


Article

Modelling and Stability Analysis of Wind Power Plants Connected to Weak Grids

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Featured Application: A unified frequency-domain modelling and stability analysis is presented to predict the impact of mutual interactions between a wind power plant and a weak grid on the stability margin.

Abstract: It is important to develop modelling tools to predict unstable situations resulting from the interactions between the wind power plant and the weak power system. This paper presents a unified methodology to model and analyse a wind power plant connected to weak grids in the frequency-domain by considering the dynamics of the phase lock loop (PLL) and controller delays, which have been neglected in most of the previous research into modelling of wind power plants to simplify modelling. The presented approach combines both dq and positive/negative sequence domain modelling, where a single wind turbine is modelled in the dq domain but the whole wind power plant connected to the weak grid is analysed in the positive/negative sequence domain. As the proposed modelling of the wind power plant is systematic and modular and based on the decoupled positive/negative sequence impedances, the application of the proposed methodology is relevant for transmission system operators (TSOs) to assess stability easily with a very low computational burden. In addition, as the analytical dq impedance models of the single wind turbine are provided, the proposed methodology is an optimization design tool permitting wind turbine manufacturers to tune their converter control. As a case study, a 108 MW wind power plant connected to a weak grid was used to study its sensitivity to variations in network short-circuit level, X/R ratio and line series capacitor compensation (X_c/X_g).

Keywords: wind power plants; wind turbines; weak grids; impedance-based modelling; small-signal stability

1. Introduction

With the increasing number of solar and wind power plants in the electrical grid, the installation ratio of traditional synchronous generators to the total production capacity is significantly decreasing, which is leading to weak transmission grids [1]. Worldwide, the transmission system operators are in the process of updating their grid connection requirements for generation units to ensure that transmission networks can continue to be operated in a secure manner when renewable energy resources replace traditional thermal generation units. It is important to have simulation models, which can reliably predict the stability margins under contemporary operational conditions. The grid-stability of such systems can be improved in multiple ways through combinations of properties of the generation units and an additional balance of plant equipment such as STATCOMS, battery storage, etc.

In the literature, time-domain analysis [2,3] and frequency-domain analysis [4,5] have been used to model and analyse different power electronics-based power systems. Linearised frequency-domain analysis is accurate around an operating point for an intended frequency range. It requires much less computational power than non-linear time-domain simulations [6]. State-space modelling and impedance-based modelling are two popular approaches in the frequency-domain [7,8]. In these approaches, the stability can be analysed based on poles, eigenvalues, Nyquist plots or Bode plots. So far, state-space and impedance-based modelling have been used in different power electronics-based power systems like microgrids, wind power plants, solar plants, parallel current source converters and voltage source inverters. In the following section, papers, which are based on the state-space and impedance-based methods, are reviewed.

In general, there are three methods for state-space modelling: state-space averaging method, harmonic state-space (HSS) method and component connection method (CCM). State-space averaging modelling is a basic method to model and analyse a dynamic system. In this method, a linearised system is presented by the state variable matrix, input matrix and output matrix. In the literature, various power electronic systems like wind power plants and microgrids have been modelled based on this approach [9,10]. However, as this method is not modular, it can be complex for large-scale power electronic systems [11]. In the linear time-periodic (LTP) systems, where there are couplings between different frequencies, a powerful analysis tool is the harmonic state-space (HSS) method [12,13]. The harmonic state-space model of an LTP system can generally be written based on the Fourier coefficients of the state matrices [13]. Compared to the state-space averaging method, the harmonic state-space method is more accurate but also more complex, as this approach models the frequency-couplings in the system. In the component connection method (CCM), first a dynamic system is divided into some smaller subsystems and each subsystem is modelled based on the state-space method. Then, all individual matrices will be placed in new diagonal matrices. For large-scale dynamic systems, CCM is much more systematic and modular compared to the state-space averaging method [14–16].

In addition to state-space modelling, impedance-based modelling is another useful tool for frequency-domain analysis [17]. In this method, the grid output impedance (Z_s) and the converter input impedance (Z_I) are required for stability analysis [5,18]. The impedance/admittance matrices can be calculated in the dq domain or in the sequence domain. In the sequence domain, by perturbing a three-phase power converter at a frequency $f_p + f_1$ in the positive sequence and a frequency $f_p - f_1$ in the negative sequence, the small-signal relationship between the output current and voltages can be written by a 2×2 impedance/admittance matrix [19]. As the coupling between negative and positive sequence is very small, off-diagonal elements of the impedance matrix can be neglected for stability analysis [5,20]. In the dq domain, the three-phase converter is disturbed in the dq frame, where three-phase variables can be transformed into the dq domain by the Park's transformation. Similar to the sequence domain, the small-signal impedance/admittance of the converter can be written by a 2×2 impedance/admittance matrix [21,22]. In the dq domain, there is a high-coupling between d-axis and q-axis. Therefore, for the stability analysis, off-diagonal impedance matrix elements cannot be neglected like they can in the sequence domain [23–25]. As the converter controller is usually implemented in the dq frame, dq domain modelling is simpler and more efficient for the controller design compared to the sequence domain modelling. However, for a stability analysis of the whole system, dq domain impedance-based modelling is a more complex method because of high-coupling between the d-axis and q-axis. As the impedance data of the grid is usually available in the positive/negative sequence domain and the sequence domain impedance matrix is almost decoupled, it is more efficient to do a stability analysis of a large system in the sequence domain. In order to have both the advantages of dq domain and sequence domain modelling, this paper presents a systematic and modular method, where the wind turbine is modelled in the dq domain and where stability analysis of the wind power plant is analysed in the sequence domain. In fact, for stability analysis, dq domain impedance is transferred to the sequence domain using a transformation matrix. The equivalent positive sequence impedance

is used to analyse the wind power plant stability based on the system poles and based on Nyquist criterion of the open-loop system. The presented method is scalable and adaptable to different scales of the power system along with a low computational burden.

