

Robust and Resilient Coordination of Feeders with Uncertain Energy Resources

From real-time control to long-term planning

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> Solar to the Max: Innovations in Distribution Grid Planning and Operations June 25th, 2021 (Day 2)



ENERGISE: how it started & how it's going

ENERGISE concept paper stage



Emil born June, 2016 Concept paper submitted 1 hr later! Post-ENERGISE



Emil in May, 2021



Team paper of 2020: human-friendly summary of FTR

Article

Hierarchical, Grid-Aware, and Economically Optimal Coordination of Distributed Energy Resources in Realistic Distribution Systems

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conEdison

Optimally coordinating networked VBs at scale Key idea: adapt wide-area control concepts to distribution grid operations Key challenges: grid and resources have finite power/energy constraints





Optimally coordinating networked VBs at scale Key idea: adapt wide-area control concepts to distribution grid operations Key challenges: grid and resources have finite power/energy constraints





Project Objectives (Topic Area 2 - Year 2030)

Performance Metric	FOA Metric Proposed Target		Achieved Target	
Solution components	Subset of layers	Device & Enhanced layers	Device & Enhanced layers	
HiL Validation	$> 10^2$ physical nodes	$> 10^2$ with OPAL-RT	$> 10^2$ with real-time, cyber-enabled DERs	
Software Validation	$> 10^6$ virtual nodes	$> 10^6$ with GridLab-D	$> 10^6$ with GridLab-D	
Scalability (Feeders)	1000	>1000	>150	
Scalability (Active nodes)	1,000,000	>1,000,000	>1,000,000	
Computation cycle (Real-time)	1 minute	< 1 minute	< 1 minute	
Computation cycle (Planning)	5 minutes	< 5 minutes	< 5 minutes	
Device Time resolution (Real-time)	1 second	1 seconds	1 seconds	
Device Time resolution (Planning)	1 minutes	1 minutes	1 minutes	
Response time (local: STL)	< 10 seconds	Real-time	Real-time	
Response time (network: FOL)	< 30 seconds	< 30 seconds	< 30 seconds	
Response time (system: GML)	< 1 minute	< 1 minutes	< 1 minutes	
DSSE Observability	>99%	100%	100%	
Power Flows	Multiple substations	Multiple substations	Multiple substations	
OPF Objectives	Techno-economic	Techno-economic	Techno-economic	
Predictive Control	Real-time planning	Real-time planning	Real-time planning	
Prescriptive Control	Operational planning	Operational planning	Operational planning	



Significant Accomplishments

- 1. The flexibility of a group of <u>heterogeneous DERs</u> (in the STL) has been characterized with a novel advanced methodology based on ML and the DER control method is scalable.
- 2. A scalable <u>stochastic</u>, <u>multi-period</u>, <u>3-ph AC OPF formulation</u> (in the FOL) has been developed that incorporates diverse grid assets, DSEE, and network reduction techniques and represents an excellent contribution to power systems community.
- 3. Realtime Intra-feeder and Inter-feeder represent a clear, reliable, and <u>practically implementable corrective control</u> approach to integrate feedback control of flexible resources within a utility/DSO.
- 4. The market optimization (in the GML) responds to wholesale market signals by coordinating active & flexible distribution feeders in a meshed sub-transmission network and across <u>multiple timescale services</u>.
- 5. UVM's interactive power grid analytics (iPGA) platform has developed further after being licensed and is use by utilities in the US.
- 6. The team has published ≥ 30 papers, including a team paper based on the final project outcomes, and co-hosted a 2-day workshop on the Future of Energy in Burlington, Vermont, with >100 people from across the US.

Grid Market Layer (GML) Efficient, Stochastic Economic Optimization of DERs



Grid Market Layer (GML) Overview

An optimization framework that enables utilities to use flexibility in DERs to participate in real-time, ancillary service, and day-ahead markets for peak!



GML Overview

• A Layered approach to computationally tractable solutions for meshed networks





GML: Market-clearing tool for flexible DSOs



Goal: minimize operational cost + peak demand costs

- 1. Arbitrage between real-time and day-ahead markets
- 2. Profit from providing (ancillary) reserves
- 3. Avoid solar curtailment
- 4. Reduce peak demand
 - Include a penalty on peak demand (one-time payment over a specified time horizon), e.g., unit price \$10,000/MW for monthly peak payment.

