



# GRID-SUPPORTING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM MODELLING AND SIMULATION IN RTDS: AN AUSTRALIAN CASE STUDY

FELIPE ARRAÑO-VARGAS, GEORGIOS KONSTANTINOU  
UNSW SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

Real-Time Simulations  
Laboratory

**RTS@UNSW**

USER SPOTLIGHT SERIES 2.0 BY **RTDS**  
Technologies

# OUR FACILITIES

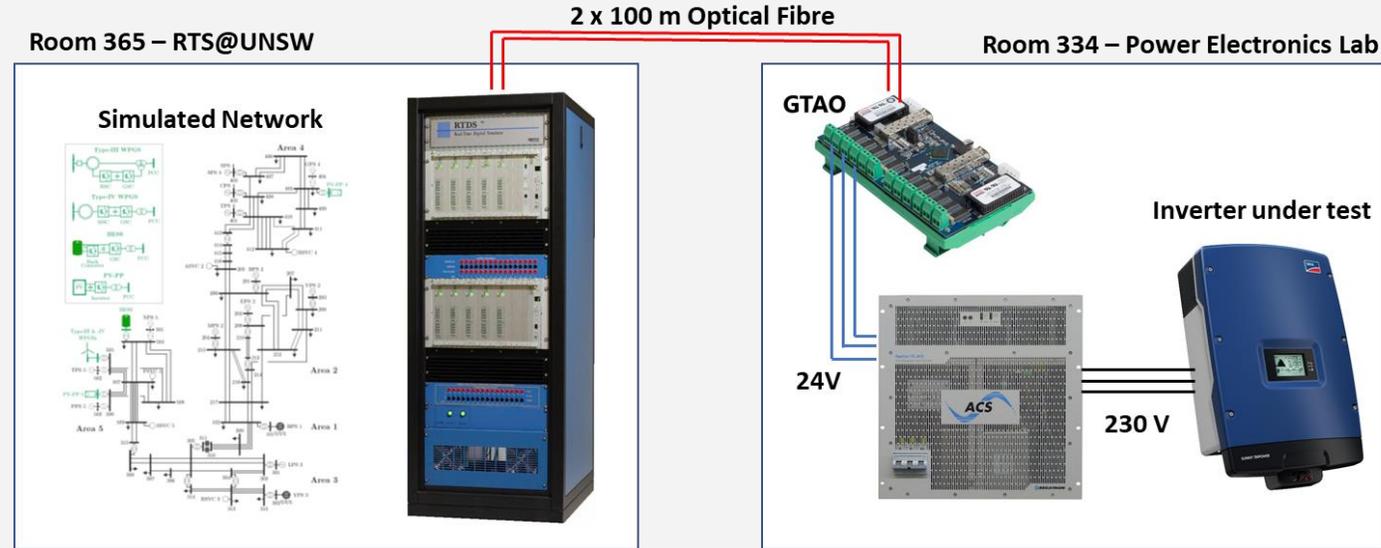


<https://research.unsw.edu.au/projects/real-time-digital-simulation-rts-laboratory-unsw-sydney>

# OUR RESEARCH

- Power system modelling
- HVDC networks
- Multiterminal DC grids
- Renewable energy systems
- Smart grids
- Microgrids
- Power electronics
- CiL, HiL and PHiL testing

## PHiL capabilities – Example



### Addressing Barriers to Efficient Renewable Integration

- Understand PV inverter behaviour during grid disturbances
- Bench testing of commercial rooftop PV inverters
- Contribute to improve AS 4777.2: 2015 “Inverter requirements”

<http://pvinverters.ee.unsw.edu.au>

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

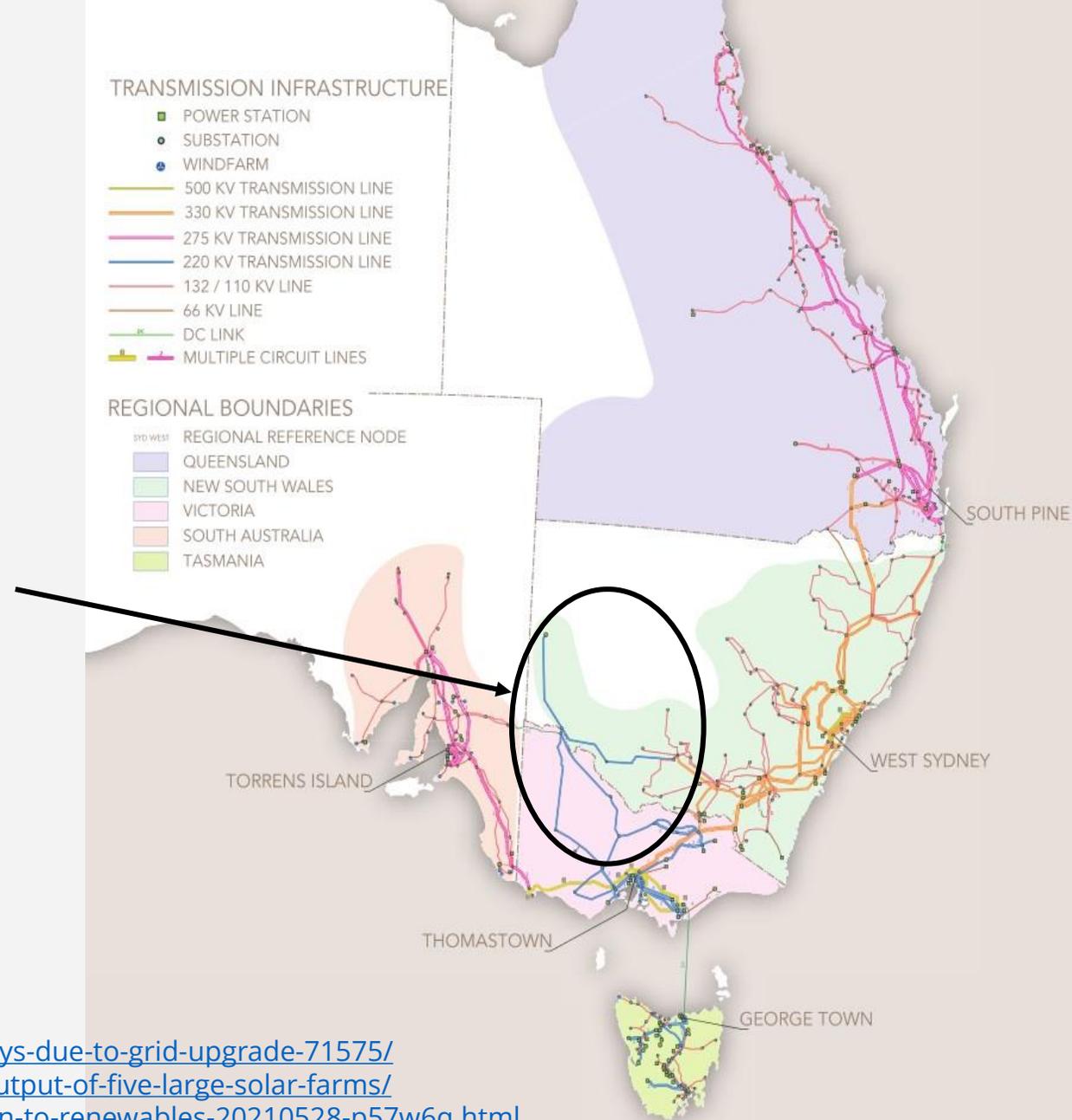
“Replicate oscillations in the West Murray Zone and demonstrate the potential of a battery energy storage system (BESS), with grid-supporting capabilities, to improve system strength.”

## TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

- POWER STATION
- SUBSTATION
- WINDFARM
- 500 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
- 330 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
- 275 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
- 220 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
- 132 / 110 KV LINE
- 66 KV LINE
- DC LINK
- MULTIPLE CIRCUIT LINES

## REGIONAL BOUNDARIES

- REGIONAL REFERENCE NODE
- QUEENSLAND
- NEW SOUTH WALES
- VICTORIA
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA
- TASMANIA



<https://www.energymagazine.com.au/aemo-outlines-west-murray-zone-challenges/>

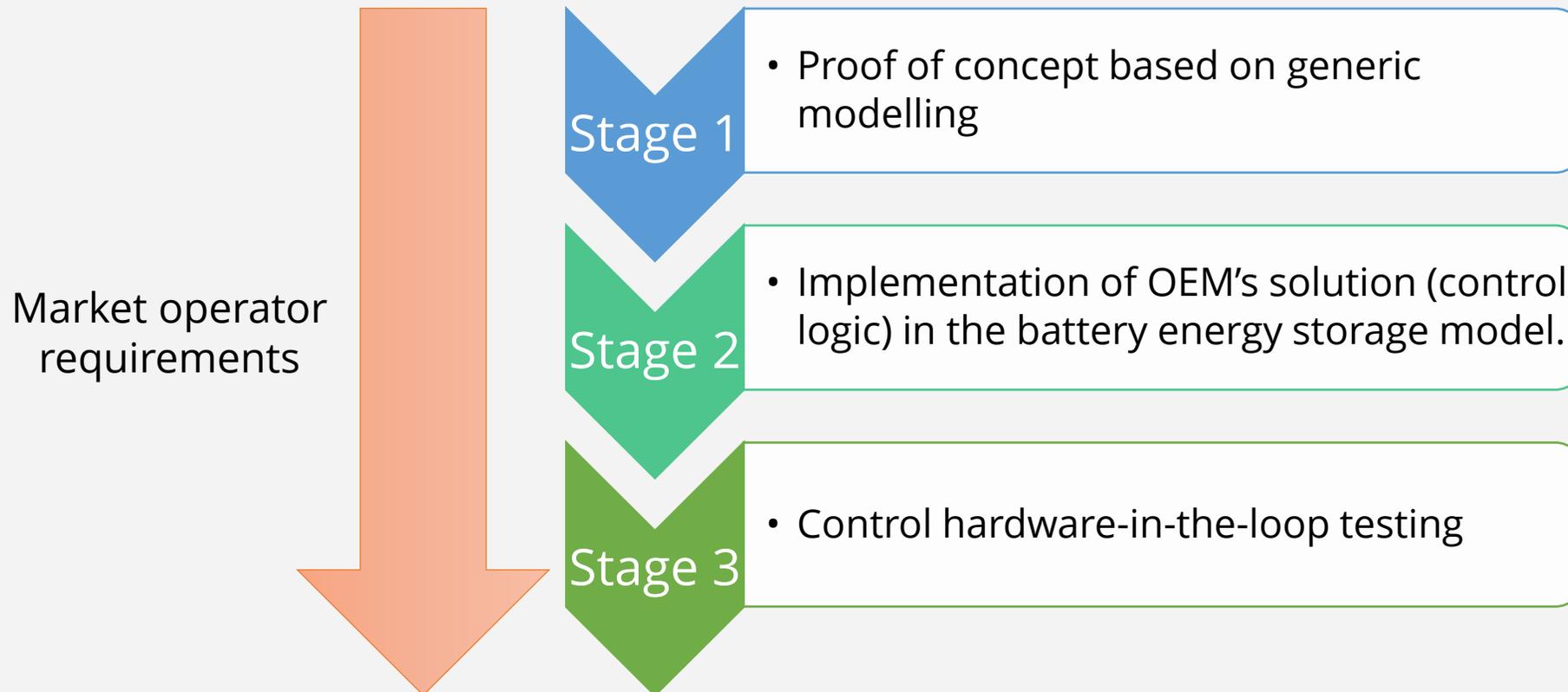
<https://reneweconomy.com.au/wind-solar-farms-to-be-blacked-out-for-up-to-100-days-due-to-grid-upgrade-71575/>

<https://www.pv-magazine-australia.com/2019/09/16/jolted-aemo-radically-curtails-output-of-five-large-solar-farms/>

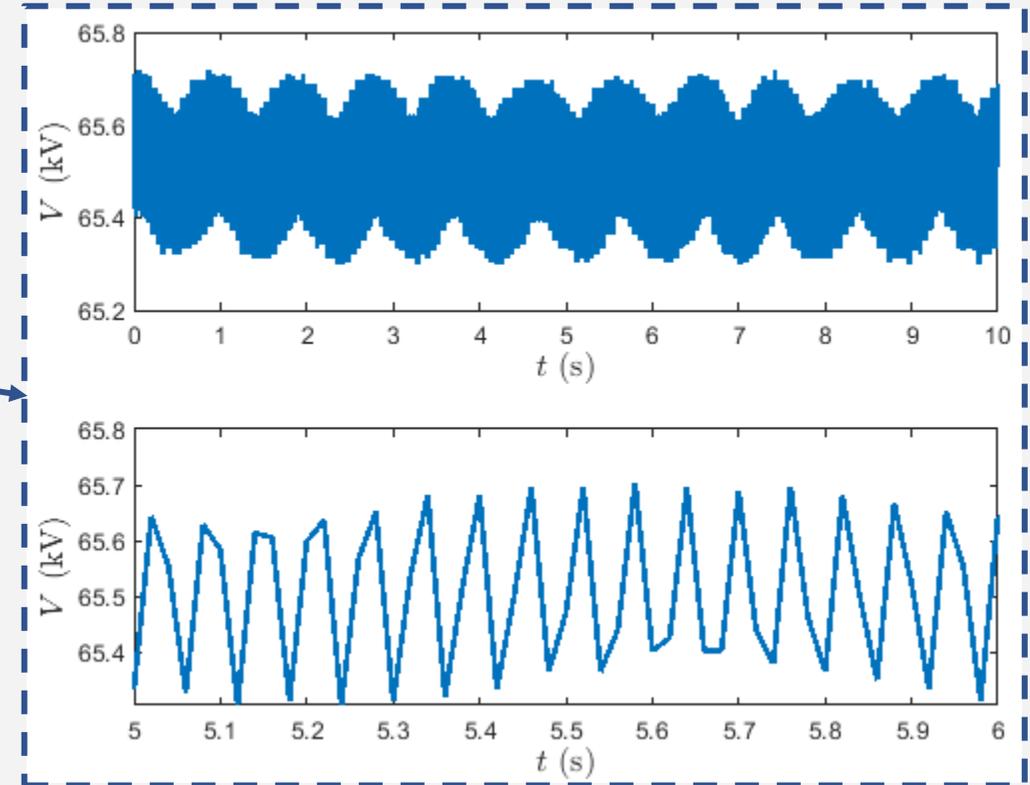
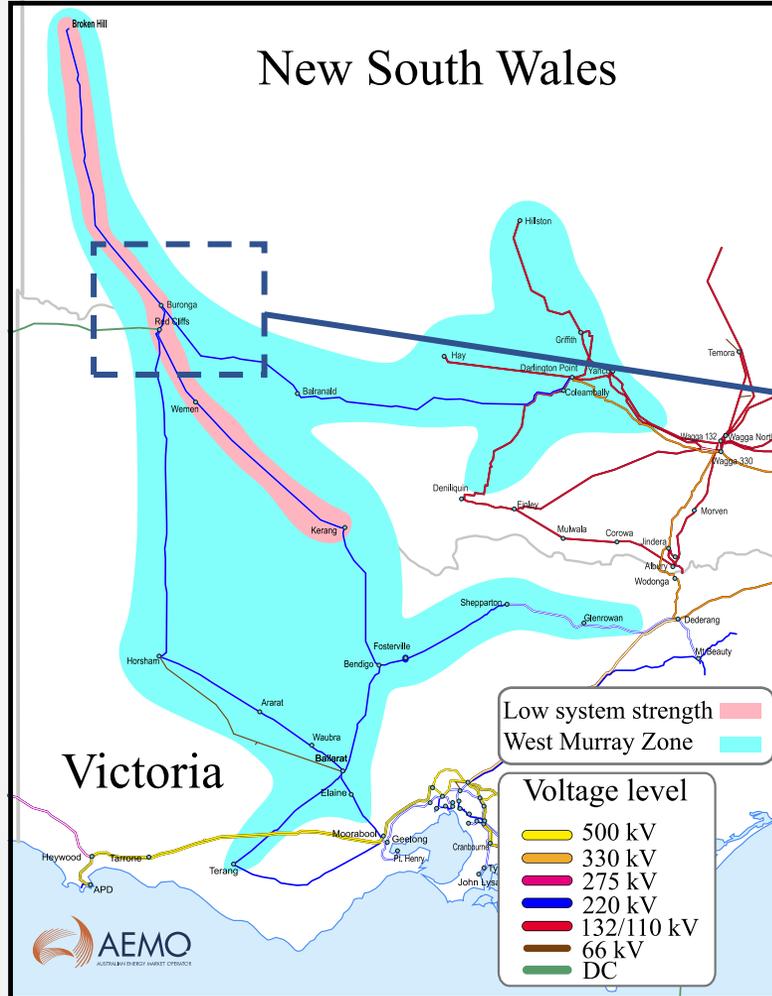
<https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/gridlock-on-the-grid-stalls-the-transition-to-renewables-20210528-p57w6q.html>

