

Optimal Energy Scheduling Strategy in Power System using Bat Algorithm Optimization Approach

X. W. Ng¹, N. F. Ramli², N. A. M. Kamari³, M. A. Zulkifley⁴, I. Musirin⁵

^{1,2,3,4}Electrical, Electronic and System Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia, azwank@ukm.edu.my

⁵Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Malaysia, ismailbm@salam.uitm.edu.my

ABSTRACT

This paper presents an energy scheduling strategy for power system using Bat Algorithm (BA) optimization technique. BA is inspired by the natural behaviour of microbats, that of echolocation. The paper focuses on the minimization of the total power and cost needed according to the power demand and limits of power generation. Two systems, the IEEE 9 bus with 3 generator system and IEEE 30 bus with 6 generator system, are studied and simulated using Matlab. The performance of BA is compared with evolutionary programming (EP) technique. The simulation results indicate that BA performs better than EP in determining the optimal power generation value with minimum generation cost.

Key words : Energy Scheduling; Bat Algorithm; Evolutionary Programming

1. INTRODUCTION

The development of a country depends strongly on the efficiency of its power system. Cost handling to avoid unnecessary expenses is very important in maintaining the efficiency of the power system and economy of the country. Economic dispatch (ED) is an important key to consider in the development of the power system. It has been widely used in power system designs to minimize the cost while achieving the power demand [1-5].

ED means lesser energy will be wasted and lower costs will be incurred to achieve the requirements. Various methods have been used, including optimization method. Optimization method can be categorized into several categories, including metaheuristic [6-8], combinatorial optimization [9-11] and linear programming [12-14]. A power system can be built up by more than one generator depending on the power demand. The cost of power generated and distributed from different generators vary. Therefore, the use of optimization methods is very important in ensuring the success of economic delivery.

The mathematical equations involved in economic dispatch depend on the objective functions of the research. Economic

dispatch is widely used in the power system, which may be economic load dispatch or economic emission dispatch, which controls potentially harmful gas emissions. The power loss of transmission can also be taken into the account of without affecting the final achievement of the power generated according to power demand.

Optimization approaches are frequently chosen to tune variables of devices in solving power system stability problems. Some new algorithms, such as Particle Swarm Optimization [15-17], Gravitational Search Algorithm [18-20], Firefly [21-23], Whale Optimization Algorithm [24-26], Ant Colony Optimization [27-29], Flower Pollination Algorithm [30-32], Moth Flame Optimization [33-35] and Bat Algorithm [36-38] have also gained attention because of their efficiency. These algorithms are inspired from nature with the characteristic of the investigated biological system. These methods are swarm-intelligence based, making them easier to implement and obtain better outcomes. Some other algorithms were inspired by the biological system, such as the Genetic Algorithm [39-41], Artificial Immune System [42-44] and Evolutionary Programming [45-47] are commonly used.

In this paper, two types of ED simulation using nature-inspired Bat Algorithm and bio-inspired Evolutionary Programming are conducted according to the IEEE standards of nine bus with three generator and thirty bus with six generator systems. The results are analyzed in the aspect of cost minimization according to power generated based on load demand.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the basic calculation of ED. Section 3 and Section 4 explain the formulation for Bat Algorithm and Evolutionary Programming optimization techniques, respectively. Section 5 provides the simulation results and discussions. Lastly, Section 6 presents the conclusions.

2. ECONOMIC DISPATCH

The objective of economic load dispatch problem is to minimize the cost of total power generated with optimum generation values allocation while satisfying equality and

equality constraint. The mathematical equation that represents the objective function is similar to the quadratic equation as below [1]:

$$F_t = \sum_{i=1}^n F_i(P_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i P_i^2 + b_i P_i + c_i) \quad (1)$$

where F_i is the total cost for all generators, n is the number of generators, a_i, b_i, c_i are coefficients of the i th generator and P_i is the power generated by the i th generator. The total power generated of the system is shown in Equation (2):

$$\sum_{i=1}^n P_i = P_d + P_l \quad (2)$$

Here, P_d is the power demand at the load side and P_l is the power loss during transmission process. Generator load is in the range as follows:

$$P_i^{min} \leq P_i \leq P_i^{max} \quad (3)$$

where P_i^{min} and P_i^{max} are the minimum and maximum generation limit of the i th generator, respectively.

