

# Critical synchronization dynamics on power grids

Joint work with Géza Ódor, Bálint Hartmann and Jeffrey Kelling

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Centre for  
Energy Research



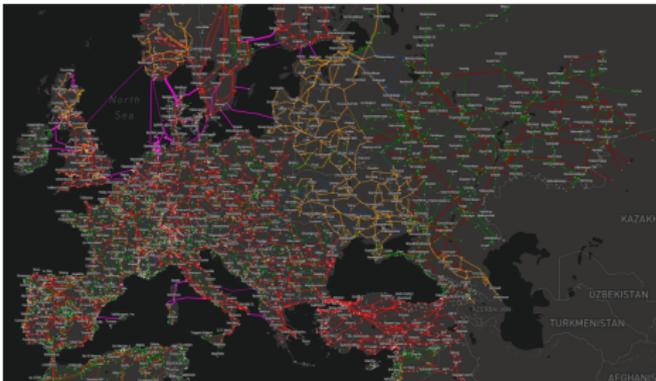
[arxiv:2205.13472](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.13472)

# Power-grid networks

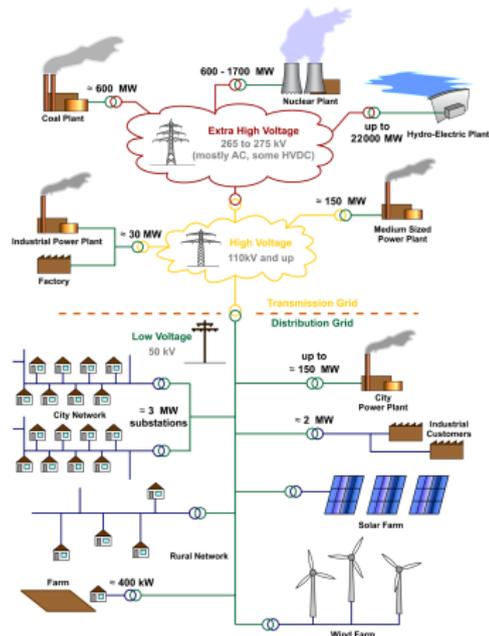


- Power grids are critical for human civilization: generating, transmitting and distributing electric energy

# Power-grid networks



- Power grids are critical for human civilization: generating, transmitting and distributing electric energy
- Hierarchical: high – medium – low voltages, millions of nodes
- Crucial to maintain stability  
Challenges: nonlinear & complex system, multiple scales, growing number of renewables



# Consequences of blackouts and their statistics

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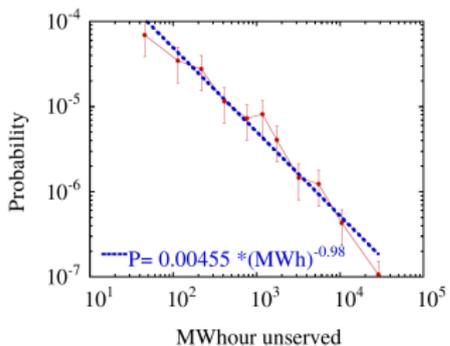


Figure 4. Probability distribution function of energy unserved for North American blackouts 1993-1998.

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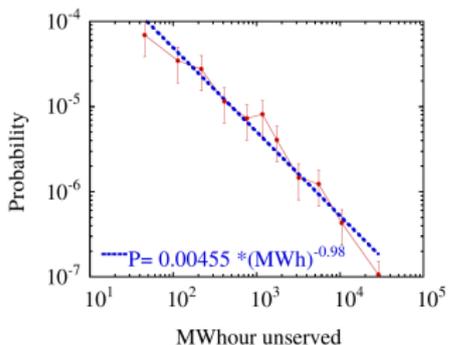


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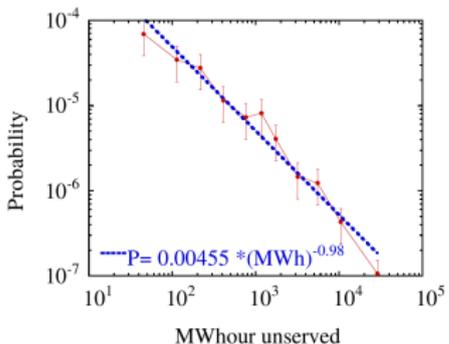


