<u>Control</u> and <u>Estimation</u> Techniques for the Safe Operation of Critical DC Microgrids

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Background

Education

- PhD, Electrical Engineering, The Ohio State University, 2015
- BS, Engineering, University of Tennessee at Martin, 2010

Professional Experience

- Research Engineer, University of Dayton Research Institute, 2015-2016
- Assistant Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, 2016-2018
- Assistant Professor, University at Buffalo, 2018present

Collaborators:

- o Dr. Xiu Yao, Dr. Jin Wang, Dr. Wei Zhang
- o Students: Kaushik Gajula, Lalit Marepalli





Outline

o Introduction and Motivation

• Stability Analysis and Control Techniques

- ✓ Constant power loads
- ✓ Analysis of large dc networks

• Fault Types and Estimation Strategies

- ✓ Series dc arc faults
- ✓ Continuous time parameter estimation techniques
- ✓ Discrete time parameter estimation techniques

• Summary



Clean Energy and Electrification

- The rise and adoption of renewables and clean energy has been enabled in part by:
 - Power electronics
 - Electric machines
 - Control theory
 - o **Communication**
 - 0
- DC Microgrids are primarily used nowadays in transportation and mobile networks



http://www.dvidshub.net/image/935698/aerialrefueling-f-35-lightning-ii-joint-strike-fighters-eglin-afbfla#.UZyEMrVU8QY



https://insideevs.com/features/343599/2021electric-vehicles-the-future-generation-of-evs/



https://www.carolinacountry.com/department s/more-power-to-you/the-grid-will-connect-usto-our-energy-future



Modern DC Microgrids

- Electric Vehicles (EV)
 - Power electronics, electric motors, electronic loads
 - o DC bus voltage: 200-800 Vdc

(More) Electric Aircraft

- Increased power demand (up to MW), complexity
- Weight, size, constraints
- DC bus voltage: 270 Vdc, +/- 270 Vdc

Electric Ships

- High power, complex networks
- Variety of energy sources
- DC bus voltage: ~1000 Vdc
- Others: spacecraft, mobile networks (army), HVDC/MTDC, etc.



and distribution system archite vehicle." U.S. Patent No. 7,439

https://defense-update.com/20160522_zumwalt-4.html

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DC Microgrid Operation – Time Constants

- The operation of dc microgrids can be decomposed into several aspects based on their time constants
- At the faster level, power electronics control and fault detection/localization are fundamental for safe operation
- At slower level, optimization of energy sources and planning is necessary









L. Herrera, et al, "Hierarchical Power Management of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles" Power Sources Conference, 2018.

DC Microgrid Challenges - Stability

- Sources and loads interfaced through power electronics
 - **Source:** fast dc bus voltage regulation
 - Load: fast output (V/I) regulation constant power load
- Constant power loads exhibit dynamic negative resistance
 - Stability analysis
 - \circ Controller design
 - Network level analysis





DC Microgrid Challenges – Fault Detection

- Series dc arc faults high impedance faults
 - Caused by loose connections, age wires, etc.
 - High temperature arcing channel
 - Difficult to detect
- Low impedance parallel faults (high energy capacitive discharge)
- Faults within the source/load itself (power electronics, motors, etc/)



Fire accident caused by dc arc in a PV plant Source: <u>energy.sandia.gov</u>



Aging wires on airplane Source: <u>www.iasa.com.au</u>





Arcing event of a crashed Volt Source: <u>en.wikipedia.org</u>



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Constant Power Load Behavior

Most active power loads are interfaced to the network with EMI filters



Why is the system unstable?

