

# Physics-aware and Risk-aware Machine Learning for Power System Operations

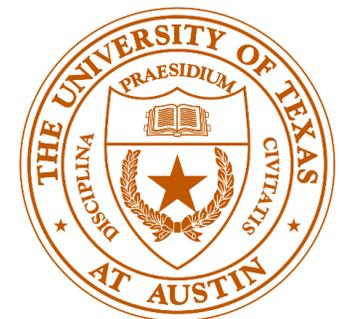
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PSERC Webinar  
March 29, 2022



# Presentation Outline

- **A primer on supervised learning**
- **Three machine learning (ML) examples**
  - **Topology-aware learning for real-time market**
  - **Risk-aware learning for DER coordination**
  - **Scalable learning for grid emergency responses**
- **Summary**

# Power of AI

- Unprecedented opportunities offered by diverse sources of data
  - Synchronphasor and IED data
  - Smart meter data
  - Weather data
  - GIS data, .....

***How to harness the power of ML to tackle problem-specific challenges in real-time power system operations?***

**Forbes**

Mar 15, 2019, 07:37am EDT | 21,849 views

## How AI Can And Will Predict Disasters



**Naveen Joshi** Former Contributor  
COGNITIVE WORLD Contributor Group ©  
AI

## AI could put a stop to electricity theft and meter misreadings



TECHNOLOGY 23 September 2017

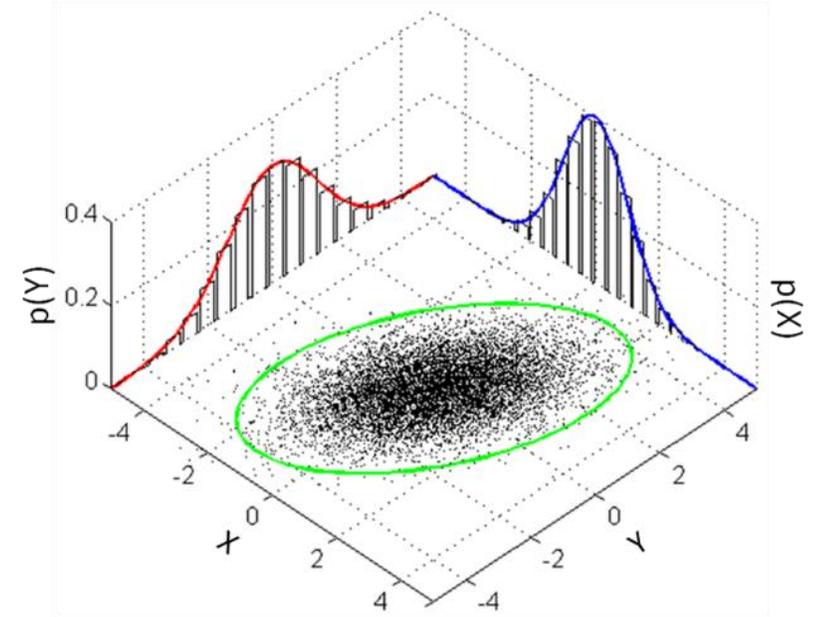
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

## Combining A.I. and human knowledge could transform how power grids work

PUBLISHED FRI, SEP 27 2019 4:55 AM EDT | UPDATED FRI, SEP 27 2019 4:55 AM EDT

# A primer on supervised learning

- **Unknown** joint distribution for  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times Y$ 
  - Classification:  $Y = \{\pm 1\}$  or  $Y = \{1, \dots, C\}$
  - Regression:  $Y = \mathbb{R}^b$
- Given examples, aka, **data samples**  $\{(x_k, y_k)\}$ 
  - $x_k$ : input **feature**
  - $y_k$ : output **target/label**
- Without  $y_k \Rightarrow$  *unsupervised or semi-supervised* learning
- Samples from dynamical systems  $\Rightarrow$  reinforcement learning



# Learning problem formulation

➤ Goal: construct a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow Y$  to map  $x \rightarrow y$

- **Predicted** value  $\hat{y} = f(x) \in Y$  to be close to  $y$
- **Loss function:**  $l(\hat{y}, y) = l(f(x), y) \geq 0$
- For regression, use  $L_p$  norms  $l(\hat{y}, y) = \|\hat{y} - y\|_p$
- For classification, cross-entropy loss, hinge loss, etc.



$$f^* = \arg \min_{f \in F} \mathbb{E}_{(x,y)} l(f(x), y) \xrightarrow{\text{Sample Mean}} \hat{f} = \arg \min_{f \in F} \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K l(f(x_k), y_k)$$

➤ Excellent generalization (error bounds on  $f^* - \hat{f}$ ) performance?

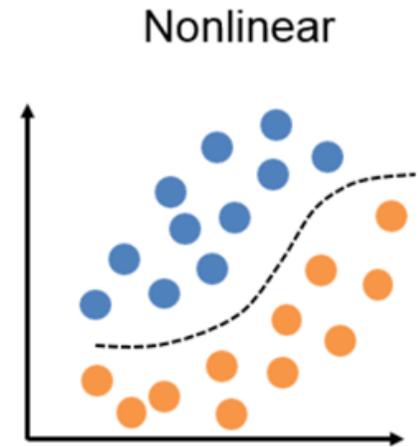
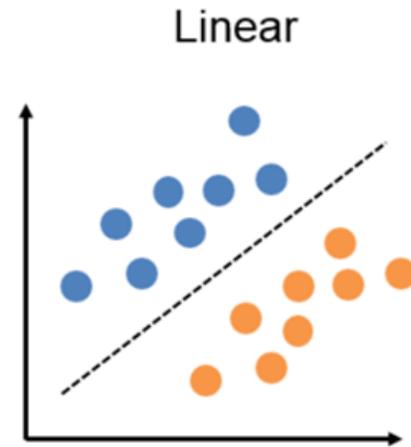
Vidal, Rene, et al. "Mathematics of deep learning." *arXiv preprint arXiv:1712.04741* (2017).

Bartlett, Peter L., Andrea Montanari, and Alexander Rakhlin. "Deep learning: a statistical viewpoint." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2103.09177* (2021).

# Parameterized models for $f$

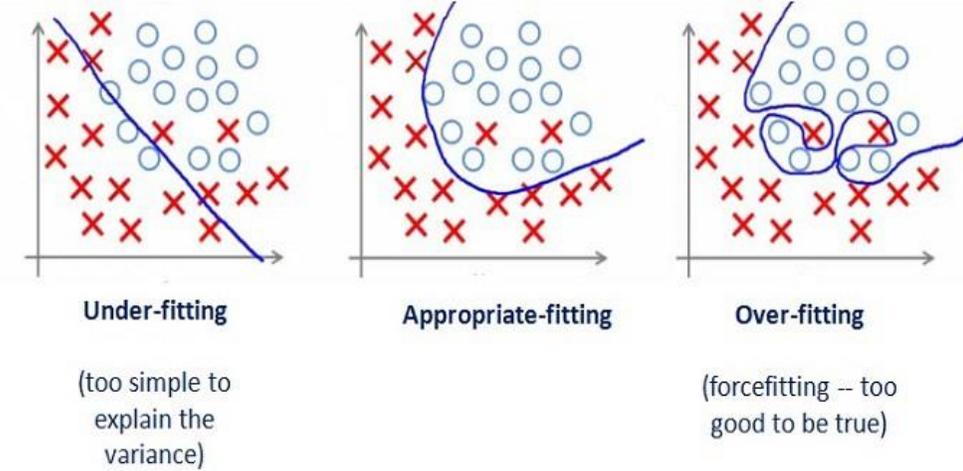
- Impossible to search over any function  $f \Rightarrow$  *parameterization*
- **Linear**  $f(x) = w^\top x + w_0$  parameterized by  $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $w_0 \in \mathbb{R}$

- A simple model structure to use
- Linear regression (LS, LAV)
- Linear classification (logistic regression or SVM)



- **Nonlinear**  $f$  for better prediction
  - Polynomials, Gaussian Processes (GPs), etc.
  - Kernel learning:  $f \in \mathcal{H}$  (Hilbert space for some kernel)
  - Neural networks (NN): layers of nonlinear functions.

