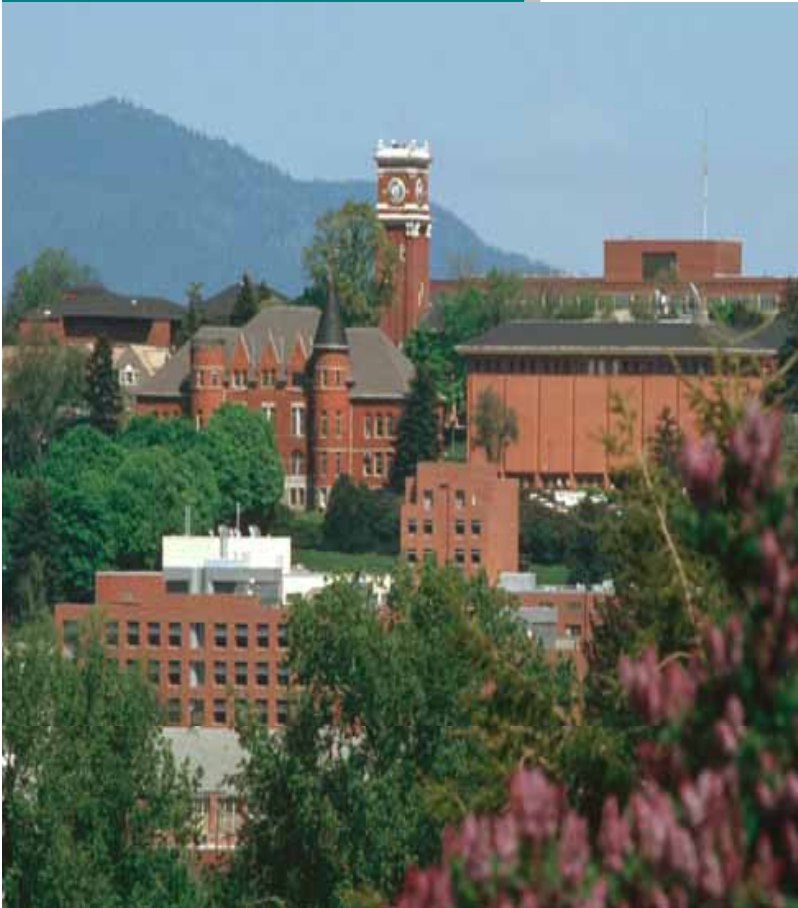


# Distributed Generation Expansion: Analysis, Directions, Modeling, and Formulation

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**Washington State University**





# Importance of Distribution Systems

- **Reliability under competition**
  - **Concern: Problems with transmission reliability and security**
  - **Reality: Most outages will still be from distribution**
- **System complexity**
  - **Concern: Large scale of transmission and generation**
  - **Reality: Distribution systems far more complex**
- **Benefits of competition**
  - **Concern: Prices in energy market**
  - **Reality: Customer interface is distribution and determines value of market**



## First Some Competing Visions EPRI - IntelliGrid

*A new electric power delivery infrastructure that integrates advances in communications, computing and electronics to meet the energy needs of the future*

- **Example components**
  - **Power Electronics-based Power Flow Controllers**
  - **Infrastructure Quality and Reliability**
  - **Forecasting tools**
  - **Advanced Sensors**
  - **Utility Communications - State of the art and trends of communications in utilities systems**



# More Competing Visions DOE - GridWise

***GridWise*** denotes the operating principle of a modernized electric infrastructure framework where open but secure system architecture, communication techniques, and associated standards are used throughout the electric grid to provide value and choices to electricity consumers.

***GridWise*** is an entirely new way to think about how we generate, distribute and use energy. Using advanced communications and up-to-date information technology, ***GridWise*** will improve coordination between supply and demand, and enable a smarter, more efficient, secure and reliable electric power system.




