Samuel Chevalier

DTU 325-106, Kgs. Lyngby, Denmark

schev@dtu.dk
+45 81 90 21 95
[Google Scholar](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

PRIMARY RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- design industry-aware **optimization** & **control** strategies for renewable-based power grids
- build **trustworthy machine learning** tools for safety-critical engineering applications
- develop **data-driven modeling** techniques for the power & energy sectors

EDUCATION

- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** — Cambridge, MA
  Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Mechanical Engineering — *Aug. 2016 - Feb. 2021*
  - **Thesis:** *Inference, Estimation, and Prediction for Stable Operation of Modern Power Systems*
  - **Supervisors**: Luca Daniel (advisor), Kotysta Turitsyn (co-advisor) and Petr Vorobev

- **University of Vermont (UVM)** — Burlington, VT
  Master of Science (MS) in Electrical Engineering — *June 2015 - Aug. 2016*
  - **Thesis:** *Using Real Time Statistical Data to Improve Voltage Stability in Power Systems*
  - **Supervisor**: Paul Hines (advisor)

- **University of Vermont (UVM)** — Burlington, VT
  Bachelor of Science (BS) in Electrical Engineering — *Aug. 2011 - June 2015*
  - Graduated *Magna Cum Laude* with 3.94/4.00 GPA; Minor in Mathematics

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- **Assistant Professor (*Tenure Track*)** — Burlington, Vermont
  Electrical and Biomedical Engineering Department at UVM — *Starting: Aug. 2023*

- **Postdoctoral Researcher: Electric Power Systems Group** — Lyngby, Denmark
  Wind and Energy Systems Department at DTU — *Feb. 2021 - Present*
  - Funded as a Marie Curie postdoctoral fellow in DTU's Center for Electric Power and Energy
  - Developed optimization-based tools for generating machine learning performance guarantees
  - Used neural networks to learn and replace intractable constraints in optimization problems

- **Graduate Research Assistant: Computational Prototyping Group** — Cambridge, MA
  EECS Department at MIT — *Jan. 2019 - Jan. 2021*
  - Applied uncertainty quantification and model order reduction to complex power systems
  - Developed power system state estimation and dynamical inference solvers
  - Advised by Dr. Luca Daniel

- **Graduate Research Assistant: Energy, Controls and Mechanics Group** — Cambridge, MA
  Mechanical Engineering Department at MIT — *Aug. 2016 - Dec. 2018*
  - Investigated the propagation of forced oscillations in electrical power system networks
  - Characterized the stability of various energy networks (e.g. natural gas pipeline systems, microgrids) using novel simulation and energy function analysis techniques
  - Advised by Dr. Kostya Turitsyn

- **Graduate Resident Advisor (GRA)** — Cambridge, MA
  Live-in Mentor for Undergraduates at MIT — *Aug. 2017 - Jan. 2021*
  - Supported 40 undergraduate students as a live-in resource on a residential hall
  - Resolved interpersonal conflict, built community, and acted as a mental health resource

- **Research Assistant: Energy and Complexity Research Group**　　　　　Burlington, VT
  Electrical Engineering Department at UVM　　　　　　　　　　　　　Jan 2014 - Aug. 2016
    - Explored the statistical warning signs of voltage instability in transmission networks
    - Constructed reactive power controller which used PMU data statistics as a feedback signal
    - Performed data sanitation and organization in a DOE-sponsored demand response study
    - Advised by Dr. Paul Hines

- **LORD Microstrain**　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Williston, VT
  Electrical Engineering Intern　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Summer 2013 and 2014
    - Developed software in LabVIEW for calibrating wireless sensor nodes and networks
    - Performed sensor prototype assembly and wireless packet transmission testing

