



# Analytical Framework for Power System Strength

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Panel Session: Power System Strength in Electricity Systems Dominated by CIG:  
Concepts, Assessment, Challenges and Solutions

# Motivation

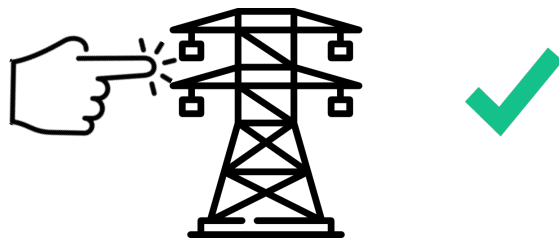
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# The concept of 'strength'

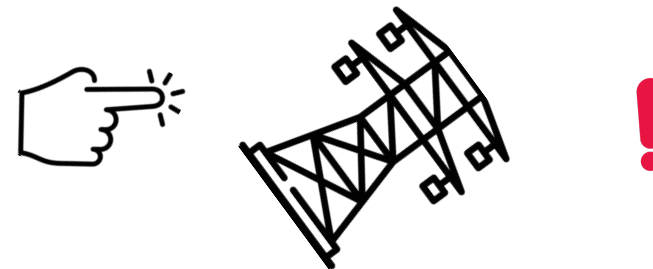
## How do we use it in power systems?

- Lack of standard definition.
- Refers to the system's resistance to perturbations.

A **stronger** system is less sensitive to perturbations.



A **weaker** system is more sensitive to perturbations.



# The concept of 'strength'

- In practice, it is typically **the voltage** the representative variable over which strength is evaluated.
- For example, the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) defines system strength as: *“the power system’s ability to resist the changes in the **magnitude, phase angle, and waveform** of the voltage at any given location under different operating conditions”*.

Open question: **How to quantify this ability?**



# Conventional strength assessment

## Is this framework still adequate?

Magnitude  
strength

Topology-based metrics:  
SCL, SCR, WSCR, CSCR, ...

Inertia-based metrics:  
Hsys, Nodal inertia, ...

Frequency  
strength

- 1) Rely on strong approximations.
- 2) Often involve equations proposed rather empirically than derived analytically.
- 3) Do not capture the effect of heterogeneous devices.
- 4) Inconsistent assessment for voltage magnitude and frequency.

# Our proposal

- I. Ponce, **F. Milano**, “Analytical Framework for Power System Strength”, submitted to the IEEE Transactions on Power Systems.

Contributions:

- 1) A novel general analytical framework to evaluate system strength in steady-state and dynamic conditions.
- 2) A systematic methodology to study the effect of diverse device models on system strength.
- 3) Definition of a novel mathematical operator, called *Delta operator*, along with some of its properties and identities.

# Mathematical Background

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# Complex Frequency (CF)

- Consider a three-phase voltage represented as a dynamic vector:

$$\bar{v} \in \mathbb{C} \mid \bar{v} = v \cos \theta + j v \sin \theta$$

- The CF of the vector is:

$$\bar{\eta} = \frac{\dot{v}}{v} + j \dot{\theta} = \rho + j \omega, \quad v \neq 0.$$

- The CF acts as a time-derivative operator:

$$\dot{\bar{v}} = \bar{v} \bar{\eta}$$



# Complex Frequency (CF)

- Relative motion with respect to a rotating reference frame:

$$\dot{\bar{v}} = \bar{v} (\bar{\eta} - j\omega_0) = \bar{v} \bar{\eta}'$$

- Second order CF:

$$\ddot{\bar{v}} = \bar{v} \left( (\bar{\eta} - j\omega_0)^2 + \dot{\bar{\eta}} \right) = \bar{v} \bar{\eta}''$$

$$\bar{\eta}'' = \sigma + j\gamma$$

$$\sigma = \rho^2 - (\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \dot{\rho}; \quad \gamma = 2\rho(\omega - \omega_0) + \dot{\omega}$$

# Delta operator ( $\Delta$ )

- Let  $f(t)$  be an algebraic variable of the set of DAEs of the system.

