

Power Grounding Optimization

**Eduardo A. Cano-Plata, Oscar J. Soto-Marín, Guillermo Jiménez-Lozano,
Jorge H. Estrada-Estrada**

Departamento de Ingeniería Eléctrica, Electrónica y Computación, Universidad Nacional de Colombia,
Manizales, Colombia
Email: eacanopl@unal.edu.co

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Abstract

In this paper we discuss the finite element models (FEM) using electromagnetic theory—Maxwell’s equations. Next we developed a new procedure for optimization with the idea to be implemented in the standard IEEE-80 (2013). We expose those ideas in the paper. ETAP program and Matlab software are used for FEM.

Keywords

Finite Element Method, Grounding Systems, Circuit Model, ETAP Model, Engineering Design

1. Introduction

The protective scheme design is an important aspect in design and construction of the substations. The voltage gradients are created across ground mesh and points linked to earth as references [1]-[3]. The difference in potential is kept within the limits provided by IEEE Standards Documents and should be continuously monitored for the equipment’s proper functionality and people safety working in surrounding.

The followings are design parameters and control that define the construction of grounding system: ground potential rise (GPR), step voltage (V_{step}), touch voltage (V_{touch}), ground resistance (R_g), mesh voltage (V_{mesh}) and grid current (I_g). There are various methods available for designing of ground mesh for substation; IEEE 80-2013 and Finite Element Method (FEM) [4] [5] are adopted for design of ground system in research conducted as these are more reliable ones.

In the grounding system design, the optimization means to find a grounding system which is able to guarantee the integrity of the equipments and continuity of the service, especially to reduce the risk of a person in the vicinity of grounded facilities being exposed to the danger of critical electric shock [1] with the minimum cost in construction of the grounding system. A new technique that uses the dynamic programming approach is proposed for optimizing the design of grounding grids to be implemented in the standard IEEE-80 (2013).

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2. Representation of the Continuity Equation

The abstracted definition of the finite element is following: the triple ordained $\langle A_k, B_k, \Omega_k \rangle$ it can be represented by A_k the set of degree of freedom (nodes) it is a base of a space that genera the function B_k , it is normally a constitutive relation, and the domain Ω_k the geometrical space.

A construction of the finite element is related to the Lagrangian method and it possible to make identifying any equilibrium configuration. In this case the so-called Updated Lagrangian formulations, plus finding the spatial configuration corresponding to an instant t . An instant is a given value in a temporal coordinate. The notion of time here is used in a general sense; such as a coordinate that serves to number events.

The spatial configuration corresponding to the instant t is defined by tJ current densities that satisfy the Maxwell continuity equation of type [6]:

$$\nabla \cdot J = 0, \quad E = {}^t\sigma({}^tJ) \quad \forall {}^t\Omega \quad (1)$$

where

$$\nabla = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \quad (2)$$

The second order tensors ${}^t\sigma$ are complicated nonlinear functions of tJ and of the history of the conductivity change process. A fundamental difficulty in solving Equation (1) is that the domain over which the equations must be solved is part of the solution of the problem. In essence the relationship between the constitutive Equation (1), the space Ω and the dynamic of any point x in the space that satisfies the constitutive relationship is name the node of the finite element.

The mathematical problem is completed with boundary conditions at ${}^t\sigma$ and tJ , and it is solved using defined magnitudes over a reference configuration (in a sense, representation of the defined magnitudes in the spatial configuration) and solving a problem similar to the one described by Equation (1) over ${}^0\Omega$ (where the supra index "0" indicates the adopted reference configuration).

The Green's conductivity tensor and the second tensor of the Kirchhoff electric field are examples of defined magnitudes over the reference configuration to solve over ${}^0\Omega$ the nonlinear problems in the medium. This methodology has migrated from the techniques in mechanics of the continuous medium (computational mechanics) [7].

