



西安交通大学
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY



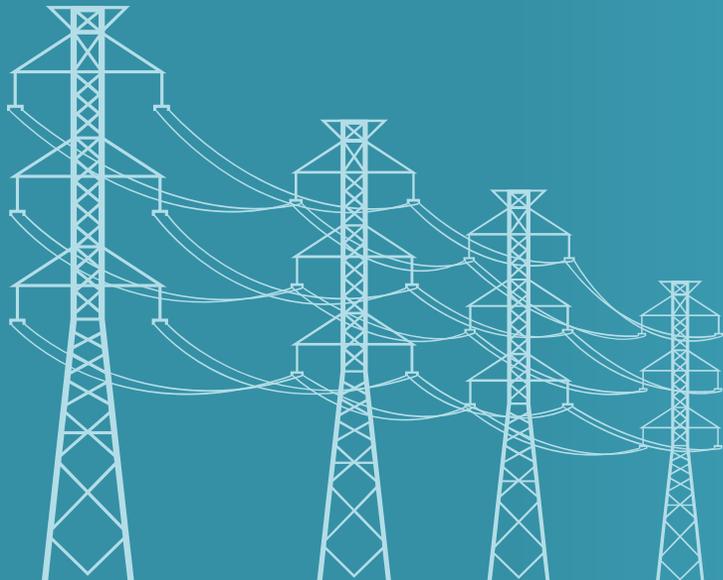
电力电子与新能源技术研究中心
Power Electronics & Renewable Energy Center

Autonomous Control for Coordination of Distributed Source Converters and Microgrid

LIU Jinjun

Tutorial at PESA

Sept. 20th, 2022

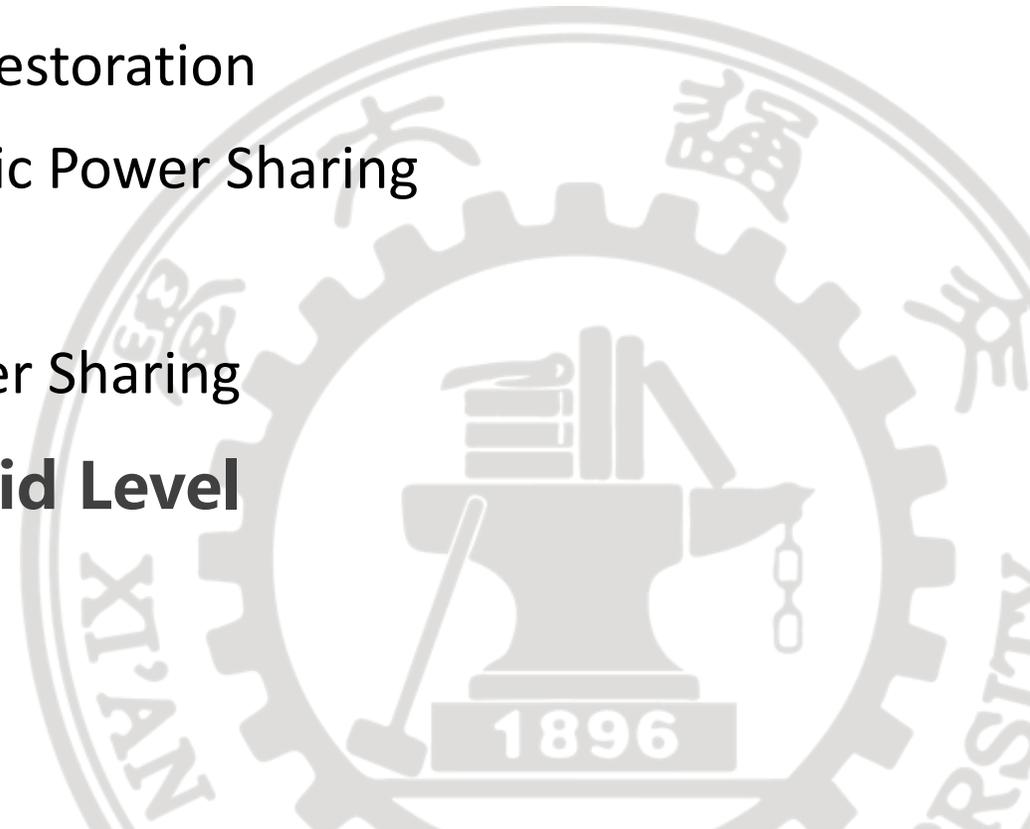


Outline



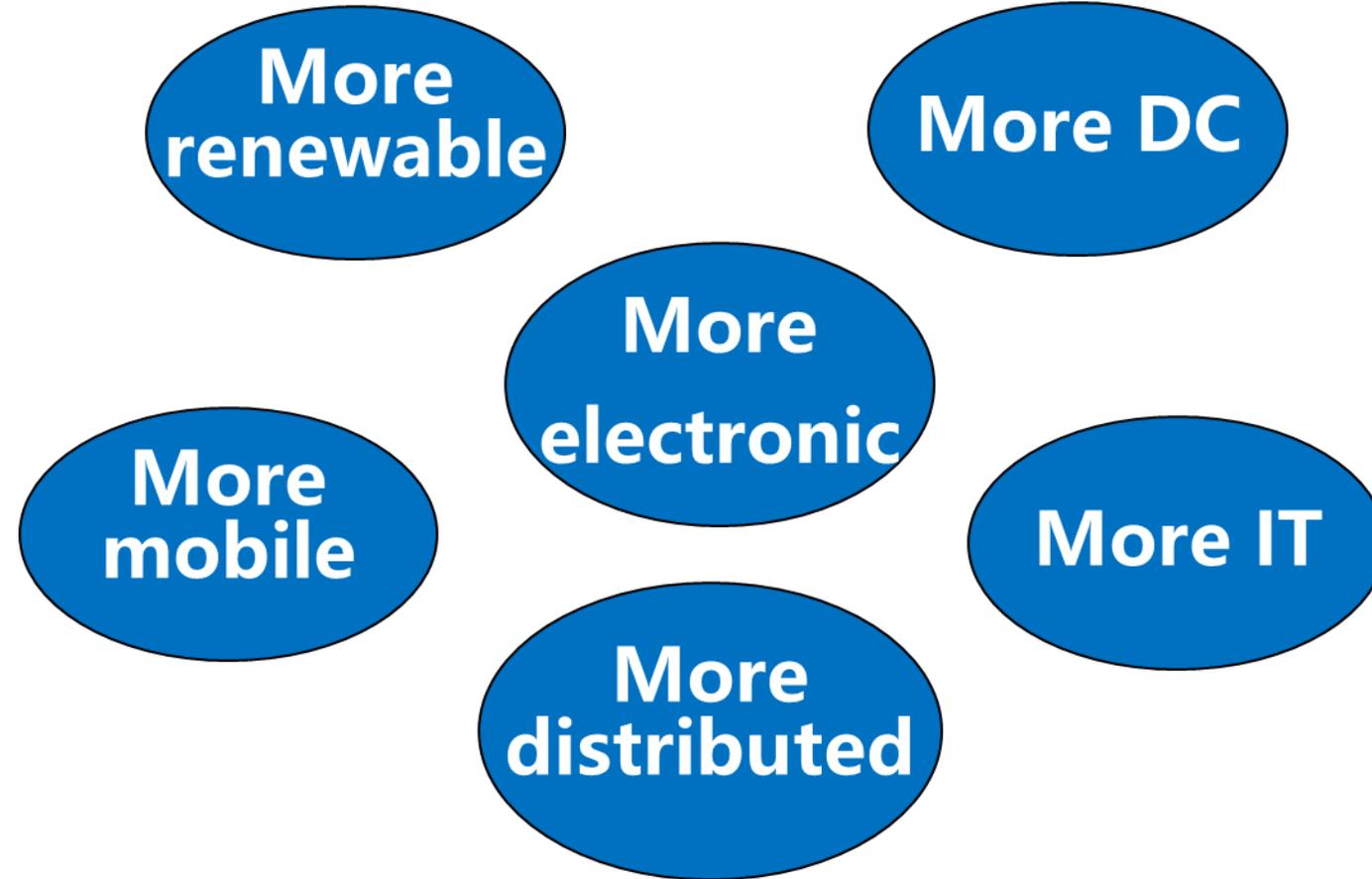
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- **Background**
- **Basics of Coordinative Control**
- **Coordinative Control of Distributed Source Converters**
 - Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration
 - Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing
 - Selection of Small-AC-Signal
 - Successive Approximation for Power Sharing
- **Coordinative Control at Microgrid Level**
 - Transfer of Control Strategies
 - Flexible Transfer Converter



Background

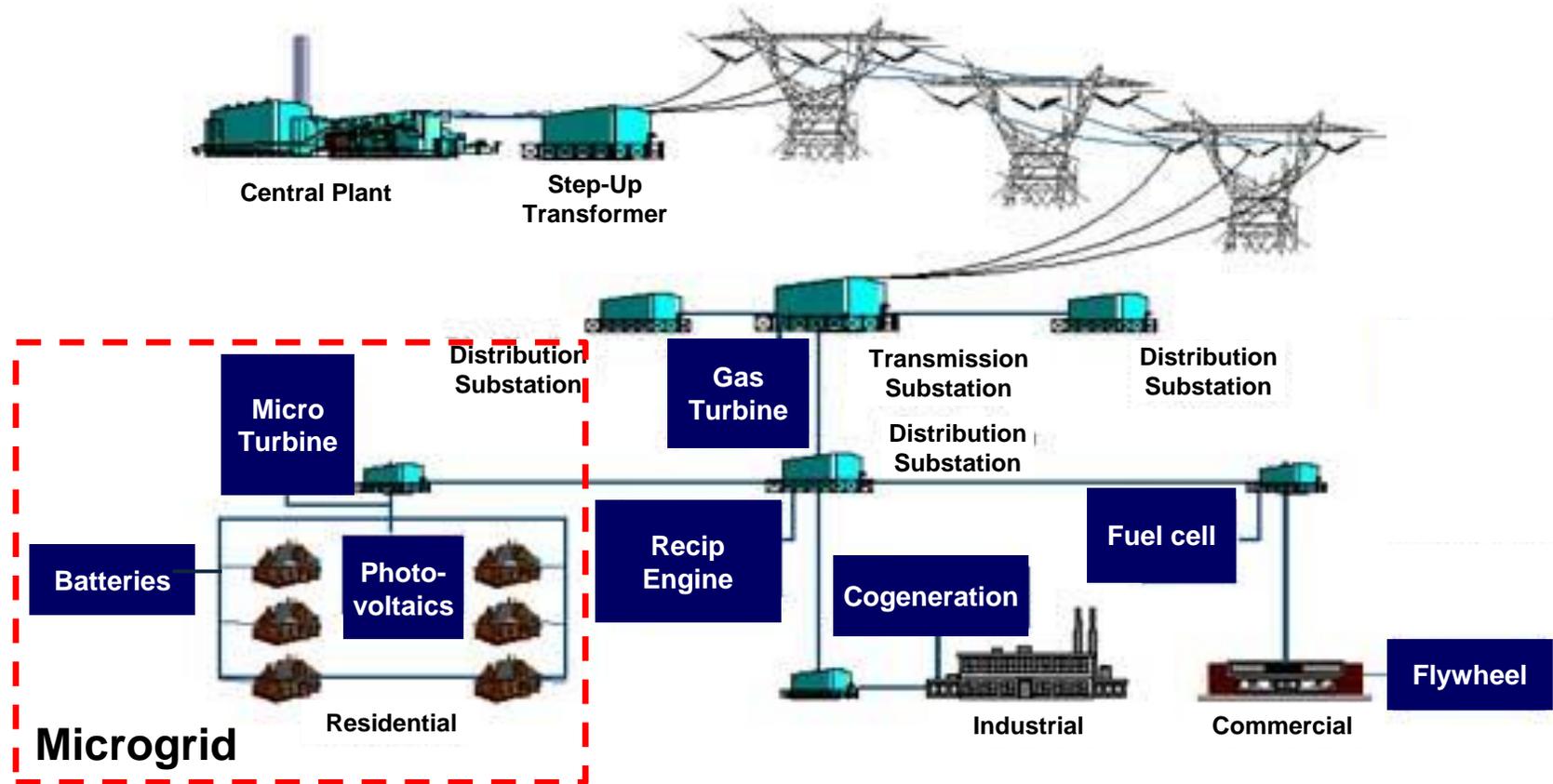
- **Developing Trends of Electric Power Systems**



- There are 2 features that will bring revolutionary changes to how power system is configured, organized and operated.

Background

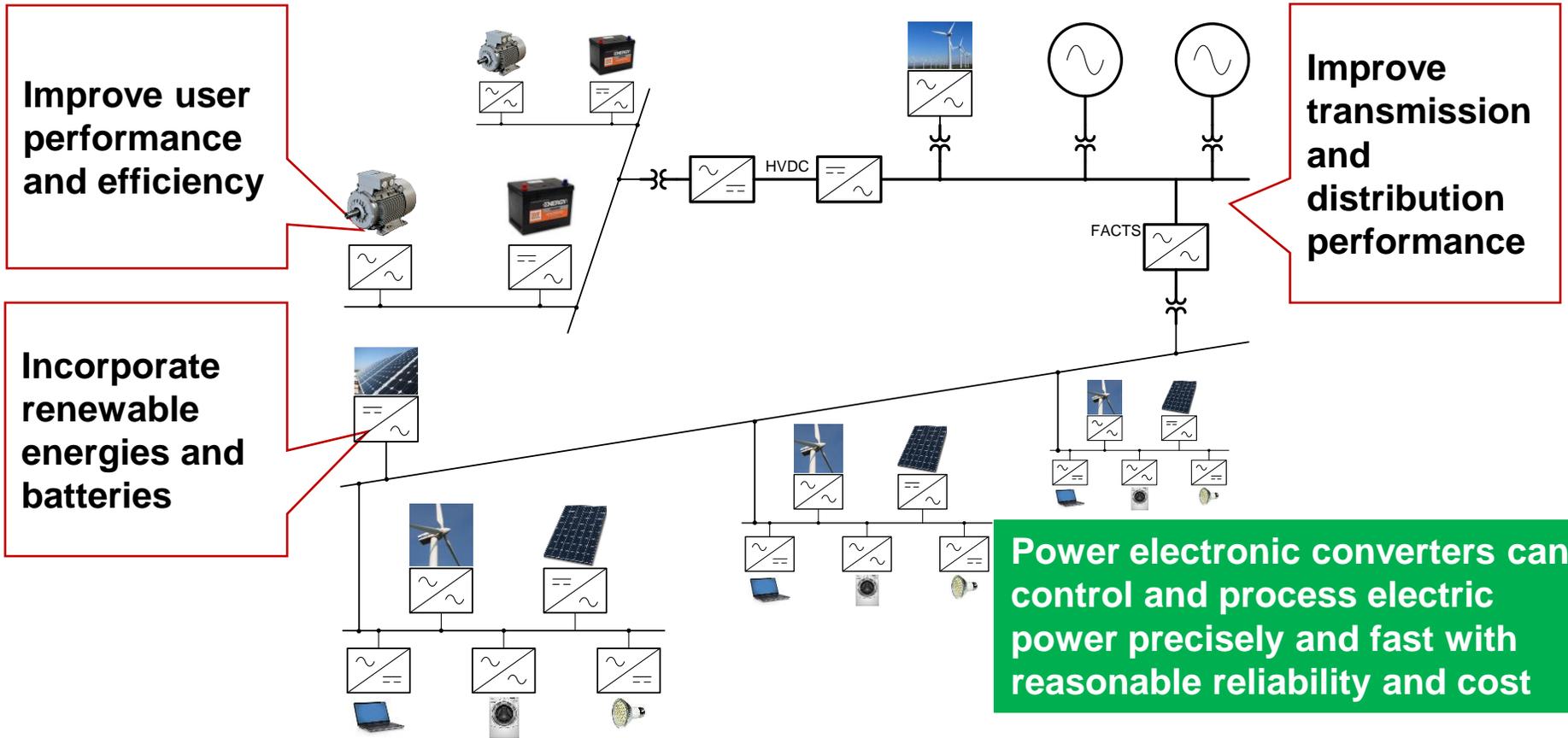
- More distributed generation



- More and more distributed generations will be employed to better incorporate renewable energies and to achieve higher reliability and lower transmission losses.

Background

- More electronic

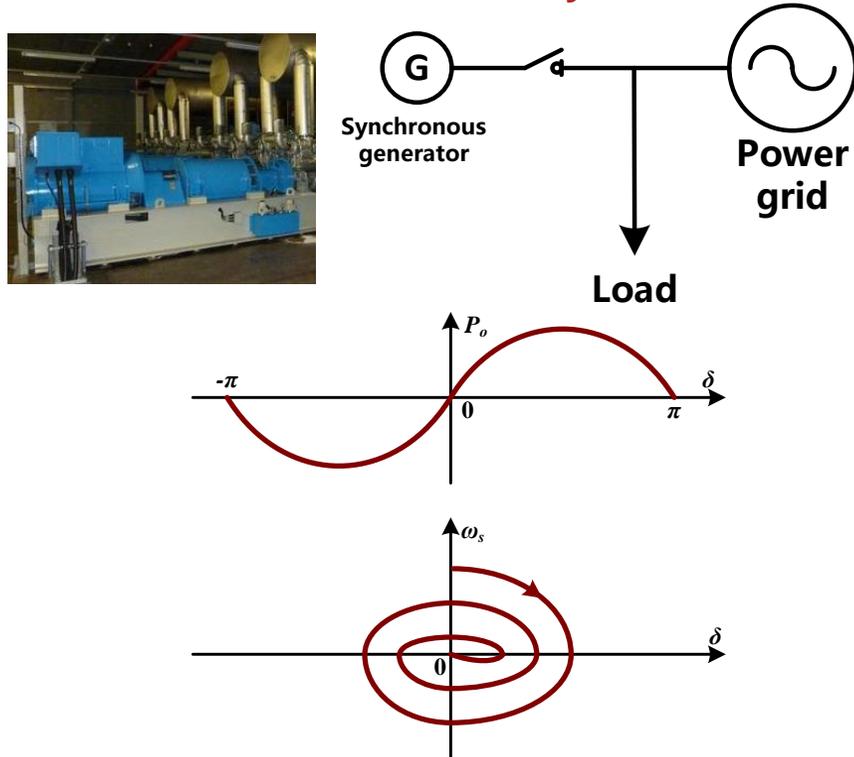


- More and more power electronic converters will be used in power system:
More electronic power system / Electronified power system.

Background

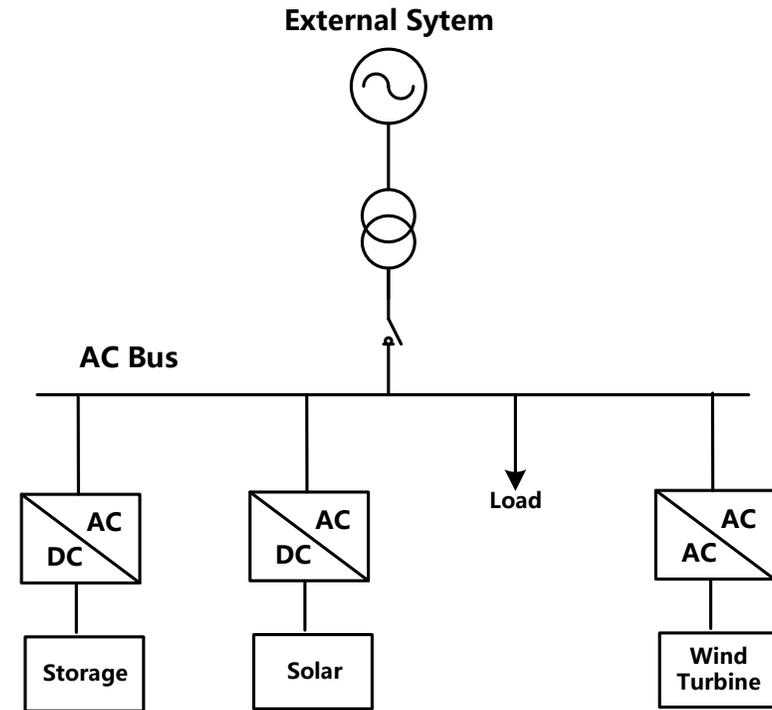
Challenges to the coordination of energy source converters and microgrid

Current Power System



- Relatively small number of big generators to be coordinated
- Natural self-synchronization and power sharing of rotating-machine-based generators

Energy Source Converters and Microgrid

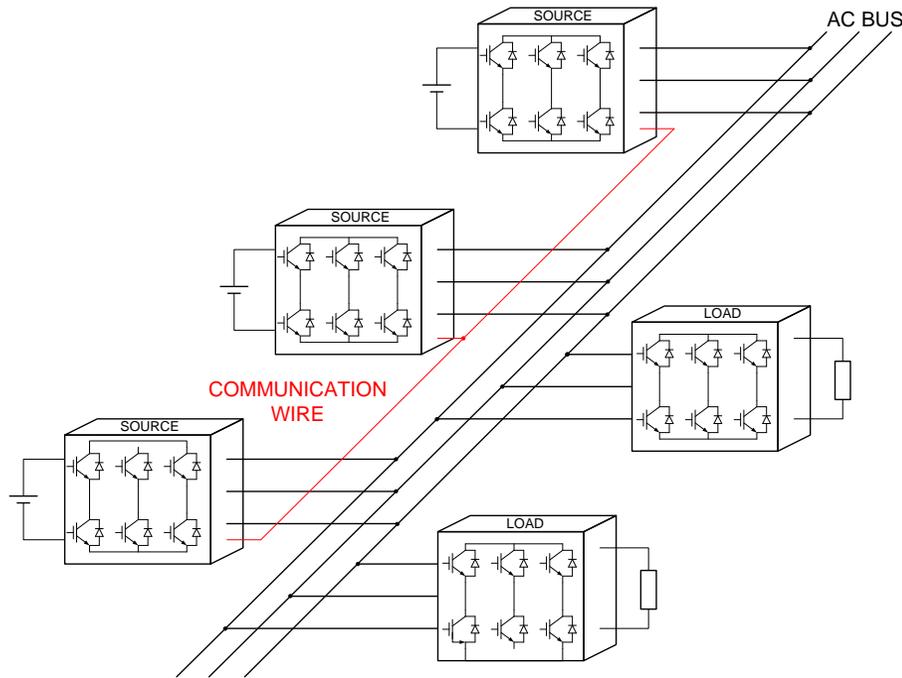


- Could be a large number of energy source converters to be coordinated
- Need to also coordinate frequent transfer between islanded mode and grid-connected mode

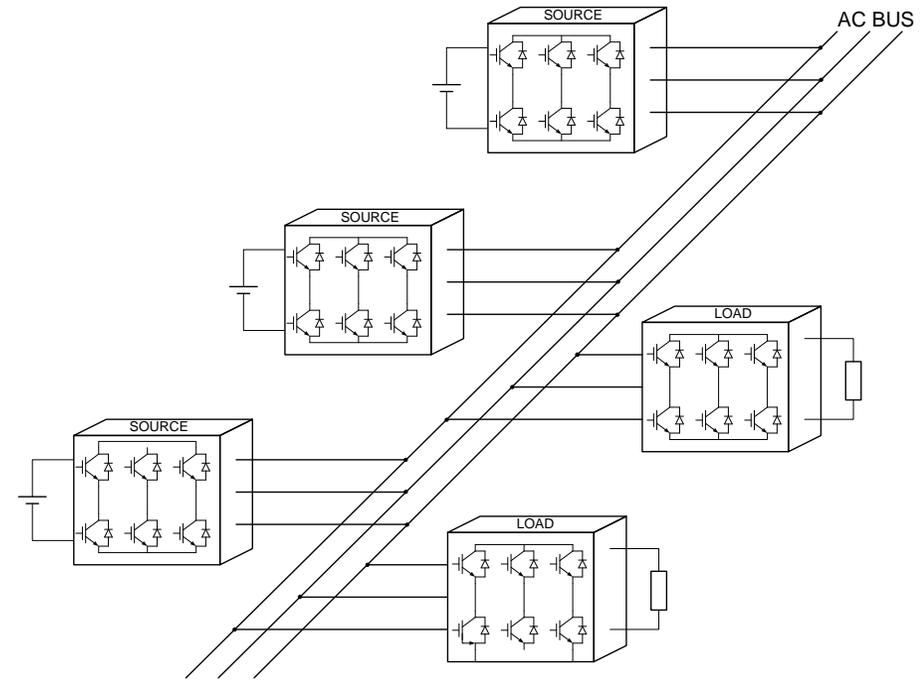
Basics of Coordinative Control

- **Coordination of parallel energy source converters**
 - Adequate power sharing among parallel inverters
 - Bus voltage within a nominal magnitude/frequency range

With communication



Without communication → Truly autonomous

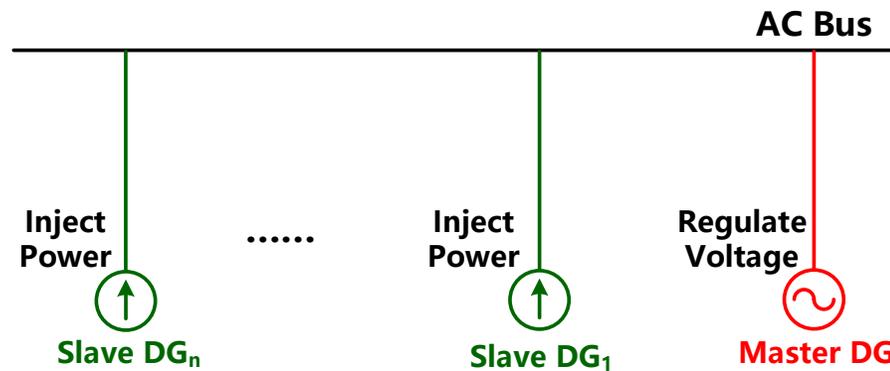


- ☺ Plug and play
- ☺ Improved reliability

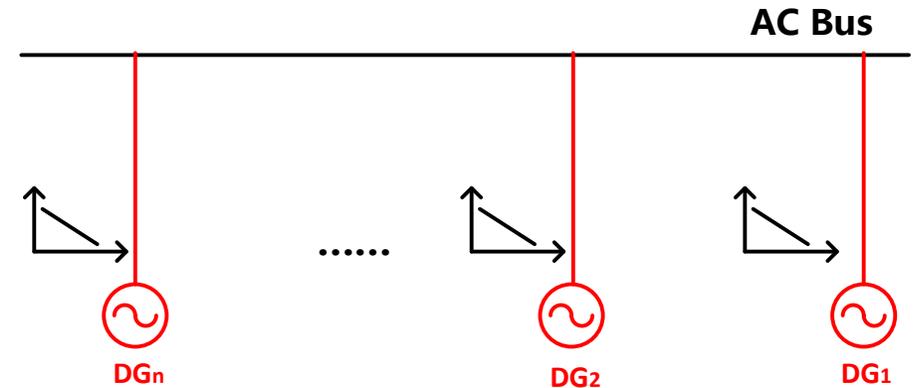
Basics of Coordinative Control

- Coordinative control without communication

Master-slave control



Droop control

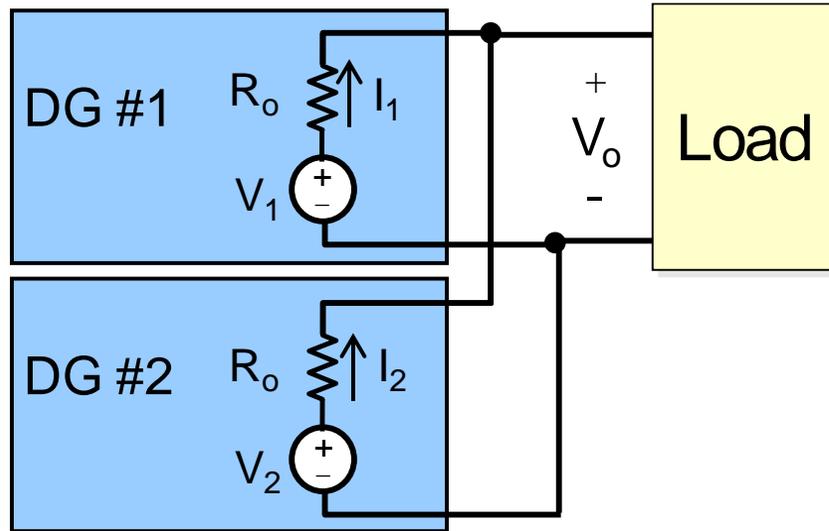


- ☹ Master-dependent reliability
- ☹ Large power rating of master
- ☹ Low voltage quality at the end of distribution line

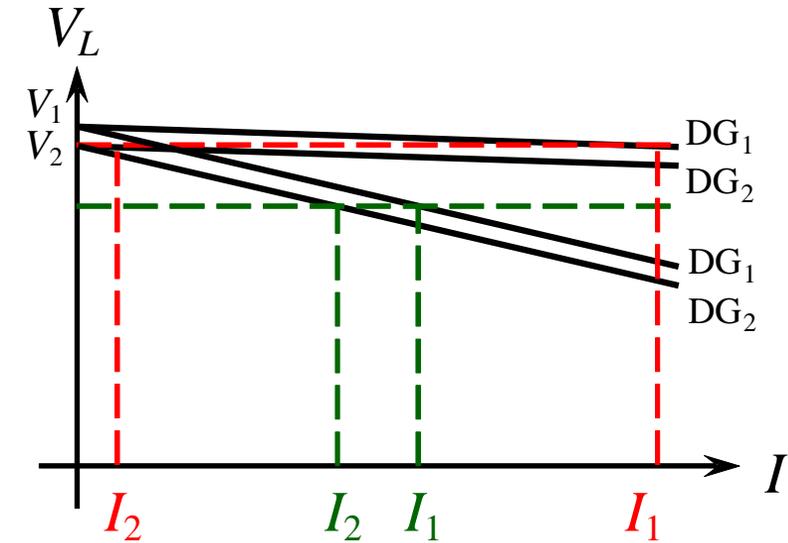


Basics of Coordinative Control

- Droop control in DC power systems



Droop Control $V_0 = V_{nom} - n_i \cdot I_i$

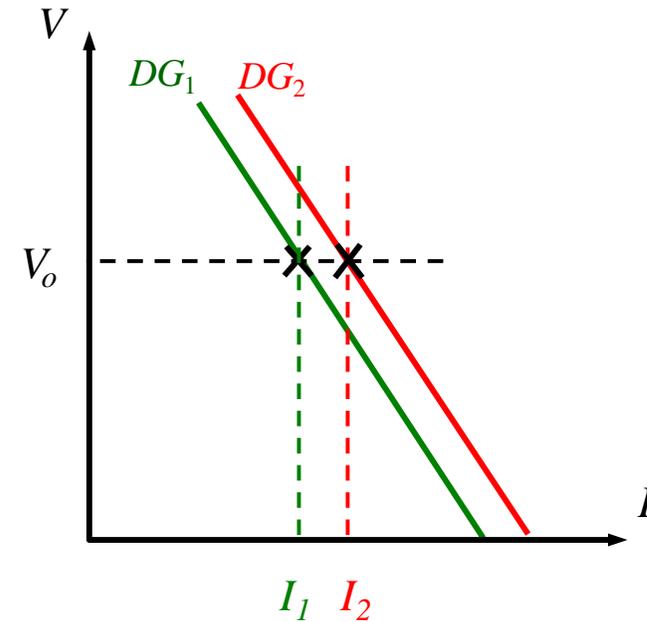
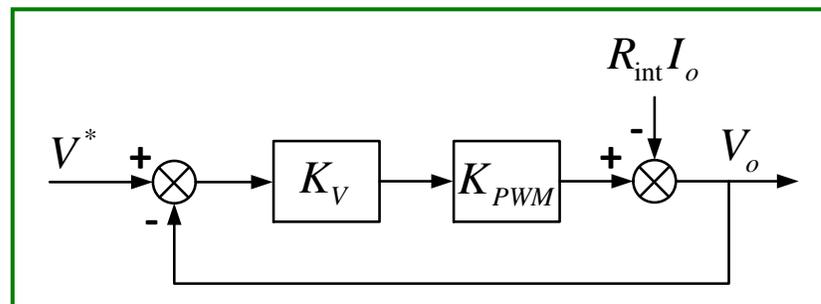
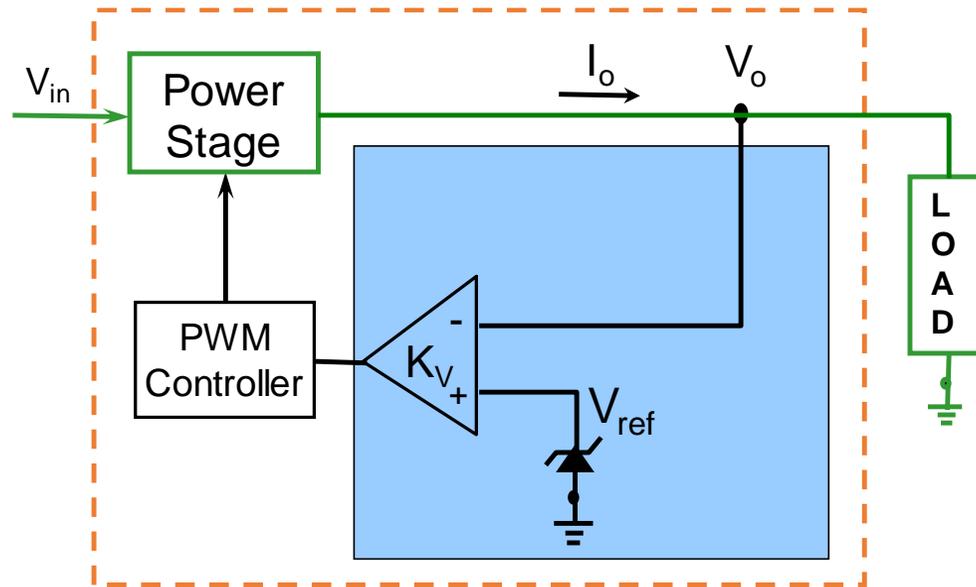


- Power can be automatically shared between parallel DGs with proper droop gains.

