

Energy-Storage-Based Intelligent Frequency Control of Microgrid With Stochastic Model Uncertainties

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Abstract—With the increasing proportion of renewable power generations, the frequency control of microgrid becomes more challenging due to stochastic power generations and dynamic uncertainties. The energy storage system (ESS) is usually used in microgrid since it can provide flexible options to store or release power energy. In this paper, an intelligent control strategy completely based on the adaptive dynamic programming (ADP) is developed for the frequency stability, which is designed to adjust the power outputs of micro-turbine and ESS when photovoltaic (PV) power generation is connected into the microgrid. Further, considering the changes of PV power and load demand in a day, the full utilization of PV power and the recycling of energy storage are realized through the proposed regulation strategy. Numerical simulation results validate the energy-storage-based intelligent frequency control strategy for the microgrid with stochastic model uncertainties, and comparative studies based on PID, LQR and fuzzy logic control illustrate the superiority of the proposed control strategy.

Index Terms—Frequency control, energy storage system (ESS), photovoltaic (PV) power, stochastic model uncertainties, adaptive dynamic programming (ADP), microgrid.

I. INTRODUCTION

WITH the increasing of energy demand, the renewable energies have attracted wide attention, such as wind energy, water energy, solar energy, and so on. Among them, the photovoltaic (PV) power generation is a more common way to utilize the endless solar energy. However, it is unfortunate that the PV power is sensitive and even has large fluctuation in a cloudy day [1]–[3], which is hard to be predicted due to the difficulty of getting known when there are clouds above the PV arrays. Simultaneously, the power energy consumption is becoming more and more various. Thus, for a microgrid, when the renewable energy such as PV power generation is integrated, it is obvious that there are power mismatch and

stochastic uncertainties. Meanwhile, during the transmission and measurement of microgrid, the internal parameters such as the time constant of governor may randomly fluctuate within a small range of its nominal value [4], [5]. Therefore, these stochastic power mismatch and uncertainties are possible to cause the frequency instability, and bring unexpected trouble to the safe operation of microgrid [6]–[8].

The microgrid is actually complex with various power mismatch, which may lead to frequency fluctuation and bring negative impacts on the energy-using equipment. There are generally two approaches to deal with the problem. One is to decrease the power generation uncertainties. To a certain extent, more accurate scheduling plan can be achieved when the power generation prediction of renewable energy is reasonable, then the frequency fluctuation can be deduced by some power electronic techniques [8]–[12]. However, it requires the real-time prediction of power generation in frequency regulation, and is different from the prediction of entire power generation capacity. The accurate prediction of power generation is difficult due to the real-time varying factors of renewable energy power generation. For example, it is hard to predict when the clouds come above the PV arrays in a day-ahead dispatch. The other is to stabilize the frequency through control strategies. Many control methods have been applied for frequency regulation, such as proportion-integration-differentiation (PID) control [13], fuzzy logic control [14], [15], sliding mode control [16], [17], and so on.

Intelligent control has been developed for complex systems based on system data and learning-based methodologies. Adaptive dynamic programming (ADP) is an effective method with optimality by function approximation, especially for nonlinear systems and complex systems without system models. It can obtain the approximately optimal solution when facing the “curse of dimensionality” [18]–[20] by learning techniques, which is usually implemented by neural networks. Compared with PID, fuzzy logic control and so on, ADP is originated from dynamic programming, and has been widely investigated in many fields, such as the aspects of robotics, aircrafts, aerospace and navigation [21]–[23]. Furthermore, some improved ADP-based control strategies have been extended to cope with uncertain nonlinear systems [24]–[27]. Research results of ADP are relatively fruitful in power systems, which have been reported in many literatures [17], [28]–[31]. For example, an ADP-based control scheme was designed to assist the load frequency control of power system with sliding mode

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The rest of this paper is presented as follows. In Section II, the investigated microgrid is established. Section III designs the intelligent frequency control strategy based on ESS, which is implemented by neural networks. Simulation analysis is investigated to demonstrate the effectiveness of proposed control strategy through comparative studies in Section IV. Finally, some conclusions are summarized in Section V.

A. ESS-Based Microgrid With Uncertainties

The diagram illustrates the intelligent frequency control strategy for a microgrid, divided into three main functional blocks: Intelligent frequency control strategy, Frequency model of microgrid, and Power system.

Intelligent frequency control strategy: This block contains the **Critic network**, **Frequency controller**, and **Estimated Hamiltonian function**. The Critic network takes the state signal $x(t)$ as input and outputs $J^*(x)$. The Frequency controller takes $J^*(x)$ and the estimated Hamiltonian function $\hat{e}_e(t)$ as inputs to produce the optimal control signal $u_e^*(t)$. The Estimated Hamiltonian function receives $x(t)$ and $u_e^*(t)$ to calculate $\hat{e}_e(t)$. A **Training process** (indicated by a red dashed line) connects the Critic network and the Estimated Hamiltonian function.

Frequency model of microgrid: This block models the microgrid's response to frequency changes. It includes a **Governor**, **GRG** (Governor Response Gain), **Micro-turbine**, **Load change**, **Power constraint**, **SOC** (State of Charge), and **ESS** (Energy Storage System). The Governor block receives the frequency deviation Δf and outputs ΔP_g . The GRG block receives ΔP_g and outputs ΔP_t . The Micro-turbine block receives ΔP_t and outputs ΔP_t . The Load change block receives ΔP_t and outputs ΔP_t . The Power constraint block receives ΔP_t and outputs ΔP_t . The SOC block receives ΔP_t and outputs ΔP_t . The ESS block receives ΔP_t and outputs ΔP_t . The frequency deviation Δf is also fed back to the Governor and the ESS block.

Power system: This block represents the overall power system, including **PV arrays** and a **DC/AC converter**. The power system receives the control signal $u_e^*(t)$ and the frequency deviation Δf to produce the final power output ΔP_p .

