



# Network Reconfiguration Based on an Edge-Cloud-Coordinate Framework and Load Forecasting

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With the development of distributed energy resources (DERs), the power flow (PF) in the distribution network (DN) is changed from unidirectional to bidirectional, resulting in complex control and coordinate measures. Network reconfiguration (NR) is a feasible solution for the power grid side to deal with the complex PF. This paper proposed an edge-cloud-coordinated reconfiguration framework with edge servers (ESs) in the prosumer side and cloud servers (CSs) in the utility grid side, where the edge computing (EC) technology is implemented in ES to support load forecasting (LF), while cloud computing (CC) is used in CS to reconstruct the DN. LF is implemented by the long-short-term memory network to acquire the load information in advance, and the social preference of prosumers has been considered. The NR is formulated as a complex combinatorial optimization problem with the goal of minimizing power losses, while satisfying the power flow and voltage requirement. The NR problems are solved by the proposed advanced harmony search algorithm, which can find the optimal global solution, while satisfying the complex constraints of the NR problem. Numerical results are conducted based on an IEEE 33-bus network, which shows the high accuracy of LF and demonstrates the effectiveness of the proposed framework in terms of reducing more than 40% power losses and satisfying the voltage requirement.

**Keywords:** edge-cloud-coordinated computing, network reconfiguration, load forecasting, distributed energy resource, long-short-term memory

## INTRODUCTION

With the wide use of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as photovoltaic (PV) and wind energy, an entity with the competence of both production and consumption called prosumer was created (Liu et al., 2018). Prosumers can serve as a seller and buyer in the trading market with the capability of consumption and production, which complicate the power flow (PF) by transferring unidirectional transmission to bidirectional transmission (Ma et al., 2019; Morstyn and McCulloch, 2019). The control and coordinate mechanisms of the system are becoming complex, resulting in challenges for the manager of distribution networks (DNs). Demand response (DR) based on the interaction between prosumers and utility grids or a third-party network manager has gradually become a hot research topic for the solution of the prosumers' strategies in complex PF (Liu et al., 2017). Although the DR also helps the utility grid to set the strategies for responding to the complex PF, the focus is on the prosumer side. However, network reconfiguration (NR) based on advanced load forecasting (LF) is a good way to solve the problem.

NR can change the PF of the network by changing the state of switches (Baran and Wu, 1989). Sarma et al. (1994) reduce the network to find the alternate paths of power supply to the affected load points by properly merging certain nodes and then find the restorative procedure that satisfied voltage and current constraints to reconfigure the DN under faulty conditions. Moreover, NR can also optimize PF of DN and reduce power losses by changing switch states according to load distribution with the development of fast switches (Liu et al., 2019). The NR problem is a complex nonlinear integer optimization problem. Therefore, obtaining the optimal NR solution of DN within a short period of time is difficult. For facing with the solution, which is difficult, previous studies are mainly divided into two categories: 1) mathematical optimization methods and 2) heuristic algorithms. In terms of the mathematical optimization methods, the NR problem is usually modeled as a mixed-integer cone programming model (Jabr et al., 2012). Based on the mixed-integer cone programming model, the NR problem with distributed generation is solved and the global optimal NR solution is obtained (Jabr et al., 2012), a two-stage robust optimization model is built to consider the load uncertainty in NR problem (Lee et al., 2015), and the worthiness of hourly dynamical NR under renewable energy resource access is analyzed (Dorostkar-Ghamsari et al., 2016). In terms of the heuristic algorithms, the NR solution can be obtained through various heuristic principles. The branch-exchange method means closing a tie switch accompanied with opening a sectionalizing switch and gradually comparing the power losses of different switch states to get the optimal NR solution (Mishra et al., 2017). Through combining with the random walks-based technique, the computational runtime of solving the NR problem based on the branch-exchange method is speeded up (Ababei and Kavasseri, 2011). A segmented-time dynamical NR problem coupled with reactive power contribution of distributed generators is proposed, whose optimal solution is searched by a solution algorithm based on the particle swarm optimization (PSO) method (Chen et al., 2016). However, the mathematical optimization methods and heuristic algorithms are faced with the difficulty of cumbersome and time-consuming solutions.

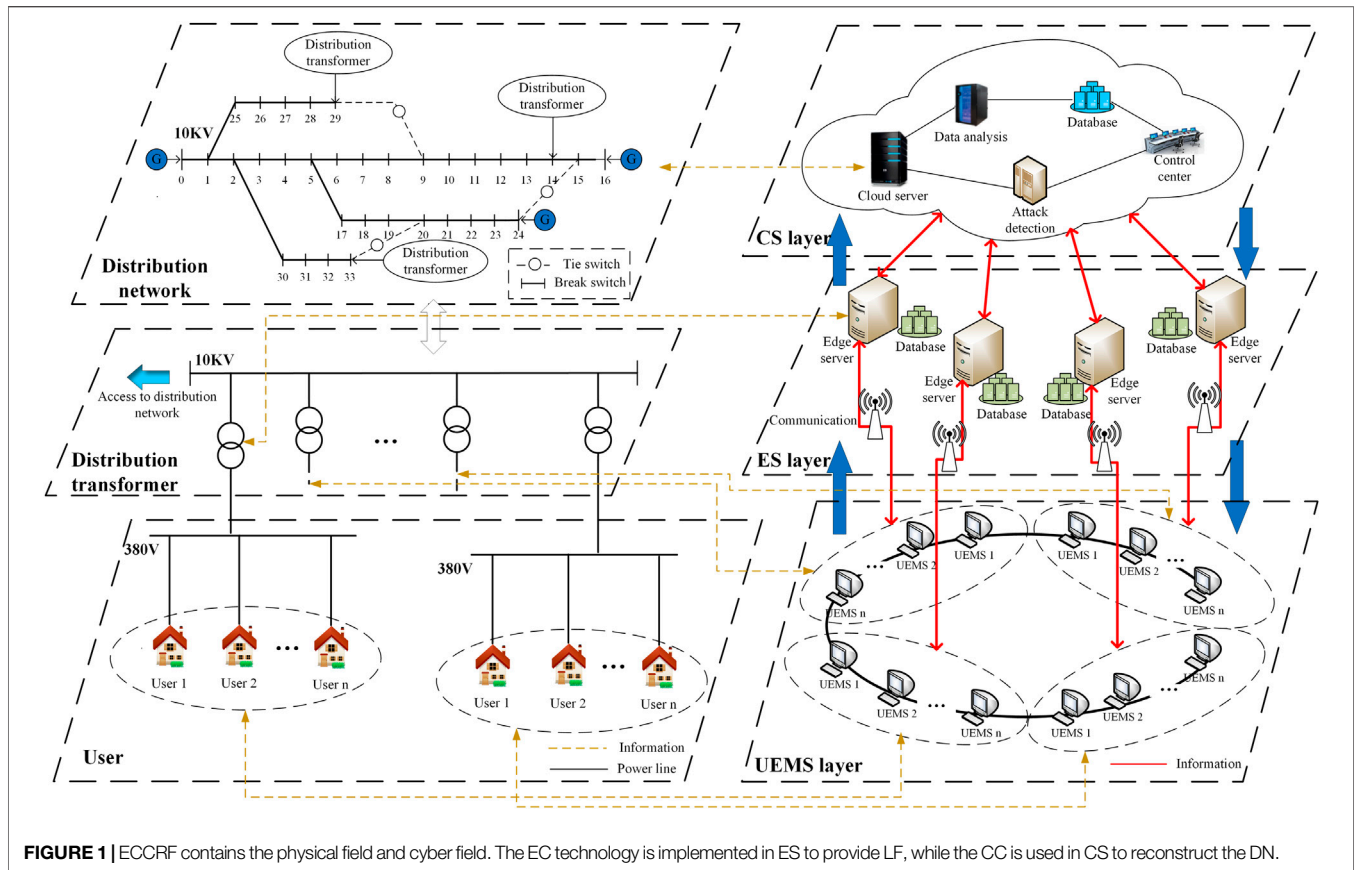
NR requires operators to decide a large number of switches, and LF is based on a large number of data, which are all computationally heavy tasks. Edge computing (EC) is emerged from the Internet of things that can be used to dramatically improve the computation performance by deploying services at the edge of the network (Ren et al., 2019). EC has the advantages of achieving low latency transmission, saving energy for mobile devices, supporting context-aware computing, and enhancing privacy and security for mobile applications. In recent years, researchers from both academia and industries have investigated a wide range of issues related to EC, which includes system and network modeling, optimal control, and resource allocation (Mao et al., 2017). Besides, the forecasting error often exists in the LF of a single prosumer (Gong et al., 2019) so that an edge server allocated in a distribution transformer (DT) is required for improving the forecasting accuracy by aggregating LF.

