



CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY STUDIES  
9th RENEWABLE ENERGY POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM

13 – 14 September 2018,  
Faculty of Engineering, Stellenbosch  
University



# Impact of Voltage Sags on a Transformer-less Wind Energy System

*By*

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# Presentation Outline

- Purpose of a Transformer in a Conventional Wind Power Plant
- Why Transformer-less?
- Impact of Voltage Sags on a Conventional Wind Power Plants
- Impact of Voltage Sags on a Transformer-less Wind Energy Conversion Systems
- Conclusions



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# Purpose of a Transformer in a Conventional Wind Power Plant

## A. Voltage Step-up

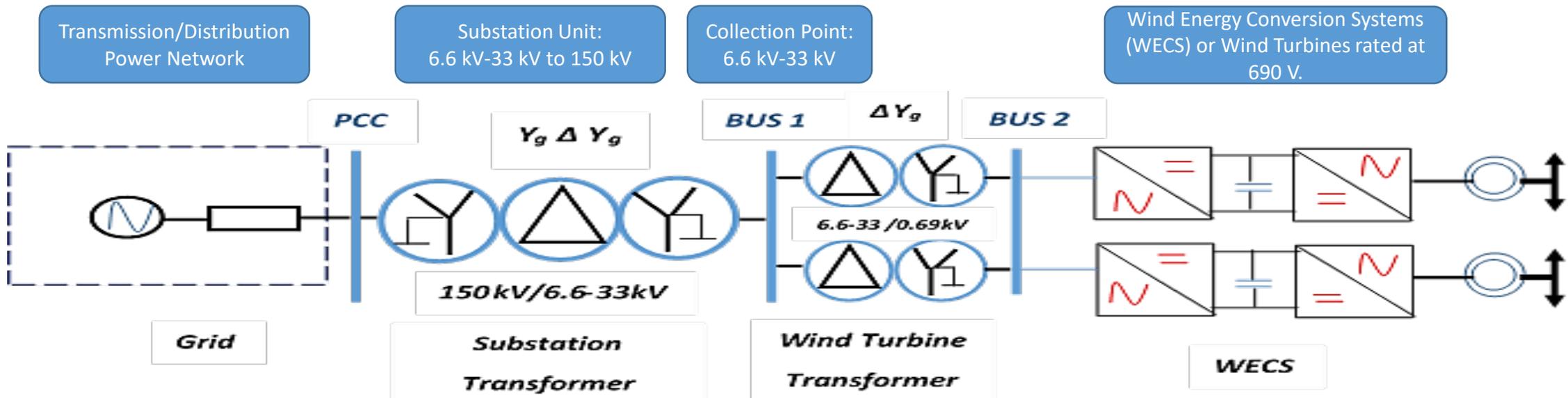


Fig. 1: A Conventional Wind Power Plant



# Purpose of a Transformer in a Conventional Wind Power Plant

## B. Grounding

- The primary wye winding connection of this transformer provides the low impedance path between the wind energy conversion system (WECS) and the wind power plant ground.
- Allows the transmission of excess current to the ground during faulty conditions.

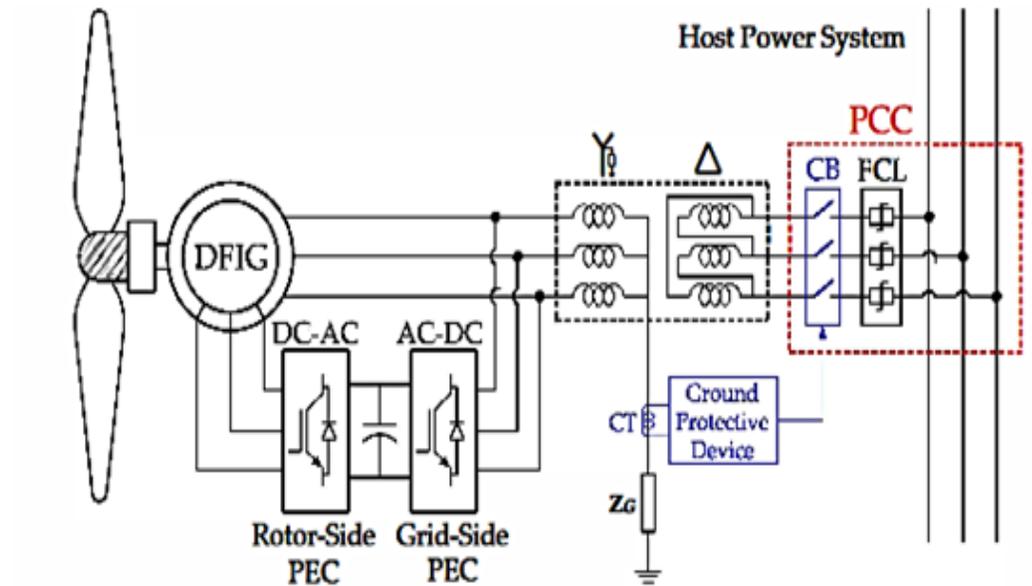


Fig. 2: A grid-connected DFIG-based WECS with its grounded-wye/delta transformer winding connection and protective device.



