

# Real-Time Energy Management for Electric Arc Furnace Operation

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# Outline

## 1 Introduction

- Electric Arc Furnace Model

## 2 Real-time Energy Management

- Economic Model Predictive Control
- Multi-rate Moving Horizon Estimation

## 3 Implementation

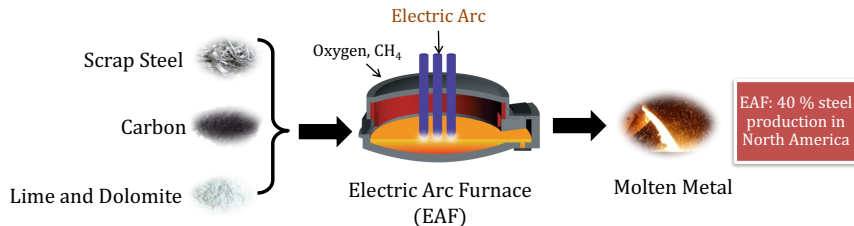
- Novel NMPC-MHE Initialization Scheme

## 4 Case Study

## 5 Conclusions and Future Work



# Introduction



High energy intensive batch process, Low level of automation, Limited measurements

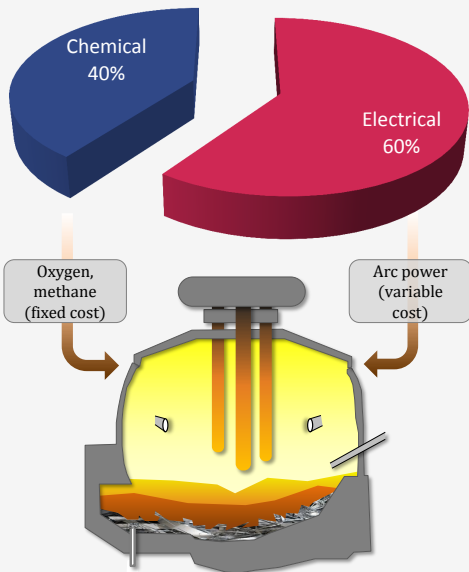
## Objectives

- Develop **real-time energy management** strategy to determine economically optimal operating policies for EAF

## Approach

- Develop dynamic model and **rigorous optimization framework**
- Collaborate with industrial partners for model validation, optimization problem formulation and **in-plant evaluation**

# Energy Management for Electric Arc Furnace



Optimal electrical and chemical energy usage



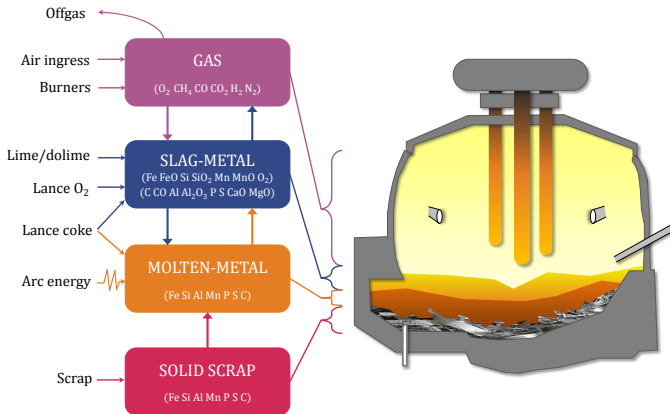
Electricity supply dependent on deregulated markets



**Challenge:** Develop efficient energy management strategies in response to external variations

# Dynamic First Principles Model of EAF<sup>1</sup>

- **Multi-zone System:** Chemical equilibrium within slag-metal and gas zones (reactions limited by mass transfer)
- Mass and energy balances; diffusion and heat transfer relationships

