

Nonlinear Robust Coordinated PSS-AVR Control for a Synchronous Generator connected to an Infinite Bus

C. M. Verrelli, R. Marino, P. Tomei, G. Damm

Abstract—The transient stabilization and voltage regulation problem for a synchronous generator connected to an infinite bus is addressed, in this technical note, in the presence of all uncertain physical parameters. First, new interpretations for the Desensitized Four Loops Regulator, here referred to as robust coordinated PSS-AVR (Power System Stabilizer & Automatic Voltage Regulator), are derived in terms of minimum phase properties with respect to a suitably chosen output for the linearized error system. Secondly, on the basis of such an output, a nonlinear generalization of the robust coordinated PSS-AVR is designed with the aim of enlarging the stability region and improving the transients about the unpredictable operating conditions determined by the faults. Its linear action coincides with the one provided by the robust coordinated PSS-AVR: the compelling simplicity of control structure (just one integrator is involved) and robust tuning procedure of the linear design are definitely inherited, with, additionally, no use of the mechanical input power. A numerical analysis along with realistic simulations confirm improved stability when the proposed nonlinear controller is applied.

Keywords: Nonlinear control; Synchronous generators; Transient stability; Voltage regulation; Robust coordinated PSS-AVR.

I. INTRODUCTION

The problem of power systems stability [1], [20] is still widely studied, according to the latest related theoretical results in [2] and [24], [25], [26], [27]. Transient stability is to be enhanced in the presence of perturbations such as changes in load, outages of powers plants, failures in transformer substation and power lines. Electromechanical oscillations - namely, local, inter-machine, and inter-area oscillations - have to be damped, while terminal voltage is to be regulated to its reference value. Linear and local controllers are currently employed. In practice, Linear Automatic Voltage Regulators (AVRs) are used in conjunction with Power System Stabilizers (PSSs) (see [3], [6], [7], [13], [14], [19]). Those controllers are typically numerically designed and tuned on the basis of the classical reduced model of a synchronous generator connected to an infinite bus, whose dynamics are linearized around the (unknown) desired constant operating condition that guarantees terminal voltage regulation. Such a linear model will be referred, throughout this technical note, to

as \mathcal{LM} . Even though satisfactory results are achieved by the "Desensitized Four Loops Regulator" DFLR in [3] and [19] (here referred to as *robust coordinated PSS-AVR* in the whole paper), two open problems remain: \mathcal{P}_1 : in order to obtain satisfactory performance over a wide range of operating conditions, different behaviours of nonlinear power systems in different operating conditions require different control objectives and consequently different linear control gain scheduling; \mathcal{P}_2 : the absence of nonlinear feedback terms in non-switching controllers may prevent the enlargement of the machine stability region. Two different strategies are then in order. *Switching Linear Controllers*: the first strategy consists in using different linearization-based controllers with switching actions depending on the different operating conditions (see [10] and references therein for applications of gain scheduling, fuzzy control and multi-model techniques). *Nonlinear Non-Switching Controllers*: the second strategy consists in resorting to nonlinear non-switching controllers that incorporate nonlinear feedback terms, simultaneously allowing for the automatic gain scheduling and enlargement of the machine stability region. The structures of such controllers however are rather complex and require additional measurements and parameters. Examples are provided: i) a state feedback solution is proposed in [4] (see also [16], [18]), in the presence of uncertainties in almost all system parameters; ii) output feedback solutions are reported in [22] and [5], in the presence of transmission line impedance and mechanical power uncertainties. In contrast to the robust coordinated PSS-AVR strategy, the strategy adopted in the aforementioned papers (see also [12]) does not consider the terminal voltage as the natural controlled output. Rather, it artificially transforms the power angle into the main controlled output. As a consequence, the (available) terminal voltage regulation error is not directly used in the feedback action, with either the power angle being consequently assumed to be directly measured or the knowledge of critical parameters being required.

This technical note presents two contributions. The first contribution provides new interpretations for the "Desensitized Four Loops Regulator" of [3], by viewing it as a robust stabilizer for the stably invertible system \mathcal{LM} with respect to a suitably chosen output function. The second contribution takes advantage from the previously defined output and presents a new nonlinear controller that generalizes the robust coordinated PSS-AVR - namely, its linear action coincides with the one provided by the robust coordinated PSS-AVR -, with, additionally, no use of the mechanical input power. In fact, such

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a nonlinear generalization just endows the robust coordinated PSS-AVR with: i) a nonlinear term that relies on the power angle (being computed as in [22] or being measured *via* now available wide-area measurement technologies), allowing for an automatic gain scheduling; ii) nonlinear robustifying terms on the back-stepping-based electrical power tracking error, with the aim - whose effectiveness is illustrated by a numerical analysis - of enlarging the machine stability region. The simplicity of control structure and tuning procedure of the linear design is maintained: just one integrator is involved, while all model parameters are uncertain and are not estimated by the controller. From a theoretical point of view, such a nonlinear contribution simultaneously improves: i) the results in [8], [10], [23], [28], since transient stabilization and voltage regulation tasks are simultaneously accomplished, with no use of robust design strategies that require the existence of suitable stabilizing matrices and with no need of model-knowledge-based feedback linearizing precompensation-actions or switching between transient stabilizers and voltage regulators; ii) the output feedback results in [22] (see also [5] and references therein), since, even when the power angle profile is computed as in [22], only the values for the generator direct axis reactance and the voltage of the infinite bus are here required to be available, whereas several model parameters (including the damping coefficient) are assumed to be known in [22]; iii) the state feedback results in [4] (and all references therein), since several parameter estimates are not required, thus reducing the control complexity. Realistic simulations concerning a benchmark scenario show that the nonlinear controller preserves the stability when a short circuit occurs, whereas instability arises when the standard PSS-AVR is used.

II. PROBLEM FORMULATION AND DFLR CONTROL

In this section we present the generator dynamic model, formulate the problem and introduce the robust coordinated PSS-AVR control (DFLR control).

