

# Autonomous Energy Grid optimization

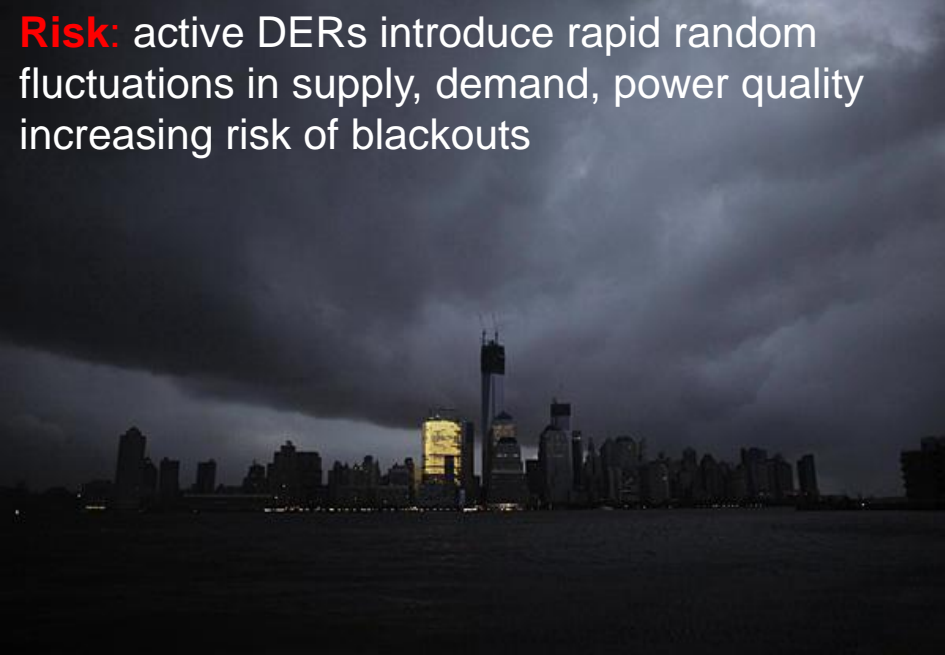
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Steven Low



Caltech

NREL, September 2017

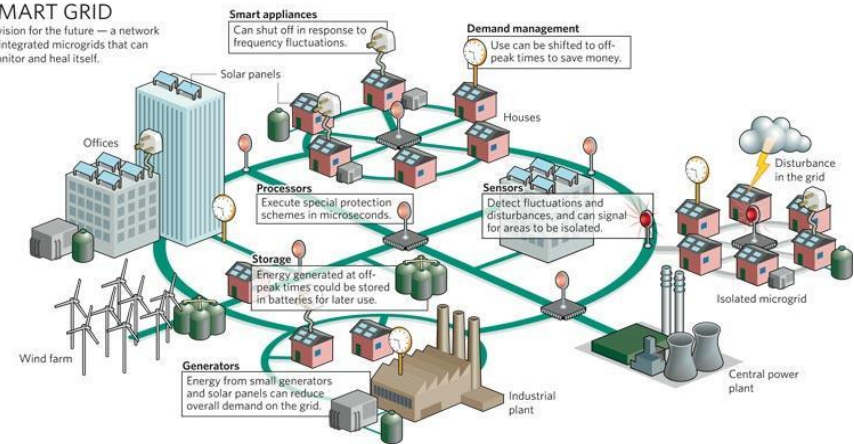


**Risk:** active DERs introduce rapid random fluctuations in supply, demand, power quality increasing risk of blackouts

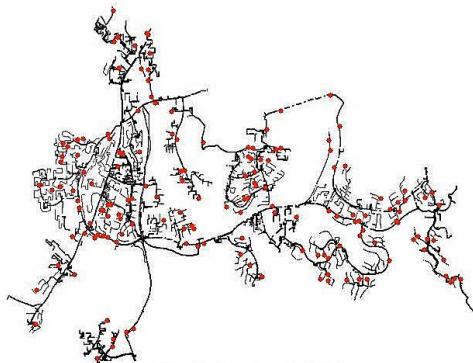
**Opportunity:** active DERs enables realtime dynamic network-wide feedback control, improving robustness, security, efficiency

**SMART GRID**

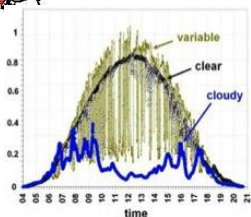
A vision for the future — a network of integrated microgrids that can monitor and heal itself.



# Caltech research: distributed control of networked DERs



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





# Autonomous energy grid

## Computational challenge

- nonlinear models, nonconvex optimization

## Scalability challenge

- billions of intelligent DERs

## Increased volatility

- in supply, demand, voltage, frequency

## Limited sensing and control

- design of/constraint from cyber topology

## Incomplete or unreliable data

- local state estimation & system identification

## Data-driven modeling and control

- real-time at scale

many other important problems, inc. economic, regulatory, social, ...



# Autonomous energy grid

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a sample of our work for illustration



# Outline

## Relaxations of AC OPF

- Dealing with nonconvexity

## Distributed AC OPF

- Dealing with scalability

## Realtime AC OPF

- Dealing with volatility

## Optimal placement

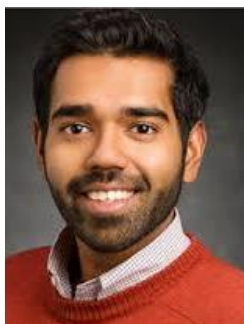
- Dealing with limited sensing/control





# Relaxations of AC OPF

dealing with nonconvexity



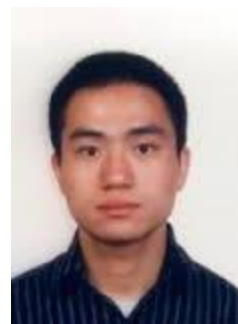
Bose (UIUC)



Chandy



Farivar (Google)



Gan (FB)



Lavaei (UCB)



Li (Harvard)

many others at & **outside** Caltech ...



# Optimal power flow (OPF)

## Computational challenge

- OPF underlies numerous power system applications but is nonconvex (and NP-hard)

## Scalability challenge

- Future smart grid will have billions of intelligent distributed energy resources (DERs)

## Our approach

- **Computation:** developed relaxation theory that exploits hidden convexity structure
- **Scalability:** developed distributed algorithms implementable by DERs based on relaxation



# Optimal power flow (OPF)

$$\min_{V \in \mathbf{C}^n} \text{tr}(CVV^H)$$

min generation cost, network loss

$$\text{s. t.} \quad \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr}(Y_j^H VV^H) \leq \bar{s}_j$$

generation limits

$$\underline{v}_j \leq |V_j|^2 \leq \bar{v}_j$$

voltage constraints

$$C, Y_j \in \mathbf{C}^{n \times n}, \underline{s}_j, \bar{s}_j \in \mathbf{R}, \underline{v}_j, \bar{v}_j \in \mathbf{R}$$

power flow equations:  $s_j = \text{tr}(Y_j^H VV^H)$  for node  $j$

- $Y_j^H$  describes network topology and impedances
- $s_j$  is net power injection (generation) at node  $j$
- “power balance at each node  $j$ ” (Kirchhoff’s law)





# Optimal power flow (OPF)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{V \in \mathbb{C}^n} \quad & \text{tr}(CVV^H) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & \underline{s}_j \preceq \text{tr}(Y_j^H VV^H) \preceq \bar{s}_j \\ & \underline{v}_j \preceq |V_j|^2 \preceq \bar{v}_j \end{aligned}$$

min generation cost, network loss

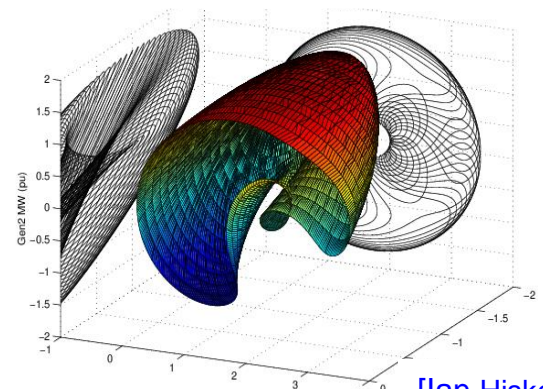
generation limits

voltage constraints

nonconvex feasible set

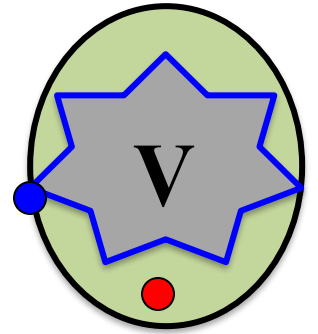
- $Y_j^H$  not Hermitian (nor positive semidefinite)
- $C$  is positive semidefinite (and Hermitian)

