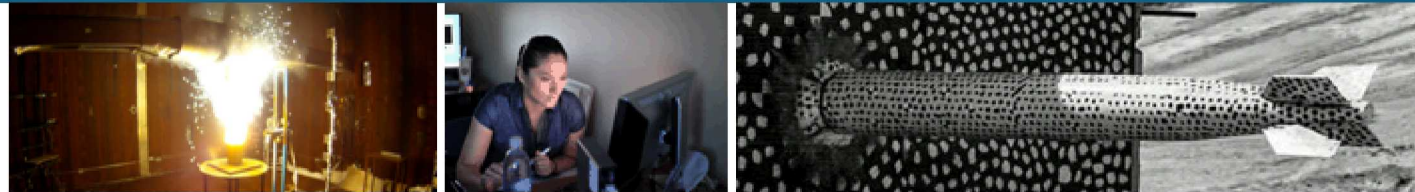


Fast Frequency Support in Low Inertia Power System Using Energy Storage



PRESENTED BY

Ujjwol Tamrakar, Ph.D.

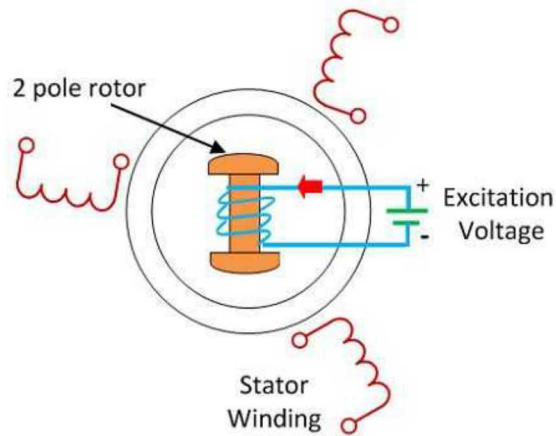
Postdoctoral Appointee
Energy Storage Technology and Systems Department



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-mission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

2 Inertia in Power Systems

- Synchronized operation
 - Largely depends on “*inertia*” from generators
- Rotational energy stored in the rotor



$$\text{Rotational Energy}(E_{rot}) = \frac{1}{2} M \omega^2$$

$$\underbrace{\text{Rotational Energy}(E_{rot})}_{\text{System “Inertia” (MWs)}} = \underbrace{H_i}_{\substack{\text{Inertia} \\ \text{Constant} \\ \text{(s)}}} \underbrace{S_{rated}}_{\substack{\text{Power} \\ \text{Rating} \\ \text{(MW)}}$$

- Whenever power imbalance occurs
 - Rotational energy is released/absorbed
 - Prevents over-speeding/under-speeding of the generator
 - Keeps frequency within limits

Effect of Renewables on Frequency Stability



Photovoltaic Power Plants

No Rotational Energy
No Inertia

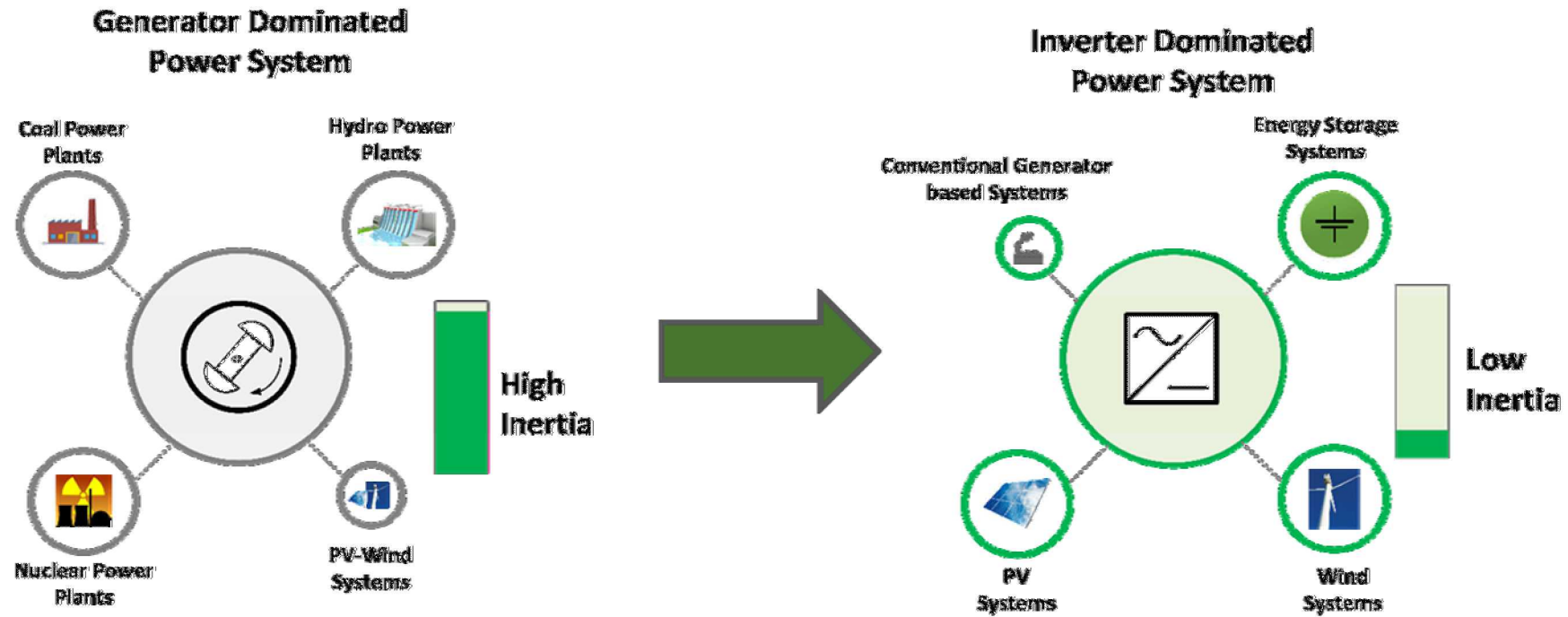


Wind Power Plants

Coupled through power electronic converters
Limited Inertia

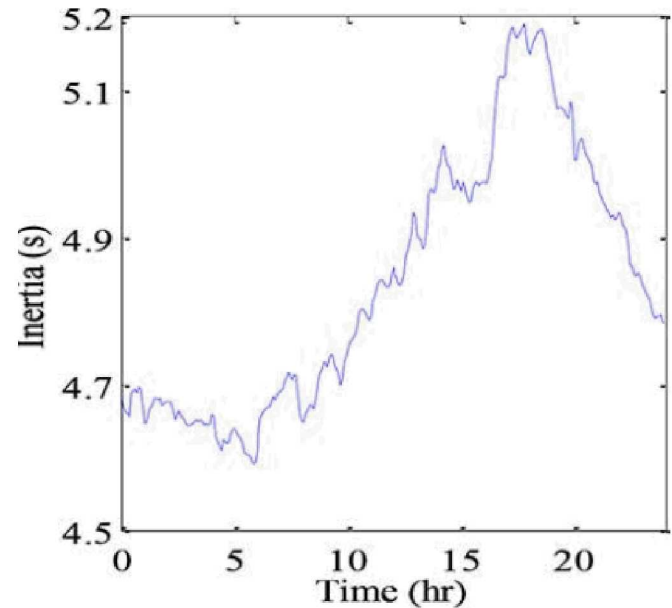
- Displacement of conventional generation leads to frequency stability issues
 - Large frequency deviations and Rate-of-Change-of- Frequency (ROCOF)
 - Under Frequency Load Shedding (UFLS) relays can be triggered
 - Causing cascaded tripping

Transition Towards an Inverter Dominated Power System



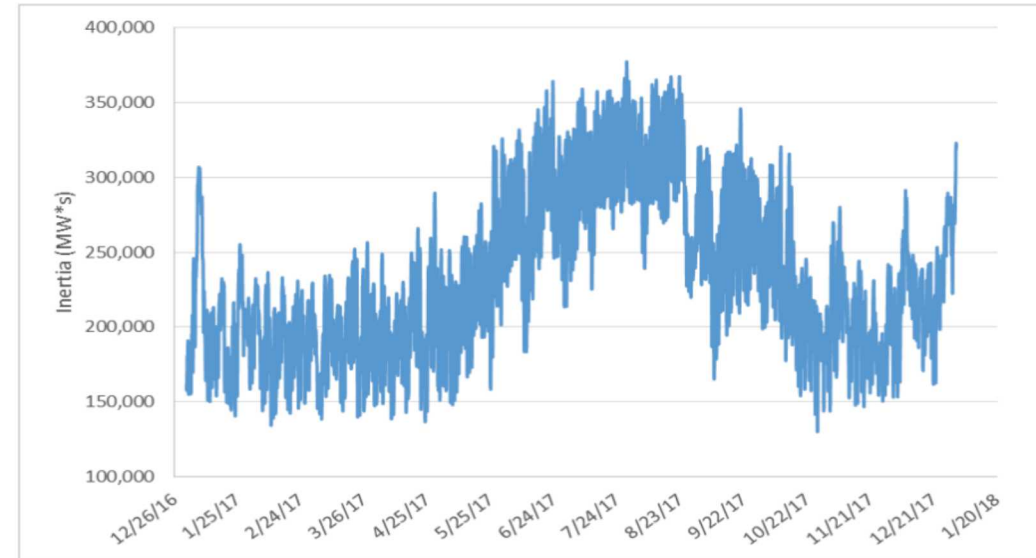
- Evolution towards inverter dominated power system
 - Typically non-dispatchable
- Inertia in power system getting reduced everyday
- Penetration of renewables is limited due to stability concerns

