

**LONG-TERM DYNAMIC SIMULATION OF POWER SYSTEMS  
USING PYTHON, AGENT BASED MODELING,  
AND TIME-SEQUENCED POWER FLOWS**

by  
Thad Haines

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## Abstract

As power systems become more complex, a variety control engineering techniques are employed to ensure reliable and efficient operation. Computer simulations help engineers analyze and tune such control responses. A majority of current dynamic power system simulation is focused on short-term transient stability events. Long-term simulation in use today commonly focuses on steady state operation scenarios, however, long-term dynamics are also important to study. The created software tool, Power System Long-Term Dynamic Simulator (PSLTDSim) uses a time-sequenced power flow (TSPF) technique to simulate long-term dynamic events. Using TSPF allows for a number of modeling assumptions to be made that simplify certain engineering calculations. Despite such simplifications, PSLTDSim is shown to exhibit an acceptable amount of accuracy for ramp and relatively small step type system perturbances. Modern engineering applications such as automatic generator control response, switched shunt control, and long-term events like wind ramps may be studied using PSLTDSim.

**Keywords:** Power system simulation, Time-sequenced power flow, Long-term dynamics, Automatic generation control, AGC, Agent based modeling, ABM, Advanced message queueing protocol, AMQP, Python, IronPython

## **Dedication**

Forthcoming...

## Acknowledgments

Forthcoming...

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## Glossary of Terms

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ABS	Agent Based Simulation
AC	Alternating Current
ACE	Area Control Error
AGC	Automatic Generation Control
AMQP	Advanced Message Queue Protocol
API	Application Programming Interface
CLR	Common Language Runtime
CTS	Classical Transient Stability
DACE	Distributed ACE
DTC	Definite Time Controller
EIA	United States Energy Information Administration
ERCOT	Electric Reliability Council of Texas
ERO	Electric Reliability Organization
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FTL	Frequency Trigger Limit
Hz	Hertz, cycles per second
IACE	Integral of ACE
II	Inadvertent Interchange
IPC	Interprocess Communication
IPY	IronPython
ISO	Independent Service Operator
J	Joule, Neton meters, Watt seconds
LFC	Load Frequency Control
LTD	Long-Term Dynamic
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
ODE	Ordinary Differential Equation
PI	Proportional and Integral
PMIO	PSLF Model Information Object
PSDS	PSLF Dynamic subsystem.
PSLF	Positive Sequence Load Flow
PSLTDSim	Power System Long-Term Dynamic Simulator
PSS	Power System Stabilizer
PST	Power System Toolbox
PU	Per Unit
PY3	Python version 3.x

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
PyPI	Python Package Index
RACE	Reported ACE
RTO	Regional Transmission Organization
SACE	Smoothed ACE
SI	International System of Units
SS	Steady State
TLB	Tie-Line Bias
TSPF	Time-Sequenced Power Flow
US	United States of America
W	Watt, Joules per second
WECC	Western Electricity Coordinating Council

## 1. Introduction

Over the past 140 years, an increasing demand for electricity has forced power systems to evolve. The earliest power generating stations designed to meet local needs evolved to many modern remote units to serve a wide area of distributed customers. Power systems have continuously gotten larger and more complicated. As most things do, these changes came about quite naturally. Additional generation stations were built and connected together to meet the ever increasing electric demand. Areas of demand became more dispersed and the use of high voltage transmission lines were used to link nearby power systems together.

The gradual connection of many remote power systems not only allowed for a pooling of resources, but with appropriate control, also offered increased system stability and reliability. Unfortunately, independent systems developed non-uniformly and created a complex network that requires intricate control and near constant attention. To further muddle matters, the aging North American electric power system is often pushed to its operating limits. This is due in part to, permitting or financial complications that may arise when attempting to add or update infrastructure to relieve system stress. Approved additions must be properly planned to handle a variety of environmental, economic, and social concerns. Well planned system modifications contribute long-term operational benefits while adhering to federal mandates. As such, to simply avoid complicated new construction, various control schemes have been employed to better manage existing power system assets. However, advanced control requires advanced planning and testing.

Fortunately, we live in the future and can use computers to monitor, control, design, and simulate power systems in ways not previously possible. Networked system monitoring has enabled digital controls to act on remote data and provided a way to create time-stamped histories of events as they unfold. Computer software can help analyze system characteristics and predict issues arising from common contingencies. Dynamic computer simulations can further the study of various events. Typical dynamic simulation focus is often on system reactions tens of seconds after an event; while realistic recovery may require multiple minutes.

The engineering goal of this work is to simulate various frequency and voltage conditions

that represent ‘long-term’ engineering problems, such as system recovery, wind ramp response, or daily load cycles, and provide customizable controls that can be used to meet user requirements or simply explore possible system responses. A long-term dynamic simulation framework based on a time-sequenced power flow technique is believed to be capable of accomplishing such a task. Furthermore, the resulting open-source software may be expanded upon by future research for other related applications.

A simulation tool to accomplish the desired engineering goal does not yet exist. Therefore, a time-sequenced power flow simulation software program must be created and validated. Certain elements such as system model format and power-flow solver can be reused from previously existing software solutions, but features like automatic generation control, programmable logic controllers, and dynamic governor models must be created. Due to time limitations and engineering intuition, several modeling simplifications and assumptions are expected to be employed.

Specific requirements have been identified to facilitate software development and ensure the end product can accomplish stated goals. General code structure must allow for modular expansion, custom procedure insertion, and large system scaling. The software must also be able to run full base case scenarios involving thousands of buses and generators. The finished code solution must be able to output data that can be validated against industry standard software. Output data should provide enough detail so that analysis of system control validity and efficiency can be performed.

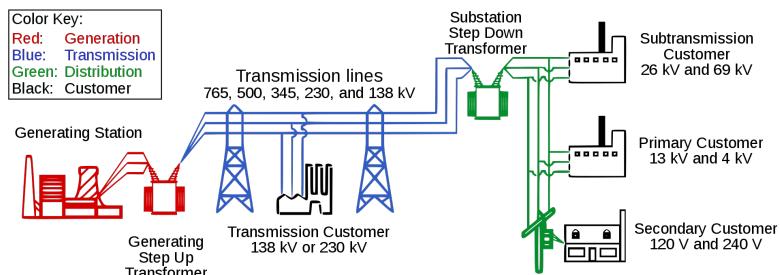
This thesis provides a brief explanation of some basic concepts involved with the electrical engineering aspects of this work, as well as the computer science, or software aspects. The created software is explained and validated before engineering applications are introduced. Simulation results related to engineering applications are then presented and analyzed. Finally, conclusions are stated and future work suggested.

## 2. Electrical Engineering Background

### 2.1. Power System Basics

Before covering the physical structure of power systems, it is worth providing a general introduction to the regulatory and operational structure of the North American bulk electric system (BES). The BES, more commonly known as ‘the grid’, is regulated by multiple tiers of organizations. At the top of the United States (US) bureaucratic pyramid is the federally empowered Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which regulates natural gas and hydroelectric power projects as well as the interstate transmission of natural gas, oil, and electricity [15]. With authority granted by FERC, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), aims to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the BES. NERC also develops and enforces reliability standards and provides training to industry personnel [44]. Under FERC and NERC, exist a collection of regional transmission organizations (RTOs), independent service operators (ISOs), balancing authorities (BAs) and utilities. All entities have a specific purpose and area of operation. This research focuses on BA action. In general, BAs are responsible for balancing supply and demand in defined areas of a power system while adhering to federal standards [8].

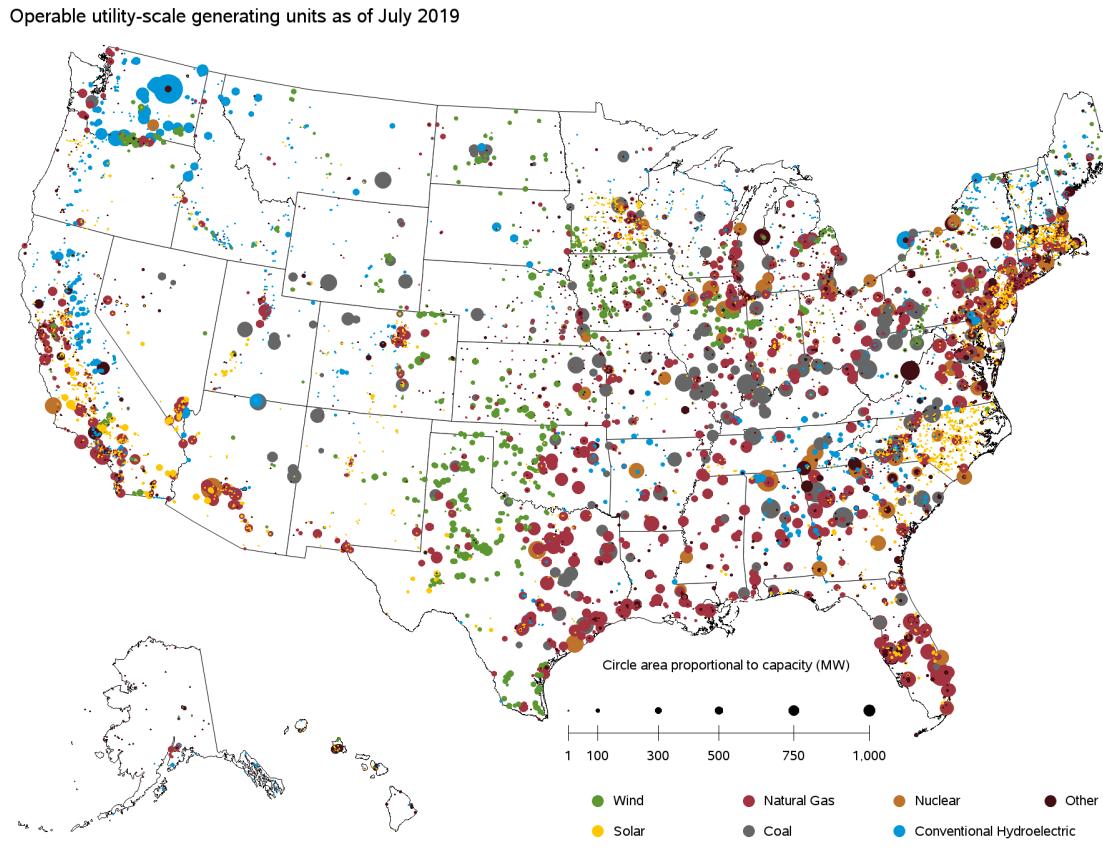
In the most basic physical sense, a power system includes a source of electric generation connected to some kind of electric consumption, or load. Modern alternating current (AC) power systems often resemble Figure 1.



**Figure 1: General form of a modern power system [28].**

Power system loads are generally located wherever people feel the need to use electricity.

Generation is often placed in areas that have convenient natural resources nearby. This typically means that generation is built many miles away from large cities. Transformers and high-voltage transmission lines are used for efficient transfer of power over long distances. Figure 2 shows the location and relative size of electric generation in the US as of July 2019.

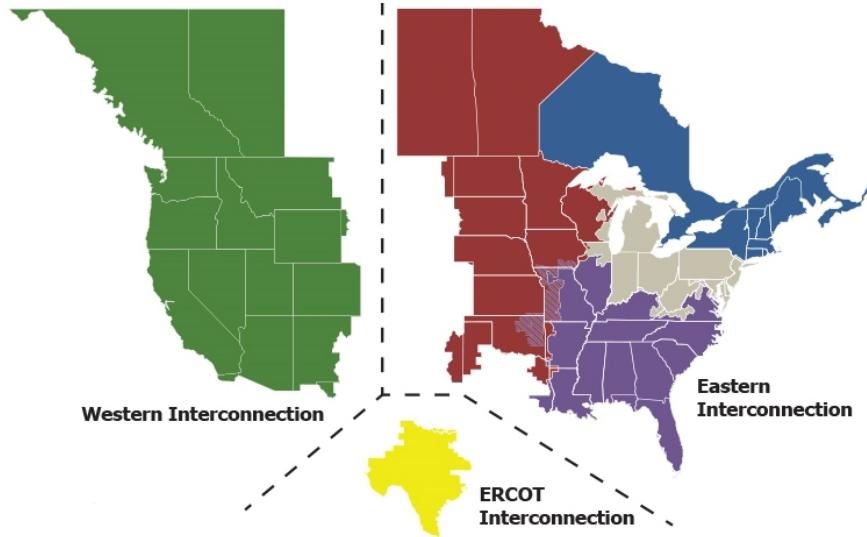


**Figure 2: Location and size of US electric generation [29].**

As expected, the northwest has large amounts of hydroelectric generation along major rivers. Solar generation is primarily located in southern states such as California and North Carolina. Wind generation can be found in and north of Texas towards the Great Lakes. Natural gas and coal are widely available in the eastern US. For interested Montanans, the four coal burning, steam generating, units at Colstrip are the large grey dot in the southeast corner of the state representing a nameplate capacity of 2,094 MW [10].

To help maintain stability, the North American grid is separated into interconnections,

which can be thought of as relative frequency zones. This means that the system frequency and phase can be different between two interconnections, but must be synchronous inside the interconnection. Figure 3 depicts the Western, Eastern, and Electric Reliability Counsel of Texas (ERCOT) interconnections that make up the US grid.

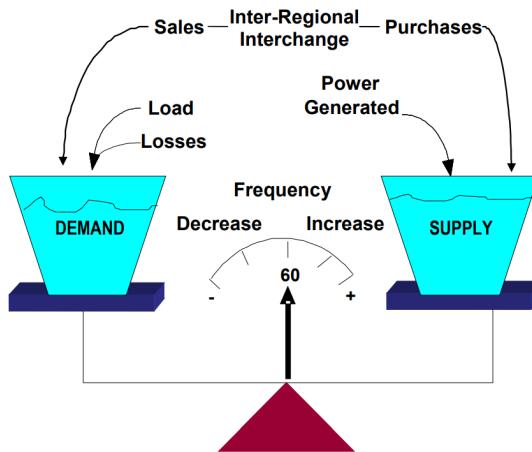


**Figure 3: US Interconnects modified from [45].**

The three main US interconnections are separated and distinguished by AC-DC-AC ties. The AC-DC-AC ties allow for a separation of frequency between interconnections. This is accomplished through a rectification and inverting process. Frequency content is removed when an AC signal is rectified into a DC signal. Any new frequency and phase AC signal may be created through the inverting process. This rectification and inversion process allows power to be transported between the interconnections with acceptable losses.

The western interconnect, which includes most of Montana, has reliability standards that are created, monitored, and enforced by the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC). A computer model of western interconnect, often referred to as the WECC, has been in use for over 20 years. As with any digital document that has been around for such a period of time, the model has become very large and some might say ‘cluttered’. The WECC model contains various unused, or outdated, information which makes use of the model difficult. Further details on the WECC model are presented in Section 4.4.5.

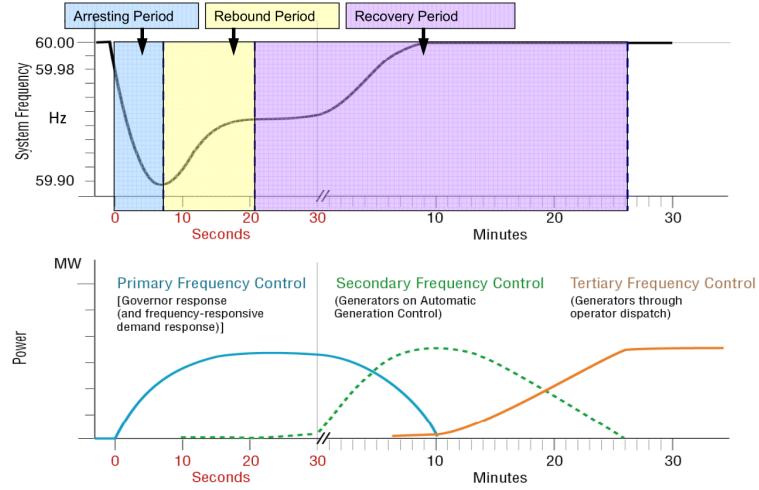
In a well designed and operated power system, electric demand is always met. However, demand is always changing. To this end, automatic controls have been developed to better manage certain aspects of the grid. Electrical frequency, synonymous with generator speed, is often used as an input to such automatic controls. There is a direct correlation between frequency and the balance of electrical supply and demand. As Figure 4 so artfully depicts, if supply and demand are balanced, frequency remains static. If there is more demand than supply, frequency decreases. If the opposite is true, more supply than demand, frequency increases. Figure 4 illustrates that generated power must equal not only load, but also account for losses and any inter-regional interchange that may occur.



**Figure 4: Frequency relation to electric supply and demand [48].**

Most automatic control types within this thesis are distinguished by the time frame in which they operate. Figure 5 provides a classic frequency response to a loss of generation event with time scale classifications of automatic control responses.

The first automatic control, referred to as primary control, responds immediately after an event or perturbation and operates for tens of seconds. Primary control consists of turbine speed governors that act on deviations in system frequency from the nominal operating condition to stop frequency decline. Primary control occurs mostly during the arresting and rebound periods shown in Figure 5. Secondary control acts over tens of minutes during the recovery period. Secondary control is referred to as automatic generation control (AGC) or load frequency control



**Figure 5: Classic frequency and automatic control response [5].**

(LFC). AGC and LFC are often used interchangeably throughout the literature. This thesis uses AGC to refer to secondary control. AGC is configured by a BA to manage its area control error (ACE) which is a combination of interchange and frequency error. Additional operator defined automatic controls, such as relaying, tap changing, and plant level control, may be classified into either time category based on defined settings.

System stability and reliability are of utmost importance in the electric power game. Most Americans rely on electricity for daily activities of widely varying consequence. In the simple economic view, if an electric system does not work, customers can not buy electricity, and there is absolutely no chance to make a profit. Power outages, or other system mis-operations, can be quite costly not only in a monetary sense, but can also result in the loss of life [24], [35]–[37], [56]. As such, simulation of a power system is required for planning additions or alterations. Simulations can be used to test and fine tune operational procedures like AGC settings or shunt switching schemes to ensure safe, economic, reliable, and correct operation. Power system simulation can also be used to explore events that may not be fully understood or occur rarely, but still require planned control measures.

## 2.2. Power Flow

The International System of Units (SI) measure for electric power is the watt W and has units of Joules/Second J/s. Watts can be thought of as the rate at which electrical work is performed, or the rate of energy transfer over time. Utility companies often charge for electric power by the amount of kW used per hour, or kilowatt hour kW h ( $3.6E6$  J). For example, operating a 650 W computer power supply for one hour would require 0.65 kW h ( $2.34E3$  J).

Most electric customers are only responsible for real, or active, power usage and are unaware of reactive power entirely. To simply state the difference between real power and reactive power: real power can be thought of as energy that does actual work, such as moving a conveyor belt, crushing rocks, or heating an element; reactive power can be thought of as energy spent creating and maintaining electric and/or magnetic fields. In large power systems, supply and demand is often reported in terms of megawatts MW for real power P, and MVAR for reactive power Q.

In an AC system, the quantity of power flowing on a line between two buses can be found by first calculating the line current. Equation 1 shows that the line impedance  $R+jX$ , voltage magnitude  $V_x$ , and voltage angle  $\delta_x$  of two connected buses are required to calculate line current I. For example, if a system has any two buses that can be related to Figure 6, the equations to calculate current, real power, and reactive power flow between them is shown in Equations 1-3 respectively.

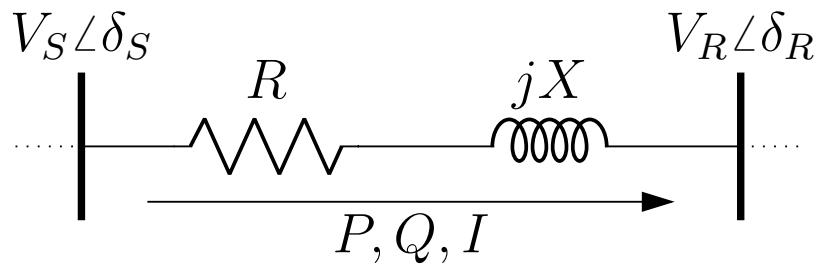


Figure 6: Two buses with power flow between them.

$$I = \frac{V_S e^{j\delta_S} - V_R e^{j\delta_R}}{\sqrt{3}(R + jX)} \quad (1)$$

$$P = \sqrt{3}V_S|I| \cos(\delta_S - \angle I) \quad (2)$$

$$Q = \sqrt{3}V_S|I| \sin(\delta_S - \angle I) \quad (3)$$

It should be noted that the above equations are per-unit (PU) and the square root of three is used to handle per phase and line-to-line value transforms. In practice, and thus simulation, all calculated values may prove useful. Megawatts on a line is a common way to describe real power flow, transmission lines and other equipment may be rated in current, and MVAR flow can be useful in shunt switching schemes to control bus voltage.

In reality, power flow is determined by physical measurements. In simulation, system characteristics are modeled and certain bus values are calculated using a power-flow computer program. The results from such a program, referred to as a power-flow solution, provides a steady state system operating condition based on certain known values. There are many methods to solve a power flow as [23] and [34] show, but detailed explanation is beyond the scope of this thesis. Suffice it to say that the power-flow problem involves system of non-linear equations that compute the voltage magnitude and phase angle at each bus in a power system under balanced three-phase steady state conditions [23]. Solutions often involve iteration until a set tolerance of ‘mis-match’ from an expected value is reached. Once a power-flow solution is achieved, Equations 1-3 can be used to find equipment loadings and branch, or line, power flow anywhere in a system.

### 2.3. The Swing Equation

The swing equation is the basis of dynamic generator speed and is derived using Newton's second law. The equation got its name because it describes the swing in rotor angle during a disturbance [34]. Generator speed can be described by changes in rotor angle from a known reference. In the case of electric generators, frequency is directly related to turbine speed and either word is often used interchangeably.

The PU swing equation, Equation 4, shows how acceleration of generator frequency  $\dot{\omega}$  is directly related to the balance between mechanical power  $P_{mech}$  supplied by a generator, and electrical power  $P_{elec}$  required by a load.

$$\dot{\omega} = \frac{1}{2H} \left( \frac{P_{mech} - P_{elec}}{\omega} - D\Delta\omega \right) \quad (4)$$

It can be seen that machine inertia  $H$  has an inverse relationship to the magnitude of  $\dot{\omega}$ . The  $D$  term may be used to represent damping forces any time a generator deviates from synchronous speed [23] however, it is often assumed to be zero. Per-unit speed deviation,

$$\Delta\omega = \omega_{rated} - \omega, \quad (5)$$

is a simple calculation used to scale the damping term. Note that the nature of PU equations dictate that rated speed is equal to one. Historically, the current frequency  $\omega$  was often ignored, or assumed to be equal to one. This decision was to make calculations easier since speed deviation in PU is often very small. Modern usage of the swing equation typically accounts for frequency effects.

In a steady state operating condition,  $P_{mech}$  is equal to  $P_{elec}$  and angular acceleration  $\dot{\omega}$  is equal to zero. If there is an increase in required  $P_{elec}$ , then  $\dot{\omega}$  is negative and rotor angle (generator frequency) declines. If  $P_{mech}$  is larger than  $P_{elec}$ ,  $\dot{\omega}$  is positive and frequency increases. Detailed derivations and discussions on the swing equation can be found in [1], [23], [34] or most any decent book related to power system dynamics.

## 2.4. Turbine Speed Governors

Turbine speed governors, often just governors, act to arrest frequency change by adjusting a generator's power reference setting. Governors are classified as primary control because of their typically fast response. While many detailed models of governors exist, almost all include a permanent droop or regulation constant  $R$ . The droop constant is a ratio of change in frequency to change in power.  $R$  is often written in percent or a decimal representing a percent and assumed to be negative. Figure 7 shows how  $R$ , the slope of the diagonal line, affects the resulting  $\Delta\omega$  caused by change in power  $\Delta P$ .

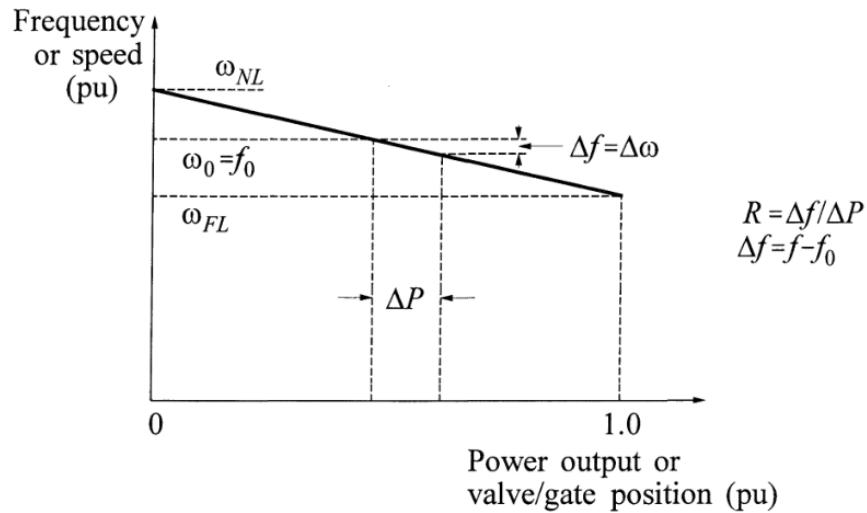


Figure 7: Ideal governor droop action [34].

Droop is a PU value so if a generator has a droop of 0.05, or 5%, then a 5% change in frequency would cause a 100% change in mechanical power output. Governor settings are dictated by FERC while NERC offers interconnection suggestions. The most common  $R$  is 5% for nearly all types of generators [49].

The input to a turbine speed governor is system frequency measured in Hertz Hz and reference power set point in MW. The output can be thought of as supplied mechanical power in MW. To prevent unnecessary control action, inputs to governors often have deadbands and may be delayed or filtered. Additional information on governor control is presented in Section 5.3.

## 2.5. Automatic Generation Control

Automatic generation control (AGC) is a form of secondary control that works to correct system frequency and area interchange error. AGC does this by calculating an area control error (ACE) that is then distributed to generation units under AGC control. The received AGC signals are used to adjust the generators mechanical power reference point. How AGC is distributed varies according to operator discretion so that operating or economic requirements are met.

NERC standards related to the management of ACE and requires ACE to be reported in a specific way [22]. As shown in Equation 6, reporting ACE (RACE) is composed of a variety of terms that may be relevant to electric operators.

$$RACE = (NI_A - NI_S) - 10B(F_A - F_S) - I_{ME} + I_{ATEC} \quad (6)$$

The difference between scheduled net interchange  $NI_S$  and actual net interchange  $NI_A$  is measured in MW.  $I_{ME}$  and  $I_{ATEC}$ , representing interchange meter error and area time error correction respectively, are also measured in MW. The difference between actual frequency  $F_A$  and scheduled frequency  $F_S$  is scaled by a frequency bias term  $10B$  so that the result is also in MW. The 10 is required because  $B$  has units of MW/0.1Hz. By convention, positive  $RACE$  indicates a general over generation condition and negative  $RACE$  is representative of an under generation situation. Section 5.3.4 provides more details on AGC action.

For clarification, frequency bias  $B$  is not the same as area frequency response  $\beta$  [48].  $B$  is an approximation of  $\beta$  used in ACE calculations and AGC action, while  $\beta$  is used to predict an area's response to perturbances. Equation 7 shows how  $\beta$  for an area may be calculated with  $N$  generators under droop control [23].

$$\beta = \sum_i^N \frac{1}{R_i} \quad (7)$$

## 2.6. Reactive Power and Voltage Control

While AGC handles frequency and area interchange control, system voltage and reactive power must also be controlled. Various objectives must be met to maintain an efficient and reliable power system [34]. Bus voltage must be held near a known scheduled value so that system components operate in a predictable and safe way. Reactive power flow should be minimized to reduce reactive losses. Depending on loading conditions and generator VAR output, bus voltages and reactive power flow vary. A lack of available reactive power in a system can lead to lower bus voltages. Unchecked, declining voltages may lead to voltage collapse which can then lead to chain reactions of automatic tripping.

Voltage, unlike system frequency, is a local issue and must be resolved using local power system devices. Low voltage situations require the addition of capacitive VARs and high voltage situations call for the removal of capacitive VARs. Alternatively, Inductive VARs may be used in the opposite manner. Generators whose primary purpose is to produce reactive power are called synchronous condensers. Due to the nature of some renewable energies, areas with large amounts of renewable generation may not be able to produce adequate VARs for voltage control. Thus, to meet operational objectives, synchronous generator and switchable shunt control becomes an important consideration in modern automatic control configurations.

### 3. Software Background

#### 3.1. Classical Transient Stability Simulation

Classical transient stability (CTS) simulation is a simulation approach commonly used to test a power system's ability to remain stable after a large step perturbation such as a generator trip. The time frame CTS focuses on is milliseconds to tens of seconds, and as such, requires time steps of milliseconds. While this is an appropriate approach for relatively short periods of time, complicated model issues may lead to questionable results over the course of longer simulations.

General Electric's Positive Sequence Load Flow (PSLF) is an industry standard power-flow solver and CTS simulation program. The continued development of PSLF has produced a large library of dynamic models and components for use in CTS simulation. PSLFs dynamic library has enabled a wide variety of system models to be created. For example, multiple full WECC base cases have been modeled in PSLF over the past 20 years and are continuously being updated. Certain versions of PSLF offer a Python 3 application programming interface (API) and a .NET API. Despite each API being at various levels of development and functionality, both offer a modern way to communicate with PSLF.

#### 3.2. Python

Python is an interpreted high-level general purpose programming language that utilizes object oriented techniques and emphasizes code readability [33]. Guido Van Rossum first implemented a version of Python in December of 1989 [53]. Python is freely available and distributable for multiple computing platforms [16].

##### 3.2.1. Python Packages

Software modules that expand the functionality of Python are referred to as packages and are freely available from the Python Package Index (PyPI). The created software utilizes multiple packages to varying degrees, though SciPy and Pika are among the most heavily used. SciPy is a collection of packages that include NumPy for numerical computing and Matplotlib for MAT-

LAB style plotting [7]. Additionally, `scipy.signal.lsim` was used to solve state-space equations that are common in electrical engineering dynamics. To avoid rewriting well known integration routines, `scipy.integrate.solve_ivp` was used to perform Runge-Kutta integration of the swing equation to find system frequency. The Python implementation of the advanced message queuing protocol (AMQP) used for this project was Pika [18].

### **3.2.2. Varieties of Python**

Python has gone through numerous versions over the course of development and has been ported and adapted according to need. IronPython (IPY) is an open-source .NET compatible version of Python written in C# [17] and is able to use the common language runtime (CLR) package required for properly interacting with the GE PSLF .NET library. As such IPY, more specifically 32-bit IPY, is used to interface with the PSLF .NET library. However, the most current stable IPY release is based off of Python 2.x and can only use Python packages compatible with 2.x. Python 3 (PY3) is ‘the future of Python’ and has many more maintained and useful community created packages. Some packages are available for both Python version 2 and 3 but many are not. As of this writing, the current version of Python is 3.8. A majority of project code was written using Python 3.7 but should continue to be compatible with future versions of PY3.

### **3.2.3. Python Specific Data Types**

Python has various common data types found in other programming languages such as integer, string, list, and float. Python also has some unique data types. One unique data type is called a *dictionary* which is a collection of key value pairs. Dictionary keys are strings and the value can be any other data type, including a dictionary. A benefit of using a dictionary is that it doesn’t matter ‘where’ in an object a certain data point is located, only that it exists somewhere in the object. The key value pair eliminates the need to focus on indexing lists or arrays as other programming languages may require, and also allows for simple searching and iteration.

Another somewhat unique python data type is a tuple. Tuples are essentially the same as lists except defined using parenthesis instead of brackets and the data inside can not be changed

in any way. While this may seem like a hindrance, it creates peace of mind when using tuples for important data references.

A powerful characteristic of Python is that everything is an object, and variables act as references, or pointers, to data. These Pythonic points were relied upon heavily during software development to make large collections of objects and references.

### **3.3. Advanced Message Queueing Protocol**

Advanced message queueing protocol (AMQP) is a software messaging protocol that can be used for interprocess communication (IPC). The specific application of AMQP in this case was to enable a PY3 process to communicate with an IPY process on a Windows based machine. The idea behind AMQP is that of a virtual 'broker' which receives messages from various processes and places them into specific named queues. The named queues are accessed by other processes that check for and receive any queued messages.

It should be noted that Erlang was required to allow use of RabbitMQ and the PY3 and IPY Pika packages were required so that Python could use AMQP. While detailed descriptions of these softwares is beyond the scope of this research: Erlang is an open source programming language and runtime environment, RabbitMQ is an open source AMQP broker software, and Pika is a Python package that works with RabbitMQ. The correct installation of these software packages is necessary for the created research software to function.

### **3.4. Agent Based Modeling**

Agent Based Modeling (ABM), or Agent Based Simulation (ABS), is oriented around the idea that any situation can be described by agents in an environment, and a definition of agent-to-agent and agent-to-environment interactions [51]. The ABM coding style lends itself towards modular coding and natural expandability as each agent class may have inherited methods and variable characteristics. As an example, [2] used an agent based approach to test the efficiency of differing airplane boarding methods. Passengers were treated as agents interacting with each other and the airplane environment. Each passenger agent may have had different characteristics,

but performed a similar actions each simulation time step. ABM is applied to the coding of this project in that a power system acts as the environment, and all power system objects, such as buses, loads, and generators, are treated as agents.

Each time step, agents may perform their *step* method that executes code unique to the specific agent, but generally the same among agent types. For example, a timer agents step may include checking a specified value and incrementing an accumulator according to a logic operation. If the accumulator becomes larger than a set threshold value, the timer may raise an activation flag. Agent action is meant to be direct and generic so that agents can be reused and nested inside other agents. Continuing the example, the timer agent may be nested inside another agent that checks the timers activation flags each step and takes action depending on the returned status. These actions can be simplified into a sequence of agent steps in a discrete time simulation and then repeated ad infinitum. The simple idea of sequencing agent steps can be applied to systems of nearly any size and composition as long as agents have a step function and can reference other agents inside the environment.

## 4. Software Tool

The software created for this research was PSLTDSim (Power System Long-Term Dynamic Simulator). Python was the code language of choice, and both PY3 and IPY processes are created during simulation. PSLF and AMQP also play integral roles in PSLTDSim. The basic idea behind PSLTDSim is to use time-sequenced power flows and external dynamic calculations to simulate long-term power system behavior. Various engineering simplifications and assumptions are employed by PSLTDSim.

This chapter describes what time-sequenced power flows are, what PSLTDSim assumes or simplifies, and what PSLTDSim actually does. Software validations using PSLF simulation output as a reference are presented and discussed at the end of this chapter.

### 4.1. Time-Sequenced Power Flows

The left side of Figure 8 is a visual representation of a single power-flow solution. The power-flow solution can be thought of as a snapshot of steady state system operation. A period of steady state system operation could be imagined by repeating this single power-flow solution in a time sequence. Dynamic system behavior could be realized if small changes are made to the power-flow problem inputs and the ensuing power-flow solution converges. The right side of Figure 8 illustrates the idea of time-sequenced power flow (TSPF) as a collection of slightly changing power-flow solutions. The TSPF method for dynamic simulation involves performing dynamic modeling calculations outside of, or inbetween, each power-flow solution.

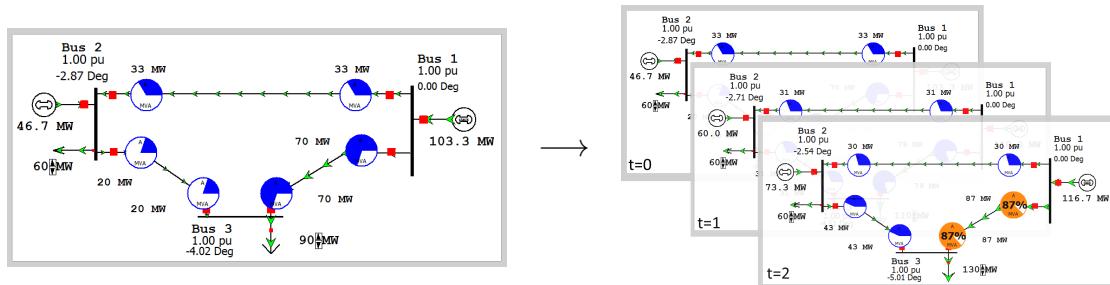


Figure 8: Time-sequenced power flows visualized.

Differences between TSPF and CTS simulation techniques stem from the time frame of

simulation focus and differing dynamic calculations. TSPF is focused on long-term events that take place over the course of minutes or longer. CTS simulation focuses on events that are tens of seconds in duration. This difference in focus leads to each method having a different appropriate time step. A TSPF time step may be 0.5 to 1 seconds while CTS uses sub-cycle time-steps in the millisecond range.