A. Dynamic model

The third order dynamic model of a synchronous generator connected to an infinite bus (see [5] for its description and [21], [2] for more general models) is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\delta} &= \omega \\ \dot{\omega} &= -\frac{D}{H}\omega - \frac{\omega_s}{H}P_e + \frac{\omega_s}{H}P_m \\ \dot{P}_e &= -\theta_1 P_e + \theta_2 \omega \sin^2(\delta) + P_e \omega \cot g(\delta) + \theta_3 \sin(\delta) u_f \\ V_t &= \left[\frac{\theta_4 P_e^2}{\sin^2(\delta)} + \theta_5 + \theta_6 P_e \cot g(\delta) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}},\end{aligned}\quad (1)$$

in which: δ (rad) denotes the generator power angle with respect to the infinite bus rotating at synchronous speed ω_s ; $\omega = \omega_g - \omega_s$ (rad/s) is the difference between the generator angular speed ω_g and the synchronous speed ω_s ; P_e (p.u.) denotes the active electrical power delivered by the generator to the infinite bus; u_f (p.u.) is the input to the Silicon Controlled Rectifier amplifier of the generator; P_m (p.u.) is the mechanical input power, V_t (p.u.) is the generator terminal

voltage. The reader is referred to [5] for the physical meaning of D , H and the six positive parameters $\theta_i > 0$, $1 \leq i \leq 6$. Model (1) turns out to be the well-known single-machine-infinite-bus representation, which, though of low dynamic order, well captures the main (small-signal) characteristics of a synchronous generator in a power network in the presence of parameter variations (see [3], [19]). Now, in order to avoid the physical singularities at $\delta = 0$ and $\delta = \pi$, the operation of the system is restricted to an arbitrarily large compact (connected) set \mathcal{B} contained in the open set:

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ (\delta, \omega, P_e) : (\delta, \omega, P_e) \in (0, \pi) \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+ \right\}.$$

B. Problem formulation

Definition 1 (transient stabilization & voltage regulation): Consider the synchronous generator described by the dynamic model (1), with its operation being restricted to \mathcal{B} . Assume that all the model parameters are constant and uncertain. The (robust) transient stabilization and voltage regulation problem for the synchronous generator consists in exponentially regulating to zero: i) the relative speed ω (transient stabilization); ii) the error between terminal voltage V_t and its reference value $V_{tr} = 1$ (p.u.) (voltage regulation).

The problem formulation of Definition 1 is well-posed, since the desired operating condition (at which voltage regulation is achieved) exists. It is given by $\delta = \delta_s$, $\omega = 0$, $P_e = P_m$, where (see [5] for the physical meaning of the parameters):

$$\delta_s = \operatorname{arccotg} \left[-\frac{V_s^2 X_d}{X_s P_m (X_s + X_d)} + \sqrt{\frac{V_s^2 V_{tr}^2}{X_s^2 P_m^2} - 1} \right]$$

belongs to the open set $(0, \pi/2)$ and guarantees terminal voltage regulation, namely:

$$\left[\frac{\theta_4 P_m^2}{\sin^2(\delta_s)} + \theta_5 + \theta_6 P_m \cot g(\delta_s) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = V_{tr}. \quad (2)$$

It corresponds to a stable equilibrium for system (1) fed by the open loop control $u_{fs} = \theta_1 P_m \theta_3^{-1} \sin(\delta_s)^{-1}$. According to [4], there is also another value $\delta_u \in [\pi/2, \pi)$ for δ (see also [2]) that guarantees terminal voltage regulation. It however corresponds to an unstable equilibrium for system (1) fed by the open loop control $u_{fu} = \theta_1 P_m \theta_3^{-1} \sin(\delta_u)^{-1}$.

C. Robust coordinated PSS-AVR control (DFLR)

Let us introduce the following regulation errors: $\tilde{\omega} = \omega$, $\tilde{P}_e = P_e - P_m$, $\tilde{V}_t = V_t - V_{tr}$. The classical Desensitized Four Loops Regulator (DFLR) (or, equivalently, the robust coordinated PSS-AVR) in [3] [see also (2)-(3) in [19]] can be then written as:

$$u_f(t) = k_\omega \tilde{\omega}(t) - k_p \tilde{P}_e(t) - k_v \tilde{V}_t(t) - k_I \int_0^t \tilde{V}_t(\tau) d\tau, \quad (3)$$

in terms of suitable control parameters k_ω , k_p , k_v , k_I . The above DFLR is apparently constituted by the combination of:

i) the (transient) stabilizing control action

$$u_{f,ts}(t) = k_\omega \tilde{\omega}(t) - k_p \tilde{P}_e(t) \quad (4)$$

that is represented, according to the second equation of (1), by the transfer function (acting on the Laplace transform of the relative speed $\tilde{\omega}$):

$$W_{ts}(s) = k_\omega + k_p H \omega_s^{-1} (s + DH^{-1}); \quad (5)$$

ii) the voltage regulating control action

$$u_{f,vt}(t) = -k_v \tilde{V}_t(t) - k_I \int_0^t \tilde{V}_t(\tau) d\tau \quad (6)$$

that is represented by the transfer function (acting on the Laplace transform of the terminal voltage regulation error \tilde{V}_t):

$$W_{vt}(s) = -(k_v + k_I/s). \quad (7)$$

As shown by [3], such DFLR can be put, by using straightforward approximations that do not significantly deteriorate the performance of the controller, in the standard AVR-PSS structure IEEE ST1A + PSS1A reported in Figures 2 and 4 of [3], with (5) and (7) mimicking the actions of the PSS and AVR, respectively.

III. NEW INTERPRETATIONS FOR THE DFLR

Define, besides the already defined regulation errors ($\tilde{\omega} = \omega$, $\tilde{P}_e = P_e - P_m$, $\tilde{V}_t = V_t - V_{tr}$), the power angle regulation error: $\tilde{\delta} = \delta - \delta_s$. Write the first order approximated expression of \tilde{V}_t (around the desired operating condition $[\delta_s, 0, P_m]^T$) as $\tilde{V}_t = -\beta_0 \tilde{\delta} + \beta_1 \tilde{P}_e$, where β_0 and β_1 turn out to be positive over the generator operating region (see [28]). We preliminarily state Lemma 1, whose results will be used in the reminder of this technical note.

Lemma 1: *The linearized dynamics \mathcal{LM} of the synchronous generator around the desired operating condition $[\delta_s, 0, P_m]^T$ is of relative degree one and minimum phase with respect to the output*

$$y = \tilde{V}_t - \mu\omega + \nu\tilde{P}_e, \quad (8)$$

where μ and ν are reals satisfying $\omega_s \mu + (\beta_1 + \nu)D > 0$ & $\beta_1 + \nu > 0$.