- **Academic Reviewer**　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　2015-Present
    - IEEE Transactions on Power Systems (TPWRS)
    - IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid (TSG)
    - Transactions on Control of Network Systems (TCNS)
    - IEEE Power and Energy Society General Meeting (PESGM)
    - IEEE Power Engineering Letters
    - IEEE Control System Letters
    - Power Systems Computation Conference (PSCC)
    - Journal of Modern Power Systems and Clean Energy (MPCE)
    - IEEE Transactions on Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology
    - IET Generation, Transmission & Distribution
    - American Control Conference (ACC)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Introduction to Electric Power Systems (31730)**　　　　　　　　Lyngby, Denmark
  Co-Instructor for MS-level course with 70+ students (2x)　　　　　　　　F21, F22
    - *Course topics:* power flows, transformers, transmission line modeling, symmetrical faults
    - Student evaluation grade: 4.8/5.0 (F21)

- **Introduction to Electrical Energy Systems (EE113)**　　　　　　　　Burlington, VT
  Graduate/Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (3x)　　　　　　　　　　S14, S15, S16
    - *Course topics:* complex power, phasors, generators and motors (synchronous and induction)
    - Facilitated 10 power lab exercises related to power, electrical generators and non-ideal transformers

- **Linear Circuit Analysis Lab 1 (EE81)**　　　　　　　　　　　　　Burlington, VT
  Graduate Teaching Assistant (1x)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　F15
    - *Course topics:* RLC components, op-Amps, digital-to-analog converters, RLC transient response
    - Facilitated circuit lab exercises using oscilloscopes, passive RLC components, and op-Amps

ACADEMIC MENTORSHIP OF STUDENTS

- **Mr. Ignasi Ventura Nadal** (DTU). MSc thesis supervisor. 2022.
    - Thesis: "Optimization-Based Exploration of the Feasible Power Flow Space."

- **Mr. Markus Hvid Monin** (DTU). Bachelor thesis co-supervisor (with Haris Ziras).
    - Thesis: "Opportunities for Distributed Slack Power Flow Modelling in Power System Operation."

- **Mr. Valdemar Søgaard** (DTU). MSc thesis co-supervisor (with Jalal Kazempour, Yannick Werner). 2023.
    - Thesis: TBD.

- **Mr. Sulav Ghimire** (Skoltech). External MSc thesis reviewer.
    - Thesis: "Dynamics and Stability of Inverter Dominated Low Inertia Power Grids."

Successful Grant Applications

- **"TRUST-ML: An Optimization-based Platform for Building Trust in ML Models"**   Lyngby, Denmark
  Award size: €230,774   *Awarded: June, 2022*
  - Awarded a two year Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship for my project "TRUST-ML", which proposed using convex optimization tools for building trust in machine learning models used in power system applications; proposal evaluation score: 100/100.
  - Project supervisors: Spyros Chatzivasileiadis (DTU), Shie Mannor (Technion), Erling Andersen (MOSEK), and Edoardo Simioni (Ørsted)

- **"Stability and Control of DC Microgrid System"**   Cambridge, MA
  Award size: $20,000   *Awarded: Feb, 2020*
  - Co-author of this $20,000 travel grant, along with PIs Luca Daniel and Pekik Argo Dahono
  - Selected for funding by the MIT Indonesia Seed Fund. The grant was submitted with Indonesian collaborators for developing and testing decentralized microgrid control strategies for islanded DC microgrid networks.

- **"PMU Data Analytics Platform for Load Model and Oscillation Source ID"**   Cambridge, MA
  Award size: $150,000   *Awarded: March, 2017*
  - Co-author of this $150,000 research grant, along with PIs Kostya Turitsyn and Luca Daniel
  - Selected for funding by the MIT Energy Initiative Seed Fund. The grant funding subsequently supported my research on forced oscillations and model identification for multiple years.

Journal Publications

J1. **S. Chevalier**, L. Schenato and L. Daniel, "Accelerated Probabilistic Power Flow in Electrical Distribution Networks via Model Order Reduction and Neumann Series Expansion," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, 2021, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2021.3120911.

J2. **S. Chevalier**, F. M. Ibanez, K. Cavanagh, K. Turitsyn, L. Daniel and P. Vorobev, "Network Topology Invariant Stability Certificates for DC Microgrids with Arbitrary Load Dynamics," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, 2021, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2021.3110803.

