Toward Robust OPF Solution Strategy for the Future AC/DC Grids: Case of VSC-HVDC Connected Offshore Wind Farms

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Abstract: This paper jointly addresses two major challenges in power system operations: (i) sustained growth of intermittent offshore wind farms (OWFs) connected to AC grid via multi-terminal voltage source converter (VSC)-based high voltage DC (HVDC) grid, that is bring new challenges to the power system operation, (ii) dealing with non-linearity of the AC power flow equations with the multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC grid model. To overcome these challenges, firstly, to deal with the uncertainties caused by the high penetration of the intermittent OWFs, this paper introduces a robust optimization approach. The proposed framework is computationally efficient and does not require the probability density function of the wind speed. The proposed decision making framework finds the optimal decision variables in a way that they remain robust against the set of uncertainties. Secondly, the mathematical representation of the full AC OPF problem, with the added modelling of multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC grid in a day-ahead scheduling problem, is a mixed-integer nonlinear programming (MINLP) optimisation problem, which is computationally burdensome for large-scale systems. Accordingly, this paper presents a method to convert this MINLP problem into a mixed-integer linear program (MILP) where a certain level of solution accuracy can be achieved for a time budget. To analyse and illustrate the effectiveness of the proposed approach, it is applied to the modified 6-bus as well as IEEE 118-bus test systems.

Index Terms— offshore wind farms, multi-terminal voltage source converter, optimal power flow, robust optimization.

Nomenclature

1) Indices:

g: Index for generating units. n,n'/m,m': Indices for system buses.

k/l: Index for line.

l: Index for angle piece.

t: Index related time period.

2) Sets:

 χ_n : Set of thermal units which are connected to bus *n*.

 Ω_n : Set of lines which are connected to bus *n*.

 $\Omega_{n'}^{DC}$: Set of buses with HVDC lines.

3) Continuous Variables:

 $\delta_{nmt}^{(\cdot)}$: Phase angle difference across line (n, m) at period t.

 $\omega_{n't}$: Amplitude modulation ratio in VSC-HVDC.

 $P_{gt}^{(\cdot)} / Q_{gt}^{(\cdot)}$: Active/ reactive power output of thermal unit g at period t.

 $V_{nt}^{(.)} / V_{n't}^{dc}$: Voltage magnitude for HVAC/DC at bus n / n' at period t.

 $P_{nmt}^{(\cdot)} / Q_{nmt}^{(\cdot)}$: Active/reactive power flow on line (n, m).

 $P_{nm}(\ell)/Q_{nm}(\ell)$: Active/reactive power flow on the ℓ th linear block of line (n, m).

 $P_{nm}^{(\cdot)}(\ell,i)$: Active/reactive power flow on the ℓ th/i th linear $Q_{nm}^{(\cdot)}(\ell,i)$:

block/breakpoint of line (n, m).

 $\overline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{(\cdot)} / \underline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{(\cdot)}$: Active power increase/decrease in thermal unit *g* for security purposes.

 Q_{nt}^{dc} : Reactive power flowing into HVDC link.

 $R_{n'm'}$: Resistance of HVDC cable.

 $x_{nn'l}$: Reactance of HVDC coupling transformer.

TC: Total system operation cost.

Note that the normal condition s = 0 relate to the first-stage. 4) Binary Variables:

 $u_{mn}(\ell)$: Status of the ℓ th linear block of line (n, m).

 u_{gt} : Status of unit g at period t

5) Constants:

 δ_{nm}^{max} : Max angle difference across a line (*n*, *m*).

 $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$: Tangent point of ℓ th piecewise linear block of angle difference across a line (n, m).

 $\alpha_{nm}(\ell) / \tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell)$: Slope of the ℓ th piecewise linear block of the linearized $F(\delta_{nm}(\ell)) / \tilde{F}(\delta_{nm}(\ell))$ relative to the line (n, m) in tangent point $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$.

 $\beta_{nm}(\ell)/\tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell)$: Value of the linearized

 $F(\delta_{nm}(\ell)) / \tilde{F}(\delta_{nm}(\ell))$ relative to ℓ th piecewise linear block of the line (n, m) in tangent point $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$.

 $\alpha_{nm}(\ell,i) / \tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell,i)$: Slope of the ℓ/i th piecewise linear block/breakpoint of the linearized $F(\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell),g(i),b(i))$

 $/\tilde{F}(\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell),g(i),b(i))$ relative to the line (n, m) with TCSC device.

 $\beta_{nm}(\ell,i) / \tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell,i) : \text{Value of the linearized}$ $F(\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell),g(i),b(i)) / \tilde{F}(\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell),g(i),b(i)) \text{ relative to } \ell/i \text{ th}$ piecewise linear block/breakpoint of the line (n, m) withTCSC device.

 C_g / C_g^{\pm} : Cost of normal/stress condition of thermal unit g.

 S_k^{\max} : Maximum magnitude of apparent power of line k (MVA)

 Ψ_{D_n} : Power factor angle of load *n*.

 ΔR_g^{\pm} : Ramp-up/down limit of unit g at stress condition.

 Q_g^{max} / Q_g^{min} : Max/min reactive power output of unit g.

 PD_{nt} / QD_{nt} : Active/reactive power demand of load *n* at period *t*.

 SU_{gt} / SD_{gt} : Startup/shutdown cost of unit g.

 $\Delta \delta$: Length of each piecewise linear block [in radians]. *M*: Disjunctive factor, a large positive value.

 g_k : Conductance of line k, a non-negative value.

 b_k / b_{k0} : Series/Shunt admittance-of-line k, a negative value.

 Δ_g^{LAC} : Active power generation calculation error for linear ACOPF model for unit g.

 Δ_{mn}^{LAC} : Active power flow calculation error for linear ACOPF model in line (n, m).

1. Introduction

The application of wind power generation, especially offshore wind farms (OWFs), is a keystone in the policy of several countries for high penetration of renewable energy resources. In many countries, the best location for onshore wind farms are already developed and the utilities are turning to offshore sites. The main reason for this attraction is the availability of enormous wind resources [1]. There are many advantages associated with OWFs as follows: (i) With OWFs, noise and visual impacts are eliminated and besides the environmental impact is significantly reduced, allowing the designers of the wind turbines to produce larger wind turbines with longer blades that can effectively produce more electricity [2]. (ii) The OWFs take the advantages of the stronger and more constant winds that exist in the sea. As a result, the OWFs' generation are more efficient and more reliable, they can produce more electricity and they can maintain higher levels of electricity generation for longer periods of time [1], [2]. The main disadvantage of the OWFs is generally that they are located far away from the onshore grid. Provided that the distance is long or if the OWF is connected to a weak AC onshore grid, a high-voltage DC (HVDC) transmission system may be a more suitable choice

than the conventional high-voltage AC (HVAC) transmission network [1]. Nowadays, more and more large scale OWFs are getting integrated into the system through HVDC transmission lines due to the limitation of traditional HVAC lines. Two types of HVDC transmission topologies, i.e., HVDC with voltage source converter (VSC-HVDC) using insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs) and linecommutated converter HVDC (LCC-HVDC) are used today for OWFs connectivity [3], [4]. The OWFs integration by conventional line commutated converter (LCC) HVDC system and full-bridge diode rectifier based HVDC is studied in [4]. However, the little voltage or reactive support can be provided to the main grid by the OWFs due to the uncontrollability of such HVDC systems [4]. Nevertheless, the voltage source converter (VSC)-based HVDC lines utilizing full-controllable components such as IGBT or GTO can enable AC voltage support to the connected HVAC system by the OWFs. Also, in comparison with the conventional LCC-HVDC systems, VSC-HVDC systems show many advantages. These include the independent control of reactive and active power, continuous AC voltage regulation, no commutation failure, no voltage polarity reversal needed to reverse power, black-start capability, compact filters, and lighter cables [4], [3], ability to control the negative sequence current injection in the OWF outputs [5], shorter design and installation times [6]. Both of these HVDC technologies have their own cons and pros and choosing the best technology for HVDC link depends on the requirements of the planner, which is not the subject of this work. There have been great advances in the practical VSC-HVDC techniques. Several VSC stations (multi-terminal systems) can be connected to DC buses with fixed polarity, creating DC grids similar to AC networks. These VSC-HVDC grids are very attractive for OWFs integration and the reinforcement of interconnected AC networks [1]. Therefore, the number of multi-terminal systems, which feed power to an AC network at different points, is increasing. As a result, the interest in studying the performance of such systems has been increasing. Many projects have investigated the potential benefits and cost-effectiveness of the multiterminal VSC-HDVC, as well as its impact on the security of the connected AC networks and the need of the coordination of power control at the multiple DC links [1], [7], [8]. Such the multi-terminal VSC-HDVC systems are also well suited for connection of offshore wind farms to onshore AC grids. This is the reason that in [9] multi-terminal VSC-HDVC systems have been introduced as a cost-effective solution to connect OWFs to the onshore AC systems. There are many practical reasons proving that the VSCs are more suitable for building such multi-terminal HDVC systems. In contrast to the LCC, VSCs not only have no reactive power demand but can also regulate the reactive power to maintain AC side voltage as a generator [3].

