

Firming wind power dispatch with battery energy storage

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Abstract

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1. Introduction

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) reports that in fiscal year 2016–17, 48.4% of the electricity generated in the state of South Australia came from intermittent renewable energy sources — 39.2% wind and 9.2% rooftop photovoltaic — and 50.5% from natural gas [1]. During the month of July 2016 the wholesale electricity price averaged AUD 229/MWh in SA, more than three times the average price for any other region of the national electricity market (NEM). In drawing lessons from the events of July 2016, [2] attributed the soaring wholesale electricity price in SA to a combination of high penetration of intermittent renewable energy generation, limited connectivity with other regions in the NEM and historically high wholesale gas prices. At the trading interval level, the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) publishes a report identifying significant contributing factors whenever the wholesale electricity price exceeds AUD 5,000/MWh. With electricity trading at AUD 7,068/MWh in SA on 13 July 2016, AER identified wind forecast error as the major contributing factor to the price spike [3]: “Semi-scheduled wind for the 6:30 am trading interval was forecast to be around 900 MW both four and 12 hours ahead and around 820 MW half an hour ahead. Actual semi-scheduled wind output was around 600 MW.”

We conjecture that if wind farms were to dependably supply power scheduled during pre-dispatch, then wholesale electricity prices would be less volatile and, on average, lower. This paper applies state-space model predictive control (MPC) to examine the dependability of supply of wind power scheduled during pre-dispatch using battery energy storage to enable time shifting.

The contribution of this research is both theoretical and empirical. Our theoretical contribution extends the single period, incremental state-space model of [4] to a multi-period setting. The multi-period state-space model properly accounts for battery charge/discharge efficiency, and its incremental formulation allows the MPC controller to penalise control effort. On an empirical level, we demonstrate the dependable supply of scheduled power by simulating power dispatched to the grid by an SA wind farm coupled with a utility-scale battery, where power is scheduled during pre-dispatch according to unconstrained intermittent generation forecasts (UIGF) produced by the Australian Wind Energy Forecasting System (AWEFS). We find that ...

A number of recent studies use state-space MPC to demonstrate the improvement in wind power dispatch with battery energy storage. Their common objective is to minimise the tracking error of actual power dispatched to the grid relative to set points generated using, among other data, wind power forecasts. They implemented MPC controllers that enabled wind farms to: schedule power dispatched to the grid [5, 6]; minimise cost by prolonging battery life [7, 8]; maximise revenue by exploiting en-

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ergy arbitrage [9]; or supply quality power through the provision of ancillary services [10]. Other than [4], state-space models developed in prior papers are not of the incremental type, and do not penalise control effort. Nor do they properly account for battery charge/discharge efficiency, instead, either assuming 100% efficiency or approximating energy losses independent of the power stored or discharged during the dispatch interval.

2. Literature Review

The single period state-space model of [4] properly accounts for battery charge/discharge efficiency, and its incremental formulation allows the MPC controller to penalise control effort. The authors used state-space MPC to simulate power dispatched to the electricity grid by a wind farm coupled with a utility-scale, lithium-ion battery. Implementing a naïve, single period dispatch strategy, they measured the improvement, at varying levels of confidence, in supplying a target baseload power that is calibrated to the daily load profile of the season, summer or winter. Their empirical study finds that the probability of supplying the target baseload power is moderately higher with battery energy storage than no energy storage. But, even on today's utility scale, battery power can only substitute for a fraction of the registered capacity of a commercial wind farm for a limited time.

Other than [4], state-space models developed in prior papers are not of the incremental type, and do not penalise control effort. Nor do they properly account for battery charge/discharge efficiency, instead, either assuming 100% efficiency or approximating energy losses independent of the power stored or discharged during the dispatch interval. The authors of [5] used state-space MPC to demonstrate the improvement in wind power dispatch with battery energy storage in the US Pacific Northwest. Their state-space model accounts for battery charge/discharge efficiency by including a power loss variable that depends on the power rating of the battery, but is independent of the power stored or discharged during the dispatch interval. The primary objective of [5] was to minimise the tracking error of actual power dispatched relative to scheduled power over a range of scheduling intervals. The penalty applied to tracking error in the MPC performance index is reflective of the rate charged to wind generators for reserves used to balance the difference between scheduled and actual

power generation. Their state-space model is not an incremental one, so the authors left penalising control effort in the performance index for future research. They concluded that as the scheduling interval shortens the need for battery energy storage to minimise tracking error diminishes.

