



Calculate Center-of-Inertia Frequency and System RoCoF Using PMU Data

Shutang (Steve) You¹, Hongyu Li¹, Yilu Liu^{1,2}

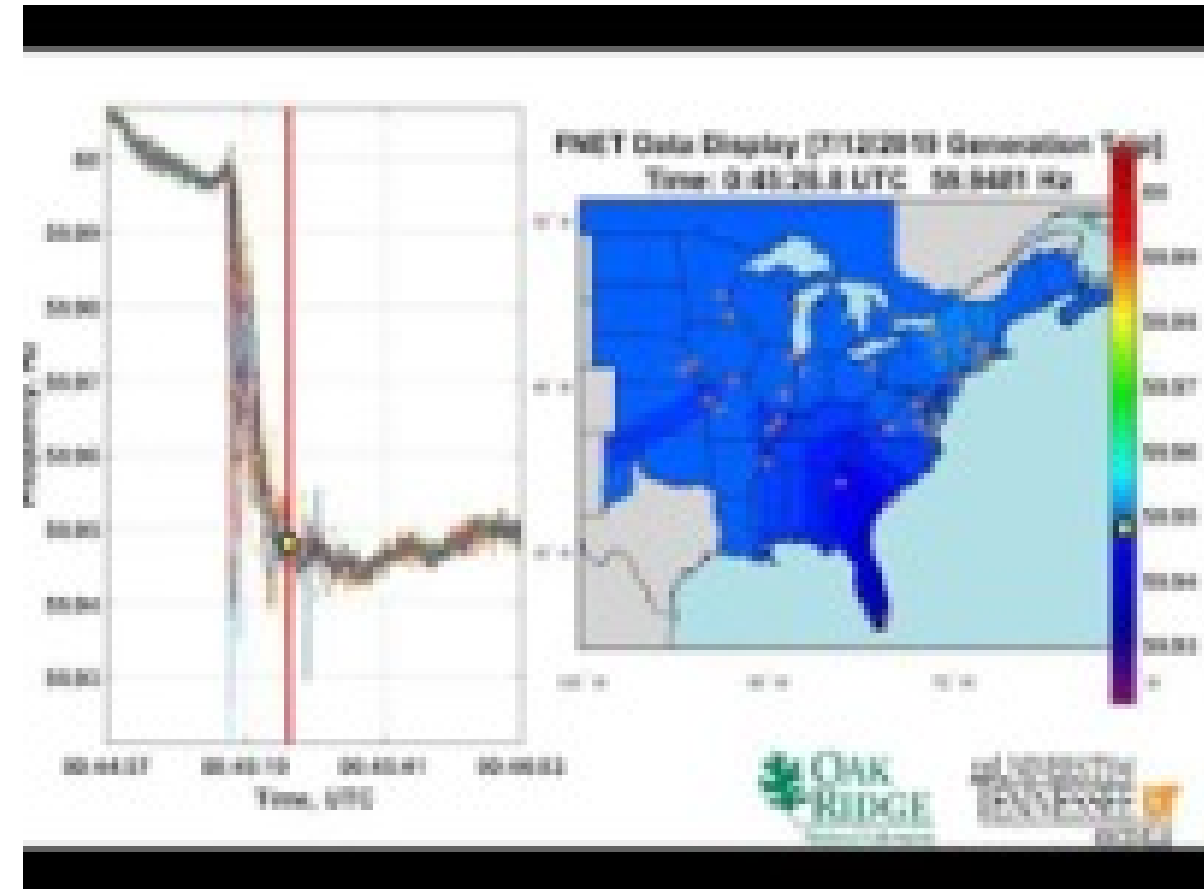
1. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2. Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Emails: syou3@utk.edu; liu@utk.edu

