Resilience Enhancement of Distribution Grids Against Extreme Weather Events

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Abstract—This paper proposes a resilience-oriented design (ROD) technique to protect distribution grids against high-impact but low-probability extreme weather events. The problem is formulated as a two-stage stochastic mixed integer problem. The first stage is to make ROD decisions, i.e., hardening existing distribution lines and deploying ROD resources such as back-up distributed generators (DGs) and automatic switches. The second stage evaluates the system operation cost during a realized extreme weather event and repair cost after the event. A novel modeling strategy is proposed to deal with the decision-dependent uncertainty of distribution line damage status which is affected by the first-stage hardening decisions. As both stages have binary variables, a modified and computationally efficient progressive hedging algorithm with scenario bundling is introduced. The algorithm performance is evaluated by calculating lower bounds of solutions. The proposed model and algorithms are demonstrated on 34-bus and 123-bus test feeders.

Index Terms—Distribution systems, decision-dependent uncertainty, failure probability, progressive hedging, resilience-oriented design, scenario bundling, stochastic programming

NOMENCLATURE

Sets and Indices

\( \Omega_N \) Set of buses indices \( i \)
\( \Omega_B \) Set of lines indices \( (i,j) \)
\( \Omega_{DG} \subset \Omega_N \) Set of buses with DGs
\( \Omega_{SG} \subset \Omega_N \) Set of substations
\( \Omega_{SW} \subset \Omega_B \) Set of lines with switches
\( \Omega_L \subset \Omega_N \) Set of buses with loads
\( T \) Set of durations of extreme weather events indices \( t \)
\( S \) Set of scenarios indices \( s \)

Parameters

\( c_{ij}^b \) Annual capital cost ($) for adding an automatic tie switch at line \( (i,j) \)
\( c_{ij}^h \) Annual capital cost ($) for hardening line \( (i,j) \)
\( c_i^L \) Annual capital cost ($) for deploying a back-up DG at bus \( i \)
\( c_i^r \) Penalty cost ($) for shedding 1kWh load at bus \( i \)
\( c_{R_0} \) Base repair cost ($) for line \( (i,j) \)
\( M \) Sufficiently large positive number
\( N_G \) The total number of newly installed DGs
\( P_{i,t} \) Active load (kW) at bus \( i \) in time period \( t \) at scenario \( s \)
\( Q_{i,t}^L \) Reactive load (kVar) at bus \( i \) in time period \( t \) at scenario \( s \)
\( P_{i}^{g,\max} \) Maximum active power limit (kW) of generation at bus \( i \)
\( Q_{i}^{g,\max} \) Maximum reactive power limit (kW) of generation at bus \( i \)
\( V_{\max} \) Maximum voltage magnitude (pu) at bus \( i \)
\( V_{\min} \) Minimum voltage magnitude (pu) at bus \( i \)
\( P_{ij,t} \) Maximum active power limit (kW) for line \( (i,j) \)
\( Q_{ij,t}^{g,\max} \) Maximum reactive power limit (kW) for line \( (i,j) \)
\( R_{ij} \) Resistance (pu) for line \( (i,j) \)
\( T_d \) Repair time (hour) for line \( (i,j) \) at scenario \( s \)
\( V_{d,S} \) Reference voltage magnitude for line \( (i,j) \)
\( \omega_H \) Average occurrences of extreme weather events in a year
\( \zeta_{ij,t}^0(s) \) Parameter indicating the damage status of line \( (i,j) \) if it is not hardened, damaged (1) or functional (0) at time \( t \) in scenario \( s \)
\( \zeta_{ij,t}^1(s) \) Parameter indicating the damage status of line \( (i,j) \) if it is hardened, damaged (1) or functional (0) at time \( t \) in scenario \( s \)
\( t_{ij,0}^d(s) \) The first time that \( \zeta_{ij,t}^0(s) = 1 \) occurs in scenario \( s \)
\( t_{ij,1}^d(s) \) The first time that \( \zeta_{ij,t}^1(s) = 1 \) occurs in scenario \( s \)
\( \Delta t \) Time-period length

Variables

\( c_{R,s} \) Repair cost ($) for line \( (i,j) \) in scenario \( s \)
\( C_{ij}^b \) Total annual capital cost ($) of line hardening
\( C_{ij}^g \) Total annual capital cost ($) of installing back-up DGs
\( C_{ij}^{a,\max} \) Total annual capital cost ($) of adding new automatic tie switches
\( P_{i,t} \) Active power flow (kW) of line \( (i,j) \) at time \( t \) in scenario \( s \)
\( Q_{i,t} \) Reactive power flow (kVar) of line \( (i,j) \) at time \( t \) in scenario \( s \)
\( P_{i}^{g,s} \) Active power output (kW) of generation at bus \( i \) at time \( t \) in scenario \( s \)
\( Q_{i}^{g,s} \) Reactive power output (kVar) of generation at bus \( i \) at time \( t \) in scenario \( s \)
\( x_{ij}^c \) Binary variable indicating whether new line switch is added (1) or not (0) at line \( (i,j) \)
\( x_{ij}^c \) Binary variable indicating whether line \( (i,j) \) has switch (1) or not (0)
\( x_{ij}^h \) Binary variable indicating whether new line is hardened (1) or not (0)
\( x_{ij}^g \) Binary variable indicating whether a new back-up
PRESENTLY, most distribution systems are designed and maintained for normal weather conditions, which cannot withstand extensive damages caused by extreme weather events [1]. For example, Hurricane Wilma in 2005 damaged more than ten-thousand distribution poles in Florida [1]. Hurricane Sandy in 2012 devastated the overhead distribution system in New York, which resulted in a loss of nearly 1000 utility poles and more than 900 transformers as well as 8,371,242 customer outages [2]. In addition, U.S. power grids are now old and outdated, making them more vulnerable to such events [3]. One way to address this issue is to design resilient distribution systems that can withstand extreme weather events.

