

Online Optimization of Power Networks

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Caltech

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CISS Plenary Princeton



Key message

Large network of DERs

- Real-time optimization at scale
- Computational challenge: power flow solution

Online optimization [feedback control]

- Network computes power flow solutions in real time at scale for free
- Exploit it for our optimization/control
- Naturally adapts to evolving network conditions

Examples

- Slow timescale: OPF
- Fast timescale: frequency control



Outline

Background: smart grid

Online OPF

- Optimal power flow & relaxations
- Online algorithm
- Analysis and simulations

Gan & L, JSAC 2016

Load-side frequency control

- Dynamic model & design approach
- Distributed online algorithm
- Analysis and simulations

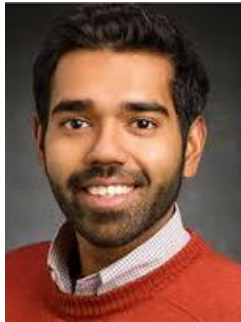
Zhao, Topcu, Li, L, TAC 2014

Mallada, Zhao, L, Allerton 2014

Zhao et al: CDC 2014, CISS 2015, PSCC 2016



Semidefinite relaxations of OPF



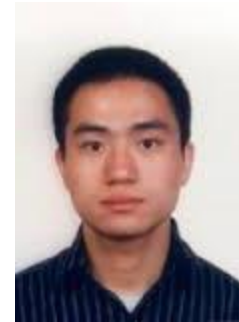
Bose (UIUC)



Chandy



Farivar

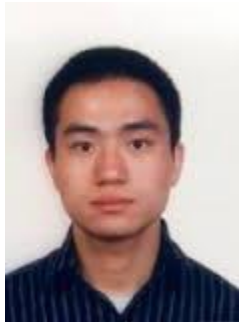


Gan (FB)



Lavaei (UCB)

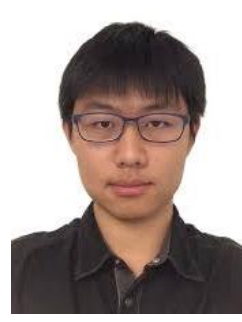
Online OPF



Gan (FB)



Dvijotham



Tang

Dynamics



Mallada (JHU)



Li (Harvard)



Topcu (Austin)

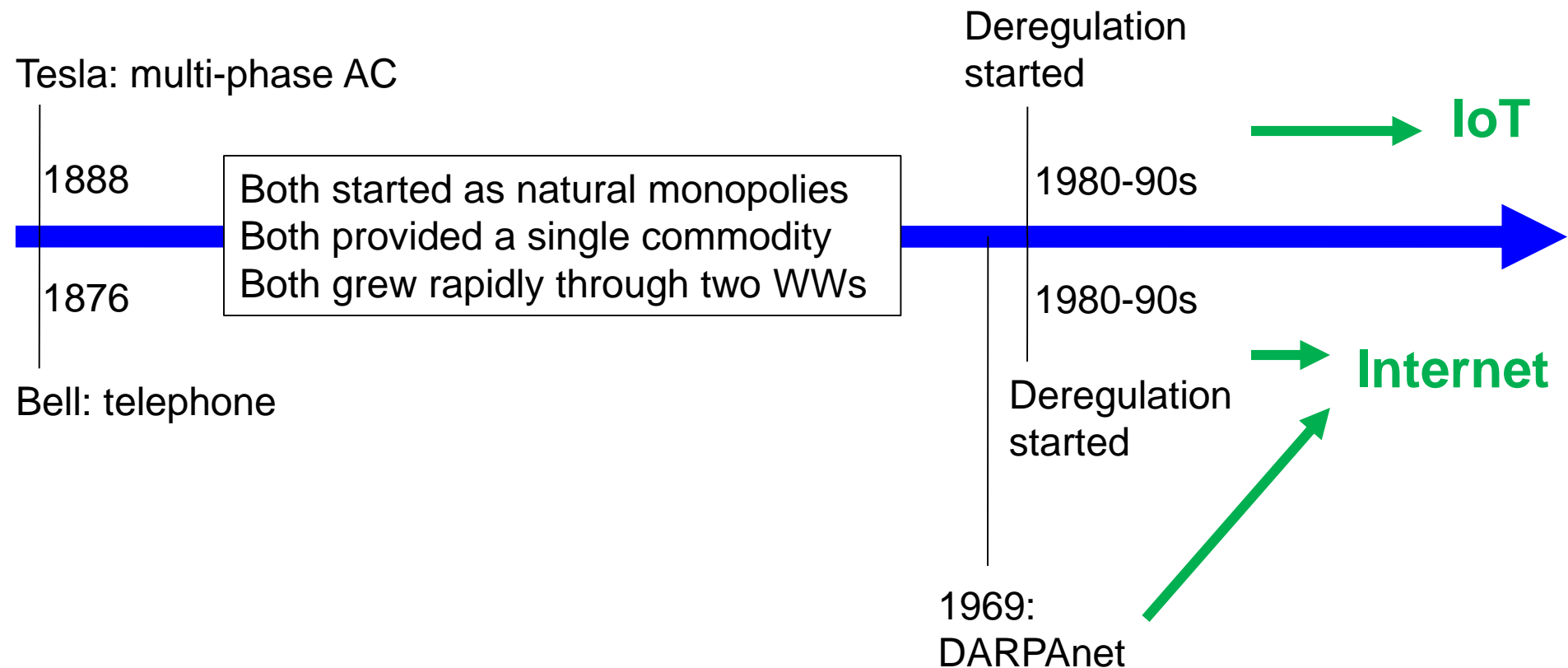


Zhao



Watershed moment

Power network will undergo similar architectural transformation that phone network went through in the last two decades





Four drivers

Proliferation of renewables

Electrification of transportation

Advances in power electronics

Deployment of sensing, control, comm

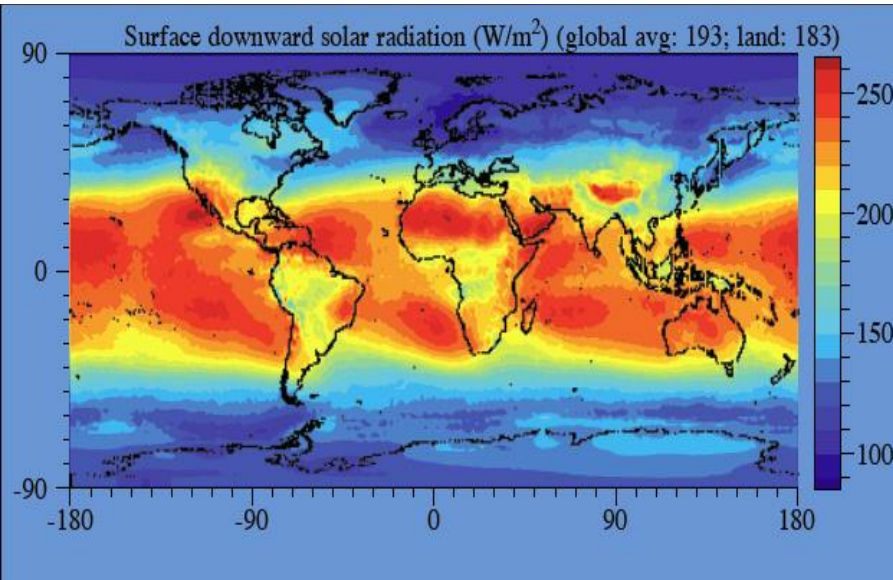
} challenges

} enablers

Area to power the world by solar



Solar power over land: > 20x world energy demand

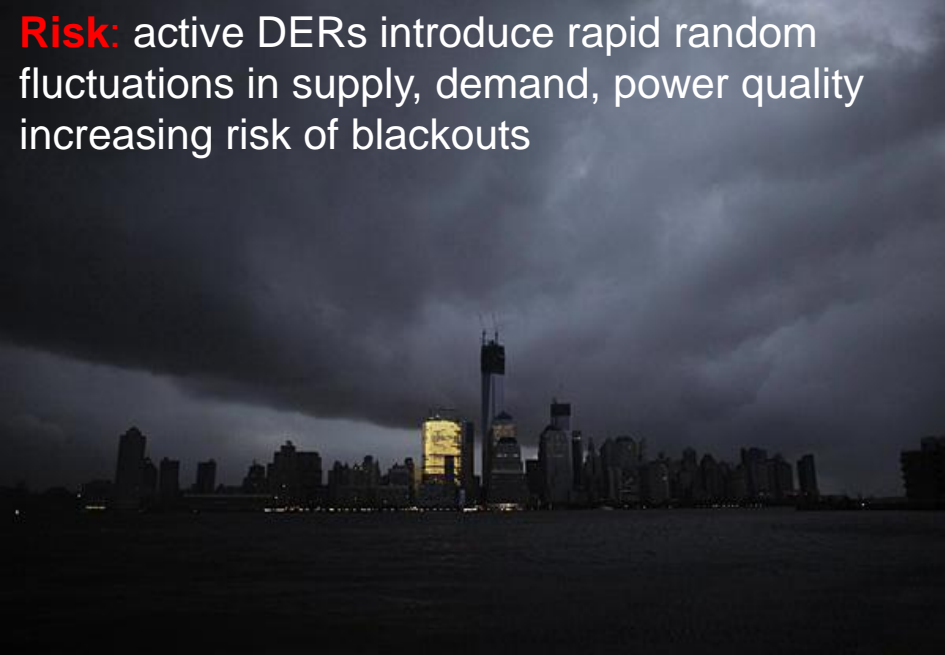


network of
billions of **active**
distributed energy
resources (DERs)

DER: PV, wind tb, EV, storage, smart bldg / appl



**intelligence
everywhere
connected**

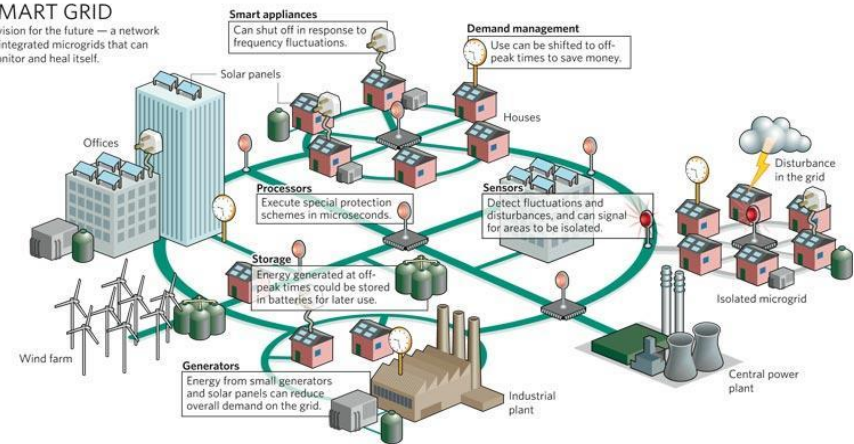


Risk: active DERs introduce rapid random fluctuations in supply, demand, power quality increasing risk of blackouts

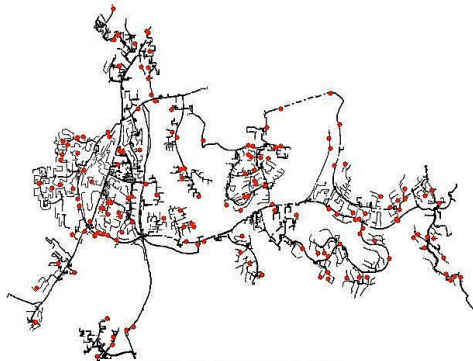
Opportunity: active DERs enables realtime dynamic network-wide feedback control, improving robustness, security, efficiency

SMART GRID

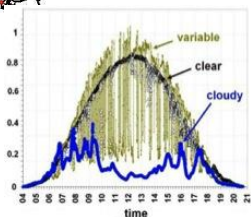
A vision for the future — a network of integrated microgrids that can monitor and heal itself.



