Virtual Inertia Emulation and Placement in Power Grids

Institute for Mathematics and its Applications Control at Large Scales: Energy Markets & Responsive Grids

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Acknowledgements







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At the beginning of power systems was At the beginning was the synchronous machine: $M \frac{d}{dt} \omega(t) = P_{\text{generation}}(t) - P_{\text{demand}}(t)$ change of kinetic energy = instantaneous power balance P_{demand} Fact: the AC grid & all of power system operation has been designed around synchronous machines.

 $P_{\text{generation}}$





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Distributed/non-rotational/renewable generation on the rise

A few (of many) game changers . . .

synchronous generator new workhorse







Fundamental challenge: operation of low-inertia systems

We slowly loose our giant electromechanical low-pass filter:

$$\mathsf{M} \, rac{d}{dt} \, \omega(t) \; = \; P_{ ext{generation}}(t) - P_{ ext{demand}}(t)$$



change of kinetic energy = instantaneous power balance



Low-inertia stability: # 1 problem of distributed generation



frequency violations in Nordic grid
 (source: ENTSO-E)



inertia is shrinking, time-varying, & localized, ... & increasing disturbances

Solutions in sight: none really ... other than **emulating virtual inertia** through fly-wheels, batteries, super caps, HVDC, demand-response, ...





Challenges in power converter implementations



Real Time Simulation of a Power System with VSG Hardware in the Loop. Water Stream, Stord & Itan, Menker, IZZ, Kaper Zvetnet Faculy of Electrical Engineering, Machinettics and Computer Stores Dollar Stores The Voltamenta Stores The Voltamenta Stores The sectod to incredent stores and the Voltamenta Stores The sectod to incredent stores and a sport your store of a real VSG should be total units in Stores The sectod to incredent stores and a sport your store of a real VSG should be total units in Stores The sectod to incredent stores and a sport your store of a real VSG should be total units in Stores The sectod to incredent stores and vSG.

- **O** delays in measurement acquisition, signal processing, & actuation
- accuracy in AC measurements (need averaging)
- **o** constraints on currents, voltages, power, etc.
- guarantees on stability and robustness

today: use DC measurement, exploit analog storage, & passive control







Model matching (\neq emulation) as inner control loop

$$i_{dc} \bigoplus v_{dc} g_{dc} \notin C_{dc} = -G_{dc} v_{dc} + i_{dc} - \frac{1}{2} m^{\top} i_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$C = v_{\alpha\beta} \bigoplus i_{load}$$

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$$C = -G_{dc} v_{dc} + i_{dc} - \frac{1}{2} m^{\top} i_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$C = -i_{load} + i_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$L = -Ri_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} mv_{dc} - v_{\alpha\beta}$$

matching control:
$$\dot{\theta} = \eta \cdot v_{dc}$$
, $m = \mu \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$ with $\eta, \mu > 0$

 \Rightarrow pros: is balanced, uses natural storage, & based on DC measurement

$$\Rightarrow$$
 virtual machine with $M = \frac{C_{dc}}{\eta^2}$, $D = \frac{G_{dc}}{\eta^2}$, $\tau_m = \frac{i_{dc}}{\eta}$, $i_f = \frac{\mu}{\eta L_m}$

 \Rightarrow base for **outer controls** via i_{dc} & μ : virtual governor, PSS, & inertia 15/32

Further properties of machine matching control

• quadratic nose curves: <u>ි</u> ජී 100 stationary P vs. $(|V|, \omega)$ $\Rightarrow P \leq P_{\max} = i_{dc}^2/4G_{dc}$ \Rightarrow (*P*, ω)-droop $\approx 1/\eta$ \Rightarrow (*P*, |*V*|)-droop $\approx 1/\mu$ 2 eye candy: load step I remains passive: $(i_{dc}, i_{load}) \rightarrow (v_{dc}, v_{\alpha\beta})$ solid plug'n'play base for outer control loops





optimal placement of virtual inertia



Coherency performance metric & \mathcal{H}_2 norm

Energy expended by the system to return to synchronous operation:

$$\int_0^\infty \sum_{\{i,j\}\in \mathcal{E}} a_{ij} (\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t))^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n s_i \, \omega_i^2(t) \, dt$$