A distribution system is considered to be resilient if it is able to anticipate, absorb, adapt to, and/or rapidly recover from a disruptive event [4]. The resilience enhancement goals can be fulfilled through upgrading and operating measures [5]. Our paper focuses on exploring the impacts of upgrading grids on system resilience. Resilience-oriented design (ROD) is defined as topological and structural upgrades to make power system less susceptible to extreme weather events [5]. In general, hardening existing distribution lines, installation of DGs and adding line switches are effective ROD strategies that are commonly used by utilities. Hardening distribution lines with stronger materials can make them more robust to extreme weather events. Backup DGs can provide on-site power for critical facilities and load centers, and contribute to energizing microgrids to restore load after an extreme weather event [6]–[11]. Installing automatic switches enables network reconfiguration that can re-route power to on-outage portions of distribution networks, shorten the restoration time and enhance the restoration capability [12].

There are a few studies on ROD of distribution systems to protect against extreme weather events, which in general apply two types of modeling techniques: robust and stochastic modeling. Yuan et al. [13] proposed a new robust optimization model to solve the resilient distribution network planning problem under the worst scenario of extreme weather events. However, their study used a polyhedral set to represent damage uncertainty, where grid fragility models for specific extreme weather events were ignored in calculating uncertainty budget. Moreover, only one hardening measure, i.e., line hardening, was taken into consideration. In addition, it was assumed that hardened lines would not be damaged in future events, which is impractical. In [14], the authors proposed a power distribution system hardening framework using a tri-level robust optimization. Ref. [14] considered three hardening strategies: upgrading distribution poles, vegetation management, and the combination of the two. A greedy algorithm was proposed to deal with the coupling issue of the hardening decisions in the first level and the damage uncertainty in the second level. However, some important ROD measures were missed, such as the installation of DGs and automatic tie switches.

Another approach to manage uncertainty in ROD problems is stochastic programming. Stochastic programming is an extension of standard deterministic mathematical programming, in which the space of possible outcomes (e.g., line failure uncertainty) is represented by a probability-weighted scenario tree. Yamangil et al. [15] proposed a scenario-based variable neighborhood decomposition search algorithm to design resilient electrical distribution grids. This work improved previous studies by assuming that the hardened lines could be damaged at the rate of $\frac{1}{10}$ of unhardened counterparts. However, the interrelation between the first-stage line hardening decisions, and the uncertain line damage status, was not taken into account. The decision-dependent uncertainty is inherent in infrastructure resilience enhancement. This is because the resilience enhancement can only change the failure probability of system components, but cannot reduce it to zero. To manage the risk in a more realistic manner, it is necessary to model the failure of system components as a decision-dependent uncertainty. Arab et al. [16] proposed a proactive resource allocation model for repair and restoration of potential damages to power system components located on the traveling paths of upcoming hurricanes. They used Bender’s decomposition to solve the two-stage stochastic integer program. But the quality of solutions were not evaluated. Moreover, Bender’s decomposition is efficient in solving stochastic programs with linear programming problems but not for mixed-integer programs in the second stage.

In this paper, we formulate the ROD problem using a two-stage stochastic mixed-integer programming (SMIP) model. In the first stage, the system planner makes ROD decisions: hardening existing distribution lines and deploying ROD resources such as back-up distributed generators (DGs) and automatic tie switches. The second stage evaluates the system operation cost and repair cost under an extreme weather event. The enhancement of resilience under extreme weather events can be evaluated by the reduction in load shedding penalty cost and repair cost. There are two key challenges: (i) the decision-dependent uncertainty, i.e., the first-stage hardening decisions will affect the resolution of line damage status uncertainty, is inherent in infrastructure resilience enhancement and difficult to model; (ii) the existence of integer constraints on the ROD decision making in the first stage and recourse decisions (operation statuses of tie switches and DGs, and damage status of distribution lines) in the second stage results in the non-convexity of stochastic ROD models and considerable computation difficulties. This paper resolves the two challenges by providing the following key contributions:

(1) An innovative modeling technique is proposed to capture the decision-dependent uncertainty in ROD modeling. The uncertain line damage status is decoupled by two independent parameters, which can be generated in advance to represent the line damage status with and without hardening. A constraint is formulated to pick the two independent variables to represent the realized line damage status according to the hardening decisions. This method avoids a time-consuming and computationally intensive procedure of generating a large dictionary of scenario sets for all possible values of hardening decisions. Moreover, the inter-temporal correlation imposed by the repair process can be captured by sampling the two
where will first present the overall formulation for the two-stage to make ROD decisions (hardening existing components and into scenario-based subproblems and solving subproblems in parallel. We apply a scenario bundling technique to significantly improve the quality of PH algorithm’s lower bounds. A multiple replication procedure (MRP) is applied to test the stability and quality of candidate solutions with limited scenarios.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section II proposes mathematical formulations. Section III provides two solution algorithms. Numerical results are presented in Section IV. Section V concludes the study.

II. MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION

We propose a two-stage stochastic mixed-integer programming framework for ROD under uncertainty. The first stage is to make ROD decisions (hardening existing components and allocating ROD resources such as DGs and switches), and the second stage is to evaluate operation costs in terms of load shedding and damage repair in realized extreme weather events, e.g., hurricanes, ice storms, etc. In this section, we will first present the overall formulation for the two-stage stochastic program of ROD, then describe in detail the model for uncertainties, and the model for the recourse behavior of the distribution system in an extreme weather event.

A. Optimization Model

\[
\begin{align*}
\min & \quad C_1^f(x^h) + C_2^f(x^g) + C_3^f(x^{c_1}) + \omega_R \mathbb{E}_\phi(s) \\
\text{s.t.} & \quad \sum_{i \in \Omega_B} x_i^g \leq N_G \quad (2) \\
& \quad x_i^{c_0} + x_i^{c_1} = x_i^h, \forall (i, j) \in \Omega_{SV} \quad (3) \\
& \quad x_i^g, x_i^{c_0}, x_i^{c_1} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall i \in \Omega_G, \forall (i, j) \in \Omega_B, (m, n) \in \Omega_{SV} \quad (4)
\end{align*}
\]

where

\[
\begin{align*}
C_1^f(x^h) &= \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega_B} c_{ij}^h x_{ij}^h \\
C_2^f(x^g) &= \sum_{i \in \Omega_G} c_{ij}^g x_{ij}^g \\
C_3^f(x^{c_1}) &= \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega_{SV}} c_{ij}^{c_1} x_{ij}^{c_1} \\
\mathbb{E}_\phi(s) &= \sum_{s \in S} p_r(s) \phi(s)
\end{align*}
\]

with

\[
\phi(s) = \min \sum_{t \in T} \sum_{i \in \Omega_B} c_{ij}^{L_s} P_{ij}^{L_s} \Delta t + \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega_B} c_{ij}^{R_s} \Delta t \\
\text{s.t.} & \quad y_{ij,t}^{c_0} \leq x_{ij}^{c_1}, \forall (i, j) \in \Omega_{SV}, t \in T \quad (10) \\
& \quad u_{ij,t} = (1 - x_{ij}^{h} + x_{ij}^{c_0} + x_{ij}^{L_s}, \forall (i, j) \in \Omega_B, t \in T \quad (11) \\
& \quad c_{ij}^{R_s} = c^{R_0} \sum_{t \in T} u_{ij,t}^{R_s}, \forall (i, j) \in \Omega_B \quad (12)
\]
expected costs of the projected load shedding and damage repair with respect to the probability distribution of scenarios, as shown in equation (1). The investment cost of hardening lines, placing DGs and adding line switches is given by [5]-[7], respectively, which includes purchasing and installation cost. Constraint (2) restricts the number of DGs that can be installed. \( x_{ij}^c \) in constraint (3) represents whether line \((i, j)\) has a switch or not, which will be used in the second-stage problem. \( x_{ij}^c \) represents a first-stage decision, i.e., whether to add a new switch at line \((i, j)\). If there is an existing switch on line \((i, j)\), then it is unnecessary to install a new switch, which imposes \( x_{ij}^c = 0 \). If \( x_{ij}^c = 0 \), it indicates that whether line \((i, j)\) has a new switch or not depends on the first-stage decision \( x_{ij}^c \). Here \( x_{ij}^c \) is assumed to be a known parameter.

The expectation of load shedding penalty cost obtained by solving the second-stage problem is described in equation (5), where \( p_i(s) \) is defined as the probability of \( s \) being realized (approximated by the frequency in \( S \)), and \( \mathbb{E}_s \) denotes the mathematical expectation with respect to \( s \). For a fixed value of first-stage decision variables \( z = [x^h, x^r, x^p] \) and a particular scenario \( s \), a second-stage problem can be described by equations (9)-(33). Equation (9) represents the objective function of the second-stage problem, i.e., minimizing the total expected costs of the projected load shedding and damage repair cost after the event. Constraint (10) indicates that if a switch has been added in the first stage, the switch will be realized (approximated by the frequency in \( S \)), and

\[
\mathbb{E}_s \left[ \sum_{i \in L} \sum_{t \in T} \left( \tau_i(s) \cdot M^P(t) \cdot P_i \right) + \sum_{i \in L} \sum_{t \in T} \left( \tau_i(s) \cdot M^Q(t) \cdot Q_i \right) \right] \leq \text{Budget}
\]

where \( \tau_i(s) \) is assumed to follow a normal distribution (20).