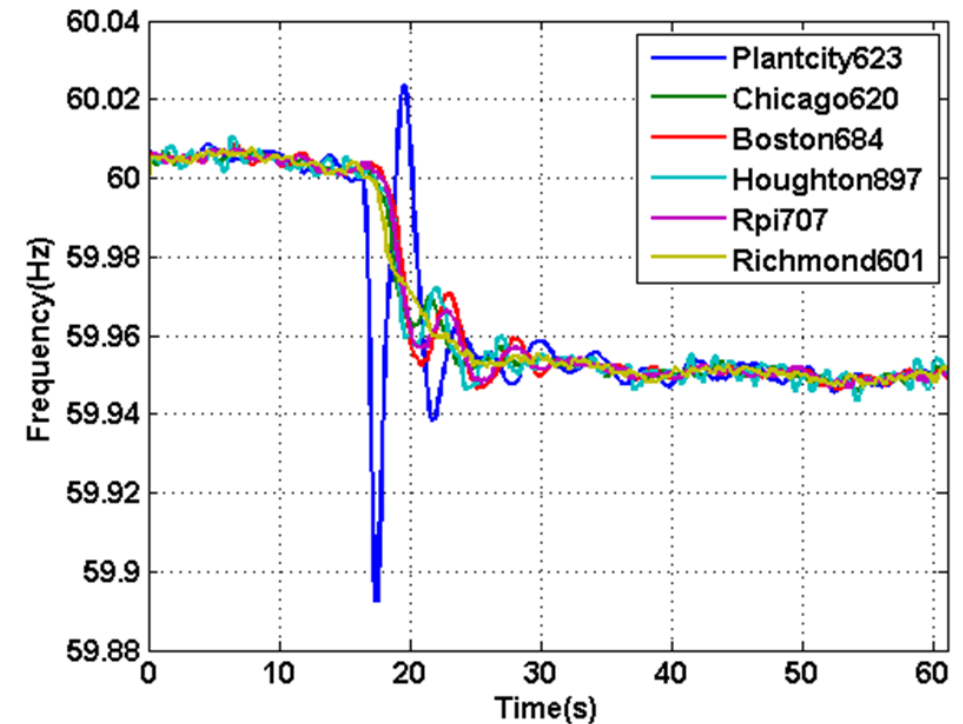
What is Col frequency and why does it matter?

- “What is the system frequency?”
 - This may be an invalid question, like “how deep is the sea?”.
 - The frequency is usually localized measurement data.
- Col frequency
 - The Col frequency is the frequency value weighted by inertia at different locations across the geographic distribution of a power grid.
 - It may represent “the system frequency” (if we assume there exists one).



