

# Applications of Nonlinear Optimization

GIAN Short Course on Optimization:  
Applications, Algorithms, and Computation

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Argonne National Laboratory

September 12-24, 2016

# Outline

- 1 Introduction to Argonne National laboratory
- 2 Nonlinear Optimization for Power Grid Applications
  - Introduction to Power-Grid Applications
  - Optimal Unit Commitment for Power-Grid
- 3 Design of Complex Structures
  - Design of Nano-Structures
  - Topology and Structural Optimization
- 4 Analysis of Data and Images
  - X-ray Fluorescence Imaging
  - Multimodal Image Analysis
- 5 A Control Application: Optimal Transition to Clean Energy



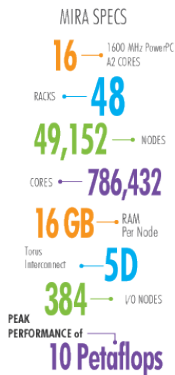
# Argonne National Laboratory

## Department of Energy Laboratory (Open Science)



Two large user-facilities:

- 1 Advanced Photon Source  
... ultra-bright X-ray source
- 2 Advanced Leadership Computing Facility  
... Mira: 10 petaflops machine



## Argonne National Laboratory

- Situated 25 miles SW of Chicago ... site of CP-2
- 3,500 employees working in 14 research divisions
- **Conduct basic research relevant to mission of DOE**  
... used to be nuclear ... now solar, wind, batteries, bio, ...
- Mathematics and Computer Science has 110 staff & postdocs
- CS Research: Globus, MPICH, ZeptOS, ...
- Math Research: Nek5000, NEOS, PETSc, ...
- Student opportunities: summer interns (apply in January)
- Postdoc opportunities: e.g. Wilkinson Fellowship, late 2017



# Math and CS at Argonne

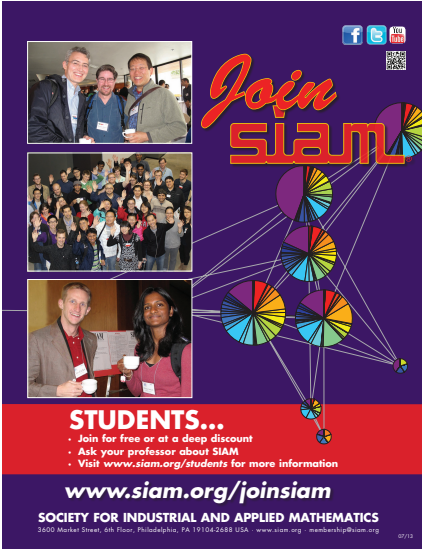
Do you recognize this picture?



# Math and CS at Argonne

UIC, Northwestern, Chicago  
SIAM student chapters visiting  
MCS Division

Create your own  
SIAM Student Chapter  
... and visit us too!



The poster features three photographs: three men in the top left, a large group of students in the middle, and a man and woman in the bottom left. On the right, the text 'Join SIAM' is written in a stylized font, with 'Join' in red and 'SIAM' in orange. Below this is a network diagram of colorful pie charts connected by lines. In the top right corner, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, along with a QR code.

**STUDENTS...**

- Join for free or at a deep discount
- Ask your professor about SIAM
- Visit [www.siam.org/students](http://www.siam.org/students) for more information

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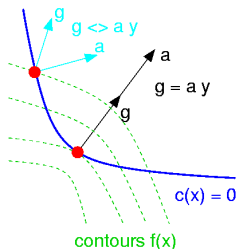
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07/13

# Today's Problem: Nonlinearly Constrained Optimization

## Nonlinear Optimization Problems (NLPs)

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && f(x) \\ & \text{subject to} && c(x) \leq 0 \\ & && x \in \mathcal{X}, \end{aligned}$$



where

- $\mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  compact set, e.g.  $\mathcal{X} = \{x \mid l \leq A^T x \leq u\}$  polyhedral
- $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $c : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  smooth functions

More general problems ...

- $l_x \leq x \leq u_x$  simple bounds
- $l_c \leq c(x) \leq u_c$  more general constraints
- **Classes of variables: binary, integer, semi-definite, ...**
- **Classes of constraints: DAE, PDE, complementarity, ...**



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# Challenges in Power Grid Modeling

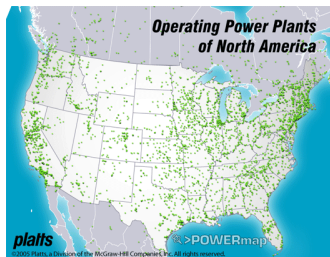
## Computational Challenges in Power Grid Modeling

- 1 **Size:**  $\simeq$  100k lines ... “most complex machine ever built”
  - 2 **Complexity:** nonlinear, hierarchical, and discrete decisions
  - 3 **Uncertainty:** demand and supply (renewable) uncertainties
- ... many applications combine all three challenges

