

Article

A New Two-Stage Approach to Coordinate Electrical Vehicles for Satisfaction of Grid and Customer Requirements

Trinnapop Boonseng, Anawach Sangswang *, Sumate Naetiladdanon and Samundra Gurung 

Department of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Bangkok 10 140, Thailand; trinnapop.eng@mail.kmutt.ac.th (T.B.); sumate.nae@kmutt.ac.th (S.N.); samundra.g@mail.kmutt.ac.th (S.G.)

* Correspondence: anawach.san@kmutt.ac.th

Featured Application: Scheduling of electric vehicles to improve both the system and consumer benefits.

Abstract: Recently due to air pollution concerns, a large number of electric vehicles have been integrated into the electric distribution system. However, the uncoordinated charging of this technology can cause different voltage issues. This paper proposes a two-stage optimization approach with active and reactive power control to coordinate electric vehicles with both grid-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-grid capabilities to satisfy both grid requirements and electric vehicle prosumer requirements. The system requirements considered are voltage deviation and unbalance and the electric vehicle prosumer requirements considered are minimization of charging and battery degradation costs. The coordination problem is formulated as an optimization problem, where the first stage objectives are: minimization of voltage unbalance, customer charging and battery degradation costs. The first stage optimization problem is solved using the meta-heuristic optimization algorithm known as particle swarm optimization to obtain an optimized real power schedule for the electric vehicles. The second stage is then solved of which the objective is to minimize the bus voltage deviation and provides the reactive power schedule for electric vehicles. All the analyses were carried out on the IEEE 34 bus distribution system and the study results show that the proposed method allows prosumers to charge at a minimum cost without any grid voltage unbalance factors and under/over voltage problems under different scenarios. Thus, this work can be beneficial for system operators or electric vehicle aggregators to create a day-ahead schedule.

Keywords: battery degradation; environment-friendly; meta-heuristics; optimization; V2G; VUF



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1. Introduction

Recently, CO₂ emission has been a major public concern due to its serious environmental impact, of which major sources are industries and the fossil fuel-dependent transportation sector. The electric vehicle (EV) is an empirically-proven technology that can alleviate dependency on the excessive use of oil and can help to decrease CO₂ intensity and gasoline consumption [1]. Consequently, there is a growing trend in many countries, especially in residential and commercial areas, for the use of EVs [2]. However, the increasing number of EVs cause a high demand for electricity, which can have detrimental impacts on existing power systems.

In the uncoordinated charging of EVs, customers arrive at their homes in the evening and start to charge their vehicles immediately, which may cause different issues, such as transformer ageing [3], load unbalance in the residential area due to use of single-phase AC charger [4–6], power quality, peak loading, frequency stability issues, etc.

There have been a number of studies that try to schedule/manage time charging/discharging of EVs properly to avoid these problems and is commonly known as smart

charging. From an EV aggregator perspective, the management of an EV fleet should consider different significant constraints related to the electricity grid, ecosystem, and customers. The authors of [7] used the EVSCP model, which aims to control an EV fleet to minimize the charging cost. Their results showed the efficiency and effectiveness of the model, but there was no mention about the grid effect. The authors of [8] presented an intelligent fleet disposition algorithm, mixed with electricity generating companies, which mitigate both financial and ecological parameters by collecting customer behavior (including V2G) and power generating profiles (including renewable energy). Their results showed that charging cost and CO₂ were decreased by 22% and 33% respectively a year. Yet the method lacked an energy management system that made the method difficult to implement in the real-world. Three novel algorithms for the integration of EV to control a large fleet so as to flatten the duck curve in California was proposed in [9]. The researchers of [10] proposed V2G scheduling for a railway station to increase the load factor and minimize the annual energy invoice of the station. However, [9,10] did not consider the benefits to customers if they participated in the time scheduling. Most power system issues use multi-objective optimal power flow (MOOPF) to achieve objective functions in power systems, and have now become an essential application to deal with several objectives [11–15]. Strategies for smart charging then used multi-objective meta-heuristic optimization algorithms [16], of which the objectives are to benefit either some grid requirements, such as voltage unbalance and frequency stability, or customer requirements, such as minimize charging costs, battery degradation costs, etc. [17]. The constraints to this optimization problem are normally EVs charging, also called Grid2Vehicle (G2V), or discharging EVs, also called Vehicle2Grid (V2G). This optimization problem is solved using some meta-heuristics to find an optimized schedule for EVs. Reference [18] proposed a method to mitigate problems, such as peak shaving and valley filling, and the method to mitigate power quality is given in [19,20]. References [21–23] proposed methods to improve system frequency stability under disturbance and methods to maximize EV prosumer revenue are discussed in [24–27]. However, meta-heuristic optimization algorithms with multi-objective functions have drawback with their weight factors, as they need to vary each of the weights properly to achieve optimal solutions in all objective functions. Otherwise, the solution is trapped in a local optimal solution. A huge power system with a load flow calculation requires the consideration of variable decisions with enormous and complex computational requirements which are difficult to search in terms of global optimal solution and grid requirements/customer satisfactions could not be met [28]. The authors of [29] reviewed several techniques for multi-stage optimization dealing with real-world problems, particularly in energy management. The partial decision making of multi-stage optimization can cause complexity in problems, but this model enables decision makers to alter decision at a later stage. The results of multi-stage models have potential to find better solution than all decisions at only one stage.

Although many studies have proposed smart charging with different objectives, only a few studies have focused on the benefits to both the customer and power systems. Some of these works are listed in Table 1. Coordinated smart charging using V2G to minimize charging costs and battery degradation costs was studied in [30]. Reference [31] presented an approach to coordinate V2G by focusing specifically on battery health. Customer benefits and maintaining system voltage levels using V2G technology was studied in [32]. The authors of [33] proposed an approach to minimize charging costs and voltage deviations. Reference [34] presented multi-objective optimization, including different objectives, such as charging costs, voltage drops, and voltage unbalance. Reference [35] used V2G with a reactive droop control and Reference [36] used different phase connections (phase switcher) to minimize voltage unbalance and voltage deviations. The researchers of [37] scheduled the active/reactive power of V2G to regulate the voltage and minimize losses in a system. The authors of [38] used DGs to mitigate the voltage unbalance and improve voltage magnitude in connected EV buses. It can be observed from Table 1 that most of the literature only considered customer objectives [30–32] or system objectives [35–38]; there are few works

in the literature which considered both [33,34]. The researchers of [33] did not consider the reactive power exchange of V2G nor battery degradation costs, which are crucial for discharging EVs. The authors of [34] included different objectives, such as charging costs and voltage deviation, but did not consider voltage unbalance, battery degradation, or the reactive power capability of EVs. Thus, this paper tries to address these research gaps and proposes a two-stage strategy where, in the first stage, different objectives, such as customer charging costs, battery degradation costs, and voltage unbalance, are considered, and, in second stage, the voltage deviation problem is considered.

Table 1. Comparison of recent works on coordinated charging of EVs.

Related Work	Customer Objective Function		System Objective Function		V2G Technology	
	Charging Cost	Battery Degradation	Voltage Unbalance	Voltage Deviation	V2G in Active Power	V2G in Reactive Power
[30]	✓	✓	-	-	✓	-
[31]	-	✓	-	-	✓	-
[32]	✓	✓	-	-	✓	-
[33]	✓	-	-	✓	-	-
[34]	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-
[35]	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓
[36]	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-
[37]	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
[38]	-	-	✓	✓	-	-
Proposed Method	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Thus, this paper tries to address the research gaps outlined in the paragraphs above. It proposes a two-stage strategy to mitigate different electrical issues, such as VUF, voltage deviation, and prosumer costs, using V2G technology. The two-stage problem is formulated as an optimization problem and is solved using a meta-heuristic optimization algorithm, particle swarm optimization (PSO). The first stage targets the problem of VUF and customer costs by scheduling EV charging and the second stage targets voltage deviation with the help of reactive power injection from EVs. Thus, the major contributions of this paper are as follows:

1. The development of a framework to fulfill grid requirements, such as voltage unbalance factors, voltage deviations, and prosumer requirements, such as charging cost and battery health, using V2G technology.
2. Consideration of different scenarios, such as a change in load profile, penetration level, and price changes, have also been considered. Furthermore, this study also conducts a detailed comparison of the proposed method with other recent approaches.
3. Presentation of a method to solve the proposed method with real-time data exchange between DIgSILENT and MATLAB.

This paper is organized as follows: Section 2 provides a brief discussion of the proposed method, followed by the formulation of the optimization problem in Section 3. Section 4 discusses the application of PSO to solve the proposed optimization problem, followed by results and a discussion in Section 5. The conclusions of our study are presented in Section 6.

2. Description of the Proposed Method

Figure 1 shows a pictorial description of a possible application of the proposed method by both the aggregator and the distribution system operator (DSO). The DSO provides a day-ahead load forecast and grid requirements (voltage deviation, VUF in this paper) to the aggregator and the aggregator collects the possible arrival and departure times of EVs. The aggregator can then provide all this information to the proposed method, which will then provide an optimized schedule of EVs to satisfy both grid and customer benefits.