2) Uncertainty of wind-induced extreme events: In this paper, we consider wind-induced extreme weather events (e.g., hurricanes), since they pose the top threat to distribution systems. \( v(s) \) represents the wind speed. Here we use hurricanes for illustration. During a hurricane, the wind speed at a distribution line can be represented by a function of the distance from the distribution line to the hurricane eye as shown in Fig. 2 [21]:

\[
v_{ij}(s) = \begin{cases} K_v v_m \left(1 - \exp\left[\frac{1}{R_{mw}} \ln\left(\frac{R_s}{R_{mw}}\right)\right]\right) & 0 \leq d_{ij} < R_{mw} \\ v_m \exp\left(-\frac{\ln\left(\frac{R_s}{R_{mw}}\right)}{v_m}\right) & R_{mw} \leq d_{ij} \leq R_s \\ 0 & d_{ij} > R_s \end{cases}
\]

where parameter \( K_v = 1.14; v_m \) represents the maximum sustained wind speed of a hurricane (in nautical miles per hour); \( d_{ij} \) represents the distance between the hurricane eye and the distribution line \((i, j)\); \( R_{mw} \) represents the radius to the maximum wind speed (in nautical miles); \( R_s \) indicates the radius of the area affected by the hurricane (in nautical miles); \( \beta_{mw} \) indicates the modeling factor specifying the hurricane boundary, which is assumed to be 10. The time-varying hurricane parameters, such as \( v_m, R_{mw}, R_s \) and hurricane eye location can be simulated by the approach in [21].

3) Uncertainty of line repair time: The repair time of each damaged line, \( T_{ij}^r(s) \), is a random variable that depends on utilities’ dispatches of repair crews and resources [22, 23]. Without loss of generality, it is assumed that the repair time of each damaged line is independent and shares the same Weibull probability density function, \( \forall(i, j) \in \Omega_B \):

\[
f_{T_{ij}^r}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta_{T} t^{\beta_{T}-1}}{\alpha_{T}^\beta_{T}} \exp\left[\left(-\frac{t}{\alpha_{T}}\right)^\beta_{T}\right] & \text{if } t \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
\]

where \( \beta_{T} = 10 \) and \( \alpha_{T} = 4 \) [16].

4) Uncertainty of line damage status: \( u(s; x^h) \) represents the outcome of the random event (whether the line is damaged in the extreme weather event) parametrized by the decision \( x^h \). \( x^h \) acts as a parameter, reflecting the endogeneity of the line damage uncertainty: the damage probability of a line will decrease if the line is hardened. Here comes the challenge: we cannot generate the specific scenarios, particularly the samples of \( u(s; x^h) \), in advance of solving the optimization problem, because \( x^h \) is a decision variable that is unknown beforehand. A brutal-force solution for this problem is to generate a dictionary of the scenario set, \( \{S_{x^h}\} \), for all possible values of \( x^h \) in advance, then use proper second-stage constraints to look up the specific \( S_{x^h} \) corresponding to the current \( x^h \). However, that is computationally intractable since the number of possible values of \( x^h \) boosts exponentially with the size of the system.

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**Fig. 1.** Multipliers of load profiles at the substation (root node), with the peak values as the bases.

**Fig. 2.** The simulated wind speeds at different distribution lines during a hurricane

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**B. Uncertainty Modeling and Scenario Generation**

This paper considers four random variables for the stochastic scenario \( s \): the load multiplier, the wind speed, the line repair time, and the line damage status.

1) Uncertainty of load: \( \tau(s) \) describes the load level uncertainty for a stochastic scenario. Fig. 1 shows the multipliers of active and reactive load profiles at a substation on a typical day in summer [17, 18], denoted by \( M^P(t) \) and \( M^Q(t) \). The active and reactive load are normalized with respect to their peak values respectively. We make an assumption of homogeneous load pattern: all individual node loads share the same normalized active and reactive load profiles [19]. The base values of each load, denoted by \( P_i \) and \( Q_i \), are given by the test system.

\[
\begin{align*}
P_{i,t}^{L,s} & = \tau_i(s) \cdot M^P(t) \cdot P_i, \forall i \in \Omega_L, t \in \mathcal{T} \\
Q_{i,t}^{L,s} & = \tau_i(s) \cdot M^Q(t) \cdot Q_i, \forall i \in \Omega_L, t \in \mathcal{T}.
\end{align*}
\]
We propose a modeling strategy to solve the challenges. Based on the independence among different lines, first we have \( u_{ij,t}(s;x^h) = u_{ij,t}^0(s;x^h), \forall (i,j) \in \Omega_B \). Then, we decouple each \( u_{ij,t}(s;x^h) \) into two independent parameters \( \zeta_{ij,t}(s) \) and \( \zeta_{ij,t}^0(s) \) (see [11]), where \( s \) is put as superscript. \( \zeta_{ij,t}(s) \) represents the damage status of line \((i,j)\) if the line is hardened, while \( \zeta_{ij,t}^0(s) \) represents the damage status of line \((i,j)\) if the line is not hardened. Constraint (11) picks \( \zeta_{ij,t}(s) \) or \( \zeta_{ij,t}^0(s) \) to represent \( u_{ij,t}(s;x^h) \) according to the value of \( x^h \) as shown in Fig. 3. Notice that the distributions of \( \zeta_{ij,t}(s) \) and \( \zeta_{ij,t}^0(s) \) are conditionally independent of \( x^h \), thus can be determined in advance.

In addition, constraint (12) indicates that each damaged line’s repair cost is linearly proportional to the line’s repair time. According to the report in [25], there are two factors that impact a line’s repair cost: equipment replacement cost and crew hours. It is assumed that lines have the same equipment replacement cost denoted by \( c^{R_0} \), but have different repair time, which is represented by the time summation of line damage statuses \( u_{ij,t}^s \) with respect to time.

