# Real-time Optimization for Distributed Model Predictive Control

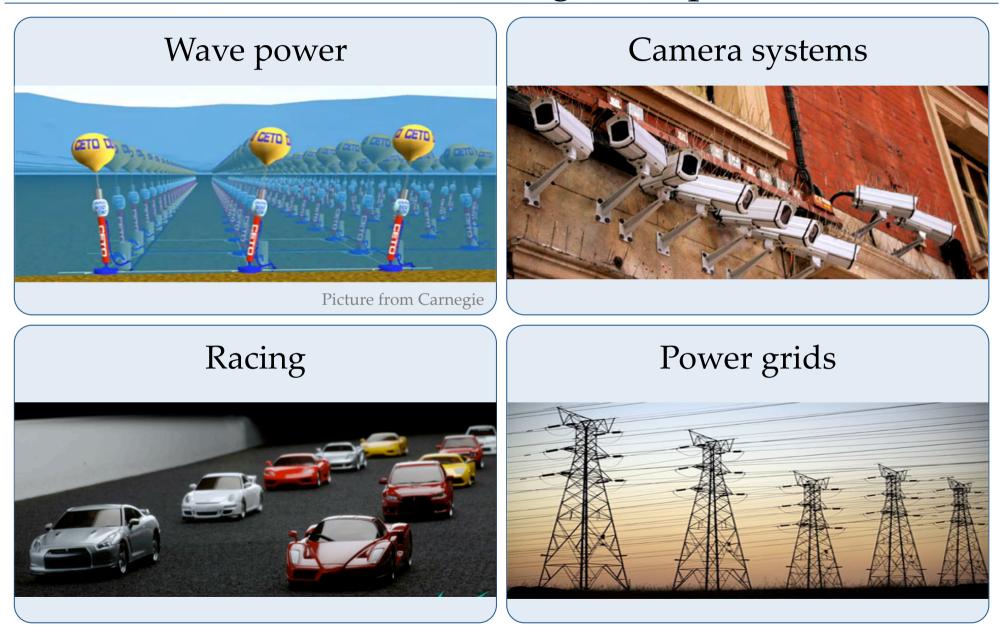
Manfred Morari & Colin Jones

Christian Conte, Davide Raimondo, Stefan Richter, Sean Summers, Joe Warrington, Melanie Zeilinger

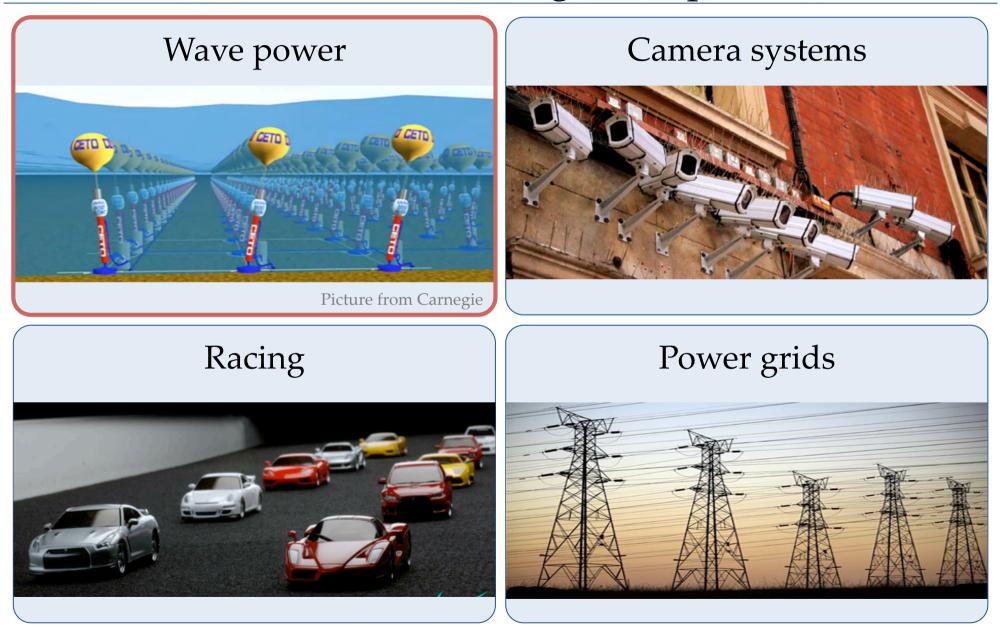


Automatic Control Laboratory, ETH Zürich

## Distributed MPC : Motivating Examples



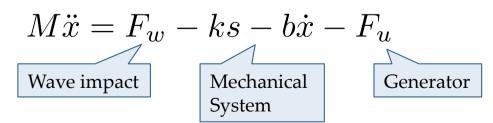
# Distributed MPC : Motivating Examples



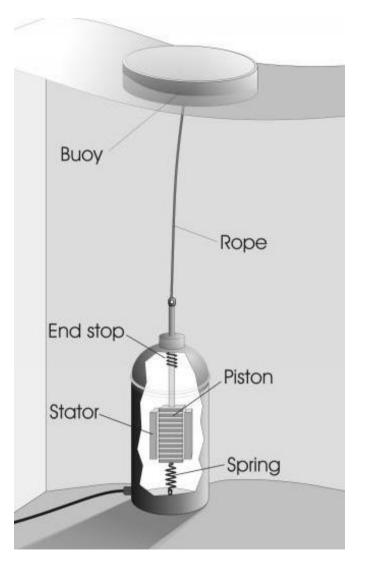


# Wave power: The heaving buoy

- ~1MW per meter of wave crest<sup>1</sup>
  - Energy density ~800x wind
- Global potential ~10 TW<sup>2</sup>
  - Exploitable  $> 2TW^3$
  - 20% world consumption<sup>4</sup>
- Floating buoy attached to generator on seabed
  - Heaving motion  $\Rightarrow$  Electrical energy
  - System dynamics  $\Rightarrow$  ~Second order



- 1. Survey of Energy Resources, WEC, 2007
- 2. Panicker, Power resource estimate of ocean surface waves (2003)
- 3. Thorpe, Wave Power: Moving towards Commercial Viability (1999)
- 4. BP statistical review of world energy (2008)



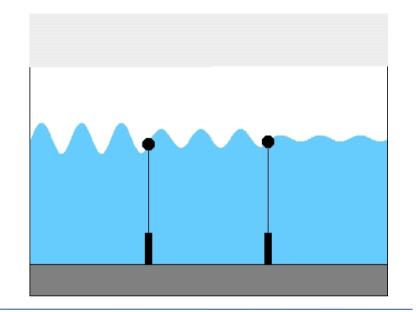
Picture courtesy of Uppsala University

# Wave farms are highly coupled

#### Combined cost function

– Maximize total energy

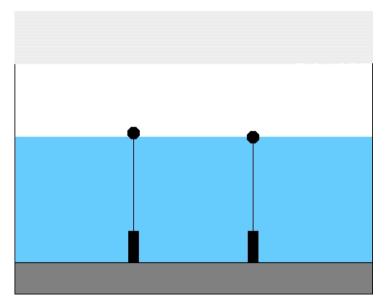
$$\max E_{\text{total}} := \sum_{i} \int_{t} \text{power}_{i}$$



