



## AGC of two area power system interconnected by AC/DC links with diverse sources in each area



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### ABSTRACT

This paper presents a comprehensive study on dynamic performance of a more realistic power system with diverse sources in each area and interconnected via parallel AC/DC transmission links. The power generation in each area is based on diverse sources such as thermal, hydro and gas. To carry out the investigations, optimal Automatic Generation Control (AGC) regulators are designed and implemented by considering an example of a two area power system for 1% step load disturbance in one of the control areas. In order to assess the improvement in stability of this realistic power system with DC link in parallel with AC tie-line as interconnection, eigenvalue study is also conducted. It has been shown that the transient response of power system subject to a step load disturbance is sluggish/poor in the presence of hydro as one of the diverse source in the power system. But an appreciable improvement in system dynamic performance is achieved by considering parallel AC/DC links as interconnection between areas rather than using AC tie lines only.

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### 1. Introduction

Modern power systems consist of a large number of control areas, which generate power to meet the load demand. However, mismatch between generated power and demand causes the system frequency to deviate from the nominal value and it also creates inadvertent exchange of power between control areas. To eliminate these deviations AGC is applied to manipulate the speed changer (set-point) of different power generation plants in each area. Therefore the objective of AGC is to regulate power produced from various sources in each area so that the frequency of power system and tie-line powers are kept within prescribed limits. The main function of control is to ensure that: (i) frequency of various bus voltages and currents are maintained at near specified nominal values; (ii) tie-line power flows among the interconnected areas are maintained at specified levels; and (iii) total power requirement on the system as a whole is shared by individual generators economically in optimum fashion. The first two functions are ensured by designing an efficient AGC regulator. The third function involves another set of control called active power dispatch.

To achieve the objectives of AGC, a large number of studies have been reported for an effective AGC regulator design [1–18], including the pioneering works by Elgerd and Fosha [1,2]. In recent years,

following the advent of modern intelligent techniques such as genetic algorithms, fuzzy logic, multi-agent systems, artificial neural networks (ANNs), particle swarm optimization, and hybrid intelligent techniques, some new solutions have been emerged for AGC regulator. By exploiting these artificial intelligent concepts in AGC regulator design many simulation studies are available [6–14], but usually these techniques always not give fix solution to the AGC problem.

It is technical and economically feasible for operating a power system in an interconnected fashion. The various areas (geographical areas with generators connected by strong links) or power pools are interconnected via tie-lines (long transmission lines or weak links). These tie-lines are utilized for contractual power exchange between various control areas and also provide inter-area support in case of abnormal conditions. However, many problems have been identified with AC interconnection between areas in a power system particularly by long distance power transmission. The major problems associated with these lines are: the presence of large power oscillations which can lead to frequent tripping, increase in fault current level and transmission of disturbances from one system to the other deteriorating the overall system dynamic performance. The use of high voltage direct current (HVDC) to transmit bulk power over long distance has received increasing attention in recent years. The reason is that HVDC transmission lines possess attractive features such as fast controllability of power in HVDC lines through converter control, ability to reduce transient stability problems associated with AC lines, and other

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**Table 1**  
Power system data of different parameters/constants for areas  $i = 1$  and  $j = 2$ .