The diagram shows the flow of state signals ($x(t)$, $J^*(x)$, $u_e^*(t)$, $u_e(t)$) and control signals ($u_e^*(t)$, $u_e(t)$) between these components. The frequency deviation Δf is a key signal in the control loop.

Combined with the above formulas (1)–(4), the uncertainties in the microgrid are divided into parameter uncertainties related to $\lambda_g(t)$, power uncertainties related to $\Delta P_l(t)$ and

$\Delta P_p(t)$. From another perspective, these uncertainties can also be classified into matched and mismatched uncertainties, which are used in this paper with $\Lambda(t)$ for matched uncertainties and $\Pi(t)$ for mismatched uncertainties. Then, the frequency dynamics can be expressed in a compressed form as

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + G(u(t) + \Lambda(t)) + \Pi(t) \quad (5)$$

with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{T_p} & \frac{k_p}{T_p} & 0 & \frac{k_p}{T_p} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{T_t} & \frac{1}{T_t} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{RT_g} & 0 & -\frac{1}{T_g} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{RT_e} & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{T_e} \end{bmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{T_g} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{T_e} \end{bmatrix},$$

where A is the system matrix, G is the control matrix, and $u(t) = [u_g(t), u_e(t)]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the control input. Correspondingly, the matched and mismatched uncertainties are stated as

$$\Lambda(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -T_g \lambda_g(t) u_g(t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Pi(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{k_p}{T_p} (\Delta P_p(t) - \Delta P_l(t)) \\ 0 \\ \lambda_g(t) \left(\frac{1}{R} \Delta f + \Delta P_g(t) \right) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

It should be noted that the nonlinear GRC is considered for the governor of micro-turbine referring to [7]. Meanwhile, the GRC is an important condition to constrain the rising and falling slew rate of position valve $\Delta P_g(t)$ of governor.

B. State of Charge Limit of ESS

In the ESS-based regulation strategy, the SOC limit of ESS is important when the energy storage equipment is connected to the power grid. The equipment loss or the SOC condition of ESS is often mentioned in some research works. Since the equipment loss is always related to the SOC condition of ESS, then in this paper, the SOC limit of ESS is considered in the process of optimization, as shown in Fig. 1.

The ESS in the microgrid takes actions in two scenes. One is to restrain the frequency fluctuation caused by parameter and power uncertainties. The other is to dispatch the PV power generation and fully utilize the solar energy. There are two defined SOC limits for ESS corresponding to different scenes.

We first define the SOC limit for restraining the frequency fluctuation. Let $Soc(t)$ be the state of charge and Soc^0 be the initial SOC of ESS. Then, we use $Ess1(t)$ to express the energy change at time t of the energy storage equipment. Therefore, the SOC limit is defined as follows:

$$Soc(t+1) = \begin{cases} Soc(t) - \int_0^t Ess1(\tau) d\tau, & Soc^m < Soc(t) < Soc^M, \text{ or} \\ & Soc(t) = Soc^M \& Ess1(t) > 0, \text{ or} \\ & Soc(t) = Soc^m \& Ess1(t) < 0, \\ Soc(t), & \text{else,} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

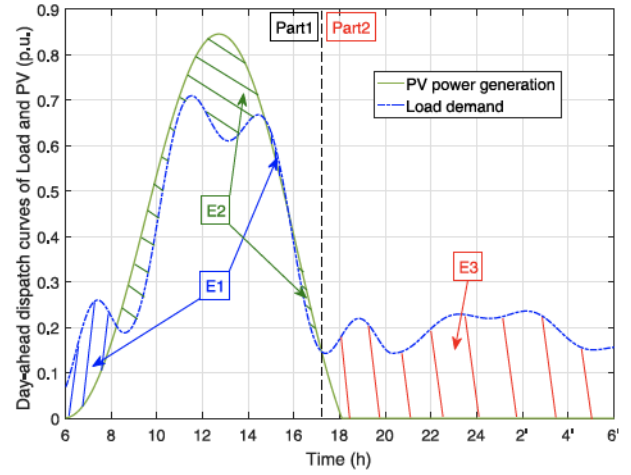


Fig. 2. Day-ahead dispatch curves of load demand and PV power.

$$Ess1(t) = \begin{cases} \Delta P_e^M / \beta, & \Delta P_e(t) > \Delta P_e^M, \\ \Delta P_e(t) / \beta, & 0 < \Delta P_e(t) \leq \Delta P_e^M, \\ \beta \Delta P_e(t), & \Delta P_e^m \leq \Delta P_e(t) \leq 0, \\ \beta \Delta P_e^m, & \Delta P_e(t) < \Delta P_e^m, \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

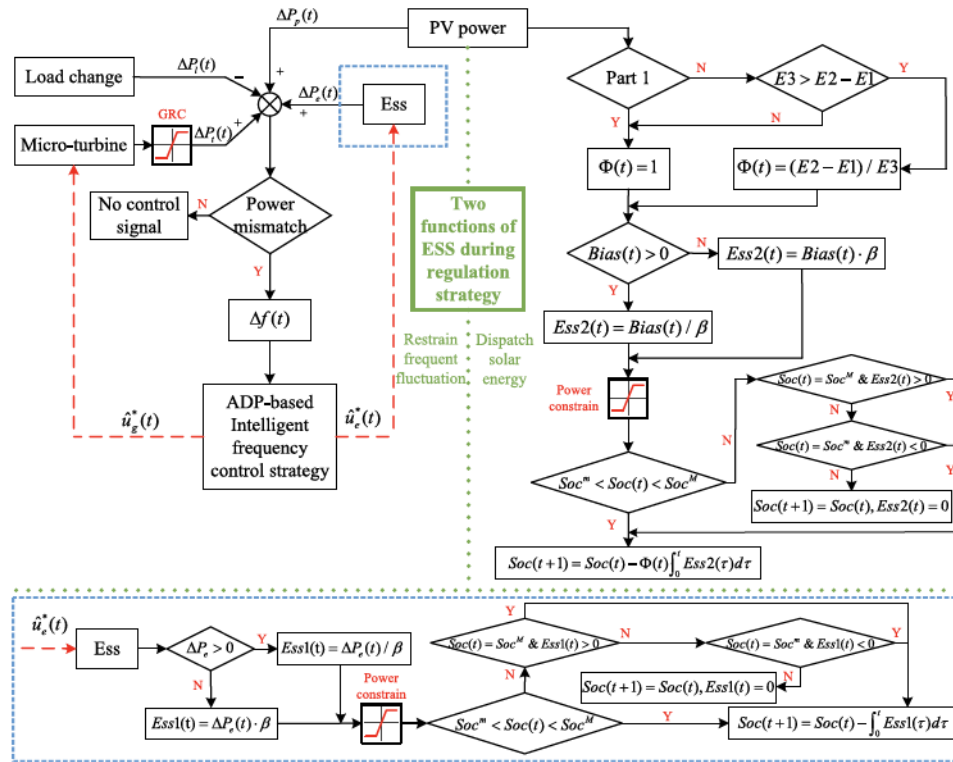
where Soc^M and Soc^m are the upper and lower limits of SOC. Meanwhile, ΔP_e^M and ΔP_e^m are the upper and lower limits of ESS power constraints, respectively. β is the charging-discharging coefficient of ESS.

