

# Assessing Transmission Investments Under Uncertainty

CERTS  
Reliability & Markets

*Internal Program  
Review*

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**CERTS**  
CONSORTIUM FOR ELECTRIC RELIABILITY TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

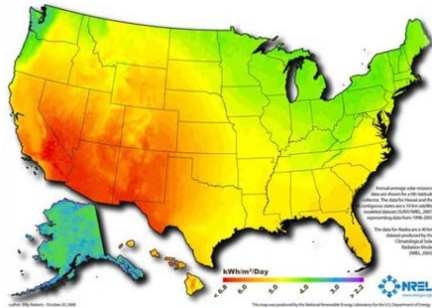
**JOHNS HOPKINS**  
UNIVERSITY

# Outline

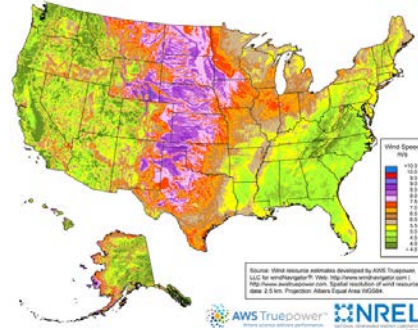
1. Introduction
2. Model Overview, Realistic Test-Case: WECC 240
3. Results
4. Bounding & Decomposition Approaches
5. MATPower/SuperOPF as Planning Subproblem
6. Conclusions

# 1.1 Introduction

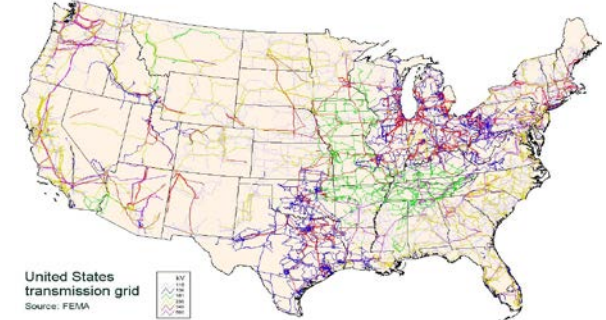
Solar Resources (NREL)



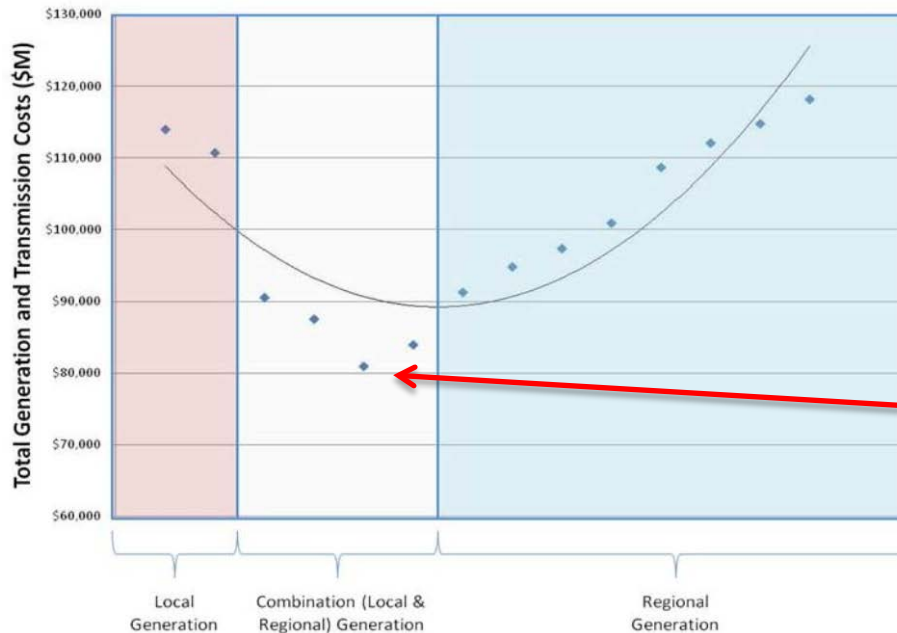
Wind Resources (NREL)



U.S. Transmission System



Zone Scenario  
Generation and  
Transmission Cost  
(MISO 2010)



**Optimal:**  
Combination of Local &  
Regional Generation

Transmission Investments

## 1.2 More Challenges

- Hyper uncertainty:

- Fuel Costs
- Demand Growth
- Technology Costs
- Carbon Tax
- Demand Response
- PEV
- RPS
- Distributed Generation

- Unbundled Electricity Market

- Trans & gen planning separated
- Transmission takes longer to build
- Price signals guide gen investment

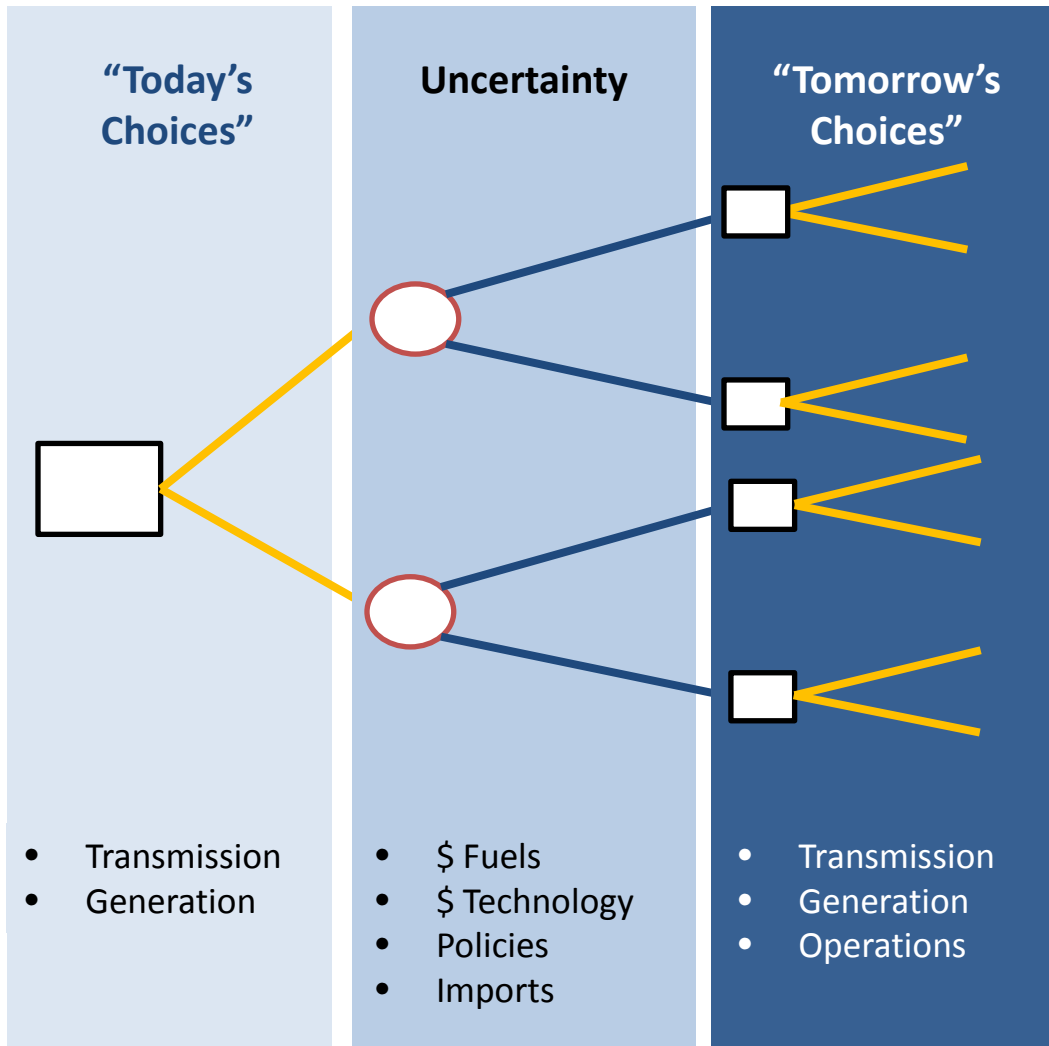
We need practical methods that can handle:

- Large-scale networks
- Uncertainty
- Generators' response
- Kirchhoff's Laws

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# 2.1 Multi-Stage Stochastic Transmission Planning



## Assumptions

- **Aligned generation and transmission objectives**
  - Nodal pricing + Perfect Competition
- **Generation**
  - No unit commitment constraints/costs
- **Demand**
  - No demand response
- **Renewable targets met in most efficient way**

