



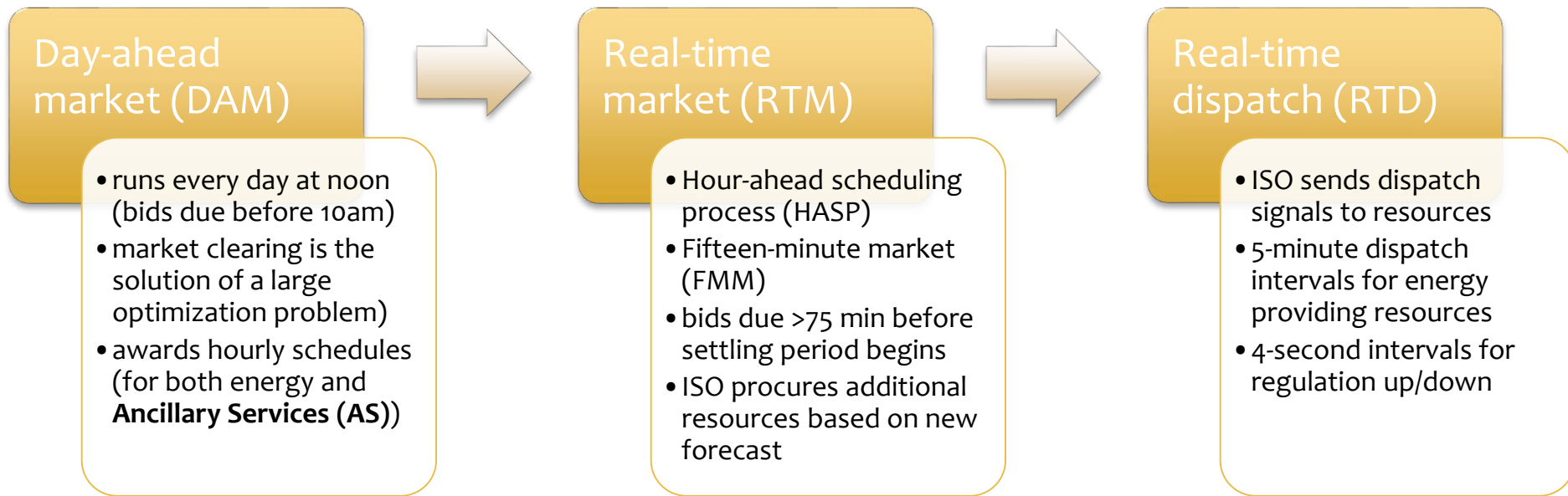
Aggregating buildings to provide Ancillary Services

