

Smart Systems for Urban Water Demand Management

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joint work with **A.K. Sampathirao, P. Patrinos & A. Bemporad.**

IMT Institute for Advanced Studies Lucca
Monte Verità, Switzerland, 22-25 Aug 2016

Today's talk

We will learn how to:

- ▶ **model** water networks
- ▶ **identify** control objectives
- ▶ **make decisions** under uncertainty
- ▶ **formulate** MPC problems
- ▶ **devise** algorithms to solve them
- ▶ **parallelise** them on GPUs



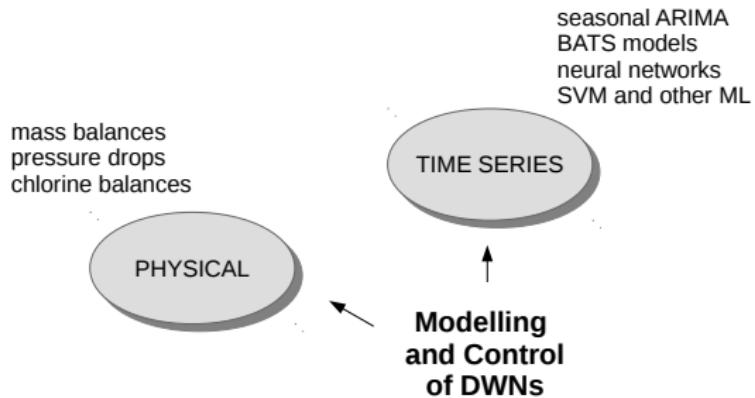
Modeller's todos

mass balances
pressure drops
chlorine balances

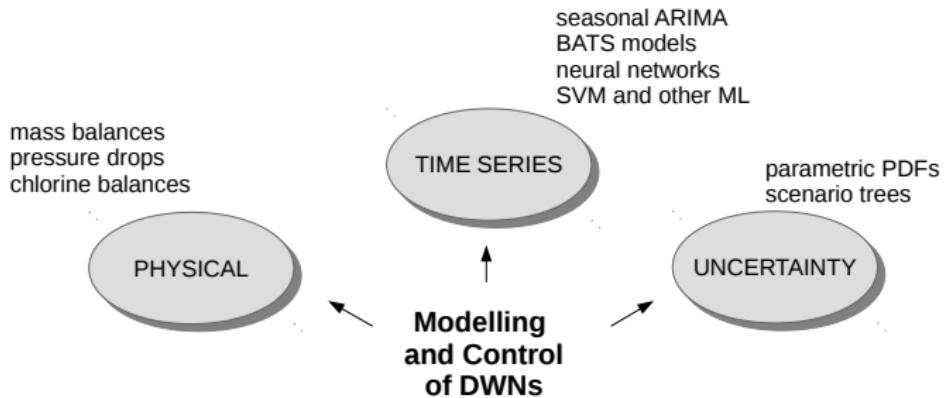


Modelling
and Control
of DWNs

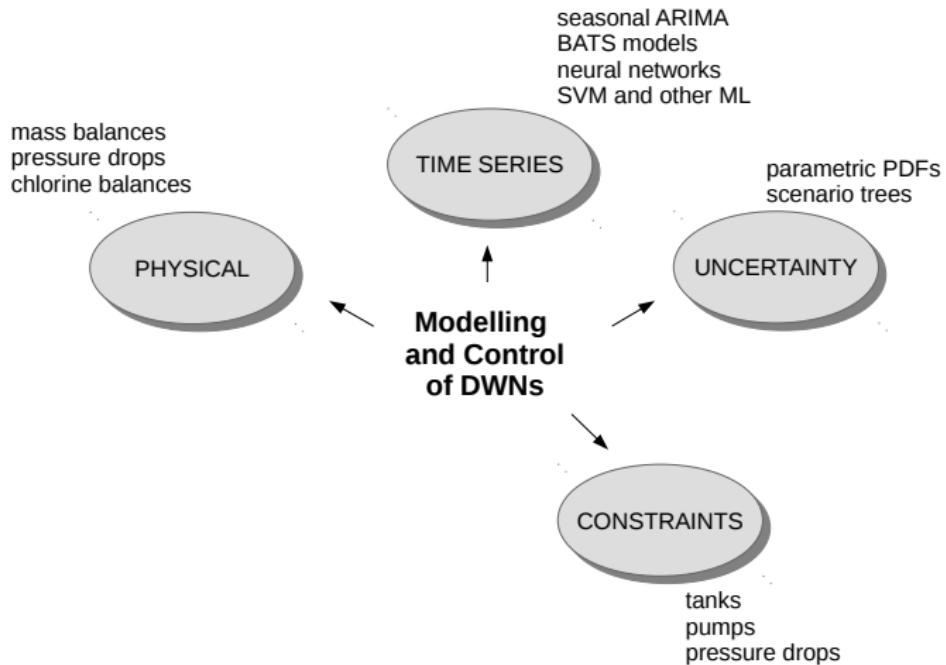
Modeller's todos



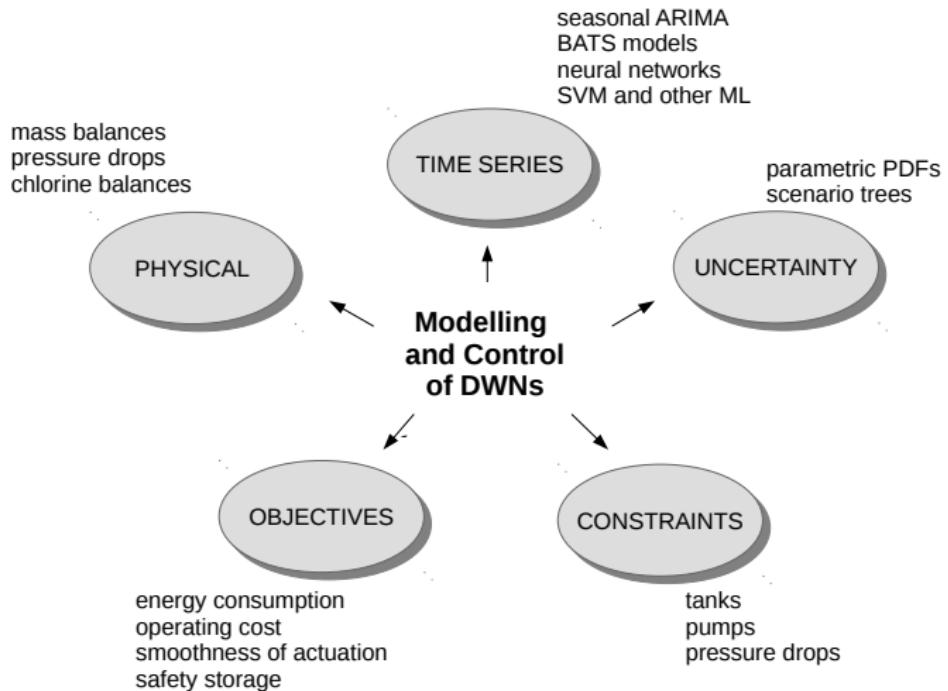
Modeller's todos



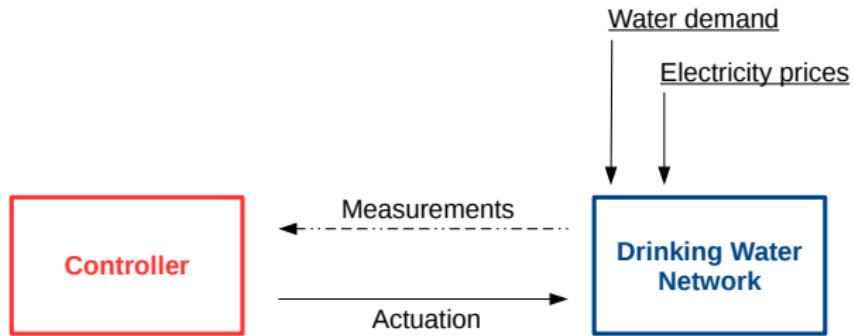
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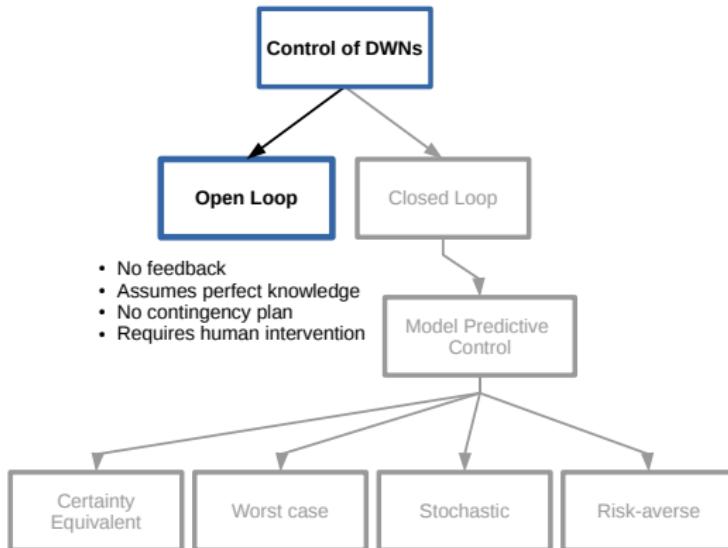
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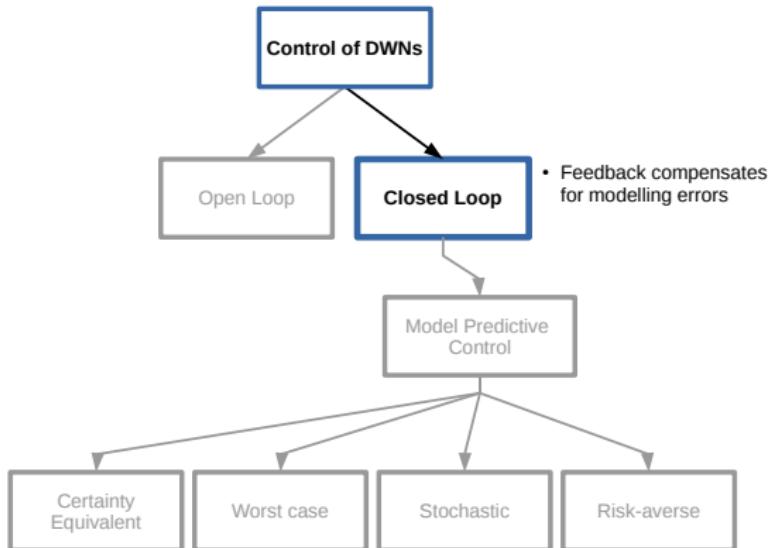
Control of water networks



