A review on optimal placement and sizing of custom power devices/FACTS devices in electrical power systems

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ABSTRACT

Power loss reduction, improvement of voltage profile, system reliability and system security are the important objectives that motivated researchers to use custom power devices/FACTS devices in power systems. The existing power quality problems such as power losses, voltage instability, voltage profile problem, load ability issues, energy losses, reliability problems etc. are caused due to continuous load growth and outage of components. The significant qualities of custom power devices/FACTS devices such as power loss reduction, improvement of voltage profile, system reliability and system security have motivated researchers in this area and to implement these devices in power system. The optimal placement and sizing of these devices are determined based on economical viability, required quality, reliability and availability. In published literatures, different algorithms are implemented for optimal placement of these devices based on different conditions. In this paper, the published literatures on this field are comprehensively reviewed and elaborate comparison of various algorithms is compared. The inference of this extensive comparative analysis is presented. In this research, Meta heuristic methods and sensitive index methods are used for determining the optimal location and sizing of custom power devices/FACTS devices. The combination of these two methods are also implemented and presented.

Keywords:
Custom power devices/FACTS devices, D-STATCOM, Location and sizing, Power system network, SVC, TCSC, UPQC.

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, due to increasing load demand of electricity, the sizing and complexity of electric power systems are highly increased. Therefore a stable, reliable and uninterrupted power quality with the minimum power losses is a very different task in power systems [1]. Increasing load demand may lead to voltage instability in buses and excessive power flows in branches [2]. Moreover, because of outage of components there may be a chance of power congestion, static and dynamic instabilities [3]. To compensate power losses and maintain voltages within the limit series voltage regulators and shunt capacitors are used, but these two devices having some disadvantages that are series voltage regulators operates in step by step manner so that it have slow response and it can’t generate reactive power. Shunt capacitors can’t generate continuous reactive power, so to compensate these drawback power electronic based custom power devices/FACTS devices are used in power systems [4]. Generally custom power devices, which are nearly same as FACTS devices, this are used to solve problems like power interruption and poor power quality in power system network. However custom power devices and FACTS devices are share a common technical base, these devices have different performance results. The FACTS devices are used in the transmission
system, while custom power devices are used in distribution [5]. Custom power devices are especially effective in the system reliability and power quality.

Custom power devices/FACTS devices having high installation cost, however these devices are used in both transmission and distribution systems because of the better performance of these devices, in view of this it is necessary to determine the optimal placement of Custom Power devices/FACTS devices [6]. Custom power devices/FACTS devices are more effective devices to minimize power losses, voltage stability margin enhancement, cost of energy savings, improving reliability and security of the power system. FACTS devices are DVR, DSTATCOM, UPQC, UPFC, SVC etc. There exist less research work on optimal location and sizing of custom power devices in the distribution system rather than research work on optimal placement of FACTS devices in the transmission systems [7]. Figures 1 & 2 shows the representation of Custom Power Devices/FACTS devices in power system. This paper presents metaheuristic methods for distribution and transmission system, further sensitivity index methods are reviewed in detail. Finally an overall review will be suggested for future research will be suggested.

![Figure 1. Optimal placement of FACTS devices in transmission systems](image1)

![Figure 2. Optimal placement of custom power devices in distribution systems](image2)

2. REVIEW OF RESEARCH ON CUSTOM POWER/FACTS DEVICES ALLOCATION:

All existing methods for optimal allocation of Custom power/FACTS devices can be divided in to categories. Meta-heuristic methods, sensitivity index methods and Combination of sensitivity approach and meta-heuristics.

2.1. Meta-heuristic methods

These methods are efficient and flexible methods. Discrete and constraint optimization problems can be easily solved by using Meta-heuristic approaches [8]. Problems related to multimodal, multi objective functions can also be solved by using these methods.