Proof: Starting from (1), consider the linearized dynamics \mathcal{LM} in terms of the state variables: $\tilde{\delta}$, $\tilde{\omega}$, \tilde{P}_e and the output y . By mimicking the first steps in [22], perform the change of coordinates: $z_1 = \tilde{\delta}$, $z_2 = \tilde{\omega}$, $z_3 = -DH^{-1}\tilde{\omega} - \omega_s H^{-1}\tilde{P}_e$ and thus obtain the system expressed in the new coordinates. It is of relative degree one and in reachability form: its transfer function (between the output y and the input $u \triangleq \omega_s \theta_3 H^{-1} \sin(\delta_s)(u_f - u_{fs})$) can be derived to be:

$$W_{\mathcal{M}}(s) = \frac{\frac{(\beta_1 + \nu)H}{\omega_s} s^2 + \left(\mu + \frac{(\beta_1 + \nu)D}{\omega_s}\right) s + \beta_0}{s^3 + \left(\frac{D}{H} - \alpha_2\right) s^2 + \left(\frac{\omega_s}{H} \alpha_1 - \frac{D}{H} \alpha_2\right) s + \frac{\omega_s}{H} \alpha_0}$$

where $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2$ are the reals: $\alpha_0 = \theta_3 u_{fs} \cos(\delta_s)$, $\alpha_1 = \theta_2 \sin^2(\delta_s) + P_m \cot g(\delta_s)$, $\alpha_2 = -\theta_1$ depending on the generator operating condition. Owing to the positive nature of the coefficients characterizing the numerator of $W_{\mathcal{M}}(s)$, the minimum phase property is guaranteed. ■

We now state Theorem 1.

Theorem 1: *Consider the linearized dynamics \mathcal{LM} of the synchronous generator around the operating condition*

$[\delta_s, 0, P_m]^T$. Let μ, ν satisfy the constraints of Lemma 1. Then the application of the (μ, ν) -DFLR ($k_y, k_{yI} > 0$):

$$u_{f,\mu,\nu}(t) = -k_y y(t) - k_{yI} \int_0^t y(\tau) d\tau \quad (9)$$

achieves transient stabilization and voltage regulation, provided that k_y is sufficiently large.

Proof: Equivalently express the generalized (μ, ν) -DFLR (9) as:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{f,\mu,\nu}(t) &= -k_y y(t) + \hat{u}_{fs}(t) \\ \dot{\hat{u}}_{fs}(t) &= -k_{yI} y(t), \quad \hat{u}_{fs}(0) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Consider the transfer function $W_{\mathcal{M}}(s)$. For the sake of compactness: i) denote by b_1, b_2, b_3 the positive coefficients of its numerator and let them constitute the components of a column vector b , with the zeroes of the polynomial $p(s) = b_1 s^2 + b_2 s + b_3$ all belonging to \mathbb{C}^- ; ii) denote by a_1, a_2, a_3 the coefficients of its monic denominator and let them constitute the components of the column vector a . Accordingly take the realization of $W_{\mathcal{M}}(s)$ in observability form:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + ay + bu \triangleq A_c x + ay + bu \\ y &= [1, 0, 0]x. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Recalling that $b_1 > 0$, the linear change of coordinates $[\eta^T, y] \triangleq [\eta_1, \eta_2, y]$ - with $\eta_i = x_{i+1} - b_{i+1} b_1^{-1} x_1$, $1 \leq i \leq 2$, $y = x_1$ - can be performed and stability arguments similar to those used in [17], once specialized to the case of constant disturbance compensation, can be used to prove the thesis. ■

The following Corollary demonstrates that the above (μ, ν) -DFLR (9) is related to a reparameterization of the DFLR (3).

Corollary 1: *Consider the linearized dynamics \mathcal{LM} of the synchronous generator around the operating condition $[\delta_s, 0, P_m]^T$. Let $P_{e0}, \tilde{\omega}_0, \tilde{V}_{t0}$ denote the initial conditions for $\tilde{P}_e(t), \tilde{\omega}(t), \tilde{V}_t(t)$ at time $t = 0$. Define the constant:*

$$\sigma_0 = k_{yI} \left(\mu + \frac{\nu D}{\omega_s} \right) \left(\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0} \tilde{P}_{e0} - \frac{\tilde{V}_{t0}}{\beta_0} \right) + k_{yI} \frac{\nu H}{\omega_s} \tilde{\omega}_0. \quad (12)$$

Then, the (μ, ν) -DFLR (10) with $\hat{u}_{fs}(0) = \sigma_0$ becomes the DFLR (3), with k_v, k_ω, k_p satisfying: $k_\omega = k_y \mu + k_{yI} \omega_s^{-1} H \nu$, $k_p = k_y \nu - k_{yI} \beta_1 \beta_0^{-1} (\mu + \nu D \omega_s^{-1})$, $k_v = k_y + k_{yI} \beta_0^{-1} (\mu + \nu D \omega_s^{-1})$, $k_I = k_{yI}$.

Proof: Use the $\tilde{\delta}$ and $\tilde{\omega}$ dynamics for the computation of the y -integral and write $\tilde{\delta}$ as $\beta_0^{-1} (\beta_1 \tilde{P}_e - \tilde{V}_t)$. ■

Once Lemma 1 and Corollary 1 have been established, a direct guideline in the control parameters tuning for (3) can be easily obtained: it involves just one parameter to be set at last, in accordance with the following corollary.

Corollary 2 (limit behaviour): *Consider the linearized dynamics \mathcal{LM} of the synchronous generator around the operating condition $[\delta_s, 0, P_m]^T$. Then, the application of the (μ, ν) -DFLR (9) with k_{yI}/k_y being constantly set to z , for k_y tending to $+\infty$, makes: i) two of the closed loop eigenvalues converge to the two open loop zeros of $W_{\mathcal{M}}(s)$ (not explicitly depending on X'_d, T_{d0}, K_c); ii) one of the closed*

loop eigenvalues converge to $-z$; iii) one of the closed loop eigenvalues tend to $-\infty$ (along the real axis).

