



Sandia  
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Laboratories

# Sandia and UT Collaboration: Power System Resilience Investment Projects



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## Power System Resilience Investment Projects



### “Critical Nodes” Project

- ❖ Title: Critical Node Identification, Vulnerability Modeling, and Topology Optimization for the Electric Grid
- ❖ Funding source: Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD)
  - ❖ Resilient Energy Mission Campaign (2021-2027)
  - ❖ Other investment areas outside of energy systems
- ❖ Currently in year 2 of 3
- ❖ Two goals:
  - ❖ Identifying critical (or vulnerable) nodes
  - ❖ Investment decision making methodology

### “Energy Storage Restoration” Project

- ❖ Title: Improving Grid Resilience with Optimal Restoration Utilizing Energy Storage
- ❖ Funding source: Energy Storage Program
  - ❖ Lead by Dr. Babu Chalamala
  - ❖ Funded through DOE OE (Dr. Imre Gyuk)
- ❖ Currently in year 2 of 3
- ❖ Black-Start restoration using Mobile Energy Storage

## “Critical Nodes” Project



**Goal:** Develop Sandia capabilities to **identify** electric grid **critical nodes** and their vulnerability levels to various threats and to develop a decision-making methodology to **improve resilience**.

### ❖ Identifying critical nodes

- ❖ Interdiction analysis (determining worst N-k attacks)
  - ❖ Down select possible N-k attacks (combinatorial explosion in k)
- ❖ Cascading outage analysis
  - ❖ Temporal clustering to determine component outages resulting in full collapse

### ❖ Decision making methodology

- ❖ Three-stage scenario-based stochastic investment optimization

# Three-Stage Resilience Optimization Problem



## 1<sup>st</sup> Stage (Investment)

Decides investments  $x$ .  
Minimizes Conditional Value at Risk (CVaR).

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} CVaR_f^\epsilon[\tilde{\ell}(x, f)]$$

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage (Preemptive Action)

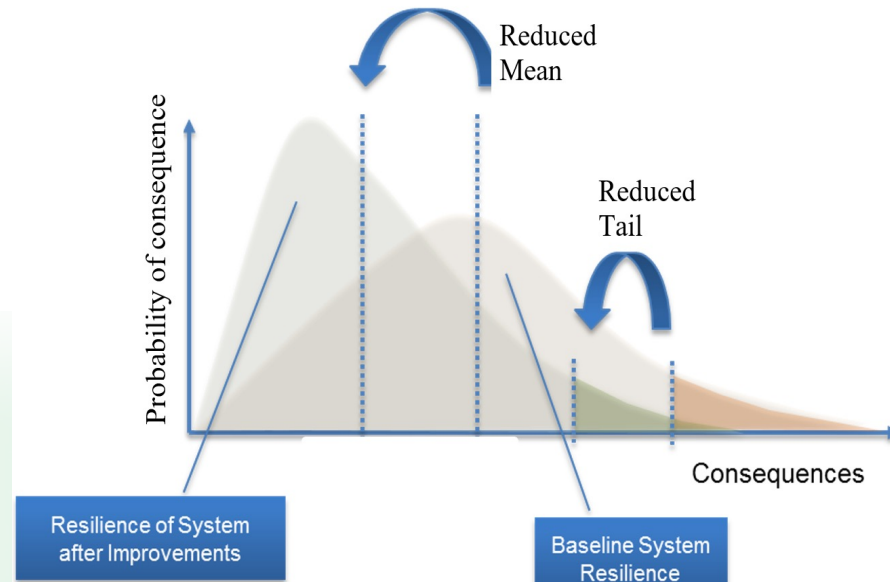
Decides pre-emptive action  $z$ .  
Minimizes expected value.

$$\tilde{\ell}(x, f) = \min_{z \in \mathcal{Z}(x)} \mathbb{E}_{e|f}[\hat{\ell}(z, x, e)]$$

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage (Restoration)

Decides restoration variables  $y$ .  
Minimizes deterministic value.

