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# Virtual inertia control to active support of the variable-speed wind turbine in variable frequency limit time

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Constraining the virtual inertia of variable-speed wind turbines within the variable frequency limit time will be the key to improving the wind power's reliability in actively supporting the system frequency. First, this paper analyzes the controllable characteristics and evaluation methods of the virtual inertia of the wind turbine. Second, it quantifies the variable frequency limit time of the grid with high-proportion wind power and considers the wind turbine speed and power margin to restrict the virtual inertia of the wind turbine during the period of frequency drop or increase to provide reliable inertia support to ensure the safety of the system frequency. On this basis, the inertia demand under the frequency safety of the system was analyzed, and the virtual inertia control strategy of the variable-speed wind turbine in the variable frequency limit time was proposed using the speed tracking performance of the wind turbine. Finally, the grid with a high-proportion wind power simulation system is built to verify that the variablespeed wind turbine can reliably satisfy the inertia demand of system frequency modulation under the proposed control strategy and significantly improve its active support performance to the power grid.

#### KEYWORDS

wind power generation, virtual inertia, frequency support, rotor speed tracking, power grid

### **1** Introduction

Improving the grid-connected support capability of wind turbines has become a key technology for enabling high-proportion wind power consumption and achieving the "30.60 carbon target." Under maximum power tracking control, large-scale random and intermittent wind power is injected into the power grid, and the synchronous generator is unable to ensure the safe operation of the system due to the reduction of the installed proportion (Fernández-Guillamón et al., 2019; Mensou et al., 2020; Zhu et al., 2021). At present, the frequency active support control of variable-speed wind turbines has attracted much attention.

Variable-speed wind turbines can actively participate in the frequency adjustment of the power grid by adding virtual inertia and primary frequency controllers based on power tracking control (Yuan et al., 2017; Ochoa and Martinez, 2018; Yuan et al., 2018). In the early stage of frequency change, if the wind turbine does not have an inertial response, it will lead to a significant increase in the frequency change rate, and a large frequency drop or increase will seriously threaten the safety of system operation (Sun et al., 2010; Tielens and

Hertem, 2016; Das et al., 2020). In order to solve the problem of low inertia in wind turbines, Fu et al. (2017) and Qi et al. (2022) defined the virtual inertia of wind turbines. Different from the constant inherent inertia of the synchronous generator, the virtual moment of inertia through additional control not only depends on the inherent inertia, initial speed, and control parameters of the wind turbine but is also closely related to the change in the system frequency, resulting in its complex and changeable characteristics while also renders it more flexible and controllable. Mauricio et al. (2009); Gautam et al. (2011); and Li et al. (2016) proposed a virtual inertia control strategy for wind turbines and used the differential link df/dt to simulate the rotor motion characteristics of synchronous generators. On this basis, ULLAH et al. (2008); Makrini et al. (2017) further added a speed recovery module to ensure the speed recovery of the wind turbine after the inertial response, avoiding the secondary frequency drop caused by excessive inertial support during system recovery. Effective inertia support can avoid large and rapid changes in frequency, and allowing for sufficient adjustment time for subsequent primary frequency modulation. In order to reduce the static deviation of the system frequency after primary frequency modulation, the same active frequency droop control as the synchronous generator was introduced into the active power control of the wind turbine. Ramtharan et al. (2007) and Zertek et al. (2012) proposed a deloading control method for wind turbines and simulated the primary frequency modulation characteristics of synchronous generators through variable pitch control. Almeida and Lopes (2007) and Zhang et al. (2012) used the overspeed control of the wind turbine to complete the deloading operation of the wind turbine and cooperated with the virtual inertia to improve the frequency modulation performance of the wind turbine. In theory, the power electronic converter gives the wind turbine flexible power control performance. However, the characteristics of virtual frequency modulation are affected by many factors, and its engineering practicability still requires to be explored.

The performance evaluation of the virtual inertia and primary frequency modulation of the wind turbine is generally difficult to solve (Wu and Infield, 2014; Zhu et al., 2018). Among them, the additional primary frequency control is relatively simple. When the load-shedding reserve capacity is sufficient, the wind turbine can have the same power distribution capability as the synchronous generator using the active power frequency droop characteristics (Vidyanandan and Senroy, 2013; Xiao et al., 2017). However, it is difficult to evaluate the virtual inertia of the wind turbine, which requires discussion at present. Because the initial wind speed determines the kinetic energy reserve of the wind turbine and the wind turbine speed will be affected by power tracking control, additional inertia control, and system frequency characteristics at the same time, the virtual inertia is always in dynamic change, which is not only complicated in quantification but also has operating risk. Ma et al. (2017); Zhu et al. (2017); and Ying et al. (2018) analyzed that although the introduction of virtual inertia can reduce the frequency change rate, it has the risk of aggravating the system power oscillation. Shi et al. (2011) and Lucas et al. (2019) used the small disturbance analysis method to prove that the virtual inertia of the wind turbine would lead to the right shift of the characteristic root and weaken the stability of the system. Reasonable quantification of virtual inertia can not only provide a basis for accurately predicting the effect of frequency active support but also

be the key to evaluating the operation risk of additional control. Wen and Lin (2021) and Wang et al. (2022) proposed quantitative requirements for virtual inertia to ensure the frequency security of the grid through constraints such as frequency change rate and minimum value. However, the expected virtual inertia support is not only a prerequisite but also an urgent problem to be solved. Although the source of virtual inertia has been extended to various renewed energy sources and loads, the nonlinear timevarying characteristics make it difficult to quantify the inertia, and a reasonable time scale is urgently needed to constrain the multi-source inertia to complete the evaluation (Wen and Lin, 2021). In summary, the wind power frequency active support technology is not mature at present, and the promotion and application still lack the quantification and control methods of virtual inertia.

In order to improve the reliability of wind turbine frequency active support control according to the system frequency safety requirements, this paper proposes a quantitative method and control strategy of virtual inertia using the inertia support time and wind turbine operation characteristics constraints. First, based on the definition of virtual inertia of the wind turbine, the frequency characteristics of the wind power grid-connected system and the problems of inertia evaluation are analyzed. Second, the frequency conversion extreme time is calculated, and the wind turbine speed and power margin are considered to constrain and quantify the wind turbine virtual inertia. Third, according to the virtual inertia demand and quantitative index, the virtual inertia control strategy of the variable-speed wind turbine in the extreme time of frequency conversion is proposed by speed tracking control. Finally, a simulation system with high-proportion wind power is built to verify the improvement effect of the proposed evaluation method and control strategy on the reliability of wind turbine frequency active support.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the virtual inertia evaluation method for wind turbines. Section 3 presents the calculation method of frequency conversion extreme time for the system with high-proportion wind power. Section 4 presents the virtual inertia constraint and evaluation of wind turbines. Section 5 presents the virtual inertia demand and control of wind turbines. Section 6 presents the numerical results and demonstrates the effectiveness of the proposed method. Section 7 concludes the paper and presents future work.

# 2 Virtual inertia evaluation of the wind turbine

## 2.1 Wind turbine frequency active support characteristics

After the system with a high proportion of wind power encounters an active power disturbance, the system frequency support should be completed by the synchronous generator set and wind turbine. In order to improve the utilization rate of wind energy, wind farms usually do not use the deloading operation mode to reserve for primary frequency regulation. In this mode, the virtual inertial response will be the frequency active support function that wind power urgently needs. In the wind power grid-connected



system, the synchronous generator and the wind turbine should jointly complete the inertial support, and the primary frequency modulation function is borne by the synchronous generator and the energy storage.

