

The Location Problem for Compressor Stations in Pipeline Networks

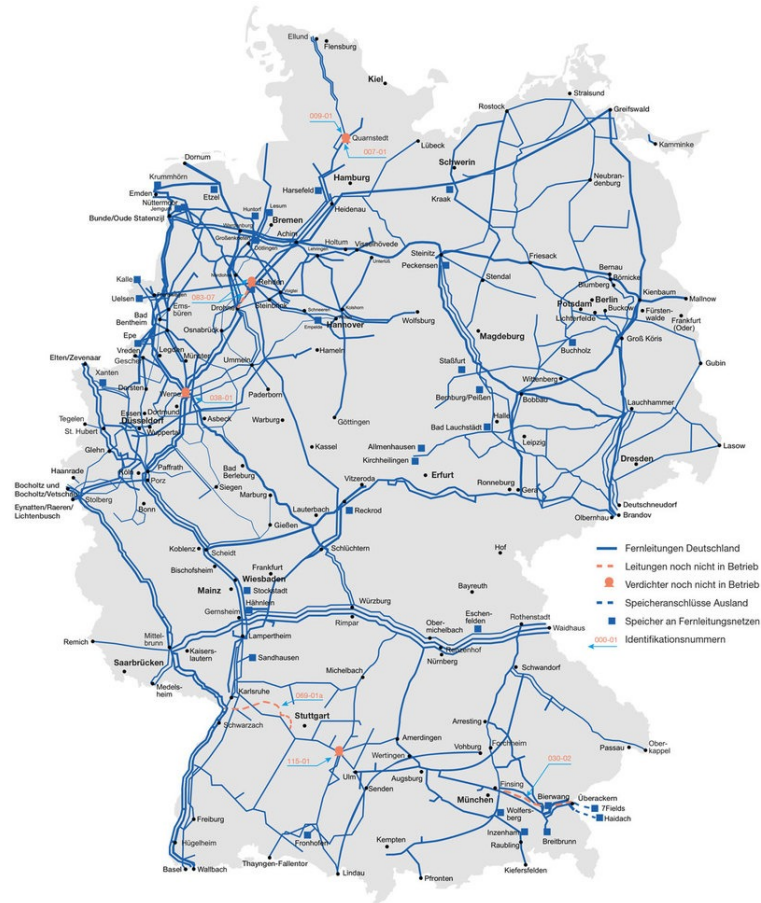
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Motivation

Natural Gas Transport



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Gas Network Modelling

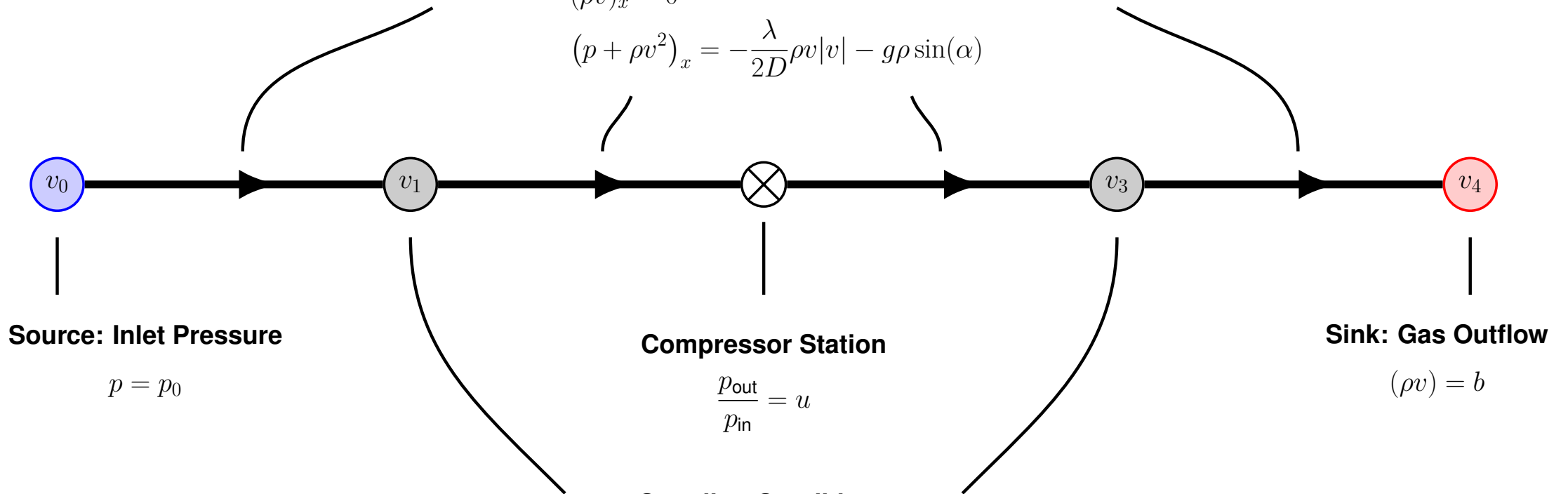
Gas Flow in Pipeline Networks

p	gas pressure	v	gas velocity	g	gravitational constant
ρ	gas density	λ/D	pipe friction	α	pipe slope