J3. **S. Chevalier** and D. Wu, "Dynamic Linepack Depletion Models for Natural Gas Pipeline Networks," in Applied Mathematical Modelling, vol. 94, pp. 169-186, 2021, doi: 10.1016/j.apm.2020.12.022

J4. T. Bradde, **S. Chevalier**, M. De Stefano, S. Grivet-Talocia, and L. Daniel, "Handling Initial Conditions in Vector Fitting for Real Time Modeling of Power System Dynamics," in Energies, vol. 14, no. 14, 2021, doi: 10.3390/en14092471

J5. **S. Chevalier**, P. Vorobev and K. Turitsyn, "A Passivity Interpretation of Energy-Based Forced Oscillation Source Location Methods," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 35, no. 5, pp. 3588-3602, Sept. 2020, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2020.2973070.

J6. D. Wu, P. Vorobev, **S. Chevalier** and K. Turitsyn, "Modulated Oscillations of Synchronous Machine Nonlinear Dynamics With Saturation," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 35, no. 4, pp. 2915-2925, July 2020, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2019.2958707.

J7. **S. Chevalier**, P. Vorobev and K. Turitsyn, "A Bayesian Approach to Forced Oscillation Source Location Given Uncertain Generator Parameters," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 34, no. 2, pp. 1641-1649, March 2019, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2018.2879222.

J8. **S. Chevalier**, P. Vorobev and K. Turitsyn, "Using Effective Generator Impedance for Forced Oscillation Source Location," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 33, no. 6, pp. 6264-6277, Nov. 2018, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2018.2834229.

J9. **S. Chevalier** and P. D. H. Hines, "Mitigating the Risk of Voltage Collapse Using Statistical Measures From PMU Data," in IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 34, no. 1, pp. 120-128, Jan. 2019, doi: 10.1109/TPWRS.2018.2866484.

Conference Publications

C1. V. Dvorkin, **S. Chevalier** and S. Chatzivasileiadis, "Emission-Aware Optimization of Gas Networks: Input-Convex Neural Network Approach." **Submitted** to the ClimateAI workshop at NeurIPS 2022. ArXiv e-print: 2209.08645.

C2. **S. Chevalier** and M. Almassalkhi, "Towards Optimal Kron-based Reduction Of Networks (Opti-KRON) for the Electric Power Grid." **Accepted** for publication at 2022 IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC). ArXiv e-print: 2204.05554.

C3. I. Nadal and **S. Chevalier**, "Optimization-Based Exploration of the Feasible Power Flow Space for Rapid Data Collection." **Accepted** for publication at 2022 IEEE Smart Grid Comm Conference. ArXiv e-print: 2206.12214. **Best Paper Award.**

C4. J. Stiasny, **S. Chevalier**, R. Nellikkath, B. Sævarsson, and S. Chatzivasileiadis, "Closing the Loop: A Framework for Trustworthy Machine Learning in Power Systems." **Accepted** for publication at 2022 Bulk Power Systems Dynamics and Control Symposia (IREP). ArXiv e-print: 2203.07505.

C5. **S. Chevalier**, J. Stiasny, and S. Chatzivasileiadis, "Accelerating Dynamical System Simulations with Contracting and Physics-Projected Neural-Newton Solvers," in Proceedings of The 4th Annual Learning for Dynamics and Control Conference, Jun. 2022, vol. 168, pp. 803–816. ArXiv e-print: 2106.02543.

C6. A. Kody†, **S. Chevalier**†, S. Chatzivasileiadis, and D. Molzahn, "Modeling the AC power flow equations with optimally compact neural networks: Application to unit commitment," Electric Power Systems Research, vol. 213, p. 108282, 2022. ArXiv e-print: 2110.11269. († denotes an equal contribution among authors).

C7. N. Müller, **S. Chevalier**, C. Heinrich, K. Heussen, and C. Ziras, "Uncertainty quantification in LV state estimation under high shares of flexible resources," Electric Power Systems Research, vol. 212, p. 108479, 2022. ArXiv e-print: 2110.04174.

