

A Self-Adaptive Fuzzy C-means based Radial Basis Function Network to Solve Economic Load Dispatch Problems

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ABSTRACT

In recent decades, with a large increase in power demand, fuel cost, and limited fuel supply it has become very essential to run the power systems with minimum cost so that the committed units serve the expected load demand. The basic objective of Economic Load Dispatch (ELD) is to distribute the total generation among the generation units in operation, in order to meet the load demand at minimum operating cost while satisfying the system equality and inequality constraints. Nature inspired computing techniques like Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) are preferred for solving ELD problems because they do not impose any restrictions on the shape of the fuel cost curve and are capable of providing good solution quality, and higher precision solutions very close to the global optimum. In this paper, the application of Fuzzy c-means based Radial Basis Function Network (RBFN) to ELD is proposed in order to minimize the error function through a self adaptive process until the error is less than a given tolerance leading to a best solution. The applicability and viability for practical applications has been tested on two different power systems, viz., a IEEE 30 bus 6 unit test system and a 20 unit test system and the experiments were carried out on MATLAB R2008b software. Comparison of the results with the conventional Lambda Iteration method demonstrates the effectiveness of RBFN in solving ELD problems based on fuel cost, power loss, total generated power, algorithmic efficiency, and computational time.

Keywords

Economic load dispatch, Fuzzy c-means clustering, Radial Basis Function Network, algorithmic efficiency, computational time, APAE.

1. INTRODUCTION

Economic Load Dispatch (ELD) is one of the most significant optimization problems in modern computer aided power system design. With increasing fuel cost and power demands, optimization of economic dispatch brings a lot of revenue to the network operator. So, it has become important to allocate the total load between the available generating units in such a way that the total cost of operation is kept at a minimum [(Lakshmi Devi A. 2008)]. In traditional methods like lambda iteration (LI) method [(C.L. 2000)], and gradient-based method, [(J. B. Park 1993)], the solution to ELD is obtained by approximately representing the cost function for individual generators in terms of single quadratic function. These techniques require incremental fuel cost curves which are piecewise linear and monotonically increasing to find the global optimal solution [(Rayapudi 2011)]. For generators with non-monotonically incremental cost curves, conventional methods ignores or flattens out portions of incremental cost curve that are not continuous or monotonically increasing. Thus these methods require approximation of characteristics to meet the

requirements, which in turn leads to an increase in the revenue over time. [(H. T. Yang 1996)], [(T. Jayabarathi 1999)]. Other classical methods like Newton-based techniques are not capable of performing for ELD problems with highly non-linear characteristics and a large number of constraints. Though dynamic programming is capable of solving non-linear and discontinuous problems, it suffers from the problem of curse of dimensionality. [(Glover 1992)].

Among these conventional methods, the LI method has been applied to find near optimal solutions to ELD problems for a very long time. The initial choice of lambda is an important factor which decides the convergence of the iterations. This method solves the ELD with two types of iterations – first, the value of lambda is changed iteratively from its initial assumed value to the final optimal value; second, for every value of lambda chosen by trial, the power generated by the generating units have to be acquired using sub-iterations. Hence the sub-iterations have to be run several times leading to a time consuming job [(Aravindhbabu P. 2001)]. Over the years several efforts have been made to find optimized solutions to the ELD problem based on Artificial Intelligence such as Artificial Neural Networks, Fuzzy Logic, and Evolutionary Algorithms. Some of the most popular ANNs are Hopfield, Multilayer Perceptron, Learning vector quantization, Radial basis function, Adaptive resonance theory, and Back propagation networks. Several neural networks like Hopfield network, back propagation network and Perceptron network have been proposed for solving the ELD problem [(Djukanovic.M. 1996), (Singh. G. 1995), (Matuda.S. 1989)]. In back propagation networks, the training is based on non-linear optimization technique and hence the solution to ELD problem is obtained at a very slow rate. In addition, there is no standard rule to fix the number of hidden neurons and hence the network may not be able to provide a general optimal modeling for the given ELD system. Hopfield networks converge slowly and normally take more than thousand iterations to dispatch the power optimally. The above mentioned drawbacks of back propagation and Hopfield network are overcome by the Radial Basis Function Network (RBFN), due to its Gaussian activation function.

This paper focuses on solving ELD using Fuzzy c-means (FCM) clustering and Radial Basis Function Network (RBFN), with the objective to obtain minimum fuel cost, and an optimized load dispatch with less computational time. The choice of hidden layer neurons for the RBFN is a very important factor that is capable of approximating any given function with arbitrary precision. Hence Fuzzy c-means clustering was adopted as a pre-processing algorithm to the RBFN in order to dimensionally reduce the data allowing a simpler RBF model for ELD problems. RBFN were first introduced by Powell to solve the real multivariate interpolation

problem [(Powell.M.J.D 1977)]. In contrast to ANN, the advantages of RBF network are its compact topology and the algorithm requires less training time for learning patterns. The learning strategy is based on random selection of input data sets as RBF centers in the hidden layer [(Chao-Ming Huang 2007)]. The weights between hidden and output layer can then be estimated by using the Gaussian activation function. Moreover, this network is mathematically simple with relatively low computational effort.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

Several conventional techniques are available in literature for solving the ELD problem. They include the conventional Lambda Iteration method [(C.L. 2000)], dynamic programming [(Lowery 1983)], mixed integer programming [(Wilson 1968)], branch and bound [(Yoshimura 1983)], and Newton's method [(Wood J. 1984)]. Heuristic methods like Tabu search [(W.-M. Lin 2002)], Simulated Annealing [(Wong 1994)] etc., were also applied for ELD problems. Ching-Tzong Su et. al [(Ching-Tzong Su 2000)] presented a new Hopfield model based approach for the economic dispatch problem, by including the computational procedures with a series weighting factor adjustments associated with the transmission line losses, updating the unit generations and power losses in order to minimize the value of the energy function. Aravindhbabu et. al. presented an on-line approach for solving the ELD using RBFN which directly produced the optimal lambda value. This value was applied further to compute the economic generations iteratively [(Aravindhbabu P. 2001)]. In [(Chao-Ming Huang 2007)] Chao-Ming Huang et al., proposed a novel technique that combines orthogonal least-squares (OLS) and enhanced particle swarm optimization (EPSO) algorithms to construct the radial basis function (RBF) network for real-time power dispatch.

