

Pricing Under Uncertainty: A Chance Constraint Approach to a Robust Competitive Equilibrium

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June 27, 2018



- **Power grid operations have shifted to uncertainty-aware decision-making frameworks**
 - Scenario/interval-based optimization
 - Robust optimization
 - Chance constraints
 - Real-life OPF/UC applications: China, Switzerland, Russia (hydro+nucs)
- **Electricity markets are largely lagging far behind**
 - No consensus contract design
 - Uncertainty factors are not explicitly internalized the price formation process
 - No systematic framework to map uncertainty to a given network
 - “Stochastic” concerns: What does the “stochastic” pay off actually mean? How to resolve the risk versus expectation dilemma? And how to explain it to a generation owners?
 - Lack of data or format dependencies on third-party providers (e.g. NOAA)
 - Scalability concerns

Chance constraints can be just the right framework to address the key issues

• Feasibility and effectiveness of chance constraints have been well-established

- Demonstration of **cost-efficient** and **tractable** reformulation (Bienstock et al, 2014) applied to a network with a 2,000+ nodes with location-specific treatment of uncertainty
- Discriminatory treatment of **small** and **large** constraint violations (Roald et al, 2015; Dvorkin et al, 2017) for non-affine control policies and separating primary, secondary, and tertiary reserve needs
- Scalable extensions to **distributionally robust** formulations, both algorithmically (Lubin, 2016) and via exact, or almost, convex reformulations (Xie et al, 2018)
- Enable a “**complete**” **electricity market** design via a linearization of ac power flows (Lubin, 2018) or a convex relaxation (Halilbasic et al, 2018)
- Support **contingency-constrained** formulations (Roald et al, 2016)

• Can leverage existing results

- The exact **SOCP reformulation is convex**
- Results obtained **using the LP duality** (deterministic markets) can be extended to a more general SOCP case (with some modifications)
- SOCP duality ensures compatibility with legacy electricity market designs (important for the successful transition; Kuhn, 1962)

- **Contract design & market equilibrium with chance constraints**

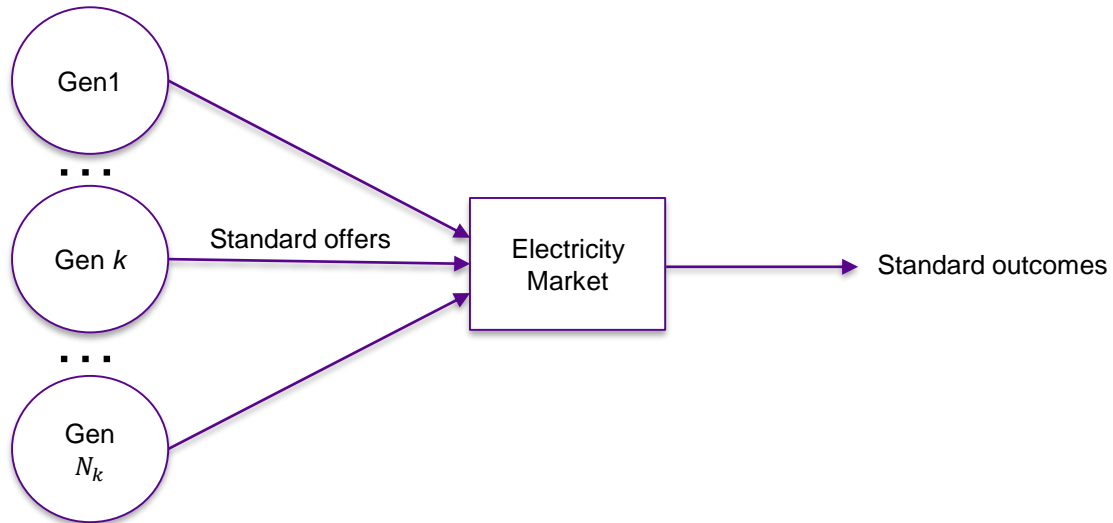
- Single node case
- Contract design with chance constraints
- Market equilibrium under chance constraints

- **Extensions to network-specific pricing with chance constraints**

- How to enforce the chance-constrained apparent power flow limits?
- Implications on pricing
- Contract design feasibility: is possible with the single-node contract?

