Chapter 18
Data-driven Evolutionary-game-based Control for Drinking Water Networks

Abstract This work addresses the design of a control strategy for drinking water transport networks (DWTNs) based on evolutionary-game theory (EGT). This theory allows to model the evolution of a population composed by a large and finite number of rational agents, which are able to make decisions. As an analogy with a multi-variable control system for DWTN, the whole population represents the total available water resource in the system, and each agent represents a small portion of the resource. In the population evolution, each agent makes the decision to select one of the system valves and/or pumps in order to establish its corresponding value of resource. Agents make these decisions pursuing an improvement of their benefits described by a fitness function, which is associated to the control objective, i.e., agents receive more benefits as the control objective is achieved. This global objective in the DWTN is established by the company in charge of the management of the network, e.g., maintain safety volumes within the tanks, minimize the water costs, minimize the costs of the energy to operate the actuators.

The aforementioned evolution process, in which agents make decisions, is used to solve an optimization problem that is described in terms of current measurements of the DWTN tank volumes, and subject to constraints over the decision variables in the system (physical limits of flows through valves and pumps). Furthermore, since the control problem is given in terms of instant measurements, this control strategy might be implemented without the need of an explicit model of the DWTN. In this work, two different data-driven population-games-based control designs for DWTNs are presented, and both the necessary assumptions and conditions to implement the proposed methodologies are clearly stated. Finally, the effectiveness of the proposed control approach through the system performance improvement is shown by using the considered DWTN case study.

18.1 Introduction

Around 663 million people had no access to safe drinking water in 2015 and around 2.4 billion people live without adequate sanitation according to [25]. This situation has impacts on the economy of the society according to the Millenium Sumit of 2000, on which the United Nations agreed the Millenium Development Goals (MDG). One of the biggest concerns of the MDG, due to the rapid population growth and industrialization, is to guarantee the access to drinking water, achieving a proper management of the available water resources. Hence, it becomes essential to overcome the lack of drinking water for achieving sustainable development including both social and economic developments, poverty reduction and equity, and also sustainable environmental services [13].

Over the last decade, several optimization-based control strategies have been proposed to manage efficiently drinking water and to solve resource allocation problems in water applications. For instance, in [10] a non-linear multi-objective optimization procedure has been proposed to manage water flows and reserves in drinking water transport networks (DWTNs), considering the uncertainty of climate and global change development, using an integrated approach, i.e., modelling the drinking water system, the climate, and the society as a whole. However, this solution implies to consider a lot of variables and constraints which increase the complexity of the optimization problem. Likewise, optimization-based strategies such as model predictive control (MPC) have been designed for this kind of systems, considering the uncertainty of demand patterns as in [26] and, minimizing operational costs and shortage events [9].

Another approach to address the DWTN control design is the use of population dynamics taking advantage of their stability properties and the close relationship between the solution in a population game (Nash equilibrium) and the unique maximizer of a constrained convex optimization problem [23]. Recently, game theory has been used in the solution of engineering problems [1, 14, 17, 24], and for the solution of optimization problems [15, 16]. Furthermore, in this chapter the population game approach is presented as a powerful tool for the design of data-driven controllers. More precisely, two different directions in the design of data-driven population-games-based controllers are treated in this work. First, the DWTN is controlled by making a partitioning into sub-systems that satisfy specific conditions, and a resource allocation problem is solved at each partition. This approach generates a decentralized control scheme since the local controllers neither communicate to each other nor exchange information among them. Secondly, it is proposed the design of data-driven controllers by minimizing a cost function and considering flow-balance constraints. Under this approach, the network is divided into sub-systems according to the established constraints over the control inputs, which constitutes a distributed scheme due to the existing intersection among the different sub-systems.

The presented contents in this chapter are a compilation of the theory proposed in previous works [3–6, 21]. However, some new case studies are incorporated as well as new simulation results.

Notation

Although this book follows an unified notation and in order to facilitate the reading of this chapter, some additional notation is introduced. The sub-index is associated to a node of a graph, or to a strategy in a game. On the other hand, the super-index refers to a population. For instance, the sub-index i in u_i, $\mathcal{P}_i$, u_i^p or f_i refers either to a node in a graph or to a strategy, and the super-index p in m^p, $\mathbf{u}^p$, u_i^p or n^p indicates a population. Also it should be clear that the super-index is not an operational number, i.e., n^3 refers to population three but $n^3 \neq nnn$. We use bold font for column vectors and matrices, e.g., $\mathbf{u}$, and $\mathbf{H}$; and non-bold style is used for scalar numbers, e.g., n^p. Calligraphy style is used for sets, e.g., $\mathcal{S}$. The column vector with n unitary entries is denoted by $\mathbf{1}_n$, and the column vector with null entries and suitable dimension is denoted by $\mathbf{0}$. The identity matrix with dimension $n \times n$ is denoted by $\mathbb{I}_n$. The cardinality of a set $\mathcal{S}$ is denoted by $|\mathcal{S}|$. The continuous time is denoted by t, and it is mostly omitted throughout the manuscript in order to simplify the notation. Finally, $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ represents the set of all non-negative real numbers, and $\mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ represents the set of positive integer numbers.

18.2 Problem statement

18.2.1 First data-driven perspective

In the proposed DWTN model for the design of the population dynamics-based controllers, which is composed by several storage tanks, the flow direction is unique since it is assumed that the pressure head at upstream tanks of the network is always higher than the pressure head at downstream tanks. This consideration is common in DWTNs that have been designed for places where the topography is steep and the slope is descending. Due to this assumption, it is possible to distinguish between source and receptor tanks, taking into account that the former ones are always upstream and directly linked to the latter ones.

Consider then a simple DWTN composed by n receptor tanks, and only one source tank as shown in Figure 18.1. This topology is known as *branched* [19], which means that there are no loops in the network due to the fact that several outflows might go out from a single source tank, but no several inflows come into a single receptor. Let $\mathcal{S} = \{1,...,n\}$ be the set of receptor tanks in the *branched* sub-system. The volume of the tank $i \in \mathcal{S}$ is denoted by $x_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, its maximum volume is denoted by $\bar{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, and its inflows and outflows are given by $q_{in,i} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ and $q_{out,i} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, respectively. Hence, the vector of all the tank volumes is denoted $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$, and the vector of maximum volumes $\bar{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$. The parameter $u_i \in [0,1]$ determines the setting of the input valve in the ith tank, $K_i > 0$ scales the outflow, and it can be considered as a volume-flow conversion factor or the discharge coeffi-

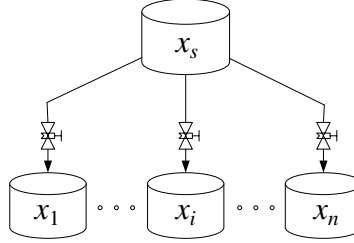cient of the tank. Moreover, the system is affected by perturbations that are related to daily demand patterns.