Proof: Consider \mathcal{LM} , expressed, in accordance with the proof of Lemma 1, in terms of the coordinates z_1, z_2, z_3 and rewrite $u_{f,\mu,\nu}$ in terms of such coordinates. Define the new variable

$$Hz_4 = -\omega_s \alpha_0 z_1 - (\omega_s \alpha_1 - D \alpha_2) z_2 - (D - H \alpha_2) z_3 - \omega_s \theta_3 \sin(\delta_s)(u_f - u_{fs}) \quad (13)$$

and compute its dynamics. The proof relies on the root locus analysis and on the structure of the corresponding characteristic polynomial for the error system in z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 -coordinates, which reads

$$q_z(s) = m_1(s) + k_y \omega_s \sin(\delta_s) \theta_3 H^{-1} m_2(s), \quad (14)$$

where the roots of the polynomials $m_1(s)$ and $m_2(s)$ denote the open loop poles and zeroes, respectively (recall $W_{\mathcal{M}}(s)$ and the Laplace transform of $u_{f,\mu,\nu}$ in (9)). Such open loop zeroes, in accordance with the definition of β_0, β_1 and $\theta_4, \theta_6, \delta_s$, do not explicitly depend on X'_d, T_{d0}, K_c . ■

The proof of such a corollary clarifies that non-zero μ and ν in (9) are assigned to guarantee satisfactory transient performance, and in particular, to satisfactorily damp down speed oscillations: if $\mu = \nu = 0$, then, for arbitrarily large k_y (and k_{yI}/k_y being constantly set to z), two closed loop eigenvalues are attracted by the open loop zeroes of $W_{\mathcal{M}}(s)$, which, for such $\mu = \nu = 0$, guarantee a non-satisfactory damping since D is typically very small. On the other hand, Corollary 2 suggests to choose $\mu, \nu, k_{yI}/k_y$ to robustly place the open loop zeroes in the left half complex plane \mathbb{C}^- (independently of X'_d, T_{d0}, K_c), and then to largely increase k_y to achieve transient stabilization and voltage regulation¹. The different parameterization of the DFLR (3) rather allows, to arbitrarily impose, once (3) is applied to the error system in z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 -coordinates, the four closed loop eigenvalues through the four control parameters k_ω, k_p, k_v, k_I (to be simultaneously chosen depending on the specific operating condition and all the system parameters).

IV. NONLINEAR GENERALIZATION OF THE DFLR

In this section, we consider the nonlinear model (1) in place of the linearized one \mathcal{LM} . We accordingly present the design of a new nonlinear controller that generalizes, to the nonlinear model (1), the design of the robust coordinated PSS-AVR of Sections II-III, while additionally avoiding the use of the mechanical input power. The proposed nonlinear

generalization of the robust coordinated PSS-AVR is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} u_f &= \frac{-k_p(P_e - P_{er}) - k_r \Phi(\delta, P_e)(P_e - P_{er}) + \lambda \dot{\rho}}{\sin(\delta)} \\ \Phi(\delta, P_e) &= [\sin^2(\delta)]^2 + [P_e \cot(\delta)]^2 \\ P_{er} &= k_{p\omega} \omega + \hat{\rho} \\ \dot{\rho} &= -\mu_v \tilde{V}_t + \mu_\omega \omega, \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where: $k_p, k_r, \lambda, k_{p\omega}, \mu_v$ are suitable positive control parameters; μ_ω is a suitable non-negative control parameter satisfying $\max\{D, \mu_\omega\} > 0$.

Before stating the main result of this section (namely, Theorem 2), the following comments are in order.

Comment A. The nonlinear robust coordinated PSS-AVR (15) involves the injection of the power angle to provide an automatic gain scheduling and to handle the severe disturbances and contingencies characterizing the operation of power systems. We can provide two interpretations for the above controller (15): i) the state feedback one, when the power angle is measured *via* now available wide-area measurement technologies (see [9]); ii) the output feedback one, when the values of δ and X_s are computed through the (δ, X_s) -formulas derived in [5] (Q is the reactive power):

$$\begin{aligned} \delta &= \text{arccotg} \left[-\frac{V_s^2 X_d}{X_s P_e (X_s + X_d)} \pm \sqrt{\frac{V_s^2 V_t^2}{X_s^2 P_e^2} - 1} \right] \\ X_s &= \frac{-Q V_s^2 \pm \sqrt{Q^2 V_s^4 - (Q^2 + P_e^2)(V_s^2 - V_t^2) V_s^2}}{Q^2 + P_e^2} \end{aligned}$$

that just require the knowledge of the generator direct axis reactance and the voltage of the infinite bus². With this respect, recall that X_s may undergo sudden variations when electrical perturbations, such as faults on the transmission line, occur.

Comment B. Set $\mu_\omega = 0$ and $\hat{\rho}(0) = P_m$. Then, when higher order robustifying actions are neglected [w.r.t. the regulation and estimation errors $\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{\omega}, \tilde{P}_e, P_m - \hat{\rho}$], (15) reduces to $(\bar{k}_p = k_p + k_r \Phi(\delta_s, P_m))$:

$$u_f = \frac{1}{\sin(\delta)} \left[-\bar{k}_p \tilde{P}_e + \bar{k}_p k_{p\omega} \omega - \lambda \mu_v \tilde{V}_t - \bar{k}_p \mu_v \int_0^t \tilde{V}_t(\tau) d\tau \right]$$

that coincides with the DFLR (3):

$$u_f = \frac{1}{\sin(\delta_s)} \left[-\bar{k}_p \tilde{P}_e + \bar{k}_p k_{p\omega} \omega - \lambda \mu_v \tilde{V}_t - \bar{k}_p \mu_v \int_0^t \tilde{V}_t(\tau) d\tau \right]$$

once δ appearing at the denominator is replaced by δ_s and incorporated into the control gains. In other words, the nonlinear robust coordinated PSS-AVR (15) exhibits different linearizations around different operating conditions. Those different linear actions can be seen as equivalent actions of local robust coordinated PSS-AVR linear controllers with different control parameters. The controller (15) can be thus viewed as a nonlinear version of a simple combination between a robust coordinated PSS-AVR and an automatic smooth nonlinear gain scheduling procedure. The operating status of the controller

¹It is interesting to notice that the industrial coordinated PSS-AVR of Figure 5 of [3] can be, in turn, obtained through the application of a slight variant of the approach underlying the proof of Theorem 1. Such a variant is based on Lemma 4 in [15]. In particular, while the controller in Theorem 1 (described by a proper rational function) first feeds back the output error y to stabilize the (minimum phase) error system and then includes an integral action on y being responsible of generating a converging estimate of the uncertain constant u_{fs} , such a different controller relying on Lemma 4 in [15] (described by a strictly proper transfer function) first includes an integrator in its transfer function and then stabilizes the resulting error feedback through a proper rational function. In this respect, notice that Lemma 4 in [15] is correct for $d \leq 4$, whereas, for $d \geq 5$, a typo concerning g_0 in place of q_d appears (which the counterexample of [11] to Lemma 4 of [15] just relies on).

²Uncertainties about the infinite bus voltage value are usually present in the practice. In the realistic simulations of Section V, just the nominal value of the infinite bus voltage will be used.

is automatically changed when operating conditions vary, so that a smooth transfer between the actions of local robust coordinated PSS-AVR linear controllers is performed.