Caltech research: distributed control of networked DERs



- Foundational theory, practical algorithms, concrete applications
- Integrate engineering and economics
- Active collaboration with industry





Recap

Global energy demand will continue to grow

Traditional supply is unsustainable

There is more **renewable** energy than the world ever needs

- Someone will figure out how to capture and store it

There will be **connected intelligence** everywhere

- Cost of computing, storage, communication and manufacturing will continue to drop

→ Power system will transform into the largest and most complex **Internet of Things**

- Generation, transmission, distribution, consumption, storage



Recap

To develop technologies that will enable and guide the **historic transformation** of our power system

- Generation, transmission, distribution, consumption, storage
- Devices, systems, theory, algorithms
- Control, optimization, stochastics, data, economics



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Gan & L, JSAC 2016

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Optimal power flow (OPF)

OPF is solved routinely for

- network control & optimization decisions
- market operations & pricing
- at timescales of mins, hours, days, ...

Non-convex and hard to solve

- Huge literature since 1962
- Common practice: DC power flow (LP)
- Also: Newton-Raphson, interior point, ...

$$\min c(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad F(x) = 0, \quad x \in \bar{x}$$



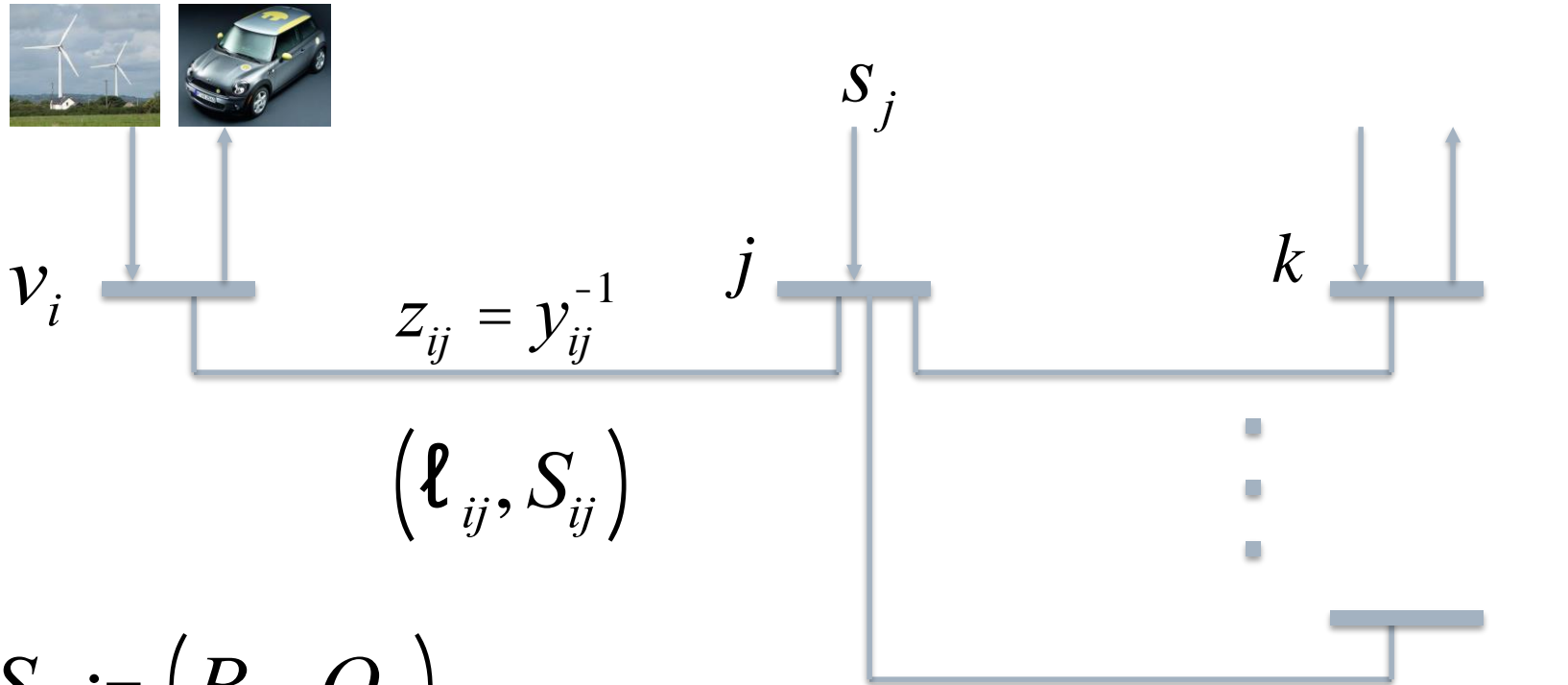
Optimal power flow (OPF)

OPF underlies many applications

- Unit commitment, economic dispatch
- State estimation
- Contingency analysis
- Feeder reconfiguration, topology control
- Placement and sizing of capacitors, storage
- Volt/var control in distribution systems
- Demand response, load control
- Electric vehicle charging
- Market power analysis
- ...



Branch flow model



$$S_{ij} := (P_{ij}, Q_{ij})$$

$$s_i := (p_i, q_i)$$

$$v_i := |V_i|^2, \quad \ell_{ij} := |I_{ij}|^2$$



Branch flow model

Branch flow model

power balance

$$\sum_{j \rightarrow k} S_{jk} = \sum_{i \rightarrow j} (S_{ij} - z_{ij} \ell_{ij}) + s_j$$

“Ohm’s law”

$$v_i - v_j = 2 \operatorname{Re} \left(z_{ij}^H S_{ij} \right) - |z_{ij}|^2 \ell_{ij}$$

def of power

$$v_i \ell_{ij} = |S_{ij}|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &:= (s, v, S, \ell) \hat{\in} \mathbf{R}^{3(m+n+1)} \\ &= (p, q, v, P, Q, \ell) \end{aligned}$$



Branch flow model

Branch flow model

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{linear} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{j \rightarrow k} S_{jk} = \sum_{i \rightarrow j} (S_{ij} - z_{ij} \ell_{ij}) + s_j \\ v_i - v_j = 2 \operatorname{Re}(z_{ij}^H S_{ij}) - |z_{ij}|^2 \ell_{ij} \\ v_i \ell_{ij} = |S_{ij}|^2 \end{array} \right. \\ \text{quadratic} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &:= (s, v, S, \ell) \hat{\in} \mathbf{R}^{3(m+n+1)} \\ &= (p, q, v, P, Q, \ell) \end{aligned}$$

DistFlow equations (radial nk)
Baran & Wu, 1989



Branch flow model

Branch flow model

$$\sum_{j \rightarrow k} S_{jk} = \sum_{i \rightarrow j} (S_{ij} - z_{ij} \ell_{ij}) + S_j$$

$$v_i - v_j = 2 \operatorname{Re} \left(z_{ij}^H S_{ij} \right) - |z_{ij}|^2 \ell_{ij}$$

$$v_i \ell_{ij} = |S_{ij}|^2$$

+ cycle condition on

$$x := (s, v, S, \ell) \hat{\Gamma} \mathbf{R}^{3(m+n+1)}$$



SOCP relaxation

Branch flow model

$$\sum_{j \rightarrow k} S_{jk} = \sum_{i \rightarrow j} (S_{ij} - z_{ij} \ell_{ij}) + s_j$$

$$v_i - v_j = 2 \operatorname{Re} \left(z_{ij}^H S_{ij} \right) - |z_{ij}|^2 \ell_{ij}$$

$$v_i \ell_{ij} \leq |S_{ij}|^2$$

$$x := (s, v, S, \ell) \in \mathbf{R}^{3(m+n+1)}$$



Optimal power flow (OPF)

$$\min f(x)$$

$$\text{over } x := (s, v, \ell, S)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \underline{s}_j \leq s_j \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq v_j \leq \bar{v}_j$$

power flow equations

nonconvex



Optimal power flow (OPF)

$$\min f(x)$$

$$\text{over } x := (s, v, \ell, S)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \underline{s}_j \leq s_j \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq v_j \leq \bar{v}_j$$

~~power flow equations~~

nonconvex

SOCP relaxation



SOCP relaxation of OPF

$$\text{OPF: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{X}} f(x)$$

$$\text{SOCP: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{X}^+} f(x)$$



SOCP relaxation of OPF

$$\text{OPF: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{X}} f(x)$$

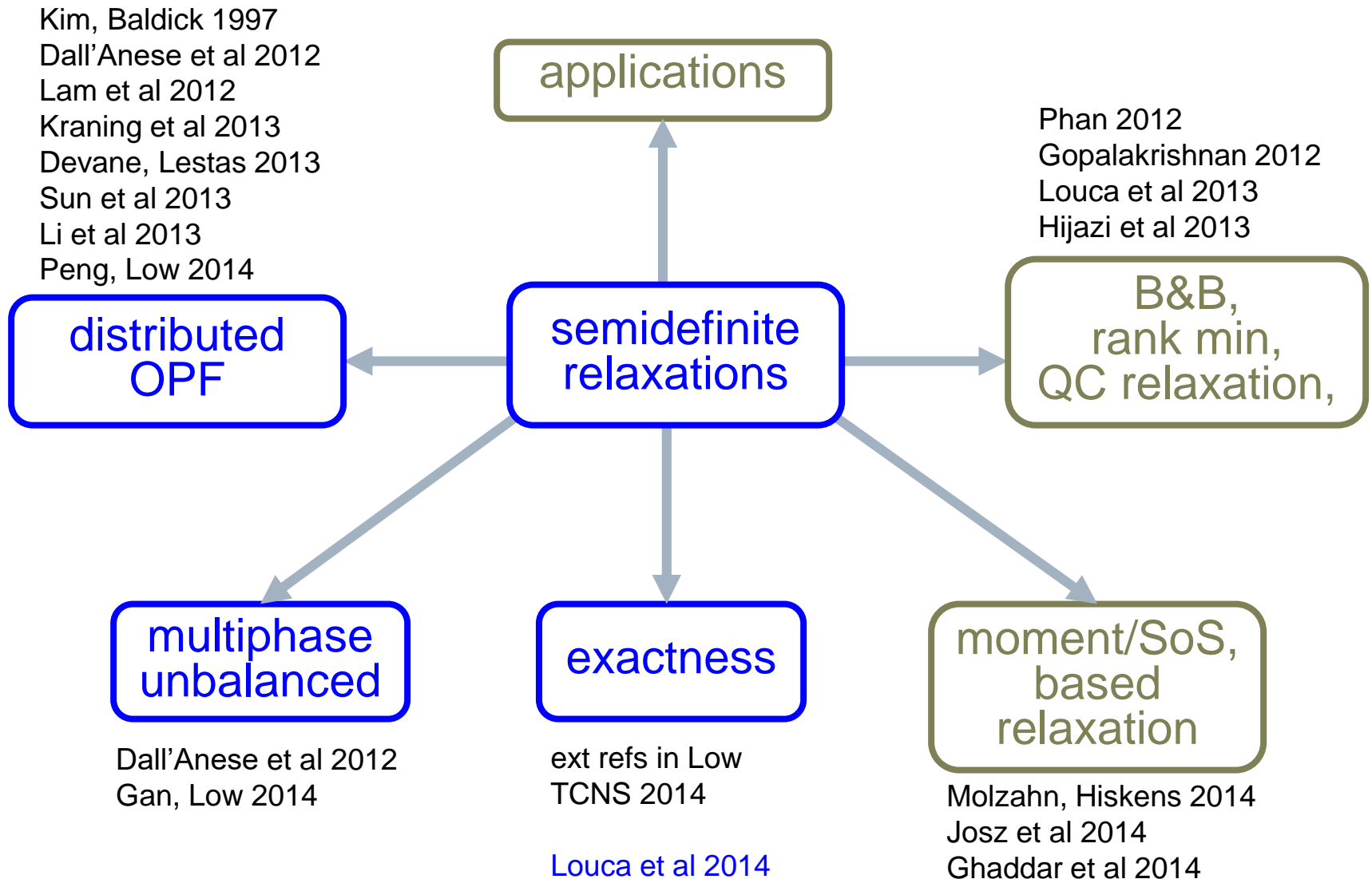
$$\text{SOCP: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{X}^+} f(x)$$

Theorem: SOCO is exact for tree networks if

1. Not both real & reactive power are both lower & upper bounded at each end of a line; *or*
2. Voltage upper bounds are not tight



Convex relaxations of OPF





SOCP relaxation of OPF

OPF:
$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{X}} f(x)$$

relaxation:
$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{X}^+} f(x)$$

But all these algorithms are offline ...