Calculations of CTS simulation include generator dynamics that are aggregated and simplified in TSPF. Each method starts with a power-flow solution, but CTS simulation performs back calculations to set initial states of various dynamic models. Future CTS states, and resulting system behavior, are dictated by dynamic model interactions which may go unstable. TSPF also uses dynamic models, but updated values are sent to a power-flow solver; and the power-flow solution provides new steady state system values. These differences create output data that is of different resolutions and captures slightly different system characteristics. Figure 9 shows an example of CTS and TSPF data.

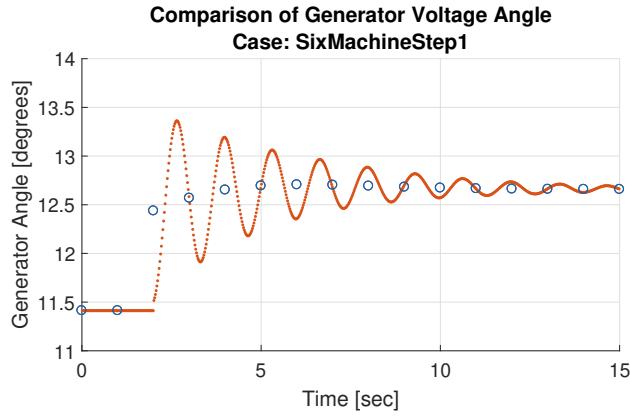


Figure 9: CTS and TSPF data output comparison.

The circles represent data from a TSPF simulation while dots show down-sampled data from a CTS simulation. The two data sets are not the same during oscillatory behavior, but seem to match at steady state conditions. In the provided plot, TSPF data seems to follow the center of oscillation from the CTS simulation. This ‘oscillation averaging’ behavior was found to be common in TSPF results.

## 4.2. Simulation Assumptions and Simplifications

Numerous assumptions and simplifications were made due to fundamental differences between TSPF and CTS simulation. This section details such assumptions and simplifications and provides key TSPF equations.

### 4.2.1. General Assumptions and Simplifications

The focus of this tool is on long-term operation of power systems. Since a power-flow solution is a stable steady state operating condition, it is assumed that the system of study is stable, and remains stable, for the entirety of the simulation. Other software packages should be used if transient stability is in question.

In general, system responses to large step type contingencies are not the focus of TSPF. Instead, the most suitable event type for TSPF study is in the form of ramps, or repeated small step perturbances. Because of the more ‘gentle’ system scenarios involved with ramps, power system stabilizers (PSS) are not modeled. It is assumed that the system will not be disturbed enough to require meaningful PSS action.

Further assumptions include ideal generator excitors that can always maintain a given generator reference voltage. Modern excitors are assumed to be fast enough to hold reference voltages to small perturbances in the long-term. Despite the ideal reference voltage assumption, machine VAR limits **are** enforced according to model parameters. Should the need arise, future work can be done to incorporate any additional, or alternative modeling.

### 4.2.2. Time Step Assumptions and Simplifications

Multiple assumptions can be made concerning power system behavior when a time step of one second is used. The order of magnitude time step difference between CTS and TSPF allows models created for CTS simulations to be simplified for use in TSPF. Intermachine oscillations were ignored since subsynchronous resonances are sub-second and the time resolution of TSPF is not great enough to capture these phenomena. Additionally, in the long-term, these effects are minor when the system is stable. Without the need for subsynchronous characteristics,

generator modeling was greatly simplified. The only details required for a machine model are MW cap, machine MVA base, and machine inertia.

To further simplify generator modeling, all machines share a single system frequency that is calculated by a combined swing equation. Sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 explain how the combined swing equation is used in PSLTDSim. Governor models were also simplified. Section 4.2.5 explains the how PSLTDSim models governors.

#### 4.2.3. Combined System Frequency

Instead of a frequency being calculated for each generator or bus, a single combined swing equation is used to model only one combined system frequency. This technique requires a known total system inertia  $H_{sys}$  and the total system acceleration power  $P_{acc,sys}$ . In a system with  $N$  generators,  $H_{sys}$  is calculated from each individual machines inertia as

$$H_{sys} = \sum_{i=1}^N H_{PU,i} M_{base,i}. \quad (8)$$

In a system with  $N$  generators, total system accelerating power is calculated as

$$P_{acc,sys} = \sum_{i=1}^N P_{m,i} - \sum_{i=1}^N P_{e,i} - \sum \Delta P_{pert}, \quad (9)$$

where  $P_{m,i}$  is mechanical power and  $P_{e,i}$  is electrical power of generator  $i$  and any system power injections, or perturbances, are accounted for in the  $\sum \Delta P_{pert}$  term.

The combined swing equation, shown in Equation 10, uses  $P_{acc,sys}$  and  $H_{sys}$  to calculate  $\dot{\omega}_{sys}$ . After integration,  $\dot{\omega}_{sys}$  leads to the single combined system frequency  $\omega_{sys}$ .

$$\dot{\omega}_{sys} = \frac{1}{2H_{sys}} \left( \frac{P_{acc,sys}}{\omega_{sys}} - D_{sys} \Delta \omega_{sys} \right) \quad (10)$$

For completeness, a damping term  $D_{sys} \Delta \omega$  is included in Equation 10, but as Equation 4,  $D_{sys}$  is often set to zero while  $\Delta \omega_{sys}$  is calculated using Equation 5 with  $\omega_{sys}$  as  $\omega$ .

#### 4.2.4. Distribution of Accelerating Power

While system frequency can be calculated using total system accelerating power, to properly ‘seed’ the next power flow, each generator participating in the system inertial response must account for a portion of accelerating power absorption. The specific amount each generator absorbs is based on machine inertia. Equation 11 shows how the next electric power estimate  $P_{e,EST,i}$  is created for generator  $i$ .

$$P_{e,EST,i} = P_{e,i} - P_{acc,sys} \left( \frac{H_i}{H_{sys}} \right) \quad (11)$$

Once all accelerating power is distributed to inertial responding generators, the new  $P_{e,EST}$  value for each generator is used to solve a power flow. If the MW difference between resulting power supplied by the slack generator and estimated power output is larger than the set slack tolerance, the difference is redistributed as  $P_{acc,sys}$  according to Equation 11 until slack tolerance is met, or a maximum number of iterations take place.

#### 4.2.5. Governor models

Long-term dynamic models do not require the detail of a full transient simulation model. For software validation purposes, a *tgov1* governor model was created as it appears in the PSLF documentation. This particular governor model was selected due to simplicity, and was later expanded upon to include an optional deadband and filtered input delay. The block diagram for the modified *tgov1* governor is shown in Figure 10. Blocks with a \* next to them indicate they are optional, and only inserted into the model if user defined.

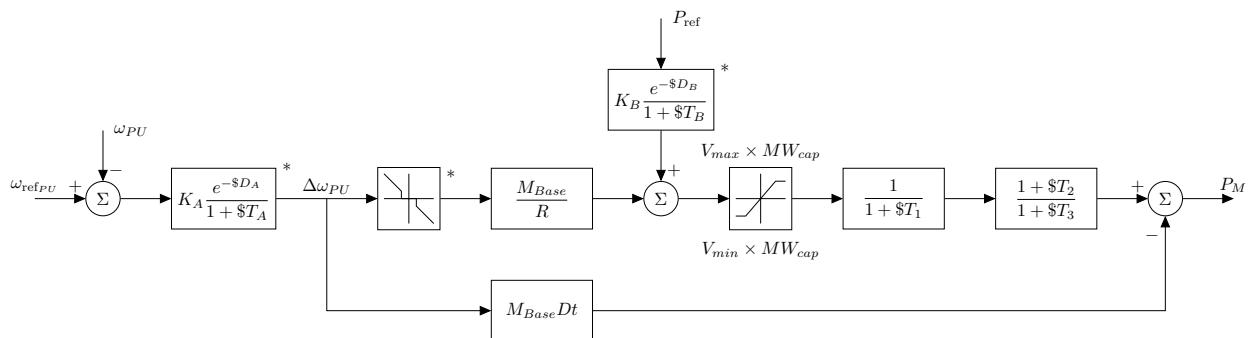
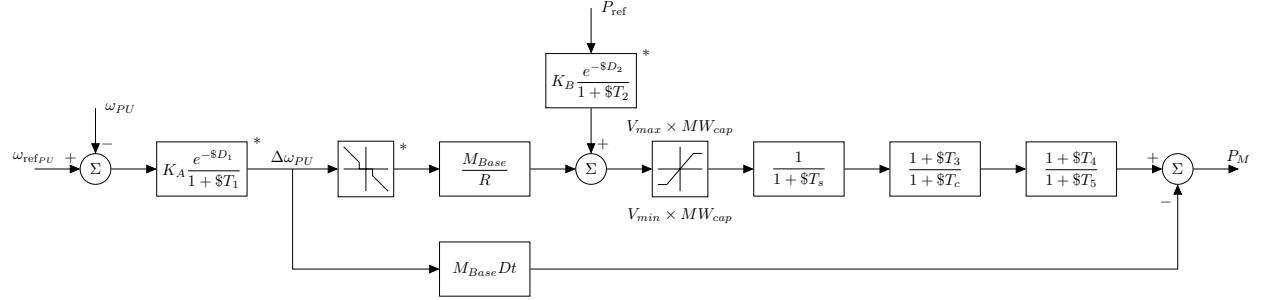


Figure 10: Block diagram of modified *tgov1* model.

A slightly more generic governor was created based off the governor model used in Power System Toolbox (PST). This generic model, referred to as *genericGov*, is shown in Figure 11. The genericGov follows the time constant naming convention of the PST governor and includes the same optional blocks added to the modified tgov1 model.



**Figure 11: Block diagram of genericGov model.**

#### 4.2.5.1. Casting Process for genericGov

Modeling all PSDS governors would be a rather large task. Un-modeled governors encountered in a system dyd file were cast to a genericGov model based on assumed governor type. Table I shows the relation of PSDS model types to assumed governor setting type.

**Table I: Generic governor model casting between LTD and PSDS.**

genericGov	Steam	Hydro	Gas
PSDS	ccbt1 gast w2301 ieeeg3 ieeeg1	g2wscc hyg3 hygov4 hygov hygovr pidgov	ggov1 ggov3 gpwscc

Universal governor settings, such as permanent droop and MW cap values collected are from the dyd file and used as  $R$  and  $MW_{cap}$  respectively. The particular time constants for each model were selected according to typical settings associated with prime mover type that a PSDS model is assumed to represent. Table II lists the time constants used for each genericGov model type.

**Table II: Generic governor model parameters.**

Parameter	Steam	Hydro	Gas
Ts	0.04	0.40	0.50
Tc	0.20	45.00	10.00
T3	0.00	5.00	4.00
T4	1.50	-1.00	0.00
T5	5.00	0.50	1.00

### 4.3. General Software Explanation

This section provides an explanation of the Power System Long-Term Dynamic Simulator (PSLTDSim). A flow chart showing a general overview of simulation action is shown in Figure 12. Any simulation begins with user input of simulation specifications to PSLTDSim. The user input is then used to initialize the required simulation environment by PSLTDSim. The general simulation loop includes performing dynamic calculations and executing any perturbances which are then transferred to PSLF. A power-flow solution is then performed by PSLF and relevant data sent back to PSLTDSim for logging. Various simulation variables are then checked to verify if the simulation loop is to continue or end. Once the simulation is complete, data is output and plots may be generated for the user to analyze.

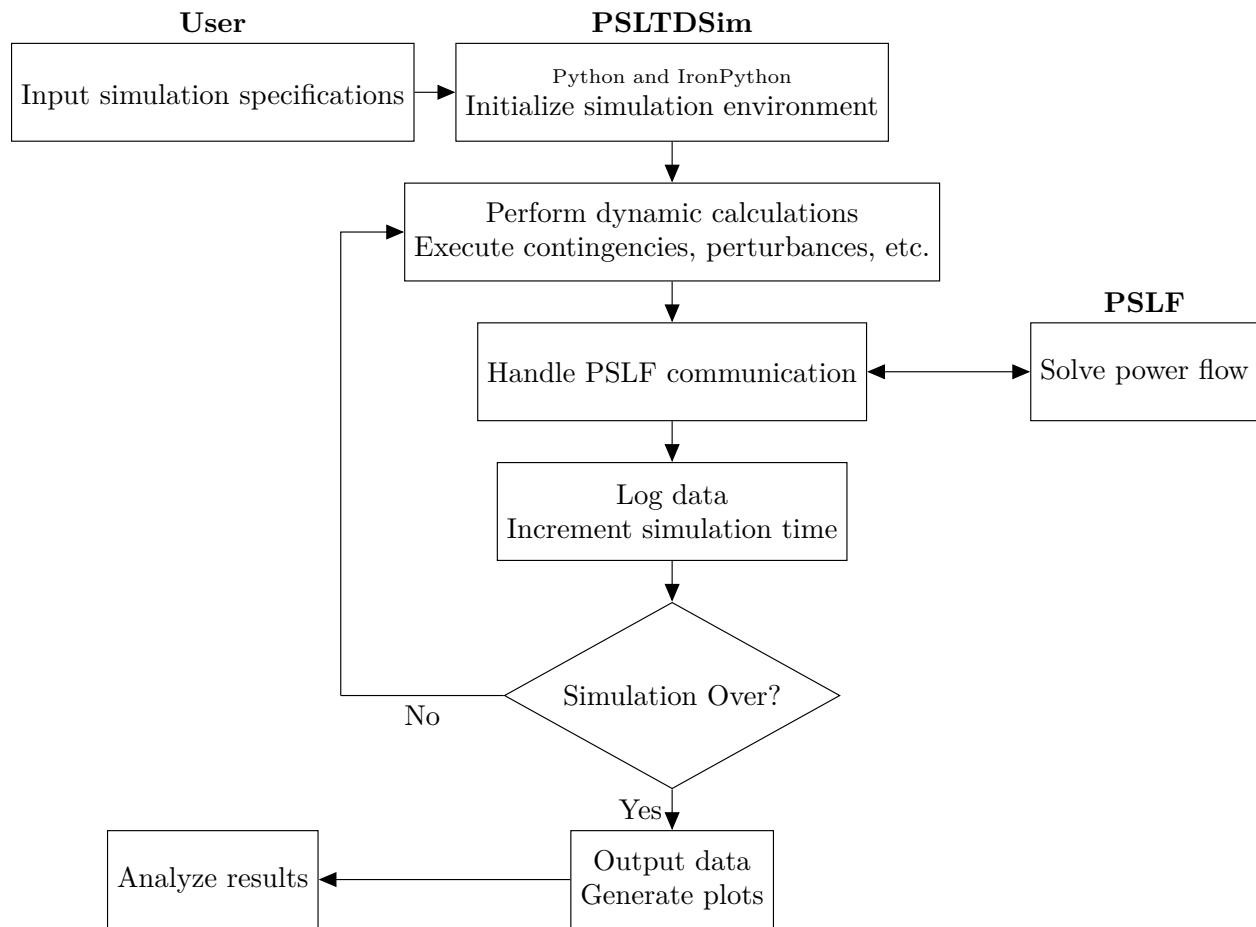


Figure 12: High level software flow chart.

### 4.3.1. Interprocess Communication

A process is another name for an instance of a running computer program. It is common for a computer program to run as a single process, however this is not always the case and not what is happening in PSLTDSim. Since processes are independent from each other, they do not share a memory space [59]. This effectively means that for two processes share data, some kind of interprocess communication (IPC) must be utilized.

Due to the current state of the GE Python 3 API, Ironpython (IPY) was required for functional PSLF software communication. Unfortunately, IPY is based on Python 2 and does not have packages necessary for numerical computation that Python 3 (PY3) possesses. The solution to these issues was to create a software that has an IPY process and PY3 process that communicate to each other via AMQP. The IPY process acts as a ‘middle man’ between PY3 and PSLF. Newly calculated values in PY3 must be sent to PSLF via IPY, and after each new power-flow solution, PSLF values must be sent to PY3 the same way. This cycle continues as long as simulation is required. While the described AMQP solution has been shown to work, it is worth noting that message handling accounts for about one half of all simulation time.

### 4.3.2. Simulation Inputs

As with any simulation software, PSLTDSim requires specific inputs to operate correctly. Some required input is the same as that used by PSLF, while other input is Python based. Both types of inputs are described in this subsection.

#### 4.3.2.1. PSLF Compatible Input

The power system model input used by PSLTDSim is the same .sav binary file used by, and generated from, PSLF. This is due the reliance of PSLTDSim on the power-flow solver included with PSLF. Additionally, Python system dynamics are created based on the .dyd text files also used by PSLF. Information on creating .sav or .dyd files is beyond the scope of this text, but may be found by consulting PSLF documentation and tutorials.

#### 4.3.2.2. Simulation Parameter Input (.py)

Simulation parameter input is entered in a standard python .py file. Most input is collected in a Python dictionary named simParams. An example of the simParams dictionary defined inside the .py file is shown in Figure 13.

```

1  simParams = {
2      'timeStep': 1.0, # seconds
3      'endTime': 60.0*8, # seconds
4      'slackTol': 1, # MW
5      'PY3msgGroup' : 3, # number of Agent msgs per AMQP msg
6      'IPYmsgGroup' : 60, # number of Agent msgs per AMQP msg
7      'Hinput' : 0.0, # MW*sec of entire system, if !> 0.0, will be calculated in code
8      'Dsys' : 0.0, # Damping
9      'fBase' : 60.0, # System F base in Hertz
10     'freqEffects' : True, # w in swing equation will not be assumed 1 if true
11     'assumedV' : 'Vsched', # assumed voltage - either Vsched or Vinit
12     # Mathematical Options
13     'integrationMethod' : 'rk45',
14     # Data Export Parameters
15     'fileDirectory' : "\\\delme\\200109-delayScenario1\\", # relative path from cwd
16     'fileName' : 'SixMachineDelayStep1', # Case name in plots
17     'exportFinalMirror': 1, # Export mirror with all data
18     'exportMat': 1, # if IPY: requies exportDict == 1 to work
19     'exportDict' : 0, # when using python 3 no need to export dicts.
20     'deleteInit' : 0, # Delete initialized mirror
21     'logBranch' : True,
22 }
```

**Figure 13:** An example of a simParams dictionary.

The simParams dictionary contains information required for the simulation to operate, such as time step, end time, base frequency, and slack tolerance. There are also parameters that alter how the simulation operates, such as integration method, inclusion of frequency effects, and how system inertia is calculated. Information related to data collection or export is also included in the simParams dictionary such as whether to log branch information or where the resultant data will be placed and what it will be named. Examples of valid dictionary keys, types of data, units of input, and a brief explanation is shown in Table XVI located in Appendix 11.

In addition to the simParams dictionary, simulation notes, absolute file paths to the desired .sav and .ltd.py file are also defined in this .py file. Dynamic input in the form of .dyd files are defined in a list to allow for using more than one .dyd file. The dynamic model overwriting that this feature was meant to incorporate has not been fully implemented as of this writing. An example of a valid simulation parameter input .py is shown in Appendix 10 as Figure 124.

#### **4.3.2.3. Long-Term Dynamic Input (.ltd.py)**

The required .ltd.py file contains user defined objects related specifically to simulated events and control action. Further, this file is the ideal place for adding additional user input if the need should arise in future software development. Code in the .ltd.py file is standard Python and involves initializing objects attached to a *mirror* object. The mirror object is what PSLTD-Sim calls the total power system model. A description of the various objects that can be attached to the mirror is presented in the following sections. Most topics introduced are described completely, however, some options are more complex and are described in later sections.

##### **4.3.2.3.1. Perturbance List**

The only list defined in the .ltd.py file is for entering simulation perturbances (often also referred to as contingencies or events). The list of single quoted strings describing system perturbances is defined as *mirror.sysPerturbances*. Most common perturbances are changes in operating state and power, however, any value in the target agents current value dictionary may be changed. The format of the string is specific to agent type and perturbation, but strings follow the general format of: 'Agent Identification : Perturbance Description'. Table III shows the format for the agent identification part of the perturbation string. Optional parameters are shown in brackets. If no ID is specified the first agent found with matching bus values will be chosen.

Table IV describes the various parameters used to specify the action of the perturbation agent. The three valid options for the 'Step Type' and 'Ramp Type' field are abs, rel, and per. To make an absolute change to the new value, the abs type should be selected. To alter the target parameter by a relative value, the rel option should be used. If a percent change is desired, the

**Table III: Perturbation agent identification options.**

Agent Type	Identification Parameters		
load	Bus Number	[ID]	
shunt	Bus Number	[ID]	
gen	Bus Number	[ID]	
branch	From Bus Number	To Bus Number	[Circuit ID]

per type should be used.

**Table IV: Perturbation action options.**

Type	Settings				
step	Target Parameter	Action Time	New Value	Step Type	
ramp	Target Parameter	Start Time	Ramp Duration	New Value	Ramp Type

Figure 14 shows various examples of valid perturbation agent definitions. Double quoted strings may be used to clarify perturbation descriptions. It should be noted that the target parameter is case sensitive. Additionally, if stepping a governed generator, both the mechanical power and power reference variables should be changed as shown in line 8 and 9 of Figure 14.

```

1 # Perturbation Examples
2 mirror.sysPerturbances = [
3     'gen 27 : step St 2 0',           # Set gen 27 status to 0 at t=2
4     'branch 7 8 2 : step St 10 0 abs', # Trip branch between bus 7 and 8 with ckID=2
5     'load 26 : ramp P 2 40 400 rel',   # ramp power of load up 400MW over 40 seconds
6     'load 9 : "Type" ramp "Target" P "startTime" 2 "RAtime" 40 "RAval" -5 "RAtype" per',
7     'shunt 9 4 : step St 32 1',        # Step shunt id 4 on bus 9 on at t=32
8     'gen 62 : step Pm 2 -1500 rel',    # Step gen Pm down 1500 MW at t=2
9     'gen 62 : step Pref 2 -1500 rel',   # Step gen Pref down 1500 MW at t=2
10    ]

```

**Figure 14: Perturbation agent examples.**

#### 4.3.2.3.2. Noise Agent Attribute

Random noise added to all loads may be defined in the `.ltd.py` file. Figure 15 shows an example of a noise agent being attached to the mirror. The three input arguments are the system mirror reference, the of percent noise to be added, and a boolean value dictating random walk behavior.

---

```

1 # Noise Agent Creation
2 mirror.NoiseAgent = ltd.perturbation.LoadNoiseAgent(mirror, 0.03, True)

```

---

**Figure 15: Noise agent example.**

At every time step, noise is injected into each load  $P_{L,i}$  in the system according to

$$P_{L,i} = P_{L,i}(1 \pm N_Z Rand_i) \quad (12)$$

where  $N_Z$  represents the maximum amount of random noise to inject as a percent, and  $Rand_i$  is a randomly generated number between 0 and 1 inclusive. The decision to add or subtract noise is chosen by another randomly generated number. As described in [58], Equation 12 creates random walk behavior in load that is representative of real power systems. If random walk behavior is not desired, a

#### 4.3.2.3.3. Balancing Authority Dictionary

A dictionary `mirror.sysBA` is defined in the `.ltd.py` file that sets all BA actions and parameters. Each individual BA is a nested dictionary inside the `mirror.sysBA` dictionary. The information entered in each nested dictionary describes how that particular BA acts on the specified area. Additional information on BA options and action is presented in Section 5.3.4. Additionally, a description of each possible field is described in Appendix 11 Table XV.

#### 4.3.2.3.4. Load Control Dictionary

To simplify changing all area loads according to a known demand schedule, a load control agent may be defined in the `.ltd.py` file. Similar to the balancing authority dictionary, each

agent is defined as a named dictionary inside a *mirror.sysLoadControl* dictionary. The load control agent requires area number, start time, time scale, and a list of tuples for demand information. Specific BA demand data can easily be acquired via the United States Energy Information Administration (EIA) website and saved as a .csv file. A script was written to parse and display demand changes over time as a relative percent change so that real load patterns could be applied to test systems of differing scale. An example of a single area load control agent is shown in Figure 16.

---

```

1 mirror.sysLoadControl = {
2     'testSystem' : {
3         'Area': 2,
4         'startTime' : 2,
5         'timeScale' : 10,
6         'rampType' : 'per', # relative percent change
7         # Data from: 12/11/2019 PACE
8         'demand' : [
9             #(time , Percent change from previous value)
10            (0, 0.000),
11            (1, 3.675),
12            (2, 6.474),
13            (3, 3.770),
14            ] , # end of demand tuple list
15        },# end of testSystem definition
16    }# end of sysLoadControl dictionary

```

---

**Figure 16: Load control agent dictionary definition example.**

The list of tuples named ‘demand’ defines the desired load change over time. The first value in each tuple is assumed to be a time value and the second number is a percent change value. The entered time value is scaled by the ‘timeScale’ value. It is assumed that both values in the first entry are always zero since there can be no relative change from negative time.

Relative percent ramps are used to alter load value between each entry. For example, if the load control agent shown in Figure 16 was used in a simulation, a ramp would be created for each load in area 2 that increases load by 6.474 % between time 10 and 20. The relative percent is based off the value of each individual load at time 10. This method of relative percent chang-

ing allows for other perturbances, such as noise, to be applied to the same load without issue. Alternative ramp types may be employed by changing the 'rampType' parameter but are untested as of this writing. It should be noted that the first ramp starts at 'startTime', but all other ramps begin according to the calculated scaled time schedule. Additionally, loads that are off at system initialization (status 0 at time 0), are ignored.

#### 4.3.2.3.5. Generation Control Dictionary

To manipulate generation in the same way a load control agent manipulates load, a generation control agent may be defined in the `.ltd.py` file. The definition of a generation control agent is very similar to the definition of a load control agent by design, however, differences do exist. Generation control agents are defined in the dictionary named `mirror.sysGenerationControl`, have a list of strings detailing control generators, and have a time value tuple list named 'forecast'. Other parameters inside the generation control agent definition (such as area, start time, time scale, and ramp type) function exactly the same as the load control agent. Forecast data is again collected from the EIA website and parsed in the same manner as demand data. Figure 17 shows an example of a generation control agent definition.

The main difference between load and generation control agents is the addition of the 'CtrlGens' list of strings. Each string inside the 'CtrlGens' list is of the form: "gen BusNumber ID : Participation Factor" where ID is optional. If ID is not defined, as shown in Figure 17, the first generator on the given bus will be controlled. The participation factor is used to distribute the total requested MW change in a more controlled fashion.

For example, if an area is generating 100 MW at time 0, the total requested area generation change by time 10 would be 5.137 MW. The generator on bus 3 would increase 1.28 MW while the generator on bus 4 would increase 3.85 MW. If a controlled generator has a governor, governor reference will be adjusted instead of mechanical power. Participation factor for all listed generators should always sum to 1.0 or improper distribution **will** occur. It should be noted that not all generation must be controlled for proper percent change of output power however, if a controlled machine hits a generation limit, excess changes are ignored.

```

1 mirror.sysGenerationControl = {
2     'testSystem' : {
3         'Area': 2,
4         'startTime' : 2,
5         'timeScale' : 10,
6         'rampType' : 'per', # relative percent change
7         'CtrlGens': [
8             "gen 3 : 0.25",
9             "gen 4 : 0.75",
10            ],
11        # Data from: 12/11/2019 PACE
12        'forcast' : [
13            #(time , Precent change from previous value)
14            (0, 0.000),
15            (1, 5.137),
16            (2, 6.098),
17            (3, 4.471),
18            ],# end of forcast tuple list
19        }, #end of testSystem def
20    }# end of sysLoadControl dictionary

```

**Figure 17: Generation control agent dictionary definition example.**

Relative percent ramps are used to control generators in the same way as load so that a BA can also act on generators under generation control, however, this functionality is untested as of this writing.

#### 4.3.2.3.6. Governor Delay Dictionary

To modify a governor model with a delay block, parameters may be entered in the governor delay dictionary *mirror.govDelay*. Like previously described dictionaries, this is located in the .ltd.py file. Figure 18 shows an example of a valid delay dictionary that affects the governor attached to the generator on bus 3. Note that while genId is optional, if set to None the first found generator on the specified bus is used.

Tuples are used to enter delay block parameters. Using Figure 10 as reference, the wDelay tuple contains settings for  $D_A$  and  $T_A$  respectively. Likewise, the PrefDelay tuple contains  $D_B$  and  $T_B$ . The block may be configured to use only the delay or the filtering without error. If the

```

1 mirror.govDelay ={
2     'delaygen3' : {
3         'genBus' : 3,
4         'genId' : None, # optional
5         '# (delay parameter, filter time constant, optional gain)
6         'wDelay' : (40,30),
7         'PrefDelay' : (10, 0),
8     }, # end of 'delaygen3' definition
9 }# end of govDelay dictionary

```

**Figure 18: Governor delay dictionary definition example.**

tuple contains three entries, the third is assigned to the optional gain associated with each block.

#### 4.3.2.3.7. Governor Deadband Dictionary

While a BA agent may be able to set area wide deadbands, it is also possible to specify a single deadband for any governed generator. Settings in the governor deadband dictionary will override any deadband settings specified by the BA dictionary. Figure 19 shows three examples of valid governor deadband definitions. Information about deadband action may be found in Sub-section 5.3.1.

#### 4.3.2.3.8. Definite Time Controller Dictionary

During long simulations, system loading may change from initial values by more than  $\pm 20\%$ . Such changes can cause voltage issues that require the setting or un-setting of components contributing to available system reactive power. This can be accomplished by defining a definite time controller (DTC) agent in the *mirror.DTCdict* dictionary. Figure 20 shows an example of a valid DTC definition where a shunt is actuated by changes in bus voltage or branch MVAR flow. It should be noted that instead of using a specific ‘tarX’ in a timers ‘act’ field, operations on any off or on target can be accomplished by using ‘anyOFFtar’ or ‘anyONTar’ respectively.

Each DTC employs a set and a reset timer and may have a hold timer if hold time is set larger than zero. Multiple references and targets can be associated with a DTC, however, as of

```

1 mirror.govDeadBand ={  

2     'gen3DB' : {  

3         'genBus' : 3,  

4         'genId' : None, # optional  

5         'GovDeadbandType' : 'ramp', # step, ramp, nldroop  

6         'GovDeadband' : 0.036, # Hz  

7     },  

8     'gen1DB' : {  

9         'genBus' : 1,  

10        'genId' : None, # optional  

11        'GovDeadbandType' : 'nldroop', # step, ramp, nldroop  

12        'GovAlpha' : 0.016, # Hz, used for nldroop  

13        'GovBeta' : 0.036, # Hz, used for nldroop  

14    },  

15     'gen4DB' : {  

16         'genBus' : 4,  

17         'genId' : None, # optional  

18         'GovDeadbandType' : 'step', # step, ramp, nldroop  

19         'GovDeadband' : 0.036, # Hz  

20         'GovAlpha' : 0.016, # Hz, used for nldroop  

21         'GovBeta' : 0.036, # Hz, used for nldroop  

22     },  

23     #end of defined governor deadbands  

24 }# end of govDelay dictionary

```

**Figure 19: Governor deadband dictionary definition example.**

this writing only one action can be associated with each timer. Any logic string entered in a timer uses the given key names for each reference or target and is evaluated using standard Python logic conventions.

---

```

1  # Definite Time Controller Definitions
2  mirror.DTCdict = {
3      'ExampleDTC' : {
4          'RefAgents' : {
5              'ra1' : 'bus 8 : Vm',
6              'ra2' : 'branch 8 9 1 : Qbr', # branches defined from, to, ckID
7          }, # end Reference Agents
8          'TarAgents' : {
9              'tar1' : 'shunt 8 2 : St',
10             'tar2' : 'shunt 8 3 : St',
11         }, # end Target Agents
12         'Timers' : {
13             'set' :{
14                 'logic' : "(ra1 < 1.0) or (ra2 < -15)",
15                 'actTime' : 30, # seconds of true logic before act
16                 'act' : "tar1 = 1",
17             }, # end set
18             'reset' :{
19                 'logic' : "(ra1 > 1.04) or (ra2 > 15)",
20                 'actTime' : 30, # seconds of true logic before act
21                 'act' : "tar1 = 0",
22             }, # end reset
23             'hold' : 60, # minimum time between actions
24         }, # end timers
25     }, # end ExampleDTC definition
26 }# end DTCdict

```

---

**Figure 20:** Definite time controller dictionary definition example.

### **4.3.3. Simulation Initialization**

To clarify the explanation of simulation initialization, the entire process can be thought of as in three parts: process creation, mirror initialization, and dynamic initialization. The first part (process creation) involves creating and configuring various software processes that enable the simulation to run. The majority of part two (mirror initialization) revolves around collecting data from PSLF to create a Python duplicate, or mirror, of the power system model. The last part of simulation initialization (dynamic initialization) handles user input and creates PY3 dynamics before entering the simulation loop.

#### **4.3.3.1. Process Creation**

System initialization begins in PY3 with package imports and creation of truly global variables before user input from the .py file is handled. The .py file includes debug flags, simulation notes, simulation parameters, and file locations of the .sav, .dyd, and .ltd files. If all file locations are valid, PY3 initializes AMQP queues, sends appropriate initialization information to the IPY queue, starts the IPY\_PSLTDSim process, and then waits for an IPY response message.

The IPY process begins by also importing required packages and setting references to certain imported packages as truly global variables. An IPY AMQP agent is created and linked to the AMQP host generated by the PY3 process. This allows the IPY process to receive initialization information from the PY3 AMQP message sent before the IPY process was evoked. IPY uses the received initialization information to load the GE Python API which is then used to load the .sav and .dyd into PSLF. Upon successful file loading in PSLF, a global reference to the object is created.

#### **4.3.3.2. Mirror Initialization**

Once the PSLF specific files are loaded into the GE software, initialization of the Python environment, or system model, may begin. The system model, referred to as the system mirror, or just mirror, is a single object that almost all other Python objects are created inside. This idea of a single system object with a recursive data structure allows any object the ability to reference any

other object as long as they both share a reference to the mirror and are themselves referenced by the mirror. While the previous sentence may seem overly complicated, its not, and the use of such a linking technique eliminated the need for global variables outside of imported packages and also allowed for a single file containing **all** simulation data to be easily exported at the end of a simulation.

The system mirror begins its initialization by creating placeholder variables for simulation parameters, counters, and future agent collections. Specific case parameters, such as the number of buses or generators, are collected from PSLF to be used later in model verification processes.

Before any specific power system object data is collected, an initial power flow is performed to ensure that the loaded .sav is solvable, and to establish a steady state system starting point. System agents, representing power system objects like buses and loads, are then added to the mirror. The adding process queries PSLF for any buses in a specific area, checks each found bus for any connected system components, and creates Python agents for relevant objects. The querying and adding process continues until all system buses are accounted for. Each type of found object is added to a running tally so that it can be compared with the expected values collected earlier. Once all system buses have been found or accounted for, any created agents that are intended to log data are collected into a list for simpler group stepping.

Each area tally of found agents is checked for coherency with expected values. Any inconsistencies between the amount of found and expected objects will trigger warnings, but the simulation will not stop if this occurs. This choice is due to differences between what is counted in PSLF as a valid area object and PSLTDSim, which has the option to ignore islanded objects.

Dynamic model information from the specified dyd file is then parsed. Collected machine or governor parameters are used to create PSLF model information objects (PMIOs) inside the mirror. These PMIOs collect inertia  $H$  and MW cap for each machine as well as turbine type, governor MW cap, and permanent droop  $R$  from governors. Other information, such as MVA base, is also collected for both types of model. This process is required as the dyd values for certain parameters overwrite pre-existing values that may be saved inside the sav file.

Once the dyd file is parsed and all PMIOs are created, the combined system inertia is calculated. For each found generator PMIO, the associated mirror agent is located and updated so that H and Mbase values match those found in the dyd. The total system inertia is calculated according to Equation 8 and user input settings are interpreted so that any requested changes, such as scaling or alternative system inertia inputs, are handled correctly.

Mirror search dictionaries are then created to simplify and speed up agent searches and the global slack generator is identified. The global slack generator is important to locate as its variance from an expected value dictates accelerating power re-distribution and power-flow solution iterations during the simulation loop.

Once search dictionaries are created, the IPY model is fully initialized. The mirror is then saved to disk and an AMQP message is sent to PY3 with the mirror location.

#### **4.3.3.3. Dynamic Initialization Pre-Simulation Loop**

After the handoff AMQP message is sent to PY3, IPY enters its simulation loop.

PY3 uses the information received from IPY to load the newly created system mirror so that PY3 can perform further initializations such as creating any dynamic agents (governors), calculating area frequency characteristics and maximum capacities, executing any .ltd code, and creating the associated agents from the .ltd input.

PY3 dynamics are initialized to ensure R is on the correct PU base and any MW caps from dyd parsing is applied. Additionally, any limiting values for governor output are accounted for, and any deadbands or delays are created. Finally, before entering the PY3 simulation loop, agents that are designed to log values initialize blank lists for expected values.