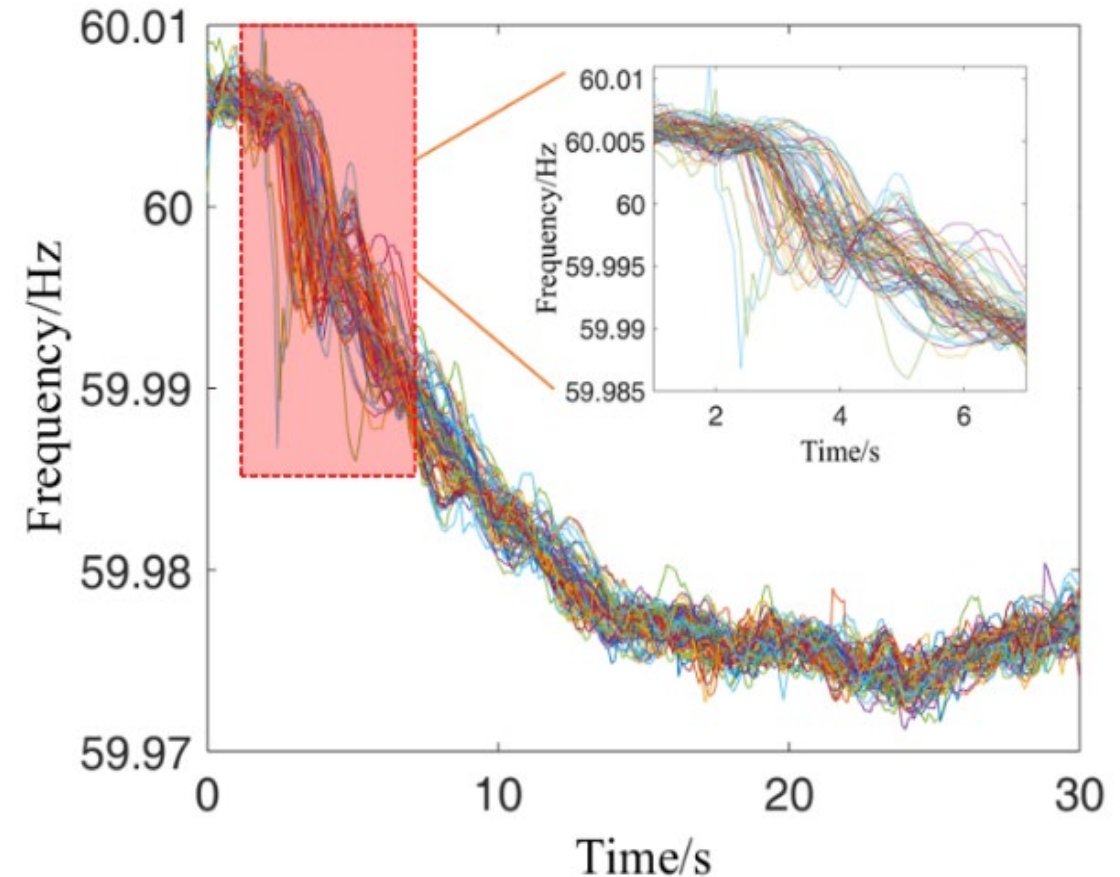
Col-RoCoF

- RoCoF, the rate of change of the frequency, is useful for
 - Protection relays of distributed resources
 - Islanding detection
 - Control of energy storage
 - Synthetic inertia emulation
 - Frequency control
 - Underfrequency load shedding
 - Inertia estimation
 - Event magnitude estimation
- Once the Col frequency is known, Col-RoCoF can be calculated.
- Similar to the Col frequency, Col-RoCoF is sometimes more useful than individual RoCoF obtained locally.



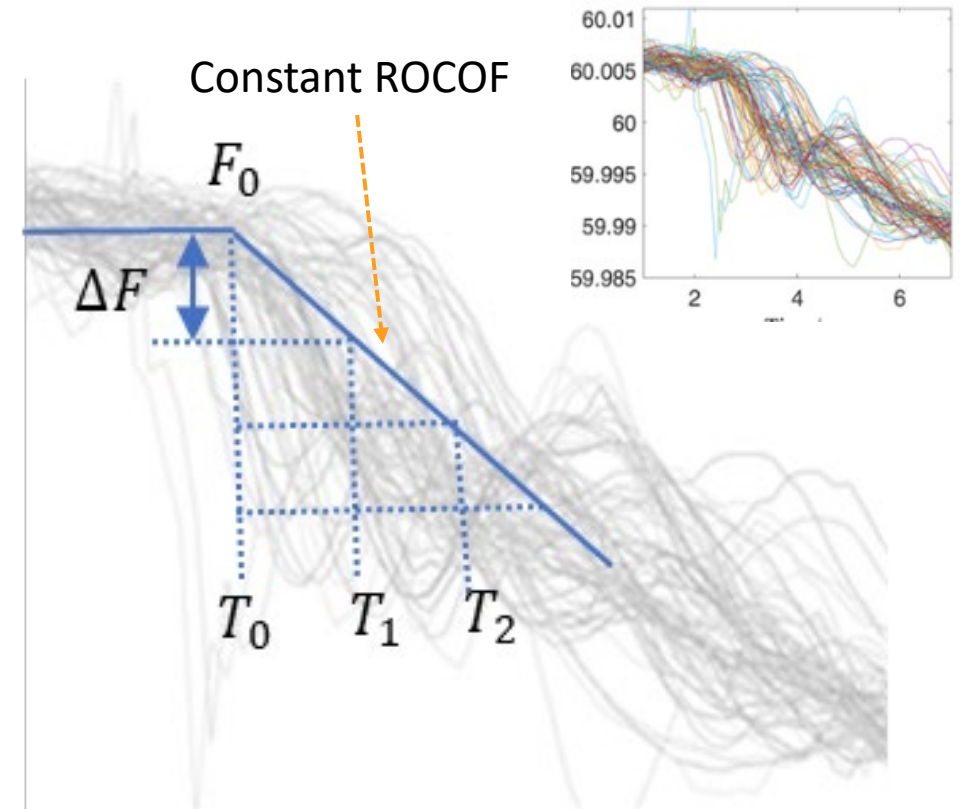
Col frequency and Col-RoCoF

- Col frequency is difficult to obtain due to:
 - Electromechanical wave propagation and oscillations
 - Inadequate deployment of sensors for localized frequency measurement of all inertia contributors
 - Constantly changing system inertia distribution, such as unit commitment and load inertia contribution
- Conventional methods include using the system medium frequency or average frequency to represent system Col frequency and calculate RoCoF.



