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# Building Load Control using Distributionally Robust Chance-Constrained Programs with Right-Hand Side Uncertainty and the Risk-Adjustable Variants

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Aggregation of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) loads can provide reserves to absorb volatile renewable energy, especially solar photo-voltaic (PV) generation. In this paper, we decide HVAC control schedules under uncertain PV generation, using a distributionally robust chance-constrained (DRCC) building load control model under two typical ambiguity sets: the moment-based and Wasserstein ambiguity sets. We derive mixed integer linear programming (MILP) reformulations for DRCC problems under both sets. Especially, for the Wasserstein ambiguity set, we utilize the right-hand side (RHS) uncertainty to derive a more compact MILP reformulation than the commonly known MILP reformulations with big-M constants. All the results also apply to general individual chance constraints with RHS uncertainty. Furthermore, we propose an adjustable chance-constrained variant to achieve trade-off between the operational risk and costs. We derive MILP reformulations under the Wasserstein ambiguity set and second-order conic programming (SOCP) reformulations under the moment-based set. Using real-world data, we conduct computational studies to demonstrate the efficiency of the solution approaches and the effectiveness of the solutions.

*Key words:* Building Load Control, Renewable Energy, Distributionally Robust Optimization, Chance-Constrained Program, Binary Program

*History:*

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## 1. Introduction

With growing environmental consciousness and government regulations, renewable energy sources (RESs) are expected to account for 29% of the total electricity consumption by 2040 (Conti et al. 2016). Given that the renewable energy generally cannot adjust their output to reflect changes of demand, higher penetration of renewable energy may cause electrical supply and demand imbalance issues and can be challenging with variability in output and stress on electricity grids' balance, e.g., network frequency and voltage stability (Teodorescu et al. 2011).

With the advanced development of smart sensing and control technologies, one solution is utilizing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems as grid-responsive flexible load resource, i.e., demand response. Given their large amount of power consumption, enormous thermal mass and considerable resistances, the flexible HVAC loads can be employed as virtual storage resources to compensate high frequent fluctuations in renewable energy such as solar photo-voltaic (PV) (Yin et al. 2016).

In Dong et al. (2017, 2018), they study the problem of using aggregated HVAC systems to absorb solar PV generation. However, the inherent uncertainties of the problem are ignored in their deterministic models, such as uncertainties of the thermal controlled loads (TCLs) and renewable resources, which are mainly determined by factors of weather and consumer behavior (Zhang et al. 2018a). The uncertainties can be further intensified by missing samples and low resolution information in HVAC data collection (Wijayasekara and Manic 2015, Žáčková et al. 2014). In this paper, we take the uncertainties into consideration by employing distributionally robust chance-constrained (DRCC) programs.

### 1.1. Relevant Literature

The aggregated HVAC loads as a virtual storage have become a key player in providing grid demand-responsive services including load balancing (see, e.g., Lu 2012, Dong et al. 2017, Baroah 2019, Wang et al. 2020). Hao et al. (2014) provide a virtual storage model to characterize aggregate energy flexibility from building loads. It is followed by virtual storage model identification and flexibility quantification in Hughes et al. (2015) and Stinner et al. (2016), respectively. With the support of home energy management systems (HEMSs), distribution system operators (DSOs) can connect with customers (e.g., using virtual storage model via aggregated HVAC loads) to realize system-wide control objectives, e.g., demand response. Deterministic optimization models have been proposed to

orchestrate the aggregated virtual storage devices (see, e.g., Hao et al. 2017, Dong et al. 2018). In addition to the scalability and privacy issues, residential demand response programs also confront the challenges of handling uncertain parameters, e.g., uncertainties of weather and consumer behavior. To consider the impacts of forecasting errors, both robust optimization and stochastic programming techniques have been introduced to account for modeling disturbance uncertainties (see, e.g., Chen et al. 2012, Nguyen and Le 2014, Zhang et al. 2019, Kocaman et al. 2020). For example, Diekerhof et al. (2017) schedule flexible devices to reduce peak loads and customers bills under weather and occupancy uncertainties. They propose a distributed robust optimization framework to hedge against the worst-case scenario. Lu et al. (2020) apply robust optimization to maintain thermal comfort in heat and electricity integrated energy systems. Nguyen et al. (2014) propose a two-stage stochastic program which uses HVAC loads to smooth out the power fluctuation of a wind farm and/or a solar farm. Alhaider et al. (2016) further take sizing decisions of PV systems and decisions of battery energy storage systems into account, and formulate a two-stage stochastic integer linear program.

Recently, distributionally robust optimization (DRO) techniques have gained wide interest. Instead of assuming a specific probability distribution of the system uncertainties as in stochastic programming, the DRO approaches consider a family of probability distributions with prior knowledge of the uncertainties, termed as ambiguity set. The DRO approaches have been applied to many problems in power systems, such as energy storage operation (see, e.g., Yang 2019), optimal power flow (see, e.g., Zhang et al. 2016, Duan et al. 2018), and unit commitment (see, e.g., Zhao and Jiang 2018). Two typical groups of the ambiguity sets employed in DRO are *moment-based* (e.g., Delage and Ye 2010) and *distance-based* (e.g., Wasserstein metric Esfahani and Kuhn 2018) ambiguity sets. For example, considering a moment-based ambiguity set, Zhang et al. (2019) employ a DRCC program to enable more effective use of uncertain renewables with HVAC systems. A similar formulation has been proposed in Guo et al. (2020) to solve optimal pump coordination in water distribution networks under uncertain water demand. They consider a distributionally robust two-stage stochastic program under a Wasserstein ambiguity set. The stochastic model predictive control (MPC), an approach for energy efficiency in HVAC units (Dong et al. 2018), has been considered with distributionally robust chance constraints in Mark and Liu (2020). They use conditional value-at-risk (CVaR) to approximate the chance constraints.

Another stream of research relevant to this paper is on adjustable chance constraints. Instead of considering a predetermined (fixed) risk level for chance constraints, decision makers can be interested in balancing between the risk level and operational costs by varying the risk level. The adjustable chance constrained models treat the risk levels as decision variables, which have been applied to various problems, such as metal melting (Evers 1967), flexible ramping capacity (Wang et al. 2018), power dispatch (Qiu et al. 2016, Ma et al. 2019), portfolio optimization (Lejeune and Shen 2016), and humanitarian relief network design (Elçi et al. 2018). Wang et al. (2018) and Evers (1967) assume that the inverse of the cumulative distribution is known, which, however, is not always accessible. Qiu et al. (2016) approximate the chance constraint by the sample average approximation and transform the problem to a mixed-integer program. When the uncertainty only happens on the right-hand side, assuming a discrete distribution, Shen (2014) proposes a mixed integer linear programming (MILP) reformulation based on  $p$ -efficient point using a special ordered set of type 1 (SOS1) constraint. Along the same vein, Elçi et al. (2018) propose an alternative MILP using a knapsack inequality which yields an equivalent linear programming relaxation as the one in Shen (2014). All the research above works on individual chance constraint. For joint chance constraints, Bonferroni approximation is one classical approximation, which enforces individual chance constraints with variable risk levels and bounds on the sum of the risk levels. Xie et al. (2019) study the Bonferroni approximation of distributionally robust joint chance constraints under a moment-based ambiguity set which matches the exact mean and covariance. Ma et al. (2019) apply a similar joint chance constraint, which further requires unimodality, to a power dispatch problem with do-not-exceed limits.

## 1.2. Summary of Main Contributions

In this paper, in addition to the moment-based ambiguity set used in the prior work of Zhang et al. (2019), we further consider DRCC programs under the Wasserstein ambiguity set. In particular, by exploiting the right-hand-side (RHS) uncertainty, we derive an MILP reformulation based on the conditional value-at-risk (CVaR) interpretation for DR chance constraints pointed out by Xie (2021), Chen et al. (2018). Recently, based on the CVaR (primal) interpretation, Ho-Nguyen et al. (2021) provide an MILP reformulations for joint DRCC programs with RHS uncertainty. From the primal perspective, CVaR is a conditional expectation at the tail of a distribution; while the dual representation further indicates

that CVaR is a weighted sum of the least favorable outcomes. Our results are built based on the dual perspective by deriving the weights of the least favorable outcomes. Moreover, to better balance the operational cost and PV utilization, we propose an adjustable chance-constrained formulation that treats the risk level of chance constraints as a decision variable rather than a given (fixed) parameter in the DRCC formulations. We summarize our contributions as follows:

1. We formulate the building load control (BLC) problem of HVAC units using DRCC optimization under two types of ambiguity sets: moment-based and Wasserstein ambiguity sets in Section 3. We also propose their variants with adjustable chance constraints to balance operational cost and performance in Section 4.

2. We provide exact reformulations for the DRCC and the adjustable DRCC formulations (with binary decision variables). Specifically, under the Wasserstein ambiguity set, we derive exact MILP reformulations for both DRCC and its adjustable variant. Under the moment-based ambiguity set, DRCC yields an MILP reformulation, while solving the adjustable DRCC is equivalent to solving two second-order conic programs (SOCPs). All the results for DRCC models hold for *general* individual DR chance constraints with RHS uncertainty (even with continuous decision variables), while the results for the adjustable variants hold for general adjustable individual *binary* DR chance constraint with RHS uncertainty.

3. We conduct computational tests on various instances and demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the proposed reformulations via real-world data in Sections 5–7.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the mathematical formulations of the deterministic and stochastic chance-constrained BLC problems. In Sections 3–4, we present the DRCC models and their adjustable variants, and derive exact reformulations under both the moment-based and Wasserstein ambiguity sets. In Sections 5–7, we conduct extensive numerical studies on both non-adjustable DRCC models and adjustable chance-constrained models. Finally, we draw conclusions in Section 8.

