

# STOCHASTIC ANALYSIS OF REAL AND VIRTUAL STORAGE IN THE SMART GRID

Jean-Yves Le Boudec,

Nicolas Gast

Dan-Cristian Tomozei

I&C

EPFL

Greenmetrics, London, June 2012

# Contents

1. A Stochastic Model of Demand Response  
Speaker: Jean-Yves Le Boudec
2. Coping with Wind Volatility  
Speaker: Nicolas Gast

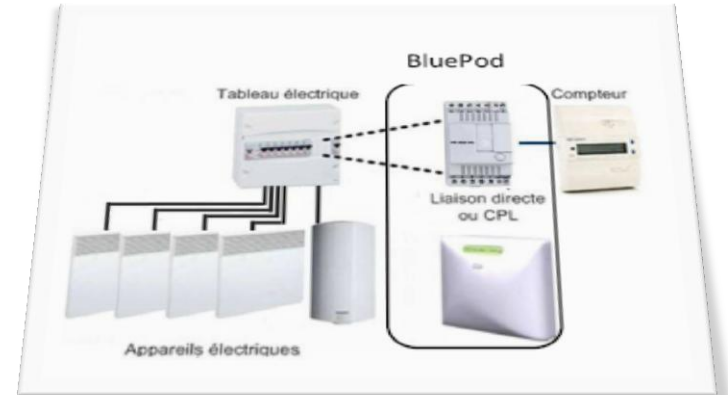
1.

# A MODEL OF DEMAND RESPONSE

Le Boudec, Tomozei, *Satisfiability of Elastic Demand in the Smart Grid*, Energy 2011  
and ArXiv.1011.5606

# Demand Response

- = distribution network operator may interrupt / modulate power
- elastic loads support graceful degradation
- Thermal load (Voltalis), washing machines (Romande Energie«commande centralisée») e-cars,



Voltalis Bluepod switches off thermal load for 60 mn



# Our Problem Statement

- Does demand response work ?
  - ▶ Delays
  - ▶ Returning load
- **Problem Statement**

Is there a control mechanism that can stabilize demand ?
- We leave out for now the details of signals and algorithms

# Macroscopic Model of Cho and Meyn [1], non elastic demand, mapped to discrete time

## Step 1: Day-ahead market

- Forecast demand:

$$D^f(t)$$

- Forecast supply:

$$G^f(t) = D^f(t) + r_0$$

## Step 2: Real-time market

- Actual demand

$$D^a(t) = D(t) + D^f(t)$$

- Actual supply  $G^a(t) =$

$$G(t-1) + G^f(t) + M(t)$$

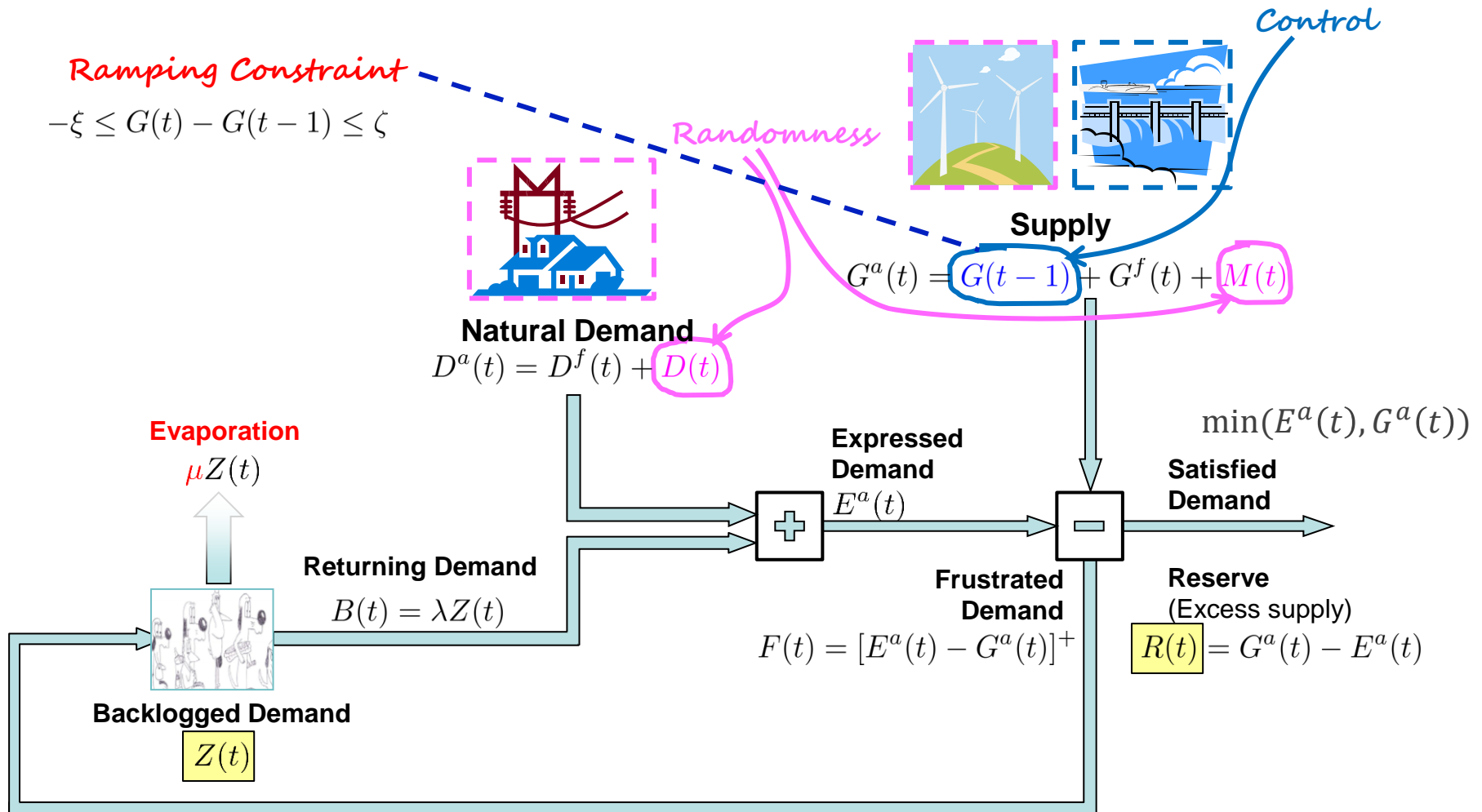
control

deterministic

random

- We now add the effect of elastic demand / flexible service  
Some demand can be «frustrated» (delayed)