Proposed method – assumptions

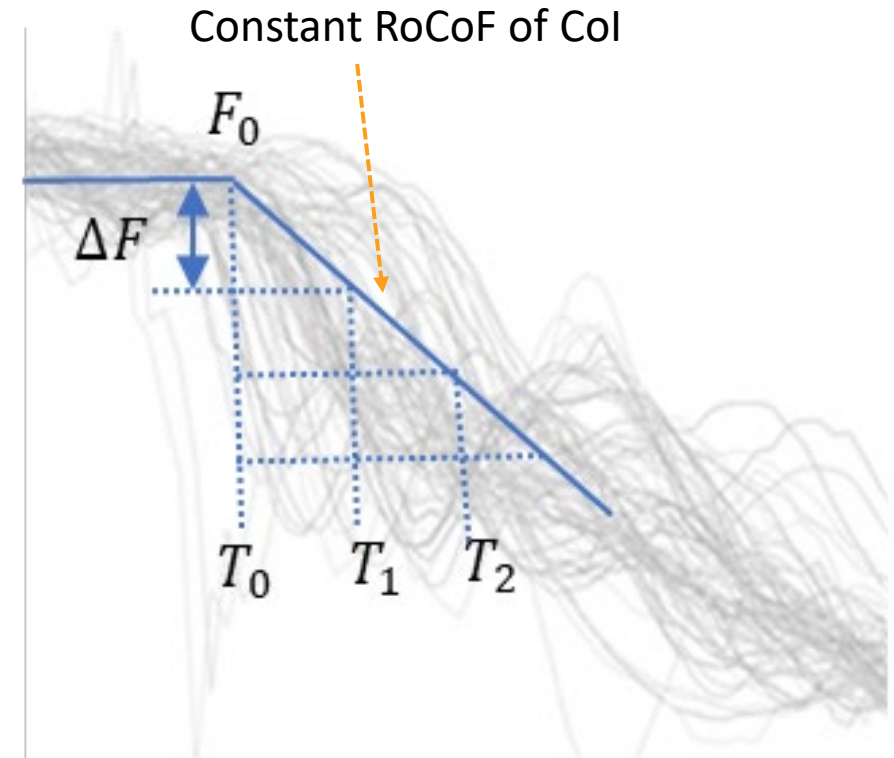
- Col-RoCoF is influenced by two factors, system inertia and the event MW amount.
- Other factors that may have an impact are simplified
 - Governor response are not considered due to the existence of the governor deadband and the delay of governor response.
 - Load response are not considered due to that the initial frequency deviation is small.
- With these assumptions, Col-RoCoF is a **constant value in the initial period** (the first 1-2 seconds) after a generation loss.



System frequency after a generation trip

Proposed method – objective

- Borrow the idea of weighted-average frequency in the Col frequency definition. The objective is to find the weighting values for each frequency measurement.
 - How can we find the optimal weighing values using just frequency measurements to make this Col-RoCoF constant in this time window?



System frequency after a generation trip

Proposed method – formulation

- Each time stamp data point can form an equation.

$$T_K: \quad f_1[T_K] \cdot x_1 + f_2[T_K] \cdot x_2 + f_3[T_K] \cdot x_3 + \cdots + f_N[T_K] \cdot x_N \\ = F_0 + K \cdot \Delta F$$

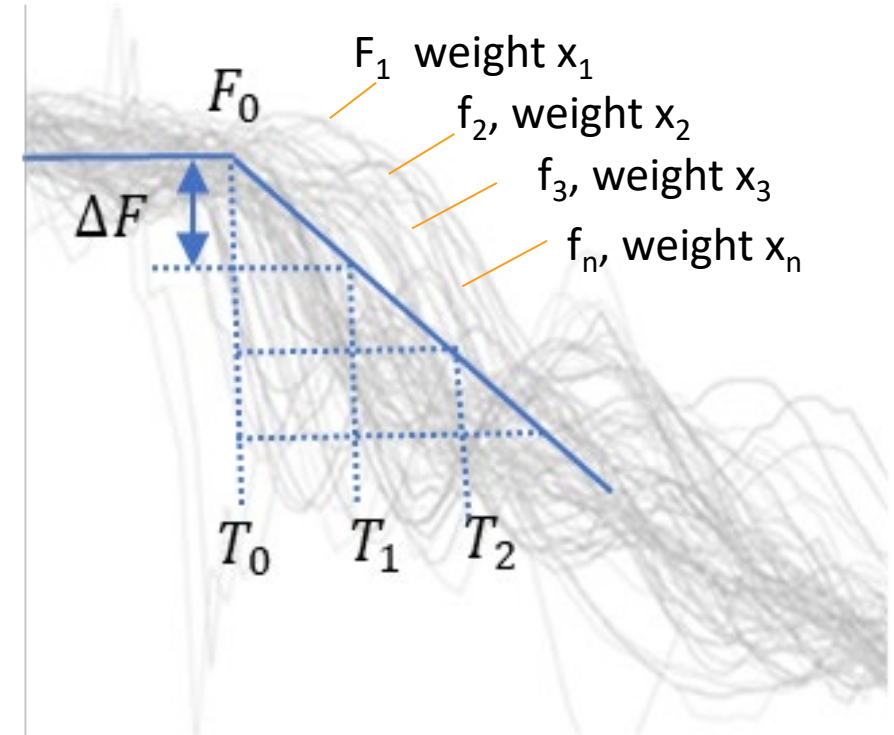
where $x = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N]^T$ are the weights of different PMU channels, $\sum\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_N\} = 1$