Taking a short-term frequency drop as an example, the dynamic response of wind turbines and synchronous generators participating in frequency adjustment is shown in Figure 1. In this figure,  $t_0$  is the frequency drop time,  $t_b$  is the primary frequency modulation action time,  $t_{fm}$  is the time when the frequency drops to the lowest value, and  $t_p$  is the end time of the primary frequency modulation.

At time  $t_0$ , the load suddenly increases  $\Delta P_d$ , and the system frequency drops sharply. The synchronous generator set and wind turbine need to respond quickly to the frequency change, and the system power demand is compensated by the fast active power support, that is,  $\Delta P_e = \Delta P_d$ .

At the  $t_0 \sim t_{fin}$  stage, after the wind turbine starts the inertia support control, it will share the unbalanced power borne by the synchronous generator, thereby slowing down the system frequency drop speed. The common virtual inertia control of wind turbines adopts a differential link, and the power response is defined as Eq. (1):

$$\Delta P_{\rm w} = -K_{\rm I} \times {\rm d}f/{\rm d}t,\tag{1}$$

where  $\Delta P_{w}$  is the wind turbine inertial support power and  $K_{I}$  is the differential control coefficient.

As shown in Figure 1, during a frequency drop (df/dt <0), the power response of the virtual inertia controller is  $\Delta P_{\rm w} >0$ . At this stage, the synchronous generator and the wind turbine jointly maintain the inertia support power and satisfy the load demand  $\Delta P_{\rm d}$ . The wind turbine reduces the kinetic energy demand of the synchronous generator by releasing the kinetic energy. At the  $t_{\rm fm} \sim t_{\rm p}$  stage, during frequency recovery (df/dt >0), the power response of the virtual inertia controller is  $\Delta P_{\rm w}$  <0. At this stage, the wind turbine absorbs power from the system under virtual inertia control, and the wind turbine changes from releasing kinetic energy to absorbing kinetic energy, which increases the primary frequency regulation burden of the synchronous generator and slows down the frequency recovery speed.

Considering that the virtual inertia has the problem of gridconnected security, at present, GB/T19963.1–2021 "wind farm access power system technical regulations" have stipulated that the wind turbine is required to have the inertia support function after being connected to the system, but the additional controller must satisfy the following conditions:  $\Delta f \times df/dt > 0$ . The wind turbine should set the time  $t_{fm}$  as the end time of the virtual inertia control to satisfy the grid-connected requirements.

It is worth noting that it is necessary to detect the frequency signal at the grid-connected point of the wind turbine when determining the end  $t_{\rm fm}$  of the inertial support. The differential signal has high-frequency noise in the field test. Combined with the actual test situation, it is difficult to determine whether  $\Delta f \times df/dt$  is greater than zero. In addition, at the end of the moment of inertia support, the wind turbine has released kinetic energy, resulting in a decrease in speed. After restoring to the maximum power tracking control, the output power of the wind turbine will still be lower than the initial level before the frequency drop. This is because the wind turbine speed has dropped. Therefore, even if the inertial control can be terminated in time, the wind turbine will still absorb the power, accelerate the rotor, store kinetic energy, and complete the maximum power tracking target; however, this will not be conducive to frequency recovery during primary frequency modulation.

It can be seen from Figure 1 that during the active frequency support period, the virtual inertia control of the wind turbine cannot continuously provide effective active power support for the system. Combined with the inertia start-up conditions specified in the grid-connected standard, this paper defines the effective time of the inertia response as the frequency conversion extreme time  $t_{fin}$ ; that is, after the system is disturbed, the frequency drops or increases from the initial value to the maximum frequency deviation.

Before adopting virtual inertia control, if the wind turbine can predict the extreme time of frequency conversion, it not only ensures the safe removal of the additional control and effectively avoids the misoperation caused by the large monitoring error of the frequency differential signal but also helps solve the problem of quantitative evaluation of virtual inertia, and then it provides a more reliable calculation method for the inertia demand under the system frequency safety.

# 2.2 Virtual inertia evaluation based on frequency conversion extremum time

The inertia of the wind power grid-connected system is composed of the inherent inertia of the synchronous generator and the virtual inertia of the wind turbine. The inertia time constant of the synchronous generator depends on the mechanical characteristics of the rotor, which can be expressed as Eq. (2) (Zhu et al., 2021)

$$H_{\rm g} = \frac{E_{\rm kg}}{S_{\rm g}} = \frac{J_{\rm g}\omega^2}{2p_{\rm g}^2 S_{\rm g}},$$
 (2)

where  $J_g$  is the mechanical moment of inertia of the synchronous generator;  $\omega_e$  is the synchronous speed;  $p_g$  is the number of rotor poles;  $E_{kg}$  is the rotor kinetic energy stored at the rated speed of the synchronous generator; and  $S_g$  is the rated capacity of the synchronous generator.

Referring to the definition of the inertia time constant of a synchronous generator, the virtual inertia time constant  $H_{vir}$  of a variable-speed wind turbine can be expressed as (Qi et al., 2022)

$$H_{\rm vir} = \frac{J_{\rm vir}\omega_{\rm e}^2}{2p_{\rm w}^2S_{\rm w}} = \frac{\Delta\omega_{\rm r}}{\Delta\omega_{\rm e}}\frac{\omega_{\rm r0}}{\omega_{\rm e}}H_{\rm w},\tag{3}$$

where  $H_w$  is the inherent inertia time constant of the wind turbine;  $\Delta \omega_r$  is the change in the wind turbine speed;  $\omega_{r0}$  is the initial speed of the wind turbine before the inertial response;  $\Delta \omega_e$  is the synchronous speed variation;  $p_w$  is the number of wind turbine poles;  $S_w$  is the rated capacity of the wind turbine; and  $J_{vir}$  is the virtual moment of inertia of the wind turbine, which can be expressed as

$$J_{\rm vir} = \frac{\Delta \omega_{\rm r}}{\Delta \omega_{\rm e}} \frac{\omega_{\rm r0}}{\omega_{\rm e}} J_{\rm w},\tag{4}$$

where  $J_w$  is the inherent moment of inertia of the wind turbine.

According to the definition of the virtual inertia of the wind turbine in (3) and (4), it can be seen that if  $\Delta \omega_r / \Delta \omega_e >>1$ , the virtual inertia will be much larger than the inherent inertia of the wind turbine and even has better inertial support ability than the synchronous generator set. However, in practical control,  $H_{\rm vir}$  is determined by  $\omega_{\rm r0}$ ,  $H_{\rm w}$ , and  $\Delta \omega_r / \Delta \omega_e$ , where  $\omega_{\rm r0}$  depends on the real-time wind speed, which can be expressed as Eq. (5)

$$\omega_{\rm r0} = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda_{\rm opt} \nu}{R}, \nu_{\rm min} < \nu < \nu_{\rm max}, \\ \omega_{\rm max}, \nu > \nu_{\rm max} \end{cases}$$
(5)

where  $\lambda_{opt}$  is the optimal tip speed ratio; v is the real-time wind speed; R is the radius of the wind wheel;  $\omega_{max}$  is the maximum speed allowed for the stable operation of the wind turbine;  $v_{min}$  is the cut-in wind speed; and  $v_{max}$  is the maximum wind speed before the pitch control starts.

