ETH zürich



Control of networked power systems: from energy to clusters

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Overview











Application to DC microgrids



SECONDARY



Multiagent



Cluster-based

























Passivity theory

Definition (I/O passivity)

A dynamical system is passive if

$$u^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{y} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} (f(x, u)) + \psi(x) \quad \forall (x, u)$$

for some V(x) > 0 and $\psi(x) \ge 0$.

$$\begin{array}{c} u \\ \hline \\ y \\ \end{array} \xrightarrow{ \begin{array}{c} \dot{x} \\ y \\ \end{array}} \begin{array}{c} f(x, u) \\ \hline \\ y \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} y \\ \end{array} \xrightarrow{ \begin{array}{c} y \\ \end{array}} \end{array}$$



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Definition (passivating regulator)

A map u = g(y) passivates the system if

$$\boldsymbol{\xi}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{y} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} (f(x, \boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{y}), \boldsymbol{\xi})) + \psi(x) \quad \forall (x, \boldsymbol{\xi})$$

for some V(x) > 0 and $\psi(x) \ge 0$.

$$\begin{array}{c} u \\ \hline x = f(x, u) \\ y = h(x, u) \end{array} \xrightarrow{Y}$$





Why passivity to control networked systems?

- Compositional framework to analyse global passivity
- Linked to Lyapunov stability
- Control actions have (sometimes) interpretation in terms of energy



¹Arcak (2007), *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control.*



Why passivity to control networked systems?

- Compositional framework to analyse global passivity
- Linked to Lyapunov stability
- Control actions have (sometimes) interpretation in terms of energy



Definition¹ (skew-symmetric coupling)

A set of subsystems is interconnected in a skew-symmetric fashion if local couplings $\xi_i = c_i(y_i, y_{j \in N_i})$ can be written globally as

$$\xi = Sy, \quad S^T = -S.$$

¹Arcak (2007), IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control.



Stability over skew-symmetric interconnections

Theorem² (stability of skew-symmetric passive systems)

A set of passive systems interconnected in a skew-symmetric fashion,

i.e.
$$\xi_i^T y_i = \dot{V}_i(x_i) + \psi_i(x_i)$$
 and $\xi = Sy$,

is stable, and the state *x* converges to the largest invariant set in $E = \{x : \psi_i(x_i) = 0 \forall i\}$.

²Nahata, Soloperto, Tucci, Martinelli, Ferrari-Trecate (2019), *Automatica*, to appear.



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Proof: Consider $V(x) = \sum_i V_i(x_i)$ as global Lyapunov function. Then

$$\dot{V}(\mathbf{x}) = -\sum_{i} \psi_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{i}) + \mathbf{y}^{T} \boldsymbol{\xi}$$

$$= -\sum_{i} \psi_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{i}) + \mathbf{y}^{T} \boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{y}^{T} \overset{\mathbf{0}}{=} 0.$$

²Nahata, Soloperto, Tucci, Martinelli, Ferrari-Trecate (2019), *Automatica*, to appear.





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Stability of DC microgrids (1/3)



$$\mathsf{DGU}_i: \begin{cases} \dot{x}_i = A_i x_i + B_i u_i + F_i \xi_i \\ y_i = V_i \end{cases}$$



Stability of DC microgrids (1/3)



$$\xi_{i} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} \xi_{ij}$$

= $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}^{+}} R_{ij}^{-1}(y_{j} - y_{i}) - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}^{-}} R_{ij}^{-1}(y_{j} - y_{i})$ DGU_i : $\begin{cases} \dot{x}_{i} = A_{i}x_{i} + B_{i}u_{i} + F_{i}\xi_{i} \\ y_{i} = V_{i} \end{cases}$



Stability of DC microgrids (1/3)



$$\begin{aligned} \xi_{i} &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} \xi_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}^{+}} R_{ij}^{-1}(y_{j} - y_{i}) - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}^{-}} R_{ij}^{-1}(y_{j} - y_{i}) \end{aligned} \qquad \qquad \mathsf{DGU}_{i} : \begin{cases} \dot{x}_{i} &= \mathcal{A}_{i}x_{i} + \mathcal{B}_{i}u_{i} + \mathcal{F}_{i}\xi_{i} \\ y_{i} &= \mathcal{V}_{i} \end{cases} \\ \mathbf{PI \text{ regulator}} : \ u_{i} &= \mathcal{K}_{i}\tilde{y}_{i} \end{aligned}$$



Theorem²

Any linear map $u_i = K_i \tilde{y}_i$ with

$$K_i \in \mathcal{Z}_i = \left\{ \left(\textbf{k}_{1i} < 1 \right) \land \left(\textbf{k}_{2i} < \textbf{R}_i \right) \land \left(0 < \textbf{k}_{3i} < L_i^{-1}(\textbf{k}_{1i} - 1)(\textbf{k}_{2i} - \textbf{R}_i) \right) \right\}$$

passivates subsystem *i* with respect to the couplings (ξ_i , y_i), and the global state *x* converges to the origin.