# Our Macroscopic Model with Elastic Demand

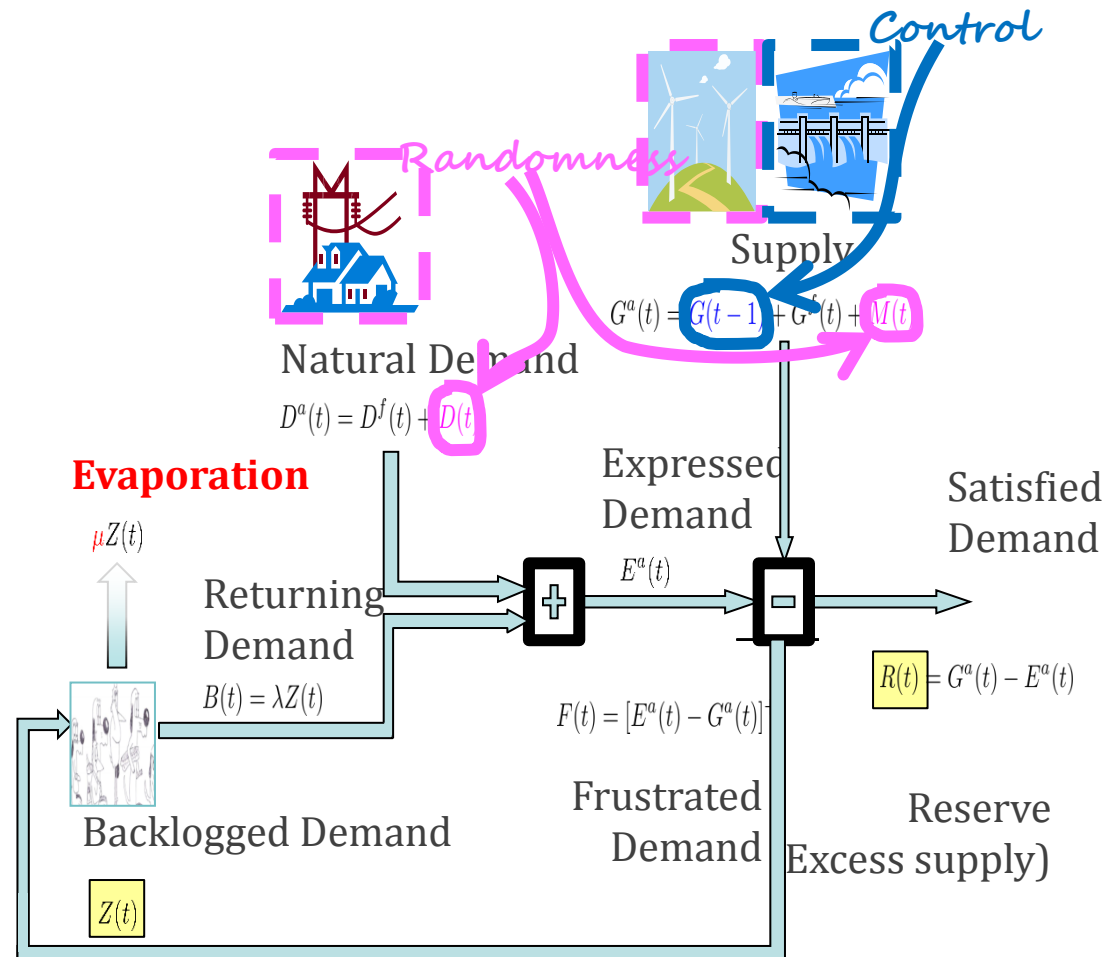


$$R(t) = G(t-1) - \lambda Z(t) + M(t) - D(t) + r_0$$

$$Z(t) = Z(t-1) - \lambda Z(t) - \mu Z(t) + \mathbb{1}_{\{R(t) < 0\}} |R(t)|$$

# Backlogged Demand

- We assume backlogged demand is subject to two processes: update and re-submit
- Update term (evaporation):  $\mu Z dt$  with  $\mu > 0$  or  $\mu < 0$   
 $\mu$  is the evaporation rate (proportion lost per time slot)
- Re-submission term  $\lambda Z dt$   
 $1/\lambda$  (time slots) is the average delay



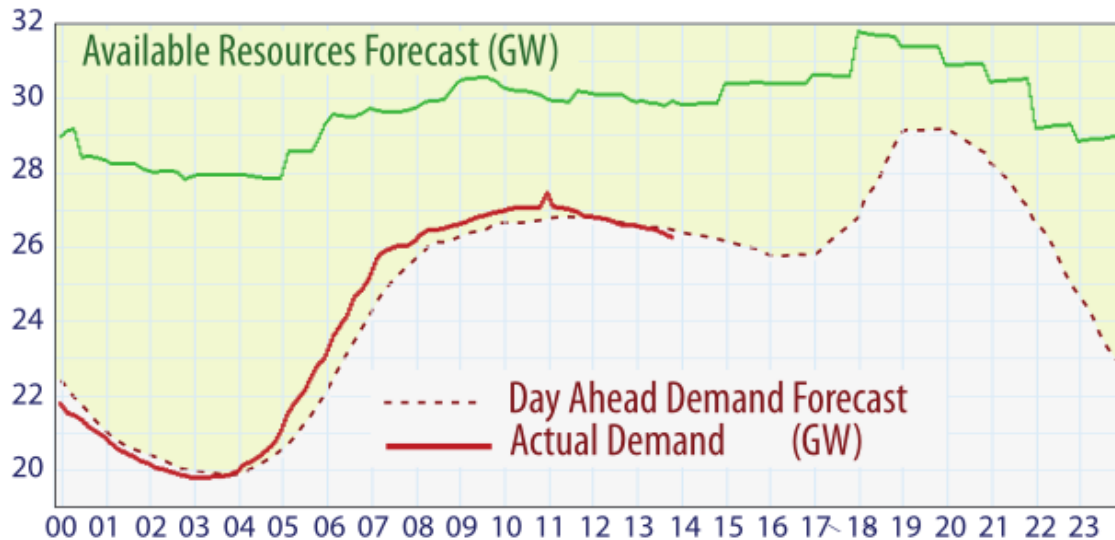


# Macroscopic Model, continued

- Assumption :  $(M - D) = \text{ARIMA}(0, 1, 0)$

typical for deviation from forecast

$$(M(t + 1) - D(t + 1) - M(t) - D(t)) := N(t + 1) \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$



S. Meyn

“Dynamic Models and Dynamic Markets for Electric Power Markets”