#### 4.3.4. Simulation Loop

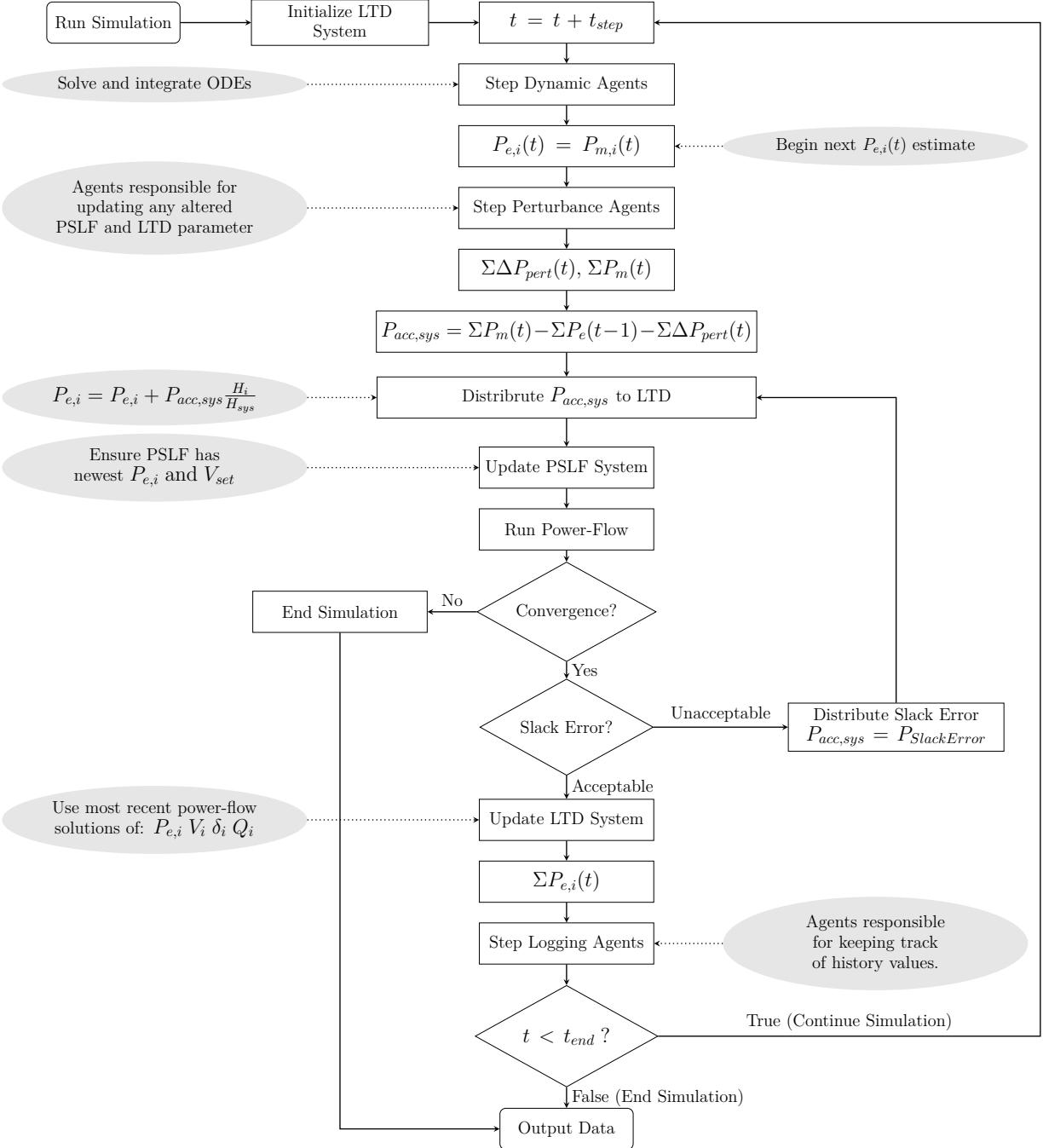
Once simulation initialization is complete, and the system mirror is initialized, the simulation loop is executed. Figure 21 shows the major actions that are processed each time step, but does not include details concerning AMQP communication. AMQP messages are sent and received during the ‘Update’ blocks and the system mirrors are checked for coherency at these times as well.

The simulation loop can be viewed as starting with the increment of simulation time followed by the stepping of any dynamic agents. These dynamic agents calculate the new system frequency and perform any required governor responses. Generator electrical power is then set equal to generator mechanical power. This step is the beginning of forming the next power-flow solution initial condition.

Perturbation agents are then stepped. This means that any steps, ramps, or noise type events are performed, agents in both system mirrors are updated, and any related system value is changed accordingly. For example, the tripping of a generator requires the system inertia to change as well as the amount of power in the system. The variable  $\Delta P_{pert}$  is used to keep track of system power changes. Additionally, BA action takes place at this time.

After all perturbation related actions are executed, accelerating power is calculated and distributed to the system according to generator inertia. The PSLF system is updated with any required values and a power flow is run. If the solution diverges the simulation ends and any collected data is output. If the solution does not diverge, the magnitude of any slack error is checked against the slack error tolerance. If the slack error is larger than the slack tolerance, the error is redistributed to the system until the resulting error is within tolerance.

Once the system has converged to a point where the slack error is less than the slack tolerance, PSLF values for generator real and reactive power and bus voltage and angle are used to update the LTD mirror. The electric power output of the system is summed for use in calculating system accelerating power in the next time step. Any LTD logging agents are then stepped and data for that particular simulation time step are recorded. Finally, system time is checked and



**Figure 21: Flowchart showing overview of simulation time step actions.**

if the simulation is complete, any collected data is output. If the simulation is not complete, the simulation time is incremented by the time step and the cycle repeats itself again.

#### 4.3.5. Simulation Outputs

Pre-defined data is collected by any agent with logging ability. Current agents with this ability are machines, loads, shunts, branches, areas, balancing authorities, and the system mirror itself. When a simulation is complete, the final system mirror is exported via the Python package `shelve` and options exist to export some data as a MATLAB `.mat` file. The `.mat` output is accomplished by combining various agent log dictionaries into a single dictionary. As such, only data deemed useful for validating the software is included.

It should be noted that numerous plot functions were created to easier visualize the python mirror data. The Python plot functions are located in the PSLTDSim package `plot` folder, while the MATLAB validation plots are located in the GitHub repository only.

## 4.4. Software Validation

PSLTDSim was validated by comparing result data from identical simulation scenarios performed in PSDS and PSLTDSim. Compared values of interest include: system frequency, generator mechanical power, generator real power, bus voltage magnitude, generator voltage angle, generator reactive power, branch current, branch real power flow, and branch reactive power flow. The following sections describe the plots used for validation, present results from various scenarios, and provide a validation summary.

### 4.4.1. Validation Plots Explained

Plots were used to present simulation validation data. Due to the volume of information, various types of plots were created. Figure 22 shows the three types of plots used for the validation process. Because of the different time steps used in PSDS and LTD, when computing difference data between the two simulations, the same LTD value was held for multiple comparisons. For example, any PSDS( $t = 2.x$ ) data was compared to the corresponding LTD( $t = 2$ ) data point.

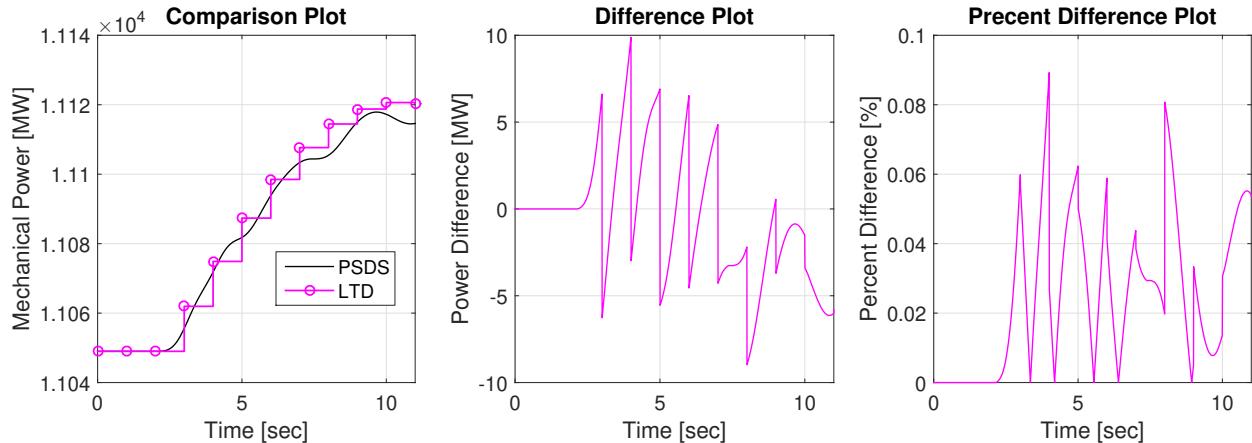


Figure 22: Validation plot examples.

#### 4.4.1.1. Comparison Plot

The most basic plot is a comparison plot that simply puts data from one simulation environment on top of another. Two examples of a comparison plot is shown in Figure 23 where LTD data as open circles and PSDS data plotted as filled dots.

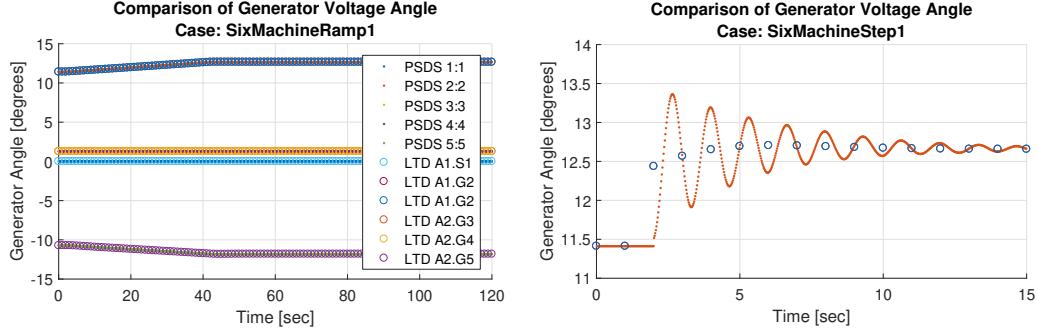


Figure 23: Comparison plot examples.

While comparison plots are useful for quick validation, they do not provide substantive quantitative data. Additionally, when comparing many values, plots become difficult to interpret. As a result, comparison plots are used only for showing frequency.

#### 4.4.1.2. Difference Plot

To allow for more easily compared values and provide quantitative data, a difference plot was created. Figure 24 provides an example of a difference plot. Since individual comparisons seemed less important, all data comparisons were plotted in grey with an absolute average plotted in black.

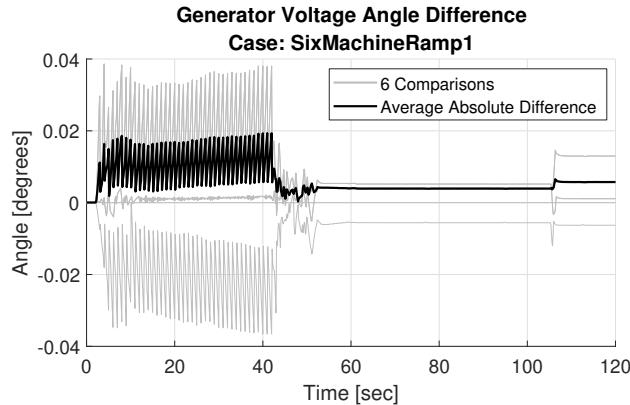


Figure 24: Difference plot example.

Equation 13 describes the difference calculation between PSDS and LTD variables.

$$\text{PSDS}_{data} - \text{LTD}_{data} = \text{Difference}_{data} \quad (13)$$

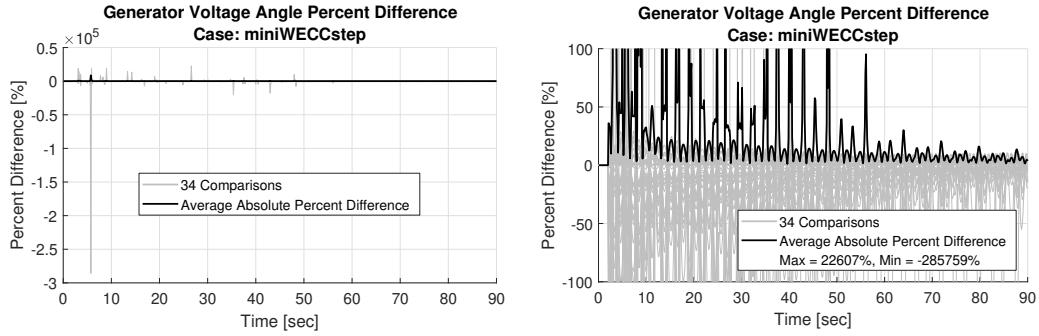
The absolute average was calculated using Equation 14 where  $data_i$  represents a time series of difference data for a particular value of interest and  $n$  is the total number of comparisons made.

$$\text{Average}_{abs} = \frac{\sum_i^n |data_i|}{n} \quad (14)$$

While difference plots are more quantitative than comparison plots, there is no sense of scale when comparing two values. As power systems can greatly vary in size, a subjectively insignificant difference in one system may be very significant in another system.

#### 4.4.1.3. Percent Difference Plot

To account for the wide variety of data magnitudes being compared, a percent difference plot was created. Figure 25 shows two examples of a percent difference plot.



**Figure 25: Percent difference plot examples.**

Similar to the difference plot, individual comparisons were not deemed as important a cumulative comparison, so the same plotting scheme is repeated. The percent difference was calculated according to Equation 15.

$$\%_{diff} = \frac{|PSDS_{data} - LTD_{data}|}{\frac{PSDS_{data} + LTD_{data}}{2}} \times 100\% \quad (15)$$

When using percent difference, it should be noted that if one value is positive, and the other negative, results may be misleading. More specifically, as the average of the two numbers being compared approaches zero, so does the denominator of Equation 15. Such a situation may lead to a divide by zero error or, more likely, a very large percent difference. To alleviate such data ob-

fuscation, the y-axis was scaled if the average absolute percent difference was over 150% and the maximum and minimum percent differences are listed in the legend. This is shown in the right hand plot of Figure 25.

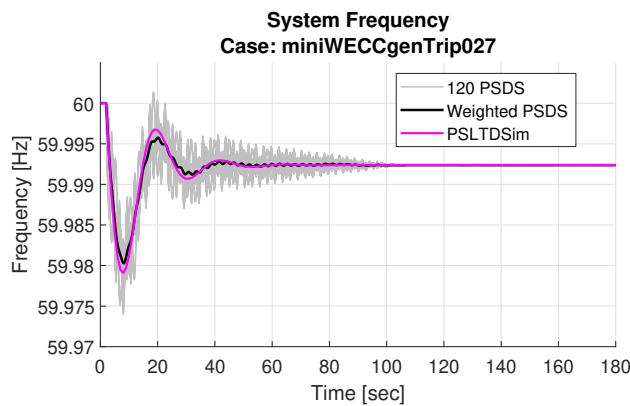
#### 4.4.1.4. Weighted Frequency Plot

Frequency comparisons were used to validate the single system frequency assumption calculated by PSLTDSim. Comparison of frequency data from PSDS to LTD was simplified by calculating a single weighted PSDS frequency  $f_w$  based on generator inertia. In a system with  $N$  generators

$$f_w = \sum_{i=1}^N f_i \frac{H_{PU,i} M_{base,i}}{H_{sys}} \quad (16)$$

where  $f_i$  is a full time series of machine  $i$ 's frequency, and  $H_{sys}$  is calculated according to Equation 8.

Figure 26 shows all bus frequencies plotted in grey, the calculated weighted frequency in black, and the single system frequency calculated by PSLTDSim in magenta. It is worth pointing out that non-generator bus frequencies are ignored in the weighted system frequency (because they lack inertia), and that the weighted frequency was used for difference calculations between PSDS and PSLTDSim.



**Figure 26: Frequency comparison plot example.**

#### 4.4.2. Six Machine System

The six machine system used for validation is shown in Figure 27. The system is based off the Kundur four machine system presented in [34] with a some modifications.

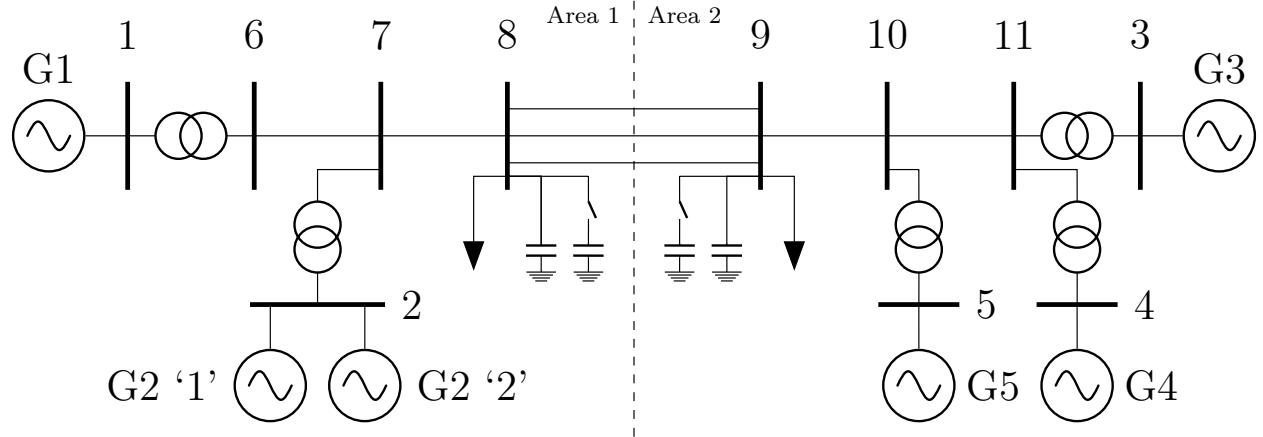


Figure 27: Six machine system.

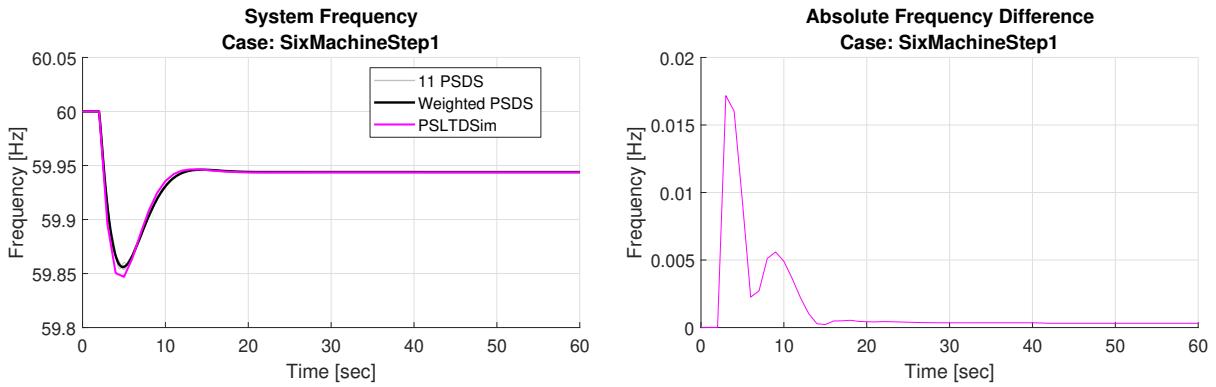
The most noticeable difference is the addition of two generators and switchable shunts on bus 8 and 9. The generators were added to test power plant style AGC dispatching and multiple generators per bus. While placing multiple generators per bus is not a standard or recommended modeling technique, it is present in the full WECC PSLF model and as such, should be validated in PSLTDSim. Detailed six machine system model specifications are presented in Appendix 9.

##### 4.4.2.1. Simulated Scenario Descriptions

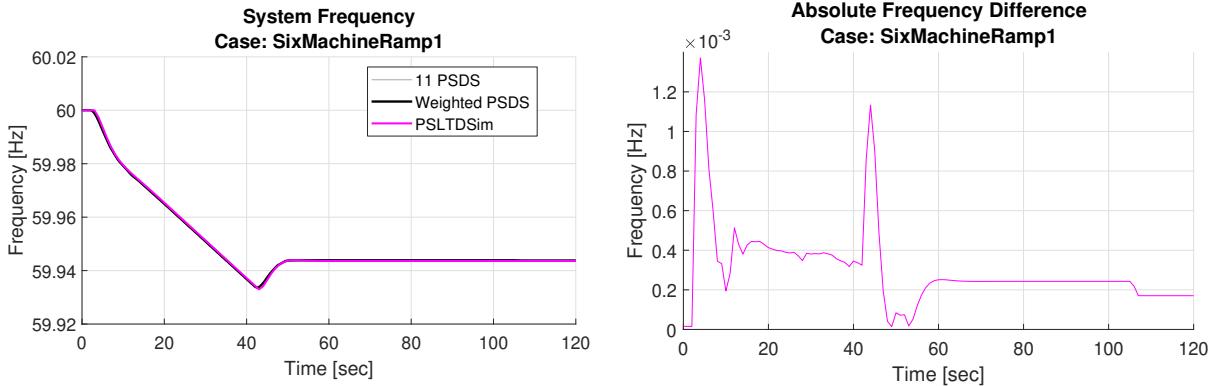
A load step, a load ramp, and a generator trip were simulated using the Six Machine Model. The simplest validation test, a stepping of load, occurred at  $t = 2$  when the load on bus 9 was increased by 75 MW. To test longer perturbances, a 40 second 75 MW load ramp of the load on bus 9 was simulated. Due to the LTD one second time step, the ramp is equivalent to forty 1.875 MW steps taking place every second from  $t = 2$  to  $t = 42$ . Finally, to test the handling of inertia and a slightly larger step perturbation, generator 5, which was initially generating 90 MW, was tripped at  $t = 2$ .

#### 4.4.2.2. Frequency Results

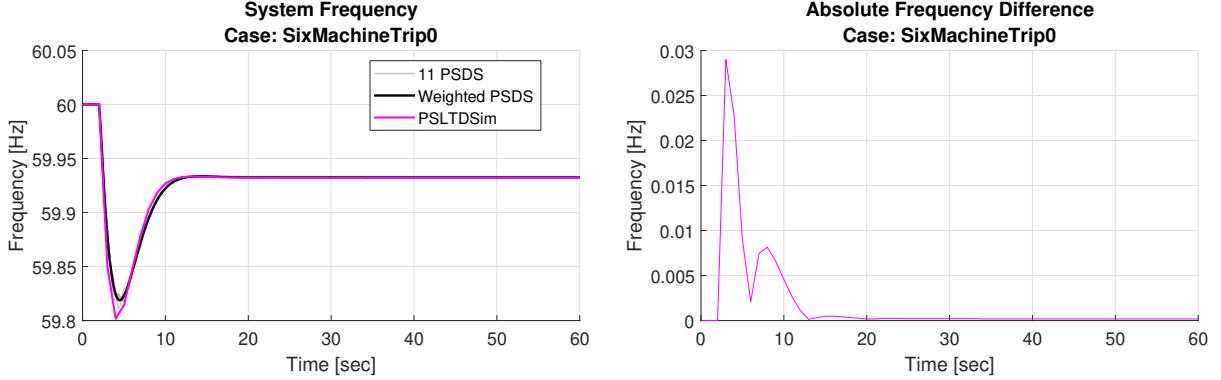
System frequency comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 28, 29, and 30. The load step results show a maximum 18 mHz difference that is reduced below 2.5 mHz by  $t = 25$ . The system frequency difference during the ramp test never exceeds more than 1.4 mHz with peaks at the start and end of the ramp event. Similar to the load step result, the generator trip event had a maximum difference of 30 mHz that was reduced below 2.5 mHz by  $t = 25$  and essentially matched the PSDS frequency. The larger frequency peak difference is due to the generator trip perturbation being 15 MW larger than the load step perturbation.



**Figure 28:** Six machine load step system frequency comparison.



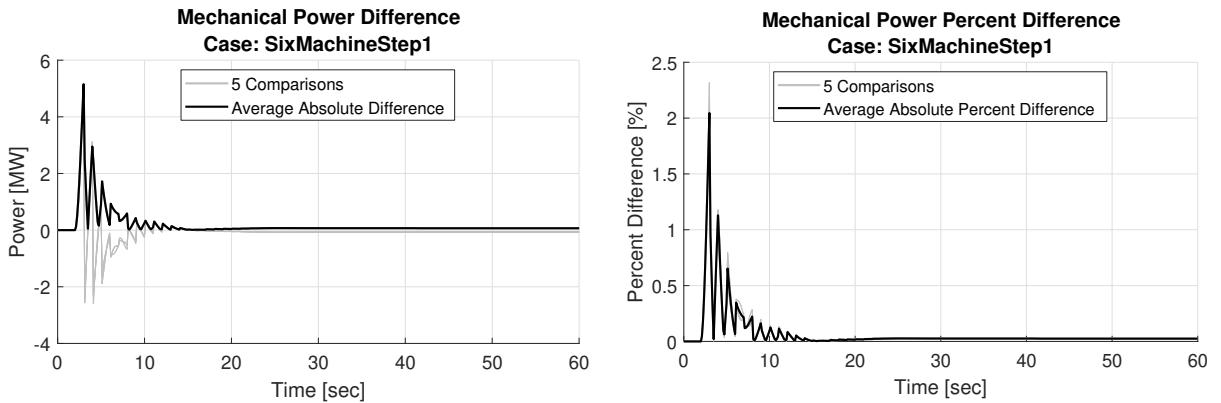
**Figure 29:** Six machine load ramp system frequency comparison.



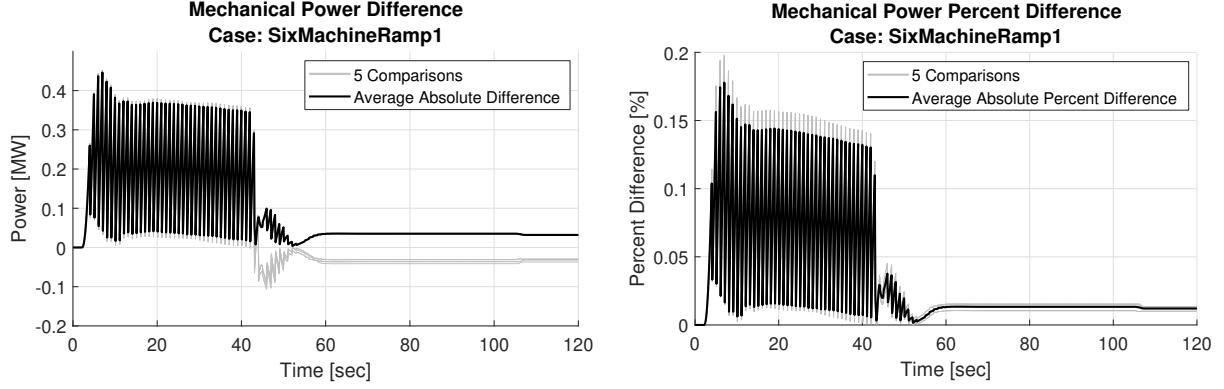
**Figure 30: Six machine generator trip system frequency comparison.**

#### 4.4.2.3. Generator Mechanical Power Results

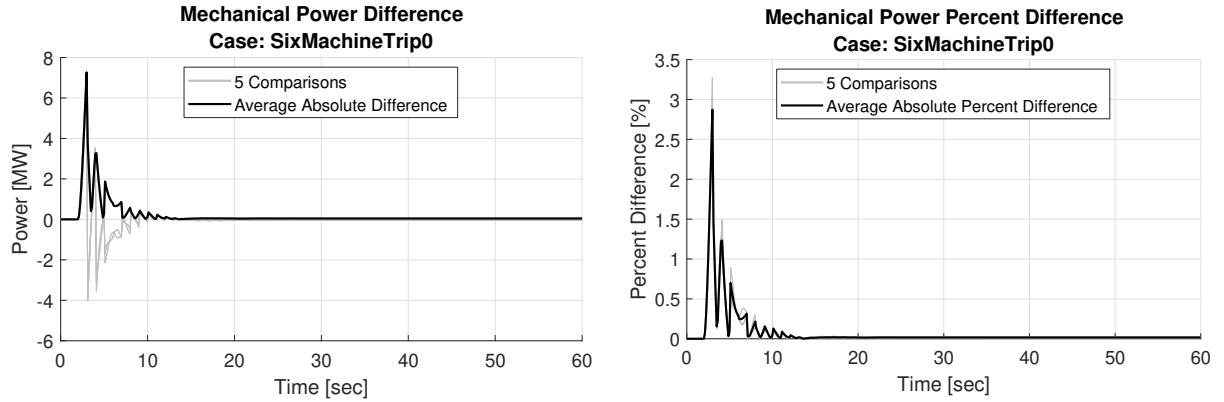
Generator mechanical power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 31, 32, and 33. It should be noted that only generators equipped with governors are compared in this section as machines without governors do not have any changes in mechanical power. Similar to frequency results, the ramp event had the smallest difference from PSDS never exceeding 0.5 MW, or 0.2% difference. Unlike the frequency results, most ramp mechanical power differences happen during the ramp with no large peaks at the beginning or end of the event. Further, there is a small steady state error present after the ramp is complete. Both step type events have an immediate peak difference of 5 to 7 MW (2.5 to 3.5 percent difference) that is reduced to roughly zero after 20 seconds.



**Figure 31: Six machine load step mechanical power comparison.**



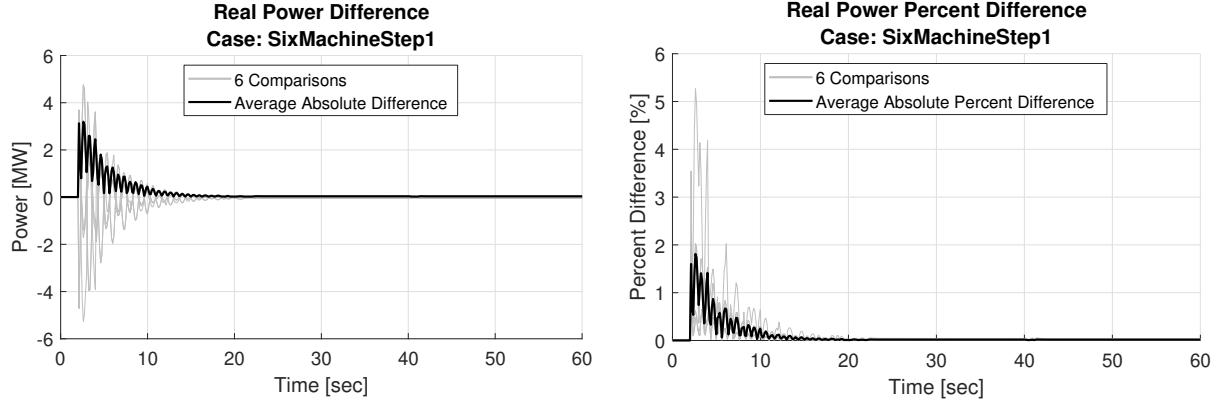
**Figure 32: Six machine load ramp mechanical power comparison.**



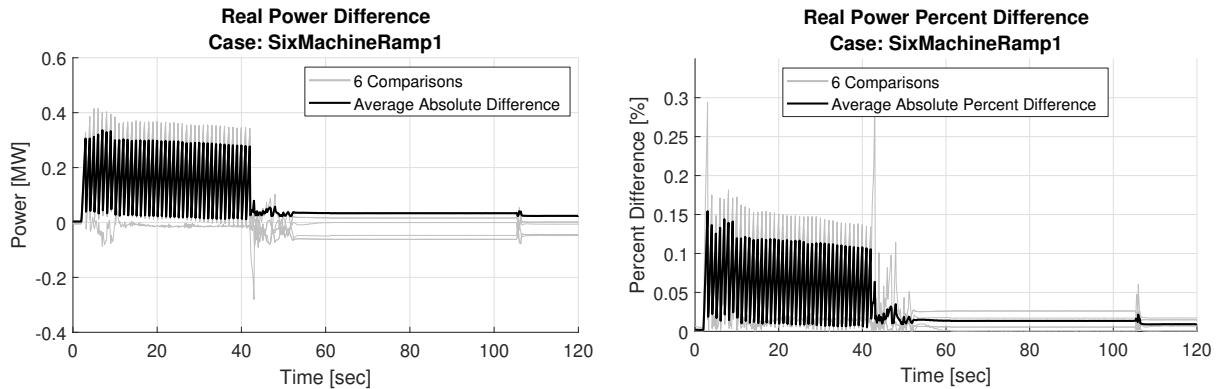
**Figure 33: Six machine generator trip mechanical power comparison.**

#### 4.4.2.4. Generator Real Power Results

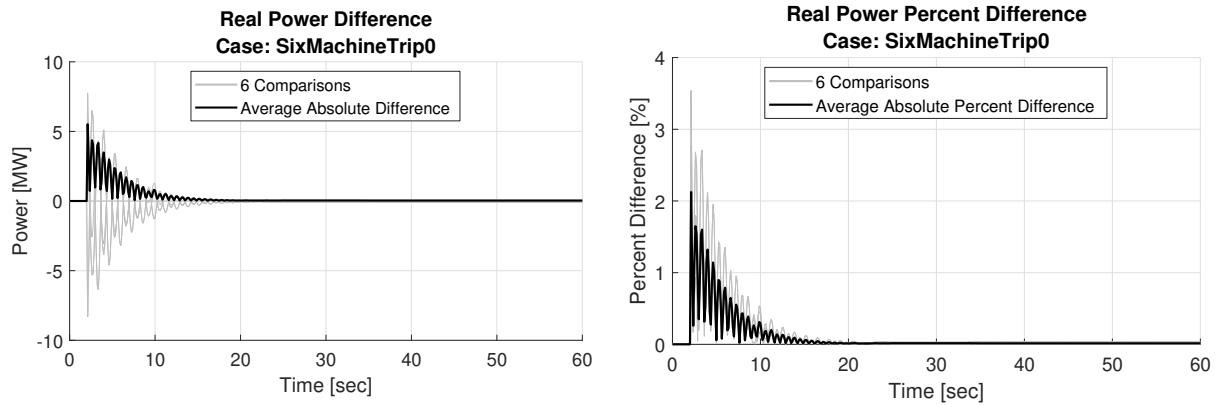
Generator real power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 34, 35, and 36. All six generators are compared in this section as real power is calculated via the power-flow solution and can change every step. Averaged results are very similar to the mechanical power results though slightly more transient. In the step type events, individual difference peaks are nearly double the mechanical power peak differences. In all cases, the difference approaches zero approximately 20 seconds after each perturbation is complete. The PSDS simulation shows a strange peak of activity during the ramp test near  $t = 110$ .