# Purpose of a Transformer in a Conventional Wind Power Plant

## C. Voltage Sag Transformation

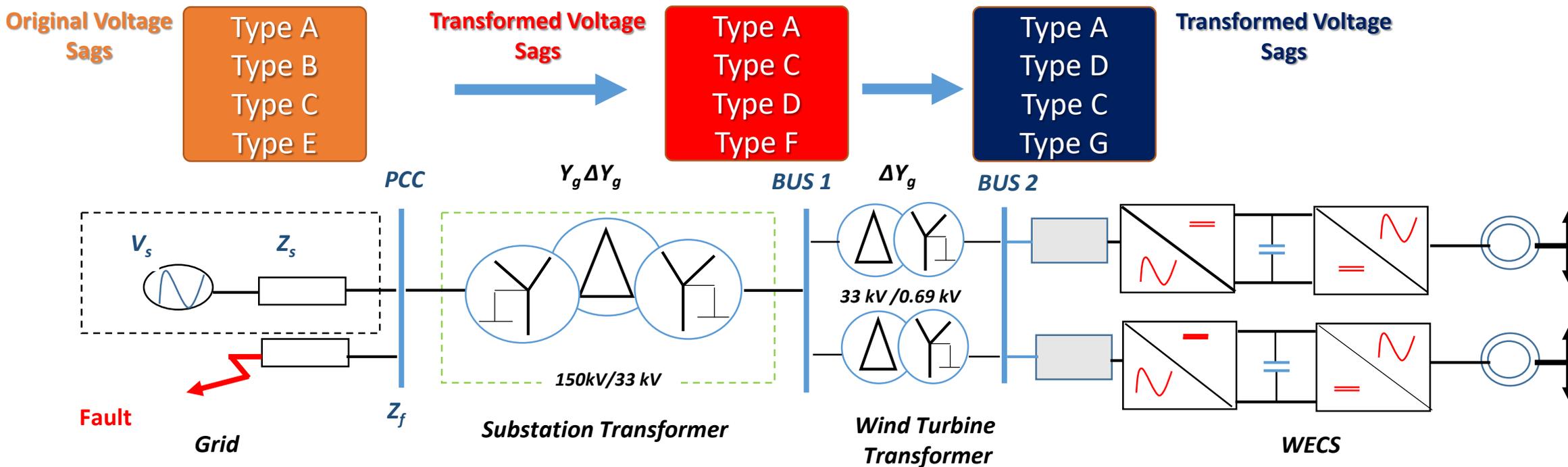


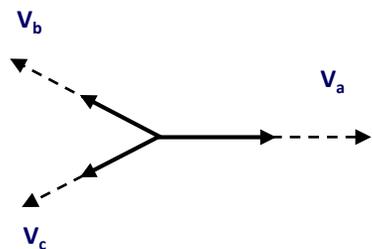
Fig. 3: A Conventional Wind Power Plant model with a short circuit fault at PCC.



# Purpose of a Transformer in a Conventional Wind Power Plant

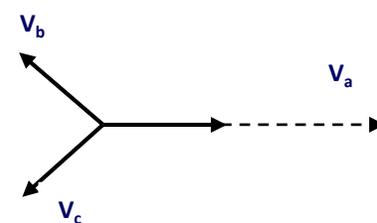
## C. Voltage Sag Transformation

**Type A**



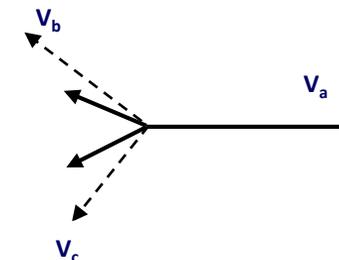
- Type A
- Voltage drop in all three phases symmetrical.
  - $\bar{V}_a = V$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}V - \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}V + \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$

**Type B**



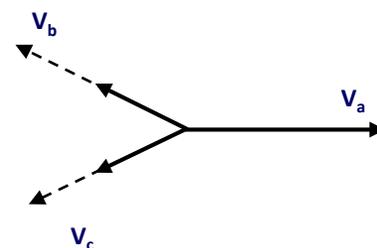
- Type B
- Voltage drop in one phase.
  - $\bar{V}_a = V$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}V - \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}V + \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$

**Type C**



- Type C
- Voltage drop and phase angle shift in two phases.
  - $\bar{V}_a = 1$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}V - \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}V + \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$

**Type E**



- Type E
- Voltage drop in two phases.
  - $\bar{V}_a = 1$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}V - \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}V + \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$



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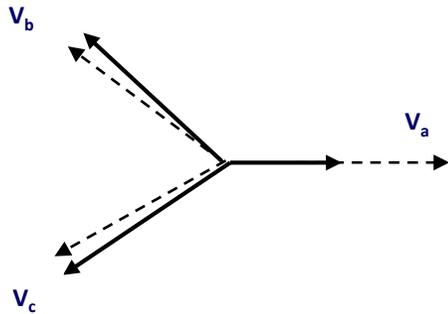
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# Purpose of a Transformer in a Conventional Wind Power Plant

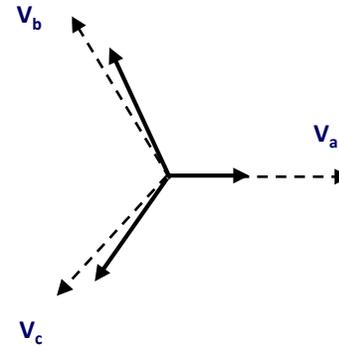
## C. Voltage Sag Transformation

Type D



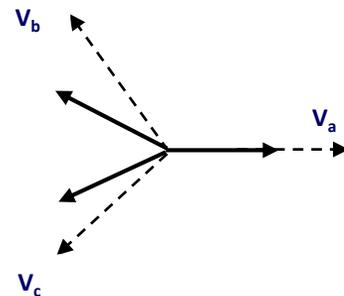
- Type D**
- Voltage drop in one phase and phase angle shift in two phases.
  - $\bar{V}_a = V$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}V - \frac{1}{2}j\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}V + \frac{1}{2}j\sqrt{3}$

Type F



- Type F**
- Voltage drop in all three phases and phase angle shift in two phases.
  - $\bar{V}_a = V$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}V - \frac{1}{2}j\left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V\right)\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}V + \frac{1}{2}j\left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V\right)\sqrt{3}$

Type G



- Type G**
- Voltage drop in all three phases and phase angle shift in two phases.
  - $\bar{V}_a = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V$
  - $\bar{V}_b = -\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V\right) - \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$
  - $\bar{V}_c = -\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V\right) + \frac{1}{2}jV\sqrt{3}$