## 2. Model Formulation

The BLC problem utilizes an aggregated HVAC load of  $N_{\text{HVAC}}$  units, e.g., buildings, to absorb the solar PV generation (collected from  $N_{\text{PV}}$  PV panels) locally while delicately maintaining desired indoor temperature for each unit throughout the day. We discretize

the day-time duration into  $N_p$  periods with a time interval of  $\Delta t$  (e.g., 10 minutes). For each period  $t = 1, \dots, N_p$ , denote a binary decision variable  $u_{t,\ell} \in \{0, 1\}$  for HVAC unit  $\ell$  to indicate its scheduled mode: if  $u_{t,\ell} = 1$ , ON; otherwise  $u_{t,\ell} = 0$ , OFF.

For each HVAC unit, to characterize the dynamics of room temperature and outdoor temperature, we consider a widely used building thermal model (see e.g., Mathieu et al. 2013), where the system state is the room temperature  $T$ , the system input is HVAC ON/OFF status,  $Mode_{\text{HVAC}}$ , and the system disturbances include outdoor temperature  $T_{\text{out}}$  and solar irradiance  $Q_{\text{out}}$ . Based on the building thermal model, a continuous-time linear time invariant (LTI) system for each HVAC unit in the state-space form is as follows.

$$\dot{T} = \frac{1}{RC}T_{\text{out}} + \frac{1}{RC}T + \frac{1}{C}Q_{\text{out}} + \frac{Mode_{\text{HVAC}}}{C}Q_{\text{HVAC}}, \quad (1)$$

where  $R$  is the building's thermal resistance,  $C$  is the building's thermal capacity, and  $Q_{\text{HVAC}}$  is cooling capacity of the building. These parameters can be estimated following standard building energy modeling techniques, Resistance-Capacitance (RC) model (Belić et al. 2016, Cui et al. 2019), in particular. Such continuous-time LTI model is further converted into a discrete-time model using various techniques including the Zero-Order Hold (ZOH) method. In this paper, for each individual building  $\ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}}$ , we consider a discrete-time building thermal model with a sampling interval of  $\Delta t$  as

$$x_{t,\ell} = A_\ell x_{t-1,\ell} + B_\ell u_{t,\ell} + G_\ell v_\ell, \quad (2)$$

where  $x_{t,\ell}$  is the room temperature of period  $t$ ,  $u_{t,\ell}$  is the binary mode decision variable,  $v_\ell$  is the system disturbance, and the parameters  $A_\ell, B_\ell, G_\ell$  can be computed from the continuous-time model (1).

In this study, we focus on the single-period models, where we solve for the optimal ON/OFF mode decisions at the current period given an initial room temperature resulted from previous periods' decisions. To solve the control problem for all  $N_p$  periods, we sequentially solve  $N_p$  small optimization problems, each for one period. The problem can also be formulated as a multi-period model, which solves one monolithic optimization problem for all the mode decision variables over  $N_p$  periods. In our preliminary results of Zhang et al. (2019), via extensive computational studies, we demonstrate that the multi-period models have similar solutions as those of single-period models using DRCC approaches under the moment-based ambiguity set. However, the multi-period models can suffer from

computational difficulty especially for large-sized problems. Therefore, in this paper, we focus on the single-period models. For the rest of this section, we present two optimization formulations of the single-period models: a deterministic formulation, which assumes that the solar PV generation is deterministic and perfectly known, and a chance-constrained formulation, which assumes the PV generation is stochastic.

### 2.1. Deterministic Formulation

At period  $t$ , we denote  $x_t = (x_{t,\ell}, \ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}})^\top$  the auxiliary decision vector of room temperature of  $N_{\text{HVAC}}$  buildings, and denote  $u_t = (u_{t,\ell}, \ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}})^\top$  the mode vector of ON/OFF decisions of  $N_{\text{HVAC}}$  buildings. For building  $\ell$  in the ON mode, the energy consumption of one period is  $P_\ell$ . We assume that the solar PV generation at period  $t$  is perfectly known as  $P_{\text{PV},t} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{PV}}}$ . At time  $t$ , given an initial room temperature  $x_{t-1,\ell}$ ,  $\ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}}$ , the BLC problem can be formulated as the following MILP (Dong et al. 2018, Zhang et al. 2019).

$$\min_{u_t, \eta, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}} c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{PV}} \eta \quad (3a)$$

s.t. (2)

$$-\eta \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} P_{\text{PV},t,i} \leq \eta \quad (3b)$$

$$-\beta_{t,\ell} \leq x_{t,\ell} - x_{\text{ref}} \leq \beta_{t,\ell}, \ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}} \quad (3c)$$

$$x_{\min} \leq x_{t,\ell} \leq x_{\max}, \ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}} \quad (3d)$$

$$u_t \in \{0, 1\}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}}, \quad (3e)$$

where, in the objective, auxiliary variable  $\beta_{t,\ell} = |x_{t,\ell} - x_{\text{ref}}|$  denotes the room temperature deviation from the set-point  $x_{\text{ref}}$  and  $\eta = |\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} P_{\text{PV},t,i}|$  denotes the signal deviation between the total control signal (of all  $N_{\text{HVAC}}$  buildings) and the total PV signal (of all  $N_{\text{PV}}$  PV panels). The objective (3a) minimizes the total penalty cost of i) discomfort (indicated by the room temperature deviation), ii) switching cycles, and iii) PV tracking error, with unit cost parameters  $c_{\text{sys}}, c_{\text{switch}}, c_{\text{PV}}$ . Constraints (3d) require that the room temperature  $x_{t,\ell}$  is maintained in the comfort band  $[x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$  for building  $\ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}}$ . The last constraint (3e) enforces binary decision  $u_t$ .

## 2.2. Chance-Constrained Formulation

An accurate prediction of the solar PV output  $P_{PV,t}$  is critical to the performance of the deterministic formulation (3). However, in practice, a good prediction of the PV output may not be available, due to the fluctuating nature of solar energy, which can be introduced by cloud shadows, wind speed, and other factors, and thus can be uncertain. In this section, we introduce a chance-constrained formulation to take into account uncertain PV output.

Instead of penalizing the signal deviation  $\eta$  in the objective to enforce all PV generation being consumed, the chance-constrained formulation (4) employs a soft constraint (4b), the chance constraint to ensure that, with a high probability, the solar PV output is consumed by the HVAC fleet. The chance-constrained formulation is

$$\min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}} c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} \quad (4a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbb{P} \left( \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} \tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t,i} \geq 0 \right) \geq 1 - \alpha_t \quad (4b)$$

(2), (3c) – (3e),

where  $\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t,i}$  denotes the uncertain PV generation at period  $t$  of panel  $i$ . Constraint (4b) ensures that the PV generation is absorbed by the HVAC fleet with probability  $1 - \alpha_t$ . The risk level  $\alpha_t \in (0, 1)$  is predefined and reflects system operator's risk preference, usually a small number.

To solve the chance-constrained model, we employ the Sample Average Approximation (SAA) approach (see, e.g., Luedtke and Ahmed 2008) to derive bounds and obtain feasible solutions. Using the Monte Carlo sampling method, we generate a set of finite samples of the uncertainty  $\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}$  and enforce  $\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} \tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t,i} \geq 0$  for sufficiently many samples.

Specifically, we generate  $N$  i.i.d. scenarios of the uncertain PV output  $\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}$ , denoted by  $P_{\text{PV},t}^1, \dots, P_{\text{PV},t}^N$ . Each scenario  $P_{\text{PV},t}^n$  is associated with a probability  $p_{t,n} \geq 0$ , such that  $\sum_{n=1}^N p_{t,n} = 1$ . For each scenario  $n$ , we associate a binary variable  $\rho_n$  such that  $\rho_n = 0$  indicates

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} P_{\text{PV},t,i}^n \geq 0 \quad (5)$$

and when  $\rho_n = 1$ , constraint (5) is relaxed and can be violated. The chance constraint (4b) is approximated (see, e.g., Ruszczyński 2002) by

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} P_{\text{PV},t,i}^n \geq -M\rho_n, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (6a)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N p_n \rho_n \leq \alpha_t \quad (6b)$$

$$\rho_n \in \{0, 1\}, \quad n = 1, \dots, N, \quad (6c)$$

where  $M$  is a big-M coefficient. Constraint (6b) ensures that the probability of violating (5) is no more than  $\alpha_t$ . By replacing the chance constraint (4b) with (6a)–(6c), we obtain an MILP approximation of the chance-constrained model (4).

### 3. DRCC Formulations

In the stochastic chance-constrained formulation (4), full knowledge of the PV’s probability distribution is required. However, an accurate probability distribution can be challenging to obtain especially when the underlying distribution (while ambiguous) is time-varying. As a consequence, the solution obtained from the chance-constrained model might be sensitive to the choice of probability distribution and thus results in poor performance. This phenomenon is called the optimizer’s curse (Smith and Winkler 2006) of solving stochastic programs. To address the curse, a natural way is to employ a set of plausible probability distributions, denoted as  $\mathcal{D}_t$ , rather than assuming a specific probability distribution. Specifically, we consider the DRCC formulation as follows

$$\min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}} c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} \quad (7a)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \inf_{f \in \mathcal{D}_t} \mathbb{P} \left( \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} \tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t,i} \geq 0 \right) \geq 1 - \alpha_t \quad (7b)$$

(2), (3c) – (3e).

Constraint (7b) ensures that the probability of absorbing the PV generation locally by the HVAC fleet is guaranteed at least  $1 - \alpha_t$  for any probability distribution  $f \in \mathcal{D}_t$ . That is, for all probability distributions in  $\mathcal{D}_t$ , the worst-case probability of coordinating the HVAC fleet to consume the PV generation is no less than  $1 - \alpha_t$ . We note that constraint (7b) is an individual DR chance constraint with RHS uncertainty.