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Peak-shaving demonstration

- Setup: New York 79-bus sub-transmission network for ORU, a typical one-day simulation runs with day-ahead and real-time trajectories of load and prices from NYISO
- Virtual battery specifications:
 - 150MW & 375 MWh
- Solar penetration rate: 25%
- Test scenarios
 - #1 Baseline: No Battery, Full solar PV
 - #2 GML Regular mode
 - #3 GML Peak-shaving mode







With the peak-shaving mode, batteries try to flatten the net demand curve to avoid higher peak demand resulting from RT arbitrage opportunities (small payout).



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Economic Benefits Analysis

- Background: The economic benefits of aggregating distributionnetwork DERs need to be justified
- Goal: Demonstrate the economical benefits of our GML model on a NYISO 79-bus network

Outcome:

- Compare the peak-shaving mode and the regular mode
- Study the economic impact of virtual battery sizes
- Scenarios of interests:
 - **#1 No Flex:** No Battery, Solar runs at full availability
 - #2 Regular: DA+arbitrage
 - #3 Peak-shaving: \$10,000/MWpeak; 24-hr period





Costs with different battery specifications (Stochastic)

		~1500 PowerWalls		~3000 PowerWalls		100,000s ACs	
Battery	No Flex	75MW & 187.7 MWh		150MW & 375MWh		375MW & 75MWh	
Day-ahead(\$)	500,360	498,570		501,430		494,340	
Scenario	Baseline	Regular	Peak- Shaving	Regular	Peak- Shaving	Regular	Peak- Shaving
Real-time (\$)	428,330	425,981	426,503	424,322	424,486	429,309	426,340
Solar curtailment (\$)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peak (\$)	12,609,390	13,299,920	12,150,240	14,061,360	11,881,330	16,342,240	12,348,150
Total* (\$)	13,037,730	13,735,901	12,576,293	14,485,682	12,305,816	16,771,549	12,774,490
	Do nothing!	"More" is better, if incentives align!				More is less	Duration!



Deterministic vs Stochastic

- Deterministic runs outperform the stochastic runs
- Importance of sizing: Marginal savings of virtual battery sizes could decline

	Scenario	Regular	Peak-Shaving	Regular	Peak-Shaving	Regular	Peak-Shaving
Determinist	RT saving	85.39 \$/MW & 35.36 \$/MWh	/	84.07 \$/MW & 33.63 \$/MWh	/	38.34\$/MW & 191.7\$/MWh	/
	Peak saving	/	6586 \$/MW & 2634 \$/MWh	/	5092 \$/MW & 2120 \$/MWh	/	739.48 \$/MW & 3697.47 \$/MWh
Stochastic	RT saving	31.47 \$/MW & 12.59 \$/MWh	/	26.79 \$/MW & 10.72 \$/MWh	/	-2.58\$/MW & 12.91\$/MWh	/
	Peak saving	/	6122 \$/MW & 2448 \$/MWh	/	4853 \$/MW & 1941 \$/MWh	/	696.64 \$/MW & 3483.20 \$/MWh



Feeder Operational Layer (FOL) Scalable, Stochastic Grid Optimization of DERs



Feeder Operational Layer (FOL)

Aim: To develop an optimization framework that dispatches various feeder resources (such as Transformers, capacitor banks, PV inverter, batteries, etc) in response to (P,Q) signals while ensuring satisfaction of feeder physical constraints and solve-time limits.

Main takeaways:

- 1. Discrete assets (such as Transformers and capacitor banks) can be effectively dispatched at a separate slower scale than the flexible continuous assets (such as solar PV inverters, connected devices, and batteries)
- 2. Network reduction is useful in reducing the solve-time of large-scale feeders, while still providing satisfactory performance in the system response.
- 3. Considering 3-phase nature of distribution systems is important and our 3-phase implementation of the feeder physics is shown to provide a tractable implementation capable of responding to grid signals.
- 4. It is important to consider the nature of uncertainty in solar and demand, and in our formulation we develop efficient chance constraint implementation that is both scalable and robust.