Steady State Gas Transport

$$(\rho v)_x = 0$$

$$(p + \rho v^2)_x = -\frac{\lambda}{2D} \rho v |v| - g \rho \sin(\alpha)$$



Coupling Conditions

Conservation of Mass: $\sum (\rho v)_{in} = \sum (\rho v)_{out}$, Continuity in Pressure: $p_{in} = p_{out}$

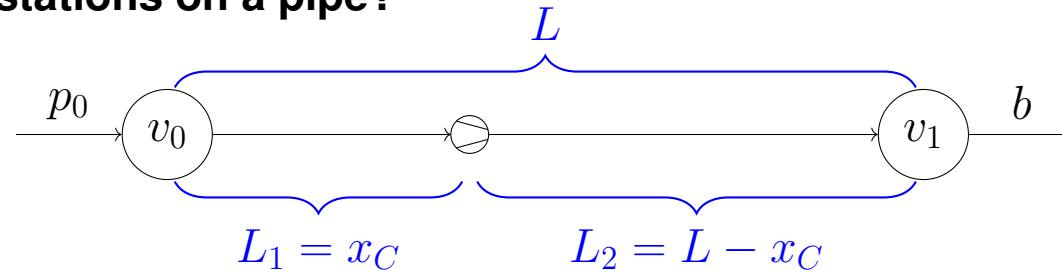
Optimal Compressor Location

Mathematical Modelling

- The stationary gas flow for ideal gases on a single pipe is given by

$$q(x) \equiv b \quad (\text{const.}), \quad p(x) = p_0^2 - \phi b |b| x \quad \text{with} \quad \phi = \frac{\lambda}{D} R_S T, \quad x \in [0, L]$$

- Where to place compressor stations on a pipe?



- The stationary gas flow with compressor station for ideal gas is given by

$$p_1^2(x) = p_0^2 - \phi b |b| x \quad x \in [0, L_1]$$

$$p_2^2(x) = u p_0^2 - \phi b |b| (u L_1 + x) \quad x \in [0, L_2]$$

- Consider pressure bounds on the pipe

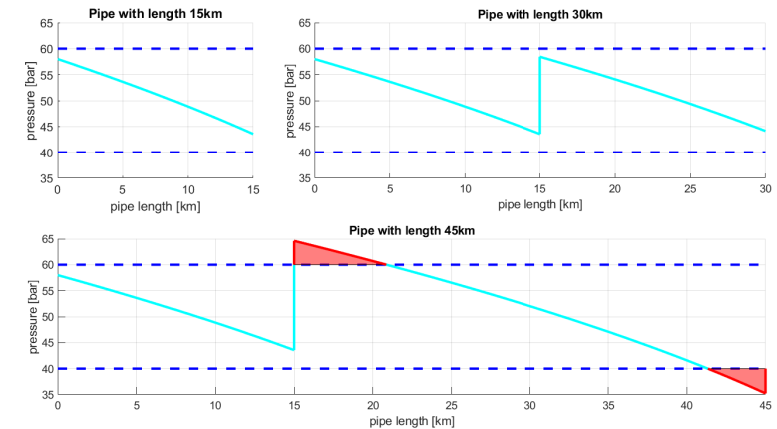
$$\begin{aligned} p_1(x) \in [p_{\min}, p_{\max}] \\ p_2(x) \in [p_{\min}, p_{\max}] \end{aligned} \iff \begin{aligned} p_1(0) \leq p_{\max}, \quad p_1(L_1) \geq p_{\min}, \\ p_2(0) \leq p_{\max}, \quad p_2(L_2) \geq p_{\min} \end{aligned}$$

Optimal Compressor Location

Deterministic Optimization

For $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with f strictly monotonically increasing in the first argument, consider the optimization problem:

$$\text{(OPT 1)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C} f(u, q), \\ \text{s.t.} \quad p_1(L_1) \geq p_{\min}, \quad p_2(0) \leq p_{\max}, \quad p_2(L_2) \geq p_{\min}, \\ u \geq 1, \\ x_C \in [0, L]. \end{array} \right.$$

