Abstract—This paper proposes an online fuzzy coordination algorithm (OL-FCA) for charging plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) in smart grid networks that will reduce the total cost of energy generation and the associated grid losses while maintaining network operation criteria such as maximum demand and node voltage profiles within their permissible limits. A recently implemented PEV coordination algorithm based on maximum sensitivity selection (MSS) optimization is improved using fuzzy reasoning. The proposed OL-FCA considers random plug-in of vehicles, time-varying market energy prices and PEV owner preferred charging time zones based on priority selection. Impacts of uncoordinated, MSS and fuzzy coordinated charging on total cost, grid losses and voltage profiles are investigated by simulating different PEV penetration levels on a 449-node network with three wind distributed generation (WDG) systems. The main advantage of OL-FCA compared with the MSS PEV coordination is the reduction in the total cost it introduces within the 24 hours.

Index Terms—Plug-in electric vehicles, online PEV coordination, fuzzy, load management and smart grid.

I. INTRODUCTION

SMART GRID (SG) technologies are currently undergoing rapid developments to modernize legacy power grids and to cope with the future increasing energy demands. Most electric power utilities are moving toward smarter solutions for generation, distribution and control of the grid. On the other hand, end users are also becoming more concerned about their environments and are willing to adjust their lifestyle and perhaps pay higher electricity bills to promote pollution free renewable energy resources and efficient smart appliances. It is expected that plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) dominate the market in the near future as pollution-free alternatives to conventional petroleum based transportation.

References [1-3] provide extensive reviews on smart grid, PEV impacts and coordination strategies. In general, PEVs connected to smart grids can operate in charge or discharge modes with the energy being transferred from grid to vehicle (G2V) or from vehicle to grid (V2G), respectively. The research on PEVs has been mainly focused on their impacts [4-6], G2V [7-20] and V2G operations [3, 21-24]. Recent research indicates that uncoordinated (random) PEV charging at high penetration levels will have detrimental impacts on grid performance and efficiency [1-6]. To overcome these problems, the utilities can either force coordinated PEV charging or motivate their consumers to shift their PEV charging loads to off-peak hours. Motivations can be initiated by educating PEV owners, offering price incentives for off-peak hours charging and implementing dynamic energy prices. To date, most proposed PEV coordination approaches [7-20] are not suitable for online applications as they are either based on forecasted PEV charging demand or require significant computing times when system size and/or vehicle penetration levels increase.

Strategies for PEV charge coordination are generally divided into decentralized (distributed) and centralized categories [7]. With decentralized coordination strategies, individual PEV owners have authority to make decisions about the time and rate of their own vehicle charging. While this approach offers significant ownership authority to the PEV owners; it may not ensure global optimal charging outcomes from the grid point of view in terms of system losses, voltage profile, overloading and security [7-8]. This is mainly due to the fact that the aggregator or system operator does not have a direct control over the widespread PEV charging activities and can only offer energy price incentives through dynamic pricing in order to shift charging tasks to valleys of the load profile. With the centralized coordination strategies, the aggregator acts as an interface between PEV owners and the system operator to provide charging services considering benefits of both parties by making decisions about the time and rate of all PEV charging in order to achieve an overall optimal solution [7-10]. The aggregator relies on the smart grid facilities such as smart meters for real-time updating of PEV load status such as vehicle arrival and desired departure times, battery state of charge (SOC), etc. The coordination can be based on dynamic or static charging. In centralized dynamic charging, PEVs can be plugged in/out at any time and the aggregator keeps updating the load profile and finding new schedule while static charging requires PEV owners to submit their schedule in advance. Dynamic charging offers more flexibility for PEV owners; however, it is more complicated and requires more computing time. Reference [6] investigates the impacts of coordinated PEV charging using deterministic and stochastic dynamic programing; however, the approach is not suitable for online PEV coordination as the user priorities/preferences are not included and the operational constraints such as node voltage magnitudes are not being directly involved. References [11-12] implement a real-time (on-line) PEV coordination...
algorithm based on maximum sensitivity selection (MSS) optimization to reduce grid losses and perform peak load saving considering random plug-in (arrival) of the vehicles. Reference [12] proposes an operating framework for aggregators of PEVs and also designs a minimum-cost load scheduling algorithm; however, the approach is based on the forecast electricity price and PEV power demands. Reference [14] presents vehicle usage data for 76 vehicles in a one-year period and predicts PEV charging profiles and electrical range reliability. Reference [9] proposes a PEV charging that will optimize aggregator's revenue, as well as customer demand and cost. In [15], a dynamic aggregator is proposed to optimize cost of PEV charging. In [8], a three-step approach is used for demand side management of PEVs. References [16] and [17] present centralize and iterative decentralized PEV charging algorithms that will smooth the daily load curve, respectively. References [9] and [18] propose optimal PEV charging coordination in day-ahead electricity market environment considering energy storage as ancillary services and V2G services, respectively. References [11-12, 19-20] also consider voltage quality in the PEV coordination problem.