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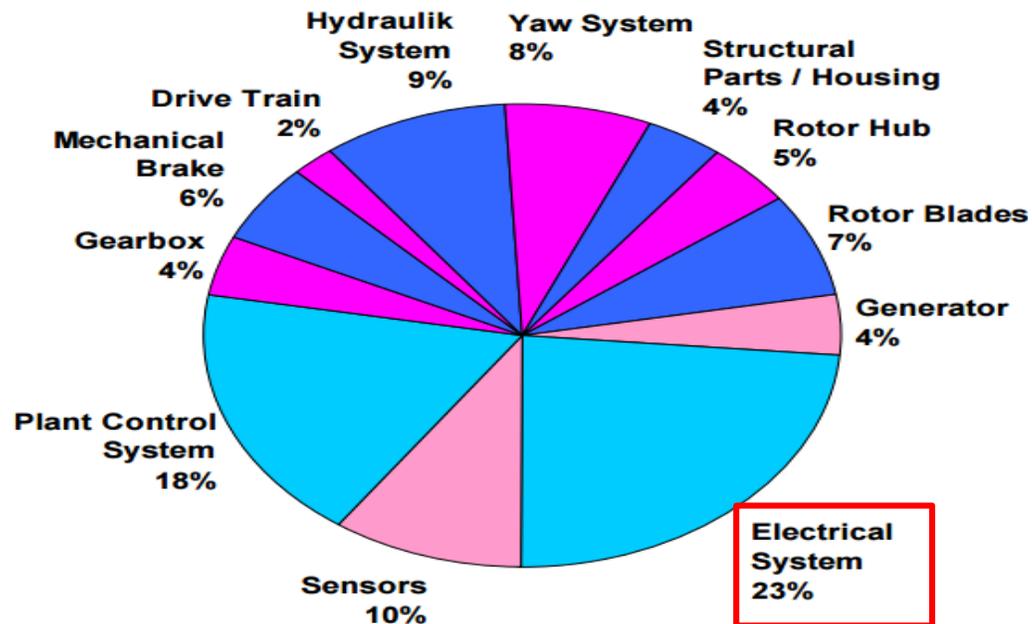


## Why Transformer-less?

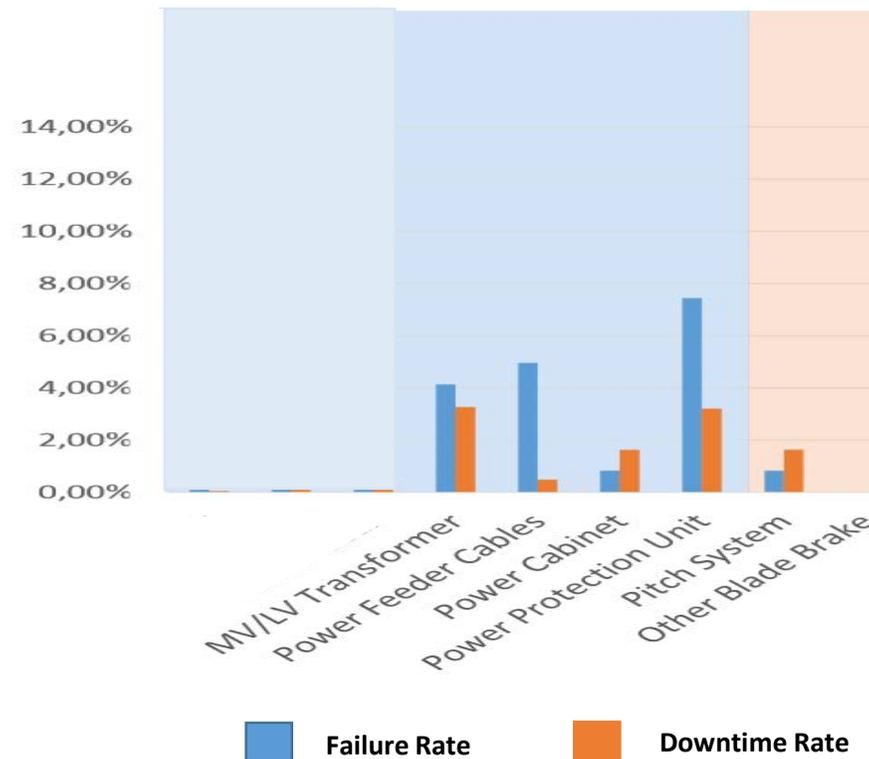
**Study A:**  
1500 Wind Turbines  
operated for 15 years