Simo *et al.* [7]-[9] describe methods used in the calculation of differentiable manifold [10] to systematize the task of finding representations over ${}^0\Omega$ of tensors defined in ${}^t\Omega$ and also to systematize the formulation of mathematical problems defined over ${}^0\Omega$ equivalent to Equation (1). Although Maxwell developed equations in compact form, numerical methods should be used to solve them [11].

Modern developments of the finite element method applied to nonlinear problems of solid mechanics make rigorous use of these techniques [12]-[15]. The method discussed in this paper is used in electromagnetism to measure soil resistivity.

The aim of this work is to develop a geometric view of several calculation techniques of differentiable manifold such as pull-back and push-forward [16] to simply propose them as tools for engineers working on solving nonlinear problems in Continuum Mechanics using finite elements. The changes undergone by the soil in the presence of lightning must always be taken into consideration.

3. Constitutive Relations of Maxwell's Equations

Engineering is based on the relationship that it can have the characteristics of the materials assuming always two conservation principles are met. The first is the principle of conservation of charge and the second the principle of conservation of energy. The approach of these principles can be differential or integral form (Eulerian and Lagrangian formulation).

Assume that you have a problem which only the variable representing the electric field is considered, we can then establish the constitutive relation:

$$\underline{\underline{{}^tJ}} = \underline{\underline{{}^t\sigma}}(\underline{\underline{{}^tE}}) \quad (3)$$

where $\underline{\underline{{}^t\sigma}}$ is a tensor function in this particular case is the conductivity function that maps the two points in

space invertible of the symmetrical space. It is important to highlight that ${}^t\mathcal{Q}$ depends on the reference configuration. In this sense and since only the electrical characteristic are studied, it is understood that the principle of equipresence is respected and that no time is considered phenomenological factors of the quantum mechanics.

For studying the objectivity of the formulation, it was considered in the spatial configuration two coordinate systems, one stationary (x) and other moving (X^*), since the current density tensor is a objective special tensor can be displayed as:

$${}^t\underline{\underline{J}} = \underline{\underline{Q}}(t) \cdot {}^t\underline{\underline{J}}^* \cdot \underline{\underline{Q}}^T(t) \tag{4}$$

where $\underline{\underline{Q}}$ is an orthogonal tensor. Since the electric field is a objective tensor

$${}^t\underline{\underline{E}} = \underline{\underline{Q}}(t) \cdot {}^t\underline{\underline{E}}^* \tag{5}$$

Since $\underline{\underline{Q}}$ is valid for any orthogonal relationship, It will also be valid for the polar decomposition, *i.e.*:

$${}^t\underline{\underline{J}}^* = {}^t\underline{\underline{\sigma}} \left({}^t\underline{\underline{E}}^* \right) \tag{6}$$

Or what it is the same ${}^t\underline{\underline{\sigma}}$ presents the principle dictates that the material is not affected by the change of coordinates or reference. The material is represented by the conductivity.

4. Conductivity

Conductivity defines the energy dissipated in instant t per unit of mass, which is associated with the dissipation of electrical current in the soil. This study mainly deals with equations of a continuous medium (1). These equations in a grounding system might be represented as:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot J &= 0, \quad E = {}^t\sigma({}^tJ) \quad \forall {}^t\Omega \\ E &= E_\Gamma \quad en \Gamma, \quad g_a \cdot J = 0 \quad en \Gamma_\Omega \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

In (7), Ω is the ground, σ is its conductivity tensor, Γ_Ω is the ground surface, g_a is the covariant vector in generalized coordinates and Γ is the electrodes surface. The appropriate solution is the distribution of potential or the setting of potential at an arbitrary point. The dynamics must be evaluated once the grounding system acquires φ_Γ potential (system overvoltage) and Equation (8) is calculated p.u.

$$J = \sigma\varphi, \quad I_\Gamma = \iint J d\Gamma, \quad R_{eq} = \frac{\varphi_\Gamma}{I_\Gamma} \tag{8}$$

In practice, the ground is considered isotropic, thereby σ is replaced by a scalar (St. IEEE 80) [1]-[3].

