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# Distributed Data-Driven Coordination of IBRs for Grid-Level Optimal Voltage Control

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1. Large-Scale Power Systems Optimization Under Uncertainty 2. Autonomous Coordination of Massive Flexible DERs 3. Data-Driven Physics-Informed Modeling and Control of IBRs







Scalable Learning-Based Control and Optimization Theories, Algorithms, and Tools

## **Transformation of Power Systems**

Fast proliferation of power converter-based resources (wind, solar, battery, EV, . . .)



### How to coordinate large-scale inverter-based resources (IBRs) in the grid?



## **Our Solutions**

#### **Scalability**

- Millions of heterogenous IBRs
- Large-scale power networks
- Limited communication & computation

### **Unknown Model**

- Complex physical grid dynamics
- Uncertain renewables and loads
- Unknown IBR dynamics models . . .





RTU: remote terminal unit, POW: point-on-wave, PMU: phasor measurement unit, SCADA: supervisory control and data acquisition <sup>4</sup>

## Ý Key Idea: Feedback Optimization



## Ý Key Idea: Feedback Optimization



[Chen, Li, ACC 2020] [Chen, Zhao, Li, TCNS 2021] [Chen, Poveda, Li, CDC 2021] [Chen, Poveda, Li, arXiv, 2023]

### **Real-Time Optimal Voltage Control (OVC)**



## **Real-Time Optimal Voltage Control (OVC)**











$$\begin{aligned} & \textbf{Projected Primal-Dual Gradient Dynamics} \\ & \dot{x}_i = k_x \Big[ \text{Proj}_{\mathcal{X}_i} \big( x_i - \alpha_x (\nabla c_i(x_i) + \ell_i) \big) - x_i \Big] \\ & \dot{\lambda}_i^+ = k_\lambda \Big[ \text{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_+} \big( \lambda_i^+ + \alpha_\lambda (\mathbf{v}_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) - \bar{v}_i) \big) - \lambda_i^+ \Big] \\ & \dot{\lambda}_i^- = k_\lambda \Big[ \text{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_+} \big( \lambda_i^- + \alpha_\lambda (\underline{v}_i - \mathbf{v}_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) \big) \big) - \lambda_i^- \Big] \\ & \ell_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} (\lambda_j^+ - \lambda_j^-) \frac{\partial v_j(x, d)}{\partial x_i} \qquad \bigcirc i \in \mathcal{N} \end{aligned}$$

not implementable due to **unknown system model** 



- Replace  $v_i(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{d})$  by real-time measurement  $v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t)$
- **Zeroth-order method** to estimate gradient  $\frac{\partial v_j(x,d)}{\partial x_i}$

### **Projected Primal-Dual Zeroth-Order Dynamics (P-PDZD)**

$$\dot{x}_{i} = k_{x} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\hat{X}_{i}} \left( x_{i} - \alpha_{x} (\nabla c_{i}(x_{i}) + \ell_{i}) - x_{i} \right] \right]$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_{i}^{+} = k_{\lambda} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_{+}} \left( \lambda_{i}^{+} + \alpha_{\lambda} (\mu_{i} - \bar{v}_{i}) \right) - \lambda_{i}^{+} \right]$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_{i}^{-} = k_{\lambda} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_{+}} \left( \lambda_{i}^{-} + \alpha_{\lambda} (\underline{v}_{i} - \mu_{i}) \right) - \lambda_{i}^{-} \right]$$

$$\dot{\ell}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\ell_{i} + \frac{2}{a} \cdot N \cdot y_{i}(t) \sin(\kappa_{i}t) \right]$$

$$\dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right]$$

$$\dot{p}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{p}} \cdot \sum_{ij \in \mathcal{E}} a_{ij}(y_{i}(t) - y_{j}(t))$$

$$y_{i} = (\lambda_{i}^{+} - \lambda_{i}^{-}) v_{i}^{m}(t) - p_{i}$$
Dynamic Average Consensus

ullet Each IBR unit  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ 

### **Projected Primal-Dual Zeroth-Order Dynamics (P-PDZD)**

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{local voltage} \\ \text{measurement} \\ v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) \\ \text{i}_i = k_\lambda \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Proj}_{\hat{\chi}_i} (x_i - \alpha_x (\nabla c_i(x_i) + \ell_i) - x_i] \\ \hat{\lambda}_i^+ = k_\lambda \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_+} (\lambda_i^+ + \alpha_\lambda (\mu_i - \bar{v}_i)) - \lambda_i^+ \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{\lambda}_i^- = k_\lambda \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_+} (\lambda_i^- + \alpha_\lambda (\underline{v}_i - \mu_i)) - \lambda_i^- \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{\lambda}_i^- = k_\lambda \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_+} (\lambda_i^- + \alpha_\lambda (\underline{v}_i - \mu_i)) - \lambda_i^- \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{\ell}_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \begin{bmatrix} -\ell_i + \frac{2}{a} \cdot N \cdot y_i(t) \sin(\kappa_i t) \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{\mu}_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \begin{bmatrix} -\mu_i + v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{\mu}_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \begin{bmatrix} -\mu_i + v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{\mu}_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \begin{bmatrix} -\mu_i + v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ y_i = (\lambda_i^+ - \lambda_i^-) v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) - p_i \\ y_i = (\lambda_i^+ - \lambda_i^-) v_i^{\mathrm{m}}(t) - p_i \\ \end{array}$$

