

# Algorithms for two-time scales stochastic optimization

with applications to long term management of energy storage

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# Outline

## 1 Introduction

## 2 Energy system description and motivations

- Notations for two time scales
- Uncertainties, fast and slow controls and dynamics
- Stochastic optimization problem

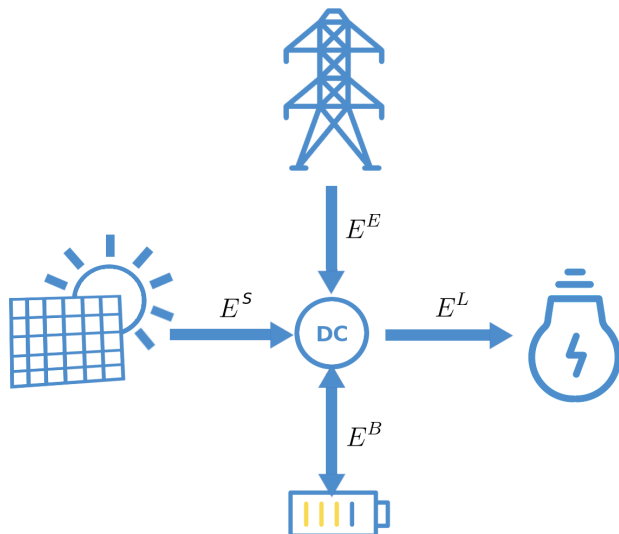
## 3 Time blocks dynamic programming

- Intraday target problems
- Stochastic adaptative weights algorithm

## 4 Numerical applications

- A benchmark realistic instance
- Algorithms comparison on a simple aging problem
- Time blocks target decomposition for aging and renewal control
- Time blocks target decomposition for optimal sizing

# Microgrid & stochastic optimization at Efficacy



# Publications: from small problems to large problems

- **Stochastic optimal control of a domestic microgrid equipped with solar panel and battery.** Pacaud, F., Carpentier, P., Chancelier, J.P., De Lara, M.
- **Stochastic Optimization of Braking Energy Storage and Ventilation in a Subway Station,** T. Rigaut, P. Carpentier, J-Ph. Chancelier, M. De Lara, J. Waeytens.
- **Stochastic decomposition applied to large-scale hydro valleys management.,** Pacaud, F., Carpentier, P., Chancelier, J.P. and Leclere, V.
- **Algorithms for two-time scales stochastic optimization with applications to long term management of energy storage,** Rigaut, T., Carpentier, P., Chancelier, J.P. and De Lara, M.

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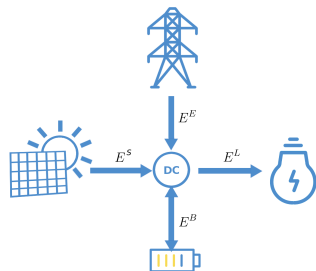
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# Energy system : a house with solar panels

All the equipment exchange electricity through a DC grid.

$$E_{d,m+1}^E + E_{d,m+1}^S = E_{d,m}^B + E_{d,m+1}^L$$



DC microgrid to be managed

- $DC$ : Very small storage on a really fast time scale
- $E^L$ : Electrical load, or demand, that is uncertain
- $E^S$ : Solar panels, uncertain renewable electricity
- $E^E$ : Connection to the national grid (recourse)
- $E^B$ : Electrical storage (charge/discharge)

# A Two time scales decision process

- $M \in \mathbb{N}^*$  the number of **minutes in a day**,
- $D \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , the number of **days** taken into account.
- Decisions:
  - ▶ Battery charge/discharge **every minutes**  $m \in \{0, \dots, M\}$  of **every day**  $d \in \{0, \dots, D\}$ ,
  - ▶ Renewal of the battery or not **every day**  $d \in \{0, \dots, D + 1\}$ .
- Notations:
  - ▶ Two time indexes  $z_{d,m}$ :  $z$  changes every minutes  $m$  of everyday  $d$
  - ▶ Single index  $z_d$ :  $z$  changes only every day
  - ▶  $(d, m) \in \mathbb{T}$  with