Uncertainty in Grid Inertia with Renewables



Daily inertia variations from the UK grid

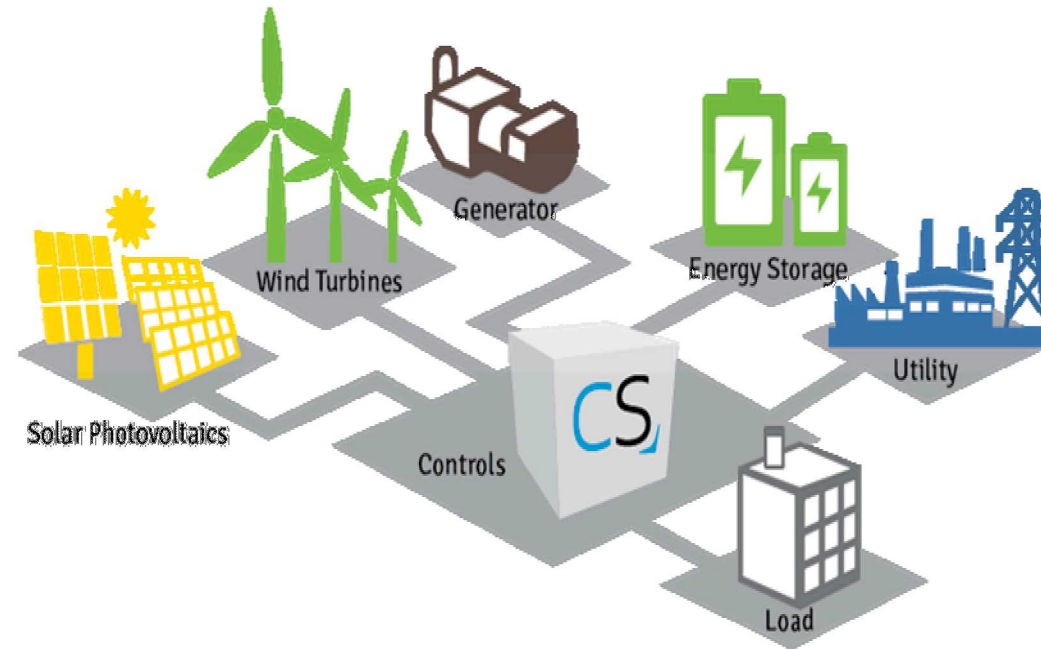
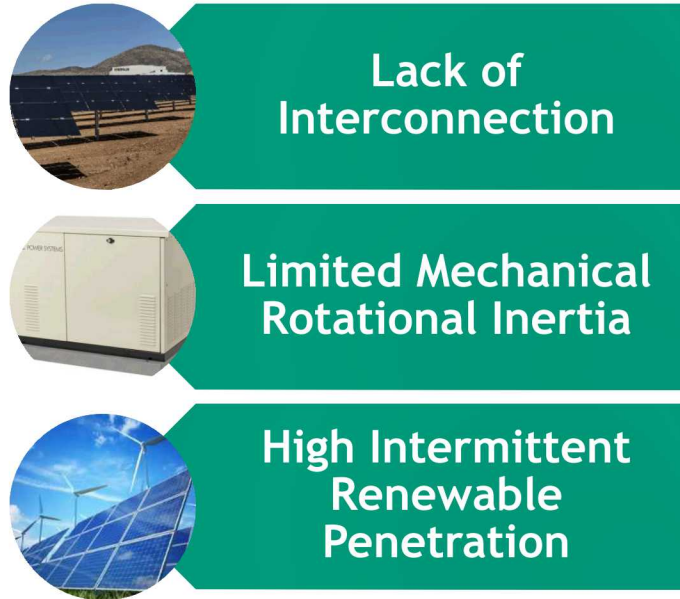
Source: X. Cao, B. Stephen, I. F. Abdulhadi, C. D. Booth and G. M. Burt, "Switching Markov Gaussian Models for Dynamic Power System Inertia Estimation," IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 31, no. 5, pp. 3394-3403, Sept. 2016.



Seasonal variation in inertia of ERCOT

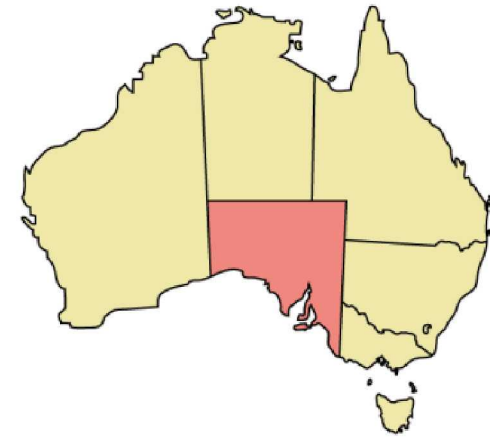
Source: ERCOT. (2018) *Inertia: Basic Concepts and Impacts on the ERCOT Grid*.
http://www.ercot.com/content/wcm/lists/144927/Inertia_Basic_Concepts_Impacts_On_ERCOT_v0.pdf

- Inertia dependent on the number of synchronous generations at any given time
- Inertia variability more pronounced in microgrids
- Design of controllers and protection systems becoming challenging



- Microgrid definition:
 - “A small network of electricity users with a local source of supply that is usually attached to a centralized national grid but is able to function independently”
- Lower inertia response - microgrids more prone to frequency stability problems

- South Australian Blackout
 - September 2018, 2016 – 850,000 people affected
- Multiple wind farms tripping due to a severe storm
 - Rapid voltage/frequency events – prevented wind turbines staying online
 - Output of wind turbines fell by 456 MW over less than 7s
 - Frequency plummeted – Cascaded Tripping

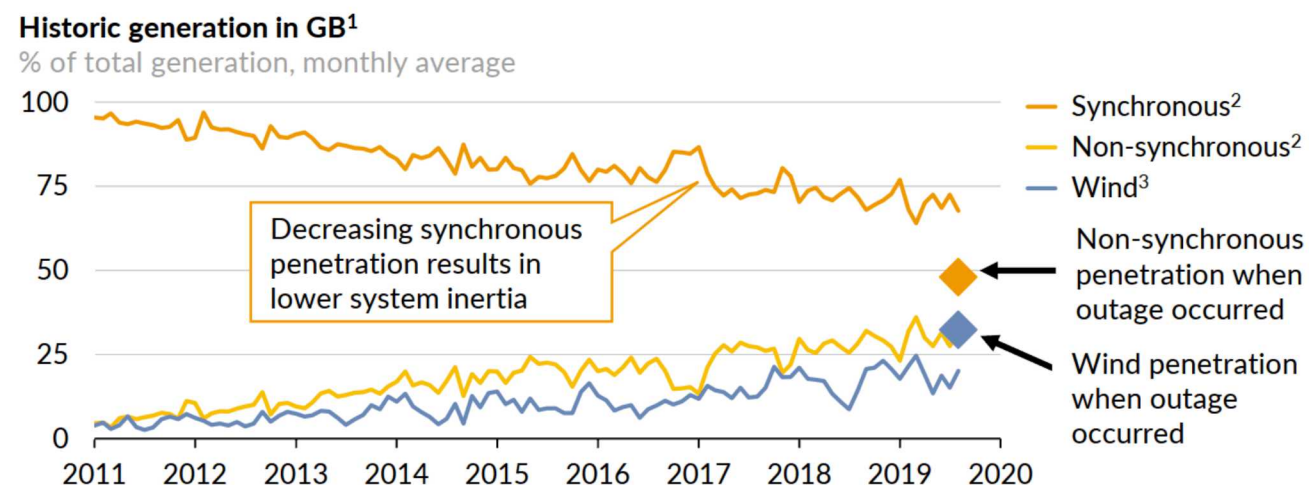
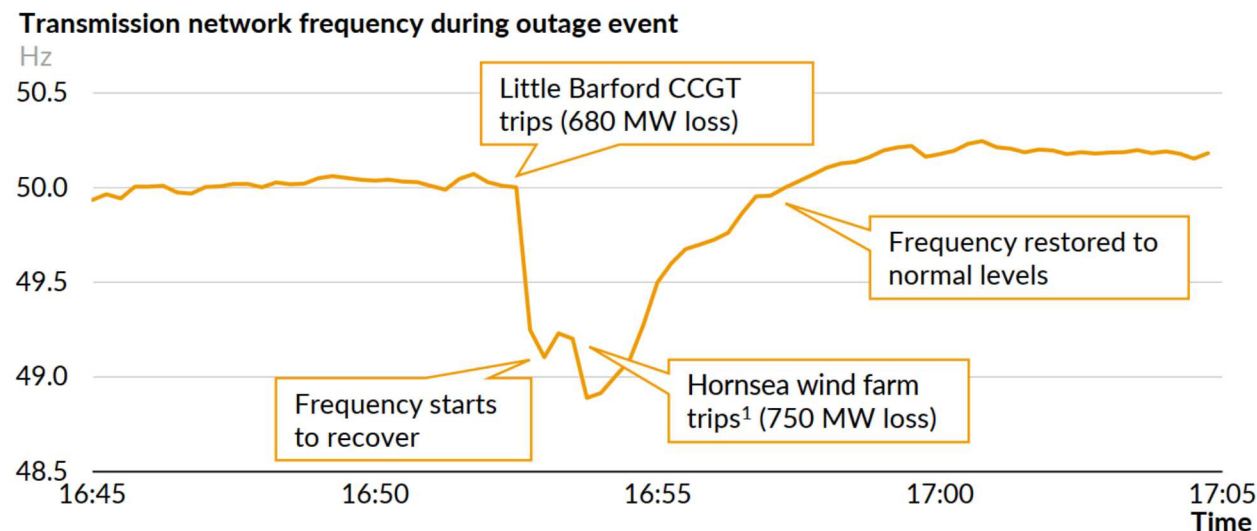


Source: **Smart Power Electronic Converters May Help Stabilize the Grid.** Available: <https://spectrum.ieee.org/energywise/energy/the-smarter-grid/can-power-electronic-converters-lead-to-grid-stability> [Online]

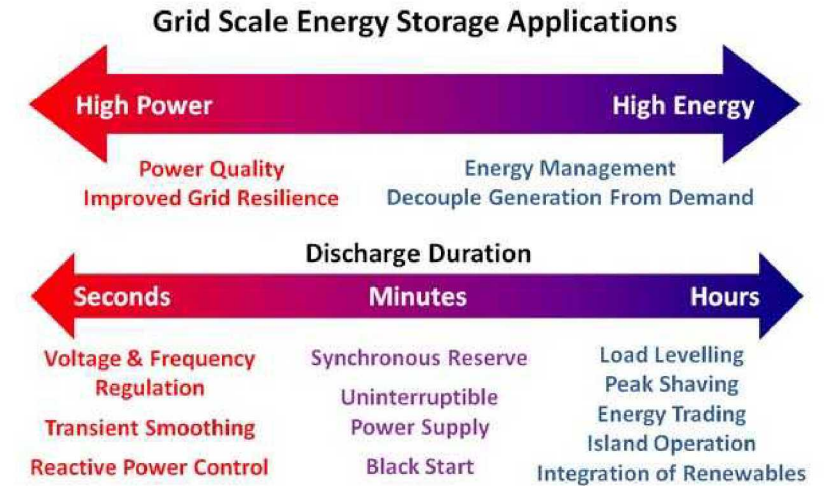
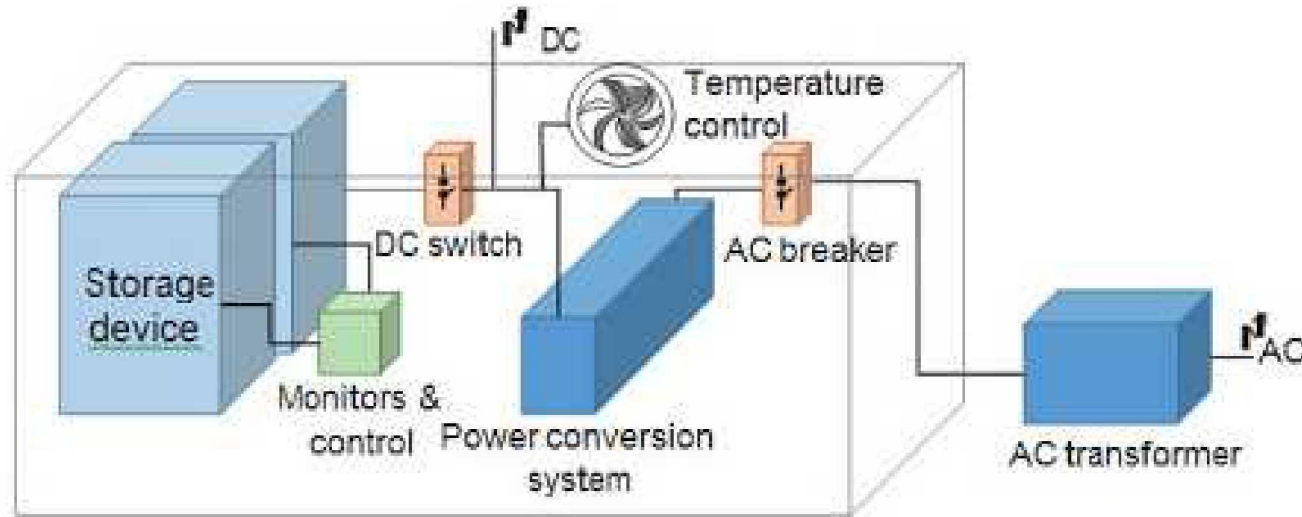
Source: **Wind Farms Settings to Blame for SA Blackout.** <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-28/wind-farm-settings-to-blame-for-sa-blackout-aemo-says/8389920> [Online].