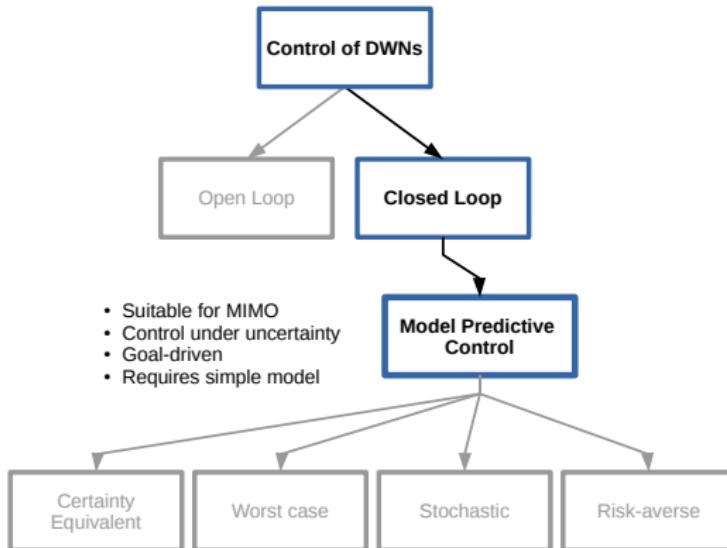
Taxonomy of control methodologies



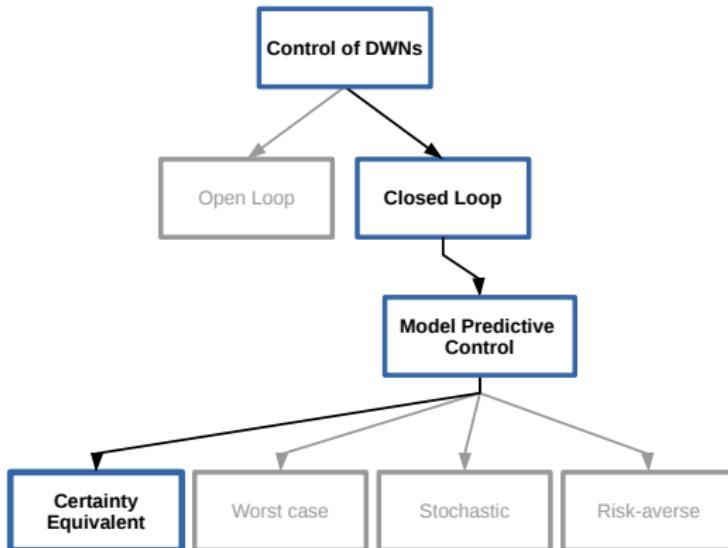
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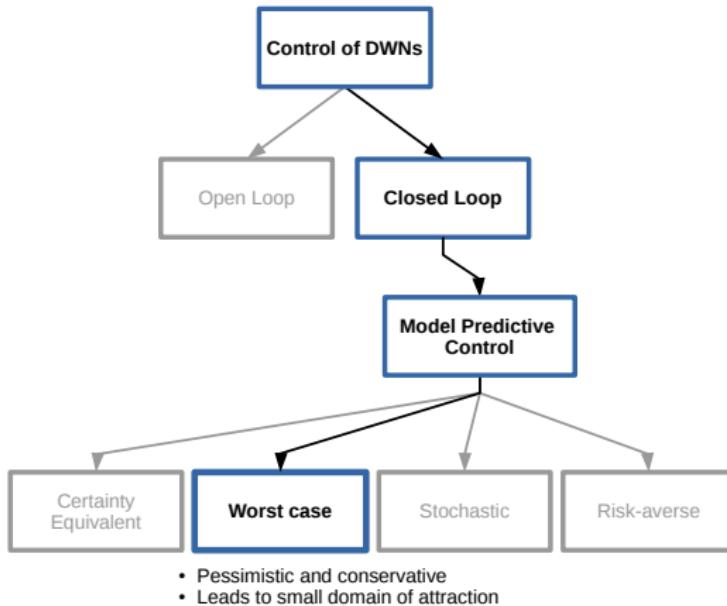


Taxonomy of control methodologies

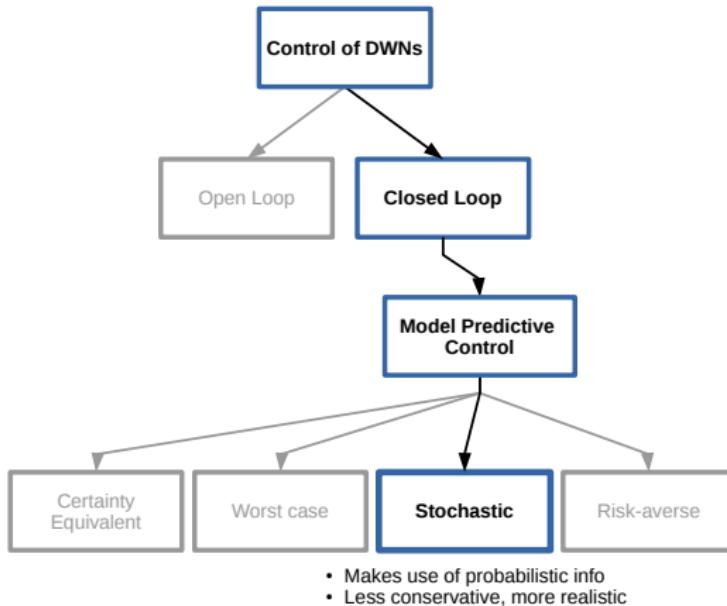


- Model assumed accurate
- Constraints may be violated
- Suboptimal (we can do better)

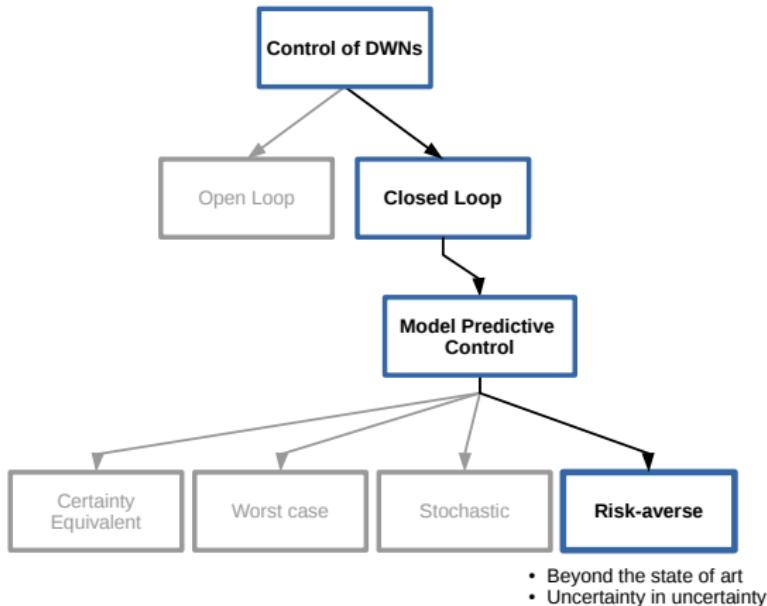
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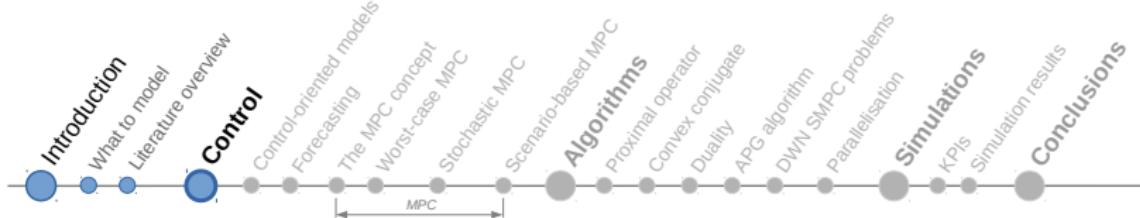
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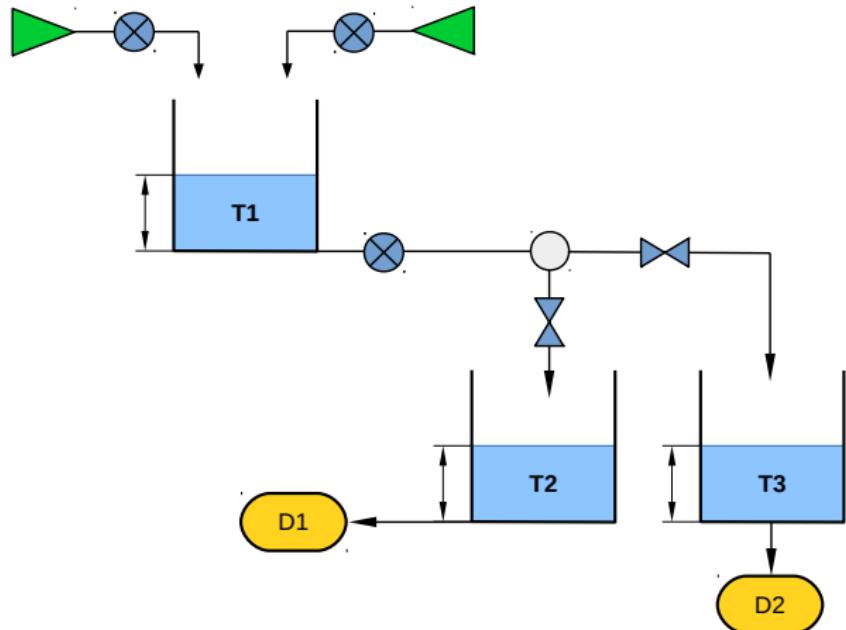
- Beyond the state of art
- Uncertainty in uncertainty

Objectives

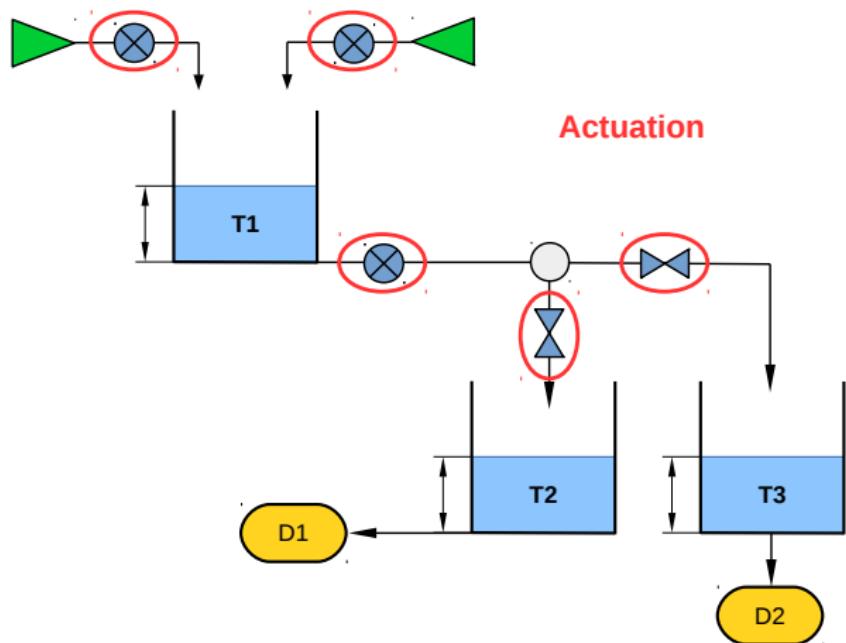
To **MODEL** (water demands, hydraulics, uncertainty, etc), pose a stochastic predictive **CONTROL** problem (define objectives, constraints) and devise algorithms to **SOLVE** it numerically.



