



# Optimal Power Flow Sensitivities

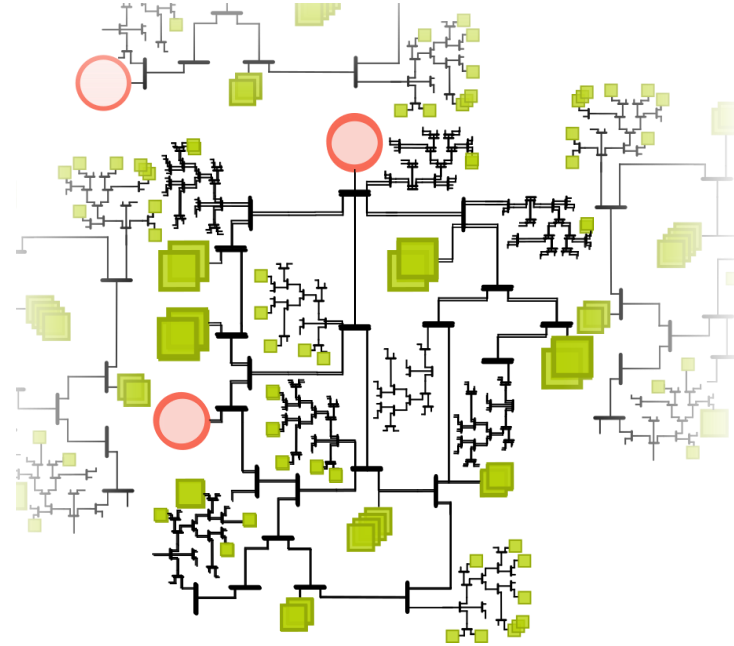
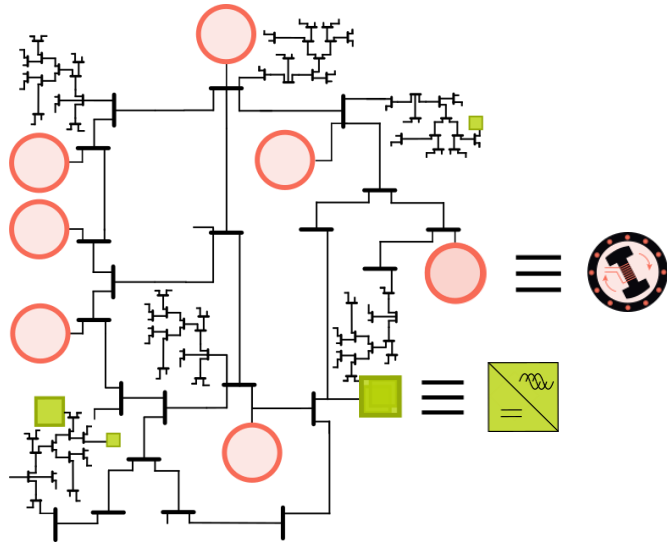
*Analysis & Applications*

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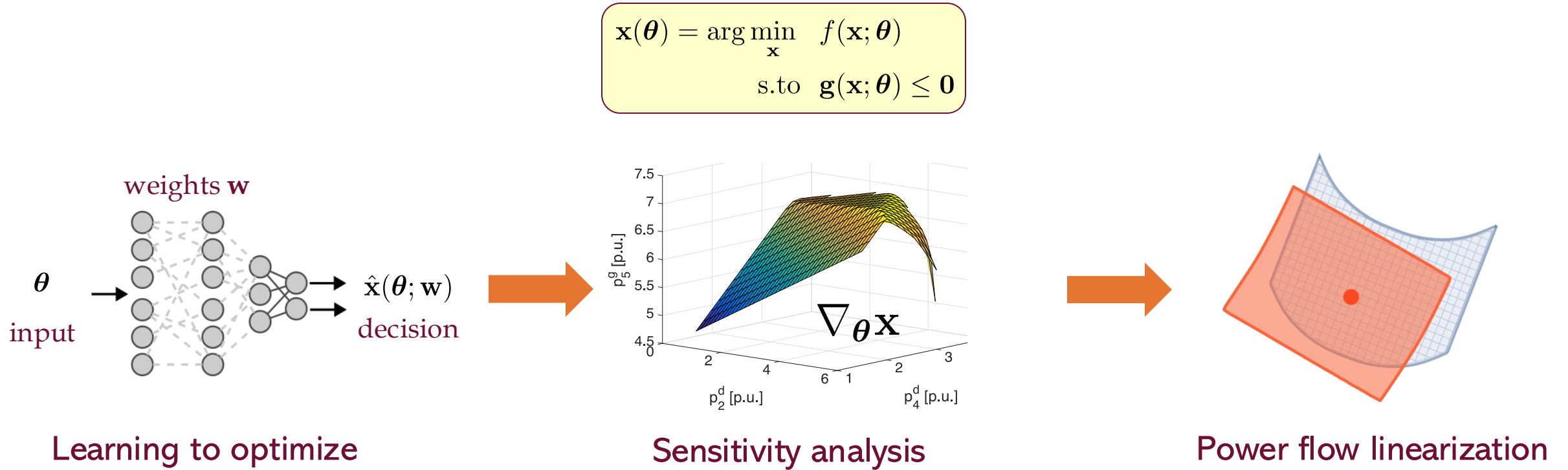
# Motivation: Power-system transition



Increasing renewables, DERs, prosumers...

Need to solve problems *faster* over a *broader range* of operating conditions...

