

# Control of Low-Inertia Power Systems: Naive & Foundational Approaches

INCITE Seminar @ Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

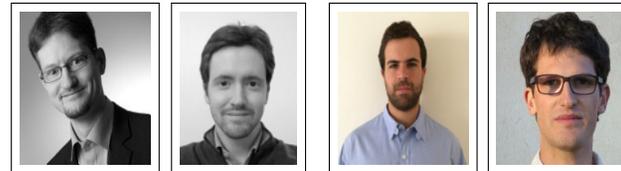
Florian Dörfler



## Acknowledgements



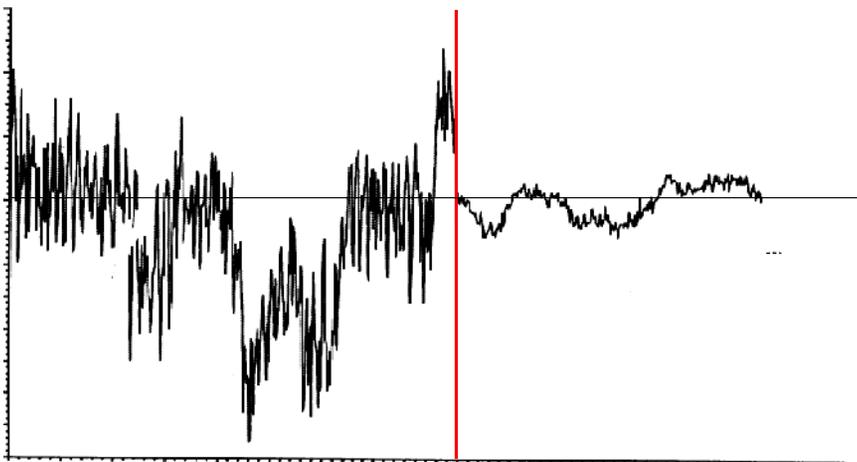
B.K. Poolla C. Arghir T. Jouini P. Lütolf



D. Groß S. Bolognani S. Curi M. Colombino

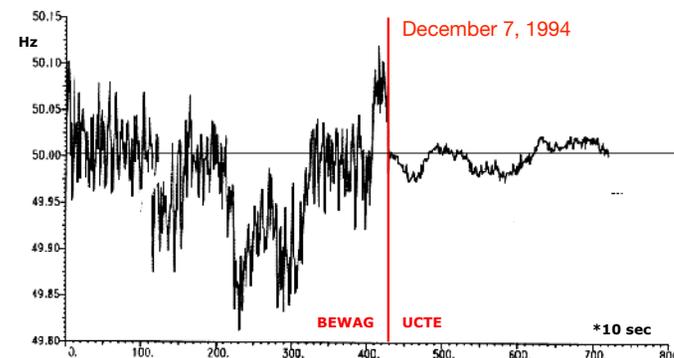


What do we see here?



## Frequency of West Berlin when re-connecting to Europe

Source: *Energie-Museum Berlin*



**before** re-connection: islanded operation based on batteries & single boiler  
**afterwards** connected to European grid based on synchronous generation

Essentially, the pre/post West Berlin curves date back to...

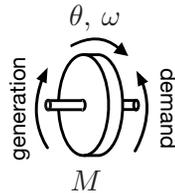


**Fact:** all of AC power systems built around **synchronous machines!**

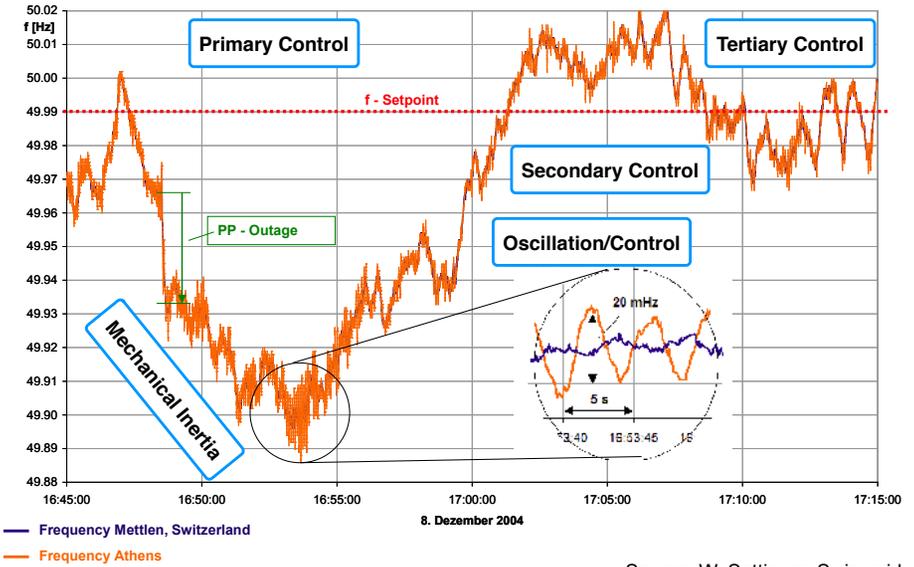
At the heart of it is the generator **swing equation**:

$$M \frac{d}{dt} \omega(t) = P_{\text{generation}}(t) - P_{\text{demand}}(t)$$

change of kinetic energy = instantaneous power balance



Operation centered around bulk synchronous generation



Source: W. Sattinger, Swissgrid

Renewable/distributed/non-rotational generation on the rise

synchronous generator



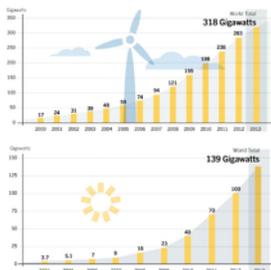
new workhorse



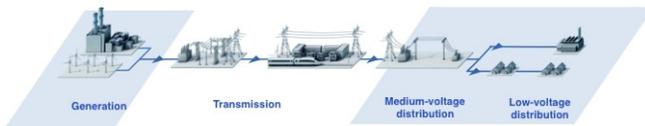
scaling



new primary sources



location & distributed implementation



focus today on **non-rotational** generation

The foundation of today's power system



**Synchronous machines** with rotational **inertia**

$$M \frac{d}{dt} \omega \approx P_{\text{generation}} - P_{\text{demand}}$$

Today's grid operation heavily relies on

- 1 **robust** stabilization of **frequency** and **voltage** by generator controls
- 2 **self-synchronization** of machines **through the grid**
- 3 kinetic energy  $\frac{1}{2} M \omega^2$  as **safeguard** against disturbances

We are replacing this solid foundation with ...

## Tomorrow's clean and sustainable power system



Non-synchronous generation connected via **power electronics**

As of today, power electronic converters

- ❶ **lack robust control** for **voltage** and **frequency**
- ❷ **do not** inherently **synchronize** through the grid
- ❸ provide almost **no energy storage**

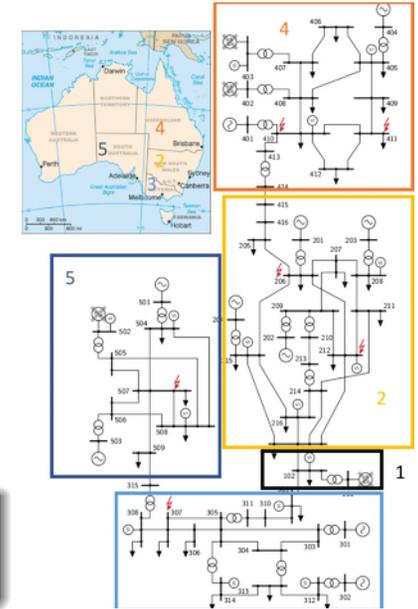
What could possibly go wrong ?

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## The concerns are not hypothetical: South Australia event



**my conclusion** from official report:  
blue low-inertia area 5 was not resilient;  
conventional system would have survived



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## Black System Event in South Australia (Sep 2016)



### Key events<sup>1</sup>

- ❶ intermittent **voltage disturbances** due to line faults
- ❷ loss of **synchronism** between SA and remainder of the grid
- ❸ SA islanded: **frequency collapse** in a **quarter** of a **second**

“Nine of the 13 wind farms online **did not ride through** the six **voltage disturbances** experienced during the event.”

<sup>1</sup>AEMO: Update Report - Black System Event in South Australia on 28 September 2016

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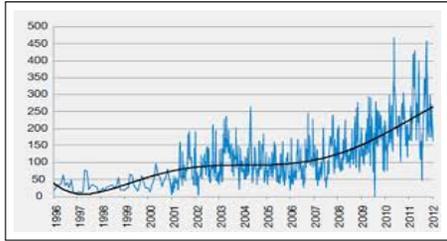
## Low inertia issues have been broadly recognized

by TSOs, device manufacturers, academia, funding agencies, etc.

