

Small Signal Stability – Opportunities for Energy Storage



PRESENTED BY

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Outline

Acknowledgements

What is Small Signal Stability?

Small Signal Stability – Why are we concerned?

BPA Damping Controller Project

Opportunities for Energy Storage

Conclusions

Acknowledgements

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Project team includes:

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- Jason Neely
- Felipe Wilches-Bernal
- Abraham Ellis
- Dave Schoenwald
- Bryan Pierre
- Ricky Concepcion
- Dr. Dan Trudnowski, Montana Tech University

Small Signal Stability

- Small signal stability – response to small disturbances (e.g. linear model is applicable)
- Given a nonlinear system model

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u) \quad y = g(x, u)$$

- Assume a small perturbation about an operating point

$$x = x_0 + \Delta x$$

$$u = u_0 + \Delta u$$

- Use a Taylor series expansion of the nonlinear function

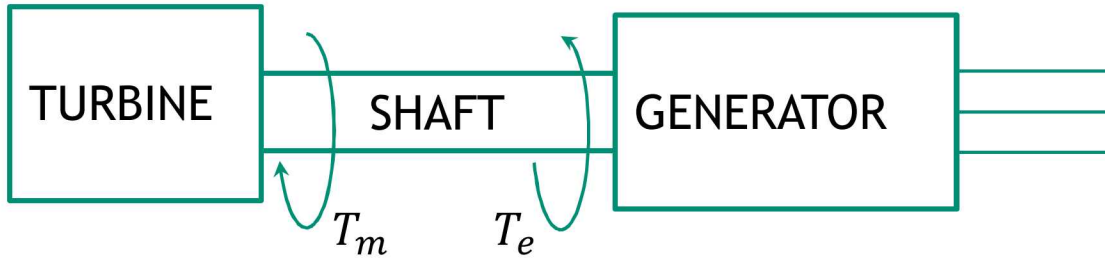
$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \dot{x} &= A \Delta x + B \Delta u \\ \Delta y &= C \Delta x + D \Delta u \end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_r} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial u_r} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial u_r} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g_n}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g_n}{\partial u_r} \end{bmatrix}$$

5 Electromechanical Stability

For a motor-generator, the equations of motion are

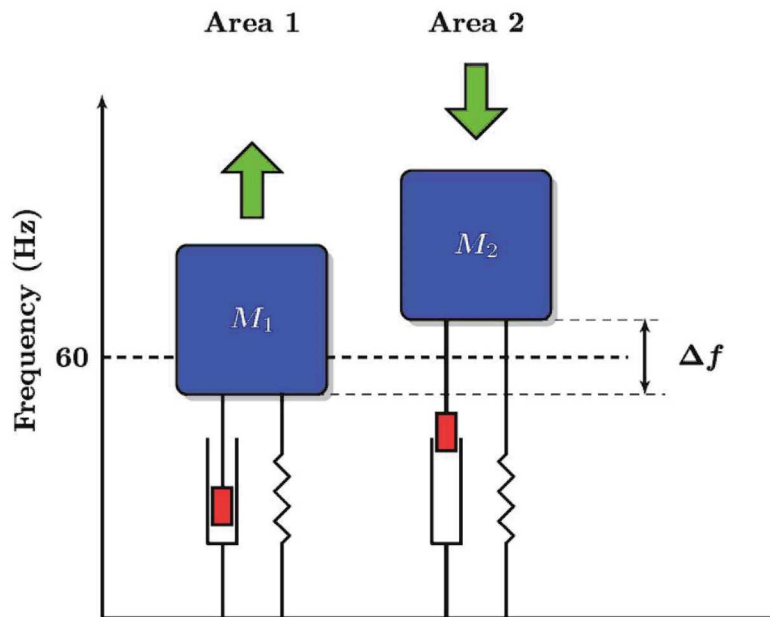


$$J \frac{d\omega}{dt} = T_m - T_e - K_D \omega$$

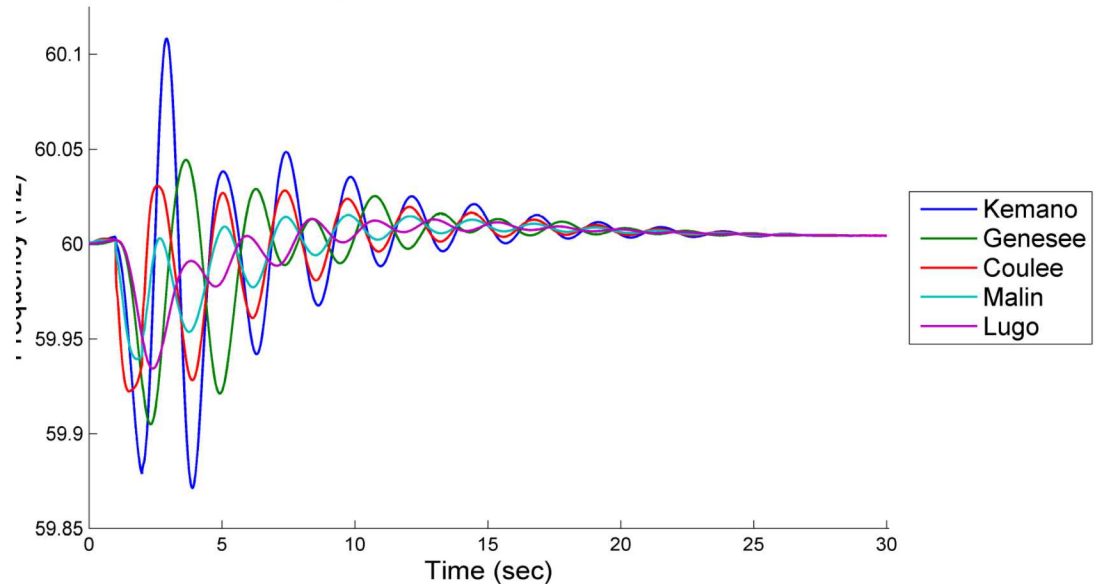
For constant T_m (mechanical power),

load \uparrow , frequency \downarrow

load \downarrow , frequency \uparrow



System response to a Chief Joe Brake insertion



What is Damping?

Consider a 2nd order system

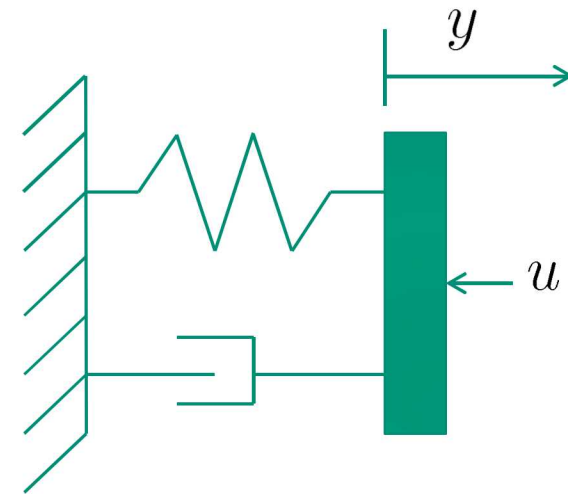
$$\ddot{y} + 2\zeta\omega_0\dot{y} + \omega_0^2 = \omega_0^2 u$$

Taking the Laplace transform and rearranging yields

$$\frac{y(s)}{u(s)} = \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0 s + \omega_0^2}$$

characteristic polynomial: $s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0 s + \omega_0^2$

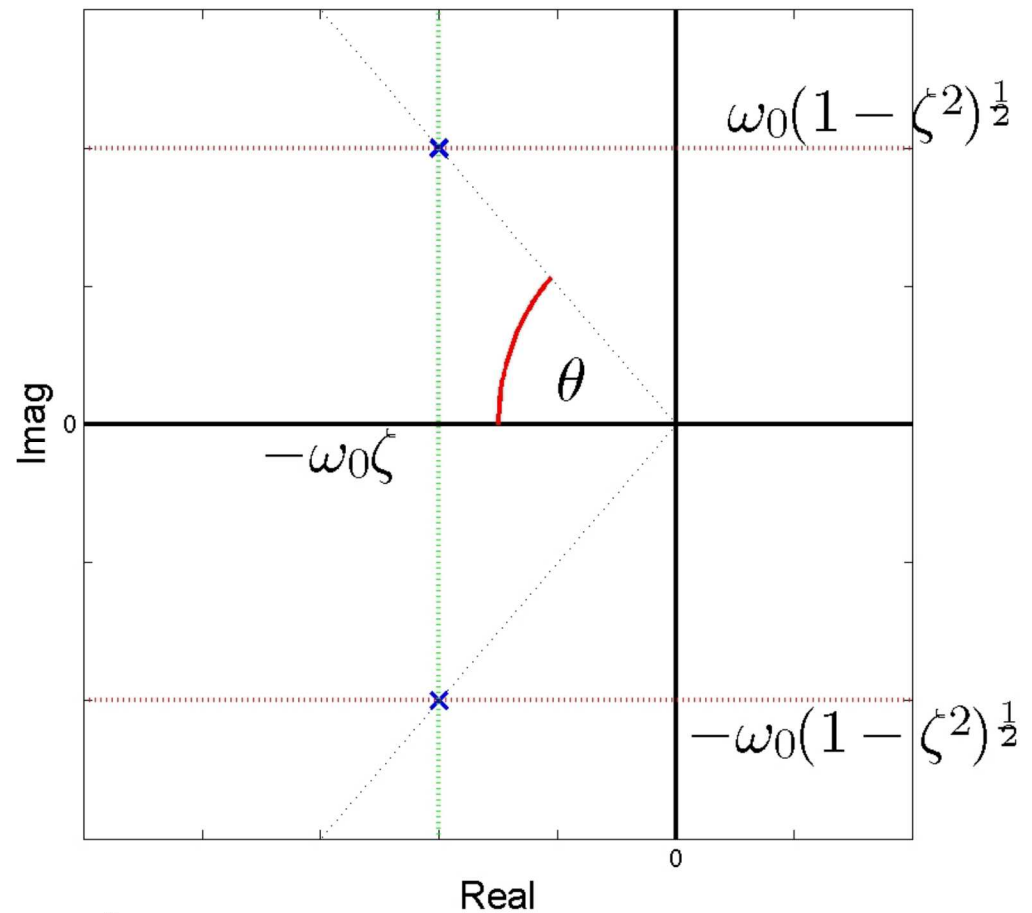
ζ damping ratio
 ω_0 natural frequency (rad/s)



What is Damping?

CASE : $\zeta < 1$

Under-damping: two complex conjugate eigenvalues

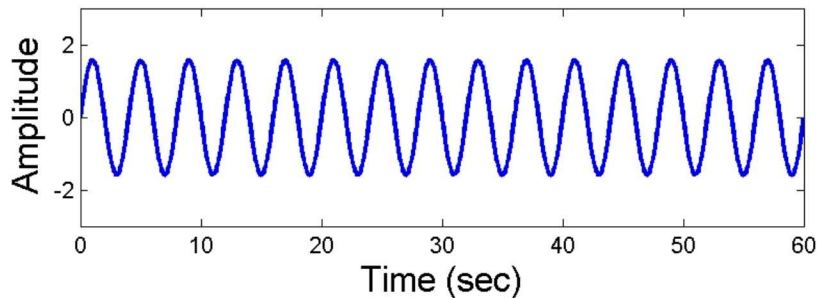


damping ratio = $\zeta = \cos \theta$

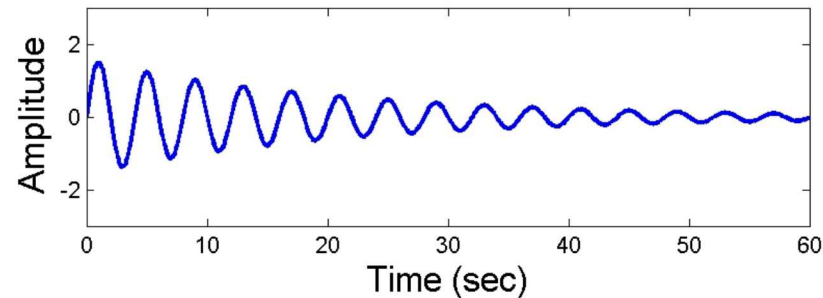
$$x(t) = e^{-\zeta\omega_0 t} (A \cos(w_d t) + B \sin(w_d t)), \quad w_d = \omega_0 \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}$$

What is Damping?

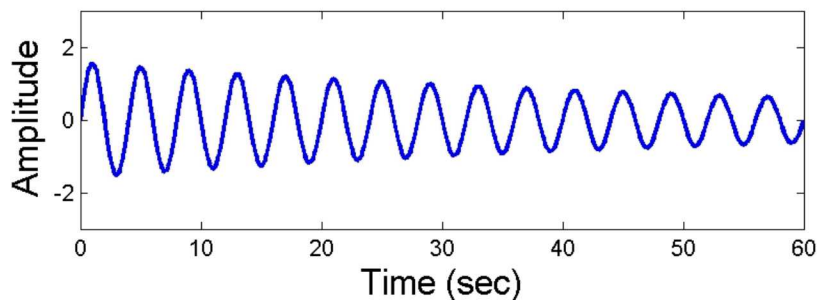
$$\zeta = 0.00, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



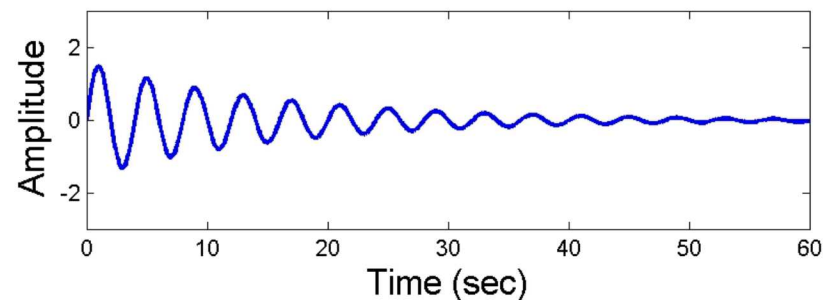
$$\zeta = 0.03, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



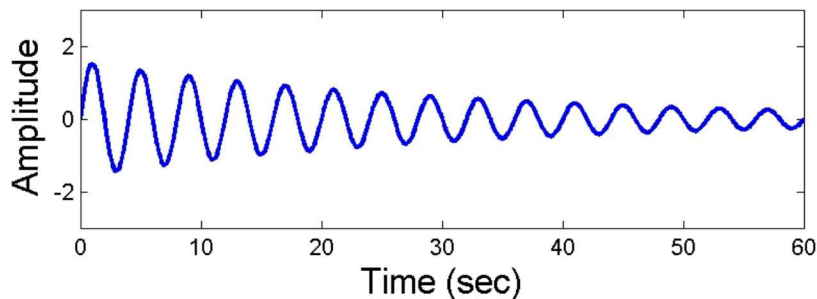
$$\zeta = 0.01, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



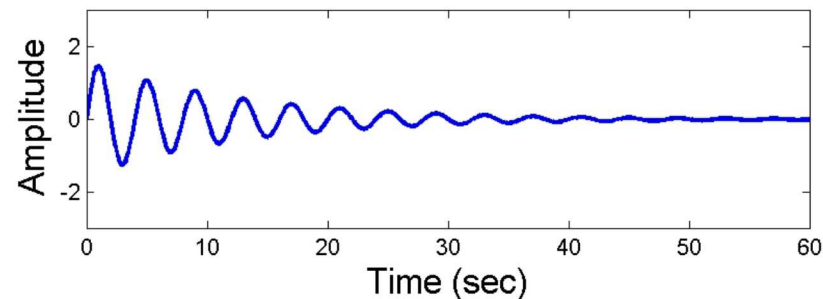
$$\zeta = 0.04, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



$$\zeta = 0.02, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$

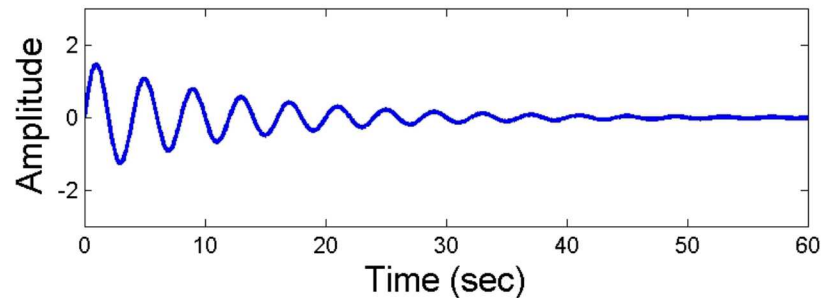


$$\zeta = 0.05, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$

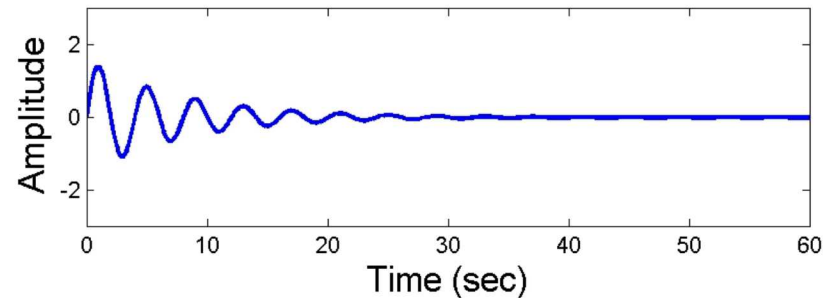


What is Damping?