In the following section, a wind turbine with full-scale converter configuration is considered to be modelled. The dynamics of the PLL and the time delay, which have been usually neglected in the literature on wind power plant stability analysis [24], are also included to have a more accurate model. Then, a 108 MW wind power plant connected to a weak grid is analysed under different conditions.

2. Full-Scale Converter-Based Wind Turbines

The full-scale converter configuration, which is shown in Figure 1, is one of the popular configurations for variable speed wind turbines. In this configuration, the grid side converter usually controls the dc-link voltage, and the machine side converter controls the active power [26]. If the small oscillations of the dc-link voltage are neglected, the dynamics of the wind turbine around and above the fundamental frequency can be predicted by modelling of the grid side converter [27]. Therefore, the dynamics of the machine side converter can be neglected in this paper.

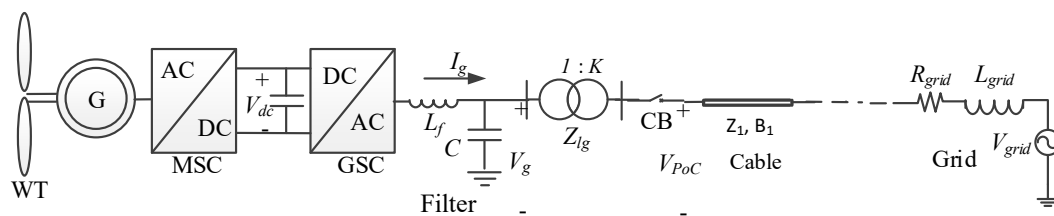


Figure 1. Simplified representation of full-scale converter-based wind turbine connected to the network.

Figure 2 shows the grid side converter of a wind turbine with its control in the dq frame. The grid side converter is a voltage source converter, and its control consists of four main parts: grid synchronization, dc-link voltage controller, current controller and pulse width modulation (PWM) [28]. The grid synchronization loop estimates the phase angle of the point-of-connection (PoC) voltage, and this angle is used to transform the signals between the abc frame and the dq frame [29]. The current references (I_d^{ref} and I_q^{ref}) are generated from the dc-link voltage and reactive power controller. The error of these references is compared to the measured grid currents (I_d and I_q) and fed to proportional integral (PI) controllers (G_{cc}).

The outputs of the current controllers are fed to the PWM modulator to generate the final switching signals of the insulated-gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs). The time-delay of the PWM and the discrete control can be modelled by using the Padé approximation [30].

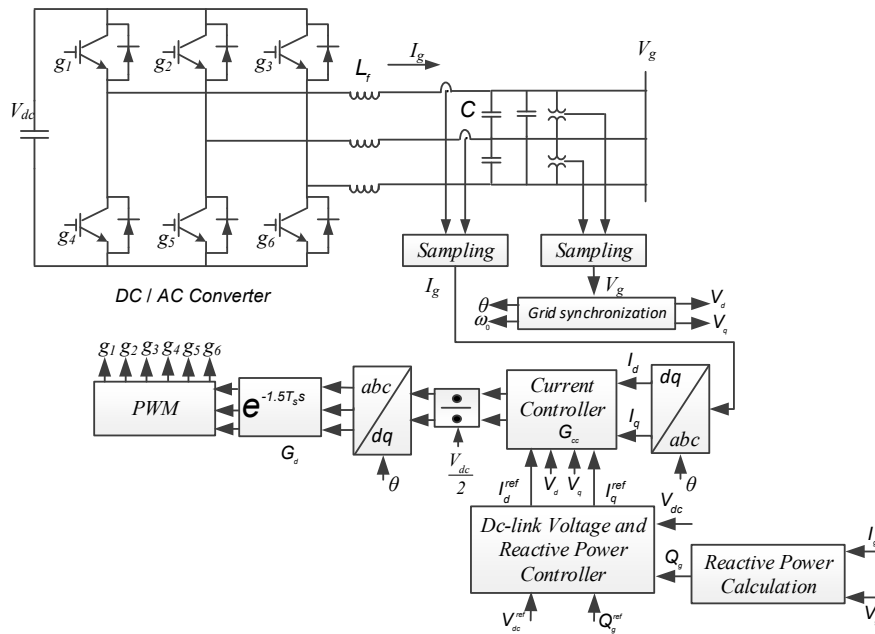


Figure 2. Grid side converter and its control, as typically used in wind turbines.

3. Small-Signal Admittance Model in dq-Domain

Figure 3 shows the model of the current controller, the feedforward terms, the PWM modulator and the filter choke of the grid side converter in the dq frame. The measurement delay is very small compared to the PWM delay and can be neglected. An outer dc-link voltage control loop is implemented in the GSC and is responsible to keep the dc-link voltage constant. The bandwidth of this outer control loop is very low compared to the fundamental frequency. This paper focuses on the oscillations around and above the fundamental frequency. Therefore, such low-bandwidth outer loops can be neglected [13]. As it is assumed that the dc-link voltage is constant, the dynamics of the dc-link controller have been neglected. Because of the dynamics of the grid synchronization loop, the dq domain model comprises a fixed global frame and a local controller frame. In the model, the measurement delay is neglected, but the PWM delay (G_d) is included as defined in [30]. The grid voltage is added to the output current controller (G_{cc}) through a high-pass/low-pass filter (G_f).