- **Not in this presentation**

- Explicit treatment of non-convexities
- Can be internalized using previous results for deterministic markets (using a connection between the LP – SOCP duality)



- **Contract design = {Standard offers, Standard outcomes}**
- **Standard offers include energy and reserve offers (capacity, price)**
- **Standard outcomes include cleared offers and prices**

- **Chance-constrained, single-node, single-period unit commitment problem**

$$\min \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_k c_k (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega) + f_k z_k \right)$$

Incremental
cost

Fixed cost

Affine control with the power output p_k , participation factor α_k and system-wide uncertainty Ω

- Factors in the cost of real-time output: $\mathbf{p}_k = p_k - \alpha_k \Omega$
- Real-time system-wide uncertainty: $\Omega \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- Affine response and Gaussian, zero-mean assumptions are for the sake of convenience; can be revisited

- **Chance-constrained, single-node, single-period unit commitment problem**

$$\min \quad \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_k c_k (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega) + f_k z_k \right)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_k p_k + W^f = D,$$

System-wide power balance constraint
(deterministic)

$$p_k^{\min} z_k \leq p_k \leq p_k^{\max} z_k,$$

$\forall k$, Output limits on generators
(deterministic)

$$\mathbb{P} (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega \leq p_k^{\max} z_k) \geq 1 - \epsilon, \quad \forall k,$$

Chance constrained output limits on generators

$$\mathbb{P} (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega \geq p_k^{\min} z_k) \geq 1 - \epsilon, \quad \forall k,$$

$$\sum_k \alpha_k = 1,$$

Constraint on the system-wide response

$$\alpha_k \geq 0, z_k \in \{0, 1\},$$

$\forall k$,

- **Chance-constrained, single-node, single-period unit commitment problem**

$$\min \quad \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_k c_k (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega) + f_k z_k \right)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_k p_k + W^f = D,$$

$$p_k^{\min} z_k \leq p_k \leq p_k^{\max} z_k, \quad \forall k,$$

$$\mathbb{P} (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega \leq p_k^{\max} z_k) \geq 1 - \epsilon, \quad \forall k, \quad (\text{CCUCP})$$

$$\mathbb{P} (p_k - \alpha_k \Omega \geq p_k^{\min} z_k) \geq 1 - \epsilon, \quad \forall k,$$

$$\sum_k \alpha_k = 1,$$

$$\alpha_k \geq 0, z_k \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall k,$$

This problem can be reduced to an LP (using the zero-mean assumption + fixing binary decisions)

- **Deterministic LP** for the chance-constrained, single-node, single-period unit commitment problem

$$\min \sum_k c_k p_k + f_k z_k$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_k p_k + W^f = D,$$

$$p_k^{\min} z_k - \Phi_\epsilon^{-1} \sigma \alpha_k \leq p_k \leq p_k^{\max} z_k + \Phi_\epsilon^{-1} \sigma \alpha_k, \quad \forall k,$$

$$\sum_k \alpha_k = 1,$$

$$\alpha_k \geq 0, \quad \forall k,$$

(CCUCP_{IP})

← Φ_ϵ^{-1} can be scaled to represent non-Gaussian distribution

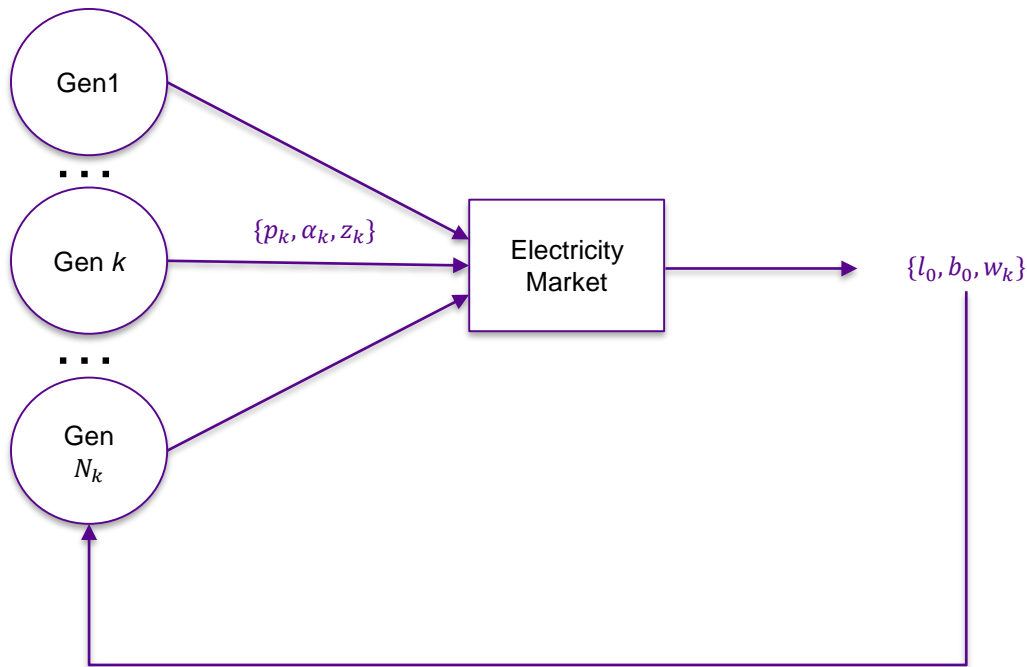
- This LP can be then decomposed into “generators” problem (O’Neil, 2005)