nonconvex QCQP





# Equivalent feasible sets



$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } CVV^H \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \underline{s}_j \in \boxed{\text{tr} \left( Y_j^H VV^H \right)} \in \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \in |V_j|^2 \in \bar{v}_j \end{aligned}$$

quadratic in  $V$   
linear in  $W$

Equivalent problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } CW \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \boxed{\underline{s}_j \in \text{tr} \left( Y_j^H W \right) \in \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \in W_{jj} \in \bar{v}_j} \end{aligned}$$

$$W \succeq 0, \text{ rank } W = 1$$

convex in  $W$   
except this constraint



# Solution strategy

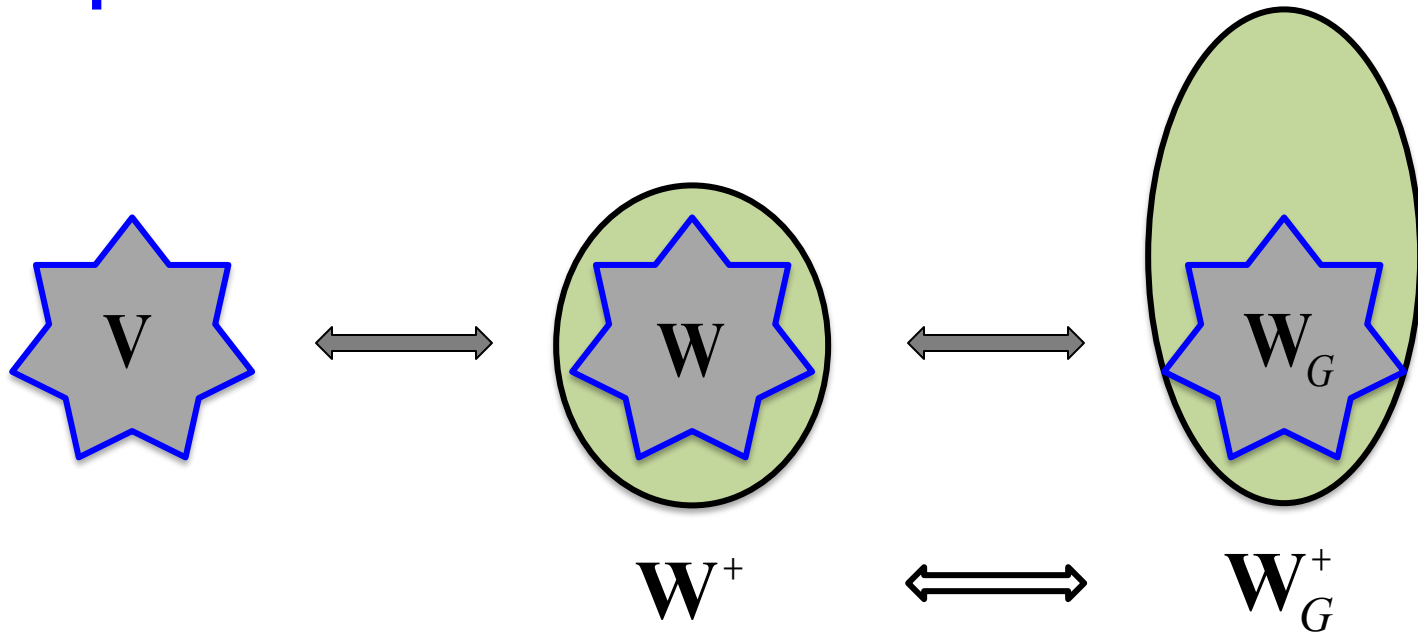
$$\text{OPF:} \quad \min_{x \in \mathbf{X}} f(x)$$

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

If optimal solution  $\hat{x}^*$  satisfies easily checkable conditions, then optimal solution  $x^*$  of OPF can be recovered



# Equivalent relaxations



## Theorem

- Radial  $G$ : SOCP is equivalent to SDP ( $V \subseteq W^+ @ W_G^+$ )
- Mesh  $G$ : SOCP is strictly coarser than SDP

For radial networks: always solve SOCP !



# Exact relaxation

For **radial** networks, **sufficient** conditions on

- power injections bounds, or
- voltage upper bounds, or
- phase angle bounds



# Exact relaxation

For **radial** networks, **sufficient** conditions on

- **power injections bounds**, or
- **voltage upper bounds**, or
- **phase angle bounds**



# Exact relaxation

QCQP  $(C, C_k)$

$$\min \quad \text{tr}(Cxx^H)$$

$$\text{over } x \in \mathbf{C}^n$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}(C_k xx^H) \leq b_k \quad k \in K$$

graph of QCQP

$$G(C, C_k) \text{ has edge } (i, j) \iff$$

$$C_{ij} \neq 0 \text{ or } [C_k]_{ij} \neq 0 \text{ for some } k$$

QCQP over tree

$$G(C, C_k) \text{ is a tree}$$



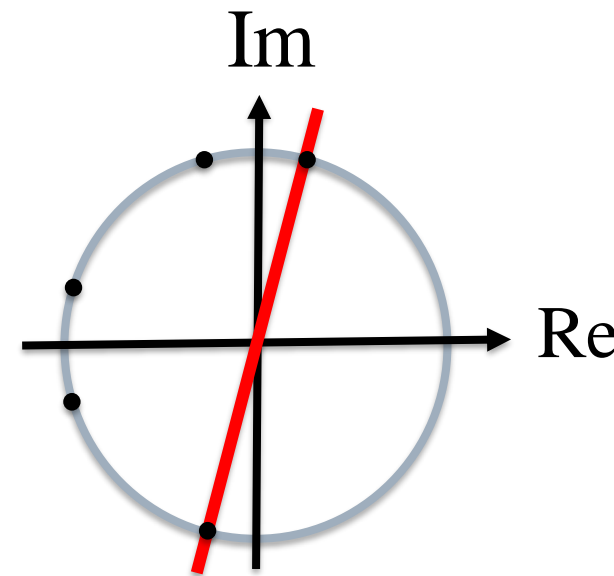
# Exact relaxation

QCQP  $(C, C_k)$

$$\min \quad \text{tr}(Cxx^H)$$

$$\text{over } x \in \mathbf{C}^n$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}(C_k xx^H) \leq b_k \quad k \in K$$



