
Decomposition Approaches to UC with Transmission Switching under N-1 Reliability Requirements

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The inspiration

- “Co-Optimization of Generation Unit Commitment and Transmission Switching With N-1 Reliability.” Hedman, Ferris, O’Neill, Fisher, and Oren. *IEEE Trans Power Systems*. 25(2) 2010.

“Just allowing processing [of the RTS-96 test case] at the root node typically takes 20h on a desktop workstation...”



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“Just allowing processing [of the RTS-96 test case] at the root node typically takes 20h on a desktop workstation...”

“While reducing [the] optimality gap to zero is an interesting academic issue...”



The problem

- RTS-96 test case
 - 73 busses, 115 non-radial lines, 99 generators
 - 214 contingencies
- Allow switching of any non-radial line
- Explicitly enforce N-1

- Explicitly omitting
 - FTR
 - Reconnection stability / transient issues
 - Operational computation time limits

The solution: UC + Transmission Switching + N-1

$$\text{Minimize : } \sum_t \sum_g (c_g P_{g0t} + c_g^{SU} v_{gt} + c_g^{SD} w_{gt}) \quad (1)$$

$$\text{S.t. } \theta^{\min} \leq \theta_{nct} \leq \theta^{\max}, \quad \forall n, c, t \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{\forall k(n, \cdot)} P_{kct} - \sum_{\forall k(\cdot, n)} P_{kct} + \sum_{\forall g(n)} P_{g0t} = d_{nt},$$

$$\forall n, \quad c = 0, \text{ transmission contingency states } c, t \quad (3a)$$

$$\sum_{\forall k(n, \cdot)} P_{kct} - \sum_{\forall k(\cdot, n)} P_{kct} + \sum_{\forall g(n)} P_{gct} = d_{nt},$$

$$\forall n, \text{ generator contingency states } c, t \quad (3b)$$

$$P_{kc}^{\min} N1_{kc} z_{kt} \leq P_{kct} \leq P_{kc}^{\max} N1_{kc} z_{kt}, \quad \forall k, c, t \quad (4)$$

$$B_k(\theta_{nct} - \theta_{mct}) - P_{kct} + (2 - z_{kt} - N1_{kc})M_k \geq 0, \quad \forall k, c, t \quad (5a)$$

$$B_k(\theta_{nct} - \theta_{mct}) - P_{kct} - (2 - z_{kt} - N1_{kc})M_k \leq 0, \quad \forall k, c, t \quad (5b)$$

$$P_g^{\min} N1_{gc} u_{gt} \leq P_{gct} \leq P_g^{\max} N1_{gc} u_{gt}, \quad \forall g, c, t \quad (6)$$

$$v_{g,t} - w_{g,t} = u_{g,t} - u_{g,t-1}, \quad \forall g, t \quad (7)$$

$$\sum_{q=t-UT_g+1}^t v_{g,q} \leq u_{g,t}, \quad \forall g, t \in \{UT_g, \dots, T\} \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{q=t-DT_g+1}^t w_{g,q} \leq 1 - u_{g,t}, \quad \forall g, t \in \{DT_g, \dots, T\} \quad (9)$$

$$P_{g0t} - P_{g0,t-1} \leq R_g^+ u_{g,t-1} + R_g^{SU} v_{g,t}, \quad \forall g, t \quad (10)$$

$$P_{g0,t-1} - P_{g0,t} \leq R_g^- u_{g,t} + R_g^{SD} w_{g,t}, \quad \forall g, t \quad (11)$$

$$P_{gct} - P_{g0,t} \leq R_g^+, \quad \forall g, c, t \quad (12)$$

$$P_{g0,t} N1_{gc} - P_{gct} \leq R_g^-, \quad \forall g, c, t \quad (13)$$

$$0 \leq v_{g,t} \leq 1, \quad \forall g, t \quad (14)$$

$$0 \leq w_{g,t} \leq 1, \quad \forall g, t \quad (15)$$

$$u_{g,t} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall g, t \quad (16)$$

The challenge: MP is dense and subtle

Minimize : $\sum_t \sum_g (c_g P_{g0t} + c_g^{SU} v_{gt} + c_g^{SD} w_{gt})$

S.t. $\theta^{\min} \leq \theta_{nct} \leq \theta^{\max}, \forall n, c, t$

$\sum_{\forall k(n, \cdot)} P_{kct} - \sum_{\forall k(\cdot, n)} P_{kct} + \sum_{\forall g(n)} P_{g0t} = d_{nt},$

$\forall n, c = 0, \text{transmission contingency states } c, t$

$\sum_{\forall k(n, \cdot)} P_{kct} - \sum_{\forall k(\cdot, n)} P_{kct} + \sum_{\forall g(n)} P_{gct} = d_{nt},$

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$P_{g0,t-1} - P_{g0,t} \leq R_g^- u_{g,t} + R_g^{SD} w_{g,t}, \forall g, t$

$P_{gct} - P_{g0,t} \leq R_g^+, \forall g, c, t$

$P_{g0,t} N1_{gc} - P_{gct} \leq R_g^-, \forall g, c, t$

$0 \leq v_{g,t} \leq 1, \forall g, t$

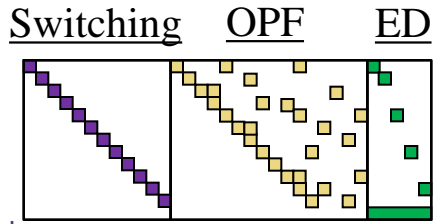
$0 \leq w_{g,t} \leq 1, \forall g, t$

$u_{g,t} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall g, t$

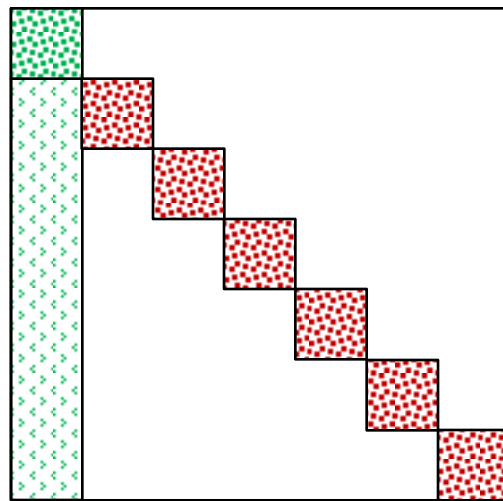
To a first approximation:

- DCOPF
- Economic dispatch
- Unit commitment
- Transmission switching
- N-1 contingency

(Nonobvious) Inherent structure

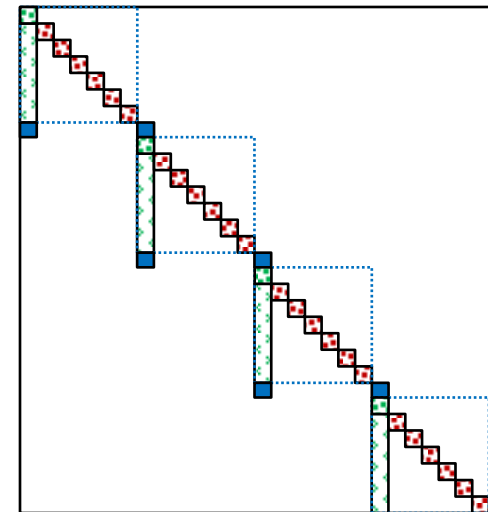


N-1 Economic Dispatch

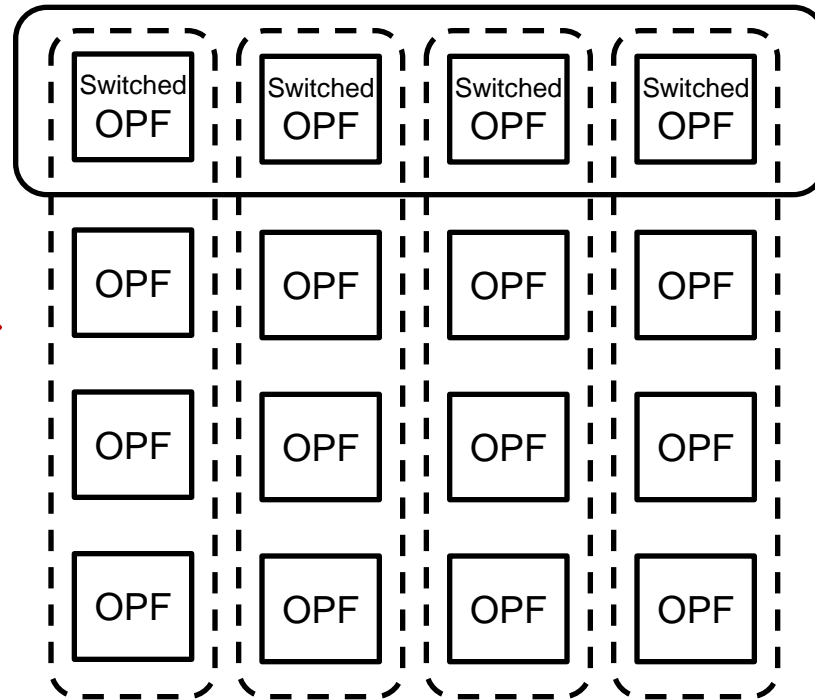
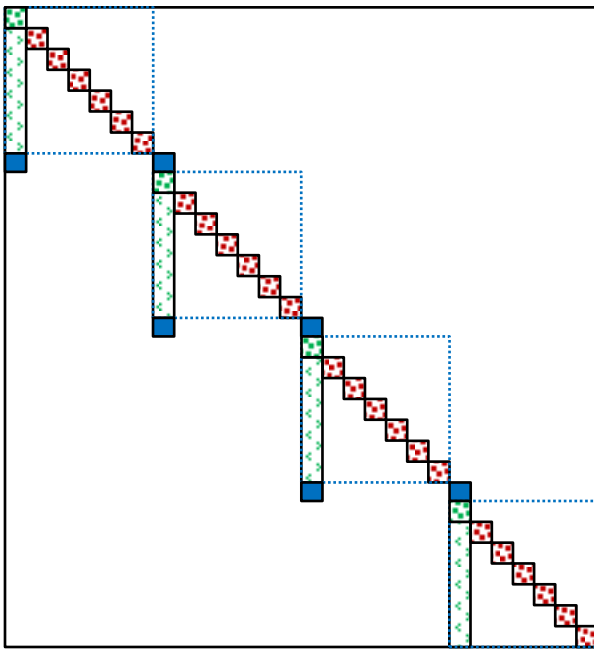


