

Distribution Locational Marginal Pricing for Combined Thermal and Electric Grid Operation

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Distribution Locational Marginal Pricing for Combined Thermal and Electric Grid Operation

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Abstract—Distribution locational marginal prices (DLMPs) have been formulated for electric distribution grids to economically dispatch distributed energy resources (DERs) while addressing operational constraints of the electric grid. This paper proposes to extend this methodology to thermal grids, i.e., district heating or cooling systems, and specifically the combined operation of thermal and electric grids. To this end, thermal and electric grid models are formulated in a linear approximate model fashion. Then, the derivation and decomposition of DLMPs is formulated based on the combined optimal operation problem, assuming a linear state space model form for flexible loads (FLs). The ability of the DLMPs to reflect operational constraints in the thermal grid is demonstrated for a test case with 22 FLs.

I. INTRODUCTION

With the increasing integration of distributed energy resources (DERs) such as flexible loads (FLs) and distributed generators (DGs) into the electric distribution grid, the concept of distribution locational marginal prices (DLMPs) was developed to economically dispatch DERs, while keeping within the operational constraints of the electric grid. If not operated appropriately, DERs may lead to increased losses and congestion in the distribution grid, whereas DLMPs have been demonstrated to efficiently aid with loss reduction [1] and congestion management [2], [3].

DLMPs are formulated based on the numerical optimization problem for the operation of the electric grid, which aims cost minimization for the DERs, while maintaining voltage drop, line loading and loss balance constraints of the electric grid. By obtaining the dual variables associated with these constraints, DLMPs can be formulated to essentially reflect the operational requirements of the electric grid into price signals to incentivize the contribution of DERs, e.g., by rescheduling loads. This has led to the envisioning of distribution system markets based on DLMPs to address the integration of DERs in [4], [5].

At the same time, the increasing share of buildings being equipped with heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems has led to the proposition of thermal grids, i.e., district heating and cooling systems, as a way to more efficiently supply the thermal building demand. HVAC systems have already been proposed as FLs for the electric grid and can retrofitted in a similar fashion to increase operational flexibility in the thermal grid. To this end, the concept of DLMPs which was proposed for the electric distribution grid can readily be

extended for thermal grids, to aid the economic dispatch of thermal DERs in a similar fashion.

This paper formulates a methodology to obtain the DLMPs for the combined optimal operation of the thermal and electric distribution grids, such that the DLMPs reflect the operational constraints of the combined grid. To begin with, thermal and electric grid models are formulated in a linear approximate model fashion, which later facilitates the derivation of the DLMPs. Along with this, a linear FL model in state-space form is defined. Then, the combined optimal operation problem is formulated for the thermal and electric grids with interconnected FLs, which serves as the basis for the calculation and decomposition for the DLMPs. Lastly, the approach is applied for a test case with 22 FLs and congruent thermal and electric distribution grids based in Singapore, where the DLMPs are shown to represent the operational constraints of the combined grid.

NOMENCLATURE

Let $\mathbb{R}$ be the domain of real numbers. Non-bold letters x , X denote scalars $\mathbb{R}^1$, bold lowercase letters $\mathbf{x}$ denote vectors $\mathbb{R}^n$ and bold uppercase letters $\mathbf{X}$ denote matrices $\mathbb{R}^{n,m}$. Bold numbers $\mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{1}$ denote vectors or matrices of zeros and ones of appropriate sizes. The transpose of a vector or matrix is denoted by $()^\top$ and $\text{diag}(\mathbf{x})$ constructs a diagonal matrix with the entries of $\mathbf{x}$. The Hadamard product is denoted by $\odot$. Prices are in Singapore Dollar (SGD) which is denoted by S\$.

II. MODELLING

A. Thermal grid model

The following thermal grid model formulation assumes that 1) the thermal grid forms a connected tree graph, i.e., a radially connected grid, 2) a distributed pumping scheme is applied, i.e., distribution pumps are installed at the energy transfer station (ETS) of each FL rather than centrally, 3) thermal losses in the distribution branches are neglectable, which is appropriate for district cooling systems, 4) the layout of supply and return piping is symmetric and 5) thermal power is transmitted with constant supply and return temperatures, i.e., a constant absolute enthalpy difference between supply and return side.