## Key condition

$i \sim j$ :  $(C_{ij}, [C_k]_{ij}, \dots, k)$  lie on half-plane through 0

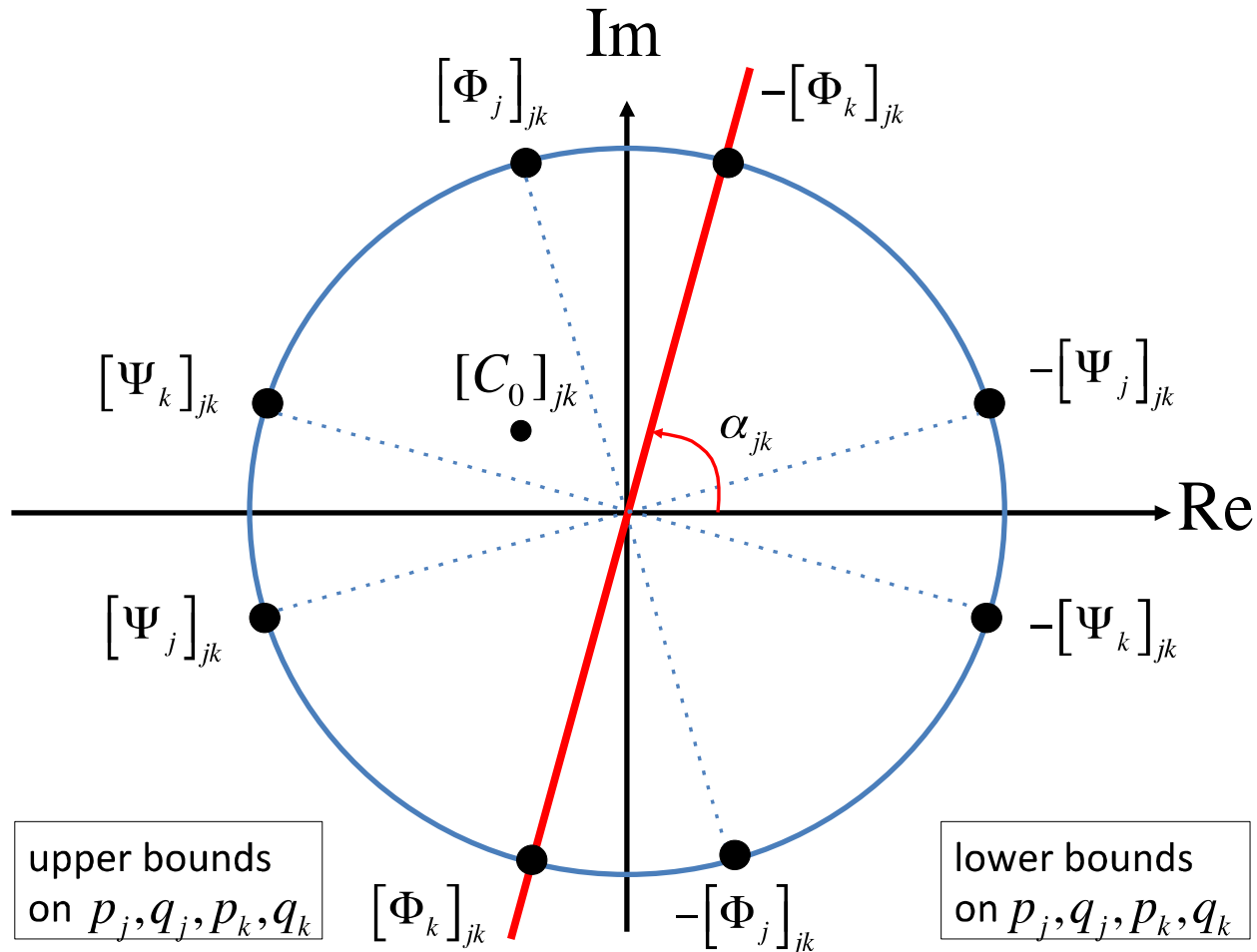
## Theorem

SOCP relaxation is exact for  
QCQP over tree





# Implication on OPF

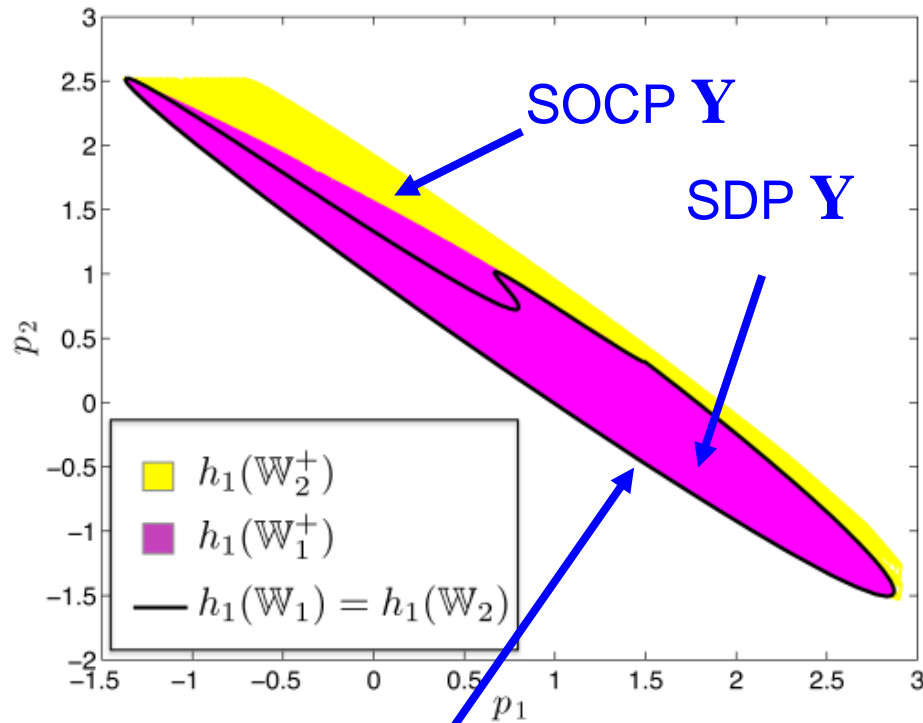


Not both lower & upper bounds on real & reactive powers at both ends of a line can be finite

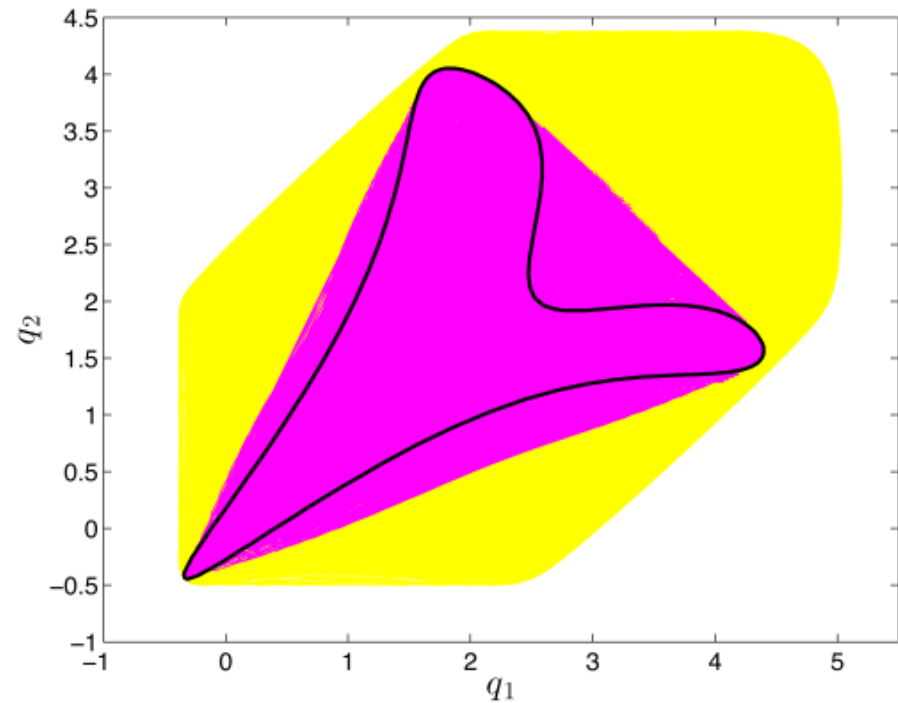


# Example

Real Power



Reactive Power



power flow solution  $\mathbf{X}$

- Relaxation is exact if  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  have same Pareto front
- SOCP is faster but coarser than SDP



# Potential benefits

IEEE test systems

SDP cost

MATPOWER cost

Syst	rank ( $\bar{X}_0$ )	$J^\circ$	$\bar{J}$
9	1	5296.7	5296.7
30	1	576.9	576.9
118	1	129661	129661
14A	1	8092.8	9093.8

12.4% lower cost than solution from nonlinear solver MATPOWER

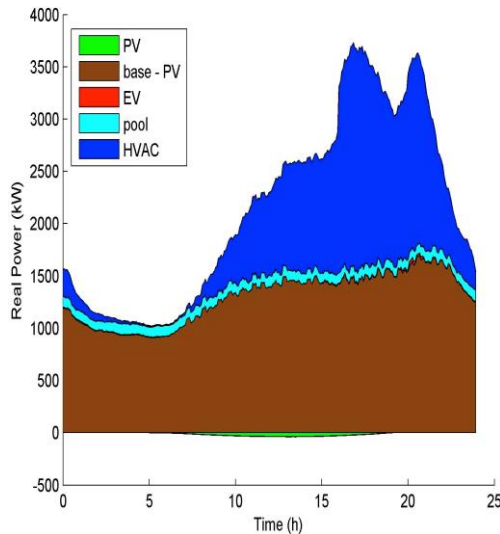


# Potential benefits

## Our research

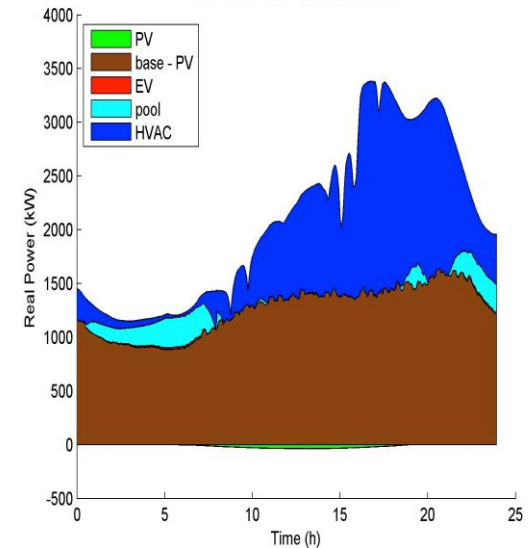
- **Computation:** developed relaxation theory that exploits hidden convexity structure
- **Scalability:** developed distributed algorithms implementable by DERs based on relaxation theory
- **Benefits:** captures values to both utility and users

**baseline**



peak load reduction: 8%  
energy cost reduction: 4%

**optimized**





# Challenges

## Challenges for practical application

- Relaxation may not be exact
  - Practical application demands a feasible solution
  - No known sufficient condition for exact relaxation for **general** mesh (transmission) networks
- Semidefinite relaxation (as is) is not scalable