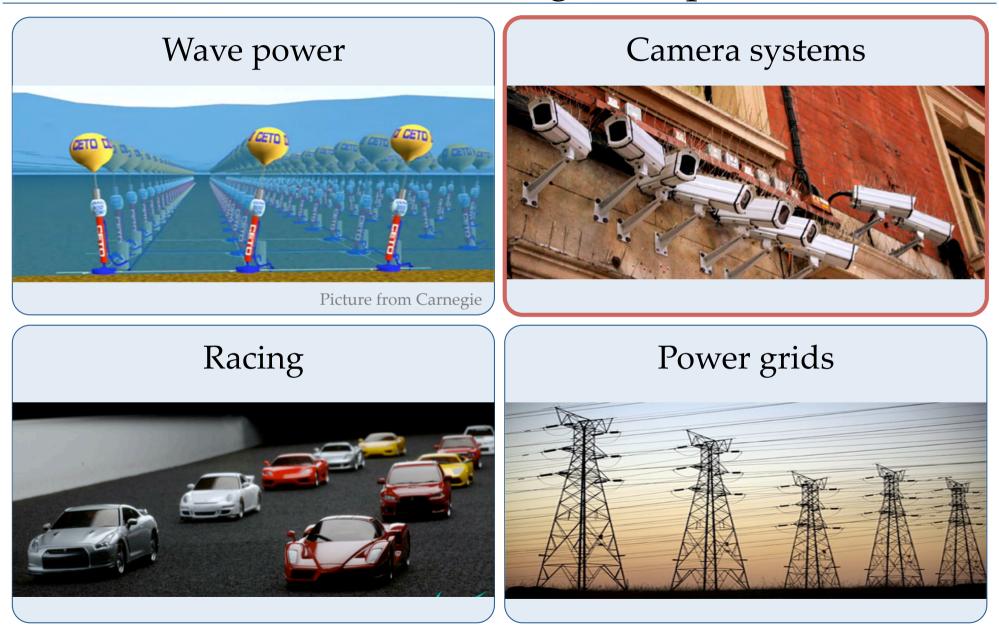
#### Coupled dynamics

- Buoy causes a circular wave
- Perturbs motion of adjacent buoys

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, u_1, \dots, u_n)$$



### Distributed MPC : Motivating Examples



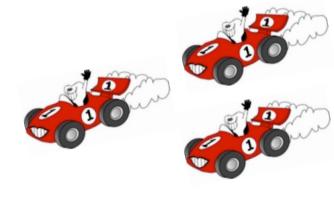
#### Smart camera networks : Surveillance and motion capture

Goal: cooperatively detect and track human targets

- Unsupervised identification of camera network topology
- Distributed estimation of a relative mapping between adjacent cameras' field of views
- Optimal coverage of monitored site to search for anomalous events
- Moving object tracking with PTZ cameras and target hand-off

#### IfA Vision Lab



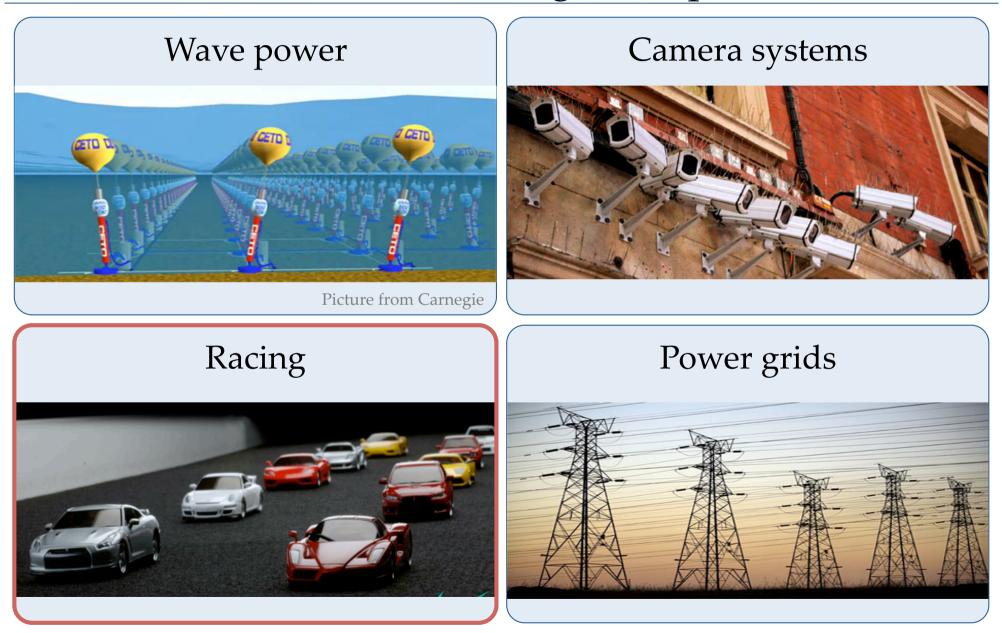




- Pan-tilt-zoom Ulisse Compact Cameras
  Support of Videotoc Sup A
- Support of Videotec S.p.A.



# Distributed MPC : Motivating Examples





#### Micro-scale Race Cars



- 1:43 scale cars 106mm
- Top speed: 5 m/s
   (774 km/h scale speed)
- Full differential steering
- Position-sensing: External vision
- Sampling rate: 60Hz

Project goals:

- 1. Beat all human opponents!
- 2. Demonstrate real-time MPC maximizing car performance
- 3. Plan optimal path online in dynamic race environment

Challenges: Highly nonlinear dynamics Multiple unpredictable opponents High-speed planning and control

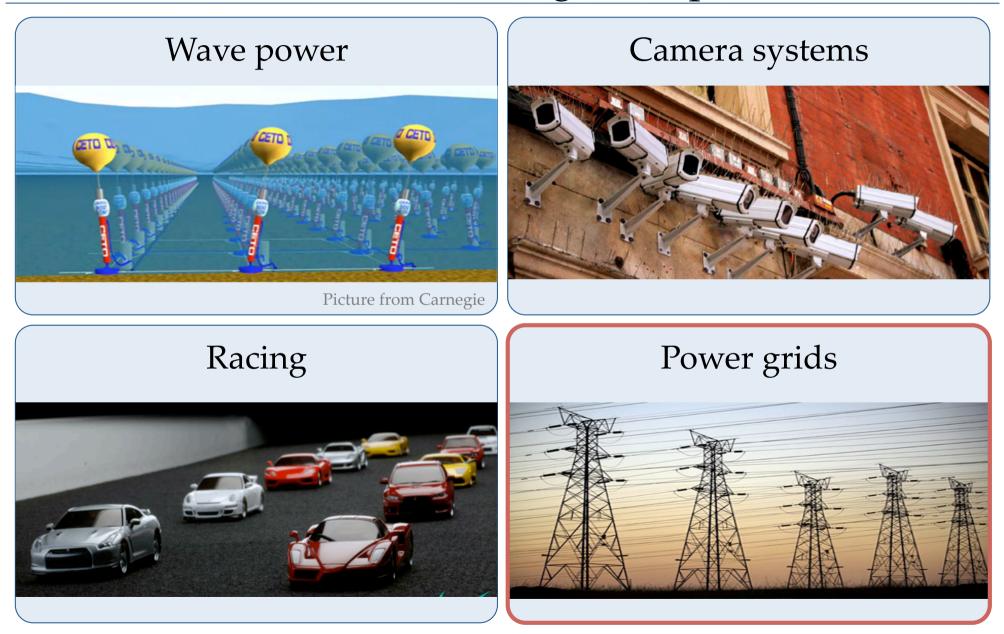


# **Optimal Race Planning**



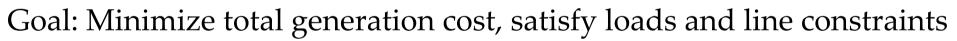
[S. Colass, F. Engler, M. Osswald and C.N. Jones 2009]

