# EE 742 Chap 8: Voltage Stability

#### Loadability of a simple network

- What are the possible solutions for the network below? What are the limits (if any)?
- Static power-voltage equations:

$$P_{\rm L}(V) = VI\cos\varphi = V\frac{IX\cos\varphi}{X} = \frac{EV}{X}\sin\delta$$
(1)

$$Q_{\rm L}(V) = VI\sin\varphi = V\frac{IX\sin\varphi}{X} = \frac{EV}{X}\cos\delta - \frac{V^2}{X}.$$
 (2)

$$\left(\frac{EV}{X}\right)^2 = \left[P_{\rm L}(V)\right]^2 + \left[Q_{\rm L}(V) + \frac{V^2}{X}\right]^2.$$
(3)



# Case of ideally stiff load

 $P_{\rm L}(V) = P_{\rm n}$  and  $Q_{\rm L}(V) = Q_{\rm n}$ ,

 Substitution in (3) yields real power in terms of power factor angle:

$$p = -v^2 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + v \cos \varphi \sqrt{1 - v^2 \cos^2 \varphi},$$

• Where 
$$v = \frac{V}{E}, \quad p = \frac{P_n}{\frac{E^2}{X}}.$$

 The nose curves V(P) below show the voltage dependency on real power



#### Examples of system blackout due to voltage problems Athens, Greece, 2004

- The load was on the increase (9.39 GW) in mid-day of July 2004.
- A loss of a generator brought the system into an emergency state
- Load shedding was initiated when another generator was lost.
- See the PV nose curves below inevitable voltage collapse
  - 1 loss of first generator
  - 2 loss of second generator



### Assignment # 7

- Consider a 500 kV transmission line with total series impedance =  $8+j100\Omega$  and total shunt admittance = 0.0008 S. The line is connected to a stiff source that is fixed at the sending end (V<sub>s</sub> = 1 pu). Assume the load is stiff.
- 1) Plot the nose curves (i.e., receiving end voltage as a function of load real power for a) 0.9 power factor (lag), b) unity power factor, and c) 0.9 power factor (lead).
- Plot the source reactive power Qs as a function of receiving end voltage for a) P = 0 MW, b) P = 500 MW, c) P = 1000 MW and d) P = 1500 MW, e) 2000 MW.

## Case of ideally stiff load

 $P_{\rm L}(V) = P_{\rm n}$  and  $Q_{\rm L}(V) = Q_{\rm n}$ ,

- Different values of voltage V correspond to different circles in the (P<sub>n</sub>, Q<sub>n</sub>) plane. The analytical expression of the envelope which encloses all solutions of the network equation(3) is given by:
  - Inside envelope: two solutions
  - On the envelope: one solution
  - Outside the envelope: no solution

$$Q_{\rm n} = \frac{E^2}{4X} - \frac{P_{\rm n}^2}{\frac{E^2}{X}},$$



# Influence of load characteristics

 Note the infinite solution space for the case where both P and Q vary quadratically with voltage. Herein,

$$P_{\rm L}(V) = P_{\rm n} \left(\frac{V}{V_{\rm n}}\right)^2 = \frac{P_{\rm n}}{V_{\rm n}^2} V^2 = G_{\rm n} V^2,$$
$$Q_{\rm L}(V) = Q_{\rm n} \left(\frac{V}{V_{\rm n}}\right)^2 = \frac{Q_{\rm n}}{V_{\rm n}^2} V^2 = B_{\rm n} V^2,$$

 This is the case of a constant admittance (or impedance) load where there is always a solution (obtained by voltage division).



# Sample of measured P(V) and Q(V) curves on a distribution feeder



# **Stability Criteria**

- Voltage stability problem: In case of two solutions with respect to the voltage, which one corresponds to a stable equilibrium point? What are the conditions for stability? Several types of criterion are considered.
- *d*Δ*Q*/*dV Criterion* (idea of separating the load and source reactive powers)
  - Reactive power expression in terms of voltage and real power from the network equation (3)

$$Q_{\rm S}(V) = \sqrt{\left[\frac{EV}{X}\right]^2 - \left[P_{\rm L}(V)\right]^2 - \frac{V^2}{X}}.$$



# Voltage Stability – $d\Delta Q/dV$ criterion

- The left figure below shows how the source reactive power varies with voltage at different levels or real power.
- Now the load reactive power curve can be drown on the same figure as shown below. The two reactive powers must be equal to each other at equilibrium.
  - Recall that access reactive power tends to raise the voltage (Chap. 3).
  - A small voltage disturbance shows that point s is stable while u is unstable.



#### Voltage Stability – *dE/dV* criterion

• In here, the system equivalent emf E is expressed in terms of V:

$$E(V) = \sqrt{\left(V + \frac{Q_{\rm L}(V)X}{V}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{P_{\rm L}(V)X}{V}\right)^2},$$

Stability criterion:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}E}{\mathrm{d}V} > 0.$$

• Not convenient when using load flow.



#### Voltage Stability – $dQ_G/dQ_L$ criterion

- The generated reactive power  $Q_G$  includes the network reactive power demand (I<sup>2</sup>X):  $Q_L(V) = -\frac{Q_G^2(V)}{\frac{E^2}{V}} + Q_G(V) - \frac{P_L^2(V)}{\frac{E^2}{V}}.$
- For constant real power, the above equation is a parabola (see fig.)
- Point s is a stable equilibrium point (as generation follows load), while point u is and unstable point.
- Stability criterion:
- Convenient with power flow.



