Power Flow Analysis and Voltage Control using Simulator



- Formulation of the power flow problem
- Newton's method for solving the power flow
- Description of the PowerWorld Simulator
 Options Dialog accessed from the Options ribbon tab, Simulator Options button.
- Explanation of voltage-related controls
 - generator AVR
 - transformer taps
 - switched shunts

Overall Simulator Solution Methodology



- Simulator actually uses *THREE* nested loops to solve the power flow
- MW Control Loop
 - Voltage Controller Loop
 - Inner Power Flow loop

Traditionally called the *Power Flow Solution*

Voltage
Control
Loop also
covered in
this section

MW Control Loop also covered later

Formulation of Power Flow: "Inner Power Flow Loop"



- Goal is to solve the nonlinear power balance equations for all system buses
- For an n bus power system

$$I = Y_{bus} V$$

where

I = complex vector of current injection at all buses

V = complex vector of voltage at all buses

 Y_{bus} = complex n by n bus admittance matrix

Nonlinear Power Flow Equations



Complex nonlinear power balance equations

$$S^* = V^* I$$

 $S^* = V^* Y_{bus} V$

• Convert to 2(n-1) real equations

$$S = g(x)$$
 or $f(x) = 0$

where

S = 2(n-1) power injections

x = 2(n-1) voltage magnitudes and angles

Slack and PV Buses



- Exactly one bus in each electrical island is designated as a slack bus
 - provides an angle and voltage reference
 - must be a bus with a generator
 - voltage angle and magnitude fixed
 - real/reactive output of generator free to vary
 - Simulator tries maintain them within limits, but if that is not possible, this generator will violate limits
- At AVR generator buses (PV buses)
 - voltage magnitude is fixed
 - reactive output of generator is free to vary
- At other buses (PQ buses)
 - Power and Reactive power injections are fixed

Solving the Power Flow Equations



- Nonlinear equations must be solved iteratively
- There are a number of common solution methods
 - Newton's Method
 - Simulator uses an enhanced Newton's method algorithm
 - Fast Decoupled
 - an option in Simulator
 - Gauss-Seidel
 - presently not available in Simulator

Newton's Method



Guess initial value of voltages x^0 , k = 0

Repeat

While
$$(|f(x^k)| > \varepsilon)$$
 and $(k < k^{max})$ Do $x^{k+1} = x^k - [J(x^k)]^{-1} f(x^k)$
 $k = k+1$

End While

Until (no more automatic control changes)

Newton's Method



Where

k = Iteration count

k^{max} = Maximum number of iterations

 x^k = Voltages at the k^{th} iteration

 $f(x^k)$ = Mismatch equations

 ϵ = Convergence tolerance (in MVA)

 $J(x^k)$ = Jacobian matrix

Seven Bus Example



- Open case B7FLAT.PWB, switch into Run Mode and make sure Message Log visible.
- To view initial mismatches, go to the **Case Information** ribbon tab and select **Model Explorer**. In the **Network** category select **Mismatches**. All mismatches are initially less than 0.1 MVA.
- Open line from bus 2 to bus 5; refresh the mismatches. There are now large values at buses 2 and 5. Solve the case.

Power Flow Solution



- Go to the **Tools** ribbon tab and select **Single Solution** to resolve the power flow equations.
- Refresh the mismatch display; notice that mismatches are again less than 0.1 MVA.
- Notice that voltage magnitude has remained fixed at the generator buses. This is because they are being modeled as PV buses.



To customize the power flow solution, go to the
 Options ribbon tab and select Simulator Options
 →Power Flow Solution page

PowerWorld Simulator Options Select Option Category Power Flow Solution Case Information Displays Common Options | Advanced Options | Island-Based AGC | DC Options | General | Storage Environment File Management Controller (Middle) Loop Options-Power Flow (Inner) Loop Options MVA Convergence Tolerance Generator VAR Limits Disable Checking Gen VAR Limits Maximum Number of Iterations 100 🗘 Check Immediately Do Only One Iteration Disable Switched Shunt (SS) Control -MW Control (Outer) Loop Options-Disable LTC Transformer Control This will open Disable Automatic Generation Control (AGC) Disable Phase Shifter Control Enforce Generator MW Limits -Transformer Stepping Methodology Coordinated Sensitivities to the Common O Self-Sensitivity Only Prevent Controller Oscillations Options tab by Maximum Number Controller 20 🗘 Loop Iterations default Restore Defaults ✓ OK X Cancel Help Save to Aux

I7-11





- Common Options Tab
 - MVA Convergence Tolerance
 - the tolerance for the inner power flow loop
 - Must be larger than zero
 - Maximum Number of Iterations
 - the maximum iterations for the inner power flow loop
 - Do only one iteration
 - Same as setting Maximum Number of Iterations to 1.
 - Disable Automatic Generation Control (AGC) disables enforcement of MW interchange for entire case.



- Common Options Tab
 - Unchecking Enforce Generator MW Limits means generator MW limits are not enforced
 - Gen MVAR Limits
 - Disable Checking means generator MVAR limits are not enforced
 - Check immediately means the MVAR limits are checked and handled first before a solution iteration is run



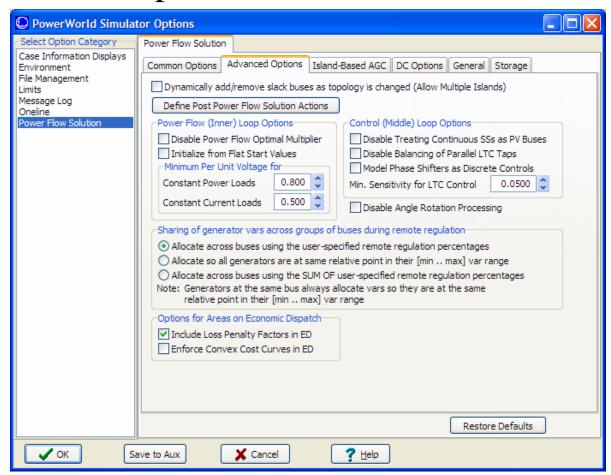
- Common Options Tab
 - Disable Switched Shunt Control (affects entire case)
 - Disable LTC Transformer Control (affects entire case)
 - Disable Phase Shifter Control (affects entire case)
 - Transformer Stepping Methodology
 - Coordinated Sensitivities looks at all transformers that are out-of-range and coordinates the movement to bring all back within regulation range
 - Self-Sensitivity Only looks at each transformer individually and determines the sensitivity of its regulated value with respect to changing its own tap or phase only