### 3.1. Ambiguity Sets

One critical question of the DRCC formulation is how to choose the ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t$ . A good choice of  $\mathcal{D}_t$  should take into account the characteristics of the underlying probability distribution and the tractability of the DRCC formulation. Two types of ambiguity sets have been widely studied: (i) moment-based and (ii) distance-based ambiguity sets. In this paper, we consider a moment-based ambiguity set containing moment constraints on the first- and second-order moments (see, e.g., Delage and Ye 2010) and a distance-based ambiguity set using Wasserstein metric (e.g., Esfahani and Kuhn 2018). Given a series of independent samples,  $\{P_{\text{PV},t}^n\}_{n=1}^N$ , sampled from the true underlying distribution of the PV generation, we consider the following two distributional ambiguity sets.

(i) *Moment-based Ambiguity Set.* The empirical mean and covariance matrix can be calculated as  $\mu_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N P_{\text{PV},t}^n$ ,  $\Sigma_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (P_{\text{PV},t}^n - \mu_t)(P_{\text{PV},t}^n - \mu_t)^\top$ . The ambiguity set based on the two moment estimates  $\mu_t$ ,  $\Sigma_t$ , first proposed by Delage and Ye (2010), is as follows.

$$\mathcal{D}_t^1 = \left\{ f : \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{P}_f(\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{PV}}}) = 1 \\ (\mathbb{E}_f[\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}] - \mu_t)^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} (\mathbb{E}_f[\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}] - \mu_t) \leq \gamma_1, \\ \mathbb{E}_f[(\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t} - \mu_t)(\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t} - \mu_t)^\top] \preceq \gamma_2 \Sigma_t, \end{array} \right\},$$

where  $\gamma_1 \geq 0$  and  $\gamma_2 \geq \max\{\gamma_1, 1\}$ . The three constraints guarantee that (1) the true mean of  $\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}$  lies in an ellipsoid centered at  $\mu_t$  and (2) the true covariance of  $\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}$  is bounded above by  $\gamma_2 \Sigma_t$ . The two parameters  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  reflect the system operator's tolerance of the moment and distributional ambiguity: the larger the two parameters are, the more the tolerance towards ambiguity and the more robustness of the optimal solutions are. The values of  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  depend on the samples size, support size, and confidence level (See more details in Definition 2 in Delage and Ye 2010).

(ii) *Wasserstein Ambiguity Set.* Given a positive radius  $\delta_t > 0$ , the Wasserstein ambiguity set defines a ball around the discrete empirical distribution based on the  $N$  samples,  $\mathbb{P}_{\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}^N}[\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t} = P_{\text{PV},t}^n] = 1/N$ , in the space of probability distributions as follows.

$$\mathcal{D}_t^2 = \left\{ f : \mathbb{P}_f\{\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{PV}}}\} = 1, W(\mathbb{P}_f, \mathbb{P}_{\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}^N}^N) \leq \delta_t \right\},$$

where the Wasserstein distance is defined as

$$W(\mathbb{P}_1, \mathbb{P}_2) = \inf_{\mathbb{Q}} \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{PV}}} \times \mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{PV}}}} \|P_{\text{PV},t}^1 - P_{\text{PV},t}^2\| \mathbb{Q}(dP_{\text{PV},t}^1, dP_{\text{PV},t}^2) : \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{Q} \text{ is a joint distribu-} \\ \text{tion of } \tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}^1 \text{ and } \tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}^2 \\ \text{with marginals } \mathbb{P}_1 \text{ and } \mathbb{P}_2, \\ \text{respectively} \end{array} \right\}.$$

The radius of the ambiguity set controls the degree of the conservatism of the DRCC model. If we set  $\delta_t = 0$ , the ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$  only contains the empirical distribution and we can recover a chance-constrained model.

### 3.2. DRCC Reformulation under Moment-based Ambiguity Set $\mathcal{D}_t^1$

Let  $\theta_t = \mathbf{1}^\top \mu_t$  and  $\sigma_t = \mathbf{1}^\top \Sigma_t \mathbf{1}$ , where  $\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{PV}}$  is a vector with all ones. We follow Zhang et al. (2018b) to rewrite the DR chance constraint (7b) under the moment-based ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^1$  as a linear constraint.

**PROPOSITION 1 (Adapted from Theorem 3.2 of Zhang et al. (2018b)).** *The DR chance constraint (7b) under  $\mathcal{D}_t = \mathcal{D}_t^1$  is equivalent to*

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} \geq \theta_t + \Omega_t \sigma_t, \text{ where } \Omega_t = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\gamma_1} + \sqrt{(1-\alpha_t)(\gamma_2 - \gamma_1)/\alpha_t}, & \gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t \\ \sqrt{\gamma_2/\alpha_t}, & \gamma_1/\gamma_2 > \alpha_t. \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

Instead of enforcing the DR chance constraint with the RHS uncertainty of PV generation, constraint (8) requires the total HVAC load no less than the nominal PV generation  $\theta_t$  plus the product of  $\Omega_t$  and its standard deviation  $\sigma_t$ , where the value of  $\Omega_t$  is determined by the relationship of the ambiguity set parameters  $\gamma$ 's and the risk level  $\alpha_t$ . Then the DRCC formulation (7) under  $\mathcal{D}_t^1$  is equivalent to the following MILP problem.

$$\min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} u_{t,\ell} : (2), (3c) - (3e), (8) \right\}.$$

### 3.3. DRCC Reformulations under Wasserstein Ambiguity Set $\mathcal{D}_t^2$

Denote the total PV output  $P_{\text{total},t}^n = \mathbf{1}^\top P_{PV,t}^n$ . According to Corollary 2 in Xie (2021) (Theorem 3 in Chen et al. 2018), the DR chance constraint (7b) under the Wasserstein ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$  is feasible if and only if the following constraints, with auxiliary variables  $\gamma$  and  $z_n$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, N$ , are satisfied

$$\delta_t - \alpha_t \gamma \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N z_n \quad (9a)$$

$$- \max \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^n, 0 \right] \leq -z_n - \gamma, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (9b)$$

$$z_n \leq 0, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (9c)$$

$$\gamma \geq 0. \quad (9d)$$

We remark that the reformulation (9) admits a CVaR interpretation (Xie 2021), i.e.,

$$\frac{\delta}{\alpha_t} + \text{CVaR}_{1-\alpha_t} \left[ -\max \left\{ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{\ell} - \tilde{P}_{\text{PV}}, 0 \right\} \right] \leq 0, \quad (10)$$

where  $\text{CVaR}_{1-\alpha_t} \left[ -\max \left\{ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{\ell} - \tilde{P}_{\text{PV}}, 0 \right\} \right] = \min_{\gamma} \left\{ \gamma + \frac{1}{\alpha_t} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}_{\tilde{P}_{\text{PV}},t}^N} \left[ -\max \left\{ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{\ell} - \tilde{P}_{\text{PV}}, 0 \right\} \right] \right\}$

To linearize the the nonlinear constraints (9b), we introduce big-M coefficients for  $n = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $M_n^1 = \max_{u_t} \left\{ \left| \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^n \right| \right\} = \max \left\{ \left| \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^n \right|, P_{\text{total},t}^n \right\}$ . We also introduce an auxiliary variable  $s_n = \max \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^n, 0 \right]$  and a binary indicator variable  $y_n$  for  $n = 1, \dots, N$ . The constraints (9b) are equivalent to the following MILP constraints.

$$z_n + \gamma \leq s_n, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (11a)$$

$$s_n \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^n + M_n^1 (1 - y_n), \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (11b)$$

$$s_n \leq M_n^1 y_n, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (11c)$$

$$y_n \in \{0, 1\}, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (11d)$$

$$s_n \geq 0, \quad n = 1, \dots, N. \quad (11e)$$

Therefore, the DRCC formulation (7) under  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$  is reformulated as an MILP problem as follows.

$$\text{MILP1: } \min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{\ell,t}} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} : (2), (3c) - (3e), (9a), (9c) - (9d), (11a) - (11e) \right\}.$$

REMARK 1. Reformulation (11) involves  $3N$  constraints and  $N$  binary variables, which may pose computational challenges as  $N$  grows large.

Next, by exploiting the dual of the CVaR interpretation, we provide a more compact MILP reformulation for the DR chance constraint with only  $2\lfloor \alpha_t N \rfloor + 2$  constraints and  $\lfloor \alpha_t N \rfloor + 1$  binary variables. The problem size can be significantly reduced when  $\alpha_t$  is small.

We first sort  $\{P_{\text{total},t}^n\}_{n=1}^N$  such that  $P_{\text{total},t}^{(1)} \geq P_{\text{total},t}^{(2)} \geq \dots \geq P_{\text{total},t}^{(N)}$  and obtain the non-increasing permutation  $\{(1), (2), \dots, (n)\}$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ . Denote  $P_{\text{total},t}^{(0)} = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell}$ , the maximum load provided by turning on all HVAC units. We make the following assumption.

$$\text{ASSUMPTION 1. } P_{\text{total},t}^{(0)} > P_{\text{total},t}^{(N)}.$$

This is a mild assumption that requires the smallest value of the solar PV generation realization smaller than the maximum HVAC load provided when all the HVAC units are ON.

**THEOREM 1.** *Under Assumption 1, the DR chance constraint (7b) under the Wasserstein ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$  is feasible if and only if the following linear constraints are feasible with auxiliary variables  $a_n, h_n \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, k + 1$ , where  $k = \lfloor \alpha_t N \rfloor$ .*

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^k a_n + (\alpha_t - \frac{k}{N}) a_{k+1} \geq \delta \quad (12a)$$

$$a_n \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{total,t}^{(n)} + M_n^2 (1 - h_n), \quad n = 1, \dots, k + 1 \quad (12b)$$

$$a_n \leq M_n h_n, \quad n = 1, \dots, k + 1 \quad (12c)$$

$$h_n \in \{0, 1\}, \quad a_n \geq 0, \quad n = 1, \dots, k + 1, \quad (12d)$$

where  $M_n$  and  $M_n^2$  are sufficiently large big- $M$  constants.

