

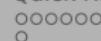


# Power System Long-Term Dynamic Simulation using Time-Sequenced Power Flows

Thad Haines

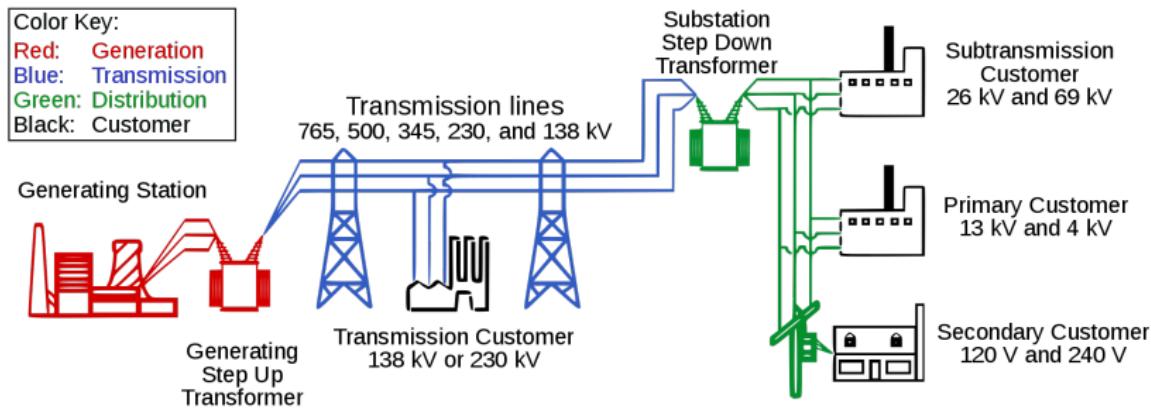
Montana Technological University - Master's Thesis Research Project

October 22nd, 2019



## Physical Structure

# What is a Power System?



[15]

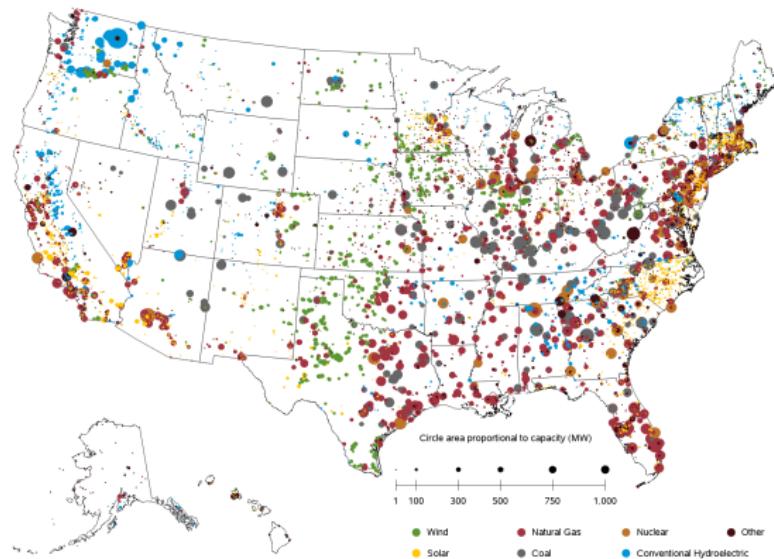
Electrical supply connected to demand.  
Research focus on transmission system.