- 2-d Markov chain on continuous state space

$$R(t + 1) = R(t) + \Delta G(t) + N(t + 1) - \lambda[Z(t + 1) - Z(t)]$$

$$Z(t + 1) = (1 - \lambda - \mu)Z(t) + \mathbb{1}_{\{R(t) < 0\}}R(t)$$

# The Control Problem

- **Control variable:**

$$G(t - 1)$$

production bought one time slot ago in real time market

- Controller sees only supply

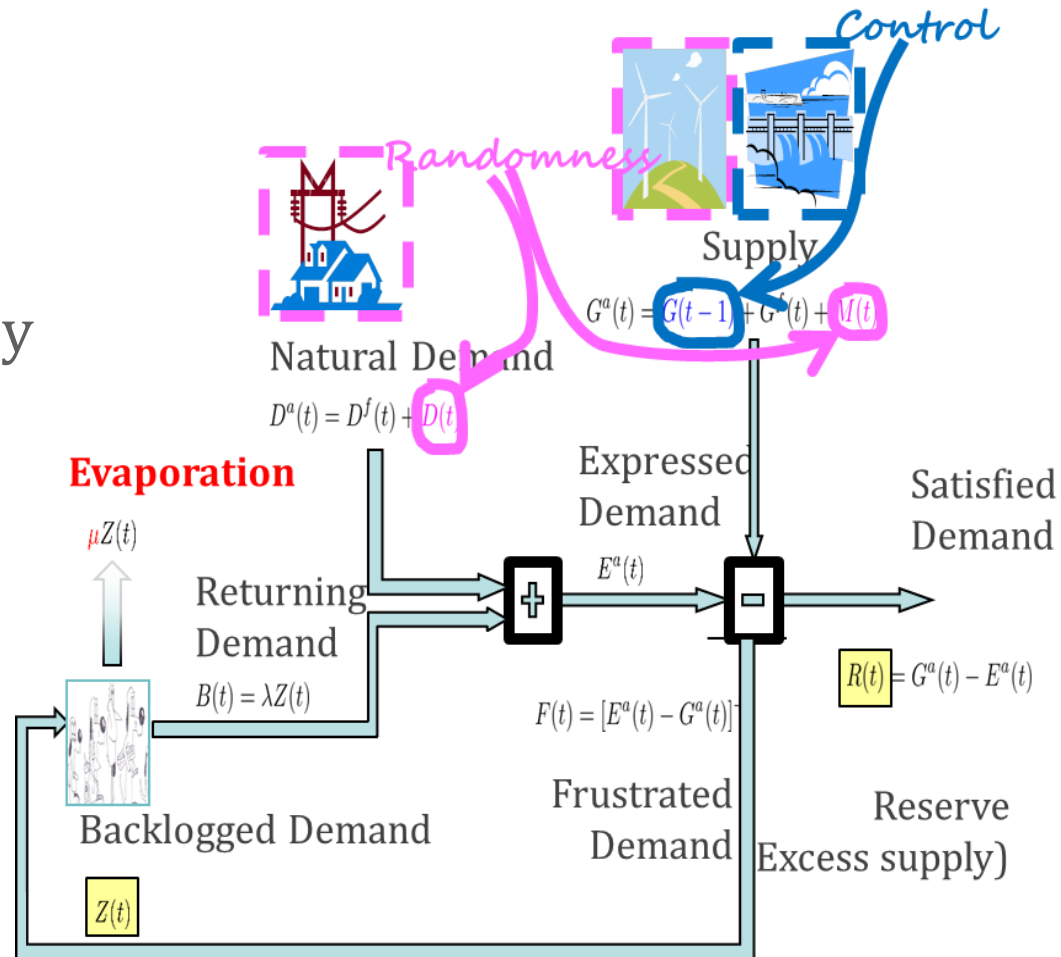
$G^a(t)$  and expressed demand  $E^a(t)$

- **Our Problem:**

keep backlog  $Z(t)$  stable

- Ramp-up and ramp-down constraints

$$\xi \leq G(t) - G(t - 1) \leq \zeta$$



# Threshold Based Policies

$$G^f(t) = D^f(t) + r_0$$

Forecast supply is adjusted to forecast demand

$$R(t) = G^a(t) - E^a(t)$$

$R(t)$  := reserve = excess of demand over supply

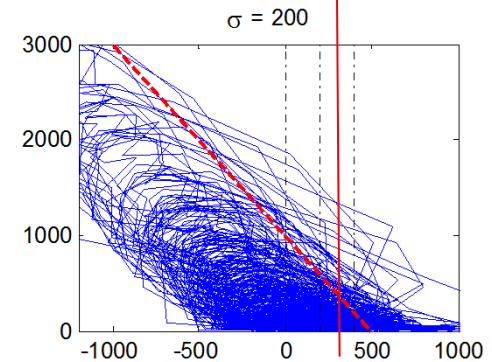
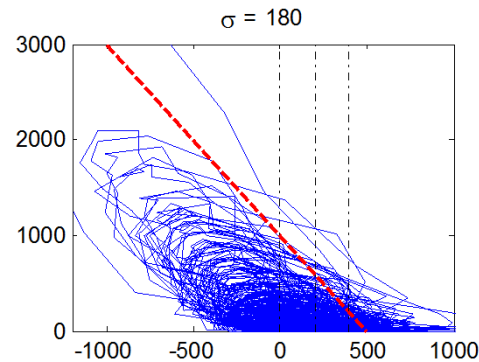
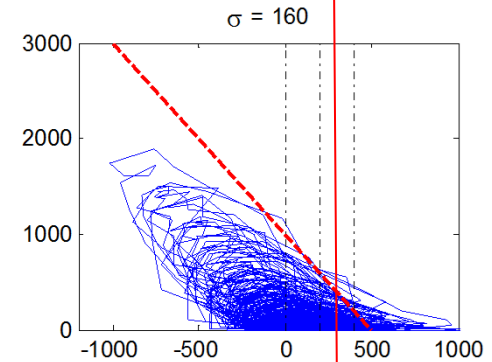
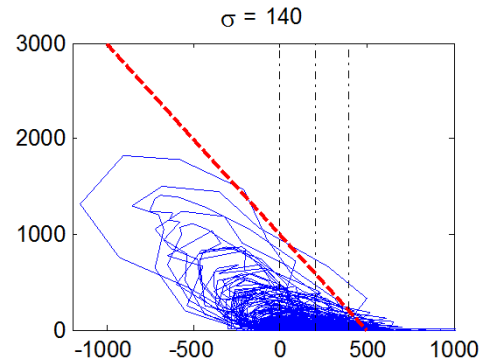
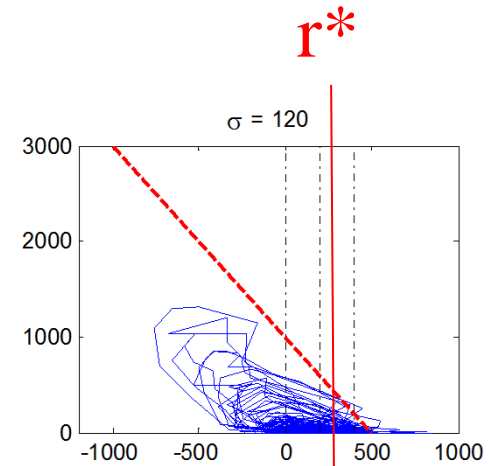
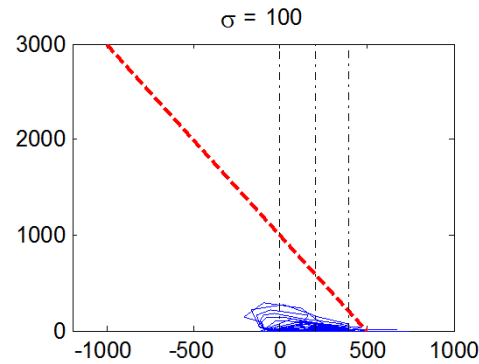
## Threshold policy:

**if**  $R(t) < r^*$  increase supply to come as close to  $r^*$  as possible (considering ramp up constraint)

**else** decrease supply to come as close to  $r^*$  as possible (considering ramp down constraint)

# Simulation

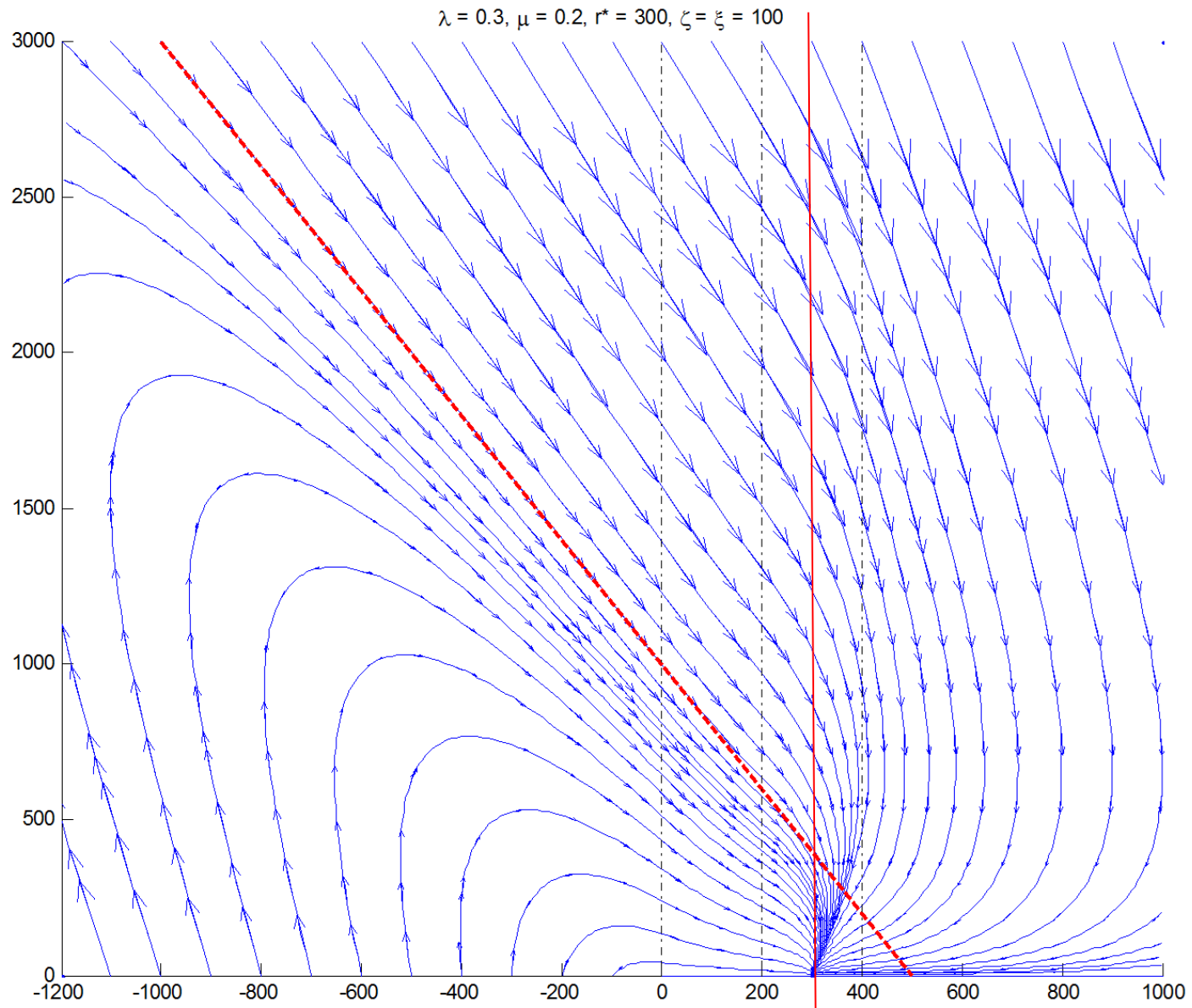
- Large excursions into negative reserve and large backlogs are typical