An earlier study [11] of electricity generation in the US Pacific Northwest simulated power dispatched to the grid by a wind farm coupled with a utility-scale, zinc-bromide flow battery. The power dispatch objective was to meet a tight tolerance around the one-hour ahead forecast with a high level of confidence. Simple, fuzzy logic and artificial neural network controllers were employed to implement strategies for charging and discharging the utility-scale battery in order to achieve the power dispatch objective with the most cost effective battery sizing (i.e., power rating and energy capacity). The simple and fuzzy logic controllers used a linear search procedure to size the battery, while the artificial neural network controller used a genetic algorithm. The artificial neural network produced the most cost effective combination of battery power rating and energy capacity.

The goal of [9] was to maximise revenue from wind power generation by exploiting energy arbitrage in the Australian NEM through time shifting. The authors employed a state-space MPC controller, along with a fuzzy logic algorithm which generates a reference signal that is a function of dispatch price, time-of-day and state of charge (SOC) of the battery. Their state-space model, though, does not account for battery charge/discharge efficiency, implicitly assuming 100% efficiency. The MPC performance index penalises the tracking error of power dispatched to the grid relative to the reference signal and the control signal in the form of a battery charge/discharge command, but not the control increment which is generally considered as the control effort. While simulations computed a three percent increase in revenue over six months through time shifting, capital and operating expenses for the battery energy storage system were not considered, so the authors did not argue the economic case for time shifting of wind power using battery energy storage.

The authors of [7] developed a prediction model that generates multi-step ahead forecasts of wind power. These wind power predictions determined the reference signal of their state-space MPC controller for smoothing wind power generation with efficient management of battery energy storage.

Smoothing wind power generation reduces turbine ramp rates, and efficient management of energy storage prolongs battery life. Their state-space model assumes 100% charge/discharge efficiency of the battery. The MPC performance index penalises the tracking error of wind power relative to its reference signal (i.e., smoothed power), and the deviation of SOC of the battery from the desired SOC. The authors validated their state-space MPC controller using data from the Woolnorth wind farm in Tasmania, Australia.

In [6] a lead-acid battery is coupled to a wind farm so that wind power could be dispatched on an hourly basis like conventionally-generated power. Linear state-space equations for battery power are derived from a simplified electrical circuit model of the battery. The MPC controller solves for the battery current (i.e., control signal) that minimises the tracking error of battery power relative to its reference signal. The reference signal is the difference between the power scheduled for dispatch and wind power, where the former operand is the forecast power over the next hour, and the latter is the actual power generated by the wind farm. The authors demonstrated that for a fixed control horizon, performance of the MPC controller improves as the prediction horizon is extended.

With the objective of scheduling wind power for dispatch that can be considered a firm commitment in the short-term, [12, 8] proposed a dual battery energy storage system coupled to a wind farm. In the dual sodium-sulphur battery installation, one is charged by the wind turbine generators, while the other discharges power to the grid. The two batteries switch roles when the former is fully charged and/or the latter reaches its depth of discharge limit. The authors claimed that the dual battery installation offers the advantages of permitting wind generators to participate in the energy market as scheduled generators like conventional generators, and prolonging battery life by operating full charge/discharge cycles. But, the efficiency of transformation of wind energy to electrical power is unclear, since any power dispatched to the grid must firstly be stored in, and then discharged from the dual battery energy storage system. A computational procedure determines the power scheduled for dispatch in the short-term on the basis of wind power predictions and SOC of the batteries. The authors of [10] extended this procedure to provide frequency regulation, and argued that since the dual battery energy storage system is designed

for power dispatch, it has more than adequate reserve to provide ancillary services. They proceeded to demonstrate that the dual battery installation, with its rapid response, effectively reduces power system frequency deviations following a frequency disturbance event such as a tripped generator.

The authors of [?] determine the optimal nodal storage capacities required to achieve an electricity price volatility target using bi-level optimisation. The upper level problem minimises nodal storage capacities subject to a price volatility constraint, while the lower level problem models the non-cooperative interaction between generators, transmission operators and storage providers as a Cournot-based game. Applying their model to the South Australian electricity market, they find the optimal storage capacities that would halve price volatility for a variety of scenarios: loads, generation mix, and transmission capacity of the AC interconnector linking South Australia to the national electricity market.

