



Center for Advanced Decision Support for
Water and Environmental Systems (CADSWES)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

RiverWare Optimization

2019 RiverWare User Group Meeting

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RiverWare Optimization

- Primary motivation: Hydropower
 - Short term planning
 - Real time operations
- Can be useful for other objectives
 - Get the most you can out of the system
 - Hedge against uncertainty
 - Example: Balancing reservoirs



RiverWare Hydropower Optimization Users

Hydropower	Installed Capacity (MW)	Generation (GWh)
U.S. Total	102,867	322,390
RiverWare Opt Users	32,514	~113,530
Percent	32 %	35%

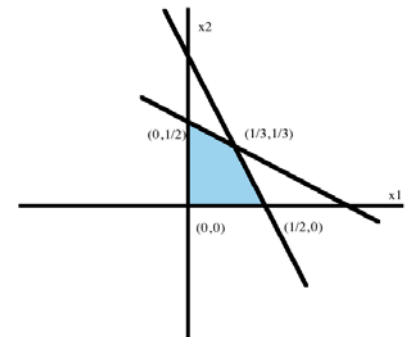
The Golden Age of Hydropower?

- 100% Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS)
 - Coal is going away
 - Natural gas: “Bridge” to renewables
 - Solar: price is decreasing
 - Prediction: California’s issues will spread
- Hydropower is quietly being reclassified as “renewable” at the state level
- Past: “fuel” limited, peaking generation
- Future: “flexibility”, ramping, reserves, regulation
- Pumped Storage “battery”: req. market changes



Optimization vs. RBS 1

- **RBS:** Timestep by timestep, object by object
 - Execute all rules at a given timestep before advancing to next timestep
 - Objects dispatch one at a time
 - “Look ahead” must be written explicitly in rule logic
- **Optimization:** Global solution in time and space
 - Solves all timesteps and all objects simultaneously
 - “Look ahead” inherent in the solution



Optimization vs. RBS 2

- **RBS:** Evaluate a prescribed solution
 - Set decision variables (slot values) based on rule logic
 - IF (state of system)
 - THEN (set decision variable)



- **Optimization:** Find the “best” solution within constraints
 - Maximize (objective)
 - Subject to ...



Optimization vs. RBS 3

Which is better?

Depends on use case

- **RBS:**
 - Long-term studies
 - Prescribed operating rules
- **Optimization:**
 - Short-term scheduling
 - Determining “best” operations
 - Need to consider system-wide effects
 - Need to look-ahead in time

Traditional Optimization Approach

- Maximize hydropower objective, e.g. \$\$

Subject to: Policy constraints

- License elevation limits
- Environmental flows
- Special operations for maintenance ...

Tradition is always a custom that has been passed down for years.

- If constraints are feasible ...
 - Works well
 - Hydropower value may be reduced by constraints
- If constraints are infeasible (conflict)? ...

Preemptive Linear Goal Programming

- Linear Programming
 - Solution engine
 - Constraints + 1 objective
 - Linear and piecewise approximation
 - Similar results to convex nonlinear programming
- Goal Programming
 - Soft constraints
 - Includes traditional objective functions
- Preemptive
 - Priority levels
 - No sacrifice of high priorities for low priorities