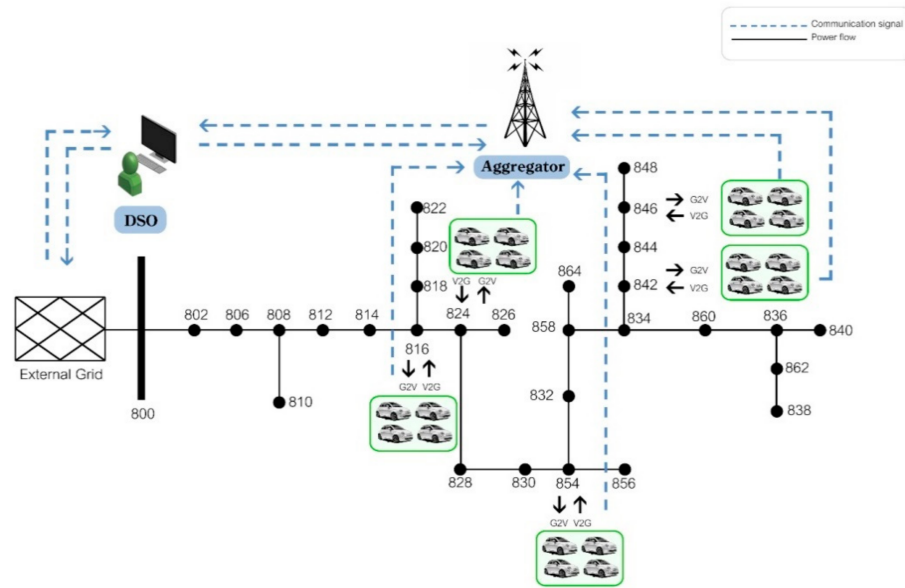


Figure 1. Application of the proposed method for customer and grid benefits.

A plot of the proposed method to coordinate EVs is shown in Figure 2 and a brief description of this process is as follows:

- (i). The first step requires the preparation of the data of EV-user behaviors, e.g., plug-in time, plug-out time, daily distance, initial SOC, wear costs, information of the test systems, such as the residential baseload, dynamic price, and significant parameters of the PSO optimization algorithm.
- (ii). Stage 1 uses the input data from the previous step for further processing and formulates an optimization problem in which the objectives are to minimize VUF, EV charging costs, and battery degradation costs. This optimization problem is then solved using the PSO. The output from Stage 1 provides an optimized power schedule for charging (G2V)/discharging (V2G) as well as the best costs for customers.
- (iii). Once the electrical schedule for EVs is obtained, Stage 2 will use this information to formulate another optimization problem with the purpose of minimizing voltage deviation. The constraint to this optimization is the reactive power capability of V2Gs, which can be produced/absorbed by controlling the inverter [39,40]. Moreover, the reactive power compensation from EVs will not cause any degradation to the battery [41,42]. Thus, Stage 2 provides a reactive power schedule for EVs.

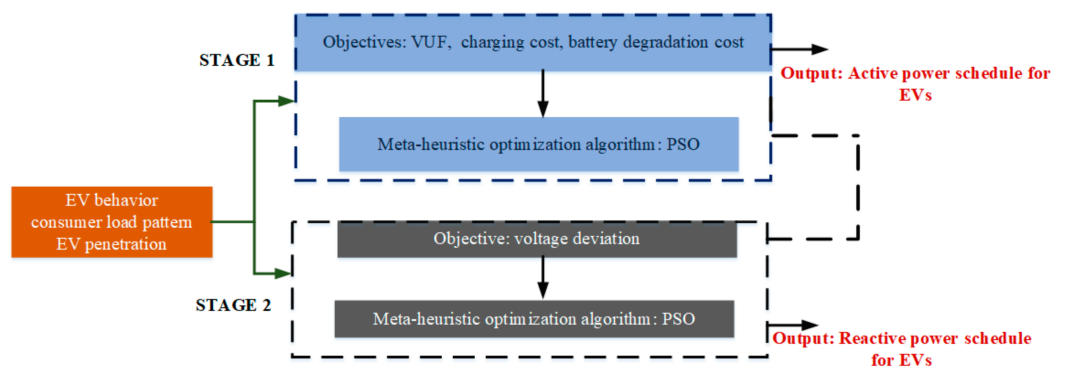


Figure 2. Proposed method to schedule EVs.

3. Optimization Problem Formulation

This section discusses the formulation of the optimization problem to mitigate different electrical problems, such as voltage unbalance factors and voltage deviations, minimization of customer charging, and battery degradation costs.

3.1. Objective Function

3.1.1. Voltage Unbalance

Voltage unbalance is given by Equation (1) and the goal is to minimize this quantity according to the IEEE standard [43] by controlling the active/reactive power from EVs.

$$F_1 = \text{Minimize} \sum_{n=1}^N \left| \frac{V_{n,t}^-}{V_{n,t}^+} \right| \quad (1)$$

The minimization of F_1 will reduce the VUF of the network.

3.1.2. Voltage Deviation

The second objective of the proposed approach is to minimize the voltage deviation between the actual and desired voltage values. This can also be controlled by charging/discharging of the active and reactive power from EVs.

$$F_2 = \text{Minimize} \sum_{t=1}^{24} \sum_{n=1}^N \left| V_{Meas(n,t)} - V_{Ref} \right| \quad (2)$$

The minimization of F_2 will help to keep the bus voltages closer to the desired values.

3.1.3. Customer Costs

A major objective from the customer perspective is to minimize charging costs and maximize discharging intervals. However, battery life will deteriorate if there is excessive discharging, and so this price (w_p) must be included in the optimization problem and is calculated using the method described in [44]. The objective functions for customers are given by Equations (3) and (4).

$$F_3 = \text{Minimize} \sum_{n=1}^N ((P_{EV_Chg(n,t)} \times C_t) - (P_{EV_Dchg(n,t)} \times R_{V2G})) \times \Delta t \quad (3)$$

The minimization of F_3 will reduce the charging costs by managing charging/discharging in proper time.

$$F_4 = \text{Minimize} \sum_{n=1}^N (P_{EV_Chg(n,t)} \eta_{ch} + \frac{P_{EV_Dchg(n,t)}}{\eta_{Dch}}) w_p \times \Delta t \quad (4)$$

The minimization of F_4 will help customers to decrease the battery degradation costs.

3.2. Constraints

All the objective functions given by Equations (1)–(4) are subject to several constraints. Equation (5) ensures that the number of EVs charging and discharging does not exceed the total number of EVs in the system. Equations (6) and (7) control EV charging and discharging, and Equations (8) and (9) ensure that EVs will not charge and discharge at the same time.

$$N_{Chg} + N_{Dchg} = N_{total} \quad (5)$$

$$x_{Chg,i} P_{ChgMin} \leq P_{Chg,i} \leq x_{Chg,i} P_{ChgMax} \quad (6)$$

$$x_{Dchg,i} P_{DchgMin} \leq P_{Dchg,i} \leq x_{Dchg,i} P_{DchgMax} \quad (7)$$

$$x_{Chg,i} \in (0, 1) \quad (8)$$

$$x_{Dchg,i} \in (0, 1) \quad (9)$$

The constraints for the maximum efficiency of charging and discharging are presented in Equations (10) and (11), respectively. Equation (12) computes the maximum amount of available reactive power exchange from an EV, which is taken as 58% of the maximum rated power of EVs in this study [39,45]. Equation (13) defines the range of the reactive power discharge.

$$P_{EV_Chg,i} = \eta_{Chg} \times P_{Chg,i} \quad (10)$$

$$P_{EV_Dchg,i} = \frac{P_{Dchg,i}}{\eta_{Dchg}} \quad (11)$$

$$Q_{DchgMax,i} = (0.58 \times P_{EV_Chg/Dchg,i}) \quad (12)$$

$$-Q_{DchgMax,i} \leq Q_{Dchg,i} \leq Q_{DchgMax,i} \quad (13)$$

Equations (14)–(16) calculate the SOC values and helps them to be in the customer desired range.

$$SOC_{i,t} = SOC_{i,t-1} + \frac{(\eta_{ch} \times P_{EV_Chg,i} - \frac{P_{EV_Dchg,i}}{\eta_{Dch}})}{P_{NC,i}} \quad (14)$$

$$SOC_{min} \leq SOC_{i,t} \leq SOC_{max} \quad (15)$$

$$SOC_{final} = SOC_{desired} \quad (16)$$

Equations (17) and (18) are the power flow constraints.

$$P_{i,t} - P_{d,i,t} - V_{i,t} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{bus}} V_{j,t} (G_{ij} \cos \phi_{ij,t} + B_{ij} \sin \phi_{ij,t}) = 0 \quad (17)$$

$$Q_{i,t} - Q_{d,i,t} - V_{i,t} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{bus}} V_{j,t} (G_{ij} \sin \phi_{ij,t} - B_{ij} \cos \phi_{ij,t}) = 0 \quad (18)$$

4. Application of PSO to Solve the Proposed Optimization Problem

Meta-heuristic optimization algorithms are highly popular for solving complex, non-linear, and non-convex optimization problems. Particle swarm optimization (PSO) is one such popular meta-heuristic optimization algorithm and is based on swarm-intelligence, which is popularly used to obtain a global solution for several problems [46]. PSO uses the position and velocity of swarms to find a global solution. Thus, it was chosen to solve the proposed optimization problem formulated in the previous section of this paper.

The proposed method is used for minimizing four objective functions (VUF, VD, CC, BC). A high penetration with different phase connections can cause voltage unbalance and voltage deviations. The proposed method is separated into two stages, where the first stage aims to minimize voltage unbalance, charging costs, and battery degradation costs by using active power as a decision variable. The second stage aims only to minimize voltage deviation by obtaining the optimal active power to calculate the proportional reactive power, which is the decision variable of the second stage. The advantage of dealing with voltage deviation in the second stage is to avoid overvoltage occurring in some time intervals if it is located in first stage, and it is able to improve positive sequence voltage, which reduces voltage deviation, as well as VUF, according to Equation (6). Another advantage is that decreasing the objectives in the first stage decreases complicated searching of global optimal solution.

