

# Design and Stability of Load-side Frequency Control

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Changhong Zhao\*

Enrique Mallada\*

Steven Low

EE, CMS, Caltech

Ufuk Topcu

U Penn

Lina Li

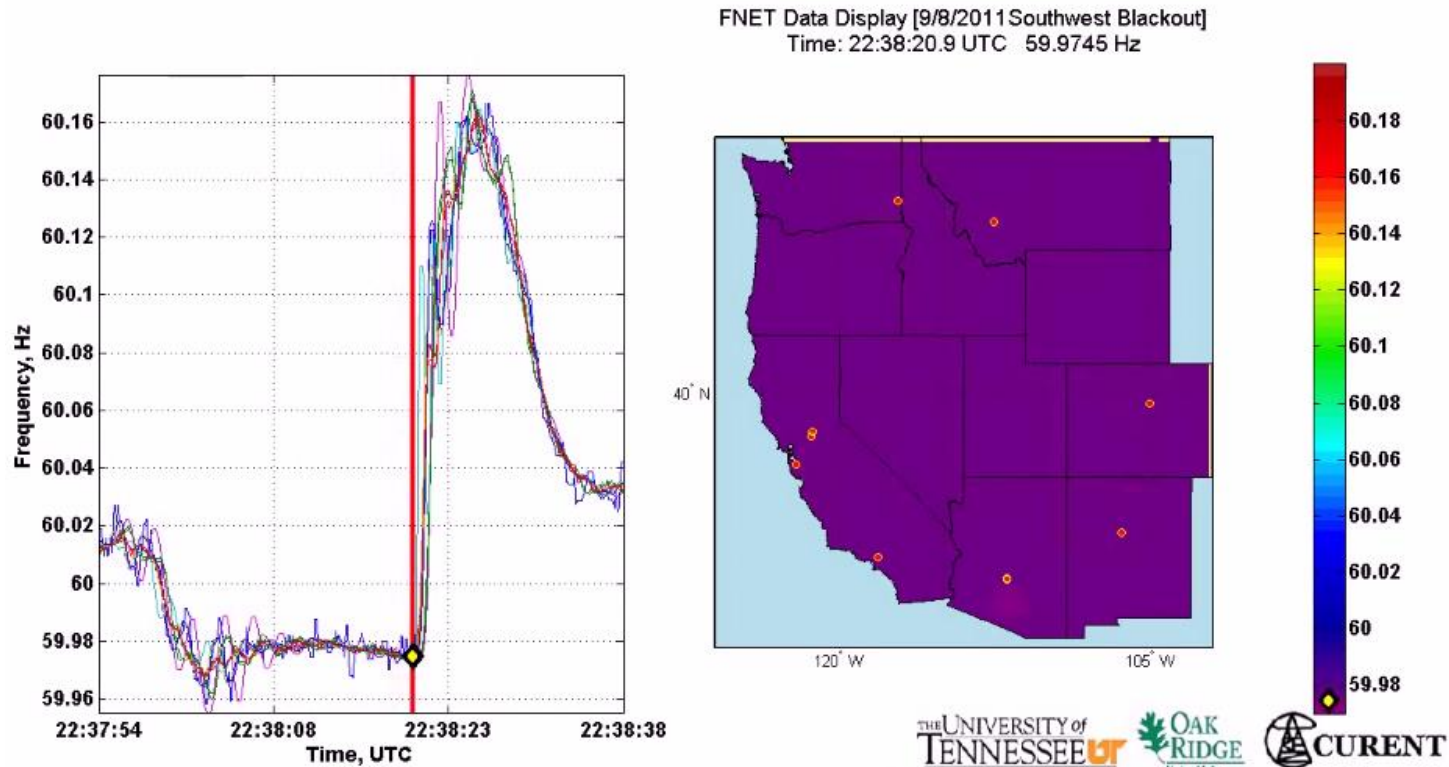
Harvard

July 2015



# Motivation

- All buses synchronized to same nominal frequency (US: 60 Hz; Europe/China: 50 Hz)
- Supply-demand imbalance → frequency fluctuation



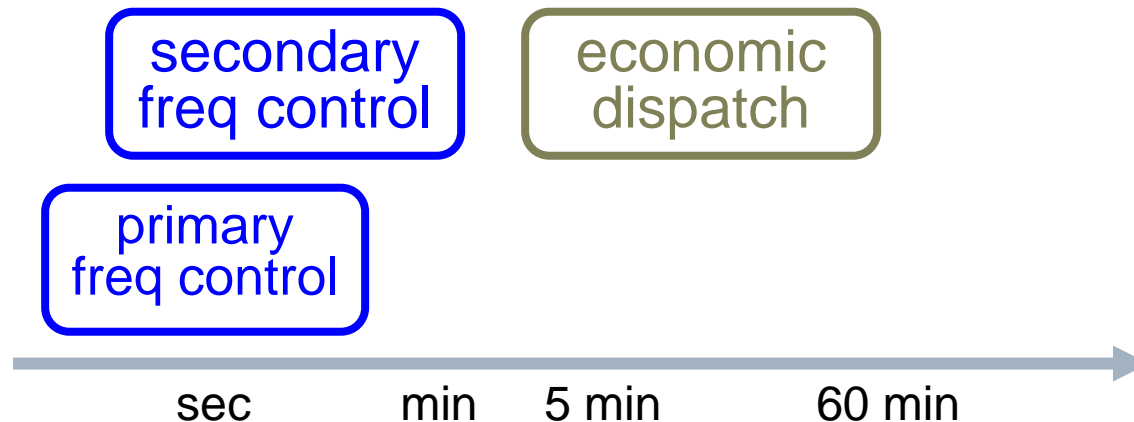
2011 Southwest blackout



# Why load-side participation

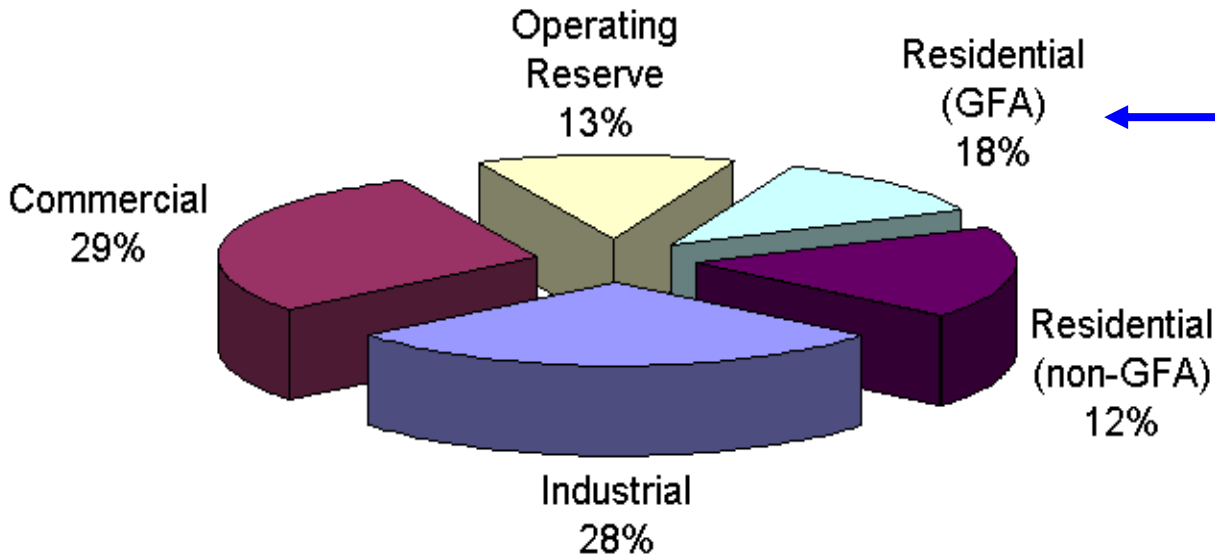
Ubiquitous continuous load-side control can supplement generator-side control

- faster (no/low inertia)
- no extra waste or emission
- more reliable (large #)
- better localize disturbances
- reducing generator-side control capacity



