

# ACOPF models: extending data, formulations, and solution methodology

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Increasing Real-Time and Day-Ahead Market Efficiency through  
Improved Software  
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## Quotes from Wisconsin

- “Since all models are wrong the scientist cannot obtain a **correct** one by excessive elaboration”, Box, 1976.
- “Essentially, all models are wrong, but some are useful”, Box, 1987.
- “Using the wrong algorithm on the wrong model”, Alvarado, June 25, 2013.

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- Industry: problems abound, data is vast, models are adequate, (folklore of) tricks and heuristics
- Academia: theory is strong, models are rich, data is poor, solving the wrong problem
  
- **How do we bridge this gap?** We aim to build a collection of authentic (simpler/focussed) models (existing and new formulations) tied to optimization solver technology

# Not another call for data

- Optimization appears central to many design and operational models in power flow - **our data format is optimization centric**
- **Problems are at the engineering and economic interface** - data has both elements in same location
- Harness existing datasets and provide conversion to/from PSSE, MatPower, etc
- Provide tools and examples that demonstrate and enable **collections of models**, solvable by both commercial and academic solution engines

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- Provide tools and examples that demonstrate and enable **collections of models**, solvable by both commercial and academic solution engines
- Use to answer questions like:
  - ▶ Why use ACOPF?
  - ▶ Why use off the shelf NLP?
  - ▶ What to use our CPU for?

# Why use ACOPF? Or not?

- Better physics: ACOPF provides information on voltage magnitudes and reactive power that are not available from DCOPF.
- How bad is DCOPF: Overbye concludes they are close (engineering), but a 5% error in LMPs corresponds to a LOT of money. Gaming opportunities, picking the wrong winner or loser
- Are constraints binding/violated in one and not the other? (Atypical operating conditions)
- Local solutions? Difficulty in solving quickly, reliably, accurately.
- Can add (proxy) constraints to DCOPF that do well enough

## Conversion utilities/extending data (using GAMS)

- To/from: Matpower, psse, xls, gdx
- Raw format: just basic data
- Add features to create case (gdx data):

calc\_S\_matrix.gms

calc\_active\_limits.gms

calc\_cost\_curves.gms

calc\_line\_limits.gms

calc\_reactive\_limits.gms

- Process data, save solutions

extract\_data.gms

calc\_Ybus.gms

dcopf\_shift.gms

piecewise\_costs.gms

reactive\_limits.gms

save\_solution.gms

# Linear Interpolation of Quadratic Cost Functions

Piecewise-linear interpolations of quadratic cost functions: use the roots of Legendre polynomials

0

0.095012509837637

0.281603550779259

0.458016777657227

0.617876244402644

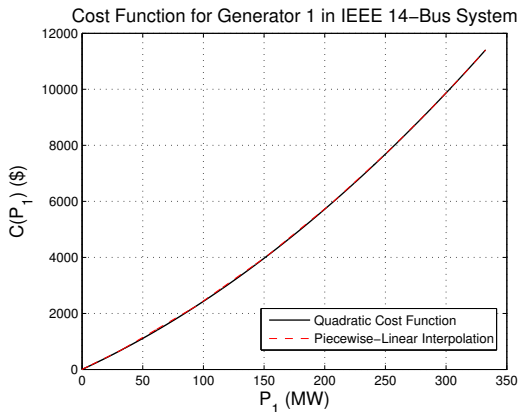
0.755404408355003

0.865631202387832

0.944575023073233

0.989400934991650

1





# Estimating Line-Flow Limits

Specifying reasonable line-flow limits requires two quantities: the surge impedance loading for the line and an estimate of the line length. We approximate these quantities using power flow data and assumptions of line geometry and material properties.

$$Z_{base} = \frac{V_{base}^2}{S_{base}} \quad [\Omega]$$

$$L = \frac{X_{pu}}{2\pi 60} Z_{base} \quad [H]$$

$$R = R_{pu} Z_{base} \quad [\Omega]$$

$$C = \frac{B_{pu}}{2\pi 60} \frac{1}{Z_{base}} \quad [F]$$

$$Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{R + j2\pi 60L}{j2\pi 60C}} \quad [\Omega]$$

$$SIL = \frac{V_{rated}^2}{|Z_c|} \quad [W]$$

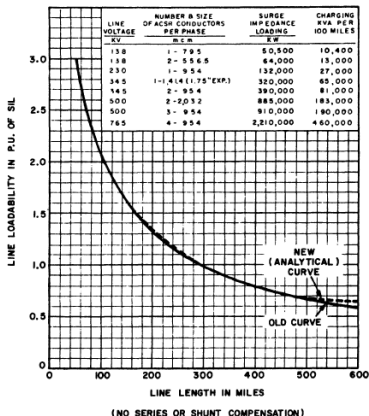
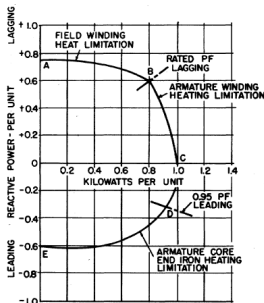


Figure 7. Comparison between "analytical" and "old" curves

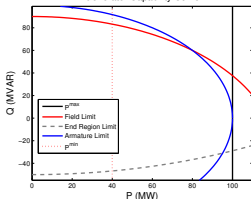
# Estimating Generator Capability Curves

Simplistic generator models often use “rectangle constraints” for active and reactive output limits. More detailed modeling: “D-curves.”

