

# Modeling Cyber-Physical Power Systems using SystemC AMS

**Rahul Bhadani\***

in collaboration with Satyaki Banik<sup>†</sup>, Hao Tu<sup>†</sup>, Srdjan Lukic<sup>†</sup>, and Gabor Karsai<sup>‡</sup>

**\*Electrical & Computer Engineering, The University of Alabama in Huntsville**

<sup>†</sup> **North Carolina State University**

<sup>‡</sup> **Vanderbilt University**

## 1. Motivation

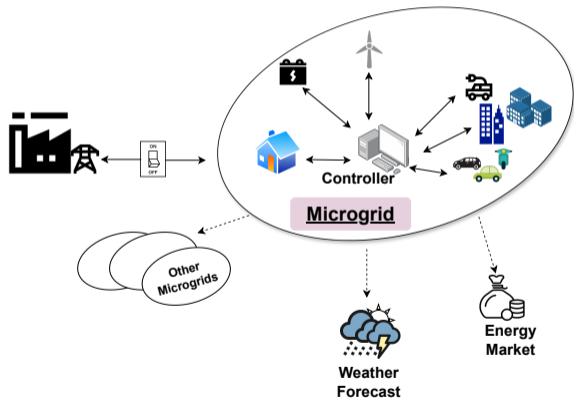
## 2. Modeling and Simulation of Power Systems using SystemC-AMS

## 3. Use cases

- 3.1 Electromagnetic Transients in the Simulation for Open-loop System
- 3.2 PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid
- 3.3 Real-time Simulation of a DC Microgrid Model with Constant Resistive Load

# Motivation

# Microgrid as a Cyber-physical Systems

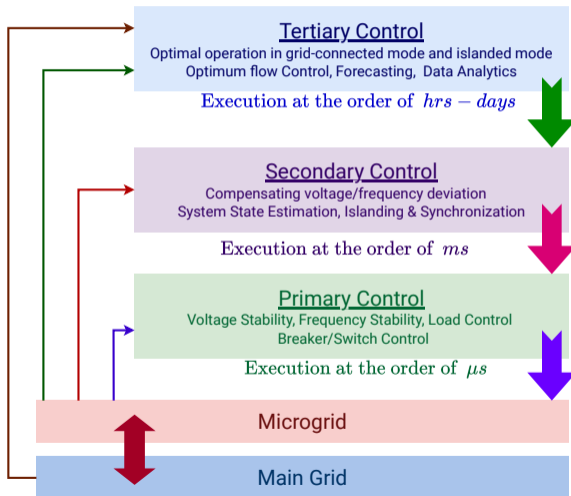


## Key Challenges in Microgrid

- ▶ Advanced Monitoring and Control for Optimal Operations of Microgrid.
- ▶ Optimal selection and installation of microgrid components.

# Controls in Microgrid

Proper control of microgrids is a prerequisite for stable and economically efficient operation.



# How do we select components for microgrids?



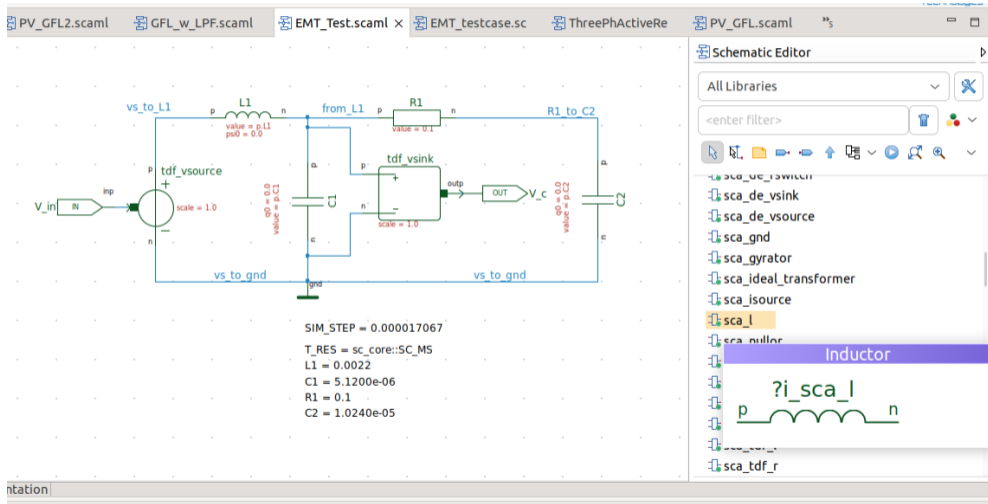
- ▶ **Load analysis:** Analyze the load profile of the customers or end-users.
- ▶ **Generation and storage:** Select and size the generation and storage components of your microgrid, such as solar panels, wind turbines, and batteries, supercapacitors, etc.
- ▶ **Inverters and transformers:** Choose the right type, rating, and configuration of your inverters and transformers based on the voltage, current, and power factor of your microgrid
- ▶ **Protection and control:** select and size the protection and control components of your microgrid such as circuit breakers, fuses, relays, and switches, and sensors, meters, controllers, and communication devices.