Scaling up ACOPF with Kron-based network reduction



- Primary network is partitioned into clusters of physically and electrically similar nodes through Kron reduction²
- Voltage sensitivity to current injection is employed as the metric for partition
- A node from each sub-network is then chosen as a "super-node"

Max-APE for intra-cluster |V| is small

V error	Circuit 39-1-13	Circuit 39-2-13	Circuit 39-4-13
Phase-A	0.88%	1.26%	0.98%
Phase-B	0.23%	0.50%	0.43%
Phase-C	0.56%	0.78%	0.67%



Stochastic, Multi-period, AC-feasible OPF framework



- FOL solves a stochastic, receding-horizon optimization on the reduced feeder model based on GML set-points
- The stochastic framework considers the uncertainty in solar and demand¹.
- STL disaggregates the FOL dispatch of the reduced network onto the nodes of the fullscale network.
- Through this approach feasible and fast solution to the OPF problem of a large-scale network can be obtained.



[1] Nawaf Nazir and M. Almassalkhi, "Stochastic multi-period optimal dispatch of energy storage in unbalanced distribution feeders," in Power Systems Computation Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, 2020.



Outer Loop: Robustly schedule mechanical assets on slow time-scale

- Aim: Improve robustness of the voltage positioning (VP) by considering the effects of uncertainty in netdemand forecasts in the scheduling of mechanical assets (cap banks and LTCs) on hourly timescale
- Main focus of VP: maximize voltage margins, while minimizing the need for flexible reactive resources
 - VP introduces a co-optimization of slow mechanical assets and fast reactive power reserves.
 - Employed
 - There is fundamental trade-off between maximizing voltage margins and minimizing the use of flexible resources³.

Voltage positioning (VP) concept





Inner Loop: Deterministic FOL dispatch



- SOCP-NLP coupled approach to turn a hard non-convex problem into a scalable solution⁴
- Optimally dispatching batteries over multiple time-steps while accounting for three-phase AC physics



Solar PV forecast uncertainty



Solar PV forecast prediction error model





Robust FOL dispatch can account for solar uncertainty



- Tightening in constraint bounds is a function of forecast error
- Forecast error grows over the predictive horizon until updated
- Lower errors means less conservative responses⁸



[8] Nawaf Nazir and M. Almassalkhi, "Stochastic multi-period optimal dispatch of energy storage in unbalanced distribution feeders," in Power Systems Computation Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, 2020.

Illustration of FOL



- Tracking of GML head-node power signal by 3-phase Feeder 1 (having 125 super-nodes)
- Histogram of voltages obtained in Gridlab-D through the stochastic formulation



Software: interactive Power Grid Analytics (iPGA)



iPGA has now been productized



Github @ teslaUVM/ENERGISE

1)

Service Transformer Layer (STL)

Aggregated Modeling and Control of DERs





Optimal Dispatch of DERs

- **Goal:** real-time coordination of DERs to track certain power set-points at the service transformer
 - A slightly challenging problem for switching-type devices, such as thermostatic loads air-conditioner, electric water-heaters, etc.
- An efficient constrained *Mixed-Integer problem (MIP)* to track FOL-dispatched set-points
 - Constraints: satisfy device limitations and end-user comfort preferences
 - Objective: minimize tracking error while staying close to "normal operations"

$$\forall t: \text{ minimize} \\ \varepsilon > 0, \{p_i\}_{i=1}^{N} \quad w_1 \varepsilon + w_2 \sum_{i=1}^{N} \|T_i(t+1) - T_{set,i}\|_2^2$$
(tracking performance)
$$\begin{array}{c|c} P_{set}(t) - \sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i \\ P_{set}(t) - \sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i \\ T_i(t+1) \in [T_{set,i} - \delta T_i/2, T_{set,i} + \delta T_i/2] \\ \hline \\ \text{(discrete power levels)} \quad p_i \in \{0, P_i\} \quad \forall i, \end{array}$$





Scalability of DER dispatch in STL







Aggregate Modeling of DERs as Virtual Battery

Estimate flexibility of end-use resources in power consumption in the form of generalized battery models:



Basic idea of a virtual battery (VB) model:







Virtual Battery (VB) Modeling





Aggregate Modeling of DERs as Virtual Battery

Estimate flexibility of end-use resources in power consumption in the form of generalized battery models:



Basic idea of a virtual battery (VB) model:







Virtual Battery (VB) Modeling



- Introduce a virtual energy state-of-charge (SoC)

- SoC depletes if drawn power > baseline
- SoC increases if drawn power < baseline
- Constraints on allowable power drawn
- Constraints on allowable SoC range