# Distributed MPC : Motivating Examples



# Price Control of Power Grids

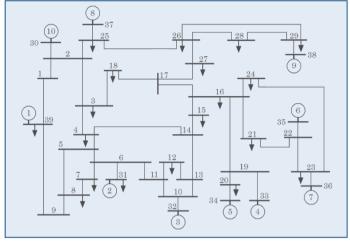
- Current grid:
  - Many loads, generators, transmission lines
  - Strongly coupled but with own objectives
- Market mechanisms break as renewables e.g., wind power share increases:
  - Flow schedule violates line limits
  - Failure to establish a clearing price



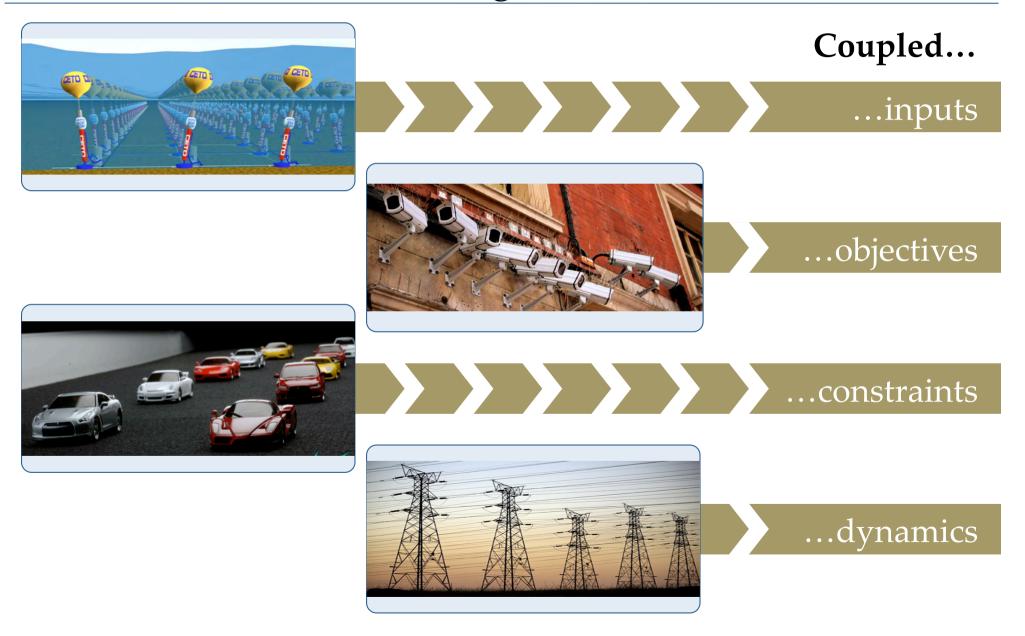
- Keep complex generation decisions *localized*:
  - Cost function of operating point, penalties for output changes, startup/shutdown events, capacity for ancillary services...

#### Idea: Distribute optimization and communicate via price signals

[J. Warrington and S. Mariethoz, 2009] E-PRICE: Price-based Control of Electrical Power Systems



### Distributed MPC Challenges



Execute control action with objectives

- Stability
- Constraint satisfaction
- Performance guarantee
- Real time execution guarantee

#### Outline

Motivating examples

A key challenge : Fast, fixed-time optimization

- Interior-point methods : Milli-seconds
- Fast gradient methods : Micro-seconds
- Explicit methods : Nano-seconds

Summary

# High-speed Model Predictive Control

$$J^{*}(x) = \min_{\mathbf{u} = [u_{0}, \dots, u_{N-1}]} V_{N}(x, \mathbf{u}) \triangleq \frac{1}{2} x_{N}^{T} P x_{N} + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2} x_{i}^{T} Q x_{i} + \frac{1}{2} u_{i}^{T} R u_{i}$$
  
s. t.  $x_{i+1} = A x_{i} + B u_{i}$ , linear nominal system  
 $(x_{i}, u_{i}) \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{U}$ , polytopic constraints  
 $x_{N} \in \mathcal{X}_{F}$ , terminal set  
 $x_{0} = x$ ,

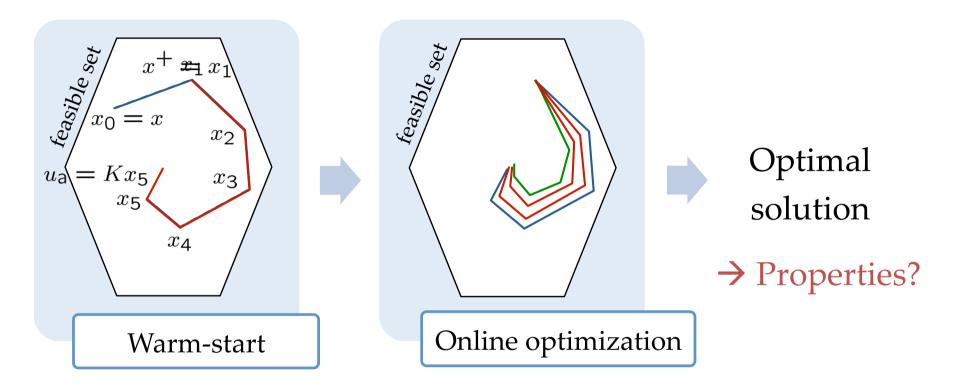
Optimal MPC controller:

- Input and state constraints are satisfied
  - $\rightarrow$  Recursive feasibility
- $J^*(x)$  is a convex Lyapunov function
  - $\rightarrow$  Stability of the closed-loop system

**Goal**: Feasibility/Stability/Tracking for suboptimal MPC controller with real-time constraint

[M.N. Zeilinger, C.N. Jones, D. M. Raimondo, M. Morari, CDC 2009]

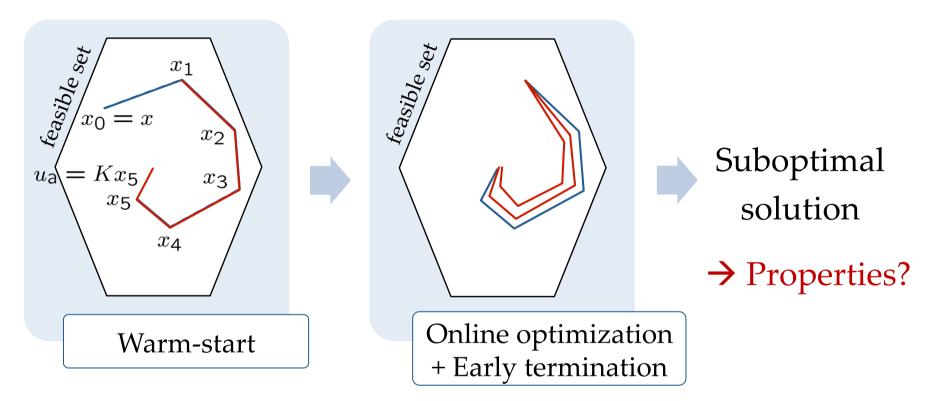
# Optimal MPC scheme (Not Real-time!)



Optimal MPC:

- Recursively feasible
- Stabilizing
- Unknown computation time...