Fig. 18.1 Branched topology with n receptor tanks, and one source tank whose volume is denoted by v_s. The source tank is upstream of the receptor tanks.

The control objective consists in avoiding shortages throughout the system, i.e., to avoid that the current volume of the tank x_i runs out, not supplying the demand, for all $i \in \mathcal{S}$. To achieve this objective, it is proposed to do an allocation of the available resource stored in the n tanks, i.e., to distribute the current available volume given by $\bar{x}_i - x_i$ in an optimal way by controlling the inflows $q_{in,i}$, for all $i \in \mathcal{S}$. For instance, considering the hypothetical situation in which one tank is completely filled and another tank is empty, more priority should be assigned to the inflow of the empty tank rather than the inflow assigned to the filled one, in order to prevent shortages.

For each sub-system, the topology of interest is given by different receptor tanks and one source. The entire control system for the DWTN is composed by π local controllers that do not communicate with each other and which operate independently in parallel, i.e., all local controllers may operate their corresponding control inputs at once.

18.2.2 Second data-driven perspective

This section presents the design of a controller without considering the model of the system, but just by considering the fact that the error within a tank (i.e., the difference between the safety value and the current volume) can be reduced as the control action is increased. In order to design a data-driven controller based on the proposed methodology, it is defined a cost function corresponding to the desired behaviour of the system. In this particular case, a volume error at each tank is considered.

The controller is designed through an optimization problem minimizing economical costs, the volume error with respect to the safety storage term, and variations in the control actions. The economical costs are given by $(\alpha_1^p + \alpha_2^p(k))^\top \mathbf{u}^p(k)$, where α_1^p is a constant vector defining the energy costs and α_2^p is a time varying vector determining the water costs. The volume error is given by $\mathbf{x}_s^p - \mathbf{x}^p$, where $\mathbf{x}_s^p$ is

the safety storage imposed by the company in charge of the system management. Finally, the $\Delta\mathbf{u}^p(k)^\top\Delta\mathbf{u}^p(k)$ corresponds to the smooth operation cost.

These objectives are minimized subject to constraints of mass balance and physical constraints of actuators. To this end, new variables $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_s \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u}$ of safety values, and $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u}$ composed of tank volumes, are introduced. Notice that the dimension of the new vectors of volumes corresponds to the dimension of the vector of control actions, i.e., $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_s, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u}$. The scalar $\tilde{x}_i$ denotes the volume corresponding to the tank whose inflow is given by u_i, and null in case that u_i is not an inflow for any tank. The safety volume $\tilde{x}_{s,i}$ corresponds to the safety volume of the tank whose inflow is given by u_i, and null otherwise. Briefly, $\tilde{x}_i = x_j$, and $\tilde{x}_{s,i} = x_{s,j}$ if u_i is the inflow of the jth tank, and null if u_i is not an inflow for any tank. Notice that the constraints over the system states (i.e., tanks volumes) may not be considered since this approach does not use a Control-Oriented-Model (COM). The following optimization problem only depends on measured state values (volumes) and decision variables (control inputs):

$$
\begin{aligned}
\underset{\mathbf{u}^p}{\text{maximize}} \ V(\mathbf{u}^p(k)) = \ & -\gamma_1(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_1^p + \boldsymbol{\alpha}_2^p(k))^\top \mathbf{u}^p(k) \\
& -\gamma_2(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_s^p - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^p(k))^\top \text{diag}(\mathbf{u}^p(k))(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_s^p - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^p(k)) - \gamma_3 \Delta\mathbf{u}^p(k)^\top \Delta\mathbf{u}^p(k),
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{E}_u^p \mathbf{u}^p(k) = -\mathbf{E}_d^p \mathbf{d}^p(k),
$$

$$
\begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{I}_{n_u} \\ -\mathbb{I}_{n_u} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^p(k) \le \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\max}^p \\ -\mathbf{u}_{\min}^p \end{bmatrix}.
$$

18.3 Proposed approach

18.3.1 Population-games Approach: First Data-driven Perspective

In this section, a detailed description of the population dynamics-based controller is done, taking into consideration that it is presented for the case of a single partition or sub-system. As it was stated before, the control approach is conceived from an analogy between the population dynamics framework and the DWTN model (see Table 18.1). In order to make clearer the analogy, it is worth to understand the process of transport between a source tank and the final user.

First of all, storage tanks receive water from treatment plants and/or natural water bodies (e.g., aquifers, reservoirs, etc.). Then, this water is redistributed among several storage tanks, which are located close to the final user. For instance, these can be placed in houses to prevent shortage when there is a lack of the resource. Consumers use the water that is available for them into the closest tank. In order to match supply and demand, the utility has the possibility to manipulate the amount of water that is deposited into receptor tanks through valves.

Considering this process, one can notice that the control problem is reduced to a resource allocation problem, in which the system can be seen as the population of

Table 18.1 Equivalence between population dynamics and DWTN

	Population dynamics	**DWTN**
$\mathcal{P}$	Population	System
i	Strategy	Receptor tanks
m	Population mass	Total outflow source tank
q	Agents	Flow units
u_i	Proportion of agents	Proportion of flow
$\mathbf{u}$	Strategic distribution	Flow distribution in receptor tanks
f_i	Fitness of a strategy	Available volume capacity

a game. The population is composed by water or flow-units, which summed all up form a mass (outflow). When the population mass reaches a point in which the flow diverges, it has the possibility to select one the n paths (strategies) that lead to one of the receptor tanks in $\mathcal{S}$. The mass is going to select certain strategy based on the maximization of its wealth, which is defined by a fitness function.

Now that the analogy has been exposed, consider the branched DWTN with $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ receptor tanks (strategies). The total flow through the system (population mass) is denoted by $Q \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, which corresponds to the outflow of the source tank. Each flow-unit is assigned to an inflow of one of the receptor tanks.

The scalar $u_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the proportion of flow units assigned to each flow associated to the tank $i \in \mathcal{S}$ as a percentage, i.e., the inflow for the ith tank is given by $u_i Q$. The vector $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ is the flow proportion distribution involving the n tanks according to the topology. The set of the possible distributions of flow is given by a simplex

$$\Delta = \left\{ \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n : \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} u_i = 1 \right\},$$

and the tangent space of the set of possible distributions of flow is defined as

$$T\Delta = \left\{ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} z_i = 0 \right\}.$$

Each flow unit is assigned to each tank $i \in \mathcal{S}$ depending on the current volume capacity, which is described by a function $f_i(\mathbf{u})$. Therefore, less inflow is assigned to those tanks close to be filled up.