T=10000 iterations,  $\xi=\zeta=100$ ,  $r^*=300$ ,  $\lambda=0.3$ ,  $\mu=0.2$

# ODE Approximation

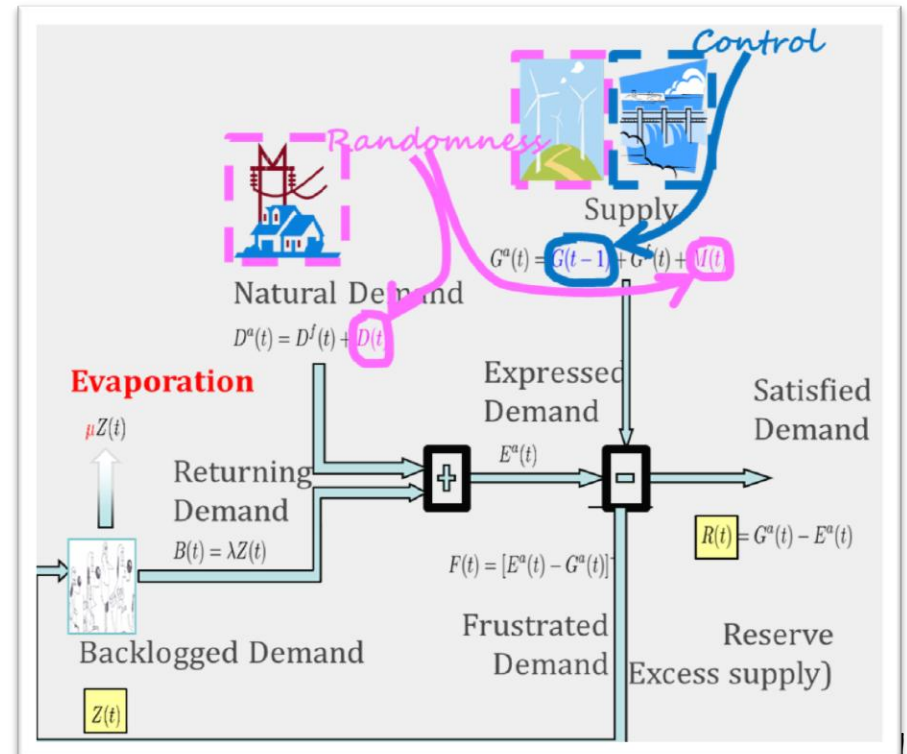
$r^*$



# Findings : Stability Results

- If evaporation  $\mu$  is positive, system is stable (ergodic, positive recurrent Markov chain) for any threshold  $r^*$
- If evaporation  $\mu$  is negative, system unstable for any threshold  $r^*$

- Delay does not play a role in stability
- Nor do ramp-up / ramp down constraints or size of reserve



# Evaporation

■ *Negative* evaporation  $\mu$  means: delaying a load makes the *returning load* larger than the original one.

■ Could this happen ?

Q. Does letting your house cool down now imply spending more heat in total compared to keeping temperature constant ?

■  $\neq$  return of the load:

Q. Does letting your house cool down now imply spending more heat later ?

A. Yes

(you will need to heat up your house later -- delayed load)

■ Assume the house model of [6]

heat provided to building  $d(t)\epsilon = K(T(t) - \theta(t)) + C(T(t) - T(t-1))$

leakiness                  outside                  inertia

efficiency  $\epsilon \sum_{t=1}^{\tau} d(t) = K \sum_{t=1}^{\tau} (T(t) - \theta(t)) + C(T(\tau) - T(0))$

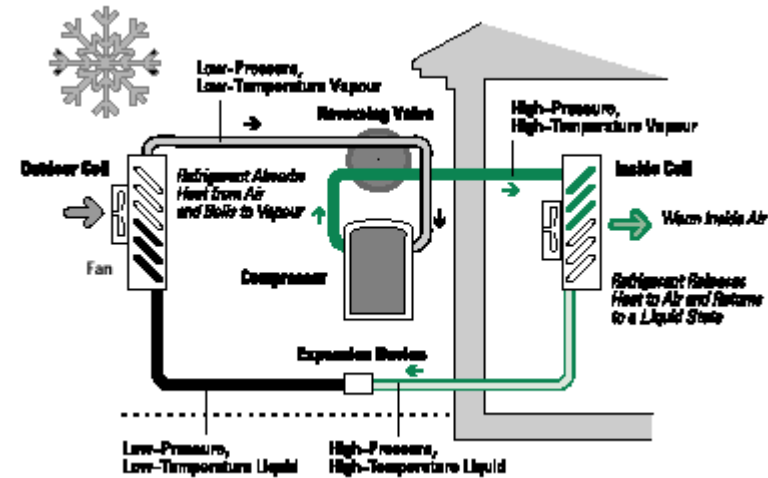
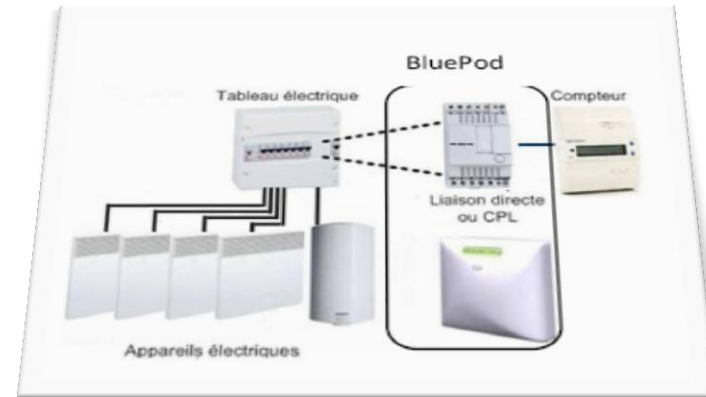
E, total energy provided                  achieved  $t^0$

| <b>Scenario</b>      | <b>Optimal</b>                                                                                             | <b>Frustrated</b>                               |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Building temperature | $T^*(t), t = 0 \dots \tau$                                                                                 | $T(t), t = 0 \dots \tau,$<br>$T(t) \leq T^*(t)$ |
| Heat provided        | $E^* = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left( K \sum_{t=1}^{\tau} (T^*(t) - \theta(t)) + C(T^*(\tau) - T^*(0)) \right)$ | $E < E^*$                                       |



# Findings

- Resistive heating system: evaporation is positive.  
This is why Voltalis bluepod is accepted by users
- If heat = heat pump, coefficient of performance  $\epsilon$  may be variable  
negative evaporation is possible
- Electric vehicle: delayed charge may have to be faster, less efficient,  
negative evaporation is possible



# Conclusions

- A first model of demand response with volatile demand and supply
- Suggests that negative evaporation makes system unstable  
Existing demand-response positive experience (with Voltalis/PeakSaver) might not carry over to other loads
- Model suggests that large backlogs are possible  
Backlogged load is a new threat to grid operation  
Need to measure and forecast backlogged load

2.