- As the time window includes multiple data points, the problem can be represented by a set of equations.
- The solution can be found using the ordinary least square method.

$$\min \|Ax_E - b\|$$

- The solution of weights is

$$x_E = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$



System frequency after a generation trip

Proposed method – output

- After x is determined, the CoI frequency can be calculated by weighting the frequency values as

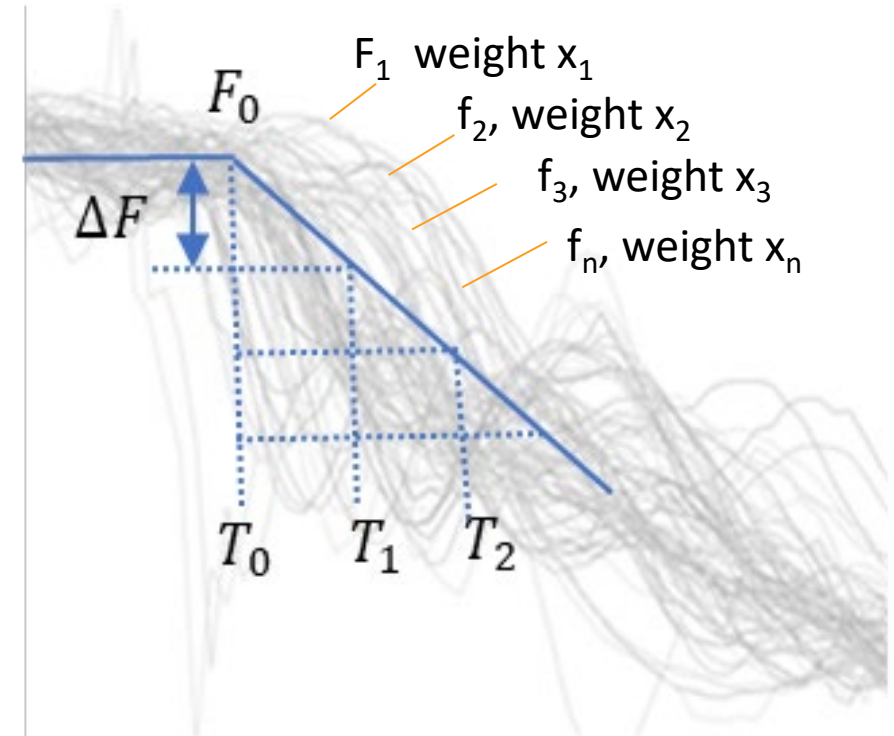
$$f_{\text{CoI}} = (\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{x}) / \sum_{n=1, \dots, N} x_n$$

where \mathbf{f} is the vector of individual frequency measurement from PMUs.

- The CoI-RoCoF value is the average frequency change in one second and can be denoted as