In references [3, 21-25], PEVs are operated in V2G modes to support smart grid through ancillary frequency regulation and energy storage services. The substantial grid energy requirements for PEV charging at high penetration levels can be partially supplied through PV and wind distributed generation (DG) systems. This may prove to be beneficial considering the intermittency of renewable DGs and possibility of charging PEVs during peak generation hours. However, there are limited publications on PEV coordination with DG resources [24-25].

This paper proposes an online fuzzy coordination algorithm (OL-FCA) for charging PEVs that reduces total cost of energy generation and grid losses while considering random plug-in of vehicles, time-varying market energy prices, consumer preferred charging time zones, node voltage profiles and maximum demand (generation) limits. The impacts of MSS [11-12] and fuzzy PEV coordination charging on cost, grid losses, voltage profiles and distribution transformer loading are investigated by simulating a 449-node system consisting of the IEEE 23 kV distribution system connected to 22 low voltage 415 V residential networks populated with PEVs without/with three wind distributed generations (WDGs).

II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

The PEV charging coordination (G2V) can formulated as a nonlinear cost minimization problem with the following objective function and constraints [12]:

\[
\min F_{\text{cost}} = \sum_{t} K_{E} P_{t, \text{loss}} + \sum_{t} K_{t,G} D_{t, \text{total}}, \quad t = \Delta t, 2 \Delta t, \ldots, 24 \text{ hours}
\]

where \( P_{t, \text{loss}} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-l} R_{k,k+l} \left( V_{k+l} - V_{k} \right) \left( V_{k+l} - V_{k} \right) \).

Subject to:

\[
\Delta V_k = V_{k+1} - V_{k} \leq \Delta V_{\text{max}}, \quad \text{for } k = 1, \ldots, n
\]

\[
D_{t, \text{total}} = \sum_{k} I_{t,k}^{\text{load}} \leq D_{t, \text{max}}
\]

where \( F_{\text{cost-loss}} \) and \( F_{\text{cost-gen}} \) are the costs corresponding to total system losses and total generation, respectively. \( \Delta t = 5 \text{ min} \) is the time interval; \( K_{E} = 505 \text{$/MWh} \) [12] and \( K_{t,G} \) (Fig.1) are the costs per MWh of losses and generation, respectively; while \( k \) and \( n \) are the node number and total number of nodes. \( \Delta V_{k} \) is the per unit (pu) voltage deviation of bus \( k \) which is limited to \( \Delta V_{\text{max}} = 0.1 \text{pu} \) in this paper. \( D_{t, \text{max}} \) is the maximum demand level at \( t = \Delta t \) that can be set to the maximum demand without any PEVs.

III. PROPOSED ONLINE FUZZY COORDINATION ALGORITHM (OL-FCA) FOR PEV CHARGING

As an alternative to random charging of PEV batteries, this paper takes advantage of the sophisticated smart grid communication backbone and implements an online fuzzy coordination algorithm (OL-FCA) that will improve grid performance and reliability by taking charge controls out of the owners’ hand and automatically coordinate PEVs. A recent PEV coordination algorithm based on MSS optimization [11-12] will be improved using fuzzy reasoning.