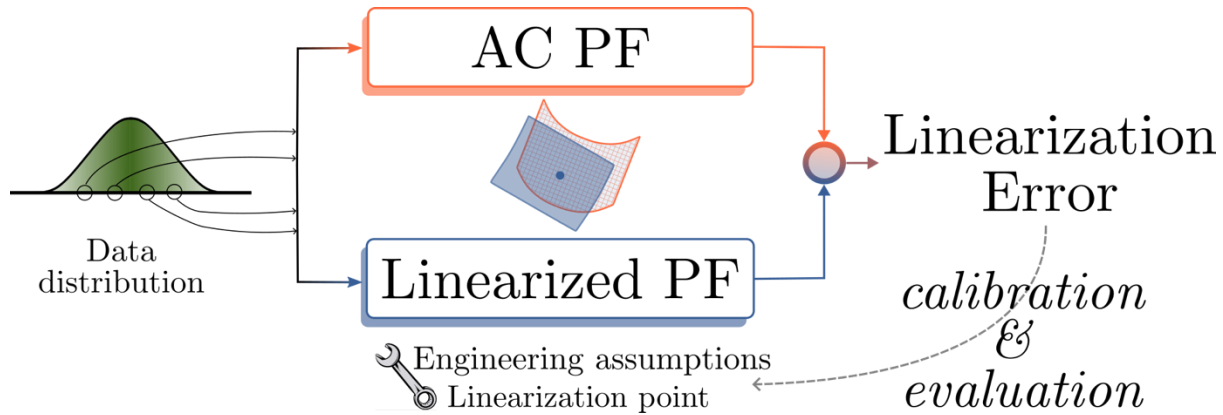
# Outline



*"Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards"*  
Søren Kierkegaard

← Today's talk

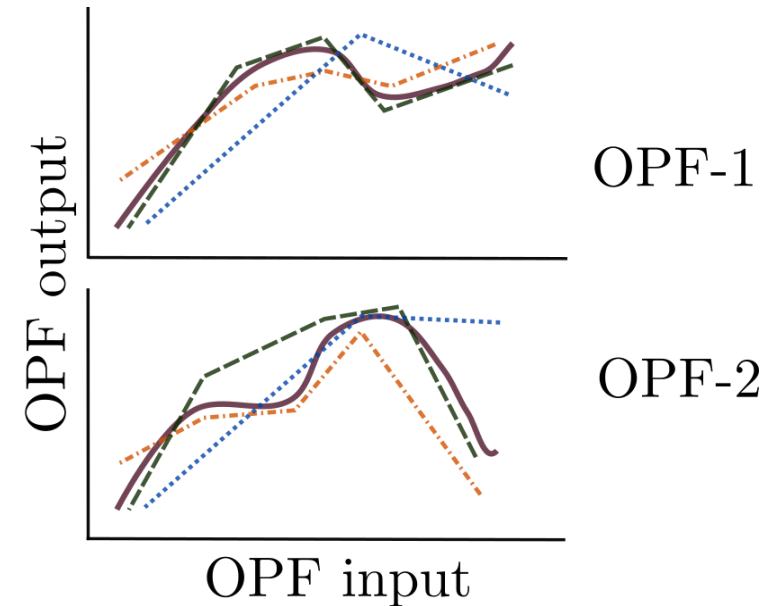
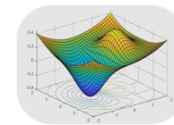
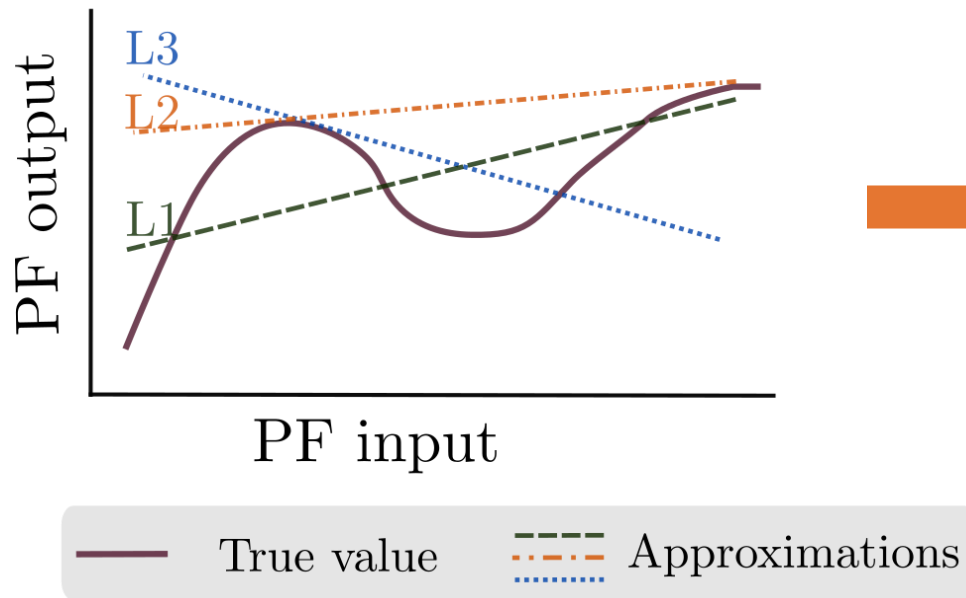
# Power flow linearization



Outstanding contributions from Saverio, Andrey, Kyri, and several others...