3. PROBLEM DEFINITION

The principal objective of the economic load dispatch problem is to find a set of active power delivered by the committed generators to satisfy the required demand subject to the unit technical limits at the lowest production cost. The optimization of the ELD problem is formulated in terms of the fuel cost expressed as,

$$F_T = \sum_{i=1}^n F_i(P_{Gi}) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i + b_i P_{Gi} + c_i P_{Gi}^2 \quad [1]$$

Where F_T is the fuel cost of the system, F_i = fuel cost of the i^{th} generating unit of the system, P_{Gi} = power generated in the i^{th} generating unit, n = number of generators, a_i, b_i, c_i = cost coefficients of the i^{th} generator.

Subject to the equality constraint,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N P_{Gi} = P_D + P_L \quad [2]$$

where P_{Gi} represents the generated power, P_D is the total active power demand and P_L represents the transmission losses.

Subject to the inequality constraint,

$$P_{Gi \min} \leq P_{Gi} \leq P_{Gi \max} \quad [3]$$

where, $P_{Gi \min}$ is the minimum value of the real power,

$P_{Gi \max}$ is the maximum value of the real power and P indicates the generated real output power.

Taking these constraints into consideration, the biologically inspired artificial neural network, FCM based RBFN is proposed to obtain well-distributed dispatch solutions for ELD. The effectiveness of the techniques is investigated on two test systems consisting of six and twenty generating units, yielding higher quality solution including fast convergence, diversity maintenance, robustness and scalability. The results obtained are compared with the conventional Lambda Iteration Method.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed methodology of implementing the RBF network to solve the ELD problem is shown in Figure 1. The training data based on the selected test systems for different power demands with varying weights are set by the Lambda Iteration (LI) method. The values generated should be capable of satisfying all load profiles.

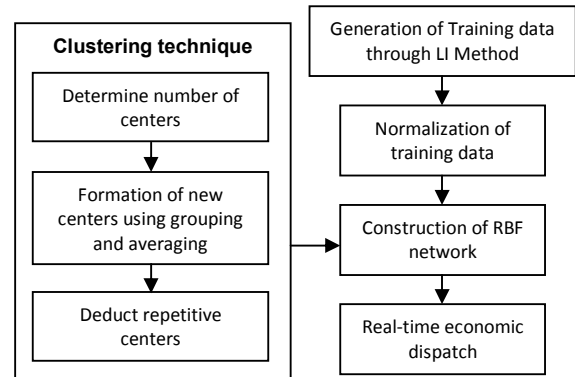


Figure 1. Schematic of proposed methodology

4.1 RBF Network

A typical RBF network model (Figure 2) consists of three layers, the input, hidden and the output layers [(Sivanandam S. N. 2006)]. The nodes within each layer are fully connected to the previous layer. The input nodes pass the incoming input vector directly to the hidden nodes without weights. The connections between the input nodes and the hidden nodes are called the first layer connections. The Gaussian functions are chosen as the activation function in the hidden units. The connections between the hidden nodes and the output nodes are weighted and are called second layer connections. The Gaussian activation function $\phi_j(X)$ for RBF networks is given by Equ.

$$\phi_j(X) = \exp[-(X - \mu_j)^T \sum_{j=1}^L (X - \mu_j)] \quad [4]$$

where, X = input feature vector, L = number of hidden units, μ_j = mean vector of the j^{th} Gaussian function, and

$\sum_{j=1}^L (X - \mu_j)$ = covariance matrix of the j^{th} Gaussian function.

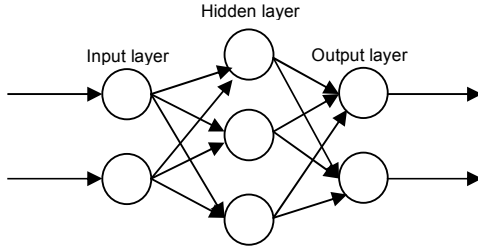


Figure 2. Architecture of RBF network

The output layer implements a weighted sum of hidden-unit outputs as given by Equ. 5:

$$\psi_k(X) = \sum_{j=1}^L \lambda_{jk} \phi_j(X), \text{ for } k=1, \dots, M \quad [5]$$

where, M = number of output units, λ_{jk} = output weights,

$\phi_j(X)$ = Gaussian activation function, $j = 1, 2, \dots, L$, where L is the number of hidden units and $k =$ number of output units. The centers for the radial basis functions are chosen from the set of input training data. A sufficient number of centers have to be selected in order to ensure adequate sampling of the input vector space. The output of i th unit $v_i(x_i)$ in the hidden layer is calculated from the equation

$$v_i(x_i) = e^{-\sum_{j=1}^r [x_{ji} - \hat{x}_{ji}]^2 / \sigma_i^2} \quad [6]$$

where, x_{ji} = center of the RBF unit for input variables, σ_i = width of the i th RBF unit and \hat{x}_{ji} = j th variable of input pattern. The output of the neural network is computed by using the equation

$$y_{net} = \sum_{i=1}^H w_{im} v_i(x_i) + w_0 \quad [7]$$

where, y_{net} = output value of m th node in output layer for the n th incoming pattern, H = number of hidden layer nodes, w_{im} = weight between i th RBF unit and m th output node and w_0 = biasing term at n th output node. The error rate E is calculated as the difference between the achieved and desired outputs for all output patterns and nodes using

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_n \sum_k y_k(x^n) - (t_k^n)^2 \quad [8]$$

where, n = number of input patterns, k = sum of the values for each output node, $y_k(x^n)$ is the achieved output for the given input x^n and t_k^n are the desired output for the given input n. The iterations are continued until the stopping condition is reached, which may be the weight change in the hidden layer or number of epochs.

