

# Attenuated-chattering global second-order sliding mode load frequency controller for multi-region linked power systems

Phan-Thanh Nguyen<sup>1</sup>, Cong-Trang Nguyen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

<sup>2</sup>Power System Optimization Research Group, Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Ton Duc Thang University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

## Article Info

### Article history:

Received Mar 12, 2025

Revised Aug 1, 2025

Accepted Sep 2, 2025

### Keywords:

Chattering removal  
Global sliding mode control  
Interconnected power systems  
Load frequency control  
Renewable energy sources

## ABSTRACT

In this study, a new chattering-free global second-order sliding mode load frequency controller (CGSOSMLFC) is proposed for multi-region linked power systems (MRLPS). Key achievements of this paper include: i) a new CGSOSMLFC is investigated utilizing only output variables; ii) a global steadiness of the MRLPS is ensured by eliminating the hitting phase in traditional sliding mode control (TSMC), and the undesirable high-frequency vacillation marvel in the control signal is efficiently lessened by utilizing the second-order sliding mode control technique. Firstly, a novel estimator is constructed to conjecture the immeasurable state variables of the MRLPS. Then, an estimator-based CGSOSMLFC is synthesized to force the states of the controlled plant into the anticipated switching surface at an instance time and attenuate the chattering phenomenon in the control indication. Additionally, the total MRLPS's stability analysis is executed by applying the Lyapunov function theory and linear matrix inequality (LMI), confirming the practicability and reliability of the method. Lastly, simulation outcomes on a three-zone linked power system are furnished to authenticate the usefulness and advantages of the proposed technique.

This is an open access article under the [CC BY-SA](#) license.



## Corresponding Author:

Cong-Trang Nguyen

Power System Optimization Research Group, Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Ton Duc Thang University

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Email: [nguyencongtrang@tdtu.edu.vn](mailto:nguyencongtrang@tdtu.edu.vn)

## NOMENCLATURE

PS	: Power system	$A^T$	: Transpose of $A$ matrix
MRLPS	: Multi-region linked power system	$y(t)$	: Output signal
WTG	: Wind power generation	$\sigma[\hat{z}(t)]$	: Single phase switching surface
LFC	: Load frequency control	$\psi[\hat{z}(t)]$	: Sliding manifold function
VSC	: Variable structure control	$\xi(z, t)$	: Disturbance input signal
TSMC	: Traditional sliding mode control	$\ z(t)\ $	: Norm of state vector $z(t)$
GSMC	: Global sliding mode control	$\lambda_{max}$	: Maximum eigenvalue
HOSMC	: High-order sliding mode control	$u(t)$	: Control signal
SOSMC	: Second-order sliding mode control	$\varpi(t)$	: Dynamics error of estimator
$z(t)$	: States of the plant	$\alpha, \varepsilon, \bar{\varphi}$	: Positive constants

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The operation of PS is extremely complex due to the variability of load requests and renewable generation, and especially the exchange of electricity between neighboring areas. The PS control schemes are used to maintain the system in a stable state, and LFC is an important control issue in wide-area PS operations [1]-[3]. Among control approaches, sliding mode control (SMC) is one such well-known control performance due to sturdiness, finite time convergence, insensitivity to perturbations, and uncertainties [4], [5]. The renowned SMC is a specific category of VSC, which is the newest ongoing movement in many different fields, such as hydraulic/air-filled, transmission of data, structures of satellites, robotic manipulator, and especially in the LFC of PSs [6]-[10]. Although the VSC in sliding mode has noteworthy accomplishments in LFC problems, overall, there are still two missions that should be unraveled for VSC-based LFC problems of PSs: This includes: i) Output feedback: A shortcoming of the current investigations is that all variables of the PSs have to be accessible. This is unacceptable in various practical plant controls. A new output feedback sliding mode load frequency controller (OFSMCLFC) is proposed for MRLPS employing only output information; and ii) Chattering phenomenon eradication: A new OFSMCLFC not only promises the entire steadiness of the MRLPS but also reduces the undesirable high-frequency oscillations in control indication by utilizing the SOSMC. To find the solution to the output feedback control strategy problem in the first task above, a significant number of studies have been proposed in LFC, as mentioned in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of key works related to the first task of notable SMC-based LFC methods

Ref.	Systems	Key contributions	Approaches/techniques	Limitations
[6]	Microgrid system	Improved frequency regulation using optimized SMC	Sliding mode control law via teaching learning optimization	Traditional SMC, the chattering issue remains
[7]	Multi-region power plant with time delays and perturbations	Robust frequency regulation handling delays and perturbations	Full-order terminal sliding mode controller	Traditional SMC, robustness only in the sliding phase
[11]	Multi-area interconnected energy plants	Addressed load frequency adjustment using terminal SMC	Integral and derivative terminal sliding mode control	Requires full state measurement
[12]	Interconnected multi-field power plants	Decentralized SMC with optimized parameters	Decentralized sliding mode LFC optimized via modified PSO	Full state accessibility assumed
[13]	Interconnected power systems	Improved estimator-based SMC	Integral SMC based on state estimator	Chattering issue remains