# Real-time MPC scheme

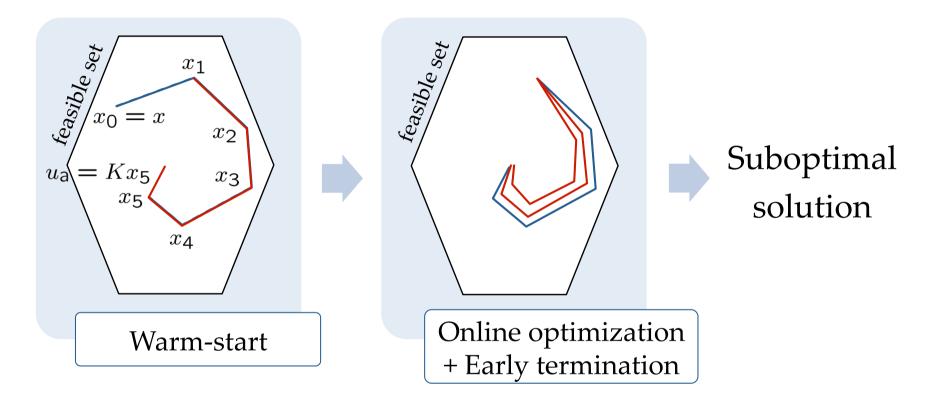


General approach for real-time MPC:

- Use of warm-start method
- Exploitation of structure inherent in MPC problems
- Early termination of the online optimization

<sup>[</sup>Ferreau et al., 2008], [Wang et al., 2008],...

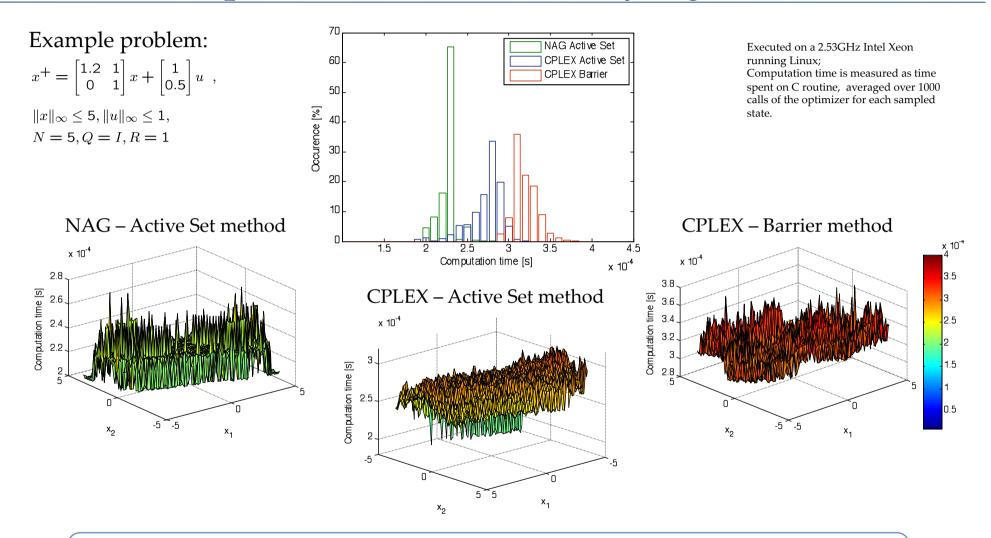
#### Real-time MPC scheme - Current methods



Suboptimal solution during online optimization steps

- can be infeasible
- can destabilize the system
- can cause steady-state offset

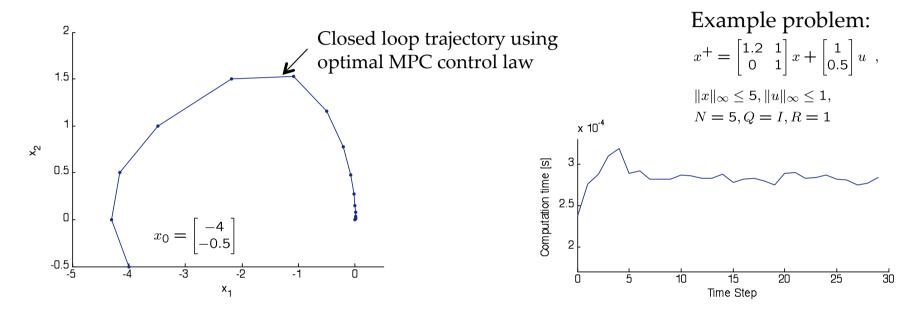
# Online computation times for varying states



→ Computation times for solving the optimal MPC problem vary with the state of the system

### Example: Effects of limited computation time

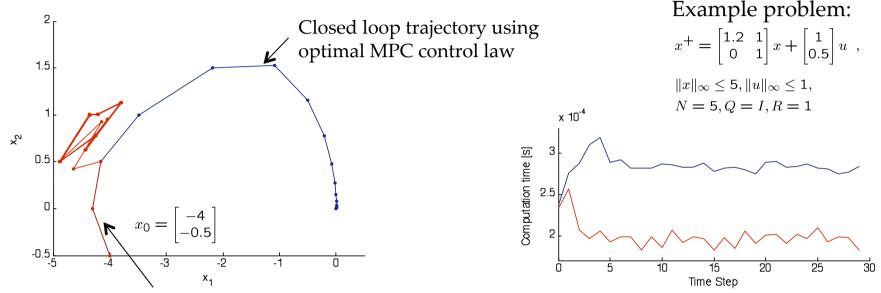
Solve MPC problem using CPLEX Active Set method



Now: Require computation time to be less than 27ms at every sampled state → Restrict algorithm to 5 online optimization steps

# Example: Effects of limited computation time

Solve MPC problem using CPLEX Active Set method



Closed loop trajectory using suboptimal MPC control law, with a limit of 5 online optimization iterations

 $\rightarrow$  System does not converge to the origin

Limits on the online computation time can destroy the stability properties of optimal MPC

# Real-time MPC with stability and robustness guarantees

- Guarantees on
  - Real-time ← Early termination
    - Feasibility
    - Stability
    - Steady-state tracking
- Implementation for large-scale systems
- Fast implementation

# Real-time MPC method

- Constraint satisfaction

Consider uncertain system:  $x^+ = Ax + Bu + w$ where  $w \in W$  is a bounded disturbance.

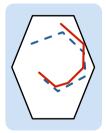
- Robust MPC: Initial feasible solution for all disturbances e.g. [Limon et *al.*, 2009] and references therein
- Optimization maintains feasibility at all times

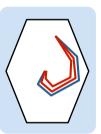
Here: Tube-based robust MPC: [Mayne et al., 2005]

$$\min_{\{\bar{x}_0,\bar{\mathbf{u}}\}} \bar{V}_N(x,\bar{x}_0,\bar{\mathbf{u}}) \triangleq \frac{1}{2} \bar{x}_N^T P \bar{x}_N + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2} \bar{x}_i^T Q \bar{x}_i + \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}_i^T R \bar{u}_i$$

s.t.  $\bar{x}_{i+1} = A\bar{x}_i + B\bar{u}_i$ ,  $(\bar{x}_i, \bar{u}_i) \in \bar{\mathbb{X}} \times \bar{\mathbb{U}}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbb{X}} = \mathbb{X} \ominus \mathcal{Z}, \bar{\mathbb{U}} = \mathbb{U} \ominus K\mathcal{Z}$   $\bar{x}_N \in X_f$ ,  $x \in \bar{x}_0 \oplus \mathcal{Z}$ ,

→ Ellipsoidal invariant sets can be computed for all system sizes
→ Resulting optimization problem is a convex QCQP





# Real-time MPC with stability and robustness guarantees

- Guarantees on

  - Stability ← Lyapunov constraint
    - Steady-state tracking Lyapunov constraint
- Fast implementation

