

---

# Hierarchical Two-Level Voltage Controller using Synchrophasors for Southern California Edison

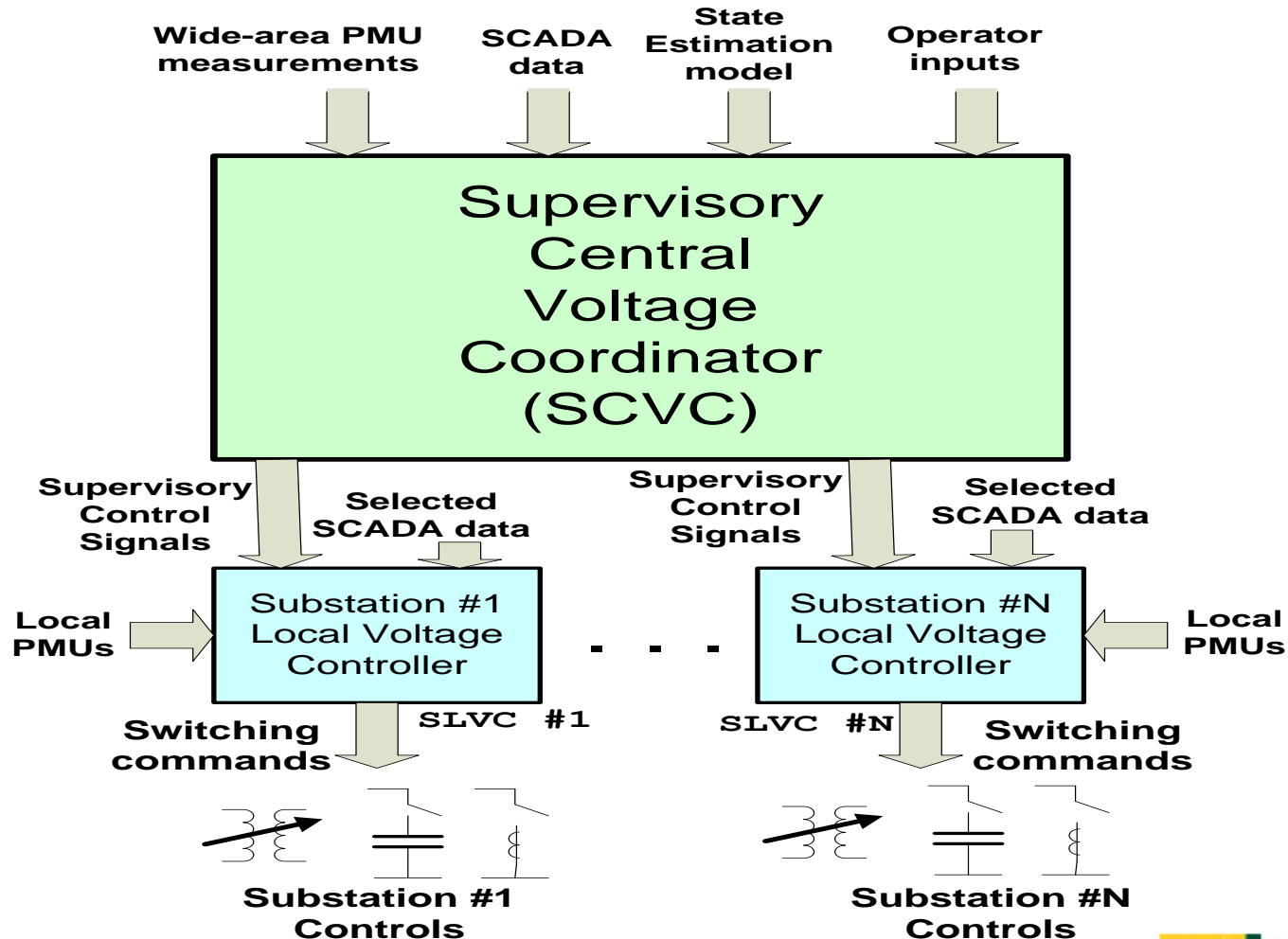
**Mani V. Venkatasubramanian**  
Javier Guerrero, Jingdong Su  
Hong Chun, Xun Zhang