**Figure 34:** Six machine load step real power comparison.



**Figure 35:** Six machine load ramp real power comparison.

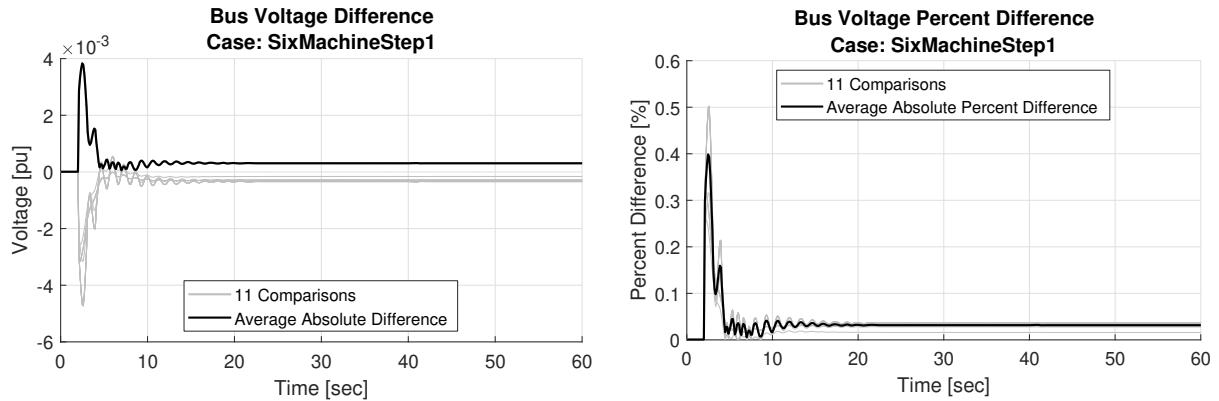


**Figure 36:** Six machine generator trip real power comparison.

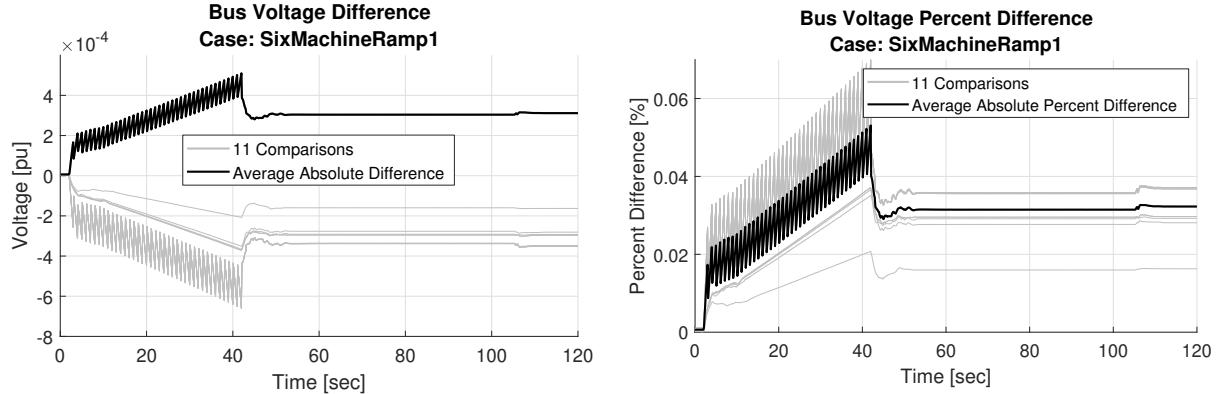
#### 4.4.2.5. Voltage Magnitude Results

Bus voltage magnitude comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 37, 38, and 39. Since voltage is presented in PU, percent difference plots appear as a

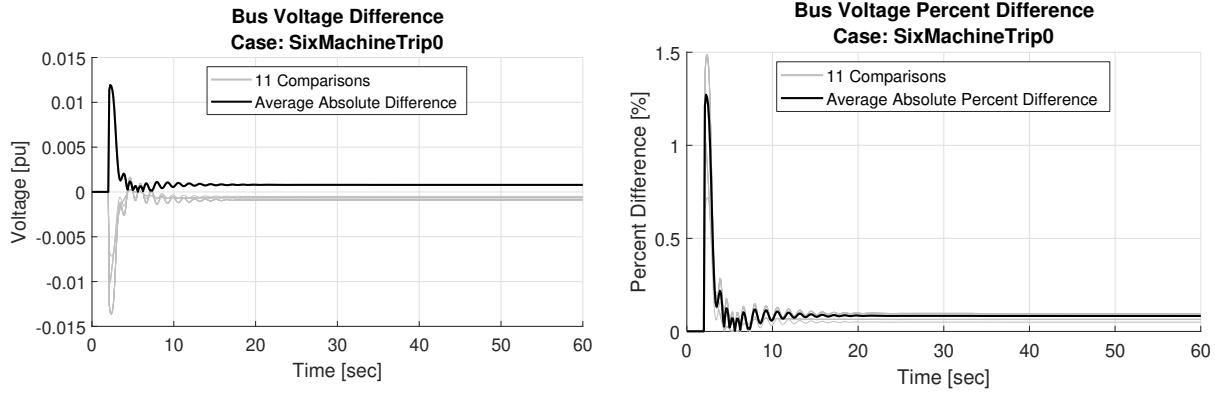
scaled absolute version of the difference plots. The largest bus voltage difference, of approximately 1.5%, occurred during the generator trip test. As with the load step test, simulation results converge after  $t = 20$ . Voltages gradually drift during the ramp event, but stop once the event is over. The gradual voltage change is believed to be due to the difference in exciter modeling between TSPF and CTS.



**Figure 37: Six machine load step voltage comparison.**



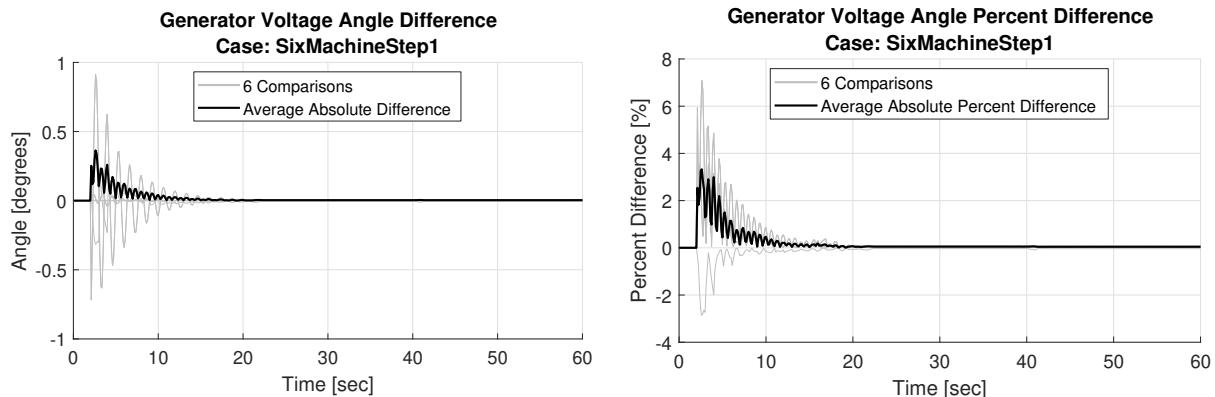
**Figure 38: Six machine load ramp voltage comparison.**



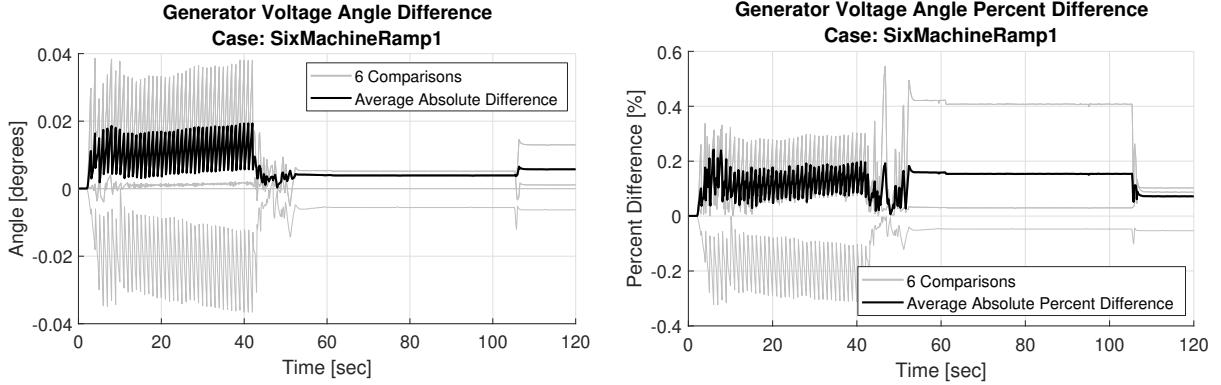
**Figure 39: Six machine generator trip voltage comparison.**

#### 4.4.2.6. Voltage Angle Results

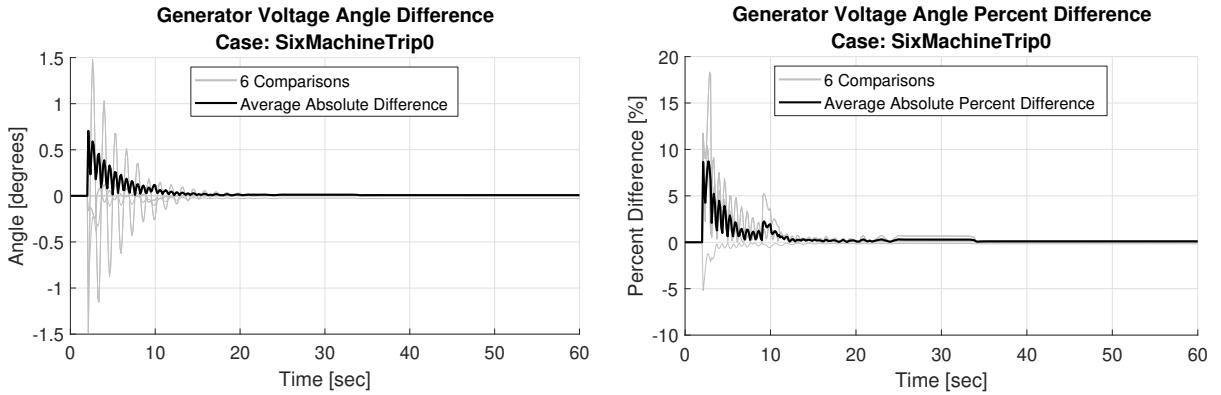
Bus voltage angle comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 40, 41, and 42. The step type perturbances caused larger oscillatory differences than the load ramp event, steady state angle differences are near zero. Maximum percent difference during the generator trip reached nearly 20% while the load step and ramp had maximums of approximately 7.0% and 0.6% respectively.



**Figure 40: Six machine load step voltage angle comparison.**



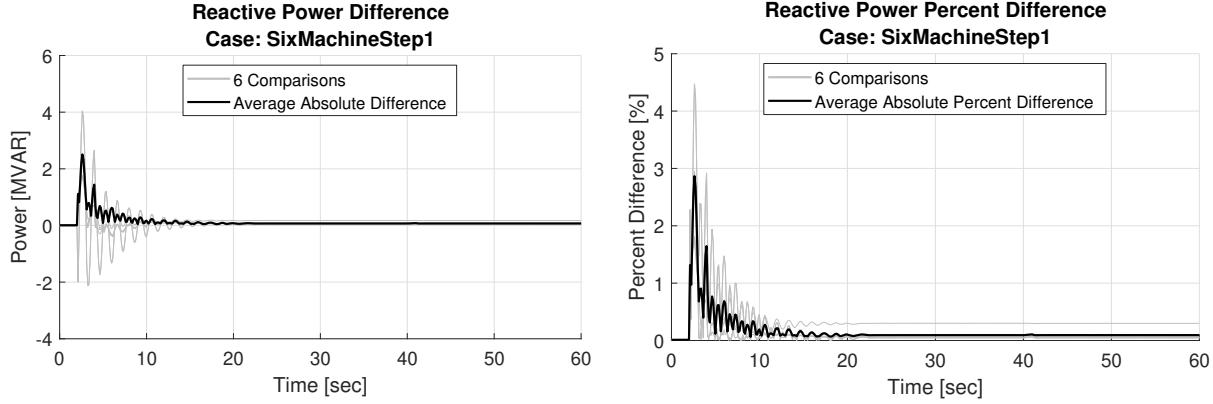
**Figure 41:** Six machine load ramp voltage angle comparison.



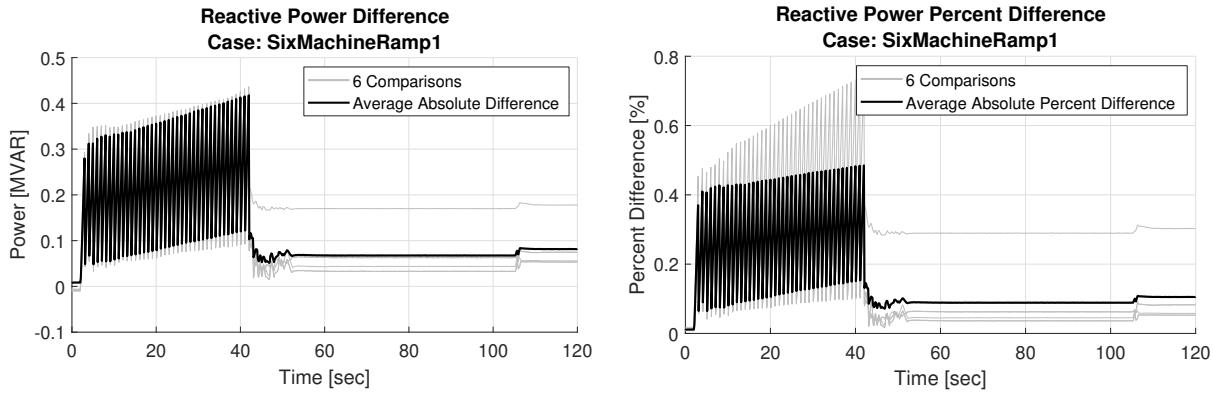
**Figure 42:** Six machine generator trip voltage angle comparison.

#### 4.4.2.7. Generator Reactive Power Results

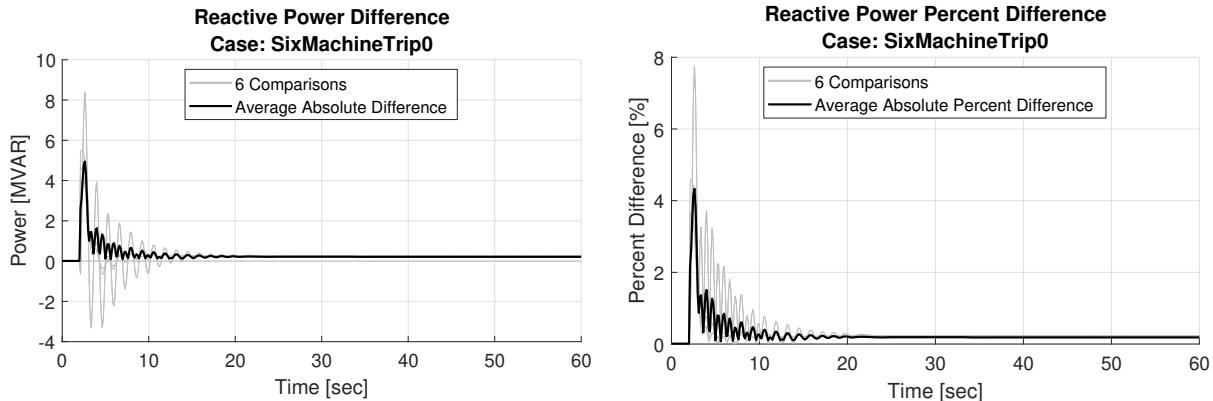
Generator reactive power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 43, 44, and 45. Maximum reactive power percent differences for the generator trip, load step, and ramp events were 8.0%, 5.0%, and 0.8% respectively. As in previous comparisons, the step events had large oscillatory differences immediately following the event, but have very low steady state error by  $t = 20$ . The ramp event had less than 1.0% differences during the event.



**Figure 43:** Six machine load step reactive power comparison.



**Figure 44:** Six machine load ramp reactive power comparison.

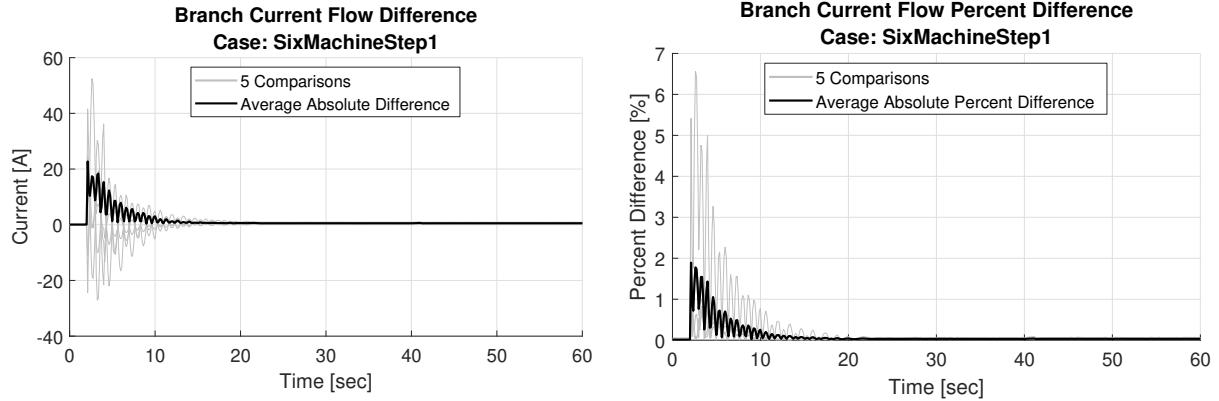


**Figure 45:** Six machine generator trip reactive power comparison.

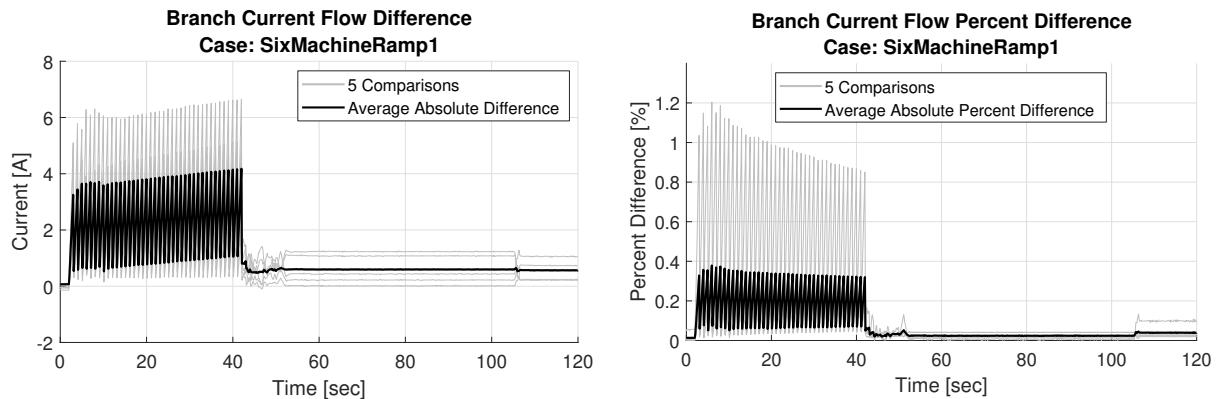
#### 4.4.2.8. Branch Current Results

Branch current comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 46, 47, and 48. Maximum branch current percent differences for the generator trip, load step, and

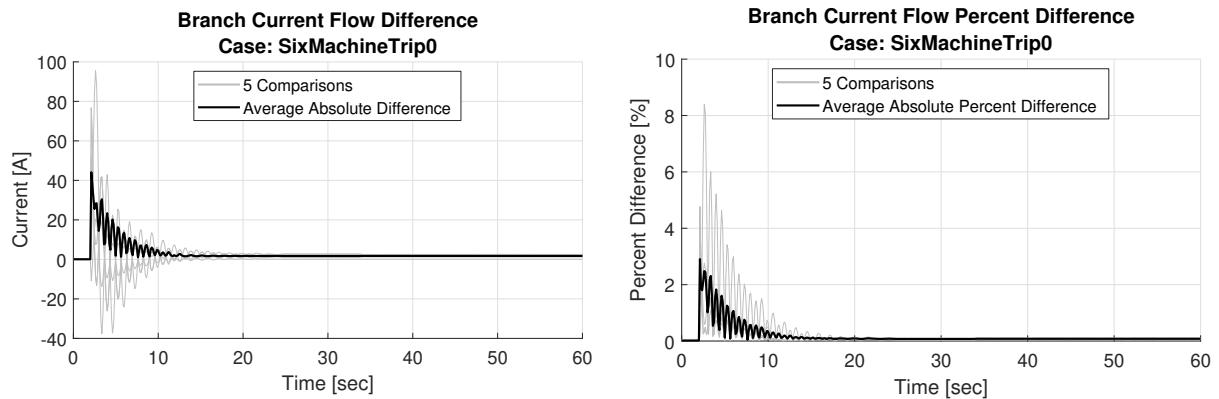
ramp events were 8.5%, 7.0%, and 1.2% respectively. Again, largest differences occur immediately following the event while steady state differences are near zero.



**Figure 46:** Six machine load step branch current flow comparison.



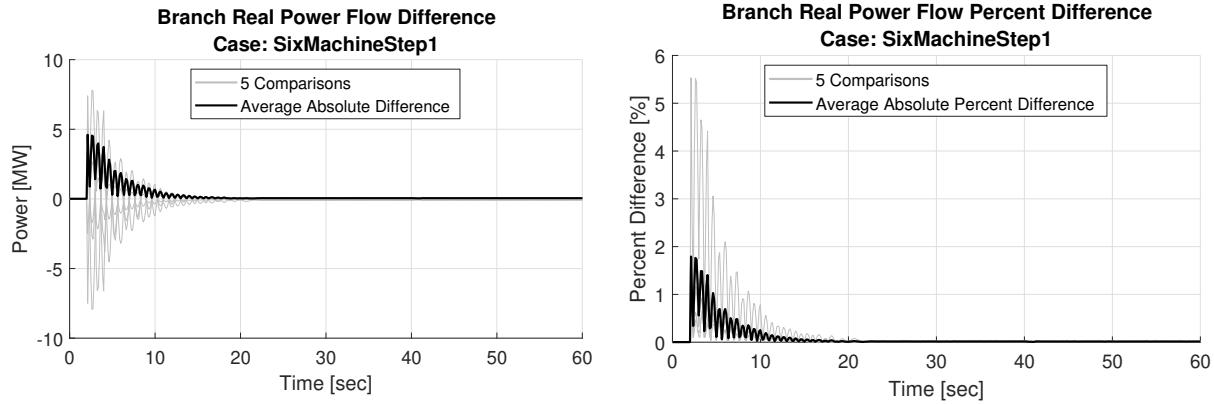
**Figure 47:** Six machine load ramp branch current flow comparison.



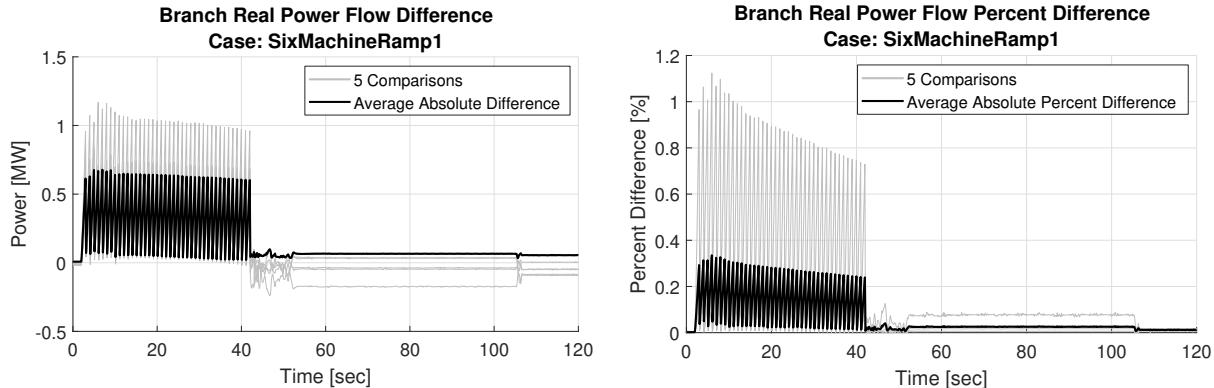
**Figure 48:** Six machine generator trip branch current flow comparison.

#### 4.4.2.9. Branch Real Power Flow Results

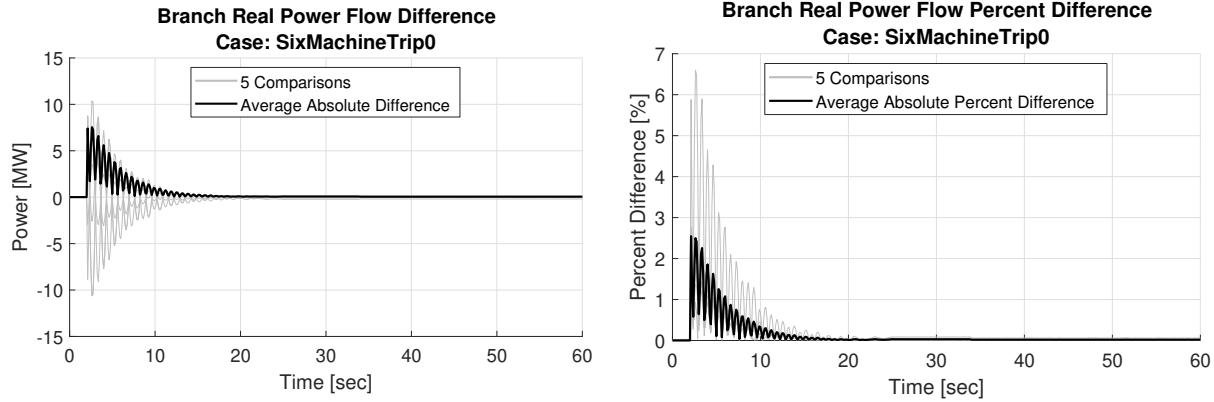
Branch real power flow comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 49, 50, and 51. With results very similar to branch current flow, branch real power flow percent differences for the generator trip, load step, and ramp events were 8.5%, 7.0%, and 1.2% respectively.



**Figure 49:** Six machine load step branch real power flow comparison.



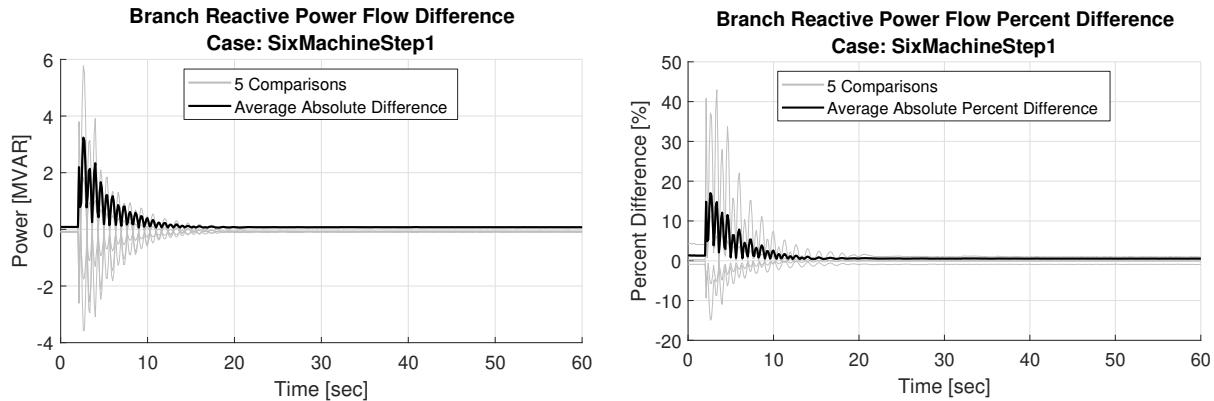
**Figure 50:** Six machine load ramp branch real power flow comparison.



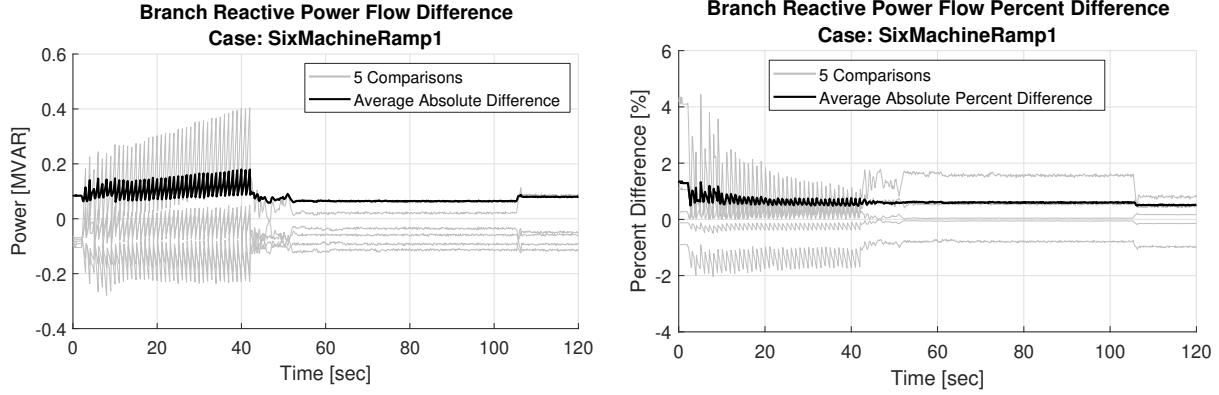
**Figure 51:** Six machine generator trip branch real power flow comparison.

#### 4.4.2.10. Branch Reactive Power Flow Results

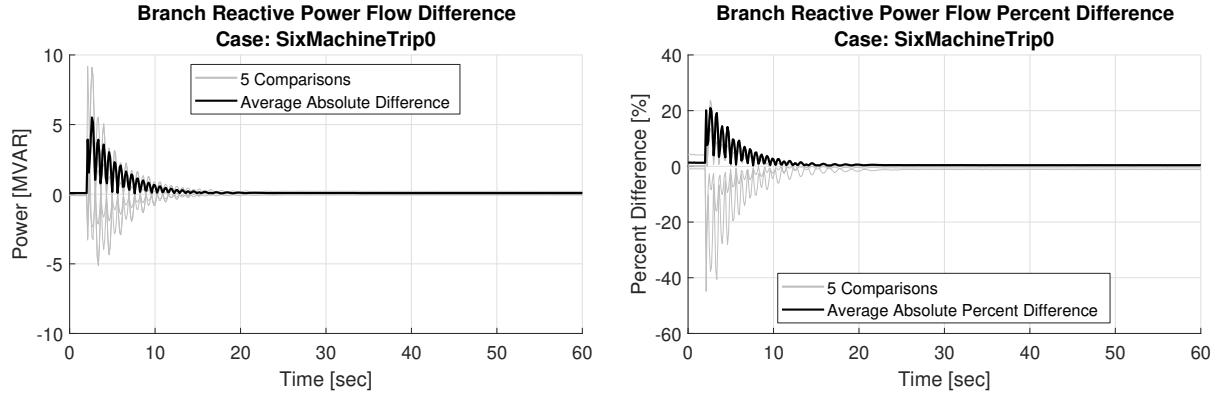
Branch reactive power flow comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 52, 53, and 54. While the timing of differences in branch reactive power flow is similar to current and real power flow, the magnitude of difference is not. Maximum branch reactive power flow percent differences for the generator trip, load step, and ramp events were 45.0%, 45.0%, and 5.0% respectively. These large differences may be due to the size of the system and actual MVAR flow on lines being low.



**Figure 52:** Six machine load step branch reactive power flow comparison.



**Figure 53: Six machine load ramp branch reactive power flow comparison.**



**Figure 54: Six machine generator trip branch reactive power flow comparison.**

#### 4.4.2.11. Six Machine Result Summary

Nearly all percent differences were less than 10.0% and approached zero in the long-term. Calculated system frequency never exceeded a  $\pm 3.0$  mHz difference from the PSDS weighted frequency. Smaller perturbances, such as the ramp event, match PSDS results better than the large step event of a generator trip. Reactive power flow differences for step type events had the largest peak differences from PSDS simulation. Minor variations in voltage magnitude and angle caused by ideal exciter assumptions are believed to be the main contributer to reactive power flow difference.

#### **4.4.3. Mini WECC System**

A larger system model was used To test the scaling ability of PSLTDSim . The ‘mini WECC’, shown in Figure 55, is a 120 bus 34 generator system model created in PSLF. Total generation of 102,050 MW supplies 100,685 MW of load over 104 branch sections. All governors in the miniWECC were modeled with the tgov1. Further details about the creation and use of the miniWECC may be found in [26], [54], [60].

The mini WECC was modified from the original configuration to include three areas. Since the mini WECC was designed to test heavy loading and transient type events, all loads were reduced by 5%. To keep the voltage profile similar to the original design, reactive shunts were also reduced by 5%.

##### **4.4.3.1. Simulated Scenario Descriptions**

Similar to the six machine tests, a load step, load ramp, and generator trip were simulated. At  $t = 2$  the loads on buses 16, 21, and 26 were each increased by 400 MW. The ramp perturbation acts on these same loads a total of 400 MW, but over 40 seconds. The ramp is equivalent to forty 30 MW steps taking place every second from  $t = 2$  to  $t = 42$ . Generator 27 was tripped at  $t = 2$  and was initially generating  $\approx 200$  MW. Unlike the six machine scenario, in which the generator trip was ‘larger’ than the load step; the mini WECC load step is double the magnitude of the simulated generator trip.

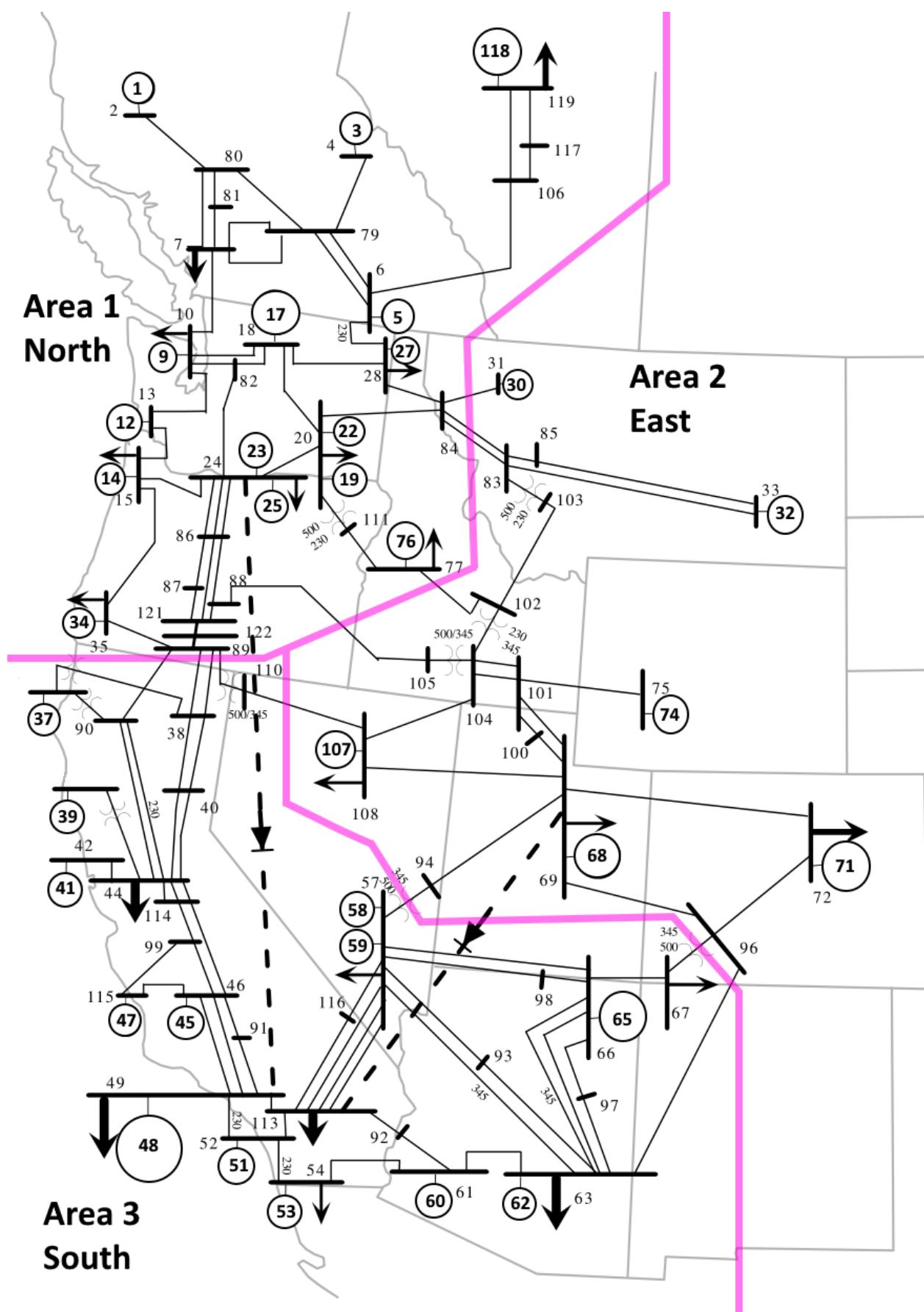
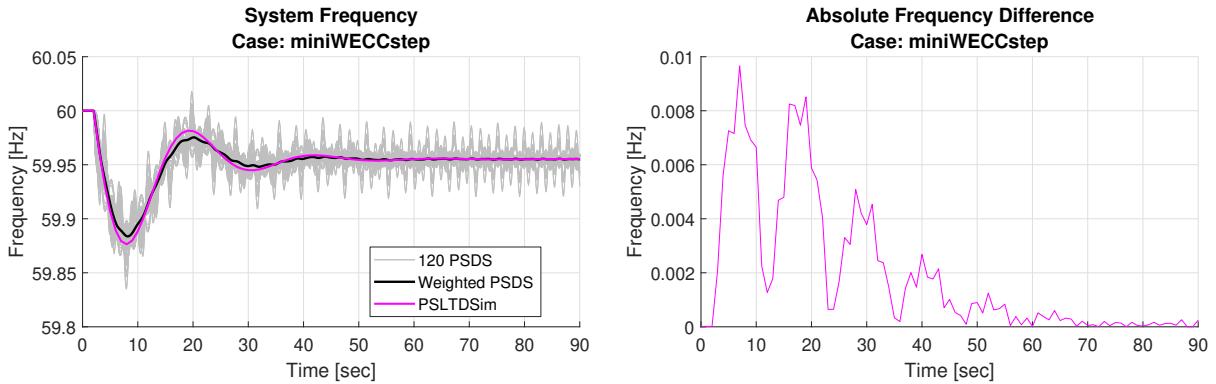


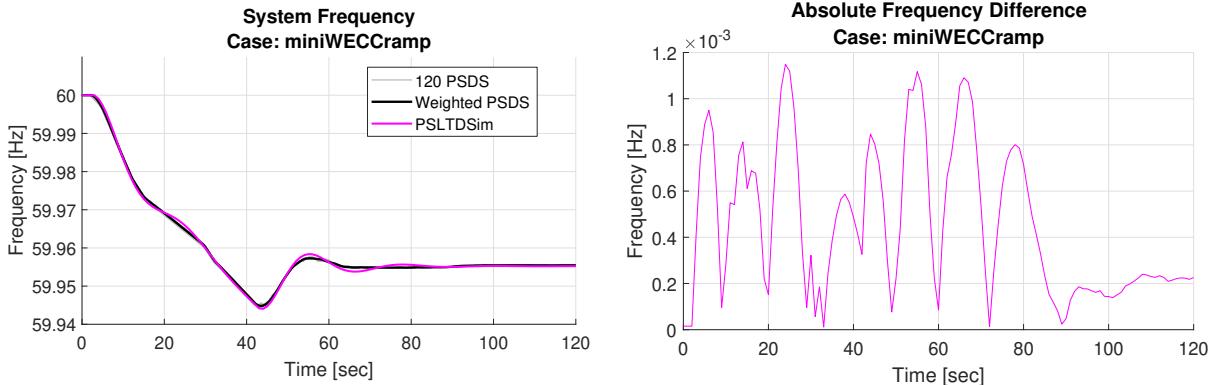
Figure 55: Mini WECC system adapted from [26].

