

Dr. Alexandre Oudalov, ABB Switzerland Ltd.; IRENA Innovation Week, Bonn, May 11-13, 2016

The Future Grid – deep dive session 1

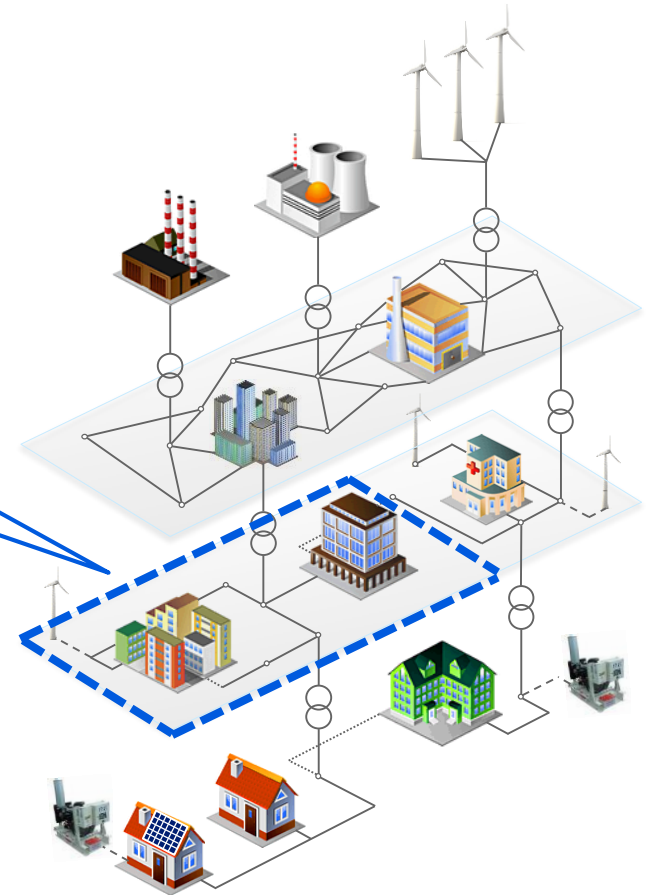
Smart Minigrids and Microgrids

Smart Minigrids and Microgrids Definitions

Microgrids are “*electricity distribution systems containing distributed energy resources and loads that operate in a coordinated way either connected to the main power grid or in “islanded” mode*”.



Minigrids are “*a set of electricity generators and possibly energy storage systems interconnected to a distribution network that supplies electricity to a localized group of customers*”.