**Washington State University**  
Pullman WA

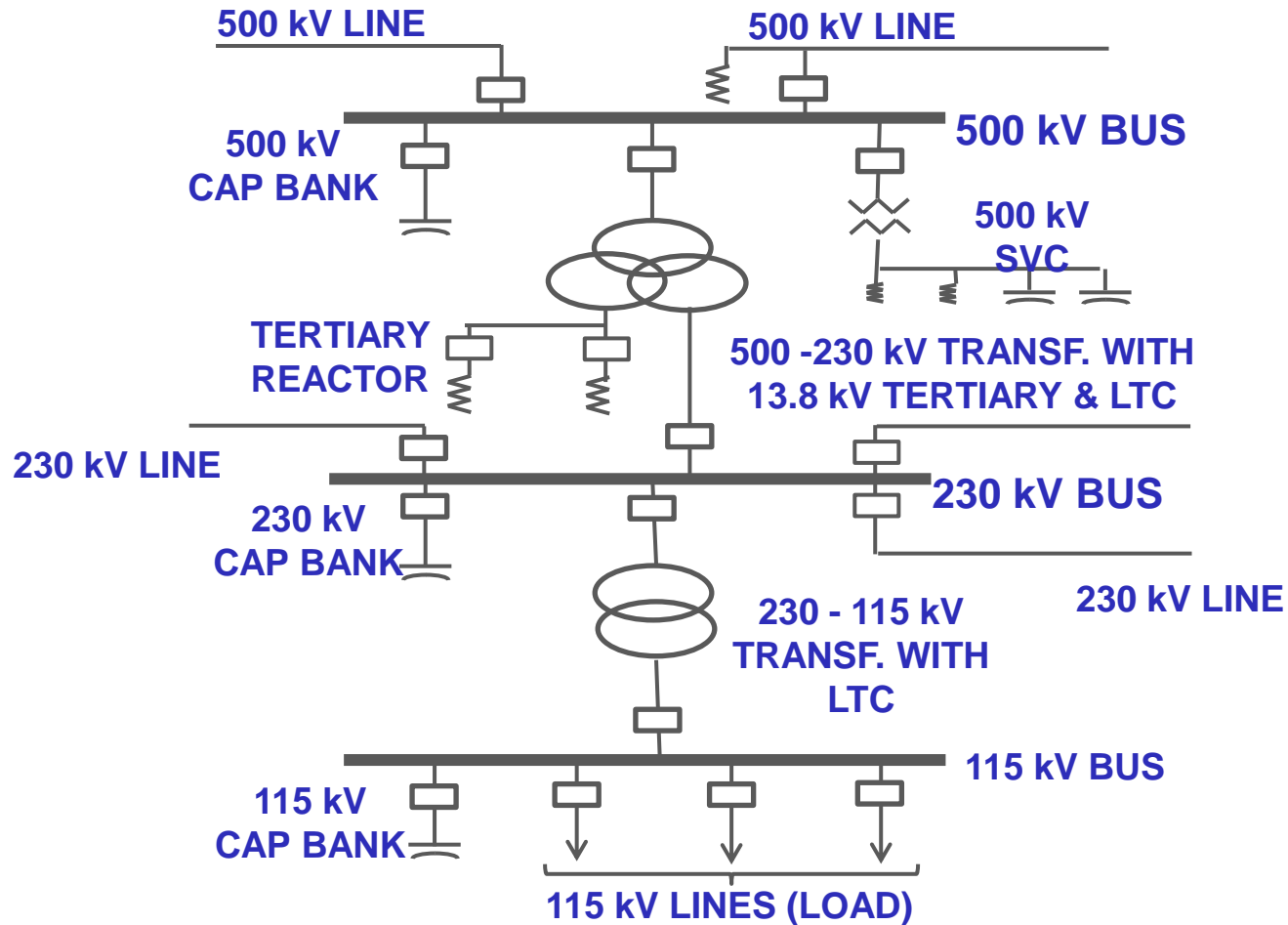
**Farrokh Habibi-Ashrafi**  
Armando Salazar  
**Backer Abu-Jaradeh**

