

# Power quality in offshore grids

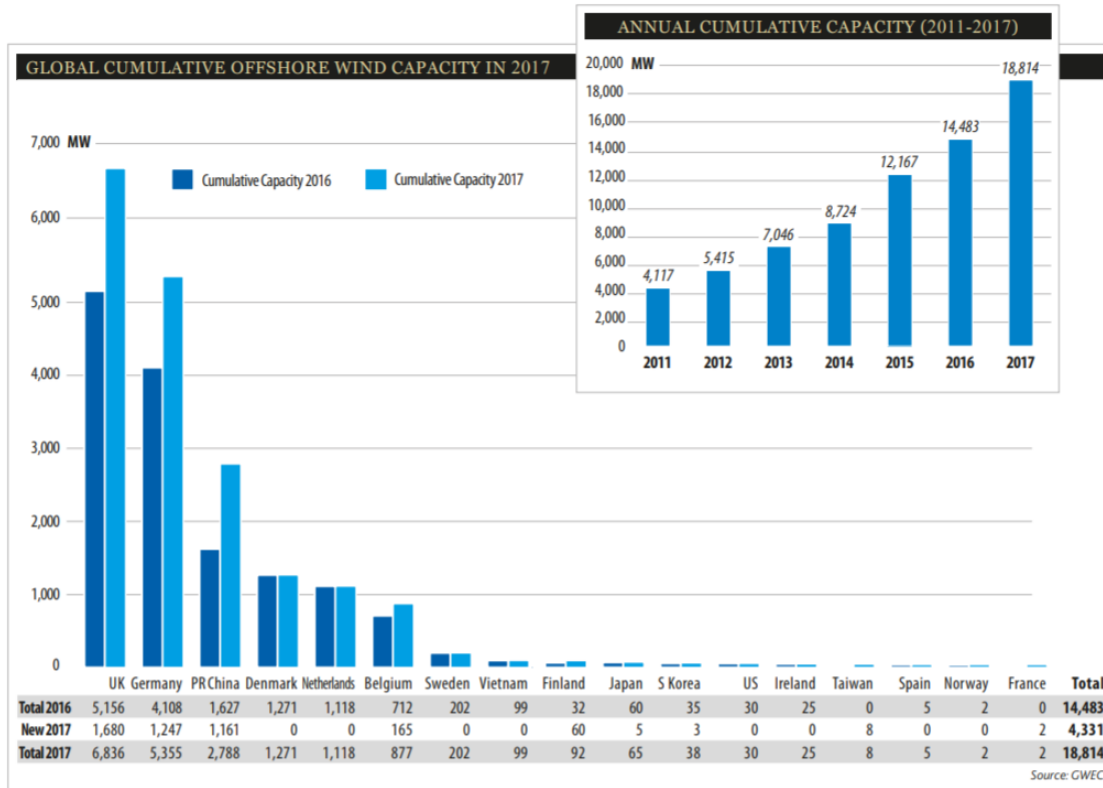
Prof. Elisabetta Tedeschi  
Dept. of Electric Power Engineering, NTNU

EERA DeepWind Conference,  
Trondheim, 17 January 2019

# Presentation lay-out

- Trends in offshore generation
- Overview of **power quality** issues **in offshore grids:**
  - in **distribution** systems
    - Offshore wind farms
    - Other marine energy farms
    - Oil and gas platforms
  - in **transmission** systems
- Conclusions

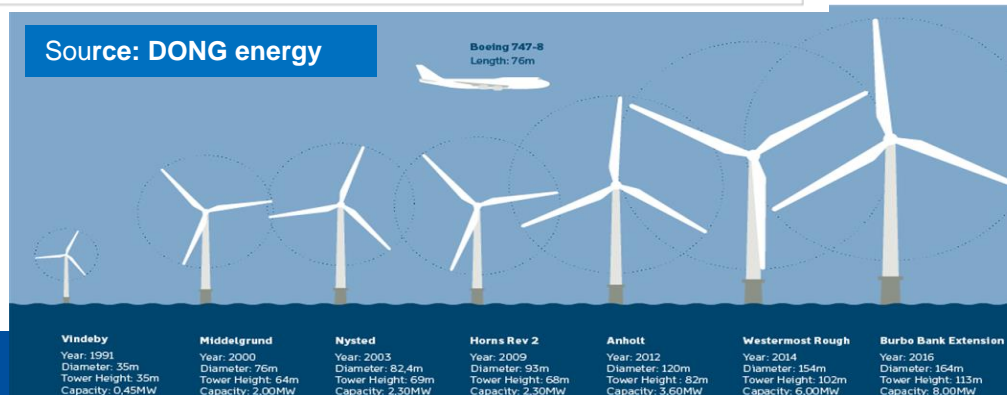
# Offshore wind - Trends



Offshore wind represents 3.5% of the global installed wind capacity

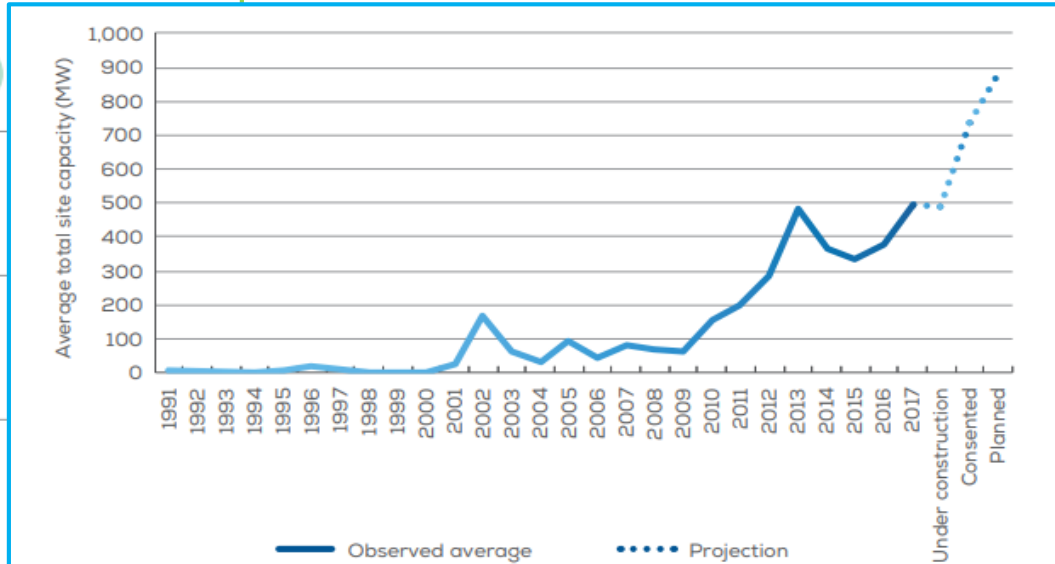
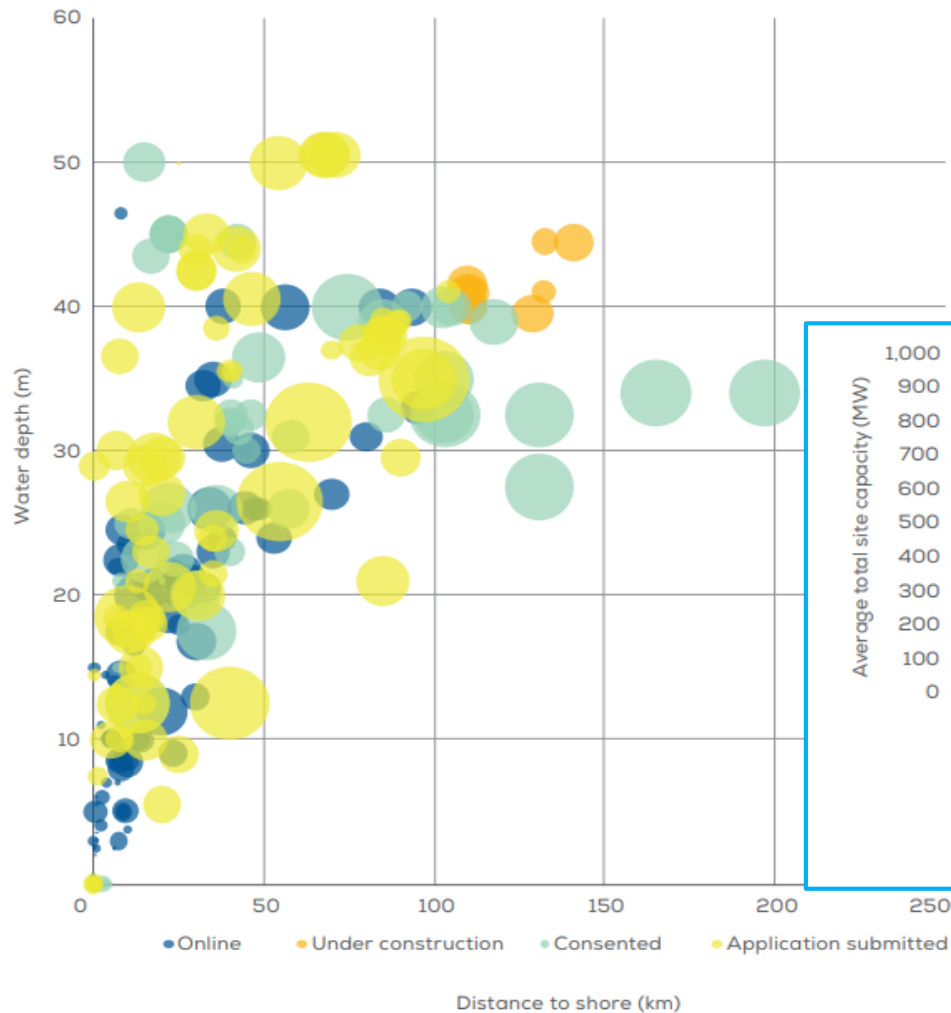
In Europe, offshore wind is expected to increase from 15.8 GW in 2017 to 66 GW in 2030

Source: DONG energy



# Offshore wind development

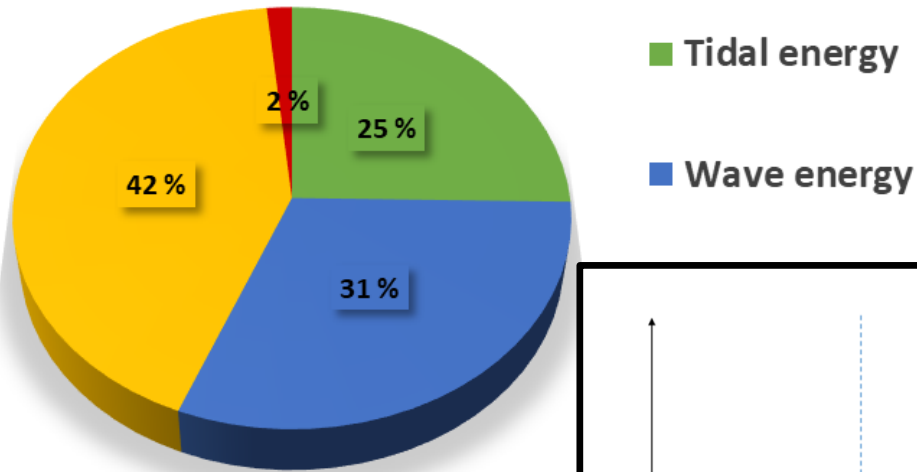
**Increasing wind farm capacity, water depth and distance from shore**



