

Integration of Advanced Inverters for Increased PV Penetration

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in the national interest*

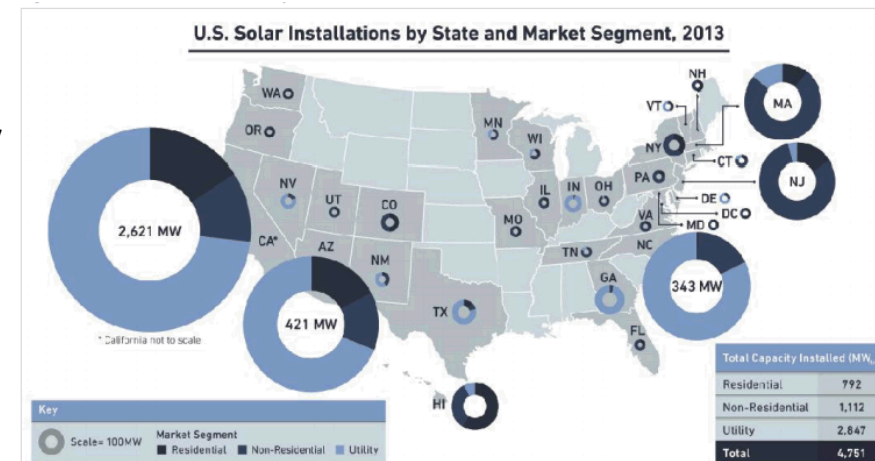
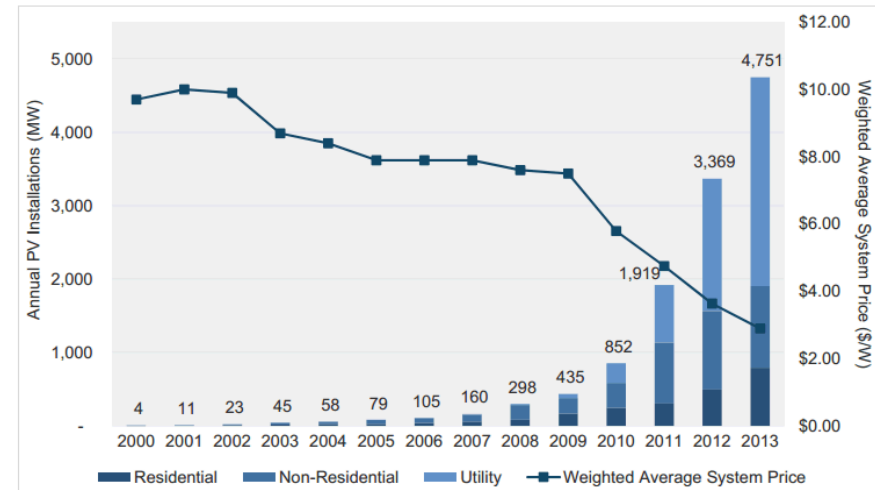


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- The Challenge
 - Total installed capacity of PV is growing fast in the US, especially at the distribution level
 - Technical challenges exist for maintaining power quality & grid resiliency
 - Unless mitigated, these challenges will make it increasingly difficult and costly to continue adding renewable energy to the grid
- Advanced inverters are a big part of the solution in the U.S.
 - Situation in the U.S., IEEE 1547
 - California's Electric Rule 21 new proposed requirements
 - Projects:
 - Development of Standardized Test Protocols
 - Anti-islanding research at Sandia
 - Distributed Controls research at Sandia

PV capacity is growing fast in the US

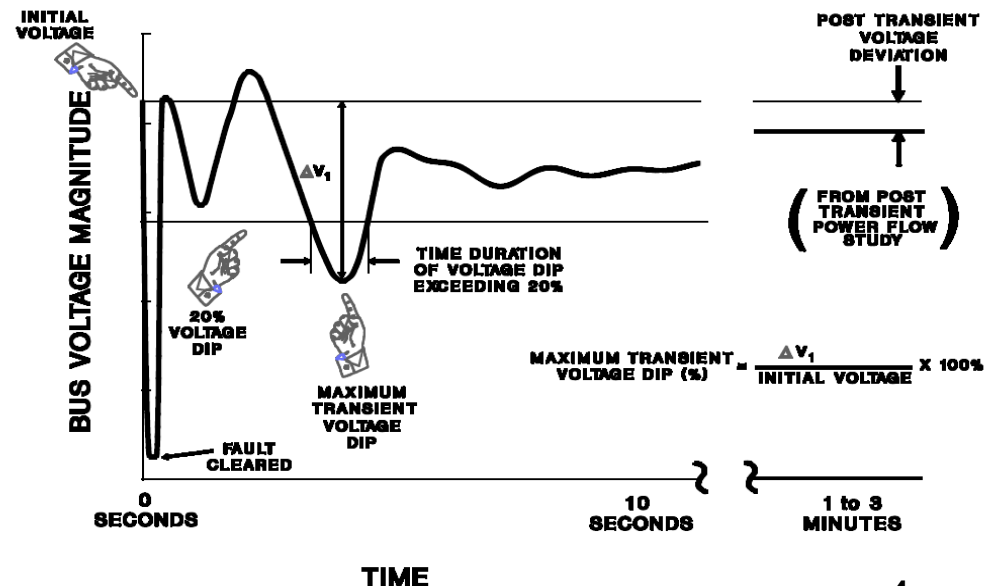
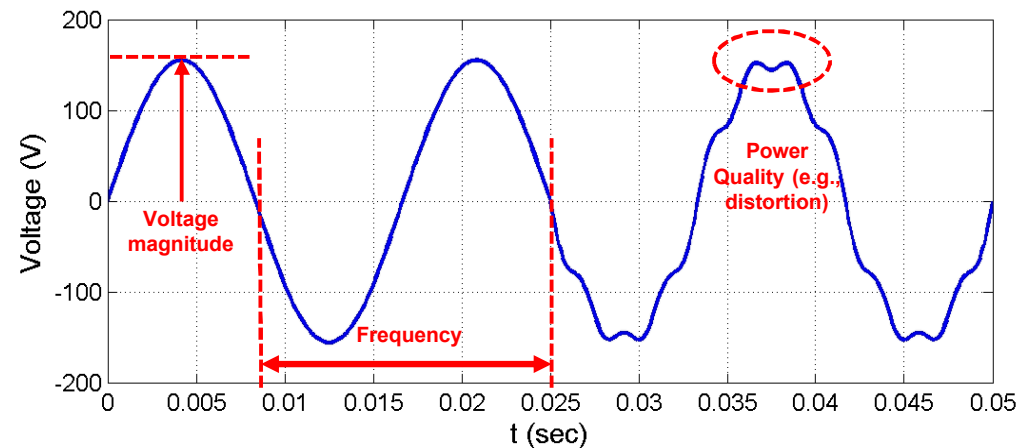
- 4.7 GW in 2013, 12.1 GW total
 - Installed capacity is projected to triple by 2016!
 - Highest growth rate expected in distribution-connected PV
- High-Pen PV Areas
 - California
 - ~2 GW of distribution-connected PV
 - Aiming for 12 GW of DG (mostly PV) by 2020! [1-2]
 - Hawaii
 - Highest penetration at the balancing area level (island grids)
 - Half of distribution circuits are at 100% of daytime minimum load