## 2.2 Model Formulation

$$\min \quad I^1 + \sum_s p_s (I_s^2 + O_s^2 + O_s^3)$$

$$\text{Max generation investments : } \sum_{t \in U_t} y_{b,k,s}^t \leq Y_{b,k,s}^{\max}$$

$$\text{Max transmission investments : } \sum_{l \in L_C} x_{l,s}^t \leq 1$$

$$\text{Installed reserve margins : } \sum_{u \in U_t} \sum_{b \in B} (\sum_{k \in N_t} y_{b,k,s}^u + \sum_{k \in I} ELCC_k y_{b,k,s}^u) \geq (1 + RM) \sum_{b \in B} D_{b,h^*,s}^t$$

$$\text{KCLs : } \sum_{t \in U_t} \sum_{l \in L} f_{l,h,s}^t + \sum_{b \in B} \sum_{k \in K} (g_{b,k,h,s}^t + r_{b,h,s}^t) = D_{b,h,s}^s$$

$$\text{KVLs : } f_{l,h,s}^t - \gamma_l (\theta_{b,h,s}^t - \theta_{p,h,s}^t) = 0$$

$$|f_{l,h,s}^t - \gamma_l (\theta_{b,h,s}^t - \theta_{p,h,s}^t)| \leq M_l (1 - \sum_{l \in L_C} x_{l,s}^t)$$

$$\text{Thermal limits : } |f_{l,h,s}^t| \leq F_l^{\max}$$

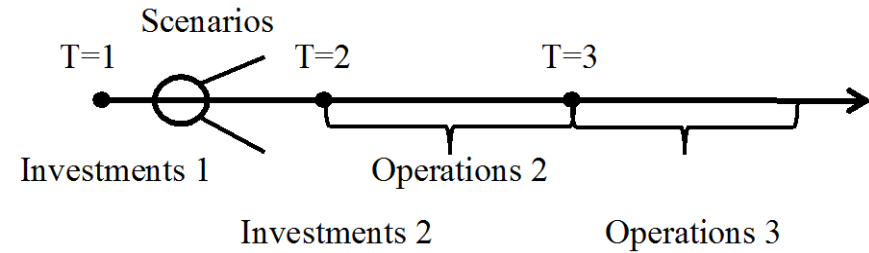
$$|f_{l,h,s}^t| \leq F_l^{\max} \sum_{l \in L_C} x_{l,s}^t$$

$$\text{Intermittent generation : } g_{b,k,h,s}^t \leq W_{b,k,s} \sum_{u \in U_t} y_{b,k,s}^u$$

$$\text{Non-intermittent generation : } g_{b,k,h,s}^t \leq \sum_{u \in U_t} y_{b,k,s}^u$$

$$\text{Renewable Portfolio Standards : } \sum_{k \in R} \sum_{h \in H} \sum_{b \in B} g_{b,k,h,s}^t + \text{nonc}^t \geq RPS_s^t \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{h \in H} \sum_{b \in B} g_{b,k,h,s}^t$$

$$\text{Emissions Cap : } \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{h \in H} \sum_{b \in B} g_{b,k,h,s}^t e_k \leq E\_CAP_s^t$$



## 2.3 WECC 240-bus Test Case

### WECC 240-bus system:

(Price & Goodin, 2011)

- 140 Generators (200 GW)
- 448 Transmission elements
- 21 Demand regions
- 28 Flowgates

### Renewables data (Time series, GIS)

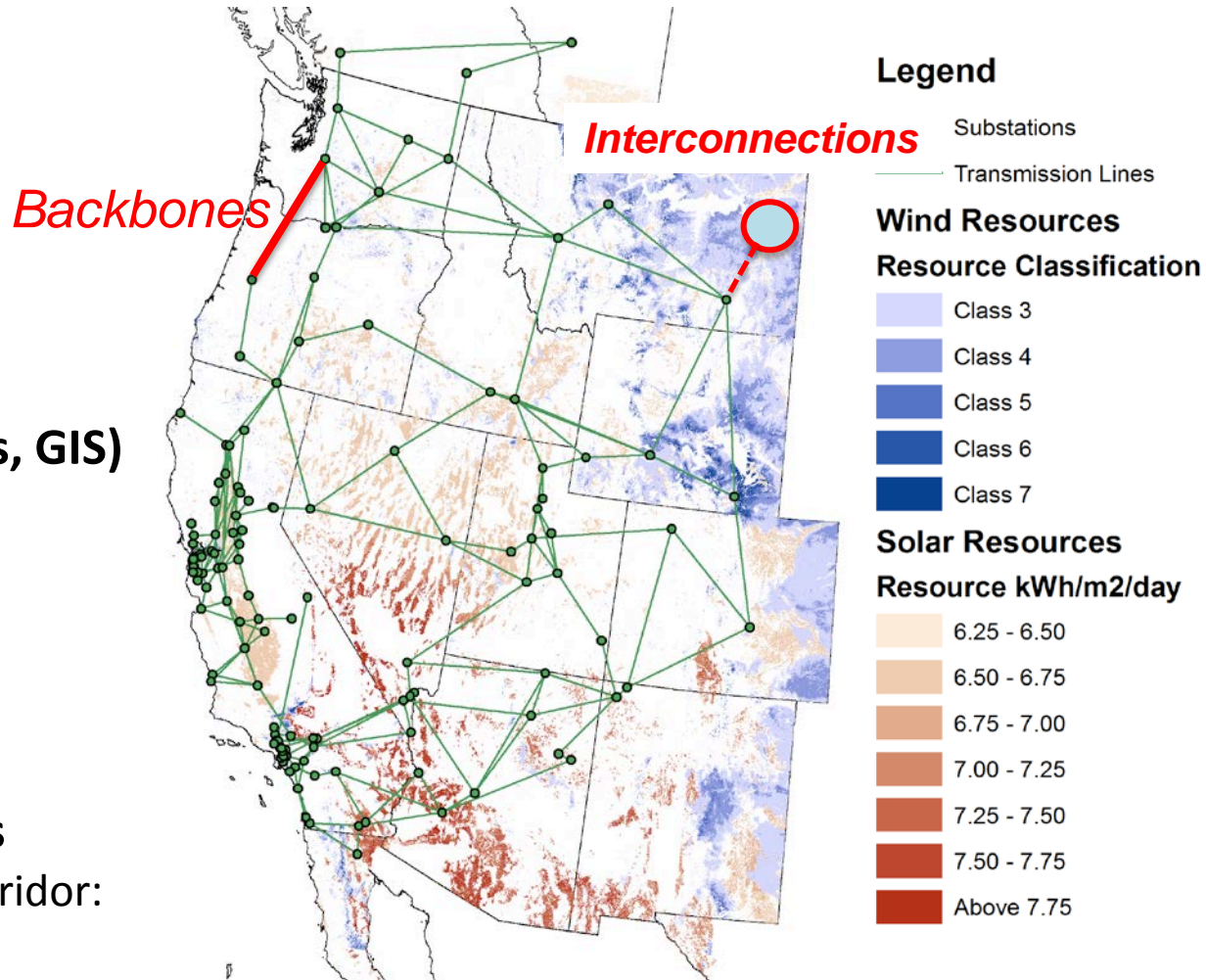
(NREL, WREZ, RETI)

- 54 Wind profiles
- 29 Solar profiles
- 31 Renewable Hubs (WREZ)

### Candidate Transmission Lines

Max number of circuits per corridor:

- 2 for Backbones
- 4 for Interconnections to Renewable Hubs





## 2.4 Scenarios

- Focus on environmental policy and fuel prices

### Differentiated State RPS

- State RPS
- >75% from in-state resources
- Average fossil fuel prices

### 33% WECC-wide RPS

- 33% WECC-wide RPS
- Efficient REC markets
- High fossil fuel prices

### Carbon Cap & Trade

- 17% below 2005 levels by 2020
- 45% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Low fossil fuel prices

- Experiments

- **Scenario Planning** (Deterministic)
- **Stochastic Approach**
- **Heuristics:**

1. Heuristic I: Build lines needed in all the scenarios
2. Heuristic II: Build lines needed in “most” scenarios (at least 2)
3. Heuristic III: Build all lines

} “Least-regrets” or  
“Multi-Value Projects”

} “Congestion-free”

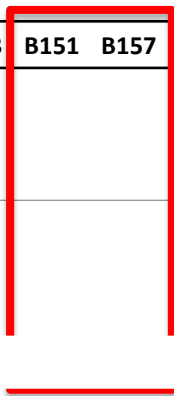
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# 3.1 Results

