Optimal Scheduling and Management of a Smart City Within the Safe Framework

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ABSTRACT This paper proposes an enhanced cyber secure energy and data transaction framework for the optimal operation and management of the smart city. Recently, the concept of smart city within the power systems has taken the center stage. Although the power system full monitoring and accessibility is guaranteed through the smart city concept, the risk of cyber-attacks to the system has been promoted, severely. With this in mind, in this paper an effective smart city model including the smart grid, smart transportation systems (STSs) that consist of the metro and electric vehicles (EVs), microgrid and smart energy hub (EH) is presented. In the proposed model, an improved directed acyclic graph (DAG) approach is represented in order to enhance the security of data transaction within the smart city. In this approach, a security layer is added to the blockchain which will prevent the cyber hackers access to the system information. An effective energy management schedule is also developed in this paper. To do so, an intelligent priority selection (IPS) based on advanced math operators is provided to allocate the metro-owned charging stations (MCSs), optimally. Furthermore, the unscented transform (UT) is utilized to handle the uncertainty of the system parameters. The results showed that the proposed IPS could improve the method CPU time over 75% compared to other well-known meta-heuristic methods in the area. Moreover, the results showed that the proposed framework has remarkably reduced the run time and increased the accuracy of the solution compared to the other meta-heuristic algorithms.

INDEX TERMS Smart city, transportation system, microgrid, energy management, smart grid, unscented transform.

NOMENCLATURE

\Omega^s_s/n Indices and set of metro’s stations.
\Omega^k/k Indices and set of uncertain parameters.
\Omega^u/u Indices and set of urban paths.
\Omega^t/t Indices and set of time.
\Omega^{ij}_j Indices and set of EV fleets, \Omega^0 = \{1,...,6\}.
\Omega^{i}/i Indices and set of \( H_{wi} \), \Omega^i = \{1,...,m\}.
\Omega^{M}/M Indices and set of matrix \( k \), \Omega^M = \{1,...,n\}.

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### CONSTANTS

- $C_{1}$, $2_{f,i}$, $C_{2v}$, $C_{2_{i}}$
- $C_{\text{deg}}$
- $\eta_{e}^{G2H}$, $\eta_{e}^{G2E}$, $\eta_{e}^{\text{ch}}$,
- $\eta_{e}^{\text{dch}}$
- $n$
- $P_{\mu}$
- $P_{\text{Matrix of metro's stations candidates}}$
- $P_{\text{Number of uncertain parameters}}$
- $P_{\text{Energy consumption of the EVs during traveling through the path k to the station i.}}$
- $P_{\text{Minimum and maximum capacity of the EVs' batteries, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Energy consumption of the EVs,}}$
- $P_{\text{Minimum and maximum charging rate of the EVs' batteries, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Minimum and maximum discharging rate of the EVs' batteries, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Electrical and thermal demands of EH during time slot t, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Capacity of the boiler/transformer/CHP.}}$
- $P_{\text{Minimum / maximum rate of battery charging.}}$
- $P_{\text{Matrix of metro’s stations candidates.}}$
- $P_{\text{Minimum and maximum EH input/output power and battery charger level, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Mean of the uncertain parameter.}}$

### VARIABLES

- $\text{cost}_{\text{deg}}, \text{cost}_{\text{GM}}, \text{cost}_{\text{DR}}, \text{cost}_{\text{bat}}, \text{cost}_{\text{Metro}}$
- $E_{1_{i}}, E_{2_{i}}, E_{f_{i}}, E$
- $F_{\text{best,sort}}$
- $\text{EVs degradation, GM, demand response (DR), batteries and metro’s demand supply costs.}$
- $\text{EVs' battery capacity during V2G, V2M and total energy transactions, respectively.}$
- $\text{Sorted matrix of best objective values.}$

### Objective function/ best of elements in matrix $\psi_{r}$

- $H_{di/dch}$
- $K$
- $K_{T}$
- $k'$, $k''$
- $L_{\text{newmetro}}$, $L_{\text{metro}}$
- $\text{Profit}_{V2G/V2M}$
- $\text{Profit}_{M2G/MG/M2V}$
- $p_{V2G}$
- $p_{V2M}$
- $p_{V2M_{i}}$
- $p_{V2G_{i}}$
- $p_{V2G_{j}}$
- $p_{M2G}$
- $P_{\text{EH}}$
- $P_{\text{GIN}}$
- $P_{\text{Charging and discharging power during V2M energy transaction, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Charging and discharging power during V2G energy transaction, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Charging and discharging power rated of vehicle v, at station i, on the path k at time t, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{M2G and G2M energy transactions, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Metro maximum amount of braking energy.}}$
- $P_{\text{Number of uncertain parameters.}}$
- $P_{\text{EH exchanged/ gas input power to the grid.}}$
- $P_{\text{CHP and boiler input gas power}}$
- $P_{\text{Charging/discharging power of the battery.}}$
- $P_{\text{Covariance matrix in UT}}$
- $P_{\text{The EH battery remaining energy.}}$
- $P_{\text{Input and output covariance matrix, respectively.}}$
- $P_{\text{Binary variables related to the charging, discharging of the EVs.}}$
- $P_{\text{Sorted format of matrix W based on objective.}}$
- $P_{\text{Weighting factor for the estimation points in UT}}$
- $P_{\text{Binary variable related to the urban paths.}}$
I. INTRODUCTION

Smart City as a fresh concept for improving the life quality is introducing a new way of conceiving buildings, transportation system, public services, power system, healthcare, etc. Today, the metropolitan population is more than half worldwide, and by 2030 it is projected to be around five billion [1]. To this end, cities certainly are assessed as one of the primary positions in addressing major public and financial problems, involving low carbon expansion, decrease in emissions, energy efficiency, shared energy resources, financial growth, and more [2].