A. Minimization of Objective Function (Cost)

For online minimization of the cost function, the fast and relatively accurate MSS optimization approach is used to quantify the objective function sensitivity (system losses) to PEV charging loads at a given time step [12, 26]:

\[
MSS_{t,j} = \frac{\partial P_{t, \text{loss}}}{\partial P_{\text{PEV},j}}, \quad j = 1, \ldots, j_{m}
\]

where \( MSS_{t,j} \) is the sensitivity of system losses to PEV charging at node \( j \) at time interval \( t \) and \( j_{m} \) is the total number of PEVs while \( P_{\text{PEV},j} \) is the power consumption of the PEV connected to node \( j \). Entries of the MSS vector are readily deduced from the Jacobian matrix of the load flow [12,26].
B. Fuzzification of Constraints

Fuzzy reasoning is used to incorporate the PEV coordination constraints and to select the most suitable PEVs for charging at each time interval $t$. For the sensitivities of constraints and losses ($\Delta V_k$, $P_{\text{loss, rated}}$, $D_{\text{t, max}}$ in Eqs.1-3) with respect to PEV charging at each bus, the fuzzy membership functions of Figs.2(a)-(c) are used. In addition, the time-dependent weighting factors of Fig.2(d) are included in the maximum demand membership function to assure consumer satisfaction and full charge of all batteries by 6am.

- **Fuzzification of Voltage Deviations ($\Delta V_k$)**: For the deviation of voltage constraints with respect to PEV charging at bus $k$, the exponential membership function $\mu_{\Delta V_k}$ of Fig.2(a) is used. $\Delta V_0=\Delta V_{\text{max}}/2$ corresponds to Eq.2 such that buses with voltage deviations less than this limit have full set memberships. Therefore, a bus with high voltage deviation is given a low membership value:

$$\mu_{\Delta V_k} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \Delta V_k \leq \Delta V_0, \\ e^{-(\Delta V_k-\Delta V_0)/\Delta V_{\text{max}}/2} & \text{if } \Delta V_k > \Delta V_0, \end{cases} \text{ for } k=1,...,n$$  

(5)

where $\Delta V_0=0.05\text{pu}$ and the time constant is set to $T_\text{V}=0.034$ such that $\mu_{\Delta V_k}=0.23$ for $\Delta V_k=\Delta V_{\text{max}}=0.1\text{pu}$ (Eq. 2).

- **Fuzzification of System Losses ($P_{\text{loss}}$)**: To limit total system power losses due to PEV charging, the exponential membership function of Fig.2(b) is used. The time constant should be adjusted such that PEV charging at time interval $t$ result in system losses less than the rated losses $P_{\text{loss, rated}}$ (e.g., highest losses within 24 hours without any PEV charging) have high membership values. This can occur at low levels of the daily load curve during early morning hours (Fig.1). Therefore, PEV charging scenarios with high losses are given low membership values:

$$\mu_{\text{loss}} = e^{-P_{\text{loss}}/T_{\text{loss}}}$$  

(6)

where the time constant is set to $T_{\text{loss}}=0.034$ such that $\mu_{\text{loss}}=0.5$ for total losses equal to the rated losses without any PEV charging $P_{\text{loss}}=P_{\text{loss, rated}}$ (Eq. 1).

- **Fuzzification of Maximum Demand Level ($D_{\text{t, max}}$)**: Two exponential membership functions with different time constants are used to limit maximum total demand during PEV charging periods as shown in Fig.2(c):

$$\mu_D = \begin{cases} e^{-AD/T_{D+}} & \text{if } AD = D_{\text{t, total}} - W_D D_{\text{t, max}} \geq 0, \\ e^{+AD/T_{D-}} & \text{if } AD = D_{\text{t, total}} - W_D D_{\text{t, max}} < 0 \end{cases}$$  

(7)

where $W_D$ is the maximum demand weight factor that will be adjusted based on the vehicle waiting time in the PEV Queue Table (Fig.2(d)). The time constant $T_{D+}$ should be much smaller than time constant $T_{D-}$ to strictly prevent total system demands beyond the designated maximum value of $D_{\text{t, max}}$ under all PEV charging conditions. This will also prevent possible line and transformer overloading. In this paper, $T_{D+}=0.0125$ and $T_{D-}=0.125$.