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## Stages



# WEST MURRAY ZONE (WMZ)

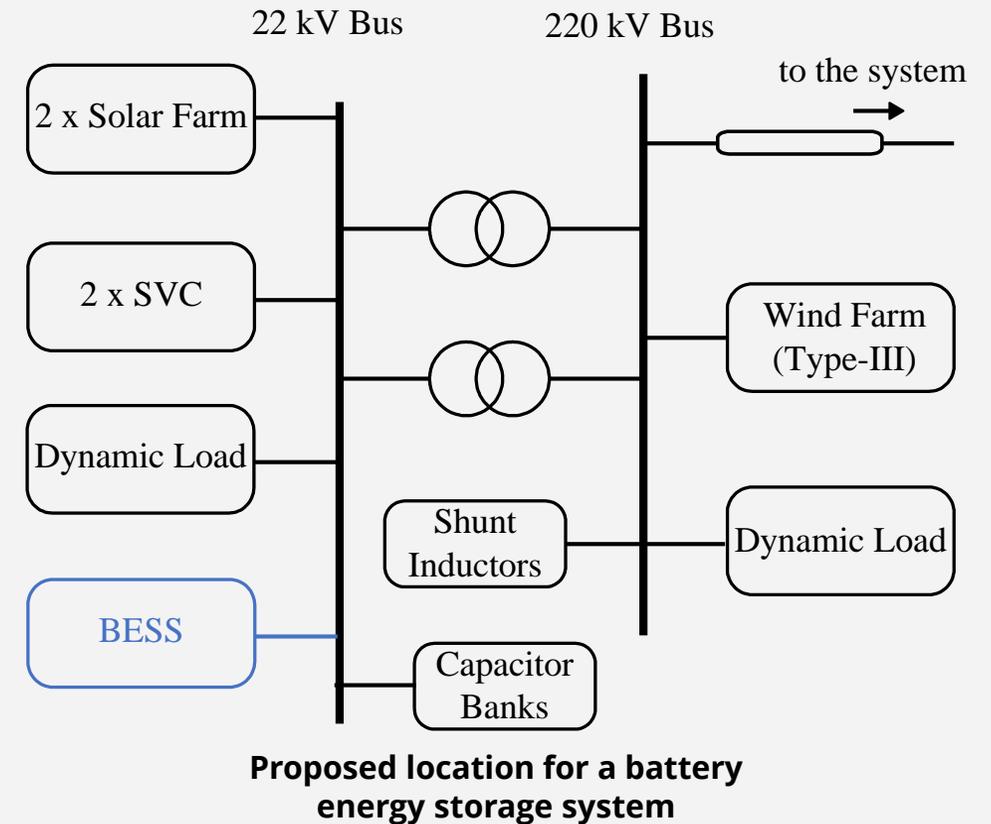


Voltage oscillation  
(event captured at Red Cliffs)

<https://aemo.com.au/energy-systems/electricity/national-electricity-market-nem/participate-in-the-market/network-connections/west-murray>

# WEAK AREA

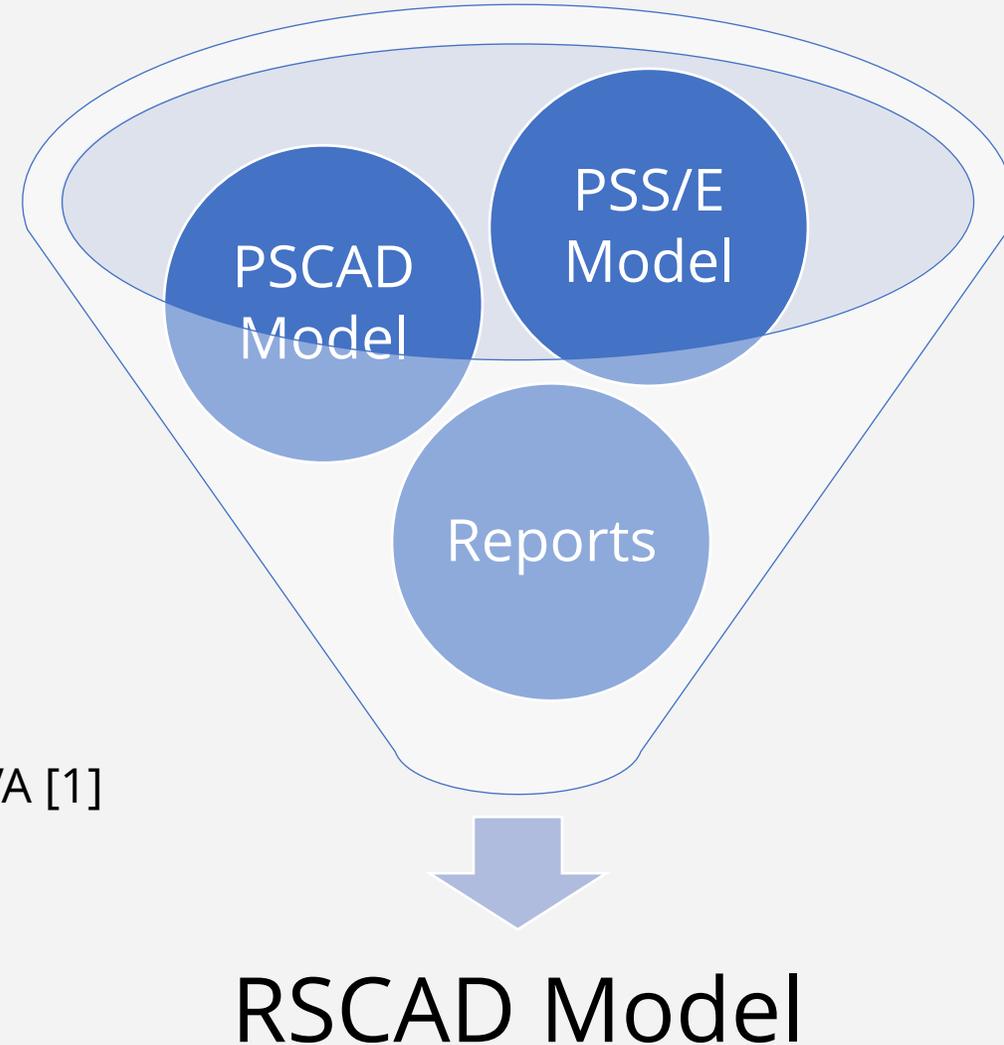
- Oscillations are seen during normal operating conditions, planned outages, and disturbances
  - Oscillations may reach 5% peak-to-peak
  - Frequency varies from 7 to 19 Hz
- Very low system strength increases the potential of resonance and converter-driven instabilities
- New and existing variable renewable generation will be constrained
- Full system strength impact assessment will be required
- Significant delays in project assessments



# NETWORK MODELLING

## Inputs

- PSS/E model:
  - .raw, .dyw, .seq
- PSCAD model:
  - PSCAD / ETRAN from PSS/E
- Operating conditions:
  - Generation dispatch, loads, system voltage levels
  - Post-contingency fault level requirement of 1,000 MVA [1]



