

Control and Optimization of Smart Grid

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Computing + Math Sciences
Electrical Engineering



Caltech

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Outline

Motivation & challenges

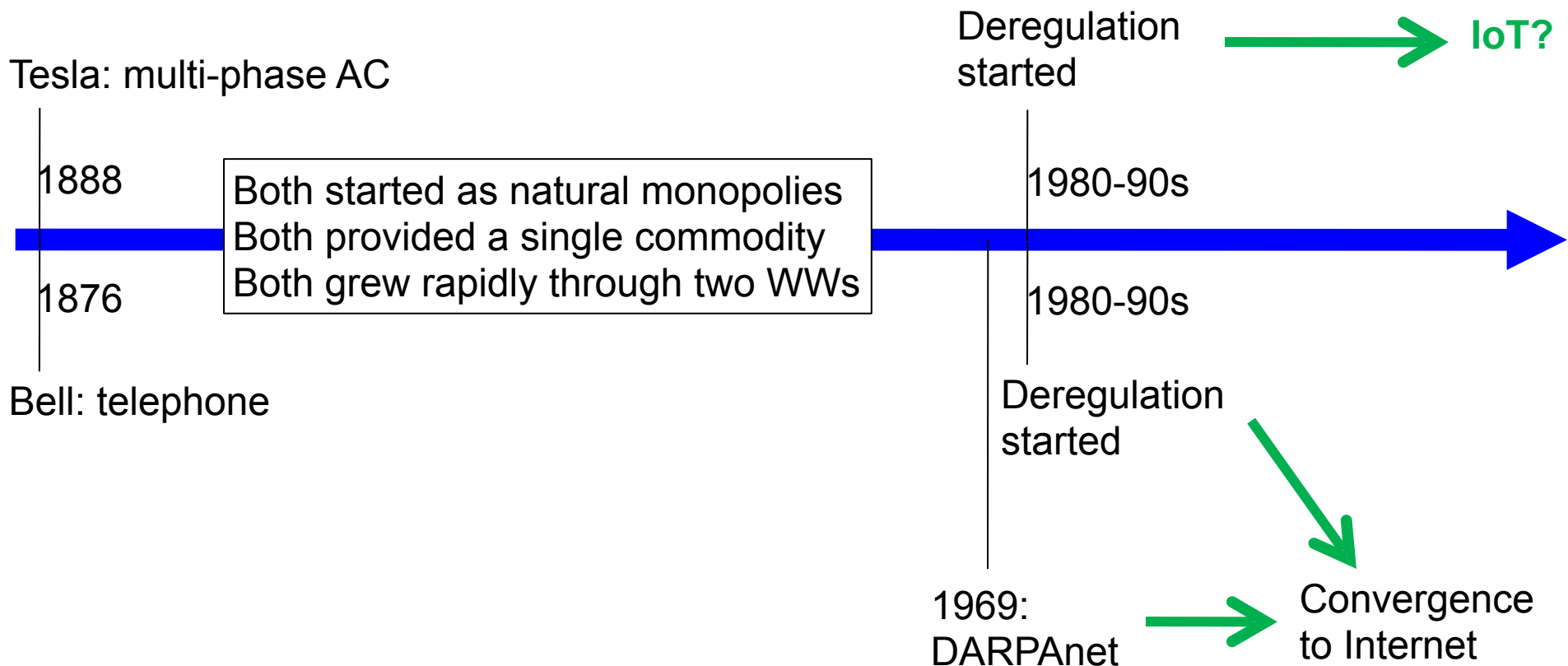
Optimal power flow





Watershed moment

Power network will undergo similar **architectural transformation** that phone network went through in the last two decades





Watershed moment

Industries will be destroyed & created

AT&T, MCI, McCaw Cellular, **Qualcom**

Google, Facebook, Twitter, Amazon, eBay, Netflix

Infrastructure will be reshaped

Centralized intelligence, vertically optimized

Distributed intelligence, layered architecture

What will drive power network transformation ?



Four drivers

Proliferation of renewables

Electrification of transportation

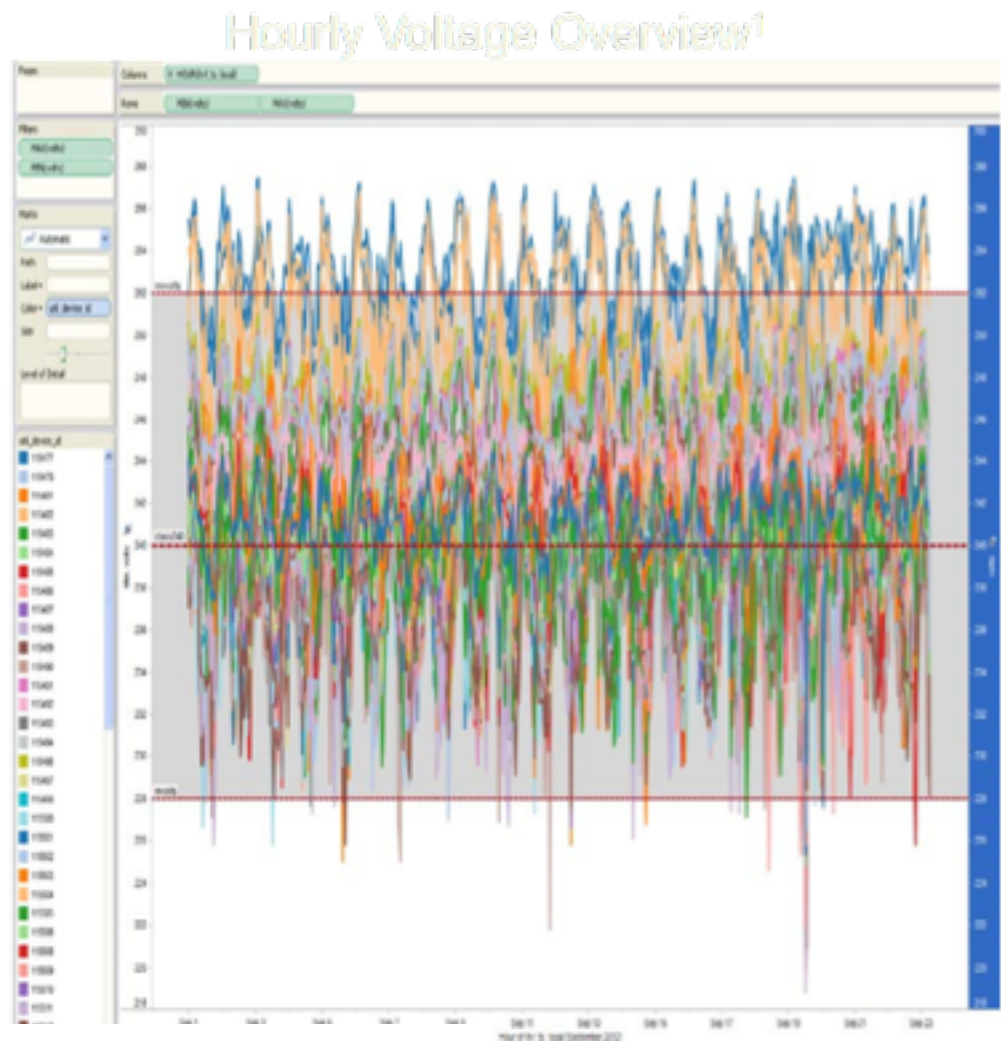
Advances in power electronics

Deployment of sensing, control, comm

} challenges

} enablers

- 68 meters (residential)
- Sept 2012 (23 days)
- 240 volts
- $\pm 5\%$ min-228/max-252
- Hourly by meter #
- A few “high” meters
- Larger # of low meters