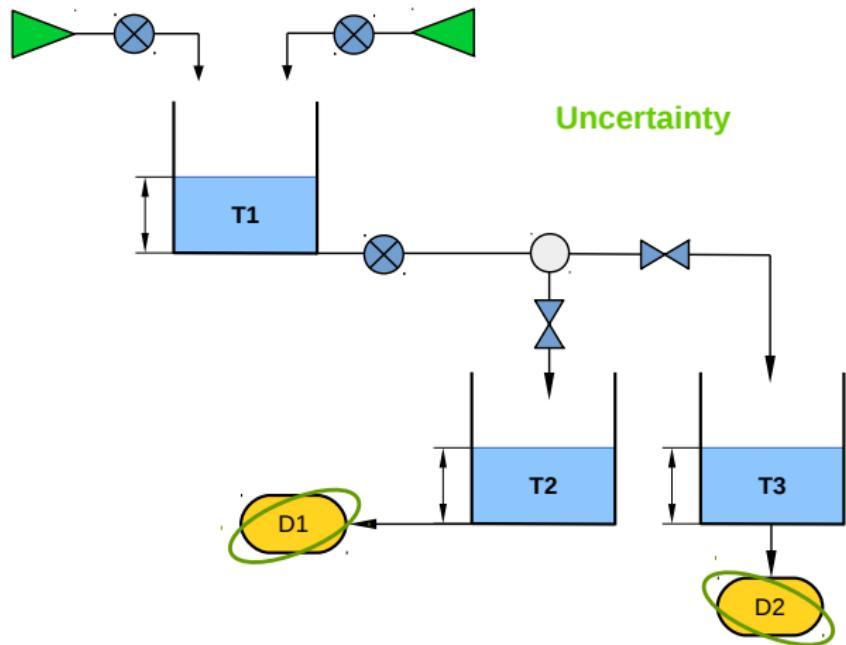
Control-oriented models



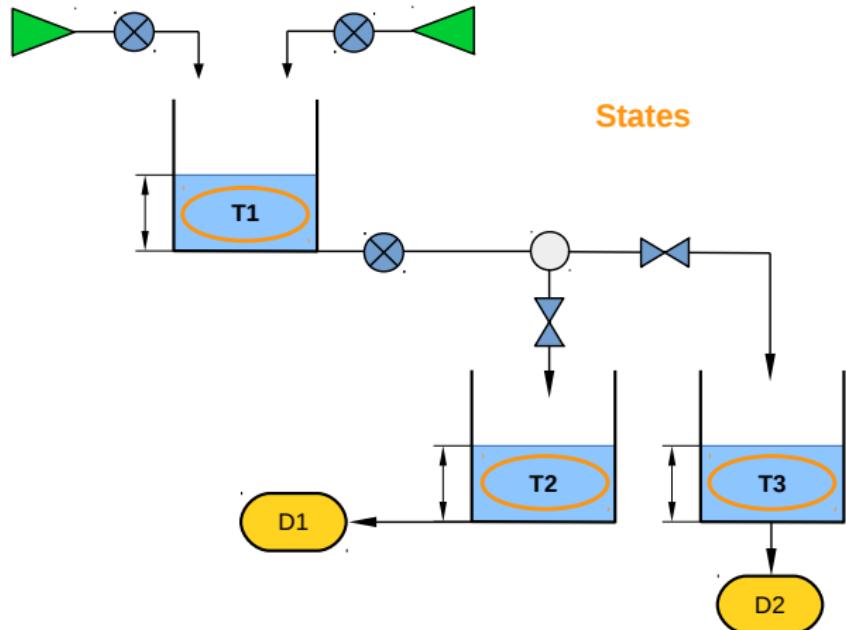
Control-oriented models



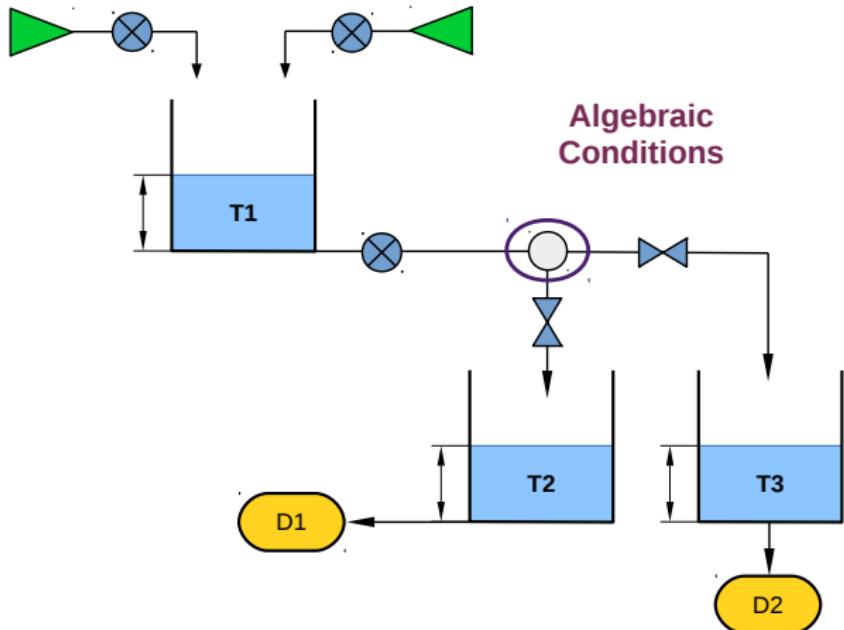
Control-oriented models



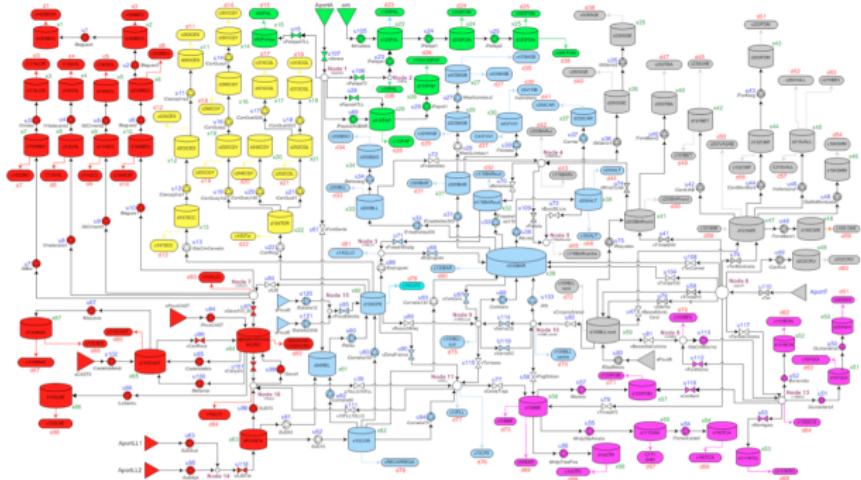
Control-oriented models



Control-oriented models



Our case study



DWN of Barcelona: 63 tanks, 114 pumping stations and valves, 88 demand nodes & 17 pipe intersection nodes.

Control-oriented models

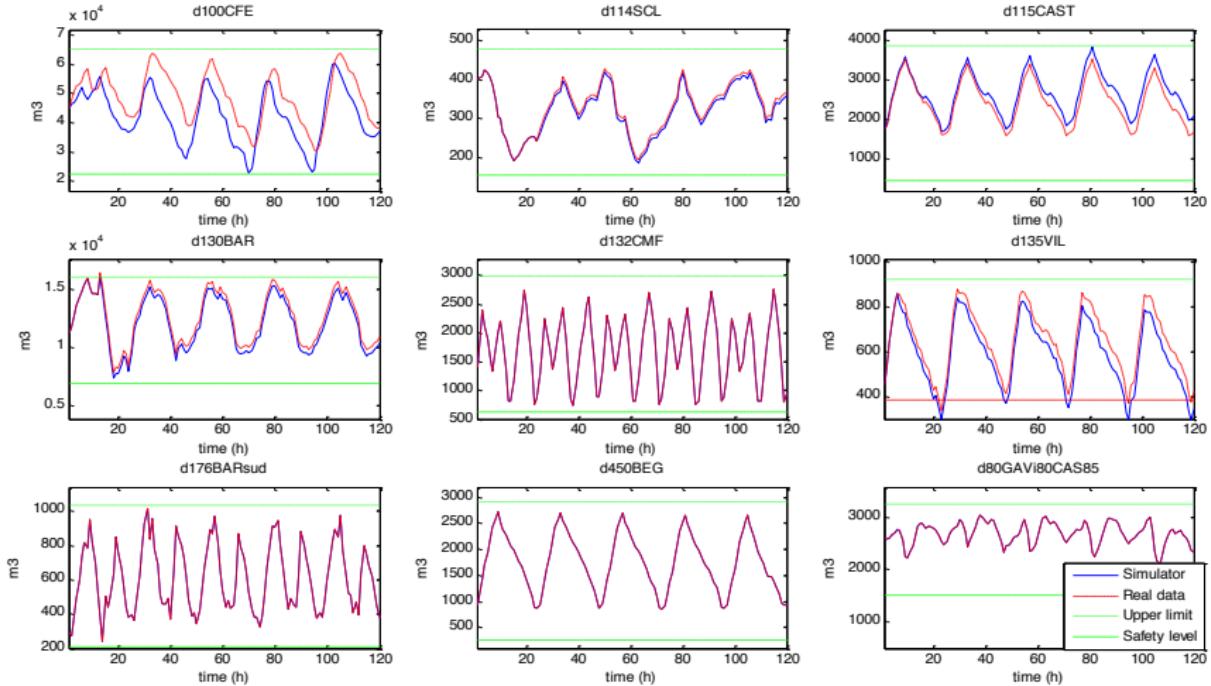
Simple mass balance equation (in discrete time)

$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= Ax_k + Bu_k + G_d d_k, \\0 &= Eu_k + E_d d_k,\end{aligned}$$

x_k : tank volumes, u_k : flows (controlled by pumping), d_k : demands — along with the constraints

$$\begin{aligned}x_{\min} &\leq x_k \leq x_{\max}, \\u_{\min} &\leq u_k \leq u_{\max}.\end{aligned}$$

Control-oriented models



Demand forecasting

Demand prediction concept:

$$d_{k+j}(\epsilon_j) = \hat{d}_{k+j|k} + \epsilon_j$$

where

1. d_{k+j} : actual demand at time $k + j$
2. $\hat{d}_{k+j|k}$: prediction of d_{k+j} using info up to time k
3. ϵ_j : j -step-ahead prediction error

and $\hat{d}_{k+j|k}$ is a function of observable quantities up to time k .

Demand forecasting

Common approaches:

1. Neglect the error: $(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_N) \approx (0, 0, \dots, 0)$

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Demand forecasting

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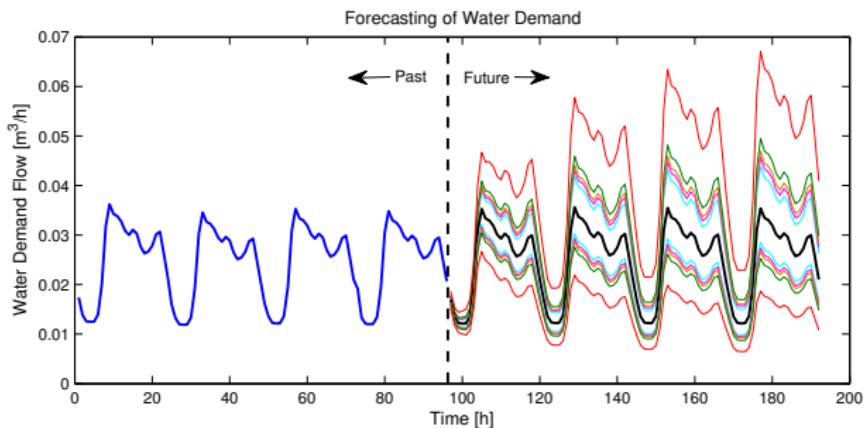
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3. Independent normal distributions: $\epsilon_j \sim \mathcal{N}(m_j, \sigma_j^2)$

Demand forecasting

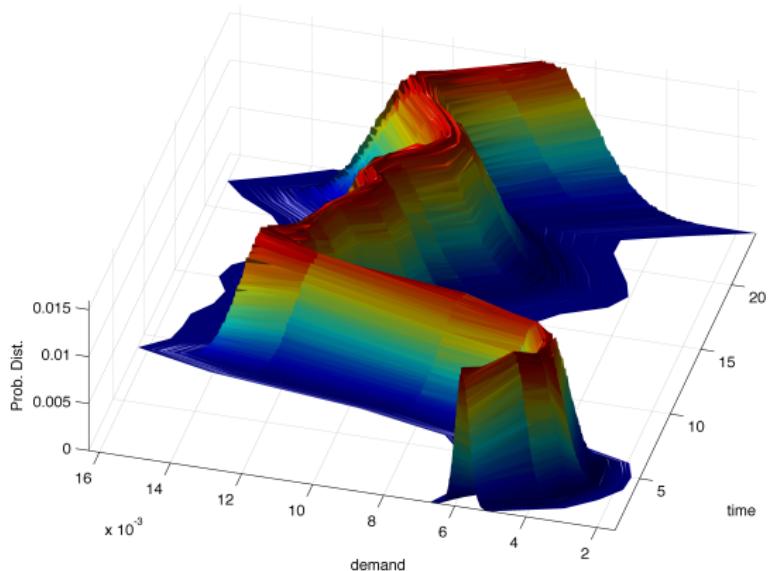
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3. Independent normal distributions: $\epsilon_j \sim \mathcal{N}(m_j, \sigma_j^2)$
4. $(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_N)$ is random and admits finitely many values

