Study on the optimization allocation of wind-solar in power system based on multi-region production simulation

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Abstract. In this paper, a power supply optimization model is proposed. The model takes the minimum fossil energy consumption as the target, considering the output characteristics of the conventional power supply and the renewable power supply. The optimal capacity ratio of wind-solar in the power supply under various constraints is calculated, and the interrelation between conventional power supply and renewable energy is analyzed in the system of high proportion renewable energy integration. Using the model, we can provide scientific guidance for the coordinated and orderly development of renewable energy and conventional power sources.

1 Introduction

Power planning plays an important role in the development of power system. The traditional mixing configuration refers to the simple combination, in which the system lacks the detailed calculation model so that the guarantee rate is low, and the service life is short. The real meaning of the renewable energy system configuration is to maximize the use of resources such as wind and solar energy. When designing the system, we should choose the appropriate capacity configuration according to the local meteorological conditions. The target of hybrid system configuration is to determine the rated power, solar battery power and battery capacity of wind turbines in hybrid power system according to local meteorological data and load demand design algorithm, so that the configuration results match each other, and the system cost is lowest while satisfying the requirements of power balance and minimum boot capacity. The paper [1] uses the method of production simulation to calculate the optimal configuration of scenery, and the document [2,3] introduces the power programming modeling and solving method considering the minimum target cost. The influence of uncertain factors on power supply planning is considered in the literature [4], and the influence of uncertainty and electricity price on the load forecasting is taken into account in the objective function. The paper [5,6] considers the environmental protection benefit in the planning, analyzes the harm of various kinds of units emissions to the environment and establishes the multi-objective power supply optimization model with the minimum current value of total cost and the least CO2 emission. The paper [7] proposes a power supply planning model which pursues the profit maximization of each generation company under the market environment.

The power supply planning problem is a high dimensional non-convex nonlinear optimization problem, so that the solution is more complex. Heuristic algorithms, mathematical optimization methods and artificial intelligence methods are used to solve the algorithm. However, the existing methods are based on the total cost value and profit, take the benefit cost as the center, and seldom take into account the influence of renewable energy on the power grid, and the interrelated mechanism of various power sources in the system of high proportion renewable energy integration is not clear enough. Therefore, it is necessary to study the new programming algorithm for the multi area power supply planning.

2 Multi-region renewable energy accommodation assessment model

2.1 Model framework

In this paper, a novel multi-region renewable energy accommodation capacity assessment model is proposed. In this model, the installed capacity of renewable energy is not given in advance, but is regarded as a decision variable in the optimization process. It means that the model is a joint optimization one, and it also takes into account the characteristics of renewable energy output, the characteristics of different types of generating units, the transmission channels, and the maximum capacity of the installed renewable energy.

2.2 Decision variables

The decision variables mainly include the following parts, and the key variables are shown in table 1:

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1) the accommodation capacity of wind and solar power; 
\[ C_{\text{Wind}} \rightarrow \text{maximum wind-installed capacity located in k-region}; \]
\[ C_{\text{Solar}} \rightarrow \text{maximum solar-installed capacity located in k-region}. \]

2) operation simulation decision variables, which are shown in Table 1.

### Table 1. Key variable definition and its description.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( P_{\text{unittype},i}^h )</td>
<td>Continuous type variable</td>
<td>The output of i-unit at time t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( U_{\text{thermal},i}^t )</td>
<td>0-1 Variable</td>
<td>The state of i-thermal power unit at time t, 0 for shutdown, 1 for startup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( U_{\text{pump},i}^t )</td>
<td>0-1 Variable</td>
<td>The state of i-pump power unit at time t, 0 for pumping, 1 for generating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.3 Objective function