# **Some Competing Visions Tomsovic – “Genius” grid**

**Apparently the Grid is currently pretty stupid so sure,  
all of the above.**

**But beyond these big visions we still need to formulate  
some technical problems that can be analyzed and  
solved.**



# Distribution System Operations and Planning

- **Extremely complex**
  - **Typical substation**
    - **4-6 feeders**
  - **Typical feeder**
- 
- **3000 customers**
  - **6 reclosers, interrupters**
  - **75 fuses**
  - **50 miles of circuit**
  - **500 line sections**
  - **5 capacitors**
  - **5 voltage boosters**
  - **400 distribution transformers**
  - **Disconnect switches**
  - **Splicers and elbows**
  - **Lightning arresters**
  - **Metering equipment**



# Traditional Problems of Importance

- **Planning/design**
  - Feeder routing
  - Capacitor placement
  - Switch location
  - Protective device type and location
  - Maintenance scheduling
  - Substation siting
- **Operations**
  - Restoration
  - Adaptive relaying
  - Loss minimization
  - Load balancing
  - DSM
  - Trouble call analysis
  - New services

⇒ All of these are greatly impacted by DG; problems mostly “utility-centric”



# Directions for Distribution System Problems

- **Increased importance of optimal designs**
- **Limited availability of experienced engineers**
- **Importance of distribution systems for overall system performance**

***Many problems solvable***



# Overview

## Some problem applications

- Protection design
- Diagnostics and maintenance
- Restoration
- Expansion planning
- Load following
- Performance/efficiency
  - Voltage control for efficiency
- ➔ Impact of DG on these areas - new computational approaches/concerns



# Example: Distribution Protection Design

- **Protective devices**
  - **Circuit Breaker**
  - **Line Recloser**
  - **Interrupter**
  - **Sectionalizer**
  - **Fuse**



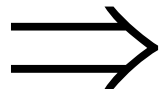
# Basic Objectives of Protective Devices

- **Prevent or minimize damage to equipment by clearing an abnormal condition.**
- **Prevent hazards to the public by removing a faulted circuit from the network.**
- **Improve service reliability by removing a small section of the circuit for a given fault and automatically restoring a momentarily faulted section.**



# Current Protection Design Practice

- **Utility guidelines (rules-of-thumb)**
- **Engineer experience**
- **Analyze reliability for several possible designs**