According to the current studies, LF is performed via various methods, which can be divided into two categories: conventional and machine learning-based techniques. From the perspective of the conventional methods, a combined probabilistic load forecast model is established based on a constrained quantile regression averaging method (Wang et al., 2019a). Besides, a hybrid model is built for overcoming the computational complexity and forecasting accuracy problems, combining the wavelet transform, and gene expression programming (Al-Hilfi et al., 2021). However, the performance of conventional methods is unsatisfying in nonlinear load series forecasting due to the linear model established. Therefore, the machine learning-based techniques have been widely used in LF recently (Xu et al., 2018; Chen et al., 2019; Jawad et al., 2020). An extreme learning machine-based predictor is proposed, where the weighted averaging is used to combine the individual forecast outputs for the accuracy improvement (Song et al., 2016). Moreover, capable of solving the gradient vanishing problems, the long-short-term memory (LSTM) network is employed in the short-term forecasting problems involving time series (Rafi et al., 2021).

A multilayer data flow processing system consisting of a cloud center on the top layer, EC servers on the middle layer, and edge devices on the bottom layer has been proposed in Wang et al., 2019b. Mach and Becvar, 2017 describe the major application scenarios that adapt to EC and focus on three major areas, that is, computation offloading decisions, computing resource allocation, and mobility management. A comprehensive model designed to solve the optimization problem of online resource allocation in edge clouds and an efficient online algorithm were proposed in Wang et al., 2019c, which are based on the regularization technique under unpredictable resource prices and user movements. Therefore, with the powerful computation capacities, LF and NR with a huge computation cost can be solved with the help of EC and cloud computing (CC), respectively. Therefore, LF and NR with a huge computation cost and time can be solved by the computation allocation in EC and CC. Moreover, the computation time can be further reduced by the parallel computation in multiple edge servers.

In this paper, an edge-cloud-coordinated reconfiguration framework (ECCRF) was proposed to manage the LF tasks in the prosumer side and NR tasks in the power grid side. The social preference of each prosumer is also considered in the framework during the process of LF. The main contributions include the following:

- 1) An ECCRF with edge servers (ESs) in the DT of the prosumer side and cloud servers (CSs) in the utility grid side is created, where the EC technology is implemented in ES to provide LF, while CC is used in CS to reconstruct the DN.
- 2) The short-term LF tasks considering the social preference of prosumers have been suggested for ES, enabling the ES to conduct the LF for an aggregated prosumer with similar preference under a DT and providing the basic execution conditions for tasks in the CS.
- 3) NR is implemented in CS due to the fact that it is a system level task that required information of the whole system. Based on



the LF results, NR is formulated as an optimization problem with the goal of minimizing power losses. Besides, an advanced harmony search algorithm was proposed for solving the NR tasks.

## EDGE-CLOUD-COORDINATED RECONFIGURATION FRAMEWORK

### Overview of the Framework

The ECCRF is based on EC and CC, consisting of two aspects: the physical field and cyber field. In the physical field, the major entities are PV prosumers, distribution transformers, and physical DN. With the competence of production and consumption of PV prosumers, they act as either a seller or buyer based on their load profiles, which have influence on the PF of the DN. Each DT separates prosumers to different parts, allowing prosumer access to DN in multiple areas. The NR of the DN should be considered to suit the new PF for reducing power loss and increasing voltage stability and frequency stability.

In the cyber field, there are the user energy management system (UEMS), multiple ESs, and a CS, which correspond to prosumers, DT, and DN of the physical field, respectively. With the metering and a little computation capacity, the UEMS can help users collecting load information, adjusting load distribution, etc. The ES located near each DT is the fundamental of EC, focusing on the control in the DT level.

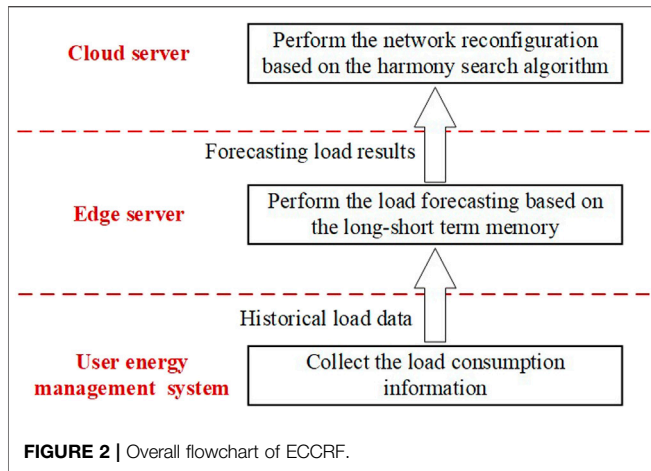
The UEMS and ES belong to the user side, aimed at the control and operation of prosumers. However, as the fundamental of CC, the CS is focused on the power grid side, in charge of global operation of the DN in the system level. Each entity has a special communication mechanism about its information. The specific topology of the ECCRF with these two fields is shown in Figure 1.

### Edge Server and Cloud Server Role

To implement the NR in the physical field, LF was considered in the framework assisted by the cyber field. The load information of prosumers can be obtained by LF ahead of time, which is useful to plan the network future operational structure in advance.

### Load Forecasting Tasks From Prosumers

UEMS is used to be the entity to provide individual load information to the market for prosumers to participate in the trading, but LF is a heavy computation task for UEMS with limited computation resources and high cost to transmit to the cloud. With the powerful computation capacity and storage, the ES coordinates the operation of many prosumers that access DTs, and the LF task can be offloaded to ES with less transmission cost and time. As the goal of LF is to alleviate the influence of dynamic load consumption of prosumers on the power grid, LF can be implemented in the ES.



