

# Do we have the tools to plan and study IBR oscillations during interconnection?



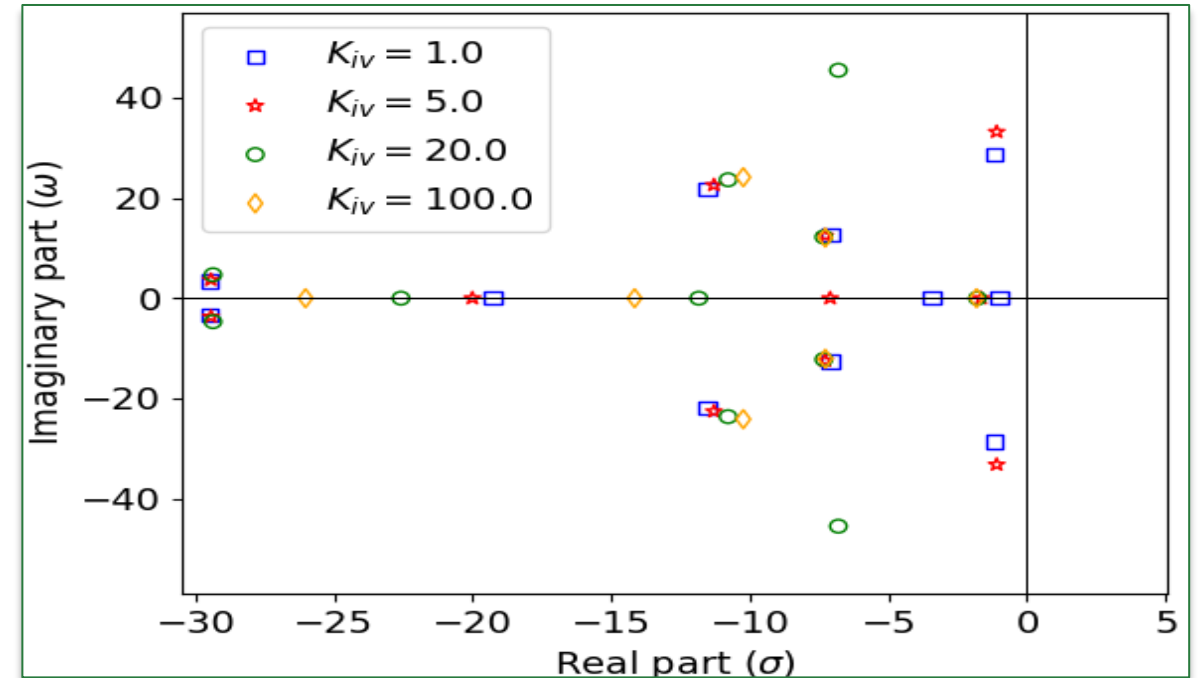
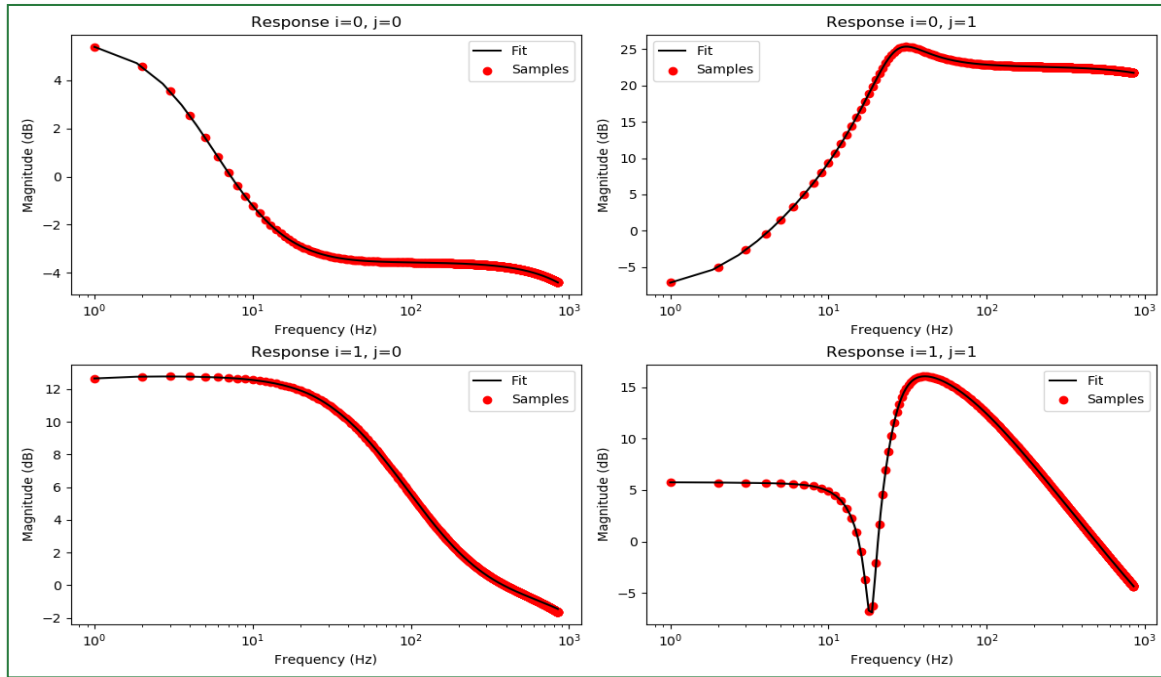
Deepak Ramasubramanian  
[dramasubramanian@epri.com](mailto:dramasubramanian@epri.com)