\mathcal{H}_2 norm interpretation:

impulses (faults)

associated performance output:
$$y = \begin{bmatrix} Q_1^{1/2} & 0 \\ 0 & Q_2^{1/2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta \\ \omega \end{bmatrix}$$
impulses (faults) — output energy $\int_0^\infty y(t)^{\mathsf{T}} y(t) dt$

• white noise (renewables)
$$\longrightarrow$$
 output variance $\lim_{t\to\infty} \mathbb{E}(y(t)^{\mathsf{T}} y(t))$

Algebraic characterization of the \mathcal{H}_2 norm Lemma: \mathcal{H}_2 norm via observability Gramian $||G||_2^2 = \text{Trace}(B^{\mathsf{T}}PB)$ where P is the observability Gramian $P = \int_0^\infty e^{A^T t} C^T C e^{At} dt$ • P solves a Lyapunov equation: $PA + A^{T}P + Q = 0$ • A has a zero eigenvalue \rightarrow restricts choice of Q $y = \begin{bmatrix} Q_1^{1/2} & 0\\ 0 & Q_2^{1/2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta\\ \omega \end{bmatrix} \qquad Q_1^{1/2} \mathbb{1} = \mathbb{0}$ • *P* is unique for $P[\mathbb{1} \mathbb{0}] = [\mathbb{0} \mathbb{0}]$

Problem formulation			
\min_{P, m_i}	$\ G\ _2^2 = Trace(B^T P B)$	\rightarrow performance metric	
subject to	$\sum_{i=1}^n m_i \leq m_{bdg}$	\rightarrow budget constraint	
	$\underline{m_i} \leq m_i \leq \overline{m_i}, i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$	\rightarrow capacity constraint	
	$PA + A^{T}P + Q = 0$	\rightarrow observability Gramian	
	$P\left[\mathbb{1}\ \mathbb{0}\right] = \left[\mathbb{0}\ \mathbb{0}\right]$	→ uniqueness	

Insights **1** m appears as m^{-1} in system matrices A, Blarge-scale & \Rightarrow **2** product of B(m) & P in the objective non-convex **3** product of A(m) & P in the constraint

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where would you place the inertia?

uniform, max capacity, near disturbance?

Building the intuition: results for two-area networks

Fundamental learnings

- O explicit closed-form solution is rational function
- **2** sufficiently uniform $(t/d)_i \rightarrow$ strongly **convex** & fairly **flat** cost
- In non trivial in the presence of capacity constraints





Primary control ... cont'd Theorem: the primary control effort optimization reads equivalently as $\begin{array}{l} \underset{m_i}{\text{minimize}} & \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{t_i}{m_i} \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i=1}^{n} m_i \leq m_{\text{bdg}} \\ \underline{m_i} \leq m_i \leq \overline{m_i}, \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \end{array}$ Key take-aways: • optimal solution independent of network topology • optimal allocation $\propto \sqrt{t_i}$ or $m_i = \min\{m_{\text{bdg}}, \overline{m_i}\}$ Location & strength of disturbance are crucial \Rightarrow suggests min max

numerical method for the general case

Taylor & power series expansions

Key idea: expand the performance metric as a power series in m

$$\|G\|_2^2 = \operatorname{Trace}(\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{m})^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{m}))$$

Motivation: scalar series expansion at m_i in direction μ_i :

$$\frac{1}{m_i+\delta\mu_i}=\frac{1}{m_i}-\frac{\delta\mu_i}{m_i^2}+\mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$$

