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## Virtualized wide-area protection, Anti-islanding protection using 5G communication

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#### Introduction

- Power system operators are looking to deploy novel intelligent solutions to maximize efficiency and reliability of the distribution networks
- Need for modernizing protection solutions to accommodate the distributed energy resources (DERs) without compromising safety
- Constellation is an innovation project initiated by UK Power Networks to develop and demonstrate decentralized protection and control architecture



#### Who is UK Power Networks?



**8.4M homes and businesses** 29% of UK Total

#### **9.8GW Distributed Generation Connected** 32% of UK Total

#### **70,888GWh electricity distributed** 28% of UK Total

#### **UKPN motivation for the research**

#### Keeping generation connected in a Net Zero future

Situation

Complication

Increased reliance on DSO services, such as Flexibility

**Unnecessary disconnection of DERs** 

Increased connection of low carbon generation and load

Availability of network capacity

Solution roll out based on hardware installation

Scalability across a large network



## Virtualization of protection and control

Next step in centralized protection and control



#### **Virtualized protection requirements**

To guarantee real-time and reliable performance:

- Based on IEC 61850 standard
- Voltage and current Sampled Values from the MU are to be received with a consistent and low enough network latency
- Access to the computing resource must be available when the application needs it
- Accurate time synchronization using precision time protocol (PTP)
- Redundancy via parallel substation computers and parallel redundancy protocol (PRP)



#### **Proposed protection concept**

- All protection functions are virtualized centrally in a substation computer
  - Virtualization software environment runs several applications in parallel
- IEDs at each bay act as the MU with back up protection enabled
- Protections include functions based on local measurements and inputs from multiple remote sites
- All information exchange in the WAP uses GOOSE, SV, R-GOOSE over 5G communication



### Virtualized wide-area protection

- Dedicated ROCOF (LoM) protection is applied to prevent unintentional islanding
- Wide-area protection using R-GOOSE over 5G



### Simulation set up

Simulations focus on testing the operation of wide-area protection and communication supervision



## ROCOF simulation - unwanted tripping

#### Local ROCOF based blocking

- System frequency decreases from 50 Hz to 49 Hz at a rate of change of -2 Hz/s
- Consequently, all four DG units in the examined system see a ROCOF of approximately -2Hz/s
- The local ROCOF-based anti-islanding .protection is triggered
- The blocking is not effective resulting in all four DG units to trip falsely



# Wide area ROCOF based blocking

#### **Prevents unwanted tripping**

- Wide area detection logic was enabled
- This time the wide area disturbance is detected by the primary substation IED, which in turn sends blocking messages via R-GOOSE to all four DG units.
- Consequently, no unwanted tripping occurred



## Transfer trip over 5G communication

- Three-phase short circuit occurs at the beginning of the outgoing feeder SPENS 03 (DER unit 3 is connected to this feeder)
- SPENS 03 CB trips
- Main substation computer sends transfer trip signal to DER site computer via 5G communication
- DER site computer issues trip command to DG3 CB
- DG3 CB opens



### Conclusion

- Protection and control need to be modernized as the amount of DERs increases day-by-day
- Wide-area protection concept utilizing virtualization and wireless 5G communication has been developed to enhance system resiliency
- The wide-area protection ensures:
  - Prevention of unintentional islanding
  - Unsynchronized reclosing
  - To keep the DERs connected during system-wide disturbances
- Correct operation of the wide-area protection functionality has been verified in the lab
- Next steps of the Constellation project include integration testing in the lab and field trials

## **QUESTIONS?**