

# Fast power system analysis via implicit linearization of the power flow manifold

Allerton Conference 2015

Saverio Bolognani      Florian Dörfler



## Power flow equations

Basic **ingredients** in an  $n$ -bus power system

- complex bus voltage  $u_h = v_h e^{j\theta_h} \in \mathbb{C}$
- injected complex power  $s_h = p_h + jq_h$
- admittance matrix  $Y \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$

Underlying nonlinear **power flow equations**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Kirchhoff's \& Ohm's laws} \\ \text{nodal power balances} \end{array} \right\} \implies \text{diag}(u) \bar{Y} u = s$$

**Bus model** specifies variables & fixed parameters

- PV bus:  $p_h$  and  $v_h$  fixed
- slack bus:  $v_h$  and  $\theta_h$  fixed
- PQ bus:  $p_h$  and  $q_h$  fixed  $\implies$  remaining ingredients are variables

2 / 16


## A brief history of power flow approximations

for computational tractability, analytic studies, & control/optimization design


- **DC power flow**:  $\Re(Y) = 0$ ,  $v = \mathbb{1}$ , & linearization

 B. Stott, J. Jardim, & O. Alsac, "DC Power Flow Revisited" *IEEE TPS*, 2009.

- **LinDistFlow**: parameterization in flow &  $v_h^2$  coordinates & linearization

 M.E. Baran & F.F. Wu, [Optimal sizing of capacitors placed on a radial distribution system](#). *IEEE PES*, 1988.

- **rectangular DC power flow**: fixed-point ball for small  $S^2/V_{\text{slack}}^2$

 S. Bolognani & S. Zampieri, [On the existence and linear approximation of the power flow solution in power distribution networks](#). *IEEE TPS*, 2015.

- many variations & extensions, sensitivity & Jacobian methods, etc.

3 / 16

## main twist today: separate power flow & bus model

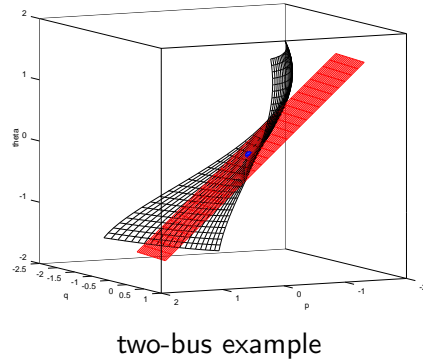
- 1) derivation of linear implicit model
- 2) relation to other approximations
- 3) accuracy in the three-phase case
- 4) some direct applications

## Linear implicit model & its advantages

- **today** consider all of  $x = (v, \theta, p, q)$  as variables
- **implicit model** for power flow manifold:  $F(x) = 0$
- **linear approximant** at  $x^*$  is tangent plane:  $A(x - x^*) = 0$

### Advantages of linear implicit model:

- ▶ sparsity
- ⇒ tractable for applications with high computational burden
- ▶ structure-preserving
- ⇒ prior for distributed control, optimization, estimation, etc.
- ▶ geometric methods
- ⇒ explicitly require tangent planes

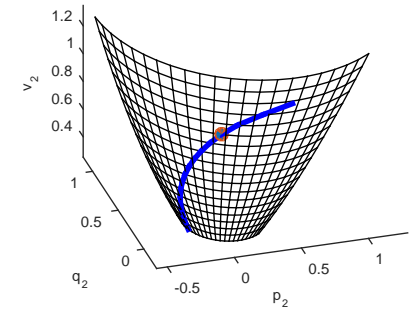


4 / 16

## The power flow manifold & linear tangent approximation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{node 1} & & \text{node 2} \\ \bullet & \text{---} & \bullet \\ & y = 0.4 - 0.8j & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} v_1 = 1, \theta_1 = 0 & v_2, \theta_2 \\ p_1, q_1 & p_2, q_2 \end{array}$$