- Reactive power of a synchronous generator constrained by several factors: armature current limit, field current limit, end region heating limit
- Each limit modeled as circle
- The machine must operate within the intersection of these circles.
- The generator must also operate within maximum and minimum active power limits imposed by the prime mover



Generator Capability Curve



# Active Power Ramp Rates and other features

- Estimate generator active power ramp up and ramp down rates, respectively, as functions of nameplate capacity.  
(RTO Unit Commitment Test System, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Staff Report, July 2012)
- DC lines
- Adjustable Transformers (phase shifting and voltage tap changing)
- Transformer Impedance Correction Data
- Switched Shunt Devices
- FACTS Devices
- Multisection Lines, loop flows
- Demand bids
- Startup costs
- Scenarios, uncertainty, external influences

# Model and solution examples

dcopf.gms

polar\_acopf.gms

iv\_acopf.gms

rect\_acopf.gms

feasibility\_reactive\_limits.gms

feasibility\_dcopf.gms

feasibility\_\*.gms

ybus\_\*\_acopf.gms

condensed\_dcopf.gms

condensed\_\*\_acopf.gms

# Why use optimization modeling software?

- Allows interplay between models - use dcopf for starting point, pass onto acopf - automatic setting of multipliers
- Easy to switch solvers
- Has many more “standard” model types: MINLP, MPEC, SDP, EMP
- EMP: Scalar quadratic penalties, soft limit penalties, multi-stage stochastic programs, risk measures
- **Transparency: “dirty tricks” are explicit**
- **Portability: models can run on multiple architectures**
- **Interaction with optimization community**
- **Special structure: pros and cons**
- **Grid, GUSS, Dynamics - AMPL extensions**
- **Higher level definition of logical (e.g. up-to) constraints**
- **Ability to compare solvers (e.g. Castillo)**

## Comparisons

Same data, solver, and host (other solvers do much better on some)

Test Case	Objective	Matpwr	GAMS	Best GAMS mode
IEEE 14 Bus	8.08152e+03	0.25	0.090	Polar YBus 2 (F
IEEE 24 Bus	6.33522e+04	0.33	0.096	Polar YBus 0 (M
IEEE 30 Bus	5.76892e+02	0.10	0.119	Polar Condensec
IEEE 39 Bus	4.18641e+04	0.29	0.111	IV Full 2 (Flat s
IEEE 57 Bus	4.17377e+04	0.14	0.106	Polar Full 0 (Mi
IEEE 118 Bus	1.29660e+05	0.33	0.176	Polar YBus 0 (M
IEEE 300 Bus	7.19725e+05	0.32	0.362	Polar YBus 0 (M
Polish 2383wp	1.86851e+06	3.03	3.457	Polar YBus 0 (M
Polish 2736sp	1.30788e+06	3.02	4.356	Polar YBus 0 (M
Polish 2737sop	7.77629e+05	2.68	4.267	Polar Full 0 (Mi
Polish 2746wp	1.63177e+06	3.42	4.871	Polar YBus 0 (M
Polish 3012wp	2.591706565e+06	4.02	5.937	Polar YBus 0 (M
Polish 3120sp	2.142703764e+06	4.28	6.839	Polar Condensec
Polish 3375wp*	7.412030674e+06*	180.24*	9.480	Polar YBus 4 (P

# ENLP: Primal problem

$$\min_{x \in X} f_0(x) + \theta(f_1(x), \dots, f_m(x))$$



$$\theta(u) = \begin{cases} \gamma u - \frac{1}{2}\gamma^2 & \text{if } u \geq \gamma \\ \frac{1}{2}u^2 & \text{if } u \in [-\gamma, \gamma] \\ -\gamma u - \frac{1}{2}\gamma^2 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Huber function used in robust statistics.

## More general $\theta$ functions



In general any piecewise linear penalty function can be used (different upside/downside costs)

General form:

$$\theta(u) = \sup_{y \in Y} \{y'u - k(y)\}$$

$\theta$  can take on  $\infty$  and may be **nonsmooth**; it is convex.



