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Toward IT-Enabled Power Systems: Large-scale distributed control for tomorrow's electricity grid

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Outline

- Technological and social drivers in the electric energy systems
- Examples of what we can do
- Examples of what we cannot do (yet)
- Major challenge and opportunity for distributed control and estimation
- The key questions: Unique structure of complex electric energy systems and implications on what can be done in a distributed way and what cannot
- Possibility of plug-and-play standards for system dynamics?
- The challenge of innovation





Technological and social drivers in the electric energy systems

- Multiple objectives (reliability, efficiency and environmental)
- Portfolia of non-utility-owned resources
- Renewable resources and demand response
- Technology drivers: Cost-effective IT; GPS synchronized wide-area measurement systems (WAMS)
- Emergence of electricity markets
- Technologies for plug-and-play deployment





An illustrative future electric grid [21]



Fig. 5. Small example of the future electric energy system.





Conventional Power System



The next four slides drawn by Andrew Hsu.

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More Complex Power System



Future Power Systems



Potential Use of Real-Time Measurements for Data-Driven Control and Decision-Making (new)

- GPS synchronized measurements

 (synchrophasors ; power measurements at
 the customer side.
- The key role of off-line and on-line computing. Too complex to manage relevant interactions using models and software currently used for planning and operations.
- Our proposed design: Dynamic Monitoring and Decision Systems (DYMONDS)





New technical problem

- At present the physical energy system, including its communications and control, does not readily enable choice and multi-participant information exchange and processing for aligning often conflicting goals.
- It is essential to design intelligence for T&D operations to align these goals and consequently to make the most out of available resources while simultaneously offering robust and affordable quality of service.
- New flexible energy processing equipment will also be needed to handle increased variety and bandwidth of many participant requests.

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The Changing Role of Decision Making

Today's Decision Making	Tomorrow's Decision Making	
Deliver supply to meet given demand	Deliver power to support supply and demand schedules in which both supply and demand have costs assigned	
Deliver power assuming a predefined tariff	Deliver electricity at QoS determined by the customers willingness to pay	
Deliver power subject to predefined CO ₂ constraint	Deliver power defined by users' willingness to pay for CO ₂	
Deliver supply and demand subject to transmission congestion	Schedule supply, demand and transmission capacity (supply, demand and transmission costs assigned); transmission at value	
Use storage to balance fast varying supply and demand	Build storage according to customers willingness to pay for being connected to a stable grid	
Build new transmission lines for forecast demand	Build new transmission lines to serve customers according to their ex ante (longer-term) contracts for service	



Difficult Questions: Systematic ICT Design for Energy Systems

- Establish sufficiently accurate (but not too complex) modeling framework which captures interdependencies of energy Socio-Ecological Systems (SES), physical grid, ICT and governance system
- The key objective: Match attributes of energy SES, physical grid, ICT and governance system by designing around a given energy SES
- Interaction variables: A means of going from very coarse to granular and back
- ICT design to manage interaction variables (temporal, spatial and contextual)
- Interaction variables-based unifying framework for relating engineering design, financial and environmental objectives

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Vast temporal and spatial scales-engineering view

Interaction Variable Simulation for Real Power Problem in 5 Bus System



Vast temporal and spatial inter-dependencies (deeper-level)



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Interaction variables within a physical system

- Interaction variables --- variables associated with sub-systems which can only be affected by interactions with the other sub-systems and not by the actions taken at the subsystem level
- Dynamics of physical interaction variables zero when the system is disconnected from other sub-systems

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Coarse modeling of Socio-Ecological Systems (using SES interaction variables) [16]



Energy SES

- Resource system (RS)
- Generation (RUs)
- Electric Energy Users (Us)

Man-made Grid

- Physical network connecting energy generation and consumers
- Needed to implement interactions

Man-made ICT

- Sensors
- Communications
- Operations
- Decisions and control
- Protection
- Needed to align interactions

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ICT Design for New Architectures

Measuring, communicating and controlling (physical) grid interaction variables to shape the deeper-level interaction variables of SES systems to induce sustainable performance

The creation of "smart grids" is the application of information technology to the power system while coupling this with an understanding of the business and regulatory environment

Critical to the creation of "smart grids" is;

- development of models of the power system
- development of control software
- incorporation of security, communications, and safety

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systems

DYMONDS-enabled Physical Grid [14]





New challenge and opportunity for control, communications and control: What can be done in a distributed way

- Balance forecast supply and demand in systems with intermittent resourcesscheduling problem
- Multi-temporal approximations of multi-stage scheduling under uncertainties
- Multi-layered approximations of large networks (decomposition, aggregation)
- Proof-of-concept simulations using real-world data for Azores Islands

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Hierarchical assumptions may not hold



Basic idea of minimally coordinated self-dispatch— DYMONDS

- Distributed management of temporal interactions
- Different technologies perform look-ahead decision making given their unique temporal and spatial characteristics and system signal (price or system net demand); they create bids and are cleared by the layers of coordinators
- Putting Auctions to Work in Future Energy Systems
- We illustrate next a supply-demand balancing process in an energy system with wind, solar, conventional generation, elastic demand, and PHEVs.