Previous Studies

- Much of the results presented in literature can be characterized as
 - Frequency domain methods
 - Study the interaction of the transfer functions of the converters $|Z_{\text{source}}(\omega)| |Y_{\text{load}}(\omega)| < 1, \forall \omega$
 - Infinity norms, singular value, etc.
 - Guarantees local stability only

• Time domain methods

- Considers the nonlinear system
- Control methods based on feedback linearization, Lyapunov functions, etc.
- Genetic algorithms, Mixed Lyapunov Functions, Takagi-Sugeno Fuzzy Models
- Most methods study small dc microgrids
- Computation of stability margins is difficult for large number of loads





Stability Analysis of Nonlinear Systems

• Consider a nonlinear dynamical system of the form

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u, d)$$

where u is the input, d is disturbance

• Let $u = d = 0 \implies \dot{x} = f(x)$, and x^* be an equilibrium point $(f(x^*) = 0)$



• The eq. point $x^* = 0$ is globally asymptotically stable if there exists a radially unbounded function $V(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ such that:

$$V(x) > 0$$
, and $\dot{V}(x) = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \cdot f(x) < 0 \quad \forall x \neq 0$

• What are good/common functions to test as V(x)?

Quadratic Lyapunov Functions and Linear Systems

- In the case of a closed loop or unforced **linear systems**: $\dot{x} = Ax$
- A quadratic Lyapunov function can be used to test for stability:

$$V(x) = P_{11}x_1^2 + 2P_{12}x_1x_2 + \dots + P_{nn}x_n^2 \qquad P = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & \dots & P_{1n} \\ P_{12} & P_{22} & \dots & P_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P_{1n} & P_{2n} & \dots & P_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \end{pmatrix}^T$$

where P is a symmetric $n \times n$ matrix

- How can we show V(x) is positive definite? $V(x) = x^T P x > 0 \iff P \succ 0$ (P has only positive eigenvalues)
- What about $\dot{V}(x)$? $\dot{V}(x) = x^T (A^T P + P A) x < 0 \iff A^T P + P A \prec 0$

These are Linear Matrix Inequalities (LMI):
$$\begin{cases} P \succ 0 \\ A^T P + PA \prec 0 \end{cases}$$

Gain Optimization for Linear Systems

• It is possible to expand the previous analysis to optimize controller gains:

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu, \quad u = Kx \quad \Rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A_{cl}x} \quad \text{(closed loop system)}$$

• Stability of the closed loop system amounts to:

$$\begin{cases} P \succ 0\\ A_{cl}^T P + P A_{cl} \prec 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} P \succ 0\\ A^T P + P A + K^T B^T P + P B K \prec 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} Y \succ 0\\ Y A^T + A Y + L^T B^T + B L \prec -\gamma Y \end{cases}$$

where $K = LY^{-1}$, $Y = P^{-1}$, $\gamma > 0$ (tuning parameter)

• Example for a buck converter:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} i_L \\ v_C \\ e_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{-1}{L} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{C} & \frac{-1}{RC} & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i_L \\ v_C \\ e_i \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{L} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} u, \quad u = dV_{dc}$$

$$\overset{\$ \text{ Build the basic matrices first}}{A = [0 - 1/L \ 0; \ 1/C \ -1/(R^*C) \ 0; \ 0}$$





Analysis of Constant Power Loads in DC Networks

• Stability issues of a single CPL:



Region of Attraction

- A difference of 5A in the initial inductor current of the inductor caused it to go unstable
- Is it possible to find a bound on the maximum tolerance any microgrid can sustain?
 - We can estimate the *"Region of Attraction (ROA)"*







System Parameters

$$r = 1.1 \ \Omega \qquad V_{in} = 200 \ V$$
$$L = 39.5 \ \text{mH} \qquad P_0 = 300 \ \text{W}$$
$$C = 500 \ \mu\text{F} \qquad x_{10} = 1.5 \ \text{A}$$
$$x_{20} = 198.34 \ \text{V}$$

Proposed Stability Analysis Technique

Formulated the stability problem using Quadratic Lyapunov functions

Solution is the bounding parameter α = 0.014 and the matrix P



The parameter α gives a measure of robustness for the circuit – easy to expand for larger systems