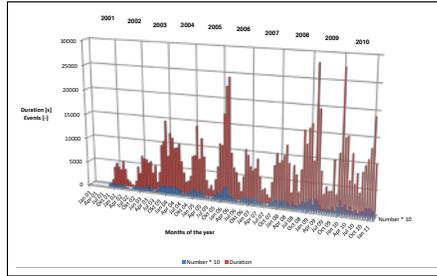
MIGRATE consortium: **green-field approach** to control of zero-inertia grids

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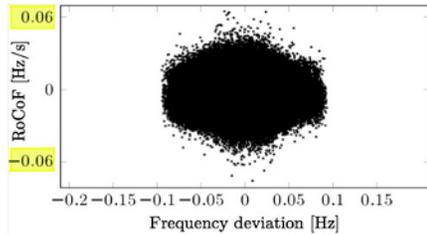
## Low-inertia issues close to home



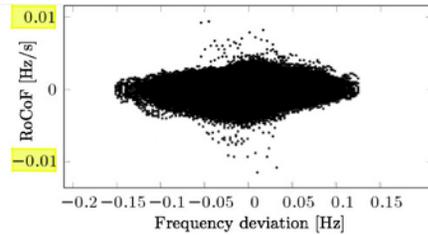
# frequency violations in Nordic grid  
(source: ENTSO-E)



same in Switzerland (source: Swissgrid)



a day in Ireland (source: F. Emiliano)



a year in France (source: RTE)

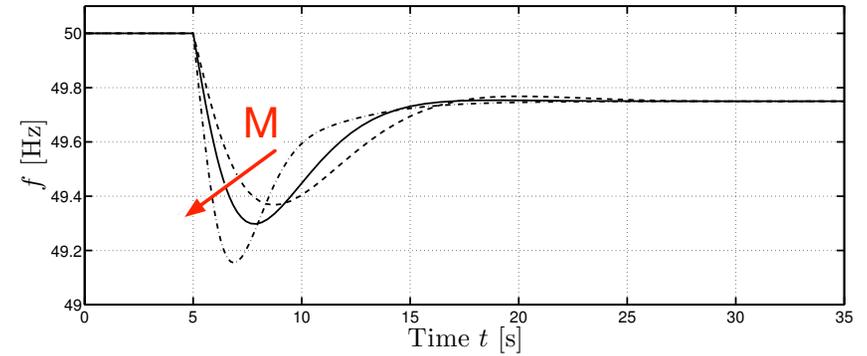
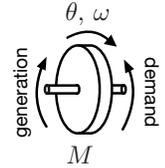
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## Obvious insight: loss of inertia & frequency stability

We lose our giant electromechanical low-pass filter:

$$M \frac{d}{dt} \omega(t) = P_{\text{generation}}(t) - P_{\text{demand}}(t)$$

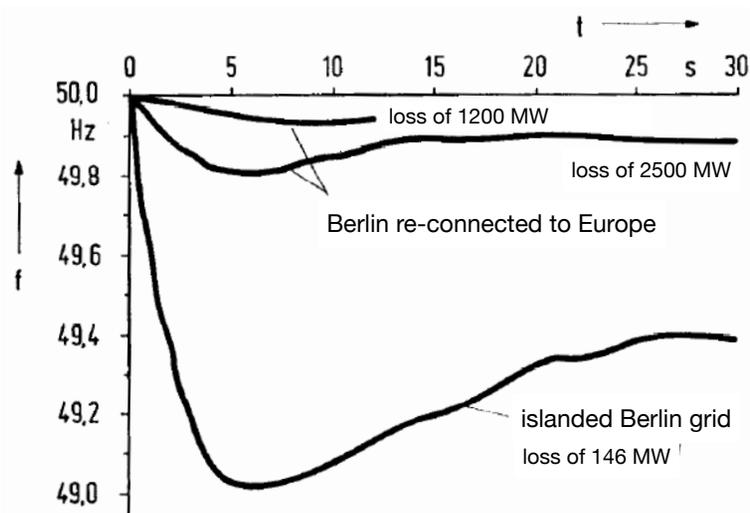
change of kinetic energy = instantaneous power balance



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## Berlin curves before and after re-connecting to Europe

Source: *Energie-Museum Berlin*



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**obvious insights lead to obvious (naive) answers**

## Baseline solution: virtual inertia emulation

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON POWER SYSTEMS, VOL. 28, NO. 2, MAY 2013 1473

**Improvement of Transient Response in Microgrids Using Virtual Inertia**  
Nimish Soni, Student Member, IEEE, Suryanarayana Doolala, Member, IEEE, and Mukul C. Chandorkar, Member, IEEE

**Implementing Virtual Inertia in DFIG-Based Wind Power Generation**  
Immadreza Fakhari Moghaddam Arami, Student Member, IEEE, and Ehab F. El-Saadany, Senior Member, IEEE

**Virtual synchronous generators: A survey and new perspectives**  
Hassan Bevrani<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Toshifumi Ise<sup>b</sup>, Yushi Miura<sup>b</sup>  
<sup>a</sup>Dept. of Electrical and Computer Eng., University of Kurdistan, PO Box 416, Sanandaj, Iran  
<sup>b</sup>Dept. of Electrical, Electronic and Information Eng., Osaka University, Osaka, Japan

**Dynamic Frequency Control Support: a Virtual Inertia Provided by Distributed Energy Storage to Isolated Power Systems**  
Gauthier Delille, Member, IEEE, Bruno François, Senior Member, IEEE, and Gilles Malarange

**Inertia Emulation Control Strategy for VSC-HVDC Transmission Systems**  
Jiebei Zhu, Campbell D. Booth, Grain P. Adam, Andrew J. Roscoe, and Chris G. Bright

**Grid Tied Converter with Virtual Kinetic Storage**  
M.P.N van Wessenbeck<sup>1</sup>, S.W.H. de Haan<sup>1</sup>, Senior member, IEEE, P. Varella<sup>2</sup> and K. Visscher<sup>3</sup>

$$M \frac{d}{dt} \omega(t) = P_{\text{generation}}(t) - P_{\text{demand}}(t) \approx \text{derivative control on } \omega(t)$$

⇒ **focus today: where** to do it? **how** to implement it properly?

... we are not just losing inertia ... **what else** to do ?

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## Outline

### Introduction

**System Level: Optimal Placement of Virtual Inertia**  
network, disturbances, & performance metrics matter

**Device Level: Proper Virtual Inertia Emulation Strategy**  
maybe we should not think about frequency and inertia

**A Foundational Control Approach**  
restart from scratch for low-inertia systems

### Conclusions

Virtual inertia is becoming a technology and a product  
so let's see how we can make use of it

**IRELAND**

**Hybrid storage system looks to Ireland's services market**  
207 November 2016 by Sara Verbruggen · Be the first to comment

**IRELAND: The pilot of a 576kW grid storage system using flywheels and batteries**  
by Dublin-based Schwungrad Energie is looking to be the first of its kind and a key technology's deployment in Ireland's ancillary services market.

**Can Synthetic Inertia from Wind Power Stabilize Grids?**  
By Peter Easler  
Posted 7 Nov 2016 | 2:00 GMT

Flywheel technology was provided by US firm Beacon Power.

Schwungrad Energie intends to develop a commercial storage plant for Ireland's D3 System Services a 20MW/10MWh flywheel and lead-acid battery provide 5-20 minutes of power at full output.