C. Sustainable Development and Recycling of ESS

In this subsection, the SOC limit is developed for dispatching the PV power and realizing the recycling of ESS. This SOC limit is defined based on the day-ahead dispatch curves of a commercial office building, as shown in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 2, 2', 4' and 6' indicate the time of tomorrow. It can be observed that the whole process can be divided into two parts at a certain time instant. After that, the PV power is always lower than the load demand, marked as the red shadow area E3. Define the power deviation between load demand and the PV power as $Bias(t)$, which equals to the load demand minus the generated PV power. In Part 1, the blue shadow area E1 denotes the consumed ESS energy, and the green shadow area E2 illustrates the remaining PV energy stored into ESS. In Part 2, the stored energy by ESS is used to compensate the power consumption and the micro-turbine also generates the available power to supplement the remaining load demand. Let $Ess2(t)$ be the electric energy change of ESS in this scene. The SOC limit is defined as follows:

$$Soc(t+1) = \begin{cases} Soc(t) - \Phi(t) \int_0^t Ess2(\tau) d\tau, & Soc^m < Soc(t) < Soc^M, \text{ or} \\ & Soc(t) = Soc^M \& Ess2(t) > 0, \text{ or} \\ & Soc(t) = Soc^m \& Ess2(t) < 0, \\ Soc(t), & \text{else,} \end{cases} \quad (8)$$



where

$$Ess2(t) = \begin{cases} \Delta P_e^M / \beta, & Bias(t) > \Delta P_e^M, \\ Bias(t) / \beta, & 0 < Bias(t) \leq \Delta P_e^M, \\ \beta Bias(t), & \Delta P_e^m \leq Bias(t) \leq 0, \\ \beta \Delta P_e^m, & Bias(t) < \Delta P_e^m, \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

$$\text{Part 2: } \Phi(t) = \begin{cases} (E2 - E1)/E3, & E3 > (E2 - E1), \\ 1, & E3 \leq (E2 - E1). \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

During the frequency regulation, the uncertainties of governor parameter, load as well as PV power are considered, and the ESS is used to restrain uncertainties and fully utilize the PV power. The entire frequency regulation strategy is described in Fig. 3.

In this section, an intelligent frequency strategy is designed with the interior parameter uncertainties of governor and the external power uncertainties caused by load changes and stochastic PV power, which is regulated by the ADP method and implemented by neural networks.

system data. The states of microgrid $\Delta f(t)$, $\Delta P_t(t)$, $\Delta P_g(t)$ and $\Delta P_e(t)$ are the inputs of frequency controller. Then, $\hat{u}_t^*(t)$ and $\hat{u}_e^*(t)$ are the approximately optimal control signals to be designed for adjusting the power outputs of micro-turbine and ESS. In the following, the design and implementation of intelligent control strategy will be presented.

According to previous analysis, the frequency dynamics of studied benchmark microgrid is compressedly expressed by (5). Assume that the matched and mismatched terms are both upper bounded by $\|G\Delta(t)\| \leq \Gamma_{\Delta}(t)$ and $\|\Pi(t)\| \leq \Gamma_{\Pi}(t)$, respectively. For the frequency control, a state feedback control law $u(t)$ is designed to adjust the power outputs of micro-turbine and ESS, as shown in Fig. 1. The robust control for the uncertain frequency dynamic system (5) can be obtained by perusing the optimal control of its nominal system, which is formulated as

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Gu(t). \quad (11)$$

$$J(x) = \int_t^\infty (U(x(\tau), u(\tau)) + \Theta(\tau))d(\tau), \quad (12)$$

where $U(x(t), u(t))$ is the utility function, chosen as $U(x(t), u(t)) = x^T(t)Qx(t) + u^T(t)Ru(t)$. Q and R are positive definite symmetric matrices with proper dimensions. $\Theta(t) \geq 0$ is the perturbed cost related to the uncertainties which is

defined as

$$\Theta(t) = \theta_1^2 \Gamma_A^2(t) + \theta_2^2 \Gamma_B^2(t) + \frac{\theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2}{4\theta_1^2\theta_2^2} \|\nabla J(x)\|^2, \quad (13)$$

with $\nabla J(x) = \partial J(x)/\partial x$. θ_1 and θ_2 are the given constants corresponding to matched and unmatched uncertainties, respectively. The optimal cost function is defined as

$$J^*(x) = \min_{u \in \Omega_c} \int_t^\infty (U(x(\tau), u(\tau)) + \Theta(\tau)) d\tau. \quad (14)$$

