

## Article

# Harmonic Contribution Assessment Based on the Random Sample Consensus and Recursive Least Square Methods

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**Abstract:** This paper deals with a method of quantifying the harmonic contribution of each harmonic source to system voltage distortion. Assessing the harmonic contribution of individual harmonic sources is essential for mitigating and managing system harmonic levels. Harmonic contributions can be evaluated using the principle of voltage superposition with equivalent voltage models for harmonic sources. In general, the parameters of equivalent voltage models are estimated numerically because it is difficult to measure them directly. In this paper, we present an effective method for estimating equivalent model parameters based on the random sample consensus (RANSAC) and recursive least square (RLS) with a variable forgetting factor. The procedure for quantifying harmonic contributions using equivalent models is also introduced. Additionally, we propose a network diagram of harmonic contributions that makes it easy to understand the harmonic distortion contributions of all harmonic sources.

**Keywords:** harmonic contribution diagram; harmonic distortion; outlier; RANSAC algorithm; recursive least square method



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## 1. Introduction

Harmonic distortion, which appears as a deviation from the nominal sine wave of AC voltage and current, is one of the major power quality problems in power systems. As harmonic distortion becomes more severe, various problems such as energy losses, equipment malfunctions, neutral current increase, and metering errors occur. The continued increase in non-linear loads and inverter-based renewable energy will further exacerbate harmonic pollution in power systems [1–5]. The effective management and mitigation of system harmonic levels require identifying the harmonic sources causing severe system voltage distortions. The traditional total harmonic distortion (THD) and total demand distortion (TDD) harmonic distortion factors only show the overall degree of harmonic distortion at a measurement point. However, they do not identify the contribution of individual harmonic sources to the system's voltage distortions. Accordingly, several methods have been studied to quantitatively evaluate the contributions of harmonic sources to harmonic voltage distortion at a specific point [6]. In most methods, harmonic contribution assessment requires equivalent voltage models for all harmonic sources. However, since we cannot directly measure equivalent voltage model parameters, numerical approaches are used to estimate them. In [7–14], linear regression methods to estimate equivalent voltage model parameters were introduced. However, because these methods assume that harmonic sources' equivalent voltages and impedances are constant, large errors in estimating harmonic contribution can occur with the variation in system operating conditions. Therefore, applying these methods to real systems is difficult. Other methods based on the recursive least square (RLS) algorithm, which can estimate time-varying parameters according to changes in harmonic sources, were also proposed [15,16]. However, they use constant-forgetting factors, causing potential covariance 'wind-up' problems and making it difficult to expect reliable estimates. To address this issue, Park et al. [17] proposed a new

estimation method based on the parameter's change detection scheme and RLS algorithm with a variable-forgetting factor. However, since all existing methods estimate parameters using measurement data, the following fundamental problem arises: estimation performance significantly degrades with the presence of outliers in measurement data. Outliers may be recorded for various reasons, causing large estimation errors even in advanced algorithms. Therefore, to improve parameter estimation performance, an effective method for removing outliers from measurement data is also required. Statistical techniques, such as data smoothing and average filtering for removing outliers, were presented [18–21]. However, they are ineffective because the average value is significantly influenced by outliers, especially when measurement data are insufficient and the equivalent parameters of harmonic sources frequently change. There is another method called the random sample consensus (RANSAC) algorithm. Basically, it determines an optimal linear model for all data and then removes outlying data not included within a certain threshold range for the linear model [22]. This algorithm is independent of changes in the measured data's average value and is effective even when the dataset is relatively small. In this paper, we propose an advanced method based on the RANSAC and RLS algorithms to evaluate harmonic contributions. The proposed method demonstrates excellent performance when outliers exist in measurement data and even with the variation in harmonic equivalent parameters. Additionally, we developed a method of creating a harmonic contribution diagram that can intuitively understand the voltage distortion contribution of individual harmonic sources. In the case study, the proposed methods were verified through a comparative analysis of various cases.

## 2. Parameter Estimation of the Harmonic Source's Equivalent Model

### 2.1. Data Measurement and the Equivalent Model Estimation of Harmonic Sources

The harmonic contribution assessment is a technique that quantitatively indicates the voltage distortion levels due to harmonic sources at the point of common coupling (PCC) in the system. For the assessment, an equivalent voltage model for harmonic sources connected to the PCC is required. The time-varying parameters of the equivalent model can be estimated using measured data at PCCs' and numerical analysis. In this paper, an effective RLS-based method for estimating equivalent model parameters is proposed. The RLS method is an adaptive filter algorithm that is widely used for the estimation of time-varying parameter.

Figure 1 shows a typical distribution network consisting of three PCCs with harmonic sources. As shown in Figure 1a, the monitoring system measures the customers' voltages and currents at each PCC. Figure 1b shows the equivalent model composed of impedance and voltage for the harmonic sources connected to PCCs. The equivalent model's parameters are estimated using data measured at each PCC and the RLS method. We can express the PCC voltage as a linear equation:

$$V_{h, pcc, r} + jV_{h, pcc, i} = (R_{h,c} + jX_{h, c})(I_{h, c, r} + jI_{h,c, i}) + V_{h, c, r} + jV_{h,c, i} \quad (1)$$

where  $R_{h,c}$  and  $X_{h,c}$  are the equivalent resistance and reactance of customer  $c$  for the  $h$ th harmonic order, respectively.  $V_{h,c,r}$  and  $V_{h,c,i}$  are the real and imaginary parts of the equivalent voltage of customer  $c$  for the  $h$ th harmonic order. In addition,  $V_{h,pcc,r}$  and  $V_{h,pcc,i}$  are the real and imaginary parts of PCC voltage for the  $h$ th harmonic order.

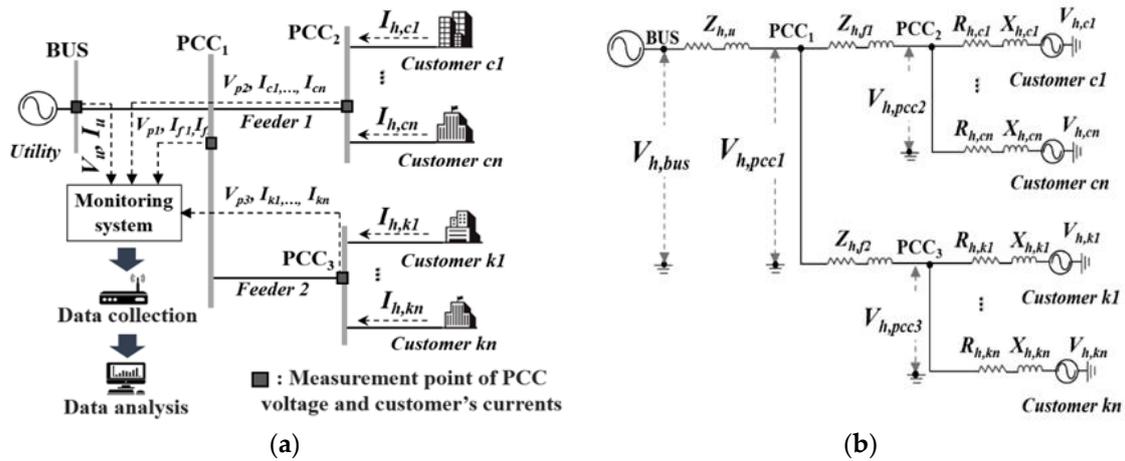


Figure 1. An example of a distribution network. (a) Data measurement. (b) The network’s equivalent harmonic voltage model.

To apply the RLS algorithm for estimating the equivalent model parameters, Equation (1) is expressed in matrix form as follows:

$$Y(t) = A(t)\Theta \tag{2}$$

$$Y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} V_{h,pcc,r} & V_{h,pcc,i} \end{bmatrix} \tag{3}$$

$$A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} I_{h,c,r} & I_{h,c,i} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{4}$$

$$\Theta = \begin{bmatrix} R_{h,c} & X_{h,c} \\ -X_{h,c} & R_{h,c} \\ V_{h,c,r} & V_{h,c,i} \end{bmatrix} \tag{5}$$

where  $Y(t)$  and  $A(t)$  are measured voltages and currents at a PCC, and  $\Theta$  represents the unknown parameters of the equivalent harmonic source model.