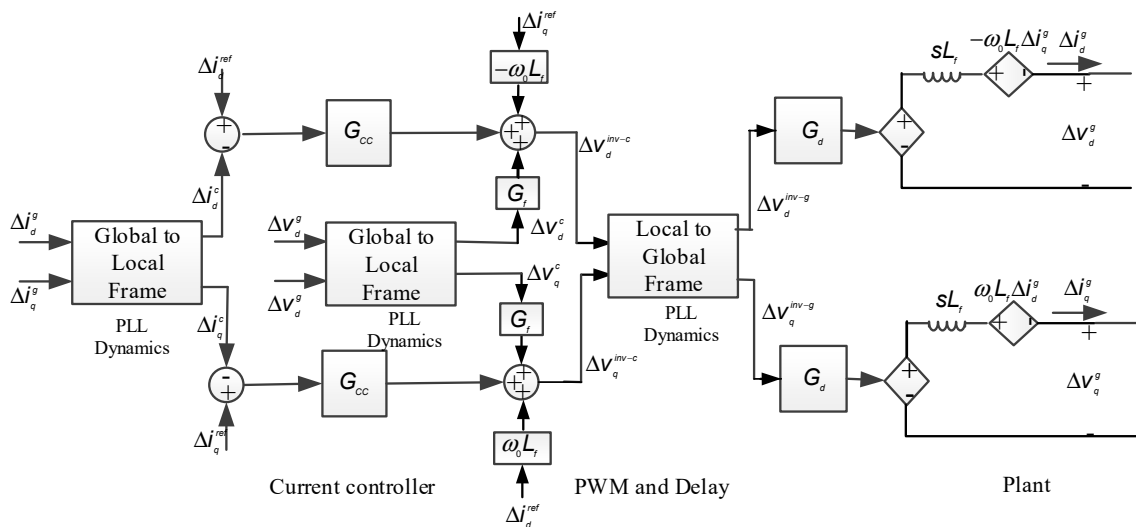


Figure 3. Dq small signal model of the current controller, PLL and the filter inductance (L_f).

According to Figure 3, the small signal output currents and dq output voltage can be obtained by the following matrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} sL_f & -\omega_0 L_f \\ +\omega_0 L_f & sL_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^g \\ \Delta i_q^g \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} G_d & 0 \\ 0 & G_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv-g} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv-g} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^g \\ \Delta v_q^g \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv-c} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv-c} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -G_{cc} & 0 \\ 0 & -G_{cc} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^c \\ \Delta i_q^c \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} G_f & 0 \\ 0 & G_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^c \\ \Delta v_q^c \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

By neglecting the dynamics of the grid synchronization loop, e.g., PLL, the dq frame of the plant and the dq frame of the controller would be the same, i.e.,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^c \\ \Delta i_q^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^g \\ \Delta i_q^g \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^c \\ \Delta v_q^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^g \\ \Delta v_q^g \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d \\ \Delta v_q \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv-g} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv-g} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv-c} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv-c} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

By substituting (2) and (3) in (1), the admittance matrix can be obtained as

$$-\begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix} = Y_{dq} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d \\ \Delta v_q \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Y_{dq} = -\begin{bmatrix} sL_f + G_d G_{cc} & -\omega_0 L_f \\ +\omega_0 L_f & sL_f + G_d G_{cc} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} G_d G_f - 1 & 0 \\ 0 & G_d G_f - 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

where the dynamics of the grid synchronization loop are ignored.

For the grid synchronization loop, the synchronous reference frame phase-locked loop (SRF-PLL) can be used and the small signal model is shown in Figure 4.

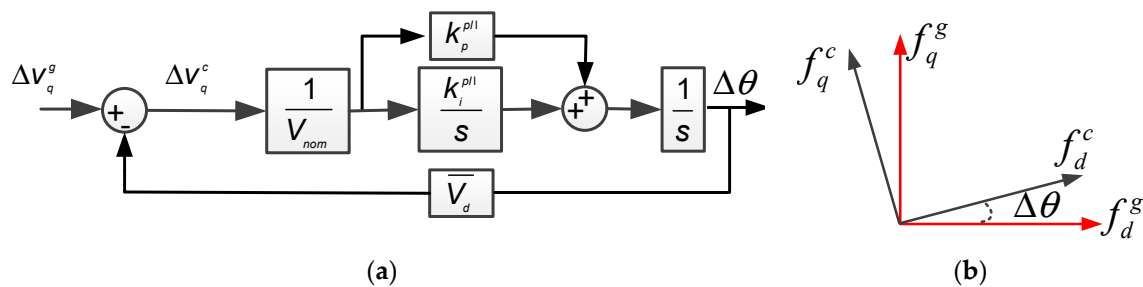


Figure 4. Synchronous reference frame phase-locked loop (SRF-PLL), (a) small signal model of PLL, (b) controller (f_{dq}^c) and system (f_{dq}^g) frames under small-signal perturbations because of the PLL dynamics.