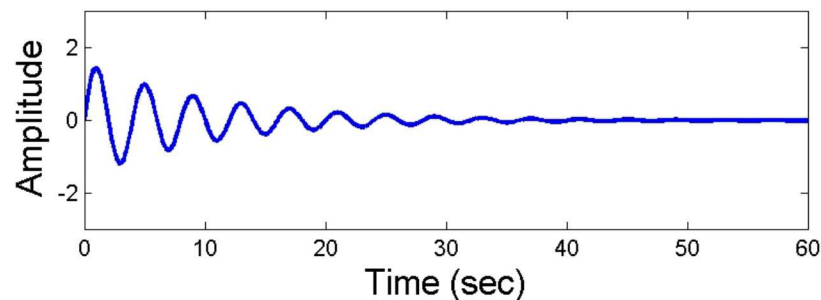
$$\zeta = 0.05, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



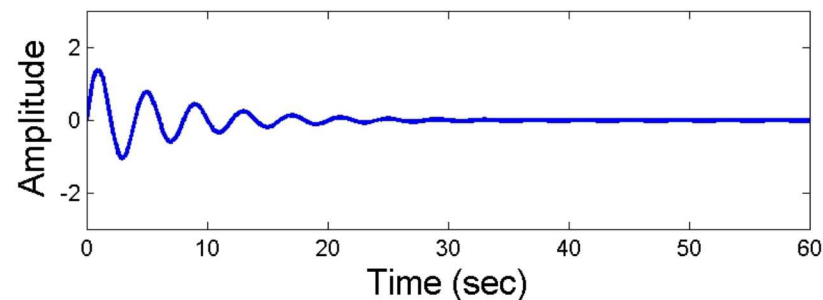
$$\zeta = 0.08, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



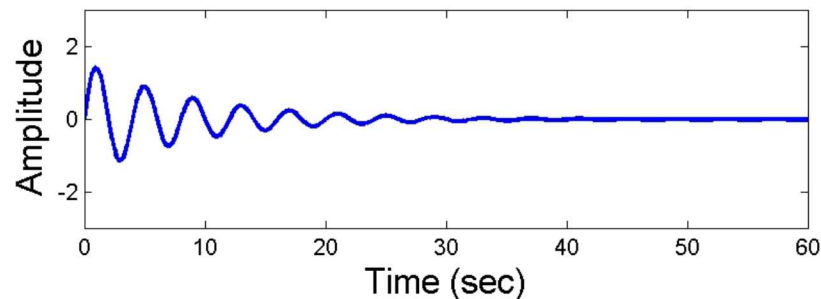
$$\zeta = 0.06, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



$$\zeta = 0.09, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



$$\zeta = 0.07, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$



$$\zeta = 0.10, \omega_0 = 1.57 \text{ rad/sec}$$

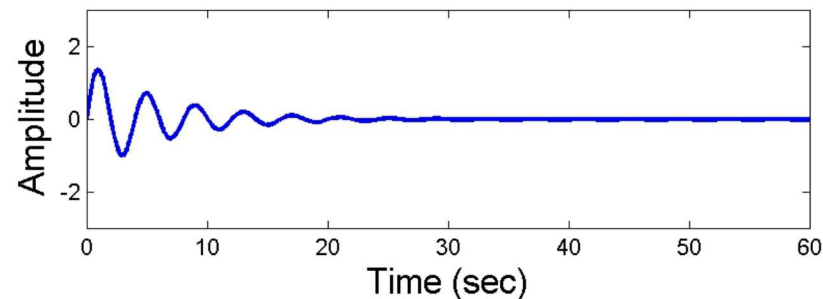
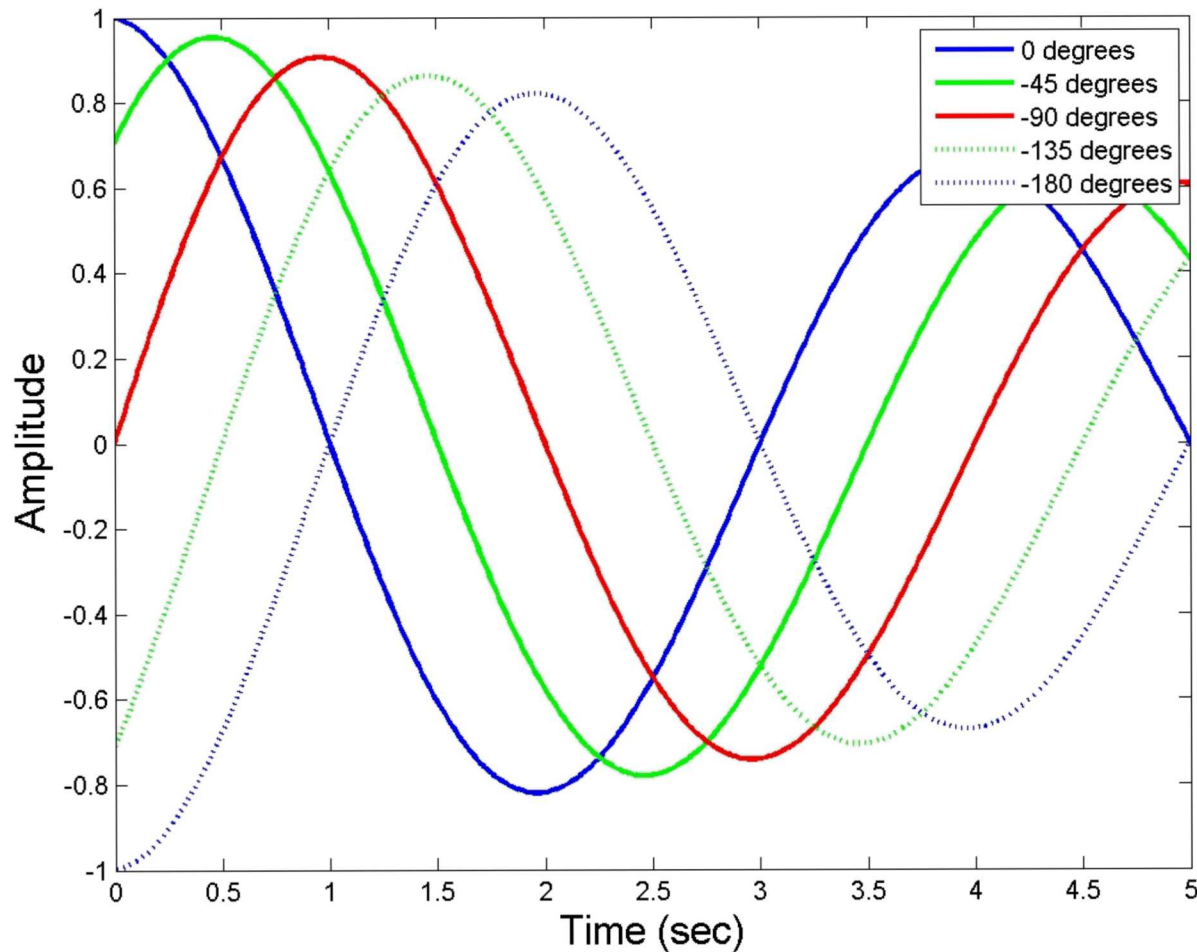


Illustration of Phase Relationship

Relationship between time and phase

$$y(t) = e^{-0.1t} \cos(2\pi ft + \phi), \quad f = 0.25 \text{ Hz}$$



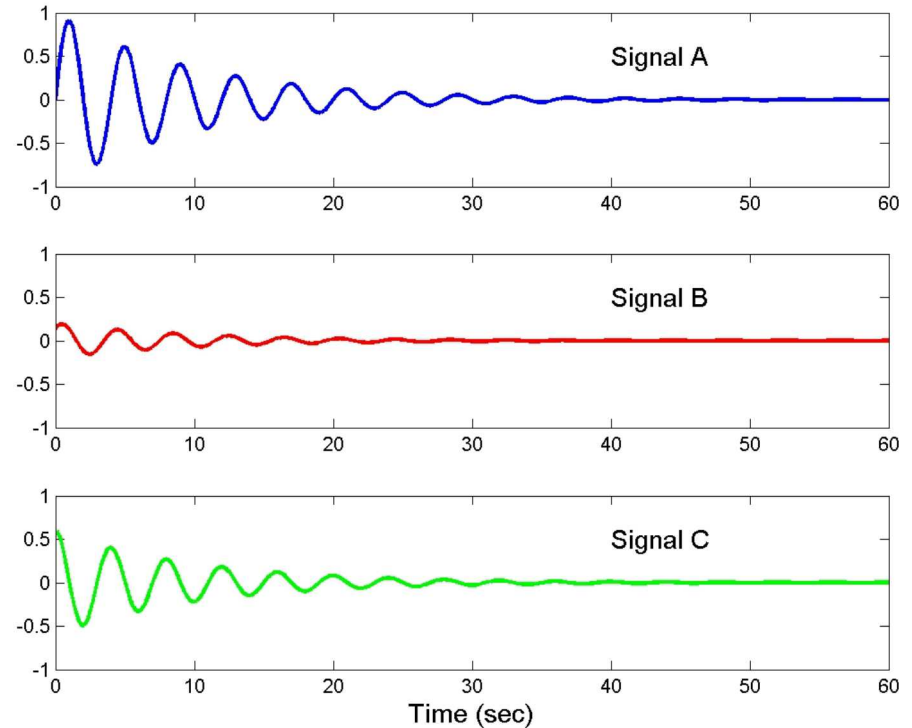
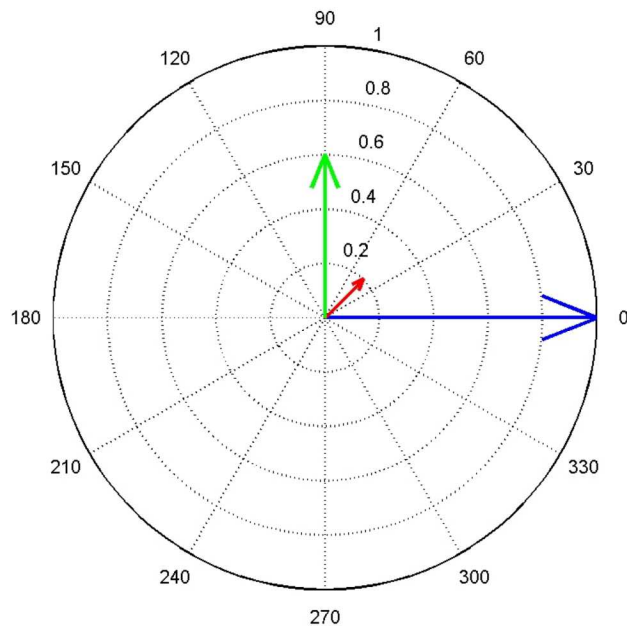
What is Mode Shape?