In this paper, we utilized the variable-forgetting factor RLS algorithm proposed in [17] to estimate the unknown parameter matrix  $\Theta$ . Additionally, to improve parameter estimation performance, the parameter-change detection scheme was applied to the RLS procedure. The proposed method’s scheme adjusts the reflection of past and present data by calculating the PCC voltage’s change rate, which is calculated using Equation (6). When this value exceeds a certain threshold voltage, the RLS method is initialized to perform a new estimation. Therefore, it is possible to prevent estimation performance degradation due to past data.

$$\Delta V_{pcc} = \left| \frac{V_{pcc}^{start} - V_{pcc}^{(N)}}{V_{pcc}^{start}} \right| \times 100(\%) \tag{6}$$

where  $\Delta V_{pcc}$  is the PCC voltage’s change rate.  $V_{pcc}^{start}$  is its starting value, which is a reference voltage for parameter-change detection.  $V_{pcc}^{(N)}$  is the  $N$ th value of the PCC voltage.

### 2.2. Outlier Detection and Removal Using the RANSAC Algorithm

Recently, the use of measurement devices, such as PMU, AMI, and smart meters, has been expanding, making it possible to acquire measurement data at a system’s various locations [23]. However, measurement data may include outliers due to various causes such as communication errors, power outages, and sensor malfunctions [24–27]. An outlier is a value that deviates significantly from the normal distribution of the measurement data. In applying the RLS method, there is a fundamental problem, namely the significant degradation in the parameter estimation performance in the presence of outliers in the

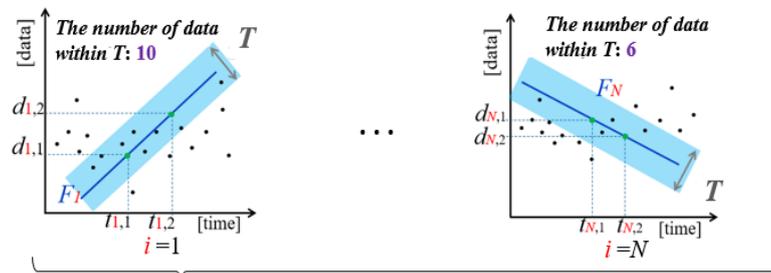
measurement data. Therefore, to improve the performance of the RLS estimation, outliers should be detected and removed from the measured voltages and currents. In this paper, we propose an efficient RANSAC algorithm-based outlier removal method. A method for determining a data block (DB) consisting only of inliers is also presented. After removing outliers, the inliers included in the measurement data's normal distribution are the remaining data.

The RANSAC is a method that determines the most stable data model by removing outliers that include severe noise from the measurement dataset [28–30]. Figure 2 shows the basic procedure for detecting and removing outliers based on the RANSAC algorithm. First,  $N$  linear functions ( $F_1(t), F_2(t), \dots, F_N(t)$ ) passing through two randomly selected data, namely  $(t_{i,1}, d_{i,1})$  and  $(t_{i,2}, d_{i,2})$ , from a given DB are derived.  $N$ , which is calculated using Equation (7), represents the theoretical maximum number of iterations for determining the optimal linear function [29]. In general, since it is difficult to know exactly the number of inliers ( $NI$ ) in a given DB, the value of  $N$  is determined to be large enough considering the number of measured data.

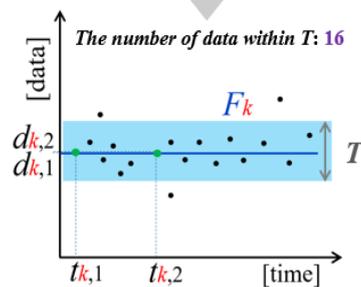
$$N = \frac{\log \alpha}{\log(1 - \gamma^m)} \tag{7}$$

where  $m$  is the amount of data in a DB, and  $\gamma$  is the probability of picking an inlier, that is, the ratio of inliers to the whole data (the inlier ratio).  $\alpha$  is the probability of failing to pick an inlier.

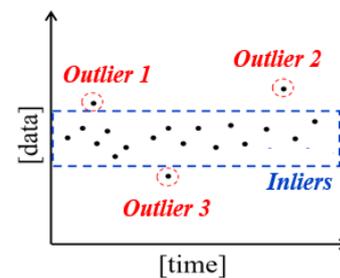
**Step1. Derive the  $F_i(t)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, N$ ) linear functions using two random points  $(t_{i,1}, d_{i,1})$  and  $(t_{i,2}, d_{i,2})$**



**Step2. Find the optimal  $F_k(t)$  including the largest data within  $T$**



**Step3. Determine and remove outliers**



**Figure 2.** The RANSAC algorithm for detecting and removing outliers.

Next, among the linear functions, the linear function  $F_k(t)$  containing the most data within the threshold range  $T$  is determined as the DB's optimal model.  $T$  is the threshold range for determining outliers in the linear function models. Finally, data outside the threshold range of the linear model  $F_k(t)$  are removed as outliers, and a new dataset is created with only inliers within the threshold range.

### 2.3. Parameter Estimation of an Equivalent Voltage Model

Figure 3 shows the overall equivalent parameter estimation procedure based on the proposed RANSAC and RLS methods. The values of the required parameters in the RANSAC and RLS algorithms are first initialized. Next, we initiate the RANSAC process to remove outliers from measured voltages and currents. A linear function,  $F_i(t)$ , is obtained using two randomly selected points, namely  $(t_{i,1}, d_{i,1})$  and  $(t_{i,2}, d_{i,2})$ , from a given  $DB$ .  $N$  linear functions,  $F_1(t), F_2(t), \dots, F_N(t)$ , are derived and the  $NI$  is calculated for each linear function model within the  $T$  range. We then determine the optimal linear model,  $F_k(t)$ , including most  $NI$  within the  $T$  range.

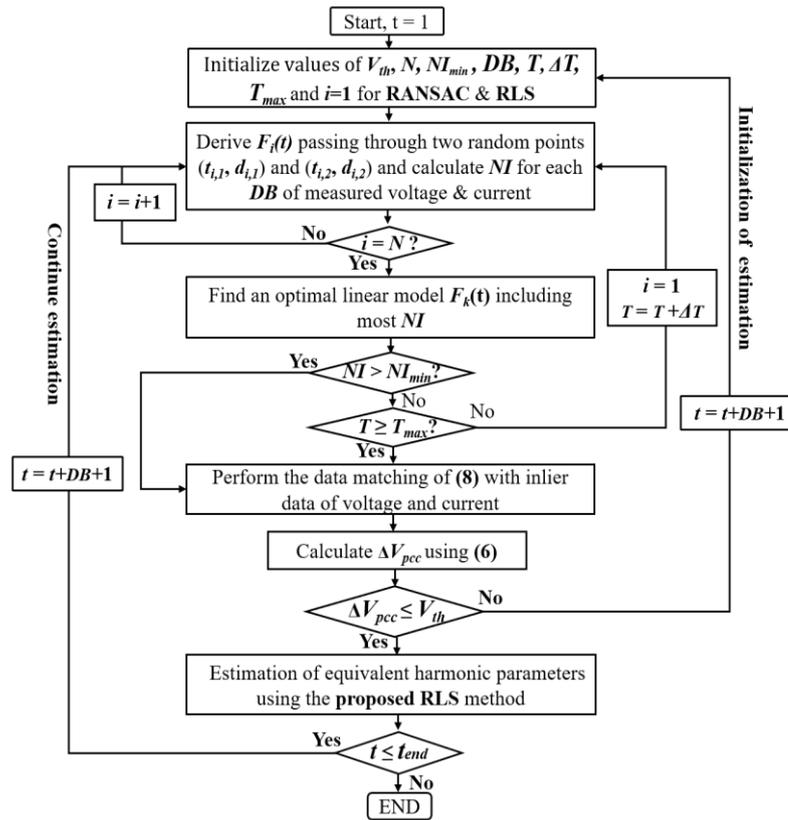


Figure 3. The estimation procedure of equivalent model parameters.

As shown in Figure 4, the threshold range  $T$  greatly influences the  $NI$  decision. If the threshold range  $T$  is too large, outliers cannot be properly detected and removed. On the other hand, if  $T$  is too small, both inliers and outliers can be removed. Therefore, this paper proposes a variable threshold range to reduce the effect of an inappropriate threshold  $T$ , as shown in Figure 4. By comparing the calculated  $NI$  and  $NI_{min}$ , if the  $NI$  is greater than  $NI_{min}$ , the linear model  $F_k(t)$  is determined as the final model.  $NI_{min}$  is the minimum number of inliers in a given  $DB$  for RLS estimation. On the other hand, if  $NI$  is less than  $NI_{min}$ , the threshold range  $T$  increases by  $\Delta T$  and repeats until  $NI$  is greater than  $NI_{min}$  to find an optimal linear model. If the  $T$  value exceeds  $T_{max}$  or if no model satisfies  $NI_{min}$ , the  $DB$ 's entire dataset is removed for reliable RLS estimation. After removing outliers, a data matching process is required. Using the proposed RANSAC method, we can detect and remove outliers that degrade the RLS estimation performance for voltage and current measured in a PCC. However, such outliers may have different data sizes. Therefore, data matching is required using only voltage and current inliers.

