forecasts
- 2. Communication infrastructure
 - Network model & topology (switch status) must be updated in real time
 - Measurements relayed to control center with minimal delay
 - Considerations for AMI data collection
- 3. Uncertainty in available information
 - Un-modelled customer connections might preclude use of AMI
 - Over-reliance on load forecasts introduces error

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Performance Improves with Redundancy

- Redundancy allows a better estimate of the power system state
 - Enables applications such as bad data detection and model calibration
- Forecasts should not be used to generate redundancy

Number of Measurement Points (M) vs. Size of Network (N)