Optimal contract design for provision of frequency regulation capacity

Maximilian Balandat*



The Electricity Spot Market in California



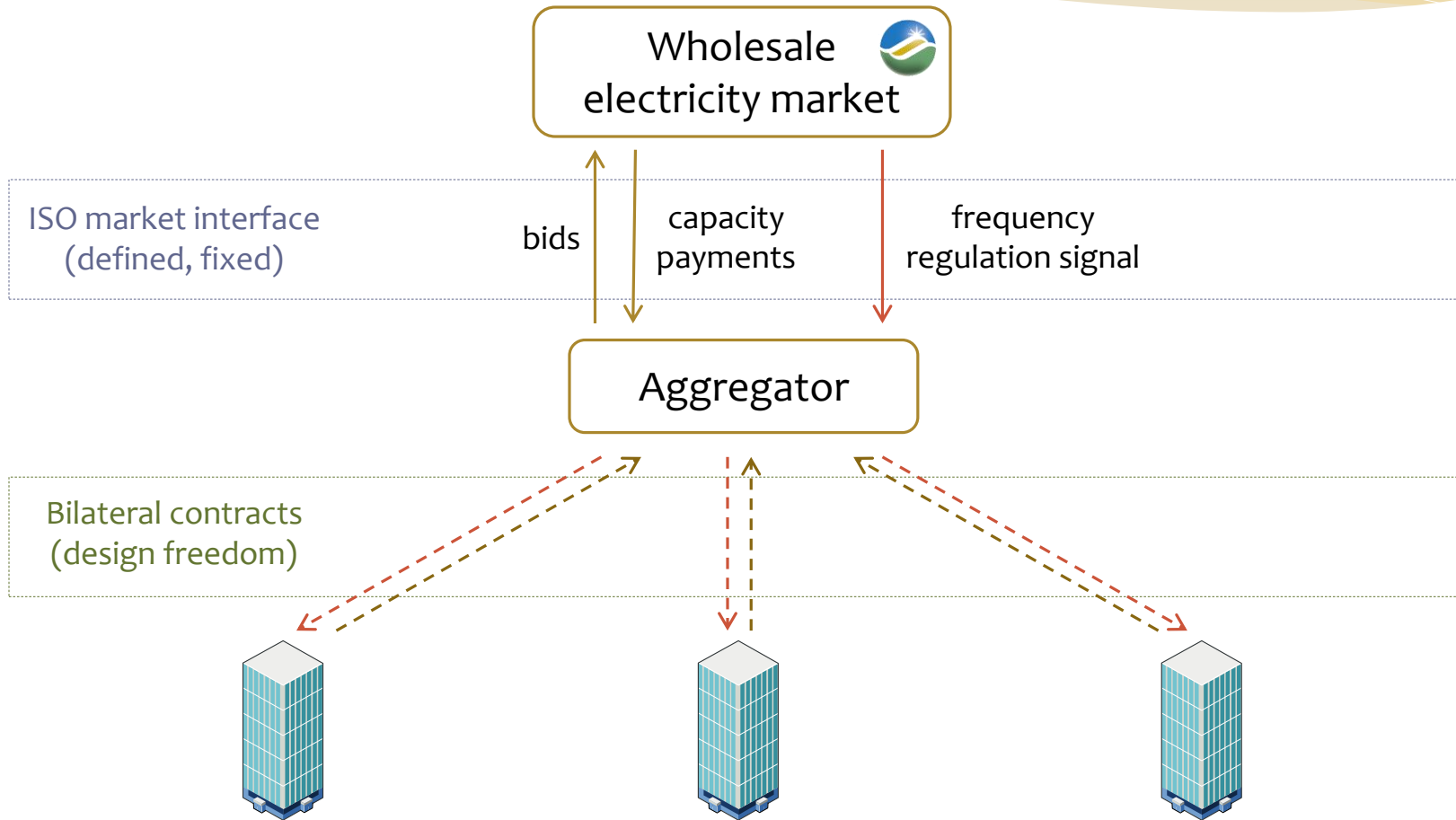
- * Ancillary services (traditionally provided by generators):
 - * Non-spinning reserves, Spinning reserves
 - * **Regulation Up, Regulation Down**

Using Buildings to Provide Frequency Regulation Capacity

- * Why buildings?
 - * HVAC systems significant share of overall energy consumption (~30%)
 - * thermal mass provides temporal flexibility in terms of cooling/heating
 - * relatively fast actuation speeds (high ramp rates)
 - * very low opportunity cost compared to conventional generators
- * However:
 - * Buildings too small to participate in the market by themselves
 - * Aggregator can provide the interface - *if the incentives are right*

- TIAX Report for NTIS: (2002). Energy Consumption Characteristics of Commercial Building HVAC Systems Volume III: Energy Savings Potential (2002).
- Vrettos et al.: Robust Provision of Frequency Reserves by Office Building Aggregations (2014).
- Maasoumy et al.: Model Predictive Control Approach to Online Computation of Demand-Side Flexibility of Commercial Buildings HVAC Systems for Supply Following (2014).

Aggregating Buildings for Frequency Regulation



Robust Scheduling of Building HVAC for Providing Frequency Regulation Capacity

- * Basic optimization problem for building b for **fixed regulation capacities** $\mathbf{r}^{b\uparrow} = (r_0^{b\uparrow}, \dots, r_N^{b\uparrow})$ and $\mathbf{r}^{b\downarrow} = (r_0^{b\downarrow}, \dots, r_N^{b\downarrow})$