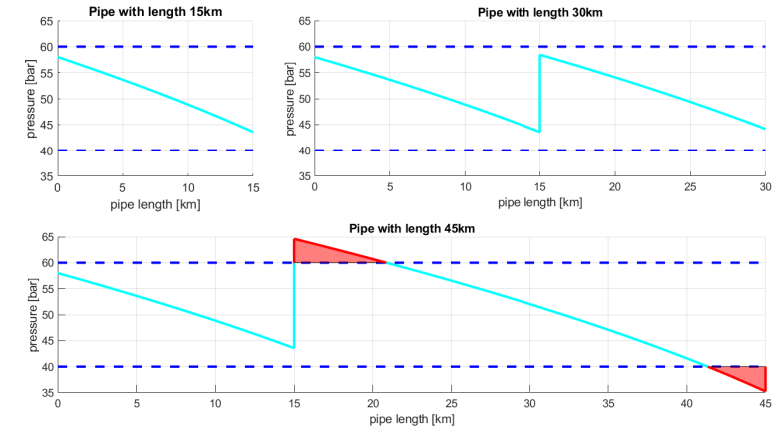


Optimal Compressor Location

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Lemma

Let $p_0 \in [p_{\min}, p_{\max}]$ and $b > 0$ be given.

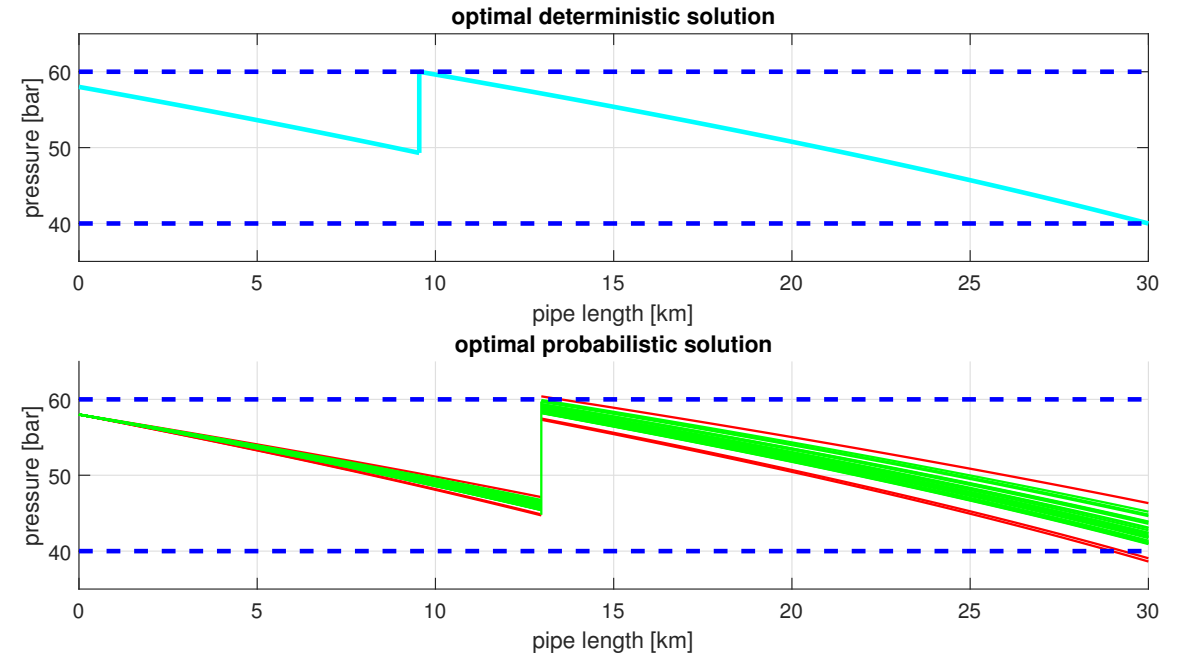
- (i) For $L \leq \frac{p_0^2 - p_{\min}^2}{\phi b |b|}$ every point (u, x_C) with $u = 1$ and $x_C \in [0, L]$ is a solution of the optimization problem (OPT 1).
- (ii) For $\frac{p_0^2 - p_{\min}^2}{\phi b |b|} < L \leq \frac{p_0^2 + p_{\max}^2 - 2 p_{\min}^2}{\phi b |b|}$ the optimization problem (OPT 1) has a unique solution (u^*, x_C^*) with $u^* > 1$ and $x_C \in [0, L]$.
- (iii) For $L > \frac{p_0^2 + p_{\max}^2 - 2 p_{\min}^2}{\phi b |b|}$ the optimization problem (OPT 1) does not have a solution.