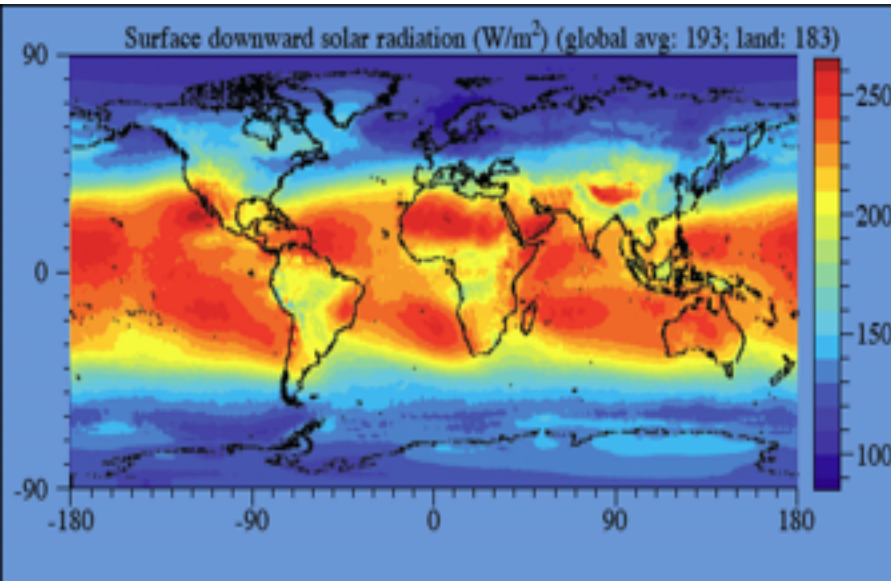


Voltage violations are quite frequent



Source: Leon Roose, University of Hawaii
 Development & demo of smart grid inverters for high-penetration PV applications

Solar power over land: > 20x world energy demand



**network of
billions of active distributed
energy resources (DERs)**

DER: PV, wind tb, EV, storage, smart appliances

Hawaii's solar power flare-up: Too much of a good thing?

So many private solar panels are returning power to the grid that utilities systems can't handle it all.

November 17, 2013

Germany's Green Energy Destabilizing Electric Grids

“Energiewende”

JANUARY 23, 2013

Power struggle: Green energy versus a grid that's not ready

Minders of a fragile national power grid say the rush to renewable energy might actually make it harder to keep the lights on.

December 02, 2013 | By Evan Halper

Renewable Energy Revolution Hiccups: Grid Instability

for Solutions

By Catalina Schröder

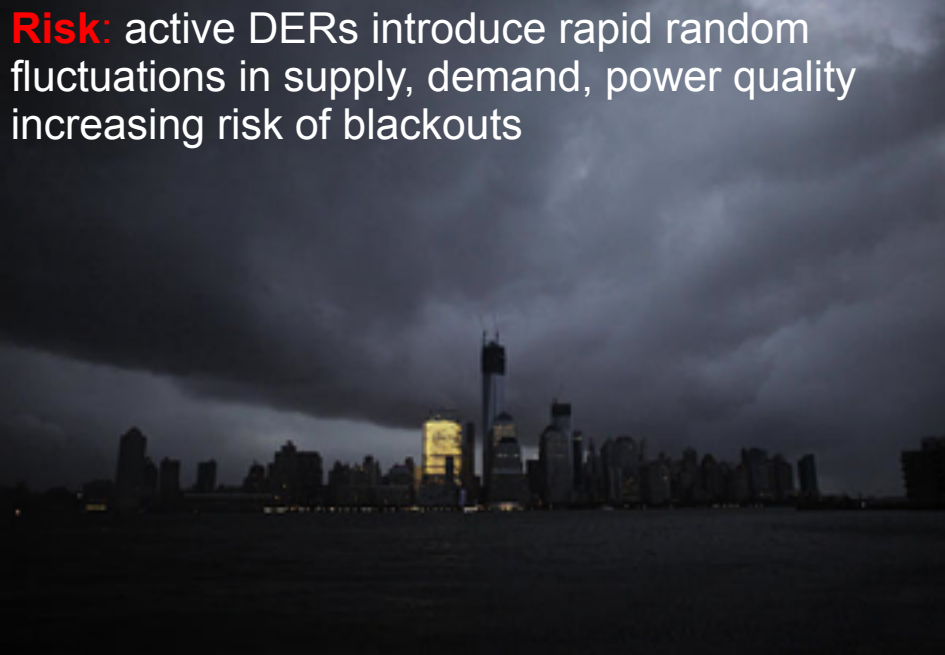
Sudden fluctuations in Germany's power grid are causing major damage to companies. While many of them have responded by getting their own help to minimize the risks, they warn that companies might be forced to deal with the issues fast.



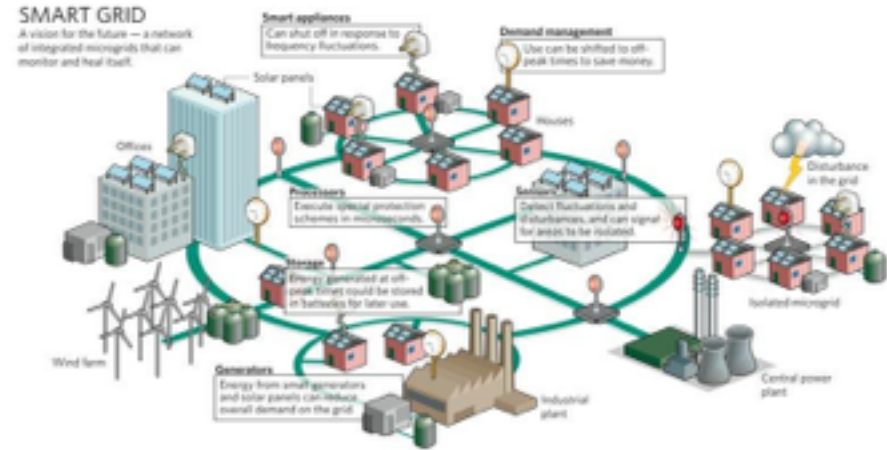
Power customers opt to go off grid

When Hawaii's Electric Co. began slowing rooftop solar installations last year, it pushed energy companies, legislators and residents to seek out other options, including a growing interest in going off the grid. There are 4,300 people on Oahu waiting for approval for rooftop solar systems as a result of a September 2012 rule change where HECO required customers and contractors to be OK'd by the utility before installing photovoltaic panels. Some customers have waited as much as nine months for approval and are afraid they may miss out on lucrative tax credits if they don't act fast. "We hear from a growing number of customers looking for off-grid solutions," said Chris DeBono, managing partner at Kewaiki and Hawaii Energy Connection.