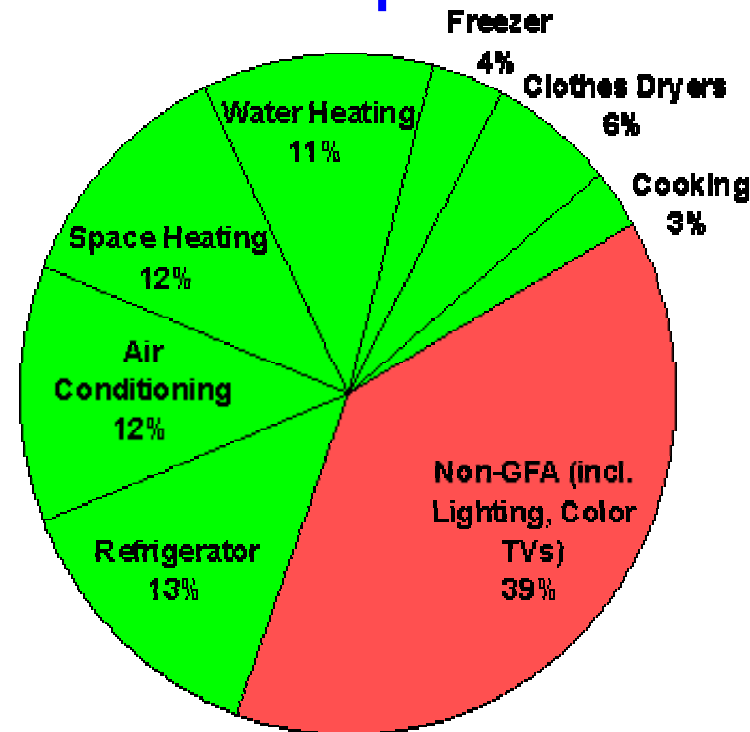


# What is the potential



- Residential load accounts for ~1/3 of peak demand
- 61% residential appliances are Grid Friendly

US:  
operating reserve: 13% of peak  
total GFA capacity: 18%





# How

How to design **load-side** frequency control ?

How does it interact with generator-side control ?



# Literature: load-side control

## Original idea & early analytical work

- Schweppe et al 1980; Bergin, Hill, Qu, Dorsey, Wang, Varaiya ...

## Small scale trials around the world

- D.Hammerstrom et al 2007, UK Market Transform Programme 2008

## Early simulation studies

- Trudnowski et al 2006, Lu and Hammerstrom 2006, Short et al 2007, Donnelly et al 2010, Brooks et al 2010, Callaway and I. A. Hiskens, 2011, Molina-Garcia et al 2011

## Analytical work – load-side control

- Zhao et al (2012/2014), Mallada and Low (2014), Mallada et al (2014), Zhao and Low (2014), Zhao et al (2015)
- Simpson-Porco et al 2013, You and Chen 2014, Zhang and Papachristodoulou (2014), Ma et al (2014), Zhao, et al (2014),

## Recent analysis – generator-side/microgrid control:

- Andreasson et al (2013), Zhang and Papachristodoulou (2013), Li et al (2014), Burger et al (2014), You and Chen (2014), Simpson-Porco et al (2013), Hill et al (2014), Dorfler et al (2014)



# Outline

Network model

Load-side frequency control

Simulations

Details

## **Main references:**

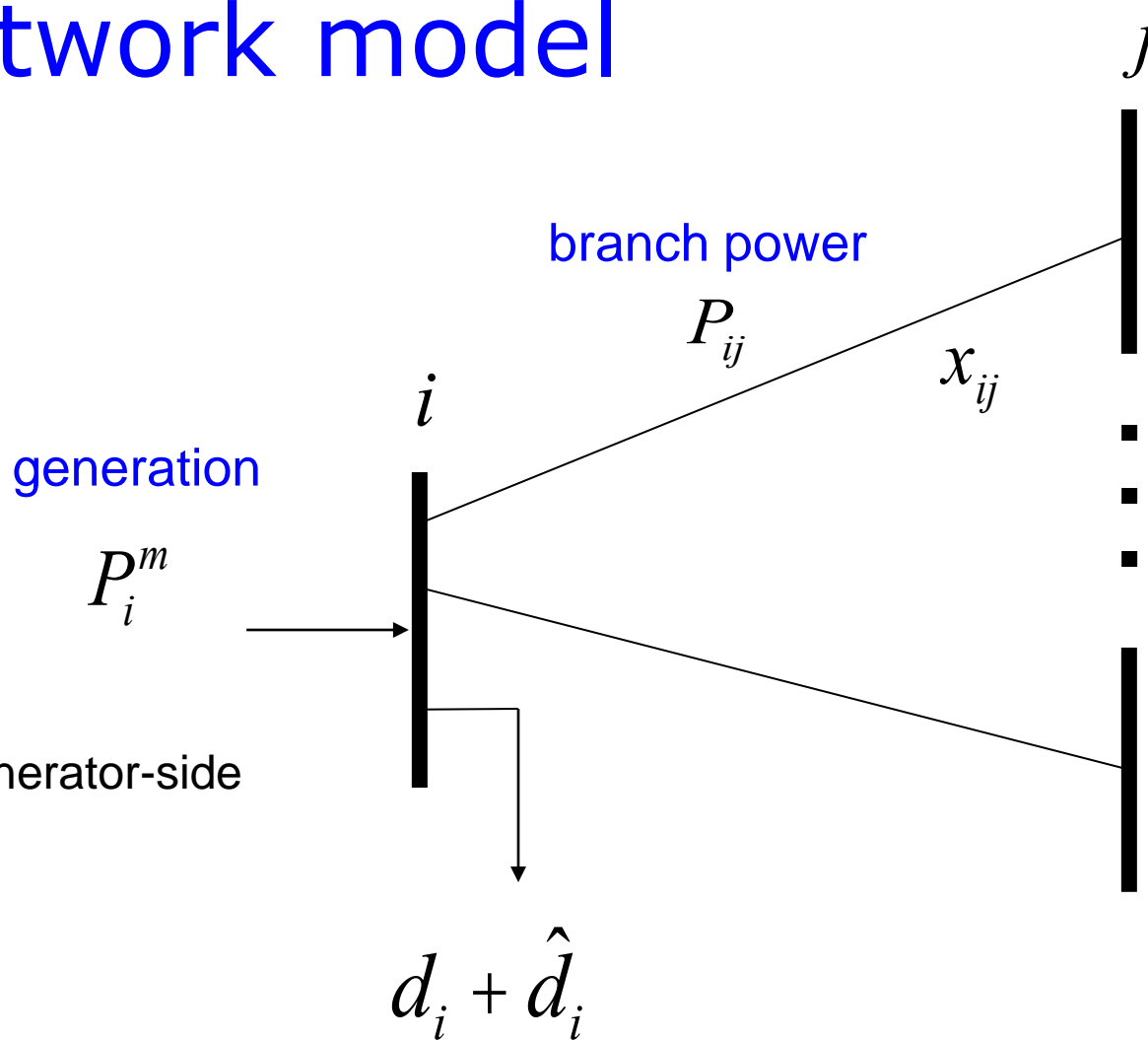
Zhao, Topcu, Li, Low, TAC 2014

Mallada, Zhao, Low, Allerton 2014

Zhao, Low, CDC 2014, Zhao et al CISS 2015



# Network model



Will include generator-side control later

loads:  
controllable + freq-sensitive

$i$  : region/control area/balancing authority





# Network model

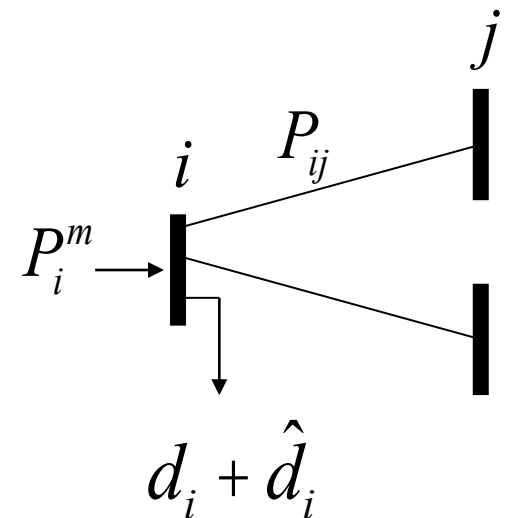
$$M_i \dot{W}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

Generator bus:  $M_i > 0$

Load bus:  $M_i = 0$

Damping/uncontr loads:  $\hat{d}_i = D_i W_i$

Controllable loads:  $d_i$



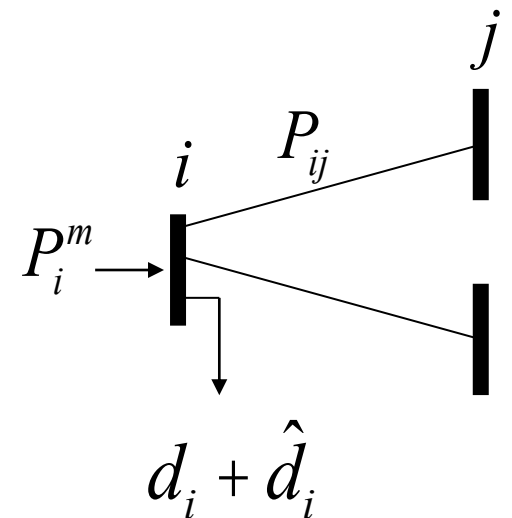


# Network model

$$M_i \dot{W}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i - W_j) \quad " \quad i \rightarrow j$$

- swing dynamics
- all variables are deviations from nominal
- extends to nonlinear power flow





# Frequency control

$$M_i \dot{W}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i - W_j) \quad " \quad i \rightarrow j$$

Suppose the system is in steady state

$$\dot{W}_i = 0 \quad \dot{P}_{ij} = 0 \quad W_i = 0$$

Then: disturbance in gen/load ...