Nevertheless, authors in Table 1 have used the TSMC technique, which only produces the wanted motion after sliding mode has occurred. The TSMC's robustness only happens in the sliding mode period. To advance the robustness of SMC, the authors in this study proposed a novel GSMC approach. It should be distinguished that GSMC has strong stability during the whole control progression, better than the TSMC [14], [15]. Recently, the design of the LFC scheme was suggested based on adaptive GSMC for a multi-region linked electricity system with immeasurable states [8]. However, most of these studies need the accessibility of the states of the plant, which cannot be warranted in practice. Preview study [16], output feedback sliding mode load frequency control law was proposed for MRLPS with external perturbations. Nevertheless, these studies could not lessen the chattering impact in the input signal. High-frequency vibration causes damage or wear to moving mechanical parts, affects control accuracy, and causes high heat in the electrical circuit [17]. To deal with this chattering phenomenon, the technique of hiding the discontinuity of the control signal in its higher derivatives was executed employing HOSMC or SOSMC. The HOSMC technique was elevated by Levant [18], then eventually it has eventually attracted a lot of attention. In addition, the theory and application of the SOSMC approach have been greatly developed in recent years. The idea of the SOSMC methodology was originally established in the 1980s by [19]. This is also the second mission of our study. To achieve chattering reduction in the second task, there are many methods to mitigate the chattering phenomenon, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary of the main findings and associated limitations regarding in the second mission

Ref.	Systems	Key contributions	Approaches/techniques	Limitations
[20]	Multi-region hydro power plants	Addressed chattering in LFC using adaptive HOSMC	Adaptive integral controller using HOSMC	Sensitivity to unmodeled dynamics, needs full state
[21]	Three-region power plant	Adaptive SMC design for improved LFC	Adaptive the HOSMC technique	Sensitivity to fast dynamics
[22]	Large-scale power plant	Robust LFC with SOSMC	Using the SOSMC approach	Full state measurability required

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, although significant progress has been made in designing advanced SMC-based LFC schemes, two major challenges remain. First, many existing methods require full state information, which is not always practically possible. Second, while various approaches have attempted to mitigate the chattering phenomenon, fully eliminating high-frequency oscillations in the control signal remains difficult. Motivated by these limitations, this paper proposes a novel chattering-free global second-order sliding mode load frequency controller (CGSOSMLFC) that employs an observer-based output feedback strategy to address both of these issues effectively. The CGSOSMLFC ensures global stability of the MRLPS from the beginning of its motion while eliminating high-frequency fluctuations in the control signal. In addition, in the sliding mode, an appropriate requirement to asymptotically alleviate the MRLPS is given by means of the renowned LMI method. To end, by mathematical example, the validity of the proposed concepts, techniques, and procedures is shown.

## 2. STATE SPACE FORM OF THE MULTI-REGION LINKED POWER SYSTEMS

In this part, the MRLPS contains subsystem control regions that are linked through tie-lines [7]. Figure 1 illustrates the mathematical model of  $i$  the control zone with WTG, where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  symbolizes the number of zones, and  $i \neq j$ . The multi-zone electricity plant dynamics are described in Table 3.

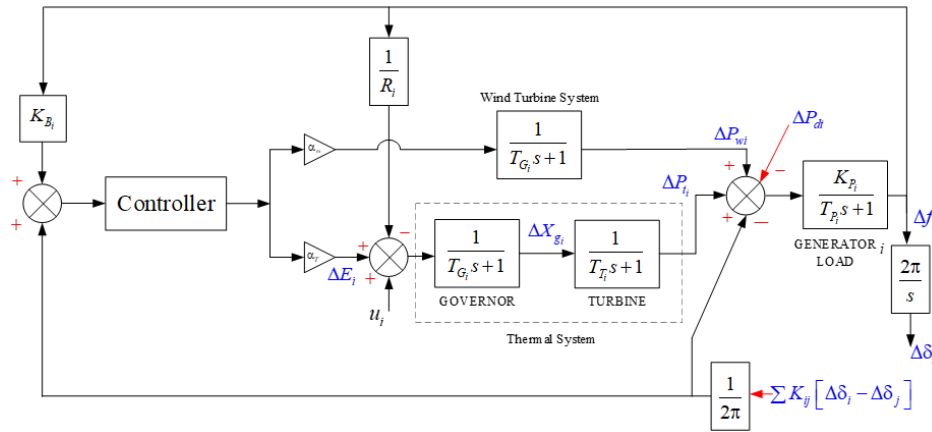


Figure 1. Block diagram of the MRLPS comprises wind and thermal units

Table 3. The interconnected multi-area power system dynamics [7]