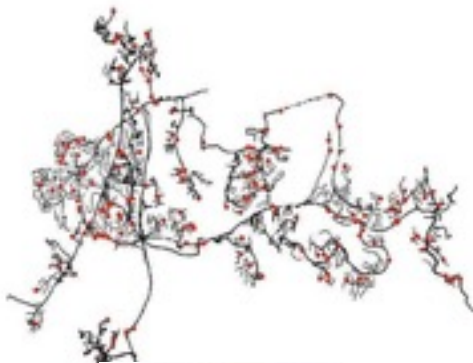
WAIL



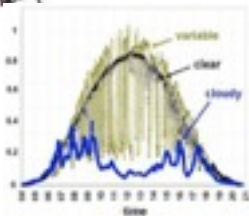
Opportunity: active DERs enables realtime dynamic network-wide feedback control, improving robustness, security, efficiency



Caltech research: distributed control of networked DERs



- Foundational theory, practical algorithms, concrete applications
- Integrate engineering and economics
- Active collaboration with industry





Active DERs: implications

Current control paradigm works well today

- Centralized, open-loop, human-in-loop, worst-case preventive
- Low uncertainty, few active assets to control
- Schedule supplies to match loads

Future needs

- **Closing the loop**, e.g. real-time DR, volt/var
- **Fast computation** to cope with rapid, random, large fluctuations in supply, demand, voltage, freq
- **Simple algorithms** to scale to large networks of active DER
- **Market mechanisms** to incentivize



Key challenges

Nonconvexity

- Convex relaxations

Large scale

- Distributed algorithms

Uncertainty

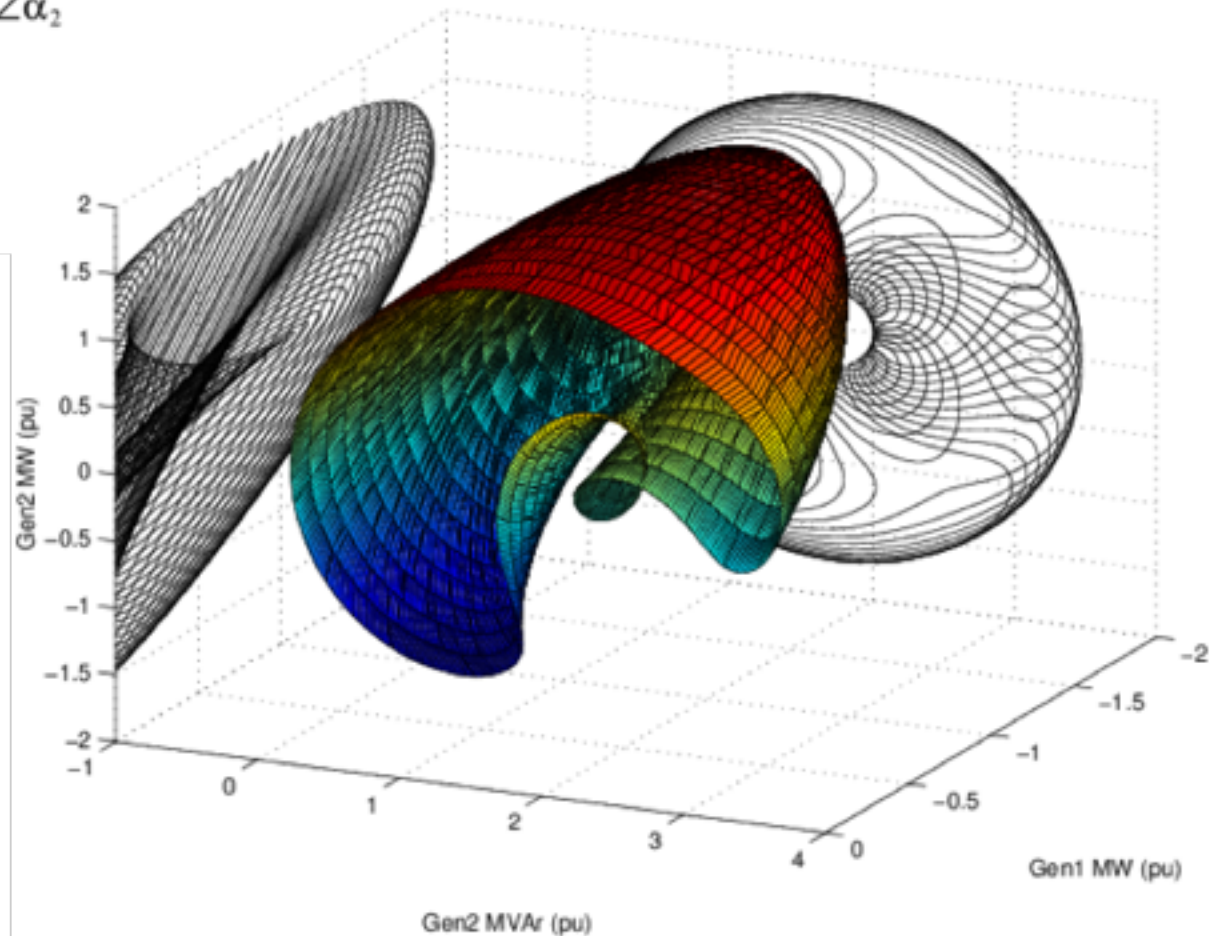
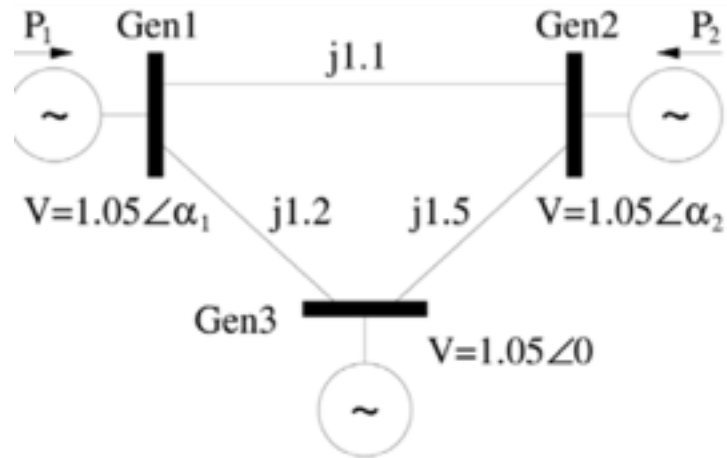
- Risk-limiting approach

Multiple timescales

- Decomposition



Nonconvexity





Optimal power flow (OPF)

OPF is solved routinely for

- network control & optimization decisions
- market operations & pricing
- at timescales of mins, hours, days, ...