Gas outflow b is random in the sense that

$$b = \xi(\omega), \quad \xi \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$

Consider the following optimization problem:

$$\text{(OPT 2)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C} f(u, q), \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbb{P} \left(\begin{array}{l} p_1(L_1) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_2(0) \leq p_{\max} \\ p_2(L_2) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_2(L_2) \leq p_{\max} \end{array} \right) \geq \alpha, \\ u \geq 1, \\ x_C \in [0, L]. \end{array} \right.$$



Lemma

If (u^*, x_C^*) with $u^* > 1$ is a solution of (OPT 2), then the probabilistic constraint is active.

Theorem

Let $p_0 \in [p_{\min}, p_{\max}]$ be given.

- (i) If there exists a pair (u, x_C) with $u = 1$ and $x_C \in [0, L]$, that satisfies the constraints of (OPT 2), then every pair (u, x_C) with $u = 1$ and $x_C \in [0, L]$ is a solution of (OPT 2).
- (ii) If there exist a pair (u, x_C) , that satisfies the constraints of (OPT 2) and if (u, x_C) with $u = 1$ is infeasible for at least one $x_C \in [0, L]$, then there exists at least one solution (u^*, x_C^*) of (OPT 2) with $u^* > 1$ and $x_C^* \in [0, L]$.

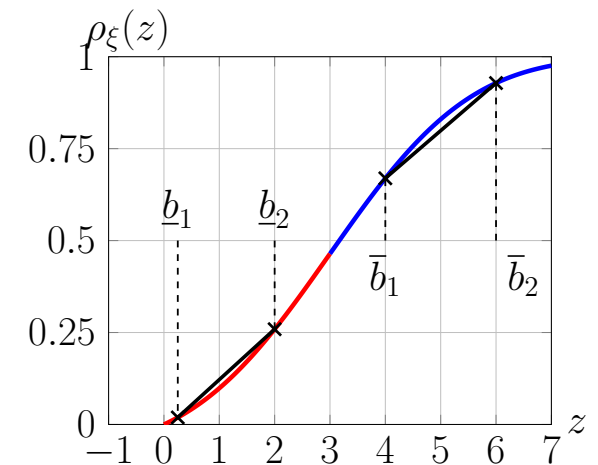
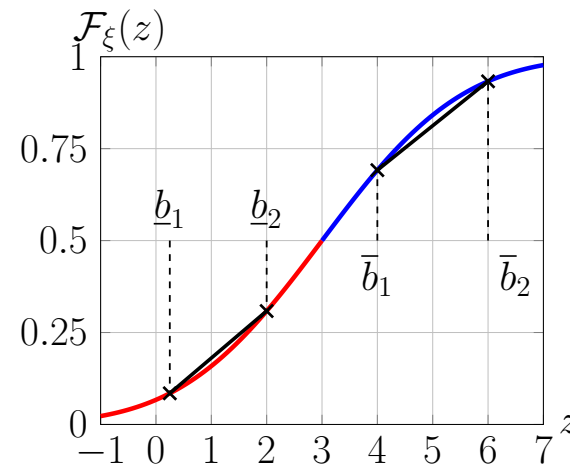
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Theorem

Let $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}$ be given. For a Gaussian distribution, *Statement (ii) in the last Theorem* guarantees the existence of a unique solution (u^*, x_C^*) of (OPT 2) with $u^* > 1$ and $x_C^* \in [0, L]$.



Optimal Compressor Location

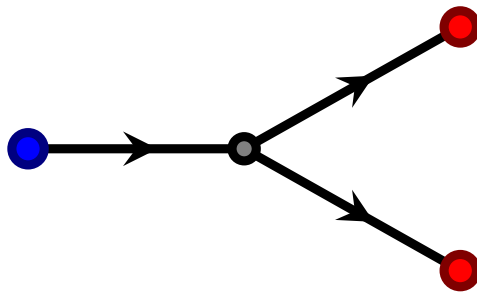
Mathematical Modelling on Networks

- Consider a connected, directed graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ with vertex set \mathcal{V} and set of edges \mathcal{E}
- Binary variables δ_i states if a compressor location is located on edge e_i
- The stationary gas flow for ideal gas on pipe e_i is given by

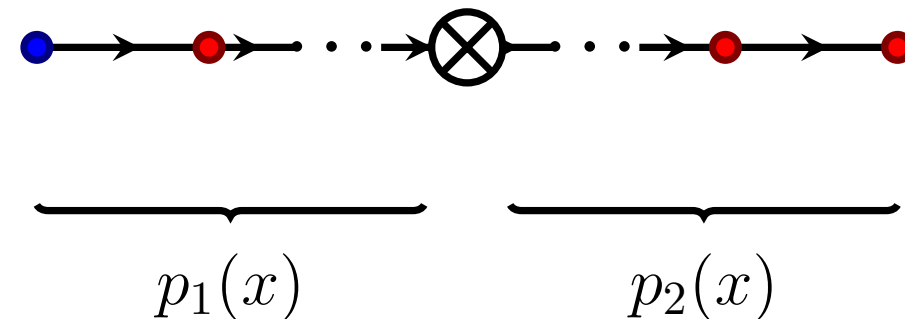
$$p_{i,1}^2(x) = p_{i,1}^2(0) - \phi q_i |q_i| x \quad x \in [0, \delta_i x_{C,i}]$$

$$p_{i,2}^2(x) = (1 - \delta_i + \delta_i u_i) p_{i,1}^2(L_{i,1}) - \phi q_i |q_i| x \quad x \in [0, L - \delta_i x_{C,i}]$$