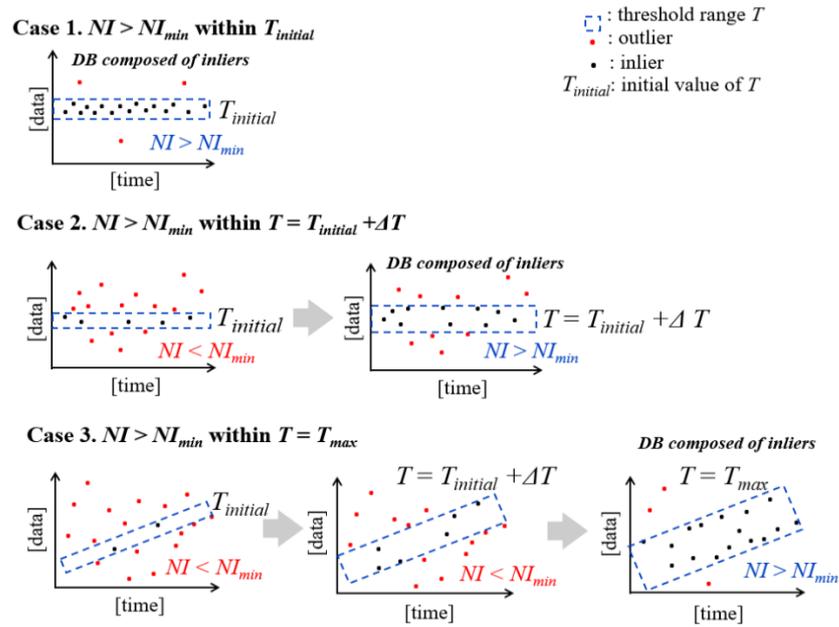


Figure 4. The inliers determination based on the variable  $T$  range.

Figure 5 shows an example of data matching for the PCC voltage and the current of customer  $k$ . If outliers are removed at times  $t_1, t_2$ , and  $t_3$  of the PCC voltage’s real part, its imaginary part and customer  $k$ ’s current data at the corresponding time should also be removed to create a valid dataset. As shown in Equation (8), data matching is performed using only PCC voltage inliers and all customer currents at the same time points.

$$t_{inlier} = \{t_{V_{pcc,r}}^* \cap t_{V_{pcc,i}}^*\} \cap \{t_{I_{1,r}}^* \cap t_{I_{1,i}}^*\} \cap \dots \cap \{t_{I_{n,r}}^* \cap t_{I_{n,i}}^*\} \quad (8)$$

where  $\{t_{V_{pcc,r}}^* \cap t_{V_{pcc,i}}^*\}$  is the times of inliers of the PCC voltage’s real and imaginary parts from which the outliers have been removed. Additionally,  $\{t_{I_{1,r}}^* \cap t_{I_{1,i}}^*\}, \dots, \{t_{I_{n,r}}^* \cap t_{I_{n,i}}^*\}$  are the times of the inliers set for the  $n$ -customer currents.

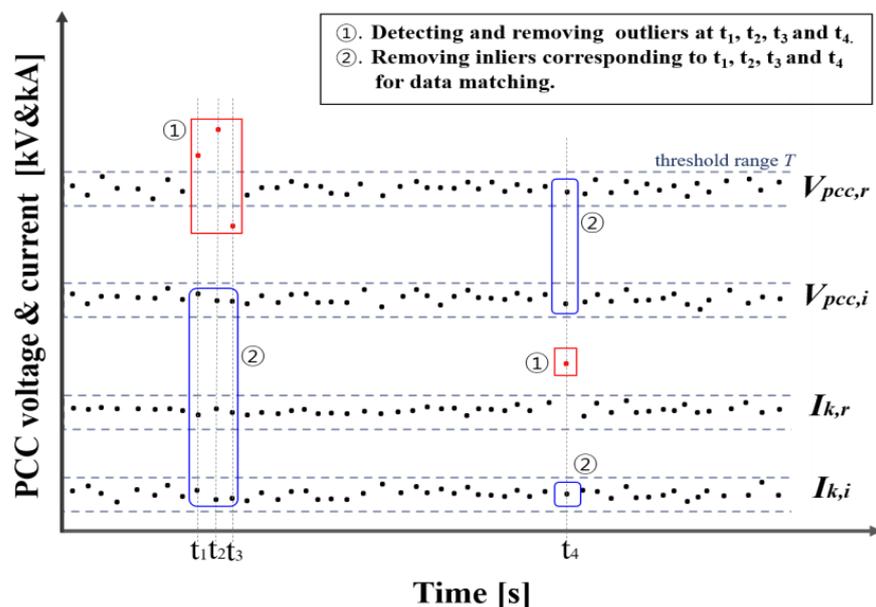


Figure 5. Data matching for PCC voltage and currents.

Next, after performing data matching, the voltage’s rate of change ( $\Delta PCC$ ) is calculated using Equation (6). If the rate is smaller than the threshold  $V_{th}$ , equivalent parameters are estimated using the RLS algorithm. On the other hand, if it is greater than the threshold, the RLS algorithm is initialized and a new estimation is performed. This procedure applies until the last measurement data ( $t_{end}$ ).

### 3. Harmonic Contribution Assessment

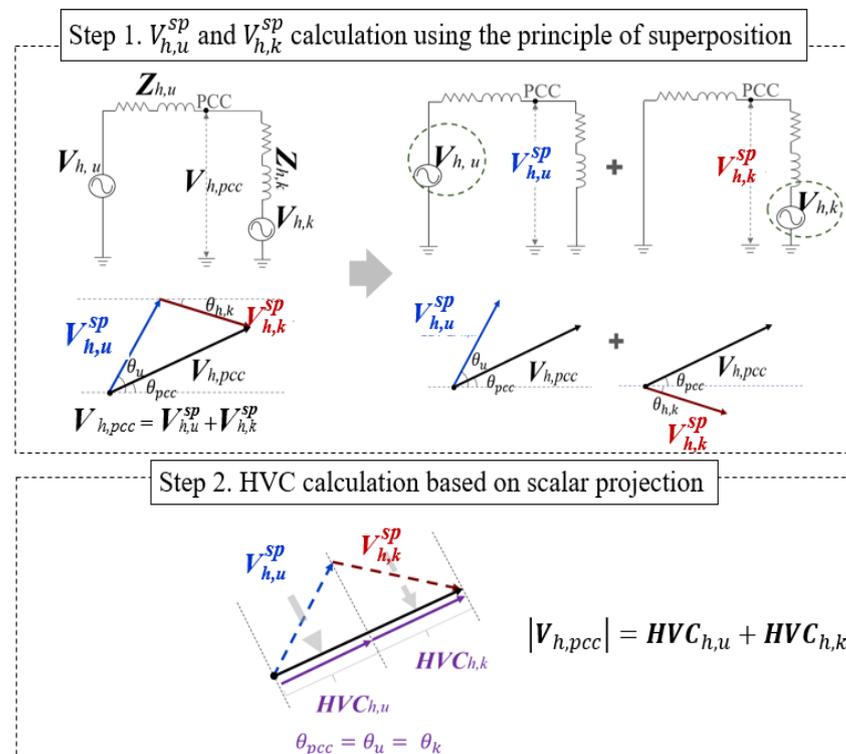
#### 3.1. Harmonic Contribution Assessment Based on the Principle of Superposition

Harmonic contribution assessment requires equivalent voltage models of the utility side and customers connected to PCCs. We can use the proposed method to estimate an individual harmonic customer’s equivalent voltage and impedance. On the other hand, voltage and current measurements on the utility side are basically possible, so the feeder impedance between the utility and PCC can be calculated using Equation (9). If the measurement on the utility side is not possible, the utility’s system impedance can be approximately calculated using a short-circuit analysis program [15].

$$Z_{h,u} = \frac{V_{h,u} - V_{h,pcc}}{I_{h,u}} \tag{9}$$

where  $V_{h,u}$  and  $I_{h,u}$  are the  $h$ th harmonic voltage and current of the utility side.

