(Im)precision and inaccuracy in price and load forecasts: Resiliency implications of combining

forecast data with simulations of n-k contingencies

James Thompson
Brian Tivnan
Jason Veneman

{jrthompson,btivnan,veneman}@mitre.org

FERC Conference on Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency through Improved Software

June 22-24 2015



Outline

- Intro to MITRE
- Infrastructure interconnections and cascades
 - Power and communications coupling research
- Exploring the impact of power markets
- Next steps



MITRE: A Company of FFRDCs

MITRE is a private, independent, not-for-profit organization, chartered to work in the public interest

Founded in 1958 to provide engineering and technical services to the U.S. Air Force

Supports a broad and diverse set of sponsors within the U.S. government, as well as internationally

Currently manages Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) for the:

- Department of Defense
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Internal Revenue Service/ Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Homeland Security
- Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts
- Department of Health and Human Services
- National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence





Interacting infrastructure modeling

Brian Tivnan, MITRE
Jason Veneman, MITRE
Paul Hines, UVM
Mert Korkali, UVM/Lawrence Livermore



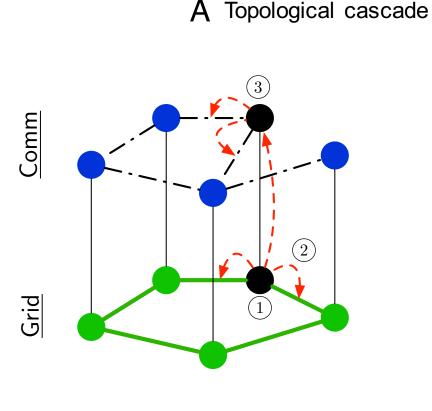
Do coupled infrastructures have greater blackout risk?





Improve Coupled Cascading Failure Risk Analysis by Differentiating Cascades

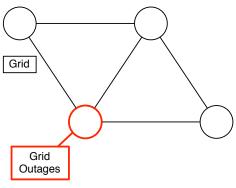
Model the risks and/or benefits of coupling of power and communication networks with a combination of sufficient engineering accuracy and computational tractability



Control Center Source Measurements

Physical cascade

Modeling Concept – From One to Two Bodies

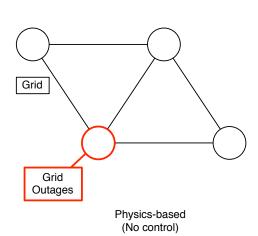


Physics-based (No control)

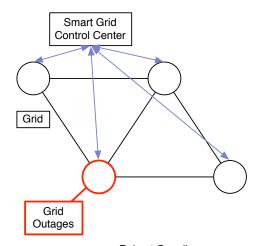
- No Smart Grid
- Physics based, DC power flow cascading failure model



Modeling Concept – From One to Two Bodies



No Smart Grid

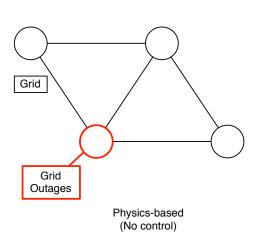


Robust Coupling (Full control)

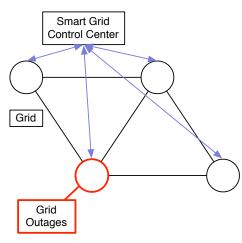
- Robust coupling Ideal smart grid, no dependencies
- Buses with communication network connections have additional measurement and control capabilities to mitigate cascades



Modeling Concept – From One to Two Bodies

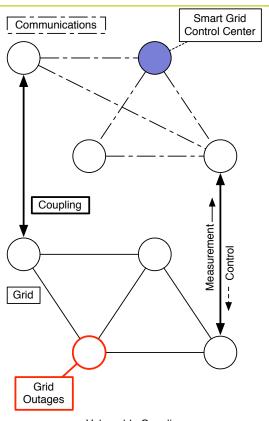


No Smart Grid



Robust Coupling (Full control)