In an assumed horizontal ground surface, the Dirichlet boundary condition $\Delta\varphi = 0$ is shown in Ω . The conditions expressed in (7) are obtained while searching for regulation. Applying to (7) Green's identity [10]:

$$\varphi = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma} \iint_{\varepsilon \in \Gamma} k(x, \varepsilon) J(\varepsilon) d\Gamma, \quad x \in \Omega \tag{9}$$

With weak nucleus:

$$k(x, \varepsilon) = \left(\frac{1}{r(x, \varepsilon)} + \frac{1}{r(x, \varepsilon')} \right), \quad r(x, \varepsilon) = |x - \varepsilon| \tag{10}$$

The functional of the problem is expressed in (5). Discretizing gives:

$$J(\varepsilon) = \sum_{i=1}^N J_i N_i(\varepsilon) \quad \Gamma = \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^M \Gamma^\alpha \tag{11}$$

Matlab Toolbox Partial differential equations (PDE) are used in two mesh dimensions of triangular elements [17].

In summary, the solution of Equation (1) will go through:

In triple ordained $\langle A_k, B_k, \Omega_k \rangle$ it can be represented by Γ_k the set of degree of freedom (nodes) in the Equation (9) it is an base of an space that genera the function J_k , see the Equation (9) it is normally a constitutive re-

lation, and the demine Ω_k the geometrical space.

- Attaining the reference configuration of Equation (1).
- Solving the reference configuration representation over ${}^0\Omega$ thus obtaining current and conductivity density measurements.
- Obtaining conductivity tensors and current density from the reference configuration.
- Proposing the functional of the constitutive equation which might be formulated by the Galerkin technique using the minimal residual method.
- Solving using a triangular mesh seed.

In this way the proposed technique is oriented to see the potential distribution in the Ω_k the geometrical space, the principal restriction in the design procedures of the standard IEEE-80 [1].

5. Practical Example

In the **Table 1** its resume the parameter for one grid that is showed in the **Figure 1**.

The **Table 1**, ρ and ρ_s are the resistivity of the soil and surface respectively, h_s and h is the deep of the grid in the soil and electrodes longitude, I_0 is the fault current of the system, t_C is the time protection action, and finally the L_1 , L_2 and L_V are the dimension of the grid. **Figure 1** shows the configuration of the mesh of the grounding system implemented in the software ETAP [18]. An example, it can be seen in [19].

The graphs for step and touch voltage are given in **Figure 2**.

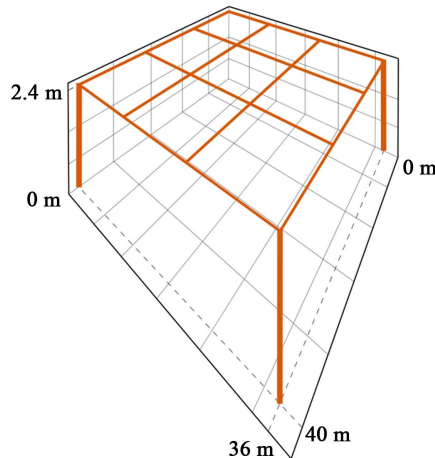


Figure 1. Geometrical distribution.