- Uniqueness in general strongly depends on the graph topology



(a) Scheme of a symmetric graph with one source and two sinks



(b) Scheme of a linear graph with one source and n sinks

Optimal Compressor Location

Deterministic Optimization on Networks

For $f \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^{2m})$, $g \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})$ and $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 > 0$, consider the deterministic optimization problems

$$\text{(OPT 3)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C, \delta} f(u, q), \\ \text{s.t. for all } i = 1, \dots, m, \text{ we have} \\ p_{i,1}(L_{i,1}) \geq p_{\min}, \\ p_{i,2}(0) \leq p_{\max}, \\ p_{i,2}(L_{i,2}) \geq p_{\min}, \\ u_i \geq 1, \quad x_{C,i} \in [0, L_i], \quad \delta_i \in \{0, 1\}, \\ \sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C, \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{(OPT 4)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C, \delta, n_C} \gamma_1 f(u, q) + \gamma_2 g(n_C), \\ \text{s.t. for all } i = 1, \dots, m, \text{ we have} \\ p_{i,1}(L_{i,1}) \geq p_{\min}, \\ p_{i,2}(0) \leq p_{\max}, \\ p_{i,2}(L_{i,2}) \geq p_{\min}, \\ u_i \geq 1, \quad x_{C,i} \in [0, L_i], \quad \delta_i \in \{0, 1\}, \\ \sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C. \end{array} \right.$$

Optimal Compressor Location

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Theorem

For all $v_i \in \mathcal{V}_{\text{in}}$ let $p_{i,0} \in [p_{\min}, p_{\max}]$ be given and for all $v_i \in \mathcal{V}_{\text{out}}$ let $b_i \geq 0$ be given. Further let a number $n_C \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ be given.

- (i) If a triple $(u, x_C, \delta) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m$ with $u_j = 1$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$ satisfies the constraints of (OPT 3), every triple $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta)$ with $x_{C,j} \in [0, L_j]$, $\delta_j \in \{0, 1\}$ and $\sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C$ is a solution of (OPT 3).
- (ii) If there exists a triple $(u, x_C, \delta) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m$ that satisfies the constraints in (OPT 3), and if $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta)$ is infeasible for at least one pair (x_C, δ) with $x_{C,j} \in [0, L_j]$ and $\delta_j \in \{0, 1\}$, the optimization problem (OPT 3) has at least one solution.

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- (i) If a quadruple $(u, x_C, \delta, n_C) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \{0, \dots, m\}$ with $u_j = 1$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$ satisfies the constraints of (OPT 4), every quadruple $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta, n_C)$ with $x_C \in [0, L_j]$, $\delta_j \in \{0, 1\}$, $n_C \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ and $\sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C$ is a solution of (OPT 4).
- (ii) If there exists a quadruple $(u, x_C, \delta, n_C) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{0, \dots, m\}$, that satisfies the constraints in (OPT 4), and if $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta, n_C)$ is infeasible for at least one triple (x_C, δ, n_C) with $x_C \in [0, L_j]$, $\delta_j \in \{0, 1\}$ and $n_C \in \{0, \dots, m\}$, the optimization problem (OPT 4) has at least one solution.

Optimal Compressor Location

Probabilistic Optimization on Networks

Consider the probabilistic constrained optimization problems

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(OPT 5)} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C, \delta} f(u, q), \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbb{P} \left(\begin{array}{l} p_{k,1}(L_{k,1}) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_{k,2}(0) \leq p_{\max} \\ p_{k,2}(L_{k,2}) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_{k,2}(L_{k,2}) \leq p_{\max} \end{array} \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, m \right) \geq \alpha, \\ \text{and for all } i = 1, \dots, m, \text{ we have} \\ u_i \geq 1, \quad x_{C,i} \in [0, L_i], \quad \delta_i \in \{0, 1\}, \\ \sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C, \end{array} \right. \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(OPT 6)} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C, \delta, n_C} \gamma_1 f(u, q) + \gamma_2 g(n_C), \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbb{P} \left(\begin{array}{l} p_{k,1}(L_{k,1}) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_{k,2}(0) \leq p_{\max} \\ p_{k,2}(L_{k,2}) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_{k,2}(L_{k,2}) \leq p_{\max} \end{array} \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, m \right) \geq \alpha, \\ \text{and for all } i = 1, \dots, m, \text{ we have} \\ u_i \geq 1, \quad x_{C,i} \in [0, L_i], \quad \delta_i \in \{0, 1\}, \\ \sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C. \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$

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Theorem

Let $p_{i,0} \in [p_{\min}, p_{\max}]$ be given for every node $v_i \in \mathcal{V}_{\text{in}}$. Further let a number $n_C \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ be given.