#### 4.4.3.2. Frequency Results

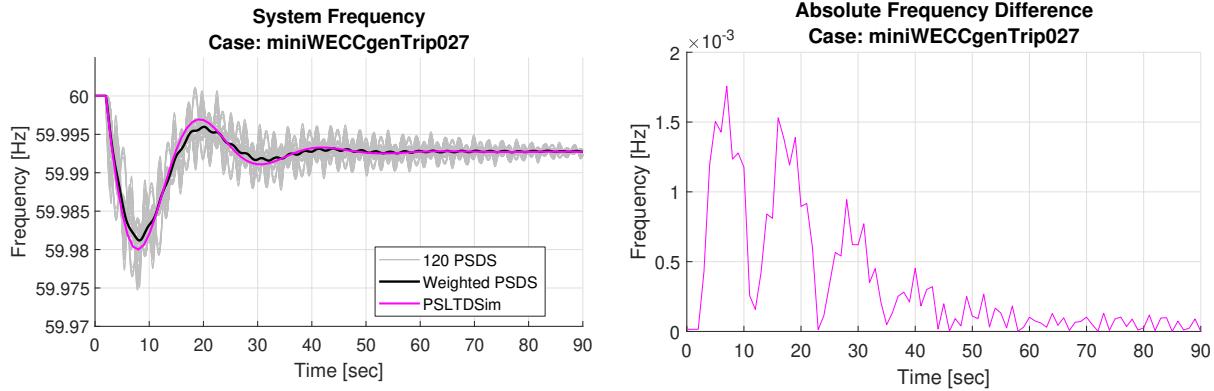
System frequency comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 56, 57, and 58. The simulated step events caused the PSDS frequencies to oscillate. The weighted system frequency of PSDS appears to follow the center of individual frequency oscillation. Similar to six machine results, the ramp event most closely tracks PSDS behavior. For all cases, absolute frequency difference maximums never exceed 10.0 mHz and are less than 1.0 mHz in the long-term.



**Figure 56:** Mini WECC load step system frequency comparison.



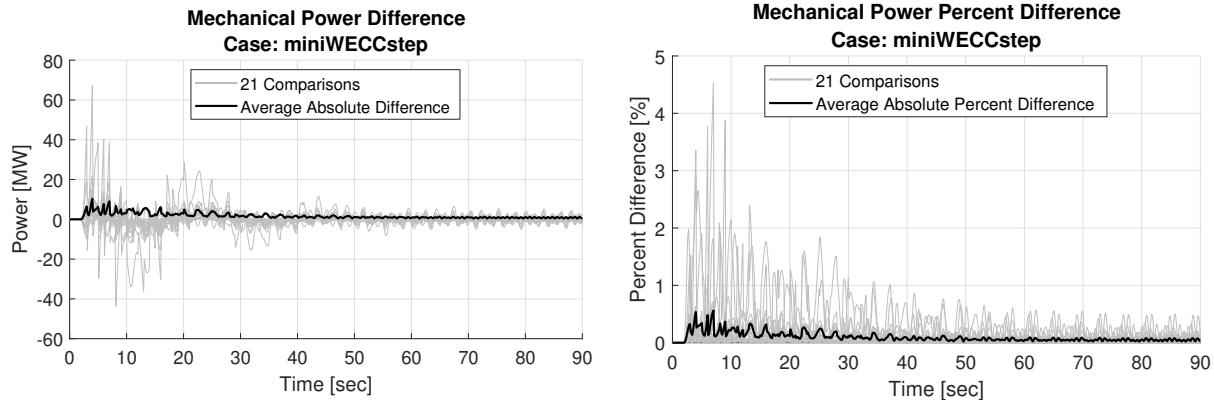
**Figure 57:** Mini WECC load ramp system frequency comparison.



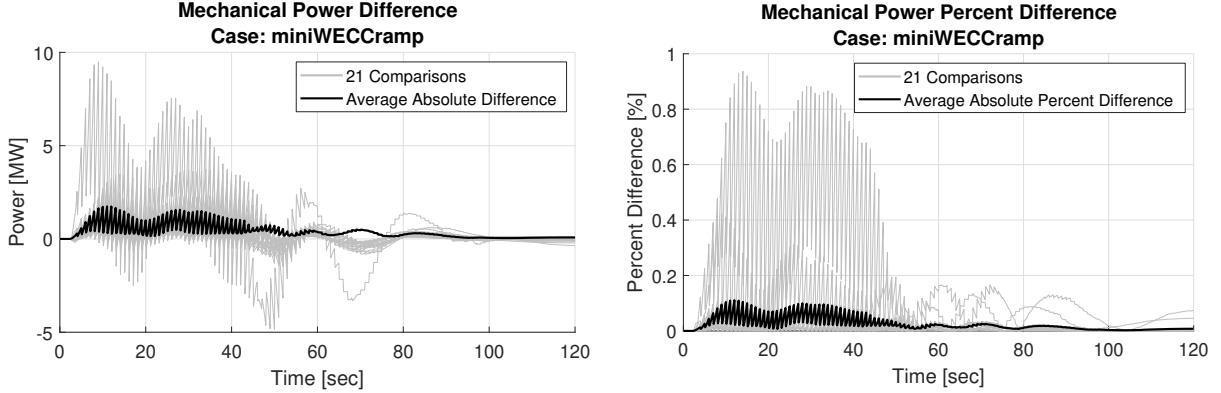
**Figure 58: Mini WECC generator trip system frequency comparison.**

#### 4.4.3.3. Generator Mechanical Power Results

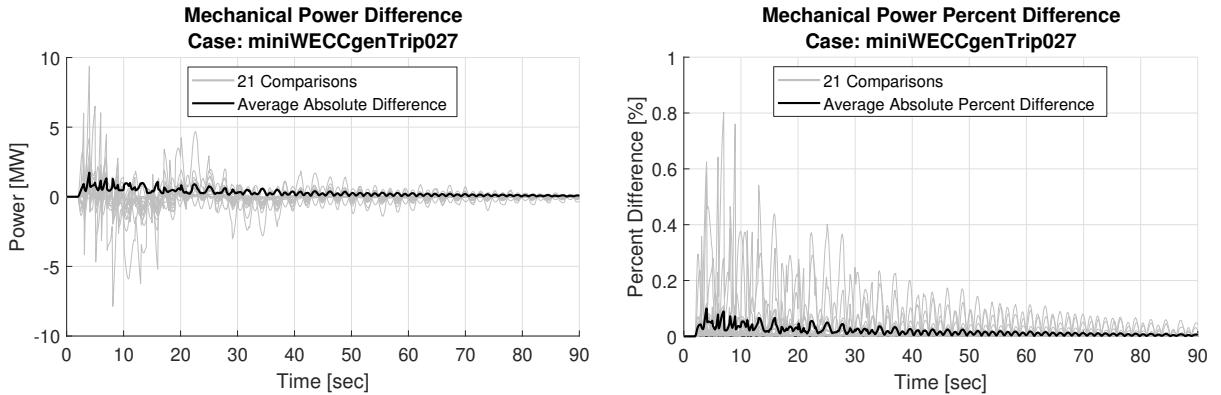
Generator mechanical power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 59, 60, and 61. The ramp and generator trip events both had MW differences of less than 10 MW (1.0% difference), with averages approaching zero in the long-term. The larger load step caused a MW difference of approximately 70 MW (5.0% difference). In both the step type events, the system starts to swing and doesn't completely come to rest by the end of simulated time.



**Figure 59: Mini WECC load step mechanical power comparison.**



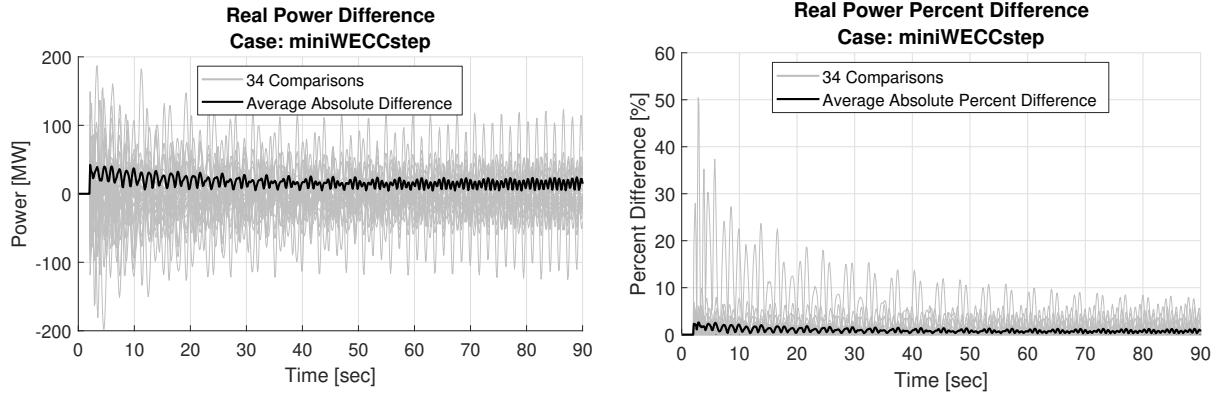
**Figure 60: Mini WECC load ramp mechanical power comparison.**



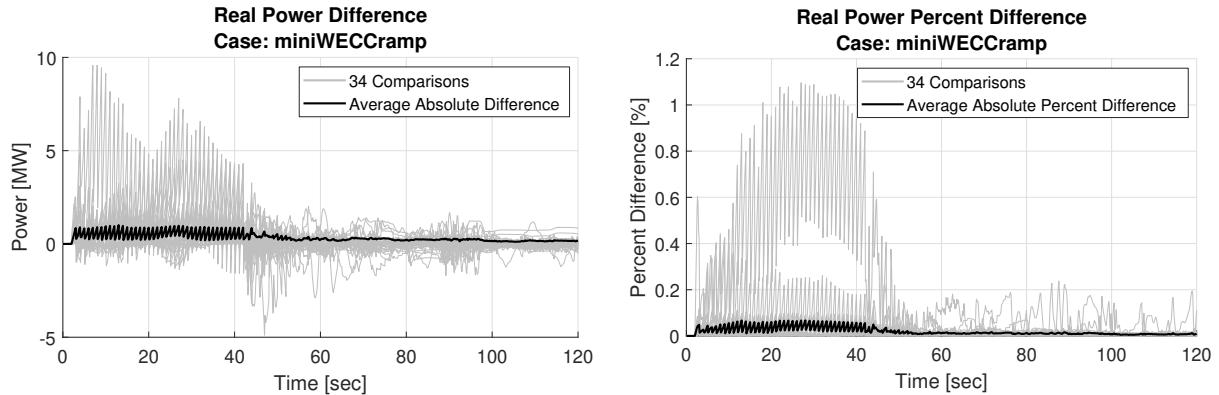
**Figure 61: Mini WECC generator trip mechanical power comparison.**

#### 4.4.3.4. Generator Real Power Results

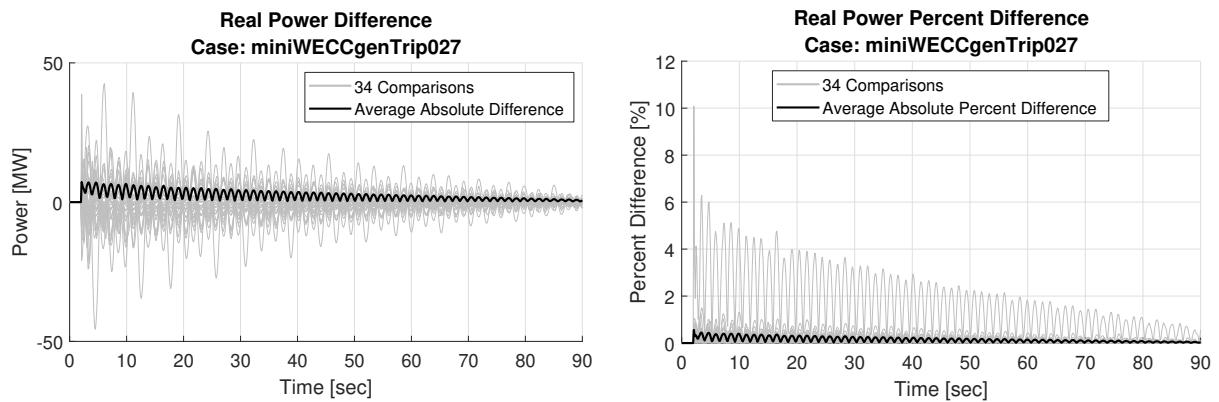
Generator real power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 62, 63, and 64. The swinging system causes larger differences in real power for both step type events, however both absolute average percent differences is less than 5.0%. The ramp event, which differs less than 1.2%, matches PSDS data well. In all scenarios, long-term behavior averages approach zero, or accounting for system swing, approach the center of oscillation.



**Figure 62: Mini WECC load step real power comparison.**



**Figure 63: Mini WECC load ramp real power comparison.**

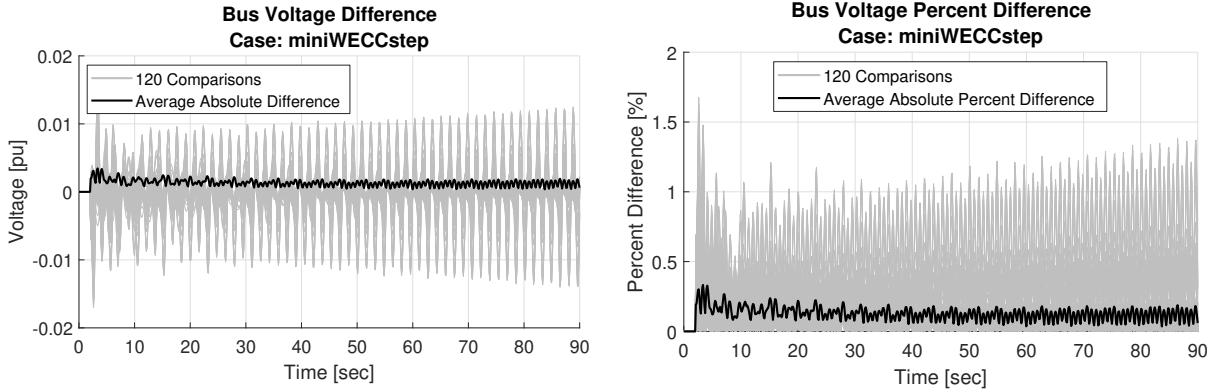


**Figure 64: Mini WECC generator trip real power comparison.**

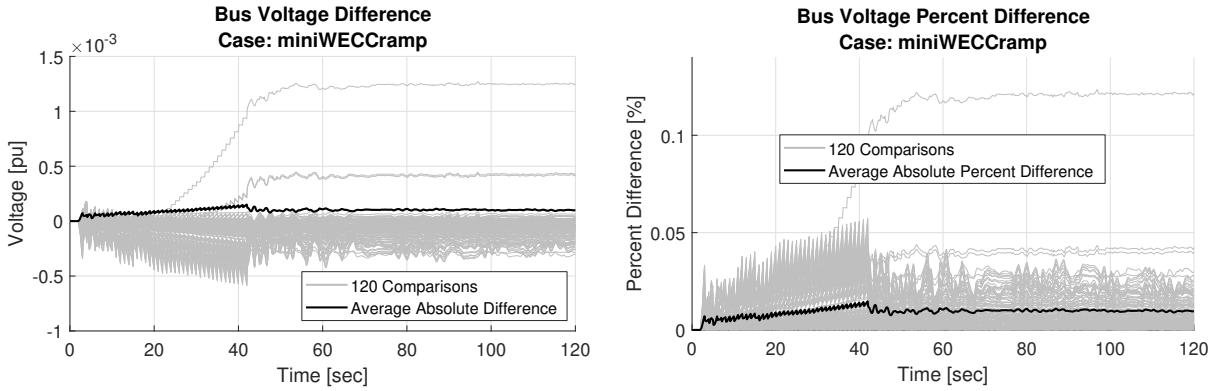
#### 4.4.3.5. Voltage Magnitude Results

Bus voltage magnitude comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 65, 66, and 67. In the load step case, voltage magnitude oscillations appear to be getting larger as simulated time increases. The generator trip case has damped voltage oscillation behav-

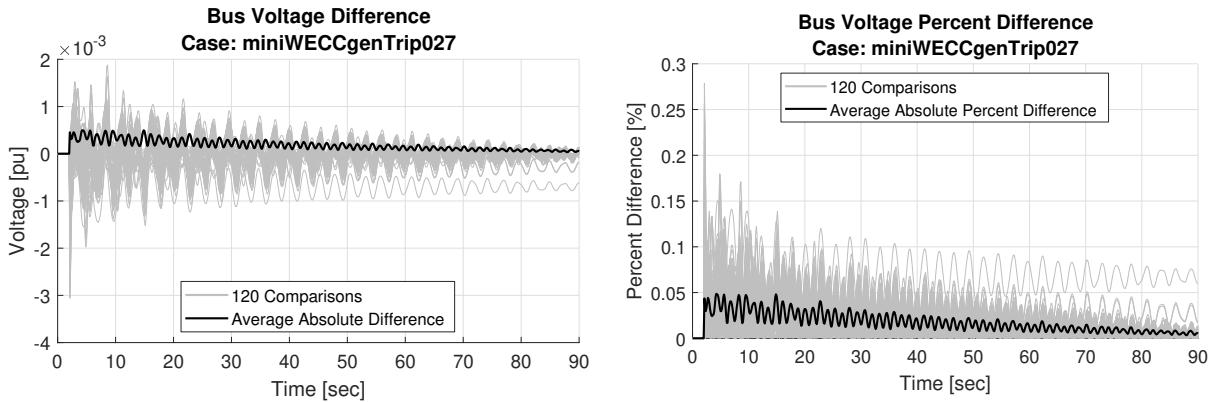
ior. Despite these oscillations, maximum voltage percent difference for either step type event is less than 2.0%. The ramp event has an absolute average percent difference of less than 0.05% for the entire simulation.



**Figure 65: Mini WECC load step voltage comparison.**



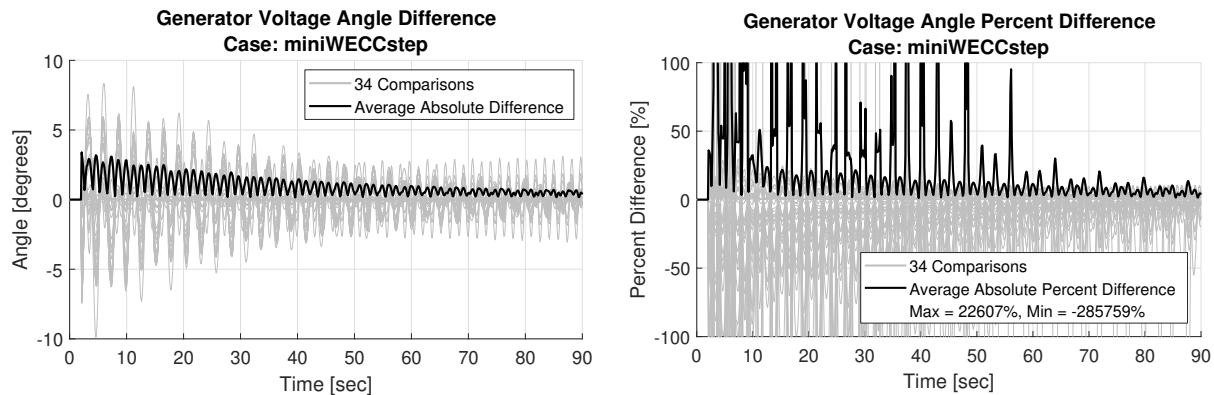
**Figure 66: Mini WECC load ramp voltage comparison.**



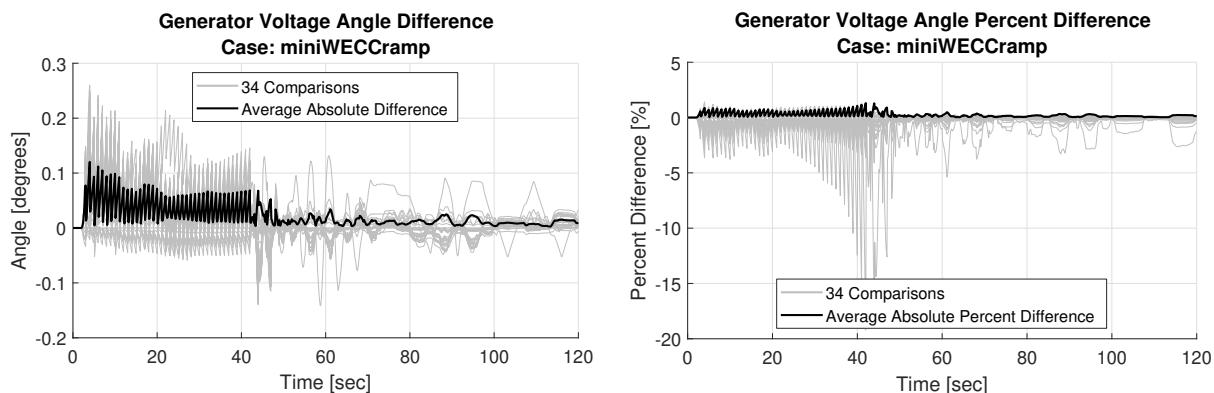
**Figure 67: Mini WECC generator trip voltage comparison.**

#### 4.4.3.6. Voltage Angle Results

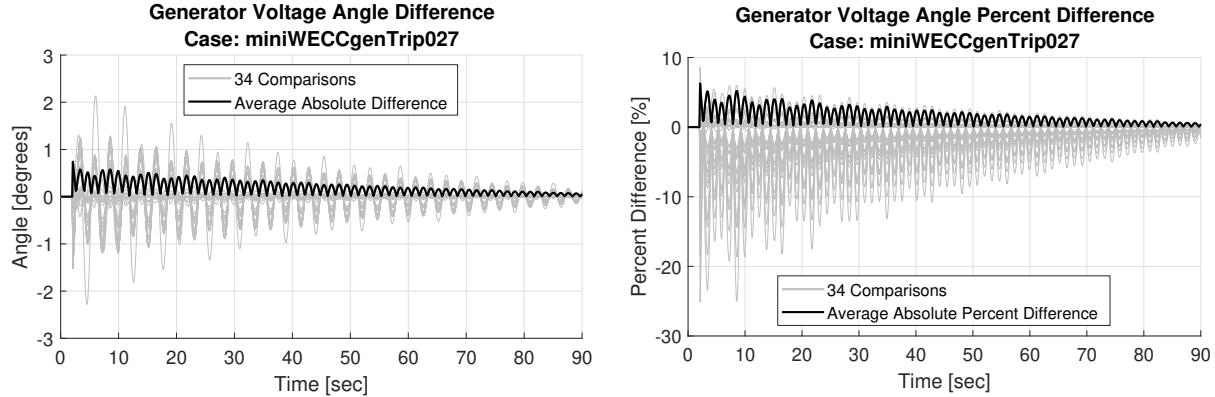
Bus voltage angle comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 68, 69, and 70. Actual angle differences of less than 10 degrees result in very large percent differences in the load step case. Angle oscillations appear to be damped in the generator trip case and slowly growing in the load step case. The load ramp angle difference magnitude is below 0.3 degrees for the entire simulation. Generally, it can be seen that when the system swing behavior is damped, long-term values from both simulation methods appear to converge.



**Figure 68: Mini WECC load step voltage angle comparison.**



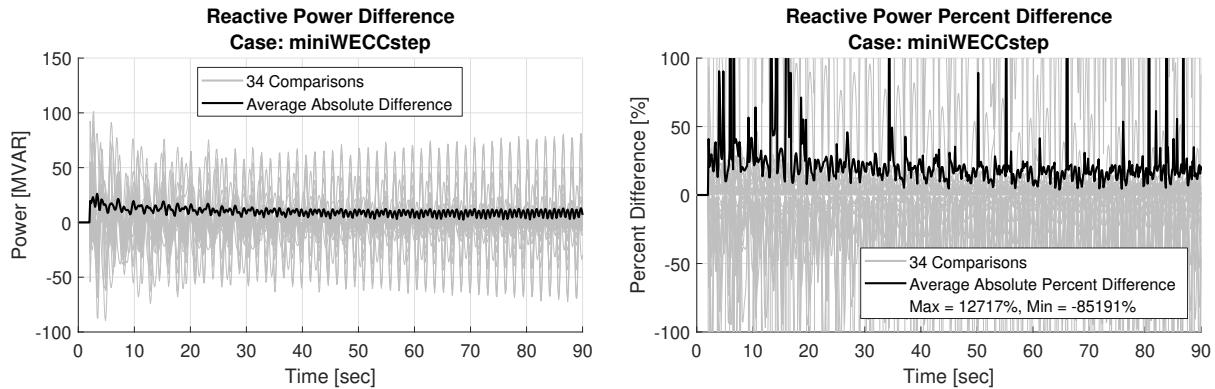
**Figure 69: Mini WECC load ramp voltage angle comparison.**



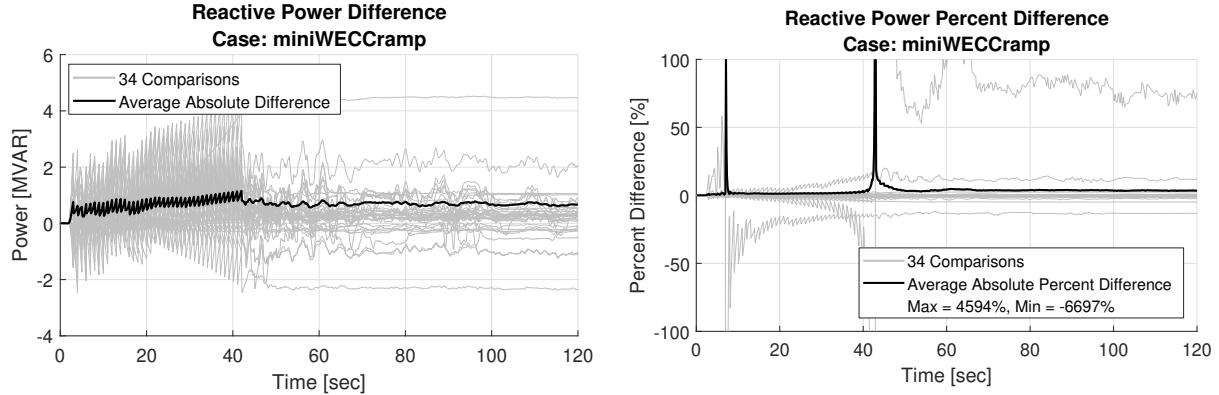
**Figure 70: Mini WECC generator trip voltage angle comparison.**

#### 4.4.3.7. Generator Reactive Power Results

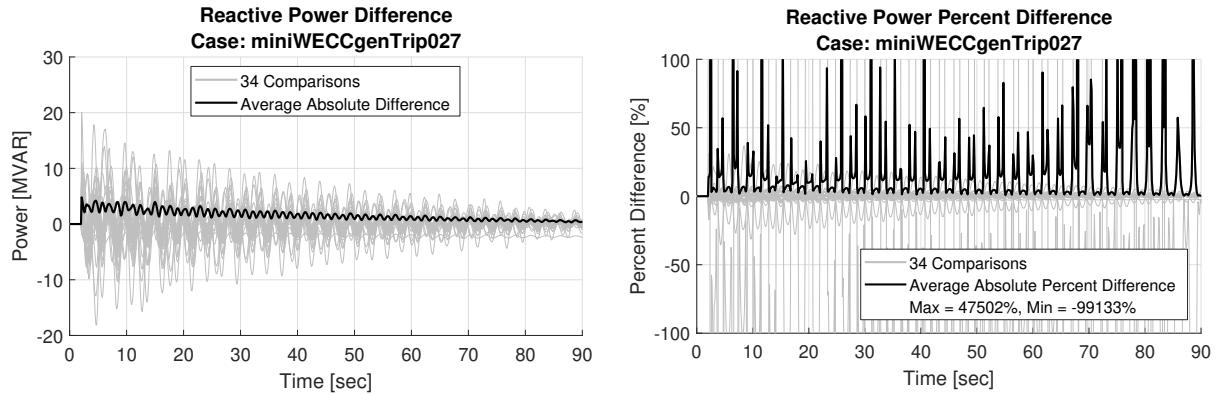
Generator reactive power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 71, 72, and 73. Percent difference plots for both step perturbances oscillate and have multiple large peaks. The ramp case has relatively small MVAR differences and large percent difference spikes at the start and end of the event.



**Figure 71: Mini WECC load step reactive power comparison.**



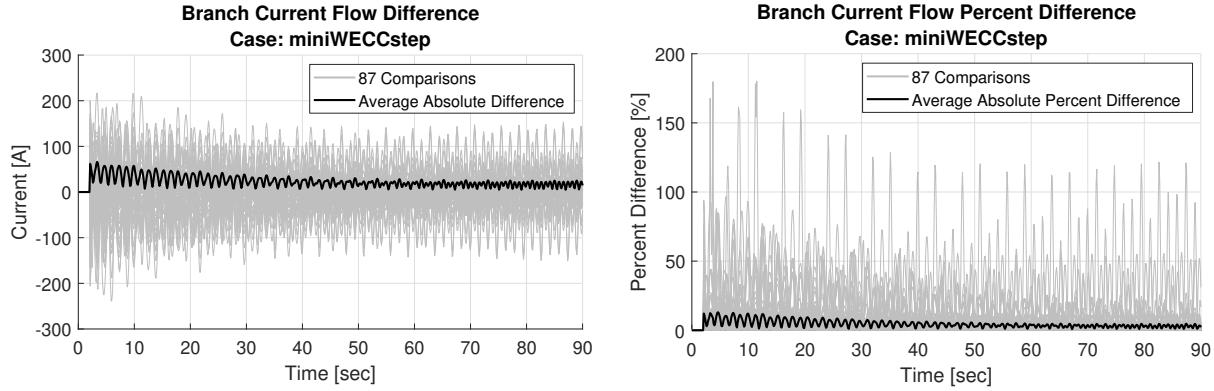
**Figure 72: Mini WECC load ramp reactive power comparison.**



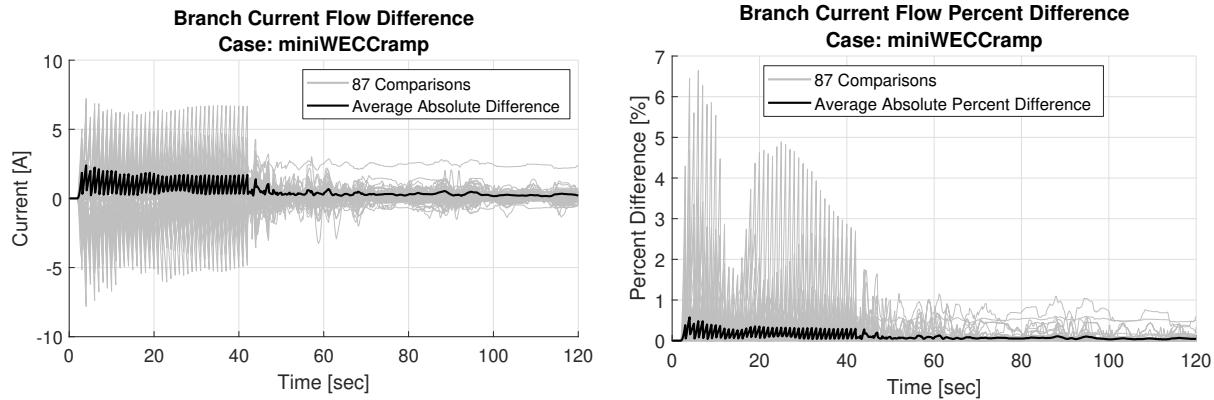
**Figure 73: Mini WECC generator trip reactive power comparison.**

#### 4.4.3.8. Branch Current Results

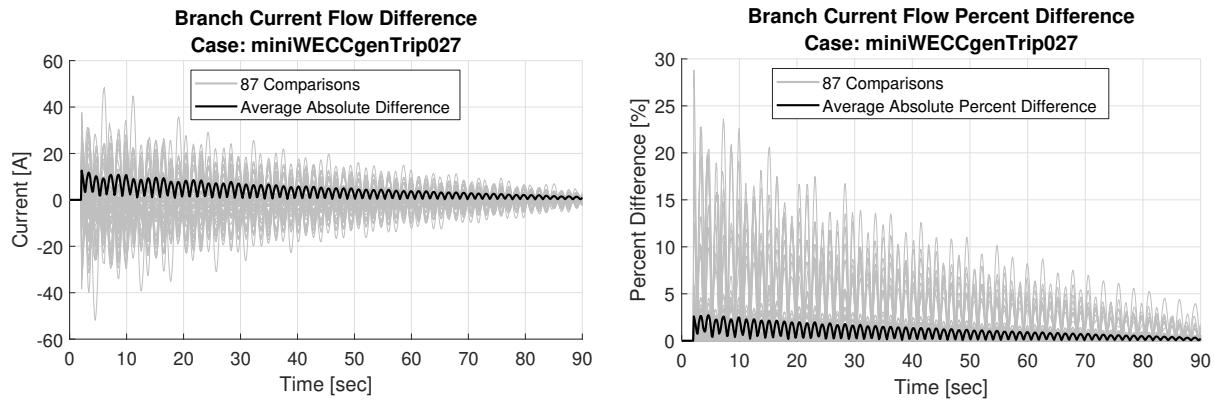
Branch current comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 74, 75, and 76. The ramp scenario has the smallest absolute average percent difference of less than 1.0%. Both step events have relatively low average differences, but fast oscillations are not captured in LTD simulation. Simulations from generator trip case, which had damped oscillations, appeared to converge in the long-term.



**Figure 74:** Mini WECC load step branch current flow comparison.



**Figure 75:** Mini WECC load ramp branch current flow comparison.



**Figure 76:** Mini WECC generator trip branch current flow comparison.

#### 4.4.3.9. Branch Real Power Flow Results

Branch real power flow comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 77, 78, and 79. The load step case results show large peak differences of nearly  $\pm 100$  MW that may be too large for useful simulation analysis. Despite long-term behavior, repeated

oscillations present in the generator trip case of over 60% difference may also be too large to be considered acceptable. Ramp results are much more similar to PSDS output with average absolute MVAR difference of less than 2 MW.

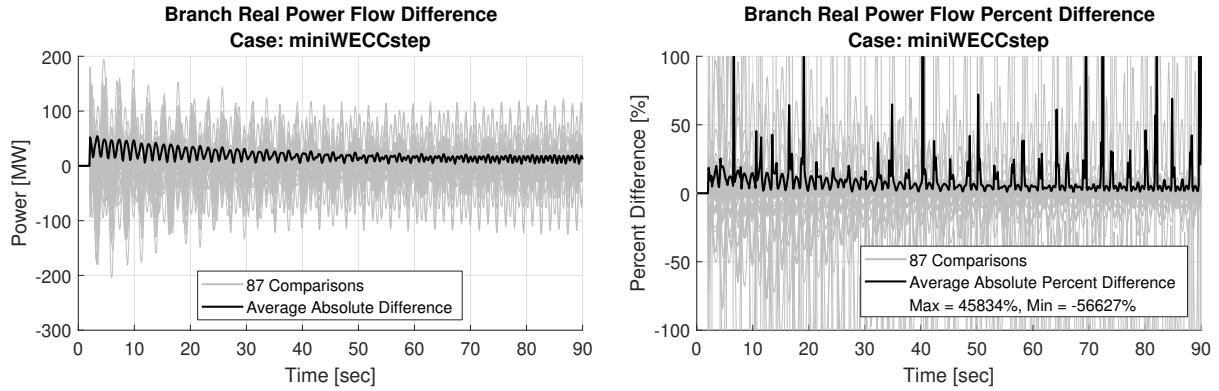


Figure 77: Mini WECC load step branch real power flow comparison.