- Common Options Tab
 - Prevent Controller Oscillations
 - keeps controlled devices from continually switching between two control states for the entire case
 - Maximum Number of Controller Loop Iterations
 - The voltage control loop will be limited to this many iterations



Advanced Options Tab





- Advanced Options Tab
 - Dynamically add/remove slack buses as topology is changes (Allow Multiple Islands)
 - If a single island is split into two islands (by opening lines), then a new slack bus is chosen (generator with the largest MW limit is chosen)
 - Post Power Flow Solution Actions
 - Allow you to define a list of conditional actions (much like a contingency definition) which occur at the end of *EVERY* power flow solution.
 - An example would be loads that are automatically taken out of service when the voltage drops too low.



- Advanced Options Tab
 - Disable Power Flow Optimal Multiplier
 - The optimal multiplier is a mathematically calculated step size for Newton's Method that prevents the mismatch equations from increasing between iterations.
 - Initialize From Flat Start Values always starts power flow solutions with voltages at 1.0 per unit and angles equal to the slack bus angle (not recommended)
 - Minimum Per Unit Voltage for Constant Power Loads and Constant Current Loads
 - At voltages less than the defined values, the constant power and constant current loads will be reduced
 - To disable either of these features, set the values to 0



- Advanced Options Tab
 - Disable Treating Continuous SSs as PV Buses
 - Continuous switched shunts are normally treated as buses with fixed power and voltage inside the inner power flow loop.
 - Disable Balancing of Parallel LTC taps
 - Parallel LTC taps normally have their tap values synchronized to prevent circulating Var flow.
 - Model Phase Shifters as Discrete Controls
 - Phase shifters will switch tap positions discretely based on the tap step size
 - Min. Sensitivity for LTC Control
 - Transformers with a sensitivity lower than this will be disabled.

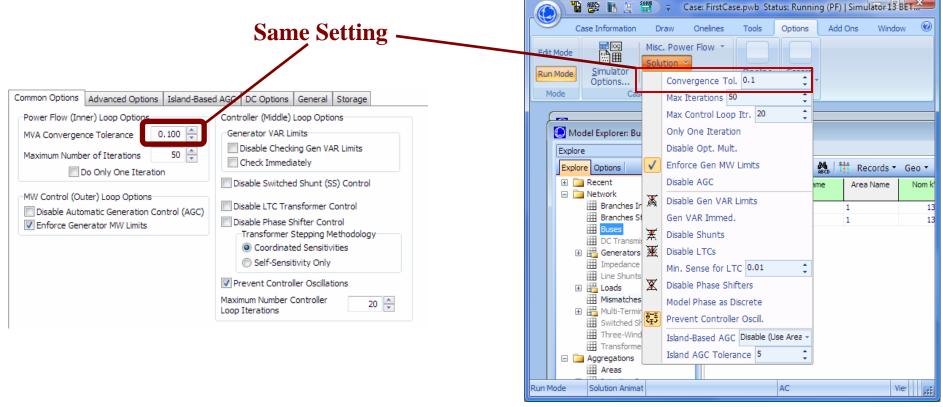


- Advanced Options Tab
 - Disable Angle Rotation Processing
 - Voltage angles are rotated so that the angle range in an island is equally spaced around zero degrees if any angles fall outside +/- 160 degrees
 - Sharing of generator vars across groups of buses
 - Allocate across buses using the user-specified remote regulation percentages
 - Allocate so all generators are at same relative point in their [min..max] var range
 - Allocate across buses using the SUM OF user-specified remote regulation percentages
 - Options for Areas on Economic Dispatch
 - Include Loss Penalty Factors in ED will consider losses in determining the dispatch
 - Enforce Convex Cost Curves in ED will turn units that are operating outside the convex portion of their cost curve off automatic control

Solution Options Toolbar

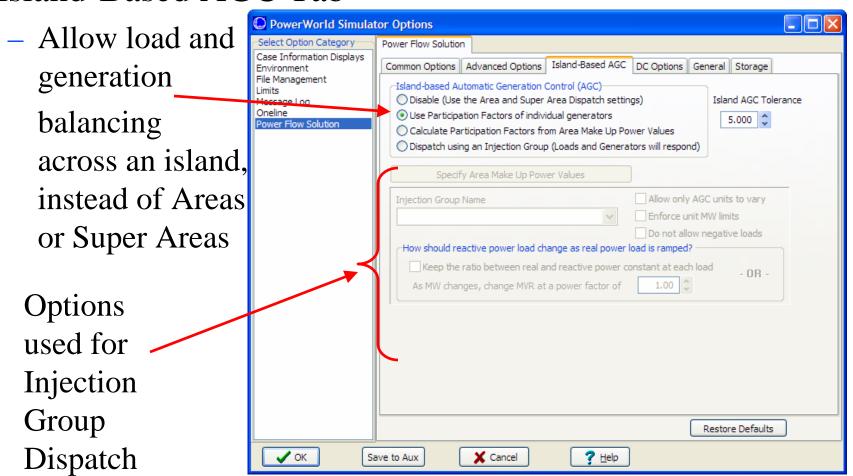


• Select the **Solution** button on the **Case Options** ribbon group. Note that most of the settings on the dialog are available.