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}^{b*}(\mathbf{r}^{b\uparrow}, \mathbf{r}^{b\downarrow}) = \arg \min \sum_t c_t^b u_t^b$$

s.t. $u_t^b + w_t^b \in \mathbb{U}_t^b$ Input constraints

$y_t^b \in \mathbb{Y}_t^b$ Comfort constraints

$$\begin{aligned} x_{t+1}^b &= A^b x_t^b + B^b u_t^b + E^b v_t^b + R^b w_t^b \\ y_t^b &= C^b x_t^b + D^b u_t^b + F^b v_t^b \end{aligned}$$

System dynamics and output

$-r_t^{b\uparrow} \leq w_t^b \leq r_t^{b\downarrow}$ Bounds on regulation signal

u : HVAC inputs (normalized)

y : zone temperatures

w : regulation signal

v : combined heating load

c : energy price

Robust Linear Program

Determining Optimal Sign-Up Rewards – Formulation as a Bilevel Optimization Problem

- * Aggregator chooses contracted capacities, pays rewards R^b

$$(\bar{\mathbf{u}}^*, \mathbf{r}^{\uparrow*}, \mathbf{r}^{\downarrow*}, R^*) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}^{\uparrow}, \mathbf{r}^{\downarrow}, \mathbf{r}^{b\uparrow}, \mathbf{r}^{b\downarrow}, R^b} \underbrace{\sum_t \rho_t^{\uparrow} r_t^{\uparrow} + \rho_t^{\downarrow} r_t^{\downarrow}}_{\text{Revenue (market)}} - \underbrace{\sum_b R^b}_{\text{Total rewards}}$$

s.t.

$$\sum_b r_t^{b\uparrow} \geq r_t^{\uparrow}$$

$$\sum_b r_t^{b\downarrow} \geq r_t^{\downarrow}$$

Capacity adequacy

$$r_t^{\uparrow}, r_t^{\downarrow}, r_t^{b\uparrow}, r_t^{b\downarrow} \geq 0$$

Non-negativity

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}^b = \bar{\mathbf{u}}^{b*}(\mathbf{r}^{b\uparrow}, \mathbf{r}^{b\downarrow})$$

Optimality

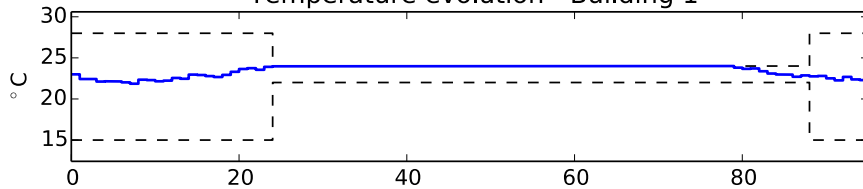
$$\sum_t c_t^b u_t^b - R^b \leq \sum_t c_t^b u_t^{b*}(0, 0)$$

Individual Rationality

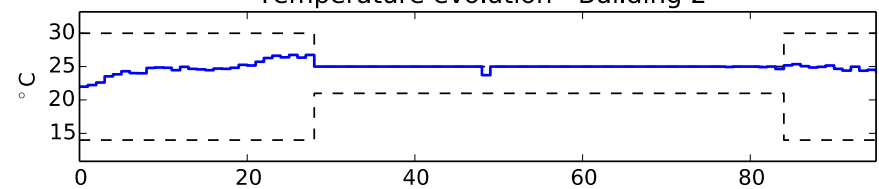
Linear Bilevel Program – cast as Mixed Integer Linear Program

Simulation Results: Outside Option (no contract)