... unsuitable for real-time optimization of
network of distributed energy resources



SOCP relaxation of OPF

OPF:
$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{X}} f(x)$$

relaxation:
$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{X}^+} f(x)$$

We will compare our online algorithm to SOCP relaxation wrt optimality and speed



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Gan & L, JSAC 2016

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OPF

$$\min \sum_{i=0}^n a_i p_i^2 + b_i p_i$$

over $x := (p_i, q_i, i \in N)$ **controllable devices**

$y := (p_0, q_0, v_i, i \in N; P_{ij}, Q_{ij}, \ell_{ij}, (i, j) \in E)$

uncontrollable state



OPF

$$\min \quad c_0(y) + c(x)$$

$$\text{over } x, y$$

s. t.



OPF

$$\min \quad c_0(y) + c(x)$$

$$\text{over } x, y$$

$$\text{s. t. } F(x, y) = 0$$

power flow equations



OPF

$$\min c_0(y) + c(x)$$

$$\text{over } x, y$$

$$\text{s. t. } F(x, y) = 0$$

power flow equations

$$y \in \bar{y}$$

operational constraints

$$x \in X := \{\underline{x} \leq x \leq \bar{x}\}$$

capacity limits

$$\text{Assume: } \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \neq 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad y(x) \text{ over } X$$



OPF: eliminate y

$$\min_x c_0(y(x)) + c(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } y(x) \in \bar{y}$$

$$x \in X := \{\underline{x} \leq x \leq \bar{x}\}$$



OPF: add barrier

$$\min_x c_0(y(x)) + c(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } y(x) \in \bar{y}$$

$$x \hat{\in} X := \{\underline{x} \in x \in \bar{x}\}$$

add barrier function
to remove
operational constraints

$$\begin{array}{l} \min \\ \text{over} \end{array} L(x, y(x); m) \\ x \hat{\in} X$$

L : nonconvex



Online (feedback) perspective

DER : gradient update

$$x(t+1) = G(x(t), y(t))$$

control
 $x(t)$

measurement,
communication
 $y(t)$

Network: power flow solver

$$y(t) : F(x(t), y(t)) = 0$$



Online gradient algorithm

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & L(x, y(x); m) \\ \text{over} & x \in X \end{array}$$

gradient projection algorithm:

$$x(t+1) = \underset{X}{\text{proj}} \left(\hat{x}(t) - h \frac{\nabla_x L}{\|\cdot\|} (t) \right) \quad \text{active control}$$

$$y(t) = y(x(t)) \quad \text{law of physics}$$

- Explicitly exploits network as power flow solver
- Naturally tracks changing network conditions



Online gradient algorithm

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & L(x, y(x); m) \\ \text{over} & x \in X \end{array}$$

gradient projection algorithm:

$$x(t+1) = \underset{X}{\text{proj}} \left(\hat{x}(t) - h \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}(t) \right) \quad \text{active control}$$

$$y(t) = y(x(t)) \quad \text{law of physics}$$

Results

1. Local optimality
2. Global optimality
3. Suboptimality bound
4. Tracking performance



Local optimality

- $x(t)$ converges to set of local optima
- if #local optima is finite, $x(t)$ converges



Global optimality

Assume: $p_0(x)$ convex over X

$v_k(x)$ concave over X

$$A := \{x \in X : v(x) \in a\bar{v} + (1-a)\underline{v}\}$$

Theorem

If $\text{co}\{\text{local optima}\}$ are in A then

- $x(t)$ converges to the set of global optima
- $x(t)$ itself converges a global optimum if
#local optima is finite



Global optimality

Assume: $p_0(x)$ convex over X

$v_k(x)$ concave over X

$$A := \{x \in X : v(x) \in a\bar{v} + (1-a)\underline{v}\}$$

Theorem

- Can choose a s.t.

$A \rightarrow$ original feasible set

- If SOCP is exact over X , then assumption holds

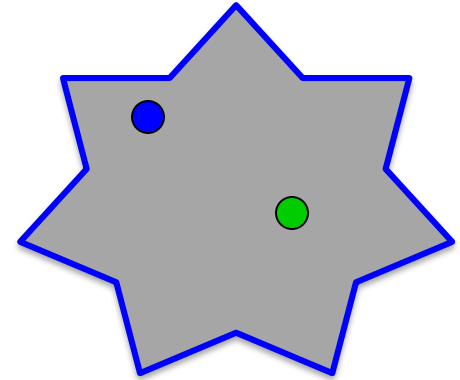


Suboptimality gap

any local
optimum

any original
feasible pt
slightly away
from X boundary

$$L(x^*) - L(\hat{x}) \leq r \gg 0$$



- Informally, a local minimum is almost as good as any strictly interior feasible point



Tracking performance

$$\min_x c_0(y(x)) + c(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } y(x) \in \bar{y}$$

$$x \in X$$

$$\min_x c_0(y(x), g_t) + c(x, g_t)$$

$$\text{s. t. } y(x, g_t) \in \bar{y}$$

$$x \in X$$

} drifting
OPF



Tracking performance

$$R(x, x^*) := \sum_{t=1}^T c_0(y(x), g_t) + c(x, g_t) \quad \text{cost of Alg}$$

dynamic regret

$$- \sum_{t=1}^T c_0(y(x^*), g_t) + c(x^*, g_t) \quad \text{optimal cost}$$



Tracking performance

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(x, x^*) &:= \sum_{t=1}^T c_0(y(x), g_t) + c(x, g_t) && \text{cost of Alg} \\
 & - \sum_{t=1}^T c_0(y(x^*), g_t) + c(x^*, g_t) && \text{optimal cost}
 \end{aligned}$$

dynamic regret

Theorem

$$R(x, x^*) = \underbrace{O(\sqrt{T})}_{\text{rate of drifting}} + \sum_{t=1}^T \underbrace{d_t}_{\text{subopt of local min}}$$



Tracking performance

$$R(x, x^*) := \sum_{t=1}^T c_0(y(x), g_t) + c(x, g_t) \quad \text{cost of Alg}$$

dynamic regret

$$- \sum_{t=1}^T c_0(y(x^*), g_t) + c(x^*, g_t) \quad \text{optimal cost}$$

Theorem

- If rate of drifting is $o(\sqrt{T})$ then per-step $R(x, x^*)$ is asymptotically bounded by $\bar{\delta}$ (local min)
- Can made $\bar{\delta}$ arbitrarily small at cost of computation



Simulations

# bus	CVX		IPM		error	speedup
	obj	time(s)	obj	time(s)		
42	10.4585	6.5267	10.4585	0.2679	-0.0e-7	24.36
56	34.8989	7.1077	34.8989	0.3924	+0.2e-7	18.11
111	0.0751	11.3793	0.0751	0.8529	+5.4e-6	13.34
190	0.1394	20.2745	0.1394	1.9968	+3.3e-6	10.15
290	0.2817	23.8817	0.2817	4.3564	+1.1e-7	5.48
390	0.4292	29.8620	0.4292	2.9405	+5.4e-7	10.16
490	0.5526	36.3591	0.5526	3.0072	+2.9e-7	12.09
590	0.7035	43.6932	0.7035	4.4655	+2.4e-7	9.78
690	0.8546	51.9830	0.8546	3.2247	+0.7e-7	16.12
790	0.9975	62.3654	0.9975	2.6228	+0.7e-7	23.78
890	1.1685	67.7256	1.1685	2.0507	+0.8e-7	33.03
990	1.3930	74.8522	1.3930	2.7747	+1.0e-7	26.98
1091	1.5869	83.2236	1.5869	1.0869	+1.2e-7	76.57
1190	1.8123	92.4484	1.8123	1.2121	+1.4e-7	76.27
1290	2.0134	101.0380	2.0134	1.3525	+1.6e-7	74.70
1390	2.2007	111.0839	2.2007	1.4883	+1.7e-7	74.64
1490	2.4523	122.1819	2.4523	1.6372	+1.9e-7	74.83
1590	2.6477	157.8238	2.6477	1.8021	+2.0e-7	87.58
1690	2.8441	147.6862	2.8441	1.9166	+2.1e-7	77.06
1790	3.0495	152.6081	3.0495	2.0603	+2.1e-7	74.07
1890	3.8555	160.4689	3.8555	2.1963	+1.9e-7	73.06
1990	4.1424	171.8137	4.1424	2.3586	+1.9e-7	72.84



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- Computational challenge: power flow solution

Online optimization

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- Exploit it for our optimization/control
- Naturally adapts to evolving network conditions

Examples

- Slow timescale: OPF
- Fast timescale: frequency control



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- Background: semidefinite relaxations
- Online algorithm
- Analysis and simulations

Load-side frequency control

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- Distributed online algorithm
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Zhao, Topcu, Li, L, TAC 2014

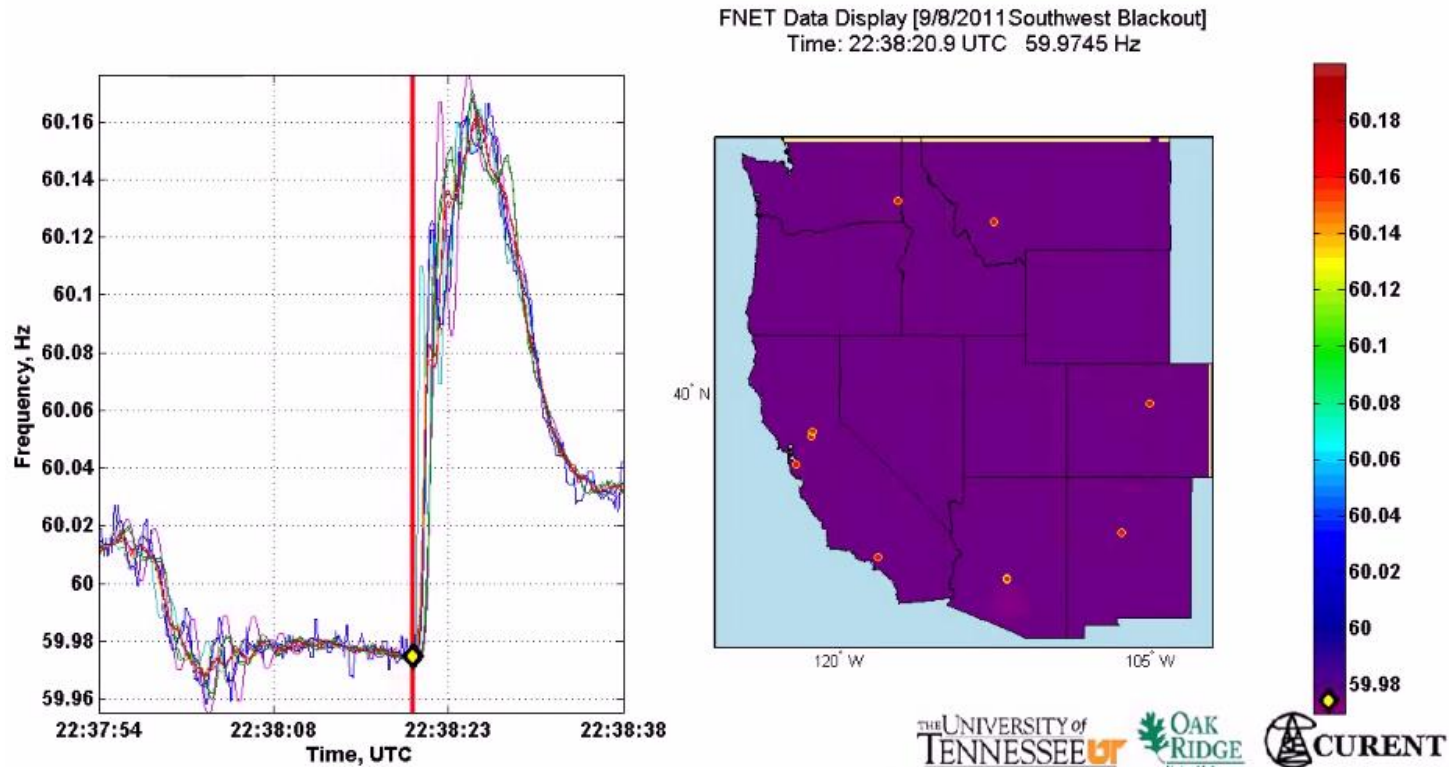
Mallada, Zhao, L, Allerton 2014

Zhao et al: CDC 2014, CISS 2015, PSCC 2016



Motivation

- All buses synchronized to same nominal frequency (US: 60 Hz; Europe/China: 50 Hz)
- Supply-demand imbalance → frequency fluctuation