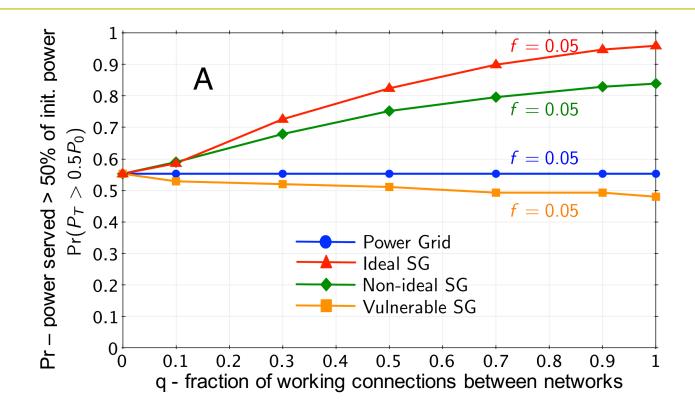
 Robust coupling – Ideal smart grid, no dependencies



Vulnerable Coupling

- Vulnerable coupling Two-way dependencies lead to cascading outages across networks in two cases
 - Non-ideal smart grid
 - Extreme vulnerability generators that lose communications go off-line

Impact of Coupling



Results: When implemented well additional automation is helpful (e.g. good backup battery systems that prevent failures from propagating between grid and comms).

If implemented poorly, coupling can be harmful.

See for more details – Korkali et al. 2015 - Reducing Cascading Failure Risk by Increasing Infrastructure Network Interdependency

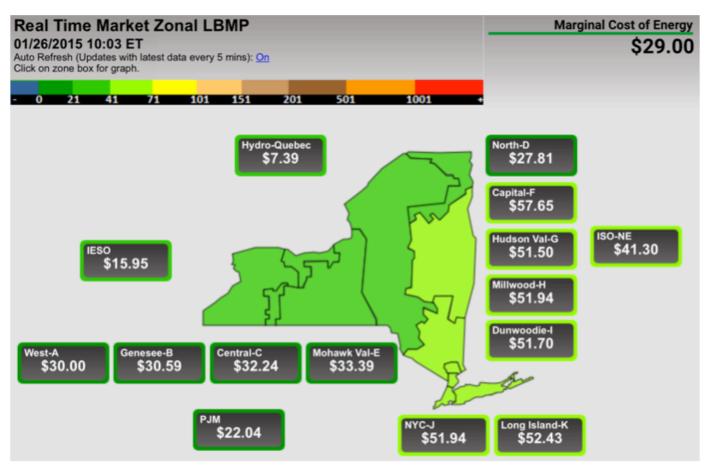
Adding the third body – electrical power markets

James Thompson, MITRE Brian Tivnan, MITRE Jason Veneman, MITRE



Extending to the 3-body Problem

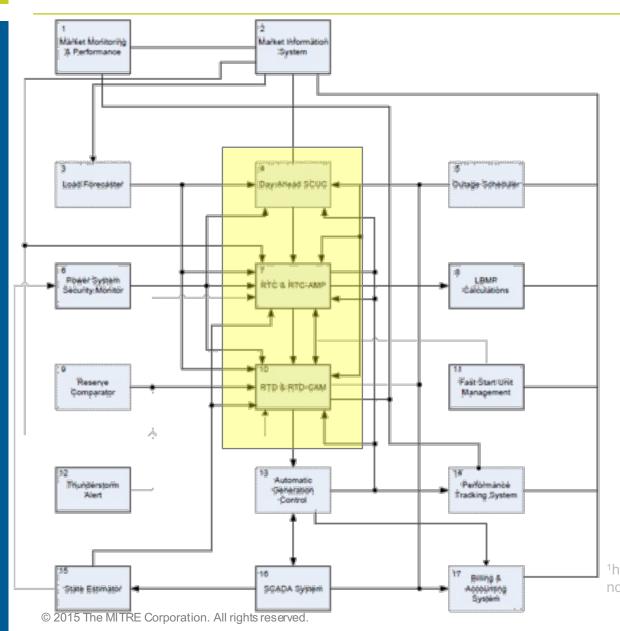
What are the effects of coupling the smart-grid to a 3rd infrastructure, namely the Electric Power Market?