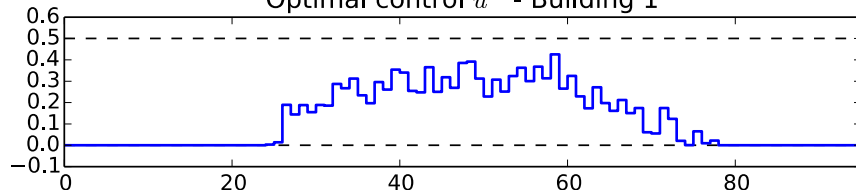
Temperature evolution - Building 1



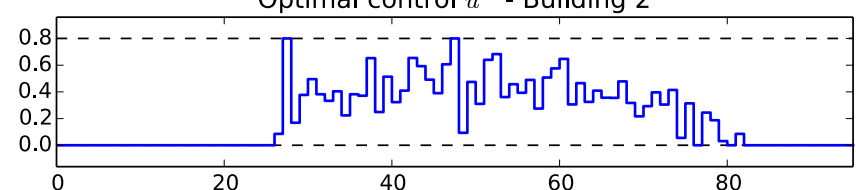
Temperature evolution - Building 2



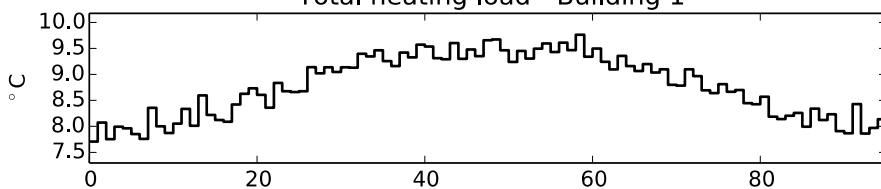
Optimal control \bar{u}^* - Building 1



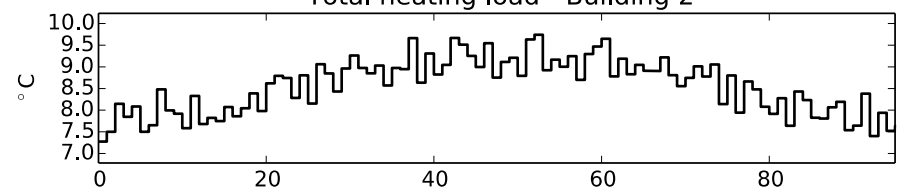
Optimal control \bar{u}^* - Building 2



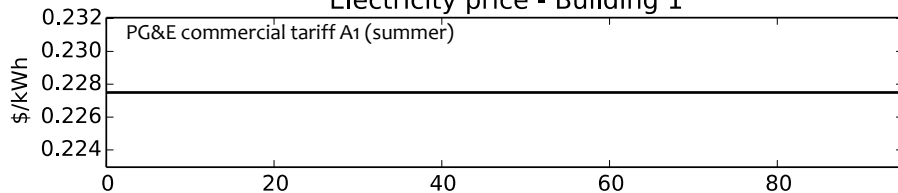
Total heating load - Building 1



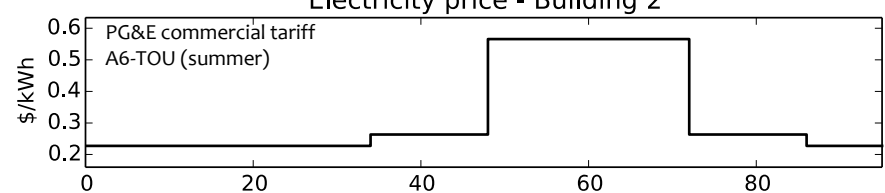
Total heating load - Building 2