Basics of Coordinative Control

- Droop control in DC power systems

Droop Scheme #1 Programmable voltage droop with finite DC loop gain



$I_o \sim V_o$ characteristics

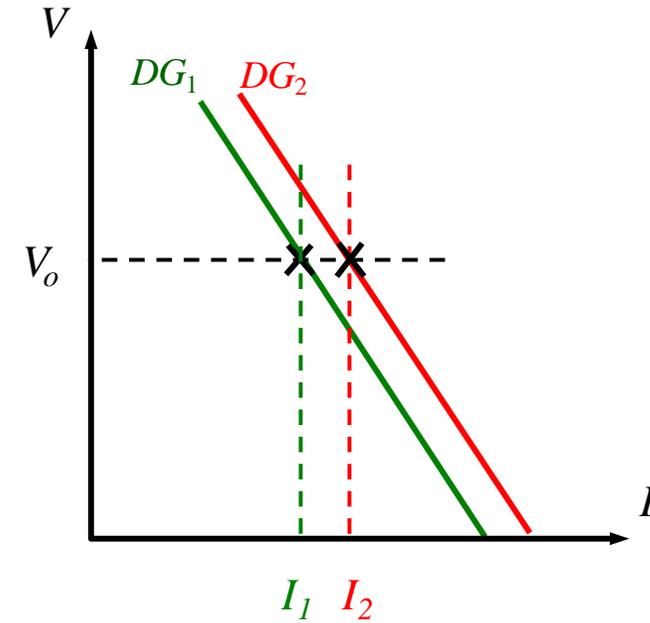
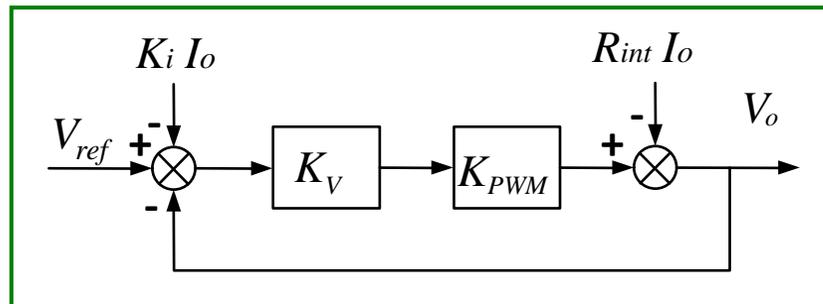
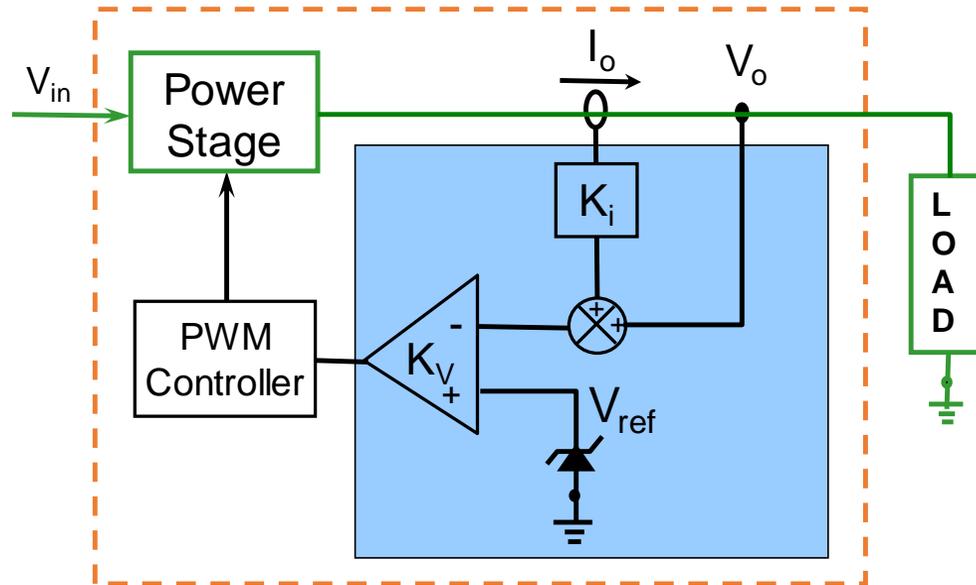
$$V_o = \frac{K_V K_{PWM}}{1 + K_V K_{PWM}} \cdot V_{ref} - \frac{R_{int}}{1 + K_V K_{PWM}} \cdot I_o$$

Basics of Coordinative Control

- Droop control in DC power systems

Droop Scheme #2

Programmable voltage droop with infinite DC loop gain

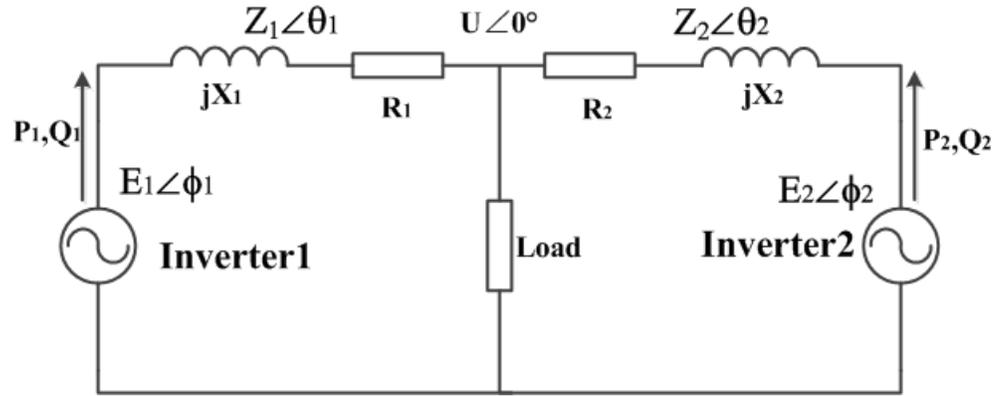


$I_o \sim V_o$ characteristics

$$V_o = V_{ref} - K_i I_o$$

Basics of Coordinative Control

- Droop control in AC power systems



When the impedance of distribution line is **purely inductive**, $\theta_n = 90^\circ$

As ϕ_n is very small, so further simplification can be done

$$\begin{cases} P_n = \frac{E_n U_L \sin \phi_n}{Z_n} \sin \theta_n + \frac{U_L (E_n \cos \phi_n - U_L)}{Z_n} \cos \theta_n \\ Q_n = -\frac{E_n U_L \sin \phi_n}{Z_n} \cos \theta_n + \frac{U_L (E_n \cos \phi_n - U_L)}{Z_n} \sin \theta_n \end{cases}$$

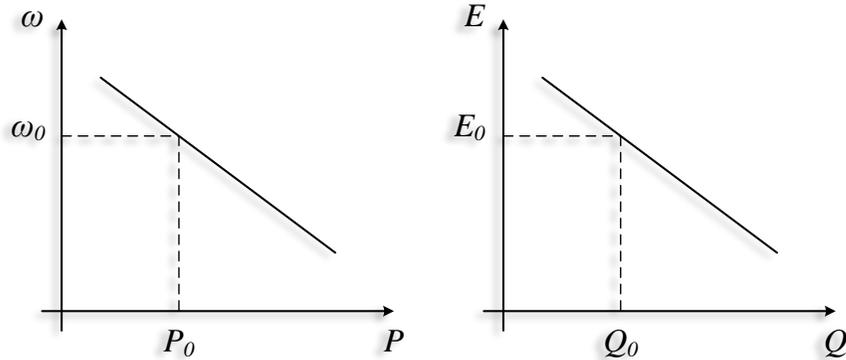
$$\begin{cases} P_n = \frac{E_n U_L \sin \phi_n}{Z_n} \\ Q_n = \frac{U_L (E_n \cos \phi_n - U_L)}{Z_n} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} P_n = \frac{E_n U_L \phi_n}{Z_n} \\ Q_n = \frac{U_L (E_n - U_L)}{Z_n} \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Small-signal linearization}} \begin{cases} \Delta P_n \approx \frac{E_n U_L}{Z_n} \Delta \phi_n \\ \Delta Q_n \approx \frac{U_L}{Z_n} \Delta E_n \end{cases}$$

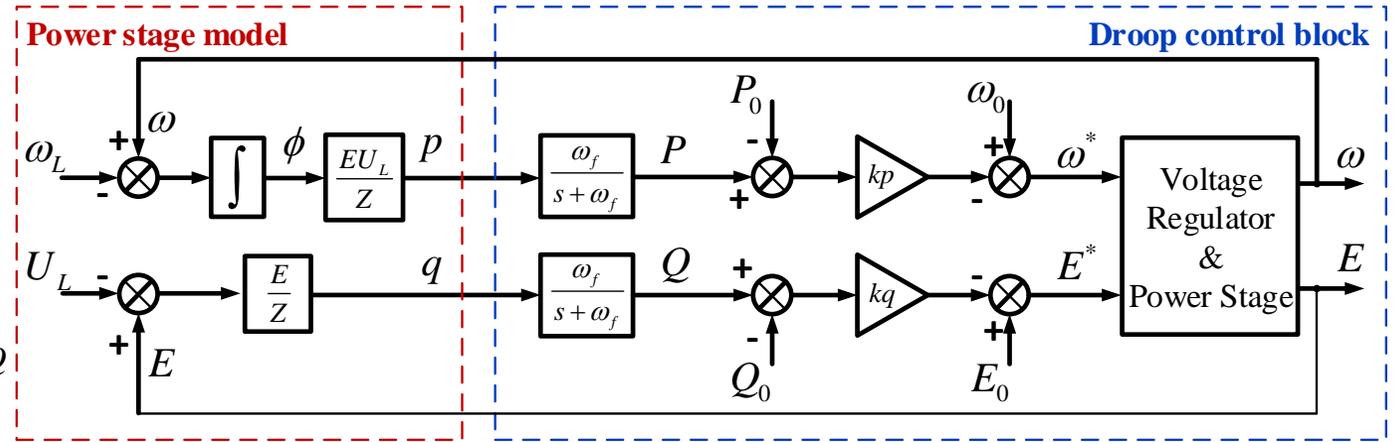
- The real and reactive power could be controlled by controlling respectively the frequency and voltage amplitude.

Basics of Coordinative Control

■ Droop control in AC power systems



Droop control diagram

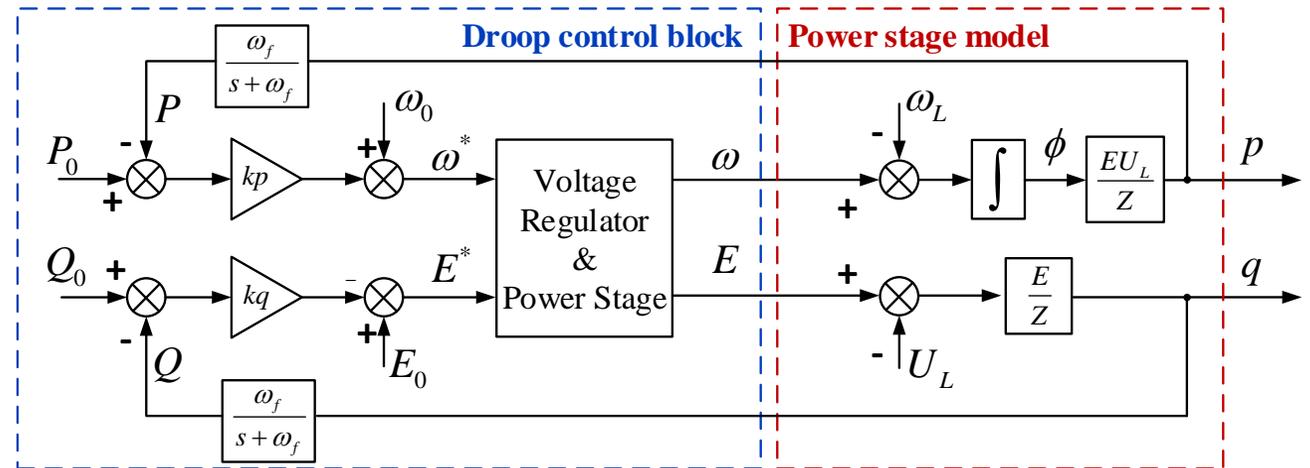


Control characteristics

$$\omega = \omega_0 - k_p (P - P_0)$$

$$E = E_0 - k_q (Q - Q_0)$$

A droop-controlled inverter can be regarded as a current source with limited regulation gain and bandwidth.

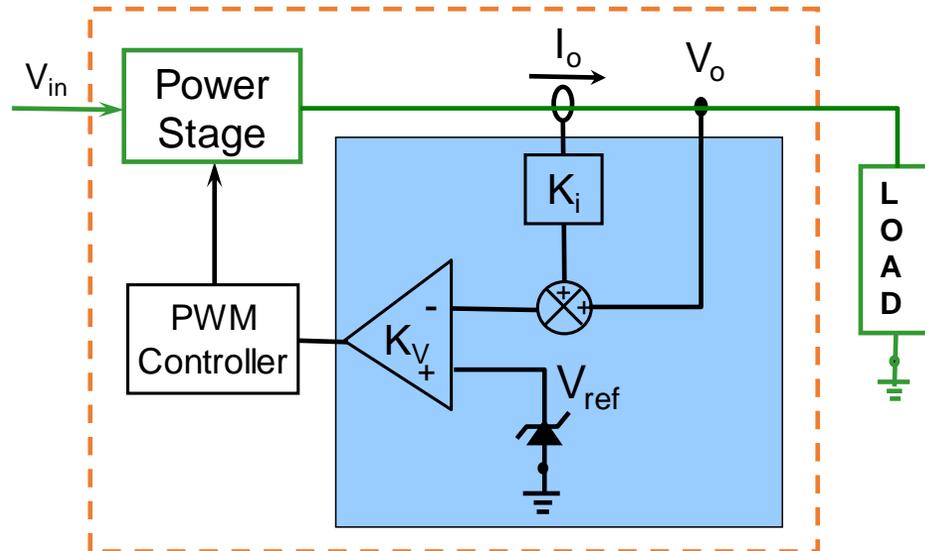


Basics of Coordinative Control

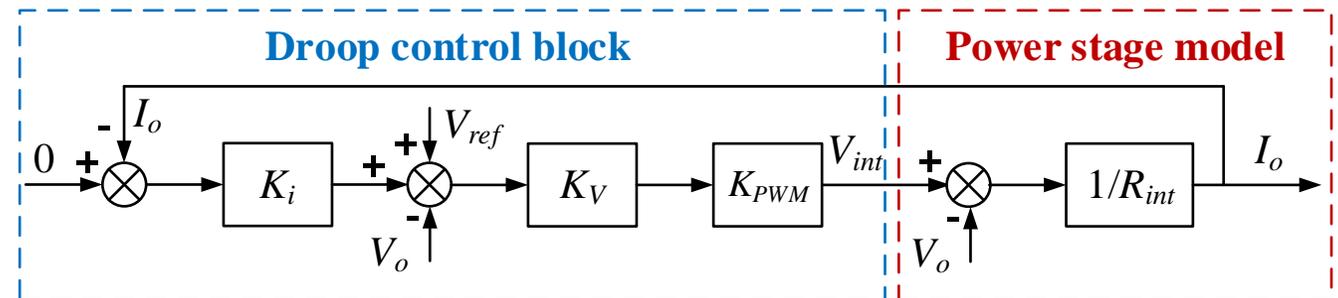
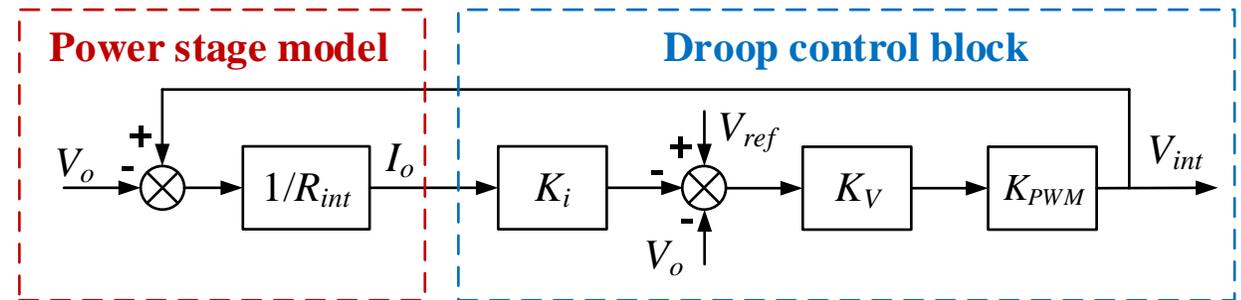
- Droop control in DC power systems

Droop Scheme #2

Programmable voltage droop with infinite DC loop gain



- A droop-controlled converter can be regarded as a current source with limited regulation gain and bandwidth.



Control characteristics

$$V_0 = V_{ref} - K_i I_0$$

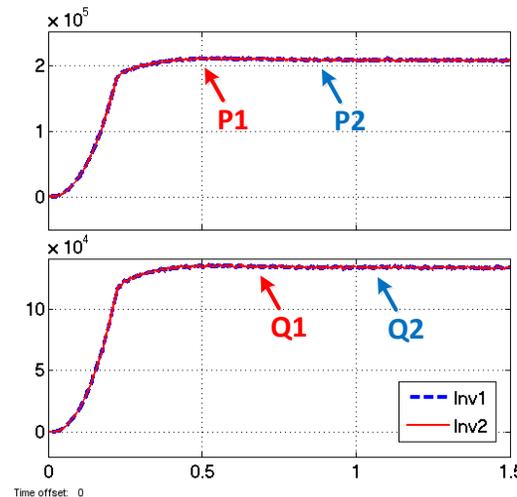
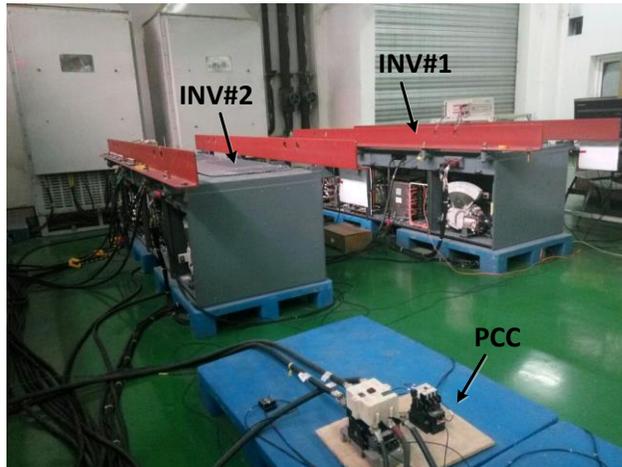
Basics of Coordinative Control

■ Practical application of droop control: HYEE Project

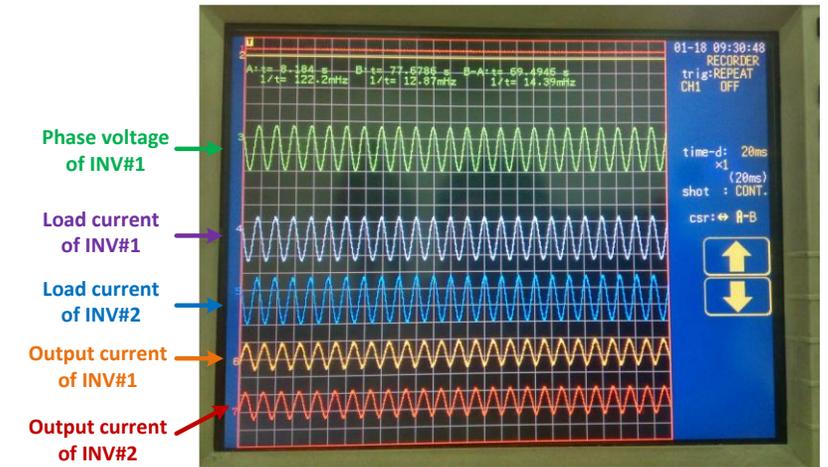
- Trade-off between power sharing & voltage regulation → Careful design of droop gains

Technical parameters	
Power rating	240 kVA
Power factor	0.85
Voltage deviation range	$\pm 5\%$
Frequency deviation range	$\pm 2\%$

- Frequency and voltage deviation caused by the maximum power should be **limited** within the allowable range.
- The calculated droop gains might be decreased properly in order to **stabilize the system**.



Simulations



Experiments

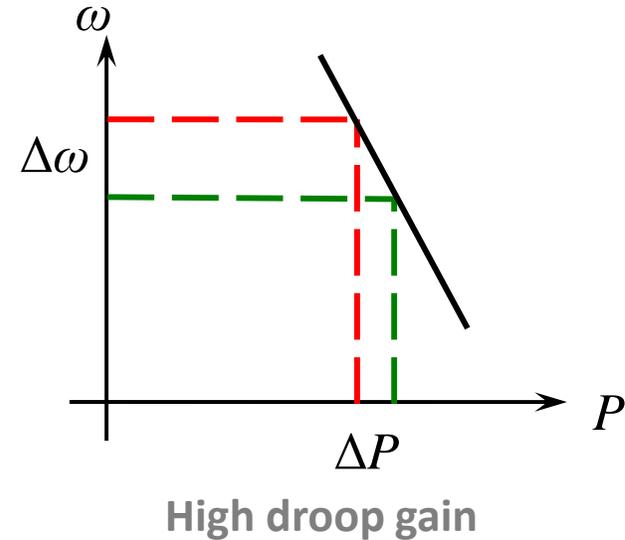
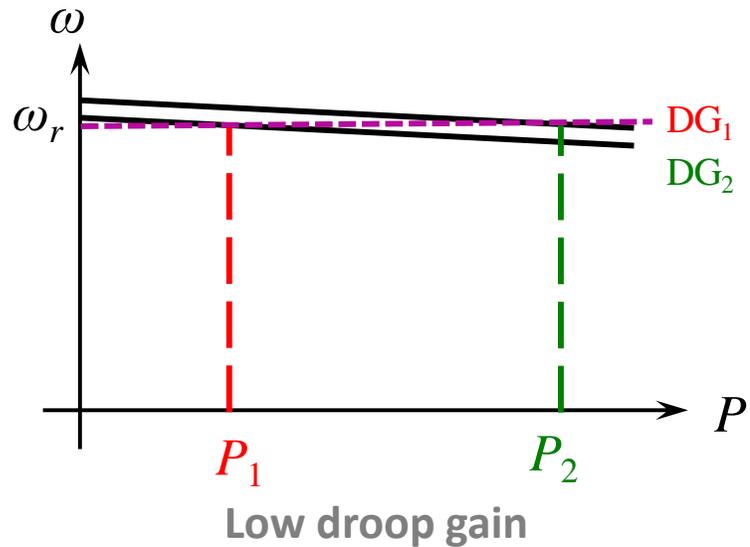
- **Droop Control:** Synchronization & Active Power Sharing

- **Improving coordination performance with advanced control:**
 - Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration
 - Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing
 - Selection of Small-AC-signal
 - Successive Approximation for Power Sharing



Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

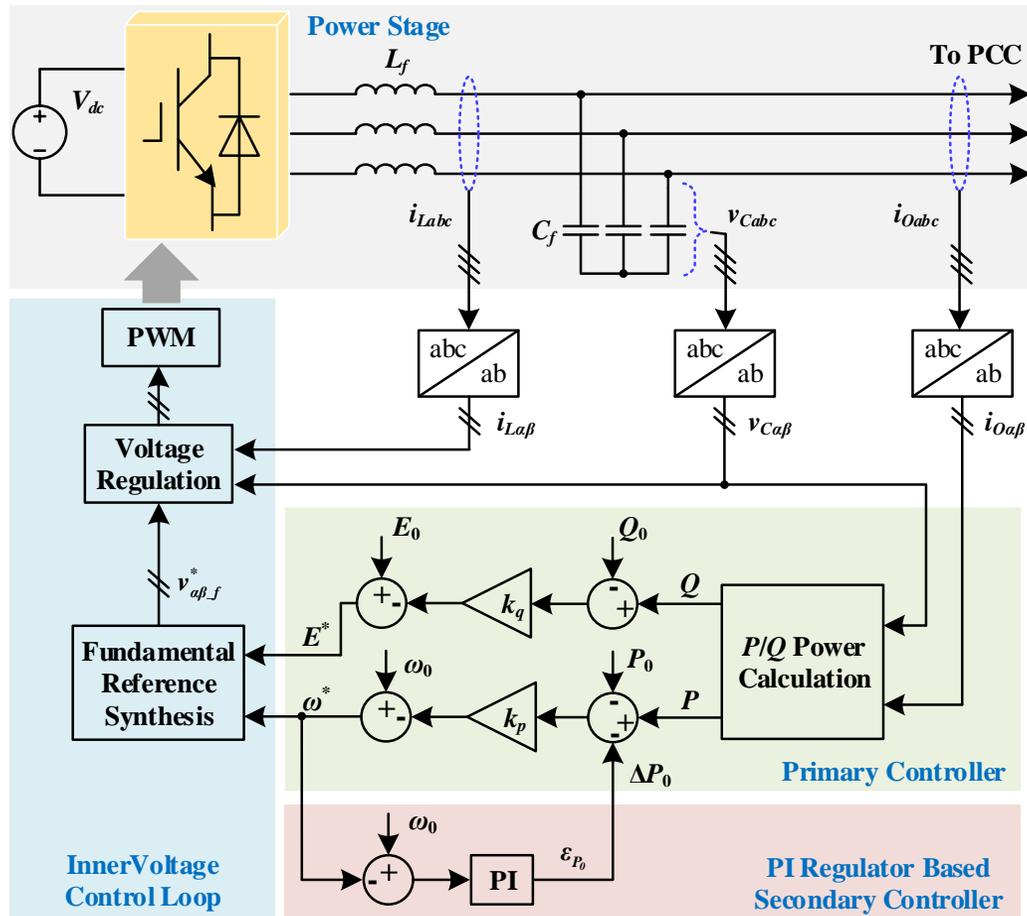
- Compromise between power sharing and voltage regulation



- When droop control is employed, compromise exists between the power sharing accuracy and the voltage regulation rate.
 - Low droop gain results in a **bad accuracy of power sharing**.
 - High droop gain results in a **bad voltage regulation rate**.

Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

- PI regulator based decentralized secondary control

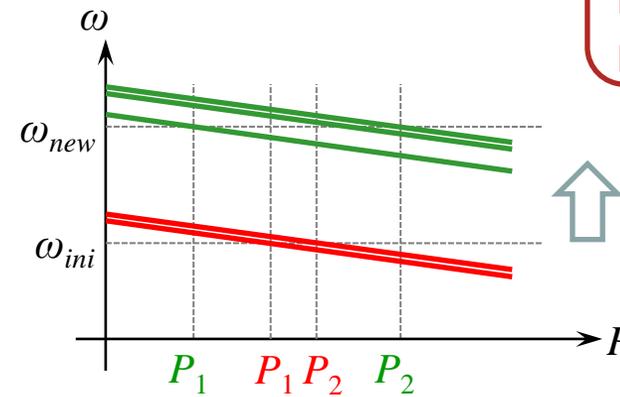


$$\omega^* = \omega_0 - k_p (P - P_0 - \Delta P_0)$$

$$\Delta P_0 = \varepsilon_{P_0}$$

$$\varepsilon_{P_0} = \left(k_{p\omega} + \frac{k_{i\omega}}{s} \right) (\omega_0 - \omega^*)$$

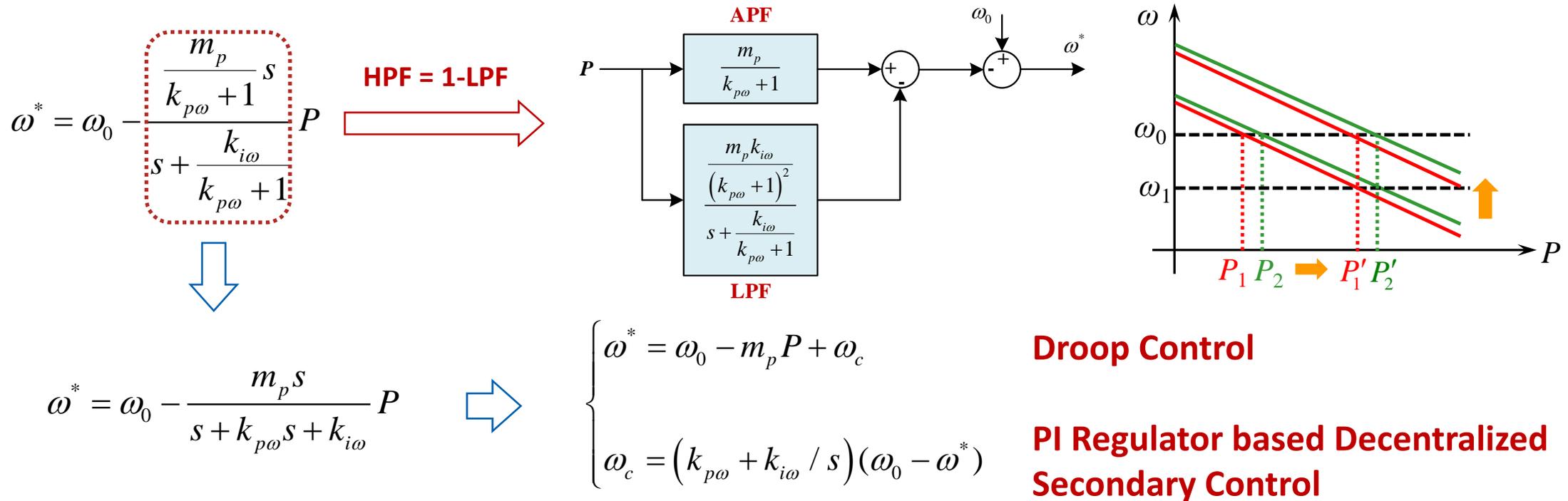
Different value of compensation term leads to unequal power sharing



Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

Washout filter-based control

- **APF**: distribute power by droop control (**Fast**)
- **LPF**: restore the frequency (**Slow**)



☹ Disturbances (e.g., new inverter plugging in) will result in **unequal active power sharing**.

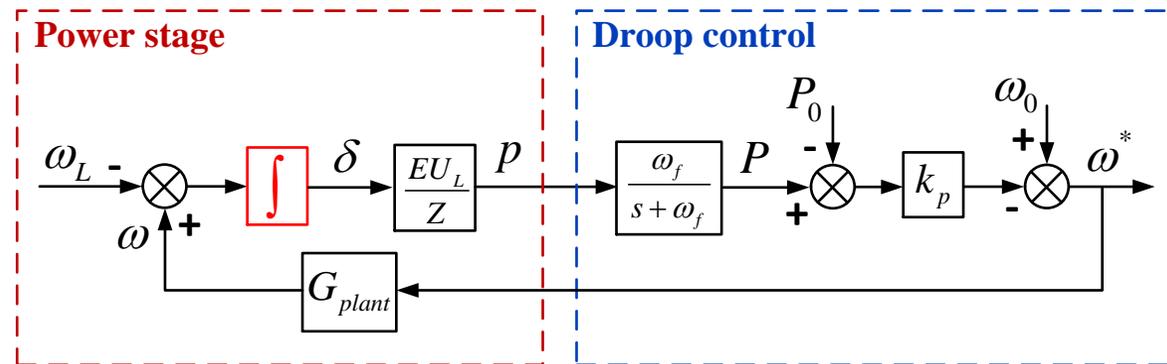
M. Yazdani and A. Mehrizi-Sani, "Washout Filter-Based Power Sharing," *IEEE Trans. on Smart Grid*, vol. 7, no. 2, pp. 967-968, 2016.

Y. Han, H. Li, L. Xu, X. Zhao, and J. M. Guerrero, "Analysis of Washout Filter-Based Power Sharing Strategy—An Equivalent Secondary Controller for Islanded Microgrid Without LBC Lines," *IEEE Trans. on Smart Grid*, vol. 9, no. 5, pp. 4061-4076, 2018.

Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

■ Rethinking of droop control

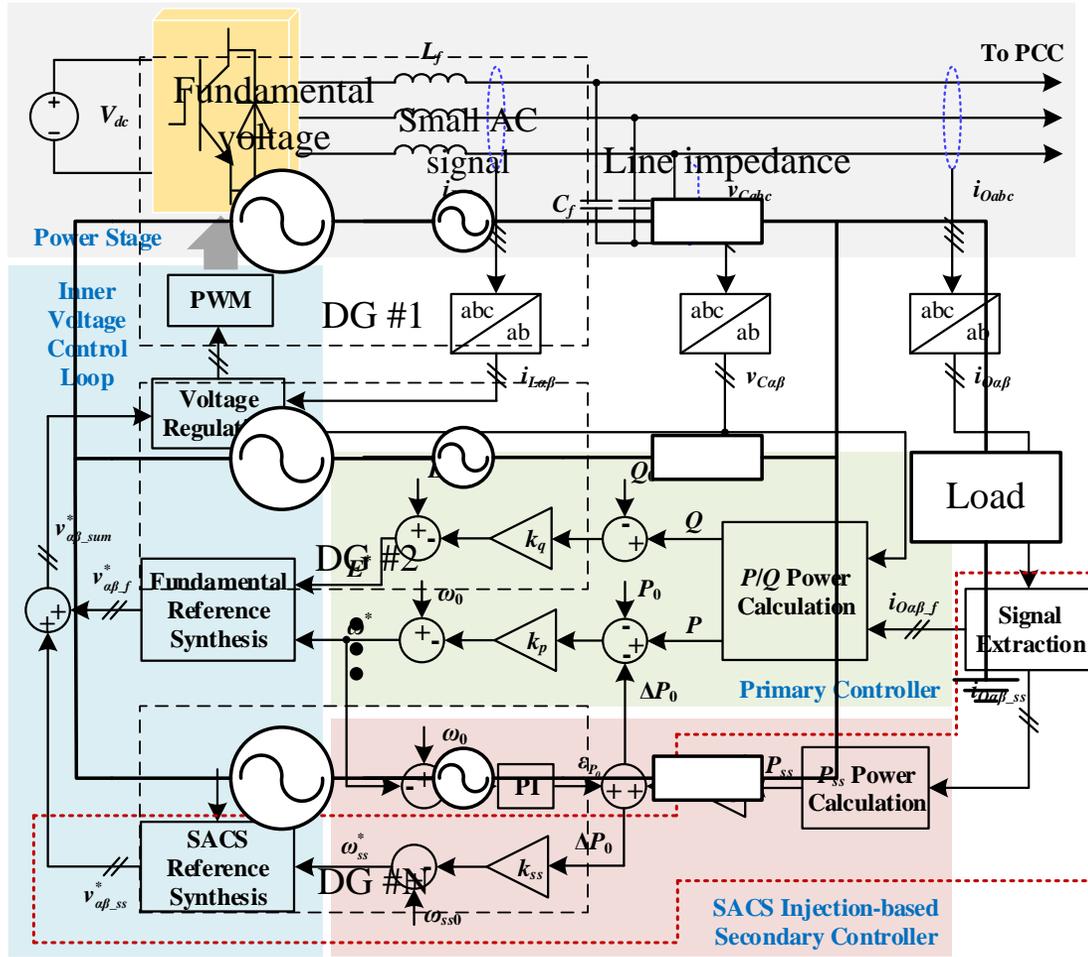
- Frequency is drooped with active power
- The **inherent integration of frequency** difference leads to a common steady-state frequency for all inverters
- A common frequency leads to good active power sharing



Why not build a droop relation between a frequency variable and the variable to be shared?

Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

- Decentralized secondary control based on small-AC-signal injection



SACS frequency: global variable!