**Buying and trying each components one by one is a costly affair, but we may be able to perform a simulation for a given objective to decide what to buy!**

# Modeling and Simulation of Power Systems using SystemC-AMS



# Model-based Design using COSIDE



The screenshot displays the COSIDE Schematic Editor interface. The main workspace shows a circuit diagram with the following components and connections:

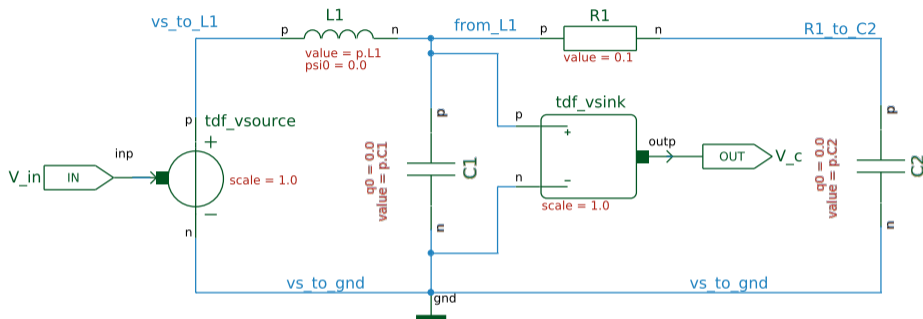
- tdf\_vsource**: A dependent current source with a scale of 1.0, connected between nodes 'p' and 'n'.
- L1**: An inductor with a value of  $p.L1$  and  $psf0 = 0.0$ , connected between nodes 'p' and 'n'.
- from\_L1**: A dependent current source with a value of 0.1, connected between nodes 'p' and 'n'.
- R1**: A resistor with a value of 0.1, connected between nodes 'p' and 'n'.
- tdf\_vsink**: A dependent current source with a scale of 1.0, connected between nodes 'p' and 'n'.
- V\_c**: A dependent current source with a value of  $p.C2$ , connected between nodes 'p' and 'n'.
- gnd**: Ground connections at nodes 'n' and 'c'.

Simulation parameters are listed below the schematic:

```
SIM_STEP = 0.000017067
T_RES = sc_core::SC_MS
L1 = 0.0022
C1 = 5.1200e-06
R1 = 0.1
C2 = 1.0240e-05
```

The right-hand side of the interface shows the **Schematic Editor** panel with a component library. The **Inductor** component is highlighted, showing its symbol and parameters:  $?i\_sca\_l$  with terminals 'p' and 'n'.

# Physical-modeling through ELN MoC

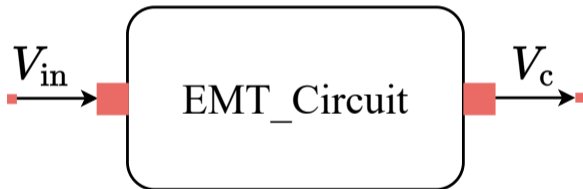


A circuit representing a physical model. This circuit was used to study electromagnetic transient phenomena. Let's call this **EMT Circuit**.

`tdf_vsink` models a voltmeter to measure the voltage across two terminals.

# Abstraction of ELN Model

The designed circuit is abstracted as a library component that can be reused for creating more complicated circuitry.