Multi-terminal VSC-HDVC systems with parallel connected converters have a great potential to be used in the future bulk power systems [10]. Also, over the past few years, significant studies have been done to address the different challenges associated with the operation and control of converters in the HVDC transmission as well as broadening its applications [11], [12], [13]. These references present robust control technique for stable operation of converters in the HVDC transmission systems.

Table 1: Taxonomy of our proposed model in current paper.

Refs	Year	Linear ACOPF (MILP)	Multi-terminal VSC- based HVDC Grid (MILP)	Day-ahead Scheduling Problem (MILP)	Wind Uncertainty (non-probabilistic /possibilistic (non-fuzzy) method)
[9]	2016	Ν	Y	Y	N
[14]	2015	Ν	Y	N	N
[15]	2016	Y	N	Y	N
[16],[17]	2016	Ν	N	Y	Y
[18]	2015	Ν	N	N	Y
[19]	2011	N	Ν	Y	Ν
[10]	2013	N	Y	N	N
[20]	2016	Y	Ν	N	Ν
Current Paper	=	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	Y

Y/N denotes that the subject is/is not considered

Possibility of such connections has led to the proposition of a DC "SuperGrid" that could connect several OWFs to a common multi-terminal DC grid [14]. On the other hand, lack of smart grid management strategies for operation of HDVC and HVAC grids can result in uninvited outcomes such as congestion on transmission systems and decreasing the power grid efficiency [7], [14]. Furthermore, the role of the transmission congestion in smart power networks has been addressed in [12]. In this work, a novel routing economic dispatch algorithm has been presented for congestion management of smart power system. Similarly, high penetration of OWFs could decrease the operation cost and reduction of peak-time demand, whereas its uncertainty could impose adverse effects on system congestion [9], [14]. In this way, multi-terminal VSC-HVDC systems mitigate the intermittency of wind generation and enhance system reliability as well as reduce transmission congestion. Thus, this paper investigates the utilization of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC to facilitate a higher utilization of the OWFs generation, during the wind uncertainty. Besides, in [9] and [14], the multi-terminal VSC-HDVC systems has been included in the DC optimal power flow problem (DCOPF). Accordingly, the mathematical representation of the DCOPF, with the added modeling of multi-terminal VSC-HDVC systems, is a nonlinear program (NLP). These references present a method to convert this NLP into a linear problem. It is worth mentioning that coordination of the multi-terminal VSC-HDVC systems with HVAC grid based on DCOPF cannot consider ACOPF feasibility, which hinders the exploitation of the benefits of the HVDC lines in power system operations. Unfortunately, deployment of the multiterminal VSC-HVDC systems is limited today due to the complexities that these systems introduce to the HVAC systems. Besides, optimal adjustment of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC systems with HVAC grids introduces mixedinteger nonlinear programming (MINLP) in the day-ahead scheduling problem; hence employing an MINLP solver does not guarantee to find a global optimum solution, especially when the scale of the problem is large [14], [21]. Such an optimization problem with the above-mentioned multiterminal VSC-HVDC lines is called precise OPF. Therefore, in order to overcome these challenges, in this paper, a linearized AC optimal power flow model as well as linearized multi-terminal VSC-HVDC models have been proposed, so, the proposed method convert this MINLP problem into a mixed-integer linear program (MILP) without loss of the model accuracy.

The aim of this paper is to cooperate the AC and DC systems for maximizing variation range of OWFs generation uncertainty that the power system can accommodate for a given system congestion condition, while satisfying the technical constraints and system reliability. The problem of uncertainty modelling of the OWFs output is still an important issue [22]. In this paper, a new deterministic model is utilized for handling the OWFs output uncertainty. There is no need to the probability density function of wind speed and it is not computationally expensive compared to other uncertainty handling tools. The proposed decision-making structure finds the optimal decision variables in a way that they remain robust against the considered uncertainties.

The available literatures, which attempted the uncertainty modelling of the wind power in day-ahead scheduling problems, can be classified as follows: (i) stochastic methods [23], (ii) fuzzy uncertainty modelling methods [23], [24], and (iii) robust optimization (RO) [23]. Each method has its own pros and cons. For instance, the main disadvantage of the stochastic methods is the requirement for accurate statistical models of uncertain parameters [23]. It is usually computationally expensive and adds huge execution burden to the original problem. The fuzzy programming requires the membership function for the wind power uncertainty modeling [24]. It is usually difficult to extract a true fuzzy numbers and they should be mapped into real valued numbers. The RO approach needs to know the variation range of the wind uncertain parameters (WUPs) and the lower and upper level of WUPs are fixed before solving the problem [23], [25]. The proposed approach of this paper for the uncertainty modeling of the OWFs' output is both non-possibilistic (nonfuzzy) and non-probabilistic and does not require to predefine variation range of the WUPs. Challenges related to high uncertainty of the OWFs output in the power system can be managed with optimal adjustment of the HVDC and HVAC grids. The coordination of these grids that allows revising operation decisions closer to real-time can, indeed, mitigate the impact of the OWFs output uncertainty. In the technical literature, there are few works addressing the co-operation of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC grids with HVAC grids in a day-ahead scheduling problem. In [9] and [14], a cooperation of HVDC lines with HVAC grid in an AC OPF problem is proposed. Note that wind power uncertainty is not modelled either in [9] and [14]. Finally, Table 1 shows the taxonomy of the proposed day-ahead scheduling problem with incorporating linear multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system in to a linear ACOPF model, in previous literatures.

Considering the above discussion, the main contributions of this work with respect to the previous references in the literature include:

 Developing a linearized AC model incorporating linearized multi-terminal VSC-HVDC model in which bus voltage magnitudes and reactive power are taken into account. Based on this linearized AC model, a novel MILP formulation is recommended.

- Determining maximum variation range of the OWFs output uncertainty that a power system can accommodate for a given system congestion condition using simultaneously coordinated operation of HVAC and HVDC grids.
- A new non-probabilistic and non-possibilistic method is proposed for handling high penetration of the OWFs output uncertainty, which is specific to the current paper. The proposed robust optimization technique guarantees the decision maker's objective function against the undesired severe effects of the OWFs output uncertainty in the proposed day-ahead scheduling problem.

To the best of the authors' knowledge, no research in the area has provided the MILP formulation for day-ahead scheduling problem with linearized AC OPF and multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system models in the presence of the high penetration of OWFs uncertainty.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 expresses the proposed linearization of the AC power flow with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC model. Section 3 describes the proposed model of this paper. The proposed solution methodology is designated in Section 4. Section 5 demonstrates proposed case studies and the future work and main conclusions are highlighted in Section 6 and 7.

2 Linearization of the full AC power flow with multiterminal VSC-HVDC model

This section presents a linear approximation to AC power flow in which voltage and reactive power are modelled. The linearization idea is founded on a piecewise linear approximation and the following assumptions are assumed to be valid: (*i*) the bus voltage scales are continuously nearly to 1.0 per unit (p.u.), (*ii*) the angle difference through a transmission line is small, i.e., $\delta_{nm} \approx 0^{\circ} - 34^{\circ}$.