- **Maximum Demand Weight Factors Based on PEV Waiting Time in the Queue Table**: An important feature of OL-FCA is to perform coordination such that on one side vehicle charging are postponed to off-peak hours (to reduce cost of generating energy) and on the other side PEVs are charged as quickly as possible to assure consumer satisfaction and full charge of all batteries by 6am. To implement this, the weight factor $W_D$ of Eq.7 is adjusted according to the designated red, blue, and green time zones (Fig.2(d)). OL-FCA keeps track of all charging activities by continuously storing and sorting vehicle information (priorities, locations, plug-in and plug-out times) in the PEV Queue Table. However as the approach is online, at each time interval $\Delta t$, there are no information about the numbers and requested charging time zones of the incoming PEVs arriving at later hours; therefore, $W_D$ is linearly increased according to the vehicle waiting time in the Queue Table (particularly for the green time zone), as shown in Fig.2(d). Note that the slope of $W_D$ functions increase with time. That is the slope of the green zone (2-6am) is much larger than the slope of the red zone (6-10pm) to assure full charge of all batteries by 6am.

C. Fuzzy Combination of Membership Functions

The additive or multiplicative generators of a t-norm can be used to combine fuzzy membership functions [27]. In this paper, the algebraic sum of the weighted membership functions is used to combine the fuzzy constraints:

$$\mu_{\text{PEV}_{j,k}} = 0.3\mu_{\Delta V_k} + 0.3\mu_{\text{loss}} + 0.4\mu_D, \quad j = 1, ..., J_m$$  

(8)

where 0.3, 0.3 and 0.4 are the selected weighting factors for voltage deviation, system loss and maximum demand membership functions, respectively. At each time interval $t$, the decision on whether to start or defer the charging of a vehicle will depend on its membership function as well as its ranking in the PEV Queue Table (Eq.4).

D. Flow Chart of OL-FCA

The proposed online algorithm (Fig.3) begins by reading input parameters and initializing variables. At each time step
(\(t=\Delta t, 2\Delta t, 3\Delta t, \ldots 24\) hours), OL-FCA will:

- Sample the current state of the grid (e.g., runs load flow to calculate load levels, node voltages, system losses, etc.).
- Update \(D_{\text{max}}\) and DG status; compute MSS vectors and add randomly arriving PEVs to “PEV Queue Table”. The queue also contains PEVs from previous time steps that have not been charged due to a constraint violation.
- Sort Queue Table from high to low priority based on the PEV time zones (red, blue, green) and sensitivities (Eq.4).
- Compute (starting with the PEV at the top of Queue Table) PEV fuzzy membership function (Eq.9) and decide to either activate or delay (until next \(t\)) vehicle charging.

**IV. THE 449 NODE SMART GRID TEST SYSTEM**

The smart grid test system topology of Fig.5(a) is used to evaluate OL-FCA and compare its performance with the PEV MSS coordination approach of [12]. It consists of the IEEE 31 bus 23kV distribution test system connected with 22 low voltage 415V residential feeders. In addition, OL-FCA performance will also be demonstrated with 3 WDG units connected to nodes 4, 7 and 12. Each residential feeder consists of 19 nodes representing customer households with randomly assigned priorities and charging time zone (Fig.5(b)). System data including line, residential load (2kW at 0.9 lagging power factor), transformer, PEV battery (10kWh, 70% depth of discharge), PEV charger (88% efficiency, fixed charging power of 4kW requiring 8kWh of energy from grid to charge a single PEV) parameters are available in [12].

**V. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

Simulations are performed on the smart grid system of Fig.5 considering eight PEV charging scenarios (Table I). Simulation results with time interval of \(\Delta t=5\) min for PEV penetration levels of 16%, 32%, 47% and 63% without/with three WDGs are presented in Figs.6-9 and Tables II-III.

**fig.4**

- **fig.4**. WDG active output power characteristic with peak generation of 50 kW at 6pm (based on scaled down actual recordings from Walkway wind farm, WA, Australia on July 7, 2012).

