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# **Pylon Documentation**

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# CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Installation</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Dependencies . . . . .	3
2.2	Recommended . . . . .	3
2.3	Setuptools . . . . .	3
2.4	Installation from source . . . . .	4
2.5	Working directory . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Tutorial</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Power Flow . . . . .	5
3.2	Optimal Power Flow . . . . .	6
<b>4</b>	<b>API</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	<code>pylon.case</code> – Case Components . . . . .	7
4.2	<code>pylon.dc_pf</code> – DC Power Flow . . . . .	10
4.3	<code>pylon.ac_pf</code> – AC Power Flow . . . . .	11
4.4	<code>pylon.opf</code> – Optimal Power Flow . . . . .	11
4.5	Indices and tables . . . . .	12
	<b>Module Index</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>Index</b>	<b>15</b>



# INTRODUCTION

Pylon is a port of [MATPOWER](#) to the Python programming language. [MATPOWER](#) is a Matlab package for solving power flow and optimal power flow problems.

**pylon** Defines the [Case](#), [Bus](#), [Branch](#) and [Generator](#) classes and solvers for power flow and optimal power flow problems.

**pylon.readwrite** Parsers for power system data files with support for [MATPOWER](#), PSS/E, and [PSAT](#). Also, defines case serializers for [MATPOWER](#), PSS/E, CSV and Excel formats. Case reports are available in [Re-StructuredText](#) format.

**pylon.test** A comprehensive suite of unit tests.

This manual explains how to install Pylon and provides a series of tutorials that show how to solve power flow and optimal power problems. Pylon follows the design of [MATPOWER](#) closely and the [MATPOWER user manual](#) will likely provide a useful reference.



# INSTALLATION

Pylon is a package of Python modules that need to be placed on the `PYTHON_PATH`.

## 2.1 Dependencies

**Python 2.5 or 2.6**

**NumPy 1.2 or later** NumPy provides additional support for multi-dimensional arrays and matrices.

**SciPy 0.7 or later** Packages for mathematics, science, and engineering

**Pyparsing** Pyparsing is a versatile Python module for recursive descent parsing.

## 2.2 Recommended

**scikits.umfpack** Wrappers of UMFPACK sparse direct solver to SciPy.

## 2.3 Setuptools

With **Python** and **setuptools** installed, simply:

```
$ easy_install pylon
```

Users without root access may use **Virtualenv** to build a virtual Python environment:

```
$ virtualenv python26
$ ./python26/bin/easy_install pylon
```

To upgrade to a newer version:

```
$ easy_install -U pylon
```

## 2.4 Installation from source

Run the `setup.py` script:

```
$ python setup.py install
```

or:

```
$ python setup.py develop
```

## 2.5 Working directory

Change in to the source directory and run `IPython`:

```
$ cd ~/path/to/pylon-0.4.1
$ ipython
```

Access the `pylon` application programming interface.

```
In [1]: from pylon import Case, OPF
```



# TUTORIAL

## 3.1 Power Flow

The “pylon” package contains classes for defining a power system model and power flow solvers.

```
from pylon import Case, Bus, Branch, Generator, NewtonPF, FastDecoupledPF
```

Import “sys” so the report can be written to stdout.

```
import sys
```

Start by building up a one branch case with a generator at one end

```
bus1 = Bus()  
g = Generator(bus1, p=80.0, q=10.0)
```

and fixed load at the other.

```
bus2 = Bus(p_demand=60.0, q_demand=4.0)
```

Connect the two buses

```
line = Branch(bus1, bus2, r=0.05, x=0.01)
```

and add it all to a new case.

```
case = Case(buses=[bus1, bus2], branches=[line], generators=[g])
```

Choose to solve using either Newton’s method

```
solver = NewtonPF(case)
```

or Fast Decoupled method

```
solver = FastDecoupledPF(case).solve()
```

and then call the solver.

```
solver.solve()
```

Write the case out to view the results.

```
case.save_rst(sys.stdout)
```

## 3.2 Optimal Power Flow

This tutorial provides a guide for solving an Optimal Power Flow problem using Pylon.

First import the necessary components from Pylon.

```
from pylon import Case, Bus, Branch, Generator, OPF
```

Import “sys” for writing to stdout.

```
import sys
```

Create two generators, specifying their marginal cost.

```
bus1 = Bus(p_demand=100.0)
g1 = Generator(bus1, p_min=0.0, p_max=80.0, p_cost=(0.0, 6.0, 0.0))
bus2 = Bus()
g2 = Generator(bus2, p_min=0.0, p_max=60.0, p_cost=(0.0, 9.0, 0.0))
```

Connect the two generator buses

```
line = Branch(bus1, bus2, r=0.05)
```

and add it all to a case.

```
case = Case(buses=[bus1, bus2], branches=[line], generators=[g1, g2])
```

Linearised DC optimal power flow

```
dc = True
```

or non-linear AC optimal power flow may be selected.

```
dc = False
```

Pass the case to the OPF routine and solve.

```
OPF(case, dc).solve()
```

View the results as ReStructuredText.

```
case.save_rst(sys.stdout)
```

## 4.1 `pylon.case` – Case Components

Defines the Pylon power system model.