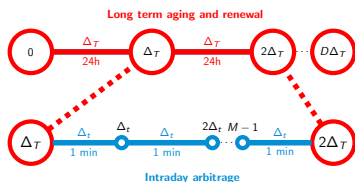
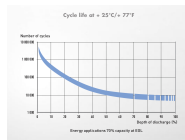
$$\mathbb{T} = \{0, \dots, D\} \times \{0, \dots, M\} \cup \{(D + 1, 0)\},$$

equipped with the *lexicographical order*

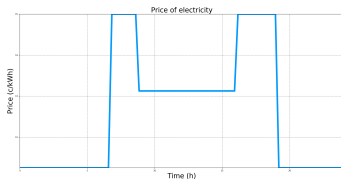
$$(d, m) < (d', m') \iff (d < d') \vee (d = d' \wedge m < m').$$

# Two time scales

- Long term economic profitability
- Horizon: 10 years (**d: step is 1 day**)
- Storage aging target every day



- Energy intraday arbitrage
- Horizon: 24h (**m: step is 1 min**)
- charge/discharge





# Uncertainties

- Fast scale:
  - ▶  $E_{d,m}^S$ : the solar production in  $kWh$ ,
  - ▶  $E_{d,m}^L$ : the electrical demand (load) in  $kWh$ .
- Slow scale:
  - ▶  $P_d^b$ : the price of a battery replacement in  $\$/kWh$ .
- Gather uncertainties as the sequence  $\left\{ \mathbf{W}_{d,m} \right\}_{(d,m) \in \mathbb{T}}$ :

$$\mathbf{W}_{d,m} = \begin{pmatrix} E_{d,m}^S \\ E_{d,m}^L \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{W}_{d,M} = \begin{pmatrix} E_{d,M}^S \\ E_{d,M}^L \\ P_d^b \end{pmatrix}$$

- Information at time  $(d, m)$ : past observations of noises

$$\mathcal{F}_{d,m} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{d',m'}; (d', m') \leq (d, m))$$

# Non anticipative decisions

- Physical decision variables

- ▶ Fast scale:

- ★  $E_{d,m}^E$ : the national grid consumption in *kWh*;

- ★  $E_{d,m}^B$ : the battery charge ( $\geq 0$ ) or discharge ( $\leq 0$ ) in *kWh*.

- ▶ Slow scale:

- ★  $R_d$ : the size of the new battery in *kWh*.

- Mathematical decision variables

- ▶  $E_{d,m}^E$  is supposed to be imposed by non modeled dynamics:

$$E_{d,m+1}^E = E_{d,m}^B + E_{d,m+1}^L - E_{d,m+1}^S$$

- ▶ Controls are grouped as:

$$U_{d,m} = (E_{d,m}^B) \text{ and } U_{d,M} = (R_d)$$

# Charge/discharge impacts battery state of charge and age

- Fast state dynamics

- ▶  $\mathbf{C}_d$ : capacity of the battery
- ▶  $\mathbf{B}_{d,m}$ : state of charge of the battery

$$\mathbf{B}_{d,m+1} = \mathbf{B}_{d,m} - \frac{1}{\rho_d} \mathbf{E}_{d,m}^{B-} + \frac{1}{\rho_d} \rho_c \mathbf{E}_{d,m}^{B+}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \underline{B} \times \mathbf{C}_d \times \leq \mathbf{B}_{d,m} \leq \overline{B} \times \mathbf{C}_d$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{H}_{d,m}$ : remaining amount of exchangeable energy (health measure)

$$\mathbf{H}_{d,m+1} = \mathbf{H}_{d,m} - \frac{1}{\rho_d} \mathbf{E}_{d,m}^{B-} - \rho_c \mathbf{E}_{d,m}^{B+}$$

$$\text{s.t. } 0 \leq \mathbf{H}_{d,m}$$

(max number of cycles gives initial value as)  $2 \times N_c(\mathbf{C}_d) \times \mathbf{C}_d$

# Battery renewal impacts state dynamics

- Physical fast state dynamics

- ▶ Capacity

$$\mathbf{C}_{d+1} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{R}_d, & \text{if } \mathbf{R}_d > 0, \\ \mathbf{C}_d, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Charge: new battery is assumed empty

$$\mathbf{B}_{d+1,0} = \begin{cases} \underline{B} \times \mathbf{R}_d, & \text{if } \mathbf{R}_d > 0, \\ \mathbf{B}_{d,M}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Exchangeable energy (new battery has a renewed health)

$$\mathbf{H}_{d+1,0} = \begin{cases} 2 \times N_c(\mathbf{R}_d) \times \mathbf{R}_d, & \text{if } \mathbf{R}_d > 0, \\ \mathbf{H}_{d,M}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Mathematical daily state dynamics  $\mathbf{X}_d$ :

$$\mathbf{X}_d = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}_d \\ \mathbf{B}_{d,0} \\ \mathbf{H}_{d,0} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{X}_{d+1} = f_d(\mathbf{X}_d, \mathbf{U}_{d,0:M})$$