3. State-Space Model Predictive Control of Wind Power Dispatch with Battery Energy Storage

Our research examines the dispatchability of intermittent renewable energy by simulating power dispatched by an SA wind farm coupled with a utility-scale battery using state-space *model predictive control* (MPC). A *state-space model* represents a physical process by describing its outputs as a function of state variables, which depend on control signals or process inputs. The MPC controller determines a sequence of control signals over a given control horizon that results in a sequence of predicted process outputs over a specified prediction horizon, which tracks a sequence of set points or reference signals. The resulting trajectory of predicted process outputs is an outcome of optimising a *performance index*, or minimising a cost function, that penalises the tracking error of the predicted process outputs relative to their set-point trajectory and the control effort involved in tracking the set-point trajectory.

MPC applies the *receding horizon* principle. At each time step, the sequence of control signals over the control horizon is determined by optimising the performance index over the prediction horizon, but only the current-time control signals are implemented. Then, at the next time step, the

MPC algorithm is rerun incorporating new non-anticipatory information with control and prediction horizons shifted one time step into the future.

3.1. Incremental State-Space Model

In the incremental formulation of the state-space model, the control signals become internal state variables augmenting the observable state variables, and control increments serve as process inputs. We begin by formulating a single-period incremental state-space model in the standard notation typically used to represent an abstract process. Next, we define the process outputs, state variables and control signals that capture the process dynamics of wind power dispatch with battery energy storage, and describe the single period, incremental state-space model of [4]. Finally, we extend their single-period model to accommodate multi-period prediction and control horizons.

Time in the incremental state-space model is represented as discrete time steps, or intervals, $t \in \mathbb{N}$. Suppose that discrete times $t-1$ and t , respectively, translate to clock times ς and τ . Then, in the sequel, “at time t ” refers to clock time τ , and “during ‘time’ interval t ” refers to clock time interval $(\varsigma, \tau]$.

Let $\mathbf{y}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ be the process output vector at time t , $\mathbf{x}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{s-q}$ the observable state vector at time t , and $\mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^q$ the control signal vector at time t . Denote by $\mathbf{z}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^s$ the augmented state vector at time t , and $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^q$ the control increment vector at time t . Then, the single-period incremental state-space model representing an abstract process may be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{z}(t+1) &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(t+1) \\ \mathbf{u}(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= A \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(t) \\ \mathbf{u}(t-1) \end{bmatrix} + B(\mathbf{u}(t) - \mathbf{u}(t-1)) \\ &= A\mathbf{z}(t) + B\Delta \mathbf{u}(t), \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}(t+1) &= C\mathbf{z}(t+1) \\ &= CA\mathbf{z}(t) + CB\Delta \mathbf{u}(t), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times s}$, $B \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times q}$ and $C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times s}$ are matrices defining the incremental state-space model.

Our incremental state-space model for wind power dispatch with battery energy storage includes two process outputs, four state variables and three control increments. Let $e(t) \geq 0$ be the state of charge (SOC) of the battery at time t , $p_{b+}(t) \geq 0$ the battery charge control signal at time t , and $p_{b-}(t) \geq 0$ the battery discharge control signal at

time t . We assume that the battery charge control signal diverts wind-generated power to the battery, while the battery discharge control signal dispatches battery power to the electricity grid. Denote by $\eta \in (0, 1]$ the one-way charge/discharge efficiency of the battery, and $\delta > 0$ the conversion factor from MW to MWh for a given dispatch interval. Then, the battery SOC is given by

$$e(t+1) = e(t) + \delta \eta p_{b+}(t) - \frac{\delta}{\eta} p_{b-}(t). \quad (3)$$

Notice that the increase in battery SOC is less than the energy diverted from the grid by the battery charge control signal over the dispatch interval by the factor of efficiency η . Conversely, the decrease in battery SOC is greater than the energy supplied to the grid by the battery discharge control signal over the dispatch interval by the factor of efficiency η . Also, factor δ converts power (MW) charging, or discharged from, the battery over the dispatch interval to energy (MWh).