Electricity price - Building 1

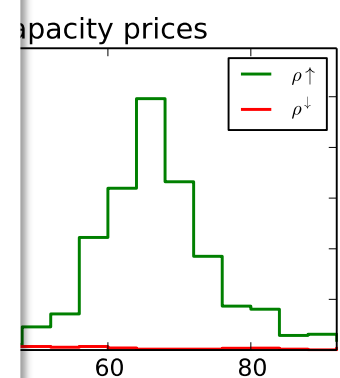
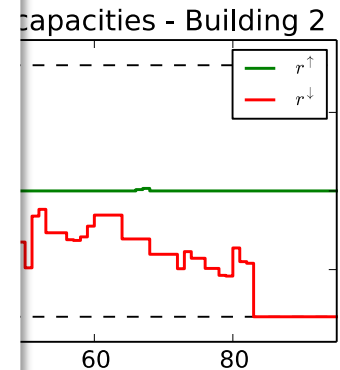
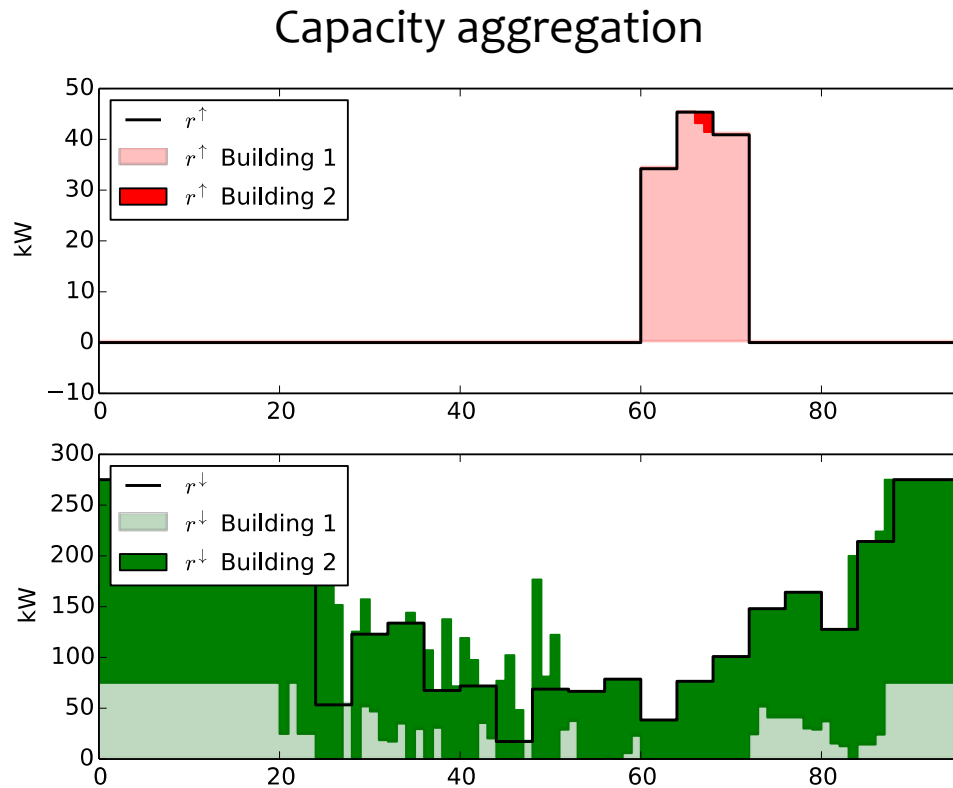
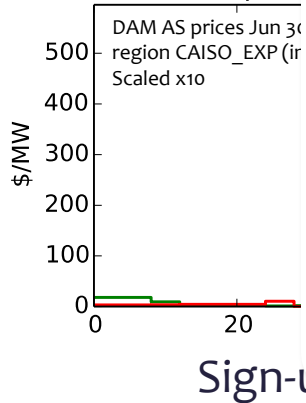
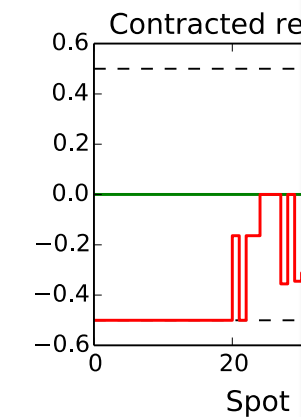


Electricity price - Building 2



Simulation Results: Optimal Contracts

* Aggregator's profit: €22

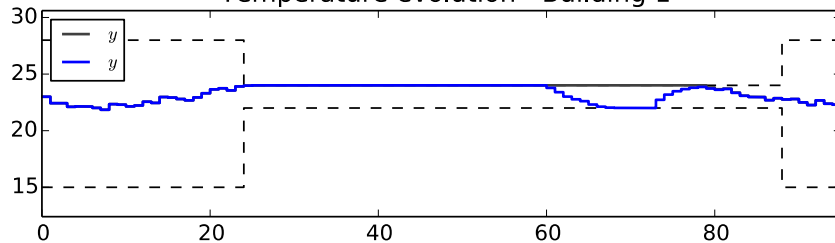


ward: \$0.9

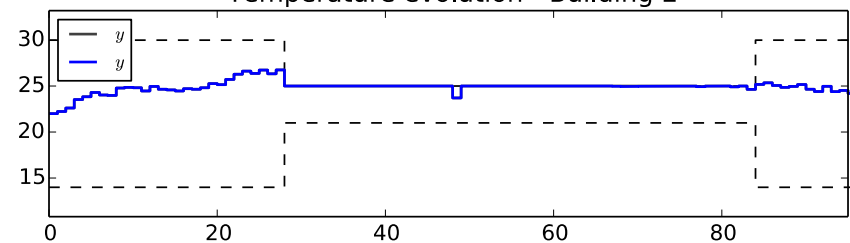
Simulation Results: Optimal Control

* Nominal case ($w=0$)