$$\min \quad c_k p_k + f_k z_k - l_0 p_k - b_0 \alpha_k - w_k z_k$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad p_k^{\min} z_k - \Phi_\epsilon^{-1} \sigma \alpha_k \leq p_k \leq p_k^{\max} z_k + \Phi_\epsilon^{-1} \sigma \alpha_k,$$

$$\alpha_k \geq 0, \quad (\text{CCUCP}_{k\text{IP}})$$

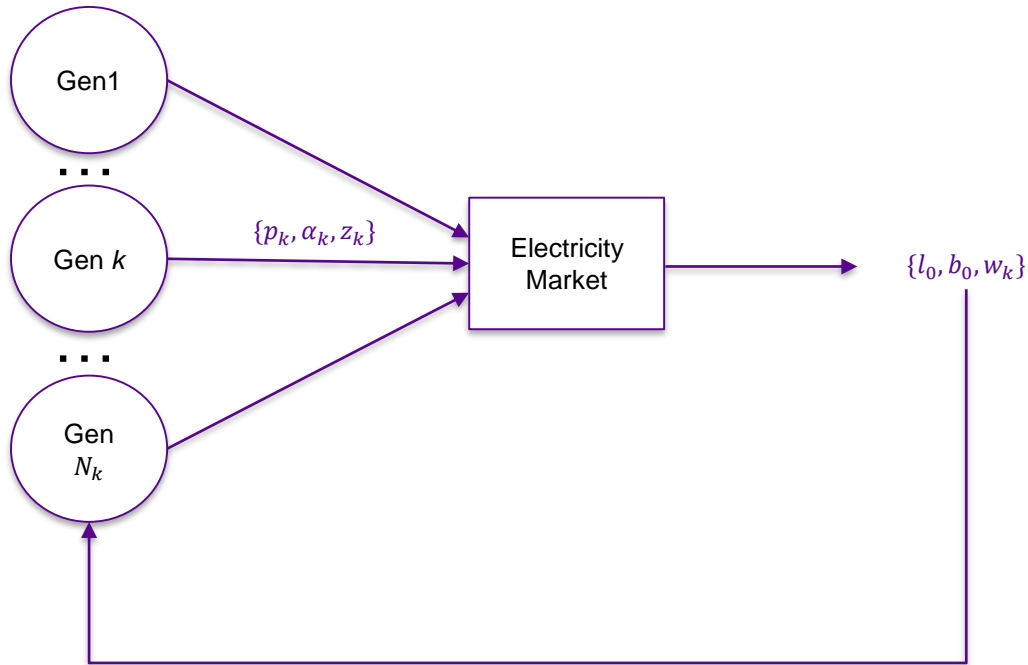
← $\{l_0, b_0, w_k\}$ define the compensation of each generator for the power price, ramp power price, and commitment compensation



- Contract design

Let T_k be a contract between the power market operator and generator k with the following terms: (1) Generator's k decision is given by $\{p_k, \alpha_k, z_k\}$, and (2) Generator k receives an amount from the power market operator equal to the following payment function: $l_0 p_k + b_0 \alpha_k + w_k z_k$.

- This contract design leads to a **stable market equilibrium**



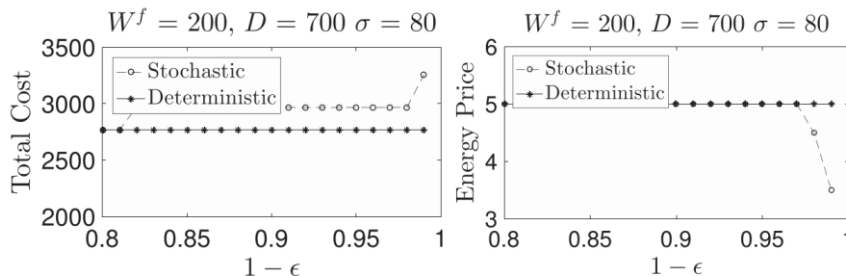
- Market equilibrium must satisfy two conditions:

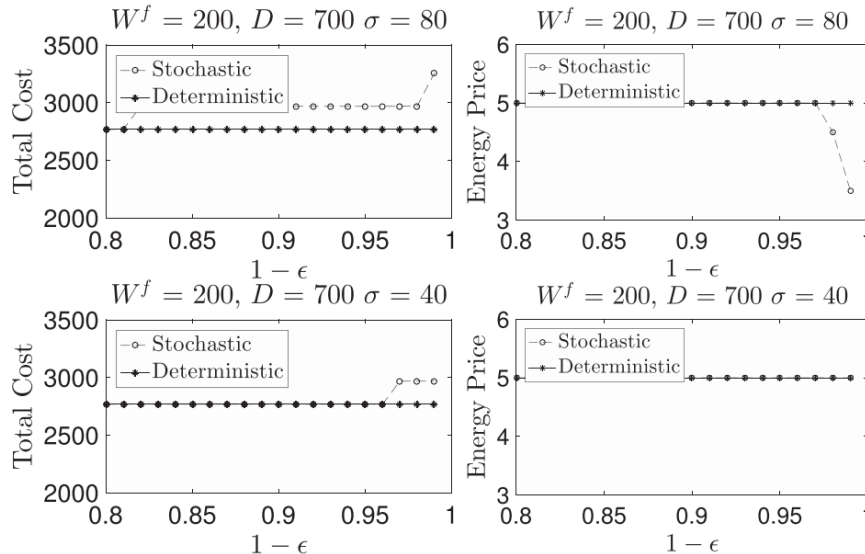
$$\sum_k p_k + W^f = D,$$

$$\sum_k \alpha_k = 1$$

Theorem 1: Let $\{p_k^*, \alpha_k^*, z_k^*\}$ for all k be an optimal solution of (CCUCP) (or equivalently, of (CCUCP_{IP})), and let $\{\lambda_0^*, \beta_0^*, \{\omega_k^* \forall k\}\}$ for all k be an optimal solution of the dual LP of (CCUCP_{LP}(z^*)). Then the prices $l_0 = \lambda_0^*, b_0 = \beta_0^*, w_k = \omega_k^*$ for all k , and the decisions $p'_k = p_k^*, \alpha'_k = \alpha_k^*,$ and $z'_k = z_k^*$ for all k represent a robust competitive equilibrium.

- Our proof exploits LP duality (as in O'Neil, 2005)
- Still it works for a single-node case, transmission constraints need to be accounted for additionally
- See our proof in Kuang, 2018.





- The price formation process adequately **reflects uncertainty** (ϵ, σ)
- Externalities (ϵ, σ) can be related to power grid operations and have **well-defined temporal and spatial interpretations** (important for transmission-constrained extensions)
- Provides a **high customization level** for the assumptions on uncertainties, but **does not increase computational complexity**
- Has connections to the existing practice
 - One bid, no multiple bids for multiple scenarios
 - Easy interpretation + **deterministic dc network** constraints can be factored in straightforwardly

- **How to enforce power flow constraints?**
 - AC power flows (e.g. voltage + reactive power limits are accounted for)
 - Apparent power limits → no exact reformulation
 - Voltage limits → reformulated into linear deterministic constraints
- **A few modeling choices:**
 - Power flow linearization around an given operating point (an feasible AC power flow solution exists)
 - Affine response policies
 - Zero-mean, Gaussian uncertainty
 - Single-period optimization

- **AC power flow equations can be linearized or relaxed**

$$f_{ij}^p(v, \theta) = v_i v_j [G_{ij} \cos(\theta_i - \theta_j) + B_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j)]$$

$$f_{ij}^q(v, \theta) = v_i v_j [G_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) - B_{ij} \cos(\theta_i - \theta_j)],$$

- **Linearization is based on the Taylor's approximation**
 - Can be solved sequentially to improve accuracy of the approximated solution
- **Even linearized AC power flow equations are difficult due to the quadratic dependency on uncertainty (ω)**

$$\mathbb{P}((f_{ij}^p(\omega))^2 + (f_{ij}^q(\omega))^2 \leq (s_{ij}^{max})^2) \geq 1 - \epsilon_I$$

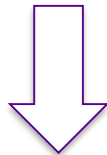


Active flow

Reactive
flow

- Inner approximation of the quadratic dependency (Lubin et al, 2018)

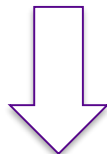
$$\mathbb{P}((f_{ij}^p(\omega))^2 + (f_{ij}^q(\omega))^2 \leq (s_{ij}^{max})^2) \geq 1 - \epsilon_I$$



$$\mathbb{P}(|f_{ij}^p(\omega)| \leq t_{ij}^p) \geq 1 - \frac{\epsilon_I}{2}, \forall ij \in \mathcal{L}$$

$$\mathbb{P}(|f_{ij}^q(\omega)| \leq t_{ij}^q) \geq 1 - \frac{\epsilon_I}{2}, \forall ij \in \mathcal{L}$$