Expression/formula	Physical meaning/explanation
$\dot{z}_{1i}(t) = -\frac{1}{T_{Pi}}\dot{z}_{1i}(t) + \frac{K_{Pi}}{T_{Pi}}z_{2i}(t) + \frac{K_{Pi}}{T_{Pi}}\Delta P_{di}(t) - \frac{K_{Pi}}{2\pi T_{Pi}} \times \sum_{i=1, j \neq i}^N K_{sij}[\Delta z_{5i}(t) - \Delta z_{5j}(t) + \frac{K_{Pi}}{T_{Pi}}z_{6i}(t)]$	Frequency dynamics: $z_{1i}(t) = \Delta f_i(t)$ is frequency deviation in area $i$
$\dot{z}_{2i}(t) = -\frac{1}{T_{Ti}}\dot{z}_{2i}(t) + \frac{1}{T_{Ti}}z_{3i}(t)$	Generator output dynamics: $z_{2i}(t) = \Delta P_{gi}(t)$ is deviation of generator output power
$\dot{z}_{3i}(t) = -\frac{1}{T_{Gi}R_i}z_{1i}(t) - \frac{1}{T_{Gi}}z_{3i}(t) - \frac{1}{T_{Gi}}z_{4i}(t) - \frac{1}{T_{Gi}}u_i$	Governor valve position dynamics: $z_{3i}(t) = \Delta X_{gi}(t)$ is governor's valve situation
$\dot{z}_{4i}(t) = K_{Ei}K_{Bi}\alpha_T z_{4i}(t) + \frac{K_{Ei}\alpha_T}{2\pi} \sum_{i=1, j \neq i}^N [\Delta z_{5i}(t) - \Delta z_{5j}(t)]$	Integral controller output dynamics: $z_{4i}(t) = \Delta E_i$ is output of integral controller
$\dot{z}_{5i}(t) = 2\pi z_{5i}(t)$	Rotor angle dynamics: $z_{5i}(t) = \Delta \delta_i(t)$ is the rotor angle's aberration
$\dot{z}_{6i}(t) = \frac{\alpha_w}{T_{wi}}z_{4i}(t) - \frac{1}{T_{wi}}z_{6i}(t)$	Wind turbine power dynamics: $z_{6i}(t) = \Delta P_{wi}(t)$ is the wind turbine's power

The terms  $T_{Pi}$ ,  $T_{Ti}$ , and  $T_{wi}$  are the time coefficients of the power plant, the turbine, the wind turbine, respectively;  $T_{Gi}$  indicates the governor's time constant,  $R_i$  indicates droop gain's time constant,  $K_{Pi}$  indicates power system gain's time constant,  $K_{Bi}$  indicates bias factor's time constant,  $K_{Ei}$  indicates time constant of the integral controller gain.  $K_{sij}$  is the tie-line factor between the region  $i$  and  $j$  ( $i \neq j$ ).  $\alpha_w$  and  $\alpha_T$  show the contribution coefficients of wind turbines and thermal units. Table 4 shows the interconnected electricity plant dynamics considering parameters of uncertainties.

Table 4. State-space model of the MRLPS [7]

Expression/formula	Explanation/purpose
$\dot{z}_i(t) = A_i z_i(t) + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} z_j(t) + B_i u_i(t) + \xi_i(z_i, t), y_i = C_i z_i(t)$	State-space model of the $i$ th part in MRLPS with disturbance $\xi_i(z_i, t)$ .
$z_i(t) = [\Delta f_i(t) \Delta P_{gi}(t) \Delta X_{gi}(t) \Delta E_i \Delta \delta_i(t) \Delta P_{oi}(t)]^T$	Definition of the state vector $z_i(t)$ .
$\xi_i(z_i, t) = \Delta A_i(z_i, t) z_i(t) + B_i v_i(z_i, t) + H_i \Delta P_{li}(t)$ with $\ \xi_i(z_i, t)\  \leq D_{\xi_i}$	Structure of disturbance $\xi_i(z_i, t)$ .

Here,  $z_i(t)$  and  $z_j(t)$  are state vectors and neighboring state vectors, respectively;  $u_i(t)$  is the control signal;  $y_i(t)$  is the controlled output; and  $D_{\xi_i}$  is positive constant.  $B_i v_i(z_i, t)$  and  $\Delta A_i(z_i, t)$  are the perturbation input signal and the uncertainty parameters, respectively. The plant matrices  $A_i, B_i, G_{ij}$  can be presented as:

$$A_i = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{T_{Pi}} & -\frac{K_{Pi}}{T_{Pi}} & 0 & 0 & \frac{K_{Pi}}{2\pi T_{Pi}} \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N K_{sij} & \frac{K_{Pi}}{T_{oi}} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{T_{Ti}} & \frac{1}{T_{Ti}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{T_{Gi} R_i} & 0 & -\frac{1}{T_{Gi}} & -\frac{1}{T_{Gi}} & 0 & 0 \\ K_{Ei} K_{Bi} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{K_{Ei}}{2\pi} \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N K_{sij} & 0 \\ 2\pi & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\alpha_{\omega}}{T_{oi}} & 0 & -\frac{1}{T_{oi}} \end{bmatrix}, B_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{T_{Gi}} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, G_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{K_{Ei}}{2\pi T_{Ti}} K_{sij} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{K_{Ei}}{2\pi T_{Ti}} K_{sij} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 3. MAIN RESULTS

#### 3.1. Sliding mode without reaching phase automatic load frequency control design

To establish an innovative chatter-free SOSMC law for the MRLPS, a novel state estimator is constructed to find the unmeasurable states of the MRLPS, as described in Table 5. In Table 5,  $\hat{z}_i(t)$  is the estimate of  $z_i(t)$ ,  $\hat{y}_i(t)$  is the estimate of  $y_i(t)$ , and  $\Xi_i$  is the estimator gain matrix. Now, to generate a novel weakened-chattering single-phase SOSMC law for the MRLPS, a single-phase sliding manifold function is defined and specified in Table 6.