ESIG Spring 2024 Technical Workshop  
Tucson, AZ  
March 28, 2024

# Objectives

- Increase in inverter-based resources (IBRs) leads to higher chance of interactions in the network
  - Study and evaluation of interactions (chance of occurring and mitigation) presently requires detailed time consuming studies
- Improved screening methods are required to quickly identify regions of the network and operating conditions where control interactions could occur.
- Use of screening methods during interconnection process can be beneficial, but also requires additional data to be provided by both TP/PC and IBR OEM
- Screening methods are by definition approximate in nature, and hope to provide more conservative results

# Common approaches to evaluate oscillations



- Frequency domain evaluation
  - Example implementation ([link](#))
- Suitable for blackbox models
- Linear system analysis
  - Example implementation ([link](#))
- Insight into states participating in modes

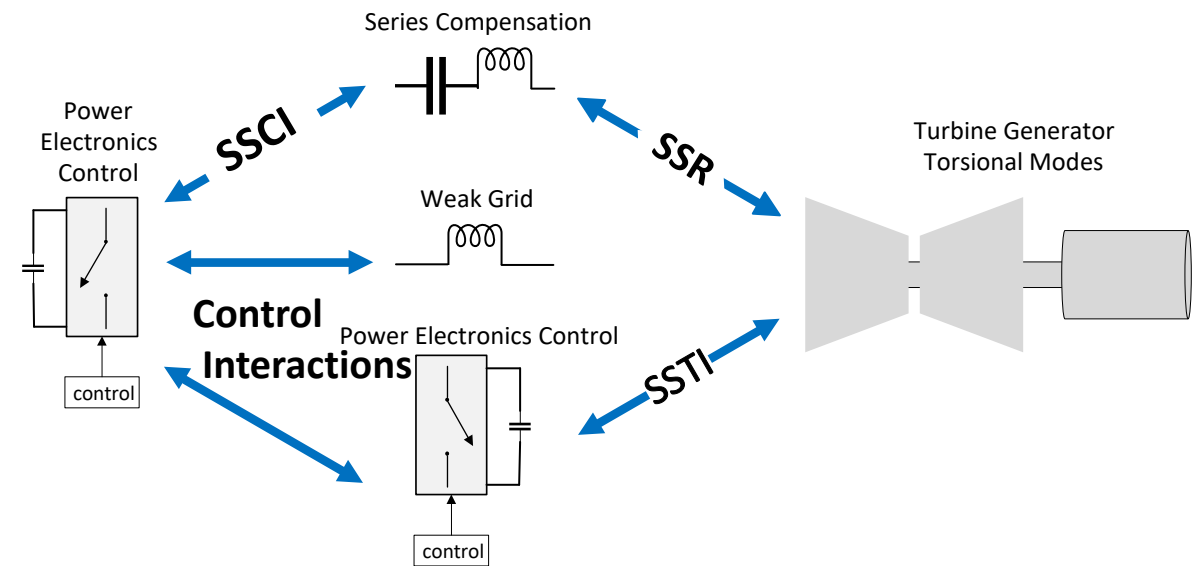
**Both approaches presently need an operating point around which stability is determined**



# Frequency spectrum analysis

# Different types of inter-element interactions within power system with IBR device

- Classified as
  - resonance-driven** (SSR, SSCI, SSTI), and
  - converter driven** (weak grid driven, PE-PE interactions)
- Oscillations are primarily driven by small-signal events/scenarios
- Blackbox model nature of IBRs makes it challenging to identify chances of oscillations occurring