# Elegant Duality

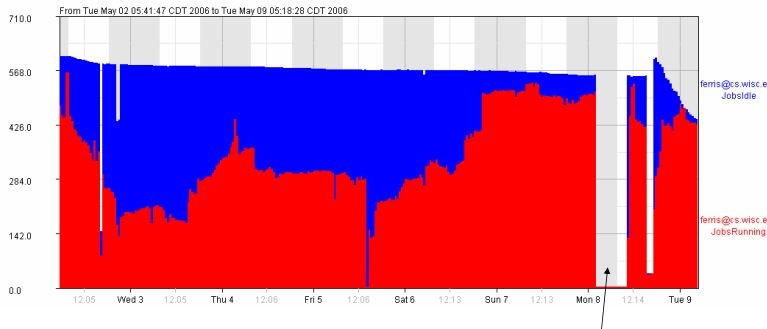
For these  $\theta$  (defined by  $k(\cdot)$ ,  $Y$ ), duality is derived from the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}(x, y) = f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m y_i f_i(x) - k(y)$$
$$x \in X, y \in Y$$

- Several ways to reformulate.
- **EMP automatically** creates an MCP:  
    `model enlp / gradLx.x,`  
        `-gradLy.y /;`  
    `solve enlp using ecp;`

# How to solve: Gams/Grid

- solvelink = 3;
- solve mod using minlp min obj;
- execute\_loadhandle mod;
- Multiple jobs spawned to grid, collectable asynchronously
- Computation configurable (e.g. Condor, OS process, Amazon)



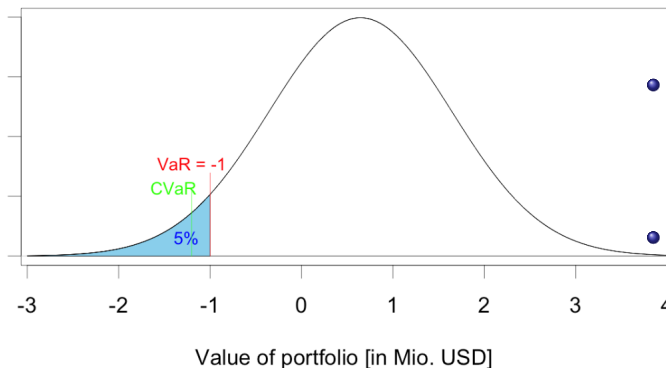
Partitioned into 1000 subproblems, over  
300 machines running for multiple days

# What to use our CPU for?

- Transmission line switching
  - ▶ CPLEX and Gurobi can be run multi-threaded
  - ▶ Options can perform significantly better than defaults
  - ▶ Reformulations (using SOS1 variables) work better
- 2 scenarios better than 1
  - ▶ Can generate models by sampling (SAA), more distributions
  - ▶ Different risk measures
  - ▶ Benders decomposition, importance sampling as solver option
  - ▶ Can validate solutions using different samples (reproduceable over different machines)
- Switch to SOCP or SDP relaxations - Mosek solver

# Optimization of risk measures

- Determine portfolio weights  $w_j$  for each of a collection of assets
- Asset returns  $v$  are random, but jointly distributed
- Portfolio return  $r(w, v)$



- Value at Risk (VaR) can be viewed as a chance constraint (hard):
- CVaR gives rise to a convex optimization problem (easy)

- Chance constraints (implemented using mixed integer programming):

$$\min_x c^T x \text{ s.t. } Pr(Ax \leq b) \geq \pi$$

## Example: Portfolio Model

- Maximize the mean of the lower tail (mean tail loss):

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \underline{CVaR}_\alpha(r) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & r = \sum_j v_j * w_j \\ & \sum_j w_j = 1, w \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Jointly distributed random variables  $v$ , realized at stage 2
- Variables: portfolio weights  $w$  in stage 1, returns  $r$  in stage 2
- Coherent risk measures  $\mathbb{E}$  and  $\underline{CVaR}$  (or convex combination)

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- Coherent risk measures  $\mathbb{E}$  and  $\underline{CVaR}$  (or convex combination)
- Optimization modeling systems have new tools for sampling, risk measures and solution of stochastic programs
- Classical: mean-variance model (Markowitz)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & w^T \Sigma w - q \sum_j v_j * w_j \\ & \sum_j w_j = 1, w \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Conclusions

- Collections of, and interactions between, models are critical
- **Uncertainty is present everywhere**: we need to **hedge/control/ameliorate** it
- Modern computational optimization tools can be very fast, deal with large amounts of data and variables, address non-convex and discrete issues, interact with dynamics
- Modeling systems allow quick prototyping, switching between formats, state-of-the-art solvers, portability and transparency
- Will be testable using NEOS system (online without purchase of GAMS)
- FERC contract: will make available at Wisconsin after approval