C8. J. Stiasny, **S. Chevalier**, and S. Chatzivasileiadis, "Learning without Data: Physics-Informed Neural Networks for Fast Time-Domain Simulation," in 2021 IEEE International Conference on Communications, Control, and Computing Technologies for Smart Grids (SmartGridComm), 2021, pp. 438–443. ArXiv e-print: 2106.15987.

C9. **S. Chevalier**, L. Schenato, and L. Daniel, "Accelerated Probabilistic State Estimation in Distribution Grids via Model Order Reduction," in 2021 IEEE Power & Energy Society General Meeting (PESGM), 2021, pp. 1–5. ArXiv e-print: 2011.05397.

C10. A. Mikhalev, A. Emchinov, **S. Chevalier**, Y. Maximov and P. Vorobev, "A Bayesian Framework for Power System Components Identification," 2020 IEEE Power & Energy Society General Meeting (PESGM), Montreal, QC, Canada, 2020, pp. 1-5, doi: 10.1109/PESGM41954.2020.9281790.

C11. **S. Chevalier**, P. Vorobev, K. Turitsyn, B. Wang and S. Maslennikov, "Using Passivity Theory to Interpret the Dissipating Energy Flow Method," 2019 IEEE Power & Energy Society General Meeting (PESGM), Atlanta, GA, USA, 2019, pp. 1-5, doi: 10.1109/PESGM40551.2019.8974116.

C12. P. Vorobev, **S. Chevalier** and K. Turitsyn, "Decentralized stability rules for microgrids," 2019 American Control Conference (ACC), Philadelphia, PA, USA, 2019, pp. 2596-2601, doi: 10.23919/ACC.2019.8815214.

C13. **S. Chevalier** and P. D. H. Hines, "Identifying system-wide early warning signs of instability in stochastic power systems," 2016 IEEE Power and Energy Society General Meeting (PESGM), Boston, MA, 2016, pp. 1-5, doi: 10.1109/PESGM.2016.7741815.

Theses

T1. **S. Chevalier**, "Inference, estimation, and prediction for stable operation of modern electric power systems. PhD Dissertation. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2021.

T2. **S. Chevalier**, "Using real time statistical data to improve long term voltage stability in stochastic power systems." MS Dissertation. University of Vermont, 2016.

Conferences, Workshops, and Seminars

October, 2022	**HVDC Colloquium** *(Participant: DTU)* Attended one day of the annual European HVDC colloquium hosted at DTU Risø campus.
June, 2022	**Power Systems Computation Conference (PSCC)** *(Participant & Presenter: U. Porto)* Presented our conference paper on Unit Commitment C6.
June, 2022	**Learning 4 Dynamics and Control (L4DC)** *(Participant & Presenter: Stanford)* Presented (poster) our conference paper on neural-Newton solvers C5..
October, 2021	**INFORMS** *(Session Organizer and Participant: Virtual)* Co-organized and co-hosted a two-part INFORMS session, entitled, "Managing Uncertainty and Scarcity in Energy Systems: Parts I and II."
September, 2021	**DTU Teaching Lab: Module 1** *(Participant: Lyngby, Denmark)* Intensive week-long teaching workshop. Topics: inductive teaching, student-focused teaching, alignment of learning objective and learning activities. Workshop culminated with mock lecture and 40 minutes of professional feedback.
September, 2021	**NREL's Resilient Autonomous Energy Systems** *(Participant: Virtual)* Selected to attend the two-day workshop hosted by NREL.
July, 2021	**Power and Energy Society GM** *(Participant & Presenter: Virtual)* Virtually presented our PESGM conference publication on state estimation C9.
December, 2020	**Invited Talk: Los Alamos National Lab** *(Virtual Presentation)* Delivered a talk at the LANL Advanced Network Science Initiative seminar series. Talk title: "Tales from Numerical Linear Algebra: Accelerating Probabilistic Power Flow in Electrical Distribution Networks."
November, 2020	**Invited Talk: UVM EBE Graduate Seminar Series** *(Virtual Presentation)* Delivered a talk at the UVM Electrical and Biomedical Engineering (EBE) graduate seminar series. Talk title: "Tales from Numerical Linear Algebra: Accelerating Probabilistic Power Flow in Electrical Distribution Networks."
August, 2019	**Power and Energy Society GM** *(Participant & Presenter: Atlanta, GA)* Presented (poster) my conference paper C11. Presented (verbal) my journal paper J7.
December, 2018	**Invited Talk: Skoltech Center for Energy Science and Technology** *(Moscow, Russia)* Delivered a talk entitled, "Locating the Sources of Forced Oscillations in Power Grids."
August, 2018	**Power and Energy Society GM** *(Participant: Portland, OR)* Attended half-day tutorial workshops on (i) modeling doubly-fed induction generators and controllers for wind turbine applications and (ii) power quality considerations for distributed resource integration.
January, 2017	**Los Alamos Grid Science School** *(Participant & Presenter: Santa Fe, NM)* Selected to attend the week-long LANL grid science school. Presented my MS work (poster presentation) on the statistical signs of voltage collapse.
July, 2016	**Power and Energy Society GM** *(Participant & Presenter: Boston, MA)* Presented a poster on my conference paper C13. Attended a full-day industry-focused workshop regarding forced oscillations in transmission systems.