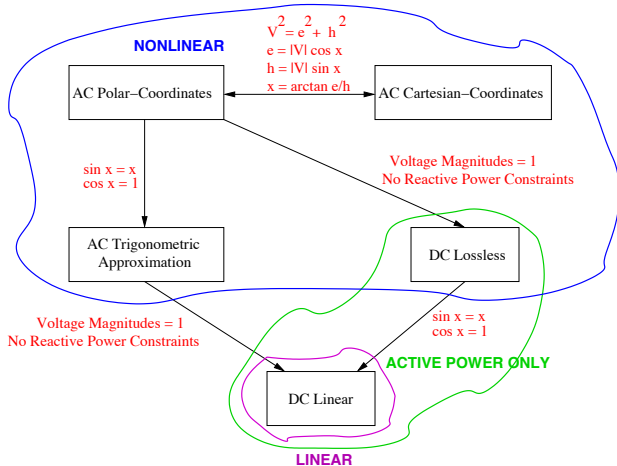
Missing from this talk:

- Big data
- Real-time decisions
- Cyber-security

... all involve modeling and computation



# Complexity of Power Grid: Nonlinearities



- Operation & Design: optimal power flow, transmission switching, network expansion
- Challenge: interaction of nonlinearities & discrete decisions

# Complexity of Power Grid: Discrete Decisions

- Given existing power grid network and demand forecast
- Design expanded network for secure transmission

**Traditional Approach.** Simplify nonlinear (AC) power flow model:

$$F(U_k, U_l, \theta_k, \theta_l) := b_{kl} U_k U_l \sin(\theta_k - \theta_l) + g_{kl} U_k^2 - g_{kl} U_k U_l \cos(\theta_k - \theta_l)$$

by setting  $\sin(x) \simeq x$  and  $\cos(x) \simeq 1$  and  $U \simeq 1$

**Nonlinear Optimization Approach.** Work with nonlinear model

- $-M(1 - z_{k,l}) \leq f_{k,l} - F(U_k, U_l, \theta_k, \theta_l) \leq M(1 - z_{k,l})$
- $z_{k,l} \in \{0, 1\}$  switches lines on/off;  $M > 0$  constant

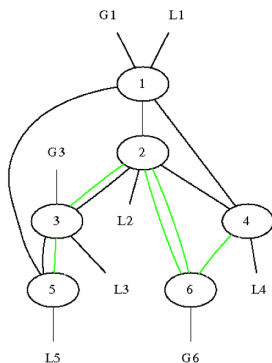
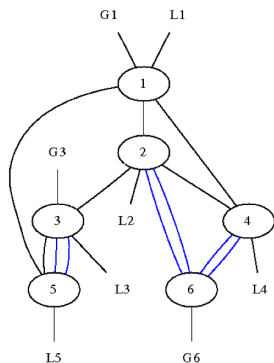
**Questions.**

Can we solve the nonlinear models? **Do nonlinearities matter?**



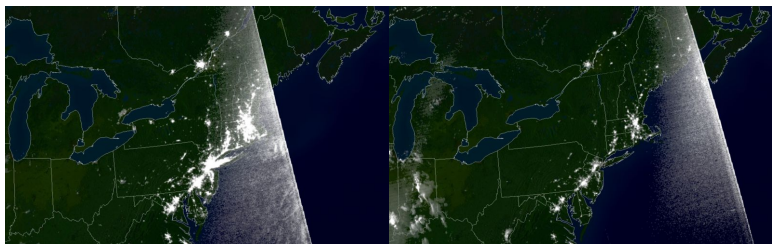
# Power-Grid Transmission Network Expansion

Expansion Results for **linear** vs. **nonlinear** power flow models



- Solve realistic AC power flow expansion models on desktop
- Significant difference between DC and AC solution
- Linearized DC model not feasible in AC power flow
- **Linear DC model *not* valid when topology changes**

# Blackout Prevention in National Power Grid



2003 blackout: before and during

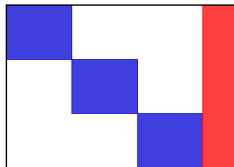
- 2003 blackout cost \$4-10 billion and affected 50 million people
- prevent with contingency analysis
  - find least number of transmission lines whose removal results in failure
  - **binary variables** model removal of lines
  - **nonlinearities** model power flow
  - results in large integer optimization problem
- current analysis limited to 10s of lines

... similar models arise in many other power-grid applications

# Unit Commitment with Wind Power [Cosmin Petra]

Wind uncertainty  $\Rightarrow$  stochastic optimization: min. expected cost

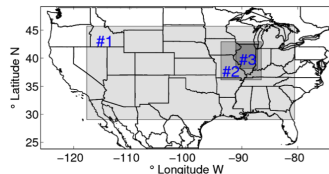
$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && f(x) + \mathbb{E}_{\omega} \left( \underset{z}{\text{min}} h(x, z; \omega) \text{ s.t. } g(x, z; \omega) \geq 0 \right) \\ & \text{subject to} && c(x) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