**But optimal solutions are tractable**



## Some Reliability Indices

- **Customer oriented, *SAIFI* index**

$$SAIFI = \frac{\sum \lambda_i N_i}{N_T}$$

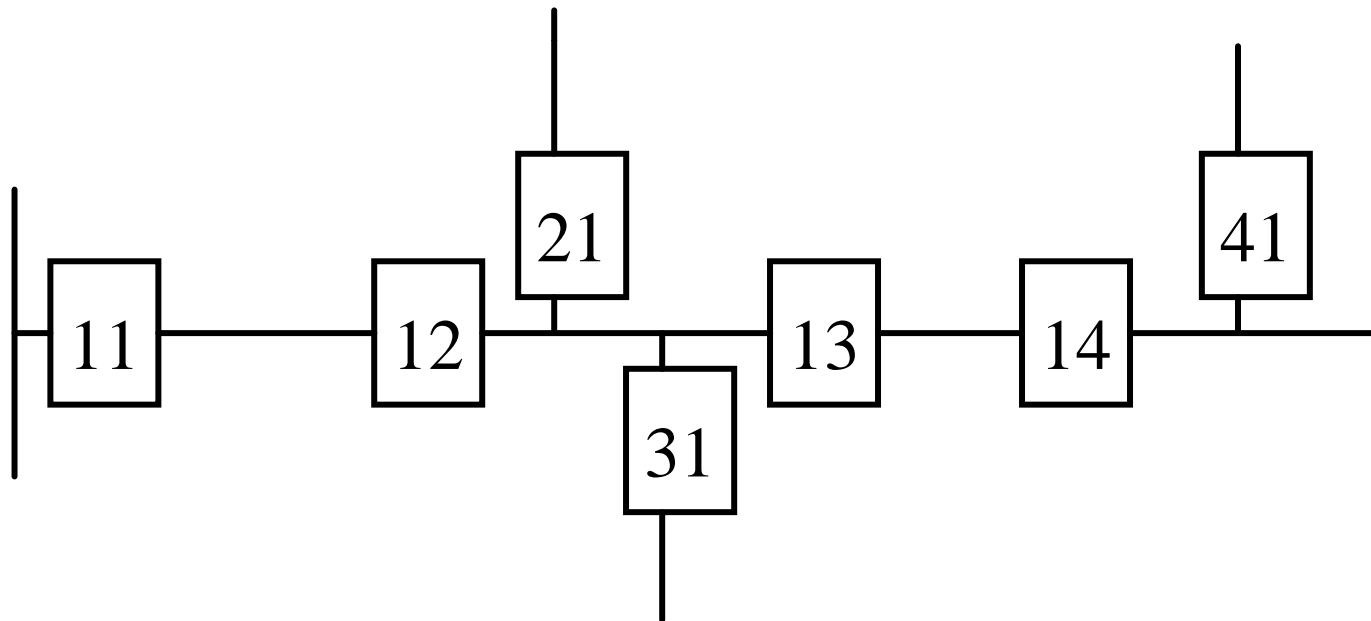
- **Load oriented, *ASIFI* index**

$$ASIFI = \frac{\sum \lambda_i L_i}{L_T}$$



# Locating Protective Devices

- Optimize reliability and satisfy constraints





# Binary Programming Formulation

- Categorize branches, *SAIFI* from main laterals

$$\sum_{i=1}^{q_n} (\lambda_{qi} + \gamma_{qi}) \sum_{j=i}^{q_n} N_{qj} - \sum_{i=1}^{q_n} \gamma_{qi} x_{qi2} \sum_{j=i}^{q_n} N_{qj} +$$

$$\sum_{i=2}^{q_n} \lambda_{qi} \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} N_{qj} \prod_{k=j+1}^i x_{qk1} x_{qk2} + \sum_{i=2}^{q_n} \gamma_{qi} \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - x_{qj2}) \sum_{k=j}^{q_n} N_{qk} \prod_{l=j+1}^i x_{ql1} x_{ql2}$$

- Non-linear objective but can be transformed into linear function of binary variables



# Binary Programming Formulation

- **Constraints**
  - **Coordination**
  - **No reclosers downstream from a fuse**
  - **Certain laterals must be fused**
  - **Limited number of protective devices**



# Multi Objectives in Optimization

- **Minimize SAIFI index**
- **Minimize ASIFI index**
- **Fuse saving schemes must not overly impact momentary outages**



# Impact of Distributed Generation

- **Coordination much more difficult**
  - **Utility guidelines (rules-of-thumb) and engineer experience not particularly useful**
  - **Protection design (optimal or just functional) for reliability depends on DG location, which is probably outside of utility control**
  - **Numerous issues associated with microGrids or location dependent reliability**
- But optimal solutions are probably tractable, if expensive**



## **Example: Distribution System Condition Monitoring and Maintenance**

- **Approximate information in diagnosis**
  - **Methods are approximate and require experience to apply**
  - **Data is imprecise and noisy**
  - **Interpretation of observations depends on history**
  - **Is measurement taken after beginning of fault and before major fault occurs?**
  - **Definitive identification of a fault requires removal from service**



## **Example: Condition Monitoring and Maintenance (cont.)**

- **Reliability calculation concerns**
  - **Probability distributions unknown**
  - **Manage imprecise relationships independently**
  - **Accumulate diverse information (e.g., bounds on probability)**
  - **Robust with respect to missing information**
  - **Failure rates generally low**



# Example: Condition Monitoring and Maintenance (cont.)

- **Maintenance for reliability**
  - Use approximate probabilities
  - Estimate affect of maintenance procedures
  - Optimize maintenance decisions
- **Distribution systems**
  - Tree trimming
  - Circuit breakers, reclosers, interrupters
  - Sectionalizers, capacitors, voltage regulators
  - Fuses, elbows, splices (replacement)



# Relationship of Protection to Maintenance

- Protection determines failure area

$$SAIFI = \frac{\sum_{q=1}^{\rho} \tilde{A}_q}{N_T}$$

$$\tilde{A}_q = \left( \tilde{\lambda}_{q1} + \sum_{l=2}^L \tilde{\lambda}_{ql} \sum_{k=1}^{K_l} \delta_{lk} x_{qlk} \right) \tilde{N}_q$$