The PCC voltage of the  $h$ th harmonic order in the equivalent model circuit can be represented by the vector sum of the utility voltage of  $V_{h,u}^{sp}$  and the customer  $k$  voltage of  $V_{h,k}^{sp}$ , calculated using the principle of superposition, as shown in Figure 6. However, since  $V_{h,u}^{sp}$  and  $V_{h,k}^{sp}$  are complex vector values, the voltage contribution of the utility and customer  $k$  cannot be quantified as a single value. In [16], a method for quantifying the harmonic voltage contribution (HVC) using a scalar dot product was proposed. HVC indicates the contributions of harmonic sources to PCC voltage distortion.



**Figure 6.** The harmonic contribution to the PCC voltage based on the principle of superposition and scalar projection.

If  $n$ -customers are connected to a PCC,  $V_{h,u}^{sp}$  and  $V_{h,k}^{sp}$  are calculated, as shown in Equations (10)–(13). Then, the PCC voltage of the  $h$ th harmonic can be calculated, as in Equation (14).

$$V_{h,k}^{sp} = \frac{Z_{h,k}^T}{Z_{h,u} + Z_{h,k}^T} \times V_{h,k} \quad (10)$$

$$V_{h,u}^{sp} = \frac{Z_{h,u}^T}{Z_{h,u} + Z_{h,u}^T} \times V_{h,u} \quad (11)$$

$$Z_{h,k}^T = \left[ (Z_{h,u})^{-1} + \sum_{i=1, i \neq k}^n (Z_{h,i})^{-1} \right]^{-1} \quad (12)$$

$$Z_{h,u}^T = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (Z_{h,i})^{-1} \right]^{-1} \quad (13)$$

$$V_{h,pcc} = V_{h,k}^{sp} + \sum_{i=1}^n V_{h,i}^{sp} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k, \dots, n) \quad (14)$$

where  $V_{h,u}^{sp}$  and  $V_{h,k}^{sp}$  are the  $h$ th harmonic voltage contributed by utility and customer  $k$ . Moreover,  $Z_{h,u}$  and  $Z_{h,k}$  are the equivalent impedances of the  $h$ th harmonic order for the utility and customer  $k$ , and  $V_{h,u}$  and  $V_{h,i}$  are the equivalent voltages of the  $h$ th harmonic order for the utility  $u$  and customer  $i$ .  $Z_{h,u}^T$  and  $Z_{h,k}^T$  represent the impedances as viewed from the utility and customer  $k$  at the  $h$ th harmonic order, respectively.

Based on the scalar projection, each harmonic source's  $h$ th HVC can be calculated as follows:

$$HVC_{h,s} = \frac{V_{h,s}^{sp} \cdot V_{h,pcc}}{|V_{h,pcc}|} \quad (15)$$

where  $\cdot$  and  $|\cdot|$  respectively present the dot product and absolute value. The subscript  $s$  represents each harmonic source of the utility  $u$  and customer  $i$  connected to the PCC.

The harmonic contribution ratio (HCR), which is the ratio of the relative contribution of each harmonic source to the PCC voltage distortion, can also be calculated as follows:

$$HCR_{h,s} = \frac{HVC_{h,s}}{|V_{h,pcc}|} \times 100\% \quad (16)$$

where  $HCR_{h,s}$  is the HCR of the  $h$ th harmonic order for harmonic sources  $s$ .

As described above, the HVC and HCR calculations allow us to evaluate the contribution of harmonic sources in individual harmonic orders. However, there is a need for a comprehensive evaluation method that considers all harmonic orders. In [16], the total harmonic contribution (THC) was introduced based on a concept similar to THD. As shown in Equation (17), the THC is defined as the ratio of HVCs for all harmonic orders to the fundamental HVC. THC quantifies the contribution of each harmonic source to PCC voltage distortion for all harmonic orders. The total harmonic contribution ratio (THCR), which is the relative THC of each harmonic source to all sources, is also calculated as shown in Equation (18).

$$THC_s = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{h=2}^{h\_end} (HVC_{h,s})^2}}{|\sum HVC_{1,s}|} \times 100\% \quad (17)$$

$$THCR_s = \frac{THC_s}{\sqrt{\sum THC}} \times 100\% \quad (18)$$

where  $h\_end$  is the highest harmonic order and  $THC_s$  is the total harmonic contribution for the harmonic source  $s$ .  $\sqrt{\sum THC}$  is the THC sum of all harmonic sources at the PCC and  $THCR_s$  is the ratio of the relative THC of the harmonic source  $s$  to  $\sqrt{\sum THC}$ .

### 3.2. A Harmonic Contribution Diagram

The harmonic contribution diagram shows the calculated THC and THCR along with a system diagram providing an intuitive understanding of the voltage distortion contributions of harmonic sources. The harmonic contribution diagram can help identify and manage system harmonic levels and sources, causing significant impacts. Using the proposed method, the diagram can be constructed via a sequential evaluation at all system PCCs. Figure 7 shows an example of a harmonic contribution diagram for a distribution system consisting of four PCCs and six customers. For PCC<sub>1</sub>, the THCs of feeders 1 and 2 were 3.25% and 2.31%, respectively, and the THCR of feeder 1 was 58.35%, indicating that feeder 1 had a relatively higher contribution to the PCC<sub>1</sub> voltage distortion than utility and feeder 2. For PCC<sub>4</sub>, customer 5, with a THC of 0%, did not contribute to the voltage distortion. On the other hand, customer 6, with a THC of 5.13%, showed a larger contribution to the PCC<sub>4</sub> voltage distortion than other harmonic sources.

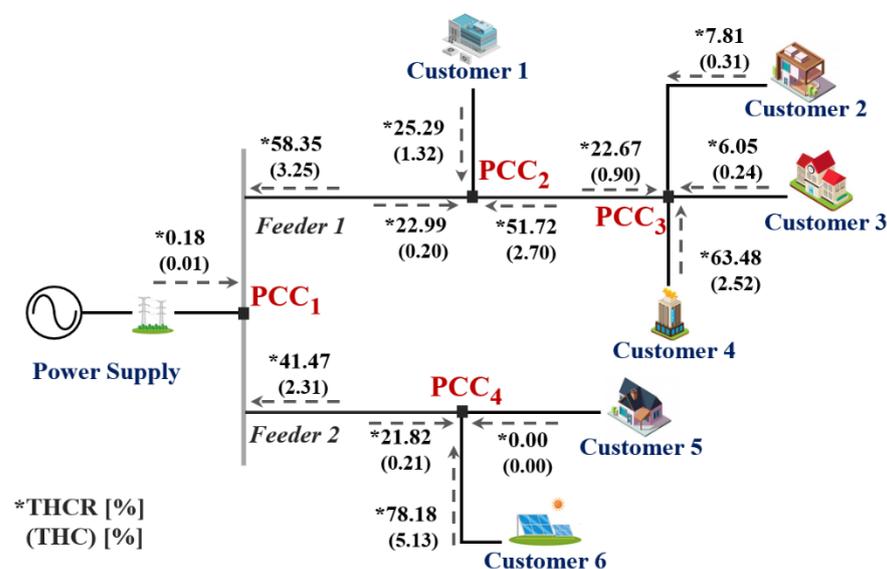


Figure 7. Example of a harmonic contribution diagram.

### 3.3. Entire Procedure of the Proposed Harmonic Contribution Assessment

The entire RANSAC and RLS algorithm-based harmonic contribution assessment procedure is shown in Figure 8. First, we performed an FFT analysis on the voltage and current measured at the PCC and decomposed it into components for each harmonic order. As introduced in [17], we performed symmetric component transformation for each order voltage and current for contribution evaluation under the three-phase unbalanced condition. The proposed RANSAC algorithm, including the variable threshold range scheme, was performed for a certain DB's voltage and current. After determining an optimal linear model, outliers were removed, and the DB was reconstructed with only the inliers. Then, we completed the RLS estimation input dataset by performing the data matching of Equation (8) on DBs of inlier voltages and currents. Next, by comparing the change rate of PCC voltage of Equation (6) with the threshold value,  $V_{thr}$ , the RLS estimation was either initialized or continued. The equivalent voltage models of all harmonic sources were estimated using the RLS algorithm. We then calculated each harmonic source's HVC and HCR. After performing the HVC evaluation on all harmonic orders, we calculated the THC and THCR using Equations (17) and (18). The above procedure was performed for all PCCs in the system. Finally, we constructed a harmonic contribution diagram using the evaluated THCs and THCRs.