We are now able to present Theorem 2.

Theorem 2: Consider the nonlinear robust coordinated PSS-AVR (15). Besides $\tilde{\delta} = \delta - \delta_s$ and $\tilde{\omega} = \omega$, define the new error coordinates: $e_p = P_e - P_{er} - P_{ess}$, $\tilde{P}_m = P_m - P_{ess} - \hat{\rho}$ in terms of the suitable constant

$$P_{ess} = \frac{-\theta_1 P_m}{\theta_3 [k_p + k_r \Phi(\delta_s, P_m)]}. \quad (16)$$

Then transient stabilization and voltage regulation is achieved. In particular, the origin of the error system in the $(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{\omega}, -(D + \omega_s k_{p\omega})H^{-1}\tilde{\omega} + \omega_s H^{-1}\tilde{P}_m, e_p)$ -coordinates - corresponding to the desired operating condition $[\delta_s, 0, P_m]^T$ -, is exponentially stable, for sufficiently large k_p and k_r and for suitable μ_ω , μ_v , $k_{p\omega}$ robustly placing in \mathbb{C}^- the roots of the polynomial (not explicitly depending on X'_d, T_{d0}, K_c): $\Pi_A(s) = s^3 + ((D + \omega_s k_{p\omega})H^{-1} + \beta_1 \mu_v)s^2 + (\beta_1 D H^{-1} \mu_v + \omega_s H^{-1} \mu_\omega)s + \omega_s \beta_0 H^{-1} \mu_v$.

Proof: First compute the $\tilde{\delta}$ - and the $\tilde{\omega}$ - dynamics by defining $\lambda_\omega = (D + \omega_s k_{p\omega})H^{-1}$. According to the first part of Section III, write

$$\tilde{V}_t = -\beta_0 \tilde{\delta} + \beta_1 \tilde{P}_e + h_V(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{P}_e), \quad (17)$$

where $h_V(\cdot, \cdot)$ collects the higher order terms in the regulation errors $\tilde{\delta}$ and \tilde{P}_e . By writing $\tilde{P}_e = e_p + k_{p\omega} \tilde{\omega} - \tilde{P}_m$ and by recalling the definition of P_{er} , the \tilde{V}_t -expression, in the new error coordinates, becomes:

$$\tilde{V}_t = -\beta_0 \tilde{\delta} + \beta_1 k_{p\omega} \tilde{\omega} - \beta_1 \tilde{P}_m + \beta_1 e_p + \eta_V(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{\omega}, \tilde{P}_m, e_p)$$

where $\eta_V(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{\omega}, \tilde{P}_m, e_p) \triangleq h_V(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{P}_e)$ collects, by definition, the higher order terms in the new errors $\tilde{\delta}$, $\tilde{\omega}$, \tilde{P}_m , e_p . The injection of the output y into the \tilde{P}_m -dynamics (no knowledge of the mechanical input power is here assumed, so that $\nu = 0$ has to be taken in (8)) is thus able to modify the last row of the matrix characterizing the $(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{\omega}, \tilde{P}_m)$ - error subsystem. Accordingly write the error dynamics in terms of the new error variables: $z_1 = \tilde{\delta}$, $z_2 = \tilde{\omega}$, $z_3 = -\lambda_\omega \tilde{\omega} + \omega_s H^{-1} \tilde{P}_m$. The aim is to recover the previously presented arguments concerning the error system in z -coordinates, once: i) the value of D has been artificially modified through the $k_{p\omega}$ -based pre-feedback action (with the aim of obviating the absence of ν); ii) $\hat{\rho}$ has been endowed with the role of u_f and y has been fed back with the suitable negative sign in order to stabilize, with the desired eigenvalues, the resulting third-order error subsystem. In this sense, the polynomial $\Pi_A(s)$ does constitute the mirrored counterpart of the characteristic polynomial of the matrix characterizing \mathcal{LM} in z -coordinates, once u_f is replaced by $\hat{\rho}$. After some tedious computations, the perturbed triangular system:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{z}_1 &= z_2 \\ \dot{z}_2 &= z_3 - \frac{\omega_s}{H} e_p \\ \dot{z}_3 &= -\omega_s \beta_0 H^{-1} \mu_v z_1 - (\beta_1 D H^{-1} \mu_v + \omega_s H^{-1} \mu_\omega) z_2 \\ &\quad - (\lambda_\omega + \beta_1 \mu_v) z_3 + \omega_s H^{-1} (\lambda_\omega + \beta_1 \mu_v) e_p \\ &\quad + \omega_s H^{-1} \mu_v \eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

is derived, where $\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) \triangleq \eta_V(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{\omega}, \tilde{P}_m, e_p)$. In accordance with the companion form structure of the matrix characterizing the above error subsystem, it is possible to choose μ_v , μ_ω , $k_{p\omega}$ (affecting λ_ω) in order to robustly place all its eigenvalues - namely, the roots of the polynomial $\Pi_A(s)$ - in the left half complex plane \mathbb{C}^- (independently of X'_d, T_{d0}, K_c). Meanwhile, notice how μ_ω is to be necessarily positive when D is zero. On the other hand, the e_p -dynamics can be derived as:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{e}_p &= -\theta_1 P_e + \theta_2 \omega \sin^2(\delta) + P_e \omega \cot g(\delta) + \theta_3 \sin(\delta) u_f \\ &\quad - \left[k_{p\omega} (z_3 - \omega_s H^{-1} e_p) + \mu_v \beta_0 z_1 - \mu_v \beta_1 e_p \right. \\ &\quad + \mu_v \beta_1 H \omega_s^{-1} z_3 + \mu_v \beta_1 H \omega_s^{-1} \lambda_\omega z_2 - \mu_v \beta_1 k_{p\omega} z_2 \\ &\quad \left. - \mu_v \eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) + \mu_\omega z_2 \right], \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

with P_e again satisfying $P_e = e_p - \tilde{P}_m + k_{p\omega} \tilde{\omega} + P_m$. Finally get:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{e}_p &= -\theta_1 e_p - \theta_1 P_m + \theta_1 H \omega_s^{-1} (z_3 + \lambda_\omega z_2) - \theta_1 k_{p\omega} z_2 \\ &\quad + \theta_2 z_2 \sin^2(\delta) + P_e z_2 \cot g(\delta) + \theta_3 \sin(\delta) u_f \\ &\quad - \mu_v \beta_0 z_1 - \mu_v \beta_1 D \omega_s^{-1} z_2 - \mu_\omega z_2 \\ &\quad - (k_{p\omega} + \mu_v \beta_1 H \omega_s^{-1}) z_3 + (k_{p\omega} \omega_s H^{-1} + \mu_v \beta_1) e_p \\ &\quad + \mu_v \eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p), \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

