



# Dynamic Simulation and Stability Limits of Large-Scale Transmission Systems with Renewables

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# Summary

- Dynamic stability future Continental ENTSO-E system with high share of converter-based renewable energy sources (RES)
- Assessment of **large disturbances, in particular islanding scenarios**
- New dynamic **simulation framework**: modular, flexible, robust initialization, fast
- Comparison of **different converter models** and impact on stability
- Simulation for a wide range of generation distribution and and RES-shares
- Results:
  - Computation of **stability contours** for assessment of expected disturbance impact
  - Simple converter models systematically **underestimate impact on dynamic stability**
  - Insights in complex **dynamic couplings and cascaded outages**

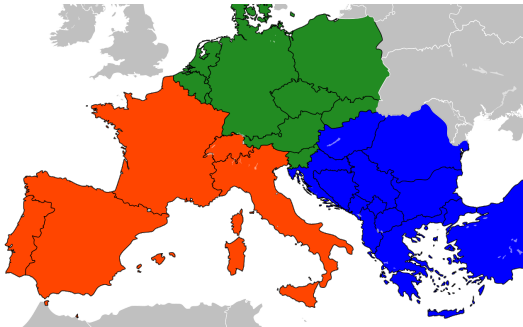
# Agenda

Dynamic simulation of large transmission grids

RES modeling

Results for secure power system operation

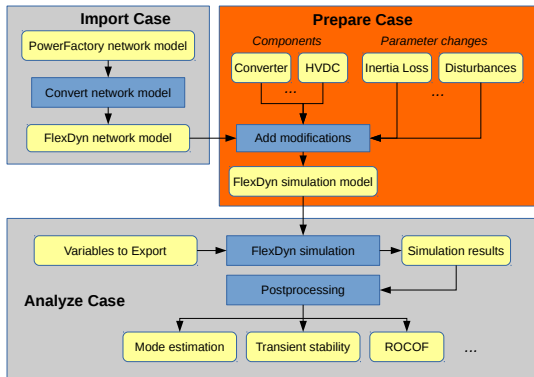
# Background: Risk from transients in the transmission grid



- Scenario: System split into multiple synchronous areas (similar to 2006 event)
- Challenge: Loss of multiple GW of import or export in each area

- Background:
  - Dynamic power system stability of large disturbances in the future Continental ENTSO-E system
  - Challenges and potential support from converter-based generation
- System parameters:
  - Continental ENTSO-E dynamic model
  - Share of converter-based renewables
  - Initial load flow distribution
  - Converter control approaches

# Simulator Framework

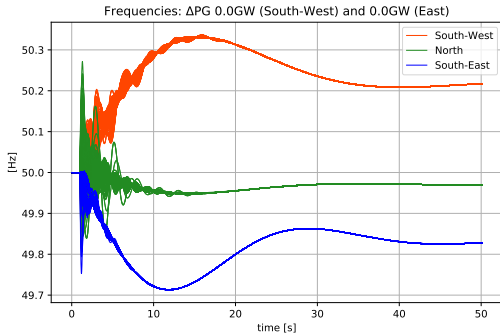


- Modular framework combining symbolic and numerical methods.
- Runs approximately realtime for large Continental ENTSO-E dynamic model ( $\approx 10'000$  buses and  $1'000$  generators).

# Simulation Workflow

- Definition and symbolic differentiation of component equations (only structure)
- Parameterization of components and assembly of network model
- Two-step initialization approach (important for feasible Voltage/reactive power setpoints)
  1. Solve OPF problem (with bounds on PG, QG, VG)
  2. Solve dynamic initialization problem (with bounds on AVR, Turbine, Generator)
- Post-processing, computation of performance metrics, visualization

# System split of Continental ENTSO-E Base case



- Performance metric of interest:  
**Rate-of-change of frequency (ROCOF)**  
approximated with swing-equation
$$R = \dot{\omega} = \frac{P_{\text{gen}} - P_{\text{load}} - P_{\text{losses}}}{2H} = \frac{\Delta P}{2H}$$
- ROCOF estimated in simulation over 2000ms time window

- Loads are fixed, shift of generation power between regions (up to  $\pm 15\text{GW}$ )
- New RES is included by reducing synchronous machines and adding converters

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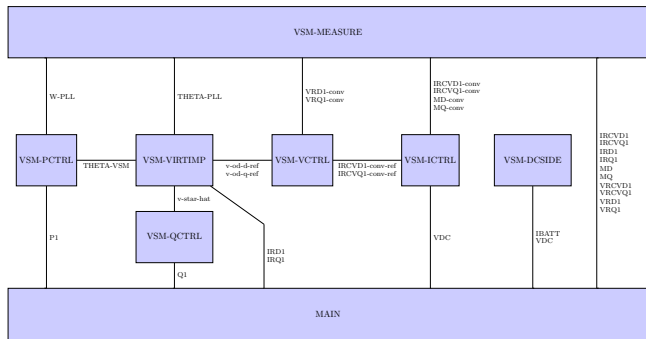
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# Modeling of converter based generation

- Three types of common converter models
  - **IMP**: Impedance models of converter (simplified static model, often used)
  - **CCC**: Current-controlled capacitor model (PV-converters without storage)
  - **VSM**: Virtual synchronous machine model (converters with battery storage)
- IMP is simple to simulate and often used for simulation in large systems
- *How accurate are simulation results with IMP compared to realistic CCC models?*
- *What are the benefits of using VSM with dynamic grid support?*