 $E^2$ 

(a)

 $Q_{\rm L}$ 

 $\frac{E^2}{2X}$ 

 $Q_{\rm G}$ 

 $\Delta Q_{\rm L}$ 

(b)

 $Q_{\rm L}$ 

## **Critical load demand and voltage collapse**

- The figure below shows a stable state (left), a critical state (center) and a state that does not have an equilibrium point (left).
- An increase in load (both P & Q), lowers the curve Q<sub>s</sub> and raises curve Q<sub>L</sub>. This brings the stable equilibrium point s closer to the critical point u. Increasing the load beyond this point results in voltage collapse (where the reactive power demand is larger than the supply).



# Avoiding voltage instability

- It is important to stay away from the critical value of the voltage as far as possible. However, such a point is difficult to determine.
- An iterative formula can be used under the following assumptions:
  - (a) The power factor is maintained constant

$$\frac{P_{\mathrm{n}}(t)}{P_{0}} = \frac{Q_{\mathrm{n}}(t)}{Q_{0}} = \xi,$$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\overline{\beta_1}} \operatorname{Scr} = \overline{\beta_1 X}$ 

(b) The active and reactive powers vary with the voltage as follows:

$$\frac{Q_{\rm L}}{Q_{\rm n}} = a_2 \left(\frac{V}{V_{\rm n}}\right)^2 - a_1 \left(\frac{V}{V_{\rm n}}\right) + a_0, \quad \frac{P_{\rm L}}{P_{\rm n}} = b_1 \left(\frac{V}{V_{\rm n}}\right),$$

• Then the critical voltage and critical load can be found iteratively by

$$\xi_{\rm cr} = \frac{1}{\frac{\alpha_0 X}{V_{\rm cr}^2} - \alpha_2 X}. \quad V_{\rm cr} = \frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{E}{\beta_1 X}\right)^2 - \xi_{\rm cr}^2 + \frac{\alpha_1}{\beta_1} \xi_{\rm cr}}}{2^{\alpha_2 \xi} - 1 - 2}.$$

• See Example 1 (pp. 313)

### Effect of line outage and load characteristic

- Recall that the reactive power curve depends on the system impedance and real power characteristic.
- A network outage may cause voltage stability problems as this lowers Qs (see Ex. 2, p. 315)
- The variation of real power with voltage may improve voltage stability (see Ex. 3, p. 315)
- Constant impedance loads are always stable.





#### Voltage stability assessment through load flow

- Voltage stability of a network with multiple generators and many composite loads is more complicated.
- Recall the power flow equations (Chap. 3)

$$P_i = V_i^2 Y_{ii} \cos \theta_{ii} + \sum_{j=1; j \neq i}^N V_i V_j Y_{ij} \cos(\delta_i - \delta_j - \theta_{ij})$$
$$Q_i = -V_i^2 Y_{ii} \sin \theta_{ii} + \sum_{j=1}^N V_i V_j Y_{ij} \sin(\delta_i - \delta_j - \theta_{ij})$$

 $j=1; j\neq i$ 

Linearization results in

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta P \\ \vdots \\ \Delta Q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H & M \\ \vdots \\ N & K \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \delta \\ \vdots \\ \Delta V \end{bmatrix}$$
  
det  $J = \det \begin{bmatrix} H & M \\ M \\ \vdots \\ M & M \end{bmatrix} = 0,$ 

- Critical demand occurs when
- $\rightarrow$  monitor the determinant of the Jacobian matrix when running numerous load flows with increased loading.

#### **Static Analysis – Voltage stability indices**

- A number of voltage stability indices can be used:
- One is based on the classical dQ/dV criterion (hard to determine)

$$k_V = \frac{V_{\rm s} - V_{\rm x}}{V_{\rm s}}$$
, where  $\left. \frac{\mathrm{d}(Q_{\rm S} - Q_{\rm L})}{\mathrm{d}V} \right|_{V = V_{\rm x}} = 0.$ 

• Another proximity index is (moderately convenient to use)

$$k_{\Delta Q} = \frac{\mathrm{d}(Q_{\mathrm{S}} - Q_{\mathrm{L}})}{\mathrm{d}V} \frac{V_{\mathrm{s}}}{Q_{\mathrm{s}}}$$

• Yet another proximity index is (most convenient to use)

$$k_Q = \frac{\mathrm{d}Q_\mathrm{G}}{\mathrm{d}Q_\mathrm{L}}.$$

Under light load,  $k_Q \approx 1$ , near the critical load,  $k_Q \rightarrow$  infinity.

#### **Dynamic Analysis**

- The static load-voltage we have seen so far can only approximate the real system behavior under slow voltage variations.
- In practice, the above is a process that is influenced by load dynamics, control and protection equipment – more complicated.



#### Examples of power system blackout USA/Canada, 2003

- Cascaded tripping of transmission lines left 50 million customers without power.
- Each trip caused overload and lower voltages on other lines.



# **Prevention of voltage collapse**

- Action is required at the network planning, operational and monitoring and control stages.
- During planning, reliability criteria must be satisfied for all possible contingencies on at least N-1 type (with maximum voltage drop not exceeded and sufficiently large stability margins)
- During operation and real-time monitoring and control, the desired voltage profile should be continuously maintained, In addition, adequate amounts of real and reactive power reserves at the generators should be maintained.
- Additional defenses include:
  - Emergency back-up reactive power reserve
  - Emergency increase in reactive power generation at the expense of reduction in real power
  - Reduction in real power demand by using OLTC transformers.
  - Under-voltage load shedding .