A. MOTIVATION AND AIMS

The smart city idea is focused on the connection and the relationship between structures wherever communication and information technology (IT) take a major part [3]. Many smart cities taxonomies are discussed and explained in [4], [5]. These explanations point out that the smart cities still face with many challenges and issues in terms of energy trading, security and privacy of the agents. In the analyses over the systems with bigger scales (e.g. smart cities), more producers, agents and components will be appeared and the interactions among them are unassailable and their related challenges need to be investigated. The proposed interactions need to be based on a secure platform on the smart environment where all the systems are equipped with smart devices. These issues demand undergoing researches to overcome such challenges and motivated us to work in the field.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

1) ENERGY TRADING

Cities’ energy requirements are abundant and complex. That is why contemporary smart cities should enhance current energy systems and deploy new alternatives by taking into account the associated synergies between all energy systems. Recent renewable energy sources, energy requirements, transport technologies and other problems are evidence of significant energy challenges appearing in smart cities [6]. In this regard, transportation technologies and smart housing are key components inside smart cities alongside the big power customer. Different sections can be considered in the smart cities including the smart transportation system (metro and EVs), microgrid and Energy Hub (EH).

a: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

In the transportation systems, electric vehicles (EVs) and underground metro systems are the most widely-used but challenging technologies in towns, given the large electricity requirements and the growing environmental emissions. In addition, the presence of plug in EVs (PEVs) with stochastic parameters and the high penetration of distributed energy sources (DERs) like wind turbines (WTs) can pose a further barrier to the implementation and development of smart city concept.

In order to mitigate the high effects of EVs in the smart city and change their only consuming role into an active player, the idea of EV-to-Grid (E2G) was developed by researchers in recent years.

The E2G innovation has had advantages, characteristics, flaws, economical features and technical requirements which a complete review can be found in [7], [8]. Authors in [9] assessed the effect of EVs on the electricity grid and its use as a tool for developing renewable energy resources. In [10], the organized combination of aggregated EVs as portable distributed demand and storage and renewable energy sources such as WT in electricity installations was investigated using stochastic models. That model takes into account the probabilistic performance of electricity vehicles and their influence on the optimum operation of the smart city. A stochastic method was proposed in [11] to model the uncertainties of EVs and WTs when it comes to the high penetration of EVs into the power grid in an E2G infrastructure. Also to improve the performance of the EVs, the wireless charging lines model is proposed in [12]. In [13], the effectiveness of the transport scheme was enhanced through five primary task types: energy effectiveness, effective riding, convenience, regenerative braking systems, intelligent governance and evaluation. In addition, the railway scheme was also regarded as a quick transit scheme which of course is a big electric consumer. Technically, rail systems can carry heavy crowds which make them popular and common in metropolitan regions. Due to the large number of train stations in a mid-size city, regenerative braking may save some energy for urban rail systems [14]. In [15], regenerative braking was proposed as an effective restoration method in the train using traction motors during slowdown. In order to improve the effectiveness of Braking Energy (BE) recovery in the rail systems; optimal scheduling, power storage and reversible stations were assessed too. An optimal scheduling of decelerating trains at stations was investigated in [16] considering the departure moment of a different train in the nearby electrical area. The speeding train has also the ability to utilize regenerative BE without any storage device involved and in effect a programming problem is described to discover an optimal scheduling solution in the railway system. Authors in [17] re-examined the storage system for the use of electrical braking power. The major benefit of this technique is that there is no need to the complicated synchronization of the railway, but the additional storage devices lead to greater expenses. The last approach...
for returning BE to the grid was presented in [18] which uses reversible substations. They also addressed the usage of the regenerative BE for charging the EVs.

b: EH AND MICROGRID

As it can be inferred from the above survey, the smart city idea is growing fast and new advanced technologies are emerging to help last-long support of the system. Meanwhile, the considerable expansion of cities, along with critical global energy growth and the increasing need to reliable and secure energy in smart cities, are motivating concepts for implementing the EH in the smart cities. The EH is a multi-carrier energy system infrastructure which is used to enhance the DAG performance. Therefore, a new concept, fog of everything, is proposed that incorporates the benefits of both fog computing and internet of everything in one unit form.

The main challenge in a high scale energy trading environment such as smart city, is the dependency between different sections of the smart cities which demands an appropriate model to address this issue which has not been addressed by previous works. Such high scale environments increase the possibility of data attacks due to the high number of agents, devices and transactions which needs to be investigated properly: Table 1 summarizes the above explanations.

C. FEATURES AND CAPABILITIES

The main drawback of [17] is that the optimal place of the metro owned charging stations (MCSs) have not been addressed which might have a significant impact on the overall performance of the metro’s energy transactions. For allocation problems, a wide range of meta-heuristic algorithms are regularly used [31]. This drawback attempted to be solved in this work by optimally planning the locations of MCSs using a novel mathematical based algorithm which significantly reduced the time and increased the accuracy of optimal solution. This paper also proposes a secured data and energy transaction framework for smart city considering the transportation systems (EVs and metro), EH, microgrid and smart grid. As previously mentioned, the dependency between different transportations systems is growing fast and new advanced technologies are emerging to help last-long support of the system. Meanwhile, the considerable expansion of cities, along with critical global energy growth and the increasing need to reliable and secure energy in smart cities, are motivating concepts for implementing the EH in the smart cities. The EH is a multi-carrier energy system infrastructure which is used to enhance the DAG performance. Therefore, a new concept, fog of everything, is proposed that incorporates the benefits of both fog computing and internet of everything in one unit form.