The major steps of the proposed method are shown in Figure 3 and are as follows:

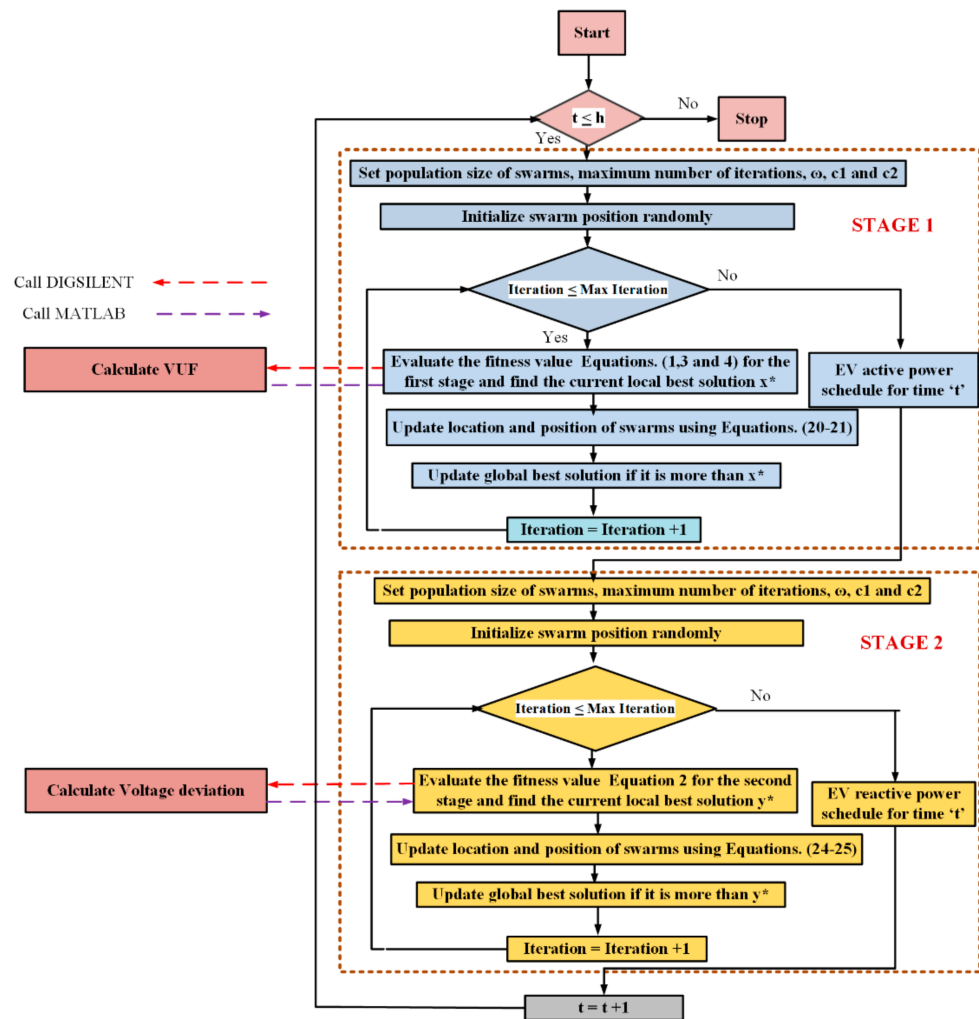


Figure 3. Application of PSO to solve the proposed method.

Step 1: Specification of the total number of iterations, population size, and hours (h).

Step 2: Random initialization of the particle position according to the population size in each bus that connects to EVs.

$$P_{EV} = [P_{EV,1}^j, P_{EV,2}^j, P_{EV,3}^j, \dots, P_{EV,i}^j] \quad (19)$$

Step 3: Find the position of $P_{EV,i}$ at $j + 1$ iteration $P_{EV,i}^{j+1}$ and velocity of the $P_{EV,i}^{j+1}$ at $j + 1$ iteration v_i^{j+1} as:

$$P_{EV,i}^{j+1} = P_{EV,i}^j + v_i^{j+1} \quad (20)$$

$$v_i^{j+1} = \omega v_i^j + c_1 \bullet rand_1^j (pbest_i^j - P_{EV,i}^j) + c_2 \bullet rand_2^j (gbest_k^j - P_{EV,i}^j) \quad (21)$$

Step 4: Calculate the fitness values for the Stage I objective functions given by Equations (1), (3), and (4). The weight sum method is used to combine the multiple objectives into a single one.

$$Min_{x} F_{ws} = \theta_1 (F_1(x) / F_{1,nor}) + \theta_2 (F_2(x) / F_{2,nor}) + \dots + \theta_n (F_n(x) / F_{n,nor}) \quad (22)$$

This process utilizes DIgSILENT software to run the unbalance load flow and obtain the value of the fitness function.

Step 5: PSO will then compare the obtained fitness with the global best solution. The global best solution is changed if the local best solution is better.

Step 6: Continue until a maximum number of iterations is reached.

Step 7: Proceed to the second stage and initialize the constraints according to the population size for each bus, which has EVs, using Equation (23) when EVs are charging and discharging.

$$Q_{EV} = [Q_{EV,1}^j, Q_{EV,2}^j, Q_{EV,3}^j, \dots, Q_{EV,i}^j] \tag{23}$$

Step 8: Find the position of the particle at $j + 1$ iteration $Q_{EV,i}^{j+1}$ and velocity of the particle at $j + 1$ iteration v_i^{j+1} as Step 3.

$$Q_{EV,i}^{j+1} = Q_{EV,i}^j + v_i^{j+1} \tag{24}$$

$$v_i^{j+1} = \omega v_{i,k}^j + c_1 \times rand_1^j (pbest_{i,k}^j - Q_{EV,i}^j) + c_2 \times rand_2^j (gbest_k^j - Q_{EV,i}^j) \tag{25}$$

Step 9: Compute the fitness function by solving Equation (6). This step utilizes DIgSILENT software.

Step 10: Find the best current and global solution.

Step 11: Continue until a maximum number of iterations is reached.

Step 12: Store the optimal $P_{Chg}, P_{Dchg}, Q_{Dchg,G2V}, Q_{Dchg,V2G}$.

Step 13: Increase the hours and stop when the maximum hour is reached.

Step 14: Generate the final schedule for the EVs.

5. Simulation Results and Discussion

5.1. Description of the Test System

This study uses the IEEE 34 distribution system as the test system. The EVs are added randomly at buses 816, 824, 854, 842, and 846, as shown in Figure 1. The residential load profile for this study is taken from [47] and the charging/discharging price is taken from [48]. This study assumes all EVs are a Nissan Leaf model, and the battery size and the range under full charge are 24 kWh and 170 km, respectively [49]. A Board Level II Type charger is assumed to be used in this study. This is a single-phase AC IEC 61851-1 standard charger that connects to AC with a rating of 240 V and 32 A [50]. The driving behavior is generated randomly for all EV users based on data from [51]. The arrival/departure times (Figure 4) are randomly generated from [34]. Moreover, a daily distance of around 40–75 km a day is used to calculate the initial state of charge given by Equation (26) and is also shown in Figure 5. Different EV penetration levels have been used for this study, and the details are given in Table 2.

$$SOC_{Initial} = 100\% \times \frac{(D_M - D_D)}{D_M} \tag{26}$$

Table 2. EV penetration for different phases and nodes.

EV Bus Connection	Phase A					Phase B					Phase C				
	816	824	854	842	846	816	824	854	842	846	816	824	854	842	846
30% (162 EVs)	22	1	0	21	0	5	0	41	15	21	0	21	15	0	0
50% (271 EVs)	32	11	0	31	0	20	0	51	25	31	0	31	35	4	0
75% (407 EVs)	45	23	4	43	10	23	4	63	37	43	13	43	37	15	4
100% (542 EVs)	55	32	13	52	19	32	13	72	46	51	22	52	46	24	13

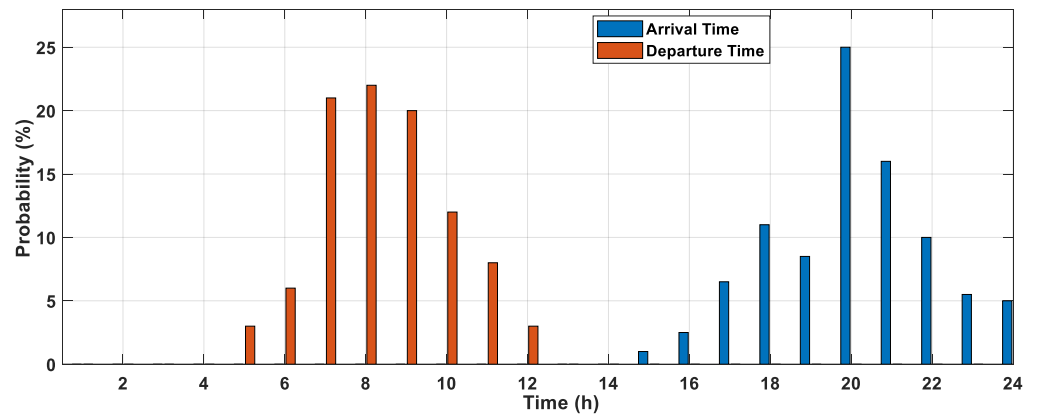


Figure 4. Arrival time and departure time [34].