whereas, from (15), write

$$u_f \sin(\delta) = -k_p e_p - k_r \Phi(\delta, P_e) e_p + \lambda \dot{\rho} + \frac{\theta_1 P_m}{\theta_3} - k_r P_{ess} \Lambda_p,$$

with $\Lambda_p = (\sin^2(\delta))^2 - (\sin^2(\delta_s))^2 + (P_e \cot g(\delta))^2 - (P_m \cot g(\delta_s))^2$. On the basis of the Λ_p -expression and the P_{ess} -definition, write

$$-k_r P_{ess} \Lambda_p = \frac{k_r \theta_1 P_m}{\theta_3 [k_p + k_r \Phi(\delta_s, P_m)]} \Lambda_p \triangleq \alpha_p \Lambda_p, \quad (21)$$

with α_p belonging to the open connected set $\mathcal{C}_p = (0, \theta_1 P_m \theta_3^{-1} \Phi(\delta_s, P_m)^{-1})$. Now, in the RHS of (18), let: A_z be the matrix multiplying the vector $z = [z_1, z_2, z_3]^T$; B_p be the column vector multiplying e_p ; B_η be the column vector multiplying $\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p)$. Set the control parameters to satisfy the related assumption of Theorem 2 (concerning the roots of $\Pi_A(s)$) and let P_z be the symmetric positive definite matrix satisfying the Lyapunov equation $P_z A_z + A_z^T P_z = -\mathbb{I}$ in terms of the identity matrix $\mathbb{I} \in \mathcal{M}(3, \mathbb{R})$. Furthermore, consider the composite Lyapunov function

$$\mathcal{W} = z^T P_z z + \frac{1}{2} e_p^2 \quad (22)$$

that satisfies, along the trajectories of the closed loop system, the equality:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathcal{W}} &= -\|z\|^2 + 2z^T P_z B_p e_p + 2z^T P_z B_\eta \eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) \\ &\quad - [\theta_1 + k_p \theta_3 - k_{p\omega} \omega_s H^{-1} - \mu_v \beta_1] e_p^2 \\ &\quad + \alpha_p \Lambda_p \theta_3 e_p + \lambda \dot{\rho} \theta_3 e_p - k_r \theta_3 \Phi(\delta, P_e) e_p^2 \\ &\quad + \theta_2 \sin^2(\delta) z_2 e_p + P_e \cot g(\delta) z_2 e_p \\ &\quad + \mu_v \eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) e_p - \mu_v \beta_0 z_1 e_p \\ &\quad + [\theta_1 D \omega_s^{-1} - \mu_\omega - \mu_v \beta_1 D \omega_s^{-1}] z_2 e_p \\ &\quad + [\theta_1 H \omega_s^{-1} - k_{p\omega} - \mu_v \beta_1 H \omega_s^{-1}] z_3 e_p. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Recall that $a^2 - b^2 = (a - b)(a + b)$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$; then write $P_e \cot g(\delta) - P_m \cot g(\delta_s) = P_e \cot g(\delta) - P_m \cot g(\delta) + P_m \cot g(\delta) - P_m \cot g(\delta_s)$, as well as $\tilde{P}_e = e_p + k_{p\omega} z_2 - H\omega_s^{-1}(z_3 + \lambda\omega z_2)$. Then obtain $|\Lambda_p| \leq \sum_{i=1}^3 \gamma_{pi}|z_i| + \gamma_4|e_p|$ over $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{D}$, with γ_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) being positive reals depending on the diameter of \mathcal{B} but not increasing while k_p and k_r increase. On the other hand, write

$$\lambda \dot{\hat{p}} = -\lambda \mu_v \left[-\beta_0 z_1 + \beta_1 k_{p\omega} z_2 - \beta_1 H\omega_s^{-1}(z_3 + \lambda\omega z_2) + \beta_1 e_p + \eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) \right] + \lambda \mu_\omega z_2.$$

Equation (23) thus leads to the inequality³

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathcal{W}} \leq & -\|z\|^2 + 2\|z\| \|P_z\| \|B_p\| |e_p| \\ & + 2\|z\| \|P_z\| \|B_\eta\| |\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p)| \\ & - [\theta_1 + k_p \theta_3 - k_{p\omega} \omega_s H^{-1} - \mu_v \beta_1 + \lambda \mu_v \beta_1 \theta_3] e_p^2 \\ & + \alpha_p |\Lambda_p| \theta_3 |e_p| - k_r \theta_3 \Phi(\delta, P_e) e_p^2 \\ & + \theta_2 \sin^2(\delta) |z_2| |e_p| + |P_e \cot g(\delta)| |z_2| |e_p| \\ & + \mu_v |\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p)| |e_p| + \mu_v \beta_0 |z_1| |e_p| \\ & + \mu_v \beta_0 \lambda \theta_3 |z_1| |e_p| + \left| \theta_1 D\omega_s^{-1} - \mu_\omega - \mu_v \beta_1 D\omega_s^{-1} \right. \\ & \left. + \mu_v \beta_1 D\lambda \theta_3 \omega_s^{-1} + \lambda \theta_3 \mu_\omega \right| |z_2| |e_p| \\ & + \left| \theta_1 H\omega_s^{-1} - k_{p\omega} - \mu_v \beta_1 H\omega_s^{-1} \right. \\ & \left. + \mu_v \beta_1 H\omega_s^{-1} \lambda \theta_3 \right| |z_3| |e_p| \\ & + \mu_v \theta_3 \lambda |\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p)| |e_p|. \end{aligned}$$

