A Review on Internet Of Things(IOT) Based Underground Cable Fault Detection

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Abstract: A fault is an unexpected change of the system functionality, which causes deviation of a plant behavior from that which is specified it .The problem of detect the location of fault in transmission line has become complex and expensive which depended on The current mechanism used to detect the fault in power transmission lines approximated by the calculation of the impedance obtained from voltage and current data. The works of this is to find solution of how detected and located of fault in the transmission line Diagnosing fault source is difficult and entire cable should be taken out from the ground to check and fix faults. The project work is intended to detect the location of fault in underground cable lines from the base station in km using a micro-controller 8051. To locate a fault in the cable, the cable must be tested for faults. This prototype uses the simple concept of Ohms law. The current would vary depending upon the length of fault of the cable. In the urban areas, the electrical cables run in underground instead of overhead lines. Whenever the fault occurs in underground cable it is difficult to detect the exact location of the fault for process of repairing that particular cable. The proposed system finds the exact location of the fault. The prototype is modeled with a set of resistors representing cable length in km and fault creation is made by a set of switches at every known distance to cross check the accuracy of the same. In case of fault, the voltage across series resistors changes accordingly, which is then fed to an ADC to develop precise digital data to a programmed 8051 IC that further displays fault location in distance.

The fault occurring distance, phase, and time is displayed on a 16X2 LCD interfaced with the micro-controller. IOT is used to display the information over Internet using the Wi-Fi module ESP8266.A web page is created using HTML coding and the information about occurrence of fault is displayed in a web page. At the end of research we have acquired results that it can be determined where the error with high accuracy.

Index Terms **- Underground Cable, Fault Location, Location Methods, Micro-controller, web page, IOT.**

I. INTRODUCTION

In an electric power system, a fault is detected by any abnormal electric current follow. For example, a short circuit is a fault in which current bypasses the normal load. An open-circuit fault occurs if a circuit is interrupted by some failure. In three-phase systems, a fault may involve one or more phases and ground, or may occur only between phases. In a "ground fault" or "earth fault", charge flows into the earth. The prospective short circuit current of a fault can be calculated for power systems. In power systems, protective devices detect fault conditions and operate circuit breakers and other devices to limit the loss of service due to a failure. In a poly phase system, a fault may affect all phases equally which is also called symmetrical fault. If only some phases are affected, the resulting asymmetrical fault becomes more complicated to analyze because the simplifying assumption of equal current magnitude in all phases is no longer applicable. The analysis of this type of fault is often simplified by using methods such as symmetrical components.

A symmetric or balanced fault affects each of the three phases equally. In transmission line faults, roughly 5% are symmetric This is in contrast to an asymmetrical fault, where the three phases are not affected equally. An asymmetric or unbalanced fault does not affect each of the three phases equally Power transmission and distribution lines are the vital links that achieve the essential continuity of service of electrical power to the end users. Transmission lines connect the generating stations and load centers. Faults are caused either by insulation failures and conducting path failures. Most of the faults on transmission and distribution lines are caused by over voltage due to lighting and switching surges or by external conducting objects falling on over head lines. Birds, tree branches may also cause faults on over head lines. Other causes of faults on over head lines are direct lightning strokes, aircraft, snakes, ice and snow loading, storms, earthquakes, creepers etc. In the case of cables, transformers, generators the causes may be failure of solid insulation due to aging, heat, moisture or over voltage, accidental contact with earth .
The overall faults can be classified into two types:

1. Series faults 2. Shunt faults

A fault if unclear has the following effects on a power system.

• Heavy short circuit current may cause damage to equipment or any other element of the power system due to over heating or flash over and high mechanical forces set up due to heavy current.

• There may be reduction in the supply voltage of the healthy feeders, resulting in the loss of industrial loads. Short circuits may cause the unbalancing of the supply voltages and currents, there by heating rotating machines.

• There may be a loss of system stability. The faults may cause an interruption of supply to consume

1.1. Types of Faults in Cable

1.1.1. Open Circuit Fault:

When there is a break in the conductor of the cable, it is called open circuit fault of the cable. The open circuit fault can be checked by meager. For this purpose, the three conductors of the 3-core cable at the far end are shorted and earthed. Then resistance between each conductor and earth is measured by a meager. The meager will indicate zero resistance in the circuit of the conductor that is not broken. However, if the conductor is broken, the meager will indicate infinite resistance in its circuit.

1.1.2. Short Circuit Fault:

When two conductors of a multi-core cable come in electrical contact with each other due to insulation failure, it is called short-circuit fault. The two terminals of the meager are connected to any two conductors. If the meager gives zero reading, it indicates short-circuit fault between these two conductors. The same step can be repeated for other conductors taking two at a time.