Non-convex and hard to solve

- Huge literature since 1962
- Common practice: DC power flow (LP)
- Also: Newton-Ralphson, interior point, ...



Optimal power flow (OPF)

OPF underlies many applications

- Unit commitment, economic dispatch
- State estimation
- Contingency analysis
- Feeder reconfiguration, topology control
- Placement and sizing of capacitors, storage
- Volt/var control in distribution systems
- Demand response, load control
- Electric vehicle charging
- Market power analysis
- ...



Nonconvexity of OPF

Semidefinite relaxations of power flows

- Physical systems are nonconvex ...
- ... but have hidden convexity that should be exploited

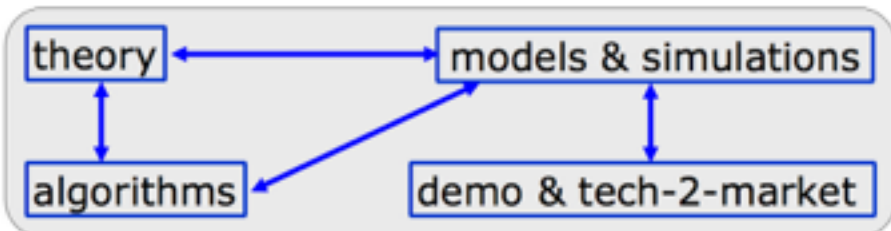
Convexity is important for OPF

- **Foundation** of LMP, critical for efficient market theory
- Required to **guarantee** global optimality
- Required for **real-time** computation at scale



Distributed Control of Networked DER

an **arpa-e** GENI project



Caltech: Profs Chandy, Doyle, **Low (PI)**; Drs. Bunn, Mallada; Students: Agarwal, Cai, Chen, Farivar, Gan, Guo, Matni, Peng, Ren, Tang, You, Zhao
SCE: Auld, Castaneda, Clarke, Gooding, Montoya, Shah, **Sherick (PI)**
Newport/Caltech: DeMartini (advisor)
Alumni: Bose (Cornell), Chen (Colorado), Collins (USC), Gayme (JHU), Lavaei (Columbia), Li (Harvard), Topcu (UPenn), Xu (SUTD)

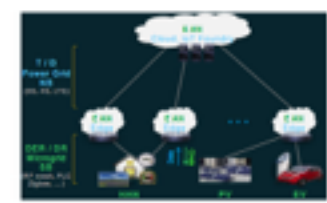


EAN

- Increase (asset utilization and efficiency)
- Improve (power quality and stability)
- Move (data in motion) to edge

Contact: Michael Enescu, co-founder CEO, enescu@alumni.caltech.edu

- EAN analytics and optimization
DER placement, asset opt, analytics
- EAN enabled control
DER co-optimization, frequency reg



applications and T2M

theory

Convex relaxation of OPF:
Theoretical foundation for semi-definite relaxations of power flow

OPF: $\min_W \text{tr}(CW)$
 s.t. $\beta_i \leq \text{tr}(Y_i^* W) \leq \bar{\beta}_i, \forall_i, |V_i| \leq \bar{V}_i$

SDP relaxation
 $\min_W \text{tr}(CW)$
 s.t. $\beta_i \leq \text{tr}(Y_i^* W) \leq \bar{\beta}_i, \forall_i, W \succeq 0, \text{rank } W = 1$

Exact relaxations: Sufficient conditions for recovering global optimum of OPF from relaxations

algorithms

Relaxation algorithms:

- single-phase balanced, multiphase unbalanced
- centralized, distributed

feasible sets: SOCP, SDP, SOCP

SDP relaxation: lightest superset, max # variables, slowest

Chordal relaxation: equivalent superset, much faster for sparse networks

SOCP relaxation: coarsest superset, min # variables, fastest

models

DER adoption model & software

- Sophisticated feedback model
- Cloud service for PV-uptake: <http://etechuptake.appspot.com/>

volt/var control with renewables

- SCE circuits, DER forecasts
- advanced OPF solver

simulations

Realistic simulations

- SCE feeder model, 2,000 buses
- DER: inverters, HVAC, pool pumps, EV
- Multiphase unbalanced radial

SMART GRID VIZ
 ABOUT
 PROCESS
 PEOPLE

Lead: Prof Mushkin
 Undergrads: Chang, Li, Yap, Zhou



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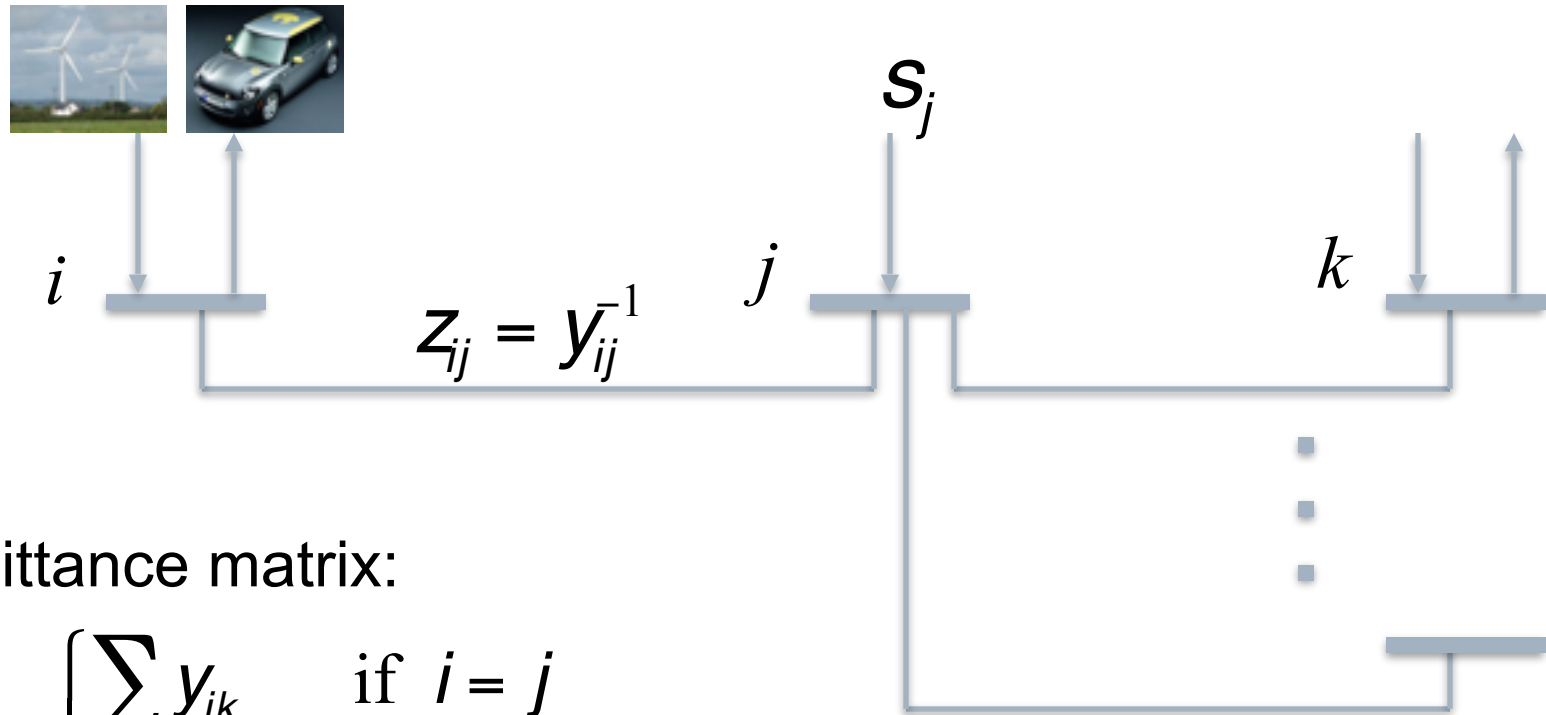
Optimal power flow (OPF)