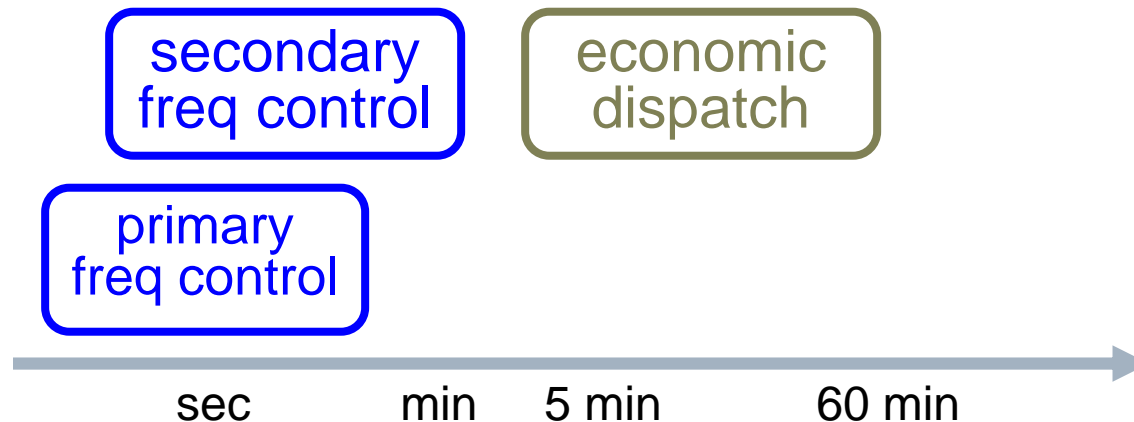
2011 Southwest blackout



Why load-side participation

Ubiquitous continuous load-side control can supplement generator-side control

- faster (no/low inertia)
- more reliable (large #)
- better localize disturbances
- reducing generator-side control capacity





How

How to design **load-side** frequency control ?

How does it interact with generator-side control ?



Literature: load-side control

Original idea & early analytical work

- Schweppe et al 1980; Bergin, Hill, Qu, Dorsey, Wang, Varaiya ...

Small scale trials around the world

- D.Hammerstrom et al 2007, UK Market Transform Programme 2008

Early simulation studies

- Trudnowski et al 2006, Lu and Hammerstrom 2006, Short et al 2007, Donnelly et al 2010, Brooks et al 2010, Callaway and I. A. Hiskens, 2011, Molina-Garcia et al 2011

Analytical work – load-side control

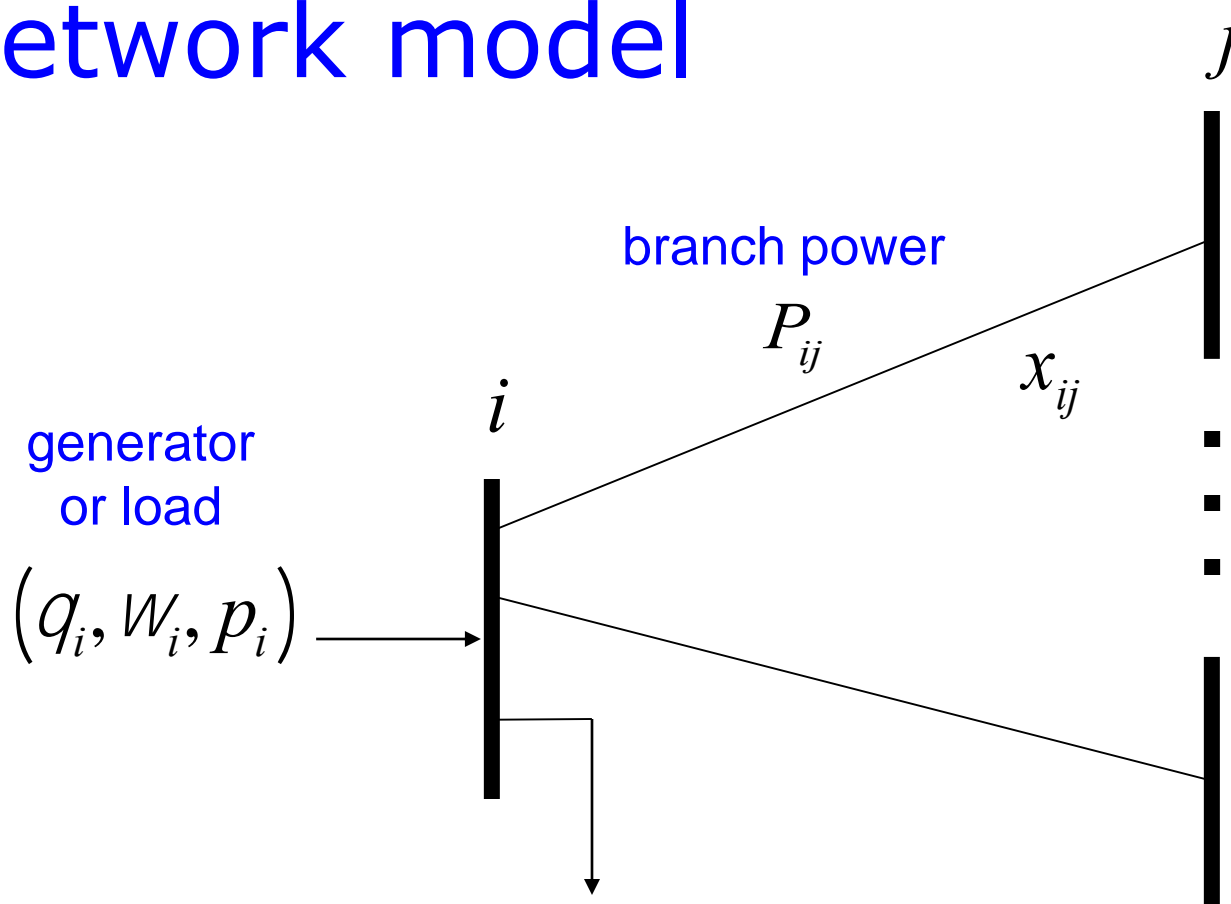
- Zhao et al (2012/2014), Mallada and Low (2014), Mallada et al (2014), Zhao and Low (2014), Zhao et al (2015)
- Simpson-Porco et al 2013, You and Chen 2014, Zhang and Papachristodoulou (2014), Ma et al (2014), Zhao, et al (2014),

Recent analysis – generator-side/microgrid control:

- Andreasson et al (2013), Zhang and Papachristodoulou (2013), Li et al (2014), Burger et al (2014), You and Chen (2014), Simpson-Porco et al (2013), Hill et al (2014), Dorfler et al (2014)



Network model



$$\hat{d}_i = D_i W_i$$

loads:
damping or uncontrollable

i : region/control area/balancing authority



Network model

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$\boxed{M_i} \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Generator bus: $M_i > 0$

Load bus: $M_i = 0$



Network model

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{p_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Generator bus: p_i is real power injection

Load bus: p_i is controllable load



Generator-side control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{p_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

generator bus:

primary control $p_i^c(t) = p_i^c(\omega_i(t))$

e.g. freq droop $p_i^c(\omega_i) = -b_i \omega_i$

$$\dot{p}_i = -\frac{1}{\tau_{bi}} (p_i + a_i)$$

$$\dot{a}_i = -\frac{1}{\tau_{gi}} (a_i + p_i^c)$$



Load-side control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{p_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Load bus:

how to design feedback control ?_



Network model

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Suppose the system is in steady state

Then: disturbance in gen/load ...



Load-side controller design

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Control goals

Zhao, Topcu, Li,
Low

TAC 2014
Mallada, Zhao, Low
Allerton, 2014

- Rebalance power & stabilize frequency
- Restore nominal frequency
- Restore scheduled inter-area flows
- Respect line limits



Load-side controller design

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Control goals (while min disutility)

Zhao, Topcu, Li,
Low

TAC 2014
Mallada, Zhao, Low
Allerton, 2014

- Rebalance power & stabilize frequency
- Restore nominal frequency
- Restore scheduled inter-area flows
- Respect line limits



Load-side controller design

Design control law
whose equilibrium
solves:

$\min_{d,P}$	$\sum_i \dot{a} c_i(d_i)$	load disutility
s. t.	$P_i^m - d_i = \sum_e \dot{a} C_{ie} P_e$	node i power balance
	$\sum_{i \in N_k} \dot{a} \dot{a} C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k$	area k inter-area flows
	$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e$	line e line limits

Control goals (while min disutility)

- Rebalance power & stabilize frequency
- Restore nominal frequency
- Restore scheduled inter-area flows
- Respect line limits

freq will emerge as
Lagrange multiplier
for power imbalance



Load-side controller design

Design control (G, F) s.t. closed-loop system

- is stable
- has equilibrium that is optimal

power network

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j)$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = G(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

$$d_i = F_i(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

load control

$$\min_{d, P} \quad \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P_i^m - d_i = \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i$$

$$\hat{a}_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k$$

$$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e$$



Load-side controller design

Idea: exploit system dynamic as part of primal-dual algorithm for **modified** opt

- Distributed algorithm
- Stability analysis
- Control goals in equilibrium

power network

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j)$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = G(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

$$d_i = F_i(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

load control

$$\min_{d, P} \quad \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$$

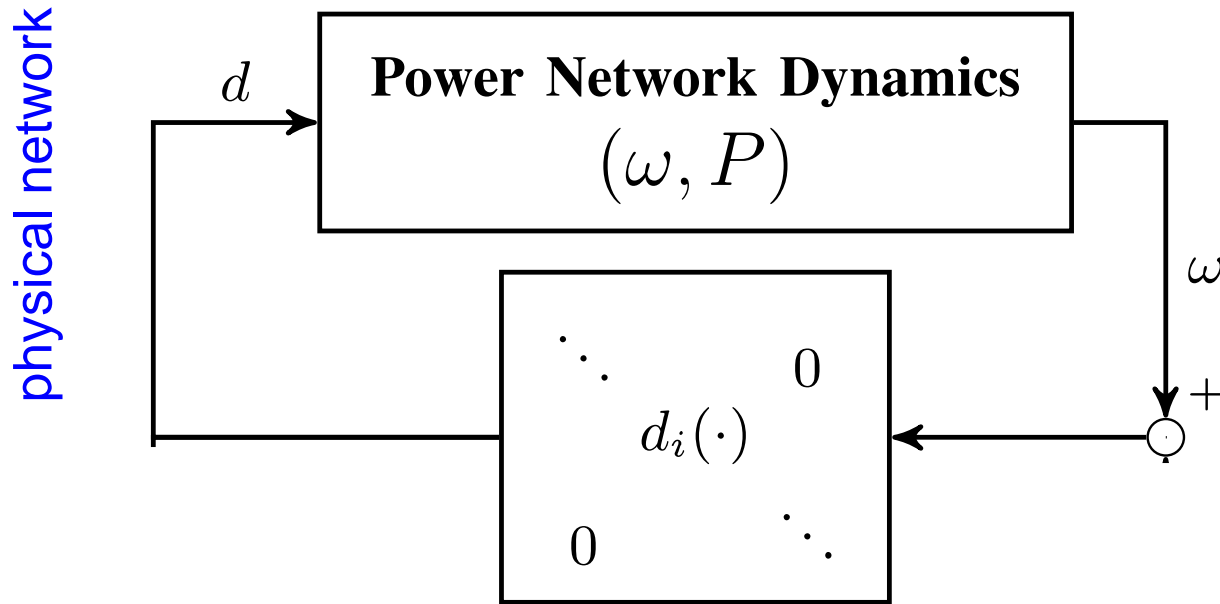
$$\text{s. t.} \quad P_i^m - d_i = \hat{a}_i C_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i$$