*Definition 1:* Delta ( $\Delta$ ) operator applied to  $f(t)$ :

$$\Delta f(t) := \lim_{\tau \rightarrow t^+} f(\tau) - \lim_{\tau \rightarrow t^-} f(\tau) = f^+ - f^-$$

*Definition 2:* The *instantaneous arithmetic mean* of  $f$ :

$$\tilde{f}(t) := \frac{f^+ + f^-}{2}.$$

*Definition 3:* The *instantaneous geometric mean* of  $f$ :

$$\hat{f}(t) := \sqrt{f^+ f^-}.$$

# Delta operator ( $\Delta$ )

- Properties:

*Property 1:*  $\Delta$  of a constant with time is null.

$$\Delta\alpha = 0.$$

*Property 2:* Linearity.

$$\Delta\{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\} = \alpha\Delta f(t) + \beta\Delta g(t).$$

*Property 3:* Multiplication rule.

$$\Delta\{f(t)g(t)\} = \Delta f(t)\tilde{g}(t) + \tilde{f}(t)\Delta g(t).$$

*Property 4:* Division rule.

$$\Delta\left\{\frac{f(t)}{g(t)}\right\} = \frac{\Delta f(t)\tilde{g}(t) - \tilde{f}(t)\Delta g(t)}{\hat{g}(t)^2}.$$

*Property 5:* Chain rule of the complex exponential

$$\Delta e^{j f(t)} = \widetilde{e^{j f(t)}}_j \frac{\tan(\Delta f(t)/2)}{1/2}.$$

# Proposed Framework

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A more general and unifying  
framework for system strength

# Preliminaries

- Strength is conceived as a property of each bus of the network. Particularly, of its voltage vector.
- It is evaluated with respect to changes in the current injected by a fictitious independent current source at the bus. **Not** restricted to infinitesimal changes; in turn applicable to large-signal events (using  $\Delta$  operator).
- It evaluates (i) how much the voltage vector is expected to jump, and (ii) how fast it will continue to deviate right after the disturbance.



# A more general framework

- We propose a formulation composed of **three categories of indicators**, depending on the order of the time derivative involved:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Zero-order:} \quad & \begin{bmatrix} \Delta v / \tilde{v} \\ 2 \tan(\Delta \theta / 2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{v i_p} & S_{v i_q} \\ S_{\theta i_p} & S_{\theta i_q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_p \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix} \\
 \text{First-order:} \quad & \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \rho \\ \Delta \omega \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{\rho i_p} & S_{\rho i_q} \\ S_{\omega i_p} & S_{\omega i_q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_p \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix} \\
 \text{Second-order:} \quad & \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \sigma \\ \Delta \gamma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{\sigma i_p} & S_{\sigma i_q} \\ S_{\gamma i_p} & S_{\gamma i_q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta i_p \\ \Delta i_q \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

*12 strength indicators*

## How to calculate the metrics?

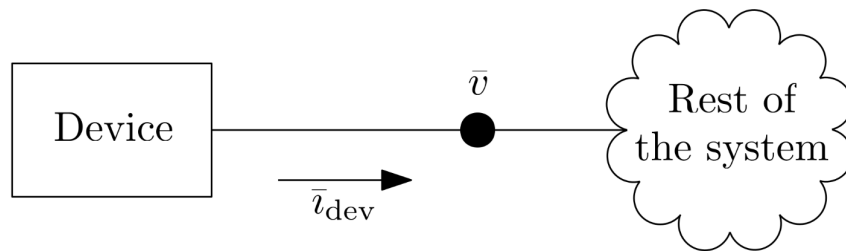
- We propose an **analytical approach** based on the dynamic model of the system.
- Therefore, the metrics depend on the parameters and variables of the system model.

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \underline{v}_{v\theta} &= \underline{\underline{S}}(p, x(t), y(t)) \Delta \underline{z}_{pq} , \\ \Delta \underline{\eta}' &= \underline{\underline{S}}'(p, x(t), y(t)) \Delta \underline{z}_{pq} , \\ \Delta \underline{\eta}'' &= \underline{\underline{S}}''(p, x(t), y(t)) \Delta \underline{z}_{pq}\end{aligned}$$

The goal is to find analytical expressions for  $\underline{\underline{S}}$ ,  $\underline{\underline{S}}'$  and  $\underline{\underline{S}}''$  .