## Stochastic optimization problem

Objective to be minimized: discounted sum of expenses, that is battery renewals cost and national grid energy consumption cost

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{d=0}^D \gamma_d \left( \underbrace{P_d^b \times R_d}_{\text{battery renewal}} + \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \underbrace{p_{d,m}^e}_{\text{price}} \times \left( \underbrace{E_{d,m}^B + E_{d,m+1}^L - E_{d,m+1}^S}_{E_{d,m+1}^E \text{ (nat. grid energy consumption)}} \right) \right) \right]$$

Gathering all the above equations, we obtain:

$$V(x) = \min_{\mathbf{x}_{0:D+1}, \mathbf{u}_{0:D}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{d=0}^D L_d(\mathbf{x}_d, \mathbf{u}_d, \mathbf{w}_d) + K(\mathbf{x}_{D+1}) \right],$$

s.t  $\mathbf{x}_{d+1} = f_d(\mathbf{x}_d, \mathbf{u}_d, \mathbf{w}_d)$ ,

$$\mathbf{u}_d = (\mathbf{u}_{d,0}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{d,m}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{d,M}),$$
$$\mathbf{w}_d = (\mathbf{w}_{d,0}, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{d,m}, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{d,M}),$$
$$\sigma(\mathbf{u}_{d,m}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{w}_{d',m'}; (d', m') \leq (d, m))$$
$$\mathbf{x}_0 = x,$$

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# Time blocks dynamic programming

## Independence Assumption

The sequence  $\{\mathbf{W}_d\}_{d=0,\dots,D}$  is a sequence of independent random variables ( $\mathbf{W}_d = (\mathbf{W}_{d,0}, \dots, \mathbf{W}_{d,M})$ )

Sequence of **daily value functions**, defined by backward induction as follows. At time  $D + 1$ , we set  $V_{D+1} = K$  and then

$$V_d(x) = \min_{\mathbf{x}_{d+1}, \mathbf{u}_d} \mathbb{E} \left[ L_d(x, \mathbf{u}_d, \mathbf{W}_d) + V_{d+1}(\mathbf{x}_{d+1}) \right]$$

s.t  $\mathbf{x}_{d+1} = f_d(x, \mathbf{u}_d, \mathbf{W}_d)$   
 $\sigma(\mathbf{u}_{d,m}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{d,0:m})$

## Proposition [?]

Under Independence Assumption  $V_0 = V$

# Time blocks decomposition

The target intraday problem (min min problem)

$$\mathcal{P}_{(d,=)}[x_d, \mathbf{X}_{d+1}] \begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{U}_d} \mathbb{E} [L_d(x, \mathbf{U}_d, \mathbf{W}_d)] \\ \text{s.t } f_d(x, \mathbf{U}_d, \mathbf{W}_d) = \mathbf{X}_{d+1} \\ \sigma(\mathbf{U}_{d,m}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{d,0:m}) \end{cases}$$

## Proposition

Under Independence Assumption,  $V_d$  satisfy:  $V_{D+1} = K$

$$V_d(x) = \min_{\mathbf{X} \in L^0(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}; \mathbb{X}_{d+1})} \left( \phi_{(d,=)}(x, \mathbf{X}) + \mathbb{E}[V_{d+1}(\mathbf{X})] \right), \\ \text{s.t } \sigma(\mathbf{X}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{W}_d).$$

where  $\phi_{(d,=)}(x_d, \mathbf{X}_{d+1})$  is the value of  $\mathcal{P}_{(d,=)}[x_d, \mathbf{X}_{d+1}]$



## Relaxed Time blocks decomposition

A **relaxed** target intraday problem (min min problem)

$$\mathcal{P}_{(d,\geq)}[x_d, \mathbf{X}_{d+1}] \begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{U}_d} \mathbb{E} [L_d(x_d, \mathbf{U}_d, \mathbf{W}_d)] \\ \text{s.t. } f_d(x_d, \mathbf{U}_d, \mathbf{W}_d) \geq \mathbf{X}_{d+1} \\ \sigma(\mathbf{U}_{d,m}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{d,0:m}) \end{cases}$$