In the control process, it is necessary to comprehensively consider the dynamic changes in the inherent inertia  $H_w$ , wind speed, additional power, and system frequency of the wind turbine to obtain the effect of  $\Delta \omega_r >> \Delta \omega_e$ . Due to the coupling problem of multiple variables, the virtual inertia of the wind turbine can be much higher than the inherent inertia in theory, but the dynamic changes in the control process will make it difficult to predict its support performance and seriously weaken its application value.

In the current virtual inertia evaluation method, due to the realtime fluctuation of wind turbine speed and system angular frequency,  $\Delta \omega_r / \Delta \omega_e$  needs to be monitored in real-time. In the absence of time-scale constraints, the virtual inertia of the wind turbine will be an uncertain parameter. If reliable inertia reserves cannot be obtained, it will be impossible to predict the drop or increase in the amplitude of frequency after disturbance, which makes the key problem of frequency security early warning difficult to solve.



To solve this problem, a time scale must be introduced to constrain the virtual inertia. In this paper, the extreme time of frequency conversion is taken as the effective time of inertia response of the wind turbine. In the range of  $t_0 \sim t_{fm}$ , if  $\Delta \omega_e$  is equal to the unit value of  $\Delta f_{max}$ , then  $H_{vir}$  can be expressed as

$$H_{\rm vir} = \begin{cases} \frac{\Delta \omega_{\rm r} H_{\rm w}}{\Delta f_{\rm max} \omega_{\rm e}} \times \frac{\lambda_{\rm opt} \nu}{R}, & \nu_{\rm min} < \nu < \nu_{\rm max} \\ \frac{\Delta \omega_{\rm r} H_{\rm w}}{\Delta f_{\rm max} \omega_{\rm e}} \times \omega_{\rm max}, & \nu > \nu_{\rm max}. \end{cases}$$
(6)

According to (6),  $\Delta \omega_r$  determines the size of  $H_{vir}$  when other parameters are known. At this time, the virtual inertia of the wind turbine can be quantitatively evaluated according to the speed variation in the frequency conversion extreme time. Therefore, the key to evaluating the virtual inertia of the wind turbine is to calculate the extreme value time of the system frequency conversion and obtain the speed change after the inertia response of the wind turbine.

### 3 Frequency conversion extreme time of system with high-proportion wind power

## 3.1 Frequency conversion extreme time calculation

Considering the limitation of the inherent inertia of the wind turbine on the speed, as well as the real-time changes in the wind turbine speed and system frequency, not only the potential of virtual inertia control remains unclear, but there are also still many problems in quantitative evaluation. In order to solve this problem, this paper will use the frequency conversion extreme time and the wind turbine operating state to constrain the virtual inertia for quantitative evaluation. Among them, the calculation process of the system frequency conversion extreme time as a key parameter is as follows.

In the system with high-proportion wind power, the aggregation model structure of the synchronous generator set and wind turbine is shown in Figure 2. The model includes the synchronous generator, wind turbine, and load frequency response module. The parameter design of each module is shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1 System fre	equency response	model parameters	and	value	range.
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Model parameter	Value range
System inertia time constant H	4~10 s
System damping coefficient D	0~1
System load regulation coefficient $K_{\rm L}$	0~2
Synchronous machine adjustment coefficient $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$	0.03-0.05
Turbine equivalent inertia time constant ${\cal T}$	6~10 s
Turbine characteristic coefficient a	0 <a<1< td=""></a<1<>
Wind power penetration $k$	\

According to Figure 2, the system frequency response equation can be expressed as

$$2H\frac{\mathrm{d}\Delta f}{\mathrm{d}t} + D\Delta f = -\Delta P_{\mathrm{m}} - \Delta P_{\mathrm{w}} - \Delta P_{\mathrm{L}} + \Delta P_{\mathrm{d}}, \tag{7}$$

where  $\Delta P_{\rm m}$  is the synchronous generator power response signal;  $\Delta P_{\rm w}$  is the wind turbine power response signal;  $\Delta P_{\rm L}$  is the load power response signal; and *H* is the system inertia time constant. Among them,  $\Delta P_{\rm m}$  depends on the synchronous generator adjustment coefficient and turbine parameters, which can be expressed as

$$\Delta P_{\rm m} = \frac{1-k}{\sigma} \times \frac{1+aTs}{1+Ts} \Delta f, \qquad (8)$$

where  $\Delta P_{\rm L}$  depends on the load regulation coefficient, equal to  $K_{\rm L} \times \Delta f$ , and *H* depends on the system capacity and wind power penetration, which can be expressed as

$$H = H_{g} \frac{S_{g}}{S_{B}} = H_{g} (1 - k),$$
(9)

where k is the wind power penetration and  $S_{\rm B}$  is the rated capacity of the system.

The system frequency variation can be calculated using (7) and expressed as

$$\Delta f(s) = \frac{1 + Ts}{2HT(s^2 + 2b\xi s + b^2)} \left[ \Delta P_{\rm d}(s) - \Delta P_{\rm w}(s) \right].$$
(10)

The inverse Laplace transform is applied to (10), and the system frequency response  $\Delta f(t)$  is

$$\Delta f(t) = (\Delta P_{d} - \Delta P_{w}) \times G(t) = (\Delta P_{d} - \Delta P_{w}) \times \left\{ \frac{\sigma}{(D + K_{L})\sigma + 1 - k} \left[ 1 + \alpha e^{-b\xi t} \sin(wt + \varphi) \right] \right\}.$$
(11)

In (11), each parameter is expressed as

$$b = \sqrt{\frac{(D+K_{\rm L})\sigma + 1 - k}{2H\sigma T}}, \ \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{1 - 2b\xi T + b^2 T^2}{1 - \xi^2}},$$
  

$$\xi = \frac{(D+K_{\rm L})\sigma T + 2H\sigma + aT}{2[(D+K_{\rm L})\sigma + 1 - k]/b}, \ w = b\sqrt{1 - \xi^2}, \text{and}$$
(12)  

$$\varphi = \arctan\left(\frac{wT}{1 - b\xi T}\right) - \arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{1 - \xi^2}}{-\xi}\right).$$

TADLE 2 Parameter values and calculation results of meducincy expression	TABLE 2 Parameter	values and	calculation	results of	í freauencv	expressio
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Parameter value				
H = 5 s	$\sigma = 0.04$	D = 0		
T = 8 s	<i>a</i> = 0.3	$K_{\rm L} = 1$		
k = 0% computation				
b = 0.570	w = 0.299	$\xi = 0.855$		
$\alpha = 7.218$	$\varphi = -8.34^{\circ}$	$t_{\rm fm} = 2.305 \ { m s}$		
k = 20% computation				
b = 0.573	w = 0.279	$\xi = 0.873$		
$\alpha = 7.668$	$\varphi = -7.492^{\circ}$	$t_{\rm fm} = 2.298 \ { m s}$		
k = 40% computation				
b = 0.577	w = 0.249	$\xi = 0.902$		
$\alpha = 8.671$	$\varphi = -6.619^{\circ}$	$t_{\rm fm} = 2.295 \ { m s}$		

Without considering the power response of the wind turbine,  $\Delta P_{\rm w} = 0$  is taken, and  $\Delta P_{\rm d}$  is regarded as a step disturbance. At this time, the derivative of (11) is obtained, and the extreme time of frequency conversion of the system can be expressed as

$$t_{fm} = \frac{1}{w} \arctan\left(\frac{wT}{b\xi T - 1}\right). \tag{13}$$

According to (11)–(13), the extreme time of frequency conversion is not only related to the inertia of conventional synchronous generators but also affected by wind power penetration and wind turbine power response. Among them, conventional synchronous generators can take typical parameter settings. The following section further discusses the influence of wind turbine-related parameters on the frequency conversion extreme time.