2.1.1. Algorithms for transmission systems

In [9] Jan 2019, P. Lokender Reddy, G. Yesuratnam interdicted modified Bacterial foraging algorithm for optimal reactive power dispatch problem. The main objective functions are minimization of real power loss and voltage stability L-index this method is tested on IEEE 30 bus system. In [10] Dec 2018, Salman and Ali used genetic algorithm to determine the optimal location and sizing of UPFC. The main objective functions are voltage profile improvement, power losses reduction, treatment of power flow in...
overloaded transmission lines and minimize total cost of power system. In [11] Aug 2018, Sirote Khunkitti, Apirat Siritaratiwat Proposed Hybrid DA-PSO Optimization Algorithm to solve multi objective optimal power flow (OPF) problems in a power system. This new hybrid DA-PSO algorithm provides exploration phase of DA and the exploitation phase of PSO, to improve its performance for finding solution of the OPF problems. The main objective is to minimize fuel cast and transmission losses.

In [12] Sep 2016, Elazim and Ali used Cuckoo search algorithm to find optimal location of STATCOM in multi mission power system. It is inspired from life of bards. By using STATCOM the overall voltage profile and system load ability can be improved. PV curves are used to determine location of STATCOM and CS algorithm is used to solve optimization problems. Compare to GA, CS provides good damping characters to the system oscillations over a wide range of loading conditions. In [13] 2016, Sai Ram and Venkanna implemented PSO adaptive GSA hybrid algorithm and it is used to find the optimal location, power ratings of the FACTS devices based on voltages and minimum power losses. Gravitational constants are optimized by using PSO algorithm to improve the searching performance of the GSA. UPFC & IPFC are used for system stability analysis. Voltage, power loss values can be calculated by placing IPFC in between two busses and magnitudes of voltage, power loss can be evaluated by placing UPFC in between two busses. PSO-GSA provides better stability margin and reducing power losses compare to GA & GSA. In [14] March 2016, Susanta and Roy developed chemical reaction optimization for optimal location of STATCOM, in order to solve optimal reaction power dispatch problems. STATCOM can minimize transmission losses and voltage deviations and improves voltage profile, voltage stability of the system. This CRO method is more efficient than PSO and DE.

In [15] 2016, Imperialistic competitive algorithm inspired form socio-political phenomenon of imperialistic computation is used for optimal design of STATCOM in power systems. Optimization problems can be solved by using IC. The proposed ICA STATCOM provides good damping characteristic to the system oscillations and also improves overall voltage profile, system load ability. In [16] 2015, Rezaee Jaordehi developed Brainstorm optimization algorithm for optimal placement of FACTS devices, it is heuristic algorithm, which is inspired from Brainstorming process in human being. SVC and TCSC devices are used for voltage profile enhancement, over load minimization and loss reduction. Compare to enhancement GA, PSO and DE, this BSOA provides better voltage profile and less power losses. In [17] 2014, Thanh long, Jian used mini cut algorithm for finding the location, quantity and size of TCSC. It improves system loadability through changing line reactance by installing the TCSC on transmission line. This method improves system loadability, minimize the installation cost and reduce search space. This will be tested on IEEE 6 bus, 13 bus, and 118 bus systems.

In [18] Sep 2013, Edward and Rajasekar proposed an enhanced bacterial foraging algorithm to determine suitable location and sizing for SVC and TCSC devices, in order to minimize power flow problems enhanced EBFA is combination of BF and Nelder-Mead algorithm so it is called as hybrid algorithm. Compare BF, EBF provides better optimal parameter selection, reduces the generation cost and improves voltage stability limit. In [19] 2013, Safari and Ahmadian proposed honey bee mating optimization algorithm for optimal design of STATCOM. It is inspired from birds’ life. This proposed method provides good damping characteristics to low frequency oscillations and improves system stability.