# Distributed AC OPF

for scalability



Gan (FB)



Peng (Google)



# Summary: 3 ideas

1. Solve semidefinite relaxation using branch-flow model (BFM)

- BFM much more numerically stable
- assume **relaxation** is exact (radial nk)

2. Decouple into operations at each bus

- introduce **decoupling** variables and consensus constraints
- message passing between neighboring buses

3. Apply ADMM

- derive **closed-form solution or 6x6 eigenvalue problem** for each ADMM subproblem
- greatly speeds up each ADMM iteration



# Summary: simulations

network	BIM-SDP			BFM-SDP		
	value	time	ratio	value	time	ratio
IEEE 13-bus	152.7	1.05	8.2e-9	152.7	0.74	2.8e-10
IEEE 34-bus	<del>-100.0</del>	<del>2.22</del>	<del>1.0</del>	279.0	1.64	3.3e-11
IEEE 37-bus	212.3	2.66	1.5e-8	212.2	1.95	1.3e-10
IEEE 123-bus	<del>-8917</del>	<del>7.21</del>	<del>3.2e-2</del>	229.8	8.86	0.6e-11
Rossi 2065-bus	<del>-100.0</del>	<del>115.50</del>	<del>1.0</del>	19.15	96.98	4.3e-8

numerically  
unstable

numerically  
stable

BFM is much more numerically stable  
SDP relaxations are exact (wye loads)





# Summary: comparison (single phase)

Network size N	Total Time S	Avg time (= S/N)	Centralized (CPU)	Centralized (elapsed)
IEEE 123 buses	39.5 sec	0.32 sec	1.18 sec	11.4 sec
Rossi 2,065	1,153	0.56	14.38	157.3
1,313	471	0.36	8.88	91.2
792	226	0.29	5.13	50.3
363	66	0.18	3.08	24.5
108	16	0.14	0.78	6.5

- Parallel implementation of our distributed algorithm is much faster than solving OPF centrally

footnote: "Centralized" times reported by CVS in Matlab

- Solving SOCP using CVX (not ADMM)
- "CPU" time excludes problem set up before calling convex solver
- "elapsed" time includes setup time in CVX



# Summary: simulations

## Network (unbalanced)

- IEEE 13, 34, 37, 123 bus systems

## Objective

- loss minimization

## Convergence time (computation only)

Network	Diameter	Iterations	Total Time	Avg Time
13 Bus	6	289	17.11	1.32
34 Bus	20	547	78.34	2.30
37 Bus	16	440	75.67	2.05
123 Bus	30	608	306.3	2.49



# Details: 3 ideas

1. Solve semidefinite relaxation using branch-flow model (BFM)

- BFM much more numerically stable
- assume **relaxation** is exact (radial nk)

2. Decouple into operations at each bus

- introduce **decoupling** variables and consensus constraints
- message passing between neighboring buses

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# BFM and relaxations

DistFlow model (Baran & Wu 1989)

$\sum_{i=0}^n V_i^2$

Let the objective function,  $c_p$ , of network reconfiguration.

For load balancing, we will use the ratio of component of a branch,  $S_i$ , over its kVA capacity,  $S_i^{max}$ , when that branch is loaded. The branch can be a tie line, a sectionalizing switch or simply a line section.

balance index for the whole system as the sum of

} nonconvex !

## OPF

$\min_x f(x)$  subject to DistFlow equations

operation constraints  $g(x) \leq 0$

## SOCP relaxation (Farivar & Low 2013)

- Equivalent re-formulation of DistFlow equations (linear + quadratic term)
- SOCP relaxation is often exact, yielding global optimal
- Much more numerically stable than bus injection model



# BFM and relaxations

DistFlow model (Baran & Wu 1989)

$$\sum_{i=0}^n V_i^2$$

Let be the objective function,  $c_p$  of network reconf  
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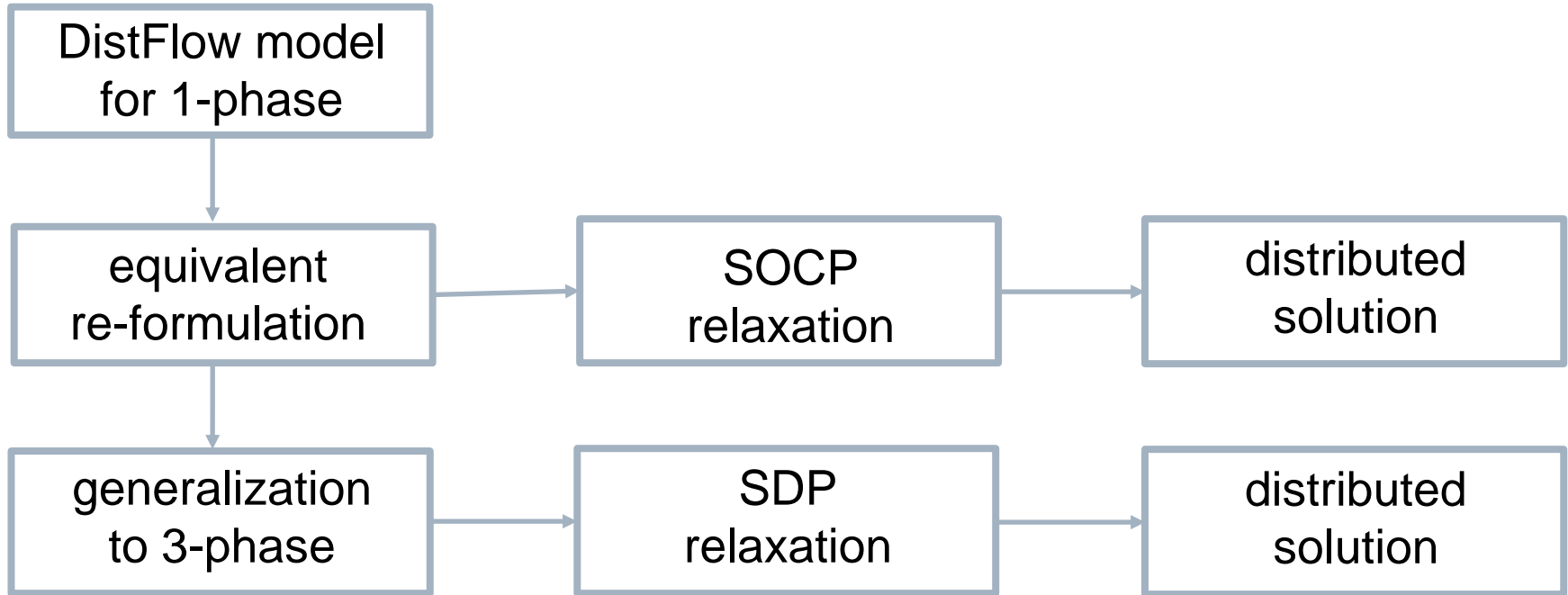
But DistFlow model is single-phase !

How to generalize to 3-phase unbalanced system?

- Preserve simple analytical structure of 1-phase model
- Preserve superior numerical stability of 1-phase model



# Multiphase generalization



radial, multiphase, wye + **delta**

Dall'Anese et al 2013 TSG

Gan & Low 2014 PSCC (above approach)

Peng & Low 2017 TSG  
Peng & Low 2015 CDC

Zhao et al 2017 IREP



# 3phase model

## 3-phase balanced (positive sequence)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{I}_{jk}^a \\ \dot{I}_{jk}^b \\ \dot{I}_{jk}^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{jk}^{aa} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & y_{jk}^{bb} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & y_{jk}^{cc} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_j^a - V_k^a \\ V_j^b - V_k^b \\ V_j^c - V_k^c \end{bmatrix}$$

## per-phase analysis


$$\dot{I}_{jk}^a = y_{jk}^{aa} (V_j^a - V_k^a)$$

## 3-phase unbalanced (phase frame)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{I}_{jk}^a \\ \dot{I}_{jk}^b \\ \dot{I}_{jk}^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{jk}^{aa} & y_{jk}^{ab} & y_{jk}^{ac} \\ y_{jk}^{ba} & y_{jk}^{bb} & y_{jk}^{bc} \\ y_{jk}^{ca} & y_{jk}^{cb} & y_{jk}^{cc} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_j^a - V_k^a \\ V_j^b - V_k^b \\ V_j^c - V_k^c \end{bmatrix}$$