²Nahata, Soloperto, Tucci, Martinelli, Ferrari-Trecate (2019), *Automatica*, to appear.



Theorem²

Any linear map $u_i = K_i \tilde{y}_i$ with

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passivates subsystem *i* with respect to the couplings (ξ_i , y_i), and the global state *x* converges to the origin.

Proof. (i) $\xi = (\mathcal{A}_w - \mathcal{A}_w^T)y \rightarrow \text{couplings are skew-symmetric}$ (ii) Parametrized storage functions $V_i(x_i) = x_i^T \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \end{pmatrix} x_i \rightarrow \text{passive dynamics}$ (iii) LaSalle argumentations \rightarrow the origin is the largest invariant set in *E*

²Nahata, Soloperto, Tucci, Martinelli, Ferrari-Trecate (2019), *Automatica*, to appear.



Stability of DC microgrids (3/3): Extensions

Low-voltage microgrids with ZIP loads



- Nonlinear average model
- Passivating PI controllers
- ► Local passivity ⇒ reduced basin of attraction

Medium-voltage microgrids³



- Nonlinear average model
- Passivating dynamic laws

$$egin{aligned} & m{d}_i = ext{sat}(\overline{m{d}}_i + \phi_i) \ & \dot{\phi}_i = (m{V}_i^rm{l}_i - m{V}_im{l}_i) - \gamma_i(m{d}_i - \overline{m{d}}_i) \end{aligned}$$

³Martinelli, Nahata, Ferrari-Trecate (2018), *Conference on Decision and Control.*



Energetic interpretation of network stability

The passivity condition is expressed, for each node, by an equation of the form

$$\xi^T y = \dot{V}(x) + \psi(x), \qquad \psi(x) \ge 0,$$

that represents the power balance for a controlled DGU.



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 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{Accumulated energy} \\ \leq \\ \mbox{Injected energy} \end{array}$



Energetic interpretation of network stability

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$$\xi^T y = \dot{V}(x) + \psi(x), \qquad \psi(x) \ge 0,$$

that represents the power balance for a controlled DGU.



Warning: stability guaranteed as long as physical limits are satisfied





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Centralized approach⁴

Update V^r with a fixed time window. Assumption: time-scale separation.



⁴Martinelli, La Bella, Scattolini (2019), *European Control Conference*



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Centralized Program V, \mathcal{L}, ϵ V^r

$$\begin{split} \min_{V} & \alpha \mathcal{J}(V) + \beta \mathcal{N}(V) + \gamma \mathcal{D}(V) \\ \text{s. t.} & \underline{V} \leq V \leq \overline{V} \\ & \underline{I} \leq I(V) \leq \overline{I} \\ & 0 \leq d(V) \leq 1 \\ & \alpha, \beta, \gamma \geq 0, \end{split}$$

Quadratic in V and 3N linear constraints.

⁴Martinelli, La Bella, Scattolini (2019), *European Control Conference*



Multiagent constraint optimization

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{M}\mathsf{P}^3 = \ \langle X, D, F \rangle \quad \begin{cases} X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \ \text{ optimization variables} \\ D = \{D_1, \dots, D_N\} \ \text{ finite domains} \\ F = \{f_1, \dots, f_k\}, \ f_i \ : \ D_h \times \dots \times D_j \to \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{\bot\} \ \text{ local utility functions} \end{split}$$

³Fioretto, Pontelli, Yeoh (2018), *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*



Multiagent constraint optimization

 $\mathsf{MP}^{3} = \langle X, D, F \rangle \begin{cases} X = \{x_{1}, \dots, x_{N}\} \text{ optimization variables} \\ D = \{D_{1}, \dots, D_{N}\} \text{ finite domains} \\ F = \{f_{1}, \dots, f_{k}\}, f_{i} : D_{h} \times \dots \times D_{j} \to \mathbb{R}^{+} \cup \{\bot\} \text{ local utility functions} \end{cases}$

A complete assignment σ is a value assignment $\bar{X} \in D$ such that

 $f_i(\sigma) \neq \{\bot\} \quad \forall f_i \in F.$

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Multiagent constraint optimization