- problem formulation
- semidefinite relaxations
- exact relaxation





Bus injection model



admittance matrix:

$$Y_{ij} := \begin{cases} \sum_{k \sim i} y_{ik} & \text{if } i = j \\ -y_{ij} & \text{if } i \sim j \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

graph G : undirected

Y specifies topology of G and impedances z on lines



Bus injection model

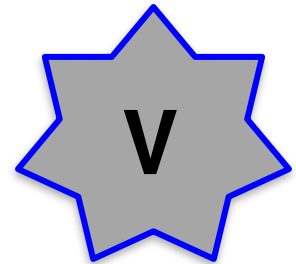
In terms of V :

$$s_j = \text{tr} \left(Y_j^H V V^H \right) \quad \text{for all } j$$

$$Y_j = Y^H e_j e_j^T$$

Power flow problem:

Given (Y, s) find V



isolated solutions



OPF: bus injection model

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \text{tr} (CWV^H) \\ \text{over} & (V, s) \\ \text{subject to} & \underline{s}_j \leq s_j \leq \bar{s}_j \qquad \underline{V}_j \leq |V_j| \leq \bar{V}_j \end{array}$$

gen cost,
power loss



OPF: bus injection model

min $\text{tr} (CW^H)$

gen cost,
power loss

over (V, s)

subject to $\underline{s}_j \leq s_j \leq \bar{s}_j$

$$\underline{V}_j \leq |V_j| \leq \bar{V}_j$$

$$s_j = \text{tr} (Y_j^H V W^H)$$

power flow equation



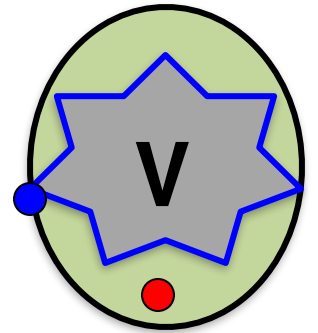
OPF: bus injection model

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } CW^H \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr} \left(Y_j V V^H \right) \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq |V_j|^2 \leq \bar{v}_j \end{aligned}$$

nonconvex QCQP
(quad constrained quad program)



Basic idea



$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } CV^H \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr}(Y_j V V^H) \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq |V_j|^2 \leq \bar{v}_j \end{aligned}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\mathbf{V}}$

Approach

1. Three equivalent characterizations of \mathbf{V}
2. Each suggests a lift and relaxation

- What is the relation among different relaxations ?
- When will a relaxation be exact ?



Feasible set & SDP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } CW^H \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr}(Y_j W^H) \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq |V_j|^2 \leq \bar{v}_j \end{aligned}$$

quadratic in V
linear in W

Equivalent problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } CW \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr}(Y_j W) \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq W_{ii} \leq \bar{v}_i \end{aligned}$$

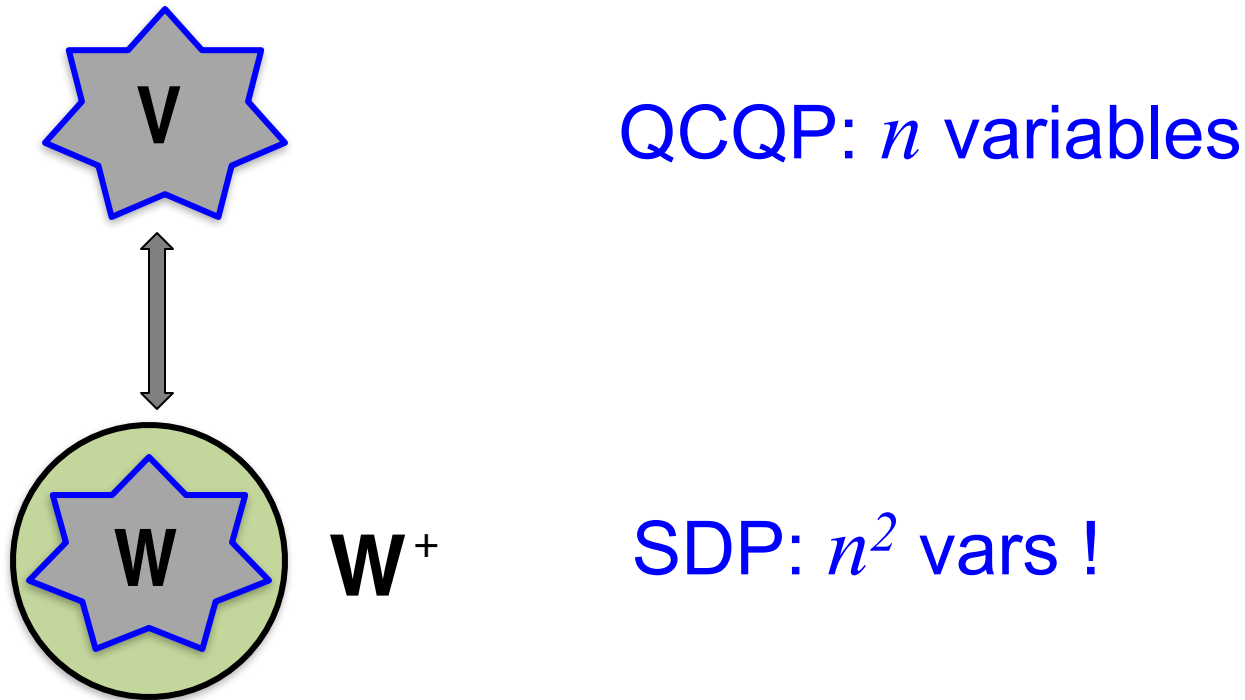
$$W \geq 0, \text{ rank } W = 1$$

convex in W
except this constraint



Equivalent feasible sets

$$\mathbf{V} := \{V: \underline{\text{quadratic}} \text{ constraints} \}$$



$$\mathbf{W} := \{W: \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \} \cap \{W \succeq 0 \text{ ~~rank-1~~}\}$$

idea: $W = VV^H$



Feasible set

only $n+2m$ vars !