The model is aimed at the optimal economy, and the objective function includes the following parts: 1) fuel cost and variable operating cost, 2) unit starting and shutdown cost for the thermal power, 3) fixed operating cost, 4) electricity outage cost, and 5) pollutant emission cost, namely

\[
C = \sum_{i} \sum_{t} C_{\text{SU}}^t (1 - U_{\text{thermal},i}^t) U_{\text{thermal},i}^t + \sum_{i} \sum_{t} P_{\text{thermal},i}^t + C_{\text{fix}}^t + C_{\text{env}}^t + C_{\text{emission}}^t \tag{1}
\]

The first right part of the equal sign is the start/shutdown cost of the thermal power unit, \( C_{\text{SU}}^t \) for startup charges, in the following notation:

\[
C_{\text{SU}}^t = \begin{cases} 
C_{h}^t, & T_{\text{on}} \leq t_{\text{on}} \leq t_{s,h} \\
C_{c}^t, & t_{\text{off}} \leq t_{\text{off}}, \text{for for the actual continuous shutdown time, } t_{\text{off}} \text{ for the hot start shutdown time, } t_{s,h} \text{ is the hot start decision time.} 
\end{cases} \tag{2}
\]

The second part is the fuel cost of thermal power unit, \( F(\cdot) \) for the thermal power unit operating cost function, can be expressed by linear or piecewise linear function, if divided into k segments, namely

\[
F(\cdot) = \begin{cases} 
a_{1,1} P_{\text{thermal},i}^t, & P_{\text{thermal},i}^t \in [0, P_{\text{thermal},1}] \\
a_{1,2} P_{\text{thermal},i}^t, & P_{\text{thermal},i}^t \in (P_{\text{thermal},1}, P_{\text{thermal},2}] \\
\vdots \\
a_{k,1} P_{\text{thermal},i}^t, & P_{\text{thermal},i}^t \in (P_{\text{thermal},k-1}, P_{\text{thermal},k}] 
\end{cases} \tag{3}
\]

The third, fourth and fifth parts are fixed operating cost, electricity outage cost and pollutant discharge cost respectively. It is noted that the unit power operation cost of wind power plant / solar power station is set to zero. The amount of curtailment wind and solar power is minimized, and priority scheduling of renewable energy power generation is ensured.

### 2.4 Constraint conditions

(1) Power balance constraint:

\[
\forall t, \sum_{\text{unittype}} \sum_{i} P_{i,s}^t + \sum_{i} P_{\text{line},i}^t = L_t \tag{4}
\]

Which \( L_t \) denotes the load demand at moment \( t \).

(2) Upper and lower limit of output unit:

\[
\forall t, \forall i, \forall s \in \text{unittype}, \quad P_{s,i,\text{min}} \leq P_{s,i}^t \leq P_{s,i,\text{max}} \tag{5}
\]

Among them, \( P_{s,i,\text{min}} \) and \( P_{s,i,\text{max}} \) represent the minimum and maximum output of the first \( S \) class \( j \) units. For wind power and solar power generation, the maximum output of each moment is the product of the predicted output value and the decision variable of the installation capacity.

(3) Constraint of starting and shutdown of thermal power unit:

For thermal power units, especially coal and nuclear units, the minimum continuous opening and minimum continuous shutdown time constraints need to be met.

\[
\sum_{i} U_{s,i}^t \geq T_{i,\text{on}} (U_{s,i}^t - U_{s,i}^{t-1}) \tag{6}
\]

\[
\sum_{i} (1 - U_{s,i}^t) \geq T_{i,\text{off}} (U_{s,i}^t - U_{s,i}^{t-1}) \tag{7}
\]

which, \( T_{i,\text{on}}, T_{i,\text{off}} \) represents minimum continuous opening and minimum continuous shutdown time for the unit.