In this paper, in order to enhance the security level of the DAG method, an improved security framework is proposed by adding a new security layer to the data blocks structures.

For optimal planning the locations of MCSs, an intelligent priority selection (IPS) algorithm based on mathematical modelling with high accuracy and very low computational burden is developed in this paper.

| Reference | EVs | MCSs | Allocation of MCSs (Planning) | EH | Microgrid | Blockchain/DAG |
|-----------|-----|------|--------------------------------|----|-----------|----------------|
| [19/10]   | ✓   | ✗    | ✓                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✓              |
| [18]      | ✗   | ✓    | ✗                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✗              |
| [19]      | ✗   | ✓    | ✗                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✗              |
| [24]      | ✓   | ✗    | ✓                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✓              |
| [25]      | ✓   | ✗    | ✗                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✓              |
| [28]      | ✓   | ✗    | ✓                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✓              |
| [20]      | ✗   | ✓    | ✗                              | ✓  | ✓         | ✓              |

Proposed Model

✓: For optimal planning the locations of MCSs, an intelligent priority selection (IPS) algorithm based on mathematical modelling with high accuracy and very low computational burden is developed in this paper.
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- The unscented transform (UT) method as a key element is used to model the uncertainty of the WTs, PV units as well as EVs within the transportation system.

II. MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION FOR SMART CITY

This section is dedicated to the mathematical formulation of different sections considered in the studied smart city which is illustrated in Fig. 1.

A. V2G & V2M DEFINITION

The EVs are capable of transacting the energy with the smart grid aiming to maximize their profits. Equation (1) represents EVs’ profit which is made up of three main terms including the V2G (2), V2M energy transactions (3) and fading cost model of the EVs’ battery is shown in (4). The performance procedure of the energy transaction of EVs with the smart grid and the metro is illustrated in (5)-(13). The charging level of EVs through the recharging lines [12] and the energy consumption of EVs due to the traffic of the urban paths are represented by $E_{i,k}$ and $E_{i,k}$ in (6) [11].

1) OBJECTIVE FUNCTIONS

$$\max Profit_V = Profit_{V2G} + Profit_{V2M} - \sum_{f \in \Omega^d} Cost^{deg}_{f}$$

$$Profit_{V2G} = \sum_{t \in \Omega, f \in \Omega^d} (C1_{f,t} \times P_{f,t}^{V2G})$$ (2)

$$Profit_{V2M} = \sum_{t \in \Omega, f \in \Omega^d} (C2_{f,t} \times P_{f,t}^{V2M})$$ (3)

$$Cost^{deg}_{f} = C^{deg} \times \sum_{j \in \Omega, a \in \Omega^d, t \in \Omega} h(P_{u,f,t}^{V2G,d} + P_{u,f,t}^{V2M,d})$$ (4)

2) CONSTRAINTS

$$E_{f,t}^1 = E_{f,t}^1 + P_{u,f,t}^{V2G} \times \eta_c - P_{a,f,t}^{V2G} \times \eta_d \quad \forall u \in \Omega^a, \forall f \in \Omega^b, \forall t \in \Omega'$$

$$E_{f,t}^2 = E_{f,t}^2 + \sum_{j \in \Omega, a \in \Omega^d} -P_{j,a,f,t}^{V2M} \times \eta_d \quad \forall f \in \Omega^d$$ (5)

$$E_{f,t} = E_{f,t}^1 + E_{f,t}^2 \quad \forall f \in \Omega^d, \forall t \in \Omega'$$ (6)

$$P_{f,t}^{V2G} = E_{f,t}^1 - E_{f,t}^1 \quad \forall f \in \Omega^d, \forall t \in \Omega'$$ (7)

$$P_{f,t}^{V2M} = E_{f,t}^2 - E_{f,t}^2 \quad \forall f \in \Omega^d, \forall t \in \Omega'$$ (8)

$$u^{Ed}_{j,a,f,t} + u^{Ed}_{j,a,f,t} = u^{Ed}_{j,a,f,t} \quad \forall f \in \Omega^b, \forall t \in \Omega'$$ (9)

$$u^{Ec}_{j,a,f,t} + u^{Ec}_{j,a,f,t} = u^{Ec}_{j,a,f,t} \quad \forall f \in \Omega^b, \forall t \in \Omega'$$ (10)

$$u_{j,a,f,t}^{Fc,E_{min}} \leq u_{j,a,f,t}^{Fc,E_{max}} \quad \forall j \in \Omega^d, \forall f \in \Omega^b, \forall t \in \Omega'$$ (11)

$\text{FIGURE 1. Illustrative representation of the studied smart city.}$
B. M2G DEFINITION

The metro as an important system of the STS has a financial framework with the smart grid. In this regard, it would be well worth it if we prepare a situation wherein the metro is capable of selling its BE to the smart grid. Moreover, the metro is allowed to supply its demand by buying energy from the smart grid. The profit of selling the metro’s BE to the grid and the costs of buying the energy from the smart grid are represented in (14)-(18). The constraint (17) determines the power balance of the metro which needs to be satisfied hourly. In addition, the constraint (18) defines the metro’s BE limits.