Centralized MPC – Benchmark



Predictive models of load and intermittent resources are necessary.

Optimization objective: minimize the total generation cost.

Horizon: 24 hours, with each step of 5 minutes.

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Problem 3A: Centralized MPC-based Dispatch with Inelastic Demand

Solve :
$$\min_{P_G} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \sum_{i \in G} (C_i(P_{G_i}(k))), i \in G$$
 (39)

$$s.t.\sum_{i} P_{G_i}(k) = \sum_{z} \hat{L}_z(k), i \in G, z \in Z;$$
(40)

$$\hat{L}_z(k) = f_z(L_z(k-1)), z \in Z;$$
(41)

$$\hat{P}_{G_j}^{max}(k) = g_j(\hat{P}_{G_j}^{max}(k-1));$$
(42)

$$\hat{P}_{G_j}^{min}(k) = h_j(\hat{P}_{G_j}^{min}(k-1));$$
(43)

$$\hat{P}_{G_{j}}^{\min} \leq P_{G_{j}}(k) \leq \hat{P}_{G_{j}}^{\max}, j \in G_{r};$$
(44)

$$P_{G_{i}}^{\min} \leq P_{G_{i}}(k) \leq P_{G_{i}}^{\max}, i \in G \setminus G_{r};$$
(45)

$$|P_{G_{i}}(k+1) - P_{G_{i}}(k)| \leq R_{i}, i \in G; and,$$
(46)

$$|F(k)| \leq F^{\max}.$$
(47)

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Problem 3B: Centralized MPC-Based Dispatch with Elastic Load

Solve :
$$\min_{P_{G},L} \sum_{k=1}^{K} (\sum_{i \in G} (C_{i}(P_{G_{i}}(k))) - \sum_{z \in Z} (B_{z}(L_{z}(k))))),$$
(48)
 $s.t. \sum_{i \in G} P_{G_{i}}(k) = \sum_{z \in Z} L_{z}(k);$
(49)
 $\hat{P}_{G_{r}}^{max}(k) = g_{j}(\hat{P}_{G_{r}}^{max}(k-1)), r \in G_{r};$
(50)
 $\hat{P}_{G_{r}}^{min}(k) = g_{j}(\hat{P}_{G_{r}}^{min}(k-1)), r \in G_{r};$
(51)
 $\hat{P}_{G_{j}}^{min} \leq P_{G_{j}}(k) \leq \hat{P}_{G_{j}}^{max}, j \in G_{r};$
(52)
 $P_{G_{i}}^{min} \leq P_{G_{i}}(k) \leq P_{G_{i}}^{max}, i \in G \setminus G_{r};$
(53)
 $|P_{G_{i}}(k+1) - P_{G_{i}}(k)| \leq R_{i}, i \in G; and,$
(54)
 $|F(k)| \leq F^{max}.$
(55)

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DYMONDS for MPC-based supply function computation-

Given:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\lambda}(k+1) & \hat{\lambda}(k+2) & \cdots & \hat{\lambda}(k+K) \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve: $\max_{P_{G_i}(k)} \sum_{k+1}^{k+K} \hat{\lambda}(k)(P_{G_i}(k)) - (C_i(P_{G_i}(k)))$ (44)
s.t. $\hat{P}_{G_i}^{\max}(k) = g_i(\hat{P}_{G_i}^{\max}(k-1))$ (45)
 $\hat{P}_{G_i}^{\min}(k) = h_i(\hat{P}_{G_i}^{\min}(k-1))$ (46)
 $|P_{G_i}(k+1) - P_{G_i}(k)| \le R_i \text{ and } (47)$
 $\hat{P}_{G_i}^{\min} \le P_{G_i}(k) \le \hat{P}_{G_i}^{\max}.$ (48)



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Fig. 3. Required information exchange for DYMONDS-based dispatch.