## Physical Structure

## U.S. Electric Generation

Operable utility-scale generating units as of July 2019

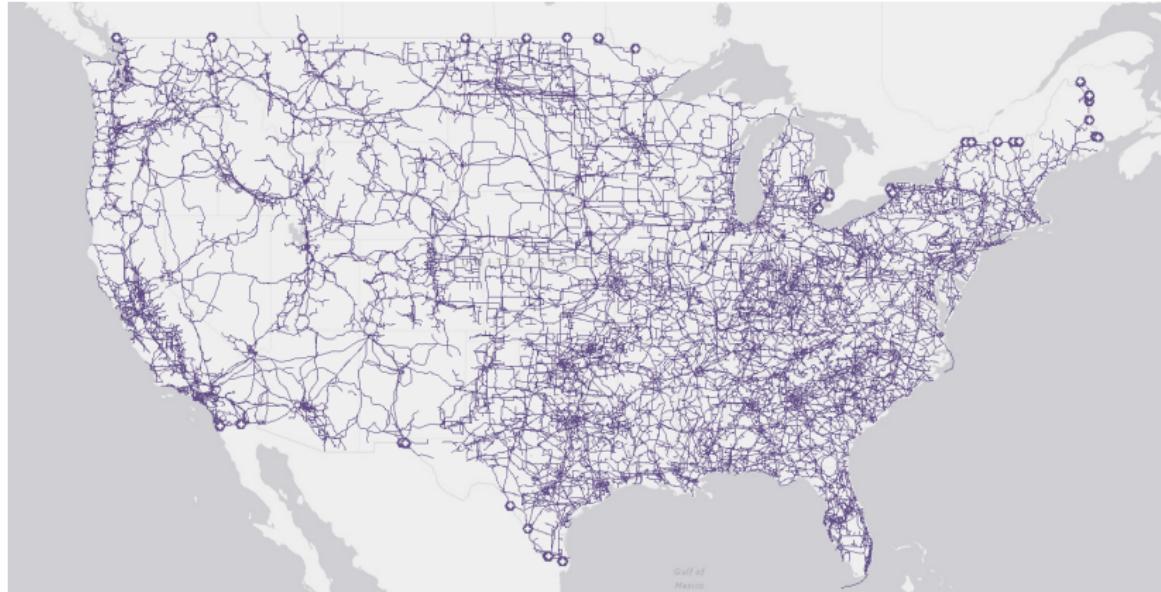


Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, 'Annual Electric Generator Report' and Form EIA-860M, 'Monthly Update to the Annual Electric Generator Report.'

[16]

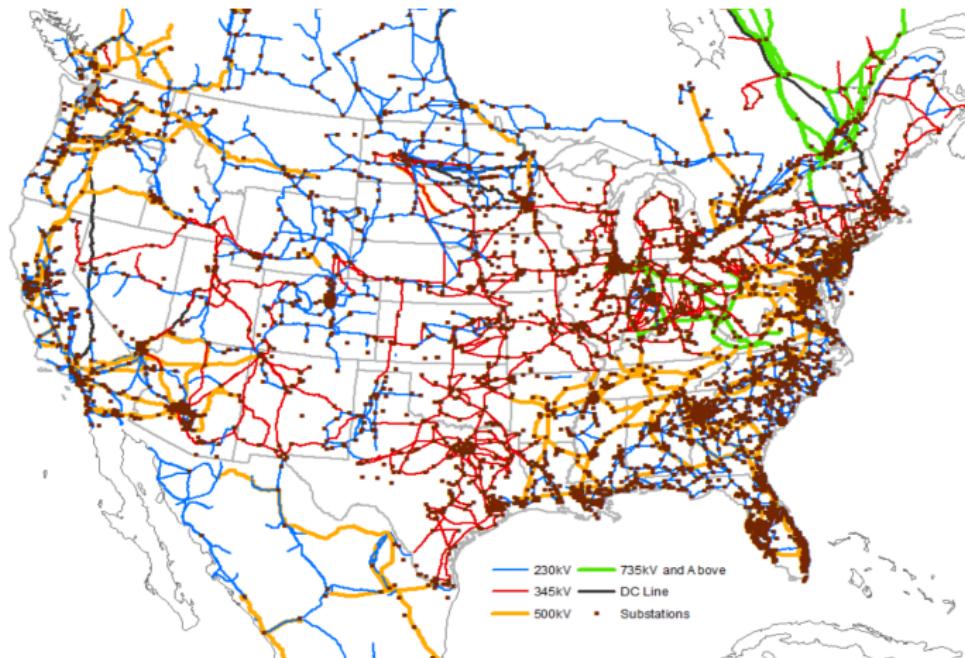
## Physical Structure

# U.S. Electric Transmission Lines



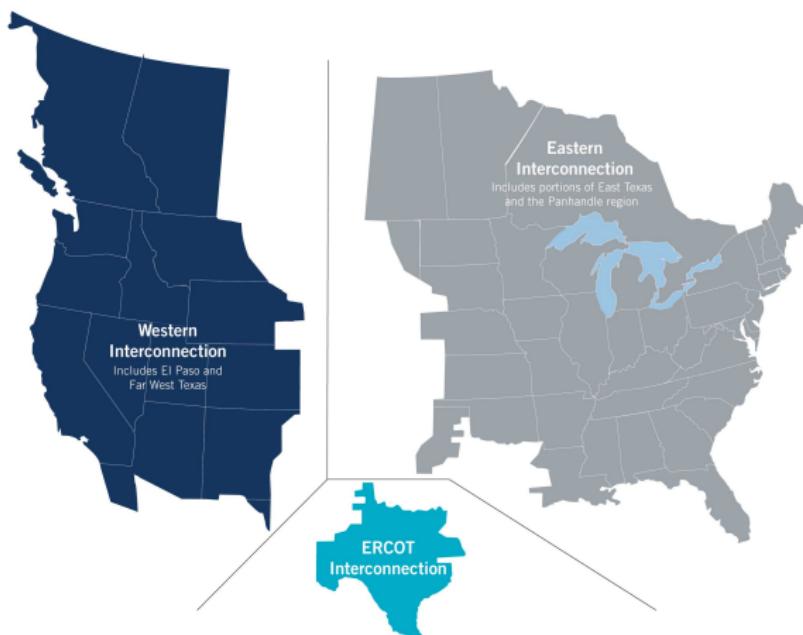
[29]

# Electric Transmission Lines



[21]

# Interconnections



[6]