[1] AEMO 2020 System Strength and Inertia Report

# NETWORK MODELLING

## Inverter-based resources

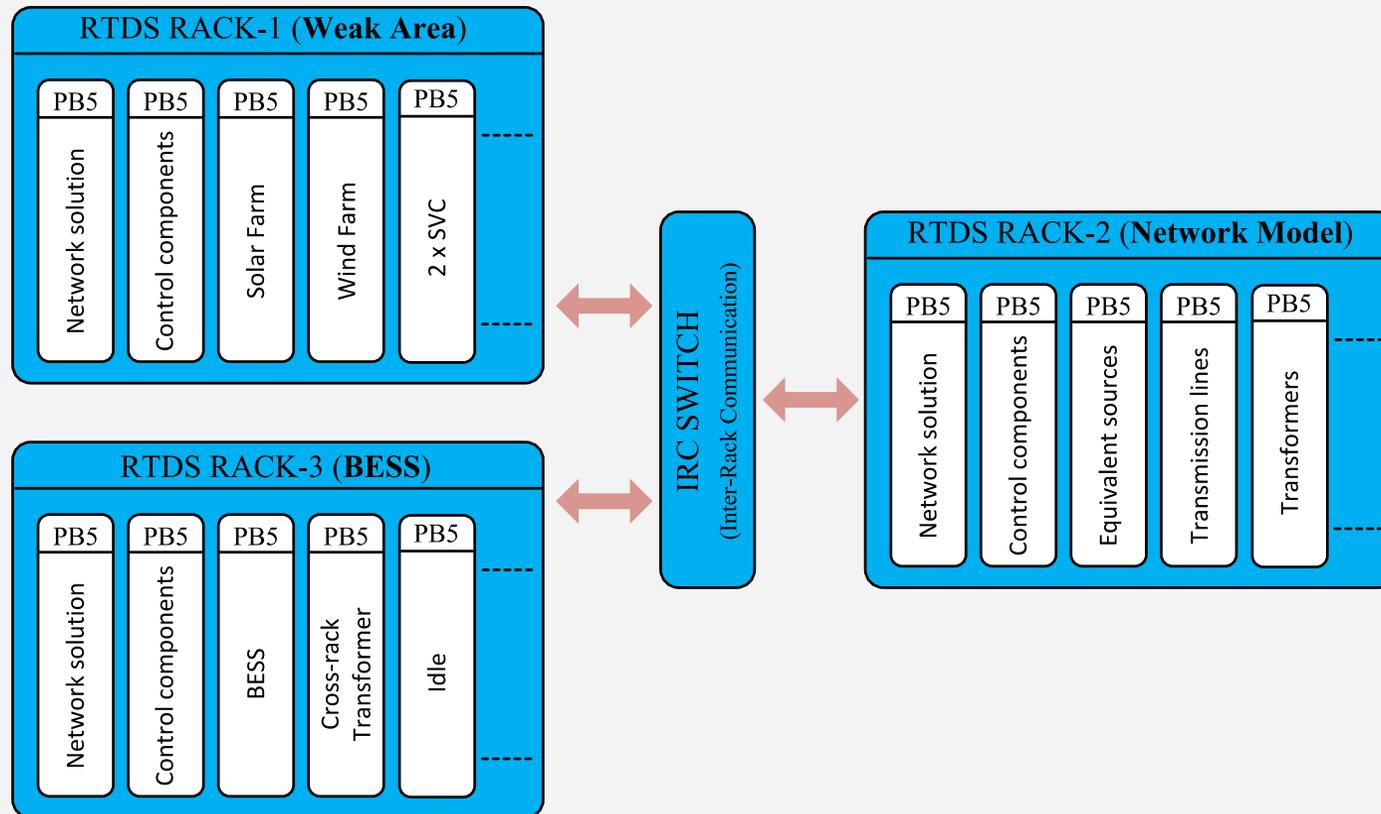
- Detailed switching model of a single unit (e.g., wind turbine, PV array, battery stack)
- Multiplication for current injection to show complete system response at the step-up transformer
- Grid-supporting BESS:
  - Virtual synchronous machine emulation
  - Reactive power control loop (voltage/reactive power control mode)
  - Frequency and voltage droop controllers

[1] F. Arraño-Vargas and G. Konstantinou, "Development of Real-Time Benchmark Models for Integration Studies of Advanced Energy Conversion Systems," in *IEEE Trans. Energy Convers.*, vol. 35, no.1, pp. 497-507, Mar. 2020.

[2] F. Arraño-Vargas and G. Konstantinou, "Real-Time Models of Advanced Energy Conversion Systems for Large-Scale Integration Studies." in *2019 IEEE 10th International Symposium on Power Electronics for Distributed Generation Systems (PEDG)*. Xi'an, China, Jun. 2019, pp. 756-761.

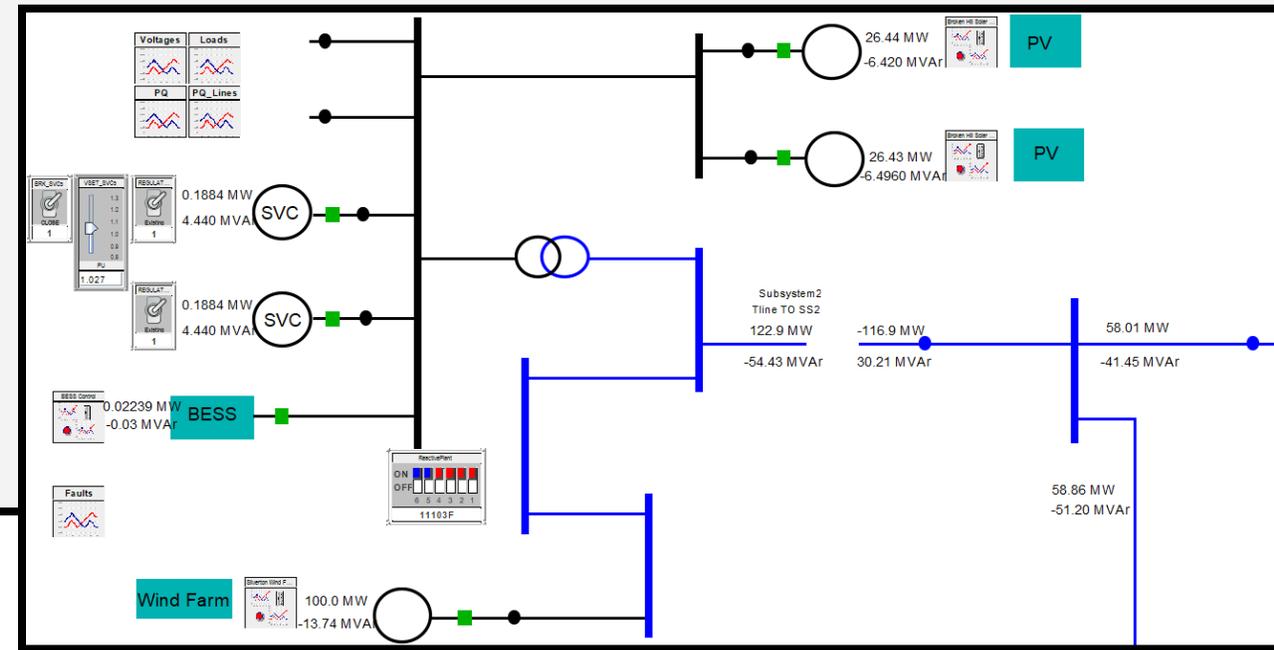
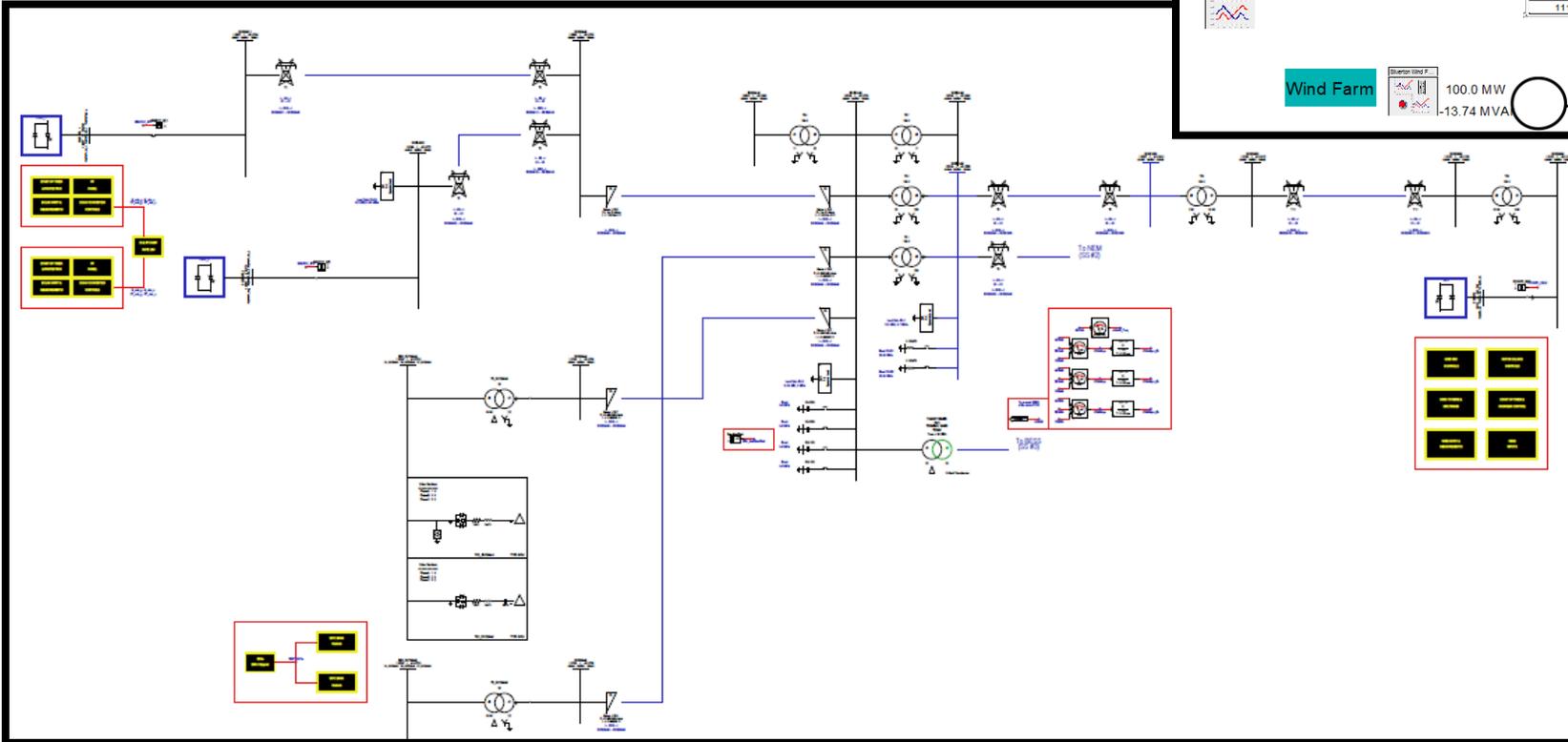
# NETWORK MODELLING