DYMONDS Simulator IEEE RTS with Wind Power

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Conventional cost over 1 year *	Proposed cost over the year	Difference	Relative Saving
\$ 129.74 Million	\$ 119.62 Million	\$ 10.12 Million	7.8%



http://www.nyiso.com/public/market_data/load_data.jsp



BOTH EFFICIENCY AND RELIABILITY MET



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DYMONDS Simulator Impact of price-responsive demand

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DYMONDS Simulator Impact of Electric vehicles

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Optimal Control of Plug-in-Electric Vehicles: Fast vs. Smart



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Examples of what we cannot do (yet)

Optimal power transfers

Corrective resource management, including adaptive voltage support

-nonlinear AC power flows

- Efficient stabilization and regulation in response to deviations from forecast
- Efficient management of reserves; major challenge[25]
- Central generation vs. distributed energy resources (DERs)

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Dependence of reserve requirements on standards for dynamics









Alleviate Interface Congestion

Imports can be increased by the following:

- More reliable dynamic rating of line limits
- Optimal generator voltages
- Optimal settings of grid equipment (CBs, OLTCs, PARs, DC lines, SVCs)
- Demand-side management (identifying load pockets with problems)
- Optimal selection of new equipment (type, size, location)
- Natural reduction of losses, reduction of VAR consumption, reduction of equipment stress




Dependence of feasible interconnection transfer on scheduling practices—real opportunities for IT

- Base case for the given NPCC system in 2002 and the 2007 projected load
- Case #1-the same, except the entire real power generation was re-scheduled in order to support an increased wheel from PJM (Alburtis) through NYISO to IESO (Milton) –the maximum feasible wheel 1,200MW
- Case #2-the wheel from PJM (Waldwick) through NYISO to IESO (Milton) –the maximum wheel feasible 100MW

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Effects of Voltage Scheduling in Support of Higher Power Transfers

- With the voltage scheduling optimized within +/- .03pu range, w/o any real power rescheduling the maximum power transfer increased to 2,900MW into both Alburtis and Waldwick;
- With the voltage scheduling optimized within +/- .05pu the feasible transfer increased to 3,100MW at both Alburtis and Waldwick.
- With both voltages optimized within +/-.05pu and real power rescheduled by the NYISO, the maximum wheel possible around 8,800MW





Effects of Phase Angle Regulators (PARs)

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Scheduling of the Tie-Lines between the Control Areas

- Case #1—with PARs scheduling within their maximum capacity limits, wheel of 8,800MW possible by using real power generation only.
- Case #2—with PARs , the maximum wheel into Waldwick without re-scheduling real power inside NYISO is 500MW (a 400MW increase)
- PARs HAVE HUGE EFFECTS ON FEASIBLE TRANSFERS ACROSS CONTROL AREAS.
- MAKING THESE MOST OPTIMAL AT THE INTERCONNECTION LEVEL REQUIRES ON-LINE COORDINATION ACROSS THE CONTROL AREAS.
- Thermal limits for PARs are weather dependent and therefore require reliable DLR units to rely on with confidence



Major transient stability problems [5,6]

- A 38-bus, 29 machine equivalent dynamic model of the NPCC system
- It was shown to reproduce a multi-machine oscillation that occurred at .75Hz, involving groups of machines in NYC (modeled as Sprainbrook generator) and the northeastern part of New York State, as well as parts of Canadian power system (modelled primarily by the Oswego and Chateaguay units);
- The fault scenario selected for this test was a five-cycle threephase short circuit of the Selkrik/Oswego transmission line carrying 1083MW. The oscillation grows until the Chateaguay generator loses synchronism, followed shortly by the Oswego unit.



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Issues with ensuring AC synchronism

- Many root causes of instabilities in today's industry (large equipment failures, large deviations in system load away from the conditions for which the primary controllers are tuned) [5,6]
- Newly evolving transient stability problems in response to sudden prolonged wind gusts [7,8]

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Small-signal robustness problems [9,10]



Rotor angles -- base case for Selkrik fault





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Voltage response with conventional controllers-base case Selkrik fault





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Bus voltages with new controllers [5,6]



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Rotor angle response with distributed controllers (FBLC+ODSS) [5,6]-an early example of flat control design



EE5G

DEGREES

Nov 2005

Major challenge and opportunity for distributed control and estimation

- Can we have plug-and-play distributed control to support distributed scheduling (feedforward)?
- Sensing, communications to ensure dynamic observability and controllability
- The key question: How distributed can dynamic controllers and observers become?





Modeling Dynamics of Electric Energy Systems

Domains and variables.

