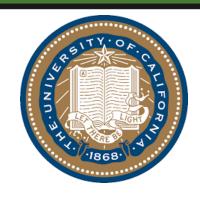
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Optimal Dispatch of Reactive Power for Voltage Regulation and Balancing in Unbalanced Distribution Systems

Daniel Arnold

UC Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley Lab

dbarnold@lbl.gov





Background

- OPF formulations for balanced systems utilize convex relaxations or approximations
- Many approaches based on DistFlow and LinDistFlow models in seminal work of Baran and Wu¹
- Second order cone relaxations difficult to extend to 3 phase systems
- Semidefinite relaxations fail to converge in many situations
- Lack of suitable linearizations that relate voltages to complex power flows





Results

- Developed a linearized model of unbalanced power flow that relates voltage magnitudes to complex power flows
- LinDist3Flow This approximation can be viewed as an extension of the LinDistFlow model to 3 phase systems
- LinDist3Flow model allows problems to be addressed which hitherto could not be addressed with OPF techniques
- Here, we incorporate the LinDist3Flow model into an OPF that uses reactive power resources to balance voltage magnitude across phases and provide voltage support
- Simulations conducted on the IEEE 13 node feeder





Conclusions/Recommendations

- LinDist3Flow model is a good approximation for power flow equations in OPF formulations
- Allows formulation of OPF approaches to enable new types of functionality:
 - Voltage balancing (in this paper)
 - 3 Phase Voltage phasor reference tracking
 - Stochastic OPF formulations