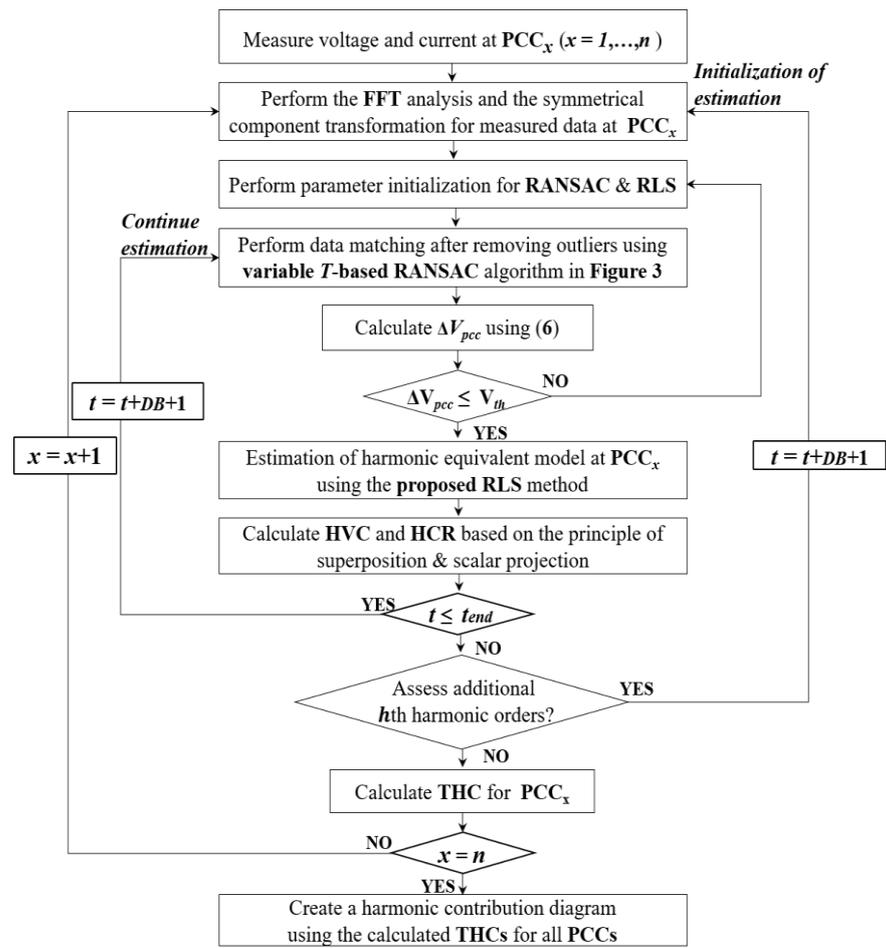


Figure 8. The entire procedure of harmonic contribution assessment based on the proposed method.

#### 4. Case Study

To verify the proposed method’s performance, we conducted a case study using the PSCAD/EMTDC test system consisting of a utility and five customers, as shown in Figure 9. Customers 1, 2, and 3 are connected to PCC<sub>2</sub>, while customers 4 and 5 are connected to PCC<sub>3</sub>.

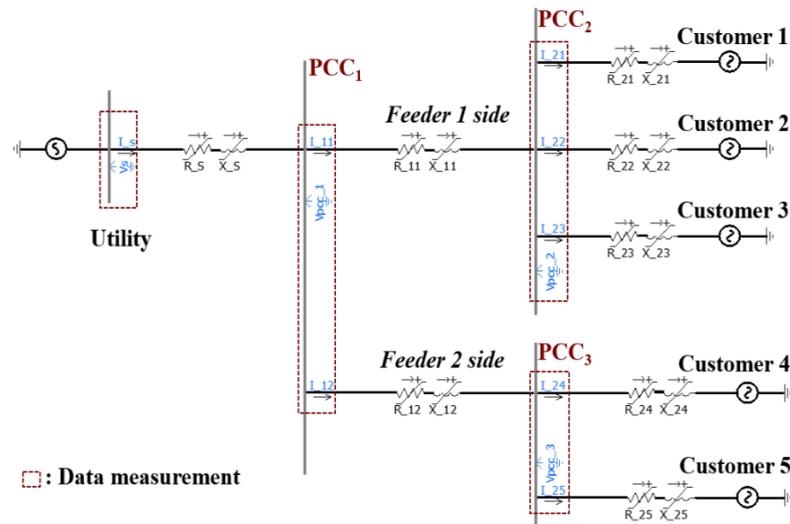


Figure 9. The PSCAD/EMTDC test system for harmonic contribution assessment.

The detailed parameters of the utility and customers are summarized in Table 1. Customers 1, 2, and 5 were modeled as harmonic sources while customers 3 and 4 were modeled as linear loads without harmonic sources.

**Table 1.** The initial parameters of utility and the five customers.

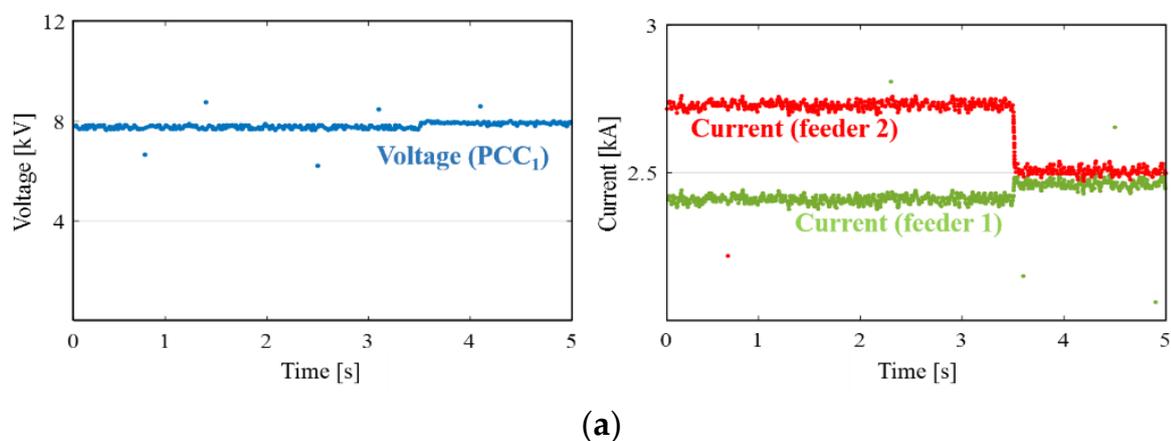
Harmonic Order	Utility	Customer 1	Customer 2	Customer 3	Customer 4	Customer 5
Voltage [kV]	1st	12.999 + j2.292	0.000 + j0.000	0.000 + j0.000	0.000 + j0.000	0.000 + j0.000
	3rd	0.001 + j0.001	1.201 + j0.212	1.398 + j0.247	0.000 + j0.000	0.000 + j0.000
	5th	0.001 + j0.001	0.709 + j0.125	0.935 + j0.165	0.000 + j0.000	0.000 + j0.000
	7th	0.001 + j0.001	0.807 + j0.142	0.542 + j0.095	0.000 + j0.000	0.000 + j0.000
Impedance [ $\Omega$ ]	1st	1.000 + j0.377	4.000 + j3.770	3.000 + j1.131	2.000 + j0.754	3.000 + j0.754
	3rd	1.000 + j1.131	4.000 + j11.310	3.000 + j3.393	2.000 + j2.262	3.000 + j2.262
	5th	1.000 + j1.885	4.000 + j18.850	3.000 + j5.655	2.000 + j3.770	3.000 + j3.770
	7th	1.000 + j2.639	4.000 + j26.389	3.000 + j7.917	2.000 + j5.278	3.000 + j5.278

The total simulation time was 5 s for each case. The voltage and current were measured at 10,000 samples per second and the  $DB$ 's size was 40 samples of measured data. Additionally, it was assumed that the equivalent parameters of customers 1 and 5 change, as shown in Table 2. Figure 10 shows voltages and currents measured at  $PCC_1$ ,  $PCC_2$ , and  $PCC_3$ . Random white noise and outliers were included in the measurement data to achieve realistic conditions.