- $x$  — here-and-now decisions
- $z$  — 2nd-stage decisions/scenarios  
... random realizations of wind
- $\omega \in \Omega$  random parameters

Realistic wind scenarios

- Weather Research Forecasting (WRF)
- Real-time grid-nested 24h simulation
- $|\Omega| = 30$  samples of WRF



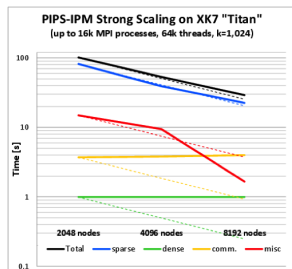
# Stochastic Unit Commitment [Cosmin Petra]

PIPS - scalable framework for stochastic optimization problems

- Parallel distributed implementations of interior-point (IPM)
- Block-angular linear systems suitable to parallelization
- Schur complement-based decomposition of linear algebra
- Parallelization bottlenecks: dense linear algebra (**first stage**)
- Dense matrices can go on GPUs, multicores, or be distributed.

PIPS-IPM ported to IBM BG/P and BG/Q,  
Cray XE6, XK7 & XC30

- 32k scenarios
- 4 billion variables and constraints
- 128K cores on BG/P and 64K cores on XK7



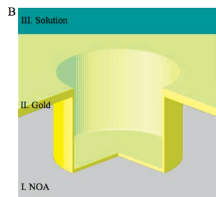
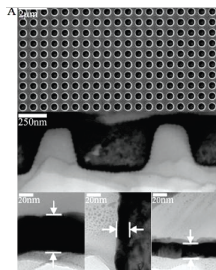
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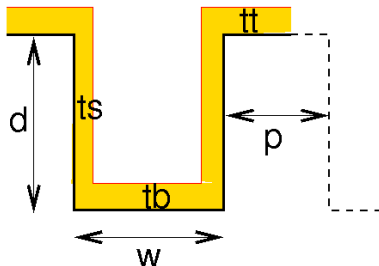
# Design of Nano-Photonic Devices



- nano-structures for chemical sensing  
optical response at certain wave-lengths
- Top: scanning electron micrograph  
Middle: cross section of crystal  
Bottom: gold thickness
- 3D FEM analysis simulation; **no gradients**  
periodicity, gold thickness, depth, & width  
of nano-wells
- **derivative-free optimization**  
objective function evaluation takes 12 hrs  
... on 125 nodes of an Apple G5 X-server
- optimization of a black-box  
... simulation-based optimization  
... derivative-free optimization

# Inside the Black Box

Design Parameters:

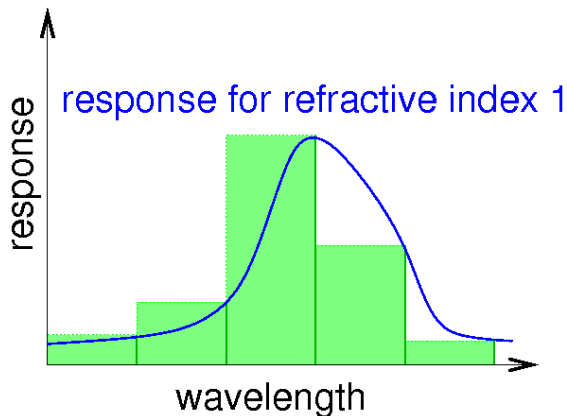


- $d$  = depth of nano-well
- $p$  = periodicity of design
- $w$  = width/diameter of nano-well
- $t$  = thickness (side/bottom/top) gold layer



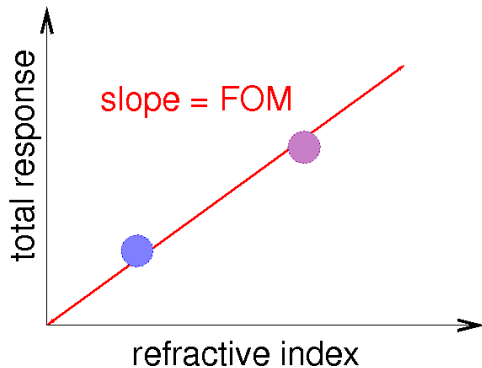
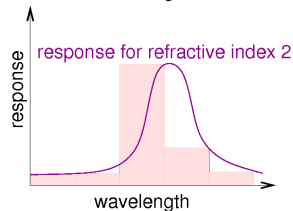
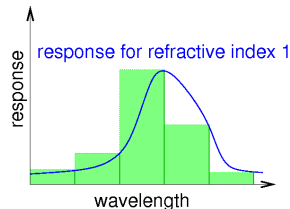
## Inside the Black Box

Given values of design parameters ( $d$ ,  $p$ ,  $w$ ,  $t_s$ ,  $t_b$ ,  $t_t$ )  
... perform PDE simulation for refractive index