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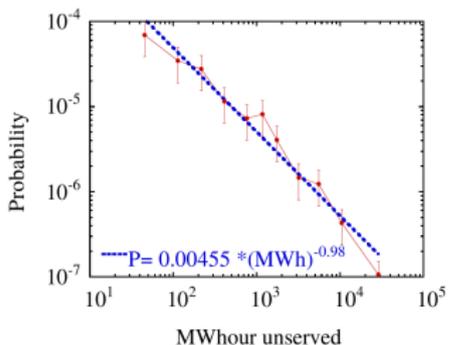


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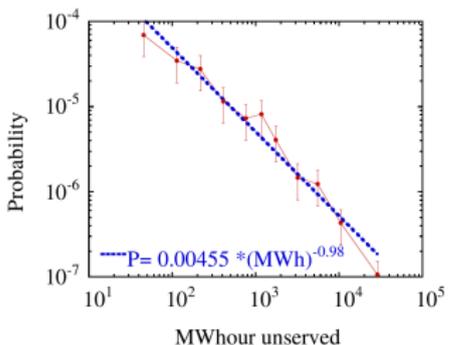


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**blackout  $\rightarrow$  AC desynchronization cascade  $\sim$  DC threshold models**

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# US and EU HV grids

	$N$	$E$	$L$	$\langle k \rangle$	$C$	$\sigma$	$d$
US	4194	6594	18.7	2.67	0.08	9.334	3.0(1)
EU	13478	33844	49.51	2.51	0.089	98.63	2.6(1)

$N$ : Number of nodes

$E$ : Number of edges

$L$ : average shortest path length

$C$ : Watts-Strogatz clustering coefficient

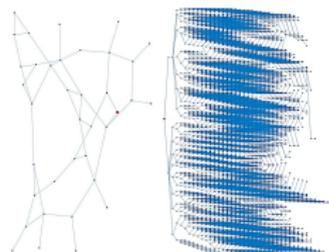
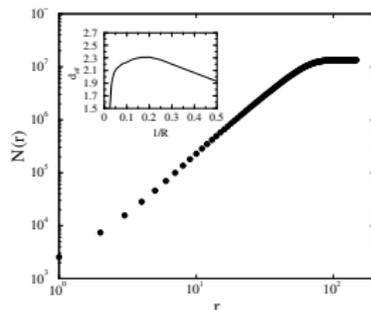
$$C = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i 2n_i / k_i(k_i - 1)$$

$\sigma$ :

$$\sigma = \frac{C/C_r}{L/L_r}$$

⇒ EU HV is small world.

- This study will focus on HV nets.



HV: from operators

MV an LV: generated w.r.t. empirical electrical distributions <sup>1</sup>.

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# The synchronization model

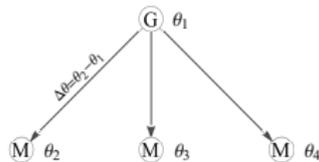
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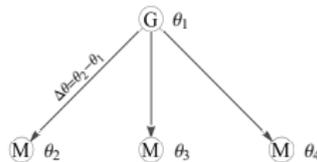
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# The synchronization model

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- Power transmission: a mismatch “ $\Delta\theta$ ” in the phases between “G” and “M”  $\Rightarrow$  the Kuramoto model with **inertia**<sup>1</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{\text{source}} &= P_{\text{acc.kinetic}} + P_{\text{diss.}} + P_{\text{transmitted}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} I \frac{d}{dt} \dot{\theta}_1^2 + P_{\text{diss.}} - P^{\text{MAX}} \sin(\Delta\theta) \\
 \Rightarrow \ddot{\theta}_1 &= P - \alpha \dot{\theta}_1 + P^{\text{MAX}} \sin(\Delta\theta).
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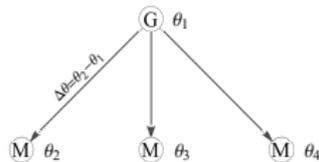


