# Current Issues in Power System Research

Prof. István Erlich

### Universität Duisburg-Essen

#### Germany

Washington, April 2014



UNIVERSITÄT DUISBURG ESSEN

## Outline

### Challenges in future power systems

### Selected nonconventional approaches

## **Current Situation**

- Transition from conventional fossil fired and nuclear power plants to renewable power generation
- > Distribution grid becomes "active" by renewable generation
- Considerable power transmission from the north to the south
- Power trading resulting in load flow restrictions
- Grid utilization increases; some lines reach maximum capacity
- Grid extension is limited and implementation is behind the schedule
- Large scale application of converter based generation units and transmission systems
- Increasing portion of underground cable
- Economical pressure and political interventions

#### **Development of Wind and PV Power in Germany**





Source: Statista 2015

## Volatility of RES



Systemführung Netze Brauweiler | Betriebliche Erfahrungen mit der Energiewende | © Amprion 8

## **Distribution of Solar Power Generation**



### **Reduced Inertia in the Grid**



### Utilizing of DC Link Chopper for Overfrequency Limitation



## Damping Control by VSC-HVDC



VSC-HVDC can be use to damp electromechanical oscillations by utilizing both active and reactive power control channels. VSC-HVDC represents not only a active power transmission but also Var sources on both ends Two independent control channels are available on both ends



Different damping control options

## **Distribution Grid Voltage-Var Control**

Objective: supply of  $Q_{ref}$  in PCC by optimally utilization of Var sources

Restrictions: Limited grid measurements are available



### Predictive Optimization and Control



Short term wind forecast is required max. 15 min. ahead

### **Optimal Allocation and Sizing of Statcom**



**Objective:** Minimize investment and operational costs

**s.t.** : System response to preselected faults and Var locations

**Stochastic optimization** by taking into account the probability of different scenarios.

#### Harmonic Stability

## Frequency Characteristic of 200 km, 400 kV Overhead Line

#### Frequency Characteristic of 200 km, 400 kV Underground cable compensated every 50 km



The resonance is excited by injecting 1% voltage source of corresponding frequency

The number of resonance in a grid dominated by underground cables will increase.

The same time, due to the large number power electronic equipment, the number of sources may excite the resonance will also increase.

#### Example for Harmonic Stability Study



Improved methods for analyzing and controlling harmonic stability problems are required (modal analysis including numerical linearization, disturbance rejection control, damping control)

## Voltage Stability



### **Dynamic Security Assessment**



- Large number of Wind and PV generation units
- Large number of small Voltage
  Source Converter (VSC)
- Embedded VSC-HVDC
- Active distribution grids, dynamic characteristic of "Loads" will change
- Limited information exchange between TSOs
- Character of dynamic phenomena will change due to power electronic components and underground cables
- →New DSA approaches are
  needed → preventive/corrective
  control

### Separate Positive and Negative Sequence Control by Voltage Source Converter



Control for injecting neg. seq. current through a virtual reactance  $i x_2 = i - \frac{1}{2}$ 

$$x_2 = j \frac{1}{k_2}$$

17

Alternative Approaches ?



#### How to deal with Uncertainties?

Uncertainties due to:

- Volatility of renewable energy supply
- Forecast error
- Electricity trading
- Grid extension delays
- Political decisions
- New technical phenomena
- Acceptance by the society

➔ increased utilization of stochastic methods in power system planning, operation, assessment and optimization

### What we need

- Hierarchical schema of local and global control and protection agents which allow optimal operation, are adaptive and robust
- Systematic development of the communication network for power system applications which provides redundancy and is immune against cyber attacks
- Development of new control approaches by utilizing the converters of HVDC, PV and wind turbines
- Development of tools for situation awareness and dynamic security assessment
- Development of algorithms for preventive and corrective actions
- Increased utilization of stochastic approaches in power system design, planning and operation

# Thank you for your attention!