The thermal grid is modelled with a linear approximate model as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{h}_t &= \mathbf{h}^{ref} + \mathbf{M}^{h,p^{th}} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t^{th} \\ \mathbf{v}_t &= \mathbf{v}^{ref} + \mathbf{M}^{v,p^{th}} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t^{th} \\ p_t^{pm} &= p^{pm,ref} + \mathbf{M}^{p^{pm},p^{th}} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t^{th} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

The vectors $\mathbf{h}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{th}}$, $\mathbf{v}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{th}}$ are the pressure head at thermal grid nodes $n^{th} \in \mathcal{N}^{th}$ and the branch volume flow at thermal grid branches $b^{th} \in \mathcal{B}^{th}$ for time step $t \in \mathcal{T}$. The scalar p_t^{pm} denotes the total electric distribution pumping power demand for time step t . The reference point for each property is denoted by $()^{ref}$, which in the following is chosen to be the nominal operation point of the thermal grid. The vector $\Delta \mathbf{p}_t^{th} \in \mathbb{R}^f$ is the thermal power change at FLs $f \in \mathcal{F}$ for time step t . The matrices $\mathbf{M}^{h,p^{th}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{th},f}$, $\mathbf{M}^{v,p^{th}} \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{th},f}$, $\mathbf{M}^{p^{pm},p^{th}} \in \mathbb{R}^{1,f}$ are the sensitivity matrices for the change of the respective properties to the thermal power change, which in turn is defined as $\Delta \mathbf{p}_t^{th} = \mathbf{p}_t^{th} - \mathbf{p}^{th,ref}$. The vector $\mathbf{p}_t^{th} \in \mathbb{R}^f$ is the absolute thermal power demand and the vector $\mathbf{p}^{th,ref}$ is the thermal power demand reference which is chosen to be the nominal load, i.e., peak load, of the FLs f . The reference properties for the linear approximate model in eq. (1) are then obtained by solving the reference power flow problem of the thermal grid, which is formulated based on [6], [7] as:

$$\mathbf{v}^{ref} = \frac{1}{\rho^{wa} \Delta h^{wa}} \left(\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},b^{th}} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{n^{th},f} \mathbf{p}^{th,ref} \quad (2a)$$

$$\mathbf{h}^{ref} = \left(\left(\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},b^{th}} \right)^\top \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{f}^{fo} \odot \mathbf{f}^{fr,ref} \odot \mathbf{v}^{ref} \odot \mathbf{v}^{ref}) \quad (2b)$$

$$f_{b^{th}}^{fo} = \frac{8 l_{b^{th}}}{d_{b^{th}}^5 g \pi^2} \quad (2c)$$

$$f_{b^{th}}^{fr,ref} = \frac{1.325}{\left(\ln \left(\frac{\varepsilon_{b^{th}}}{3.7 d_{b^{th}}} + \frac{5.74}{(\text{Re}_{b^{th}}^{ref})^{0.9}} \right) \right)^2} \quad (2d)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p^{pm,ref} &= \frac{-g}{\eta^{pm} \Delta h^{wa}} (\mathbf{p}^{th,ref})^\top \\ &\quad \cdot \left(\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},f} \right)^\top (2\mathbf{h}^{ref} + \mathbf{h}^{ets}) \end{aligned} \quad (2e)$$