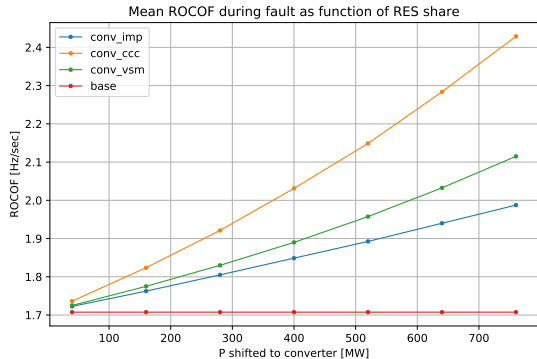
# VSM converter model



- Several controllers for grid support, similar to synchronous machine.
- Model and tuning based on:

*Salvatore D'Arco, Jon Are Suul and Olav B. Fosso: A Virtual Synchronous Machine implementation for distributed control of power converters in SmartGrids. Electric Power Systems Research 122 (2015) pp.180-197.*

# Kundur system: ROCOF and RES



- Shift of generation to RES reduces inertia:  $R = \frac{\Delta P}{2H}$
- Simulation with varying shares of IMP, CCC and VSM
- Increase rate depends on converter type

- ROCOF increases with RES

## Computation of a ROCOF premium for different RES models

- Roughly linear dependence on RES generation share:  $R = R_0 + K \cdot P_{\text{RES}}$

- For IMP,  $K_{\text{IMP}} = .37 \text{ mHz/sec per MW renewables}$

- Estimate of ROCOF premium:

$$K_{\text{CCC}} = 2.6 \cdot K_{\text{IMP}}$$

$$K_{\text{VSM}} = 1.5 \cdot K_{\text{IMP}}$$

- IMP systematically underestimates the ROCOF, confirmed for a wide range of load flow distributions
- Can use ROCOF premium to update existing results (also from other projects) obtained with with IMP models

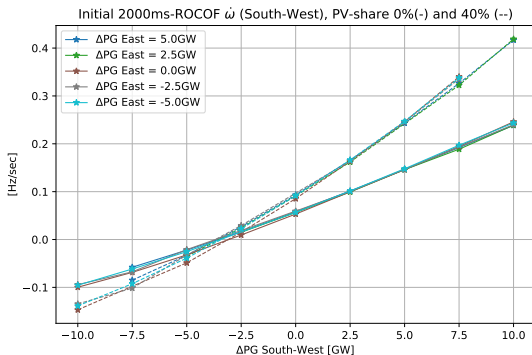
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## Continental ENTSO-E: varying power balance and RES-share (IMP-type)

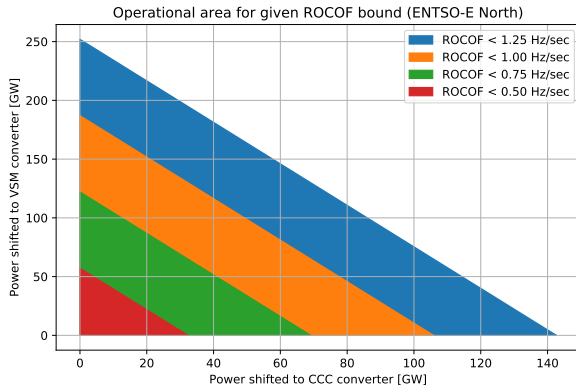


- **Mean ROCOF values** in South-West as a function of generation power added to the region. Case with 0% and 40% RES.
- Shift of generation to **RES reduces inertia**, **generation shift changes power balance**:  
$$R = \frac{\Delta P}{2H}$$
- Similar pattern in other regions (but different slopes, depending on power balance and generation settings)

## Estimation of impact of converter types

- Plot confirms the roughly linear dependence of ROCOF on RES share and power balance (also seen in smaller systems) as predicted from Swing-equation
- [Linear interpolation](#) allows update coefficients for ROCOF computation
- ROCOF can be estimated for different shares and types of RES-models (CCC, VSM) without further simulation

# Application: Stability contour for the grid operator

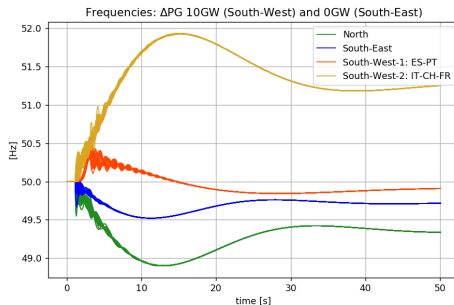
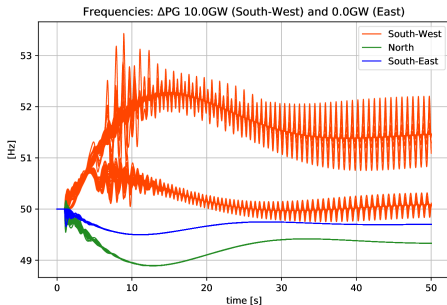


- Results allow fast mapping of current and future operating points

- Informs the grid operator when the system approaches a risky state (e.g.  $R > 1\text{Hz/s}$ )
- Can be used for monitoring of the dynamic security through the grid operator
- Can be created for a wide range of load flows and events, and intersected accordingly



# More insights: emerging synchronous clusters



- Cascaded split: For higher generation, after the initial split, South-West separates into multiple synchronous zones.
- Simulation-based identification of regional frequency clusters (robust, system constraints accounted for)

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# Thank you for your attention!

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