# Regularization



## ➤ Data overfitting (losses $\rightarrow 0$ )

- Features redundant: e.g., both  $x_i$  and  $-x_i$
- Models too complex: high-order polynomials, deep neural networks
- *We can fit any  $K$  data samples perfectly using a  $(K-1)$ -th order polynomials*

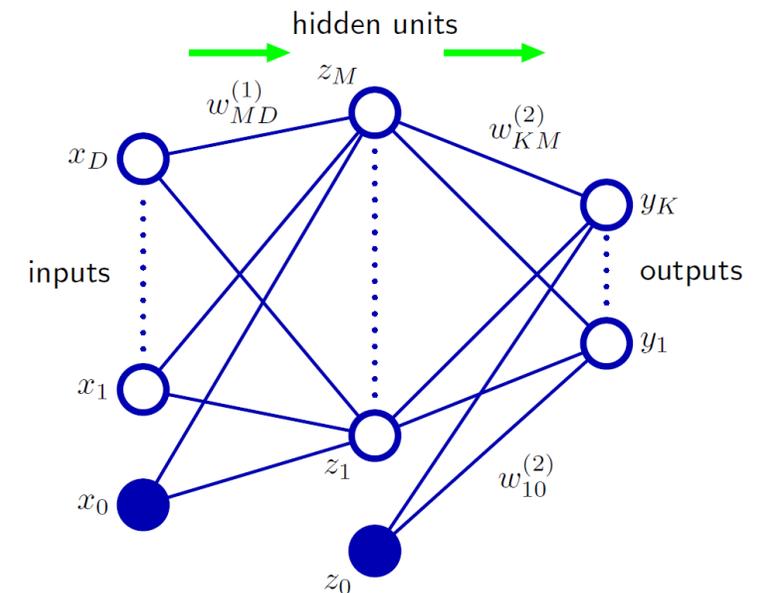
$$\hat{f} = \arg \min_{f \in F} \sum_{k=1}^K l(f(x_k), y_k) + \lambda \cdot \text{Reg}(f)$$

norm of  
parameter  $w$

- Hyperparameter  $\lambda > 0$  balances between data fitting and model complexity
- $L_2$  norm/Ridge: small values, or smooth using  $\sum_i (w_i - w_{i-1})^2$
- $L_1$  norm/Lasso: sparse  $w$  (much more zero entries)

# Deep (D)NN architecture

- Perceptron (single-layer NN): convert  $f(x) = w^\top x$  to a nonlinear function by  $f(x) = \sigma(w^\top x)$ 
  - **nonlinear activation  $\sigma(\cdot)$** : sigmoid, Tanh, ReLU
- NNs: basically multi-layer perceptron (MLP)
  - Layered, feed-forward networks (input  $x$ , output  $y$ )
  - Hidden layers also called neurons or units
  - 2-layer NNs can express all continuous functions, while for any nonlinear ones 3 layers are sufficient



Deep Learning book <https://www.deeplearningbook.org/>

# Gradient descent (GD) via *backpropagation*

$$\hat{w} = \arg \min_w E(w) := Loss(w) + \lambda Reg(w)$$

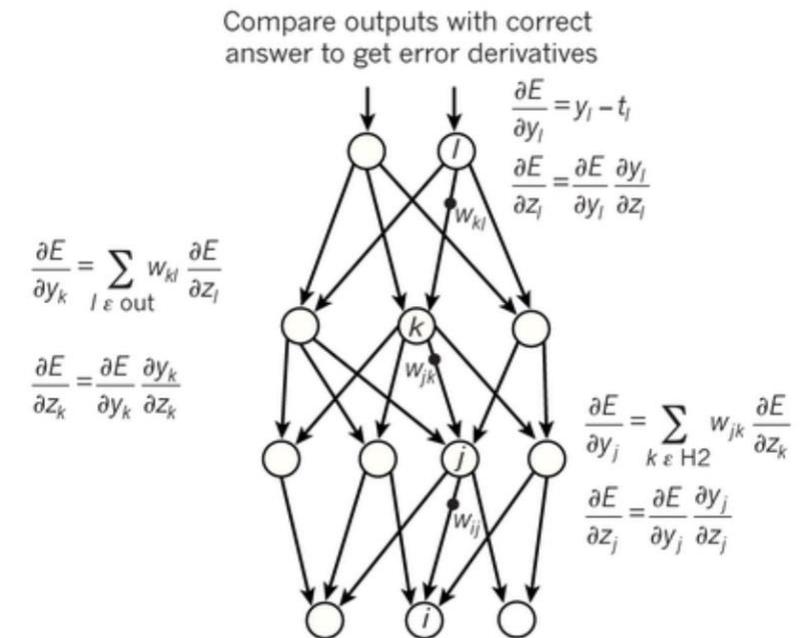
- Nonlinear  $f \Rightarrow$  nonconvex opt. problem

- GD-based learning

$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha \nabla E(w)$$

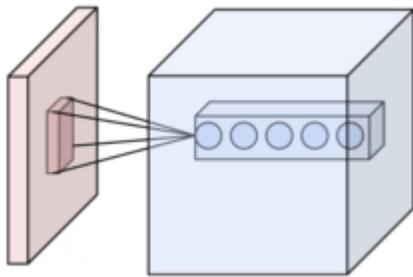
- In practice, local minima may not be a concern [LeCun, 2014]

- Efficient computation of gradient in a backward way using the “chain rule”

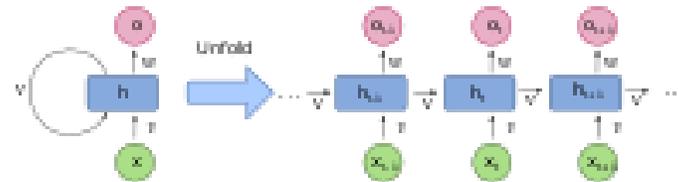


# Variations of DNN

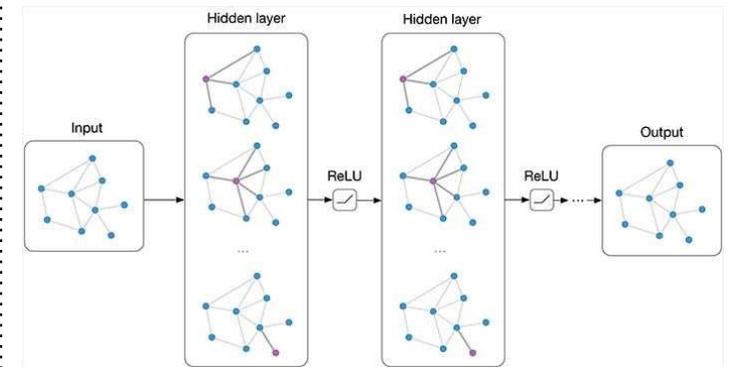
- Fully-connected NN (FCNN): weight parameters grow with data size
- **Idea:** reuse the weight parameters, aka, filters!



**Convolutional NN (CNN):**  
Spatial filters for images/video



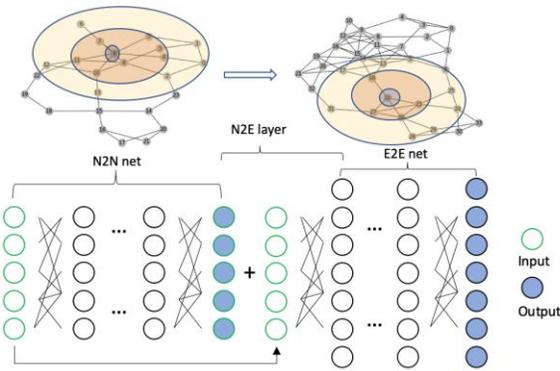
**Recurrent NN (RNN):**  
Temporal filters for texts, speech



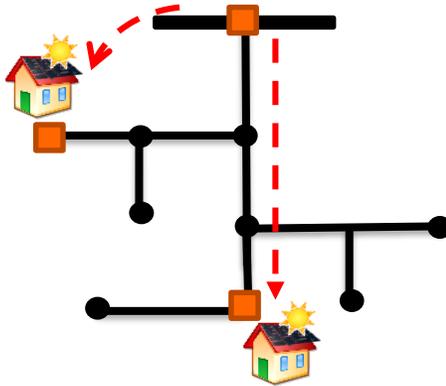
**Graph NN (GNNs):**  
Graph filters for networked systems

# Overview

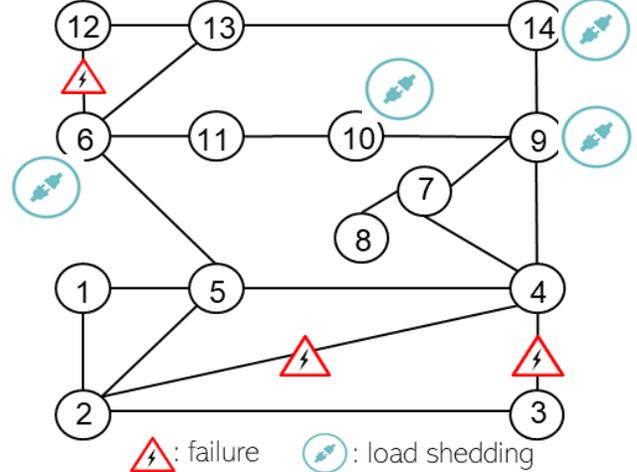
➤ We visit three problems that use domain knowledge to better design NN models that are physics-informed and risk-aware