A relaxed Bellman value function  $V_{(d,\geq)}$

$V_{(d,\geq)}$  satisfy:  $V_{(D+1)} = K$

$$V_{(d,\geq)}(x) = \min_{\mathbf{X} \in L^0(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}; \mathbb{X}_{d+1})} \left( \phi_{(d,\geq)}(x, \mathbf{X}) + \mathbb{E}[V_{(d+1,\geq)}(\mathbf{X})] \right), \\ \text{s.t. } \sigma(\mathbf{X}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{W}_d).$$

where  $\phi_{(d,\geq)}(x_d, \mathbf{X}_{d+1})$  is the value of  $\mathcal{P}_{(d,\geq)}[x_d, \mathbf{X}_{d+1}]$

# Relaxed Time blocks decomposition

## Assumption

The final cost  $K$  is a non increasing mapping and that for all  $d \in \{0, \dots, D\}$ , the dynamics  $f_d$  are non decreasing over their first argument and that the instantaneous costs  $L_d$  are non increasing over their first argument.

## Proposition

$V_{(d,\geq)} \leq V_d$  and under above Assumption  $V_d = V_{(d,\geq)} \leq V_{(d,\geq,\mathbb{X}_{d+1})}$

$$V_{(d,\geq,\mathbb{X}_{d+1})}(x) = \min_{X \in \mathbb{X}_{d+1}} \left( \phi_{(d,\geq)}(x, X) + V_{(d+1,\geq,\mathbb{X}_{d+1})}(X) \right)$$

Main numerical efforts **compute**  $\phi_{(d,\geq)}(\cdot, \cdot)$

- May depend on  $x - x'$ ,  $(\phi_{(d,\geq)}(x - x'))$ . Subset of days.
- SP methods, Progressive hedging methods
- Parallelism (on variable  $d$ , on states  $(x, x')$ )

## Adaptative weight algorithm

Dualized intraday problems  $\psi_d, (x_d, \lambda_{d+1}) \in \mathbb{X}_d \times L^0(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}; \Lambda_{d+1})$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_d(x_d, \lambda_{d+1}) &= \min_{\mathbf{U}_d} \mathbb{E} \left[ L_d(x_d, \mathbf{U}_d, \mathbf{W}_d) + \langle \lambda_{d+1}, f_d(x_d, \mathbf{U}_d, \mathbf{W}_d) \rangle \right] \\ &\text{s.t } \sigma(\mathbf{U}_{d,m}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{d,0:m}) \end{aligned}$$

### Adaptative daily value function $\underline{V}_d$

$\underline{V}_d$  satisfy:  $\underline{V}_{D+} = K$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{V}_d(x_d) &= \sup_{\lambda_{d+1} \in \Lambda_{d+1}} \psi_d(x_d, \lambda_{d+1}) - \underline{V}_{d+1}^*(\lambda_{d+1}), \\ &\text{s.t } \sigma(\lambda_{d+1}) \subset \sigma(\mathbf{X}_{d+1}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\underline{V}_{d+1}^*$  is the Fenchel transform of the function  $\underline{V}_{d+1}$ .

# Adaptative weight algorithm

## Lemma

$\underline{V}_d \leq V_d$ . Assume that  $K$  is convex non increasing and that the dynamics  $f_d$  are non decreasing over their first argument and linear and that the instantaneous costs  $L_d$  are non increasing over their first argument and convex. If

moreover  $ri\left(\text{dom}(\psi_d(x_d, \cdot)) - \text{dom}(\mathbb{E}V_{d+1}(\cdot))\right) \neq \emptyset$ . Then, the value functions  $V_d$  are non increasing and we have the equality  $V_d = \underline{V}_d$