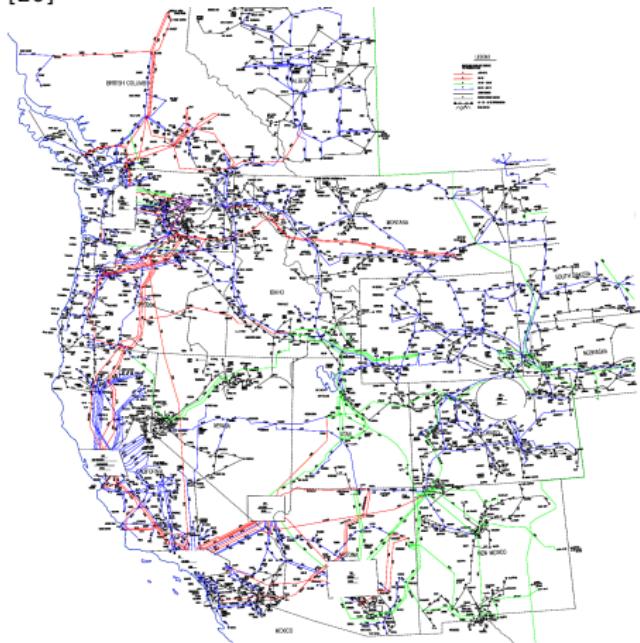
## Physical Structure

# Industry Software Model

WECC Model (GE PSLF)

- ▶ 4,231 Generators
- ▶ 17,210 Lines
- ▶ 22 Areas
- ▶ 11,048 Loads
- ▶ 21,879 Buses

[20]



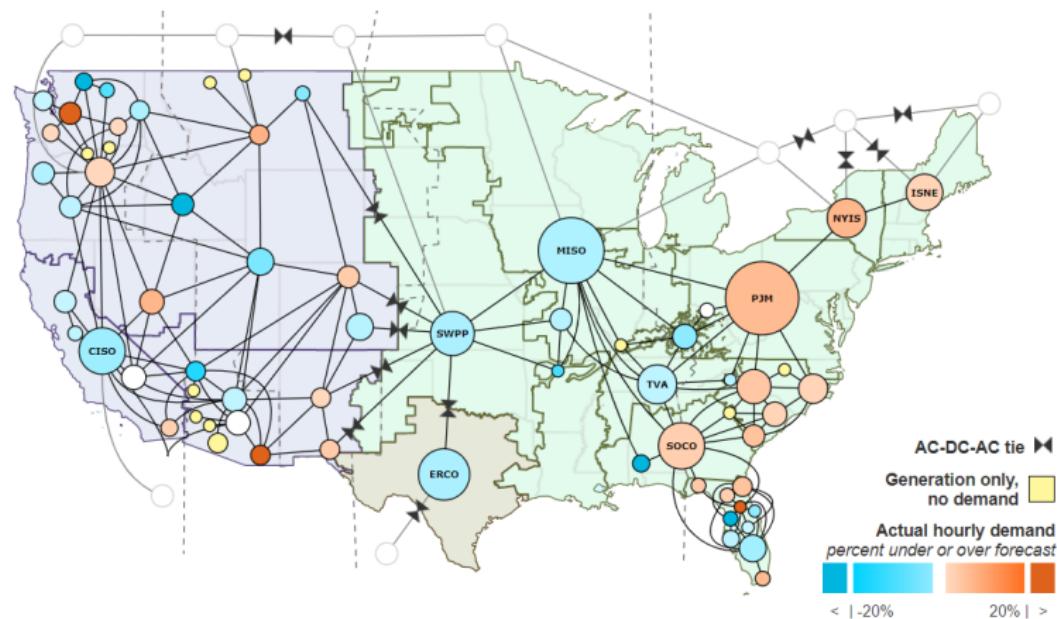


# 'People in Charge'

- ▶ **FERC** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Part of the Department of Energy
- ▶ **NERC** North American Electric Reliability Corp.  
Authority granted by FERC
- ▶ **Balancing Authority (BA)**  
Manage specific portions of the power system to balance supply and demand and maintain mandatory operating conditions set by FERC and NERC.

## Operational Structure

# Balancing Authorities (BAs)



[28]



## Operational Structure

# BA Action - Forecasting

Balancing authority hourly actual and forecast demand 06/27/2019 – 07/04/2019, EDT

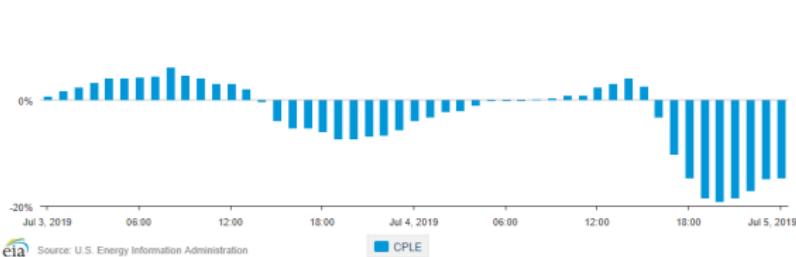
megawatthours



Balancing authority forecast error 06/27/2019 – 07/04/2019, EDT

percent deviation from forecast

20%



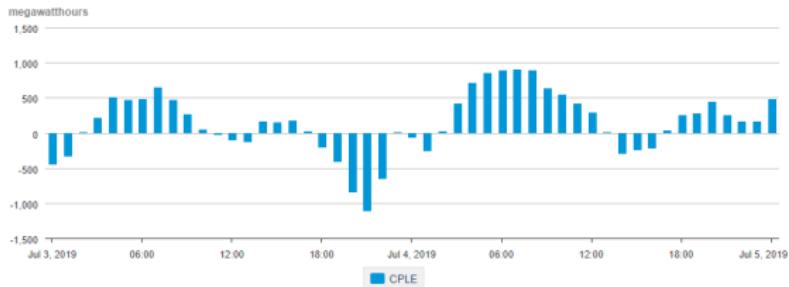
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