**class** **Case** (*name=None, base\_mva=100.0, buses=None, branches=None, generators=None*)

Bases: `pylon.util.Named`, `pylon.util.Serializable`

Defines representation of an electric power system as a graph of Bus objects connected by Branches.

### **Bdc**

Returns the sparse susceptance matrices and phase shift injection vectors needed for a DC power flow [2].

**The bus real power injections are related to bus voltage angles by**  $P = B_{bus} * V_a + P_{businj}$

The real power flows at the from end the lines are related to the bus voltage angles by

$$P_f = B_f * V_a + P_{finj}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_f \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{ff} & B_{ft} \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_a \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} P_{finj} \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix}$$

[2] Ray Zimmerman, “`makeBdc.m`”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell,  
<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

### **Sbus**

Net complex bus power injection vector in p.u.

### **Y**

Returns the bus and branch admittance matrices,  $Y_f$  and  $Y_t$ , such that  $Y_f * V$  is the vector of complex branch currents injected at each branch’s “from” bus [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “`makeYbus.m`”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell,  
<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

### **connected\_buses**

Returns a list of buses that are connected to one or more branches or the first bus in a branchless system.

**d2AIbr\_dV2** (*dIbr\_dVa, dIbr\_dVm, Ibr, Ybr, V, lam*)

Computes 2nd derivatives of  $|complex\ current|^{**2}$  w.r.t.  $V$ .

**d2ASbr\_dV2** (*dSbr\_dVa, dSbr\_dVm, Sbr, Cbr, Ybr, V, lam*)

Computes 2nd derivatives of  $|complex\ power\ flow|^{**2}$  w.r.t.  $V$ .

**d2Ibr\_dV2** (*Ybr, V, lam*)

Computes 2nd derivatives of complex branch current w.r.t. voltage.

**d2Sbr\_dV2** (*Cbr, Ybr, V, lam*)

Computes 2nd derivatives of complex power flow w.r.t. voltage.

**d2Sbus\_dV2** (*Ybus, V, lam*)

Computes 2nd derivatives of power injection w.r.t. voltage.

**dAbr\_dV** (*dSf\_dVa, dSf\_dVm, dSt\_dVa, dSt\_dVm, Sf, St*)

Partial derivatives of squared flow magnitudes w.r.t voltage.

Computes partial derivatives of apparent power w.r.t active and reactive power flows. Partial derivative must equal 1 for lines with zero flow to avoid division by zero errors (1 comes from L'Hopital).

**dIbr\_dV** (*Yf, Yt, V*)

Computes partial derivatives of branch currents w.r.t. voltage [4].

[4] Ray Zimmerman, “dIbr\_dV.m”, MATPOWER, version 4.0b1, PSERC (Cornell),  
<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>

**dSbr\_dV** (*Yf, Yt, V, buses=None, branches=None*)

Computes the branch power flow vector and the partial derivative of branch power flow w.r.t voltage.

**dSbus\_dV** (*Y, V*)

Computes the partial derivative of power injection w.r.t. voltage [3].

[3] Ray Zimmerman, “dSbus\_dV.m”, MATPOWER, version 4.0b1, PSERC (Cornell),  
<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>

**deactivate\_isolated** ()

Deactivates branches and generators connected to isolated buses.

**getSbus** (*buses=None*)

Net complex bus power injection vector in p.u.

**getYbus** (*buses=None, branches=None*)

Returns the bus and branch admittance matrices, Yf and Yt, such that  $Yf * V$  is the vector of complex branch currents injected at each branch's “from” bus [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “makeYbus.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell,  
<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

**index\_branches** (*branches=None*)

Updates the indices for all branches.

**index\_buses** (*buses=None*)

Updates the indices of all case buses.

class **load\_matpower** (*fd*)

Returns a case from the given MATPOWER file object.

class **load\_psat** (*fd*)

Returns a case object from the given PSAT data file.

class **load\_psse** (*fd*)

Returns a case from the given PSS/E file object.

**makeB** (*buses=None, branches=None, method='XB'*)

Builds the FDPF matrices, B prime and B double prime.

**makeBdc** (*buses=None, branches=None*)

Returns the sparse susceptance matrices and phase shift injection vectors needed for a DC power flow [2].