Photo: Shutterstock  
Quebec's wind farms can produce bursts of power to stabilize AC grid frequency

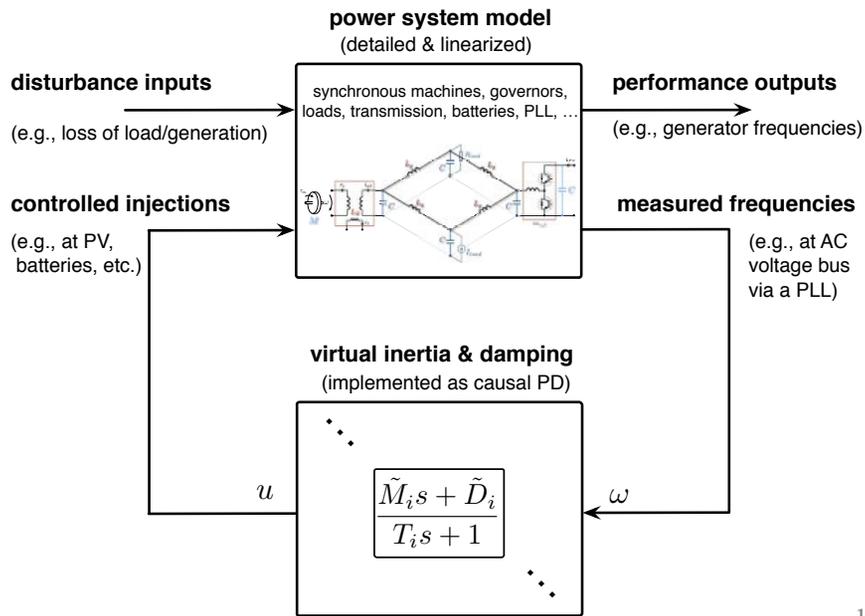
**Pure-play battery or hybrid grid energy storage?**  
Oct 11, 2016 12:54 PM BST

capacitor Energy Storage System. System Integrator: Win Technologies.

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**optimal placement  
of virtual inertia**

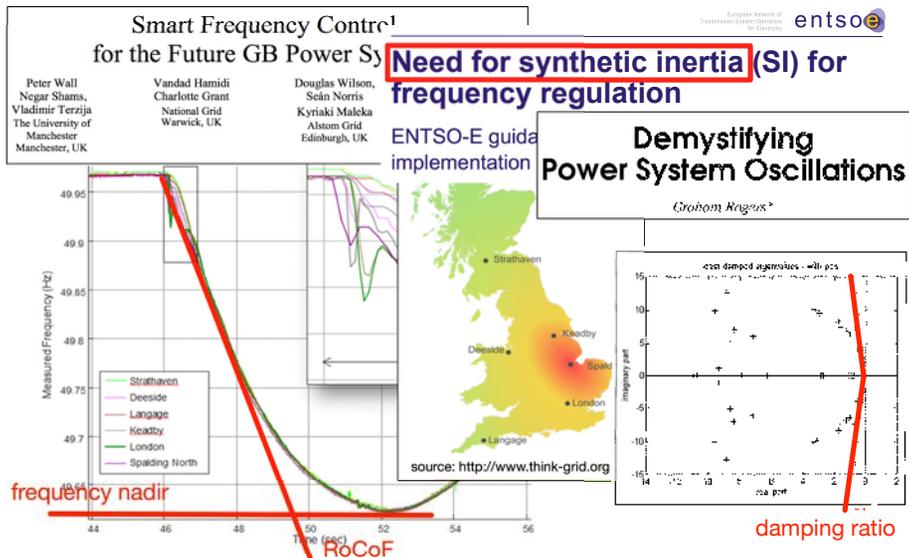
## General power system & inertia emulation model



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which metric(s) should our controller optimize ?

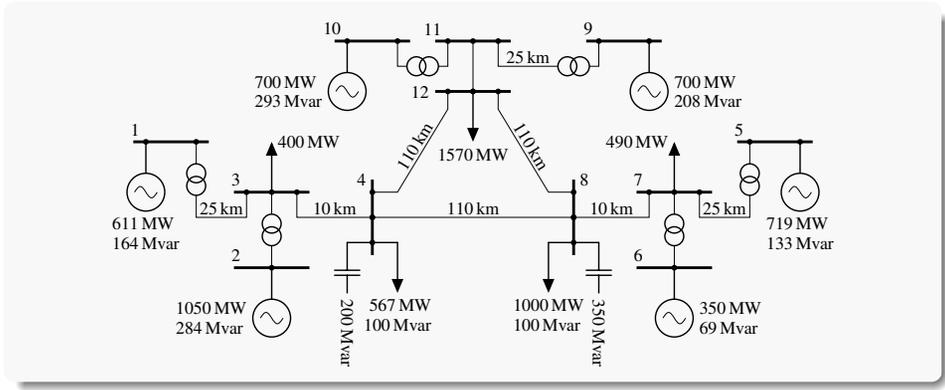
## Conventional metrics: spectrum, RoCoF, & total inertia



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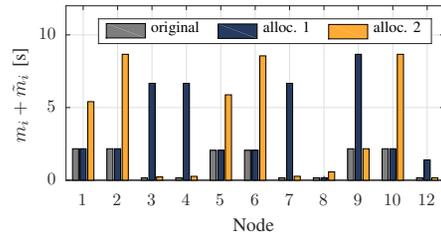
are these suitable metrics ?  
let's look at some simulations

## Running example: modified Kundur three-area case study

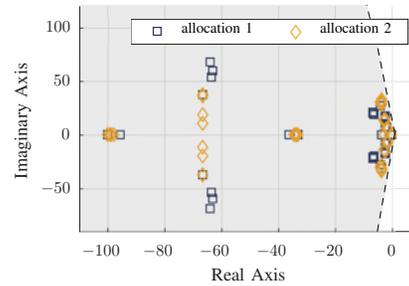


- added third area to standard case
- PLLs at all buses for inertia emulation (overall device response time  $\sim 100\text{ms}$ )
- transformer reactance 0.15 p.u., line impedance  $(0.0001+0.001i)$  p.u./km
- original inertia 40s: removed of rotational 28s which can be re-allocated as virtual inertia
- added governors & droop control at all generators

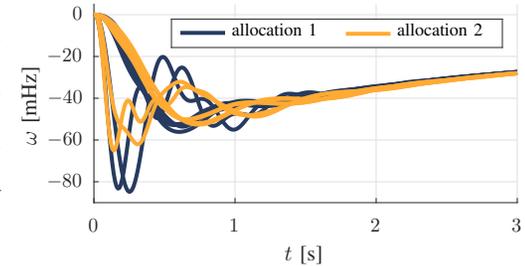
## Fact: RoCoF, spectrum, & total inertia are poor metrics



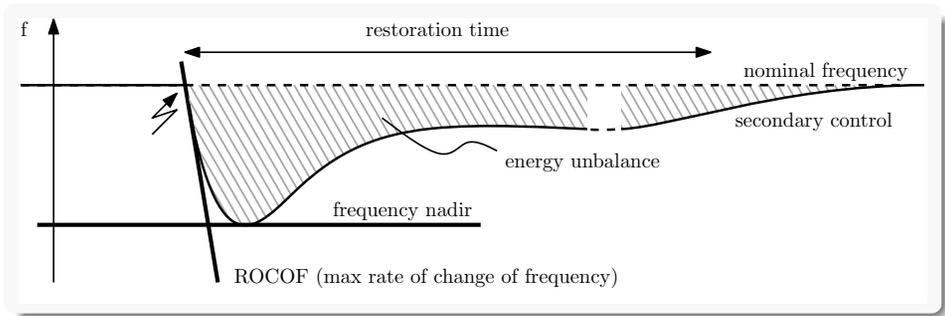
metrics	allocation 1	allocation 2
total inertia	40.85 s	40.85 s
damping ratio	0.1190	0.1206
RoCoF	0.8149 Hz/s	0.8135 Hz/s
$\omega$ nadir	-84.8 mHz	-65.1 mHz
peak injection	118.38 MW	7.0446 MW
control effort	15.581	2.699



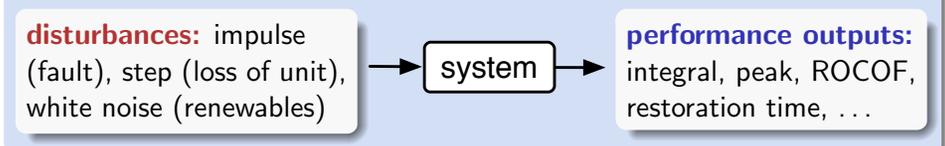
comparison for 100 MW load step at bus 7



## Re-visiting performance metrics for low-inertia systems



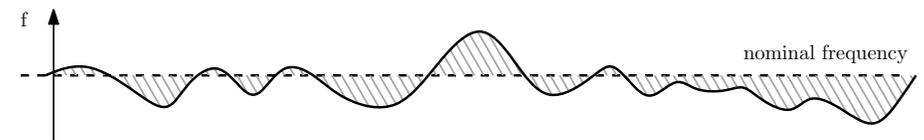
### System norm quantifying signal amplifications



## Integral-quadratic coherency performance metric

other metrics are poor, hard-to-optimize, & characterize a high (not low) inertia system

$$\int_0^{\infty} x(t)^T Q x(t) dt$$



$H_2$  system norm interpretation:  $\eta \rightarrow \text{system} \rightarrow y$