Mode shape is defined by

- Amplitude at each location
- Phase at each location

Typically look at

- Generator speed (frequency)
- Frequency measurements



$$y_A(t) = 1.0 \cos(2\pi f + 0)$$

$$y_B(t) = 0.2 \cos(2\pi f + \pi/4)$$

$$y_C(t) = 0.6 \cos(2\pi f + \pi/2)$$

Visualizing Mode Shape

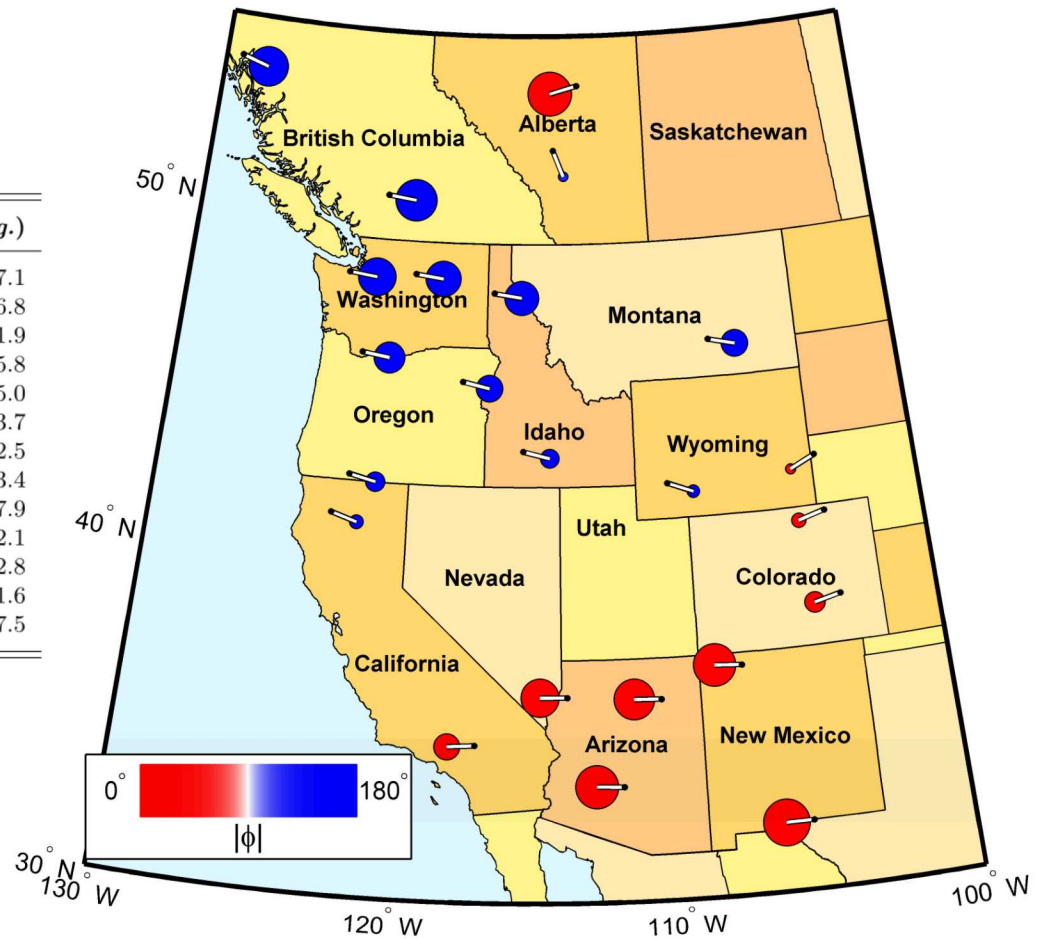
Mode shape defined by

- Amplitude
- Phase

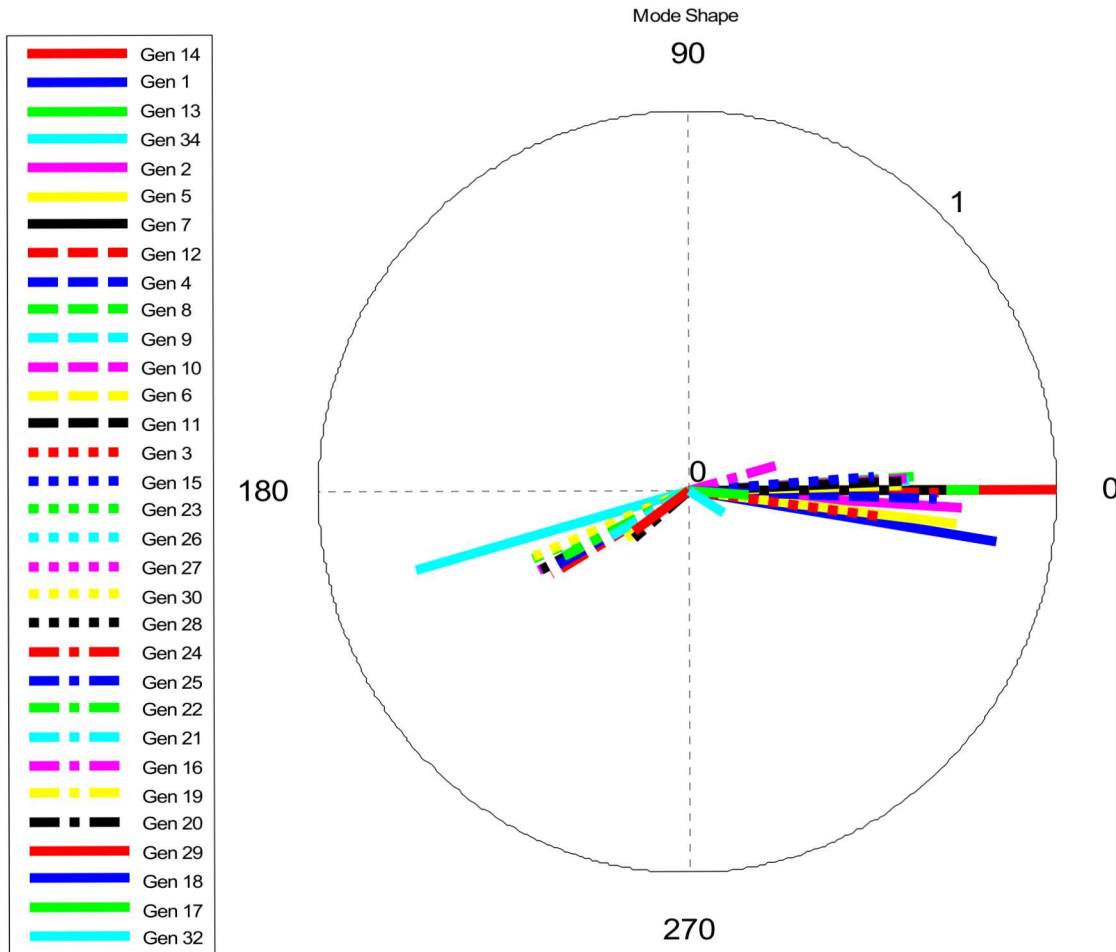
Visualization approaches:

- Tables
- Graphically

Bus	Amp.	Shape(Deg.)	Bus	Amp.	Shape(Deg.)
Newman	1.00	0.0	Nicola	0.87	177.1
Hassayampa	0.93	0.4	Monroe	0.83	176.8
Genesee	0.91	11.6	Kemano	0.81	171.9
Four Corners	0.91	-2.0	Coulee	0.79	175.8
Moenkopi	0.86	1.3	Taft	0.75	175.0
Mead	0.80	3.2	Big Eddy	0.71	173.7
Vincent	0.52	9.5	Brownlee	0.61	172.5
Comanche	0.50	-8.5	Colstrip	0.57	173.4
Ault	0.34	-9.1	Malin	0.48	167.9
Laramie	0.21	-6.8	Midpoint	0.43	172.1
Valmy	0.05	56.3	Round Mt.	0.38	162.8
			Bridger	0.29	171.6
			Langdon	0.21	127.5



Visualizing Mode Shape – Compass Plot



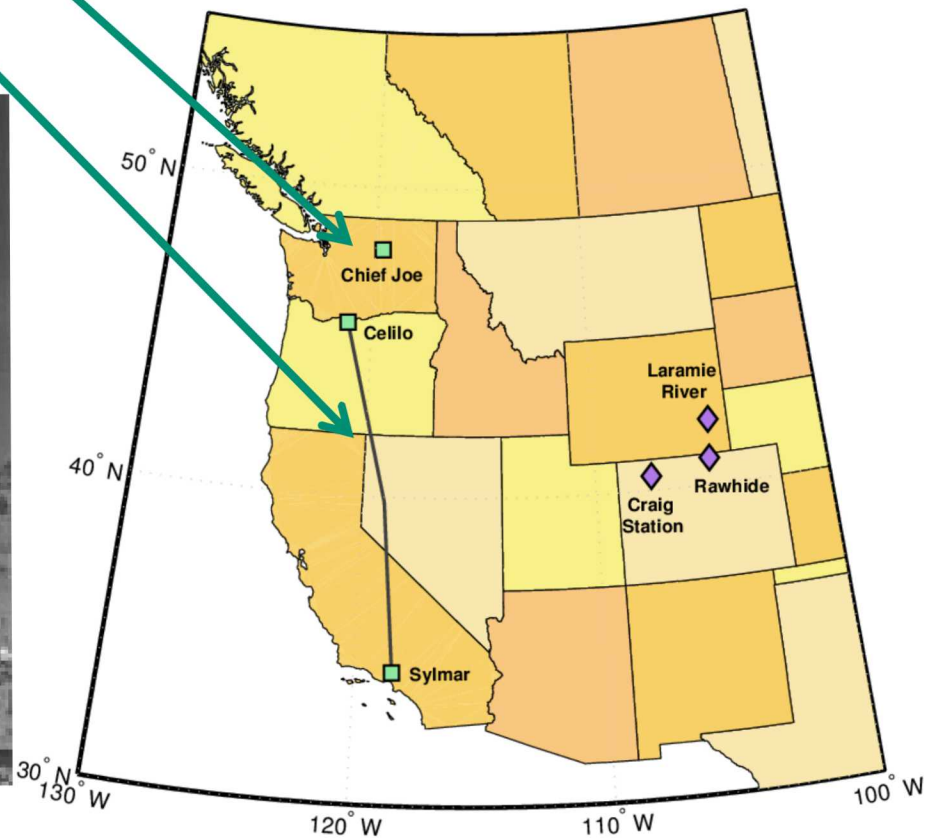
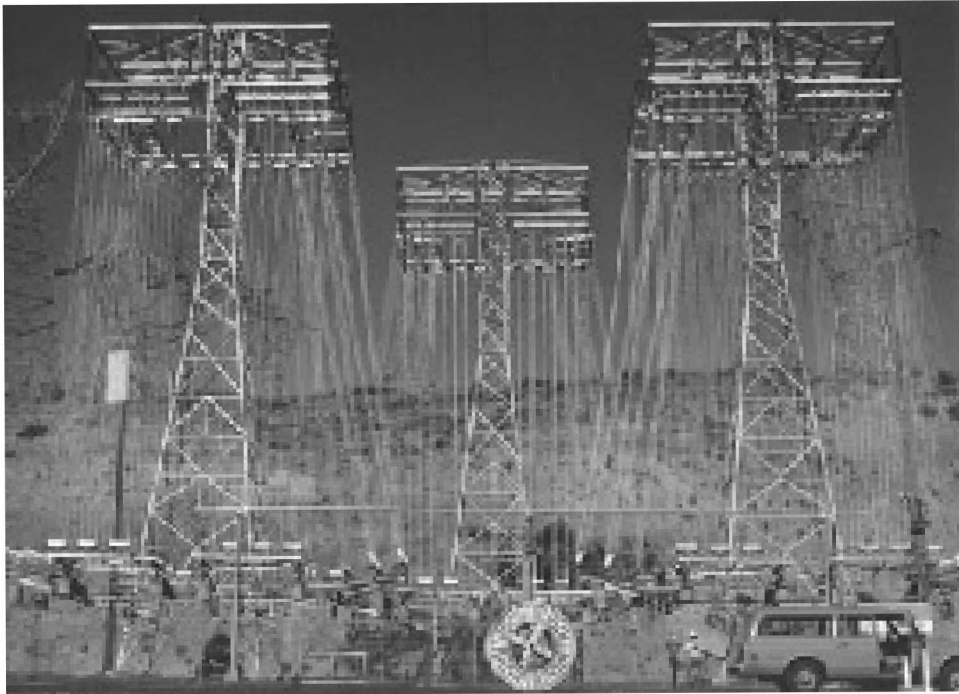
Classical approach presented in Graham Rogers' book, "Power System Oscillations"

Excitation Methods for System Identification

Natural disturbances

Chief Joseph Brake (1.4GW, built in 1974)

Pacific DC Intertie (PDCI) Modulation



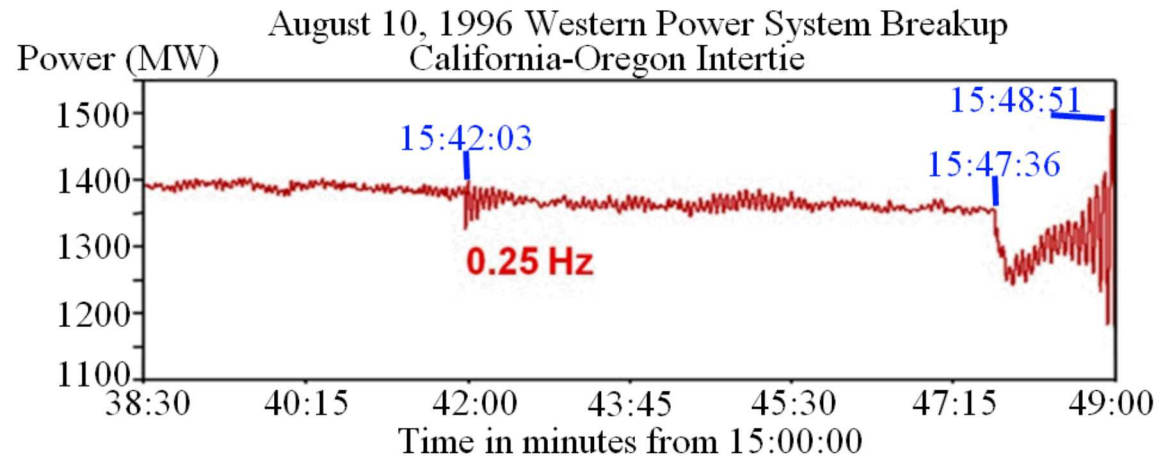
Why are we concerned?

Power systems are susceptible to low frequency oscillations caused by generators separated by long transmission lines that oscillate against each other

These oscillations are not as well damped as higher frequency “local” oscillations

High penetration of renewable generation can impact mode shape and damping – potential reduction in reliability

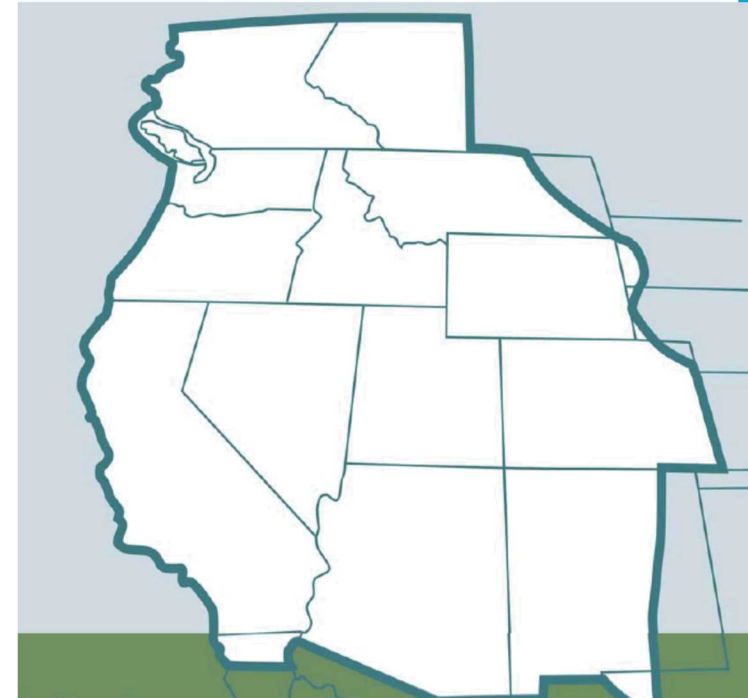
1996 breakup
caused by low-
frequency
oscillations



Why are we concerned?