Real World Events Due to Low Inertia: UK Blackout

- Great Britain experienced a power outage – August 2019
 - 1 million people affected for 15 - 45min
 - Rail transit services and hospitals affected
- Low inertia the root cause
 - System did not have enough fast-frequency services procured



Basics of Energy Storage System



- **Components of Energy Storage Systems:**
 - Storage device (battery)
 - Monitors and controls (Battery Management System – BMS)
 - Power Conversion System (DC-AC conversion)
- Applications can range from high power to high energy
- Flexibility resource to improve grid reliability and resiliency

- Combination of control algorithms, energy storage systems, RESs and power electronics that emulates inertia

Equation to emulate synchronous generator behavior

$$P_{SI} = K_p \Delta f + K_i \frac{d \Delta f}{dt}$$

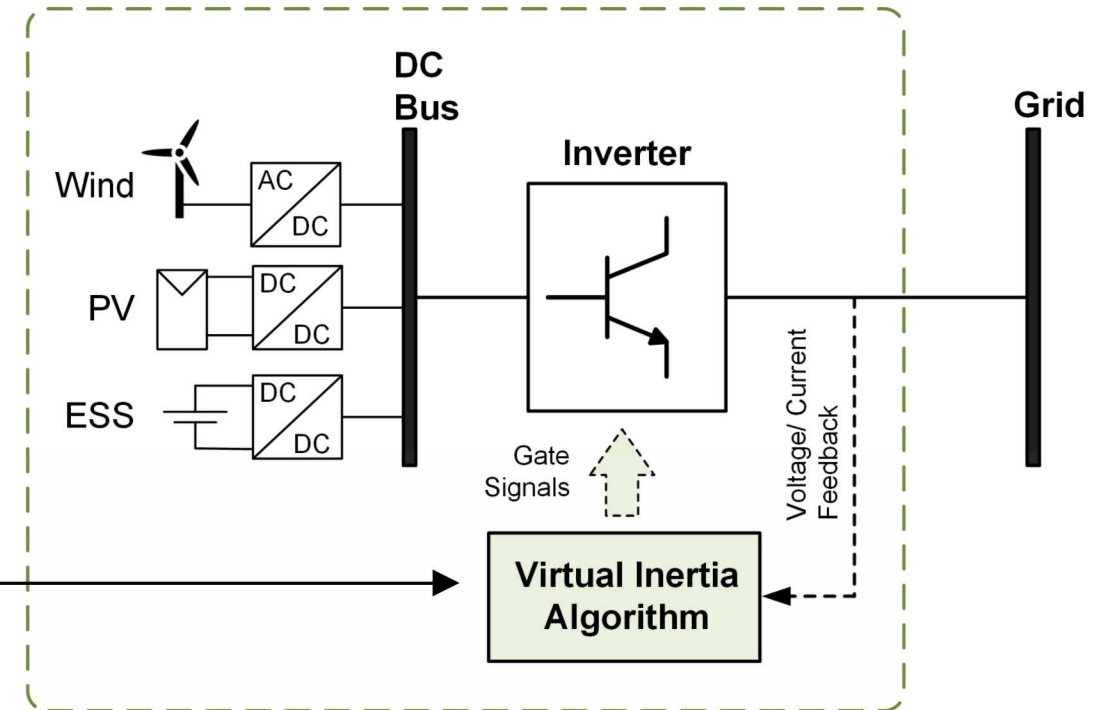
1 Damping Constant

- Similar to frequency droop
- Returns frequency to steady state value

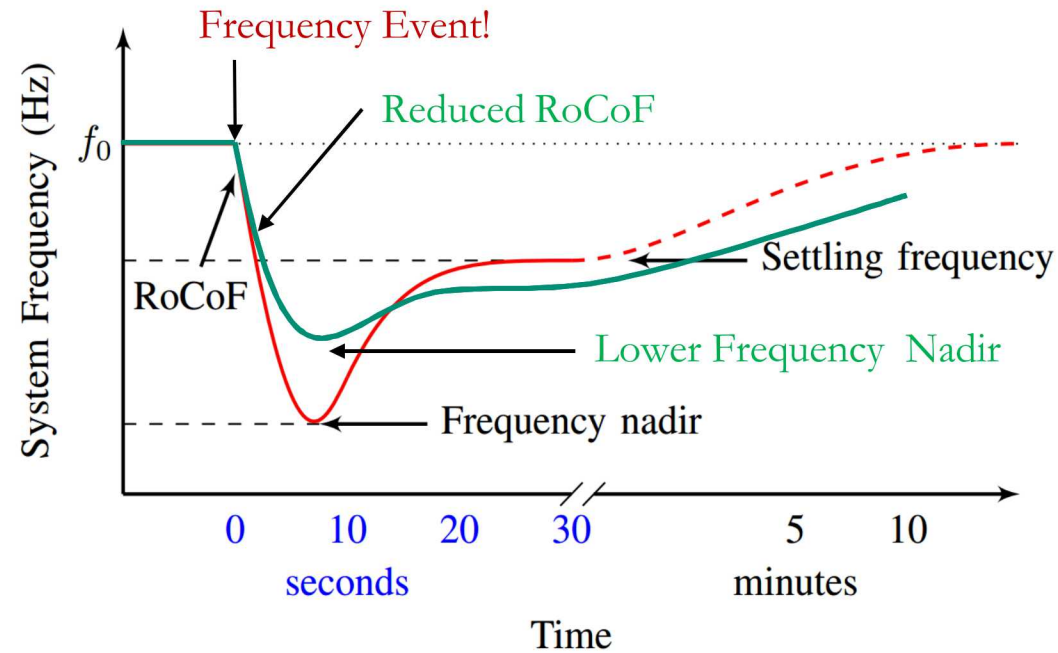
2 Inertial Constant

- Tries to arrest the rate of change of frequency
- Injects/absorbs power only during transient