When small-signal perturbations are added to the V_g voltage, the estimated angle will have a small error ($\Delta\theta$) between the local (controller) and global (plant) frames because of the PLL dynamics. In Figure 4b, f_{dq}^c corresponds to the estimated angle and f_{dq}^g corresponds to the actual angle. Based on Figure 4, the voltage and current in the controller frame and plant frame under small-signal perturbations can be derived as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^c \\ \Delta i_q^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^g \\ \Delta i_q^g \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & G_{pll} \bar{I}_q \\ 0 & -G_{pll} \bar{I}_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta V_d^g \\ \Delta V_q^g \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^c \\ \Delta v_q^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^g \\ \Delta v_q^g \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & G_{pll} \bar{V}_q \\ 0 & -G_{pll} \bar{V}_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta V_d^g \\ \Delta V_q^g \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv-g} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv-g} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d^{inv-c} \\ \Delta v_q^{inv-c} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -G_{pll} \bar{V}_q^{inv} \\ 0 & G_{pll} \bar{V}_d^{inv} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta V_d^g \\ \Delta V_q^g \end{bmatrix}$$

where $\bar{I}_d, \bar{I}_q, \bar{V}_d, \bar{V}_q, \bar{V}_d^{inv}$ and \bar{V}_q^{inv} are the operating point values of the converter. $\Delta\theta$ can be derived as

$$\Delta\theta = G_{pll}\Delta V_q^s = \frac{G_{PI}^{PLL}}{V_{nom} + G_{PI}^{PLL}\bar{V}_d}\Delta V_q^s \quad G_{PI}^{PLL} = K_p^{pll} + \frac{K_i^{pll}}{s} \quad (6)$$

Using (1), (2), (5) and (6) and some simplifications, the small signal admittance matrix can be obtained by

$$Y_{dq} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{dd}(s) & y_{dq}(s) \\ y_{qd}(s) & y_{qq}(s) \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \Delta V_d^s \\ \Delta V_q^s \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \times \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d^s \\ \Delta i_q^s \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} sL_f + G_{cc}G_d & -\omega_0L_f \\ +\omega_0L_f & sL_f + G_{cc}G_d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \times \begin{bmatrix} G_fG_d - 1 & -G_{cc}G_dG_{pll}\bar{I}_q + G_fG_dG_{pll}\bar{V}_q - G_{pll}G_d\bar{V}_q^{inv} \\ 0 & G_{cc}G_dG_{pll}\bar{I}_d + G_fG_d - G_fG_dG_{pll}\bar{V}_d + G_{pll}G_d\bar{V}_d^{inv} - 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

4. Equivalent Small-Signal Admittance Model in Sequence Domain

In the previous section, the small-signal admittance model of the converter in the dq domain has been obtained. However, the admittance model can also be obtained in the positive-negative sequence domain [18,20]. The small-signal admittance matrix in the sequence domain can also be written by a 2×2 admittance matrix, where its off-diagonal elements show a coupling between the positive and negative components. This coupling is very small and can be neglected [7]. The relationship between the sequence domain admittance definition and dq domain admittance definition [20] can be obtained by the following equation as derived in Appendix A.

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{pp}(s) & y_{pn}(s) \\ y_{np}(s) & y_{nn}(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} y_{dd}(s) & y_{dq}(s) \\ y_{qd}(s) & y_{qq}(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

The detailed form of Equation (8) is obtained by substituting Equation (7). In this paper, the dq domain admittance is obtained, and then the equivalent sequence admittance is derived based on (8). For the linear stability analysis of the wind power plant in the sequence domain, the coupling terms may be neglected, and the conventional positive impedance is calculated as:

$$Z_p(s) = \frac{1}{y_{pp}(s - j\omega_1)} \quad (9)$$

5. Total Wind Turbine Thévenin Impedance

As shown in Figure 5, there is a filter capacitor and a transformer in the output circuit of the wind turbine. Therefore, the total Thévenin impedance of the wind turbine can be equated to

$$Z_W = K^2 \left[\left(\frac{Z_{cf}Z_p}{Z_{cf} + Z_p} \right) + Z_{Lg} \right] = K^2 \frac{Z_{cf}Z_p + Z_{Lg}Z_p + Z_{cf}Z_{Lg}}{Z_{cf} + Z_p} \quad (10)$$

where Z_p is the equivalent small-signal positive impedance of the wind turbine, Z_{cf} is the filter capacitor impedance, Z_{Lg} is the leakage impedance transformed in the primary side, and K is the transformer voltage ratio. As can be seen, Z_p is in parallel with Z_{cf} and they are in series with Z_{Lg} . Then this equivalent impedance is transferred to the high-voltage side by the transformer ratio to the power of two (K^2).

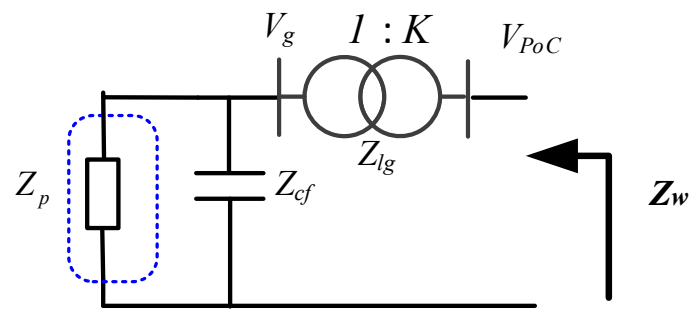


Figure 5. Simplified wind turbine (WT) system model, Z_p = equivalent small-signal positive impedance, Z_{cf} = filter capacitor impedance, Z_{lg} = leakage impedance.

6. Case Study of a Wind Power Plant Connected to a Weak Grid

In order to perform an impedance-based stability analysis, an aggregated model of the wind power plant is required. For example, Figure 6 shows a 108 MW wind power plant with three strings and ten 3.6 MW wind turbines installed on each string. All wind turbines in the wind power plant are assumed to have the same structure. Therefore, the impedance equivalent of the aggregated wind turbines can be obtained based on per-unit values.