Source: WindEurope

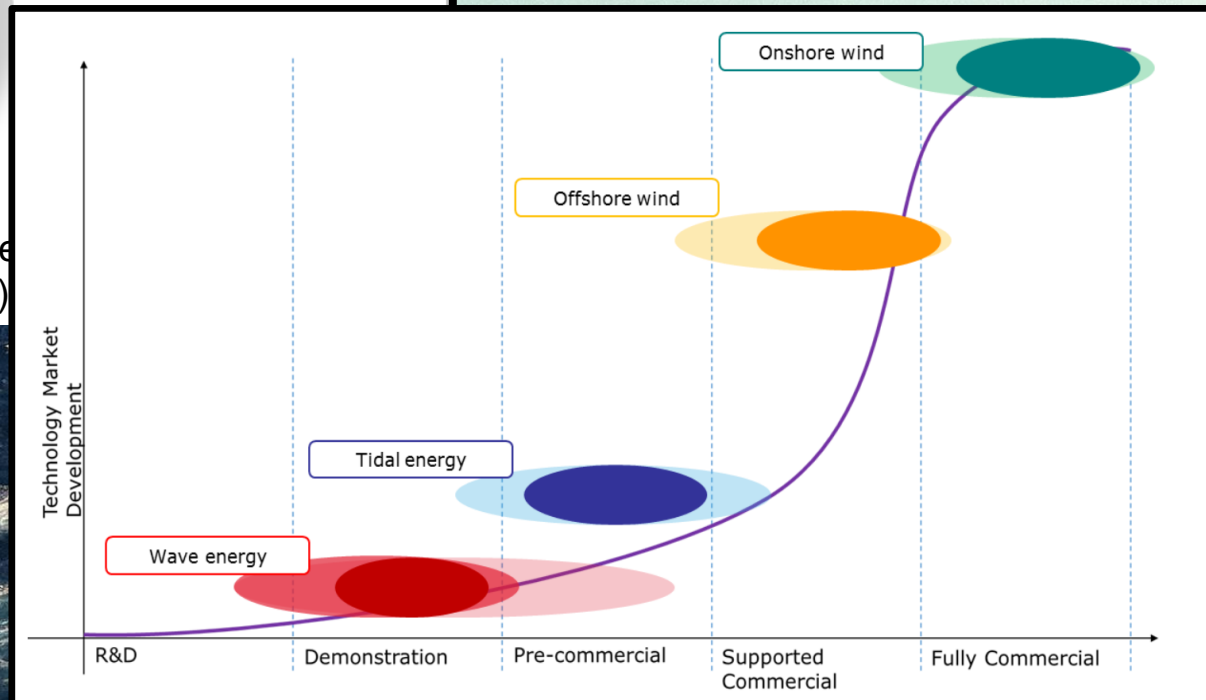
# Marine Energy - Background

Ocean Energy Share



Source: IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (2011)

**Lower  
technological  
maturity than  
other renewables**



Source: D. Magagna, JRC, European Commission (2017)

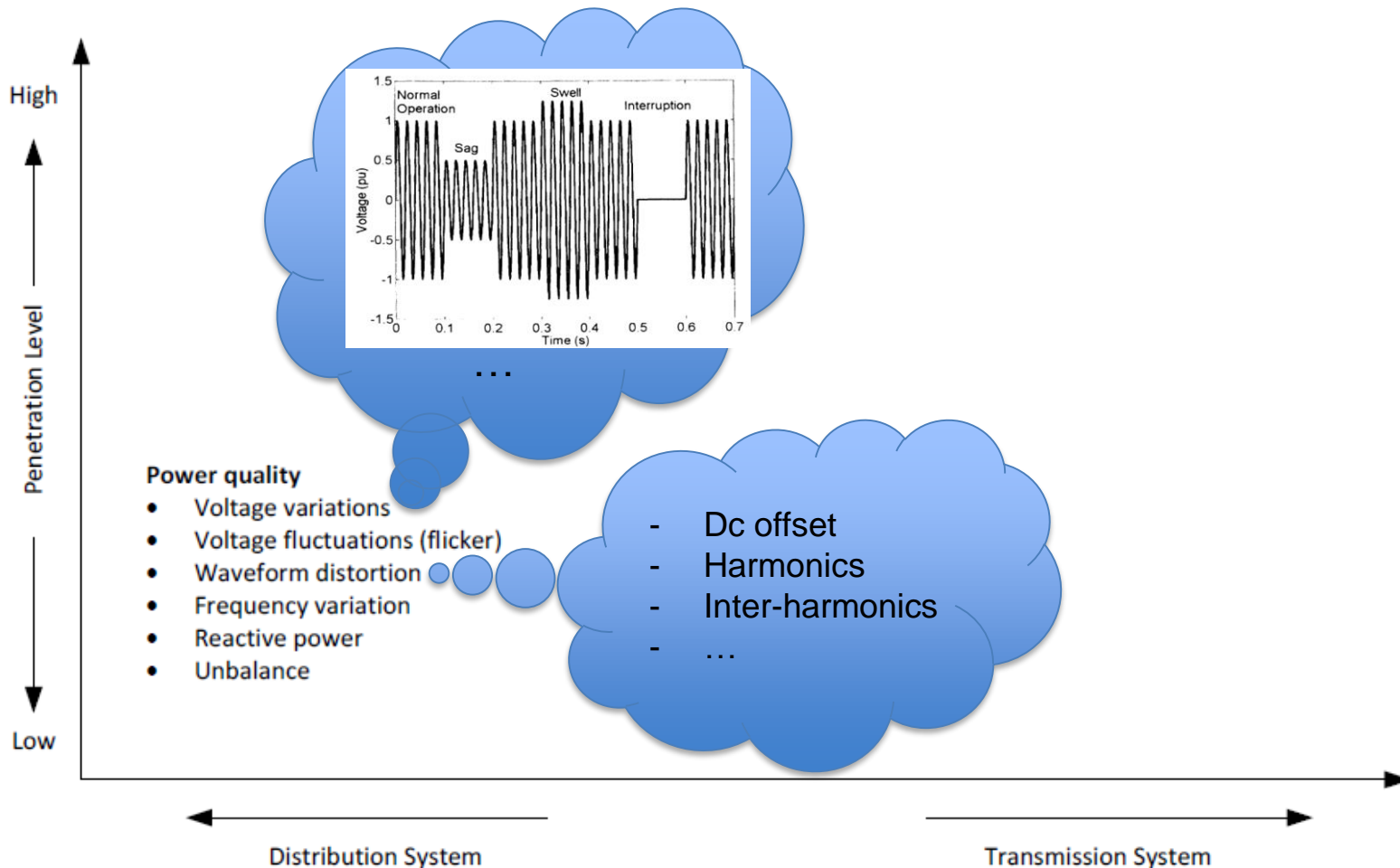
**Possibility to reach  
100 GW of installed  
power by 2050**

# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



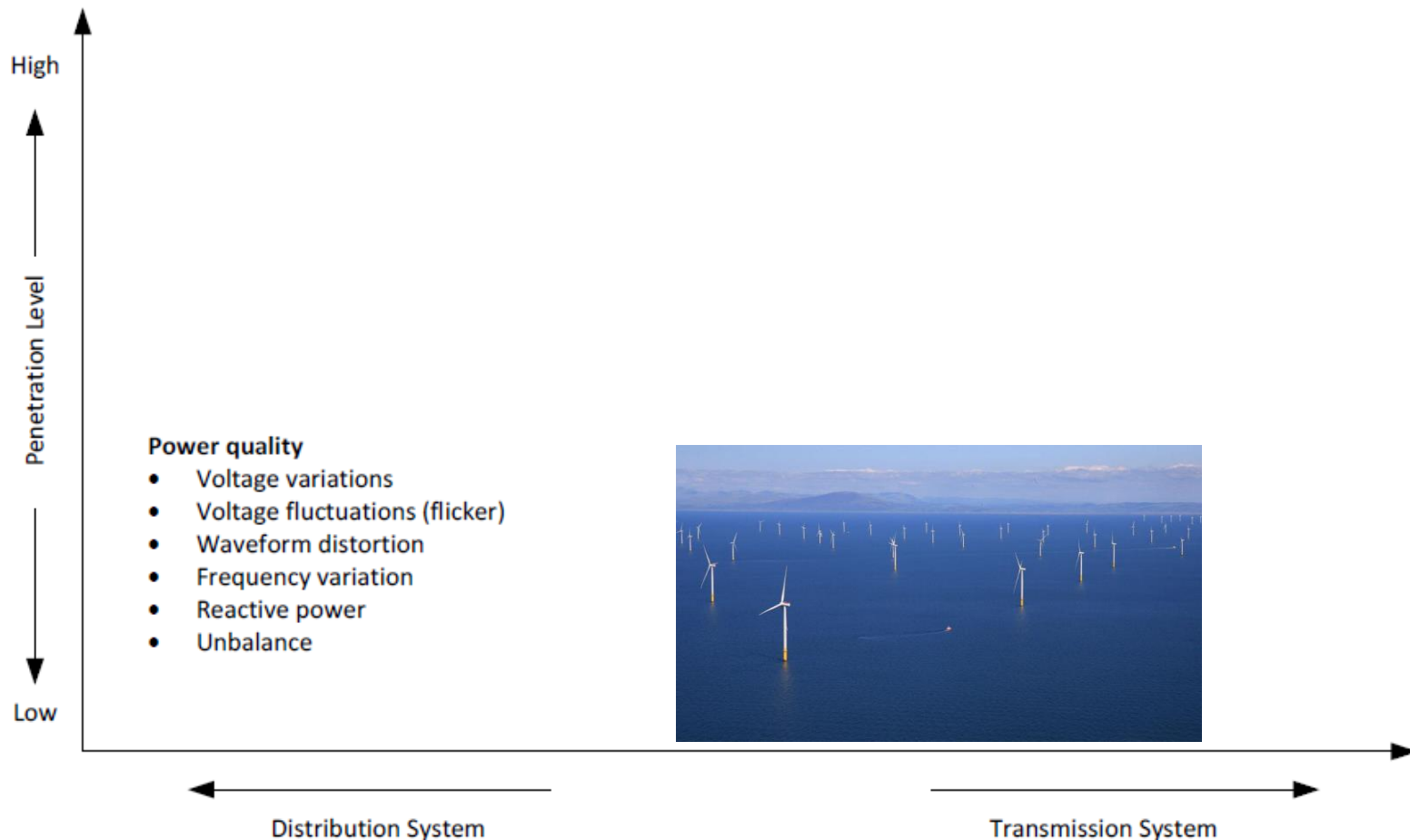
\*excluding transients events

# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



\*excluding transients events

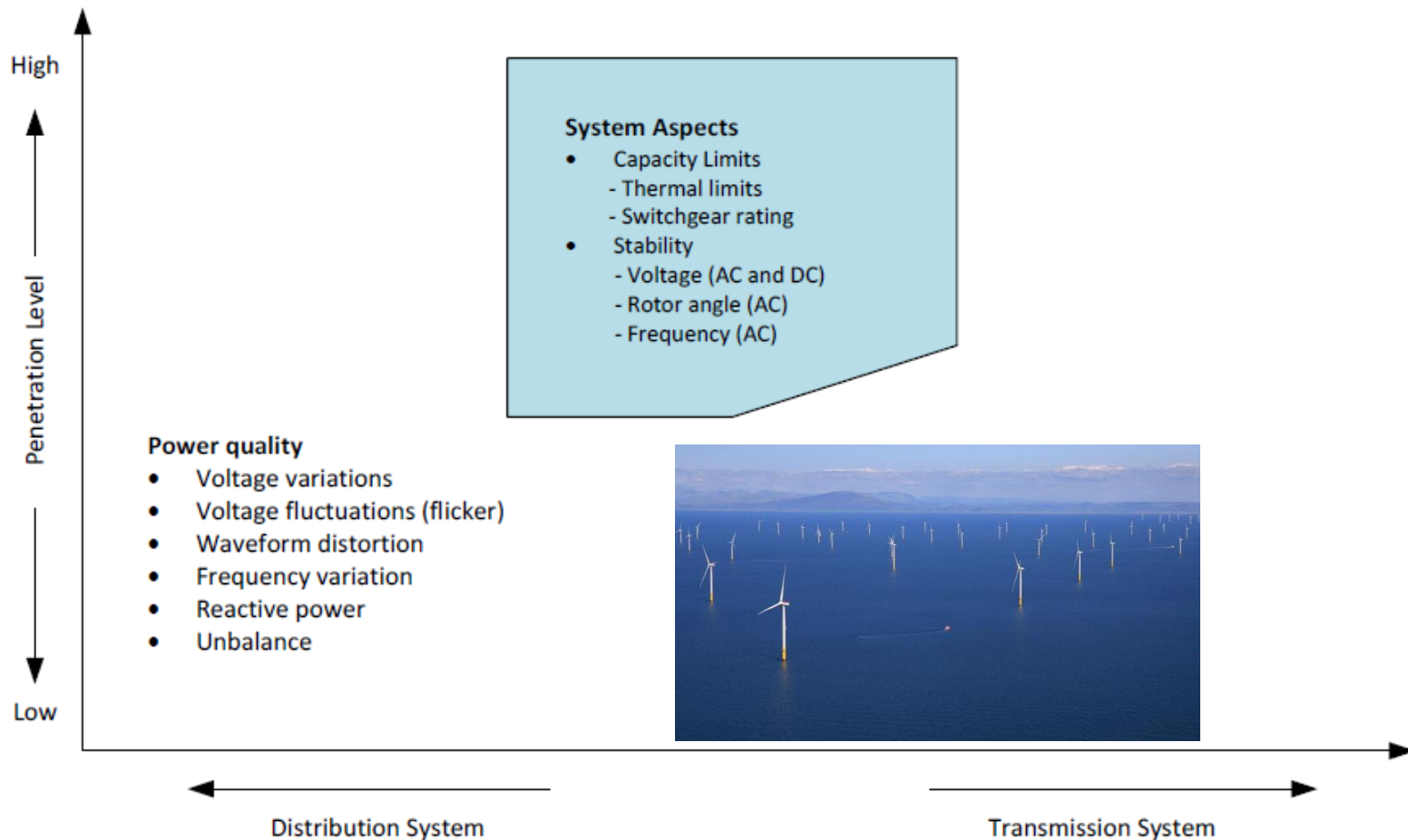
# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



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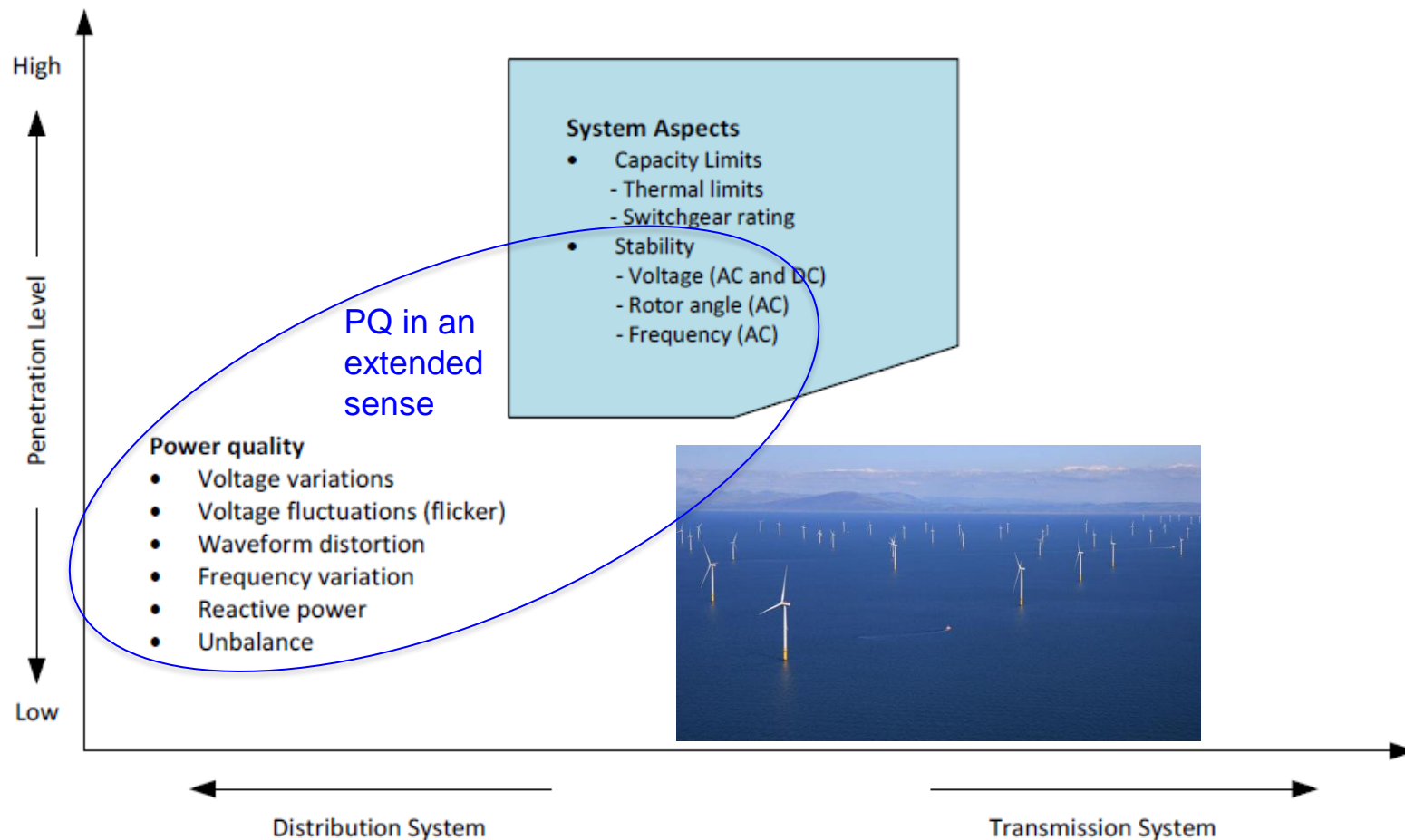


# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



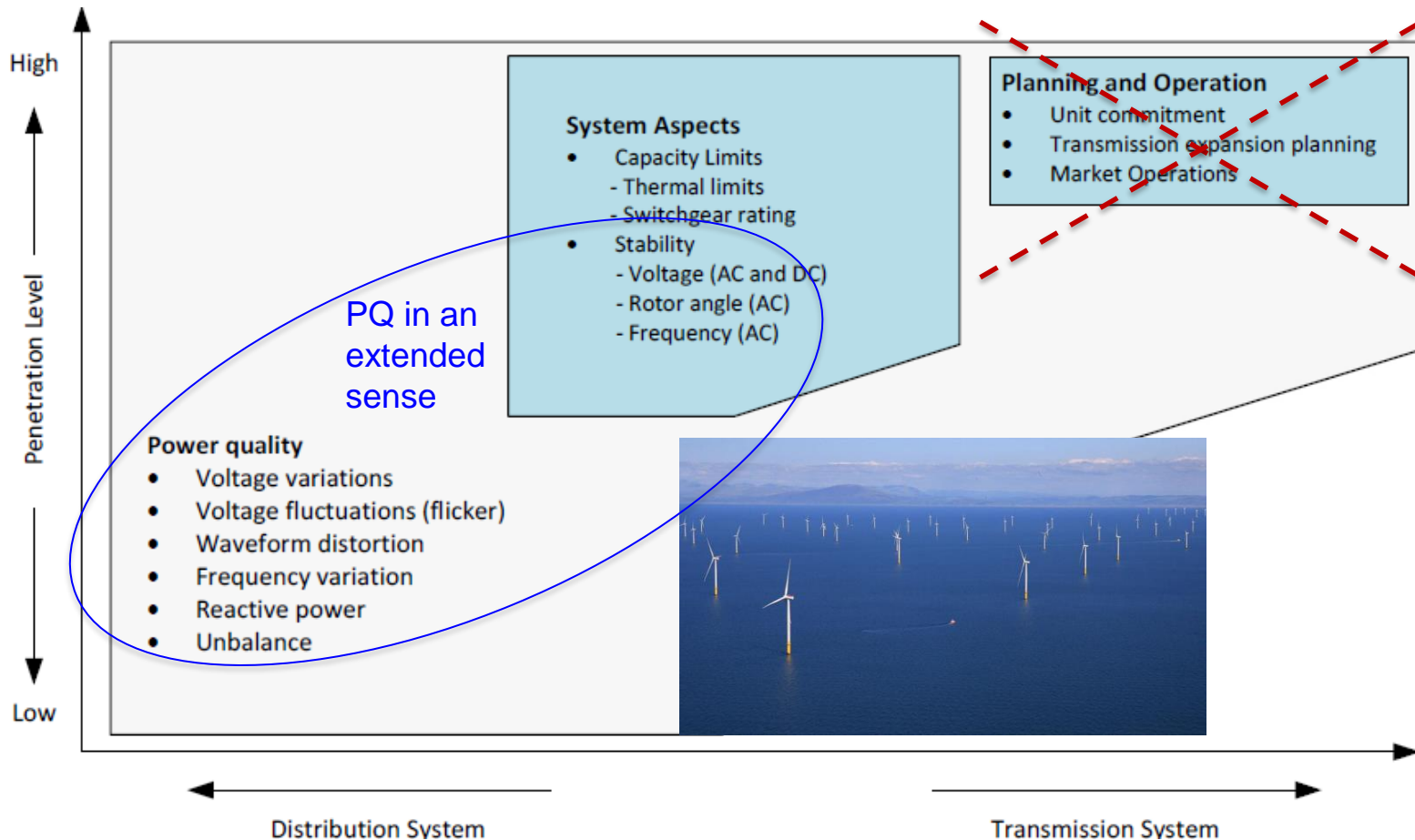
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# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



\*excluding transients events

# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



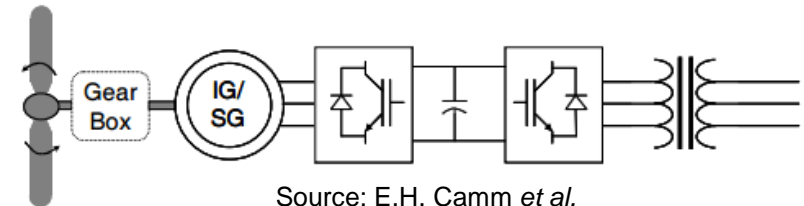
\*excluding transients events

# PQ in AC offshore grids: wind farms

## Waveform distortion

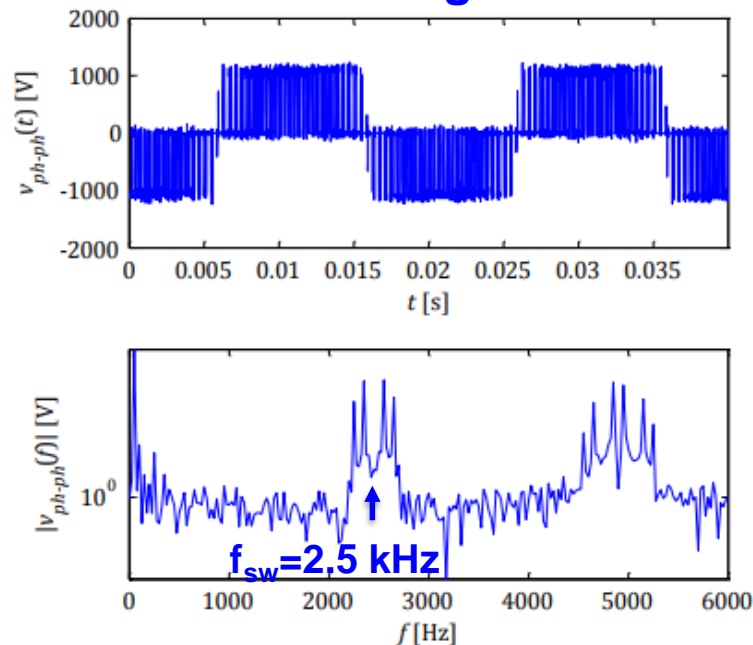
The type of (generators,) power electronic interfaces and their control impact the harmonic generation...