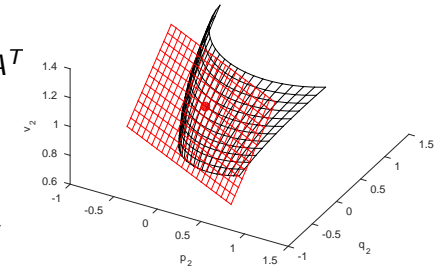


① **power flow manifold**:  $F(x) = 0$

② **normal space** spanned by  $\left. \frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial x} \right|_{x^*} = A^T$

③ **tangent space** at  $x^*$ :  $A(x - x^*) = 0$

④ **accuracy** depends on curvature  $\frac{\partial^2 F(x)}{\partial x^2}$



5 / 16

## Closer look at implicit formulae $A(x - x^*) = 0$

$$\left[ \left( \langle \text{diag } \overline{Y} u^* \rangle + \langle \text{diag } u^* \rangle N \langle Y \rangle \right) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \text{diag}(\cos \theta^*) & -\text{diag}(v^*) \text{diag}(\sin \theta^*) \\ \text{diag}(\sin \theta^*) & \text{diag}(v^*) \text{diag}(\cos \theta^*) \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

shunt loads      lossy DC flow      rotation × scaling at operating point

$$\times \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v - v^* \\ \theta - \theta^* \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{deviation variables}} = \begin{bmatrix} p - p^* \\ q - q^* \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $N = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & -I \end{bmatrix}$  is complex conjugate in real coordinates

and  $\langle A \rangle = \begin{bmatrix} \Re(A) & -\Im(A) \\ \Im(A) & \Re(A) \end{bmatrix}$  is complex rotation in real coordinates.

6 / 16

... appears  
cumbersome  
at first glance

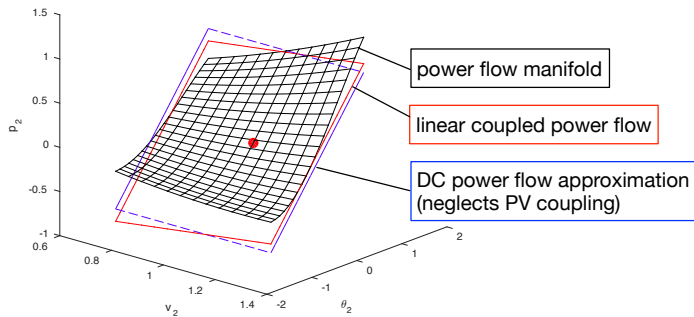
## Special cases reveal some old friends I

- **flat-voltage/0-injection point:**  $x^* = (v^*, \theta^*, p^*, q^*) = (1, 0, 0, 0)$

⇒ implicit linearization: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \Re(Y) & -\Im(Y) \\ -\Im(Y) & \Re(Y) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}$$

is **linear coupled power flow** [D. Deka, S. Backhaus, & M. Chertkov, 2015]

⇒  $\Re(Y) = 0$  gives **DC power flow:**  $-\Im(Y)\theta = p$  and  $-\Im(Y)v = q$



7 / 16

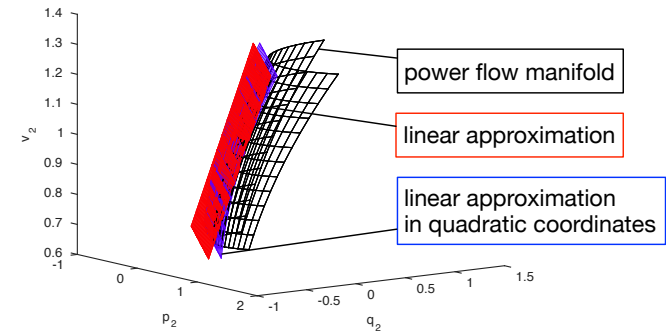
## Special cases reveal some old friends II