Based on the Bellman optimality principle, the Hamiltonian function can be obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} H(x(t), u(t), \nabla J(x)) \\ = (\nabla J(x))^T \dot{x}(t) + U(x(t), u(t)) + \Theta(t), \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

and the optimal control law $u^*(t)$ satisfies the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman (HJB) equation

$$0 = \min_{u \in \Omega_c} H(x(t), u(t), \nabla J^*(x)), \quad (16)$$

where Ω_c is an admissible control set. Thus, the optimal frequency control law for system (11), i.e., the available robust control law for regulating frequency of uncertain benchmark system (5), can be derived as

$$u^*(t) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} G^T \nabla J^*(x). \quad (17)$$

Bring the optimal control law (17) into (16), then the HJB equation is further transformed into the following form

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (\nabla J(x))^T \dot{x}(t) + U(x(t), u(t)) + \Theta(t) \\ &= (\nabla J(x))^T A x(t) - \frac{1}{4} (\nabla J(x))^T G R^{-1} G^T \nabla J(x) \\ &\quad + x(t)^T Q x(t) + \Theta(t), \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where the optimal HJB equation conforms to $0 = H(x(t), u^*(t), \nabla J^*(x))$ with the optimal frequency control law $u^*(t)$. Note that the optimal control $u^*(t)$ of nominal system (11) can achieve the effective robust control for uncertain benchmark system (5), which results from the new-defined cost function (12) including the perturbed cost and more explanation can refer to [43].

B. Iteration Algorithm for Approximating Optimal Control

Generally speaking, (18) is almost impossible to be directly solved due to partial differential terms. Hence, the iteration algorithm is applied to get the approximate solution of $u^*(t)$ and the optimal cost function $J^*(x)$ in (14). The algorithm flow of approximating the optimal solution is shown as follows.

Based on this iteration procedure, the iteration control law $u^{(i+1)}(t)$ would approximately converge to the optimal control law $u^*(t)$, and the iteration cost function $J^{(i+1)}(x)$ also converges to the optimal value $J^*(x)$ as the iteration index i goes to large enough [18]. In the following, based on the function approximation technique, the iteration algorithm is implemented by neural networks.

Algorithm 1 Solving the Approximate Optimal Control of Nominal System

- a **Initialization:** Set the iteration index $i = 0$ and let $J^{(i)}(x) = 0$. Define a sufficiently small positive number ϱ as the prerequisite to stop the algorithm. Start the iteration from an initial admissible control law $u^{(0)}(t)$.
- b **Iterative process:** Substitute the initial value $u^{(0)}(t)$ into (19) with $J^{(0)}(x) = 0$ in the first iteration. Then, $J^{(i+1)}(x)$ can be solved by
$$0 = (\nabla J^{(i+1)}(x))^T (A x(t) + G u^{(i)}(t)) + U(x(t), u^{(i)}(t)) + \Theta(t). \quad (19)$$
- c **Update control law:** Update the control law $u^{(i+1)}(t)$ based on the following formula
$$u^{(i+1)}(t) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} G^T \nabla J^{(i+1)}(x). \quad (20)$$
- d **Stopping Criterion:** If $\|J^{(i+1)}(x) - J^{(i)}(x)\| < \varrho$ is satisfied, stop the iteration and let $u^{(i+1)}(t)$ be the approximately optimal control law. Else, set $i = i + 1$ and return step b to the next iteration.

C. Neural Network Implementation of Intelligent Frequency Control

For realizing the iteration algorithm in Section III-B, single-hinder-layer neural networks are applied for approximating the control law and the cost function. Therefore, the optimal cost function in (14) is restructured with an ideal weight w_c as

$$J^*(x) = w_c^T \psi(x) + v_c(x), \quad (21)$$

where $w_c \in \mathbb{R}^j$ and j is the neuron number in the hidden layer, $x(t)$ is used as the neural network input, and $J^*(x)$ is the output. $\psi(x)$ is the activation function and $v_c(x)$ is the reconstruction error of neural network. For the cost function (21), we can obtain the partial derivative of $J^*(x)$ along $x(t)$, which is expressed as

$$\nabla J^*(x) = \nabla \psi^T(x) w_c + \nabla v_c(x), \quad (22)$$

with $\nabla \psi(x) = \partial \psi(x)/\partial x$ and $\nabla v_c(x) = \partial v_c(x)/\partial x$. Then, substitute (22) into (15) to get the Hamiltonian function

$$\begin{aligned} H(x(t), u^*(t), w_c) \\ = (\nabla \psi^T(x) w_c + \nabla v_c(x))^T \dot{x} + U(x(t), u(t)) + \Theta(t) \\ = (\nabla \psi^T(x) w_c + \nabla v_c(x))^T \dot{x} + U(x(t), u(t)) + \theta_1^2 \Gamma_A^2(t) \\ + \theta_2^2 \Gamma_B^2(t) + \frac{\theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2}{4\theta_1^2\theta_2^2} \|\nabla \psi^T(x) w_c + \nabla v_c(x)\|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

where $\nabla v_c^T(x) \dot{x}$ is the residual error which can be omitted in the Hamiltonian function when the weight training process is sufficiently enough.

In fact, the ideal weight w_c is unknown in the neural network approximation, thus an estimated weight $\hat{w}_c(t)$ is applied, and the approximate optimal cost function $\hat{J}^*(x)$ can be obtained as

$$\hat{J}^*(x) = \hat{w}_c^T(t) \psi(x). \quad (24)$$

Similarly, according to (22), $\nabla J^*(x)$ can also be approximated as

$$\nabla \hat{J}^*(x) = \nabla \psi^T(x) \hat{w}_c(t). \quad (25)$$

Therefore, by substituting (24) into (15), the estimated Hamiltonian function can be obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} H(x(t), u^*(t), \hat{w}_c(t)) &= (\nabla \psi^T(x) \hat{w}_c(t))^T \dot{x} + U(x(t), u^*(t)) + \theta_1^2 \Gamma_\Lambda^2(t) \\ &\quad + \theta_2^2 \Gamma_\Pi^2(t) + \frac{\theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2}{4\theta_1^2\theta_2^2} \|\nabla \psi^T(x) \hat{w}_c(t)\|^2 \\ &= \hat{e}_c(t). \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Based on (17) and (25), the approximately optimal frequency controller for system (11) can be obtained by using neural network approximation

$$\hat{u}^*(t) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} G^T \nabla \psi^T(x) \hat{w}_c(t). \quad (27)$$