### Reconfigured Tasks of the Distribution Network

The CS serves as the manager of the DN in power grid side, which in charge of the system level control, such as the NR problem, with the powerful computation capacities. Based on the LF results that transmit from ES, the CS can get the future PF in advance and find a best network structure for the power grid by analyzing switching patterns. Therefore, the coordination of edge (aimed at LF) and cloud (focused on NR) is built, proposing solutions for the power grid in face of random access of prosumers and dynamic load consumption. The overall flowchart of ECCRF is provided **Figure 2**.

## DATA-DRIVEN LOAD RESPONSE OF PROSUMERS

The influence of dynamic load distribution of prosumers on the DN was considered, so the control mechanism on the power grid side was mainly analyzed, that is, the NR. With the powerful computation capacity and storage, the ES can conduct LF and predict the aggregated load of all prosumers under a DT so as to facilitate the power grid side to analyze the impact of the prosumers' trading. The load information was collected from the smart meter installed in each prosumer and then sent to ES for data analyzing (i.e., LF). The social preference of an individual prosumer will have a great influence on the system energy management (Chen et al., 2021) and also affect the LF, that is, each prosumer has individual preference, so that the prosumer can be aggregated to multiple categories according to their load profiles to enhance the accuracy of LF. Besides, the load distribution obeys a regular distribution in 1 day, and the weekly and holiday load distributions are time-correlated. Therefore, the learning of load information should be based on the long-term load profiles (24 h in this paper). Separating the prosumers' load values in each time slot may ignore the time correlation. Because the memory cell of LSTM would achieve the transformation and maintaining processes of the time-series load distribution, the LSTM network is capable of implementing the time-series LF (Wang et al., 2019c). Therefore, the LSTM model is used for

LF, which relates the load distribution between current and previous time slots.

### Data-Driven Load Response Strategies

Suppose there are  $P$  prosumers in the system with access to different DTs (the number is  $A$ ), and the DT has the number of  $P_a$  prosumers. Each prosumer can serve as a buyer and seller in the energy trading according to its net load

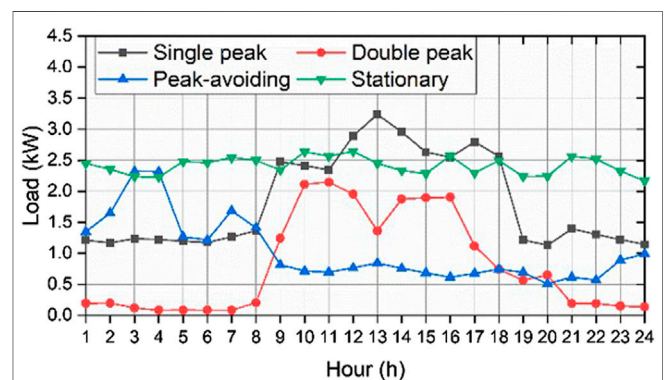
$$L = E_{pv} - fl \tag{1}$$

where  $E_{pv}$  and  $fl$  are the PV production and load consumption of prosumers, respectively.

The net load of the prosumer includes the comprehensive load information consisting of PV production  $E_{PV}$  and load consumption  $fl$  and the role of the seller and buyer. In terms of the role of the prosumer, if  $L > 0$ , that is, the prosumer's PV production is greater than its load consumption, the role of the prosumer is to be a seller. Otherwise, if  $L < 0$ , the role of the prosumer is to be a buyer, whose PV production cannot meet its load consumption.

According to the characteristic of historical load curves, the prosumers can be aggregated to four categories shown in **Figure 3**: single-peak prosumers, that is, commercial users; double-peak prosumers, that is, large industries and government utilities; peak-avoiding prosumers, that is, small factories; and stationary prosumers, that is, light industries. The load consumption of single-peak prosumers, double-peak prosumers, and peak-avoiding prosumers is relevant to time, while that of the stationary prosumers is independent of time. There is difference in the peak occurrence time of single-peak prosumers, double-peak prosumers, and peak-avoiding prosumers. Moreover, the change of load curve of double-peak prosumers is more violent than those of single-peak prosumers and peak-avoiding prosumers.

The data-driven method, curve clustering, is applied to divide the categories of prosumers based on the load curves. Considering the clustering goal being determined by the characteristic of the load curve in the whole time slot, the rate of load curve is used as the indicator to determine which categories the prosumers belong to. For obtaining the indicator, take the number of  $M$  sample points from the load curve, form the vector  $M$ , and calculate differentials  $k_i^m$  between each two adjacent points (i.e., **Eq. 2**), and then obtain



**FIGURE 3 | Load curves of four different categories.**

the number of  $M-1$  differentials. In the clustering process, the clustering goal is to find a cluster center with minimum sum of square errors, which can be expressed as follows:

$$k_i^m = L_i^m - L_i^{m+1} \quad (2)$$

$$\min E = \sum_a \sum_{m=1}^{M-1} \|k_i^m - \mu_a\|_2^2 \quad (3)$$

$$\mu_a = \frac{1}{M-1} \sum_{m=1}^{M-1} k_a^m \quad (4)$$

where  $L_i^m$  and  $L_i^{m+1}$  are the  $m$ th load point and the next load point in the load curve of prosumer  $i$ , respectively.  $\mu_a$  is the center of cluster  $a$ ,  $A$  is the total number of clusters, and  $k_a^m$  is the differential of the clustered load curve after initializing.

### Prosumer Behavior Characteristic

Under the background of DN reconfiguration, the short-term (e.g., day-ahead) LF and predicting the current load through the historical load data were considered. Some features related to net load distribution are considered as the LSTM model input:

- 1) The load data prior to the forecast day, which are a time series consisting of 24 elements from every 1 h for 24 h:  $L = [L_i^1 \ L_i^2 \ \dots \ L_i^{24}]$ ,  $i \in [1, \dots, n]$ , where  $I$  is the prosumer ID and  $n$  is the number of prosumers.
- 2) The day in 1) that used to predict the load corresponds to the day of the week:  $W$ , where the range of  $W$  is 0–6.
- 3) The day in 1) that used to predict the load corresponds to a holiday or not:  $H$ , where the holiday is 1 and not a holiday is 0.
- 4) The temperature of the day in 1) used to predict the load:  $T$ , where  $T$  consists of three elements, maximum temperature, minimum temperature, and average temperature.