**The bus real power injections are related to bus voltage angles by**  $P = B_{bus} * V_a + P_{businj}$

The real power flows at the from end the lines are related to the bus voltage angles by

$$P_f = B_f * V_a + P_{finj}$$

```
Pf | | Bff Bft | | Vaf | | Pfinj |
| = | | * | | + | | Pt | | Btf Btt | | Vat | | Ptinj |
```

[2] Ray Zimmerman, “makeBdc.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell,  
<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

#### **online\_branches**

Property getter for in-service branches.

#### **online\_generators**

All in-service generators.

#### **pf\_solution** (*Ybus*, *Yf*, *Yt*, *V*)

Updates buses, generators and branches to match power flow solution.

#### **reset** ()

Resets the result variables for all of the case components.

#### **s\_demand** (*bus*)

Returns the total complex power demand.

#### **s\_supply** (*bus*)

Returns the total complex power generation capacity.

#### **s\_surplus** (*bus*)

Return the difference between supply and demand.

#### **save\_csv** (*fd*)

Saves the case as a series of Comma-Separated Values.

#### **save\_dot** (*fd*)

Saves a representation of the case in the Graphviz DOT language.

#### **save\_excel** (*fd*)

Saves the case as an Excel spreadsheet.

#### **save\_matpower** (*fd*)

Serialize the case as a MATPOWER data file.

#### **save\_rst** (*fd*)

Save a reStructuredText representation of the case.

#### **sort\_generators** ()

Reorders the list of generators according to bus index.

```
class Bus (name=None, type='PQ', v_base=100.0, v_magnitude_guess=1.0, v_angle_guess=0.0,  

           v_max=1.1000000000000001, v_min=0.90000000000000002, p_demand=0.0, q_demand=0.0,  

           g_shunt=0.0, b_shunt=0.0, position=None)
```

Bases: `pylon.util.Named`

Defines a power system bus node.

#### **reset** ()

Resets the result variables.

```
class Branch (from_bus, to_bus, name=None, online=True, r=0.0, x=0.0, b=0.0, rate_a=999.0, rate_b=999.0,  

             rate_c=999.0, ratio=1.0, phase_shift=0.0, ang_min=-360.0, ang_max=360.0)
```

Bases: `pylon.util.Named`

Defines a case edge that links two Bus objects.

#### **reset** ()

Resets the result variables.

Defines a generator as a complex power bus injection.

```
class Generator (bus, name=None, online=True, base_mva=100.0, p=100.0, p_max=200.0, p_min=0.0,
                 v_magnitude=1.0, q=0.0, q_max=30.0, q_min=-30.0, c_startup=0.0, c_shutdown=0.0,
                 p_cost=None, pcost_model='poly', q_cost=None, qcost_model=None)
Bases: pylon.util.Named
```

Defines a power system generator component. Fixes voltage magnitude and active power injected at parent bus. Or when at it's reactive power limit fixes active and reactive power injected at parent bus.

**bids\_to\_pwl** (bids)

Updates the piece-wise linear total cost function using the given bid blocks.

@see: matpower3.2/extras/smartmarket/off2case.m

**get\_bids** (n\_points=6)

Returns quantity and price bids created from the cost function.

**get\_offers** (n\_points=6)

Returns quantity and price offers created from the cost function.

**is\_load**

Returns true if the generator is a dispatchable load. This may need to be revised to allow sensible specification of both elastic demand and pumped storage units.

**offers\_to\_pwl** (offers)

Updates the piece-wise linear total cost function using the given offer blocks.

@see: matpower3.2/extras/smartmarket/off2case.m

**poly\_to\_pwl** (n\_points=10)

Sets the piece-wise linear cost attribute, converting the polynomial cost variable by evaluating at zero and then at n\_points evenly spaced points between p\_min and p\_max.

**pwl\_to\_poly** ()

Converts the first segment of the pwl cost to linear quadratic. FIXME: Curve-fit for all segments.

**q\_limited**

Is the machine at it's limit of reactive power?

**reset** ()

Resets the result variables.

**total\_cost** (p=None, p\_cost=None, pcost\_model=None)

Computes total cost for the generator at the given output level.

## 4.2 pylon.dc\_pf – DC Power Flow

Defines a solver for DC power flow [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “dcpf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, version 3.2, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, June 2007

```
class DCPF (case, solver='UMFPACK')
```

Bases: `object`

Solves DC power flow [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “dcpf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, version 3.2,

<http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, June 2007

**solve()**  
Solves DC power flow for the given case.

### 4.3 pylon.ac\_pf – AC Power Flow

Defines solvers for AC power flow [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “runpf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

**class \_ACPF** (*case, qlimit=False, tolerance=1e-08, iter\_max=10, verbose=True*)  
Bases: `object`

Defines a base class for AC power flow solvers [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “runpf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

**solve()**  
Override this method in subclasses.

**class NewtonPF** (*case, qlimit=False, tolerance=1e-08, iter\_max=10, verbose=True*)  
Bases: `pylon.ac_pf._ACPF`

Solves the power flow using full Newton’s method [2].