**Study B:**  
3700 Wind Turbines  
operated for 5 years

**Study C:**  
6000 Wind Turbines  
operated for 11 years



**Fig. 4: Percentage Distribution of the Number of Failures for Onshore Swedish Wind Power Plants**



**Fig. 5: Breakdown of the Failure Rates and Downtimes of Electrical Subsystem Components of Direct Drive WECS**

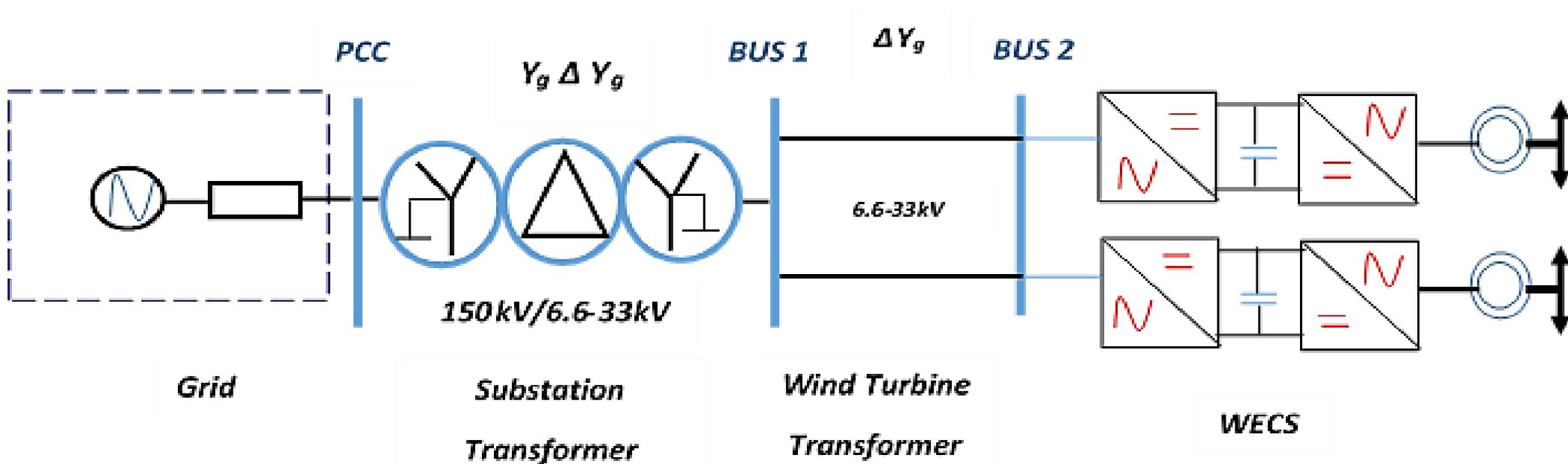


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## Why Transformer-less?



**Fig. 6: A Wind Power Plant with Transformer-less Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS).**



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## Impact of Voltage Sags on a Conventional Wind Power Plants.

Based on a MATLAB/Simulink Model of a Wind Power Plant with five Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator (PMSG) using the following parameters:

Parameter	Value
Nominal Power Rating of PMSG	2 MW
Terminal Voltage Rating of PMSG	690 V
Fundamental Frequency	60 Hz
Power Rating of Transformer	2.5 MVA
DC-Link Voltage	1100 V
DC-Link Voltage Controller Proportional Gain ( $K_p$ )	1.1
DC-Link Voltage Controller Integral Gain ( $K_i$ )	27.5

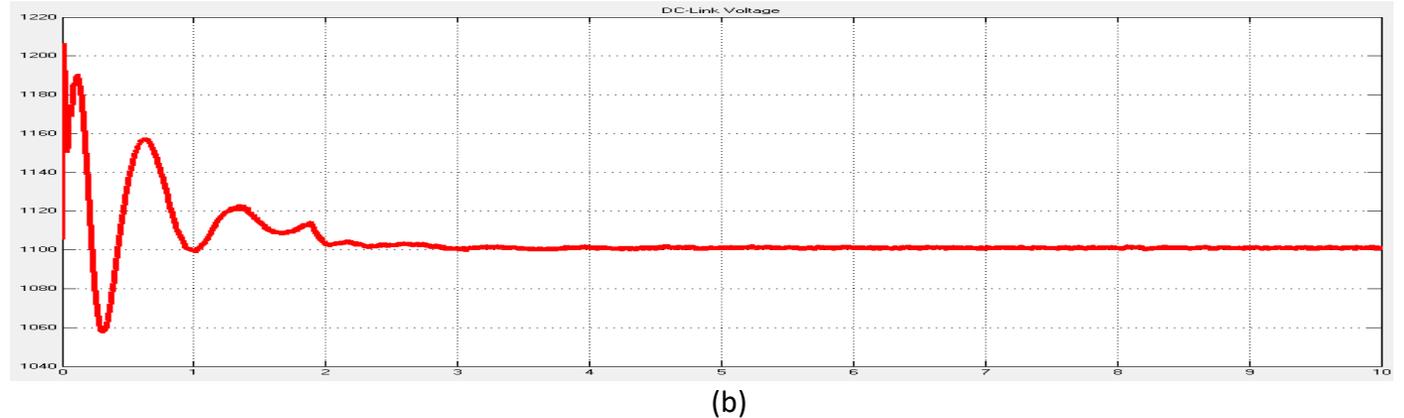
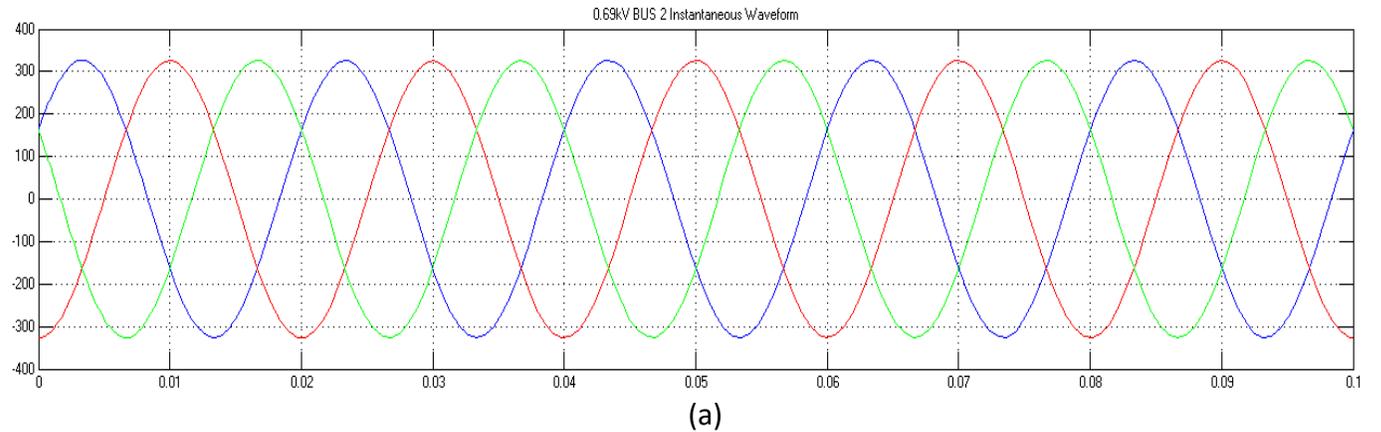


Fig. 7: (a) Wind Turbine Output Voltage; (b) DC-Link Voltage Transient.