Source: SEIA/GTM Research, US Solar Market Insight 2013 Year in Review

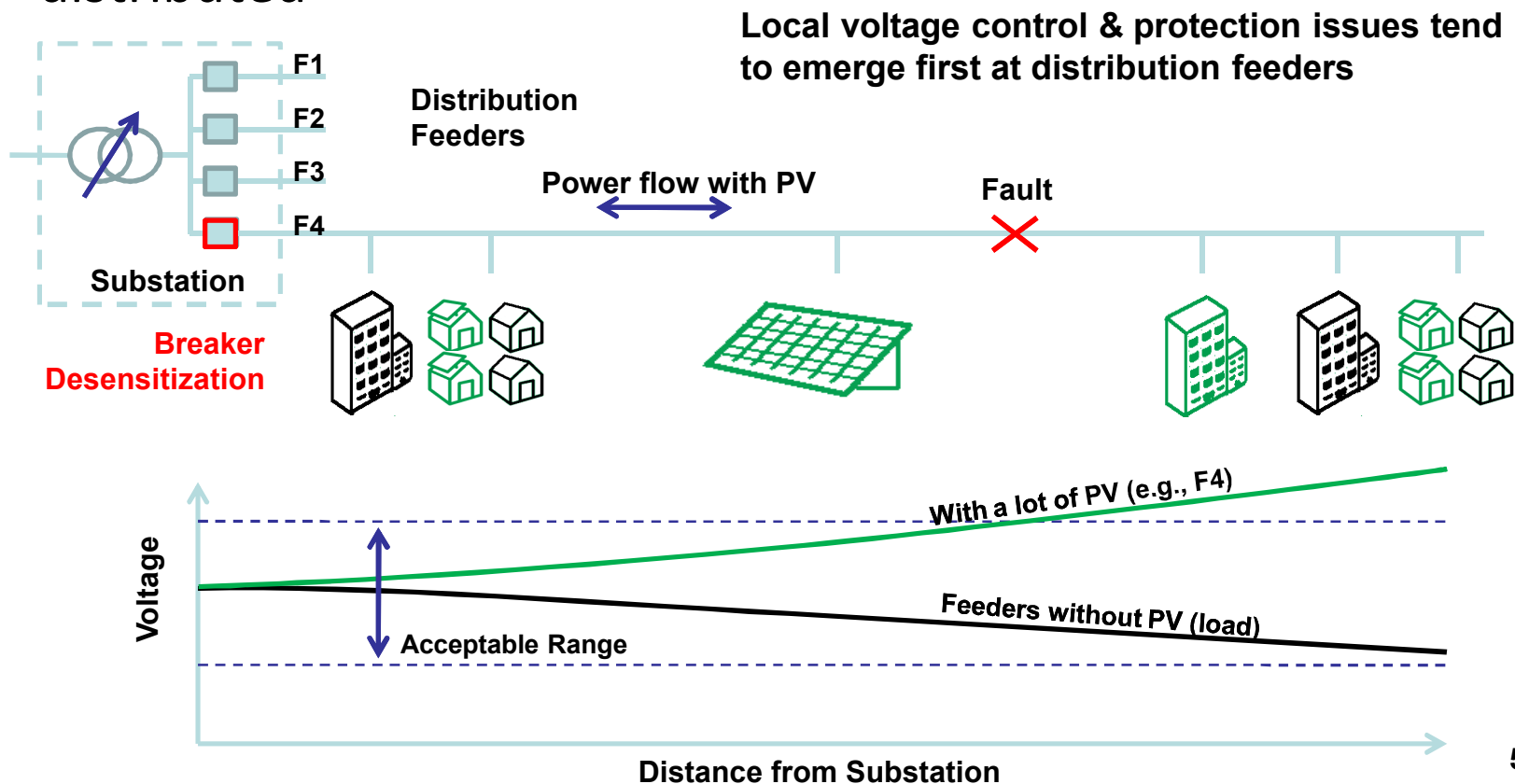
Electric Power must meet performance requirements

- Voltage & frequency control
- Protection
 - How to tell when/where there is a problem (e.g., fault)
 - Ensure safety, prevent damage to equipment, avoid cascading
- System stability
 - How voltage and frequency recover from a disturbance
- Continuity of service
 - Benchmark: 1-day cumulative outage per customer in a 10-year span (99.97% reliable)



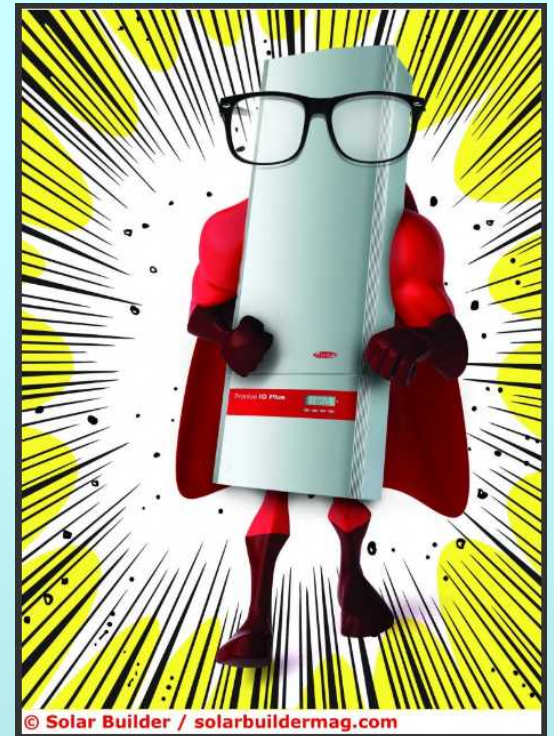
High-Pen PV affects grid performance

- Synchronous Generator Characteristics: steady, dispatchable, includes inertia, speed governing, excitation control, centralized
- PV characteristics: variable, non-dispatchable, inverter-based, distributed



Advanced Inverters are up to the challenge

- It can become increasingly difficult and expensive to integrate high-pen PV [3-6]
- A big part of the solution: deployment of advanced inverters in future distribution-connected PV systems [7-8]
 - Mitigate high-pen impacts and enhance value of PV to owner and grid
- Definition [8-9]: Advanced inverters...
 - Actively support voltage and frequency by modulating the output
 - Have high tolerance to grid disturbances
 - Interact with the system via communications



...Faster than a tap changer

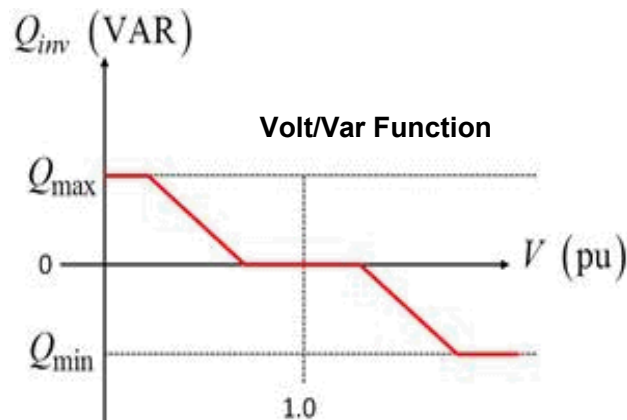
...More powerful than a rotating machine