1 performance output:  $y = Q^{1/2}x$

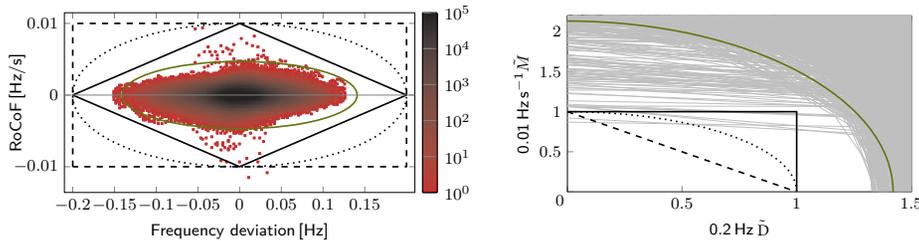
2 impulsive  $\eta$  (faults)  $\rightarrow$  output energy  $\int_0^{\infty} y(t)^T y(t) dt$

3 white noise  $\eta$  (renewables)  $\rightarrow$  output variance  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(y(t)^T y(t))$

## Constraints on control inputs

1 **energy constraint:**  $\int_0^\infty u^T R u dt$  directly captured in  $\mathcal{H}_2$  framework

2 **power constraint:**  $u_i = \tilde{M}_i \dot{\omega}_i + \tilde{D}_i \omega_i$  must satisfy  $\|u_i(t)\|_{\ell_\infty} \leq \bar{u}_i$



European frequency data (source: RTE)

corresponding bounds on gains

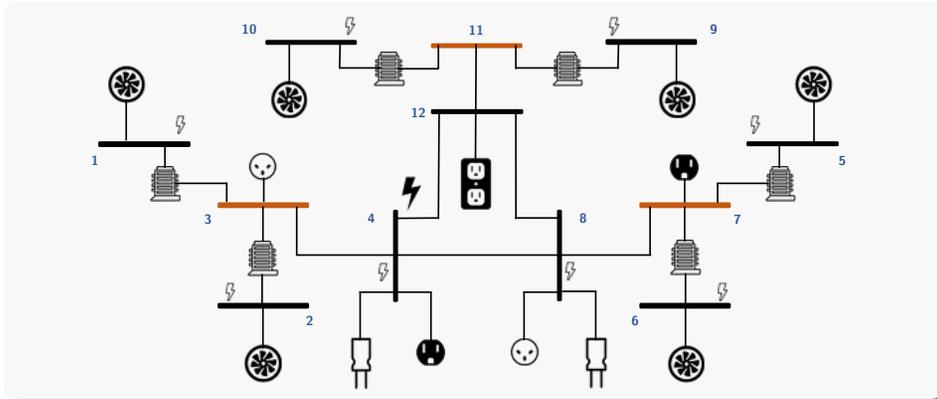
$\Rightarrow \|(\omega_i(t), \dot{\omega}_i(t))\|_1, \|(\tilde{D}_i, \tilde{M}_i)\|_\infty$  bounded  $\Rightarrow \|u_i(t)\|_{\ell_\infty}$  bounded

3 **budget constraint** for finitely many devices:  $\sum_i \bar{u}_i = \text{const.}$

(sub)optimize performance  
and see what we learn

## Modified Kundur case study: 3 areas & 12 buses

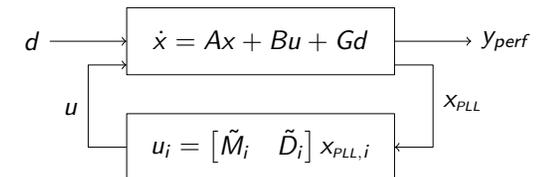
added governors (droop) at generators & PLLs to obtain frequency for inertia emulation



## Test case

• **inertia emulation** control via PLL & batteries:

$$u_i = [\tilde{M}_i \quad \tilde{D}_i] x_{PLL,i}$$



• **dynamics:** swing equation, droop via governor & turbine, and PLL

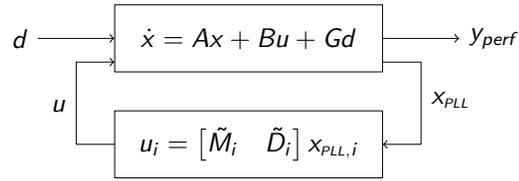
• **state:**  $x = [ \text{generator states} , \text{frequencies} , \text{governor control} , \text{PLL} ]$

• **cost** penalizes frequencies, droop control, & inertia emulation effort:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \omega \\ u_{gov} \\ u \end{bmatrix}}_{y_{perf}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_{gov} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{=Q^{1/2}} x + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ I \end{bmatrix}}_{=R^{1/2}} u$$

## Algorithmic approach to desperate & non-convex problem

- **structured** state-feedback with **constraints** on gains
- **computation**  $\mathcal{H}_2$  norm, gradient, & projections:



- 1 observability and controllability Gramians via **Lyapunov equations**

$$(A - BK)^T P + P(A - BK) + Q + K^T R K = 0$$

$$(A - BK)L + L(A - BK)^T + GG^T = 0$$

- 2  $\mathcal{H}_2$  norm  $J = \text{Trace}(G^T P G)$  and **gradient**  $\nabla_K J = 2(RK - B^T P)L$

- 3 **projection** on structural &  $\infty$ -norm constraint:  $\Pi_{\tilde{M}, \tilde{D}}[\nabla_K J]$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{M}$  and  $\tilde{D}$  can be optimized by **first-order methods**, IPM, SQP, etc.

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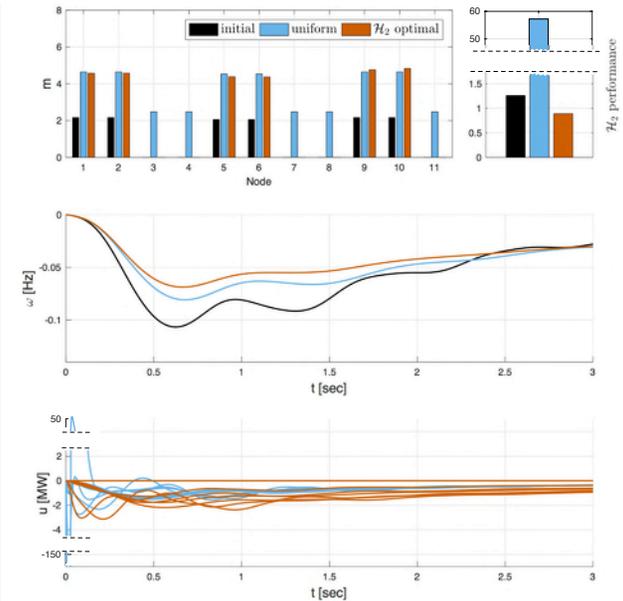
## Results & insights for the three-area case study

### Optimal allocation:

- ▶ location of inertia & damping matters
- ▶ outperforms heuristic uniform allocation
- ▶ need penalty on droop control effort
- ▶ power constraint results in  $\tilde{D} \approx 2\tilde{M}$

### Fault at bus #4:

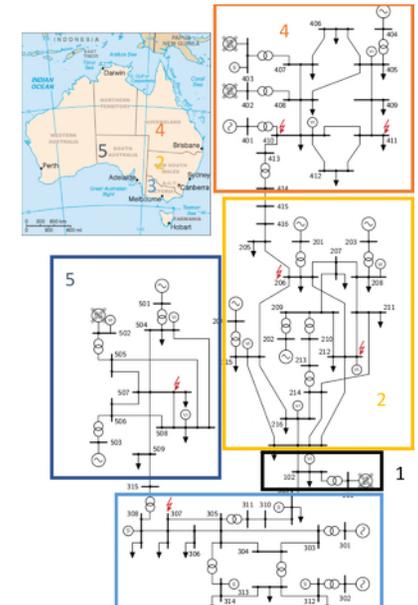
- ▶ strong reduction of frequency deviation
- ▶ much less control effort than heuristic



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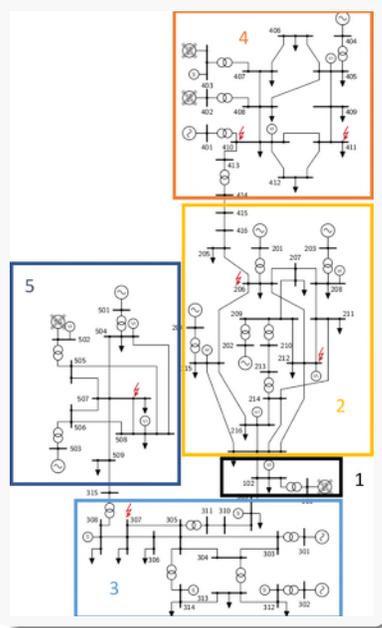
can we make this control design strategy useful ?