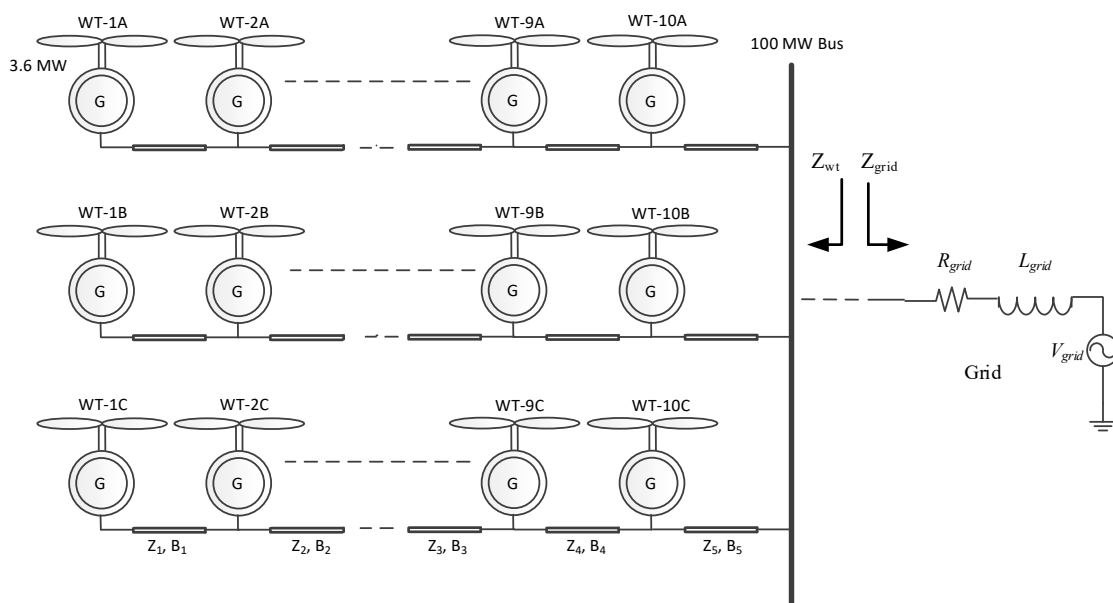


Figure 6. A 108 MW wind power plant, including three 36 MW strings.

If it is assumed that the voltages and currents of the wind turbines are the same, ten 3.6 MW wind turbines of each feeder can be aggregated into one 36 MW wind turbine (see Figure 7), where its equivalent series cable parameter can be obtained [31,32] by

$$Z_{AT} = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{10} m^2 Z_m}{10^2} \quad B_{AT} = \sum_{m=1}^{10} B_m \tag{11}$$

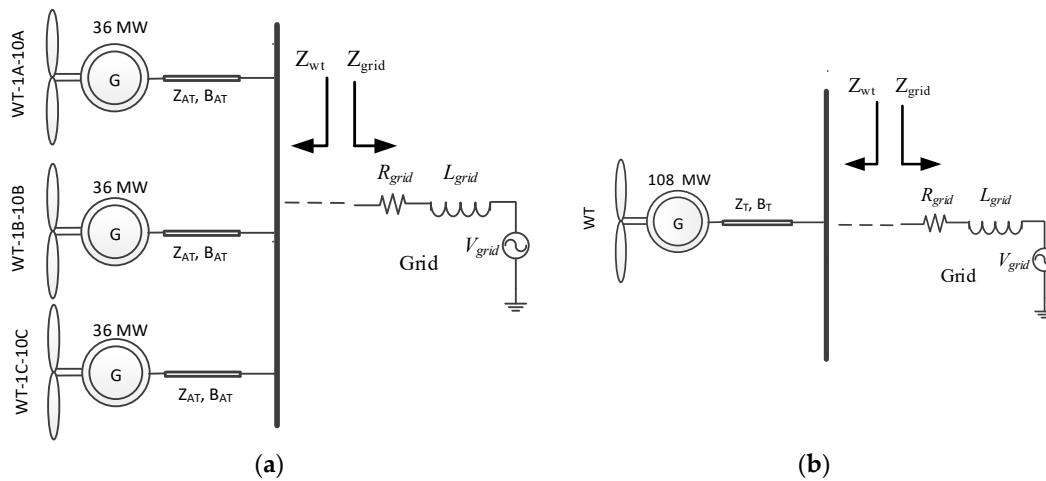


Figure 7. Aggregated model of the 108 MW wind power plant shown in Figure 8, (a) aggregated model on each string as one 36 MW wind turbine, (b) aggregated model of three strings into one 108 MW wind turbine.

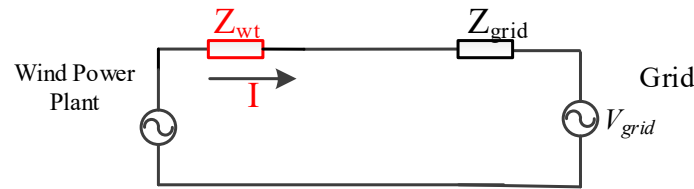


Figure 8. Aggregated wind power plant model connected to weak grid.

Z_{AT} is the equivalent series impedance, and B_{AT} is the equivalent shunt susceptance, respectively. Finally, three 36 MW parallel aggregated wind turbines can be aggregated as one 108 MW wind turbine (shown in Figure 7), where its equivalent series parameter can be calculated by

$$Z_T = \frac{Z_{AT}}{3} \quad B_T = 3B_{AT} \tag{12}$$

6.1. Stability Analysis

By obtaining the equivalent wind power plant impedance and the equivalent grid impedance, Figure 8 can be used for stability analysis. Based on this figure, the transfer function for the current can be obtained as

$$I(s) = \frac{V_{wt} - V_{grid}}{Z_{wt} + Z_{grid}} = \left(\frac{V_{wt} - V_{grid}}{Z_{wt}} \right) \left(\frac{1}{1 + Z_{grid}/Z_{wt}} \right) \tag{13}$$

For the stability analysis, the poles of the system can be obtained by solving the following equation:

$$Z_{wt} + Z_{grid} = 0 \tag{14}$$

As the wind power plant is stable when connected to a strong grid, i.e., V_{wt}/Z_{wt} has no right-half plane poles, an alternative option for the stability analysis is to assess the Nyquist stability criterion for Z_{grid}/Z_{wt} .