[28]

## Operational Structure

## BA Action - Interchange

Balancing authority in-flow (-) and out-flow (+) 06/27/2019 – 07/04/2019, EDT



Balancing authority electricity flow 06/27/2019 – 07/04/2019, EDT



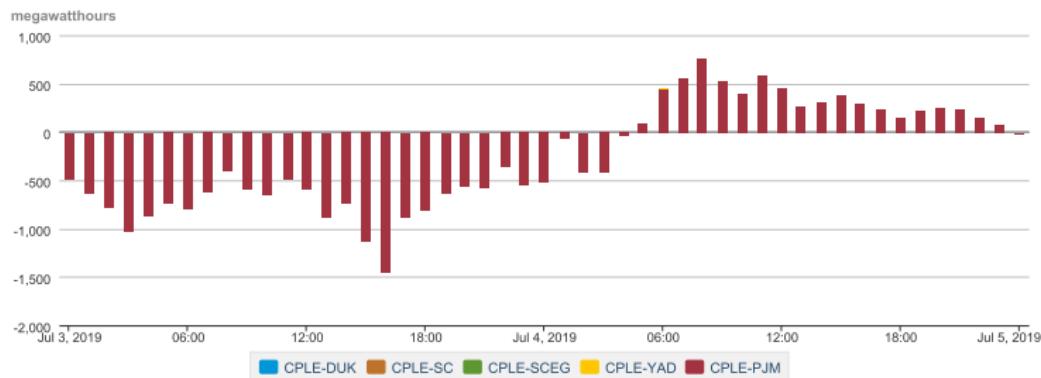
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

[28]

# BA Action - Interchange Error

≈ Area Control Error

Balancing authority interchange error 06/27/2019 – 07/04/2019, EDT



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

[28]



Explanation of Wording

# What is Dynamic Simulation?

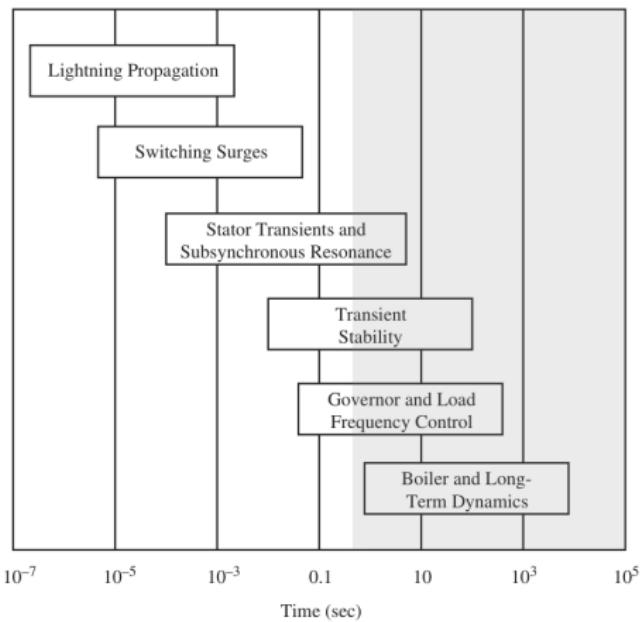
A computer's mathematical solution to how a system may change over time.

Think solving ODE's.

How certain qualities of a power system may change over time in response to known disturbances.

## Explanation of Wording

# What is Long-Term?



[23]

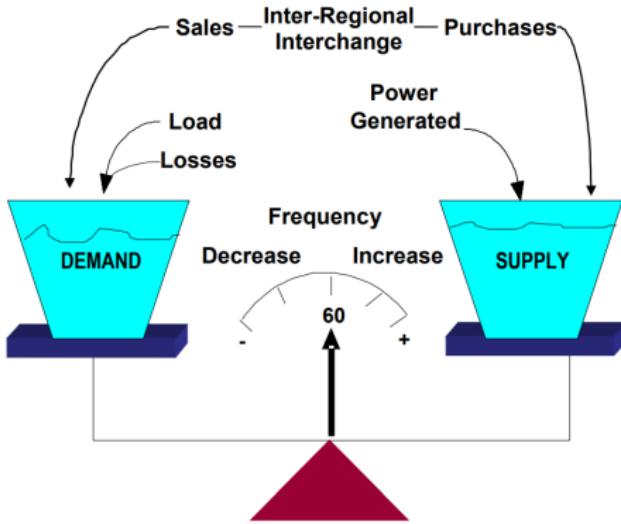
- 1 sec  $\leftrightarrow$  hours
- ⋮
- 10→60 minute simulations
- 1 sec time step

## Dynamic Concepts of Interest

Frequency ( $\omega$ )

$$\dot{\omega}_{sys} = \frac{P_{acc,sys}}{2H_{sys}\omega_{sys}(t)}$$

$$P_{acc} = P_{gen} - P_{load}$$



Electric load always met.