VB Modeling and Control of DERs - Key Takeaways



- a) Data-driven methods to identify and validate VB models (previously ad-hoc)
- b) Significant flexibility reserves possible from DERs, and depends on efficiency of controls
- c) Extension of (deterministic) VB models into stochastic ones (via variational autoencoder)
 - Generates distributions of VB parameters (instead of point estimates)

Real-time Inter-Layer DER Control

Leads: Sarnaduti Brahma*, Hamid Ossareh, and Mads Almassalkhi

University of Vermont

Sarnaduti is finishing up PhD this summer & is seeking R&D positions. Contact him: sbrahma@uvm.edu







Run Times



Large-scale simulations** Coupled Markets+Grids+DERs optimization

**Unfortunately, COVID-19 hit during the last 3 quarters of the project and the team had a key member stranded abroad for 10 months. SETO denied multiple request for NCE, which impacted research and the extent of analysis of final simulations.



At each time step....

- Gridlab-D solves the power flow given the load/solar information and the FOL dispatch points and communicates the state of charge/nodal voltages to the Julia server.
- The Julia server, which hosts the DSSE/STL/FOL/GML algorithms, dispatches the virtual batteries and ACs, WHs based on the state of charge information received from Gridlab-D and the GML setpoint.
- FNCS is a co-simulaton platform used to facilitate data exchange between Julia and Gridlab-D.

Peak Reduction - GML dispatch

ORU network is optimized with GML for all feeders and 3 feeders are fully modeled with VBs of which 2-3 VBs are fully populated with DERs



Peak Reduction - FOL tracking performance (11:00 AM - 12:00 AM)



Feeder Nodal Voltages

Feeder 1



Feeder 2

Feeder 3

Solar generation - Peak reduction

Feeder 1

Feeder 2

Feeder 3



Equivalent feeder-level state of charge

Feeder 1







• The evolution of the feeder's aggregate state of charge (from gridlab-D) depends on the overall solar generation relative to the load during any given hour.

Final project summ

1+2: DSO premises have GML and FOL running via SCADA.

3: STL running at each *super-node* service transformer (in the field) to manage solar PV inverters and other active nodes via VB-DER interface

4: Interlayer corrective controllers improve performance in real-time

Key: all elements are advanced operational tools, but *technologically viable* across spatio-temporal scales



Thank you! Any questions or comments?

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See you in Denmark Aug 2021- July 2022?





Some things never run out of energy!



This material is based on work graciously supported by U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) under SETO ENERGISE program (DE-EE0001495) Award Number DE-EE0008006



Project Team Publications

Publications

- 1. (Submitted) Y. Jiang, E. Cohn, P. Vorobev, and E. Mallada Storage-based frequency shaping contro IEEE Transactions on Power Systems
- 2. (Under review; Rev02) S. Brahma, Nazir, N, H. Ossareh, and Almassalkhi, M. Optima and resilient coordination of virtual batteries in distribution feeders IEEE Trans. o Power Systems
- 3. Nazir, N, Racherla, P., and Almassalkhi, M. Optimal multi-period dispatch of distributed energy resources in unbalanced distribution feeders IEEE Trans. on Powe Systems
- 4. (Under review; Rev02) Nazir, N, and Almassalkhi, M. Voltage positioning using cooptimization of controllable grid assets IEEE Trans. on Power Systems
- 5. F. Paganini and E. Mallada Global analysis of synchronization performance for power systems: Bridging the theory-practice gap IEEE Trans. on Automatic Control
- 6. (Under review; Rev01) L. S. P. Lawrence, J. W. Simpson-Porco, and E. Mallada Th optimal steady-state control problem IEEE Trans. on Automatic Control
- 7. (Under review; Rev01) Y. Jiang and R. Pates and E. Mallada Dynamic Droop Contro in Low-inertia Power Systems IEEE Trans. on Automatic Control
- 8. (To be submitted shortly) S. Brahma, and H. Ossareh Analysis of Accuracy and Nu merical Properties of Stochastic Linearization International Journal of Control
- 9. H. G. Oral, E. Mallada, and D. Gayme Performance of single and double-integratc networks over directed graphs IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control
- Bahram, Alina and Hajiesmaili, Mohammad H. and Lee, Zachary and Crespi, Noel an Mallada, Enrique Online EV Scheduling Algorithms for Adaptive Charging Network with Global Peak Constraints IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Computing
- 11. E. Weitenberg, Y. Jiang, C. Zhao, E. Mallada, C. De Persis, and F. Dorfler Robus decentralized secondary frequency control in power systems: Merits and trade-of IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control
- 12. R. Pates and E. Mallada "Robust scale free synthesis for frequency regulation in power systems" IEEE Trans, on Control of Network Systems
- 13. N. Nazir and M. Almassalkhi, "Grid-aware aggregation and realtime disaggregation of distributed energy resources in radial networks," 2020, under review in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems.
- Nawaf Nazir, Mads Almassalkhi Receding-horizon optimization of unbalanced distr bution systems with time-scale separation for discrete and continuous control device 2018PSCCS05E Power System Computation Conference Dublin, Ireland June, 2018