1) OBJECTIVE FUNCTIONS

\[
\text{Profit}_{\text{M2G}} = \max \text{Profit}_{\text{MG}} - \cos \text{t}I_{\text{GM}} \tag{14}
\]

\[
\text{Profit}_{\text{MG}} = \sum_{s,t} (C_{2,s,t} \times P_{2,M2G}^{G2M}) \forall s \in \Omega^t, t \in \Omega' \tag{15}
\]

\[
\text{cost}_{\text{GM}} = \sum_{s,t} (C_{2,s,t} \times P_{2,M2G}^{G2M}) \forall s \in \Omega^t, t \in \Omega' \tag{16}
\]

2) CONSTRAINTS

\[
P_{\text{newmetro}}^{\text{newmetro}} = P_{\text{metro}} - P_{2,M2G} - P_{2,V2M,d} \tag{17}
\]

\[
P_{2,M2G}^{G2M} \leq P_{\text{newmetro}} \forall s \in \Omega^t, u \in \Omega^u, \forall f \in \Omega^f, \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{18}
\]

C. M2V DEFINITION

The M2V defines the energy exchange between the metro and EVs. Eq. (19) represents the profit of the metro which comes from the fact that EVs charging and discharging would be considered as the profit and cost of the metro, respectively. The profits of the M2V energy transaction are defined by (19)-(21).

1) OBJECTIVE FUNCTIONS

\[
\text{Profit}_{\text{M2V}} = \sum_{s,t \in \Omega^t, u \in \Omega^u} C_{2,s,t} \times (P_{2,V2M,c}^{V2M,c} - P_{2,V2M,d}^{V2M,d}) \tag{19}
\]

2) CONSTRAINTS

\[
P_{2,V2M,c}^{V2M,c} \leq P_{\text{rg}} \tag{20}
\]

\[
E_{\text{newmetro}}^{\text{newmetro}} = E_{\text{metro}}^{\text{newmetro}} - \sum_{u \in \Omega^u, f \in \Omega^f} C_{2,s,t} \times (P_{2,V2M,c}^{V2M,c} - P_{2,V2M,d}^{V2M,d}) \tag{21}
\]

3) ENERGY HUB CONSTRAINTS

The constraint (22) limits the input active power of the EH in time duration \( t \). The available energy stored in the electrical storage of EH is presented in (23) which will not allow the charging/discharging process being deviated from the nominal capacity of the energy storage. The constraint (24) indicates the battery stored energy during each time \( t \). The charging and discharging power limits of the battery within its maximum charge rate is represented in (25) and (26), respectively. The constraint (27) will allow the EH’s energy storage to be charged or discharged during time \( t \). The electrical and thermal power balance of EH is represented in equations (28) and (29), respectively. Equation (30) models the natural-gas power balance of EH input. The EH’s energy conversion constraints is represented in (31)-(33).

\[
P_{\text{EH}}^{\text{max}} \leq P_{\text{EH}} \leq P_{\text{EH}}^{\text{min}} \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{22}
\]

\[
S_{\text{EH}}^t \leq S_{\text{EH}}^{\text{max}} \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{23}
\]

\[
\frac{1}{\eta_{\text{CHP}}}P_{\text{ES}}^{\text{CHP}} \leq P_{\text{ch}} \leq \frac{1}{\eta_{\text{CHP}}}P_{\text{ES}}^{\text{CHP}} \tag{25}
\]

\[
0 \leq I_{\text{ch}} + I_{\text{disch}} \leq 1, \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{26}
\]

\[
P_{\text{es}}^{\text{CHP}} = \eta_{\text{CHP}} P_{\text{CHP}} + \eta_{\text{boi}} P_{\text{boi}}, \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{27}
\]

\[
P_{\text{ch}} + \eta_{\text{CHP}} P_{\text{CHP}} + \eta_{\text{boi}} P_{\text{boi}}, \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{28}
\]

\[
P_{\text{boi}}^{\text{CHP}} = \eta_{\text{CHP}} P_{\text{boi}} + \eta_{\text{CHP}} P_{\text{boi}}^{\text{CHP}}, \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{29}
\]

\[
P_{\text{boi}}^{\text{CHP}} = \eta_{\text{CHP}} P_{\text{boi}} + \eta_{\text{CHP}} P_{\text{boi}}^{\text{CHP}}, \forall t \in \Omega' \tag{30}
\]

D. SMART GRID OBJECTIVE FUNCTION

All the previous energy transactions affect the total cost of the smart city which is represented in (34). It consists of the cost of demand response (DR), the cost of metro’s demand supplement and the aimed profits of EVs, M2G and M2V. The constraint (35) defines the power balance of the smart grid with each one of the smart city’s segments.

1) OBJECTIVE FUNCTIONS

\[
\text{cost}_{\text{total}} = \text{cost}_{\text{DR}} + \text{cost}_{\text{Metro}} - (\text{Profit}_{\text{v}} + \text{Profit}_{\text{M2G}} + \text{Profit}_{\text{M2V}}) \tag{34}
\]

2) CONSTRAINTS

\[
P_{\text{grid}}^{\text{transaction}} = \text{Load}_{\text{grid}} - P_{\text{Microgrid}} - \sum_{s,t \in \Omega^t, u \in \Omega^u} P_{s,t}^{M2G} + P_{s,t}^{V2G} - P_{s,t}^{\text{EH}} + P_{s,t}^{G2M} \tag{35}
\]

As it was mentioned before, addressing the interdependency between the proposed sections is one of aims of this paper. Hence, the dependency of smart transportation system-smart grid (5) and (17), microgrid-smart grid (35), EH-smart grid (35) are expressed in the above. Fig. 2 shows the inputs.
and outputs of the methodology of the work. The security of data and energy transactions is highly matters in the smart city and needs an ongoing investigation. In order to provide an accurate model of the smart city, the data and energy transactions among different sections of the smart city need to be effectively addressed in the studied model. However, there are some points, which need to be properly pointed out in order to clarify the necessity of data security in the smart city.