In Table 6,  $\kappa_i$  is any diagonal matrix, and  $\alpha_{i1}$  and  $\alpha_{i2}$  are the positive constants.  $F_i, L_i$  are the designed matrices.  $F_i$  is selected to ensure that is  $(F_i B_i)$  invertible. The design matrix  $L_i$  is preferred to fulfill the inequality of the power plant:  $\text{Re}[\lambda_{i_{j_{\max}}}]$ . To get the stability of the multi-field linked electricity plant depicted in Table 4 upon the specified sliding manifold in Table 6 from the zero-attainment moment, a new CGSOSMLFC is suggested as (1). Where  $\alpha_{i1}, \alpha_{i2}, \bar{\varphi}_i$  are some positive scalars.

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{u}_i(t) = & -(\alpha_{i1} F_i B_i)^{-1} \{ \alpha_{i1} \|F_i B_i L_i\| \|\hat{z}_i(t)\| + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_{i1} \|F_j G_{ji}\| \|\hat{z}_j(t)\| + \alpha_{i2} \|F_i \Xi_i\| [\|\hat{y}_i(t)\| - \|\hat{y}_i(t)\|] \\ & + \kappa_i \|\dot{\hat{z}}_i(t)\| + \bar{\varphi}_i \|\psi_i\| - \varepsilon_i^2 \|F_i\| \|\hat{z}_i(0)\| e^{-\varepsilon_i t} \} \text{sign}(\psi_i(t)) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Table 5. The suggested state estimator for the MRLPS

Expression/formula	Explanation/purpose
$\hat{z}_i(t) = A_i \hat{z}_i(t) + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} \hat{z}_j(t) + B_i u_i(t) + \Xi_i [y_i(t) - \hat{y}_i(t)], \hat{y}_i(t) = C_i \hat{z}_i(t)$	Observer equation estimating the unmeasured states.
$\varpi_i(t) = z_i(t) - \hat{z}_i(t)$	Estimation error $\varpi_i(t)$ .
$\dot{\varpi}_i(t) = [A_i - \Xi_i C_i] \varpi_i(t) + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} \varpi_j(t) + \xi_i(\hat{z}_i, t)$	Dynamics of the estimation error.

- Theorem 1. Consider the MRLPS subject to exogenous disturbances as described in Table 4. Upon the implementation of the control act specified in (1), the state trajectories of the MRLPS are driven toward the switching manifold  $\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = 0$  immediately from the initial moment of activation. Consequently, the asymptotic stability of the system, as represented by Table 4, is ensured.

- Proof of Theorem 1. Cogitate the applicant Lyapunov functional as  $V[\hat{z}_i(t)] = \sum_{i=1}^N \|\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]\|$ , where direct differentiation of  $V[\hat{z}_i(t)]$  results.

$$\dot{V}(t) \leq \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ \alpha_{i1} \|F_i B_i L_i\| \|\hat{z}_i(t)\| + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_{j2} \|F_j G_{ji}\| \|\hat{z}_i(t)\| + \frac{\psi_i^T}{\|\psi_i\|} \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i \dot{u}_i(t) + \alpha_{i1} \|F_i \Xi_i\| [\|\dot{y}_i(t)\| - \|\hat{y}_i(t)\|] - \varepsilon_i^2 \|F_i\| \|\hat{z}_i(0)\| e^{-\varepsilon_i t} + \kappa \|\dot{\sigma}_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]\| \right\}. \quad (2)$$

Now, by substituting the output feedback control signal (1) into (2), we can appreciate that  $\dot{V}[\hat{z}_i(t)] \leq -\sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\phi}_i \|\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]\| < 0$ ,  $\bar{\phi}_i > 0$ . Consequently, the MRLPS's state variables come in contact with the switching manifold in Table 6 from the zero-attainment moment for all  $t \geq 0$ .

Table 6. The new single-phase sliding manifold for supporting output feedback controller design

Expression/formula	Explanation/purpose
$\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = \hat{\sigma}_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] + \kappa_i \sigma_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]$	Single-phase sliding function
$\sigma_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = \alpha_{i1} F_i \hat{z}_i(t) - \alpha_{i2} F_i \int_0^t (A_i - B_i L_i) \hat{z}_i(\tau) d\tau - F_i \hat{z}_i(0) e^{-\varepsilon_i t}$	Definition of $\sigma_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]$
$\dot{\sigma}_i = \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i L_i \hat{z}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_{i1} F_i G_{ij} \hat{z}_j + \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i u_i + \alpha_{i1} F_i \Xi_i C_i \bar{\omega}_i + \varepsilon_i F_i \hat{z}_i(0) e^{-\varepsilon_i t}$	First derivative of $\sigma_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]$
$\ddot{\sigma}_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i L_i \dot{\hat{z}}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_{i1} F_i G_{ij} \dot{\hat{z}}_j + \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i \dot{u}_i + \alpha_{i1} F_i \Xi_i [\dot{y}_i(t) - \dot{\hat{y}}_i(t)] - \varepsilon_i^2 F_i \hat{z}_i(0) e^{-\varepsilon_i t}$	Second derivative of $\sigma_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]$ , required for SOSMC technique
$\dot{\psi}_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i L_i \dot{\hat{z}}_i(t) + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_{i1} F_i G_{ij} \dot{\hat{z}}_j + \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i \dot{u}_i + \alpha_{i1} F_i \Xi_i C_i \bar{\omega}_i - \varepsilon_i^2 F_i \hat{z}_i(0) e^{-\varepsilon_i t} + \kappa \dot{\sigma}_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]$	Time derivative of the sliding manifold $\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)]$