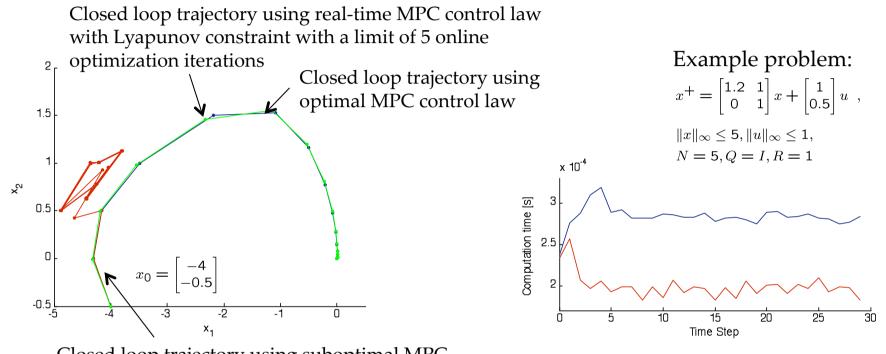
### Real-time MPC - Fast Implementation

- Tracking formulation and Lyapunov constraint significantly modify structure of matrices in Newton step computation compared to literature.
   [Rao et al., 1998, Wang et al., 2008]
- Matrices can be transformed into arrow structure, which can be solved efficiently with same complexity as standard MPC problems [Rao et *al.*,1998; Hansson, 2000; Wang et *al.*,2008]
  - → Fast solution of the tracking problem with guaranteed stability for all suboptimal iterates → for all time constraints!
- Custom solver in C++ was developed extending fast MPC solver described in literature [Wang et *al.*, 2008]

→ Computation times that are faster or equal compared to methods with no guarantees

[M.N. Zeilinger, C.N. Jones, D. M. Raimondo, M. Morari, CDC 2009]

#### Example: Effects of limited computation time



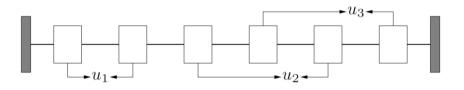
Closed loop trajectory using suboptimal MPC control law, with a limit of 5 online optimization iterations

Limits on the online computation time can destroy the stability properties of optimal MPC

# Numerical Examples

Oscillating masses example

• Problem: 12 states, 3 inputs



• Fast MPC with guarantees: horizon N=10

→ Computation of 5 Newton steps in 2 msec Comparison: CPLEX 26 msec, SEDUMI 252 msec
Closed loop performance loss in % for varying iteration numbers

 $k_{\text{max}}$ 12345678 $\rightarrow$ Optimal $\triangle J_{cl}$ 1.391.321.100.880.700.550.440.33~44 iterations

Random example

- Problem: 30 states, 8 inputs, horizon N=10
  - → QCQP with 410 optimization variables and 1002 constraints
  - → Computation of 5 Newton steps in **10 msec**

[M.N. Zeilinger, C.N. Jones, D. M. Raimondo, M. Morari, CDC 2009]

#### Outline

Motivating examples

A key challenge : Fast, fixed-time optimization

- Interior-point methods : Milli-seconds
- Fast gradient methods : Micro-seconds
- Explicit methods : Nano-seconds

Summary

# Structured Optimization: Input constrained MPC

- Linear system, input constraints only
- Gradient-based optimization
  - Very simple
  - Easy to parallelize
  - Fast for large number of states

#### ⇒ Can pre-compute required number of online iterations

**Require:** 
$$U_0 \in \mathbb{U}^N$$
,  $V_0 = U_0$   
1: for  $i = 1$  to  $i_{\max}$  do  
2:  $U_i = \pi_{\mathbb{U}^N} \left( V_{i-1} - \frac{1}{L} \nabla J_N(V_{i-1}; x) \right)$   
3:  $V_i = U_i + b_i (U_i - U_{i-1})$   
4: end for

[Y. Nesterov, 1983] [S. Richter, C.N. Jones and M. Morari, CDC 2009]

- Work per iteration
  - 1 matrix-vector product
  - 2 vector sums
  - 1 projection (more later)

# Fast Gradient Method for MPC

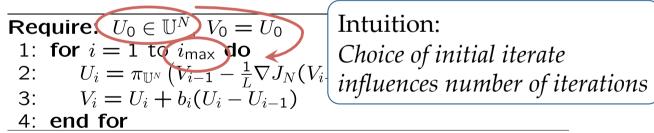
Observe:

Input-constrained MPC problem has a "simple" feasible set

$$\mathbb{U}^{N} := \mathbb{U} \times \mathbb{U} \times \ldots \times \mathbb{U}$$
  

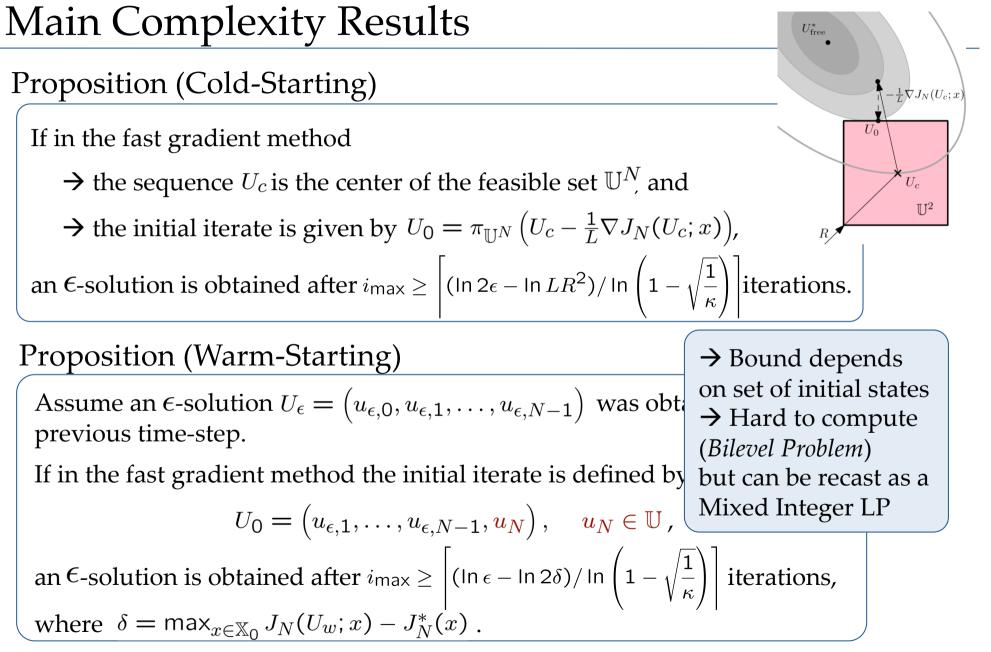
$$\Rightarrow \text{ Projection can be separated: } \pi_{\mathbb{U}^{N}} \left( \overline{U} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} \pi_{\mathbb{U}} \left( \overline{u}_{0} \right) \\ \pi_{\mathbb{U}} \left( \overline{u}_{1} \right) \\ \vdots \\ \pi_{\mathbb{U}} \left( \overline{u}_{N-1} \right) \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } \overline{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{u}_{0} \\ \overline{u}_{1} \\ \vdots \\ \overline{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Missing Pieces** 



Two Initialization Strategies  $\Leftrightarrow$  Two Different Lower Bounds on  $i_{max}$ :