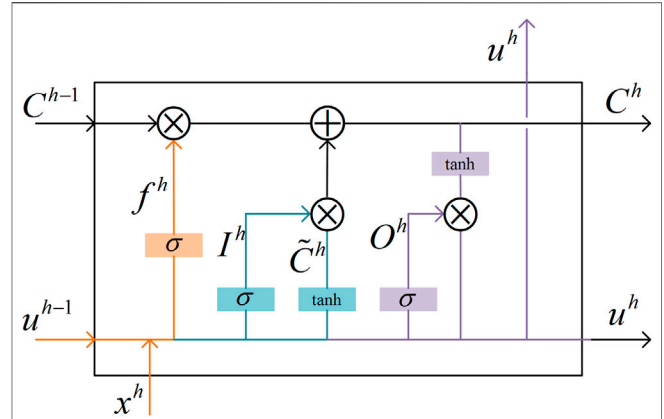
Due to the fact that each feature has different dimensions, the normalization method is used in these features, converting the range of each feature to (0, 1). The  $L$  and  $T$  are general data, converted by max-min normalization, while the  $W$  represents category data, converted by one hot encoder, which transfers the data dimensions to the number of categories, and only one category in each dimension is 1 and the rest is 0. The feature of 2 day load data (1 day prior to the forecast day and 1 week prior to the forecast day) after normalization was chosen as the input vector for LF, and each cluster has a specific feature vector and forecast separately by the LSTM model

$$X = [L' \ W' \ H' \ T'] \quad (5)$$

### Long–Short-Term Memory Realization Method

The LSTM model consists of three layers: input layer, hidden layer, and output layer. The time series feature with multidimensions is input to the model through the input layer, and the load of the forecasting day is the output. The objective of the LSTM model is to build a connected relation between input and output in the hidden layer, and then, the model can be used to load forecast when the input data are known.

The LSTM model has advantages in handling problems that have long-term dependencies, like the load of the forecasting day is related



**FIGURE 4** | Structure of the hidden layer in the LSTM model, where three gates (forget gate, input gate, and output gate) ensure the time-series forecasting capability.

to the load 1 day before or 1 week before. The advantage comes from the forget mechanism with three gates (forget gate, input gate, and output gate) in the block of the hidden layer, which is shown in **Figure 4**. The multidimension load feature  $X^h$  of time slot  $h$  is input to the block together with the output  $u^{h-1}$  of the previous time slot  $h-1$ , and the forget gate decides whether the information is pass or forget. The input gate determines how much new information can enter and generate the alternative memory cell  $\tilde{C}^h$ . After that, the state of this block can update that  $\tilde{C}^h \rightarrow C^h$ , and then, the output gate determines whether the new cell is output to the next time slot. The gate and node formulation are shown as follows:

$$I^h = \sigma(X^h W_{xi} + u^{h-1} W_{hi} + b_i) \quad (6)$$

$$F^h = \sigma(X^h W_{xf} + u^{h-1} W_{hf} + b_f) \quad (7)$$

$$O^h = \sigma(X^h W_{xo} + u^{h-1} W_{ho} + b_o) \quad (8)$$

$$\tilde{C}^h = \tanh(X^h W_{xc} + u^{h-1} W_{hc} + b_c) \quad (9)$$

$$C^h = F^h \otimes C^{h-1} \oplus I^h \otimes \tilde{C}^h \quad (10)$$

$$u^h = O^h \otimes \tanh(C^h) \quad (11)$$

where the  $W$  and  $b$  in **Eqs. 6–11** are the weight matrix and bias of the gates, respectively, which are the learning objectives of the LSTM model;  $\sigma(\bullet)$  and  $\tanh(\bullet)$  are the sigmoid function and hyperbolic tangent function, respectively (Goodfellow et al., 2016); and  $\otimes$  and  $\oplus$  are the multiplication and addition operators, respectively.

The first learning process is based on **Eqs. 6–11** and generates the initial weight matrix  $W$  and bias  $b$ . Then, they will be updated through the back-propagation through time (BPTT) process by minimizing the error accumulated in the first step using the loss function (Goodfellow et al., 2016)

$$J(h) = \sum_{q=1}^Q (D(x_q^h) - y_q^h)^2 \quad (12)$$

where  $Q$  is the number of output units;  $u_q(\bullet)$  is the output function in unit  $q$ , indicating the real output; and  $y_q^h$  is the ideal output of unit  $q$ .

## RECONFIGURATION PROBLEM FORMULATION AND THE SOLVING ALGORITHM

Due to the prosumers with load consumption, random access to the DN will change the PF in the whole system. To realize the requirement of voltage and PF, the NR is formulated as an optimization problem under the assistance of ES and CS.

High-speed switching devices can be used to achieve fast transient response and are extensively used in the connection of submicrogrids that are subdivided from a microgrid (Kermany et al., 2017). It can be seen that high-speed switching devices shorten the transient response times of the system and make a significant contribution to the stability of the power system. With this technology maturity and cost reduction of the field equipment, its use will be very common in the future. The reconfiguration is conducted by these methods, and the time horizon will be in days.

### Formulation of the Problem

PF in the DN is calculated by the forward and backward substitution methods because of the radial structure in the DN (Das et al., 1995). This method first stratifies the nodes to find the root node and network connection relation, then calculates the power of each branch through forward traversal and calculates the voltage of each node through backward traversal, and finally calculates the PF of the system

$$\Delta S_{ij} = \frac{P_j^2 + Q_j^2}{U_j^2} (R_{ij} + jX_{ij}) \quad (13)$$

$$S_i^{(k+1)} = S_j^{(k)} + \Delta S_{ij}^{(k+1)} \quad (14)$$

$$U_j = U_i - (R_{ij} + jX_{ij}) \frac{(S_j^{(k+1)})}{(U_i^{(k+1)})^*} \quad (15)$$

where  $ij$  is the branch between node  $i$  and node  $j$ ; the total node in DN is  $N$ ;  $R_{ij}$  and  $X_{ij}$  are the resistance and reactance of branch  $ij$ , respectively;  $S$  is the power with  $S = P + jQ$ ; and  $U$  is the voltage with  $U = U \angle \theta$ .

The power loss can be calculated based on the PF of the system, and each single branch has an individual power loss, but it is insignificant for analyzing the whole system power losses, which is given as

$$P_{loss} = \sum_{i,j \in N} P_{loss}(i, j) = \sum_{i,j \in N} R_{ij} \frac{P_j^2 + Q_j^2}{U_j^2} \quad (16)$$

When the load of each prosumer changes or new user accesses the system, the power consumption of each node will also change; then, the CS will conduct DN reconfigured calculations and adjust the switching pattern according to the target of minimum power loss. The switching pattern will affect the network structure so that the system parameters (e.g.,  $R_{ij}$  and  $X_{ij}$ ) will change. The constraints of the reconfiguration problem consist of the PF, voltage, power line transmission capacity, power usage, and radial structure of DN, which can be expressed as

$$\min f(k) = \sum_{i,j \in N} k_{ij} R_{ij} \frac{(P_j + L(pr_j))^2 + (Q_j + H(pr_j))^2}{U_j^2} \quad (17)$$

$$s.t. U_{\min} < |U_i| < U_{\max} \quad (18)$$

$$P_{cap}^- < P_{ij} < P_{cap}^+ \quad (19)$$

$$F(x) = 0 \quad (20)$$

where  $P_{cap}^-$  and  $P_{cap}^+$  are the lower and upper bounds of power line transmission capacity, respectively;  $k_{ij}$  is the sectionalizing switch of line  $ij$ , and if it is a tie line, it will be  $l_{ij}$ ; and Eq. 20 is the PF constraint.