Stability Analysis for Larger DC Microgrids

 The proposed method considers the following state space characterization of the dc microgrid:

$$\dot{x} = Ax + B_{\rm es}i_{\rm es} + B_s V_{\rm dc} + D \overbrace{h(x)}^{\rm CPLs}$$
$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ i_{\rm es} \in \mathbb{R}, \ V_{\rm dc} \in \mathbb{R}, \ h(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^Q$$

• We can similarly bound the CPLs' nonlinear terms:

$$h^{T}(x)h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{Q} h_{j}^{T}h_{j} \leq \frac{1}{\gamma}\tilde{x}^{T}H^{T}H\tilde{x}$$

$$\min \gamma$$
subject to:

$$Y \succ 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} AY + YA^{T} & D & YH^{T} \\ D^{T} & -I & 0 \\ HY & 0 & -\gamma I \end{pmatrix} \prec 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\kappa_{L}I & L^{T} \\ L & -I \end{pmatrix} \prec 0, \quad \begin{pmatrix} Y & I \\ I & \kappa_{Y}I \end{pmatrix} \succ 0$$

$$\gamma - \frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}^{2}} < 0$$
With Control $i_{es} = K\tilde{x}, \ K = LY^{-1}$

[1] L. Herrera, W. Zhang, and J. Wang, "Stability analysis and controller design of dc microgrids with constant power loads," *IEEE Trans. On Smart Grid*, vol. 8, no. 2, pp. 881-888, Mar. 2017.



Controller Implementation and Results

 Tested the proposed controller using simulation, considering a disturbance in the main dc bus



The system is stable even for severe disturbances in the ac bus voitage

[1] L. Herrera, W. Zhang, and J. Wang, "Stability analysis and controller design of dc microgrids with constant power loads," *IEEE Trans. On Smart Grid*, vol. 8, no. 2, pp. 881-888, Mar. 2017.

What about DC Microgrids with Multiple Sources?

- We can consider the power system as a graph with three kinds of nodes:
 - \circ Generator/source nodes, \mathcal{N}_G
 - \circ Load nodes, \mathcal{N}_L
 - \circ Interior nodes, \mathcal{N}_I
- Due to the relatively short distances, line are considered resistive
- Graph Laplacian = Admittance matrix





What about DC Microgrids with Multiple Sources?

- Verification of the proposed dynamic model for the dc microgrid
- Detailed simulation results were obtained using Matlab Simpower systems







Droop Control – No Communication

Error in current sharing can be high with only droop control

$$\dot{x} = (A + B_b \tilde{Y}C)x + Bu + Dh(x, P)$$

Voltage Response

$$u = -K_{\text{droop}} i_g$$
$$K_{\text{droop}} \triangleq \text{diag} \left(K_{\alpha_1}, ..., K_{\alpha_{n_G}} \right)$$



Dynamic Consensus + Gain Optimization

A connected communication network is needed to achieve consensus (zero error)



[1] L. Herrera, B. Palmer, X. Yao, and B. Tsao, "Controller design of dc microgrids with multiple sources and constant power loads," presented at IEEE Energy Conversion Congress and Expo. (ECCE), 2017 23

Key Takeaways – Control of DC Microgrids

- The wide use of power electronics at the load side can have detrimental effects on the network stability
- If the loads are controlled with very high bandwidth, they can behave as Constant Power Loads
- Important to ensure the network is stable and has good stability margins
- Using quadratic Lyapunov functions, a SDP can be used to compute the region of attraction
- Similar SDP can be used to optimize gains to enlarge the stability margins



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DC Series Arc Faults – High Impedance Fault

- Series dc arc fault is a high impedance fault which occurs in series with a line
- Typically caused by loose connections, chafed wires, etc.
- Due to the high impedance/series connection, this type of fault can be difficult to detect





Series High Impedance Faults in DC Microgrids

- The high noise produced by series arc in a line can travel to adjacent line sections
- Example of simulation and experimental tests







Goal: <u>detect</u> and <u>localize</u> faulted line

[1] X. Yao, "Study on dc arc faults in ring-bus dc microgrids with constant power loads," IEEE ECCE, 2016

Fault Localization within Distribution Node

- Consider a distribution node with multiple active loads in parallel
- Main idea/goal is to be able to detect/localize the fault to avoid multiple load interruption
- Proposed approach: line/filter parameter estimation $\theta = (r_1, L_1)^T$



Sensor Placement

• Consider the following sensor placement for a line:



• Why is parameter identification needed if we can simply $r \approx \frac{V_{\rm in} - V_{\rm out}}{I}$?