The design of the population-dynamics-based controllers are given by the proper selection of the fitness functions that define the incentives for the proportion of agents to choose a particular strategy. The proper selection of the fitness functions is further discussed bellow and it depends on how the water is distributed in a DWTN with branched topology. Furthermore, it is necessary that the fitness functions satisfy conditions to obtain a class of population game known as stable game [11].
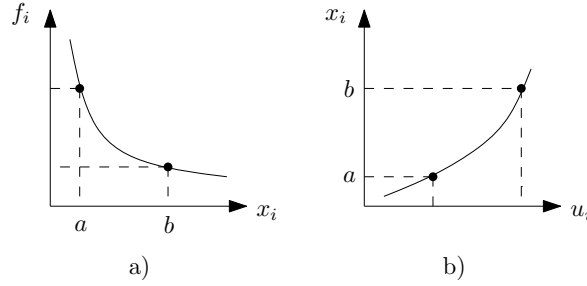
Fig. 18.2 Proper selection of fitness functions for divergence topology a) and b). Correspondence is as follows: a) decreasing fitness function with respect to volume. b) increasing relation existing between proportion of agents and volume for divergence topology.

Definition 1 *The game* $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u})$ *is stable if the Jacobian matrix* $\mathbf{J} = D\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u})$ *is negative semi-definite with respect to the tangent space* $T\Delta$ *[11], i.e.,*

$$\mathbf{z}^{\top}\mathbf{J}\mathbf{z} \leq 0, \ \textit{for all} \ \mathbf{z} \in T\Delta, \ \mathbf{u} \in \Delta.$$

Then, it implies that a game is stable if the fitness functions are decreasing with respect to the proportion of agents. ◇

Notice that for the branched topology, the fitness functions can be selected decreasing with respect to the current volume, e.g., the error with respect to the maximum capacity volume as in [20] (see Figure 18.2a)). When a proportion of agents is increased it is expected that the corresponding volume increases (see Figure 18.2b)). Consequently, due to the fact that fitness functions are increasing with respect to the volume, the fitness function decreases with respect to the proportion of agents (necessary condition for a stable game).

The distributed replicator dynamics

The results presented on this chapter are obtained using the replicator dynamics [23] in order to find a solution to the resource allocation problem. The solution, in which no agent has incentives to switch from one strategy to another one [23], is determined in terms of a *Nash equilibrium*[19], which can be found when the dynamics converge, and is denoted by $\mathbf{u}^* \in \Delta$. The replicator dynamics are of interest in this work since they share gradient properties studied in [22], and because of their passivity properties studied in [3]. However, the replicator dynamics require full information (i.e., all the tanks (strategies) need information about the states of the others in order to evolve).

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[19] $\mathbf{u}^* \in \Delta$ is a Nash equilibrium if each used strategy entails the maximum benefit for the proportion of agents selecting it, i.e., the set of Nash equilibria is given by $\{\mathbf{u}^* \in \Delta : u_i^* > 0 \Rightarrow f_i(\mathbf{u}^*) \geq f_j(\mathbf{u}^*)\}$, for all $i, j \in \mathcal{S}$ [23].

Since the problem is handled using a distributed control approach, it is necessary to use the distributed replicator dynamics, which were deduced in [2] from a local revision protocol that only needs partial information. Due to the fact that only local information is needed, then there is an undirected non-complete connected graph describing the interactions among agents. It is denoted by $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, where $\mathcal{V}$ is the set of nodes, which represents the tanks, and $\mathcal{E} \subset \{(i,j) : i, j \in \mathcal{V}\}$ is the set of links representing the information sharing within the system. Furthermore, the set of neighbours of the node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ is given by $\mathcal{N}_i = \{j : (i,j) \in \mathcal{E}\}$. Notice that $i \notin \mathcal{N}_i$, and that $\mathcal{N}_i \neq \emptyset$, for all $i \in \mathcal{V}$ since $\mathcal{G}$ is connected.

The distributed replicator dynamics are given by

$$\dot{u}_i = u_i \left(f_i(\mathbf{u}) \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} u_j - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} u_j f_j(\mathbf{u}) \right), \quad \text{for all } i \in \mathcal{S}.$$

Now that the distributed replicator dynamics have been defined, consider a population composed by a large and finite number of agents. Agents in the population have incentives to select the tank outflows (e.g., in a general control system, the error is an incentive for the controller to apply more energy to the system and then correct the states to achieve the desired values). The incentives, associated to rewarding that the proportion of agents u_i receives, for selecting the tank $i \in \mathcal{S}$, are given by a fitness function $f_i(\mathbf{u})$ whose mapping is $f_i : \Delta \mapsto \mathbb{R}$. Moreover, the vector of all the fitness functions is denoted by $\mathbf{F} = [f_1 \quad \cdots \quad f_n]^\top$ with mapping $\mathbf{F} : \Delta \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$.

The solution of the population game is given by the condition $f_i = f_j$, for all $i, j \in \mathcal{S}$. In order to control the *case of flow divergence* topology, it is proposed the following fitness function,

$$f_i = -\left(\frac{1}{e_i + \varepsilon} \right), \quad \text{for all } i \in \mathcal{S}, \tag{18.2}$$

with,

$$e_i = 1 - \frac{x_i + s_i + \gamma}{\bar{x}_i + \gamma}, \quad \text{for all } i \in \mathcal{S},$$

where $s_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the shortage volume, i.e., the volume that is demanded but cannot be supplied by the ith tank, $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ is a constant that ensures $0 \leq e_i \leq 1$, and $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ is a small factor that prevents the indetermination of f_i when $e_i = 0$. Moreover, the proposed fitness function for the strategy $i \in \mathcal{S}$, only depends on the volume v_i and the proportion of agents u_i, making it suitable to apply in this case where only local information is available.

All the valves, defining the inflow of the receptor tanks in a partition, are established by the vector $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0}$. These settings in the output gates affect the behaviour of the tank volumes, i.e., $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0}$. Then, the variation of the tank volumes modifies the fitness function (18.2), affecting the control actions over the output valves $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0}$.

18.3.2 Population-games approach: Second data-driven perspective

Consider a society whose topology is represented by an undirected non-complete connected graph denoted by $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, where $\mathcal{V}$ denotes the set of nodes of the graph $\mathcal{G}$. These nodes represent the set of n available strategies in a social game denoted by $\mathcal{S} = \{1, \ldots, n\}$. Besides, the set $\mathcal{E} \subset \{(i, j) : i, j \in \mathcal{V}\}$ denotes the edges of the graph $\mathcal{G}$ that determines the possible interactions among social strategies.