## A Survey of Relaxations and Approximations of the Power Flow Equations

Daniel K. Molzahn<sup>1</sup> and Ian A. Hiskens<sup>2</sup>



# Optimal linearization for optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \quad (\text{OPF1}) \\ \text{s.to} \quad & \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{P}_j \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{q}_j^\top \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}_j^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}, \quad j = 1 : J \\ & \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{T} \boldsymbol{\theta} \leq \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \quad (\text{OPF2}) \\ \text{s.to} \quad & \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{R} \boldsymbol{\theta} \\ & \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{T} \boldsymbol{\theta} \leq \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- Example of an application-informed metric

$$\ell(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b}) = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} \|\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \hat{\mathbf{x}}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta})\|_2^2 \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S \|\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}_s) - \hat{\mathbf{x}}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\|_2^2$$

- Obtain optimal linearization as

$$(\mathbf{A}^*, \mathbf{b}^*) = \arg \min_{(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b}) \in \mathcal{A}} \ell(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_s, \mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}_s)) \quad \text{bilevel optimization}$$

- Gradient descent-based optimization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \nabla_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}^*} \ell & \nabla_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b}} \hat{\mathbf{X}}^* & \text{sensitivity analysis} \\ \text{easy} & & \text{presented for } \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \hat{\mathbf{X}}^* \end{array}$$

# Optimal power flow sensitivities

- Consider a parametric OPF setting


For QPs,  
see MPP

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ \text{s.to} \quad & \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \leq \mathbf{0} : \quad \boldsymbol{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$



KKT

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f + (\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{g})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\lambda} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{g} \odot \boldsymbol{\lambda} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{g} \leq \mathbf{0}, \quad \boldsymbol{\lambda} &\geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

- Perturb KKT to find point  $(\mathbf{x} + d\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda} + d\boldsymbol{\lambda})$  optimal for  $\boldsymbol{\theta} + d\boldsymbol{\theta}$  [Castillo-Conejo+'06]
- Unless  $(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  is degenerate, perturbed point satisfies KKT inequalities too
- Compute total differential of two equality constraints  $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \odot (\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{x} + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbf{g} \cdot d\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{g} \odot d\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \mathbf{0}$
- Obtain linear system  $\mathbf{S} \begin{bmatrix} d\mathbf{x} \\ d\boldsymbol{\lambda} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{U} d\boldsymbol{\theta}$   find  $(\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbf{x}, \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\lambda})$  if  $\mathbf{S}^{-1}$  exists

Q) When is  $\mathbf{S}$  invertible? What if it is not?

# Existence of sensitivities

- *When?* certain second-order optimality conditions and LICQ holds [Fiacco'76]

Linear independence constraint qualification (LICQ) requires  $\{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}g_i \mid \lambda_i > 0\}$  to be linearly independent

- LICQ often fails for inverter dispatch posed as a quadratic program [Singh et al'20]
- *What then?* For QPs, multiparametric programming can still provide  $\nabla_{\theta}\mathbf{x}$
- For general non-convex OPF, the system  $\mathbf{S} \begin{bmatrix} d\mathbf{x} \\ d\boldsymbol{\lambda} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{U} d\boldsymbol{\theta}$ , if consistent, has a unique solution in  $d\mathbf{x}$
- *Happy news:* When  $\mathbf{S}$  is not invertible, Jacobian  $\nabla_{\theta}\mathbf{x}$  may still exist



# ┌ Sensitivity analysis takeaways

- Sensitivities of optimal primal/dual variable w.r.t. any parameter can be computed for *(non) convex OPF*

Given a minimizer, one can compute sensitivities for optimization problems just by solving a linear system

*Can we do sensitivity analysis when using convex relaxations?*

- Sensitivity computation requires optimal primal and dual variables, and cost/constraint functions
- When exact, relaxations yield true optimal primal variables, but different dual variables! ☹️
- *More happy news:* We can use SDP or SOCP relaxations (when exact) to compute sensitivities for non-convex problems

Singh, Kekatos, Giannakis, "Learning to Solve the AC-OPF using Sensitivity-Informed Deep Neural Networks," *IEEE Trans. Power Sys.*, 2021

Jalali, Singh, Kekatos, Giannakis, Liu, "Fast Inverter Control by Learning the OPF mapping using Sensitivity Informed Gaussian Processes," *IEEE Trans. Smart Grids*, 2022