4.2 Fuzzy c-means clustering

The choice of selecting the number of hidden units in a neural network is one of the most challenging tasks, requiring more experimentation. Application of clustering methods requires the number of known clusters in advance. There are two options for clustering – validity measures and compatible clustering. The data samples are clustered several times, each time with a different number of clusters $k \in [2, n]$ validity measures, while

in compatible clustering, the algorithms starts with a large number of clusters then proceeding by gradually merging similar clusters to obtain fewer clusters. [(Ke Meng 2010)]. In order to validate the non-linearity of the system, the value of k should be large enough.

In this paper, a fuzzy c-means clustering approach is adopted to specify the range of hidden layer neurons in the RBF network. Consider $x_i \in \mathfrak{R}$ be the data patterns in the feature space. Let the initial cluster number be $k = n/2$, and test whether a new center should be added based on the performance of the network. The new cluster center c_{k+1} is added from the remaining samples $[c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k]$. The fuzzy membership matrix is then updated with new centers and the process is repeated until the condition $k < n$ is reached. The clustering algorithm is performed by solving

$$\text{Min. } J_m(u, c; x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^k u_{ji}^m \|x_i - c_j\|^2 \quad [9]$$

$$\text{Subject to } \begin{cases} u = [u_{ji}], u_{ji} \in [0, 1] \\ \sum_{j=1}^k u_{ji} = 1, \sum_{j=1}^k u_{ji} > 0 \end{cases} \begin{cases} i = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ j = 1, 2, \dots, k \end{cases}$$

The algorithm of the FCM is as follows

Step 1: For the given data set, initialise $k \in [n/2, n]$,

tolerance $\varepsilon > 0$, initial cluster center c_0 , fuzzification constant m , such that $1 < m < \infty$. If $m \rightarrow 1$, the membership degrees of the data pattern tend to be either 0 or 1 thus approaching the hard means clustering, and if $m \rightarrow \infty$, the membership degrees of the data pattern tend to $1/k$, leading to a high level of fuzziness. Based on several experiments, the most common optimal choice of m is 2.

Step 2: Calculate $u(t) = [u_{ji}(t)]$, where $u_{ji}(t)$ is the membership value of vector x_i to the cluster center c_j ; with

Euclidean distance $d_{ji} = \|x_i - c_j\|^2$ between x_i and c_j ,

$$u_{ji}(t) = \frac{1}{\sum_{r=1}^k \left\{ \frac{[d_{ji}(t-1)]^{\frac{2}{m-1}}}{[d_{ri}(t-1)]^{\frac{2}{m-1}}} \right\}} \quad [10]$$

Step 3: Compute the center $c(t)$, given

$c = [c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k]$ is the array of clusters for $\forall j$,

$$c_j(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n [u_{ji}(t)]^m x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n [u_{ji}(t)]^m} \quad [11]$$

Step 4: Test for stopping condition else go to step 2. The stopping condition may be maximum number of iterations or until the condition $\|c(t) - c(t-1)\| < \varepsilon$ is met.

4.3 Parameters

From equations 5 and 6 the major governing parameters for implementing the mapping of the RBF network are

- Number of centers in the hidden layer
- Position of the RBF centers

- Width of the RBF centers
- Weights applied to the RBF function outputs as they are passed to the summation layer

The number of hidden neurons or equivalently radial basis centers needs to be much larger than the number of clusters in the data. The choice of number of hidden neurons is determined through the FCM algorithm. The output of the hidden neuron is significant only if the Euclidean distance from the cluster center is within a radius of $2\sigma_i$ around the cluster center. The width of the RBF centers are set once the clustering procedure is complete satisfying the condition that the basis functions should overlap to some extent in order to give a relatively smooth representation of the data. Typically, the width for a given cluster center is set to the average Euclidean distance between the center and the training vectors which belong to that cluster.

4.4 Algorithm

The application of RBF network consists of two phases, training and testing. The accuracy of RBF network model depends on the proper selection of training data. The inputs of the training network are power demand, weights w_1 and w_2 , while the outputs constitute the power generated by the generating units. The step-by-step procedure involved in the implementation of ELD using FCM based RBF network is elaborated below:

Step 1: The data set is divided into training, and testing sets to evaluate the proposed network performance.

Step 2: Initialize suitable values for the range of cluster, initial cluster center, tolerance value for FCM, and number of maximum iterations.

Step 3: Compute the membership matrix and update iteratively based on,

$$u_{ji}(t) = \frac{1}{\sum_{r=1}^k \left\{ \frac{d_{ji}^2(t-1)}{d_{ri}^2(t-1)} \right\}^{m-1}} \quad [12]$$

Similarly, the clusters center matrix (Eqn 11) is computed and updated. If the maximum number of iterations or the tolerance level has reached then the clustering process stops.

Step 4: Compute the cluster radius and weights between the hidden layer and output layer. The feasible results based on the training and testing data are saved and the performance metric Average Percentage Absolute Error (APAE) is computed,

$$APAE \% = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{|Actual Output - Estimated Output|}{Actual Output} \times 100 \quad [13]$$

where m is the number of generating units.

Step 5: Based on the current membership matrix, new cluster centers C_{k+1} are determined using

$$Min \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq k, i \neq j} (u_{ni} - u_{nj}) \quad [14]$$

Go to Step 3.

Step 6: The center model that produces minimum error is selected and the output results are computed based on the testing data.

Figure 3 shows the steps involved in solving ELD problem using RBF network. The parameters such as cost coefficients a_i, b_i and c_i , minimum and maximum power

generated in the i^{th} unit, $P_{Gi\min}$ and $P_{Gi\max}$, are given as input to the input nodes. Along with the input parameters, the test data of the inputs are also provided. While propagating along the hidden layers, the weights are updated and the centers are chosen using random selection method. The network is trained through the training algorithm and the error values are computed. The difference between the target and the trained data are computed. If the difference is below the tolerance value, the algorithm is stopped and the results are displayed, otherwise the process is repeated until the error converges. The accuracy of the RBF network also depends upon the proper selection of the training data. The more uniform the training data are distributed, the faster the network converges thus providing the optimal solution.