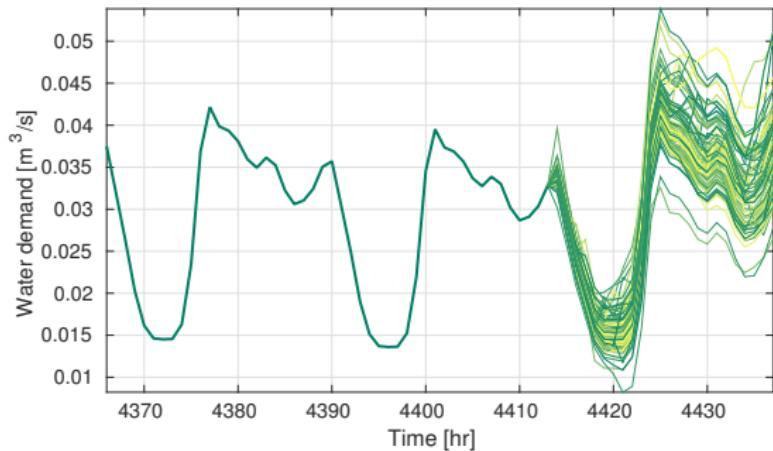
Error bounds



Continuous independent errors



Predicted scenarios



Control objectives

Stage costs:

1. Economic cost: $\ell^w(u_k, k) = W_\alpha(\alpha_1 + \alpha_{2,k})' u_k$

We define $\Delta u_k = u_k - u_{k-1}$

Sampathirao et al., 2014; Cong Cong et al., 2014

Control objectives

Stage costs:

1. Economic cost: $\ell^w(u_k, k) = W_\alpha(\alpha_1 + \alpha_{2,k})' u_k$
2. Smooth operation cost: $\ell^\Delta(\Delta u_k) = \Delta u_k' W_u \Delta u_k$

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3. Safe operation cost: $\ell^S(x_k) = W_x \| [x_s - x_k]_+ \|$

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Control objectives

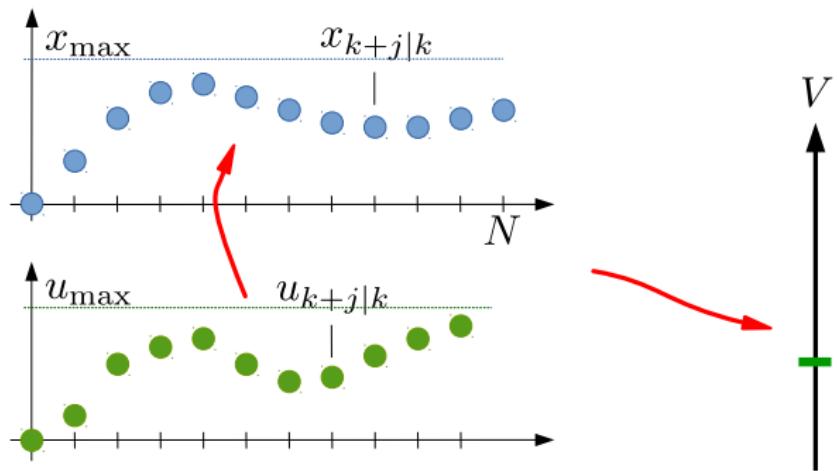
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3. Safe operation cost: $\ell^S(x_k) = W_x \| [x_s - x_k]_+ \|$
4. Total cost: $\ell = \ell^w + \ell^\Delta + \ell^S.$

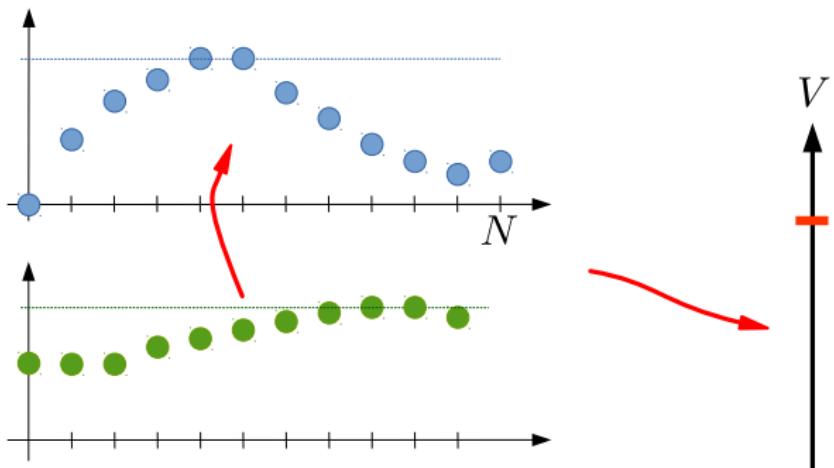
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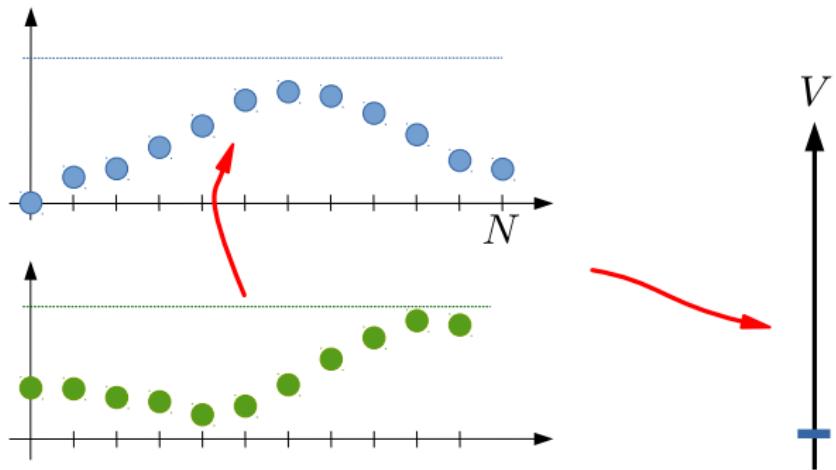
Model Predictive Control



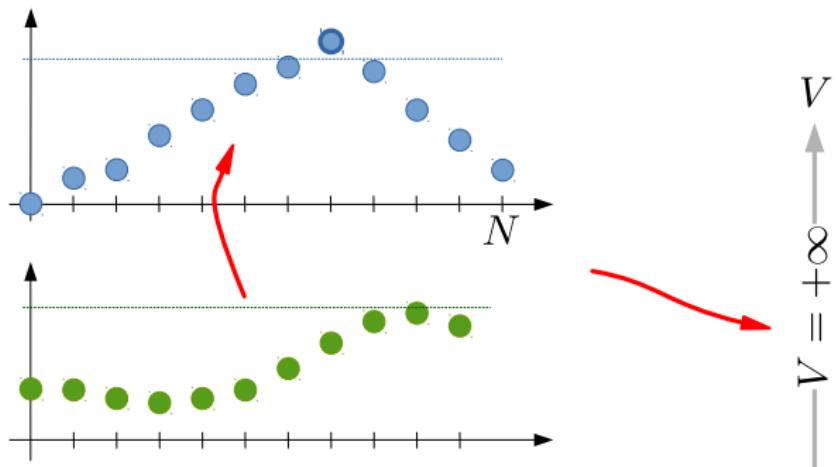
Model Predictive Control



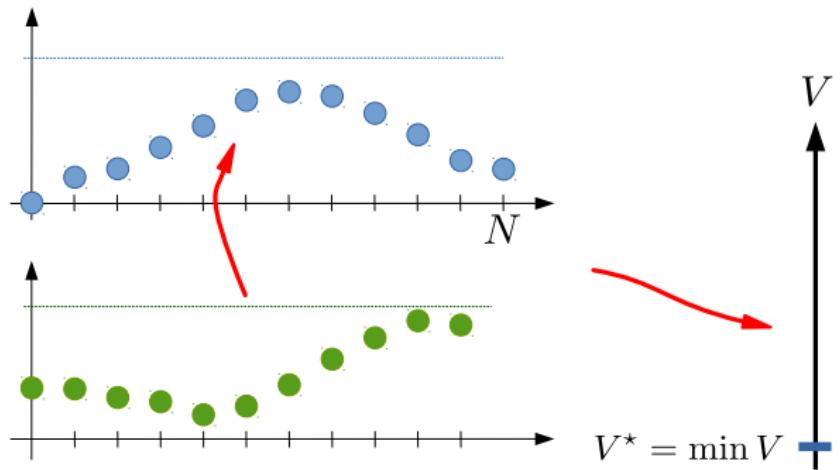
Model Predictive Control



Model Predictive Control



Model Predictive Control



Model Predictive Control

Problem formulation

$$\underset{\pi = (\{u_{k+j|k}\}_j, \{x_{k+j|k}\}_j)}{\text{minimise}} \quad V(\pi) := \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{k+j|k}, u_{k+j|k}, u_{k+j-1|k}, k),$$

subject to

$$x_{k+j+1|k} = Ax_{k+j|k} + Bu_{k+j|k} + G_d \hat{d}_{k+j|k} \quad \text{dynamics}$$

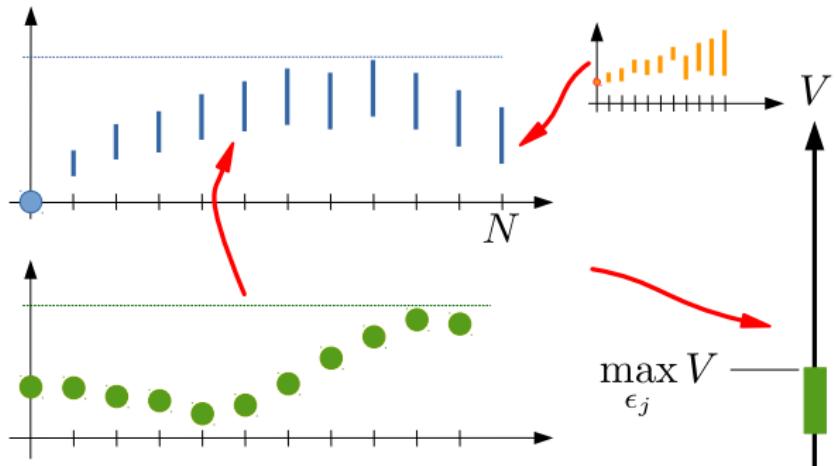
$$Eu_{k+j|k} + E_d \hat{d}_{k+j|k} = 0 \quad \text{algebraic}$$

$$x_{\min} \leq x_{k+j|k} \leq x_{\max} \quad \text{vol. constr.}$$

$$u_{\min} \leq u_{k+j|k} \leq u_{\max} \quad \text{flow constr.}$$

$$x_{k|k} = x_k, \quad u_{k-1|k} = u_{k-1} \quad \text{initial cond.}$$

Worst-case MPC



Worst-case MPC

Problem formulation

$$\underset{\pi = (\{u_{k+j|k}\}_j, \{x_{k+j|k}\}_j)}{\text{minimise}} \max_{d_{k+j|k}} V(\pi),$$

subject to

$d_{k+j} = \hat{d}_{k+j k} + \epsilon_j$	predictions
$\epsilon_j \in \mathcal{E}_j$	err. bounds
$x_{k+j+1 k} = Ax_{k+j k} + Bu_{k+j k} + G_d d_{k+j}$	dynamics
$Eu_{k+j k} + E_d d_{k+j} = 0$	algebraic
$x_{\min} \leq x_{k+j k} \leq x_{\max}$	vol. constr.
$u_{\min} \leq u_{k+j k} \leq u_{\max}$	flow constr.
$x_{k k} = x_k, u_{k-1 k} = u_{k-1}$	initial cond.