... get total response

# Objective = Figure of Merit (FOM)



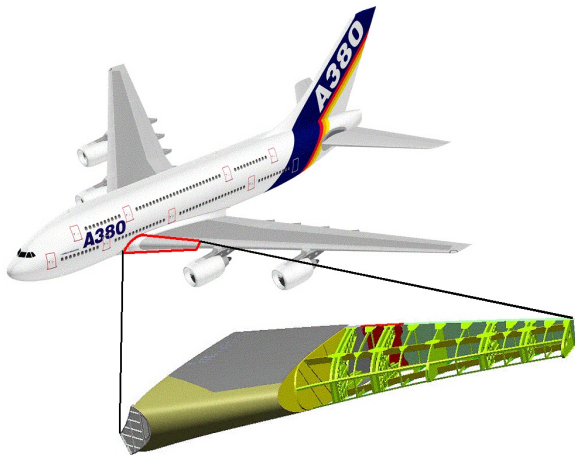
- ... combine responses for different refractive indices
- ... maximize slope (sensitivity) of design
- ... requires **solution of many PDEs**

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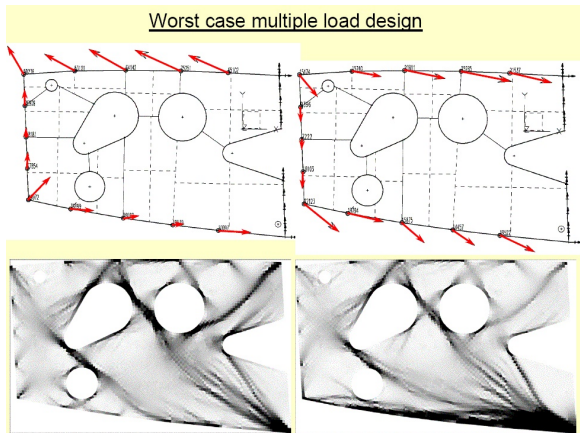


## Example: Topology & Structural Optimization [Kocvara]



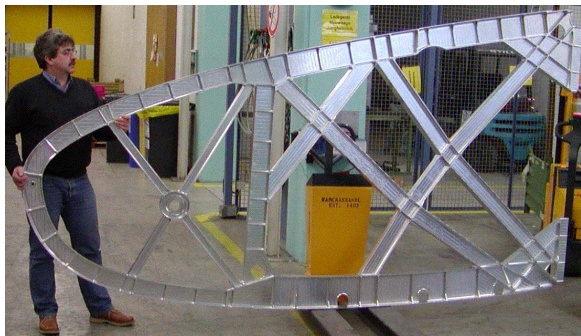
Airbus A-380 inboard inner leading edge ribs

# Example: Topology & Structural Optimization [Kocvara]



Minimize weight of structure **subject to** load & design restrictions

## Example: Topology & Structural Optimization [Kocvara]

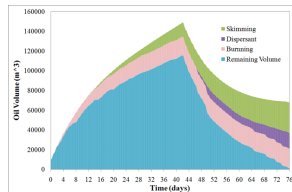
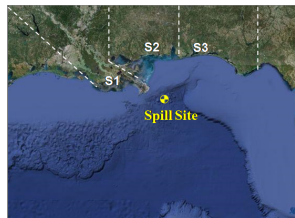


Optimized topology reduces weight by 33%

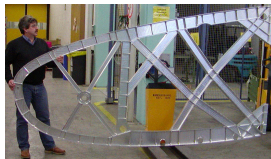
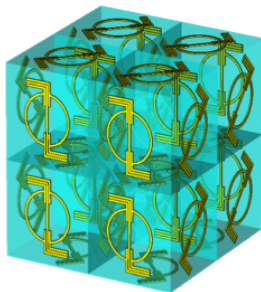


## Other Optimization Applications

- Optimization of oil-spill response ... MIP control
- Design and control of chemical processes
- Design and operation of building energy systems
- Design of wind farms & dispatch of wind energy
- Image analysis, inverse problems, big data, ...
- Cybersecurity: resource allocation & attacker-defender models
- Fighter intercept optimal control problems



# Optimization of Complex Systems



## Take-Home Message: More complex optimization problems!

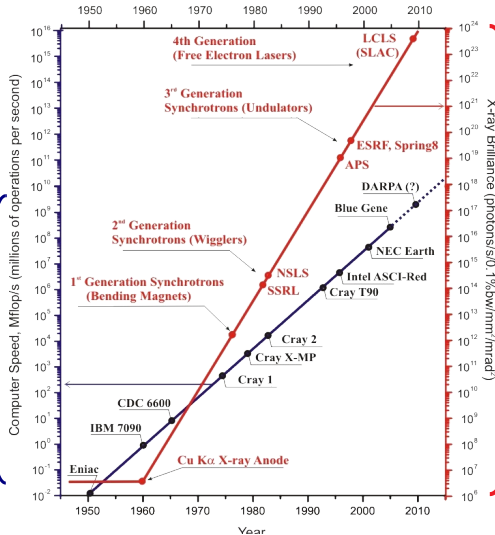
- Complex science & engineering apps drive optimization:
  - Discrete decision give rise to integer variables
  - Complex physics modeled using ODEs, DAEs, or PDEs
  - Uncertainty quantification for robust decisions & design
- Many open problems in need of new methods and ideas!