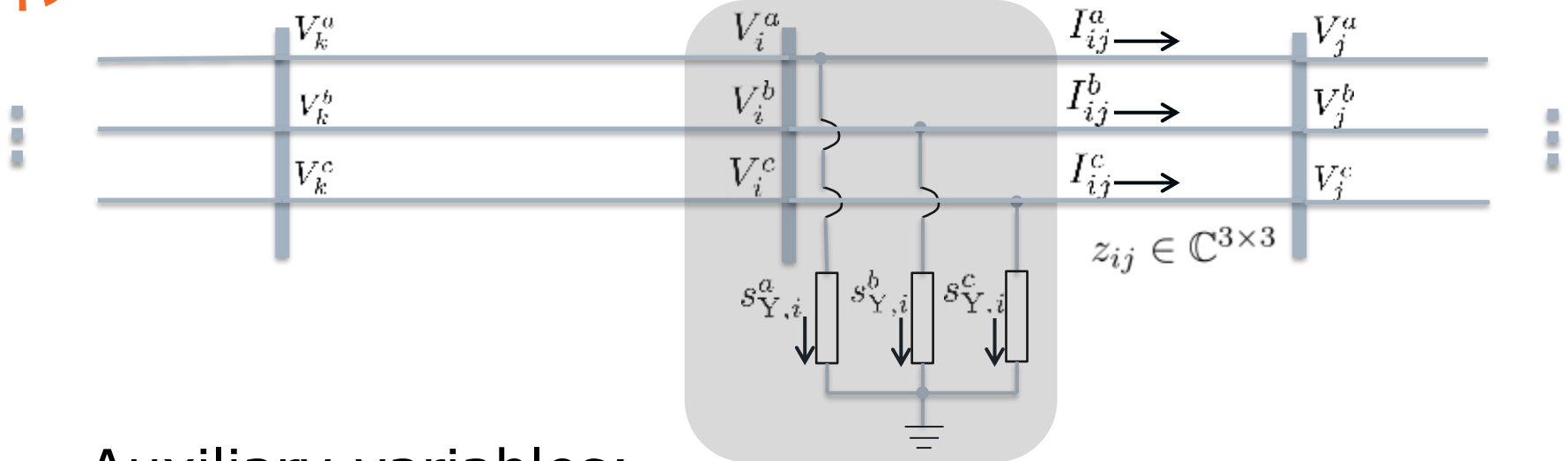
## 3-phase analysis

$$\dot{I}_{jk} = \mathbf{y}_{jk} (V_j - V_k)$$

  
 3x3 matrix



# BFM: 3phase (wye)



Auxiliary variables:

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_i \\ S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ u \\ l_{ij} \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{3}{=} 0, \quad \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} v_i \\ S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ u \\ l_{ij} \end{pmatrix} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_i &= V_i V_i^H & l_{ij} &= I_{ij} I_{ij}^H \\ S_{ij} &= V_i I_{ij}^H \end{aligned}$$

3x3 rank-1 matrices

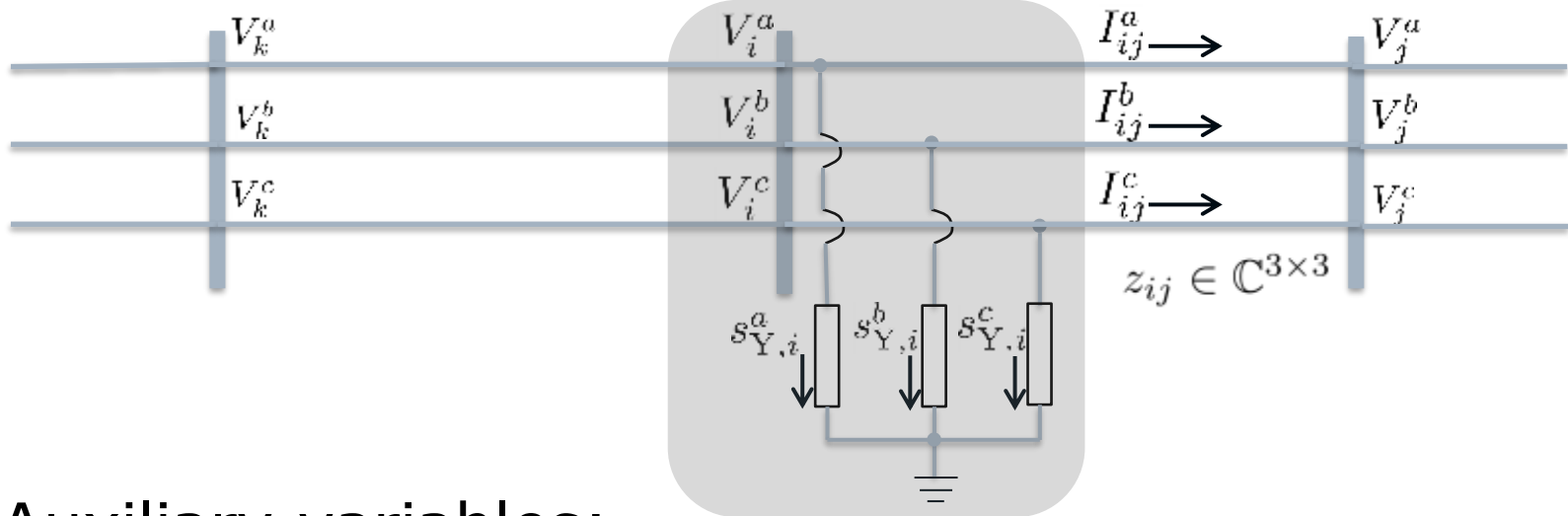
Ohm's law:

Power balance:





# BFM: 3phase (wye)



Auxiliary variables:

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_i \\ S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H \\ \ell_{ij} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ u^3 \\ u \\ u \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} v_i \\ S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H \\ \ell_{ij} \end{pmatrix} = 1 \quad \text{6x6 matrix}$$

Ohm's law:

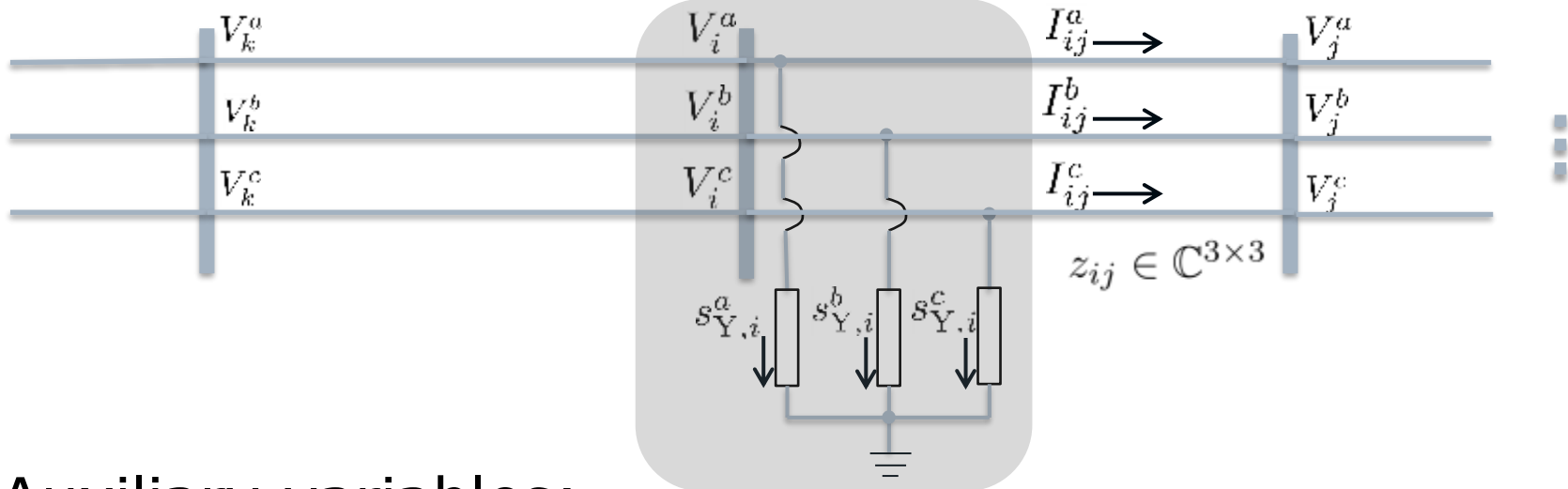
$$v_j = v_i - (S_{ij} z_{ij}^H + z_{ij} S_{ij}^H) + z_{ij} \ell_{ij} z_{ij}^H \quad \text{3x3 matrices}$$

Power balance:

$$\sum_{k:k \rightarrow i} \text{diag}(S_{ki} - z_{ki} \ell_{ki}) = \sum_{j:i \rightarrow j} \text{diag}(S_{ij}) + s_{Y,i} \quad \text{3-vectors (a,b,c)}$$