# Discrete-time models through TDF MoC-I

Overview Ports Parameters Includes User Methods Registers

▼ General

Type: **sca\_tdf::sca\_module**  set attributes  initialize  end of simulation

Description: Discrete numerator/denominator transfer

▼ Ports

Name	Type	Data Type	
in	sca_tdf::sca_in	double	static da
out	sca_tdf::sca_out	double	static da

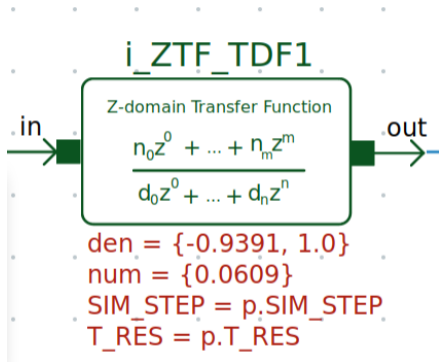
▼ Parameters

Name	Default	Data Type	
den	{1.0}	sca_vector<double>	denomin
num	{1.0}	sca_vector<double>	numerat
SIM_STEP	1000	double	Simulati
T_RES	sc_core::SC_MS	unsigned int	Time Re:
min	...eric_limits<double>::infinity()	double	
max	...eric_limits<double>::infinity()	double	

```
172
173 ///////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
174 // method processing //
175 ///////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
176 void ZTF_TDF::processing()
177 {
178
179     sca_core::sca_time t_new = get_time();
180     double delta_t;
181     delta_t = (t_new - s.t_old).to_seconds();
182
183     // if time difference of the current time and last recorded
184     // old time is less than the sample time, then just output the
185     // old value
186     if(delta_t < s.sample_time)
187     {
188         out.write(s.old_val);
189         return;
190     }
191
192     s.zx[0] = in.read();
193
194
195     //calculate numerator
196     //(n0*z**-m + n1*z**-(m-1) + ... + nn*z**(n-m) )
197     std::valarray<double> zx(tmp_zx(std::slice(s.dsize, s.ncsize, s.ncsize))
```

**Users can implement the functionality of a TDF module in the processing function.**

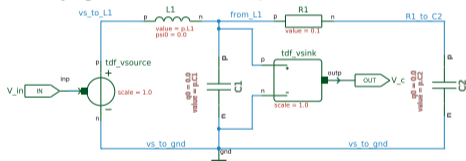
- ▶ Used for implementing discrete models such as z-domain transfer function and discrete-time-based logic.



# Use cases

# Electromagnetic Transients in the Simulation for Open-loop System-I

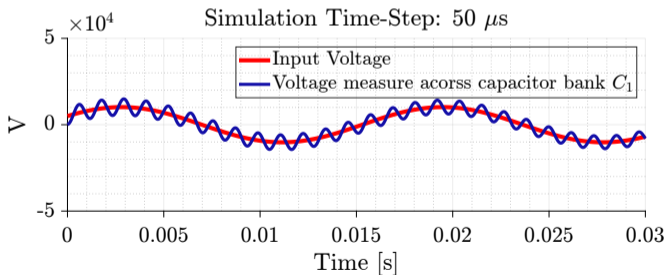
- ▶ Electromagnetic transients (EMTs) are short-term events that occur in power systems due to disturbances, faults, lightning strikes, or switching operations.
- ▶ EMT circuit example: An equivalent electromagnetic transient model of a wye-connected, solidly-grounded three-phase transformer with two capacitor banks



- ▶ The time constant  $\tau = R \left( \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2} \right) = 3.35 \times 10^{-7} \text{ sec}$      $C_1 = 5.12 \mu\text{F}, C_2 = 10.24 \mu\text{F}$
- ▶ Natural response at  $\omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L(C_1 + C_2)}} = 5440 \text{ rad/s} \Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0} = 1.15 \text{ ms}$  for the inductance  $L = 2.2 \text{ mH}$ .

# Electromagnetic Transients in the Simulation for Open-loop System-II

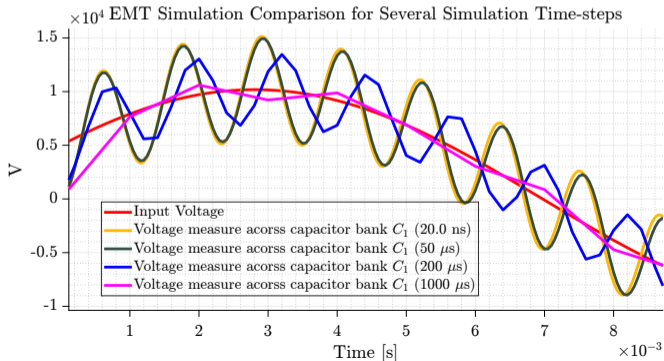
- ▶ The time step is typically much smaller than the natural response period of the circuit to accurately capture the circuit's transient behavior. We select a simulation time step of 0.05 ms or 50  $\mu\text{s}$ .