Type 4 Wind turbine

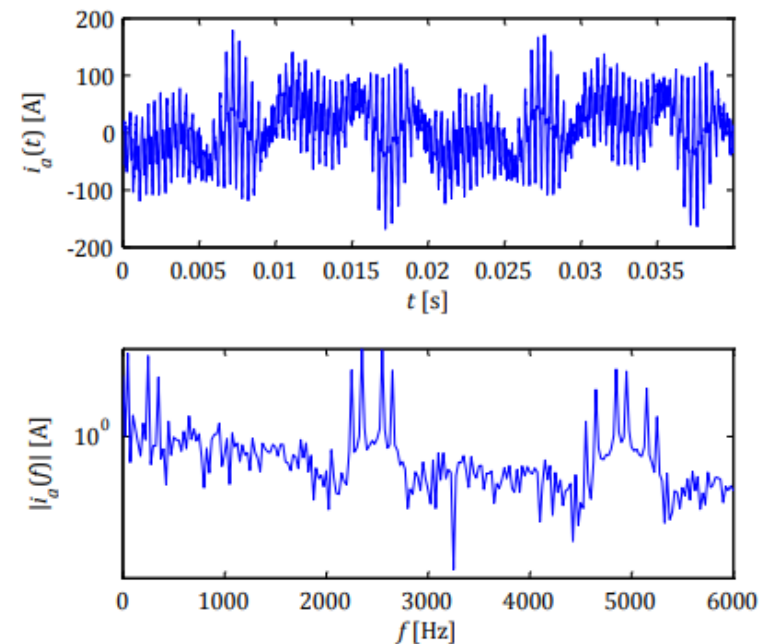


Measurements at Gunfleet  
Sands wind farm  
(low production)

Voltage

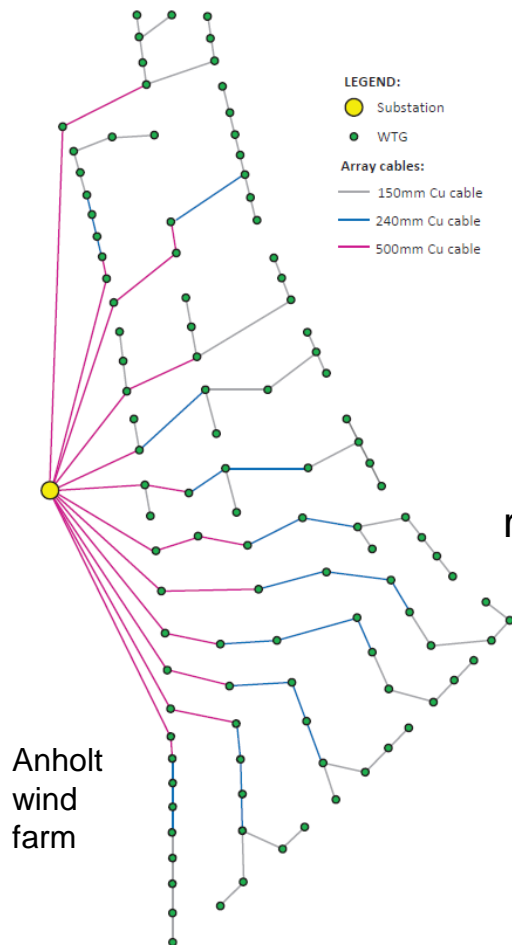


Current

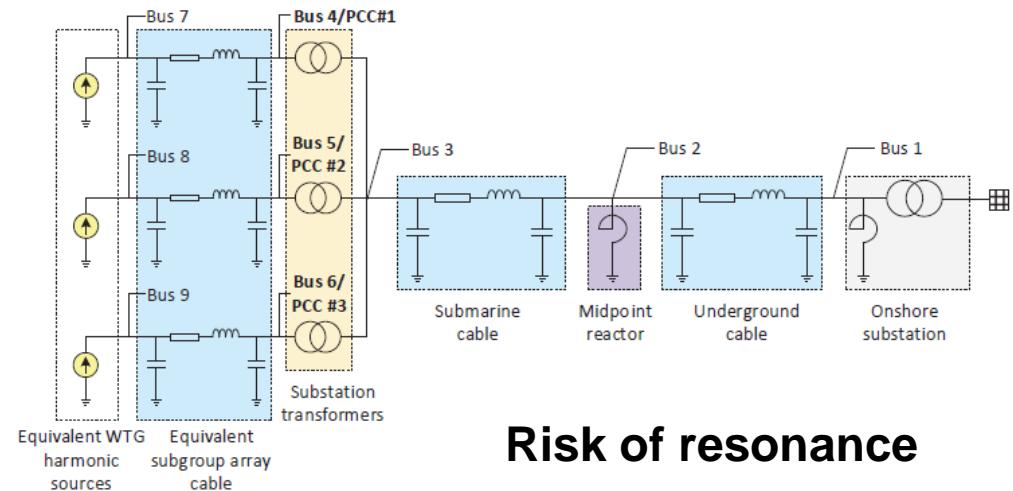


# PQ in AC offshore grids: wind farms

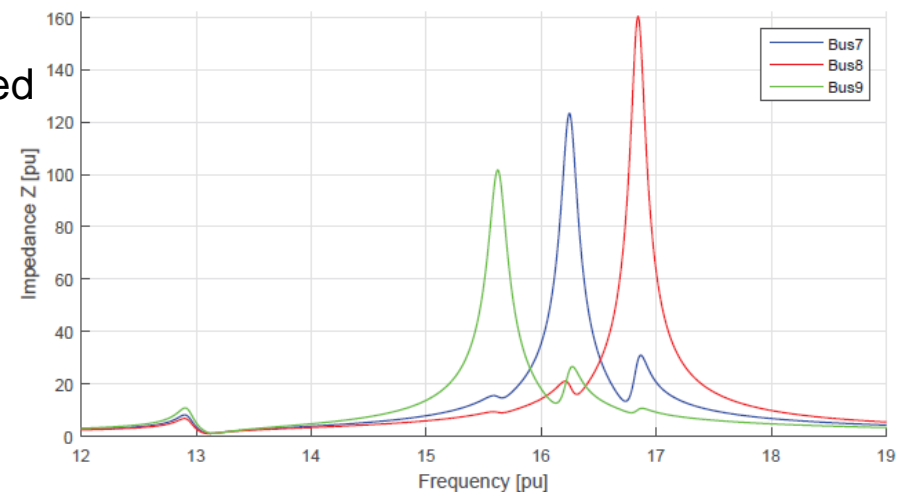
## Waveform distortion



Driving impedance and resonance are affected by environmental factors, n. of turbines in operation, farm configuration etc.



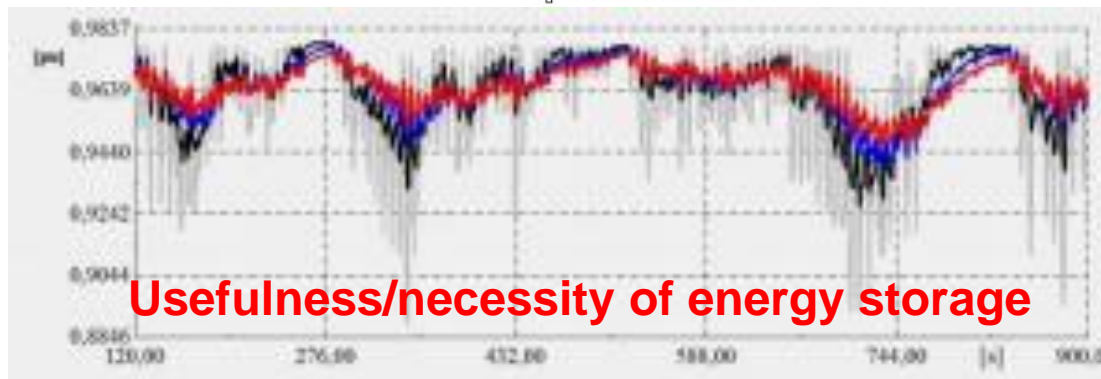
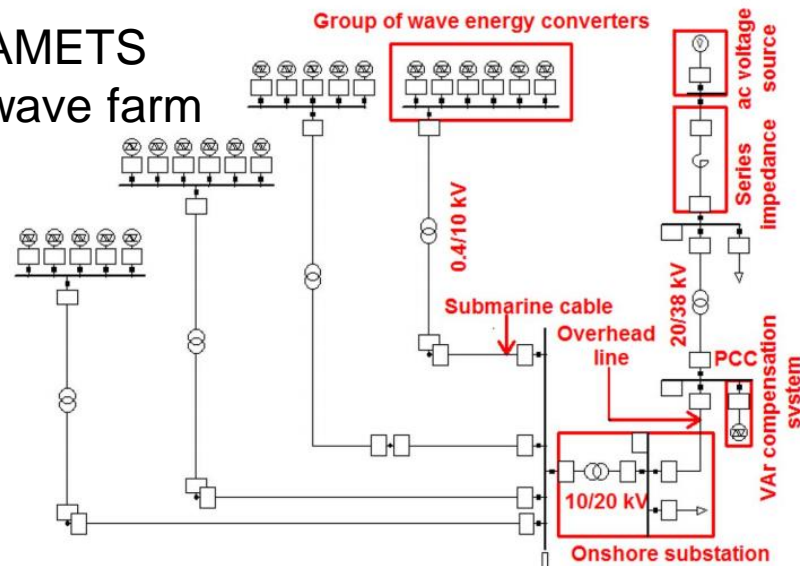
## Risk of resonance