During load transients, the current may oscillate This will affect the r magnitude and settling time



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Line/Load Regression Form

• Consider the following line equation:

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = -\frac{r}{L}I + \frac{1}{L}\left(V_{\rm in} - V_{\rm out}\right)$$



• Which can be translated into frequency domain:

$$y(s) = \frac{\frac{1}{L}}{s + \frac{r}{L}}\tilde{u}(s) \longrightarrow sy(s) = \begin{pmatrix} b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{u}(s) \\ -y(s) \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } b \triangleq \frac{1}{L}, \ a \triangleq \frac{r}{L}$$
$$z = \theta^{*T}\phi$$
The parameters to be identified are defined in $\theta^* = \begin{pmatrix} b & a \end{pmatrix}^T$

 $\circ \quad z = {\theta^*}^T \phi \text{ is of linear regression form}$

0

• Can use the following estimation model: $\hat{z} = \theta^T \phi$ and $e = z - \hat{z}$

• **Challenge:** The output z(s) = sy(s) needs a derivative, i.e. $z(t) = \frac{dI}{dt}$

Gradient Descent Algorithm

• Multiply both sides by a filter H(s):

$$sH(s)y(s) = \begin{pmatrix} b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} H(s)\tilde{u}(s) \\ -H(s)y(s) \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow z = \theta^{*T}\phi$$

where $b \triangleq \frac{1}{L}, \ a \triangleq \frac{r}{L}$



and the same estimator: $\hat{z} = \theta^T \phi$



- Defined a normalized error: $e = \frac{z \hat{z}}{m^2} = \frac{z \theta^T \phi}{m^2}, \quad m^2 = 1 + \phi^T P \phi, P \succeq 0$ and a cost function $J = \frac{e^2 m^2}{2} \Rightarrow \min_{\theta} J(\theta)$
- A continuous time gradient descent algorithm can be used to obtain estimate:

$$\dot{\theta} = -\Gamma \nabla_{\theta} J = \Gamma e \phi,$$

Performance of the Gradient Descent Algorithm



- 1. Gradient descent algorithm is not affected by the step change and converges faster
- 2. However, estimated values oscillate significantly at the beginning

Extension to Second Order System

The techniques can be extended to second order systems where only two sensors are needed

 $+V_{\rm in}$

In this case, the system is of the form:

$$y(s) = \frac{\frac{1}{L}s + \frac{1}{CLR_L}}{s^2 + \frac{CR_Lr + L}{CLR_L}s + \frac{r + R_L}{CLR_L}}u(s) \quad .$$

Which can similarly be placed in linear regression with filtering:

$$s^{2}H(s)y(s) = \begin{pmatrix} b_{1} & b_{0} & a_{1} & a_{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} sH(s)u(s) \\ H(s)u(s) \\ -sH(s)y(s) \\ -H(s)y(s) \end{pmatrix} \quad \Leftrightarrow \qquad z(s) = (\theta^{*})^{T}\phi$$

 Challenges: Design of the filter H(s) and the need for more frequencies (persistent excitation)

Simulation Results of Series Arc in Distribution Node

Distribution node with five loads in parallel



Load Number	Line $r(\Omega)$	Line L (μ H)
Load 1	0.010	10
Load 2	0.015	15
Load 3	0.005	5
Load 4	0.012	12
Load 5	0.017	8

- Series arc is simulated by a resistance in parallel with a current source
- The current source injects Gaussian noise



Simulation Results of Series Arc in Distribution Node

- Distribution node with five loads in parallel
- DC series arc occurs in load 1 only at t = 0.02 s