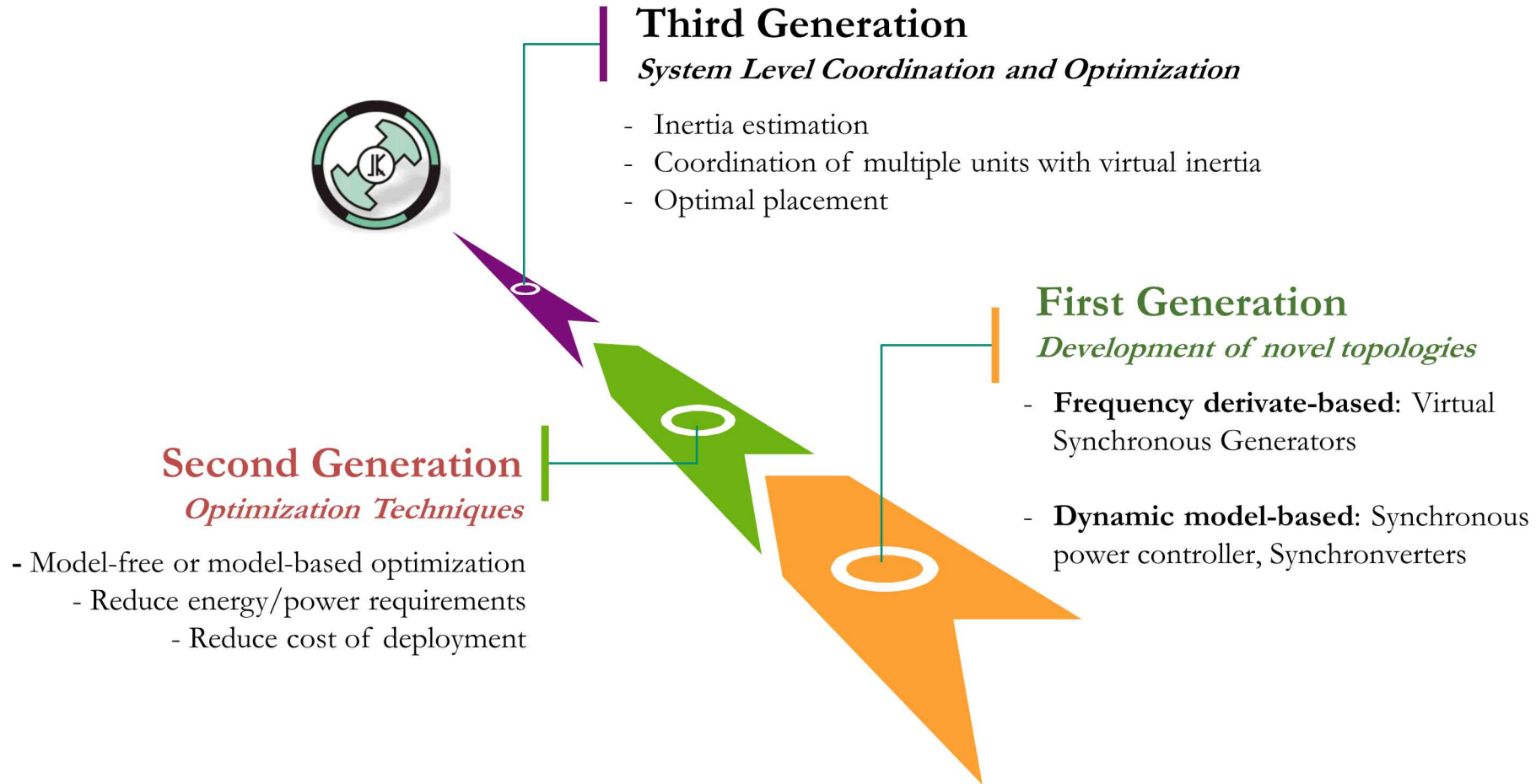
Virtual Inertia Emulation



Fast-Frequency Support through Virtual Inertia Using Energy Storage

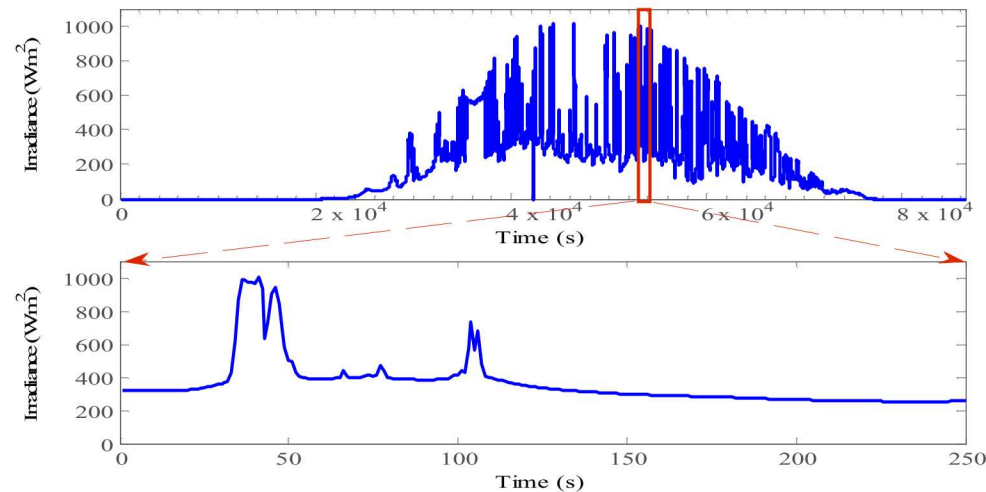
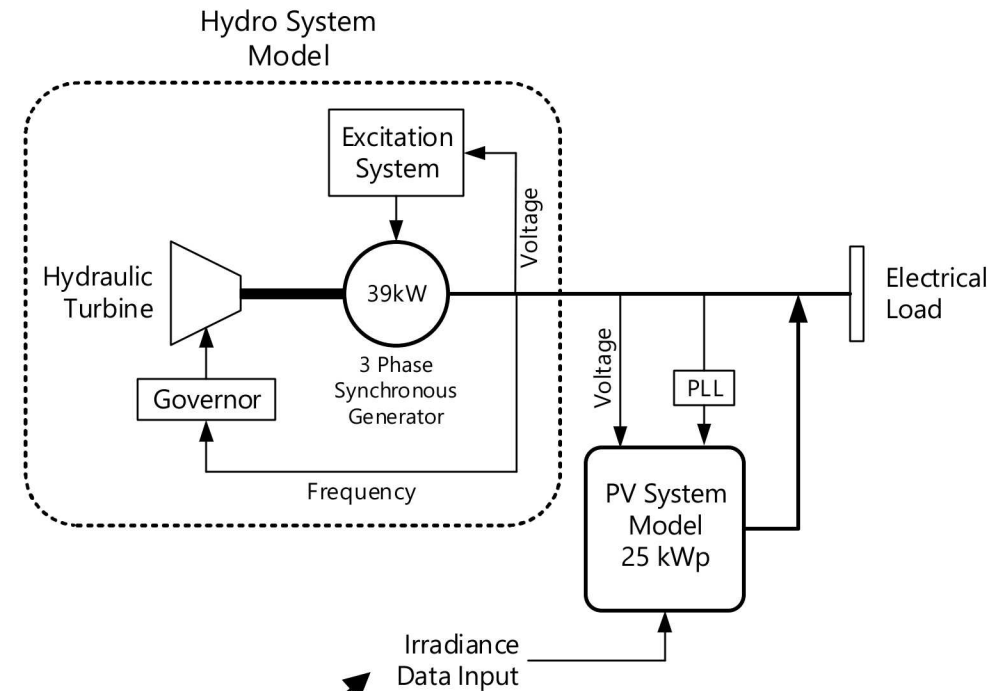


- In initial few seconds, no governor response
 - Inertial response responsible to maintain power balance
 - Decreased inertia means frequency changes and a large rate of change frequency (ROCOF)
 - Trigger frequency relays → Cascade outage → Frequency instability
- Emulation of virtual inertia through power electronic converters
 - Ensures the ROCOF is minimized
 - Ensures frequency does not dip to low (or high)



Virtual Inertia: Case Study of a PV-Hydro Microgrid System

- 64 kW PV-hydro microgrid benchmark
 - 39 kW hydro system with a 25 kWp PV system
- Hydro master unit which controls system frequency
- Inertia constant set to 2 s
- PV system model as current sources
- Power output depends on irradiance data input

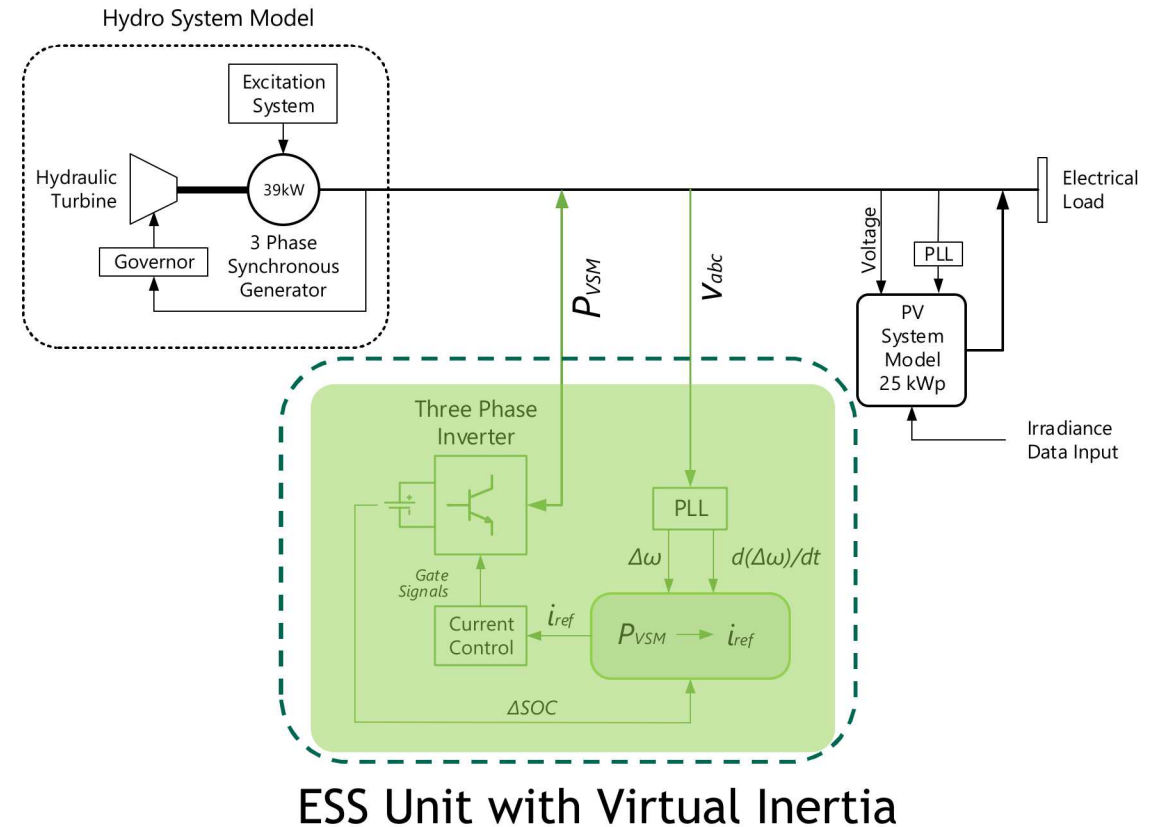


Virtual Inertia: Case Study of a PV-Hydro Microgrid System

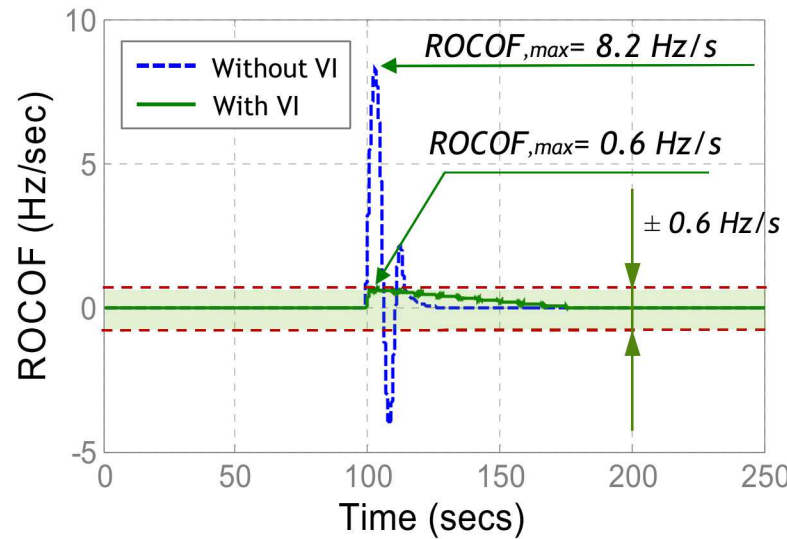
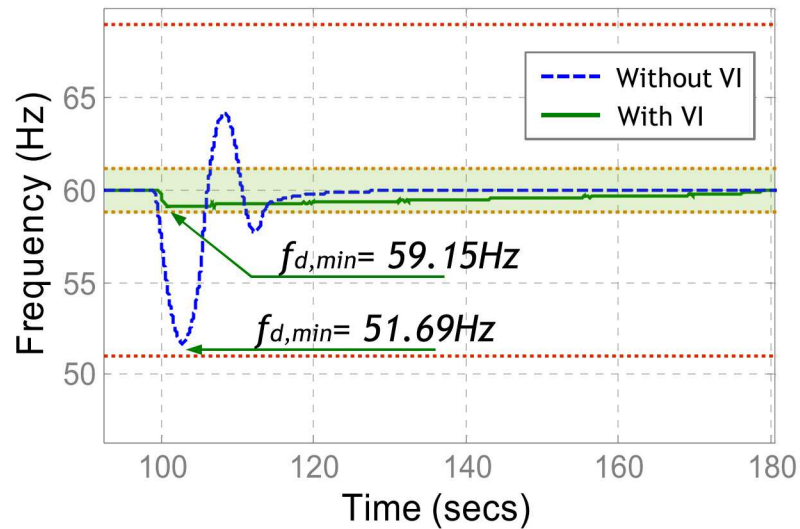
- Power to be injected/ absorbed calculated based on:

$$P_{VSM} = K_i \frac{d(\Delta\omega)}{dt} + K_p(\Delta\omega) + K_{soc}(\Delta SOC)$$

- SOC (State of Charge) of battery maintained at 50% with the control loop so that ESS unit is always ready charge or discharge power
- Current controller then generates gate signals for three phase inverter
- Transient analysis performed in OPAL-RT real time digital simulator through software in the loop simulations