2.1 Linearization of the AC Power Flow Equations

The active and reactive AC power flow in transmission line k between buses n and m are written as follows:

$$P_{nm} = g_k V_n^2 - V_n V_m \underbrace{\left(g_k \cos \delta_{nm} + b_k \sin \delta_{nm}\right)}_{\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})}$$
(1a)
$$Q_{nm} = -\left(b_k + b_{k0}\right) V_n^2 + V_n V_m \underbrace{\left(b_k \cos \delta_{nm} - g_k \sin \delta_{nm}\right)}_{(1b)}$$
(1b)

Where, $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$, are nonlinear functions. Assume, also they have local convexity within the specific interval, e.g., $\underline{\delta}_{nm} < \overline{\delta}_{nm} < \overline{\delta}_{nm}$. One can represent $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ using a piecewise linear functions as did in [26], with 2*L*-pieces (as shown in Fig.1). It is noted that the illustrated curves in Fig. 1 (a) and (b) show the typical form of functions $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ based on the real values of b_k and g_k in the real transmission networks. The convex approximation of the $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ functions are implemented through a piecewise linear (PWL) function that produces a linear formulation in the following way. As shown in Fig. 1, the linear approximation of the $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ in the range of [-*L*, *L*] can be obtained using 2*L*-piece piecewise linear approximation. Accordingly, ℓ th piece function for each line (n, m) through the tangent point (i.e., $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$) is obtained as follows:

$$\forall \delta_{nm} \in \left[\left(-L - 1 + \ell \right) \Delta \delta, \left(-L + \ell \right) \Delta \delta \right], \ell = 1, ..., 2L$$

$$F(\delta_{nm}) = \alpha_{nm}(\ell) \left(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \right) + \beta_{nm}(\ell),$$

$$\forall \delta_{nm} \in \left[\left(-L - 1 + \ell \right) \Delta \delta, \left(-L + \ell \right) \Delta \delta \right], \ell = 1, ..., 2L$$

$$\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm}) = \tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell) \left(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \right) + \tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell)$$

$$(1d)$$

Where, $\alpha_{nm}(\ell)$ and $\tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell)$ are the slope of each linear piece, at tangent point (i.e., $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$), for the $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$, respectively. Besides, $\beta_{nm}(\ell)$ and $\tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell)$ are the values of the $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ at the tangent point (i.e., $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$) for each linear piece, respectively. Note that, the execution of (1c) and (1d) for the PWL model of $F(\delta_{nm})$ and $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ requires either binary variables or special ordered sets of type 2 (SOS-2) [27]. Finally, the parameters $\alpha_{nm}(\ell)$, $\tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell) = \beta_{nm}(\ell)$ and $\tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell)$ are obtained by (1e) and (1f).

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{nm}(\ell) &= \frac{\partial \tilde{F}}{\partial \delta_{nm}} \Big(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \Big) \\ \tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell) &= \frac{\partial \tilde{F}}{\partial \delta_{nm}} \Big(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \Big) \end{aligned}$$
(1e)

$$\beta_{nm}(\ell) = F\left(\delta_{nm} - \delta_{nm}(\ell)\right)$$

$$\tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell) = \tilde{F}\left(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)\right)$$
(1f)

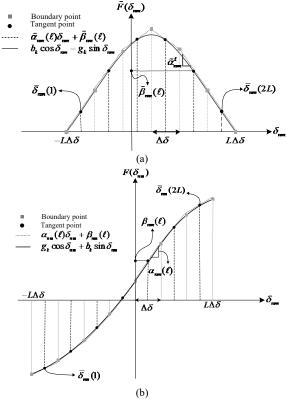


Fig.1. (a) and (b) the piecewise-linear approximation of $\tilde{F}(\delta_{nm})$ and $F(\delta_{nm})$ using 2L-piece equalities, respectively.

where, $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) = \frac{(-L-1+\ell)\Delta\delta + (-L+\ell)\Delta\delta}{2}$.

Substituting (1c) and (1d) into (1a) and (1b), then the following equations:

$$P_{nm}(\ell) \approx g_k V_n^2 - V_n V_m \Big[\alpha_{nm}(\ell) \Big(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \Big) + \beta_{nm}(\ell) \Big]$$

$$= g_k V_n^2 - V_n V_m \alpha_{nm}(\ell) \delta_{nm}$$

$$+ V_n V_m \alpha_{nm}(\ell) \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) - V_n V_m \beta_{nm}(\ell)$$

$$Q_{nm}(\ell) \approx - \Big(b_k + b_{k0} \Big) V_n^2 + V_n V_m \Big[\frac{\tilde{\alpha}_{nm}^\ell \Big(\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \Big)}{+ \tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell)} \Big]$$

$$= - \Big(b_k + b_{k0} \Big) V_n^2 + V_n V_m \tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell) \delta_{nm}$$

$$- V_n V_m \tilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell) \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) + V_n V_m \tilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell)$$
(1b)

Notice that (1g) and (1h) still contain some nonlinear terms like $V_n V_m$, $V_n V_m \delta_{nm}$ and V_n^2 . These nonlinear terms can be linearized by their Taylor series expansion around 1, for bus voltage, and about $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$, for transmission line angle, as presented in Table 2.

Table 2 gives the maximum absolute errors for each of the constituent terms with respect to the linearized forms, over a typical range of operating voltages and angles, i.e., $0.95 \le V_n \le 1.05$ at the end of each line, and $|\delta_{nm}| \le 34^\circ$. Subsequently, the piecewise linear approximation of active and reactive AC power flow equations for line (n, m) metered at bus *n* for ℓ th angle piece (or through the tangent point, i.e., $\overline{\delta_{nm}}(\ell)$) are obtained as follows, respectively:

$$P_{nm}(\ell) = g_k (2V_n - 1) - \alpha_{nm}(\ell) \Big[\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \Big] - \beta_{nm}(\ell) (V_n + V_m - 1)$$
(1i)
$$Q_{nm}(\ell) = -(b_k + b_{k0}) (2V_n - 1) + \widetilde{\alpha}_{nm}(\ell) \Big[\delta_{nm} - \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) \Big] + \widetilde{\beta}_{nm}(\ell) (V_n + V_m - 1)$$
(1j)

The above-mentioned formulations, i.e., (1) and (2), are valid for each segment of the δ_{nm} (where, $(-L-1+\ell)\Delta\delta < \delta_{nm} < (-L+\ell)\Delta\delta, \ell \in [-L,L]$), or close to each tangent point (i.e. $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$), as shown in Fig. 1.

Note that the length of each segment of angle is $\Delta\delta$ (as shown in Fig.1). More details about piecewise linearization can be found in [26]. It essentially introduces 2L new binary

variables and 2L new inequalities, all being linear. To ensure which segment of the piecewise linear blocks is selected, a binary variable $u_{nm}(\ell)$ is used as follows:

$$(-L-1+\ell)\Delta\delta - M(1-u_{nm}(\ell)) < \delta_{nm}$$

$$\delta_{nm} < (-L+\ell)\Delta\delta + M(1-u_{nm}(\ell))$$
(2n)
$$\sum_{\ell} u_{nm}(\ell) = 1$$
(2o)

Note that, each angle difference across a line (n, m) metered at bus *n* only can be placed on one linear piece as done by (20), where, the active or reactive line flows for line (n, m)metered at bus *n* are obtained as follows: $\forall k \in (n,m)$

$$P_{nm}(\ell) - M(1 - u_{nm}(\ell)) \le P_{nm} \le P_{nm}(\ell) + M(1 - u_{nm}(\ell))$$
(2p)
$$Q_{nm}(\ell) - M(1 - u_{nm}(\ell)) \le Q_{nm} \le Q_{nm}(\ell) + M(1 - u_{nm}(\ell))$$
(2q)

Here, $u_{nm}(\ell)$ is a binary variable, and *M* is a sufficiently large positive scalar. However, adding the binary variables (especially, in constraint (2p)) is likely to complicate the resultant model and makes it inefficient once the problem is implemented for a large-scale system. For this reason, if (1i) approximated with one block angel at zero tangent point (i.e. $\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell) = 0$), then the equation (1i) becomes a convex equation and no binary variable is needed. Accordingly, the constraint (2p) could be removed from the problem. In addition, by this action the proposed model can be relaxed to make trade-off between the model accuracy and the computation time.

2.2 Linearization of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC equations

In the case of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC grid, the full formulation for the power flow between nodes (n,n') and (n',m') is given by (3). As can be seen in Fig. 2, the lines between nodes (n,n') and (n',m') are modelled as series impedance and resistance, respectively.

Table 2: Approximation errors in line flow terms (voltages and angle in p.u. and radian, respectively).