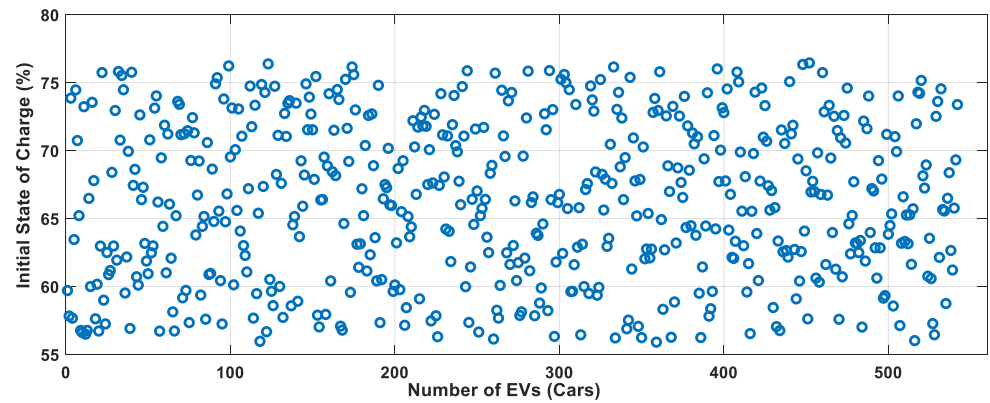


Figure 5. Initial state of charge of 100% penetration (542 cars).

The proposed method is analyzed under three different scenarios: case study when EV penetration varies from 30% to 100% (Table 2), case study when there are different price signals according to seasons (Figure 6), and case study when there are different load profiles according to weekdays and weekends (Figure 7). Furthermore, we also compared the performance of the proposed method to four other methods.

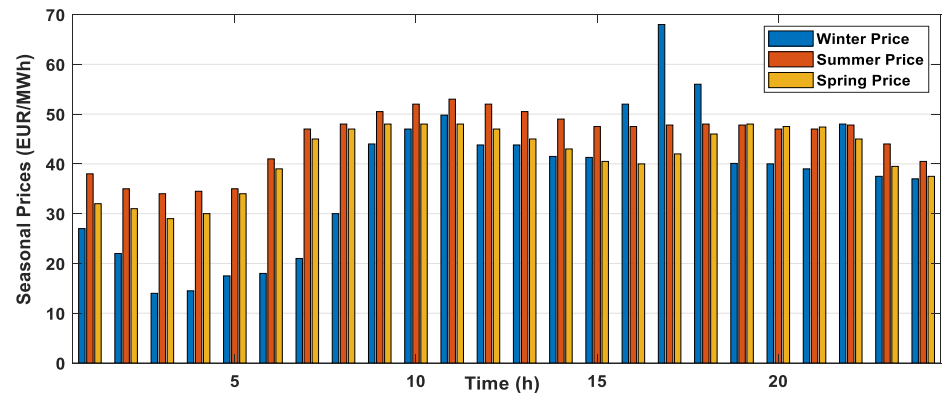


Figure 6. Seasonal prices.

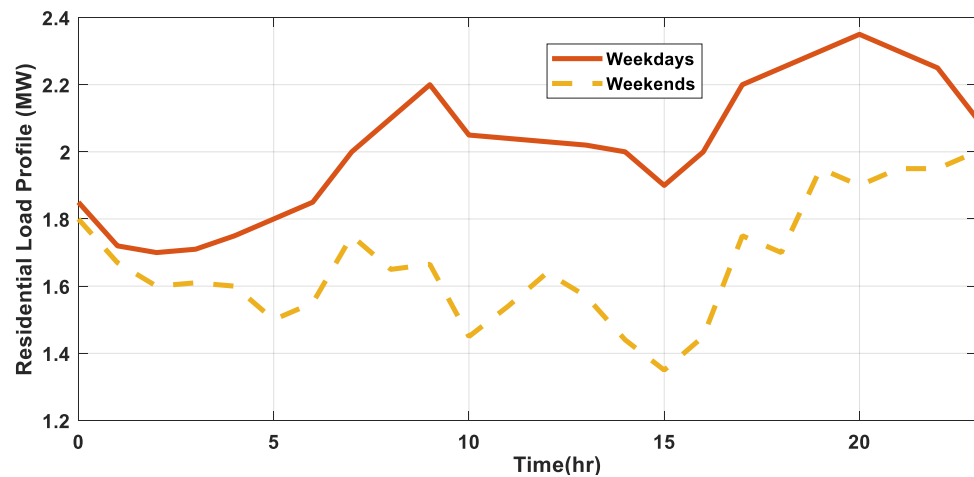


Figure 7. Residential load profile with different electric load profiles.

Uncontrolled Charging: EV charging when the users arrives (the arrival time is assigned randomly from 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., as shown in Figure 4).

Randomly as:

Method 1: CC, VUF, VD with P-V2G (both system and customer objectives) [29,30]

Method 2: CC, BC (only customer objective) [26–28]

Method 3: VUF, VD with Q-V2G (only system objective) [31–34]

All the results are only shown for bus 846 and in the 5 p.m.–10 a.m. time period, which represents the worst-case scenarios for this study. Tables 3 and 4 show the simulation parameters for the constraints and PSO used in this study, respectively.

Table 3. Simulation parameters for constraints.

Parameter	Value
E_0	24 kWh
$E_{Driving}$	0.4 p.u
E_{V2G}	0.3 p.u
$p_{Chg(t,n)}^{Max}$	7.68 kW
$p_{Dchg(t,n)}^{Max}$	7.2 kW
C_t	Obtained from Figure 6
R_{V2G}	0.324 EUR/kWh
$SOC_{Initial}$	Obtained from Figure 5
SOC_{final}	$\geq 95\%$
Δt	1 h
$\eta_{i,t}^{Chg}$	93%
$\eta_{i,t}^{Dchg}$	93%
C_C	110.97 EUR/kWh
C_{SLV}	60% of C_C
S_f	2.22
K_w	0.00015 kWh/kWh
$C_{L,NoV2G}$	1035.19 days (3 years)
$C_{L,V2G}$	706.214 days (2 years)
$w_{p,NoV2G}$	0.179 EUR/kWh
$w_{p,V2G}$	0.122 EUR/kWh

Table 4. Simulation parameters for PSO.

Parameter	Value
c_1	1.4962
c_2	1.4962
Iteration	50
Population size	25
Weight for VUF in Stage 1 (θ_1)	0.5
Weight for CC in Stage 1 (θ_2)	0.25
Weight for BC in Stage 1 (θ_3)	0.25

5.2. Results and Discussion under Different Scenarios

5.2.1. Case Study under Different EV Penetration Levels

This case study analyzes the performance of different methods for different penetration levels. At 30% penetration, we can observe from Figure 8a that the proposed method activates the V2G mode during the peak period and starts charging during the off-peak period. Similarly, the reactive power discharge with the proposed method can be seen in Figure 8b. Figure 9a shows that there is a severe undervoltage problem with uncoordinated charging during peak load conditions, whereas the system voltage is close to the desired limit with the proposed method. We can observe from Figure 9b that the VUF lies under 2% for all methods except Method 1.

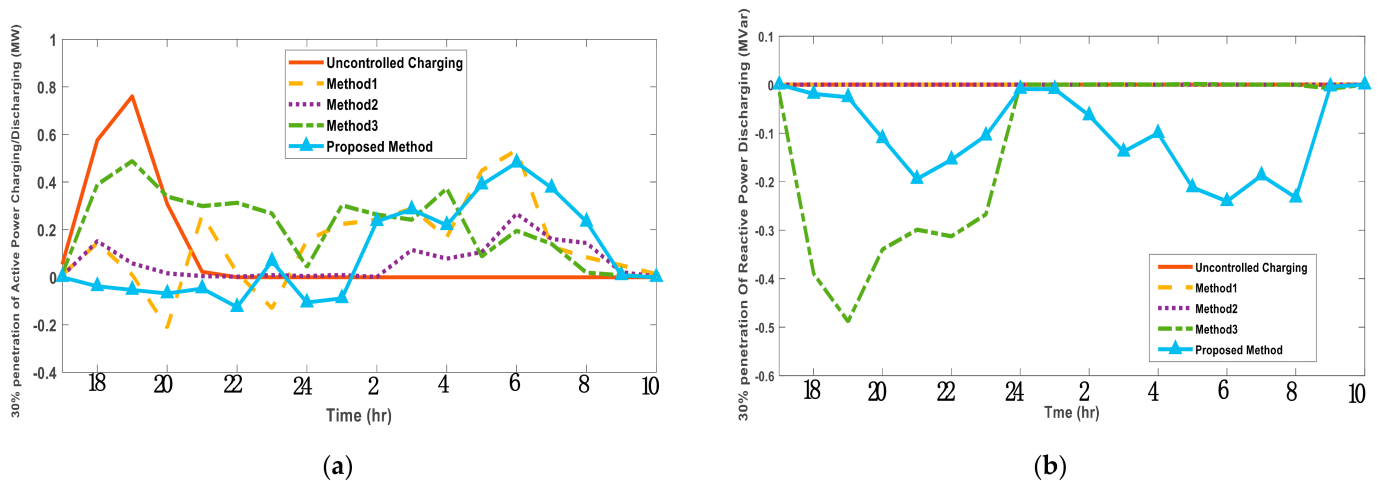


Figure 8. Schedule of (a) active power for EVs for different methods; (b) reactive power for EVs for different methods under 30% EV penetration.