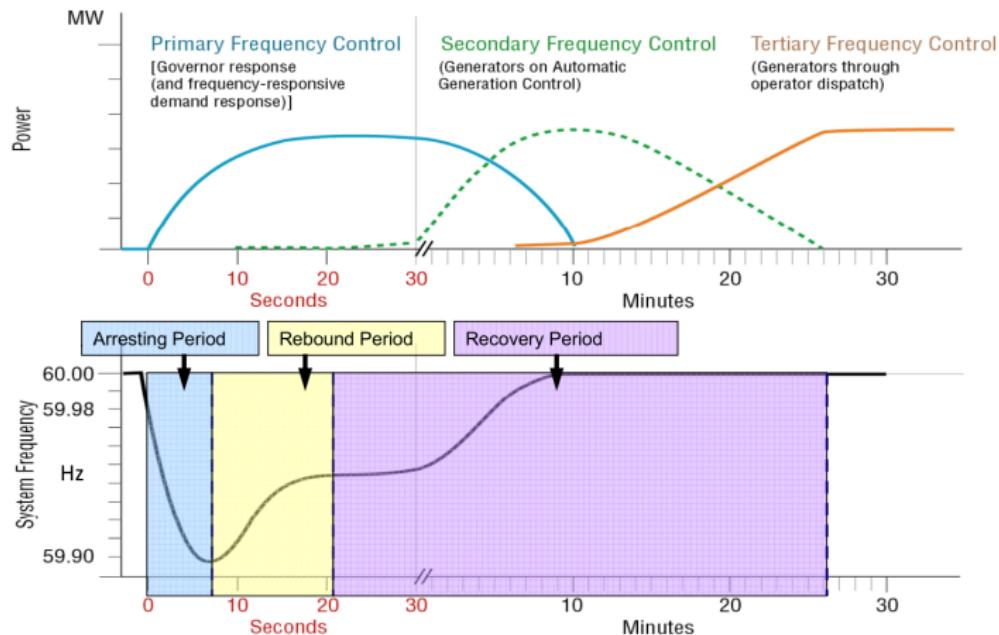
[25]

Load and losses always changing.



Dynamic Concepts of Interest

# Automatic Controls



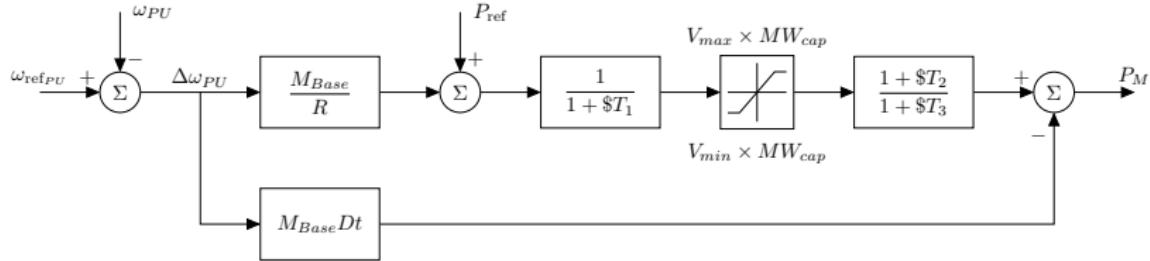
[4]

# Turbine Speed Governors

## Primary Control

Purpose: Adjust turbine mechanical power to arrest frequency decline.