Term	Range of operation	Approximation	Max abs error
V_n^2	$0.95 \le V_n \le 1.05$	$2V_n - 1$	0.0025
V _n V _m	$0.95 \le V_{n/m} \le 1.05$	$V_n + V_m - 1$	0.0025
$V_n V_m \delta_{nm}$	$0.95 \le V_{n/m} \le 1.05$ and $\delta_{nm} \approx \overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)$	$\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell)(V_n+V_m-1)+(\delta_{nm}-\overline{\delta}_{nm}(\ell))$	0.0050
$\omega_n V_n V_n$	$0.95 \le V_{n/n'} \le 1.05$ and $0.9 \le \omega_{n'} \le 1.1$	$V_n + V_{n'} + \omega_{n'} - 2$	0.0025
$\omega_{n'}V_{n'}^{dc}V_n\delta_{nn'}$	$0.95 \le V_n \le 1.05$ $0.9 \le V_{n'}^{dc} \le 1.1$ $\omega_{n'} \approx \omega_{n'}^0 \text{ and } \delta_{nn'} \approx \delta_{nn'}^0$	$ \begin{split} V_{n'}^{dc^{0}} V_{n}^{0} \delta_{nn'}^{0} \left(\omega_{n'} - \omega_{n'}^{0} \right) + \omega_{n'}^{0} V_{n}^{0} \delta_{nn'}^{0} \left(V_{n'}^{dc} - V_{n'}^{dc^{0}} \right) \\ + \omega_{n'}^{0} V_{n'}^{dc^{0}} \delta_{nn'}^{0} \left(V_{n} - V_{n}^{0} \right) + \omega_{n'}^{0} V_{n'}^{dc^{0}} V_{n}^{0} \left(\delta_{nn'} - \delta_{nn'}^{0} \right) + \omega_{n'}^{0} V_{n'}^{dc^{0}} V_{n}^{0} \delta_{nn'}^{0} \end{split} $	0.005

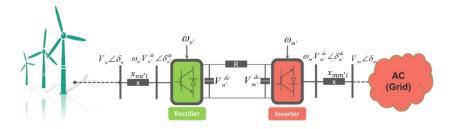


Fig. 2. Schematic diagram of OWFs connected via the VSC-HVDC transmission link.

In (3), $P_{nn'l}^{dc}$ and $Q_{nn'l}^{dc}$ are active and reactive power flows at transmission line *l* between buses *n* and *m*.

$$P_{nn'l}^{dc} = \left(\frac{\omega_n V_{n'}^{dc} V_n}{x_{nn'l}}\right) Sin\left(\delta_n - \delta_{n'}^{dc}\right), \quad \delta_n - \delta_{n'}^{dc} = \delta_{nn'}$$
(3a)

$$Q_{nn'l}^{dc} = \frac{V_n \left(V_n - \omega_{n'} V_{n'} \cos\left(\delta_n - \delta_{n'}^{dc}\right) \right)}{x_{nn'l}}$$
(3b)

$$P_{nn'l}^{dc} = \sum_{m'} \frac{V_{n'}^{dc} \left(V_{n'}^{dc} - V_{m'}^{dc} \right)}{R_{n'm'}}$$
(3c)

where $\frac{d}{dn'}$ is the set of lines connected to bus *n*'.

To maintain the system security, it is assumed that $\delta_{nn'}$ for each bus *n* and *n'* which are connected by line l(n,n') is small enough and voltage magnitude is about 1 p.u. for these buses. These assumptions are practically true under normal operating condition. On the basis of these assumptions, it is proposed to rewrite (3) by replacing sine and cosine functions with their Taylor series expansion about zero, so that $\sin(\delta_n - \delta_{n'}^{dc}) \approx \delta_n - \delta_{n'}^{dc}$ and $\cos(\delta_n - \delta_{n'}^{dc}) \approx 1$ can be applied, and also by substituting quadratic function of V_n^2 , two-variable function of $V_{n'}^{dc}V_n$, $V_{n'}^{dc}V_{m'}^{dc}$, three-variable function of $\omega_{n'}V_{n'}V_n$ and four-variable function of $\omega_{n'}V_{n'}^{dc}V_n\delta_{nn'}$ with their Taylor series expansion about $\omega_{n'}^0, V_{n'}^{dc}^0, V_n^0$ and $\delta_{nn'}^0$, as presented in Table 2. Finally, based on the assumptions above, the linearization of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC line power flow equations (3a)-(3c) can be written as follows:

$$P_{nn'l}^{dc} = \left(\frac{\omega_{n'}V_{n'}^{dc}V_{n}}{x_{nn'l}}\right) Sin(\delta_{nn'}) \approx \left(\frac{1}{x_{nn'l}}\right) \left(\omega_{n'}V_{n'}^{dc}V_{n}\delta_{nn'}\right)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{x_{nn'l}} \left(\frac{V_{n'}^{dc^{0}}V_{n}^{0}\delta_{nn'}^{0}(\omega_{n'}-\omega_{n'}^{0}) + \omega_{n}^{0}V_{n}^{0}\delta_{nn'}^{0}(V_{n'}^{dc}-V_{n'}^{dc^{0}})}{+\omega_{n'}^{0}V_{n'}^{dc^{0}}\delta_{nn'}^{0}(V_{n}-V_{n}^{0}) + \omega_{n'}^{0}V_{n'}^{dc^{0}}V_{n}^{0}(\delta_{nn'}-\delta_{nn'}^{0})}{+\omega_{n'}^{0}V_{n'}^{dc^{0}}V_{n}^{0}\delta_{nn'}^{0}} \right)$$
(3d)

$$Q_{nn'l}^{dc} = \frac{V_n \left(V_n - \omega_n V_{n'} \cos(\delta_{nn'}) \right)}{x_{nn'l}} \\ \approx \frac{\left(V_n^2 - \omega_n V_n V_n \right)}{x_{nn'l}} \approx \frac{\left(V_n - \omega_{n'} - V_{n'} + 1 \right)}{x_{nn'l}}$$
(3e)

$$P_{nn'l}^{dc} = \sum_{m'} \frac{V_{n'}^{dc} \left(V_{n'}^{dc} - V_{m'}^{dc} \right)}{R_{n'm'}}$$

$$\approx \sum_{m'} \frac{\left(V_{n'}^{dc^2} - V_{n'}^{dc} V_{m'}^{dc} \right)}{R_{n'm'}} \approx \sum_{m'} \frac{\left(V_{n'}^{dc} - V_{m'}^{dc} \right)}{R_{n'm'}}$$
(3f)

2.3 Model description

This section describes in detail all constraints used in the proposed robust day-ahead scheduling problem incorporating linearized multi-terminal VSC-HVDC model. Accordingly, the proposed formulation for day-ahead scheduling problem with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system is addressed in the following subsections by (4)–(5). In these formulations, the total cost (TC) of the day-ahead scheduling problem is considered as the objective function as mentioned in (4a), which is subjected to the first and second stage constraints, (4) and (5), respectively.

$$\min TC = \sum_{t} \sum_{g} \begin{pmatrix} \left(C_g P_{gt}^0 + SU_{gt} + SD_{gt} \right) \\ + C_g^{\pm} \left(\left(\underline{\Delta} P_{gt}^+ + \overline{\Delta} P_{gt}^+ \right) + \left(\underline{\Delta} P_{gt}^- + \overline{\Delta} P_{gt}^- \right) \right) \end{pmatrix}$$
(4a)

The objective function consists of two main parts: first-stage and second stage parts. The first stage part refers to offered generation cost plus start-up and shutdown costs at the base case, (normal condition), (i.e., $C_g P_{gt}^0 + SU_{gt} + SD_{gt}$). Besides, the second stage part mentions the cost of power adjustments for the lower and upper boundaries of possible OWF output uncertainty, (i.e., $C_g^{\pm} \left(\underline{\Delta} P_{gt}^+ + \overline{\Delta} P_{gt}^+ \right)$ and $C_g^{\pm} \left(\underline{\Delta} P_{gt}^- + \overline{\Delta} P_{gt}^- \right)$ lower and upper boundaries of possible OWF output uncertainty, respectively), that ensures a secure operation in the admissible regions. In the admissible regions, the wind uncertainty can be fully admitted by additional emergency thermal units re-dispatch. On the other hand, if the actual wind uncertainty exceeds the admissibility boundaries and enters the inadmissible region, it may lead to undesired power imbalance that cannot be fully handled by the online thermal units re-dispatch. The part of forecasted OWF output uncertainty which is within the admissible region is admissible and riskless, while part that is out of the admissible region can lead to operational risk.