III. IMPROVED DAG MODEL
Blockchain is a secure, decentralized and conceptually cyclic structure in which the nodes of the system are connected by ledgers. Recently, such technology has been perceived by the researchers for energy and data transaction within a power network [25]. Such a secure framework was against this backdrop that the data was gathered in a central point and then broadcasted through a communication link to the destination point. High risk of data attack by the external unallowable authorities, is the main drawback of such systems, so-called “supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA)”. Accordingly, the researchers proposed that this would be receiving a boost if each one of the nodes of the system, particularly within the power system, try to broadcast the data non centralized through a secured data blocks. In this regard, each one of the nodes/agents (power producers and demands particularly in the power grid) will generate a data block which is signed and encrypted by a hash address (HA) and then broadcasted to the other nodes/agents of the system which is proceeded by a private key as an identification and confirmation tool. The agents are able to access to the data blocks by a public key. However, there are still some issues with such a data encryption method. The accuracy decrement of the HA’s calculation within a complex system with many nodes/agents is definitely one issue. The possibility of unauthorized access when the data blocks are chained cyclic is another. To overcome this drawback, the possibility of broadcasting the data based on the concept of directed acyclic graph (DAG) approach is represented by researchers. A directed acyclic graph (or DAG) is a digraph that has no cycles. A rooted tree is a special kind of DAG and a DAG is a special kind of directed graph. In the data transmission case, DAG provides a special way for keeping the security of data transferring among the different agents. In this regard, the DAG structure brings the chance of broadcasting the public data (through the public blockchain) and the transaction data (through the transaction blockchain) among different active nodes/agents of the system, independently [25]. Moreover, the cyclic configuration of the blockchain does no longer remain with the aim of diminishing the cyber-attacks.

By considering such cryptographically source-based cybersecurity configuration, any kind of external unauthorized access is expected to be frustrated during the data broadcast. However, there is still a challenge within the DAG structure which can limit its security. It should be noted that HA was used as a conformation tool for the next data block. With this security mechanism and the availability of transmitting data among different nodes/agents particularly through the transaction blockchain, the possibility of receiving/monitoring and frustrating the data blocks by attackers is still valid. In other words, any unauthorized access might be able to receive and decrypt the data blocks through a long period of data sampling, due to the interdependency of HAs of the consecutive data blocks. To solve this issue, this paper proposes a new approach for the source-based data encryption mechanism in which the data blocks will be sent to the receiver with different HAs. In this method, there are a specific number of HA generation mechanisms considered which are randomly selected for hashing at each data transmission. Therefore, the HAs for the consecutive data blocks are no longer independent and are different for each time slot. In each data block, a randomly selected number as hash index (HI) is assigned to the data block’s header and broadcasted to the receiver. Fig. 3 shows the proposed dynamic hashing mechanism process.

Indeed, the HI is a sign which represents the functionality of the related hash generator in the source from the perspective of both sender and receiver. In such a case, after decrypting the data block using the security key, the receiver will be able to confirm the data block by determining the HI and imposing its related HA function (similar to the one in the source) to the current HA and the merkle root. After the exertion of the related HA function on both current HA and merkle root, the equality of the resulted data can be used to confirm the data block validation. The proposed data transmission mechanism is implemented by the following steps in Table 2. Using these steps, the receiver is able to decrypt and accredit the data security status. It should be noted that the HA generator is randomly generated and selected for each data transmission process. Therefore, any false data injection or manipulation will be immediately recognized as soon as the receiver process the data block. The applicability
of the proposed method is demonstrated for a test smart city. In this case, the HAs are 32-bit compounded words using the hash function SHA-256, consisting of numbers and letters {0-9, A-F}.

TABLE 2. The proposed dag improved framework.

| Step | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 1    | Set time \( t=0 \), initialize the DAG-based blockchain, generate the data block and send to the receiver with timestamp \( t=1 \). |
| 2    | Set time \( t=1 \), receive the data block followed by decrypting the block by using security key. |
| 3    | Scan the merkle root, previous HA and the HI. |
| 4    | Impose the HA’s function on merkle root and previous HA. |
| 5    | Compare the resulted data. |
| 6    | If both are equal, confirm the credibility of the block, extend the blockchain and set \( t=t+1 \). Otherwise report the cyber-attack to the sender and the public blockchain. |

IV. INTELLIGENT PRIORITY SELECTION ALGORITHM

Owing to its nonlinear nature, this paper proposes a new powerful optimization algorithm to allocate the MCSs within the smart city. Owing to its nonlinear nature, this paper proposes a new powerful optimization algorithm to allocate the metro-owned charging stations within the smart city. In this regard, optimization algorithms based on mathematical modeling or artificial intelligence are developed and widely used for optimal allocation problems. However, mathematical modeling algorithms and artificial intelligence algorithms suffer from long runtime and inappropriate accuracy, respectively. Therefore, this paper proposes a novel and powerful optimization algorithm based on stochastic models to not only increase the accuracy but also reduce the total runtime, effectively. To begin with, in statistical modeling, the number of combination of \( N \) things taken \( n \) is defined as follows:

\[
\binom{N}{n} = \frac{N!}{n!(N-n)!} \tag{36}
\]