### 3.2. Stability analysis of whole system in sliding mode dynamics

In this section, a appropriate requirement expressed in the form of LMI is formulated to ensure the asymptotic stability of the MRLPS, under sliding mode control. To this end, we proceed by analyzing the following LMI formulation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Lambda}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N [\mu_j (G_{ji} - \Gamma_j G_{ji})^T (G_{ji} - \Gamma_j G_{ji}) + \mu_j^{-1} R_j R_j] & R_i \Phi & R_j & R_j \Psi_j & 0 \\ \Phi_i^T R_i & \tilde{\Theta}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N [\tilde{\mu}_j G_{ji}^T \Gamma_j^T \Gamma_j G_{ji} + \tilde{\mu}_j^{-1} R_j R_j + \tilde{\mu}_j G_{ji}^T G_{ji} + \tilde{\mu}_j^{-1} S_j S_j] & 0 & 0 & S_j \\ R_j & 0 & -\tilde{\eta}_j^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \Psi_j^T R_j & 0 & 0 & -\tilde{\eta}_j^{-1} & 0 \\ S_j & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\tilde{\eta}_j^{-1} \end{bmatrix} < 0, \quad (3)$$

Where  $\tilde{\Lambda}_i = R_i (A_i - \Gamma_i B_i L_i) + (A_i - \Gamma_i B_i L_i)^T R_i$ ,  $\tilde{\Theta}_i = S_i (A_i - \Xi_i C_i) + (A_i - \Xi_i C_i)^T S_i$ ,  $R_i, S_i$  are any positive matrices, and  $\mu_i > 0, \tilde{\mu}_i > 0, \tilde{\mu}_i > 0, \tilde{\eta}_i > 0, \tilde{\eta}_i > 0$ . Then, we can build the following theorem:

- Theorem 2. Supposing that the sufficient condition expressed in the LMI formulation (3) admits a feasible solution  $R_i > 0, S_i > 0$ , and the switching manifold is demarcated as in Table 6. Then, the MRLPS subjected to exogenous perturbations, as described by Table 4, is asymptotically stable when the system trajectories evolve on the sliding manifold  $\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = 0$ .
- Proof of Theorem 2. Based on the defined switching manifold  $\psi_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = \dot{\psi}_i[\hat{z}_i(t)] = 0$ , the equivalent control law can be derived and expressed as (4).

$$u_i^{eq}(t) = -(\alpha_{i1} F_i B_i)^{-1} \{ \alpha_{i1} F_i B_i L_i \hat{z}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_{i2} F_i G_{ij} \hat{z}_j + \alpha_{i1} F_i \Xi_i [y_i(t) - \hat{y}_i(t)] + \varepsilon_i F_i \hat{z}_i(0) e^{-\varepsilon_i t} \} \quad (4)$$

Now, we substitute the value of  $u_i^{eq}(t)$  into the first equation of the MRIPS's state space model in Table 4 and simplify as (5).

$$\dot{z}_i(t) = [A_i - \Gamma_i B_i L_i] z_i + \Phi_i \bar{\omega}_i + [\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} - \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \Gamma_i G_{ij}] z_j + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \Gamma_i G_{ij} \bar{\omega}_j + \xi_i + \Psi_i e^{-\varepsilon_i t} \quad (5)$$

Where  $\Phi_i = \alpha_{i1}B_i(\alpha_{i1}F_iB_i)^{-1}F_iB_iL_i - \alpha_{i1}B_i(\alpha_{i1}F_iB_i)^{-1}F_i\Xi_iC_i$ ,  $\Gamma_i = \alpha_{i1}B_i(\alpha_{i1}F_iB_i)^{-1}F_i$  and  $\Psi_i = -\varepsilon_iB_i \times (\alpha_{i1}F_iB_i)^{-1}F_i\hat{z}_i(0)$ . Now, to confirm the steadiness of the MRLPS dynamic, we deliberate the Lyapunov positive definition function  $V[z_i(t), \varpi_j(t)] = \sum_{i=1}^N \begin{bmatrix} z_j(t) \\ \varpi_j(t) \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R_i & 0 \\ 0 & S_i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_j(t) \\ \varpi_j(t) \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $R_i > 0$  and  $S_i > 0$  satisfy the LMI (3) for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, L$ . Then, taking the derivative of time, combining (5) and the dynamics of the estimation error in Table 5, and by means of Lemma 3 of work [23] and Lemma of study [24], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}[z_i(t), \varpi_j(t)] \leq & \begin{bmatrix} z_i \\ \varpi_i \end{bmatrix}^T \sum_{i=1}^N \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Lambda}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N [\mu_j(G_{ji} - \Gamma_j G_{ji})^T (G_{ji} - \Gamma_j G_{ji}) + \mu_j^{-1} R_j R_j] + \tilde{\eta}_j R_j R_j + \tilde{\eta}_j R_j \Psi_j \Psi_j^T R_j & R_i \Phi \\ \Phi_i^T R_i & \tilde{\Theta}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N [\tilde{\mu}_j G_{ji}^T \Gamma_j^T \Gamma_j G_{ji} + \tilde{\mu}_j^{-1} R_j R_j + \tilde{\mu}_j G_{ji}^T G_{ji} + \tilde{\mu}_j^{-1} S_j S_j] + \eta_j S_j S_j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_i(t) \\ \varpi_i(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^N [\tilde{\gamma}_i \theta_i^2 + \lambda_i(t)] \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Where  $\tilde{\Lambda}_i = R_i(A_i - \Gamma_i B_i L_i) + (A_i - \Gamma_i B_i L_i)^T R_i$ ,  $\tilde{\Theta}_i = S_i(A_i - \Xi_i C_i) + (A_i - \Xi_i C_i)^T S_i$ ,  $\tilde{\gamma}_i = \eta_i^{-1} + \tilde{\eta}_i^{-1}$ ,  $\theta_i(t) = \|\xi_j(z_i, t)\|$ , and  $\lambda_i(t) = \tilde{\eta}_i^{-1}(e^{-\varepsilon_i t})^T e^{-\varepsilon_i t}$ . Then, employing well-known LMI approach [25] to inequality (3), we attain