Expand system matrices as **Taylor series** in direction μ :

$$\mathbf{A}(m+\delta\mu) = \mathbf{A}^{(0)}_{(m,\mu)} + \mathbf{A}^{(1)}_{(m,\mu)}\delta + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$$
$$\mathbf{B}(m+\delta\mu) = \mathbf{B}^{(0)}_{(m,\mu)} + \mathbf{B}^{(1)}_{(m,\mu)}\delta + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$$

Expand the observability Gramian as a **power series** in direction μ :

$$\mathsf{P}(m+\delta\mu) = \mathsf{P}^{(0)}_{(m,\mu)} + \mathsf{P}^{(1)}_{(m,\mu)}\delta + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$$

Explicit gradient computation

Expansion of system matrices & Gramian \Rightarrow match coefficients ...

Formula for gradient at m in direction μ

1 nominal Lyapunov equation for $\mathcal{O}(\delta^0)$:

 $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{P^{(0)}}} = \mathsf{Lyap}(\boldsymbol{\mathsf{A}}^{(0)}\,,\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Q}})$

2 perturbed Lyapunov equation for $\mathcal{O}(\delta^1)$ terms:

$$\mathsf{P}^{(1)} = \mathsf{Lyap}(\mathsf{A}^{(0)}, \mathsf{P}^{(0)}\mathsf{A}^{(1)} + {\mathsf{A}^{(1)}}^\mathsf{T}\mathsf{P}^{(0)})$$

3 expand objective in direction μ :

$$\|G\|_2^2 = \operatorname{Trace}(B(m)^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{P}(m)B(m)) = \operatorname{Trace}((\ldots) + \delta(\ldots)) + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$$

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• gradient: Trace $(2 * B^{(1)} P^{(0)} B^{(0)} + B^{(0)} P^{(1)} B^{(0)})$

 $\Rightarrow\,$ use favorite method for reduced optimization problem









Conclusions on virtual inertia emulation

Where to do it?

- **1** \mathcal{H}_2 -optimal (non-convex) allocation
- 2 closed-form results for cost of primary control
- Inumerical approach via gradient computation

How to do it?

- **1** down-sides of naive inertia emulation
- 2 novel machine matching control

What else to do? Inertia emulation is ...

- \bigcirc decentralized, plug'n'play (passive), grid-friendly, user-friendly, ...
- Suboptimal, wasteful in control effort, & need for new actuators

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Recall: operation centered around (virtual) sync generators



A control perspective of power system operation

Conventional strategy: emulate generator physics & control

$$M\dot{\omega}(t) = P_{\text{mech}} - D\omega(t) - \int_0^t \omega(\tau) d\tau - P_{\text{elec}}$$

(virtual) inertia tertiary control primary control secondary control

Essentially all **PID** + **setpoint control** (simple, robust, & scalable)

Control engineers should be able to do better









• Spectrum holds only partial information !!

The planning problemsparse allocation of limited resources ℓ_1 -regularized inertia allocation (promoting a sparse solution): \min_{P,m_i} $\mathbf{J}_{\gamma}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) = ||G||_2^2 + \gamma ||\mathbf{m} - \underline{\mathbf{m}}||_1$ subject to $\sum_{i=1}^{n} m_i \leq m_{bdg}$ $\underline{m_i} \leq m_i \leq \overline{m_i} \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ $PA + A^T P + Q = 0$ $P[\mathbb{1} \ \mathbb{0}] = [\mathbb{0} \ \mathbb{0}]$

where $\gamma \geq 0$ trades off sparsity penalty and the original objective

Highlights:

- regularization term is linear & differentiable
- **2** gradient computation algorithm can be used with some tweaking

Relative performance loss (%) as a function of γ 0% \rightarrow optimal allocation, 100% \rightarrow no additional allocation





Uniform disturbance to damping ratio

power sharing $ightarrow {f d} \propto {P}^*$, assuming ${f t} \propto$ source rating ${P}^*$

Theorem: for $t_i/d_i = t_j/d_j$ the allocation problem reads equivalently as

$$\begin{array}{ll} \underset{m_i}{\text{minimize}} & \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{s_i}{m_i} \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \leq m_{\text{bdg}} \\ & \underline{m_i} \leq m_i \leq \overline{m_i}, \ i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \end{array}$$