1http://www.nyiso.com/public/about nyiso/nyisoataglance/index.jsp



NYISO – Energy Market Process



- The Independent Service Operator (ISO) performs
 17 different functions
- Outcomes of these functions determine:
 - Congestion contract outcome
 - Power load (demand)
 - Location based marginal price (LBMP)

¹http://www.nyiso.com/public/about_nyiso/nyisoatagla nce/index.jsp

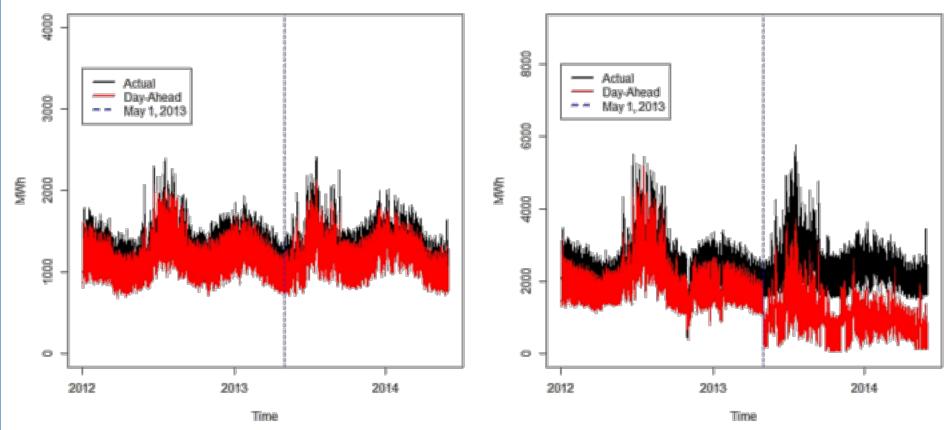
MITRE

Load Data Analysis – Zonal Day-Ahead vs. Actual

Initial investigation of the actual load vs. the day-ahead load (hourly) indicates that day-ahead values follow the trends of actual load. However, there appears to be a deliberate bias (downward shift) in the day-ahead time series.



Load Actual vs. Day-Ahead: Long Island Zone

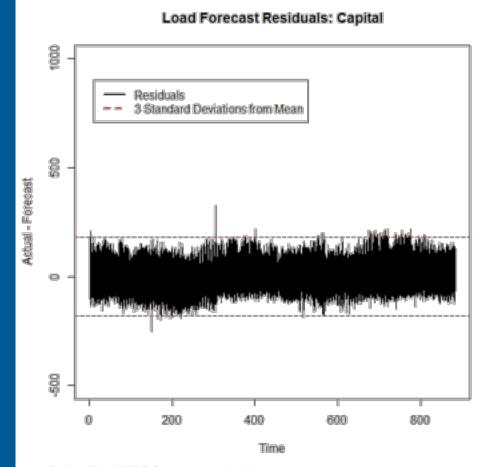


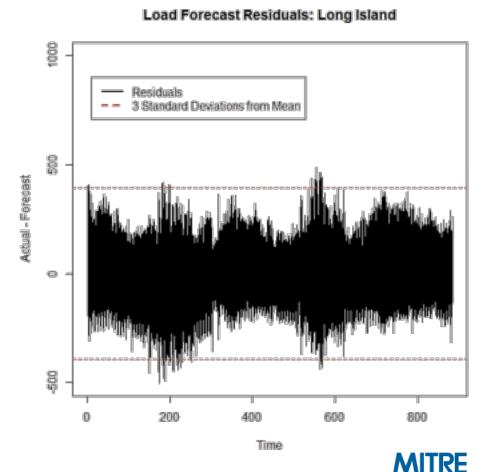
Data from: http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets_operations/market_data/load_data/index.jsp



Load Data Analysis – Behavior of Residuals

Examining the real-time load more closely, we are able to transform the data to an almost stationary data set that is ideal for forecasting.