Expectation of  
adverse sub-  
synchronous  
interaction



Quick screening to  
narrow down high-  
risk system  
configurations



Time-domain  
simulations to  
ascertain risks,  
consider mitigation

# Network/Device Frequency Spectrum Evaluations

## Features of the method

- Computes the resistance and reactance vs frequency of a network
- Accounts for various topological configurations
- Allows user to provide input-impedance characteristic of other IBRs in the network

## Data Requirements

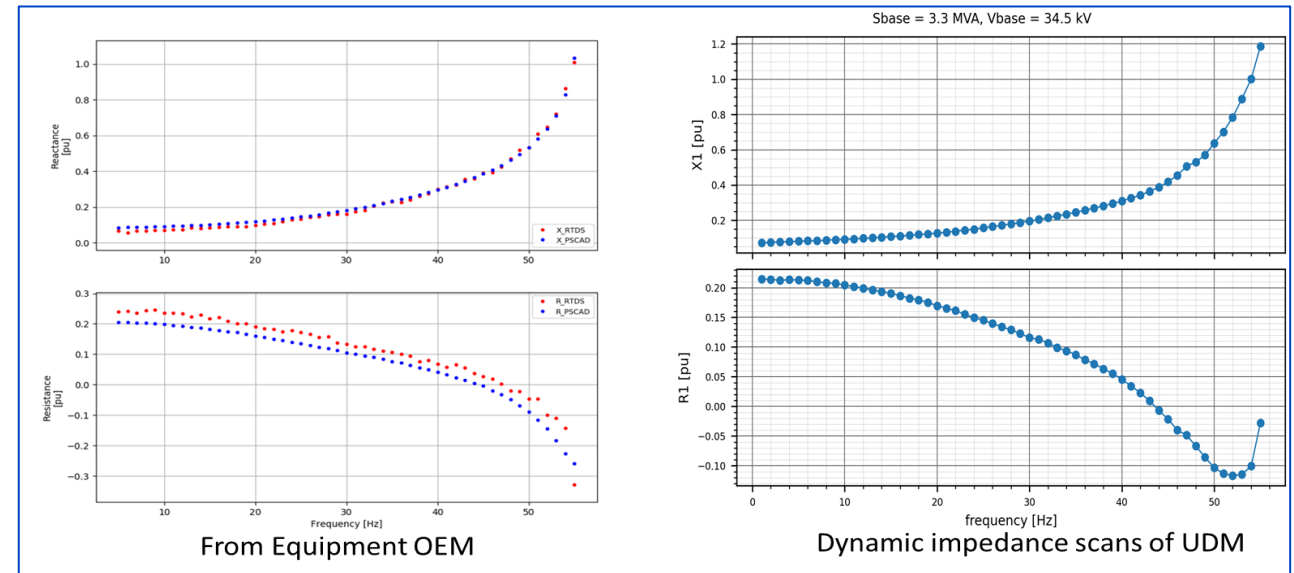
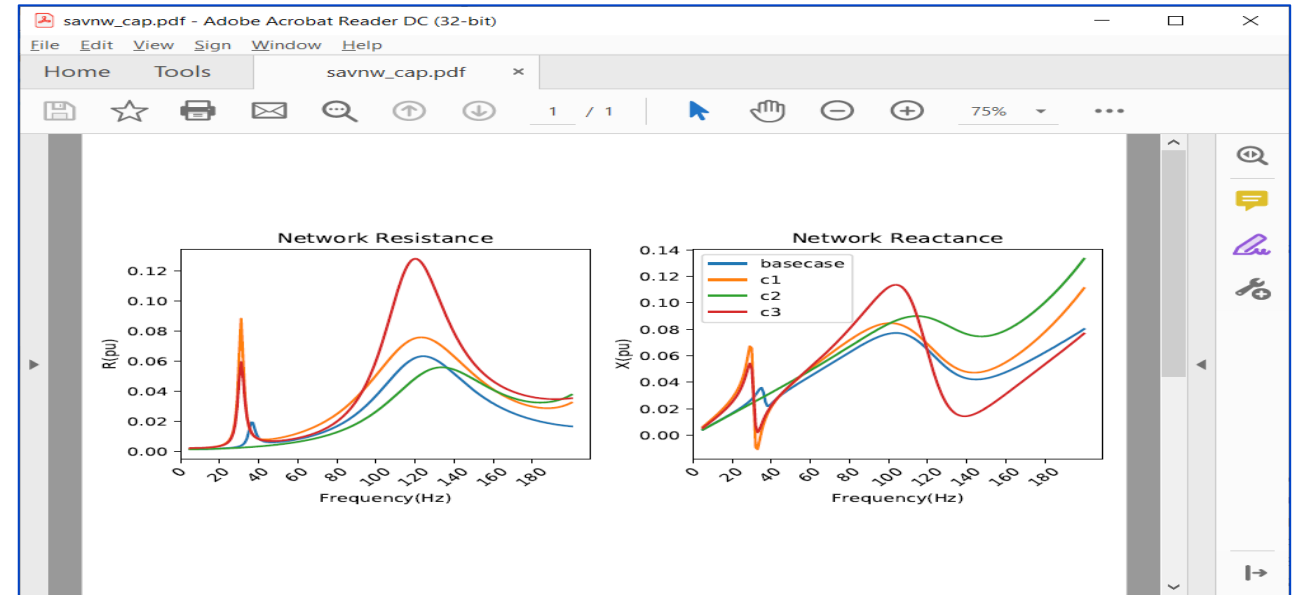
- Powerflow scenarios
- Contingencies to be evaluated
- Generator interconnection locations
- Impedance-frequency characteristic of existing IBRs