...Able to leap deep voltage sags in a single bound

Courtesy of B. Lydic, Fronius

Advanced Inverters Enable High-Pen PV

- Advanced inverters allow for higher PV penetration
 - It has been shown that PV inverters with Volt/Var capability can double a distribution circuit's PV hosting capacity (see illustration below) [10]
 - Voltage and frequency ride-through (V/FRT) capability is required to maintain bulk system reliability with high penetration PV [11]



- Sandia collaborates with EPRI and NREL to analyze the benefits of advanced inverters in California

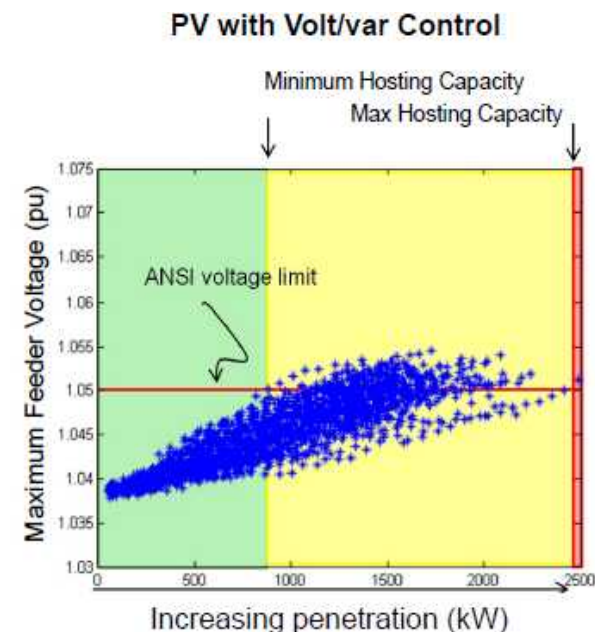
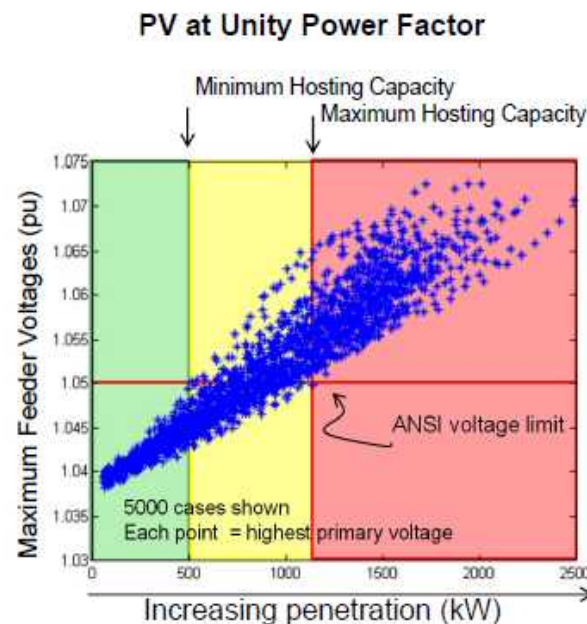







Illustration courtesy of B. Seal, EPRI [10]



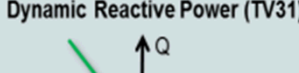
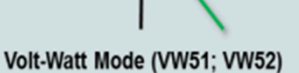
Advanced Inverter functions must be defined and standardized

- Define functions (e.g., Q vs. V) and how they are specified
- Describe how the functions are implemented [8-9, 12]
 - Autonomous: Inverter response to local voltage and frequency conditions
 - Commanded: Remote control (e.g., on/off) & configure autonomous behavior



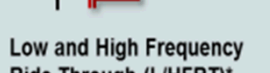

Frequency Support

- Adjust Maximum Active Power (INV2)

- Request Active Power from Storage (INV4)

- Signal for Charge/Discharge (INV5)

- Frequency-Watt Mode (FW21, FW22)

- Watt-Power Factor (WP41, WP42)


Voltage Support

- Adjust Power Factor (INV3)

- Volt-Var Mode (VV11, VV12, VV13)

- Dynamic Reactive Power (TV31)

- Volt-Watt Mode (VW51; VW52)


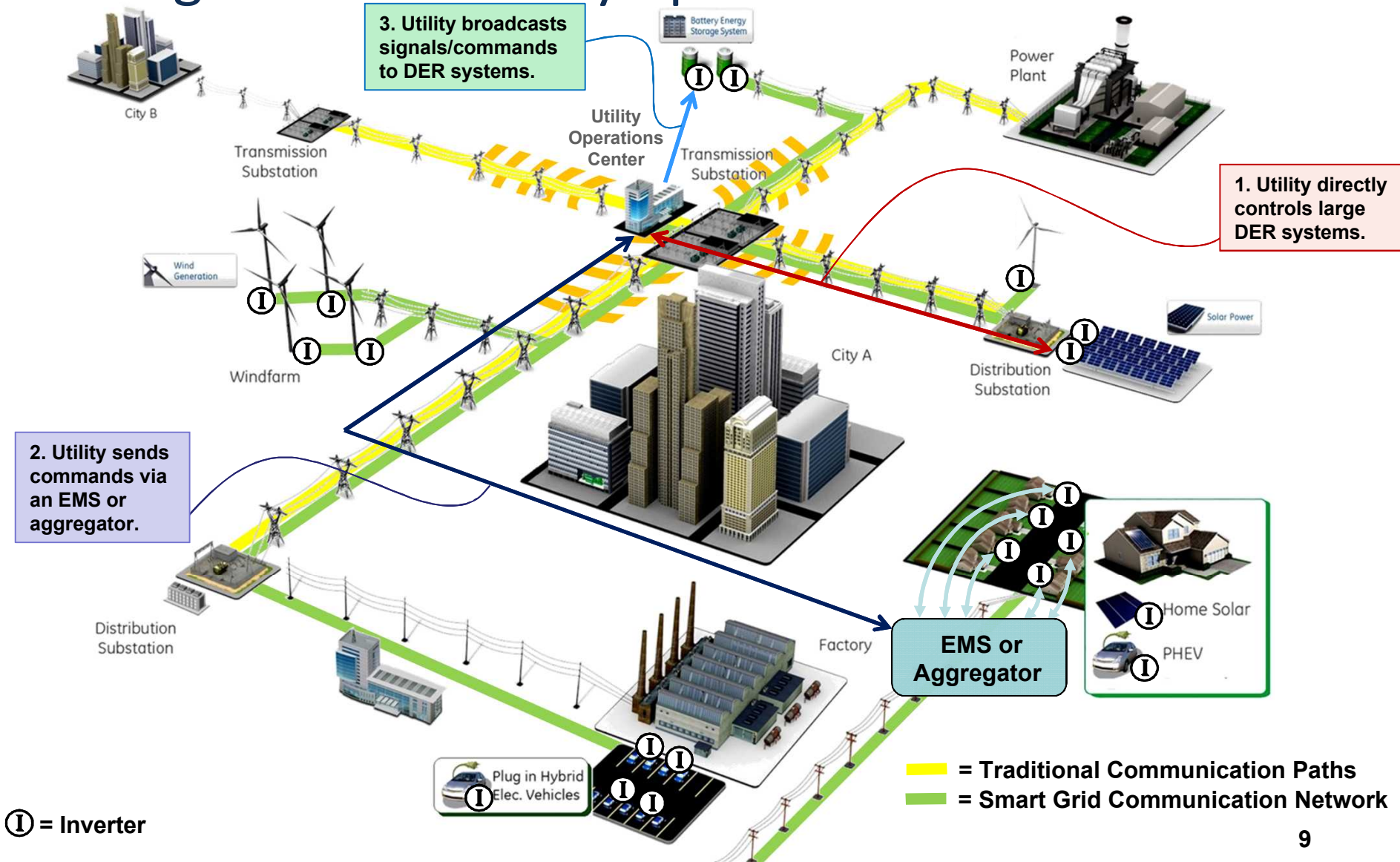
Grid Protection (Response to Disturbances)