**Topology-aware learning for real-time market:**  
Simpler model for efficient training



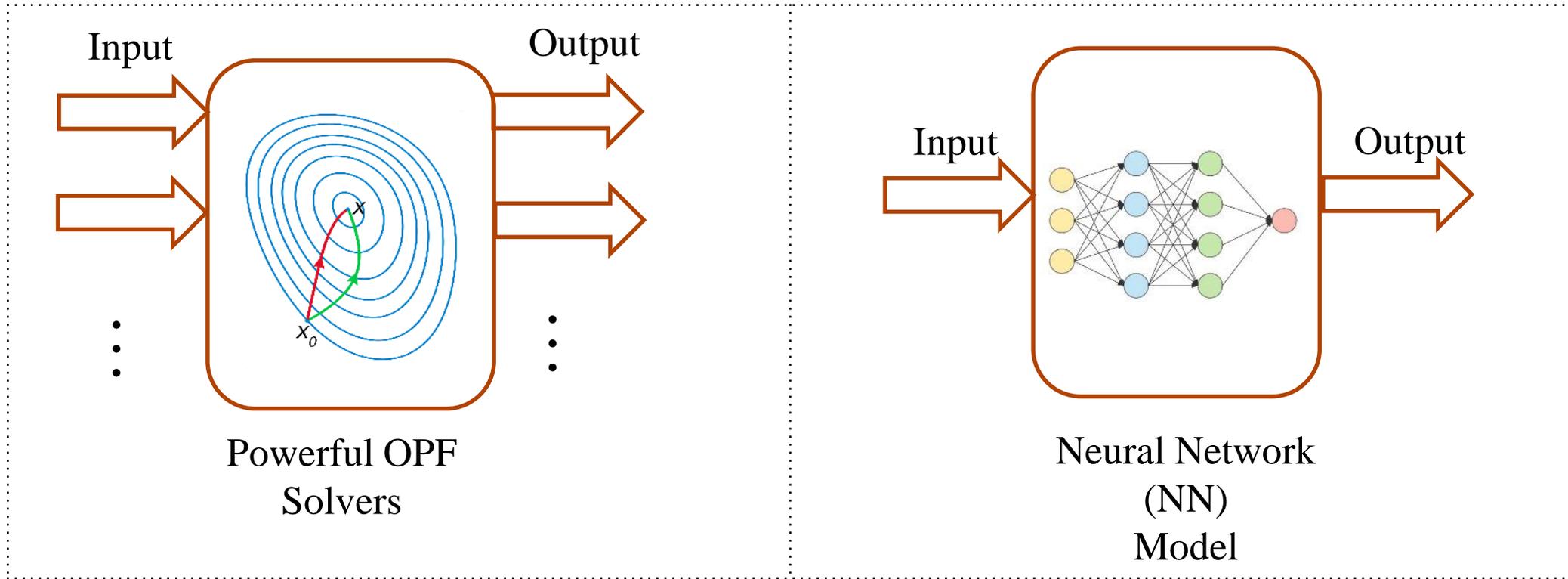
**Risk-aware learning for DER coordination:**  
Reduced risks of voltage violations



**Scalable learning for grid emergency responses:**  
Fast mitigations under limited data

# **PART I: TOPOLOGY-AWARE LEARNING FOR REAL-TIME MARKET**

# ML for optimal power flow (OPF)



- Real-time computation of the OPF solutions by learning the I/O mapping

# Existing work and our focus

- Integration of renewable, flexible resources increases the grid variability and motivates real-time, fast OPF via training a neural network (NN)
  - Identifying the active constraints (for dc-OPF) [Misra et al'19][Deka et al'19]
  - Directly mapping the ac-OPF solutions [Guha et al'19]
  - Warm start the search for ac feasible solution [Baker '19] [Zamzam et al'20]
- Address the uncertainty in stochastic OPF [Mezghani et al'20]
- Connect to the duality analysis of convex OPF [Chen et al'20] [Singh et al'20]

**Focus:** Exploit the grid topology to *reduce the NN model complexity*

# OPF for real-time market

- Power network modeled as a graph  $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  with  $N$  nodes
- ac-OPF for all nodal injections

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N c_i(p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{j}\mathbf{q} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{v})(\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{v})^* \\ & \underline{\mathbf{V}} \leq |\mathbf{v}| \leq \bar{\mathbf{V}} \\ & \underline{\mathbf{p}} \leq \mathbf{p} \leq \bar{\mathbf{p}} \\ & \underline{\mathbf{q}} \leq \mathbf{q} \leq \bar{\mathbf{q}} \\ & \underline{f}_{ij} \leq f_{ij}(\mathbf{v}) \leq \bar{f}_{ij}, \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E} \end{aligned}$$

- Nodal input:

$$\mathbf{x}_i \triangleq [\bar{p}_i, \underline{p}_i, \bar{q}_i, \underline{q}_i, \mathbf{c}_i] \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

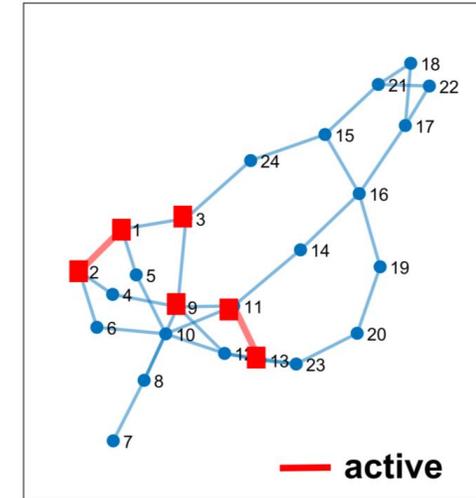
power limits + costs

- Nodal output: optimal p/q ?
- Fully-connected (FC)NN

FCNN layer has  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$  parameters!

# Topology dependence

- [Owerko et al'20] uses graph learning to predict p/q
- Locational marginal price (LMP) from the dual problem
  - Strongly depends on the graph topology and congested lines
  - **ISF** (injection shift factor) matrix **S** from graph Laplacian



$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{\mathbf{p}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N c_i(p_i) \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p} = 0 \quad : \lambda \\
 & \underline{\mathbf{p}} \leq \mathbf{p} \leq \bar{\mathbf{p}} \\
 & \underline{\mathbf{f}} \leq \mathbf{S}\mathbf{p} \leq \bar{\mathbf{f}} \quad : [\underline{\boldsymbol{\mu}}; \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}]
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\boldsymbol{\pi} := \lambda^* \cdot \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{S}^\top (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}^* - \underline{\boldsymbol{\mu}}^*)$$

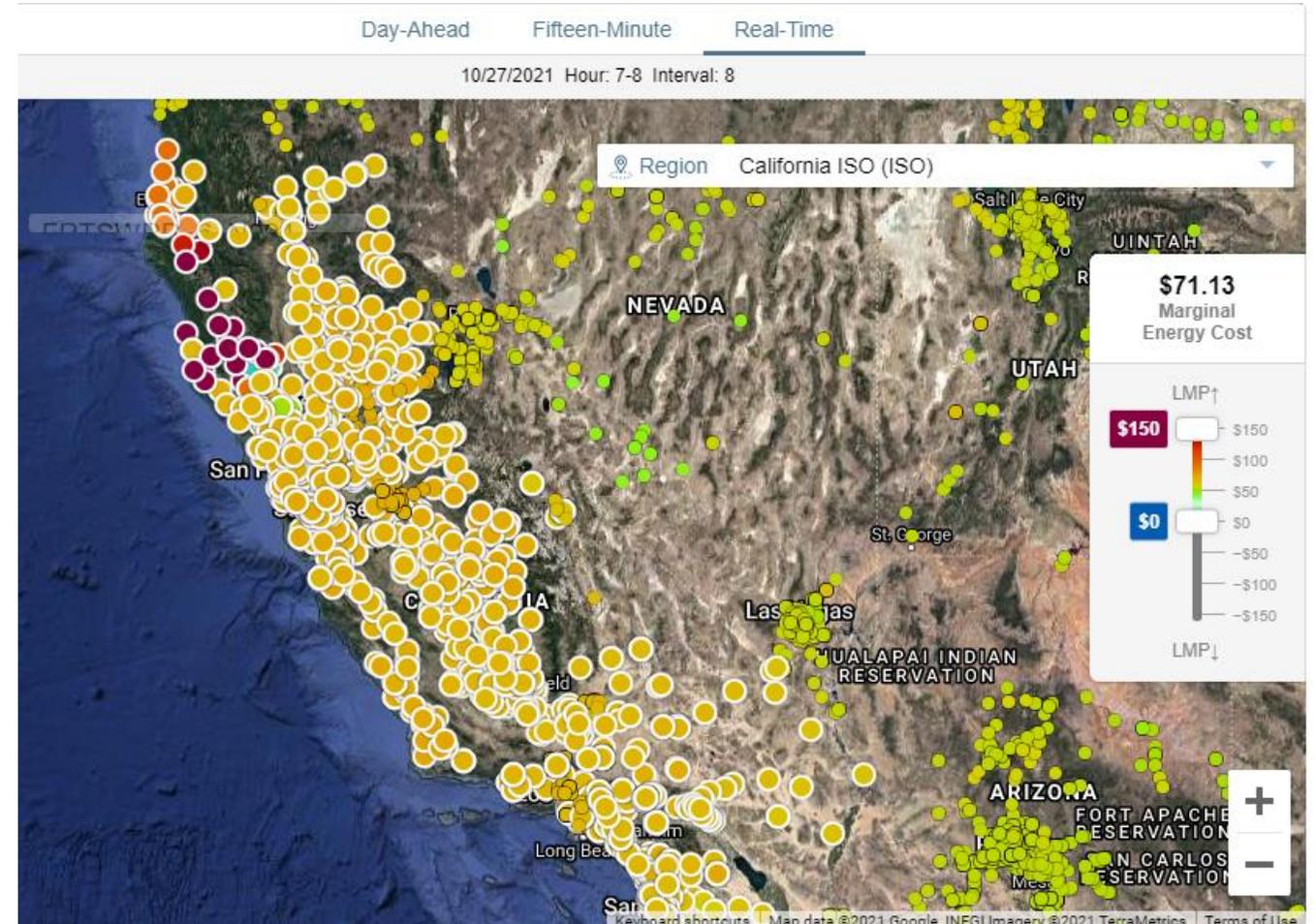
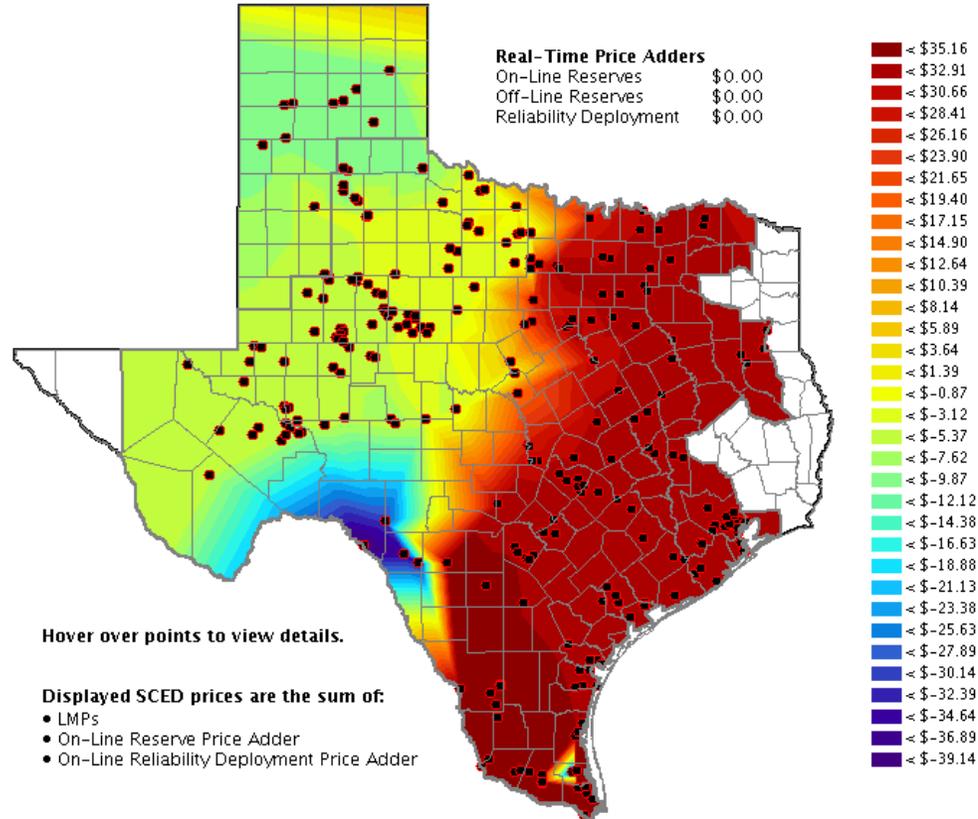
$$\mathbf{S}^\top = \mathbf{B}_r^{-1} \mathbf{A}_r^\top \mathbf{X}^{-1}$$