# Effect of devices composing the grid

- The effect of the devices shunt-connected to buses is modeled as follows:



$$\Delta \underline{\underline{i}}_{\text{dev}} = \underline{\underline{A}} \Delta \underline{\underline{v}},$$

$$\Delta \underline{\underline{i}}_{\text{dev}} = \underline{\underline{A}}' \Delta \underline{\underline{v}} + \underline{\underline{B}}' \Delta \underline{\underline{\dot{v}}},$$

$$\Delta \underline{\underline{i}}_{\text{dev}} = \underline{\underline{A}}'' \Delta \underline{\underline{v}} + \underline{\underline{B}}'' \Delta \underline{\underline{\dot{v}}} + \underline{\underline{C}}'' \Delta \underline{\underline{\ddot{v}}}.$$

- Their contribution is captured through matrices:

$$\underline{\underline{A}}, \underline{\underline{A}}', \underline{\underline{A}}'', \underline{\underline{B}}', \underline{\underline{B}}'' \text{ and } \underline{\underline{C}}''$$

# Derivation

- Starting from the algebraic equations of the network voltages and current injections, an strict analytical derivation is done by applying and exploiting the properties the  $\Delta$  operator and the CF.
- The sought expressions for the strength metrics are:

Zero-order: 
$$\underline{\underline{S}} = \tilde{v}^{-1} (\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta})^{-1} \underline{\underline{Z}}_{eq} \underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta^+}$$

First-order: 
$$\underline{\underline{S}}' = \tilde{v}^{-1} \left( \underline{\underline{Z}}'_{eq} - \tilde{\eta}' \underline{\underline{Z}}_{eq} \right) \underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta^+}$$

Second-order: 
$$\underline{\underline{S}}'' = \tilde{v}^{-1} \left( \underline{\underline{Z}}''_{eq} - \tilde{\eta}'' \underline{\underline{Z}}_{eq} \right) \underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta^+}$$

where  $\underline{\underline{Z}}_{eq}$ ,  $\underline{\underline{Z}}'_{eq}$  and  $\underline{\underline{Z}}''_{eq}$

depend on device matrices:

$\underline{\underline{A}}$ ,  $\underline{\underline{A}}'$ ,  $\underline{\underline{A}}''$ ,  $\underline{\underline{B}}'$ ,  $\underline{\underline{B}}''$  and  $\underline{\underline{C}}''$

**The problem reduces to find analytical expressions for these components for specific devices.**

# Device Models Examples

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A systematic procedure to study their  
effect on system strength



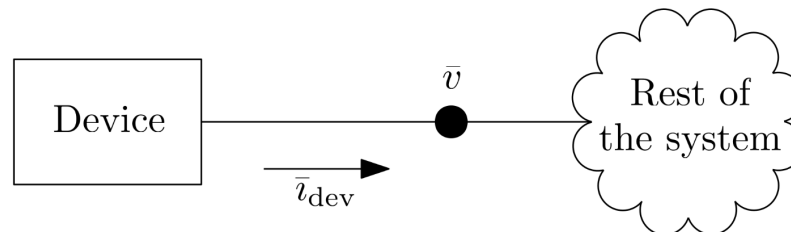
# Procedure

- Starting from the set of DAEs of the device model,
- the goal is to find  $\underline{\underline{a}}, \underline{\underline{a'}}, \underline{\underline{a''}}, \underline{\underline{b'}}, \underline{\underline{b''}}$  and  $\underline{\underline{c''}}$

Zero-order:  $\Delta \underline{\underline{i}}_{\text{dev}} = \underline{\underline{a}} \Delta \underline{\underline{v}},$

First-order:  $\Delta \underline{\underline{i}}_{\text{dev}} = \underline{\underline{a'}} \Delta \underline{\underline{v}} + \underline{\underline{b'}} \Delta \underline{\underline{\dot{v}}},$

Second-order:  $\Delta \underline{\underline{i}}_{\text{dev}} = \underline{\underline{a''}} \Delta \underline{\underline{v}} + \underline{\underline{b''}} \Delta \underline{\underline{\dot{v}}} + \underline{\underline{c''}} \Delta \underline{\underline{\ddot{v}}}.$