## Recall: South Australia event



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## Control & optimization design scale up to large systems

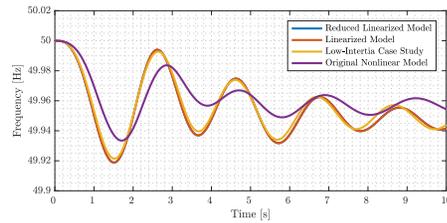


low-inertia **Eastern-Australian grid**:

- removed rotational generation at buses 101, 402, 403 and 502
- added controllable power sources with PLLs at 15 buses

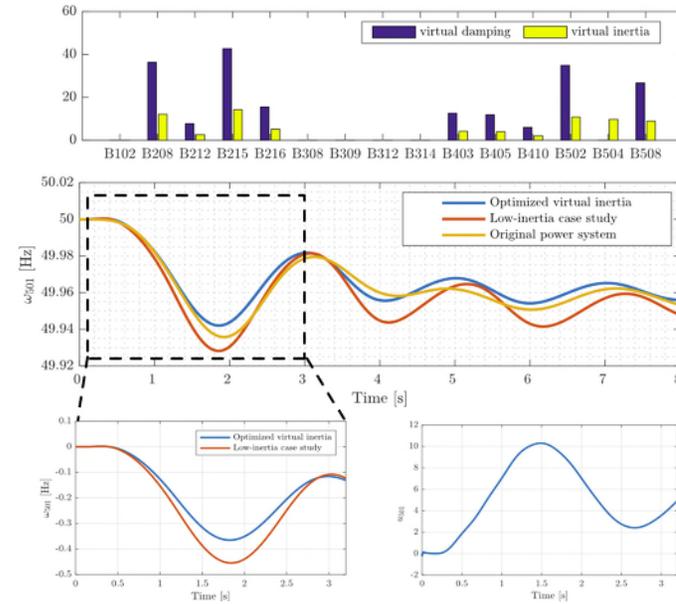
**tractable model** for design:

- linearization of nonlinear model
- balanced reduction to 140 states



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## $\mathcal{H}_2$ -optimal virtual inertia allocation with $l_\infty$ constraints



allocation at core area 2 and critical areas 4 & 5

improves performance of low-inertia & original case

post-fault frequencies & control input well-behaved

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**placement & metrics matter!**  
**can we get analytic insights ?**

## Inertia placement in swing equations

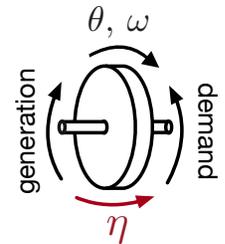
- simplified network swing equation **model**:

$$m_i \ddot{\theta}_i + d_i \dot{\theta}_i = p_{gen,i} - p_{dem,i}$$

generator swing equations

$$p_{dem,i} \approx \sum_j b_{ij} (\theta_i - \theta_j)$$

linearized DC power flow



- likelihood of **disturbance** at #i:  $\eta_i \geq 0$  (available from TSO data)

- $\mathcal{H}_2$  performance **metric**:  $\int_0^\infty \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} (\theta_i - \theta_j)^2 + \sum_i s_i \dot{\theta}_i^2 dt$

- **decision variable** is inertia:  $m_i \in [m_i, \bar{m}_i]$

(additional nonlinearity: enters as  $m_i^{-1}$  in constraints & objective)

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## Closed-form results for cost of primary control

recall: primary control  
 $d_i \dot{\theta}_i$  **effort** was crucial

$$\int_0^\infty \dot{\theta}(t)^T D \dot{\theta}(t) dt$$

(computations show that insights  
*roughly* generalize to other costs)

**allocation:** the primary control effort  
 $\mathcal{H}_2$  optimization reads equivalently as

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{m_i}{\text{minimize}} && \sum_i \frac{\eta_i}{m_i} \\ & \text{subject to} && \sum_i m_i \leq m_{\text{bdg}} \\ & && \underline{m}_i \leq m_i \leq \overline{m}_i \end{aligned}$$

key take-away is **disturbance matching:**

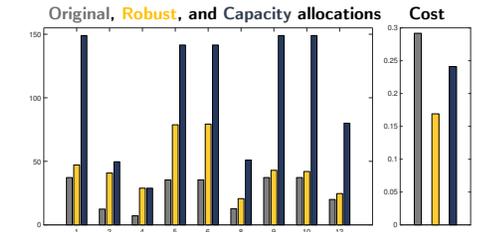
- ▶ optimal allocation  $m_i^* \propto \sqrt{\eta_i}$  or  $m_i^* = \min\{m_{\text{bdg}}, \overline{m}_i\}$
- ⇒ disturbance profile known from historic data, but rare events are crucial
- ▶ suggests **robust min<sub>m</sub> max<sub>η</sub> allocation** to prepare for worst case
- ⇒ valley-filling solution:  $\eta_i^*/m_i^* = \text{const.}$  (up to constraints)

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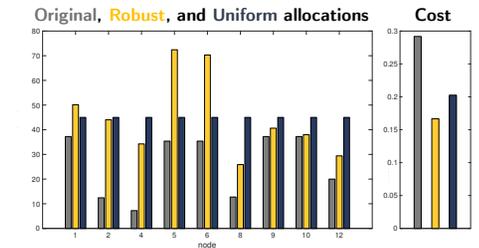
## Robust min-max allocation for three-area case study

**Scenario:** fault (impulse) can occur at any single node

- ▶ disturbance set  $\eta \in \{e_1 \cup \dots \cup e_{12}\}$
- ⇒ **min/max** over convex hull
- ▶ inertia **capacity constraints**
- ▶ robust inertia allocation **outperforms heuristic** max-capacity allocation
- ▶ results become **intuitive:** valley-filling property
- ▶ same for uniform allocation



allocation subject to capacity constraints



allocation subject to the budget constraint

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## Outline

### Introduction

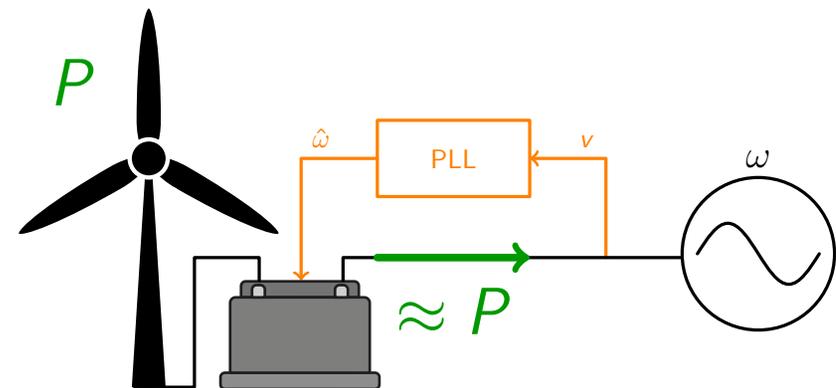
**System Level: Optimal Placement of Virtual Inertia**  
 network, disturbances, & performance metrics matter

**Device Level: Proper Virtual Inertia Emulation Strategy**  
 maybe we should not think about frequency and inertia

**A Foundational Control Approach**  
 restart from scratch for low-inertia systems

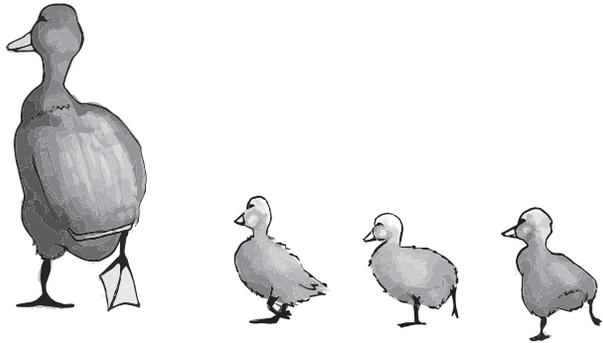
### Conclusions

## Grid-following inverters



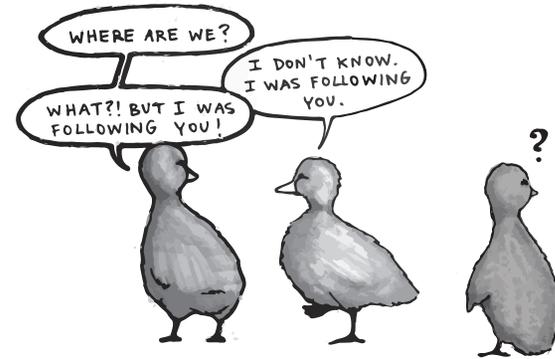
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A stiff grid with grid-following sources ...