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 \end{aligned}$$



- For a network of  $N$  oscillators:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{\theta}_i(t) &= \omega_i(t) \\
 \dot{\omega}_i(t) &= \omega_i(0) - \alpha \dot{\theta}_i(t) + K \sum_{j=1}^N A_{ij} \sin[\theta_j(t) - \theta_i(t)]. \quad (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha$ : damping factor;  $K$ : global coupling;  $\omega_i(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

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# Method and measured quantities

- For large  $N$ , solved Eqs. (2) by numeric solvers: 4th-order Runge-Kutta, Bulirsch-Stoer

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- Measured quantities

- ① Phase order parameter

$$z(t_k) = \frac{1}{N} \left| \sum_j \exp[i\theta_j(t_k)] \right|$$
$$R(t_k) = \langle r(t_k) \rangle. \tag{3}$$

- ② Frequency variance:  $\Omega(t_k) = \langle \text{var}(\omega_i(t_k)) \rangle$ .

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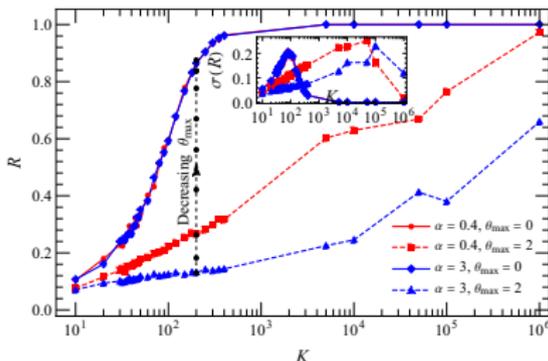
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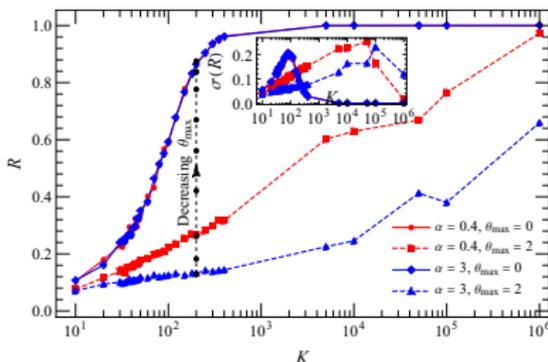
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- **Thermalization followed by removing one link  $\Rightarrow$  cascade line failures.**

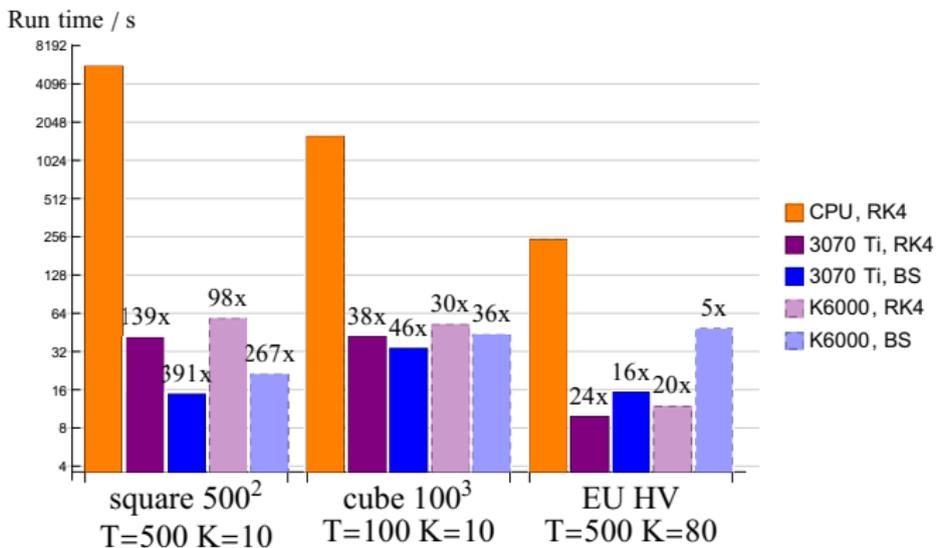
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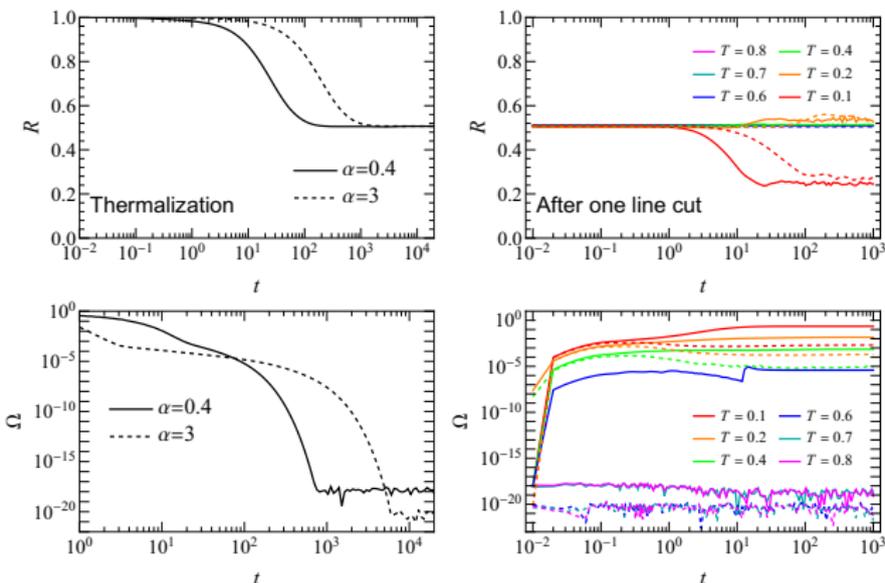