shares the same eigen-space  
as the graph Laplacian  $\mathbf{B}_r$

# LMP map with locality

Real-Time Locational Prices: Real-Time Market - SCED Pricing [Help?](#)

Last Updated: Oct 27, 2021 09:35



# Graph NN (GNN): topology-based filtering

- Input formed by nodal features as rows

$$\mathbf{X}^0 = \{\mathbf{x}_i\} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$$

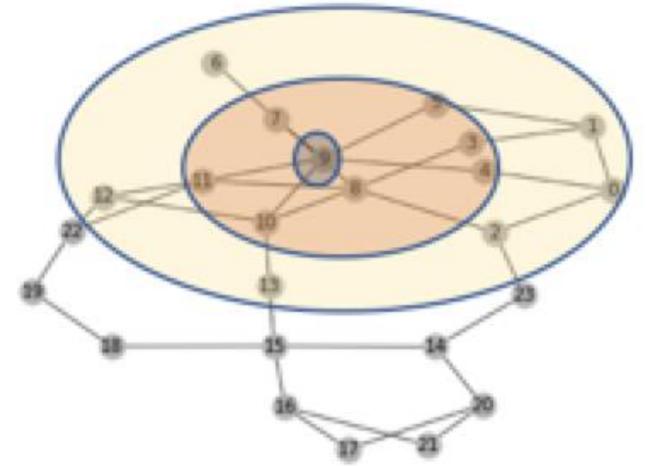
- GNN layer  $l$  with learnable parameters

$$\mathbf{X}^{\ell+1} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}^\ell\mathbf{H}^\ell + \mathbf{b}^\ell)$$

- Topology-based graph filter  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$

$$[\mathbf{W}]_{ij} = 0 \text{ if } (i, j) \notin \mathcal{E}$$

- Feature filters  $\{\mathbf{H}^\ell\}$  explore higher-dim. mapping



If lines are sparse  $|\mathcal{E}| \sim \mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{V}|)$  and let  $D = \max_t \{d_t\}$ , then the number of parameters for each GNN layer is

$$\mathcal{O}(N + D^2)$$

Compared to FCNN  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$

Hamilton, William L. "Graph representation learning." 2020.

[https://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~wlh/grl\\_book/](https://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~wlh/grl_book/)

# GNN for predicting LMPs

- LMP prediction [Ji et al'16, Geng et al'16]
- GNN-based LMP can determine the optimal p/f

$$\mathbf{X} \xrightarrow{f(\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}} \xrightarrow{\text{dispatch}} \hat{\mathbf{p}}^*(\hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}}) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{S}} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^*(\hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}})$$

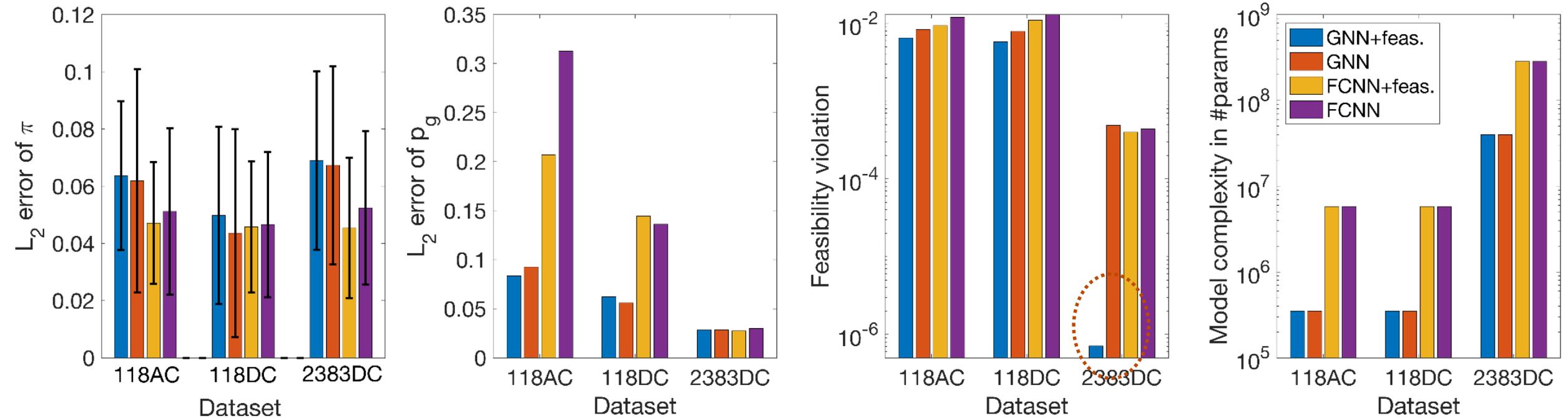
- Feasibility-regularization (FR) to reduce line flow violations

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \|\boldsymbol{\pi} - \hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}}\|_2^2 + \lambda \left\| \sigma(|\hat{\mathbf{f}}^*(\hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}})| - \bar{\mathbf{f}}) \right\|_1$$

Liu, Shaohui, Chengyang Wu, and Hao Zhu. "Graph Neural Networks for Learning Real-Time Prices in Electricity Market." *ICML Workshop on Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning*, 2021. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.10529>

# LMP prediction results

- 118-bus + ac-opf and 2382-bus + dc-opf; GNN/FCNN + feasibility regularization (FR)
- Metrics: LMP and  $p_g$  prediction error; line flow limit violation rate



