Linear Decision Rules with Performance Guarantees for Scalable Multi-Stage Generation Planning

Vladimir Dvorkin^{1,2}, Dharik Mallapragada¹, Audun Botterud²

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: ¹Energy Initiative (MITEI), ²Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems (LIDS)

{dvorkin,dharik,audunb}@mit.edu

FERC workshop June 24, 2021

Challenges in long-term power system planning

- Planning power systems for decades ahead involves uncertainties
- Static versus Dynamic power system planning
 - Static planning targets a specific year in future (answers "What" question)
 - Dynamic planning allocates investments over time (answers "How" question)



Dynamic planning takes advantage of recourse as uncertainty gradually realizes

 Dynamic planning wins efficiency¹ but requires advanced decomposition, e.g., SDDP, Progressive Hedging, etc.

¹Beste Basciftci, Shabbir Ahmed, and Nagi Gebraeel. "Adaptive two-stage stochastic programming with an application to capacity expansion planning". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1906.03513* (2019).

Challenges in long-term power system planning

- Planning power systems for decades ahead involves uncertainties
- Static versus Dynamic power system planning
 - Static planning targets a specific year in future (answers "What" question)
 - Dynamic planning allocates investments over time (answers "How" question)



Dynamic planning takes advantage of recourse as uncertainty gradually realizes

 Dynamic planning wins efficiency¹ but requires advanced decomposition, e.g., SDDP, Progressive Hedging, etc.

Can we solve multi-stage investment problems without resorting to decomposition?

¹Beste Basciftci, Shabbir Ahmed, and Nagi Gebraeel. "Adaptive two-stage stochastic programming with an application to capacity expansion planning". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1906.03513* (2019).

Generation planning problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{\overline{y},y,p} & \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left(q_t^\top \overline{y}_t + \sum_{h=1}^{H} c_e(p_{th}) + c_c(y_{th}) \right) & \text{Total investment and operating costs} \\ \end{array} \\ \text{s.to.} & \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{1}^\top \left(p_{th} + y_{th} - k_h^\ell \circ \ell_t \right) = 0 & \\ & \left| F \left(p_{th} + y_{th} - k_h^\ell \circ \ell_t \right) \right| \leqslant \overline{f} & \\ \hline 0 \leqslant p_{th} \leqslant k_h^e \circ \overline{p} & \\ & 0 \leqslant y_{th} \leqslant k_h^c \circ \sum_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{y}_{\tau} & \\ \hline p_{th} - p_{t(h-1)} \leqslant r_e^+ \circ \overline{p} & \\ & p_{th} - y_{t(h-1)} \leqslant -r_e^- \circ \overline{p} & \\ & y_{th} - y_{t(h-1)} \leqslant -r_e^- \circ \sum_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{y}_{\tau} & \\ \hline \forall t = 1, \dots, T, \quad h = 1, \dots, H & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Total investment and operating costs} \\ \text{Total investment and operating costs} \\ \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array}$$
 \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimal power flow constraints} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array}

Generation planning problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \underset{\overline{y}, y, p}{\min} & \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left(\boldsymbol{q}_{t}^{\top} \overline{y}_{t} + \sum_{h=1}^{H} \boldsymbol{c}_{\mathrm{e}, t}(p_{th}) + \boldsymbol{c}_{c, t}(y_{th}) \right) & \text{Total investment and operating costs} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{s.to.} & 1^{\top} \left(p_{th} + y_{th} - k_{h}^{\ell} \circ \boldsymbol{\ell}_{t} \right) = 0 & \\ & \left| F \left(p_{th} + y_{th} - k_{h}^{\ell} \circ \boldsymbol{\ell}_{t} \right) \right| \leqslant \overline{f} & \\ \hline 0 \leqslant p_{th} \leqslant k_{h}^{\mathrm{e}} \circ \overline{p} & \\ & \overline{0} \leqslant y_{th} \leqslant k_{h}^{\mathrm{c}} \circ \sum_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{y}_{\tau} & \\ \hline p_{th} - p_{t(h-1)} \leqslant r_{\mathrm{e}}^{+} \circ \overline{p} & \\ & p_{th} - p_{t(h-1)} \leqslant r_{\mathrm{e}}^{-} \circ \overline{p} & \\ & y_{th} - y_{t(h-1)} \leqslant r_{\mathrm{c}}^{-} \circ \sum_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{y}_{\tau} & \\ \hline \forall t = 1, \dots, T, \quad h = 1, \dots, H & \\ \end{array}$$

Investment cost dynamic



²Stanley J Garstka and Roger J-B Wets. "On decision rules in stochastic programming". In: *Mathematical Programming* 7.1 (1974), pp. 117–143.