- Fundamental voltage** is droop controlled:

$$\omega^* = \omega_0 - k_p (P - P_0 - \Delta P_0)$$

$$E^* = E_0 - k_q (Q - Q_0)$$

- The **Small-AC-signal (SACS) frequency** is drooped with the **compensation value of nominal active power**:

$$\omega_{ss}^* = \omega_{ss0} - k_{ss} \Delta P_0$$

- The **compensation value of nominal active power** is the summation of **SACS active power** and **PI output** :

$$\varepsilon_{P_0} = \left(k_{p\omega} + \frac{k_{i\omega}}{s} \right) (\omega_0 - \omega^*)$$

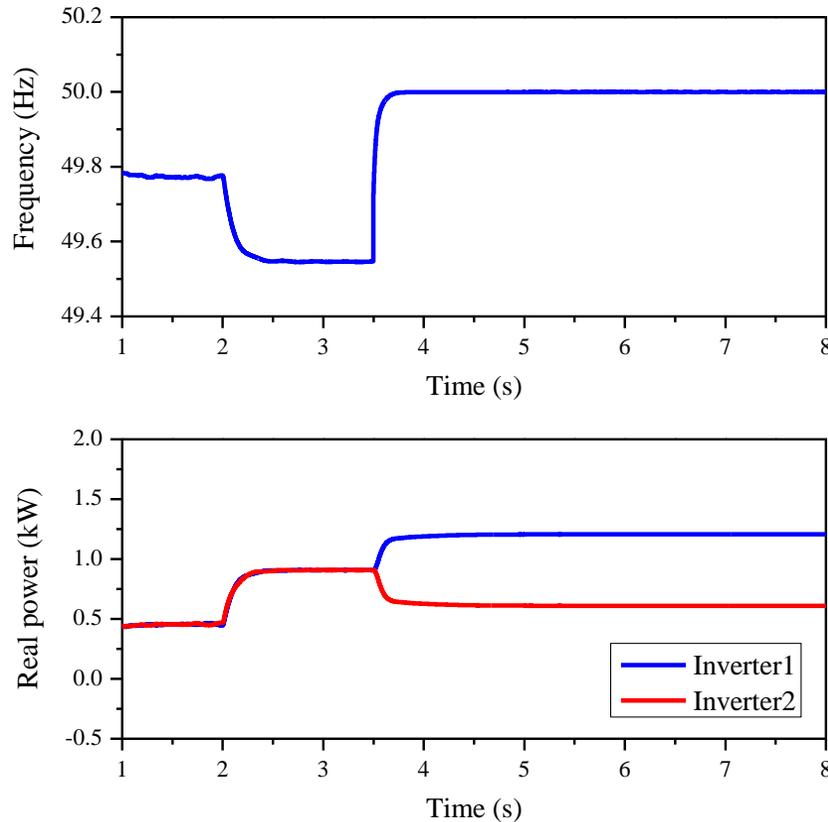
$$\Delta P_0 = \varepsilon_{P_0} + G_p P_{ss}$$

Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

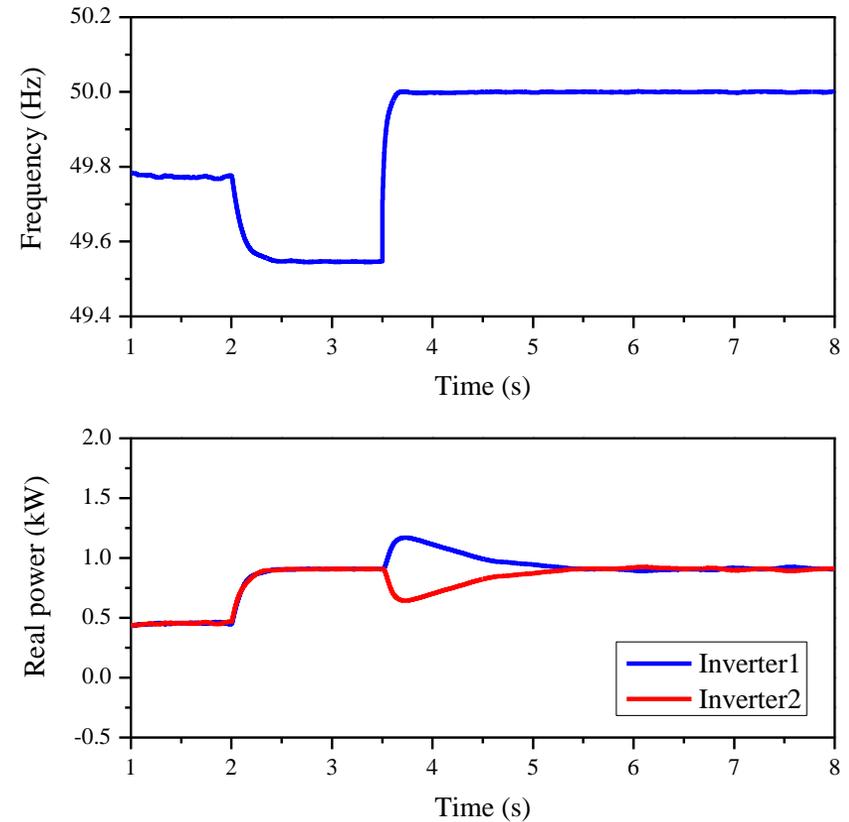
- Decentralized secondary control based on small-AC-signal injection

Simulation results

PI regulator-based control



SACS injection-based control

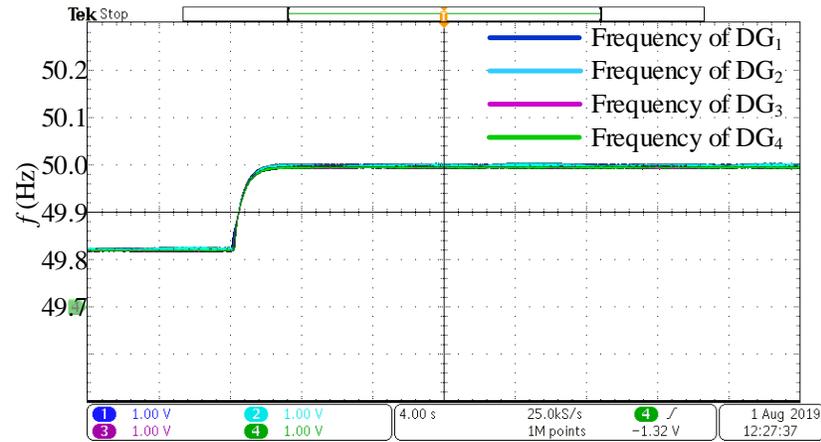


Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

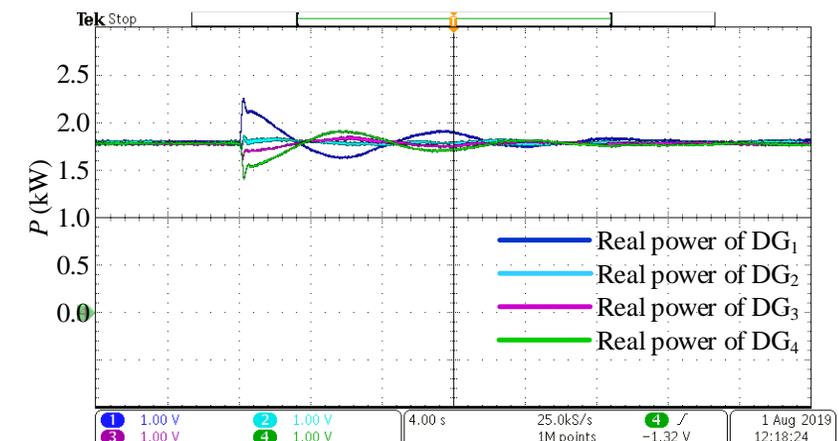
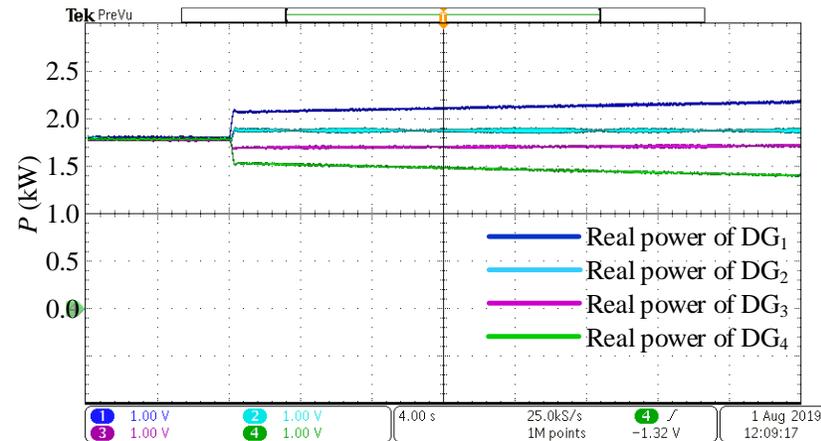
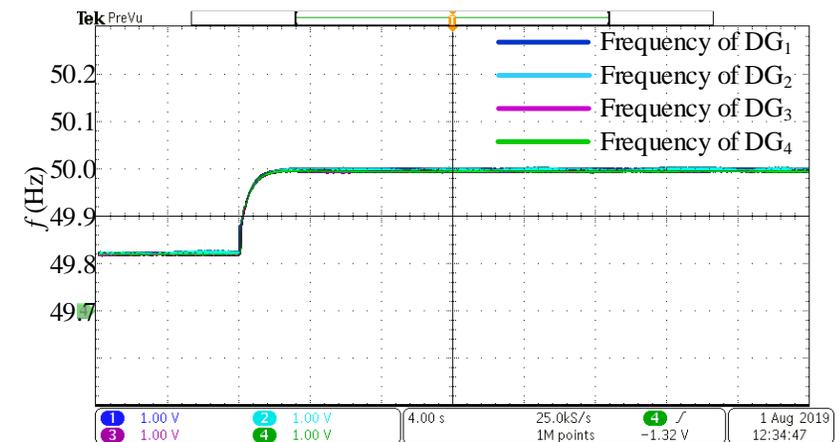
- Decentralized secondary control based on small-AC-signal injection

Experimental results

PI regulator-based control



SACS injection-based control



Secondary Control for Frequency Restoration

- Decentralized secondary control based on small-AC-signal injection

Summaries

- Deviation of fundamental frequency can be effectively compensated
- Active power demand can still be equally shared
- Communication links are not required

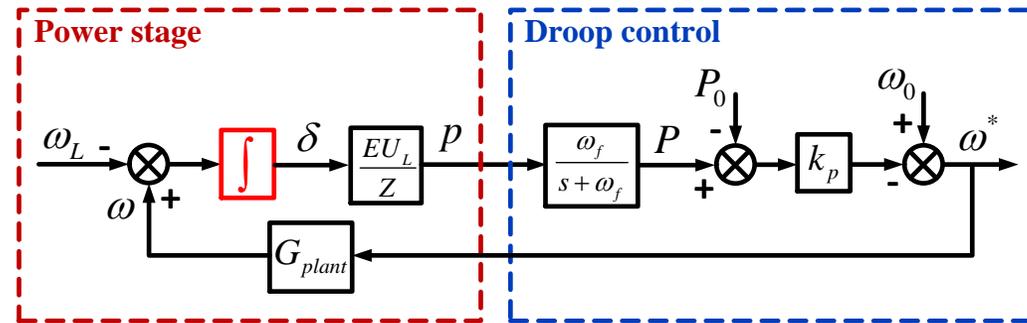
T. Wu, Z. Liu, J. Liu, B. Liu, S. Wang, "Small AC Signal Droop Based Secondary Control for Microgrids," *31st Annual IEEE Appl. Power Electron. Conf. Expo.*, 2016, pp. 3370-3375.

B. Liu, T. Wu, Z. Liu and J. Liu, "A Small-AC-Signal Injection-Based Decentralized Secondary Frequency Control for Droop-Controlled Islanded Microgrids," *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.*, vol. 35, no. 11, pp. 11634-11651, Nov. 2020.

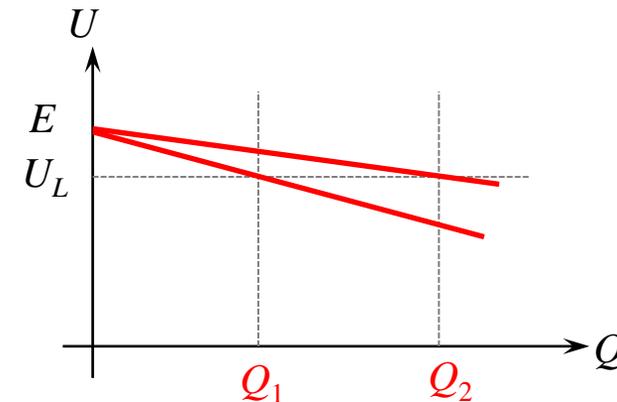
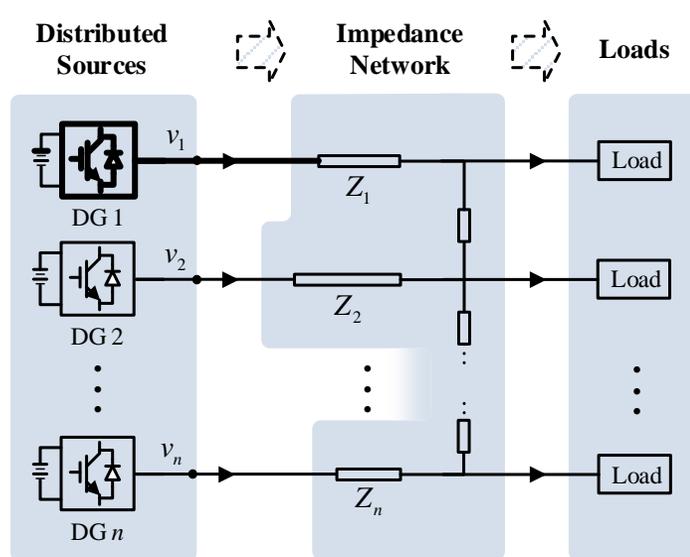
Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Power Sharing Issues

- P sharing** is always guaranteed by the **global fundamental frequency**



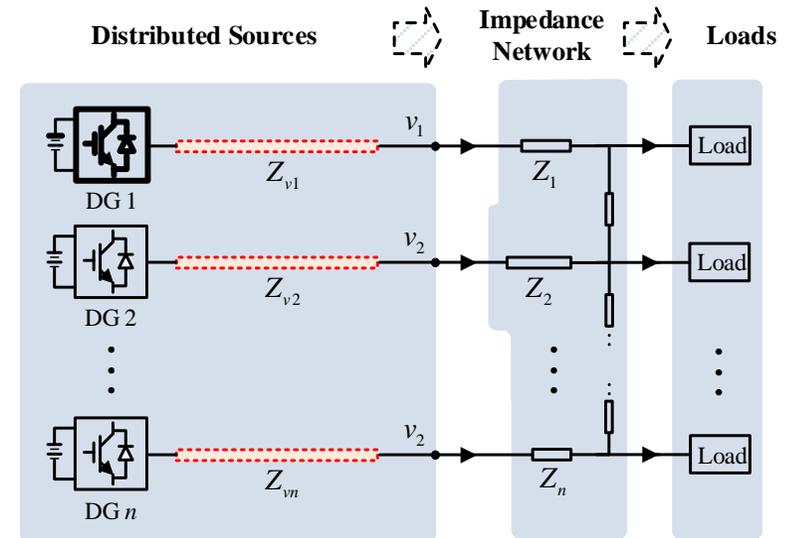
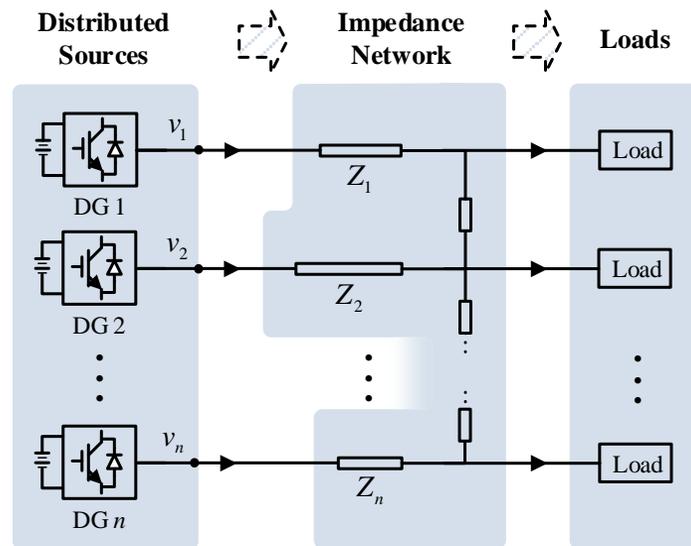
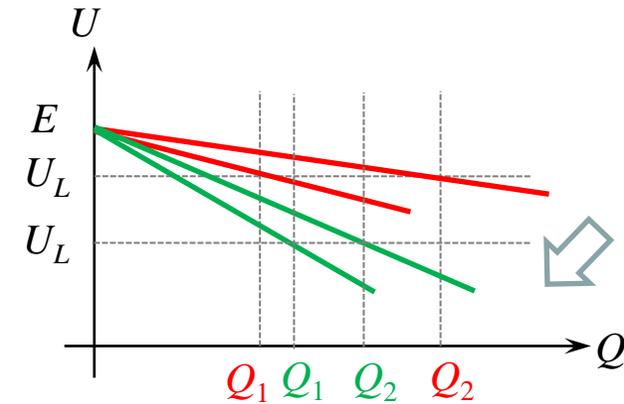
- Q sharing** is determined by the **mismatched line impedances**



Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

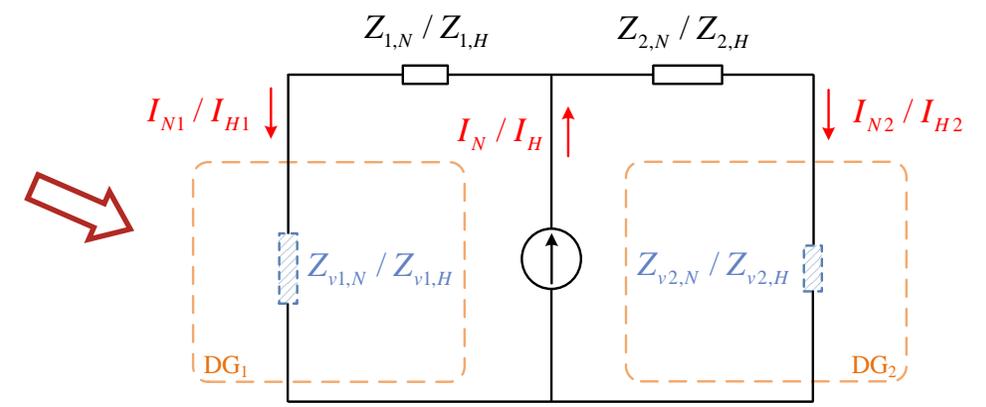
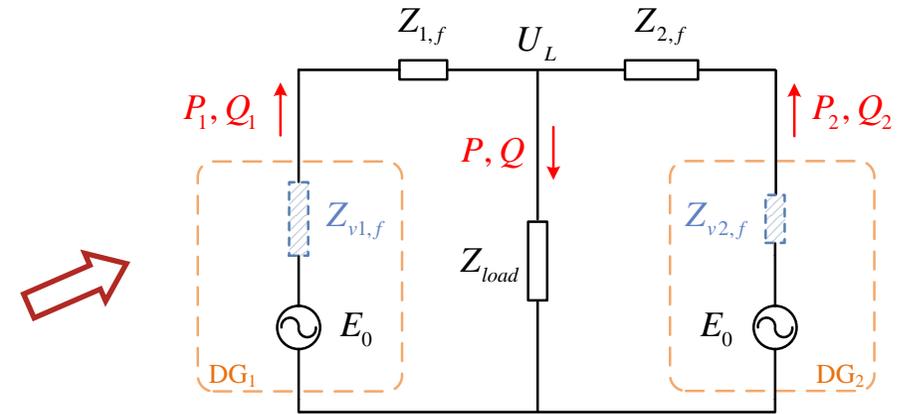
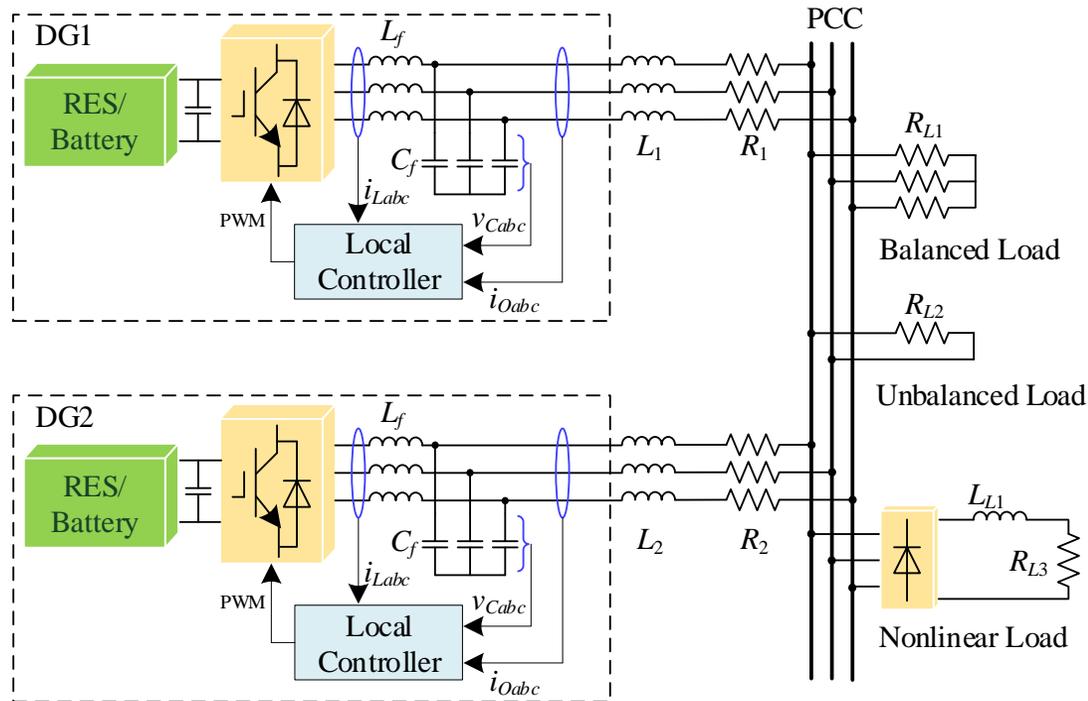
Conventional droop control and virtual impedance

- Conventional droop control
 - Improve Q sharing
- Equivalent to ‘virtual impedance’
 - Introduce large voltage drop
 - Can’t realize accurate Q sharing



Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Power Distribution & Virtual Impedance Control



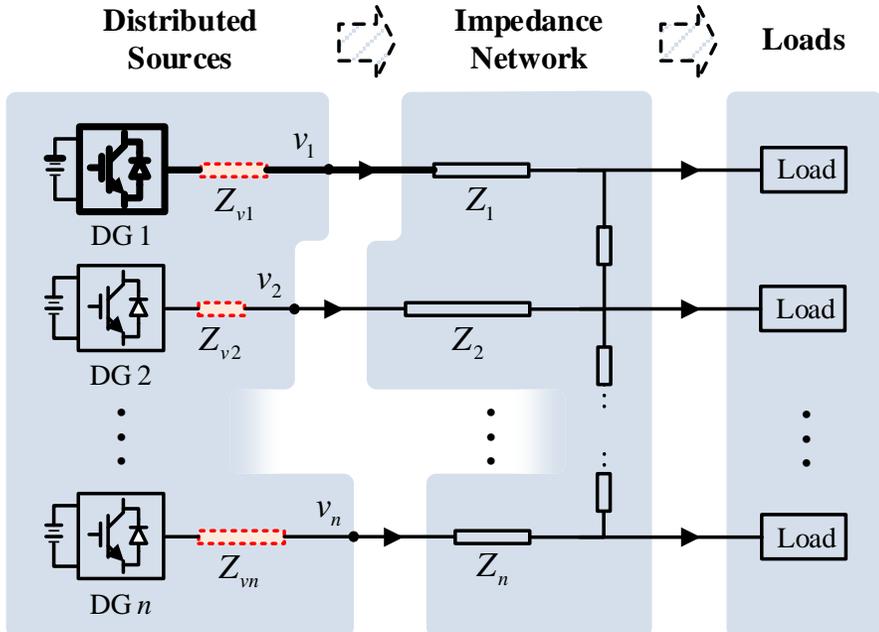
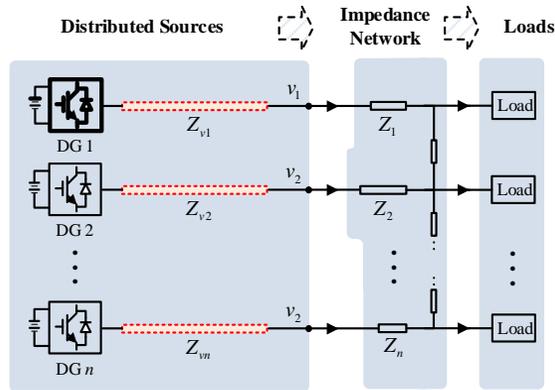
- Q and Q_{UH} distribution are both determined by the 'total impedance' on each branch



Add virtual impedances at fundamental and harmonic frequencies

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Power Distribution & Virtual Impedance Control



- How about adding **small and unequal virtual impedances** to compensate for the mismatch?

- **Power sharing** -> **differences** of virtual impedances

- **Voltage drop and THD** -> **average** virtual impedance



These two control targets are Decoupled!

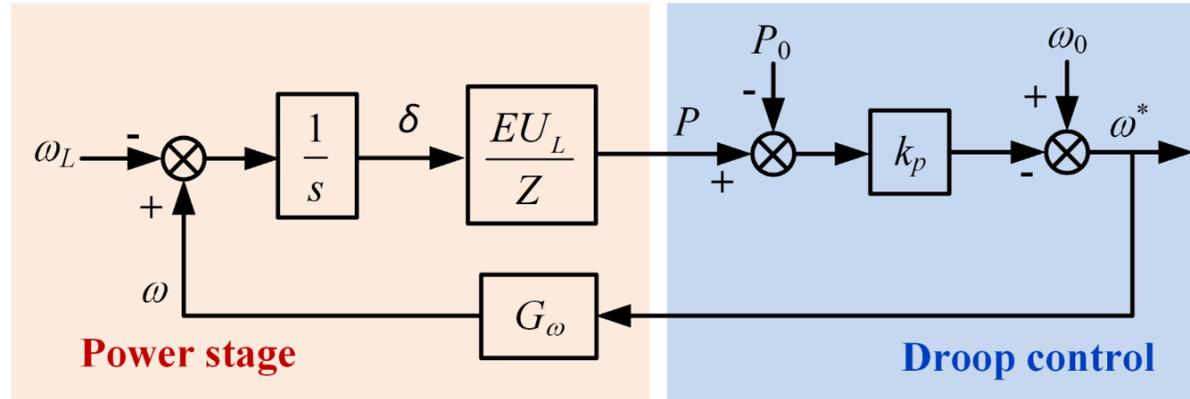
- Power sharing & bus voltage control:
 - Not single-inverter behavior, but **coordination** of all distributed energy sources

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Small-AC-signal injection-based control

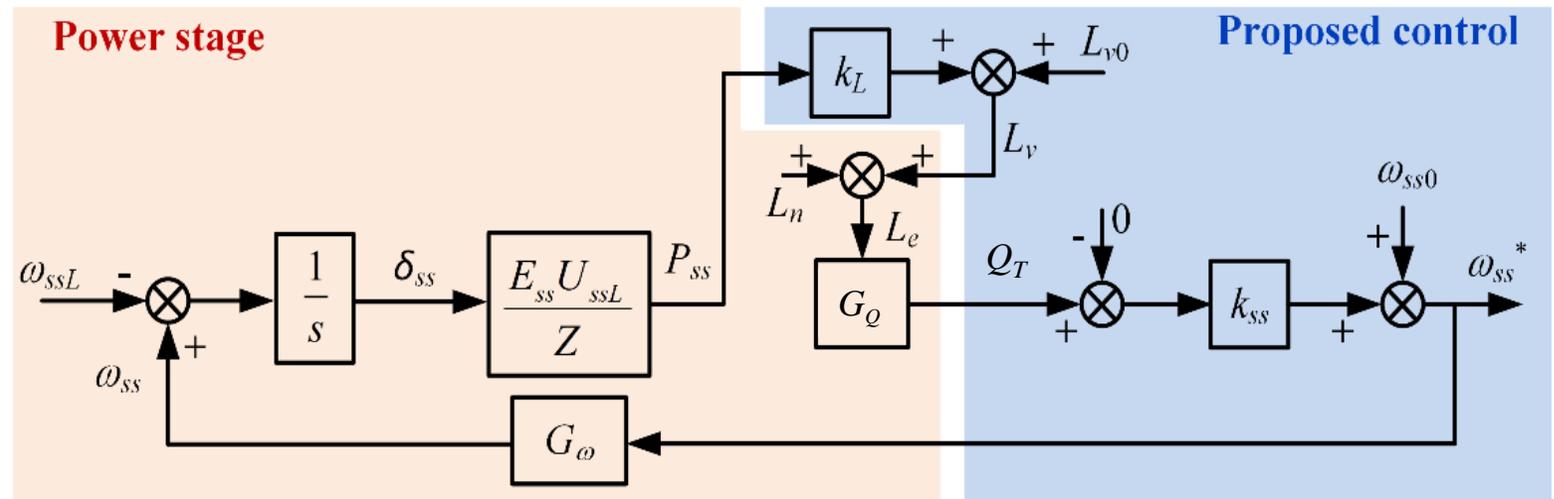
- How to obtain proper virtual impedances to compensate for the mismatch?

- $P - \omega$ droop principle



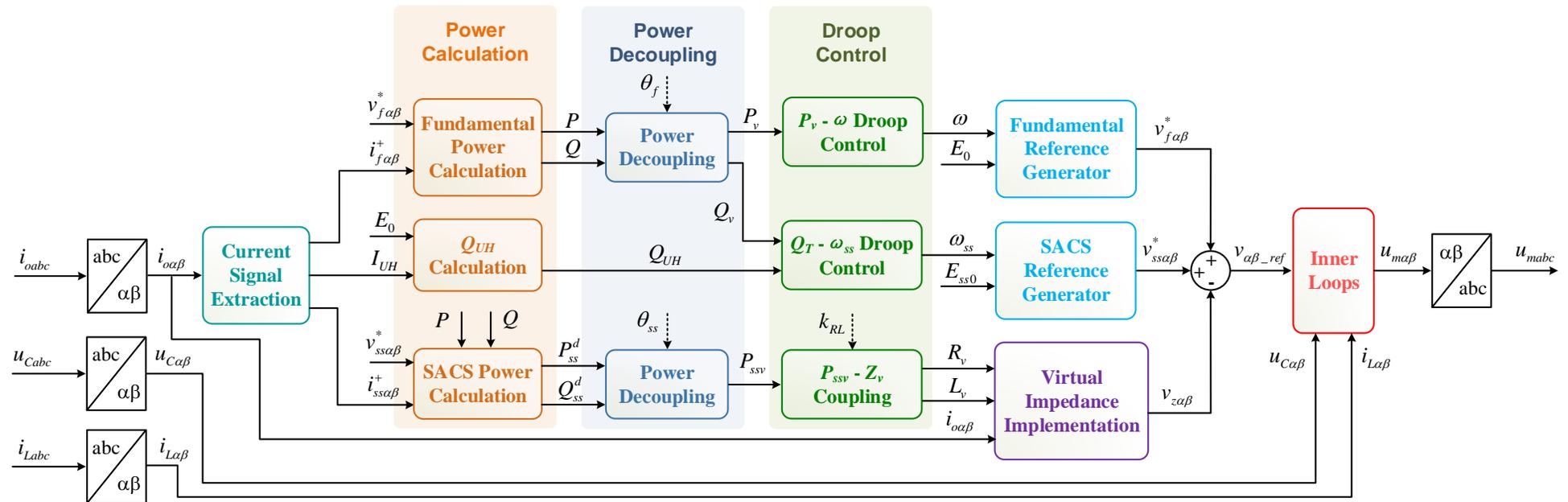
- $Q_T - \omega_{ss}$ droop introduced

$$Q_T = \sqrt{Q^2 + Q_{UH}^2}$$



Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Small-AC-signal injection-based control



- **Droop relationship** between frequency of small-AC-signal and Q and Q_{UH}

$$\omega_{ss}^* = \omega_{ss0} + k_{ss} \sqrt{Q^2 + Q_{UH}^2}$$

- ω_{ss}^* : small signal frequency reference value
- ω_{ss0} : small signal frequency rated value
- k_{ss} : droop coefficient

- **Linking** active power of small signal with virtual impedance

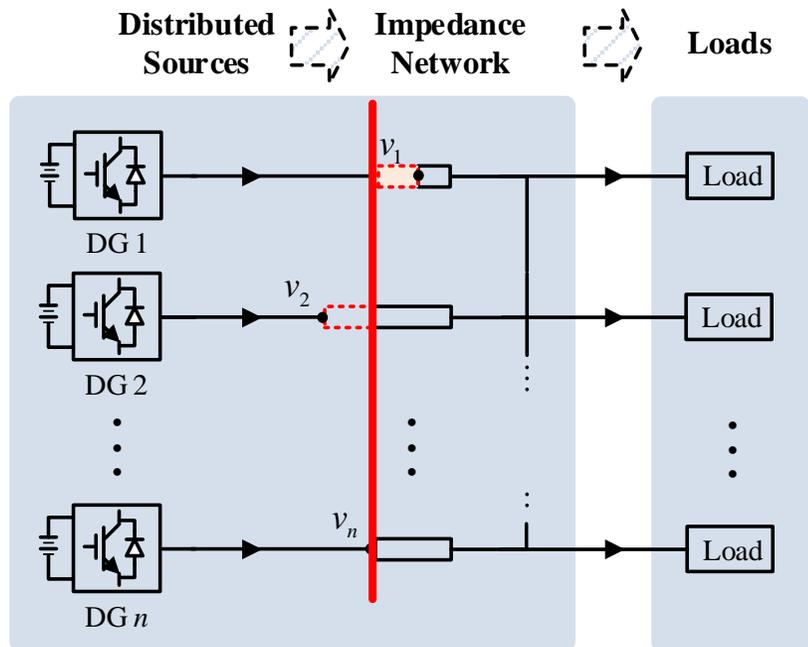
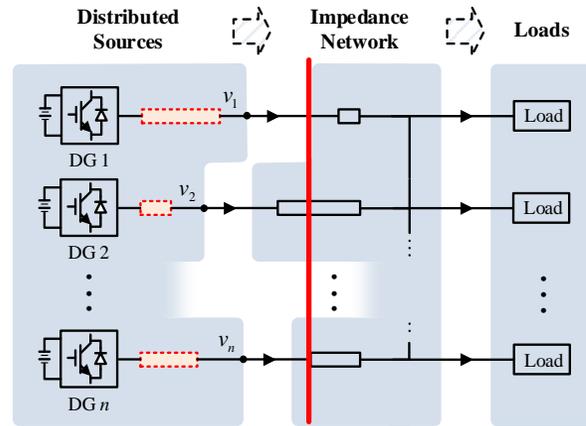
$$Z_v = Z_{v0} + k_z P_{ss}$$

- Z_v : virtual impedance.
- Z_{v0} : preactivated virtual impedance value
- k_z : coupling coefficient

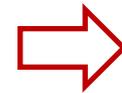
Still impact the PCC voltage quality

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Small-AC-signal injection-based control



- **Average virtual impedance** would worsen the voltage deviation and distortion on the bus
- How about setting it around zero?



How to estimate it?

The **SACS power** of each DG are different in steady state

$$Z_{v1} \neq Z_{v2} \Rightarrow P_{ss1} \neq P_{ss2}$$

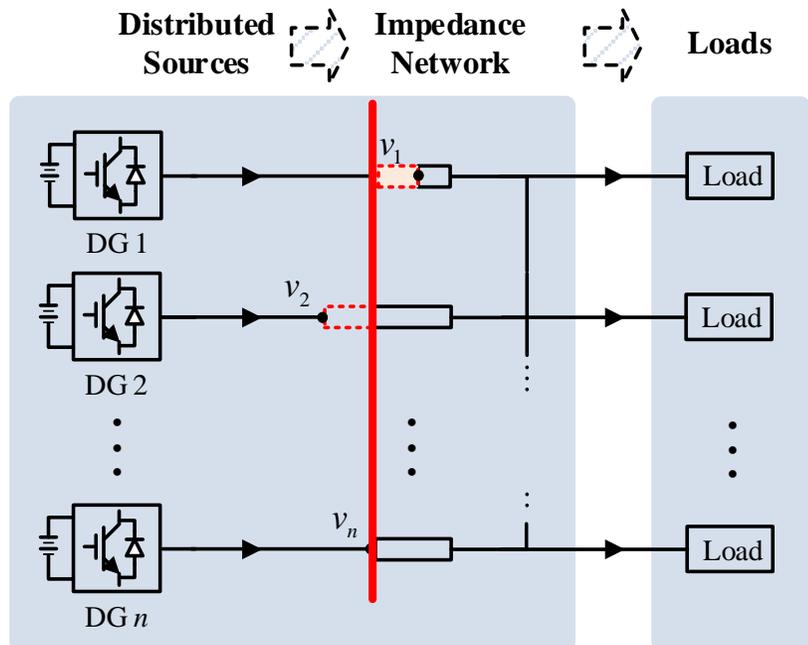
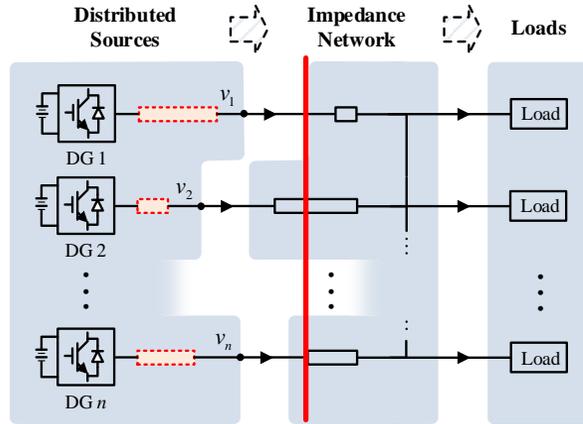
The **fundamental power** are equally shared

$$P_1 = P_2 = P_{ave}$$

- DGs have the information of average fundamental power but not the average SACS power

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

Small-AC-signal injection-based control



$$P_{ssave} = \left(\frac{E_{ss0}}{E_0}\right)^2 P_{ave} = \left(\frac{E_{ss0}}{E_0}\right)^2 P_1 = \left(\frac{E_{ss0}}{E_0}\right)^2 P_2 = \dots$$

$$Z_v = Z_{v0} + k_Z P_{ss}$$



$$Z'_v = Z_{v0} + k_Z P'_{ss} \quad P'_{ss} = P_{ss} - \left(\frac{E_{ss0}}{E_0}\right)^2 P$$

- The virtual impedances **balance original line impedances**
- The degradation of bus voltage quality caused by virtual impedance is eliminated

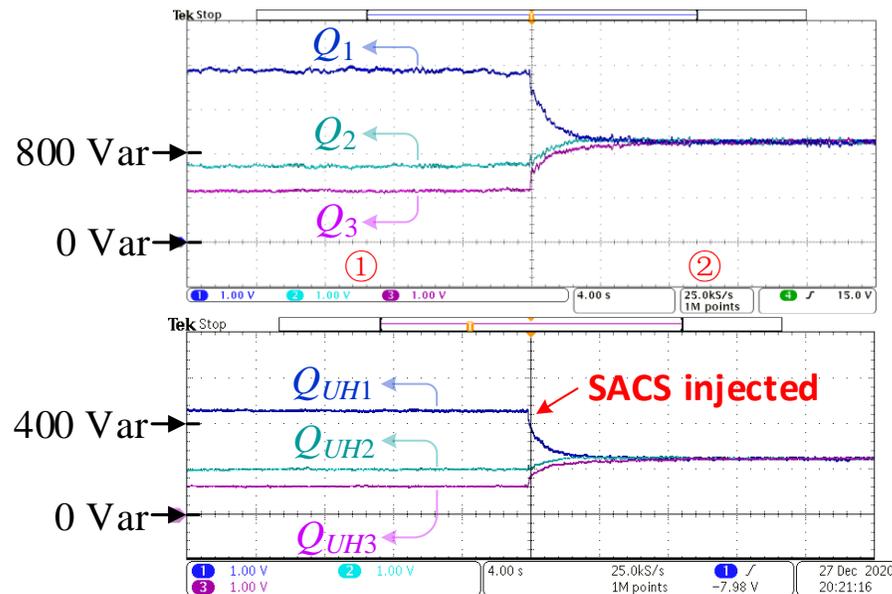
Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

- Small-AC-signal injection-based control

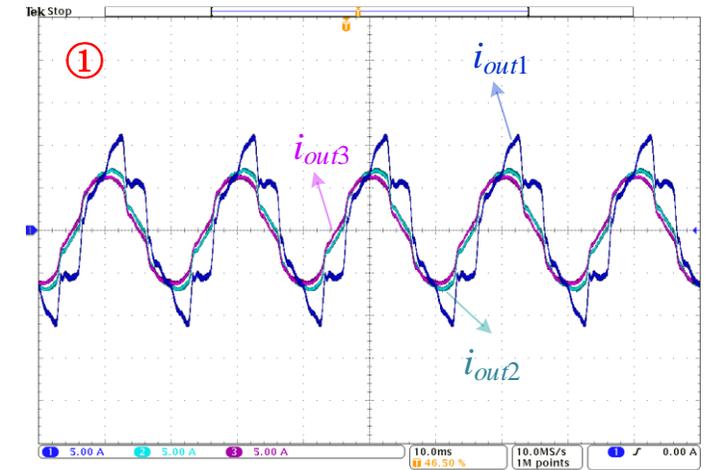
Experimental results

- Equal power sharing

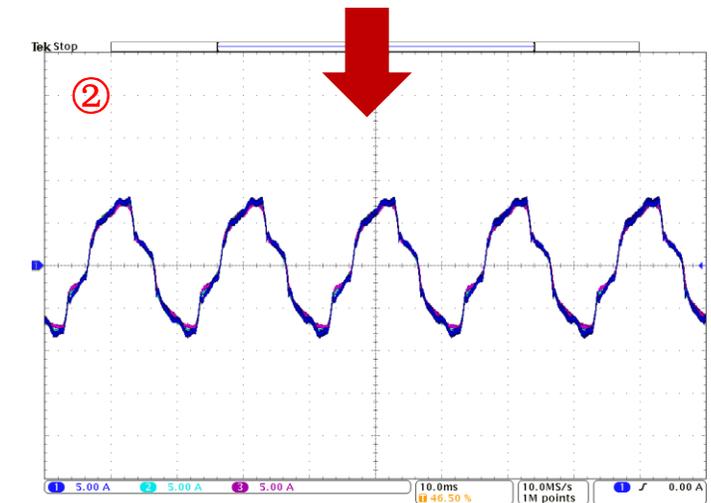
- Power Rating $S_1 : S_2 : S_3 = 1 : 1 : 1$
- Feeder Impedance $L_1 = 1.2 \text{ mH}, L_2 = 3.5 \text{ mH}, L_3 = 4.6 \text{ mH}$