Frequency Variations and ROCOF due to Step Change in Irradiance

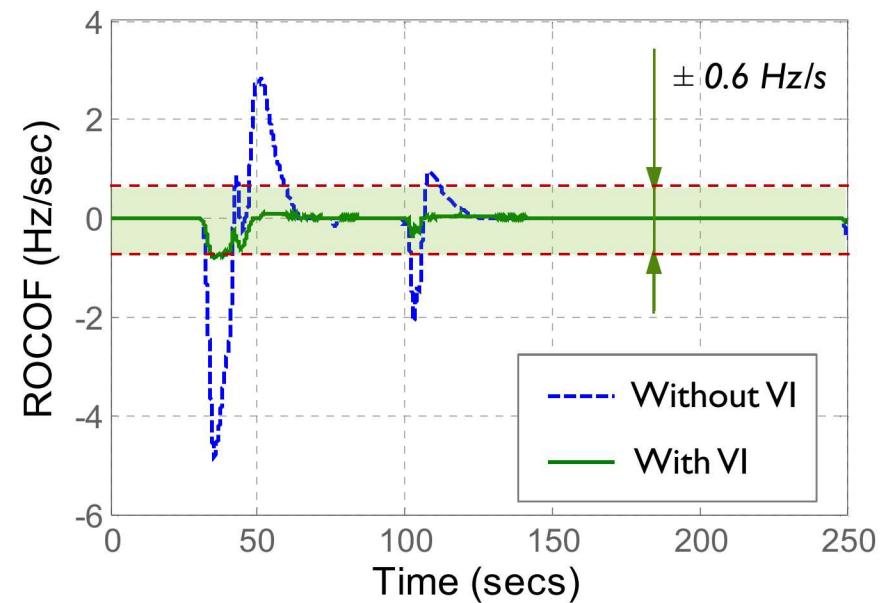
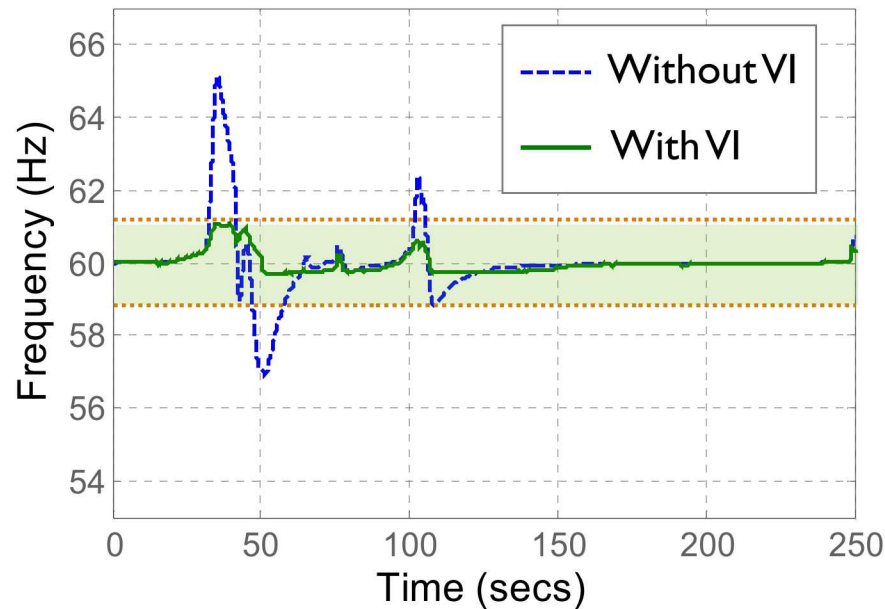


ISO 8528-5 Recommendations for Gensets

Normal frequency range = $\pm 2.5\%$
 Critical frequency range = $\pm 15\%$
 Recovery time = 10 s
 Max. ROCOF = 0.6 Hz/s
 (Ref. : ISO Standard 8528-5)

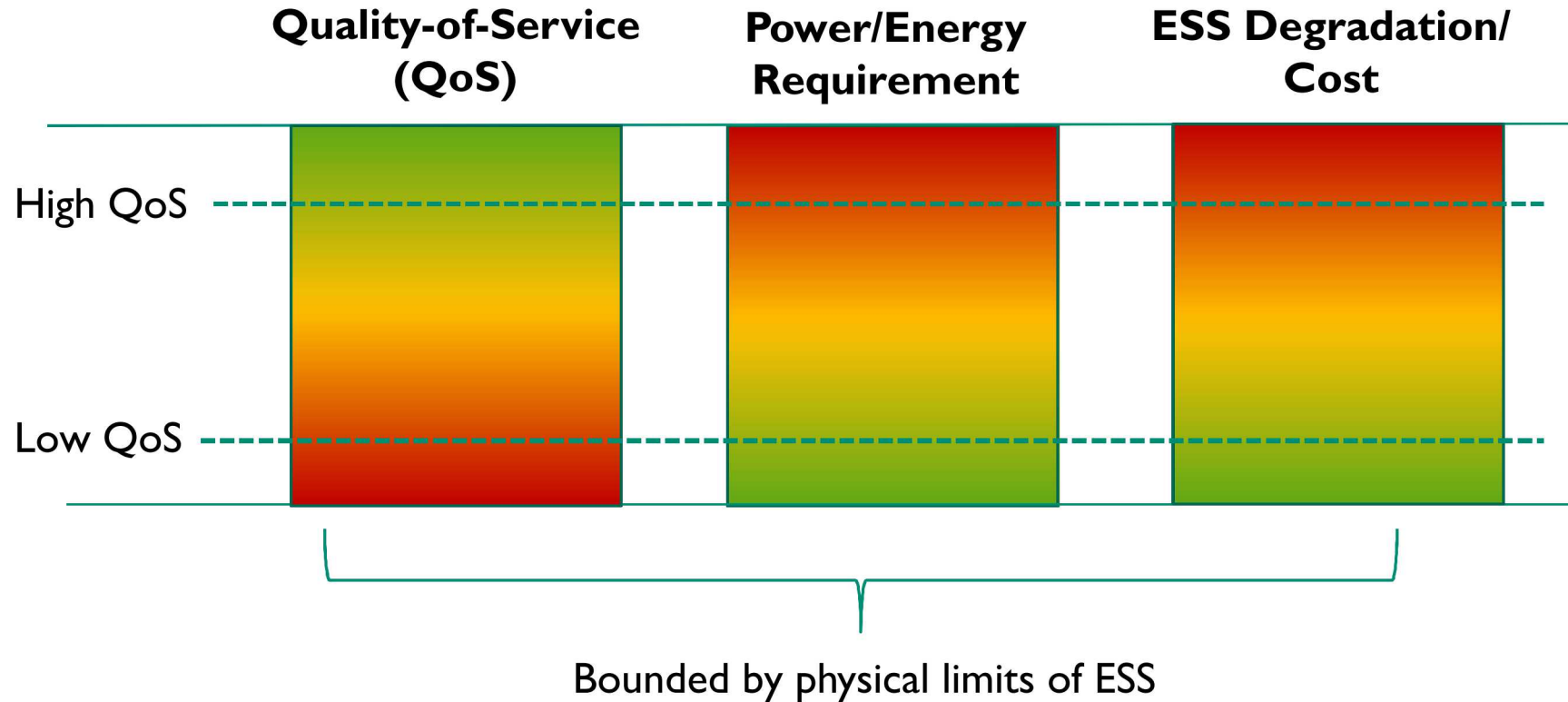
- Step change in irradiance from 750 W/m^2 to 250 W/m^2 @ 100 s
- Minimum frequency deviation reduced from 51.6 Hz to 59.1 Hz.
- Maximum frequency deviation reduced from 64.2 Hz to 60.1 Hz .
- Peak ROCOF reduced from 8.2 Hz/s to 0.6 Hz/s.
- Reductions within recommended levels, prevents unnecessary frequency relay tripping.

Frequency Variations and ROCOF due to a Real Irradiance Pattern



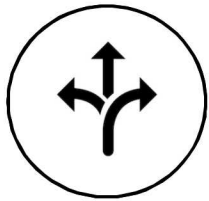
- Frequency variations due the real irradiance changes reduced to within recommend limits
- Peak ROCOF reduced from 4.8 Hz/s to 0.7 Hz/s slightly above the recommended limit
- Sufficient to prevent relays from tripping

QoS → Reduction in frequency deviation and ROCOF

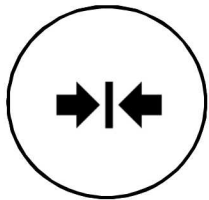


- Objective: Design a control framework to provide near-optimal fast frequency support using ESSs

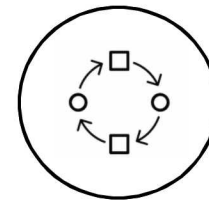
Desired Features



Flexible to change performance based on resource availability and/or desired quality of service (QoS)

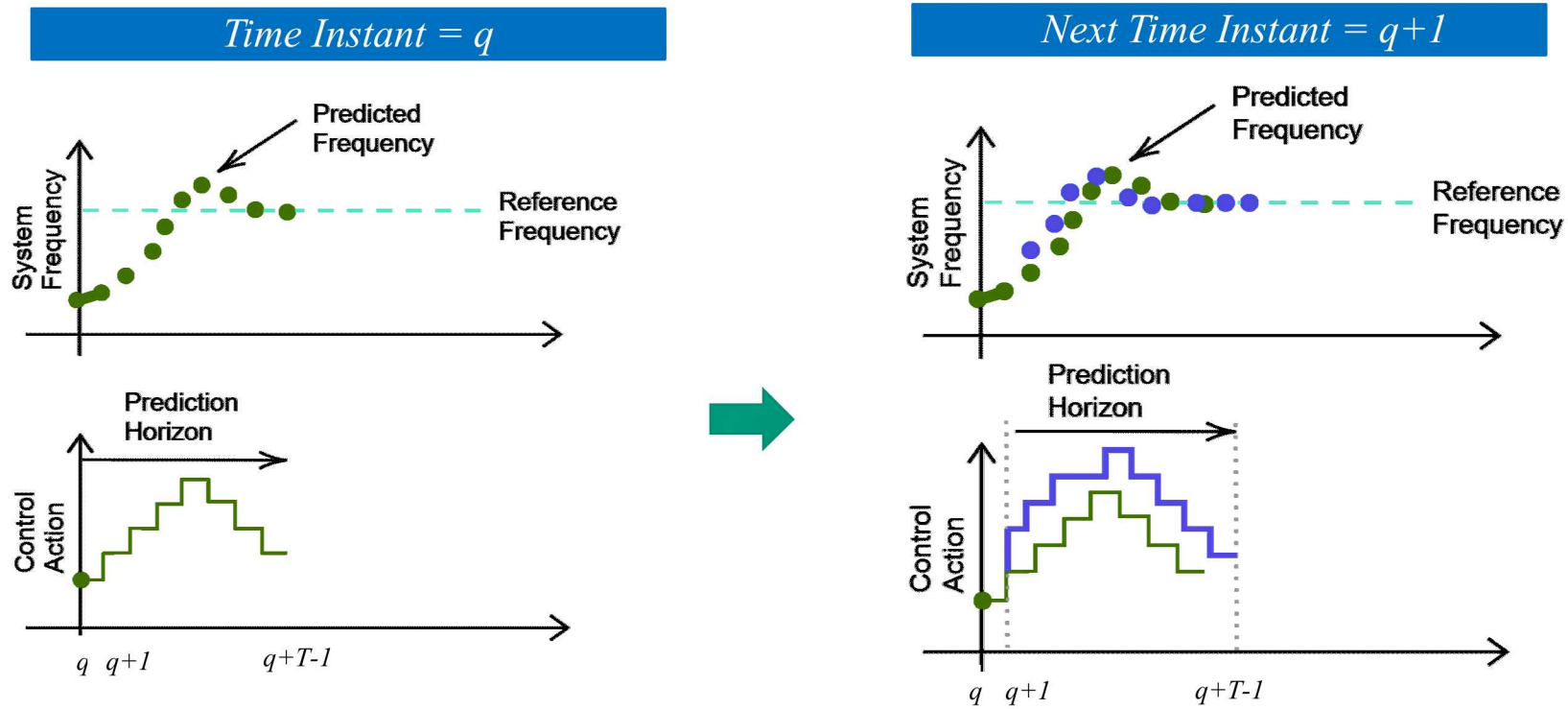


Able to incorporate physical constraints of the ESS (Power , Ramp-Rate Limits)