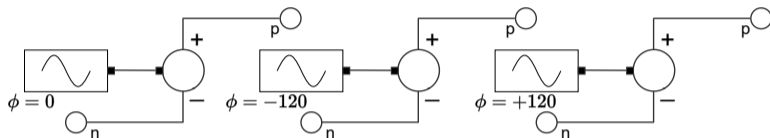


# Electromagnetic Transients in the Simulation for Open-loop System-III

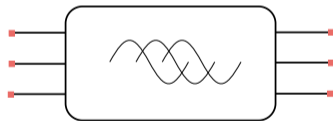
- ▶ Conducting the simulation with a substantially smaller time step, while focusing on a narrow region of the input/output signals, reveals that any simulation time step exceeding the system's time constant will not accurately capture the EMT.



# Components of Microgrid-I

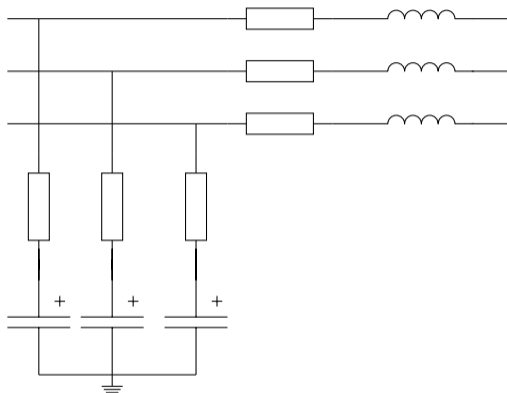


Three-phase Voltage Source



Abstraction of Three-phase Voltage Source

# Components of Microgrid-II

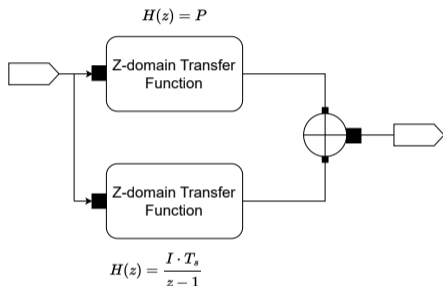


Three-phase Transmission Line

- ▶ Lossy transmission line
- ▶ Resistance in series with inductance to model transmission line impedance
- ▶ Shunt capacitance to the ground with shunt resistance

# Components of Microgrid-II

$$y[n] = - \sum_{k=1}^N a_k y[n - k] + \sum_{k=1}^M b_k x[n - k]$$



z-domain parallel PI Controller  
using reusable z-domain TDF  
module.

# Components of Microgrid-II

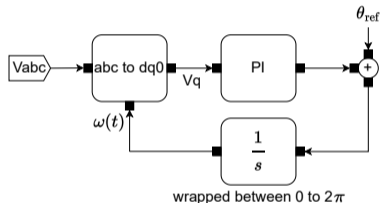
- ▶ AC signal's time-varying signal in  $abc$  reference frame converted to  $dq0$  reference frame using park transformation

$$d = \frac{2}{3} \left( a \sin(\omega(t)) + b \sin(\omega(t) - 2\frac{\pi}{3}) + c \sin(\omega(t) + 2\frac{\pi}{3}) \right)$$

$$q = \frac{2}{3} \left( a \cos(\omega(t)) + b \cos(\omega(t) - 2\frac{\pi}{3}) + c \cos(\omega(t) + 2\frac{\pi}{3}) \right)$$

$$z = \frac{1}{3} (a + b + c)$$

- ▶ PLL measures voltage phase angle by controlling the  $q$ -component of the three-phase voltage to zero through a PI controller.



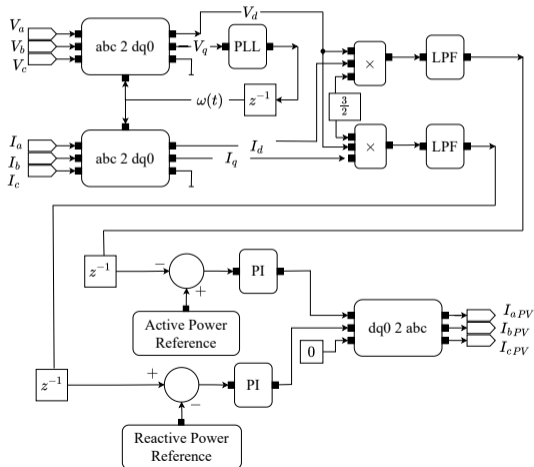
Phase-locked Loop

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-I

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- ▶ Grid-following (GFL) control commonly employed in grid-connected inverters, enabling the inverter to function akin to a current source.
- ▶ The principal aim of a GFL inverter is to synchronize with the grid's frequency and to operate as a regulated current source at a designated power output.
- ▶ The inverter controller receives the desired active/ reactive power and maintains that.
- ▶ GFL inverters are capable of maintaining nearly constant output currents or power levels despite load variations.
- ▶ The fine-tuning of active and reactive power is achieved by monitoring the grid voltage, utilizing a Phase-Locked Loop (PLL), and a current control loop, which allows rapid adjustment of the GFL inverter's output current.