Subsequently, the first-stage constraints are:

$$u_{gt}P_g^{min} \le P_g^0 \le u_{gt}P_g^{max} \quad \forall g,t \tag{4b}$$

$$u_{gt}Q_g^{min} \le Q_{gt}^0 \le u_{gt}Q_g^{max} \quad \forall g,t \tag{4c}$$

$$\sum_{g \in \chi_n} P_{gt}^0 + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{nmt}^0 + \sum_{n' \in \Omega_n} P_{nn't}^{dc^0} + \sum_{w \in \kappa_n} P_{wt}^{for} = PD_{nt} \quad \forall n, t$$
(4d)

$$\sum_{g \in \chi_n} \mathcal{Q}_{gt}^0 + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} \mathcal{Q}_{nmt}^0 + \sum_{n' \in \Omega_n} \mathcal{Q}_{nn't}^{dc^0} = \mathcal{Q}D_{nt} = \mathcal{P}D_{nt} \tan(\psi_{D_{nt}}) \ \forall n, t \qquad (4e)$$

$$\begin{cases} -P_k^{max} \le P_{nnt}^0 \le P_k^{max} \\ -P_k^{dc^{\min}} \le P_{nn't}^{dc^0} \le P_k^{dc^{\max}} \end{cases} \quad \forall n, n', t, k \tag{4f}$$

$$\begin{cases} -Q_k^{max} \le Q_{nmt}^0 \le Q_k^{max} \\ -Q_k^{dc^{\min}} \le Q_{nn't}^{dc^0} \le Q_k^{dc^{\max}} \end{cases} \quad \forall n, n', t, k \tag{4g}$$

$$\left(P_{nntt}^{0}\right)^{2} + \left(Q_{nnt}^{0}\right)^{2} \le \left(S_{kt}^{\max}\right)^{2}, \forall n, t, k$$
(4h)

$$\begin{cases} V_n^{\min} \le V_{nt} \le V_n^{\max}, \ \forall n, t \\ V^{dc^{\min}} \le V^{dc} \le V^{dc^{\max}} \ \forall n' t \end{cases}$$
(4i)

$$(1i)-(1q), (3d)-(3f)$$
(4j)

6

Constraints (4b) and (4c) force the limits of active and reactive power generation for thermal units, respectively. Constraints (4d) and (4e) denote the linearized active/reactive power balance in normal condition at each bus. The maximum active/reactive line flow capacity for HVAC transmission line k and HVDC transmission line l(n,n') are

defined by (4f) and (4g). In constraint (4h), since P_{nm}^0 and

 Q_{nm}^0 are linearized, the MVA limit for line k can be written as a second-order cone constraint. Notice that (4h) is still convex equation and can be handled by most commercial linear solvers such as Gurobi [28]. Nevertheless, if a solver requires the constraint to be strictly linear, a piecewise linearized version for (4h) can also be derived [20]. Bus voltage magnitude limits for HVAC and HVDC transmission lines are ensured by (4i). Constraint (4j) corresponds to power flow equations related to HVAC and HVDC transmission lines that host multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system.

The second-stage constraints are :

$$P_{gt}^{\pm} = \left(P_{gt}^{0} + \left(\overline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{+} - \underline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{+}\right) + \left(\overline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{-} - \underline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{-}\right)\right) \quad \forall g, t$$
(5a)

$$u_{gt}Q_g^{min} \leq Q_{gt}^{\pm} \leq u_{gt}Q_g^{max} \quad \forall g, t$$
(5b)

 $\forall n, t, k \in (n, m)$

$$\sum_{g \in \chi_n} P_{gt}^{\pm} + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{nmt}^{\pm} + \sum_{n' \in \Omega_n} P_{nn't}^{dc^{\pm}} + (1 \pm \alpha) P_{wt}^{for} = PD_{nt}$$
(5c)

$$\sum_{g \in \chi_n} \mathcal{Q}_{gt}^{\pm} + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} \mathcal{Q}_{nmt}^{\pm} + \sum_{n' \in \Omega_n} \mathcal{Q}_{nn't}^{dc^{\pm}} = PD_{nt} \cdot \tan(\psi_{D_{nt}})$$
(5d)

$$\begin{cases} -P_k^{max} \le P_{nmt}^{\pm} \le P_k^{max} \\ -P_k^{dc^{\min}} \le P_{nnt'}^{dc^{\max}} \le P_k^{dc^{\max}} \end{cases} \quad \forall n, n', t, k \tag{5e}$$

$$\begin{cases} -Q_k^{max} \le Q_{nmt}^{\pm} \le Q_k^{max} \\ -Q_k^{dc^{\min}} \le Q_{m't}^{dc^{\pm}} \le Q_k^{dc^{\max}} \end{cases} \quad \forall n, n', t, k \tag{5f}$$

$$\left(P_{nmt}^{\pm}\right)^{2} + \left(Q_{nmt}^{\pm}\right)^{2} \le \left(S_{k}^{\max}\right)^{2}, \forall n, t, k \in (n, m)$$

$$(5g)$$

$$\begin{cases} V_n^{\text{min}} \leq V_{nt}^{\perp} \leq V_n^{\text{min}}, \quad \forall n, t \\ V_{n'}^{dc^{\min}} \leq V_{n't}^{dc^{\pm}} \leq V_{n'}^{dc^{\max}}, \quad \forall n', t \end{cases}$$
(5h)

$$(1i)-(1q), (3d)-(3f)$$
 (5i)

$$\left|P_{gt}^{0} - P_{gt}^{\pm}\right| \le \Delta R_{g}^{\pm}, \,\forall g \tag{5j}$$

Where, " \pm "in (5), "-" and "+" refer to the *lower* and *upper* boundaries of possible wind uncertainty, respectively. Constraint (5a) links between the normal and lower/upper wind uncertainty conditions that thermal units to enforce corrective actions by up/down re-dispatch of thermal units adjustments, i.e., $\overline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{\pm} / \underline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{\pm}$. Constraint (5b) is similar to (4c) but it is for lower/upper wind uncertainty conditions. The power flow equations for the lower/upper OWF output uncertainty condition are specified by (5c) and (5d). A scalar variable lower/upper wind uncertainty margin $\pm \alpha$ is an arbitrary choice to force upper, $(+\alpha)$, and lower, $(-\alpha)$, wind uncertainty, respectively. The constraints (5f)-(5i) have the same expressions as (4f)-(4i), respectively, where the variables P_{gt}^0 , Q_{gt}^0 , P_{nmt}^0 , Q_{nmt}^0 , $Q_{nmt}^{dc^0}$, $V_{n't}^{dc^0}$ and V_{nt}^0 are replaced by P_{gt}^{\pm} , Q_{gt}^{\pm} , P_{nmt}^{\pm} , Q_{nmt}^{\pm} , $Q_{nmt}^{dc^{\pm}}$, $V_{nt}^{dc^{\pm}}$ and V_{nt}^{\pm} , respectively. The changes in the generation of thermal units are limited by ramp constraint as mentioned in (5j). The ΔR_o^{\pm} represents physically the acceptable adjustments of power output of thermal units in ten minutes (i.e., 10/60 of hourly ramping of thermal units) to guarantee the desired security margin.

3 The OWF Uncertainty Model

With the proposed model above, the independent system operator (ISO) can examine the admissibility of wind power generation, consequently determine the admissible region of OWF output under the given robust day-ahead scheduling strategy. It is worthy to note that, besides the robust dayahead scheduling strategy, the system congestion also remarkably influences the admissibility of OWF output, since the admissible OWF output can vary among different network congestion. In this regard, here hosted multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system to eliminate system congestion and maximize the size of admissible regions of the OWF outputs comparable in the conventional HVAC systems. Then, the admissibility assessment problem is converted into a robust optimization problem, where by the admissible region of the OWF outputs can be determined reasonably. As shown in Fig. 3, obviously, the upper and lower boundaries of possible maximum admissible regions of the OWF outputs are the $(1+\alpha^{\max})P_{wt}^{for}$ and $(1-\alpha^{\max})P_{wt}^{for}$, respectively. Noted that, the maximum admissible regions of the OWF outputs occur in the TC^{\max} , namely the maximum total cost of the robust dayahead scheduling problem. This constitutes the space of maximum possible deviation of actual realization of the OWF uncertain parameter from its forecasted value. Assuming regions wind power uncertainty have been obtained, the space of OWF output uncertainty can be divided into two parts by the admissibility (grey arrow) and inadmissibility (red arrow) boundaries, respectively. In the admissible region, no additional emergency regulation is required since any arbitrary realization of OWF outputs can be fully admitted without breaking the operational feasibility. On the other hand, if the actual OWF outputs exceeds the admissibility boundaries and enters the inadmissible region, it may lead to undesired power imbalance that cannot be fully handled by the committed thermal units themselves. In such a situation, additional emergency regulations, such as fastramping units and/or reducing the share of OWF to supply load may have to be used to recover the operation feasibility. Also, one way to increases the admissible region in power system operation is reducing network congestion by implementing multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system in HVAC grid.

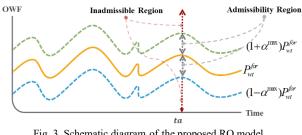


Fig. 3. Schematic diagram of the proposed RO model.