	Effort e	Flow <i>f</i>	Generalized Displacement q	Generalized Momentum p
Electric	Voltage V [V]	Current / [A]	Charge q [C]	Flux linkage ϕ [V-s]
Translation	Force F [N]	Velocity v [m/s]	Displacement x [m]	Momentum p [N-s]
Rotation	Torque r [N-m]	Angular velocity ω [rad/s]	Angular displacement θ [rad]	Angular momentum b [N-m-s]
Fluid	Pressure P [N/m ²]	Volume flow Q [m ³ /s]	Volume V [m ³]	Pressure momentum Γ [N-s/m ²]
Thermodynamic	Temperature T [K]	Entropy flow f _s [W/K]	Entropy S [J/K]	—



Table from: D. Jeltsema and J.M.A. Scherpen. Multidomain modeling of nonlinear networks and systems. Control Systems Magazine, Aug. 2009

Structure of Interconnected Power Systems [8,10]

At the System Level



S_K The K-th subsystem K=1,2,...N

Interconnected by transmission lines

Modeling covers

- Components
- Network coupling constraints
- Subsystems
- Entire system

At the Subsystem Level





Dynamical component



Internal disturbance source



External disturbance source

Interconnected by transmission lines





Important model structure Subsystem

$$\underline{\dot{x}}^{K} = A^{K} \underline{x}^{K} + B^{K} \underline{u}_{gl}^{K} + F_{in}^{K} \underline{d}_{in}^{K} + F_{ex}^{K} \underline{d}_{ex}^{K}$$
(4)

Entire system

$$\underline{\boldsymbol{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\boldsymbol{x}}^1 \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{x}}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{x}}^N \end{bmatrix}, \ \underline{\boldsymbol{u}}_{gl} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\boldsymbol{u}}_{gl}^1 \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{u}}_{gl}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{u}}_{gl}^N \end{bmatrix}, \ \underline{\boldsymbol{d}}_{in} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\boldsymbol{d}}_{in}^1 \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{d}}_{in}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{d}}_{in}^N \end{bmatrix}$$

N Total number of subsystems

$$\dot{oldsymbol{x}}=oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{x}+oldsymbol{B} oldsymbol{\underline{u}}_{gl}+oldsymbol{F}_{in}oldsymbol{\underline{d}}_{in}$$
 (5)





Conventional AGC Standard

Fundamental assumptions



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Our proposed structure-based approach [8,10]

Minimal coordination by using an aggregation-based notion of dynamic "interactions variable"







Existence of interaction variable

Model-based derivation for interactions variable (IntV)

$$\underline{\dot{x}}_{s}^{K} = A_{ss}^{K} \underline{x}_{s}^{K} + A_{sp}^{K} \underline{P}_{T}^{K} + F_{s,in}^{K} \underline{d}_{in}^{K} + F_{s,ex}^{K} \underline{d}_{ex}^{K}$$

Structure of any Subsystem model

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Important property: A_{ss}^K structurally singular with (N-1) rank deficiency due to linear dependence of power network constraints.

$$\exists \mathbf{T}_{a}^{K}, s.t. \mathbf{T}_{a}^{K} \mathbf{A}_{ss}^{K} = 0$$



Dynamics of interactions variable (IntV) and its physical interpretation

IntV is defined as a linear combination of internal states

$$egin{aligned} &z_a^K = oldsymbol{T}_a^K oldsymbol{x}_s^K \ &\dot{z}_a^K = oldsymbol{T}_a^K oldsymbol{A}_{sp}^K oldsymbol{P}_T^K + oldsymbol{T}_a^K oldsymbol{F}_{in}^K oldsymbol{d}_{in}^K + oldsymbol{T}_a^K oldsymbol{F}_{ex}^K oldsymbol{d}_{ex}^K \end{aligned}$$

Only driven by local control and internal and external disturbances. Represents the interaction of the subsystem to the entire system



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Physical interpretation of IntV



Stored energy Excursion on stored energy causes deviations on frequency

Hypothesis

- IntV contains key information to represent the subsystem's response
- Bringing IntV to zero the consequently returns system frequency to the original equilibrium





IntV-based minimal coordination Feedback control design for E-AGC

Remark

 T^K_a is a non-invertible vector, so exchange of IntV will not reveal the confidential information







Possible ways of adapting primary controllers

- More adaptive decentralized controllers (various nonlinear high-gain controllers—sliding mode control; feedbacklinearizing control (FBLC); observation decoupled state space combined with FBLC logic)
- A combination of coordinating signals and change of logic (coordinating signals identifying when the system response is qualitatively different and it requires change in control logic in order to stabilize dynamics)
- NONE OF THE CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTED CONTROLLERS ARE ADAPTIVE except the multi-modal Hydro-Quebec PSS)