- **flat-voltage/0-injection point:**  $x^* = (v^*, \theta^*, p^*, q^*) = (1, 0, 0, 0)$

⇒ rectangular coord. ⇒ **rectangular DC flow** [S. Bolognani & S. Zampieri, 2015]

- nonlinear change to **quadratic coordinates** from  $v_h$  to  $v_h^2$

⇒ linearization gives (non-radial) **LinDistFlow** [M.E. Baran & F.F. Wu, 1988]



8 / 16

**so all standard approximations  
are included as special cases**

## Extensions to more general models

**Bus device models**, e.g., PQ bus  $s_h = p_h + jq_h = \text{const.}$

⇒ implicit constraint  $g(x) = 0$  & can be absorbed in  $F(x) = 0$

**Exponential load models**  $s_h = \text{const.} \cdot v_h^{\text{const.}}$

⇒ can be handled analogously

**Unbalanced three-phase grids** with basic ingredients

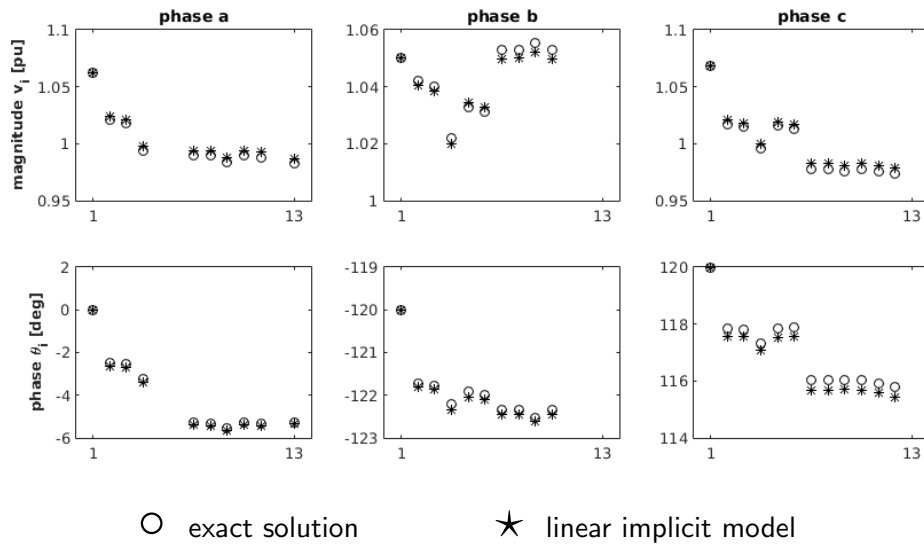
- complex voltage  $u_h = [u_h^a \ u_h^b \ u_h^c]^T \in \mathbb{C}^3$
- similar definitions for other quantities

⇒ all previous results can be analogously re-derived

Matlab/Octave **code** available: <https://github.com/saveriob/1ACPF>

9 / 16

## Accuracy illustrated with unbalanced three-phase IEEE13



10 / 16

a glorified & highly accurate linearization ... so what?

some direct applications

## Fast scenario-based decision making under uncertainties

Example: feasible region for distribution network operation

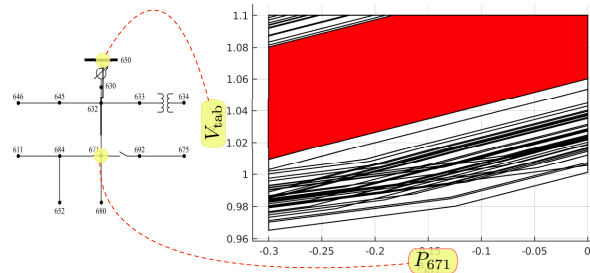
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_{\text{dec}} \mid \text{Prob}\{ \underbrace{x_{\text{exo}} \in \mathcal{X}_{\text{exo}}}_{\text{random loads}} : \underbrace{F(x) = 0}_{\text{power flow}} \ \& \ \underbrace{Vx \leq w}_{\text{constraints}} \} \geq \underbrace{1 - \varepsilon}_{\text{chance}} \end{array} \right\}$$