The matrix $\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},b^{th}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{th},b^{th}}$ is the thermal branch to node incidence matrix with entries $A_{n^{th},b^{th}}^{n^{th},b^{th}} = 1$ if branch b^{th} starts at node n^{th} ; $A_{n^{th},b^{th}}^{n^{th},b^{th}} = -1$ if branch b^{th} ends at node n^{th} ; $A_{n^{th},b^{th}}^{n^{th},b^{th}} = 0$ otherwise. Note that $\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},b^{th}}$ must be square and non-singular, which is satisfied if the thermal grid forms a connected tree graph. The matrix $\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},f}$ is the FL to thermal node incidence matrix with entries $A_{n^{th},f}^{n^{th},f} = 1$ if FL f is connected at node n^{th} ; $A_{n^{th},f}^{n^{th},f} = 0$ otherwise. The scalars ρ^{wa} and Δh^{wa} define the density of water and the absolute enthalpy difference experienced by the distribution water between the primary and secondary side. To this end, eqs. (2a) and (2b) are equivalent to formulating the nodal flow

balance for the thermal grid nodes and the branch pressure head balance based on the Darcy-Weisbach equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}^{n^{th}}} \frac{p_f^{th,ref}}{\rho^{wa} \Delta h^{wa}} &= \sum_{b^{th} \in \mathcal{B}^{n^{th},2}} v_{b^{th}}^{ref} - \sum_{b^{th} \in \mathcal{B}^{n^{th},1}} v_{b^{th}}^{ref} \\ h_{n^{th},b^{th},2}^{ref} - h_{n^{th},b^{th},1}^{ref} &= f_{b^{th}}^{fo} f_{b^{th}}^{fr,ref} \left(v_{b^{th}}^{ref} \right)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where $\mathcal{F}^{n^{th}}$ are the FLs connected at node n^{th} , $\mathcal{B}^{n^{th},1}/\mathcal{B}^{n^{th},2}$ are the branches starting/ending at node n^{th} and $n^{th},b^{th},1/n^{th},b^{th},2$ denotes the start/end node of branch b^{th} . The vector $\mathbf{f}^{fo} \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{th}}$ with entries $f_{b^{th}}^{fo}$ describes the form factor for branch b^{th} depending on its length $l_{b^{th}}$, diameter $d_{b^{th}}$ and gravitational acceleration g . The vector $\mathbf{f}^{fr} \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{th}}$ with entries $f_{b^{th}}^{fr}$ describes the Darcy-Weisbach friction factor for branch b^{th} depending on its absolute roughness $\varepsilon_{b^{th}}$, diameter $d_{b^{th}}$ and the Reynolds number $\text{Re}_{b^{th}}^{ref}$ of the branch flow. Note that this formulation based on the Swamee-Jain Formula assumes that the Reynolds number stays in $4 \cdot 10^3 \leq \text{Re}_{b^{th}}^{ref} \leq 10^8$ and the branch parameters stay in $10^{-6} \leq \frac{\varepsilon_{b^{th}}}{d_{b^{th}}} \leq 10^{-2}$ [8]. Note also that minor friction losses, i.e., losses due to curvatures and junctions, are neglected in the model formulation. Lastly, the vector $\mathbf{h}^{ets} \in \mathbb{R}^f$ describes the head loss across the ETS, i.e., heat exchanger, at full load for each FL $f \in \mathcal{F}$.

A global approximation for the sensitivity matrices $\mathbf{M}^{v,p^{th}}$, $\mathbf{M}^{h,p^{th}}$, $\mathbf{M}^{p^{pm},p^{th}}$ can be obtained conveniently based on the formulation of the thermal grid power flow problem in eq. (2). The derived global sensitivity matrices is provided as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}^{v,p^{th}} &= \frac{1}{\rho^{wa} \Delta h^{wa}} \left(\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},b^{th}} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{n^{th},f} \\ \mathbf{M}^{h,p^{th}} &= \left(\left(\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},b^{th}} \right)^\top \right)^{-1} \\ &\quad \cdot \text{diag} (\mathbf{f}^{fo} \odot \mathbf{f}^{fr,ref} \odot \mathbf{v}^{ref}) \mathbf{M}^{v,p^{th}} \\ \mathbf{M}^{p^{pm},p^{th}} &= \frac{-2g}{\eta^{pm} \Delta h^{wa}} (\mathbf{p}^{th,ref})^\top \left(\mathbf{A}^{n^{th},f} \right)^\top \mathbf{M}^{h,p^{th}} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