- Is there risk for SSR, SSCI, or SSTI?
- Will presence of nearby IBRs introduce control interactions?
- Will there be a need to re-tune new IBR devices?

All results should be evaluated based on contingencies, topologies, and operating point studied

# Use of the method

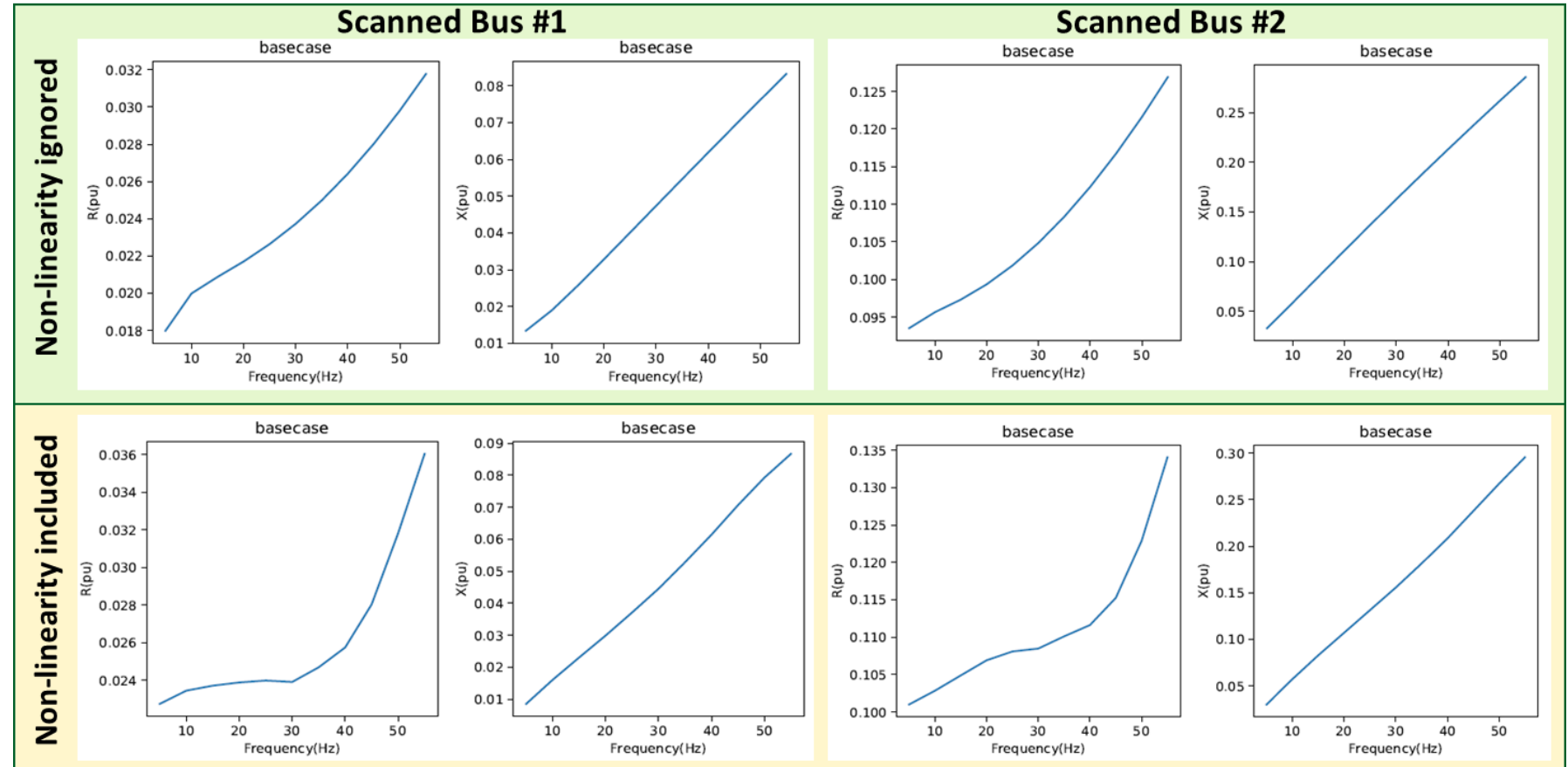
- TP/PC can perform the network side scanning to provide OEM information on impedance at POI
  - Should take into account device level impedance of other devices in the network
- OEM uses this information to tune their controls.
  - OEM subsequently provides to TP/PC impedance of their device