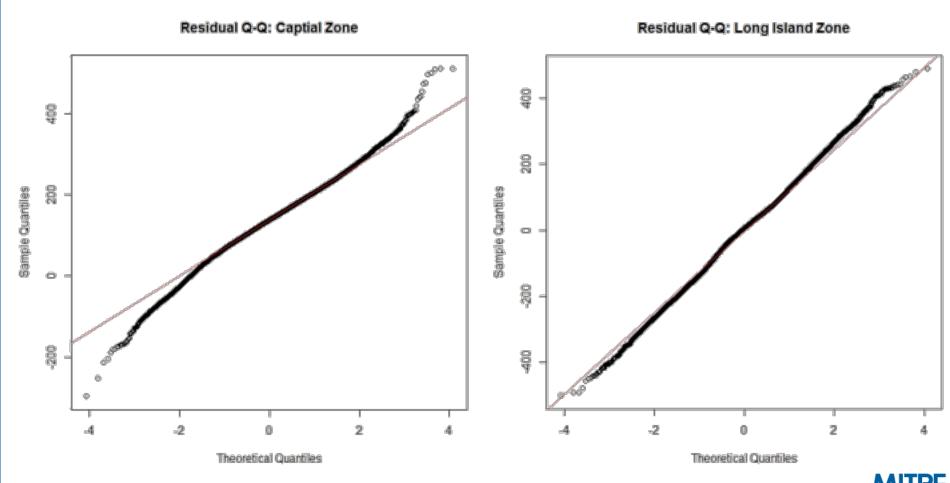




© 2015 The MITRE Corporation. All rights reserved.

Load Data Analysis – Behavior of Residuals

The residuals remaining after detrending the real-time load fit the theoretical quantiles of a normal distribution (along the red line) relatively well.



Price Analysis – Zonal Day-Ahead vs. Actual

Performing the same analysis for the Location Based Marginal Price (hourly) tells a very different story. The data sets are considerably more erratic and the difference between zones is more pronounced.

Actual & Day-Ahead LBMP: Capital Zone Actual & Day-Ahead LBMP: Long Island Zone Day-Ahead BMP SINGS LEMP SAMM 1000 2012 2013 2014 2012 2013 2014

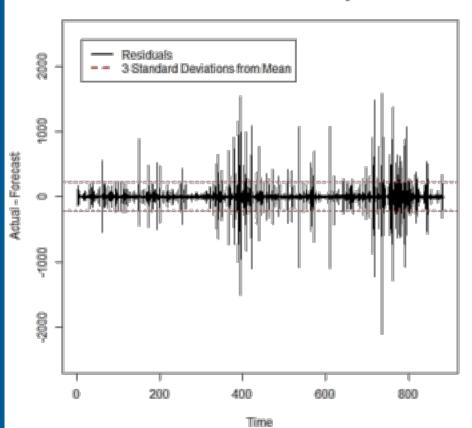
© 2015 The MITRE Corporation. All rights reserved.

Data from: http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets operations/market data/pricing data/index.jsp

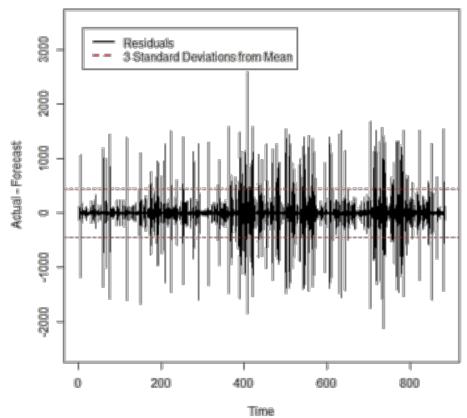
Price Analysis – Seeking Stationarity

The price data sets exhibit many of the so-called *stylized facts* observed in stock prices and exchange rates. These stylized facts include heavy-tailed marginals and long memory (i.e. slowly decaying auto-correlation functions) in absolute returns.