B. Electric grid model

The electric grid is modelled with a linear approximate model as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_t &= \mathbf{u}^{ref} + \mathbf{M}^{u,p} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t + \mathbf{M}^{u,q} \Delta \mathbf{q}_t \\ |\mathbf{s}_t^f|^2 &= |\mathbf{s}^{f,ref}|^2 + \mathbf{M}^{s^f,p} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t + \mathbf{M}^{s^f,q} \Delta \mathbf{q}_t \\ |\mathbf{s}_t^t|^2 &= |\mathbf{s}^{t,ref}|^2 + \mathbf{M}^{s^t,p} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t + \mathbf{M}^{s^t,q} \Delta \mathbf{q}_t \\ p_t^{ls} &= p^{ls,ref} + \mathbf{M}^{p^{ls},p} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t + \mathbf{M}^{p^{ls},q} \Delta \mathbf{q}_t \\ q_t^{ls} &= q^{ls,ref} + \mathbf{M}^{q^{ls},p} \Delta \mathbf{p}_t + \mathbf{M}^{q^{ls},q} \Delta \mathbf{q}_t \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

The vectors $\mathbf{u}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{el}}$, $|\mathbf{s}_t^f|^2, |\mathbf{s}_t^t|^2 \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{el}}$ are the voltage magnitude at electric grid nodes $n^{el} \in \mathcal{N}^{el}$ and the squared branch power flow in “from” and “to” direction at electric grid branches $b^{el} \in \mathcal{B}^{el}$ for time step $t \in \mathcal{T}$. The scalars p_t^{ls} , q_t^{ls} denote the total active and reactive loss for time step t . The reference point for each property is denoted by $()^{ref}$, which in the following is chosen to be the nominal operation point of

the electric grid. The vectors $\Delta \mathbf{p}_t, \Delta \mathbf{q}_t \in \mathbb{R}^f$ are the active and reactive power change at FLs $f \in \mathcal{F}$ for time step t . The matrices $\mathbf{M}^{u,p}, \mathbf{M}^{u,q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{el},f}, \mathbf{M}^{s^f,p}, \mathbf{M}^{s^f,q}, \mathbf{M}^{s^t,p}, \mathbf{M}^{s^t,q} \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{el},f}, \mathbf{M}^{p^{ls},p}, \mathbf{M}^{p^{ls},q}, \mathbf{M}^{q^{ls},p}, \mathbf{M}^{q^{ls},q} \in \mathbb{R}^{1,f}$ are the sensitivity matrices for the change of the respective properties to the active and reactive power change, which in turn are defined as $\Delta \mathbf{p}_t = \mathbf{p}_t - \mathbf{p}^{ref}, \Delta \mathbf{q}_t = \mathbf{q}_t - \mathbf{q}^{ref}$. The vectors $\mathbf{p}_t, \mathbf{q}_t \in \mathbb{R}^f$ are the absolute active and reactive power demand of the FLs f . The vectors $\mathbf{p}_t^{ref}, \mathbf{q}_t^{ref}$ are the active and reactive power demand reference which is chosen to be the nominal load, i.e., peak load, of the FLs f . The reference properties for the linear approximate model eq. (5) are then obtained by solving the reference power flow problem of the electric grid, e.g., through a fixed-point solution methodology, and a global approximation for the sensitivity matrices can be obtained as a function of the reference properties as in [3]. The detailed formulation is omitted here for the sake of brevity.

C. Flexible load model

The FL model is expressed in state space form as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_{f,t+1} &= \mathbf{A}_f \mathbf{x}_{f,t} + \mathbf{B}_f^c \mathbf{c}_{f,t} + \mathbf{B}_f^d \mathbf{d}_{f,t} \\ \mathbf{y}_{f,t} &= \mathbf{C}_f \mathbf{x}_{f,t} + \mathbf{D}_f^c \mathbf{c}_{f,t} + \mathbf{D}_f^d \mathbf{d}_{f,t} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The vectors $\mathbf{x}_{f,t}$, $\mathbf{c}_{f,t}$ and $\mathbf{d}_{f,t}$ are the state, input and disturbance vectors for FL f at time step t . The matrices $\mathbf{A}_f$, $\mathbf{C}_f$ are the state and output matrix, and $\mathbf{B}_f^c$, $\mathbf{D}_f^c$, $\mathbf{B}_f^d$, $\mathbf{D}_f^d$ are the input and feed-through matrices, on the control and disturbance vectors respectively. Note that control vector is a function of the thermal, active and reactive power dispatch of the FL $\mathbf{c}_{f,t} = \mathbf{c}_{f,t}(p_{f,t}^{th}, p_{f,t}, q_{f,t})$. Therefore the FL model serves as the interconnection between the thermal and electric grids.