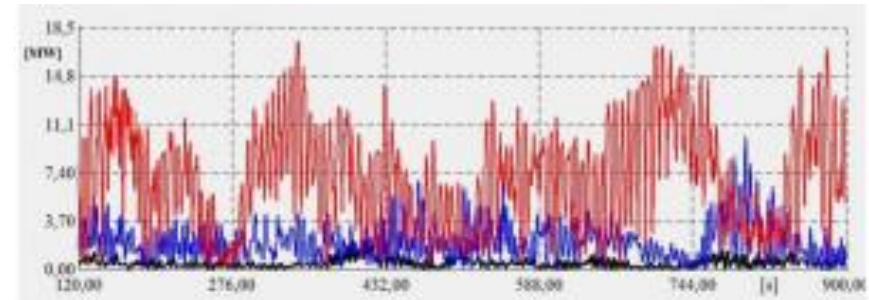
# PQ in AC offshore grids: wave farms

## Flicker and voltage variations

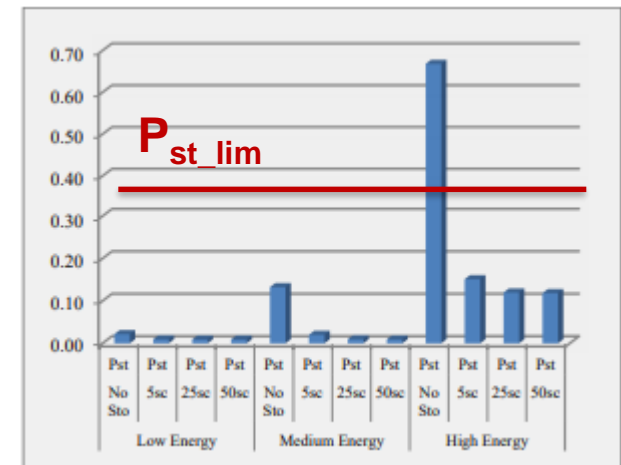
AMETS  
wave farm



**Usefulness/necessity of energy storage**



**Power variability due to resource intermittency**



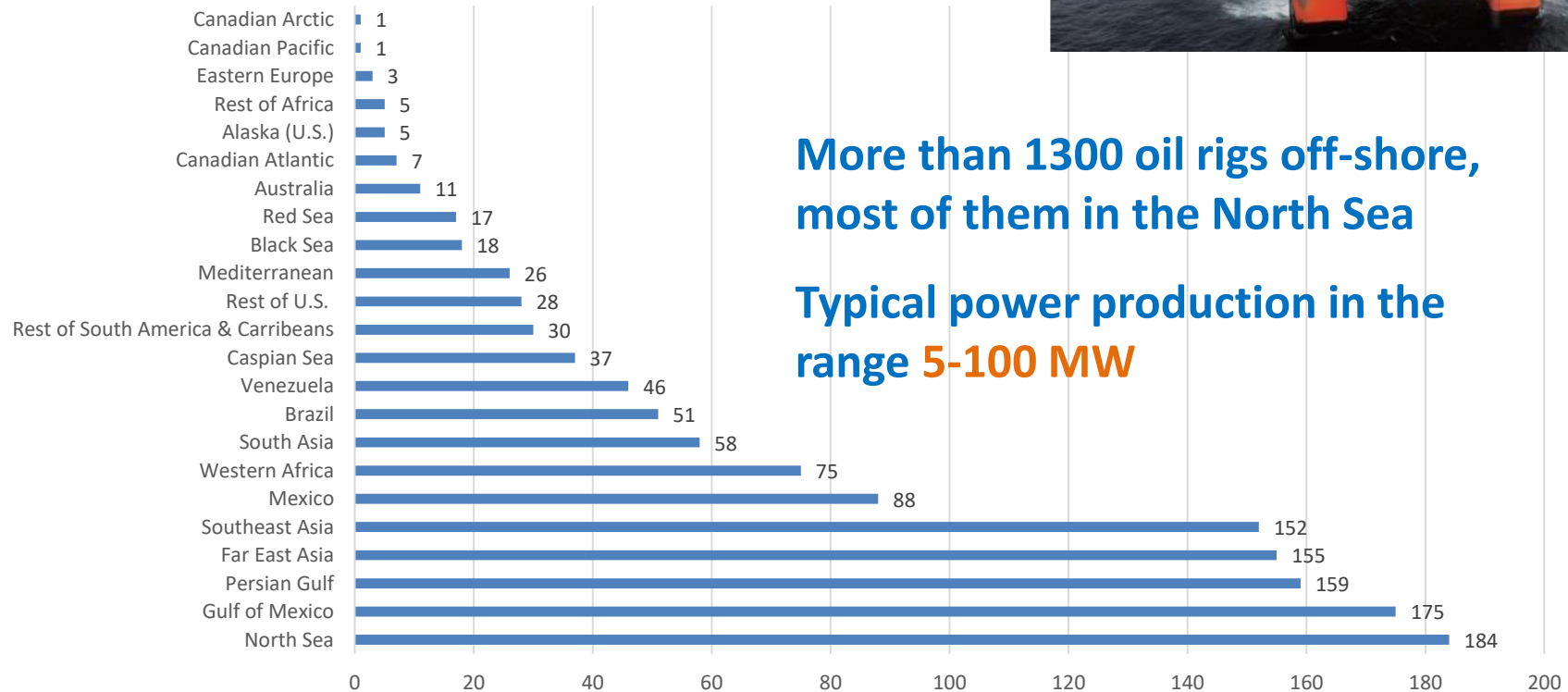
**Criticality of voltage fluctuations**

# Offshore Oil and Gas - Status

Offshore production accounts for 30% of global oil production and 27% of global gas production



Number of offshore rigs (January 2018)

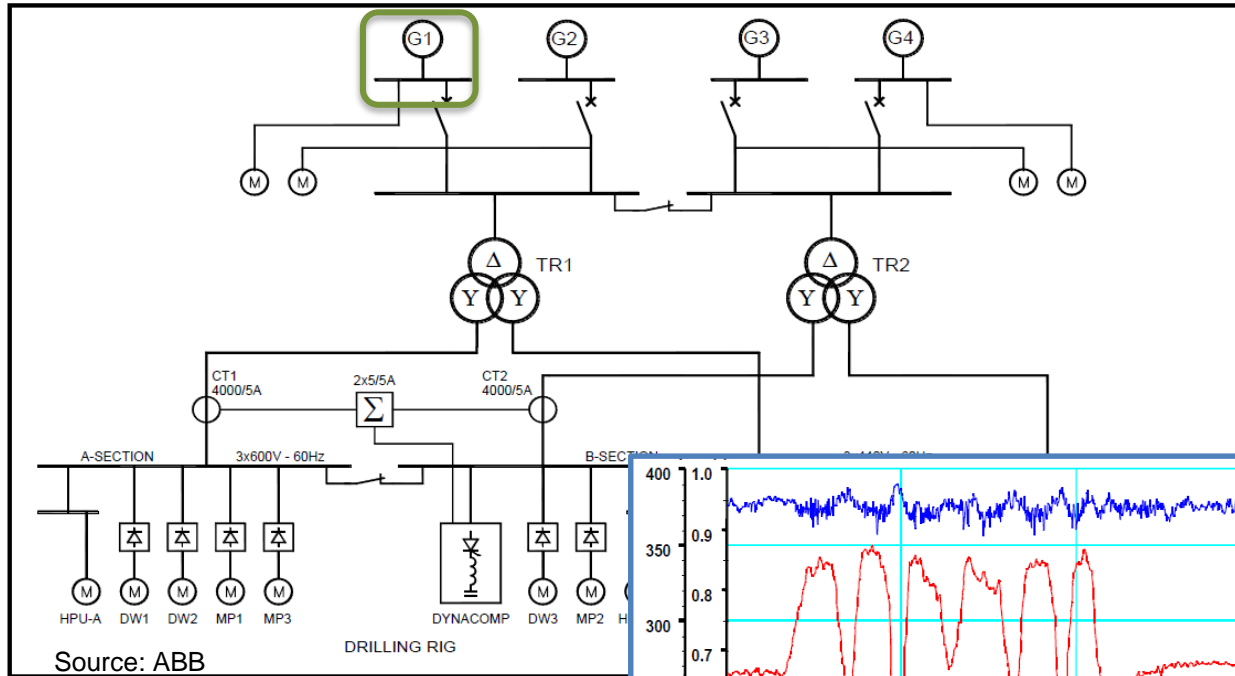


More than 1300 oil rigs off-shore, most of them in the North Sea

Typical power production in the range 5-100 MW



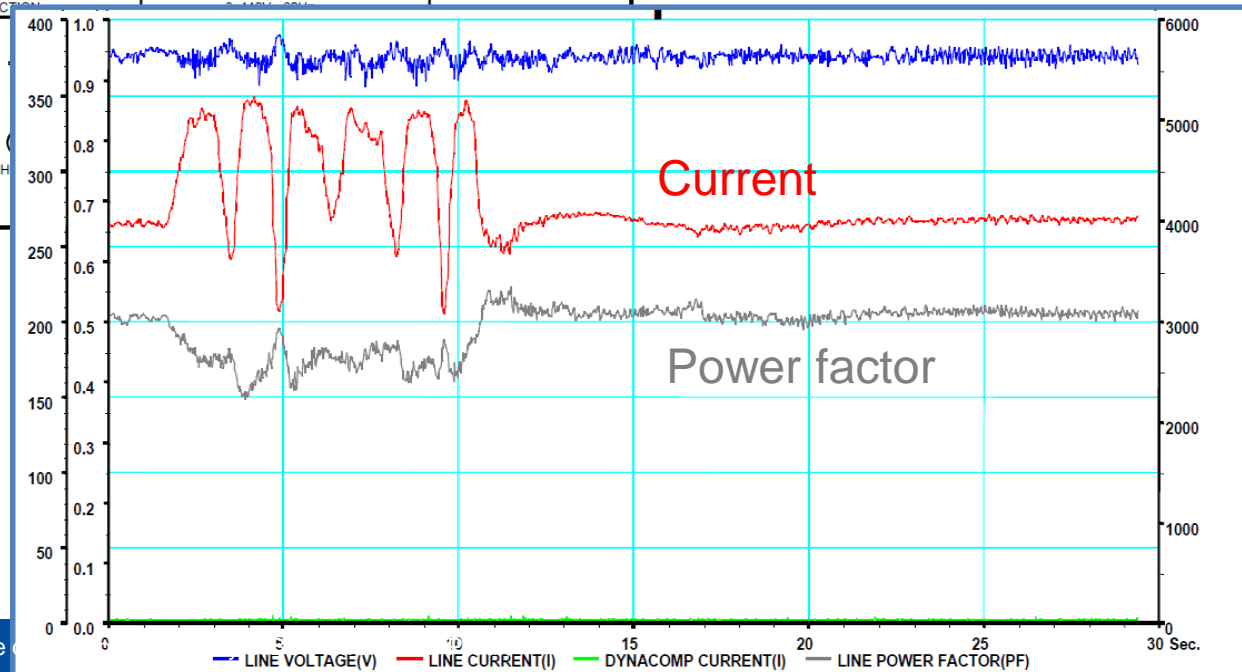
# Electrical power system on O&G rigs



O&G platforms can be classified as electrically «weak grids»