A weak grid model is considered here including inductive reactance (X_g), resistance (R), and series capacitive reactance (X_c) for compensation. To illustrate sensitivity to variation in the network, short-circuit level, X_g/R ratio and line series compensation, three scenarios, are studied, all based on a fictitious wind turbine converter controller, the parameters of which are listed in [21]. The wind turbine has been tuned for a strong grid. In Appendix B, all the variables and parameters used in the figures are summarized.

6.1.1. Short Circuit Ratio (SCR) Variations for $X_g/R = 20$ and $X_c/X_g = 0$

In this scenario, the SCR is changed from 1.25 to 1.5, $X_g/R = 20$ and $X_c/X_g = 0$ (without series compensation). Some poles of the system are shown in Table 1. As it can be seen, there is an unstable pole for SCR = 1.25.

Table 1. Poles for short circuit ratio (SCR) variations for $X_g/R = 20$ and $X_c/X_g = 0$.

SCR	P_1	P_2	P_3
1.25	$123 + j184$	$4.61 + j449$	$-240 + j596$
1.5	$-117 + j189$	$-30.6 + j446$	$-297 + j669$

Nyquist criterion-based stability analyses for SCR = 1.25 and SCR = 1.5 are shown in Figure 9. When the SCR = 1.25, there is an encirclement of the point -1, which shows that the system is unstable.

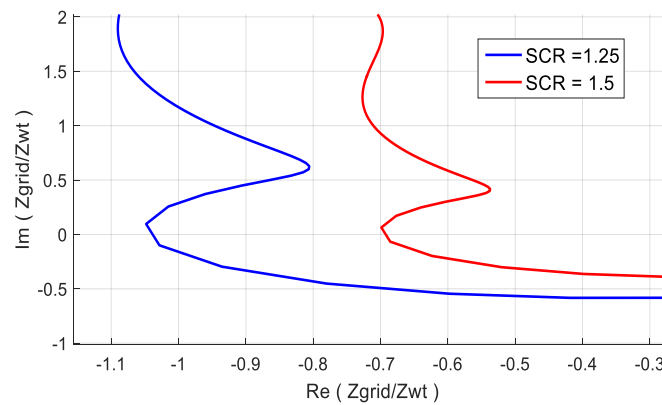


Figure 9. Nyquist criteria under SCR variations for $X_g/R = 20$ and $X_c/X_g = 0$.

6.1.2. X_g/R variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X_c/X_g = 0$

In this scenario, X_g/R is decreased from 20 to 5 and to 2.5, when the SCR = 1.25. As it can be seen from the pole analysis in Table 2 and the Nyquist analysis in Figure 10, the system becomes more stable by decreasing the X_g/R ratio.

Table 2. Poles for X_g/R variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X_c/X_g = 0$.

X_g/R	P_1	P_2	P_3
20	$-123 + j184$	$4.61 + j449$	$-240 + j596$
5	$-124 + j189$	$2.07 + j438$	$-255 + j596$
2.5	$-125 + j196$	$-2.97 + j427$	$-245 + j596$

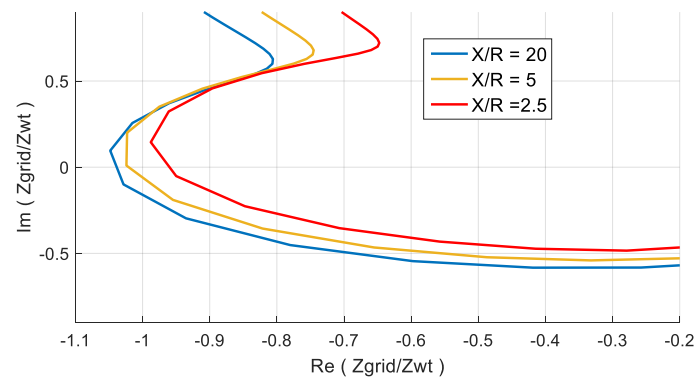


Figure 10. Nyquist criteria under X_g/R variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X_c/X_g = 0$.

6.1.3. X_c/X_g Variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X_g/R = 20$

Table 3 and Figure 11 show the corresponding poles and Nyquist criteria under X_c/X_g variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X_g/R = 20$. It can be seen that the real part of the pole around 70 Hz becomes more negative (more stable) along with more compensation.

Table 3. Poles for X_c/X_g variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X_g/R = 20$.

X_c/X_g	P_1	P_2	P_3
0	$-123 + j184$	$4.61 + j449$	$-240 + j596$
0.1	$-119 + j182$	$-0.61 + j449$	$-239 + j600$
0.3	$-110 + j175$	$-11.1 + j450$	$-237 + j609$

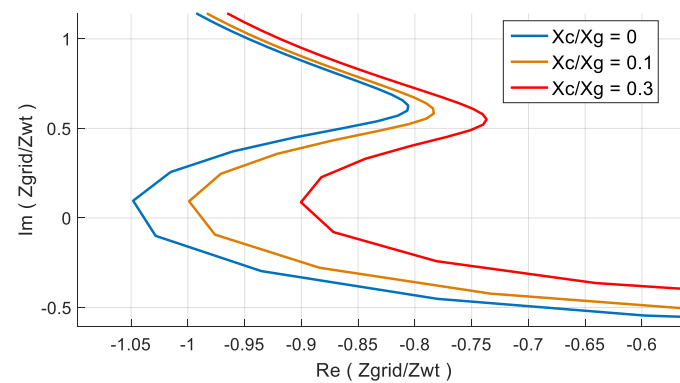


Figure 11. Nyquist criteria under X_c/X_g variations for SCR = 1.25 and $X/R = 20$. 1.4. Time-domain simulation result.