There are several low frequency oscillation modes in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) region

- “North-South” mode nominally near 0.25 Hz (North-South mode A)
- “Alberta-BC” mode nominally near 0.4 Hz (North-South mode B)
- “BC” mode nominally near 0.6 Hz
- “Montana” mode nominally near 0.8 Hz
- “East-West” mode nominally near 0.4 Hz



17 Analysis Methods (Simulation)

Inject disturbances and analyze ringdowns (e.g. Prony, ERA)

PDCI modulation (ERA)

Linearize system equations (Q-R factorization, up to several thousand states)

Arnoldi's method (ARPack - Sandia contributed to development)

AESOPS algorithm

Transient simulation tools (plus data analysis in MATLAB)

- GE, PSLF
- Siemens, PSSE
- Power World
- Powertech Labs

Small signal analysis tools

- Powertech Labs, SSAT

Typical System Model (WECC)

- 19,000 buses
- 4,000 generators
- 9,000 loads
- 8,000 transformers
- 16,000 transmission lines

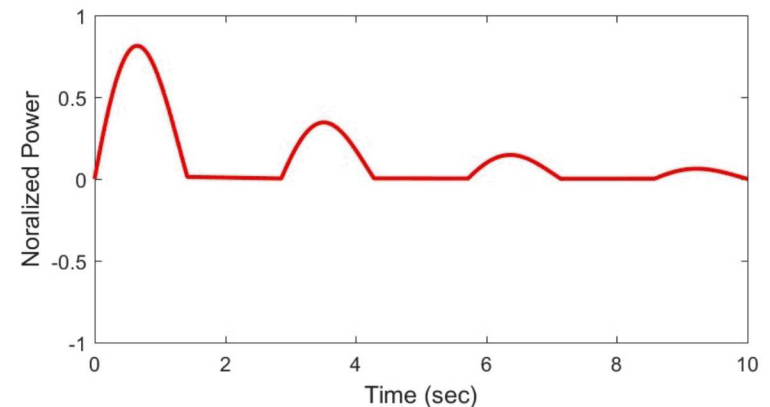
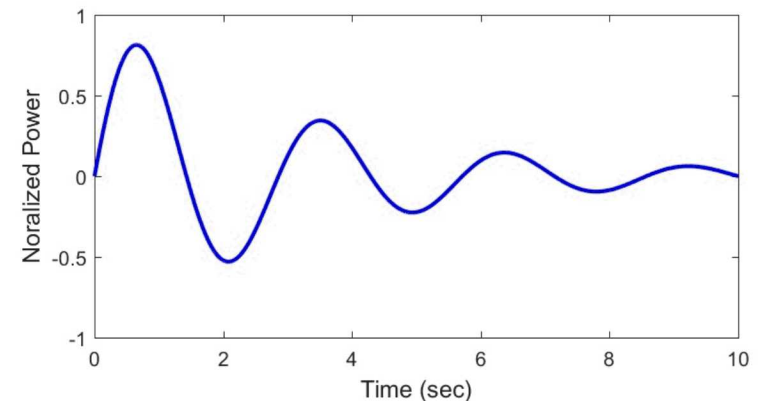
Real power injections at the correct locations in the grid can be used to improve small signal stability

Proposed methods:

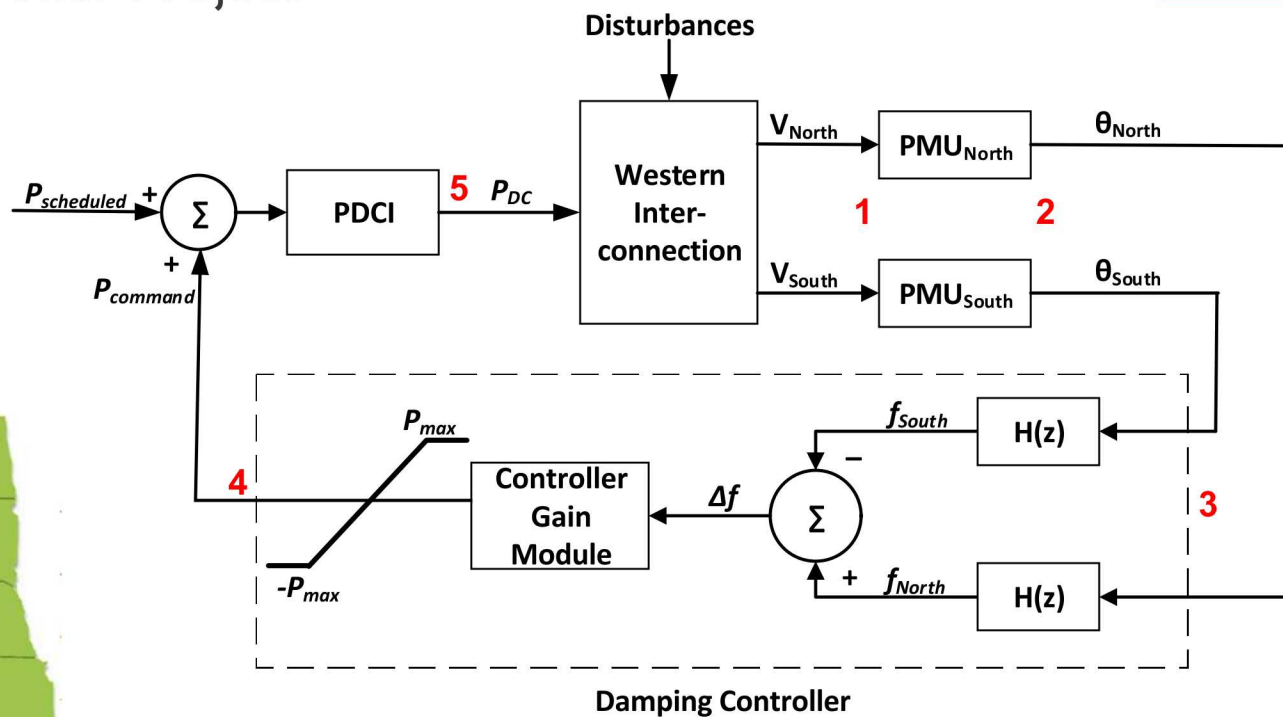
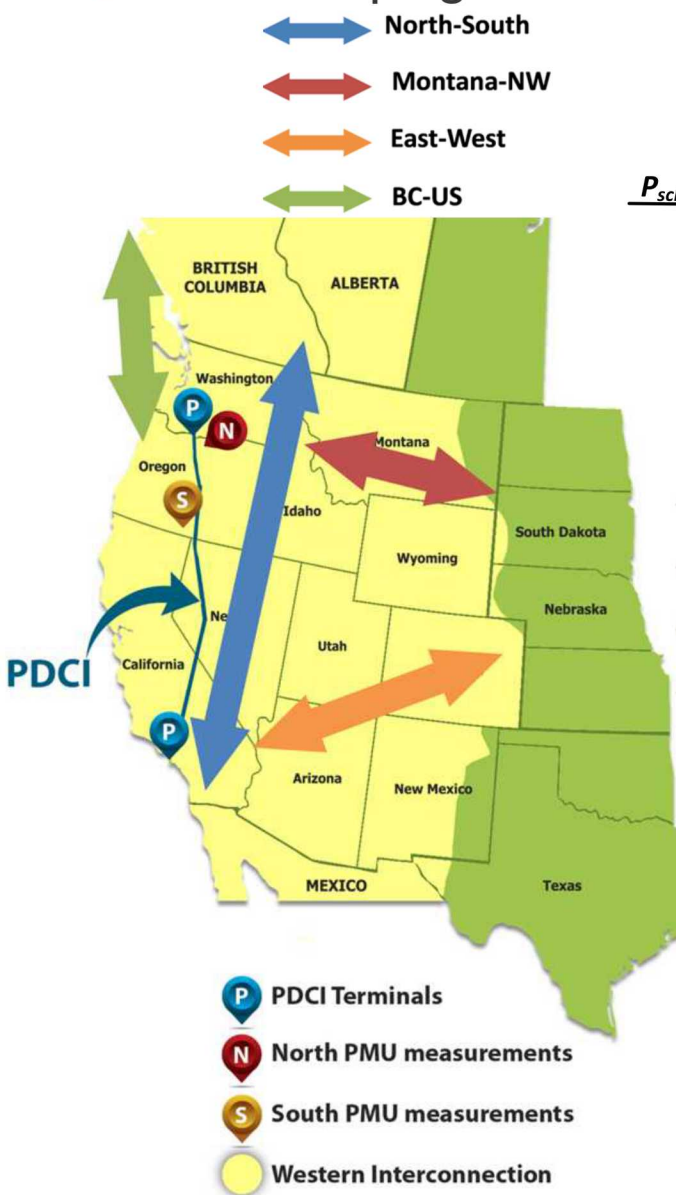
- High Voltage DC (HVDC) modulation
- Energy storage modulation
- Load modulation – demand response
- Load modulation – voltage control
- Transmission line impedance modulation
- Resistive braking
- Power system stabilizers (PSSs)

Basic requirements

- PMU signals for feedback
- “Actuators” in the correct locations
- Communications to distribute PMU data and/or control commands



BPA Damping Controller Project



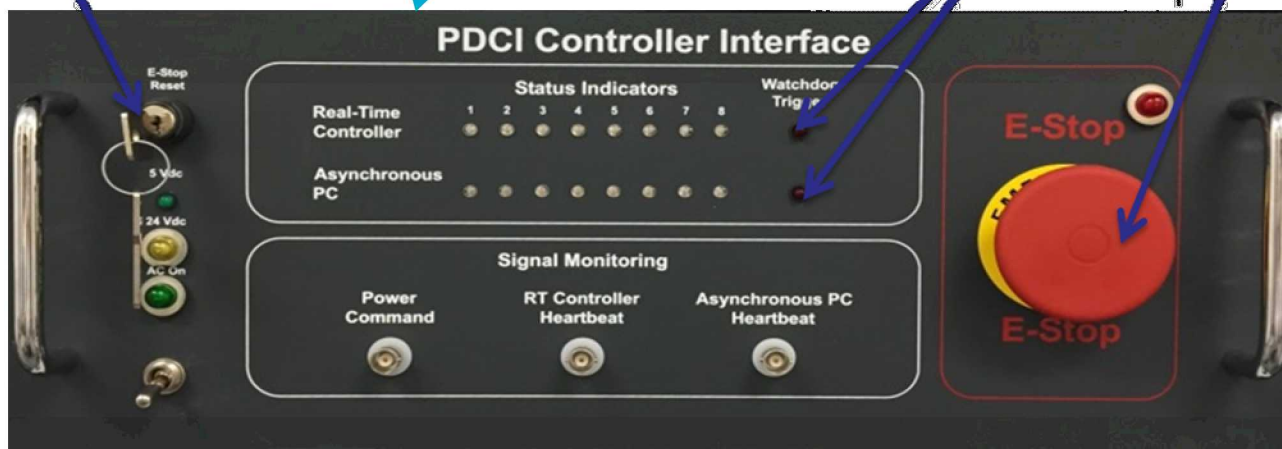
- 1 PMUs take measurements
- 2 PMUs send data packets over network
- 3 Packets arrive at damping controller
- 4 Controller sends power command to PDCI
- 5 PDCI injects power command into grid

Watchdog circuit module

Key switch

Heartbeat indicators

E-Stop button

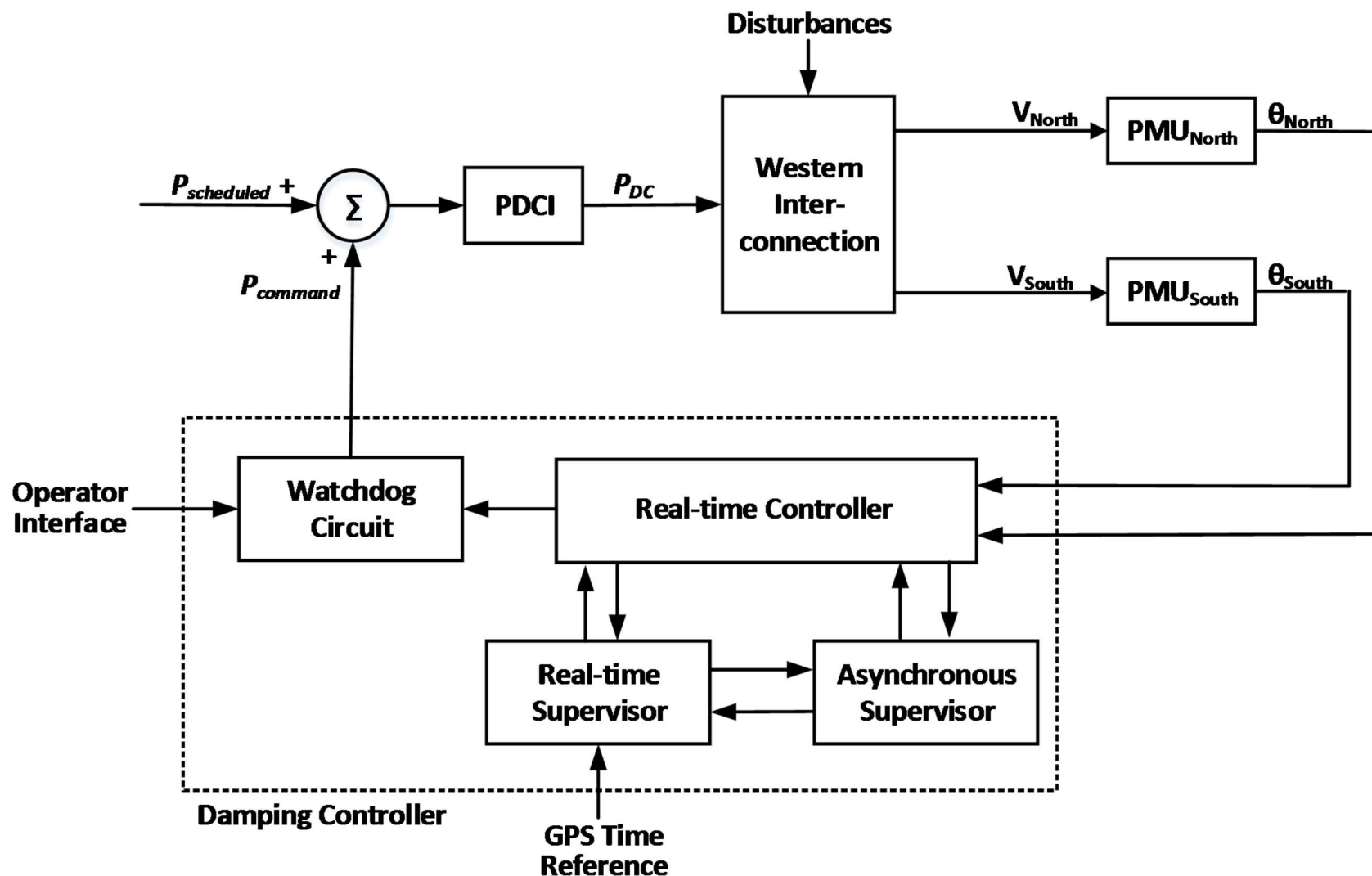


Server for select
supervisory functions

Real-time
Control platform



Supervisory System Ensures “Do No Harm”



Watchdog Circuit: Detects hardware failures, ensures smooth state transitions, and handles E-stop functions.

Real-time Supervisor: Monitors latencies and data quality, switching to other PMU sites if needed.

Asynchronous Supervisor: Estimates gain/phase margin, PDCI health, and slower-than-real-time tasks.

Redundancy and Diversity

- Utilizes 8 PMUs, 4 northern measurements, 4 southern. Allows for 16 control instances operating in parallel with the ability to seamlessly switch between them through a bumpless transfer.