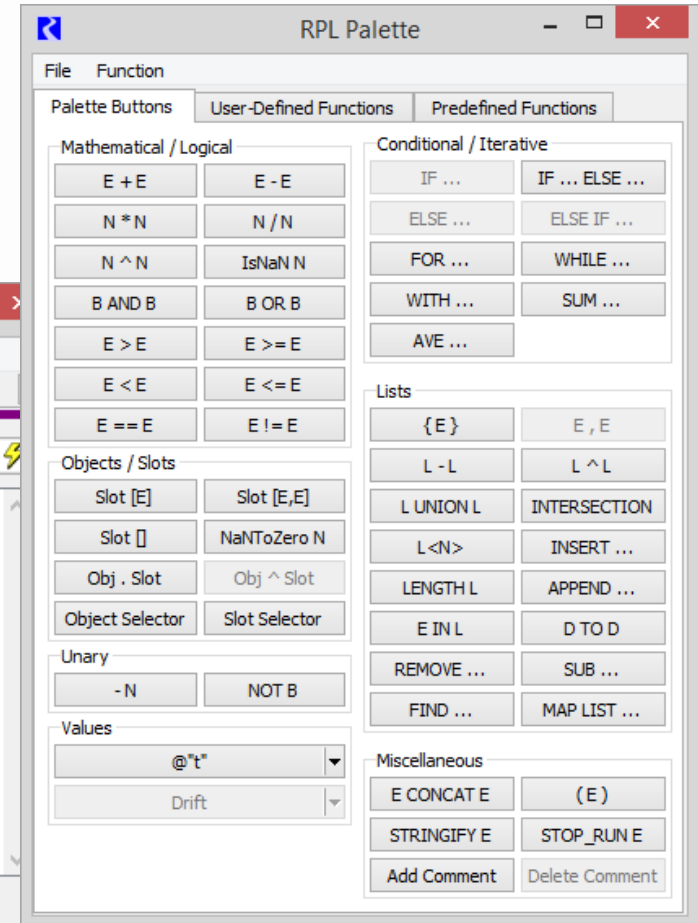
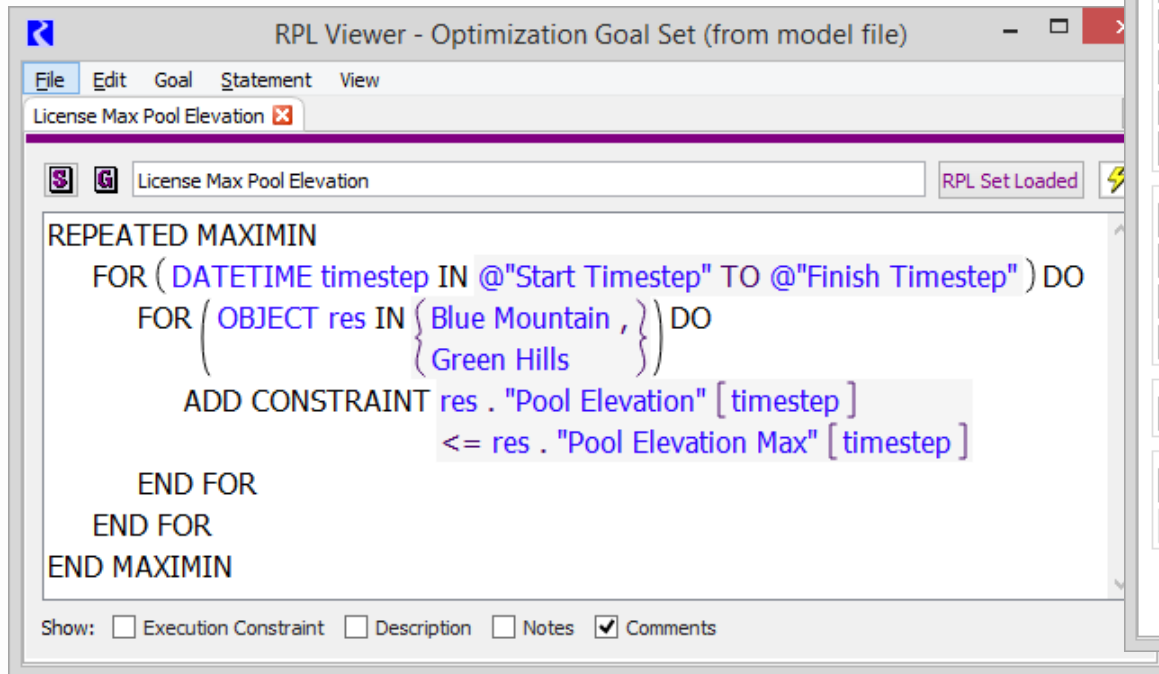
Preemptive Linear Goal Programming

- Policies (goals) are prioritized
- Solves LP at each priority
- Soft constraints converted to objective → maximize satisfaction
- Freezes objective value – not degraded by lower priorities
- Minimized infeasibilities

Name	Priority
▾ P License Pool Elevations	
G License Max Pool Elevation	1
G License Min Pool Elevation	2
▾ P Minimum Flows	
G Minimum Flow Requirements	3
▾ P Green River Daylight Flows	
G Green River Daylight Flow Restriction	4
▾ P Target Operating Elevations	
G Target Forebay Operating Range	5
▾ P Ending Elevation	
G Ending Elevation Target	6
▾ P Economic Objective Function	
G Maximize Hydropower Revenue	7