linear in (W_{jj}, W_{jk}) ← W_{jj} W_{jk}

$$\sum_{k:k \sim j} y_{jk}^H (|v_j|^2 - v_j v_k^H): \text{ only } |v_j|^2 \text{ and } v_j v_k^H$$

corresponding to edges (j, k) in $G!$

min $\text{tr } CW^H$

subject to $\underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr}(Y_j W^H) \leq \bar{s}_j \quad \underline{v}_j \leq |v_j|^2 \leq \bar{v}_j$

\mathbf{v}



Feasible set

only $n+2m$ vars !

linear in (W_{jj}, W_{jk}) \longleftarrow W_{jj} W_{jk}

$$\sum_{k:k\sim j} y_{jk}^H \left(|v_j|^2 - v_j v_k^H \right): \text{ only } |v_j|^2 \text{ and } v_j v_k^H$$

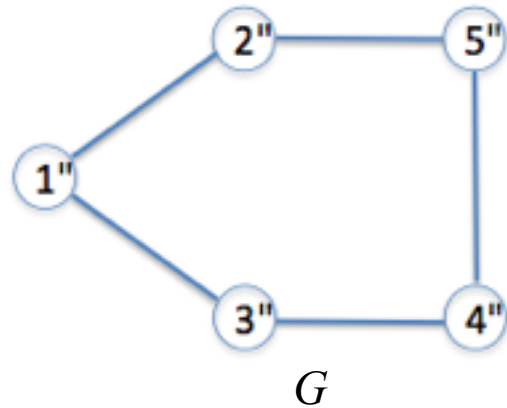
partial matrix W_G defined on G

$$W_G := \{ [W_G]_{jj}, [W_G]_{jk} \mid j, jk \in G \}$$

Kirchoff's laws depend directly only on W_G



Example



$$W_G = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} & W_{13} & & \\ W_{21} & W_{22} & & & W_{25} \\ W_{31} & & W_{33} & W_{34} & \\ & & W_{43} & W_{44} & W_{45} \\ & W_{52} & & W_{54} & W_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$

Want to solve for W_G
 $n+2m$ variables

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} & W_{13} & W_{14} & W_{15} \\ W_{21} & W_{22} & W_{23} & W_{24} & W_{25} \\ W_{31} & W_{32} & W_{33} & W_{34} & W_{35} \\ W_{41} & W_{42} & W_{43} & W_{44} & W_{45} \\ W_{51} & W_{52} & W_{53} & W_{54} & W_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$

SDP solves for $W \in \mathbf{C}^{n^2}$
 n^2 variables



Feasible sets

$$\text{OPF} \quad \mathbf{V} := \left\{ V \mid \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr} (Y_j V V^H) \leq \bar{s}_j, \quad \underline{v}_j \leq |V_j|^2 \leq \bar{v}_j \right\}$$

SDP

$$\mathbf{W} := \left\{ W \mid \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr} (Y_j W) \leq \bar{s}_j, \quad \underline{v}_j \leq W_{jj} \leq \bar{v}_j \right\} \cap \{W \geq 0, \text{rank-1}\}$$

first idea:

$$\mathbf{W}_G := \left\{ W_G \mid \underline{s}_j \leq \text{tr} (Y_j W_G) \leq \bar{s}_j, \quad \underline{v}_j \leq [W_G]_{jj} \leq \bar{v}_j \right\} \cap \{W_G \geq 0, \text{rank-1}\}$$

W_G is equivalent to V when G is **chordal**

Not equivalent otherwise ...



Equivalent feasible sets

$$\mathbf{W}_{c(G)} := \{W_{c(G)} : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \} \cap \{W_{c(G)} \succeq 0 \text{ rank-1}\}$$

$$\text{idea: } W_{c(G)} = (VV^H \text{ on } \mathcal{C}(G))$$

$$\mathbf{W} := \{W : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \} \cap \{W \succeq 0 \text{ rank-1}\}$$

$$\text{idea: } W = VV^H$$



Equivalent feasible sets

$$\mathbf{W}_G := \{W_G : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \}$$

$$\text{idea: } W_G = (VV^H \text{ only on } G)$$

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$$\text{idea: } W_{c(G)} = (VV^H \text{ on } \alpha(G))$$

$$\mathbf{W} := \{W : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \} \cap \{W \succeq 0 \text{ rank-1}\}$$

$$\text{idea: } W = VV^H$$



Equivalent feasible sets

$$\mathbf{W}_G := \left\{ W_G : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \right\} \cap \left\{ \begin{array}{l} W(j,k) \geq 0 \text{ rank-1,} \\ \text{cycle cond on } \angle W_{jk} \end{array} \right\}$$

idea: $W_G = (VV^H \text{ only on } G)$

$$\mathbf{W}_{c(G)} := \left\{ W_{c(G)} : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \right\} \cap \left\{ W_{c(G)} \geq 0 \text{ rank-1} \right\}$$

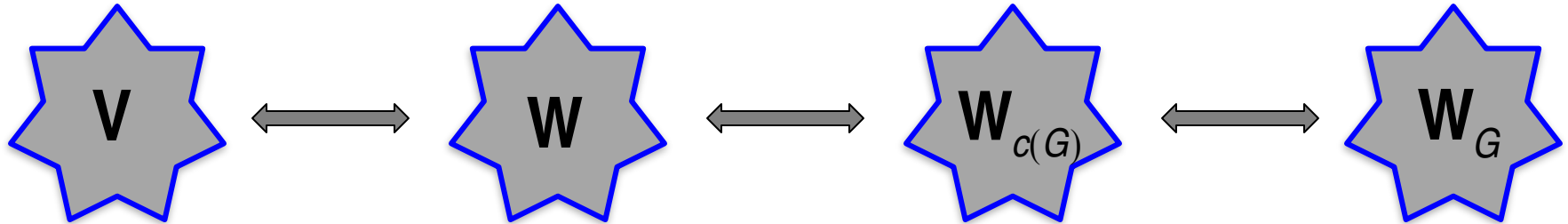
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$$\mathbf{W} := \left\{ W : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \right\} \cap \left\{ W \geq 0 \text{ rank-1} \right\}$$

idea: $W = VV^H$



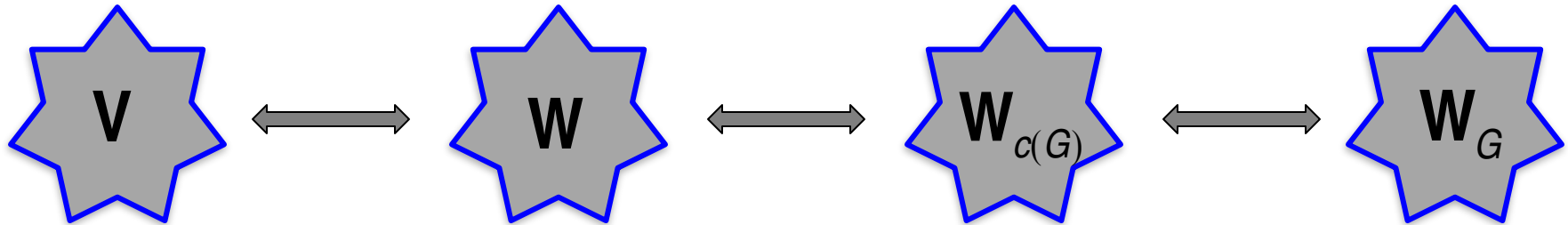
Equivalent feasible sets



Theorem: $V \equiv W \equiv W_{c(G)} \equiv W_G$



Equivalent feasible sets



Theorem: $V \equiv W \equiv W_{c(G)} \equiv W_G$

Given $W_G \in \mathbf{W}_G$ or $W_{c(G)} \in \mathbf{W}_{c(G)}$ there is **unique** completion $W \in \mathbf{W}$ and unique $V \in \mathbf{V}$