LBMP Forecast Residuals: Capital

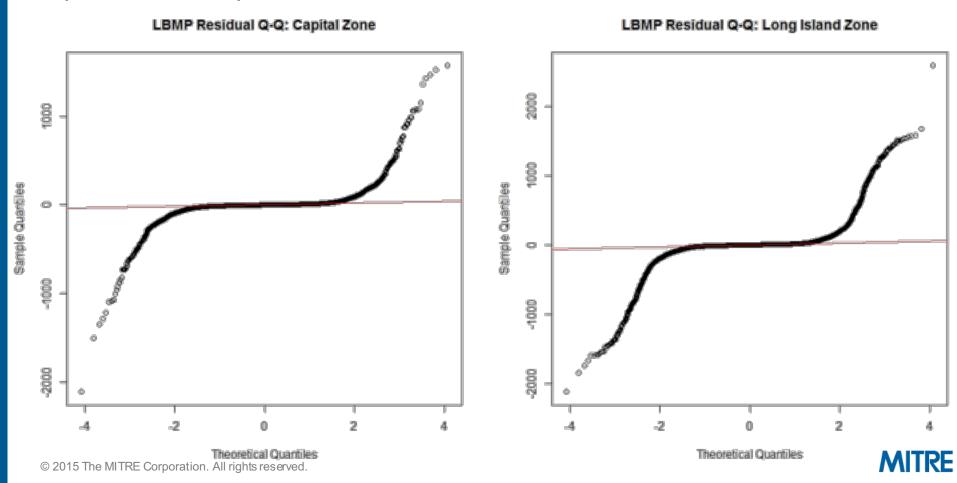


LBMP Forecast Residuals: Long Island



Price Analysis – Heavy-tails

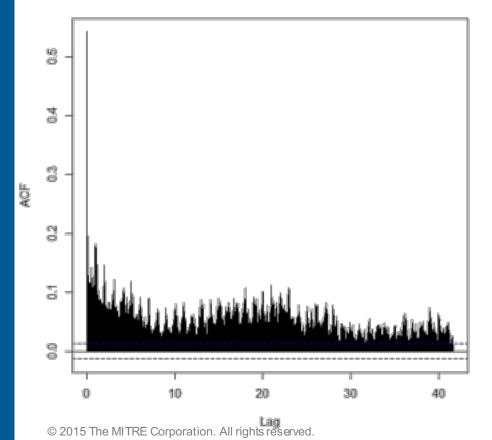
The quantiles of the detrended residuals now fail to satisfy the tests for normality due mostly to the tails departing from theoretical quantiles. It should be noted that risk-analysis and mitigation depends on being able to predict these now unpredictable tail-probabilities.



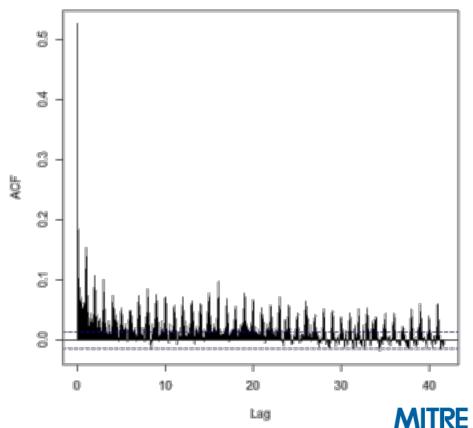
Price Analysis – Long Memory

Plots of the auto-correlation function of the absolute residuals reveal the stylized fact of long memory. The data also exhibit non-linear power-law relationships in the form of statistical self-similarity, a trait also noted in other financial datasets.

Auto-Correlation: Absolute(LBMP) Capital



Auto-Correlation: Absolute(LBMP) Long Island



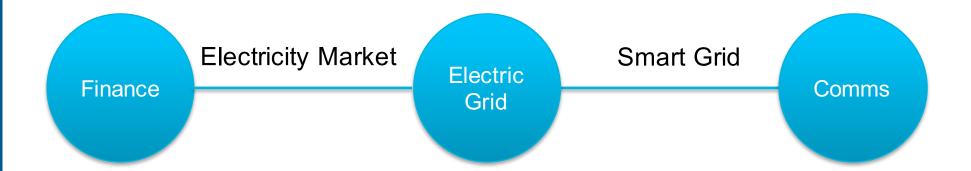
Initial Conclusions

- Although the hourly load can potentially be forecasted with a high degree of accuracy using standard statistical analyses, the resulting price driven by demand cannot be forecasted with the same tools due to the presence of the stylized facts.
- Coupling the 3rd infrastructure of Electrical Power Markets has introduced a higher degree of complexity into the process as measured by the output of Location Based Marginal Prices.
- Although we cannot say if this more complex process exposes the system to greater risk, we can say that measuring that potential risk has become intractable using standard tools and econometrics due to the stylized facts.



Next Steps

- Analyze interactions between electricity market participants as well as speculative traders
- Explore couplings and cascades within and possibly between the electric grid, communication networks, and electricity markets





Questions

Thank You!

We welcome your questions, feedback, and other ideas on this preliminary research