# 3.2 Influencing factors of frequency conversion extreme time

#### 3.2.1 Wind power penetration

From (8) and (9), it can be seen that under the influence of wind power penetration, the system inertia time constant becomes  $H_g$  (1k), and the adjustment coefficient becomes  $\sigma/(1-k)$ ; that is, wind power penetration will reduce the system inertia time constant. However, at the same time, the system adjustment coefficient is equivalently increased. When the two parameters change at the same time, the influence of the two on the frequency conversion extreme time has an offset effect. Therefore, the influence of wind power penetration on the frequency conversion extreme time is not significant. In order to verify this conclusion, the typical data in Table 1 are substituted into (12) and (13) to calculate the intermediate variables and the frequency conversion extreme time, as shown in Table 2.

The calculation results in Table 2 are brought into (11), and the power disturbance  $\Delta P_d = 0.05$  pu is taken to obtain the frequency



response under different wind power penetration rates, as shown in Figure 3.

It can be seen from Figure 3 that the wind power penetration rate will affect the system frequency change rate, the maximum frequency deviation, and the steady-state frequency deviation after primary frequency regulation, but it has little effect on the frequency conversion extreme time. According to the calculation results in Table 2, 2.3 s is used as the typical value for system frequency conversion extreme time in this paper.

### 3.2.2 Additional inertial response

In the extreme time of frequency conversion, when the inertia support potential of the wind turbine is stimulated to the maximum extent, the power response of the wind turbine can be regarded as a step change, and the power reference value will jump from the maximum power tracking control signal to the rated power or the minimum power output in a short time. Under this condition, the limit power support signal of the wind turbine can be expressed as

$$\Delta P_{\rm w} = \begin{cases} P_{\rm n} - P_{\rm opt} \ \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0\\ P_{\rm opt} - P_{\rm min} \ \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0 \end{cases}$$
(14)

where  $P_{\rm n}$  is the rated power of the wind turbine;  $P_{\rm min}$  is the power corresponding to the minimum speed of the stable operation of the wind turbine; and  $P_{\rm opt}$  is the active output power of the wind turbine under MPPT control, which can be expressed as

$$P_{\rm opt} = \begin{cases} k_{\rm opt} \omega_{\rm r}^3 \ \omega_0 < \omega_{\rm r} < \omega_{\rm max} \\ P_{\rm n} \ \omega_{\rm r} > \omega_{\rm max}, \end{cases}$$
(15)

where  $k_{opt}$  is the maximum power tracking coefficient and  $\omega_0$  is the cut-in speed.

When  $\Delta P_{\rm w}$  is equivalent to a step signal, its effect is equivalent to the equivalent reduction of  $\Delta P_{\rm d}$ , and it does not affect the parameters in G(t). Therefore, the power response of the wind turbine only affects the increase and decrease in the speed of frequency and the frequency deviation extremum and does not affect the frequency conversion extremum time.

In summary, when evaluating the inertia of the wind turbine in the extreme time of frequency conversion, the calculation results of (13) can be regarded as the action time of the virtual inertia of the wind turbine. At this time, the wind turbine speed variation can be calculated by the wind turbine running state constraint, and then the virtual inertia of the wind turbine can be estimated.

# 4 Virtual inertia constraint and evaluation of wind turbines

### 4.1 Wind turbine operating state constraints

The virtual inertia of the wind turbine depends on its kinetic energy reserve and is closely related to its initial speed  $\omega_{r0}$ . In addition, the initial active power  $P_{we0}$  of the wind turbine determines the adjustment range of the power support  $\Delta P_w$ , which in turn affects the kinetic energy release or absorption capacity of the wind turbine.

#### 4.1.1 Kinetic energy reserve constraint

The wind turbine energy reserve depends on the allowable value of the speed change during the frequency conversion extreme period. When the disturbance power  $\Delta P_d > 0$ , the system has a power shortage, and the wind turbine needs to release the rotor kinetic energy; when  $\Delta P_d < 0$ , the system has a power surplus, and the wind turbine needs to absorb energy and store it as rotor kinetic energy. Therefore, the kinetic energy reserve constraint of wind turbines can be expressed as Eq. (16)

$$\Delta E_{\rm kw} \le \Delta E_{\rm kwmax} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} J_{\rm w} \left(\omega_{\rm r0}^2 - \omega_{\rm min}^2\right) \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0\\ \frac{1}{2} J_{\rm w} \left(\omega_{\rm r0}^2 - \omega_{\rm max}^2\right) \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0, \end{cases}$$
(16)

where  $\Delta E_{\rm kwmax}$  is the wind turbine energy reserve;  $\omega_{\rm r0}$  is the wind turbine speed at the beginning of the inertial response;  $\omega_{\rm min}$  and  $\omega_{\rm max}$  are the allowable minimum and maximum speeds for the stable operation of the wind turbine, respectively, usually 0.7 pu and 1.2 pu (Fu et al., 2017). Under the constraint of kinetic energy reserve, the variation range of  $\Delta \omega_{\rm r}$ in the frequency conversion extreme time is expressed as

$$\Delta \omega_{\rm r} \le \Delta \omega_{\rm rmax\,1} = \begin{cases} \omega_{\rm r0} - \omega_{\rm min} & \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0\\ \omega_{\rm max} - \omega_{\rm r0} & \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0, \end{cases}$$
(17)

where  $\Delta \omega_{\text{rmax1}}$  is the maximum speed variation under the constraint of kinetic energy reserve.

#### 4.1.2 Wind turbine power constraint

In order to ensure the safe operation of the wind turbine, the support power provided by the virtual inertia control is not allowed to exceed the limit. According to (14) and (15), the wind turbine power constraint is

$$\Delta P_{\rm w} \le \Delta P_{\rm wmax} = \begin{cases} P_{\rm n} - k_{\rm opt} \omega_{\rm r0}^3 & \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0\\ k_{\rm opt} \omega_{\rm min}^3 - k_{\rm opt} \omega_{\rm r0}^3 & \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0. \end{cases}$$
(18)

In the process of the inertial response, the rotor motion equation of the wind turbine can be expressed as

$$2H_{\rm w}\omega_{\rm r}\frac{{\rm d}\omega_{\rm r}}{{\rm d}t} = P_{\rm wm} - P_{\rm we} = -\Delta P_{\rm w},\tag{19}$$

where  $P_{we}$  is the electromagnetic power output by the wind turbine and  $P_{wm}$  is the mechanical power captured by the wind turbine,  $P_{wm} = k_{opt}\omega_{r0}^{3}$ . Combining (18) and (19), under the constraint of the rated power of the wind turbine, the variation range of  $\Delta \omega_r$  in the extreme time of frequency conversion is

$$\Delta \omega_{\rm r} \leq \Delta \omega_{\rm rmax\,2} = \begin{cases} \omega_{\rm r0} - \sqrt{\frac{k_{\rm opt}\omega_{\rm r0}^3 - P_{\rm n}}{H_{\rm w}}} t_{f\rm m} + \omega_{\rm r0}^2} & \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0 \\ \\ -\omega_{\rm r0} + \sqrt{\frac{k_{\rm opt}(\omega_{\rm r0}^3 - \omega_{\rm min}^3)}{H_{\rm w}}} t_{f\rm m} + \omega_{\rm r0}^2} & \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0, \end{cases}$$
(20)

where  $\Delta \omega_{\text{rmax2}}$  is the maximum speed variation under the wind turbine power constraint.