*Proof:* According to (9), the DR chance constraint (7b) with  $\mathcal{D}_t = \mathcal{D}_t^2$  is satisfied if and only if the optimal value of the following linear program is no more than  $-\delta_t$ .

$$\min \quad -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N z_n - \alpha_t \gamma \quad (13a)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad -a_n \leq -z_n - \gamma, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (13b)$$

$$z_n \leq 0, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (13c)$$

$$\gamma \geq 0, \quad (13d)$$

where

$$a_n = \max \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{total,t}^{(n)}, 0 \right], \quad n = 1, \dots, N. \quad (14)$$

We associate dual variables  $\pi_n \geq 0$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, N$  with constraints in (13b) and obtain the dual problem as follows.

$$\max \quad -\sum_{n=1}^N \pi_n a_n \quad (15a)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \pi_n \leq \frac{1}{N}, \quad n = 1, \dots, N \quad (15b)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \pi_n \geq \alpha_t \quad (15c)$$

$$\pi_n \geq 0, \quad n = 1, \dots, N. \quad (15d)$$

Due to strong duality, the optimal value of (15) equals to that of (13), which is  $\leq -\delta_t$ . Note that (15) is the dual interpretation of the CVaR (10) scaled by  $\alpha_t$ . The problem (15) is always feasible as  $0 < \alpha_t < 1$ . If Assumption 1 does not hold, the DR chance constraint (7b) is infeasible. Because when the Assumption 1 does not hold,  $a_n = 0$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, N$ , for any solution of  $u_t$  and thus the optimal value of the dual problem (15) is zero. As the optimal value is more than  $-\delta_t$ , the DR chance constraint (7b) is then infeasible and so is the DRCC problem (7).

The problem (15) can be converted to a relaxed knapsack problem and one optimal solution that can be obtained by the greedy algorithm is

$$\pi_n = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{N}, & n = 1, \dots, k \\ \alpha_t - \frac{k}{N}, & n = k + 1 \\ 0, & n = k + 2, \dots, N. \end{cases}$$

We note that  $\pi/\alpha_t$  is the conditional (discrete) probability distribution of CVaR in (10). Recall that  $\{(1), (2), \dots, (n)\}$  is a permutation such that  $P_{\text{total},t}^{(1)} \geq P_{\text{total},t}^{(2)} \geq \dots \geq P_{\text{total},t}^{(N)}$ , or equivalently,  $0 \leq a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_N$  (because for any  $n \leq m$ ,  $\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^{(n)} \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{\text{total},t}^{(m)}$  and thus  $a_n \leq a_m$ ) and  $k = \lfloor \alpha_t N \rfloor$  is an index such that  $k/N \leq \alpha_t < (k+1)/N$ . In the case where  $k = 0$ , the optimal solution is  $\pi_1 = \alpha_t$  and  $\pi_n = 0$ ,  $n = 2, \dots, N$ .

Now, we obtain an equivalent reformulation of (9) as

$$-\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^k a_{(n)} - \left(\alpha_t - \frac{k}{N}\right) a_{(k+1)} \leq -\delta_t \text{ and constraint (14)}. \quad (16)$$

We obtain (12a) by multiplying -1 on both sides of the first inequality above. To linearize (14), we introduce binary variables  $h_n$  for  $n = 1, \dots, k+1$  and big-M coefficients to obtain (12b) and (12c). Now, we complete the proof.  $\square$

The big-M coefficients in Theorem 1 can take values as  $M_n^2 = P_{\text{total},t}^{(n)} - P_{\text{total},t}^{(k)}$  and  $M_n = M_n^1$ . Now, we obtain the second MILP reformulation of the DRCC formulation (7) under the Wasserstein ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$ .

$$\text{MILP2: } \min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} : (2), (3\text{c}) - (3\text{e}), (12\text{a}) - (12\text{d}) \right\}.$$

MILP2 can be further strengthened by the following proposition.

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Let  $k = \lfloor \alpha_t N \rfloor$ .*

*i. If MILP2 is feasible, then*

$$a_{k+1} = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} - P_{total,t}^{(k+1)}. \quad (17)$$

Thus constraints (12b) and (12c) indexed with  $k + 1$  and variable  $h_{k+1}$  can be removed from MILP2.

*ii. The following inequalities are valid for MILP2.*

$$h_n \leq h_{n+1}, \quad n = 1, \dots, k - 1. \quad (18)$$

*Proof:* For a given solution  $u_t$ , there exists a critical index  $j$  such that

$$P_{total,t}^{(j)} < \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} \leq P_{total,t}^{(j-1)}$$

and thus  $a_1 = \dots = a_{j-1} = 0 < a_j \leq \dots \leq a_N$ . In the case where for all  $n = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $a_n > 0$ , or equivalently  $P_{total,t}^{(j)} < \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell}$ , let  $j = 1$ . According to constraints (12b)–(12c), binary variable  $h_n = 1$  if only if  $a_n > 0$ . Given a feasible solution  $u_t$ ,  $h_n = 0$  for  $n = 1, \dots, j - 1$  and  $h_n = 1$  for  $n = j, \dots, k$ . So inequalities (18) are valid.

If MILP2 is feasible, then  $j \leq k + 1$ . Since, otherwise, the optimal value of (15) is zero which is larger than  $-\delta$  and result in infeasibility. Therefore, (17) holds.  $\square$

REMARK 2. Theorem 1 and Proposition 2 also apply to general DR individual chance constraint with RHS uncertainty under the Wasserstein ambiguity. In particular, Theorem 1 can be extended to a joint chance constraint setting. For the sake of space, we leave this to future work. Different from Ho-Nguyen et al. (2021) based on the CVaR interpretation, we exploit the dual perspective of the CVaR interpretation which results in fewer binary variables (Ho-Nguyen et al. (2021) require  $N$  binary variables in contrast with  $\lfloor \alpha_t N \rfloor$  in MILP2). We also reveal the solution structure of the binary variables associated with samples in the individual chance constraint setting. In Section 6.1, we show the computational comparison between their reformulation and MILP2.

#### 4. Adjustable Chance-Constrained Formulations

In the DRCC formulation (7),  $\alpha_t$  is a pre-defined risk level, which is often chosen based on operators' experience and is usually a small number to guarantee high PV generation utilization. However, a too small  $\alpha_t$  may result in infeasibility of the problem and can lead

to high operational cost (see, e.g., Ma et al. 2019). It is challenging for the system operator to decide the value of  $\alpha_t$  for optimally trading off between the risk and cost. Next, we consider  $\alpha_t$  as an adjustable decision variable and modify the DRCC model (7) into the following adjustable DRCC problem.

$$\min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}, \alpha_t} c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} + c_t \alpha_t \quad (19a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \inf_{f \in \mathcal{D}_t} \mathbb{P} \left( \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{PV}}} \tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t,i} \geq 0 \right) \geq 1 - \alpha_t \quad (19b)$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_t \leq 1 \quad (19c)$$

$$(2), (3c) - (3e),$$

where  $c_t > 0$  is the coefficient weight on the risk level  $\alpha_t$ . If  $c_t$  is close to zero, the utilization of solar PV output is low. Section 7 presents the impact of  $c_t$  on the risk level and operational cost.

#### 4.1. Adjustable DRCC Reformulations under Moment-based Ambiguity Set $\mathcal{D}_t^1$

According to (8), the choice of the coefficient  $\Omega_t$  depends on the values of  $\alpha_t$  and  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2$ . In this section, we present 0-1 SOCP reformulations under the two cases: (i)  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t$  and (ii)  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 > \alpha_t$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t$ , the adjustable DR chance constraint (19b) under  $\mathcal{D}_t^1$ , or equivalently,*

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} \geq \theta_t + \left( \sqrt{\gamma_1} + \sqrt{\frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\alpha_t} (\gamma_2 - \gamma_1)} \right) \sigma_t, \quad (20)$$

*is equivalent to the following 0-1 SOCP constraints*

$$\left\| \begin{array}{c} 2\sigma_t \sqrt{\gamma_2 - \gamma_1} \\ \alpha_t - d \end{array} \right\| \leq \alpha_t + d \quad (21a)$$

$$d \leq P \cdot g - 2(\theta_t + \sigma_t \sqrt{\gamma_1}) \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} + \theta_t^2 + 2\theta_t \sigma_t \sqrt{\gamma_1} + \gamma_2 \sigma_t^2 \quad (21b)$$

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_\ell u_{t,\ell} \geq \theta_t + \sigma_t \sqrt{\gamma_1} \quad (21c)$$

$$g_{ij} \geq u_{t,i} + u_{t,j} - 1, \quad g_{ij} \leq u_{t,i}, \quad g_{ij} \leq u_{t,j}, \quad g_{ij} \geq 0, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}}, \quad (21d)$$

where the operator  $\cdot$  represents the Frobenius inner product,  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{HVAC}} \times N_{\text{HVAC}}}$  with  $P_{ij} = P_i P_j$  and  $g \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{\text{HVAC}} \times N_{\text{HVAC}}}$ .

*Proof:* See Appendix ?? in the online supplement.  $\square$

**THEOREM 3.** *If  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 > \alpha_t$ , the adjustable DR chance constraint (19b), or equivalently,*

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} \geq \theta_t + \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_2}{\alpha_t}} \sigma_t, \quad (22)$$

*is equivalent to the following 0-1 SOCP constraints*

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} \geq \theta_t + \phi \sigma_t \sqrt{\gamma_2} \quad (23a)$$

$$\alpha_t + \phi \geq \left\| \begin{array}{c} \alpha_t - \phi \\ 2q \end{array} \right\| \quad (23b)$$

$$\phi \geq w^2 \quad (23c)$$

$$q + w \geq \left\| \begin{array}{c} q - w \\ 2 \end{array} \right\|. \quad (23d)$$

*Proof:* See Appendix ?? in the online supplement.  $\square$

Therefore, to solve the adjustable DRCC model (19) under the moment-based ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^1$ , we solve the following two 0-1 SOCP problems, separately.

$$\text{SOCP1: } \min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}, \alpha_t} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} u_{t,\ell} + c_t \alpha_t : 1 \geq \alpha_t \geq \frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2}, (2), (3c) - (3e), (21a) - (21d) \right.$$

$$\text{SOCP2: } \min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}, \alpha_t} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} u_{t,\ell} + c_t \alpha_t : 0 \leq \alpha_t \leq \frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2}, (2), (3c) - (3e), (23a) - (23d) \right.$$

After obtaining the two optimal values, we compare them and let the solution with the higher optimal value be the optimal solution to the adjustable DRCC model (19).