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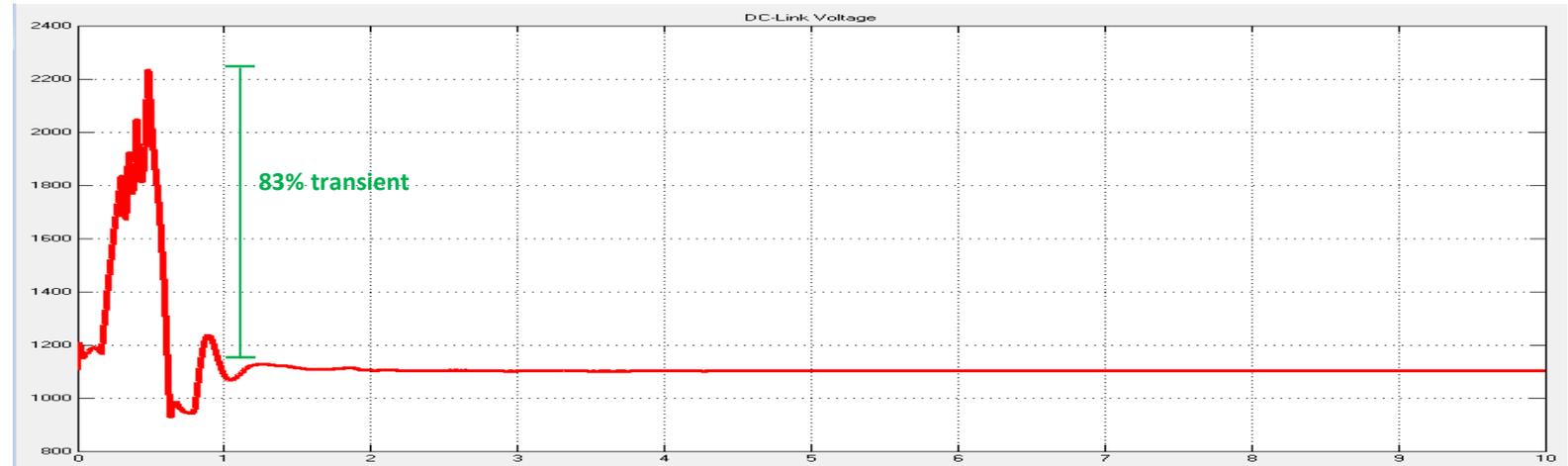
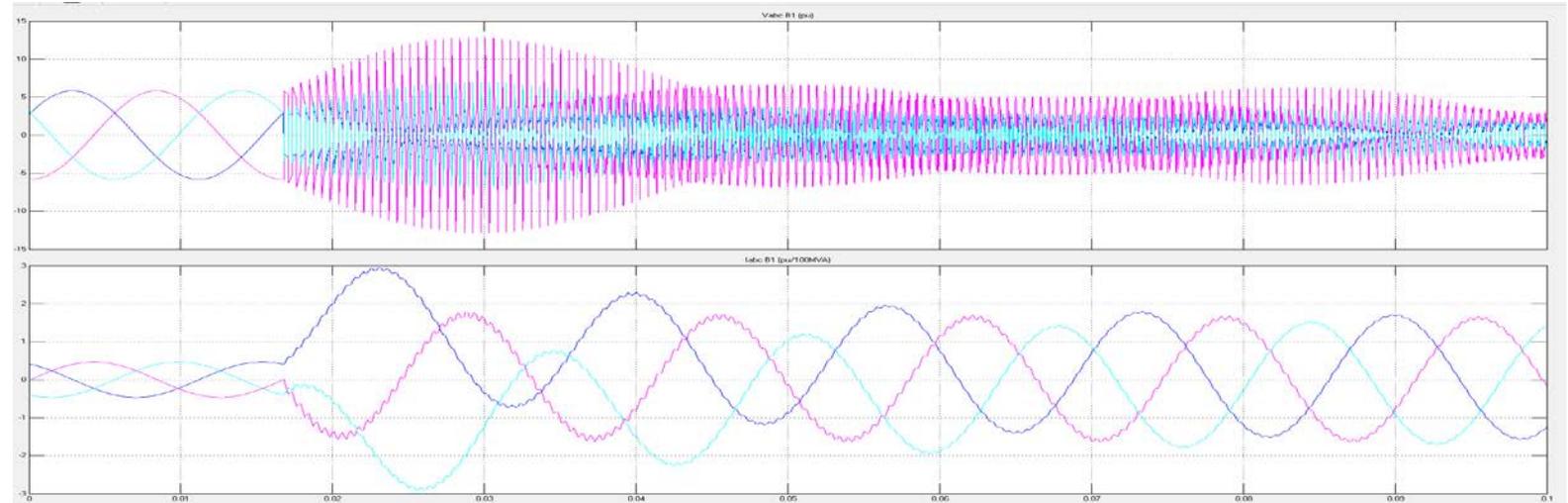
## Impact of Voltage Sags on a Conventional Wind Power Plants.

### Asymmetrical Sag

#### Type A

- Consist of positive sequence component.
- Overshoot of dc-link voltage is directly proportional to the amplitude of positive sequence in the grid voltage
- Largest overshoot in the dc-link voltage in the type A sag.