Here $u_{k+j|k}$ is a function of ϵ_j – not a fixed value!

Worst-case MPC

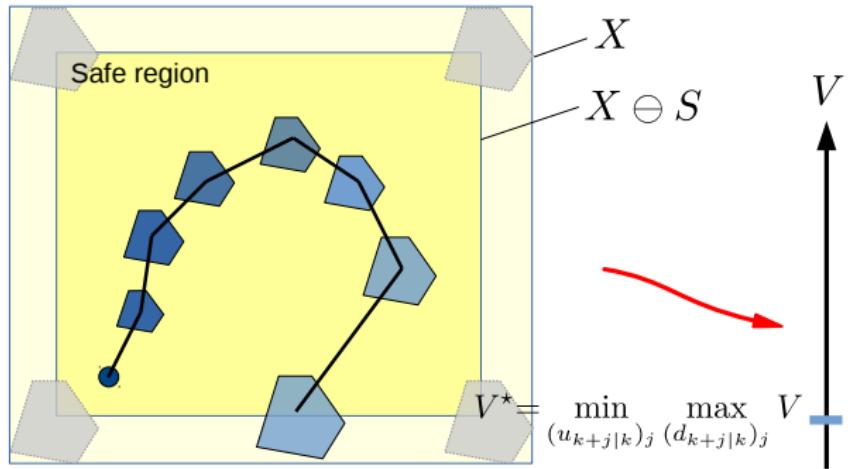
Attention! We are looking for control laws (functions) $u_{k+j|k}$. We may parametrise (why?) these functions as

$$u_{k+j|k} = K_j e_j + b_j,$$

and solve for K_j and b_j .

There exist other parametrisations as well.

Worst-case MPC (tube-based)



Worst-case MPC (tube-based)

Problem formulation

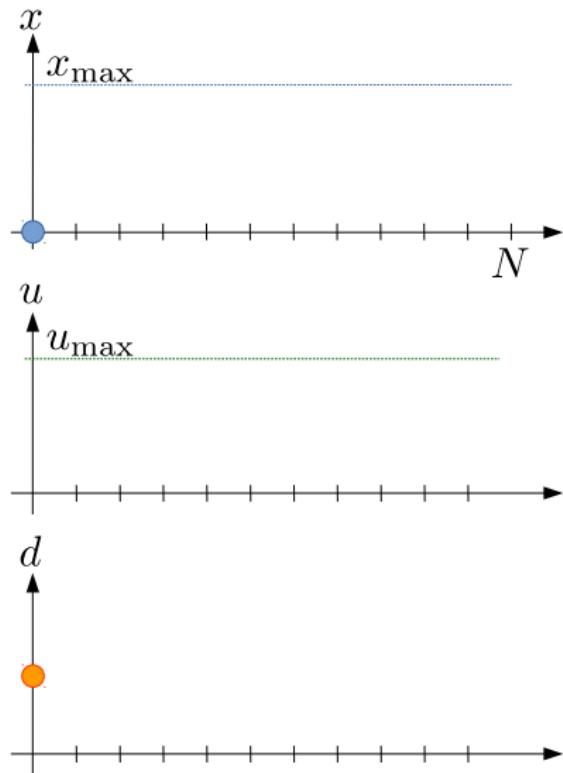
$$\underset{\pi=(\{u_{k+j|k}\}_j, \{x_{k+j|k}\}_j)}{\text{minimise}} \quad V(\pi),$$

subject to

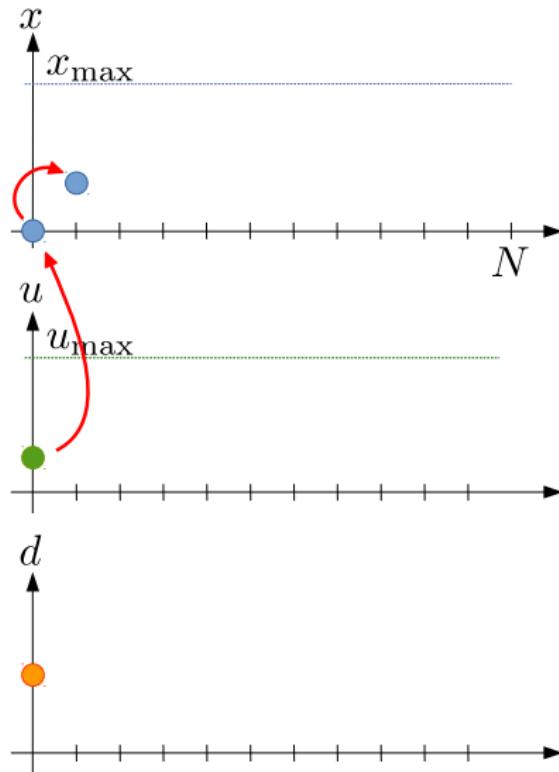
$x_{k+j+1 k} = Ax_{k+j k} + Bu_{k+j k} + G_d \hat{d}_{k+j k}$	dynamics
$Eu_{k+j k} + E_d \hat{d}_{k+j k} = 0$	algebraic
$x_{k+j k} \in X \ominus S$	volume constr.
$u_{\min} \leq u_{k+j k} \leq u_{\max}$	flow constr.
$x_{k k} = x_k, \quad u_{k-1 k} = u_{k-1}$	initial cond.

* the constraint $Eu_{k+j|k} + E_d \hat{d}_{k+j|k} = 0$ (certainty-equivalent) will not be satisfied for all ϵ_j

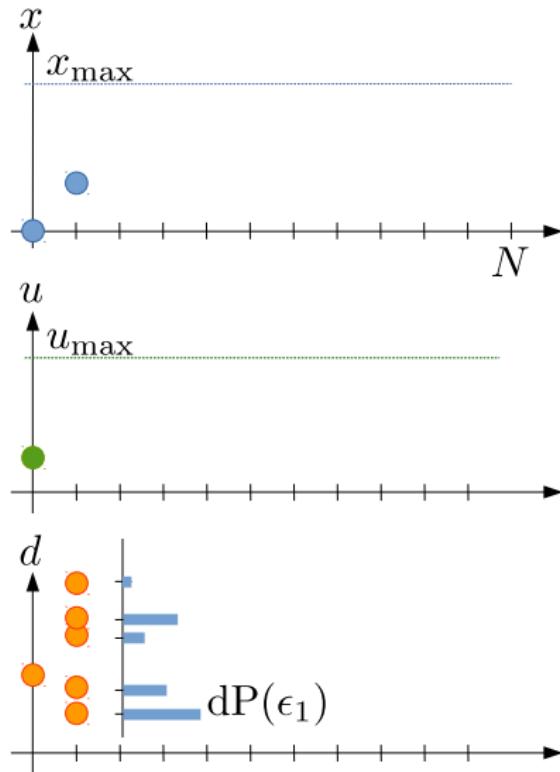
Stochastic MPC



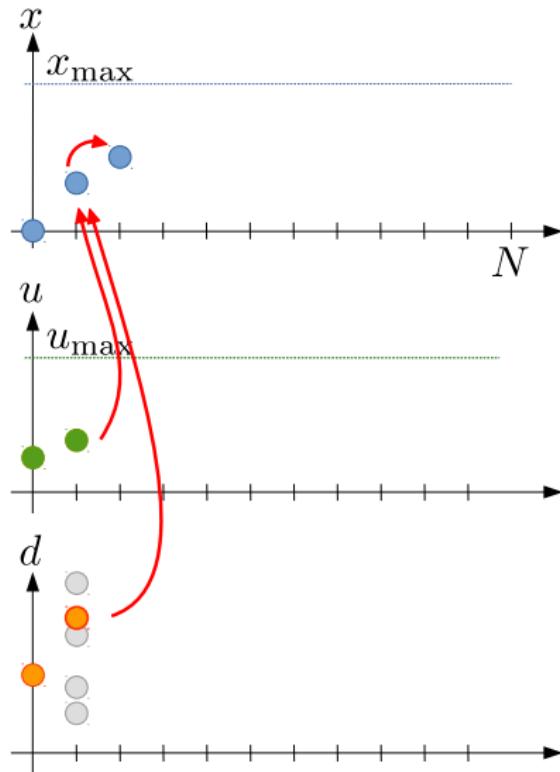
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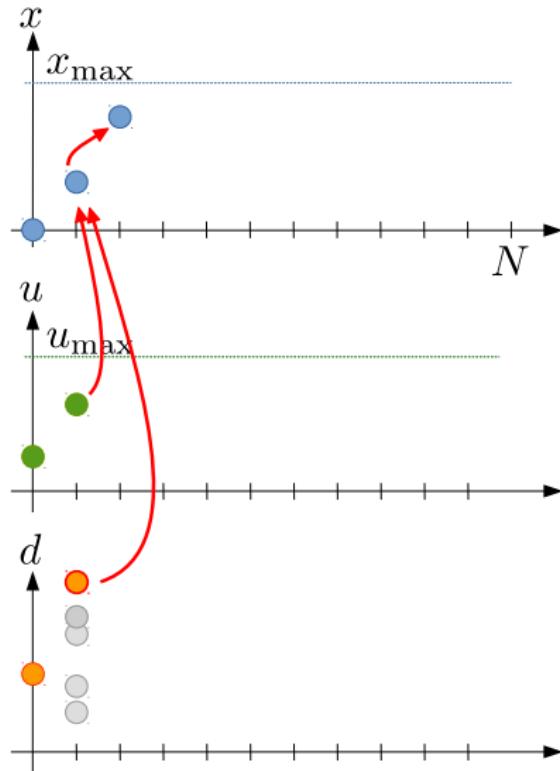
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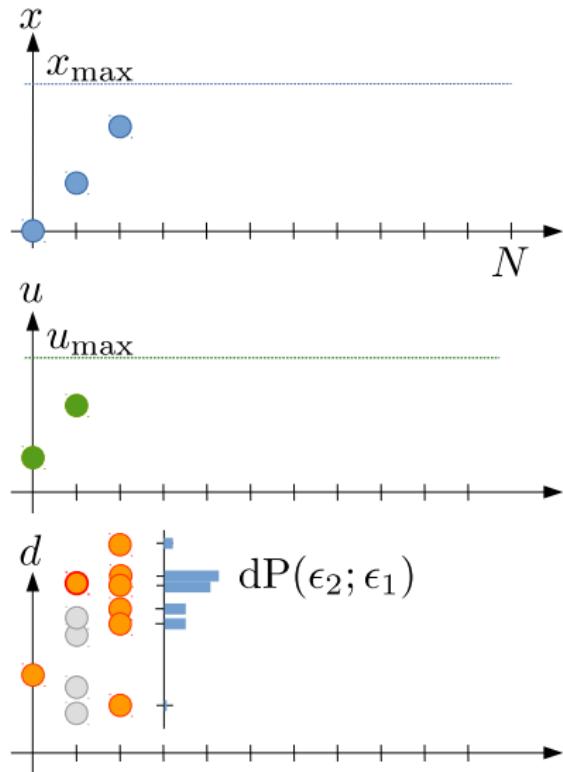
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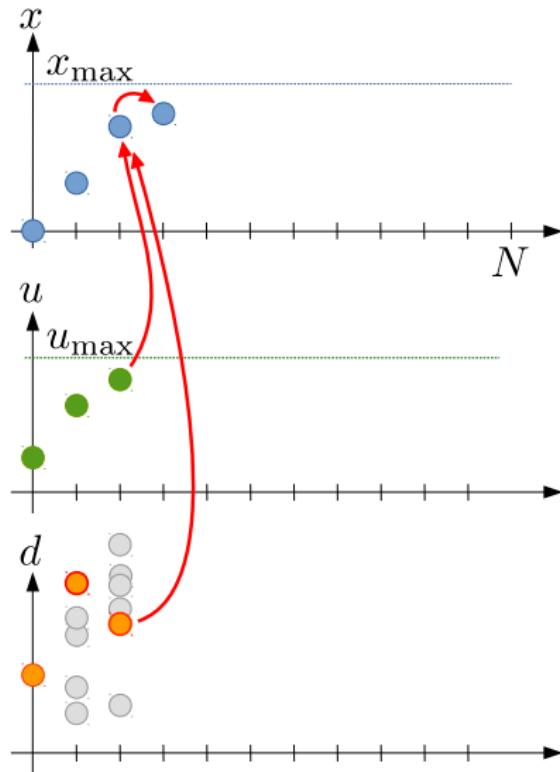
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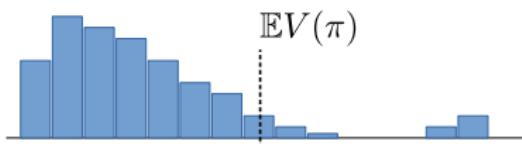
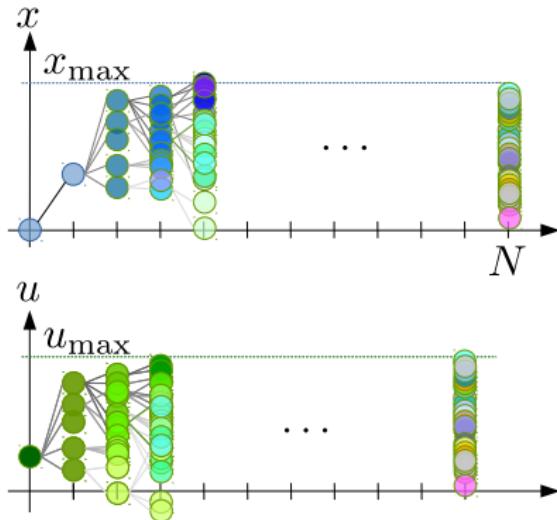
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Stochastic MPC