In [20] 2011, ES ali and S.M abd Elazin;intro introduced an improved bacterial swarm optimization algorithm for coordinated design of PSSs and TCSC in a multi machine power system. This BSO is hybrid algorithm and it is combination of BF and PSO. Over a wide range of load conductions the coordinated design problems of PSS & TCSC is excited, that problem consider as optimization problem. BSO provides better damping characteristics to system oscillations over wide range of load conductions and different disturbances. When compare to BF & PSO, BSO provides faster and more efficient convergence, prevent trappings in local areas.

### 2.1.2. Algorithms for distribution Systems

In [21] Apr 2019, Srider and Prakash proposed whale optimization algorithm for finding optimal location and sizing of the DG. Main objective function is minimization of power loss and cost with maximum voltage stability index, this method is tested for IEEE 69 bus system. In [22] Feb 2018, M. Laxmidevi Ramanaiah, M. Damodar Reddy introduces moth flame optimization method to determine the optimal location of UPQC in distribution system. In large distribution systems UPQC’s steady state compensation capability has given a solution for providing reactive power compensation. Main objectives are to real power loss reduction, voltage profile improvement. In [23] Nov 2017, Laxmi & Damodar used Gray Wolf optimization for optimal allocation of UPQC in Distribution system. This gray wolf optimization inspired by the hunting mechanism of grey wolves. The main objective function is to reduce power loss and voltage profile improvement of the system. This can be tested on standard IEEE 33 and 69 bus systems.
In [24] another research work 2015, harmony search algorithm is used to find optimal location & sizing of DSTATCOM. This algorithm is inspired from improvisation process in music. The main objective is to minimize total power losses. This method is tested on IEE-33 bus system. Harmony algorithm will reduce power losses more than immune algorithm. In [26] 2014 Devi and Gethanjali introduced PSO for finding the optimal location and sizing of DG and DSTATCOM, in order to reduce power losses & improve voltage profile. PSO is inspired by fish schooling and bird flocks. The study is done with five different cases. In all cases performance of DG&DSTATCOM can be analyzed by using LSF method. In [27] 2014 Taher, Afsari used immune algorithm for optimization problems of DSTATCOM in radial distribution system. It reduces power losses, cost of DSTATCOM and improve voltage of buses. Compare to GA, IA provides minimum DSTATCOM size and CPU time.

In [28] 2013, Masoud and Azah used firefly algorithm to find optimal location and sizing of DSTATCOM in distribution system, for power quality enhancement. A newly defined objective function is interdicted, which include total harmonic distortion, voltage deviations and total investment cost of DSTATCOM. This firefly algorithm provides better results than GA and PSO. In [29] 2012, Abas and Afsari used Differential evolution algorithm to determine optimal location of UPQC considering its size. In the radial distribution system, Objective function defined for voltage and current profile improvement, power loss reduction, minimization of investment cost. Compared with IA and GA, DC converges faster & smoother, it provides minimum UPQC size, CPU time and objective function.

2.2. Sensitive approach

In sensitive approach or method, first an index is explained and computation for different potential locations of Custom power devices/FACTS devices determined based on the computed indices, most commonly two types of indices are used for allocation problems those indices are voltage sensitivity index, power loss index.

2.2.1. Voltage sensitivity index

To determine optimal location of Custom power devices/FACTS devices, voltage stability index (VSI) is calculated for different buses, the bus which is having highest VSI value then that bus chosen for custom power devices/FACTS device placement.

a) Algorithms for Transmission Systems

In [30] 2016, Kihato & Mutegi proposed a voltage stability based method to find optimal placement of FACTS devices in the weak & heavily loaded buses for voltage stability improvement two voltage stability indices, namely the Fast voltage stability index & the line stability index are used to determine best location of FACTS devices. In [31] 2015, Albast& Ahmad Proposed, voltage sensitivity based method is used to determine optimal location of UPQC for security constrained voltage stability improvement. Initially the voltage stability of all buses was determined by calculating voltage collapse proximity indicates (VCPI), VSI & LLSI values and most unstable bus was selected for UPFC placement. 39 bus systems is used for testing of results. Placement of unified power flow controllers to improve dynamic voltage stability using power system variable based voltage stability indices. In [32] 2014, Praghnesh Bhatta & Nurin proposed sensitivity analysis for placement of shunt DVR compensator & STATCOM in the power system. Reactive power losses can be reduced by using STATCOM and voltage instability can be prevented by using shunt DVR compensators. Three sensitivity indices are used namely, voltage stability index, voltage sensitivity index, angle sensitivity index to select best bus locations for shunt DVR compensator and STATCOM.