contingencies
nominal case

Unit Commitment



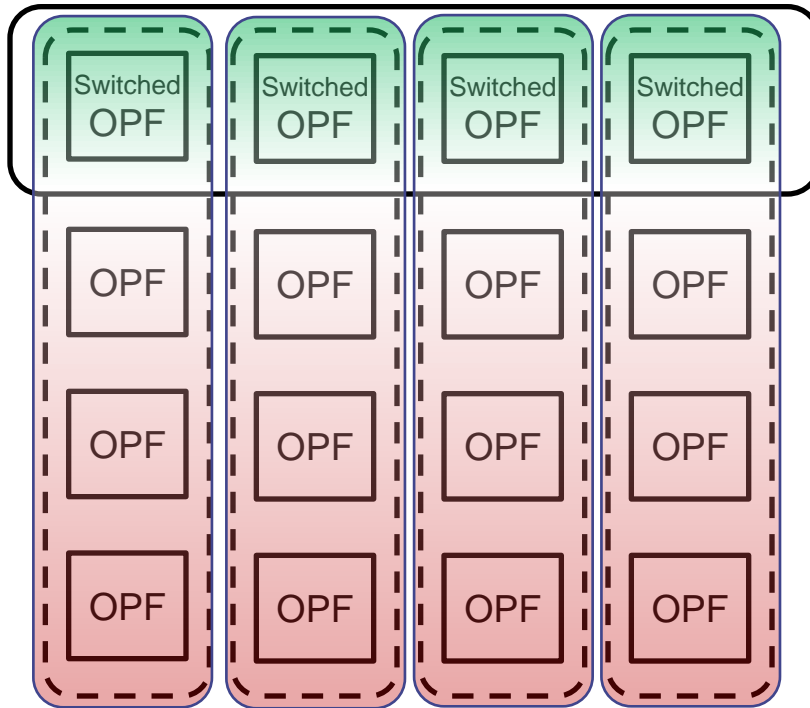
This still doesn't *quite* tell the whole story



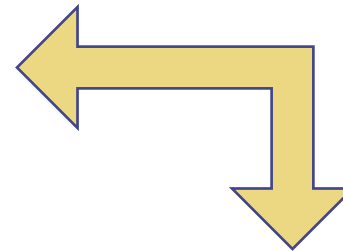
Deterministic
Unit Commitment

Contingencies

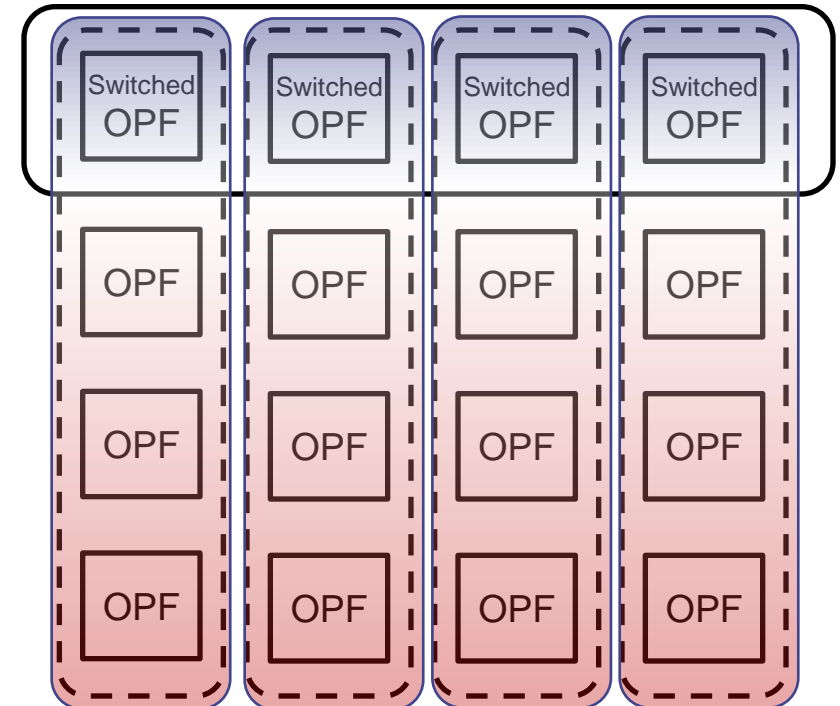
Sequential optimization [Hedman, et al]



UC w/ N-1

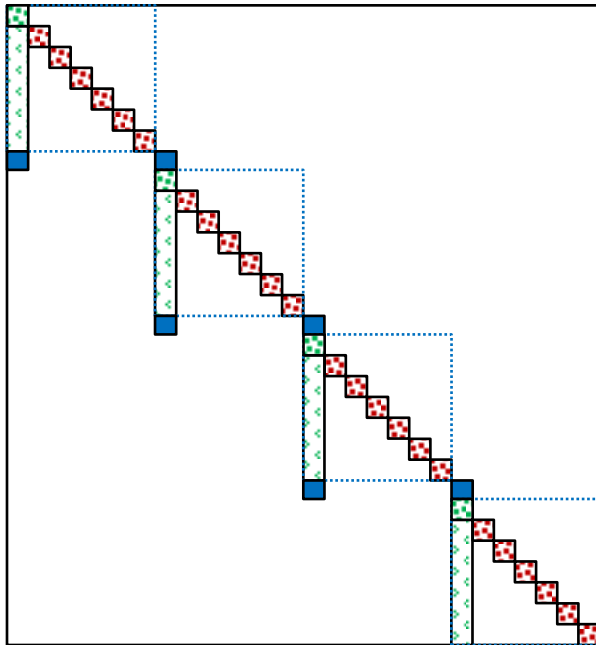


Transmission switching w/ N-1



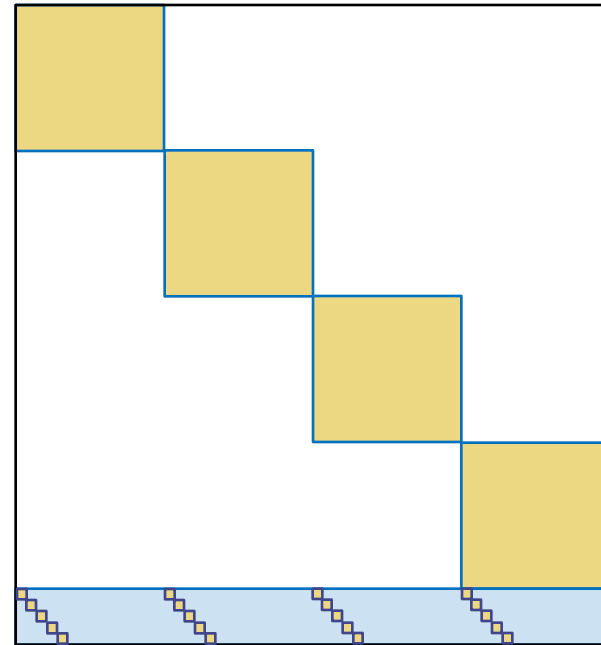
Block-diagonal structure

UC + N-1 + Switching



\approx

2-Stage SP



- Examples:

- Stochastic Programming [e.g., Watson & Woodruff]
- Parameter estimation [Word, Watson, Woodruff and Laird. 2012]

Progressive Hedging: a Review and/or Introduction

1. $k := 0$

2. For all $s \in \mathcal{S}$, $x_s^{(k)} := \operatorname{argmin}_x (c \cdot x + f_s \cdot y_s) : (x, y_s) \in \mathcal{Q}_s$

3. $\bar{x}^k := (\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} p_s d_s x_s^{(k)}) / \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} p_s d_s$

4. For all $s \in \mathcal{S}$, $w_s^{(k)} := \rho(x_s^{(k)} - \bar{x}^{(k)})$

5. $k := k + 1$

6. For all $s \in \mathcal{S}$, $x_s^{(k)} := \operatorname{argmin}_x (c \cdot x + w_s^{(k-1)} x + \rho/2 \|x - \bar{x}^{(k-1)}\|^2 + f_s \cdot y_s) : (x, y_s) \in \mathcal{Q}_s$

7. $\bar{x}^{(k)} := (\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} p_s d_s x_s^{(k)}) / \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} p_s d_s$

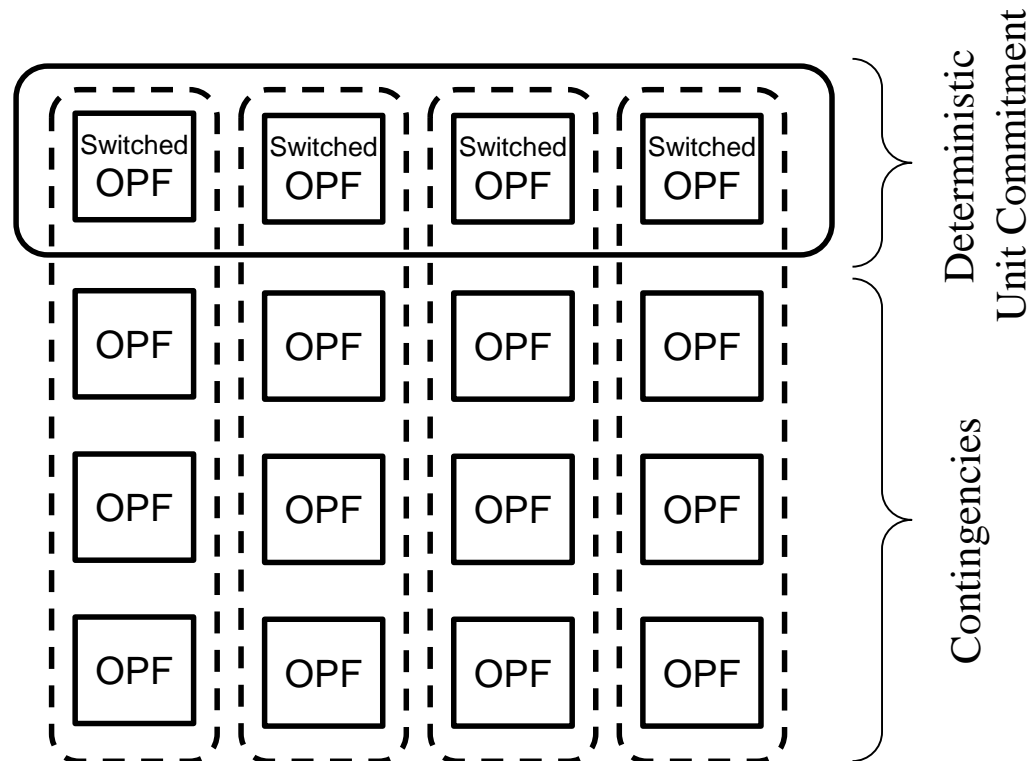
8. For all $s \in \mathcal{S}$, $w_s^{(k)} := w_s^{(k-1)} + \rho (x_s^{(k)} - \bar{x}^{(k)})$

9. $g^{(k)} := \frac{(1-\alpha)|\mathcal{S}|}{\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} p_s d_s} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \|x_s^{(k)} - \bar{x}^{(k)}\|$