# Benchmarks

- CPU: Intel Xeon X5650 @ 2.67GHz (debrecen)
- GPU:
  - 1 GeForce RTX 3070 Ti (local cluster)
  - 2 Quadro K6000 (debrecen2)



# The effect of one line cut



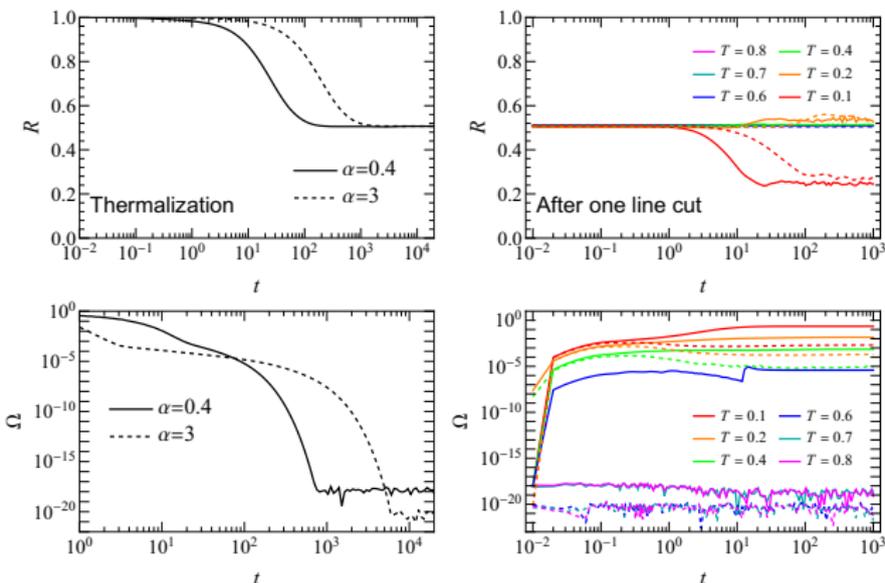
EU network  $K = 80$

- 1 Stronger damping effect only slows down  $R$ , but leads to a smaller  $\Omega$ .
- 2 For certain  $T$ ,  $R$  may even increase: islanding effects?