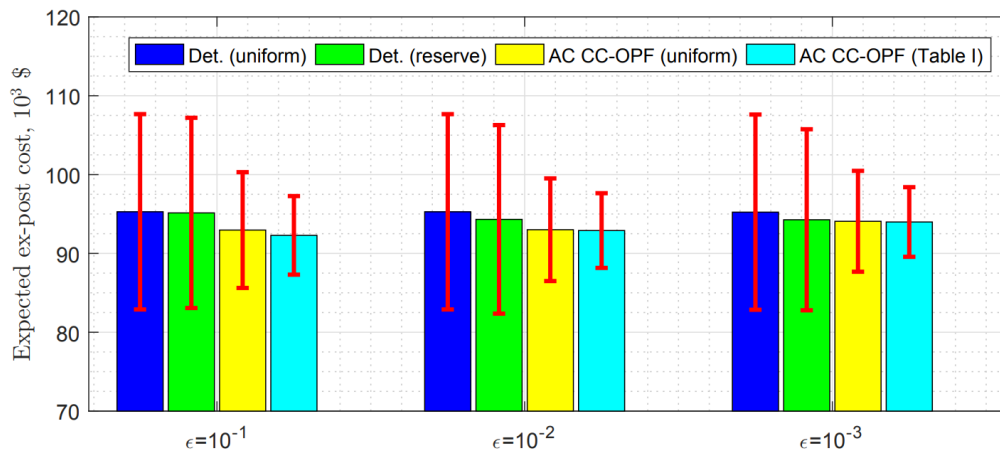
$$(t_{ij}^p)^2 + (t_{ij}^q)^2 \leq (s_{ij}^{max})^2, \forall ij \in \mathcal{L},$$



Approximate absolute values with:

$$-t_{ij}^* - f_{ij}^*(0) \leq \Phi^{-1}\left(\frac{\epsilon_I}{2.5}\right) \text{Stdev}[f_{ij}^*(\omega)]$$

- Inner approximation of the quadratic dependency (Lubin et al, 2018) works quite well



- However, the resulting problem is not an LP anymore due to the approximation:

$$(t_{ij}^p)^2 + (t_{ij}^q)^2 \leq (s_{ij}^{max})^2, \forall ij \in \mathcal{L},$$

- However, the resulting problem is not an LP anymore due to the approximation:

$$(t_{ij}^p)^2 + (t_{ij}^q)^2 \leq (s_{ij}^{max})^2, \forall ij \in \mathcal{L},$$

- However the program is still convex and the convex duality can be used in this case
- The same contract design can be used
- New proof is **work in progress**

- **Chance constraints offer a great deal of modeling flexibility at an acceptable computational cost**
- **Can be used for pricing under uncertainty**
 - At least, for the single-node case or for the transmission-constrained case with DC assumptions or with deterministic power flow limit
 - Explicit consideration of uncertainty & risk tolerance on the price formation process
- **Can be built on existing practices**
- **More info:**
 - M. Lubin, Y. Dvorkin, and L. Roald, “Chance Constraints for Improving the Security of AC Optimal Power Flow,” under review, 2018. Available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.08754>
 - X. Kuang, Y. Dvorkin, A. J. Lamadrid, M. Ortega-Vazquez, and L. Zuluaga, “Pricing Chance Constraints in Electricity Markets,” IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, early access, 2018.

- [1] D. Bienstock, M. Chertkov, and S. Harnett, “Chance-constrained optimal power flow: Risk-aware network control under uncertainty,” *SIAM Rev.*, vol. 56, no. 3, pp. 461–495, 2014.
- [2] L. Roald, S. Misra, M. Chertkov, G. Andersson, “Optimal power flow with weighted chance constraints and general policies for generation control”, 2015 IEEE 54th Annual Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), Osaka, Japan, 2015, pp. 6927-6933.
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- [4] M. Lubin, Y. Dvorkin, and S. Backhaus, “A Robust Approach to Chance Constrained Optimal Power Flow with Renewable Generation,” *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, Vol. 31, No. 5, pp. 3840 – 3849, 2016.
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- [6] M. Lubin, Y. Dvorkin, and L. Roald, “Chance Constraints for Improving the Security of AC Optimal Power Flow,” under review, 2018**
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- [9] X. Kuang, Y. Dvorkin, A. J. Lamadrid, M. Ortega-Vazquez, and L. Zuluaga, “Pricing Chance Constraints in Electricity Markets,” *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, early access, 2018.**