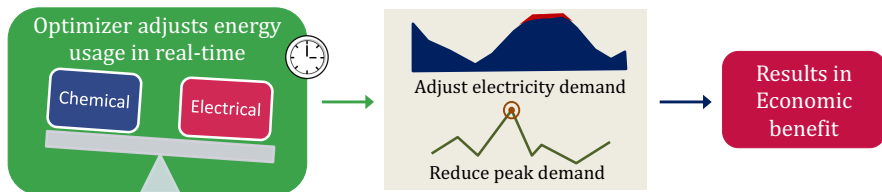
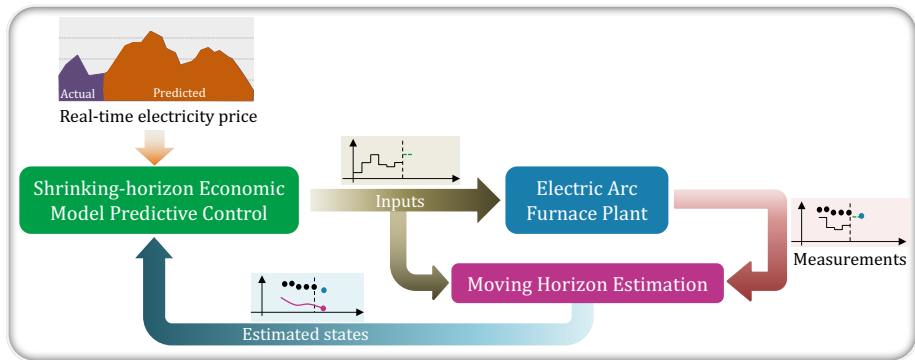


Parameter estimation using plant data

Large scale DAE system: 28 differential & 518 algebraic variables

<sup>1</sup>MacRosty, R. D. M. & Swartz, C. L. E. (2005). Ind.Eng.Chem.Res., 44, 8067-8083.

# Real-Time Energy Management



**Key idea:** Offset high price electricity with chemical energy

# Economic Model Predictive Control

Objective function (with time varying cost coefficients)

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{u}(t)} \quad & c_0 M_{\text{steel}}(t_f) - \left( \int_{t_i}^{t_f} c_1(t) P dt + c_2 \int_{t_i}^{t_f} F_{\text{CH}_4, \text{brnr}} dt \right. \\ & \left. + c_3 \int_{t_i}^{t_f} (F_{\text{O}_2, \text{Jetbox1}} + F_{\text{O}_2, \text{Jetbox2}} + F_{\text{O}_2, \text{Jetbox3}}) dt \right) \end{aligned}$$

Constraints

*Model equations:*

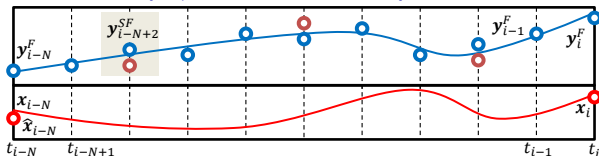
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) &= \mathbf{f}_x(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)), & \mathbf{0} &= \mathbf{f}_z(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) \\ \mathbf{y}(t) &= \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) \end{aligned}$$

*Input constraints:*

$$P^{\min}(t) \leq P \leq P^{\max}(t), \quad F_k^{\min}(t) \leq F_k \leq F_k^{\max}(t)$$

$\mathbf{u}$ :  $P$  (Electrical arc power),  $F_k$  (Flow rates of natural gas and oxygen)

# Multi-rate MHE<sup>2,3</sup> (w/ Batch MHE)



$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{\mathbf{x}_{i-N}, \mathbf{w}_k} \quad & \sum_{k=i-N}^{i-1} \underbrace{\|\mathbf{w}_k\|_{Q^{-1}}^2}_{\text{Model noise}} + \sum_{\substack{k=i-N \\ k \in \mathbb{I}_F}}^i \underbrace{\|\mathbf{v}_k^F\|_{(R^F)^{-1}}^2}_{\text{Measurement noise (only fast)}} \\
 & + \sum_{\substack{k=i-N \\ k \in \mathbb{I}_{SF}}}^i \underbrace{\|\mathbf{v}_k^{SF}\|_{(R^{SF})^{-1}}^2}_{\text{Measurement noise (fast+slow)}} + \underbrace{\|\mathbf{x}_{i-N} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i-N}\|_{S_i^{-1}}}_{\text{Initial state discrepancy}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Subject to:  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) + \mathbf{w}_k,$

$$\mathbf{y}_k^F = \mathbf{h}^F(\mathbf{x}_k) + \mathbf{v}_k^F, \quad k \in \mathbb{I}_F;$$

$$\mathbf{y}_k^{SF} = \mathbf{h}^{SF}(\mathbf{x}_k) + \mathbf{v}_k^{SF}, \quad k \in \mathbb{I}_{SF}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{LB} \leq \mathbf{x}_k \leq \mathbf{x}^{UB}, \quad \mathbf{w}_k \in W$$

Tuning matrices :

$$Q, R \text{ and } S_i \quad (S_{i+1} = Q + A_i[S_i - S_i C_i^T (R + C_i S_i C_i^T)^{-1} C_i S_i] A_i^{-1})$$

<sup>2</sup>Rao, C.V., Rawlings, J.B. and Lee, J.H., (2001). Automatica, 37(10), 1619-1628.