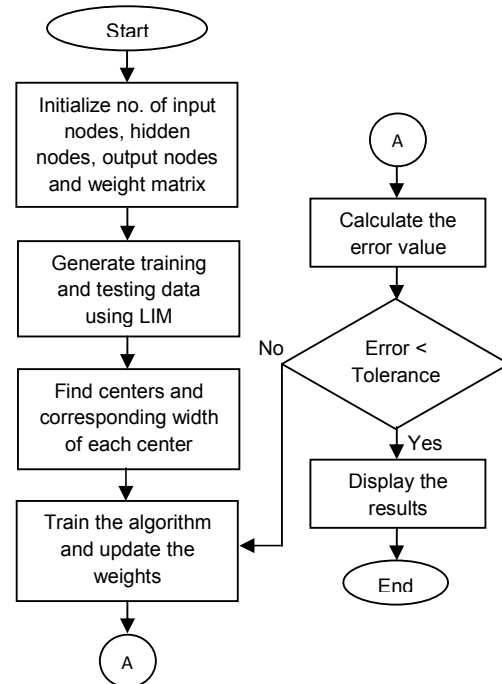


Figure 3. Flow chart of ELD using RBF network

5. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Experimental results show the applicability and effectiveness of a real time project. The main objective of the economic dispatch is to minimize fuel costs while satisfying constraints such as power balance equation and generating power limit for each unit. The pertinence and practicality of the FCM based RBF network for solving Economic Load Dispatch (ELD) problem has been tested on two different power generating units – the IEEE 30 bus 6 units and the 20 units system including the transmission losses. The solution to ELD is obtained through LI method and further through the CM based RBFN. The algorithms are implemented in MATLAB R2008b platform on i3, 2.53 GHz, 4 GB RAM personal computer.

5.1 CASE I: IEEE 30 Bus system

The IEEE 30 bus six unit test system has been adopted from [(Sailaja Kumari M. 2009)], in which the fuel cost coefficients, and power limits are known. The specifications of the system for six generator test system are detailed in Table 1. The system is found to have minimum and maximum generation capacity of 117 MW and 435 MW, respectively.

Table 1. Fuel cost coefficients and power limits for six unit test system

| Unit no. | a_i (\$/hr) | b_i (\$/MW hr) | c_i (\$/MW ² hr) | P_{Gimax} (MW) | P_{Gimin} (MW) |
|----------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | .00375 | 2 | 0 | 50 | 200 |
| 2 | .01750 | 1.75 | 0 | 20 | 80 |
| 3 | .06250 | 1 | 0 | 15 | 50 |
| 4 | .00834 | 3.25 | 0 | 10 | 35 |
| 5 | .02500 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 30 |
| 6 | .02500 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 40 |

The transmission loss coefficient denoted as B_{ij} is given according to Equ. 15 as,

$$B_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000218 & 0.000103 & 0.000009 & -.000010 & 0.000002 & 0.000027 \\ 0.000103 & 0.000181 & 0.000004 & -.000015 & 0.000002 & 0.000030 \\ 0.000009 & 0.000004 & 0.000417 & -.000131 & -.000153 & -.000107 \\ -.000140 & -.000015 & -.000131 & 0.000221 & 0.000094 & 0.000050 \\ 0.000002 & 0.000002 & -.000153 & 0.000094 & 0.000243 & 0.000000 \\ 0.000027 & 0.000030 & -.000107 & 0.000050 & 0.000000 & 0.000358 \end{bmatrix} \quad [15]$$

In the LI Method, the program does not impose any restriction on the range of the lambda in order to obtain optimal distribution of power among the power generating units. For experimental analysis, the power demand for the IEEE 30 bus system was varied between 117 MW to 400 MW with random intervals and generated power in each unit, the total cost, total losses and computational time were evaluated. The lambda value is chosen based on the derivative of the cost function in order to achieve better convergence. The rate of change of lambda $\Delta\lambda$ is chosen as 0.00005 in this study. Table 2 shows the computed results for the 6-unit test system using LIM Method.

The accuracy of RBF network model depends on the proper selection of training data. The inputs of the training network are power demand, weights w_1 and w_2 , while the outputs constitute the power generated by the 6 generating units. Table 3 shows the various parameters and their values used in RBFN based ELD.

The learning rate (α) controls the rate at which the weights are modified due to previous weight updates. It acts as a smoothing parameter that reduces oscillation and helps attain convergence. This must be a real value between 0.0 and 1.0. In this experiment, convergence was attained for $\alpha = 0.997$. The step size controls the weights during the training process, larger the learning rate, larger the rate of change of weights. Hence to maintain stability in the updation of weights, the value of 0.0002 was chosen.

Table 3 Parameters of ANN used to implement ELD for six unit system

| Parameters | Notations used | Values |
|------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Initial cluster number | k | 3 |
| Fuzzification constant | m | 2 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Input Nodes | Input node | 3 |
| Output Nodes | Output node | 6 |
| No. of patterns | n | 171 |
| No. of RBF centers | Centers | 55 |
| Momentum factor | m | 0.0002 |
| Learning rate | α | 0.997 |
| Step size/tolerance | ϵ | 0.002 |
| No. of iterations | Iter | 500 |

The training data are generated using lambda iteration method, by changing the total power demand in from minimum to maximum generation capacity taking into account the generator power limits and transmission power losses. A total of 171 training samples were created in this case and the 5.2% of the training data was chosen as testing data in a trial and error basis.