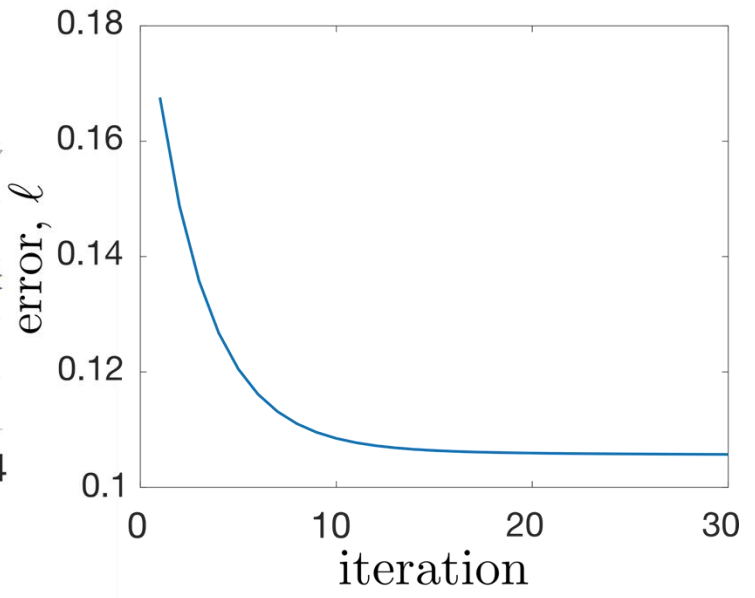
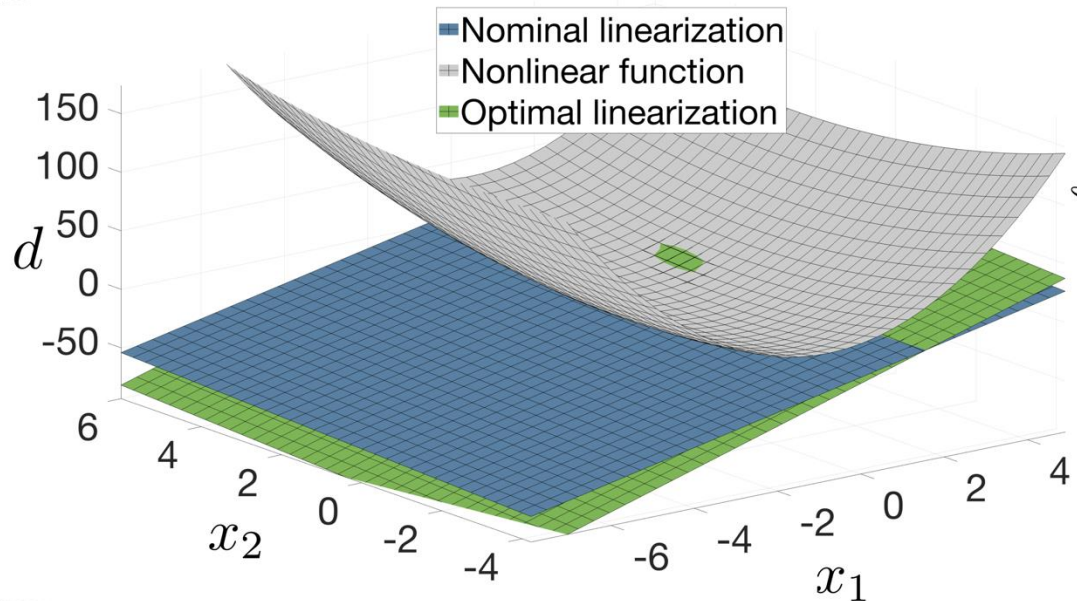


# Preliminary tests

$$\mathbf{x}^*(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^* \\ x_2^* \end{bmatrix} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} (x_1 - 4)^2 + (x_2 - 2)^2 \quad (\text{P1}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \hat{\mathbf{x}}^*(\theta) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} (x_1 - 4)^2 + (x_2 - 2)^2 \quad (\text{P2})$$

s.to  $4x_1^2 + 2x_1 + x_2^2 - x_1x_2 = \theta$   s.to  $ax_1 + bx_2 + c = \theta$

$$(a^*, b^*, c^*) = \arg \min_{a,b,c} \sum_{s=1}^{10} [\mathbf{x}^*(\theta_s) - \hat{\mathbf{x}}^*(\theta_s)]^2 \quad \theta \sim \mathcal{U}[5, 15]$$