10. If $g^{(k)} < \epsilon$, then go to step 5. Otherwise, terminate.

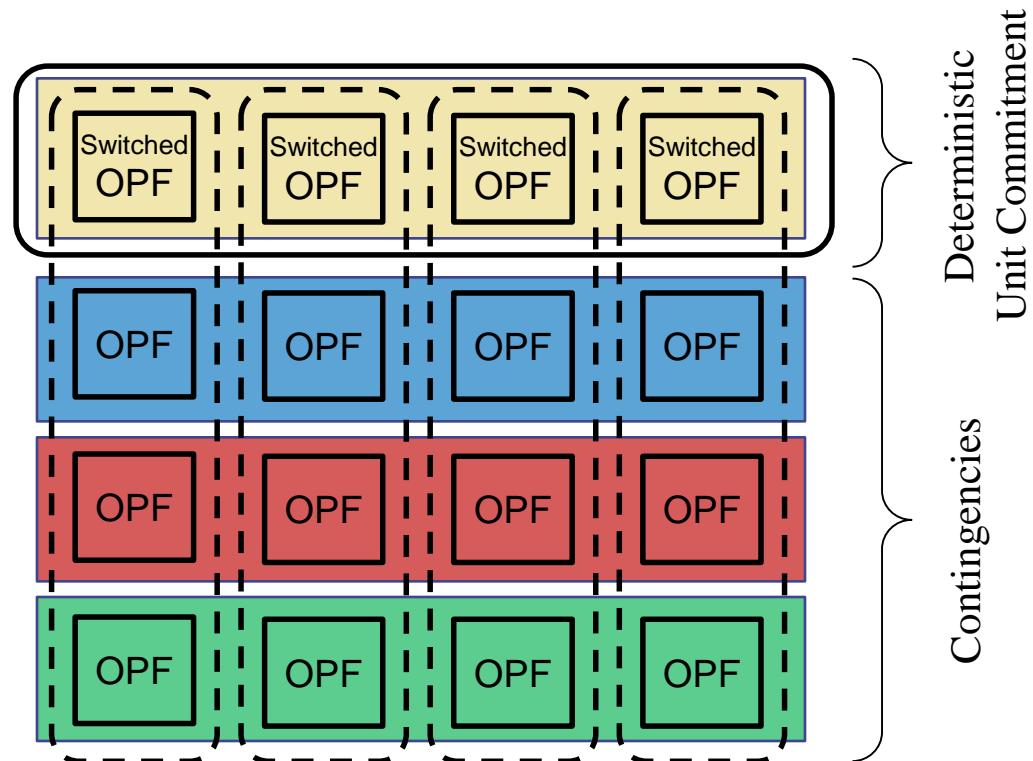
Mapping $N-1$ into SP context

- What is a “scenario”?
- What are the stages / stage costs?



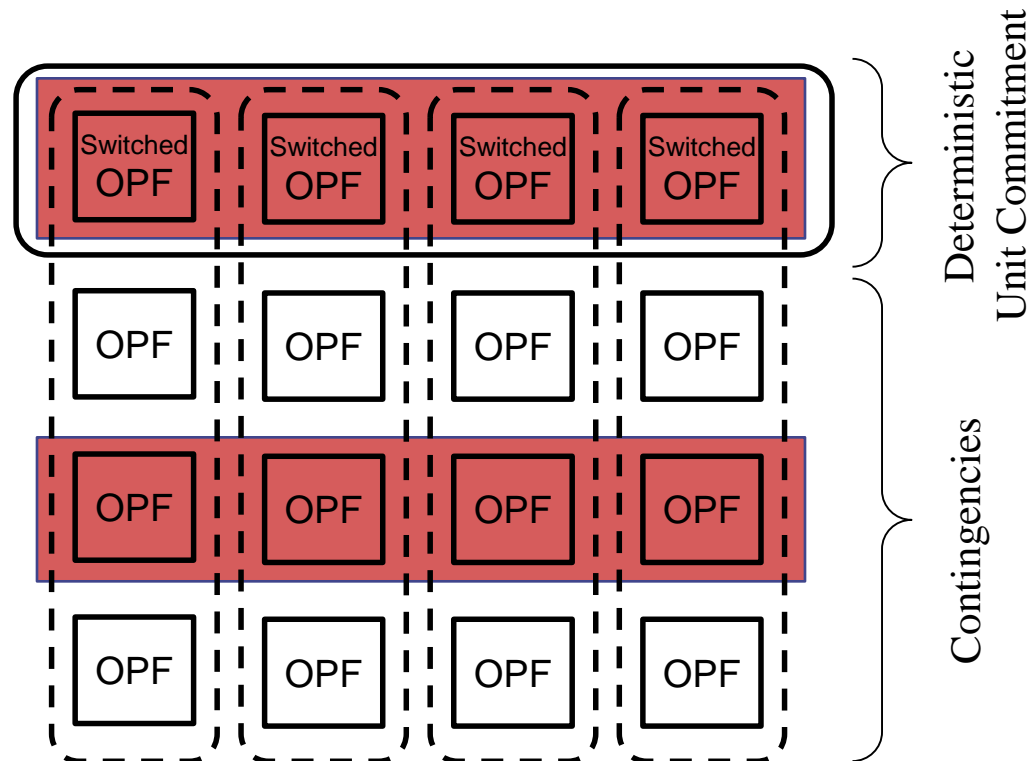
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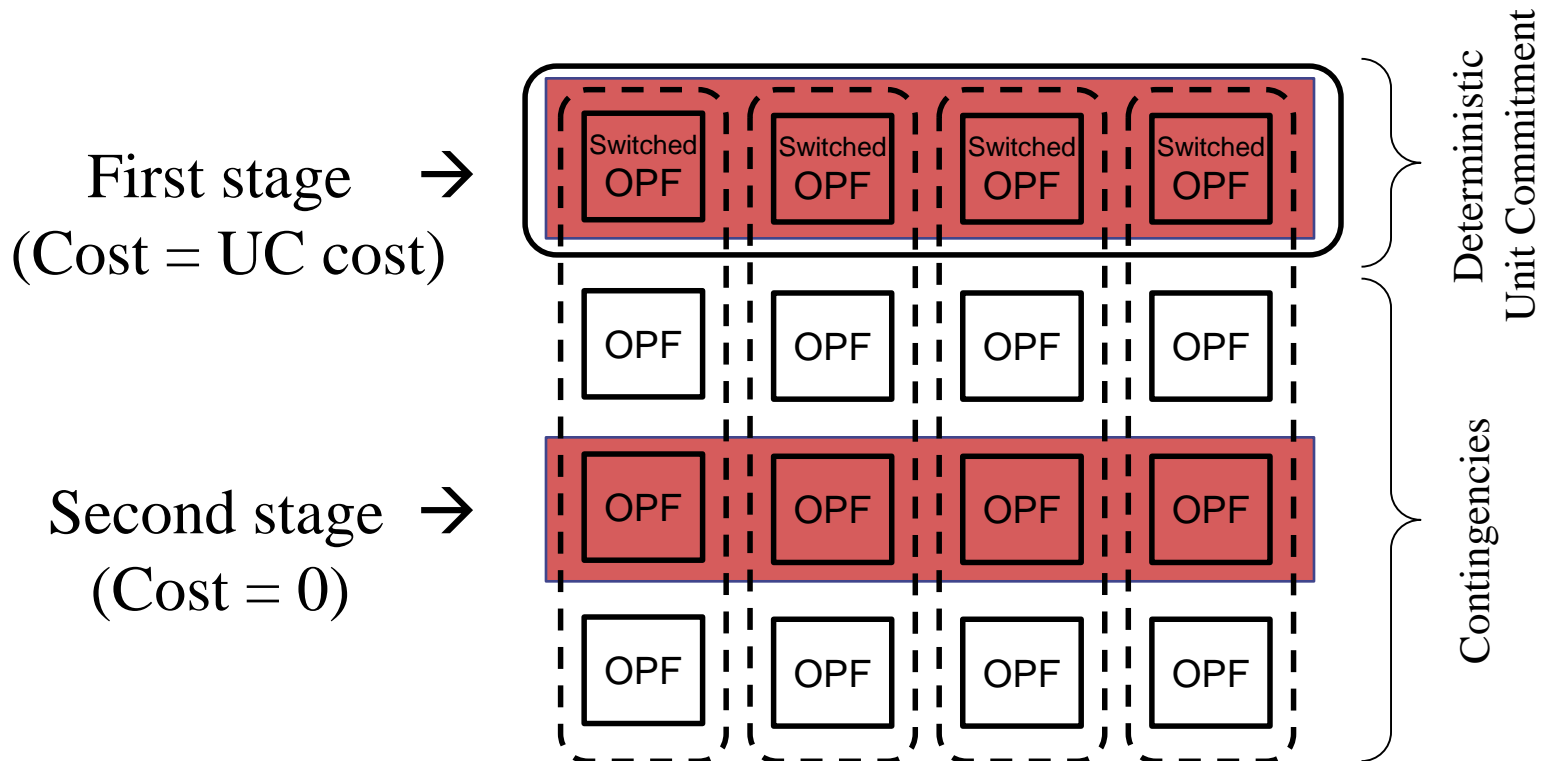
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Mapping *N-1* into SP context