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If everyone follows...



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**we are not just loosing inertia**

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**interestingly, many so-called  
“virtual inertia” controllers  
are grid-following**

**design of robust  
grid-forming mechanisms**

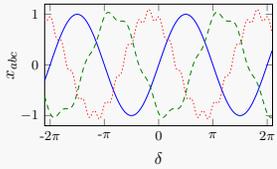
## Modeling: signal space in three-phase AC power systems

### three-phase AC

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_a(t) \\ x_b(t) \\ x_c(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_a(t+T) \\ x_b(t+T) \\ x_c(t+T) \end{bmatrix}$$

periodic with 0 average

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x_i(t) dt = 0$$

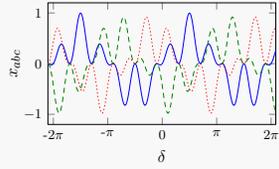


### balanced (nearly true)

$$= A(t) \begin{bmatrix} \sin(\delta(t)) \\ \sin(\delta(t) - \frac{2\pi}{3}) \\ \sin(\delta(t) + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \end{bmatrix}$$

so that

$$x_a(t) + x_b(t) + x_c(t) = 0$$

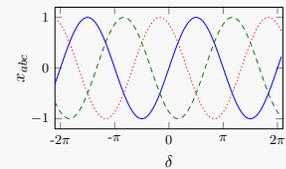


### synchronous (desired)

$$= A \begin{bmatrix} \sin(\delta_0 + \omega_0 t) \\ \sin(\delta_0 + \omega_0 t - \frac{2\pi}{3}) \\ \sin(\delta_0 + \omega_0 t + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \end{bmatrix}$$

const. freq & amp

$$\Rightarrow \text{const. in rot. frame}$$

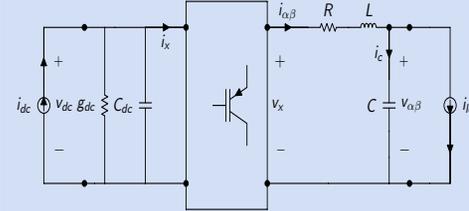


**assumption**: signals are balanced  $\Rightarrow$  2d-coordinates  $x(t) = [x_\alpha(t) \ x_\beta(t)]$

(equivalent representation: complex-valued polar/phaser coordinates)

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## Averaged power converter model



### DC cap & AC filter equations:

$$C_{dc} \dot{v}_{dc} = -G_{dc} v_{dc} + i_{dc} - \frac{1}{2} m^T i_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$L i_{\alpha\beta} \dot{=} -R i_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} m v_{dc} - v_{\alpha\beta}$$

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

**modulation**:  $v_x = \frac{1}{2} m v_{dc}$ ,  $i_x = \frac{1}{2} m^T i_{\alpha\beta}$

**control/dist. inputs**:  $(i_{dc}, i_{load})$

### synchronous generator: mechanical

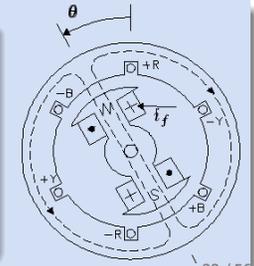
+ stator flux  
+ AC cap

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega$$

$$M \dot{\omega} = -D \omega + \tau_m + i_{\alpha\beta}^T L_m i_f \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

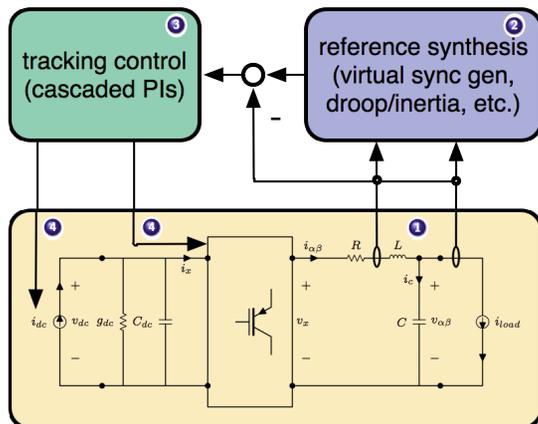
$$L_s i_{\alpha\beta} \dot{=} -R i_{\alpha\beta} - v_{\alpha\beta} - \omega L_m i_f \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

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



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## Standard power electronics control would continue by

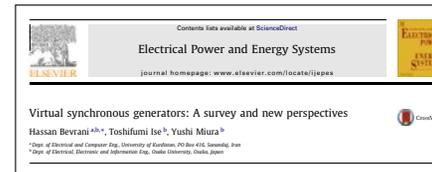


- 1 acquiring & processing of **AC measurements**
- 2 synthesis of **references** (voltage/current/power)
- 3 **track** error signals at converter terminals
- 4 **actuation** via modulation (inner loop) and/or via DC source (outer loop)

I guess you can see the **problems building up** ...

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## Challenges in power converter implementations



### Real Time Simulation of a Power System with VSG Hardware in the Loop

Vasilios Karapanos, Sjoerd de Haan, Member, IEEE, Kasper Zwijseloot  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Delft University of Technology  
Delft, the Netherlands

E-mails: vkarapanos@gmail.com, v.karapanos@tudelft.nl, s.w.h.dehaan@tudelft.nl

To better study and witness the effects of virtual inertia, the hardware of a real VSG should be tested within a power system. Investigating the interaction between a real VSG and

- 1 **delays** in measurement acquisition, signal processing, & actuation
- 2 **accuracy** in AC measurements (averaging over multiple cycles)
- 3 **constraints** on currents, voltages, power, etc.
- 4 **certificates** on stability, robustness, & performance

let's do **something smarter** ...

### Frequency Stability Evaluation Criteria for the Synchronous Zone of Continental Europe

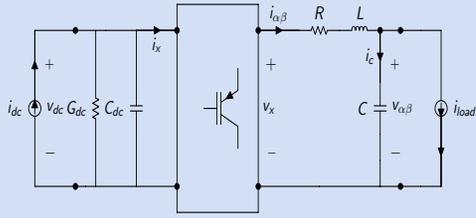
– Requirements and impacting factors –

RG-CE System Protection & Dynamics Sub Group

However, as these sources are **fully controllable**, a regulation can be added to the inverter to provide **'synthetic inertia'**. This can also be seen as a short term frequency support. On the other hand, these sources might be quite restricted with respect to the **available capacity and possible activation time**. The inverters have a **very low overload capability** compared to synchronous machines.

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## See the similarities & the differences ?



DC cap & AC filter equations:

$$C_{dc} \dot{v}_{dc} = -G_{dc} v_{dc} + i_{dc} - \frac{1}{2} m^T i_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$L i_{\alpha\beta} \dot{=} -R i_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} m v_{dc} - v_{\alpha\beta}$$

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

modulation:  $v_x = \frac{1}{2} m v_{dc}$ ,  $i_x = \frac{1}{2} m^T i_{\alpha\beta}$     passive:  $(i_{dc}, i_{load}) \rightarrow (v_{dc}, v_{\alpha\beta})$

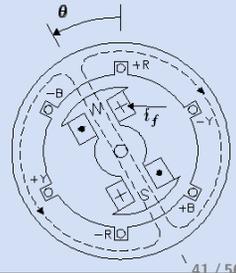
synchronous generator:  
mechanical  
+ stator flux  
+ AC cap

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega$$

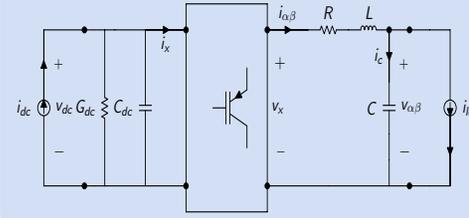
$$M \dot{\omega} = -D \omega + \tau_m + i_{\alpha\beta}^T L_m i_f \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L_s i_{\alpha\beta} \dot{=} -R i_{\alpha\beta} - v_{\alpha\beta} - \omega L_m i_f \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

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



## Model matching ( $\neq$ emulation) as inner control loop



DC cap & AC filter equations:

$$C_{dc} \dot{v}_{dc} = -G_{dc} v_{dc} + i_{dc} - \frac{1}{2} m^T i_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$L i_{\alpha\beta} \dot{=} -R i_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} m v_{dc} - v_{\alpha\beta}$$

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

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

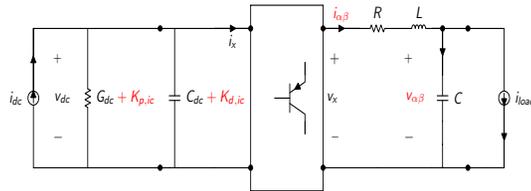
$\Rightarrow$  equivalent inertia  $M = \frac{C_{dc}}{K_m^2}$ , imbalance signal  $\omega = K_m \cdot v_{dc}$ , etc.