- Connect/Disconnect (INV1)

- Low and High Voltage Ride Through (L/HVRT)

- Low and High Frequency Ride Through (L/HFRT)*

- Temperature Mode Behavior (TMP)


- In 2009, EPRI and Sandia initiated an effort to develop industry consensus on advanced inverter functions definitions, part of SEGIS effort
- Effort covers inverter-based DER (including PV and storage)
- The product became part of the IEC 61850-90-7 technical report

Advanced functions as defined in IEC TC 61850-90-7 [7].

Advanced Inverter functions must be integrated into utility operations

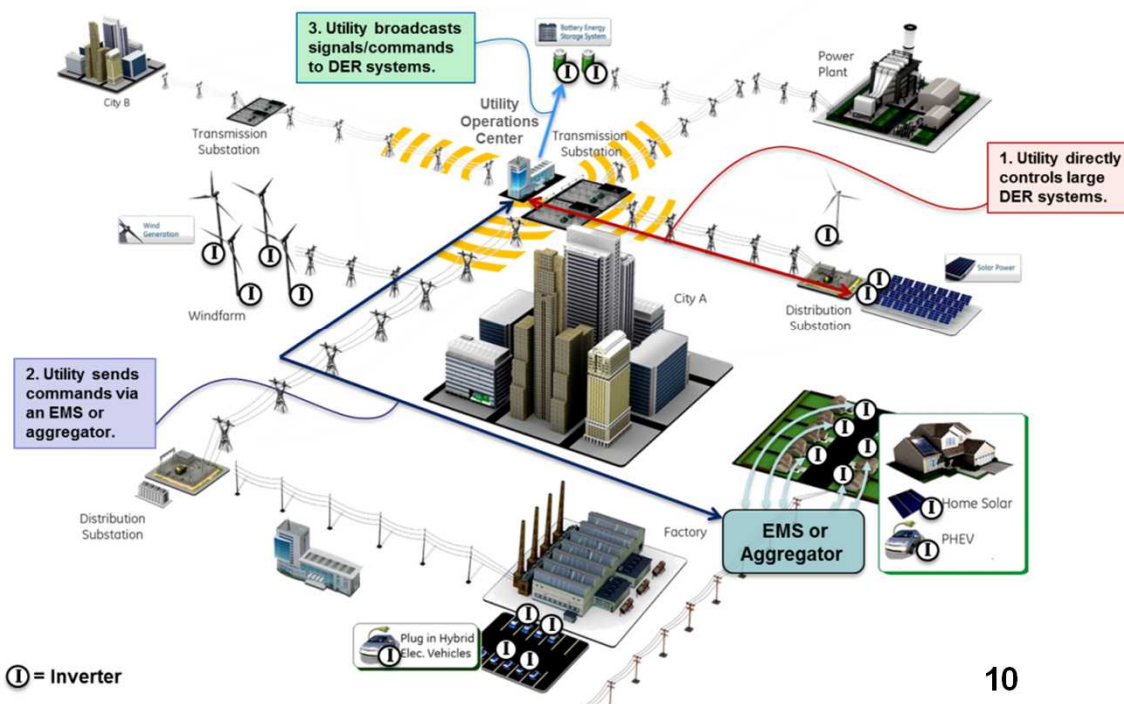


Necessary communications/control architecture still presents challenges

- How will utility, aggregators, smart inverters interact?
- Competing communications solutions
 - Protocols: DNP3, SEP 2.0, IEC 61850, Modbus, OpenADR, SunSpec
 - Medium: Wi-Fi, PLC, Ethernet
 - Method: direct, broadcast

- Open challenges
 - Interoperability
 - Cybersecurity
 - Optimization
 - Utility Integration

➤ Sandia is collaborating with key stakeholders, including NIST, to address interoperability and cybersecurity gaps.



Adv. functions vs. Interconnection Std.

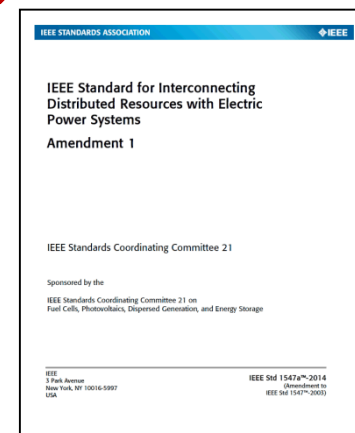
- IEEE Std. 1547 is the US-wide Distributed Resource (DR) technical standard

DER must not participate in V/f regulation (“get out of the way”) when there are grid disturbances.

| IEEE 1547-2008 | IEEE 1547a-2014 |
|--|--|
| Shall not regulate voltage [no volt/var allowed] | May participate in voltage regulation [no specification] |
| Shall not regulate frequency [no freq/watt allowed] | May participate in frequency regulation [no specification] |
| Restrictive voltage and frequency must-trip range [opposite of V/FRT] | More widely adjustable voltage and frequency must-trip range [No V/FRT requirement] |

DER may assist with voltage and frequency regulation with Electric Power System Operator approval.

- Opens the door for jurisdictions to create different interconnection requirements
 - Will likely lead to lack of harmonization and over-specification
 - CPUC Electric Rule 21, PJM, HECO, others starting to develop standards addressing advanced functions



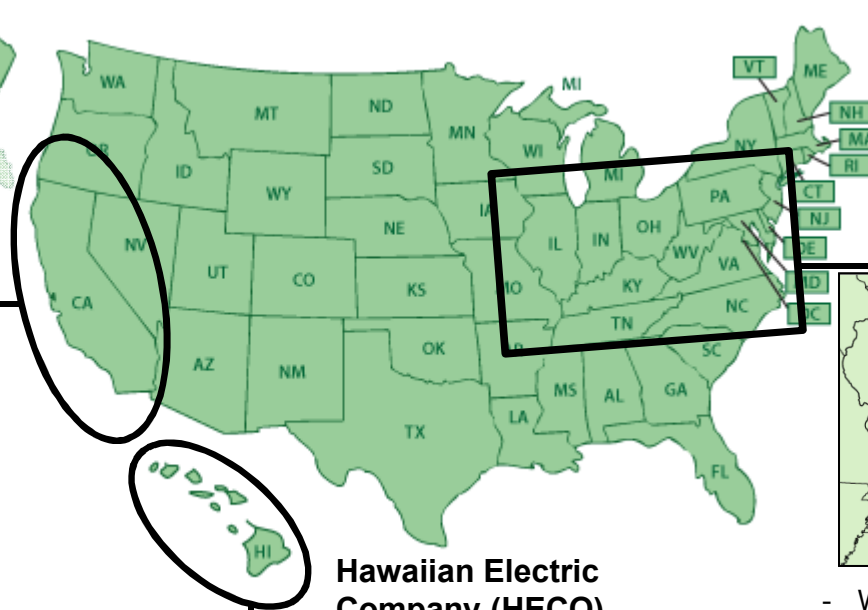
Smart Inverter Requirements in USA

California Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs):