## First-Stage Transmission Investments: Backbones

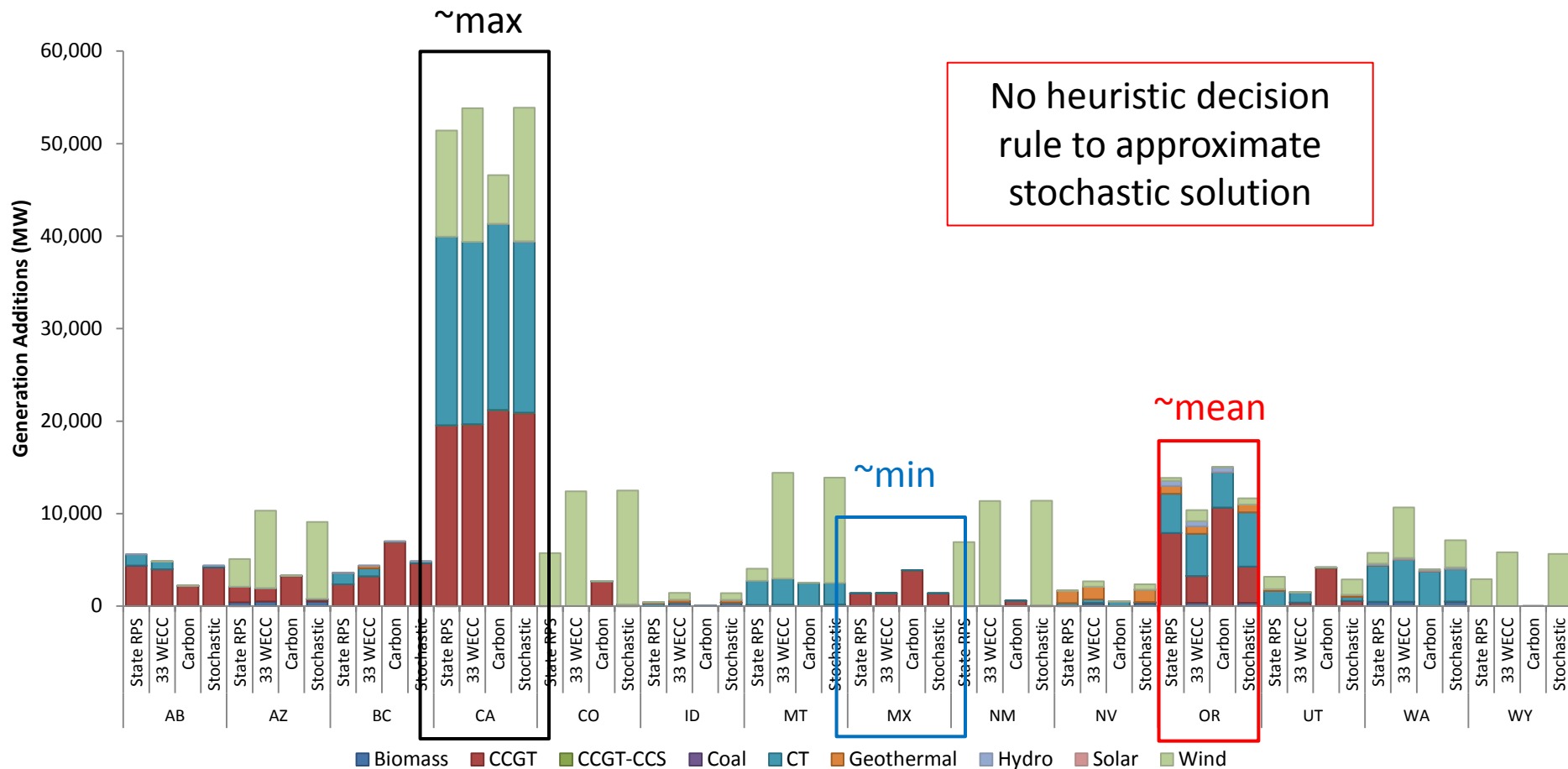
Approach	B19	B37	B56	B68	B72	B73	B74	B92	B95	B125	B133	B136	B137	B143	B151	B157	B168	B169	B201	B202	B218	B222	B237	B238
D-Carbon				1					1	1	1		1	2								2	1	2
D-33% WECC		1			1	1	2		1								1	1	1		1	1	2	
D-State RPS	2	1	1					2		2		1								1		1		2



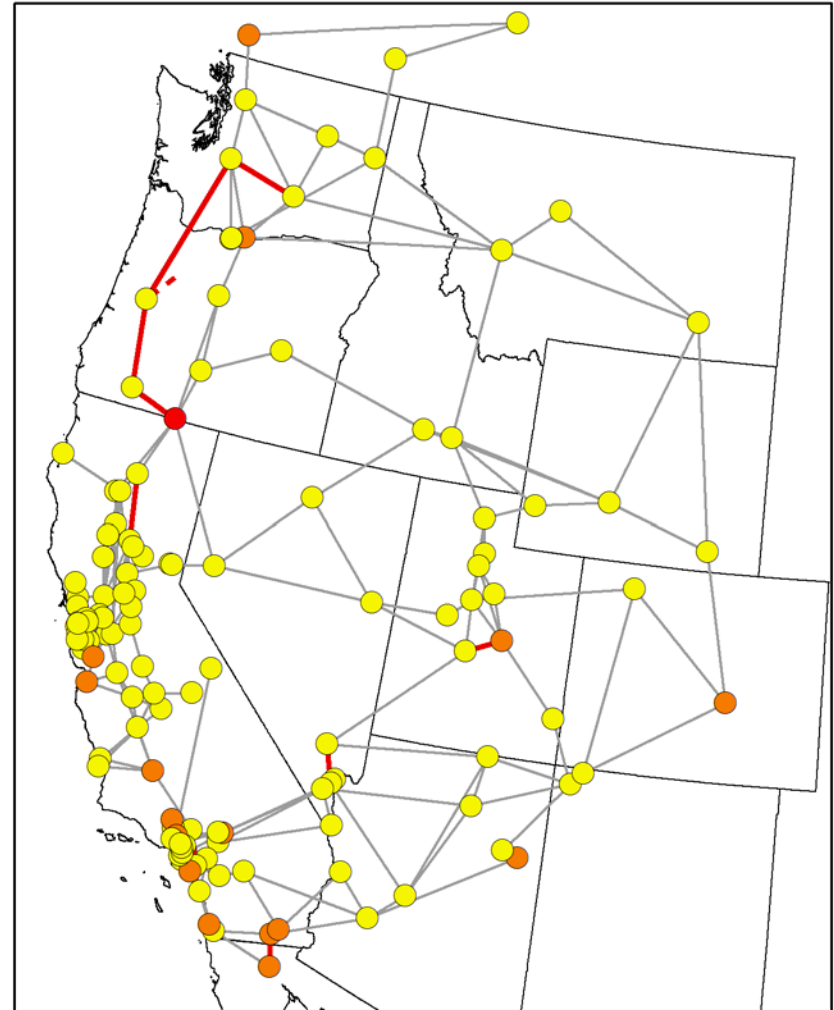
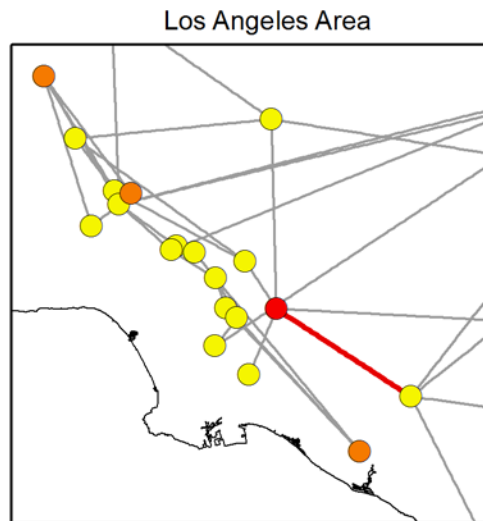
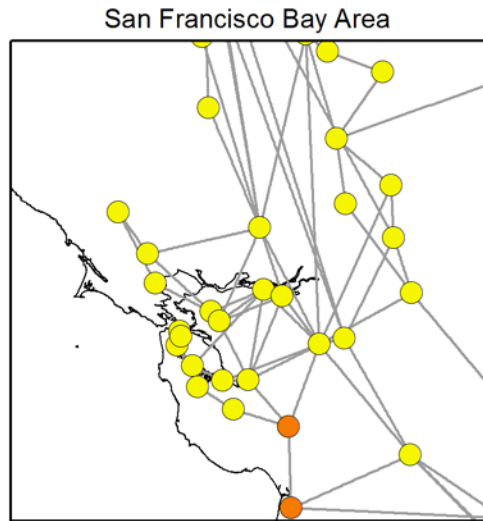
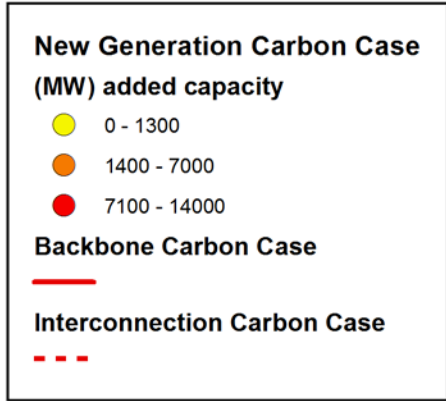
Flexible plans are suboptimal in retrospect!!