$$\text{RoCoF} = \Delta F / \Delta T$$

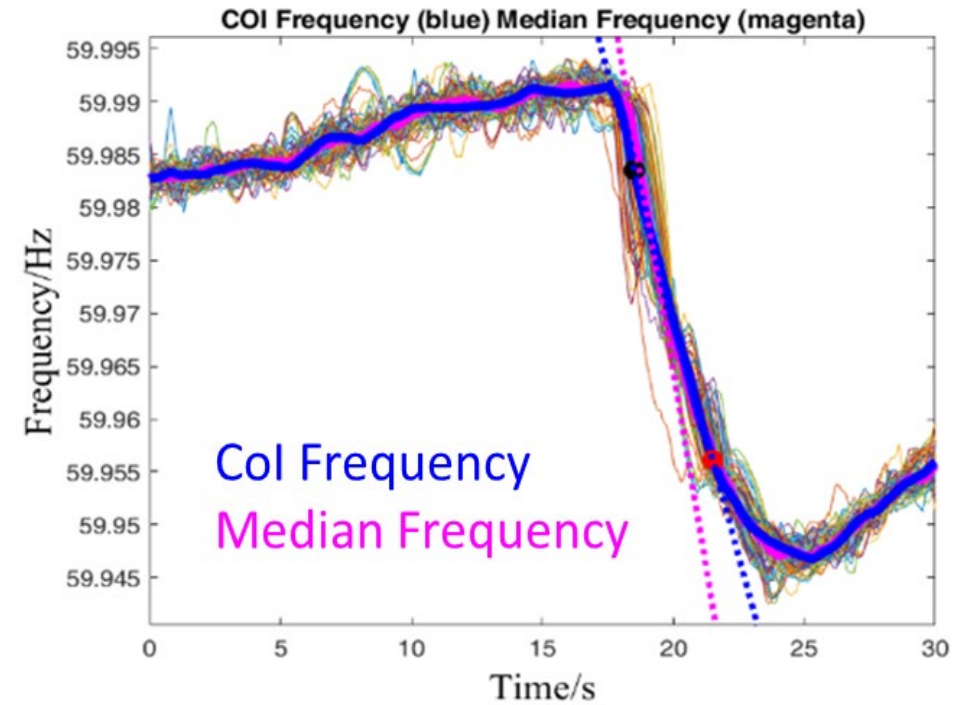
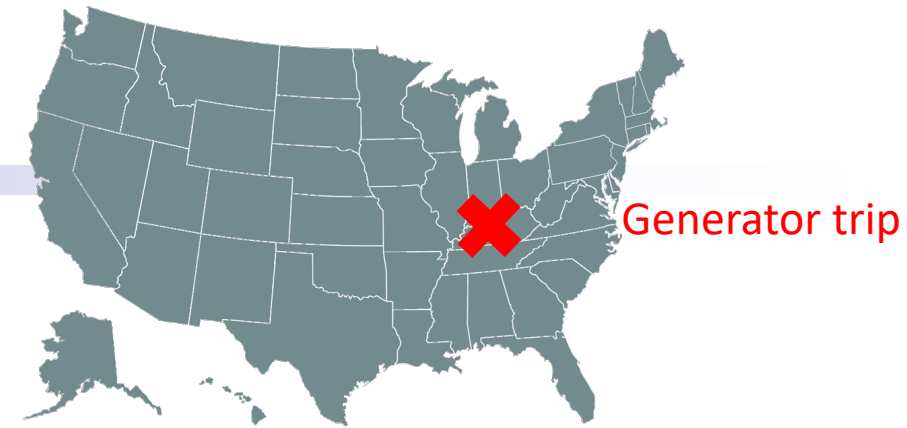
where ΔT is the time duration between two consecutive frequency measurements.