## Scalability



# RTDS MODEL

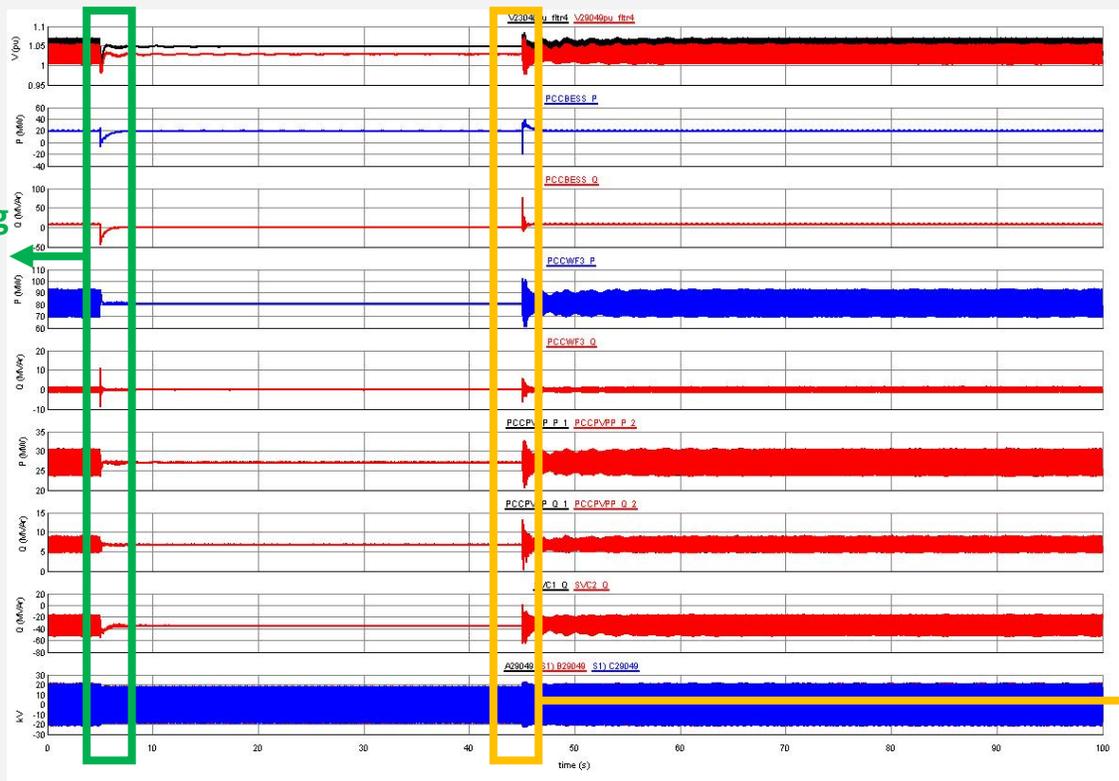
RSCAD: Subsystem #1 – Weak Area



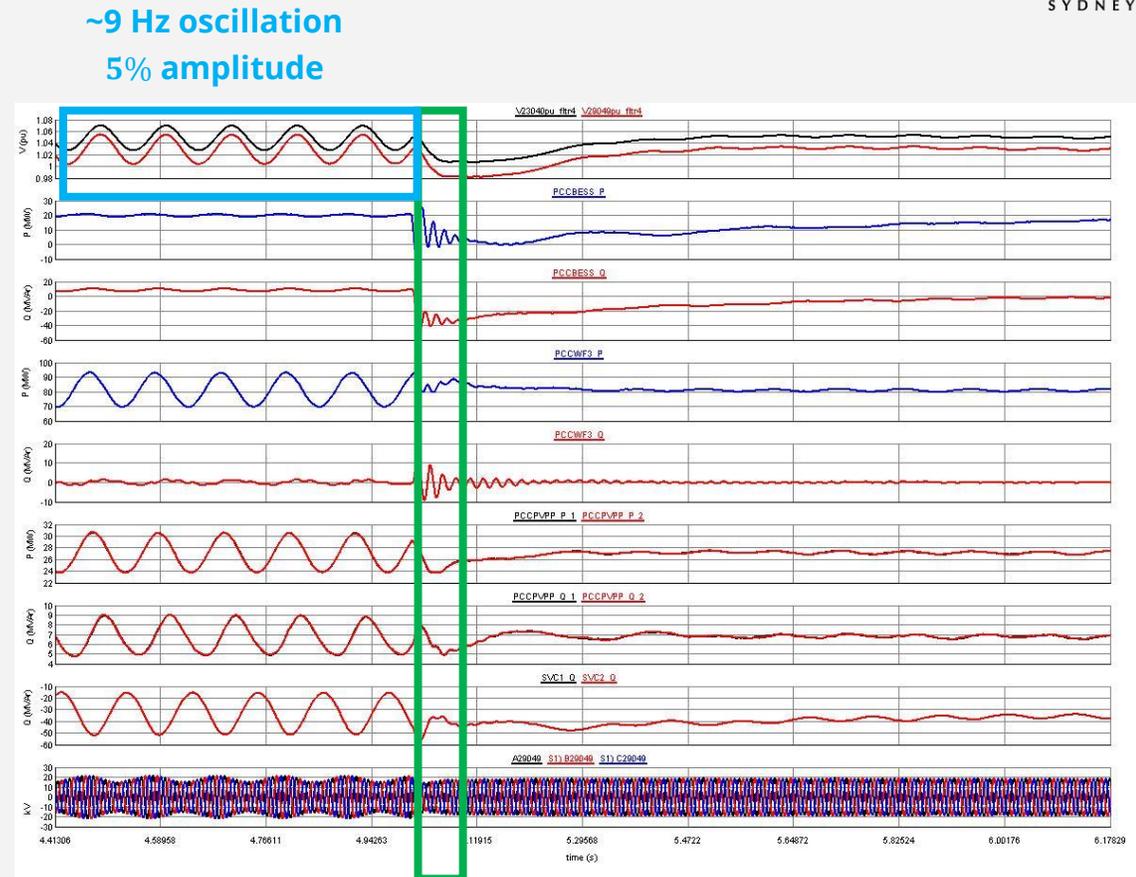
Runtime

# RTDS SIMULATIONS

## Stage 1: Generic modelling



Grid-supporting  
 functionality  
 enabled

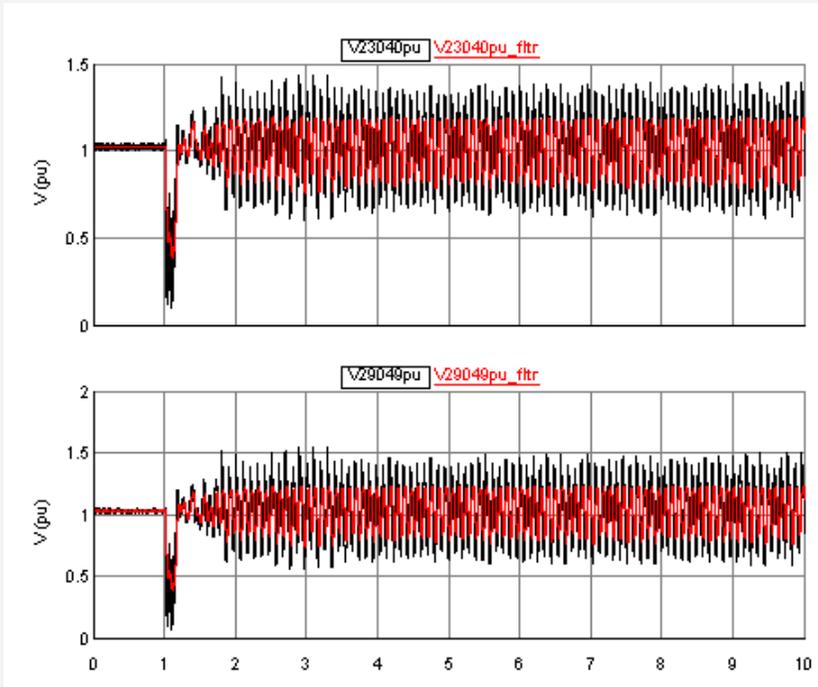


Grid-supporting  
 functionality  
 disabled

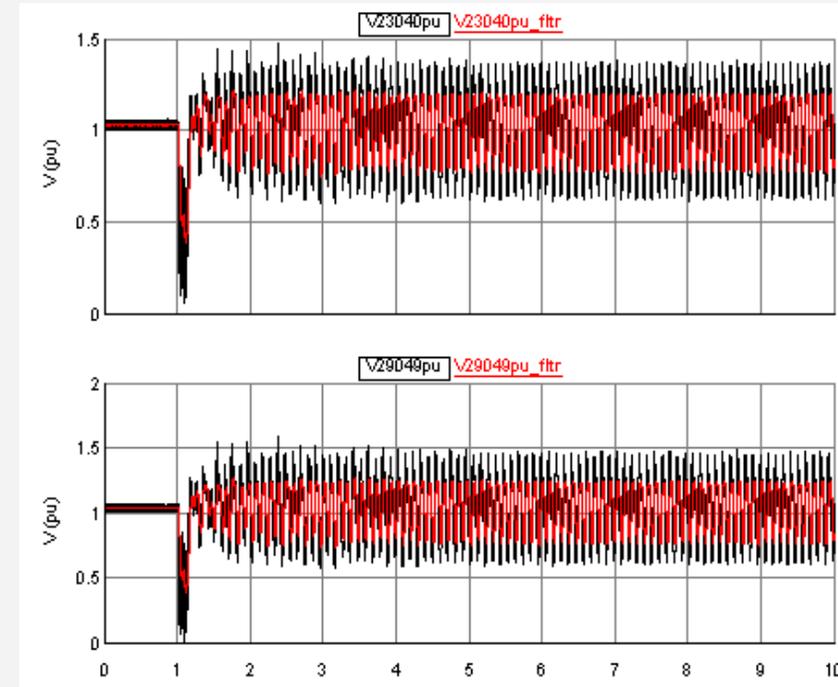
Grid-supporting  
 functionality  
 enabled

# RTDS SIMULATIONS

## Stage 2: OEM's implementation. Fault at Buronga – Red Cliffs line



No BESS