- (i) If there exists a triple $(u, x_C, \delta) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m$ with $u = \mathbf{1}_m$, that satisfies the constraints of (OPT 5), then every triple $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta)$ with $x_{C,j} \in [0, L_j]$, $\delta_j \in \{0, 1\}$ and $\sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C$ is a solution of (OPT 5).
- (ii) If there exists a triple $(u, x_C, \delta) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m$, that satisfies the constraints of (OPT 6), and if $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta)$ is infeasible for at least one pair (x_C, δ) with $x_{C,j} \in [0, L_j]$ and $\delta \in \{0, 1\}$, then (OPT 5) has at least one solution.

Consider the probabilistic constrained optimization problems

$$\text{(OPT 5)} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C, \delta} f(u, q), \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbb{P} \left(\begin{array}{l} p_{k,1}(L_{k,1}) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_{k,2}(0) \leq p_{\max} \\ p_{k,2}(L_{k,2}) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_{k,2}(L_{k,2}) \leq p_{\max} \end{array} \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, m \right) \geq \alpha, \\ \text{and for all } i = 1, \dots, m, \text{ we have} \\ u_i \geq 1, \quad x_{C,i} \in [0, L_i], \quad \delta_i \in \{0, 1\}, \\ \sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j = n_C, \end{array} \right.$$

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Theorem

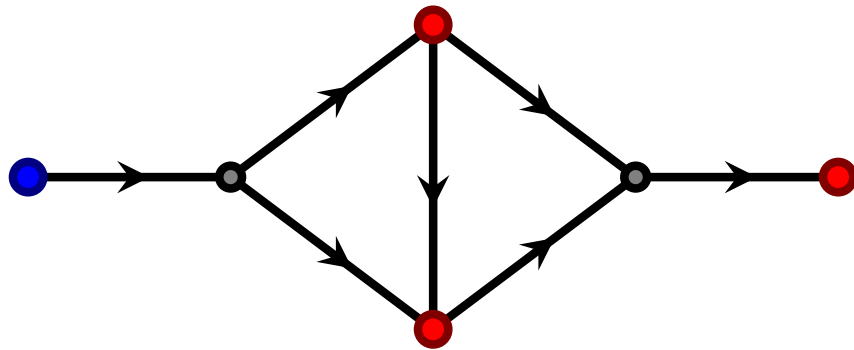
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- (ii) If there exists a quadruple $(u, x_C, \delta, n_C) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \{0, \dots, m\}$, that satisfies the constraints of (OPT 6), and if $(\mathbf{1}_m, x_C, \delta, n_C)$ is infeasible for at least one triple (x_C, δ, n_C) with $x_{C,j} \in [0, L_j]$, $\delta \in \{0, 1\}$ and $n_C \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, then (OPT 6) has at least one solution.

