



Impact of Microgrids concept on low voltage network reliability

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Reliability indices for stochastic outages

Symbol	Name	Unit
F _i	Frequency of supply interruption	1/a
D _i	Mean duration of supply interruption	h or min
Qi	Unavailability	min/a
P _i	(Cumulated) Interrupted power	MVA/a
Ei	(Cumulated) Energy not supplied	MVAh/a
C _i	(Cumulated) Interruption cost	€a

Test network to demonstrate effects of DG reliability impacts





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- Reliability improvement increases with increasing full load generation hours of DG (highest for CHP, lowest for PV)
- Intermittency needs to be considered
 -> otherwise results are too good
 - Without DG
 V
 V
 Wind
 CHP
 Non-intermittent DG







Assumption for figures: Installed DER capacity equals total network load (100 % DG penetration)

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- Demand Side Management yields better Pi and Ei compared to intermittent DG
- DG units improve Fi and Qi while Demand Side Management fails to do so







MVV, Mannheim, residential LV study network



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Assumptions:

DG unavailability = 20 % DG penetration level = 80%

Reliability evaluation results are consistent with those of simple test network:

PV < WT < CHP < Controlled DG









A minimum total reliability cost exists when interruption cost and investment cost arrive at an optimized reliability index

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Economic benefits are achieved when:

Installation and operation cost of protection and control devices

- + DG operation cost during outage
- < savings in interruption costs

Maximum outage costs (5 €/kWh): Nearly all Microgrid installations are economically beneficial

Minimum outage costs (0.5 €/kWh): Microgrid operation is not economical from reliability point of view



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- Renewable and non-controllable generation units contribute to reliability only if their intermittent output power is higher than simultaneous demand
- CHP plants contribute more to reliability improvement in comparison with intermittent PV or wind turbine units; conversion from heat-driven to electricity-driven mode enables island operation
- Economic benefits of the Microgrids approach concerning reliability rise with increasing outage costs, especially for commercial and industrial consumer segments





Thanks for your attention !

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