### **Projected Primal-Dual Zeroth-Order Dynamics (P-PDZD)**

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{array}{l} & \begin{array}{l} \dot{x}_{i} = k_{x} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\hat{\mathcal{K}}_{i}} \left( x_{i} - \alpha_{x} (\nabla c_{i}(x_{i}) + \ell_{i}) - x_{i} \right] \\ \dot{\lambda}_{i}^{+} = k_{\lambda} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_{+}} (\lambda_{i}^{+} + \alpha_{\lambda}(\mu_{i} - \bar{v}_{i})) - \lambda_{i}^{+} \right] \\ \dot{\lambda}_{i}^{-} = k_{\lambda} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_{+}} (\lambda_{i}^{-} + \alpha_{\lambda}(\underline{v}_{i} - \mu_{i})) - \lambda_{i}^{-} \right] \\ \dot{\lambda}_{i}^{-} = k_{\lambda} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_{+}} (\lambda_{i}^{-} + \alpha_{\lambda}(\underline{v}_{i} - \mu_{i})) - \lambda_{i}^{-} \right] \\ \dot{\lambda}_{i}^{-} = k_{\lambda} \left[ \operatorname{Proj}_{\mathbb{R}_{+}} (\lambda_{i}^{-} + \alpha_{\lambda}(\underline{v}_{i} - \mu_{i})) - \lambda_{i}^{-} \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\ell_{i} + \frac{2}{a} \cdot N \cdot y_{i}(t) \sin(\kappa_{i}t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\ \dot{\mu}_{i} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ -\mu_{i} + v_{i}^{m}(t) \right] \\$$

## **Control Process Illustration**



Real-time physical system feedback + Zeroth-order gradient learning

## **Theoretical Guarantees**

#### > (Semi-Global Practical Asymptotical Stability)

<u>**Theorem 1**</u>. (informal) Under assumptions of convexity, with feasible initial condition in a compact set, there exists a class-*KL* function  $\beta$  such that for any precision  $\nu > 0$ , with sufficiently small  $(\epsilon, a, \varepsilon_{\omega}, \epsilon_{p})$ , the trajectory z(t) of the **P-PDZD** satisfies

 $||\boldsymbol{z}(t)||_{\hat{\mathcal{A}}} \leq \beta(||\boldsymbol{z}(0)||_{\hat{\mathcal{A}}}, t) + \nu, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$ 

#### (Structural Robustness to Small Measurement Noise)

<u>Theorem 2</u>. (informal) Under the same conditions in Theorem 1, there exists  $\rho^* > 0$  such that for any measurement noise d with  $\sup_{t\geq 0} ||d(t)|| \leq \rho^*$ , the trajectory z(t) of the P-PDZD with additive measurement noise satisfies

 $||\boldsymbol{z}(t)||_{\hat{\mathcal{A}}} \leq \beta(||\boldsymbol{z}(0)||_{\hat{\mathcal{A}}}, t) + 2\nu, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$ 





#### **PV Inverter Inner Control Loops** (Grid-Following)



#### **Projected Primal-Dual Zeroth-Order** Control Algorithm Implementation

#### **Case 1. Step Power Disturbance**



Bus Voltage Magnitude (p.u.)



### **Case 3. Continuous Power Disturbance**





### **Projected Primal-Dual Zeroth-Order Method**



(Physical System Dynamics + Control Law = Optimization Algorithm)

- Real-time model-free optimal control of complex (multi-agent) physical systems
  - ✓ Unknown system model
  - ✓ Scalability✓ Safety
  - ✓ Performance guarantees

**Building Energy Control** 





Wind Farm Control



**Resource Allocation** 



[1] **X. Chen**, J. I. Poveda, N. Li, "Continuous-Time Zeroth-Order Dynamics with Projection Maps: Model-Free Feedback Optimization with Safety Guarantees", 2024. (accepted by IEEE Trans. Automatic Control)

## Looking Forward . . .

- Incorporate available system model info (model-based + data-driven)
- Dynamics modeling and identification of IBR-dominant systems
- (Large-signal) stability for nonlinear power system dynamics
- Field testing
- Redesign the grid-level coordination structure?

## **Grid-Level IBR Coordination Structure**



## **Grid-Level IBR Coordination Structure**



## **This Talk** Coordinate large-scale IBRs for grid-level optimal control

## Part I. Optimal Voltage Control

[Chen, Li, CDC, 2021] [Chen, Li, IEEE TAC, 2024]

## Part II. Optimal Frequency Control

[Chen, Li, CCTA, 2018] [Chen, Li, IEEE TCNS, 2021]



Data-Driven + Distributed  $\longrightarrow$  Unknown Model + Scalability



Leverage specific problem structures & Feedback Optimization



#### **Future Power Converter-Dominant Grid**

- Lower inertia, faster dynamics
- + More controllable IBRs with fast response
- Scalability for controlling massive IBRs
- Unknown system dynamics models



### Coordinate IBRs by controlling their **power setpoints** for **optimal frequency control**

- Primary + Secondary + Tertiary freq. control
   (stabilize freq. + restore nominal freq. + economic dispatch)
- ✓ Satisfy **IBR power limits** and **network constraints**
- ✓ Distributed control to enable scalability
- ✓ Model-free control

(no need grid dynamics model and disturbance info.)