$$\hat{a}_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_i C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k$$

$$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e$$



Summary: control architecture

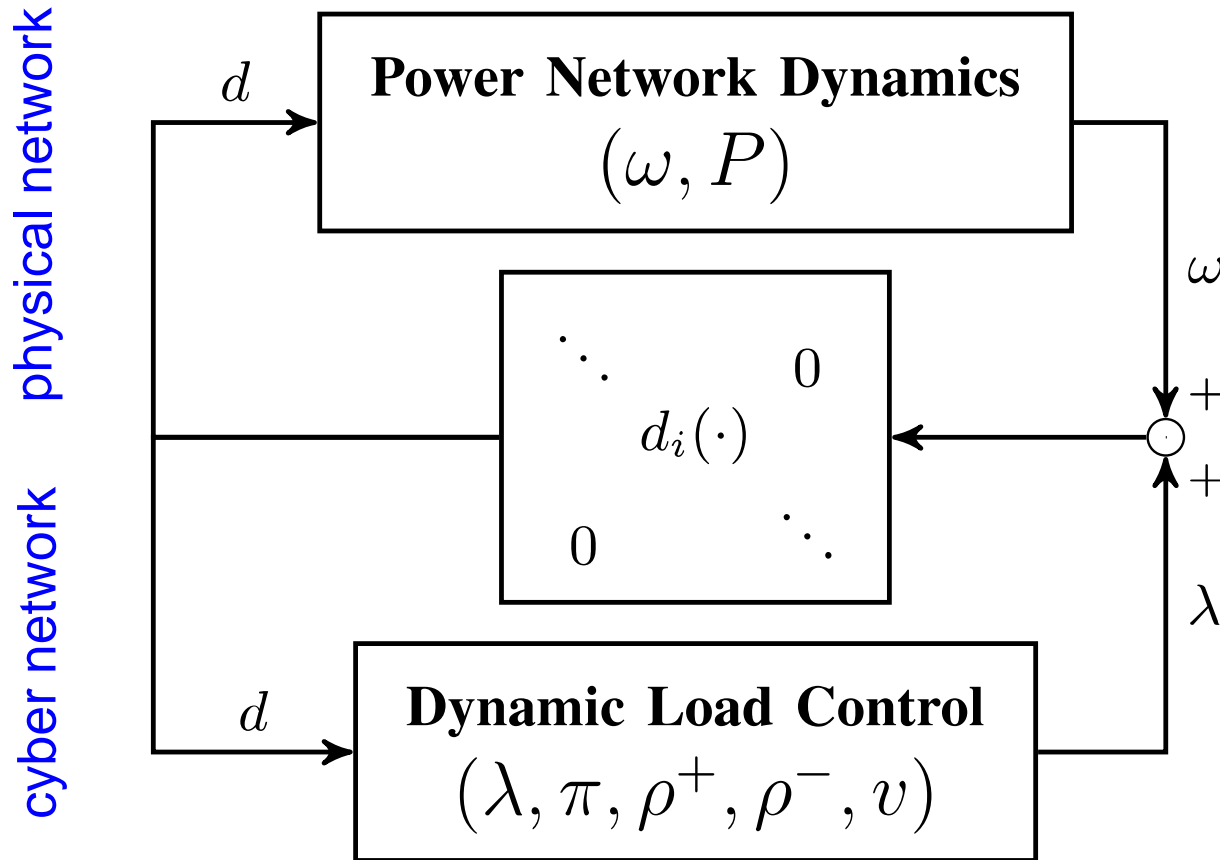


Primary load-side frequency control

- completely decentralized
- Theorem: stable dynamic, optimal equilibrium



Summary: control architecture

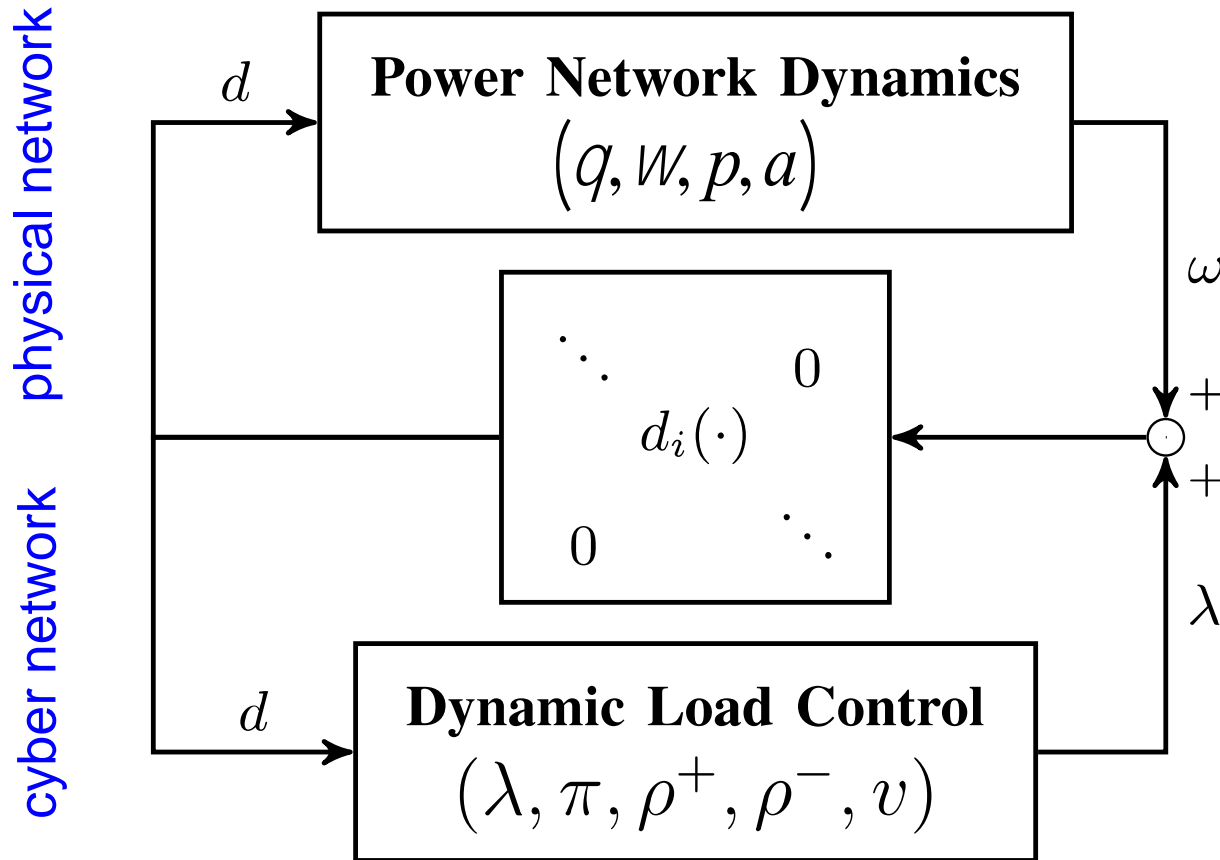


Secondary load-side frequency control

- communication with neighbors
- Theorem: stable dynamic, optimal equilibrium



Summary: control architecture



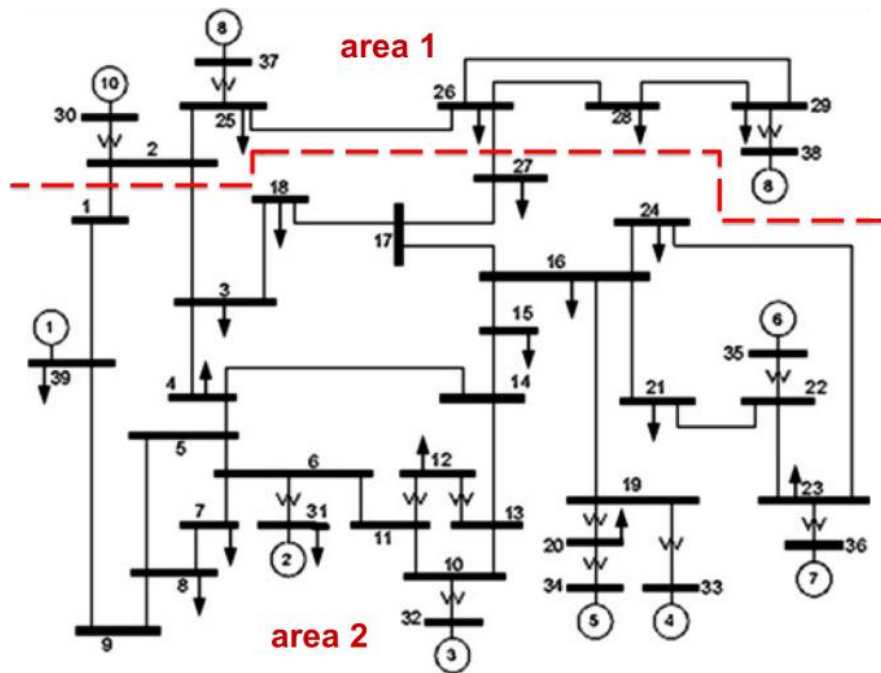
With **generator-side** control, **nonlinear** power flow

- load-side improves both transient & eq
- Theorem: stable dynamic, optimal equilibrium



Simulations

Dynamic simulation of IEEE 39-bus system

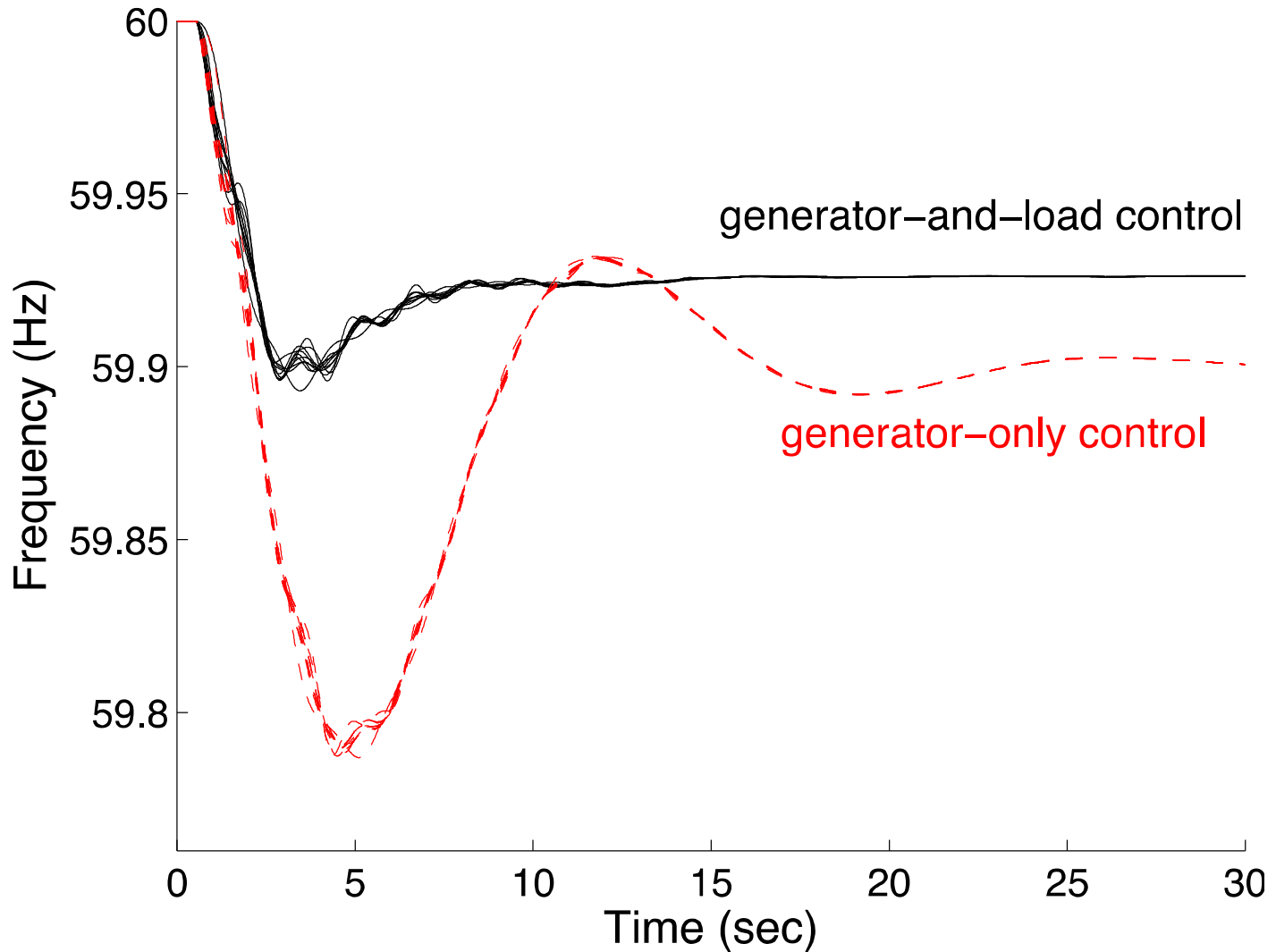


- Power System Toolbox (RPI)
- Detailed generation model
- Exciter model, power system stabilizer model
- Nonzero resistance lines