$$\hat{\ell}(z, x, e) = \min_{y \in \mathcal{Y}(x, z, e)} \ell(y, e)$$





## Two-Stage Preemptive Action Optimization



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage (Pre-Emptive Action)

Decides pre-emptive action  $z$ .  
Minimizes expected value.

$$\min_{z \in Z} \mathbb{E}_e [\hat{\ell}(z, e)]$$

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage (Restoration)

Decides restoration variables  $y$ .  
Minimizes deterministic value.

$$\hat{\ell}(z, e) = \min_{y \in Y(z, e)} \ell(y, e)$$



- ❖ Given a warning an event may occur, how to optimally prepare your system for that event, and optimally recover from the event.
- ❖ Example 1: given a 24-hour warning a hurricane will strike a specific city, how to optimally dispatch limited flood walls around substations, to minimize load shed.
- ❖ Example 2: given a 24-hour warning a winter storm will occur, how to redispatch your generators to minimize load shed.

In partnership with University of Texas,  
Brent Austgen

[1] Brent Austgen, John Hasenbein and Erhan Kutanoglu, "Impacts of Approximate Power Flow Models on Optimal Flood Mitigation in a Stochastic Program", Proceedings IISE Annual Conference and Expo, 22-25 May 2021

## 6 Two-Stage Preemptive Action Optimization

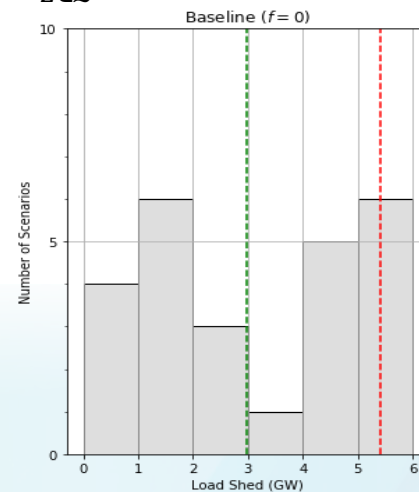


**2<sup>nd</sup> Stage**  
**(Pre-Emptive Action)**  
 Decides pre-emptive action  $z$ .  
 Minimizes expected value.

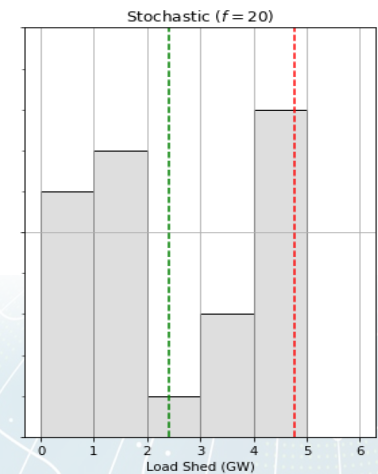
$$\min_{z \in Z} \mathbb{E}_e [\hat{\ell}(z, e)]$$

**3<sup>rd</sup> Stage**  
**(Restoration)**  
 Decides restoration variables  $y$ .  
 Minimizes deterministic value.

$$\hat{\ell}(z, e) = \min_{y \in Y(z, e)} \ell(y, e)$$



*Not Pre-positioning flood barriers  
 in advance of a hurricane*



*Pre-positioning flood barriers  
 in advance of a hurricane*



In partnership with University of Texas,  
 Brent Austgen

[1] Brent Austgen, John Hasenbein and Erhan Kutanoglu, "Impacts of Approximate Power Flow Models on Optimal Flood Mitigation in a Stochastic Program", Proceedings IIE Annual Conference and Expo, 22-25 May 2021

# Investments Targeting Winter Storms: Application to Uri



## 1<sup>st</sup> Stage (Investment)

Decides investments  $x$ .

Minimizes Conditional Value at Risk (CVaR).

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} CVaR_f^\epsilon[\hat{\ell}(x, f)]$$



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage (Restoration)

Decides restoration variables  $y$ .  
Minimizes deterministic value.

$$\hat{\ell}(z, x, e) = \min_{y \in \mathcal{Y}(x, z, e)} \ell(y, e)$$

## Scenario Generation

- ❖ A mixed random variable represents the fraction of available generation.
- ❖ Empirically constructed probability distributions from Winter Storm Uri data.
- ❖ Categorized generators with respect to fuel type and region.
- ❖ Introduced a random storm severity variable (not shown here).