It can be seen from (20) that the size of  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax2}$  is determined using  $H_{\rm w}$ ,  $k_{\rm opt}$ ,  $\omega_{\rm r0}$ , and other parameters. When the capacity and type of the wind turbine are determined,  $H_{\rm w}$  and  $k_{\rm opt}$  can be obtained, and  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax2}$  only depends on  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax2}$ .

In order to satisfy the kinetic energy reserve constraint and the wind turbine power constraint at the same time, according to (17) and (20), the maximum speed variation of the wind turbine  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  can be expressed as Eq. (21)

$$\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax} = \min\{\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax\,1}, \Delta \omega_{\rm rmax\,2}\}.$$
(21)

Taking the typical parameters of a 2 MW doubly fed wind turbine as an example, take  $H_{\rm w} = 4$  s,  $k_{\rm opt} = 1/1.23$ ,  $\omega_{\rm min} = 0.7$  pu,  $\omega_{\rm max} = 1.2$  pu, and  $t_{\rm fin} = 2.3$  s. According to (17), (20), and (21),  $\Delta\omega_{\rm rmax}$  corresponding to different initial speeds of the wind turbine under kinetic energy reserve constraints and power constraints is obtained as follows.

According to Figure 4, when  $\Delta P_d > 0$ , the wind turbine needs to release the kinetic energy of the rotor. When the initial speed of the wind turbine is small, the kinetic energy reserve of the wind turbine is small, but the inertial support power available is large. At this time,  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  is determined using the kinetic energy reserve constraint; when the initial speed of the wind turbine is large, its kinetic energy reserve is large, but the available inertial support power is small. At this time,  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  is determined using the wind turbine power constraint. When the initial speed of the wind turbine is 0.905 pu,  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax1} = \Delta \omega_{\rm rmax2}$ , and  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  reaches the maximum of 0.205 pu at this initial speed. When  $\Delta P_{\rm d}$  <0, when the wind turbine needs to absorb energy, the relationship between  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  and speed constraint is completely opposite to that when  $\Delta P_{\rm d} < 0$ . When the initial speed of the wind turbine is small,  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  depends on the power constraint of the wind turbine. When the initial speed is large,  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  depends on the kinetic energy reserve constraint. When the initial speed is 1.07 pu,  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$  reaches the maximum of 0.13 pu.

In summary, in the extreme time of frequency conversion, under the constraint of the wind turbine's operating state, when  $\Delta P_{\rm d} > 0$ , the range of rotational speed variation provided is 0–0.205 pu; when  $\Delta P_{\rm d} < 0$ , the range of rotational speed variation is 0–0.13 pu.

# 4.2 Virtual inertia evaluation of the wind turbine

According to (6), the virtual inertia time constant of the wind turbine also depends on  $\Delta f_{\text{max}}$ . Since the lower limit of power system frequency security is 48 Hz, the frequency deviation extremum of



the system should be limited within this range after the inertial response of the wind turbine. Since the wind turbine has a fast power response capability, it can be set within the frequency safety range to complete the predetermined virtual inertia support. Therefore,  $\Delta f_{\rm max} = 2$  Hz is used to conservatively estimate the virtual inertia of the wind turbine.

According to the evaluation results of Section 4.1  $\Delta \omega_{\rm rmax}$ , the range of the virtual inertia time constant of the wind turbine during the frequency conversion extreme time is as follows.

In the diagram,  $H_{virmax1}$  and  $H_{virmax2}$  are the maximum inertia time constants of the wind turbine under rotor kinetic energy constraint and power constraint, respectively. When the above two constraints are satisfied simultaneously,  $H_{virmax}$  can be expressed as Eq. (22)

$$H_{\rm vir\,max} = \min \{H_{\rm vir\,max1}, H_{\rm vir\,max2}\}.$$
(22)

It can be seen from Figure 5 that when  $\Delta P_d > 0$  and the speed of the rotor kinetic energy released by the wind turbine decreases,  $H_{virmax}$  depends on the rotor kinetic energy constraint at low speeds, and  $H_{virmax}$  depends on the wind turbine power constraint at high speeds. The  $H_{virmax}$  range is 0–18.61 s; when  $\Delta P_d < 0$ , when the wind turbine absorbs energy and the speed increases,  $H_{virmax}$  depends on the wind turbine power constraint at low speed, and  $H_{virmax}$  depends on the rotor kinetic energy constraint at high speed. The  $H_{virmax}$ range is 0–13.85 s.

However,  $\Delta f_{\text{max}}$  in the actual response process of the system is related to the disturbance power. When the disturbance power is small,  $\Delta f_{\text{max}}$  will be less than 2 Hz, and  $H_{\text{virmax}}$  of the wind turbine will be greater than the evaluation result, which can ensure that the wind turbine has a credible inertial support capability.

According to the above analysis, the wind turbine can show strong inertial support performance in a short time by changing the rotational speed through additional control. In theory, the wind turbine can cope with large power disturbances and has frequency support potential. In the actual control process, a large change in the speed in a short time will bring about problems such as power overshoot, increased mechanical load, and difficulty in speed recovery. Therefore, the wind turbine should perform an inertial





response under the premise of considering the system's inertia demand.

# 5 Virtual inertia demand and control of wind turbines

### 5.1 Virtual inertia requirements

The inertia of the wind power high-proportion system is significantly reduced, and the virtual inertia of the wind turbine should be set according to the system frequency safety requirements. At present, foreign research has put forward relevant standards for microgrid island operation, requiring that the system frequency change rate (df/dt) is not higher than ±0.5 Hz/s (Wang et al., 2022). The maximum frequency change rate of the system occurs at the initial stage of the power disturbance. The primary frequency modulation has not yet acted, and the unbalanced power of the rotor side of the synchronous machine is the largest. At this time, the system frequency change rate can be expressed as Eq. (23)

$$\left. \frac{\mathrm{d}f}{\mathrm{d}t} \right|_{\mathrm{max}} = \frac{\Delta P_{\mathrm{d}}}{2H}.$$
(23)

According to the above formula, when the frequency change rate constraint is determined, the system inertia requirement can be expressed as

$$H \ge H_{\min} = \Delta P_{\rm d} \left/ 2 \frac{{\rm d}f}{{\rm d}t} \right|_{\max},\tag{24}$$

where  $H_{\min}$  is the minimum inertia requirement of the system. When the wind turbine provides virtual inertia, the inertia time constant of the system with a high proportion of wind power can be further expressed using (9) as

$$H = H_{g} \frac{S_{g}}{S_{B}} + H_{vir} \frac{S_{w}}{S_{B}} = H_{g} (1 - k) + H_{vir} k.$$
(25)

Combining (24) and (25), the inertia demand of the wind turbine is expressed as

$$H_{\rm vir} = \Delta P_{\rm d} / \left( 2k \times \frac{{\rm d}f}{{\rm d}t} |_{\rm max} \right) - \frac{H_{\rm g}(1-k)}{k}.$$
 (26)

Taking  $H_g = 5s$  and  $(df/dt)_{max} = \pm 0.5$  Hz/s, the virtual inertia requirement of the wind turbine is calculated using the brought-in (26), as shown in Figure 6.