For the presented test case (section IV), air-conditioned buildings serve as FLs and a fixed power factor, i.e., a fixed ratio between active and reactive power, is assumed. A state space model for such buildings can be obtained according to [9]. The detailed formulation is omitted here for the sake of brevity.

III. DISTRIBUTION LOCATIONAL MARGINAL PRICING

A. Combined optimal operation problem

The combined optimal operation problem of the thermal and electric grid addresses the economic dispatch of FLs subject to the operational constraints of the thermal grid, the electric

grid and the FLs:

$$\min_{\mathbf{p}_t, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}_t^{th}} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} c_t^{ref} \left(\mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t + \frac{1}{\eta^{ch}} \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t^{th} \right) \quad (7a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } (\forall t \in \mathcal{T}) \quad (1), (5), (6) \quad (7b)$$

$$\mathbf{h}^- \leq \mathbf{h}_t : \mu_t^{h^-} \quad (7c)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_t \leq \mathbf{v}^+ : \mu_t^{v^+} \quad (7d)$$

$$p_t^{th,src} - \frac{1}{\eta^{ch}} \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t^{th} = p_t^{pm} : \lambda_t^{p^{pm}} \quad (7e)$$

$$\mathbf{u}^- \leq \mathbf{u}_t \leq \mathbf{u}^+ : \mu_t^{u^+}, \mu_t^{u^-} \quad (7f)$$

$$|\mathbf{s}_t^f|^2 \leq |\mathbf{s}^{f,+}|^2 : \mu_t^{s^{f,+}} \quad (7g)$$

$$|\mathbf{s}_t^t|^2 \leq |\mathbf{s}^{t,+}|^2 : \mu_t^{s^{t,+}} \quad (7h)$$

$$p_t^{src} - \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t = p_t^{ls} : \lambda_t^{p^{ls}} \quad (7i)$$

$$q_t^{src} - \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{q}_t = q_t^{ls} : \lambda_t^{q^{ls}} \quad (7j)$$

$$\mathbf{y}_{f,t}^- \leq \mathbf{y}_{f,t} \leq \mathbf{y}_{f,t}^+ : \mu_{f,t}^{y^+}, \mu_{f,t}^{y^-} \quad (7k)$$

The scalar c_t^{ref} is the electric energy price at the reference node and η^{ch} is the coefficient of performance (COP) of the district heating or cooling plant. Note that this formulation translates to assuming 1) a constant-efficiency model for the performance of the heat pump at the district heating or cooling plant and 2) that electric power required for district heating or cooling is drawn at the source node of the electric grid. The vectors $\mathbf{u}^-, \mathbf{u}^+ \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{el}}$, $|\mathbf{s}^{f,+}|^2, |\mathbf{s}^{t,+}|^2 \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{el}}$ describe the electric grid voltage and branch loading limits, whereas $\mathbf{h}^- \in \mathbb{R}^{n^{th}}$, $\mathbf{v}^+ \in \mathbb{R}^{b^{th}}$ describe the thermal grid head and volume flow limits. The scalars p_t^{src} , q_t^{src} , $p_t^{th,src}$ describe the total active, reactive power demand and the electric power demand of the thermal grid. The vectors $\mathbf{y}_{f,t}^-, \mathbf{y}_{f,t}^+$ describe the operational constraints of the FLs f , which may be time-dependent to reflect set-back periods. Finally, the vectors $\mu_t^{u^+}, \mu_t^{u^-}, \mu_t^{s^{f,+}}, \mu_t^{s^{t,+}}, \mu_t^{h^-}, \mu_t^{v^+}, \mu_{f,t}^{y^+}, \mu_{f,t}^{y^-}$ and scalars $\lambda_t^{p^{ls}}, \lambda_t^{q^{ls}}, \lambda_t^{p^{pm}}$ are the Lagrangian multipliers associated the respective inequality and equality constraints. Note that this formulation of the combined operation assumes that the district heating or cooling plant of the thermal grid is co-located with the electric grid source node, such that the thermal grid source node is not subjected to any electric grid constraints. Therefore, the operation of the thermal grid (in eqs. (1) and (7c) to (7e)) and the electric grid (in eqs. (5) and (7f) to (7j)) are coupled only through the FL operation (in eqs. (6) and (7k)).