# BFM: 3phase (wye)



$$z_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}^{3 \times 3}$$

Auxiliary variables:

$$\begin{matrix} \hat{e} \\ \hat{S}^H \\ \hat{\ell} \end{matrix} v_i \begin{matrix} S_{ij} \\ \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{l}_{ij} \end{matrix} \hat{u} \stackrel{\exists}{=} 0, \quad \text{rank} \begin{matrix} \hat{e} \\ \hat{S}^H \\ \hat{\ell} \end{matrix} v_i \begin{matrix} S_{ij} \\ \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{l}_{ij} \end{matrix} \hat{u} = 1$$

Ohm's law:

$$v_j = v_i - (S_{ij} z_{ij}^H + z_{ij} S_{ij}^H) + z_{ij} \ell_{ij} z_{ij}^H$$

Power balance:

$$\sum_{k:k \rightarrow i} \text{diag}(S_{ki} - z_{ki} \ell_{ki}) = \sum_{j:i \rightarrow j} \text{diag}(S_{ij}) + s_{Y,i}$$

equivalent to  
DistFlow  
equations  
if single-phase



# OPF (3phase, wye)

$$\min f(s_Y)$$

$$\text{over } (s_Y, v, \ell, S)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \underline{v}_i \leq v_i \leq \bar{v}_i, \quad s_{Y,i} \in \mathcal{S}_{Y,i}, \quad \forall i$$

$$v_j = v_i - (S_{ij}z_{ij}^H + z_{ij}S_{ij}^H) + z_{ij}\ell_{ij}z_{ij}^H, \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

$$\sum_{k:k \rightarrow i} \text{diag}(S_{ki} - z_{ki}\ell_{ki}) = \sum_{j:i \rightarrow j} \text{diag}(S_{ij}) + s_{Y,i}, \quad \forall i$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_i & S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H & \ell_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0, \quad \text{rank} \left( \begin{bmatrix} v_i & S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H & \ell_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \right) = 1, \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

**branch  
flow  
model**

non-convex



# SDP relaxation (3phase, wye)

$$\min f(s_Y)$$

$$\text{over } (s_Y, v, \ell, S)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \underline{v}_i \leq v_i \leq \bar{v}_i, \quad s_{Y,i} \in \mathcal{S}_{Y,i}, \quad \forall i$$

$$v_j = v_i - (S_{ij}z_{ij}^H + z_{ij}S_{ij}^H) + z_{ij}\ell_{ij}z_{ij}^H, \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

$$\sum_{k:k \rightarrow i} \text{diag}(S_{ki} - z_{ki}\ell_{ki}) = \sum_{j:i \rightarrow j} \text{diag}(S_{ij}) + s_{Y,i}, \quad \forall i$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_i & S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H & \ell_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0, \quad \text{rank} \left( \begin{bmatrix} v_i & S_{ij} \\ S_{ij}^H & \ell_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \right) = 1, \quad \forall i \rightarrow j$$

**branch  
flow  
model**

6x6: semidefinite  
constraint



# Partition & decouple

$$\min_{x,y} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} f_i(x_{i0})$$

$$x_i := (v_i, \mathbf{S}_i, \ell_{iA_i}, \mathbf{S}_{iA_i})$$

$y_{ji}$  : decoupling vars

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j \in N_i} A_{ij} y_{ji} = 0 \quad i \in \mathcal{N}$$

power balance & voltage eqtns

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i0} &\in \mathcal{K}_{i0} & i &\in \mathcal{N} \\ x_{i1} &\in \mathcal{K}_{i1} & i &\in \mathcal{N} \end{aligned}$$

PSD & injection constraints  
voltage magnitude constraints

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i0} &= y_{ij} & j &\in N_i \quad i \in \mathcal{N} \\ x_{i1} &= y_{ii} & i &\in \mathcal{N} \end{aligned}$$

consensus constraints  
(coupling across  $i$ )



# ADMM

$$\min_{x,y} f(x) + g(y)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x \in \mathcal{K}_x, \quad y \in \mathcal{K}_y$$

$$x = y$$

$\lambda$  : Lagrangian multiplier for coupling constraint

augmented Lagrangian:

$$L_r(x, y, l) := f(x) + g(y) + l^T (x - y) + \frac{r}{2} (x - y)^H \mathcal{L}(x - y)$$

ADMM update at each iteration k

$$x^{k+1} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathcal{K}_x} L_\rho(x, y^k, \lambda^k)$$

$$y^{k+1} = \arg \min_{y \in \mathcal{K}_y} L_\rho(x^{k+1}, y, \lambda^k)$$

$$\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^k + \rho(x^{k+1} - y^{k+1})$$

reduce min to

- QP: closed-form soln
- SDP: 6x6 eigenvalue problems



# ADMM

Greatly speeds up each ADMM iteration

- **much faster** than standard iterative solution for each ADMM subproblem

per-bus computation time	x-update	z-update
Our algorithm	$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$ sec	$5.1 \times 10^{-4}$ sec
CVX	$2 \times 10^{-1}$ sec	$3 \times 10^{-1}$ sec
speedup	1,176x	588x

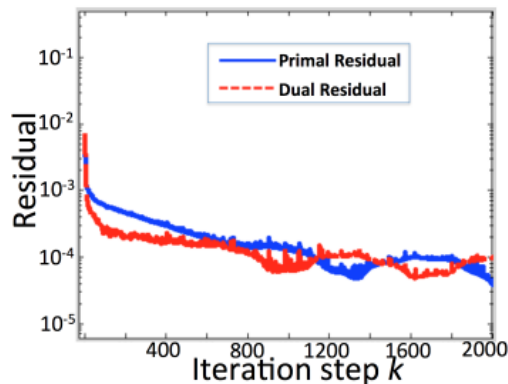
per-bus computation time : time to solve 1 sample ADMM iteration for Rossi circuit with 2,065 buses, divided by 2,065, for both algorithms (single-phase)



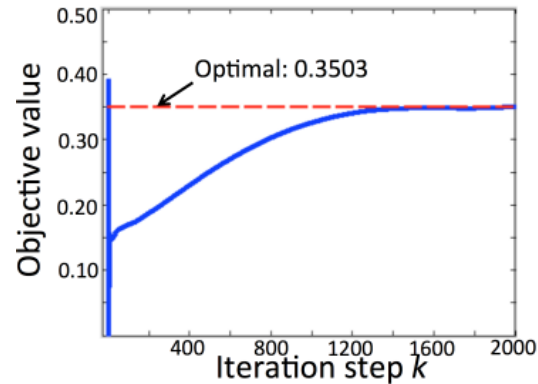
# Challenges

## Challenges for practical application

- ADMM too slow for high precision solution
- Relaxation (feasible power flow)
  - Wye loads: empirically exact but no proof
  - Delta loads: empirically inexact
- Offline (distributed) algorithm
  - Intermediate iterates are not feasible and cannot be applied to network



(a) Primal and dual residual

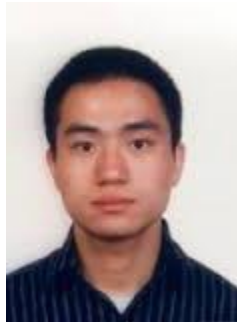


(b) Objective value

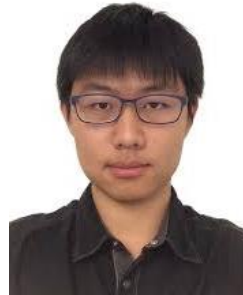




# Realtime AC OPF for tracking



Gan (FB)



Tang (Caltech)



Dvijotham (DeepMind)

See also: Dall'Anese et al, Bernstein et al,  
Hug & Dorfler et al, Callaway et al

Gan & L, JSAC 2016  
Tang et al, TSG 2017



# OPF

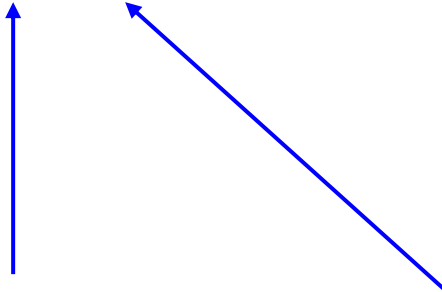
$$\min c_0(y) + c(x)$$

over  $x, y$

s. t.

controllable  
devices

uncontrollable  
state





# 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

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



# Static OPF

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

gradient projection algorithm:

$$x(t+1) = \underset{X}{\text{proj}} \left( \hat{x}(t) - h \frac{\nabla f}{\nabla x}(t) \right)$$

active control

$$y(t) = y(x(t))$$

law of physics



# Online (feedback) perspective

DER : gradient update

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

cyber  
network

control  
 $x(t)$

measurement,  
communication  
 $y(t)$

Network: power flow solver

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

physical  
network

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



# Drifting OPF

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

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

$$x \in X$$



static  
OPF

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

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

$$x \in X$$



drifting  
OPF



# Drifting OPF

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & f_t(x, y(x); m_t) \\ \text{over} & x \in X_t \end{array}$$