It can be seen from Figure 6 that the demand of system frequency security for the virtual inertia for the wind turbine mainly depends on disturbance power and wind power penetration. When the disturbance power is small and the wind power penetration rate is low, only the synchronous machine inertia  $H_{\rm g}$  can meet the system inertia demand. When the permeability is lower than 20%, the inertia of the synchronous machine can cope with more than 8% of the disturbance. However, with the increase in wind power penetration, the ability of the system to cope with power disturbances is gradually weakened. When the wind power penetration reaches 50%, the system can cope with disturbances of less than 5%, which is not enough to cope with typical faults. At this time, the wind turbine should provide the necessary inertial support according to the system requirements. The inertia demand of the system increases with the increase in power disturbance. Under the same power disturbance, the virtual inertia demand of the wind turbine can be calculated according to the wind power penetration rate. When  $\Delta P_{\rm d} = 0.15 \, \rm pu$ , the system inertia requirement is 7.5 s. When k = 20%, the wind turbine needs to provide 17.5 s of virtual inertia to make the total inertia of the system reach 7.5 s. When k = 50%, the wind turbine needs to provide 10 s of virtual inertia to make the total inertia of the system reach 7.5 s.

### 5.2 Virtual inertia control strategy

Combined with the system frequency safety requirements, the wind turbine can use its speed tracking performance to complete the virtual inertial support within the frequency conversion extreme time. The structure of the wind turbine virtual inertia controller proposed in this paper is shown in Figure 7, which consists of two modules: virtual inertia control and virtual inertia evaluation. Among them, the virtual inertia evaluation module has two





In the wind turbine virtual inertia evaluation module, the maximum speed variation and maximum inertia are evaluated according to the operating state and frequency conversion extreme time constraint, which are used as the limiting conditions of the wind turbine inertia demand and speed variation demand evaluation results. For the evaluation of the wind turbine's virtual inertia demand, according to (26), disturbance power and wind power permeability can be introduced to calculate the wind turbine's inertia demand. According to the evaluation results of the wind turbine's inertia demand. According to the evaluation results of the wind turbine's inertia demand. The specific analysis is as follows:

The real-time equivalent inertia time constant  $H_{\rm vir}$  in the process of wind turbine inertia response can be expressed as

$$H_{\rm vir} = \frac{\Delta P_{\rm w}(t)}{2{\rm d}f/{\rm d}t}.$$
(27)

In the extreme time of frequency conversion, both sides of (27) are integrated at the same time to obtain

$$\int_{0}^{t_{fm}} \Delta P_{\rm w}(t) \mathrm{d}t = 2H_{\rm vir} \Delta f_{\rm max},\tag{28}$$

where  $\Delta f_{\rm max}$  is the frequency deviation value corresponding to  $t_{\rm fm}$ , which can be calculated according to (11) under the assumption that the system inertia meets the demand. According to the calculation results, the simultaneous formulas (19) and (28) are solved, and the rotational speed variation that meets the inertia demand of the wind turbine can be expressed as

$$\Delta\omega_{\rm r} = \begin{cases} \omega_{\rm r0} - \sqrt{\frac{2H_{\rm vir}\Delta f_{\rm max}}{H_{\rm w}} + \omega_{\rm r0}^2} & \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0\\ -\omega_{\rm r0} + \sqrt{\frac{2H_{\rm vir}\Delta f_{\rm max}}{H_{\rm w}} + \omega_{\rm r0}^2} & \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0. \end{cases}$$
(29)

According to the above formula, the required speed variation  $\Delta \omega_r$  of the wind turbine at different initial speeds can be obtained by



introducing the operating state parameters and inertia requirements of the wind turbine. Then, within  $t_{\rm fm}$  time, wind turbine corresponding speed can be calculated as  $\omega_{\rm r1} = \Delta \omega_{\rm r} + \omega_{\rm r0}$ .

The wind turbine virtual inertia control module generates additional power signals through speed tracking control to make the wind turbine track the reference speed in real-time, and the reference speed  $\omega_{r_ref}$  is set according to  $\omega_{r1}$ . First, in order to ensure that the wind turbine speed can change from  $\omega_{r0}$  to  $\omega_{r1}$  within  $t_{fm}$ , the speed-tracking control principle based on the wind turbine rotor motion equation is designed as follows:

$$\int_{0}^{t} K_{\rm p} \left( \omega_{\rm r\_ref} - \omega_{\rm r} \right) \mathrm{d}t = \int_{\omega_{\rm r0}}^{\omega_{\rm r1}} 2H_{\rm w} \omega_{\rm r} \mathrm{d}\omega_{\rm r},\tag{30}$$

where  $K_p$  is the speed-tracking controller parameter. According to (30), the value of  $K_p$  in  $t_{fm}$  can be calculated as

$$K_{\rm p} = \begin{cases} \frac{2H_{\rm w}}{t_{fm}} \left[ \omega_{\rm r\_ref} \times \ln \frac{\omega_{\rm r0} - \omega_{\rm r\_ref}}{\omega_{\rm r1} - \omega_{\rm r\_ref}} + \Delta \omega_{\rm r} \right] \Delta P_{\rm d} > 0 \\ \frac{2H_{\rm w}}{t_{fm}} \left[ \omega_{\rm r\_ref} \times \ln \frac{\omega_{\rm r\_ref} - \omega_{\rm r0}}{\omega_{\rm r\_ref} - \omega_{\rm r1}} - \Delta \omega_{\rm r} \right] \Delta P_{\rm d} < 0, \end{cases}$$
(31)

where  $\omega_{r_ref} = \omega_{r1} \pm \Delta \omega_{r1}$  and  $\Delta \omega_{r1}$  is the speed change margin.

According to (31), the value of  $K_p$  can be calculated to realize the change in the wind turbine speed from  $\omega_{r0}$  to  $\omega_{r1}$  in  $t_{fm}$  to realize the quantitative control of the wind turbine speed.

Second, in order to ensure the smooth exit of the inertial support power of the wind turbine after the  $t_{fm}$  moment, the first-order inertial link is introduced, as shown in Figure 7. When the wind turbine speed changes to  $\omega_{r1}$  at  $t_0+t_{fm}$ , the switches S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> switch from 0 to 1, and the speed tracking control exits through the firstorder inertia link. Under the above control, the wind turbine inertial support power signal can be expressed as

$$\Delta P_{\rm w} = \begin{cases} K_{\rm p} \times (\omega_{\rm r\_ref} - \omega_{\rm r}), t_0 < t < t_0 + t_{fm} \\ K_{\rm p} \times (\omega_{\rm r\_ref} - \omega_{\rm r1}) \times e^{-\frac{1}{T}t}, t > t_0 + t_{fm}, \end{cases}$$
(32)

where T is the first-order inertial link time parameter, taking 5 s.