$\Rightarrow$  pros: uses physical storage, uses DC measurements, & remains passive

## Further properties of machine matching control

1 base for **outer loops**

$\Rightarrow i_{dc} = PD(v_{dc})$  gives virtual inertia & damping

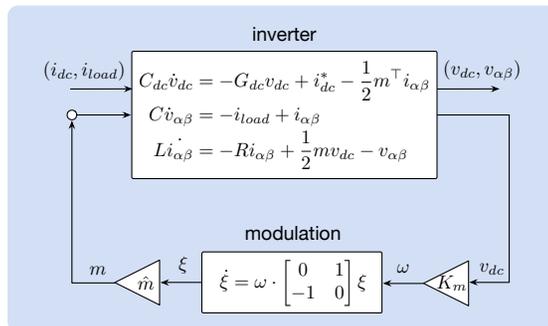


2 reformulation of

$$m = \hat{m} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

as adaptive **oscillator**:

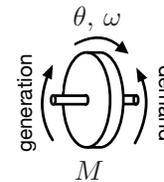
$$\dot{m} = K_m v_{dc} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} m$$



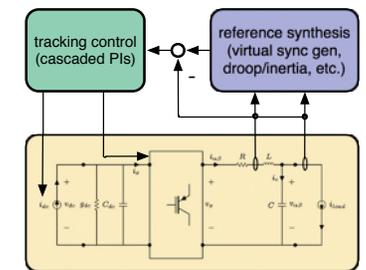
## Summary: bottlenecks to inertia emulation

power system model on **grid level**:

$$M \frac{d}{dt} \omega = P_{generation} - P_{demand}$$



inertia emulation on **device level**:



• **I/O mismatch**: none of the converter inputs or outputs are present in the swing-equation, e.g., frequency is not a state in the converter

• **inertia emulation** à la PD problematic both in theory & practice

$\Rightarrow$  maybe **matching control**  $\dot{m} = K_m v_{dc} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} m$  was quite clever ?

# Outline

## Introduction

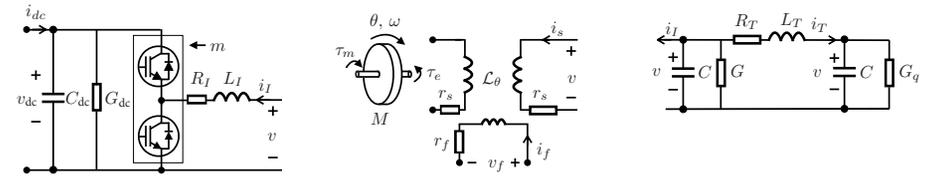
**System Level: Optimal Placement of Virtual Inertia**  
network, disturbances, & performance metrics matter

**Device Level: Proper Virtual Inertia Emulation Strategy**  
maybe we should not think about frequency and inertia

**A Foundational Control Approach**  
restart from scratch for low-inertia systems

## Conclusions

# Low-inertia power system model from first principles



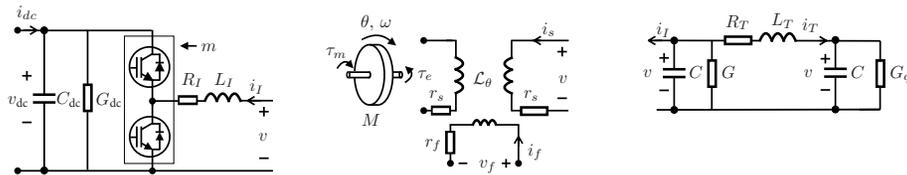
- ▶ balanced three-phase system
  - $(\alpha, \beta)$  coordinates
- ▶ synchronous machines
  - first principle, 5th order
- ▶ DC/AC inverters
  - averaged-switched
- ▶ nonlinear loads  $G(\|v\|)$
- ▶ voltage bus charge dynamics
- ▶ dynamic transmission lines:  $\Pi$ -model

**Port-Hamiltonian model**

$$\dot{x} = \left( J(x, u) - R(x) \right) \nabla H(x) + g(x)u$$

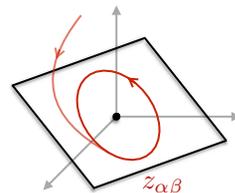
nonlinear & large, but insightful

# Desired steady-state locus & control specifications



**steady-state specifications** for nonlinear system:

- synchronous frequency
- constant amplitude
- three-phase balanced



**AC quantities**  $v, i_s, i_l, i_T$ :

$$\dot{z}_{\alpha\beta} = \omega_0 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} z_{\alpha\beta}$$

**rotor angles:**  $\dot{\theta} = \omega_0$

**DC quantities**  $v_{dc}, v_f, \omega$ :  $\dot{z} = 0$

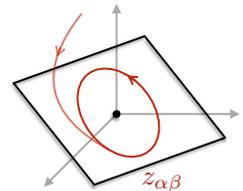
**desired dynamics:**  $\dot{x} = f_{des}(x, \omega_0)$

**controls**  $i_{dc}, m, \tau_m, i_f$  to be found

# Proving the obvious (?)

- **steady-state locus:** physics & desired closed-loop vector field coincide (point-wise in time) on set

$$\mathcal{S} := \{(x, u, \omega_0) : f_{phys}(x, u) = f_{des}(x, \omega_0)\}$$



- **control-invariance:** steady-state operation  $(x, u, \omega_0) \in \mathcal{S}$  for all time **if and only if**
    - ① **synchronous frequency**  $\omega_0$  is constant
    - ② **network** satisfies power flow equations with impedances  $R + \omega_0 JL$
    - ③ at each **generator:** constant torque  $\tau_m$  & excitation  $i_f$
    - ④ at each **inverter:** constant DC current  $i_{dc}$  & inverter duty cycle with constant amplitude & synchronous frequency:  $\dot{m} = \omega_0 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} m$
- ⇒ **internal models** & feedforward **input-to-steady-state map**

## Reduction to a tractable model for synthesis

- **internal oscillator model** for inverter duty cycle with inputs  $\omega_m, \hat{m}$

$$\dot{\theta}_I = \omega_m, \quad m = \hat{m} \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

- **model reduction** steps

- 1 **rotating coordinate frame** with synchronous frequency  $\omega_0$

⇒ time scales of AC quantities scaled by  $1/\omega_0$

- 2 **DC/AC time-scale separation** via singular perturbation ( $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\text{slow DC variables: } x_r = (\theta, \omega, i_f, \theta_I, v_{dc}), \quad \dot{x}_r = f_z(x_r, z_{\alpha,\beta}, u)$$

$$\text{fast AC variables: } z_{\alpha,\beta} = (i_s, i_l, v, i_T), \quad \epsilon \dot{z}_{\alpha,\beta} = f_{\alpha,\beta}(x_r, z_{\alpha,\beta}, u)$$

- 3 reformulation via **relative angles**  $\delta$  with respect to synchronous motion

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## Insights from reduced model: $v_{dc} \propto$ power imbalance

- **nonlinear reduced order model** in rotating frame:

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega$$

$$M\dot{\omega} = -D\omega + \tau_m - \tau_e(x_r, u)$$

$$L_f \dot{i}_f = -R_f i_f + v_f - v_{EMF}(x_r, u)$$

$$\dot{\theta}_I = \omega_m$$

$$C_{dc} \dot{v}_{dc} = -G_{dc} v_{dc} + i_{dc} - i_{sw}(x_r, u)$$

- **interconnection** via  $\tau_e, i_{sw}, v_{EMF}$

- **analogies: suggest matching control:  $\omega_m \sim v_{dc}$**

generator	inverter	interpretation
$\frac{1}{2} M \omega^2$	$\frac{1}{2} C_{dc} v_{dc}^2$	energy stored in device
$\tau_m$	$i_{dc}$	energy supply
$\tau_e$	$i_{sw}$	energy flow to grid
$\omega$	$v_{dc}$	power imbalance

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## Completing the control design

Thus far:

- 1 desired **steady-state locus** requires **internal oscillator model**

$$\dot{\theta}_I = \omega_m, \quad m = \hat{m} \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