b) Algorithms for Distribution System

In [33] 2018, Bushra Weqar, Praghnesh Bhatta, Praghnesh Bhatta presents the analysis for selection of the best D.G units from different categories in Distribution systems for voltage stability improvement and loss reduction. Voltage stability indices are used to investigate the impact of location D.G units for the power losses, voltage profile and voltage stability. In [35] 2014, Praghnesh Bhatta & Praghnesh Bhatta presents the analysis for selection of the best D.G units from different categories in Distribution systems for voltage stability improvement and loss reduction. Voltage stability indices are used to investigate the impact of location D.G units for the power losses, voltage profile and voltage stability. In [35] 2014, Praghnesh Bhatta & Praghnesh Bhatta presents the analysis for selection of the best D.G units from different categories in Distribution systems for voltage stability improvement and loss reduction. Voltage stability indices are used to investigate the impact of location D.G units for the power losses, voltage profile and voltage stability. In [36] 2012 Hussain and Visali proposed a voltage sensitivity based method for determine the weakest bus of distribution network. Voltage profile is improved by placing DSTATCOM on the weakest bus. The efficiency of the proposed VSI have been tested on IEEE 33 bus system.
2.3. Power loss index

Power loss index (PLI) is another approach to select suitable location for custom power devices/FACTS devices, power loss are calculated based on load flow studies. At all nodes except for source node, reactive power is injected, and the total power losses & loss reduction at each node are calculated. The node which is having highest value of PLI, that node will be the best place for installation of custom power device/FACTS devices.

a) Algorithms for Transmission System

In [37] April 2018, loss sensitivity indices are used for placement of TCSC and TCPAR devices. The objective function is minimization of line losses this approach is implemented on IEEE 57-bus system. In [38], 2017, another research work, power loss sensitivity index is used to determine optimal placement pf STATCOM then optimal parameters setting of STATCOM has been done by Newton Raphson power flow technique. The objective function is minimization of system power losses, this approach is implemented on 14 bus test system, before and after placing the STATCOM, voltage and power losses have been compared. In [39] 2013, Manikandan and Arul proposed power loss index method to determine optimal placement of TCSC and UPFC, for controlling power loss and enhancing the usable capacity of transmission line. Two indices are used namely power loss sensitivity index and sensitivity of over loadability index (SOL).

b) Algorithms for Distribution System

In [40] march 2017, Fahad, Mohd khan introduced new methodology for finding optimal placement of DG and DSTATCOM for loss reduction and voltage profile improvement. Loss sensitivity factor (LSF) used for finding the best location of DG. All the operational and system constraints must be considered and verified to find the optimal location of DSTATCOM. Optimal size of DG and DSTATCOM can be determined by using direct load flow analysis. In [41] 2016 Atma Ram Gupta, Ashwari kumar proposed “performance analysis of Radial Distribution with UPQC & DSTATCOM. Proposed power loss index method for finding optimal location of DSTATCOM & UOQC in radial distribution system. The bus which is having the minimum losses, that bus is selected as the candidate bus for UPQC placement and optimal location of DSTATCOM is found by PLT. The main objective is to reduce power losses, investment cost and improving voltage profile of the system.