System frequency after a generation trip

Results of actual event measurement in Kentucky

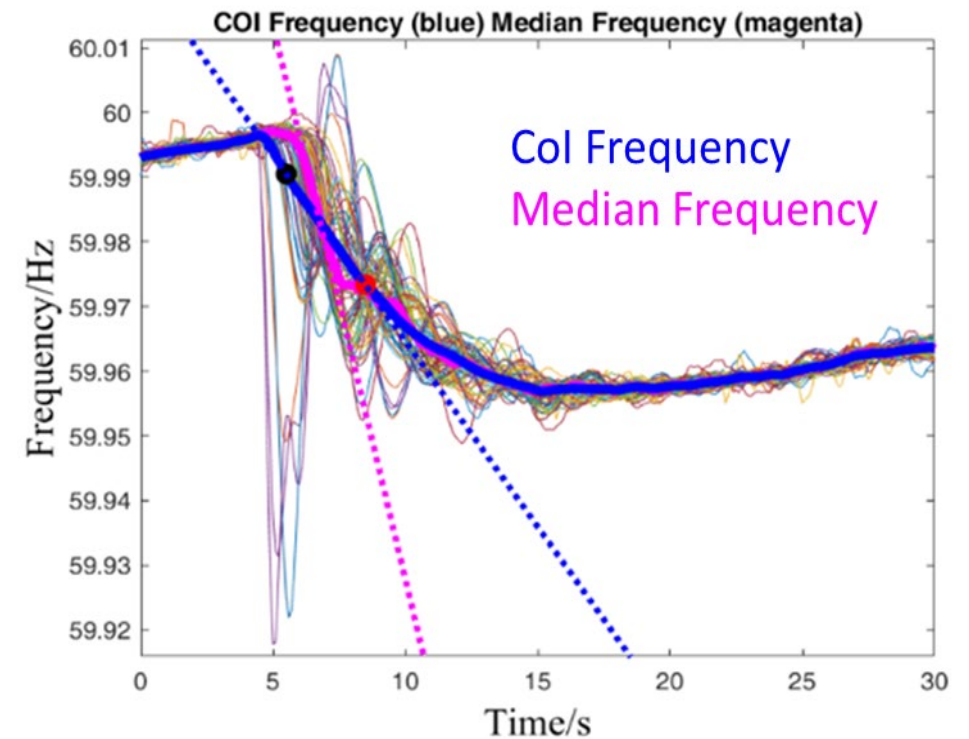
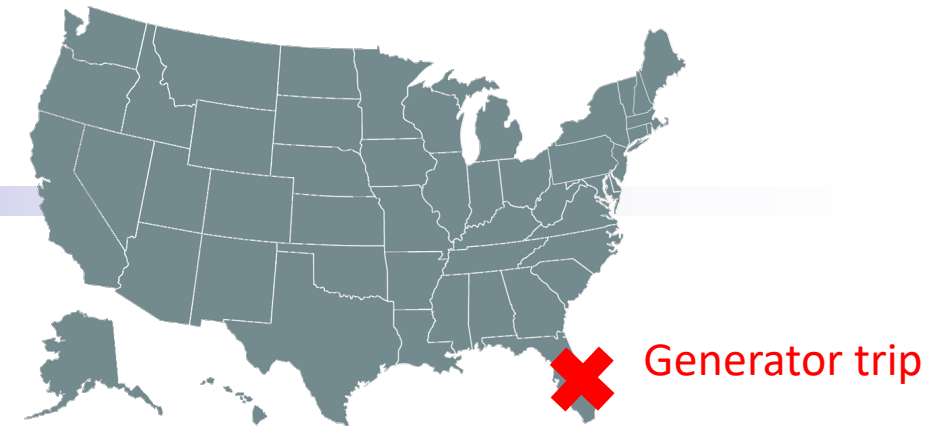
- Two generation trip events at different locations: Florida and Kentucky, are used to compare the RoCoF calculation methods (the proposed Col-RoCoF method and the RoCoF obtained by the median frequency method).
- When the event happens in the middle of an interconnection grid.
 - Less obvious oscillations and wave propagation
 - Median frequency and calculated Col frequency almost overlap
 - RoCoF values obtained using different methods are close



Generation trip event without large oscillation
(Event happened in Kentucky, time: April 2018)

Results of actual event measurement in Florida

- The generation trip happening at the grid edge (i.e., Florida) has large oscillations. It is more challenging to calculate RoCoF when obvious oscillations and wave propagation exist.
- Col-RoCoF is oscillation-free, smaller than RoCoF based on the median frequency in the frequency decline stage.



Generation trip event with large oscillation
(Event happened in Florida, time: Oct 2017)