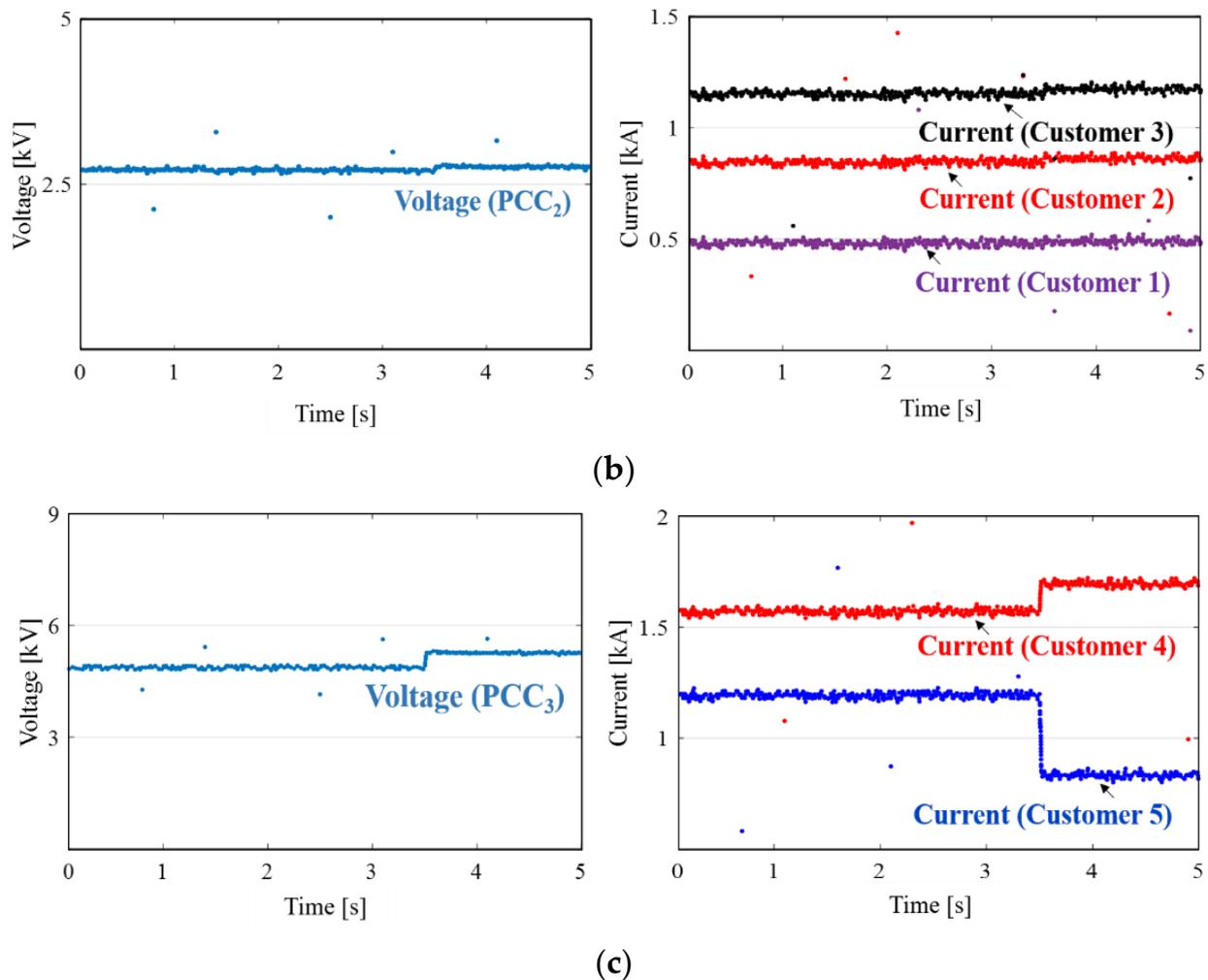
In this case study, we evaluated the harmonic contributions to voltage distortion at the three PCCs using the proposed method. The outliers were removed using the RANSAC algorithm. Moreover, the equivalent voltage models for all harmonic sources were estimated. Additionally, through HVC and HCR calculations, the harmonic source's harmonic contribution was evaluated. The harmonic contribution diagram was also derived by calculating THC and THCR considering all harmonic orders.

**Table 2.** The equivalent parameter changes on two customers 1 and 5.

Harmonic Order	Customer 1		Customer 5	
	0~2 s	2~5 s	0~3.5 s	3.5~5 s
Voltage [kV]	3rd	1.201 + j0.212	0.847 + j0.149	1.753 + j0.309
	5th	0.709 + j0.125	1.104 + j0.195	0.738 + j0.130
	7th	0.807 + j0.142	0.551 + j0.097	0.345 + j0.061
Impedance [ $\Omega$ ]	3rd	4.000 + j11.310	2.000 + j3.393	6.000 + j6.786
	5th	4.000 + j18.850	2.000 + j5.655	6.000 + j11.310
	7th	4.000 + j26.389	2.000 + j7.917	6.000 + j15.834



**Figure 10.** Cont.

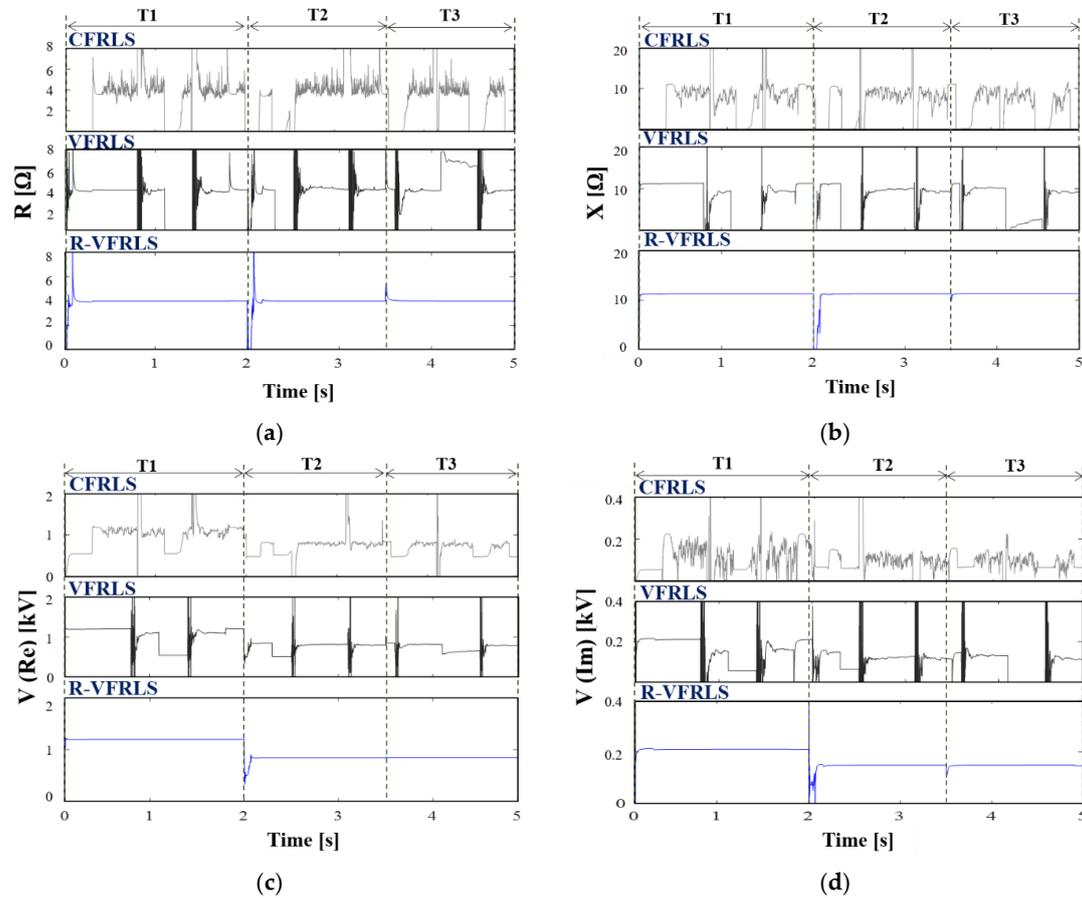


**Figure 10.** The measured voltage and currents at each PCC. (a) The PCC<sub>1</sub> voltage and the currents of feeders 1 and 2. (b) The PCC<sub>2</sub> voltage and the currents of customers 1, 2, and 3. (c) The PCC<sub>3</sub> voltage and the currents of customers 3 and 4.

#### 4.1. Equivalent Parameter Estimation Using the Proposed Method

The estimation of an accurate equivalent model for each harmonic order is the most important part of harmonic contribution evaluation. As an example, we analyzed the estimation result of the 3rd harmonic equivalent model of customer 1. To prove the proposed method's superiority, we performed a comparative analysis with the existing constant forgetting fact RLS (CFRLS) [16] and variable forgetting fact RLS (VFRLS) [17] estimation methods. In the case of customer 1, five outliers were detected and removed for the measured current using the proposed RANSAC algorithm. Considering the outliers in the PCC<sub>2</sub> voltage and the measured currents of customers 1, 2, and 3, a total of 15 data points were excluded through the data matching of Equation (8). We estimated the equivalent model's voltage source and impedance using the inliers and the proposed RLS algorithm. Figure 11 shows the results of customer 1's equivalent model estimation using the CFRLS, VFRLS, and the proposed method. According to the parameter detection of Equation (6), for the entire simulation time, parameter estimation was conducted for three time sections: T1, T2, and T3. The CFRLS and VFRLS methods showed very unstable estimation performance for all time sections due to the presence of outliers, while the proposed method showed an overall stable estimation performance even when with the change in parameters. Table 3 summarizes the average values of the estimation results of the three methods. The CFRLS and VFRLS methods showed large errors between the

estimated and actual values, while the proposed method showed very accurate results, with a parameter estimation error rate of less than 1%. The equivalent models for all harmonic sources were estimated using the proposed method.