## **Physical System Frequency Dynamics**





for frequency regulation

• Device-level frequency response dynamics  $\bigcirc \equiv \bigcirc$  synchronous generator bus  $i \in \mathcal{N}_G$  $M_i \dot{\omega}_i + D_i \omega_i = P_i^G - P_i$ generator damping frequency mechanical output coefficient deviation power power  $\boxtimes \equiv \square$  grid-forming inverter bus  $i \in \mathcal{N}_M$  $k_i^M \omega_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_i + s} (P_i^M - P_i)$ droop gain low-pass filter setpoint output power  $\iff \frac{1}{\alpha_i}\dot{\omega}_i + k_i^M\omega_i = P_i^M - P_i$  $\equiv \square$  grid-following inverter bus  $i \in \mathcal{N}_L$  $P_i = P_i^L - k_i^L \omega_i$  output power power setpoint droop gain



#### **Projected Primal-Dual Gradient Algorithm**

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{\alpha_i} \dot{\omega}_i &= P_i^M - k_i^M \omega_i - d_i - \sum_{j:i \to j} P_{ij} + \sum_{k:k \to i} P_{ki} \quad i \in \mathcal{N}_M \\ 0 &= P_i^L - k_i^L \omega_i - d_i - \sum_{j:i \to j} P_{ij} + \sum_{k:k \to i} P_{ki} \quad i \in \mathcal{N}_L \\ \dot{P}_{ij} &= B_{ij} \left( \omega_i - \omega_j \right) \qquad ij \in \mathcal{E} \\ \dot{P}_i^M &= f_i^M \left( P_i^M, \omega_i, (P_{ij})_{i \leftrightarrow j}, (\lambda_j)_{i \leftrightarrow j} \right) \quad i \in \mathcal{N}_M \\ \dot{P}_i^L &= f_i^L \left( P_i^L, \omega_i, (P_{ij})_{i \leftrightarrow j}, (\lambda_j)_{i \leftrightarrow j} \right) \qquad i \in \mathcal{N}_L \end{split}$$

**Physical Power System Dynamics** 

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{\alpha_i} \dot{\omega}_i &= P_i^M - k_i^M \omega_i - d_i - \sum_{j:i \to j} P_{ij} + \sum_{k:k \to i} P_{ki} \quad i \in \mathcal{N}_M \\ 0 &= P_i^L - k_i^L \omega_i - d_i - \sum_{j:i \to j} P_{ij} + \sum_{k:k \to i} P_{ki} \quad i \in \mathcal{N}_L \\ \dot{P}_{ij} &= B_{ij} \left( \omega_i - \omega_j \right) \qquad \qquad ij \in \mathcal{E} \end{split}$$

$$\stackrel{\swarrow}{=} \dot{P}_i^M = f_i^M \left( P_i^M, \omega_i, (P_{ij})_{i \leftrightarrow j}, (\lambda_j)_{i \leftrightarrow j} \right) \quad i \in \mathcal{N}_M$$

$$\stackrel{\swarrow}{=} \dot{P}_i^L = f_i^L \left( P_i^L, \omega_i, (P_{ij})_{i \leftrightarrow j}, (\lambda_j)_{i \leftrightarrow j} \right) \qquad i \in \mathcal{N}_L$$

**GFM / GFL Controller** 



**GFM / GFL Controller** 



## **Control Process Illustration**

Closed-loop Feedback system





*Real-time system feedback + physical dynamics structure* 

## **Theoretical Guarantees**

### Asymptotical Convergence

**Theorem 1**. (informal) Suppose that the cost function is strictly convex and the OFC problem is feasible. Then the proposed control algorithm together with the power system dynamics asympotically converges to an optimal solution of OFC problem.

### Dynamic Tracking Performance

**Theorem 2**. (informal) Suppose that the cost function is strongly convex and the OFC problem is feasible. The tracking error of the actual system dynamics under continuous disturbance is bounded in the sense that  $||\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}^*(t)|| \le e^{-\rho t} ||\mathbf{x}(0) - \mathbf{x}^*(0)|| + (1 - e^{-\rho t}) \frac{b_x + b_g}{\rho}$ .

**Xin Chen**, Changhong Zhao, Na Li, "Distributed Automatic Load-frequency Control with Optimality in Power Systems," IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 307-318, March 2021.

## Simulations

- Simulations are run on **Power System Toolbox** [1]
  - ✓ AC power flow model.
  - ✓ Classic two-axis sub-transient generator model.
  - ✓ IEEE Type DC1 excitation system model.



The 39-bus New England Power Network.

### **Case 1: Step Power Change**



### **Case 2: Continuous Power Change**



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Leverage specific problem structures & Feedback Optimization