3. BAT ALGORITHM

Bat Algorithm (BA) has gained popularity because of its efficiency in optimization problem, which is inspired by the natural behaviour of microbats, that of echolocation. The movement of bats at night depends on the radiation of short pulses they emit. The increase in pulse emission rates and increase in frequency shorten the wavelength of echolocation, which help micro bats detect the object more accurately. The echolocation or sonar that bounces back from the objects is known as a signal of the surrounding situation. With this natural behaviour, bats can find their way even without any light. The special characteristic of bats being able to differentiate whether it is food, prey or barriers in their way is much more suitable to use in the complicated analysis including ED.

Several rules for BA were considered to start the optimization [36]:

- a) All bats use their instinct of echolocation to define the distance and location x .
- b) A random flying bat at x with velocity v_i has a fixed frequency varied between $f_{min} \sim f_{maks}$ searches for food. Here, f_{min} and f_{maks} are minimum and maximum frequency, respectively. The frequency f , pulse rate r and loudness A are varied from time to time.
- c) The loudness is assumed to be varied between $A_o \sim A_{min}$. Here, A_o is a large value, while A_{min} is a minimum value.

For the implementation in ED, several equations are represented in BA. BA optimization process starts with producing initial value of location x , frequency f , velocity v , loudness A , pulse rate r , and fitness K for j of bats. Equation 4 represents frequency of bat which will be updated from time to time for a better solution. The f_{maks} and f_{min} are set at 2 and 0,

respectively in this paper.

$$f_j = f_{min} + (f_{maks} - f_{min})\beta \quad (4)$$

Here, f_j is the frequency of the j th bat, β is a uniformly distributed random vector in the range of $[0, 1]$. The calculation of velocity and location are shown in Equation (5) and (6), respectively.

$$v_j^t = v_j^{t-1} + (x_j^{t-1} - x_b) f_j \quad (5)$$

$$x_j^t = x_j^{t-1} + v_j^t \quad (6)$$

Here, x_j^t and v_j^t are the position and velocity components of the j th bat in the population at the t th iteration. x_b is the current best location of the last iteration.

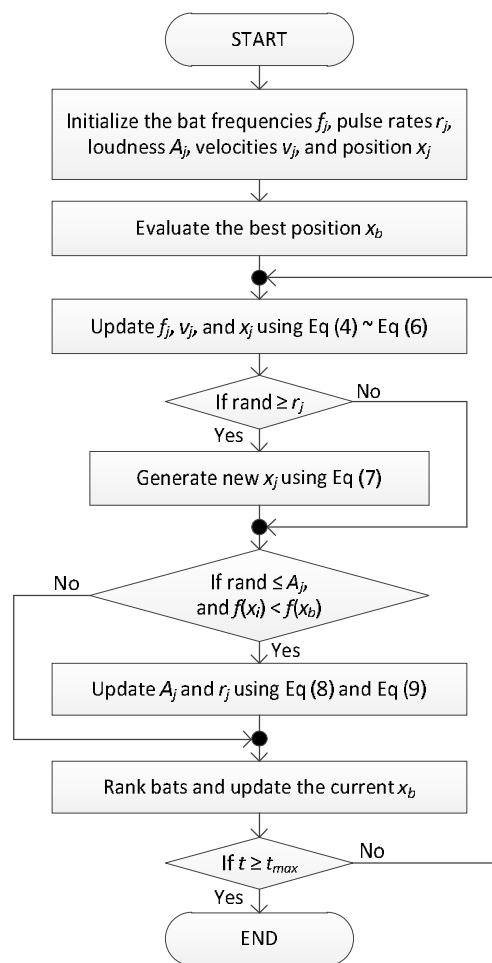


Figure 1: Process Flow of the BA

In addition to global search, BA also has local search capabilities. Adaptive parameters are used to achieve a balance between these two search capabilities. During the local search, Equation (7) is used to select the current best solution.

$$x_j^t = x_b + \epsilon A^t \tag{7}$$

Here, ϵ is the random number that lies between [0,1]. A^t is the average value of loudness for all bats at the t th iteration.