Dynamic Variable: Fuel Valve Position



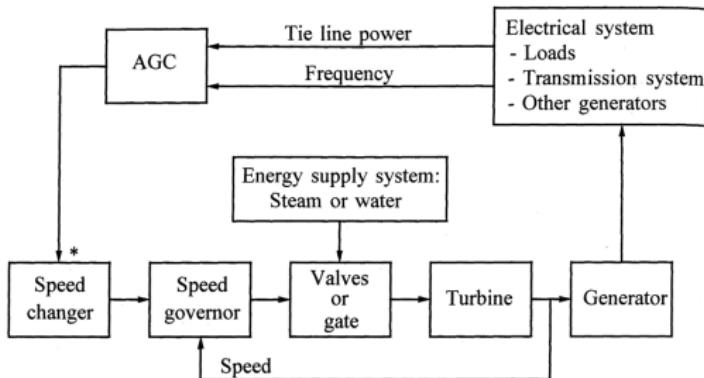
Dynamic Concepts of Interest

# Automatic Generation Control

Secondary Control

Purpose: Eliminate Area Control Error

Dynamic Variable: Area Control Error

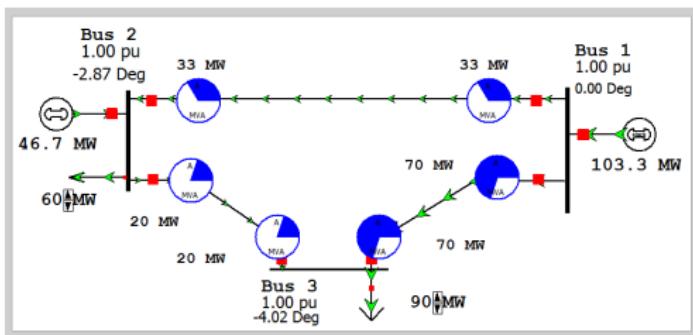


\* AGC applied only to selected units

[18]

# What is a Power Flow?

A steady state power system solution.



Software exists to solve power flows.  
Power flows are not dynamic.

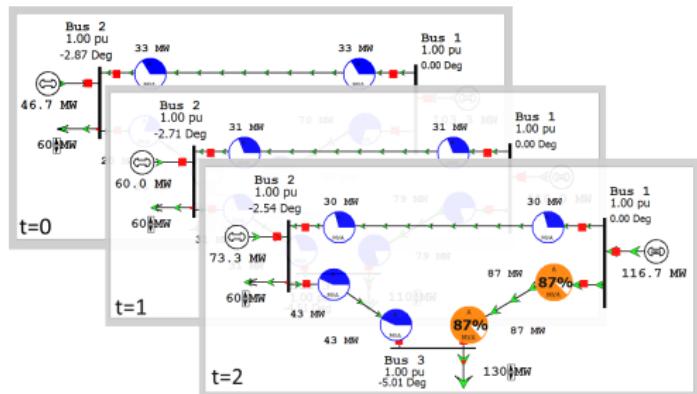


Explanation of Computational Approach



# Time-Sequenced Power Flows?

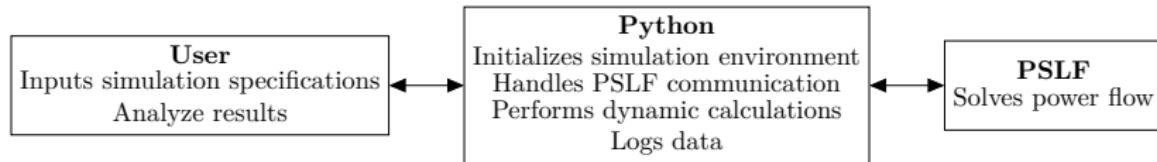
Power flows arranged in sequence to give the illusion of time.



Software does not exist.

Explanation of Computational Approach

# Custom Software



## High Level Software Notes:

- ▶ Python and IronPython
- ▶ Advance Message Queueing Protocol
- ▶ Agent Based Modeling



# Why use this method?

Allows for:

- ▶ Simplifications
- ▶ Greater access to data
- ▶ Customizable models in a modern programming language



# So, what's happening?

Essentially:

- ▶ Executing computer simulations of the grid that are at least 10 minutes long.
- ▶ Simulation time steps are a sequence of power flows.
- ▶ Additional dynamic calculations are performed between each time step.

# And why?

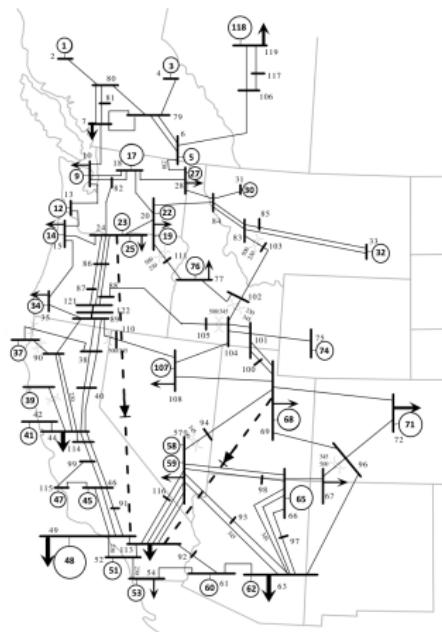
To study engineering problems involving:

- ▶ Long-term events (i.e. Wind Ramps)
- ▶ Multi-Area Power Interactions
  - ▶ Governor and AGC interaction
  - ▶ Governor and AGC settings
- ▶ Ways to reduce machine effort while meeting reliability standards.