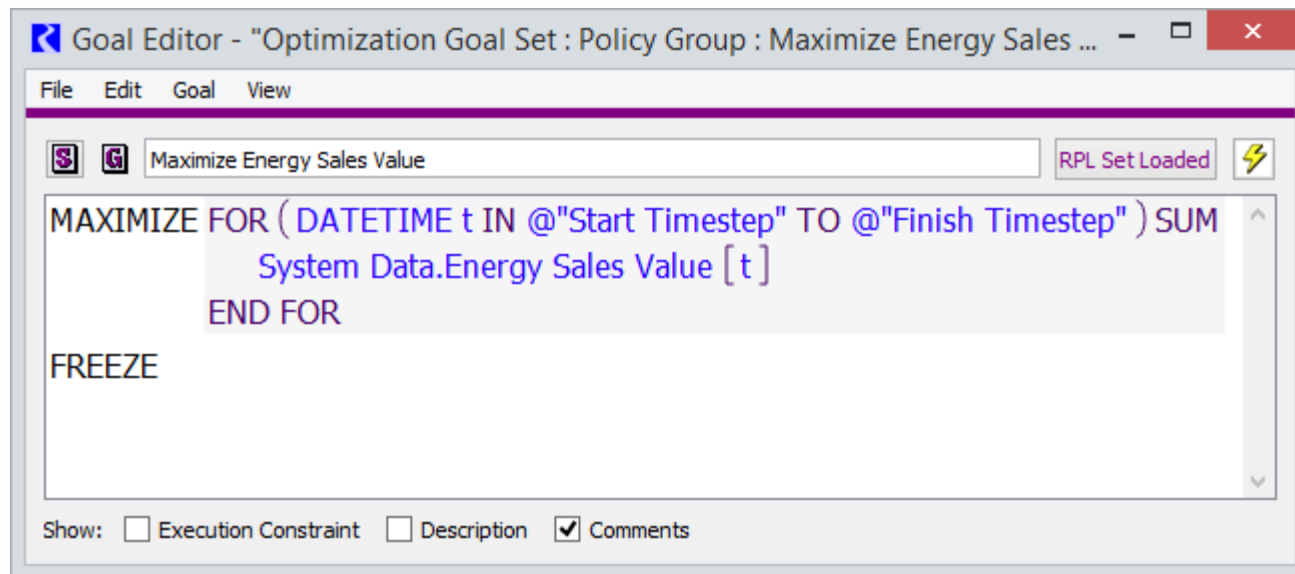
RPL Goal Editor

- RPL - Same language as rules
- Same palette as rules
- Most syntax same as rules