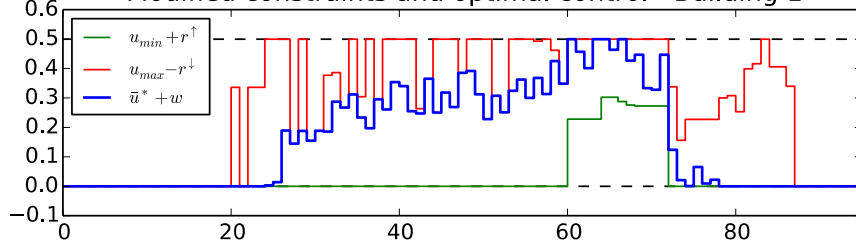
Temperature evolution - Building 1



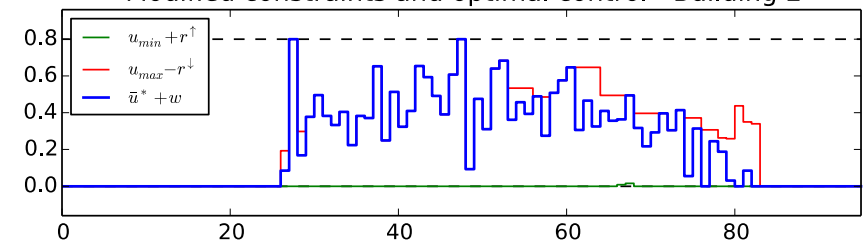
Temperature evolution - Building 2



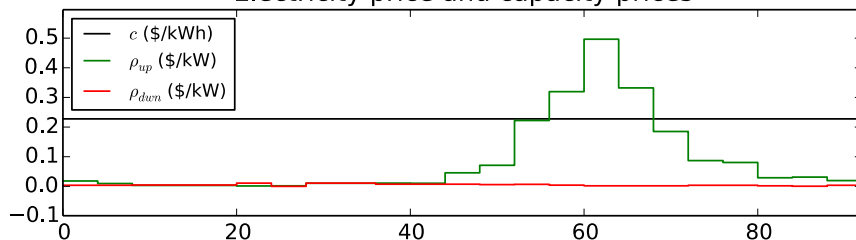
Modified constraints and optimal control - Building 1



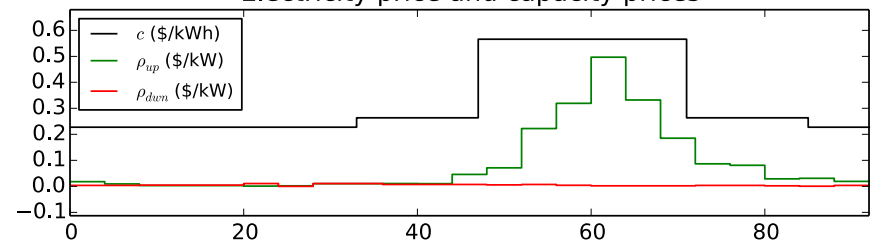
Modified constraints and optimal control - Building 2