# 3.2 Results

## First Stage Generation Investments: Deterministic vs Stochastic Solutions

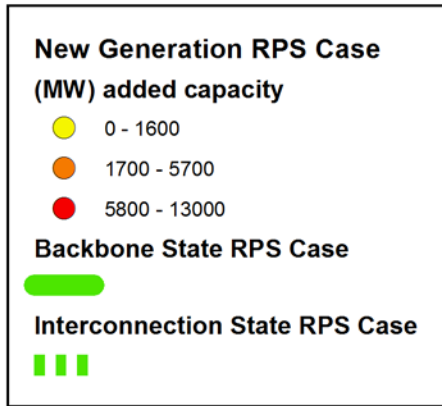


# 3.3 Results: Carbon Cap Case

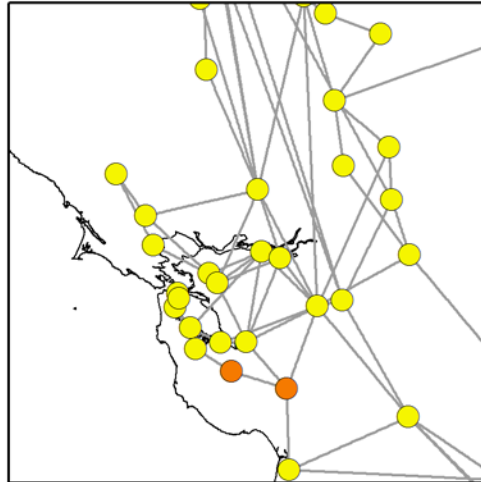


- Gen added near demand
- Low penetration of renewables
- Carbon cap only within US

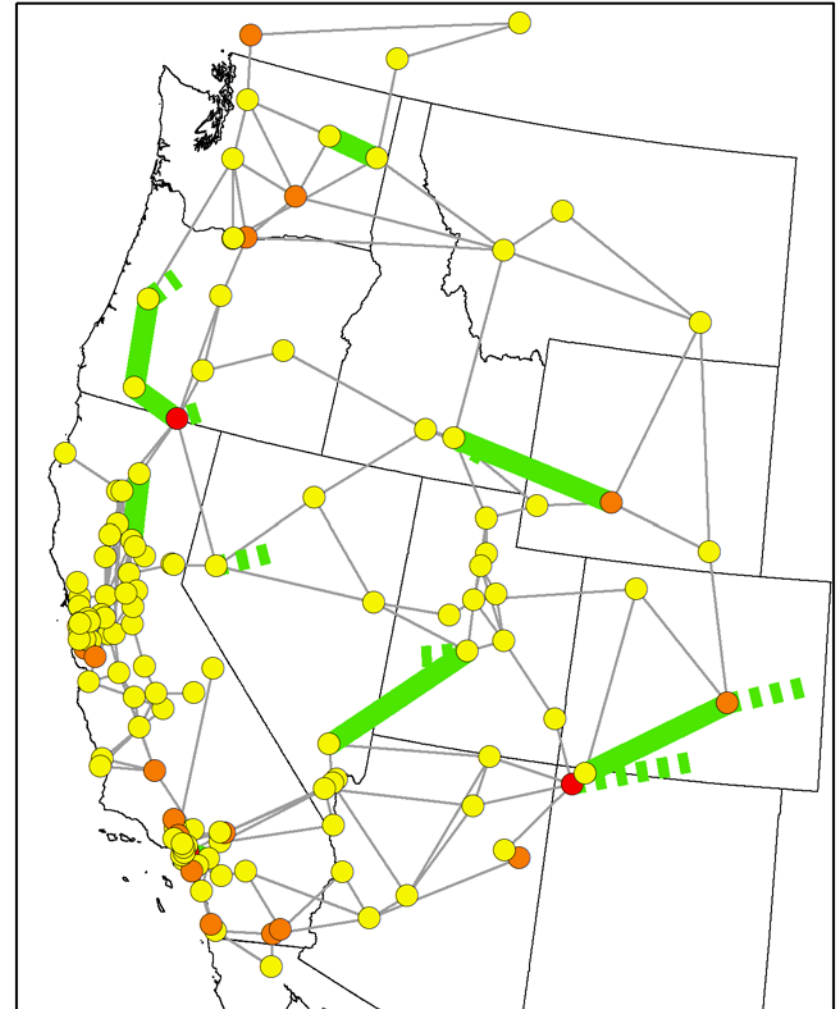
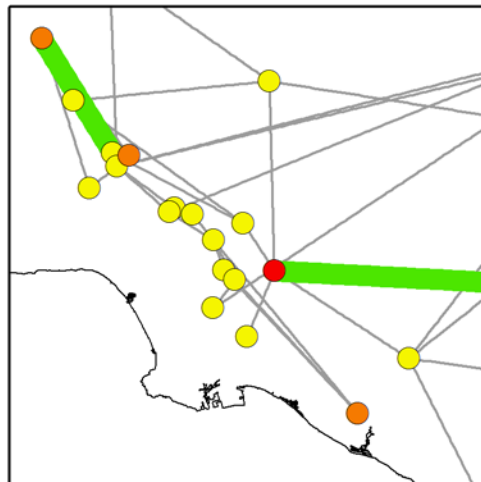
## 3.4 Results: State RPS Case



San Francisco Bay Area



Los Angeles Area



- High renewable penetration
  - *Mainly California*
- Why? California has highest state RPS

## 3.5 Results: WECC 33% Case

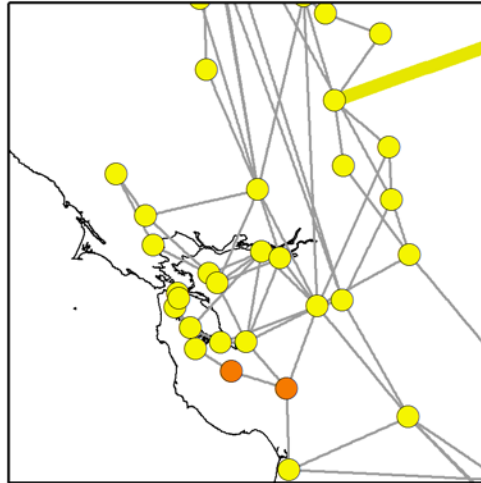
**New Generation WECC 33 Case  
(MW) added capacity**

- 0 - 2000
- 2100 - 7000
- 7100 - 12000

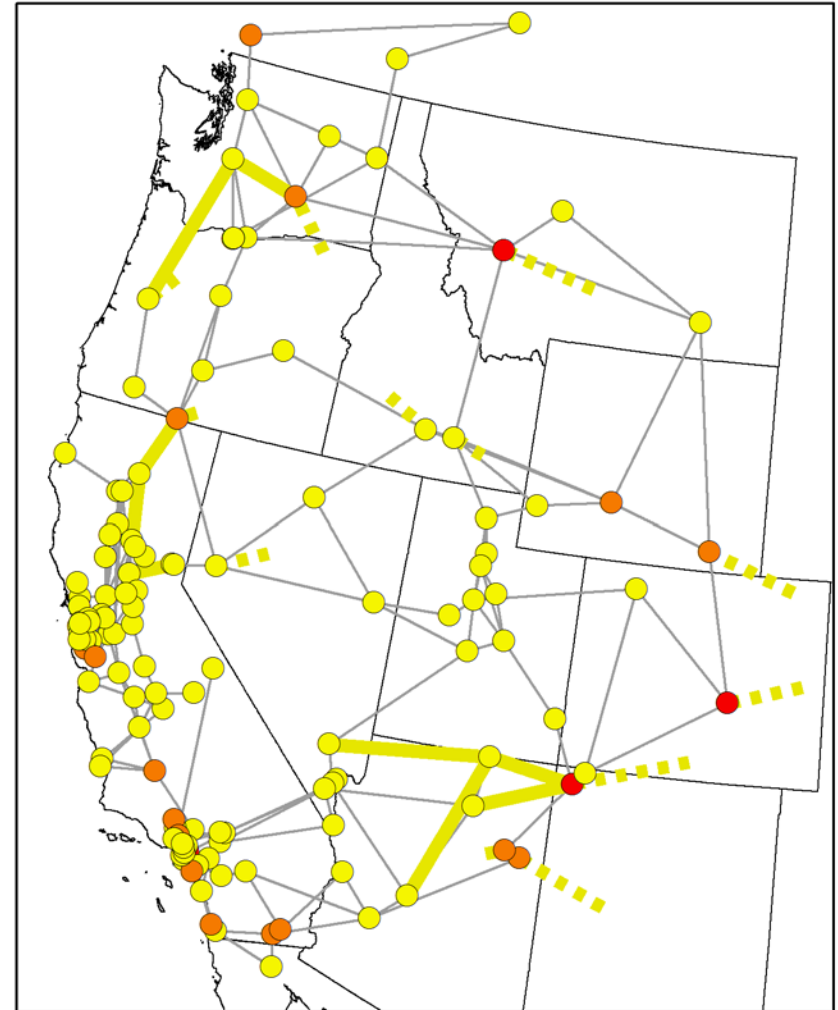
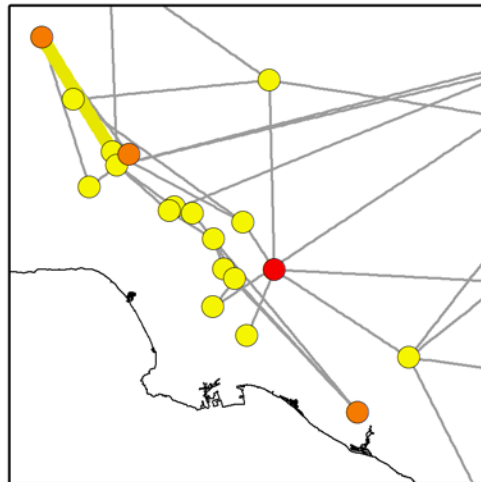
**Backbone WECC 33 Case**