Fig. 2: IEEE 39 bus system : New England



Primary control





Secondary control

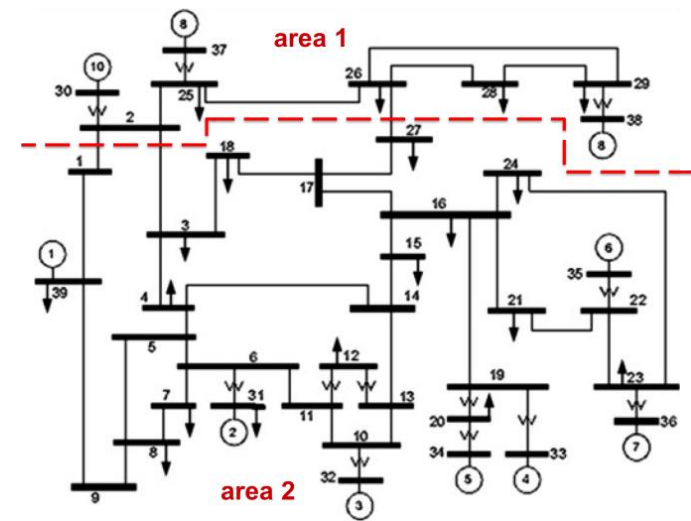
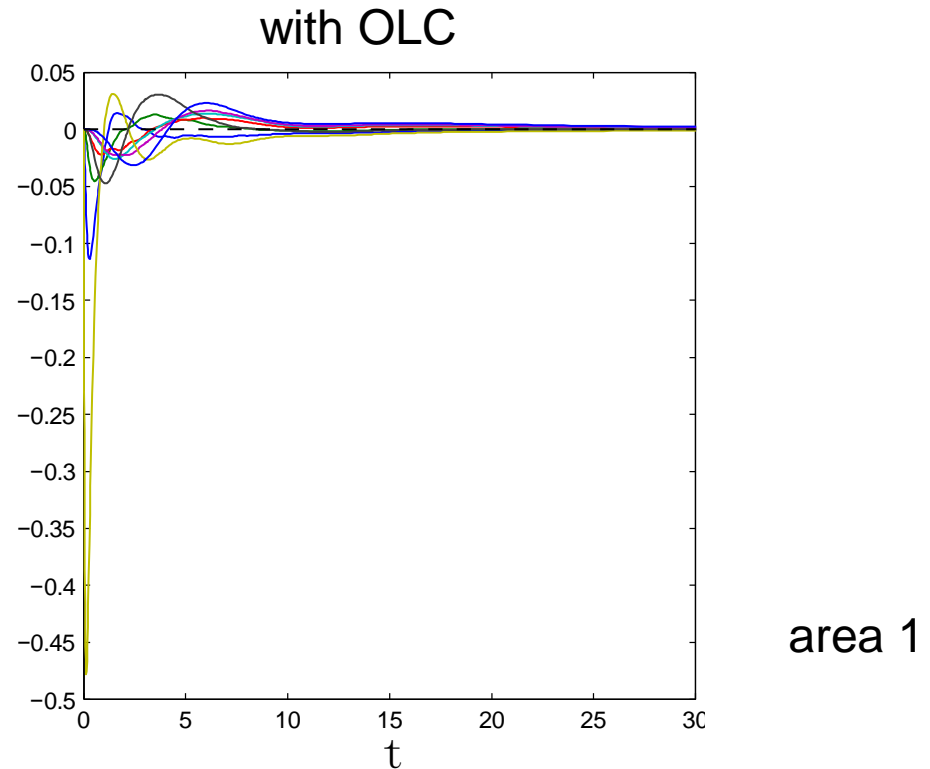
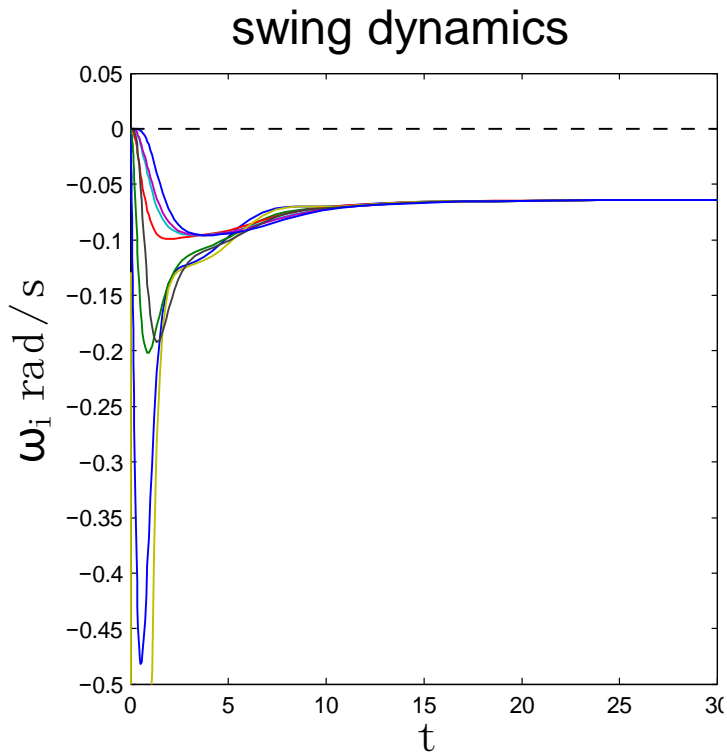


Fig. 2: IEEE 39 bus system : New England





Secondary control

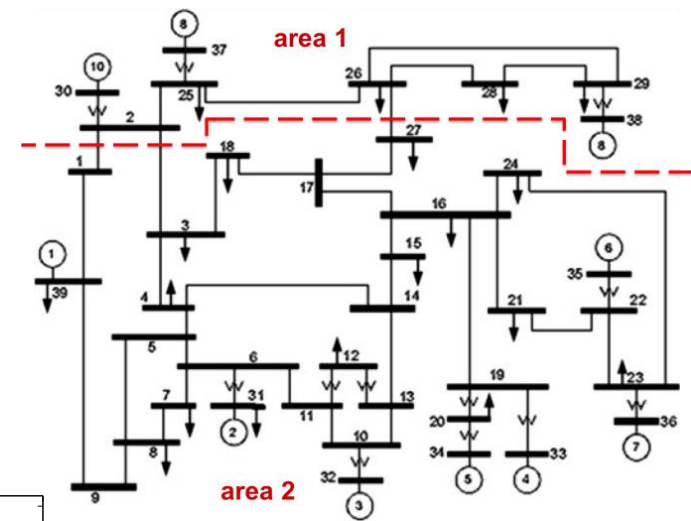
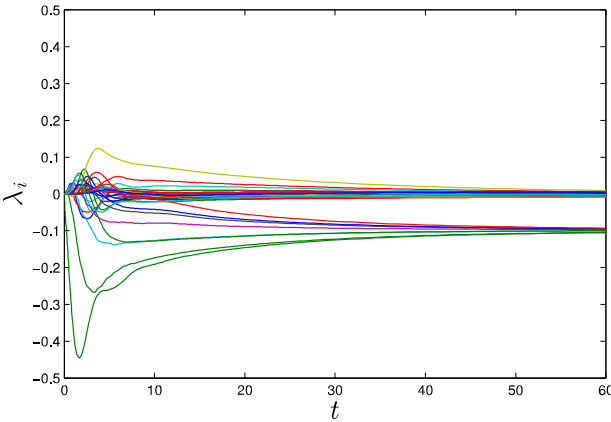
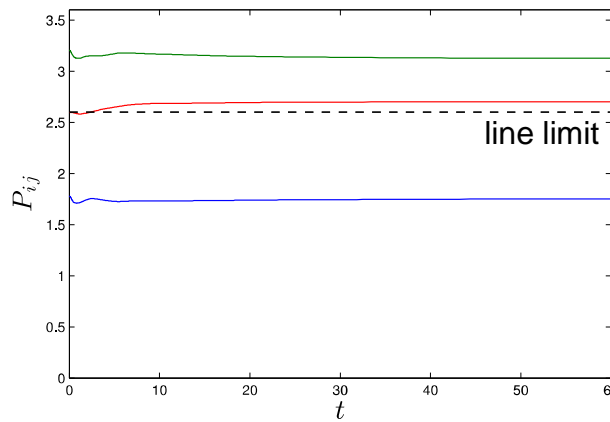


Fig. 2: IEEE 39 bus system : New England

LMPs

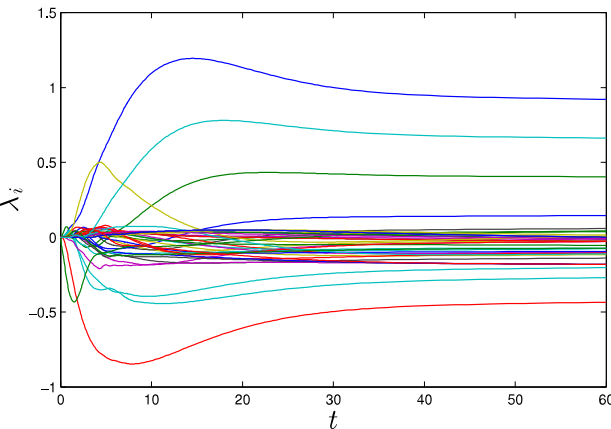


Inter area line flows

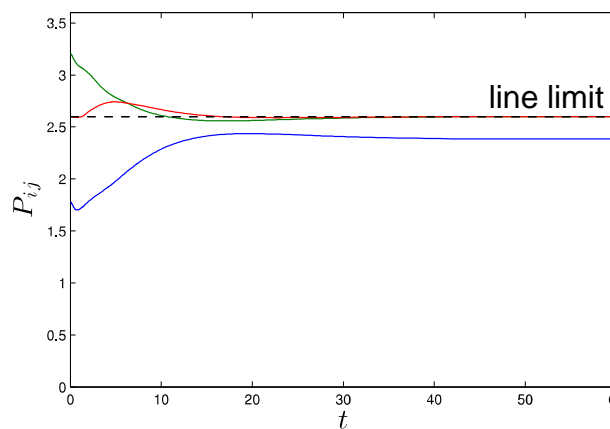


no line limits

LMPs



Inter area line flows



Total inter-area flow is the same in both cases

with line limits



Key message

Large network of DERs

- Real-time optimization at scale
- Computational challenge: power flow solution

Online optimization

- Network computes power flow solutions in real time at scale for free
- Exploit it for our optimization/control
- Naturally adapts to evolving network conditions

Examples

- Slow timescale: OPF
- Fast timescale: frequency control

Application: EV charging

Online optimization of electric vehicle charging

- Enables mass deployment at much lower infrastructure costs
- First pilot @Caltech: 54 adaptive programmable chargers
- 2x 150kVA transformers, breakers, grid sensors, etc

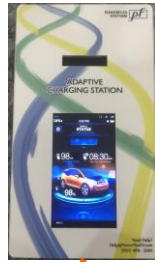
debugging

**Energized
Feb 13 Sat
2016**

G. Lee



charger



150kVA transformer



main panel





more details
(backup)



