



# Optimization Approaches to Power Networks



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FL 10\_10\_01  
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## Outline

### A Simple Optimal Power Flow Model with Energy Storage

K. Mani Chandu, Steven H Low, Ufuk Topcu and Huan Xu  
California Institute of Technology

- Background
- Model and Problem Formulation
- Single Generator Single Load
- Network Case



## Background

The optimal power flow (OPF) problem

- to optimize a objective over power network under constraints
- **Minimization of generation cost**
- Classical OPF : **without storage**

Renewable energy, such as wind power, is intermittent.

➔ Integration of renewable energy into electric grid is difficult.

**Battery is necessary!**



Goal

To understand the impact of storage on optimal generation schedule



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- **Model and Problem Formulation**
- Single Generator Single Load
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## OPF model

admittance matrix :  $Y$  potential :  $V$  phase :  $\theta$

The (real) power flow  $i \rightarrow j$  :

$$V_i V_j Y_{ij} \sin(\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t)) \approx V_i V_j Y_{ij} (\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t)) \leq \bar{q}_{ij}(t) \dots (1)$$

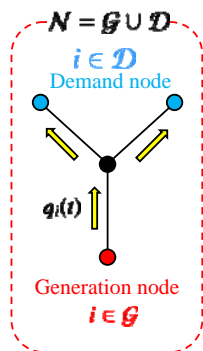
$\therefore |\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t)|$  is small **Line capacities**

Net power export (from Kirchoff's laws):

$$q_i(t) = \sum_{j \in N} V_i V_j Y_{ij} (\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t)) \dots (2)$$

$q_i(t) > 0$  : supply  $q_i(t) < 0$  : consume

Demand node:  $q_i(t) = -d_i(t) \dots (3)$



## OPF model

Each generation node :

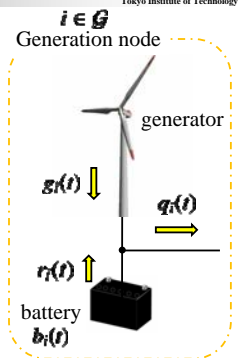
$$\begin{cases} q_i(t) = g_i(t) + r_i(t) \dots (4) \\ \text{Generator produce Battery charge or discharge} \\ g_i(t) \geq 0 \dots (5) \\ r_i(t) < 0 : \text{charge } r_i(t) > 0 : \text{discharge} \end{cases}$$

The battery energy level:

$$\begin{cases} b_i(t) = b_i(t-1) - r_i(t) \dots (6) \\ 0 \leq b_i(t) \leq B_i \dots (7) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{Generation cost : } c_i(g_i, t) \\ \text{Battery cost : } h_i(b_i, r_i) \end{cases}$$

➔ Battery charge when the cost of generation is high, and discharge when it is low.





## OPF problem

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OPF problem with energy storage

$$\min_{\theta, g, r, b} \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} \underbrace{c_i(g_i(t), t)}_{\text{Generation cost}} + \underbrace{h_i(b_i(t), r_i(t))}_{\text{Battery cost}}$$

s.t. (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7)  
for  $t = 1, \dots, T$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} c_i(g_i(t), t) := \frac{1}{2} \gamma_i(t) g_i^2(t) : \text{convex function} \quad \dots (*) \\ \gamma_i(t) : \text{the time-varying nature of } c_i(g_i(t), t) \\ h_i(b_i, r_i) = h_i(b_i) : \text{strictly decreasing} \\ \text{Ex. } h_i(b_i) = \alpha_i (B_i - b_i) \quad \alpha_i > 0, B_i > 0 \end{array} \right.$$

→ OPF-S problem is convex program

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## SGSL model

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$$(2), (3), (4) \Rightarrow g^*(t) + r^*(t) = d(t)$$

OPF-S

$$\min \sum_{t=1}^T c(g(t), t) + h(b(t)) \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{generator} \\ \bullet \text{---} \text{---} \bullet \\ \text{load} \end{array}$$

s.t.  $b(t) = b(t-1) - d(t) + g(t)$  [dual var :  $\tilde{b}(t)$ ]  
 $g(t) \geq 0$  [dual var :  $\hat{\lambda}(t)$ ]  
 $b(t) \geq 0$  [dual var :  $\underline{b}(t)$ ]  
 $B - b(t) \geq 0$  [dual var :  $\bar{b}(t)$ ]  
for  $t = 1, \dots, T$