By finally completing the squares and by setting sufficiently large k_p and k_r (under given μ_ω , μ_v , $k_{p\omega}$), we obtain, in terms of suitable positive reals g_p and g_{pb} , the last compact inequality:

$$\dot{\mathcal{W}} \leq -\|z\|^2/4 - g_p e_p^2 + g_{pb} |\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p)| (|e_p| + \|z\|), \quad (24)$$

where $\eta_z(z_1, z_2, z_3, e_p) = h_V(\tilde{\delta}, \tilde{P}_e)$ just collects the higher order terms of \tilde{V}_t in (17). Such a \tilde{V}_t is injected into the error dynamics by the control (15), through the gain μ_v . Exponential convergence of the (z, e_p) -errors is thus achieved for sufficiently small initial (z, e_p) -errors: $z_1(0) = \tilde{\delta}(0)$, $z_2(0) = \tilde{\omega}(0)$, $z_3(0) = -\lambda\omega\tilde{\omega}(0) + \omega_s H^{-1}(P_m - \hat{p}(0) - P_{ess})$, $e_p(0) = P_e(0) - P_m - k_{p\omega}\tilde{\omega}(0) + (P_m - \hat{p}(0) - P_{ess})$, that make, for any t and in accordance with (24): i) $\dot{\mathcal{W}}$ be negative definite; ii) generator states and references belong to \mathcal{B} . With this respect, recall that: i) γ_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) are positive reals that do not increase while k_p and k_r increase; ii) P_{ess} turns out to decrease as k_p and k_r increase. On the other hand, achieving exponential convergence of the (z, e_p) -errors to zero guarantees exponential convergence of $\tilde{\delta}(t) = \delta(t) - \delta_s$, $\tilde{\omega}(t) = \omega(t)$ to zero, along with exponential convergence to zero of $\tilde{P}_e(t)$ and $P_m - \hat{p}(t) - P_{ess}$. ■

Comment C. The design of (15) and the corresponding stability analysis have taken advantage from the y -based arguments of Section III, as the \tilde{P}_m -dynamics has shown. On

the other hand, a back-stepping action that is reminiscent of the typical two-time-scale arguments has been adopted⁴. It is confined to the natural definition of the electrical power reference, so that all the uncertainties in the corresponding electrical power tracking error dynamics are compensated by the integrator placed into the upper mechanical subsystem. Nonlinear robustifying actions can be just included at last, through the use of a composite Lyapunov function. In contrast to the fully linearized analyses which Theorem 1 and Corollary 2 rely on, genuinely nonlinear stability tools (applied to the nonlinear model (1) with just local validity) allow us to neglect, in the Lyapunov analysis of Theorem 2, just the nonlinearities concerning the terminal voltage equation, whereas the well-known nonlinearities affecting the electrical power dynamics are explicitly faced by the nonlinear features of the controller (aiming at enlarging the stability region) and by one last control parameter to be set at last.

Comment D. According to *Comment B*, set $\mu_\omega = 0$, $\hat{p}(0) = P_m$, replace δ appearing at the denominator by δ_s and neglect higher order robustifying actions in (15). Then, (15) coincides with DFLR (3) [under equivalent gains], which admits an attraction domain \mathcal{R}_1 (whose estimate may be provided by linearization arguments), whereas a possibly different attraction domain \mathcal{R}_{nl} exists (whose estimate is given by the proof of Theorem 2) for the corresponding nonlinear version (15). The effectiveness of (15) in including points in the state space of (1) - that do not belong to \mathcal{R}_1 - into its attraction domain \mathcal{R}_{nl} can be inspected through a numerical analysis. Consider the synchronous generator in [22] (no input saturations are considered), whose physical parameter values are: $\omega_s = 314.159$ rad/s, $D = 5$ p.u., $H = 8$ s, $T_{d0} = 6.9$ s, $K_c = 1$, $X_d = 1.863$ p.u., $X'_d = 0.257$ p.u., $X_T = 0.127$ p.u., $X_L = 0.4853$ p.u.. The nominal operating condition $\delta_s = 1.256$ rad, $P_m = 0.9$ p.u., $\omega = 0$ rad/s guarantees $V_t = V_{tr} = 1$ p.u., with $V_s = 1$ p.u.. The common control parameters for both the controllers (15) and (3) [under equivalent gains] are (in SI units): $k_{p\omega} = 1.5$, $\lambda = 3$, $k_p = 1.5$, $k_r = 9$, $\mu_v = 18$ ($\mu_\omega = 0$), while the controller initial conditions are compatible with the operating point (with the feedforward contribution u_{fs} being included in the controllers). Figure 1 - concerning the numerical integration of the equations involved in the considered scenario - shows that there exists a set of initial conditions, namely $\delta(0) = 0.3$ rad, $\omega(0) = -3$ rad/s, $P_e(0) = 2.2$ p.u., that belongs to the stability region \mathcal{R}_{nl} guaranteed by (15) but not on \mathcal{R}_1 .

Comment E. The nonlinear robust coordinated PSS-AVR (15) can be seen as the evolution of the nonlinear decentralized robust adaptive controller in [21], which was exclusively designed for transient stabilization, under a rather weak set of assumptions on the remote network dynamics. The inclusion in (15) of the terminal voltage regulation error to drive the mechanical input power estimate (acting as the integral term of (3)) allows (15) to achieve voltage regulation even at permanently perturbed operating points (see the subsequent Figure 2 concerning a 70%-decrease of P_m and a double

³Notice that, when $\lambda\theta_3 = 1$, several coefficients disappear from the non-definite sign terms. This explains the feedforward role of the λ -term in (15).

⁴The use of the proposed technique can be extended to similar scenarios concerning nonlinear systems with extended matching uncertainties.

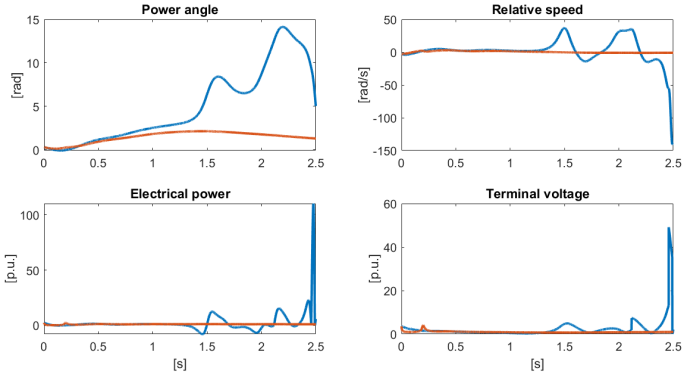


Fig. 1. Power angle δ , relative speed ω , electrical power P_e , terminal voltage V_t (blue: DFLR; red: proposed nonlinear controller).

33%-increase of the nominal X_L -value for the synchronous generator already used in Comment D., under the action of the nonlinear controller (15) and the equivalently tuned DFLR (5) with (in SI units): $k_{p\omega} = 1.5$, $\lambda = 3$, $k_p = 1.5$, $k_r = 9$, $\mu_v = 18$ ($\mu_\omega = 0$), and with the controllers initial conditions being compatible with the operating point. Here the DFLR performance slightly degrades with respect to (15).