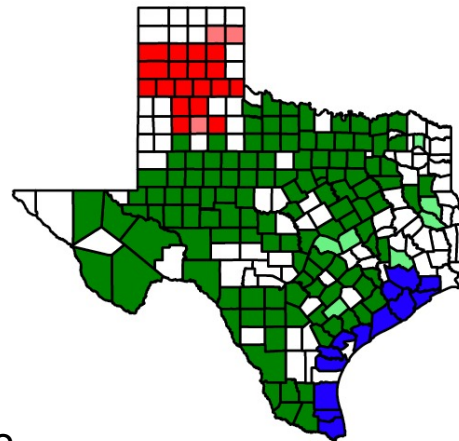


Figure: Texas counties categorized as panhandle (red), coastal (blue), or neither (green)

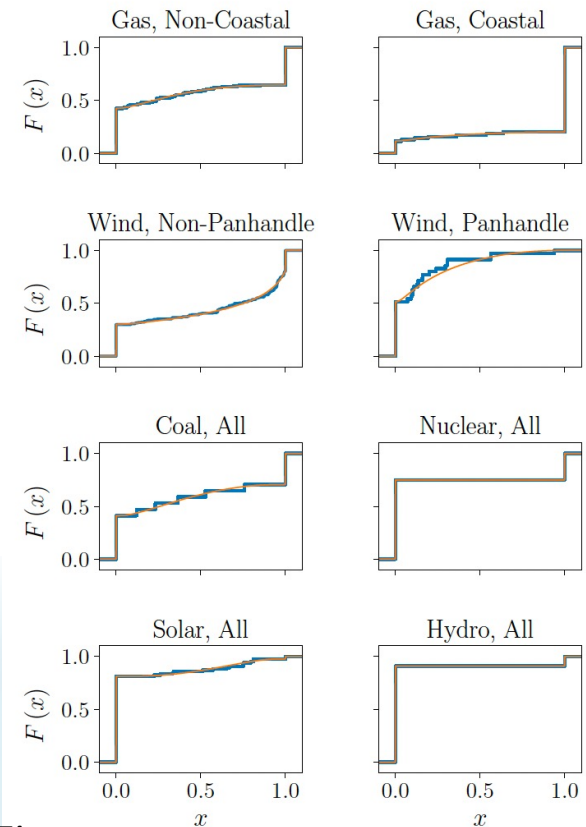


Figure: Cumulative Distribution Function for outage fraction of each generator type



## Winterization Investment Results



### Numerical Results

- ❖ Optimized over 3554 scenerios
- ❖ Validated results using 5000 out-of-sample scenarios
- ❖ Increasing budget significantly reduced load loss
- ❖ Adjusting CVaR to focus more on the tail results in more investment in “Gas Coastal” generator type. (The most outted generator type in Uri)