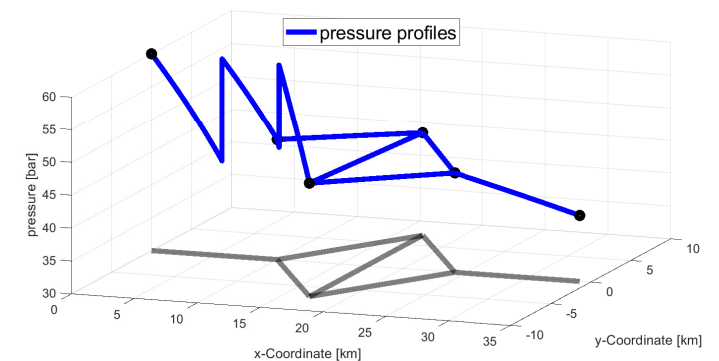
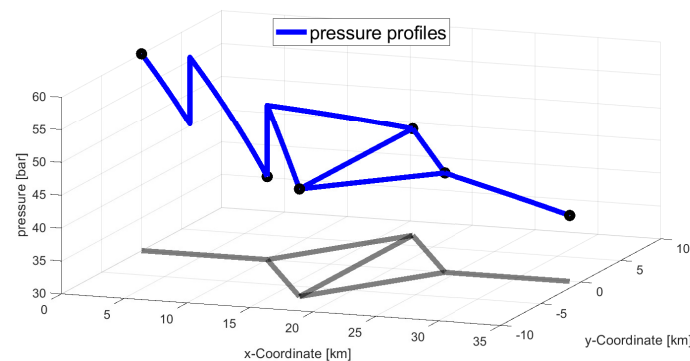
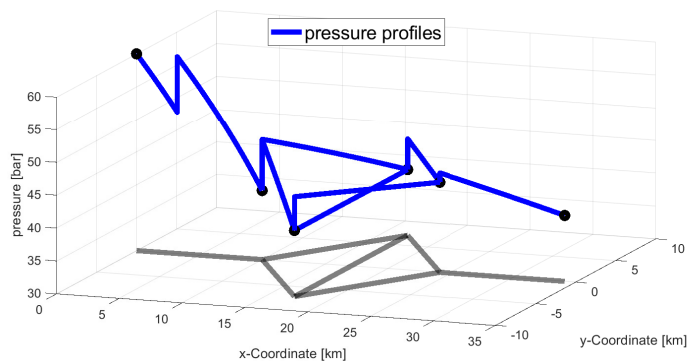
Optimal Compressor Location

A Numerical Example on a Diamond Graph

A scheme of a diamond graph with 1 source (blue) and 3 sinks (red):



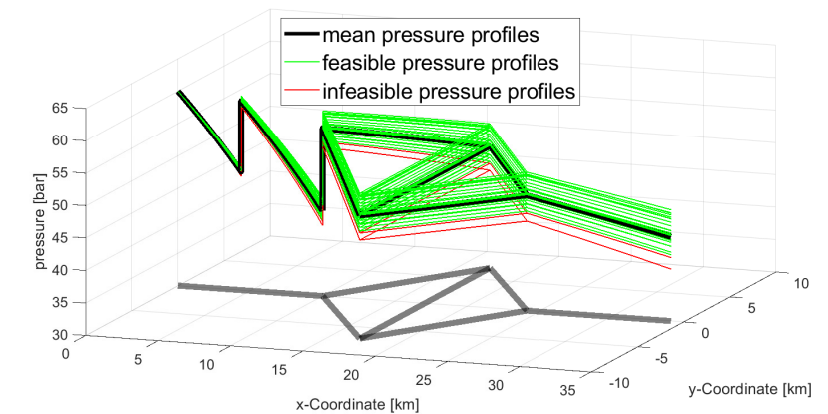
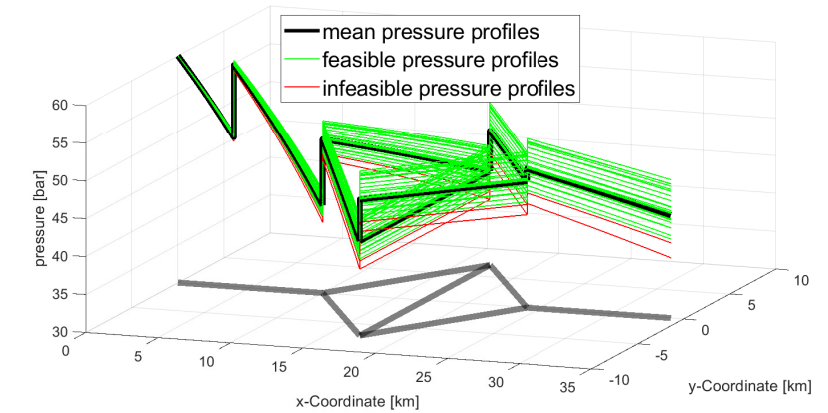
Variable	Letter	Value	Unit
inlet pressure	p_0	60	bar
lower pressure bound	p_{\min}	40	bar
upper pressure bound	p_{\max}	60	bar
gas outflow (=mean value)	$b (= \mu)$	[90, 60, 120]	kg/m ² s
covariance matrix	Σ	diag(2.25, 2.25, 2.25)	
speed of sound in the gas	c	343	m/s
pipe friction coefficient	λ^F	0.1	
pipe diameter	D	0.5	m
specific gas constant	R_S	515	J/kg K
gas temperature	T	293	K
probability level	α	0.8	