Let $p_d(t) \geq 0$ be the power dispatched from the wind farm to the grid during dispatch interval t , and $p_w(t) \geq 0$ the wind power control signal at time t . Then, power dispatched to the grid is given by

$$p_d(t+1) = p_{b-}(t) - p_{b+}(t) + p_w(t), \quad (4)$$

where

$$p_b(t) = p_{b-}(t) - p_{b+}(t) \quad (5)$$

is the battery power control signal at time t . Hence, we follow the convention that $p_b(t)$ takes a positive value whenever battery power is discharged and dispatched to the grid, and takes a negative value whenever wind-generated power is diverted from the grid to charge the battery. Decomposing the battery power control signal into charge and discharge control signals correctly accounts for battery charge/discharge efficiency, as well as accommodating different ranges for charge and discharge rates. Note that control signals $p_w(t)$ and $p_b(t)$, and hence $p_{b+}(t)$ and $p_{b-}(t)$, resolved at time t apply during dispatch interval $t+1$.

Accordingly, we define the augmented state, control increment and process output vectors at time t as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{z}(t) &= [e(t) \quad p_{b+}(t-1) \quad p_{b-}(t-1) \quad p_w(t-1)]^T, \\ \Delta \mathbf{u}(t) &= [\Delta p_{b+}(t) \quad \Delta p_{b-}(t) \quad \Delta p_w(t)]^T, \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{y}(t) &= [e(t) \quad p_d(t)]^T, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

respectively, where control increments $\Delta p_{b+}(t)$, $\Delta p_{b-}(t)$ and $\Delta p_w(t) \in \mathbb{R}$. Notice that battery SOC is modelled as a process output and a state variable. SOC of the battery reached at the end of the current dispatch (time) interval, a process output, is the SOC at the beginning of the next dispatch interval, a state variable. The matrices defining the single-period incremental state-space model are then given by

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \delta\eta & -\delta/\eta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\ B &= \begin{bmatrix} \delta\eta & -\delta/\eta & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and} \\ C &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

We represent the process of wind power dispatch with battery energy storage by substituting (6) and (7) into incremental state-space model (1)–(2). This substitution yields a single-period representation of the process. Our implementation of state-space MPC, though, accommodates multi-period prediction and control horizons.

Let n_y be the number of time steps in the prediction horizon, and n_u the number of time steps in the control horizon. Assume coincident prediction and control horizons, $n = n_y = n_u$. Denote by $\vec{y}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{mn}$ the process output vector over the prediction horizon starting at time t , and $\vec{\Delta u}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{qn}$ the control increment vector over the control horizon starting at time t . Then, the multi-period version of (2) may be expressed as

$$\vec{y}_{t+1} = Kz(t) + L\vec{\Delta u}_t, \quad (8)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{y}_{t+1} &= [y(t+1)^T \quad y(t+2)^T \quad \dots \quad y(t+n)^T]^T, \\ \vec{\Delta u}_t &= [\Delta u(t)^T \quad \Delta u(t+1)^T \quad \dots \quad \Delta u(t+n-1)^T]^T, \end{aligned}$$

and $K \in \mathbb{R}^{mn \times s}$ and $L \in \mathbb{R}^{mn \times qn}$ are matrices defining the multi-period incremental state-space model. By recursively applying (1) and (2) over

the n -period horizon, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} K &= \begin{bmatrix} CA \\ CA^2 \\ \vdots \\ CA^n \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and} \\ L &= \begin{bmatrix} CB & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ CAB & CB & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ CA^{n-1}B & CA^{n-2}B & \dots & CAB & CB \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

3.2. Performance Index and Process Constraints

Control signals affecting process outputs are determined by optimising a performance index, which penalises tracking error and control effort. Let $\vec{r}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{mn}$ be the set-point, or reference signal, vector over the prediction horizon starting at time t . Then, we define the Euclidean norm (ℓ^2 -norm) of the predicted process outputs relative to their set points, $\|\vec{r}_t - \vec{y}_t\|_2$, as the tracking error. Similarly, the control effort is defined as the norm of the control increments, $\|\vec{\Delta u}_t\|_2$. Optimisation of the performance index amounts to minimisation of a quadratic cost function that assigns weights to tracking error and control effort:

$$f = \left\| \sqrt{\Omega} (\vec{r}_{t+1} - \vec{y}_{t+1}) \right\|_2^2 + \lambda \left\| \sqrt{\Psi} \vec{\Delta u}_t \right\|_2^2, \quad (9)$$

where

$$\vec{r}_{t+1} = [r(t+1)^T \quad r(t+2)^T \quad \dots \quad r(t+n)^T]^T,$$

$\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{mn \times mn}$ and $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{qn \times qn}$ are positive semidefinite diagonal weighting matrices, and $\lambda \geq 0$ is a scalar weighting coefficient.

