SECTION 1: OVERVIEW OF THE ELECTRICAL GRID

ESE 470 – Energy Distribution Systems

Flow of Energy in the US



Energy Distribution

- Energy *distributed* to end users in three primary forms:
 - **Electricity**
 - Natural gas
 - Petroleum products
- Primary energy sources by sector:
 - Residential
 - Electricity 41%
 - Natural gas 44%
 - Commercial
 - Electricity 52%
 - Natural Gas 40%

- Industrial
 - Electricity 13%
 - Natural gas 38%
 - Petroleum 33%
- Transportation
 - Petroleum 92%
- In this course, we will focus on *electrical energy distribution*

Specifically, the electrical transmission and distribution grid

Energy Distribution and Conversion

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- Bulk of distributed energy is *converted to another form of energy* by the consumer
 - Typically mechanical or thermal
- Natural gas/petroleum
 - Energy stored in chemical form
 - No energy conversion prior to distribution
- Electricity
 - Generated by conversion from chemical and/or mechanical energy
 - Converted again by the consumer

Energy conversion is inefficient

 Could conceivably distribute energy in desired form, e.g. shafts, pneumatic lines, etc. – terribly inefficient

Conversion inefficiencies (substantial) outweighed by efficiency of distribution





□ <u>1879</u>

Edison develops the electric light

□ <u>1882</u>

Edison launches General Electric with backing of J.P. Morgan

Opens Pearl Street Station in New York

- Steam-driven DC generators
- 30 kW, 110 V DC
- 59 Customers

Frank Sprague develops a DC motor



<u>1880s</u>

- War of Currents
 - Edison and DC power vs. Westinghouse/Tesla and AC power

<u>1880s</u>

Tesla introduces AC induction motors/generators

- William Stanley invents the transformer
 - Enables high-voltage transmission



<u> 1889</u>

- First single-phase AC transmission line in the U.S.
 - 21 km, Oregon City to Portland
 - 4 kV

<u> 1892</u>

- Samuel Insull leaves GE for Chicago Edison
 - Father of the U.S. electrical grid
 - Consolidation
 - Mass production
 - Rural Electrification load balancing
 - Two-part pricing fixed and variable
 - Networked power reliability



□ <u>1893</u>

- First three-phase AC transmission line in the U.S.
 - 12 km, California
 - 2.3 kV

<u> 1896</u>

- Hydro-generated electricity from Niagara Falls powers Buffalo
 - 30 km



Early 1900s

- Local utilities form as vertical monopolies
 - Generation, transmission, distribution, retail
- Local regulation fails
- State public utility commissions established in most states to regulate pricing
- Holding companies buy up and consolidate local utilities, driving up prices

- Public Utilities Holding Company Act (PUHCA) passed
 - Breaks up holding companies



- Federal Power Act establishes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
 - Charged with regulating the wholesale power market

<u> 1947 – 1973</u>

Little change in overall industry structure

- Average 8% annual growth
- Steadily decreasing electricity rates



□ <u>1965</u>

- Northeast Blackout
 - 30 million customers loose power for over 13 hours

- North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) formed
 - Establishes policies and practices to ensure reliability and adequate capacity
 - Compliance is voluntary



- - Energy Crisis
 - Rising rates

<u> 1978 </u>

- Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA)
 - Utilities required to purchase power from independent generators
 - Increased competition
 - Beginning of a trend toward deregulation



□ <u>1992</u>

- Energy Policy Act (EPACT)
 - Required nondiscriminatory access to transmission networks for independent generators
 - Regulatory power shifted somewhat from state to federal level

- CA and RI pass legislation allowing consumers to choose their power utility
 - Other states follow suit
 - Currently, 16 states allow choice of utility providers



<u>1990s</u>

Energy marketers/brokers enter the energy market

E.g., Enron

<u>2000 – 2001</u>

- **CA** energy crisis
 - Blackouts
 - Caused by market manipulations



□ <u>2003</u>

- Northeast blackout
 - ~50 million people, up to 4 days
 - Failure to follow voluntary NERC guidelines

<u>2005</u>

- Energy Policy Act of 2005
 - Promotes energy efficiency
 - Repeals PUHCA
 - Amends PURPA
 - Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) to enforce reliability standards

<u>2006</u>

 FERC grants NERC (now North American Electric Reliability Corporation) authority as ERO for the U.S.