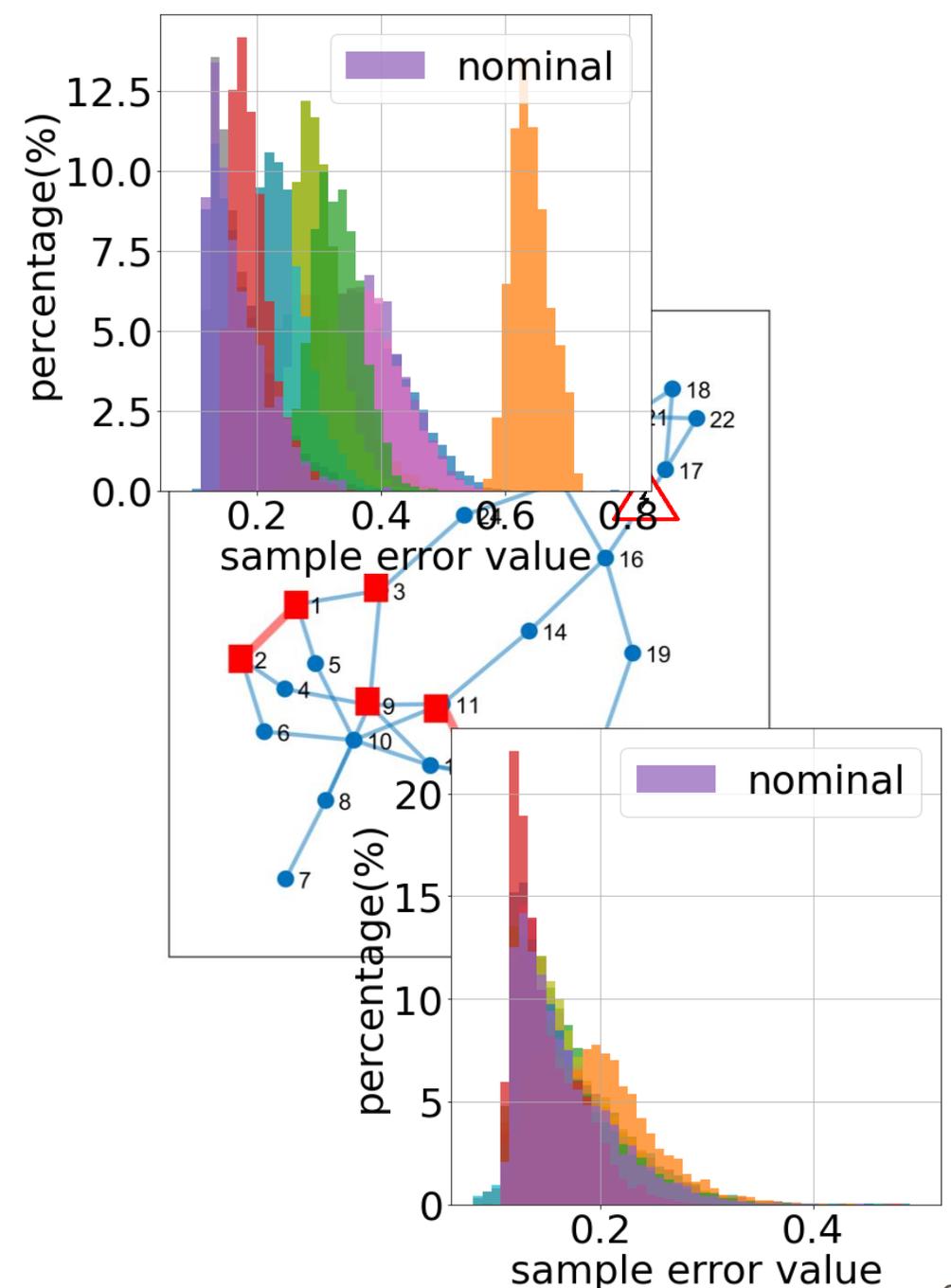
# GNN for classifying congested lines

- Classifying the status for the top 10 congested lines with cross-entropy loss
- Metrics: recall (true positive rate), F1 score
- GNN better in performance scaling for large systems, thanks to reduced complexity

<b>118ac</b>	Recall	F1 score	<b>2383dc</b>	Recall	F1 score
<b>GNN</b>	<b>98.40%</b>	<b>96.10%</b>	<b>GNN</b>	<b>90.00%</b>	<b>81.40%</b>
FCNN	97.70%	94.60%	FCNN	87.30%	78.30%

# Topology adaptivity

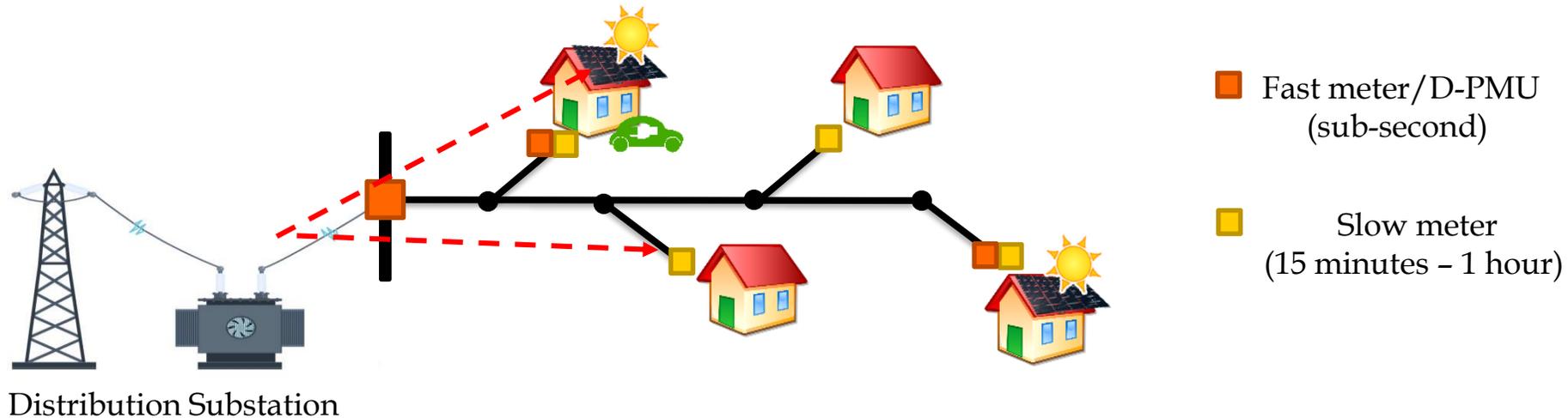
- In addition to reduced complexity, GNN-based prediction can easily adapt to **varying grid topology**
- Pre-trained GNN for a nominal topology can warm-start the learning for randomly selected two-line outages
- Re-trained process takes **only 3-5 epochs** to converge to good prediction
- Currently pursuing to formally analyze this transfer capability



# **PART II: RISK-AWARE LEARNING FOR VOLTAGE SAFETY IN DISTRIBUTION GRIDS**

# ML for distributed energy resources (DERs)

- Rising DERs at grid edge motivate scalable & efficient coordination to support the operations of connected distribution grids
  - Lack of frequent, real-time communications
  - Distribution control center or DMS may broadcast messages to the full system



Liu, Hao Jan, Wei Shi, and Hao Zhu. "Hybrid voltage control in distribution networks under limited communication rates." *IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid* 10.3 (2018): 2416-2427.

Molzahn, Daniel K., et al. "A survey of distributed optimization and control algorithms for electric power systems." *IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid* 8.6 (2017): 2941-2962.

# Existing work and our focus

- Scalable DER operations as a special instance of OPF
  - Kernel SVM learning [Karagiannopoulos et al'19],[Jalali et al'20]
  - DNNs for ac-/dc-OPF [see Part I]
  - Reinforcement learning (RL) [Yang et al'20, Wang et al'19]
- Enforcing network constraints is challenging
  - Heuristic projection or penalizing the violations

**Focus:** Address the statistical risks to *ensure safe operational grid limits*

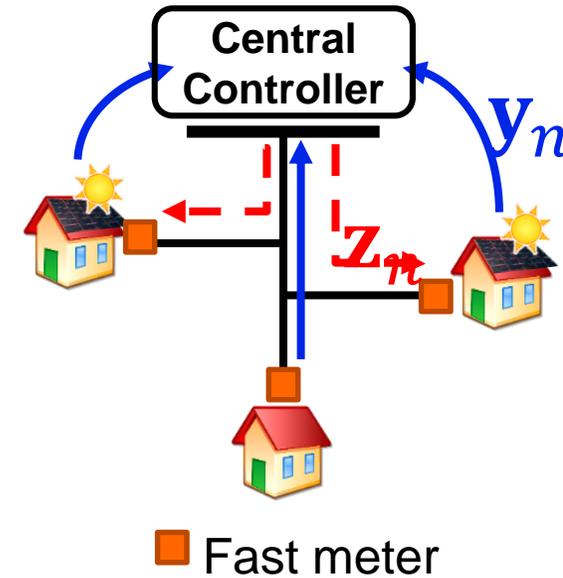
# Optimal DER coordination

- DERs for voltage regulation and power loss reduction

$$\mathbf{z} = \min_{\mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{Q}} \text{Losses}(\mathbf{q})$$

$$\text{s. to } \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{y}) - \bar{\mathbf{v}} \\ -\mathbf{X}\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{y}) + \underline{\mathbf{v}} \end{bmatrix} \leq \mathbf{0}$$

- $\mathcal{Q}$  : available reactive power
- $\mathbf{X}$  : network matrix
- $\mathbf{y}$  : operating condition
- $\underline{\mathbf{v}}, \bar{\mathbf{v}}$  : voltage limits



- (Multi-phase) linearized dist. flow (LDF) model leads to a convex QP
- But a centralized solution requires high communication rates