**Figure 11.** The results of the 3rd harmonic parameter estimation for customer 1 by the CFRLS, VFRLS, and proposed method. (a) Resistance. (b) Reactance. (c) The real value of voltage. (d) The imaginary value of voltage.

**Table 3.** The comparison of 3rd harmonic equivalent parameter estimates for customer 1.

Parameter	Estimation Method	Time Section								
		T1			T2			T3		
		Estimation	Actual	Error (%)	Estimation	Actual	Error (%)	Estimation	Actual	Error (%)
R [Ω]	CFRLS	9.074		126.85	7.092		77.30	14.505		262.63
	VFRLS	3.426	4.000	14.35	3.502	4.000	12.45	5.281	4.000	32.03
	Proposed	4.002		0.05	3.996		0.10	4.005		0.12
X [Ω]	CFRLS	9.616		14.98	8.194		27.55	−3.699		132.71
	VFRLS	7.066	11.310	37.52	7.576	11.310	33.01	6.317	11.310	44.15
	Proposed	11.282		0.25	11.285		0.22	11.305		0.04
V [kV] (Re)	CFRLS	1.276		6.24	0.822		2.95	0.620		26.80
	VFRLS	0.983	1.201	18.15	0.749	0.847	11.57	0.734	0.847	13.34
	Proposed	1.200		0.08	0.846		0.12	0.847		0.01
V [kV] (Im)	CFRLS	−0.080		137.74	0.025		83.22	−0.387		359.73
	VFRLS	0.110	0.212	48.11	0.101	0.149	32.21	0.031	0.149	79.19
	Proposed	0.211		0.47	0.148		0.67	0.149		0.01

4.2. HVC and HCR Evaluation

As shown in Table 4, each harmonic source’s HVC and HCR were calculated using the estimated equivalent model and the principle of superposition. The results provide a quantitative understanding of the contributions of harmonic sources to each harmonic order’s PCC voltage distortion. Particularly speaking, the averages of the 7th HVC and HCR estimation results are shown in Figure 12. Figure 12a shows the estimated average HVCs of harmonic sources connected to PCC<sub>2</sub> for each time section. We can observe that customer 2 causes the largest voltage distortion of 0.127 kV in all time sections. On the other hand, customer 3, which is a linear load, does not contribute to the voltage distortion of PCC<sub>2</sub>. Figure 12b shows the results of HVCs for PCC<sub>3</sub>. For the time sections T1 and T2, customer 5 had the highest HVC of 0.067 kV. For the time section T3, the HVC of customer 5 decreased from 0.067 to 0.036 kV, while PCC<sub>1</sub> showed the highest contribution with an HVC value of 0.044 kV. Through HVC and HCR evaluations, we can quantitatively determine the contributions of harmonic sources to specific harmonic voltage.

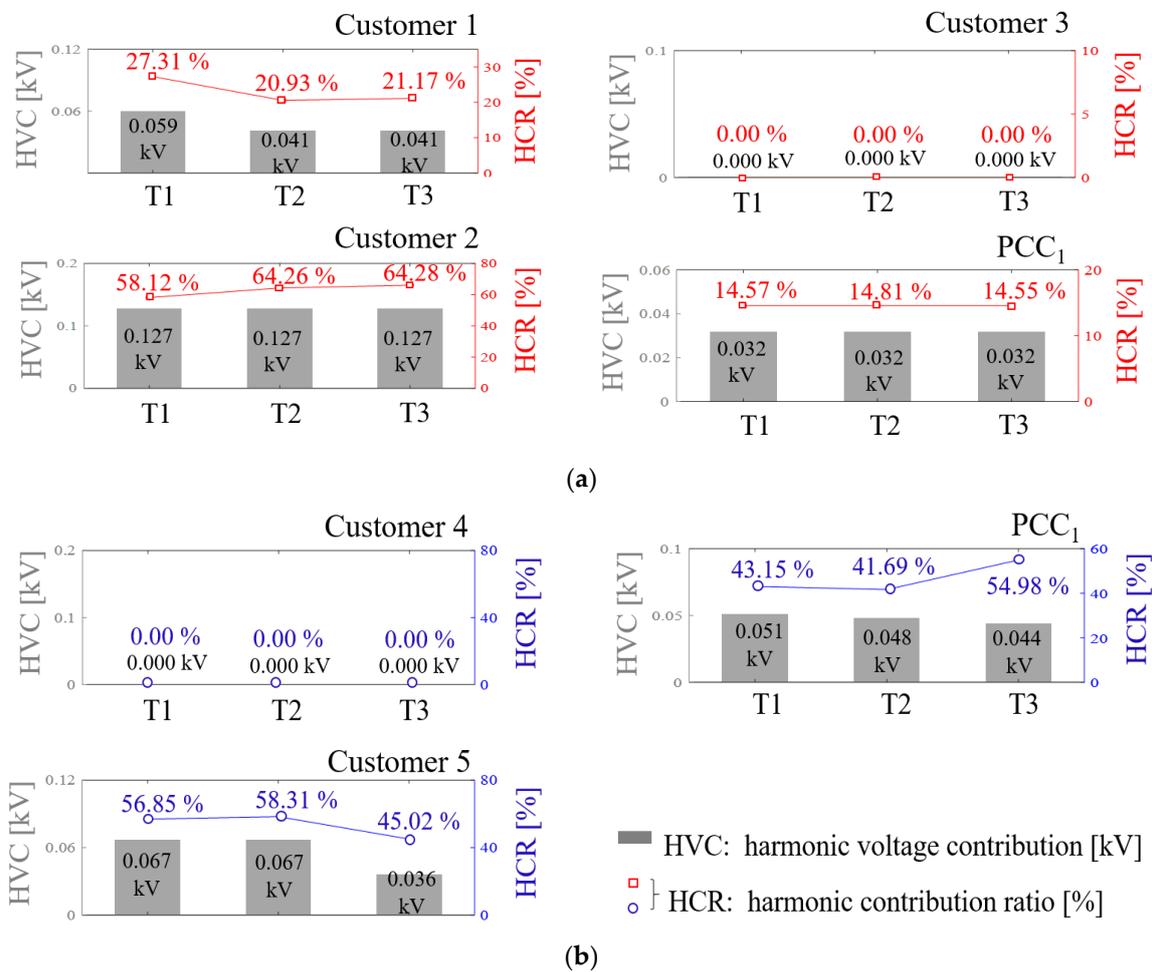


Figure 12. The assessment results of the 7th HVC and HCR. (a) PCC<sub>2</sub>. (b) PCC<sub>3</sub>.

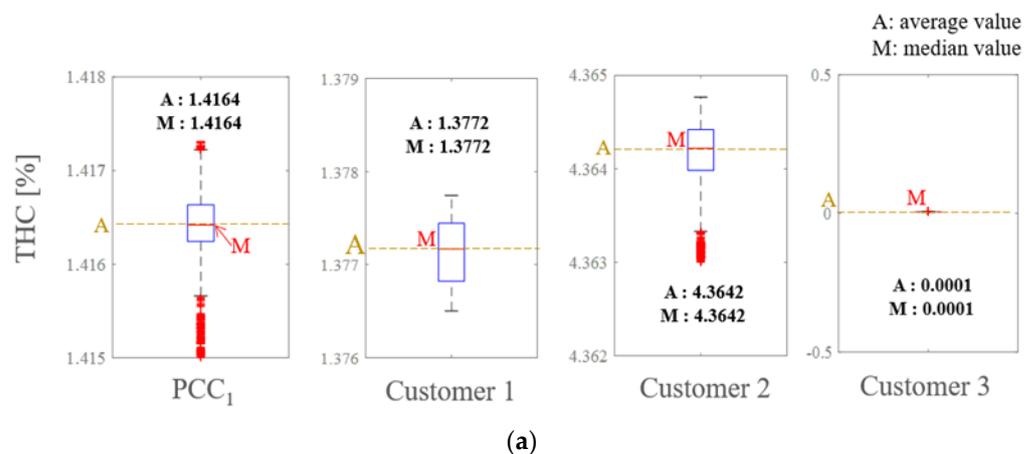
**Table 4.** The assessment results of HVC and HCR for the 3rd, 5th and 7th orders.