Take the estimated Hamiltonian function $H(x(t), u^*(t), \hat{w}_c(t))$ as the critic network error $\hat{e}_c(t)$, and define $E_c(t)$ with $\hat{e}_c(t)$ for regulating the critic network weight, which is

$$E_c(t) = \frac{1}{2} \hat{e}_c^T(t) \hat{e}_c(t). \quad (28)$$

By minimizing (28), the weight updating law can be designed as

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{w}}_c(t) &= -\gamma_c \frac{\partial E_c(t)}{\partial \hat{w}_c(t)} + \gamma_a \nabla \psi(x) G R^{-1} G^T \nabla J_s(x) \\ &= -\gamma_c \hat{e}_c(t) \nabla \psi(x) A x(t) + \gamma_a \nabla \psi(x) G R^{-1} G^T \nabla J_s(x) \\ &\quad - \gamma_c \hat{e}_c(t) \frac{\theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2}{2\theta_1^2\theta_2^2} \nabla \psi(x) \nabla \psi^T(x) \hat{w}_c(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_c \hat{e}_c(t) \nabla \psi(x) G R^{-1} G^T \nabla \psi^T(x) \hat{w}_c(t), \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where $\gamma_c > 0$ is the primary learning rate of critic network and $\gamma_a > 0$ is the auxiliary learning rate. $J_s(x) = 0.5x^T(t)x(t)$ is selected based on Lyapunov theorem.

Therefore, the estimated weight of critic network can be obtained by using the weight updating law (29). It means that (27) can provide the robust frequency control law for benchmark system (5) which has been implemented and the frequency can be stabilized under the stochastic uncertainties of parameters, power generations and loads.

Remark 1: Some learning-based adaptive control has been investigated in previous works, i.e., [17], [44], [45]. In [17] and [44], together with the SMC and PID controller, the ADP method was designed as the supplementary controller to give the auxiliary control signal for load frequency control of power system. In [45], based on the Hammerstein network identification of hybrid energy storage, a PID-type neural network controller was designed to adjust the frequency fluctuation and the tie-line power. Compared with these previous adaptive control scheme, the adaptive frequency control in this paper is directly obtained from the ADP method, but not the supplementary control. Moreover, by considering the renewable PV power, the energy-storage-based regulation strategy can reduce the waste of solar energy and achieve the sustainable utilization of ESS. These is also the obvious difference between this paper and previous works.

Remark 2: The two main work of this paper is regard to the day-ahead operation scheduling and the inter-day frequency

TABLE I
PARAMETERS IN THE MICROGRID SYSTEM

Parameters	T_g	T_t	T_e	T_p	k_p	R
Values	0.3	0.3	0.5	10	1	0.08

TABLE II
CONSTRAINT CONDITIONS

Name	Variables	Values
Initial SOC	Soc^0	0.5
Upper limit of SOC	Soc^M	0.9
Lower limit of SOC	Soc^m	0.15
Charging-discharging coefficient	β	0.9
Upper limit power constraint of ESS	ΔP_e^M	0.15
Lower limit power constraint of ESS	ΔP_e^m	-0.15

control. The day-ahead operation curves of load demand and PV power are shown in Fig. 2. ESS is designed to store the remaining PV power during the day, thereby reducing the waste of PV power, and compensating load demand at the low stage of PV power. By using the regulation strategy of this paper, the SOC can meet the set value and realize the recycling of ESS. The real-time frequency regulation under various uncertainties are shown in Figs. 6–8, where the proposed ADP-based intelligent control strategy is used to adjust the power output of micro-turbine and ESS and restrain the frequency fluctuation.

IV. SIMULATION AND ANALYSIS

Based on the given day-ahead dispatch curves of commercial office building in Fig. 2, simulation is executed on the benchmark microgrid to restrain the frequency stability under stochastic model uncertainties and realize energy scheduling and sustainable utilization. For the micro-turbine, the nonlinear GRC condition of governor is considered with rising/falling slew rates [7], [46], [47], and it is specified as 10% per minute. Meanwhile, the power constraints of ESS are also considered during frequency regulation [40]. The parameters of microgrid are shown in Table I. The commercial office building has the rated capacity of 225 kW and the PV rated capacity is 250 kW. The parameters of SOC limits and the power constraints of ESS are shown in Table II.

In the intelligent frequency control strategy, the used parameters are as follows, $Q = 2.5I_{4 \times 4}$, $R = 8.5I_{2 \times 2}$, $\theta_1 = 0.5$, $\theta_2 = 0.5$, $\gamma_c = 1.0$, and $\gamma_a = 0.1$, where I is the identity matrix. Based on system data, the weights of critic network can be obtained after training, which is shown in Fig. 4. These weights converge to $\hat{w}_c = [0.0387, -0.0352, 0.0285, 0.0732, 0.1300, -0.2455, -0.4023, 0.3213, 0.3968, 0.4944]^T$ and they are applied to get the frequency controller according to (27). During the training, with randomly persistent disturbance excitation, the frequency deviation $\Delta f(t)$, the micro-turbine power output $\Delta P_t(t)$, the governor position valve $\Delta P_g(t)$, and the ESS power output $\Delta P_e(t)$ finally converge to zero, as shown in Fig. 5.