- $\rightarrow$  Cold-Starting
- → Warm-Starting

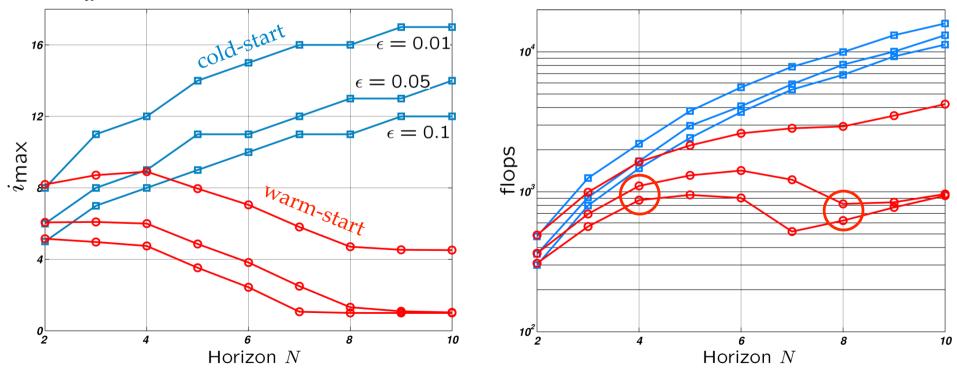


[S. Richter, C.N. Jones and M. Morari, CDC 2009]

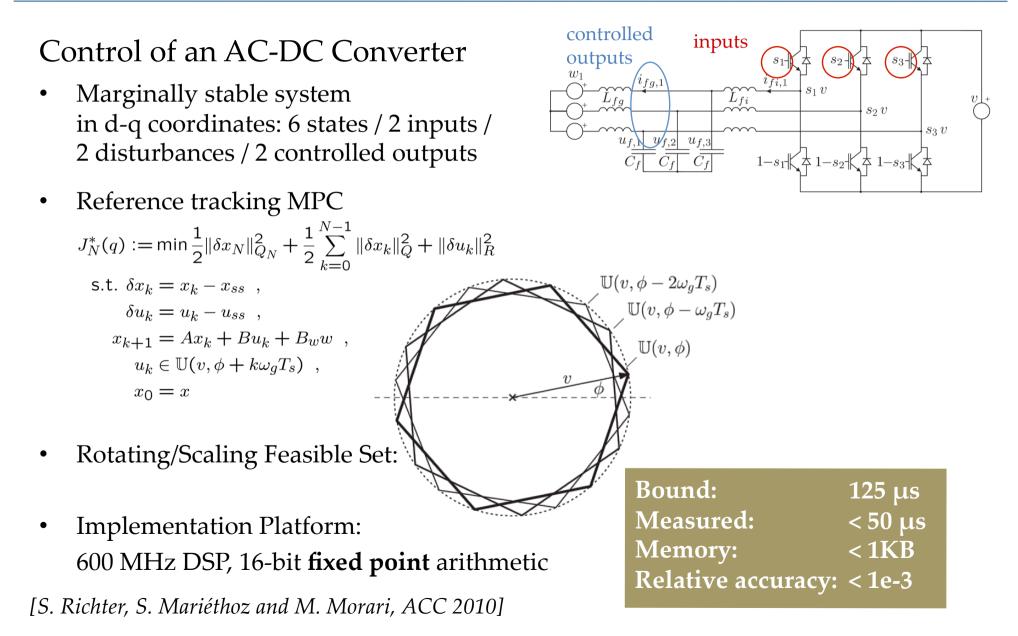
#### Illustrative Example

4 states/2 inputs system: 
$$x^+ = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & -0.1 & 0.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.2 & -0.5 & 0.1 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.0 \\ 0.5 & 0.0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 0.1 \\ 0.1 & 1.0 \\ 0.1 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix} u + w$$

- → Set of initial states  $X_0 = \{x \mid ||x||_\infty \le 10\}$
- → Set of feasible inputs  $\mathbb{U} = \{u \mid ||u||_{\infty} \leq 1\}$
- → State disturbance  $w \in \mathbb{W} = \{w \mid ||w||_{\infty} \le 0.25\}$
- → Weight matrices  $Q = I_n$ ,  $R = 0.1I_m$



# Application to AC-DC Converter



#### Outline

Motivating examples

A key challenge : Fast, fixed-time optimization

- Interior-point methods : Milli-seconds
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- Explicit methods
- : Nano-seconds

Summary

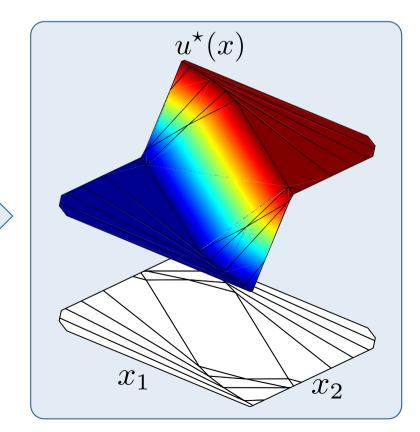
# Explicit MPC : Online => Offline Processing

- Optimization problem is function parameterized by state
- Control law piecewise affine for PWA systems/constraints
- Pre-compute control law as function of state x

Result : Online computation dramatically reduced

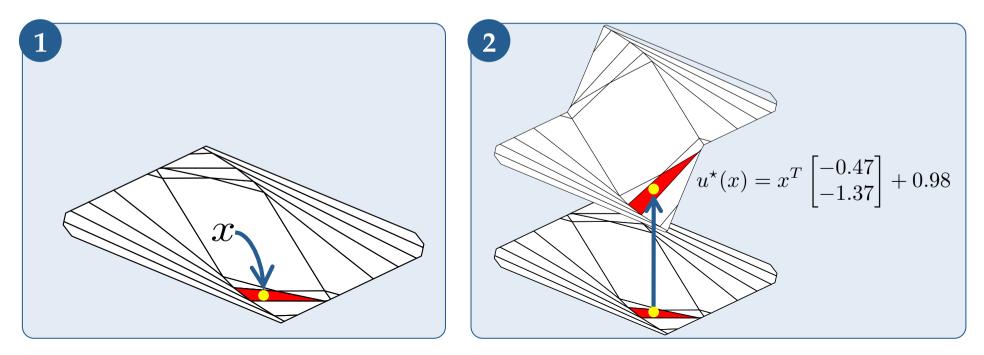
$$\begin{aligned} u^{\star}(x) &= \underset{u_{i}}{\operatorname{argmin}} V_{N}(x_{N}) + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} l(x_{i}, u_{i}) \\ \text{s.t. } x_{i+1} &= f(x_{i}, u_{i}) \\ (x_{i}, u_{i}) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{U} \\ x_{N} \in \mathcal{X}_{N} \\ x_{0} &= x \end{aligned}$$

[M.M. Seron, J.A. De Doná and G.C. Goodwin, 2000] [T.A. Johansen, I. Peterson and O. Slupphaug, 2000] [A. Bemporad, M. Morari, V. Dua and E.N. Pistokopoulos, 2000]



## Online speed depends on number of control law regions

- Online evaluation reduced to:
  - Point location
  - Evaluation of affine function
- Online complexity is governed by point location
  - Function of number of regions in cell complex
  - Milli- to microseconds possible only *if small number of regions!!*



## Real-time $\Leftrightarrow$ synthesize control law of *specified* complexity

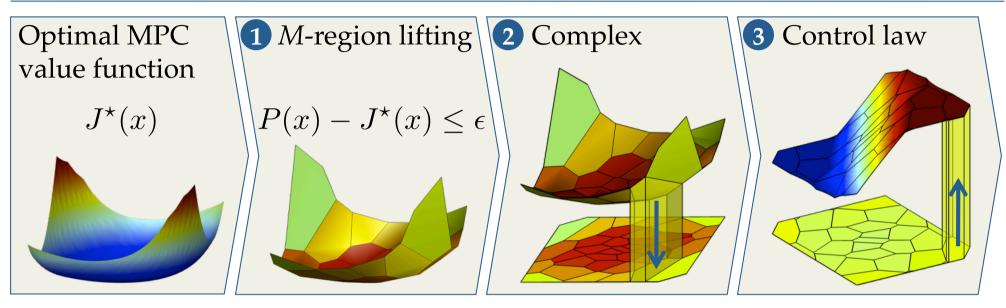
- Explicit MPC may not satisfy given real-time constraint
  - Complexity independent of available processing power
  - Number of regions (complexity) is exponentially sensitive to
    - State dimension
    - Input dimension
    - Small changes in system dynamics