**A. Uncoordinated PEV Charging (Case A)**

To investigate the impacts of uncoordinated charging on the grid, a realistic charging scenario is simulated with vehicles being randomly plugged in during early evening hours (1800h-2200h). Simulation results are summarized in Table II (rows 4-8) and plots of system power consumption, voltage profile of the worst affected bus and system power losses are shown in Figs.6(a), 8(a), and 9(a), respectively. As expected, there are significant increases in power demand, power generation, voltage deviations and power losses even at low PEV penetrations. For example, total cost is increased by 30% for PEV penetration of 16%. The system is also experiencing extensive voltage drops beyond the accepted limit of 0.9pu at higher PEV penetration levels (Fig.8(a)).

**B. MSS Coordinated PEV Charging (Case B)**

The MSS based PEV coordination algorithm of [12] is simulated and results are presented in Table II (rows 9-13), Figs.6(b), 8(b), and 9(b). A general improvement in system performance including reduction in total costs is observed while all node voltages are regulated within permissible lower (0.9pu) and upper (1.1pu) limits even at high PEV penetration level of 47% and 63% as reported in [12].

**C. Fuzzy Coordinated (OL-FCA) PEV Charging (Case C)**

The proposed OL-FCA of Fig.3 is implemented and results are presented in Table II (rows 14-18), Figs.6(c), 7, 8(c) and 9(c). There is significant improvement in system operation and performance compared with both the uncoordinated and MSS coordinated charging of Cases A-B. For example, there
is a considerable improvement in the percentage increase of total cost (Table II, column 6) with 63% PEV penetration from 59% (uncoordinated charging) and 15.24% (MSS charging) to 12.7% while keeping node voltage profiles and maximum demand level within the permissible limits. Unlike MSS coordination, OL-FCA is designed to allow small deviations/violations of (voltage and/or maximum demand) constraints according to the corresponding member functions of Fig.2 to limit losses and reduce cost of generating energy.

D. MSS and Fuzzy Coordination with WDGs (Cases D-E)

Both MSS and OL-FCA can accommodate DG resources by treating them as PQ nodes injecting power into the grid. To demonstrate possible DG participations and contributions in PEV charging, three WDGs (with peak output power of 50kW at 6pm, Fig.4) are connected at nodes 4, 7 and 12 as shown in Fig.5. This will represent a total wind penetration of 3x5=15%. Simulation results for MSS and fuzzy coordination with 63% PEV penetration are presented in Table II (rows 19-28) and Figs.10(a) and (b), respectively. Results show that WDGs will further enhance the overall performance of the system in terms of reducing voltage deviation, system losses and total cost at all PEV penetration levels. Note that MSS coordination utilizes the entire available WDG output power at each time interval to charge as many (red, blue and green) PEVs as possible during the peak load hours (Fig.10(a), 1700h-2200h). The problem with this simple approach is in reducing the possibility of serving high priority (red) vehicles that may shortly arrive within the next few time intervals. Therefore, OL-FCA prefers to use WDG output during peak hours to only charge the high priority (red) vehicles (Fig.10(b), 1700h-2000h). This will also have the advantage of reducing transform loadings during peak load hours (Fig.11).

E. Impact of WDG Peak Generation Time (Case F)

Due to the stochastic nature and behavior of WDGs, their peak generation times and duration will randomly change within the 24 hours and may not always coincide with the residential peak load hours as shown in Fig.2. To demonstrate impact of WDG peak generation time on PEV coordination, Case C is repeated with shifted WDG peak time from 6pm to 8pm, 10pm and 12pm. WDG have the potential to reduce total losses and total cost, as well as the burden on the power transformers. Fig.11 shows impacts of WDG peak generation time on distribution transformer loading. As expected, there is more reduction in transformer loading when the peak WDG durations occur during early evening peak load hours (e.g., 6pm, 8pm) with sustainable PEV charging activities.

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Fig. 5. The 449 node smart grid topology consisting of the IEEE 31 node 23 kV system with 3 WDG units and 22 low voltage 19 node 415 V residential feeders; (a) system diagram, (b) detailed diagram of one 415 V residential feeder with 16%, 32%, 47% and 63% PEV penetration showing high, medium and low priority consumers in red, blue and green colours paying very high, moderate and very cheap tariff rates, respectively.
Fig. 6. System power consumption of 449 node smart grid (Fig. 5) with 63% PEV penetration for; (a) Case A, (b) Case B, (c) Case C (Tables I, II).