Optimal Compressor Location

A Numerical Example on a Diamond Graph

Deterministic Scenarios		
$n_C = 7$, objective value $4.5724 \cdot 10^5$	$n_C = 3$, objective value $6.9940 \cdot 10^5$	$n_C = 2$, objective value $1.5803 \cdot 10^6$
$u^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1.3531 \\ 1.4224 \\ 1.4161 \\ 1 \\ 1.2479 \\ 1.2725 \\ 1.0661 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_C^* = \begin{bmatrix} 3239.48 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$u^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1.4490 \\ 1.5791 \\ 1.5811 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_C^* = \begin{bmatrix} 3846.21 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$u^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1.8263 \\ 1 \\ 1.6044 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_C^* = \begin{bmatrix} 5616.11 \\ 0 \\ 582.84 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Probabilistic Scenarios		
$n_C = 7$, objective value $5.7952 \cdot 10^5$	$n_C = 3$, objective value $8.9719 \cdot 10^5$	$n_C = 2$, no solution
$u^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1.4202 \\ 1.4665 \\ 1.4655 \\ 1 \\ 1.2674 \\ 1.2739 \\ 1.0710 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_C^* = \begin{bmatrix} 3864.5 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$u^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5028 \\ 1.6791 \\ 1.6812 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_C^* = \begin{bmatrix} 4365.68 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	<p>No solution exists due to an empty admissible set</p>

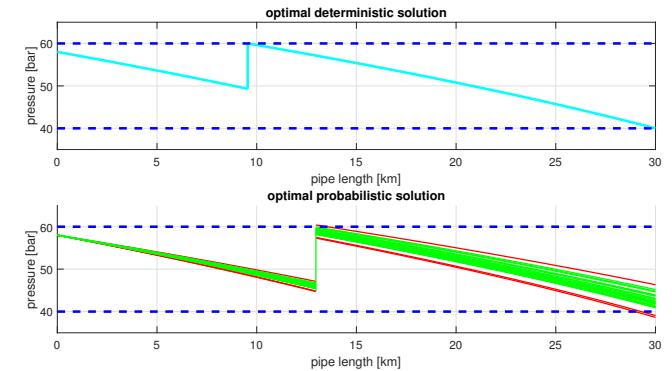


Optimal Compressor Location

A Numerical Example for Transient Gas Flow

- Consider the probabilistic example for the stationary flow on a single pipe
- Solve the probabilistic constraint optimization problem for $\alpha = 90\%$

$$\text{(OPT 2)} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{u, x_C} f(u, q), \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbb{P} \left(\begin{array}{l} p_1(L_1) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_2(0) \leq p_{\max} \\ p_2(L_2) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_2(L_2) \leq p_{\max} \end{array} \right) \geq \alpha \\ u \geq 1, \\ x_C \in [0, L]. \end{array} \right.$$

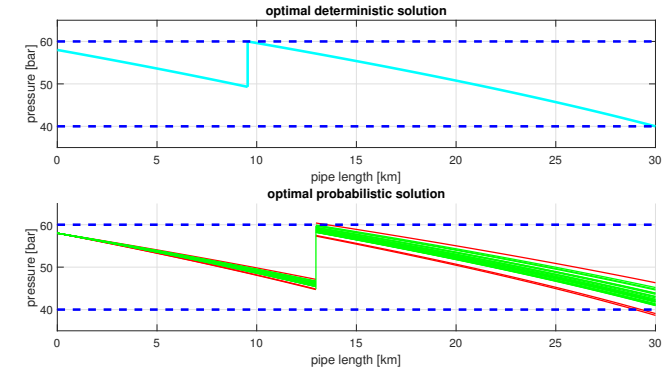


Optimal Compressor Location

A Numerical Example for Transient Gas Flow

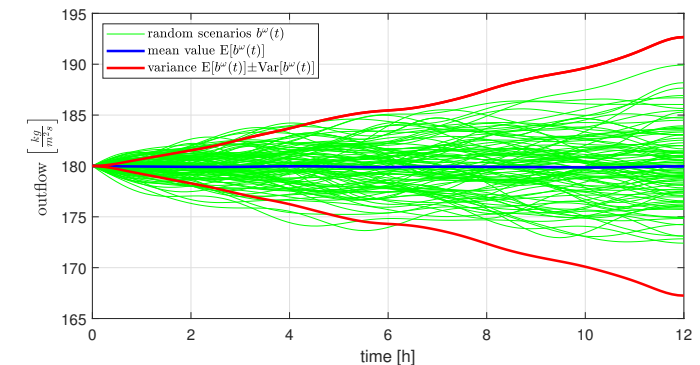
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- Randomize the boundary data in time by a *Wiener process*
- The probabilistic robustness of the steady state control is

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\begin{array}{l} p_1(t, L_1) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_2(t, 0) \leq p_{\max} \\ p_2(t, L_2) \geq p_{\min} \\ p_2(t, L_2) \leq p_{\max} \end{array} \quad \forall t \in [0, T] \right) = 85.74\%$$



Optimal Compressor Location



A Numerical Example for Transient Gas Flow

References

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