Output reactive, unbalanced and harmonic power of three inverters



Output currents before SACS injected



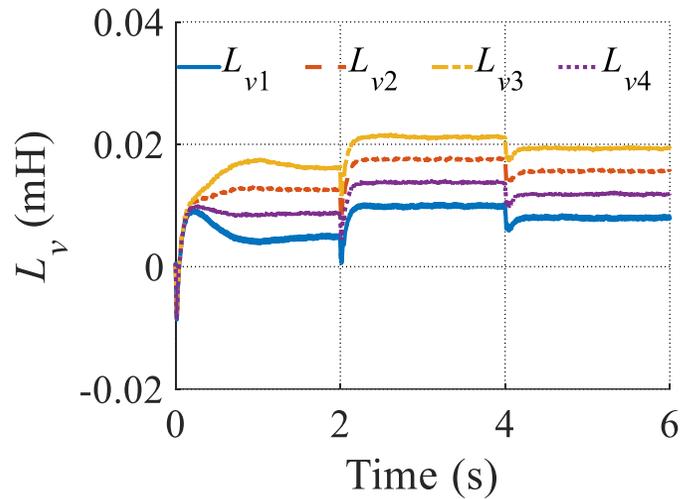
Output currents after SACS injected

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

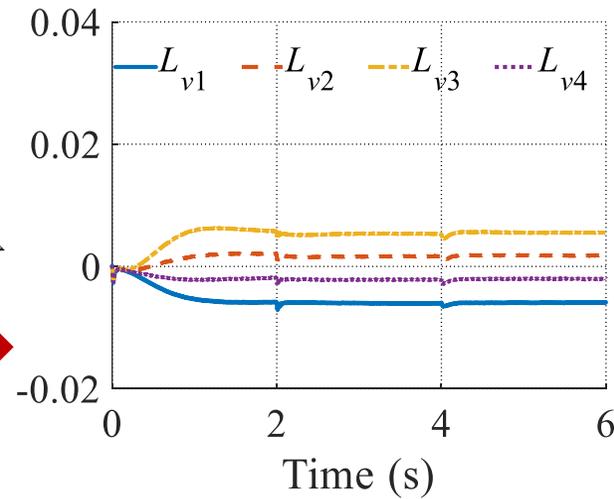
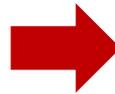
- Small-AC-signal injection-based control

Simulation results

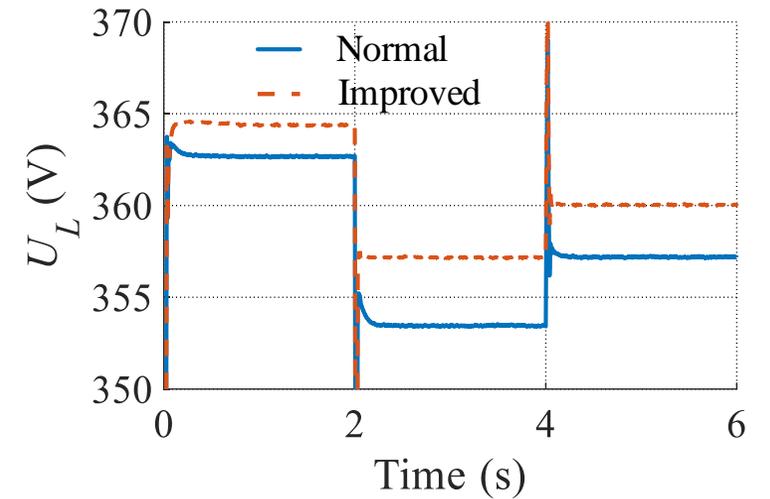
Comparison of voltage drop



Virtual impedances under normal *Pss* calculation



Virtual impedances under improved *Pss* calculation



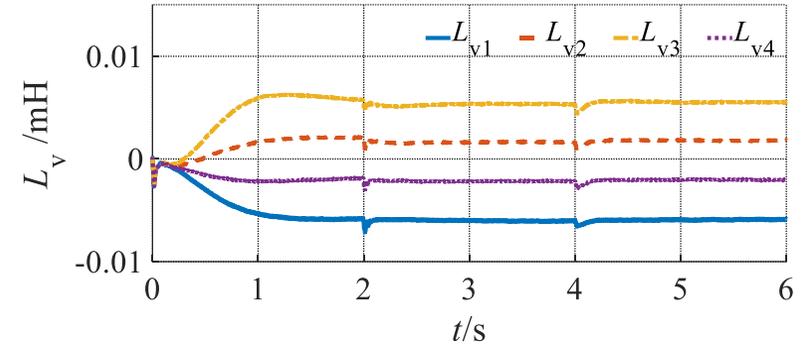
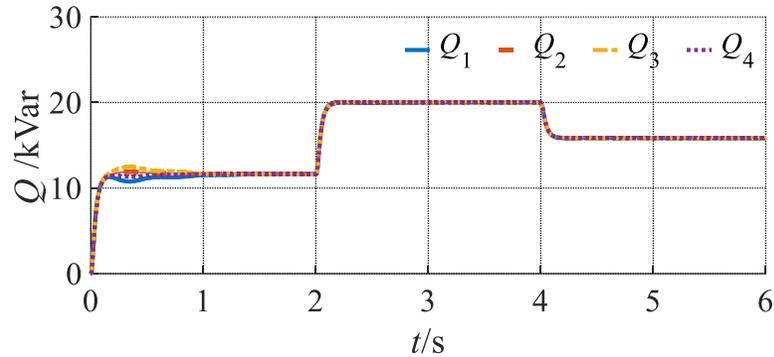
PCC voltage comparison

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

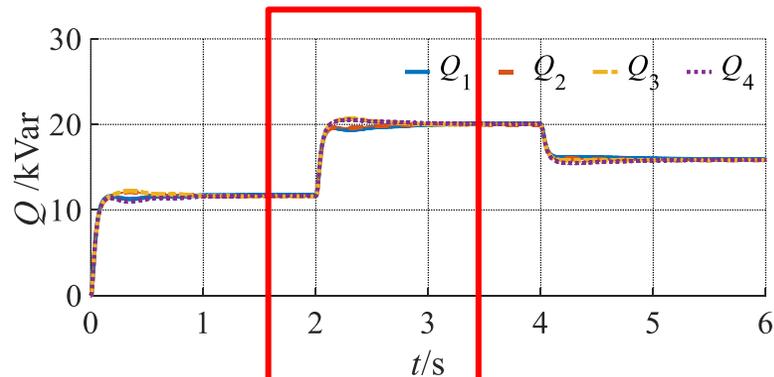
- Small-AC-signal injection-based control

Simulation results

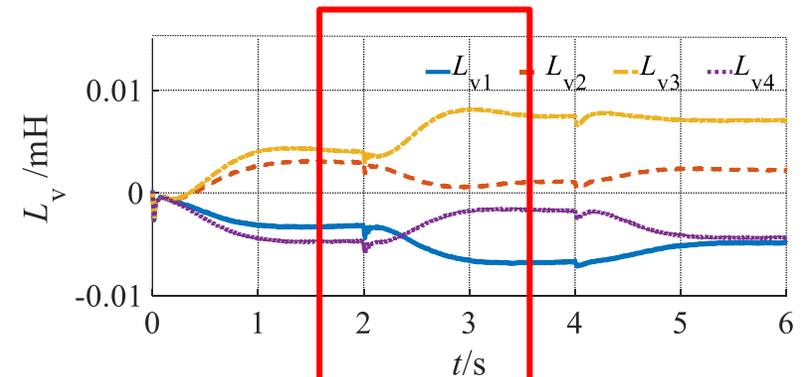
Single-PCC structure



DG output reactive power



Virtual impedance



DG output reactive power

Virtual impedance

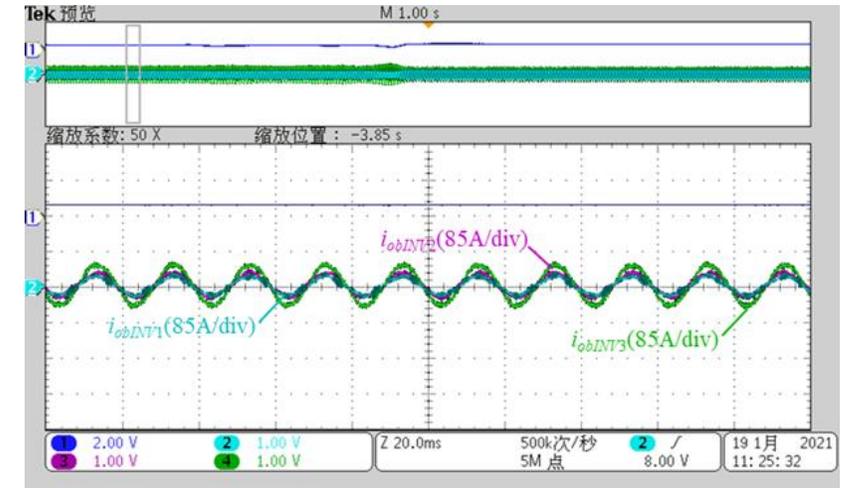
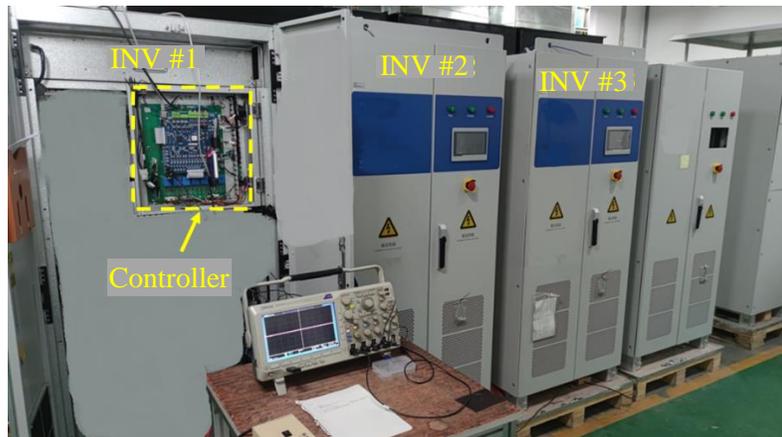
Virtual impedances re-tuned when load changes

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

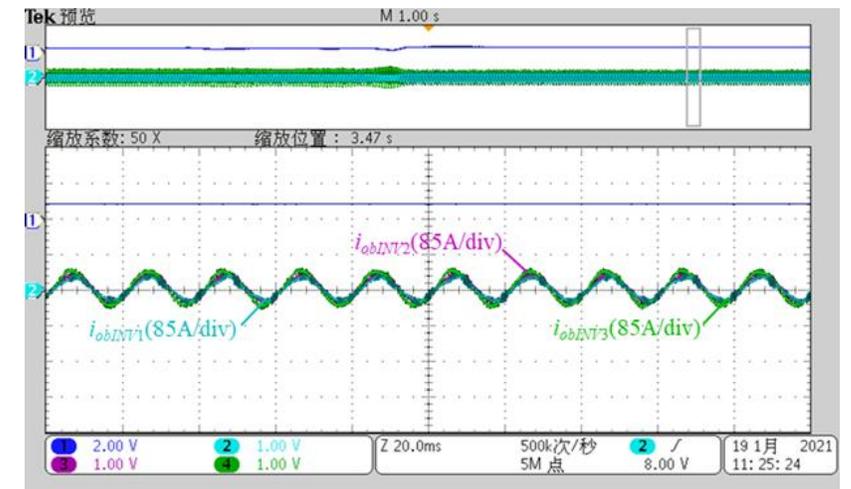
Practical application: KEHUA Project

- Accurate power sharing achieved after the small-signal injection-based control applied.

Technical parameters	
Power rating	100kVA
INV #1 inductance in series	15 μ H
INV #2 inductance in series	15 μ H
INV #3 inductance in series	18 μ H



Phase-B current before SACS control applied



Phase-B current after SACS control applied

Reactive, Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing

■ Small-AC-signal injection-based control

Summaries

- Reactive, unbalanced and harmonic power can be equally or proportionally shared among inverters.
- Plug and play, no communication link or central controller is needed.
- No need to measure feeder impedance, and compatible with conventional droop control.
- Impacts of virtual impedances on PCC voltage quality can be eliminated by proper design.

B. Liu, Z. Liu, J. Liu, R. An, H. Zheng, and Y. Shi, "An Adaptive Virtual Impedance Control Scheme Based on Small-AC-Signal Injection for Unbalanced and Harmonic Power Sharing in Islanded Microgrids," in *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics*, vol. 34, no. 12, pp. 12333-12355, 2019.

R. An, Z. Liu, J. Liu and B. Liu, "A Comprehensive Solution to Decentralized Coordinative Control of Distributed Generations in Islanded Microgrid Based on Dual-Frequency-Droop," in *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics*, vol. 37, no. 3, pp. 3583-3598, March 2022.

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

- Selection of the amplitude for small-AC-signal
 - Trade-off between power quality consideration and the difficulty to extract the SACS.
 - IEEE Std 519-2014 establishes harmonic limits on voltage as **8%** for THD and **5%** of the fundamental voltage for any single harmonic voltage
 - The amplitude of rated fundamental voltage in experiments is **200V**.
 - Given some margins, the amplitude of the small AC signal is set as **2V**, which could guarantee both the THD and the distortion of any single harmonic below **2%**.

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

■ Selection of the frequency for small-AC-signal

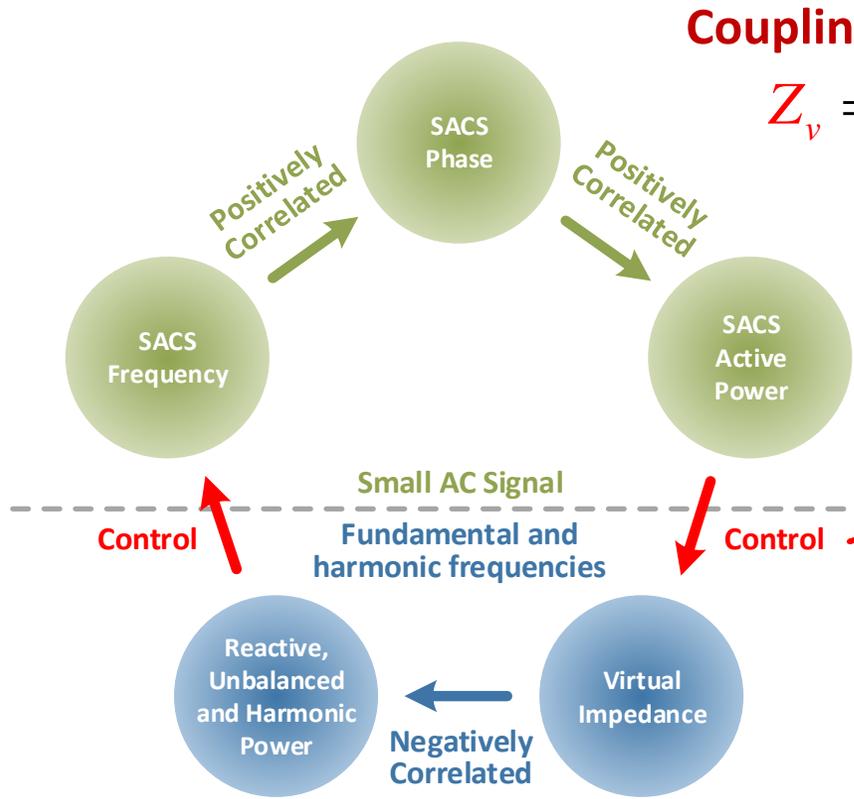
- Avoid frequency of **pre-existing harmonics**
 - ☹️ **$(6k \pm 1)$ th-order harmonics** usually exist due to nonlinear loads
 - ☹️ **Other harmonics** due to modulation effects
- Avoid frequency of **inter-harmonics**
 - ☹️ Standard for inter-harmonics is more **rigorous**
- Avoid **high frequency**
 - ☹️ High frequency will be **filtered out** by the output L-C filter ($f_c = 700$ Hz)
- Avoid **low frequency**
 - ☹️ Low frequency is **difficult to be extracted** from the fundamental signal

**ARE
THESE
ENOUGH?**



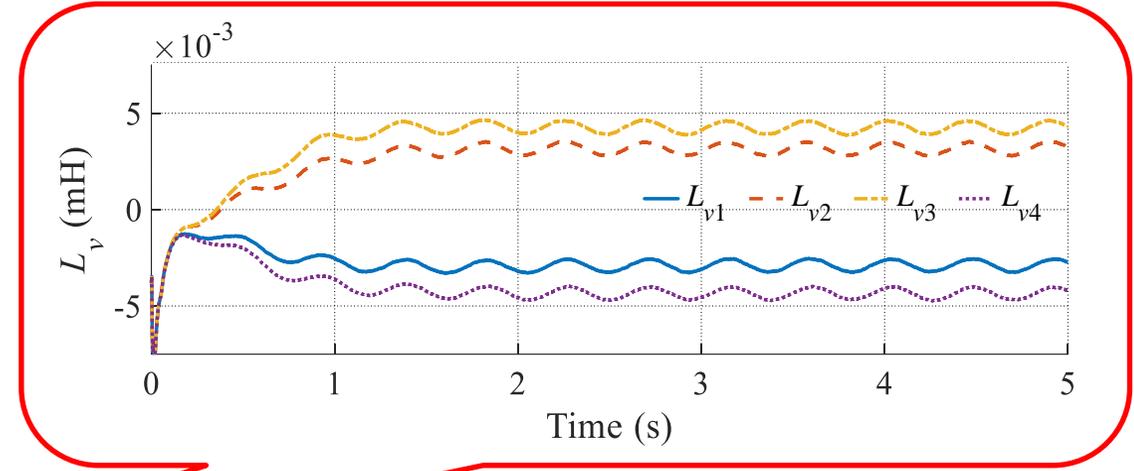
Selection of Small-AC-Signal

Phenomenon description



Coupling relation

$$Z_v = k_z P_{ss}$$



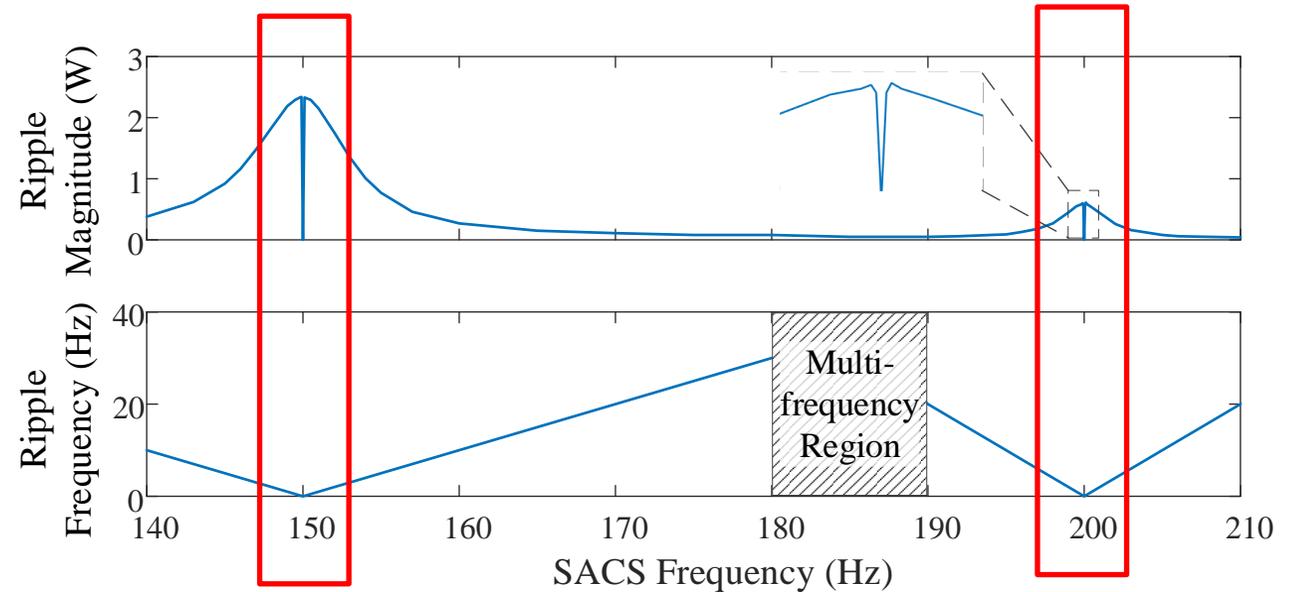
- Ideally, Z_v and P_{ss} should contain only DC component
- **Abnormal low-frequency steady-state ripples** observed on their waveforms when the reference SACS frequency was selected as **150 Hz, 200 Hz...**

- ➔
- Reference SACS voltage is used to calculate the power:
 - Output **currents contain another component** near the SACS frequency
 - **Its frequency is so close to the SACS** that can hardly be removed by the MSOGI-QSG

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

■ Phenomenon description

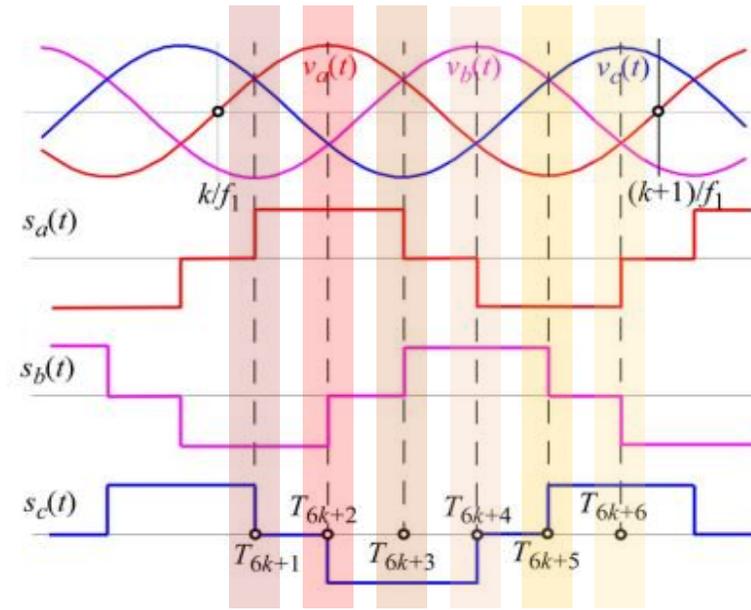
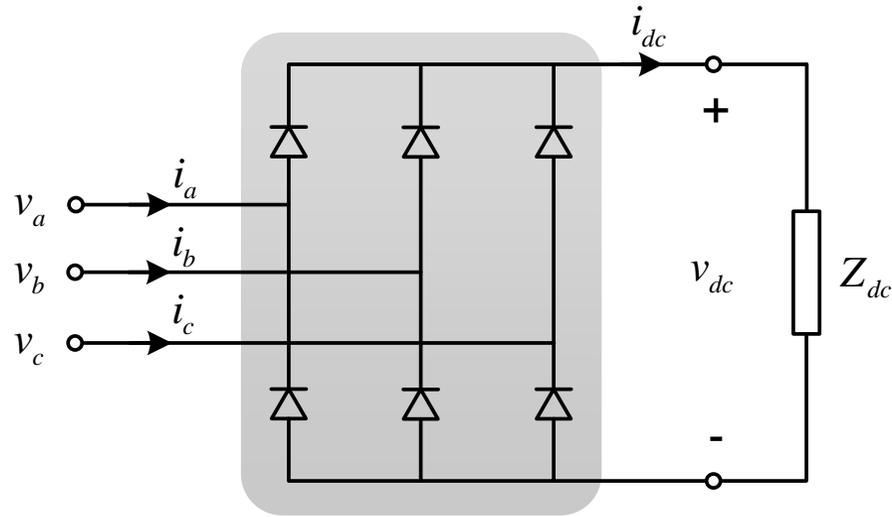
- Ripples disappear when **nonlinear loads** are disconnected
- Ripple frequency **changes with the SACS frequency f_{ss} and fundamental frequency f**
- Ripples of DGs are **in phase**, not circulating



- **Fix f at 50 Hz and tune f_{ss} from 100 Hz to 350 Hz:**
 - f_{ss} around 150 Hz: ripple frequency is exactly the difference between 150 Hz and f_{ss}
e.g., when $f_{ss} = 149$ or 151 Hz, ripple frequency is 1 Hz;
 - f_{ss} around 200 Hz: ripple frequency is twice the difference between 200 Hz and f_{ss}
e.g., when $f_{ss} = 199$ or 201 Hz, ripple frequency is 2 Hz;
 - f_{ss} around 100 or 300 Hz: no obvious low-frequency ripple

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

- Analysis of the cause of ripples



- It is true that different AC components in output voltage are independent in **linear systems**
- With **nonlinear loads, i.e., three-phase diode rectifiers**, will they be coupled together and generate **new frequency components**?

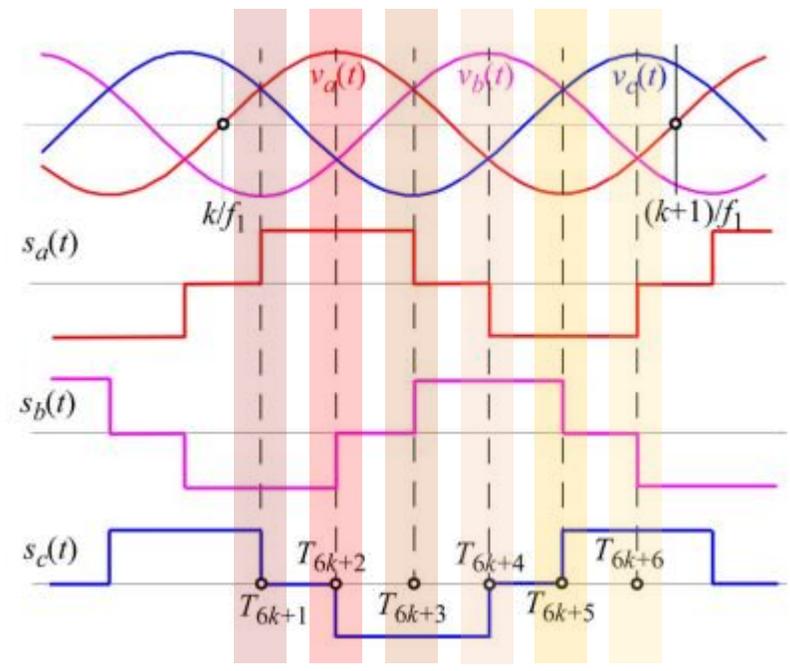
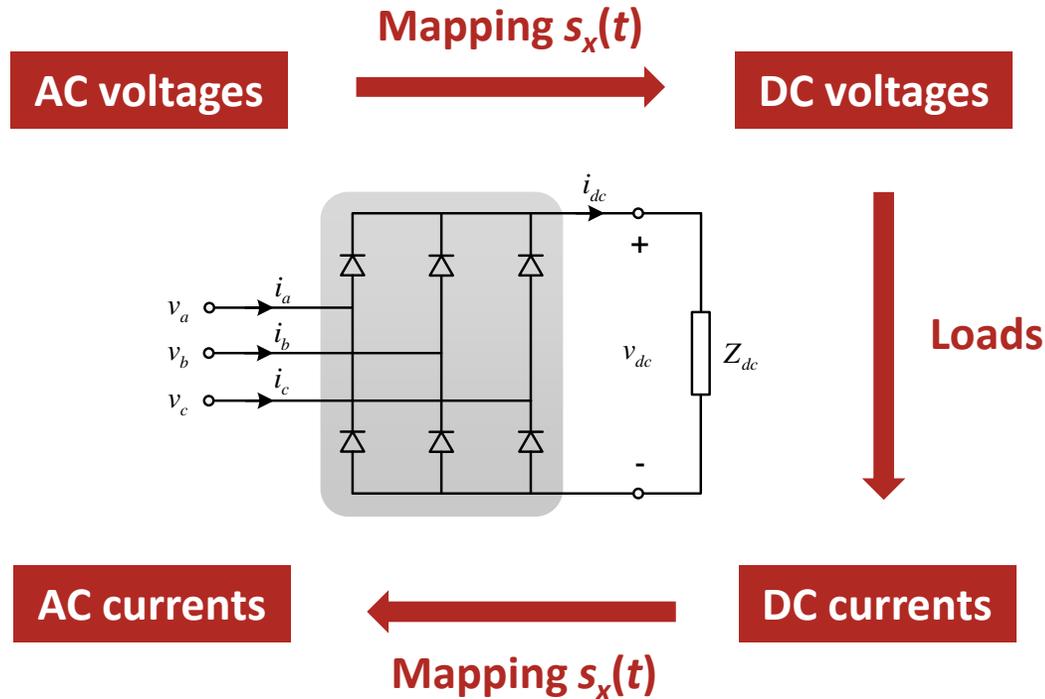


- Give the expressions of AC voltages & check components in AC currents
- KEY:** How to express its commutation characteristics?

Obtain the mapping function $s_x(t)$ through calculating the commutation points

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

- Analysis of the cause of ripples



$$v_{dc}(t) = s_a(t)v_a(t) + s_b(t)v_b(t) + s_c(t)v_c(t)$$

$$i_x(t) = s_x(t)i_{dc}(t) \quad (x = a, b, c)$$

Fourier \longleftrightarrow

$$\mathbf{V}_{dc}(j2\pi f) = \sum_{x=a,b,c} \mathbf{S}_x(j2\pi f) * \mathbf{V}_x(j2\pi f)$$

$$\mathbf{I}_{dc}(j2\pi f) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{dc}(j2\pi f)}{\mathbf{Z}_{dc}(j2\pi f)}$$

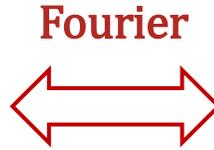
$$\mathbf{I}_x(j2\pi f) = \mathbf{S}_x(j2\pi f) * \mathbf{I}_{dc}(j2\pi f) \quad (x = a, b, c)$$

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

Example 1: f_{ss} around 200 Hz

$$v_{dc}(t) = s_a(t)v_a(t) + s_b(t)v_b(t) + s_c(t)v_c(t)$$

$$i_x(t) = s_x(t)i_{dc}(t) \quad (x = a, b, c)$$



$$\mathbf{V}_{dc}(j2\pi f) = \sum_{x=a,b,c} \mathbf{S}_x(j2\pi f) * \mathbf{V}_x(j2\pi f)$$

$$\mathbf{I}_{dc}(j2\pi f) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{dc}(j2\pi f)}{\mathbf{Z}_{dc}(j2\pi f)}$$

$$\mathbf{I}_x(j2\pi f) = \mathbf{S}_x(j2\pi f) * \mathbf{I}_{dc}(j2\pi f) \quad (x = a, b, c)$$

- In this case, ripples are mainly caused by **interaction between fundamental wave and SACS**

$$\mathbf{V}_a[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{V}{2} e^{\mp j \frac{\pi}{2}}, & i = \pm f \\ \frac{V_{ss}}{2} e^{\mp j (\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi_{ss})}, & i = \pm f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_b[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{V}{2} e^{\pm j \frac{5\pi}{6}}, & i = \pm f \\ \frac{V_{ss}}{2} e^{\pm j (\frac{5\pi}{6} + \varphi_{ss})}, & i = \pm f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_c[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{V}{2} e^{\pm j \frac{\pi}{6}}, & i = \pm f \\ \frac{V_{ss}}{2} e^{\pm j (\frac{\pi}{6} + \varphi_{ss})}, & i = \pm f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_a[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{(-1)^k j \sqrt{3}}{\pi(6k \pm 1)}, & i = (6k \pm 1)f \\ \frac{V_{ss} e^{\pm j \varphi_{ss}}}{\pi V} \cos\left(\frac{2k\pi}{3} \mp \frac{\pi}{6}\right) e^{\mp j \frac{\pi}{2}} e^{jk\pi}, & i = 2kf \pm f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_b[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{(-1)^k j \sqrt{3} e^{\mp j \frac{2\pi}{3}}}{\pi(6k \pm 1)}, & i = (6k \pm 1)f \\ \frac{V_{ss} e^{\pm j \varphi_{ss}}}{\pi V} \cos\left(\frac{2k\pi}{3} \mp \frac{\pi}{6}\right) e^{\pm j \frac{5\pi}{6}} e^{-j \frac{k\pi}{3}}, & i = 2kf \pm f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_c[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{(-1)^k j \sqrt{3} e^{\pm j \frac{2\pi}{3}}}{\pi(6k \pm 1)}, & i = (6k \pm 1)f \\ \frac{V_{ss} e^{\pm j \varphi_{ss}}}{\pi V} \cos\left(\frac{2k\pi}{3} \mp \frac{\pi}{6}\right) e^{\pm j \frac{\pi}{6}} e^{j \frac{k\pi}{3}}, & i = 2kf \pm f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{dc}[i] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{x=a,b,c} \mathbf{S}_x[k] \mathbf{V}_x[i-k]$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{(-1)^m 3\sqrt{3}V}{\pi(1-36m^2)}, & i = 6mf \\ \frac{(-1)^m 3\sqrt{3}V_{ss} e^{-j\varphi_{ss}}}{2\pi(6m+1)}, & i = (6m+1)f - f_{ss} \\ \frac{(-1)^m 3\sqrt{3}V_{ss} e^{j\varphi_{ss}}}{2\pi(6m-1)}, & i = (6m-1)f + f_{ss} \end{cases}$$

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

- Example: f_{ss} around 200 Hz

$$v_{dc}(t) = s_a(t)v_a(t) + s_b(t)v_b(t) + s_c(t)v_c(t)$$

$$i_x(t) = s_x(t)i_{dc}(t) \quad (x = a, b, c)$$

Fourier
↔

$$\mathbf{V}_{dc}(j2\pi f) = \sum_{x=a,b,c} \mathbf{S}_x(j2\pi f) * \mathbf{V}_x(j2\pi f)$$

$$\mathbf{I}_{dc}(j2\pi f) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{dc}(j2\pi f)}{\mathbf{Z}_{dc}(j2\pi f)}$$

$$\mathbf{I}_x(j2\pi f) = \mathbf{S}_x(j2\pi f) * \mathbf{I}_{dc}(j2\pi f) \quad (x = a, b, c)$$

- Ripple frequency is **twice** the difference between f_{ss} and 200 Hz (f_{ss0})



• Assume $f = 50$ Hz and $f_{ss} = f_{ss0} + \Delta f$, then figure out if $f_{ss0} - \Delta f$ can be generated

f_{ss0}	Combinations	Conditions	$\mathbf{I}_x[i]$ at $i = f_{ss0} - \Delta f$
100 Hz	$\mathbf{S}_x[2kf - f_{ss}]$ & $\mathbf{I}_{dc}[6mf]$	$k = 2 - 3m$	$I_a = I_b = I_c = 0$
150 Hz	$\mathbf{S}_x[(6k-1)f - f_{ss}]$ & $\mathbf{I}_{dc}[(6m-1)f - f_{ss}]$	$k = 1 - 3m$	$I_a = e^{-2\pi/3} I_b = e^{2\pi/3} I_c$ (Negative sequence)
200 Hz	$\mathbf{S}_x[(6k)f - f_{ss}]$ & $\mathbf{I}_{dc}[6mf]$	$k = 2 - 3m$	$I_a = e^{2\pi/3} I_b = e^{-2\pi/3} I_c$ (Positive sequence)
300 Hz	$\mathbf{S}_x[(6k+1)f - f_{ss}]$ & $\mathbf{I}_{dc}[(6m+1)f - f_{ss}]$	$k = 0 - 3m$	$I_a = e^{-2\pi/3} I_b = e^{2\pi/3} I_c$ (Negative sequence)

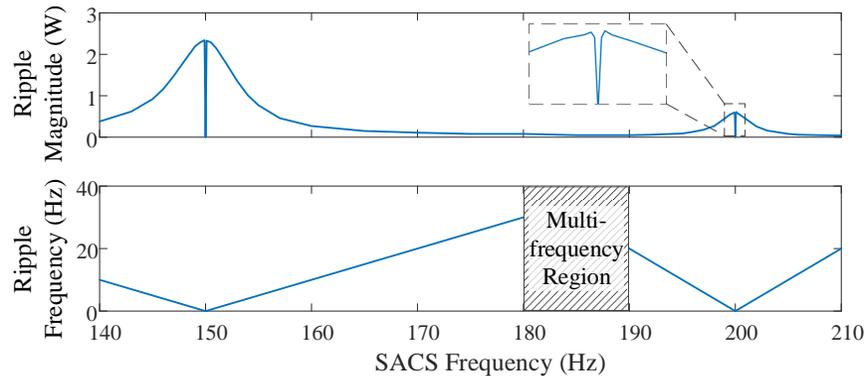
- f_{ss} around 150 or 300 Hz: **negative-sequence currents**, which will be filtered out by the MSOGI-QSG;
- f_{ss} around 200 Hz: **positive-sequence currents at $f_{ss} - 2\Delta f$** will remain.

$$I_a = e^{2\pi/3} I_b = e^{-2\pi/3} I_c$$

(Positive sequence)

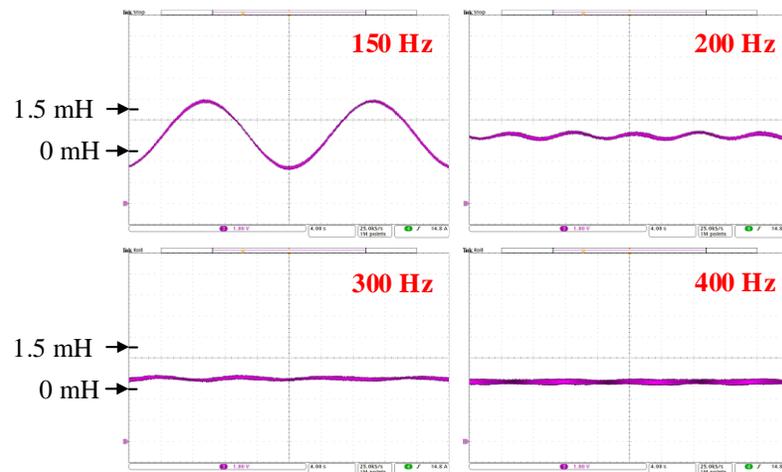
Selection of Small-AC-Signal

■ Design guidelines of SACS frequency



- In practice, f_{ss} and f are drooped respectively, so f_{ss} is not exactly multiple of f

- 1) Avoid $(6k + 4)f_0$ (k is non-negative integer), or there will be ripples due to the **nonlinear loads and the injected SACS**.
- 2) Avoid $(6k + 3)f_0$, or there will be ripples due to the **nonlinear and unbalanced loads**.
- 3) The f_{ss0} is recommended to be selected as **300, 400 or 100 Hz**.
- 4) Avoid pre-existing harmonics.
- 5) Avoid inter-harmonics or subharmonics, unless the mentioned harmonics already exist, because the limitations for them are more rigorous.
- 6) Avoid high or low frequencies.