→ Convex program

→ KKT condition is both necessary and sufficient for optimality

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## KKT condition

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$$\bullet \frac{\partial h}{\partial b(t)} + \bar{b}(t) - \bar{b}(t+1) \mathbf{1}(t < T) = \underline{b}(t) - \bar{b}(t)$$

→  $\tilde{b}(t) = H^*(t) + B^*(t)$      $\mathbf{1}$  : indicator function

$$H^*(t) := \sum_{\tau=t}^T -\frac{dh_{\tau}}{db(\tau)}(b^*(\tau)) > 0, B^*(t) := \sum_{\tau=t}^T (\underline{b}(\tau) - \bar{b}(\tau))$$

→ the marginal storage cost-to-go

$$\bullet \gamma(t)g^*(t) = \tilde{b}(t) + \hat{\lambda}(t), \hat{\lambda}(t)g^*(t) = 0$$

→ Optimal solution  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g^*(t) = \left[ \bar{g}(t) + \frac{B^*(t)}{\gamma(t)} \right]^+ \\ b^*(t) = b^*(t-1) - d(t) + \left[ \bar{g}(t) + \frac{B^*(t)}{\gamma(t)} \right]^+ \end{array} \right.$

Nominal generation :  $\bar{g}(t) := \frac{H^*(t)}{\gamma(t)}$      $[x]^+ := \max(x, 0)$

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## Optimal solution (SGSL)

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→ The case where battery constraint is inactive

$$b(t) \in (0, B) \Rightarrow B^*(t) = 0, g^* = \bar{g}$$

$$\underline{\gamma}(t)g^*(t) = H^*(t) = \sum_{\tau=t}^T -\frac{dh}{db(\tau)}(b^*(\tau))$$

Marginal generation cost ————— Marginal storage cost-to-go

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\gamma}(t)g^* \text{ strictly decreases } \because \frac{dh}{db} < 0$$

Assumptions

$$A0 : d(t) > 0, \gamma(t) > 0, \text{ for } t = 1, \dots, T. \text{ For all } b \geq 0, \frac{dh(b)}{db} < 0$$

$$A1 : \gamma(t)d(t) - \gamma(t+1)d(t+1) < -\frac{dh(b(t))}{db(t)}, \text{ for } t = 1, \dots, T$$

$\underline{\gamma}(t)g^*$  will decrease at the same rate at which  $H^*(t)$  decreases

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## Optimal solution (SGSL)

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→ The case which battery constraint is active :  $b(t) \in [0, B]$

Under A1 → Optimal generation schedule has 3 phase

- 1 :  $g^*(t) > d(t)$  and the battery charges
- 2 :  $g^*(t) = d(t)$  and the battery remains saturated
- 3 :  $g^*(t) < d(t)$  and the battery discharges

Definition

$$\bar{d} := \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d(t) \quad \bar{\gamma} := \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{1}{\gamma(t)} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\bar{d}_1 := \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^1 d(t) \quad \bar{\gamma}_1 := \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^1 \frac{1}{\gamma(t)} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\bar{d}_3 := \frac{1}{T-m} \sum_{t=m+1}^T d(t) \quad \bar{\gamma}_3 := \left( \frac{1}{T-m} \sum_{t=m+1}^T \frac{1}{\gamma(t)} \right)^{-1}$$

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### Theorem 1

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Suppose  $0 < b(0) < B$ . The optimal generation  $g^*$  crosses the demand curve  $d(t)$  at most once, from above, the optimal battery level  $b^*$  is unimodal.

1) battery never saturates

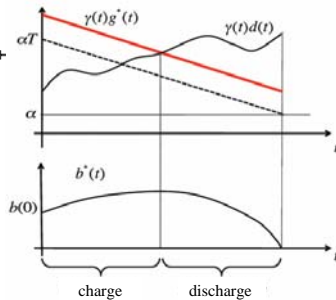
$$g^*(t) = \bar{g}(t) + \frac{\bar{\gamma}}{\gamma(t)} [\bar{d} - \sigma]^+$$

$$[x]^+ := \max(x, 0)$$

$$\sigma := \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \bar{g}(t) + \frac{b(0)}{T}$$

$$b^*(T) = T[\sigma - \bar{d}]^+$$

Total available energy :  $T\sigma$



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### Theorem 1

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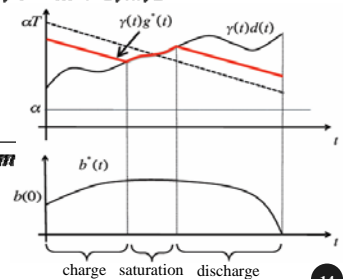
2) battery saturates

