Hydrothermal Coordination Model with Endogenous Irrigation Constraints Application to the Chilean Central Interconnected System

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Chilean interconnected systems





Laja Lake basin



Ouemazones

mb. Calabocil

Emb. Vega Larga

Vallecito

Captación Alto

Rio Polcura

Rio Polcura

- Laja is a natural and the largest lake (5.5e9 m3) with important filtrations (47 m3/sec).
- Irrigation agreement signed in 1958, 27 years before the electric market existed.
- The purpose was to "ensure the same level of irrigation resources before the power plant was built."

Cuenca del Lago Laja

- Cauce Natural
- Ramas, Aducciones





The agreement defines an amount of irrigation/generation rights that may be expended to at least complete the historical filtrations for irrigation, and also to generate electricity.

The water for irrigation is needed mainly during the summer season, and the rights are modulated accordingly. Rights that are not used can be saved for the next year.

The agreement explicitly it reduces the water rights as the lake reaches lower portions, to avoid the depletion of the lake.



Maule and Invernada basin



- Maule is the largest artificial lake in a 4 reservoirs basin.
- Irrigation agreement signed in 1947, 38 years before the electric market, and complemented in 1983 with Colbún additional rules.

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- The purpose was to "improve the water availability for irrigation and power uses."
- It separates the generation and irrigation rights in different accounts.





In the same fashion, two portions were established for the Maule lake, and different variables are defined to represent irrigation and power rights, as well as savings.

There are irrigations rights for the whole year and they are provided by the Maule, Invernada and Colbún lakes (and sometimes melado).

The is also a multi-year savings account for generation rights, but it has a limit.

The irrigation associations built their own power plants units, totalizing 11 in the basin.



Irrigation Agreement Modelling



- Feasibility cuts were implemented in the SDDP program PLP (forward/backward), needed for the filtration and irrigation agreements (Laja)
- Additional state/stage variables and constraints for irrigation codes
 - Laja Lake irrigation agreement: 7 state
 / 20 stage variables
 - Maule/Invernada irrigation agreement: 9 state / 26 stage variables
- The lake "portion" for each lake is set at each stage depending of the initial volume of the reservoir.
- Explicit filtration models were also needed





- Besides the natural concerns about the convexity of an hydro-thermal coordination problem, the concept of "lake portions" in both irrigation agreements (Laja and Maule) introduces "if" conditions or binary states.
- The binary states required to fully represent the irrigation agreements introduce discontinuities that will affect (or break) the convexity, specially in the stages where there is a portion transition.
- We have developed a formalism to better understand these kind of constraints and the implication in the irrigation agreement modeling in Chile.
- The formalism may be extended to other hydro system with similar binary constraints, and the current approach can be understood as a near-optimal/feasible solution.

Optimizing hydrothermal scheduling with non-convex irrigation constraints: Case on the Chilean electricity system

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Multipurpose reservoirs and portions

Near optimal approach / Small scale system example



- Example: 1 reservoir divided in 2 portions Portions rules
 - $Q_t^i \leq Q_{MAX}^i$ if $v_{t-1}^{final} \geq \frac{v^{max}}{2}$
 - $Q_t^i \leq \frac{Q_{MAX}^i}{2}$ if $v_{t-1}^{final} < \frac{v^{max}}{2}$

Equivalent MILP

• $Q_t^i - (1+u_t) \cdot \frac{Q_{MAX}^i}{2} \le 0$

•
$$u_t \cdot \frac{v^{max}}{2} - v_{t-1}^{final} \le 0$$

•
$$(1+u_t) \cdot \frac{v^{max}}{2} - v^{final}_{t-1} > 0$$

- Although this clearly corresponds to an approximation, it permits optimization of very large problems associated with country-size systems in an SDDP fashion, which cannot be undertaken through direct solution of MILP problem
- The above approach also allows us to find a feasible solution that cannot be found through relaxations (i.e. the solution obtained through near-optimal approach is a feasible –but not optimal– solution of MILP problem)

Laja Lake in Chile case study

Example of the concept of operating policy based in portions



- An example of such policy is the code that rules the withdrawals from Laja Lake in Chile, suscribed in 1958
- Regulates the release of water for electricity generation of El Toro power plant (450 MW) with the purpose of ensuring supply for downstream water user associations (WUA), which are mainly agricultural.
- Many rules in different time scales apply. In this work we describe those related to the use of portions.



Laja Lake in Chile case study

Example of the concept of operating policy based in portions



- Three portions are established (superior, intermediate and reserve)
- *El Toro* power plant is required to complete irrigation requirements, depending on portion and month of the year (lower bound)
- Electricity generation has an upper bound on each portion
 - 57 m³/s in the intermediate and superior portions
 - 47 m³/s in the reserve portion



$$Q_{total_Laja_t} = Q_{FILT_t} + Q_{T_ElToro_t}$$

$$Q_{total_Laja_{t}} \leq \overline{Q_{W_RIGHTS_{t}}} \left(v_{t-1}^{final} \right)$$

$$Q_{total_Laja_{t}} \geq Q_{IRR_REQ_{t}} \left(v_{t-1}^{final} \right) - Q_{inflows_{t}}$$

Laja Lake in Chile case study

Results for Chilean interconnected system case study





Irrigation requirements fulfillment



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The near-optimal approach maintains the linear structure of each subproblem, allowing us to apply SDDP method to include irrigation constraints with mutually exclusive rules

Although this is proved to be suboptimal, optimization problem can be successfully solved for very large-scale power systems, finding a feasible solution (i.e. the solution obtained through near-optimal approach is a feasible –but not optimal– solution of MILP problem).

The application is illustrated on a real representation of the Chilean power system to model nation wide irrigation agreements. In this context, we demonstrated that the near-optimal approach provides feasible solutions that meet code requirements, while minimizing operating costs.

We are currently working on alternative SDDP formulations, especially in terms of how to determine Benders cuts, to improve quality of the presented near-optimal approach.

Issues associated with the security of supply levels obtained by this approach are under further analysis

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