The graph $\mathcal{G}$ is divided into $\pi \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ sub-complete graphs known as cliques [7]. Additionally, each clique represents a population within the society. The set $\mathcal{P} = \{1, \ldots, \pi\}$ denotes the collection of the π populations, and the set of cliques is denoted by $\mathcal{C} = \{\mathcal{C}^p : p \in \mathcal{P}\}$. The clique corresponding to the population $p \in \mathcal{P}$ is a graph given by $\mathcal{C}^p = (\mathcal{V}^p, \mathcal{E}^p)$, where the set $\mathcal{V}^p$ represents the n^p available strategies in a population game, which are denoted by $\mathcal{S}^p = \{i : i \in \mathcal{V}^p\}$. On the other hand, $\mathcal{E}^p = \{(i, j) : i, j \in \mathcal{V}^p\}$ is the set of all the possible links in $\mathcal{C}^p$ determining full interaction among the population strategies.

In this work, it is assumed that the set of cliques is already known, i.e., the number of cliques π, the set of vertices $\mathcal{V}^p$, and the set of edges $\mathcal{E}^p$ for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$ are known. Although, if it is desired to obtain the optimal set of cliques[20], there are several methods to find them, e.g., the Bron Kerbosh algorithm [12], or the maximum clique problem using replicator dynamics as shown in [7]. Once the optimal set of cliques $\mathcal{C}$ has been identified, it is possible to find *redundant links*. A link $(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$ is redundant if $(i, j) \notin \tilde{\mathcal{E}}$, i.e., $(i, j) \notin \mathcal{E}^p$, for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$.

Then, the number of cliques that contain a node $i \in \mathcal{V}$, denoted by $G(i)$, is defined as follows:

$$G(i) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} g(i, p),$$

and

$$g(i, p) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in \mathcal{V}^p \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Due to the fact that the graph $\mathcal{G}$ is a non-complete and connected, then all cliques share at least one node with another clique, which is known as an intersection node. The set $\mathcal{I}^p = \{i \in \mathcal{V}^p : G(i) > 1\}$ collects all the intersection nodes in a population $p \in \mathcal{P}$. Moreover, the set of intersection nodes in the graph $\mathcal{G}$ is given by $\mathcal{I} = \bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{I}^p$.

Furthermore, all the populations $p \in \mathcal{P}$ such that a node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ belongs to the set of nodes $\mathcal{V}^p$ are collected in a set denoted by $\mathcal{P}_i$. The set of all the populations that includes a node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ is given by $\mathcal{P}_i = \{p : i \in \mathcal{V}^p\}$, where $\mathcal{P}_i \subseteq \mathcal{P}$.

The scalar $u_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the proportion of agents in the society selecting the strategy $i \in \mathcal{S}$. Similarly, the scalar $u_i^p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the proportion of agents selecting the strategy $i \in \mathcal{S}^p$ in the population $p \in \mathcal{P}$. Moreover, the distribution of agents throughout the available strategies in the society and populations is known as the

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[20] The minimum amount of cliques π such that $\bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{V}^p = \mathcal{V}$, and the minimum amount of links $|\tilde{\mathcal{E}}|$, where $\tilde{\mathcal{E}} = \bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{E}^p \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ such that the graph $\tilde{\mathcal{G}} = (\mathcal{V}, \tilde{\mathcal{E}})$ is connected.

social strategic distribution and the population strategic distribution denoted by $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0}$, and $\mathbf{u}^p \in \mathbb{R}^{n^p}_{\geq 0}$, respectively.

The set of possible social strategic distributions is given by a simplex denoted by Δ, which is a constant set, i.e., $\Delta = \left\{ \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0} : \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} u_i = m \right\}$, where $m \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ is the constant mass of agents in the society. Similarly, the set of possible strategic distributions of the population $p \in \mathcal{P}$ is given by a non-constant simplex defined as $\Delta^p = \left\{ \mathbf{u}^p \in \mathbb{R}^{n^p}_{\geq 0} : \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}^p} u_i = m^p \right\}$, where $m^p \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ corresponds to the mass of agents in the population $p \in \mathcal{P}$. Furthermore, there is a relationship between the social proportions and the population proportions given by

$$u_i = \frac{1}{G(i)} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_i} u_i^p. \tag{18.3}$$

Notice that if it is considered that $u_i^p = 0$ for all $i \notin \mathcal{V}^p$, then (18.3) can be written as

$$u_i = \frac{1}{G(i)} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} u_i^p. \tag{18.4}$$

The fitness functions take a social or population strategic distribution, and return the payoff that a proportion of agents playing a certain strategy receives. Let $f_i : \Delta \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ be the mapping of the fitness function for the proportion of agents playing the strategy $i \in \mathcal{S}$, and $f_i^p : \Delta^p \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ be the mapping of the fitness function for the proportion of agents playing the strategy $i \in \mathcal{S}^p$ in the population $p \in \mathcal{P}$. The fitness corresponding to a strategy $i \in \mathcal{S}$ is the same as the fitness for a strategy $j \in \mathcal{S}^p$ for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$ if $i = j$. Consequently, for all $i \in \mathcal{S}^p$ and for all $p \in \mathcal{P}_i$,

$$f_i(\mathbf{u}) = f_i^p(\mathbf{u}^p), \quad \text{if } u_i = u_i^p. \tag{18.5}$$

The vector of the fitness functions for a society is given by $\mathbf{F} = [f_1 \quad \ldots \quad f_n]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The social average fitness is denoted by $\bar{f}$, where $\bar{f} = (\mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{F})/m$. Similarly, the vector of fitness functions for a population $p \in \mathcal{P}$ is given by $\mathbf{F}^p \in \mathbb{R}^{n^p}$, whose fitness functions are associated to the strategies $\mathcal{S}^p$. The average fitness for a population $p \in \mathcal{P}$ is denoted by $\bar{f}^p = (\mathbf{u}^{p\top} \mathbf{F}^p)/m^p$. There is a relationship between the population masses and the social mass given by

$$m = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} m^p - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} (G(i) - 1) u_i. \tag{18.6}$$

The framework of this paper is given by the assumptions stated next.