**Interconnection WECC 33 Case**

San Francisco Bay Area

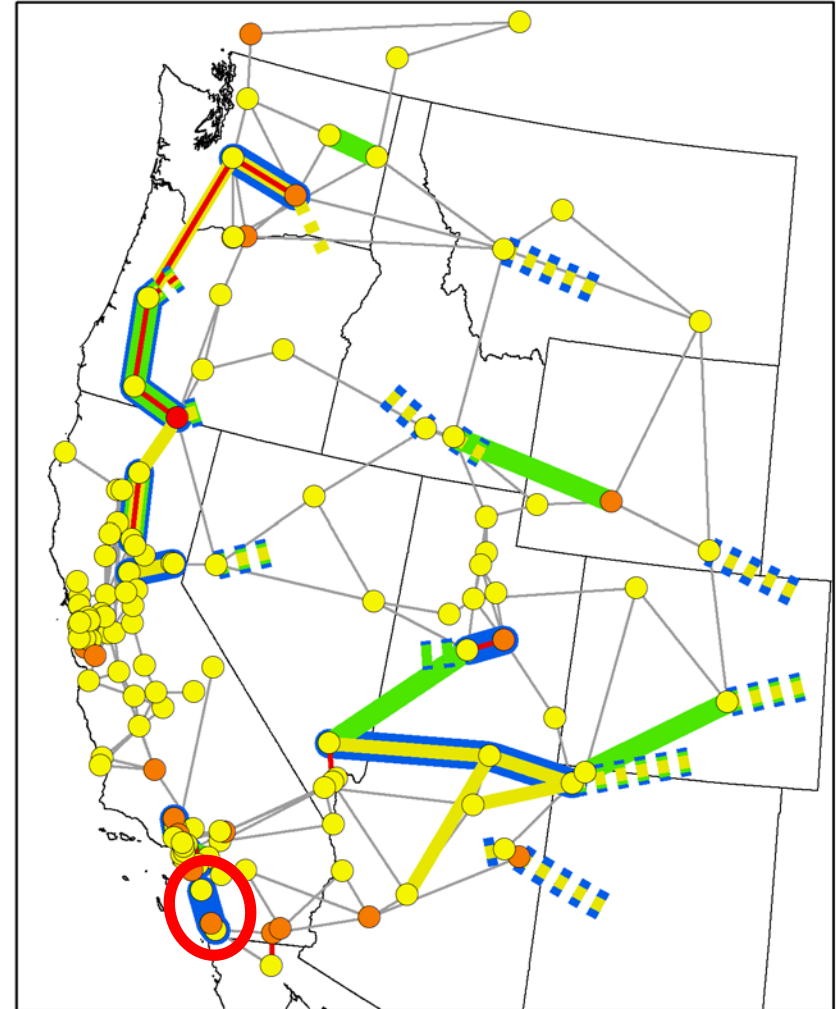
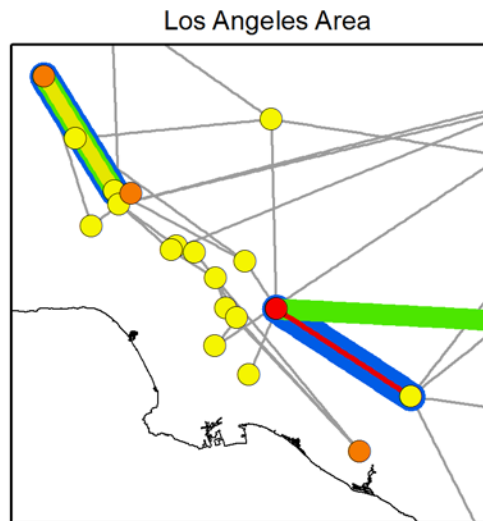
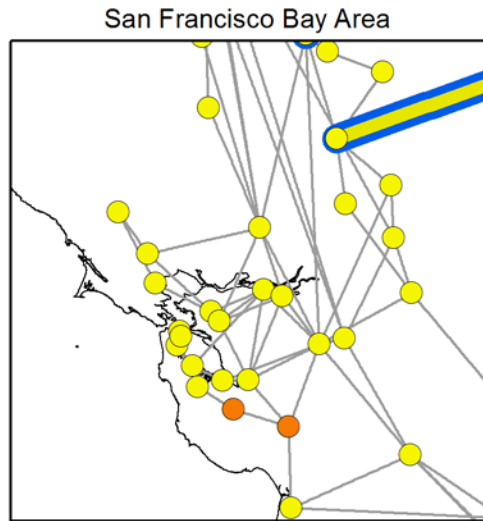
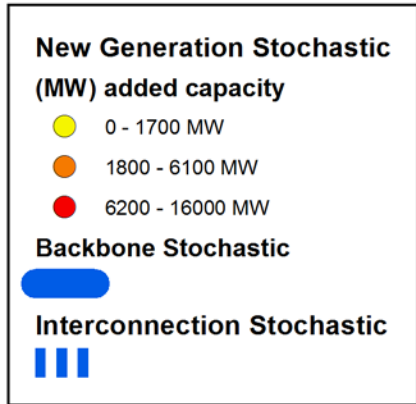


Los Angeles Area



- High renewable penetration
- High quality distant resources accessed
  - *Favors population centers*

# 3.6 Results: Stochastic Solution



- Hi renewables
  - *Generation closer to California*
- Unique stochastic lines



## 3.7 Results Summary

### Economic Performance of Investment Strategies

Approach	First-Stage Transmission Investments [\$B]			E(System Costs) across scenarios [\$B]
	Backbones	Interconnections	Total	
D-Carbon	4.0	0.1	4.1	728.2
D-33% WECC	6.1	9.3	15.4	653.6
D-State RPS	7.2	4.1	11.3	667.0

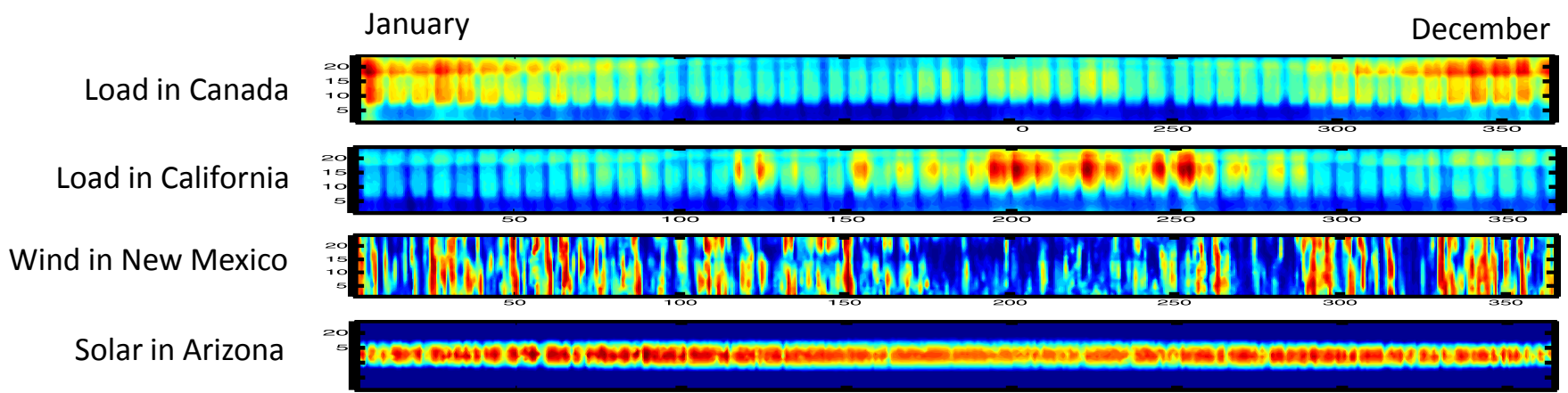
- Expected Value of Perfect Information (EVPI) = \$45.4 Billion
- Value of Stochastic Solution (VSS) = **\$46.7 Billion**
- WECC 10-Year Regional Transmission Plan:
  - Estimates of \$20 Billion in transmission investments to meet demand forecasts and renewable targets by 2020.