($f = 50.016$ Hz & $f_{ss} = 150, 200, 300, 400$ Hz)

Selection of Small-AC-Signal

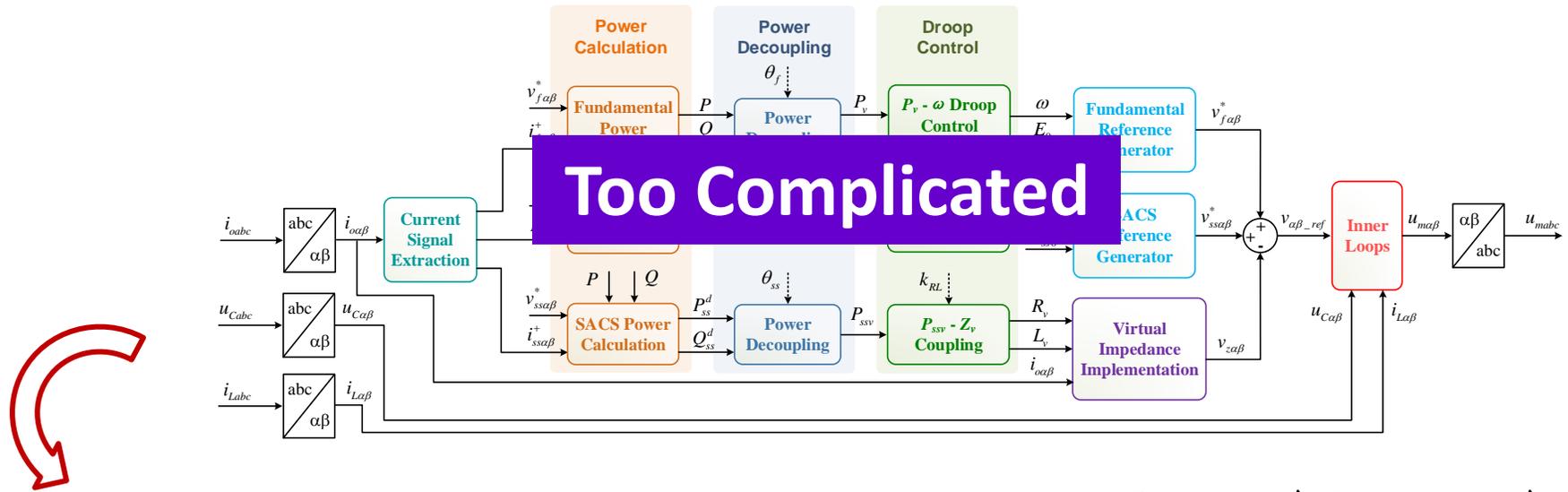
▪ Selection of SACS frequency

Summaries

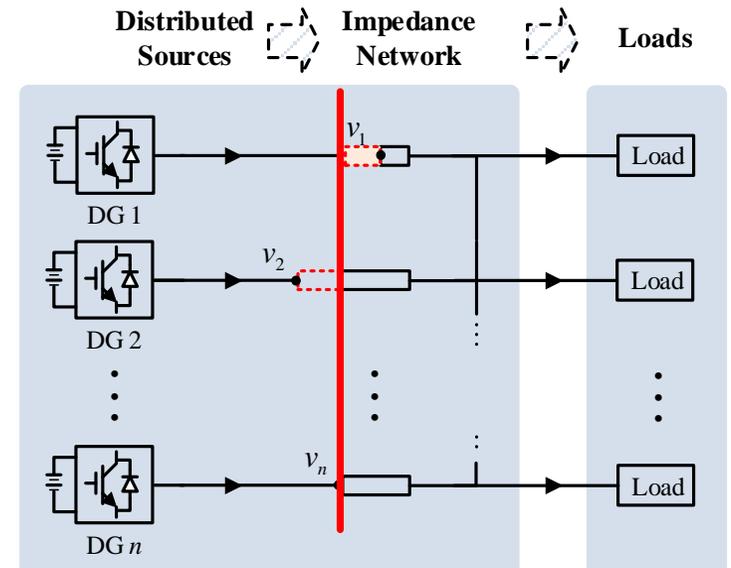
- Causes of steady-state ripples on virtual impedance waveforms are analyzed in theory and verified by simulation and experiment results.
- Guideline to eliminate these ripples is provided accordingly.
- These conclusions obtained are also applicable to other SACS-based methods.

Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Other way to obtain proper virtual impedance



- SACS injection & extraction
- More control objectives? More SACSs needed
- Several parameters to be designed
-
- **Other way to obtain proper virtual impedance?**



Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

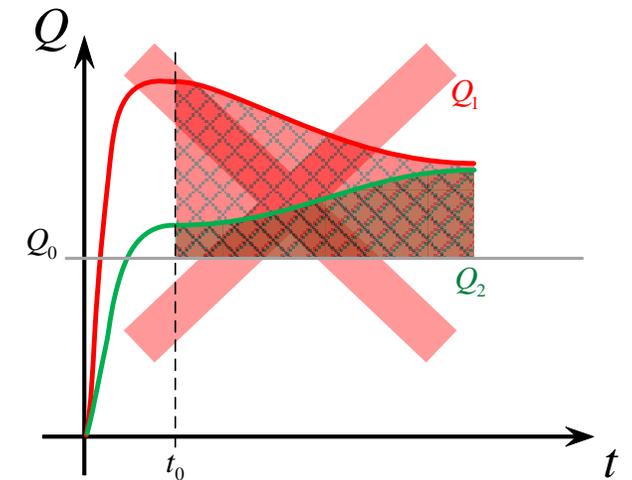
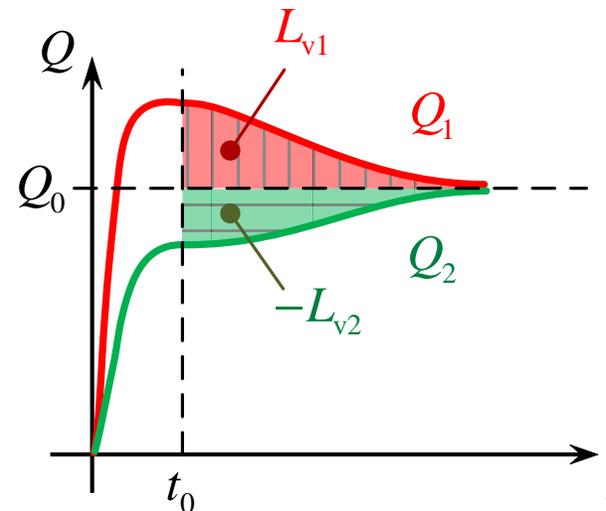
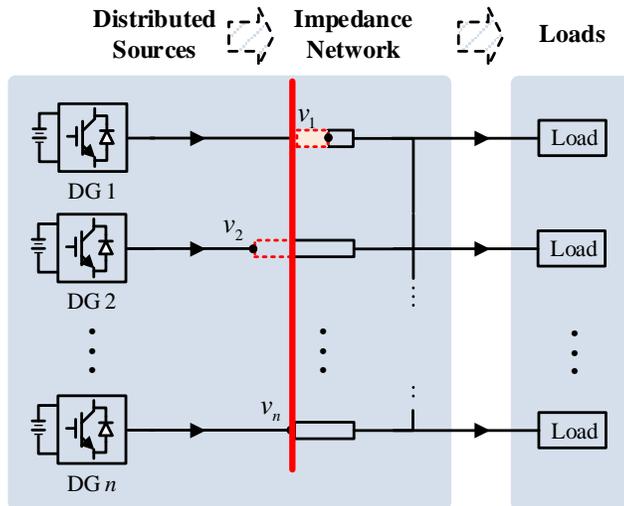
Virtual impedance tuning

- How to let a DG know **its own direction for virtual impedance tuning?**
- Introduce integral into reactive power control loop ➡ **adaptive virtual impedance (AVI)**

$$L_v = k_{avi} \int_{t_0}^t (Q - Q_0) d\tau$$

- Ideally, Q_0 for each DG should be equal to the **average reactive power demand**

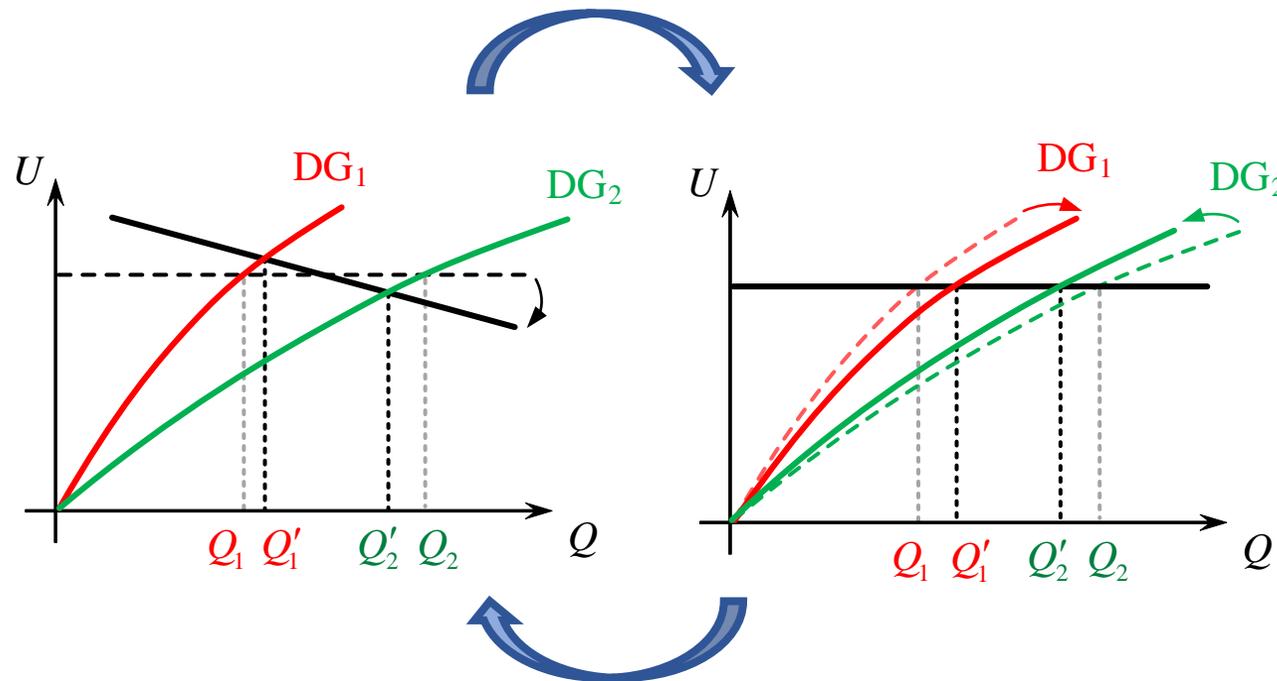
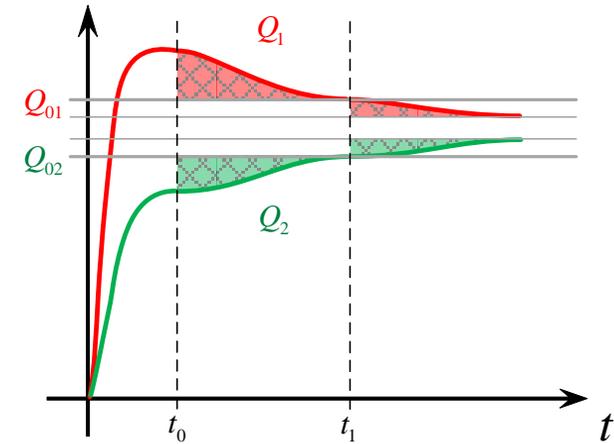
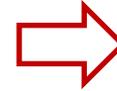
Hard to realize without high-bandwidth communication in existing solutions



Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

System perspective

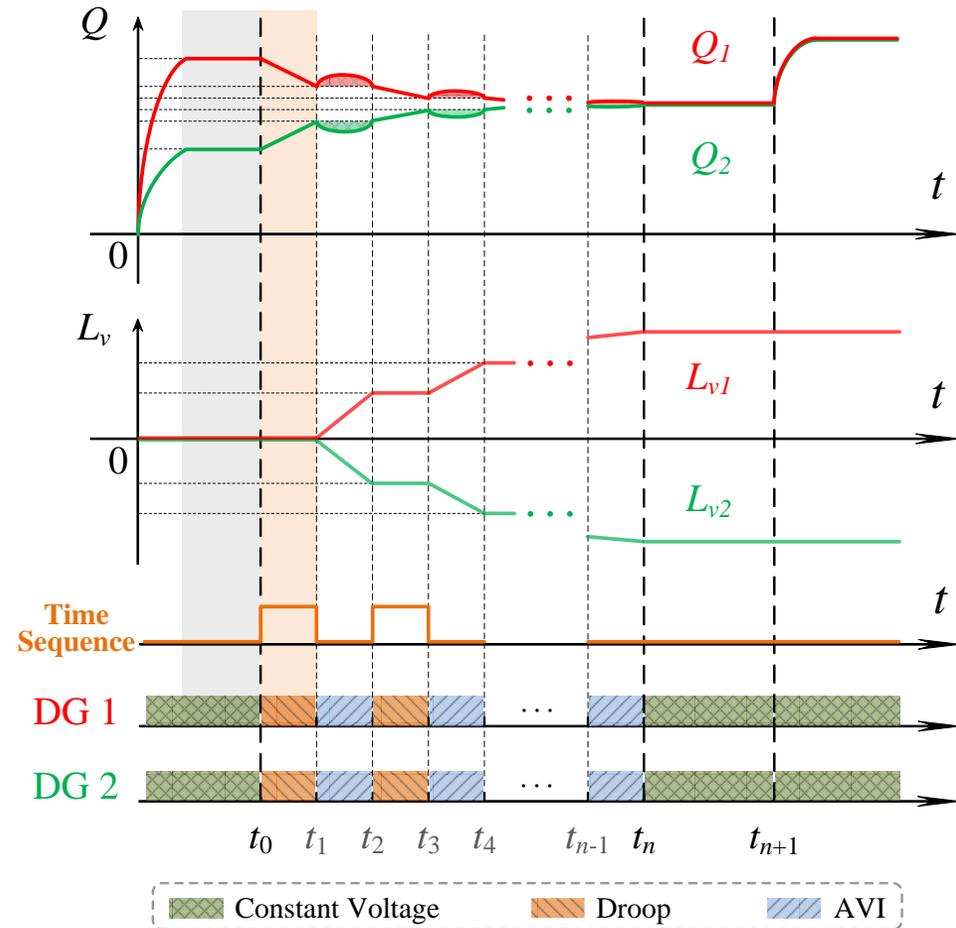
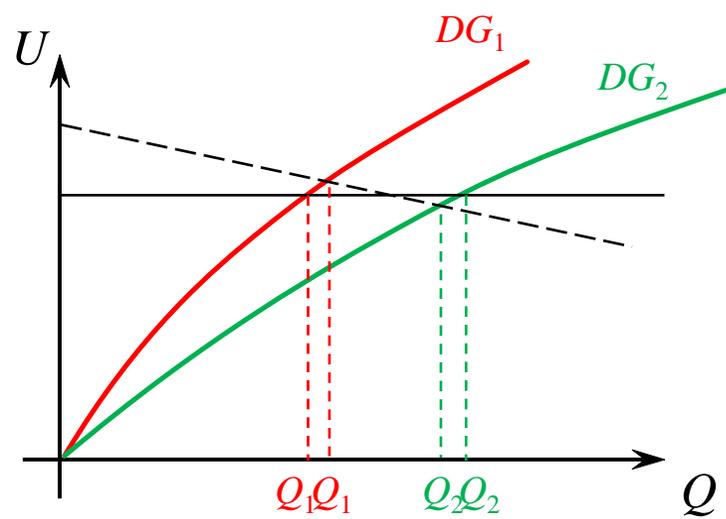
- Possible solution: tuning the virtual impedance from a **system perspective** and through a **progressive process**?



- Estimate a more desirable operation point with **droop control**
- Move toward it by **tuning virtual impedances**
- Repeat this procedure
- The virtual impedances will finally **successively approximate** appropriate values

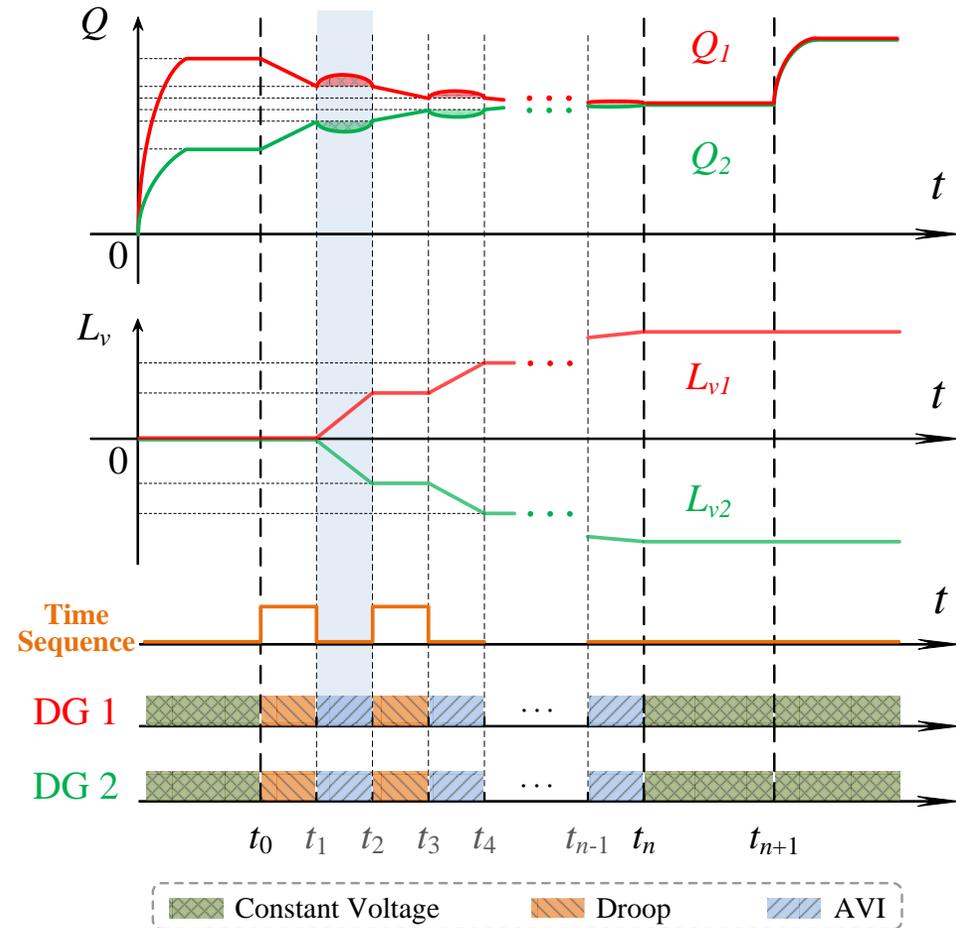
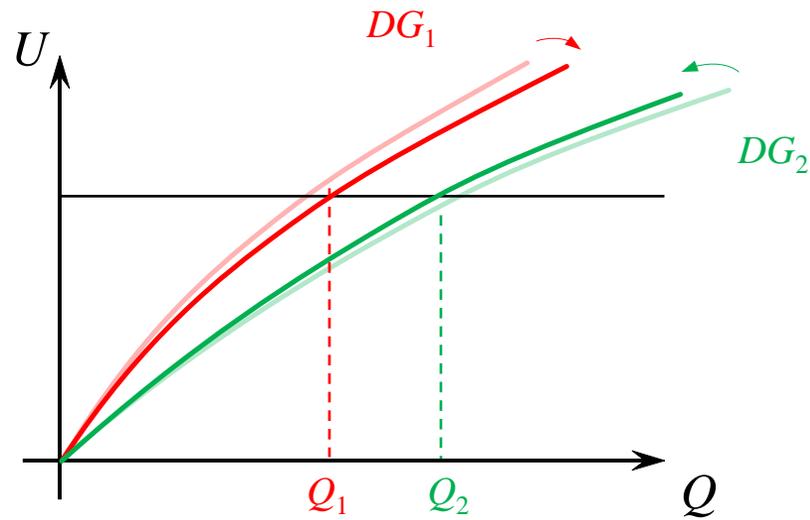
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Example of tuning process



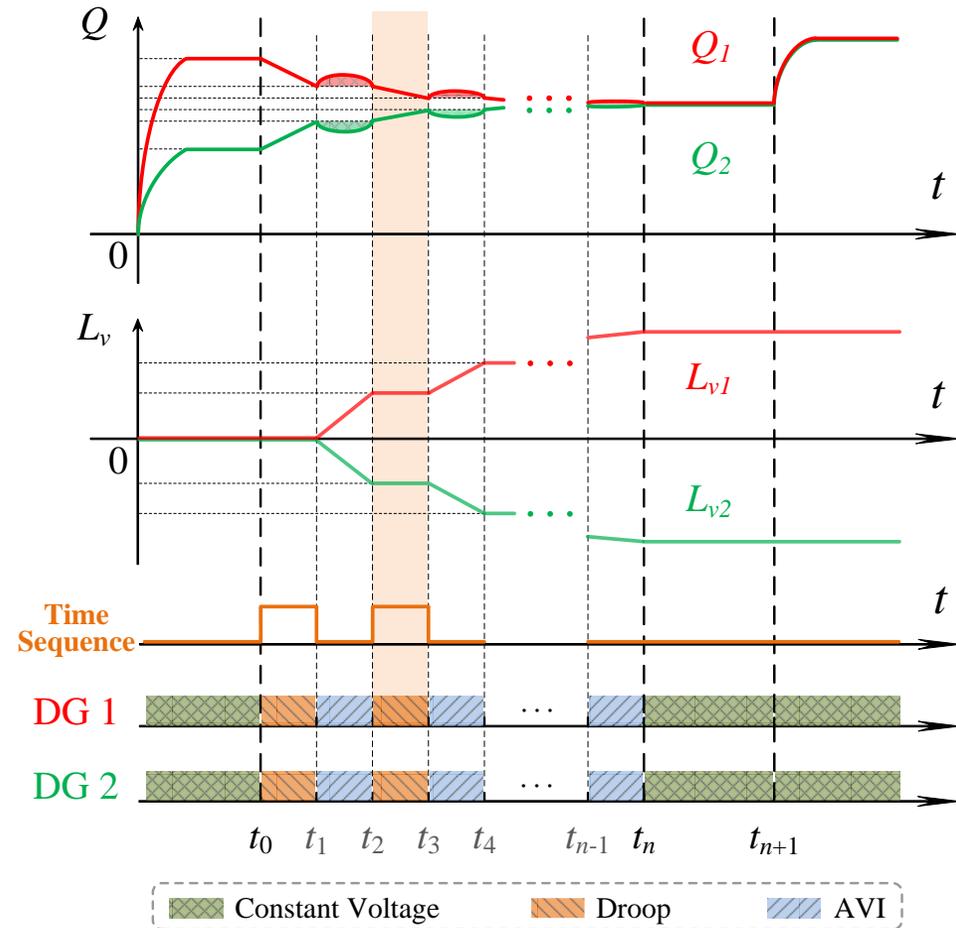
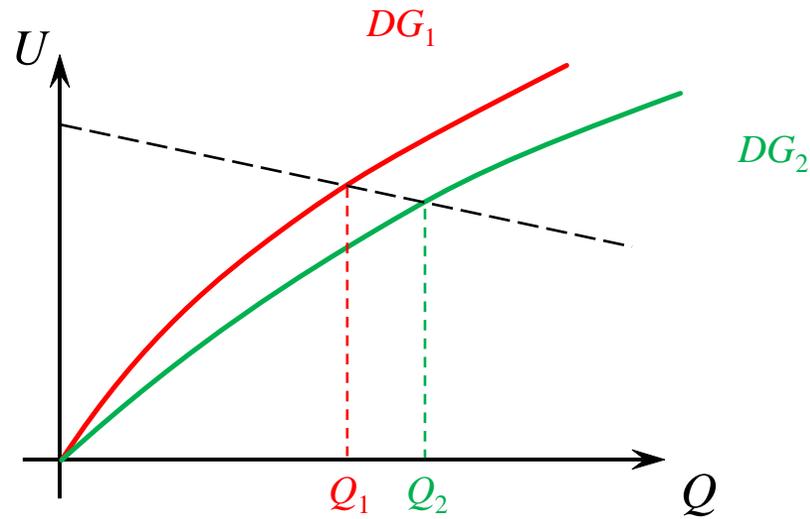
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Example of tuning process



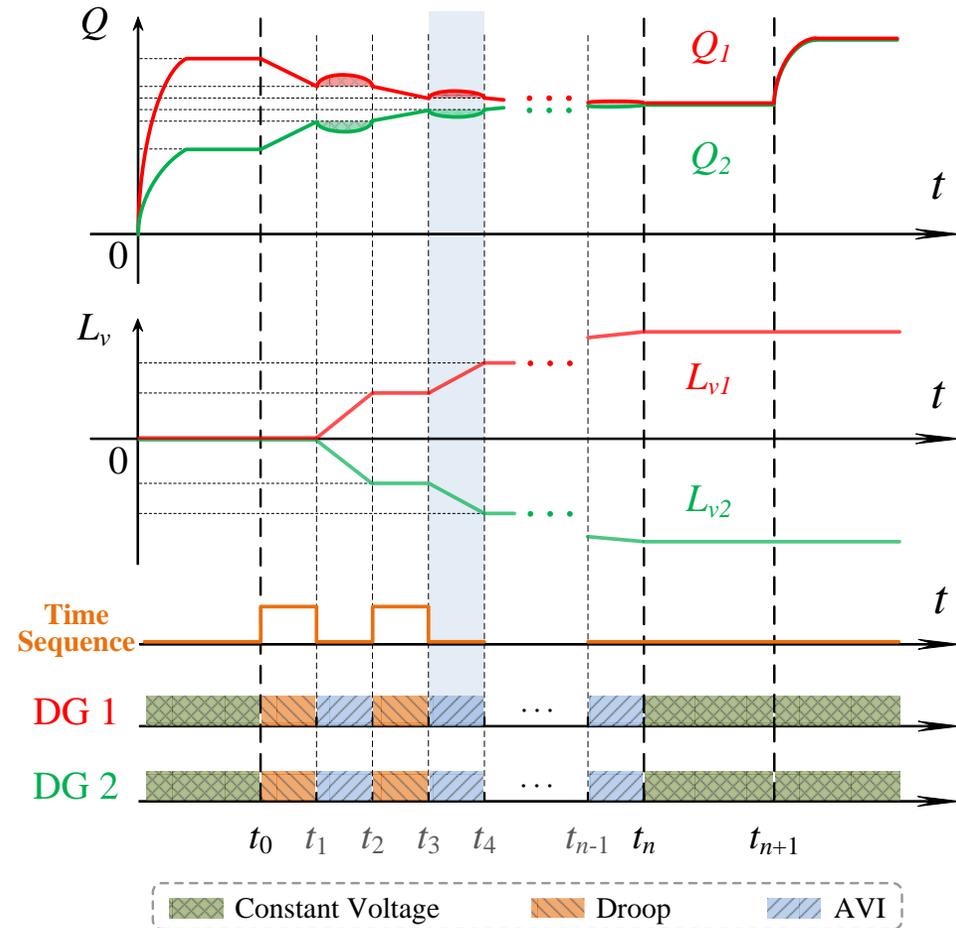
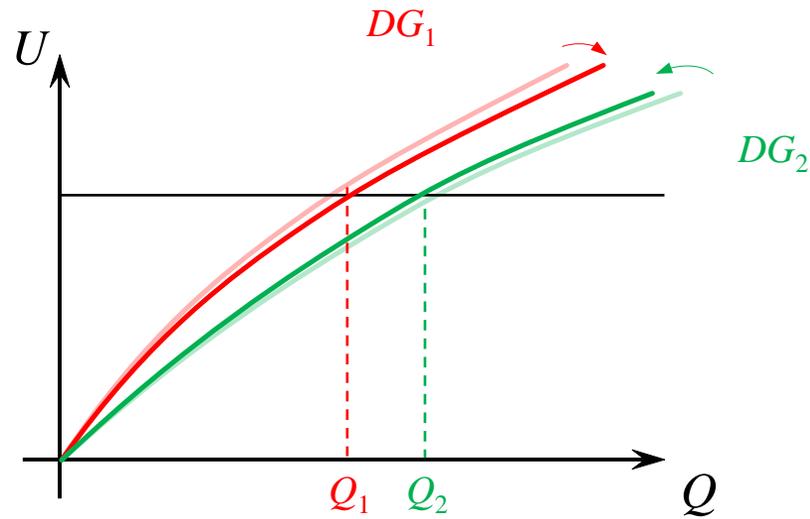
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Example of tuning process



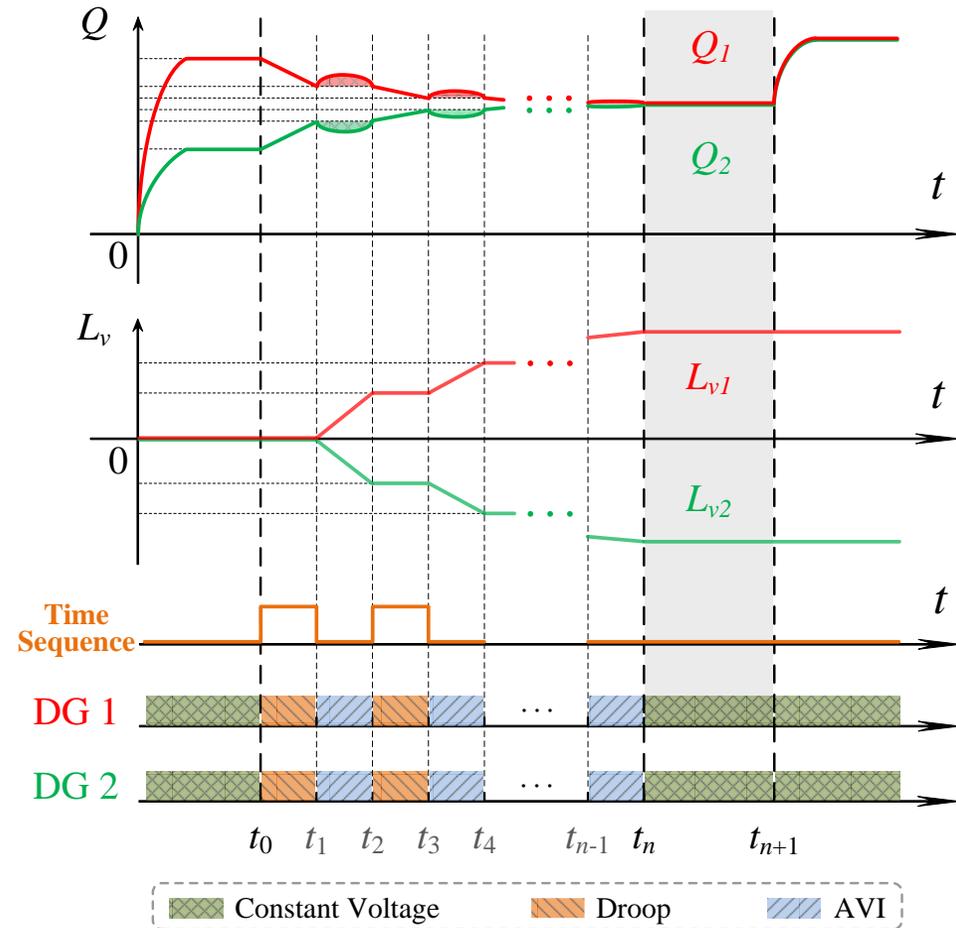
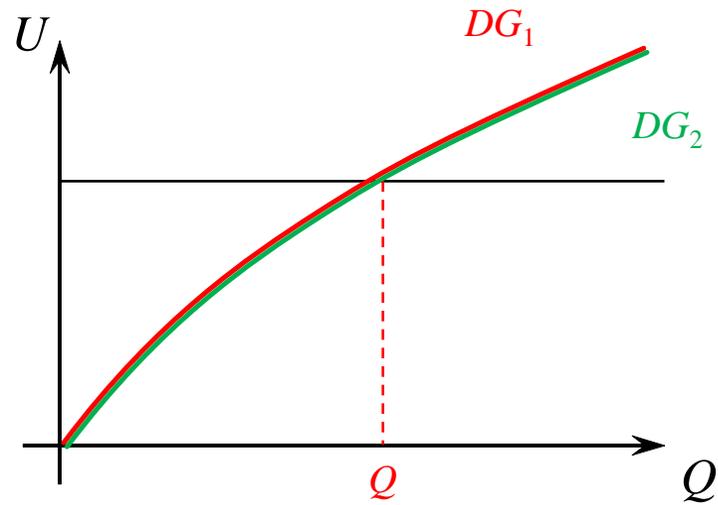
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Example of tuning process



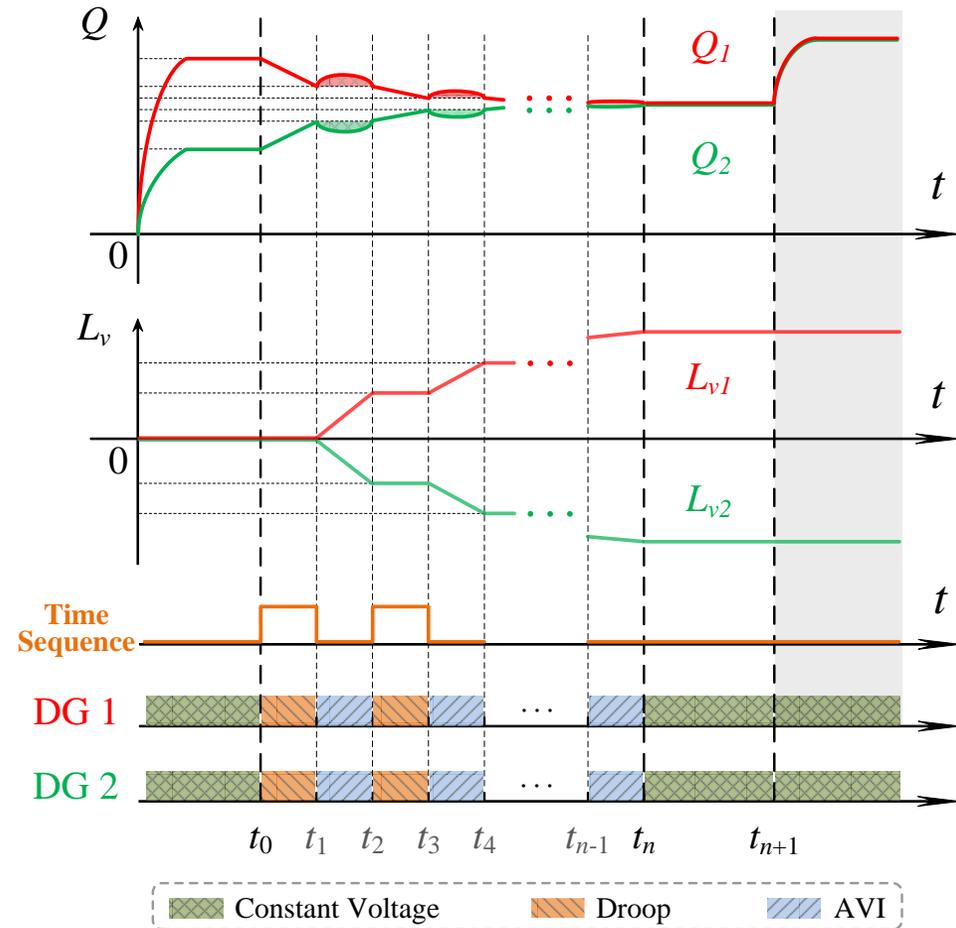
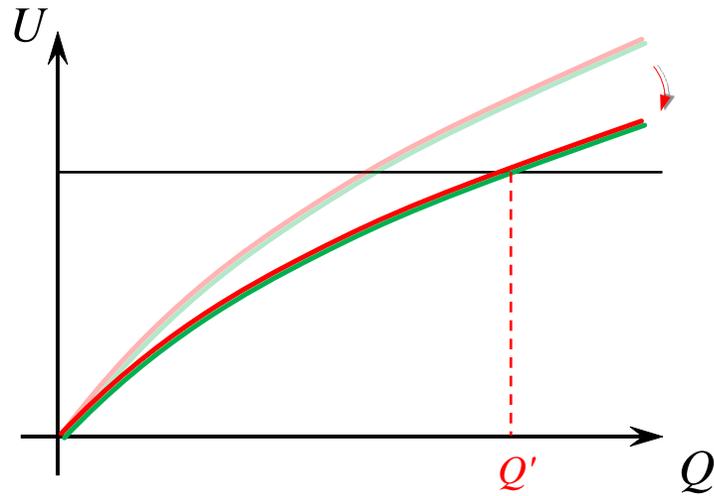
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Example of tuning process