Assumption 1 *The game $\mathbf{F}$ is a full potential game [23], i.e., there is a continuously differentiable function $V(\mathbf{u})$, known as the potential function, satisfying*

$$\frac{\partial V(\mathbf{u})}{\partial u_i} = f_i(\mathbf{u}), \quad \text{for all } i \in \mathcal{S}, \text{ and } \mathbf{u} \in \Delta.$$

Assumption 2 *Fitness functions depend only on strategies on which there is connection, i.e., each node requires only available information given by the graph topology.*

Assumption 3 *The proportion of agents playing the strategies corresponding to intersection nodes are strictly positive for all the time, i.e., $u_i^p > 0$ for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$, and for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$ (i.e., there is not extinction of the intersection population). This also implies that population masses are strictly positive, i.e., $m^p > 0$, for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$, since the population masses are composed of proportion of agents within populations.*

Assumption 4 *The game $\mathbf{F}$ is a stable game [11], i.e., the Jacobian matrix $D\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u})$ is negative semi-definite with respect to the tangent space $T\Delta$ (see Definition 1).*

The features of the potential function $V(\mathbf{u})$ determine whether the full potential game $\mathbf{F}$ is stable, as shown in Lemma 1.

Lemma 18.1. *If $V(\mathbf{u})$ is twice continuously differentiable and concave, then the full potential game $\mathbf{F}$ is a stable game.*

The objective for the society is to converge to a Nash equilibrium[21] of the game $\mathbf{F}$ denoted by $\mathbf{u}^* \in \Delta$. In order to achieve this objective, there is a game at each population $p \in \mathcal{P}$ converging to a Nash equilibrium of the game $\mathbf{F}^p$ denoted by $\mathbf{u}^{p*} \in \Delta^p$, and the intersection nodes $i \in \mathcal{I}$ allow a mass interchange among the different populations.

Population dynamics and mass dynamics

A game is solved for each population with constraints given by the population masses m^p, which vary dynamically. Dynamics associated to each population are shown in (18.7a). There are π different dynamics of this form, one for each clique $\mathcal{C}^p$ for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$, i.e.,

$$\dot{u}_i^p = u_i^p \left(f_i^p - \bar{f}^p - \phi^p \right), \quad \text{for all } i \in \mathcal{S}^p, \tag{18.7a}$$

$$\phi^p = \beta \left(\frac{1}{m^p} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}^p} u_j^p - 1 \right), \tag{18.7b}$$

where β is the convergence factor for the whole system that takes a positive and finite value. Notice that, when $\phi^p = 0$ (i.e., $\mathbf{u}^p \in \Delta^p$), then (18.7a) becomes the classical replicator dynamics equation [27].

On the other hand, there are as many mass dynamics as intersection nodes in the graph, i.e., one for each $i \in \mathcal{I}$. The dynamics for population masses m^p are given by

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[21] $\mathbf{u}^* \in \Delta$ is a Nash equilibrium if each used strategy entails the maximum benefit for the proportion of agents selecting it, i.e., the set of Nash equilibria is given by $\{\mathbf{u}^* \in \Delta : u_i^* > 0 \Rightarrow f_i(\mathbf{u}^*) \geq f_j(\mathbf{u}^*)\}$, for all $i, j \in \mathcal{S}$ [23].

$$\dot{m}_i^p = m_i^p \left(u_i - u_i^p \right), \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathcal{P}_i, \tag{18.8}$$

Equation (18.8) describes the movements of agents among populations through intersection nodes for the case in which there is not social mass constraint [6]. There might be alternative possibilities in the selection of the mass dynamics (18.8). However, the requirements that should be satisfied are: i) the dynamics satisfy the communication constraints established by the graph $\mathcal{G}$, and ii) dynamics converge to the equilibrium point given by $u_i = u_i^p$, for all $p \in \mathcal{P}_i$.

There is a relationship between m_i^p, for all $i \in \mathcal{I}^p$, and the population masses m^p given by

$$m^p = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}^p|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}^p} m_i^p, \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathcal{P}. \tag{18.9}$$

For the mass dynamics at intersection nodes in (18.8), the vector of masses and the vector of states associated to an intersection node $i \in \mathcal{I}$ are defined next. The masses vector is denoted by $\mathbf{m}_i = [m_i^{p_1} \quad \ldots \quad m_i^{p_{G(i)}}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{G(i)}$, where $p_1, \ldots, p_{G(i)} \in \mathcal{P}_i$; and the vector of population states is $\mathbf{u}_i = [u_i^{p_1} \quad \ldots \quad u_i^{p_{G(i)}}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{G(i)}$, where $p_1, \ldots, p_{G(i)} \in \mathcal{P}_i$; both vectors $\mathbf{m}_i$, and $\mathbf{u}_i$ for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$. Notice that, $\mathbf{m}_i \neq m_i$, and $\mathbf{u}_i \neq u_i$.

Finally, the dynamical system can be forced to converge to a Nash equilibrium $\mathbf{u}^*$ such that $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}^*) = \nabla V(\mathbf{u}^*)$ converges to a desired value $f_i(r)$ for an $i \in \mathcal{I}$, where r is a known value (e.g., a reference). Modifying the relationship between the states in (18.4) by adding the reference r, the following new relationship is obtained:

$$u_i = \frac{1}{G(i)+1} \left(\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} u_i^p + r \right),$$

where $u_i^p = 0$, if $i \notin \mathcal{V}^p$. Using this modification, by (18.8), u_i tends to r. This makes $\bar{f}$ to converge to the desired value $f_i(r)$, for only one $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

Optimization problems

The presented population dynamics with time-variant mass may be implemented to solve different constrained optimization problem forms. First, it is presented a population game without social mass constraint but with the positiveness over the proportion of agents. Afterwards, the population-games approach is presented to solve a constrained optimization problem with several constraints over the proportion of agents.

First consider optimization problems without social mass constraint. This problem only demands the positiveness of optimization variables. From a mass dynamics perspective, it implies a variation of the social mass arbitrarily. The problem is stated as follows:

$$\underset{\mathbf{u}}{\text{maximize}} \quad V(\mathbf{u})$$

$$\text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0},$$

where $V : \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$, and V is continuously differentiable and concave. Also, it is supposed that the solution point of this problem is an interior point. The solution for the optimization problem with one constraint is found by $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}) = \nabla V(\mathbf{u}) = 0$, since $V(\mathbf{u})$ is concave and by the fact that it is known that the maximum point is an interior point. Therefore, the desired value for the average fitness is $f_i(r) = 0$, and it is enough to find the correct value for reference r and any intersection $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

Secondly, consider optimization problems with multiple constraints over agents proportions. Suppose that there is a strategic interaction with more than one constraint, e.g., different constraints over the proportion of agents. It is desired that the total amount of certain groups of proportions of agents are constant. This problem is stated as

$$\underset{\mathbf{u}}{\text{maximize}} \quad V(\mathbf{u})$$
$$\text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{Hu} = \mathbf{h}, \text{ and } \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0}, \tag{18.10}$$

where $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0}$, $V : \mathbb{R}^n_{\geq 0} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$, and V is concave and continuously differentiable. Moreover, $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times n}$ since there are L constraints and n decision variables, and $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^L$. For this optimization problem, $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ is the Lagrange multiplier vector. The Lagrange function $l : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^L \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is

$$l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = V(\mathbf{u}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}^\top (\mathbf{Hu} - \mathbf{h}). \tag{18.11}$$

Moreover, $\nabla_{\mathbf{u}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{H}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}$, and $-\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = -\mathbf{Hu} + \mathbf{h}$. The Lagrange condition is used to find possible extreme points in the objective function, in which $\nabla_{\mathbf{u}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \mathbf{0}$, $\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \mathbf{0}$ [8].