Note that the reformulation SOCP1 incorporates  $N_{HVAC}^2$  auxiliary variables  $g_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, N_{HVAC}$ , which can result in computational burden when  $N_{HVAC}$  is large. Below, we present a more compact approximation that incorporates only four auxiliary variables if  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t \leq 0.75$ .

**THEOREM 4.** *if  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t \leq 0.75$ , the adjustable DR chance constraint (19b) is outer approximated by the following 0-1 SOCP constraints*

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} \geq \theta_t + (\sqrt{\gamma_1} + r\sqrt{\gamma_2 - \gamma_1}) \sigma_t \quad (24a)$$

$$2r \geq \phi \quad (24b)$$

$$\alpha_t + \phi \geq \left\| \begin{array}{c} \alpha_t - \phi \\ 2q \end{array} \right\| \quad (24c)$$

$$q + w \geq \left\| \begin{array}{c} q - w \\ 2 \end{array} \right\| \quad (24d)$$

$$\phi \geq w^2. \quad (24e)$$

*Proof:* See Appendix ?? in the online supplement.  $\square$

Therefore, when  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t \leq 0.75$ , to solve the adjustable DRCC model (19) under the moment-based ambiguity set, we can implement a branch-and-cut algorithm, which solves the following 0-1 SOCP problem.

$$\mathbf{SOCP3:} \quad \min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}, \alpha_t} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} u_{t,\ell} + c_t \alpha_t : 0.75 \geq \alpha_t \geq \frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2}, (2), (3c) - (3e), (24a) - (24e) \right\}.$$

At each iteration, obtaining the current solution  $(\hat{\alpha}_t, \hat{r}, \hat{u}_t)$ , if constraint (??) in the online appendix ??:  $r \geq \sqrt{(1 - \alpha_t)/\alpha_t}$ , is satisfied, we claim that  $(\hat{\alpha}_t, \hat{r}, \hat{u}_t)$  is optimal. Otherwise, we generate the following supporting hyperplane as a valid inequality.

$$r \geq \left( -\frac{1}{2}(1 - \hat{\alpha}_t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{\alpha}_t^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right) \alpha_t + (1 - \hat{\alpha}_t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{\alpha}_t^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{3}{2} - \hat{\alpha}_t \right).$$

If the decision maker chooses to only consider  $\alpha_t$  such that  $0 \leq \alpha_t \leq 0.75$  for the adjustable DRCC model, he first solves SOCP2 for  $0 \leq \alpha_t \leq \gamma_1/\gamma_2$  and implement the branch-and-cut algorithm for  $\gamma_1/\gamma_2 \leq \alpha_t \leq 0.75$ . Then comparing the two optimal values, let the solution with the higher optimal value be the optimal solution to the adjustable DRCC model.

#### 4.2. Adjustable DRCC Reformulations under Wasserstein Ambiguity Set $\mathcal{D}_t^2$

In the section, we first show that the adjustable DRCC model under the Wasserstein ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$  can be reformulated as a 0-1 MILP formulation with big-M coefficients based on the MILP1. Then we present a big-M free MILP reformulation by exploiting the RHS uncertainty.

We denote  $Z = \{u_t : (9a) - (9d)\}$  the feasible region (see Section 3.3) described by the DR chance constraint (7b) under Wasserstein ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$ . Now, we consider the risk level  $\alpha_t$  as a decision variable in the adjustable formulation. The product  $\alpha_t \gamma$  in (9a) becomes a bilinear term. In the following proposition, we derive an equivalent set to  $Z$  by eliminating the bilinear term.

PROPOSITION 3. *The set  $Z$  is equivalent to the following set:*

$$Z_1 = \left\{ u_t : \delta_t \lambda - \alpha_t \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N z_n \right. \quad (25a)$$

$$\left. - \max \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_\ell \lambda u_{t,\ell} - P_{total,t}^n \lambda, 0 \right] \leq -z_n - 1, n = 1, \dots, N \right. \quad (25b)$$

$$\left. \lambda \geq 0, z_n \leq 0, n = 1, \dots, N \right\}. \quad (25c)$$

*Proof:* See appendix ?? in the online supplement.  $\square$

By introducing suitable big-M coefficients  $M_n^3$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, N$ , the set  $Z_1$  can be further reformulated as a mixed integer set below.

$$Z_1 = \left\{ u_t : \delta_t \lambda - \alpha_t \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N z_n \right. \quad (26a)$$

$$z_n + 1 \leq s_n, n = 1, \dots, N \quad (26b)$$

$$s_n \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_\ell \lambda u_{t,\ell} - P_{total,t}^n \lambda + M_n^3 (1 - y_n), n = 1, \dots, N \quad (26c)$$

$$s_n \leq M_n^3 y_n, n = 1, \dots, N \quad (26d)$$

$$\left. \lambda \geq 0, s_n \geq 0, z_n \leq 0, y_n \in \{0, 1\}, n = 1, \dots, N \right\}. \quad (26e)$$

We denote  $w_{t,\ell} := \lambda u_{t,\ell}$  and constraint (26c) becomes

$$s_n \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_\ell w_{t,\ell} - P_{total,t}^n \lambda + M_n^3 (1 - y_n), n = 1, \dots, N. \quad (27)$$

According to the McCormick inequalities, we introduce the following linear constraints

$$w_{t,\ell} \geq 0, w_{t,\ell} \geq \lambda - (1 - u_{t,\ell}) \lambda^U, w_{t,\ell} \leq \lambda^U u_{t,\ell}, w_{t,\ell} \leq \lambda, \quad (28)$$

where  $\lambda^U$  is an upper bound of  $\lambda$ . Therefore, the adjustable DRCC model (19) under the Wasserstein ambiguity set is equivalent to the following 0-1 MILP formulation.

**MILP3:**

$$\min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}, \alpha_t} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} u_{t,\ell} + c_t \alpha_t : (2), (3c) - (3e), (26a), (26b), (26d) - (26e), (27), (28), (19c) \right\}.$$

MILP3 is, however, difficult to solve in certain cases, according to Xie (2021) and Chen et al. (2018). A bad choice of too large values for the two big-M parameters ( $M_n^3$  and  $\lambda^U$ ) may lead to weak linear relaxations and thus can be detrimental to efficient computation. Taking into account the RHS uncertainty exploited in Theorem 1 and Proposition 2, next, we derive a big-M free reformulation.

**THEOREM 5.** *Under Assumption 1, the DR chance constraint (19b) under the Wasserstein ambiguity set  $\mathcal{D}_t = \mathcal{D}_t^2$  is feasible if and only if the following MILP constraints with auxiliary variables  $\Delta_{jk} \in \{0, 1\}, \varepsilon_{jk} \in \mathbb{R}, \tau_{\ell jk} \in \mathbb{R}, o_{\ell jk} \in \mathbb{R}$  are feasible.*

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=j-1}^{N-1} \left[ -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=j}^k (P_{\text{total},t}^{(k+1)} - P_{\text{total},t}^{(i)}) \Delta_{jk} - \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} \left( o_{\ell jk} - \frac{j-1}{N} \tau_{\ell jk} \right) + P_{\text{total},t}^{(k+1)} \left( \varepsilon_{jk} - \frac{j-1}{N} \Delta_{jk} \right) \right] \leq -\delta_t \quad (29a)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=j-1}^{N-1} \Delta_{jk} = 1 \quad (29b)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=j-1}^{N-1} k \Delta_{jk} \leq \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_t N \leq \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=j-1}^{N-1} (k+1) \Delta_{jk} \quad (29c)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=j-1}^{N-1} P_{\text{total},t}^{(j)} \Delta_{jk} \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} P_{\ell} u_{t,\ell} \leq \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=j-1}^{N-1} P_{\text{total},t}^{(j-1)} \Delta_{jk} \quad (29d)$$

$$\varepsilon_{jk} \leq \Delta_{jk}, \quad \varepsilon_{jk} \leq \alpha_t, \quad \varepsilon_{jk} \geq \alpha_t + \Delta_{jk} - 1, \quad \varepsilon_{jk} \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq j-1 \leq k \leq N-1 \quad (29e)$$

$$o_{\ell jk} \leq \varepsilon_{jk}, \quad o_{\ell jk} \leq u_{t,\ell}, \quad o_{\ell jk} \geq \varepsilon_{jk} + u_{\ell} - 1, \quad o_{\ell jk} \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq j-1 \leq k \leq N-1, \quad 1 \leq \ell \leq N_{HVAC} \quad (29f)$$

$$\tau_{\ell jk} \leq \Delta_{jk}, \quad \tau_{\ell jk} \leq u_{t,\ell}, \quad \tau_{\ell jk} \geq \Delta_{jk} + u_{\ell} - 1, \quad \tau_{\ell jk} \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq j-1 \leq k \leq N-1, \quad 1 \leq \ell \leq N_{HVAC} \quad (29g)$$

$$\Delta_{jk} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad 0 \leq j-1 \leq k \leq N-1. \quad (29h)$$

*Proof:* See Appendix ?? in the online supplement.  $\square$

The big-M free MILP reformulation of the adjustable DRCC formulation (19) under the  $\mathcal{D}_t^2$  is

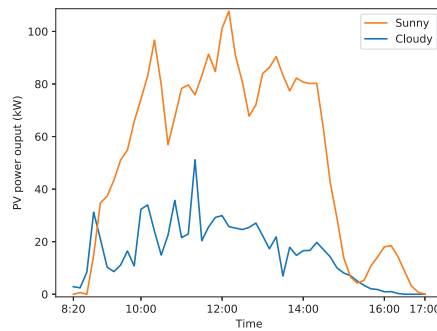
$$\text{MILP4: } \min_{u_t, \beta_{t,\ell}, x_{t,\ell}, \alpha_t} \left\{ c_{\text{sys}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} \beta_{t,\ell} + c_{\text{switch}} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_{HVAC}} u_{t,\ell} + c_t \alpha_t : (2), (3c) - (3e), (29a) - (29h), (19c) \right\}.$$

**REMARK 3.** Theorem 5 also applies to general adjustable individual DR binary chance constraints with RHS uncertainty. The MILP3 reformulation (with big-M coefficients) for the adjustable chance constraint yields  $3N$  binary variables and  $3N + 3N_{HVAC} + 1$  constraints. MILP4 has  $N(N-1)/2$  binary variables and  $3N(N-1)/2 + 3N(N-1)N_{HVAC} + 4$  constraints.