Recall: design approach

Idea: exploit system dynamic as part of primal-dual algorithm for **modified** opt

- closed-loop system is **stable**
- its equilibria are **optimal**

power network

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = P_i^m - d_i - \hat{d}_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j)$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = G(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

$$d_i = F_i(\omega(t), P(t), \lambda(t))$$

load control

$$\min_{d, P} \quad \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i)$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P_i^m - d_i = \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i$$

$$\hat{a}_{\hat{i} \in N_k} \hat{a}_e C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k$$

$$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e$$



Outline

Load-side frequency control

- Primary control [Zhao et al SGC2012, Zhao et al TAC2014](#)
- Secondary control
- Interaction with generator-side control



Optimal load control (OLC)

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P} \sum_i \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i) + \frac{\hat{d}_i^2}{2D_i}$$

$$\text{s. t. } P_i^m - (d_i + \hat{d}_i) = \sum_e \hat{a}_{ie} P_e \quad \forall i \quad \text{demand = supply}$$

↑
disturbances

↑
controllable
loads

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{d, P} \quad & \sum_i \hat{a}_i c_i(d_i) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & P_i^m - d_i = \sum_e \hat{a}_{ie} P_e \quad \text{node } i \\ & \sum_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k \quad \text{area } k \\ & \underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e \quad \text{line } e \end{aligned}$$



system dynamics + load control = primal dual alg

swing dynamics

$$\dot{W}_i = -\frac{1}{M_i} \left(d_i(t) + D_i W_i(t) - P_i^m + \sum_{i \rightarrow j} P_{ij}(t) - \sum_{j \rightarrow i} P_{ji}(t) \right)$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i(t) - W_j(t))$$

implicit

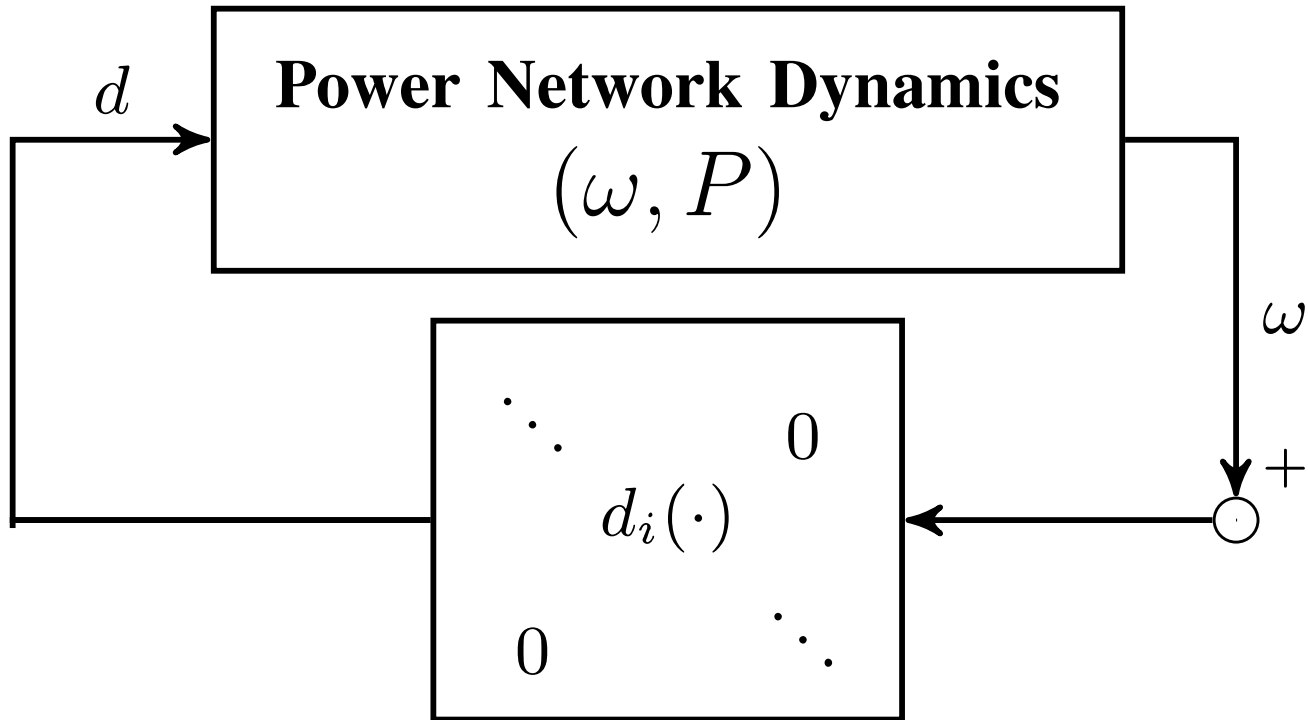
load control

$$d_i(t) := \frac{\partial}{\partial c_i} c_i^{-1} (W_i(t)) \Big|_{\underline{d}_i}^{\bar{d}_i}$$

active control



Control architecture





Load-side primary control works

Theorem

Starting from any $(d(0), \hat{d}(0), W(0), P(0))$
system trajectory $(d(t), \hat{d}(t), W(t), P(t))$
converges to $(d^*, \hat{d}^*, W^*, P^*)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$

- (d^*, \hat{d}^*) is unique optimal of OLC
 - W^* is unique optimal for dual
- completely decentralized
 - frequency deviations contain right info for local decisions that are globally optimal



Recap: control goals

Yes ■ Rebalance power

Yes ■ Stabilize frequencies

No ■ Restore nominal frequency $(W^* \ 1 \ 0)$

No ■ Restore scheduled inter-area flows

No ■ Respect line limits



Outline

Load-side frequency control

- Primary control
- Secondary control
- Interaction with generator-side control

Mallada, Low, IFAC 2014

Mallada et al, Allerton 2014



OLC for secondary control

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P, v} \quad \sum_i \hat{a}_{ie} c_i(d_i) + \frac{1}{2D_i} \hat{d}_i^2$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P^m - (d + \hat{d}) = CP \quad \text{demand = supply}$$

$$P^m - d = CBC^T v \quad \text{restore nominal freq}$$

$\min_{d, P}$	$\sum_i \hat{a}_{ie} c_i(d_i)$	
s. t.	$P_i^m - d_i = \sum_e \hat{a}_{ie} C_{ie} P_e$	node i
	$\sum_{i \in N_k} \hat{a}_{ie} C_{ie} P_e = \hat{P}_k$	area k
	$\underline{P}_e \leq P_e \leq \bar{P}_e$	line e



OLC for secondary control

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P, v} \quad \sum_i \dot{a}_{\text{e}}^{\text{e}} c_i(d_i) + \frac{1}{2D_i} \dot{\hat{d}}_i^2 \ddot{0}$$

s. t. $P^m - (d + \hat{d}) = CP$ demand = supply

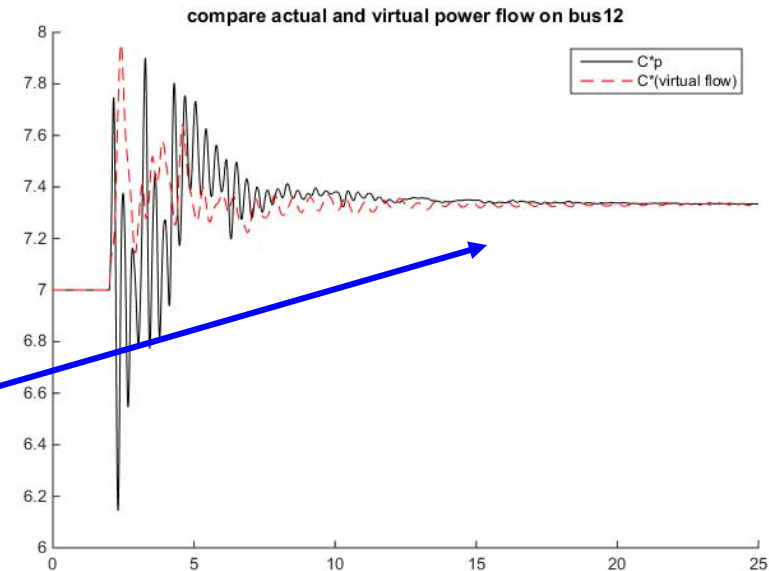
$P^m - d = CBC^T v$ restore nominal freq

key idea: “virtual flows”

$$BC^T v$$

in steady state:
virtual flow = real flows

$$BC^T v = P$$





OLC for secondary control

$$\min_{d, \hat{d}, P, v} \sum_i \dot{a}_{\text{e}}^{\text{e}} c_i(d_i) + \frac{1}{2D_i} \hat{d}_i^2 \ddot{0}$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad P^m - (d + \hat{d}) = CP \quad \text{demand = supply}$$

$$P^m - d = CBC^T v \quad \text{restore nominal freq}$$

$$\hat{C}BC^T v = \hat{P} \quad \text{restore inter-area flow}$$

$$\underline{P} \preceq BC^T v \preceq \bar{P} \quad \text{respect line limit}$$

in steady state:

virtual flow = real flows

$$BC^T v = P$$



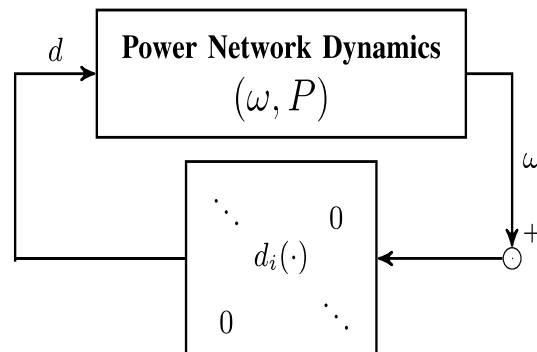
Recall: primary control

swing dynamics:

$$\dot{W}_i = -\frac{1}{M_i} \left(\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial \delta} d_i(t) + D_i W_i(t) - P_i^m + \frac{\partial C_{ie}}{\partial E} P_e(t) \right) + \ddot{\theta}$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (W_i(t) - W_j(t)) \quad \leftarrow \text{implicit}$$

load control: $d_i(t) := \left(\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial \delta} \right)^{-1} (W_i(t)) \Big|_{\underline{d}_i}^{\bar{d}_i} \quad \leftarrow \text{active control}$