Smart Minigrids and Microgrids

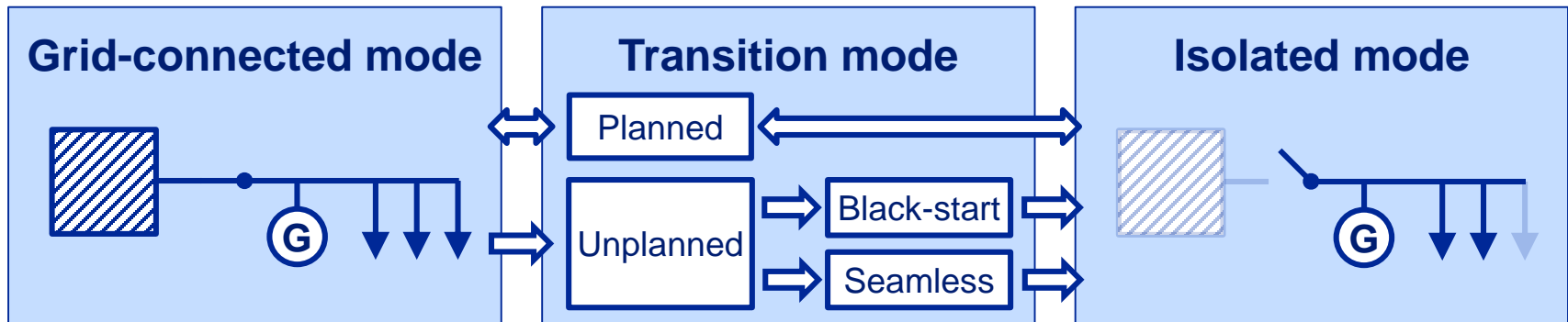
Market Segments and Key Drivers

✓: Main driver
 (✓): Secondary driver

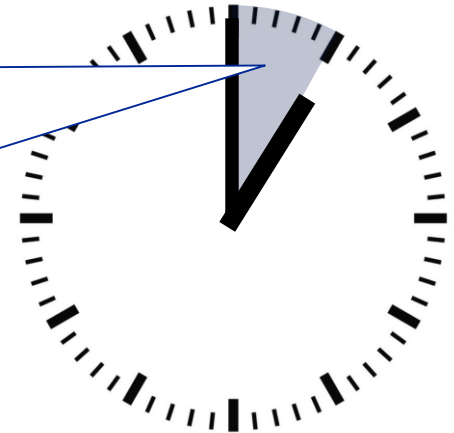
IPP: Independent Power Producer

		Main drivers					
		Social	Economic	Environmental	Operational		
Segments	Typical customers	Access to electricity	Fuel & cost savings	Reduce CO2 footprint and pollution	Fuel independence	Uninterrupted supply	
Off-grid Grid-connected	Island utilities		✓	✓	✓	(✓)	
	Remote communities	✓	✓		✓		
	Industrial and commercial		✓	(✓)	✓	✓	
	Defense		(✓)	(✓)	✓	✓	
	Communities	(Local) utilities			(✓)		✓
	Institutions and campuses	Public and private education institutions		(✓)	✓		(✓)

Grid Connected Microgrids Operating Modes

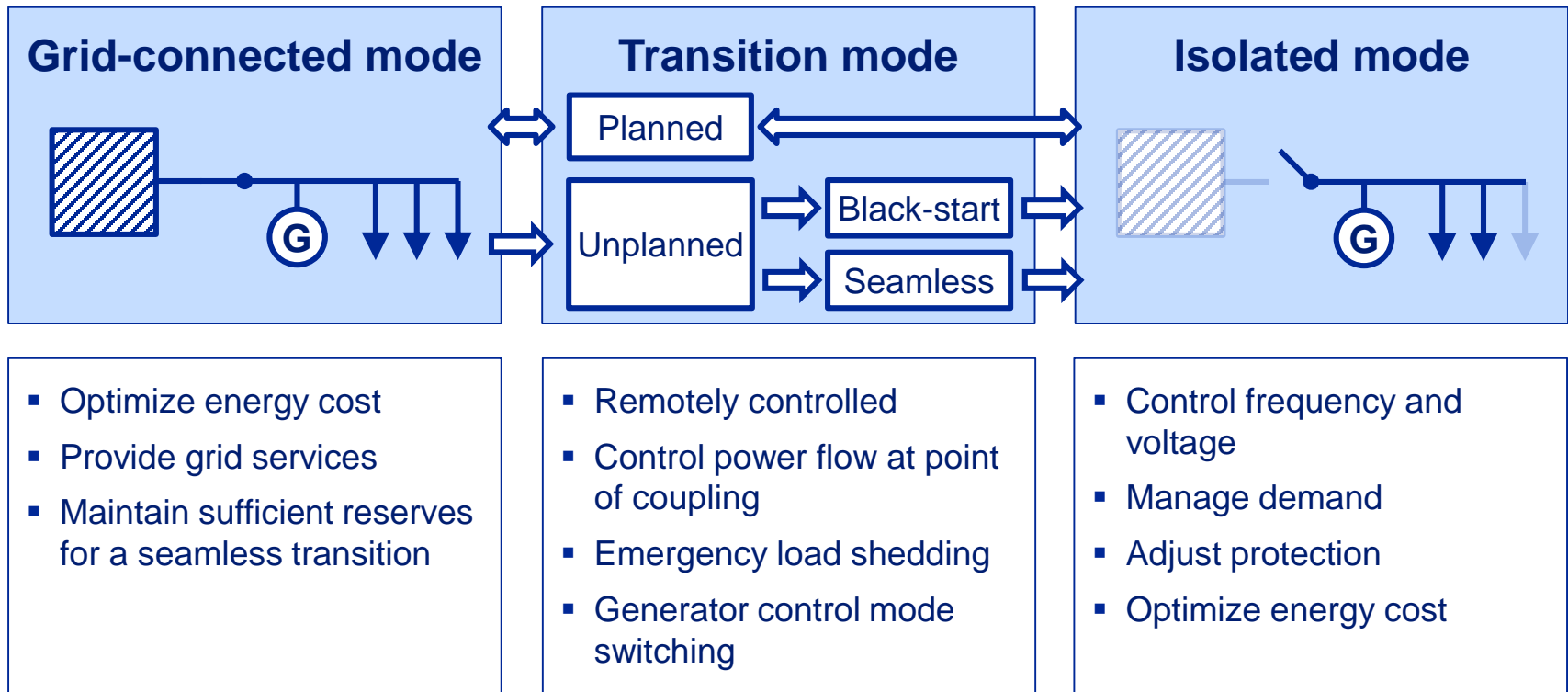


Depends on reliability indices of a particular grid. For example, in India some customers may lose power for more than 12 hours each day during the rolling blackouts.