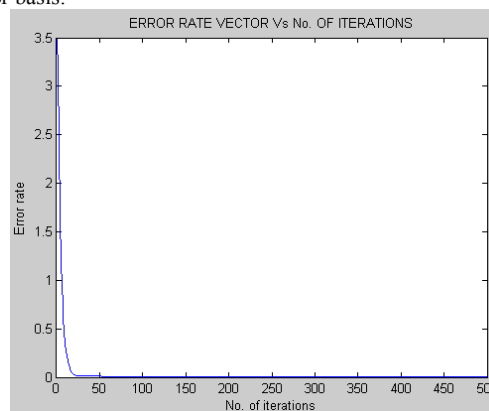


Figure 4. Error Rate Vs No. of Iterations

Figure 4 shows the typical relationship between the number of iterations and the error rate for the 6 unit generator system. While increasing the number of iterations the error rate decreases and becomes constant after a set of iterations. The optimized results were obtained when the RBFN converged towards the best value at the end of 500 iterations. Table 4 shows the computational results of the RBFN for 6 unit generator system for different values of power demand.

In order to verify the effectiveness of RBF in solving Economic Load Dispatch problems, the results obtained in the above sections are compared with those obtained through literature in terms of cost, total power, loss, algorithmic efficiency and computational time for a power demand of 283.4 MW (Table 5). It is clear that the proposed Fuzzy c-means based RBFN is superior to the other techniques for the IEEE 30 bus system.

Table 2 Results using LIM for six generator test system

| Power demand (MW) | 117 | 150 | 200 | 250 | 283.4 | 300 | 350 | 400 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|
| P1 (MW) | 50 | 68.25161 | 107.6139 | 147.4569 | 174.3403 | 187.782987 | 200 | 200 |
| P2 (MW) | 20 | 30.40913 | 40.0768 | 50.05122 | 56.89421 | 60.351453 | 75.66692 | 80 |
| P3 (MW) | 15.90416 | 21.0729 | 24.16534 | 27.40669 | 29.66026 | 30.808059 | 35.73562 | 43.01804 |
| P4 (MW) | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 26.8413 | 35 |
| P5 (MW) | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 12.48831 | 29.5571 |
| P6 (MW) | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 25.75381 |
| Fuel Cost (\$/hr) | 288.5221 | 377.6314 | 522.9947 | 687.6676 | 808.9491 | 872.718503 | 1072.37 | 1288.999 |
| Total Power (MW) | 117.9042 | 151.7336 | 203.856 | 256.9148 | 292.8948 | 310.942499 | 362.7322 | 413.329 |
| Power loss (MW) | 0.90345 | 1.731668 | 3.853857 | 6.908351 | 9.48889 | 10.937331 | 12.72418 | 13.32627 |
| CPU time (s) | 15.8281 | 22.25 | 23.9219 | 24.2969 | 25.9063 | 30.0156 | 33.6406 | 34.9063 |
| Lambda | 2.0062 | 2.34235 | 2.5464 | 2.7617 | 2.91225 | 2.9892 | 3.30145 | 3.7501 |

Table 4 Results using ANN for six generator test system

| Power demand | 117 | 150 | 200 | 250 | 283.4 | 300 | 350 | 400 | 435 |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| w1 | 0.5 | 0.15 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.35 | 0.85 | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.95 |
| w2 | 0.5 | 0.85 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.65 | 0.15 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.05 |
| P1 | 49.974 | 77.788 | 116.846 | 152.132 | 184.177 | 195.126 | 201.834 | 198.632 | 195.810 |
| P2 | 21.0196 | 27.791 | 37.0151 | 43.3293 | 50.9106 | 55.4441 | 75.6078 | 76.7924 | 84.6246 |
| P3 | 15.8205 | 17.6391 | 15.4882 | 17.758 | 22.0863 | 23.0039 | 19.7934 | 33.9414 | 50.1861 |
| P4 | 9.4746 | 10.5882 | 8.3501 | 10.9038 | 9.9015 | 9.9048 | 12.0989 | 14.6543 | 31.7837 |
| P5 | 10.665 | 10.816 | 9.7967 | 10.4438 | 12.7022 | 12.629 | 23.509 | 18.1916 | 30.2631 |
| P6 | 12.5306 | 12.6609 | 12.8123 | 12.3629 | 10.6345 | 13.317 | 23.0391 | 24.5869 | 43.1272 |
| FUEL COST | 293.188 | 390.212 | 506.175 | 648.601 | 792.451 | 859.199 | 1040.34 | 1089.89 | 1417.71 |
| Total Power | 119.4838 | 157.2832 | 200.3086 | 246.93 | 290.4117 | 309.4253 | 355.8818 | 366.799 | 435.795 |
| Power loss | 0.3116 | 0.5056 | 0.7704 | 1.1355 | 1.5455 | 1.7628 | 2.5199 | 2.6669 | 4.0361 |
| CPU time | 0.886 | 0.783 | 0.924 | 1.092 | 0.985 | 0.889 | 0.9864 | 1.027 | 1.031 |
| APAE | -1.44332 | -5.83526 | 2.61625 | -0.49836 | -3.67958 | -4.19765 | -1.55165 | 9.728697 | -0.59397 |