In [42] 2016 Gupta and Kumar proposed sensitivity indices for optimal location of D-STATCOM’s, fast voltage stability index, the combined power loss index, voltage stability index, voltage sensitivity index and proposed stability index are used. The new voltage sensitivity index is used to determine the optimal location of D-STATCOM. Optimal size of D-STATCOM found in summer and winter times, consider load improvement, the efficiency of different sensitivity-based approaches in optimal allocation of D-STATCOM’s were compare, and the impact of the optimal placement of D-STATCOM’s to improve voltage stability margin, reduce energy losses and increase energy cost savings were investigated.

In [43] 2015, power loss index method is used for placement of DSTATCOM in radial distribution system for reduction of line losses and improvement of voltage profile. Bus parameters can be calculated by using load flow methods. Mathematical modeling is used to calculate reactive power injection of DSTATCOM for all he buses. Based on reactive power values optimal location of DSTATCOM can be selected by using PLI.

2.4. Combination of meta-heuristic & sensitivity approach

In some research work, sensitivity index methods and meta-heuristic techniques has been hybridized and applied to custom power devices/FACTS devices allocation problems to get better solutions compared to individual methods.

a) Algorithms for Transmission System

In [44] Feb 2018, Sravana kumar, Suryakalavathi proposed a new method for optimal placement of TCSC & optimal tuning of generators in power system. Combined index is used for optimal generator reallocation with optimal placement of TCSC. Krill Herd algorithm is used for optimal tuning of TCSC. Combined index having line utilization factor (LUF) and fast voltage stability index (FVSI). The main objective function is minimization of line loss and voltage deviation. In [45] 2015, gravitational search algorithm is presented to determine the optimal placement of FACTS devices (TCSC, SVC, UPFC). Voltage security index (VSI), line security index (LSI) are used for performance analysis. The main aim is to reduce power losses and enhancement of system security. In [46] 2012, a new method is proposed for optimal placement of TCSC and STATCOM in power system. Real power flow sensitivity index and combination voltage sensitivity index are used for finding optimal placement of TCSC and STATCOM. The optimal rating of TCSC and best sizing of STATCOM is optimized by using the Genetic algorithm. The objective function is to reduce severity of the system loadings and enhancement of voltage stability of the system.

In [47] 2009, Parizad and Khazali proposed heuristic methods and sensitivity index for optimal placement of FACTS devices. HSA and GA have used to determine optimal location of TCPAR, UPFC and
SVC devices. For system analysis, Three different cases are considered: 1) TCPAR, UPFC, SVC are placed individually 2) any two devices placed randomly 3) three devices are placed simultaneously. In all three cases voltage indices and losses should be calculated to select the better places for the devices. The main objective function is to improve voltage profile, reduce power losses, increasing power transfer capacity, maximum loading and voltage stability margin.

b) Algorithms for Distribution System

In [48] Nov 2018, Selva Raj, Rajangam introduced multi objective modified flower pollination algorithm (Mo-MFPA) for power loss reduction, minimum load balancing index and maximum voltage profile in radial distribution. PV array used as distributed generator (DG), pre identify the most candidate busses for placing PV and DSTATCOM by using voltage stability index. Then the MO-MFPA is used to reduce the size and locations of PV arrays and DSTATCOM from the selected busses. In [49] VSI is used to find the placement of D-STATCOM devices and optimal size of D-STATCOM is determined by using bat swarm optimization algorithm. In [50] 2016, Safari and Ahmad used discrete imperialistic competition & nelder-mead algorithm to solve D-STATCOM placement problem in distribution systems, while DG’s are previously installed in it. Voltage stability index (VSI) is applied to identify the weak buses in the network. Objective function is minimizing the sum of normalized active power losses and D-STATCOM installation cost. Coordination of DG’s and D-STATCOM’s will give better results compare to D-STATCOM’s without DG’s in distribution feeder. New DICA-NM hybrid algorithm is provide more accuracy compare to evolutionary methods such as GA, PSO, ACO etc.