# Synchronous machines

- Classical model of a synchronous machine:

$$\underline{\underline{a}} = - \begin{bmatrix} r_a & -x_{1d} \\ x_{1d} & r_a \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

$$\underline{\underline{a'}} = 0; \quad \underline{\underline{b'}} = \underline{\underline{a}}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\underline{a''}} &= j \underline{\underline{a}} \underline{\underline{E}} \frac{\Omega_b}{M} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underline{\underline{E}}^* \underline{\underline{a}}, \\ \underline{\underline{b''}} &= 0; \quad \underline{\underline{c''}} = \underline{\underline{a}}. \end{aligned}$$

# Loads

- Constant-impedance load:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\underline{a}} &= \underline{\underline{b}}' = \underline{\underline{c}}'' = -\underline{\underline{z}}^{-1}, \\ \underline{\underline{a}}' &= \underline{\underline{a}}'' = \underline{\underline{b}}'' = 0.\end{aligned}$$

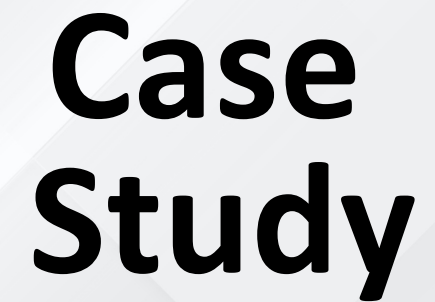
# Converters

- Standard model of a GFL converter with active and reactive power control, ideal synchronization, and a droop frequency control.

$$\underline{\underline{a}} = \underline{\underline{l}} \widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tilde{v}^{-1} (\widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}})^{-1}.$$