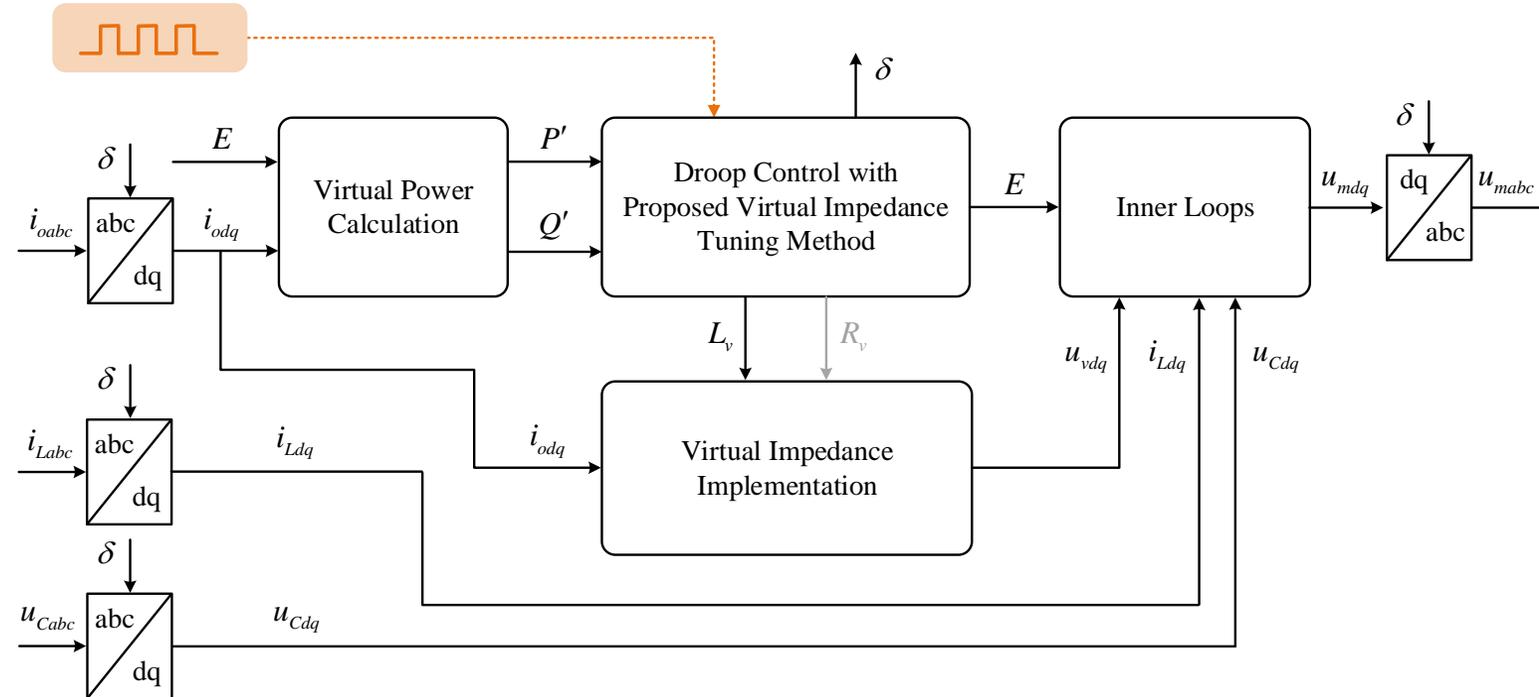
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Example of tuning process



Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning

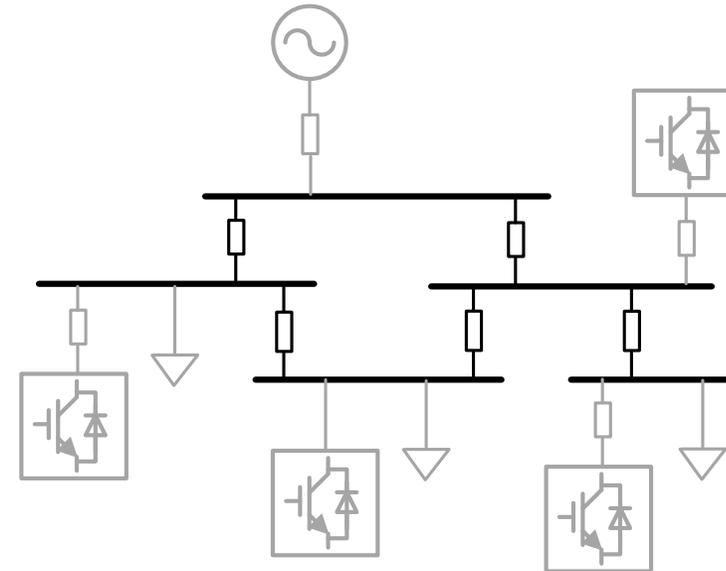
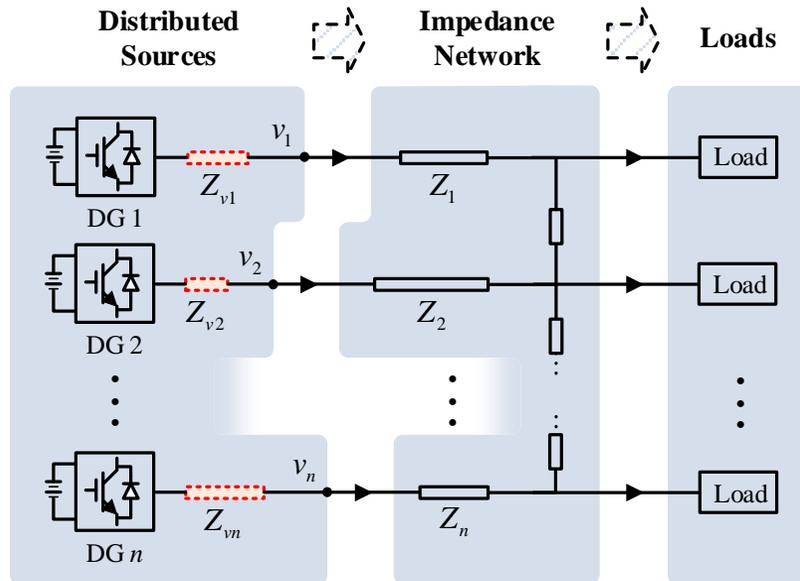


- Each DG successively tunes its virtual impedances in a **common sequence**
- **The average of virtual impedances is kept near 0**, minimizing the voltage deviations
- **Simple to implement, compatible with conventional droop control**

What should be noticed in practical applications?

Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning



- **Extension to distributed microgrid**
 - **Continuous virtual impedance tuning** to adapt to load changes
 - **Amplitude limiting** of virtual impedance to constrain the average virtual impedance when system parameter drift
- **Virtual impedances for unbalanced and harmonic power sharing**

Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

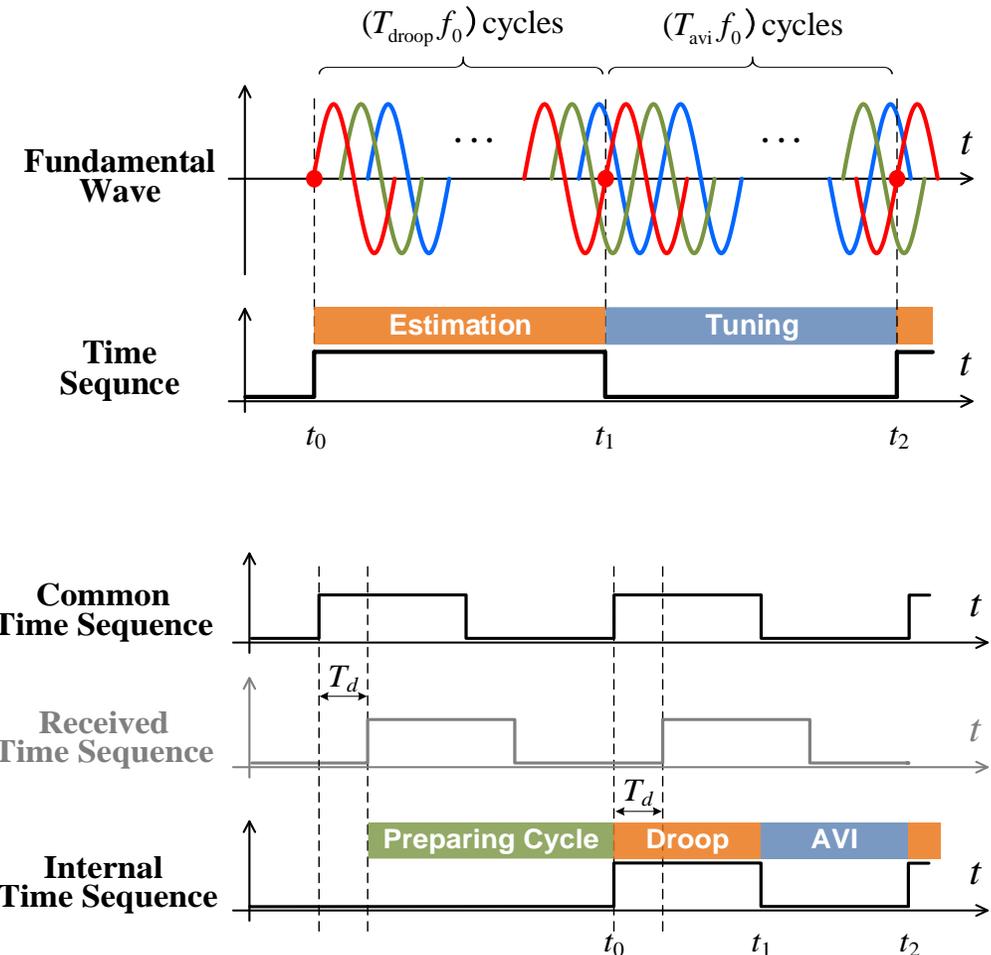
- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning

- Autonomous **triggering and synchronization** of DG internal time sequence

- Monitoring bus voltage to learn the common sequence before plugging in
- Differences in DSP crystal frequencies may cause drifting of DGs' sequences
- ➔ Using **multiples of fundamental cycle** as a reference for mode switching

- Compensation for sequence delays

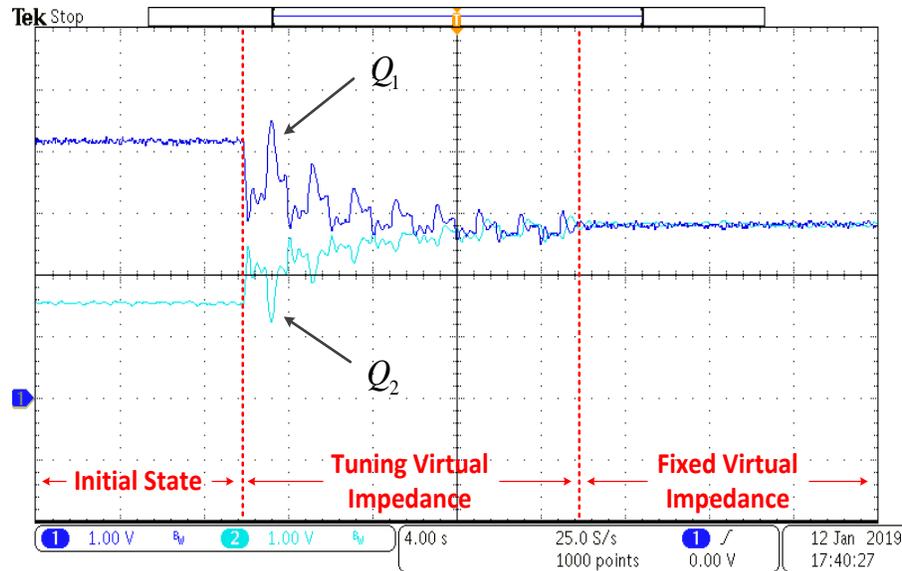
- Dead time between two modes



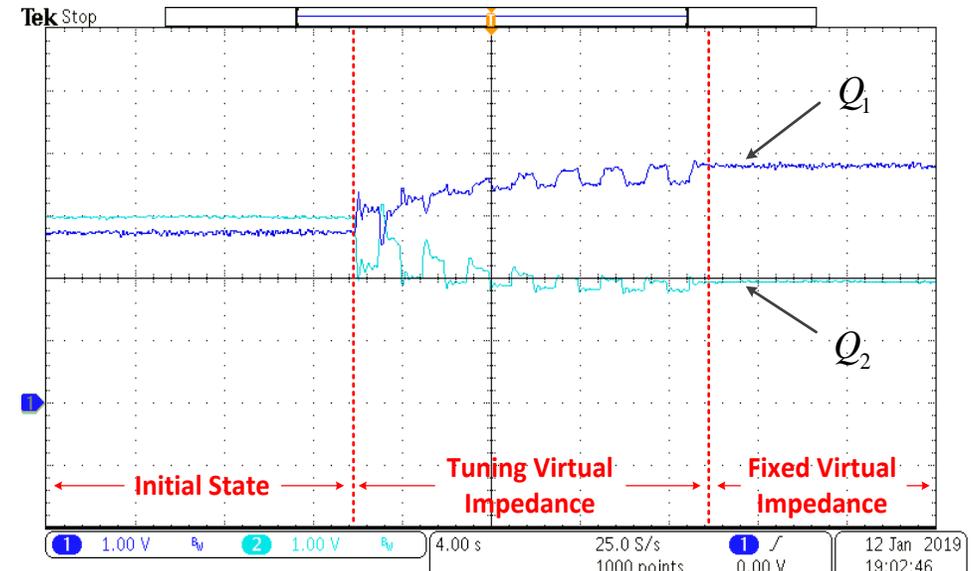
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning

Experimental results



Reactive power equal sharing

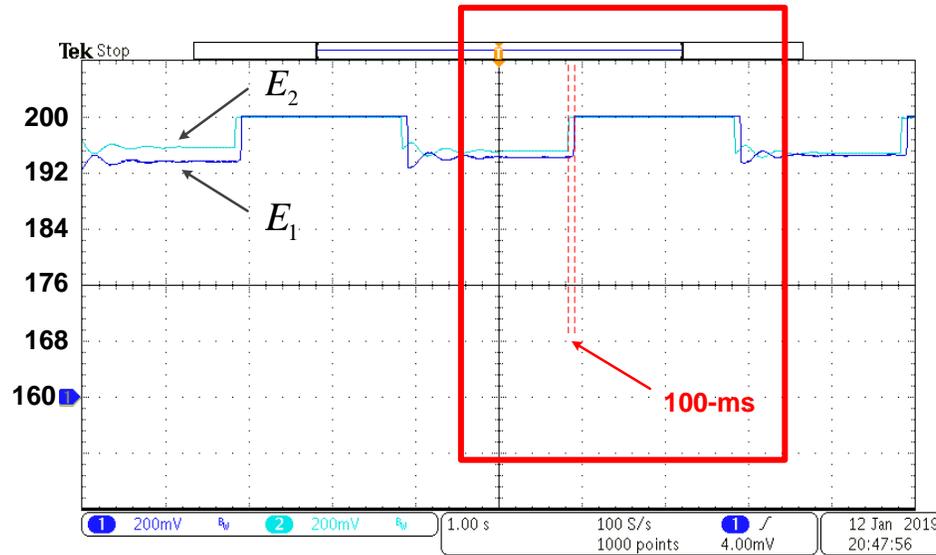


Reactive power proportional sharing

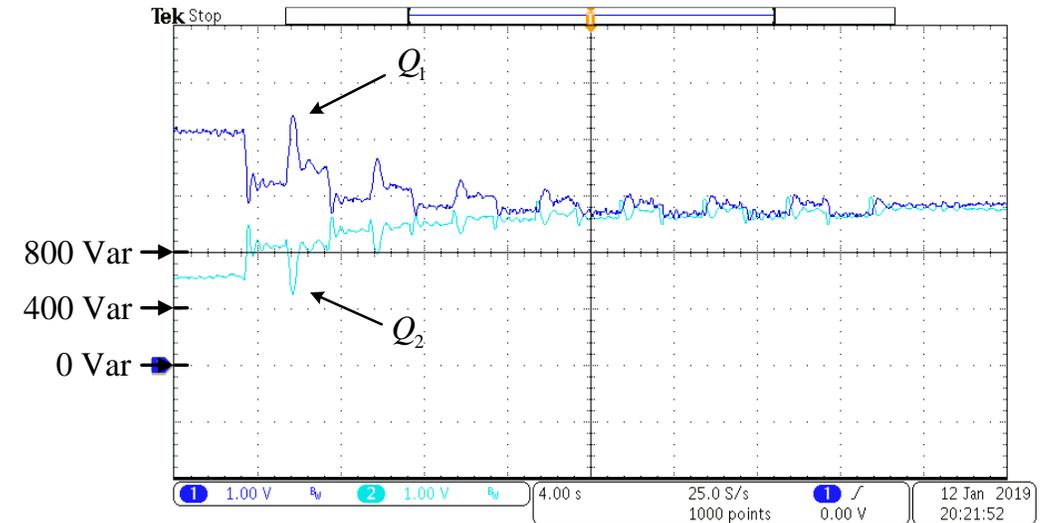
Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning

Experimental results



Voltage reference



Reactive power sharing

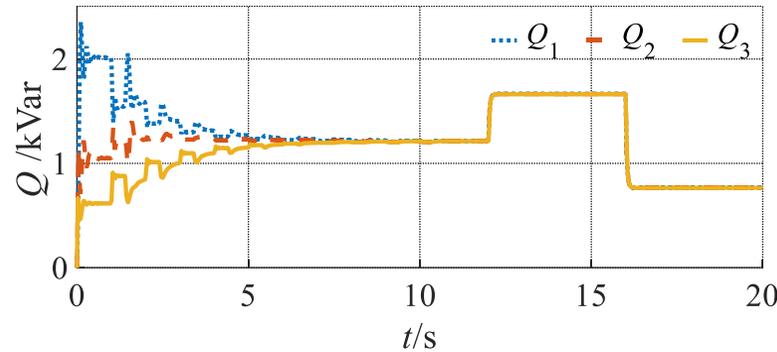
Robust to time sequence difference

Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

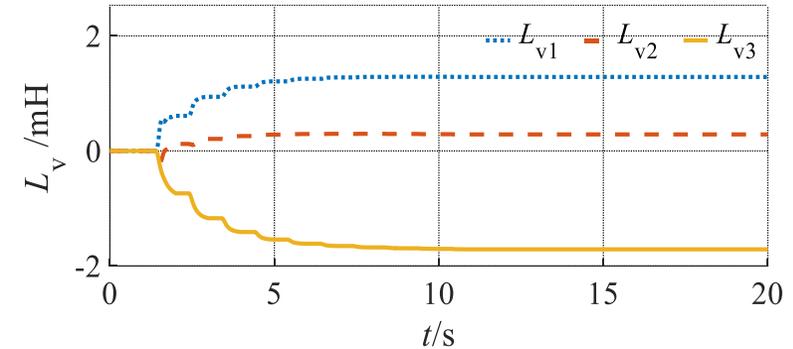
- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning

Simulation results

Single-PCC structure

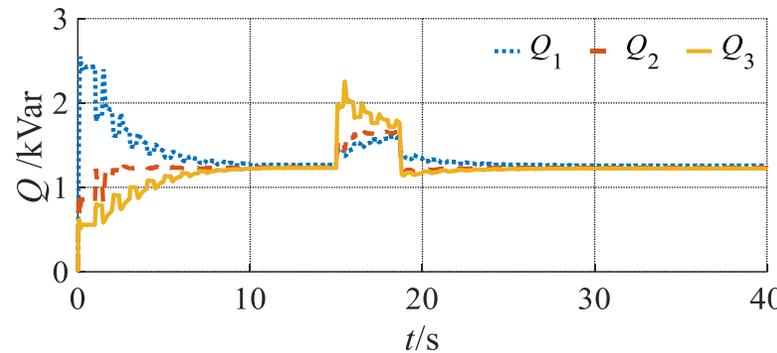


DG output reactive power

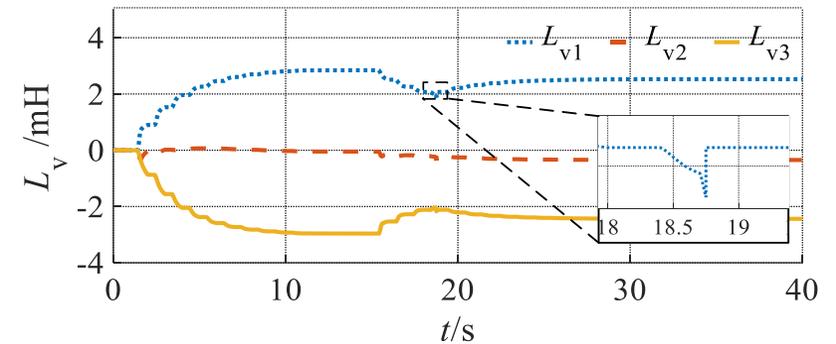


Virtual impedance

Distributed structure



DG output reactive power



Virtual impedance

Successive Approximation for Power Sharing

- Successive-approximation-based virtual impedance tuning

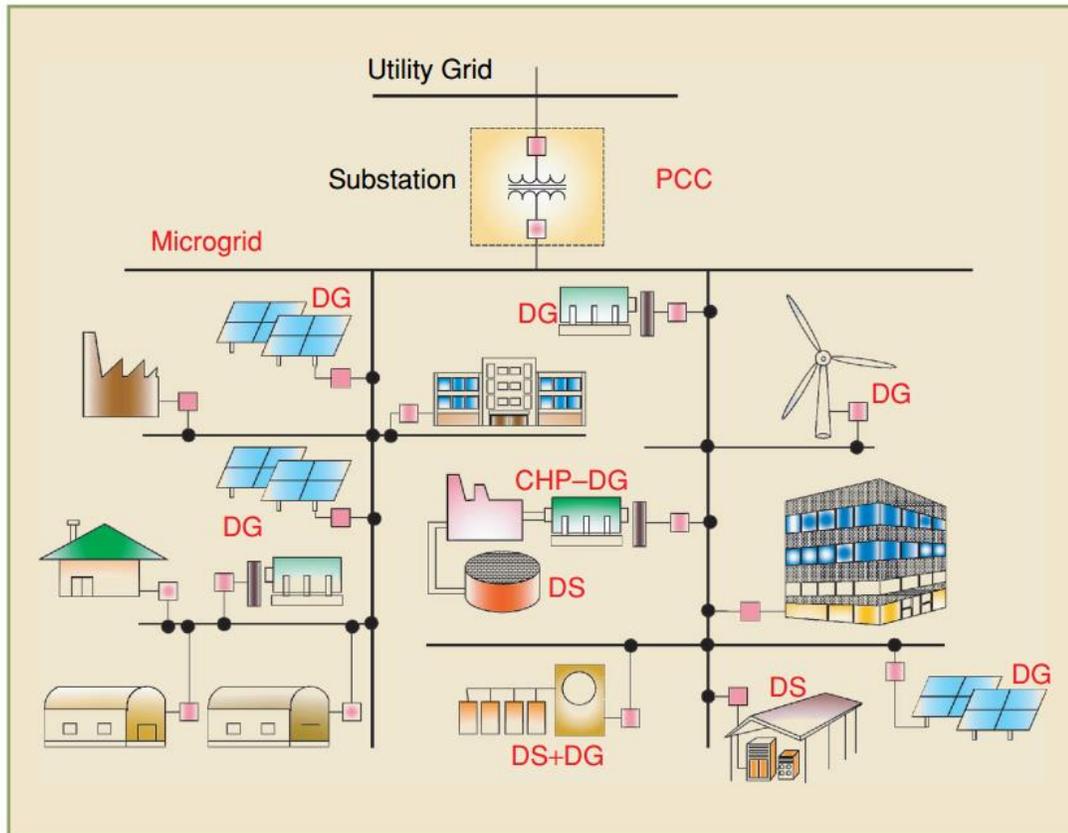
Summaries

- Effectively compensating the mismatched line impedances to achieve accurate power sharing
- Balancing the original line impedances, no extra voltage amplitude deviations at the PCC
- **Easy implementation, plug and play, especially suitable for application scenarios with a large number of sources**
- Minimizing the dependency on communications

Coordinative Control at Microgrid Level

■ Microgrid

- a localized group of sources and loads with the capability to operate either as a **grid-connected** or as an **islanded system**



- **Grid-connected(GC) Mode**

- DGs work together to achieve voltage regulation and supply local loads

- **Stand-alone(SA) Mode (Islanded Mode)**

- DGs output power according to the demands from upper level control

- **Transition Process**

- Seamless transfer between GC and SA operation modes



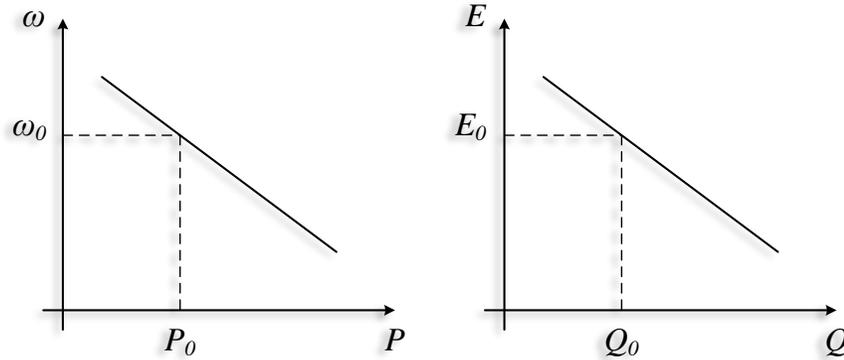
DG control methods



Power stage (Physical Connection)

Coordinative Control at Microgrid Level

- Droop control in GC mode



Control characteristics
$\omega = \omega_0 - k_p(P - P_0)$
$E = E_0 - k_q(Q - Q_0)$

$$P - P_0 = \frac{\omega_g - \omega_0}{-k_p}$$

$$Q - Q_0 = \frac{E_g - E_0}{-k_q}$$

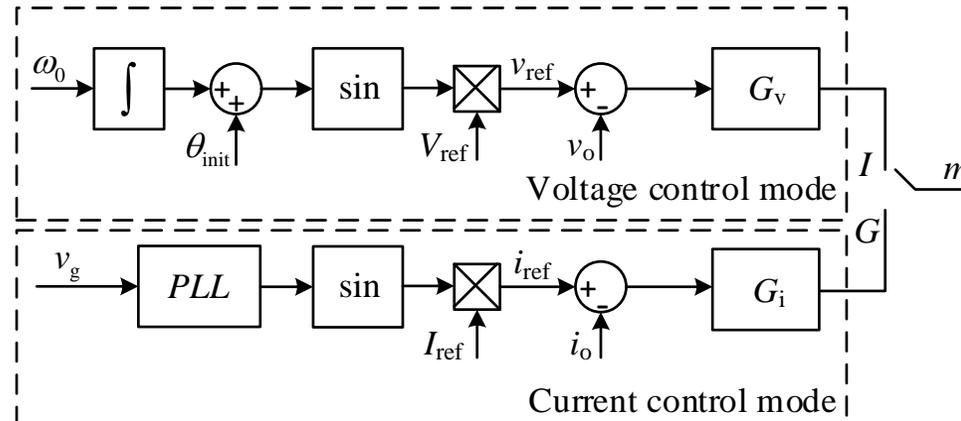
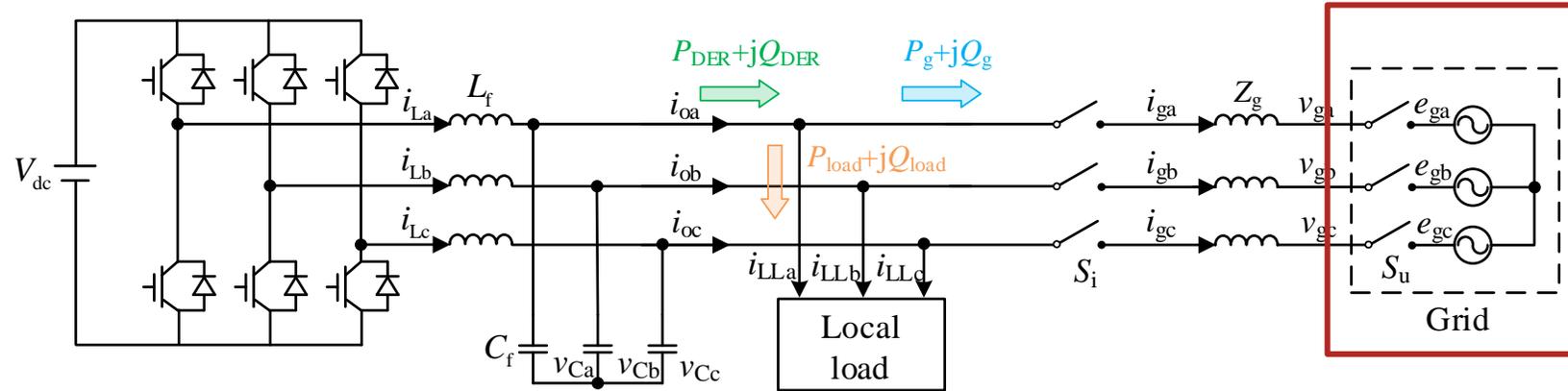
- **Bus voltage** is clamped by the **grid voltage** in GC Mode
- **DG output power** is also determined by the grid
 - When the grid is normal, i.e., $\omega_g = \omega_0$, there is $P = P_0$.
 - When the **grid frequency deviates and fluctuates**, i.e., $\omega_g \neq \omega_0$; since k_p is small, the difference between P and P_0 is large, and continuously changing.
 - when the **grid voltage is distorted**, the DG output current would contain harmonics
- **Poor dynamic performance** for power tracking



Transfer of Control Strategies

Hybrid current and voltage mode control

- Transfer **DG control structures** according to **system operating states**



- SA Mode**

- DGs provide local voltage supports
- ➔ Voltage control mode

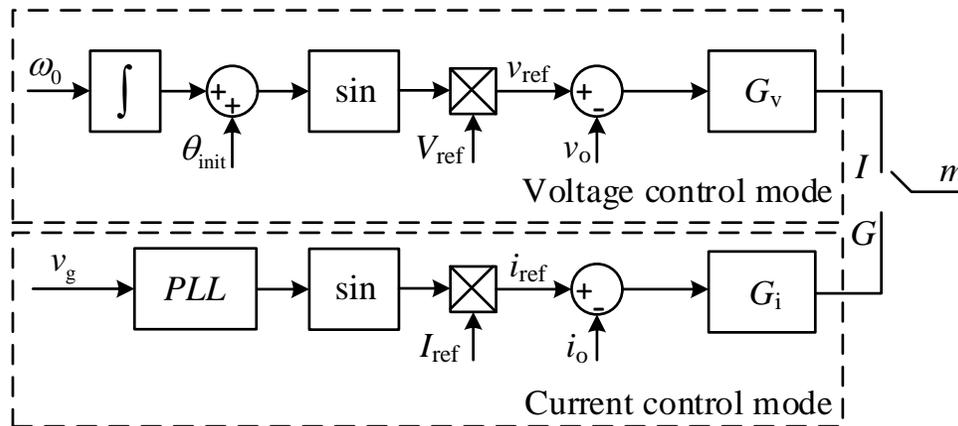
- GC Mode**

- Strong external voltage source
- ➔ Current control mode

Transfer of Control Strategies

Hybrid current and voltage mode control

- Transfer **DG control structures** according to **system operating states**



- ⊖ **Undesired transients** when control mode transfers or reference changes
- ⊖ Rely on **islanding detection** methods or **communication** with the grid interface to obtain the real-time operating state
- ⊖ **Delays & possible mis-actions** may cause deterioration of voltage quality

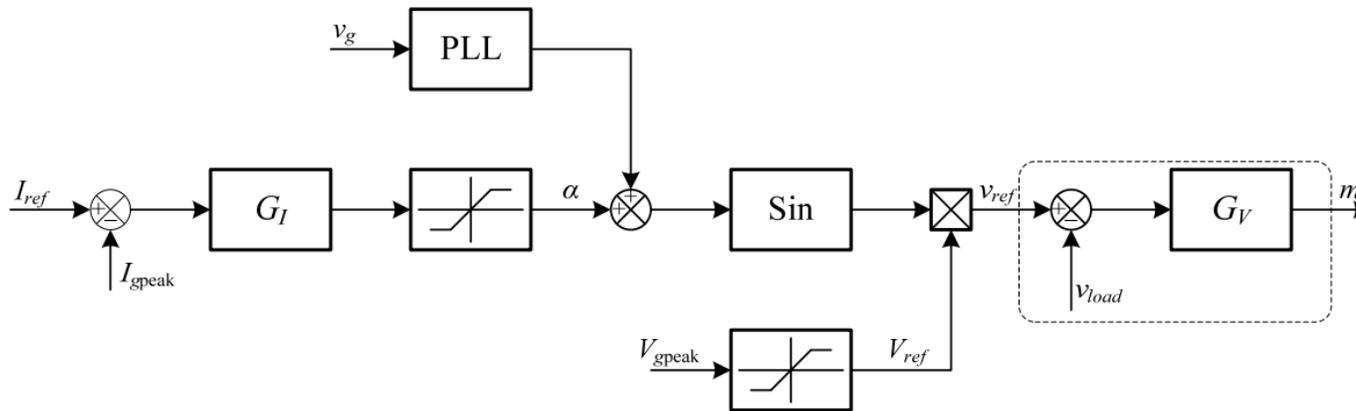


Detailed process from GC to SA state

Transfer of Control Strategies

■ Indirect current control

- **limiters in the control blocks become saturated or desaturated**
 - When islanding occurs, the change of operating states cause **the saturation of limiter**; the inverter changes from linear control region to nonlinear control region to realize **autonomous transfer of control strategies**
 - When the fault is cleared, the inverter returns to the linear control region.
- **Seamless transfer & not rely on islanding detection**

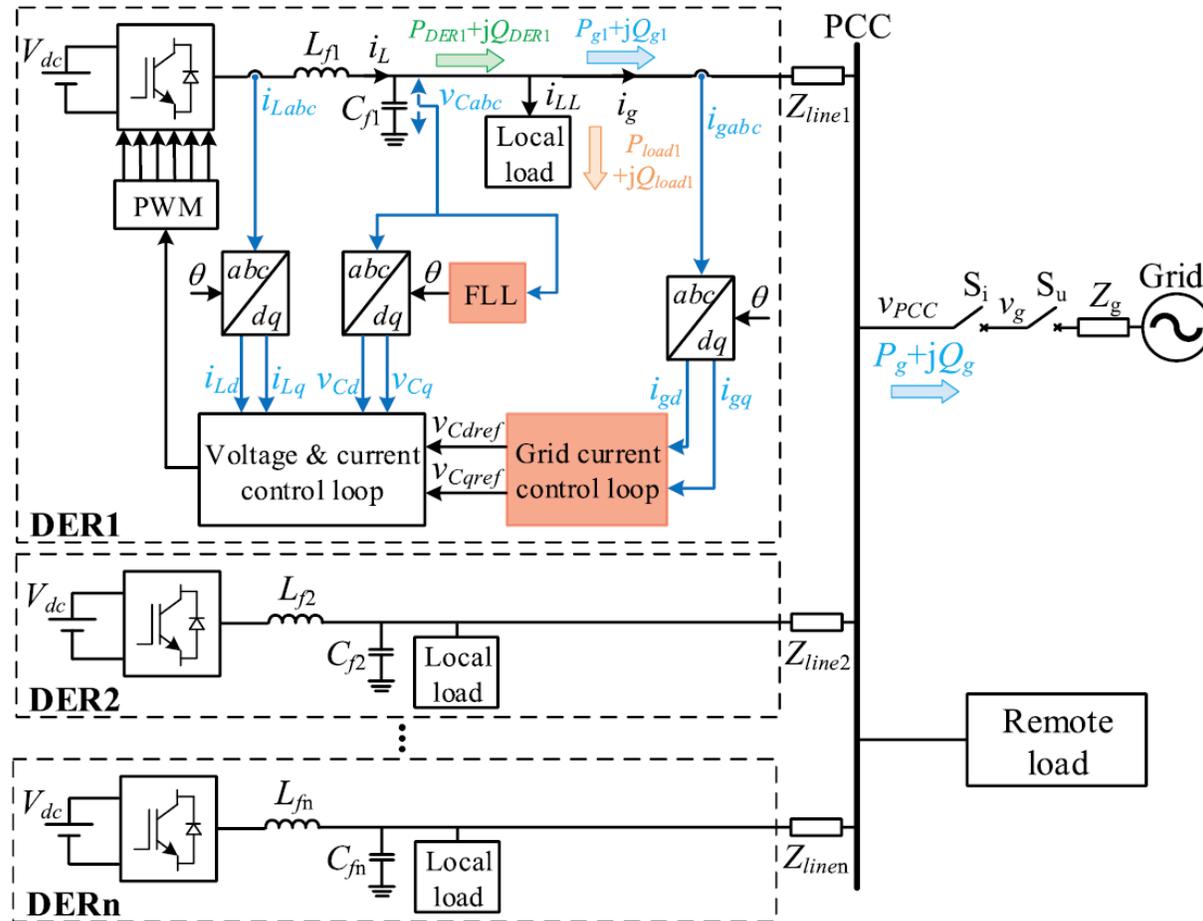


Control block of single-phase indirect current control method

- ☹ Nonlinearity in the control system make it **hard to design**
- ☹ **Load voltage deteriorates in case of nonlinear loads** because of the absence of inner voltage control
- ☹ **Physical meaning is not clear**

Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability
 - How to avoid these drawbacks?