In [51] 2015, loss sensitivity factor (LSI) and bacterial foraging optimization algorithm have been hybridized for D-STATCOM’s and DG’s placement in distribution system. It is used to reduce power loss and improves the voltage profile of the system. The five loss sensitivity factor values were sorted in descending order, the trial and error method is used to determine optimal location between five buses. The bus which is having least amount of power loss, that bus is selected as candidate bus for placement of DG’s or D-STATCOM’s.

Meta-heuristic optimization techniques are simple and easier to find optimal solution to the problems. Compare to analytical methods and Artificial Neural network based methods, Meta-heuristic methods are easy to define and used for multi objective function by considering many constraints. But this technique is suffered from premature convergence and lack of accuracy [52-57].

Sensitivity approaches are simple and most suitable for the placement problem, but it is consider only one objective problem [58-61]. Any sensitivity approach is designed to find the critical location of custom power devices/FACTS devices from a specific point of view, and it is difficult to consider many constraints for the problem. The combination of sensitivity approaches and meta-heuristic methods are mostly used to solve the problems. Sensitivity approaches are used for finding most critical nodes, to make the problem smaller. Optimization techniques can be applied to nodes, to determine the few specific nodes for the best size of custom power/FACTS devices. Using this process, there exist balance between the accuracy and speed, and it is possible to use multi objective functions and consider many constraints. Review of different research works on custom power devices/FACTS devices allocation as shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.no</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Devices</th>
<th>Algorithm</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Power loss reduction, Good damping characteristics</td>
<td>STATCOM &amp; PSS</td>
<td>Genetic</td>
<td>Run time, Require long revisiting of optimal solutions.</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Reactive power dispatch problem, minimum transmission losses and voltage deviation</td>
<td>STATCOM</td>
<td>Chemical</td>
<td>Its local search ability of is weak, It is often traps into local optima</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Overall voltage profile imprudent, system load ability</td>
<td>STATCOM</td>
<td>Cuckoo search</td>
<td>Difficult to Solve multi objective problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Minimization of power flow problems</td>
<td>SVC &amp; TCSC &amp; UPFC &amp; IPFC</td>
<td>BF + NMA &amp; PSO + GSA</td>
<td>Delay in reaching the global solution</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Power loss reduction &amp; better voltage stability margin</td>
<td>STATCOM &amp; UPFC &amp; IPFC</td>
<td>PSO + GSA</td>
<td>Slow convergence, getting trapped in local areas</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Voltage profile enhancement, system laudability improvement</td>
<td>STATCOM</td>
<td>ICA</td>
<td>Required to determine total power</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Harmonic distortion &amp; voltage deviation reduction</td>
<td>STATCOM</td>
<td>PSO</td>
<td>Required more setting time</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Power loss reduction &amp; voltage profile improvement</td>
<td>D-STATCOM</td>
<td>FireFly</td>
<td>Required computing time</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Minimum total power losses</td>
<td>D-STATCOM</td>
<td>Immune</td>
<td>Each objective function has been handled separately as a single objective optimization</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Table 2. Review of Different Research Works on Custom Power Devices/FACTS Devices Allocation.
3. CONCLUSION

This paper has presented Meta heuristic methods, sensitive index methods and their hybrid combination for determining the optimal location and sizing of custom power devices/FACTS devices. An extensive and comprehensive survey of published literatures on this field is presented. From the analysis of comparison, it is inferred that only a fewer research work is done on distribution system compared to transmission system. There is very slight improvement in optimization techniques that are used for placement and sizing of custom power devices/FACTS devices. A comparative study on the application of different optimization techniques are done in terms of accuracy and speed. It is also concluded that for power loss minimization in power systems, most of the research has concentrated only on single device placement rather than placement of multi devices. After review of different types of meta-heuristic algorithms & sensitivity index methods, still there is a scope for implementation of different types of new hybrid algorithms for optimal placement and sizing of custom power devices/FACTS devices in power systems.

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