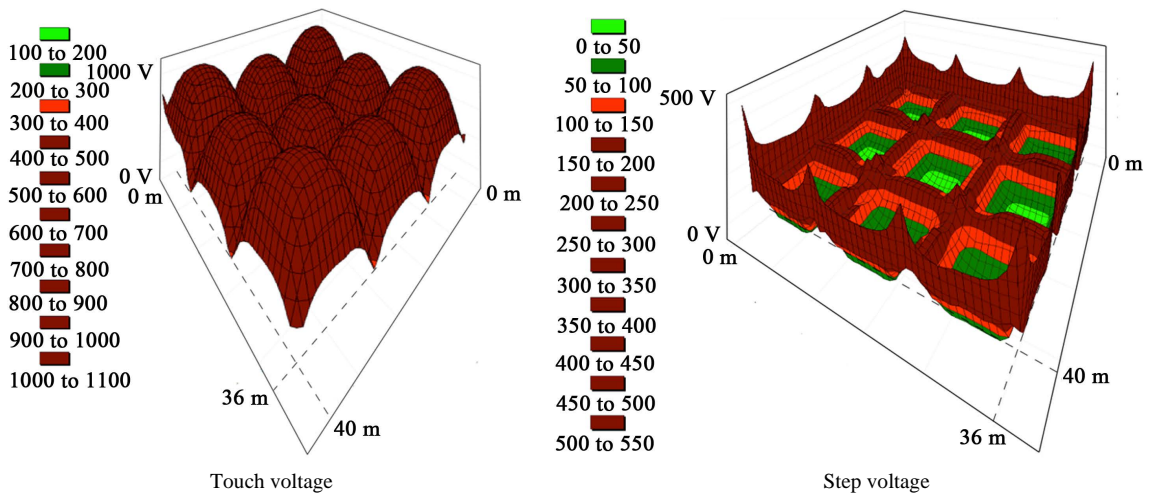


Figure 2. Touch and step voltages.

Table 1. Physical parameters.

Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
ρ_s	5500 Ω -m	t_c	0.5 s	h	0.5 m	L_2	36 m	I_0	10,000 A
ρ	459.2 Ω -m	L_l	40 m	h_s	0.2 m	L_v	2.4 m	<i>Grid</i>	$13.33 \times 12 \text{ m}^2$

The program provides the information below after analyzing the ground resistance information taken from the measurements of the electrical plant.

The solution using finite element analysis, for an element with three nodes, in a distribution matrix with 320 elements and one grid from 1200 nodes.

From the finite element solution, it is possible to obtain the parameter listed below it is shown in the **Figure 2**:

Threshold levels of touch potential:

Elevation of ground potential: 4837 volts;

Maximum step voltage: 7650.93 volts.

6. Comparison of Results

The results obtained in ETAP are compared with the method discussed in the previous section this technique was developed using MATLAB [17], the step and touch voltages are given in **Figure 3**.

The **Table 2** shows the comparison of results of the ground mesh resistance.

Table 2 shows that the results obtained are very similar which leads to the conclusion that the methods are suitable for the design and analysis of ground meshes.

This solution is so important due to the necessary algorithm implementation in the optimization procedures.

7. Dynamic Optimization of IEEE-80 Procedure

The block diagram of **Figure 4** illustrates the sequences of steps to design the ground grid procedure from IEEE80-2013 [1]. The parameters shown in the block diagram are identified in the index presented in Table 12 of that reference [1]. The principal parameter for that block diagram is GPR , E_{step} and E_{touch} Step 7, 9 and 10 respectively. We changed the step 8 it was introduced the Finite Element Method to calculate the E_{mesh} and E_{touch} . They are the restriction of the dynamic programming approach. They can be obtained using the method described in the previous section.

As it is shown for the **Figure 3**, the tradition for the use of the design of power systems grid is the Dynamic programming that is so close to the dynamic optimization. The tradition by Richard Bellman's method [20]. It is to model and interpolate the behavior of the model under assumption of forward looking optimizing behavior. Dynamic optimization deals with the problem of obtaining a sequence of optimal choices under given dynamic constraints. Dynamic programming is the most commonly used technique this part of the paper we are working to show a computational implementation given its recursive structure it is made in the step 11, that is an important modification to the diagram block in IEEE-80 it is shown in the **Figure 3**.

Description of the Optimization Problem

The grounding grid is composed of linear conductors. Each conductor is subdivided into small linear segments. We can obtain the current density in each segment using the complex images method [3]. **Figure 5** shows the grounding grid.