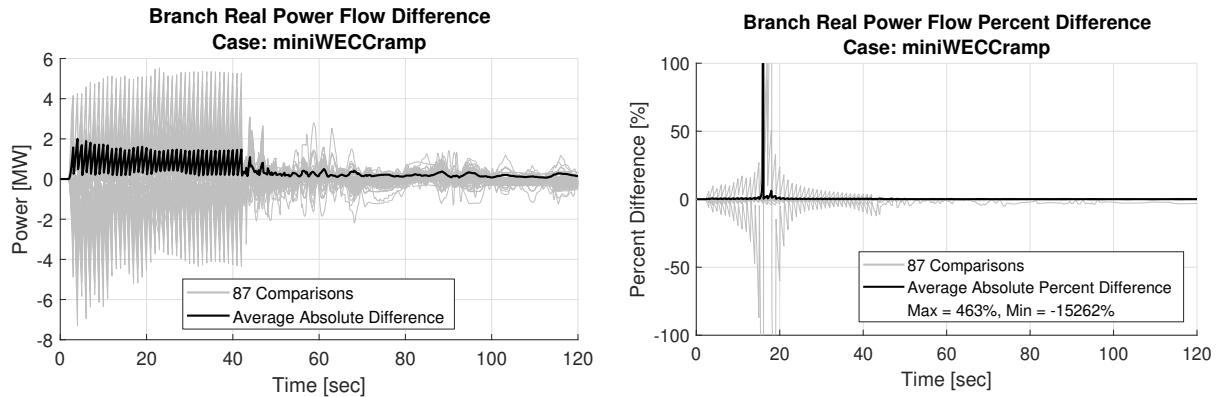


Figure 78: Mini WECC load ramp branch real power flow comparison.

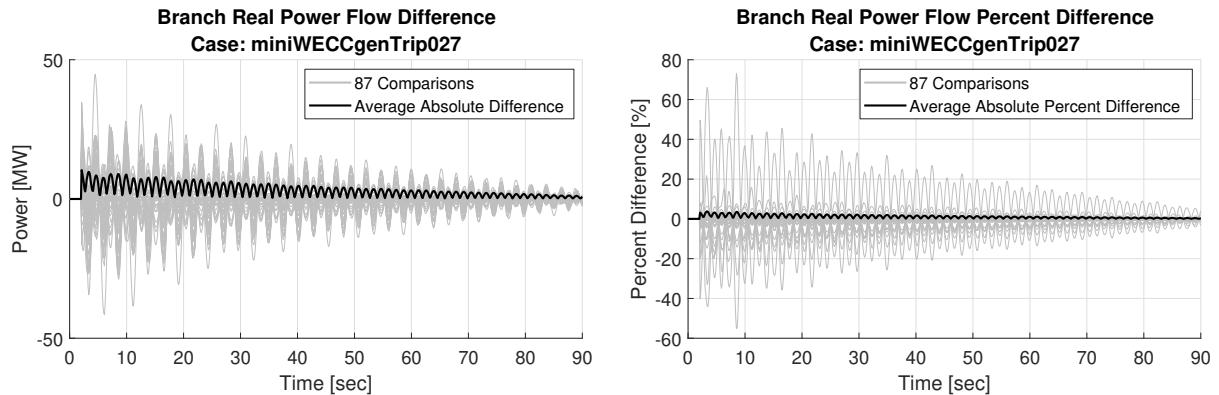
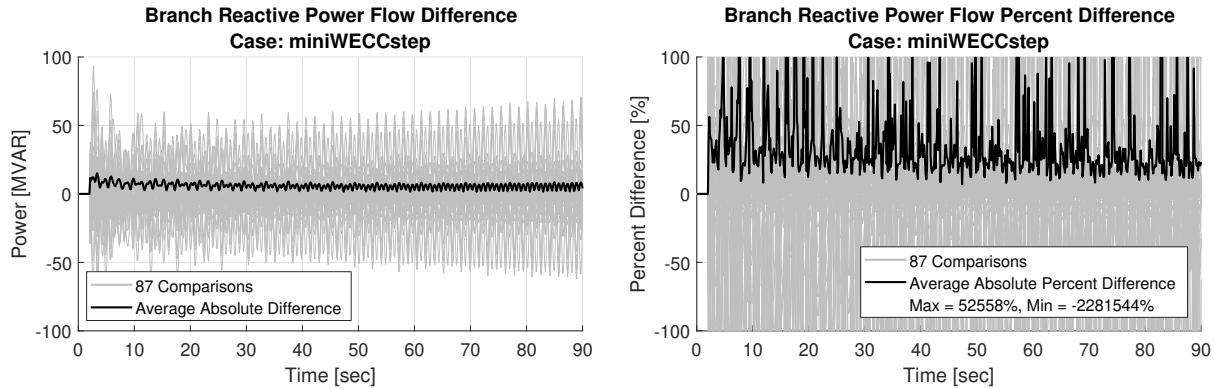


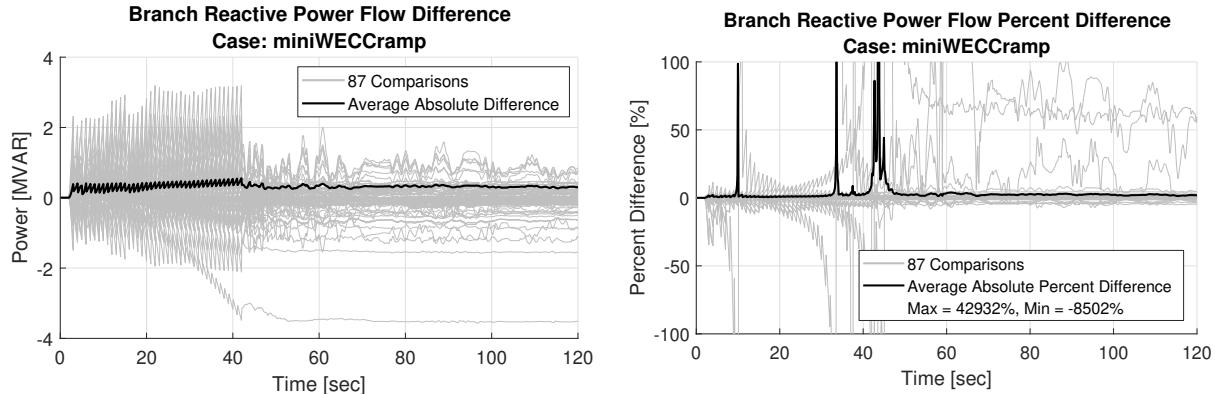
Figure 79: Mini WECC generator trip branch real power flow comparison.

#### 4.4.3.10. Branch Reactive Power Flow Results

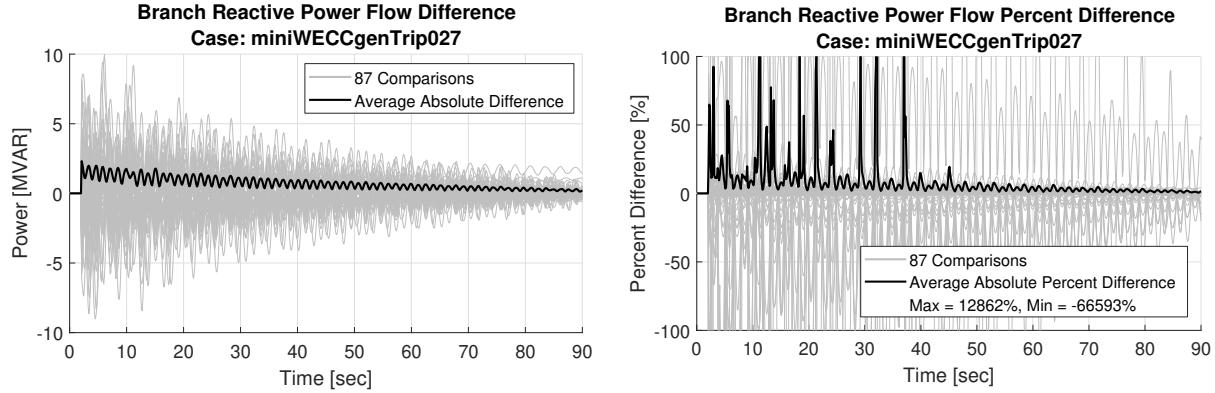
Branch reactive power flow comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 80, 81, and 82. Reactive power flow results all show large percent difference peaks. The load step scenario has growing oscillatory behavior while the generator trip exhibits damped characteristics. Load ramp results differ by only  $\pm 4$  MVAR but have a large percent difference.



**Figure 80:** Mini WECC load step branch reactive power flow comparison.



**Figure 81:** Mini WECC load ramp branch reactive power flow comparison.



**Figure 82: Mini WECC generator trip branch reactive power flow comparison.**

#### 4.4.3.11. Mini WECC Result Summary

While PSLTDSim assumes a stable system, and a ‘swinging’ system could be thought of as stable, simulation results show large differences in such cases. As such, transient simulations may be a good tool to help decide if a particular scenario is suitable for PSLTDSim. For the mini WECC system, the most suitable event appears to be the load ramp. Undamped voltage oscillations seen in the load step test may indicate that the perturbation was too large for adequate LTD simulation. This hypothesis is further backed up by large differences seen in other results for that particular scenario. Many percent difference plots have very large maximum and minimum peak values. The nature of the percent difference calculation is believed to cause these misleading values during data oscillation, or when compared values are small.

#### **4.4.4. Mini WECC with PSS System**

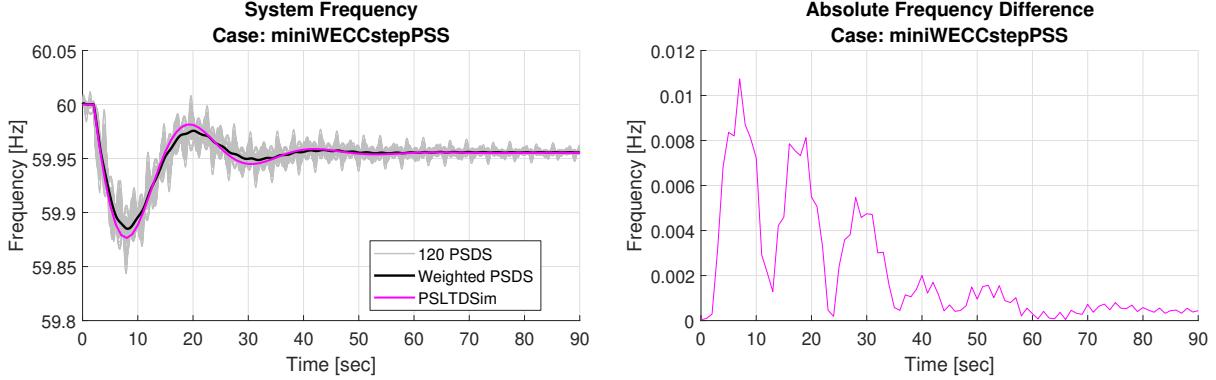
The mini WECC, previously shown in Figure 55, was originally created with power system stabilizers (PSS) enabled. To limit the amount of initial modeling differences, and thus assumptions made by PSLTDSim, PSS was removed for initial validation testing. However, step type event results may have been too oscillatory for suitable LTD simulation. Since PSS acts to damp power system oscillations [34], PSS was enabled in PSDS for the following validations tests.

##### **4.4.4.1. Simulated Scenario Descriptions**

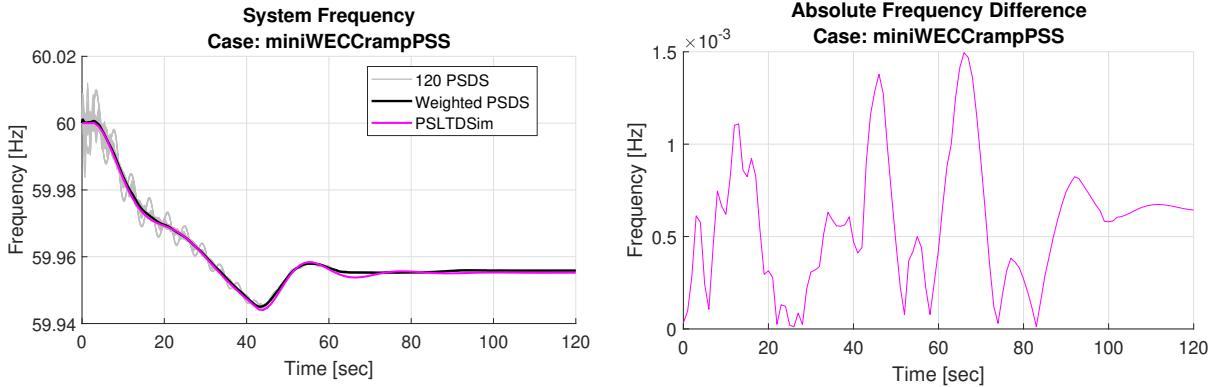
The same mini WECC simulations from the previous section were conducted to observe PSS behavior and resulting LTD differences. PSDS pss2a models were added to generators on bus 1, 30, 32, 41, and 118. For completeness, perturbances are described again. At  $t = 2$  the loads on buses 16, 21, and 26 were each increased by 400 MW. The ramp perturbation acts on these same loads a total of 400 MW, but over 40 seconds. The ramp is equivalent to forty 30 MW steps taking place every second from  $t = 2$  to  $t = 42$ . Generator 27 was tripped at  $t = 2$  and was initially generating  $\approx 200$  MW.

##### **4.4.4.2. Frequency Results**

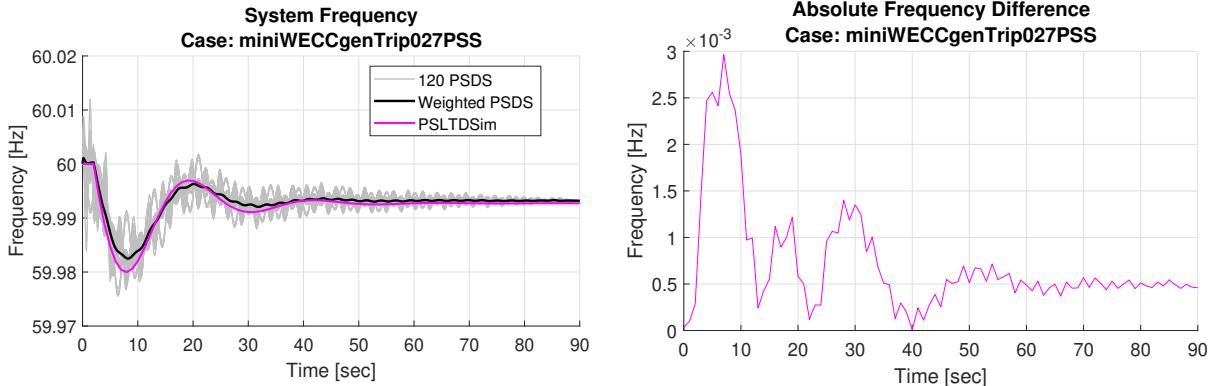
System frequency comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 83, 84, and 85. The use of PSS creates a non-steady state operating condition at  $t = 0$ . This is indicated by the frequency changes that start immediately in all PSDS simulations. Unlike the previous mini WECC load step case, frequency oscillations are damped. General frequency differences are similar to the non-PSS scenario, but  $\approx 1.0$  mHz larger in each case.



**Figure 83: Mini WECC with PSS load step system frequency comparison.**



**Figure 84: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp system frequency comparison.**

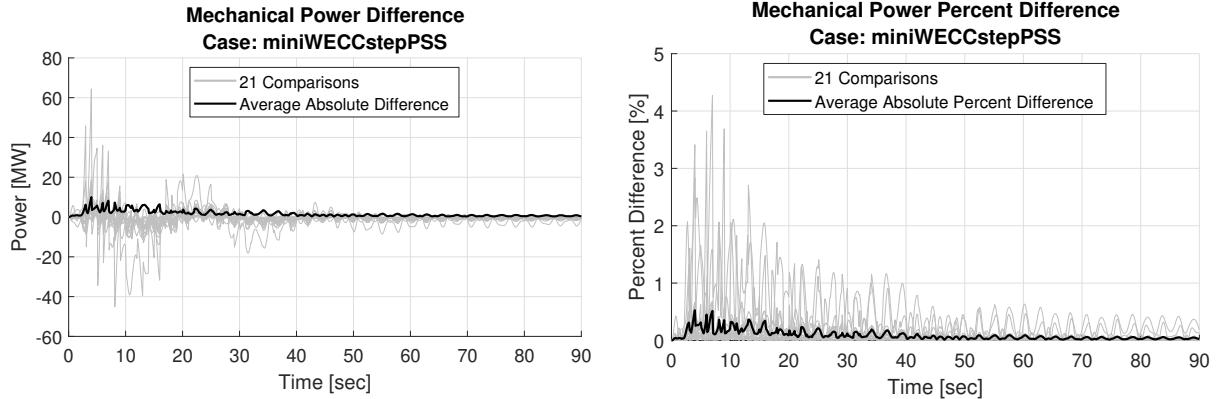


**Figure 85: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip system frequency comparison.**

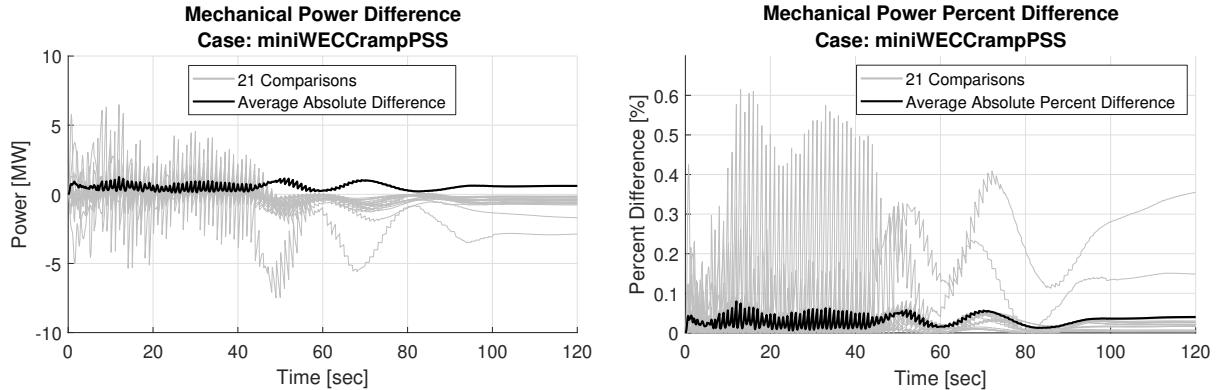
#### 4.4.4.3. Generator Mechanical Power Results

Generator mechanical power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 86, 87, and 88. Results from the PSS and non-PSS case were similar, though slight differences were noticed. The ramp event has smaller oscillatory differences, but larger steady state

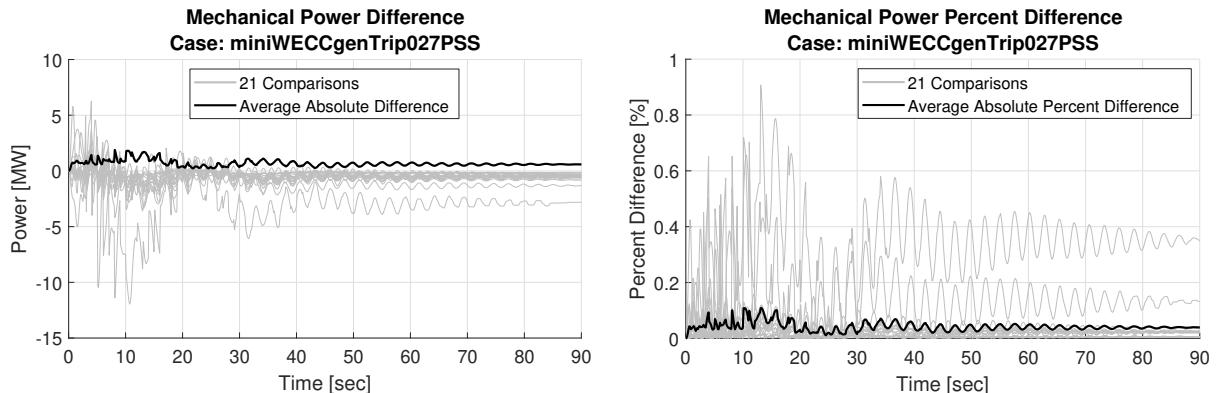
differences. The generator trip case also had slightly larger oscillating steady state differences.



**Figure 86: Mini WECC with PSS load step mechanical power comparison.**



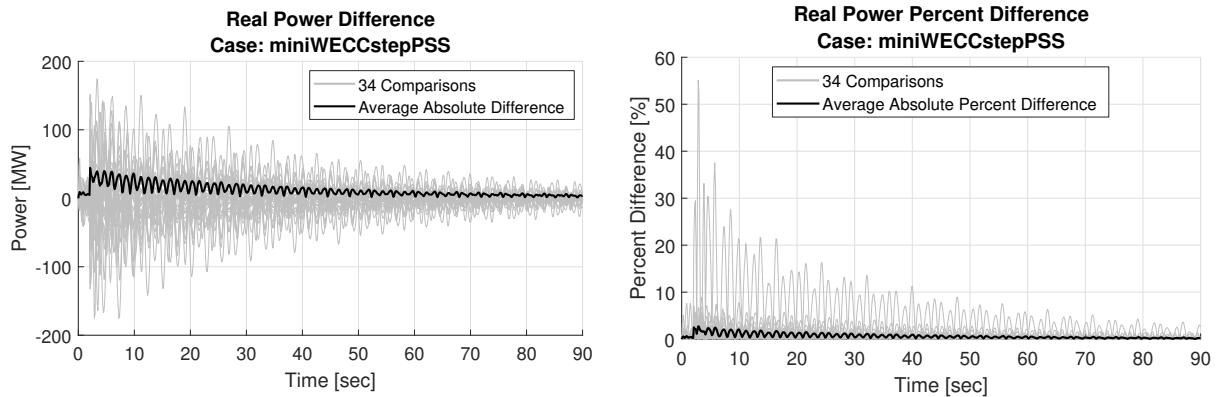
**Figure 87: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp mechanical power comparison.**



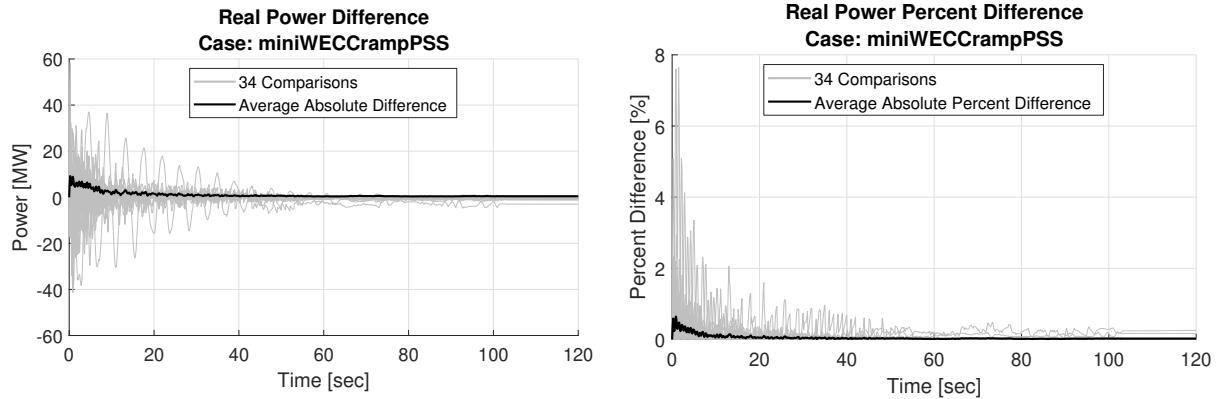
**Figure 88: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip mechanical power comparison.**

#### 4.4.4.4. Generator Real Power Results

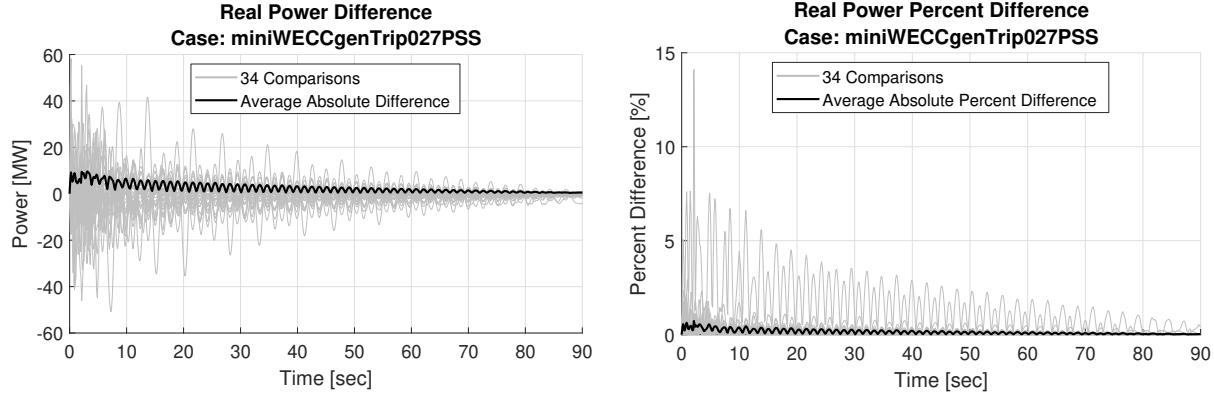
Generator real power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 89, 90, and 91. PSS action reduces system oscillation in both step perturbation cases. Peak percent differences are slightly increased from the non-PSS results. The ramp validation results appear slightly worse when using PSS because of relatively large initial differences caused by a non-steady state starting condition.



**Figure 89: Mini WECC with PSS load step real power comparison.**



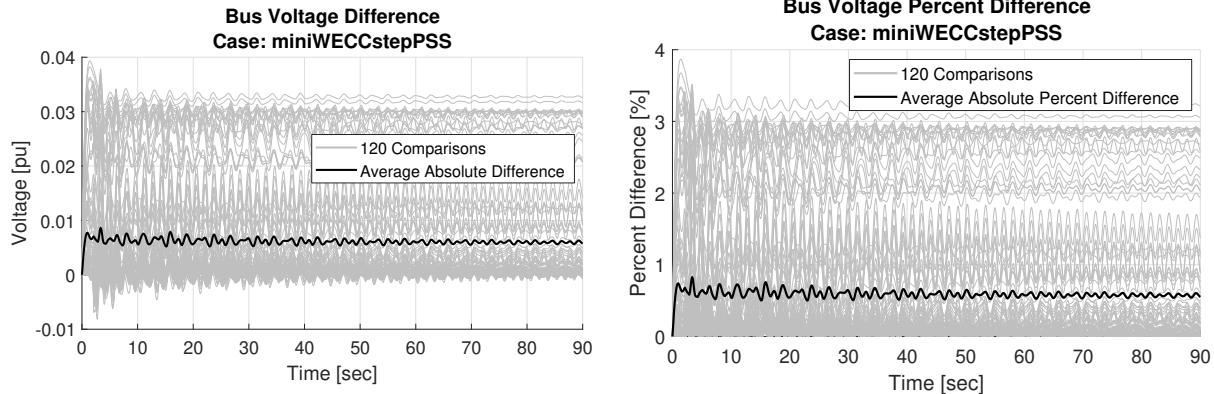
**Figure 90: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp real power comparison.**



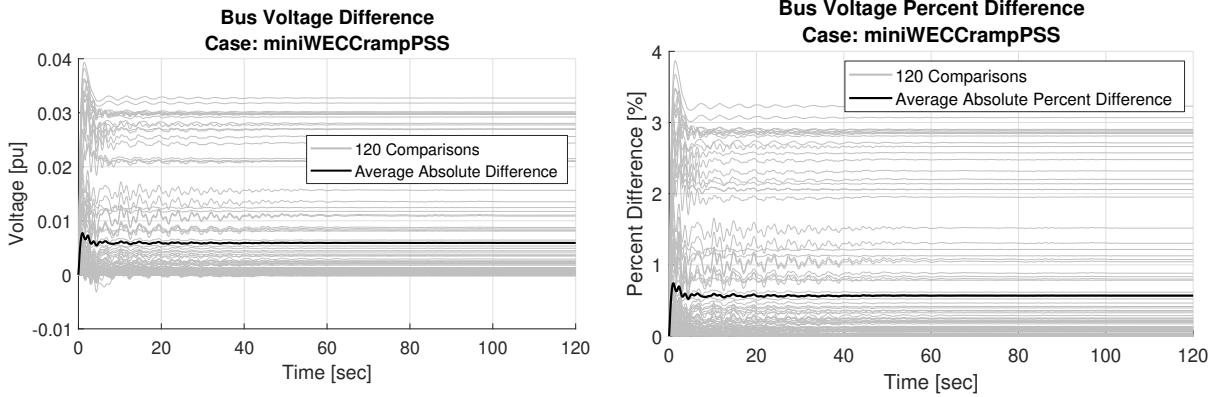
**Figure 91: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip real power comparison.**

#### 4.4.4.5. Voltage Magnitude Results

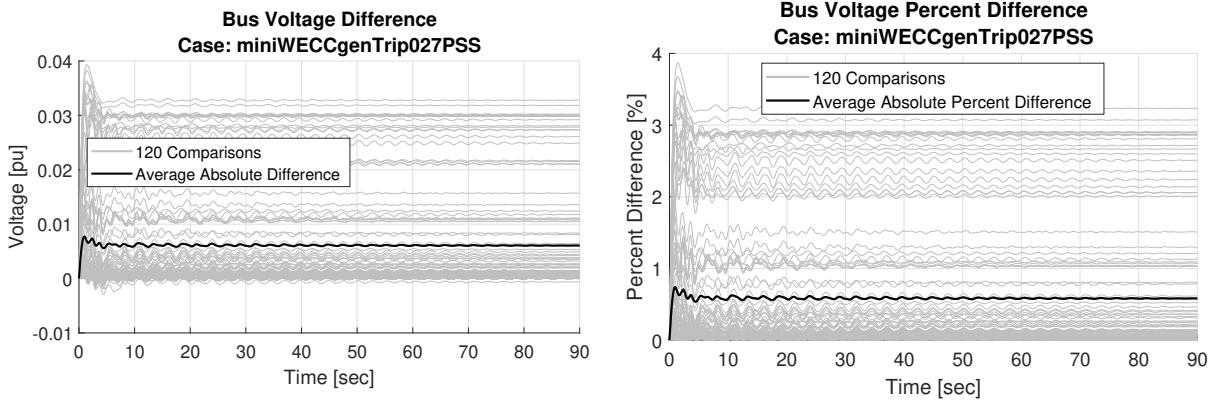
Bus voltage magnitude comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 92, 93, and 94. Long-term voltage magnitudes do not match between simulations. Generally, percent differences peak slightly below 4.0% and do not converge towards zero for all cases. Absolute average percent difference for all cases was slightly below 1.0% for all simulated time.



**Figure 92: Mini WECC with PSS load step voltage comparison.**



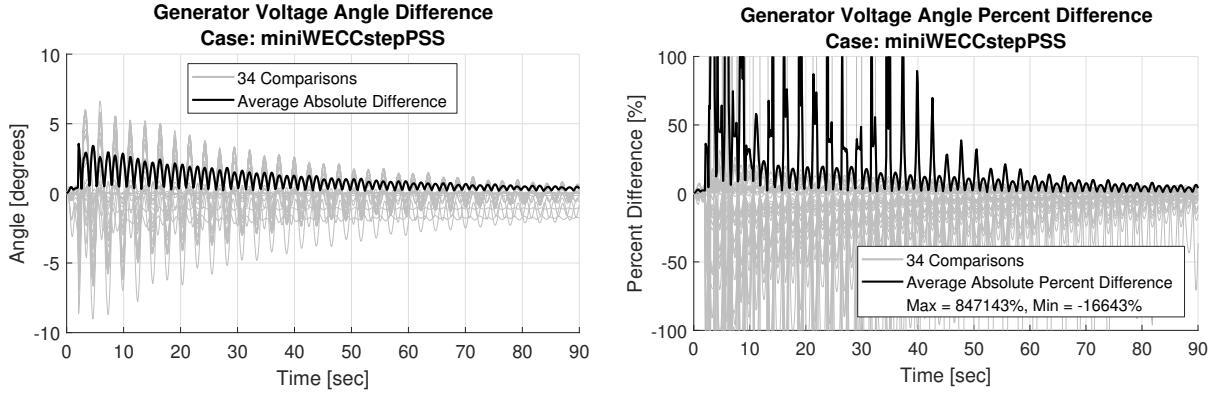
**Figure 93: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp voltage comparison.**



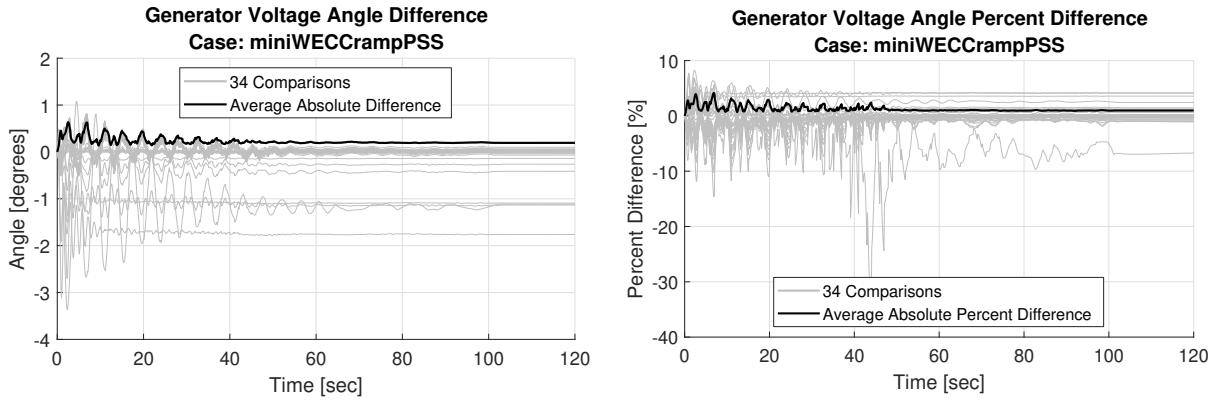
**Figure 94: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip voltage comparison.**

#### 4.4.4.6. Voltage Angle Results

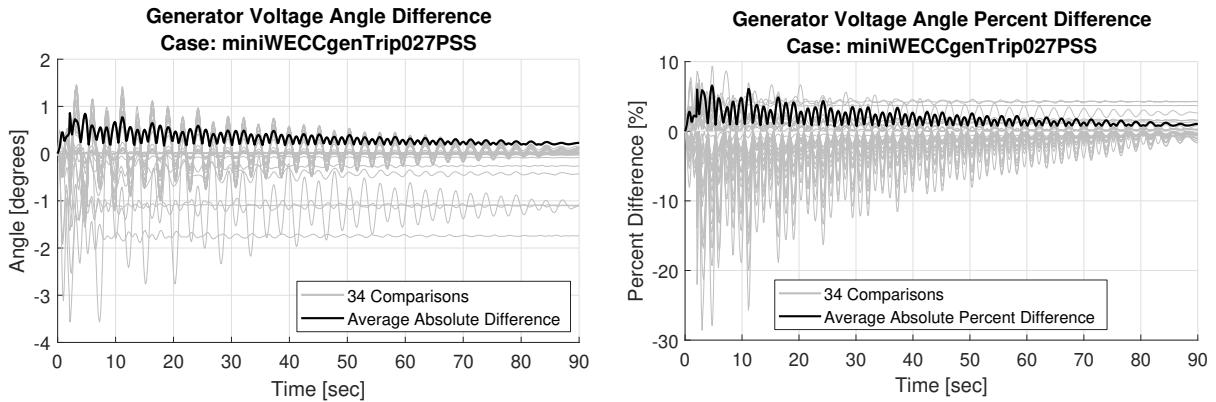
Bus voltage angle comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 95, 96, and 97. Step type perturbances with PSS are very similar to non-PSS results. Ramp results show slightly larger angle difference when PSS is used in PSDS.