Island-Based AGC Tab



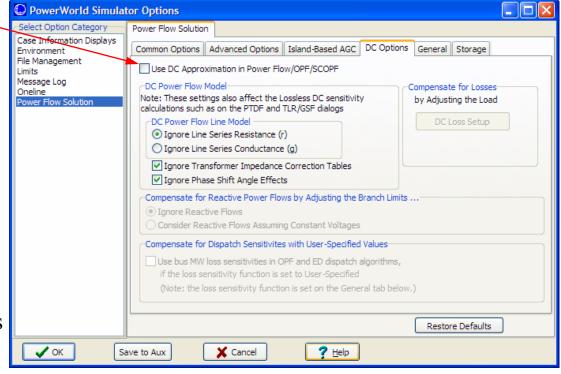


- DC Options Tab
 - Use DC Approx. in

Power Flow / OPF / SCOPF

 Check this box to model the system using a DC power flow.

Note: Once you convert a large system to a DC power flow, it is very difficult to get the AC system to resolve.





- DC Options Tab
 - Compensate for Losses by Adjusting the Load
 - Specify a load multiplier at each bus. When solving the DC power, Simulator will artificially increase loads by this multiplier
 - Compensate for Reactive Power Flows by Adjusting the Branch Limits
 - Compensate for Dispatch Sensitivities with User-Specified Values
 - Allows you to make use of loss sensitivities even in the DC power flow



- DC Options Tab
 - DC Power Flow Model
 - Ignore Line Series Resistance (r)

$$-b = -1/x, g = 0$$

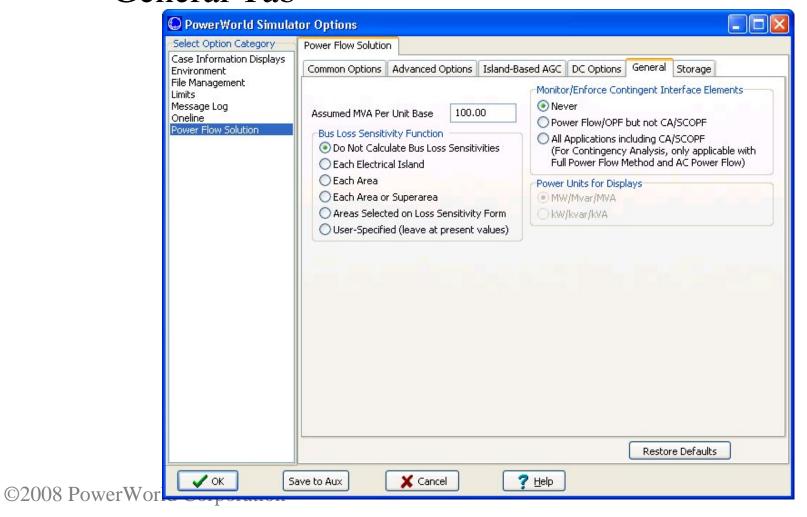
• Ignore Line Series Conductance (g)

$$-b = -x/(r^2+x^2), g = 0$$

- Ignore Transformer Impedance Correction Tables and Ignore Phase Shift Angle Effects (default is to ignore)
 - Impedance correction tends to increase impedance and phase shift effects tend to decrease impedance
 - By not ignoring, DC equations become a function of the system state and removes some of the advantages of the DC approximation



General Tab



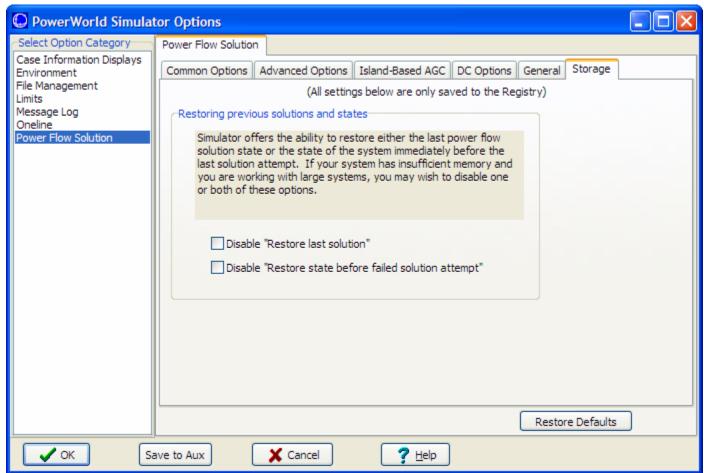
I7-26



- General Tab
 - Assumed MVA Per Unit Base
 - MVA base used for the entire case
 - Default is 100 MVA
 - Monitor/Enforce Contingent Interface Elements
 - Determine when the impact of contingent interface elements should be calculated
 - Bus Loss Sensitivity Function
 - Discussed when we go over sensitivities in the Sensitivity Training section



Storage Tab



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Islands - Defined



- Often times power system consists of a single interconnected system operating in synchronism
- However sometimes multiple systems exist that are either unconnected, or connected only through DC transmission lines.
- Such systems operate asynchronous with one another and are called "Islands".
- Each island must have a slack bus. Check Allow Multiple Islands.

Multiple Islands in Simulator

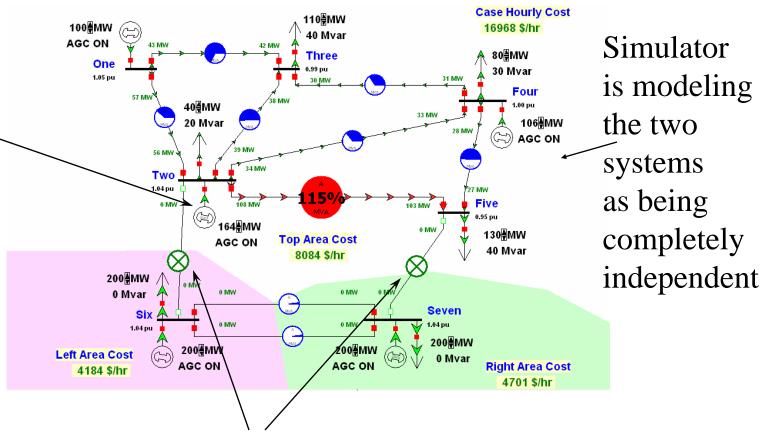


- Go to the Options ribbon tab → Simulator Options
 → Power Flow Solution → Advanced Options tab
 - Check Dynamically add/remove slack buses as topology is changed
 - On the B7FLAT case the slack bus is 7.
 - To create two islands, open lines 2-6 and 5-7.
 - If new island does not have a slack, Simulator automatically chooses largest generator
 - Repeat with Dynamically add/remove...unchecked