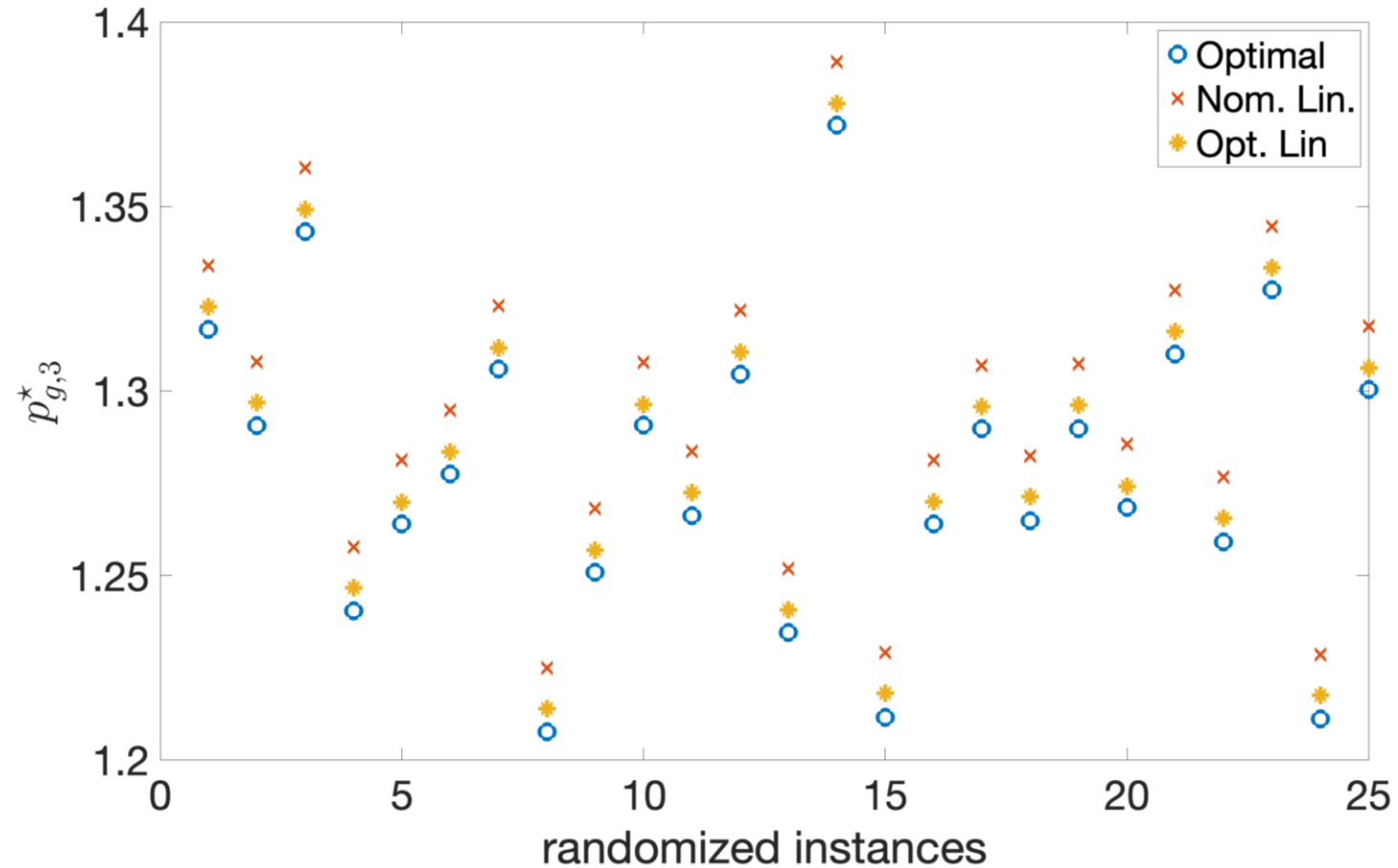


# IEEE 9 bus case

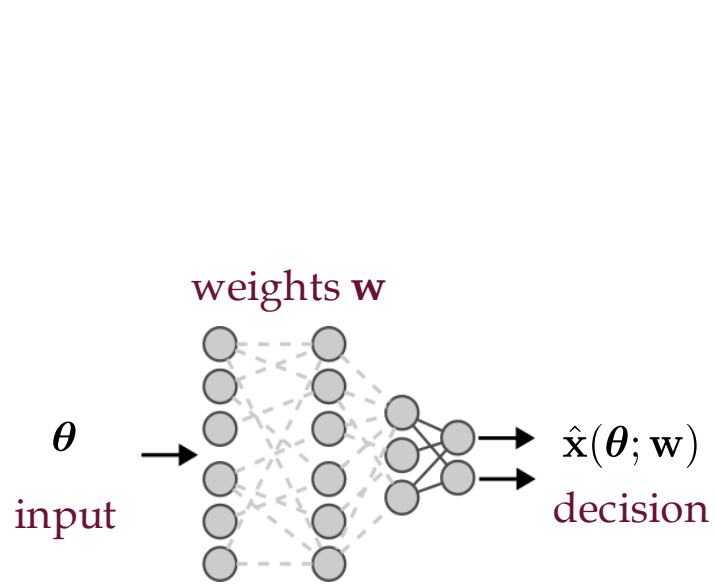
- 3 generators
- Nominal linearization is at the PF solution at base case
- 25 training samples, 200 gradient steps
- 25 test samples, error reduction 70%

## Next steps

- Other meaningful error metrics
- Better optimization techniques
- Convergence analysis

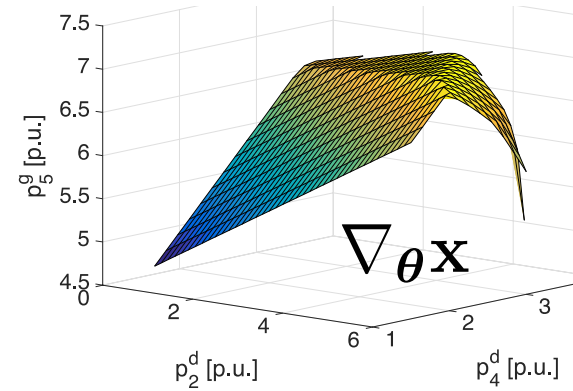


# Outline

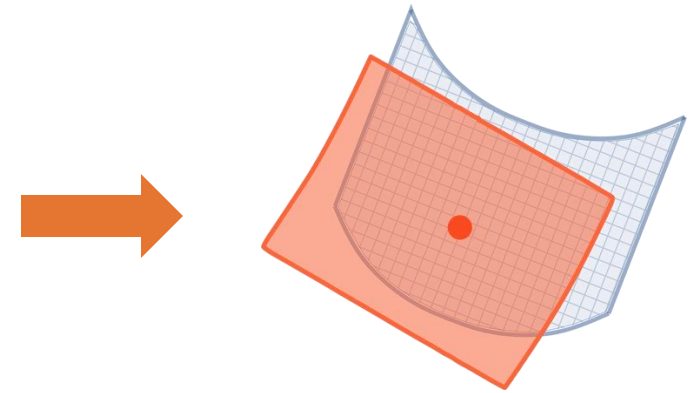


Learning to optimize

$$\mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$
$$\text{s.to } \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \leq \mathbf{0}$$