## 5. Computation Setup

We consider a fleet of  $N_{HVAC} = 100$  identical buildings and  $N_{PV} = 1$  PV panel for  $N_p = 53$  periods, every 10 minutes from 8:20 am to 5:00 pm over a day. We consider two typical weather conditions: a sunny day and a cloudy day. The PV power output data (available at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ERACqKeP2yYcwzbsvgTbQ13uRqFQD4Gi?usp=sharing>.) of  $P_{PV,t}$ , as shown in Figure 1, is

collected from a 13 kW PV panel located on the rooftop of the Distributed Energy Communication & Control (DECC) laboratory at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Tennessee. We scale the PV output to be compatible with the aggregate of 100 residential HVAC systems (connected via a same step-down transformer). For each building, a ran-



**Figure 1** (Color online) PV profile

dom initial room temperature is generated by a uniform distribution between  $23.10^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $23.15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The set-point  $x_{\text{ref}}$  is  $23.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the comfort band  $[x_{\text{min}}, x_{\text{max}}]$  is  $[21.5, 24.5]^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The building parameters are set as  $A_{\ell} = 0.9914$ ,  $B_{\ell} = -0.6767$ ,  $G_{\ell} = (4.3\text{e-}5, 0.0086)^{\top}$  for  $\ell = 1, \dots, N_{\text{HVAC}}$ . Each HVAC system consumes 3.5 kW when it is ON. The objective costs are set as follows:  $c_{\text{sys}} = 1.0$ , and  $c_{\text{switch}} = 1.0$ .

In our studies we consider the two DRCC formulations, assuming unknown distributional information of the PV output generation, and the benchmark chance-constrained formulation, which are referred to as: 1. CC: stochastic chance-constrained formulation; 2. DRCC-M: DRCC under the moment-based ambiguity set; 3. DRCC-W: DRCC under the Wasserstein ambiguity set.

We generate  $N = 100$  i.i.d. samples (i.e., in-sample data) of  $\tilde{P}_{\text{PV},t}$  following uniform distributions (Gaunt et al. 2017) with the mean  $P_{\text{PV},t}$  (shown in Figure 1) and half range of  $0.15P_{\text{PV},t}$  for  $t = 1, \dots, N_p$ . We optimize the CC model and construct the ambiguity set of the DRCC-W model by using all  $N = 100$  samples, and for DRCC-M, only 10 samples are randomly picked from the  $N$  samples to calculate the empirical mean and covariance. With the optimal schedules obtained by solving different models, we generate 10 sets of  $N' = 1000$  i.i.d. samples (i.e., out-of-sample data) from the same uniform distribution to evaluate the out-of-sample performance of each schedule. All models are computed in

Python 3.7.5 using Gurobi 9.0.0. The computations are performed on a Windows 10 Pro machine with Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-8700 CPU 3.20 GHz and 16 GB memory.

## 6. Studies on the DRCC Models

In the DRCC-M model, we set the parameters of the moment-based ambiguity set  $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = (0, 1)$ ; in the DRCC-W model, we set the radius parameter  $\delta_t = 0.02$ . In particular, we solve the DRCC-W model by using the two MILP formulations derived in Section 3.3. The comparison of the computation time and optimality gaps is presented in Section 6.1. In Section 6.2, we present the solution details of the three models, including the tracking performance and resulting room temperatures. In Section 6.3, we present the out-of-sample performance of optimal solutions obtained. Furthermore, we study the sensitivity of the out-of-sample performance on the in-sample data size.

### 6.1. CPU Time and Optimality Gaps

In this section, we show the computational performance of the two MILPs (MILP1 and MILP2 in Section 3.3) and the MILP reformulation (denoted as ‘‘MILP-H’’) proposed in Ho-Nguyen et al. (2021) under different sample sizes. The MILP2 formulation is strengthened by the techniques in Proposition 2. In particular, we generate 10 in-sample sets of the sunny weather following the description in Section 5, with the size of  $N = 100$  and  $N = 500$ , respectively. For further comparing MILP2 and MILP-H, we generate 10 more in-sample sets with larger sample size  $N = 3000$ . Each instance contains  $N_p = 53$  periods. Given an initial room temperature of the first period, for each instance, we sequentially solve the remaining periods by using the resulting room temperature from previous periods as an initial room temperature. The CPU time limit is 100 seconds for each period. We test various risks  $1 - \alpha_t \in \{80\%, 90\%\}$  and Wasserstein radii  $\delta_t \in \{0.02, 0.2\}$ .

In Table 1, for each instance, we report the total CPU time of solving all 53 periods. If any period cannot be solved to optimality within the time limit, in the parentheses after the CPU times, we report the number of periods that cannot be solved within the time limit and the average optimality gaps of them. Except for  $1 - \alpha_t = 90\%$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$  and  $N = 100$ , for all other cases, the basic MILP1 has instances of which some periods cannot be solved with the time limit. In contrast, MILP-H and MILP2 solve all instances within much shorter time and (or) much smaller optimality gaps. For example, when  $1 - \alpha_t = 80\%$ ,  $\delta = 0.02$ ,  $N = 500$ , MILP1 solves instances using 2493.35 seconds and terminates with

a 14.83% optimality gap, on average. While both MILP-H and MILP2 solve the instances optimally within 5 seconds. MILP2 is more effective when the Wasserstein ball's radius  $\delta$  is small. When the radius is larger  $\delta = 0.2$  with high  $1 - \alpha_t = 90\%$ , MILP-H yields shorter CPU times and (or) smaller gaps. If the sample size becomes larger ( $N=3,000$ ), MILP-H starts to outperform HILP2 with smaller  $1 - \alpha_t = 80\%$ .