B. DLMP derivation and decomposition

In order to obtain the distribution locational marginal prices (DLMPs), the Lagrangian function of eq. (7) is formulated for

time step t :

$$\begin{aligned}
L_t = & c_t^{ref} \left(\mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t + \frac{1}{\eta^{ch}} \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t^{th} \right) \\
& + \mu_t^{u^-} (\mathbf{u}^- - \mathbf{u}_t) + \mu_t^{u^+} (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}^+) \\
& + \mu_t^{s^{f,+}} (|\mathbf{s}_t^f|^2 - |\mathbf{s}^{f,+}|^2) + \mu_t^{s^{t,+}} (|\mathbf{s}_t^t|^2 - |\mathbf{s}^{t,+}|^2) \\
& + \lambda_t^{p^{ls}} (p_t^{src} - \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t - p_t^{ls}) + \lambda_t^{q^{ls}} (q_t^{src} - \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{q}_t - q_t^{ls}) \\
& + \mu_t^{h^-} (\mathbf{h}^- - \mathbf{h}_t) + \mu_t^{v^+} (\mathbf{v}_t - \mathbf{v}^+) \\
& + \lambda_t^{p^{pm}} \left(p_t^{th,src} - \frac{1}{\eta^{ch}} \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{p}_t^{th} - p_t^{pm} \right) \\
& + \mu_{f,t}^{y^-} (\mathbf{y}_{f,t}^- - \mathbf{y}_{f,t}) + \mu_{f,t}^{y^+} (\mathbf{y}_{f,t} - \mathbf{y}_{f,t}^+)
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

For the solution of eq. (7), the DLMPs for active power $\pi_t^p \in \mathbb{R}^f$ and thermal power $\pi_t^{th} \in \mathbb{R}^f$ are obtained using the first-order derivatives of eq. (8) for active and thermal power. Note that the electric grid DLMPs π_t^p and thermal grid DLMPs π_t^{th} are obtained clearly independent from each other, as the coupling of the grids only exists through the FLs in eqs. (6) and (7k). The DLMPs are then obtained as:

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_t^p &= \pi_t^{p,e} + \pi_t^{p,u} + \pi_t^{p,s} + \pi_t^{p,ls} \\
\pi_t^{th} &= \pi_t^{th,e} + \pi_t^{th,h} + \pi_t^{th,v} + \pi_t^{th,pm}
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

The symbols $\pi_t^{p,e}$, $\pi_t^{p,u}$, $\pi_t^{p,s}$ and $\pi_t^{p,ls}$ are the energy component, voltage support component, congestion component and loss component of the DLMPs for the electric grid respectively. Similarly, $\pi_t^{th,e}$, $\pi_t^{th,h}$, $\pi_t^{th,v}$ and $\pi_t^{th,pm}$ are the energy component, head support component, congestion component and pumping component of the DLMPs for the thermal grid respectively. The individual components can be conveniently obtained with the help of the sensitivity matrices as:

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_t^{p,e} &= c_t^{ref} \mathbf{1}^f, \quad \pi_t^{p,u} = (\mathbf{M}^{u,p})^\top (\mu_t^{u^-} - \mu_t^{u^+}) \\
\pi_t^{p,s} &= -(\mathbf{M}^{s^f,p})^\top \mu_t^{s^{f,+}} - (\mathbf{M}^{s^t,p})^\top \mu_t^{s^{t,+}} \\
\pi_t^{p,ls} &= -(\mathbf{M}^{p^{ls},p})^\top c_t^{ref} - (\mathbf{M}^{q^{ls},p})^\top c_t^{ref} \\
\pi_t^{th,e} &= \frac{c_t^{ref}}{\eta^{ch}} \mathbf{1}^f, \quad \pi_t^{th,h} = (\mathbf{M}^{h,p^{th}})^\top \mu_t^{h^-} \frac{1}{\eta^{ch}} \\
\pi_t^{th,v} &= -(\mathbf{M}^{v,p^{th}})^\top \mu_t^{v^+} \frac{1}{\eta^{ch}} \\
\pi_t^{th,pm} &= -(\mathbf{M}^{p^{pm},p^{pm}})^\top c_t^{ref}
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

Note that for the loss and pumping components, the Lagrangian multipliers become $\lambda_t^{p^{ls}} = \lambda_t^{q^{ls}} = \lambda_t^{p^{pm}} = c_t^{ref} \mathbf{1}^f$.

C. Application of DLMPs

Considering an independent system operator which operates the combined thermal and electric distribution system and allocates prices for the electric and thermal consumption, the market procedures can be cast as follows:

- 1) FLs submit their instantaneous bids, energy requirements as well as their dispatch capabilities to the system operator;

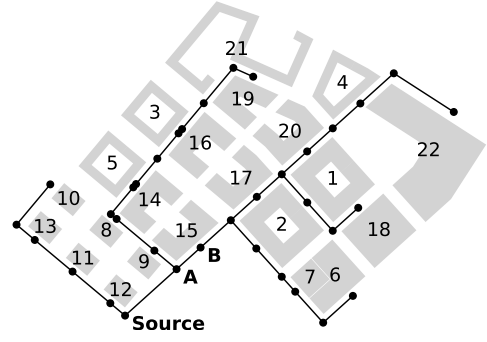


Fig. 1. Test case layout.

- 2) The system operator forecasts its underlying electric/thermal demand and solves the combined optimal operation problem eq. (7) in a day-ahead manner;
- 3) The system operator obtains the respective DLMPs for electric and thermal consumption and then passes them to the FLs;
- 4) The FLs receive the price signals and solve the local FL operation problem. This results in an optimal dispatch which implicitly respects the operational constraints of the thermal and electric grids.

Note that such a market organization enables the individual market participants like FLs to make bids purely based on the locally available information. This essentially enables the price-based control for the system operator over FLs that act as price takers for both electric and thermal demand.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The presented methodology is demonstrated for a test case based on a neighbourhood in Singapore, which was originally developed as part of the City Energy Analyst (CEA) [10]. The test case consists of thermal and electric grids with congruent layout according to fig. 1 and 22 buildings modelled as FLs according to [9], where the thermal grid serves as a district cooling system (DCS). The source node electricity price c_t^{ref} is derived for one day of the Universal Singapore Energy Price (USEP). In the following, three scenarios are distinguished for 1) unconstrained operation, 2) constrained branch flow and 3) constrained pressure head.

A. Scenario 1: Unconstrained operation

In this scenario, the optimal dispatch of the FLs does not incur any thermal or electric grid constraint violations. Figure 2 depicts the thermal grid DLMPs of FLs “16” and “17”. The observed thermal grid DLMPs consist only of energy and pumping components, where the variations in energy component and pumping component correspond to changes in c_t^{ref} .