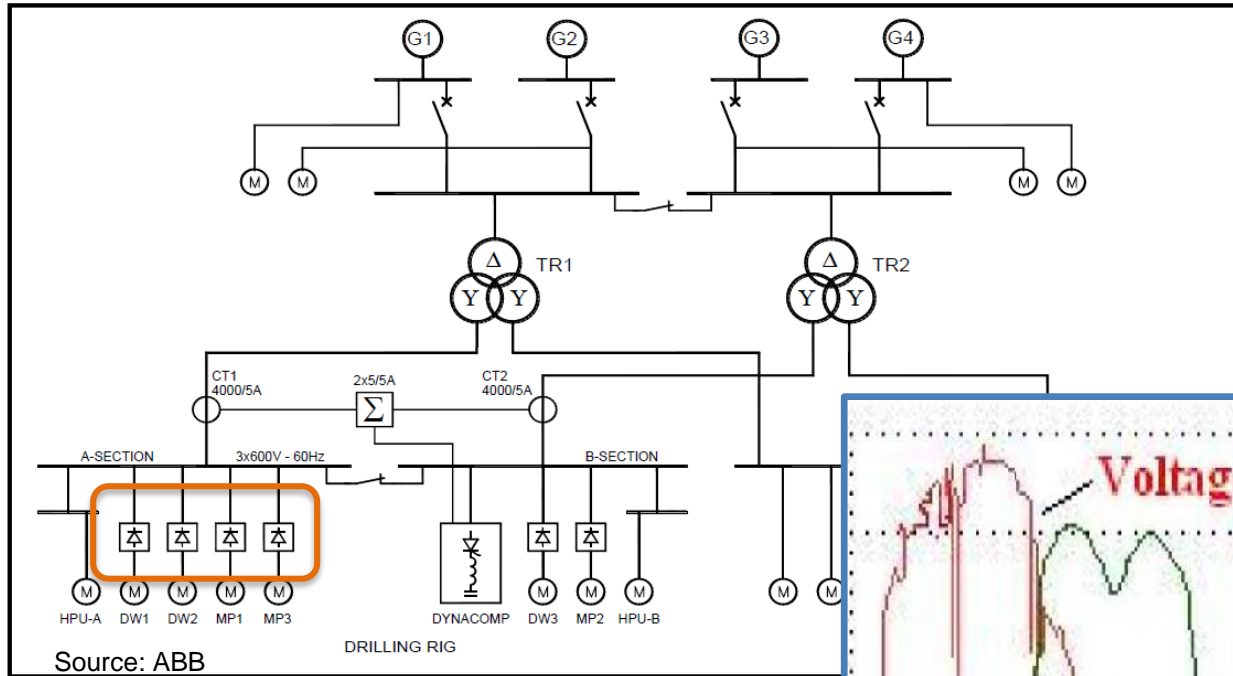
Power quality is low

- High reactive power demand/low power factor

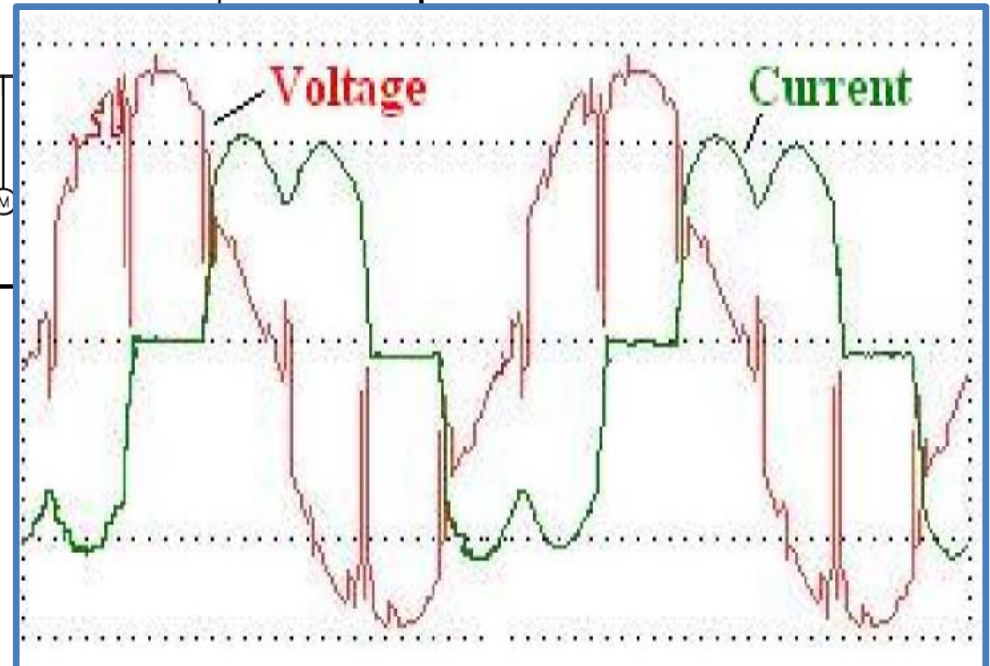




# Electrical power system on O&G rigs



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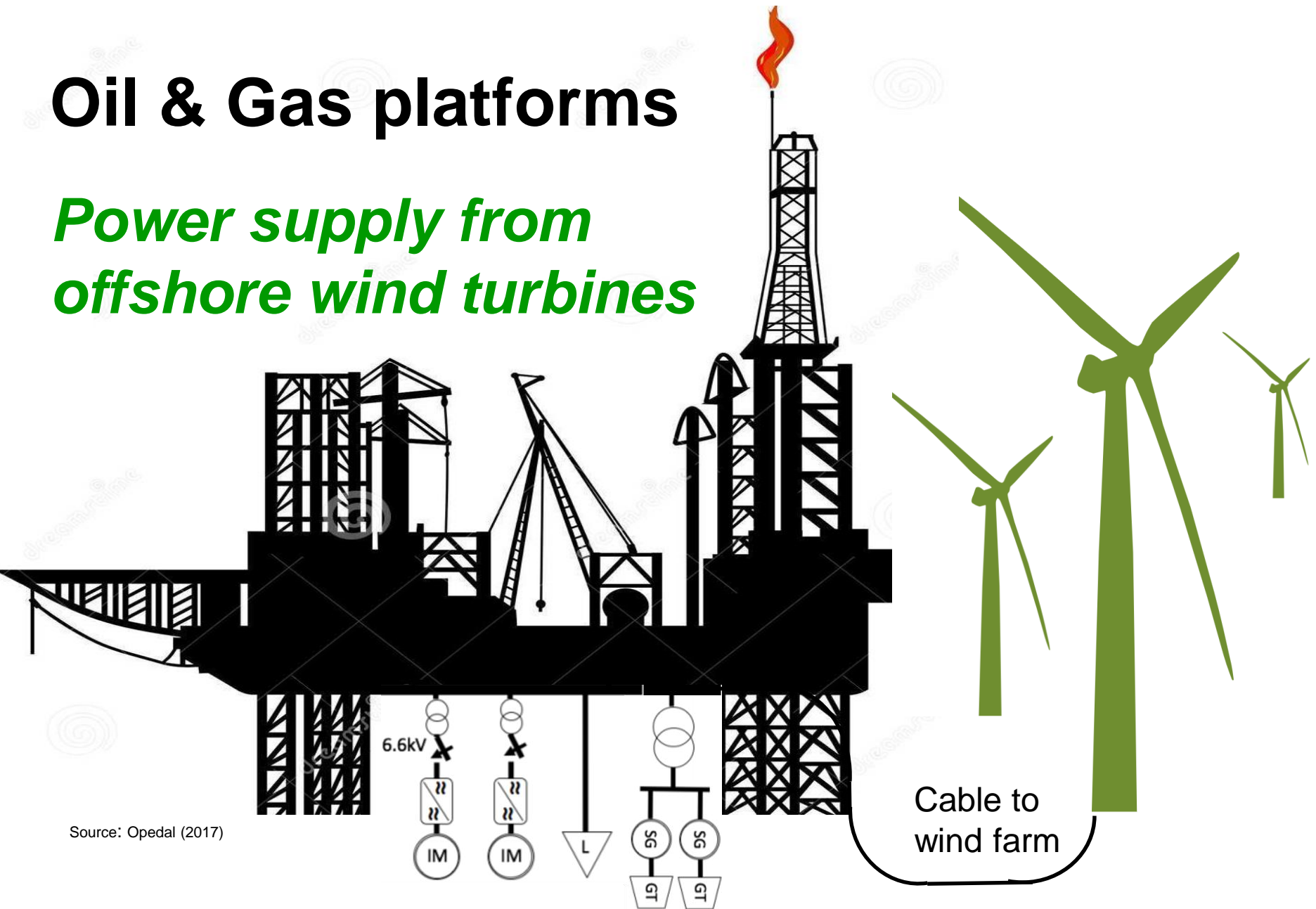


## - Voltage notching

Estimated financial loss (2010) for incidents due to poor power quality in O&G is 250-750 KEUR/day

# Oil & Gas platforms

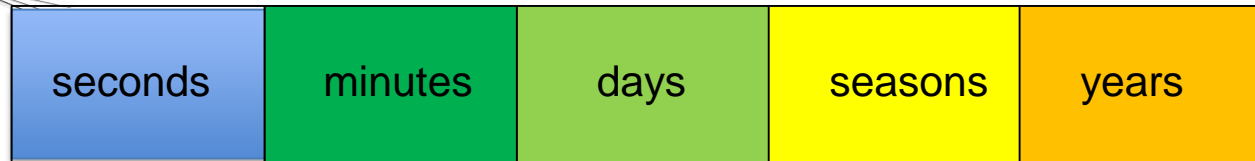
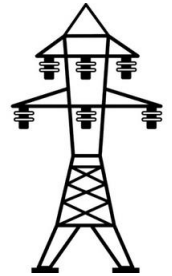
## *Power supply from offshore wind turbines*



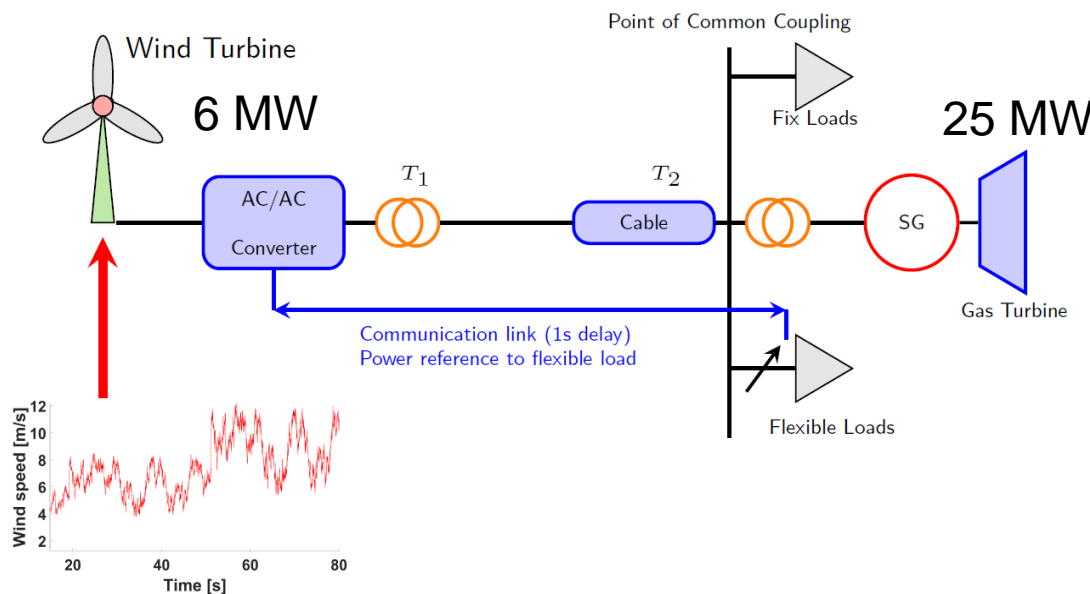
Source: Opedal (2017)

# Effect of the wind variability

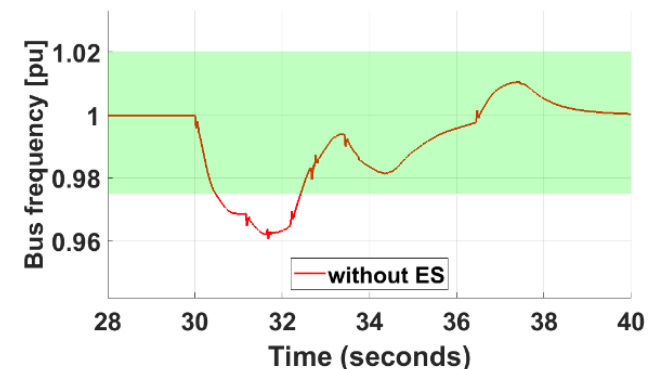
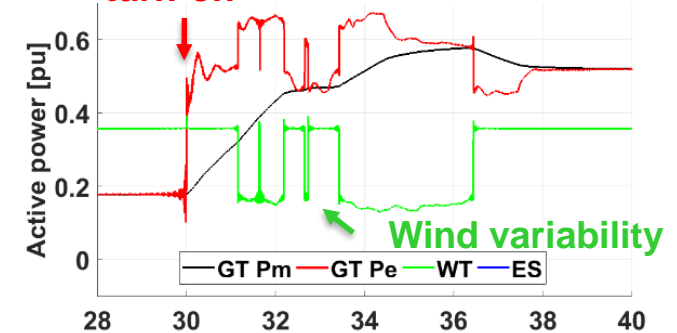
Very short term (rapid) variability