$$g^*(t) = \begin{cases} \bar{g}(t) - \frac{\bar{\gamma}_1}{\gamma(t)}(\sigma_1 - \bar{d}_1), & t = 1, \dots, l \\ d(t), & t = l + 1, \dots, m \\ \bar{g}(t) + \frac{\bar{\gamma}_3}{\gamma(t)}[\bar{d}_3 - \sigma_3]^+, & t = m + 1, \dots, T \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma_1 := \frac{1}{l} \sum_{t=1}^l \bar{g}(t) - \frac{B - b(0)}{l}$$

$$\sigma_3 := \frac{1}{T - m} \sum_{t=m+1}^T \bar{g}(t) - \frac{B}{T - m}$$

$$b^*(T) = (T - m)[\sigma_3 - \bar{d}_3]^+$$



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### SGSL example (violating A1)

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$T = 24$  hours

$$d(t) = 10 \cdot \sin \frac{4\pi}{T-1} (t-1)$$

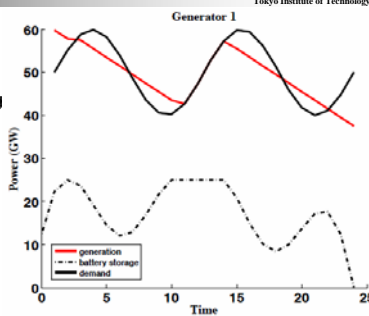
$B = 25$  GW

$b(0) = 12.5$  GW

$\gamma(t) \equiv 1$

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{2} g^2$$

$$h(b) = 2(B - b)$$



Demand decreases faster than that required for A1 to hold

$\Rightarrow b^*$  discharges and recharge twice more before reaching 0 at T

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### Outline

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- Background
- Model and Problem Formulation
- Single Generator Single Load
- Network Case

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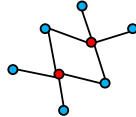
### Network case (MGML)

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Multiple generation and multiple loads  $\Rightarrow$  the problem in (\*)

$$g_i(t) + r_i(t) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} Y_{ij}(\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t)), \quad i \in \mathcal{G}$$

$$-d_i(t) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} Y_{ij}(\theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t)), \quad i \in \mathcal{D}$$



Optimal generation :  $g^*(t) = (\text{diag}(\gamma_i(t)))^{-1} [H^*(t) + B^*(t)]^+$

$$H^*(t) = \text{diag} \left( \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} -\frac{\partial b_i}{\partial b(\tau)} (b_i^*(\tau)) \right) \quad B^*(t) = \text{diag} \left( \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} (b_i(\tau) - b_i(\tau)) \right)$$

$$\text{Effect of network : } \begin{bmatrix} g^*(t) + r^*(t) \\ -d(t) \end{bmatrix} = Y \theta^*(t) \quad Y_{ij} = \begin{cases} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}} Y_{ik}, & i = j \\ -Y_{ij}, & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

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### Network case example

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$\Rightarrow$  Symmetric network with 2 generator

$$Y_{ij} = 1$$

$$\bar{q}_{ij} = 1000 \text{ GW}$$

$T = 24$  hours

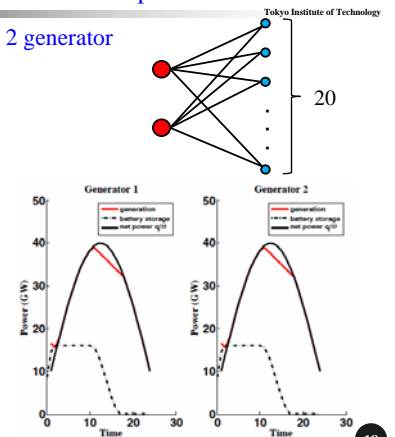
$B_i = 16$  GW

$b_i(0) = 8$  GW

$$d_i(t) = 3 \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} + 1$$

$$h_i(b_i) = B_i - b_i$$

$$\gamma_i(t) = 1$$



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## Network case example2

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### Cost savings (SGSL case and network case)

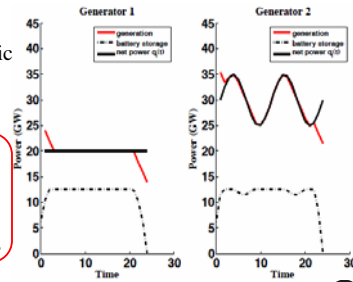
How much cost can be saved compared to total cost without battery?