**Transient overshoot in the dc-link voltage increase by 83% and it lasts for about 1 minute.**





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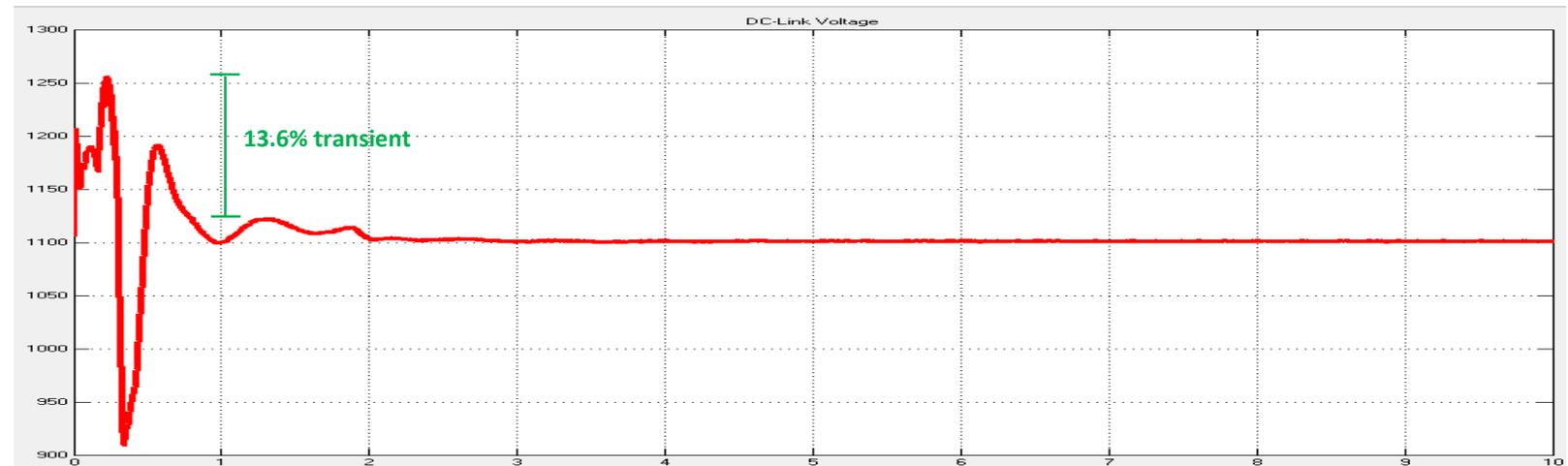
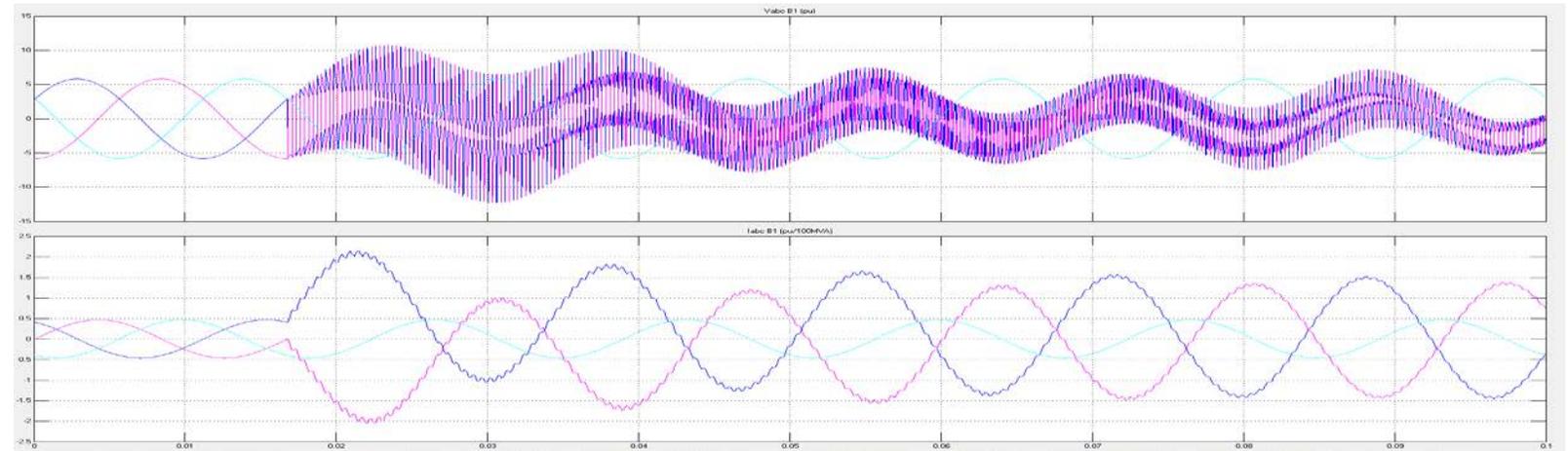
# Impact of Voltage Sags on a Conventional Wind Power Plants.

## *Symmetrical Sag*

### Type C

- Consist of positive sequence and negative sequence components.
- Overshoot of dc-link voltage is between 10%-30%.
- Largest overshoot in the fault current is observed.

**Transient overshoot in the dc-link voltage increase by 13.6% and it lasts for about 2 minutes.**





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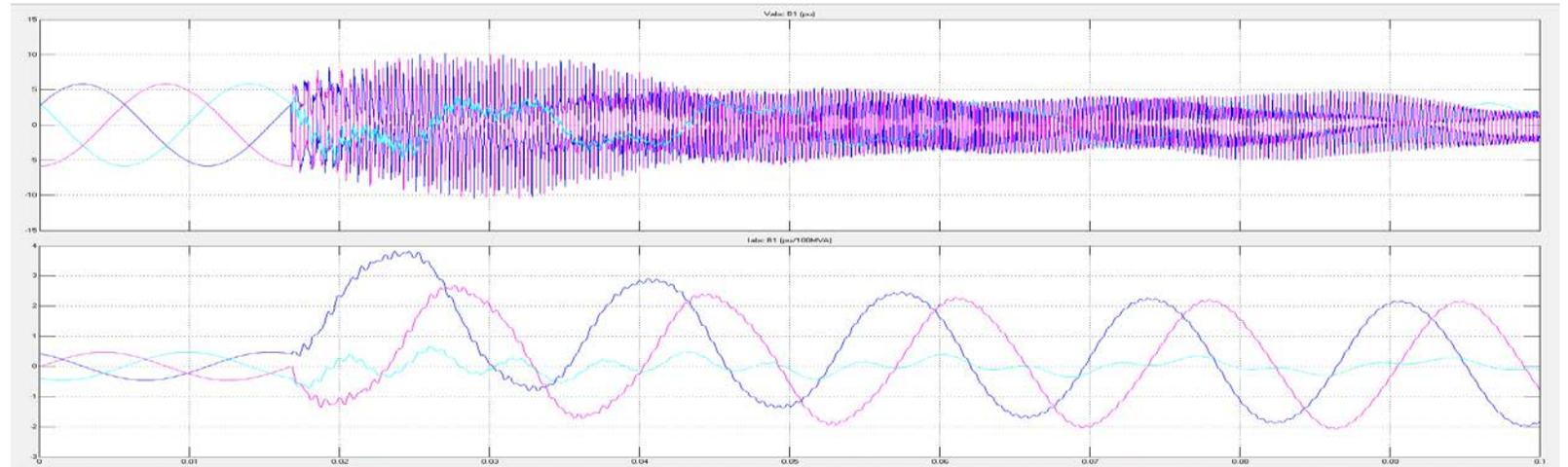