# Optimization Problem

- **Binary programming to optimize estimated failure rates**
- **Decision variable is type and component for maintenance**
- **Constraints include resources, crew availability, etc.**



# Impact of Distributed Generation

- **Condition/reliability of DG units may be completely unknown**
- **Utility guidelines (rules-of-thumb) and engineer experience not particularly useful**
- ➔ **Solutions from a utility point-of-view probably not tractable, too many unknowns – rely on supplier guidelines**



# Another Example: Restoration

- **Restore customers following a fault**
  - Feeder thermal limits
  - Transformer thermal limits
  - Three phase balance
  - Voltage profile
  - Protection limits
- **Objectives**
  - Minimize switching actions
  - Minimize losses
  - Minimize unserved energy



# Impact of Distributed Generation

- **Ability of DG units to pick up load or run in isolation may be limited but in general should be able to help**
  - **Potentially significant help with cold load pick up**
  - **May be able to minimize amount of needed load shifting among feeders**
- ➔ **Solutions from a utility point-of-view tractable and beneficial assuming some control over DG units**



## Another Example: Expansion Planning

- **Most effective to plan for the substations and feeders simultaneously**
- **Single criterion**  
**Economical Objective:**  
**Determine the most economical multistage expansion profile such that for every stage:**
  - **every demand center is served**
  - **every element is operating within it's capability**
  - **Satisfactory voltage provided at every demand center**
  - **all expenditure is within budget**



## General Formulation

$$\text{Min } C = \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{ \sum_{S \in \text{Stations}} C_{f_{S,t}} + \sum_{S \in \text{Stations}} C_{v_{S,t}} + \sum_{F \in \text{feeders}} C_{f_{F,t}} + \sum_{F \in \text{feeders}} C_{v_{F,t}} \right\} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Subject to: } \sum X_{ij,t} - \sum X_{jk,t} = P_{j,t} \quad \forall j \in \text{Load Centers, } ij \text{ and } jk \in \text{Feeders} \quad (2)$$

$$V^{\text{Min}} \leq V_{j,t} \leq V^{\text{Max}} \quad \forall j \in \text{Load Centers} \quad (3)$$

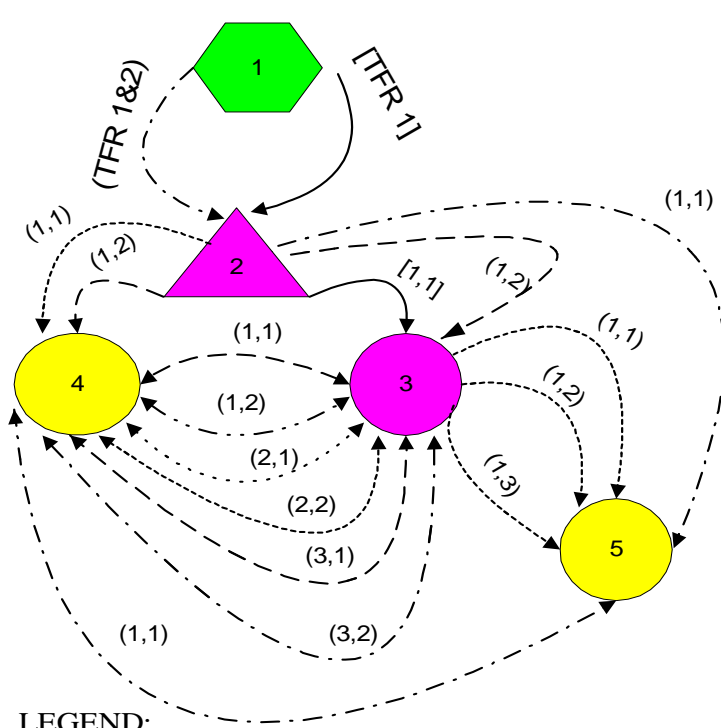
$$S_{i,t} \leq S_i^{\text{Max}} \quad \forall i \in \text{Stations} \quad (4a)$$

$$X_{ij,t} \leq X_{ij,t}^{\text{Max}} \quad \forall ij \in \text{Feeder Links} \quad (4b)$$