Case with Multiple Islands



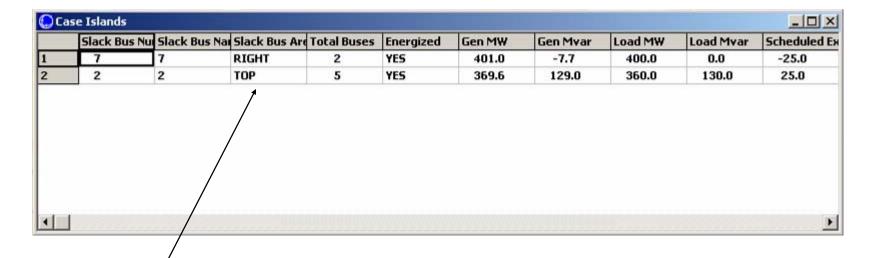
Simulator has auto-matically chosen bus 2 as the slack.



Open tie-lines

Island Records Display





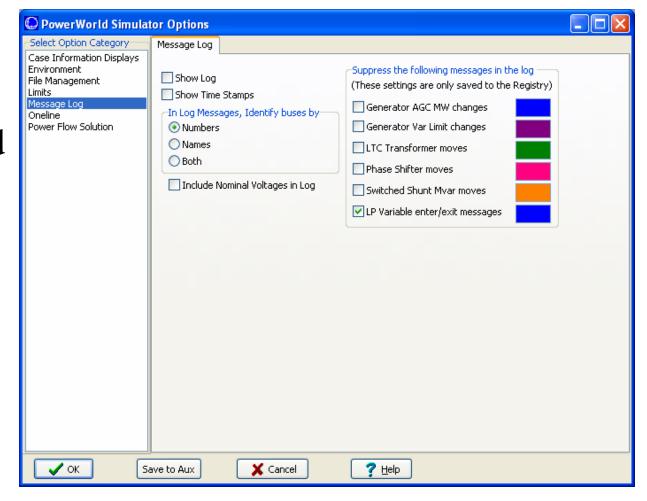
Model Explorer → Aggregations
→ Island Records shows
information about each island in
the case, including its slack bus.

It is not uncommon to have multiple islands. Often cases in the Eastern United States have Five Islands