Quasi-Newton algorithm:

$$x(t+1) = \hat{x}(t) - h(H(t))^{-1} \frac{\nabla f_t}{\nabla x}(x(t)) \Big|_{x_t} \quad \text{active control}$$

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





# Tracking performance

$$\text{error} := \frac{1}{T} \mathring{a} \sum_{t=1}^T \|x^{\text{online}}(t) - x^*(t)\|$$

control error



# Tracking performance

$$\text{error} := \frac{1}{T} \mathring{a} \left\| x^{\text{online}}(t) - x^*(t) \right\|$$

## Theorem

$$\text{error} \leq \frac{e}{\sqrt{l_M / l_m} - e} \cdot \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \left\| x^*(t) - x^*(t-1) \right\| + D_t \right) + d$$

avg rate of drifting

- of optimal solution
- of feasible injections



# Tracking performance

$$\text{error} := \frac{1}{T} \mathring{a} \sum_{t=1}^T \|x^{\text{online}}(t) - x^*(t)\|$$

## Theorem

$$\text{error} \leq \frac{e}{\sqrt{l_M / l_m} - e} \cdot \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \|x^*(t) - x^*(t-1)\| + D_t \right) + d$$



error in Hessian approx



# Tracking performance

$$\text{error} := \frac{1}{T} \mathring{a} \left\| x^{\text{online}}(t) - x^*(t) \right\|$$

## Theorem

$$\text{error} \leq \frac{e}{\sqrt{l_M / l_m} - e} \cdot \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \left\| x^*(t) - x^*(t-1) \right\| + D_t \right) + d$$



“condition number”  
of Hessian



# Tracking performance

$$\text{error} := \frac{1}{T} \mathring{a} \sum_{t=1}^T \|x^{\text{online}}(t) - x^*(t)\|$$

## Theorem

$$\text{error} \leq \frac{e}{\sqrt{l_M / l_m} - e} \cdot \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( \|x^*(t) - x^*(t-1)\| + D_t \right) + d$$



“initial distance” from  $x^*(t)$



# Implementation

## Implement L-BFGS-B

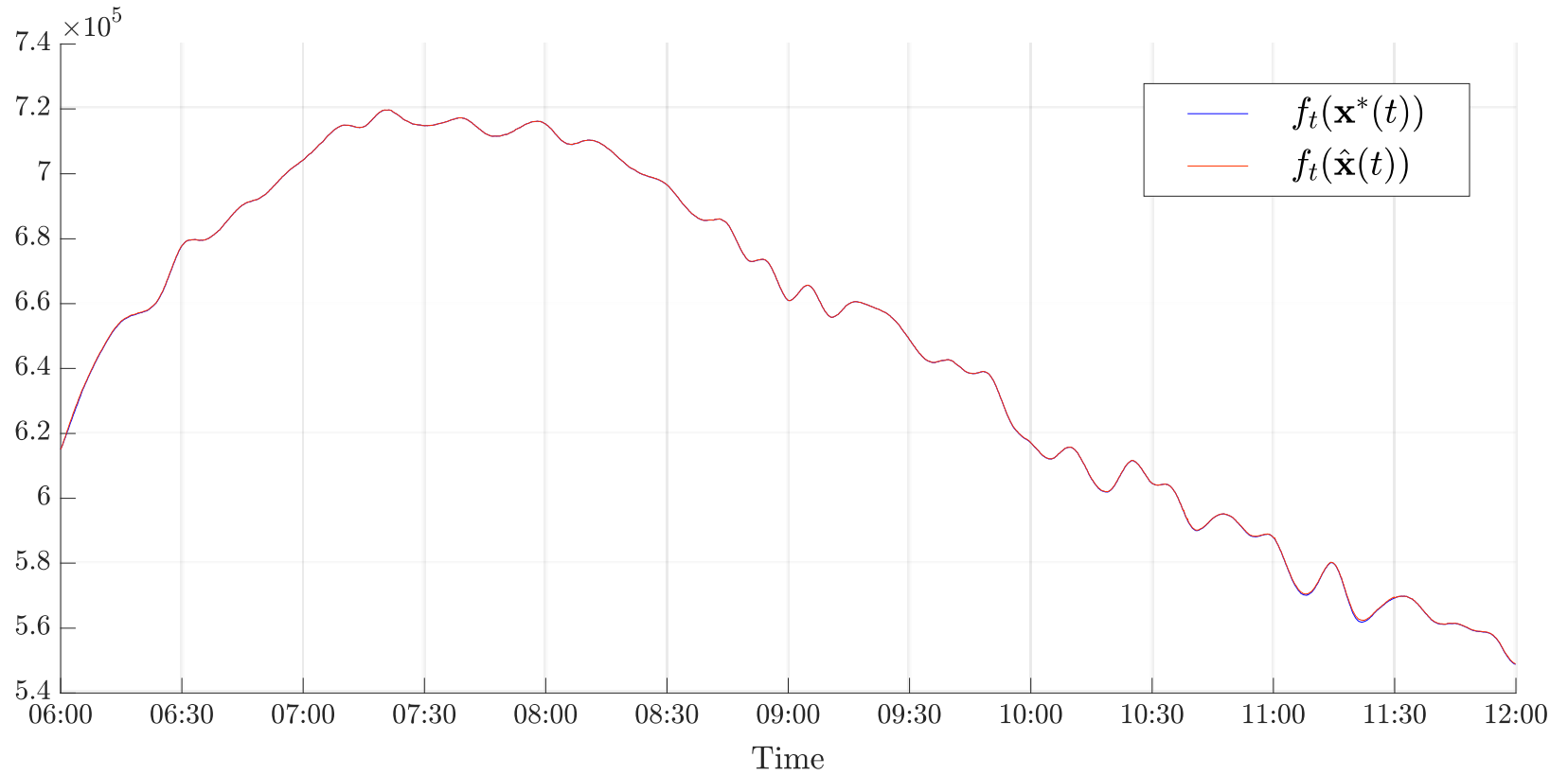
- More scalable
- Handles (box) constraints  $X$

## Simulations

- IEEE 300 bus



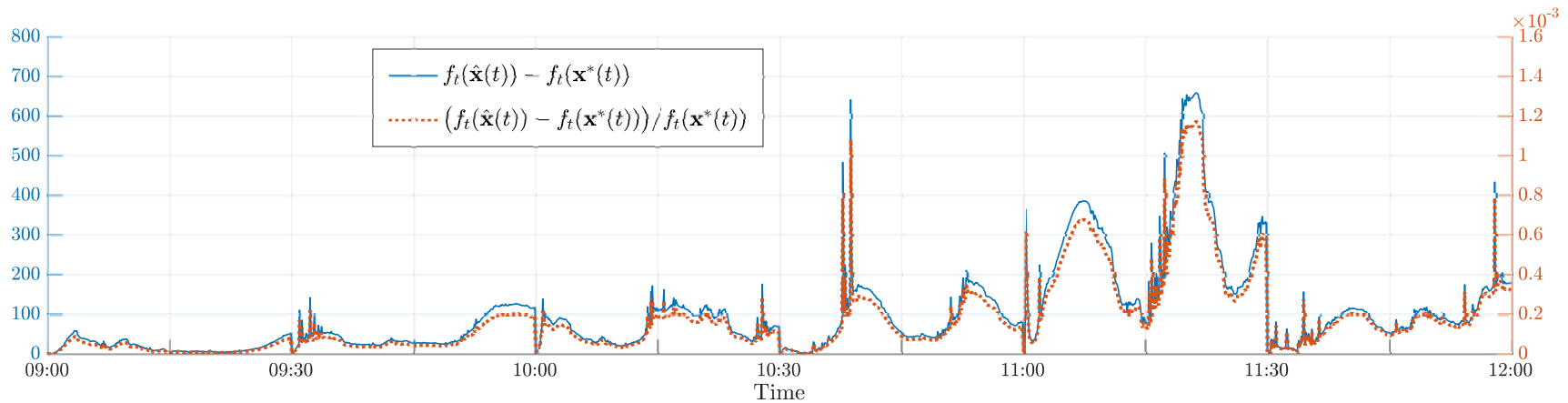
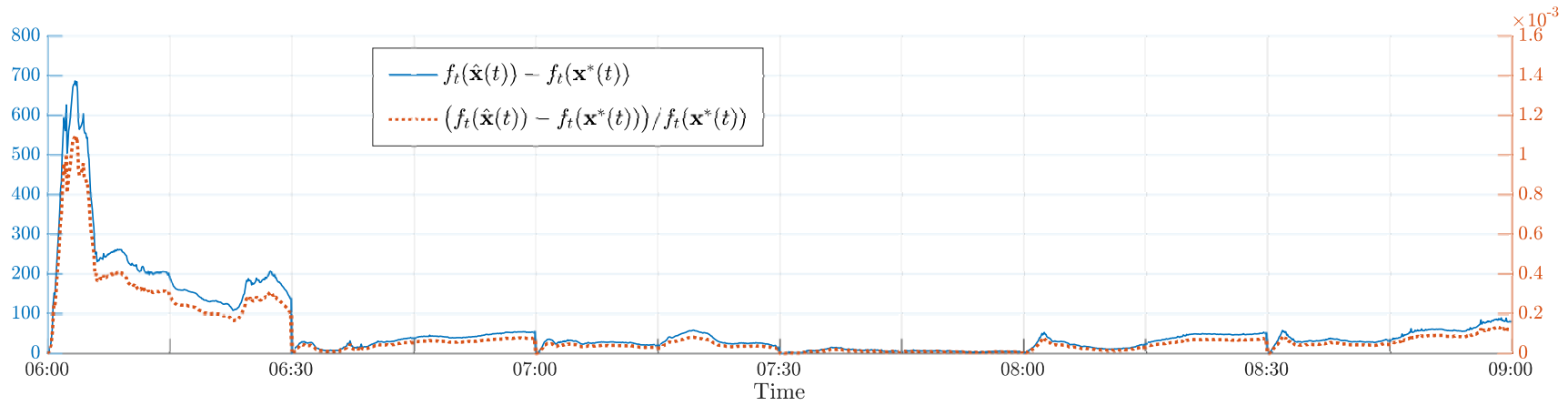
# Tracking performance