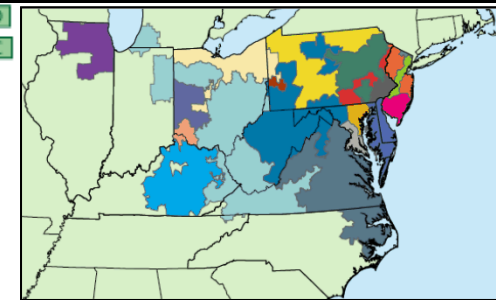
Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)
Southern California Edison (SCE)
San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)



- Serve ~68% of the load in CA
- Governed by California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and California Energy Commission (CEC) Electric Rule 21 statute which states the technical requirements for distributed-generation resources to interconnect to the California grid
- Likely to include MANY autonomous and communication-enabled advanced grid functions in the next 1-3 years



PJM Interconnection LLC (regional transmission organization)



Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO)

- Serves 95% of the state's 1.4 million residents
- Many customers cannot connect their PV systems to the grid because the penetration levels are >100%*
- HECO investigating advanced functions in PV inverters, communications, and mandatory voltage and frequency ride-through requirements

- World's largest competitive wholesale electricity market
- 830 companies
- 60 million customers
- 167 gigawatts of generating capacity
- Closely watching CA developments in Smart Inverters – expected to adopt many of the same interconnection requirements

All eyes on CA right now.

CA CPUC Rule 21 Status

- Jan, 2014: Smart Inverter Working Group (SIWG) consisting of ~230 experts from gov., utilities, PV manufacturers, etc. created “Recommendations for Updating the Technical Requirements For Inverters in Distributed Energy Resources”
 - **Phase 1: Autonomous functions**, ride-throughs, ramp rates, volt/var, etc. **Approved by CPUC – Jan 2015.**
 - **Phase 2: Include communication capabilities**, add data model, cybersecurity, etc. **Submitted to CPUC – March 2015.**
 - **Phase 3: Add advanced inverter functionalities requiring communications**, status reporting, connect/disconnect, limit real power, etc. **Currently being edited by SIWG.**
- Phase 3 interconnection requirements contain the following advanced functions:
 - Anti-islanding
 - Low/High Voltage Ride-Through
 - Low/High Frequency Ride-Through
 - Dynamic Volt/Var operations
 - Normal Ramp rates
 - Fixed power factor
 - Reconnect by “soft-start”

Development of Rule 21 Certification Procedures

- Sandia is helping develop the **certification procedures** for the Rule 21 functions with the UL 1741 Standards Technical Panel.
- UL 1741 protocols are different than the original Sandia Test Protocols for IEC 61850-90-7 functions because they do not have interoperability requirements but they do have pass/fail criteria.

Draft Rule 21 Phase 1 certification procedures created with the UL 1741 STP



| Function | Function or Communication Verification |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Anti-Islanding Protection (AI) |
| 2 | Low/High Voltage Ride-through (L/HVRT) |
| 3 | Low/High Frequency Ride-through (L/HFRT) |
| 4 | Volt-Var Mode with Watt-Priority |
| 5 | Ramp Rates |
| 6 | Fixed Power Factor |
| 7 | Soft Start |
| 8 | Communication Interface |
| 9 | Transport Protocols |
| 10 | Data Model |
| 11 | Mapping to Application Protocols |
| 12 | Transport Cyber Security |
| 13 | User Cyber Security |
| 14 | Monitor Alarms |
| 15 | Monitor DER Status and Output |
| 16 | Limit Maximum Real Power |
| 17 | Connect/Disconnect |
| 18 | Provide DER Information at Interconnection/Startup |
| 19 | Initiate Periodic Tests of Software and Patches |
| 20 | Schedule Output Limits at PCC |
| 21 | Schedule DER Functions |
| 22 | Schedule Storage |
| 23 | Frequency-Watt Mode |
| 24 | Voltage-Watt Mode |
| 25 | Dynamic Current Support |
| 26 | Limit Maximum Real Power |
| 27 | Set Real Power |
| 28 | Smooth Frequency Deviations |

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Rule 21 advanced inverter/DER functions, as recommended by the Smart Inverter Working Group in Jan 2014

Development of Testing Standards is Critical

- SIRFN collaboration on testing standards is important to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy around the world.
 - Urgency in U.S. to certify inverters for new requirements – both electrical performance and communications
 - Need advanced inverter test protocols for CPUC/CEC California Rule 21
 - Sandia protocols act as basis for updates to UL 1741
- **Final product:** robust consensus certification procedure for advanced inverter functions for adoption by international standards organizations
- *Note: this is similar to another Sandia project with the Korea Electrotechnology Research Institute in Changwon, Korea.*

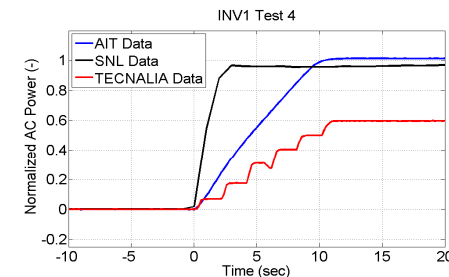
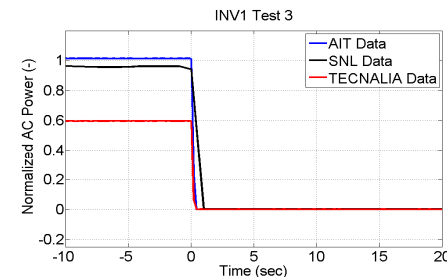
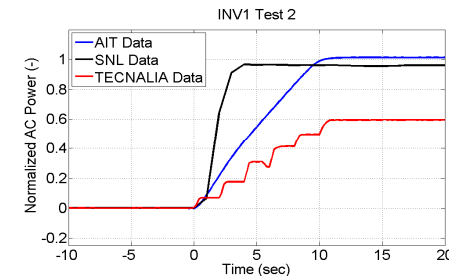
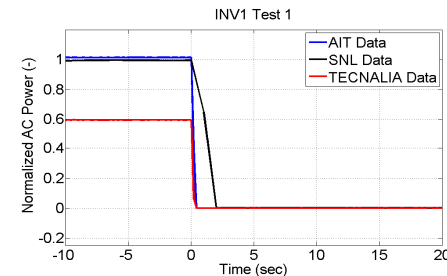


Example Test Protocol (Procedure)

- The Sandia Test Protocols test matrix for the connect/disconnect (INV1) command.
 - Seven tests with different operating points and parameters.

