Rationale
No sooner than the recent 2016 IEEE International Conference on Smart Grid Communications, some concern was still raised as to what the so-called “smart grid” really is. Historically, it was developed for economic reasons: competition in the electricity market to allow consumers to purchase their electricity at the cheapest price. This already had the unforeseeable effect of creating large transport of power across the country, overloading the lines with the potential for blackouts. Another significant attribute of the smart grid is it increasing reliance on renewables, which have the effect of injecting fluctuations in the grid, calling for stochastic analysis. “Smartness” of the grid probably stems for the massive amount of sensors that are currently deployed and the utilization of those measurements for control purposes. Unfortunately, everybody with ordinary skill in the control art understands that the more feedback loops are closed, the more the potential for problems such as instability. This is the “dark” aspect of sensors. On the positive side, the very accurate PMU sensors allows for monitoring the grid with unprecedented time resolution, making it possible via statistical signal processing to detect false data injection and to anticipate blackout before they become catastrophic.

Power grid versus information grid topology
There has been a tremendous amount of activity on the topology of the information grid. Such concepts as Scale-Free networks, Small-World networks, betweenness centrality, etc. have dominated the Internet publication arena over the past 15 years. However, this line of research has shown signals that, on the one hand, it is running out of steam and, and on the other hand, that it might not have captured the topological features of real power, communication, transportation, and other networks. This has created a still on-
going revolution in the field, trading the old concept of Scale-Free networks for negatively curved Gromov and Ollivier-Ricci hyperbolic grids, a revolution that is currently pervading the power grid. The universal acceptance of the concept of Gromov hyperbolic networks and Ollivier-Ricci hyperbolic networks stems from the fact that, in the information grid, it is closely related to congestion and queue overflow and, in the power grid, it is related to line overloading.

**Power grid versus information grid security**

Among the aspects making the power grid “smart” is the massive deployment of Phase Measurement Units (PMUs), which provide the sensing information that reflects the state of “health” of the grid. Unfortunately, sending the PMU’s across the grid via classical “secured” information technology for possible (centralized) control action makes the grid vulnerable to attacks, especially false data injection. In particular, in this course, we will focus on the recent *stealthy deception attack*, against which no protection has yet been found.

**Spirit of this course**

In summary, the “smart grid” is a multi-disciplinary venture and this course only claims to cover some of its aspects. Nevertheless, we will try to make this course of relevance to control, computer engineering, and power students.

**Four parts of course**

**Part 1 (“Power Network”)**

The first part of the course will be taught from the “networking” point of view. It is heavily graph-oriented. It will proceed from basic electrodynamics (synchronous generator, transmission lines, loads, adaptation, active & reactive power, power flow equations), from where bus models will be formalized in the context of graph theory—in particular, “resistive networks” together with spectral graph theory (Laplacian operator). This formalization will be geared towards a better understanding of “congestion,” interpreted in the sense of line overload. A betweenness centrality concept able to anticipate congestion will be developed. From a more modern mathematical viewpoint, it will be shown that line overload occurs along negatively curved paths. The impact of fluctuations of renewables (e.g., wind farms) and pricing on congestion will also be addressed.

**Part 2 (“Security”)**

This part deals with defense mechanisms against (possibly “stealthy”) false data injection attacks of the State Estimator (SE). The approach relies on the machine learning technique of “graphical models.” A graphical model of the bus phase angles is compared with the actual grid topology and, should a discrepancy be observed, the red flag is raised that some data tampering has happened.
Part 3 (“Control”)
Part 3 is centralized around the concept of reactive power flow and voltage stability. We will first review static voltage collapse together with static load modeling. Then we will unravel the hidden feedbacks in the power grid and proceed towards the less well understood concept of dynamic voltage collapse together with dynamic load modeling.

Part 4 (“PMU Signal Analysis”)
The last part of the course deals with statistical PMU signal analysis. It will be shown that PMU signals are fractal as a result of an aggregation of load effect. Most importantly, it will be shown that before a voltage collapse appears imminent, the AR(1) coefficient and Hurst exponents of frequency PMU signal both increase. The increase will be statistically confirmed using the Kendall tau and the Jonckheere-Terpstra rank correlation.