Optimisation of the performance index is subject to process constraints, which take the form of upper and lower bounds on observable and internal state variables, with the latter expressed in terms of control increments. Section 4 specifies bounds on state variables including battery SOC, and battery charge and discharge rates.

Substituting for \vec{y}_{t+1} in (9) with (8), expanding the cost function, dropping the constant terms and imposing process constraints, we write the quadratic program for wind power dispatch with

battery energy storage in standard form:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \underset{\overrightarrow{\Delta \mathbf{u}}_t}{\operatorname{argmin}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \overrightarrow{\Delta \mathbf{u}}_t^T (L^T \Omega L + \lambda \Psi) \overrightarrow{\Delta \mathbf{u}}_t \\
& \quad + (K \mathbf{z}(t) - \overrightarrow{\mathbf{r}}_{t+1})^T \Omega L \overrightarrow{\Delta \mathbf{u}}_t \\
& \text{s. t.} \quad \underline{\mathbf{x}} \preceq \mathbf{x}(t+k) \preceq \overline{\mathbf{x}}, \\
& \quad \underline{\Delta \mathbf{u}} \preceq \Delta \mathbf{u}(t+k-1) \preceq \overline{\Delta \mathbf{u}}, \\
& \quad k = 1, \dots, n,
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

where the \preceq operator represents the component-wise inequality between vectors.

Battery power control signal $p_b(t+k-1)$, given by (5), instructs that the battery either be charged or discharged. So, if battery charge control signal $p_{b+}(t+k-1) > 0$, then battery discharge control signal $p_{b-}(t+k-1) = 0$; and if $p_{b-}(t+k-1) > 0$, then $p_{b+}(t+k-1) = 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, n$. Otherwise, (3) would overstate energy losses due to charge/discharge efficiency and erroneously calculate battery SOC, $e(t+k)$, while (4) would miscalculate power dispatched to the grid, $p_d(t+k)$. In order to ensure linear complementarity — battery charge and discharge control signals cannot both be different from zero at the same time — we reformulate (10) as a mixed integer quadratic program. For each time step of the control horizon, we introduce an auxiliary binary variable $w(k) \in \{0, 1\}$, where

$$w(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p_{b+}(t+k-1) > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } p_{b+}(t+k-1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

for $k = 1, \dots, n$. Then, we impose additional constraints on optimisation (10):

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{b+}(t+k-1) &\leq \bar{p}_{b+} w(k), \\
p_{b-}(t+k-1) &\leq \bar{p}_{b-} (1 - w(k))
\end{aligned}$$

for $k = 1, \dots, n$, where \bar{p}_{b+} and \bar{p}_{b-} are the maximum battery charge and discharge rates, respectively.

Suppose that we wish to generate control increments, or signals, that will drive the process over a simulation horizon spanning $N \in \mathbb{N}$ dispatch intervals. Then, we require set points for $N + n - 1$ discrete time steps. Recall that under the receding horizon principle, the MPC controller determines a sequence of n control increment vectors $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t), \dots, \Delta \mathbf{u}(t+n-1)$ at each time step $t = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$, but only implements the current-time control increment vector $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t)$. So, set points $\mathbf{r}(1), \dots, \mathbf{r}(N+n-1)$

are input to the optimisation of control increments $\Delta \mathbf{u}(0), \Delta \mathbf{u}(1), \dots, \Delta \mathbf{u}(N-1)$ which drive process output responses $\mathbf{y}(1), \dots, \mathbf{y}(N)$, respectively, when implemented.

4. A South Australian Wind Farm Coupled with a Utility-scale Battery

AEMO classifies generators as “scheduled”, “semi-scheduled” or “non-scheduled”, with wind generators falling into either the semi- or non-scheduled categories. The NEM dispatch process deducts available capacity for dispatch by non-scheduled generators from the operational demand forecast to arrive at scheduled demand. Then, given scheduled demand, the NEM dispatch engine uses dispatch offers submitted by scheduled and semi-scheduled generators to determine generator dispatch levels and price through a single-price reverse auction. While conventional scheduled generators submit dispatch offers with the quantity of electrical power for sale by price band, semi-scheduled wind generators submit only price offers and AEMO determines their wind power output offered for dispatch. Improving the dispatchability of wind power with battery energy storage could permit AEMO to set dispatch levels for wind farms during pre-dispatch according to UIGF forecasts produced by AWEFS [13]. It would provide greater certainty over semi-scheduled generation during dispatch, which could only serve to reduce the frequency and magnitude of spikes in wholesale electricity prices. The resultant dampening of volatility would lead to lower hedging costs for generators and retailers, and even lower electricity prices.

