Principal Research Results

A Support Tool to Level Transmission Equipment Replacements Considering Supply Reliability Constraints
— Development of A Prototype Tool —

Background
The progress of aging of transmission equipments is becoming a crucial issue in Japan, and maintenance and replacement costs are expected to greatly increase in the near future. Appropriate replacement planning methods need to be developed in order to replace a large number of equipments installed up to 1990s in the future, while maintaining supply reliability. One such planning method is to prioritize a number of replacements while taking supply reliability of the whole network and replacement cost into account and to build a replacement plan, which shows which equipments should be replaced and when they should be replaced.

Objectives
The purpose of this study is to develop a prototype planning support tool to build a replacement plan, which levels transmission equipment replacements over a long planning horizon, while maintaining supply reliability and keeping total replacement cost as low as possible.

Principal Results

1. Development of a planning support tool to level transmission equipment replacements
(1) A planning support tool is developed to build a replacement plan, which assures that the supply reliability of the whole network and replacement cost in each planning period (e.g. 5 years) can be kept below specified level over a long planning horizon (e.g. 30 years or more)
(2) The developed tool builds a transmission equipment replacements plan, which satisfies reliability constraints of the whole network and cost constraint, considering the condition (namely, failure rate) of equipment in the network based on aging characteristics of the equipments given as input data. The calculation of replacement plan is made in two steps. In the first step, a minimal set of equipments is identified, which must be replaced to satisfy reliability constraints over the planning horizon. Second, based on the results in the first step, leveling of cost is performed with respect to the periods where replacement cost exceeds the maximum acceptable cost. Both these steps can be formulated as optimization problems and they are very simple problems, so that only small amount of computational time is required to obtain the plan.

2. Verification of effectiveness of the developed tool
The developed tool is applied to develop a replacement plan over long term (40 years) of a small model power system (IEEE Reliability Test System). The result shows that the tool can successfully develop a replacement plan which satisfies both reliability constraint and cost constraint, and the developed tool is helpful for leveling transmission equipment replacements over the long term.

Future Developments
Improvements of the developed tool will be made so that the tool is applicable to more realistic problems.

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Reference
4. Power Delivery

Fig. 1 Criteria of replacement leveling

(1) Replacement planning from the view point of equipment conditions
   - Based on diagnosis of each equipment

(2) Replacement planning from the view point of whole network
   - Considering supply reliability of whole network and total replacement cost

Fig. 2 Inputs and outputs of the developed tool

Inputs
- Condition data of each apparatus
  - Aging characteristic
  - Current Condition
- Network data, Supply/demand scenario
- Replacement Cost data
- Constraints
  - Reliability Constraint
  - Cost Constraint

Developed Support Tool

Outputs
- Replacement plan (which, when)
- Reliability and cost under the developed plan

Fig. 3 Numerical examples

(1) Reliability under various reliability constraints
(2) Replacement costs in Case 3