The objective function is described by.

$$\min \left[\sum_{x,y,k,i,j} L_x (CL_x) + L_y (CL_y) + Ne_k (CNe_k) + h_i + CON_j \right] \quad (12)$$

Constraints:

$$V_{\text{touch}} \leq V_{\text{touch_min}}$$

$$V_{\text{step}} \leq V_{\text{step_min}}$$

$$GPR \leq GPR_{\text{min}}$$

$$A \leq A_{\text{max}}$$

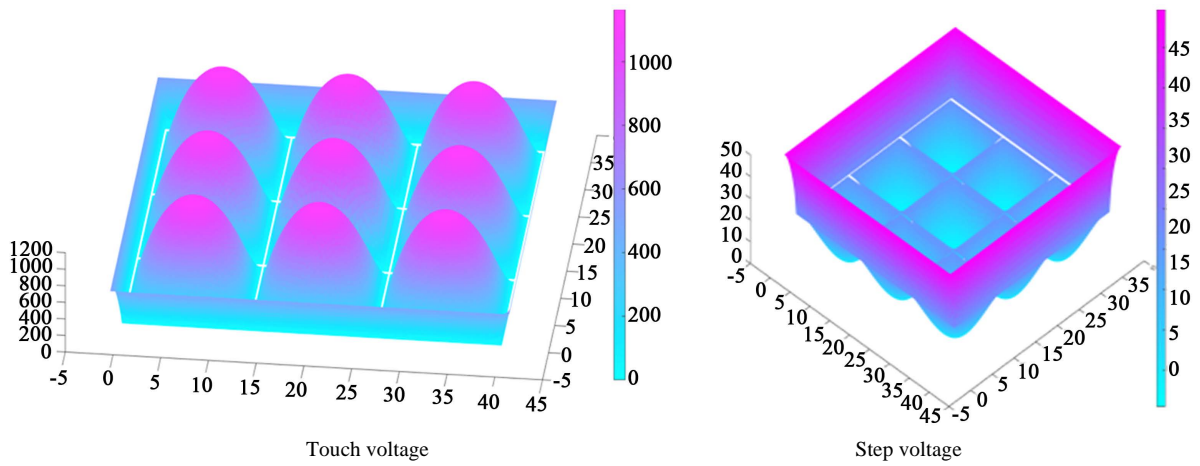


Figure 3. Touch and step voltages.

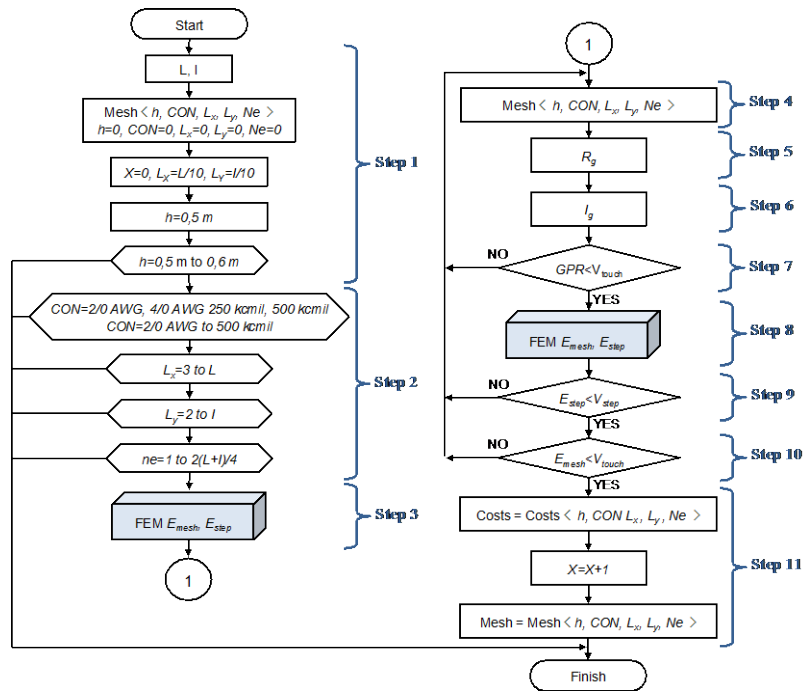


Figure 4. Dynamic programming procedure.