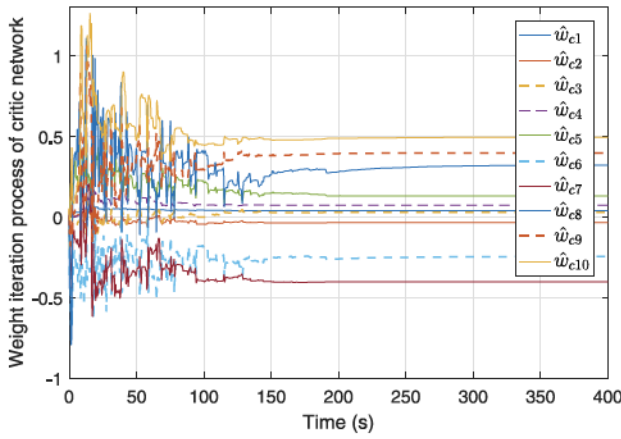


Fig. 4. Weight convergence in the training process.

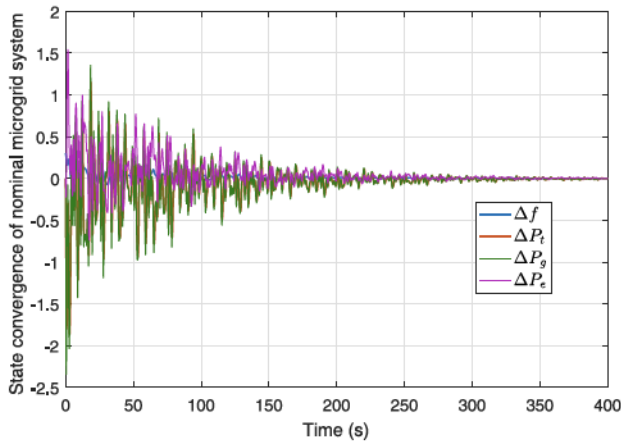


Fig. 5. State convergence of nominal microgrid system with persistent excitation condition.

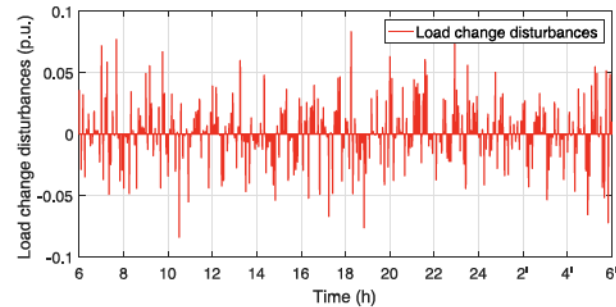


Fig. 6. Load change disturbances.

A. Under PV Power Uncertainties and Load Changes

Consider that the PV power is connected to the microgrid. The actual load demand and PV power are always different from the scheduled power in the day-ahead dispatch. The load change disturbances are shown in Fig. 6, and the PV power uncertainties affected by environmental conditions are reflected in Fig. 7. Two main influence factors of PV power, irradiance and temperature, are considered here. As the clouds are time varying for PV arrays, the PV power is hard to predicted when there are cloudy above the PV arrays. Therefore, in the day-ahead dispatch, the PV power is predicted without

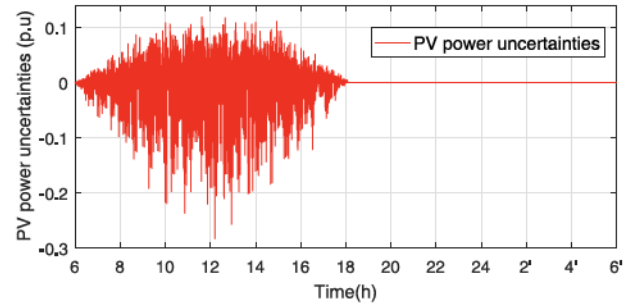


Fig. 7. PV power uncertainties.

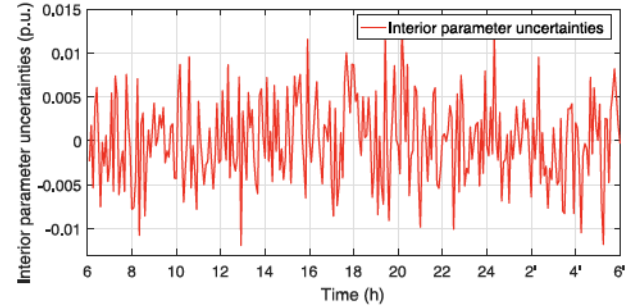


Fig. 8. Parameter uncertainties of the governor.

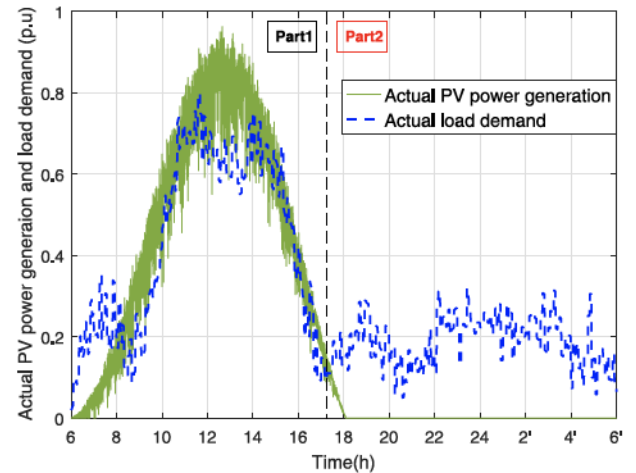


Fig. 9. Actual PV power generation and load demand in a day.

considering the clouds or the cloudy weather. When the clouds come above the PV arrays, it reduces the irradiance and thus is dealt as the negative PV power uncertainties. The temperature change maybe cause positive or negative uncertainties. The irradiance is a more important factor than the temperature for PV power generation [48]–[51], therefore there are much more negative uncertainties than positive uncertainties. The parameter uncertainties of governor are considered as shown in Fig. 8. Then, the actual PV power generation and load demand in a day are shown in Fig. 9.