Fig. 7. System power consumption for Case C (OL-FCA) with PEV penetration levels of; (a) 47%, (b) 32%, (c) 16%.
Fig. 8. Voltage profile (for the worst affected nodes) of the 449 node smart grid (Fig. 5) for; (a) Case A, (b) Case B, (c) Case C (Table I).

Fig. 9. Total system power losses of the 449 node smart grid (Fig. 5) for; (a) Case A, (b) Case B, (c) Case C (Table I).
F. Impact of WDG Penetration (Case G)

The sizes of the three WDGs (Fig.5) are adjusted to examine six wind penetration levels of 5, 15, 10, 20, 30, and 40. Simulation results with OL-FCA coordination for 63% PEV penetration are summarized in Table III and Fig.12. According to these results, increasing WDGs penetration will substantially reduce system losses, generation cost and transformer loading.

G. Impact of WDG Location (Case H)

To investigate impacts of wind location, one large 21kW WDG unit is considered and connected at different nodes. The calculated total system losses with PEV penetration of 63% are plotted in Fig.13. As expected, the most appropriate locations of WDGs are toward the end of the HV network on nodes 11-15.

FIG. 10. SYSTEM POWER CONSUMPTION WITH 3X5=15% WDG PENETRATION; (A) CASE D (MSS COORDINATION), (B) CASE E (OL-FCA).

TABLE II

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PEV [%]</th>
<th>ΔV [%]</th>
<th>IMAX [%]</th>
<th>Generation cost* [$/day]</th>
<th>Total cost (Eq.1) [$/day]</th>
<th>Increase in Total cost [%]**</th>
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*) Excluding WDGs.  
**) Percentage of nominal generation with no PEVs, excluding WDG cost.

TABLE III

<table>
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<th>WDG [%]**</th>
<th>ΔV [%]</th>
<th>Total Power Loss [MW/day]</th>
<th>Generation cost* [$/day]</th>
<th>Total cost (Eq.1) [$/day]</th>
<th>Increase in Total cost [%]**</th>
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**) Percentage of nominal generation with no PEVs.
This paper proposes a fast and simple online fuzzy coordination algorithm (OL-FCA) for charging PEV batteries based on MSS optimization and fuzzy reasoning. It is implemented on a 449-node 23 kV test system consisting of 22 low voltage residential networks populated with PEVs. OL-FCA has the following advantages and capabilities:

- Compared to MSS coordinated PEV charging of [12], it offers further improvements in terms of loss and cost reduction.
- It takes advantage of DG resources by utilizing their output powers particularly during peak DG generation periods to service more vehicles and reduce the total cost.
- It does not require forecasting of PEVs and/or DGs as the information on random arrivals of vehicles and the intermittent outputs/status renewable resources are updated online through the smart meters.
- It provides consumer charging time zones based on priority, regulates node voltages and controls system peak demand while improving the efficiency and economy of smart grid by reducing cost of energy generation.
- It will also reduce the burden on substation and local distribution transformers and circuits that will minimize the risk and cost of premature equipment failures and associated outages.

![Fig. 12. Case G: Impact of WDG penetration on distribution transformer loading (OL-FCA coordination, 63% PEV penetration, WDG peak generation at 6pm).](image1)

![Fig. 13. Case G: Impact of WDG location on total system losses (63% PEV penetration with one 21kW WDG connected at different nodes).](image2)

VI. CONCLUSION

The main improvements of OL-FCA compared with the MSS algorithm of [11-12] are application of fuzzy theory to increase the possibility of capturing a better local solution and the reduction in the total cost (over 2.5%; Table II, rows 12-13 and 17-18) particularly at high penetrations of PEVs. The fuzzy set theory is used to properly combine the objective function (Eq.1) and constraints (Eqs.2–3). Therefore, the quality of solution and convergence characteristic of OL-FCA are the same as the MSS technique [11-12, 26]. However, application of fuzzy theory increases the possibility of capturing a better local solution.

To improve the solution, near global optimization techniques with more computational efforts such as genetic algorithm (GA) [28], particle swarm optimization (PSO) [29], tabu search [30] may be considered. The authors are investigating the computation of near global PEV coordination solutions and hope to publish some results in the future.

REFERENCES

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