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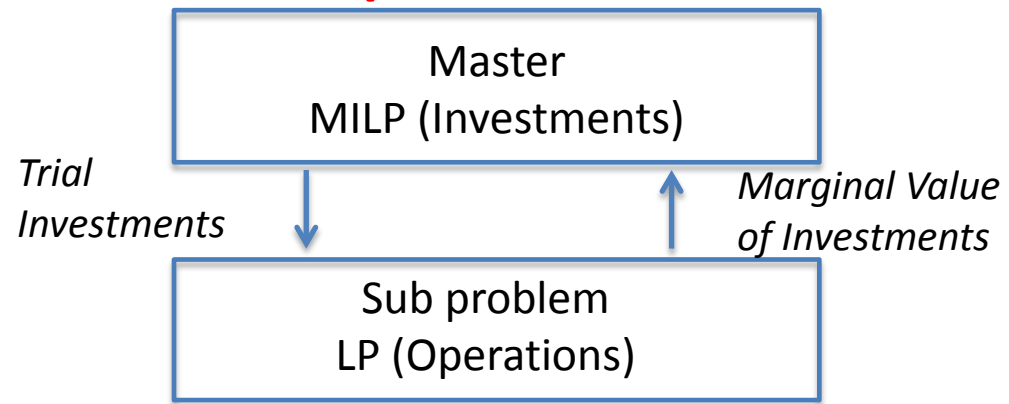
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# 4.1 Ongoing Research

**Challenge:** Accurate representation of intermittent resources



**Benders Decomposition:** Theoretical convergence vs actual performance



**Issue:** # of cuts needed for convergence  $\approx$  # of investment variables in master problem

## 4.2 Stylized Planning Model

**Objective:** MIN present worth of capital + operating costs

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & e^T x + f(x, \Omega) \\ & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Capital cost

Operating Cost

$x$ : Investment decisions,  
some discrete (transmission)

Operations problem formulated as *a probabilistic production cost model (LP)*:

$$f(x, \Omega) = \min_{y_h} \sum_{h \in \Omega} p_h c^T y_h$$

$$Wy_h = r_h - T_h x \quad \forall h \in \Omega$$

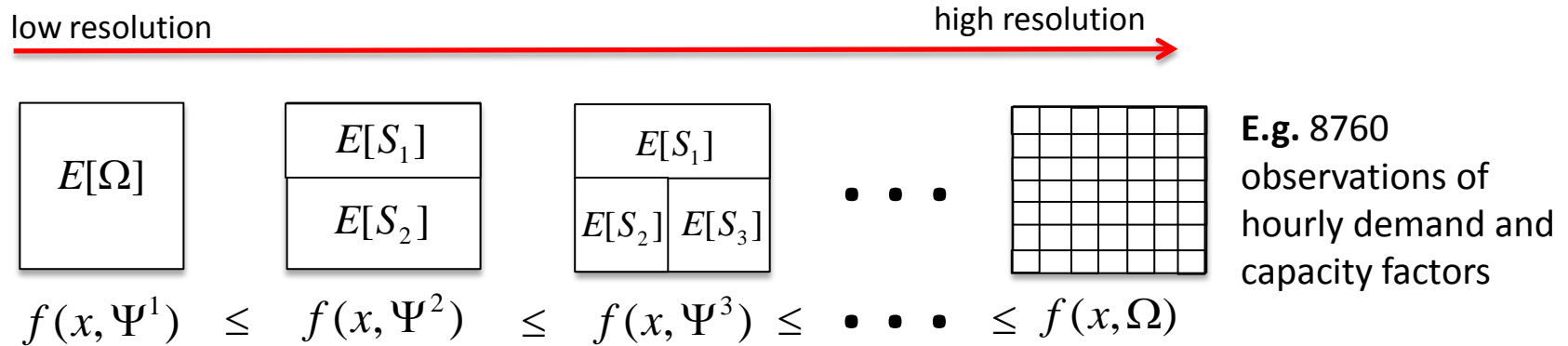
$$y_h \geq 0 \quad \forall h \in \Omega$$

**Block-diagonal constraints, separable**  
**Time-dependent parameters are RHS**

# 4.3 Tight Lower Bound

## Lower Bound:

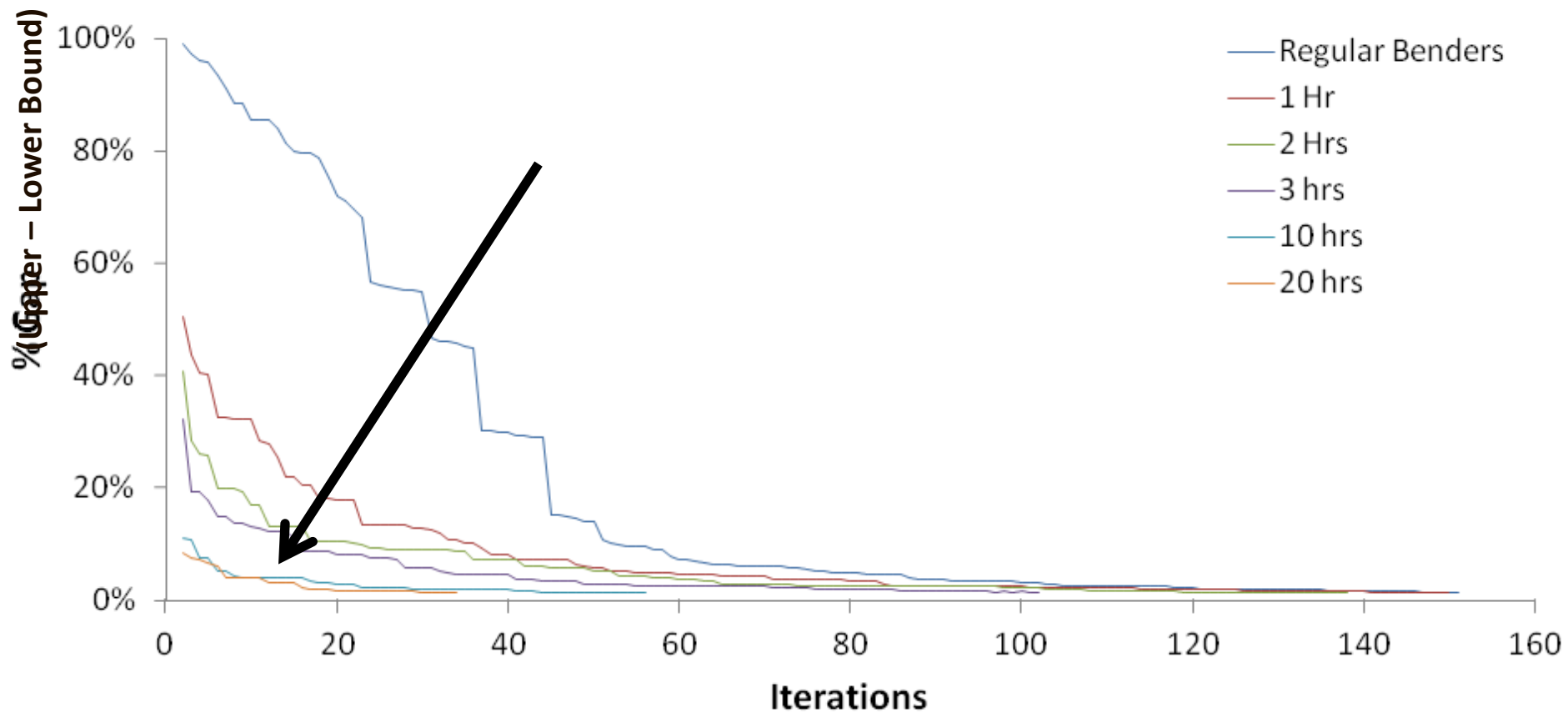
- Time-dependent parameters are RHS  $Wy_h = r_h - T_h x$
- LP: Optimal cost convex on RHS



## Algorithm:

- 1) Create k partitions of load/variable resources space  $\Omega$  (e.g. K-Means)
- 2) Add deterministic operating problem for each to Benders Master Problem:  
*Augmented Benders Decomposition*
- 3) Solve in usual Benders fashion