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{MP}^3 &= \langle X, D, F \rangle \quad \begin{cases} X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \text{ optimization variables} \\ D &= \{D_1, \dots, D_N\} \text{ finite domains} \\ F &= \{f_1, \dots, f_k\}, \ f_i : D_h \times \dots \times D_j \to \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{\bot\} \text{ local utility functions} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

A complete assignment σ is a value assignment $ar{X} \in \mathcal{D}$ such that

$$f_i(\sigma) \neq \{\bot\} \quad \forall f_i \in F.$$

The solution to MP is then

$$\sigma^* = rgmin_{\sigma} \sum_{f_i \in F} f_i(\sigma).$$

³Fioretto, Pontelli, Yeoh (2018), *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*



Idea: the CP can be equivalently formulated as an MP⁴

• define $X = \{V_1, \ldots, V_N\}$

Decompose global functions of CP into a set of local functions f_i

 $\Rightarrow \quad \lim_{|D|\to\infty} \sigma^* = V^r.$

In general, MP is equivalent to a discretized version of the CP \rightarrow solution quality depends on the density of *D*.

⁴Martinelli, La Bella, Scattolini (2019), *European Control Conference*





⁴Petcu & Faltings (2005), International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence





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- Fully distributed algorithm
- Trade-off between solution quality and computation time $\mathcal{O}(d^w)$

⁴Petcu & Faltings (2005), International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence





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Goal: identify a cluster of nodes that can adsorb a local disturbance without affecting external nodes \rightarrow disturbance containment



Traditional clustering methods: modularity, persistence probability, spectral analysis,... do not capture the structural condition we require.

 \rightarrow Need for a new clustering measure!





Assumption 1. The graph G is strongly connected

Assumption 2. The induced subgraphs identified by the clusters in the partition $\mathcal{P} = \{\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \dots, \mathcal{C}_m\}$ are strongly connected. No trivial clusters.





Theorem⁵

If Assumptions 1 and 2 are satisfied, then any diagonal block of *L* associated with a cluster in \mathcal{P} is nonsingular and has all eigenvalues with positive real part.

⁵Martinelli & Lygeros, submitted





Theorem⁵

If Assumptions 1 and 2 are satisfied, then any diagonal block of L associated with a cluster in \mathcal{P} is nonsingular and has all eigenvalues with positive real part.

Proof. Decompose $C_i = L_i + D_i$, where L_i is the Laplacian of graph \mathbf{G}_i . (i) C_i is strictly diagonally dominant. (ii) L_i is irreducible, and $L_i + D_i$ as well because D_i is diagonal. Strictly diagonal dominance + irreducibility \iff nonsingularity.

⁵Martinelli & Lygeros, submitted





Let's introduce a rank difference function $\delta(M_1, M_2) = \operatorname{rank}(M_1) - \operatorname{rank}(M_2)$.

Definition⁵

We say that a cluster C_i has $d \in \mathbb{N}$ degrees of freedom if $\delta(C_i, Y_i) = |C_i| - \operatorname{rank}(Y_i) = d$.

We know that $0 \le \delta(C_i, Y_i) < |C_i|$. In fact, C_i is full-rank (Theorem) and C_i and Y_i share the same number of rows.

⁵Martinelli & Lygeros, submitted





What does *d* mean? Number of nodes that we can modify without incurring in a net flux variation between C_i and the rest of the network.





What does *d* **mean?** Number of nodes that we can modify without incurring in a net flux variation between C_i and the rest of the network.

How can *d* **be used?** Fitness measure to generate optimal partitions.

The possible partitions of a set scale according to the Bell numbers (e.g. $B_{20} \approx 10^{12}$) \rightarrow heuristic algorithms are needed.



Greedy exploration strategy

Algorithm 1

given overloading node *i* with set of neighbors N_i **initialize** $C = \{i\}, N_C = N_i, \delta_C = 0$

repeat

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{H} &= \{ j \in \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{C}} \ : \ \delta_{\mathcal{C},j} > \delta_{\mathcal{C}} \} \\ \text{if } \mathcal{H} &\neq \emptyset \text{ then } \\ \mathcal{C} \leftarrow \mathcal{C} \cup \{ j = \arg \max_{j \in \mathcal{H}} (\Psi_j) \end{split}$$

else

 $\mathcal{C} \leftarrow \mathcal{C} \cup \left\{ j = {\sf arg} \max_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{C}}} ({\sf deg}(j))
ight\}$

end if

 $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{C}} \leftarrow (\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{C}} \cup \mathcal{N}_j) \smallsetminus (j \cup (\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{N}_j))$ solve optimization problem for nodes in \mathcal{C}

until a feasible solution is found **return** x_{C}^{r}





Simulation



Thank you for the attention!