Load Number	Line $r(\Omega)$	Line $L \ (\mu \mathbf{H})$
Load 1	0.010	10
Load 2	0.015	15
Load 3	0.005	5
Load 4	0.012	12
Load 5	0.017	8

)4

Experimental Results

 The experimental testbed consists of one dc source, dc arc generator, and constant power load (closed loop buck converter)



 The gradient algorithm is able to estimate the line resistance and inductance*

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State and Parameter Estimation

- Problem Definition: Utilize available measurements to approximate the "true" value of the states (voltage, currents, etc.) and the line resistances/conductance
- What are the states? Voltage magnitudes, line currents
- What are the parameters? Line resistances
- Motivation: Only a few sensors may be available in a network





Sparse Tableau Analysis for DC Systems

- States are voltage at every bus $x = [V_1, \dots, V_7]^T$
- It is not always possible to relate the following sensors to the states
 - Load current sensor, e.g. $i_{(3-g)}$
 - Generator current sensor, e.g. $i_{(1-g)}$
- We can consider Sparse Tableau Analysis (STA)*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & A \\ I & -A^T & 0 \\ K_e & 0 & K_l \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e \\ V \\ l \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow Tx = 0$$

$$x = (e, V, l)^T$$
 where e : Voltage drops
 V : Node voltages
 l : Line currents

- Advantage: any sensor can be written as a function of the states $\Rightarrow y = Cx + n$
- [1] L. Chua, C. Desoer, and E. Kuh. Linear and nonlinear circuits. 1987.

[2] D. Gorinevsky, S. Boyd, and S. Poll, "Estimation of faults in dc electrical power system," in 2009 American Control Conference, June 2009, pp. 4334–4339





Least Squares based State Estimation

 Using the sparse tableau formulation for dc networks, we can estimate all of the states using the following optimization problem:

$$\min_{x} \quad \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|y_{win} - C_{win}x\|_{J}^{2}}_{\text{measurement}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|Tx\|_{D}^{2}}_{\text{network}}$$

where

$$y_{win} = (y(j) \quad y(j+1) \quad \cdots \quad y(j+w-1))^{T}$$

$$C_{win} = \mathbf{1}_{w} \otimes C$$

$$\underbrace{(V_{meas}^{T} \quad l_{meas}^{T})^{T}}_{y} = C \underbrace{\left(\hat{e}_{i}^{T} \quad \hat{V}_{j}^{T} \quad \hat{l}_{j}^{T}\right)^{T}}_{\hat{x}}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{DG} \quad \mathbf{1} \quad \mathbf{3} \quad \mathbf{5} \quad \mathbf{5} \quad \mathbf{DG} \quad \mathbf{5} \quad \mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{5} \quad \mathbf{C} \quad$$

LOAD

DG

System Modeling for Parameter Estimation

• Nodal analysis for a dc network in steady state:

I(k) = Y(k) V(k)

• We can then form a similar optimization problem to estimate Y

 $\min_{Y} ||I(k) - Y(k)V(k)||_2^2 \qquad \Leftrightarrow \quad \min_{Y} ||I(k) - \left(V(k)^T \otimes I_N\right) \operatorname{vec}\left(Y(k)\right)||_2^2$

- This problem can be similarly solved by choosing a window of samples as before
- However, we consider a Kalman filter algorithm to do this recursively instead:

State:
$$x(k+1) = Ix(k) + w(k)$$

Output: $I(k) = (V(k)^T \otimes I_N) x(k) + v(k)$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Step 1:} & K(k) = P^-(k) \Phi^T(k) \big[\, \Phi(k) P^-(k) \Phi^T(k) + R \, \big]^{-1} \\ \mbox{Step 2:} & \hat{\Upsilon}^+(k) = \hat{\Upsilon}^-(k) + K(k) \, \Big[y(k) - \Phi(k) \hat{\Upsilon}^-(k) \Big] \\ & P^+(k) = P^-(k) - K(k) \Phi(k) P^-(k) \\ \mbox{Step 3:} & \hat{\Upsilon}^-(k) = \mathcal{I} \hat{\Upsilon}^+(k-1) \\ \mbox{Step 4:} & P^-(k) = P^+(k-1) + Q \end{array}$