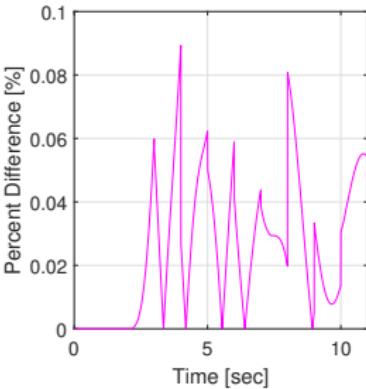
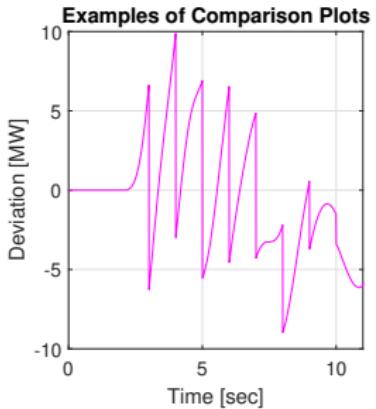
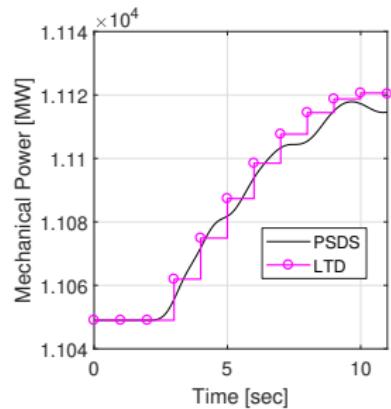
# Validation Software Model

miniWECC

- ▶ 34 Generators
- ▶ 104 Lines
- ▶ 3 Areas
- ▶ 23 Loads
- ▶ 120 Buses



# Plot Explanation

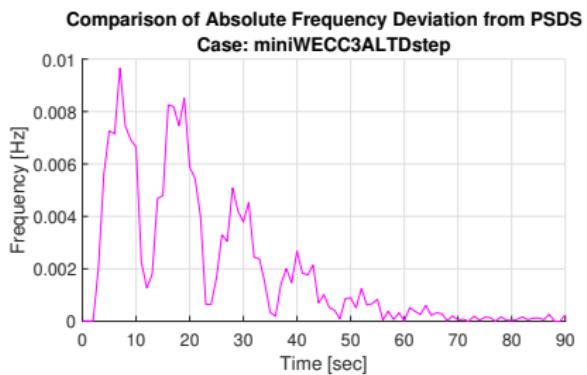
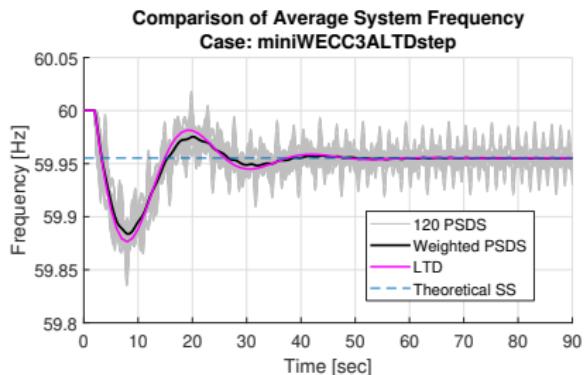


$$\text{PSDS}_{data} - \text{LTD}_{data} = \text{Deviation}_{data}$$

$$\%_{diff} = \frac{|x - y|}{\frac{x+y}{2}} * 100\%$$

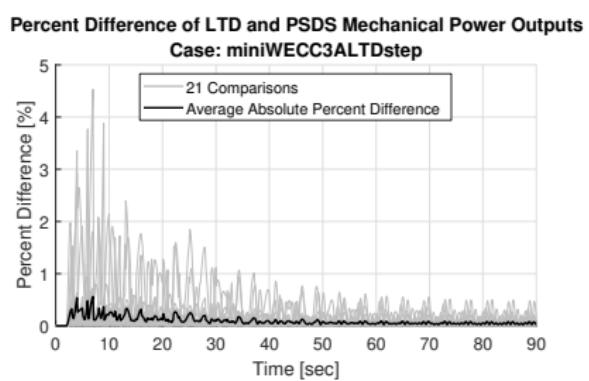
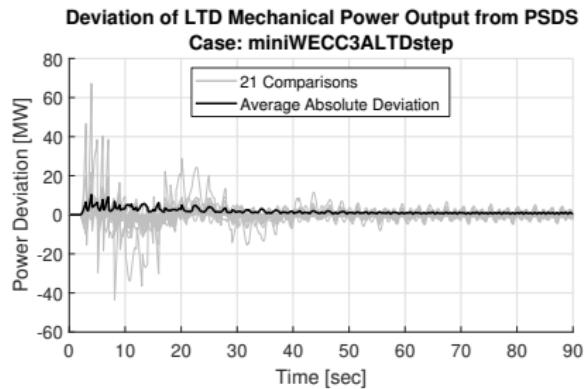
# Step Perturbation Validation