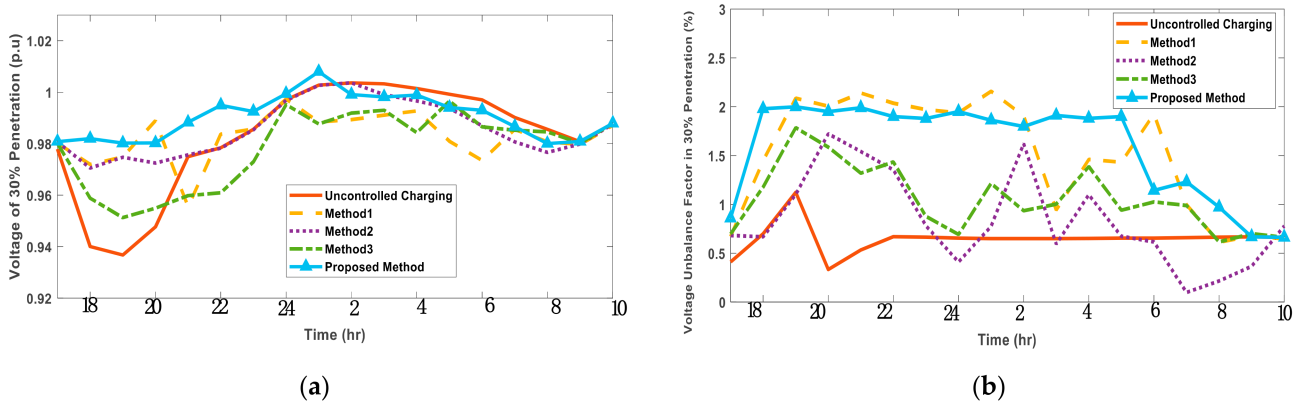


Figure 9. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF under 30% EV penetration.

Figure 10a shows the result for 50% penetration; it can be seen that Methods 1 and 3 are unable to maintain the voltage level near the prescribed limit ($\pm 5\%$) for this case study. The other methods, however, can keep the bus voltage at the prescribed limits. The plot of VUF, as shown by Figure 10b, shows that the VUF also lies within the prescribed limit of the proposed method for this case study.

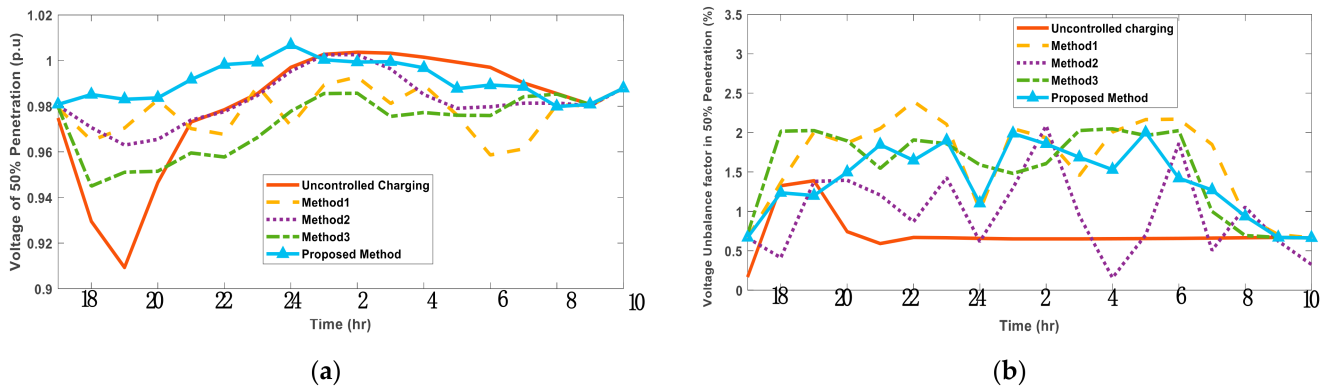


Figure 10. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF under 50% EV penetration.

At 75% penetration, the bus voltage profile is improved for most methods, but lies closest to the desired voltage with the proposed method, as shown by Figure 11a. The plot of VUF as given by Figure 11b shows that the VUF exceeds the 2% limit with other methods but it lies within the limits for the proposed method.

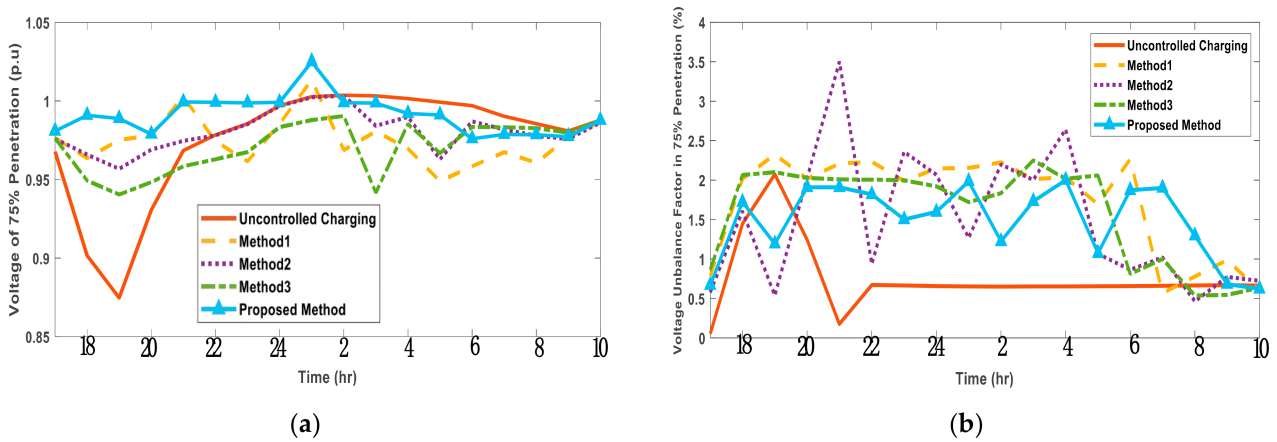


Figure 11. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF under 75% EV penetration.

Figure 12a,b shows the plots of the bus voltage and VUF at a 100% penetration level. It can be seen from the figures that both the bus voltage and the VUF also lie within the prescribed limits using the proposed method compared to other methods.

Figure 13 shows that the final SOC lies within the desired limits for customers with the application of the proposed method.

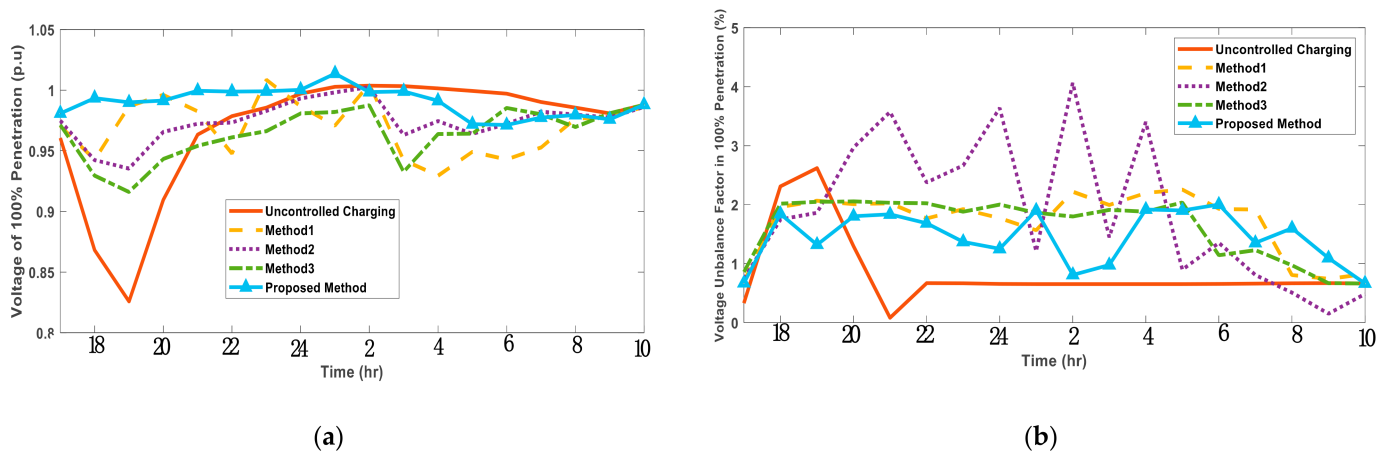


Figure 12. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF under 100% EV penetration.

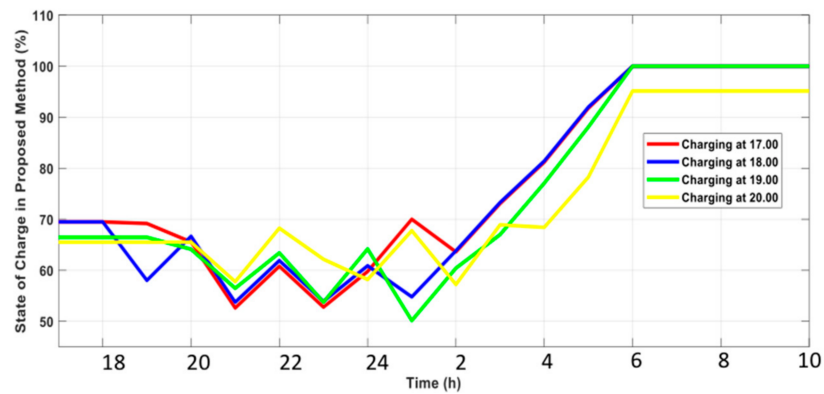


Figure 13. State of charge for the proposed method.