[2] Ray Zimmerman, “newtonpf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, version 4.0b1, Dec 2009

**class FastDecoupledPF** (*case, qlimit=False, tolerance=1e-08, iter\_max=20, verbose=True, method='XB'*)  
Bases: `pylon.ac_pf._ACPF`

Solves the power flow using fast decoupled method [3].

[3] Ray Zimmerman, “fdpf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, version 4.0b1, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, December 2009

### 4.4 pylon.opf – Optimal Power Flow

Defines a generalised OPF solver and an OPF model [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “opf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, version 4.0b1, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, December 2009

**class OPF** (*case, dc=True, ignore\_ang\_lim=True, opt=None*)  
Bases: `object`

Defines a generalised OPF solver [1].

[1] Ray Zimmerman, “opf.m”, MATPOWER, PSERC Cornell, version 4.0b1, <http://www.pserc.cornell.edu/matpower/>, December 2009

**solve** (*solver\_klass=None*)  
Solves an optimal power flow and returns a results dictionary.

## 4.5 Indices and tables

- *Index*
- *Module Index*
- *Search Page*



# MODULE INDEX

## P

- `pylon.ac_pf`, 11
- `pylon.case`, 7
- `pylon.dc_pf`, 10
- `pylon.generator`, 10
- `pylon.opf`, 11



# INDEX

## Symbols

`_ACPF` (class in `pylon.ac_pf`), 11

## B

`Bdc` (`pylon.case.Case` attribute), 7  
`bids_to_pwl()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10  
`Branch` (class in `pylon.case`), 9  
`Bus` (class in `pylon.case`), 9

## C

`Case` (class in `pylon.case`), 7  
`connected_buses` (`pylon.case.Case` attribute), 7

## D

`d2Albr_dV2()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 7  
`d2ASbr_dV2()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 7  
`d2lbr_dV2()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 7  
`d2Sbr_dV2()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 7  
`d2Sbus_dV2()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`dAbr_dV()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`DCPF` (class in `pylon.dc_pf`), 10  
`deactivate_isolated()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`dlbr_dV()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`dSbr_dV()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`dSbus_dV()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8

## F

`FastDecoupledPF` (class in `pylon.ac_pf`), 11

## G

`Generator` (class in `pylon.generator`), 10  
`get_bids()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10  
`get_offers()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10  
`getSbus()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`getYbus()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8

## I

`index_branches()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`index_buses()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`is_load` (`pylon.generator.Generator` attribute), 10

## L

`load_matpower()` (`pylon.case.Case` class method), 8  
`load_psat()` (`pylon.case.Case` class method), 8  
`load_psse()` (`pylon.case.Case` class method), 8

## M

`makeB()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8  
`makeBdc()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 8

## N

`NewtonPF` (class in `pylon.ac_pf`), 11

## O

`offers_to_pwl()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10  
`online_branches` (`pylon.case.Case` attribute), 9  
`online_generators` (`pylon.case.Case` attribute), 9  
`OPF` (class in `pylon.opf`), 11

## P

`pf_solution()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 9  
`poly_to_pwl()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10  
`pwl_to_poly()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10  
`pylon.ac_pf` (module), 11  
`pylon.case` (module), 7  
`pylon.dc_pf` (module), 10  
`pylon.generator` (module), 10  
`pylon.opf` (module), 11

## Q

`q_limited` (`pylon.generator.Generator` attribute), 10

## R

`reset()` (`pylon.case.Branch` method), 9  
`reset()` (`pylon.case.Bus` method), 9  
`reset()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 9  
`reset()` (`pylon.generator.Generator` method), 10

## S

`s_demand()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 9  
`s_supply()` (`pylon.case.Case` method), 9

`s_surplus()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9  
`save_csv()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9  
`save_dot()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9  
`save_excel()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9  
`save_matpower()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9  
`save_rst()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9  
`Sbus` (pylon.case.Case attribute), 7  
`solve()` (pylon.ac\_pf.\_ACPF method), 11  
`solve()` (pylon.dc\_pf.DCPF method), 10  
`solve()` (pylon.opf.OPF method), 11  
`sort_generators()` (pylon.case.Case method), 9

## T

`total_cost()` (pylon.generator.Generator method), 10

## Y

`Y` (pylon.case.Case attribute), 7