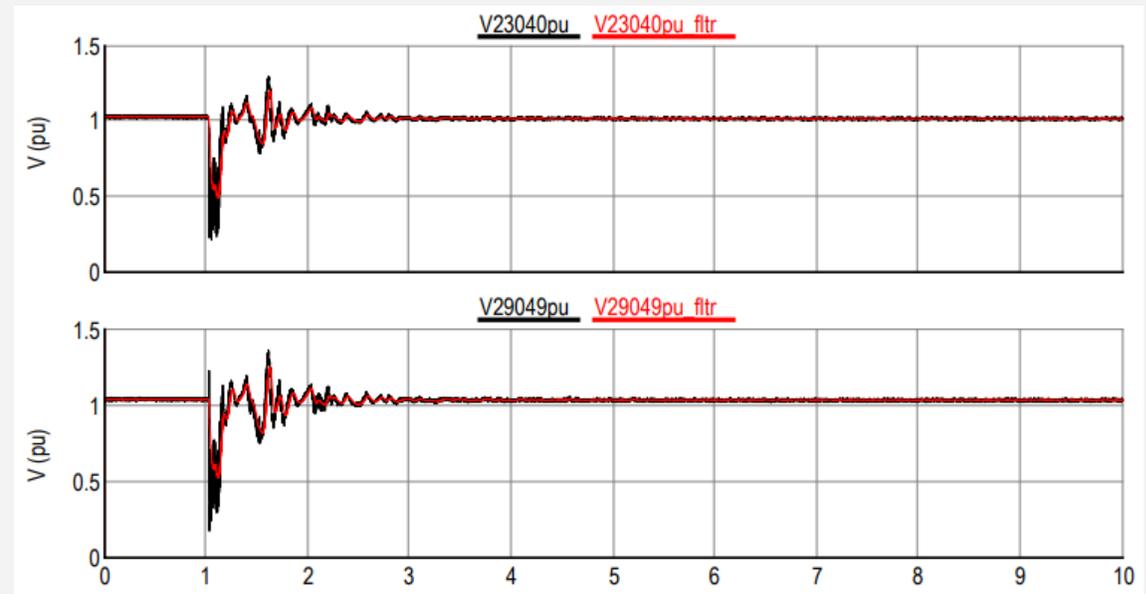
BESS in grid-feeding mode

**Unstable operation**

# RTDS SIMULATIONS

## Stage 2: OEM's implementation. Fault at Buronga – Red Cliffs line

Conditions	Resulting System
No BESS	Voltage Oscillations
BESS with $H = 5\text{ s} / D = 50$	Stable
BESS with $H = 5\text{ s} / D = 75$	Stable
BESS with $H = 5\text{ s} / D = 100$	Stable
BESS with $H = 8\text{ s} / D = 50$	Stable
BESS with $H = 8\text{ s} / D = 75$	Stable
BESS with $H = 8\text{ s} / D = 100$	Stable