Both value of loudness A and pulse rate r changes with increase in number of iterations. The value of A will decrease and r will increase, as bat increases towards its prey. Equations (8) and (9) represent the pulse rate r and loudness A of the BA.

$$r_j^t = r_j^{t-1} [1 - e^{(-\gamma t)}] \tag{8}$$

$$A_j^t = \alpha A_j^{t-1} \tag{9}$$

Here, r_j^t and A_j^t are the pulse rate and loudness components of the j th bat in the population at the t th iteration. γ and α are constant numbers fixed at 0.1 and 0.97, respectively.

After the search for the best location, the best fitness with the optimum cost of generation will be obtained. The iteration counter will be set to $t = t+1$ and algorithm will start again. The process will stop when the iteration achieved the maximum number of iterations, t_{max} . Figure 1 shows the process flow of the BA.

4. EVOLUTIONARY PROGRAMMING

Evolutionary Programming (EP) is one of the stochastic optimization strategies that minimise or maximise the objective function when random variables exist. This method is based on the concept of mutation between parents and their offspring. The use of the mutation operator creates a population for global search. It starts with a population of the randomly generated solution and undergoes generations or iterations until the best solution is found. Implementation of EP for optimization problem involves three stages, namely, initialization, mutation, and competition and selection [47].

Same as the BA technique, the optimization process of EP starts with producing initial value of parent y_l and fitness K_l . l is number of populations. Mutation creates a mutated population or offspring, y_{l+m} from each parent population y_l :

$$\sigma_l = \frac{K_l}{K_{max}} * (y_l^{maks} - y_l^{min}) \tag{10}$$

$$y_{l+m} = y_l + \sigma_l * N(0,1) \tag{11}$$

Here, m is total number of parents. $N(0,1)$ is Gaussian random variable with mean and standard deviation are 0 and 1, respectively. K_{max} is the maximum fitness of the last iteration. Based on the mutated population, fitness K for each offspring population is computed.

Competition and selection are the final stage to finalize the best solution of each iteration. Both group of parents and

offspring are combined. The first l individuals (or top half of parents-offspring combination) with higher fitness K are selected as populations of the next generation. The iteration counter will be set to $t = t+1$ and algorithm will start again. The process will stop when the iteration achieved t_{max} . Figure 2 shows the process flow of the EP.

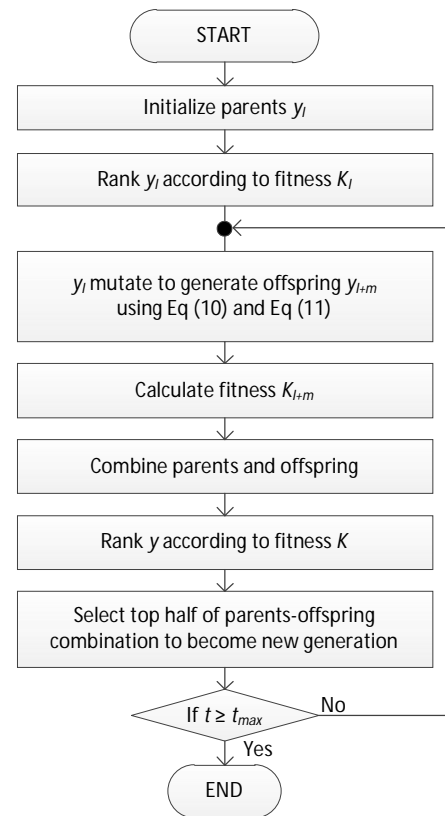


Figure 2: Process Flow of the EP

5. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

In this paper, the performance of BA and EP are conducted according to two types of systems: IEEE standards of nine bus with three generator system (System 1) and thirty bus with six generator system (System 2) [5].