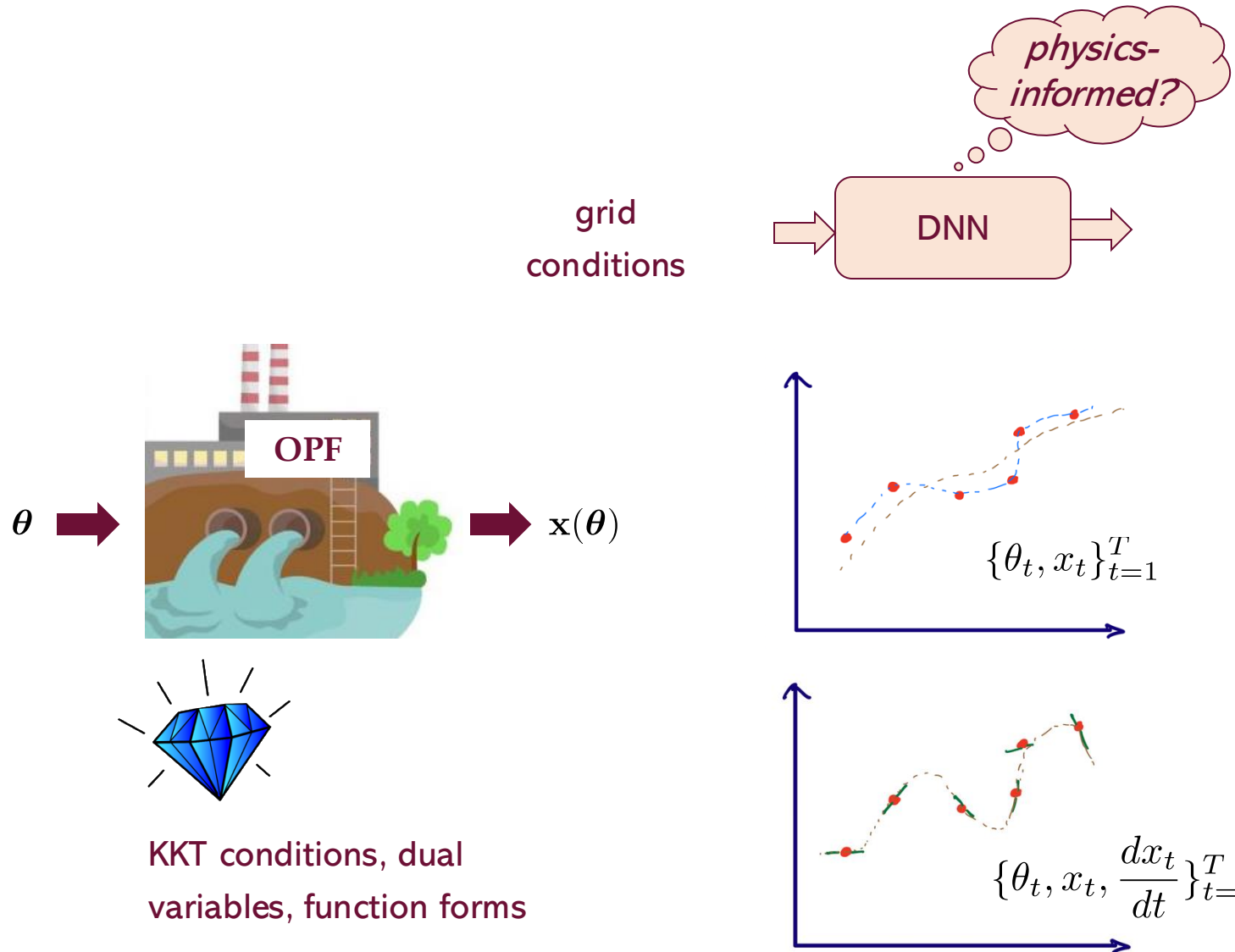


Sensitivity analysis



Power flow linearization

# Learning for OPF



- DER setpoints
- warm-starts
- binding constraints

- Polynomial regression
- DNN, GP, ...
- *High data requirement*

- (Physics) informed regularizer
- Can be done for DNN & GP
- *Reduced data requirement*

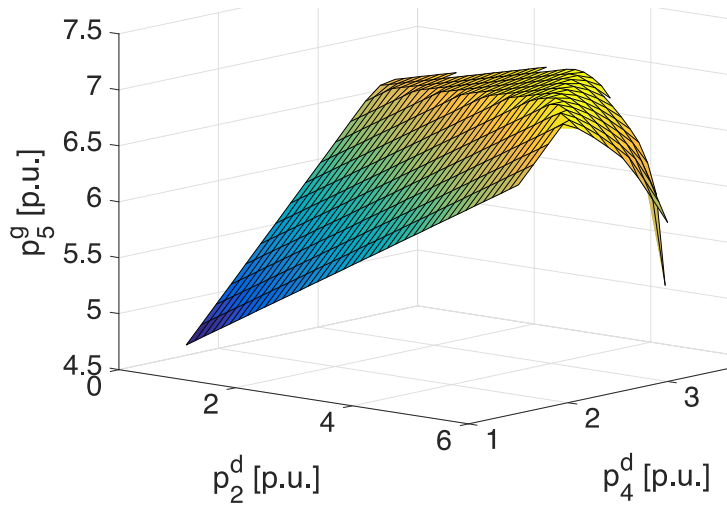
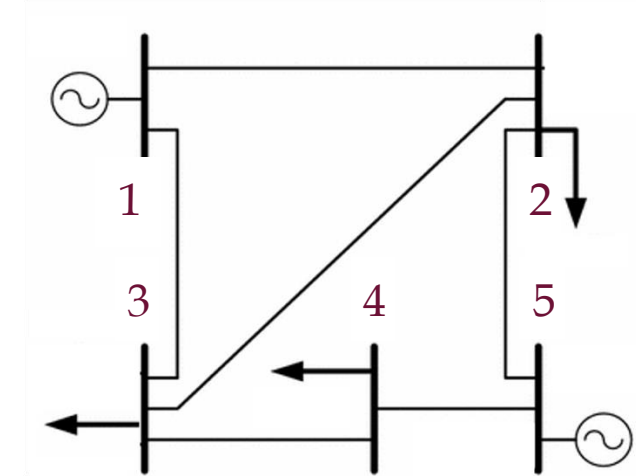
# Sensitivity-informed learning