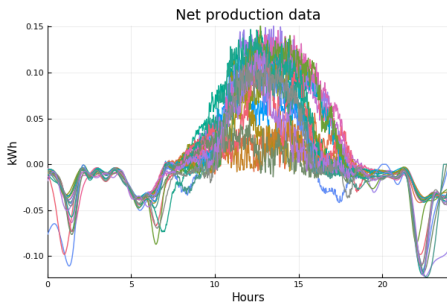
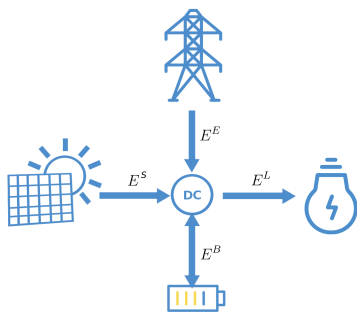
- Computationally costly to compute the function  $\psi_d$  for every  $d \in \{0, \dots, D\}$ , initial state  $x_d \in \mathbb{X}_d$  and particularly stochastic weights  $\lambda \in L^0(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}; \Lambda_{d+1})$ .
- **(Heuristic)** Restrict the computation to deterministic weights in  $\Lambda_{d+1}$ .

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# A house with solar panels and a battery

- Solar radiation measurements from Zambia<sup>1</sup> converted into solar panels (12kWc) production with PVLIB<sup>2</sup>
- Load data from a customer in Australia<sup>3</sup>
- We want to minimize the electricity bill of the house!



<sup>1</sup>[energydata.info/en/dataset/zambia-solar-radiation-measurement-data-2015-2017](http://energydata.info/en/dataset/zambia-solar-radiation-measurement-data-2015-2017)

<sup>2</sup>[github.com/pvlib/pvlib-python](https://github.com/pvlib/pvlib-python)

<sup>3</sup>[www.ausgrid.com.au/datatoshare](http://www.ausgrid.com.au/datatoshare)

# Application 1: comparison on a simple aging problem

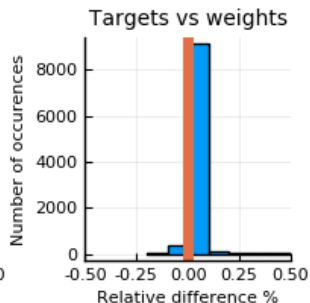
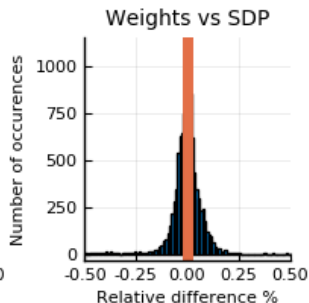
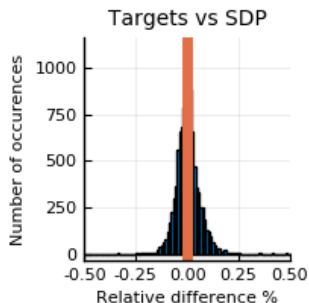
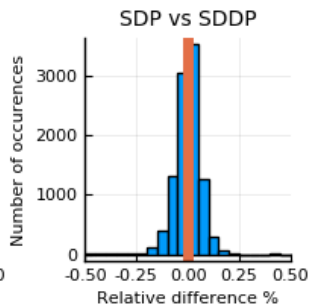
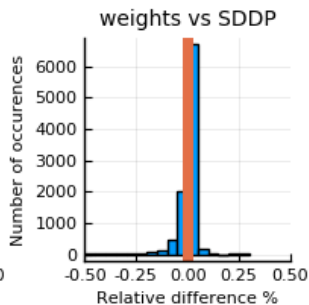
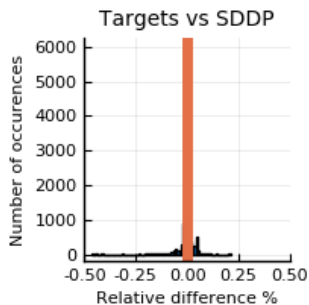
Instance :

- 5 days, 7200 minutes
- 13 kWh battery, 100 kWh of exchangeable energy
- No battery renewal!
- We control state of charge and aging every minutes

Algorithms :

- Straightforward stochastic dynamic programming
- Daily time blocks decomposition with targets
- Daily time decomposition with weights
- Straightforward stochastic dual dynamic programming