The above equation reveals that the resulted sample space consists of a high number of possible outcomes for selecting \( n \) samples out of \( N \). In such a model, finding out the solution would be accurate through the brute force search, but due to the high number of sample space, the process is highly time consuming. To overcome such a problem, the proposed algorithm will diminish and restrict the number of sample spaces, intelligently. Be on that, the proposed optimization method is represented by the following steps:

Step 1: First, consider the base set \( P \) representing the available candidates comprises of the optimal points of the problem. The control variables’ matrix is represented through the vector \( K \) which is randomly established in the first step. The rest of the candidate points \( (P-K) \) are represented through the set \( W \). Afterwards, all the possible sets resulted from replacing each one of the set \( W \) members with the set \( K \) members which results in formation of the matrix \( KT \). Each member of the set \( H_{wi} \) is calculated by the replacement of the \( i \)-th member of the \( W \) into the set \( K \) which is followed by calculating the optimal value of the objective function among the members of the \( i \)-th \( H_{wi} \), shown by \( F_{best} \). It is worth to say that \( K'_{n} \) shows the \( n \)-th element of the \( K \) which is replaced.
by the elements of the $W$ in (37)–(40), shown at the bottom of the page.

According to the objective function value, the members of $i$-th $H_{ij}$, are ranked from the best to the worst values as expressed in equation (41), (42). The elements of the matrix $W$ are ranked based on the objective function value. The matrix $W_j^′$ is represented as the set of the aforementioned rearranged $W$ matrix elements (43). Same definition is valid for set $K_j^r$ (44). Finally in this step, the value of the objective function for $W_j^′$ is selected as the best solution (45).

$$F_{best}^m = \left[ F_{best}^{w_{1,k_1}}, \ldots, F_{best}^{w_{m,k_m}} \right]^T \quad \forall m \in \Omega^m \quad (41)$$

$$F_{best\_sort} = \left[ F_{best}^{w_{1,k_1}}, \ldots, F_{best}^{w_{m,k_m}} \right]^T \quad (42)$$

The last member is selected as the best answer according to (51).

$$F_{best\_total} = F_{Best} \quad (52)$$

**Step 2:** In this step, the new matrix $KT$ (KTN\text{new}) is attained. Firstly, the matrix $W_j$ is updated according to (46) by using the elements of matrix $W_j^′$. Since $W_j^′$ was chosen as the best solution in the previous iteration, this step is initialized with $W_2^′$ as mentioned in (46). The matrix $K_j^{new}$ is defined by eliminating the elements of matrices $k_j^r$ and $w_j^r$ from matrix $K_j$ (47). All possible sets resulted from replacing each member of $W_j$ with member of $K_j^{new}$ creates a new member of KTN\text{new} (same as equation (40)). The union of sets KTN\text{new} and $w_j^r$ is defined as $\psi_r$ where $r$ is from 1 to $m - j$ in which parameter $j$ shows the iteration number and $m$ is a constant value which refers to the length of matrix $W$ in the first step according to (48). The objective function value is calculated for each member of $\psi_r$ and the best answer of the objective function ($F_{1}^{Best}$) and its related element in matrix $\psi_r$ ($\psi_{Best}$) are stored as (49) and (50), respectively. In each iteration, the matrix $K$ is updated by $\psi_{Best}$ according to (51).

$$W_j = w_{j+1}^\prime \quad \forall j \in \Omega_j^i \quad (46)$$

$$K_j^{new} = \left\{ x \mid x \in K_j, x \neq k_j^r, x \neq w_j^r \right\} \quad \forall j \in \Omega_j^i \quad (47)$$

$$\psi_r = K_{T_{new}} \cup w_j^r \quad (48)$$

$$F_{1} = f(\psi_r) \quad (49)$$

$$F_j = F_{1}^{Best} \quad \forall j \in \Omega_j^i \quad (50)$$

$$K_j = \psi_{Best} \quad \forall j \in \Omega_j^i \quad (51)$$

**Step 3:** The last member is selected as the best answer among the others in each iteration.

**V. UNSCENTED TRANSFORM**

In order to model the uncertainties of the parameters, this paper deploys a stochastic framework based on UT to capture this uncertainty effects. UT belongs to the estimation methods with a high capability for providing accurate and reliable expected values in the correlated environments. Initially, UT was proposed for the nonlinear mappings and correlations. But owing to its special features such as low computations, high uncertainty modeling and ability of modeling the correlated uncertainty, it was used as a successful method for stochastic problems. For explaining the UT methods, let us consider the stochastic problem as $y = f(X)$; in which $y$ shows the output vector, $f$ is the nonlinear function and $X$ is the input uncertain vector. Then a covariance matrix $P_{xx}$ is constructed that the diagonal elements are the variance of the uncertain parameter and the non-diagonal elements are covariance among the corresponding two uncertain parameters. For a problem with $n$ number of uncertain parameters,
UT constructed $2n + 1$ deterministic frameworks using estimated sample as follows:

**Phase 1:** Estimate $2n + 1$ samples from the input uncertain vector as below:

$$x^0 = \mu$$

$$x^k = \mu + \left( \sqrt{\frac{n}{1 - W^0 P_{xx}}} \right)_{k} ; \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, n$$

$$x^k = \mu - \left( \sqrt{\frac{n}{1 - W^0 P_{xx}}} \right)_{k} ; \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, n$$

In the above, the term $(B)_{k}$ represents the $k^{th}$ row or column of any matrix $B$. Also, $W^0$ shows the weight of the mean value $\mu$.