$$\tilde{\Xi}_i = - \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Lambda}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N [\mu_j(G_{ji} - \Gamma_j G_{ji})^T (G_{ji} - \Gamma_j G_{ji}) + \mu_j^{-1} R_j R_j] + \tilde{\eta}_j R_j R_j + \tilde{\eta}_j R_j \Psi_j \Psi_j^T R_j & R_i \Phi \\ \Phi_i^T R_i & \tilde{\Theta}_i + \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N [\tilde{\mu}_j G_{ji}^T \Gamma_j^T \Gamma_j G_{ji} + \tilde{\mu}_j^{-1} R_j R_j + \tilde{\mu}_j G_{ji}^T G_{ji} + \tilde{\mu}_j^{-1} S_j S_j] + \eta_j S_j S_j \end{bmatrix} > 0 \quad (7)$$

Based on (6) and (7), it can be seen that  $\dot{V} \leq \sum_{i=1}^N [-\lambda_{\min}(\tilde{\Xi}_i) \|\hat{z}_i(t)\|^2 + \gamma_i \theta_i^2 + \lambda_i(t)]$ , when the term  $\lambda_i(t)$  will tend to zero in the infinity time. We can be represented as  $\dot{V} \leq \sum_{i=1}^N [-\lambda(\tilde{\Xi}_i) \|\hat{z}_i(t)\|^2 + \gamma_i \theta_i^2]$  where the constant value  $\tilde{\gamma}_i \theta_i(t) = \tilde{\gamma}_i \|\xi_j(z_i, t)\|$  and the eigenvalue  $\lambda_{\min}(\tilde{\Xi}_i) > 0$ . Hence,  $\dot{V} < 0$  is derived with  $\|\hat{z}_i(t)\| > \sqrt{\gamma_i \theta_i^2 / \lambda_{\min}(\tilde{\Xi}_i)}$  which shows that the MRLPS is asymptotically stable.

#### 4. SIMULATION RESULTS

In this section, the parameters of a three-region linked electricity plant with WTGs, which are itemized in [7], is simulated by MATLAB software to validate the feasible solution of the suggested LFC approach. The external disturbances of the three regions are respectively supposed as  $\xi_1 = 0.04$ ,  $\xi_2 = 0.022$ ,  $\xi_3 = 0.06$ . The obtained results of these electricity plants are exemplified in Figure 2.

- Remark

The performance of the proposed CGSOSMLFC (1) in the MRLPS integrated with WTGs is shown in Figure 2. In Figure 2(a), the frequency deviations  $\Delta f_1$ ,  $\Delta f_2$ , and  $\Delta f_3$  respond rapidly immediately after the initial disturbance. Although slight oscillations occur within the first 0 - 2 seconds, all frequency curves of three areas converge to a stable value in 3.5 seconds, with under shoot are  $-1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  (pu MW) and  $-1.7 \times 10^{-3}$  (pu MW). Figure 2(b) shows the control signals for the three areas. It is remarkable that the proposed method exhibits no chattering and does not require access to the state variables of the MRLPS, which is a clear advantage over recent studies [6]-[8]. This verifies that the suggested CGSOSMLFC (1) successfully dismisses undesirable high-frequency switching. Figure 2(c) plots the switching surfaces of the three areas rapidly converging to zero without oscillations from the initial instant of system motion. It can be stated that the enhanced robustness and the anticipated dynamic response of the MRLPS are conquered by sacking the reaching phase in the TSMC approach, that has condensed the restrictions required in other studies [13], [16], [21], [22]. Figure 2(d) demonstrates that the area control errors decline quickly and approach zero within approximately 3 seconds, reflecting precise frequency and power regulation. Overall, the simulation results prove that the CGSOSMLFC (1) not only provides high-performance frequency regulation with fast response, global system stability, and small steady-state error, but also completely eliminates chattering.