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_i(t) \equiv \gamma \\ \text{time varying } \gamma_i(t) \end{cases}$$

	saving for SGSL	saving for MGML
time-invariant $\gamma$	98%	97%
time-varying $\gamma$	83%	85%

Link capacities are not symmetric

Generator 1 < Generator 2



- With time-varying  $\gamma_i$ , the cost savings are higher
- Battery is more valuable in the presence of fluctuations

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## Relationship Between Power Loss and Network Topology

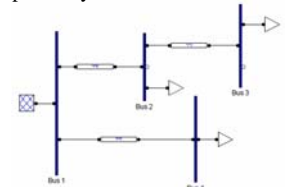
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### Relationship Between Power Loss and Network Topology in Power systems

Javad Lavaei and Steven H Low  
California Institute of Technology  
CDC

How the minimum power loss in a power system is related to its network topology?

$$\begin{aligned} \min \operatorname{Re}\{V_n^T J_n^T\} - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} P_k \\ \text{s.t. } V_k J_k^T = -P_k - Q_k i \\ |V_n| = V_0 \\ I = YV \end{aligned}$$



$P_{\text{loss}}$ : the minimum of the active power loss

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## LMI Optimal Problem

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### LMI optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \max f(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, \mu) &:= \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k P_k + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \bar{\lambda}_k Q_k - \mu V_0^2 \quad \rightarrow P_{\min} \\ \text{s.t. } \Phi(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, \mu) &:= \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k Y_k + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \bar{\lambda}_k \bar{Y}_k + Y + \mu M \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

weak duality theorem  $\rightarrow 0 \leq P_{\min} \leq P_{\text{loss}}$

(The same applies to  $Q$ )

- The feasibility region is defined only by the network topology
- makes it possible to address many important power problems

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## Outline

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### A Majorization-Minimization Approach to Design of Power Transmission Networks

Jason K. Johnson and Michael Cherkov  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
April 13, 2010

- Background
- Network Optimization Problem
- Selecting Network Structure
- Robust Network Design

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## Background

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The power grid of today was **not systematically** planned but grew in a piecemeal fashion.

The greatest engineering achievements of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

However...

- This status quo is now challenged with increased demand and stress on the aging network.
- A shift towards renewable source energy will further stress the grid.



It is important to incorporate new and extend existing infrastructure in a **systematic way**.

Suggest an efficient algorithmic approach for optimal or close to optimal power grid design

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## The Network Optimization Problem

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Goal: to assign conductance  $\theta$  to balance

- maximizing network efficiency
- minimizing the cost of building the network

The cost of building the network:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^T \theta &= \sum_l \alpha_l \theta_l & \alpha &: \text{price of copper} \\ & & g &: \text{conductivity of copper} \\ \alpha_l &= c g^{-1} s_l^2 & s_l &: \text{total length of line } l \end{aligned}$$

Optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \mathcal{L}(\theta) \\ \text{s.t. } \theta \geq 0 \\ \alpha^T \theta \leq C \end{aligned}$$

power loss (convex)

penalty

$$\min_{\theta \geq 0} \{\mathcal{L}(\theta) + \lambda \alpha^T \theta\}$$

$\lambda > 0$ : Lagrange multiplier

$C$ : budget

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## Convex Optimization Algorithm

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graph  $G$  :  $w \times w$  grid of nodes

lines between nearest and 2<sup>nd</sup> nearest neighbors

$$\min_{\theta > 0} \{ \mathcal{L}(\theta) + \alpha^T \theta - \zeta \sum_{i \in G} \log \theta_i \} \xrightarrow{\zeta \rightarrow 0} \min_{\theta > 0} \{ \mathcal{L}(\theta) + \alpha^T \theta \}$$

$\lambda = 1$

Log-barrier function

→ The solution will always be strictly positive.