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# Light source data growing faster than Moore's law



**Computers:  
12 orders of  
magnitude  
in 6 decades**

**Light sources:  
18 orders  
of magnitude  
in 5 decades**



# Data Analysis: X-ray Imaging the APS

SL, Stefan Wild, Siwei Wang, & Stefan Vogt (APS)

Science Challenges in Nano-Medicine & Theranostics:

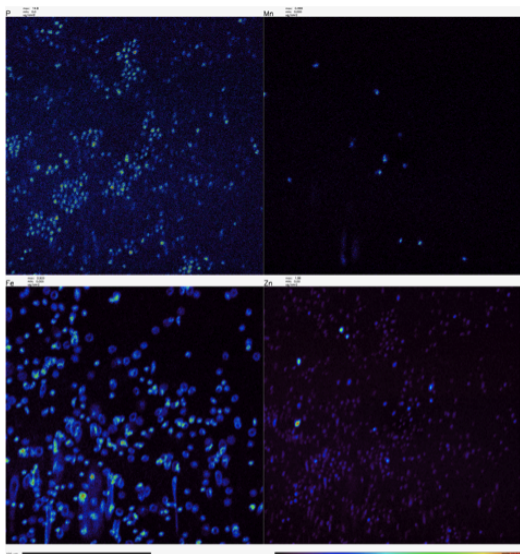
- Design new treatment and drugs for targeted drug delivery  
Combine therapy & diagnostics by targeting nano-particles
- Extract efficiency score from multiple sources of data  
MRI of living specimen; X-ray, fluorescent & visible light

Specific Questions:

- Given a sample, how many elements/cells are in the sample?
- Identify abnormal concentrations: cancer vs. healthy cells.
- Identify marker elements (e.g. Ti) for tracking biochemical processes.



## Typical Image: Postdoc Marks Cells By Hand

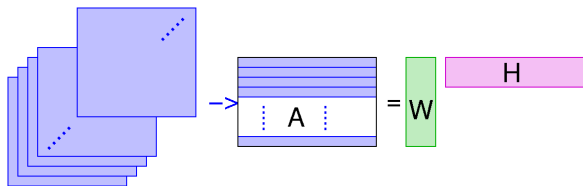


Concentration maps of P, Mn, Fe, Zn ... where's the yeast/algae?

# Nonnegative Matrix Factorization

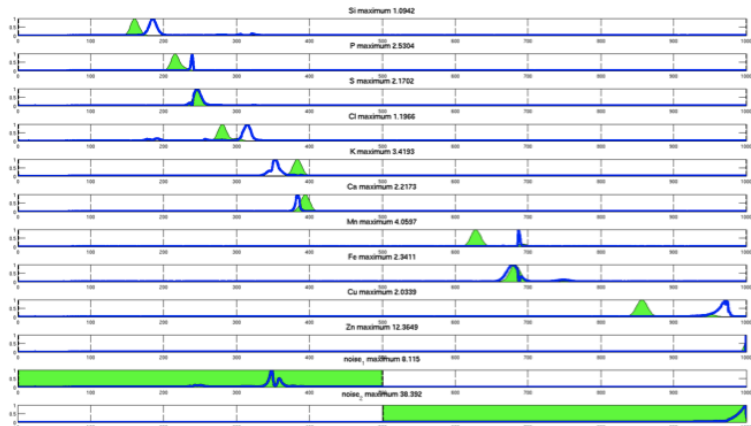
Goal: Find signature masks for cells for image segmentation

- Photon counts are additive  $\Rightarrow$  use additive reduction
- minimize  $\|A - WH\|_F^2$  subject to  $W \geq 0, H \geq 0$   
 $W, H$



- $W$  are weight  $\simeq$  additive elemental spectra
- $H$  are images  $\simeq$  additive elemental maps
- Solve using (cheap) gradient steps

# Nonnegative Matrix Factorization



Initialization of  $W$  and final value.

... now use  $H$  (additive elemental maps) to segment images





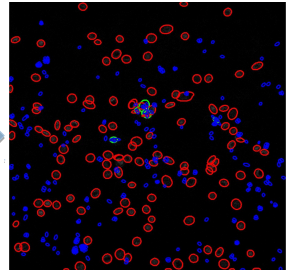
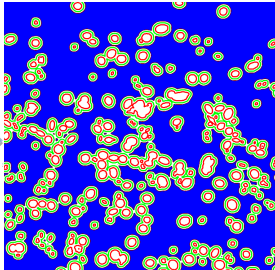
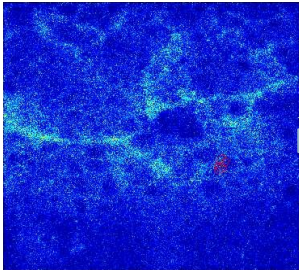
# XFM@APS: Automatic Cell Discovery & Classification