Can minimize cost over **any** of these sets, but ...



Equivalent feasible sets

$$\mathbf{W}_G := \left\{ W_G : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \right\} \cap \left\{ \begin{array}{l} W(j,k) \geq 0 \text{ ~~rank-1~~,} \\ \text{~~cycle cond on } \angle W_{jk} \end{array} \right\}~~$$

idea: $W_G = (VV^H \text{ only on } G)$

$$\mathbf{W}_{c(G)} := \left\{ W_{c(G)} : \underline{\text{linear}} \text{ constraints} \right\} \cap \left\{ W_{c(G)} \geq 0 \text{ ~~rank-1~~} \right\}$$

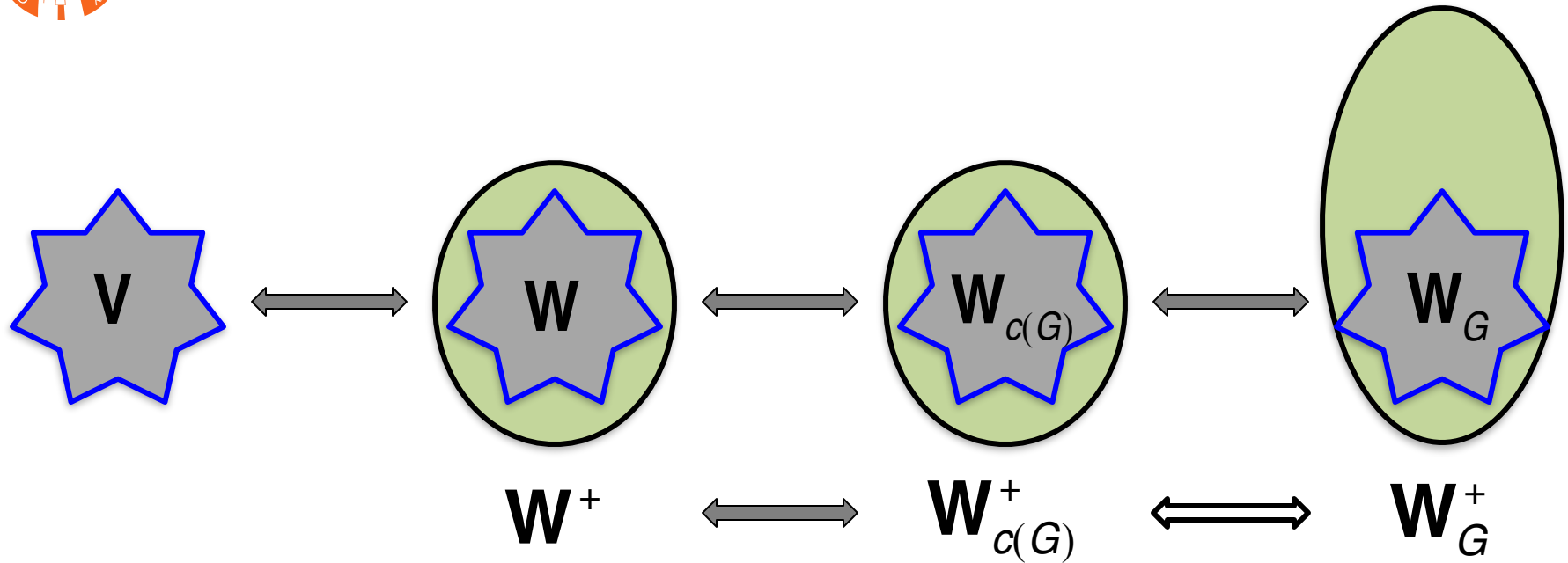
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idea: $W = VV^H$



Relaxations

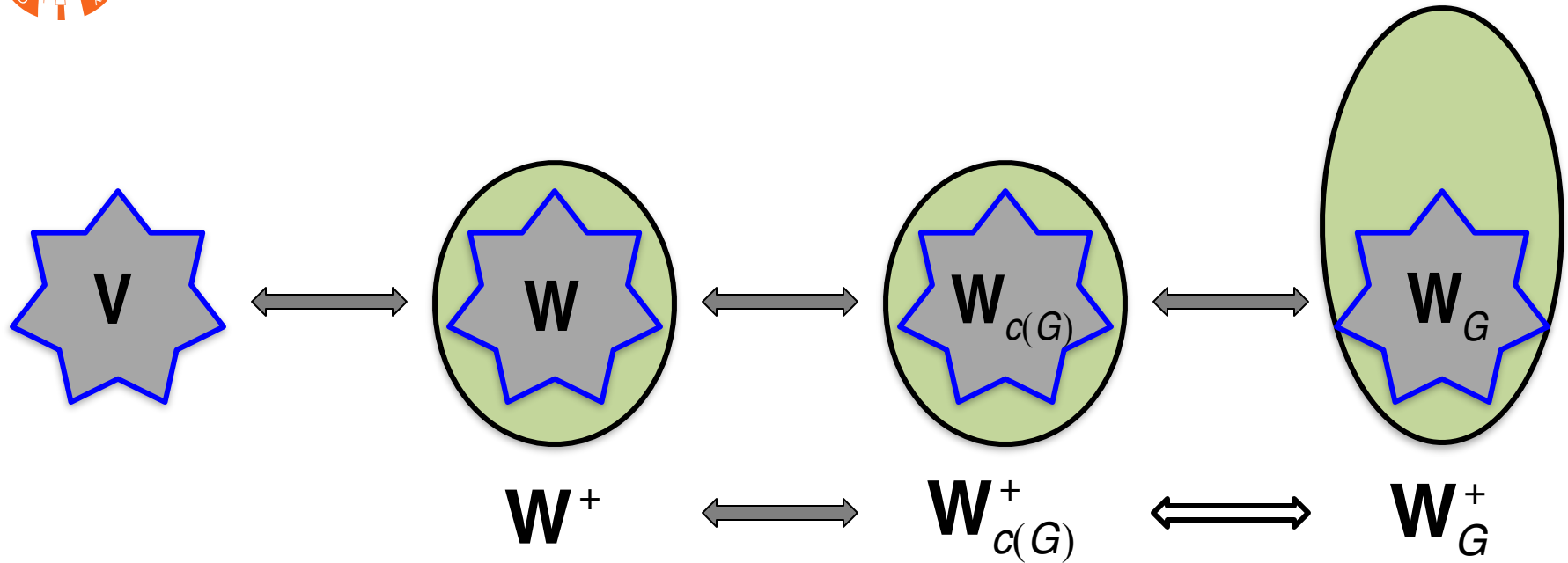


Theorem

- Radial G : $V \subseteq W^+ \cong W_{c(G)}^+ \cong W_G^+$
- Mesh G : $V \subseteq W^+ \cong W_{c(G)}^+ \subseteq W_G^+$