### Algorithm

updating iteratively the solution :

→ large  $\zeta$  → small  $\zeta$

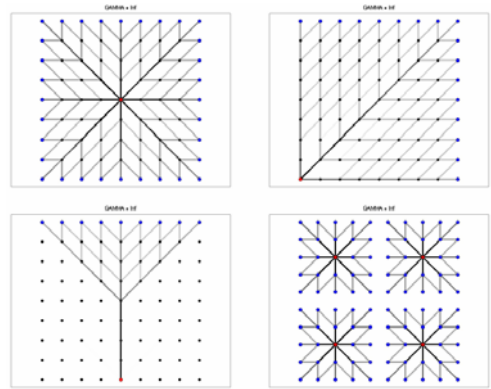
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## Demonstrations

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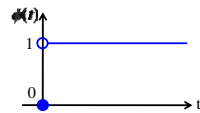
## Sparsity-Favoring Network Cost

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$$\min_{\theta \geq 0} \{ \mathcal{L}(\theta) + \alpha^T \theta + \beta^T \phi(\theta) \}$$

$\phi(t)$  : unit-step function, concave discontinuous

$\beta^T \phi(\theta)$  : other cost (ex. labor)

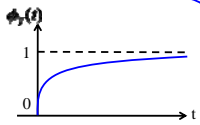


### Annealed Smoothing Method

$$\phi_\gamma(t) = \frac{t}{t + \gamma}, \quad \gamma > 0$$

: concave, continuous

“deterministic annealing” strategy



large  $\gamma$  :  $\phi_\gamma(t) \approx 0$  → convex optimization problem

↓ update iteratively

small  $\gamma$  :  $\phi_\gamma(t) \rightarrow \phi(t)$  → difficult combinatorial problem

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## Majorization-Minimization Algorithm

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objective function :  $f(x) = \underbrace{f_0(x)}_{\text{convex}} + \underbrace{f_n(x)}_{\text{concave}}$

linear upper-bound of  $f_n(x)$  :

$$f_n(x) \leq f_n(x^{(k)}) + \nabla f_n(x^{(k)})^T (x - x^{(k)})$$

previous guess of the solution

independent of  $x$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \leq \underbrace{f_0(x) + \nabla f_n(x^{(k)})^T x}_{\text{convex function}} + \text{const}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^{(k+1)} = \arg \min_x \{ f_0(x) + \nabla f_n(x^{(k)})^T x \}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \theta \\ f_0(\theta) &= \mathcal{L}(\theta) + \alpha^T \theta \\ f_n(\theta) &= \beta^T \phi_\gamma(\theta) \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} &\text{iterative algorithm} \\ \alpha_l^{(k)} &= \alpha_l + \frac{\gamma}{(\gamma + \theta_l^{(k-1)})^2} \beta_l \\ \theta^{(k)} &= \arg \min_{\theta \geq 0} \{ \mathcal{L}(\theta) + (\alpha^{(k)})^T \theta \} \end{aligned}$$

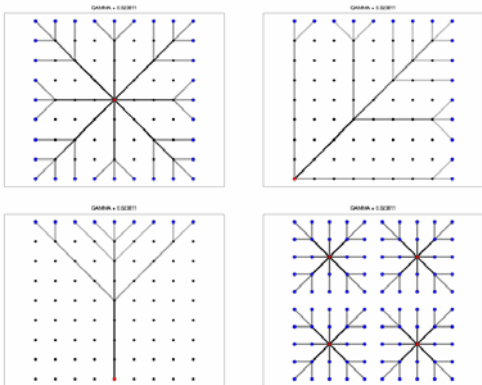
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## Demonstrations (Sparsity-Favor)

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## Robust Network Design

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$z \in \{0, 1\}^m$  : indicator vector of line failing

operational failed

power dissipation after removing failed lines : all entries one

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta; z) \triangleq \mathcal{L}((\mathbf{1} - z) \circ \theta)$$

The worst case power dissipation :  $\mathcal{L}^k(\theta) = \max_{\mathbf{1}^T z = k} \mathcal{L}(\theta; z)$

$$\Rightarrow \min_{\theta \geq 0} \{ \mathcal{L}^k(\theta) + \alpha^T \theta + \beta^T \phi(\theta) \} \quad \text{non-smooth}$$

### Gibbsian “Soft-Max” Optimization

$$\mathcal{L}_\tau^k(\theta) = \tau \log \sum_{\mathbf{1}^T z = k} \exp[\tau^{-1} \mathcal{L}(\theta; z)], \quad \tau > 0$$

→ smooth, convex, upper-bound to  $\mathcal{L}^k(\theta)$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_\tau^k \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^k$  ( $\tau \rightarrow 0$ )