## 4.4 Acceleration of Convergence (17 Bus Problem)



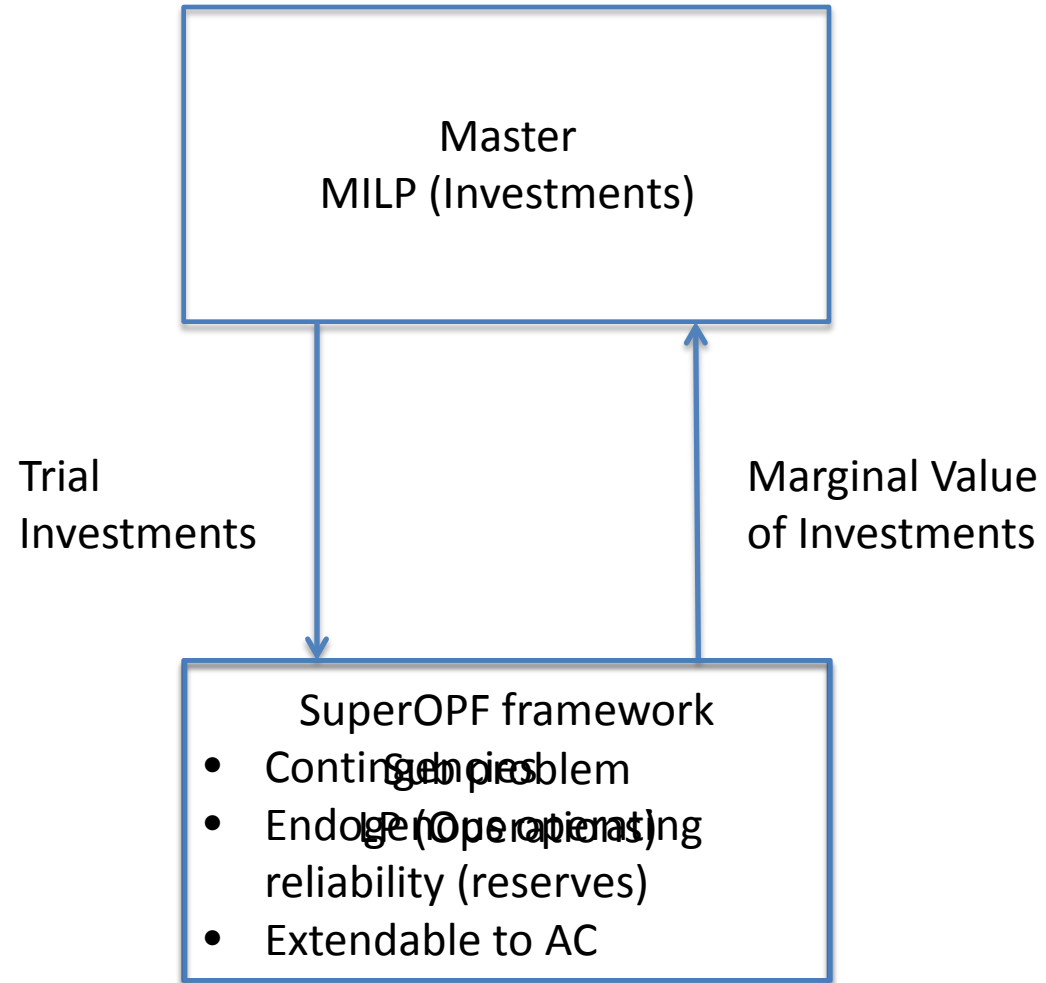
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# 5.1 Contingency-based Transmission planning

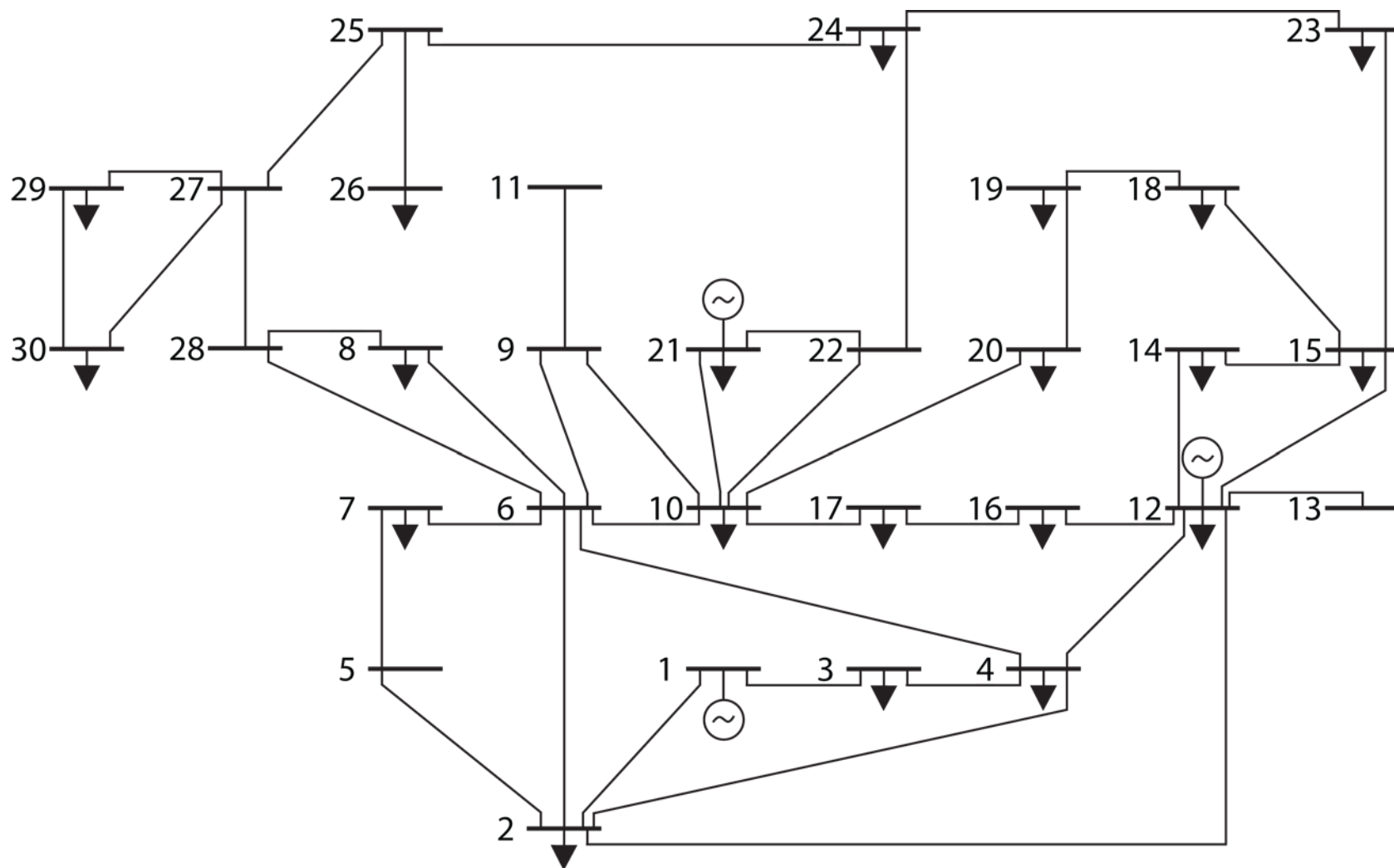
## The research problem:

- Can the SuperOPF framework be adapted for optimal transmission planning?
- Approach
  - *Benders Decomposition*