5) Scenario Generation: In summary, the procedure for scenario generation is as follows:

1: Acquire the fixed parameters: \( |T| \).
2: for Scenario \( s = 1, \ldots, |S| \) do
3: Sample \( \tau_i(s) \) from \( N(1,0.1^2) \), \( \forall i \in \Omega_L \).
4: Sample \( v_{ij,t}(s) \) by approach in [21], \( \forall (i,j) \in \Omega_B, t \in T \).
5: Generate \( P_{l,t}^{L,s} \) and \( Q_{l,t}^{L,s} \), \( \forall i \in \Omega_L \) via (34).
6: for \( (i,j) \in \Omega_B \) do
7: Sample \( T_{ij}^R(s) \) from Weibull(10, 4).
8: Calculate \( p_{ij}(v) \) via (37).
9: Sample \( d_{ij}(s) \) from \( Geometric(p_{ij}(v)) \).
10: \( c_{ij,t}^0(s) = \begin{cases} 1 & 1 \leq t \leq \min\{|T|, t + T_{ij}^R(s) - 1\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \)
11: Sample \( d_{ij}(s) \) from \( Geometric\left(\frac{1}{10}p_{ij}(v)\right)\).
12: \( c_{ij,t}^1(s) = \begin{cases} 1 & 1 \leq t \leq \min\{2, t + T_{ij}^R(s) - 1\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \)

end for
end for

The procedure is independent of decision variables and can be run before solving the optimization problem (setting the parameters for the second-stage problems).

C. Distribution System Modeling

In this paper, the operation decisions of distribution systems are represented by recourse decisions to mitigate aftermath impacts of extreme weather events. These operation decisions consider network reconfiguration, load shedding, and DG redispach. The operation constraints of distribution systems are represented by (13)-(32). Equations (13) and (14) represent the power balance at each bus. Equations (10), (15)-(19) give the full set of power flow constraints. They represent the generic power flow constraints for dynamic topologies. The switching actions are controlled by three binary variables: \( x_{ij}^s \), which indicates whether a tie switch is located in line \((i,j)\); \( u_{ij,t}^s \) indicates whether line \((i,j)\) is damaged in the scenario \( s \) at time \( t \); and \( y_{ij,t}^{ons} \) indicates whether the tie switch, if exists, is on or off in the scenario \( s \) at time \( t \). The three variables for \((i,j)\) and \( t \) determine whether the line is on or off at that time, whose logic is shown in Fig. 4.
Constraints (15) - (19) enforce the line flow limits, and represent the network connectivity in different typologies. In constraints (20) - (21), the big M method is applied to ensure the voltages of two buses are independent if the line between them is damaged. In particular, when a line flow is forced to be zero, the voltages at the two ends will be decoupled. Distribution networks are normally operated as radial for effective coordination of protection systems under emergency and faulted operating conditions although they may have a meshed structure with the integration of DGs.

The radiality is enforced by constraints (22) - (26), which may have a meshed structure with the integration of DGs. The spanning tree variables indicate that line (i, j) is in the spanning tree if either node m is the parent of node n (\( \vartheta_{mn,t} \equiv 1 \)) or node n is the parent of node m (\( \vartheta_{nm,t} = 1 \)). Constraints (23) indicate that if line (i, j) is connected by closing the line switch, either \( \vartheta_{mn,t} \) or \( \vartheta_{nm,t} \) must be one. Equation (24) indicates that the substation node has no parent node, while constraint (25) requires that other nodes should have at most one parent node. Constraints (13) - (14) and (20) - (21) are linearized DistFlow equations which have been widely used to calculate the complex power flow and voltage profile in problems such as DG placement, service restoration, system operation, and planning of distribution systems [10], [13], [14], [18], [27] - [31]. Constraints (27) and (28) limit active and reactive power output of DGs, respectively. Constraint (31) imposes the voltage limits. Constraint (32) limits load shedding ratios. The load shedding is modeled as a continuous variable to reflect the evolving severity of extreme events and system damage states.

III. Solution Algorithm

In this section, we introduce two modified PH algorithms with and without bundling scenarios to solve the ROD problem presented in Section II. Firstly, we use a compact notation to express the SMIP ROD model. In order to illustrate how the scenario-based PH works, we rewrite the compact notation of the SMIP ROD model into a scenario formulation. Secondly, the motivation and implementation steps of the modified PH algorithm for solving the SMIP ROD model are detailed. Thirdly, an approach to compute the lower bounds is presented to evaluate the solution quality of the modified PH algorithms. Fourthly, in order to accelerate the convergence of the original PH algorithm and improve its lower bound, we decompose the subproblems by scenario bundles instead of individual scenarios in the original PH algorithm.

A. The Compact Notation of ROD Problem

In order to elaborate the proposed algorithms and facilitate the solution discussion, we use a compact notation to express the proposed ROD model:

\[
\min_{x} \quad c^\top x + \sum_{s \in S} p_r(s) \phi(x, s) \tag{38}
\]

\[
s.t. \quad Ax \leq b \tag{39}
\]

\[
x \in \mathbb{Z}_{+}^{n_1} \tag{40}
\]

where vector x represents the binary decision variables in the first stage as shown in (4) and the cost coefficient vectors are defined as \( c \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1} \). Constraint (39) is a vector form representation of the number limit of DGs and line switches in (2) - (3). \( \phi(x, s) \) denotes the system operation problem for a given scenario \( s \in S \), which is defined as follows:

\[
\phi(x, s) = \min \quad g^\top y \tag{41}
\]

\[
s.t. \quad Fy \leq r(s) - e(s)x \tag{42}
\]

\[
y \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{p_1} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_2-p_2} \tag{43}
\]

where the vector y represents the second-stage decision variables. Constraints (10) - (12) can be expressed in a vector form as shown in (42). Here, \( c \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1}, A \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times n_1}, b \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1}, g \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2}, F \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_1}, e \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_1}, r \in \mathbb{R}^{m_2} \) comprise the data of the SMIP ROD model.