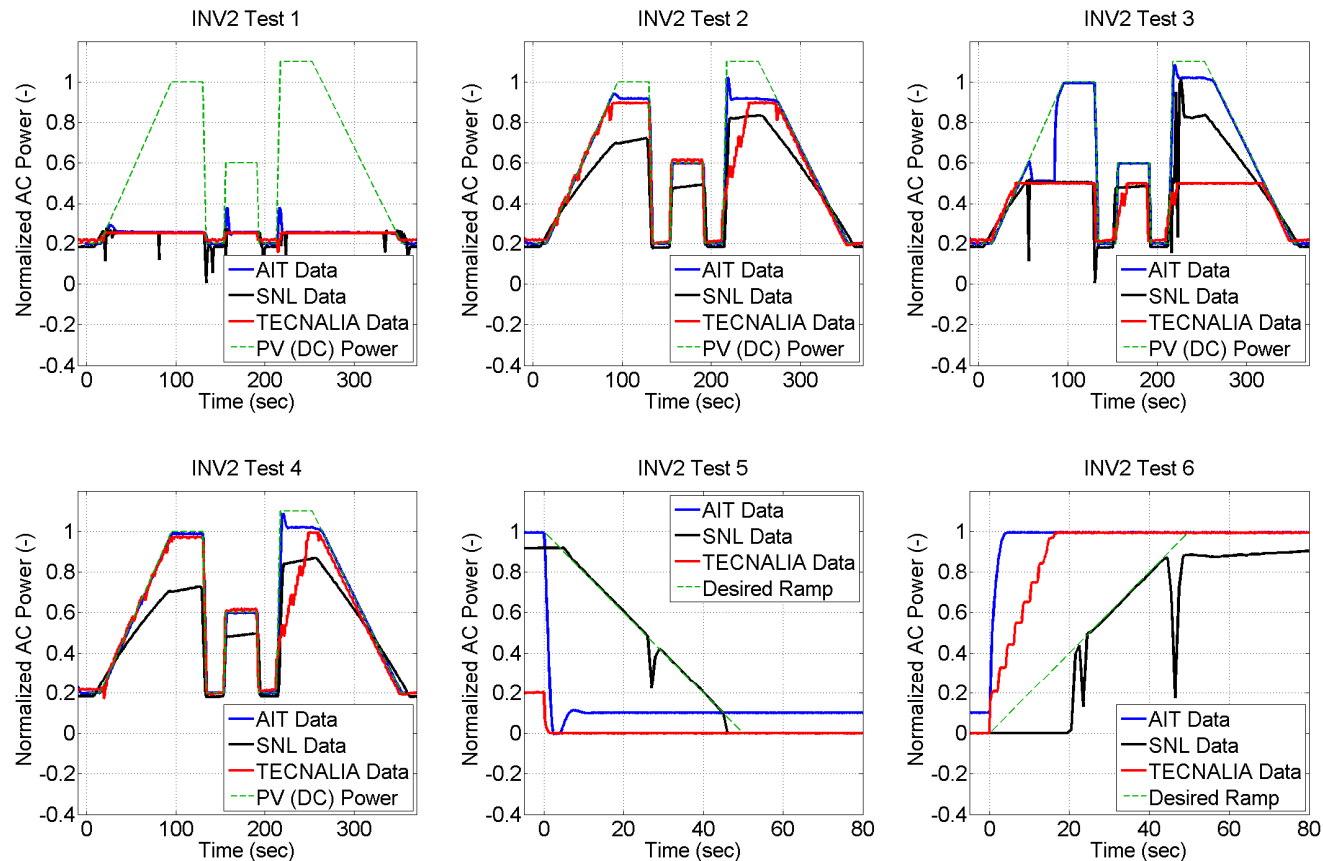


| Test | EUT Initial Operating State | Command | Time Window (sec) | Timeout Period (sec) |
|------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | >50% rated power, unity power factor | Disconnect 1 | Default (e.g., 0) | Default (e.g., 0) |
| 2 | Inverter off | Connect 1 | Default (e.g., 0) | Default (e.g., 0) |
| 3 | >50% rated power, unity power factor | Disconnect 2 | 0 | Default (e.g., 0) |
| 4 | Inverter off | Connect 2 | 0 | Default (e.g., 0) |
| 5 | >50% rated power, unity power factor | Disconnect 3 | 90 | 30 |
| 6 | >50% rated power, unity power factor | Disconnect 4 | 60 | 0 (No Timeout) |
| 7 | Inverter off | Connect 4 | 60 | 0 (No Timeout) |



J. Johnson S. Gonzalez, M.E. Ralph, A. Ellis, and R. Broderick, "Test Protocols for Advanced Inverter Interoperability Functions – Appendices," Sandia Technical Report SAND2013-9875, Nov. 2013.

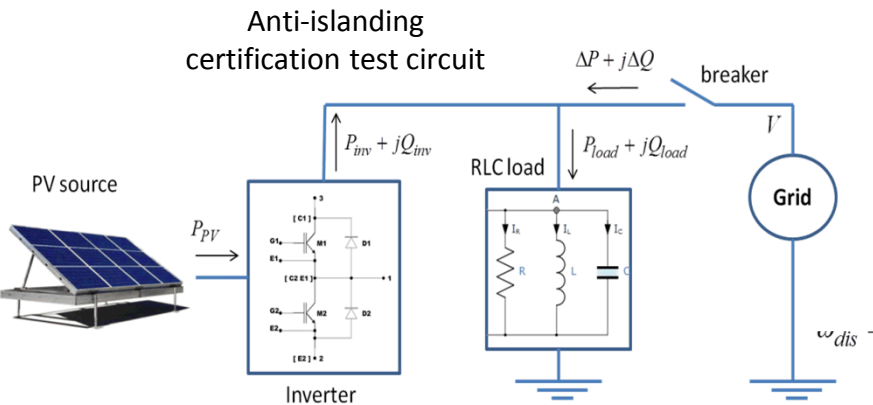
Real Power Curtailment (INV2) Results



| Test | WMax (% nameplate) | Ramp Rate (% nameplate watts/sec) | Time Window (sec) | Timeout Period (sec) | PV Power Profile |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fig. A2- 1 |
| 2 | 90 | 0 | 300 | 0 | Fig. A2- 1 |
| 3 | 50 | 20 | 60 | AIT:60 30 | Fig. A2- 1 |
| 4 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Fig. A2- 1 |
| 5 | 0 AIT:10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Const. |
| 6 | 100 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Const. |

Protection Coordination

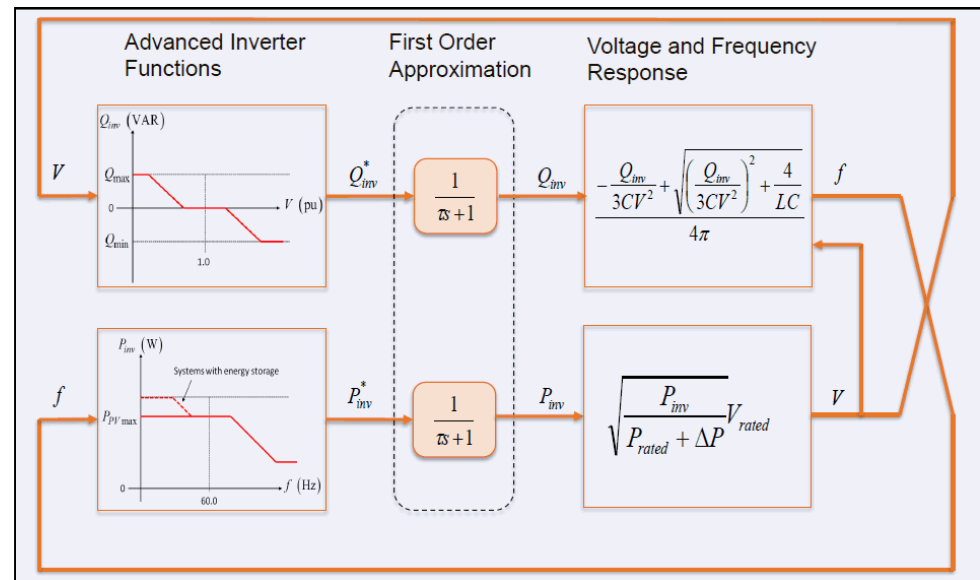
- Some advanced functions can affect protection coordination
 - One example: Degradation of anti-islanding (AI) performance [13]
 - V/FRT capability can increase run-on times during AI certification test
 - Volt/var and freq/watt functions counter positive feedback AI methods