Improved indirect current control:

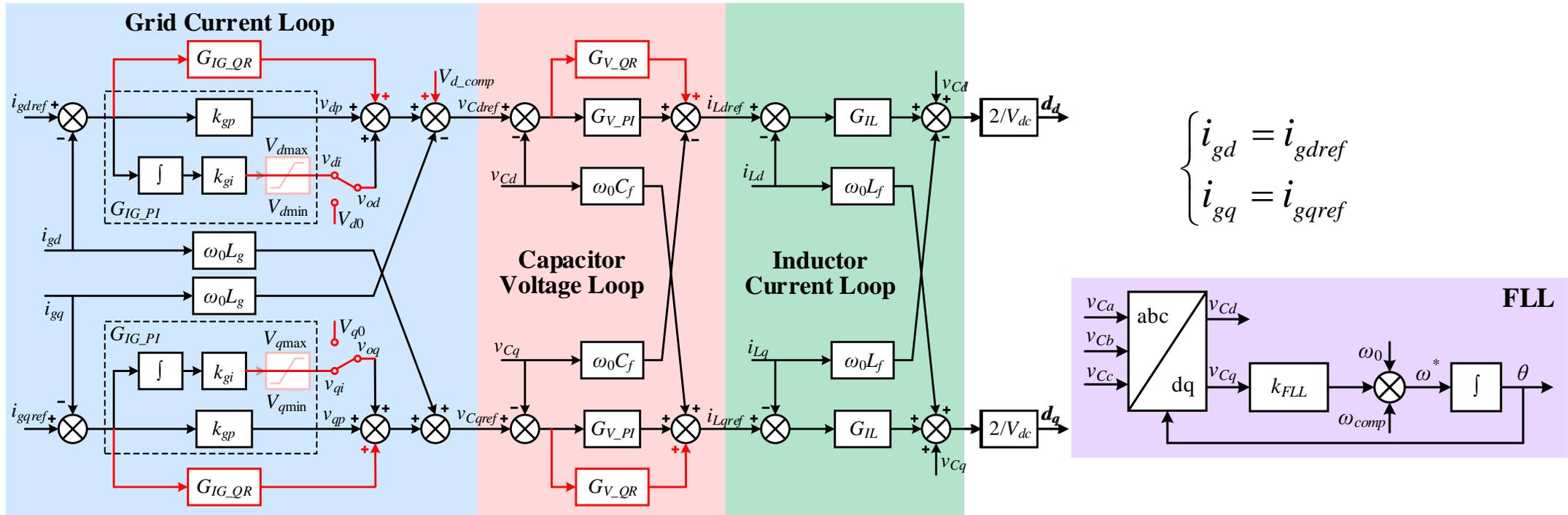
- S_u is controlled by the grid.
- S_i is controlled by the microgrid.
- Autonomously transfer DG control structures according to the model of **three-phase DG system in the SRF**
- Physical meaning is more clear
- **Synchronization of multiple inverters** are considered.
- Regulate the grid current accurately when the grid voltage is **distorted** in GC mode

Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

GC mode

- Grid current loop + capacitor voltage loop + inductor current loop
- Grid current is not limited.
- QR controllers are used to suppress 5th and 7th harmonics.

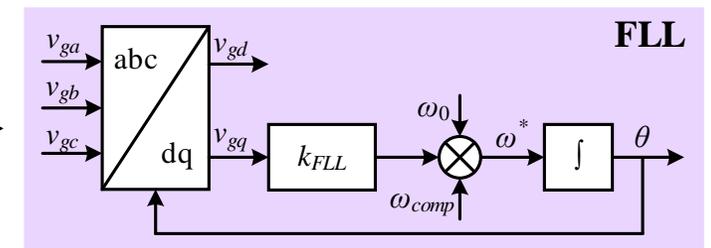
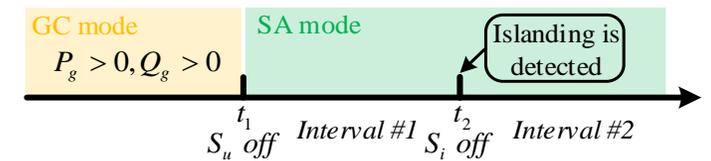
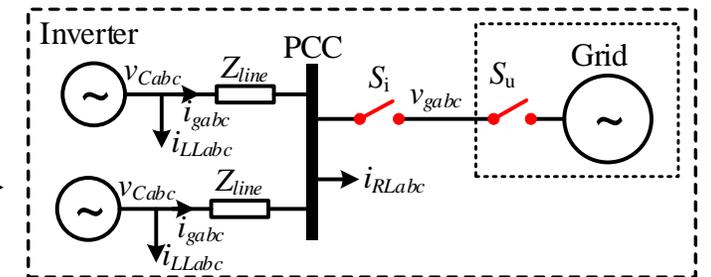
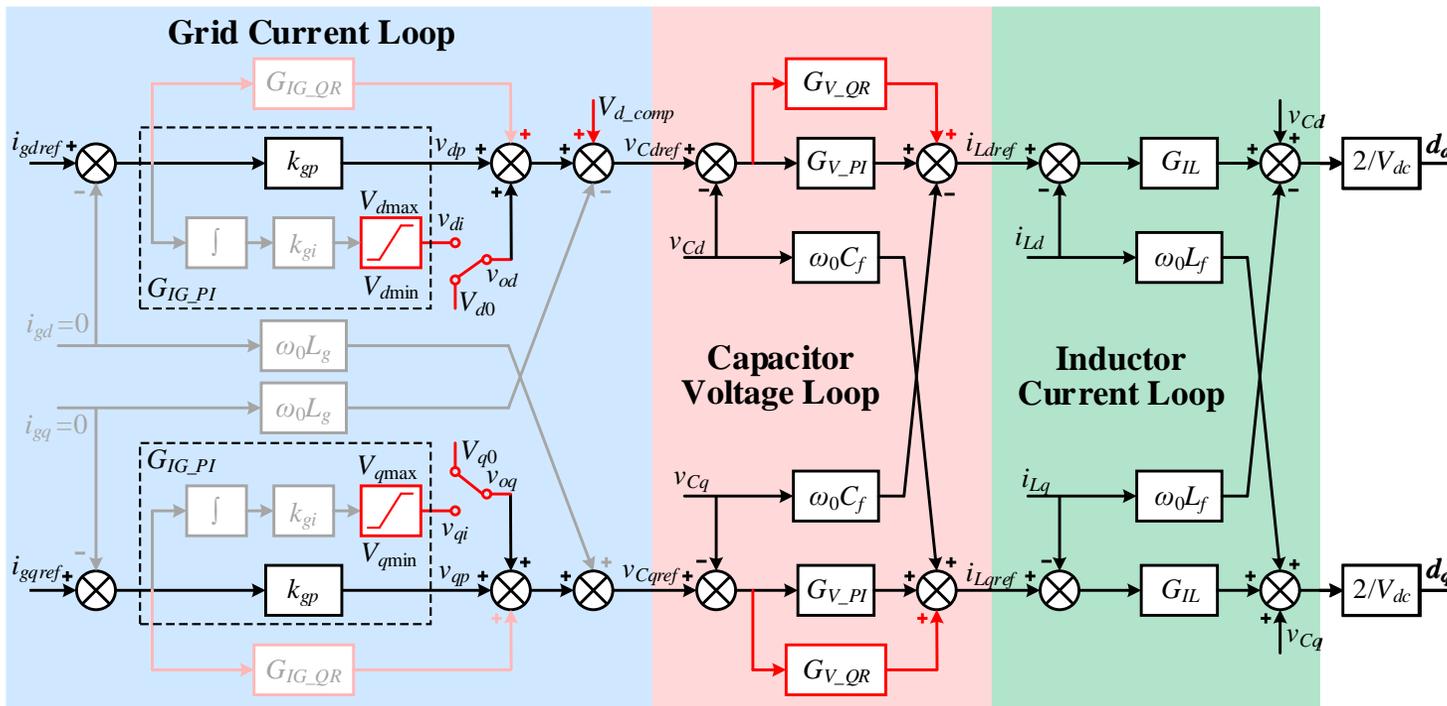


Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

GC mode to SA mode

- t_1 : S_u turns-off, $i_{gd}=0, i_{gq}=0$.
- $t_1 \sim t_2$: v_{di} increases and v_{qi} decreases until $v_{di}=V_{dmax}$ and $v_{qi}=V_{qmin}$, G_{IG_QR} changes from PI controller to P controller.
- t_2 : islanding is detected, G_{IG_QR} stops working to improve power quality, v_{od} and v_{oq} switch to V_{d0} and V_{q0} respectively.



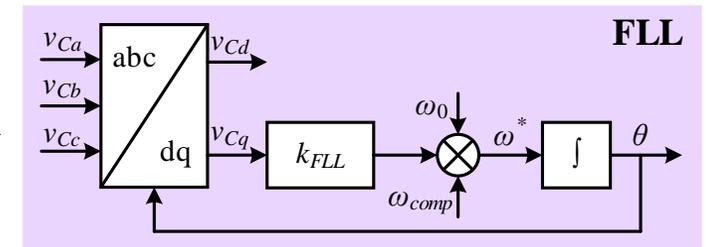
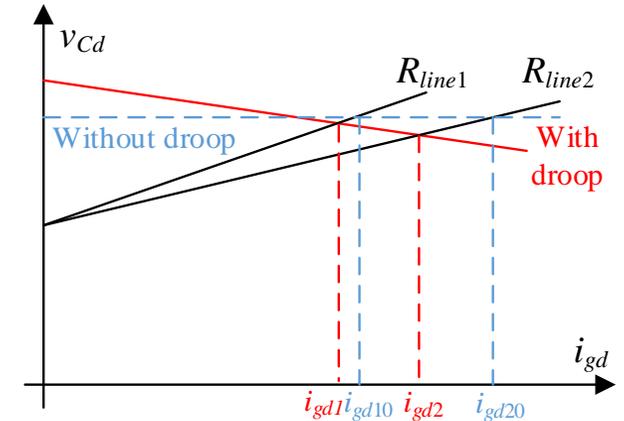
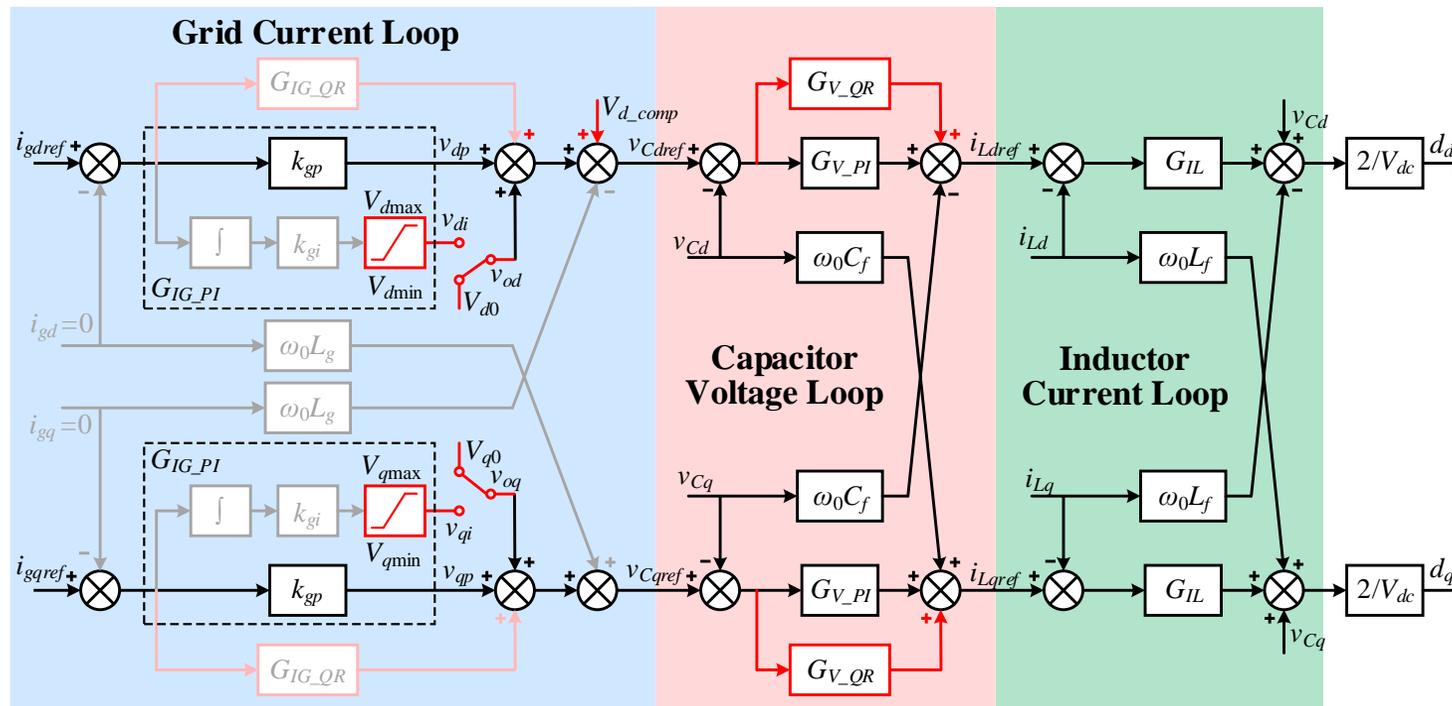
Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

SA mode

- A droop relationship between i_{gq} and ω^*

$$\begin{cases} v_{Cdref} = V_{d0} + k_{gp} \cdot (i_{gdref} - i_{gd}) \\ v_{Cqref} = V_{q0} + k_{gp} \cdot (i_{gqref} - i_{gq}) \end{cases} + \omega^* = \omega_0 + k_{FLL} \cdot v_{Cq} \Rightarrow \omega^* - \omega_0 = k_{FLL} \cdot k_{gp} \cdot (i_{gqref} - i_{gq})$$

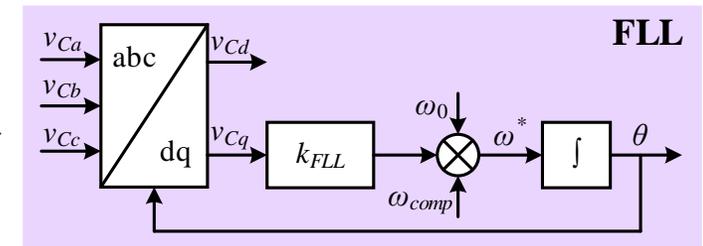
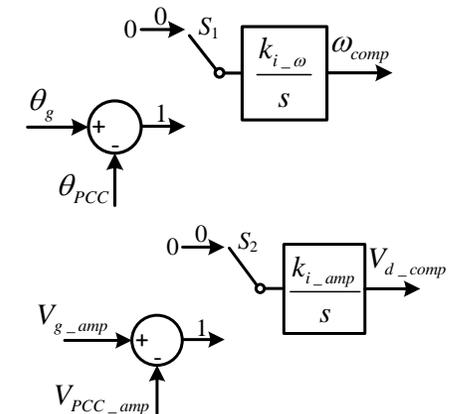
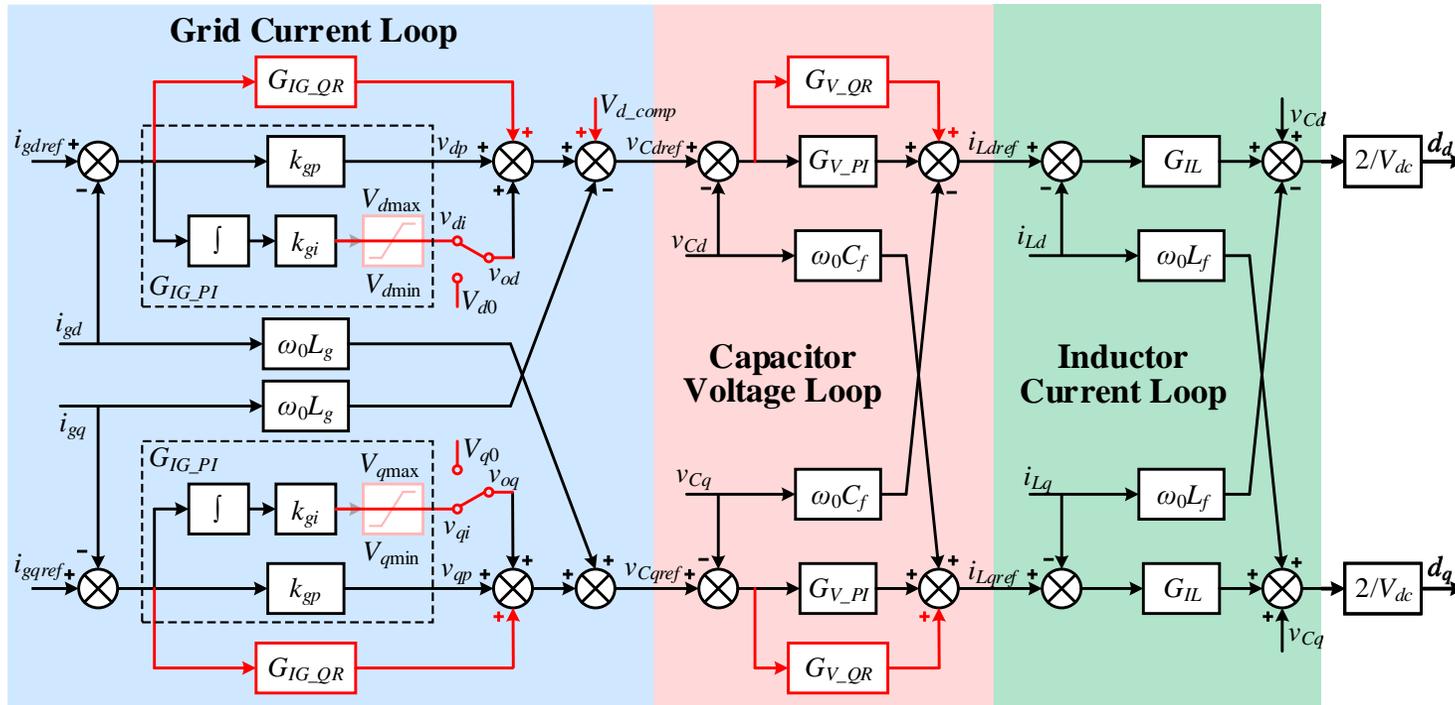
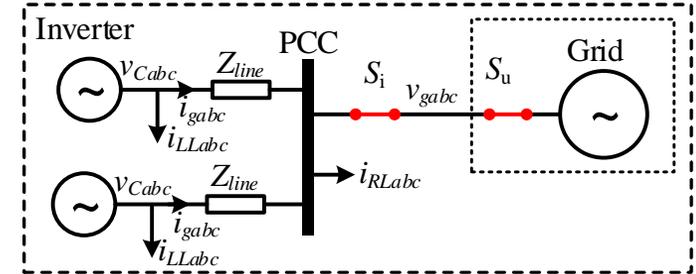


Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

SA mode to GC mode

- Grid voltage is restored, S_u turns-on.
- v_{od} and v_{oq} switch to v_{di} and v_{qi} .
- S_1 and S_2 switch to channel 1 for pre-synchronization.
- S_i turns-on.

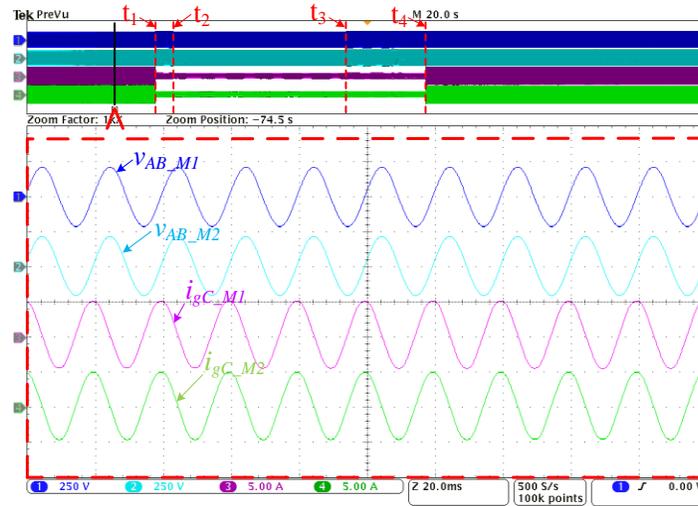


Transfer of Control Strategies

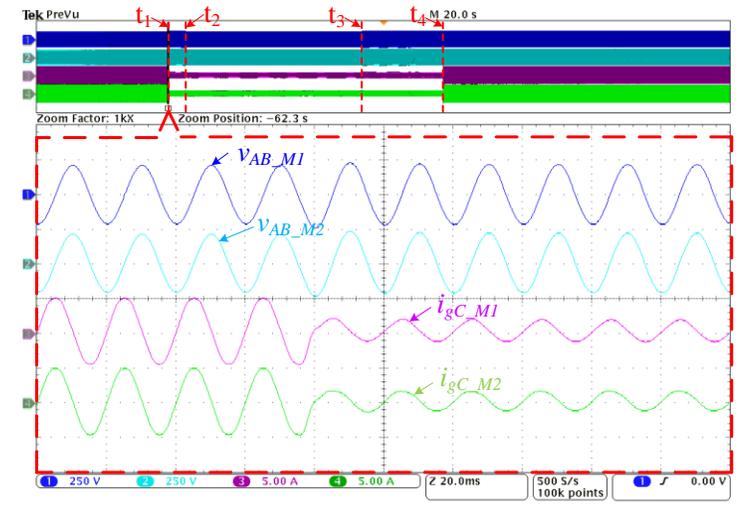
- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

Experimental results

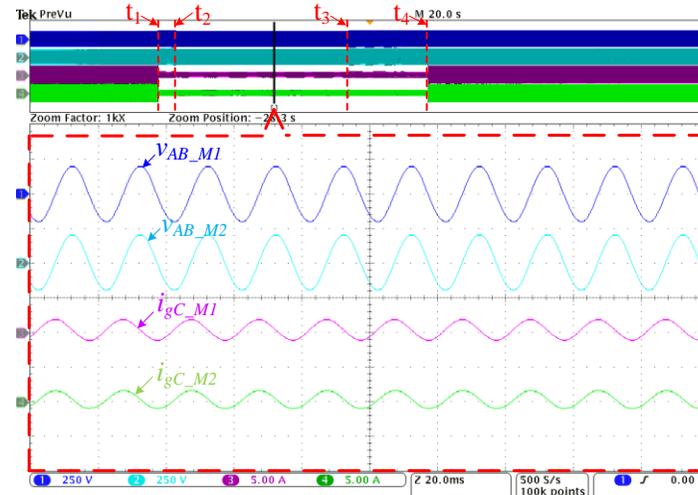
GC mode



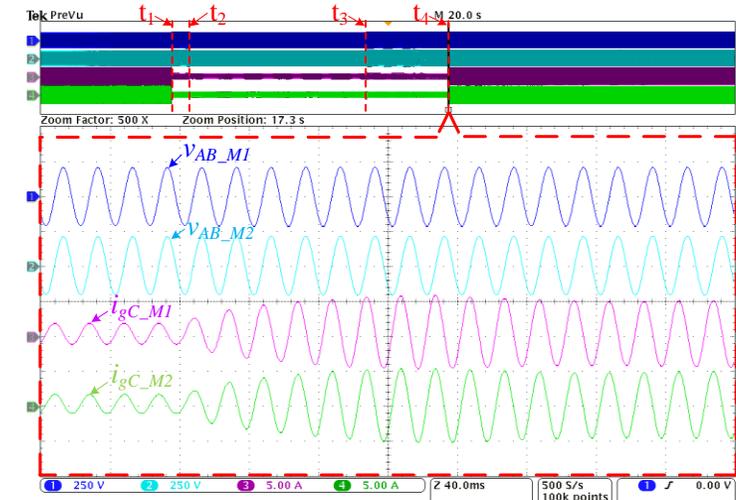
From GC to SA



SA mode



From SA to GC



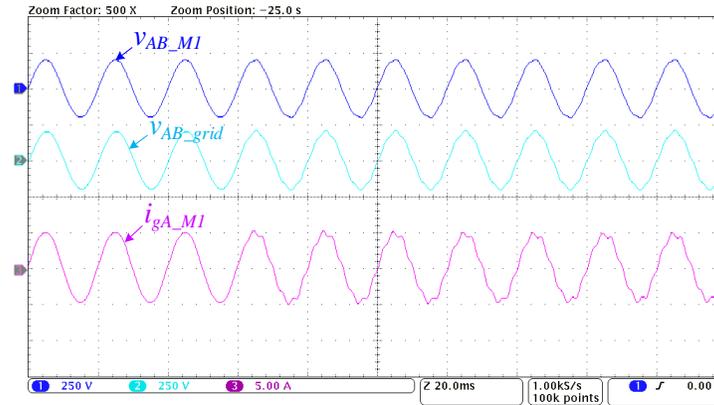
Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

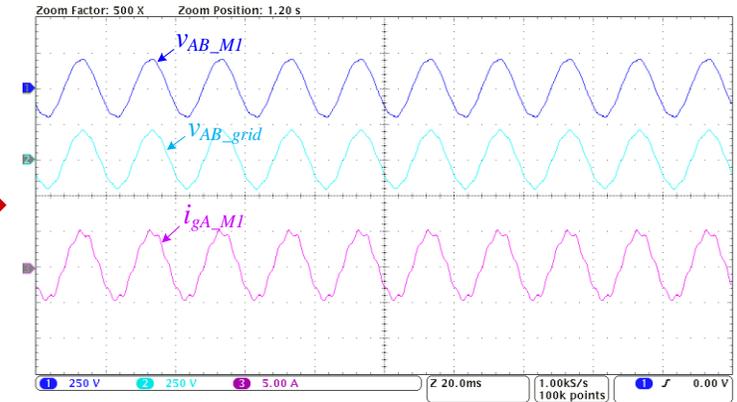
Experimental results

Droop control

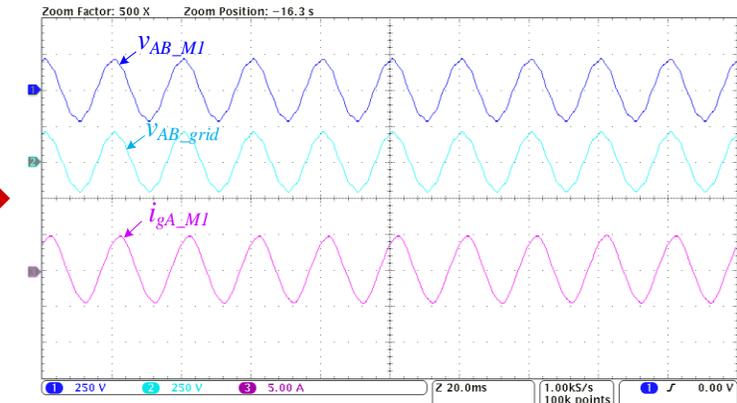
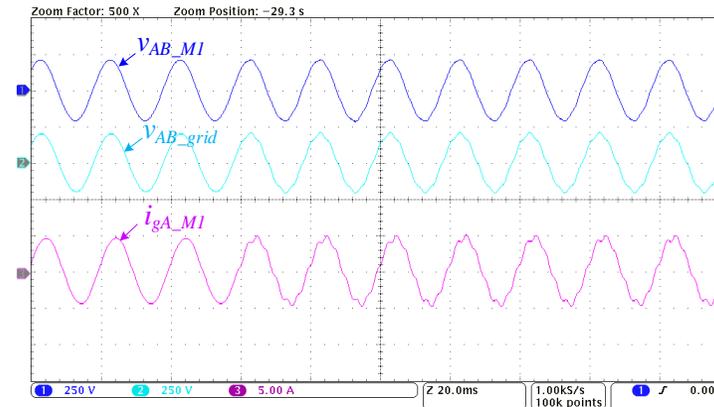
Harmonic is inserted



After some time



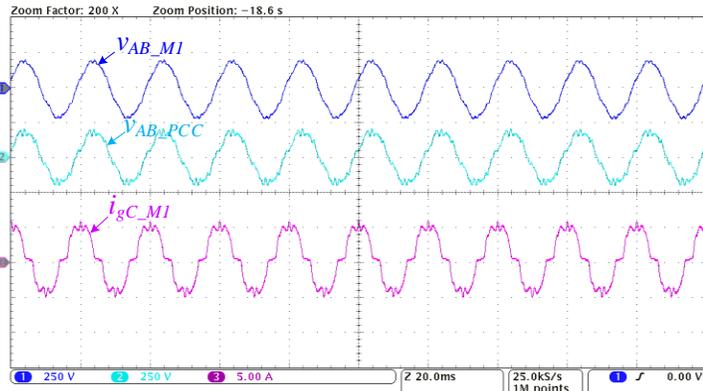
Proposed control



Transfer of Control Strategies

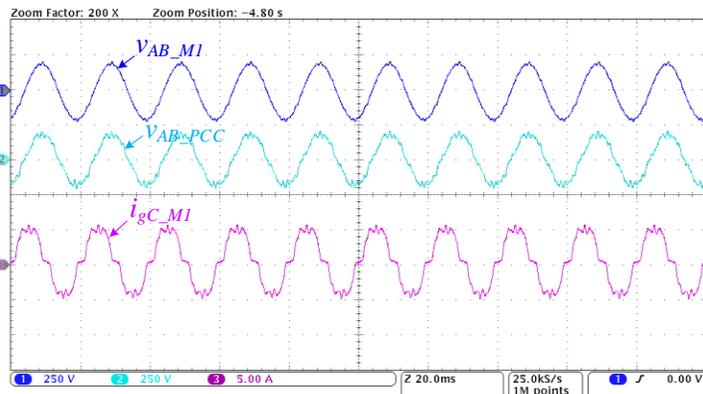
- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

Experimental results



Droop control

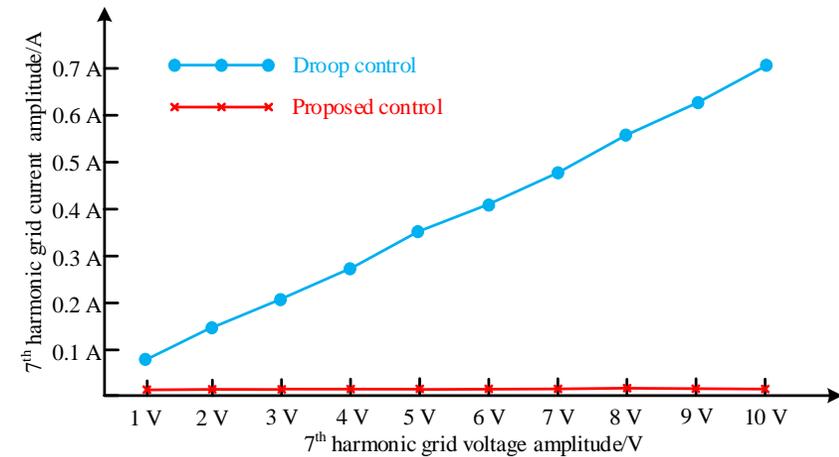
Order	U1 [V]	hdf [%]	Order	U1 [V]	hdf [%]
Total	142.9		dc		
1	142.8	99.88	2	0.2	0.14
3	1.5	1.03	4	0.0	0.03
5	5.1	3.55	6	0.1	0.04
7	3.3	2.32	8	0.1	0.09
9	0.1	0.07	10	0.1	0.09
11	1.5	1.02	12	0.1	0.05
13	2.1	1.45	14	0.1	0.05
15	0.5	0.38	16	0.2	0.15



Proposed control

Order	U1 [V]	hdf [%]	Order	U1 [V]	hdf [%]
Total	142.9		dc		
1	142.9	99.98	2	0.2	0.16
3	1.5	1.03	4	0.1	0.04
5	0.3	0.22	6	0.0	0.03
7	0.2	0.13	8	0.1	0.05
9	0.2	0.15	10	0.1	0.05
11	1.5	1.07	12	0.0	0.03
13	1.6	1.13	14	0.1	0.07
15	0.6	0.43	16	0.2	0.13

Comparison

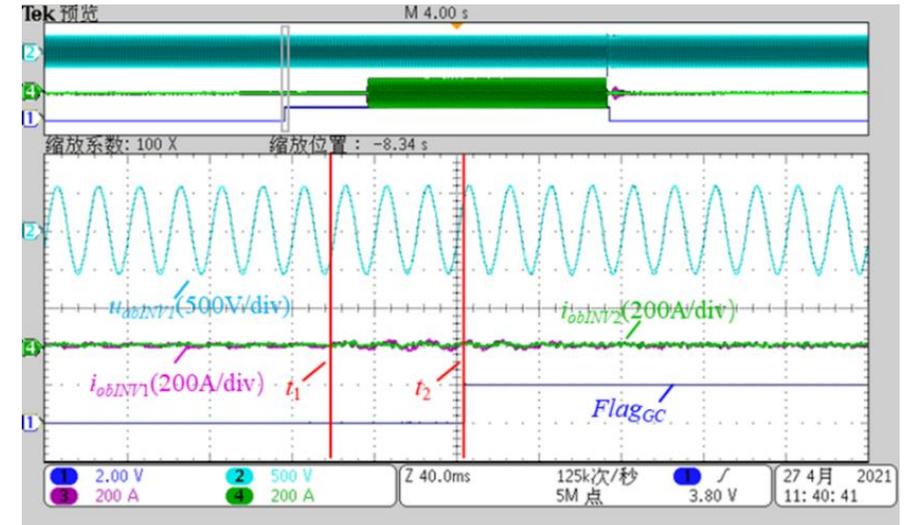
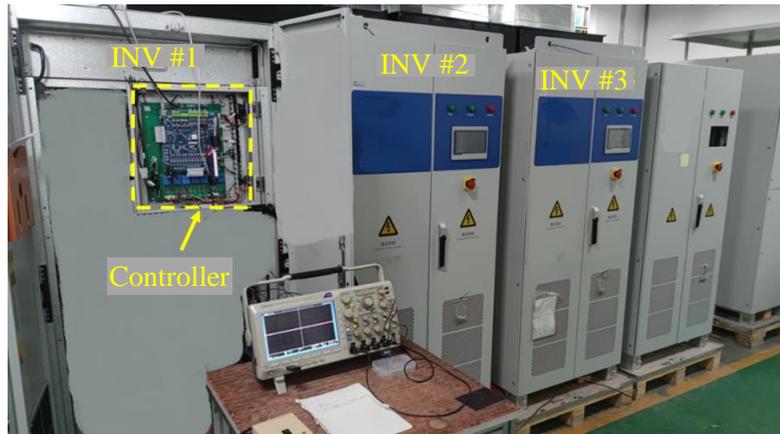


Transfer of Control Strategies

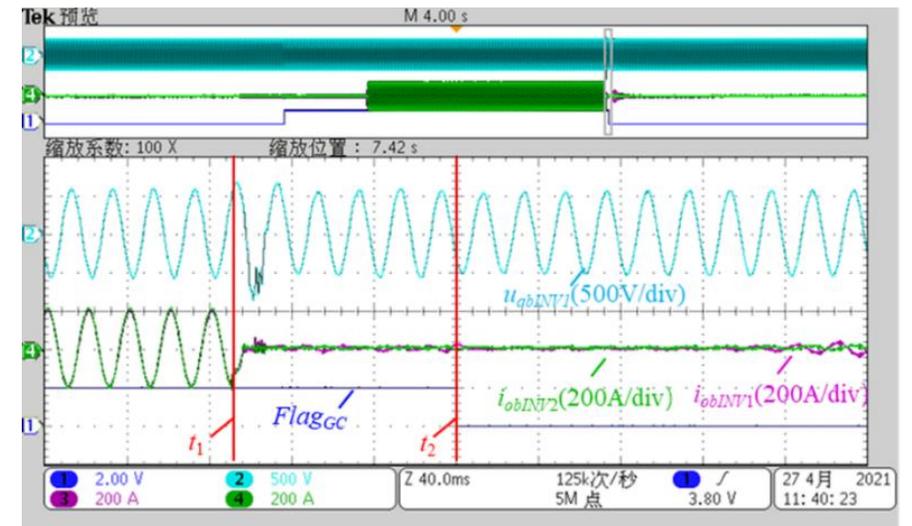
■ Practical application: KEHUA Project

- Good performance in all operating states achieved after the universal controller with seamless transfer capability applied.