Real-time supervisory

- Check latency of PMU measurements
- Assure PMU measurements are time aligned
- Check for data drop outs
- Check for data repeats
- Check PMU quality flags (flags in the PMU data)
- Check for GPS synchronization
- Check the E-Stop contacts

- Checks frequencies, voltage magnitudes, angles are with expected values
- Check PDCI power flow within limits

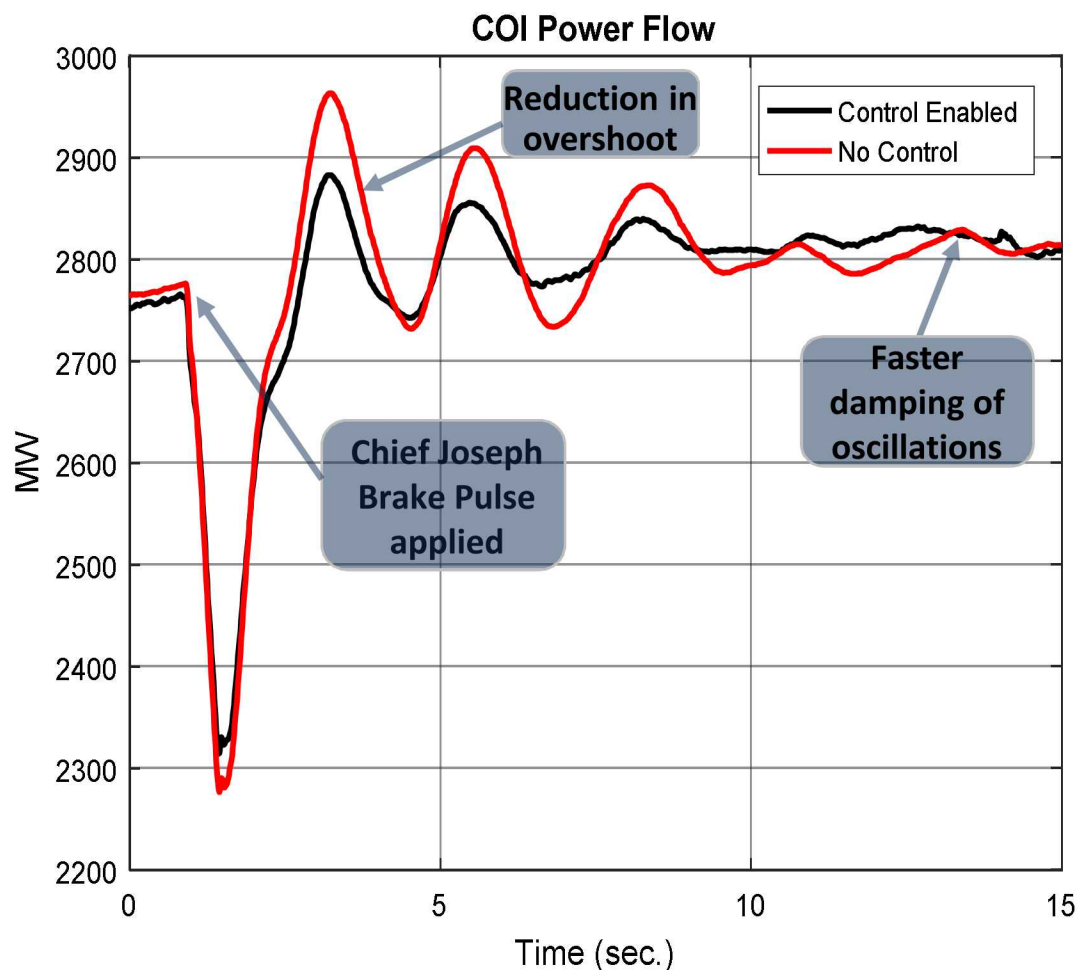
Watchdog Circuit

- Detects hardware failures
- Ensures smooth transitions
- Handles the E-Stop function

Asynchronous (still under development)

- Estimates gain and phase margin
- Verify the PDCI flow responded to command.
- Checks for forced oscillations.

Tests conducted at Celilo Converter Station on September 28-29, 2016



Chief Joseph brake test

Damping of North-South B Mode improved 4.5 percentage points (11.5% to 16.0%) in closed-loop vs. open-loop operation.

Square wave pulse test

Damping controller significantly reduces amplitude of North-South B mode oscillations in 15 seconds vs. 23 seconds in open-loop tests for the same reduction.

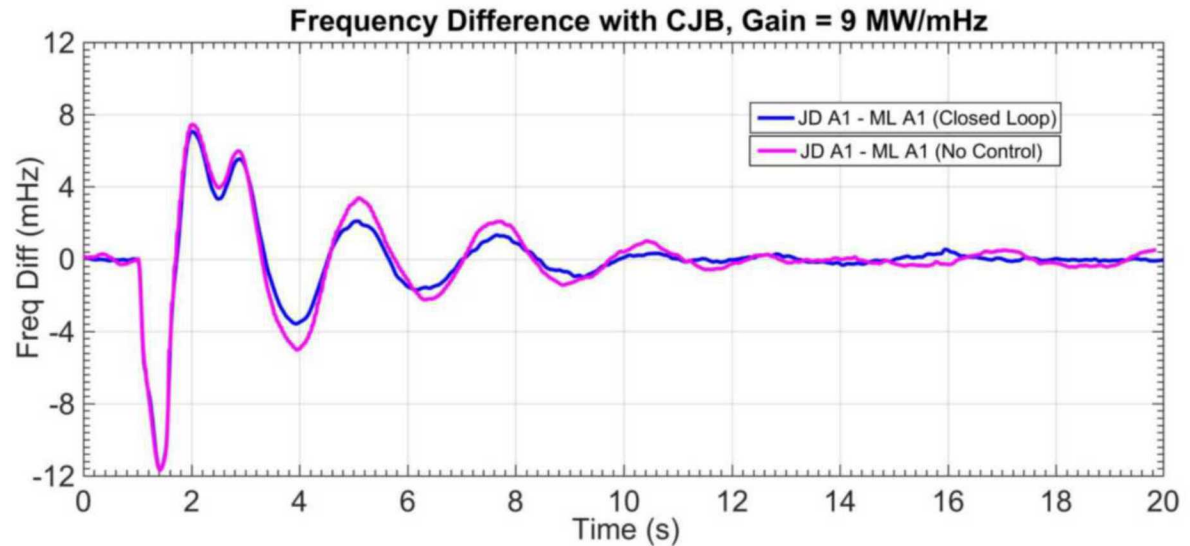
All tests

Controller consistently improves damping and does no harm to grid.

Chief Joseph Brake Test

Gain = 9 MW/mHz

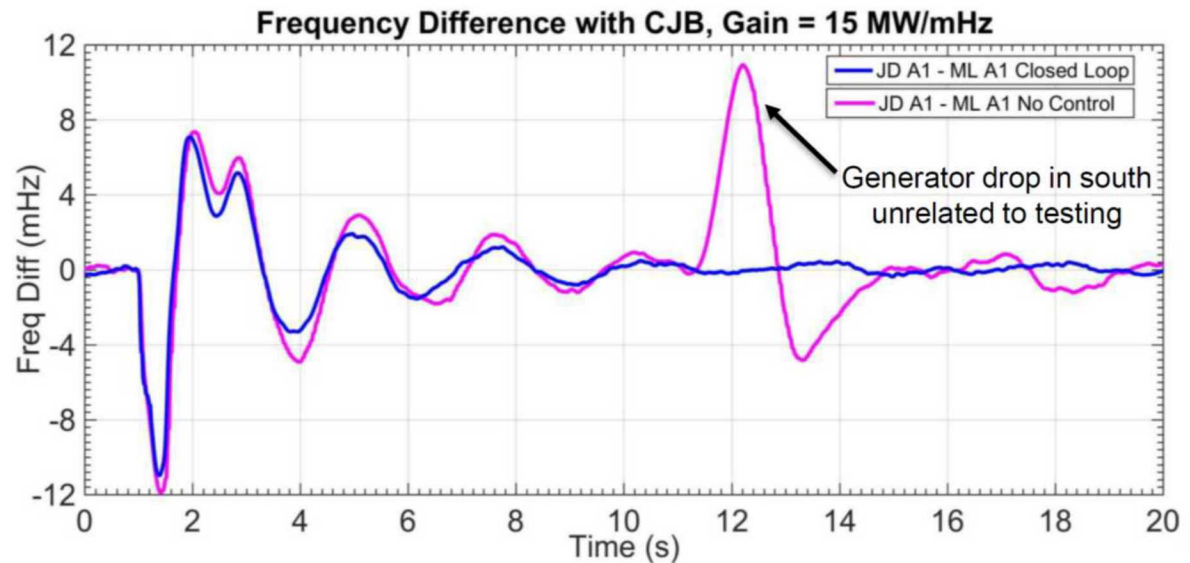
Damping improved by 4.5 percentage points (10.0% to 14.5%)



Chief Joseph Brake Test

Gain = 15 MW/mHz

Damping improved by 6 percentage points (10.0% to 16.0%)

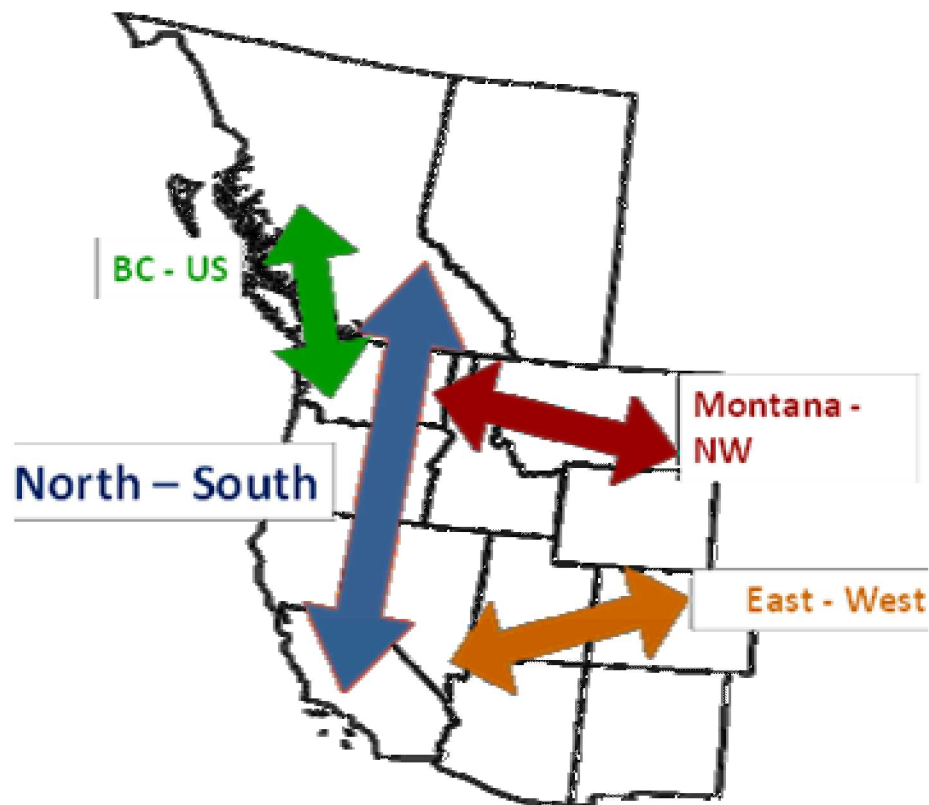


Opportunities for Energy Storage

PDCI Modulation has good controllability over N-S Mode

East-West mode becomes more visible with increased renewable penetrations

Eastern interconnection also has inter-area oscillations



Distributed Control of Energy Storage

Advantages:

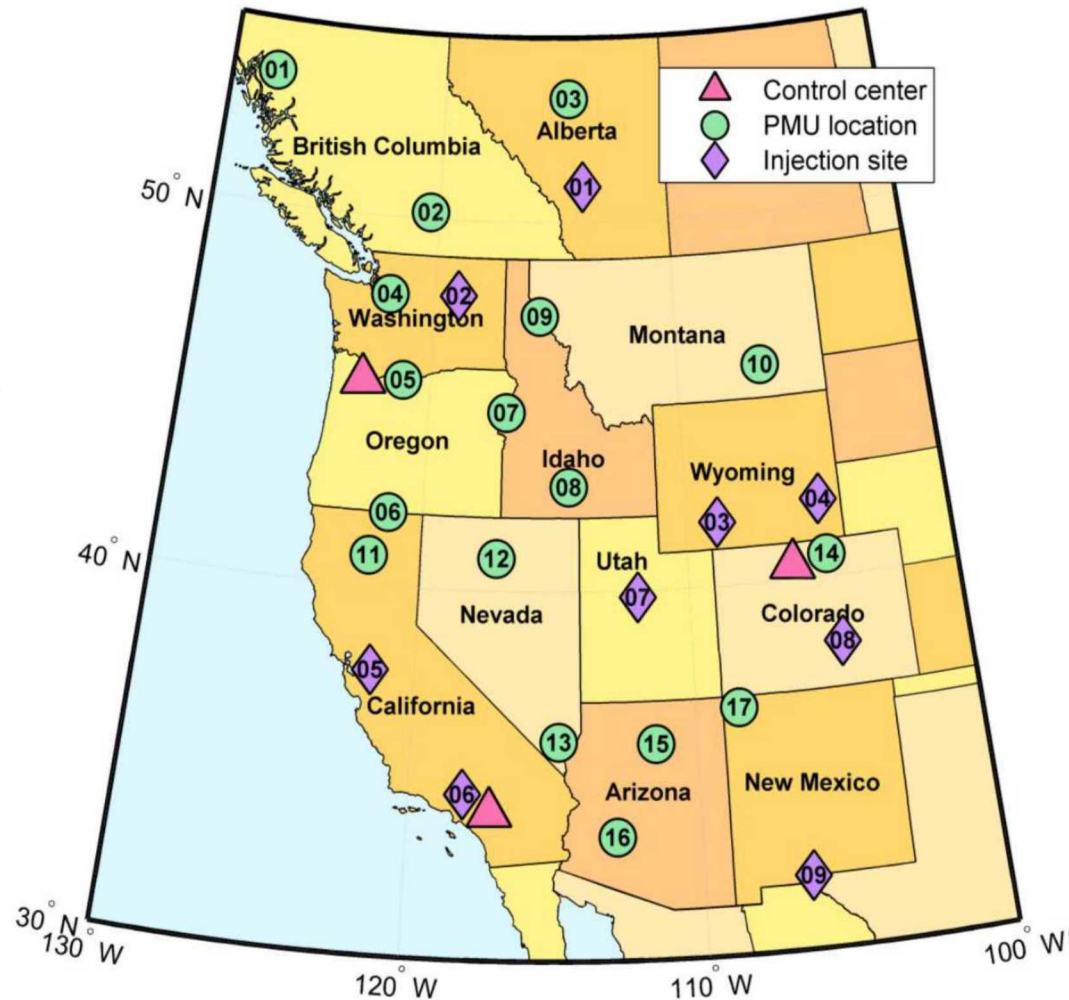
Robust to single points of failure

Controllability of multiple modes

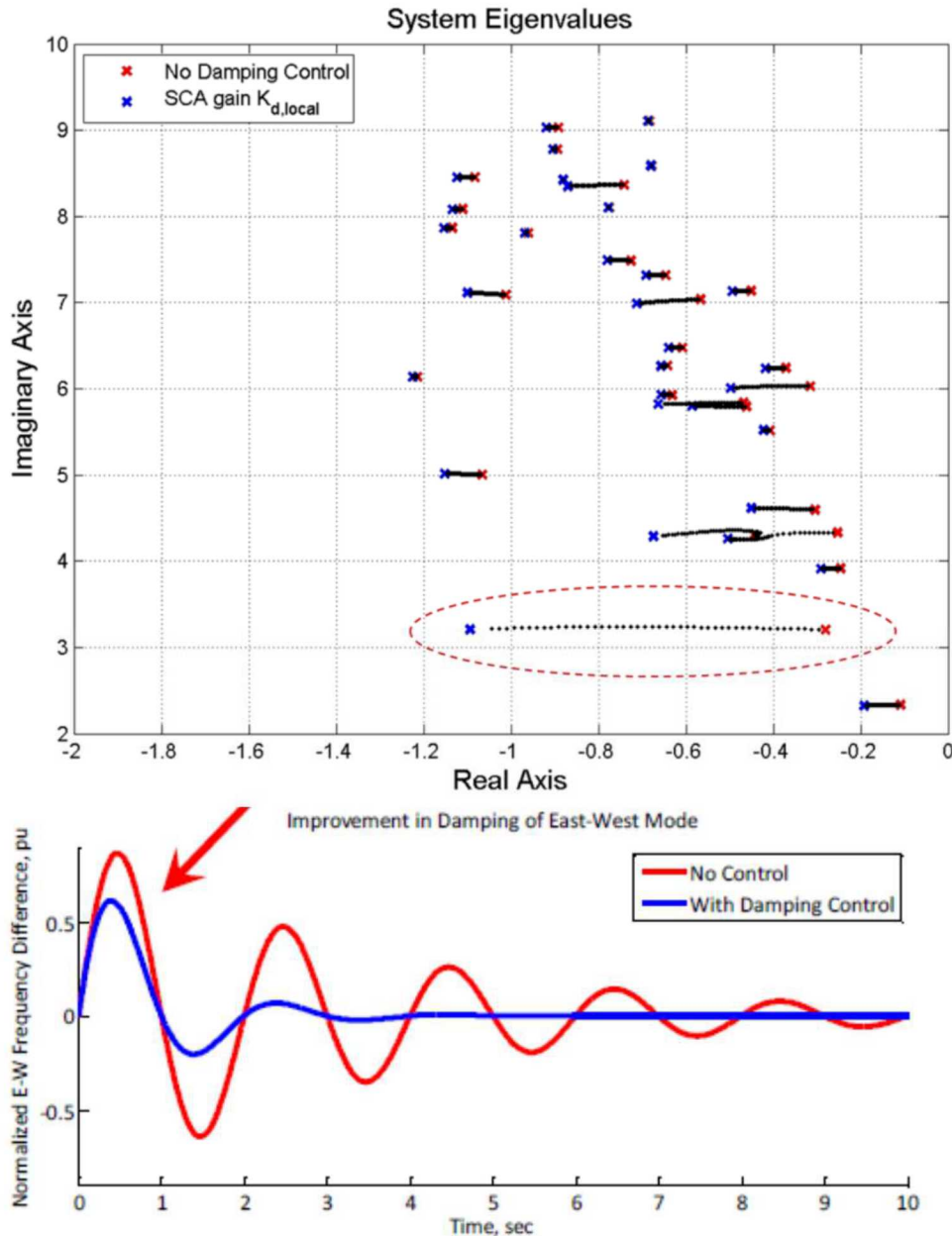
Size/location of a single site not as critical as more energy storage is deployed on grid

With 10s of sites engaged, single site power rating ≈ 1 MW can provide improved damping

Control signal is energy neutral and short in time duration - storage sites can perform other applications



Distributed Control of Energy Storage



Scenario: nine 10 MW energy storage systems located in the WECC

Small signal stability is a concern in all large power systems

HVDC modulation is an economical mitigation method – but it must be sited in the correct location to provide any benefit

Energy storage is capable of providing a small signal stability service

- ~100's of 1MW devices can provide a significant benefit
- ~10's of 1MW devices can provide some benefit
- Energy neutral response signal (ignoring conversion losses)
- High power, low energy application

Challenges:

- Compensation
- Communications
- Scheduling



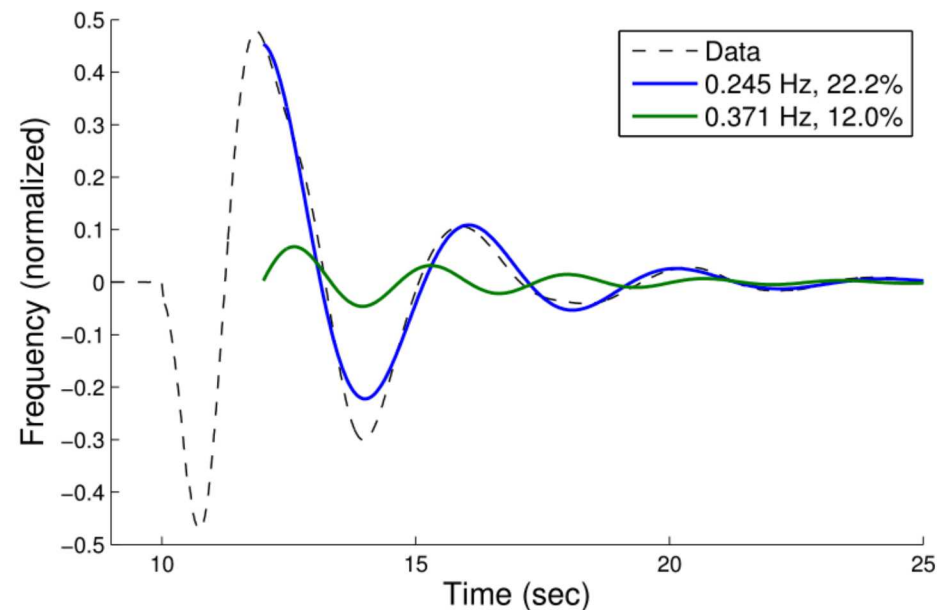
Prony's Method

Developed by Gaspard Riche de Prony in 1795

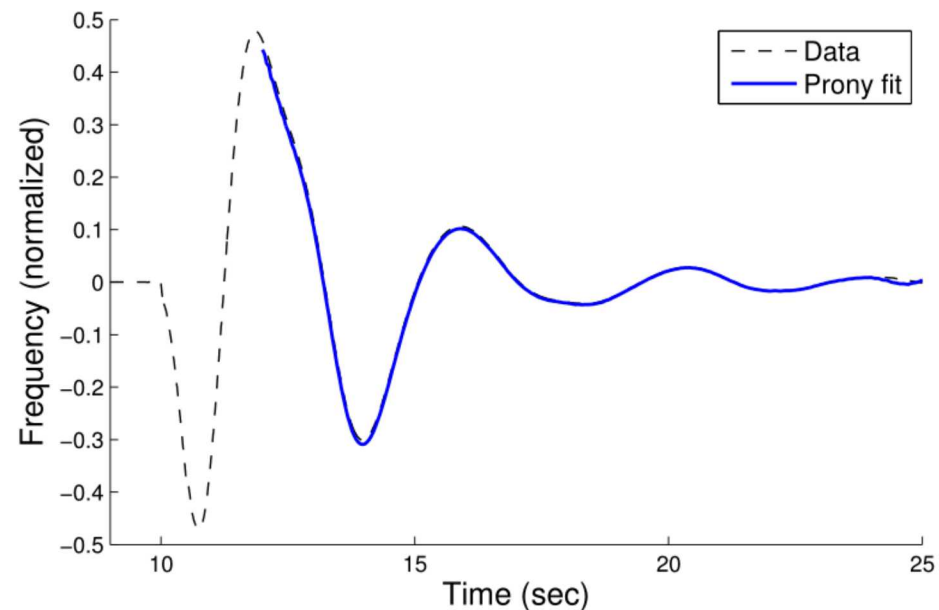
Similar to the Fourier transform

Expresses a function as a sum of sinusoids and damped exponentials

$$\hat{f}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N A_i e^{\sigma_i t} \cos(2\pi f_i t + \phi_i)$$



(a) Prony decomposition.



(b) Prony fit evaluation.

Prony's Method

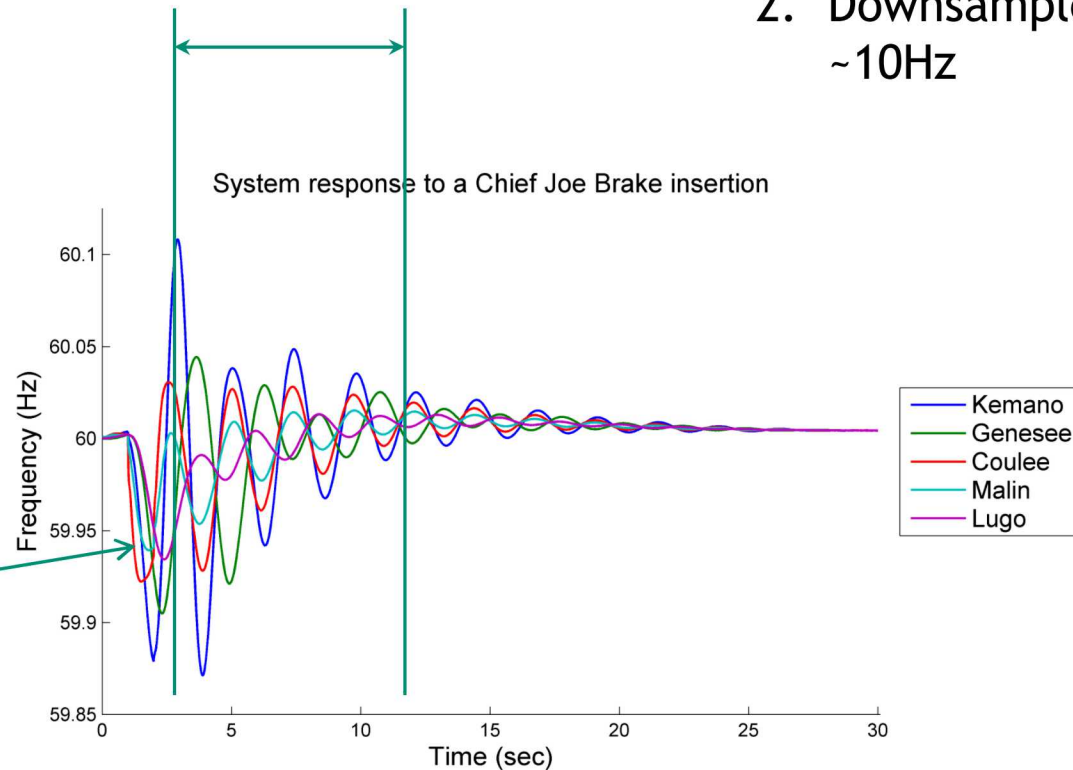
Signal selection and pre-processing

- Assumes a linear model
- Modes of interest are 0.1-1 Hz

Steps:

1. Identify suitable time period
2. Downsample to ~10Hz

Initial response
is often
nonlinear



Discrete-time system model

$$y(kT) = \sum_{i=1}^n B_i z_i^k, \quad k = 0, \dots, N - 1$$

The characteristic polynomial is given by

$$d(z) = 1 - a_1 z^{-1} + \dots - a_n z^{-n}$$

The three steps are:

1. Assuming a model order n , solve for the coefficients of the characteristic polynomial by solving the auto-regressive sequence using measured data (linear prediction step)

$$y(kT) = a_1 y((K - 1)T) + \dots + a_n y((K - n)T)$$

2. Calculate the roots of the characteristic equation \rightarrow poles of the discrete-time system.
3. Solve for the residues using the measured data and discrete-time poles (Vandermonde step)

Two different approaches for estimating model order

- Use a reasonable order based on some criteria (e.g. known, Akaike information criteria – AIC, Bayesian information criteria – BIC, etc.)
- Extreme over-fit (e.g. ~ 200 poles)
 - Most “practitioners” use this approach
 - Dominant modes are selected based on the magnitude of the residue
 - Size the least-squares problem so that it is slightly over-determined

Handling multiple signals

- Multi-signal Prony (not very popular)
- Apply traditional Prony
 - Use frequency pairs to identify mode frequencies (need to know the mode shape in advance)
 - Use the frequencies to estimate the residues (step 3) which give you mode shape

Estimating the uncertainty of the mode frequency/damping is a difficult problem

$$\begin{bmatrix} y(k) \\ y(k-1) \\ \vdots \\ y(k-N) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y(k-1) & y(k-2) & \dots & y(k-n) \\ y(k-2) & y(k-3) & \dots & y(k-n-1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y(k-N-1) & y(k-N-2) & \dots & y(k-N-n) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = Ax \quad x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y \quad A \in \mathbf{R}^{N+1 \times n}$$

Two free parameters

- Number of poles, n
- Number of equations, $N+1$
- Number of data points, $n+N+1$
- Typically select

Solve the least squares probl $n = \text{round} \left(\frac{\text{number of samples}}{2} \right) - 11, \quad n \approx N - 21$

Eigensystem Realization Algorithm (ERA)

ERA was developed by Ho and Kalman

Assumes a finite dimension, discrete-time, linear, time invariant system model:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The free impulse } x(k+1) &= Ax(k) + Bu(k)_{\text{uence}} \\ y(k) &= Cx(k) + Du(k) \end{aligned}$$

The ERA system realization problem can be formulated as: given the output data $y(k)$, construct the constant matrices $[A;B;C]$ in terms of $y(k)$ subject to (*)

$$y(k) = CA^{k-1}B \quad (*)$$

ERA algorithm steps:

1. Form the block-Hankel matrix

$$H_{rs}(k-1) = \begin{bmatrix} Y(k) & Y(k+1) & \cdots & Y(k+s-1) \\ Y(k+1) & Y(k+2) & \cdots & Y(k+s) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ Y(k+r-1) & Y(k+r) & \cdots & Y(k+s+r-2) \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Select or estimate the model order

$$H_{rs}(0) = PDQ^T$$

$$\delta = \frac{d_i}{d_1} \qquad d_i = \begin{cases} d_i & \delta > \text{Threshold} \\ 0 & \delta \leq \text{Threshold} \end{cases}$$

ERA algorithm steps (continued)

4. Estimate the system model

$$\hat{A} = D^{-\frac{1}{2}} P^T H_{rs}(1) Q D^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\hat{B} = D^{\frac{1}{2}} Q^T E_m$$

$$\hat{C} = E_p^T P D^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

5. Estimate the mode shape and amplitude

$$E_p^T = [I_p, 0_p, \dots, 0_p] \quad E_m^T = [I_m, 0_m, \dots, 0_m]$$

6. Can also estimate the modal amplitude coherence (degree to which a mode is excited by a specific input) and modal phase collinearity (strength of the linear relationship between the real and imaginary parts of the mode shape)

mode shape = $\hat{C}\mu$, mode amplitude = $\mu^{-1}\hat{B}$, μ = right e.v. of \hat{A}

Eigensystem Realization Algorithm (ERA)