The OWF output uncertainty level considered ranges from zero to one in such a way that α uncertainty means that the upper and lower boundaries of possible OWF output uncertainty are equal to the OWF output forecast multiplied by $(1+\alpha)$ and $(1-\alpha)$, respectively.

To derive the robust day-ahead scheduling problem with OWF output uncertainty, we want to obtain the largest variation range of the OWF output uncertainty that the system can accommodate, or maximum admissible regions of the OWF outputs, with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system. The largest variation range of the OWFs output from its forecasted value can formulated as follows: max α (6a)

$$\sum_{t}\sum_{g} \left(C_{g}P_{gt}^{0} + C_{g}^{\pm} \left(\left(\underline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{+} + \overline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{+} \right) + \left(\underline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{-} + \overline{\Delta}P_{gt}^{-} \right) \right) \right) \leq (1 + \xi)TC_{b}$$
(6b)

The first-stage constraints are:

(4a) to (4j)

The second-stage constraints are : (5a) to (5j) (6d)

The objective function (6a) of the above problem is to maximize the boundaries of the admissibility of OWF output uncertainty. Equation (6b) indicates that the cost of the corrective actions must not exceed the cost threshold for any realization of uncertainty.

4 Solution Methodology

The robust day-ahead scheduling model with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system in (6) is a large-scale, non-convex, non-deterministic polynomial-time hard (NP-hard) problem. The corresponding solution for large-scale systems would be an intractable task without decomposition.

The Benders decomposition (BD) is adopted to decompose the proposed problem into a master problem and several tractable sub-problems [29]. Fig. 4 shows the flowchart of the solution methodology based on the BD technique. Detail formulations of Benders' master problem and sub-problems are provided as follows:

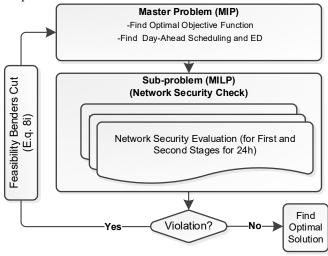


Fig. 4. The solution strategy based on BD technique.

A. Master problem

The master problem resultant to the original robust day-ahead scheduling problem with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system is formulated as an MILP problem (7) below. The objective function (7a) corresponds to (6a).

$$\max \alpha \tag{7a}$$

$$(4b), (5b), (5j)$$
 (7b)

$$\sum_{g} P_{gt}^{0} + P_{wt}^{for} = PD_{nt} \quad \forall n$$
(7c)

$$\sum_{g} P_{gt}^{\pm} + (1 \pm \alpha) P_{wt}^{for} = PD_{nt} \quad \forall n$$
(7d)

Constraint (7b) comprises the first and second-stage constraints, which are mentioned in Section 2. The system load balances for first and second-stage are given in (7c) and (7d), respectively.

B. Sub-problem

The sub-problem is formulated in (8):

$$\operatorname{Min} Z = \sum_{n} \left((MP_{1,n}^{0} + MP_{2,n}^{0}) + (MP_{1,n}^{\pm} + MP_{2,n}^{\pm}) \right)$$
(8a)

 $\forall n, t, k \in (n, m)$

(6c)

$$\sum_{g \in \chi_n} P_{gt}^0 + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{nmt}^0 + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{nmt}^{dc^0} + P_{wt}^{for} = PD_{nt} + MP_{1,nt}^0 + MP_{2,nt}^{0}$$
(8b)
$$\left(\sum_{g \in \chi_n} P_{gt}^{\pm} + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{nmt}^{\pm} + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{nmt}^{\pm} + \sum_{m \in \Omega_n} P_{mt}^{dc^{\pm}} + (1 \pm \alpha) P_{wt}^{for}\right) = PD_{nt} + MP_{1,nt}^{\pm} + MP_{2,nt}^{\pm}$$
(8c)

$$P_{gt}^{0} = P_{gt}^{(v-1)} \to \mu_{gt}^{(v-1)}$$
(8e)

$$P_{gt}^{\pm} = \hat{P}_{gt}^{\pm (v-1)} \to \mu_{gt}^{\pm (v-1)}$$
(81)
$$(v^{-1}) \qquad (v^{-1}) \qquad (8-)$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_{gt} &= u_{gt} \longrightarrow \eta_{gt} \\ \alpha &= \hat{\alpha}^{(\nu-1)} \longrightarrow \gamma^{(\nu-1)} \end{aligned} \tag{8h}$$

The hourly sub-problem (8a) minimizes slack variables $(MP_{1,nt}^0, MP_{2,nt}^0)$ and $(MP_{1,nt}^{\pm} + MP_{2,nt}^{\pm})$ which represent the amount of active power mismatch for first and second stage that should be added to corresponding buses to remove violations. The Constraints (8b) and (8c) are similar to constraints (4d) and (5c), respectively, which are mentioned in section 2. Constraint (8d) comprises transmission constraints for the first and second-stage. Constraints (8e)-(8g) fix the values of the complicating variables to specified values achieved from the master problem solution. If objective function (8a) is larger than zero, a Benders cut (8h) will be formed and added to master problem for calculating the next iterative solution of master problem. Besides, following each iteration of sub-problem, the complicating variables are fixed through constraints (8e)-(8h), whose dual variables, $\mu_{g_t}^{(\nu-1)}$, $\mu_{g_t}^{\pm^{(\nu-1)}}$, $\eta_{g_t}^{(\nu-1)}$ and $\gamma^{(\nu-1)}$ provide sensitivities to be applied in constructing Benders' cuts (8i) for feedback to the master problem.

$$\hat{Z}_{t}^{(j)} + \sum_{g} \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{gt}^{(j)}(P_{gt}^{0} - \hat{P}_{gt}^{0(j)}) + \mu_{gt}^{\pm(j)}(P_{gt}^{\pm} - \hat{P}_{gt}^{\pm(j)}) \\ + \eta_{gt}^{(j)}(u_{gt} - \hat{u}_{gt}^{(j)}) \\ + \gamma^{(j)}(\alpha - \alpha^{(j)}) \le 0, j = 1, 2, ..., v - 1 \end{cases}$$
(8i)

The $\hat{Z}_{t}^{(j)}$ in Benders cuts is corresponds to hourly bus power mismatches at each iteration of sub-problem in BD approach. In this work, the Benders' cuts are functions of hourly scheduling variables such as hourly power dispatch of thermal units in the first and the second stages, hourly scheduling in the first stage and the maximum radius of the OWF output uncertainty. Actually, $\mu_{gt}^{(\nu-1)}$, $\mu_{gt}^{\pm (\nu-1)}$, $\eta_{gt}^{(\nu-1)}$ and $\gamma^{(\nu-1)}$ demonstrate the sensitivity change of scheduling variables of the master problem solved from the previous iteration of sub-problem. They help the master problem to recommend a better hourly scheduling and power dispatch of thermal units at the next iterations, that is, the master problem and sub-problem be combined to each other by these cuts.

5 Case study

A modified 6-bus test system along with and the IEEE 118bus test system are used to analyze the proposed day-ahead scheduling problem with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system. The proposed model has been formulated as an MILP problem, and it is solved using GAMS [42] with CPLEX solver [43] on an Intel i7, 8-core CPU at 3.40 GHz with 32 GB of RAM.

5.1 Modified six-bus system

The modified 6-bus test system illustrated in Fig. 5 has two thermal units, seven transmission lines, and three load points. The thermal units from most expensive to cheapest are G1 and G2, respectively. The thermal units from low to high flexibility are G1 (lower ramping capability) and G2 (higher ramping capability), respectively. Besides, unit G2 is a fastramping unit with a 20 MW/(10 min) capacity, with a min/max power output of 10/20 MW, respectively. The lines flow limit for the lines 1-4, 2-3 and 4-5 are 86 MVA, 57 MVA and 80 MVA, respectively, and 200 MVA for all other lines. The OWF unit with a maximum power output of 110 MW is installed at bus 1, which is about 43% of the system peak load. The percentage of available OWF output and load for each hour are given in Fig. 6.

To study the influence of multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system on the admissibility boundaries of the OWF output, the following two cases are tested:

Case 1: In this case, the day-ahead scheduling problem is optimally found in order to increase the admissibility boundaries of OWF output without multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system.