Table 5 Comparative Analysis

| Parameters | LIM | Hybrid GA [(Mary 2004)] | EP [(J. Yuryevich 1999)] | Simple GA [(Sailaja Kumari M. 2009)] | Fast GA [(Sailaja Kumari M. 2009)] | PS [(Y. LABBI 2010)] | GA- PS [(Y. LABBI 2010)] | Proposed RBFN |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| P _{G1} (MW) | 174.3403 | 176.2358 | 176.1522 | 189.5200 | 189.6130 | 175.727 | 175.6627 | 184.1766 |
| P _{G2} (MW) | 56.89421 | 49.0093 | 48.8391 | 47.7240 | 47.7450 | 48.6812 | 48.6413 | 50.9106 |
| P _{G3} (MW) | 29.66026 | 21.5023 | 21.5144 | 19.5719 | 19.5761 | 21.4282 | 21.4222 | 22.0863 |
| P _{G4} (MW) | 10.0000 | 21.8115 | 22.1299 | 13.8642 | 13.8752 | 22.8313 | 22.6219 | 9.9015 |
| P _{G5} (MW) | 10.0000 | 12.3387 | 12.2435 | 10.0000 | 10.0000 | 12.0667 | 12.3806 | 12.7022 |
| P _{G6} (MW) | 12.0000 | 12.0129 | 12.0000 | 12.0000 | 12.0000 | 12.0000 | 12.0000 | 10.6345 |
| Fuel cost (\$/hr) | 808.9491 | 802.465 | 802.404 | 799.3840 | 799.8230 | 802.0150 | 802.0138 | 792.4514 |
| Total power P _G (MW) | 292.8948 | 292.9105 | 292.8791 | 292.6801 | 292.8093 | 292.7344 | 292.7287 | 290.4117 |
| Power loss (MW) | 9.48889 | 9.5105 | 9.4791 | 9.6825 | 9.6897 | 9.3349 | 9.3286 | 1.5455 |
| CPU time (s) | 25.9063 | NA | NA | 0.483 | 0.125 | NA | NA | 0.985 |

*NA – Data Not Available

5.2 CASE II: 20 UNIT TEST SYSTEM

In order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the algorithms, several tests have been performed on a benchmark consisting of twenty generator units [(Ching-Tzong Su 2000)]. The details of fuel cost coefficients and generating limits for each unit are given in Table 6. The maximum and minimum power generating limits of the system are 3865 MW and 1010 MW, respectively. The experiments were conducted using the conventional Lambda Iteration Technique and the RBF network by varying the power demand within the range [1010, 3865].

The Transmission Loss Coefficient Matrix for calculating power loss of 20 Unit test system can be obtained from [(Ching-Tzong Su 2000)]. Table 7 illustrates results of lambda iteration method for the twenty unit system such as the generated power of each unit, the fuel cost, power loss and CPU time for various values of power demand.

The structural design of the RBFN is modified for 20 unit test system with three input nodes, four hidden nodes and twenty output nodes. The twenty output nodes correspond to optimal power generated for each generating units and three input nodes represents weights w_1 and w_2 , and power demand. The RBF network was trained with 133 patterns generated through LIM method for 500 iterations with network parameters initialized as shown in Table 8. In this experiment, 56 centers were selected in random with a learning rate of 0.997 and step size of 0.002 through the Fuzzy c-means algorithm. The momentum factor controls the number of weights changed during the updation process and also acts as a smoothing parameter that reduces oscillation and helps attain convergence. This must be a real value between 0.0 and 1.0, and was set to 0.0002. Step size is the tolerance value in the range [0.0, 1.0], which decides the acceptable difference between the desired output value and the

actual output value. Since this is the deciding parameter, it was set to a very low value 0.002 in this study.

Table 6 Fuel cost coefficients and power limits for twenty unit test system

| Unit no. | a_i (\$/hr) | b_i (\$/MW hr) | c_i (\$/MW ² hr) | P_{Gimax} (MW) | P_{Gimin} (MW) |
|----------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 0.00068 | 18.19 | 1000 | 600 | 150 |
| 2 | 0.00071 | 19.26 | 970 | 200 | 50 |
| 3 | 0.00650 | 19.80 | 600 | 200 | 50 |
| 4 | 0.00500 | 19.10 | 700 | 200 | 50 |
| 5 | 0.00738 | 18.10 | 420 | 160 | 50 |
| 6 | 0.00612 | 19.26 | 360 | 100 | 20 |
| 7 | 0.0079 | 17.14 | 490 | 125 | 25 |
| 8 | 0.00813 | 18.92 | 660 | 150 | 50 |
| 9 | 0.00522 | 18.27 | 765 | 200 | 50 |
| 10 | 0.00573 | 18.92 | 770 | 150 | 30 |
| 11 | 0.00480 | 16.69 | 800 | 300 | 100 |
| 12 | 0.00310 | 16.76 | 970 | 500 | 150 |
| 13 | 0.00850 | 17.36 | 900 | 160 | 40 |
| 14 | 0.00511 | 18.70 | 700 | 130 | 20 |
| 15 | 0.00398 | 18.70 | 450 | 185 | 25 |
| 16 | 0.00712 | 14.26 | 370 | 80 | 20 |
| 17 | 0.0089 | 19.14 | 480 | 85 | 30 |
| 18 | 0.00713 | 18.92 | 680 | 120 | 30 |
| 19 | 0.00622 | 18.47 | 700 | 120 | 40 |
| 20 | 0.00773 | 19.79 | 850 | 100 | 30 |

From Figure 5, it is shown that error rate decreases with increase in number of iterations and finally attains a constant value at zero. Results using ANN for twenty unit test system such as the power generated in each unit, power loss, and CPU time for various values of power demand are shown in Table 9.

Computational results of both Lambda iteration method and the Radial basis function method are compared in terms of generated power per unit, fuel cost, total power generated, power loss and computational time with LI method, and results obtained through other algorithms in literature. The results are illustrated in Table 10 for a power demand of 2500 MW.

5.3 Summary of discussions

The results obtained for the 6 unit and the 20 unit systems have proved that the Fuzzy c-means based RBF is more efficient in producing the optimal dispatch when compared with LI Method. The consequences of the output based on the solution quality, and computational efficiency are summarized in this section.

Solution quality: From the results obtained through the 6 unit test system in Table 5, for a power demand of 283.4 MW, it is noticed that the optimized fuel cost obtained by RBFN is 0.848%, less than LIM. Likewise, for the 20 unit system from Table 10, the minimum cost obtained by LIM is 0.0323% higher than the cost obtained through RBF for a power demand of 2500 MW.

Computational efficiency: Apart from yielding the optimal solution, it may also be noted that RBFN yields the minimum cost (Table 5 and Table 10) at a comparatively lesser time of execution. Computational efficiency of FCM based RBFN is 96.19% higher than LIM in case of a power demand of 283.4 MW for 6 unit test system. Similarly, for twenty unit test system, RBFN has higher computational efficiency by the factor of 97.09%, for power demand of 2500 MW. Thus, the

FCM based RBF approach is more efficient than Lambda iteration method in terms of computational time.