Format of course

Instructor
Dr. E. A. Jonckheere
EEB 306
(213) 740-4457
jonckhee@usc.edu

Meetings
Tuesday-Thursday, 5:00-6:20 pm, in RTH115 (available on DEN)

Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm

Teaching Assistant / Mentor:
TBA (probably Eugenio Grippo, egrippo@usc.edu)

Discussion Sessions
TBA

Prerequisite:
Basic linear feedback control (EE482); good working knowledge of linear algebra (EE441); Linear System Theory (EE585) is not a “must,” but is desirable as a “recommended preparation.” Some familiarity with nonlinear systems (especially the describing function also referred to as equivalent linearization) would be helpful, but not required, as the basic nonlinear theory will be covered in a self-sufficient manner.
Software, Matlab, etc.

Familiarity with Matlab will be assumed. In the course of the semester, MATPOWER will be reviewed and students will be required to become familiar with it and utilize it in homework assignments.

Course grading:

For this kind of research-oriented class, it is difficult to have traditional “sit-down” exams. The course grading will be based on homework, meant to be critical readings of specialized papers and research oriented exercises, a midterm project (due mid semester), and a final project (due end of semester):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm-project (due mid semester)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final project (due end of semester)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Textbook:

It is difficult to find a textbook that covers all that has to be covered, especially since this proposed class deals with a topic that has only very recently taken shape. Nevertheless a recommended text that comes close to the spirit of this class is


To compensate for the lack of formal textbook, the instructor will provide students with lecture notes, compiled last years, and covering just about the whole class.

Besides, the instructor will provide students with notes posted on the blackboard. For example:

2. J. A. Hall, Strategic environmental research and development program statement of need for FY08; Sustainable infrastructure (SI) new start; Scalable power grids that facilitate the use of renewable energy technologies, November 2006, Department of Defense, SON Number SISON-09-4, http://www.serdp.org/funding/.


**Time table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>FIRST PART: GRAPH THEORY OF TRANSMISSION NETWORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2017</td>
<td>The concept of network. Information network, sensor networks, telephone network, power grid, bus model, transportation network. The concepts of “flow” and “commodity;” multi-commodity flow, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2017</td>
<td>Introduction to the power grid elements: generation, transmission, distribution. The deregulation issue and large-scale power transmission. The concept of “renewables” (wind farms, photovoltaic cells).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>SECOND PART: STATE ESTIMATOR, CYBER SECURITY, AND PRIVACY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>State Estimators (SEs) and large scale synchronous Phasor Measurement Units (PMUs) deployment. Time stamp by Global Positioning System (GPS). Networked PMUs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2017</td>
<td>Detection of false data injection by structure learning of grid graph using Conditional Covariance Test (CCT). Gaussian versus non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2017</td>
<td>Gaussian property of state estimator and PMU signals. Application of structure learning to detect stealthy deception attack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2017</td>
<td>Battery buffer between household appliances and smart meter to protect privacy of consumers. Notion of mutual information between signals on both sides of battery buffer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2017</td>
<td><strong>THIRD PART: VOLTAGE STABILITY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td>Static load models and static voltage collapse scenario ((P,V) diagram)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td>Nonlinear, frequency-dependent load models in the sense of Berg, significance of the non-integer exponents of the frequency in Berg model, “dynamic” Hill model, comparison between Berg and Hill models, the static-dynamic gap, describing function (“equivalent gain”) load models. Modeling of tap changer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td>Hidden control feedbacks in the power grid. Simple one-generator, one-line, one-load model; many-generator, many-line, many-load multivariable models. Callier-Desoer decomposition of the grid control graph in strongly connected components and application to load aggregation effect. Application of modern multivariable control theory to voltage collapse. Frequency disruptive and non-frequency disruptive voltage collapse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td><strong>FOURTH PART: STATISTICAL PMU SIGNAL ANALYSIS</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems**

**Academic Conduct**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* [https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/](https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, [http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/).

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* [http://equity.usc.edu/](http://equity.usc.edu/) or to the *Department of Public Safety* [http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us](http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us). This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center*
for Women and Men [http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/](http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/) provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage [sarc@usc.edu](mailto:sarc@usc.edu) describes reporting options and other resources.

**Support Systems**

A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the [American Language Institute](http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali), which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The [Office of Disability Services and Programs](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, [USC Emergency Information](http://emergency.usc.edu) will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.