**Table 1 Comparison of CPU time (in seconds) and optimality gaps of high risk requirement  $1 - \alpha_t$**

$1 - \alpha_t$	$\delta$	Instance	N = 100			N = 500			N = 3000	
			MILP1	MILP-H	MILP2	MILP1	MILP-H	MILP2	MILP-H	MILP2
80%	0.02	1	211.34	0.83	<b>0.42</b>	2522.87 (13, 14.69%)	4.43	<b>1.76</b>	128.38 (1, 2.92%)	<b>32.85</b>
		2	211.42 (1, 1.30%)	5.31	<b>0.37</b>	2528.31 (12, 11.16%)	2.33	<b>1.67</b>	88.51	<b>33.20</b>
		3	109.8	0.99	<b>0.42</b>	2390.65 (10, 15.68%)	2.84	<b>1.60</b>	143.16	<b>47.51</b>
		4	146.08	100.75 (1, 1.25%)	<b>0.38</b>	2387.41 (11, 9.34%)	2.56	<b>1.67</b>	147.98 (1, 2.99%)	<b>32.76</b>
		5	60.72	5.19	<b>0.42</b>	2365.25 (9, 18.86%)	2.82	<b>1.68</b>	89.44	<b>33.37</b>
		6	93.74	0.78	<b>0.41</b>	2560.81 (10, 15.53%)	4.45	<b>1.64</b>	56.76	<b>34.13</b>
		7	69.26	1.15	<b>0.42</b>	2653.68 (12, 21.59%)	3.29	<b>1.70</b>	93.66	<b>33.95</b>
		8	53.91	100.70 (1, 1.33%)	<b>0.37</b>	2411.36 (14, 8.36%)	3.01	<b>1.60</b>	72.63	<b>34.38</b>
		9	64.61	0.73	<b>0.35</b>	2676.71 (16, 12.29%)	2.92	<b>1.71</b>	82.45	<b>33.53</b>
		10	153.73 (1, 0.45%)	1.28	<b>0.43</b>	2436.43 (10, 20.84%)	2.55	<b>1.65</b>	153.79	<b>33.66</b>
		Avg.	117.46 (0.2, 0.18%)	21.77 (0.2, 0.25%)	0.40	2493.35 (11.7, 14.83%)	3.12	1.67	105.68 (0.2, 0.59%)	34.93
80%	0.2	1	846.05 (4, 1.60%)	0.87	<b>0.60</b>	2833.75 (16, 3.35%)	3.18	<b>2.35</b>	<b>47.32</b>	51.66
		2	906.48 (4, 1.67%)	0.78	<b>0.53</b>	3005.26 (16, 3.50%)	3.98	<b>2.36</b>	102.68	<b>75.78</b>
		3	866.27 (5, 1.28%)	0.86	<b>0.56</b>	3109.46 (17, 3.32%)	10.45	<b>2.14</b>	<b>45.73</b>	86.92
		4	830.88 (3, 1.12%)	0.99	<b>0.53</b>	2809.71 (16, 5.76%)	3.72	<b>2.24</b>	<b>52.69</b>	82.53
		5	631.79 (3, 1.13%)	0.76	<b>0.56</b>	3168.74 (18, 2.44%)	6.59	<b>2.43</b>	<b>66.68</b>	89.73
		6	843.26 (3, 1.02%)	0.83	<b>0.57</b>	2771.79 (14, 2.49%)	3.03	<b>2.17</b>	<b>51.69</b>	84.65
		7	874.16 (4, 1.24%)	0.92	<b>0.57</b>	2938.23 (16, 2.98%)	2.83	<b>2.37</b>	<b>46.80</b>	98.53
		8	835.96 (5, 1.15%)	0.98	<b>0.58</b>	2992.62 (20, 3.71%)	16.07	<b>2.11</b>	<b>48.68</b>	102.53
		9	823.88 (4, 1.65%)	0.85	<b>0.54</b>	3040.97 (17, 3.89%)	3.23	<b>2.33</b>	<b>51.64</b>	102.78
		10	688.03 (3, 1.20%)	0.98	<b>0.62</b>	3049.83 (18, 3.17%)	10.43	<b>2.33</b>	<b>53.14</b>	84.12
		Avg.	814.68 (3.8, 1.31%)	0.88	0.57	2972.04 (16.8, 3.46%)	6.35	2.28	56.71	85.92
90%	0.02	1	390.77 (2, 1.12%)	0.68	<b>0.35</b>	2174.93 (13, 2.15%)	1.21	<b>0.75</b>	13.72	<b>9.15</b>
		2	321.15 (2, 1.56%)	0.64	<b>0.34</b>	2525.91 (18, 1.81%)	1.35	<b>0.75</b>	15.64	<b>9.28</b>
		3	342.84 (2, 1.75%)	0.58	<b>0.35</b>	2193.18 (12, 2.96%)	1.16	<b>0.76</b>	<b>8.35</b>	9.27
		4	312.02 (1, 1.11%)	0.61	<b>0.31</b>	2428.54 (18, 2.55%)	1.43	<b>0.73</b>	10.80	<b>8.82</b>
		5	380.92 (3, 1.22%)	0.57	<b>0.38</b>	2311.06 (14, 2.17%)	1.37	<b>0.68</b>	13.55	<b>9.23</b>
		6	347.04 (2, 1.62%)	0.60	<b>0.33</b>	2144.32 (13, 1.88%)	1.19	<b>0.75</b>	<b>8.61</b>	8.80
		7	491.16 (1, 1.19%)	0.64	<b>0.35</b>	1958.54 (11, 1.66%)	1.07	<b>0.74</b>	10.01	<b>8.67</b>
		8	349.96 (1, 1.14%)	0.56	<b>0.32</b>	2304.81 (15, 2.79%)	1.33	<b>0.65</b>	12.45	<b>9.13</b>
		9	431.95 (3, 1.39%)	0.54	<b>0.35</b>	2098.43 (12, 1.98%)	1.21	<b>0.77</b>	9.58	<b>8.64</b>
		10	332.82 (2, 1.63%)	0.48	<b>0.35</b>	2355.13 (16, 1.82%)	1.28	<b>0.80</b>	18.37	<b>8.49</b>
		Avg.	370.06 (1.9, 1.37%)	0.59	0.34	2249.49 (14.2, 2.18%)	1.26	0.74	12.11	8.95
90%	0.2	1	216.17	0.44	0.44	1962.85 (8, 2.61%)	1.10	<b>0.89</b>	<b>9.84</b>	10.32
		2	220.72	<b>0.42</b>	0.44	1956.90 (7, 2.37%)	1.04	<b>0.94</b>	<b>10.50</b>	11.05
		3	214.09	<b>0.50</b>	0.51	2013.63 (10, 2.07%)	<b>0.95</b>	0.96	<b>10.14</b>	12.42
		4	199.31	<b>0.45</b>	0.47	1966.34 (10, 2.29%)	1.14	<b>0.87</b>	<b>7.11</b>	10.89
		5	239.24	0.45	<b>0.43</b>	1867.35 (9, 2.49%)	1.08	<b>0.93</b>	<b>6.52</b>	11.15
		6	285.80	0.47	<b>0.45</b>	1947.05 (11, 2.19%)	<b>0.87</b>	0.98	<b>9.47</b>	10.63
		7	297.24	<b>0.43</b>	0.55	1873.74 (7, 2.51%)	<b>0.96</b>	0.98	<b>9.26</b>	11.96
		8	236.04	<b>0.42</b>	0.49	1856.42 (8, 2.64%)	1.00	<b>0.99</b>	<b>6.22</b>	10.56
		9	201.77	<b>0.42</b>	0.47	1947.70 (10, 1.95%)	<b>0.92</b>	100.93 (1, 1.42%)	<b>9.92</b>	10.86
		10	254.37	<b>0.42</b>	0.45	1906.98 (10, 2.37%)	<b>0.94</b>	0.99	<b>6.62</b>	10.72
		Avg.	236.48	0.44	0.47	1929.90 (9, 2.35%)	1.00	10.95 (0.1, 0.14%)	8.56	11.06

We also provide the average computational performance of the three MILPs when  $1 - \alpha_t = \{10\%, 20\%\}$ , which may be of little interest in practice, but for a fair comparison. In Table 2, MILP2 scales well when  $1 - \alpha_t$  is small. While MILP1 and MILP-H require much longer time. For example, when  $1 - \alpha_t = 10\%$ ,  $\delta = 0.02$ ,  $N = 100$ , MILP2 finishes under 5 seconds, while MILP1 uses 2379.21 seconds with a 10.41% gap and MILP-H of 195.82 seconds with a 0.09% gap. More details of each instance can be found in the online appendix ???. For the moment-based ambiguity set, the computational details are in the online appendix ???.

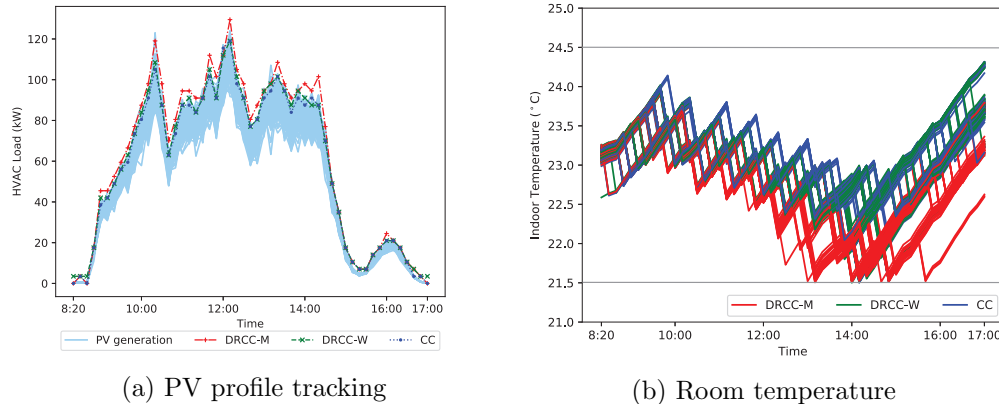
**Table 2** Average CPU time (in seconds) and optimality gaps of low risk requirement  $1 - \alpha_t$

$1 - \alpha$	$\delta$	N = 100			N = 500			N = 3000	
		MILP1	MILP-H	MILP2	MILP1	MILP-H	MILP2	MILP-H	MILP2
10%	0.02	80.31 (0.5, 0.17%)	8.60	<b>0.84</b>	2379.21 (6.9, 10.41%)	195.82 (0.2, 0.09%)	<b>4.42</b>	2205.50 (17.6, 4.54%)	<b>53.67 (0.1, 0.04%)</b>
	0.2	309.28 (1.8, 0.38%)	187.39 (1.5, 0.35%)	<b>3.97</b>	3199.71 (11.9, 20.31%)	387.83 (2, 0.39%)	<b>10.01</b>	2029.92 (14.9, 4.58%)	<b>247.49 (1.3, 0.27%)</b>
20%	0.02	113.34 (0.7, 0.16%)	29.36 (0.2, 0.06%)	<b>0.86</b>	2979.62 (13.9, 26.00%)	186.22 (0.2, 0.06%)	<b>14.70 (0.1, 0.01%)</b>	2029.92 (14.9, 4.58%)	<b>35.54</b>
	0.2	345.01 (1.1, 0.36%)	25.9	<b>1.58</b>	3443.04 (12.9, 25.22%)	268.21 (0.6, 0.22%)	<b>53.04 (0.3, 0.06%)</b>	3388.08 (27.3, 4.06%)	<b>212.76 (1.2, 0.34%)</b>

## 6.2. Tracking Performance and Room Temperatures

In this section, we present the results under the sunny weather condition and the results for the cloudy weather condition are in the online appendix ???. For the sunny weather, we solve three models for all  $N_p$  periods under the sunny weather condition with  $N_{\text{HVAC}} = 100$  HVAC units. For the cloudy weather, as the PV generation is relatively lower than that of the sunny day (as shown in Figure 1), fewer number of HVAC units are enrolled to keep the total consumption compatible with the magnitude of the local PV generation (Dong et al. 2018). We remark that our model is flexible to incorporate fleet sizing decisions based on the nameplate capacity of HVAC devices and local solar PV generation scales. The details are in the online appendix ???.