## Frequency variations

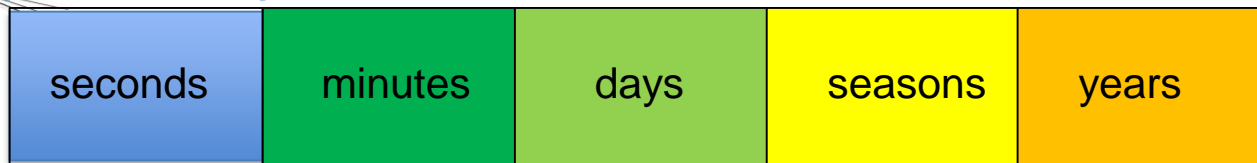
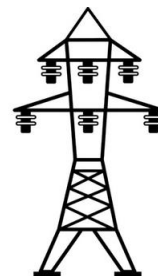


10 MW load  
turn-on

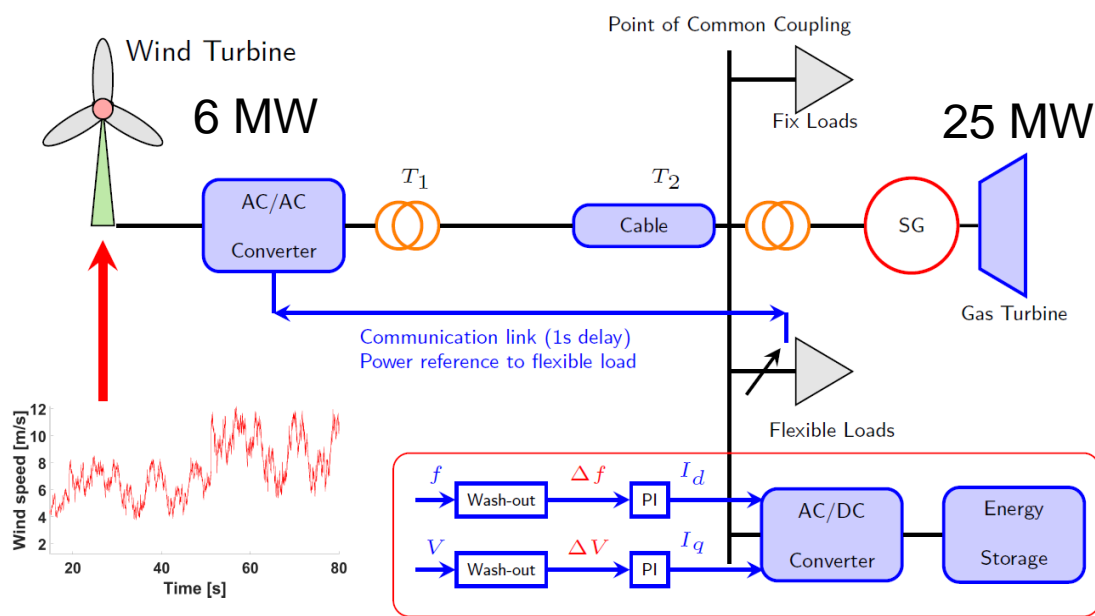


# Effect of the wind variability

Very short term variability

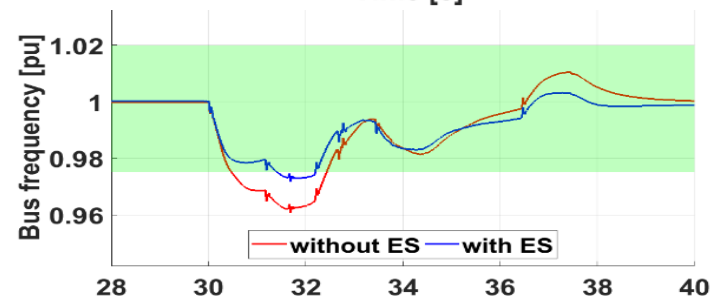
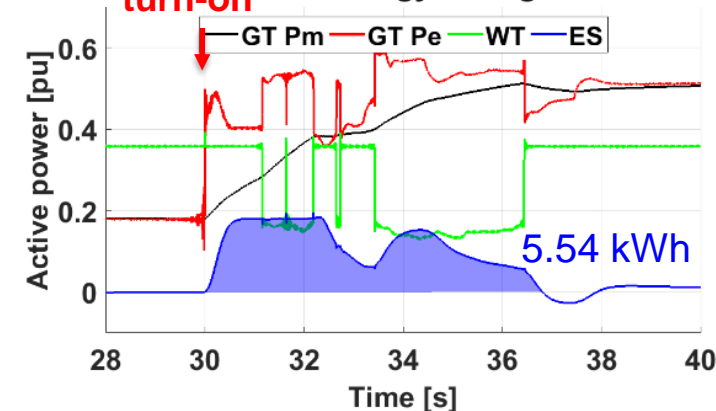


## Frequency variations

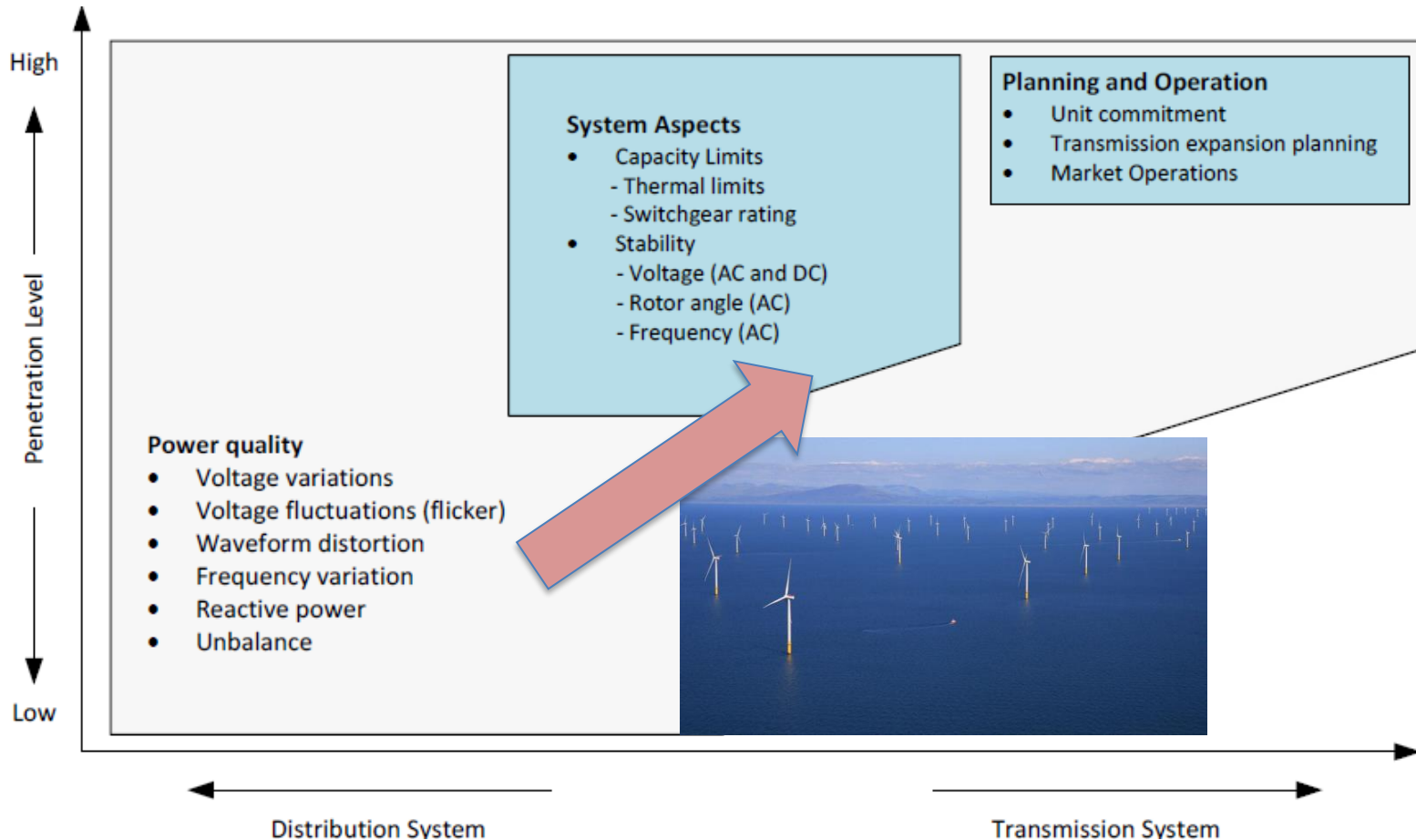


Inertial and voltage support

10 MW load turn-on With energy storage



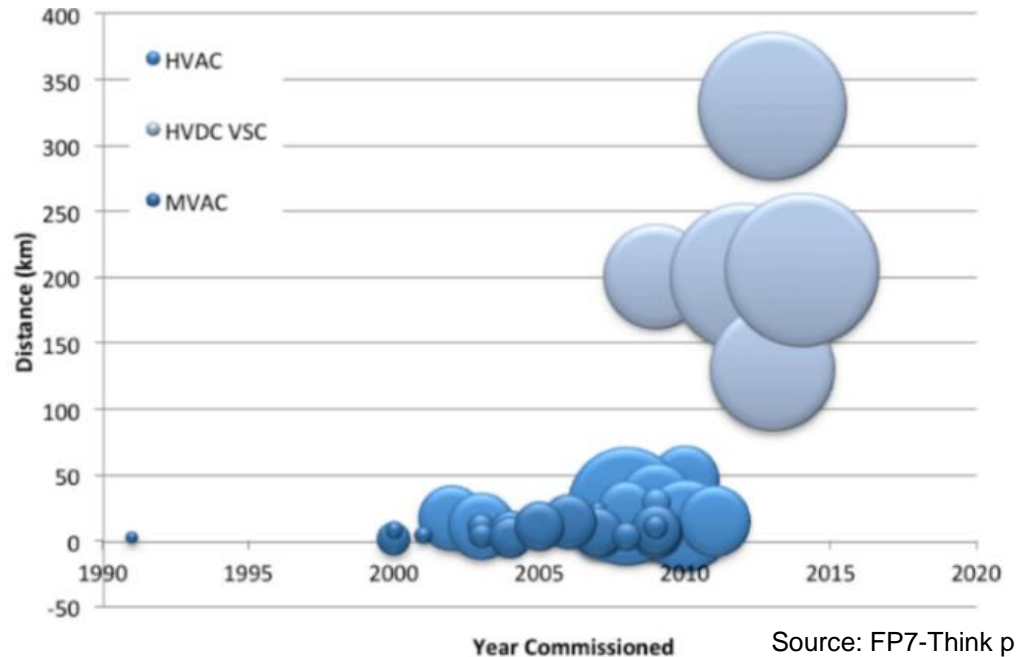
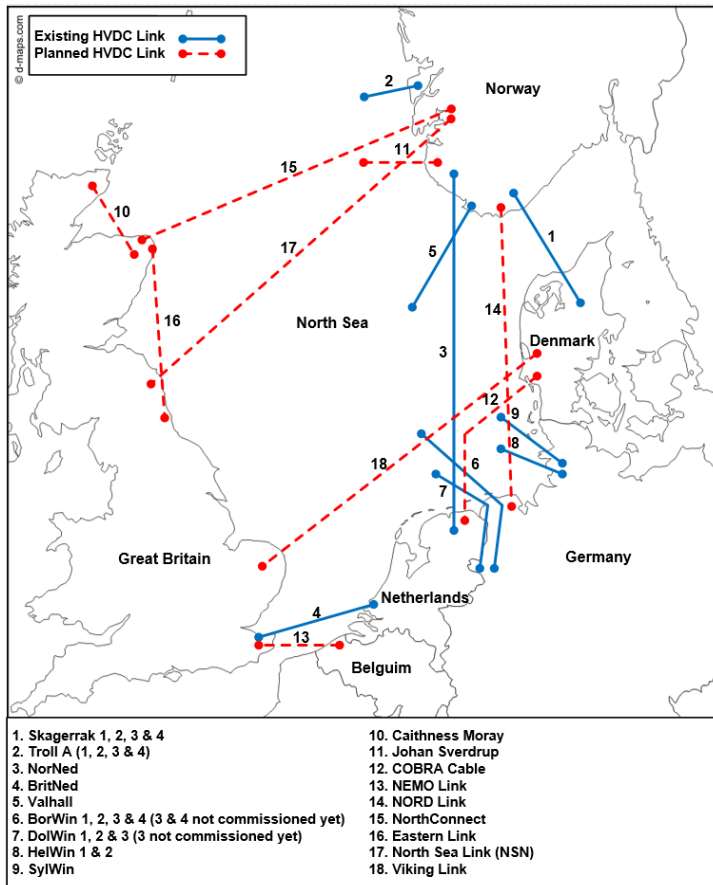
# Power quality (PQ) in offshore grids