(4) Unit ramp rate constraint:

It is necessary to meet the ramp up constraints for the thermal power unit, that is, the normal operation state can not exceed the speed of the ramp rate.

\[
P_{s,i}^t \geq P_{s,i}^{t-1} - R D_{s,i} - (1 - U_{s,i}^t) P_{s,i,\text{max}} \tag{8}
\]

\[
P_{s,i}^t \leq P_{s,i}^{t-1} + R U_{s,i} + (1 - U_{s,i}^t) P_{s,i,\text{max}} \tag{9}
\]

which, \( R D_{S,I} \) and \( R U_{S,I} \) denote the unit's lower ramp rate and upper rate.

(5) Constraint of pumped storage power station:

When the pumped storage unit is running, it is necessary to maintain the water level between the top and bottom of the reservoir between the highest and the dead water level:

\[
W_{u,\text{min}} \leq W_{u} \leq W_{u,\text{max}} \tag{10}
\]

\[
W_{d,\text{min}} \leq W_{d} \leq W_{d,\text{max}} \tag{11}
\]

Which \( W_u \) and \( W_d \) represent the water content of the upper reservoir and the lower reservoir respectively; \( W_{u,\text{max}} \) and \( W_{u,\text{min}} \) represent the maximum and minimum allowable water content of the upper reservoir respectively; \( W_{d,\text{max}} \) and \( W_{d,\text{min}} \) represent the maximum and minimum allowable water quantity of the lower reservoir respectively. There is a dynamic coupling relationship between the upper and lower reservoir water at different time, namely:

\[
W_{u}^t = W_{u}^{t-1} - \lambda_y P_{y}^t + \lambda_f P_{f}^t \tag{12}
\]

\[
W_{d}^t = W_{d}^{t-1} + \lambda_y P_{y}^t - \lambda_f P_{f}^t \tag{13}
\]

All types of units and line output and equal to the load.
For the day/week cycle type unit, if one day/week is divided into $S$ time, then the initial and final period of the upper reservoir water level should be consistent, that is:

$$W^* = W^0$$

which $W^*$ and $W^0$ represent the water level at the start period and the final period.

(6) Transmission lines constraints:

$$C_{min, \text{line}} \leq P_{\text{line}, \ell} \leq C_{max, \text{line}}$$

(7) Spinning reserve constraints:

Spinning reserve generally includes the reserve required by the load and the reserve to cope with the uncertainty of renewable energy sources.

$$\sum_{t} \sum_{i} R_{i,t}^L \geq L^c_t (1 + R^L_{i,t})$$

$$\sum_{t} \sum_{i} R_{i,t}^{U} \leq L^c_t (1 + R^{U}_{i,t})$$

(8) Curtailment ratio constraints:

Curtailment ratio must be less than the given value:

$$\sum_{t} \sum_{i} Curt_{wind,i,t}^L + \sum_{t} \sum_{i} Curt_{solar,i,t}^L \leq \alpha$$

After the construction of the evaluation model of the renewable energy accommodation capacity of the multi-area, the CPLEX commercial solver is invoked to optimize the calculation of the model, and the renewable energy accommodation capacity and the simulation results of the system can be obtained.

3 Scenario Design

The following are the important constraints, such as load demand, power supply capacity, renewable energy output characteristics and the scale of transmission channels.

3.1. Load demand

According to the medium and long term energy demand forecast model in the literature [8], it is estimated that in 2050, the whole society electricity consumption, the maximum load is $11.7 \times 10^6$ GWh, $18.7 \times 10^6$ GW respectively, other characteristic parameters as shown in table 2.

Table 2. National electricity consumption and maximum load forecast in 2050.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2050 (GWh, GW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Power consumption</td>
<td>$11.7 \times 10^6$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maximum Load</td>
<td>$18.7 \times 10^6$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average load factor</td>
<td>64.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average peak and valley ratio</td>
<td>25.84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2. Power supply development (except for renewable energy)

Combining the assessment of resource potential and the technical progress of various types of power sources (except renewable energy sources) and the foreseeable national planning and prediction, the general situation of the installation of various types of power sources is obtained. The results are illustrated in table 3 and figures 1, 2, and the specific prediction model can be referred to [9]. The overall situation of the development of power sources is described from the total amount, structure and layout of power supply units in three aspects.