Grid Connected Microgrids

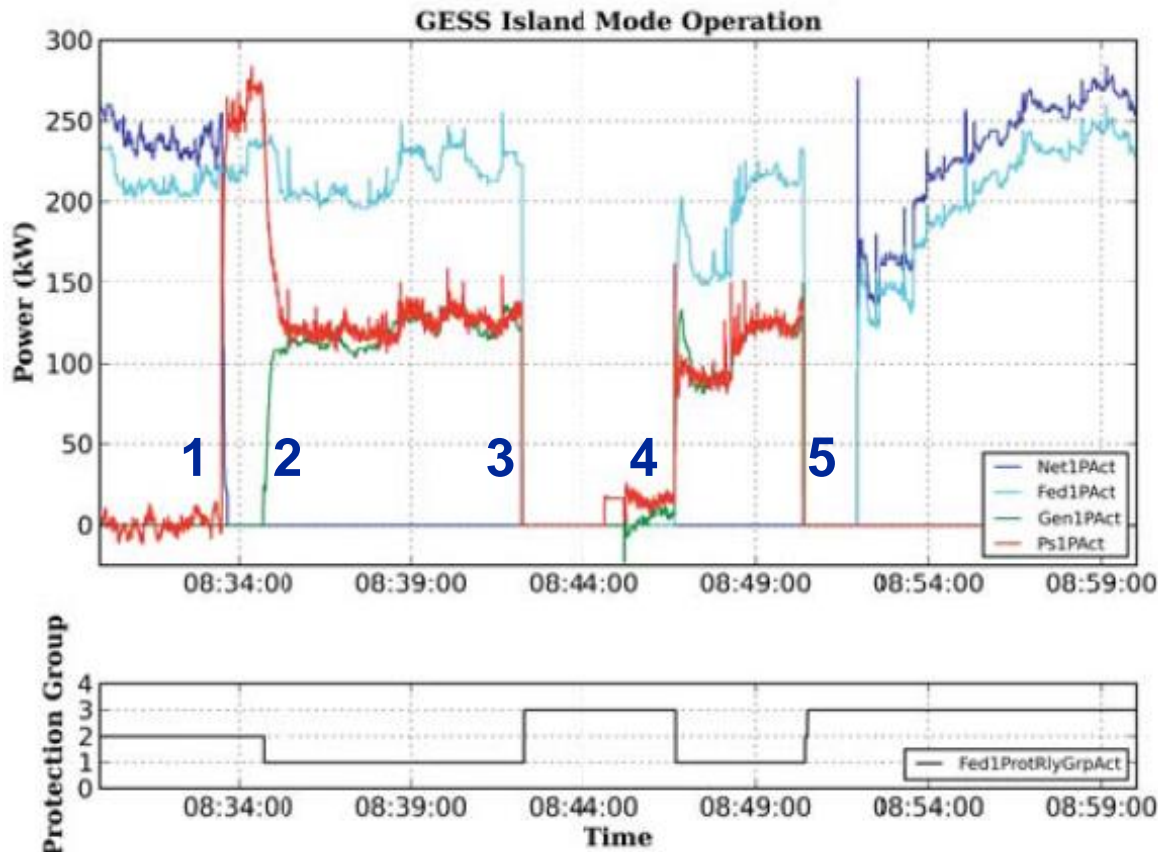
Key Functionalities per Mode



Energy cost reduction and improved reliability are the key objectives.

Real Microgrid Example

Different Operation Modes



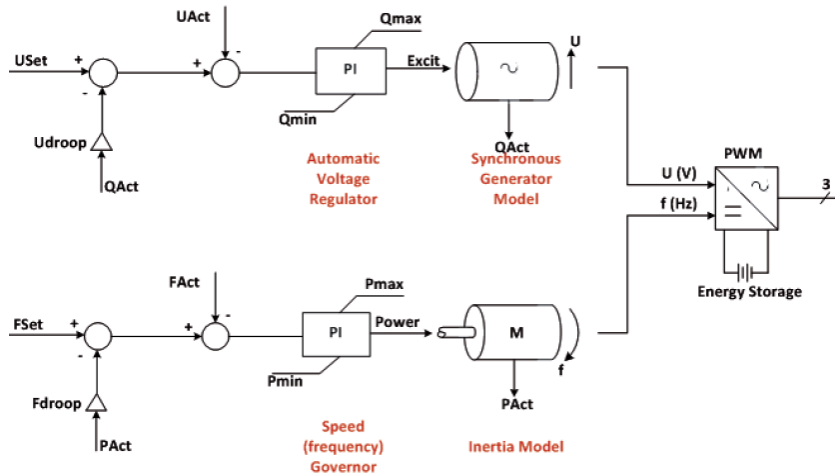
1. Planned grid separation – storage picks up the load.
2. Microgrid control system starts a back-up generator and optimally shares the load between sources.
3. Microgrid is shut down.
4. Microgrid is restarted (black-start).
5. Microgrid is shut down and the load is re-connected to the grid.