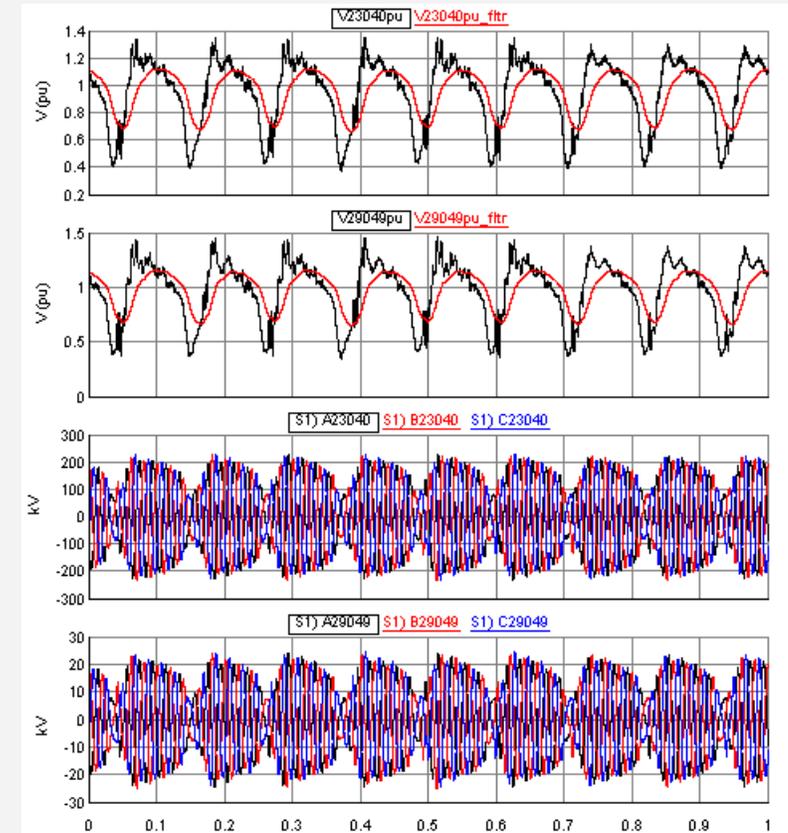
BESS in grid-supporting mode

**Stable operation**

# RTDS SIMULATIONS

## Stage 2: Maximum IBR generation

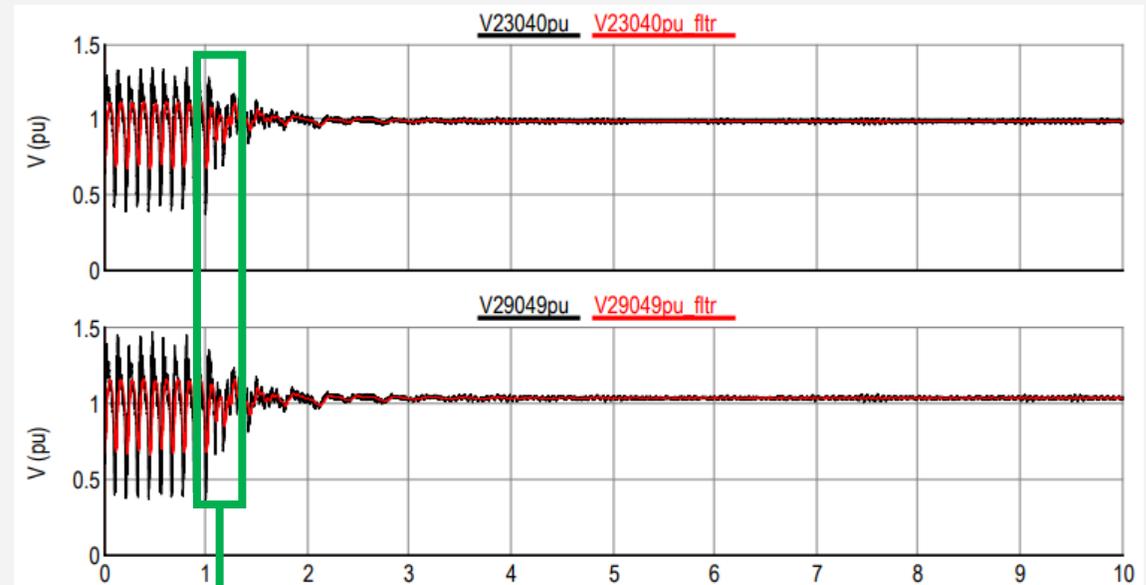
- BESS is not connected
- Voltage oscillations of 9 Hz and 0.9 p.u. amplitude
- Amplitude of the oscillations is characteristic of the model and the generic dynamic representation of IBRs and SVCs



# RTDS SIMULATIONS

## Stage 2: Maximum IBR generation

Conditions	Resulting System
No BESS	Voltage Oscillations
BESS with $H = 5\text{ s} / D = 50$	Oscillations are damped
BESS with $H = 5\text{ s} / D = 75$	Oscillations are damped
BESS with $H = 5\text{ s} / D = 100$	Oscillations are damped
BESS with $H = 8\text{ s} / D = 50$	Oscillations are damped
BESS with $H = 8\text{ s} / D = 75$	Oscillations are damped
BESS with $H = 8\text{ s} / D = 100$	Oscillations are damped



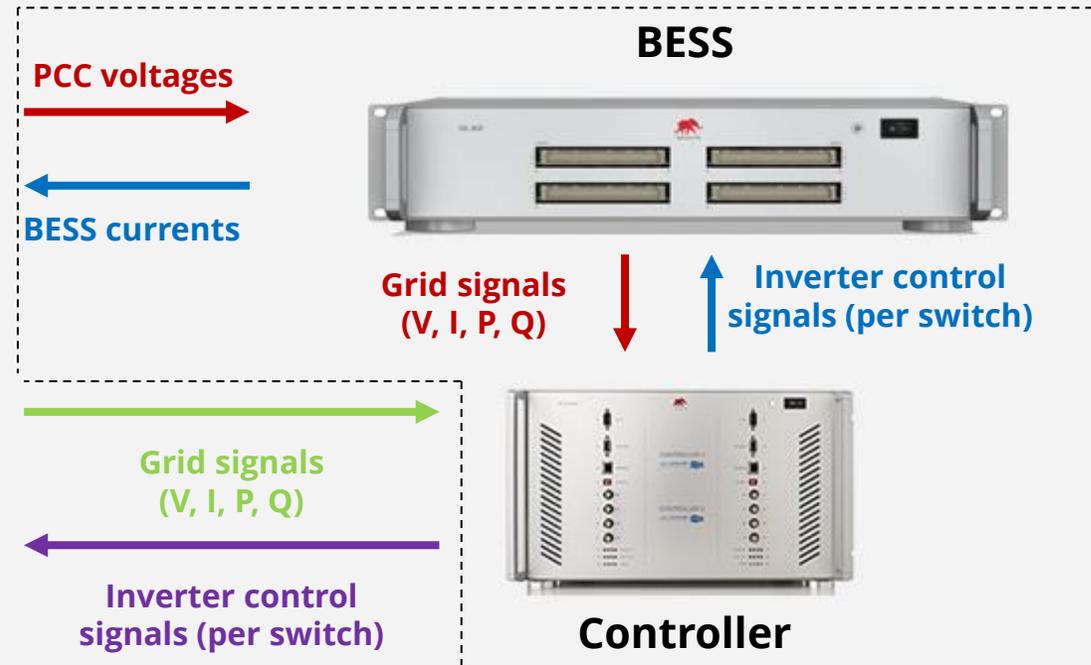
Grid-supporting  
functionality  
enabled