DC Microgrid Configuration

Three of the following scenarios were considered :



DC buck converters were coupled at every load and generator on the grid



TABLE I. DC microgrid simulation parameters

Line	Length	Inductance	Resistance	Conductance
	(miles)	(H)	(Ω)	(Ω^{-1})
(1,3)	0.1	1.6e-4	0.12	8.33
(2,4)	0.1	1.6e-4	0.12	8.33
(3,6)	0.125	2e-4	0.15	6.67
(4,7)	0.125	2e-4	0.15	6.67
(5,6)	0.15	2.4e-4	0.18	5.55
(6,7)	0.05	8e-5	0.06	16.67

Case 1: Simulation Results

- There are 16 sensors in this dc microgrid configuration
- Load 4 changes the current being drawn from 150 A to 90 A at t = 0.035 s
- The fault is set to occur on line (3,6) at t = 0.07 s
 - Voltage and current estimation: 0



Parameter estimation: Ο



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TABLE I. DC microgrid simulation parameters

Length	Inductance	Resistance	Conductance
(miles)	(H)	(Ω)	(Ω^{-1})
0.1	1.6e-4	0.12	8.33
0.1	1.6e-4	0.12	8.33
0.125	2e-4	0.15	6.67
0.125	2e-4	0.15	6.67
0.15	2.4e-4	0.18	5.55
0.05	8e-5	0.06	16.67
	Length (miles) 0.1 0.125 0.125 0.15 0.05	Length Inductance (miles) (H) 0.1 1.6e-4 0.1 1.6e-4 0.125 2e-4 0.125 2e-4 0.15 2.4e-4 0.05 8e-5	Length Inductance Resistance (miles) (H) (Ω) 0.1 1.6e-4 0.12 0.1 1.6e-4 0.12 0.12 2e-4 0.15 0.125 2e-4 0.15 0.15 2.4e-4 0.18 0.05 8e-5 0.06

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Case 2: Simulation Results

- There are 14 sensors in this dc microgrid configuration
- Load 6 changes the current being drawn from 125 A to 0 A at t = 0.035 s
- The fault is set to occur on line (6,7) at t = 0.07 s
 - Voltage and current estimation: Ο



Change in

LOAD

Case 3: Simulation Results

- There are 13 sensors in this dc microgrid configuration
- Load 3 changes the current being drawn from 175 A to 205 A at t = 0.035 s
- The fault is set to occur on line (5,6) at t = 0.07 s
 - Voltage and current estimation:



LOAD

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Control Hardware in Loop Results

 The CHIL setup and the real time interaction of the PLECS RT box and the OPAL RT are shown below



- 16 sensors were used on the microgrid
- Fault detection on line (3, 6) was successfully detected





Key Takeaways – Estimation/Fault Detection

- Parameter estimation techniques can be used to identify line resistances/conductance
- Series dc arc can change the steady state resistance of a line (high impedance fault)
- Estimation techniques can be used to detect and identify faulted lines
- These techniques are robust to normal operation of the system, e.g. source and load changes



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Summary

- DC microgrids are widely used nowadays in transportation industry, mobile networks, etc.
- Presented optimization techniques for the computation of stability metrics of networks with nonlinear constant power loads
- DC series arc fault can be challenging to detect: series/high impedance, low fault current
- Fault noise can propagate to the network
- Parameter estimation methods can detect and localize faulted line sections accurately and fast



http://www.dvidshub.net/image/935698/aerial-refueling-f-35lightning-ii-joint-strike-fighters-eglin-afb-fla#.UZyEMrVU8QY



https://insideevs.com/features/343599/2021electric-vehicles-the-future-generation-of-evs/

Shank you for your attention!

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