#### Idea : Real-time explicit MPC with complexity as input

## Algorithm properties:

- Tradeoff between complexity and optimality
  - Real-time synthesis
  - Control extremely high-speed systems
- Process any convex MPC problem
- Synthesis of control law to software is verifiable

# Real-time explicit MPC : Offline processing



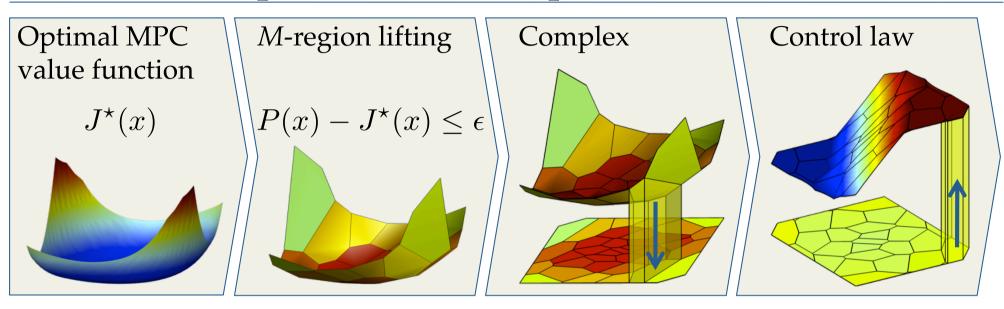
Given optimal controller:

- 1 Compute convex polyhedral function of *M* facets
- 2 Define complex as projection of lifting facets
- 3 Interpolate optimal control law at vertices of complex

Result : Piecewise polynomial controller of *M* regions

$$J^{\star}(x_0) = \min_{u_i} V_N(x_N) + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} l(x_i, u_i)$$
  
s.t.  $x_{i+1} = f(x_i, u_i)$   
 $(x_i, u_i) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{U}$   
 $x_N \in \mathcal{X}_N$ 

# Real-time explicit MPC : Properties



#### Real-time explicit MPC:

Is computable in micro- to nanoseconds<= Lifting function</th>Satisfies constraints<= Barycentric interpolation</td>

Stabilizes the system

Complexity/performance tradeoff

## $\varepsilon$ -approx controller is stable if $\varepsilon$ < 1

$$J(u) := V_N(x_N) + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} l(x_i, u_i)$$
$$J^*(x_0) := \min_{u_i} J(u)$$
s.t.  $x_{i+1} = f(x_i, u_i)$ 
$$(x_i, u_i) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{U}$$
$$x_N \in \mathcal{X}_N$$

Sufficiently close to optimal  $\rightarrow$  Stabilizing

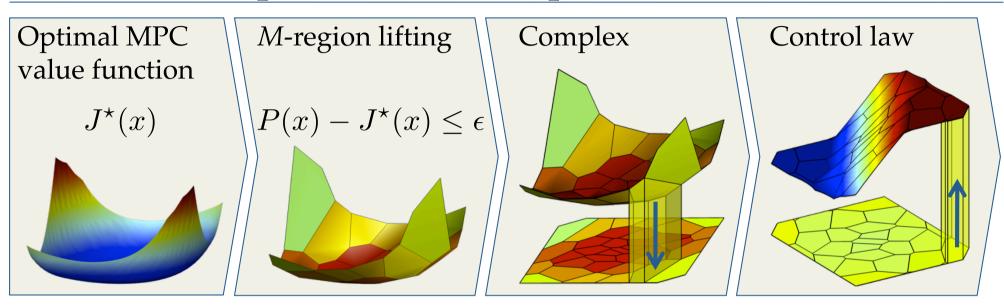
⇒ Stabilizing

Idea:

• Find a lifting sufficiently close to optimal and use it to define  $\tilde{u}(x)$ 

Thm:  $x^+ = f(x, \tilde{u}(x))$ is stable if  $J^{\star}(x) \le J(\tilde{u}(x)) \le J^{\star}(x) + \epsilon l(x,0)$ for  $\epsilon < 1$  $J(\tilde{u}(x))$  $J^{\star}(x) + \epsilon l(x,0)$  $J^{\star}(x)$ 

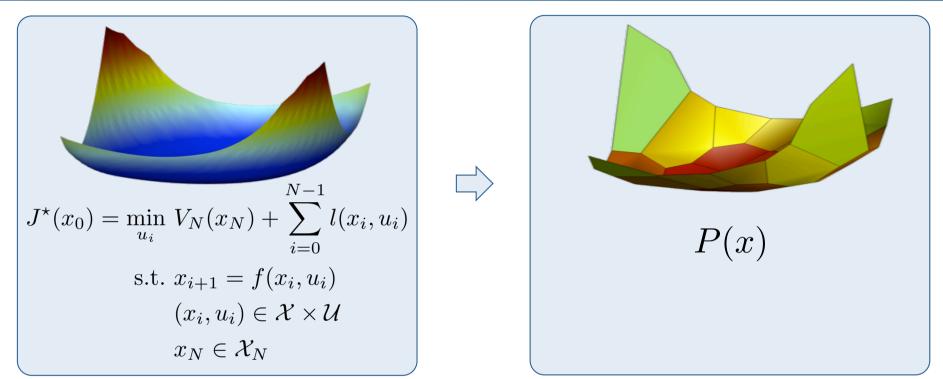
# Real-time explicit MPC : Properties



#### Real-time explicit MPC:

Is computable in micro- to nanoseconds <= Lifting function Satisfies constraints <= Barycentric interpolation Stabilizes the system <= Error less than one Complexity/performance tradeoff

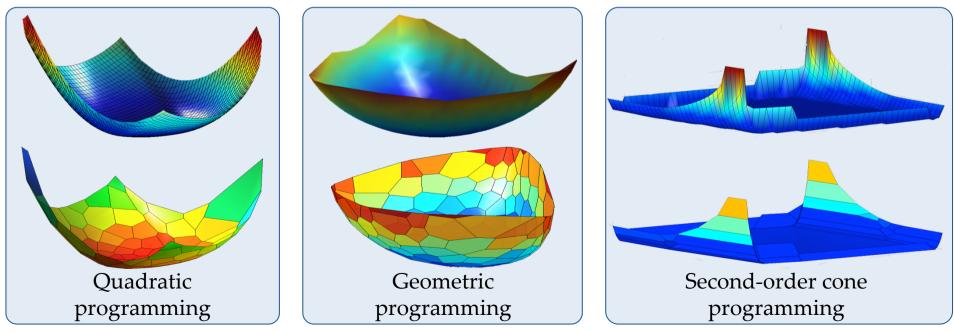
## *M*-region approximation => Double description method