Enables *fast* processing of larger samples, reduces error, automatically classifies cells

- Pre-processing with **non-negative matrix factorization**
- Image partitioned using **spectral graph partitioning**
- **Wavelet transforms** delineate curves and allow for overlapping cells
- Incorporate domain-specific knowledge with **large-scale MINLP optimization** approach

Noisy, Multichannel Data

Yeast, Algae, Red Blood Cells



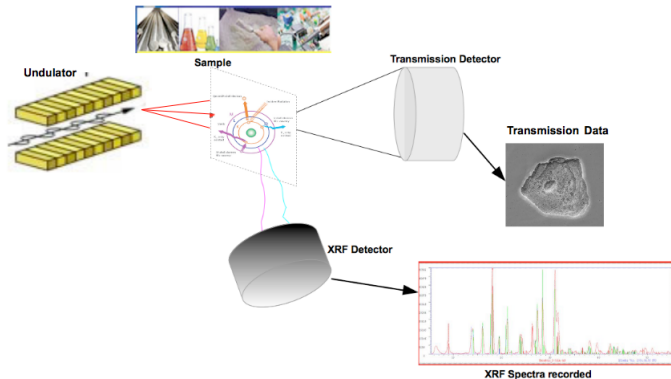
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# Multimodal Image Analysis

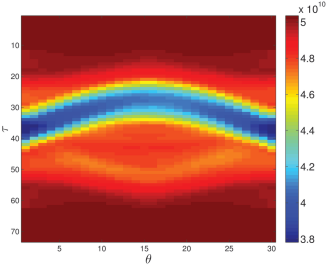
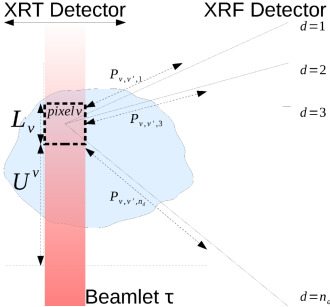
Next-generation accelerators capture multiple data modalities:  
e.g. transmission (XRT) and fluorescence (XRF) in single shot



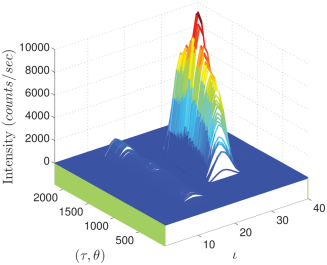
**Goal:**

Optimization for joint inversion from multiple data modalities.

# Multimodal Image Analysis: Explosion of Data



Transmission



Fluorescence



# Joint XRT & XRF Reconstruction (JRT)

More challenging nonlinear optimization:

- Find weights  $\mathbf{W}$ :  $\mathbf{F}_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{X}}(\mathbf{W}) = \mathbf{D}_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{X}}$  and  $F_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{T}}(\mathbf{W}) = D_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{T}}$
- Single mode reconstruction is under-determined

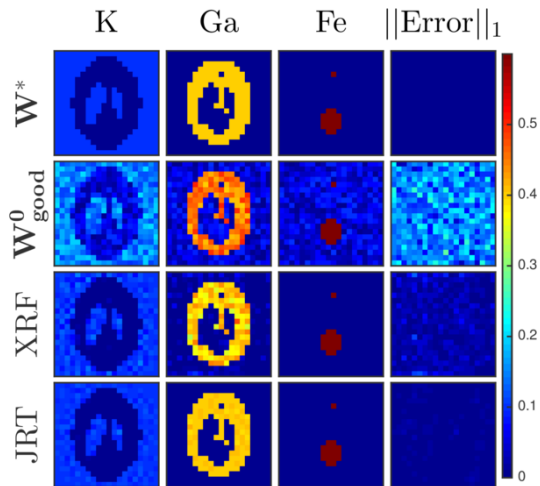
$$\min_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\theta,\tau} \left( \frac{1}{2} \left\| \mathbf{F}_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{X}}(\mathbf{W}) - \mathbf{D}_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{X}} \right\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \left\| F_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{T}}(\mathbf{W}) - D_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{T}} \right\|^2 \right)$$

where

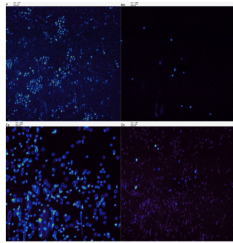
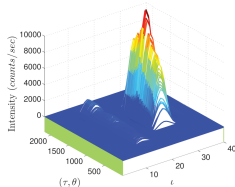
- $\mathbf{D}_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_E}$ : Fluorescence data
- $D_{\theta,\tau,E}^{\mathfrak{T}} \in \mathbb{R}$ : Transmission data
- $\mathbf{W} \geq 0$ : constraint on voxel contents



# JRT versus Single XRF Reconstruction



# Optimization for Large Data and Image Analysis



## Take-Home Message: Many interesting problems!

- Increased data rates drive optimization
- Huge scope for new optimization models and methods
  - Need to work with large data
    - ⇒ traditional techniques not applicable
  - Exploit domain knowledge whenever possible!