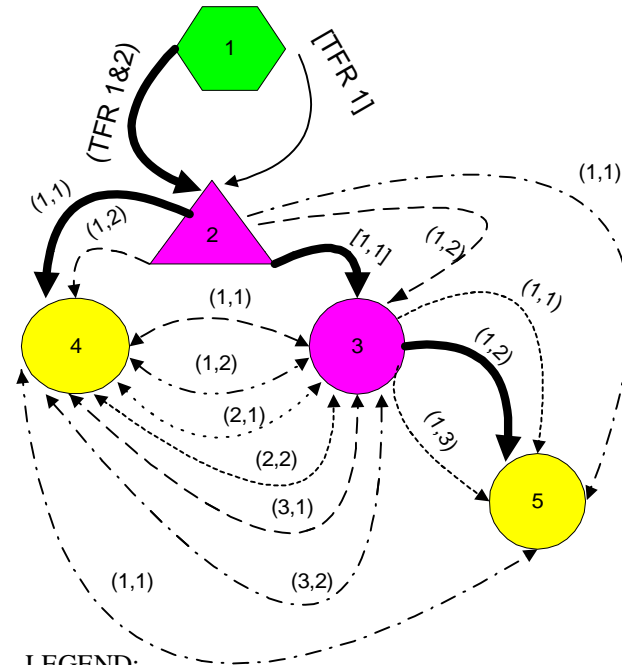
$$\sum_{S \in \text{Stations}} C_{f_{S,t}} + \sum_{S \in \text{Stations}} C_{v_{S,t}} + \sum_{F \in \text{Feeders}} C_{f_{F,t}} + \sum_{F \in \text{Feeders}} C_{v_{F,t}} \leq B_t, \quad \forall t = 1, 2, \dots, T \quad (5)$$



# Test Case Results



LEGEND:  
 TFR: Substation Transformer  
 (a, b): indicates future link option (Route, Size)  
 [a, b]: indicates existing link (or Substation TFR)  
 i Existing load center    k Existing Substation  
 j Future load center    1 Source Node



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# Extensions, Upgrades, and Optimal Load Assignment

- **Upgrades**
  - **Crucial in distribution planning, generally not considered**
  - **Usually much more economical**
  - **Re-conductor, Underground Temp facilities**
  - **Can upgrade, but not degrade**
- **Optimal Load Assignments**
  - **Can also be done at Planning stage**
  - **Can provide valuable input to the DM**
  - **My be used for local area design**



# Impact of Distributed Generation

- **Greatly increase the uncertainties in design**
  - ➔ **Solutions from a utility point-of-view probably not fully tractable, too many unknowns**
  - ➔ **But potential for huge cost savings by limiting amount of needed capacity**



# Distribution System Operations

**Traditionally not much one can do - propose similar structure to system operations**

- **Normal operations**
  - **AGC/Load following controls**
  - **Voltage controls**
- **Security**
  - **In radial system all contingencies lead to outages but some worse than others**
  - **If islanding allowed, then must operate within capacity limits to survive contingency**