- 15. Sarnaduti Brahma, Mads Almassalkhi, Hamid Ossareh A Stochastic Linearization Approach to Optimal Primary Control of Power Systems with Generator Saturation ThC2.1 IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications Copenhagen, Denmark August, 2018
- Chakraborty I., S. Nandanoori, and S. Kundu "Virtual Battery Parameter Identification using Transfer Learning based Stacked Autoencoder **Nominated for best paper award" 502 ICMLA Orlando, FL December, 2018
- Nandanoori S., I. Chakraborty, T. Ramachandran, and S. Kundu Identification and Validation of Virtual Battery Model for Heterogeneous Devices PES General Meeting 2019 Atlanta, GA August, 2018
- Ramachandran T., A. Reiman, M. Rice and S. Kundu Distribution System State Estimation in the presence of high PV penetration American Control Conference Philadelhia, PA July, 2019
- Weiping Huang, Sarnaduti Brahma, Hamid Ossareh Quasilinear control of systems with time-delays and nonlinear actuators and sensors American Control Conference Philadelhia, PA July, 2019
- 20. Chengda Ji, Mohammad Hajiesmaili, Dennice F. Gayme and Enrique Mallada Coordinating Distribution System Resources for Co-optimized Participation in Energy and Ancillary Service Transmission System Markets American Control Conference Philadelhia, PA July, 2019
- C. Avraam, J. Rines, A. Sarker, F. Paganini, and E. Mallada Voltage Collapse Stabilization in Star DC Networks American Control Conference Philadelhia, PA July, 2019
- Sarnaduti Brahma, Hamid Ossareh Quasilinear control of feedback systems with multivariate nonlinearities ThB19.6 IEEE Conference on Decision and Control Nice, France Dec, 2019
- 23. P. You, D. F. Gayme, and E. Mallada The Role of Strategic Load Participants in Two-Stage Settlement Electricity Markets FrC25.2 IEEE Conference on Decision and Control Nice, France Dec, 2019
- 24. H. Min and E. Mallada Dynamics Concentration of Large-Scale Tightly-Connected Networks WeA21.6 IEEE Conference on Decision and Control Nice, France Dec, 2019
- 25. N. Nazir and M. Almassalkhi (to appear) Stochastic multi-period optimal dispatch of energy storage in unbalanced distribution feeders Power Systems Computation Conference Porto, Portugal

- 26. Nawaf Nazir and Mads Almassalkhi Convex inner approximation of the feeder hosting capacity limits on dispatchable demand ThC05.2 IEEE Conference on Decision and Control Nice, France
- C. Shapiro, C. Ji, and D. F. Gayme (to appear) Real-time Energy Market Arbitrage via Aerodynamic Energy Storage in Wind Farms Proc. of the American Control Conference
- J. Guthrie and E. Mallada Minimum-Time Charging of Energy Storage in Microgrids via Approximate Conic Relaxation IEEE European Control Conference (ECC) 2020
- Y. Shen, M. Bichuch, and E. Mallada On the Value of Energy Storage in Generation Cost Reduction IEEE European Control Conference (ECC) 2020
- C. Shapiro, C. Ji, and D. F. Gayme Real-time Energy Market Arbitrage via Aerodynamic Energy Storage in Wind Farms American Control Conference Denver, CO 2020

Other Results

- 1. The Future of Energy Workshop 09/27/18 09/28/18, Burlington, VT
- 2. NIST WORKSHOP ON SMART GRID TESTBEDS & COLLABORATIONS 04/23/20, Burlington, VT
- 3. Dennice Gayme was featured in IEEE Control System Society's Control Magazine.



Bonus Slides