<sup>3</sup>Lopez-Negrete R. and Biegler, L.T., (2012). Journal of Process Control, 22(4), 677-688.



# Implementation

## Novel Multi-Tiered Initialization

Background

1

Generate predicted measurements using model

2

Get electricity price forecasts

3

Solve predicted MHE problem & store  $\text{sol}^n$

4

Solve predicted NMPC problem & store  $\text{sol}^n$

Online

5

Get actual measurements and use stored  $\text{sol}^n$  to solve actual MHE problem

6

Use stored  $\text{sol}^n$  to solve actual NMPC

**Original EAF Model**  
gPROMS code: 28 differential states,  
518 algebraic vars

Model contraction

28+1\* states, 121 alg vars,  
397 dependent vars  
(\*disturbance state)

Backward Euler discretization

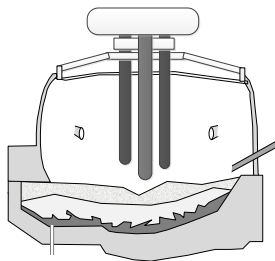
Optimization using IPOPT

Simulation assisted initialization:  
IDAS (SUNDIALS)

CasADi framework (Python)

# Case Study

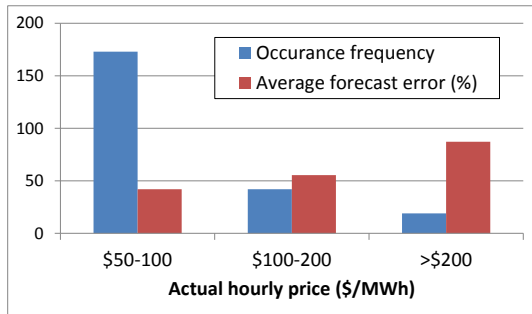
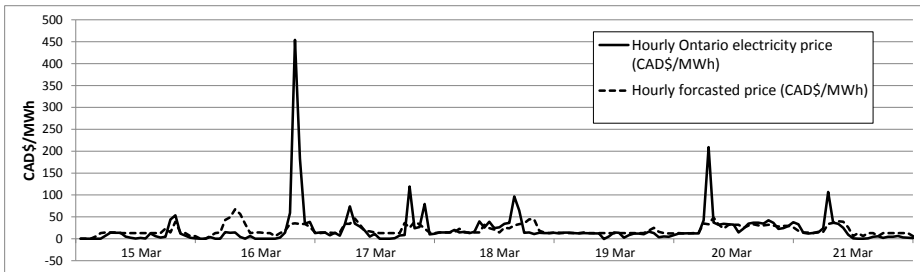
- Realistic electricity price data considered
- Real-Time market (price change every 1 hour)
- NMPC: Shrinking horizon of 60 time steps
- MHE: Moving horizon of 6 time steps
- Multi-rate measurement structure



## Compare two closed loop results:

- 1 NMPC<sup>nominal</sup>: Price profile not updated and forecast price continued to be used even after the change occurs
- 2 NMPC<sup>update</sup>: Price profile updated to reflect actual price obtained from wholesale market

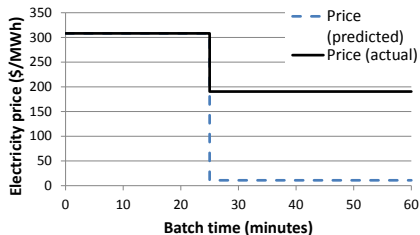
# Actual & Predicted Electricity Prices for Ontario (2016-17)



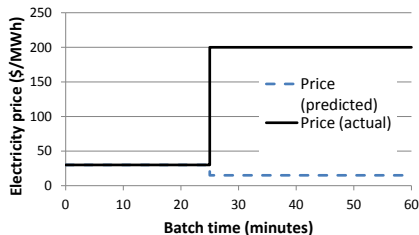
## Price profile characteristics

- Volatile electricity costs
- High price spikes occur rather frequently
- High forecast error