Electricity price and capacity prices



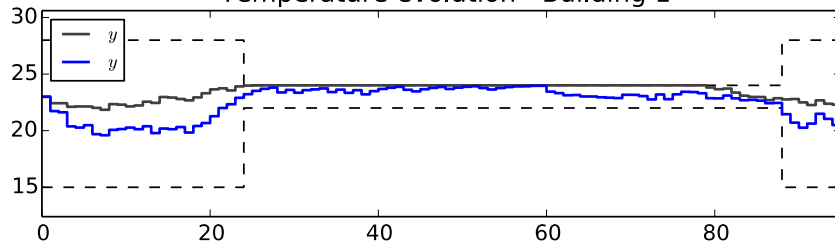
Electricity price and capacity prices



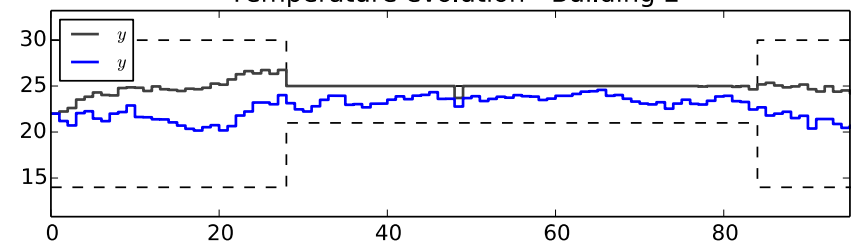
Simulation Results: Optimal Control

* w random (uniform)

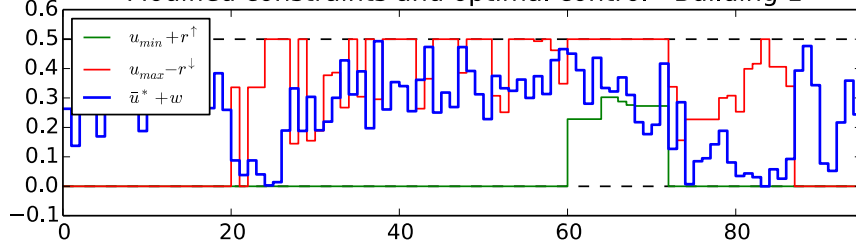
Temperature evolution - Building 1



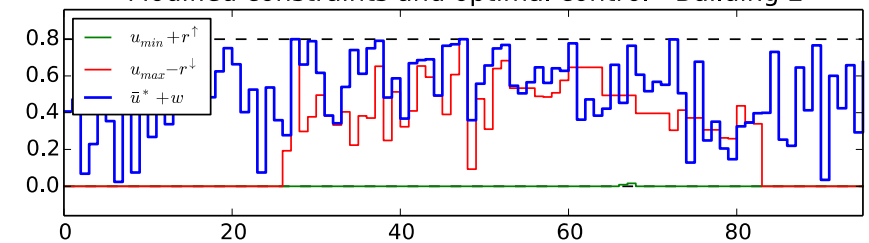
Temperature evolution - Building 2



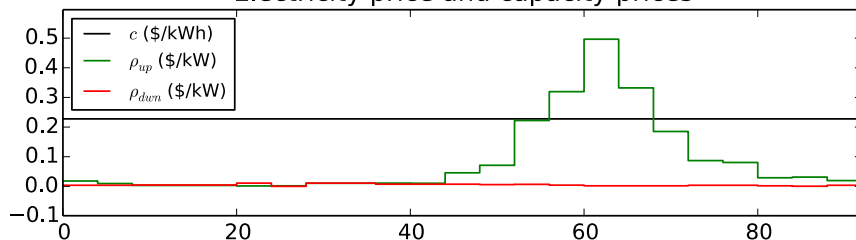
Modified constraints and optimal control - Building 1



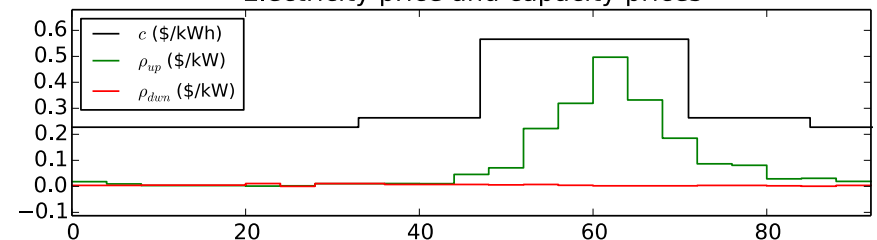
Modified constraints and optimal control - Building 2



Electricity price and capacity prices



Electricity price and capacity prices



Conclusion and Future Work

Conclusion

- * Formulated aggregator's optimal contract design problem
- * Developed MILP-based solution framework
 - * can easily incorporate additional constraints and objectives (e.g. energy limits, savings requirements)

Future work

- * Extension to bilinear building models
- * Account for uncertainty in predictions
- * Feasibility study based on comprehensive CAISO price data
- * Interface considerations: does a simple generic model suffice?
- * Include performance payments (“mileage”)