Investment cost dynamic



²Stanley J Garstka and Roger J-B Wets. "On decision rules in stochastic programming". In: *Mathematical Programming* 7.1 (1974), pp. 117–143.



Investment cost dynamic

Scenario-based optimization requires:

- Many scenarios to represent uncertainty
- Significant computational effort



²Stanley J Garstka and Roger J-B Wets. "On decision rules in stochastic programming". In: *Mathematical Programming* 7.1 (1974), pp. 117–143.



Investment cost dynamic

- Let \$\xi\$^t = (1,\$\xi\$₂,...,\$\xi\$_t) be random variables associated with stages 1 to t
- Stochastic cost dynamic from above:

$$q_3(\boldsymbol{\xi}^3) = q_1 - 0.2\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 - 0.15\boldsymbol{\xi}_3$$

Linear decision rule at stage t:

$$\overline{y}_t(\boldsymbol{\xi}^t) = \overline{Y}_t \boldsymbol{\xi}^t,$$

where matrix \overline{Y}_t is an opt. variable

Scenario-based optimization requires:

- Many scenarios to represent uncertainty
- Significant computational effort



Linear Investment Decision Rules¹



²Stanley J Garstka and Roger J-B Wets. "On decision rules in stochastic programming". In: *Mathematical Programming* 7.1 (1974), pp. 117–143.



Investment cost dynamic

- Let ξ^t = (1, ξ₂,..., ξ_t) be random variables associated with stages 1 to t
- Stochastic cost dynamic from above:

$$q_3(\boldsymbol{\xi}^3) = q_1 - 0.2\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 - 0.15\boldsymbol{\xi}_3$$

Linear decision rule at stage t:

$$\overline{y}_t(\boldsymbol{\xi}^t) = \overline{Y}_t \boldsymbol{\xi}^t,$$

where matrix \overline{Y}_t is an opt. variable

Scenario-based optimization requires:

- Many scenarios to represent uncertainty
- Significant computational effort



Linear Investment Decision Rules¹



²Stanley J Garstka and Roger J-B Wets. "On decision rules in stochastic programming". In: *Mathematical Programming* 7.1 (1974), pp. 117–143.

Performance Guarantees of LDRs: Feasibility

Chance-constrained optimization of investment $(\overline{Y}_t\xi^t)$ and operating $(P_t\xi^t)$ linear decision rules:

$$\begin{split} \min_{\overline{Y}_{t},\overline{P}_{t}} & \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}_{\xi}} \left[\sum_{t=1}^{T} (Q_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} + (C_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} P_{t}\xi^{t} \right] & \text{Investment + operating costs} \\ \text{s.to.} & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[P_{t}\xi^{t} - L_{t}\xi^{t} \in \mathsf{OPF eq.} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{opf}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{OPF equations} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[0 \leqslant P_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \Sigma_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{Y}_{\tau}\xi^{\tau} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{gen}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{Generation limits} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[0 \leqslant \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \overline{y}^{\mathsf{max}} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{inv}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{Investment limits} \end{split}$$

▶ Includes uncertainty of investment $(Q_t \xi^t)$ and operating costs $(C_t \xi^t)$, and system load $(L_t \xi^t)$

- Guarantees feasibility up to prescribed parameters ε_{opf} , ε_{gen} and ε_{inv}
- Requires uncertainty movements (mean & covariance)

Performance Guarantees of LDRs: Feasibility

Chance-constrained optimization of investment $(\overline{Y}_t\xi^t)$ and operating $(P_t\xi^t)$ linear decision rules:

$$\begin{split} \min_{\overline{Y}_{t},\overline{P}_{t}} & \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}_{\xi}} \left[\sum_{t=1}^{T} (Q_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} + (C_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} P_{t}\xi^{t} \right] & \text{Investment + operating costs} \\ \text{s.to.} & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[P_{t}\xi^{t} - L_{t}\xi^{t} \in \mathsf{OPF eq.} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{opf}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{OPF equations} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[0 \leqslant P_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \Sigma_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{Y}_{\tau}\xi^{\tau} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{gen}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{Generation limits} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[0 \leqslant \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \overline{y}^{\mathsf{max}} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{inv}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{Investment limits} \end{split}$$

▶ Includes uncertainty of investment $(Q_t \xi^t)$ and operating costs $(C_t \xi^t)$, and system load $(L_t \xi^t)$

• Guarantees feasibility up to prescribed parameters ε_{opf} , ε_{gen} and ε_{inv}

Requires uncertainty movements (mean & covariance)