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-Ia

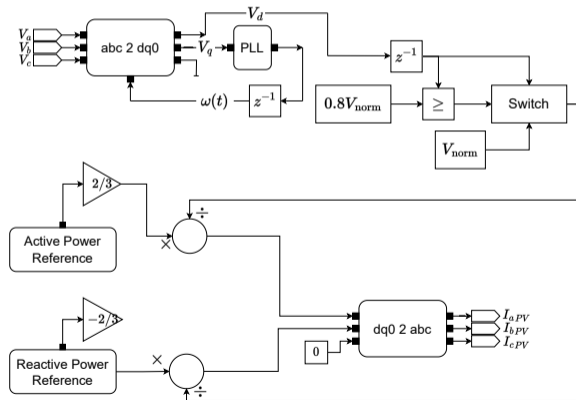


## Simplified GFL inverter without inner current loops

- ▶ A PI controller operating in a dq-synchronous reference frame in a three-phase system.
- ▶ Two separate control loops to manage the direct and quadrature components.
- ▶ GFL inverters as PV source for this example.

Yazdani, Amirnaser, and Reza Iravani. **Voltage-sourced converters in power systems: modeling, control, and applications** Chapter 8, 9. John Wiley & Sons, 2010.

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-Ib



## Simplified GFL inverter feedforward model

- ▶ Calculates the current references directly from the power references
- ▶ current references are fed into *dq – abc* converter block.
- ▶ Can act as a PV source as well for modeling purposes.

Yazdani, Amirnaser, and Reza Iravani. **Voltage-sourced converters in power systems: modeling, control, and applications** Chapter 8, 9. John Wiley & Sons, 2010.



# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-III

The GFL's control objective is to manage the real power,  $P_s$ , and the reactive power,  $Q_s$ , injected into the grid from the inverter.

$$P_s(t) = \frac{3}{2}[V_{sd}(t)i_d(t) + V_{sq}(t)i_q(t)] \quad (1)$$

$$Q_s(t) = \frac{3}{2}[-V_{sd}(t)i_q(t) + V_{sq}(t)i_d(t)]$$

Given that  $V_{sq} = 0$ ,

$$P_s(t) = \frac{3}{2}V_{sd}(t)i_d(t) \quad (2)$$

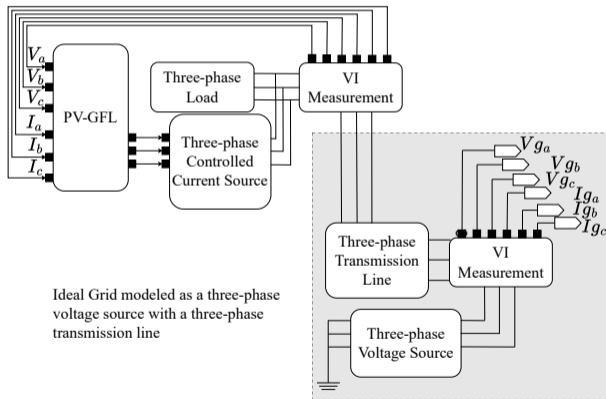
$$Q_s(t) = -\frac{3}{2}V_{sd}(t)i_q(t)$$

From the equations, we derive separate current references in the  $dq$  domain,

$$\begin{aligned} i_{d,ref}(t) &= \frac{2}{3V_{sd}}P_{s,ref}(t) \\ i_{q,ref}(t) &= -\frac{2}{3V_{sd}}Q_{s,ref}(t) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where *ref* notation is used for reference signals.

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-IV



- ▶ PV-GFL model receives three-phase voltage  $V_{a,b,c}$  and three-phase current  $I_{a,b,c}$  as inputs and outputs regulated current  $I_{aPV,bPV,cPV}$  as output.
- ▶ The overall model comprises an algebraic loop which can be broken by introducing a delay unit  $z^{-1}$  (where  $z$  variable is from  $z$ -transform) in the GFL inverter model.