# ML for DER optimization

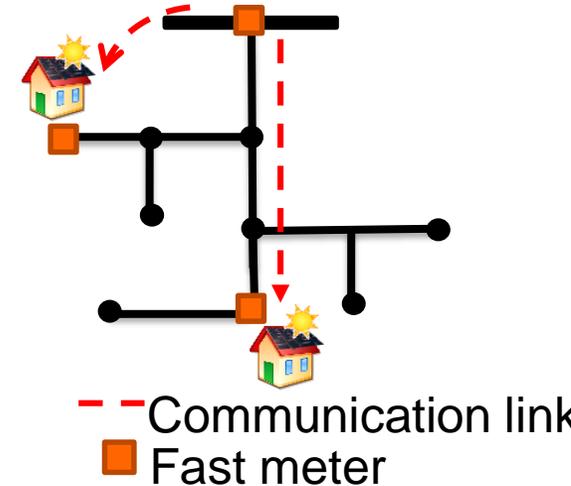
- Similar to OPF, want to predict  $\Phi(\mathbf{y}; \boldsymbol{\varphi}) \rightarrow \mathbf{z}$
- Learn a *scalable* NN model, one for each node  $n$

$$\mathbf{y}_n^{\ell+1} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_n^\ell \mathbf{y}_n^\ell + \mathbf{b}_n^\ell)$$

- $\boldsymbol{\varphi} = \{\mathbf{W}_n^\ell, \mathbf{b}_n^\ell\}$  : nodal weights to be learned

- Similarly, we can use GNN architecture such that all nodes use the same filter
- *Average* loss function: mean-square error (MSE)

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}} f(\boldsymbol{\varphi}) := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \ell(\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \boldsymbol{\varphi}), \mathbf{z}_k) \quad \text{with} \quad \ell(\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \boldsymbol{\varphi}), \mathbf{z}_k) = \|\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \boldsymbol{\varphi}) - \mathbf{z}_k\|_2^2$$



# Risk-aware learning

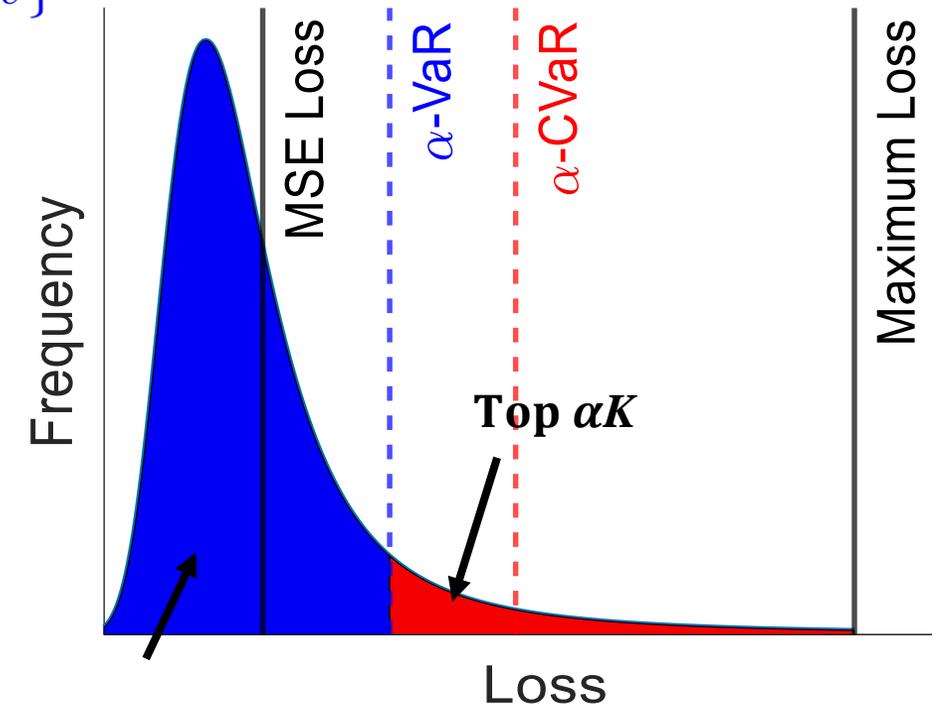
- Consider the conditional value-at-risk (CVaR) for predicting  $\mathbf{z}$

$$\gamma_{\alpha}(\varphi) := \frac{1}{\alpha K} \sum_{k=1}^K \ell(\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \varphi), \mathbf{z}_k) \times \mathbb{1}\{\ell(\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \varphi), \mathbf{z}_k) \geq v\}$$

for a given significance level  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

$$\min_{\varphi} f(\varphi) + \lambda \gamma_{\alpha}(\varphi)$$

- $\lambda$ : regularization hyperparameter
- CVaR turns out very useful for voltage constraints



Shanny Lin, Shaohui Liu, and Hao Zhu. "Risk-Aware Learning for Scalable Voltage Optimization in Distribution Grids," *Power Systems Computation Conference (PSCC) 2022 (accepted)*, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.01490>

# Accelerating CVaR learning

- CVaR loss is known to preserve convexity of loss function
  - But the NN model is typically nonconvex; recent extension [Kalogerias'21]
- A key computation challenge is learning efficiency with worst-case samples

$$\gamma_{\alpha}(\varphi) := \frac{1}{\alpha K} \sum_{k=1}^K \ell(\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \varphi), \mathbf{z}_k) \times \mathbb{1}\{\ell(\Phi(\mathbf{y}_k; \varphi), \mathbf{z}_k) \geq v\}$$

- Modern sampling-based ML tools reduces the accuracy of gradient computation
- We developed a straightforward mini-batch **selection algorithm** (Alg. 1 later) that only uses those of sufficient risk value for computing gradient

# Risk of predicting $q$ decisions

- IEEE 123-bus system with six DER nodes of flexible  $q$  output
  - All DERs use limited power information to learn the optimal decision
- Error performance very similar due to the high prediction accuracy
- Yet, training time accelerated by CVaR and the proposed selection algorithm

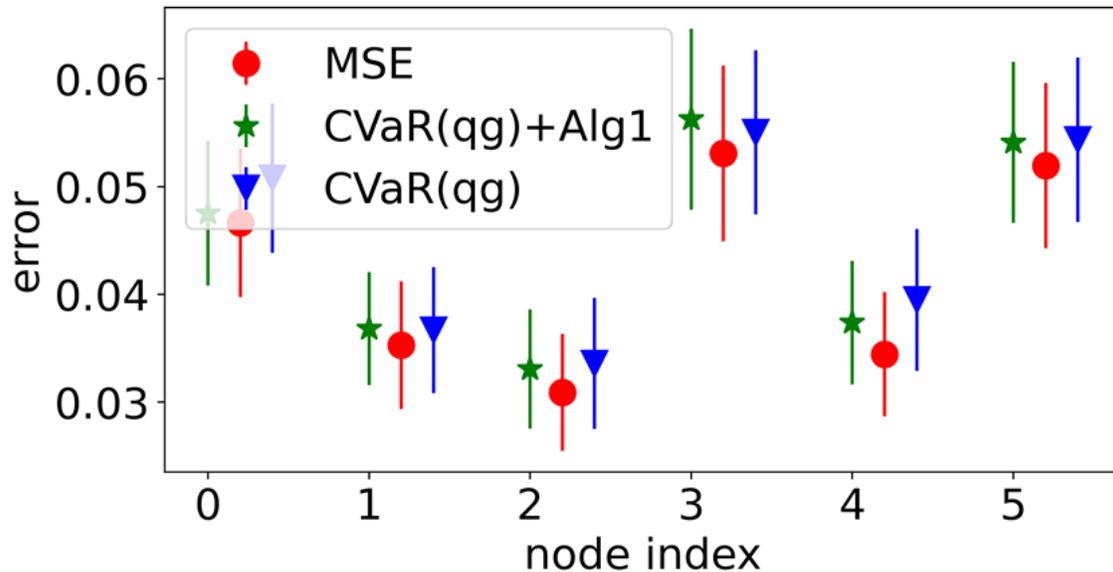


Table 1: Computation time

Loss obj.	Epoch [s]	Total [s]
MSE	0.52	46.48
CVaR(qg)	1.07	38.70
CVaR(qg)+Alg 1	0.61	35.63

# Risk of voltage violation

- Further incorporating the CVaR of voltage prediction
- Reduced max voltage deviation (worst-case) -> higher operational safety
- Computational efficiency improved by the proposed selection algorithm

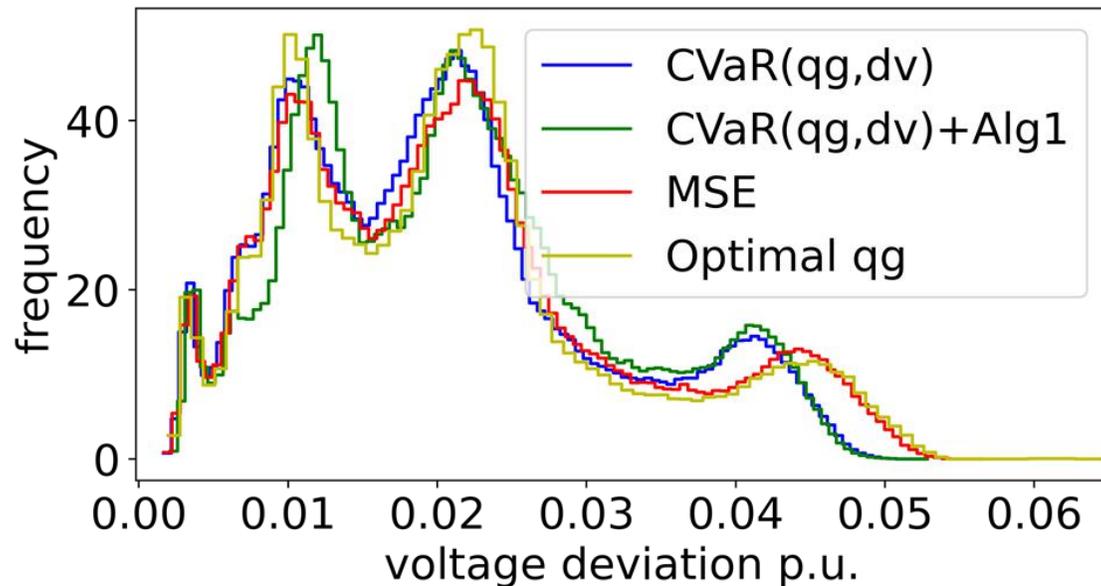


Table 1: Computation time

Loss obj.	Epoch [s]	Total [s]
MSE	0.54	44.89
CVaR(qg,dv)	0.77	31.73
CVaR(qg,dv)+Alg 1	0.51	25.93