actuation      random loads      power flow      constraints      chance

### Scenario-based approach:

sample  $x_{\text{exo}}$  variables & build deterministic constraints

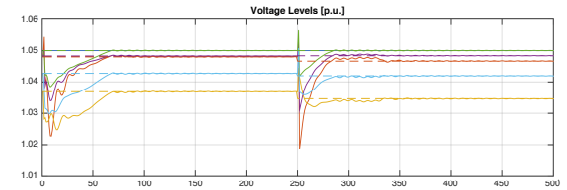
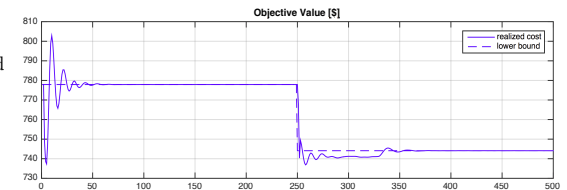
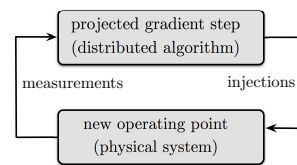
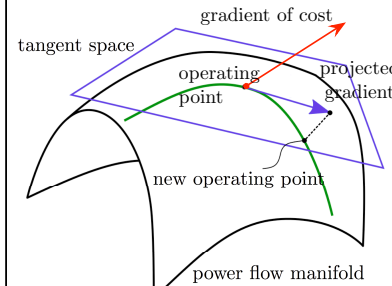
$\Rightarrow$  decision  $x_{\text{dec}}$  is feasible with high probability for sufficiently many samples



S. Bolognani & F. Dörfler. Fast scenario-based decision making in unbalanced distribution networks. *Power Systems Computation Conference (PSCC)*, June 2016.

11 / 16

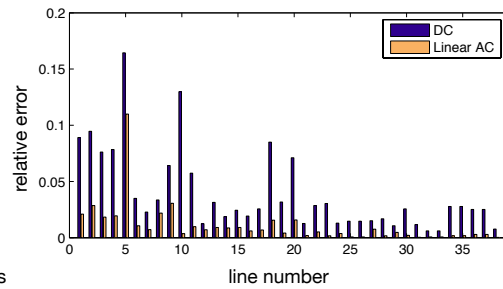
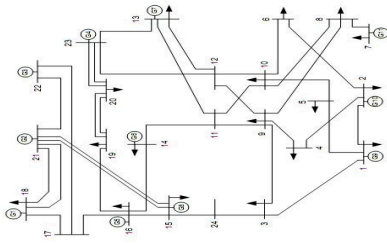
## Distributed online optimization on power flow manifold with Adrian Hauswirth & Gabriela Hug (ETH Zürich)



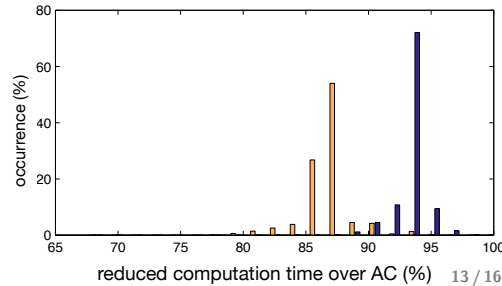
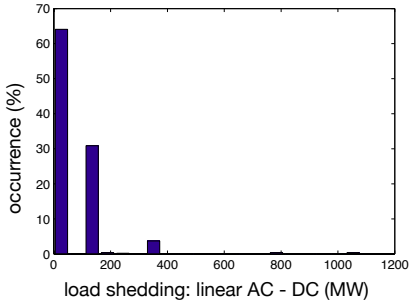
applied to optimal voltage control in IEEE 30 bus grid