We present the overall tracking performance under sunny weather using 100 ON/OFF HVAC devices, i.e.,  $\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{HVAC}}} P_j u_{t,j}$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, N_p$  of the three models in Figure 2a. The shaded blue areas in the background is the plot of 100 PV generation samples used for solving the models. Overall, all three models track the PV generation well. Most of the periods, the two DRCC models provide higher HVAC loads than the stochastic CC model given that the DRCC models take into account ambiguous probability distributions and thus the solutions are more conservative. The DRCC-M model yields higher HVAC loads as the DRCC-M model is generally more conservative. In Figure 2b, we present the resulting



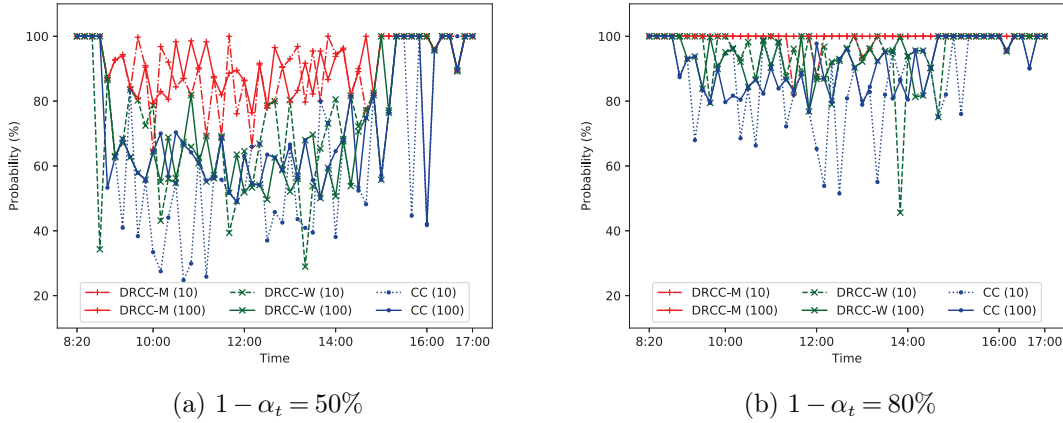
**Figure 2** (Color online) PV profile tracking and room temperatures of 100 buildings under sunny weather

room temperatures of all  $N_{\text{HVAC}} = 100$  buildings over  $N_p$  periods for all three models. All the indoor temperatures are maintained within the desired comfort band  $[21.5, 24.5]^\circ\text{C}$ . The DRCC models provide cooler room temperatures for most buildings which is an immediate result of turning on more HVAC units as shown in Figure 2a.

### 6.3. Out-of-Sample Performance

After solving all the models and obtaining the optimal schedules, we fix them in ten out-of-sample data sets, each consisting of  $N' = 1000$  samples. For each data set, an out-of-sample probability is calculated as the ratio of the number of scenarios, where the PV generation is consumed locally (i.e., the total HVAC load is more than the PV generation), to the total number of scenarios  $N'$ . The performance is measured by the 95th percentile of probabilities of the ten out-of-sample sets.

To study the impact of the number of the samples used for solving the models, we consider two choices of the risk parameter  $1 - \alpha_t$ : 80% and 50% under the sunny weather condition. We solve the three models using 10 samples and 100 samples, respectively, with the two risk levels. The out-of-sample performance is presented in Figure 3. When the sample size is small  $N = 10$ , except for the DRCC-M model, both the DRCC-W and CC models fail to achieve the required risk level. For example, in Figure 3a, the DRCC-W and the CC models perform below the required risk level  $1 - \alpha_t = 50\%$  between 11 am and 12 pm when using only 10 samples. However, with more samples  $N = 100$ , the DRCC-W model is always above  $1 - \alpha_t = 50\%$ , while, the CC model sometimes still fails to achieve the required risk level. Overall, the DRCC models perform better than the CC model, which is consistent with the previous observations. The DRCC-W models are more sensitive to the



**Figure 3** (Color online) Probability of locally consuming PV generation under sunny weather

number of samples compared to the DRCC-M model. A comparison of sunny and cloudy weather is included in the online appendix ??.

## 7. Studies on the Adjustable DRCC Models

In this section, we focus on the adjustable variants of the two DRCC models, where we consider the risk parameter  $\alpha_t$  as a variable than a known parameter. Specifically, we solve the DRCC-W models using the two MILP formulations proposed in Section 4.2. The computational details of the adjustable models under the Wassstein set and the moment-based set are in the online appendices ?? and ??. In Section ??, the comparison of CPU time and optimality gaps can be found.

We now study the impact of the coefficient cost  $c_t$  in the objective (19a) of risk level  $\alpha_t$  for both DRCC-M and DRCC-W models. We vary the coefficient from 10 to 20 in increments of 2. For the adjustable models, we observe that the optimal risk levels for the periods between 9:30 am and 2:30 pm are relatively lower. That is, during these periods, it is harder to consume all PV generation, which is consistent with the observations in Section 6.3 for the non-adjustable models. Therefore, we focus on these periods in between 9:30 am and 2:30 pm of a day with an increment of one hour.

In Figure 4, we show the risk levels under different choices of coefficient  $c_t$  for the DRCC-M and DRCC-W models. In Figures 4a and 4b, the value  $c_t$  of the risk level increases as larger coefficient is set. The graph in Figure 4a of the DRCC-M model is flatter as  $c_t$  changes, because the performance of the DRCC-M model is less sensitive to the choice of  $c_t$ . While, as shown in Figure 4b, the DRCC-W model has a low risk level when  $c_t$  is small and a higher risk level when  $c_t$  is large.

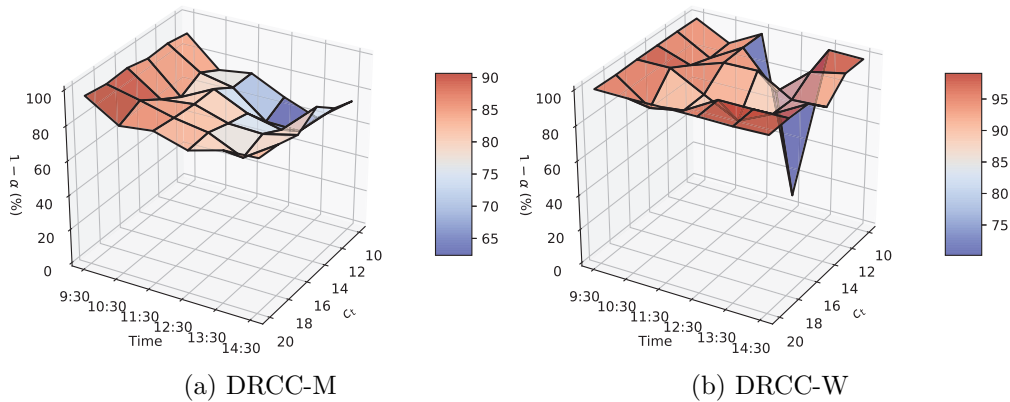


Figure 4 (Color online) The impact of the coefficient cost  $c_t$  on the risk level

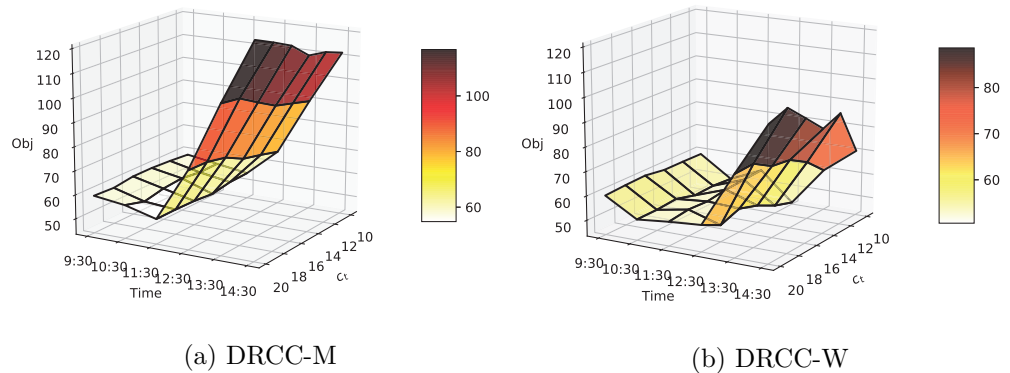


Figure 5 (Color online) The impact of the coefficient cost  $c_t$  on the objective cost

In Figure 5, we show the objective costs for the various coefficient costs  $c_t$ . We see that both models yield higher objective costs as  $c_t$  increases. We also see that the DRCC-M model yields higher objective costs under large  $c_t$  even when the risk level is set lower than the DRCC-W model. For example, at 2:30 pm under  $c_t = 20$ , DRCC-M sets the risk level around 85% with an objective cost around 120, while DRCC-W achieves a higher risk level above 95% with an objective cost less than 90. This is expected as the DRCC-M model is more conservative and requires more HVAC units to run to achieve a similar risk level.

## 8. Conclusions

In this paper, we formulated a single-period BLC problem as a DRCC problem with uncertain PV generation under both the moment-based and Wasserstein ambiguity sets as DRCC-M and DRCC-W, respectively. For the moment-based ambiguity set, we reformulated the DRCC problem as an MILP reformulation. For the Wasserstein ambiguity set, we provided an MILP1 reformulation and a more compact MILP2 reformulation by

exploiting the CVaR interpretation. The results for DRCC apply to general individual DR chance constraints with RHS uncertainty.

By considering the risk level as a decision variable, we also proposed adjustable DRCC formulations that determine the optimal risk level of the chance constraint to balance the total cost and overall performance. For the moment-based ambiguity set, we developed an exact solution approach by solving two SOCP problems. For the Wasserstein ambiguity set, we derived a big-M MILP reformulation and a big-M-free MILP reformulation. The results of the adjustable variants also apply to general individual binary chance constraints with RHS uncertainty.

Extensive computational studies were conducted on the non-adjustable and adjustable DRCC models under the two ambiguity sets. We found that the DRCC models achieve better out-sample performance while maintaining the indoor temperature within a desired comfort band. Specifically, the DRCC-M model requires fewer samples to achieve the required risk level. The DRCC-W model performs well when using enough many samples and only requires modest CPU time when solving the more compact reformulation MILP2. Furthermore, for the adjustable DRCC problem, we find that the DRCC-M is less sensitive to the choice of  $c_t$  while it may require higher objective costs.

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