The SMIP ROD model in the form of (38) - (43) is an optimization problem with an infinite dimension. In order to cope with this difficulty, we assume that there is a finite number of scenarios \( s = 1, \ldots, |S| \), with the corresponding probabilities \( p_r(s) = \frac{1}{|S|} \). Then, the problem (38) - (43) can be written as a large-scale deterministic mixed-integer linear program (MILP) with a block-angular structure [32]:

\[
z = \min \left\{ c^\top x + \sum_{s=1}^{|S|} p_r(s) g(s)^\top y(s) : (x, y(s)) \in K(s), \right. \]

\[
\left. s = 1, \ldots, |S| \right\} \tag{44}
\]

where \( K(s) = \left\{ (x, y(s)) : Ax \leq b, x \in \mathbb{Z}^{n_1}_+, Fy(s) \leq r(s) - e(s)x, y(s) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{p_1} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_2-p_2} \right\} \). Here the first stage decision vector x must be scenario independent.

By introducing copies of the first-stage variables x, the block-angular structure of (44) leads to the so-called scenario formulation of the SMIP ROD model:

\[
z = \min \left\{ \sum_{s=1}^{|S|} p_r(s) \left( c^\top x(s) + g(s)^\top y(s) \right) : (x(s), y(s)) \in K(s), s = 1, \ldots, |S|, x(1) = \cdots = x(|S|) \right\} \tag{45}
\]

where \( x(1) = \cdots = x(|S|) \) represents the non-anticipativity constraint, which will stipulate the first-stage decision vector x to be independent of scenarios. This scenario formulation (45) slips the large-scale SMIP ROD model into scenario subproblems with the condition of non-anticipativity constraints.

B. Progressive Hedging Algorithm

The general combination, NP-hard nature of mixed-integer problems and uncertainty, leads to the considerable difficulty in solving SMIP ROD models. For small-scale SMIP ROD problems, standard MILP solvers can be used to directly solve their extensive forms (EFs) presented in (44). However, for large-scale ROD problems, their EFs are too large to solve using in a reasonable run-time using available MIP solvers. In addition, the commonly used stage-based decomposition algorithm, Benders decomposition, relies heavily on the convexity of \( \phi(x, s) \) and cannot be directly applied to the case...
with integer variables in the second stage [33]. Rockafellar and Wets proposed the Progressive Hedging (PH) decomposition algorithm as a heuristic [34] to effectively solve stochastic mixed-integer problems. PH algorithm can reduce the computational difficulty by decomposing the EF in (44) into scenario-based subproblems as shown in (45) and solving subproblems in parallel. PH has been successfully implemented in solving unit commitment problems [33, 35, 36].

Algorithm 1: The PH Algorithm for SMIP ROD Problems

1: **Initialization:** Let \( k \leftarrow 0 \) and \( w_k(s) \leftarrow 0 \), \( s = 1, \ldots, |S| \).

   For each \( s = 1, \ldots, |S| \), compute:
   \[
   (\bar{x}(s)^{k+1}, y(s)^{k+1}) := \arg\min_{x(s), y(s)} \left\{ c^T x(s) + g(s)^T y(s) : \right. \\
   (x(s), y(s)) \in K(s) \}\]

2: **Iteration update:** \( k \leftarrow k + 1 \)

3: **Aggregation:** \( \bar{x}^k = \sum_{s=1}^{|S|} p_r(s) x(s)^k \)

4: **Update multiplier:** \( w_s(s)^k = w_k(s)^{k-1} + \rho \left( x(s)^k - \bar{x}^k \right), s = 1, \ldots, |S| \)

5: **Decomposition:** For each \( s = 1, \ldots, |S| \), compute:
   \[
   (x(s)^k, y(s)^k) := \arg\min_{x(s), y(s)} \left\{ c^T x(s) + g(s)^T y(s) + \right. \\
   \left. \pi_x(s)(x(s)) + \sum_{z \in |S|} \beta(z) \right\}
   \]

6: **Termination:** If all first-stage scenario solutions \( x(s)^k \) agree, go to Stop; otherwise go to Step 2

For such a two-stage SMIP ROD problem, the modified PH algorithm is sketched in Algorithm 1. The PH algorithm is initialized by solving the individual-scenario problems in Step 1. In each iteration, PH solves subproblems individually and aggregates the solutions to obtain the expected value \( \bar{x}^k \). The estimates of multipliers \( w(s)^k \) are updated in Step 4 using a specific penalty parameter \( \rho \) to enforce the non-anticipative policy. The performance of PH depends on the value of \( \rho \). The decomposition step (Step 5) of each iteration involves solving variants of subproblems that are augmented with a linear term proportional to the multiplier \( w(s)^k \) and a squared two norm term penalizing deviation of \( x(s)^k \) from \( \bar{x}^k \).