Performance Guarantees of LDRs: Feasibility

Chance-constrained optimization of investment $(\overline{Y}_t\xi^t)$ and operating $(P_t\xi^t)$ linear decision rules:

$$\begin{split} \min_{\overline{Y}_{t},\overline{P}_{t}} & \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}_{\xi}} \left[\sum_{t=1}^{T} (Q_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} + (C_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} P_{t}\xi^{t} \right] & \text{Investment + operating costs} \\ \text{s.to.} & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[P_{t}\xi^{t} - L_{t}\xi^{t} \in \mathsf{OPF eq.} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{opf}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{OPF equations} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[0 \leqslant P_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \Sigma_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{Y}_{\tau}\xi^{\tau} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{gen}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{Generation limits} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi^{t}} \left[0 \leqslant \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \overline{y}^{\mathsf{max}} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{inv}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{Investment limits} \end{split}$$

▶ Includes uncertainty of investment $(Q_t \xi^t)$ and operating costs $(C_t \xi^t)$, and system load $(L_t \xi^t)$

• Guarantees feasibility up to prescribed parameters ε_{opf} , ε_{gen} and ε_{inv}

Requires uncertainty movements (mean & covariance)





Performance Guarantees of LDRs: Minimal Variability

Variance-aware optimization of linear decision rules:

$$\begin{split} \min_{\overline{Y}_{t},\overline{P}_{t}} & \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}_{\xi}} \left[\sum_{t=1}^{T} (Q_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} + (C_{t}\xi^{t})^{\top} P_{t}\xi^{t} \right] & \text{Investment } + \text{ operating costs} \\ & + \Psi \sum_{t=2}^{T} \operatorname{Var} \left[\overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} \right] & \text{Variability penalty} \\ \text{s.to.} & \mathbb{P}_{\xi t} \left[P_{t}\xi^{t} - L_{t}\xi^{t} \in \mathsf{OPF eq.} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{opf}}, \ \forall t & \mathsf{OPF equations} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi t} \left[0 \leqslant P_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \Sigma_{\tau=1}^{t} \overline{Y}_{\tau}\xi^{\tau} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{gen}}, \ \forall t & \text{Generation limits} \\ & \mathbb{P}_{\xi t} \left[0 \leqslant \overline{Y}_{t}\xi^{t} \leqslant \overline{y}^{\mathsf{max}} \right] \geqslant 1 - \varepsilon_{\mathsf{inv}}, \ \forall t & \text{Investment limits} \end{split}$$

Additionally penalizes the variability of investment decisions (at the expense of exp. costs)
Variability-agnostic investment rules
Variability-aware investment rules





Performance Guarantees of LDRs: Sub-optimality bound

- Restricting decisions to linear functions incurs optimality loss w.r.t. ideal stochastic solution
- \$59 billion: investment into renewable energy in US in 2019
- Even 1% sub-optimality gap results in the annual loss of \$590 mil.



Performance Guarantees of LDRs: Sub-optimality bound

- Restricting decisions to linear functions incurs optimality loss w.r.t. ideal stochastic solution
- \$59 billion: investment into renewable energy in US in 2019
- Even 1% sub-optimality gap results in the annual loss of \$590 mil.



Duality-inspired global sub-optimality gap³

- Step 1: Solve primal stochastic program in LDRs (primal gap)
- Step 2: Solve dual stochastic program in LDRs (dual gap)
- Step 3: The difference between the two is the global sub-optimality bound



³Daniel Kuhn, Wolfram Wiesemann, and Angelos Georghiou. "Primal and dual linear decision rules in stochastic and robust optimization". In: *Mathematical Programming* 130.1 (2011), pp. 177–209.



- 13 zones, 20 lines, 47 units
- NREL ATB technology baseline
- 5-stage planning horizon
- 24 operating conditions



- 13 zones, 20 lines, 47 units
- NREL ATB technology baseline
- 5-stage planning horizon
- 24 operating conditions













Conclusions

>>>>

Long-term power system planning is challenged by uncertainty

- Linear decision rules approximate optimal multi-stage planning under uncertainty
 - Scalability (scenario-free)
 - Feasibility guarantees

- Decision variability control
- Sub-optimality bounds
- How good is this approximation? ERCOT system:
 - \blacktriangleright Good when the system operator has a clear understanding of future trends (sub-optimality pprox 1%)
 - **b** Bad when the system has no idea where the system is going (sub-optimality \ge 12%)

Linear Decision Rules with Performance Guarantees for Scalable Multi-Stage Generation Planning

Vladimir Dvorkin^{1,2}, Dharik Mallapragada¹, Audun Botterud²

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: ¹Energy Initiative (MITEI), ²Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems (LIDS)

{dvorkin,dharik,audunb}@mit.edu

FERC workshop June 24, 2021