## COPING WITH WIND VOLATILITY

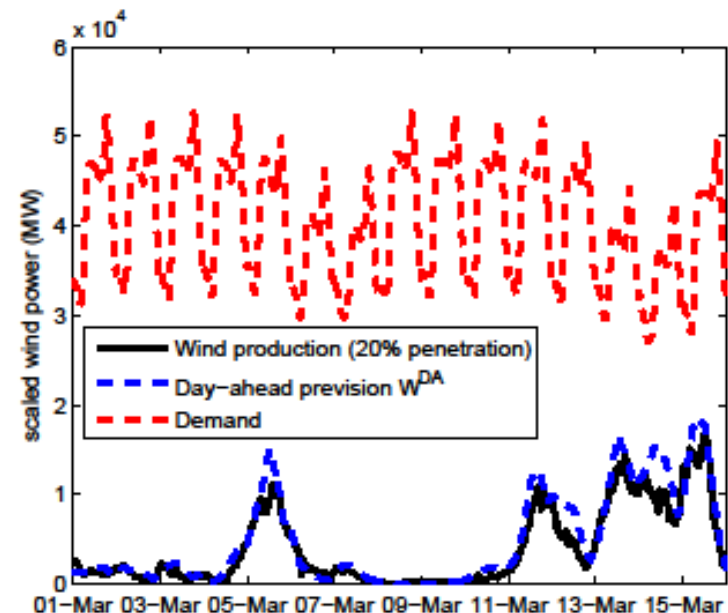
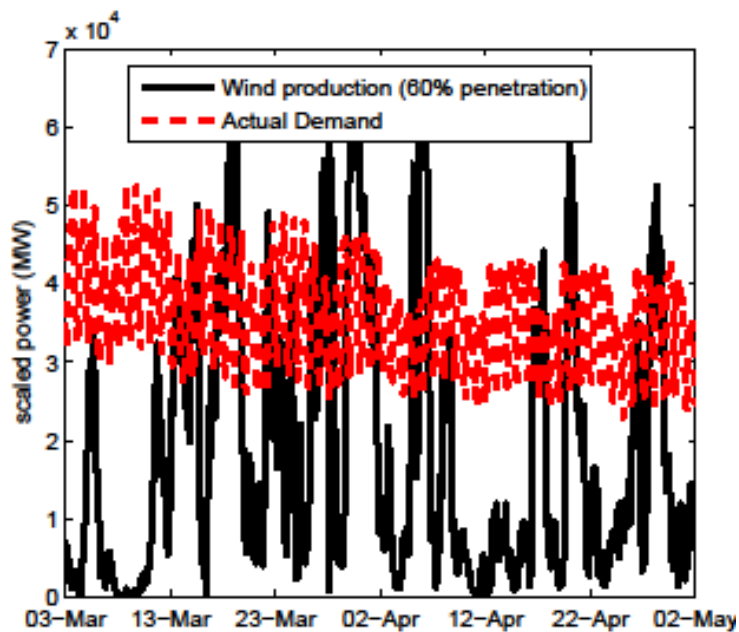
Gast, Tomozei, Le Boudec. Optimal Storage Policies with Wind Forecast Uncertainties,  
*GreenMetrics 2012*

# Wind uncertainties and scheduling

High wind penetration (60%)

vs

Low wind penetration (20%)



- Wind  $>$  Demand
- Big storage/Demand response

- Prediction error
- Schedule remaining production

# Problem Statement

## ■ Model

- ▶ 20% wind penetration + prediction
- ▶ Schedule  $P(t+n)$
- ▶ Imperfect storage (75% efficiency)

## ■ Questions:

- ▶ Optimal storage size
- ▶ Lower bound when efficiency  $< 100\%$ .
- ▶ Scheduling policies with small storage

# Storage Model, from Bejan et al. [7]

■ Demand forecast  $\{D_t^f(t+i)\}_{i \leq 48h}$

■ Wind forecast  $\{W_t^f(t+i)\}_{i \leq 48h}$

■ Goal: schedule  $P_t^f(t+n)$

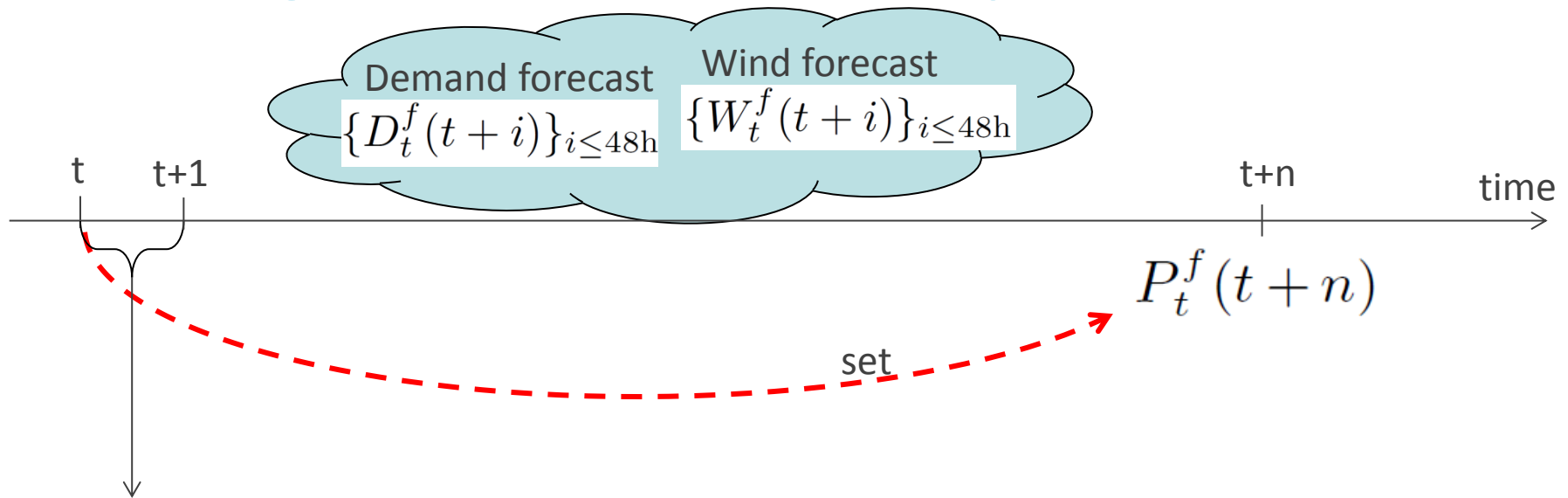
■ Mismatch:  $\Delta(t) := D(t) - W(t) - P_{t-n}^f(t)$ .

1. Storage system:  $B(t+1) = \phi(B(t), \Delta(t))$ ,

$$\phi(B, \Delta) = \begin{cases} (B - \min(\Delta^+, D_{\max}))^+ \\ \min(B + \eta \min(\Delta^-, C_{\max}), B_{\max}) \end{cases}$$

2. Fast-ramping generation (gas) / Loss

# Storage Model, from Bejan et al. [7]



■ Mismatch:  $\Delta(t) := D(t) - W(t) - P_{t-n}^f(t)$ .