IEEE 300 bus



# Tracking performance



IEEE 300 bus





# Challenges

## Challenges for practical application

- Distributed implementation
- Tracking with lower update speed
- Not all buses have sensors/controllers



# Optimal placement dealing with limited sensing/control



Guo (Caltech)



# Summary

## Characterization of controllability and observability

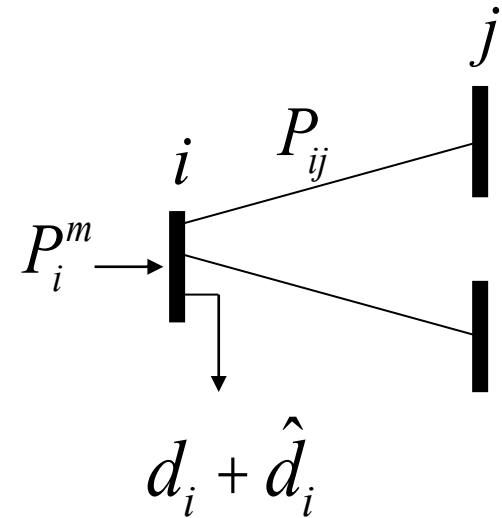
- of swing dynamics
- in terms spectrum of graph Laplacian matrix

## Implications on optimal placement of controllable DERs and sensors

- set covering problem



# Network model



swing dynamics:

$$-M_j \dot{\omega}_j = 1_{\mathcal{F}}(j) \hat{d}_j + 1_{\mathcal{U}}(j) d_j - P_j^m + \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} C_{je} P_e$$

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

$$y_j = 1_{\mathcal{S}}(j) \omega_j$$

controllable DER

frequency sensor

weighted Laplacian matrix

$$L = M^{-1/2} C B C^T M^{-1/2}$$



# Algebraic coverage

spectral decomposition of  $L$

$$L = Q\Lambda Q^T$$

eigenvectors of  $L$

$$Q = [\beta_1 \cdots \beta_n]$$

algebraic coverage of bus  $j$

$$\text{cov}(j) := \{s \mid b_{sj}^{-1} \neq 0\}$$



# Controllability

## Theorem

Swing dynamics is controllable if and only if

- $L$  has a simple spectrum holds a.s.
- controllable DERs have full coverage

$$j \hat{U} \text{cov}(j) = \{\text{all buses}\}$$



# Observability

## Theorem

Swing dynamics is observable if and only if

- $L$  has a simple spectrum holds a.s.
- frequency sensors have full coverage

$$j \in S \quad \text{cov}(j) = \{\text{all buses}\}$$



# Application

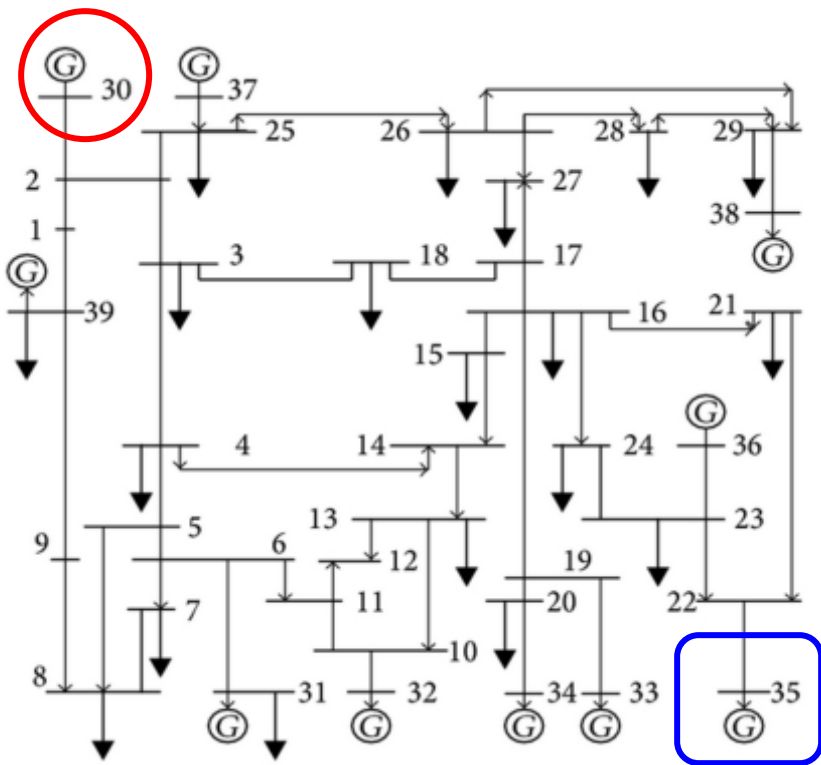
## Optimal placement of DER & frequency sensors

- set covering problem
- always install sensors at buses with controllable DERs, and vice versa



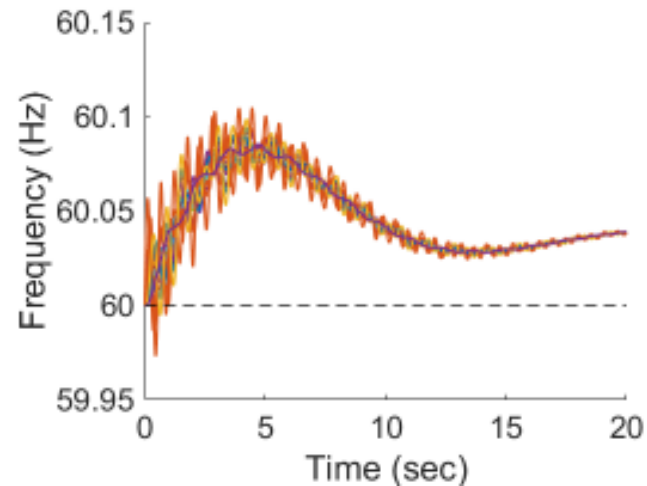


# Application

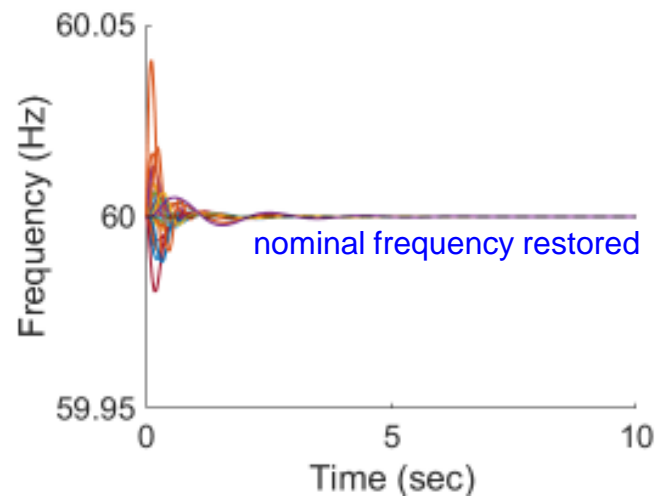


IEEE 39-bus New England system

1pu step disturbance at bus 30



without control



nominal frequency restored

with local control at single bus 35



# Summary

## Relaxations of AC OPF

- Dealing with nonconvexity

## Distributed AC OPF

- Dealing with scalability

## Realtime AC OPF

- Dealing with volatility

## Optimal placement

- Dealing with limited sensing/control