# Important to consider impact of neighboring IBR devices

- Difference in  $Z$  profile for the case when the non-linearity is considered versus when it is ignored
- Incorporating non-linearity of impedance from active devices is more pronounced when the scanning bus has more of these devices in the vicinity



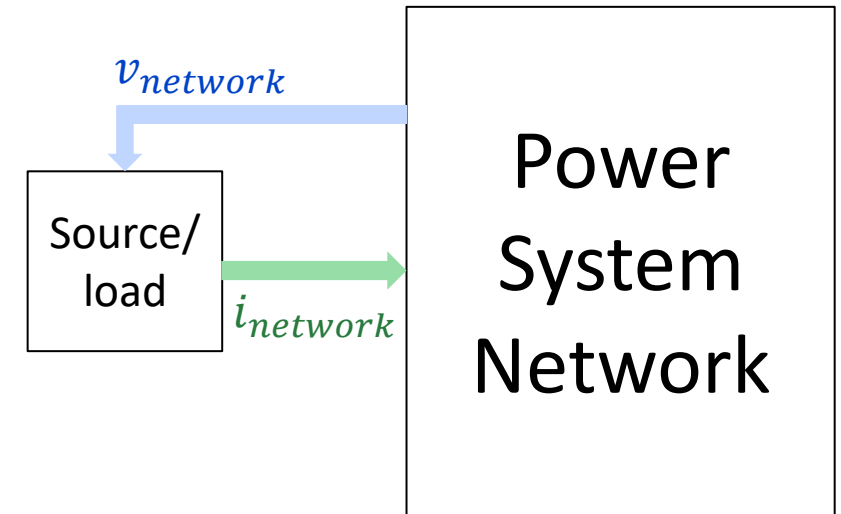




# Eigen value analysis

# How can transmission planners use this approach?

- Small signal stability of a network depends on:
  - Power flow operating point
  - Dynamic behavior of individual elements at this operating point
  - System that connects the various elements together
- For large networks, it is efficient to adopt a modular structure
  - Each individual element is characterized as a 2 input – 2 output system
  - How to define the small signal dynamic behavior of each element?



# Directly obtain **numeric** state space representation from OEM

$$[A_{device}, B_{device}, C_{device}, D_{device}] = f(v_{network}^{powerflow}, i_{network}^{powerflow}, S_{element}^{rating}, gains)$$

```
[IBR_ABCD_bus7, IBR_state_position_bus7] = IBR_control_A(Lf=0.15, Sbase=200.0, Kppl=20.0, Kipl=700.0, Kpp=0.5, Kip=20.0, R=20.0,  
Qflag=1, Vflag=0, Kpq=0.5, Kiq=20.0, Kpv=0.5, Kiv=100.0, Kpi=0.5, Kii=20.0,  
Vx0=V[7].real[0], Vy0=V[7].imag[0], Ix0=I[7].real[0], Iy0=I[7].imag[0], theta0=(cmath.phase(V[7])), no=2)
```

- It can be possible to construct a black box state space model with solution from power flow as input
- Output will be state space matrices of device
  - Need not know variable to which each state corresponds
- These can then be interconnected using network equations.
- This can also allow for seamless use of existing small signal analysis tools