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Possible role of enhanced control during abnormal conditions [5,6]

Adjust logic of primary controllers to avoid instability problems;

Systematic coordination of the remaining resources to prevent steady-state imbalances and additional congestion (adjust settings on voltage support equipment, adjust power generated to avoid imbalances) [12,21]





Summary of potential of high-gain controllers

- It is possible that these controllers could avoid loss of synchronism while the conventional controllers can not
- The same controllers are ideal for preventing subsynchronous resonance [3].
- Therefore critical to consider while designing SPS of the future
- No fast communications required. Therefore simple to implement.
- Major observation: Nonlinear high-gain feedback cancels interactions with the rest of the system and makes the system LTI on closed loop.

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Issues with Large Wind Disturbances [7,8]-unstable interactions with the rest of the system

Types of large disturbances causing transient instabilities

High wind surges in Flores Island





Using FACTS Devices as Temporary Energy Storage



Potential of sliding mode control using flywheels (Flores) –the same as FACTS



- Switches open and close at very high frequency relative to rest of the grid
- Large capacitor (C_L) serves to keep the voltage across the wind generator nearly constant
- The polarity of the small capacitor (C_s) changes to control i_{qs}





Use Flywheel for Frequency Stabilization

Include dynamics of the entire system

Set i_{qs}*=0A in order to stabilize the disturbance



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Issues with small signal stability [9-11]

- Today's approach is to tune individual primary controllers (governors, DFIG of wind power plants, excitation systems) so that they are stand-alone stable for the assumed ``worst-case" system condition.
- All controllers are constant gain decentralized PID controllers responding to the local output variables (voltage magnitude, frequency).
- No reliance on communications.
- Small signal stability analysis run for the closed-loop system dynamics to ensure that linearized system dynamics are stable.
- Missed opportunity to design PMU-based primary control for ensuring small signal stabilization (with minimal communications).

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Flores island system





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Critical role of primary control

Unstable Flores System without Governor and Excitation Control



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Critical role of excitation control

Weak connection, unstable system due to insufficient reactive power support



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Dynamics of interaction variables between the areas—Sao Miguel System



21M. Ilic "The Tale of Two Green Islands in the Azores Archipelago," Chapter 2 of Engineering IT-Enabled Sustainable Electrony Ion Services : The Tale of Two Low-Cost Green Azores Islands.

Key notion of interaction variable dynamics and their control

Interactions variables of area-1 and area-2



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Controlled IntV v.s. uncontrolled IntV





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Issues with intra-area dynamics

Other states [still oscillations]





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Given technology, comparison of regular and advanced AGC (LQR) –a sample

Case 1: Zero Mean Wind Disturbances (Good Wind Prediction)

Wind in this case is operating at its full capacity (Pw = 0.6 MW) and the prediction can be accurate.



Figure 1.1 Zero Mean Wind Disturbances and 5% Standard Deviation around the Operating Point in 10 minutes.

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(d) AGC with Diesel and Flywheel



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(d) AGC with Diesel and Flywheel

Comparative Simulation Studies--Cost



Remarks

- AGC costs much higher; E-AGC costs close to the LQR-based method
- The results suggest that E-AGC is the most practical and costeffective among the compared frequency regulation methods

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Issues with QoS for voltage

Scheduled load value and the disturbance around the value







Automatic Voltage Control (AVC) VC for the NPCC with PMUs

Simulations to show the worst voltage deviations in response to the reactive power load fluctuations (3 hours)



2 Pilot Points Control Performs Better Than 1 Pilot Point!





Use of on-line fast and accurate measurements—Future [12]



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Northeastern Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) System

Take NPCC system as ONE AREA; then put 1, 2 and 3 PMUs at pilot buses [13]







Multi-layered smart balancing authorities [14]



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Concluding remarks

- Much progress toward distributed scheduling and congestion management
- Governance issues: Who manages the temporal and spatial risk? Implications on how much of distributed scheduling will be deployed.
- Need for large-scale scheduling algorithms under uncertainties, multi-temporal and multi-spatial constraints
- AN IMPORTANT NEW QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE OPTIMAL SCHEDULES TO MAXIMIZE POWER TRANSFERS IN ONTARIO WITHOUT COAL PLANTS
- Distributed control design a manageable challenge; huge opportunity for power-electronics controllers

Meed standards for dynamics

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