# Impact of Voltage Sags on a Conventional Wind Power Plants.

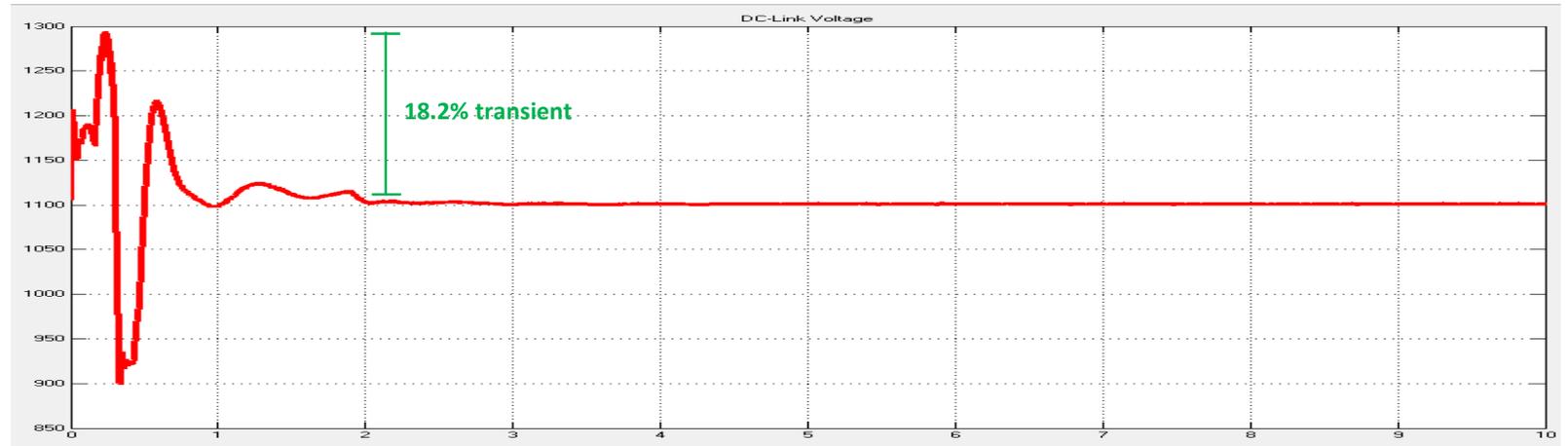
## *Symmetrical Sag*

### Type G

- Consist of positive sequence, negative sequence, and zero sequence components.
- Overshoot of dc-link voltage is between 10%-30%.



**Transient overshoot in the dc-link voltage increase by 18.2% and it lasts for about 2 minutes.**





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## Impact of Voltage Sags on a Transformer-less Wind Energy Conversion Systems.

Based on a MATLAB/Simulink Model of a Wind Power Plant with five Permanent Magnet Synchronous Generator (PMSG) using the following parameters:

Parameter	Value
Nominal Power Rating of PMSG	2 MW
Terminal Voltage Rating of PMSG	11000 V
Fundamental Frequency	60 Hz
DC-Link Voltage	17000 V
DC-Link Voltage Controller Proportional Gain (Kp)	1.1
DC-Link Voltage Controller Integral Gain (Ki)	27.5