**Southern California Edison**  
Los Angeles CA

# Controller Structure



# Typical SCE Bulk Substation



# SLVC Controller Objectives

---

- **Substation Local Voltage Controller (SLVC)**
  - Maintain substation bus voltages by switching local VAR devices – transformer banks, capacitor banks and reactor banks
  - Maintain VAR output and VAR flow constraints
  - Minimize switching of VAR devices
  - Alerts and Alarms when nearing voltage insecurity
  - Lessens burden on substation operators

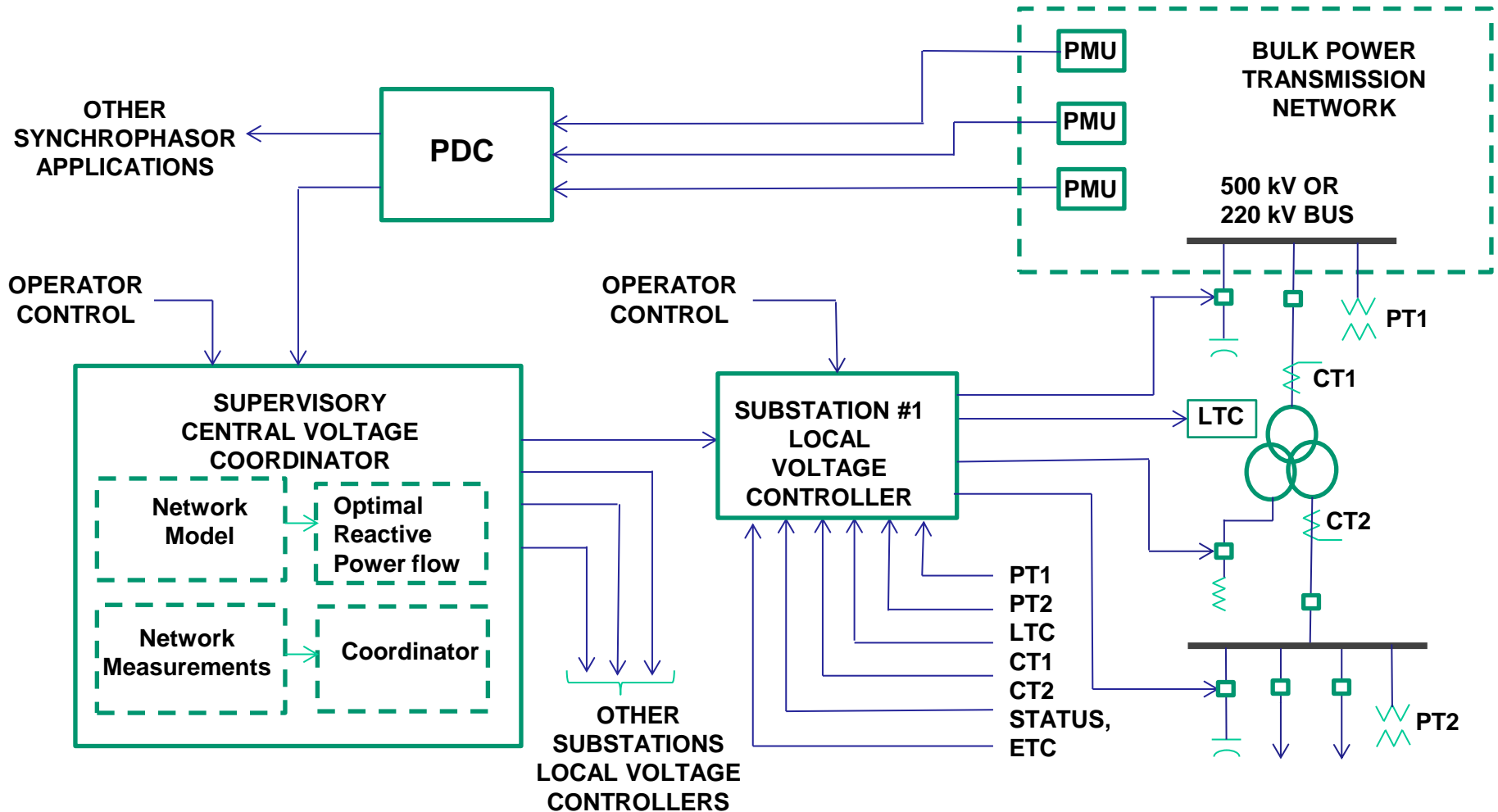
(continued)