Consequently, fitness functions for each node are chosen to be defined as $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{u}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu})$, and $\mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu})$. This problem is solved by using a reference r as it was explained in Sub-section 18.3.2 in order to force a convergence value for the fitness functions associated to the social states and the Lagrange multipliers. In order to use the population and the mass dynamics, it is necessary that the games are stable according to Assumption 3.

Lemma 18.2. *If $V(\mathbf{u})$ is twice continuously differentiable and concave, and the constraints have the form $\mathbf{Hu} = \mathbf{h}$, then the games $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{u}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu})$ and $\mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} l(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\mu})$ are stable.*
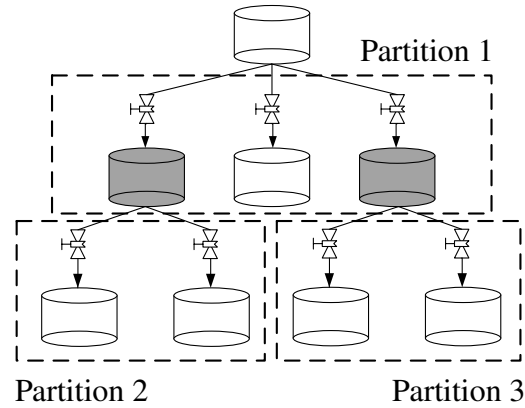
Fig. 18.3 Partitions over a branched topology. Some tanks are source and receptor in different partitions (gray tanks).

18.4 Simulations and results

### 18.4.1 Case study: First data-driven perspective

In the design of the proposed decentralized controller, it is necessary to make a partitioning of the DWTN into different sub-systems. Each sub-system must correspond to a case of flow divergence (i.e., each sub-system must be of the form shown in Figure 18.1). In order to clarify the partitioning process in a typical branched DWTN, an arbitrary DWTN is presented in Figure 18.3. At this general example, it is possible to identify that the whole system is composed of three partitions or sub-systems.

When performing the partitioning, it is possible to find some tanks that are a source and also a receptor for different sub-systems in the DWTN (this is typical when the topology is *branched*). For instance, in the partitioning presented in Figure 18.3, the gray tanks are receptors for the partition 1, and source tanks for the partitions 2, and 3.

A DWTN composed by eight tanks is controlled (see Figure 18.4), for an scenario in which shortages are produced due to the fact that the network is only operating with water stored in the main upstream tank. The system is a branched DWTN whose topology is mainly divergent, so it can be partitioned in three main subsystems; all independently controlled by a distributed replicator-dynamics-based controller. The maximum storage capacity and the scale factors of each tank are presented in Table 18.2. Since the system is branched and the divergence topology prevails, it is possible to divide the system into three partitions, as it was described before. The first one is composed by tanks 2, and 3, the second by tanks 4, and 5, and the third by tanks 6, 7, and 8. Each partition receives the flow from a source

Table 18.2 Maximum volumes and scale factors of the tanks in the DWTN.

Tank i	$\bar{x}_i$ [m^3]	K_i [1/ms]
1	2.0	0.123
2	1.1	0.160
3	2.0	0.326
4	0.5	0.599
5	2.6	0.660
6	0.2	0.632
7	2.0	0.255
8	3.5	0.427
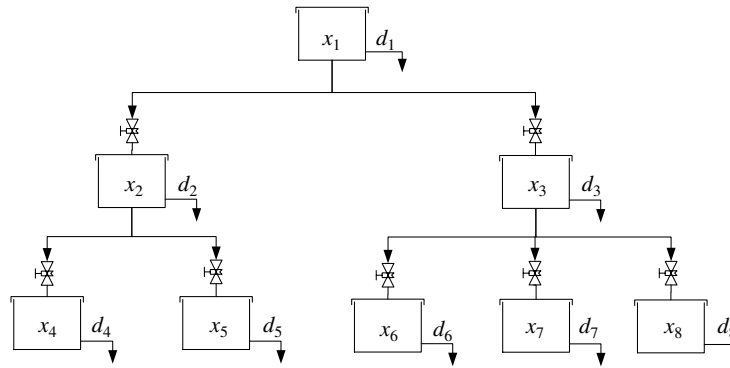
Fig. 18.4 Case study with eight tanks in a branched DWTN.

tank, which is distributed in different proportions, depending on the setting of the input valves of each tank of the partition.

Each tank attends a different demand pattern along the day denoted by d_i. The tanks with volumes x_5 and x_8 supply a constant demand pattern of 4.5×10^{-3} 1/s, while the others, denominated as inactive tanks (i.e., tanks 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7) are just operating to store water, not attending any demand pattern. When there is not a control strategy, the flow is divided equally, and shortage of 26 m^3 is produced because the distribution of flows is inefficient, as shown in Figures 18.5a), 18.5b), and 18.5c).

When the control strategy is applied, then the priority is given to the tanks that supply the demand, and inactive tanks become less filled up since they are not attending any demand pattern. Thereby, no shortages are produced, the demand is fully supplied, and the distribution of flows is more efficient, in comparison to the case with no control. This is because all the tanks keep some volume stored on them at the end of the day, while in the other case, tanks 5 and 8 are completely empty.