**Figure 95:** Mini WECC with PSS load step voltage angle comparison.



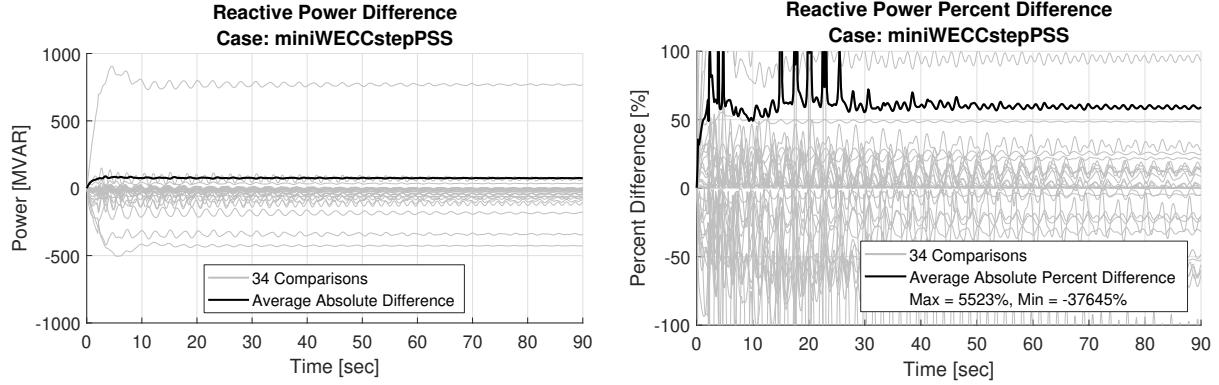
**Figure 96:** Mini WECC with PSS load ramp voltage angle comparison.



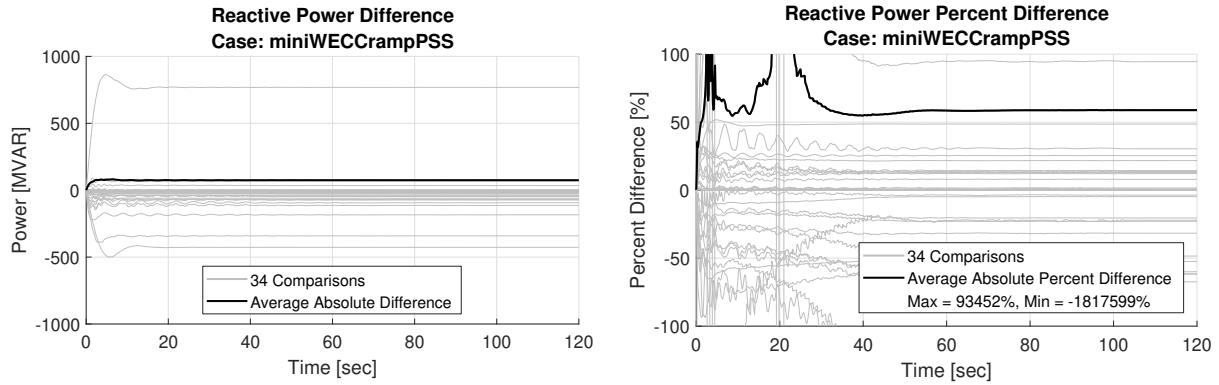
**Figure 97:** Mini WECC with PSS generator trip voltage angle comparison.

#### 4.4.4.7. Generator Reactive Power Results

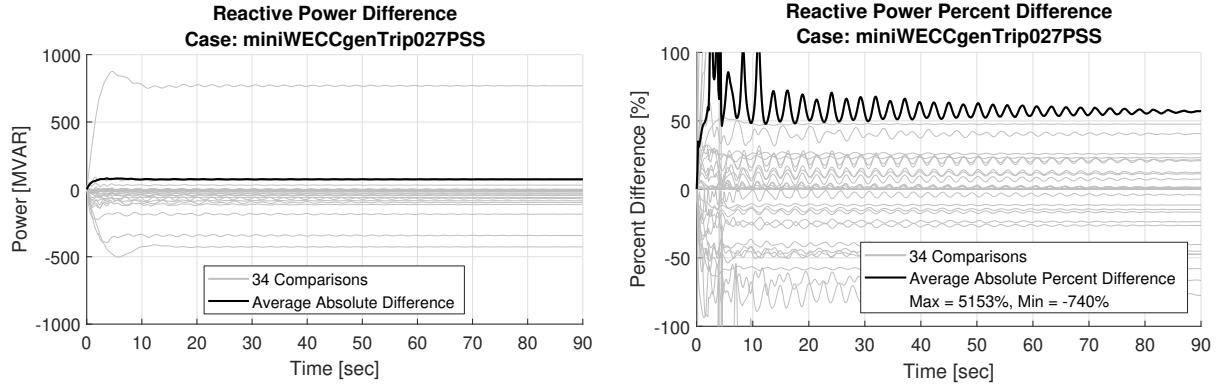
Generator reactive power comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 98, 99, and 100. Using PSS creates large modeling differences in reactive power output. All test cases have an average absolute difference of 50.0% or larger.



**Figure 98: Mini WECC with PSS load step reactive power comparison.**



**Figure 99: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp reactive power comparison.**

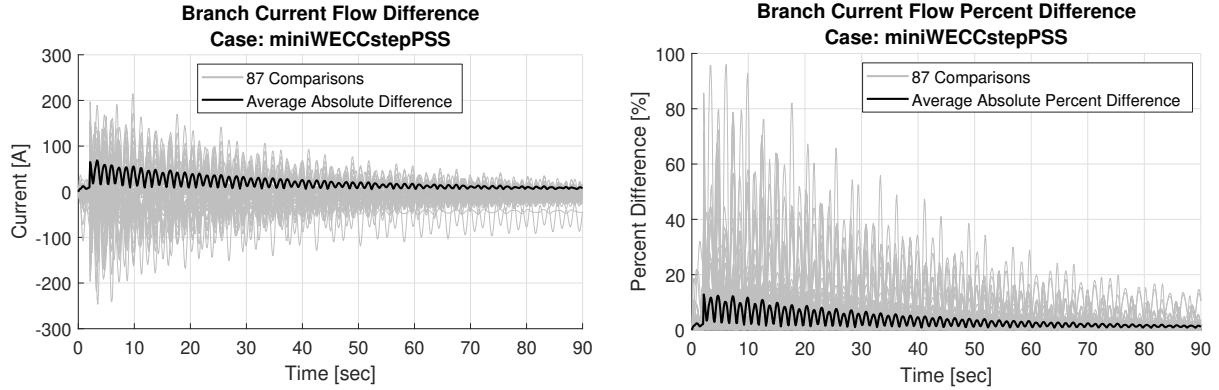


**Figure 100: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip reactive power comparison.**

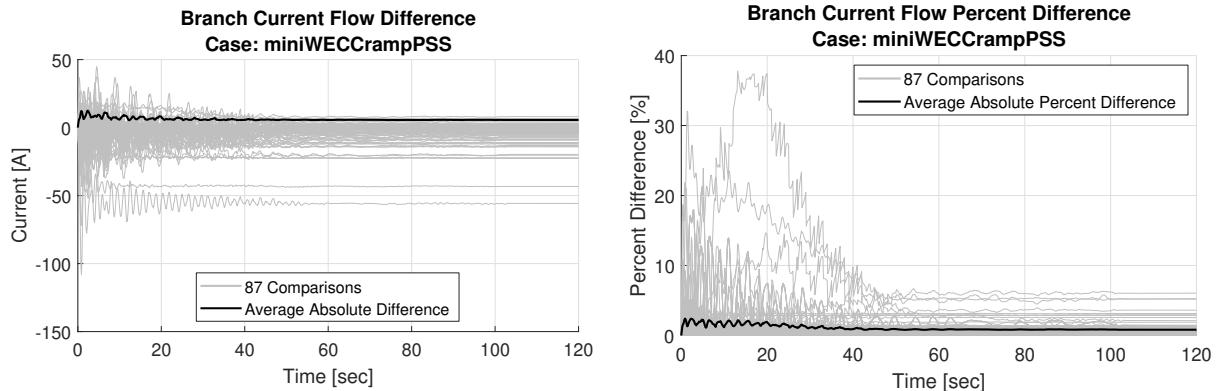
#### 4.4.4.8. Branch Current Results

Branch current comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 101, 102, and 103. Load step results have a damped behavior when PSS is enabled and slightly smaller peak differences compared to the non-PSS mini WECC results. Absolute percent differ-

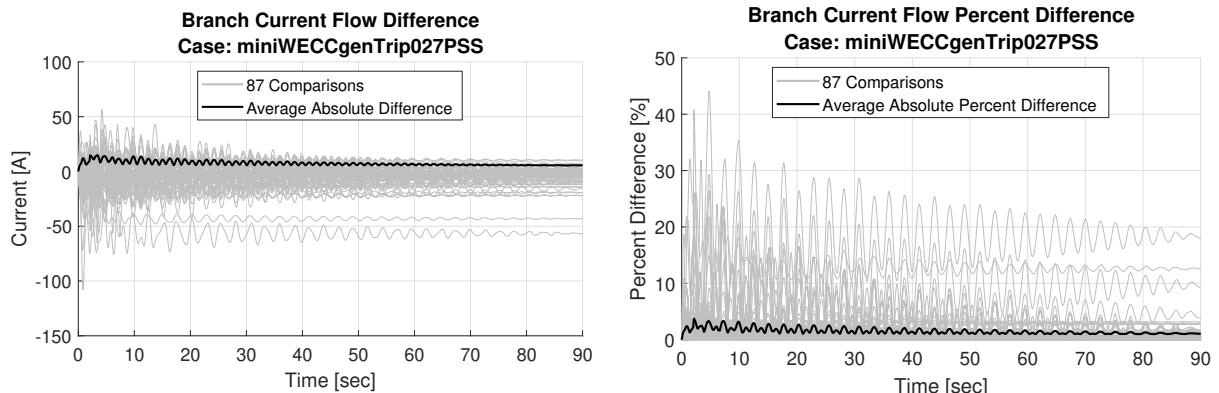
ences appear similar for all cases. When using PSS, branch current variances during the ramp event increase peak percent difference by nearly five times compared to the non-PSS results.



**Figure 101: Mini WECC with PSS load step branch current flow comparison.**



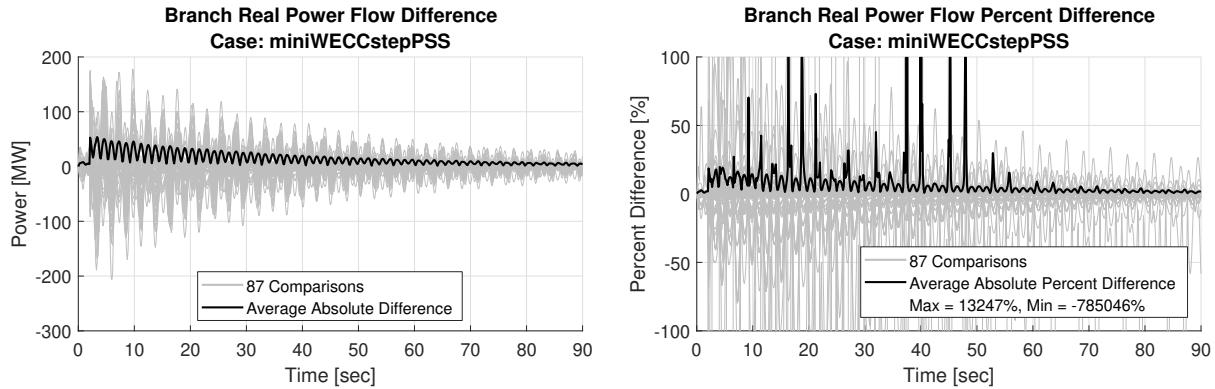
**Figure 102: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp branch current flow comparison.**



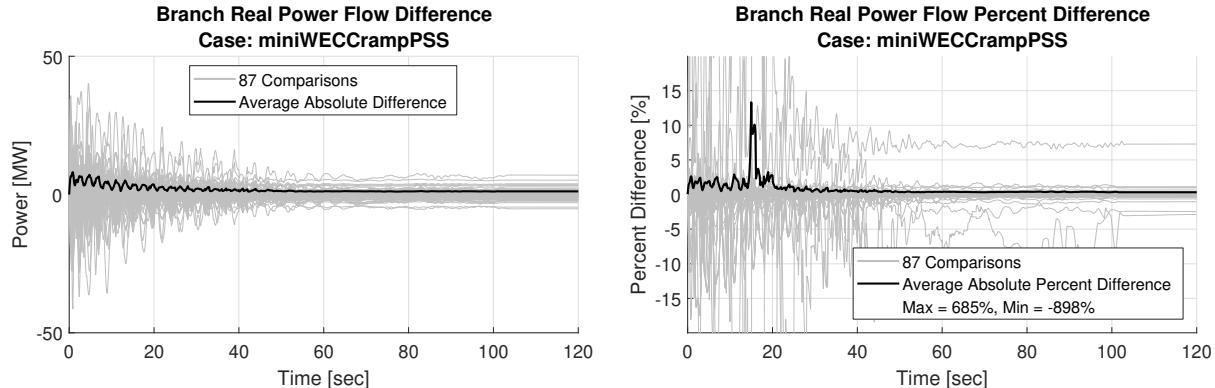
**Figure 103: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip branch current flow comparison.**

#### 4.4.4.9. Branch Real Power Flow Results

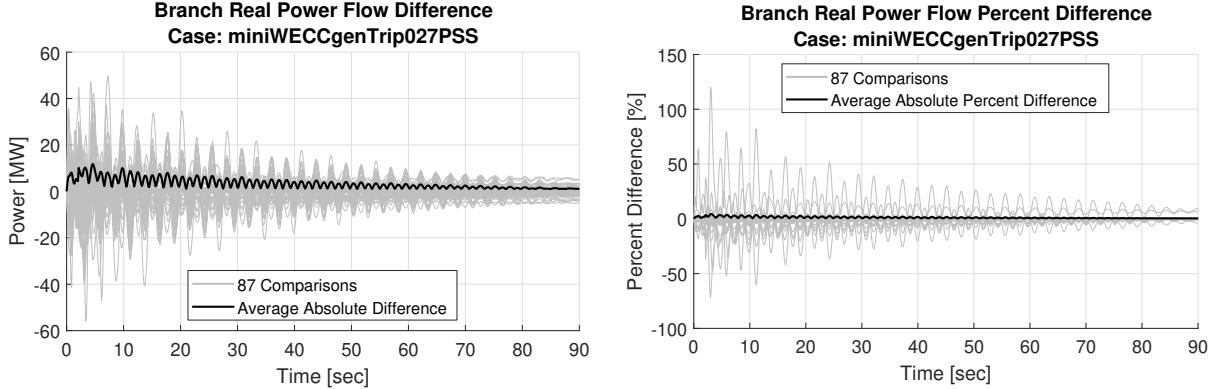
Branch real power flow comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 104, 105, and 106. With the exception of damped load step behavior, similar results are produced in the step events when PSS is not used. Ramp results appear to have more differences near the beginning of the simulation, but differing scales make further comparisons difficult.



**Figure 104:** Mini WECC with PSS load step branch real power flow comparison.



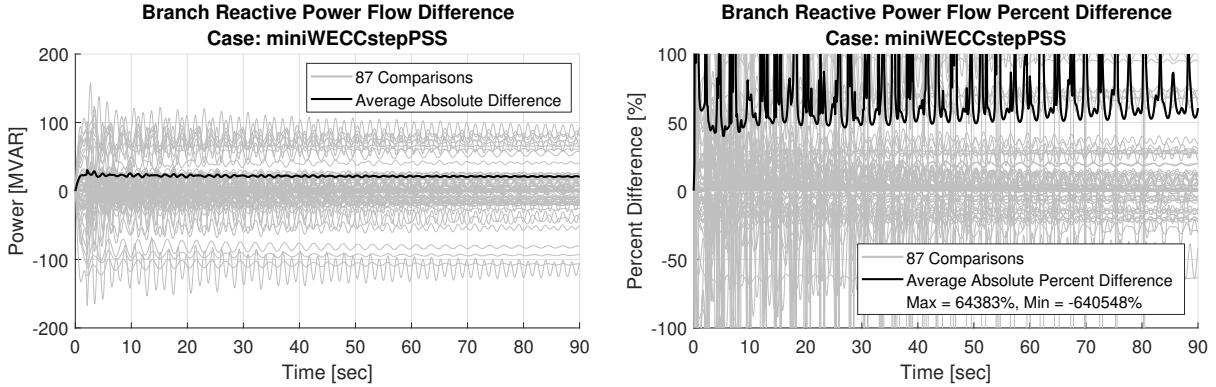
**Figure 105:** Mini WECC with PSS load ramp branch real power flow comparison.



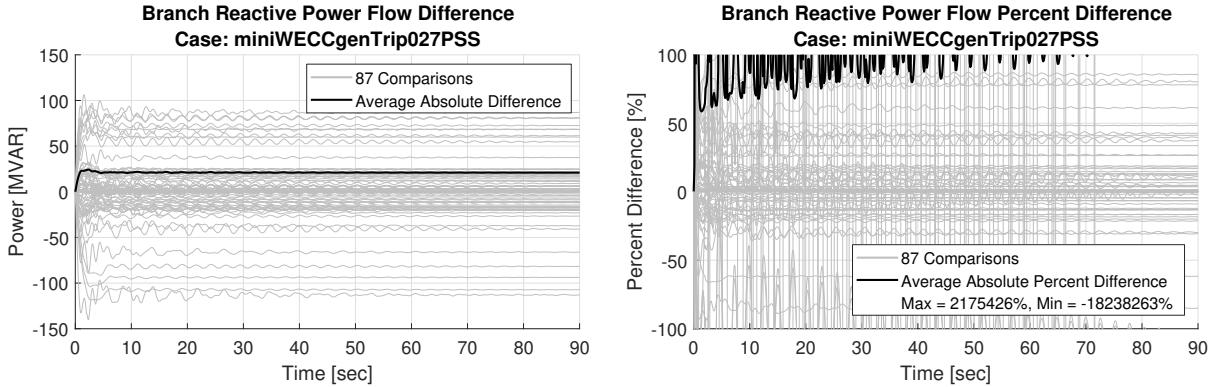
**Figure 106: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip branch real power flow comparison.**

#### 4.4.4.10. Branch Reactive Power Flow Results

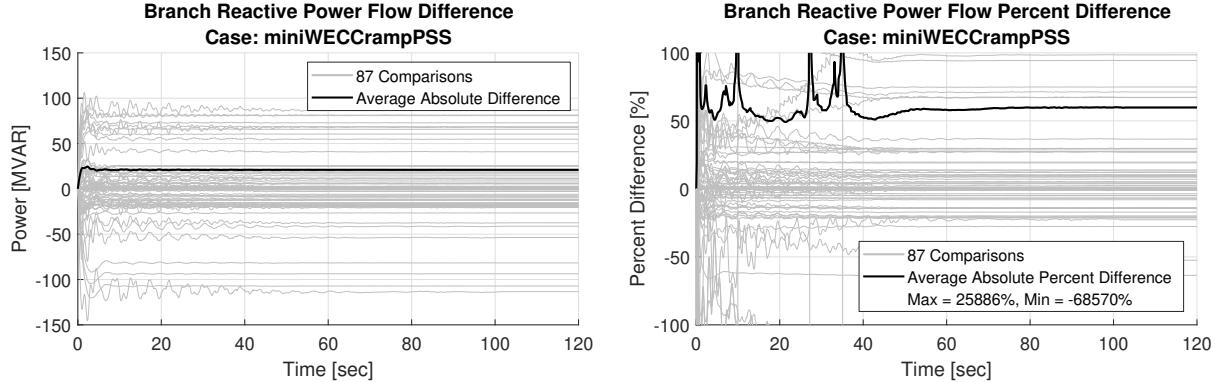
Branch reactive power flow comparison results are presented for each simulated scenario in Figures 107, 108, and 109. As should be assumed from the previously noted reactive power differences, reactive power flows also differ by over 50.0% from non-PSS results.



**Figure 107: Mini WECC with PSS load step branch reactive power flow comparison.**



**Figure 109: Mini WECC with PSS generator trip branch reactive power flow comparison.**



**Figure 108: Mini WECC with PSS load ramp branch reactive power flow comparison.**

#### 4.4.4.11. Mini WECC with PSS Result Summary

The addition of PSS accomplishes the desired goal of stabilizing a power system. However, the additional modeling differences between PSDS and PSLTDSim create more differences in output data. Larger transient differences are seen in most cases as PSS acts to stabilize the system. The pss2a model output is a generator voltage in PSDS which in turn affects steady state voltage magnitudes and branch flow results. Initial conditions for all simulations are not the same between PSDS and PSLTDSim as PSS begins to act immediately.

#### 4.4.5. Full WECC System

To test the scalability of PSLTDSim, a full WECC system model was simulated. The full WECC model used is representative of the western United States interconnect during a heavy spring of 2018. The main island consists of 22 areas with a total 21,528 buses and has 3,330 generators operating near an average of 59.3% capacity to supply 140,189 MW of real power to 11,018 loads. A count of modeled generators is shown in Table V. As a reminder, only MW cap, machine base, and machine inertia  $H$  are collected from the PSDS model for use in PSLTDSim.

**Table V: WECC machine model count and capacity.**

Model	Count	Capacity [MW]
gentpj	1,541	96,559.72
genrou	1,277	128,990.75
gentpf	476	17,707.11
motor1	34	717.89
genwri	2	191.00
Total	3,330	244,166.46

The generic governor is used almost exclusively for long-term simulation due to the system model using a wide variety of governor models that are not presently available in PSLTDSim. Table VI shows the total number of PSDS governor models and their respective capacity while Table VII shows the resulting generic model casting performed for long-term simulation in PSLTDSim. It should be noted that about 0.89% of governor models (representing  $\approx 0.56\%$  of governed capacity) have the same governor model and time constants as those in PSLTDSim and PSDS due to the generic casting process.

##### 4.4.5.1. Load Step

For the WECC system model, only frequency response to a load step is presented as the number of assumptions and sheer volume of data make other comparisons difficult with mostly inconclusive results. The perturbation is a step of three loads up 100 MW at  $t = 2$ . Figure 110 shows frequency of all PSDS generator bus frequencies in grey, an average PSDS generator fre-

**Table VI: WECC governor models used in PSDS.**

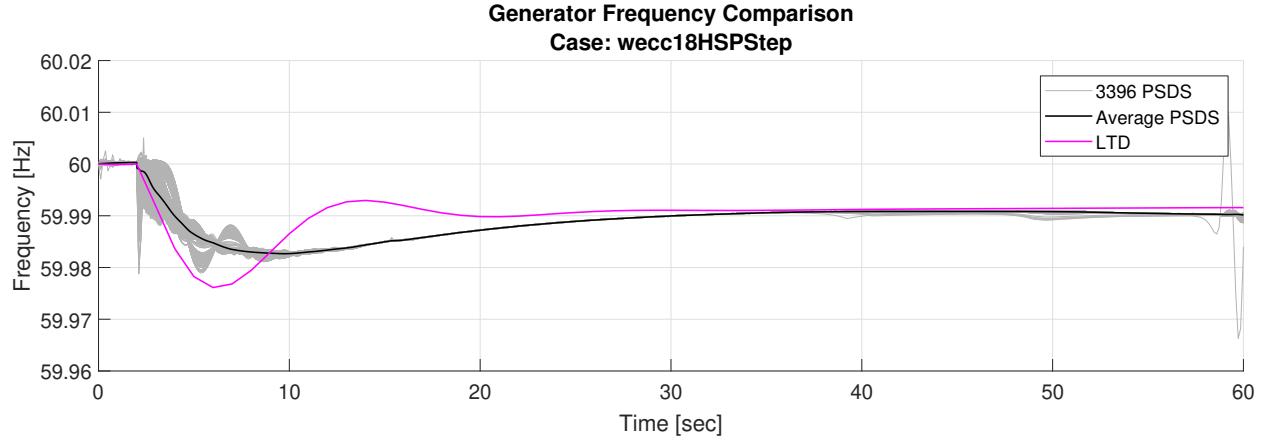
Model	Count	Capacity [MW]
ggov1	1,006	74,804.11
hyg3	315	28,755.47
hygov	196	8,883.36
ieeeg1	191	49,022.45
hygov4	167	8,044.68
ieeeg3	133	9,174.48
gpwscc	56	3,028.33
pidgov	56	8,034.54
gast	29	1,162.56
ggov3	28	5,010.32
hygovr	25	6,249.37
tgov1	20	1,140.45
g2wscc	18	818.95
ccbt1	3	32.53
Total	2,243	204,161.59

**Table VII: WECC governor models used in PSLTDSim.**

Model	Count	Capacity [MW]
gas	1,090	82,842.76
hydro	777	60,786.37
steam	356	59,392.02
tgov1	20	1,140.45
Total	2,243	204,161.59

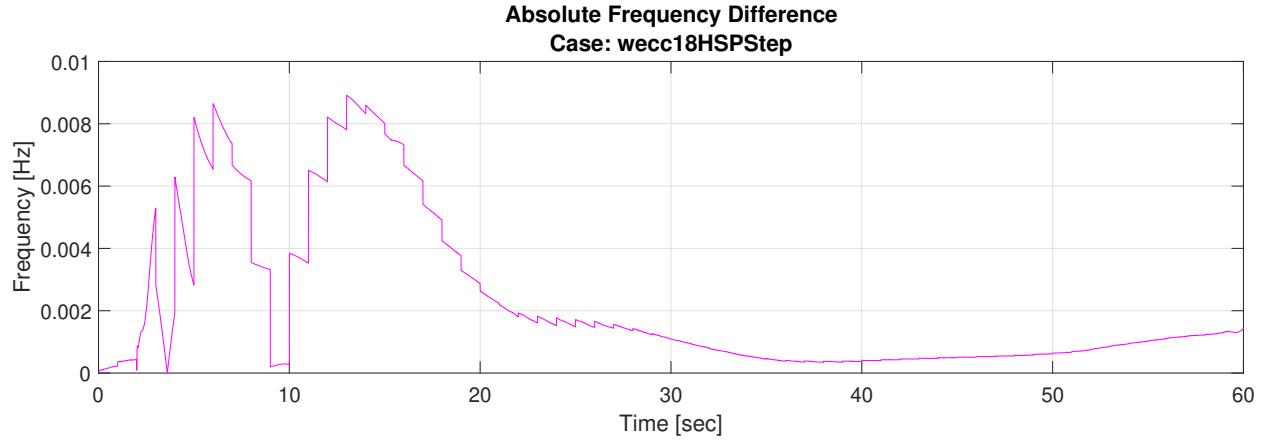
quency in black, and the LTD system frequency in magenta.

It can be seen that the average PSDS frequency is similar to the LTD frequency immediately after the perturbation. This indicates that the inertial response from the two simulations is similar. However, once governor action becomes more predominate, the two data sets begin to diverge. While the LTD system frequency over estimates the frequency nadir, steady state response is within 2 mHz.



**Figure 110: Full WECC frequency comparison.**

Figure 111 shows the absolute frequency difference between PSDS and LTD simulations. Despite governor dynamics being greatly estimated, absolute frequency difference never exceeds 10 mHz. It should be noted that with a perturbation this size, 10 mHz is actually rather large since steady state frequency is about 59.99 Hz.



**Figure 111: Full WECC absolute frequency difference.**

#### **4.4.6. Validation Summary**

Smaller systems, such as the six machine system, require less modeling assumptions and as a result, have generally small differences from PSDS. However, exciter assumptions and the combination of voltage magnitude and angle can cause calculated reactive power flow to largely differ from PSDS values during step type events. Oscillations, such as those in found voltage angle, are not well represented in TSPF due to the time step resolution. Despite these transient differences, steady state behavior is often very similar between PSDS and TSPF.

Larger systems, such as the mini WECC, employ more simplifications in PSLTDSim, and thus have more differences. Most notably in the bus voltages and resulting power flow calculations. Ramp events are typically simulated in PSLTDSim with more similarities to PSDS than step type perturbances. When PSS is used, more voltage behavior is ignored and larger differences are seen in steady-state data results.

## 5. Engineering Applications

PSLTDSim may be used to study numerous engineering issues related to power system planning and operation. Due to time and data availability constraints, specific software applications to engineering problems are presented, but specific solutions are not.

This chapter contains descriptions of various events of engineering interest that PSLTDSim can simulate, relevant NERC standards for long-term simulation, simulated control options not previously expanded upon, and engineering application studies and results.

### 5.1. Simulated Events of Interest

The initial focus of PSLTDSim was to study governor and AGC interaction. Reasoning behind this decision was that observed primary response has declined [12], or become slower, while technological advances have enabled AGC action to become faster. The gradual shifting, and resulting overlap, of operation time involved with automatic controls seemed like a good application for LTD simulation. To refine the focus of study, a goal of minimizing system effort while maximizing system stability was developed.

Historically, the number of control pulse signals was used to judge the efficiency of an AGC scheme [6]. Modern control can not be accurately assessed in such a general way. To more reasonably gauge system effort, a metric of governor valve travel was suggested. Valve travel can be greatly affected by various settings such as deadbands and delays. Examples of cumulative valve travel in response to random noise were simulated in PSLTDSim to investigate the effect of certain parameters.

In practice, AGC actions can vary greatly. PSLTDSim offers a BA agent that includes some common AGC techniques. To configure, or tune, an AGC routine requires long-term simulation as system recovery is beyond the transient stability time frame. An example of AGC tuning is presented and various options explored.

To show the ability of PSLTDSim to handle long-term events, a two hour virtual wind ramp, similar to the one used in [27], was created. During simulation, it became apparent that

voltage management must be accounted for. Realistically, capacitor switching schemes are used to manage voltage and reactive power. In PSLTDSim, the DTC agent was used for this application. Additionally, over the course of hours, demand can change drastically. BAs create forecasts that are used to schedule generation to meet expected demand. Generation and load controller agents were created to more easily program long duration ramps of generation or load. Using these described software tools, a reasonable long-term scenario was created and simulated.

Finally, the customizability and open-source nature of PSLTDSim allows for other power system phenomena to be studied. An example of governor action modification using a DTC agent to reproduce an undesired response is presented. The ability to alter system inertia during the course of a simulation is also demonstrated.

## 5.2. Relevant NERC Standards

As alluded to earlier, the BES is not operated in any old higgledy-piggledy fashion. NERC has various mandatory standards subject to enforcement in the US that are continuously modified and updated. Standards starting with BAL are related to resource and demand balancing. BAL standards that are applicable to BA simulation are described in this section. As NERC standards change, presented information is predicted to become out of date. The most up-to-date mandatory standards can be viewed on the NERC website [44].

### 5.2.1. BAL-001-2

NERC standard BAL-001-2 has two requirements. The first requirement deals with a monthly calculation that is out of the scope of PSLTDSim. The second requirement specifies RACE should not exceed a certain frequency trigger limit (FTL) for more than 30 continuous clock-minutes [43]. This requirement is important to BA simulation as PSLTDSim can simulate longer than 30 minutes. NERC provides the following equations describing how to calculate the balancing authority ACE limit (BAAL).

$$BAAL = -10B(FTL - F_s) \frac{FTL - F_S}{F_A - F_S} \quad (17)$$

$$FTL = F_S \pm 3\epsilon \quad (18)$$

If actual system frequency  $F_A$  is above the scheduled frequency  $F_S$ , then the  $\pm$  in equation 18 is a  $+$ . If the opposite is true ( $F_A < F_S$ ), then the  $\pm$  is a  $-$ . NERC provides fixed values for each interconnection to use for  $\epsilon$ . In the WECC, NERC defines  $\epsilon$  as 0.0228 Hz. Note that minute average frequency is used for  $F_A$  the above equations.

Figure 112 visualizes the NERC equations for various settings of  $B$ . When frequency is at nominal value, ACE is unlimited. Larger values of  $B$  equate to larger values of BAAL.

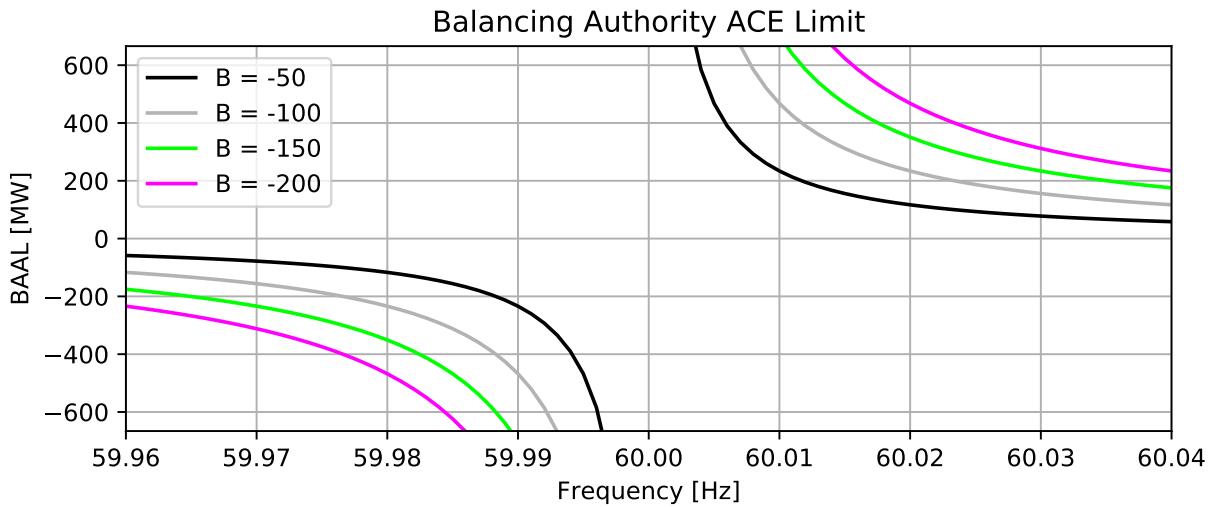


Figure 112: Balancing authority ACE limit for different values of  $B$ .

### 5.2.2. BAL-002-3

NERC standard BAL-002-3 requires a BA to return reporting ACE to zero if pre-contingency ACE was positive or zero, or the pre-contingency value if ACE was negative within the contingency event recovery period. The NERC definition for *contingency event recovery period* is 15 minutes after the start of a contingency [46].

### 5.2.3. BAL-003-1.1

NERC standard BAL-003-1.1 deals with the frequency bias setting used by a BA. While realistic frequency bias  $B$  is calculated based on real system values and recorded responses, this doesn't apply to theoretical models. For simplicity, a setting of 0.9% maximum generation capac-

ity will be used for the minimum fixed value of B. This setting is in line with recommendations made in [42].

#### **5.2.4. NERC Standard Summary**

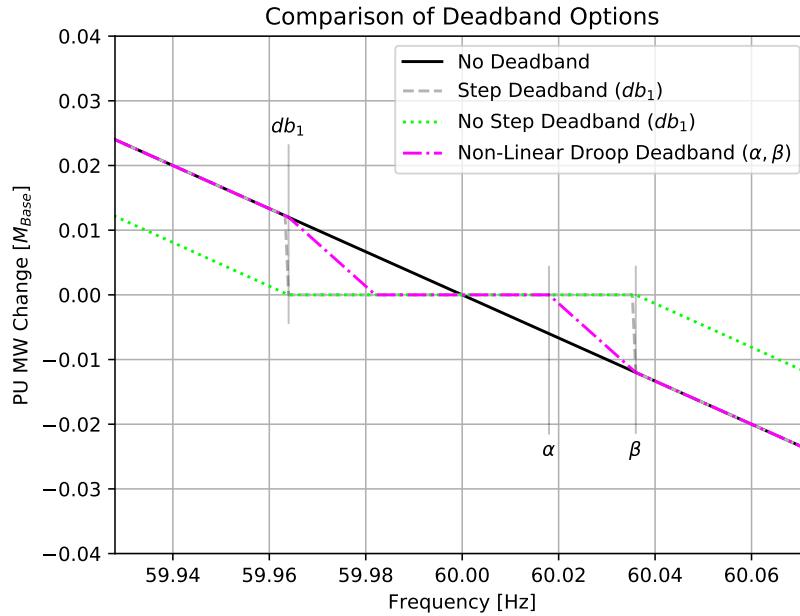
To follow NERC recommendations, a minimum frequency bias B of 0.9% maximum generation capacity will be used for all BAs RACE calculation. A variable frequency bias may be employed for AGC action as this is in-line with practical usage. RACE must return to zero or the pre-contingency level within 15 minutes of a contingency. Since simulated systems start from a steady state, this could be interpreted as frequency crossing zero at least once every 15 minutes. Finally, any control that allows for more than 30 consecutive minutes of RACE exceeding the calculated BAAL will not be acceptable as it violates BAL-002-3.

### 5.3. Simulated Controls

Simulated controls involved with governors, BAs, and AGC settings used to explore stated engineering applications are described in this section. A complete list of BA agent options is shown in Table XV in Appendix 11.