# In-sample assessment

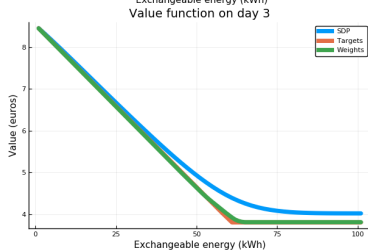
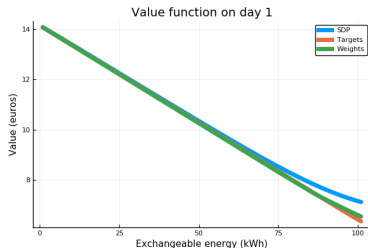
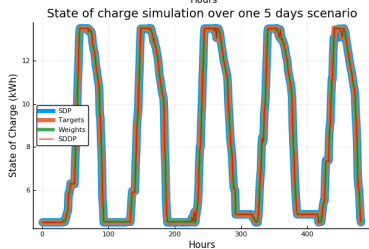
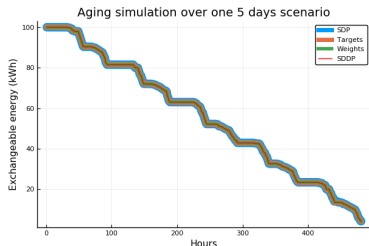




# Computation times and convergence

	<b>SDP</b>	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Weights</b>	<b>SDDP</b>
Intraday (SDDP)	n.a	14 sec	$51 \times 14$ sec	n.a
Daily values	n.a	0.10 sec	0.15 sec	n.a
Minute values	22.5 min	$5 \times 14$ sec	$5 \times 4.5$ min	3.6 min
Convergence	0.91 %	0.31 %	0.32 %	0.90 %

# Simulations and value functions comparison



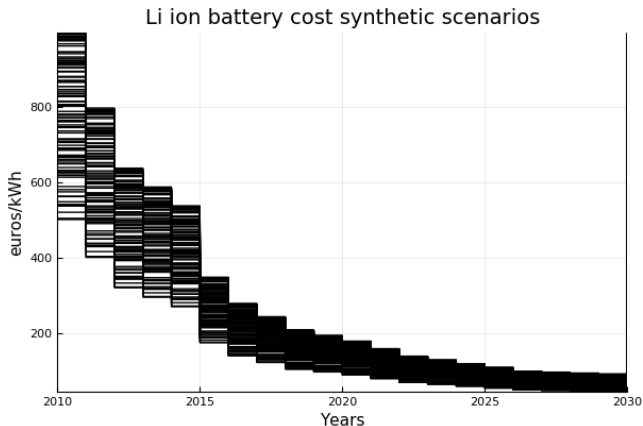
## Application 2: A case with renewal

Instance :

- 20 years, 10512000 minutes
- Battery capacity between 0 and 20 kWh
- Initial health :  $2 \times N_{cycles} \times capacity$
- Renewal possible everyday
- We control state of charge and aging every minutes
- Yearly discount rate : 0.96

# Synthetic price of batteries

- Batteries cost stochastic model: **synthetic scenarios** that approximately coincide with **market forecasts**<sup>4</sup>

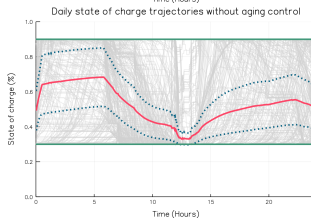
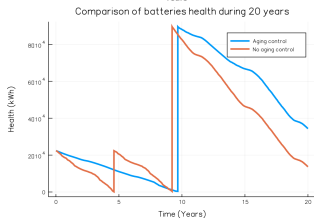
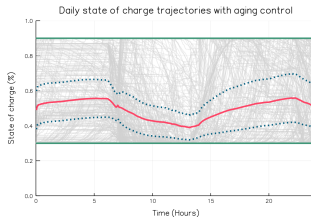
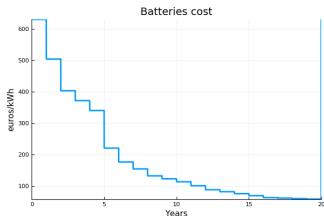


<sup>4</sup>Bloomberg forecasts: [data.bloomberglp.com/bnef/sites/14/2017/07/BNEF-Lithium-ion-battery-costs-and-market.pdf](https://data.bloomberglp.com/bnef/sites/14/2017/07/BNEF-Lithium-ion-battery-costs-and-market.pdf)

# 1 simulation over 20 years: it pays to control aging!

Reference: optimal battery and aging control

- No aging control: +8% of expenses over 20 years,
- No battery: +10% of expenses over 20 years.



# Application 3: Optimal sizing of a battery