# Frequency control

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j) \quad " \quad i \rightarrow j$$

current  
approach

load-side  
control



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Mallada, Zhao, Low, Allerton 2014

Zhao, Low, CDC 2014, Zhao et al CISS 2015



# Load-side controller design

$$M_i \dot{W}_i = P_i^m - \underbrace{d_i}_{\text{load}} - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i - W_j) \quad " \quad i \rightarrow j$$

## Control goals

Zhao, Topcu, Li,  
Low

TAC 2014  
Mallada, Zhao, Low  
Allerton, 2014

- Rebalance power & stabilize frequency
- Restore nominal frequency
- Restore scheduled inter-area flows
- Respect line limits



# Load-side controller design

$$M_i \dot{W}_i = P_i^m - \underbrace{d_i}_{\text{circled}} - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i - W_j) \quad " \quad i \rightarrow j$$

## Control goals (while min disutility)

Zhao, Topcu, Li,  
Low

TAC 2014  
Mallada, Zhao, Low  
Allerton, 2014

- Rebalance power & stabilize frequency
- Restore nominal frequency
- Restore scheduled inter-area flows
- Respect line limits



# Load-side controller design

Design control law  
whose equilibrium  
solves:

$\min_{d,P}$	$\sum_i \dot{a} c_i(d_i)$	load disutility
s. t.	$P_i^m - d_i = \sum_e \dot{a} C_{ie} P_e$	node $i$ power balance
	$\sum_{i \in N_k} \dot{a} \dot{a} C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k$	area $k$ inter-area flows
	$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e$	line $e$ line limits

## Control goals (while min disutility)

- Rebalance power & stabilize frequency
- Restore nominal frequency
- Restore scheduled inter-area flows
- Respect line limits

freq will emerge as  
Lagrange multiplier  
for power imbalance





# Load-side controller design

Design control  $(G, F)$  s.t. closed-loop system

- is stable
- has equilibrium that is optimal

power network

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j)$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = G(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

$$d_i = F_i(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

load control

$$\min_{d, P} \quad \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P_i^m - d_i = \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i$$

$$\hat{a}_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k$$

$$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e$$



# Load-side controller design

Idea: exploit system dynamic as part of primal-dual algorithm for **modified** opt

- Distributed algorithm
- Stability analysis
- Control goals in equilibrium

power network

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j)$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = G(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

$$d_i = F_i(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

load control

$$\min_{d, P} \quad \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$$

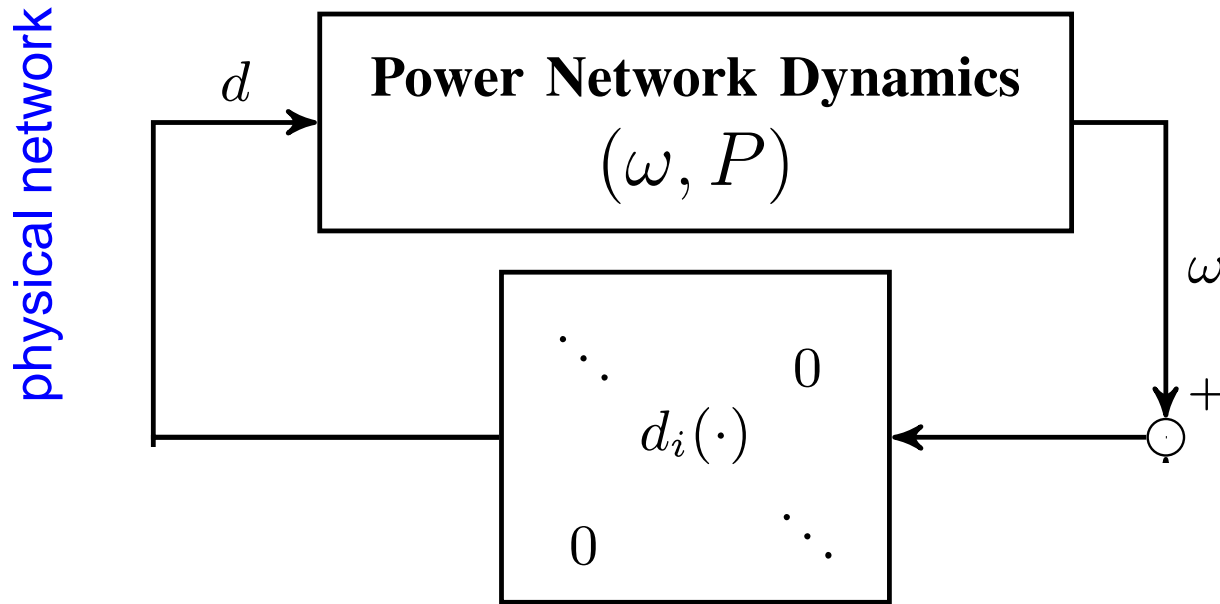
$$\text{s. t.} \quad P_i^m - d_i = \hat{a}_i C_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i$$

$$\hat{a}_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_i C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k$$