# The effect of one line cut

After thermalization, randomly **remove** a link w.r.t. the overload condition:

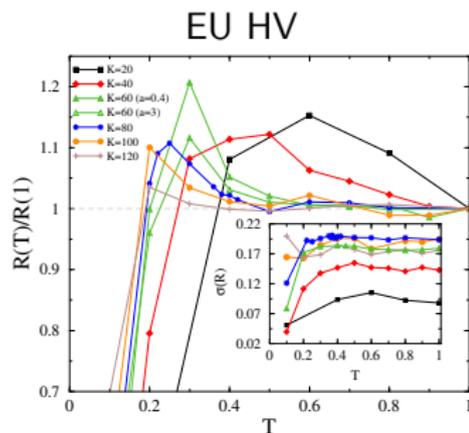
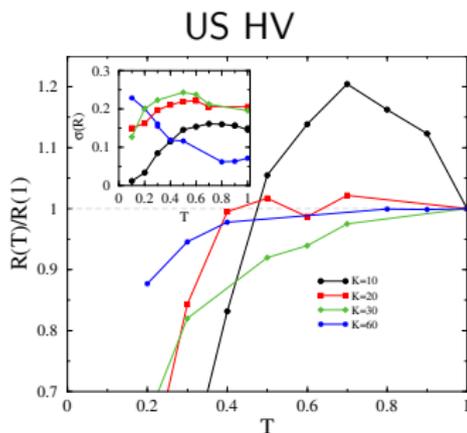
$$|\sin(\theta_j - \theta_i)| > T \Rightarrow A_{ij} := 0.$$



EU network  $K = 80$

- 1 Stronger damping effect only slows down  $R$ , but leads to a smaller  $\Omega$ .
- 2 For certain  $T$ ,  $R$  may even increase: islanding effects?

# Relative change in $R$



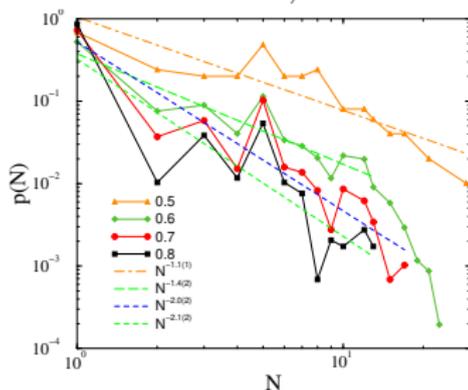
- Phase order may increase after an attack for not very strongly coupled systems; resemblance to the islanding effect <sup>1,2</sup>.
- There may exist a critical line along  $(K_c, T_c)$  as indicated by  $\sigma(R)$ .

<sup>1</sup> R. Baldick *et al.*, 2008 IEEE Power and Energy Society General Meeting.

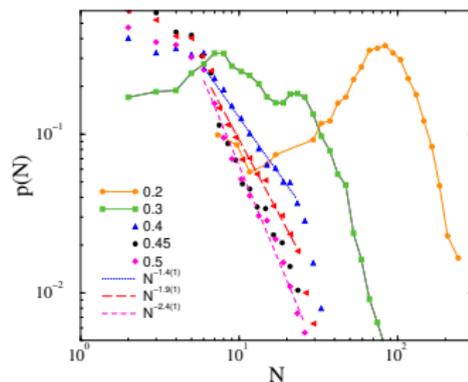
<sup>1</sup> A. Esmailian *et al.*, IEEE Trans. Ind. Appl. **53**, 622 (2016).

# Cascade failure statistics

US HV  $K = 30, \alpha = 0.4$



EU HV  $K = 60, \alpha = 0.4$



- The distribution of the total line failures  $N_f$  follows **non-universal power laws** in the vicinity of  $(K_c, T_c)$

$$p(N_f) \sim N_f^{-\tau}. \quad (4)$$

- GPU support is quite crucial.
- “Dragon King” bumps for unexpected rare events may emerge for certain  $T$ .

# Chimera state

# Conclusion and outlook

- 1 The synchronization and desynchronization of AC power grids could be best modeled by the second-order Kuramoto equations;
- 2 The damping factor slows down the dynamics of the order parameter, but would be desirable for achieving better frequency entrainment;
- 3 One line cut after thermalization triggers cascade failures:
  - 1 For moderate  $K$  and  $T$  values, islanding effects;
  - 2 In the vicinity of  $(K_c, T_c)$ , cascade sizes follow **non-universal power laws**.

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