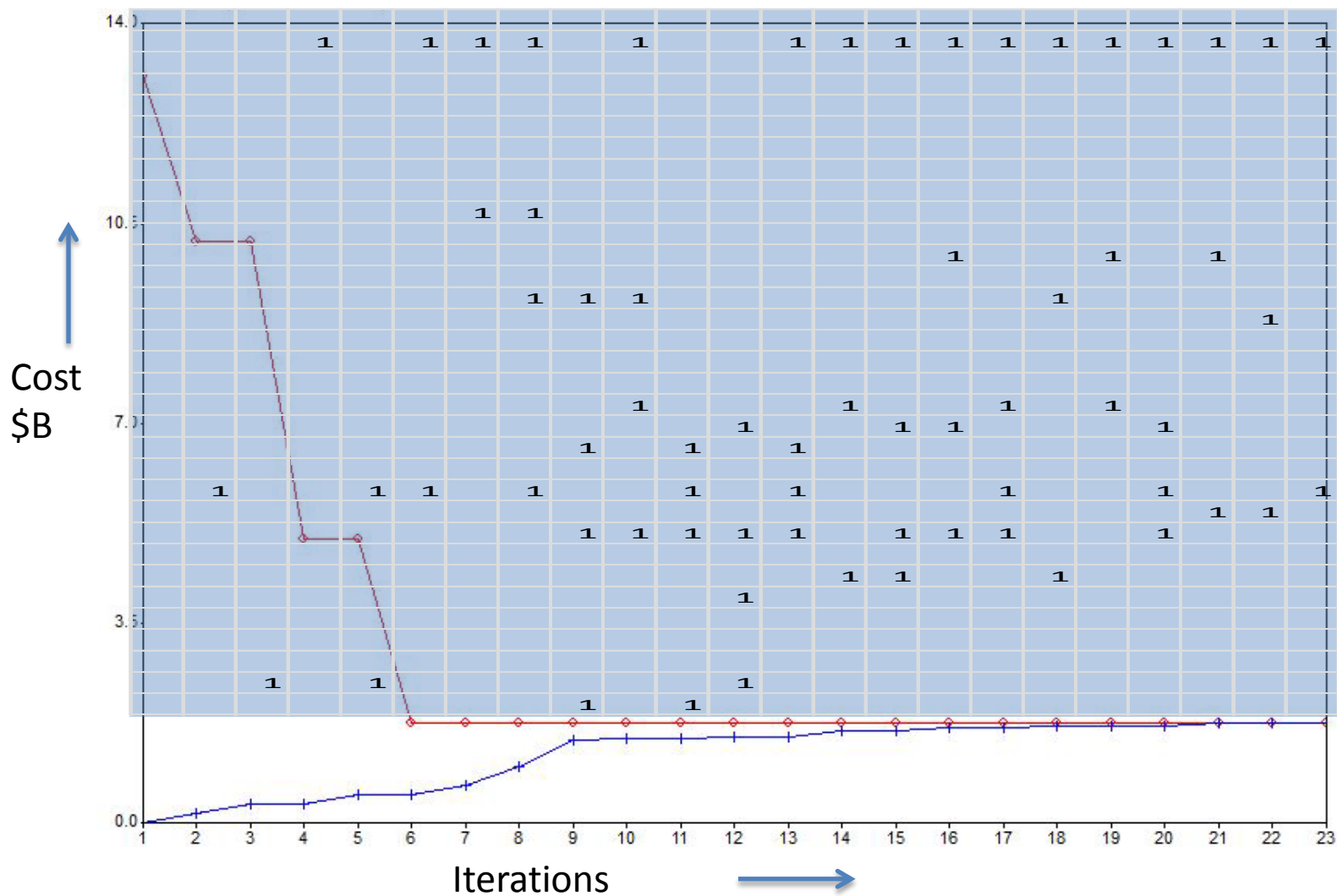
## 5.2 MATPOWER 30-bus system



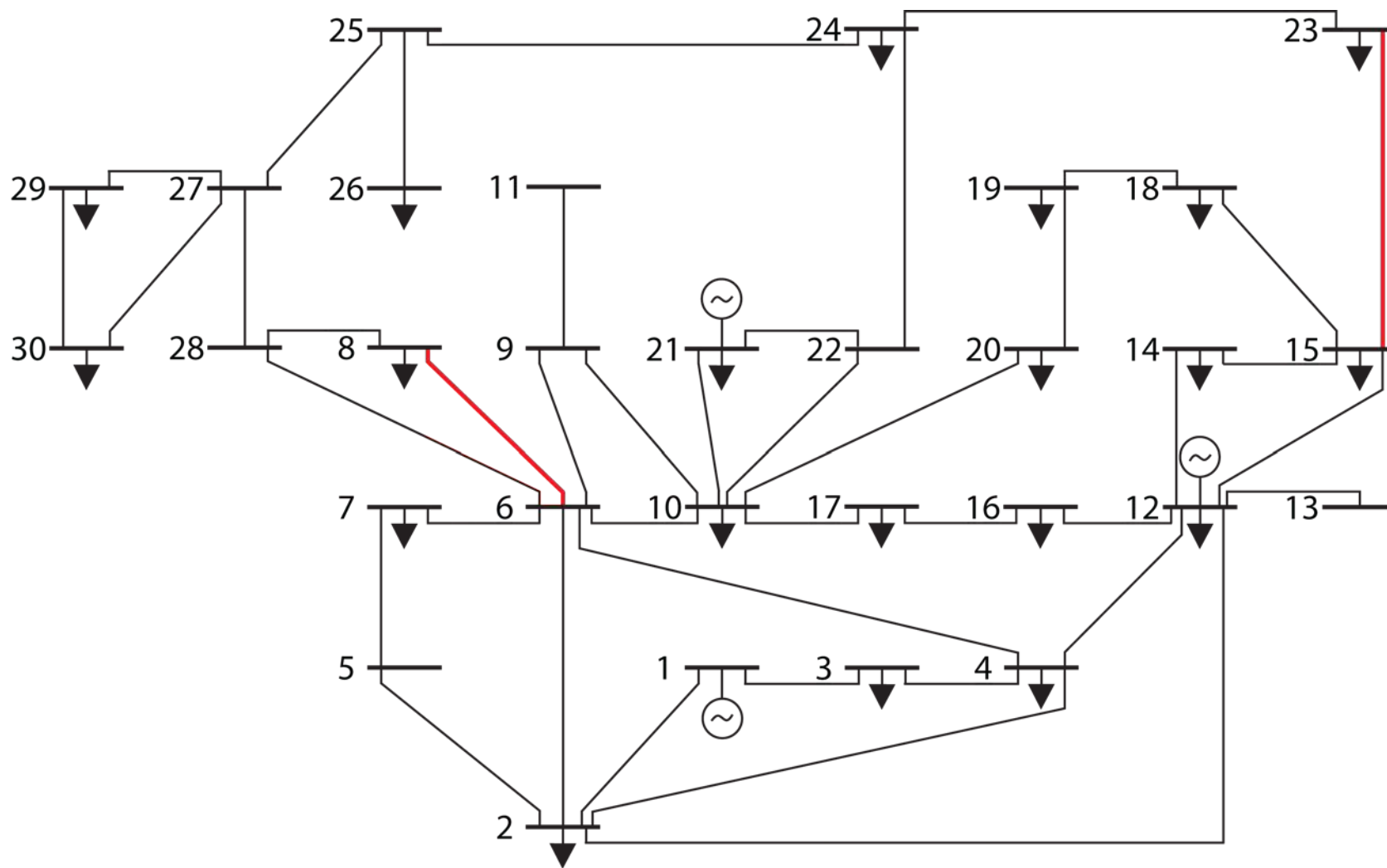
## 5.3 Contingencies (Lamadrid et al., 2008)

	Contingency	Probability
0	Base Case	95.0%
1	Line 1: 1-2 (between gens 1 and 2)	0.2%
2	Line 2: 1-3 (from gen 1)	0.2%
3	Line 3: 2-4 (from gen 2)	0.2%
4	Line 5: 2-5 (from gen 2)	0.2%
5	Line 6: 2-6 (from gen 2)	0.2%
6	Line 36: 27-28	0.2%
7	Line 15: 4-12	0.2%
8	Line 12: 6-10	0.2%
9	Line 14: 9-10	0.2%
10	Gen 1	0.2%
11	Gen 2	0.2%
12	Gen 3	0.2%
13	Gen 4	0.2%
14	Gen 5	0.2%
15	Gen 6	0.2%
16	10% increase in load	1.0%
17	10% decrease in load	1.0%

## 5.4 MATPOWER 30-bus test case results



## 5.5 MATPOWER 30-bus system results



## 5.6 Contingency-based Transmission planning

- ✓ Compatible with MATPOWER OPF results
- ✓ Demonstrate calculation of Benders cuts
- ✓ Demonstrate integration of SuperOPF framework (DC) in Benders: 30 bus example

Next?

- DCOPF with losses, ACOPF
- Coordination with E.I. generation and/or transmission expansion (Bill Schulze, Dan Tvlavsky)

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## 6. Conclusions

- Scenario Planning is a weak tool for decisions under uncertainty  
*Deterministic plans don't account for flexibility*
- Heuristic planning rules can perform worse than myopic deterministic plans
- “Value of Stochastic Solution”: up to ~3 times the cost of transmission.
- Bounding & decomposition approaches are practical for improving granularity in operations  
*MATPower/SuperOPF promising for operations subproblem*

# Questions?

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# Our Method

## Algorithm:

- Apply Benders decomposition with an auxiliary lower bound in master problem.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x, \alpha} \quad & e^T x + \alpha \\ & Ax = b \\ & \alpha \geq \text{Benders\_cuts}(x, \Omega) \\ & x \geq 0 \\ & \alpha \geq f(x, \Psi^k) \end{aligned}$$

Polyhedral lower bound on  
 $f(x, \Omega)$  for any  $x$

