Dynamic Models Overview



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Example: How Generators are modeled?



- Algebraic equation with no time step
- Solved in < 1 sec
- 60 Hz, steady state
- Parameters: ~tens, standardized





- Time step of 1 ~ 4 ms
- Simulation finished in 1 ~ 10 mins
- Parameters: tens ~ hundreds, varies based on technology, vendor, and machine generation

Dynamic Models in ERCOT

Synchronous Generators

Mature Technology

 Most projects use standard model library maintained by the simulation software vendor

Inverter Based Resources

- Developing technology
- Most projects use user defined models that were developed by various entities (manufacturer, consultant, software vendor)
- More than 200 renewable projects with UDMs



Why User Defined Models

- ERCOT accepts dynamic models with model parameters that represent the dynamic behavior of the device.
 - Standard or UDM
- Why UDMs are provided to ERCOT?
 - Suggested by the vendor to accurately represent unique features that are not available in the limited standard model library
 - For special system condition, like weak grid



Dynamic Model Challenges

- Many Identified dynamic model issues are listed in the ERCOT User Defined Model Submittal Guideline
 - <u>http://www.ercot.com/content/wcm/lists/168307/Dynamic_Model_Templates_v2.zip</u>
- For examples:
 - Limited description of UDMs and difficult to fully understand the response of the models, unhelpful error messages
 - Inconsistent simulation time step requirements
 - Model and library changes/updates without clear distinction
 - Models with poor memory management
 - Models may not adhere to simulation software UDM requirements
 - Model with very restricted rule, like machine ID



Potential Model Interference Issue

Every dynamic model is assigned a specific number of internal arrays



Good Models manages data only within its own array space



Model 1
Model 1
Model 1
Model 2
Model 4
Model 2
Model 3
Model 3
Model 3
Model 4
Model 4
Model 4
Bad Model 4 writes

Bad Model 4 writes to Model 2 internal array space An example of dynamic flat start simulation message below indicated possible erroneous array management and significantly affected the simulation results.

Model VTGDCAT Model Instance 38135103:
Pickup timer started at TIME = -0.008, Voltage = 0.00
Model VTGDCAT Model Instance 38135103:
Pickup timer started at TIME = 0.004, Voltage = 0.00
Model VTGDCAT Model Instance 38135103:
Breaker timer started at TIME = 0.254
Model VTGDCAT Model Instance 38135103:
Breaker timer timed out at TIME = 0.354
BUS 381351 DISCONNECTED AT TIME = 0.354

DWG/ERCOT Work and Ongoing Efforts

- Better communication and awareness of the model issues and expectations
- Develop tools to detect model issues
- Work with the Resource Entities, developers, TSPs, and manufacturers to correct the model (lots of communication, very time consuming)
- However
 - Some model issues may not be possible to be identified by users (no access to the details of the UDMs)
 - Increasingly UDMs are developed by outside entities. Model quality is and will continue to be a challenge.



Next Steps and Future Plan

- ERCOT is working with DWG to mitigate this challenge
 - Require UDMs to be vetted by the simulation software vendor to ensure model quality?
 - Require information/tests to demonstrate the quality of the model?
 - Better communication at early stage of FIS process?
- Others
 - How to ensure the UDM developers maintain good model quality and update/correct the models?
 - Work with the industry to continue to improve the development of the standard model library to reduce/eliminate the need of UDMs and NERC unacceptable model list