$$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e$$



# Summary: control architecture

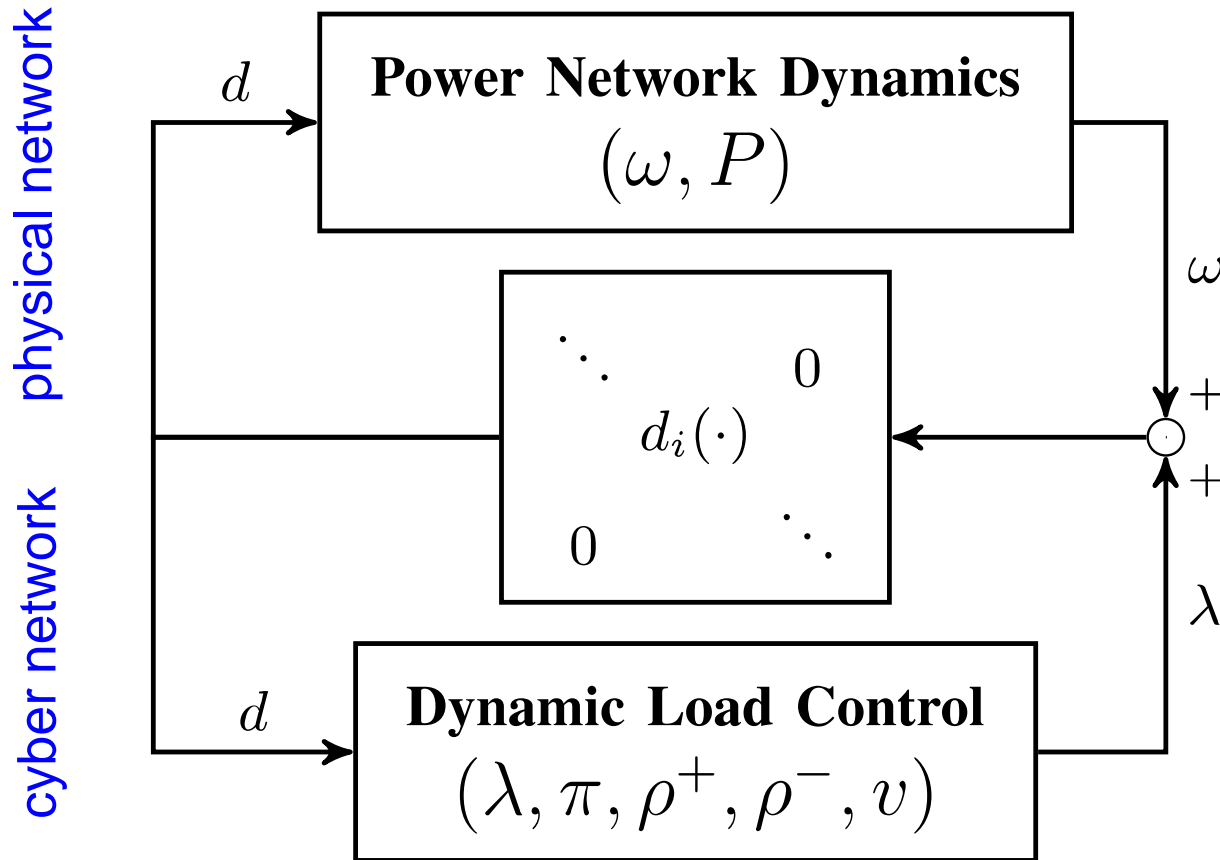


## Primary load-side frequency control

- completely decentralized
- Theorem: stable dynamic, optimal equilibrium



# Summary: control architecture

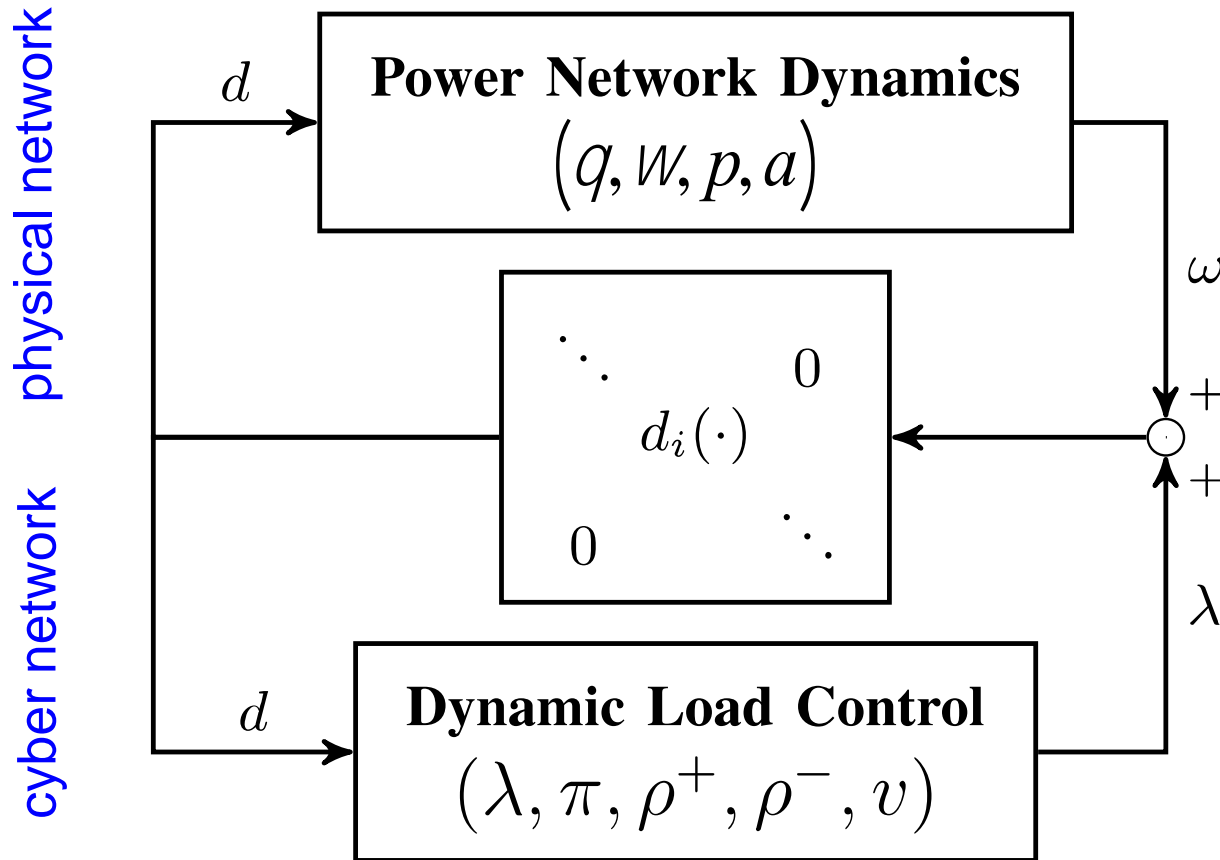


## Secondary load-side frequency control

- communication with neighbors
- Theorem: stable dynamic, optimal equilibrium



# Summary: control architecture



With **generator-side** control, **nonlinear** power flow

- load-side improves both transient & eq
- Theorem: stable dynamic, optimal equilibrium



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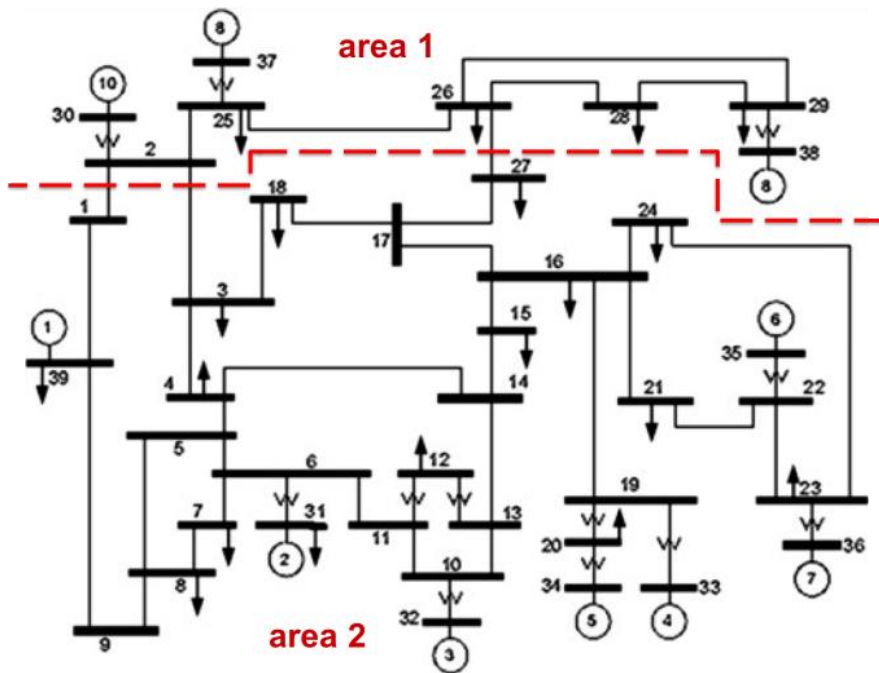
Mallada, Zhao, Low, Allerton 2014