5.1 Nine Bus with Three Generator System (System 1)

The load demand for IEEE nine bus with three generator system (System 1) is set at 150MW. The power generation limits for the generating units in System 1 are shown in Table 1. Table 2 shows the coefficients for the quadratic cost function for the generating units for System 1.

Table 1: Power limit for the generator in System 1

Generator	Minimum (MW)	Maximum (MW)
P_1	10	85
P_2	10	80
P_3	10	70

Table 3 shows the total power generated using EP and BA. Both methods show good results and fulfilled the load

demand. Although both techniques produce power as required, BA is able to provide the same amount of power as the load demand, while a power surplus of 0.6 MW is generated using the EP approach.

Table 2: Coefficients of the quadratic cost function for System 1

Generator	$a_i(\text{MW}^2)$	$b_i(\text{MW})$	c_i
P_1	0.008	7.0	200
P_2	0.009	6.3	180
P_3	0.007	6.8	140

Table 3: Power generated by System 1

Generator	EP (MW)	BA (MW)
P_1	23.7900	10.1000
P_2	78.5300	79.9700
P_3	48.3500	59.9300
Total Generated	150.6000	150.0000

Table 4 shows the total cost of power generated. The EP significantly optimized the higher cost of power generation as compared to the BA. The cost needed for BA is RM1502.05 and RM1510.06 for EP. This shows that BA method produced cheaper generation cost compared to EP in System 1 for the load demand of 150 MW.

Table 4: Generation cost for System 1

Generator	EP (RM/h)	BA (RM/h)
P_1	366.53	270.70
P_2	674.75	683.82
P_3	468.78	547.53
Total Cost	1510.06	1502.05

5.2 Thirty Bus with Six Generator System (System 2)

The load demand for IEEE thirty bus with six generator system (System 2) is set at 700MW. Table 5 shows the power generation limit for the units in System 2. Table 6 shows the coefficients of quadratic cost functions for the generating units for System 2.

Table 5: Power limit for the generator in System 2

Generator	Minimum (MW)	Maximum (MW)
P_1	10	125
P_2	10	150
P_3	35	225
P_4	35	210
P_5	130	325
P_6	125	315

Table 6: Coefficients of the quadratic cost function for System 2

Generator	$a_i(\text{MW}^2)$	$b_i(\text{MW})$	c_i
P_1	0.15247	38.53973	756.79886
P_2	0.10587	46.15916	451.32513
P_3	0.02803	40.39650	1049.9977
P_4	0.03546	38.30553	1243.5311
P_5	0.02111	36.32782	1658.5690
P_6	0.01799	38.27041	1356.6592

Table 7 shows the total power generated using EP and BA. Both methods show good results and fulfilled the load demand. But the results show significantly that BA method is generated 700 MW, the same amount of power as the load demand, while a power surplus of 3.41 MW is generated using the EP.

Table 7: Power generated by System 2

Generator	EP (MW)	BA (MW)
P_1	58.0781	20.2100
P_2	27.2488	13.6470
P_3	76.0794	89.9420
P_4	65.2168	86.7600
P_5	217.4980	325.0037
P_6	259.2867	164.4373
Total Generated	703.4078	700.0000

Table 8 shows the total cost of power generated. The cost required for BA and EP are RM32983.16 and RM33410.67, respectively. From the result in System 2, it indicates that the BA performs better than EP because it can save up to RM427.51 of the generation cost as compared to EP in System 2 for the load demand of 700 MW.

Table 8: Generation cost for System 2

Generator	EP (RM/h)	BA (RM/h)
P_1	2996.46	1536.15
P_2	1709.41	1081.41
P_3	4123.39	4683.41
P_4	3741.77	4567.02
P_5	9559.89	13465.38
P_6	11279.75	7649.79
Total Cost	33410.67	32983.16

6. CONCLUSION

EP and BA fulfil the requirements for solving the economic load dispatch problem. The comparison among the efficiency of economic load dispatch is performed considering the generation cost. Higher efficiency in economic load dispatch indicates lower generation cost. BA exhibited better results compared to EP with the least excess power generated and cost savings. These show that BA is a more efficient method for solving economic load dispatch problems in power systems.

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