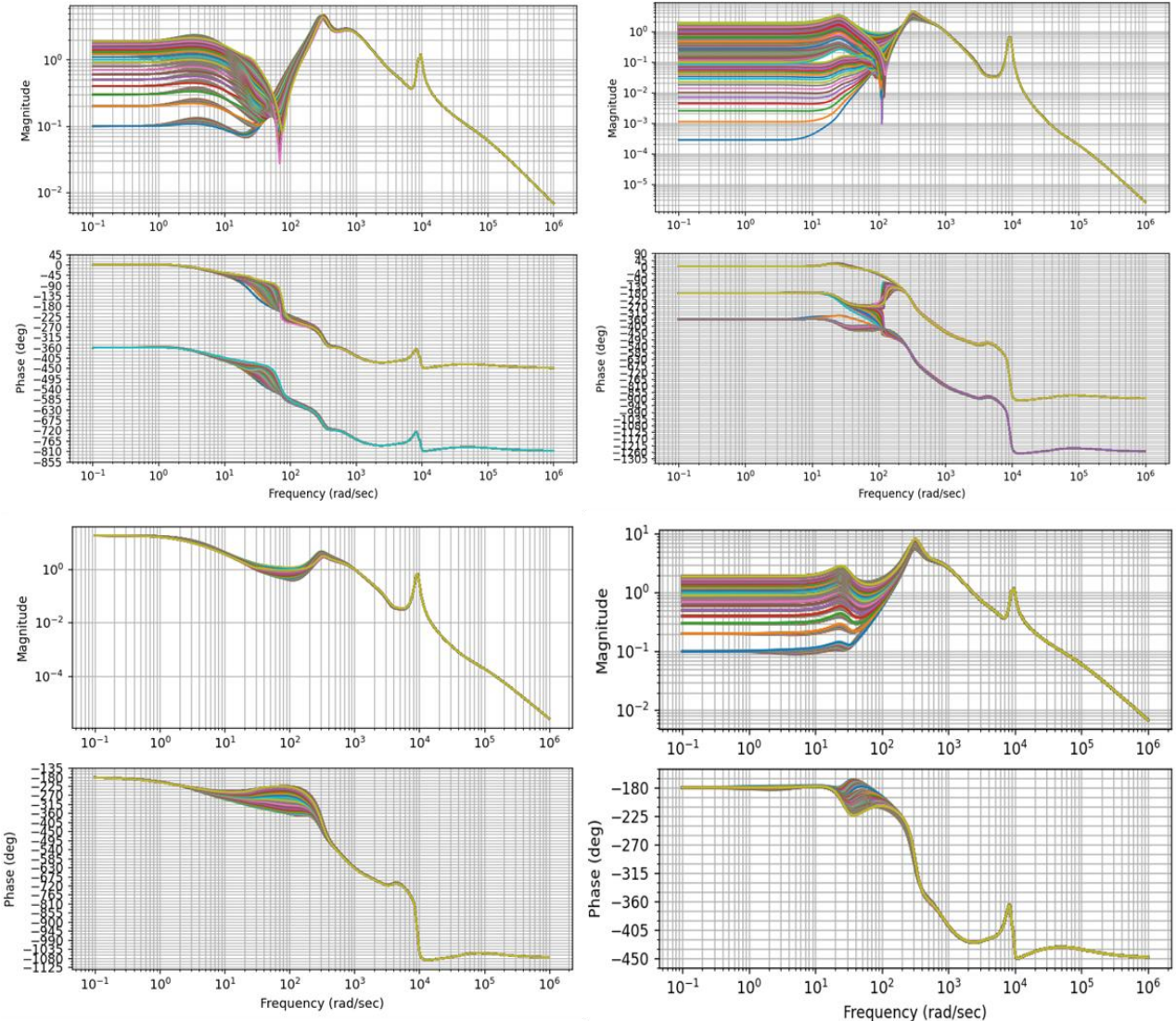
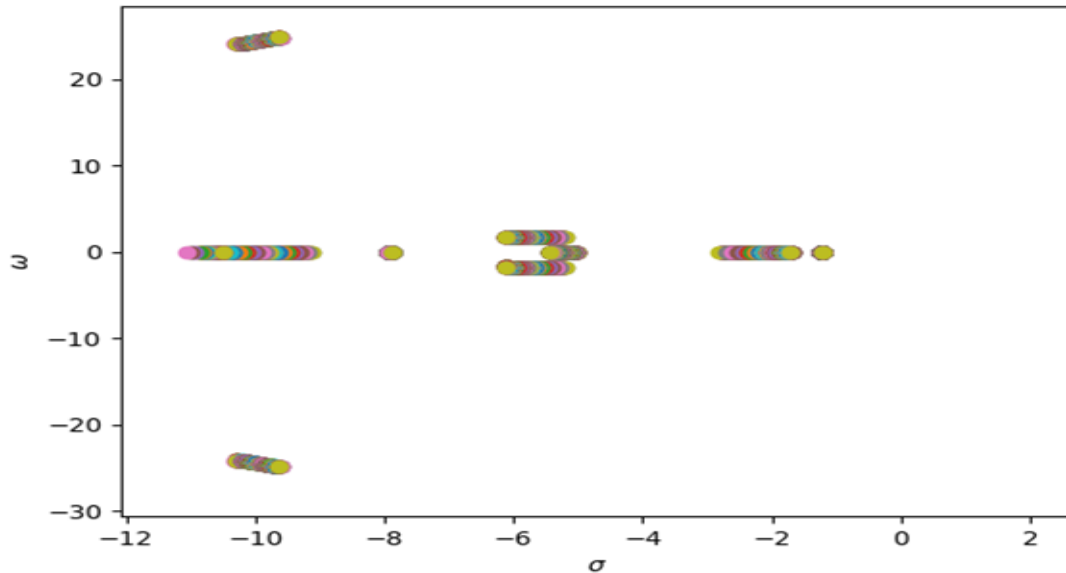
**What's the catch?**