Under the stochastic model uncertainties shown in Figs. 6–9, the designed intelligent frequency controller is applied to keep the frequency stability of microgrid. For better showing the control performance, fuzzy logic control, linear quadratic regulator (LQR) and PID control are used as the

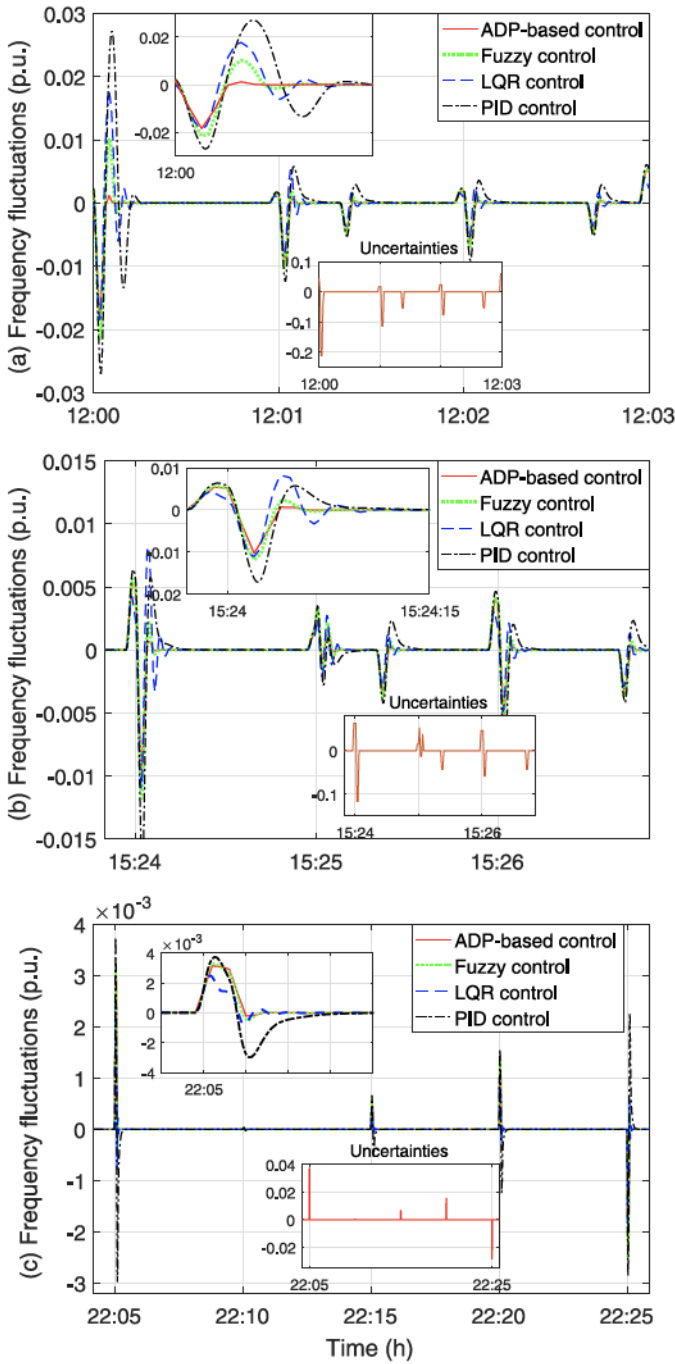


Fig. 10. Frequency regulation performance under stochastic model uncertainties.

comparative methods. The fuzzy rules used in this paper can be found in reference [52], where the scaling factors are designed as $K_e = 10$, $K_{ec} = 1$ and $K_u = 0.1$ with one input and two outputs. The parameters of PID controllers are shown in Table III. The LQR controller is designed as $u(t) = -kx(t)$, where the quadratic cost is consistent with (12), and the related matrices are given the same values. Then, the gain matrix k can be solved as

$$k = \begin{bmatrix} -0.8360 & 0.0754 & 0.2020 & 0.0102 \\ 0.5789 & 0.0267 & 0.0061 & 0.1627 \end{bmatrix}$$

TABLE III
PARAMETERS OF PID CONTROLLERS

Control signals	P	I	D
u_t	3.5	-1.2	0.1
u_e	3.1	-1.2	0.09

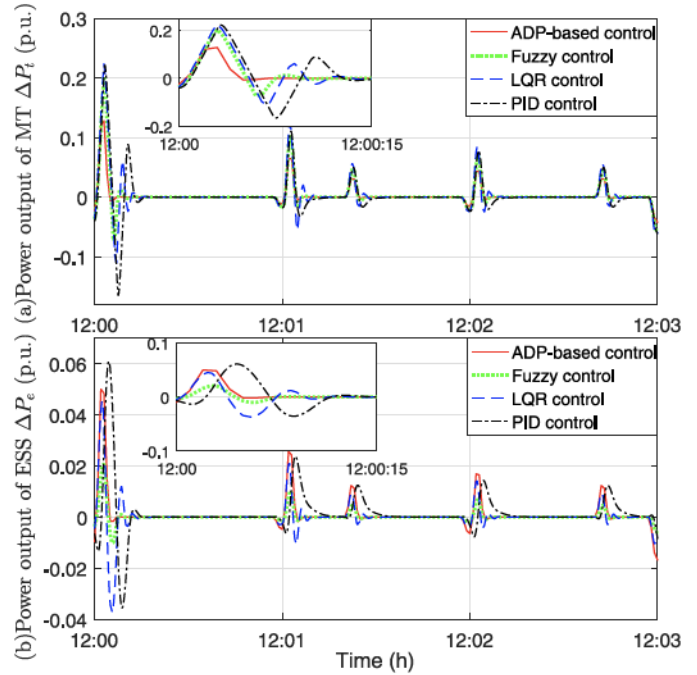


Fig. 11. Power outputs of micro-turbine and ESS under stochastic model uncertainties.

In Fig. 10, the frequency regulation in a day is shown to demonstrate the superiority of intelligent frequency control strategy. It can be seen that the ADP-based intelligent control method can better restrain the frequency deviations with fewer oscillations, compared with fuzzy control and PID control. The frequency deviations are also faster to be stabilized to zero with this intelligent control strategy. The control performance of LQR is similar with the ADP-based intelligent control when the frequency deviations are small since it is a linear optimal control method. However, in the case of large deviations, its performance becomes weaker than the ADP-based control, which is more obvious shown in Section IV-B. Meanwhile, we provide the power outputs of micro-turbine and ESS from 12:00 to 12:03 in Fig. 11 corresponding to Fig. 10(a), which are the control actions under ADP-based control, fuzzy control, LQR and PID control. It shows the required power outputs for micro-turbine and ESS in the frequency regulation to realize the control performance in Fig. 10(a). We take Fig. 10(a) as an example here and provide its analysis, which is similar to Figs. 10(b) and 10(c).