To compensate the mismatch:

1. Storage system

$$B(t+1) = \begin{cases} \max(B - \min(\Delta, D_{\max}), 0) & \text{if } \Delta \geq 0, \text{ (discharge)} \\ \min(B + \eta \min(-\Delta, C_{\max}), B_{\max}) & \text{if } \Delta < 0. \text{ (charge)} \end{cases}$$

Efficiency of cycle (~70-80%)

Power constraints

Capacity constraints

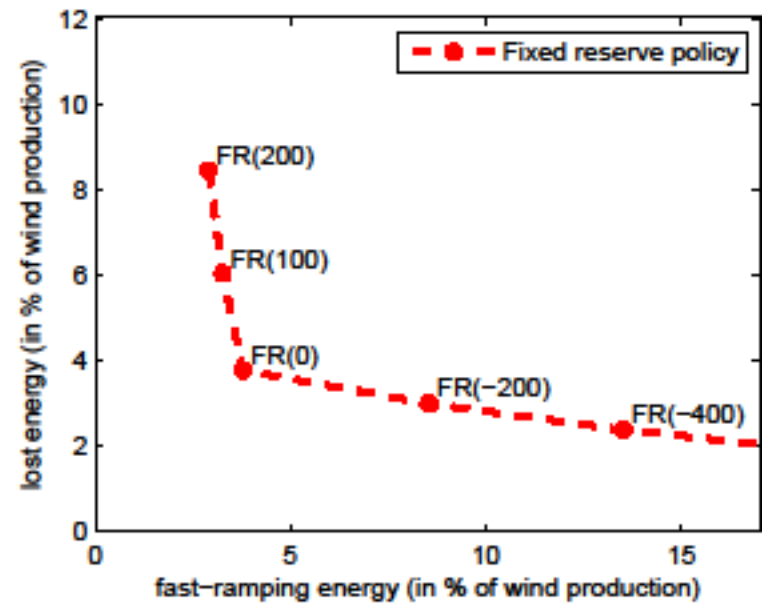
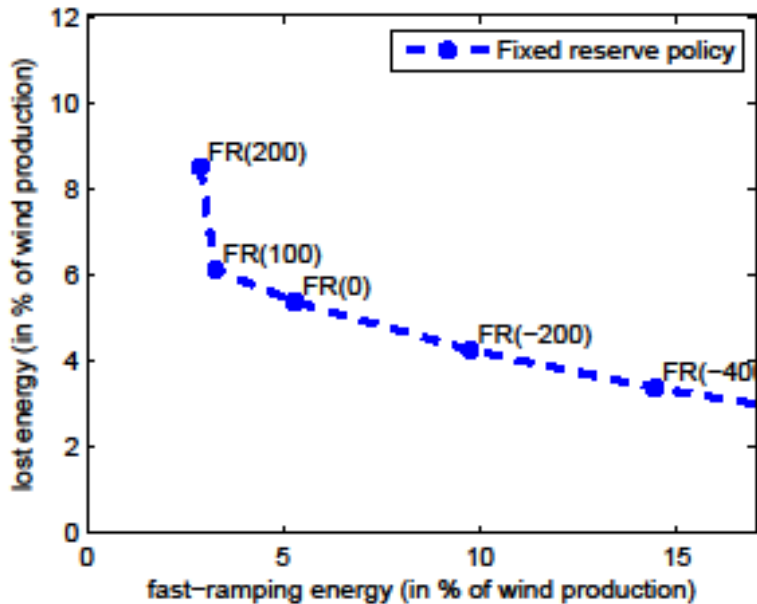
2. Fast-ramping generation (gas) / Loss

# Basic scheduling policy & metric

- ▶ Mismatch:  $\Delta(t) := D(t) - W(t) - P_{t-n}^f(t)$ .
- ▶ Basic schedule:  $P_t^f(t+n) := D_t^f(t+n) - W_t^f(t+n) + u_t^f(t+n)$

■ Ex: fixed reserve  $u_t^f(t+n) = x$

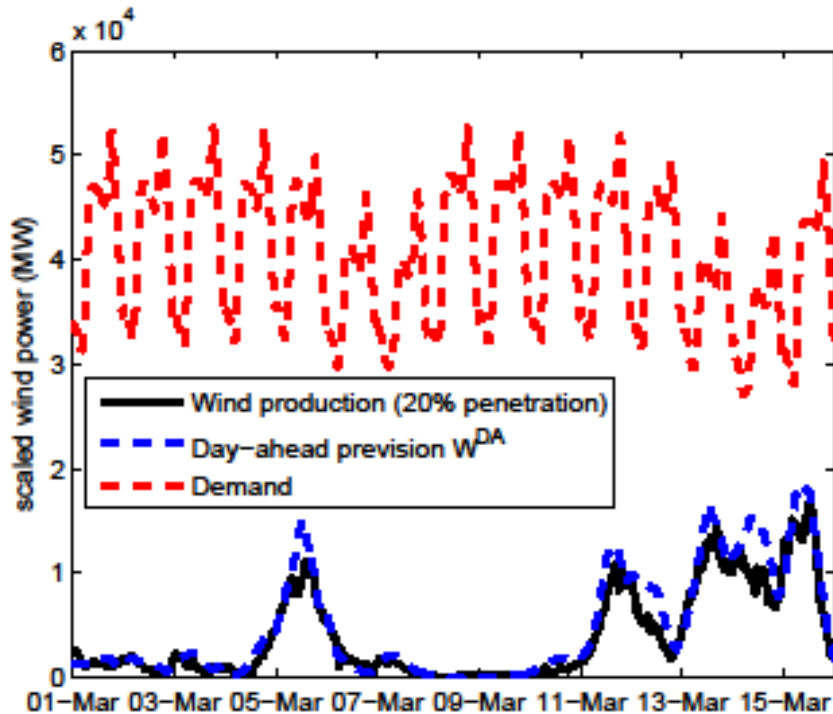
■ Metric: loss energy v.s. Fast-ramping energy used





# Wind data & forecasting

- Aggregate data from UK (BMRA data archive <https://www.elexonportal.co.uk/>)



- Demand perfectly predicted
- 3 years data
- Scale wind production to 20% (max 26GW)

$$W(t) := \frac{\text{production}(t)}{\text{total wind capacity at time } t} \times 26\text{GW}.$$