# SLVC Controller Objectives

---

- **Substation Local Voltage Controller (SLVC)**
  - Switching decisions mostly based on local PMU measurements – bus voltages, VAR flows, device status
  - Supervisory guidance from central coordinator – voltage schedules, SLVC enable/disable
  - Closed-loop monitoring of system conditions – corrective actions whenever needed
  - Adapts to varying system conditions

# SCVC Central Coordinator

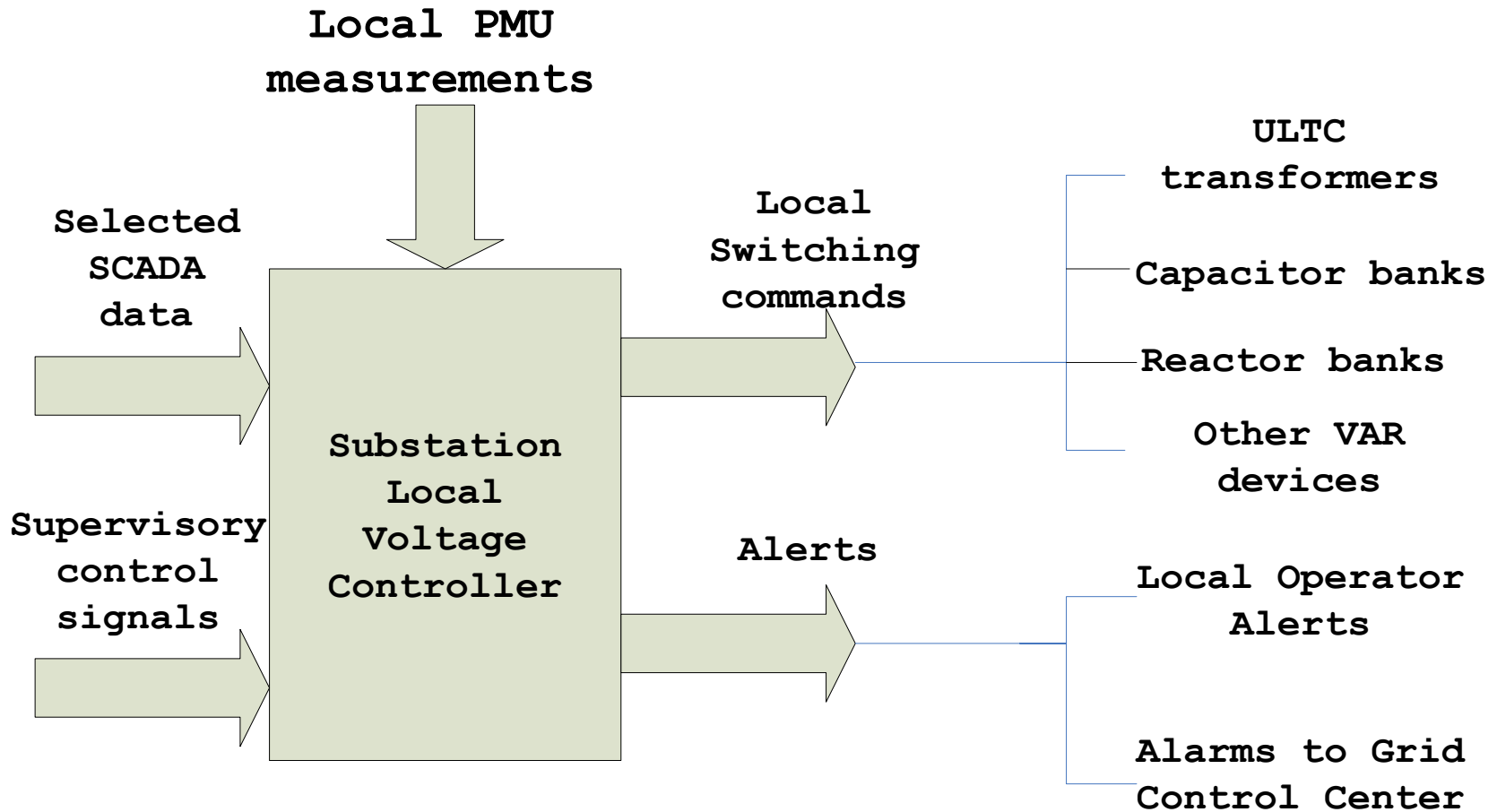


# SCVC Controller Objectives

---

- **Supervisory Central Voltage Coordinator (SCVC)**
  - Coordinate switching of substation SLVC controllers
    - Enable specific substation SLVCs as needed
    - Disable other substations to prevent hunting
  - Optimize voltage profile towards minimizing VAR losses – convey schedules to substation SLVCs
  - Optimal management of VAR resources
  - Alerts and Alarms when nearing voltage insecurity

# SLVC Controller





# Substation Controller Modes

- **Slave Mode (Substation SVC in service)**
  - Maintain 115 kV and 230 kV bus voltages by switching local VAR devices – transformer banks, capacitor banks and reactor banks
  - Maintain SVC VAR output within limits and other VAR flow constraints
- **Master Mode (SVC out of service)**
  - Maintain 115 kV, 230 kV and 500 kV bus voltages by switching local VAR devices – transformer banks, capacitor and reactor banks
  - Maintain VAR flow constraints
- **Automatic switching between Master and Slave Modes using SVC status. Manual override optional.**