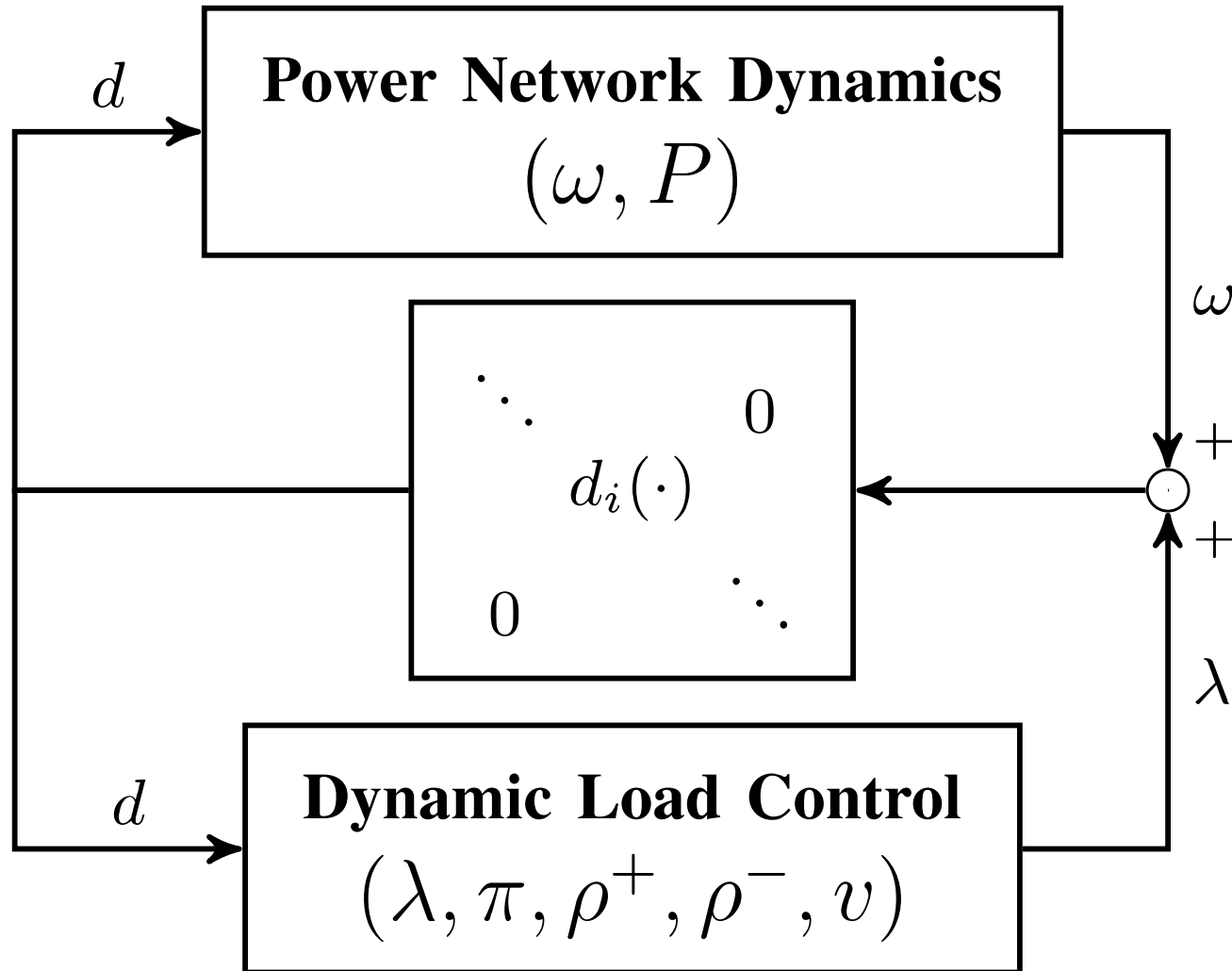




Control architecture

physical network

cyber network





Secondary frequency control

load control:
$$d_i(t) := \hat{C}_i^{-1} (W_i(t) + I_i(t)) \Big|_{\underline{d}_i}^{\bar{d}_i}$$

computation & communication:

primal var:
$$\dot{v} = \chi^v (L_B \lambda - CD_B \hat{C}^T \pi - CD_B (\rho^+ - \rho^-))$$

dual vars:
$$\dot{\lambda} = \zeta^\lambda (P^m - d - L_B v)$$

$$\dot{\pi} = \zeta^\pi (\hat{C} D_B C^T v - \hat{P})$$

$$\dot{\rho}^+ = \zeta^{\rho^+} [D_B C^T v - \bar{P}]_{\rho^+}^+$$

$$\dot{\rho}^- = \zeta^{\rho^-} [\underline{P} - D_B C^T v]_{\rho^-}^+$$



Secondary control works

Theorem

starting from any initial point, system trajectory converges s. t.

- $(d^*, \hat{d}^*, P^*, v^*)$ is unique optimal of OLC
- nominal frequency is restored $W^* = 0$
- inter-area flows are restored $\hat{C}P^* = \hat{P}$
- line limits are respected $\underline{P} \preceq P^* \preceq \bar{P}$



Recap: key ideas

Design optimal load control (OLC) problem

- Objective function, constraints

Derive control law as primal-dual algorithms

- Lyapunov stability
- Achieve **original** control goals in equilibrium

Distributed algorithms

primary control: $d_i(t) := c_i^{-1} (W_i(t))$

secondary control: $d_i(t) := c_i^{-1} (W_i(t) + l_i(t))$



Recap: key ideas

Design optimal load control (OLC) problem

- Objective function, constraints

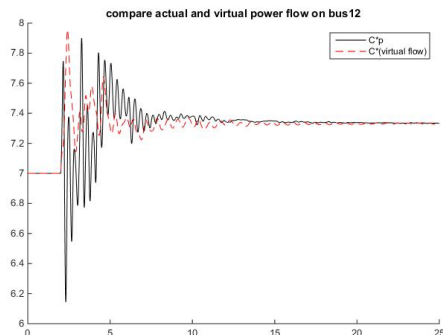
Derive control law as primal-dual algorithms

- Lyapunov stability
- Achieve **original** control goals in equilibrium

Distributed algorithms

Virtual flows

- Enforce desired properties on line flows



in steady state: virtual flow = real flows

$$BC^T v = P$$



Recap: control goals

Yes ■ Rebalance power

Yes ■ Resynchronize/stabilize frequency

Zhao, et al TAC2014

Yes ■ Restore nominal frequency $(W^* \ 1 \ 0)$

Yes ■ Restore scheduled inter-area flows

Yes ■ Respect line limits

Mallada, et al Allerton2014

Secondary control restores nominal frequency but **requires local communication**



Outline

Load-side frequency control

- Primary control
- Secondary control
- Interaction with generator-side control

Zhao and Low, CDC2014

Zhao, Mallada, Low, CISS 2015

Zhao, Mallada, Low, Bialek, PSCC 2016



Generator-side control

New model: nonlinear PF, with generator control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{P_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

Recall model: linearized PF, no generator control

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + \boxed{P_i^m - d_i} - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$\dot{P}_{ij} = b_{ij} (\omega_i - \omega_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$



Generator-side control

New model: nonlinear PF, with generator control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

generator bus: real power injection

load bus: controllable load



Generator-side control

New model: nonlinear PF, with generator control

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i$$

$$M_i \dot{\omega}_i = -D_i \omega_i + p_i - \sum_e C_{ie} P_e$$

$$P_{ij} = b_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

generator buses:

$$\dot{p}_i = -\frac{1}{\tau_{bi}} (p_i + a_i)$$

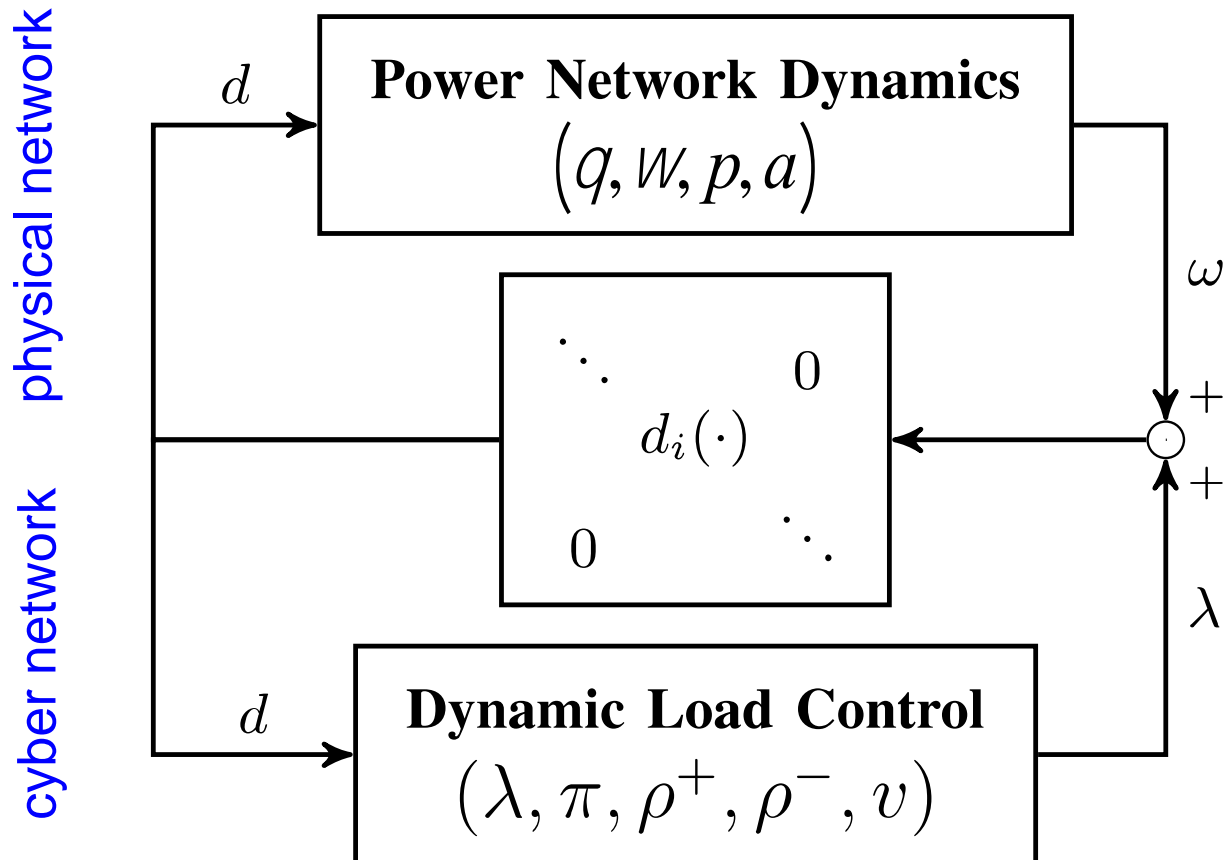
$$\dot{a}_i = -\frac{1}{\tau_{gi}} (a_i + p_i^c)$$

primary control $p_i^c(t) = p_i^c(w_i(t))$

e.g. freq droop $p_i^c(w_i) = -b_i w_i$



Load-side control





Load-side primary control works

Theorem

- Every closed-loop equilibrium solves OLC and its dual

Suppose $\left| p_i^c(w) - p_i^c(w^*) \right| \leq L_i |w - w^*|$

near w^* for some $L_i < D_i$

- Any closed-loop equilibrium is (locally) asymptotically stable provided

$$\left| q_i^* - q_j^* \right| < \frac{\rho}{2}$$



Conclusion

Forward-engineering design facilitates

- explicit control goals
- distributed algorithms
- stability analysis

Load-side frequency regulation

- primary & secondary control works
- helps generator-side control



Key message

Large network of DERs

- Real-time optimization at scale
- Computational challenge: power flow solution

Online optimization

- Network computes power flow solutions in real time at scale for free
- Exploit it for our optimization/control
- Naturally adapts to evolving network conditions

Examples

- Slow timescale: OPF
- Fast timescale: frequency control



Online optimal power flow

Large network of DERs

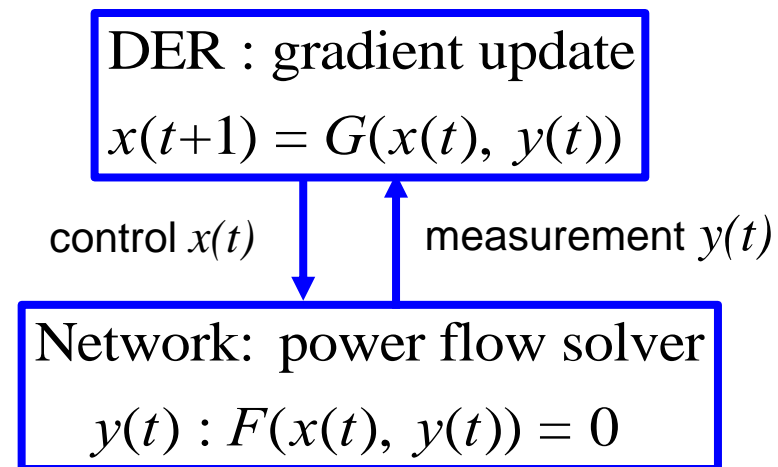
- Need real-time optimization at scale
- Computational challenge: power flow solution

Online optimization

- Network computes power flow solutions in real time at scale for free
- Exploit it for our optimization/control
- Naturally adapts to evolving network conditions

generic OPF problem

min $c(x, y)$
over x (controllable devices)
 y (uncontrollable states)
subj to $F(x, y) = 0$ (power flow eqtns)



Application: EV charging

Online optimization of electric vehicle charging

- Enables mass deployment at much lower infrastructure costs
- First pilot @Caltech: 54 adaptive programmable chargers
- 2x 150kVA transformers, breakers, grid sensors, etc

**Energized
Feb 13 Sat
2016**

debugging



charger



150kVA transformer



main panel



1st customer