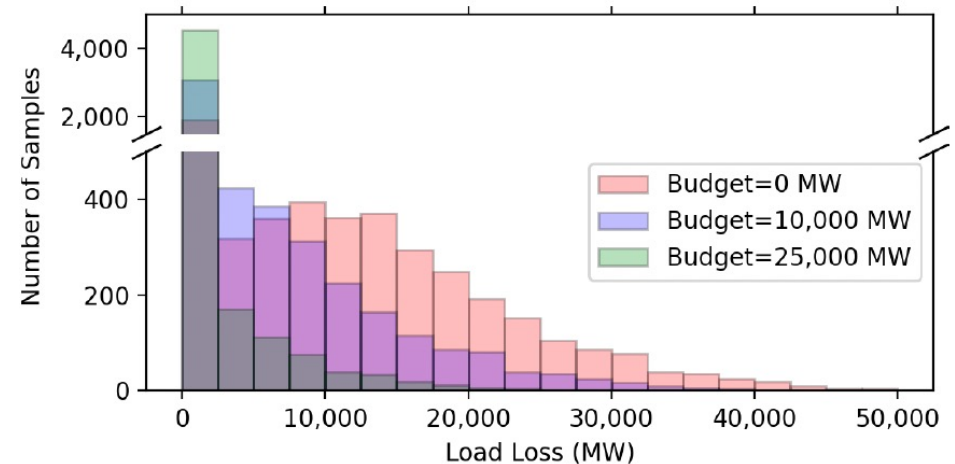


Figure: Histogram of load loss with different budgets using validation scenarios

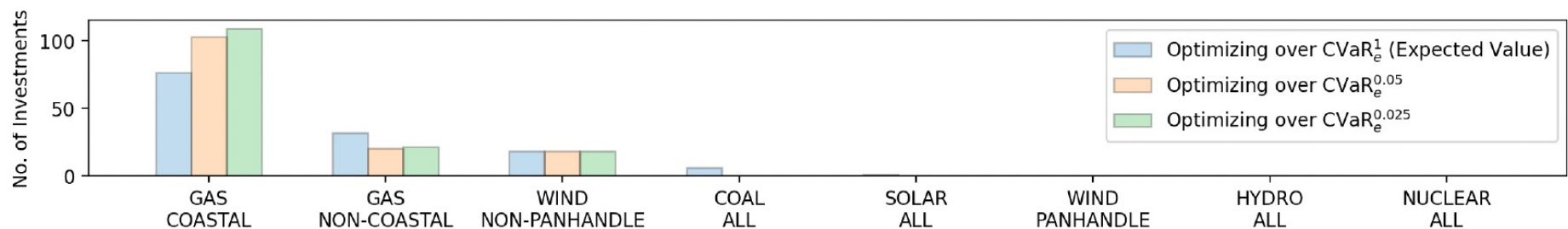


Figure: Number of investments by generator type for different values of  $\epsilon$

[3] Manuel Garcia, Brent Austgen, Brian Pierre, John Hasenbein and Erhan Kutanoglu, “Risk-Averse Investment Optimization for Power System Resilience to Winter Storms” Proceedings of the IEEE PES T&D Conference and Exposition, New Orleans, LA, April 25-28, 2022



## “Energy Storage Restoration” Project



**Goal:** Develop optimization models to improve grid resilience by utilizing large-scale energy storage throughout a multi-time period restoration process.

### ❖ Black-Start Restoration with Mobile Energy Storage

- ❖ Process of restoring grid after a complete blackout
- ❖ Mobile energy storage can assist in the process

### ❖ Three-Stage Decision Making

- ❖ Investment in mobile energy storage connection points in the grid
- ❖ Preemptive action to place mobile energy storage before an event occurs
- ❖ Dispatching mobile energy storage during the restoration process

# Black-Start Restoration Assisted by Mobile Energy Storage

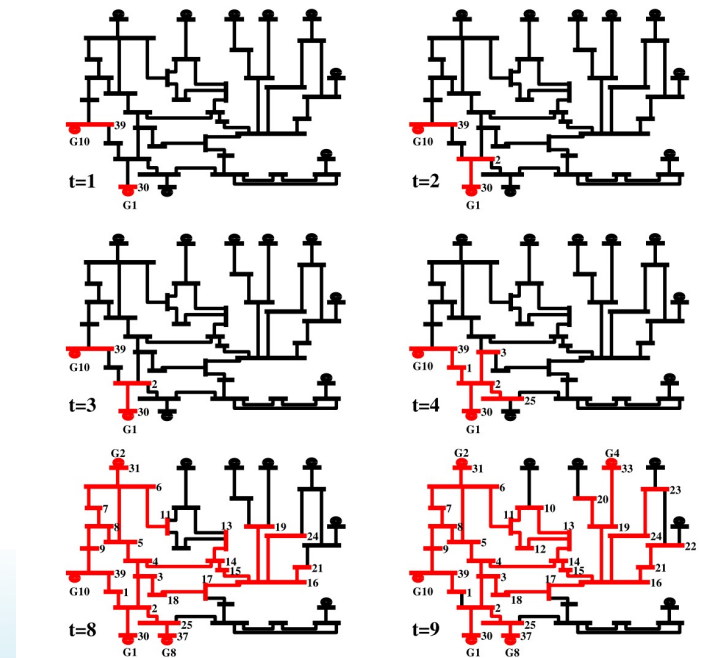


## Black-Start Restoration Process

- ❖ Restore grid after complete black-out.
- ❖ Most generators require electric power to start-up (Cranking power).
- ❖ Few generators can start-up on their own.
- ❖ Grid components become energized, propagating from the generators, and eventually coalescing.