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# Optimal Reduced-Carbon Technology Penetration



*What is the optimal path to reduced-carbon economy?*

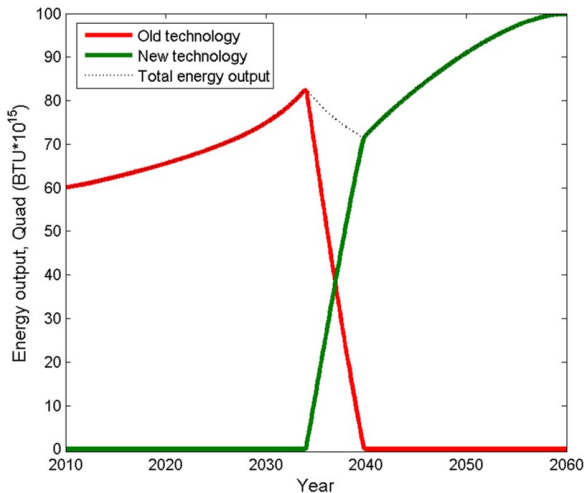
*Don Hanson, Steve Kryukov, Sven Leyffer, and Todd Munson*

## Modeling Optimal Penetration of Low-Carbon Technology

- Optimize energy production schedule and transition from old to new reduced-carbon technology to meet carbon targets
  - Maximize social welfare subject to GHG target in 50 years
  - Reduced-carbon technology subject to learning effects  
i.e. reduced unit cost as new technology becomes widespread
  - Includes adjustment costs (penalize rapid change in energy schedule)
- Social planner's problem ... government in charge of everything
- Reasonable assumptions on GHG emissions, demand growth, energy costs, ...
- Optimal control problem
  - Formulated using modeling language (AMPL)
  - Solved with nonlinear optimizers (KNITRO)
  - 50-year horizon solves within seconds on desktop



## 50% GHG Reduction: Optimal Energy Production Schedule

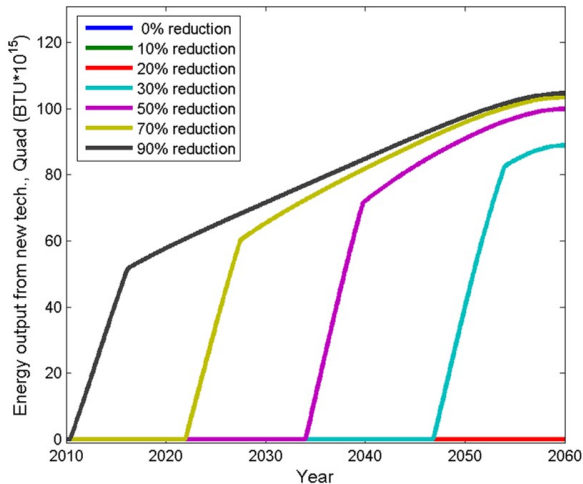


Transition period  
2034-2040:  
old conventional  
technology is gradually  
replaced by new low-  
emission technology



## Effect of Different GHG Reduction Targets

- Plot shows low-emission energy production for different GHG targets.
- Transition to new technology is not necessary until 30% reduction target.



## Technology Transition Model Description

- **Time** models dynamics over continuous time  $t \in [0, T]$   
Functions of time  $x(t)$  with derivatives

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{dx(t)}{dt}.$$

- **Energy Output** of old/new technologies at time  $t$  are  $q^o(t)$ ,  $q^n(t)$ .  
Define total output  $Q(t) = q^o(t) + q^n(t)$ .
- **Demand and Consumer Surplus** model benefit of energy to society:

$$\tilde{S}(Q, t) = e^{bt} S(Qe^{-bt}),$$

where  $b > 0$  growth rate of demand.

Derived from constant elasticity of substitution (CES) utility.

$$S(Q) = \begin{cases} S(Q) = S_0 \ln Q, & \text{if } \sigma = 1 \\ \frac{S_0}{1-\sigma} Q^{1-\sigma}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $\sigma > 0$  is demand parameter.

# Technology Transition Model Description

- **Production Costs.** Assume constant marginal costs.
  - Old technology unit cost:  $c_o$
  - New technology unit cost subject to learning-by-doing:  $c_n(x(t))$  decreasing function of cumulative output:

$$x(t) = \int_0^t q^n(\tau) d\tau.$$

- Following [?], we let

$$c_n(x) = c_n^0 \left[ \frac{x}{\bar{X}} + 1 \right]^{\log_2 \gamma},$$

where  $\bar{X}$  and  $\gamma$  are parameters.

