



Beyond SmartGrids: Making the electric grid secure, stable, reliable and resilient

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Institute for Energy Research of Catalonia, IREC:

Began its R+D+I activities in January 2009.

IREC was created to contribute to the objective of creating a more sustainable future for energy usage and consumption, keeping in mind the economic competitiveness and providing society with the maximum level of energy security.

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RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL AREAS

Advanced Materials

- Functional Nanomaterials
- Catalysis
- Materials for Solar Systems
- Nanoionics and Fuel Cells
- Energy Storage and Harvesting
- Bioenergy and Biofuels
 - Thermochemical Conversion
 - Biorefinery

4 groups within this unit



Research Units



- Energy Efficiency: Systems, Buildings and Communities
 - NZEB (Net Zero Energy Buildings and Communities)
 - Integration of Renewables.
 - Smart Grids and Microgrids
 - Green IT
 - Electric Mobility
 - Energy Analytics

3 groups within this unit

Technological Development Units

POWER SYSTEMS GROUP – RESEARCH Objectives and keywords



Power Systems Group Strategy aims to provide solutions for the challenges of the future power systems in order to ensure the proper advent and implementation of the Digital Grid.

The global objective for the group is to set the path of future electrical network by the development of innovative solutions for the challenging task of ensuring resilient, stable, secure, digital and RES-based electrical network as the future of Power Systems.







- ✓ Renewable Energy Sources
- Energy Storage Systems
- Power Electronics
- ✓ Grid Integration
- ✓ Smart Grids & Microgrids
- ✓ IoT for Energy
- ✓ Grid Digitalization
- ✓ Resilience
- ✓ Cyber-Security
- ✓ Electric Vehicle







POWER SYSTEMS GROUP - RESEARCH LINES



POWER SYSTEMS GROUP - Activities





IREC Energy SmartLab

https://youtu.be/VgWzPUcAVAk



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1.- Introduction

2.- Risk Assessment

3.- Fault Identification and Location

4.- Impact Mitigation

Conventional Grid



Smart Grid





New electrical grid paradigm: SMART GRID CONCEPT

- Remote control and automation.
- Comprises everything from generation to consumption.
- The grid becomes
 - more flexible,
 - interactive
- Advanced management of the grid
 - sustainable, reliable and economic manner,
 - built on advanced infrastructure
- DER integration





Although, historically the electrical grid already made use of IT systems (as well-known **SCADAs**).

The **paradigm change** carried out by the increase of **RES**, **ESS**, **comms and IoT**, is opening novel opportunities for real-time monitoring and operation, wide-area information sharing, system interconnection, among others.

















Digital Grid



Digital Grid



Digitalization

How can we do it?

Transport layer protocols





Smart Inverters



Internet of Things





SmartMeters

Challenges

What can we do with data and automation?







Actions for resilience, security and system reliability



Activities to be presented today









By taking advantage of existing data and parameters (population density, energy consumption, mean distribution, etc), estimations for the rest of the zones can be made. Example: **GREEN** real data, **BLUE** estimated electrical distibution centers.



Active data and KPIs control

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^{*1} Original fragility curve obtained from: FEMA (2009) Federal Emergency Management Agency (US government)

Cost assessment – Results when analyzing CTs



Reliability indexes calculation - Results





Demand and capability of **faster**, more **accurate** fault isolation





Facilitates the fault location process in various methods.

Need for further research in the case of distribution grids.

A new criteria has been developed by modifying and merging some existing ones which are more specific for transmission systems

1ph & 2ph faults	3ph faults	Distinction between 2ph faults
Based on Novosel et al.	Based on Kezunovic et al. with adjustments on the criteria sets	Criterion based on the theory of the symmetrical components

Theory: 2ph faults
$$\Rightarrow I_0 = 0$$

2ph-g faults $\Rightarrow I_0 = (-I_1) \frac{Z_2}{Z_0 + Z_2} \neq 0$
Criterion: $I_{0_{After}} - I_{0_{Before}} > I_{0_{Before}}$



IEEE 13 node test feeder

- 4 measurement points
- Highly unbalanced
- Low voltage branch

Parameters

- 1. Type of fault
- 2. Number of meters
- 3. Location of the fault
- 4. Fault resistance
- 5. Noise

RESULTS without fault resistance or noise





RESULTS with fault resistance





- **The electrical grid** a critical infrastructure that **needs to be resilient**, minimizing the service disruption to ensure minimum impact on end users.
- This can be achieved through **two main methods network reconfiguration** or allowing **islanded/disconnected operation**.
- **Objective:** Provide a self-healing and islanding method for the electric grid while minimizing the unsupplied loads and increasing network resilience.
- We can take advantage of distributed RES, ESS and prosumers, to select the optimal islands (dynamic microgrids) depending on the load and generation status.





Grid under testing Power Flow Results on Modified CIGRE 15 Benchmark



2 islands forced

Best Chromosome

Cutset	Interrupted Flow (MW)
Lines: 1-2, 5-6, 7-8	466.09

	P _G (MW)	P _L (MW)	Difference (MW)
Island 1	4800	4800	0
Island 2	200	200	0



Results

3 islands forced

Best Chromosome

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0

Cutset	Interrupted Flow (MW)	
Lines: 1-2, 5-6, 7-8 Load: 14	516.09	

	P _G (MW)	P _L (MW)	Difference (MW)
Island 1	4800	4750	50
Island 2	200	200	0



The Future Digital grid, opens new opportunities and brings new challenges.

Increased Resilience and Security of supply is key since the Electrical Grid is a CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

In this regard, we have been working on the different key steps towards this as PLANNING, DETECTION and ACTUATION.

Further advances and usage of Data Analytics are key for this. The integration of various methods and techniques will end up into a DIGITAL TWIN of the distribution grid.

Thank you for your attention



Questions?

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