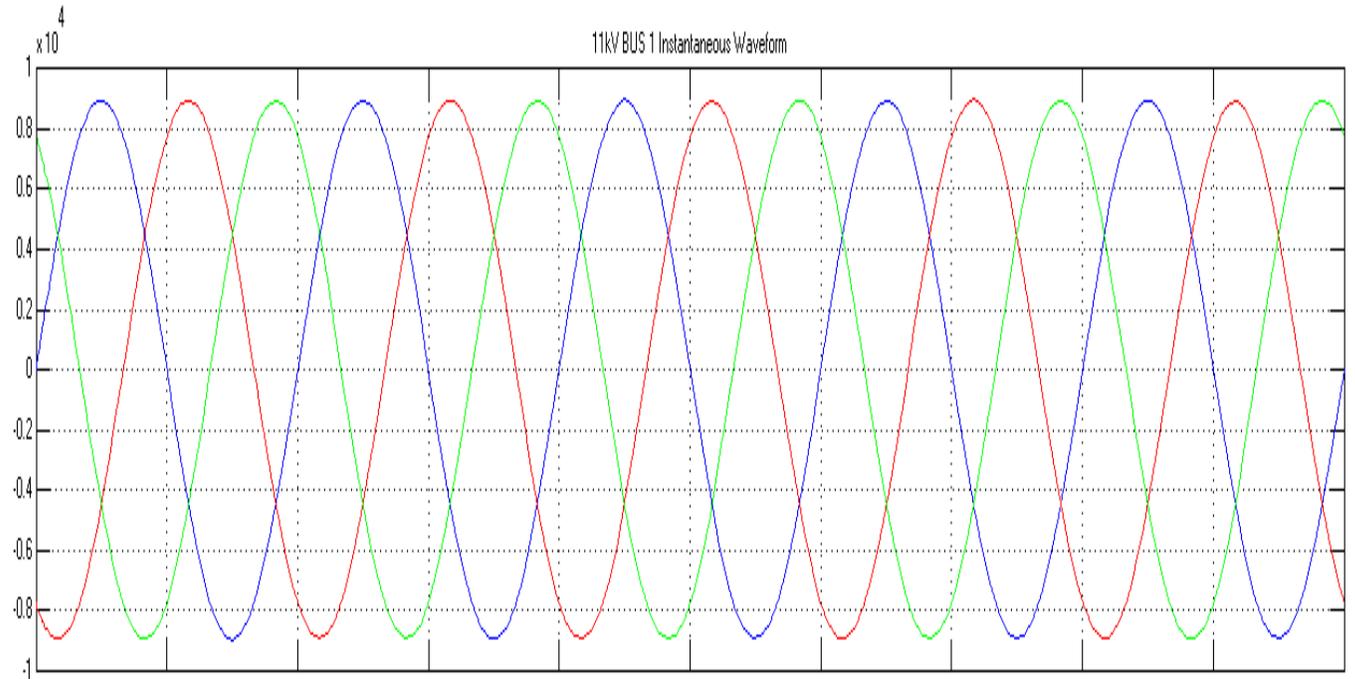


Fig. 8: Wind Turbine Output Voltage



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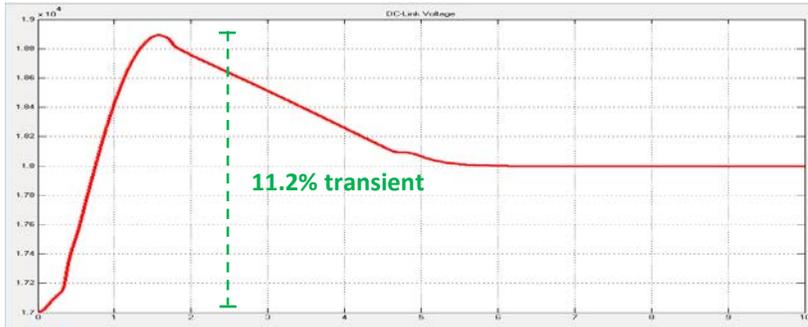
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# Impact of Voltage Sags on a Transformer-less Wind Energy Conversion Systems.

### Type A



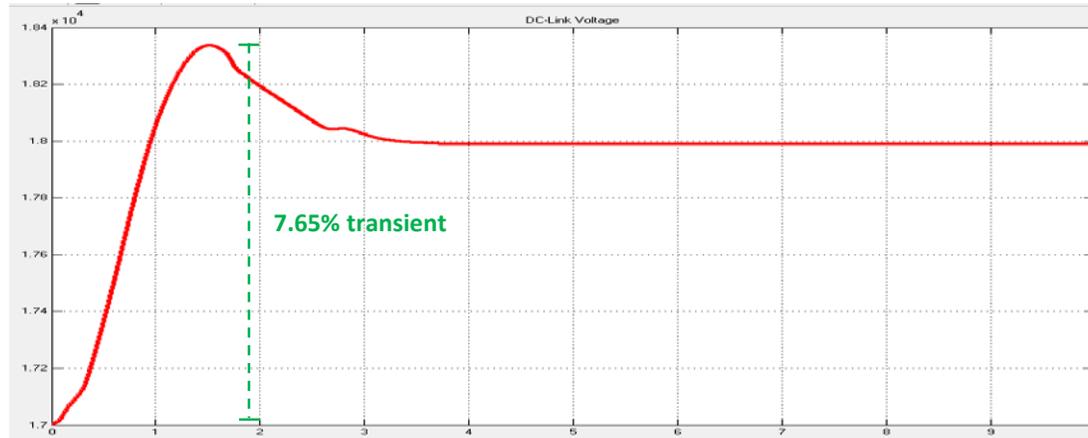
**Transient overshoot in the dc-link voltage increase by 11.2% and it lasts for more than 10 minutes.**

### Type C



**Transient overshoot in the dc-link voltage increase by 7.06% and it lasts for more than 10 minutes.**

### Type F



**Transient overshoot in the dc-link voltage increase by 7.65% and it lasts for more than 10 minutes.**



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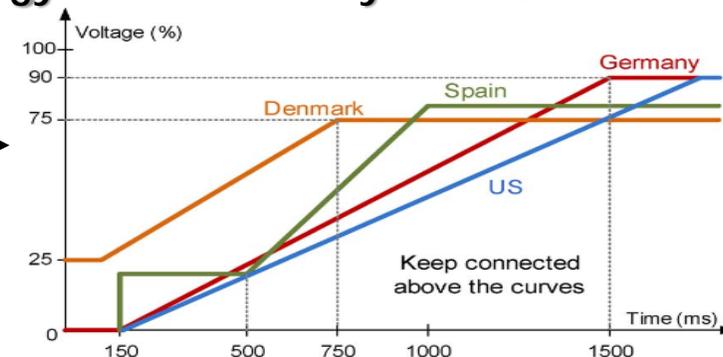


# Impact of Voltage Sags on a Transformer-less Wind Energy Conversion Systems.

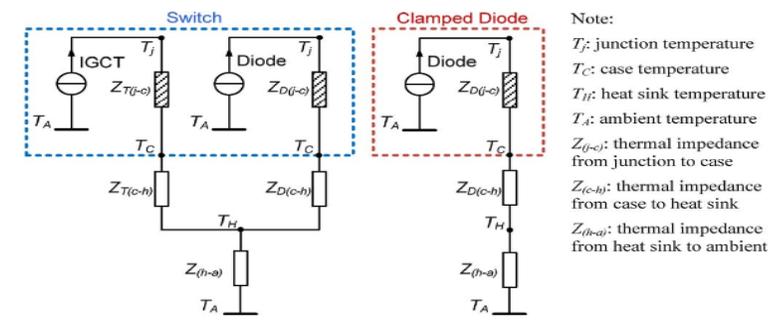
Major Impact of Voltage Sags on  
Wind Energy Conversion System.

Fault Ride-Through  
Requirement

Grid Code under Fault  
Ride-Through



Thermal Loading of  
semiconductor devices



Dynamics of the Voltage  
and Current Controllers

Combined control algorithm  
(using both PI control and  
Predictive control)



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## Conclusions

- A transformer-less WECS will be operated at the medium voltage range between 6.6 kV to 33 kV, and high power megawatt range (1MW to 10MW).
- Therefore, the PMSG will be more suitable for the transformer-less WECS and will require a full-scale converter.
- A multilevel converter topology will be required at the grid-side converter of the WECS.
- The current controller of the grid-side converter must provide fast response to the severe grid faults.



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**Thank you very much !!!!!!!**