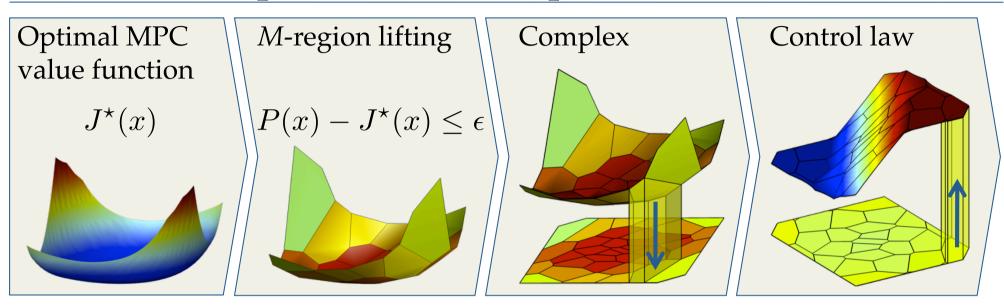
- Approximate convex parametric programming
- Open problem in many areas:
  - Vertex enumeration, Projection, Non-negative matrix factorization...
  - These problems are known to be NP-hard
- ⇒ Poly-time greedy-optimal algorithm

# Double description method : Algorithm properties

- Lifting of *M* regions <= Iterate algorithm *M* times
- Monotonic decrease in Hausdorff distance
  - Complexity / performance tradeoff via M
- There exists a minimum *M* for stability
  - $\epsilon$ -error in finite time  $\Rightarrow$  will find a Lyapunov function
  - Once stable, always stable



# Real-time explicit MPC : Properties



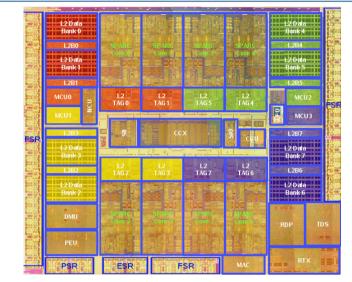
### Real-time explicit MPC:

- Is computable in micro- to nanoseconds <= Liftin
- Satisfies constraints
- Stabilizes the system
- Complexity/performance tradeoff

- nds <= Lifting function
  - <= Barycentric interpolation
  - <= Error less than one
  - <= *M*-region lifting

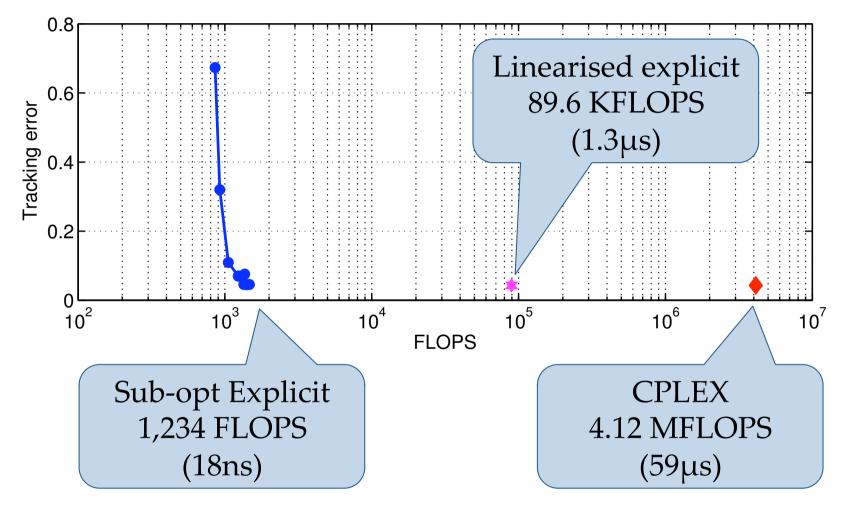
## Example : Temperature Regulation of Multi-Core Processor

- Goals
  - Track workload requests
  - Minimize power usage
  - Respect temperature limits
- Quadratic nonlinear dynamics
  - Exact convex relaxation
- Stringent computational and storage requirements



$$\begin{aligned} J^{\star}(x_0, w) &= \min_{f_i} \sum_{t=0}^{N} \sum_{i=0}^{t} (w_i - f_i) \\ \text{s.t. } x_{i+1} &= Ax_i + Bf_i^2 \\ \sum_{i=0}^{t} w_i &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{t} f_i \\ x_i &\leq T_{\max} \\ f_{\min} &\leq f_i \leq f_{\max} \end{aligned}$$

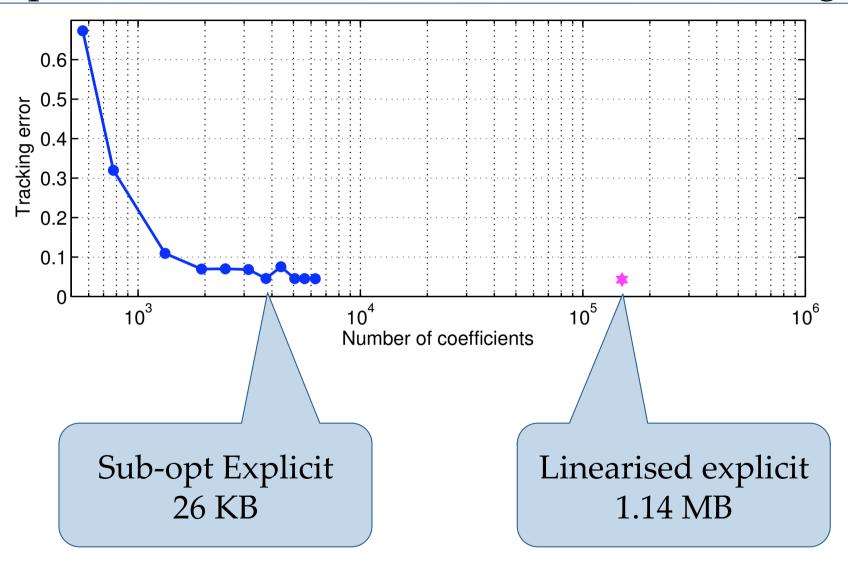
## Computational results for QCQP : >3,000× faster



(Assuming 70 GFLOPS/sec – e.g., Intel Core i7 965 XE)

>3,000× / 72× faster than CPLEX / lin. explicit

## Computational results for QCQP : 45× less storage



45× less storage

## Outline

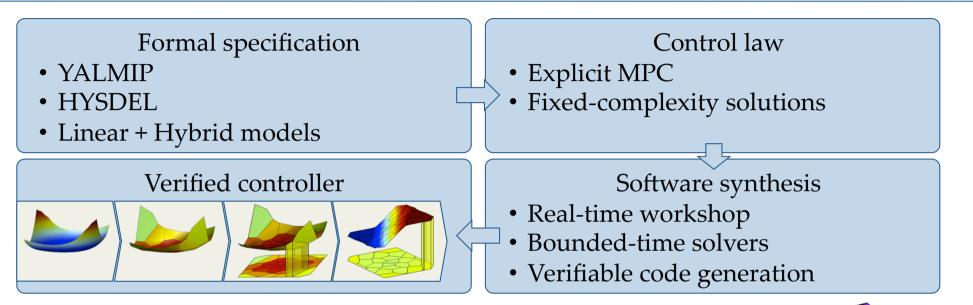
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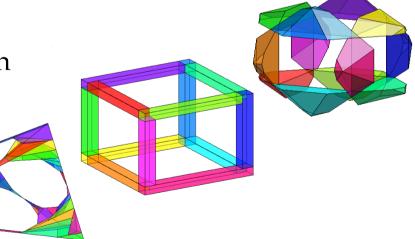
#### Summary

# Summary



#### Multi-Parametric Toolbox (MPT)

- (Non)-Convex Polytopic Manipulation
- Multi-Parametric Programming
- Control of PWA and LTI systems
- > 22,000 downloads to date



#### MPT 3.0 coming in 2010