- What is a “scenario”?
- What are the stages / stage costs?





Computational results

- Compare against the extensive form (global) solution
 - PH is a *heuristic* for MIPs
 - 5 buses, 6 non-radial lines, 7 generators

Model	EF	PH (default)
Cost	19.9756	21.1379
“EF Gap”	--	5.8%
Iterations	--	13



Computational results

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Model	EF	PH (default)	PH ($\rho = 0.1$)
Cost	19.9756	21.1379	20.1633
“EF Gap”	--	5.8%	0.9%
Iterations	--	13	29



A closer look at the problem

- LP bound is quite tight
- “Feasible” solutions are “easy” to find (turn units on)
- Scenario disagreement encourages over-commitment

Scenarios

Iter 1	19.9506	19.6689	19.6689	19.6689	19.6689	19.7923	19.6689	[...]
Iter 2	22.2871	19.6707	19.6707	19.6707	19.6707	22.6764	19.6707	[...]
Iter 3	20.9125	19.6900	19.6900	19.6900	19.6900	20.9847	19.6900	[...]
Iter 4	22.2012	19.6884	19.6884	19.6884	19.6884	22.4385	19.6884	[...]
[...]								
Iter 29	20.1633	20.1641	20.1641	20.1641	20.1641	20.1617	20.1641	[...]

- Scenario augmentation
 - Replicate critical contingencies in all scenarios
 - Heuristic pre-screening procedure: root LP bound



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Model	EF	PH (default)	PH ($\rho = 0.1$)	PH (augmented scenarios)
Cost	19.9756	21.1379	20.1633	19.9756
“EF Gap”	--	5.8%	0.9%	0.0%
Iterations	--	13	29	1
Serial Time	28.8	337	651	110

Sub-problem solves: 0.17 - 2.49 sec;
average: 0.54



Extending to RTS-96

- From Hedman, et al.
 - N-1 UC solution: 3,245,997
 - N-1 UC w/ Switching: 3,125,185 (2 pass UC + switching)
- N-1 decomposition
 - Prescreening adds 2 common contingencies
 - LP bound: 2,886,902
 - Combined subproblems solve (to 1% gap): ~24 hours
 - Full PH solution: ??

Alternative “decomposition”: expose structure

Minimize : $\sum_t \sum_g (c_g P_{g0t} + c_g^{SU} v_{gt} + c_g^{SD} w_{gt})$

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$P_{g0,t} N1_{gc} - P_{gct} \leq R_g^-, \forall g, c, t$

$0 \leq v_{g,t} \leq 1, \forall g, t$

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$u_{g,t} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall g, t$

To a first approximation:

- DCOPF
- Economic dispatch
- Unit commitment
- Transmission switching
- N-1 contingency