Applied to ringdown data

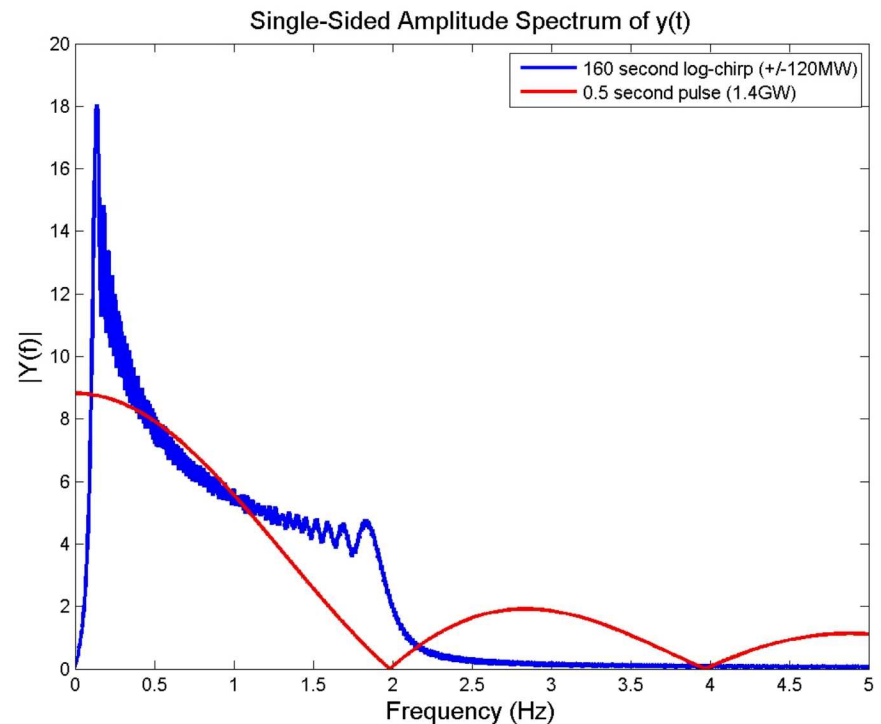
- Same process as for Prony (downsample, select linear response)
- More automated than Prony

Applied to other system stimulation (e.g. PDCI modulation)

- PDCI modulation provides a better excitation than Chief Joseph brake insertion (in simulation)

Steps:

1. Excite system and measure response
2. Calculate frequency domain transfer functions
3. Calculate impulse response from frequency domain transfer functions
4. Estimate system model using ERA



Eigensystem Realization Algorithm (ERA)

Advantages of ERA with a broad spectrum stimulus (e.g. log-chirp)

- Stimulate the system in the frequencies of interest
- Opportunities for additional filtering
 - Time domain response data
 - Frequency domain
 - Time domain impulse response
- Using a chirp signal (linear or logarithmic), relatively easy to eyeball frequency response
- More automated than Prony analysis
- You get the full system model (if you need it), Prony only gives you eigenvalues

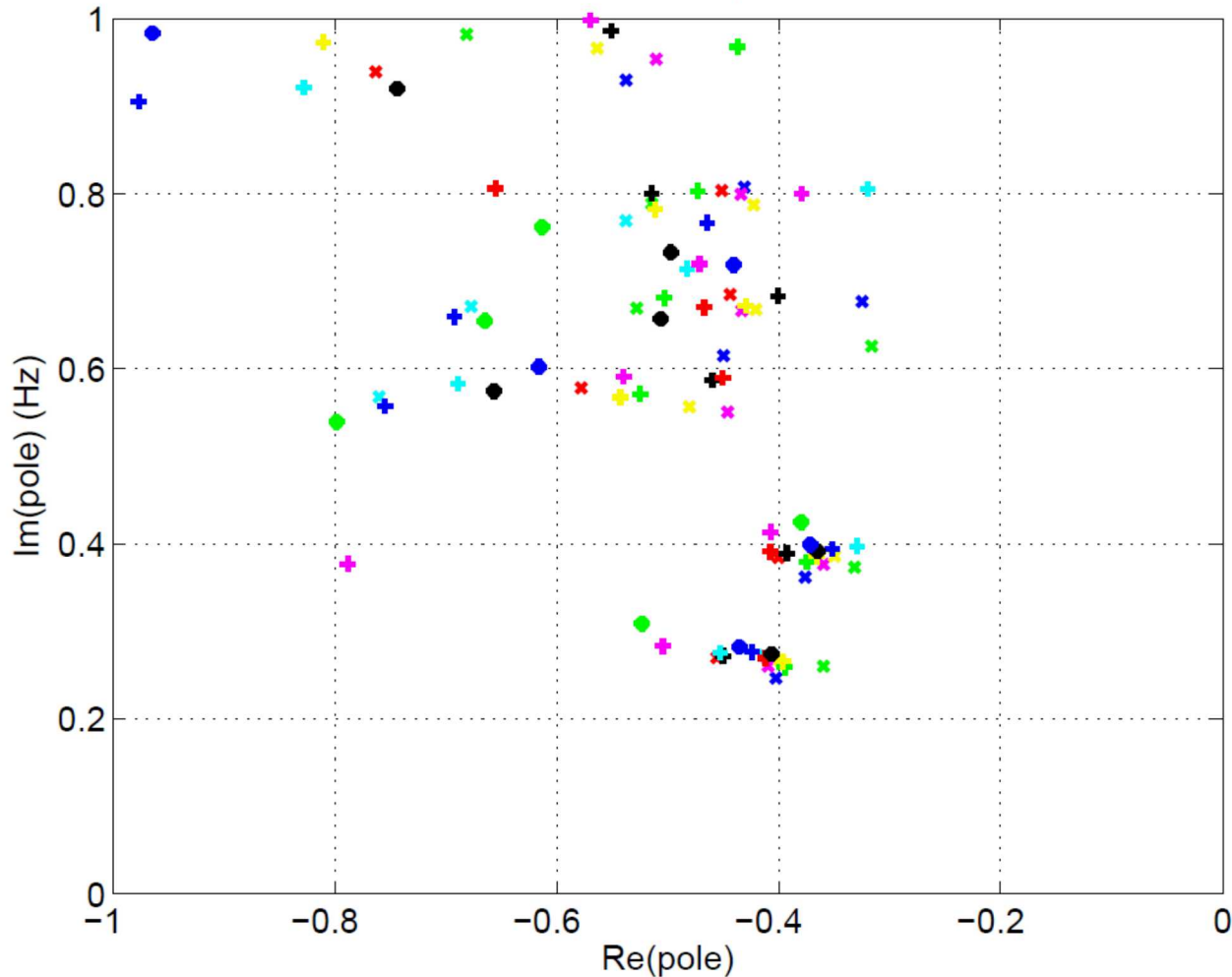
ERA does not totally automate the modal analysis

- Still need to look at mode shape to group results (see plot on next page)

Eigensystem Realization Algorithm (ERA)

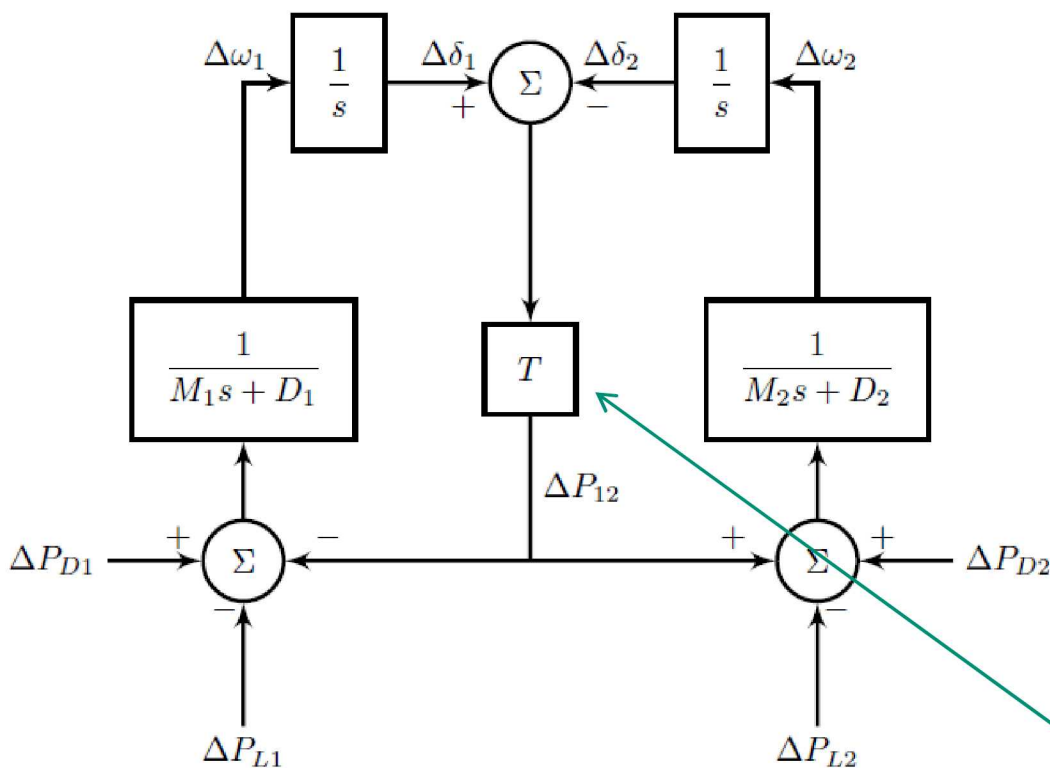


2015HS Case, ERA



- ✱ Nominal
- ✱ 2015HS: 12.00GW solar, 2.60GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 24.00GW solar, 2.60GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 36.00GW solar, 2.60GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 1.30GW solar, 8.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 12.00GW solar, 8.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 24.00GW solar, 8.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 36.00GW solar, 8.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 1.30GW solar, 16.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 12.00GW solar, 16.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 24.00GW solar, 16.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 36.00GW solar, 16.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 1.30GW solar, 24.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 12.00GW solar, 24.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 24.00GW solar, 24.00GW wind
- ✱ 2015HS: 36.00GW solar, 24.00GW wind

Two Area System Model



Quantity	Description	Units
M_i	Area i inertia	sec
D_i	Area i damping	pu
T	Synchronizing torque coefficient	pu
ΔP_{Li}	Area i load variation	pu
ΔP_{Di}	Area i damping torque	pu
$\Delta \omega_i$	Area i speed deviation	pu
$\Delta \delta_i$	Area i angle deviation	pu
ΔP_{12}	Deviation in tie line flow	pu

As inertia decreases \rightarrow system responds faster

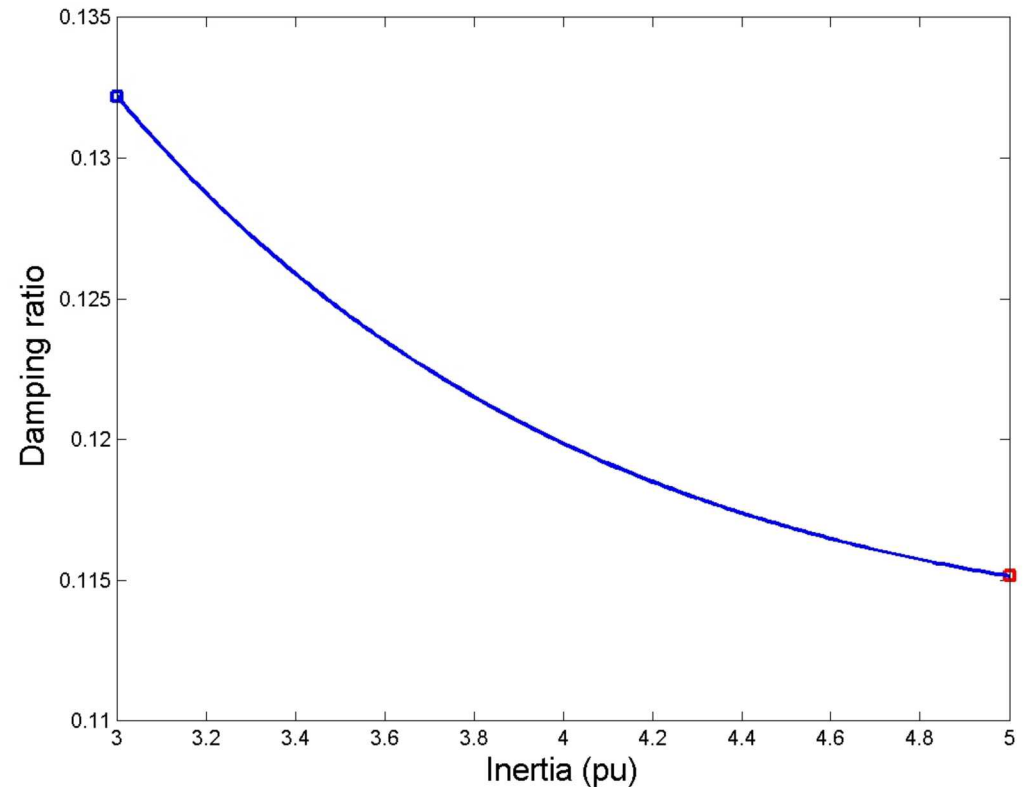
$$\zeta \omega_n \approx \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{D_2}{M_2} + \frac{D_1}{M_1} - \frac{D_1 + D_2}{M_1 + M_2} \right)$$

Transmission line stiffness

$$T = \frac{V_1 V_2}{X_T} \cos(\delta) \approx \frac{V_1 V_2}{X_T} \delta$$

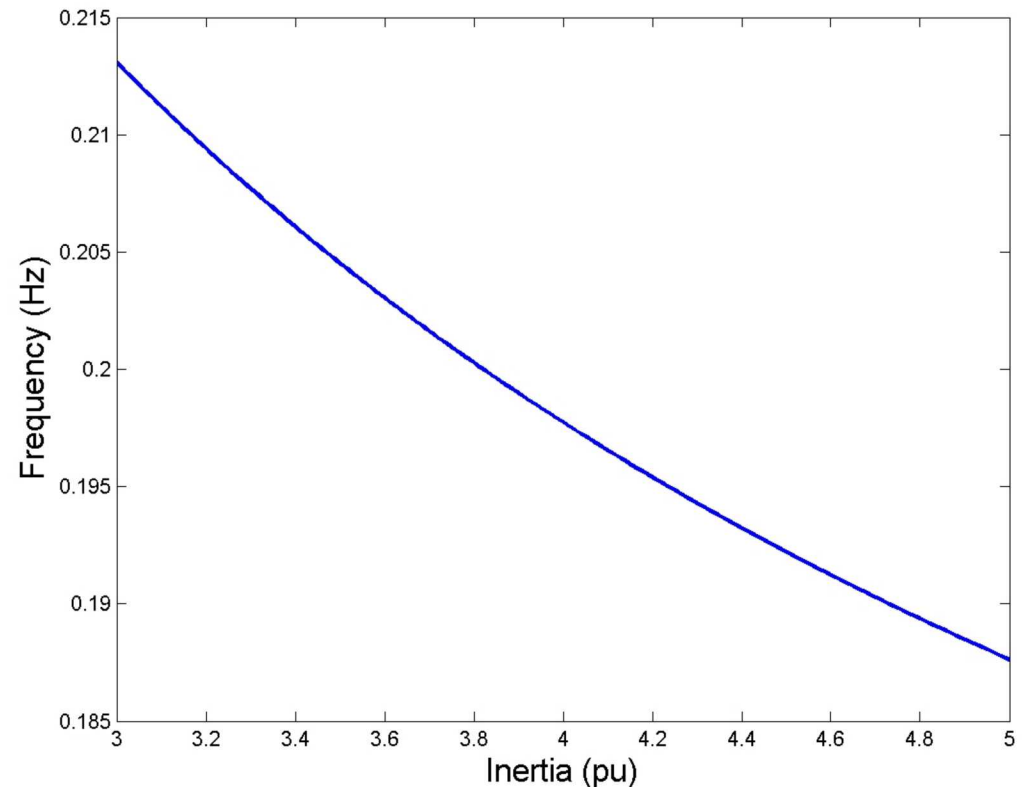
- As inertia is reduced, damping increases slightly (not changing damping)
- An equal reduction in inertia and damping (e.g. 25%) slightly reduces damping (0.1152 -> 0.1109)