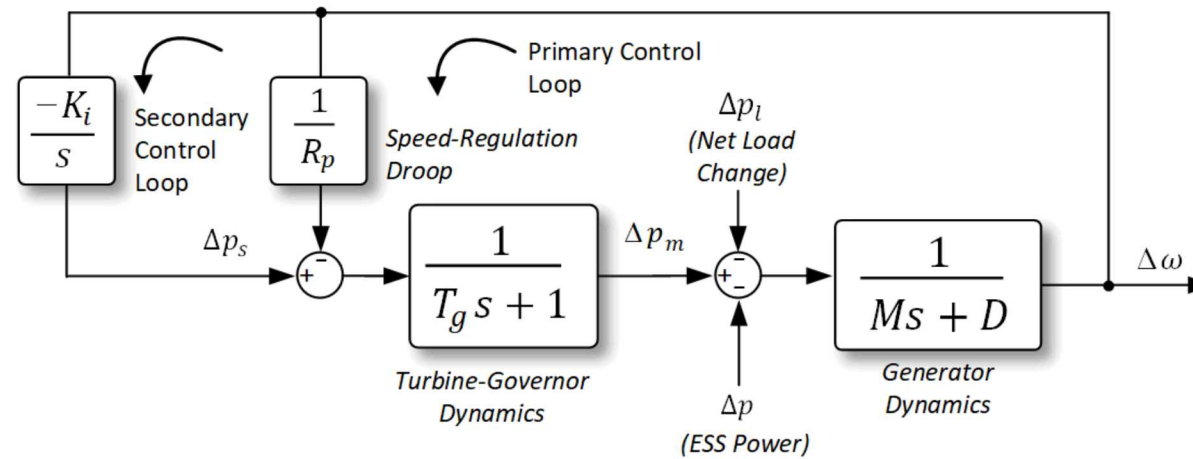


Adapt to changing system parameters

Basic Concepts of Model Predictive Control



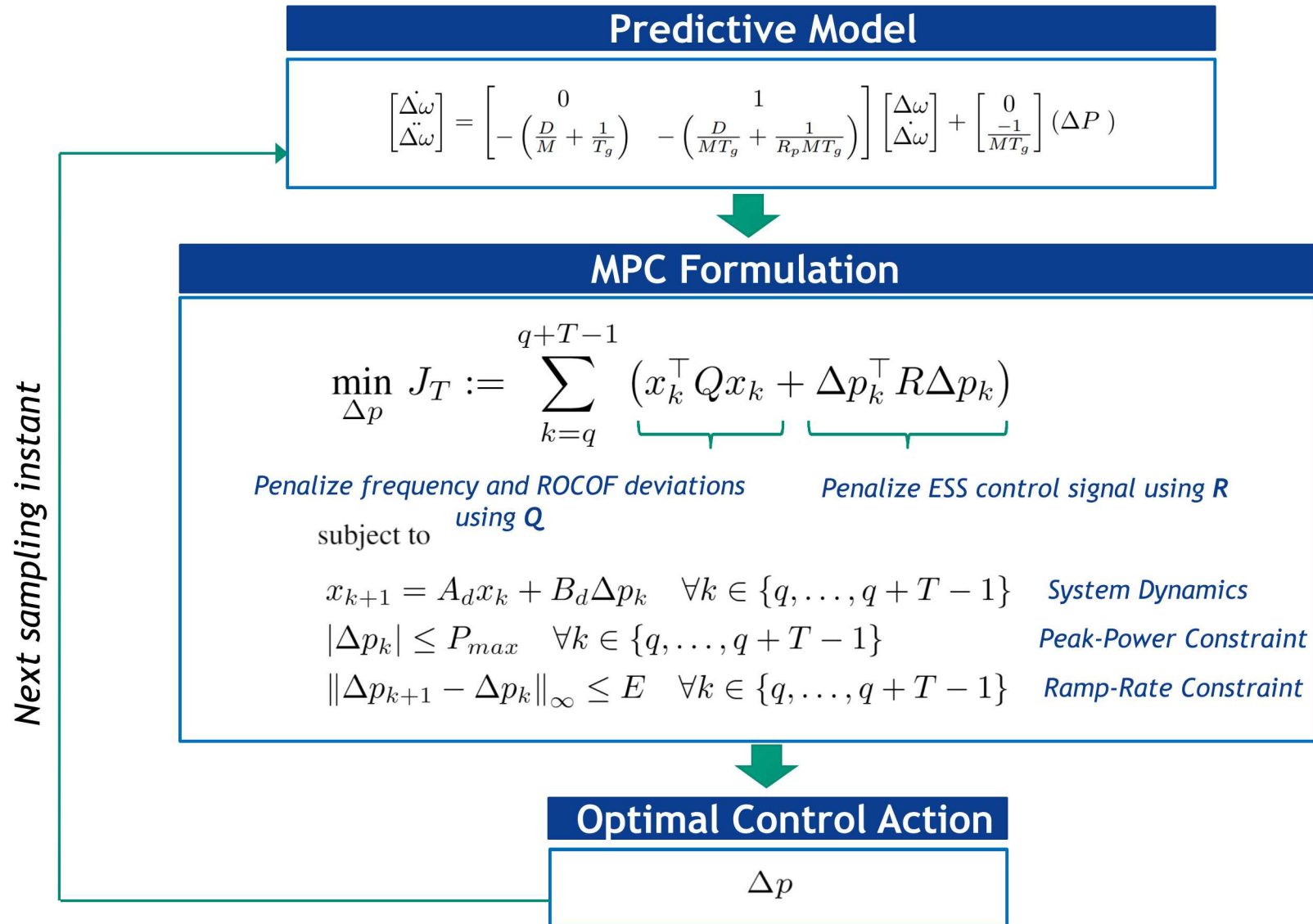
- Optimal control action computed based on prediction from a system model
- Cost function is defined to optimize system (reduce deviation, reduced power usage)
- Prediction horizon moves one-time step
- Optimization reruns to calculate new optimal control



- Approximate model for an isolated microgrid:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{x} &= A\Delta x + B\Delta u \\
 y &= C\Delta x + \eta
 \end{aligned}
 \longrightarrow
 \begin{aligned}
 A &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{K_i}{MT_g} & -\left(\frac{D}{MT_g} + \frac{1}{R_p MT_g}\right) & -\left(\frac{D}{M} + \frac{1}{T_g}\right) \end{bmatrix} \\
 B &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{-1}{MT_g} \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \text{diag}(1, 1, 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{x} = [\Delta\dot{\delta} \quad \Delta\dot{\omega} \quad \Delta\ddot{\omega}]^T, \Delta u = \Delta P$$

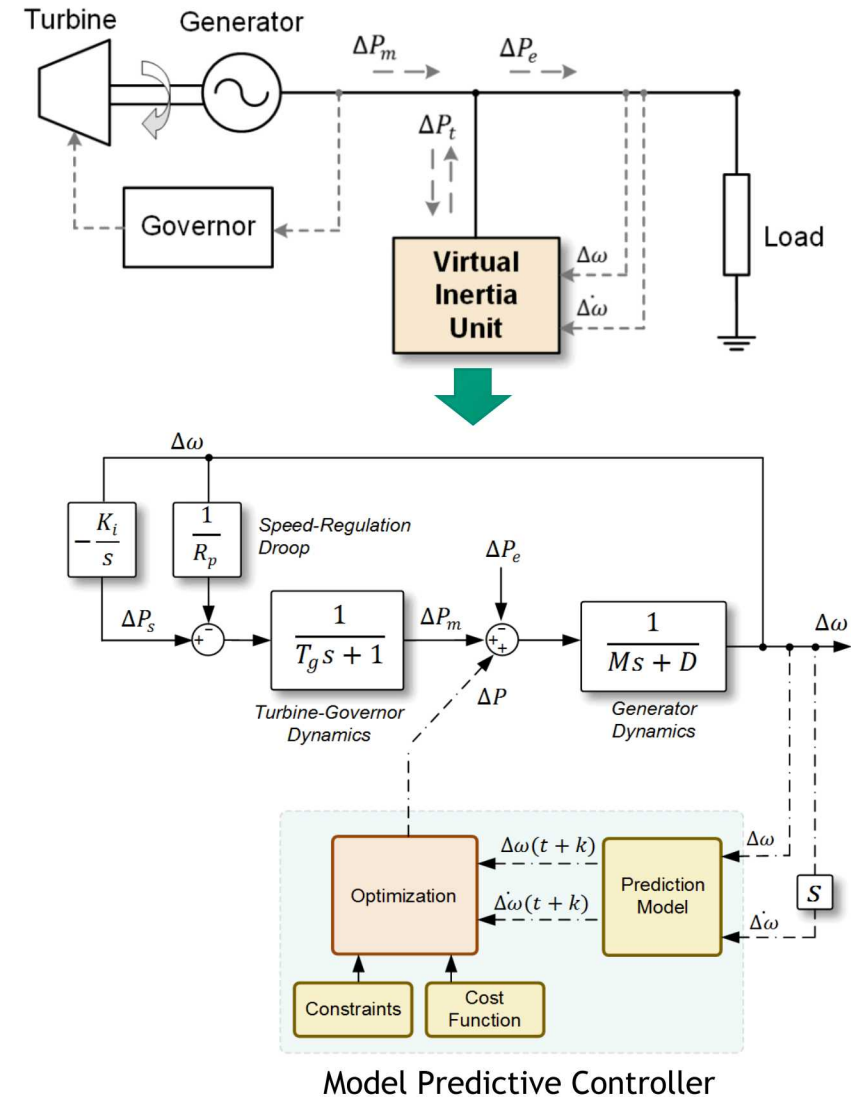


Simulation Study : Model Predictive Fast Frequency Support

- Power system model implemented in MATLAB\Simulink
- MPC implemented using:
 - ACADO Code-generation Toolkit

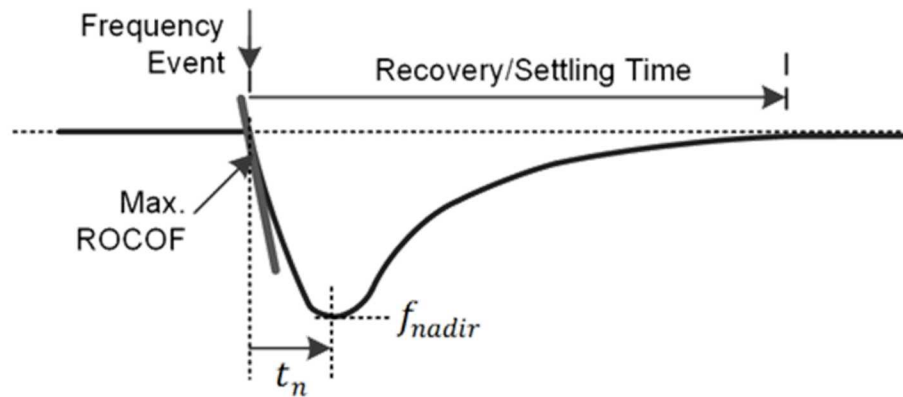
Simulation Parameters

Parameter	Values
Inertia constant (M)	4 s
Damping coefficient (D)	1.5%
Speed regulation droop (R_p)	5%
Turbine-Governor time constant (T_g)	0.2 s
Sample time (τ)	0.02 s
Prediction and Control Horizon (T)	1 s