# **PART III: SCALABLE LEARNING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSES FOR RESILIENCE**

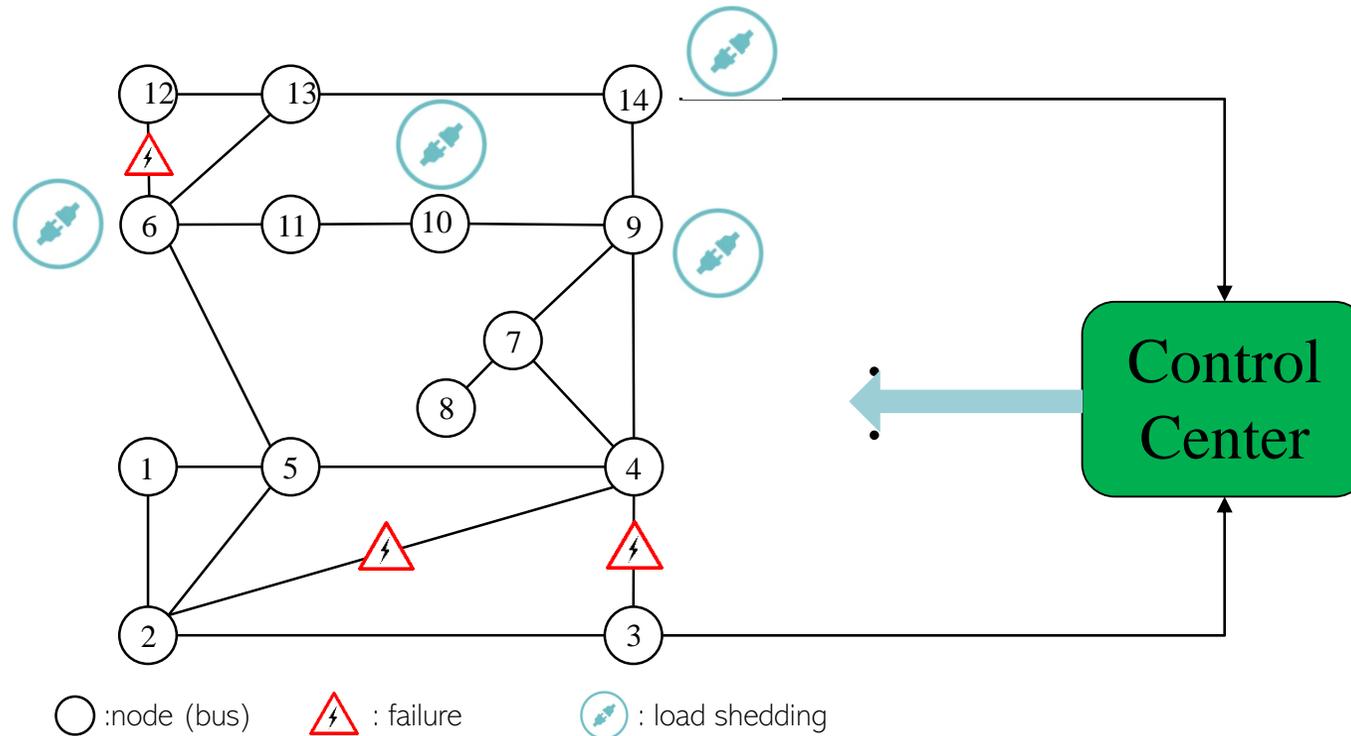
# Grid emergency responses

- Grid resilience challenged by emerging types of variable energy resources (VERs), and increasingly by extreme weather events
- It imperative to design the grid operations with effective emergency responses
  - Load shedding
  - Topology optimization
  - ...
- How to attain the decisions in a scalable and safe manner?



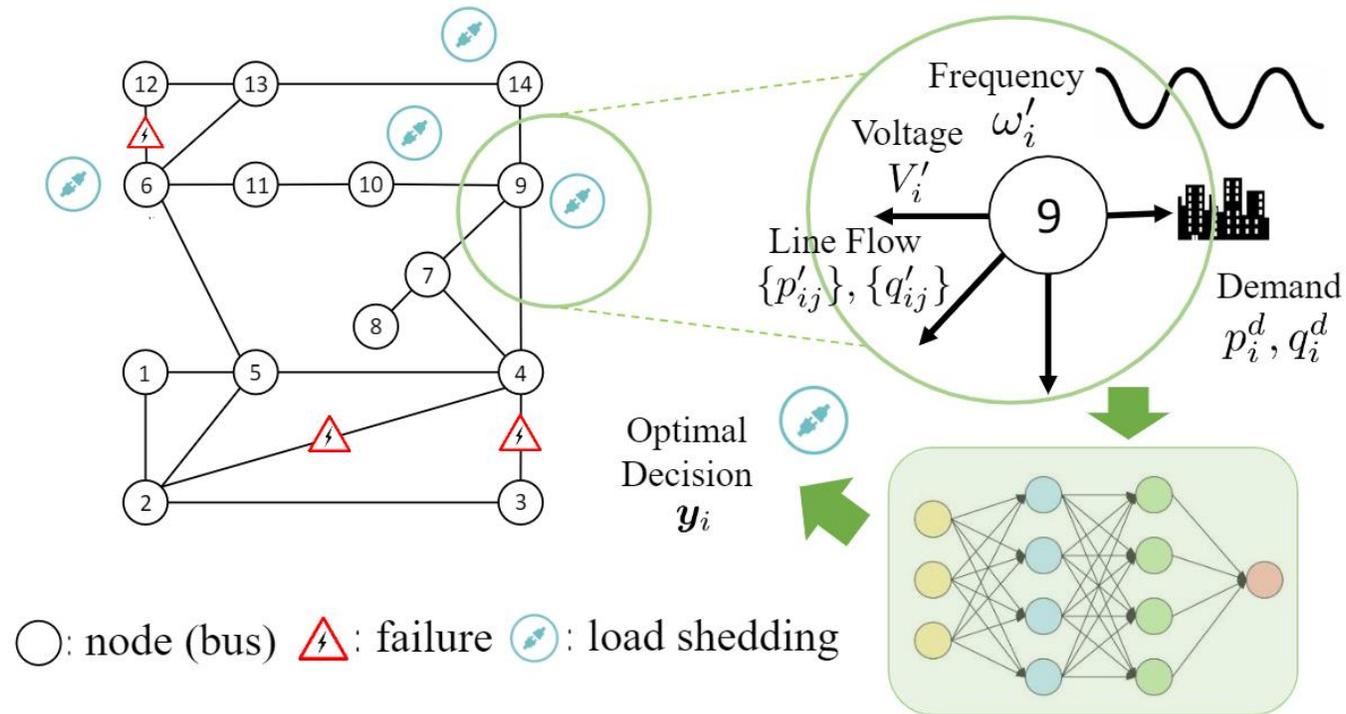
# Centralized optimal load shedding (OLS)

- Load shedding determined by control center with system-wide information
- AC Optimal load shedding (OLS) program cast as a special case of AC-OPF



# ML for decentralized load shedding

- Each load learns optimal decision rule from a large of historical or synthetic scenarios



- Input feature:

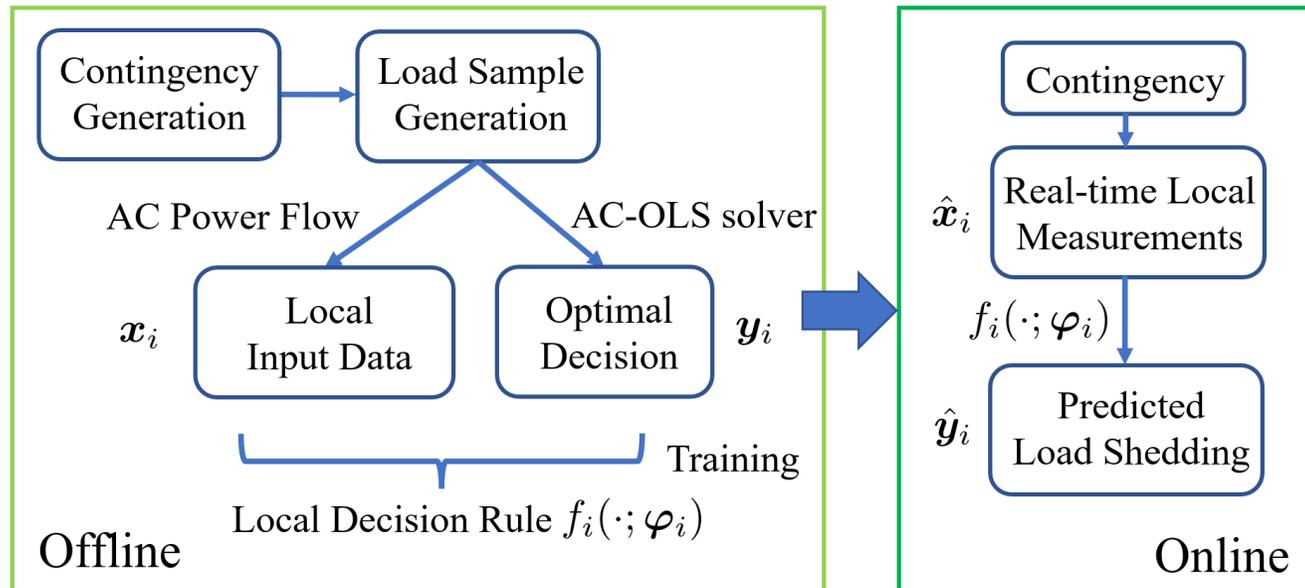
$$\mathbf{x}_i = [p_i^d, q_i^d, V_i', \{p'_{ij}\}, \{q'_{ij}\}, \omega_i']$$

- Local shedding solutions:

$$\mathbf{y}_i = [p_i^s, q_i^s]$$

Yuqi Zhou, Jeehyun Park, and Hao Zhu, "Scalable Learning for Optimal Load Shedding Under Power Grid Emergency Operations," PES General Meeting (PESGM) 2022 (accepted) <https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.11980>

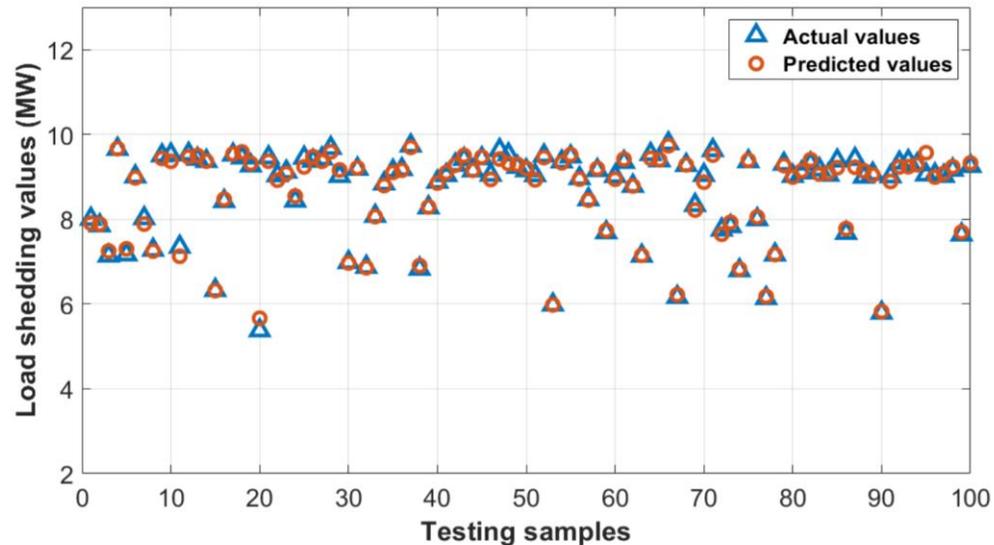
# Scalable learning of load shedding



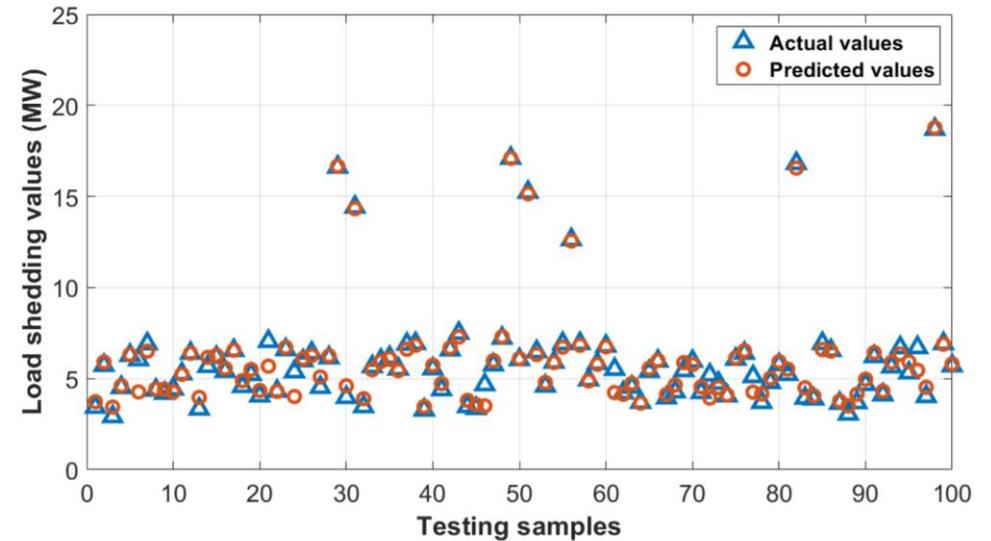
- Offline training is performed for various contingency and load conditions
- Load centers quickly make decisions during online phase in response to contingencies.

# Prediction under single line outage

- IEEE 14-bus system; quadratic cost functions
- All  $(N - 1)$  contingency scenarios, under different load conditions (1000 samples for each scenario)

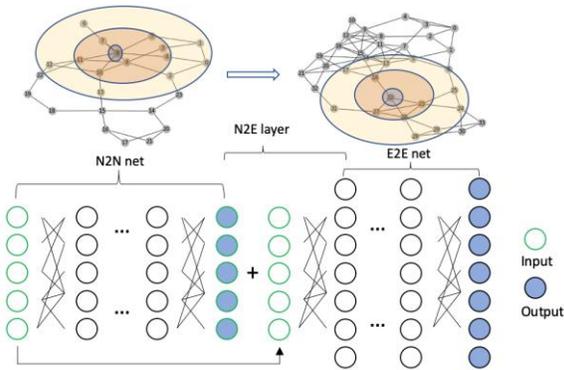


(a) Load center at bus 10



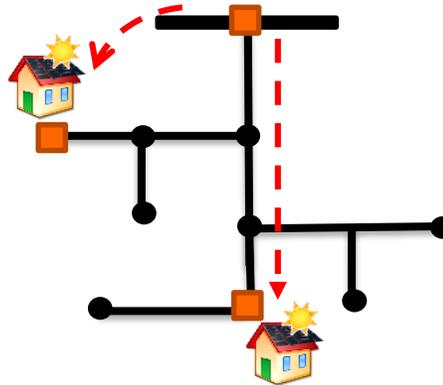
(b) Load center at bus 14

# Summary



## Topology-aware learning for real-time market:

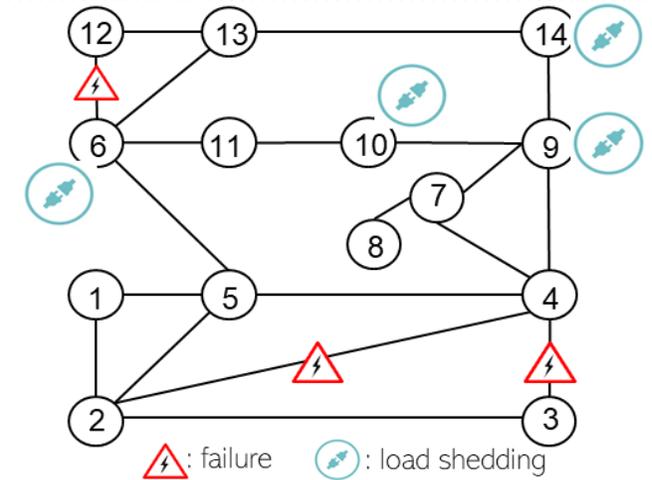
Simpler model for efficient training



--- Communication link  
■ Fast meter

## Risk-aware learning for DER coordination:

Reduced risks of voltage violations



## Scalable learning for grid emergency responses:

Fast mitigations under limited data

- I: Topology adaptivity and other transfer learning ideas
- II: Convergence analysis and connections to safe learning
- III: Generalized emergency responses and risk-awareness

# Education resources

- UT grad course “*Data Analytics in Power Systems,*” new slides available  
<https://utexas.app.box.com/v/EE394VDataInPowerSys>
- 2020 NSF Workshop on *Forging Connections between Machine Learning, Data Science, & Power Systems Research*  
<https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/ml-ds4pes/home>
- DOE-funded EPRI GEAT with Data  
[https://grided.epri.com/great\\_with\\_data.html](https://grided.epri.com/great_with_data.html)

# Learning and Optimization for Smarter Electricity Infrastructure

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*Learning for grid resilience*

*Learning for dynamic resources*

*Learning for power electronics based resources*

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## Thank you!