Currently

- Restructuring and/or deregulation
- 16 states and D.C.
 have restructured
 electricity markets
 - Consumers can choose electric utility
 - Oregon among them (sort of)



http://www.eia.gov/electricity/policies/restructuring/restructure_elect.html



US Electrical Grid

Five main *interconnections* in North America

- Eastern Interconnection
- Western Interconnection
- Texas Interconnection
- Quebec Interconnection
- Alaska Interconnection
 - Completely isolated
- Same frequency60 Hz
- Not synchronous



North American Interconnections

- 20
- Interconnections are linked by back-to-back DC converters
 - AC-DC-AC
 - Allows for power transfer between interconnections
 - Six between Eastern and Western Interconnections
 - Two between Texas and Eastern Interconnections



Regional Reliability Councils

Each interconnection comprised of one or more regional reliability councils

Eastern Interconnection

- Florida Reliability
 Coordinating Council (FRCC)
- Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO)
- Northeast Power
 Coordinating Council (NPCC)
- Reliability First (RF)
- SERC Reliability Corporatior (SERC) (SERC was Southeast Electric Reliability Council)



Regional Reliability Councils

Western Interconnection

Western Electric Coordinating Council (WECC)

Texas Interconnection

 Texas Reliability Entity (TRE)

Alaska Interconnection

 Alaska Systems
 Coordinating Council (ASCC)

Quebec Interconnection

 Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC)



North American Reliability Corporation

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- Regional reliability councils overseen by *North American Electric Reliability Corporation* (*NERC*)
 - Designated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as the *Electric Reliability Organization* (*ERO*) for the US in 2006
 - Mission is to assure reliability of the North American bulk power system
 - Develops and enforces reliability standards
 - Non-profit corporation
 - Subject to FERC oversight

²⁴ High-Voltage AC Transmission

- 25
- Electrical power is transmitted at high voltages
 100s of kV
 - Far exceeding voltages at which it is consumedWhy?
- Nearly all electrical power is distributed as AC
 Much is (or could be) consumed as DC
 Why?

 Consider the following extremely simplified circuit modeling a power plant, transmission line, and load



The power generated (assuming unity power factor)

$$P_s = V_s I$$

 And, since there is no drop along the transmission line, the voltage at the load is the same as at the source

$$\boldsymbol{V}_L = \boldsymbol{V}_S$$

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Power delivered to the load is the same as that generated by the source

$$P_L = V_L I = P_s$$

- Assume a constant voltage is maintained at the load
 - Power demand at the load (variable) determines the current that must be supplied

$$I = \frac{P_L}{V_L}$$

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- So far, we have assumed an ideal, perfectly conducting (lossless) transmission line
 - Now, account for the non-zero resistance of a real transmission line



The current required by the load stays the same

But now, that current must flow through the line resistance
 Power is lost in the transmission line

 $I = \frac{P_L}{V_L}$

$$P_{Line} = I^2 R_{Line} = \frac{P_L^2}{V_L^2} R_{Line}$$

Line loss:

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$$P_{Line} = \frac{P_L^2}{V_L^2} R_{Line}$$



How can we reduce line losses for a given load power?