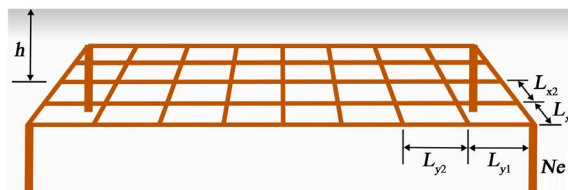


Figure 5. Components of the optimization process.

Table 2. Results of the mesh resistance.

	Matlab Finite Element Method	ETAP Finite Element Method
PT Resistance	1.7 Ω	1.89 Ω

where:

- ne : number of electrodes;
- CNe : is the total cost of electrodes including the installation;
- L_x : number of horizontal electrodes in the direction X ,
- CL_x : is the total cost of the electrodes including the installation;
- L_y : number of horizontal electrodes in the direction Y ;
- CL_y : is the total cost of the electrodes including the installation;
- h : is the deep respect to the surface of the grid;
- CON : is the cost of the conductor diameter;
- A : area.

The **Table 3** shows the parameter of the Equation (12).

To solve the problem, the dynamic programming approach uses a recursive method that works backwards. For the Equation (10) the method work as follows:

- Compute the cost J of each component in the each grid configuration (in the last stage).
- Compute the cost of each feasible optimal sequence of component for the each node which implies the optimal sequence to the construction of the grid if optimal sequence problem.
- Its solved is optimal it ask to the constriction step 9, 10 and 12 of the flow, the **Figure 4**.

It is very similar to the economic application in which a structured proposed grid with the voltage as a state variable is evolves troughs time. This system can be manipulated by means of a set or blocks of construction part of the grid (electrodes and cables) in order to minimize the cost function (10).

Remember that the dynamic programming approached works by solving the problem backward in time, determining the optimal grid, it is transform the original (10) problem and an subsequence of sub-problems. It is a crucial notion of the cost-to-go, which is the cost along minimum-cost path from a given grid stated.

The general approach:

```

M:          Set of grid candidates
S:          Set of Elements of the feasible grids
Solution (S): ¿if S solution?
Is feasible (S): ¿Is S feasible?
Selection (M): Selection of a candidate
F:          Objective Function
Function (M)
  S:={empty set}
WHILE NO (Solution (S)) (=0)
  X: Selection (M)
  M: = M- {X}
  If feasible (S U {X}) then
    S:=S U {X}
  END IF
END WHILE
If Solution (S) THEN
  Return (S)
ELSE Return "it not solution"
END IF

```

Figure 6 shows the configuration of the grounding system optimal. The **Table 4** is the result from application of this algorithm to the optimal design problem in an 115 kV substation and therefore the grounding system optimal is the number 21 (Grid21) of the table.

Table 3. Parameters used in the Equation (12).

Element	Cost
Ne	\$35.00
CON 4/0 AWG	\$12.50
CON 250 kcmil	\$45.00
Installation cost (m ²)	\$7.00
Installation cost (electrode)	\$8.00

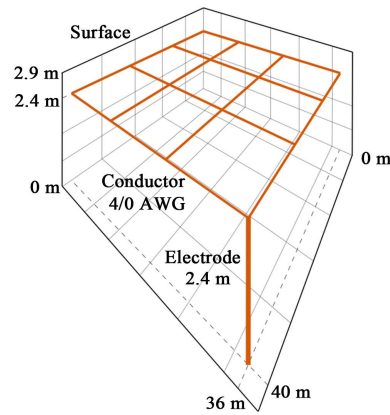


Figure 6. Optimal ground system.