### Harmony Search Algorithm

The network structure was expressed as a directed graph to build the mathematical model, and each switching pattern corresponds to a specific graph. The PF calculation should be implemented in each different switching pattern to obtain the power loss, voltage, and optimal reconfiguration solution. Due to the fact that finding the switching states is a combinatorial problem and calculating the power loss is an optimization problem, the reconfiguration problem expressed in Eqs. 17–20 is a complex combinatorial optimization problem related to graph theory, which is difficult to solve.

The harmony search algorithm (HSA) is a heuristic global search algorithm, which has been successfully applied in combinatorial optimization problems (Al-Omouh et al., 2019), such as NR with distributed generation (Rao et al., 2013) and wireless sensor network coverage (Alia and Al-Ajouiri, 2017). The goal of HSA is to find a pleasing harmony (e.g., the global optimal solution) for the musician in a scene where instruments with different tones are playing together. Each instrument has its pitch range, and the pleasing harmony is measured by an auditory standard. Under the NR background, the objective function of minimizing power loss (Eq. 16) is the auditory standard of the musician, the sectionalizing switches  $k_{ij}$  and tie switches  $l_{ij}$  are the playing instruments, the minimum power losses  $\Delta P'$  are the pleasing harmony, and each constraint of the optimization problem is the pitch range of instruments. The process of HSA is expressed as follows:

- 1) Initialization: There are five parameters of the HSA which should be set up in advance, which consist of harmony memory size (HMS), (e.g., the size of the solution space), harmony memory considering rate (HMCR), (e.g., the probability of selecting a set of solutions from the HM), pitch adjusting rate (PAR), (e.g., probability of fine tuning when harmony is selected from HM), tuning bandwidth (bw), (e.g., the adjustment range of the fine tuning), and maximum iterations (Tmax), (e.g., the number of maximum iterations).
- 2) Generate the initial HM: The initial HM is generated by many random combination of each instrument

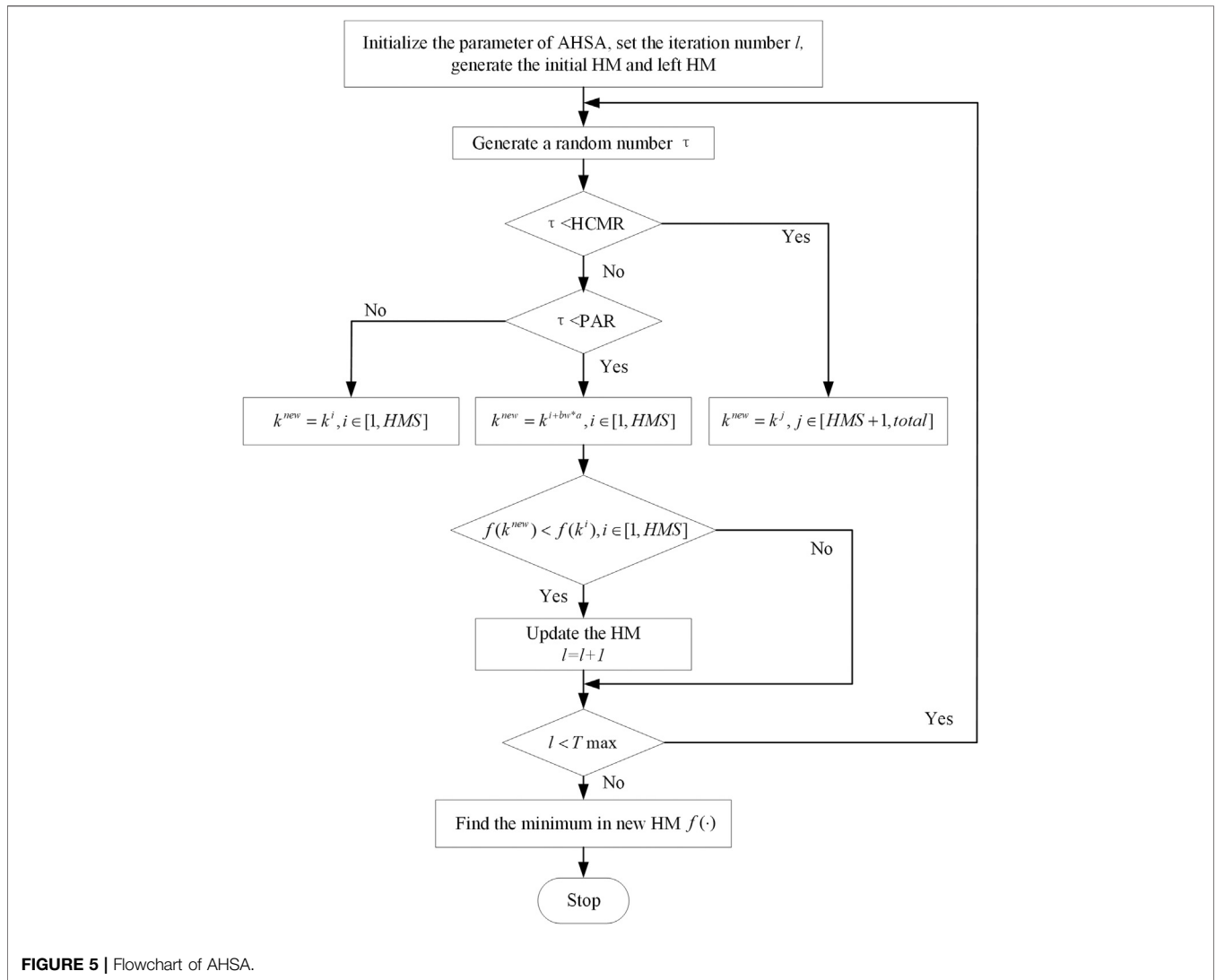
$$HM = \begin{bmatrix} k_1^1 & k_2^1 & \dots & k_n^1 \\ k_1^2 & k_2^2 & \dots & k_n^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ k_1^{HMS} & k_2^{HMS} & \dots & k_n^{HMS} \end{bmatrix} \quad (21)$$

where  $k = [k_1^1 \quad k_2^1 \quad \dots \quad k_n^1]$  is the harmony vector.