#### 5.3.1. Governor Deadbands

The FERC maximum deadband is 36 mHz[14]. However, the execution of a governor deadband is not explicitly detailed and left to generator operators to configure. PSLTDSim offers a deadBandAgent that can apply various deadbands to the incoming  $\Delta\omega$ . Figure 113 graphically depicts how the various deadband options differ.



**Figure 113: Examples of available deadband action.**

A step deadband simply nullifies any  $\Delta\omega$  whose absolute value is less than the prescribed deadband. A no-step, or ramp, deadband removes the step characteristic and crosses the original droop line at the specified droop. For instance, if a droop is 5%, then a 5% deviation in frequency would request a 100% change in output power. While the no-step deadband does deliver a 100% increase at the given droop, the actual response will always be below the assumed droop

response.

To eliminate this problem, a non-linear droop option was created. The non-linear droop requires two inputs. The first input, ( $\alpha$ ), specifies where the new droop starts, and the second input, ( $\beta$ ), is when the response will return to the original droop setting.

Choosing and configuring a deadband is done via values in the BA parameter dictionary (*sysBA*) or the governor deadband dictionary (*govDeadBand*) in the .ltd.py file.

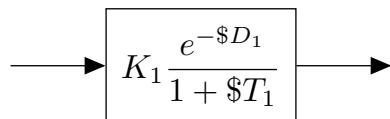
Entering 'step' or 'ramp' as a value for the 'GovDeadbandType' will create a step or ramp deadband at the given 'GovDeadband'. A non-linear droop governor deadband may be configured by setting the 'GovDeadbandType' to 'NLDeadband' and entering desired 'GovAlpha' and 'GovBeta' values.

### 5.3.2. Area Wide Governor Droops

The typical FERC droop is 5%[14]. Area wide governor droops can be specified in the BA parameter dictionary that over write the droop setting read from a .dyd. All active governors in an area will use the specified 'AreaDroop' value. This setting allows for fast and easy configuration of simulations aimed at exploring droop settings.

### 5.3.3. Governor Input Delay and Filtering

The inputs to modeled governors may be delayed, filtered, and gained using the Laplace domain block shown in Figure 114. If delay is not divisible by the simulation time step, rounding will occur. Section 4.3.2.3.6 provided information on how to configure a delay and provided a code example.



**Figure 114:** Block diagram of delay block.

### 5.3.4. Automatic Generation Control

A block diagram of the AGC model employed by PSLTDSim is shown in Figure 115.

Simulation settings related to frequency bias, ACE integrating and filtering, and conditional and weighted summing are explained in the following sections.

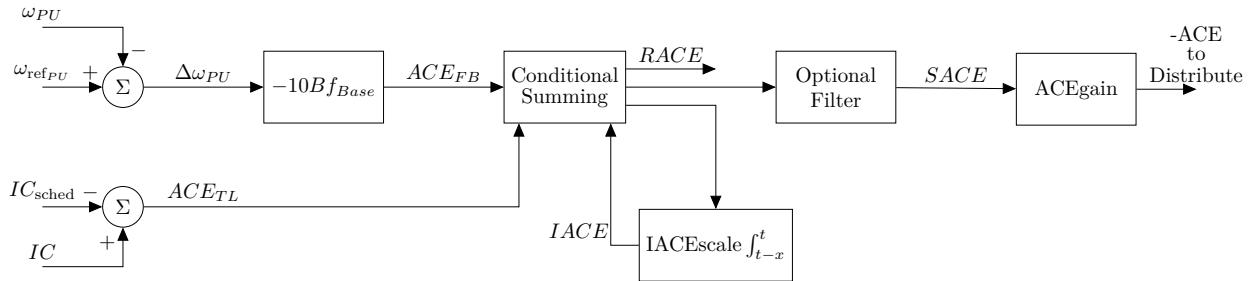


Figure 115: Block diagram of ACE calculation and manipulation.

#### 5.3.4.1. Frequency Bias

Choosing a desired frequency bias,  $B$ , can be accomplished in a number of different ways. All methods are configured by the string entered as the 'B' value in the BA parameter dictionary. The format of the 'B' string is " Float Value : B type". The available  $B$  types are scalebeta, perload, permax, and abs.

The scalebeta type will scale the automatically calculated area frequency response characteristic  $\beta$  by the given float value. The perload type will set  $B$  equal to the current area load times the given float value. The permax type will set  $B$  equal to the maximum area capacity times the given float value. The abs type will set  $B$  equal to the given float value. Note that the units on  $B$  are MW/0.1 Hz and, despite  $B$  being a negative number, is entered as a positive value.

Additionally, a variable frequency bias may be employed. If the BVgain dictionary entry is a non-zero value, a variable frequency bias  $B_V$  is calculated as

$$B_V = B_F (1 + K_B |\Delta\omega|) \quad (19)$$

where  $B_F$  is the fixed bias value, and  $K_B$  is the user entered value for BVgain. It should be noted that  $\Delta\omega$  is calculated according to Equation 5 and is a PU value. This leads to seemingly large

required values of BVgain for noticeable effects. To clarify,  $B_V$  is only used in ACE calculations that are meant to be distributed to the generation fleet, RACE is calculated using  $B_F$ .

#### **5.3.4.2. Integral of Area Control Error**

As previously shown in Figure 115, ACE may be integrated and fed back into the conditional summing block. The default signal sent to the integrator is RACE as AGC is meant to drive RACE to zero. Settings related to this process are configured in the BA parameter dictionary. Integral of ACE (IACE) parameters are 'IACEwindow, 'IACEScale, and 'IACEDeadband. As expected, the IACEwindow defines the length in seconds of the moving window integrator. If IACEwindow is set to zero, integration will be continuous. IACEScale acts as a gain of the output integral value. IACEDeadband specifies the frequency deviation in Hz below which integration values will stop being added back into the conditional summing.

#### **5.3.4.3. Conditional Area Control Error Summing**

Depending on the type of AGC agent chosen, ACE is calculated in different ways. The Tie-Line Bias (TLB) agent has three types of conditional ACE calculation. All conditionals involve checking the sign of calculated values to the sign of frequency deviation. The main idea behind this conditional summing is to ensure that only events occurring inside an area will receive an active AGC response. However, options are available to allow for continued frequency response as well. Table VIII shows the conditional summations.

**Table VIII: Tie-line bias AGC type ACE calculations.**

TLB Type	ACE Calculation
0	$ACE_{FB} + ACE_{TL}$
1	$ACE_{FB} + ACE_{TL} * [\text{sgn}(\Delta\omega) == \text{sgn}(ACE_{TL})]$
2	$ACE_{FB} + ACE_{TL} * [\text{sgn}(\Delta\omega) == \text{sgn}(ACE_{FB} + ACE_{TL})]$
3	$ACE_{FB} * [\text{sgn}(\Delta\omega) == \text{sgn}(ACE_{FB})] + ACE_{TL} * [\text{sgn}(\Delta\omega) == \text{sgn}(ACE_{TL})]$

#### 5.3.4.4. Area Control Error Filtering

The calculated ACE can be put through a filter, or smoothed, to become smoothed ACE (SACE). The three basic filters created were low pass, integral and PI. Block diagrams of these filters are shown in Figure 116.

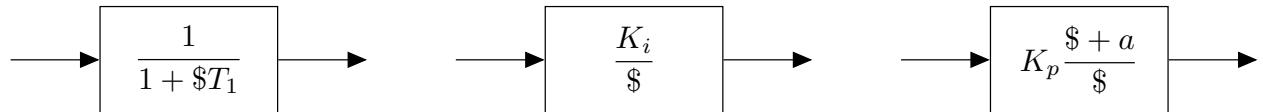


Figure 116: Block diagrams of optional ACE filters.

The selection and configuration of a filter is done in the BA parameter dictionary via the 'ACEFiltering' key value. The format of the string input to the 'ACEFiltering' key is "type : val1 val2". Valid filter types are lowpass, integrator, and pi. The low pass and integrator take only one value while the PI filter takes two. In the case of the low pass filter, the passed in value is set as the low pass time constant. The value passed in with an integrator filter is simply a gain. The first PI value is used as a proportional gain value  $K_p$  and the second value describes the ratio between integral and proportional gain  $a$ .

#### 5.3.4.5. Controlled Generators and Participation Factors

Each BA is configured with a list of controlled generators that receive AGC signals. These generators, or power plants, are given a participation factor between 1 and 0 which dictates how much of the ACE signal is sent to each. A check is done to ensure each BA has a total participation factor of one, however, if the sum of participation factors is not one, only a warning is issued. It is up to the user to enter reasonable values. Additionally, each list value of the 'CtrlGens' key describes if the signal should be applied as a step or a ramp. Ramps are best when single units are receiving ACE, while steps are useful for power plants that are intended to handle distribution of ACE independently.

## **5.4. Governor Deadband Effect on Valve Travel**

Initial research goals included maximizing system stability while minimizing machine effort. The decided upon metric for machine effort was valve travel.

### **5.4.1. Simulation Methodology**

How simulations were run and comparative metrics chosen and/or calculated .

### **5.4.2. Simulation Results**

Results of engineering application study

## **5.5. Automatic Generation Control Tuning**

After a contingency, AGC acts to restore the system to nominal operating conditions. According to

### **5.5.1. Simulation Methodology**

How simulations were run and comparative metrics chosen and/or calculated .

### **5.5.2. Simulation Results**

Results of engineering application study

## **5.6. Long-Term Simulation with Shunt Control**

Description of system, scenario and issue under study.

### **5.6.1. Simulation Methodology**

How simulations were run and comparative metrics chosen and/or calculated .

### **5.6.2. Simulation Results**

Results of engineering application study

## 5.7. Feed-Forward Governor Action

PSLTDSim can be used to recreate system behavior. Interested parties expressed a concern with an undesirable governor response believed to be caused by feed-forward characteristics. The provided model of governors in question was described as a single block with no further information. A plot of simulated and recorded generator power output was provided as an example of noticed behavior. A similar governor response was created using a DTC and governor input filtering.

### 5.7.1. Simulation Methodology

Using a six machine system with 0.5 second time step, a method of stepping governor  $P_{ref}$  while also gaining input  $\Delta\omega_{PU}$  produced a similar undesirable response. Code used to define system generation step, governor delay, and DTC action is shown in Figure 117. In practice, this code would be user defined in the simulation .ltd.py file.

The perturbation list in Figure 117 specifies an ungoverned generator on bus 5 with a mechanical power step down of 100 MW at t=20. This was meant to simulate the tripping of a generator in an aggregated generator model. The governor delay dictionary was used to gain the  $\Delta\omega$  input by 0.5. This was required so that steady state frequency did not over account for differences of  $\Delta\omega$ . The DTC action was defined to occur every 24 seconds and sets  $P_{ref} = P_{ref0} + \frac{\Delta\omega}{R} M_{base} * 0.5$ . While not truly a feed-forward control response, the stepping of  $P_{ref}$  was thought to produce a similar result. Action time of 24 seconds was chosen so the first DTC response is near the simulated frequency nadir.

```

1  # Perturbances
2  mirror.sysPerturbances = [
3      'gen 5 : step Pm 20 -100 rel', # Step no-gov generator down
4  ]
5
6  # Delay block used as delta_w gain
7  mirror.govDelay ={
8      'delaygen2' : {
9          'genBus' : 2,
10         'genId' : '1', # optional
11         'wDelay' : (0, 0, .5), # gain of input w
12         'PrefDelay' : (0, 0)
13     },
14     #end of defined governor delays
15 }
16
17 # Definite Time Controller Definitions
18 mirror.DTCdict = {
19     'ffGovTest' : {
20         'RefAgents' : {
21             'ra1' : 'mirror : f',
22             'ra2' : 'gen 2 1 : R',
23             'ra3' : 'gen 2 1 : Pref0',
24             'ra4' : 'gen 2 1 : Mbase',
25         },# end Referenc Agents
26         'TarAgents' : {
27             'tar1' : 'gen 2 1 : Pref',
28         }, # end Target Agents
29         'Timers' : {
30             'set' :{ # set Pref
31                 'logic' : "(ra1 > 0)", # should always eval as true
32                 'actTime' : 24, # seconds of true logic before act
33                 'act' : "tar1 = ra3 + (1-ra1)/(ra2) * ra4 * 0.5 ", # step Pref
34             },# end set
35             'reset' :{ # not used in example
36                 'logic' : "0",
37                 'actTime' : 0, # seconds of true logic before act
38                 'act' : "0", # set any target On target = 0
39             },# end reset
40             'hold' : 0, # minimum time between actions (not used in example)
41         }, # end timers
42     },# end bpaTest
43 }# end DTCdict

```

Figure 117: Long-term dynamic settings for feed-forward governor simulation.

### 5.7.2. Simulation Results

Simulation results for frequency, and generator electrical power are shown in Figures 118 and 119 respectively. The undesired response can be seen when power output is stepped beyond the steady state value.

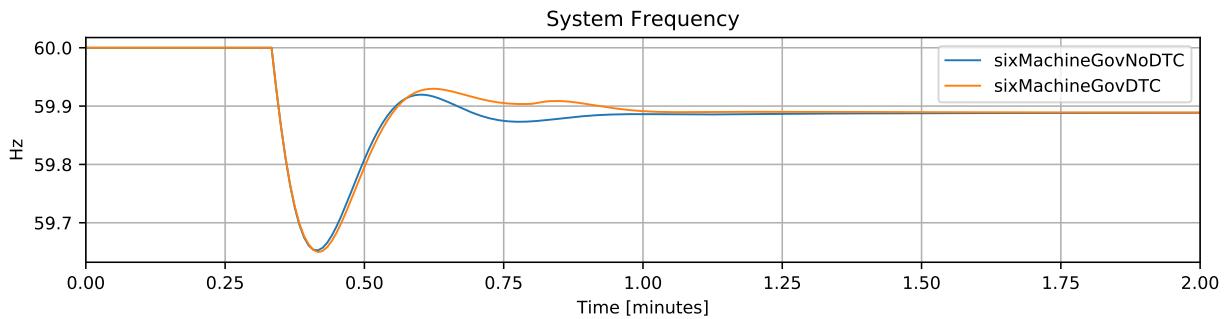


Figure 118: Feed-forward governor frequency comparison.

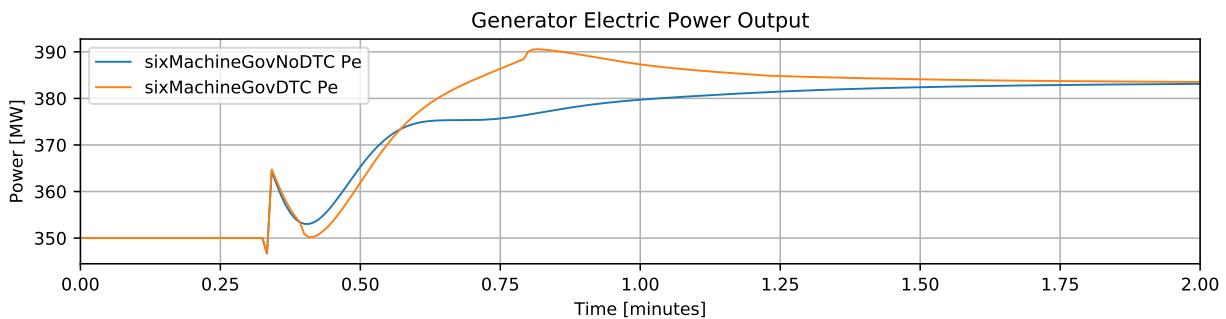


Figure 119: Feed-forward governor electric power comparison.

### 5.7.3. Result Discussion

While the produced behavior does resemble observed behavior, it is not an exact match. Scaling and actual response time differences are believed to be caused by differences in model size, governor time constants, and actual feed-forward action. A new governor model with more defined feed-forward capabilities could be created if simulated results on actual system-under-study are unsatisfactory.

## 5.8. Variable System Inertia

PSLTDSim can be used to estimate system behavior. The trend of increased photo-voltaic penetration can lead to situations where total system inertia may not match what is expected. The single combined system inertia in PSLTDSim can be modified during simulations to enable study into variable inertia system responses.

### 5.8.1. Simulation Methodology

A pulse train of load steps was created to clearly show the effect of varying system inertia. System inertia was altered before each positive load step. Code used to define perturbation steps is shown in Figure 120. In practice, this code would be user defined in the simulation .ltd.py file.

---

```

1 # Perturbances
2 mirror.sysPerturbances = [
3     # Initial system response
4     'load 8 : step P 2 100 rel',
5     'load 8 : step P 22 -100 rel',
6     # decrease of H
7     'mirror : step Hsys 40 -30 per',
8     'load 8 : step P 42 100 rel',
9     'load 8 : step P 62 -100 rel',
10    # decrease of H
11    'mirror : step Hsys 80 -50 per',
12    'load 8 : step P 82 100 rel',
13    'load 8 : step P 102 -100 rel',
14    # Increase of H
15    'mirror : step Hsys 120 30080 abs',
16    'load 8 : step P 122 100 rel',
17    'load 8 : step P 142 -100 rel',
18 ]

```

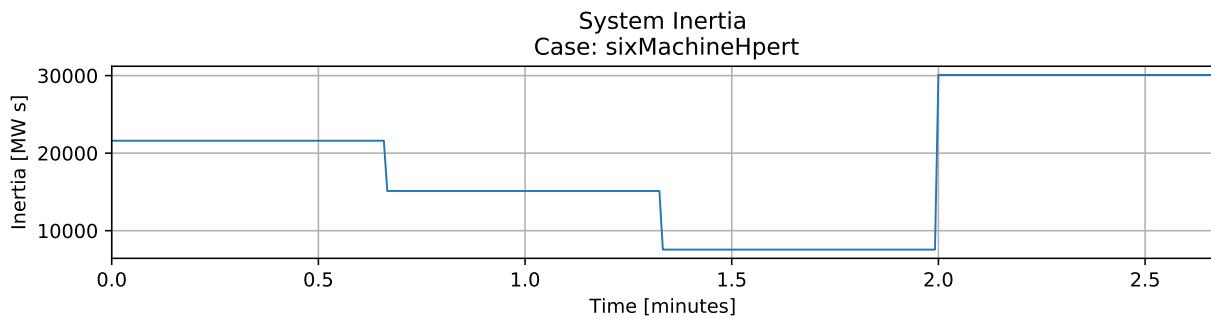
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**Figure 120: Long-term dynamic settings for variable system inertia simulation.**

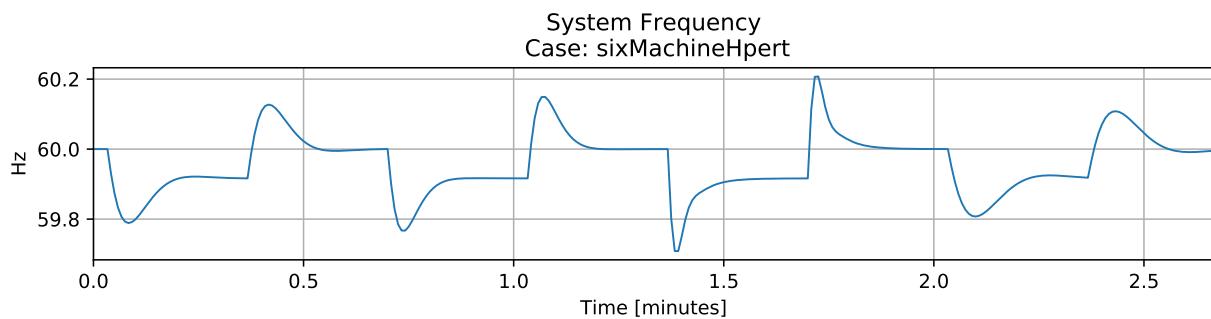
The code in Figure 120 steps the load on bus 8 up and down 100 MW every 20 seconds starting at t=2. System inertia is reduced by 30% at t=40, 50% at t=80, and then set to 30,080 MW s at t=120.

### 5.8.2. Simulation Results

Figure 121 shows the resulting changes in system inertia and Figure 122 shows the system frequency response. As expected, lower system inertia leads to faster frequency changes and larger frequency nadirs.



**Figure 121:** Varying system inertia.



**Figure 122:** System frequency response under varying system inertia.

### 5.8.3. Result Discussion

Noticable effects of varying inertia can be seen during large step type contingencies. PSLTDSim is not particularly well suited for these types of perturbances however, results show that changes in system inertia during simulation are accounted for.

## **6. Conclusions**

### **6.1. Simulation Conclusions**

### **6.2. Engineering Application Conclusions**

## 7. Future Work

- Move away from reliance on GE software.

This would require:

- new system definitions and dynamic model input methods
- new power-flow solver
- integration into current mirror creation, ‘solving system’ update methods.
- Further refinement of definite time controller for voltage stability scenarios.
- Document altering effective system inertia for simulating loss of conventional generation scenarios.
- Addition of under load tap changing transformers
- Addition of exponential loads
- More dynamic models
- Improved dynamic model casting methods
- Variable frequency bias control (DTC controls gov pref according to  $\Delta\omega$ )
- Voltage scheduler Agent
- More defined Plant Controller Agent (sum and log P and Q gen)
- More efficient (performant) code

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## 9. Six Machine System Details

Relevant values from PSLF tables describing the six machine system used are presented in this appendix. The ‘busd’ table from PSLF describing system buses is shown in Table IX. The ‘secdd’ table from PSLF describing system lines is shown in Table X. The ‘tran’ table from PSLF describing system transformers is shown in Table XI. The ‘gens’ table from PSLF describing system generators is shown in Table XII. The ‘load’ table from PSLF describing system loads is shown in Table XIII. The ‘shunt’ table from PSLF describing system shunts is shown in Table XIV. The dyd file used for validation is shown in Figure 123.

**Table IX: Six machine bus table.**

BUS-NO	NAME	KV	TP	VSCHED	V-PU	DEG	AREA
6	6	138.00	1	1.00	0.9537	-15.91	1
7	7	138.00	1	1.00	0.9533	-16.07	1
8	8	138.00	1	1.00	0.9532	-16.52	1
9	9	138.00	1	1.00	0.9533	-16.54	2
10	10	138.00	1	1.00	0.9543	-16.14	2
11	11	138.00	1	1.00	0.9549	-15.78	2
1	1	22.00	0	1.00	1.0000	0.00	1
2	2	22.00	2	1.00	1.0000	11.41	1
3	3	22.00	2	1.00	1.0000	1.27	2
4	4	22.00	2	1.00	1.0000	1.27	2
5	5	22.00	2	1.00	1.0000	-10.72	2

**Table X: Six machine line table.**

FROM	FNAME	FKV	TO	TNAME	TKV	CK	SE	R-PU	X-PU	B-PU	AF	AT
6	6	138.00	7	7	138.00	1	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	1	1
7	7	138.00	8	8	138.00	1	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	1	1
8	8	138.00	9	9	138.00	1	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	1	2
8	8	138.00	9	9	138.00	2	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	1	2
8	8	138.00	9	9	138.00	3	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	1	2
11	11	138.00	10	10	138.00	1	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	2	2
10	10	138.00	9	9	138.00	1	1	0.0001	0.001	0.0018	2	2

**Table XI: Six machine transformer table.**

FROM	FNAME	FKV	TO	TNAME	TKV	MVA	VNOMF	VNOMT	R	X	BMAG	AREA
1	1	22.00	6	6	138.00	100.00	22.00	138.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	1
2	2	22.00	7	7	138.00	100.00	22.00	138.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	1
3	3	22.00	11	11	138.00	100.00	22.00	138.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	2
4	4	22.00	11	11	138.00	100.00	22.00	138.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	2
5	5	22.00	10	10	138.00	100.00	22.00	138.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	2

**Table XII: Six machine generator table.**

BUS-NO	NAME1	KV1	ID	PGEN	QGEN	IREG	AREA	MBASE	PMAX
1	1	22.00	1	261.40	82.90	1	1	900.00	1000.00
2	2	22.00	1	220.00	77.10	2	1	900.00	1000.00
2	2	22.00	2	220.00	77.10	2	1	900.00	1000.00
3	3	22.00	1	280.00	87.10	3	2	900.00	1000.00
4	4	22.00	1	280.00	87.10	4	2	900.00	1000.00
5	5	22.00	1	90.00	49.90	5	2	900.00	1000.00

**Table XIII: Six machine load table.**

BUS-NO	NAME	KV	ID	ST	PLOAD	QLOAD	AREA
8	8	138.00	1	1	600.00	100.00	1
9	9	138.00	1	1	750.00	100.00	2

**Table XIV: Six machine shunt table.**

FROM	FNAME	FKV	ID	CK	ST	G-PU	B-PU	AREA
8	8	138.00	1	1	1	0.00	1.00	1
8	8	138.00	2	2	1	0.00	0.50	1
8	8	138.00	3	3	0	0.00	0.50	1
8	8	138.00	4	4	0	0.00	0.50	1
9	9	138.00	1	1	1	0.00	1.00	2
9	9	138.00	2	2	0	0.00	0.50	2
9	9	138.00	3	3	0	0.00	0.50	2
9	9	138.00	4	4	0	0.00	0.50	2

---

```

1 # Six Machine, all gens and govs the same
2 # exciters default settings
3
4 # Metering of frequency, current, and voltages
5 fmeta 1 "1" 22.00 "1 " : #9 0 1
6 ameta 1 "1" 22.00 "1 " : 0
7 vmeta 1 "1" 22.00 "1 " : 0
8
9 # current meters
10 imetr 6 ! ! ! 7 ! ! ! : #9 0
11 imetr 7 ! ! ! 8 ! ! ! : #9 0
12 imetr 8 ! ! ! 9 ! ! ! : #9 0
13 imetr 11 ! ! ! 10 ! ! ! : #9 0
14 imetr 10 ! ! ! 9 ! ! ! : #9 0
15
16 # loads (Using wlwscc on any load sets the dynamics characteristics of all loads.)
17 wlwscc 9 "9" 138.0 "1 " : #9 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
18
19 # generators
20 genrou 1 "1" 22.00 "1 " : #9 mva=900.00 "tpdo" 6.50 "tppdo" 0.079 "tpqo" 0.53 "tppqo" 0.072 "h" 4 "d"
  ↳ 0.0000 "ld" 1.24 "lq" 1.22 "lpd" 0.23 "lpq" 0.36000 "lppd" 0.17 "ll" 0.14 "s1" 0.173 "s12" 0.447 "ra"
  ↳ 0.0000 "rcomp" 0.0000 "xcomp" 0.0000 "accel" 1.0
21 genrou 2 "2" 22.00 "1 " : #9 mva=900.00 "tpdo" 6.50 "tppdo" 0.079 "tpqo" 0.53 "tppqo" 0.072 "h" 4 "d"
  ↳ 0.0000 "ld" 1.24 "lq" 1.22 "lpd" 0.23 "lpq" 0.36000 "lppd" 0.17 "ll" 0.14 "s1" 0.173 "s12" 0.447 "ra"
  ↳ 0.0000 "rcomp" 0.0000 "xcomp" 0.0000 "accel" 1.0
22 genrou 2 "2" 22.00 "2 " : #9 mva=900.00 "tpdo" 6.50 "tppdo" 0.079 "tpqo" 0.53 "tppqo" 0.072 "h" 4 "d"
  ↳ 0.0000 "ld" 1.24 "lq" 1.22 "lpd" 0.23 "lpq" 0.36000 "lppd" 0.17 "ll" 0.14 "s1" 0.173 "s12" 0.447 "ra"
  ↳ 0.0000 "rcomp" 0.0000 "xcomp" 0.0000 "accel" 1.0
23 genrou 3 "3" 22.00 "1 " : #9 mva=900.00 "tpdo" 6.50 "tppdo" 0.079 "tpqo" 0.53 "tppqo" 0.072 "h" 4 "d"
  ↳ 0.0000 "ld" 1.24 "lq" 1.22 "lpd" 0.23 "lpq" 0.36000 "lppd" 0.17 "ll" 0.14 "s1" 0.173 "s12" 0.447 "ra"
  ↳ 0.0000 "rcomp" 0.0000 "xcomp" 0.0000 "accel" 1.0
24 genrou 4 "4" 22.00 "1 " : #9 mva=900.00 "tpdo" 6.50 "tppdo" 0.079 "tpqo" 0.53 "tppqo" 0.072 "h" 4 "d"
  ↳ 0.0000 "ld" 1.24 "lq" 1.22 "lpd" 0.23 "lpq" 0.36000 "lppd" 0.17 "ll" 0.14 "s1" 0.173 "s12" 0.447 "ra"
  ↳ 0.0000 "rcomp" 0.0000 "xcomp" 0.0000 "accel" 1.0
25 genrou 5 "5" 22.00 "1 " : #9 mva=900.00 "tpdo" 6.50 "tppdo" 0.079 "tpqo" 0.53 "tppqo" 0.072 "h" 4 "d"
  ↳ 0.0000 "ld" 1.24 "lq" 1.22 "lpd" 0.23 "lpq" 0.36000 "lppd" 0.17 "ll" 0.14 "s1" 0.173 "s12" 0.447 "ra"
  ↳ 0.0000 "rcomp" 0.0000 "xcomp" 0.0000 "accel" 1.0
26
27 # exciters
28 sexs 1 "1" 22.00 "1 " : #1 0.1 10.0 100.0 0.05 -5.0 5.0 0.08 0.0 -5.0 5.0 0.0
29 sexs 2 "2" 22.00 "1 " : #1 0.1 10.0 100.0 0.05 -5.0 5.0 0.08 0.0 -5.0 5.0 0.0
30 sexs 2 "2" 22.00 "2 " : #1 0.1 10.0 100.0 0.05 -5.0 5.0 0.08 0.0 -5.0 5.0 0.0
31 sexs 3 "3" 22.00 "1 " : #1 0.1 10.0 100.0 0.05 -5.0 5.0 0.08 0.0 -5.0 5.0 0.0
32 sexs 4 "4" 22.00 "1 " : #1 0.1 10.0 100.0 0.05 -5.0 5.0 0.08 0.0 -5.0 5.0 0.0
33 sexs 5 "5" 22.00 "1 " : #1 0.1 10.0 100.0 0.05 -5.0 5.0 0.08 0.0 -5.0 5.0 0.0
34
35 # governors
36 tgov1 1 "1" 22.00 "1 " : #1 mwcap=800.0000 0.050000 0.4 1.000000 0.0 3.0000 10.0000 0.0
37 tgov1 2 "2" 22.00 "1 " : #1 mwcap=800.0000 0.050000 0.4 1.000000 0.0 3.0000 10.0000 0.0
38 tgov1 2 "2" 22.00 "2 " : #1 mwcap=800.0000 0.050000 0.4 1.000000 0.0 3.0000 10.0000 0.0
39 tgov1 3 "3" 22.00 "1 " : #1 mwcap=800.0000 0.050000 0.4 1.000000 0.0 3.0000 10.0000 0.0
40 tgov1 4 "4" 22.00 "1 " : #1 mwcap=800.0000 0.050000 0.4 1.000000 0.0 3.0000 10.0000 0.0

```

---

**Figure 123: Dyd file used in six machine validations.**

## 10. Code Examples

```

1  # Format of required info for batch runs.
2  debug = 0
3  AMQPdebug = 0
4  debugTimer = 0
5
6  simNotes = """
7  AGC TUNING (no delay)
8  Delay over response test
9  Loss of generation in area 1 at t=2
10 Delayed action by area 2
11 AGC in both areas
12 """
13
14 # Simulation Parameters Dictionary
15 simParams = {
16     'timeStep': 1.0, # seconds
17     'endTime': 60.0*8, # seconds
18     'slackTol': 1, # MW
19     'PY3msgGroup' : 3, # number of Agent msgs per AMQP msg
20     'IPYmsgGroup' : 60, # number of Agent msgs per AMQP msg
21     'Hinput' : 0.0, # MW*sec of entire system, if !> 0.0, will be calculated in code
22     'Dsys' : 0.0, # Damping
23     'fBase' : 60.0, # System F base in Hertz
24     'freqEffects' : True, # w in swing equation will not be assumed 1 if true
25     # Mathematical Options
26     'integrationMethod' : 'rk45',
27     # Data Export Parameters
28     'fileDirectory' : "\\\delme\\200109-delayScenario1\\", # relative path from cwd
29     'fileName' : 'SixMachineDelayStep1',
30     'exportFinalMirror': 1, # Export mirror with all data
31     'exportMat': 1, # if IPY: requies exportDict == 1 to work
32     'exportDict' : 0, # when using python 3 no need to export dicts.
33     'deleteInit' : 0, # Delete initialized mirror
34     'assumedV' : 'Vsched', # assumed voltage - either Vsched or Vinit
35     'logBranch' : True,
36 }
37
38 savPath = r"C:\LTD\pslf_systems\sixMachine\sixMachineTrips.sav"
39 dydPath = [r"C:\LTD\pslf_systems\sixMachine\sixMachineDelay.dyd"]
40 ltdPath = r".\testCases\200109-delayScenario1\sixMachineDelayStep1.ltd.py"

```

Figure 124: An example of a full .py simulation file.

## 11. Large Tables

This appendix is used to present large tables too distracting for inclusion in their respective sections.

**Table XV: Balancing authority dictionary input information.**

Key	Type	Units	Example	Description
B	String	MW/0.1Hz	"1.0 : permax"	Describes the frequency bias scaling factor B used in the ACE calculation. Various Options exist.
AGCActionTime	Float	Seconds	5	Time between AGC dispatch messages.
AGCType	String	-	"TLB : 2"	Dictates which AGC routine to use and type specific options.
UseAreaDroop	Boolean	-	FALSE	If True, all governed generators under BA control will use the area droop.
AreaDroop	Float	Hz/MW	0.05	Droop value to use if 'UseAreaDroop' is True.
IncludeIACE	Boolean	-	TRUE	If True, include IACE in ACE calculation
IACEconditional	Boolean	-	FALSE	Adds IACE to ACE if signs of deltaraw, ACE and IACe all match.
IACEwindow	Integer	Seconds	60	Defines the length of moving integration window to use in IACE. If set to 0, integration takes place for all time.
IACEscale	Float	-	0.0167	Value used to scale IACE.
IACEweight	Float	-	0.5	Weighting of IACE to ACE used during summation.
IACEdeadband	Float	Hz	0.036	Absolute value of system frequency where IACE will not be calculated below.
ACEFiltering	String	-	PI : 0.03 0.001'	String used to dictate which filter agent is created and filter specific parameters.
AGCDeadband	Float	MW	1.5	Value of ACE to ignore sending in AGC dispatch. Not implemented as of this writing.
GovDeadbandType	String	-	step'	Type of deadband to be applied to area governors.
GovDeadband	Float	Hz	0.036	Absolute value of system frequency that governors will not respond below.
GovAlpha	Float	Hz	0.016	Specific to 'NLdroop' type of deadband. Specifies lower bound of non-linear droop.
GovBeta	Float	Hz	0.036	Specific to 'NLdroop' type of deadband. Specifies upper bound of non-linear droop.
CtrlGens	List of Strings	-	-	List of generators, participation factor, and dispatch signal type.

**Table XVI: Simulation parameters dictionary input information.**

Key	Type	Units	Example	Description
timeStep	float	Seconds	1	Simulated time between power-flow solutions
endTime	float	Seconds	1800	Number of seconds simulation is to run for.
slackTol	float	MW	0.5	MW Value that slack error must be below for returned solution to be accepted.
PY3msgGroup	integer	-	3	Number of messages to combine into one AMQP message for PY3 to IPY communication.
IPYmsgGroup	integer	-	60	Number of messages to combine into one AMQP message for IPY to PY3 communication.
Hinput	float	MW sec	0	Value to use for total system inertia. Units are MW*sec. If set to 0.0, system inertia will be calculated from the given .sav information.
Dsys	float	PU	0	Value of system damping used in swing equation and governor models. While this option is available, it is untested and typically set to 0.0.
fBase	float	Hz	60	Value of base system frequency.
freqEffects	boolean	-	True	If True, the $\omega$ used in the swing equation will be the current system frequency. If this is set to False then $\omega$ will be set equal to 1 for the swing equation calculation
integrationMethod	string	-	'rk45'	This option defines how the swing equation is integrated to find current frequency. Valid options are 'rk45', 'ab', and 'euler'. The default is the 'euler' method which is a simple forward Euler integration. The 'ab' option uses a two step Adams-Bashforth method and the 'rk45' option uses the scipy solve_ivp function that utilizes an explicit Runge-Kutta 4(5) method.
fileDirectory	string	-	"\\delme\\\"	This is a relative path location from the folder where PSLTDSim is executed in which the output files are saved to.
fileName	string	-	"SimTest"	This is the name used to save files.
exportFinalMirror	int	-	1	If this value is 1 a final system mirror will be exported. If this value is 0 no final mirror will be exported.
exportMat	int	-	1	If this value is 1 a MATLAB .mat file will be exported. If this value is 0 no MATLAB .mat file will be exported.