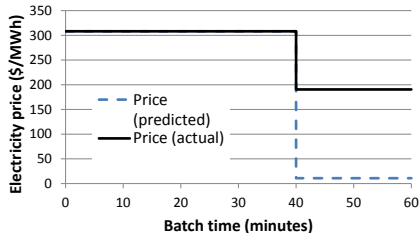
# Price Profiles for Case Studies



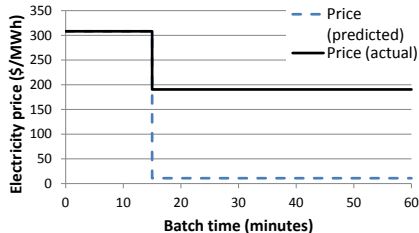
Case Study 1



Case Study 2

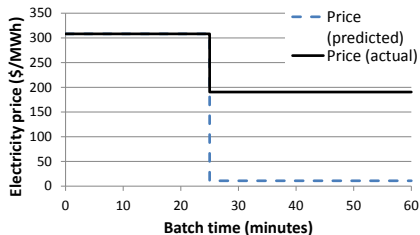


Case Study 3

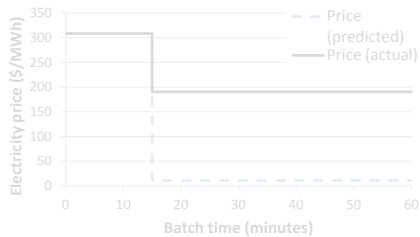
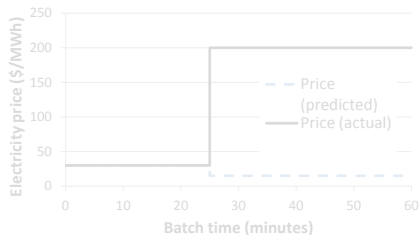
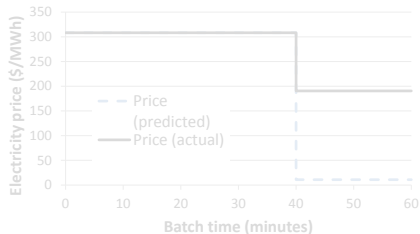