Table 4. Results of the optimization process.

GRID	h	CON	Ne	R _g	GPR	E _{touch}		E _{step}		Cost		\$Total Cost
						Tolerable	Calculated	Tolerable	Calculated	\$Electrode	\$Conductor	
Grid1	0.5	4/0	0	0.426	4825.7	1231.0	2685.9	4373.7	762.6	\$0	\$11.980	\$11.980
Grid2	0.5	4/0	0	0.392	4443.2	1231.0	1746.5	4373.7	615.5	\$0	\$12.930	\$12.930
Grid3	0.5	4/0	0	0.375	4240.8	1231.0	1326.2	4373.7	554.8	\$0	\$13.880	\$13.880
Grid4	0.5	250	0	0.373	4228.4	1231.0	1310.9	4373.7	554.8	\$0	\$23.760	\$23.760
Grid5	0.5	250	0	0.389	4407.3	1231.0	1698.9	4373.7	524.3	\$0	\$20.340	\$20.340
Grid6	0.5	250	0	0.419	4748.1	1231.0	2614.7	4373.7	641.2	\$0	\$16.920	\$16.920
Grid7	0.6	4/0	0	0.422	4772.9	1231.0	2638.0	4373.7	641.2	\$0	\$11.980	\$11.980
Grid8	0.6	4/0	0	0.391	4423.8	1231.0	1716.9	4373.7	524.3	\$0	\$12.930	\$12.930
Grid9	0.6	4/0	0	0.372	4214.4	1231.0	1298.3	4373.7	474.7	\$0	\$13.880	\$13.880
Grid10	0.6	4/0	0	0.419	4748.1	1231.0	2614.7	4373.7	641.2	\$0	\$11.980	\$11.980
Grid11	0.6	4/0	0	0.389	4407.3	1231.0	1698.9	4373.7	524.3	\$0	\$12.930	\$12.930
Grid12	0.6	250	0	0.371	4202.0	1231.0	1283.0	4373.7	474.7	\$0	\$23.760	\$23.760
Grid13	0.5	4/0	1	0.425	4806.4	1231.0	2592.1	4373.7	749.2	\$43	\$11.980	\$12.023
Grid14	0.5	4/0	1	0.393	4450.4	1231.0	1641.3	4373.7	610.8	\$43	\$12.930	\$12.973
Grid15	0.5	4/0	1	0.374	4235.9	1231.0	1213.0	4373.7	549.8	\$43	\$13.880	\$13.923
Grid16	0.5	250	1	0.422	4782.3	1231.0	2569.4	4373.7	749.2	\$43	\$16.920	\$16.963
Grid17	0.5	250	1	0.392	4434.2	1231.0	1623.7	4373.7	610.8	\$43	\$20.340	\$20.383
Grid18	0.5	250	1	0.373	4223.7	1231.0	1197.9	4373.7	549.8	\$43	\$23.760	\$23.803
Grid19	0.6	4/0	1	0.420	4755.0	1231.0	2546.2	4373.7	629.9	\$43	\$11.980	\$12.023
Grid20	0.6	4/0	1	0.390	4415.8	1231.0	1609.6	4373.7	518.1	\$43	\$12.930	\$12.973
Grid21	0.6	4/0	1	0.372	4209.9	1231.0	1188.5	4373.7	470.5	\$43	\$13.880	\$13.923
Grid22	0.6	250	1	0.418	4730.9	1231.0	2523.5	4373.7	629.9	\$43	\$16.920	\$16.963
Grid23	0.6	250	1	0.389	4399.6	1231.0	1591.9	4373.7	518.1	\$43	\$20.340	\$20.383