- Augmented supervised-learning cost

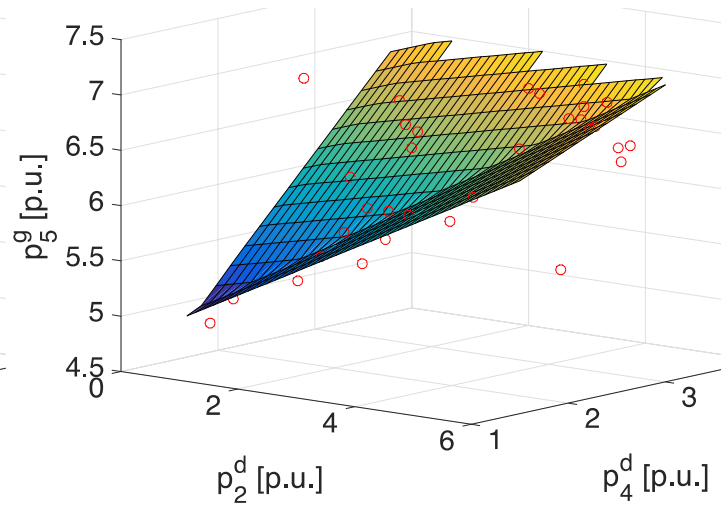
$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_{t=1}^T [\|\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) - \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\|_2^2 + \rho \|\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \hat{\mathbf{x}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) - \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\|_F^2]$$

P-DNN
SI-DNN

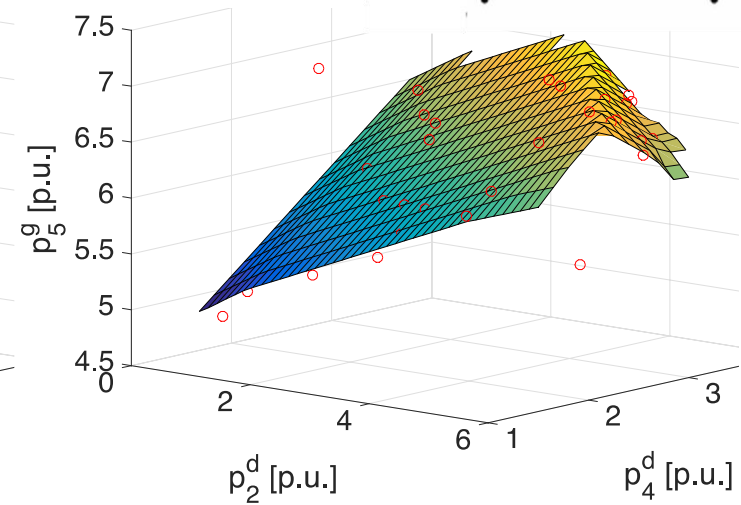
- PJM 5-bus example: Solve AC-OPF over varying loads 2+4 to dispatch GENs 1+5



actual OPF solution



P-DNN prediction



SI-DNN prediction

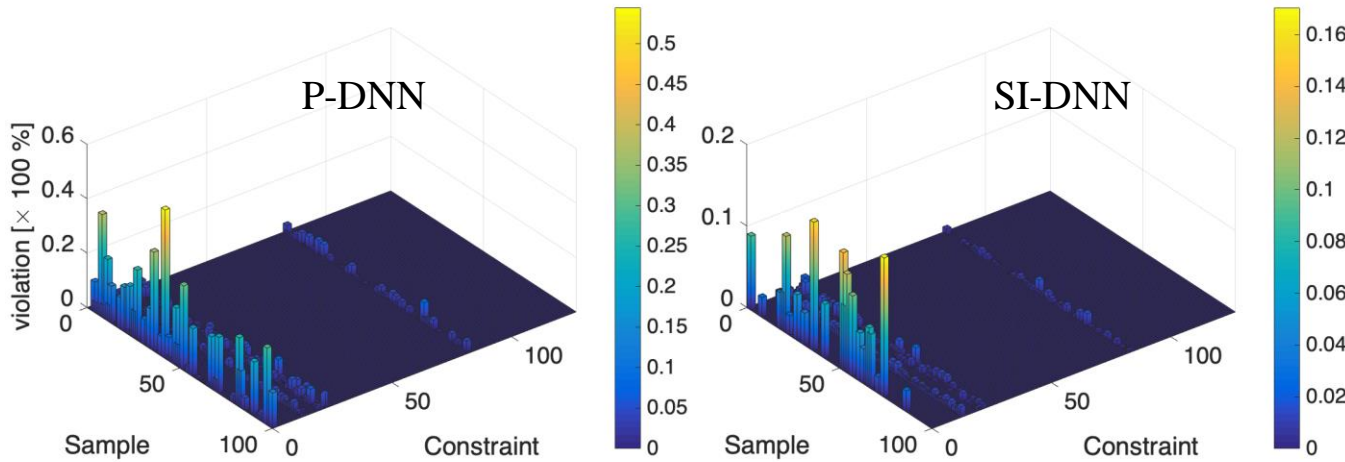
# Quantifying accuracy improvements

AVERAGE TEST MSE [ $\times 10^{-3}$ ] AND TRAINING TIME [IN SEC] FOR PREDICTING MATPOWER SOLUTION ON IEEE 39-BUS SYSTEM

Training Size	P-DNN		SI-DNN	
	MSE	Time	MSE	Time
10	8.6	738	3.3	746
50	4.3	739	2.1	756
100	3.2	747	2.0	776
250	1.9	302	2.0	332