Zhao, Low, CDC 2014, Zhao et al CISS 2015



# Simulations

## Dynamic simulation of IEEE 39-bus system

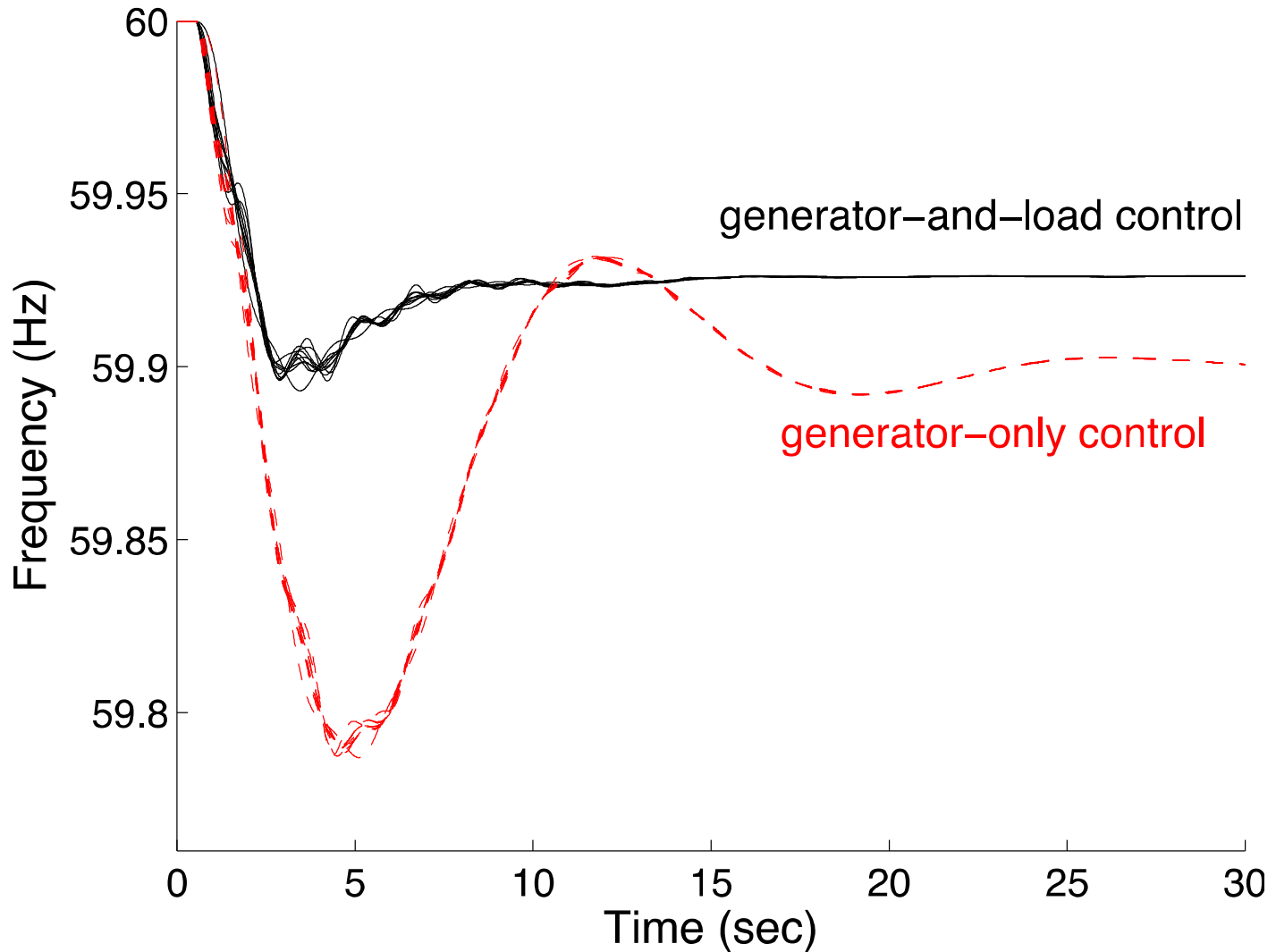


- Power System Toolbox (RPI)
- Detailed generation model
- Exciter model, power system stabilizer model
- Nonzero resistance lines

Fig. 2: IEEE 39 bus system : New England



# Primary control







# Secondary control

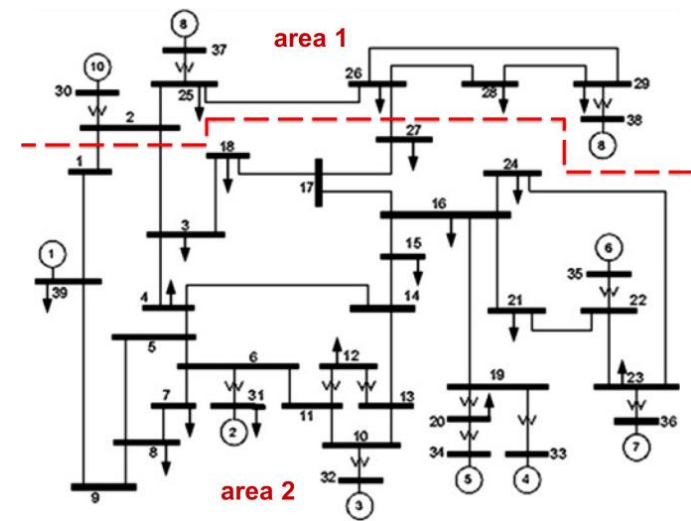
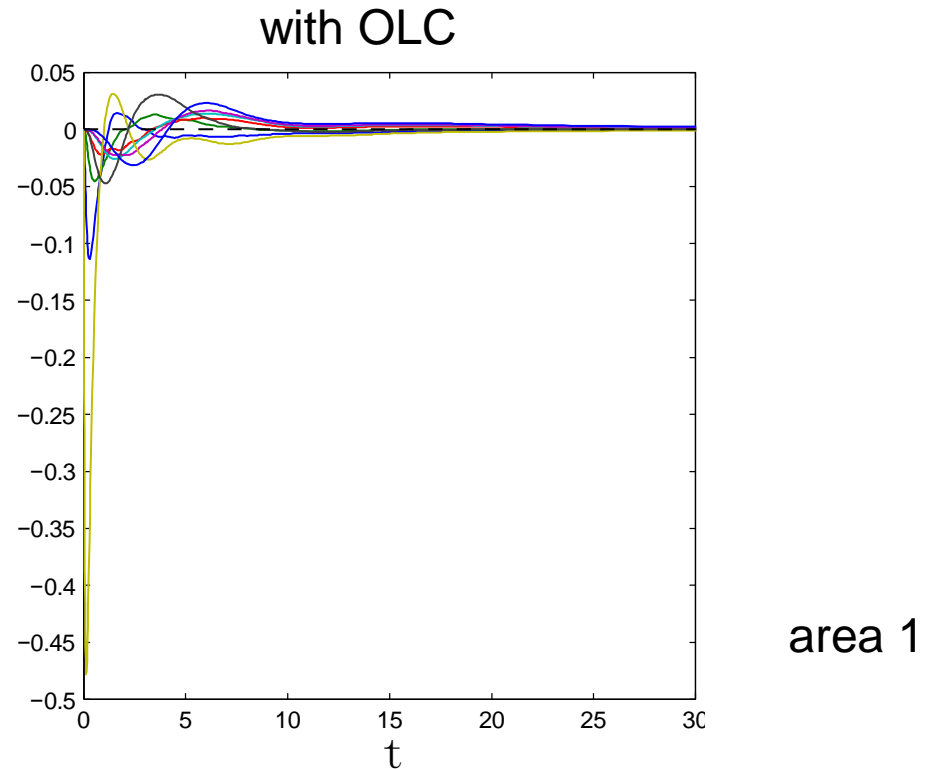
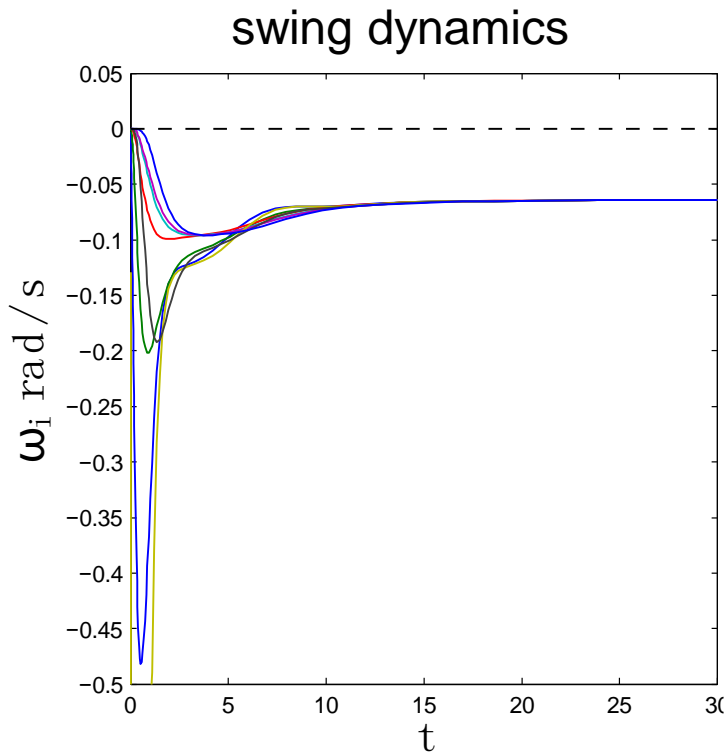