# Expanding the concept further

- A power system's operating point changes through the day
- System stability may have to be re-evaluated at different operating points
  - Cumbersome approach given system operating conditions are continuously changing with loads, variable IBRs, planned and unplanned contingencies
- **Open research question:** *Is there a way to analytically evaluate the change in stability margin when moving across various operating points?*
  - *Additionally, can this be evaluated in real time operations?*

# Variation of IBR characteristics with operating point

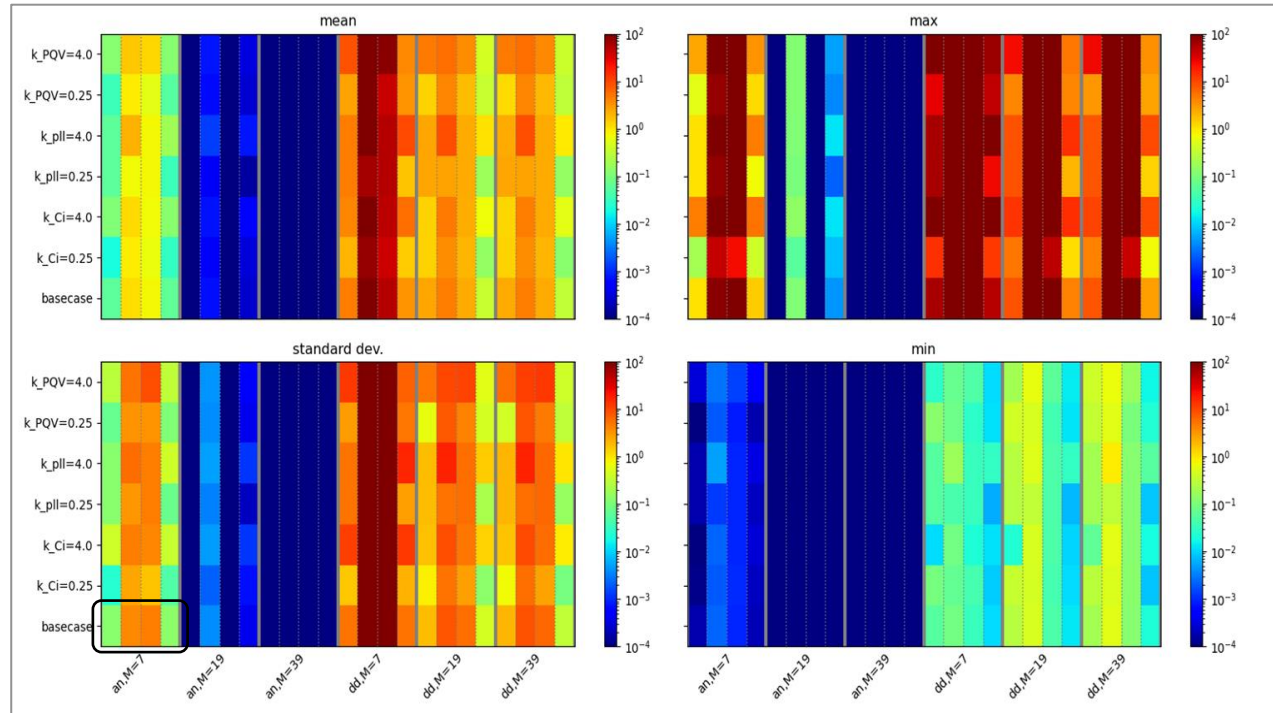
- With change in operating point ( $P$ ,  $V$ ):
  - IBR's impedance profile varies
  - Closed loop stability can be impacted