Voltage and frequency after the breaker opens

$$V_{dis} = \sqrt{\frac{P_{inv}}{P_{rated}}} \cdot V_{rated} \quad (1)$$

$$\omega_{dis} = \frac{-\frac{Q_{inv}}{CV_{dis}^2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{Q_{inv}}{CV_{dis}^2}\right)^2 + \frac{4}{LC}}}{2} \quad (2)$$

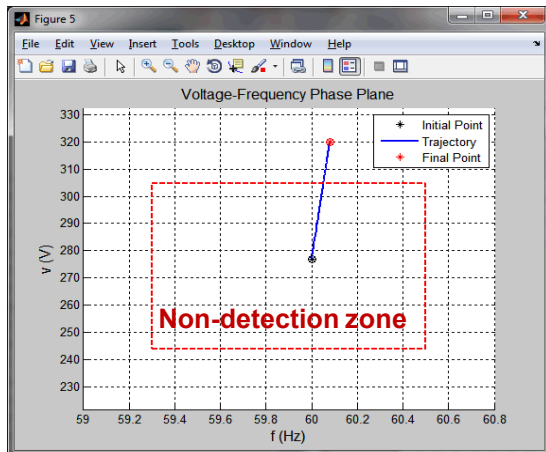


A simple model can be used to show how advanced functions (voltage and frequency support) could affect anti-islanding performance.

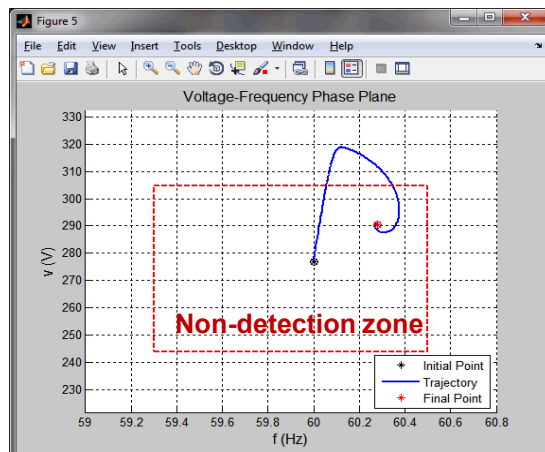
Example: anti-Islanding

- Analysis shows that volt/var & freq/watt functions can make certain anti-islanding methods less effective
 - Example below is for a 50 kW inverter using Sandia Frequency Shift AI method
 - AI is more difficult with V/FRT as well!

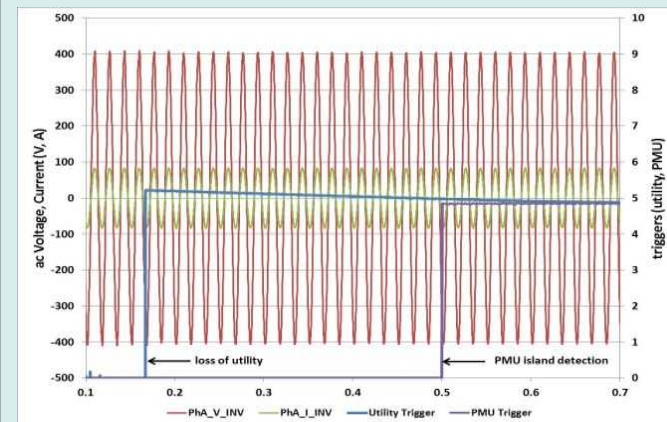
Without volt/var and freq/watt.



With volt/var and freq/watt.