Parameter	Value	Units
M_1	4	<i>sec</i>
M_2	3 – 5	<i>sec</i>
D_1	1.2	<i>pu</i>
D_2	1.2	<i>pu</i>
T	3.132	<i>pu</i>



- As inertia is reduced, frequency increases (not changing damping)
- An equal reduction in inertia and damping (e.g. 25%) still results in an increased frequency (0.1977 Hz \rightarrow 0.2138 Hz)

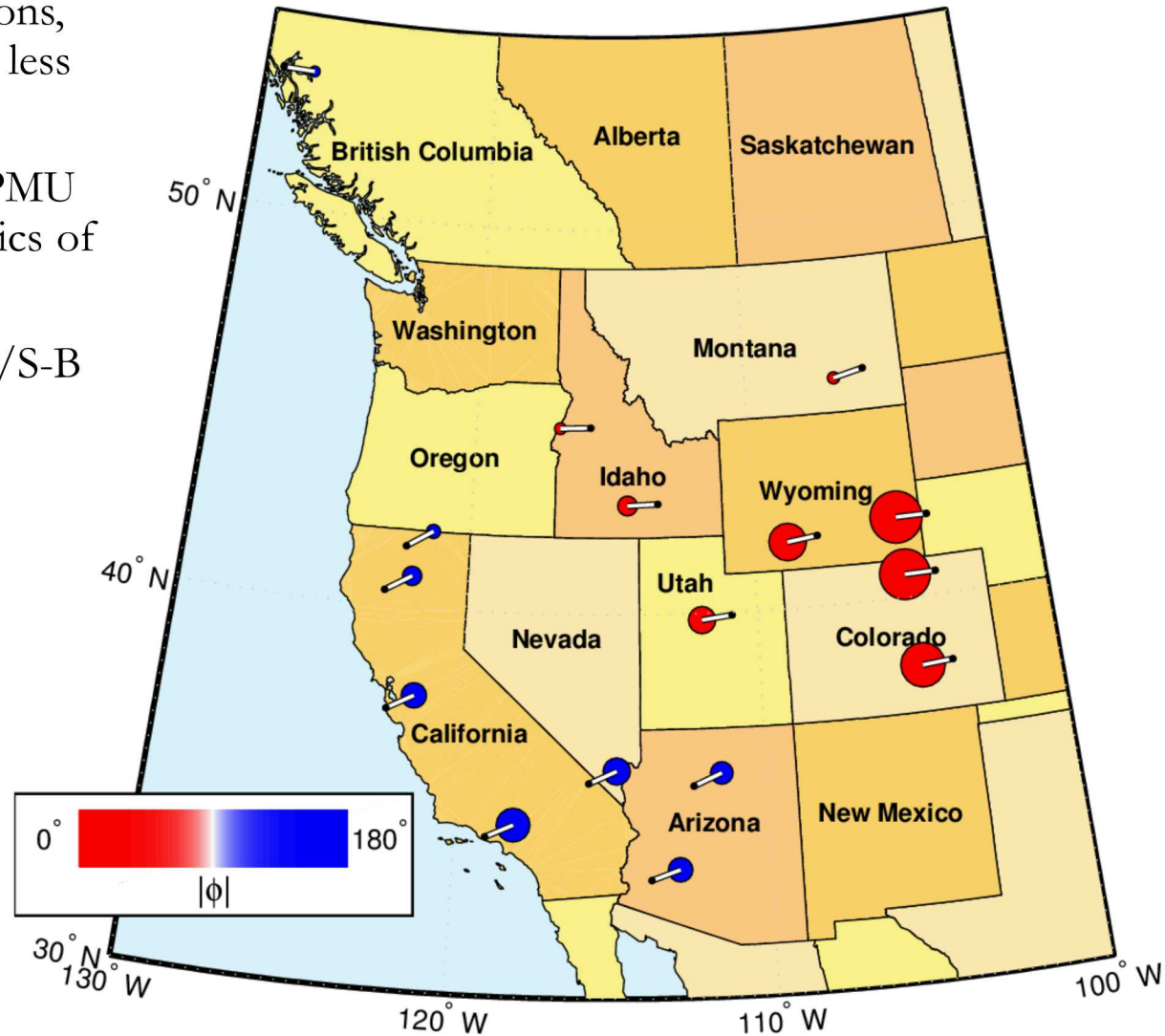
Parameter	Value	Units
M_1	4	<i>sec</i>
M_2	3 – 5	<i>sec</i>
D_1	1.2	<i>pu</i>
D_2	1.2	<i>pu</i>
T	3.132	<i>pu</i>



For high renewable penetrations,
an East-West mode becomes less
damped ($8 \rightarrow 6\%$)

In the process of analyzing PMU
data to verify the characteristics of
the mode

Very close in frequency to N/S-B
mode (~ 0.4 Hz)



WECC – High Renewable Case

For all modes (except for the E/W mode)

- Mode frequency increased
- The change in mode frequency was greater for
- Mode damping stayed relatively constant
- Mode shape did not change significantly

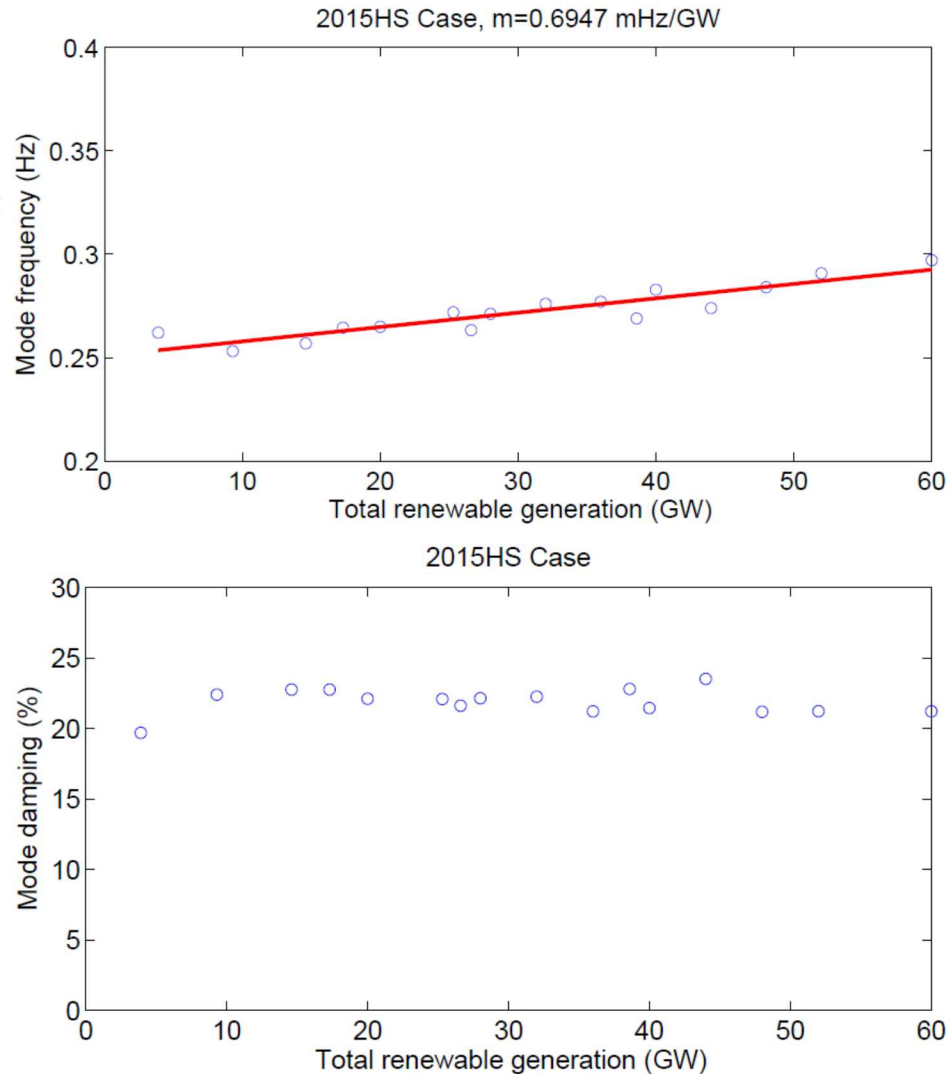


Figure 19: ERA results, 2015 heavy summer, NS mode A.

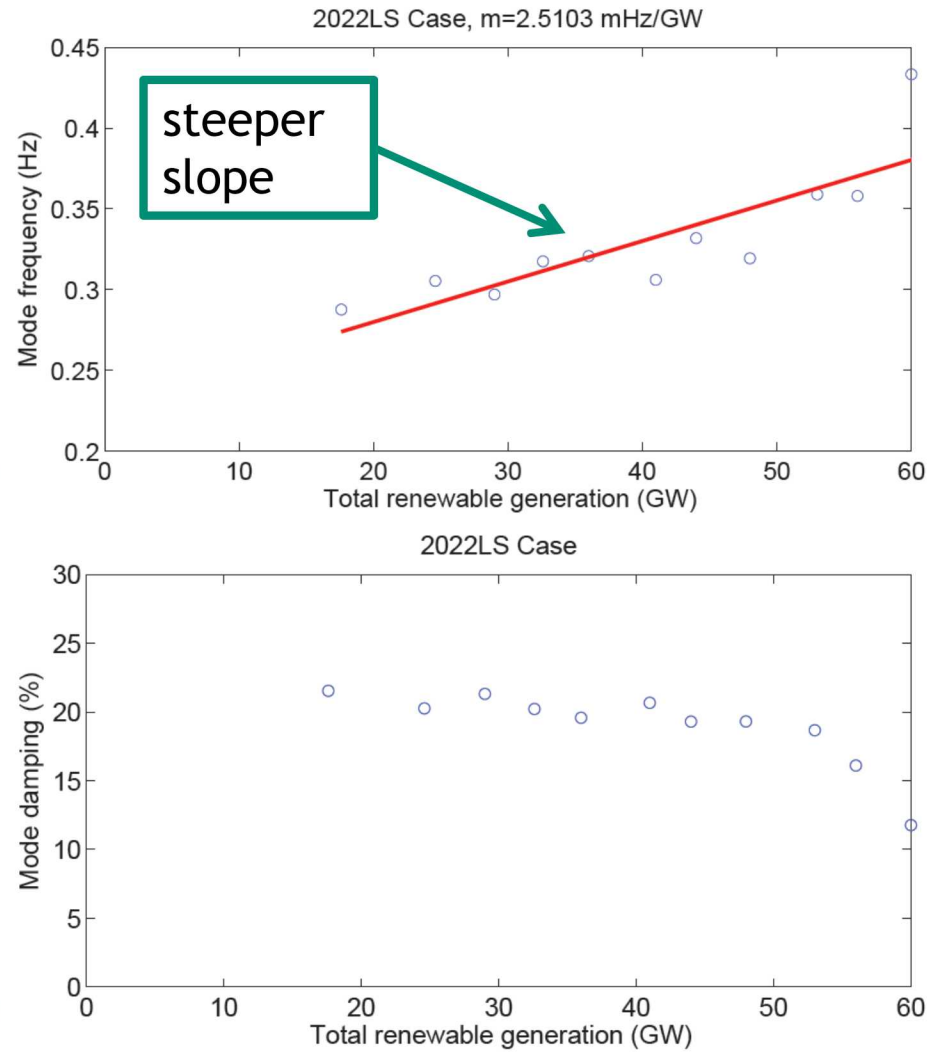
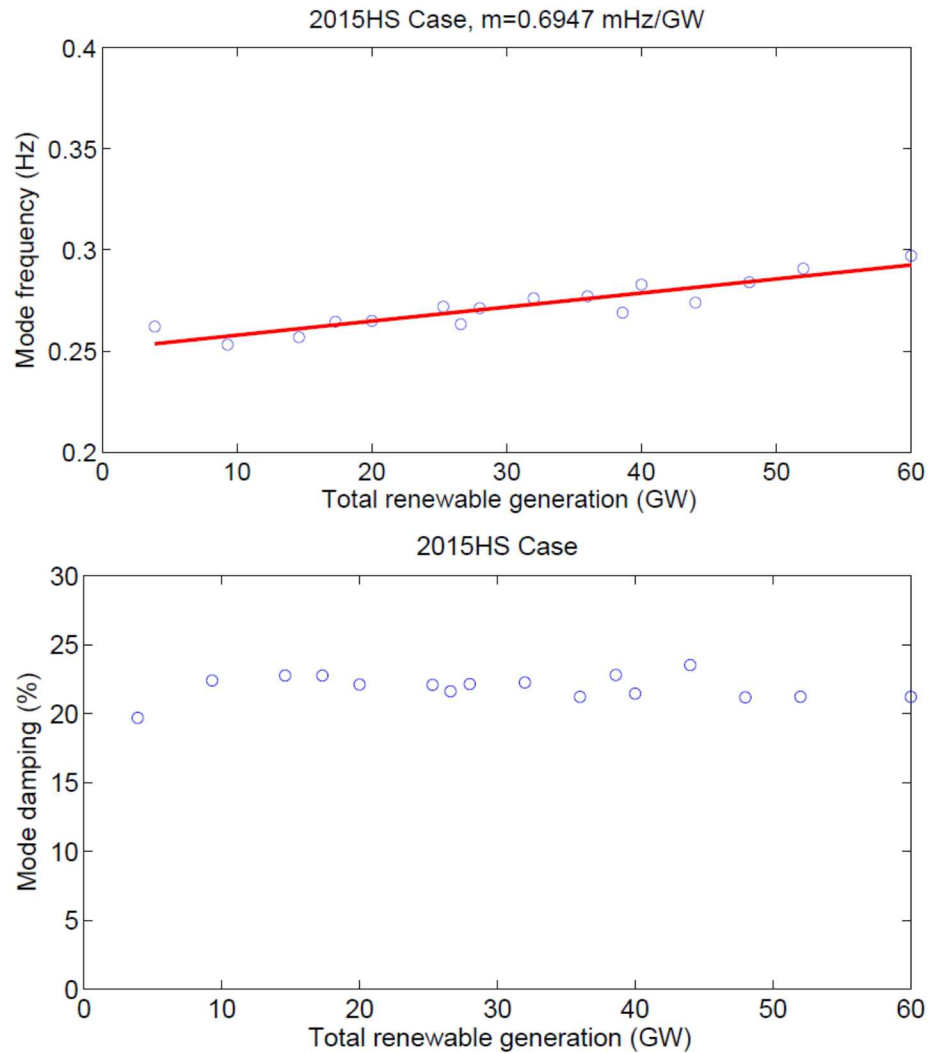


Figure 19: ERA results, 2015 heavy summer, NS mode A.

Figure 21: ERA results, 2022 light spring, NS mode A.