1.1.3. Earth Fault:

When the conductor of the cable comes in contact with earth, it is called earth fault or ground fault. To identify this fault, one terminal of the meager is connected to the conductor and the other terminal connected to earth. If meager indicates zero reading, it means the conductor is earthed. The same procedure is repeated for other conductors of the cable .This project is used to detect the location of fault in digital way. Locating the faulty pointing an underground cable helps to facilitate quicker repair, improve the system reliability and reduced outage period. The article has been organized as follows. Section 2 discuss about different methods used to detect the location of fault in underground cables. Section 3 describes the basic principle of the proposed fault locating method.

II. INTERNET OF THING:

The evaluation of IOT in the electrical Power Industry transformed the way things performed in usual manner. IOT increased the use of wireless technology to connect power industry assets and infrastructure in order to lower the power consumption and cost. The applications of IOT are not limited to particular fields, but span a wide range of applications such as energy systems, homes, industries, cities, logistics, heath, agriculture and so on. Since 1881, the overall power grid system has been built up over more than 13 decades, meeting the ever increasing demand for energy. Power grids are now been considered to be one of the vital components of infrastructure on which the modern society depends. It is essential to provide uninterrupted power without outages or losses. It is quiet hard to digest the fact that power generated is not equal to the power consumed at the end point due to various losses. It is even harder to imagine the after effects without power for a minute. Power outages occur as result of short circuits. This is a costly event as it influences the industrial production, commercial activities and consumer lifestyle. Government & independent power providers are continuously exploring solutions to ensure good power quality, maximize grid uptime, reduce power consumption, increase the efficiency of grid operations and eradicate outages, power loss & theft. Most importantly, the solution should provide a real-time visibility to customers on every penny paid for their energy. There is an increasing need of a centralized management solution for more reliable, scalable, and manageable operations while also being cost effective, secure, and inter-operable. In addition, the solution should enable power providers and utilities to perform effective demand forecasting and energy planning to address the growing need for uninterrupted quality power .

The goal of IOT is not just only connecting things such as machines, devices and appliances, but also allowing the things to communicate, exchanging control data and other necessary information while executing applications. It consists of IOT devices that have unique identities and are capable of performing remote sensing, monitoring and actuating tasks. These devices are capable of interacting with one another directly or indirectly. Data collection is performed locally or remotely via centralized servers or cloud based applications. These devices may be data collection devices to which various sensors are attached such as temperature, humidity, light, etc., or they may be data actuating devices to which actuators are connected, such as relays. IOT system is composed of three layers: the perception layer, the network layer, and the application layer as shown in Figure 1. The perception layer includes a group of Internet-enabled devices that can percept, detect objects, collect systems information, and exchange information with other devices through the Internet communication networks. Sensors, Global Positioning Systems (GPS), cameras, and Radio Frequency Identification Devices (RFID) are examples of devices that exist at perception layer. The network layer is responsible of forwarding data from perception layer to the application layer under the constraints of devices' capabilities, network limitation and the applications' constraints. IOT systems use a combination of Internet and short-range networks based on the communicated parties. Short-range communication technologies such as Blue-tooth and Zig-Bee are used to carry the information from perception devices to a nearby gateway.

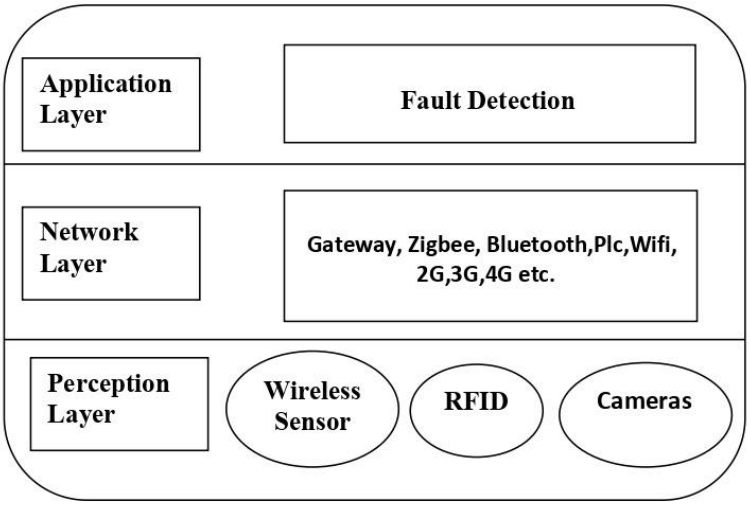

Figure 1 Architecture of IOT

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed system is an IOT enabled underground cable fault detection system. The basic principle behind the system is Ohms law. When fault occurs in the cable, the voltage varies which is used to calculate the fault distance. The system consists of Wi-Fi module, Micro-controller, and Real-Time Clock. The block diagram of the fault detection system is shown in the Figure 2.