Continued

Grid24	0.6	250	1	0.371	4197.7	1231.0	1173.3	4373.7	470.5	\$43	\$23.760	\$23.803
Grid25	0.5	4/0	2	0.374	4230.9	1231.0	1198.0	4373.7	545.0	\$86	\$13.880	\$13.966
Grid26	0.5	4/0	2	0.392	4441.5	1231.0	1614.5	4373.7	603.7	\$86	\$12.930	\$13.016
Grid27	0.5	4/0	2	0.422	4776.7	1231.0	2495.7	4373.7	729.4	\$86	\$11.980	\$12.066
Grid28	0.5	250	2	0.421	4763.2	1231.0	2507.5	4373.7	736.2	\$86	\$16.920	\$17.006
Grid29	0.5	250	2	0.391	4425.5	1231.0	1597.1	4373.7	603.7	\$86	\$20.340	\$20.426
Grid30	0.5	250	2	0.373	4218.8	1231.0	1183.1	4373.7	545.0	\$86	\$23.760	\$23.846
Grid31	0.6	4/0	2	0.418	4736.7	1231.0	2484.9	4373.7	619.0	\$86	\$11.980	\$12.066
Grid32	0.6	4/0	2	0.389	4407.6	1231.0	1583.3	4373.7	512.1	\$86	\$12.930	\$13.016
Grid33	0.6	4/0	2	0.371	4205.2	1231.0	1173.8	4373.7	466.4	\$86	\$13.880	\$13.966
Grid34	0.6	250	2	0.416	4713.2	1231.0	2462.7	4373.7	619.0	\$86	\$16.920	\$17.006
Grid35	0.6	250	2	0.388	4391.6	1231.0	1565.9	4373.7	512.1	\$86	\$20.340	\$20.426
Grid36	0.6	250	2	0.370	4193.1	1231.0	1150.8	4373.7	464.2	\$86	\$23.760	\$23.846
Grid37	0.5	4/0	3	0.421	4766.9	1231.0	2470.2	4373.7	723.8	\$129	\$11.980	\$12.109
Grid38	0.5	4/0	3	0.391	4432.4	1231.0	1588.6	4373.7	596.7	\$129	\$12.930	\$13.059
Grid39	0.5	4/0	3	0.373	4225.7	1231.0	1183.4	4373.7	540.3	\$129	\$13.880	\$14.009
Grid40	0.5	250	3	0.419	4743.9	1231.0	2448.5	4373.7	723.7	\$129	\$16.920	\$17.049
Grid41	0.5	250	3	0.401	4541.8	1231.0	1585.0	4373.7	611.2	\$129	\$20.340	\$20.469
Grid42	0.5	250	3	0.372	4213.8	1231.0	1168.7	4373.7	540.3	\$129	\$23.760	\$23.889
Grid43	0.6	4/0	3	0.417	4718.2	1231.0	2426.4	4373.7	608.5	\$129	\$11.980	\$12.109
Grid44	0.6	4/0	3	0.389	4399.2	1231.0	1557.9	4373.7	506.2	\$129	\$12.930	\$13.059
Grid45	0.6	4/0	3	0.371	4200.4	1231.0	1159.5	4373.7	462.3	\$129	\$13.880	\$14.009
Grid46	0.6	250	3	0.415	4695.3	1231.0	2404.7	4373.7	608.5	\$129	\$16.920	\$17.049
Grid47	0.6	250	3	0.387	4383.5	1231.0	1540.7	4373.7	506.2	\$129	\$20.340	\$20.469
Grid48	0.6	250	3	0.4	4188.5	1231.0	1144.7	4373.7	462.3	\$129	\$23.760	\$23.889

8. Conclusion

In the present paper we discussed the application of the finite element method and dynamic programming to the design of the ground power systems (electrodes and mesh ground). Considering that these procedures are normally used in other areas, it is very important to introduce physical knowledge as much as possible, in order to “guide” the solution in the case of IEEE 80-2013 standard application in the particular case of Electrical Engineering work.

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