**Phase 2:** Compute the weighting factor assigning to each sample point as below:

$$W^0 = W^0$$

$$W^k = \frac{1 - W^0}{2n} ; \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, n$$

$$W^{k+n} = \frac{1 - W^0}{2n} ; \quad k + n = n + 1, \ldots, 2n$$

The weighting factors are calculated such that the summation would be unit:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2n} W^k = 1$$

**Phase 3:** Feed $2n + 1$ samples to the nonlinear function and calculated the output values:

$$y^k = f(X^k)$$

**Phase 4:** Using the output samples, the mean $\mu_y$ and covariance $P_{yy}$ of the output variable $Y$ (cost function in our case) would be calculated:

$$\mu_y = \sum_{k=0}^{2n} W^k y^k$$

$$P_{yy} = \sum_{k=0}^{2n} W^k (y^k - \mu_y)(y^k - \mu_y)^T$$

**VI. SIMULATION RESULTS**

This section is dedicated to the performance analysis of the proposed smart city model. All the simulations are performed in GAMS and MATLAB software and solved on 3.4-GHz windows-based PC with 32 GB of RAM. The proposed smart city consists of a microgrid, STS, smart grid and an EH [17]. Different types of DERs including a PV power plant, a wind park, energy storage and a fuel cell unit are considered. Similar to the study in [26], WTs are considered to be operated based on wind speed. In this paper, EVs are able to charge/discharge in grid charging stations (GCSs) and MCSs. In order to find the optimal location of MCSs, it’s assumed that EVs are grouped in different fleets with different technologies, arrival times to the MCSs and available powers. Table 3 represents the EV fleets characteristics [11]. The BE is also executed similar to the one studied in [17].

**TABLE 3. Specifications of the EVs fleets in smart city.**

| Fleet Number | Number of EVs | Access Time | Capacity(kW) | Charge/discharge rate(kW) |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
|              |              | 7-8,12-13,15-17 | 1644 | 7.3 | 292 |
|              |              | 7-10,12-14,17-19 | 1973 | 7.3 | 496 |
|              |              | 7-10,12-14,17-19 | 1902 | 7.3 | 386 |
|              |              | 7-12,14,16-18 | 1610 | 7.3 | 234 |
|              |              | 7-10,12-14,17-19 | 1902 | 7.3 | 386 |
|              |              | 7-9,12-14,16-18 | 1644 | 7.3 | 292 |

In this paper, EVs are capable to drive in two different paths with different traffic jams to access to the MCSS [32]. Moreover, the charging/discharging energy transaction prices are extracted from [33, 34]. Between two successive metro’s arrival times, the EVs are allowed to get charged/discharged,
since the storages at the MCSs are not capable of being charged/discharged, simultaneously. The optimal locations of MCSs are allocated among 6 different geographically dispersed candidate points in the city. The technical specifications of the grid and demands are borrowed from [18]. In this section, 5 different case studies are provided aiming to analyze the performance of different parts of the smart city in details:

1) Case I: energy transaction analysis among smart city sectors
2) Case II: energy transaction between EH and electricity grid
3) Case III: analysis of the uncertainties associated with the smart city sectors
4) Case IV: performance analysis of the proposed allocation method of MCSs within the transportation network
5) Case V: analysis of the proposed method for data security in the smart city

A. CASE I: ENERGY TRANSACTION ANALYSIS AMONG SMART CITY SECTORS

As it was mentioned before, the transportation systems consist of EVs and metro as the public transportation system. An effective framework is provided within the transportation network and also between the transportation systems and the smart electricity grid such that both the metro and EVs attempt to maximize their profits through a proper energy transaction schedule. By utilizing BE, the metro is capable of both serving part of its demand and also selling the energy to the grid with the aim of gaining its profit. As it was mentioned before, MCSs need to be optimally allocated within the transportation network. Based on the optimization procedure, the stations 2, 3 and 5 are obtained. Figs. 5-7 illustrate the energy transactions of the EVs-metro (V2M) within the optimal location of the MSCs, the EVs-smar grid (V2G) and the metro-smart grid (M2G). Fig. 8 shows the total energy transaction of the smart grid. The negative values indicate the energy consumption and the positive values indicate the energy injection. At first glance, it can be seen that EVs have tried to purchase energy from the smart grid and sell it to the metro at some specific hours. The metro’s BE has been flowed down one-sidedly aiming to maximize the metro’s profit. It would well worth it if the performance of the EVs being discussed during hours 7 to 11. After a rapid change in the V2M energy exchange at $t = 7$, on the average, the V2M energy profile starts increasing until $t = 9$.

B. CASE II: ENERGY TRANSACTION BETWEEN EH AND ELECTRICITY GRID

In this subsection, the energy transaction between EH and the smart grid is discussed. It is crucial to say that the V2M energy transaction condition heavily lies on the PV output power after $t = 16$. During these hours, the PV power plant will no longer be able to supply the smart grid demand. This reveals that the electricity grid needs to consume energy aiming to serve the electric demands of the system. Accordingly, EVs try to inject the power to the smart grid as well as the EH as depicted in Fig. 9. This shows that the CHP power generation is significantly increased which leads to the EH exchange power growth with the aim of serving the EH demand load and injecting the power to the smart grid in order to increase the EH’s profit during the proposed timespan.
C. CASE III: ANALYSIS OF THE UNCERTAINTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SMART CITY SECTORS

This part is dedicated to the stochastic analysis within the smart city. As mentioned before, some sections of the smart city including the transportation system and microgrid contain much uncertainty due to the wind speed, sun light, traffic jam, accessible time of EVs and so forth which needs to be modelled by UT method [11]. Table 4 compares the stochastic and deterministic analysis of the metro’s optimal station, metro’s profit and the total cost of the smart city operating which are much more remarkable compared to the other variables of the problem. Table 4 obviously shows that the stochastic analysis has changed the metro’ optimal stations. It has also decreased the metro’s cost due to the microgrid power generation increment. As can be seen, under the uncertainty circumstance, the optimal locations of the metro are changed from 2, 3, 5 to 5, 4 and 3.