12 / 16

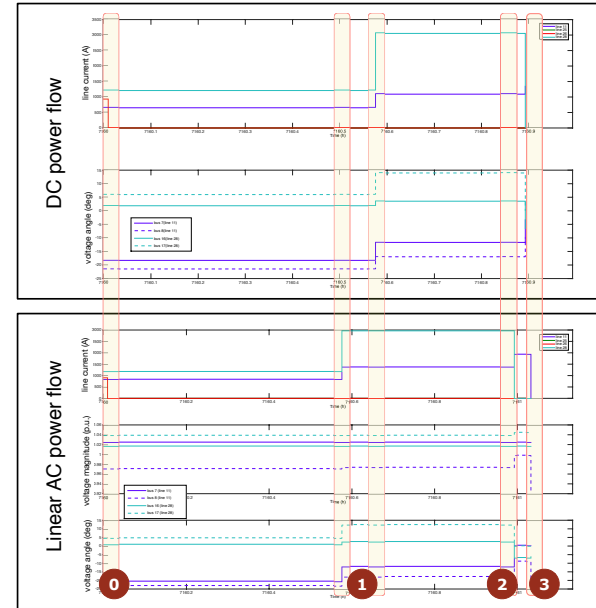
## Cascading failures – more accuracy for similar comp. effort with Giovanni Sansavini & Bing Li (ETH Zürich)



RTS24 with random loads & N-2 contingencies



## Cascading failures — distinct cascades under naive DC flow with Giovanni Sansavini & Bing Li (ETH Zürich)



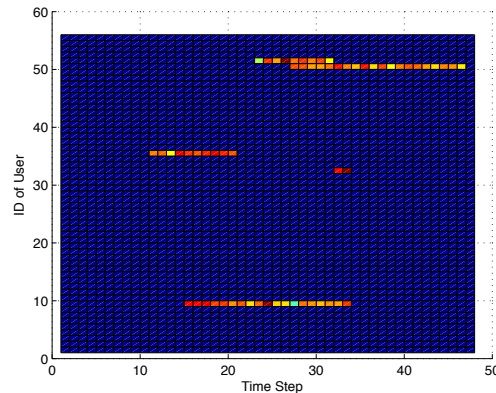
- 0 N-2 contingency
- 1 DC flow is optimistic compared to linear AC
- 2 single line outage since voltage magnitude can (partially) compensate for other remaining line
- 3 blackout

## Monitoring, state estimation, learning, & detection

### Consistency equation:

$$\underbrace{y_k}_{\text{measurement}} = \underbrace{H \cdot x_k}_{\text{system model}} + \underbrace{\varepsilon_k}_{\text{noise}} + \underbrace{d_k}_{\text{attack}}$$

**Attack detection:** collect measurements  $y_k$  over time & look for a consistent low-rank (ID  $\times$  time space) input  $d_k$



**Results** for IEEE 123 model: harder to trick an operator relying on a linearized AC model

D. Drzajic, S. Bolognani, & F. Dörfler. [Energy theft detection using compressive sensing methods](#). *ETH Zürich Semester project*, August 2015.

## Conclusions

### Summary

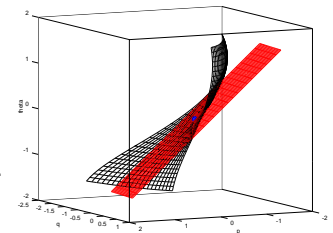
- linear, sparse, & structure-preserving model
- includes all DC & LinDistFlow approximations
- applicable to unbalanced three-phase systems
- apps: monitoring, control, decision-making, ...

### Ongoing & future work

- theory: error bounds & coord trafos
- applications: further develop apps

### Acknowledgements

- Sandro Zampieri, Adrian Hauswirth, Gabriela Hug, Dalibor Drzajic, Giovanni Sansavini, & Bing Li



Saverio Bolognani