It has been shown that the proposed decentralized population dynamics-based control is efficient in terms of a better distribution of drinking water throughout
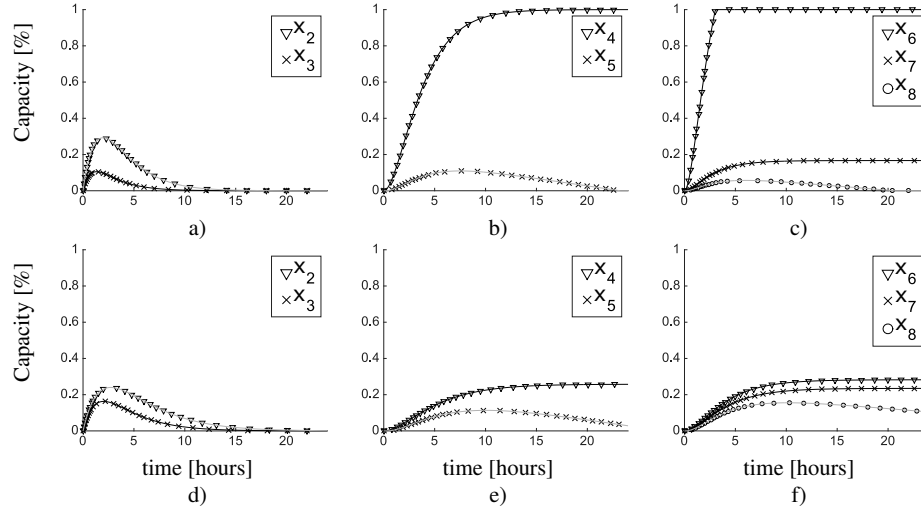
Fig. 18.5 Evolution of the used capacity in storage tanks; (a, b, c) capacity of tanks when no control strategy is applied; and (d, e, f) capacity of tanks when the evolutionary game-based strategy with the replicator dynamics is applied.

the DWTN, avoiding shortages. The partitioning proposed methodology allows to design the decentralized controller by using different local controllers with a lower computational burden with respect to a centralized controller.

18.4.2 Case Study: Second data-driven perspective

Consider the case study presented in Figure 18.6, which corresponds with the aggregate model of the Barcelona Drinking Water Network presented in Figure 2.2. For this system, consider $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = [\tilde{x}_1 \quad \tilde{x}_2 \quad \ldots \quad \tilde{x}_{61}]^\top$, $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_s = [\tilde{x}_{s,1} \quad \tilde{x}_{s,2} \quad \ldots \quad \tilde{x}_{s,61}]^\top$, and $\mathbf{u} = [u_1 \quad u_2 \quad \ldots \quad u_{61}]^\top$ according to the explanation presented in Section 18.2.2.

In the control design, the first step is the determination of cliques within the system, i.e., to make a partitioning of the system. The aforementioned partition process of the BDWTN is a problem already studied in [18]. For the BDWTN control problem, the proposed partitioning is determined based on the system mass-balance constraints. Lagrange-multiplier vertices are connected to decision variables vertices from which information is needed in order to compute the fitness functions $\mathbf{F}(\mu)$. As a criterion for performing the partitioning, it is desired that all the Lagrange multipliers, and the nodes connected with them, belong to the same clique. In order to formalize this partitioning criterion, let $\mathcal{H}_j$ be the set of all the nodes that are involved in the jth equality constraint of the form (18.10), where $j = 1, \ldots, L$, e.g., for the BDWTN system, $\mathcal{H}_1 = \{1, 2, 5, 6\}$, and $\mathcal{H}_2 = \{2, 3\}$. Furthermore, we
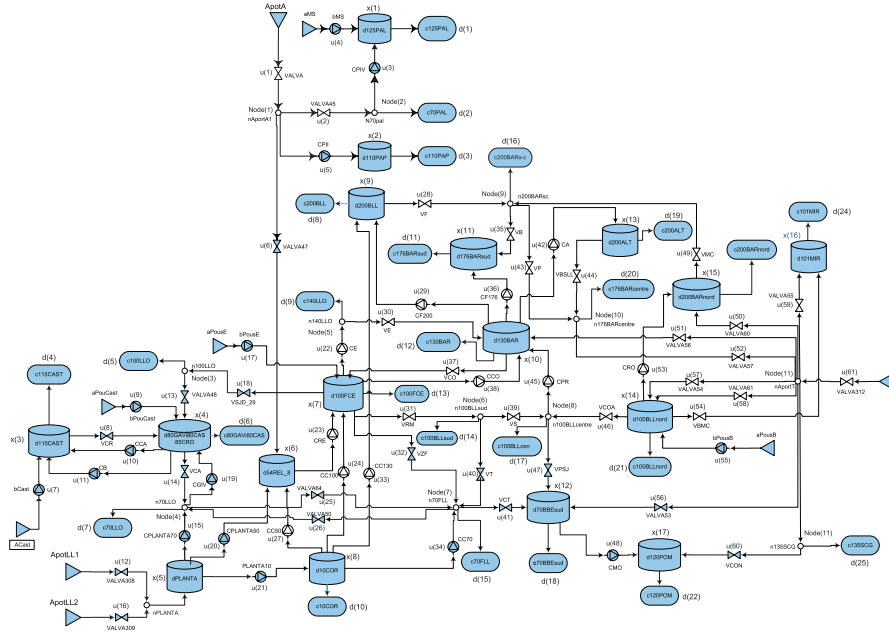
Fig. 18.6 Aggregate model of the Barcelona DWTN (BDWTN), comprised by 17 states, 61 control actions, 25 demands, and 11 mass-balance nodes.

Table 18.3 Partitioning of the network into the three resultant cliques.

Clique	Vertices u	Involved states x
1	$1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 22, 29, 30, 36, 37, 38$	$1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11$
2	$12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 39,$ $40, 41, 45, 46, 47$	$4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14$
3	$28, 35, 42, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59,$ $60, 61$	$9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,$ $16, 17$

consider two sets of nodes for mass-balance constraints $\mathcal{H}_i$, and $\mathcal{H}_j$. If $\mathcal{H}_i \cap \mathcal{H}_j \neq \emptyset$, then all the nodes $\mathcal{H}_i \cup \mathcal{H}_j$ should belong to the same clique.