### TABLE 4. Stochastic analysis within the smart city.

| Cases           | Metro’s Optimal Station | Metro Cost  | Total Cost  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Deterministic analysis | 2, 3, 5                | 1.44E+5     | 1.2002E+6   |
| Stochastic analysis | 5, 4, 3                | 1.083E+5    | 1.4423E+6   |

D. CASE IV: PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED ALLOCATION METHOD OF THE MCSs WITHIN THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

This part assessed the performance of the proposed algorithm to allocate the optimal location of MCSs. In this regard, the performance of the optimization algorithm is compared with genetic algorithm (GA), particle swarm optimization (PSO) and firefly algorithm (FA) in terms of the solution accuracy, convergence rate and deviation. Fig. 10 reveal that the proposed algorithm could first find the optimal solution after 6 iterations which is remarkably comparable with GA, PSO and FA with 300, 300 and 500 iterations, respectively. This obviously shows that the proposed algorithm requires significantly much less time to find the solution. Table 5 shows the comparison among the studied optimization algorithms.

### TABLE 5. Comparison of algorithms over 20 trails.

| Method   | Best     | Average  | Worst     | CPU (min) |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| GA       | 1.2081E+6 | 1.3210E+6 | 1.4010E+6 | 37.52     |
| PSO      | 1.2002E+6 | 1.32E+6   | 1.345E+6  | 32.82     |
| FA       | 1.206104E+6 | 1.2932E+6 | 1.3156E+6 | 33.4582   |
| Proposed Method | 1.2002E+6 | 1.2002E+6 | 1.2002E+6 | 8.12      |

E. CASE V: ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED METHOD FOR DATA SECURITY IN THE SMART CITY

As it was mentioned before, the data transaction framework within the smart city includes the data transaction within each segment of the smart city using the private blockchain and among all of segments using the transaction blockchain. It was also mentioned that each segment will broadcast its public information to the other segments through the public blockchain.

Table 6 represents the private blockchain within the EH at $t = 1$. It can be seen that the EH has generated $-21.542$ kW (negative sign= from grid to EH) and $22.224$ kW power at $t = 1$, respectively. These information would be broadcasted to the private blockchain through a data block surely secured with a specific $HI = i$ in which the $i = \{1, 2, \ldots, 24\}$. It is noteworthy to mention that in this case, there are 24 different HA generator mechanisms considered for each hourly data blocks. Tables 7 shows the data block structure broadcasted to the public blockchain at $t = 7$. This data block contains each one of the smart city’s segments.
TABLE 7. Public blockchain structure at \( t = 7 \).

| Block (Public) | Timestamp \( t=7 \) | Block number \( BN=1 \) | Block number \( BN=2 \) |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Previous HA  | Previous HA     | ae5c9bd356467b1ff6de09623419 | Previous HA     |
| Current HA   | Current HA      | ee8bb8a761444fgc3g0a963145 962a2 | Current HA      |
| Hash Index   | Hash Index      | HI=1             | HI=1            |

Table information: Hub (EH) microgrid PP Power Wind Power

| System | Block information | Block information |
|--------|------------------|-------------------|
| EH     | -22.902          | microgrid         |
| System |                  | PP Power          |
|        |                  | Wind Power       |

TABLE 8. Transaction blockchain between smart grid & transportation system at \( t = 3 \).

| Block (Transaction) | Timestamp \( t=3 \) | Previous HA | Current HA | Hash Index |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| System 1            | 180.400         | 180         | 180.400    | HI=1       |
| System 2            | 180             | 180.400     | 180.400    | HI=1       |
| Grid                | 180.400         | 180         | 180.400    | HI=1       |

This paper proposed an improved secure data transaction framework based on directed acyclic graph (DAG) approach within the smart city. Also, a comprehensive model of the smart city was developed which incorporates the smart electricity grid, smart transportation systems (STSSs), microgrid and energy hub (EH). At the core of attention in this work, the energy transactions among smart city’s segments were investigated in details. The proposed model can effectively manage the braking energy (BE) of metro, the energy transaction of EH and microgrid with smart grid, the energy transaction of the EVs with the MCSs and smart grid to increase the total profit at each segment of the smart city and accordingly improve the energy management within the smart city. Based on the five different simulation cases, it was seen that EVs are capable to get charged/discharged by using the metro’s BE through the metro-owned charging stations (MCSs) as well as grid charging stations. Also, it was seen that the proposed novel mathematical based optimization algorithm could find the optimal location of MCSs at the shortest time with a very high accuracy. It was shown that the proposed DAG improvement has significantly increased the security of the data transaction among different segments of the smart city by adding a new security layer to the data blocks. Moreover, the results show that the proposed novel algorithm has remarkably reduced the run time and increased the accuracy of the solution compared to the other meta-heuristic algorithms. In addition, the UT method could accurately model the uncertainty parameters associated with the smart city’s sectors. In the future, authors will investigate the possibility of distributed control and management of the proposed model in a multi-agent framework. Moreover, the cyber layer will be assessed in a more complex format to provide a security in-depth approach.

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