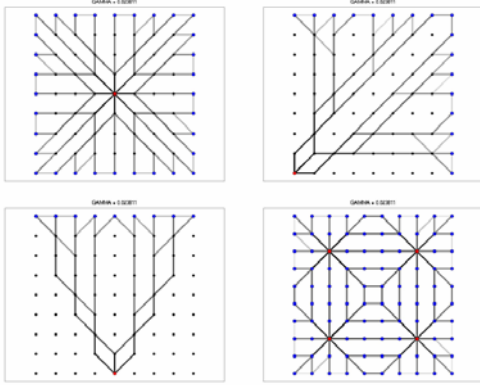
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## Demonstrations (Robust Network)

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# Appendix

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## Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) conditions

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$$\max_x f(x) \quad \text{s.t. } \begin{cases} g_i(x) \leq 0 \\ h_j(x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda, \mu) = f(x) - \sum_i \lambda_i g_i(x) + \sum_j \mu_j h_j(x)$$

Suppose there exists constants  $\lambda_i \geq 0$  and  $\mu_j$  such that

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k}(x^*) - \sum_i \lambda_i \frac{\partial g_i}{\partial x_k}(x^*) + \sum_j \mu_j \frac{\partial h_j}{\partial x_k}(x^*) = 0, \quad \forall k$$

$$\lambda_i g_i(x^*) = 0, \quad \forall i$$

→ the first-order necessary condition for optimality

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## Resistive Network Model

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$G$ : graph with node set  $N = \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $m$  (undirected) edges  $[i, j] \in G \subset 2^N$

edge weights  $\theta_{ij} \equiv \theta_{ji} \geq 0$  → conductance

Conductance matrix:  $K_{ij}(\theta) = \begin{cases} -\theta_{ij}, & i \neq j \\ \sum_{k \neq i} \theta_{ik}, & i = j \end{cases}$  standard basis vector

$$\Rightarrow K(\theta) = A \text{Diag}(\theta) A^T, \quad \text{Diag}(\theta) = \sum_i \theta_i e_i e_i^T$$

$b \in \mathbb{R}^N$ : the vector of injected currents

$b_i > 0$ : sources,  $b_i = 0$ : transmission,  $b_i < 0$ : sinks

$u \in \mathbb{R}^N$ : electric potential

$$\Rightarrow Ku = b \quad \begin{cases} u^T Ku \geq 0 & \text{all entries one} \\ \text{has a single zero eigenvalue: } K\mathbf{1} = 0 \\ Ku = \lambda u \Rightarrow \mathbf{1}^T u = 0, \lambda > 0 \end{cases}$$

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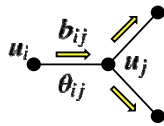
## Resistive Network Model

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To determine the unique solution

$$u = K^+ b, \quad K^+ \triangleq (K + \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T)^{-1}$$

the current flow from  $i$  to  $j$ :  $b_{ij} = \theta_{ij}(u_i - u_j)$



The total power loss over the network:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{ij \in G} \theta_{ij} (u_i - u_j)^2 = u^T K u \xrightarrow{u = K^+ b} b^T K^+ b$$

If  $G$  and  $b$  are fixed:  $\mathcal{L}(\theta) = b^T (K(\theta) + \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T)^{-1} b$

The expected power loss for a random current:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\theta) &= \langle b^T K^+(\theta) b \rangle = \langle \text{Tr}(K^+(\theta) b b^T) \rangle \\ &= \text{Tr}(K^+(\theta) \langle b b^T \rangle) = \text{Tr}(K^+(\theta) B) \quad B \triangleq \langle b b^T \rangle \end{aligned}$$

→ convex function

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## DC Approximation to AC Power Flow

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The (DC) resistive network can be used to approximate the AC system.

$$u_j \Rightarrow \text{complex potential: } U_j = \exp(i\varphi_j)$$

real  $\varphi_j$ : the phase of the potential

> Susceptance is normally an order of magnitude larger than conductance

DC-approximation of AC Kirchhoff equations

$$p = \tilde{K} \varphi \quad \begin{cases} P: \text{the vector of real power} \\ \tilde{K}: \text{network susceptance matrix} \end{cases}$$

first order in the conductance-to-susceptance ratio

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} p^T \tilde{K}^+ K \tilde{K}^+ p, \quad \tilde{K}^+ \triangleq (\tilde{K} + \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T)^{-1}$$

conductance-to-admittance ratio  $\mu$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{K} = \frac{1}{\mu} K \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\theta) = \frac{\mu^2}{2} \text{Tr}(\tilde{K}^+ B)$$

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