Harmonic Order	Time Section	Evaluation Index	PCC <sub>1</sub>			PCC <sub>2</sub>			PCC <sub>3</sub>			
			Utility	F1	F2	PCC <sub>1</sub>	C1	C2	C3	PCC <sub>1</sub>	C4	C5
3rd	T1	HVC	0.00	0.12	0.22	0.12	0.10	0.32	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.39
		HCR	0.33	35.43	64.24	21.51	18.82	59.67	0.00	33.22	0.00	66.78
	T2	HVC	0.00	0.11	0.22	0.11	0.072	0.32	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.39
		HCR	0.38	33.77	65.85	22.31	14.10	63.59	0.00	32.62	0.00	67.38
	T3	HVC	0.00	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.07	0.32	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.19
		HCR	0.51	50.83	48.66	16.68	15.12	68.20	0.00	43.73	0.00	56.27
5th	T1	HVC	0.00	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.22	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.15
		HCR	0.69	47.48	51.83	17.09	16.43	66.48	0.00	37.88	0.00	62.12
	T2	HVC	0.00	0.09	0.08	0.06	0.09	0.22	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.15
		HCR	0.67	50.12	49.21	16.36	23.32	60.32	0.00	39.11	0.00	60.89
	T3	HVC	0.00	0.09	0.05	0.05	0.09	0.22	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.15
		HCR	0.77	65.57	33.66	13.43	24.12	62.45	0.00	52.11	0.00	47.89
7th	T1	HVC	0.00	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.13	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.07
		HCR	1.23	57.52	41.25	14.57	27.31	58.12	0.00	43.15	0.00	56.85
	T2	HVC	0.00	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.13	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.07
		HCR	1.43	54.82	43.75	14.81	20.93	64.26	0.00	41.69	0.00	58.31
	T3	HVC	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.13	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.04
		HCR	1.53	69.04	29.43	14.55	21.17	64.28	0.00	54.98	0.00	45.02

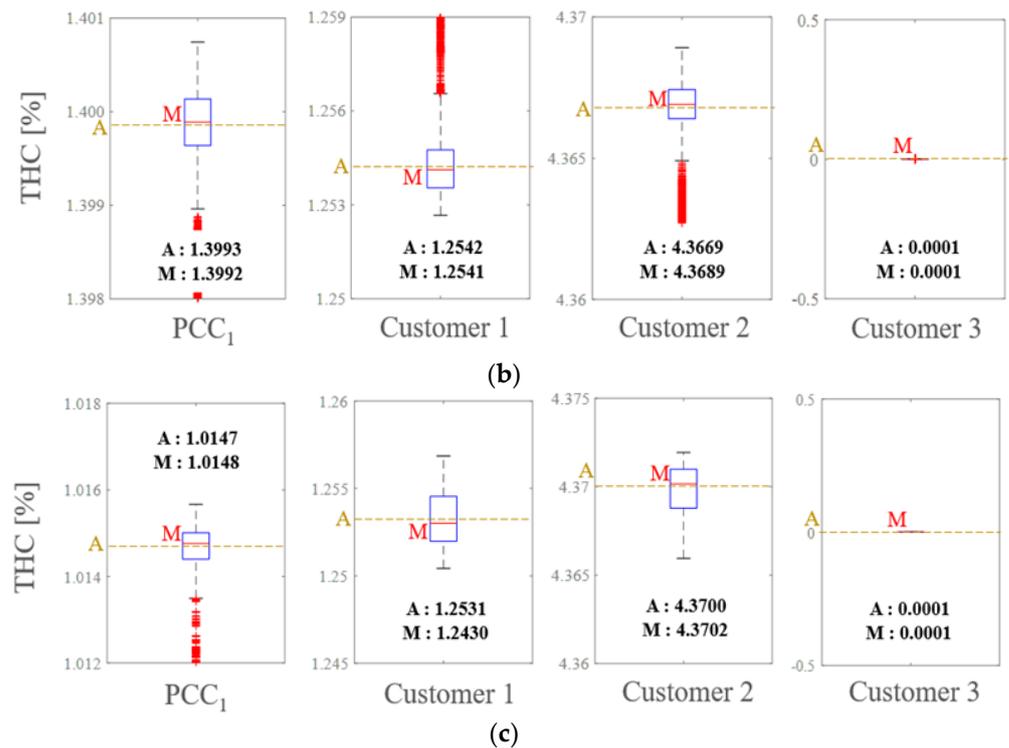
Note: F1 and F2 indicate the feeders 1 and 2; C1, C2, C3, C4, and C5 represent the five customers.

### 4.3. Creating a Harmonic Contribution Diagram with THC and THCR

To create a harmonic distortion diagram, THC and THCR evaluations were performed for all harmonic sources. The THC and THCR, reflecting the fundamental and all harmonic orders, are calculated using Equations (17) and (18). These indices allow us to grasp the synthesized contributions of all harmonic orders. Figure 13 shows the median and average values of THC corresponding to each time section at PCC<sub>2</sub>. We can observe that the deviation between the THC's median and average values is very small, indicating a very stable estimation performance. The THC of customer 2 was about 4.3% in all time sections, showing the highest contribution to voltage distortion at PCC<sub>2</sub>. On the other hand, the THC of customer 3, which is a linear load, was 0%.

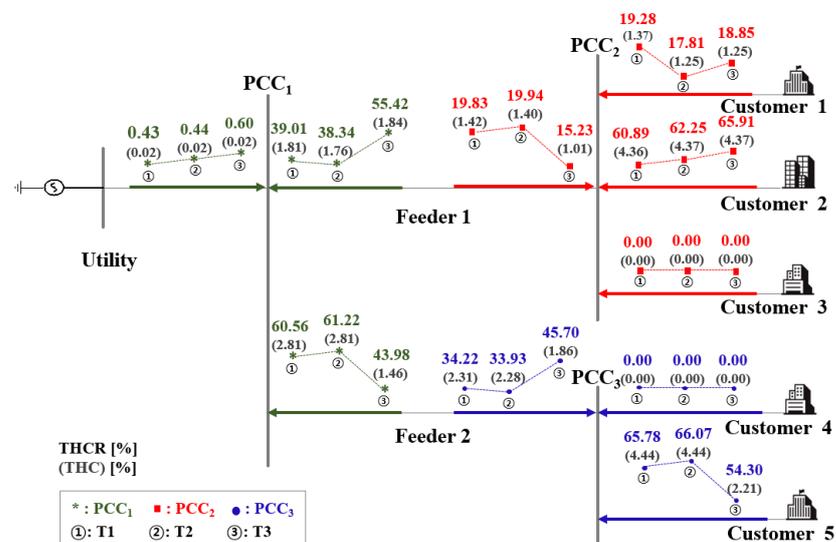


**Figure 13.** Cont.



**Figure 13.** The results of the THC assessment for PCC<sub>2</sub>. (a) The average and median values of THC for the time section T1. (b) The average and median values of THC for time section T2. (c) The average and median values of THC for the time section T3.

For all harmonic sources, we calculated each time section’s THC and THCR. The harmonic contribution diagram was completed, as shown in Figure 14. From the diagram, we can intuitively determine that for the case of PCC<sub>1</sub>, the THC and THCR on the feeder 2 side are relatively high for time sections T1 and T2, indicating the highest contribution to voltage distortions. However, for the time section T3, the THC and THCR of the feeder 2 side decreased, and the harmonic contribution of the feeder 1 side was the highest. Based on these harmonic evaluations, we can identify harmonic sources that cause severe system voltage distortions and effectively manage these harmonics.



**Figure 14.** The harmonic contribution diagram displaying the estimated THC and THCR.

## 5. Conclusions

This paper presented an advanced method of harmonic contribution assessment based on the RANSAC and RLS methods. In the parameter estimation of harmonic equivalent models, there is a problem that the estimation performance is significantly deteriorated when outliers exist in measured data. The proposed method effectively detects and removes outliers using the RANSAC algorithm and performs equivalent model estimation and harmonic contribution evaluation using only inliers, which shows superior performance than existing methods. In addition, a method for creating a harmonic contribution diagram that can effectively identify harmonic sources in a distribution system was proposed. By displaying the THC and THCR evaluation results at each common coupling point along with a system diagram, the contributions of harmonic sources to PCC voltage distortion can be intuitively understood. Along with the advancement of monitoring and measuring technology, the proposed method can be effectively used for system harmonic management and establishment of mitigation measures.

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