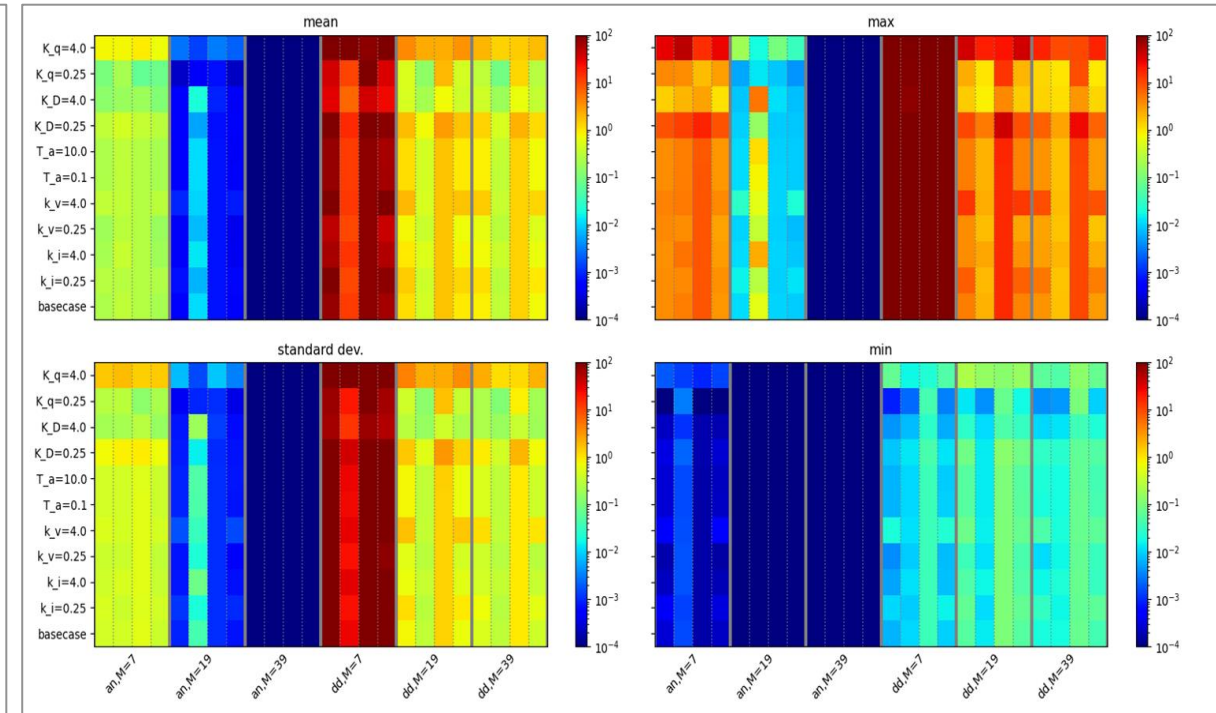
Plots created on example IBR model with variation in  $P_{ref}$  from 0.1 to 2.0 MW and variation in  $V_{ref}$  from 0.9pu to 1.1pu for a 2.5 MVA IBR



# Prediction of frequency domain characteristics at an operating point w.r.t. control parameters and structures



IBR control structure 1



IBR control structure 2

- Different performance of varying prediction methods
- Control structure seems to have an impact on operating point base frequency domain prediction accuracy



A blue-tinted image featuring a hand holding a globe. The background is a deep blue with a starry, cosmic pattern. The text "Where does this leave us?" is centered over the image in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

**Where does this leave us?**

# Do we have tools and what is needed?

- Tools (commercial and research grade) for both frequency domain evaluation and Eigen value evaluation exist and are available.
- Are we done then? No!
- Challenges that remain (non-exhaustive):
  - Handling multiple operating points in an efficient manner
  - Data sharing rules/requirements between OEM and TP/PC
  - With whom does the burden lie?
  - Using blackbox models
    - Time domain to frequency domain?
    - Linearized state space?
    - Interpreting results
  - Identification of participation in mode and assigning responsibility of mitigation
  - How much can be solved via performance requirements for interconnection request?

Contact presenter for detailed references regarding results shown in slides



TOGETHER...SHAPING THE FUTURE OF ENERGY®