

Solving the Mixed Integer Non-linear Programming Problem of Unit Commitment on AC Power Systems



Anya Castillo
Sandia National Laboratories
Albuquerque, NM USA

Carl Laird – Sandia National Laboratories
Jianfeng Liu – Purdue University
Jean-Paul Watson – Sandia National Laboratories



*Exceptional
service
in the
national
interest*

FERC Software Conference June 27, 2017



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. SAND NO.

Overview

- Today's Practice
- Contributions
 - Overview
 - Local Solution Method
 - Global Solution Method
 - UC+ACOPF Results
- Ongoing Work

TODAY'S PRACTICE

- Operational Challenges
 - Committing Least Cost + Maintaining Reliability
 - Out-of-Merit Reliability Commitments
 - Improving convergence between day-ahead and real-time prices

- Algorithmic Challenges
 - Accounting for reliability needs in dispatch and pricing optimization
 - Better physical representation of the generating units and underlying network

Unit Commitment in the Day-Ahead Market

Current Practices

UC/Security-Constrained UC

- Copper-plate (no network/single node)
- Ignores congestion; requires cutsets to proxy capacity limits on network
- Most tractable

SCUC DCOPF

- Real power flows only (proportional to current)
- $B\Theta$ (full) or PTDF (compact) approach

Extensions:

- Accounts for losses
- Nomograms/cutsets to proxy reliability requirements

Proposed Approach

SCUC ACOPF

- Co-optimizes real and reactive power dispatch
- Accounts for commitments needed for blackstart service, reactive support, voltage support, and interface control
- Nonlinear, nonconvex on meshed networks

The link between physics and prices

- Locational marginal pricing (LMP) is the spot price of electricity
- Dual variable/Lagrange multiplier (λ_n) to real power balancing at all buses

$$p_n - p_n^d + p_n^g = 0 \quad (\lambda_n)$$

ACOPF

$$p_n = |v_n| \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} |v_m| (G_{nm} \cos \theta_{nm} + B_{nm} \sin \theta_{nm})$$

DCOPF

$$p_n = \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} (B_{nm} \theta_{nm}) \approx |\tilde{v}_n| \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} |\tilde{v}_m| (B_{nm} \theta_{nm})$$

DCOPF with losses

$$p_n = \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} \left(G_{nm} (\theta_{nm})^2 / 2 + B_{nm} \theta_{nm} \right)$$

The LMP incorporates the marginal cost of supplying the next MW of load for a given location in time; includes

1. marginal unit cost,
2. cost of network congestion (due to thermal line limits), and
3. cost of real power losses on the network

CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS OVERVIEW

Min Production Costs + Startup Costs + No-Load Costs

subject to

AC Network Limits

Real power balancing

Reactive power balancing

Voltage magnitude bounds

Thermal line limits

Spinning reserves

System Data

Nodal voltage limits

Reserve requirements

Real/reactive power load

Transformer tap ratio and phase-shifters

Thermal line limits and line R/X/B

Shunts

Apparent Power Production Limits §

Max/min real/reactive power generation

Ramp up/down rates on real power

Minimum up/down time

Generator Data

Synchronous condensers

T0 state and startup lags

Minimum up/down time

Ramp up/down limits

Startup/shutdown ramp limits

Min/max real/reactive power limits

Nodal Power Balancing is Nonconvex

■ Polar Power-Voltage Power Flow Formulation (**PSV**)

$$|v_{n,t}| \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} |v_{m,t}| (G_{nm} \cos \theta_{nm,t} + B_{nm} \sin \theta_{nm,t}) - p_{n,t}^+ + p_{n,t}^- = 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$$

$$|v_{n,t}| \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} |v_{m,t}| (G_{nm} \sin \theta_{nm,t} - B_{nm} \cos \theta_{nm,t}) - q_{n,t}^+ + q_{n,t}^- = 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$$

■ Rectangular Power-Voltage Power Flow Formulation (**RSV**)

$$v_{n,t}^r \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} (G_{nm} v_{m,t}^r - B_{nm} v_{m,t}^j) + v_{n,t}^j \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} (G_{nm} v_{m,t}^j + B_{nm} v_{m,t}^r) - p_{n,t}^+ + p_{n,t}^- = 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$$

$$v_{n,t}^j \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} (G_{nm} v_{m,t}^r - B_{nm} v_{m,t}^j) - v_{n,t}^r \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}} (G_{nm} v_{m,t}^j + B_{nm} v_{m,t}^r) - q_{n,t}^+ + q_{n,t}^- = 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$$