- Reduce line resistance
 - Larger conductors
 - More conductors
 - Higher conductivity
- Increase line voltage, V_L

Step up for transmission, step down for consumption

Consider the following example:

$$R_{Line} = 0.5 \ \Omega$$

 $P_L = 1 \ MW$
 $V_L = 1 \ kV$



The current required by the load is

$$I = \frac{P_L}{V_L} = \frac{1 \ MW}{1 \ kV} = 1 \ kA$$

□ The power lost in the line is

$$P_{Line} = I^2 R_{Line} = (1 \ kA)^2 \cdot 0.5 \ \Omega$$
$$P_{Line} = 500 \ kW$$

One third of the supplied power is dissipated in the line!
 Not practical

Now, let's increase the line voltage:

$$R_{Line} = 0.5 \Omega$$
$$P_L = 1 MW$$
$$V_L = 345 kV$$



The current required by the load is

$$I = \frac{P_L}{V_L} = \frac{1 \ MW}{345 \ kV} = 2.9 \ A$$

The power lost in the line is

$$P_{Line} = I^2 R_{Line} = (2.9 A)^2 \cdot 0.5 \Omega$$

 $P_{Line} = 4.2 W$

□ Line losses reduced by the square of the line voltage increase

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- In the preceding example, the same power was delivered to the load in each case
 - High-voltage, low-current transmission results in lower line losses
- This example illustrates why electrical power is transmitted at high voltage
 - But why is it transmitted as AC?
- Generators at power plants generate voltages in the range of 20 kV
 - How is that voltage increased to transmission voltages (e.g. 230 kV, 345 kV, 500 kV, 765 kV...)?
 - **Transformers**
 - Transformers only work with AC voltages

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- Step-up transformers used to increase generation voltages (~20 kV) to transmission voltages (100s of kV)



- □ Step-down transformers used to decrease transmission voltages to levels used by consumers (e.g. $3-\phi$ 480 V or $1-\phi$ 120 V)
- Advances in power electronics have made it more practical to convert DC to step up/step down DC voltages
 - HVDC transmission
 - More on this topic later in the course



Electrical Power Distribution System

- 35
- Three primary components of the electrical distribution system
 - Generation
 - ESE 450
 - Transmission
 - Transmission
 - Subtransmission
 - Distribution
 - Primary distribution
 - Secondary distribution



Generation

Generation

- Turbine turns a generator
- ~20 kV AC output
- 100s of MW
- Transformers step up output to extrahigh voltage (EHV) for transmission
 - 100s of kV



Transmission Network

- Provides *bulk power* from generators to the grid
- Interconnection point between separate utilities or separate generators
 - Power bought and sold at this level
- High voltage for low loss, longdistance transmission
 - □ 230...765 kV
 - Generator step up transformers at power plant

High power

- 400...4000 MVA per three-phase circuit
- Transmission network terminates at *bulk-power* or *transmission substations*



Subtransmission Network

- Voltage stepped down at bulk-power or transmission substations
 - Typically 69 kV, but also 115 and 138 kV
- Large industrial customers may connect directly to the subtransmission network
 - Voltage stepped down at customer's substation
- Subtransmission network terminates at *distribution substations*



Primary Distribution Network

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- Voltage stepped down at *distribution substations* 2.2 kV ... 46 kV
 4 MVA ... 30 MVA
- Feeders leave substations and run along streets
- Laterals tap off of feeders and run along streets
- Primary distribution network terminates at *distribution transformers*



Secondary Distribution Network

- 40
- **Distribution transformers** step voltage down to customer utilization level
 - Single-phase 120 V ... threephase 480 V
- Secondary distribution is the connection to the customer
- May connect to a *secondary main*
 - Serves several customers
- Or, one distribution transformer may serve a single customer



Course Overview

Our focus:

- How electricity gets from where it is generated to where it is consumed
 - The transmission and distribution networks
 - Modeling of equipment
 - Analysis of behavior

Section 1

Overview of the Electrical Grid

Section 2

Three-Phase Power Fundamentals

Section 3

Power Transformers

Section 4

• Transmission Lines

Section 5

• Power Flow Analysis

Section 6

High-Voltage DC Transmission

Section 7

Fault Analysis

Section 8

System Protection

Section 9

• Electrical Distribution System