Train. Size	IEEE 118-bus				Illinois 200-bus			
	P-DNN		SI-DNN		P-DNN		SI-DNN	
	MSE	Time	MSE	Time	MSE	Time	MSE	Time
25	1.8	447	1.1	483	0.19	452	0.04	491
50	1.7	458	1.1	527	0.15	456	0.04	524
100	1.6	463	0.9	610	0.09	471	0.06	608

# Quantifying feasibility improvements



*Sensitivity regularization is tantamount to local-approximation Vs point-approximation*

- ✓ Sensitivities information improves learning
- ✓ Physics-based model regularization
- ✓ Approach applies to DC and AC OPF across solvers and relaxations
- ✓ Extensions possible to non-parametric learning models

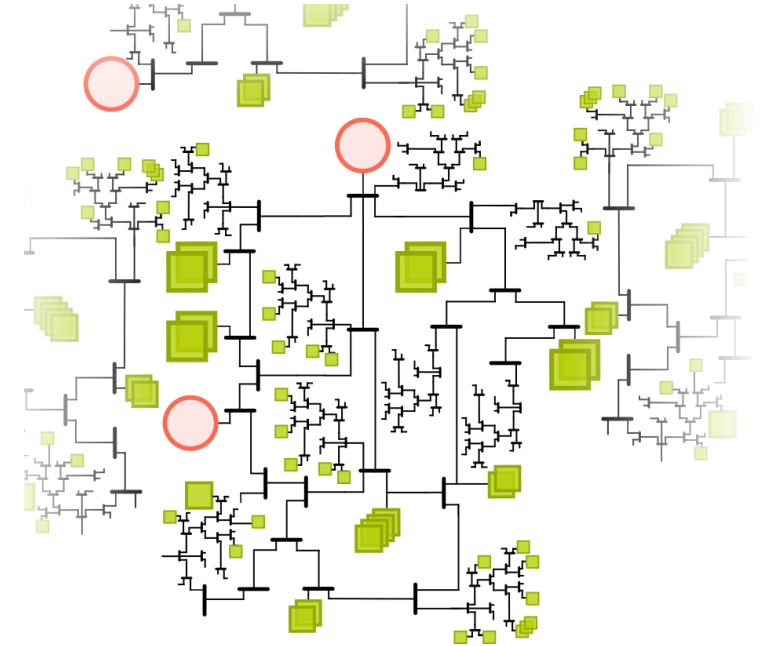
AVERAGE TEST MSE [ $\times 10^{-3}$ ] FOR PREDICTING SDP SOLUTIONS, AND CONSTRAINT VIOLATION STATISTICS ON THE IEEE 39-BUS SYSTEM

Train. Size	P-DNN				SI-DNN			
	MSE	(a)	(b)	(c)	MSE	(a)	(b)	(c)
10	6.3	2.61	0.50	9.78	0.91	2.52	0.37	3.35
50	3.6	2.45	0.55	7.38	0.62	2.58	0.27	2.06
100	2.5	2.59	0.53	6.87	0.67	2.52	0.27	1.96

(a) #violations /instance; (b) max. violation; (c) mean violation [ $\times 10^{-2}$ ]

# Parting thoughts

- Sensitivity analysis of OPF is possible and “scalable”
- Application-informed PF linearization could be a treasure box
  - ✓ Use-inspired research
  - ✓ Bilevel optimization
  - ✓ Sensitivity analysis
- Scalable solutions combining physics & data will drive the future
- Sensitivities can help build the bridge
- *I am looking for PhD students 😊*



***Thank You!***



# Rationale for sensitivity regularization

- Consider local approximations

True mapping  $x(\theta_t + \epsilon) \approx x(\theta_t) + \epsilon x'(\theta_t)$

DNN mapping  $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{w}}(\theta_t + \epsilon) \approx \hat{x}_{\mathbf{w}}(\theta_t) + \epsilon \hat{x}'_{\mathbf{w}}(\theta_t)$



- Suppose  $\epsilon$  is a zero-mean random variable with  $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon^2] = \sigma^2$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon} \left[ (\hat{x}_{\mathbf{w}}(\theta_t + \epsilon) - x(\theta_t + \epsilon))^2 \right] \\ & \approx (\hat{x}_{\mathbf{w}}(\theta_t) - x(\theta_t))^2 + \sigma^2 (\hat{x}'_{\mathbf{w}}(\theta_t) - x'(\theta_t))^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ \|\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\theta_t) - \mathbf{x}(\theta_t)\|_2^2 + \rho \|\nabla_{\theta} \hat{\mathbf{x}}(\theta_t) - \nabla_{\theta} \mathbf{x}(\theta_t)\|_F^2 \right]$$

*Sensitivity regularization is tantamount to local-approximation Vs point-approximation*

*Alternatively, viewed as (almost free) data augmentation*