5.2.2. Case Study under Different Price Signals

This scenario considers analysis under different price signals. Three price signals corresponding to three different seasons (winter, summer, and spring on weekdays) have been considered for the analysis. An EV penetration of 100% is assumed for this scenario as it represents the worst-case scenario based on the results obtained in the previous section.

Figure 14a,b shows the active and reactive power schedules obtained using different methods. The plot given in Figure 15a, shows that the bus voltage lies well below the prescribed limit with uncoordinated charging. However, the voltage profile improves with Method 1 and is nearest to the prescribed limit with the proposed method. The plot of VUF as shown by Figure 15b shows that the VUF is worse with Method 2 but lies within the limit for the other methods. A similar inference can also be made from Figures 16 and 17 regarding voltage and VUF for other seasonal price variations.

Figure 18a–c shows that the total costs for the winter, summer, and spring seasons are lowest with the proposed method, but the battery degradation costs are a little bit expensive with the proposed method. However, the revenue savings from the charging costs and the reward from V2G far outweigh the battery degradation costs with the proposed method.

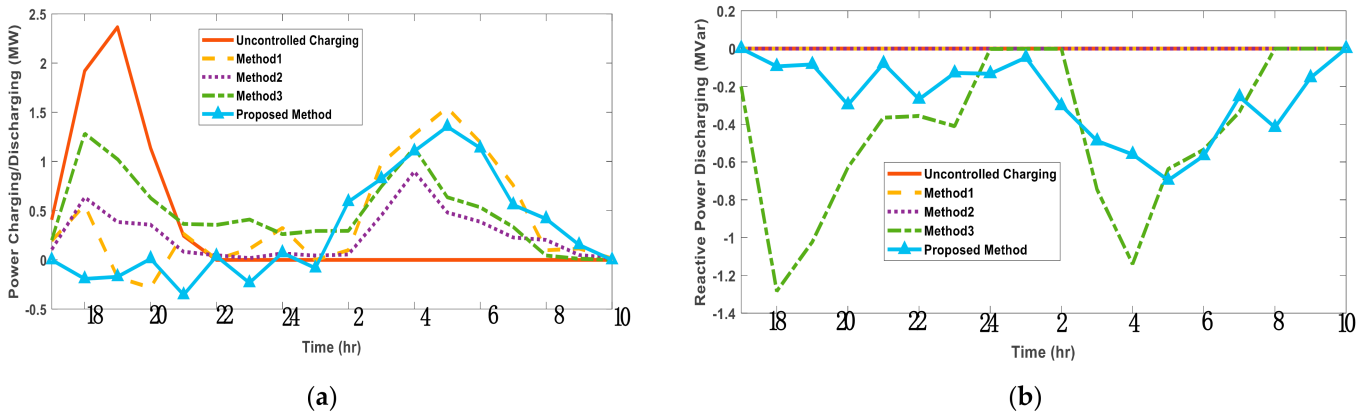


Figure 14. Schedule of (a) active power for EVs under different methods and (b) reactive power for EVs under different methods for price signals in the spring season.

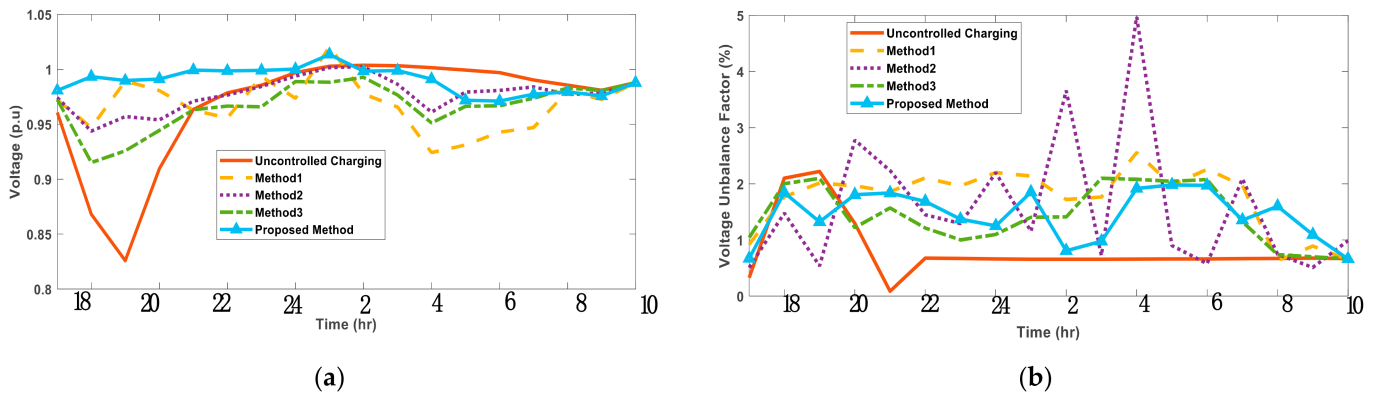


Figure 15. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF for price signals in the spring season.

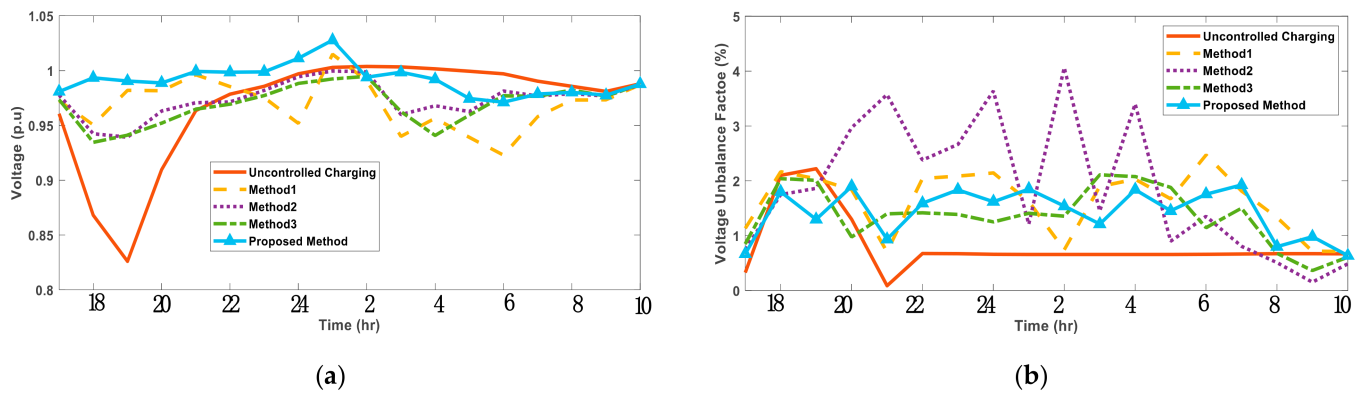


Figure 16. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF for price signals in the summer season.

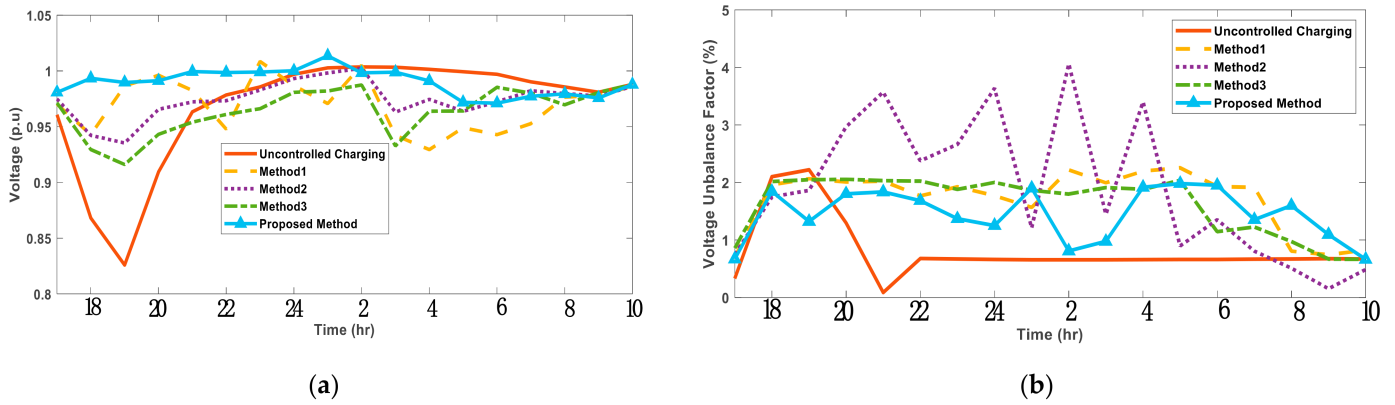


Figure 17. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF for price signals in the winter season.