Stochastic MPC

Problem formulation

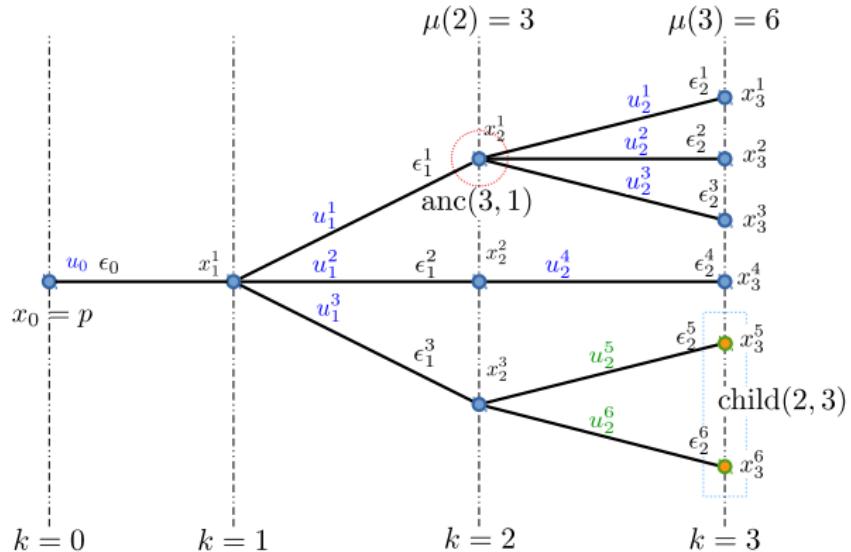
$$\underset{\pi = (\{u_{k+j|k}\}_j, \{x_{k+j|k}\}_j)}{\text{minimise}} \quad \mathbb{E}V(\pi),$$

subject to

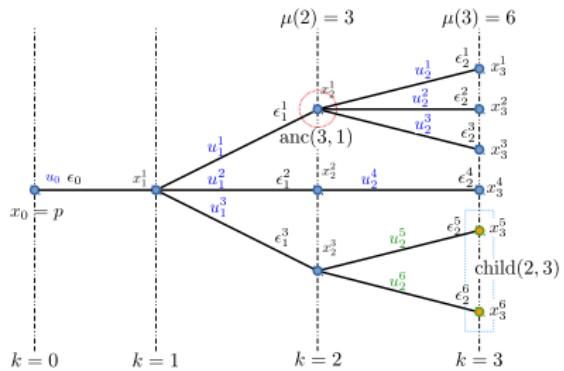
$x_{k+j+1 k} = Ax_{k+j k} + Bu_{k+j k} + G_d\hat{d}_{k+j k}(\epsilon_j)$	dynamics
$Eu_{k+j k} + E_d d_{k+j}(\epsilon_j) = 0$	alg. cond.
$x_{\min} \leq x_{k+j k} \leq x_{\max}$	vol. constr.
$u_{\min} \leq u_{k+j k} \leq u_{\max}$	flow constr.
$x_{k k} = x_k, \quad u_{k-1 k} = u_{k-1}$	initial cond.

again, we're looking for control laws $u_{k+j|k}(\epsilon_j)$.

Scenario trees



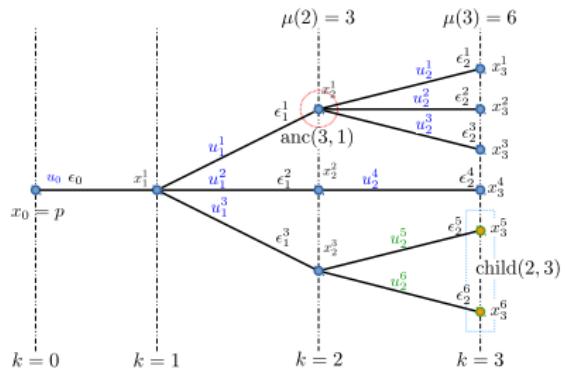
Scenario trees



Demand forecasting:

$$d_{k+j}^i = \hat{d}_{k+j|k} + \epsilon_j^i$$

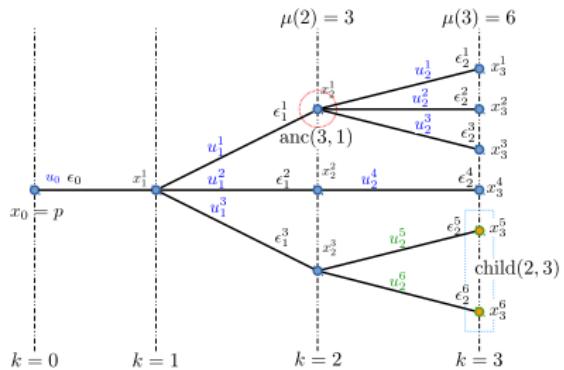
Scenario trees



Input-disturbance coupling:

$$E u_{k+j|k}^i + E_d d_{k+j}^i = 0$$

Scenario trees



System dynamics:

$$x_{k+j+1|k}^i = f(x_{k+j|k}^{\text{anc}(j+1,i)}, u_{k+j|k}^i, d_{k+j|k}^i)$$

Scenario-based stochastic MPC

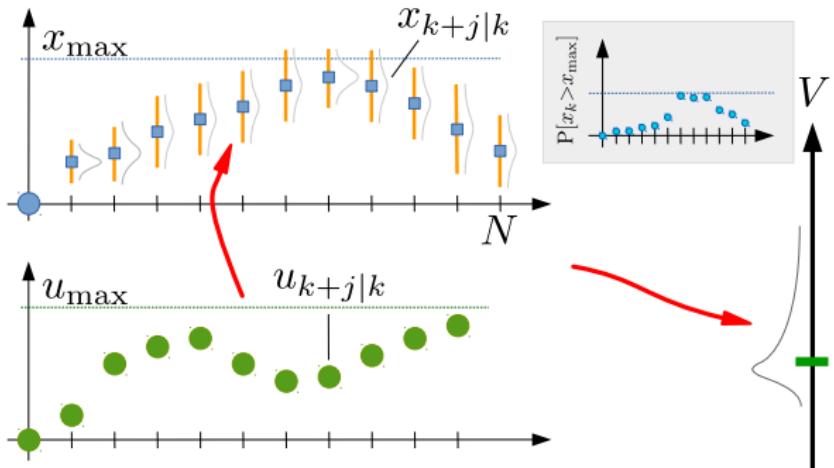
Problem formulation:

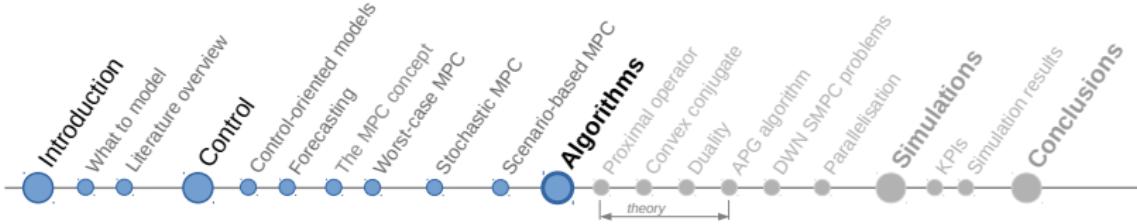
$$\underset{\pi = (\{u_{k+j|i|k}\}_{i,j}, \{x_{k+j|i|k}\}_{i,j})}{\text{minimise}} \underbrace{\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu(j)} p_j^i \ell_j^i}_{\mathbb{E} V(\pi)},$$

subject to

$x_{k+j+1 k}^i = f(x_{k+j k}^{\text{anc}(j+1,i)}, u_{k+j k}^i, d_{k+j k}^i)$	dynamics
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$x_{k k}^1 = x_k, u_{k-1 k}^1 = u_{k-1}$	initial cond.

Stochastic MPC (chance constraints)





The proximal operator

Let $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ be a *proper, closed* function and $\gamma > 0$. Define

$$\text{prox}_{\gamma g}(v) = \arg \min_z \left\{ g(z) + \frac{1}{2\gamma} \|z - v\|^2 \right\}$$

If this is **easy to compute** we call g **prox-friendly**.

The proximal operator

Example 1. Take

$$g(x) = \delta(x \mid C) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x \in C \\ +\infty, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then, $\text{prox}_{\gamma g}(v) = \text{proj}(v \mid C)$.

The proximal operator

Example 2. Take

$$g(x) = d(x \mid C) = \inf_{y \in C} \|y - x\|$$

Then,

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda g}(v) = \begin{cases} v + \frac{\text{proj}(v \mid C) - v}{d(v \mid C)}, & \text{if } d(v \mid C) > \lambda \\ \text{proj}(v \mid C), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The proximal operator

Key Property. Suppose g is given as

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\kappa} g_i(x_i),$$

The proximal operator

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$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\kappa} g_i(x_i),$$

then

$$(\text{prox}_{\lambda g}(v))_i = \text{prox}_{\lambda g_i}(v_i).$$

Convex Conjugate

Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ be convex, proper and closed. We define its **convex conjugate** as

$$f^*(y) = \sup_x \{x'y - f(x)\}.$$

If f is strongly convex, then f^* is continuously diff/ble (Rockaffelar and Wets, 2009; Prop. 12.60).

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When f^* is differentiable, then

$$\nabla f^*(y) = \arg \min_z \{x'y + f(z)\}.$$

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If f is prox-friendly, then

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda f}(v) + \lambda \text{prox}_{\lambda^{-1}f^*}(\lambda^{-1}v) = v.$$

If f is strongly convex, then f^* is continuously diff/ble (Rockafellar and Wets, 2009; Prop. 12.60).