Simulator Options: Message Log Page

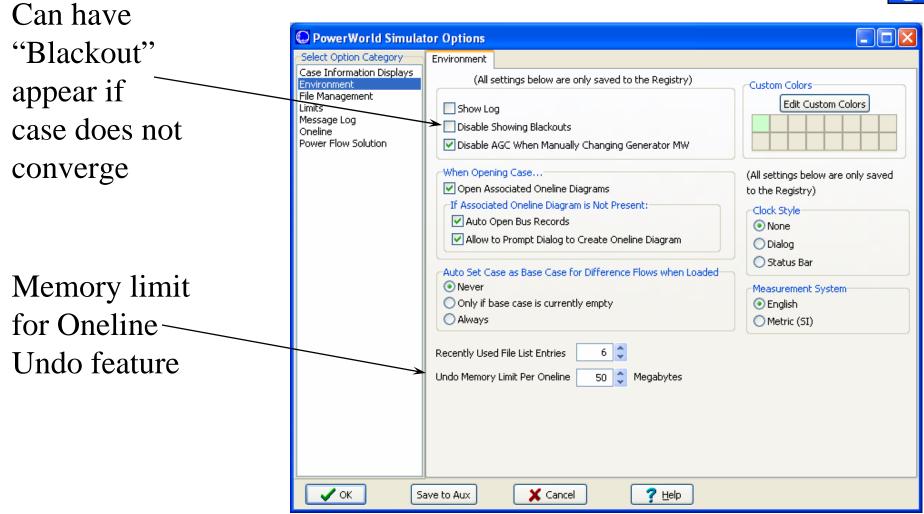


Customize
 message log
 notation,
 contents, and
 appearance

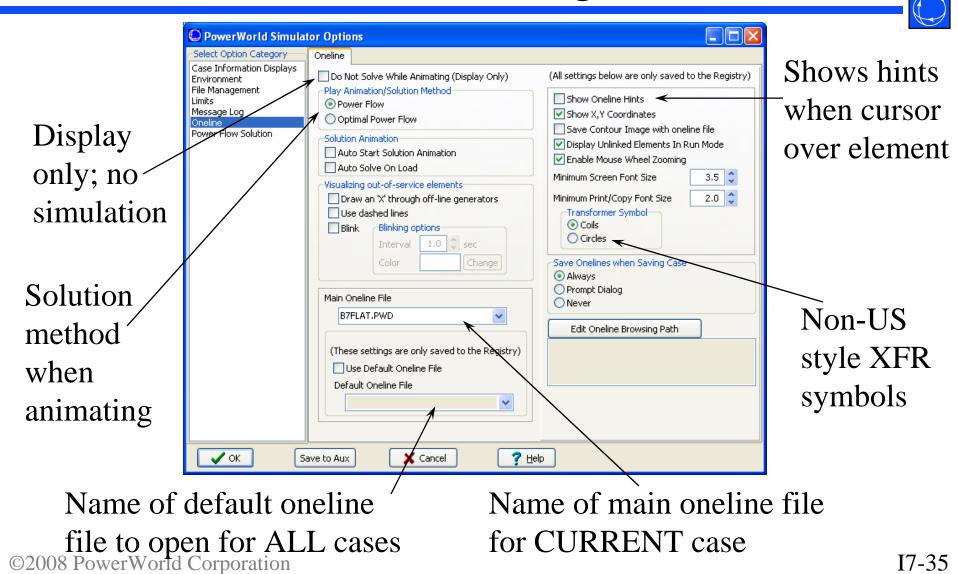


Simulator Options: Environment Page



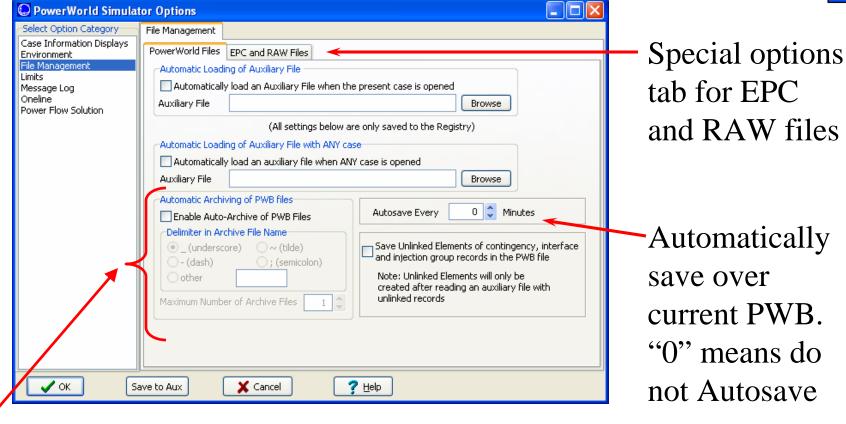


Simulator Options: Oneline Page



Simulator Options: File Manage Page



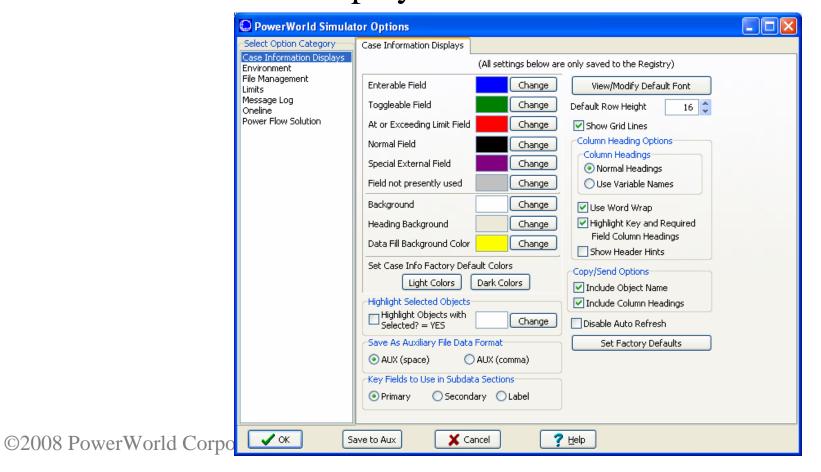


Enables previously saved PWB files to be automatically archived each time the file is saved with the same name

Simulator Options: Case Information Displays



 This was covered in an earlier section on Case Information Displays



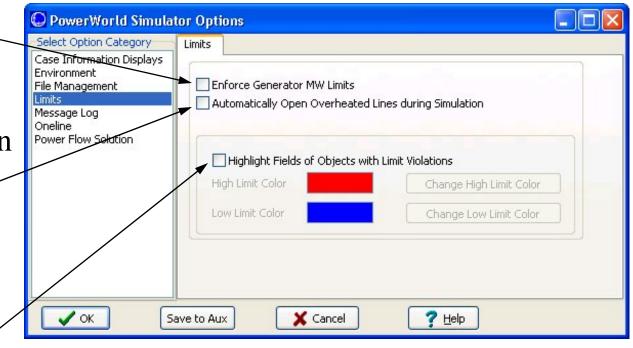
Simulation Options: Limits Tab



Globally set enforcement of generator limits

Can set lines to open automatically if overloaded for too long in simulation

Text fields can be highlighted if the 'value they display is violating a defined limit



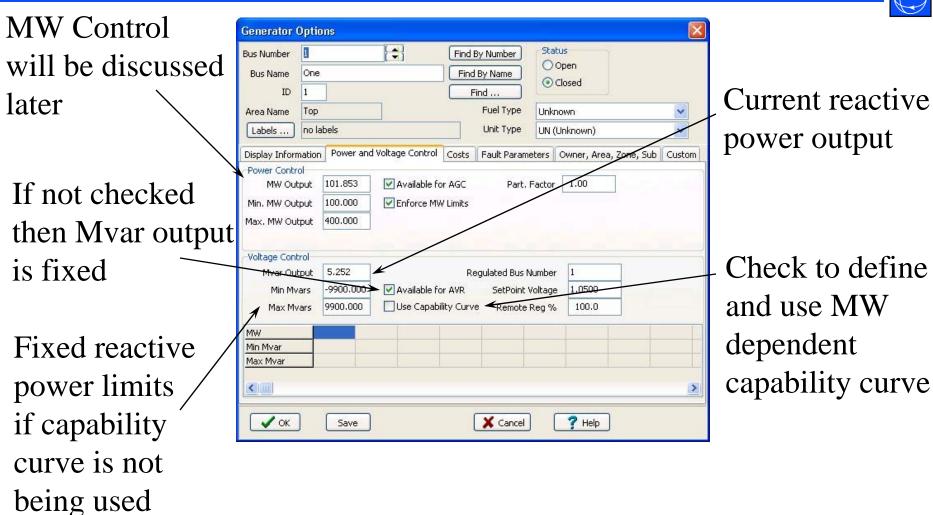
Generator AVR



- Generator AVR is integrated directly into the power flow equations. (AVR creates "PV buses")
- Generators on AVR maintain a fixed voltage magnitude at the regulated bus, provided reactive power output is within limits.
- To change options, right-click on generator symbol and select Information Dialog.