The ESS plays two roles in the regulation strategy: maintaining the frequency stability and dispatching the PV power. The ESS is applied during the whole frequency regulation process. The ESS dispatches the PV power to achieve its full utilization, as shown in Fig. 12, where the stored energy in Part 1 is consumed in Part 2. Thus, we can achieve the recycling and sustainable utilization of ESS where the final

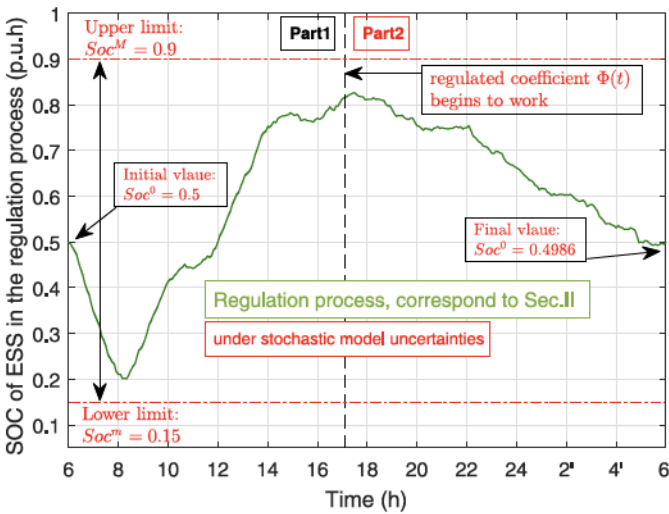


Fig. 12. SOC changes of ESS in a day.

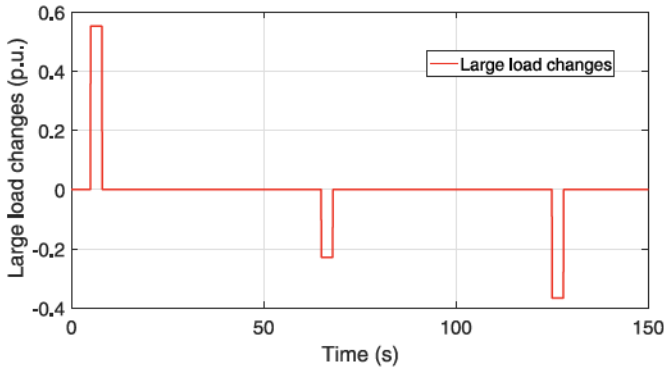


Fig. 13. Abnormal operation of large load changes.

value of SOC is basically equal to the initial value. The peak value of SOC reaches 0.82 p.u.h , thus the rated capacity of ESS is $0.82/0.9 \times 250 \approx 228 \text{ kWh}$. Considering the certain redundancy, the rated capacity of ESS can be selected as 235 kWh .

B. Under Large Load Changes

The normal operation of microgrid under PV power uncertainties and load changes has been investigated in Section IV-A. However, there may be sudden load fluctuations, such as the line faults and large load incorporation. As shown in Fig. 13, we investigated the large load changes, even more than 0.55 p.u. . Then, from Fig. 14, it is obvious that the ADP intelligent control scheme performs better than fuzzy control, LQR control and PID control for dealing with large load changes.

In this sudden scenario, it can be seen in Fig. 14 that the PID control has poor performance for such large disturbances. Fuzzy control can work, but its performance becomes worse due to the fixed design of fuzzy rules. Since LQR control is a linear optimal control method designed for linear systems, the emergence of stochastic model uncertainties may lead to bad presentation in both robustness and convergence speed compared with the ADP-based control strategy. Large power changes may lead to frequency fluctuation and cause security

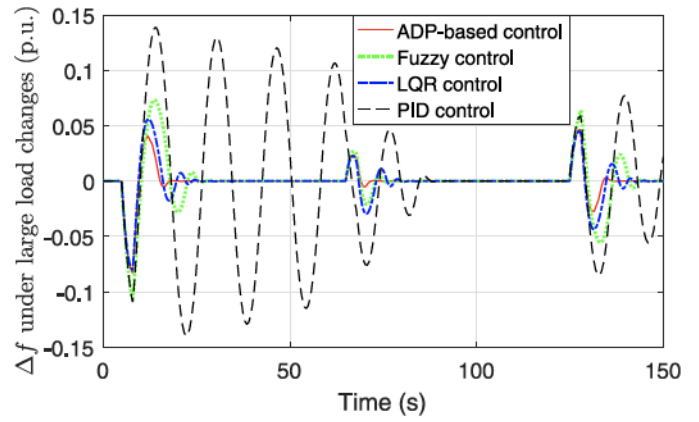


Fig. 14. Frequency regulation performance under large load changes.

risks. Therefore, the adaptability and robustness of controller is important for the microgrid system. The ADP-based intelligent control can be well adaptive when the microgrid is facing with various disturbances.

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we investigate the frequency control of microgrid with parameter, PV power and load uncertainties. An ADP-based intelligent control strategy is designed to adjust the power outputs of micro-turbine and ESS to restrain the frequency fluctuation. Further, the energy-storage-based regulation strategy is proposed to deal with the frequency control problem and dispatch the PV power to realize the recycling of ESS. In the regulation process, we can conclude that the proposed intelligent frequency control strategy can better adjust the frequency fluctuation compared with fuzzy control, LQR control and PID control. At the same time, the SOC of ESS can reach the desired state. This also reflects the rationality of regulation strategy. In the future, the topological network of microgrid can be considered, and more application scenarios can be introduced to extend this work.

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