**The process of generating a new harmony**

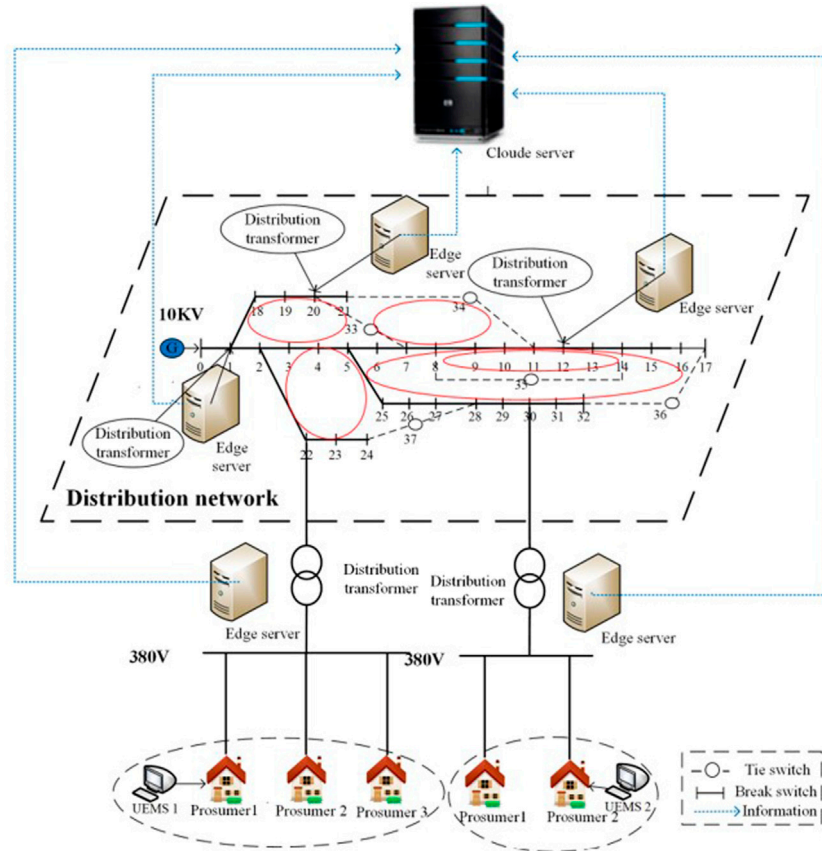
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generate a random number  $\tau$  between 0 and 1
if  $\tau < HMCR$ 
 $x^{new} = x$  ( $x$  is the harmony vector from initial HM)
else if  $\tau < PAR$ 
 $x^{new} = x' \pm bw * a$  ( $a$  is a random number between 0 and 1)
Else
 $x^{new} = x'$  ( $x'$  is one of the randomly generated vectors within the constrains)
end
    