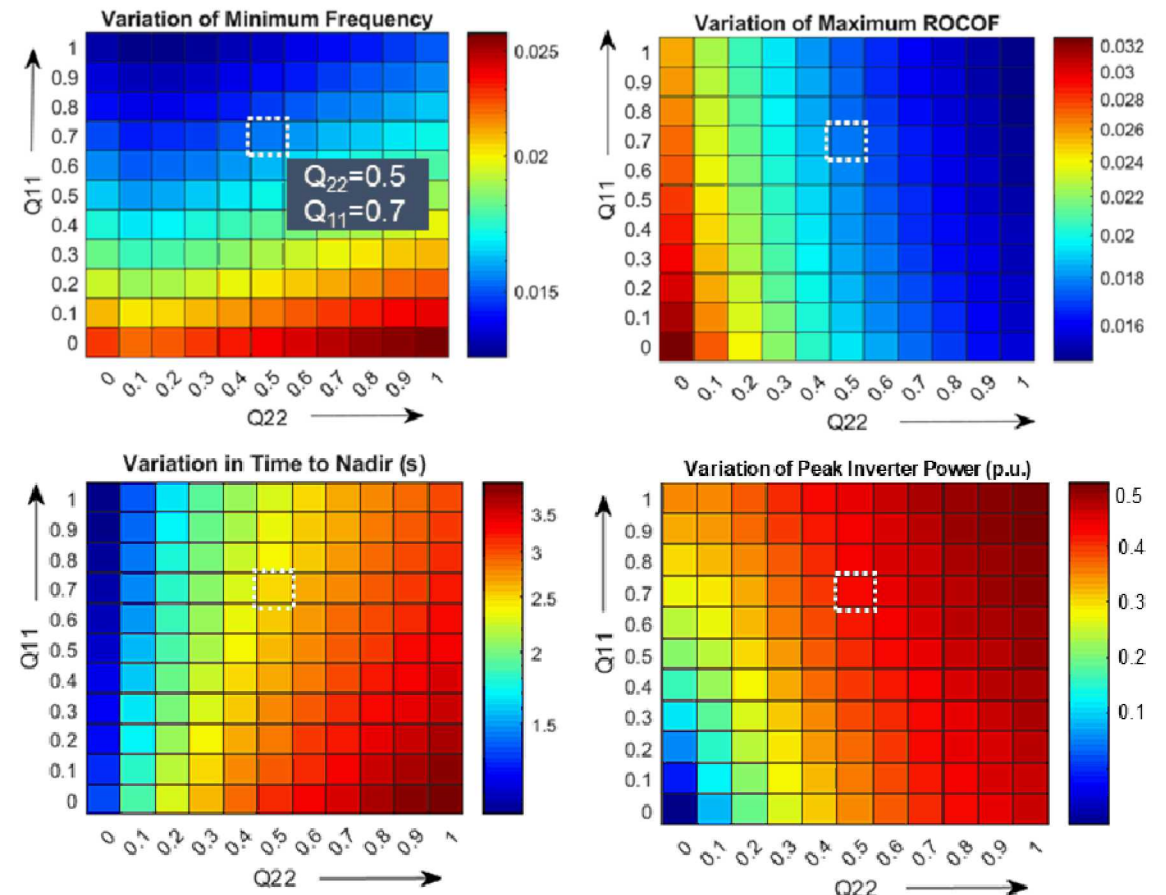


Effect of Weighting Parameters on Fast Frequency Support

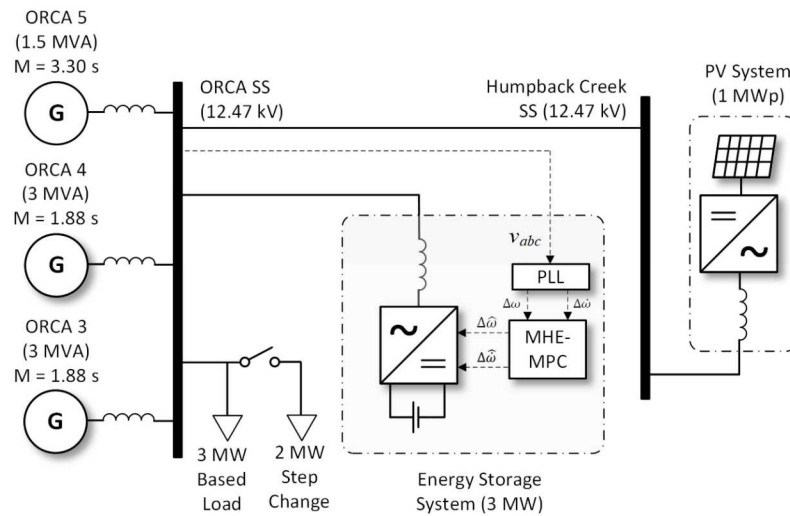
- Selection of 'Q' and 'R' effects performance
- Number of simulations by varying Q11 and Q22 performed



- $Q_{11} = 0.7$ and $Q_{22}=0.5$
- Good trade-off between frequency and ROCOF reduction and power requirement
- Provides intuitive approach to control performance

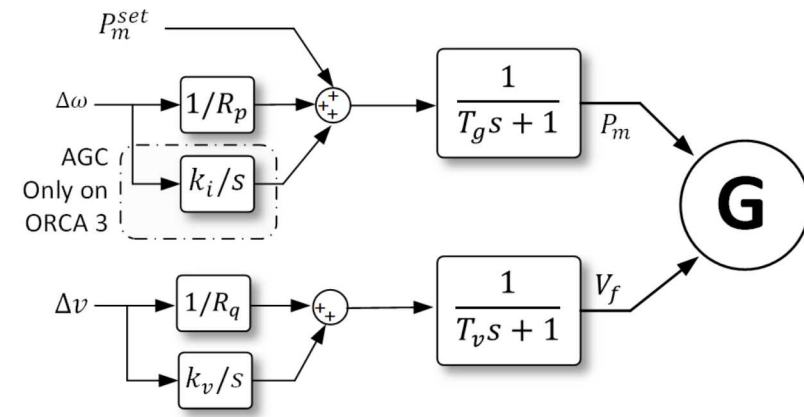


Test System : Cordova, Alaska



Modified Test System from Cordova, Alaska

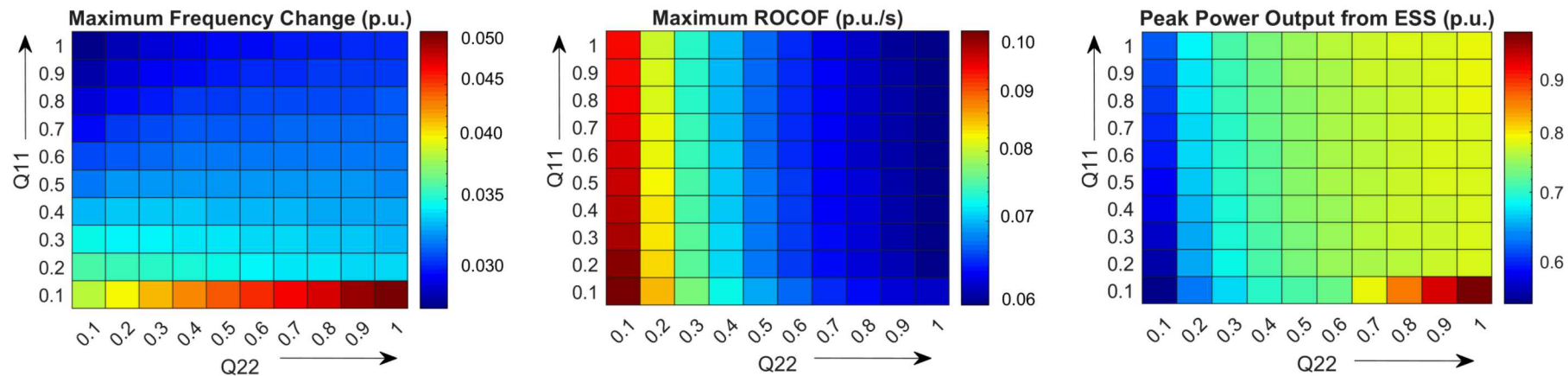
- Three diesel-gensets, 1 MW PV → Reduces system inertia
 - 3 MW ESS
- Detailed models implemented MATLAB\Simulink
 - To verify simplified predictive model is sufficient
- Combined MHE-MPC framework implemented in the 3 MW ESS



Governor and Excitation System

$N = 50$; Sampling Time = 0.02 s

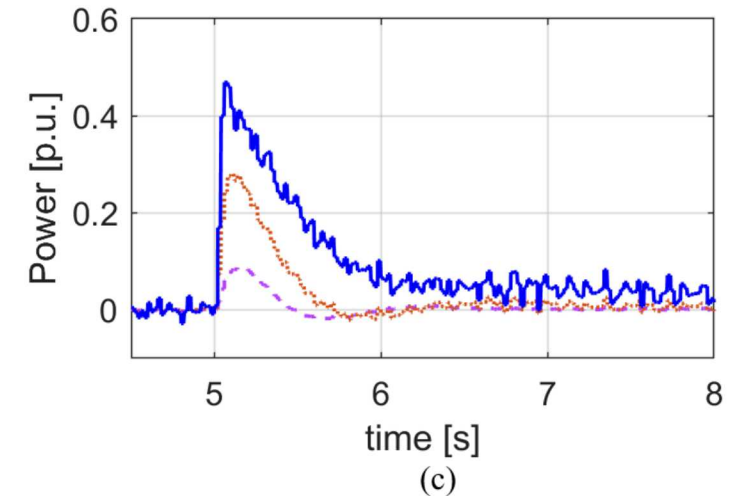
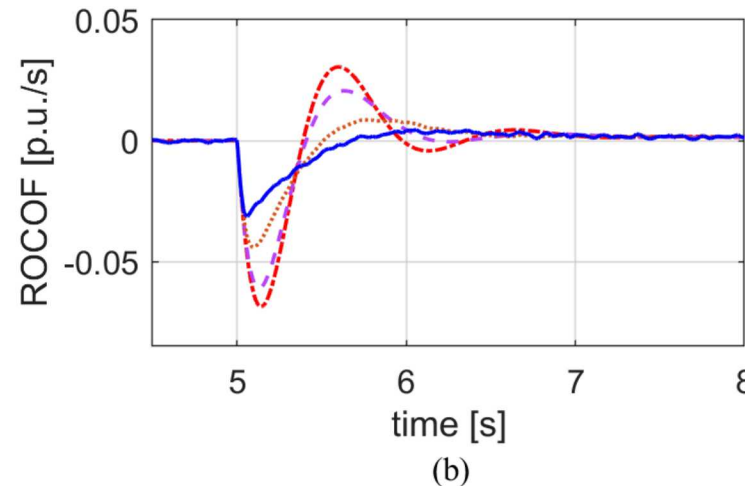
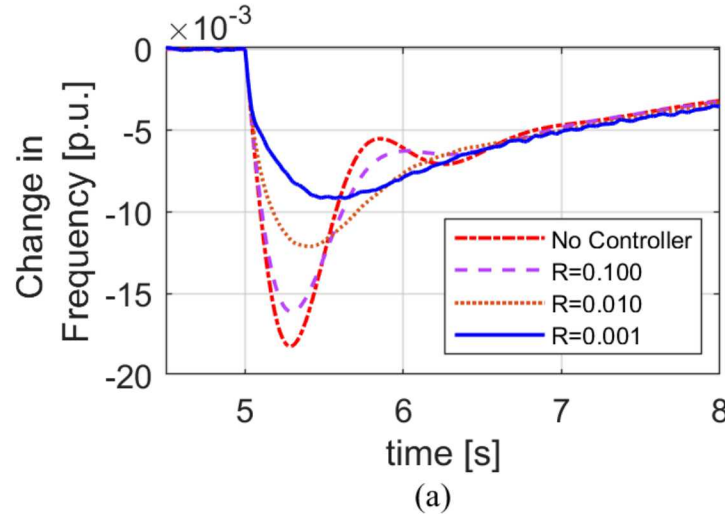
$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & Q_{22} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Penalize states:} \\ - \text{Frequency change } (Q_{11} = 0.1 \rightarrow 1) \\ - \text{ROCOF } (Q_{22} = 0.1 \rightarrow 1) \end{array} \quad R = [R] \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Penalize inverter} \\ \text{output power} \\ R = 0.0001 \end{array}$$