Case 2: The admissibility boundaries of OWF output in Case 1 with AC/DC transmission constraints have been increased in which the AC line 1–2 and 1–4 and 2–4 are replaced with a multi-terminal VSC-HVDC transmission link as can be seen in Fig. 5;

The simulation results according to the mentioned case studies are presented as follows:

Case 1: As it was already explained, the first step, the dayahead scheduling problem, i.e., (4)-(5), without multiterminal VSC-HVDC system, has been solved to calculate the objective function of the base case for all 24 hour, i.e., TC_b . It is assumed, for all 24 hour, that the forecasted wind power is 100% of its installed capacity for OWF at bus 1. The total cost of energy procurement including thermal unit generation is equal to $TC_b = 78698.52$ \$. At the second stage, the day-ahead scheduling problem (4)-(5) without multiterminal VSC-HVDC system, has been soved to obtained maximum admissibility boundaries of the OWF output uncertainty, i.e., α^{max} .

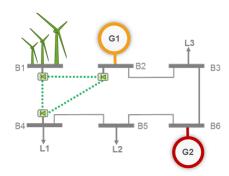
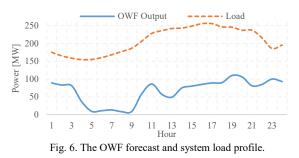


Fig. 5. A modified 6-bus test system with a three-terminal VSC-HVDC network.



As shown in Table 3, the α^{\max} value is 0.004, here, this obtained result is taken as the baseline of the comparisons. The resulting largest net OWF output variation range (the area between the red and blue curves) over the 24-h time horizon is too narrow, as shown in Fig. 7 (a). This matter may occur either due to transmission congestion (i.e., lines 1-2, 2-4 and 2-4) or thermal unit ramping limitations. Here, congestion in lines 1-2, 2-4 and 2-4 plays an important role in the maximum admissibility boundaries of the OWF output uncertainty. This is because of the OWF unit which is installed in bus 1, with more OWF output, the power through the lines connected to bus 1 and 2 and 4 are increased. In this condition, power flowing through lines 1-2, 1-4 and 2-4 will be above their limits. For example, as shown in Table 4 the power flow at lines 1-4, 2-3 and 4-5 at hour 19, have been reached to their maximum capicity limits. In this condition, there will be transmission congestion remaining in the system that other transmission lines could not increase the flows to their limits. Also, in this case, the hourly OWF variations at bus 1 are more compensated by the up/down-ramping of inexpensive thermal units G1 at bus 2. On the other hand, these congestions caused that inexpensive G1 cannot increase/ decrease its output in order to compensate variability of the OWF output at bus 1 and cannot satisfy the system load at peak hours. For this resaon, in order to lower the power flowing on these congested lines and increase the ability of thermal unit G1 to accommodate OWF volatility, just one option is available, bringing a new unit on line in peak hours, therefore, bringing fast-ramping and expensive unit G2 is the best choice here, as shown in Table 3. In this condition, while the fast-ramping unit G2 is the only flexible option that follows the OWF uncertainty, accordingly, this unit is committed to provide a fast ramping capacity of 20 MW/(10 min) at hours 15-17 when there is an hourly OWF output increase. However, as the fast-ramping unit G2 is more expansive than thermal unit G1 in this system, this unit is turned off once the ramping flexibility is not required. The additional dispatch of expensive fast-ramping unit G2 at these hours would increase system operation costs and decrease admissibility boundaries of the OWF output. Also, as can be seen in Table 3, the cheaper unit G1 is on at all hours to accommodate the OWF volatility while unit G2 is used at peak hours to satisfy the remaining load and maximizing admissibility boundaries of the OWF output.

Case 2: In this case, the robust day-ahead scheduling problem is calculated to examine the impact of the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system on the admissibility boundaries of the OWF output. Table 3 show the UC and ED results, also, this table show the difference between Cases 1 and 2 in UC and ED results. Compared with Case 1, the output of inexpensive unit G1 is increased in peak hours to supplysystem loads, since the DC transmission system decreases transmission congestion. As can be seen in Fig. 5, in this test system two transmission lines are existing, i.e., loop 2-1-4-2 and 2-3-4-5-6-2, and once the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system is inestalled in this system, the loop 2-1-4-2 and 2-3-4-5-6-2 will be relaxed, which is caused better results. For instance, as shown in Table 3, by hosted multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system, the flow of lines 3-6, 4-5 and 5-6 in the loop 2-3-4-5-6-2 can be raised without affecting the flow on other lines. In fact, the HVDC transmission lines can transfer additional power (compared to the HVAC line 1-2 flow and line 5-6 in Case 1) from bus 1 to bus 2 and from bus 5 to bus 6 which results in the mitigation of congestion on lines 1-4, 2-4 and 4-5 and the additional dispatch of the OWF unit. Consequently, it is not necessary to turn on and dispatched the more fast-ramping unit G2, at highest output, just for load supplying at peak hours. For this reason, as shown in Table 3, utilization of up/down ramping of thermal unit G2 is more increased with respect to Case 1 in order to compensate uncertainty of OWF output at bus 1.

To study the influence of multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system, admissibility boundaries under multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system is commutated and shown in Fig. 7 (b). Here, *Case* 1 is considered as the base case. Obviously, the Case 2 with *multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system* has the largest admissible region, accordingly, as can be seen in Fig. 7 (b), the admissibility boundaries of the OWF output in this case are increased by 96.4% from 0.4% to 11.1%. This result evidently indicates that, the hosted multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system to eliminate system congestion and maximize the size of admissible regions of the OWF outputs is comparable with the conventional HVAC systems.

Moreover, in Case 1 where unit G2 is the only flexible option that follows the OWF output uncertainty, as can be seen in Table 3, the fast-ramping unit is committed to provide a quick ramp capacity of 20 MW/(10-min) at hours 13-15 and 19-20 when there is an hourly OWF output decrease and increase, respectively. However, unit G2 is more expansive than unit G1 in this system, accordingly, the unit G2 is turned off when the ramping flexibility is not required. The additional dispatch of expensive quick-ramping unit G2 at these hours would increase system operation costs, and as a result, would decrease the admissibility boundaries of OWF uncertainty. Also, the total dispatched ramping of thermal units in Cases 1 and 2 are 5.5 p.u. and 6.1 p.u., respectively. The total dispatched ramping is the p.u. ramped over total scheduling horizon, which indicates the variations in the thermal power dispatch to compensate the hourly OWF output uncertainty.

Table 3: Hourly scheduling of the then	mal units for HVAC/DC systems.
HVAC (<i>α^{max}</i> =0.004)	HVDC (<i>a^{max}</i> =0.111)

	Gl	G2	G1	G2
1	0.704	0.158	0.862	0.000
2	0.722	0.100	0.822	0.000
3	0.777	0.000	0.777	0.000
4	1.187	0.000	1.187	0.000
5	1.461	0.000	1.461	0.000
6	1.495	0.000	1.495	0.000
7	1.554	0.000	1.554	0.000
8	1.696	0.000	1.696	0.000
9	1.778	0.000	1.778	0.000
10	1.480	0.000	1.480	0.000
11	1.326	0.100	1.326	0.100
12	1.691	0.100	1.691	0.100
13	1.832	0.100	1.732	0.200
14	1.586	0.100	1.486	0.200
15	1.565	0.123	1.489	0.200
16	1.520	0.188	1.543	0.165
17	1.480	0.190	1.495	0.175
18	1.457	0.110	1.457	0.110
19	1.254	0.106	1.160	0.200
20	1.214	0.100	1.114	0.200
21	1.463	0.100	1.463	0.100
22	1.207	0.100	1.307	0.000
23	0.759	0.100	0.859	0.000
24	0.926	0.100	1.026	0.000

Table 4: The HVAC/HVDC line flow at hour 19.			
Line (from bus-to bus)	HVAC	HVDC	
1–2	-0.03	-0.04	
1–4	-0.86	-0.85	
2–3	-0.57	-0.57	
2–4	-0.955	-0.95	
3–6	-0.058	-0.065	
4–5	-0.776	-0.791	
5–6	0.233	0.248	

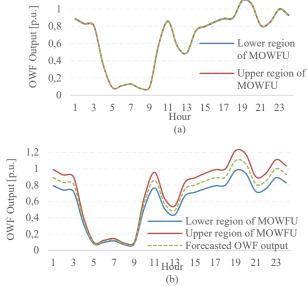


Fig. 7. The admissibility boundaries of wind generation for (a) Case 1; and (b) Case 2.

In Case 2, thermal unit G2 carries out more ramping up/down than its in Case 1, so, the total dispatched ramping of thermal units in this case, i.e., 6.1 p.u., is more increased than its in Case 1, i.e., 5.5 p.u.. These results demonstrate that lack of flexible ramping up/down capability and transmission congestion in this system would raise the system production cost in terms of a lower admissibility boundaries of the OWF output. Also, the results in this case suggest that the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system provide a more flexible resource and a better option as compared with fast-ramping unit, as it yields lower transmission congestion and more dispatch of the OWF unit which avoids committing expensive quick-ramping unit during peak hours, just for load supplying.