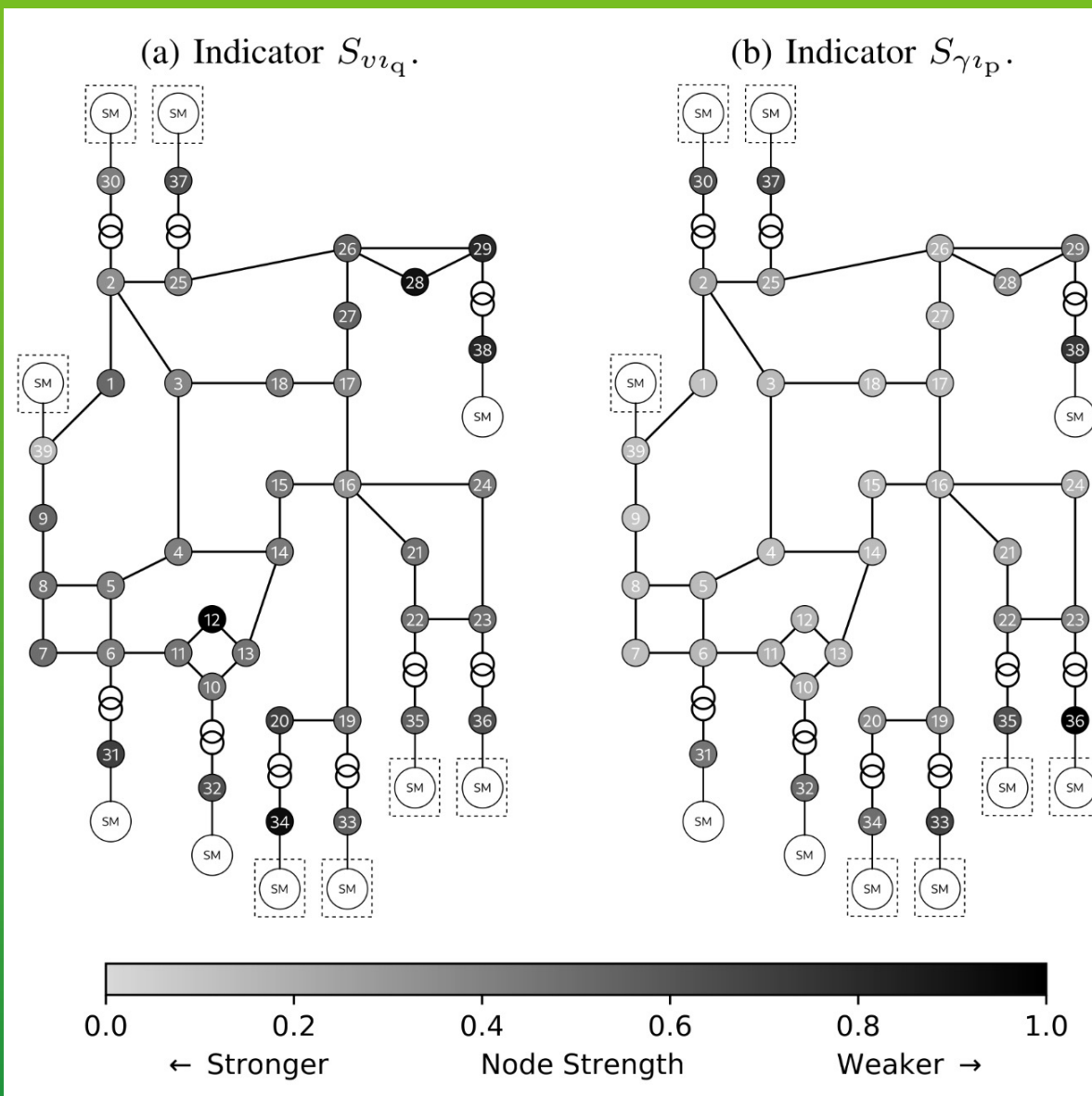
$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\underline{b}}' &= \underline{\underline{l}} \widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tilde{v}^{-1}, \\ \underline{\underline{a}}' &= \frac{1}{T} \widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \hat{v}^{-2} (\widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}})^{-1} \underline{\underline{s}}_{\text{ref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (\widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\underline{c}}'' &= \underline{\underline{b}}', \\ \underline{\underline{a}}'' &= \frac{1}{T^2} \tilde{v} \widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}} \hat{v}^{-4} \underline{\underline{l}}^{-1} \underline{\underline{s}}_{\text{ref}}^{*2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (\widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}})^{-1}, \\ \underline{\underline{b}}'' &= \frac{1}{T} \hat{v}^{-2} \widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}} \left( \frac{1}{T_f R} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \underline{\underline{s}}_{\text{ref}}^* \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) (\widetilde{\underline{\underline{e}}^{j\theta}})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$



- IEEE 39 Bus System





# Strength metrics results

- Zero-order metric in accordance with SCL.
- First-order metrics are null (CF is infinitely strong).
- Second-order metric dominated by inertia distribution.

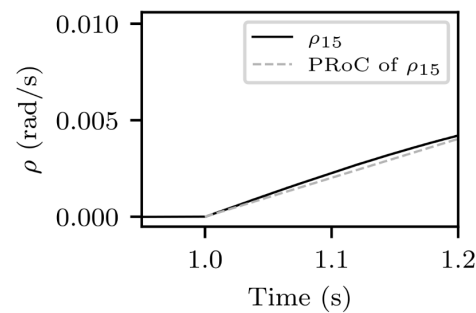
# Dynamic validation

- Given a known perturbation, we use the strength metrics to predict  $\Delta\bar{v}$ ,  $\Delta\bar{\eta}'$  and  $\Delta\bar{\eta}''$ .
- The results are compared with the actual jump of these variables observed in the trajectories after a time-domain simulation.

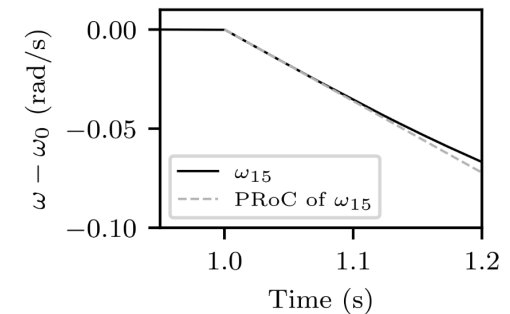
Variable	Predicted using $S'_{15}$	Read from TDS	Error
$\Delta v_{15}$ (pu)	-0.00461526	-0.00461524	-1.273e-08
$\Delta\theta_{15}$ (rad)	-0.01730211	-0.01730211	6.545e-09
$\Delta\rho_{15}$ (pu/s)	0.0	2.984e-06	-2.984e-06
$\Delta\omega_{15}$ (pu/s)	0.0	-4.067e-05	4.067e-05



(a)  $\rho_{15}$  and its PRoC.