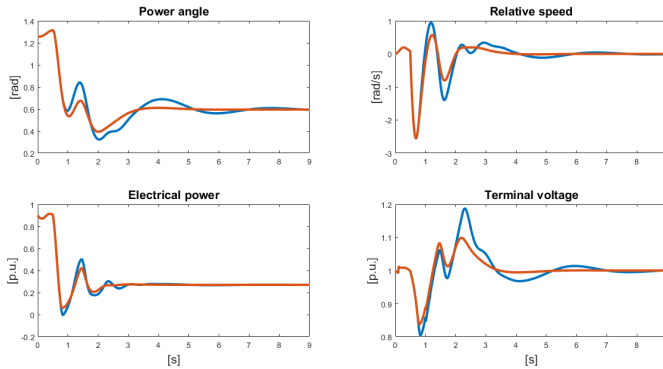


Fig. 2. Power angle δ , relative speed ω , electrical power P_e , terminal voltage V_t (blue: DFLR (3); red: nonlinear controller (15)).

V. SIMULATION RESULTS IN SIMSCAPE ELECTRICAL

This section illustrates the previous theoretical derivations concerning the output feedback version of the control algorithm (15), in comparison to the standard PSS-AVR structure (see Section II.C). The quantities X_s and δ required by (15) have been computed *via* the (δ, X_s) -formulas of [5], here using X_d and just the nominal value of the infinite bus voltage V_s . The simulations have been carried out with reference to the Matlab/Simulink Simescape Electrical benchmark (including detailed electrical models and several additional elements), in which the duration of the short circuit - placed just after the transformer connecting the test machine to the transmission line - has been set to 90 ms and no SVC has been considered. In particular, simulations concern the Single Machine Infinite Bus real case at <https://fr.mathworks.com/help/physmod/sps/examples/svc-and-pss-phasor-model.html>, represented by a 1000 MW machine,

connected to a 5000 MW power plant through a 700 km line. The physical saturation for the generators exciters, which is an important limitation for the control performance, is the same for both the controllers. The parameters for the standard PSS-AVR are set as: gain= 2, wash-out time constant 0.7, lead-lag time constants $T_{num} = 60e^{-3}$, $T_{den} = 0.5$. The parameters of the output feedback control (15) are chosen as: $k_{p\omega} = 70$, $\lambda = 90$, $k_p = 10$, $k_r = 10$, $\mu_v = 10$, $\mu_\omega = 10$. Figure 3 shows how the standard PSS-AVR is not able to keep the system stability: δ goes outbounds. On the other hand, when (15) is used in the test machine - with the infinite bus remaining with the standard PSS-AVR -, systems stability is assured even in the presence of 5% noise⁵ on the active and reactive electrical powers P_e and Q , as shown in Figure 4; all states are kept inside their operation bounds. According to Figure 5, the standard PSS-AVR input saturates while being not able to bring the generator back to synchronism to the main grid, whereas the (15)- control input saturates as well but it is then able to bring the generator back to its equilibrium point.

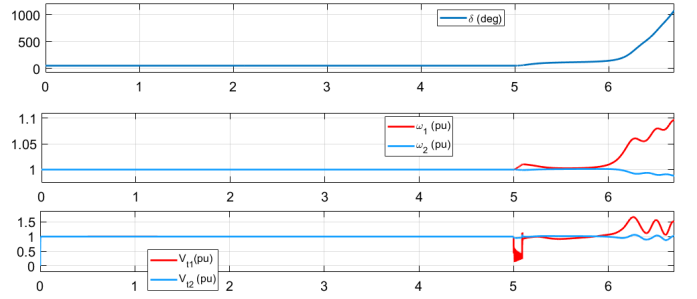


Fig. 3. Standard PSS-AVR: (a) power angle δ in degrees; (b) angular speeds $\omega_{1,2}$ in p.u.; (c) output voltages $V_{t1,2}$.

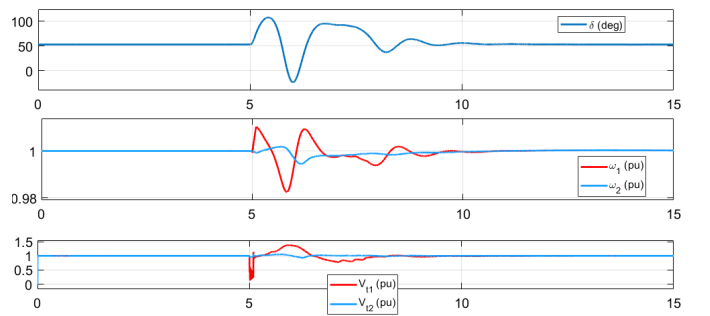


Fig. 4. Output feedback control (15) under noise effects: (a) power angle δ in degrees; (b) angular speeds $\omega_{1,2}$ in p.u.; (c) output voltages $V_{t1,2}$ in p.u.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The transient stabilization and voltage regulation problem for a synchronous generator connected to an infinite bus (see Definition 1) has been addressed when all the physical parameters are uncertain. New interpretations for the DFLR (3)

⁵Usually (in similar scenarios) all current structures work pretty well under noise.

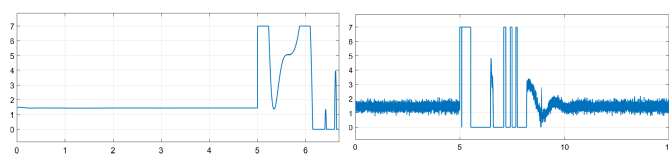


Fig. 5. Standard PSS-AVR (left); output feedback control (15) under noise effects (right): control input in p.u.

have been first derived in Section III (see Lemma 1, Theorem 1 and Corollaries 1-2). Such new interpretations have led to the nonlinear control (15), whose linear action coincides with the one provided by (3): simplicity of control structure (just one integrator is involved) and robust tuning procedure of the linear design (see Theorem 2) have been preserved, with, additionally, no use of the mechanical input power. Control (15) has endowed the robust coordinated PSS-AVR (3) with: i) a nonlinear term that relies on the power angle, allowing for an automatic gain scheduling; ii) nonlinear robustifying terms on the back-stepping-based electrical power tracking error, with the aim of enlarging the machine stability region (as illustrated by numerical analysis). Realistic simulations concerning a benchmark scenario have finally shown that the nonlinear controller preserves the stability when a 90 ms-long short circuit occurs, whereas instability arises when the standard PSS-AVR is used.

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