Forward-Backward Splitting

The **forward-backward splitting** is the representation of an optimisation problem as follows

$$\underset{z}{\text{minimise}} \ f(z) + g(z),$$

where

- ▶ f, g : closed, convex
- ▶ f : diff/ble with Lipschitz gradient
- ▶ g : prox-friendly

Forward-Backward Splitting

Example 1. ℓ_1 -regularized least squares:

$$\underset{z}{\text{minimise}} \frac{1}{2} \|Az - b\|^2 + \|z\|_1.$$

Forward-Backward Splitting

Example 2. Box-constrained QP

$$\underset{z}{\text{minimise}} \frac{1}{2} z'Qz + q'z + \delta(z \mid C),$$

where $C = \{z : z_{\min} \leq z \leq z_{\max}\}$.

Forward-Backward Splitting

Example 3. Constrained QP

$$\underset{z}{\text{minimise}} \ \frac{1}{2} z'Qz + q'z + \delta(Hz \mid C).$$

but, $g(z) := \delta(Hz \mid C)$ is not prox-friendly!

Dual optimisation problem

If $g(z)$ is prox-friendly, but $g(Hz)$ is not we may formulate the **dual** optimisation problem

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f(z) \rightsquigarrow f^*(-H'y) & & g(Hz) \rightsquigarrow g^*(y) \\ \text{minimise } f(z) + g(Hz) & \quad & \text{minimise } f^*(-H'y) + g^*(y) \end{array}$$

Fenchel duality generalises Lagrangian duality (Rockafellar, 1972).

Dual optimisation problem

If $g(z)$ is prox-friendly, but $g(Hz)$ is not we may formulate the **dual** optimisation problem

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f(z) \rightsquigarrow f^*(-H'y) & & g(Hz) \rightsquigarrow g^*(y) \\ \text{minimise } f(z) + g(Hz) & \xrightarrow{\text{blue}} & \text{minimise } f^*(-H'y) + g^*(y) \end{array}$$

Under certain conditions these two problems have the same minimum and

$$z^* = \nabla f^*(-H'y^*).$$

Proximal gradient algorithm

The **proximal gradient** method for solving

$$\underset{z}{\text{minimise}} \ f(z) + g(z)$$

where f is differentiable with L -Lipschitz gradient runs

$$z^{\nu+1} = \text{prox}_{\gamma g}(z^\nu - \gamma \nabla f(z^\nu)),$$

with $\gamma \in (0, L^{-1})$.

Dual proximal gradient algorithm

The **proximal gradient** method applied to the dual

$$\underset{z}{\text{minimise}} \ f^*(-H'y) + g^*(y)$$

where f^* is differentiable with L -Lipschitz gradient is

$$y^{\nu+1} = \text{prox}_{\gamma g^*}(y^\nu + \gamma H \nabla f^*(-H'y^\nu))$$

If f is L^{-1} -strongly convex, then f^* has L -Lipschitz gradient.

Dual proximal gradient algorithm

The dual proximal gradient method

$$y^{\nu+1} = \text{prox}_{\gamma g^*}(y^\nu + \gamma H \nabla f^*(-H'y^\nu))$$

can be written as

$$z^\nu = \nabla f^*(-H'y^\nu)$$

$$t^\nu = \text{prox}_{\lambda^{-1}g}(\lambda^{-1}y^\nu + Hz^\nu)$$

$$y^{\nu+1} = y^\nu + \lambda(Hz^\nu - t^\nu).$$

Dual proximal gradient algorithm

Nesterov's **accelerated** proximal gradient method converges as $\mathcal{O}(1/k^2)$ instead of $\mathcal{O}(1/k)$:

$$w^\nu = y^\nu + \theta_\nu(\theta_{\nu-1}^{-1} - 1)(y^\nu - y^{\nu-1})$$

$$z^\nu = \nabla f^*(-H' \mathbf{w}^\nu)$$

$$t^\nu = \text{prox}_{\lambda^{-1}g}(\lambda^{-1} \mathbf{w}^\nu + Hz^\nu)$$

$$y^{\nu+1} = \mathbf{w}^\nu + \lambda(Hz^\nu - t^\nu)$$

$$\theta_{\nu+1} = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{\theta_\nu^4 + 4\theta_\nu^2} - \theta_\nu^2)$$

with $\theta_0 = \theta_{-1} = 1$ and $y_0 = y_{-1} = 0$ (Nesterov, 1983).

The DWN control problem

$$\mathbb{P} : \underset{\pi = (\{u_{k+j|i|k}\}_{i,j}, \{x_{k+j|i|k}\}_{i,j})}{\text{minimise}} \underbrace{\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu(j)} p_j^i \ell_j^i}_{\mathbb{E} V(\pi)},$$

subject to

$x_{k+j+1 k}^i = f(x_{k+j k}^{\text{anc}(j+1,i)}, u_{k+j k}^i, d_{k+j k}^i)$	dynamics
$Eu_{k+j k}^i + Ed_{k+j k}^i = 0$	algebraic
$x_{\min} \leq x_{k+j k}^i \leq x_{\max}$	volume constr.
$u_{\min} \leq u_{k+j k}^i \leq u_{\max}$	flow constr.
$x_{k k}^1 = x_k, \quad u_{k-1 k}^1 = u_{k-1}$	initial cond.

We will write this problem as: $\text{minimise}_z f(z) + g(Hz)$.

The DWN control problem

Let $z = \{x_j^i, u_j^i\}$ and define

$$f(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu(j)} p_j^i (\ell^w(u_j^i) + \ell^\Delta(\Delta u_j^i)) + \delta(u_j^i | \Phi_1(d_j^i)) \\ + \delta(x_{j+1}^i, u_j^i, x_j^{\text{anc}(j+1,i)} | \Phi_2(d_j^i)),$$

where

$$\Phi_1(d) = \{u : Eu + E_d d = 0\}$$

and

$$\Phi_2(d) = \{(x^+, x, u) : x^+ = Ax + Bu + G_d d\}$$

The DWN control problem

In other words:

$$f(z) = \text{smooth cost} + \text{dynamics} + \text{alg equations}$$

and

$$g(z) = \text{all the rest}$$

$$= \text{nonsmooth cost} + \text{constraints}$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu(j)} \ell^S(x_j^i) + \delta(x_j^i \mid X) + \delta(u_j^i \mid U),$$

but this g is **not prox-friendly** (it is not separable!).

The DWN control problem

We create a **copy** of $\{x_j^i\}_{j,i}$ which we denote by χ_j^i and introduce

$$t = (\{x_j^i\}_{j,i}, \{\chi_j^i\}_{j,i}, \{u_j^i\}_{j,i})$$

with $x_j^i = \chi_j^i$. Then

$$g(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu(j)} \ell^S(x_j^i) + \delta(\chi_j^i \mid X) + \delta(u_j^i \mid U)$$

is **prox-friendly**.

It is $t = Hz$.

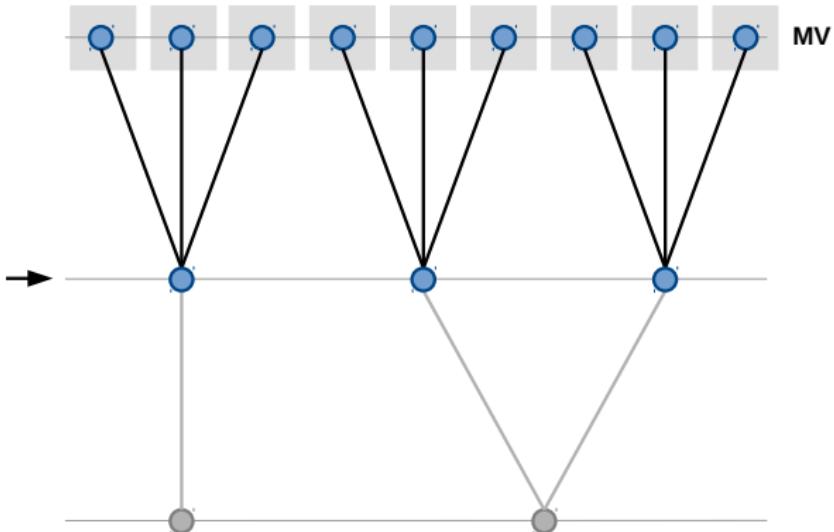
Dual gradient computation

To compute the dual gradient we use

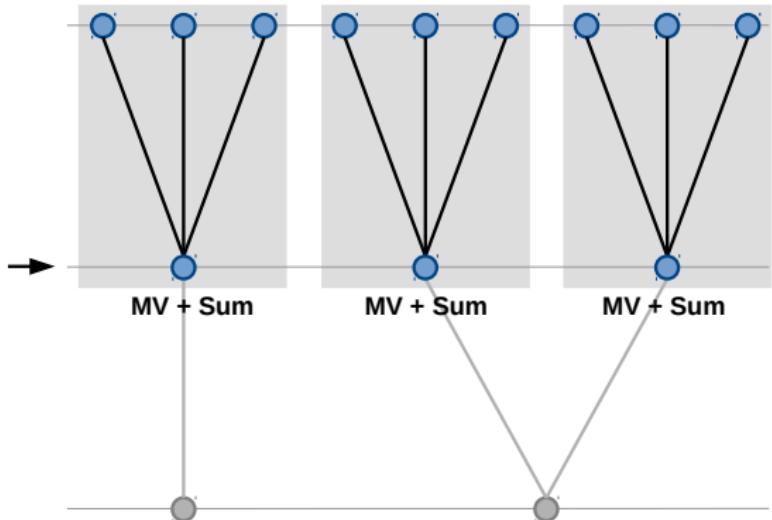
$$\begin{aligned}\nabla f^*(y) &= \arg \min_z \{x'y + f(z)\} \\ &= \arg \min_{\substack{z: \text{dynamics} \\ Eu_j^i + E_d d_j^i = 0}} \{x'y + \sum_{j,i} \text{quadratic}(z_j^i)\}\end{aligned}$$

This is an **equality-constrained** quadratic problem which can be solved very efficiently using **dynamic programming**.