Explicitly expose disjunctive decisions

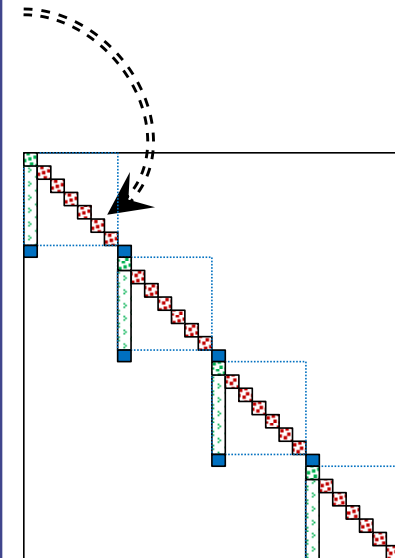
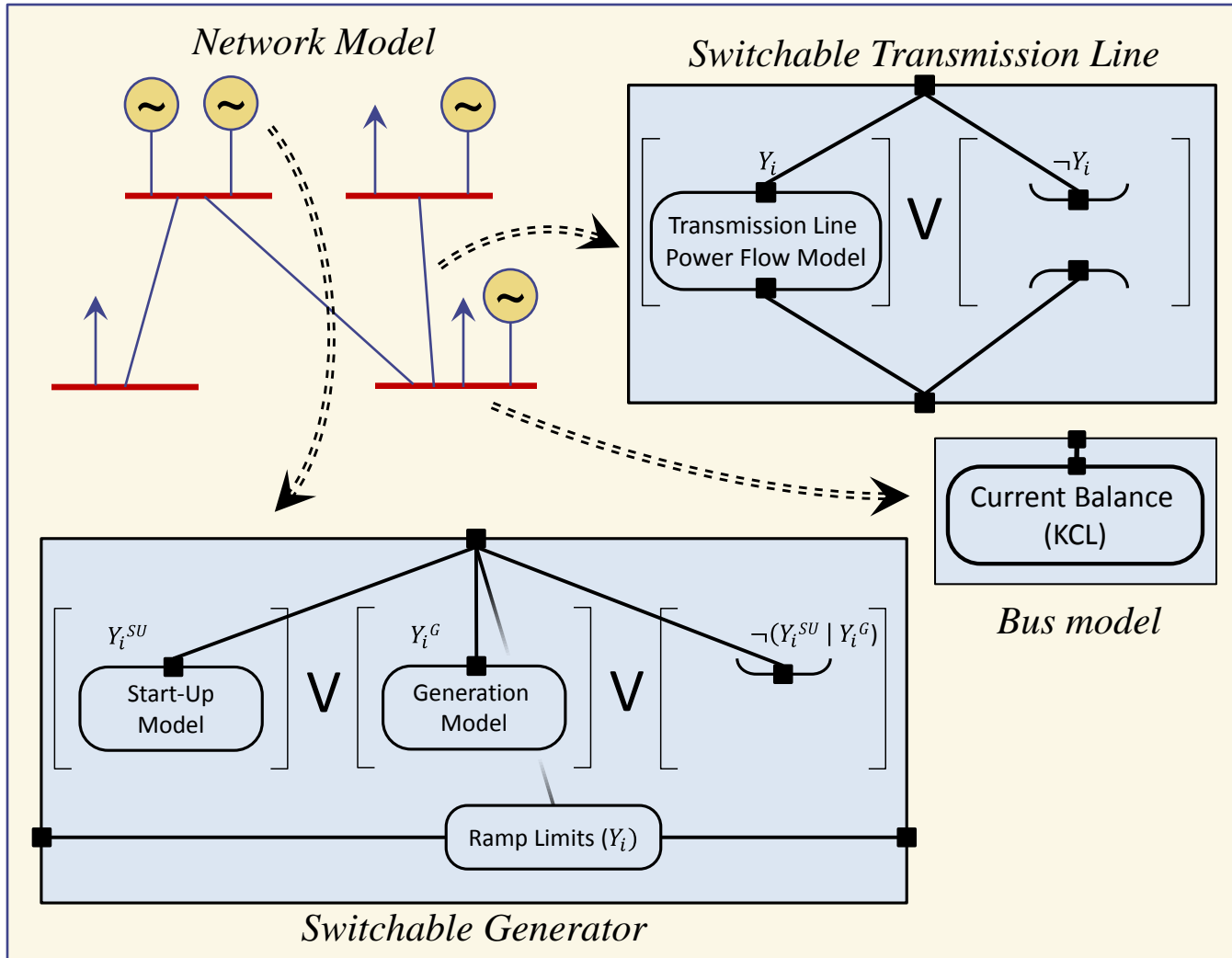
- Transmission switching:

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} z_{kct} \\ P_{kct} = B_k (\theta_{k1} - \theta_{k2}) \end{array} \right] \vee \left[\begin{array}{c} \neg z_{kct} \\ P_{kct} = 0 \end{array} \right]$$

- Generation

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} u_{gt} \\ C_{gt} = P_{gt} c_g \\ R_g^+ \geq P_{gt} - P_{gt-1} \\ R_g^- \geq P_{gt-1} - P_{gt} \end{array} \right] \vee \left[\begin{array}{c} v_{kt} \\ C_{gt} = P_{gt} c_g + c_g^{SU} \\ R_g^{SU} \geq P_{gt} - P_{gt-1} \end{array} \right] \vee \left[\begin{array}{c} \neg(u_{kt} | v_{kt}) \\ C_{gt} = c_g^{SD} u_{kt-1} \\ R_g^{SD} \geq P_{gt-1} - P_{gt} \\ P_{gt} = 0 \end{array} \right]$$