Under the control of (32), the inertial support power of the wind turbine is the largest at the initial moment of disturbance, which can effectively suppress the frequency change rate. After the frequency reaches the extreme point, the rotational speed changes to the

### TABLE 3 System parameters.

Parameters of the wind turbine	Numerical value	Parameters of the wind turbine	Numerical value
Rated voltage/kV	0.69	Frequency bias coefficient	0.04
Rated power/kVA	2,222	Rated frequency/Hz	50
Inherent inertia/s	4	Inherent inertia/s	5
Wind speed/m/s	8		

#### TABLE 4 Parameter setting of simulation example 1

System parameter	Numerical value	Calculation	Numerical value
Installed gross capacity/MW	1,500	Wind power penetration $k$	20%
Total load/MW	900	Power disturbance $\Delta P_{\rm d}$	0.06 pu
Wind turbine capacity/MW	300	System inertia requirements H	3 s
Load mutation amount/MW	90	Wind turbine inertia demand $H_{\rm vir}$	0



#### FIGURE 9

(a1): The change curve of frequency with time  $\Delta P_d > 0$ . (a2): The change curve of PG with time  $\Delta P_d > 0$ . (b1): The change curve of frequency with time  $\Delta P_d < 0$ . (b2): The change curve of PG with time  $\Delta P_d < 0$ .

### TABLE 5 Calculation results of simulation examples.

Parameter	Simulation result	Calculation result	Deviation (%)
Frequency conversion extreme time/s	2.34	2.3	1.74
Maximum frequency change rate/Hz/s	0.357	0.375	4.7
Maximum frequency deviation/Hz	0.328	0.318	3.14

According to Table 5, when the system generator governor is set to a typical parameter, the error between the simulation and calculation results of the system frequency conversion extreme time, the maximum frequency change rate, and the maximum frequency deviation is within 5%. The simulation results verify the accuracy of the calculation and analysis results of the system frequency response model.

System parameter	Numerical value	Calculation parameter	Numerical value
Installed gross capacity/MW	1,500	Wind power penetration $k$	20%
Total load/MW	900	Power disturbance $\Delta P_{\rm d}$	0.12 pu
Wind turbine capacity/MW	300	System inertia requirements H	65
Load mutation amount/MW	180	Wind inertia demand $H_{\rm vir}$	10 s

TABLE 6 Parameter setting of simulation example 2.



#### FIGURE 10

(A1):The first case using differential control. (A2):The second case using differential control. (A3):The third case using differential control. (B1):The first case using speed tracking control. (B2):The second case using speed tracking control. (B3):The third case using speed tracking control.

demand evaluation value  $\omega r1$ , and the smooth exit of the inertial support power is realized under the action of the first-order inertial link.

## 6 Simulation verification

### 6.1 Simulation system

In order to verify the effectiveness of the virtual inertia evaluation and control method of the wind turbine proposed in this paper, the IEEE-9 bus system (None, 2015) with high-proportion wind power shown in Figure 8 is built using DIgSILENT/PowerFactory simulation software. The test system includes three thermal power plants (G1, G2, and G3) and a wind farm (DFIG), which can change the wind power penetration by adjusting the capacity of thermal power units and wind turbines. Assuming that the wind speed remains unchanged at 8 m/s, the main parameters of the system are shown in Table 3. The load mutation occurs when  $t_0 = 2.0$  s.

# 6.2 Frequency conversion extreme time verification

In order to verify the correctness of the frequency conversion extreme time theory calculation, the test system adopts the following



#### FIGURE 11

(A1): The first case using differential control. (A2): The second case using differential control. (A3): The third case using differential control. (B1): The first case using speed tracking control. (B2): The second case using speed tracking control. (B3): The third case using speed tracking control.

System parameter	Numerical value	Calculation parameter	Numerical value
Installed gross capacity/MW	1,500	Wind power penetration $k$	30%
Total load/MW	900	Power disturbance $\Delta P_{\rm d}$	0.3 pu
Wind turbine capacity/MW	450	System inertia requirements H	15 s
Load mutation amount/MW	450	Wind inertia demand $H_{\rm vir}$	50 s

TABLE 7 Parameter setting of simulation example 3.

parameter settings to analyze the frequency response characteristics after disturbance.

As shown in Table 4, in example 1, the wind power penetration rate in the test system is k = 20%. At the period of 2.0 s, the power disturbance is encountered, and the variation is  $\Delta P_d = 0.06$  pu. According to Figure 6, the inherent inertia of the synchronous machine can meet the system frequency safety requirements, and the wind turbine is not required to provide virtual inertia. When the wind turbine is not controlled by virtual inertia, the dynamic response of system frequency and synchronous machine power is shown in Figure 9.

As shown in Figure 9, the synchronous machine responds to frequency changes by increasing/decreasing power when the load changes suddenly. The simulation results of Figure 9 are compared with the theoretical calculation results, as shown in Table 5.

# 6.3 Frequency modulation effect comparison of virtual inertia control

In order to verify the frequency modulation effect of the virtual inertia control strategy proposed in this paper, the power disturbance is increased and compared with the commonly used differential control. The system parameters in example 2 are set as Table 6:

In example 2, the load disturbance variation increases to 180 MW. The test system uses formula (26) to analyze the frequency safety, and the demand for the virtual inertia of the wind turbine is 10 s. In order to meet the needs of inertial support, the wind turbine adopts the following two control strategies for comparison: 1) when differential control is adopted,  $K_{\rm I}$  is 20 to meet



the inertia demand; 2) when the proposed control is adopted, speed tracking is used. According to the formula (27), when  $\Delta P_{\rm d} > 0$  and  $\Delta P_{\rm d} < 0$ , the required speed changes in the wind turbine are 0.03 pu and 0.029 pu, respectively, and the  $K_{\rm p}$  values obtained using formula (30) are 3.2 and 3.3, respectively. Under the two control strategies, the dynamic response of the system is shown in Figures 10, 11.

As shown in Figure 10, without additional control, the wind turbine hardly responds to frequency changes. The maximum frequency drop amplitude of the system  $\Delta f_{\text{max}}$  is -0.61 Hz, and the maximum frequency change rate  $(df/dt)_{\text{max}}$  is -0.67 Hz/s, which has exceeded the allowable value of frequency safety.

When the differential control is adopted, the speed change in the wind turbine is 0.025 pu within the frequency conversion extreme time  $t_{fm}$ , and the maximum frequency change rate  $(df/dt)_{max}$  and the drop amplitude  $\Delta f_{max}$  of the system are reduced to -0.54 Hz/s and -0.58 Hz, respectively, but still do not meet the maximum frequency change rate constraint. The  $H_{vir}$  value of the wind turbine in  $t_{fm}$  is 8.79 s, which does not meet the inertia demand of the wind turbine under this example. In addition, since the differential control

cannot exit at  $t_{\rm fm}$ , the overshoot occurs during the frequency recovery process, which is not conducive to frequency security and stability.

When the control strategy proposed in this paper is adopted, the wind turbine speed variation is 0.028 pu, the system frequency change rate  $(df/dt)_{max}$  and the drop amplitude  $\Delta f_{max}$  are reduced to -0.49 Hz/s and -0.52 Hz, respectively, and  $H_{vir}$  of the wind turbine within  $t_{fm}$  is 10.98 s, which meets the system's demand for virtual inertia. According to Figure 10(b1)~(b3), the smooth exit of the inertial support power of the wind turbine can be realized in the speed tracking control, which reduces the overshoot in the system frequency recovery process. In addition, under the action of the first-order inertial link, the inertial support power of the wind turbine is reduced to 0 after experiencing delay, and the speed begins to recover later, which avoids the wind turbine absorbing power in the frequency recovery stage and is conducive to system frequency recovery. The frequency modulation effect is better than the traditional differential control.