Case Study 4

# Price Profiles for Case Studies



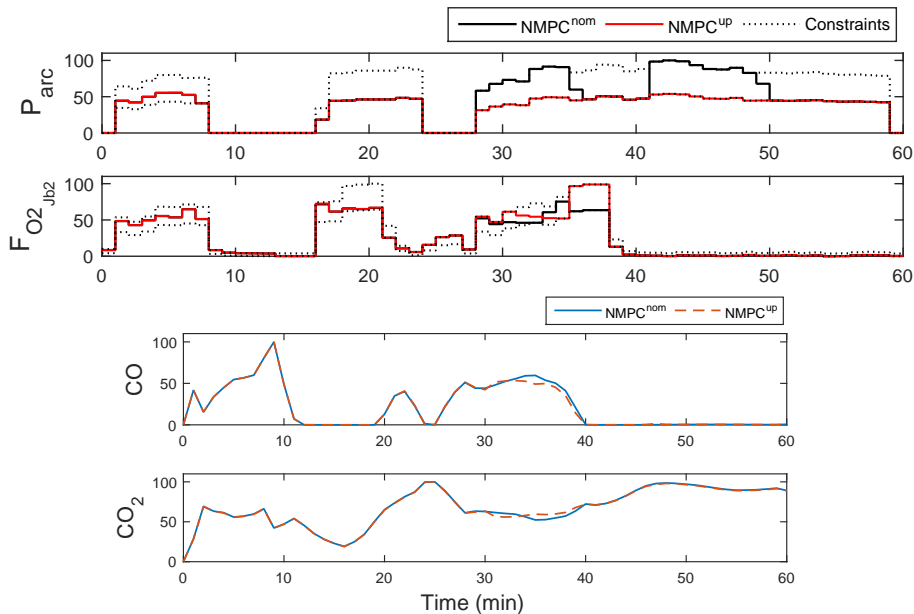
## Case Study 1



## Case Study 1 (Compare NMPC<sup>update</sup> & NMPC<sup>nominal</sup>)

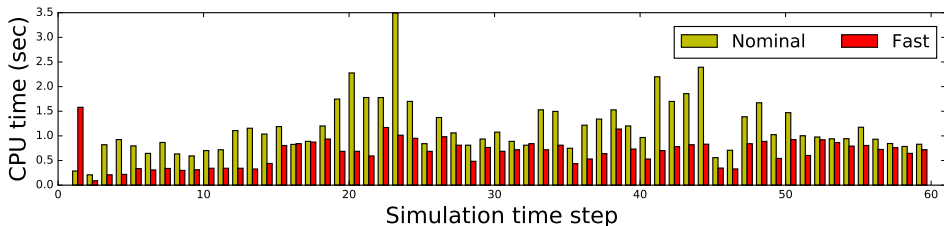
Time of electricity price change (min)	25
Electricity price before the change (\$/MWh)	308
Electricity price after the change (\$/MWh)	190
Predicted electricity price (\$/MWh)	11
Profit increase (%)	4.6
Decrease in electric power use (%)	23
Increase in other input use (%)	1.6
Reduction in peak electricity demand (%)	45

# Case Study 1: Optimal Inputs and Outputs

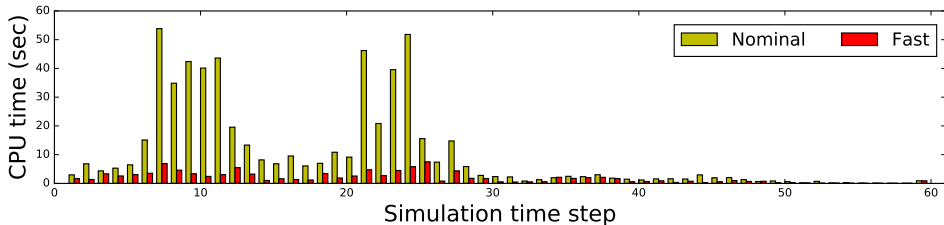


# Case Study 1: Computational Results

MHE:



NMPC:



Average CPU time to solve (sec): 2.6 (novel initialization), 11.2 (nominal)



# Conclusions and Future Work

- 1 Real-time energy management strategy to reduce energy requirements
  - ▶ Optimal energy use while exploiting changing electricity price
- 2 Case studies demonstrate economic benefit for Real-time Market

Average Solve Time

2.6 seconds



- 3 Demand peak reduced when changing electricity price profile is used

## Current and Future Work

- 1 Real-time energy management strategy for 5 and 15 minute market
  - ▶ Construct NMPC problem to minimize the peak demand
- 2 Variable batch length problem
  - ▶ Integrate batch control in scheduling

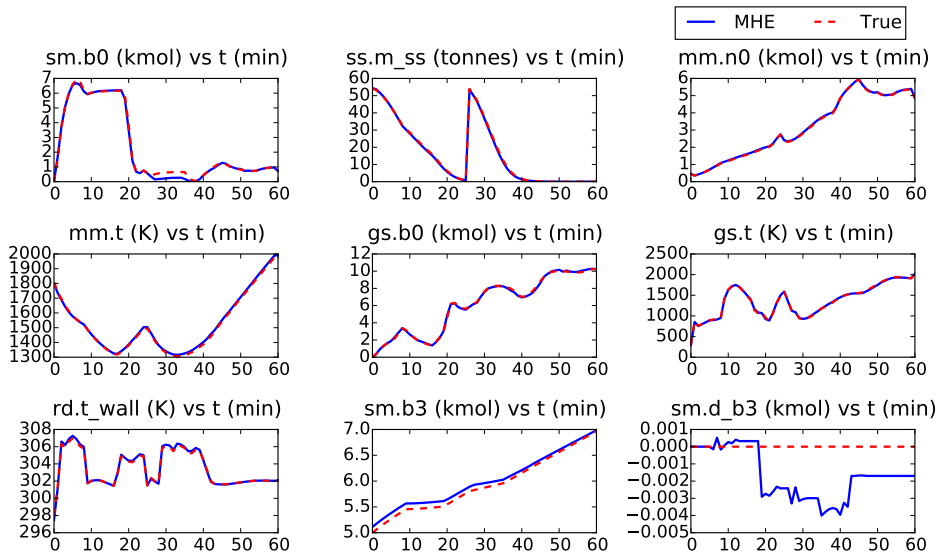
## Acknowledgments



McMASTER STEEL  
RESEARCH CENTRE



# Results (State Estimates)



sm.b0: C in slag	ss.m_ss: Solid scrap mass	mm.n0: C in Molten metal
gs.b0: C in gas	sm.b3: Mn in slag	sm.d_b3: Disturbance state