Maximize and Minimize Objectives

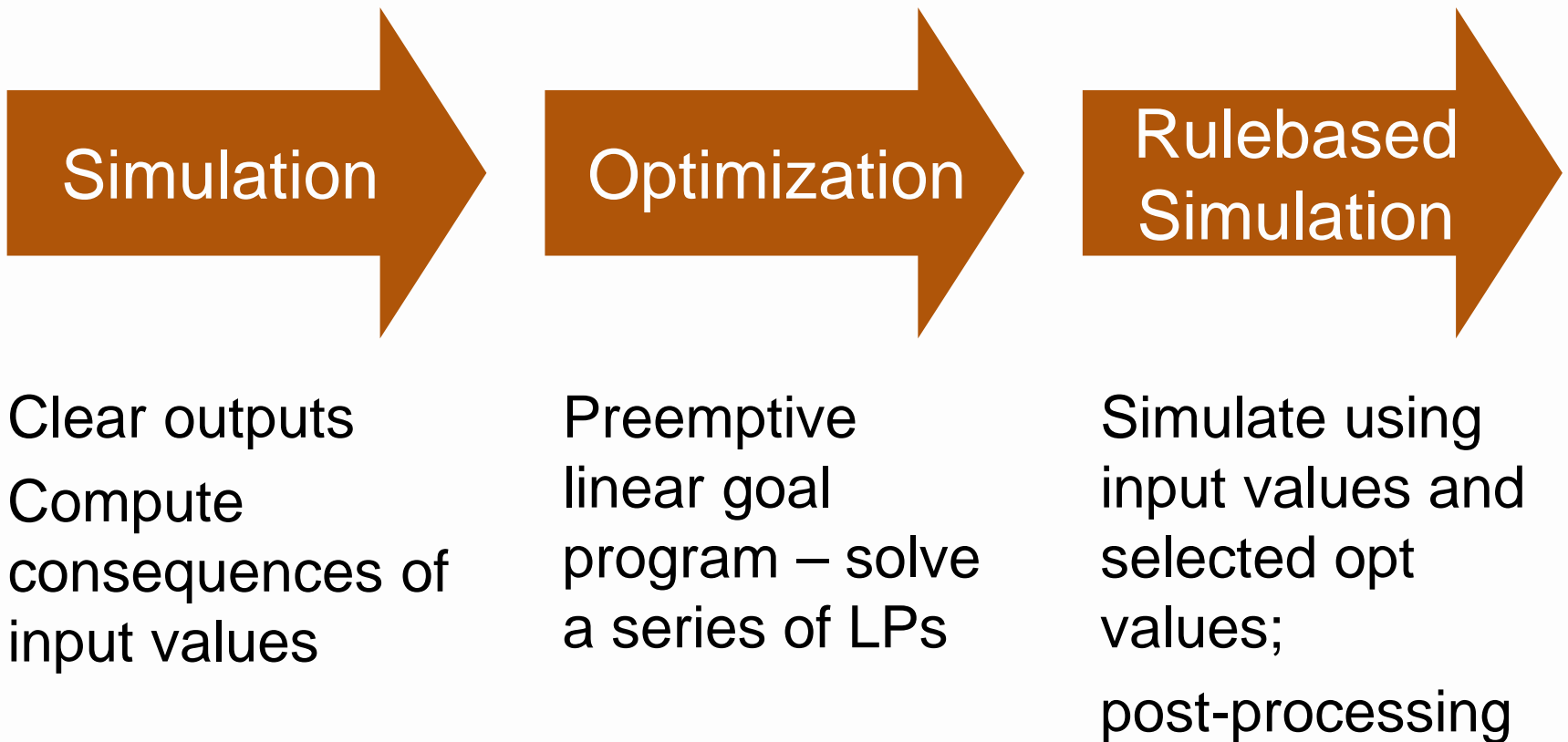
- User can formulate any linear objective



- Typically at lowest priority

Standard Controller Sequence

Complete Opt run — three separate runs



Post-optimization RBS

- Returns opt solution to the workspace
- Rules typically set Outflow

```
Res.Outflow[] = OptValue(Res.Outflow, @"t")
```

- Solve RBS using simulation methods -
removes approximations

Extension of Optimization + RBS

Seed RBS

- Preliminary solution
- Estimates for approximations

Automate iterative sequence with scripts

Simulation

Init Rules: Preprocess using Seed results

Optimization

Updated Estimates

Post-Opt RBS

Revise/refine opt solution

Simulation

Init Rules: Preprocess with updated estimates

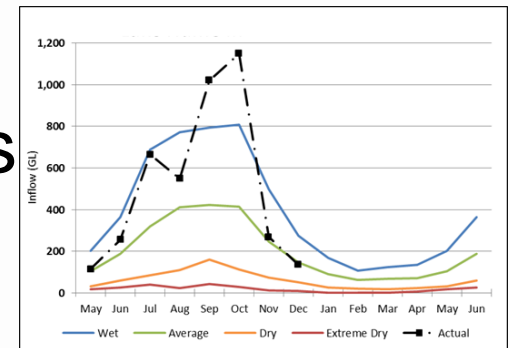
Optimization

Post-Opt RBS

Revise/refine opt solution

RBS-based Optimization

- Borg (MOEA) – Evaluations with RBS
- Stochastic Programming with Recourse
 - Normally, opt. with 1 objective
 - Using RBS with Multiple Objectives
 - Optimizing risk informed Stage 1 plan
 - Evaluate Stage 2 scenarios with RBS
 - Vary the Stage 1 decision, while evaluating Stage 2
 - Examine the outcomes for Stage 1 & Stage 2
 - Converge on an optimal Stage 1 decision



New Directions

- TVA IT Project:
 - Long Term Model
 - Improve Short Term Optimization
 - Block Cost Alternative: Perfect Dispatch
- Joint optimization of power resources
 - Asynchronous optimization
 - Time has arrived?
- Flexibility in hydropower
 - What is it? Measure it? Use it? Improve it? Cost?