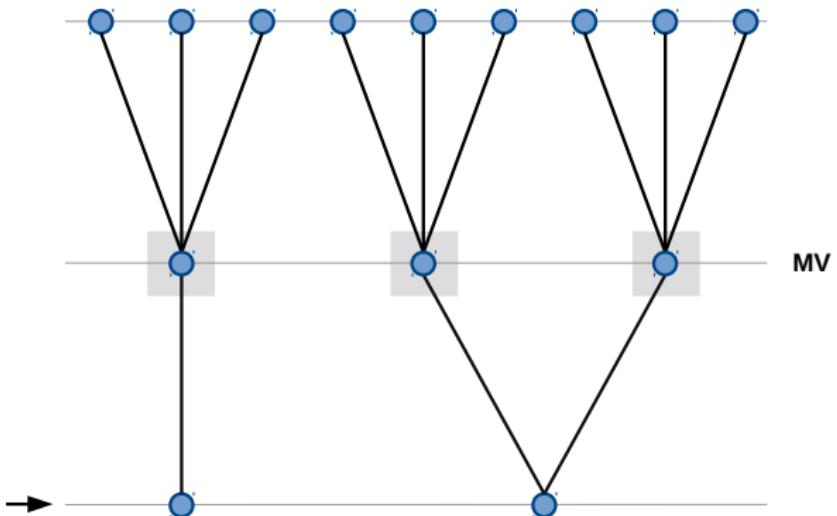
Dual gradient computation



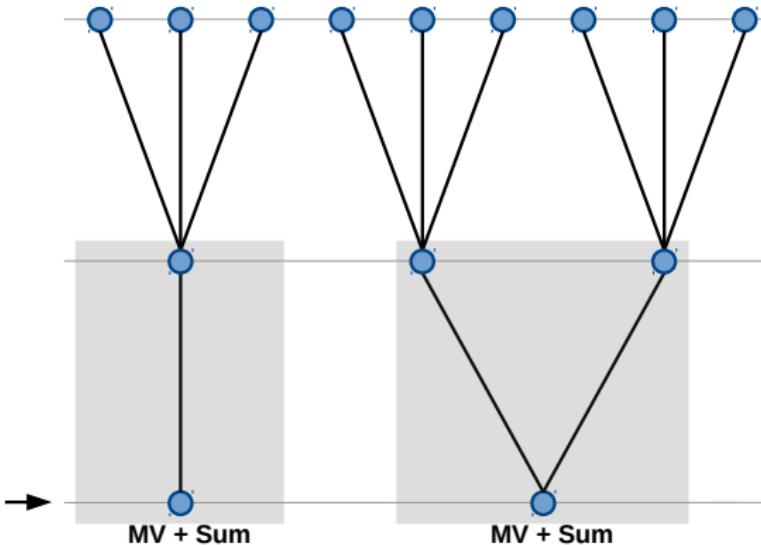
Dual gradient computation



Dual gradient computation

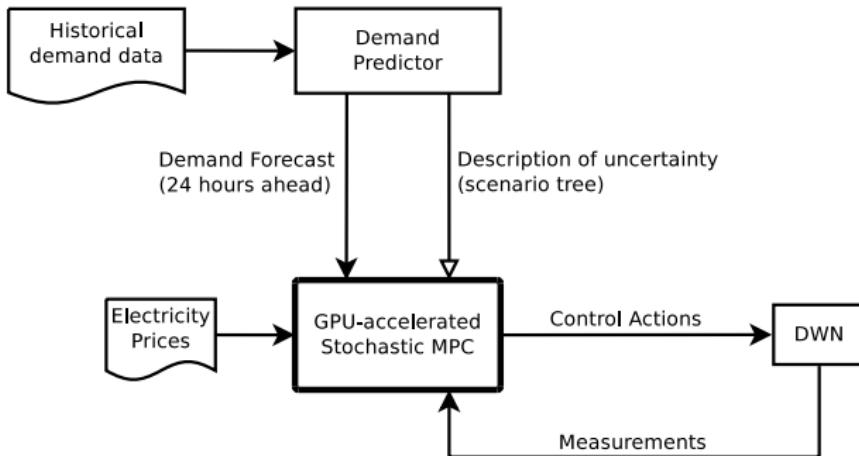


Dual gradient computation

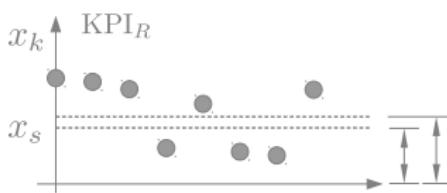
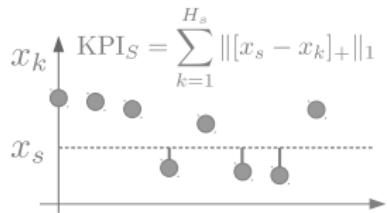
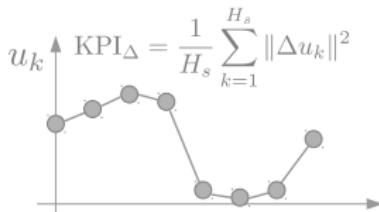
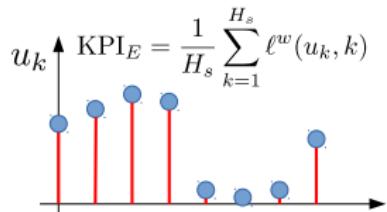




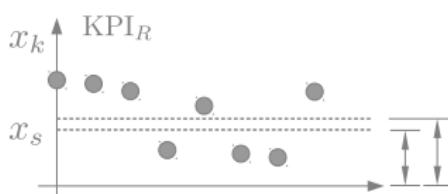
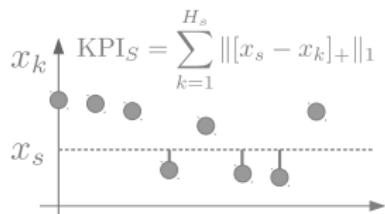
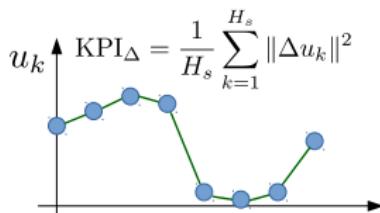
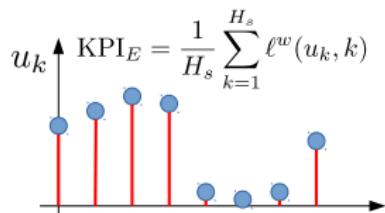
Control scheme



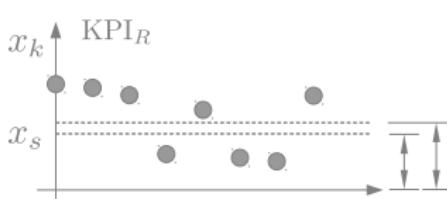
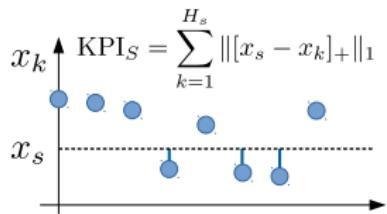
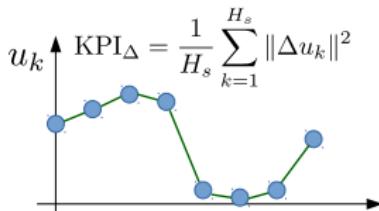
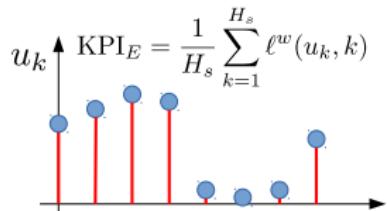
KPIs



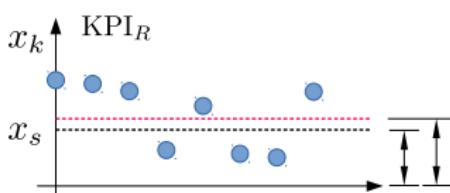
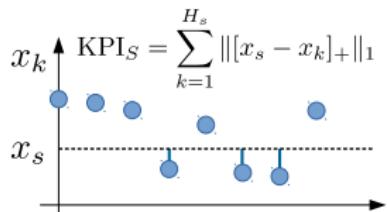
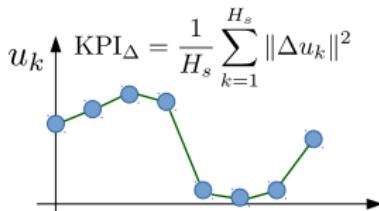
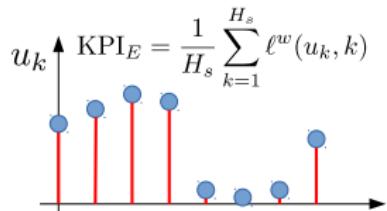
KPIs



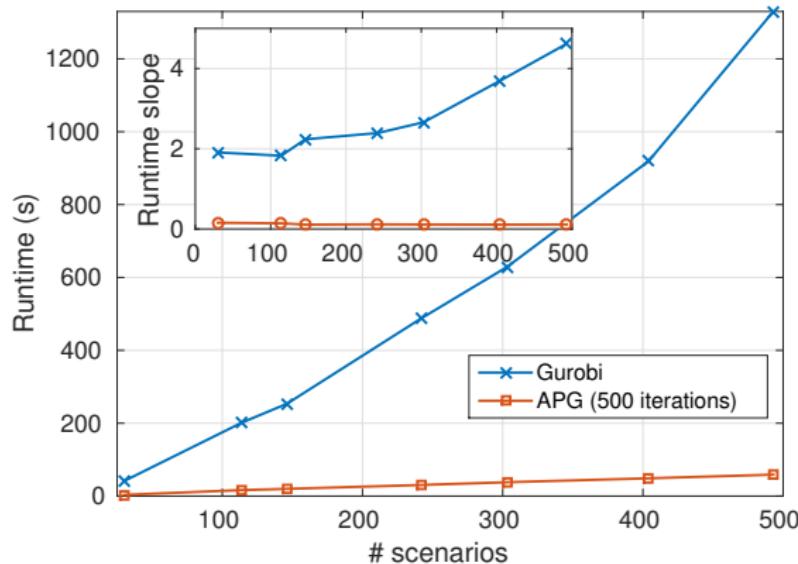
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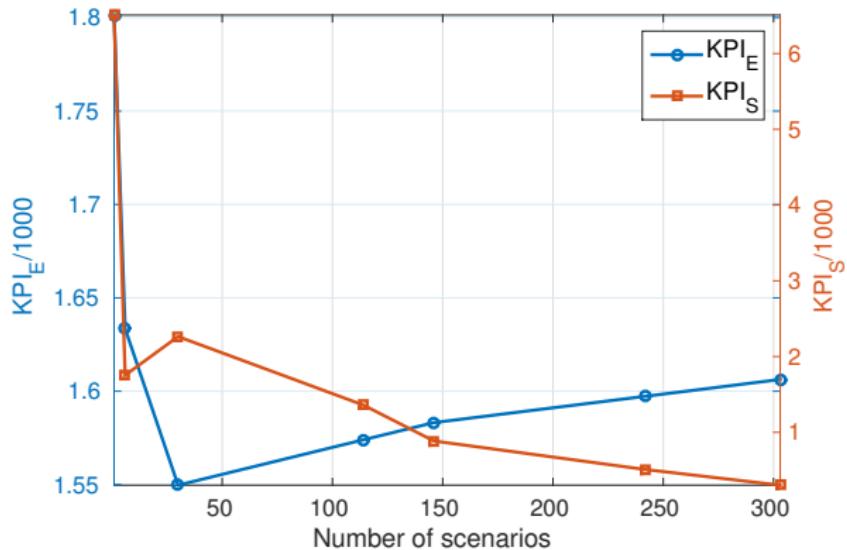
KPIs



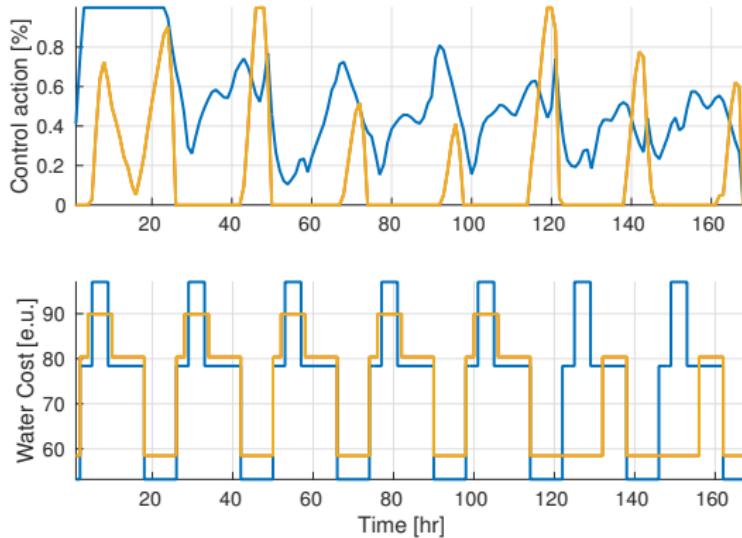
it is fast



it is efficient



Closed-loop simulations





Open problems

- ▶ **Nonlinear**

Problem: introduce nonlinear pressure drop equations

Open problems

- ▶ **Nonlinear**
- ▶ **Risk-averse**

Challenge: the distribution of future errors is not exactly known

Open problems

- ▶ **Nonlinear**
- ▶ **Risk-averse**
- ▶ **Distributed**

Problems: spatial decomposition, communication constraints

Open problems

- ▶ **Nonlinear**
- ▶ **Risk-averse**
- ▶ **Distributed**
- ▶ **Robust Economic MPC**

Questions: performance guarantees, recursive feasibility

Open problems

- ▶ **Nonlinear**
- ▶ **Risk-averse**
- ▶ **Distributed**
- ▶ **Robust Economic MPC**
- ▶ **Faster Algorithms**

Thank you for your attention!

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