5.2 Modified IEEE 118-bus test system with the OWF integration

In this subsection, the OWF integration is studied using a modified IEEE 118-bus test system which is a sample of large-scale systems [30]. The parameters of transmission network, load profiles and thermal units are given in [16]. Three OWFs are added to buses 23, 69 and 113. The output profile of the OWFs located at these buses follow the same pattern as that of the 6-bus test system, which are scaled by a factor of 6. However, the line flow limits for a few lines are reduced to 100 MW to enforce the system congestion in the simulations. Multi-terminal VSC-HVDC systems are set up at buses with OWFs and the congested areas follow the same capacity and parameters of the previous 6-bus test system [33]. The three cases, Case 1 and 2 were studied in the previous system, are examined for this system as well. The results for this test system are consistent with those of the previous system. The following cases are tested in this part. In the Case 1, the robust day-ahead scheduling without multi-

In the Case 1, the robust day-ahead scheduling without multiterminal VSC-HVDC system is solved in order to increase the robustness of the objective function. In the Case 2, the HVAC lines in Case 1 are replaced in some areas with the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system and the same parameters as it in pervious test system is considered. In the Case 3, comparison of the proposed linear ACOPF and linear ACOPF proposed in [15] and [20] with full ACOPF model with (without) terminal VSC-HVDC system model has been performed.

These multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system are installed in the congested areas based on the robust day-ahead scheduling results obtained in Case 1. According to the above mentioned conditions, the simulations are done and the following results are achieved.

Case 1: It is assumed that the forecasted wind power generation is 100% of its installed capacity for all of the OWFs. The total cost of thermal unit generation is equal to $TC_b = 0.885$ M\$. At this condition, the maximum radius of OWF uncertainty, i.e. α^{max} , is 5%.

Case 2: In this case, the AC transmission lines in the congested areas are replaced with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system which results in an α^{max} of 15% for $TC_b = 0.885$ M\$. The lower α^{max} in Case 1 is mainly due to the

congestion of HVAC lines at peak hours which causes the commitment of expensive units with lower flexible up/down ramping. Hosting the HVDC transmission lines, similar to the previous test system, are caused decrease in the transmission congestion of HVAC transmission lines, so, the maximum admissibility boundaries of the OWF output uncertainty is increased by 66.6% from 5% to 15%. Also, it is observed from the obtained results that by decreasing transmission congestion, the participation of the OWF in energy supplying increases, whereas in contrary, the participation of expensive thermal generation units are decreased, which shows more system flexibility for implementing multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system in large-scale power systems.

Case 3: The simulations are performed to obtain the active line flow (ALF) and the thermal unit generation (TUG) using the proposed linear ACOPF model and the linear ACOPF models in [15] and [20]. Furthermore, we consider the multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC grid simultaneously at all of the OPF models. Considering the full ACOPF results as the reference, the calculation errors are given by:

$$\Delta_{mm}^{LAC} = \left| P_{g}^{AC} - P_{g}^{LAC} \right|$$
(9a)
$$\Delta_{g}^{LAC} = \left| P_{g}^{AC} - P_{g}^{LAC} \right|$$
(9b)

Equation (9a) is the calculation error of the active power flow in line (n, m) which is obtained from all models of the linear ACOPF model proposed in this paper and references [15] and [20], and the full ACOPF solution. Also, equation (9b) is calculation error of the unit generations from thermal unit gsimilar to equation (9a). As can be seen in Fig. 8-(a), maximum value of the error calculated for Δ_{nm}^{LAC} , for our proposed linear ACOPF model and the linear ACOPF models in references [15] and [20], are 0.009 p.u, 0.126 p.u and 0.055 p.u, respectively. Similarly, the mean value of the error calculated for $\Delta_{\rm nm}^{\rm LAC}$, for these models are 0.001 p.u, 0.025 p.u and 0.015 p.u , respectively. Also, in Fig.8-(b), the maximum vale of Δ_g^{LAC} for our proposed linear ACOPF model and the linear ACOPF models in references [15] and [20] are 0.025 p.u, 0.076 p.u and 0.212 p.u, respectively. In addition, the mean value of Δ_g^{LAC} for these models are 0.001 p.u, 0.013 p.u and 0.034 p.u, respectively. These results indicate that the ALF through the lines and the TUG of thermal units are obtained by our proposed linear ACOPF model provides more precise results for large scale systems. Also, in this case, the α^{\max} obtained from the full ACOPF model with (without) multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC grid are 5% and 15%, respectively. The same results are approximately obtained by our proposed linear ACOPF model with (without) linear multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC lines. As shown in Table 5, the α^{max} obtained by dayahead scheduling problem based on the AC-OPF model, with (without) multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC lines, are much closer to our proposed linear ACOPF model than other models, it is showing the efficiency of the proposed linear ACOPF model for large-scale systems.

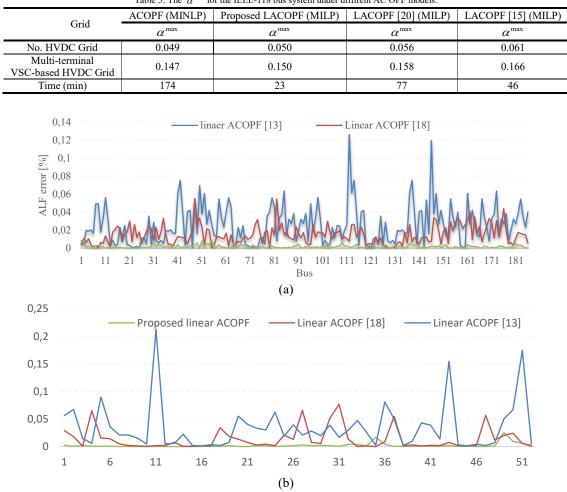


Table 5: The α^{max} for the IEEE-118 bus system under diffirent AC OPF models.

Fig. 8 (a) ALF and (b) TUG calculation errors for proposed linear ACOPF model and other models in references [15] and [20].

The elapsed time to solve the day-ahead scheduling problem with multi-terminal VSC-based HVDC grid by the full ACOPF approach is about 174 min and by proposed linear ACOPF is less than 23 min which is lower than two other models in references [15] and [20]. Finally, as the results show, our proposed linear ACOPF model, is more efficient for the day-ahead scheduling problem with (without) multiterminal VSC-based HVDC grid and has a reasonable run.

6 Conclusions

This paper presents a robust day-ahead scheduling problem with multi-terminal VSC-HVDC grid model assuming a high penetration-of-the OWFs output, based on a MILP approach. The MILP approach uses a linear model of AC OPF with linear multi-terminal VSC-HVDC grid model, which allows the voltage and reactive power to be considered directly once designing the real world power flow. The proposed linear ACOPF model approximates the AC network more accurately, and therefore provides more realistic operation results. Simulation results for the IEEE 118-bus system show that the proposed linear ACOPF model can be applied to solve large scale day ahead scheduling problems with more accurate approximation of the AC network.

The proposed robust day-ahead scheduling problem simultaneously coordinates the scheduling of onshore HVAC with offshore HVDC to have maximum admissibility boundaries of the OWFs output uncertainty for large-scale integration of them. In addition, the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC network can mitigate onshore HVAC network congestion. Numerical results demonstrated that by coordination of the HVAC grid and HVDC grid with increased grid side flexibility, the maximum admissibility boundaries of the OWFs output values are increased.

Besides, in this paper a non-probabilistic and nonpossibilistic method is utilized for handling the uncertainties associated with the OWFs output volatility. The proposed uncertainty model is computationally efficient and does not require the probability density function of the wind speed. Also, the proposed decision-making framework finds the optimal decision variables in a way that they remain robust against the considered uncertainties. The numerical results indicated the well-functioning of the proposed uncertainty model. In order to obtain tractable problem and accelerate the execution time, the proposed model has been formulated based on the proposed BD technique in the large-scale system. In this work, the multi-terminal VSC-HVDC system, has been used as the main resource of grid side flexibility. However, in addition to this type of existing flexible resource, there are other grid side sources of flexibility which also need to be investigated. The main alternative grid side source of flexibility include transmission switching and FACTS devices. As a future work, these flexibility resources can be integrated into the proposed mathematical model by adding the corresponding constraints, relationships and parameters.

Their effects on the wind power utilization can then be assessed. The most important challenge is how to tackle the intensive computational requirements, especially when applying the transmission switching action in real power systems. This will rely on further improvement of solution strategy.

7 References

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