B. Scenario 2: Constrained branch flow

For this scenario, an artificial branch volume flow constraint was introduced at the branch connecting nodes “A” and “B” (see fig. 1). As depicted in fig. 3, FL “17” observes an

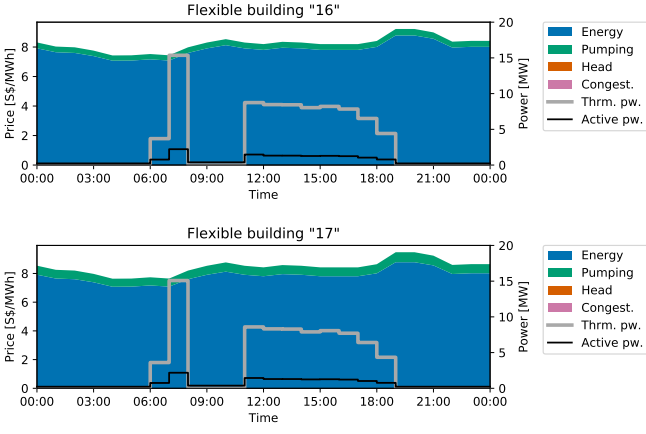


Fig. 2. Thermal grid DLMPs and thermal/active power dispatch at FLs “16” and “17” for scenario 1: Unconstrained operation.

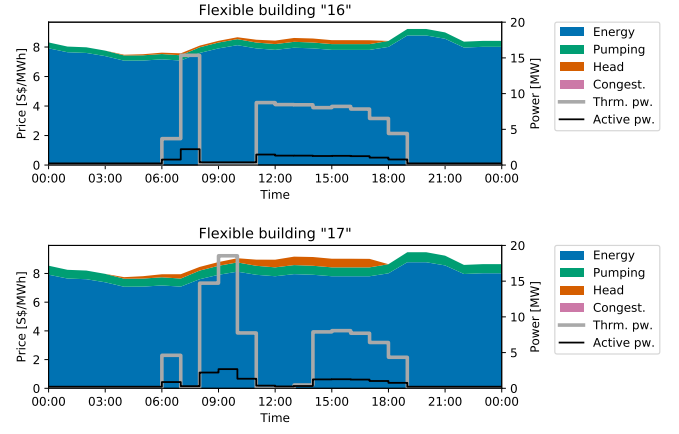


Fig. 4. Thermal grid DLMPs and thermal/active power dispatch at FLs “16” and “17” for scenario 3: Constrained pressure head.

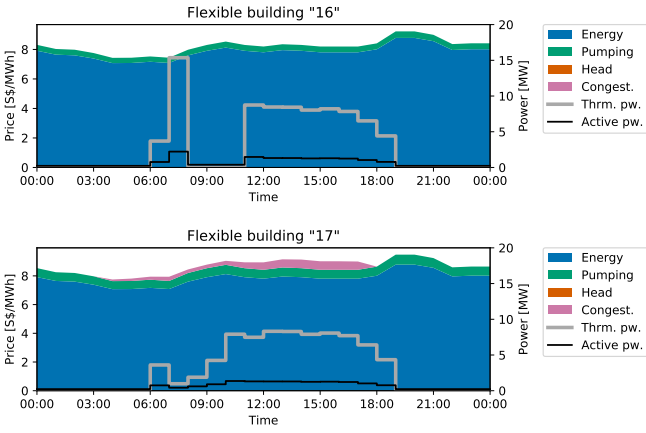


Fig. 3. Thermal grid DLMPs and thermal/active power dispatch at FLs “16” and “17” for scenario 2: Constrained branch flow.

increased thermal grid DLMP due to the additional congestion component. No change is observed at FL “16”, as it is adjacent to a different section of the thermal grid which does not connect to the source node through branch “A”-“B”.

C. Scenario 3: Constrained pressure head

Scenario 3 considers an artificial node pressure head constraint at node “B”. Figure 4 highlights that this introduces head support DLMP components for both FLs “16” and “17”. This demonstrates that the node pressure head is a function of all upstream nodes’ pressure head, as described by eq. (3) and as such interdependent between different grid sections.

V. CONCLUSION

This paper presented an extension for the concept of distribution locational marginal price (DLMPs) the combined operation of thermal and electric grids. Based on linear thermal and electric grid models, the derivation and decomposition of DLMPs was formulated for the combined optimal operation problem. The approach was demonstrated for a test case based

in Singapore. Future work will focus on studying the impact of injections in the thermal grid and extensions to consider thermal grid temperature limits. The presented models and test case are implemented in [11] and available open source¹.

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¹<https://github.com/TUMCREATE-ESTL/fledge>