- 2 **converter/generator analogies** suggest **model matching** control

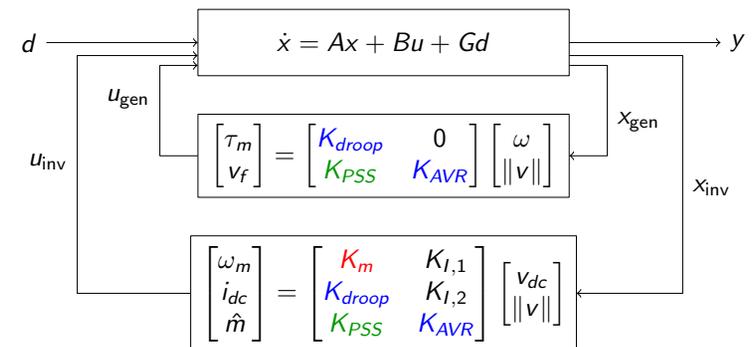
$$\omega_m = K_m \cdot (v_{dc} - v_{dc}^*)$$

Remaining steps:

- 3 **performance** requires design of **structured & optimal MIMO control**

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## Decentralized MIMO control architecture



- **states**  $x = (\delta, \omega, i_f, v_{dc}, \|v\|)$  & **output**  $y = (\omega, v_{dc}, \|v\|)$
- included measurement devices for **AC voltage magnitude**  $\|v\|$
- **$\mathcal{H}_2$ -optimal tuning** of decentralized MIMO converter controller

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## Illustrative conceptual example

### test case:

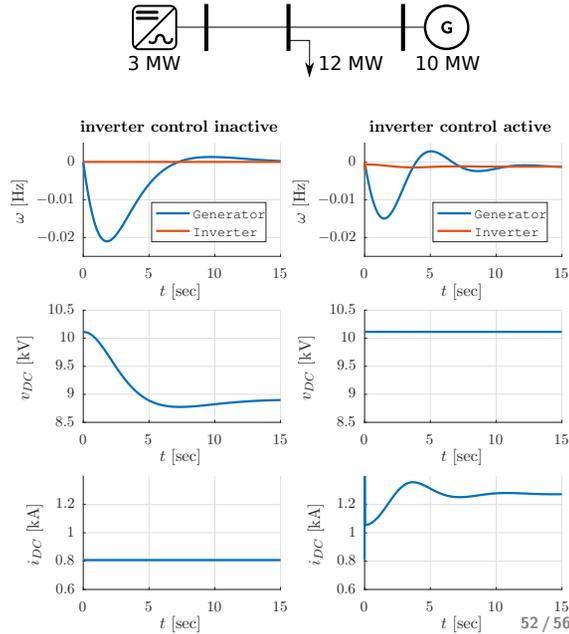
- generator & inverter
- impedance load
- 10% load increase at  $t=0$

### no inverter control:

- $\omega_m$  and  $i_{dc}$  constant
- power imbalance:  $\omega_G$ ,  $v_{dc}$
- governor stabilizes  $\omega_G$

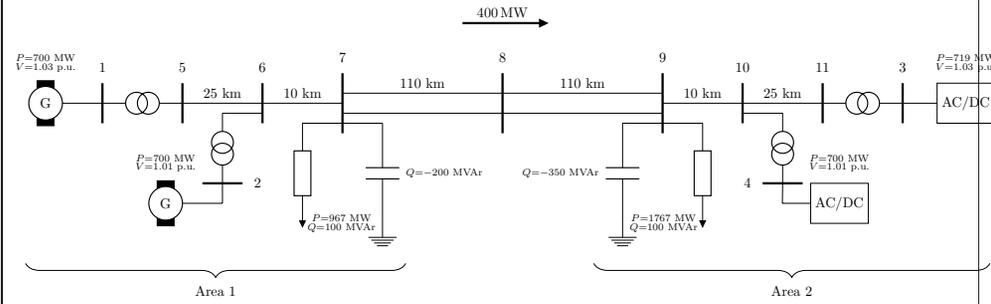
### controlled inverter:

- reduced peak in  $\omega_G$
- $v_{dc}$  stabilized via  $i_{dc}$
- $\omega_m$  and  $\omega_G$  synchronize



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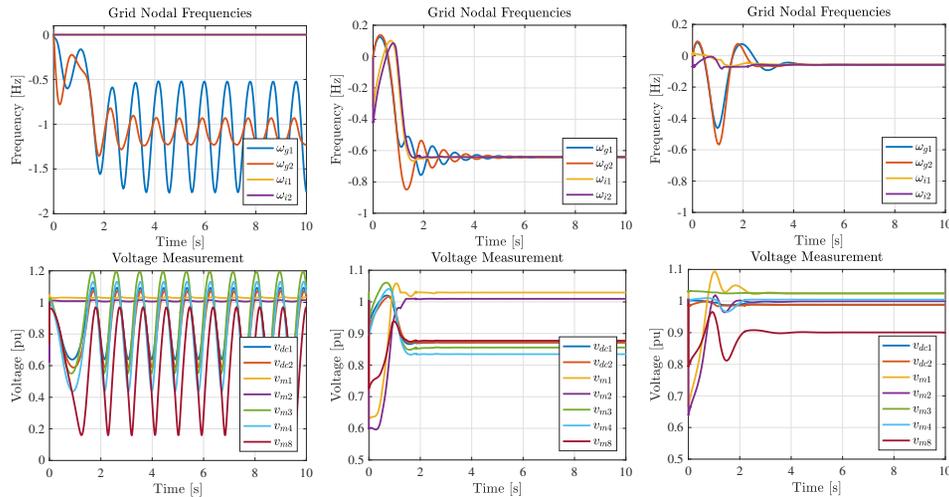
## Modified Kundur two-area case study



- standard line parameters and power flows
- synchronous machines with **droop control** and **voltage regulator**
- two **synchronous machines replaced by DC/AC inverters**
- all **dirt effects** modeled: saturation, nonlinearities, etc.
- simulation scenarios: **load step** ( $\times 2$ ) & **outage** of synchronous machine

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## Scenario: load step & different converter controllers



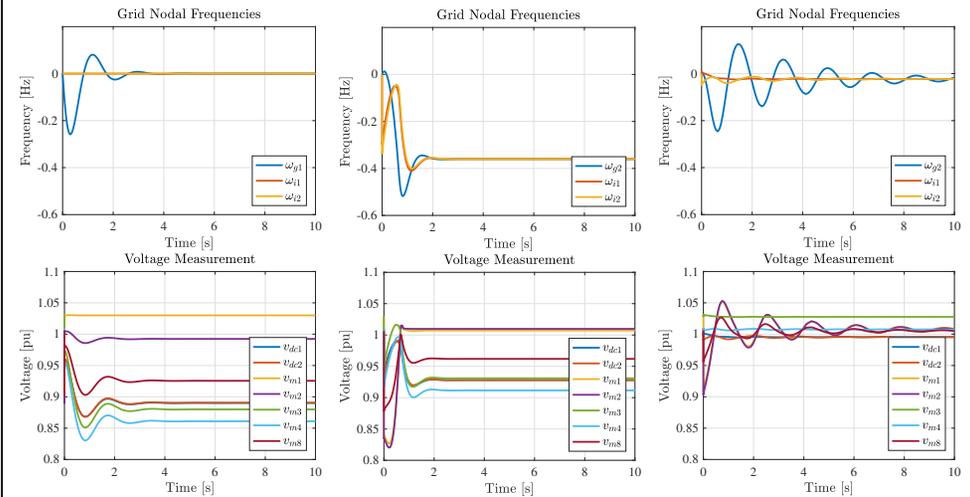
**feedforward control**  
(power point tracking)

**matching control &**  
un-tuned MIMO gains

**$H_2$ -optimal control**  
(all gains tuned)

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## Scenario: outage of a synchronous machine



**feedforward control**  
(power point tracking)

**matching control &**  
un-tuned MIMO gains

**$H_2$ -optimal control**  
(all gains tuned)

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# conclusions

## Conclusions on virtual inertia emulation

**Where** to do it?

- ①  $\mathcal{H}_2$ -optimal (non-convex) allocation
- ② numerical approach via gradient computation
- ③ closed-form results for cost of primary control

**How** to do it?

- ① down-sides of naive inertia emulation
- ② machine matching reveals power imbalance in DC voltage

**What else** to do?

- ① first-principle low-inertia system model
- ② nonlinear steady-state control specifications
- ③ reduction to tractable model for synthesis
- ④ first promising controller synthesis:  
internal model + matching +  $\mathcal{H}_2$  performance loops

No power without control!