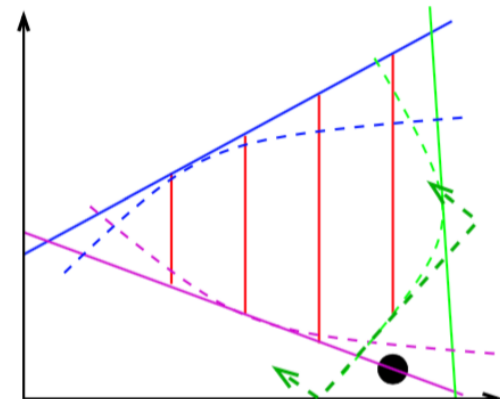
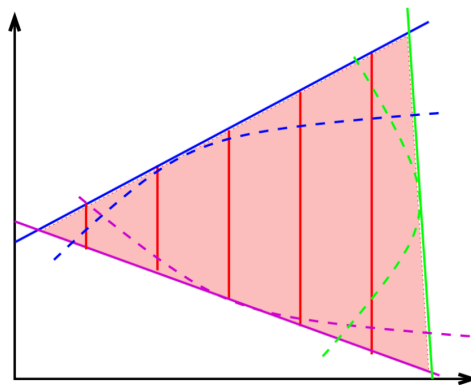
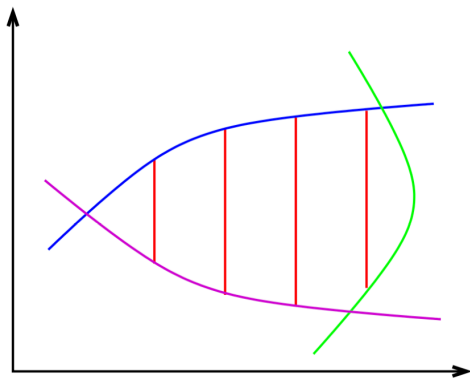
■ Rectangular Current Injection Formulation (**RIV**)

$$i_{n,t}^r - \left(\sum_{k(n,\cdot) \in \mathcal{F}} i_{k(n,m),t}^r + G_n^s v_{n,t}^r - B_n^s v_{n,t}^j \right) = 0, \left(v_{n,t}^r i_{n,t}^r + v_{n,t}^j i_{n,t}^j \right) - p_{n,t}^+ + p_{n,t}^- = 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$$

$$i_{n,t}^j - \left(\sum_{k(n,\cdot) \in \mathcal{F}} i_{k(n,m),t}^j + G_n^s v_{n,t}^j + B_n^s v_{n,t}^r \right) = 0, \left(v_{n,t}^j i_{n,t}^r - v_{n,t}^r i_{n,t}^j \right) - q_{n,t}^+ + q_{n,t}^- = 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{minimize}_x f(x), \\ \text{subject to } g(x) \leq 0, \\ x \in X, \\ x_i \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall i \in I \end{cases}$$

$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ are twice continuously differentiable functions,
 $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a bounded polyhedral set, and
 $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ is the index set of integer variables



§ Outer Approximation Algorithm (Duran and Grossman, 1986); Graphics (Belotti et al., 2013)

CONTRIBUTIONS

LOCAL SOLUTION METHOD

Successive Linear Programming (SLP) [R1]

MIN Piecewise linear cost function with penalty factors

s.t.

Line Current Flows

$$i_{k(n,m)}^r = \text{Re}\left(Y_{1,1}^k v_n + Y_{1,2}^k v_m\right), i_{k(m,n)}^r = \text{Re}\left(Y_{2,1}^k v_n + Y_{2,2}^k v_m\right) \quad \forall k \in K$$

$$i_{k(n,m)}^j = \text{Im}\left(Y_{1,1}^k v_n + Y_{1,2}^k v_m\right), i_{k(m,n)}^j = \text{Im}\left(Y_{2,1}^k v_n + Y_{2,2}^k v_m\right) \quad \forall k \in K$$

Network Current Balancing

$$i_n^r - \left(\sum_{k(n, \cdot)} i_{k(n,m)}^r + G_n^{sh} v_n^r - B_n^{sh} v_n^j \right) = 0 \quad \forall n \in N$$

$$i_n^j - \left(\sum_{k(n, \cdot)} i_{k(n,m)}^j + G_n^{sh} v_n^j + B_n^{sh} v_n^r \right) = 0 \quad \forall n \in N$$