**C. Computation of lower bounds for PH**

Computational studies have shown that PH can find solutions with acceptable optimality gap for practical applications [35]. However, it is still necessary to evaluate the quality of PH solutions. Gade et al. [37] proposed an approach to calculate the lower bounds in any iteration of PH by solving a simple optimization problem. We modify the proposition of lower bound in [37] for our proposed formulation:

Proposition 1: Let \( w(s) \), satisfies \( \sum_{s=1}^{|S|} p_r(s) w(s) = 0 \).

And \( D_s(w(s)) := \min_{s=1} \left\{ p_r(s) \left( c^T x(s) + g(s)^T y(s) + w(s)x(s) \right) : (x(s), y(s)) \in K(s) \right\} \)

Then the lower bound can be expressed as \( D(w) := \sum_{s=1}^{|S|} D_s(w(s)) \leq z^* \).

In each iteration, the lower bound \( D(w) \) on the optimal value \( z^* \) is computed using the multiplier \( w(s)^k \).

These lower bounds are reported in our numerical results. The major advantage is that we can obtain the lower bounds for a stochastic mixed-integer problem even when the sub-problems are not solved to the optimality, and a lower bound can be easily calculated with approximately the same effort as one PH iteration.

**D. The PH Algorithm with Scenario Bundling**

Motivated by Crainic’s strategy of grouping scenarios in PH-based meta-heuristics [38], Gade et al. [37] proposed the bundle version of PH algorithm, which allows Step 1 and Step 5 of PH algorithm to solve small EFs of the SMIP ROD model rather than single-scenario problems. The advantages over the basic PH are as follows: 1) scenario bundling can significantly improve the quality of PH algorithm’s lower bounds [37]; 2) scenario bundling can accelerate the speed of agreement in the first-stage solutions, which in turn reduces the number of PH iterations for convergence [35]. However, the increased number of scenarios in each bundle may result in the increased computational difficulty of the bundles as each of them yields a small-scale extensive form stochastic program.

Suppose the set of scenarios is partitioned into bundles, each has \( N_S \) scenarios. We denote the set of bundles by \( B \), with \( \beta \in B \) and \( S(\beta) \subset S \) represents the scenarios in bundle \( \beta \). So \( |B| = \frac{|S|}{N_S} \). Let \( p_r(\beta) = \sum_{s \in S(\beta)} p_r(s), \beta \in B \). Then the PH algorithm with scenario bundling is described in Algorithm 2. We restate the extension of Proposition 1 to the bundle version of PH algorithm here as Proposition 2.

Proposition 2: Let \( w(\beta), \beta \in B \), satisfies \( \sum_{\beta \in B} p_r(\beta) w(\beta) = 0 \). Let

\[
D_\beta(w(\beta)) := \min_{\beta \in B} \left\{ p_r(\beta) \left( c^T x(\beta) + \sum_{s \in S(\beta)} p_r(s) g(s)^T y(s) + w(\beta)x(\beta) \right) : (x(\beta), (y(s))_{s \in S(\beta)}) \in K(\beta) \right\}
\]

Then \( D(w) := \sum_{\beta \in B} D_\beta(w(\beta)) \leq z^* \).

**IV. Numerical Results**

Wind-induced extreme weather events (e.g. hurricane, tornado, ice storms) pose the top threat to overhead distribution systems. In this paper, we projected two test systems, 34- and 123-bus distribution feeders into two coastal cities in Texas where hurricanes occur frequently. According to the histogram of landfall hurricane frequency in Texas [39], we assume \( \omega_H = 2 \). The detailed network and load data can be found in [40], [41] and [42]. It is assumed that a city close to Texas coast will be affected by a hurricane for 24 hours.

The initial investment costs of the three considered ROD measures are shown in Table III. It is assumed the life time of the three ROD measures is 10 years. Without considering the interest rate, the annual capital cost for purchasing and installation of each ROD measure is \( \frac{1}{10} \) of the initial investment cost. Here we use the natural gas-fired CHPs with 400kW capacity as back-up DGs, which can be controlled by utilities for enhancing network resilience. The candidate positions to implement different ROD measures are shown in Table II. In practice, the candidate positions to install tie switches are usually restricted by many considerations such as the necessity.
The time-period length is assumed to be \( \Delta \). Priorities and the voltage range are set as 5 A. Computational platforms

The parallel PH algorithm implementation is performed on a modest-sized 34-bus distribution system with 50 scenarios and a large-scale 123-bus distribution system with 100 scenarios. The scenarios are randomly generated via procedures described in Section II-B5. We consider both run-time and overall solution quality in the analysis. The PH algorithms are performed in parallel, utilizing 4 nodes of the Condo cluster for 34-bus system and 7 nodes for 123-bus system. We also solve the EF of ROD problems on both test systems by allocating the maximum possible number of threads (16) to each CPLEX running on a node. The solution of EF, which provides the global optimal solution and an indication of absolute instance difficulty \([48]\), serves as a performance baseline for PH algorithms.

Comparison of PH algorithm with and without bundling scenarios: We set the optimality tolerance of PH for solving subproblems as \(10^{-5}\). The PH convergence metric is assumed as 0.0001\%, which is defined as the unscaled sum of difference between the first-stage variables and the means.