Similarly, when  $\Delta Pd <0$ , the wind turbine speed variation under differential control is 0.026 pu, the system frequency change rate  $(df/dt)_{max}$  and the drop amplitude  $\Delta f_{max}$  are reduced to 0.54 Hz/s and 0.58 Hz, respectively. The  $H_{\rm vir}$  value of the wind turbine within  $t_{\rm fm}$  is 9.14 s, which does not meet the inertia demand of the wind turbine under this example; under the control strategy proposed in this paper, the wind turbine speed variation is 0.029 pu, and the system frequency change rate  $(df/dt)_{\rm max}$  and the drop amplitude  $\Delta f_{\rm max}$  are reduced to 0.48 Hz/s and 0.52 Hz, respectively. The  $H_{\rm vir}$  value of the wind turbine within  $t_{\rm fm}$  is 11.37 s, which meets the system's demand for virtual inertia.

In summary, in both cases of  $\Delta P_d > 0$  and  $\Delta P_d < 0$ , the proposed control can make the wind turbine show a virtual inertia that meets the system requirements within  $t_{fm}$  by tracking the speed and can achieve a smooth exit of the inertial support power after  $t_{fm}$ , avoiding frequency overshoot. The test results show that compared with the current



(a1):The first case when it is  $w_{ro}=1.1$ . (a2):The second case when it is  $w_{ro}=1.1$ . (b1):The first case when it is  $w_{ro}=0.8$ . (b2):The second case when it is  $w_{ro}=0.8$ .



differential control, the inertial support proposed in this paper aims to meet the inertia requirements of the system and combines the virtual inertia constraint of the wind turbine to complete the design of control parameters, which is more conducive to the reliability of the wind turbine to improve frequency support.

# 6.4 Evaluation and verification of the maximum inertia of the wind turbine

In order to further test the maximum inertia performance of the wind turbine under the operating state constraints, we will further increase the power disturbance and improve the wind power penetration rate; the system parameters in example 3 are set as Table 7:

In example 3, the wind power penetration rate is increased to 30%, and the disturbance variation reaches 450 MW. In order to

ensure that the system frequency change rate meets the constraints, the test system's inertia requirement is set to 15 s, and the virtual inertia requirement of the wind turbine is set to 50 s. In this case, the inertia demand of the system is far greater than the maximum virtual inertia that the wind turbine can provide, so the wind turbine should provide the maximum inertia support according to the initial operating state during the frequency conversion extreme time. By changing the wind speed, the initial speed of the wind turbine is set to 0.8 pu and 1.1 pu, and the dynamic response of the system frequency, wind turbine speed, and power output is obtained when  $\Delta P_d > 0$  and  $\Delta P_d < 0$ , as shown in Figures 12–15.

When the initial speed of the wind turbine is 1.1 pu, the theoretical analysis of Figures 4, 5 shows that the maximum speed change in the wind turbine in  $t_{fm}$  is 0.062 pu and the maximum inertia is 7.44 s. As shown in Figure 13, when  $\Delta P_d > 0$ , although the kinetic energy of the rotor that the wind turbine can release is large, due to the power constraint, the speed change in the wind turbine during the frequency conversion extreme time is only 0.06 pu, which can increase the maximum frequency deviation by 0.3 Hz. The maximum inertia  $H_{\rm vir} = 7.56$  s, allows for the smooth exit of wind turbine inertial support after the frequency conversion extreme moment, under the action of the first-order inertial link.

When the initial speed of the wind turbine is  $\omega_{r0} = 0.8$  pu, the maximum speed change in the wind turbine in  $t_{fm}$  is 0.1 pu and the maximum inertia is 8 s. As shown in Figure 13, due to the constraint of the rotor kinetic energy reserve, the inertia response of the wind turbine immediately exits after the speed of the wind turbine drops to the minimum value of 0.7 pu at the extreme time of frequency conversion, which will cause a secondary drop in frequency. However, due to the large inertial support power available at this speed, the maximum frequency deviation can be increased by 0.4 Hz, and the maximum inertia of the wind turbine during the extreme time of frequency conversion is  $H_{vir} = 10$  s.



Similarly, when  $\Delta P_{\rm d} < 0$ , it can be seen from Figures 4, 5 that the theoretical values of the maximum speed change in the wind turbine within  $t_{\rm fm}$  are 0.1 pu and 0.034 pu at the initial speeds of 1.1 pu and 0.8 pu, respectively. The maximum inertia is 12 s and 2.75 s, respectively.

According to the test results in Figures 14, 15, when  $\omega_{r0} = 1.1$  pu, due to the constraint of the rotor kinetic energy reserve, the inertia response of the wind turbine increases to 1.2 pu and the frequency continues to increase. However, due to the large inertial support power provided by the wind turbine, the maximum frequency deviation can be reduced by 0.4 Hz, and the maximum inertia  $H_{\rm vir} = 13.75$  s. When  $\omega_{r0} = 0.8$  pu, due to the small inertial support power provided by the wind turbine, the speed change in the wind turbine is 0.035 pu in the extreme time of frequency conversion, which can reduce the maximum frequency deviation by 0.2 Hz, and the maximum inertia  $H_{\rm vir} = 3.5$  s.

In summary, when the wind turbine needs to provide the maximum inertia support in the face of large disturbances, for the two cases of  $\Delta P_d > 0$  and  $\Delta P_d < 0$ , the maximum speed variation of the wind turbine within  $t_{fm}$  under the constraint of the operating state is basically consistent with the theoretical analysis results in this paper. Since  $\Delta f_{max}$  is lower than 2 Hz under this disturbance, the maximum inertia of the wind turbine is slightly larger than the conservative evaluation result at  $\Delta f_{max} = 2$  Hz, as shown in Figure 5. The simulation test results verify the accuracy of the maximum inertia evaluation analysis method of the wind turbine proposed in this paper.

### 7 Conclusion

In order to solve the problem of evaluation and control of the virtual inertia of the wind turbine, this paper proposes the constraint and control method of the virtual inertia in the extreme time of frequency conversion, which is beneficial to improving the frequency active support performance of the wind turbine. The following conclusions are obtained through theoretical analysis and simulation verification:

- The virtual inertia obtained by the rapid adjustment of the active power of the wind turbine is closely related to many factors, such as frequency change and its own operating state. The dynamic change in virtual inertia in the process of frequency support will greatly increase the difficulty of system frequency safety warning, and it is impossible to accurately predict the control effect.
- 2) In this paper, the frequency response model of the wind power grid-connected system is established, and the calculated frequency conversion extreme time is introduced into the virtual inertia evaluation. Combined with the wind turbine

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speed and power output state, the virtual inertia constraint is completed, which can provide more reliable inertia support data for the wind turbine frequency response.

3) Within the allowable range of the system frequency change rate, this paper evaluates the inertia requirements of the system and proposes a virtual inertia control method within the frequency conversion extreme time using the wind turbine speed tracking control performance. The test results show that the proposed control meets the support requirements of the system frequency more reliably and avoids the secondary fluctuation of frequency caused by inertia overshoot.

### Data availability statement

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/Supplementary Material; further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

### Author contributions

GT: conceptualization, validation, and writing-original draft. ZH: data curation and writing-review and editing. LB: methodology and writing-original draft. MJ: project administration and writing-review and editing. FaQ: formal analysis and writing-review and editing. XY: resources and writing-review and editing. FeQ: investigation and writing-original draft.

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## Conflict of interest

Authors GT, ZH, LB, MJ, FaQ, XY, and FeQ were employed by Electric Power Research Institute of Guizhou Power Grid Co., Ltd.

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