In order to validate the frequency-domain analysis, a time-domain simulation was performed for SCR = 1.25, $X_g/R = 20$ and $X_c/X_g = 0$. The current injected to the grid and its fast Fourier transform (FFT) are shown in Figure 12. As it can be seen, some oscillations around 73 Hz (459 rad) are increased until the wind turbine goes to trip. This result is matched with the frequency-domain result in Table 1, which indicates there is one unstable mode as $4.61 + j449$.

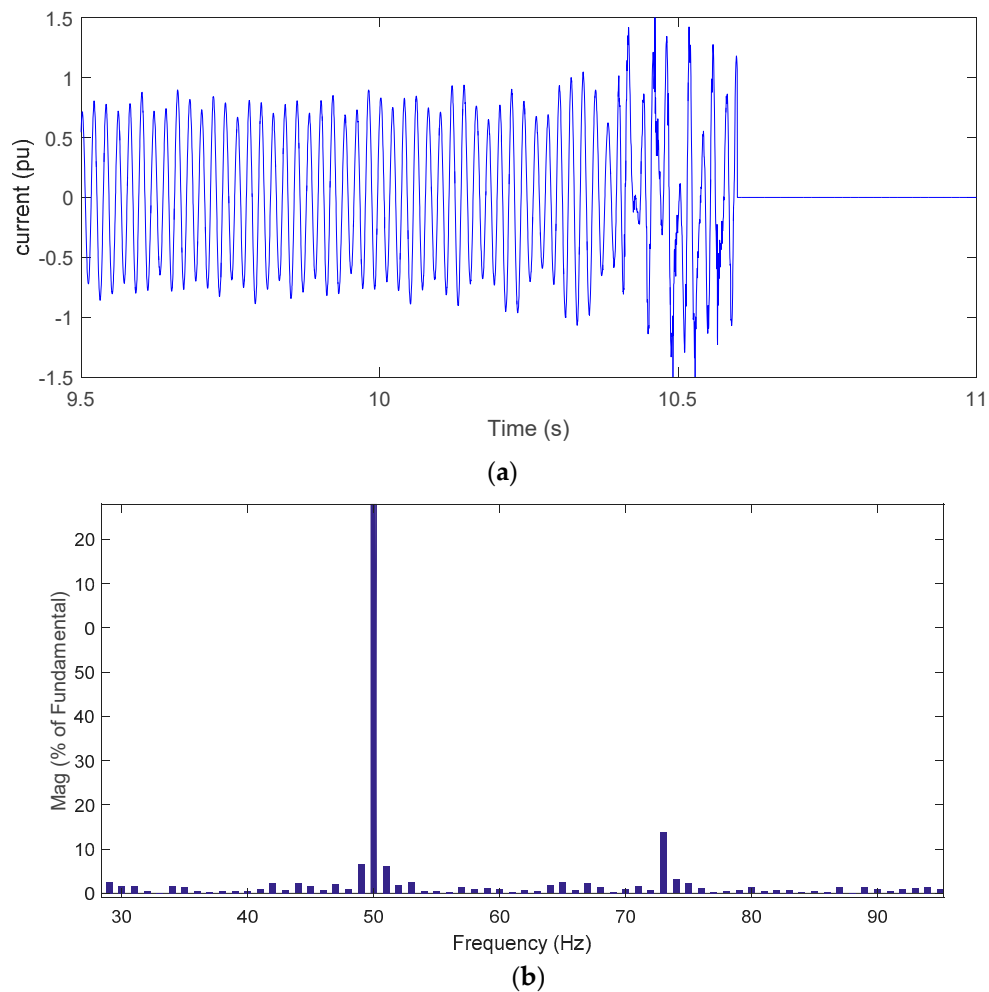


Figure 12. Time-domain simulation for $SCR = 1.25$, $X_g/R = 20$ and $X_c/X_g = 0$ (an unstable case), (a) current, (b) fast Fourier transform (FFT) of the current before trip.

7. Conclusions

This paper presents a unified impedance-based modelling and analysis tool to predict unstable conditions resulting from the interactions between the wind power plant and the weak grid. The proposed approach allows to have advantages of both the dq domain modelling and sequence domain modelling. This enables transmission system operators (TSOs) to do stability analyses of large power systems more efficiently, and it enables wind turbine manufacturers to optimise the controller parameters to increase the stability margin under a weak grid connection. A 108 MW wind power plant has been studied and the short circuit ratio (SCR) of the grid is considered to be 1.25 and 1.5. The poles of the closed-loop system in the frequency-domain are calculated to find the frequency and damping of the oscillatory modes. Nyquist criteria of the open-loop system are plotted to predict easily the stability margin of the wind power plant connected to the weak grid. The results of a simulated wind power plant have shown that a wind power plant which is tuned for a strong grid can become unstable when connected to a weak grid. The proposed method is a valuable tool when adapting and retuning the control system to actual grid conditions.

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Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Appendix A

A Relationship between dq-domain admittance/impedance and sequence-domain admittance/impedance.

In this part, the relationship between dq-domain admittance/impedance and sequence-domain admittance/impedance is derived.