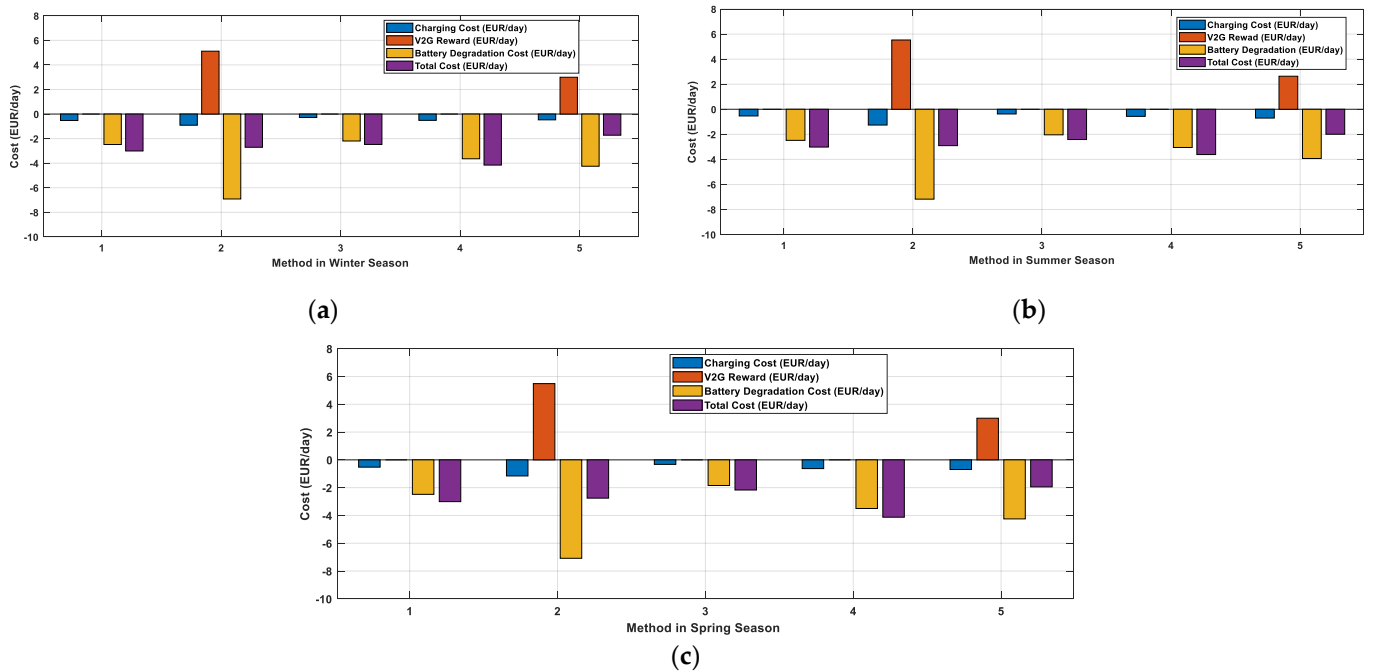


Figure 18. Total cost for (a) winter, (b) summer, and (c) spring (1 = uncoordinated charging; 2 = Method 1; 3 = Method 2; 4 = Method 3; 5 = proposed method).

We can observe from Table 5 that the total cost is lowest with the proposed method compared to the other methods and the VUF and voltage also lie within the prescribed limits for this scenario.

Table 5. Comparison results of case study under different price signals.

100% Penetration	Weekday	Uncontrolled Charging	Method 1	Method 2	Method 3	Proposed Method
Winter	Max VUF (%)	2.1	2.2	4	2	1.98
	Min Voltage (p.u)	0.825	0.94	0.94	0.95	0.97
	Max Voltage (p.u)	1	1	1	0.98	1.01
	Total Cost (EUR/day)	−3.00	−2.70	−2.47	−4.15	−1.723
Summer	Max VUF (%)	2.1	2.2	4	2.1	1.98
	Min Voltage (p.u)	0.82	0.925	0.94	0.935	0.98
	Max Voltage (p.u)	1	1.01	1	0.99	1.02
	Total Cost (EUR/day)	−3.015	−2.9	−2.4	−3.61	−1.99
Spring	Max VUF (%)	2.1	2.5	5	2.1	1.95
	Min Voltage (p.u)	0.85	0.925	0.94	0.925	0.975
	Max Voltage (p.u)	1	1.01	1	0.97	1.01
Total Cost (EUR/day)		−3.006	−2.75	−2.169	−4.21	−1.94

5.2.3. Case Study under Weekend Load Profile

This scenario considers an analysis of the weekend load profile for domestic consumers (Figure 7). From the previous case study, it can be assumed that the proposed method is able to provide VUF, voltage in prescribed limits with the lowest total cost.

Figure 19a,b shows the active and reactive power schedule obtained using different methods under this scenario, and it can be seen that the proposed method charges and discharges less under peak load hours. The plot of the bus voltage as given by Figure 20a shows that the bus voltage lies well below the prescribed limit with uncoordinated charging. However, the voltage profile is nearest to the prescribed limit with the proposed method for this case study as well. The VUF, as shown by Figure 20b, shows that the VUF lies within limits with the proposed method, for both weekdays and weekends.

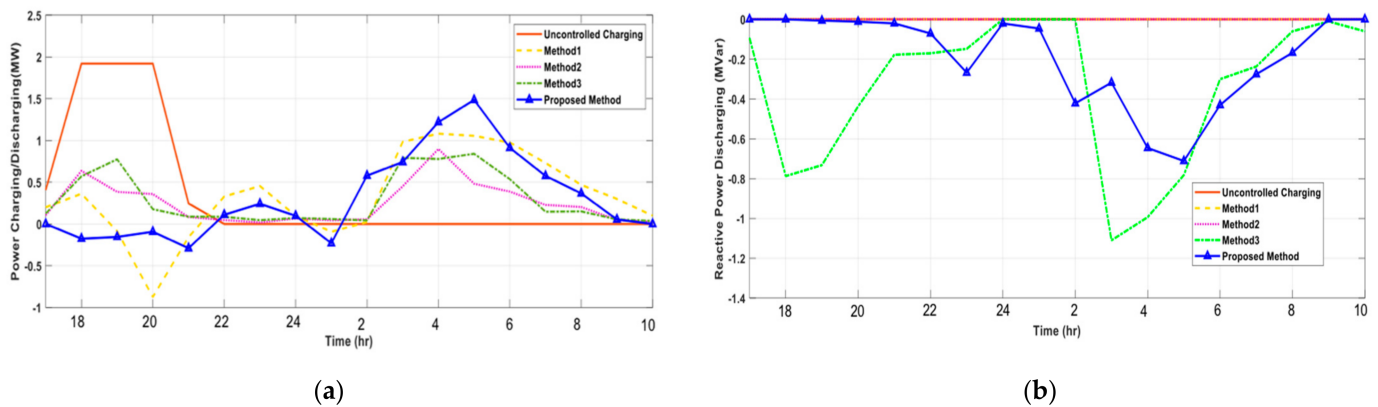


Figure 19. Schedule of (a) active power for EVs using different methods for weekend electric load profiles and (b) reactive power for EVs under different methods for weekend electric load profiles.

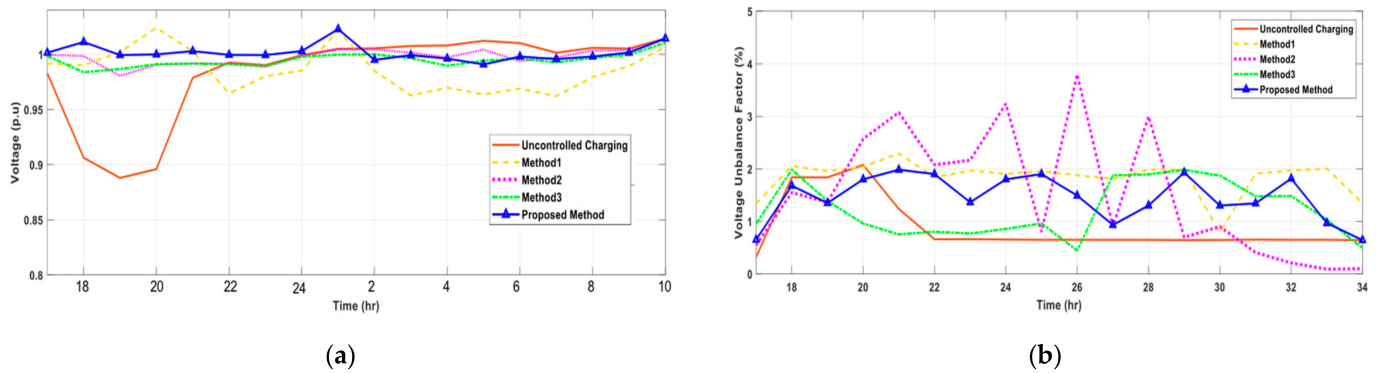


Figure 20. Bus 846 (a) voltage and (b) VUF for weekend electric load profiles.

Figure 21a shows that the proposed method is able to provide the lowest total cost for weekdays/weekends for different residential power demands, which can also be inferred from the results in Table 6. Figure 21b shows that the final SOC lies within the prescribed limits for weekends with the application of the proposed method.