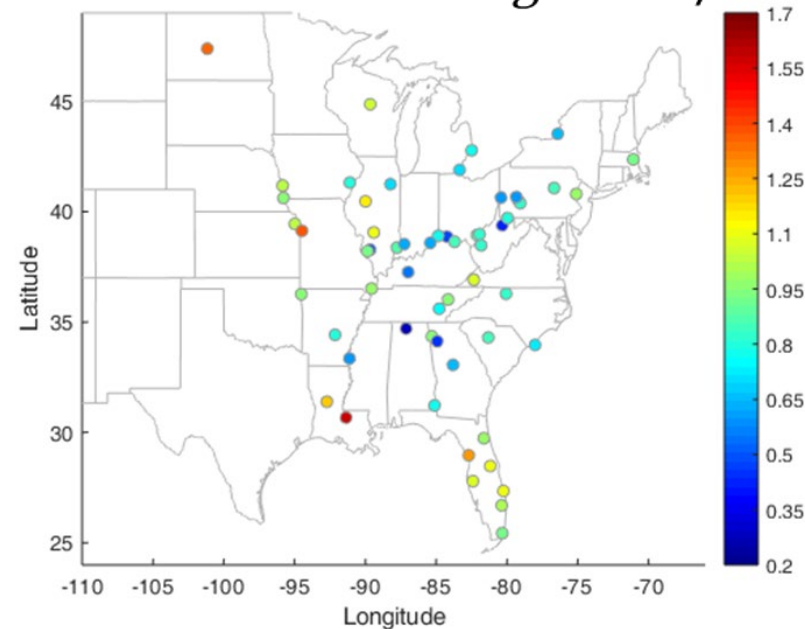
Potential application - monitoring

- Monitoring: event magnitude estimation

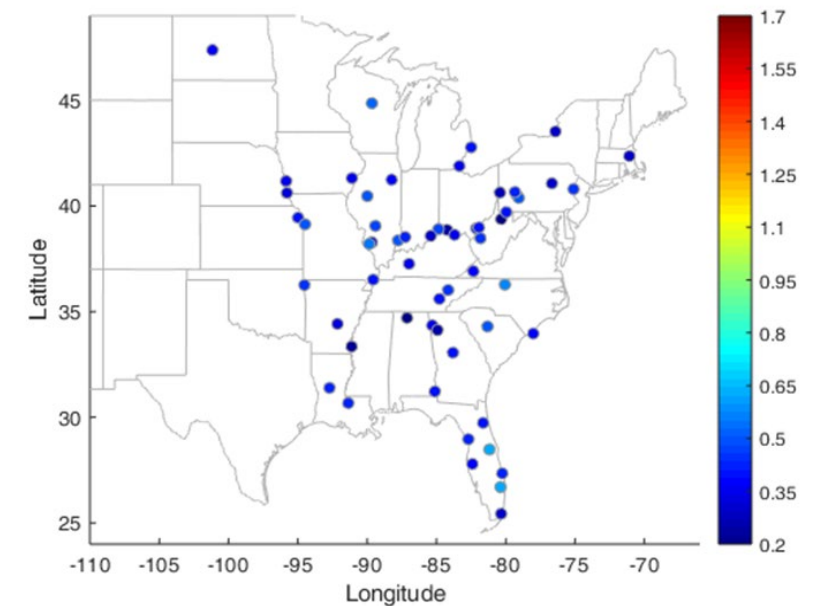
Color value is defined to evaluate the performance of RoCoF in estimating event magnitudes

$$c \text{ (color value)} = \frac{\text{Calculated ROCOF}}{\text{Event magnitude/EI Inertia}}$$

When events happen in grid edges, RoCoF obtained from system median frequency has a lower accuracy in estimating event MW amounts.



Median frequency based



The proposed method

Potential application - monitoring

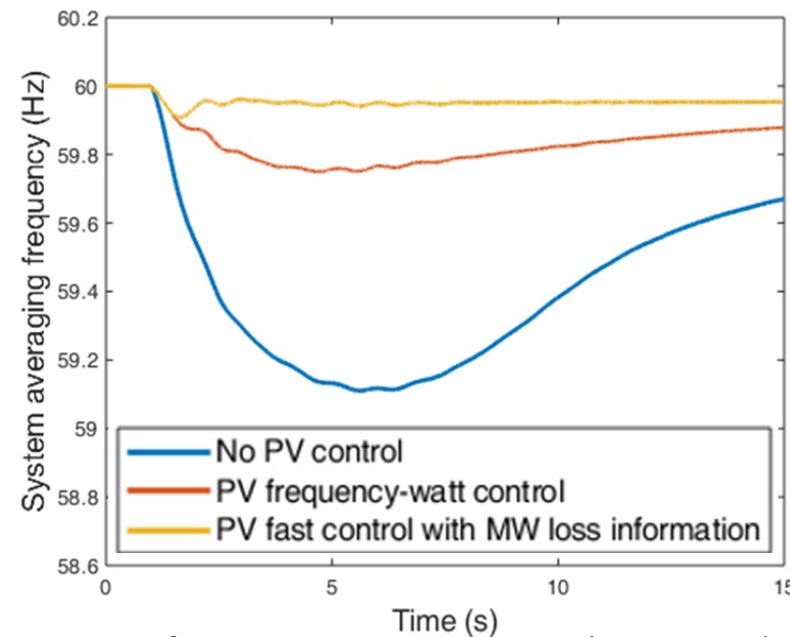
- Event magnitude estimation accuracy

Event Magnitude Estimation Accuracy (100+ events in FNET/GridEye system)

Magnitude Estimation Approach	Average Error
Frequency deviation method	30%
Median frequency-based method	24%
Proposed RoCoF	15.6%

Potential application – feedforward frequency control using inverters

- Once we know the MW loss amount based on RoCoF, some feedforward frequency control strategies can probably be designed to leveraging fast response capability of inverters in low-inertia power grids.



System frequency response using MW loss information and PV fast frequency control

Conclusions and future work

- A new method for Col-RoCoF calculation using PMU data shows better performance in revealing the “true frequency” and “true RoCoF” of large power grids.
- Potential applications: event magnitude estimation, fast control of system frequency.
- Future Work
 - Impact of governor response: what if local governors had responded substantially while the frequency perturbation is still propagating toward remote regions?
 - Time window selection.
 - Impact of load damping.
 - Assign weights using multiple events.

Thanks !

Q&A