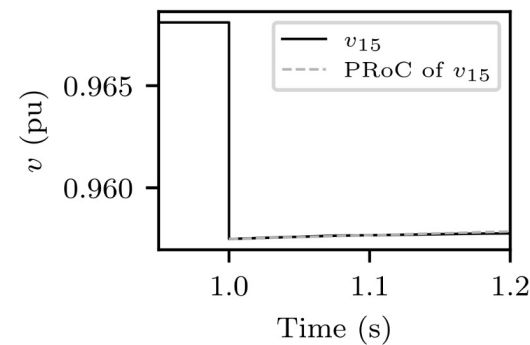
(b)  $\omega_{15}$  and its PRoC.



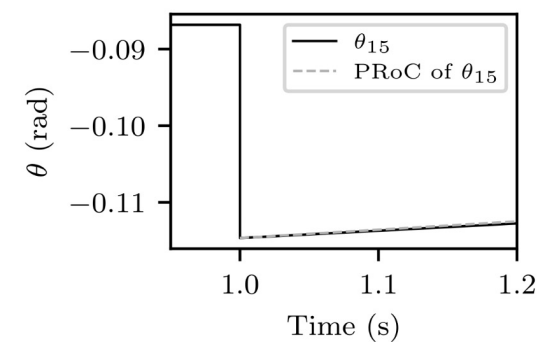
# Dynamic validation

- The system is modified replacing synchronous generation by GFLs, which introduce a first-order component to the system.
- The CF is not continuous anymore.
- The prediction remains accurate.

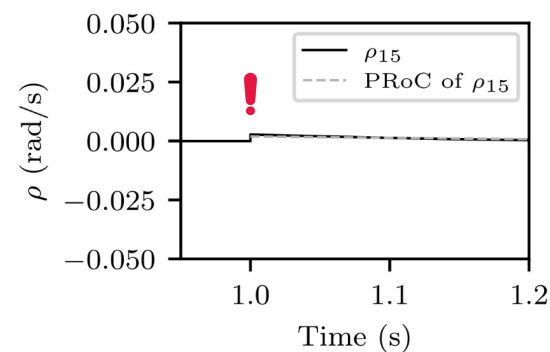
(a)  $v_{15}$  and its PRoC.



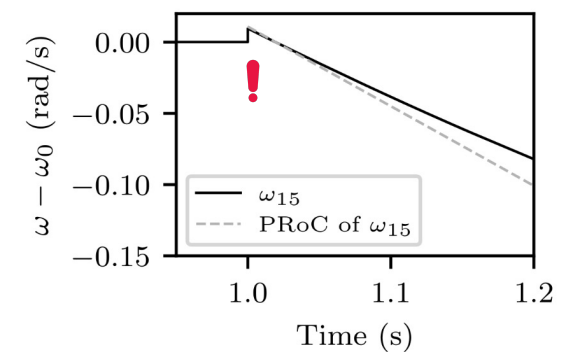
(b)  $\theta_{15}$  and its PRoC.



(c)  $\rho_{15}$  and its PRoC.



(d)  $\omega_{15}$  and its PRoC.



# Conclusions

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# Conclusions

- Theoretical foundations established for a general and unifying framework for power system strength.
- It features a set of 12 indicators organized in three dynamical orders that capture the voltage strength when subjected to current injection changes.
- Systematic way to study the impact of different devices on strength. For instance, the key parameters of SMs are the internal reactance, mostly affecting the zero-order strength, and the inertia, dominating the second-order strength.



# Conclusions

- A network composed exclusively of SMs forces the CF to be continuous.
- This is lost under presence of GFLs due to their first-order component.
- Future work will focus on applications and practical aspects of the calculation of the proposed metrics.

# Thank you

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- Questions?