Sr. No.	Name of the parameter/constant	Symbols	Numerical value
1	Bias constant	$\beta_i$	0.425
2	Thermal power generation regulation constant	$R_{ti}$	2.4 Hz/puMW
3	Hydro power generation regulation Constant	$R_{hi}$	2.4 Hz/puMW
4	Gas power generation regulation constant	$R_{gi}$	2.4 Hz/puMW
5	Gain of controller	$K_{ii}$	–
6	Steam turbine governor time constant	$T_{gi}$	0.08 s
7	Steam turbine time constant	$T_{ti}$	0.3 s
8	Coefficient of reheater steam turbine	$K_{ri}$	0.3
9	Steam turbine reheater time constant	$T_{ri}$	10 s
10	Hydro turbine speed governor transient droop time constant	$T_{RHi}$	28.75 s
11	Hydro turbine speed governor main servo time constant	$T_{GHi}$	0.2 s
12	Hydro turbine speed governor reset time	$T_{Ri}$	5 s
13	Nominal starting time of water in penstock	$T_{wi}$	1.0 s
14	Gas turbine speed governor lead time constant	$X_i$	0.6 s
15	Gas turbine speed governor lag time constant	$Y_i$	1.0 s
16	Gas turbine constant of valve positioner	$b_i$	0.05
		$C_i$	1.0
17	Gas turbine combustion reaction time delay	$T_{CRi}$	0.3
18	Gas turbine fuel time constant	$T_{Fi}$	0.23
19	Gas turbine compressor discharge volume time constant	$T_{CDi}$	0.2
20	Thermal power generation contribution	$K_{ti}$	0.60
21	Hydro power generation contribution	$K_{hi}$	0.25
22	Gas power generation contribution	$K_{gi}$	0.15
23	Area size ratio	$\alpha_{ij}$	–1.0
24	Area control error	$ACE_i$	
25	Gain constant of power system	$K_{Pi}$	120.00
26	Time constant of power system	$T_{Pi}$	20.00 s
27	Tie line power coefficient	$T_{ij}$	0.0433 MW
28	Inertia constant	$H_i$	5 MW s/MVA
29	Rated frequency	$F_r$	60 Hz
30	Power rating of each control area	$P_{ri}$	2000 MW
31	Frequency deviation of $i$ th area	$\Delta F_i$	
32	Tie-line deviation between $i$ th and $j$ th area	$\Delta P_{tie_{ij}}$	
33	Deviation in thermal turbine output	$\Delta P_{Gti}$	
34	Deviation in intermediate state of reheat turbine	$\Delta P_{Rti}$	
35	Deviation in steam turbine governor output	$\Delta X_{ti}$	
36	Deviation in hydro turbine output	$\Delta P_{Ghi}$	
37	Deviation in output of mechanical hydraulic governor of hydro turbine	$\Delta X_{hi}$	
38	Deviation in intermediate state of hydro turbine governor	$\Delta P_{RHi}$	
39	Deviation in gas turbine output	$\Delta P_{Ggi}$	
40	Deviation in intermediate state of fuel system combustor of gas turbine	$\Delta P_{Rgi}$	
41	Deviation in intermediate state of fuel system and combustor of gas turbine	$\Delta P_{FCi}$	
42	Deviation in valve positioner of gas turbine	$\Delta P_{Vpi}$	
43	Deviation in intermediate state of speed governor of gas turbine	$\Delta X_{gi}$	
44	Deviation in total power output of $i$ th area	$\Delta P_{Gi}$	

**Table 2**  
Optimal gain matrices of AGC regulators.

Types of area interconnections	Optimal feedback gain matrix [ $\Psi^*$ ]	$J^*$
AC link only	[0.7071 –1.9090 0.1347 6.5018 –0.6386 0.4716 2.3029 1.2136 0.0785 1.0744 0.3240 0.2993 0.3821 329.4511 1.0599 –0.1606 0.0040 0.2807 0.2841 –0.1373 0.0992 0.0105 0.0009 –0.0003 1.0000 0.0000; 0.1347 1.9090 0.7071 1.0599 –0.1606 0.0040 0.2807 0.2841 –0.1373 0.0992 0.0105 0.0009 –0.0003 6.5018 –0.6386 0.4716 2.3029 1.2136 0.0785 1.0744 0.3240 0.2993 0.3821 –0.0000 1.0000;]	
AC/DC Links	[0.4297 –0.3205 0.4121 5.7144 –0.5845 0.4564 1.5574 0.9549 0.3017 0.6977 0.2718 0.2917 0.3786 298.4022 1.8473 –0.2147 0.0192 1.0263 0.5428 –0.3605 0.4758 0.0627 0.0085 0.0031 1.0000 –0.0000 –0.0032; 0.4121 0.3205 0.4297 1.8473 –0.2147 0.0192 1.0263 0.5428 –0.3605 0.4758 0.0627 0.0085 0.0031 5.7144 –0.5845 0.4564 1.5574 0.9549 0.3017 0.6977 0.2718 0.2917 0.3786 –0.0000 1.0000 0.0032;]	

economical advantages. One of the major applications of HVDC transmission is operating a DC link in parallel with an AC link interconnecting two control areas. Such type of transmission line is called asynchronous tie-line. In this paper, AGC studies have been carried out by considering interconnected power system using AC/DC tie-line between control areas in addition to only AC tie-line.

The AGC study of a two area interconnected power system with parallel AC/DC tie-lines was carried out by Ibraheem et al. with single source of power generation in each area [15–18]. It has been

shown that the dynamic performance of a two area hydro-thermal power system improves considerably for a small step load disturbance in real power of the system with AC/DC tie-line [15,16]. The better system dynamic performance is due to addition of two modes by a DC link in the dynamic model. It has also been shown that the dynamic responses of the interconnected power system with hydro areas are sluggish and degraded as compared with other area consisting of reheat thermal power plant [16]. The dynamic performance of a two area power system interconnected

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