```



**FIGURE 5 |** Flowchart of AHSA.

- 3) Improvising a new harmony: During the improvisation, the new harmony vector  $k_{new}$  is generated based on three rules: memory consideration, pitch adjusting, and random selection. The process is shown as follows:
  - 4) Update the HM: If the objective function (Eq. 16) under the new harmony vector is better than the original one, then the new harmony vector  $k^{new}$  will replace the original one in the HM.
  - 5) Judge termination conditions: The end of the algorithm is controlled by the objective function or the number of maximum iterations  $Tmax$ , and in general, the algorithm is stopped when the  $Tmax$  is reached.
- The HSA is improved to fit the complex combinatorial optimization problem under the NR background with LF. Each node in DN is connected by a branch with a sectionalizing switch or tie switch, and one tie switch can form a loop with other



**FIGURE 6** | IEEE 33-bus distribution system in the reconfiguration framework with five DT accesses to five buses, 60 prosumers classified into four categories, a CS, and five ESs allocated.

sectionalizing switches in the network. The loop is specified in advance, and one of the switches of a loop should be open to satisfy the radial structure of DN; then, the network structure can be obtained from the state of open switches. The harmony vector can be expressed as follows:

$$k^{HMS} = [k_1^{HMS} \quad k_2^{HMS} \quad \dots \quad k_n^{HMS}] \quad (22)$$

where  $n$  is the number of loops in the DN, each  $k_i^n$  is the open switch the loop  $has$ , and the number of loops is equal to the number of tie switches.

HSA has a process of randomly selecting and generating vectors. However, the change of the switching state should be based on the loop to guarantee the radial network in the NR problem, and randomly changing every element of the harmony vector cannot keep the radial system. Therefore, the advanced HSA (AHSA) is proposed to generate initial HM and left HM at first, and the harmony vectors in both matrixes are switch combinations that satisfy the radial network requirement and contain all possible combinations. The HM in AHSA is shown as follows:

$$HM_{ini} = [k^1 \quad k^2 \quad \dots \quad k^{HMS}]^T \quad (23)$$

$$HM_{left} = [k^{HMS} \quad k^{HMS+1} \quad \dots \quad k^{total}]^T \quad (24)$$

where each vector  $k$  is the switching pattern that satisfies the radial network requirement, and the  $total$  is the total number of possible switching combinations.

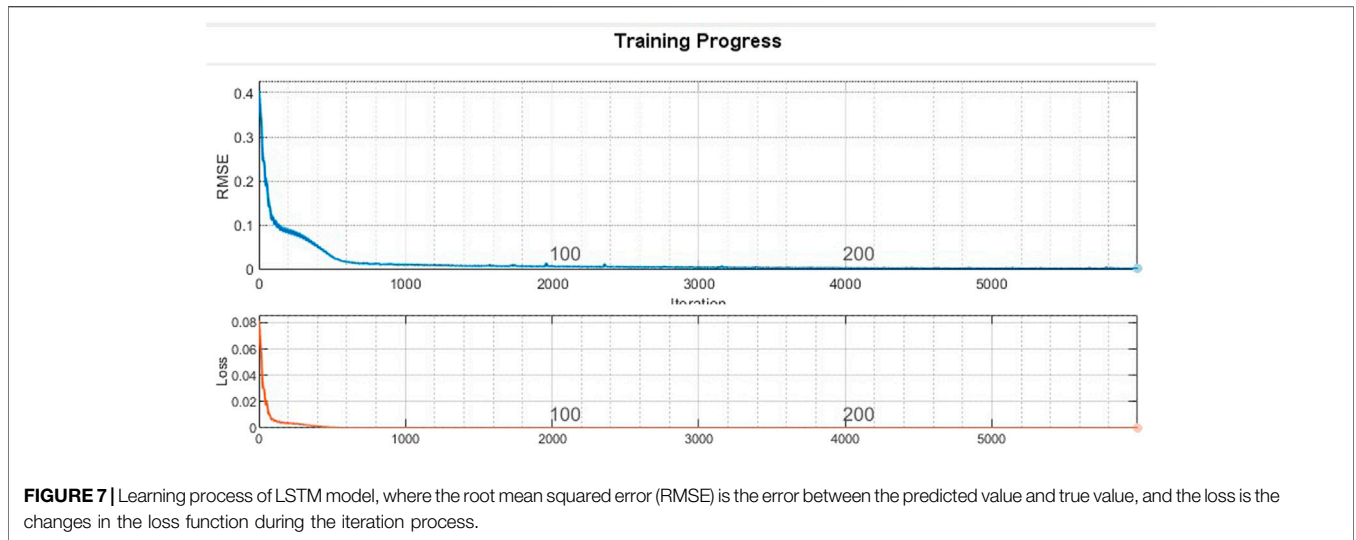
The process of improvising a new harmony is changed to selecting the vectors in initial HM and left HM; if the random number  $\tau$  is larger than  $HMCR$ , then  $k^{new} = k^{index+bw*a}$  and  $k^{new} = k^j \quad j \in \{HMS, \dots, total\}$  is the new vector when  $\tau < PAR$  and  $\tau \geq PAR$ , respectively. The vector in HM gradually approaches the optimal solution with the process of updating HM. HSA repeats the iteration process until the  $Tmax$  is reached, and the flowchart of the AHSA is shown in **Figure 5**.

## CASE STUDY

### Basic Data

An IEEE 33-bus distribution system, as shown in **Figure 4**, is used here to verify the performance of the proposed framework. There are five DT accesses to five buses, and the number of the prosumers in the system is 60, which is connected to medium-voltage feeders and includes four categories, that is, commercial users, large industries and government utilities, small factories and stationary prosumers, and light industries. Five loops for AHSA are specified in advance, as shown by the red circle in **Figure 6**. A CS and five ESs are allocated in the system. Each ES is set in the DT, which is in charge of forecasting several prosumers' load according to their historic information from the user energy





**FIGURE 7** | Learning process of LSTM model, where the root mean squared error (RMSE) is the error between the predicted value and true value, and the loss is the changes in the loss function during the iteration process.

**TABLE 1** | Predicted load of partly prosumers.

Prosumers	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
1	47.76374	29.87932	26.73657	58.55854
2	47.31781	48.0755	28.46528	62.97279
3	48.27306	47.66911	28.05889	60.47416
4	45.73666	55.76434	33.72304	62.44304
5	48.77169	53.99023	33.62071	60.51896
6	30.31986	71.45154	31.43846	53.02795
7	31.26932	59.31918	32.69224	54.07735
8	46.19807	29.86412	28.40526	59.57488
9	43.86567	54.26651	25.5151	63.73332
10	47.98841	62.59095	26.97888	59.69719
11	48.66515	73.74819	33.14068	57.61136
12	49.70727	69.62491	32.8217	60.81638
13	32.29397	80.2813	29.43753	54.33529
14	34.11959	70.19643	30.50211	54.17554
15	45.91605	50.20569	26.84509	60.45713

management system, that is, load data, day of the week, holiday or not, and temperature. CS is allocated in the manager of the distribution network, such as the system operator, to conduct the network reconfiguration tasks.

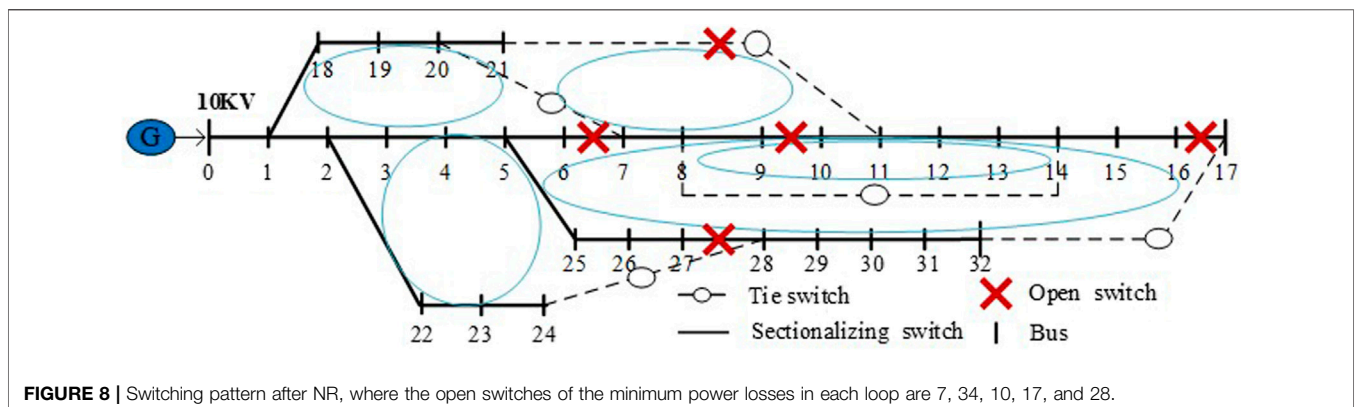
### Results of the Edge-Cloud-Coordinated Reconfiguration Framework on a Nonholiday

For analyzing the scenario of a nonholiday, Monday is selected as an example.

#### 1) Results of the load forecasting in the edge server

The LSTM model is implemented using MATLAB toolbox LSTM with an Intel Core i5-8250 CPU 1.60 GHz, 16 G memory computer. The input data are the historic information in 24 time slots with four features. The output layer is the total load in 24 h; the hidden layer has 100 units, the learning rate is 0.01, the gradient threshold is 1, and the maximum epoch is 200.

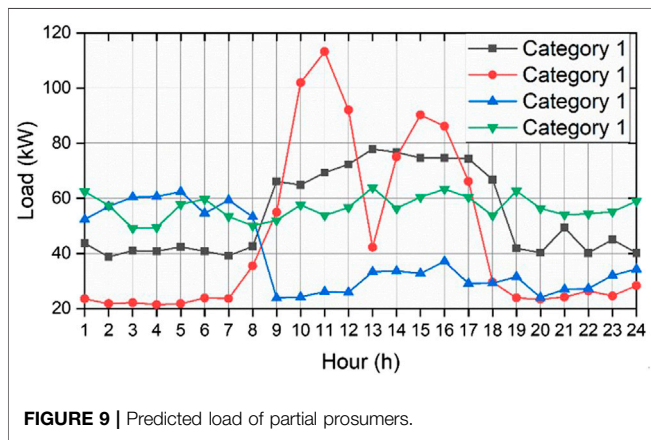
The data used to train the model include 420 samples from 60 users. To verify the effectiveness and accuracy of the model,



**FIGURE 8** | Switching pattern after NR, where the open switches of the minimum power losses in each loop are 7, 34, 10, 17, and 28.

**TABLE 2** | Iteration process of the AHSA, where the minimum power loss is 153.19 W.

Iteration process	Power loss (W)	Voltage of the partly bus				
		15	16	17	31	32
1	266.29	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.90
2	202.67	0.93	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91
3	199.77	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.95	0.89
4	179.46	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.94	0.92
5	179.0	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92
6	158.95	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.94	0.94
7	153.19	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94