## Mobile Energy Storage Assistance

- ❖ Energy storage can provide cranking power.
- ❖ Mobile energy storage can be pre-positioned or deployed after an event occurs.



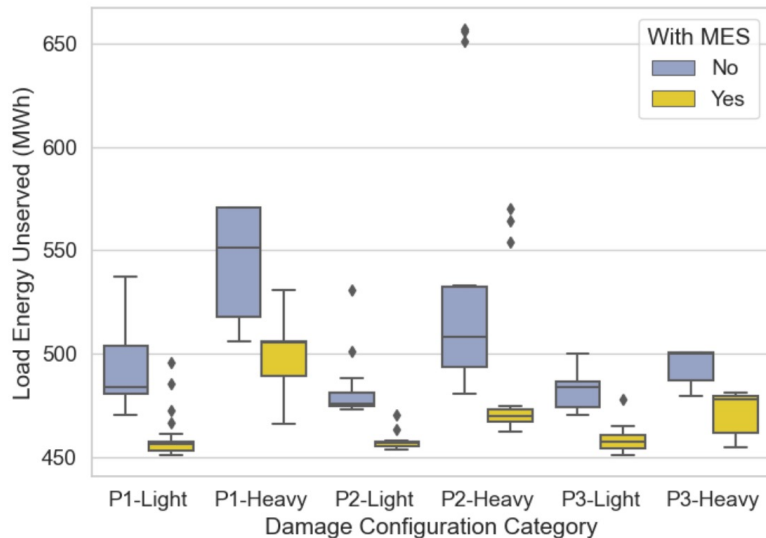
*Figure: Illustrating how energized components propagate during the restoration process. Red components are energized. Time increases as you move down and to the right.*

# Black-Start Restoration Assisted by Mobile Energy Storage

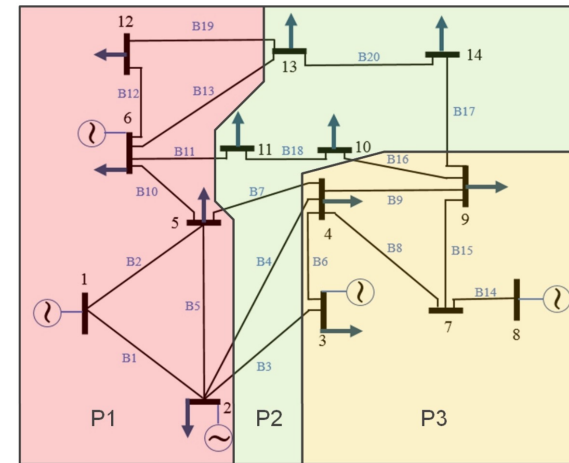


## Experiments

- ❖ Model provided in reference.
- ❖ IEEE 14 bus test case divided into three regions.
- ❖ Simulate black-start restoration for cases where each individual region experiences outages.



*Figure: Box and whiskers plot of the load energy unserved for outages occurring in different zones. Light and heavy outages scenarios are considered.*



*Figure: One-line diagram for IEEE 14 bus test case split into three regions that experience separate outage scenarios.*

## Results

- ❖ Significant decrease in average load energy unserved.
- ❖ Variance of the outcome is smaller (Less outliers).



**Thank you to all UT and Sandia colleagues**

**Thank you to our funding organizations**

- ❖ Energy Storage Program at the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability managed by Dr. Imre Gyuk
- ❖ Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) program at Sandia National Laboratories



Exceptional service in the national interest