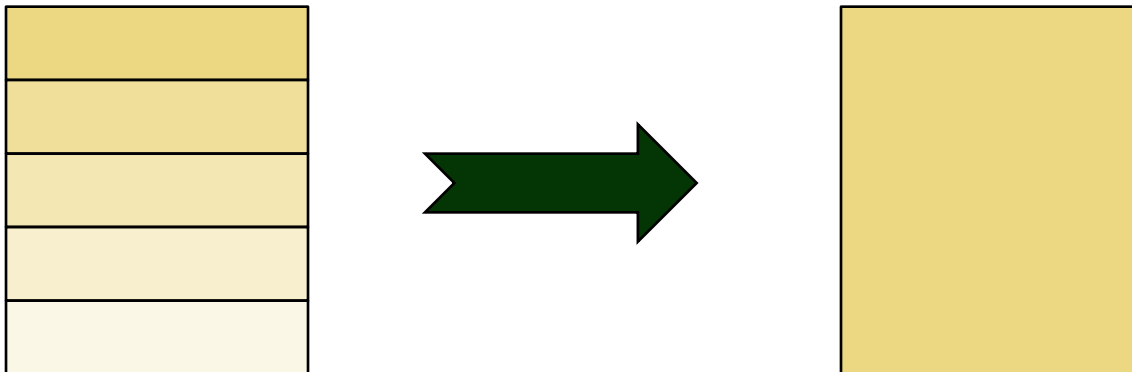
Embed within structured model





Apply standard (automatic) transformations

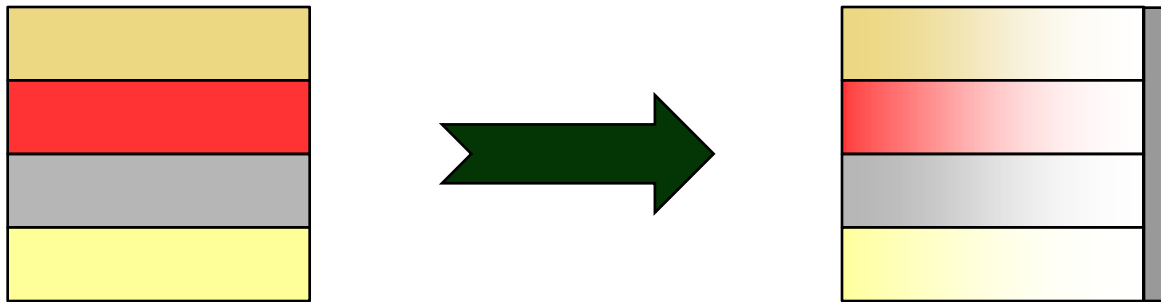
- 1) Construct hierarchical model
 - Generate blocks (Variables + Internal constraints)
 - “Connect” blocks by forming constraints over block connectors
- 2) An automatic *model transformation* “flattens” the model
 - Replicates connector constraints for each variable in connector
 - Generates aggregating constraints
 - (Eliminates redundant variables)



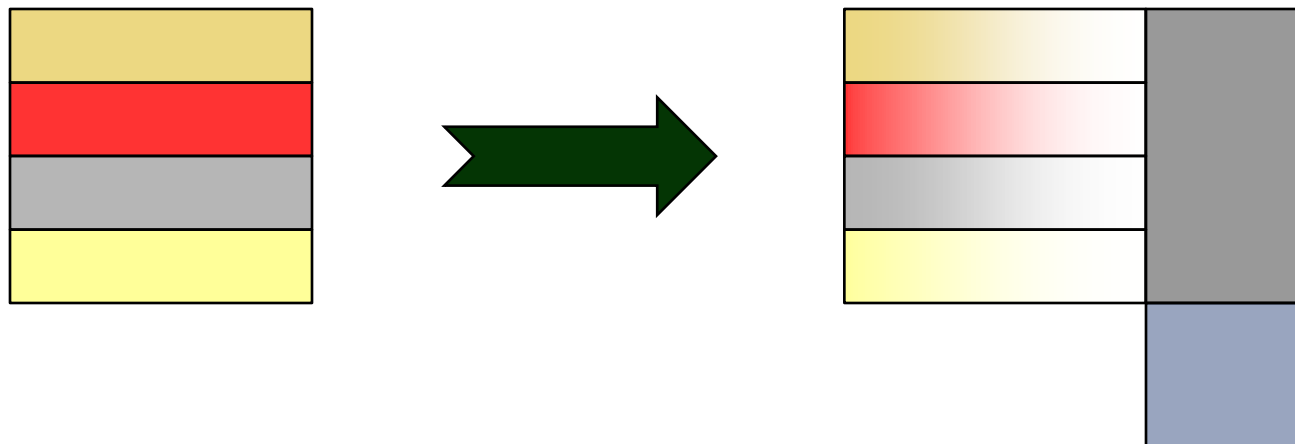
Apply standard (automatic) transformations

3) Convert disjunctions to MI(N)LP equivalents

– Big-M relaxation



– Convex hull relaxation





Optimal Solution of RTS-96

- From Hedman, et al.

- N-1 UC solution: 3,245,997
- N-1 UC w/ Switching: 3,125,185 (2 pass UC + switching)

	Rows	Columns	Binaries
Raw model	5,118,760	1,501,177	5,184
After presolve	2,634,851	1,062,290	4,476

- Restructured problem (complete N-1 UC w/ switching):

	Rows	Columns	Binaries
Raw model	21,232,224	13,129,692	3,796,830
After presolve	2,471,714	1,249,976	187,194

- Solution (1e-4 gap): 2,990,004 (60,000 sec)
- Default CPLEX settings



While “solvable,” significant cost

- Problem as posed by Hedman, et al:
 - Model generation: 201 GB; 8600 sec
 - CPLEX: ~10 GB; 60000 sec
- Allowing recourse switching in contingencies
 - Model generation: 201 GB; 8600 sec
 - CPLEX: ~356 GB; 133000 sec
- Memory limits (and current PySP design) preclude running within parallel PH



Summary

- N-1 UC with Transmission Switching
 - Demonstrated application of SP to N-1 UC with Switching
 - Demonstrated use of structured model generation
 - Anecdote: we shouldn't try and outsmart the solvers
 - Computed optimal ($1e-4$) solutions for RTS-96
- Current directions
 - Parallel PH for block-based models
 - Memory reductions in core PySP
 - Demonstrate parallel PH with block-based RTS-96
 - Investigate finer contingency granularity, bundling approaches