# SCVC Supervisory Coordination

---

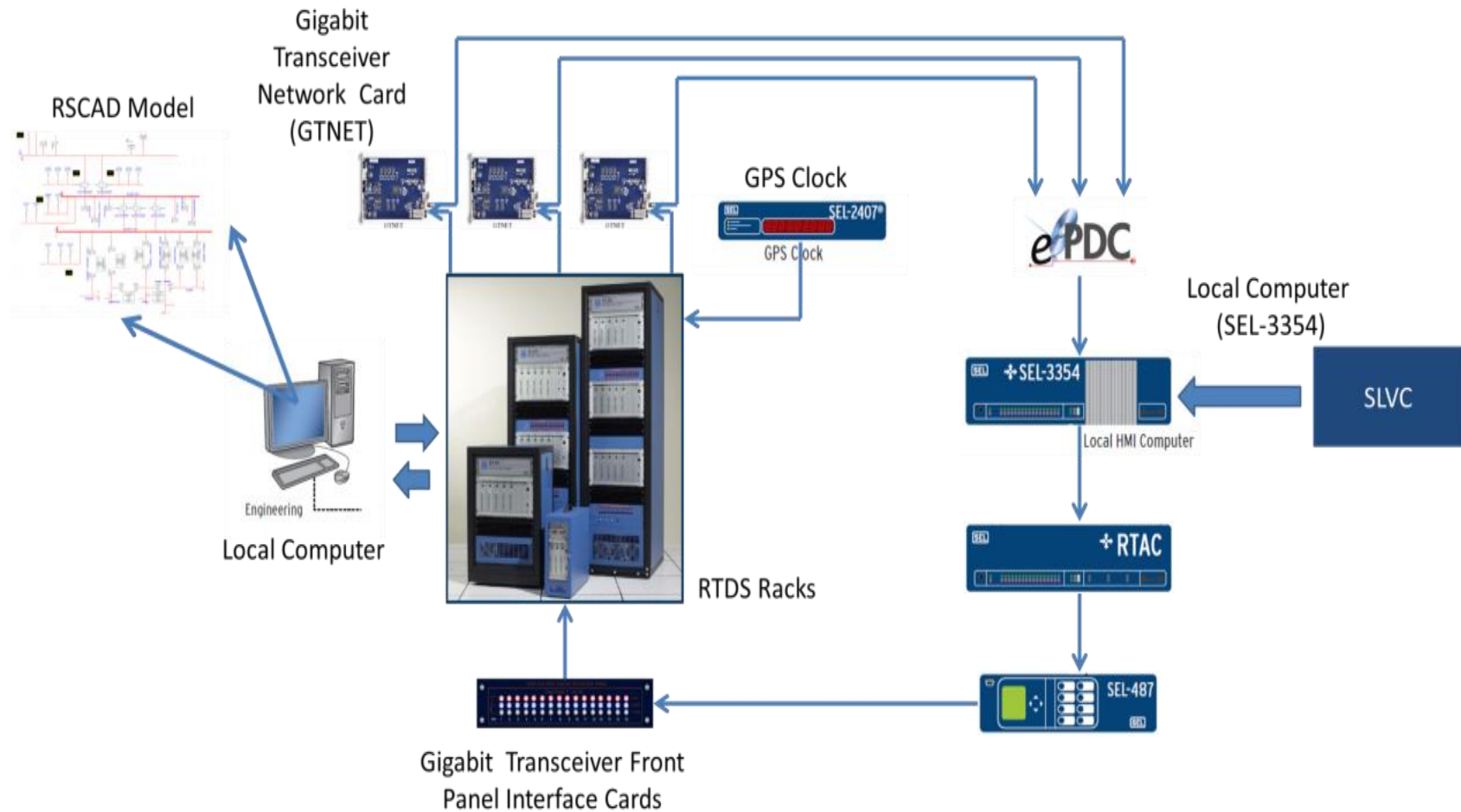
- Fast real-time coordination of substation SLVC controllers
- Discrete optimization based on voltage schedules and PMU measurements
- Decide which substations to enable and which ones to disable
- Closed-loop monitoring and corrections