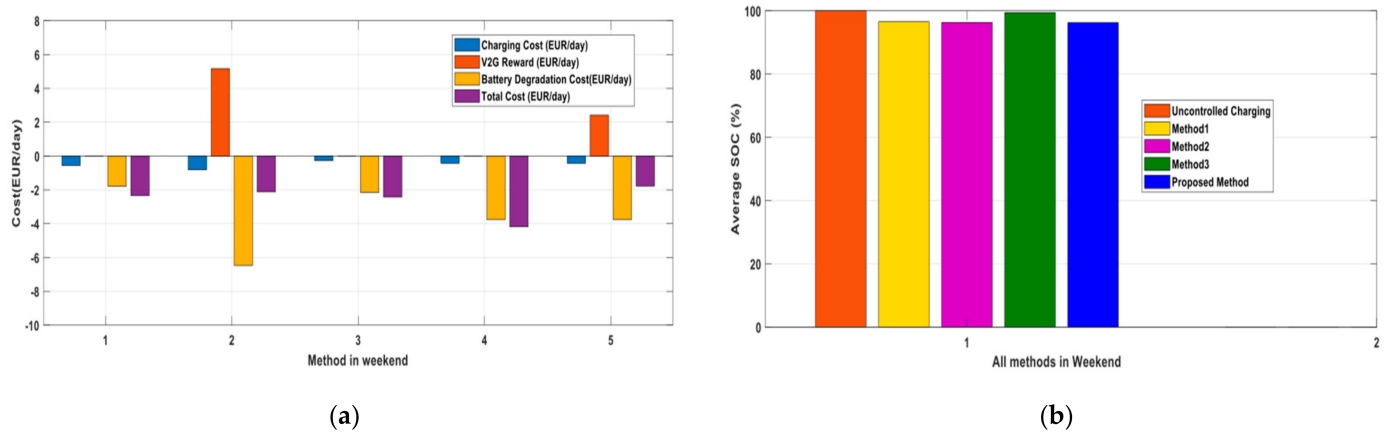


Figure 21. Total cost and SOC. (a) Charging cost in different electric load profiles (weekend). (b) Average SOC in different electric load profiles (weekend).

Table 6. Comparison of result of the case study under different load profiles.

100% Penetration	Winter	Uncontrolled Charging	Method 1	Method 2	Method 3	Proposed Method
Weekday	Max VUF (%)	2.1	2.2	4	2	1.98
	Min Voltage (p.u)	0.825	0.94	0.94	0.95	0.97
	Max Voltage (p.u)	1	1	1	0.98	1.01
	Total Cost (EUR/day)	-3.00	-2.70	-2.47	-4.15	-1.723
Weekend	Max VUF (%)	2	2.25	3.8	2	1.98
	Min Voltage (p.u)	0.89	0.96	0.97	0.97	0.99
	Max Voltage (p.u)	1.01	1.03	1.01	1.01	1.02
	Total Cost (EUR/day)	-2.33	-2.11	-2.42	-4.18	-1.76

5.2.4. Discussion

The results from the case study under different EV penetration levels show that the voltage deviation problem gets worse when EV penetration ranges from 30% to 100% in uncoordinated charging, and the voltage unbalance problem get worse when EV penetration ranges from 75% to 100% with uncoordinated charging. The results show that all

of these problems are reduced with the proposed method and that the final desired SOC is maintained.

In the case study under different EV price signals, the impact of voltage deviation and the voltage unbalance problem is worst with uncoordinated charging. The proposed method schedules times for charging/discharging of both the active power and reactive power of EVs in such a manner that it largely improves voltage profile and reduces VUF with customer benefits compared to the uncoordinated charging.

In the case study under a weekend load profile, the voltage unbalance problem does not occur with uncoordinated charging but the bus voltage is below the desired limit. The proposed method is capable of scheduling EVs to improve both the system and customer requirements.

However, battery degradation costs with the proposed method, in all case studies, are a bit higher than with uncoordinated charging, Method 2, Method 3, and Method 4, but the benefits from the total costs are better with proposed method, which helps to outweigh this drawback.

Method 2 is exclusively designed to minimize the charging costs and battery degradation costs and thus the total cost is the second lowest after the proposed method. However, as the researchers do not control VUF, its value is high compared to other methods for all seasons. This shows that EVs with V2G have to consider VUF failure, which can lead to deterioration of the system.

This study shows that battery degradation has little impact on voltage deviation. However, it is an important objective to consider as it directly affects battery lifetime.

6. Conclusions

This paper proposes a two-stage approach to schedule EV charging with both G2V and V2G capabilities to improve grid voltage, reduce VUF, and reduce prosumer charging costs. Our study yielded the following findings:

- (i). The proposed method provides the lowest cost for customers to charge/dischARGE their EVs compared with other existing methods for all the scenarios considered in this study. For the summer season, the total cost using the proposed method is around 1.515 times lower than uncontrolled charging and 1.206 times lower than the result obtained using the method which provided the least cost next to the proposed method. A similar trend was seen for other scenarios considered in this study.
- (ii). The battery degradation costs with the proposed method are around 1.756 times lower than Method 1 but 1.64, 1.86, and 1.37 times higher than with uncontrolled charging, and Methods 2 and 3, respectively, when EV penetration is 100%. Similar results were obtained for other case studies taken in this paper.
- (iii). The minimum voltages (p.u) of the critical bus for winter, summer, spring, 100% penetration scenario, weekday and weekend load profiles were 0.97, 0.98, 0.975, 0.97, and 0.99, respectively, and the maximum voltages (p.u) of the critical bus for winter, summer, spring, 100% penetration scenario, weekday and weekend load profile were 1.01, 1.02, 1.01, 1.01, and 1.02, respectively, which shows that the voltage profile lies within the $\pm 5\%$ voltage limit. However, the minimum voltage under uncontrolled charging lies below the desired limits for all the scenarios.
- (iv). The values of VUF under uncontrolled charging for winter, summer, spring, 100% penetration scenario, weekday and weekend load profile were 2.1, 2.1, 2.1, 2.1, and 2, respectively. The values of VUF with the proposed method for winter, summer, spring, 100% penetration scenario, weekday and weekend load profile were 1.98, 1.98, 1.95, 1.98, and 1.98, respectively. Thus, it can be seen that the VUF also lies within the prescribed limit ($<2\%$ IEEE standard) with the application of the proposed method for all the case studies considered in this study.

This study is limited to only main two grid requirements, namely VUF and voltage deviation; however, there are many other grid requirements, such as minimization of loss, maximization of reliability, stability improvement, reactive power pricing, etc. Thus,

this work can be extended to consider these objectives. Thus, our future work will use multi-objective optimization, such as NSGA-III, to coordinate EVs while considering many objectives.

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Nomenclature

$B_{i,j}$	Susceptance
C_t	Charging Cost in time t (EUR/kWh)
C_C	Capital Cost (EUR/kWh)
C_{SLV}	Salvage value of the battery (EUR/kWh)
$C_{L,NoV2G}$	Battery cycle life without V2G mode (days)
$C_{L,V2G}$	Battery cycle life with V2G mode (days)
c_1, c_2	Acceleration Coefficient
D_D	Daily distance of EV (km)
D_M	Maximum distance of EV type (km)
E_0	Initial rated energy (kWh)
$E_{Driving}$	Energy in driving (kWh)
E_{V2G}	Energy in V2G (kWh)
$F_n(x), F_{n,nor}$	Objective function and normalized function
$gbest_{i,k}^j$	global best of PSO
$G_{i,j}$	Conductance (S)
K_w	Respectively denote the initial and final SOC (kWh/kWh)
N	Number of nodes in the system.
N_{Chg}, N_{Dchg}	Number of EVs charging, discharging
$pbest_{i,k}^j$	Local best for PSO
$P_{ChgMax}, P_{DchgMax}$	Maximum power charging/discharging (kW)
$P_{Chg,i}, P_{Dchg,i}$	Individual EVs charging/discharging (kW)
$P_{EV_Chg}(n,t)$	Power charging at node n (kW)
$P_{EV_Dchg}(n,t)$	Power discharging at node n (kW)
$P_{i,t}, P_{d,i,t}$	Active power supply and demand of bus i at time t (kW)
$Q_{DchgMax,i}$	Maximum individual reactive power discharging (kVar)
$Q_{Dchg,i}$	Individual reactive power discharging (kVar)
$Q_{i,t}, Q_{d,i,t}$	Reactive power supply and demand of bus i at time t (kVar)
$rand_1, rand_2$	Random number
R_{V2G}	V2G reward (EUR/kWh)
$SOC_{i,t}$	Individual state of charging of EV i at time t
$SOC_{initial}, SOC_{final}$	Initial/final state of charging of EVs
SOC_{max}, SOC_{min}	Maximum/minimum stage of charge of EVs
S_f	Scaling factor of battery wear during driving
$V_{i,t}, V_{j,t}$	Voltage of bus i and j at time t
$v_{i,k}^j$	velocity of a swarm i in j-th iteration
$V_{Meas}(n,t)$	Measured voltage at node n

V_{Ref}	Reference voltage
V^-	Negative sequence components in voltage
V^+	Positive sequence components in voltage
w_p	wear price (EUR/kWh)
$w_{p,V2G}$	wear price with V2G (EUR/kWh)
$w_{p,NoV2G}$	wear price with V2G (EUR/kWh)
$x_{Chg,i}, x_{Dchg,i}$	Charging/discharging indicator $\in (0,1)$
$x_{i,k}^j, y_{i,k}^j$	Position in Stage 1 and 2 of a swarm i in j -th iteration
Δt	Differential time (1 h)
η_{ch}	Efficiency of charging
η_{Dch}	Efficiency of discharging
η_{Chg}, η_{Dchg}	Efficiency of charging/discharging
ω	Inertial weight factor
θ_n	Weight of multi objective function
$\phi_{ij,t}$	Voltage phase angle between buses i and j at time t
AC	Alternating current
BC	Battery degradation cost
CC	Charging cost
DC	Direct current
DGs	Distributed generation
EV	Electric vehicle
EVs	Electric vehicles
G2V	Grid to vehicle
PSO	particle swarm optimization
SOC	State of charge
VD	Voltage deviation
VUF	Voltage unbalance factor
V2G	Vehicle to grid

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