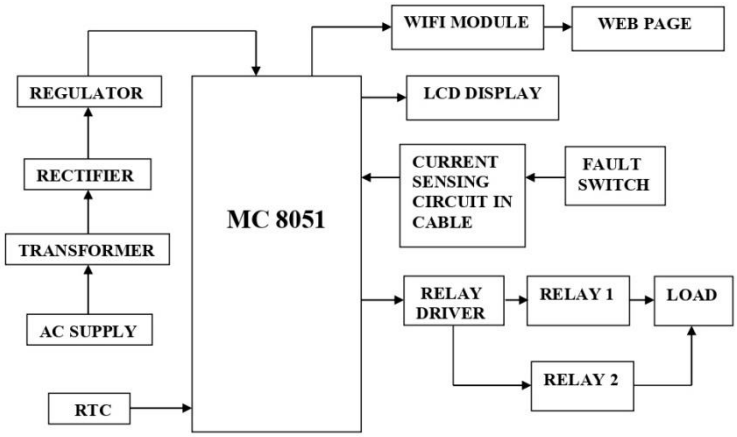

Figure 2 Block Diagram of Fault Detection system

The power supply is provided using step-down transformer, rectifier, and regulator. The current sensing circuit of the cable provides the magnitude of voltage drop across the resistors to the micro-controller and based on the voltage the fault distance is located.

IV. FLOWCHART

The flow chart of the logic behind the fault detecting system is given in Figure 3. The input and output ports of Micro-controller, LCD display, RTC and Wi-Fi module of the system are configured and initialized. When fault occurs (switch is pressed), the fault distance, time and phase are displayed corresponding to that fault. The above fault information will be displayed in the web-page using Wi-Fi modules

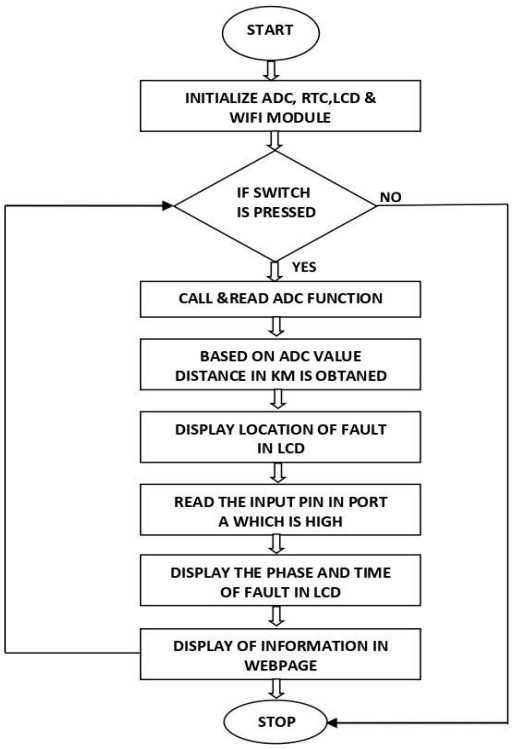

Figure 3 Flowchart

V. CONCLUSION

Determine the distance of underground cable fault from base station in kilometers. The underground cable system is a common practice followed in many urban areas. While a fault occurs for some reason, at that time the repairing process related to that particular cable is difficult due to not knowing the exact location of the cable fault. The proposed system is to find the exact location of the fault. The project uses the standard concept of Ohms law i.e., when a low DC voltage is applied at the feeder end through a series resistor (Cable lines), then current would vary depending upon the location of fault in the cable. In case there is a short circuit (Line to Ground), the voltage across series resistors changes accordingly, which is then fed to an ADC to develop precise digital data which the programmed micro-controller of 8051 family would display in kilometers.

The project is assembled with a set of resistors representing cable length in KM's and fault creation is made by a set of switches at every known KM to cross check the accuracy of the same. The fault occurring at a particular distance and the respective phase is displayed on a LCD interfaced to the micro-controller. The short circuit fault at a particular distance in the underground cable is located to rectify the fault efficiently using simple concepts of Ohms law. The work automatically displays the phase, distance and time of occurrence of fault with the help of IC8051 and ESP8266Wi - Fi module in a web-page. The benefits of accurate location of fault are fast repair to revive back the power system, it improves the system performance, it reduce the operating expense and the time to locate the faults in the field.

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