# SCVC Optimal Management

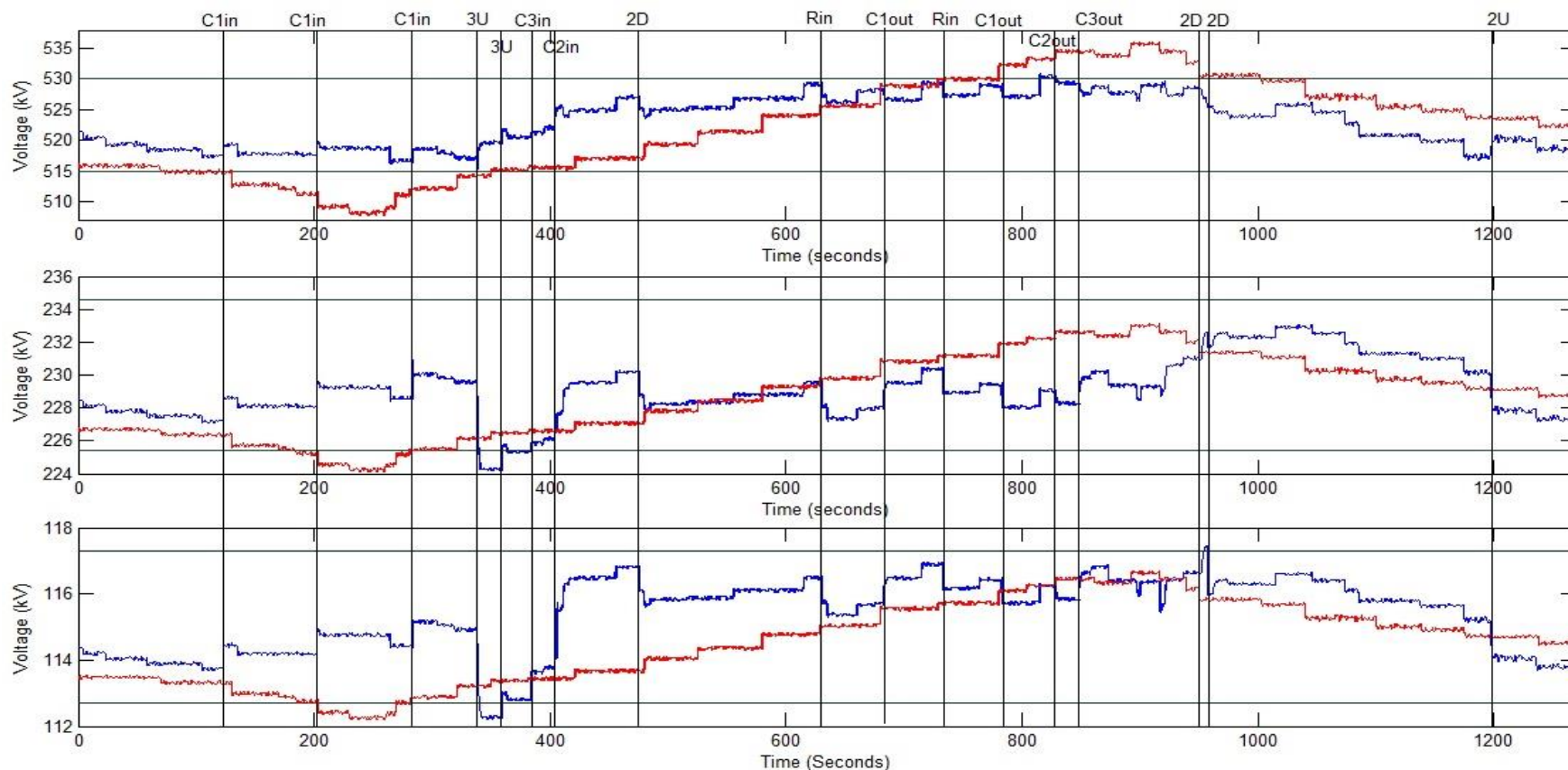
---

- Optimization of substation voltage schedules
- Reduce VAR losses
- Optimal power-flow like
- Mostly based on PMU measurements
- Possibly several times a day

# SLVC RTDS Test Set-up at SCE



# RTDC Test Results Example



C1: One of 4 79.2 MVar cap banks @ 230 kV  
 R: One of 6 45 MVar reactor banks @ 13.8 kV

C2: 46.8 MVar Cap. Bank @ 115 kV  
 m: U/D: m Taps Up/Down @ all 2 AA LTCs

C3: 28 MVar Cap. Bank @ 115 kV

# Two-Level Controller Summary

---

- Automatic management of VAR resources at substations
- Design mostly based on local PMU measurements
- Discrete controller design – Slave and Master modes
- Predict switching effects and find optimal actions after including control constraints
- Closed-loop monitoring after switching. Take corrective actions as needed.
- Adapts to system conditions. Robust methodology.
- Gives Alerts and Alarms to operators if unusual
- **Phased implementation planned.**