Following Park’s transformation is used to convert three-phase variables into a dq reference frame:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_d \\ X_q \end{bmatrix} = \frac{2}{3} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & \cos(\theta - \frac{2\pi}{3}) & \cos(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \\ -\sin(\theta) & -\sin(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3}) & -\sin(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_a \\ X_b \\ X_c \end{bmatrix} \tag{A1}$$

For $\theta = \omega_1 t$ in (A1), three-phase perturbed voltages described in (29) can be transformed to the dq-domain as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d + \bar{V}_d \\ \Delta v_q + \bar{V}_q \end{bmatrix} = \frac{2}{3} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(2\pi f_1 t) & \cos(2\pi f_1 t - \frac{2\pi}{3}) & \cos(2\pi f_1 t + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \\ -\sin(2\pi f_1 t) & -\sin(2\pi f_1 t + \frac{2\pi}{3}) & -\sin(2\pi f_1 t + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} V_1 \cos(2\pi f_1 t + \phi_{v1}) + \hat{v}_p \cos[2\pi(f_p + f_1)t + \phi_{vp}] + \hat{v}_n \cos[2\pi(f_p - f_1)t + \phi_{vn}] \\ V_1 \cos(2\pi f_1 t + \phi_{v1} - \frac{2\pi}{3}) + \hat{v}_p \cos[2\pi(f_p + f_1)t + \phi_{vp} - \frac{2\pi}{3}] + \hat{v}_n \cos[2\pi(f_p - f_1)t + \phi_{vn} + \frac{2\pi}{3}] \\ V_1 \cos(2\pi f_1 t + \phi_{v1} + \frac{2\pi}{3}) + \hat{v}_p \cos[2\pi(f_p + f_1)t + \phi_{vp} + \frac{2\pi}{3}] + \hat{v}_n \cos[2\pi(f_p - f_1)t + \phi_{vn} - \frac{2\pi}{3}] \end{bmatrix} \tag{A2}$$

Based on trigonometric formulas and some simplification, (A2) can be simplified as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d + \bar{V}_d \\ \Delta v_q + \bar{V}_q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 \cos(\phi_{v1}) + \hat{v}_p \cos(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vp}) + \hat{v}_n \cos(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vn}) \\ V_1 \sin(\phi_{v1}) + \hat{v}_p \sin(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vp}) - \hat{v}_n \sin(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vn}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 \cos(\phi_{v1}) + \hat{v}_p \cos(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vp}) + \hat{v}_n \cos(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vn}) \\ V_1 \cos(\phi_{v1} - \frac{\pi}{2}) + \hat{v}_p \cos(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vp} - \frac{\pi}{2}) - \hat{v}_n \cos(2\pi f_p t + \phi_{vn} - \frac{\pi}{2}) \end{bmatrix} \tag{A3}$$

According to (A3), small-signal dq voltages can be obtained based small-signal positive-negative voltages as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d \\ \Delta v_q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_p e^{j\phi_{vp}} + \hat{v}_n e^{j\phi_{vn}} \\ -j\hat{v}_p e^{j\phi_{vp}} + j\hat{v}_n e^{j\phi_{vn}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_p e^{j\phi_{vp}} \\ \hat{v}_n e^{j\phi_{vn}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_p \\ \Delta v_n \end{bmatrix} \tag{A4}$$

The same relationship is valid for three-phase currents.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_p \\ \Delta i_n \end{bmatrix} \tag{A5}$$

As already presented in this paper, the small-signal behaviour of a three-phase converter can be modelled in dq domain by

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_d \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{dd}(s) & y_{dq}(s) \\ y_{qd}(s) & y_{qq}(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_d \\ \Delta v_q \end{bmatrix} \tag{A6}$$

By substituting (A4) and (A5) in (A6) we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_p \\ \Delta i_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{dd}(s) & y_{dq}(s) \\ y_{qd}(s) & y_{qq}(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_p \\ \Delta v_n \end{bmatrix} \tag{A7}$$

Equation (A7) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_p \\ \Delta i_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} y_{dd}(s) & y_{dq}(s) \\ y_{qd}(s) & y_{qq}(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_p \\ \Delta v_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{pp}(s) & y_{pn}(s) \\ y_{np}(s) & y_{nn}(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v_p \\ \Delta v_n \end{bmatrix} \tag{A8}$$

Based on (A8), the relationship between sequence-domain admittance definition and dq-domain admittance definition can be obtained by

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{pp}(s) & y_{pn}(s) \\ y_{np}(s) & y_{nn}(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} y_{dd}(s) & y_{dq}(s) \\ y_{qd}(s) & y_{qq}(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -j & j \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{A9})$$

Appendix B

In the following table, all the variables and parameters used in the figures are defined.

Table A1. Definition of the variables and parameters used in the figures.

V_{dc}	dc-link voltage	Q_g^{ref}	reactive power reference
L_f	filter chock	Q_g	injected reactive power
C	filter capacitor	V_{dc}^{ref}	dc-link voltage reference
Z_{lg}	transformer leakage impedance	I_d^{ref}	d-axis current reference
V_g	filter capacitor voltage	I_q^{ref}	q-axis current reference
I_g	wind turbine current	T_s	sampling time
K	transformer ratio	V_{nom}	nominal voltage
V_{PoC}	point of connection voltage	K_p^{pll}	proportional gain of the PLL
Z_1	cable impedance	K_i^{pll}	integral gain of the PLL
B_1	cable susceptance	Z_p	equivalent small-signal positive impedance of the wind turbine
R_{grid}	grid resistance	Z_{cf}	filter capacitor impedance
Z_{grid}	grid impedance	Z_{lg}	leakage impedance
V_{grid}	grid voltage	Z_w	Thévenin impedance
V_d	d-axis voltage of the grid	Z_T	equivalent series cable impedance
V_q	q-axis voltage of the grid	B_T	equivalent shunt cable susceptance
θ	grid voltage angle	Z_{wt}	Thévenin impedance of the aggregated wind power plant
ω_0	grid frequency		

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