Table 3. Installation capacity of various power supply in China in 2050.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Power type</th>
<th>Capacity (GW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coal power</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas and electricity</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear power</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydropower</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pumped storage</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3. Inter-regional channel power flow direction and scale

With the accelerated development of renewable energy in the northern part of the western region, the scale of power flow is gradually expanding. Considering the capacity of the transmission channels, and the coordination of inter-district and inter-provincial transmission corridors and routes, the power flow from the “sending end” in the northern part of the western
region to the receiving provinces (cities) is expected to reach 553 GW in 2050, as shown in the graph below.

![Graph showing power flow direction and scale in 2050.](image)

**Fig. 3.** Inter-regional channel power flow direction and scale in 2050.

### 4 Case Study

This section studies the renewable energy accommodation capacity in all regions of China in 2050, that is, the optimal installation capacity of wind and solar power generation that can be friendly integrated by all provinces and regions when the overall renewable energy curtailment rate in each area is controlled below 5%. The process is conducted based on the multi-region renewable energy accommodation assessment model proposed in Section 2, and the various constraints proposed in Section 3. The renewable energy construction and its distribution are listed in table 4 and illustrated in figure 4.

**Table 4.** Renewable energy allocation in different regions in China in 2050 (Unit: GW).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Renewable energy</th>
<th>Wind</th>
<th>Solar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2367.23</td>
<td>1432.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>149.84</td>
<td>89.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>165.54</td>
<td>77.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>132.55</td>
<td>60.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>259.55</td>
<td>35.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>1286.87</td>
<td>906.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>374.23</td>
<td>19.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner mongolia</td>
<td>227.00</td>
<td>201.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>109.00</td>
<td>56.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig. 4.** Comparison of wind/solar accommodation capacity in different regions of China in 2050.

In order to evaluate the operation condition, the proposed production simulation is conducted to calculate the renewable energy curtailment rate and some important performance indicators such as the utilization hour of wind and solar power generation under the given renewable energy planning.

**Table 5.** Analysis of RE accommodation capacity in different regions of China in 2050.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curtailment rate</th>
<th>Utilization hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average curtailment rate</td>
<td>Wind curtailment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>5.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>10.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>8.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>5.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>12.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>11.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner mongolia</td>
<td>12.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>8.32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5 Conclusions and Recommendations

The renewable energy accommodation is the key factor that affects the healthy development of renewable energy. This paper puts forward an innovative assessment model to evaluate the optimal wind-solar hosting capacity. What is more, we also quantifies and analyzes the scale of renewable energy installed in different regions of China in 2050. The cross-provincial transmission capacity for renewable energy bases and the corresponding optimization power flow schemes are of important significance for the healthy development of renewable energy in China. An optimal allocation of wind-solar in power system is meaningful for the decision-maker for system’s planning and management.

As to China’s medium and long term power supply planning, the reverse distribution of energy production and load center will be more obvious, and the scale of energy trans-regional transportation, especially the amount of renewable energy transmission, will be further enlarged. In order to meet the large-scale renewable energy integration, the following suggestions are put forward to ensure the healthy and sustainable development of power system. The specific suggestions are as follows: (1) Carry out special research on renewable energy integration, and the renewable energy planning plan should be optimized and updated by rolling. (2) Speed up the construction of HVDC transmission projects to increase the transmission capability of renewable energy. (3) Motivate the
enthusiasm of power generation enterprises to participate in peak shaving and power plant flexibility transformation, and to accelerate the transformation of thermal energy flexibility, and to implement the transformation target proposed by the national "Thirteen-Five" electricity planning. (4) Establish a mature market mechanism to break the renewable energy accommodation barriers between provinces so that the renewable energy can be accommodated in a larger region.

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References