Fig. 2: IEEE 39 bus system : New England





# Secondary control

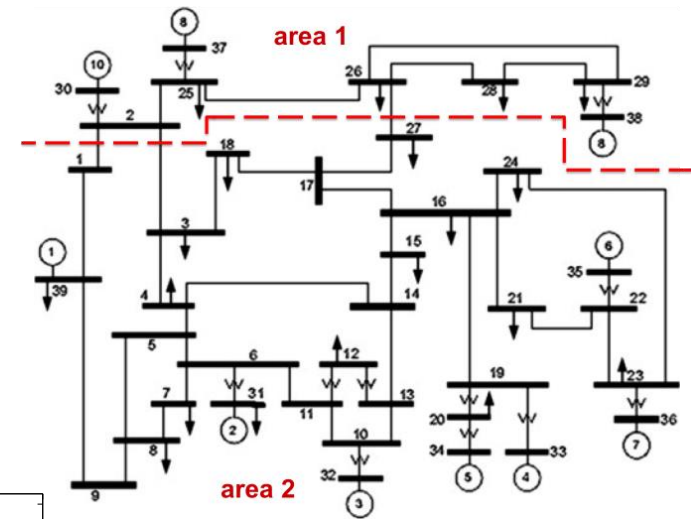
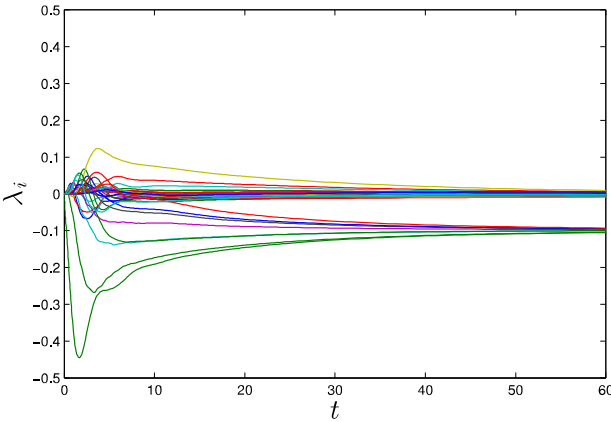
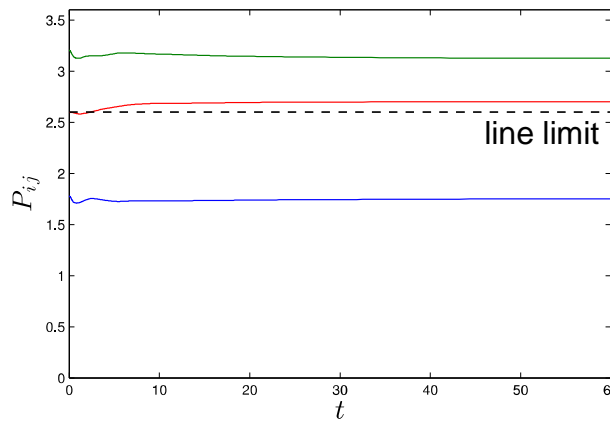


Fig. 2: IEEE 39 bus system : New England

LMPs

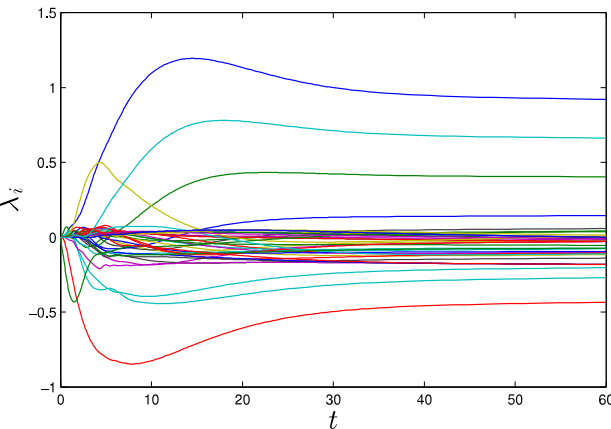


Inter area line flows

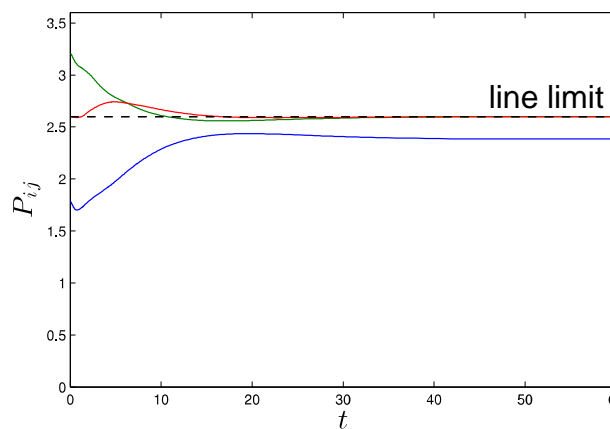


no line limits

LMPs



Inter area line flows



Total inter-area flow is the same in both cases

with line limits



# Conclusion

Forward-engineering design facilitates

- explicit control goals
- distributed algorithms
- stability analysis

Load-side frequency regulation

- primary & secondary control works
- helps generator-side control



# Outline

Network model

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**Details**

## **Main references:**

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Mallada, Zhao, Low, Allerton 2014

Zhao, Low, CDC 2014, Zhao et al CISS 2015



# Recall: design approach

Idea: exploit system dynamic as part of primal-dual algorithm for **modified** opt

- closed-loop system is **stable**
- its equilibria are **optimal**

power network

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j)$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = G(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

$$d_i = F_i(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

load control

$$\min_{d, P} \quad \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P_i^m - d_i = \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i$$

$$\hat{a}_{\hat{i} \in N_k} \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k$$

$$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e$$



# Outline

## Load-side frequency control

- Primary control [Zhao et al SGC2012, Zhao et al TAC2014](#)
- Secondary control
- Interaction with generator-side control



# Optimal load control (OLC)

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P} \sum_i \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i) + \frac{\hat{d}_i^2}{2D_i}$$

$$\text{s. t. } P_i^m - (d_i + \hat{d}_i) = \sum_e \hat{a}_{ie} P_e \quad \forall i \quad \text{demand = supply}$$

↑  
disturbances

↑  
controllable  
loads

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{d, P} \quad & \sum_i \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & P_i^m - d_i = \sum_e \hat{a}_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i \\ & \sum_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k \\ & \underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e \end{aligned}$$



# system dynamics + load control = primal dual alg

## swing dynamics

$$\dot{W}_i = -\frac{1}{M_i} \left( d_i(t) + D_i W_i(t) - P_i^m + \sum_{i \rightarrow j} P_{ij}(t) - \sum_{j \rightarrow i} P_{ji}(t) \right)$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i(t) - W_j(t))$$

implicit

## load control

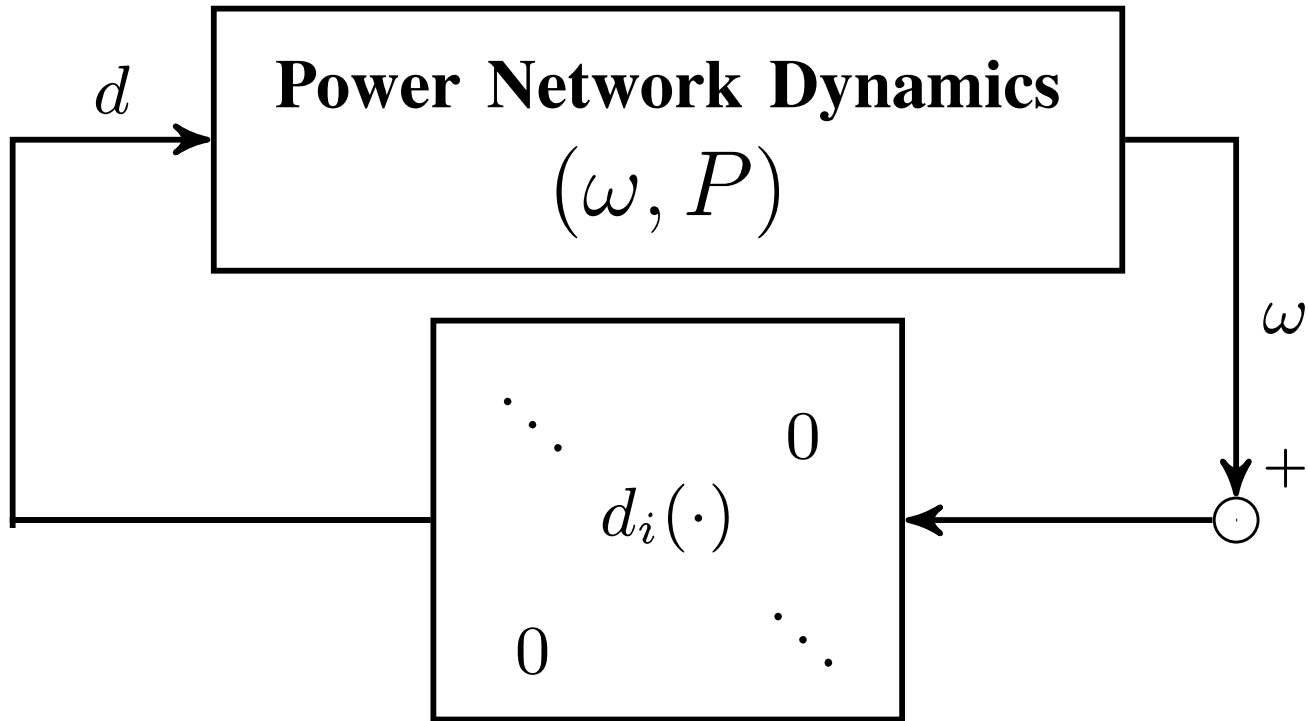
$$d_i(t) := \mathcal{E} c_i'^{-1} (W_i(t)) \Big|_{\underline{d}_i}^{\bar{d}_i}$$

active control





# Control architecture





# Load-side primary control works

## Theorem

Starting from any  $(d(0), \hat{d}(0), W(0), P(0))$   
system trajectory  $(d(t), \hat{d}(t), W(t), P(t))$   
converges to  $(d^*, \hat{d}^*, W^*, P^*)$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