\*excluding transients events

# Offshore transmission - Trends

## Technology shift from HVAC to HVDC transmission

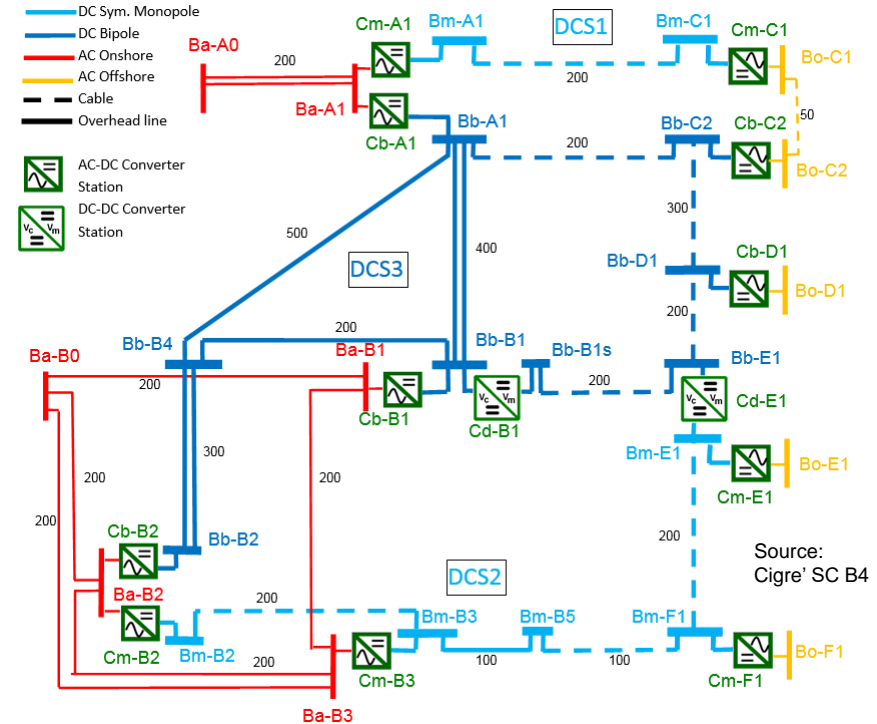


**Increasing number of HVDC links in the North Sea**

# Power quality in (HV)DC offshore grids

## The concept of PQ in DC grids:

- No reactive power and frequency concern
- Less harmonic pollution
- Voltage as power balance indicator
- Different dynamics time-scales and higher relevance of control strategies design
- Increased power electronic penetration
- AC/DC grid hybridization

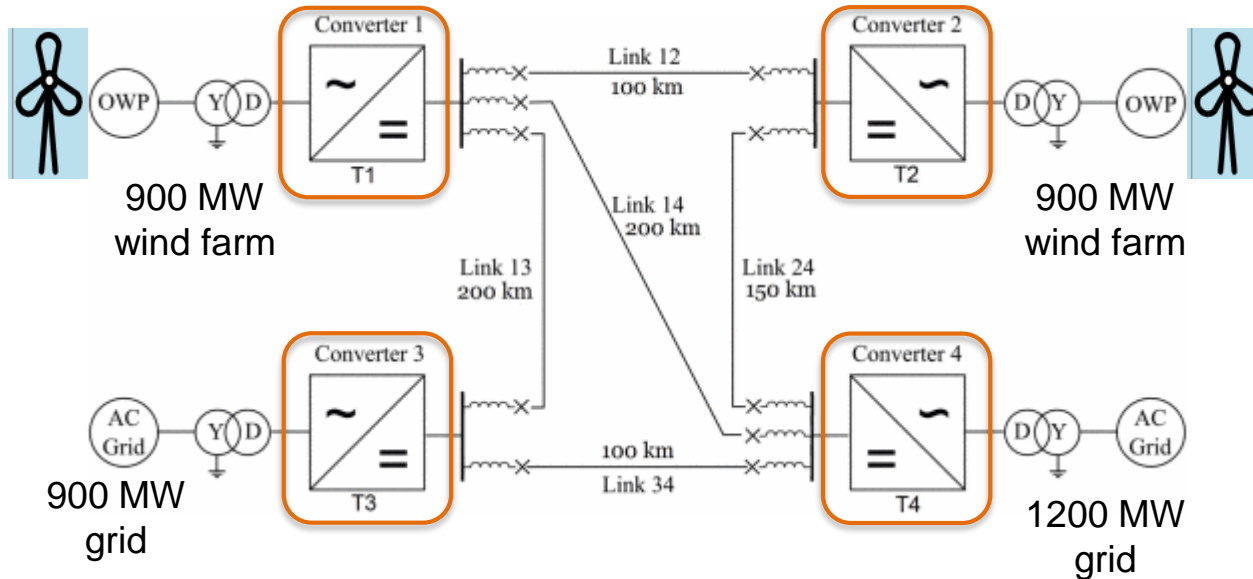


Different converters can provide ancillary services, to enhance AC grid performance, e.g.

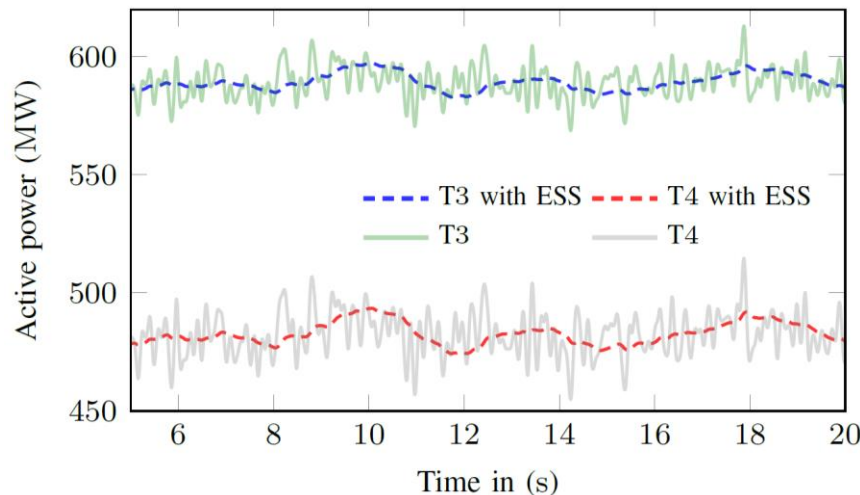
- Power oscillation damping
- Frequency support
- AC and DC voltage support



# Power quality in (HV)DC offshore grids



Active power smoothing

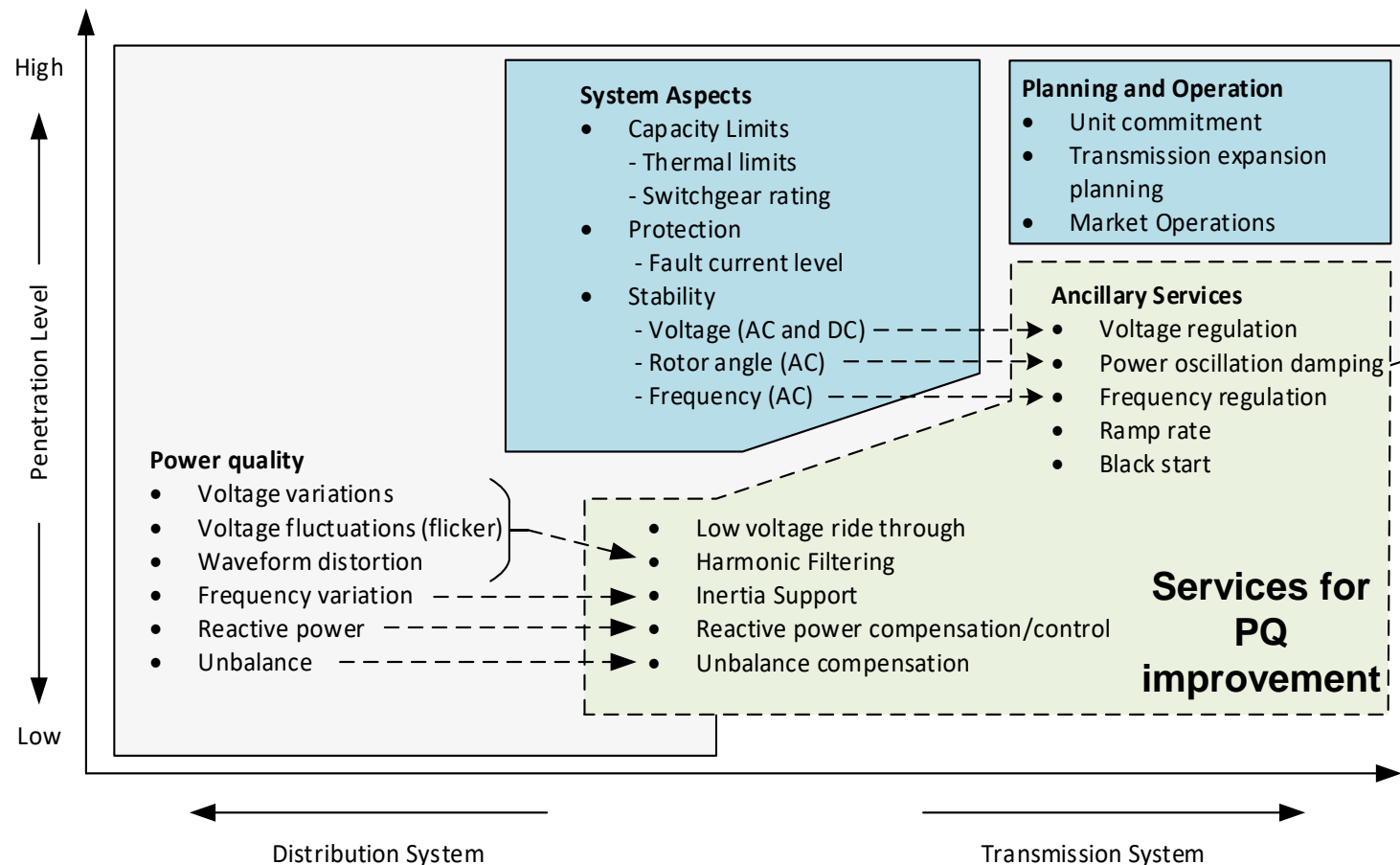


Wind-induced variation of active power in the AC grids is reduced using the **Energy Storage** embedded in **Modular Multilevel Converters**

Valid for rapid variations in the [ms-s] range



# Power quality in offshore grids



\*excluding transients events

# Conclusions

- **Intermittency** of wind and marine sources significantly affects the power quality of the electric grid
- **Power electronics** can contribute to the problem, but also help providing **countermeasures**
- Use of **energy storage** may be pivotal with the increase of offshore energy penetration
- Need for **harmonization** in the grid codes

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# Thanks for your attention!



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