Table 8 Parameters of ANN used to implement ELD for twenty unit system

| Parameters | Notations used | Values |
|------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Initial cluster number | K | 3 |
| Fuzzification constant | M | 2 |
| Input Nodes | I | 3 |
| Hidden Nodes | H | 4 |
| Output Nodes | O | 20 |
| No. of patterns | N | 133 |
| No. of RBF centers | Centers | 56 |
| Learning rate | α | 0.997 |
| Momentum factor | M | 0.0002 |
| Step size | ϵ | 0.002 |
| No. of iterations | Iter | 500 |

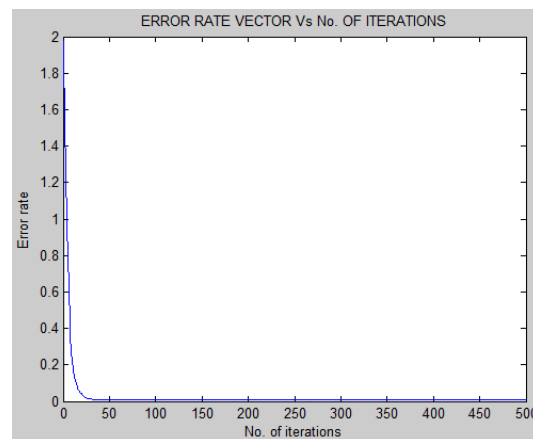


Figure 5 Error Rate Vs No. of Iterations

6. CONCLUSION

Economic load dispatch (ELD) in electric power system is the task of allocating generation among the committed units thus minimizing the total cost of production subject to the system equality and inequality constraints. For the considered ELD systems including transmission losses, FCM based RBF found solutions better than the conventional lambda iteration method in terms of fuel cost, computational time, and power loss. It was observed that in all the conducted experiments, the average performance of RBF was exceptional and the required time proved that FCM based RBF is most suitable for online solving of ELD problems. In future, efforts will be taken to impose more realistic constraints on the problem structure and large size real-time problems would be attempted by the proposed methodology. It would be of considerable interest to incorporate several practical constraints such as security, emission, and fuel reserve to the ELD problems and addition of these constraints while solving the ELD problem will be the subject of future works in this area.

Table 7 Results using LIM for twenty generator test system

| Power demand (MW) | 1010 | 1500 | 2000 | 2500 | 3000 | 3500 |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Lambda (λ) | 15.02 | 19.45585 | 19.97445 | 20.3892 | 20.8129 | 21.9647 |
| Fuel cost (\$/MW hr) | 34411.52 | 41800.38 | 51919.58 | 63295.81 | 72977.61 | 84881.91 |
| P _{G1} (MW) | 150 | 233.4626 | 350.5274 | 470.6366 | 577.9241 | 600 |
| P _{G2} (MW) | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 126.3088 | 200 |
| P _{G3} (MW) | 50 | 50 | 81.51073 | 151.1845 | 200 | 200 |
| P _{G4} (MW) | 50 | 50 | 53.72806 | 97.11856 | 145.7151 | 200 |
| P _{G5} (MW) | 50 | 50 | 71.58732 | 97.77008 | 123.4743 | 160 |
| P _{G6} (MW) | 20 | 20 | 32.87442 | 55.68459 | 80.24465 | 100 |
| P _{G7} (MW) | 25 | 115.1665 | 125 | 125 | 125 | 125 |
| P _{G8} (MW) | 50 | 53.46564 | 115.3661 | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| P _{G9} (MW) | 50 | 50 | 50 | 68.82129 | 101.04 | 200 |
| P _{G10} (MW) | 30 | 37.78153 | 118.283 | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| P _{G11} (MW) | 100 | 152.9464 | 187.0447 | 194.5108 | 195.673 | 236.1011 |
| P _{G12} (MW) | 150 | 292.7372 | 317.9294 | 337.2191 | 357.3664 | 453.7171 |
| P _{G13} (MW) | 40 | 108.5256 | 135.8477 | 151.1625 | 160 | 160 |
| P _{G14} (MW) | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 59.1824 |
| P _{G15} (MW) | 25 | 51.82681 | 78.91401 | 103.9979 | 134.5984 | 185 |
| P _{G16} (MW) | 36.0695 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| P _{G17} (MW) | 30 | 30 | 30 | 51.67328 | 85 | 85 |
| P _{G18} (MW) | 30 | 30 | 72.24207 | 98.43284 | 120 | 120 |
| P _{G19} (MW) | 40 | 40 | 68.32917 | 98.48716 | 120 | 120 |
| P _{G20} (MW) | 30 | 30 | 30 | 42.17147 | 74.26862 | 100 |
| Total P _G (MW) | 1026.069 | 1545.912 | 2069.184 | 2593.871 | 3126.614 | 3684.001 |
| Power loss (MW) | 16.06525 | 45.90553 | 69.13084 | 93.83006 | 126.5954 | 183.9935 |
| CPU time (s) | 1023.8 | 1251.9 | 1340.1 | 1232.1 | 1231.9 | 1291.7 |