Technical parameters	
Power rating	100kVA
Line-to-line voltage	400V
Load condition (SA to GC)	No load
Power setpoint in GC (GC to SA)	100kW



Transition from SA state to GC state



Transition from GC state to SA state

Transfer of Control Strategies

- A universal controller with seamless transfer capability

Summaries

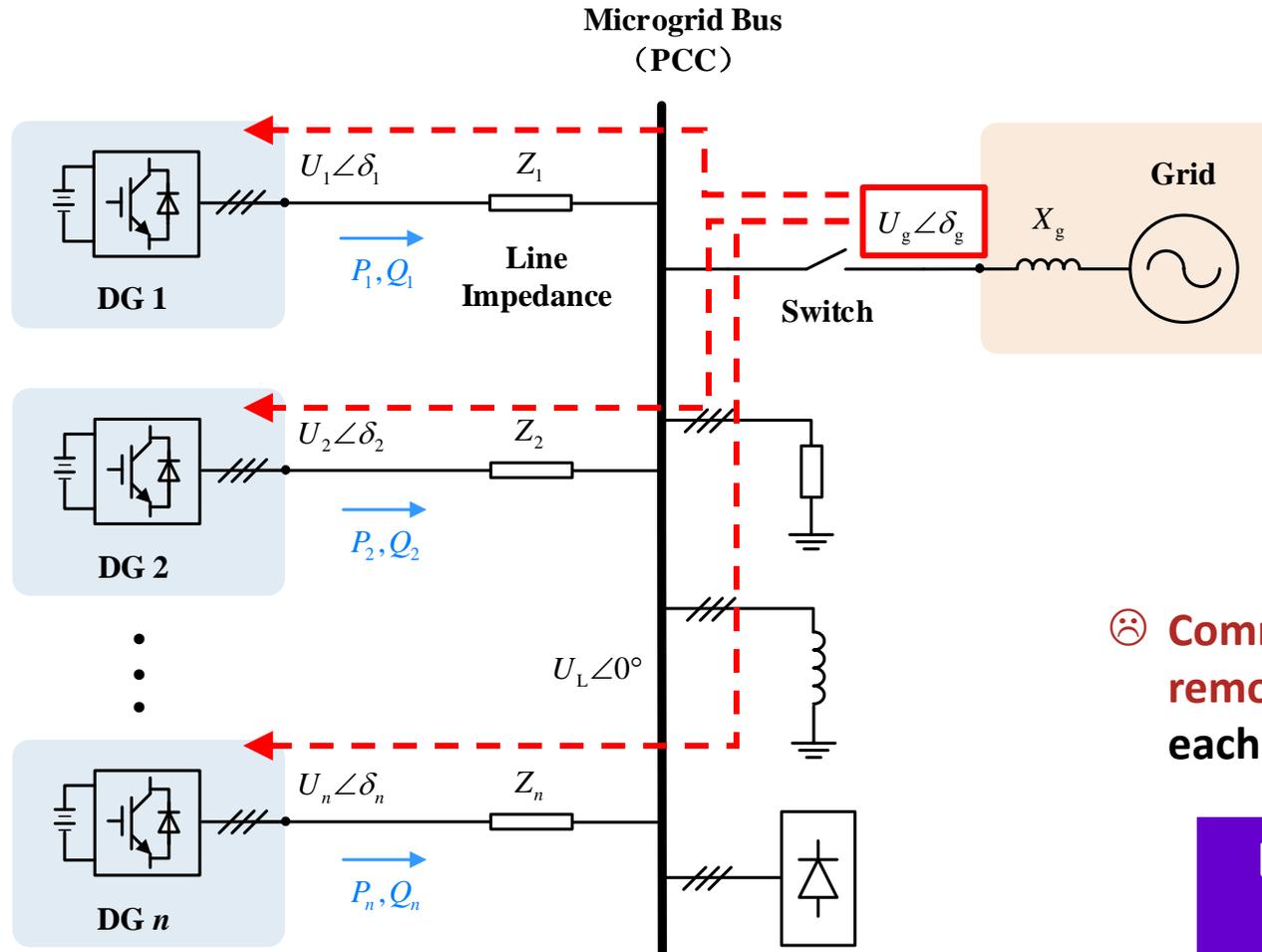
- The transfer of control targets between SA and GC mode is seamless
- Does not rely on islanding detection methods or communication with the grid interface to obtain the system operating states.
- The physical meaning of the Indirect Current Control is more clear for three-phase DG system in the SRF.
- In microgrid system consisting of multiple DGs, the power quality is guaranteed in case of nonlinear loads and grid distortion.

Z. Liu and J. Liu, "Indirect Current Control Based Seamless Transfer of Three-phase Inverter in Distributed Generation," *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics*, vol. 29, no. 7, pp. 3368–3383, Jul. 2014.

X. Meng, Z. Liu, H. Zheng, and J. Liu, "A Universal Controller Under Different Operating States for Parallel Inverters With Seamless Transfer Capability," *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics*, vol. 35, no. 9, pp. 9796–9814, Sep. 2020.

Coordinative Control at Microgrid Level

- Barrier for fully-autonomous microgrid



- When transferring from SA state to GC state, the microgrid voltage should be **synchronized** with the grid voltage
- Numerous dispersed sources are far from the grid interface

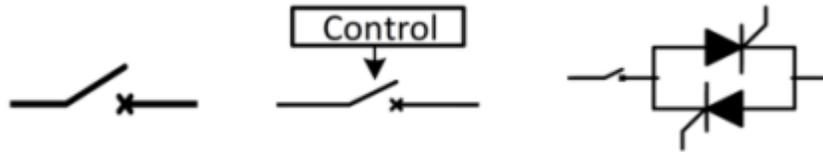


☹ **Communication is required to send the remote information at the grid interface to each DG for pre-synchronization!**

Becomes the barrier for fully-autonomous microgrid

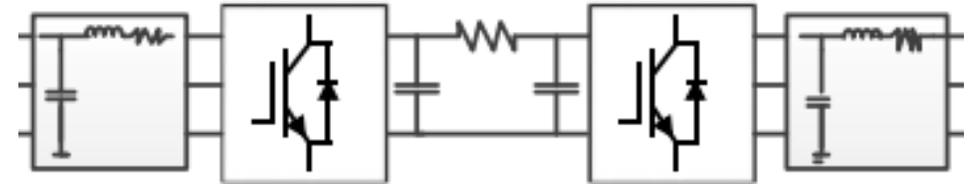
Flexible Transfer Converter

▪ Conventional grid interface



• Switch:

- ✓ e.g., static transfer switch, mechanic switch, etc.
- ☺ High efficiency
- ☺ Low cost
- ☺ High reliability
- ☺ High Current Carrying Capability
- ☹ Fail to control the power flow
- ☹ Hard to re-connect after faults

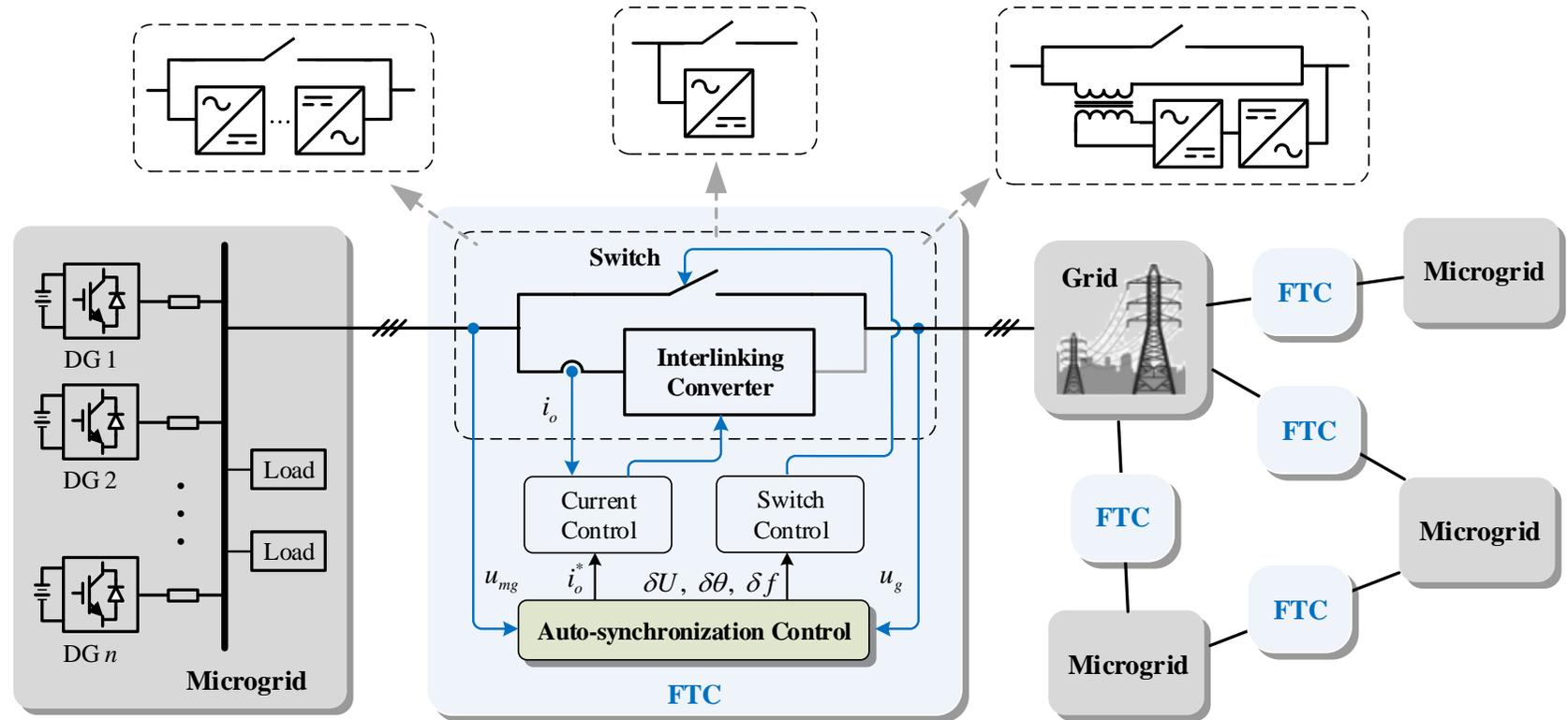


• Interlinking Converter (IC):

- ✓ e.g., back-to-back converter, matrix converter, UPQC, SST, etc.
- ☺ Controllable power flow
- ☺ Auxiliary services
- ☹ Low efficiency
- ☹ High cost
- ☹ Low reliability
- ☹ Power dispatch restricted by capacity

Flexible Transfer Converter

■ Concept of Flexible Transfer Converter (FTC)



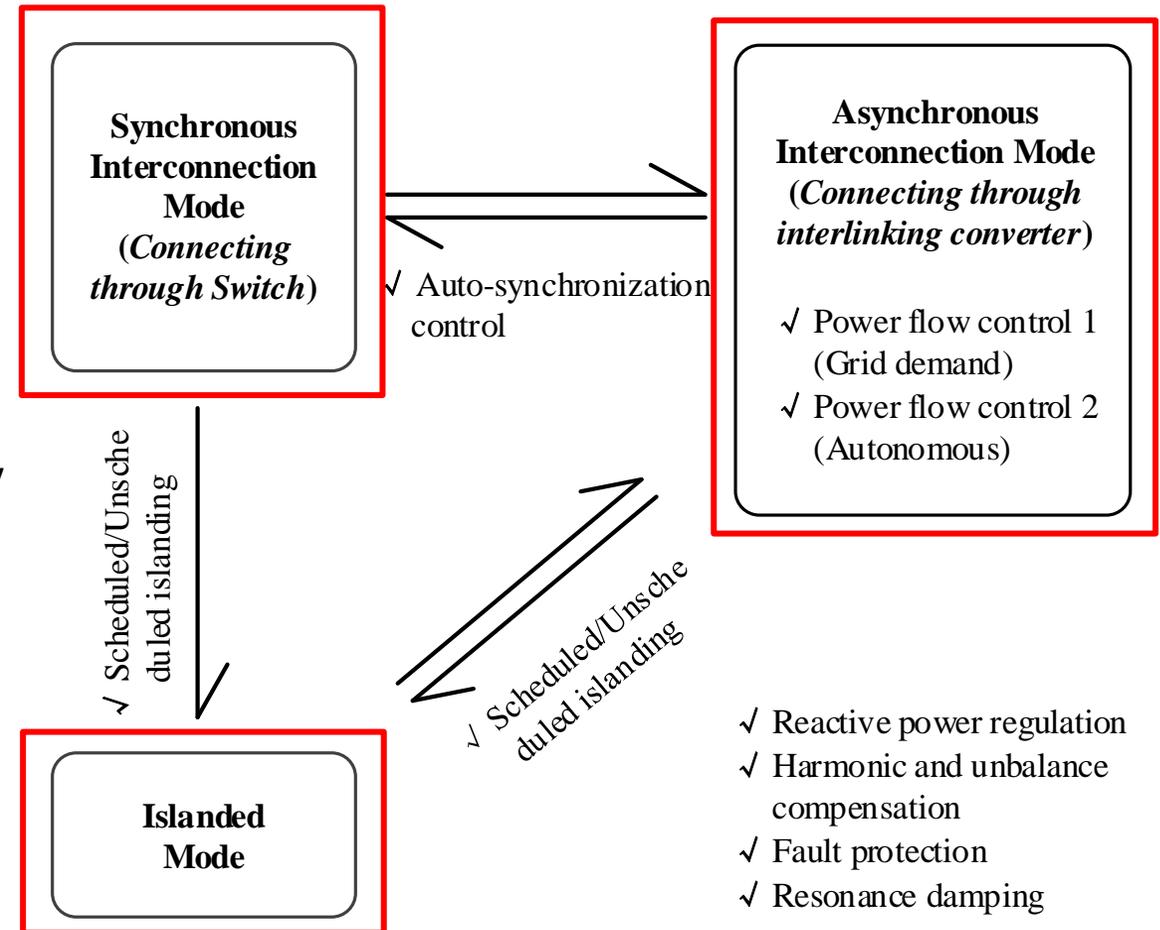
- Enabling **autonomous control** of microgrids, even for re-connection
- **Fast and soft disconnection/re-connection**
- **Possible auto-synchronization** while connected and dispatching of power
- Different topologies and control strategies for **normally-islanded** and **normally-connected microgrids**

Flexible Transfer Converter

■ Concept of Flexible Transfer Converter (FTC)

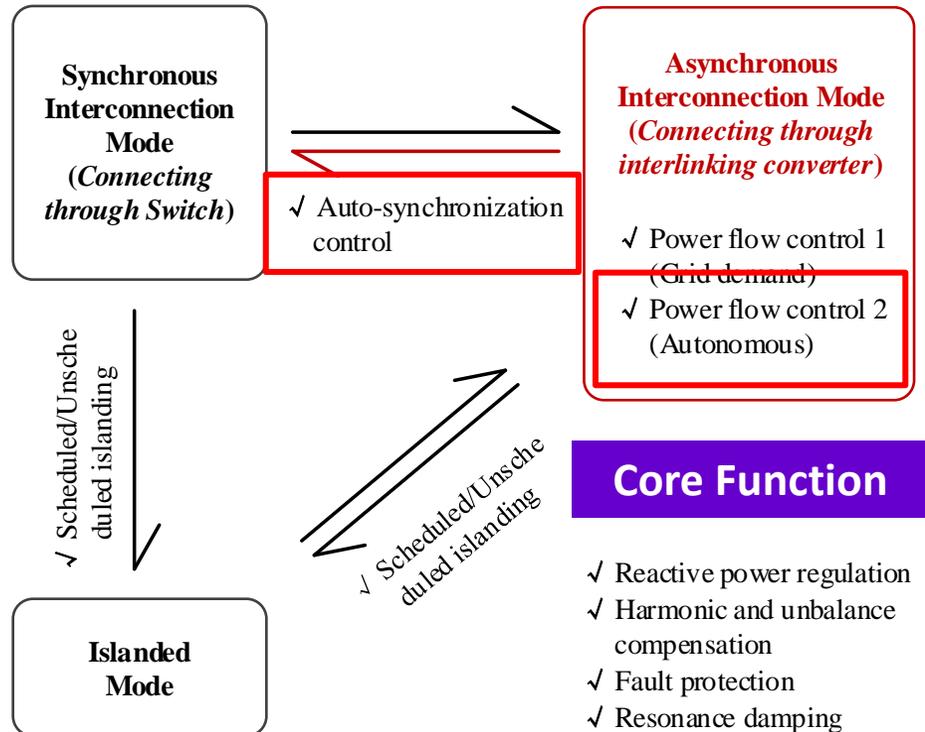
• Three basic operating modes:

- Achieve fast and soft re-connection, dispatch power in response to grid demands or based on local measurements in the **Asynchronous Connection Mode**.
- Auto-synchronize both sides and smoothly transfer to the **Synchronous Connection Mode** to reduce transmission losses or handle IC capacity shortage.
- When islanding occurs, the FTC stops power dispatching and transfers to the **Islanded Mode**.



Flexible Transfer Converter

Asynchronous Connection Mode



- DGs need to provide voltage regulation in SA mode
- ➔ working under droop control or VSG control:

$$\omega = \omega_0 - k_p (P - P_0)$$

- ◆ By controlling P , the frequency and phase can be indirectly controlled to **achieve pre-synchronization**
- ◆ Bus frequency reflects mismatch between P and P_0
- ◆ Based on this, the **power flow** at the grid interface can be optimized

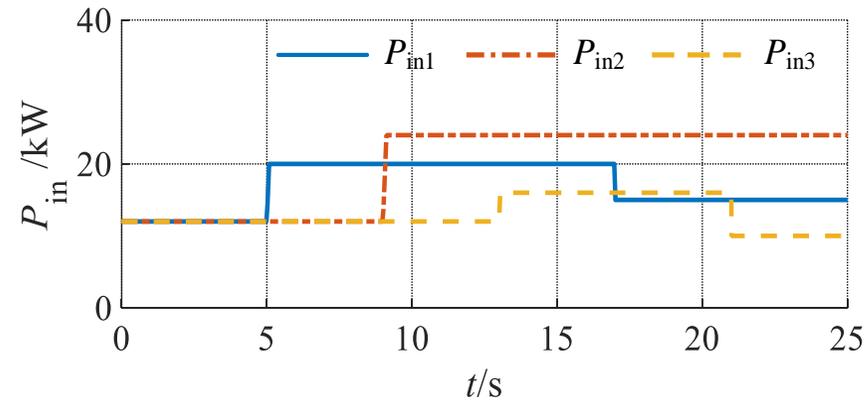
$$V = V_0 - k_q (Q - Q_0) \quad \cdot \text{ Similar for } Q \text{ and } V$$

Flexible Transfer Converter

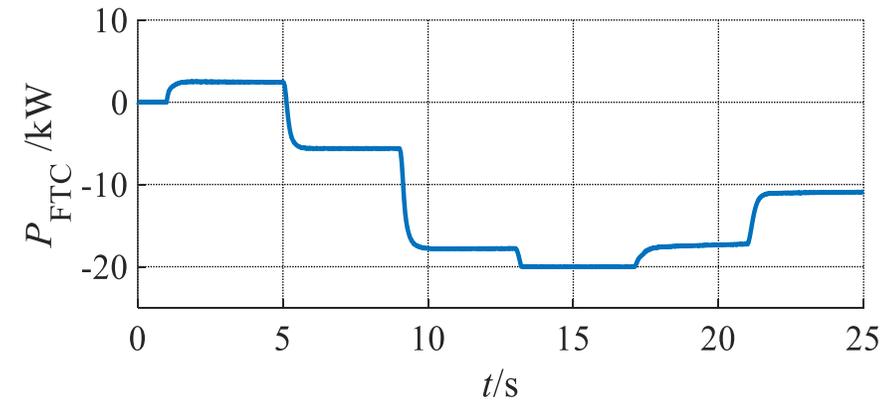
- Control of a general-purpose FTC

Simulation results

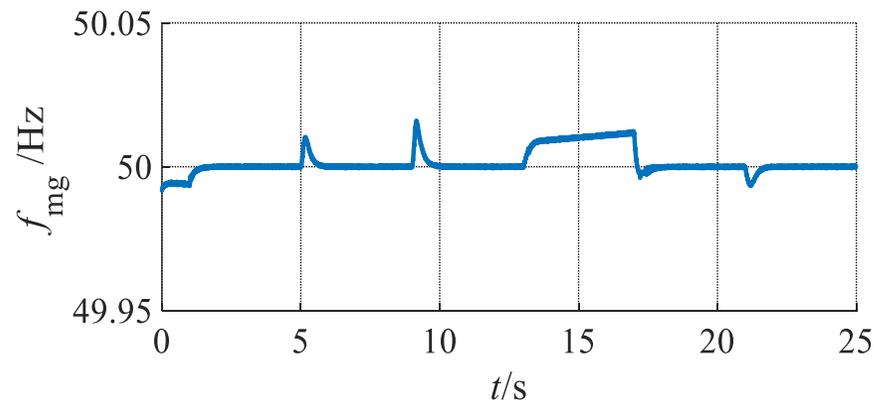
Autonomous power control



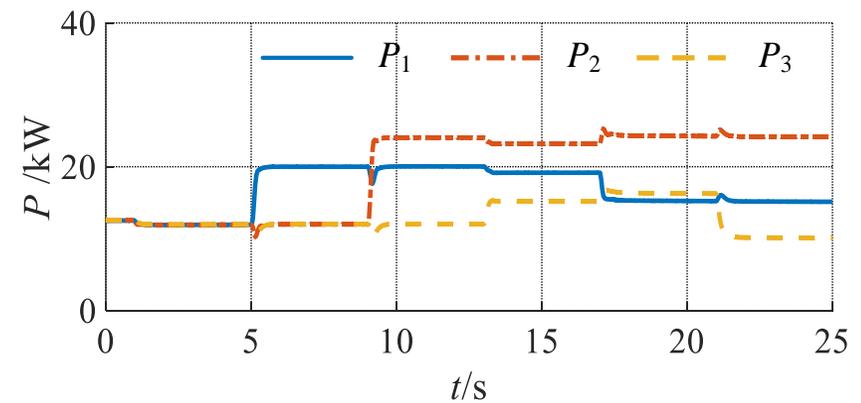
RES generation power



FTC output active power



Bus frequency



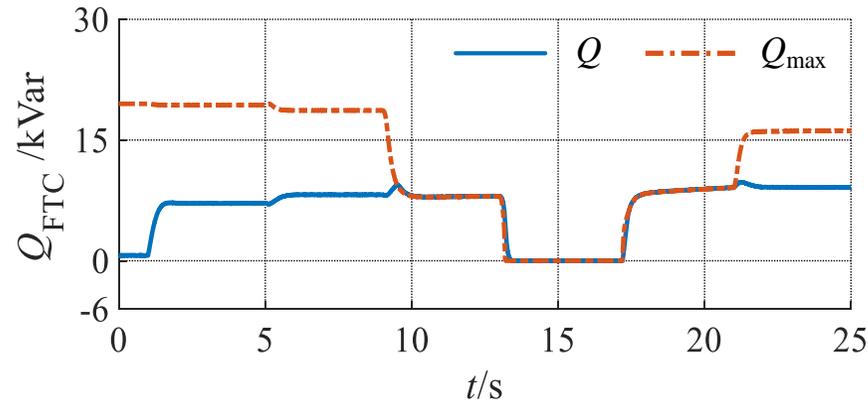
DG output active power

Flexible Transfer Converter

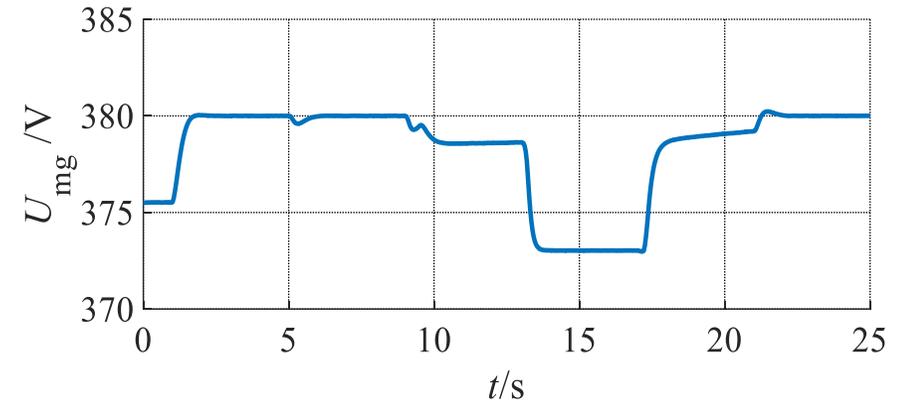
- Control of a general-purpose FTC

Simulation results

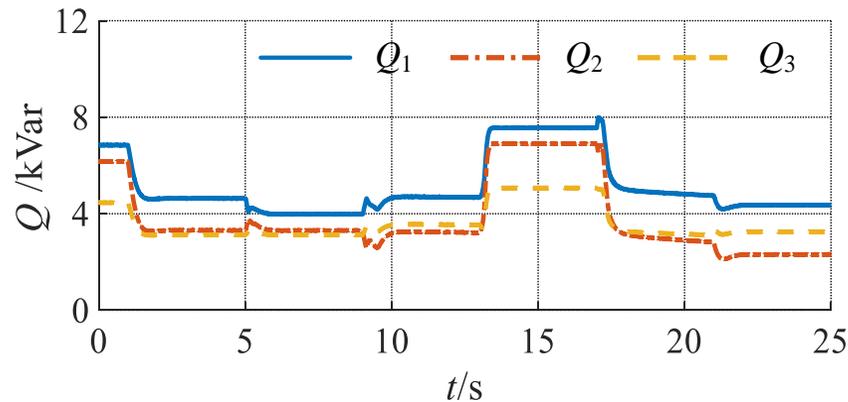
Autonomous power control



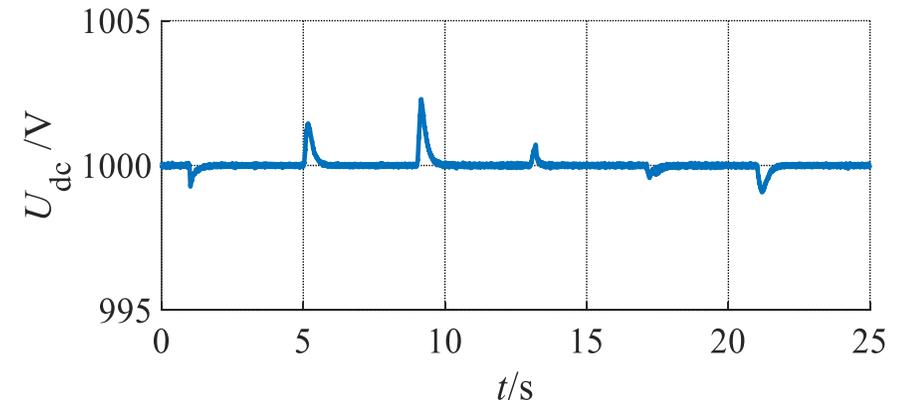
FTC output reactive power



Bus voltage amplitude



DG output reactive power



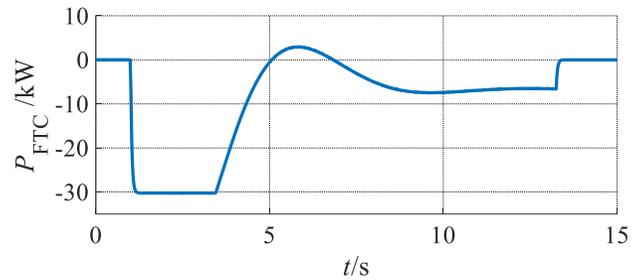
FTC DC-side voltage

Flexible Transfer Converter

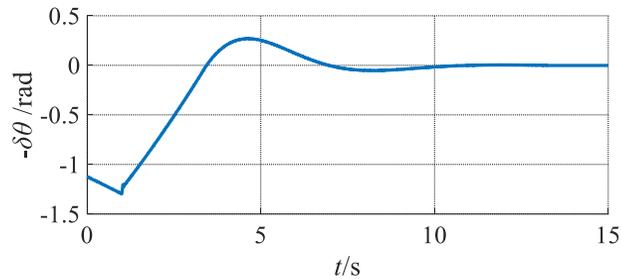
- Control of a general-purpose FTC

Simulation results

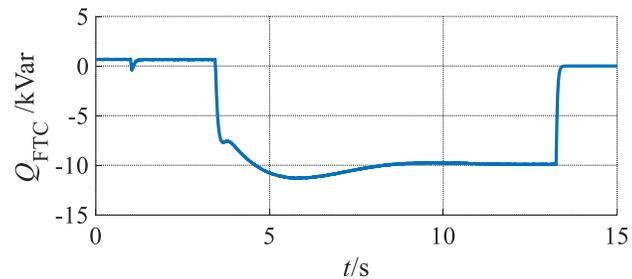
Auto-synchronization control



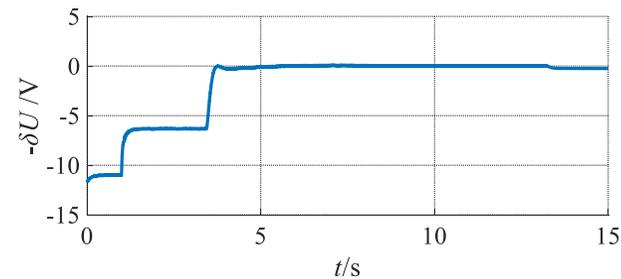
FTC output active power



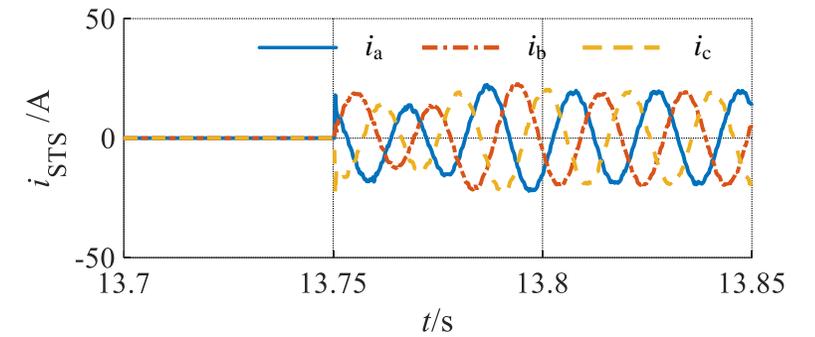
Phase difference



FTC output reactive power



Amplitude difference

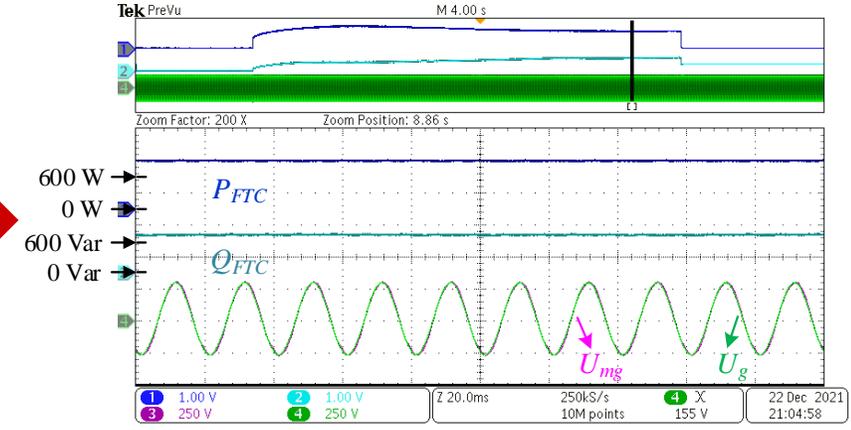
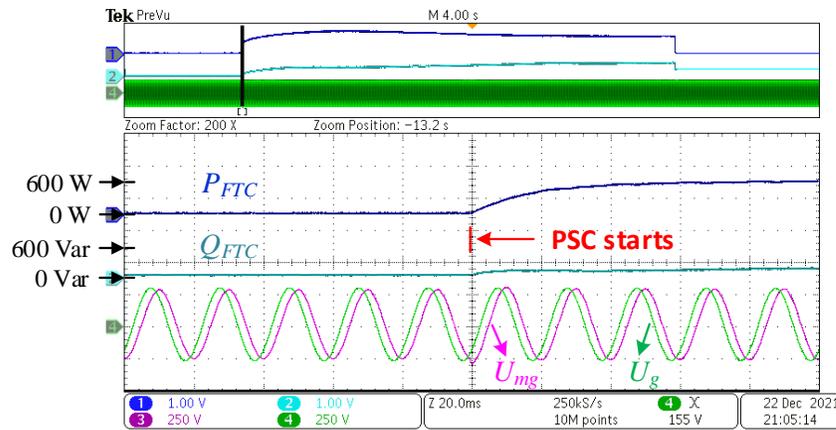


Inrush currents on the switch

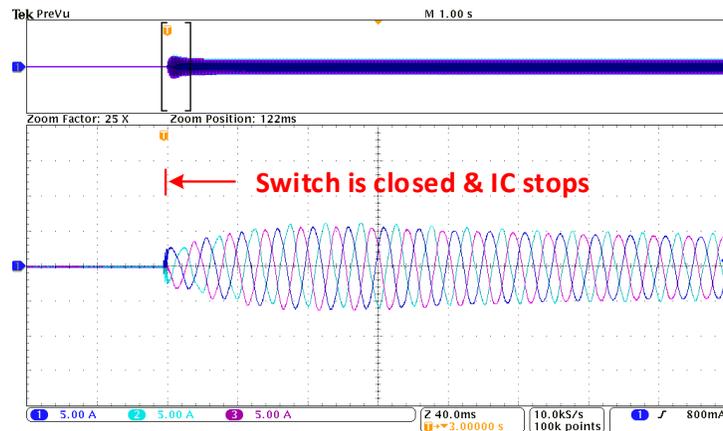
Flexible Transfer Converter

- Control of a general-purpose FTC

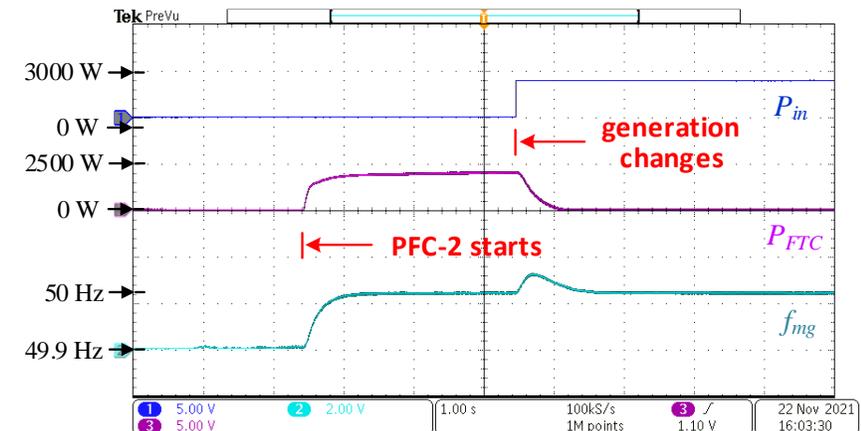
Experimental results



Auto-synchronization process



Inrush currents on the switch



Autonomous power control

Flexible Transfer Converter

Flexible Transfer Converter

Summaries

- Compared to conventional interfaces, the FTC enhances the flexibility, reliability and efficiency, while also extending the IC's service life to its maximum extent.
- A universal FTC properly controls the power dispatch and flexibly switch the microgrid between different modes without communications with DGs.
- Universal DG control is necessary to coordinate with the FTC in a decentralized manner.
- **Simplified topologies and control strategies for normally-islanded and normally-connected FTCs is under study.**

R. An, J. Liu, Z. Liu and Z. Song, "Flexible Transfer Converters Enabling Autonomous Control and Power Dispatch of Microgrids," in IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, vol. 37, no. 11, pp. 13767-13781

R. An, J. Liu, Z. Song, Z. Liu and Y. P. Y. Deng, "A Control Method for Flexible Transfer Converter to Enable Autonomous Control of AC Microgrids," 2022 IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition (APEC), Houston, TX, USA, 2022.

Other Issues for Advanced Coordinative Control

- Decoupling of the two power channels
- Precise voltage amplitude control for complex network
- Dynamic power sharing
- Small-signal stability



Plug-and-Play Grid-Organizing Framework

- The merits of today's power grid

A few big non-electronic producers dominate a grid

- ➔ Plug and play
- ➔ Does not usually need real-time communications

- ➔ Steady-state operating point determined by
 - Coordination among the big producers
 - Loaded/regenerated power of each load and small producer
- ➔ Stability determined by the big producers



Plug-and-Play Grid-Organizing Framework

- The really critical challenge for future power grids
 - ➔ High ratio of big electronic producers at large grid level
 - ➔ Numerous small electronic or non-electronic producers, consumers, and prosumers at micro-grid level
 - ➔ Frequent disconnection and re-connection between micro-grid and large grid

To develop a framework of standards specifying structure and working state of micro-grids, and terminal characteristics of each electronic producer/consumer/router to preserve the merits of traditional grids



Plug-and-Play Grid-Organizing Framework

■ To ensure

- ➔ Coordinated steady-state operating points of all the producers
 - Coordinative control for producers to ensure adequate power sharing and, if in islanded mode, voltage and frequency regulation
- ➔ Stability
- ➔ Smooth and fast transfer of micro-grids between islanded mode and grid-connected mode

- ➔ Plug and play
- ➔ NOT rely on communications → autonomous
- ➔ Compatible with non-electronic part



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Thank you!

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