- $(d^*, \hat{d}^*)$  is unique optimal of OLC
  - $W^*$  is unique optimal for dual
- completely decentralized
  - frequency deviations contain right info for local decisions that are globally optimal



# Recap: control goals

Yes ■ Rebalance power

Yes ■ Stabilize frequencies

No ■ Restore nominal frequency  $(W^* \ 1 \ 0)$

No ■ Restore scheduled inter-area flows

No ■ Respect line limits



# Outline

## Load-side frequency control

- Primary control
- Secondary control
- Interaction with generator-side control

Mallada, Low, IFAC 2014

Mallada et al, Allerton 2014



# OLC for secondary control

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P, v} \quad \sum_i \hat{a}_{ie} c_i(d_i) + \frac{1}{2D_i} \hat{d}_i^2$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P^m - (d + \hat{d}) = CP \quad \text{demand = supply}$$

$$P^m - d = CBC^T v \quad \text{restore nominal freq}$$

$\min_{d,P}$	$\sum_i \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$	
s. t.	$P_i^m - d_i = \sum_e \hat{a}_{ie} P_e$	node $i$
	$\sum_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k$	area $k$
	$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e$	line $e$



# OLC for secondary control

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P, v} \quad \sum_i \dot{a}_{\text{e}}^{\text{e}} c_i(d_i) + \frac{1}{2D_i} \dot{\hat{d}}_i^2 \ddot{0}$$

s. t.  $P^m - (d + \hat{d}) = CP$  demand = supply

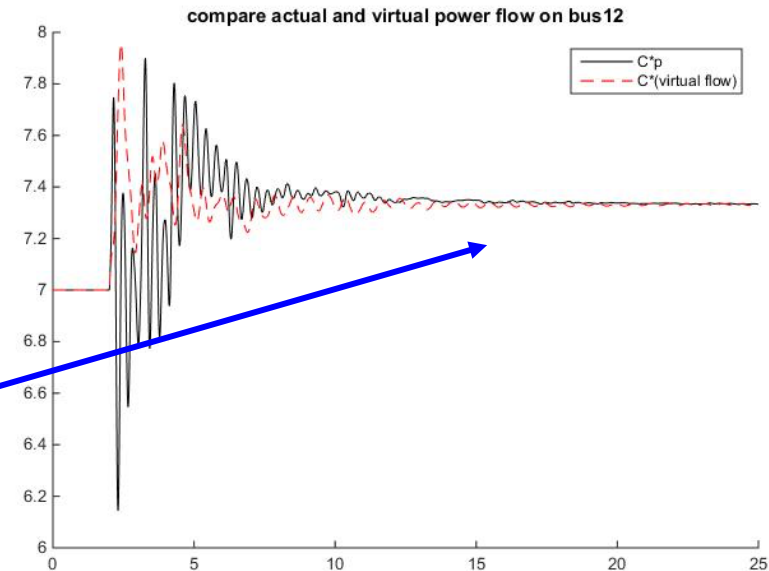
$P^m - d = CBC^T v$  restore nominal freq

**key idea:** “virtual flows”

$$BC^T v$$

in steady state:  
virtual flow = real flows

$$BC^T v = P$$





# OLC for secondary control

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P, v} \sum_i \dot{a}_{\text{e}}^{\text{e}} c_i(d_i) + \frac{1}{2D_i} \hat{d}_i^2 \ddot{0}$$

s. t.  $P^m - (d + \hat{d}) = CP$  demand = supply

$$P^m - d = CBC^T v$$
 restore nominal freq

$$\hat{C}BC^T v = \hat{P}$$
 restore inter-area flow

$$\underline{P} \preceq BC^T v \preceq \bar{P}$$
 respect line limit

in steady state:

virtual flow = real flows

$$BC^T v = P$$



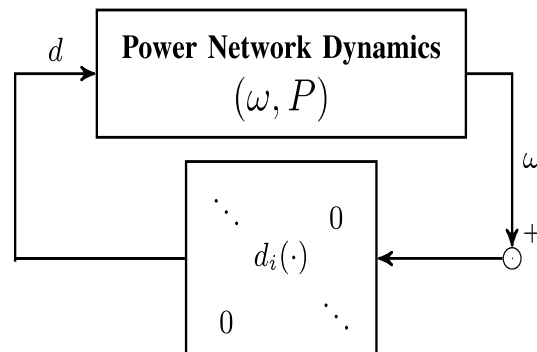
# Recall: primary control

swing dynamics:

$$\dot{W}_i = -\frac{1}{M_i} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \delta} d_i(t) + D_i W_i(t) - P_i^m + \frac{\partial}{\partial E} C_{ie} P_e(t) \right)$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i(t) - W_j(t)) \quad \leftarrow \text{implicit}$$

load control:  $d_i(t) := \frac{\partial}{\partial \delta} c_i^{-1} (W_i(t)) \Big|_{\bar{d}_i}$   $\leftarrow$  active control



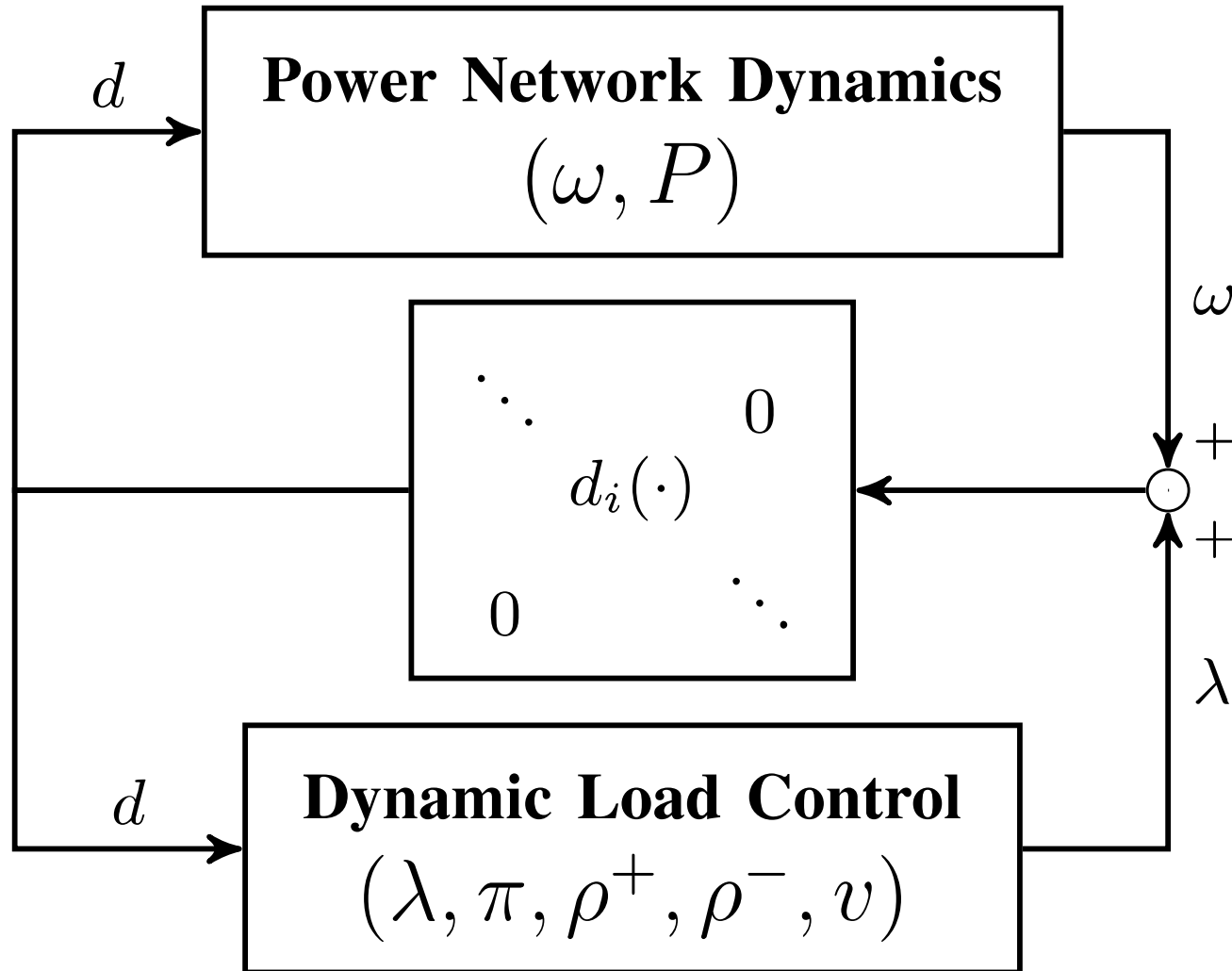




# Control architecture

physical network

cyber network





# Secondary frequency control

load control: 
$$d_i(t) := \hat{C}_i^{-1} (W_i(t) + I_i(t)) \Big|_{\underline{d}_i}^{\bar{d}_i}$$