Generator Dialog (Edit Mode)





Remote Regulation and Var Sharing



- You may specify a regulated bus number which is not the terminal bus (commonly called "remote" regulation)
- Multiple generators may regulate the same bus.
 - Generators at different buses will share the total Var requirement according to the option selected for sharing vars across groups of buses (Advanced Options Tab of Power Flow Solution Page)
 - Generators at the same bus will coordinate Var outputs so they are within the same relative location inside their Var range
- Generators can share at the same bus and remotely regulate at the same time. In this case the "regulation ©2008 PowerWopercentage" refers to all the generators at the bus

Defining Reactive Capability Curve



- To use a reactive capability curve, on the Generator Dialog, check **Use Capability Curve**.
- Then use table to edit the curve. Right-click on a column of table (a point on the curve) to either
 - insert a new point (table column)
 - delete an existing point (table column)

Reactive Capability Curve



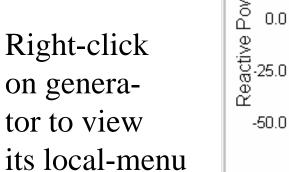
Enter the following capability curve

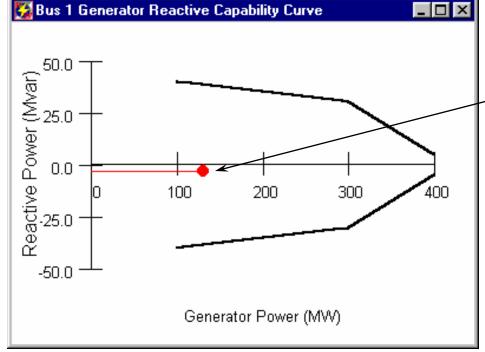
MW	100.0	300	400.0	
Min Mvar	-40	-30	-5	
Max Mvar	40	30	5	

 You can view a graph of the reactive capability curve by selecting Reactive Capability Curve from the generator menu.

Capability Curve Graph







Current MW and Mvar operating point of the generator

Start the simulation, and then use the spin button to the right of the generator to change the MW output of the generator. Notice how the operating point on the graph changes.

Saving Reactive Capability in Text File



- All power system data, including the generator reactive capability curve, is saved in PowerWorld Binary format (*.pwb) files
- Reactive capability curve data is not saved in most text-based power flow formats, such as PTI RAW or GE EPC files.
- Simulator provides the ability to save this data in text files for easy transfer between cases.

Saving in Text Files



- To save reactive capability data in a text file
 - Go to the Model Explorer → Network → Generators
 - Right-Click and choose Save As → Auxiliary File
 - Choose the filename to save under and Click **OK**
 - You will then be prompted regarding saving the Bid
 Curve and Reactive Capability Curve data to the AUX
 file. Choose Yes to the Reactive Capability Curve
 - Reactive Capability Curves are stored in SUBDATA sections of the AUX file
 - the *.aux file can then be manually edited

Switched Shunt Control

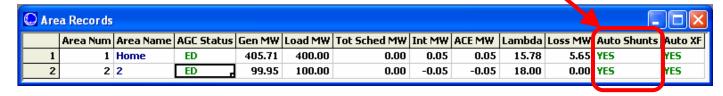


- Switched shunts can automatically change their shunt susceptance to control voltage at a regulated bus.
- Switched shunts on continuous control are integrated directly into the power flow equations. (They create "PV buses.")
- Automatic switched shunt control can be disabled in three places
 - for entire case on Simulator Options dialog
 - for area on Area Records display
 - individually on Switched Shunt dialog
 - All three of these flags must be set to enable switched shunt control in order for a shunt to move.

Switched Shunt Control

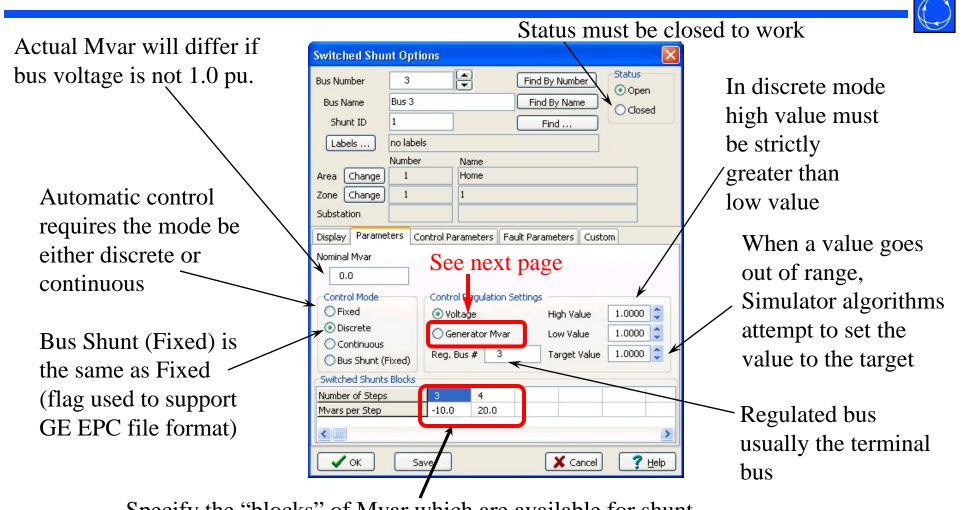


- Open Case B5R
- Verify the switched shunt control is enabled on Power Flow Solution Options dialog
 - Disable Switched Shunt Control
- Verify control enabled on the Area Records



 Right-click on switched shunt shown at bus 3 to display the Switched Shunt dialog.