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-V

We measure the instantaneous active and reactive power  $P$ , and  $Q$  using three-phase voltages  $V_{a,b,c}$ , and currents  $I_{a,b,c}$  using the formula from Equation (4) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} P &= V_a I_a + V_b I_b + V_c I_c \\ Q &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left( (V_a - V_b) I_c + (V_b - V_c) I_a + (V_c - V_a) I_b \right) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $V_a, V_b, V_c$  are components of the three-phase voltage  $V_{a,b,c}$ , and  $I_a, I_b, I_c$  are components of the three-phase current  $I_{a,b,c}$ .

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-VI

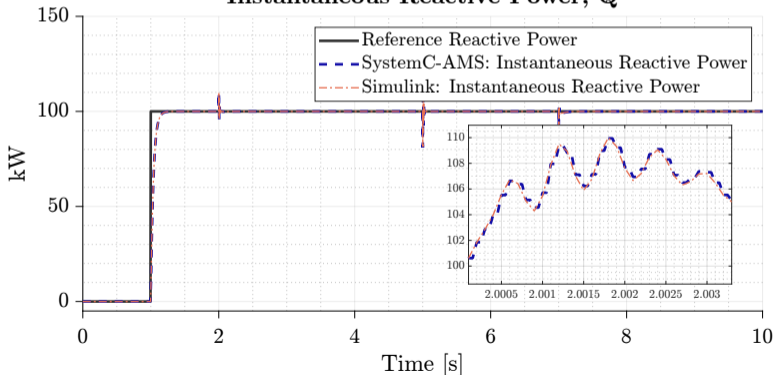
To conduct the simulation in SystemC-AMS:

- ▶ simulation time-step of  $50 \mu s$
- ▶ run the simulation for  $10 s$
- ▶ The three-phase root-mean-square phase-to-phase voltage of  $480 V$  operating at  $60 Hz$
- ▶ The transmission line modeled as a series resistance of  $0.01 \Omega$ , a series inductance of  $0.0001 H$ , a shunt resistance of  $0.15 \Omega$ , and shunt capacitance of  $80 \mu F$ .
- ▶ The low-pass filter (LPF block) uses the z-domain transfer function  $\frac{0.0609}{z-0.9391}$  at the sampling rate of  $1000 Hz$ .

# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-VII

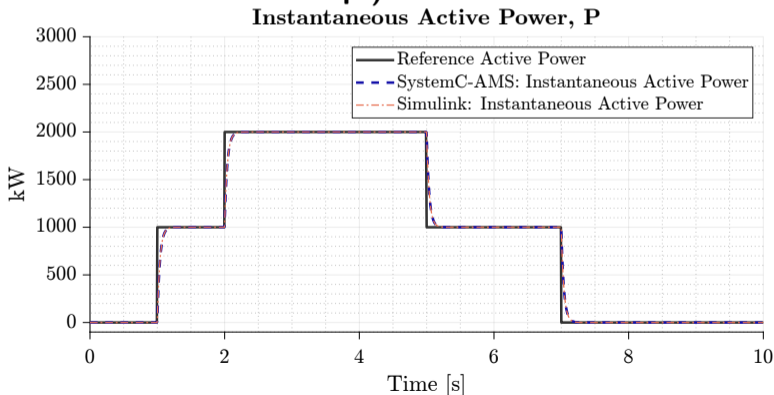
Step-response and comparison with a Simulink Implementation (GFL inverter without inner current loops):

Instantaneous Reactive Power,  $Q$



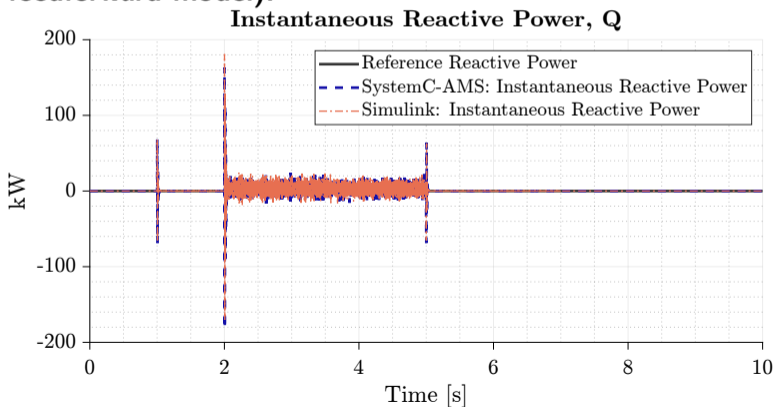
# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-VIII

Step-response and comparison with a Simulink Implementation (GFL inverter without inner current loops):