Relaxations



Theorem

- Radial G : $V \subseteq W^+ \cong W_{c(G)}^+ \cong W_G^+$
- Mesh G : $V \subseteq W^+ \cong W_{c(G)}^+ \subseteq W_G^+$

For radial networks: always solve SOCP !



Recap: semidef relaxations

OPF

$$\min_V C(V) \quad \text{subject to } V \in \mathbf{V}$$

OPF-sdp:

$$\min_W C(W_G) \quad \text{subject to } W \in \mathbb{W}^+$$

OPF-ch:

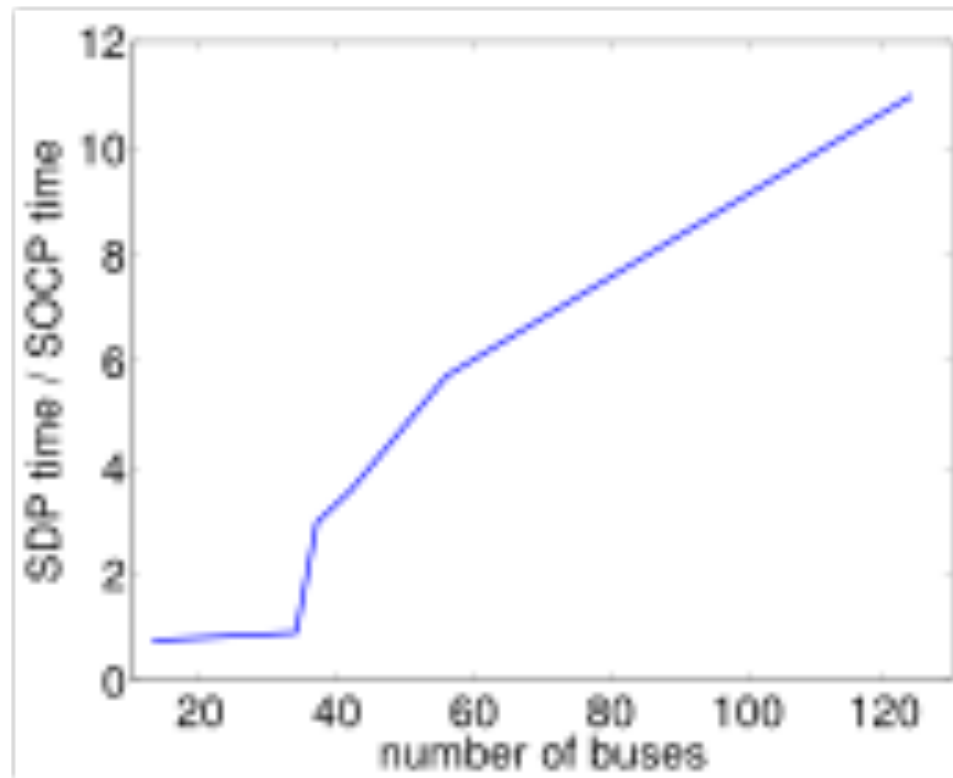
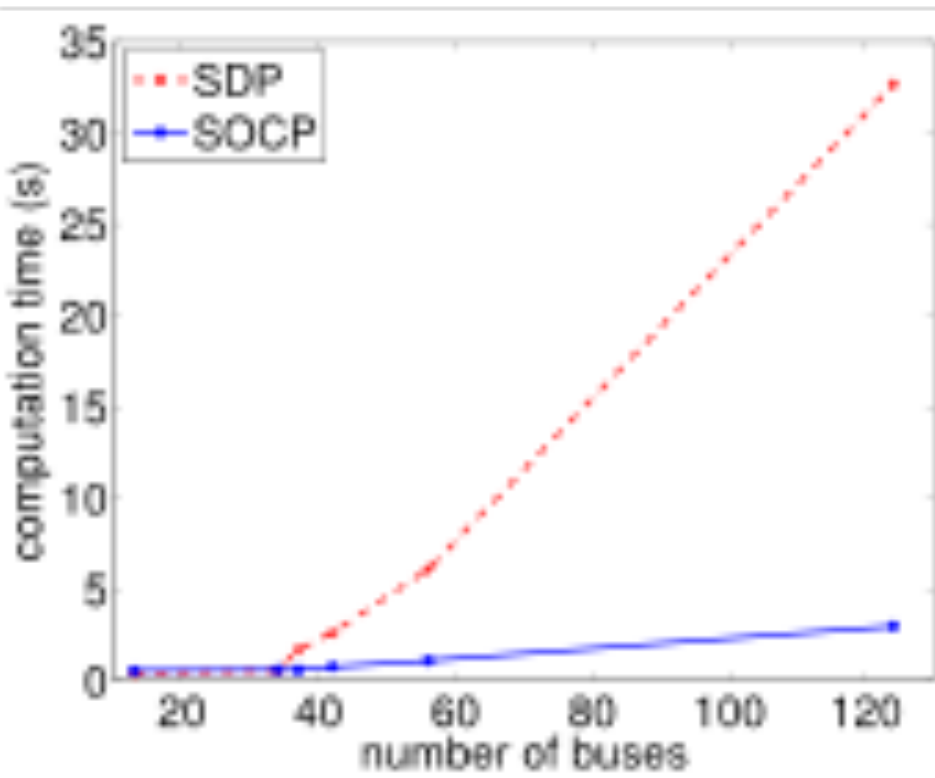
$$\min_{W_{c(G)}} C(W_G) \quad \text{subject to } W_{c(G)} \in \mathbb{W}_{c(G)}^+$$

OPF-socp:

$$\min_{W_G} C(W_G) \quad \text{subject to } W_G \in \mathbb{W}_G^+$$



SOCP more efficient than SDP



Relaxations are exact in all cases

- IEEE networks: IEEE 13, 34, 37, 123 buses (0% DG)
- SCE networks 47 buses (57% PV), 56 buses (130% PV)
- Single phase; SOCP using BFM
- Matlab 7.9.0.529 (64-bit) with CVX 1.21 on Mac OS X 10.7.5 with 2.66GHz Intel Core 2
Due CPU and 4GB 1067MHz DDR3 memory



OPF: extensions