From above obtained achievements, the anticipated method does not necessarily the accessibility of the state variables. We can conclude that the proposed method not only efficiently solves the stabilization problem but also reduces the chattering for the MRLPS integrated with WTGs. Subsequently, this technique is highly appreciated and more realistic, since it can be easily instigated in practical systems.

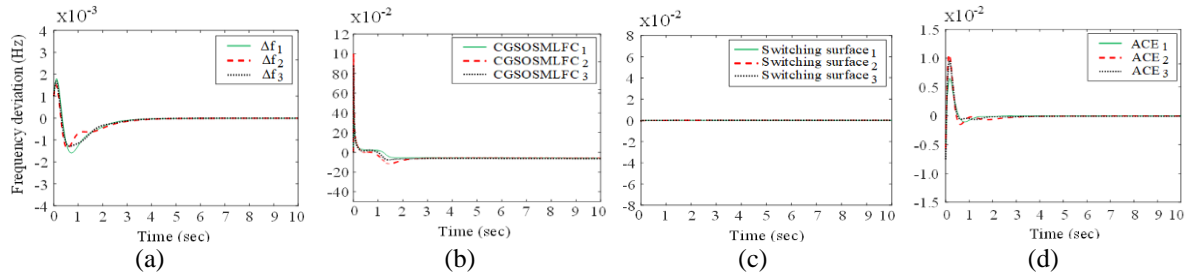


Figure 2. Time history of (a) the frequency aberrations, (b) the load frequency controllers, (c) the single-phase sliding surfaces, and (d) the area control error of three-area power plants with WTGs

## 5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, a new chattering-free global second order sliding mode load frequency controller (CGSOSMLFC) has been developed for multi-region linked power systems (MRLPS) subjected to external perturbations. To resolve the unmeasurable state variables problem, a novel observer has been projected for guessing the unmeasurable state variables. A newly formulated one-phase switching manifold function has been systematically formulated for SMC such that all states trajectories of the system begin at the surface at an initial time moment which makes it highly robust for applications. The novel CGSOSMLFC is systematically designed to suppress high-frequency chattering phenomena and to robustly stabilize the MRLPS under the influence of external perturbations. Furthermore, the steadiness of the MRLPS is promised via the LMI method which is extracted based on Lyapunov steadiness theory. Ultimately, the experimental replications are applied to a three-area interconnected power network to validate the enhanced usefulness of the planned controller in suppressing chattering and outperforming existing sliding mode control methodologies. In future work, we will examine the robustness of the proposed approach with complex power systems, including various renewable energy sources and energy storage systems.

## FUNDING INFORMATION

This research was supported by Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam under grant number T2025-199.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

This journal uses the Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT) to recognize individual author contributions, reduce authorship disputes, and facilitate collaboration.

Name of Author	C	M	So	Va	Fo	I	R	D	O	E	Vi	Su	P	Fu
Phan-Thanh Nguyen		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Cong-Trang Nguyen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

C : Conceptualization

M : Methodology

So : Software

Va : Validation

Fo : Formal analysis

I : Investigation

R : Resources

D : Data Curation

O : Writing - Original Draft

E : Writing - Review & Editing

Vi : Visualization

Su : Supervision

P : Project administration

Fu : Funding acquisition

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Each author in this work agrees to declare that we have no conflict of interest.

## DATA AVAILABILITY

Data availability is not applicable to this paper as no new data were created or analyzed in this study.




## REFERENCES

- [1] C.-T. Nguyen, C. Trong Hien, and V.-D. Phan, "Observer-based single phase robustness load frequency sliding mode controller for multi-area interconnected power systems," *Bulletin of Electrical Engineering and Informatics*, vol. 13, no. 5, pp. 3147–3154, Oct. 2024, doi: 10.11591/eei.v13i5.7893.
- [2] H. Bevrani, *Robust power system frequency control*. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2014. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-07278-4.
- [3] P. Kundur, *Power system stability and control*. McGraw-Hill, 1994.