In this paper we report power system quantities on a per-unit (p.u.) basis. The per-unit system expresses quantities in SI units as a ratio relative to base quantities, in our case, 100 MW for power and 100 MWh for energy. We conduct an empirical analysis of the Snowtown (stage one) wind farm in the mid-north of SA. It has a registered generation capacity of 1.0 p.u., and a capacity factor of 38% over the simulation horizon.

While the Snowtown wind farm has not installed an energy storage system, historical and Monte Carlo simulations are performed supposing that lithium-ion batteries with energy capacity up to 0.50 p.u. are coupled to the wind farm. Battery specifications are not taken from existing battery installations, but they are in the bounds of current technology. We assume that for each utility-

scale battery a full charge/discharge cycle would take two hours at its rated power, however, the simulations cap the battery charge/discharge rate at 80% of its rated power. Additionally, the simulations set the minimum and maximum SOC of each battery to 12.5% and 87.5%, respectively, of its energy capacity, and the initial SOC to 50% of its energy capacity. Finally, we assume that the one-way charge/discharge efficiency is $\eta = 0.92$.

The one-year simulation horizon from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016 contains 105,408 5-minute dispatch intervals for each of which the MPC controller computes control increments. It follows that the conversion factor from MW to MWh for a 5-minute dispatch interval is $\delta = \frac{1}{12}$.

We suppose that the wind farm operator submits offers for each dispatch interval of the trading day¹ at the beginning of the pre-dispatch period² according to pre-dispatch UIGF forecasts produced by AWEFS. The pre-dispatch UIGF forecasts estimate the available capacity for wind power dispatch over a horizon up to 40 hours with a 30-minute resolution at a 30-minute frequency. AEMO defines *horizon* as how far in advance the forecast is produced, *resolution* as the period over which the forecast is valid, and *frequency* as how often the forecast is produced [13]. Henceforth, we refer to the quantity of electrical power offered for dispatch as *scheduled power*. In the simulations the MPC controller uses battery energy storage to, as far as possible, dependably supply scheduled power.

Our empirical analysis implements a dispatch strategy over multi-period prediction and control horizons spanning four hours. A 4-hour period comprises 48 5-minute dispatch intervals, which would normally generate a 192×192 Hessian — including the auxiliary binary variable for each time step of the control horizon — in the objective function of optimisation (10), with its attendant performance implications for the mixed integer quadratic program executed at each dispatch interval of the simulation horizon. In weighing the granularity of control over the predicted process outputs against the computational intensiveness of optimising the performance index, we select four time steps from the

4-hour period to include in the control and predictions horizons. Specifically, at time t of the simulation horizon, the MPC controller determines control increments $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t)$, $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t+11)$, $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t+23)$ and $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t+47)$ that minimise the tracking error of predicted process outputs $\mathbf{y}(t+1)$, $\mathbf{y}(t+12)$, $\mathbf{y}(t+24)$ and $\mathbf{y}(t+48)$ relative to their respective set points $\mathbf{r}(t+1)$, $\mathbf{r}(t+12)$, $\mathbf{r}(t+24)$ and $\mathbf{r}(t+48)$. The controller implements only the current-time control increment vector $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t)$ which applies during dispatch interval $t+1$, and then advances to the next dispatch interval.

While scheduled power is set for each dispatch interval of the simulation horizon up to 40 hours ahead using pre-dispatch UIGF forecasts, wind power control signals are fixed for each time step of the control horizon using dispatch (5-minute horizon, 5-minute resolution, 5-minute frequency), 5-minute pre-dispatch (2-hour horizon, 5-minute resolution, 5-minute frequency) and pre-dispatch UIGF forecasts.

5. Simulating the Dependable Supply of Scheduled Power

6. Conclusion

In its National Transmission Network Development Plan [15], AEMO recommends “scheduled battery storage” as a solution for providing frequency regulation to bolster resilience of the SA power system.

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¹ The trading day comprises 48 half-hourly periods commencing from the 04:00:01–04:30:00 trading interval, designated by the end time of the period, that is, the 4:30 am trading interval.

² The 40-hour pre-dispatch period commences with the 12:30 pm trading interval on the day before the actual trading day to which the dispatch offers apply [14].

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