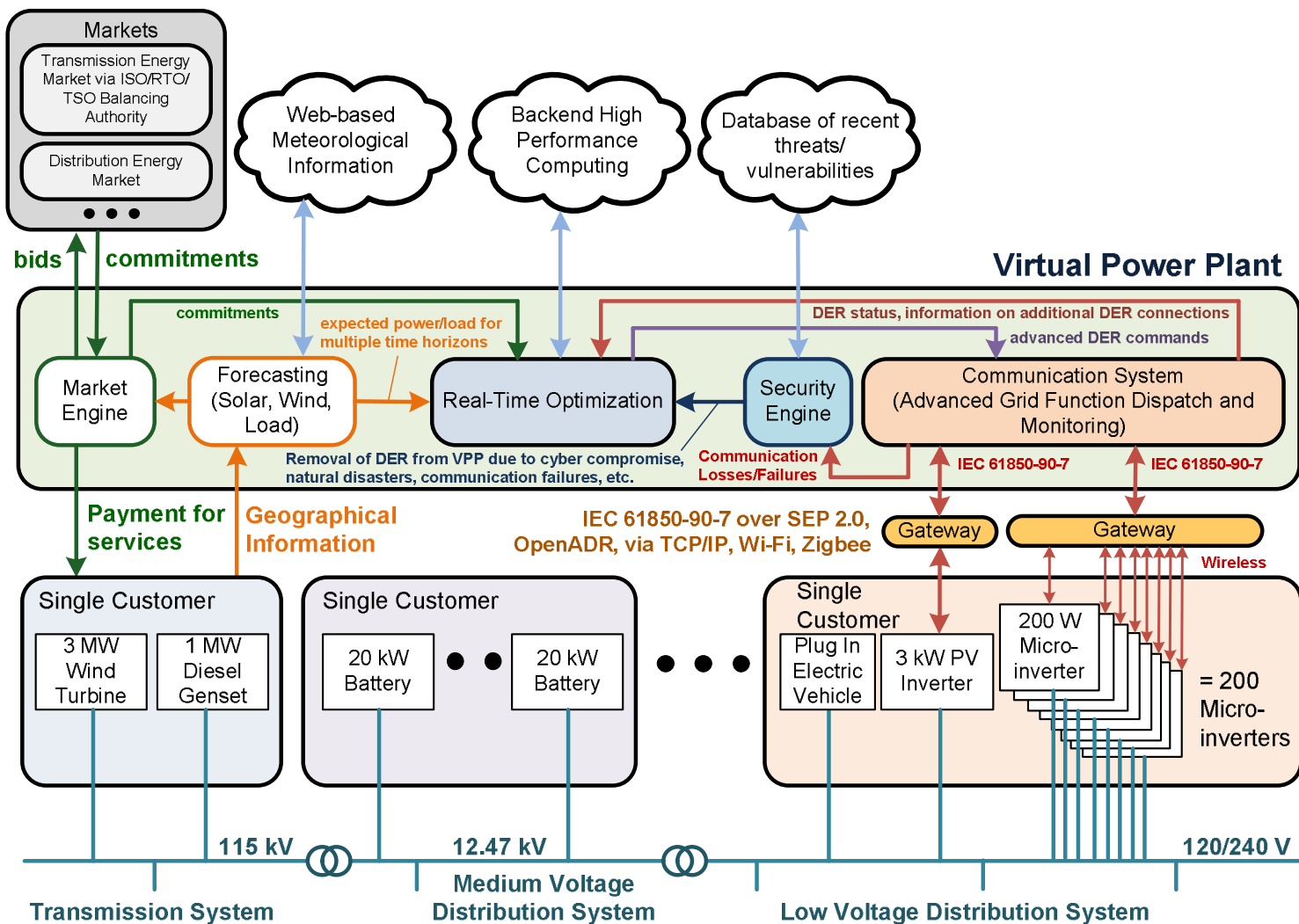


- Sandia is investigating control- and communication-based solutions to this problem
 - Optimization of control parameters (gains and delays) for a given anti-islanding scheme
 - PLC and synchrophasor “heartbeat” methods [14]



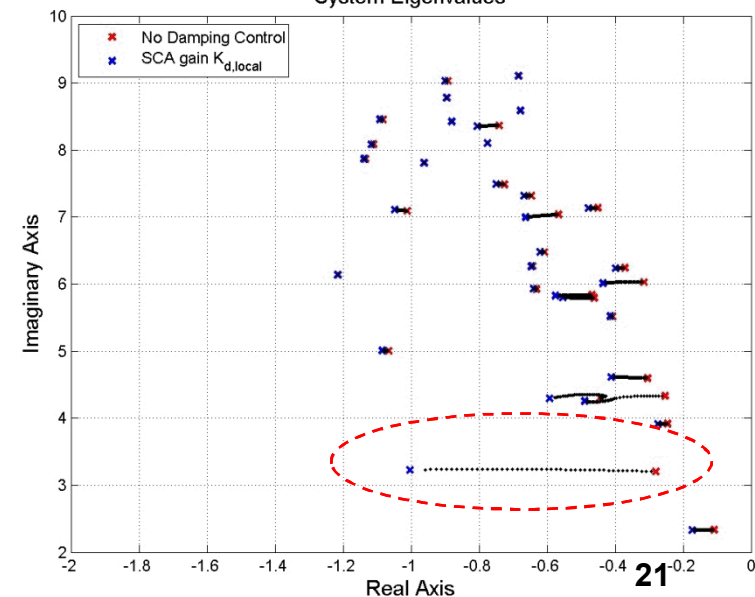
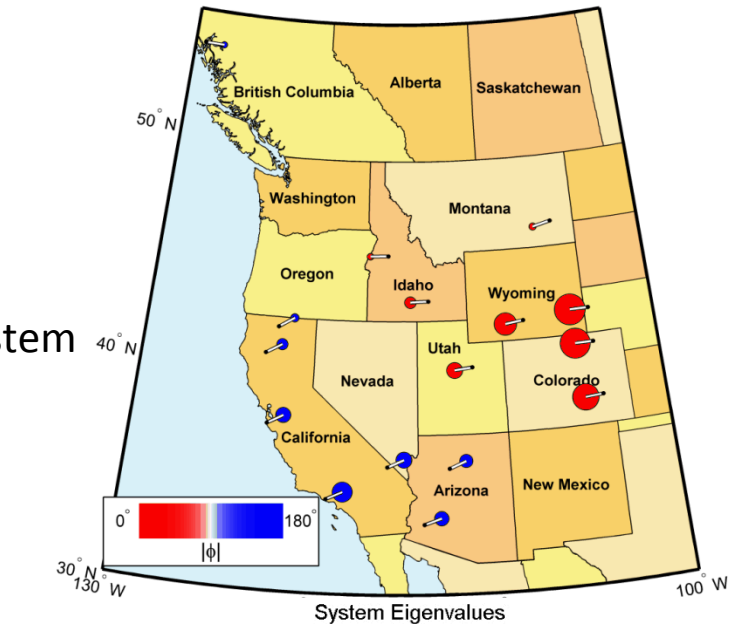
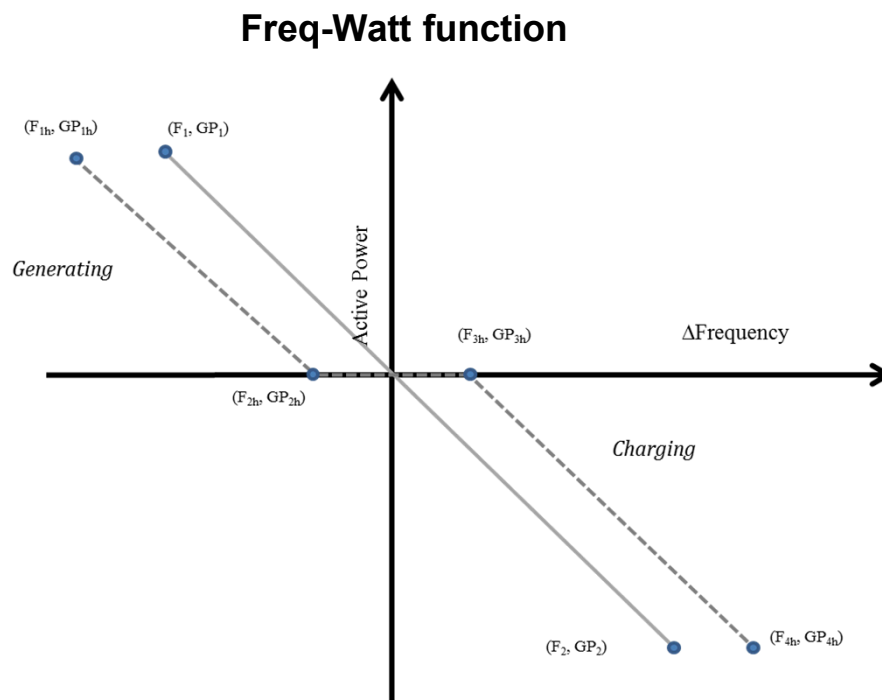
The illustration shows experimental results for a “failed” anti-islanding test conducted at Sandia, and effective synchrophasor islanding detection.

Virtual Power Plants allow resources to be aggregated, controls to be coordinated



Real-time Optimal Control Algorithms are under development

- Example: frequency-Watt parameters are computed *optimally* based on:
 - location in western Interconnection
 - Frequency Response Objectives for the power system



Conclusions

- PV inverters advanced functions help support the grid
- In the U.S., many jurisdictions are considering the implementation of smart inverters
 - Allowed with the adoption of IEEE 1547a
 - Regional differences could be an issue for manufacturers and certification laboratories
 - Autonomous functions will be rolled out first
 - Communications methods are not finalized, cybersecurity a big concern
- Sandia and collaborators are addressing technical issues:
 - Test protocol development to verify DER functionality
 - Development of Anti-islanding methods
 - Optimal/Coordinated selection of function parameters

Questions?

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