Protection system is tuned according to a microgrid configuration by switching between setting groups.

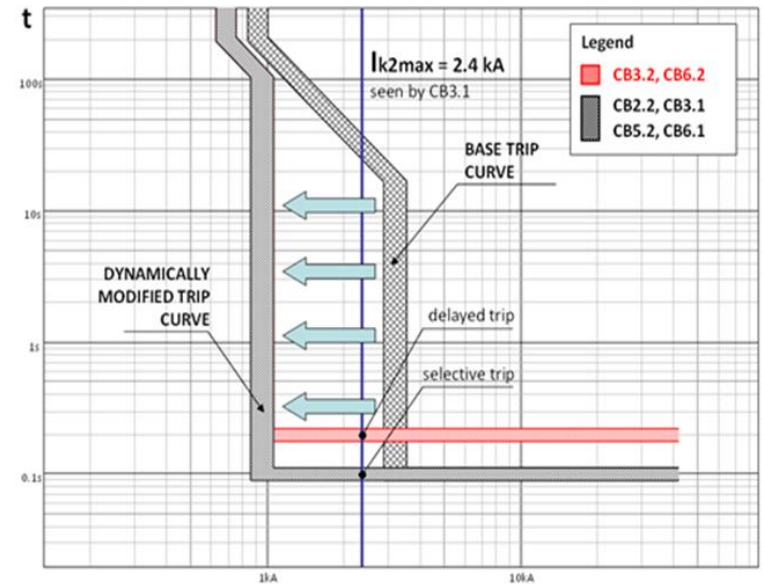
Technology Innovation

Achieving Stable and Safe Microgrid Operation

- Virtual generator mode of a battery storage
- Operates similar to a traditional synchronous generator
- Provides exceptional response time
- Acts as a grid-forming generation source



- Adaptive protection system monitors microgrid configuration
- Configuration changes result in an automatic update of protection relay settings



Examples of Grid-Connected Microgrids

Biogas & Battery Based Autonomous Building



Project name	Legion House
Location	Sydney, Australia
Customer	Grocon, KLM group
Completion date	2014

Solution

- 2 x 180 kW gas engines.
- 1 x 80 kW, 320 kWh lead-acid battery.
- Distributed control system.
- On-site biomass gasification.

Customer benefits

- The battery stabilizes the internal power network against fluctuations in frequency and voltage.
- Excessive energy is exported to the neighboring buildings.
- Building can operate:
 - in isolated mode, or
 - without gas engines overnight.

Examples of Grid-Connected Microgrids

Ancillary Power System Services for Distribution Grid



Project name	Grid Energy Storage
Location	Melbourne, Australia
Customer	AusNet Services
Completion date	2014

Solution

- 1 x 1 MVA diesel generator.
- 1 x 1 MW, 1 MWh lithium-ion battery.
- Distributed control system.
- Transportable containerized solution.

Customer benefits

- Active and reactive power support during high demand periods.
- Delay of power line investments.
- Transition into isolated operation without supply interruption:
 - on command (planned) or
 - in emergency cases (unplanned)

Grid Connected Microgrids

Technology Innovation Trends

- Electric and thermal grids co-optimization (CHP, heat pumps, etc.)
- Seamless transition (faster controls, high C-rate storage).
- Hybrid energy storage systems (from millisecond to season)
- Smart self-configuring, self-tuning and faster protection.
- Smart converters (communication, grid services).
- Open standards for interoperability (plug and play components).
- Interaction with a hosting grid operator (DSO or TSO).
- Meshed topologies w/ multiple points of coupling to a hosting grid (interconnecting multiple microgrids via b2b DC, nested microgrids).
- Data analytics (RES and demand predictions, asset health mgmt.).
- Integration of electric vehicles (a significant new controllable load).

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