# STAGE 3: CHIL



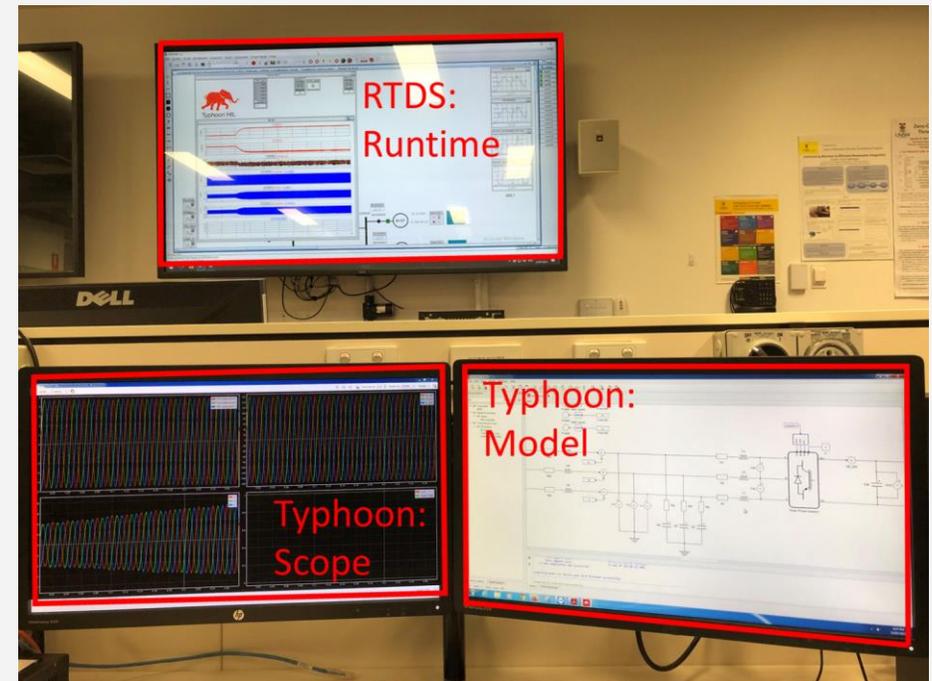
West Murray Zone  
and BESS

## Multivendor approach



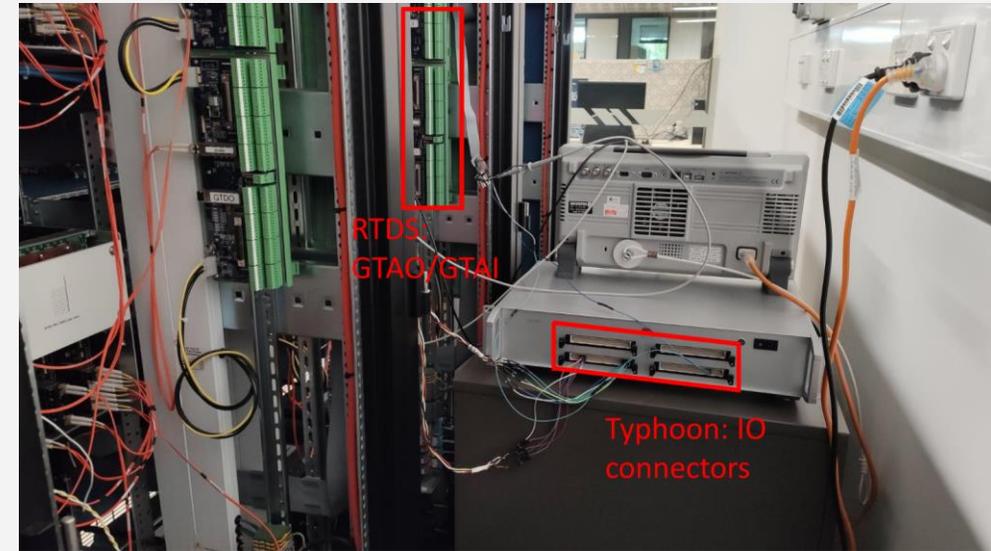
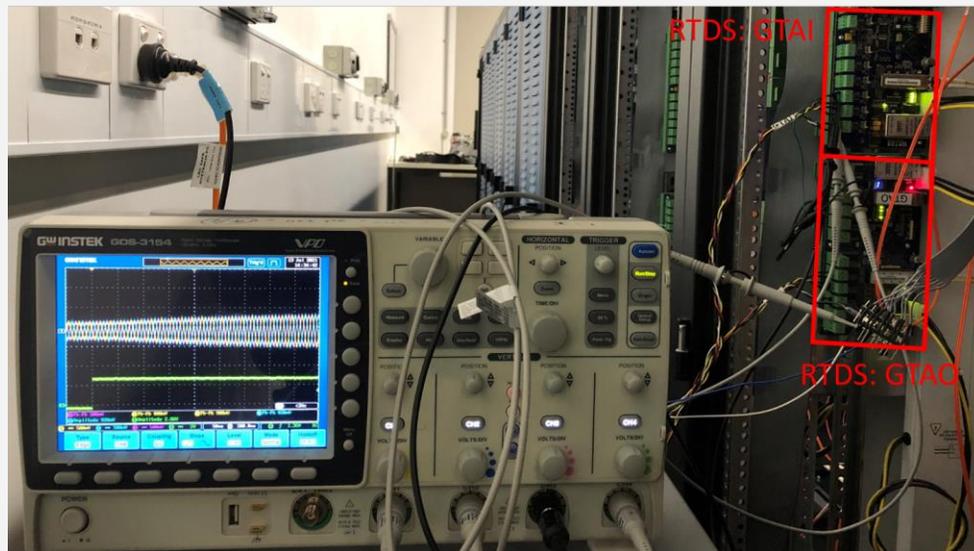
# STAGE 3: CHIL

- Multivendor interconnection between RTDS and Typhoon has been demonstrated through analogue/digital inputs/outputs:
  - West Murray Zone is running in RTDS.
  - Generic battery model is running in Typhoon.
- Time steps:
  - RTDS:  $50\mu\text{s}$  for grid /  $<3\mu\text{s}$  for IBRs
  - Typhoon:  $1\mu\text{s}$

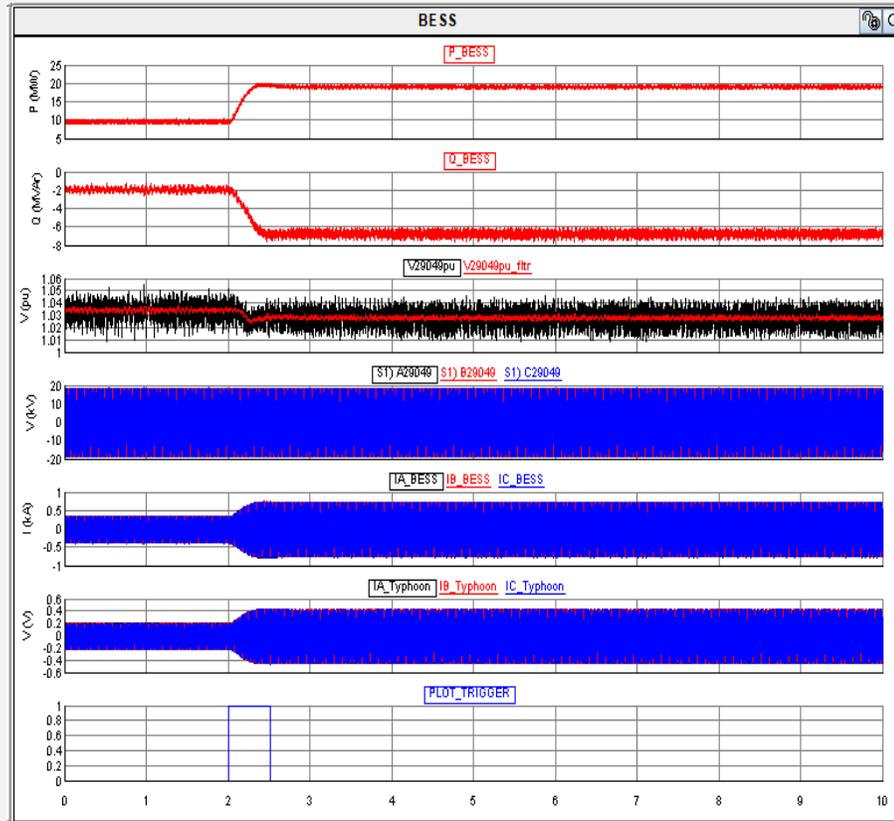


# STAGE 3: CHIL

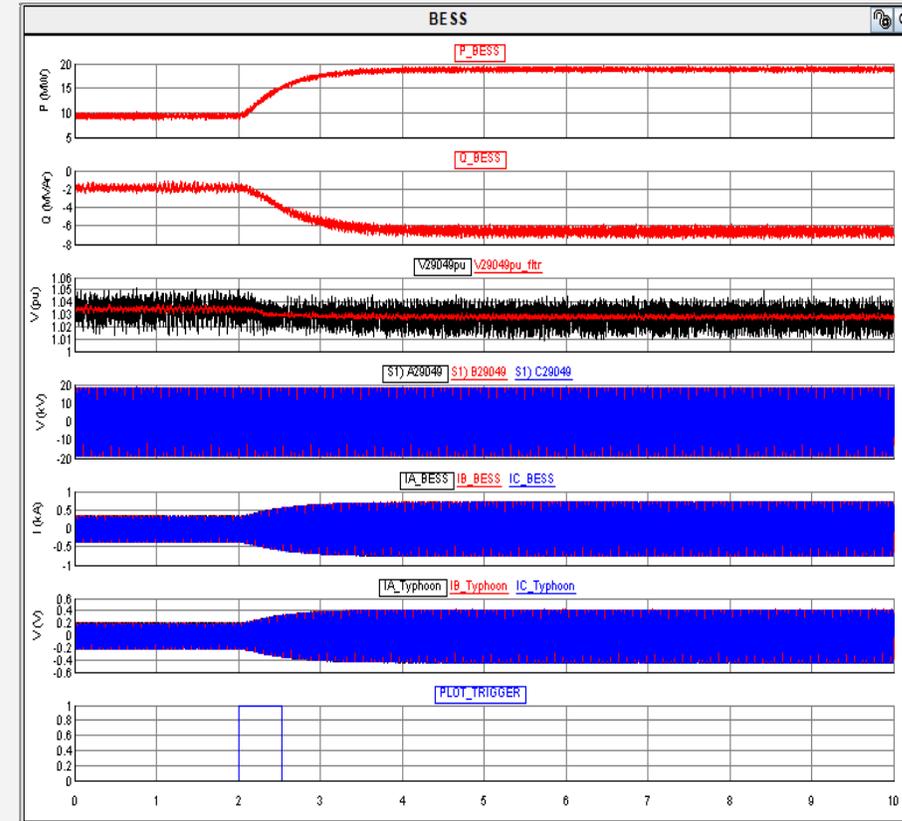
- Multivendor interconnection between RTDS and Typhoon has been demonstrated through analogue/digital inputs/outputs:
  - West Murray Zone is running in RTDS.
  - Generic battery model is running in Typhoon.



# STAGE 3: CHIL



Step change (10 to 20 MW)  
VSM H=2 s / D=25



Step change (10 to 20 MW)  
VSM H=8 s / D=100

# SUMMARY

- Targeted actions together with suitable investments in infrastructure are required to address existing challenges in weak areas of the Australian National Electricity Market (NEM).
- HiL testing is becoming more necessary for analysing and testing modern power systems with high penetration of IBRs.
- Real-time EMT simulations validates the proposed approach for the grid-supporting BESS at a multi-infeed weak area of the Australian NEM.
- The inclusion of a grid-supporting BESS damps voltage oscillations caused by faults and control interactions during periods of high generation of IBRs.
- Multi-vendor co-simulation through analogue/digital I/Os facilitates the black-box modelling and testing of control and protection devices.