- ESS operator can change dynamic performance
 - Based on available resources
 - Desired QoS (Desired frequency or ROCOF reduction)

Operational Flexibility of the Model Predictive Controller

$N = 50$; Sampling Time = 0.02 s , $Q = \text{diag}(0.1, 0.9)$



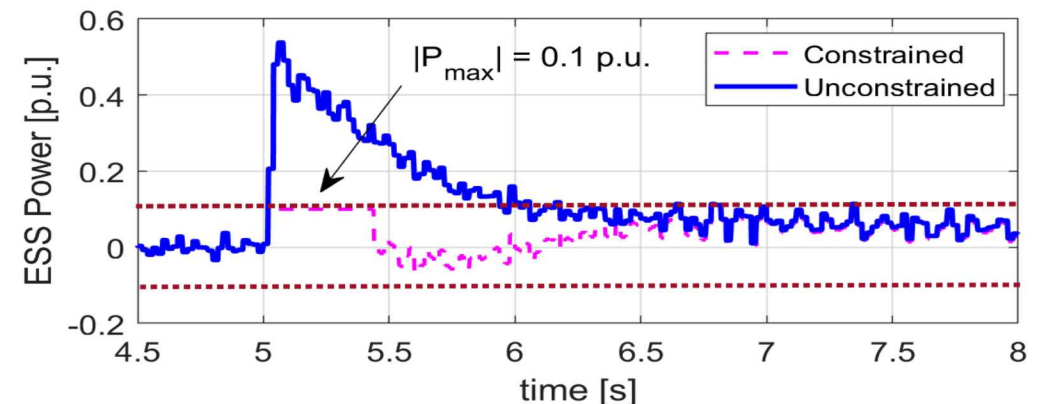
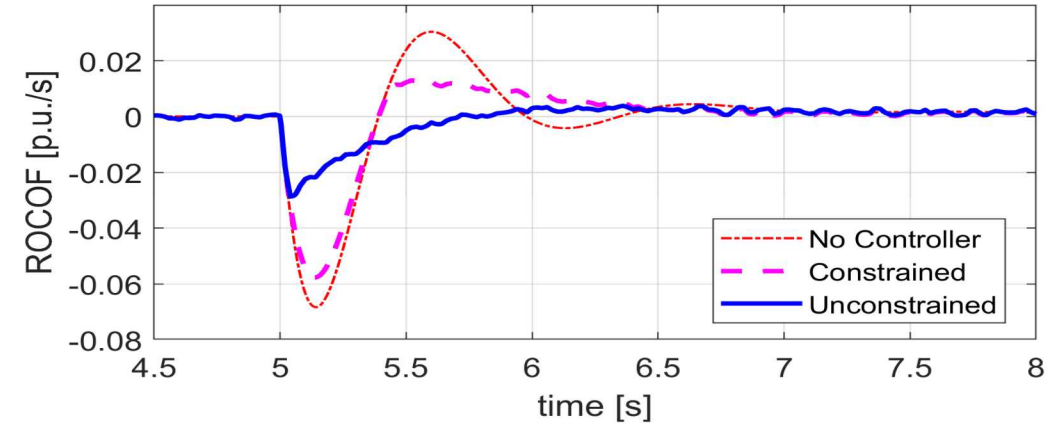
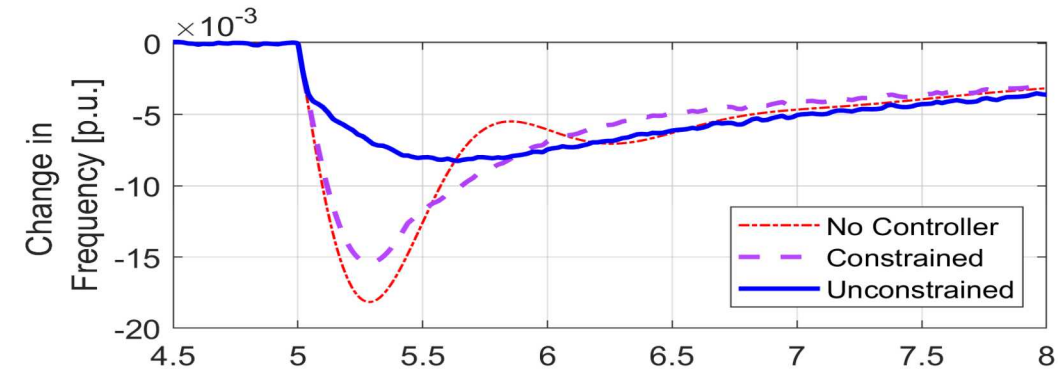
- ESS operator can change R value to put a “*cost*” on the ESS power output
- Example:
 - Higher QoS is desired
 - ESS operator uses $R = 0.001$
 - Higher reduction in frequency and ROCOF (improved QoS)
 - Higher peak-power/ energy usage per event
 - Fast ESS lifetime degradation! → OK, if incentives are in place

Constraint Handling Capabilities

$N = 50$; Sampling Time = 0.02 s ,
 $Q = \text{diag}(0.1, 0.9)$
 $R = 0.001$

Assumption:

- Peak power-limit = 0.10 p.u. (0.3 MW)
- Physical limit of ESS
- Limited for other ESS services like arbitrage
- Lower QoS
- Low power/energy usage



- High renewable penetration = Reduction in Inertia
- Compromises frequency stability and system reliability
- Numerous inertia emulation technologies developed in literature
 - Advancements focused on improving dynamic response while reducing power/energy needs
- Future research on optimizing and coordinating inertia resources needed

Related Publications and Accomplishments

• Journals:

- **U. Tamrakar**, D. A. Copp, T. Nguyen, T. M. Hansen, and R. Tonkoski, "Optimization-Based Fast-Frequency Estimation and Control of Low-Inertia Microgrids," *IEEE Transactions on Energy Conversion* (under review).
- **U. Tamrakar**, D. Shrestha, N. Malla, Z. Ni, T.M. Hansen, I. Tamrakar, R. Tonkoski, "Comparative Analysis of Current Control Techniques to Support Virtual Inertia Applications," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 8, no. 7, pp. 2695, December 2018, doi: 10.3390/app8122695.
- **U. Tamrakar**, D. Shrestha, M. Maharjan, B.P. Bhattarai, T.M. Hansen, R. Tonkoski, "Virtual Inertia: Current Trends and Future Directions," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 7, no. 8, pp. 654, June 2017, doi: 10.3390/app7070654.
- M. Farrokhabadi, **U. Tamrakar**, et al., "Microgrid Stability Definitions, Analysis, and Examples," in *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, vol. 35, no. 1, pp. 13-29, Jan. 2020, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2019.2925703.

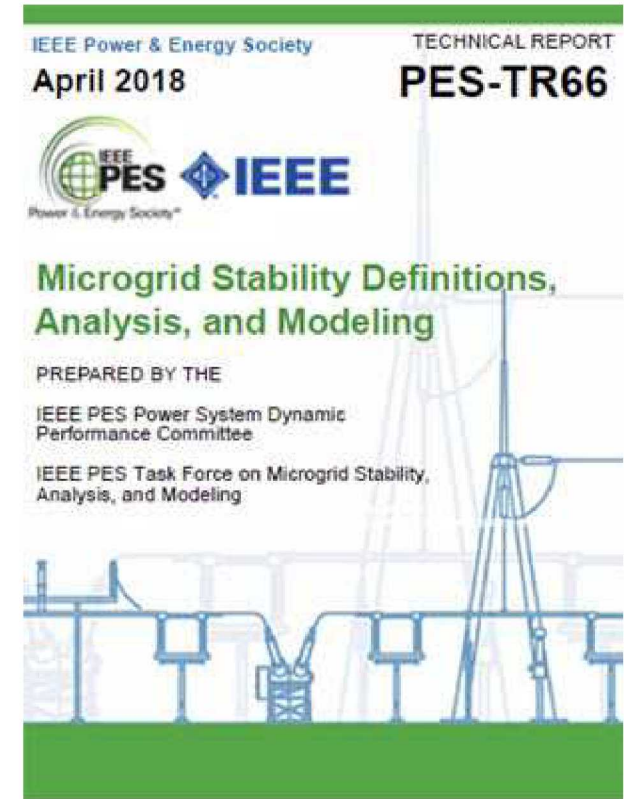
• Conferences:

- **U. Tamrakar**, D. Galipeau, R. Tonkoski and I. Tamrakar, "Improving transient stability of photovoltaic-hydro microgrids using virtual synchronous machines," in *IEEE Eindhoven PowerTech*, Eindhoven, 2015, pp. 1-6, doi: 10.1109/PTC.2015.7232663
- **U. Tamrakar**, T. M. Hansen, R. Tonkoski and D. A. Copp, "Model Predictive Frequency Control of Low Inertia Microgrids," in *IEEE 28th International Symposium on Industrial Electronics (ISIE)*, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 2019, pp. 2111-2116, doi: 10.1109/ISIE.2019.8781263.
- **U. Tamrakar**, F. B. dos Reis, A. Luna, D. Shrestha, R. Fourney and R. Tonkoski, "Virtual Inertia Emulation using Commercial Off-The-Shelf Inverters," in *IEEE Energy Conversion Congress and Exposition (ECCE)*, Portland, OR, 2018, pp. 1111-1116, doi: 10.1109/ECCE.2018.8557592.
- A. Ingalalli, **U. Tamrakar**, T. M. Hansen and R. Tonkoski, "Modeling Hydro Power System Frequency Dynamics for Virtual Inertia Emulation," in *IEEE 28th International Symposium on Industrial Electronics (ISIE)*, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 2019, pp. 2565-2570. (Best Presentation Award)
- A. Luna, **U. Tamrakar**, R. Tonkoski and S. Hietpas, "Linear Quadratic Regulator Controller to Improve Transient Frequency Stability Through Virtual Inertia," in *2020 IEEE Power & Energy Society Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Conference (ISGT)*, Washington, DC, USA, 2020, pp. 1-5, doi: 10.1109/ISGT45199.2020.9087755.
- A. Poudyal, **U. Tamrakar**, R. D. Trevizan, T. M. Hansen, and R. Tonkoski, "Convolutional neural network-based inertia estimation using local frequency measurements," in *IEEE North American Power Symposium (NAPS)*, Tempe, Arizona, April 2021, accepted.
- M. Rauniyar, **U. Tamrakar**, S. E. Berg, S. Subedi, T. M. Hansen, R. Fourney, and R. Tonkoski, "Evaluation of probing signals for implementing moving horizon inertia estimation in microgrids," in *IEEE North American Power Symposium (NAPS)*, Tempe, Arizona, Jun 2020, April 2021, accepted.

Related Publications and Accomplishments

- Reports:

- Assisted in preparing the report “Microgrid Stability Definitions, Analysis, and Modeling” as a part of the IEEE Task Force on Microgrid Stability Analysis and Modeling.
- Received the 2020 IEEE Power and Energy Society Working Group Award



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- Dr. Reinaldo Tonkoski
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