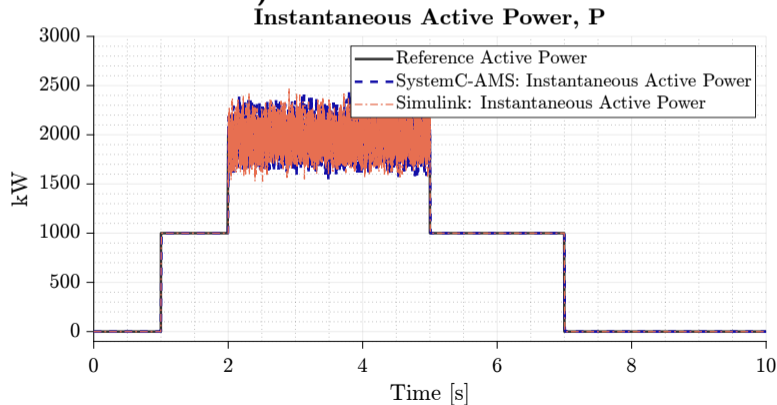
# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-IX

Step-response and comparison with a Simulink Implementation (GFL inverter feedforward model):



# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-X

Step-response and comparison with a Simulink Implementation (GFL inverter feedforward model):





# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-XI

- ▶ The RMS error of the instantaneous active power and reactive power compared to the reference for SystemC-AMS and Simulink simulation:

Parameter	SystemC-AMS Simulation	Simulink Simulation
<b>Without Inner Current Loops</b>		
Active Power RMS Error (kW)	85.78328	85.87311
Reactive Power RMS Error (kVar)	4.35805	4.36262
<b>Feedforward Model</b>		
Active Power RMS Error (kW)	80.39742	80.20730
Reactive Power RMS Error (kVar)	5.92436	5.8789

**Table:** Comparison of RMS Errors for SystemC-AMS and Simulink Simulations for Step Input

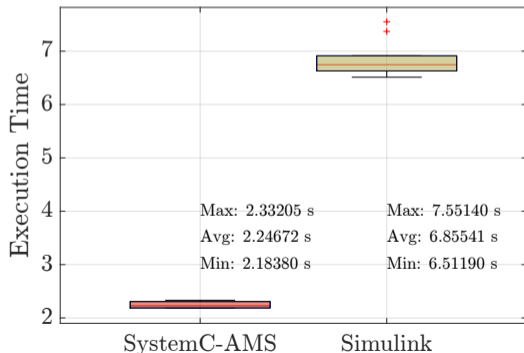
RMS Error for active power is will within 1% of the initial amplitude of 1000 kW.

- ▶ The first transient takes approximately 0.2 seconds to stabilize.
- ▶ RMS error for reactive power between Simulink and SystemC-AMS simulink, while transient lasted were 0.04996 kVar.

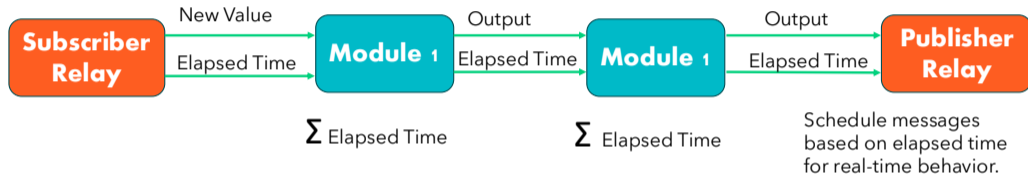
# PV-based Grid-following Inverter Design for Microgrid-XII

Run-time Comparison: **SystemC-AMS** implementation 3x faster

Execution Time Comparison



# Real-time Simulation



- High-performance C++ Chrono library for measuring time.
- Execution in Ubuntu with PREEMPT RT kernel patch.
- Specify highest CPU priority for execution.
- Disable memory swapping using ``mlockall`` to prevent page fault for deterministic behavior.