**FIGURE 9** | Predicted load of partial prosumers.

88% of the data are used to train the model and 12% are used to test the model. The input data consist of a cell array with four dimensions, and the output data are an array with one dimension, resulting in four units in the input layer and one unit in the output layer. The learning process using the MATLAB toolbox is shown in **Figure 7**. Root-mean-squared error (RMSE) is the error between the predicted value and true value. From **Figure 7**, the RMSE is almost 0 near the 5000th iteration and remains stable at around 0 with minor fluctuations. The “Loss” in the bottom graph reflects the changes in the loss function during the iteration process; the

values decrease with the increase in the number of iterations. It is observed that the RMSE and loss reach a steady state after the 5000th iteration, indicating the success of the learning process. Therefore, the LSTM model trained by ES can realize short-term LF within a certain range of accuracy. The load data in the predicted day obtained by LSTM are shown in **Table 1**.

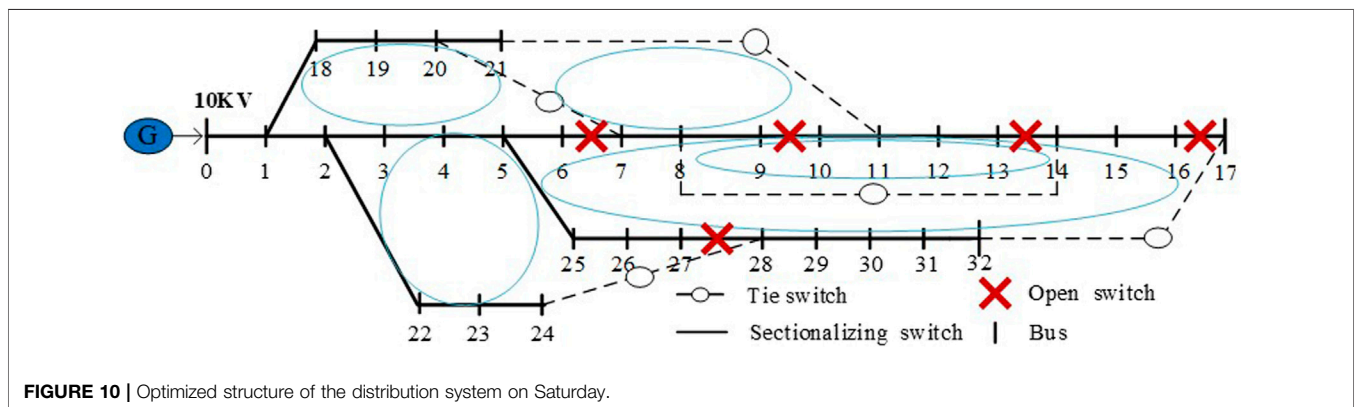
## 2) Results of the Network Reconfiguration in the Cloud Server

The CS minimizes the network losses by changing the state of the switches when the load information of prosumers is obtained from ES, that is, conducting NR based on the forecasting PF. The switching pattern under the new PF is calculated through AHSA, as shown in **Figure 8**, and the open switches of the minimum power losses in each loop are in the branches {6–7, 11–21, 9–10, 16–17, 27–28}, which satisfy the radial structure of the distribution system. Besides, the NR a day ahead will provide the feasible solution for complexity PF raised by increasing number of prosumers.

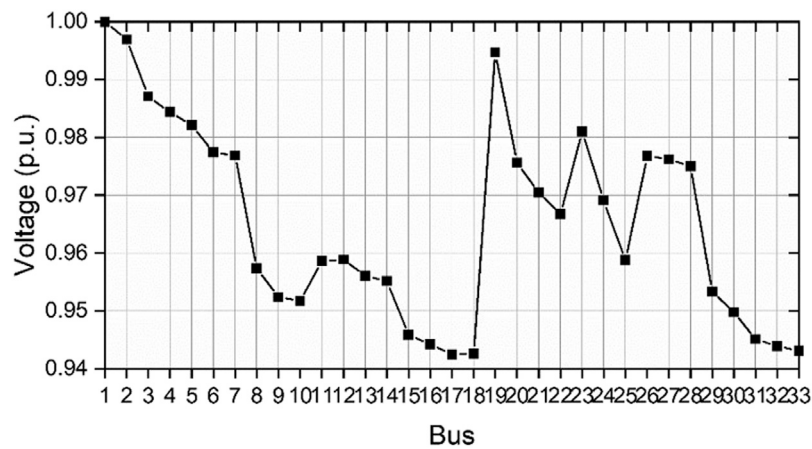
The process of power loss changes during the AHSA iteration and the corresponding bus voltage are partly shown in **Table 2**. The buses shown in Table 2 are away from the power supply bus due to the fact that the voltage level of these buses will suffer the most severe drop and convenience to judge the operation requirement of the distribution system. The first iteration is the initial state with open switches in the branches {7–20, 11–21, 8–14, 17–32, 24–28}. It is clear that the power losses are higher, and the bus voltage drops seriously, which does not satisfy the operation requirement of the distribution system. The power loss decreases with the iteration process until the optimal result of 153.19 W is obtained, which is about 42% less than the initial power loss, and the bus voltages are all higher than 0.94 p. u., which are the required constraints of the distribution system.

## Results of the Edge-Cloud-Coordinated Reconfiguration Framework on a Holiday

According to the load information on the holiday, LF and NR on Saturday are performed to improve case analysis.



**FIGURE 10** | Optimized structure of the distribution system on Saturday.



**FIGURE 11** | Bus voltage of the distribution system.

### 1) Results of the load forecasting in the edge server

In the Saturday scenario, the basic parameters of the LSTM model are the same as the parameters of the Monday scenario. Besides, the training process and required database of the LSTM model are the same in the two scenarios so that the trained mapping mechanism by the edge server is identical. Therefore, only the input data required for the forecasting should be changed, and they are composed of load data of Friday, day of the week, holiday, and temperature. Through the trained LSTM network, the load data of prosumers on Saturday can be predicted by the edge server, and the load of partial prosumers belonging to different categories is shown in **Figure 9**. It is clear that there is an obvious difference in the load characteristics of prosumers.

### 2) Results of the network reconfiguration in the cloud sever

According to predicted load data, the NR is performed by the cloud server. The optimal reconfiguration strategy is obtained through AHSA, that is, opening the switch in the branches {6–7, 9–10, 13–14, 16–17, 27–28}. The optimal topology of the distribution system shown in **Figure 10** satisfies the radial structure of the distribution system. Moreover, the minimum power loss of 152.81 W decreases by 44.46% compared with the initial power loss of 275.13 W, which is in opening the switches in the branches {7–20, 11–21, 8–14, 17–32, 24–28}. It is evident from **Figure 11** that the bus voltages are all higher than 0.94 p. u., satisfying the bus voltage constraints of the distribution system.

## Practical Feasibility of the Coordinated Reconfiguration Framework.

The proposed ECCRF is proposed for dealing the prosumer-based DR with complex power flow in the supporting of the infrastructure. The load forecasting can be implemented in a Jetson TX2 development board equipped with an NVIDIA Pascal GPU and a CPU cluster, which is optimized for higher single-thread performance, and an ARM Cor-tex-A57 Quad-Core CPU,

which is better suited for multithreaded applications. However, the NR can be implemented in a domestic tower server with two Intel Xeon Scalable Gold 6,248 CPUs and two NVIDIA RTX 2080Ti GPUs. Besides, the information sharing between the prosumers and network can be realized by the communication system based on the wireless channels in the private 4G/5G network with a virtual private network (VPN) as well as equipment support of ESP and prosumers' UEMS.

## CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proposed an ECCRF to manage the LF tasks in the prosumer side and NR tasks in the power grid side. The framework realized the NR with the goal of minimizing network losses, and the social preference of each prosumer is taken into consideration. The simulation was conducted in a designed test bed with the IEEE 33-bus distribution system. The holiday and non-holiday cases are considered in the studies. It is shown that in both cases, the trained LSTM network can achieve the high-accuracy LF for the mentioned four kinds of load characteristics. Then, the NR results show that with the high-accuracy load information, the power losses of the whole network can be reduced more than 40%, and the volage requirement can always be satisfied. At the current stage, the method is mainly suitable for a DN with a certain number of buses and the load information of the bus is fully known. For a DN with a large number of buses or some load information being not completely known, the NR will be different, and the requirement of computation capacity will be increased. Therefore, it is very interesting to study the DN reconfiguration with many buses and incomplete information in the future.

## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The raw data supporting the conclusions of this article will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

LN contributed to the conception of the study and write the manuscript; LS contributed to the formulation of the problem and the research of the method, LN contributed significantly to analysis and supervision; ZF helped perform the analysis with constructive discussions.

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