- [4] J. Y. Hung, W. Gao, and J. C. Hung, "Variable structure control: a survey," *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics*, vol. 40, no. 1, pp. 2–22, 1993, doi: 10.1109/41.184817.
- [5] Y.-W. Tsai and C.-T. Nguyen, "Variable structure control for mismatched uncertain systems using output variables with finite-time convergence," *Journal of the Chinese Institute of Engineers*, vol. 43, no. 5, Jul. 2020, doi: 10.1080/02533839.2020.1751720.
- [6] A. Dev, B. Mondal, V. K. Verma, and V. Kumar, "Teaching learning optimization-based sliding mode control for frequency regulation in microgrid," *Electrical Engineering*, vol. 106, no. 6, pp. 7009–7021, Dec. 2024, doi: 10.1007/s00202-024-02422-8.
- [7] D. K. Biswas, S. Debbarma, and P. P. Singh, "LFC of multi-area power system using a robust full-order terminal sliding mode controller considering communication delay," *Electrical Engineering*, vol. 107, no. 4, Apr. 2025, doi: 10.1007/s00202-024-02753-6.
- [8] Y. Liang, Q. Jiaming, and L. Xinxin, "Load frequency control of new energy power system based on adaptive global sliding mode control," *Frontiers in Energy Research*, vol. 12, May 2024, doi: 10.3389/fenrg.2024.1383511.
- [9] A. Sharma and N. Singh, "Load frequency control of connected multi-area multi-source power systems using energy storage and lyrebird optimization algorithm tuned PID controller," *Journal of Energy Storage*, vol. 100, Oct. 2024, doi: 10.1016/j.est.2024.113609.
- [10] A. Sharma and N. Singh, "Enhancing multi-area microgrid stability with virtual damping and energy storage inertia techniques using hybrid lyrebird - Pattern search optimized PI-(1+DD) controller," *Journal of Energy Storage*, vol. 124, p. 116830, Jul. 2025, doi: 10.1016/j.est.2025.116830.
- [11] Z. Deng and C. Xu, "Frequency regulation of power systems with a wind farm by sliding-mode-based design," *IEEE/CAA Journal of Automatica Sinica*, vol. 9, no. 11, pp. 1980–1989, Nov. 2022, doi: 10.1109/JAS.2022.105407.
- [12] H. H. Alhelou, N. Nagpal, N. Kassawani, and P. Siano, "Decentralized optimized integral sliding mode-based load frequency control for interconnected multi-area power systems," *IEEE Access*, vol. 11, 2023, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2023.3262790.
- [13] Y. Wang, Y. Liu, X. Yu, and H. Zhang, "Jointed observer-based sliding mode predictive control for interconnected power systems with input delays," *IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering*, vol. 22, 2025, doi: 10.1109/TASE.2024.3353166.
- [14] J. Fei, Y. Chu, and S. Hou, "A backstepping neural global sliding mode control using fuzzy approximator for three-phase active power filter," *IEEE Access*, vol. 5, pp. 16021–16032, 2017, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2017.2732998.
- [15] D. Efimov and L. Fridman, "Global sliding-mode observer with adjusted gains for locally Lipschitz systems," *Automatica*, vol. 47, no. 3, pp. 565–570, Mar. 2011, doi: 10.1016/j.automatica.2010.12.003.
- [16] F. Farivar, O. Bass, and D. Habibi, "Decentralized disturbance observer-based sliding mode load frequency control in multiarea interconnected power systems," *IEEE Access*, vol. 10, pp. 92307–92320, 2022, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2022.3201873.
- [17] V. Utkin, "On convergence time and disturbance rejection of super-twisting control," *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, vol. 58, no. 8, pp. 2013–2017, Aug. 2013, doi: 10.1109/TAC.2013.2251812.
- [18] A. Levant, "Higher-order sliding modes, differentiation and output-feedback control," *International Journal of Control*, vol. 76, no. 9–10, pp. 924–941, Jan. 2003, doi: 10.1080/0020717031000099029.
- [19] A. Levant, "Sliding order and sliding accuracy in sliding mode control," *International Journal of Control*, vol. 58, no. 6, pp. 1247–1263, Dec. 1993, doi: 10.1080/00207179308923053.
- [20] M. K. Sarkar, A. Dev, P. Asthana, and D. Narzary, "Chattering free robust adaptive integral higher order sliding mode control for load frequency problems in multi-area power systems," *IET Control Theory & Applications*, vol. 12, no. 9, pp. 1216–1227, Jun. 2018, doi: 10.1049/iet-cta.2017.0735.
- [21] J. Guo, "The load frequency control by adaptive high order sliding mode control strategy," *IEEE Access*, vol. 10, pp. 25392–25399, 2022, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2022.3152259.
- [22] A.-T. Tran *et al.*, "Adaptive integral second-order sliding mode control design for load frequency control of large-scale power system with communication delays," *Complexity*, vol. 2021, no. 1, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.1155/2021/5564184.
- [23] X. G. Yan, S. K. Spurgeon, and C. Edwards, "Static output feedback sliding mode control for time-varying delay systems with time-delayed nonlinear disturbances," *International Journal of Robust and Nonlinear Control*, vol. 20, no. 7, May 2010, doi: 10.1002/rnc.1470.
- [24] S. Boyd, L. El Ghaoui, E. Feron, and V. Balakrishnan, "Linear matrix inequalities in system and control theory," *Linear Matrix Inequalities in System and Control Theory*, 1994, doi: 10.1137/1.9781611970777.
- [25] C.-T. Nguyen and Y.-W. Tsai, "Finite-Time output feedback controller based on observer for the time-varying delayed systems: a moore-penrose inverse approach," *Mathematical Problems in Engineering*, vol. 2017, no. 1, Jan. 2017, doi: 10.1155/2017/2808094.

## BIOGRAPHIES OF AUTHORS



**Phan-Thanh Nguyen**    is currently a lecturer in the Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. He obtained his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan, in 2016. His current research interests are intelligent control systems, automatic motion control, and electric drives. He can be contacted at email: thanhnp@hcmute.edu.vn.



**Cong-Trang Nguyen**    has completed the Ph.D. degree in Automation and Control from Da-Yeh University, Taiwan. He is currently a member of the Power System Optimization Research Group, Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Ton Duc Thang University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. His current research interests include sliding mode control, and optimization algorithm. He can be contacted at email: nguyencongtrang@tdtu.edu.vn.