## computation & communication:

primal var: 
$$\dot{v} = \chi^v (L_B \lambda - CD_B \hat{C}^T \pi - CD_B (\rho^+ - \rho^-))$$

dual vars: 
$$\dot{\lambda} = \zeta^\lambda (P^m - d - L_B v)$$

$$\dot{\pi} = \zeta^\pi (\hat{C} D_B C^T v - \hat{P})$$

$$\dot{\rho}^+ = \zeta^{\rho^+} [D_B C^T v - \bar{P}]_{\rho^+}^+$$

$$\dot{\rho}^- = \zeta^{\rho^-} [\underline{P} - D_B C^T v]_{\rho^-}^+$$



# Secondary control works

## Theorem

starting from any initial point, system trajectory converges s. t.

- $(d^*, \hat{d}^*, P^*, v^*)$  is unique optimal of OLC
- nominal frequency is restored  $W^* = 0$
- inter-area flows are restored  $\hat{C}P^* = \hat{P}$
- line limits are respected  $\underline{P} \preceq P^* \preceq \bar{P}$



# Recap: key ideas

Design optimal load control (OLC) problem

- Objective function, constraints

Derive control law as primal-dual algorithms

- Lyapunov stability
- Achieve **original** control goals in equilibrium

Distributed algorithms

primary control:  $d_i(t) := c_i^{-1} (W_i(t))$

secondary control:  $d_i(t) := c_i^{-1} (W_i(t) + l_i(t))$



# Recap: key ideas

Design optimal load control (OLC) problem

- Objective function, constraints

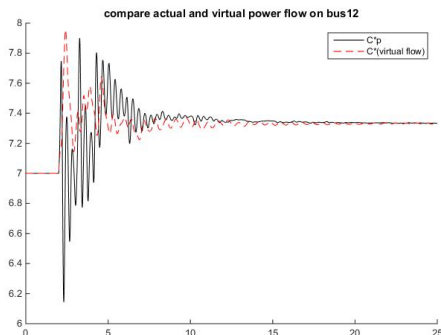
Derive control law as primal-dual algorithms

- Lyapunov stability
- Achieve **original** control goals in equilibrium

Distributed algorithms

## Virtual flows

- Enforce desired properties on line flows



in steady state: virtual flow = real flows

$$BC^T v = P$$



# Recap: control goals

Yes ■ Rebalance power

Yes ■ Resynchronize/stabilize frequency

Zhao, et al TAC2014

Yes ■ Restore nominal frequency  $(W^* \ 1 \ 0)$

Yes ■ Restore scheduled inter-area flows

Yes ■ Respect line limits

Mallada, et al Allerton2014

Secondary control restores nominal frequency but **requires local communication**



# Outline

## Load-side frequency control

- Primary control
- Secondary control
- Interaction with generator-side control

Zhao and Low, CDC2014  
Zhao, Mallada, Low, CISS 2015



# Generator-side control

New model: nonlinear PF, with generator control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{P_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Recall model: linearized PF, no generator control

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{P_i^m - d_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$





# Generator-side control

New model: nonlinear PF, with generator control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

generator bus: real power injection  
load bus: controllable load



# Generator-side control

New model: nonlinear PF, with generator control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

generator buses:

$$\dot{p}_i = -\frac{1}{\tau_{bi}} (p_i + a_i)$$

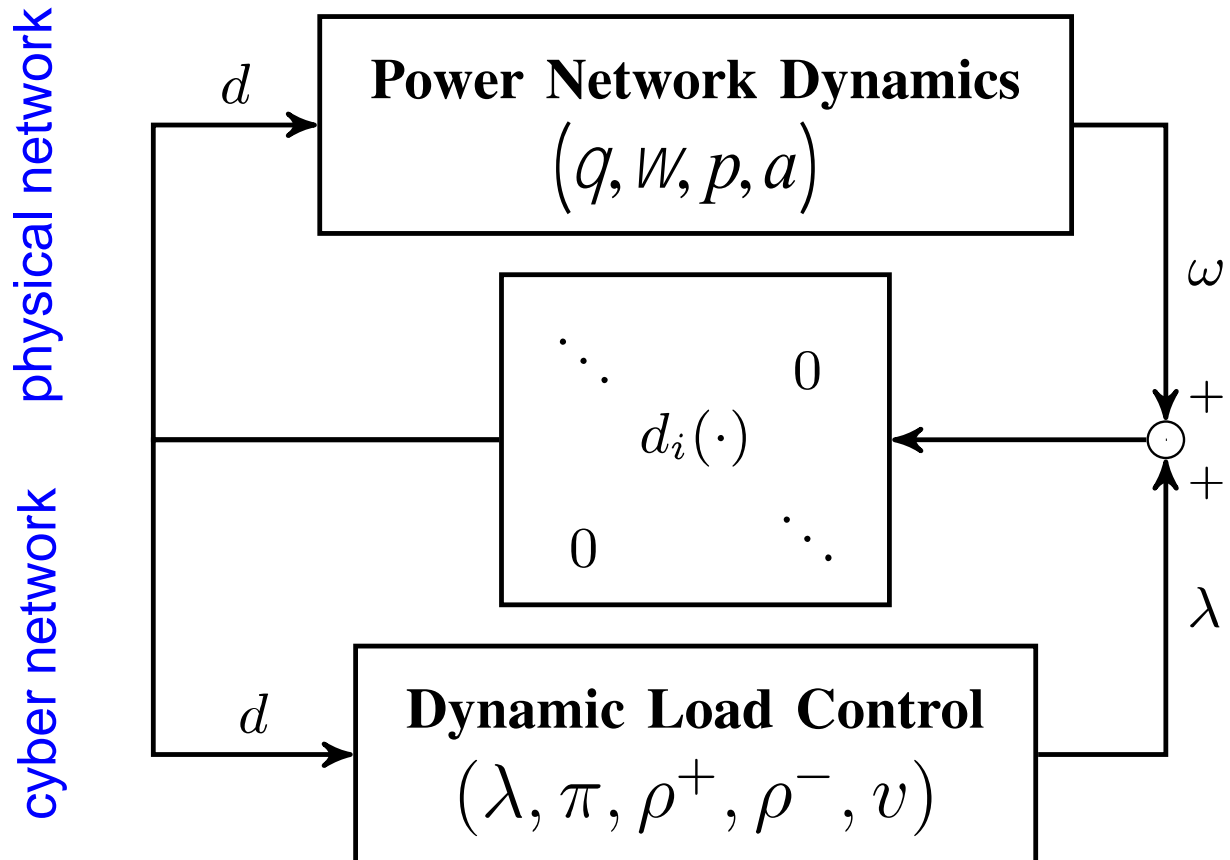
$$\dot{a}_i = -\frac{1}{\tau_{gi}} (a_i + p_i^c)$$

primary control  $p_i^c(t) = p_i^c(w_i(t))$

e.g. freq droop  $p_i^c(w_i) = -b_i w_i$



# Load-side control





# Load-side primary control works

## Theorem

- Every closed-loop equilibrium solves OLC and its dual

Suppose  $\left| p_i^c(w) - p_i^c(w^*) \right| \leq L_i |w - w^*|$

near  $w^*$  for some  $L_i < D_i$

- Any closed-loop equilibrium is (locally) asymptotically stable provided

$$\left| q_i^* - q_j^* \right| < \frac{\rho}{2}$$