# Representative DC Microgrid-I

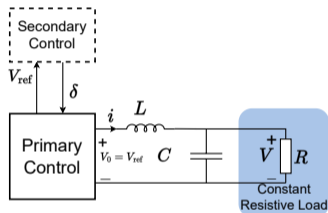
- ▶ DC Microgrid consisting of a source converter and a constant resistive load.
- ▶ The source converter is modeled as a primary controller and a secondary controller.
- ▶ We assume that the converter output voltage is regulated to the reference voltage by the inner control loops, i.e.,

$$V_0 = V_{\text{ref}}$$

- ▶  $V_0 = V_{\text{ref}}$  is given by the droop controller which acts as a primary controller in our case:

$$V_{\text{ref}}(t) = \overbrace{V_n}^{\text{Nominal voltage of the DC grid}} - \overbrace{K}^{\text{Droop gain}} i(t)$$

# Representative DC Microgrid-II



$$V'_n(t) = \delta(t) + V_n$$

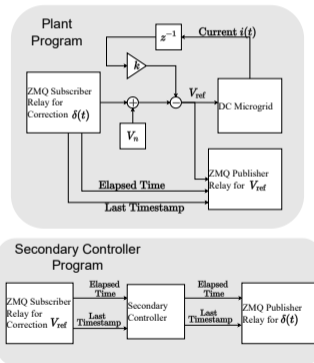
$$V_{ref}(t) = V'_n(t) - k \cdot i(t)$$

$$\delta(t) = \int \underbrace{k_s}_{\substack{\text{Integral Gain} \\ \text{for the} \\ \text{secondary controller}}} (V_n - V_{ref}(t)) dt \quad (5)$$

- ▶ In addition, the primary controller, we have a secondary controller to compensate for the voltage deviation caused by the primary controller.
- ▶ Secondary controller is modeled as an integral controller for correction term  $\delta(t)$ .

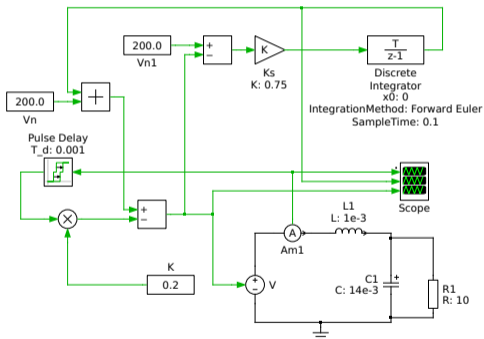
# Plant and Controller Simulation for DC Microgrid

- ▶ The inductor and capacitor (the equivalent of line impedance, filters, and DC bus capacitor in an actual grid) along with the resistive load constitute a DC microgrid and taken together with the primary controller act as the plant model.
- ▶ The Secondary controller is isolated from the plant.
- ▶ The Plant and the secondary controller communicate via the ZeroMQ interface.
- ▶ The plant is executed at the time-step of 1 ms while the secondary controller is executed at the time-step of 100 ms.



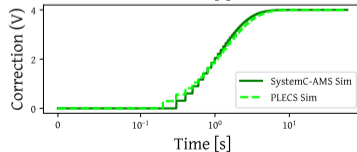
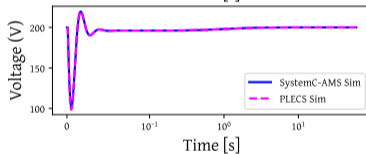
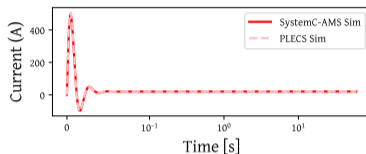
# Benchmarking Against PLECS for correctness

PLECS is a widely adopted tool for power electronics simulation. We had reference implementation in PLECS for the overall DC microgrid model (along with the secondary controller). PLECS doesn't allow communicating via network interfaces.



# Voltage, Current and Correction Term

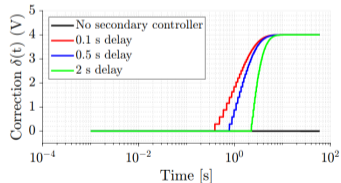
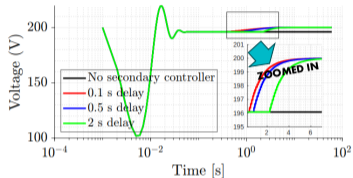
- ▶ We measured the current, voltage (adjusted reference voltage from the equations for the secondary controller), and correction terms for real-time simulation and compared them against the PLECS simulation.
- ▶ We measured RMS error between two simulations to assess how close they are to each other.





# Delayed Start of the Controller

- ▶ In a distributed settings (where the plant and the controller are two separate entities) initially, the plant may operate on its own in an open-looper manner.
- ▶ Later on the controller may be online and connect with the plant at any point in time in the future.
- ▶ To simulate such a scenario, we delay the start of the controller program as compared to the plant program.
- ▶ For the DC microgrid situation, the voltage stabilizes later if the controller comes online at a later time.



# THANK YOU!!!



Contact: [rahul.bhadani@uah.edu](mailto:rahul.bhadani@uah.edu)



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