Nodal Power Injections

First-order Taylor series

Generator Limits

Inequality constraints with
slack variables

Nodal Voltage Magnitude Limits

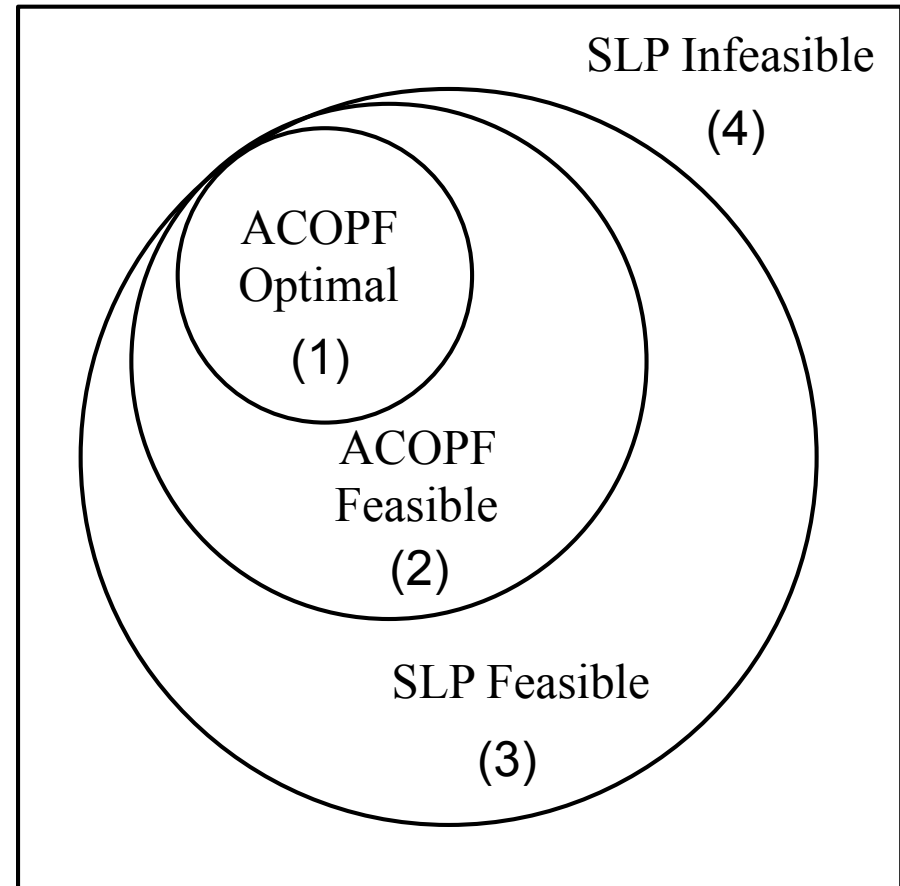
Outer approximation,
First-order Taylor series,
Step-size bounds,
Tangential cutting planes, &
Inequality constraints with
slack variables

Thermal Line (Flowgate) Limits

Set reduction, Outer approximation,
First-order Taylor series,
Tangential cutting planes, &
Inequality constraints with
slack variables

SLP Convergence Properties §

- (1) A KKT point to the ACOPF is found
- (2) The SLP optimal solution is ACOPF feasible but not optimal
 - Still a useful solution; may be better than a DCOPF with AC feasibility or decoupled OPF solution
- (3) The SLP optimal solution is ACOPF infeasible
 - Active penalties present
 - Solution may be useful depending upon whether the violated limits are “soft” or “hard”
- (4) The SLP is infeasible
 - The ACOPF may have no solution
 - The SLP requires a better initialization



Time Complexity Performance

$$\Theta(|\mathcal{N}|^p)$$

Baseline	Best-Case Simulations			All Converged Simulations		
	p	R^2	RMSE (s)	p	R^2	RMSE (s)
NLP/KNITRO	1.42	0.83	1.46	1.47	0.82	1.40
NLP/IPOPT	1.13	0.95	0.60	1.34	0.97	0.50
SLP/CPLEX	0.97	0.99	0.20	1.01	0.98	0.33
SLP/Gurobi	1.01	0.99	0.21	1.03	0.98	0.33
Thermally Constrained						
NLP/KNITRO	1.39	0.88	1.13	1.39	0.89	1.08
NLP/IPOPT	1.11	0.98	0.36	1.22	0.97	0.50
SLP/CPLEX	0.99	0.99	0.17	1.00	0.98	0.31
SLP/Gurobi	1.06	0.99	0.23	1.05	0.97	0.36

- Running time increases linearly with the network size ($p=1$ corresponds to a linear algorithmic scaling) for the SLP algorithm
- Potentially applicable in the strict time frames of the real-time markets*