Switched Shunt Dialog



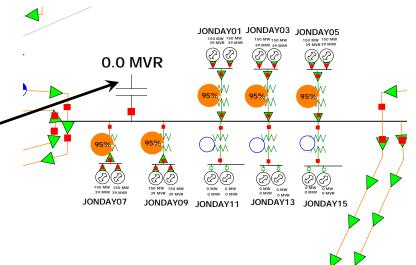
Specify the "blocks" of Mvar which are available for shunt dispatch. This example demonstrated a shunt which has the ©2008 Powerbibity to provide -30, -20, -10, 0, 20, 40, 60, or 80 Mvars

Switched Shunt Control of Generator Mvar Outputs



- Switched Shunts may be used to control the Mvar output of generation
- To do this change the Control Regulation Settings to Generator Mvar
 - Setting Reg. Bus now means to control the total generator Mvar output for generators which control the voltage at the bus specified.

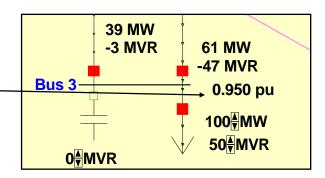
You could set this shunt to control the total generator Mvar output of all 16 generators controlling it's terminal bus ©2008 PowerWorld Corporation

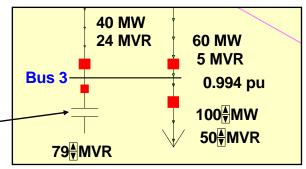


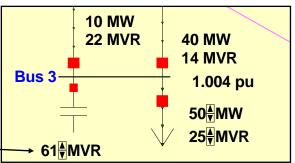
Example Shunt on B5R Case



- Bus 3 presently has a voltage of 0.950 per unit.
- From earlier slide, we set the control range for the shunt to 0.99 to 1.00 per unit, and switched in the shunt
- This results in the shunt moving to 80 Mvar—nominal
- If you decrease the load at the bus, the voltage starts to increase, so eventually the shunts reduces







Transformer Tap Control



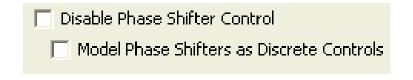
- Some transformers can automatically change either their tap ratio or their phase angle to control either
 - voltage Load Tap Changing (LTC) transformer
 - MVAR flow LTC transformer
 - MW flow phase shifter
- Again, Automatic control can be disabled in three places
 - for entire case on Simulator Options dialog
 - for area on Area Records display
 - individually on Transmission Line/Transformer dialog
 - All three of these flags must be set to enable switched shunt control in order for a shunt to move.

Transformer Control



 Verify the transformer control is enabled on Power Flow Solution Options dialog



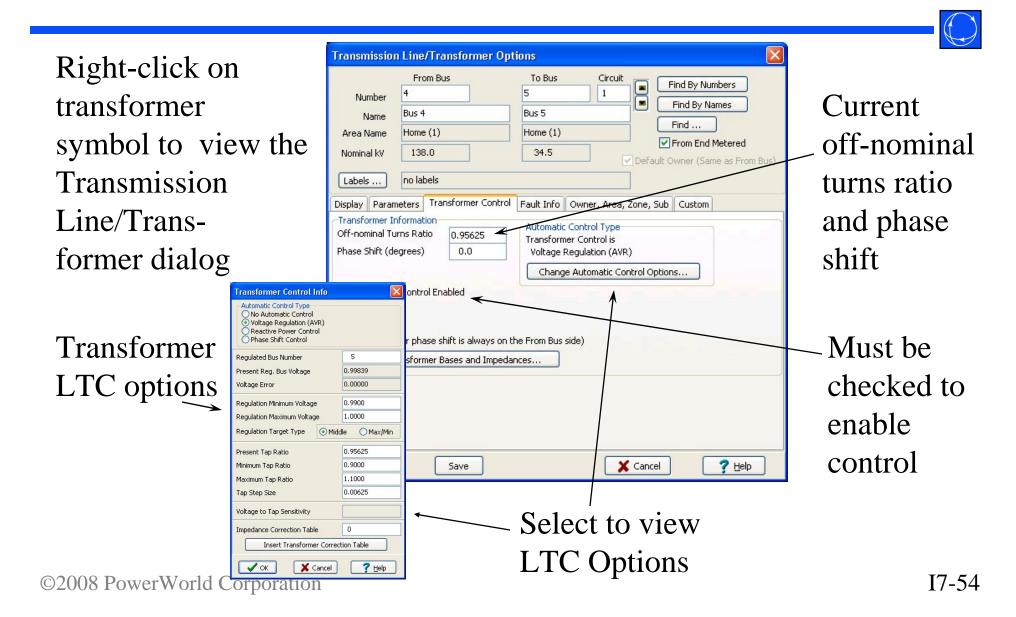


Verify control enabled on the Area Records



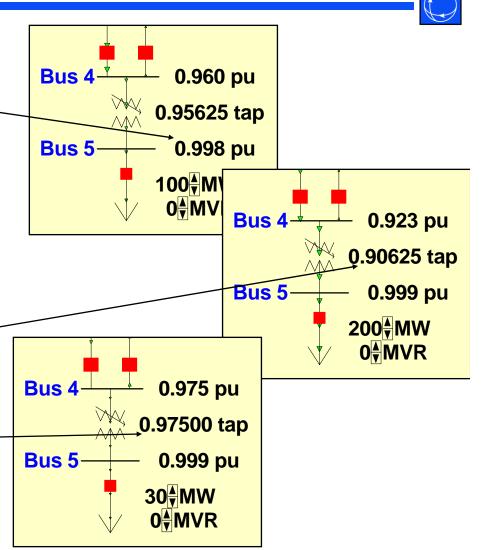
 Right-click on transformer shown between buses 4-5 to display the transformer dialog.

LTC Transformers



Example LTC on B5R Case

- Bus 5 starts with a voltage of 0.998 per unit—
- On previous slide we showed that tap (on the bus 4 side) was set to control voltage at bus 5 between 0.99 and 1.00
- As we increase load tap moves
- As we decrease load tap moves



Detailed Overview of PowerWorld Simulator's Power flow



Special Pre-processing Techniques
Power Flow Algorithm
Control Switching Hierarchy
MW Control

What Does It Mean to do a Single Solution?