Based on this idea, it is possible to determine the vertices (strategies) that should belong to the same clique (population). As an example, consider the set of nodes associated to the constraint given by mass-balance node 9, i.e., $\mathcal{H}_9 = \{28, 35, 43, 49\}$, and the set of nodes corresponding to the mass-balance constraint 10, i.e., $\mathcal{H}_{10} = \{43, 44, 52\}$. There is a common vertex given by $\mathcal{H}_9 \cap \mathcal{H}_{10} = \{43\}$. Now, considering the constraint corresponding to the mass-balance node 11, i.e., $\mathcal{H}_{11} = \{50, 51, 52, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61\}$, then it is obtained that $\mathcal{H}_{10} \cap \mathcal{H}_{11} = \{52\}$. Consequently, all the nodes $\mathcal{H}_9 \cup \mathcal{H}_{10} \cup \mathcal{H}_{11}$ should belong to the same clique.
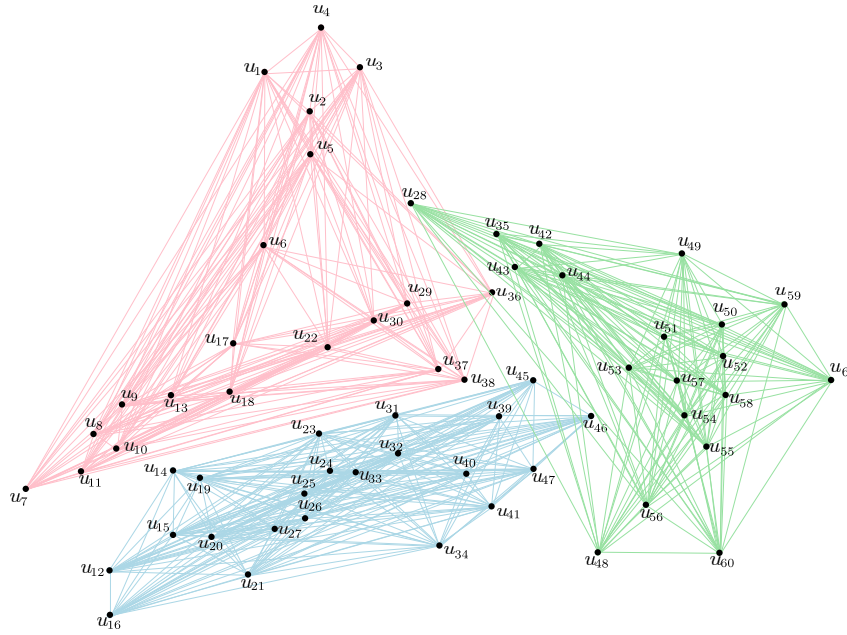
Fig. 18.7 Partitioning of the BDWTN into three cliques (see Table 18.3).

On the other hand, there are some vertices that are not associated to any constraint, e.g., the node 4 associated to the decision variable x_4, then $4 \notin \mathcal{H}_j$ for all $j = 1, \ldots, 11$. In these cases, vertices are assigned to the closest clique. Cliques are presented in Figure 18.7, and the nodes of each clique are shown in Table 18.3. Notice that $\{\mathcal{H}_1 \cup \mathcal{H}_2 \cup \mathcal{H}_3 \cup \mathcal{H}_5\} \in \mathcal{V}^1$, $\{\mathcal{H}_4 \cup \mathcal{H}_6 \cup \mathcal{H}_7 \cup \mathcal{H}_8\} \in \mathcal{V}^2$, and $\{\mathcal{H}_9 \cup \mathcal{H}_{10} \cup \mathcal{H}_{11}\} \in \mathcal{V}^3$.

Once the partitioning is performed, the optimization problem (18.1) is stated of the form (18.10) by adding slack variables, which may be solved by using the population and mass dynamics. In this case, the society is composed of three population (cliques). In order to analyse the performance of the data-driven controller, the obtained results are compared to a centralized MPC controller. Figure 18.8 presents the evolution of three volume tanks (i.e., x_1, x_{12}, and x_{14}), and three control inputs (i.e., u_{18}, u_{32}, and u_{40}) for both centralized MPC controller and data-driven controller based on population dynamics. In Figures 18.8a), 18.8b), and 18.8c) show that, with the centralized MPC controller, the tanks are maintained with more volumes with respect to the data-driven controller based on population dynamics. This better performance of the centralized MPC controller is obtained due to the fact it disposes of the system model in comparison to the data-driven control approach. Moreover, Figures 18.8d), 18.8e), and 18.8f) show the similar performance of the
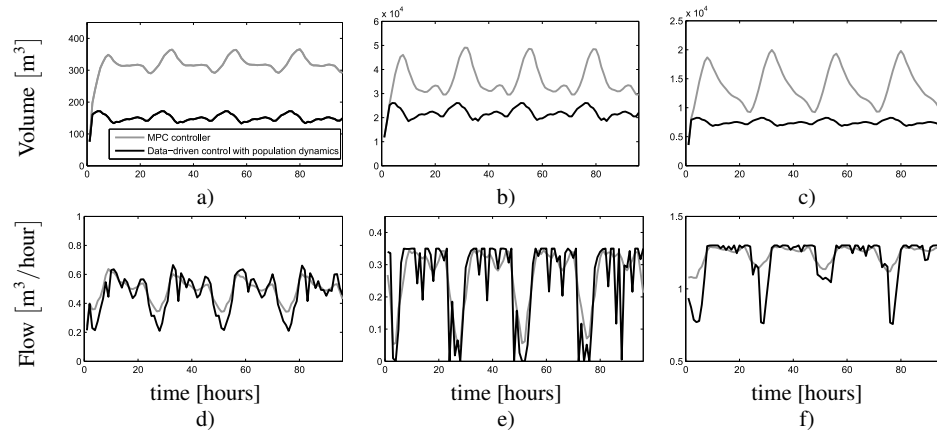
Fig. 18.8 Evolution of volumes (a) 1, (b) 12, and (c) 14. Evolution of control inputs (d) 18, (e) 32, and (f) 40.

Table 18.4 Discrimination of economical costs for different control strategies.

	Total Cost in Economical Units (e.u.)			
	Population Dynamics Approach		**Model Predictive Control**	
Day	**Data-driven Controller**		**Model-based Controller**	
	Water	**Energy**	**Water**	**Energy**
1	45484.48	18409.34	37915.28	22096.12
2	41384.76	18131.81	28352.38	22235.15
3	40022.43	18791.73	28400.39	22288.11
4	40389.76	18387.35	28330.14	22219.59
Sum	167281.43	73720.23	122998.21	88838.97
Overall costs	241001.66		211837.17	

control inputs for both controller. This close behaviour is obtained because of the constraints, which are taken into account for both control approaches.

Table 18.4 shows the comparison of the economical costs obtained with the centralized MPC strategy and the data-driven population-games-based control approach. The results exhibit lower energy costs associated to the control inputs with the data-driven approach. However, since the MPC controller disposes of the model system to generate a prediction, the centralized MPC approach minimizes more the overall costs. In contrast, even though the minimization of costs, the data-driven control scheme is non-centralized, reducing the amount of required communication links in order to compute the final control inputs.

18.5 Conclusions and research perspectives

Two data-driven non-centralized control strategies to manage water flows among drinking water networks have been presented. The proposed controllers are based on population games, and have been designed using the distributed replicator dynamics and a modification of the population dynamics incorporating mass dynamics. Additionally, two partitioning approaches have been introduced in order to divide the typical centralized control problem into several sub-systems. The partitioning of the system allows to reduce the computational burden required to manage the flows among the system. In the first population-games approach, the partitioning implies a decentralized control scheme since the local controllers do not communicate to each other. On the other hand, the partitioning in the second population-games implies a distributed control scheme since there is overlapping among the resulting sub-systems. Both techniques have been tested using two different case studies.

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