Key takeaways:

- optimal solution independent of network topology
- allocation $\propto \sqrt{s_i}$ or $m_i = \min\{m_{bdg}, \overline{m_i}\}$

What if **freq. penalty** \propto **inertia**? \rightarrow norm **independent** of inertia

Taylor & power series expansions

Key idea: expand the performance metric as a power series in m

 $\|G\|_2^2 = \operatorname{Trace}(B(m)^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{m})B(m))$

Motivation: scalar series expansion at m_i in direction μ_i :

 $\frac{1}{(m_i+\boldsymbol{\delta}\mu_i)}=\frac{1}{m_i}-\frac{\boldsymbol{\delta}\mu_i}{m_i^2}+\mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{\delta}^2)$

Expand system matrices in direction μ , where $\Phi = \operatorname{diag}(\mu)$:

$$\mathbf{A}_{(\mathbf{m},\boldsymbol{\mu})}^{(0)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -M^{-1}L & -M^{-1}D \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{A}_{(\mathbf{m},\boldsymbol{\mu})}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \Phi M^{-2}L & \Phi M^{-2}D \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{B}_{(\mathbf{m},\boldsymbol{\mu})}^{(0)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ M^{-1}T^{1/2} \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{B}_{(\mathbf{m},\boldsymbol{\mu})}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\Phi M^{-2}T^{1/2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Taylor & power series expansions cont'd Expand the observability Gramian as a power series in direction μ $\mathbf{P}(m) = \mathbf{P}(m + \delta\mu) = \mathbf{P}_{(m,\mu)}^{(0)} + \mathbf{P}_{(m,\mu)}^{(1)}\delta + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$ Formula for gradient in direction μ • nominal Lyapunov equation for $\mathcal{O}(\delta^0)$: $\mathbf{P}^{(0)} = \mathbf{Lyap}(\mathbf{A}^{(0)}, \mathbf{Q})$

2 perturbed Lyapunov equation for $\mathcal{O}(\delta^1)$ terms:

$$\mathbf{P^{(1)}} = \mathsf{Lyap}(\mathbf{A^{(0)}}, \mathbf{P^{(0)}A^{(1)}} + \mathbf{A^{(1)}}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{P^{(0)}})$$

3 expand objective in direction μ :

$$\|G\|_2^2 = \operatorname{Trace}(B(m)^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{P}(m)B(m)) = \operatorname{Trace}((\ldots) + \delta(\ldots)) + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$$

3 gradient: $\text{Trace}(2 * B^{(1)^{T}} P^{(0)} B^{(0)} + B^{(0)^{T}} P^{(1)} B^{(0)})$

Gradient computation

Algorithm: Gradient computation & perturbation analysis

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Input} \rightarrow \text{current values of the decision variables } \textbf{m}_{i} \\ \textbf{Output} \rightarrow \text{numerically evaluated gradient } \nabla f \text{ of the cost function} \end{array}$



- ② Solve for $P^{(0)} = Lyap(A^{(0)}, Q)$ using a Lyapunov routine
- (3) For each node- obtain the perturbed system matrices $A^{(1)}$, $B^{(1)}$
- Compute $P^{(1)} = Lyap(A^{(0)}, P^{(0)}A^{(1)} + A^{(1)^{T}}P^{(0)})$

• Gradient \Rightarrow Trace(2 * B⁽¹⁾^TP⁽⁰⁾B⁽⁰⁾ + B⁽⁰⁾^TP⁽¹⁾B⁽⁰⁾)

Heuristics outperformed also for uniform disturbance



Scenario: uniform disturbance

Heuristics for placement:

- max allocation in case of capacity constraints
- uniform allocation in case of budget constraint

Results & insights:

- locally optimal solution
 outperforms heuristics
- optimal solution ≠ max inertia at each bus