## 400 MW Load Step Frequency Comparison



# Step Perturbation Validation

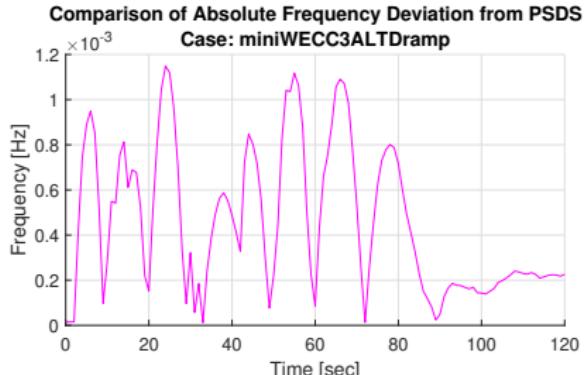
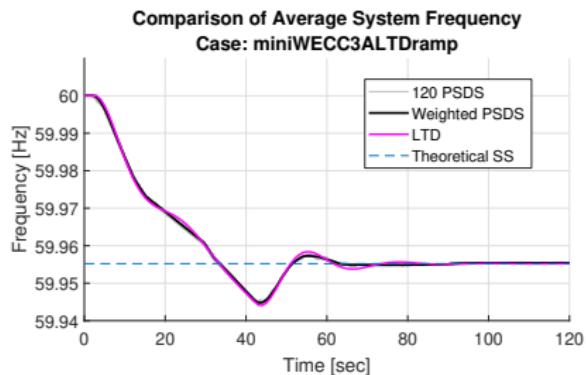
## 400 MW Load Step Mechanical Power Comparison



Quick Validation

# Ramp Perturbation Validation

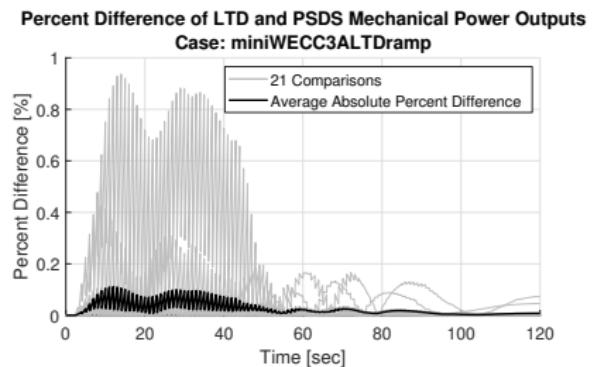
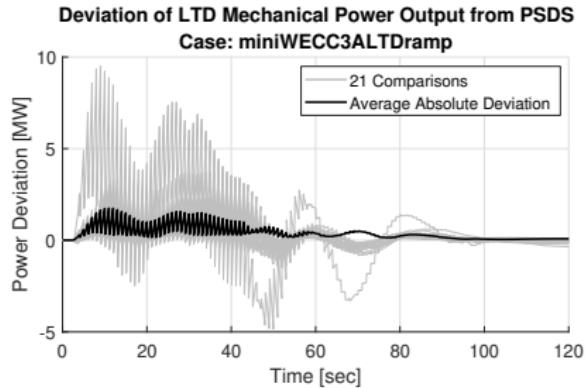
## 20 second 400 MW Load Ramp Frequency Comparison



Quick Validation

# Ramp Perturbation Validation

## 20 second 400 MW Load ramp Mechanical Power Comparison

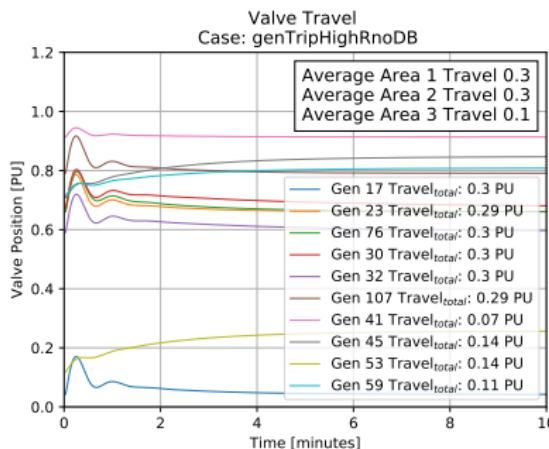


Quick Controller Test

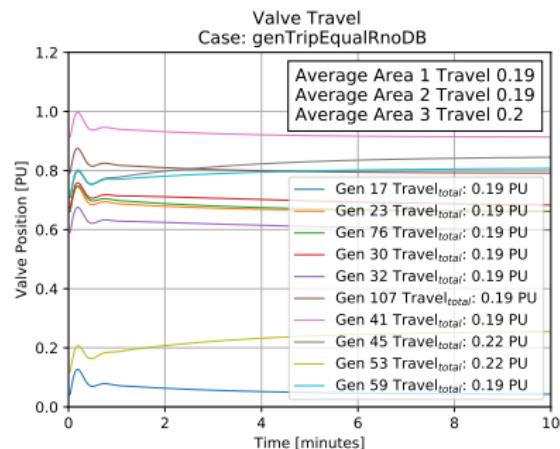
# Area Droop and Valve Travel

Perturbation: -1500 MW power step in Area 3 at t=2

Area 3 droop = 0.2



Area 3 droop = 0.05



# Current Conclusions

- ▶ Software (PSLTDSim) output appears valid for tested systems.
- ▶ Governor droop in one area affects how other areas respond.
- ▶ Step deadband may increase valve travel.



# Continuing Work

- ▶ Experiments with AGC and governor settings.
- ▶ Use of valve travel and system reliability to gauge validity of control regime.
- ▶ Expansion of software capabilities to handle full WECC.



# Questions?

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