- Single solution should not be confused with a single Newton-Raphson (or other technique) power flow
- Simulator's "Single Solution" encompasses three nested loops that iterates between a power flow routine, logic for control device switching, and generation control until the power flow is solved and no more device switching is detected

Overview of Single Solution Routine



- Pre-processing
 - Angle Smoothing
 - Generator remote regulation viability
 - Estimate MW change needed
- Three Nested Loops Solution Process
 - MW Control Loop
 - Voltage Controller Loop
 - Inner Power Flow loop

Traditionally called the *Power Flow Solution*

Voltage Control Loop also covered in this section

Pre-processing



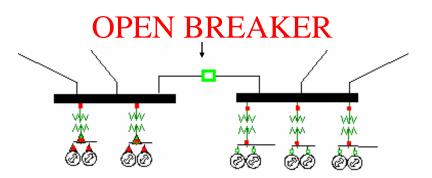
- Angle Smoothing
 - Reduces large angle differences across transmission elements that have recently been closed in to reduce initial power flow mismatches
 - Previously if you closed in a line with a large angle difference, the power flow would diverge

Pre-processing



- Generator Remote Regulation Viability
 - Checks for a viable transmission path between a generator bus and its remotely regulated bus
 - If a generator has no transmission path, or if all possible transmission routes to the regulated bus are intercepted by other voltage controlled buses, then the generator is internally turned off of voltage regulation

If a generator on left are set to control voltage at the bus on the right, then this would cause convergence difficulty



Pre-processing



Estimate MW Change

- Stores the initial output of the generators for referencing during participation factor control
- Modifies generator outputs in each area, super area, or island (depending on what control is being used) to meet approximate ACE requirements
- Attempting to prevent slack bus from changing by drastic amounts during the first Newton-Raphson power flow calculation in the inner loop

MW Control Loop



- MW Control (Outer Loop)
 - Repeat
 - Voltage Controller Loop
 - Inner Power Flow Loop
 - Change generation/load to meet ACE requirements
 - Redispatches generation and/or load using the selected
 AGC control method for each area (superarea, or island)
 - Until no more generation/load changes are required

Power Flow and Control Loop

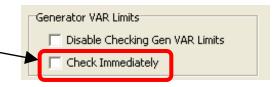


- Voltage control switching and Inner Power Flow Loop
 - Repeat
 - 1: Inner Power Flow loop
 - 2: Generator MVAR Limit Checking
 - 3: DC Line Solution
 - 4: Switched Shunt Control Switching
 - 5: Transformer switching
 - Until no more control switching is required

Step 1: Inner Power Flow Loop



- Step 1: Repeat (Inner Power Flow loop)
 - Evaluation Mismatch
 - Generator MVAR output automatically calculated for PV buses
 - Optionally (enforce Generator MVAR limits at each step)



- Perform power flow step
 - » Newton's Method (this is in rectangular form)
 - » Decoupled Power Flow
 - » Polar Form Newton's Method
- Until no more mismatch

Step 2: Generator MVAR Limits Step 3: Solve DC line equations



- Step 2: Generator MVAR Limit Check
 - Backs off or enforces MVAR limits
 - Checks for controller oscillation
 - » Generators that appear to be oscillating between control settings are internally set off of control
 - Updates mismatch and voltage vectors
 - » Incorporates voltage vector changes by processing generators in series
- Step 3: Solve DC line equations

Step 4: Switched Shunt Control

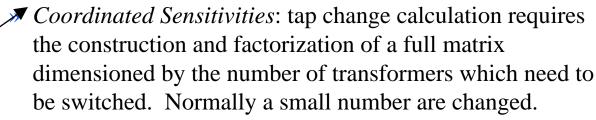


- Step 4: Switched shunt control
 - Checks regulated buses for voltage limit violations and adjusts switched shunt control appropriately
 - » Also can control the total VAR output for generators controlling the voltage at a particular bus (good for modeling a shunt which maintains VAR reserves)
 - » Shunts are adjusted by one at a time in series with each shunt only considering it's impact on the regulated bus' voltage. The interaction of between different shunts is not modeled here.
 - Checks for controller oscillations
 - » Switched shunts that appear to be oscillating between control settings are internally set off of control
 - Updates mismatch and voltage vectors

Step 5: Transformer Switching



- Step 5: Transformer switching
 - Checks regulated Voltages, MVAR flows, and MW flows for limit violations and adjusts transformer controls in a manner dependent on the Transformer Stepping Methodology



- Self-Sensitivity Only: each transformer does not consider how it affects other transformers. This calculation is much faster, but may be less accurate and lead to more iterations
- Checks for controller oscillations
 - » Transformers that appear to be oscillating between control settings are internally set off of control
- Updates mismatch and voltage vectors

Coordinated Sensitivities

elf-Sensitivity Only

Complete Process

PowerWorld Simulator Options

Select Option Category

Case Information Displays

File Management

✓ OK



-Based AGC DC Options General Storage

Disable Checking Gen VAR Limits

Disable LTC Transformer Contro

Disable Phase Shifter Control

Prevent Controller Oscillations

tore Defaults

Maximum Number Controlle

? Help

X Cancel

Save to Aux

Generator VAR Limits

- Pre-processing
 - Angle Smoothing, Remote Viability Check, Area Generator Estimation
- Repeat (MW Control Loop)
 - Repeat (Controller Loop)
 - 1: Repeat (InnerPower Flow loop)
 - Evaluation Mismatch
 - Optionally (enforce Generator MVARlimits at each step)
 - Perform power flow step
 - » Newton's Method
 - » Decoupled Power Flow
 - » Polar Newton
 - Until no more mismatch (or max iteration
 - 2: Generator MVAR Limit Checking
 - 3: DC Line Solution
 - 4: Switched Shunt Control Switching
 - 5: Transformer switching—
 - Until no more control switching is required (or at max iteration)
 - Change generation/load to meet ACE requirements
 - Redispatches generation/load using the AGC control method for area (island)
- Until no more generation changes are required