Table 9 Results using ANN for twenty generator test system

| Power demand (MW) | 1010 | 1500 | 2000 | 2500 | 3000 | 3500 | 3865 |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| w ₁ | 0.25 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.65 | 0.1 |
| w ₂ | 0.75 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.35 | 0.9 |
| Fuel cost (\$/MW hr) | 34058.68 | 41570 | 49993.4 | 62436.46 | 72941.23 | 84123.39 | 87405.29 |
| P _{G1} (MW) | 147.1636 | 290.4817 | 406.9764 | 472.7972 | 578.4828 | 595.7565 | 598.2086 |
| P _{G2} (MW) | 53.8524 | 56.9833 | 89.0204 | 164.8213 | 205.4831 | 213.2504 | 202.5966 |
| P _{G3} (MW) | 53.0988 | 52.6563 | 67.3398 | 111.0902 | 158.9411 | 202.1239 | 198.7915 |
| P _{G4} (MW) | 47.1719 | 40.9439 | 42.7814 | 72.2386 | 115.8517 | 185.9402 | 186.3426 |
| P _{G5} (MW) | 52.5952 | 66.3248 | 85.3925 | 120.02 | 142.5125 | 148.9922 | 182.1915 |
| P _{G6} (MW) | 26.829 | 25.4111 | 36.6882 | 75.8967 | 92.8074 | 102.6464 | 100.2029 |
| P _{G7} (MW) | 29.9063 | 81.4288 | 102.3298 | 118.6989 | 121.3111 | 138.4964 | 128.027 |
| P _{G8} (MW) | 53.0762 | 50.0647 | 73.4457 | 112.5673 | 135.2231 | 151.8175 | 128.7755 |
| P _{G9} (MW) | 49.6017 | 49.6433 | 75.1298 | 87.6202 | 119.9089 | 160.1948 | 190.9665 |
| P _{G10} (MW) | 33.1905 | 51.0884 | 90.0773 | 118.7859 | 138.5096 | 145.5974 | 150.5402 |
| P _{G11} (MW) | 102.8683 | 138.7033 | 142.853 | 161.9814 | 184.8945 | 253.5285 | 307.1777 |
| P _{G12} (MW) | 153.2964 | 226.4354 | 260.8681 | 270.073 | 327.8716 | 389.6394 | 488.7123 |
| P _{G13} (MW) | 48.9157 | 75.9085 | 86.268 | 87.7971 | 109.9513 | 164.2233 | 145.4075 |
| P _{G14} (MW) | 31.6477 | 29.7433 | 34.0271 | 52.0309 | 59.6217 | 102.6602 | 127.2653 |
| P _{G15} (MW) | 34.4998 | 40.1871 | 74.2373 | 99.4377 | 130.3887 | 188.2335 | 171.8812 |
| P _{G16} (MW) | 27.428 | 79.6814 | 85.4802 | 89.0737 | 77.6386 | 76.8944 | 88.1829 |
| P _{G17} (MW) | 33.257 | 28.1896 | 36.5791 | 73.3581 | 77.5748 | 82.7333 | 85.046 |
| P _{G18} (MW) | 35.9433 | 42.3985 | 59.4482 | 93.9469 | 111.8516 | 129.4469 | 118.6177 |
| P _{G19} (MW) | 55.8547 | 68.2277 | 93.7277 | 145.414 | 150.2787 | 146.5659 | 157.8982 |
| P _{G20} (MW) | 40.2033 | 35.9105 | 29.9237 | 76.194 | 95.952 | 116.3288 | 110.0647 |
| Total power P _G (MW) | 1110.4 | 1530.4 | 1972.6 | 2603.8 | 3135.1 | 3695.1 | 3866.9 |
| Power loss (MW) | 18.0642 | 40.3534 | 63.0818 | 92.3204 | 129.7901 | 181.5548 | 215.0577 |
| APAE % | -0.26045 | -1.26773 | 6.861934 | -1.53346 | 0.105998 | -1.83827 | -1.2176 |
| CPU time (s) | 0.12 | 0.678 | 0.799 | 0.982 | 1.145 | 1.923 | 1.989 |

Table 10 Comparative Analysis

| Parameters | LIM | Hopfield [(Ching-Tzong Su 2000)] | BBO [(Aniruddha Bhattacharya 2010)] | RBFN |
|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| P_{G1} (MW) | 512.7805 | 512.7804 | 513.09 | 472.7972 |
| P_{G2} (MW) | 169.1033 | 169.1035 | 173.35 | 164.8213 |
| P_{G3} (MW) | 126.8898 | 126.8897 | 126.92 | 111.0902 |
| P_{G4} (MW) | 102.8657 | 102.8656 | 103.33 | 72.2386 |
| P_{G5} (MW) | 113.6836 | 113.6836 | 113.77 | 120.02 |
| P_{G6} (MW) | 73.5710 | 73.5709 | 73.07 | 75.8967 |
| P_{G7} (MW) | 115.2878 | 115.2876 | 114.98 | 118.6989 |
| P_{G8} (MW) | 116.3994 | 116.3994 | 116.42 | 112.5673 |
| P_{G9} (MW) | 100.4062 | 100.4067 | 100.69 | 87.6202 |
| P_{G10} (MW) | 106.0267 | 106.0267 | 100 | 118.7859 |
| P_{G11} (MW) | 150.2394 | 150.2395 | 148.98 | 161.9814 |
| P_{G12} (MW) | 292.7648 | 292.7647 | 294.02 | 270.073 |
| P_{G13} (MW) | 119.1154 | 119.1155 | 119.58 | 87.7971 |
| P_{G14} (MW) | 30.8340 | 30.8342 | 30.55 | 52.0309 |
| P_{G15} (MW) | 115.8057 | 115.8056 | 116.45 | 99.4377 |
| P_{G16} (MW) | 36.2545 | 36.2545 | 36.23 | 89.0737 |
| P_{G17} (MW) | 66.8590 | 66.8590 | 66.86 | 73.3581 |
| P_{G18} (MW) | 87.9720 | 87.9720 | 88.55 | 93.9469 |
| P_{G19} (MW) | 100.8033 | 100.8033 | 100.98 | 145.414 |
| P_{G20} (MW) | 54.3050 | 54.3050 | 54.27 | 76.194 |
| Fuel cost (\$/ hr) | 62456.6391 | 62456.6341 | 62456.79 | 62436.46 |
| Total power P_G (MW) | 2537.662 | 2591.967 | 2592.11 | 2603.8 |
| Power loss (MW) | 91.9670 | 91.967 | 92.11 | 92.3204 |
| CPU time (s) | 33.757 | 6.355 | 6.93 | 0.982 |

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