Relevant Skills

- **Programming Tools:** MATLAB, Python, Julia, PyTorch, Flux, PowerModels.jl, optimization solvers (Gurobi, MOSEK, CVXPY, IPOPT, etc.), C, PowerWorld, Power System Analysis Toolbox (PSAT), OpenDSS, MATPower, LabVIEW, PSpice, Arduino, LaTeX, PSS/E (novice)

- **Mathematical Tools:** linear algebra, differential equations, inverse problem theory, Bayesian inversion, power

system and circuit analysis, applied optimization, control theory, mechanical dynamics, electromagnetics, model order reduction, numerical simulation, statistics, stochastic processes, uncertainty quantification, neural networks, machine learning

- **Interpersonal Skills:** Strong written and oral communication skills; active listening skills; trained in Restorative Practices (RP); extensive coaching and mentoring experiences in a diversity of contexts

Honors and Awards

⋆ Best student paper award at the IEEE Smart Grid Comm 2022 Conference; awarded for paper C3.
⋆ America East Presidential Scholar Recipient (2015)
⋆ Senior Electrical Engineering Award: Atwater-Kent Award for Excellence of Judgment and Understanding of the Principles of Electrical Engineering (2015)
⋆ Elected Captain: UVM Varsity (Division 1) Track & Field Team (2014-2015)
⋆ Tau Beta Pi Honor Society Inductee (2014)
⋆ American Public Power Association Scholarship (2014)
⋆ Recipient of the Richard A. Swenson Endowed Scholarship (2013 - 2014)
⋆ Sophomore Electrical Engineering Award: Excellence and Greatest Promise (2013)
⋆ Recipient of the Vermont Scholar's Award Scholarship (2011-2014)

Other Leadership Activities

Veritas' Graduate School Mentorship Program   Cambridge, MA
Mentor for Undergraduate Students   *2020-2021*
  ◦ Actively mentored and prepared undergraduate students from top US schools (Yale, UC Berkeley, Duke, etc.) for applying to PhD programs

Electricity Student Research Group   Cambridge, MA
Weekly Research Luncheon Organizer   *2017-2019*
  ◦ Organized and facilitated a weekly research luncheon through the MIT Energy Initiative

MIT's Graduate Association of Mechanical Engineers (GAME)   Cambridge, MA
Student Council Officer   *2017-2019*
  ◦ Organized departmental athletic (intramural sports) and social activities

UVM Track & Field   Burlington, VT
Athletic Team Member & Captain   *2011-2015*
  ◦ Four year member of the UVM NCAA Division 1 Varsity Track Team (Pole Vault)
  ◦ Elected team captain senior year