# Control Approach for Load Following Service

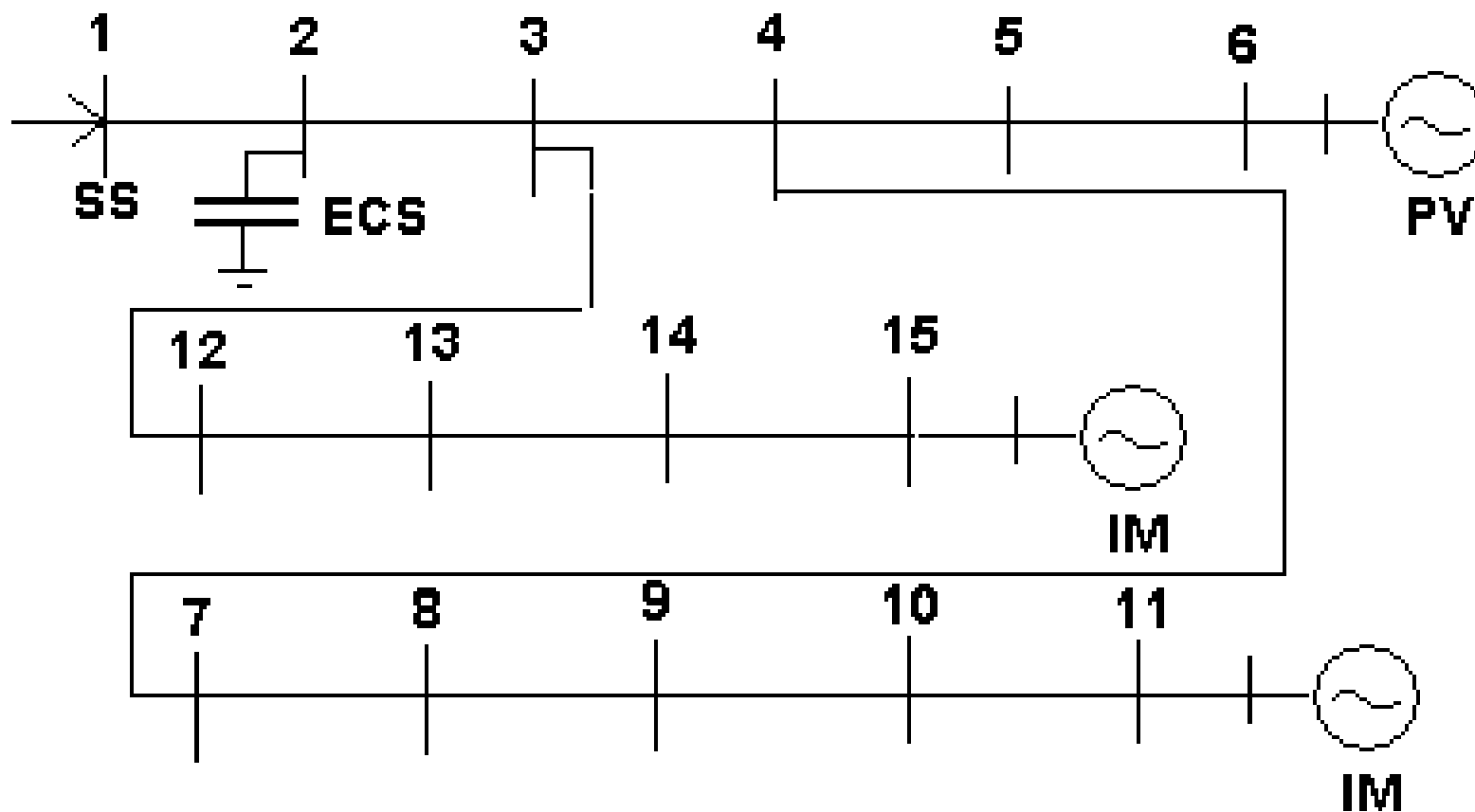
- **Flow from substation acts similar to tie line**
- **Frequency fluctuations minimally impacted by distribution system**
- **During disturbance control law is simply**