- **Greenhouse Gases Emissions**

- Old technology emissions rate:  $b_o > 0$
- New technology emissions rate:  $b_n \in (0, b_o)$
- Cumulative (discounted) emissions at end period:

$$\int_0^T e^{-at} (b_o q^o(t) + b_n q^n(t)) dt \leq z_T$$



## A Basic Model for Technology Transition

- Maximize social welfare subject to emissions caps.
- Control variables: Energy output  $q^o(t)$ ,  $q^n(t)$
- State variables: Experience  $x(t)$  and Emissions  $z(t)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize}_{\{q^o, q^n, x, z\}(t)} \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left[ \tilde{S}(q^o(t) + q^n(t), t) - c_o q^o(t) - c_n(x(t)) q^n(t) \right] dt \\ & \text{subject to } \dot{x}(t) = q^n(t), \quad x(0) = x_0 = 0 \\ & \quad \dot{z}(t) = e^{-at} (b_o q^o(t) + b_n q^n(t)), \quad z(0) = z_0 = 0 \\ & \quad z(T) \leq z_T \\ & \quad q^o(t) \geq 0, \quad q^n(t) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$



## AMPL Model for Optimal Technology Penetration

Write an AMPL model of the basic technology transition problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\{q^o, q^n, x, z\}(t)}{\text{maximize}} && \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left[ \tilde{S}(q^o(t) + q^n(t), t) - c_o q^o(t) - c_n(x(t)) q^n(t) \right] dt \\ & \text{subject to} && \dot{x}(t) = q^n(t), \quad x(0) = x_0 = 0 \\ & && \dot{z}(t) = e^{-at} (b_o q^o(t) + b_n q^n(t)), \quad z(0) = z_0 = 0 \\ & && z(T) \leq z_T \\ & && q^o(t) \geq 0, \quad q^n(t) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tilde{S}(Q, t) = e^{bt} S(Qe^{-bt}),$$

where  $b > 0$  growth rate of demand, and

$$S(Q) = \begin{cases} S(Q) = S_0 \ln Q, & \text{if } \sigma = 1 \\ \frac{S_0}{1-\sigma} Q^{1-\sigma}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$





## AMPL Model for Optimal Technology Penetration

Parameter	Unit	Notation	Value
Discount rate	-	$r$	0.05
Demand exponent	-	$\sigma$	2.0
Demand scale	\$B	$S_0$	98,000
Demand growth rate	-	$b$	0.015
Environmental rate	-	$a$	0.02
Emissions, old tech.	tC/mBTU	$b_o$	0.02
Emissions, new tech.	tC/mBTU	$b_n$	0.001
Unconstrained emissions	BtC	$Z_{\max}$	61.9358
Emission reduction %	-	$\zeta$	0.5
Emissions target	BtC	$z_T = \zeta Z_{\max}$	
Production cost, old tech.	\$/mBTU	$c_o$	20
Starting cost, new tech.	\$/mBTU	$c_n^0$	50
Learning rate	-	$\gamma$	0.85
Initial experience	quad	$x_0$	0
Experience unit size	quad	$\bar{X}$	300



# AMPL Model for Optimal Technology Penetration

Write an AMPL model of the basic technology transition problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize}_{\{q^o, q^n, x, z\}(t)} \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left[ \tilde{S}(q^o(t) + q^n(t), t) - c_o q^o(t) - c_n(x(t)) q^n(t) \right] dt \\ & \text{subject to } \dot{x}(t) = q^n(t), \quad x(0) = x_0 = 0 \\ & \quad \dot{z}(t) = e^{-at} (b_o q^o(t) + b_n q^n(t)), \quad z(0) = z_0 = 0 \\ & \quad z(T) \leq z_T \\ & \quad q^o(t) \geq 0, \quad q^n(t) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

- 1 Solve the model for different time steps,  $h$
- 2 Experiment with different discretization schemes, e.g. explicit or implicit Euler and Trapezoidal rule
- 3 Use AMPL's `fprintf` to output your results & plot the transition paths in Matlab.



# Optimal Technology Penetration: Hints & AMPL Tricks

## Attributes & Defined Variables

```
param Ntime > 0, integer, default 200; # ... time-steps
```

```
set T := 0..Ntime;
```

```
var qo{T} >= 0, := 10; # ... old technology
```

```
var qn{T} >= 0, := 1; # ... new technology
```

```
var z{T}; # ... emissions
```

```
var dzdt{t in T: t<Ntime} = (z[t+1] - z[t])/h;
```

```
subject to
```

```
# ... ODE for z(t)
```

```
InitZ: z[0] = z0; # ... initial cond.
```

```
DiffEqnZ{t in T: t<Ntime}: # ... disc. ODE
```

```
dzdt[t] = exp(-a*t*Tend/Ntime) * (bo*qo[t] + bn*qn[t]);
```



# Optimal Technology Penetration: Hints & AMPL Tricks

## AMPL Defined Variables

```
var dzdt{t in T: t<Ntime} = (z[t+1] - z[t])/h;
```

- Acts like a constraints, but substituted out of model.
- Note “=” assigns constraints, and “:=” initial variable value
- All Variables/expressions on RHS must be defined previously

## Check out effect of defined variables

- To show variables passed to solver, use  
`display _svarname, _sconname;`
- To show variables in model, use  
`display _varname, _conname;`



## Conclusion: Optimization is Cool