For the 34-bus ROD problem, the EF of this 50-scenario instance has 1,608,766 variables (1,361,866 binary) and 712,050 constraints. We solve the EF in 6.5733 hours of wall clock time with a 0.01\% optimality gap. The first-stage investment cost of the EF is $3,987,000. Then we experimented PH with different numbers of scenarios per bundle. For example, 10 bundles means the 50 scenarios are divided into 10 bundles with 5 scenarios each. The results are shown in Tables III.III. The first column in Table III indicates the number of bundles while the second column represents the total cost of the first stage and the second stage. The third column in this table describes the lower bound of PH, while the fourth column represents the relative gap between the objective and lower bound. The lower bound is computed at the last iteration. The fifth column describes the first-stage cost, while the sixth and seventh columns respectively report the convergence iteration and run time. The optimal ROD investment decisions are shown in Figs. 5. By bundling scenarios into 10 bundles, the lower bound of PH algorithm is much tighter with a 2.04\% relative gap, and the algorithm converges with less iterations. However, it takes longer time to solve sub-problems.

For the large-scale 123-bus ROD problem, the EF of the 100-scenario instance has 39,012,195 variables (37,328,602 binary) and 4,659,201 constraints. No feasible incumbent solution of the EF is obtained by the end of 240-hour wall time run, which shows the significant computational challenge of large-scale stochastic ROD problems when being tackled by non-decomposition-based methods. On the other hand, we show the results of PH algorithms with bundling in Table IV. Although the lower bounds are not as tight as those in Table III, they are within an acceptable range, compared with results obtained by a linear relaxation method in \([30]\) with a lower bound of 227,710.98. Overall, we obtain the best tradeoff between computational burdens and solution quality using bundles with 2 scenarios as shown in Fig. 6.

### A. Computational platforms

All models and algorithms are implemented using the PySP package in Pyomo. All of our customizations relating to \( \rho \) setting, variable fixing, cycle detection/breaking, and variable slamming are performed through a parametrization of PySP’s WW extension module. IBM’s CPLEX 12.6 mixed-integer solver is used to solve all subproblems. All experiments are implemented on Iowa State University Condo cluster, whose individual blades consist of two 2.6 GHz 8-Core Intel E5-2640 v3 processors and 128GB of RAM.
results demonstrate the effectiveness of bundling as a method for improving lower bound quality and convergence speed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bundles</th>
<th>Obj.</th>
<th>PH L.B.</th>
<th>Relative Gap</th>
<th>First Stage Cost</th>
<th>Iter.</th>
<th>Run Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>718,827.69</td>
<td>681,163.90</td>
<td>5.24%</td>
<td>398,700</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>0.65 hr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>718,827.69</td>
<td>6,877,466.06</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
<td>398,700</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>0.24 hr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>718,827.69</td>
<td>704,157.59</td>
<td>2.04%</td>
<td>398,700</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1.78 hr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Solution validation by multiple replication procedure:** In this paper, the Monte-Carlo simulation is used to generate 50 scenarios for 34-bus distribution system. However, the complete scenario space is extremely large. Hence, it is necessary to test the quality of the solution based on limited generated damage scenarios. For this purpose, MRP [49] is used to test the stability and quality of the candidate solution shown in Fig. 5. The candidate solution is tested against 30 samples, each with a sample size of 50 scenarios. The one-sided confidence interval (CI) in the percentage term with regard to objective value for the optimality gap is $[0, 0.64\%]$ with $\alpha = 0.05$, which means that there is a chance of $95\%$ that the optimality gap is within the CI. We also do the same MPR for 123-bus distribution system, and its one-sided CI in the percentage term with regard to objective value for the optimality gap is $[0, 7.52\%]$ with $\alpha = 0.05$. Thus, the candidate solutions of the stochastic programming for both test systems are stable and of high quality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bundles</th>
<th>Obj.</th>
<th>PH L.B.</th>
<th>Relative Gap</th>
<th>First Stage Cost</th>
<th>Iter.</th>
<th>Run Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>1,874,209.49</td>
<td>1,634,251.87</td>
<td>12.65%</td>
<td>258,600</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>35.74 hr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>1,870,939.95</td>
<td>1,714,716.46</td>
<td>8.35%</td>
<td>261,000</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>42.73 hr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>1,867,431.12</td>
<td>1,790,492.96</td>
<td>4.12%</td>
<td>258,600</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>42.73 hr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This paper proposes an innovative two-stage stochastic mixed-integer model to design resilient distribution systems against extreme weather events. The first stage is to make ROD decisions, which includes hardening existing distribution lines or deploying ROD resources such as back-up DGs and automatic tie switches. The second stage is to evaluate the system operation cost during extreme weather event. Four random variables are considered: load level multiplier, wind speed of extreme events, line repair time, and line damage status. As the first-stage hardening decisions affect the uncertainty realization of line damage statuses, a novel modeling strategy is presented to decouple the interdependency between line damage uncertainty and first-stage hardening decisions. The implementation of multiple ROD measures results in the non-convexity of the second-stage value function under integer resources and considerable computational difficulties. The proposed PH algorithms with and without bundling scenarios, overcome these fundamental difficulties by decomposing the EF into scenario-based subproblems and solving these subproblems in parallel. Case studies on 34-bus and 123-bus distribution systems illustrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the proposed models and algorithms. The results also validate that the PH algorithm with scenario bundling can improve the overall solution quality.

**REFERENCES**


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