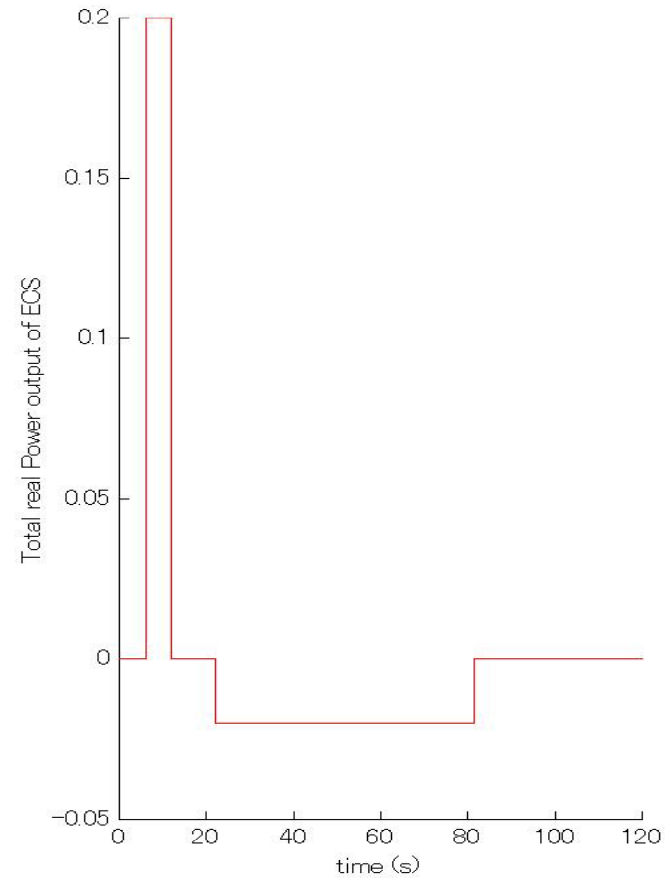
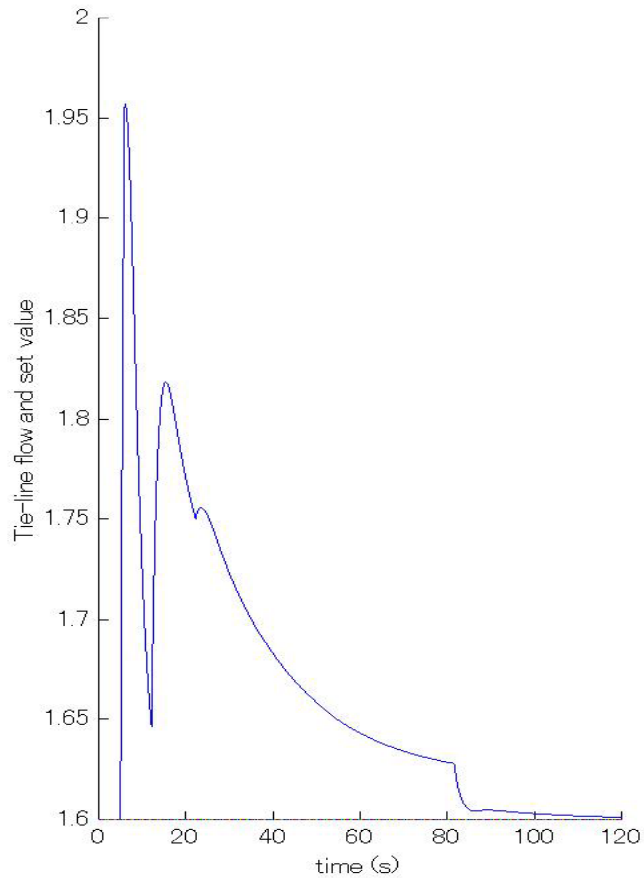
$$P_{\text{out}} = P_{\text{tie}} - P_{\text{set}}$$

- **After disturbance recharge/discharge ECS to set value**



# Example System 1 with DER (Modified Kumamoto City)







# Voltage Control for Efficiency OR Conservation Voltage Reduction

- Loads increase consumption with increasing voltage
- But too low voltages also increase current flow and stress equipment
  - Ideal is maintain flat voltage along feeder but existing controls inadequate to achieve this
- Efficiency savings on the order of 5-10%
  - Note in Washington State, conservation counts towards renewable energy credits
  - DG can also help on voltage profiles but so can a number of technologies



## Energy Scavenging and Micro-sources

- Palm-sized fuel cells that cost only a few cents apiece
  - Batteries charged by body heat
  - Pacemakers powered by sugar
  - Vibration based power generation for cell phones
  - Millimeter sized internal combustion engine (MEMS technology)
  - “Shake” charged flashlights
  - Wind generation from rippling of flag
- ➔ **Research Question: Can these be scaled up and scheduled to provide energy to a new grid that is a dynamic fluctuation of on and off-grid components? A true switching network similar to the internet.**



## Alternative Infrastructures

- **Prepaid energy cards (common in many developing countries)**
- **Load scheduling as predominant mode of electric energy consumption (far more extensive than simply load leveling)**
- **Selective reliability (may be particularly relevant for developing countries)**
- **Etc.**



# Concluding Comments

- **As researchers we should be thinking of wholly new applications – not just incremental improvements in existing problem areas**
- **Technology developments are leading to the possibility of industry/problems driven by innovation instead of regulation**
- **In any conceivable future scenario (technical, political, economic, environmental), research on the bulk generation and delivery of electric energy will be central to success**



# Discussion