- Corrected day ahead forecast

$$\frac{\sum_t |W_t^f(t+n) - W(t+n)|}{\sum_t W(t)} = 19\%$$

- Key parameter: prediction error  $e(t+n) = W(t+n) - W_t^f(t+n)$

# A lower bound

■ **Theorem.** Assume that the error  $e(t+n) = W(t+n) - W_t^f(t+n)$  conditioned to  $\mathcal{F}_t$  is distributed as  $\mathcal{E}$ . Then:

$$\bar{G} \geq \mathbb{E}[(\varepsilon + \bar{u})^-] - \text{ramp}(\bar{u})$$

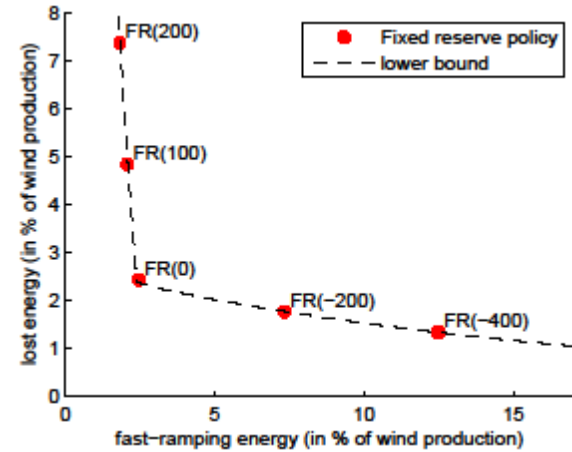
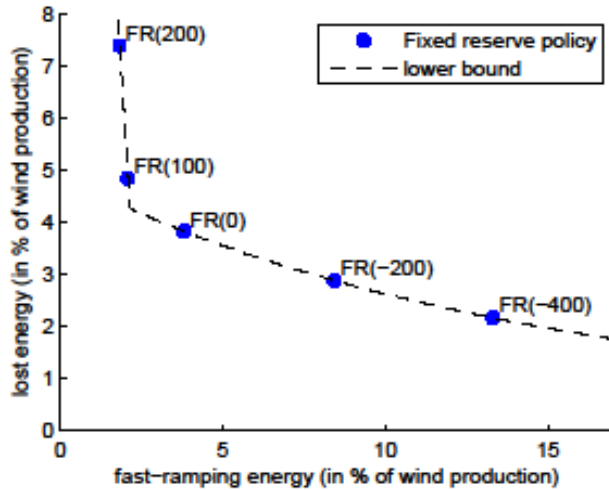
$$\bar{L} \geq \mathbb{E}[(\varepsilon + \bar{u})^+] - \text{ramp}(\bar{u})$$

where  $\text{ramp}(\bar{u}) := \mathbb{E}[\min(\eta(\varepsilon + \bar{u})^+, \eta C_{\max}, (\varepsilon + \bar{u})^-, D_{\max})]$

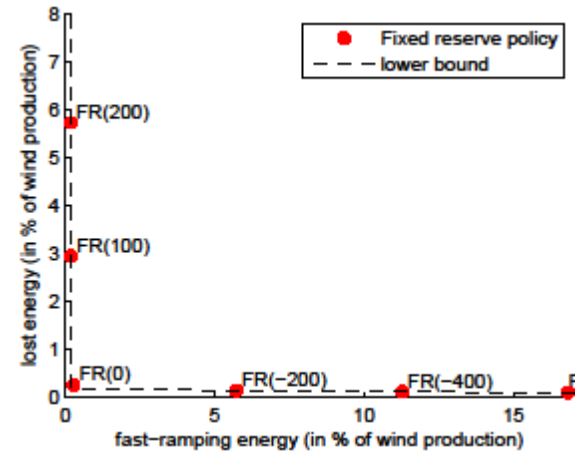
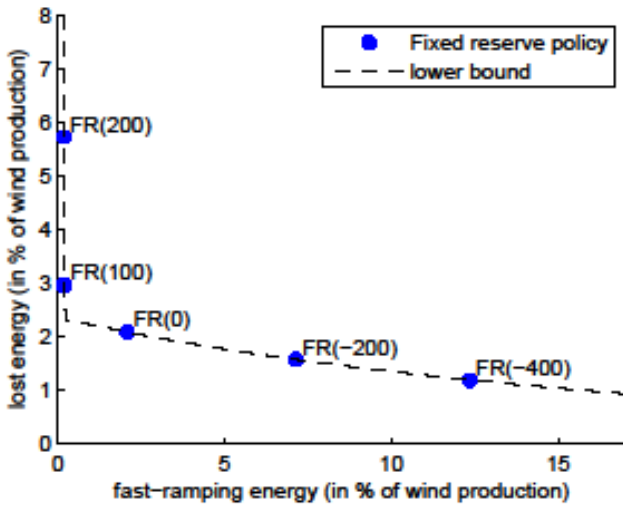
- ▶ Depends on storage characteristics
  - ▶ Efficiency, maximum power (but not on size)
- ▶ Assumption valid if prediction is Arima
- ▶ Bound tight for large storage capacity

# Lower bound is attained for $B_{\max} = 100\text{GWh}$

$$C_{\max} = D_{\max} = 2\text{GW}$$



$$C_{\max} = D_{\max} = 6\text{GW}$$



$$\eta = 0.8$$

$$\eta = 1$$

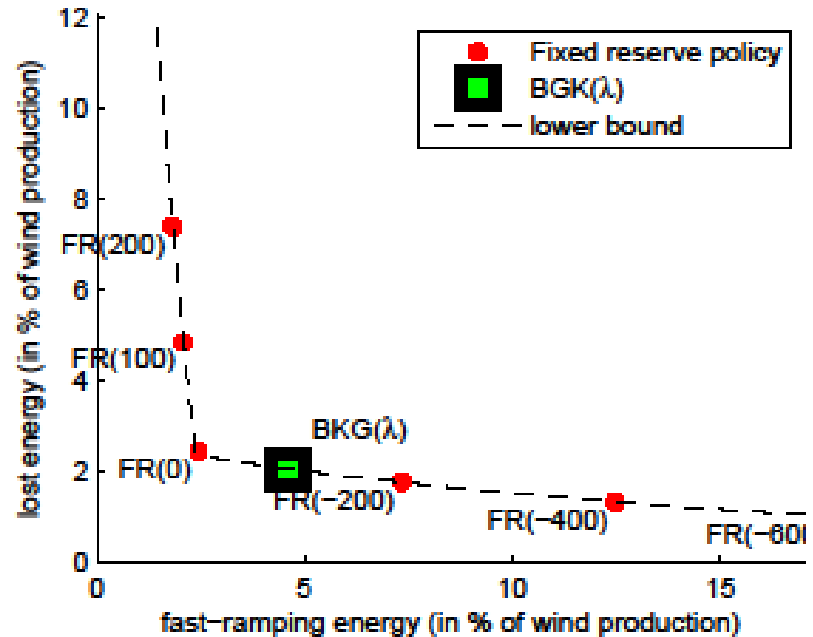
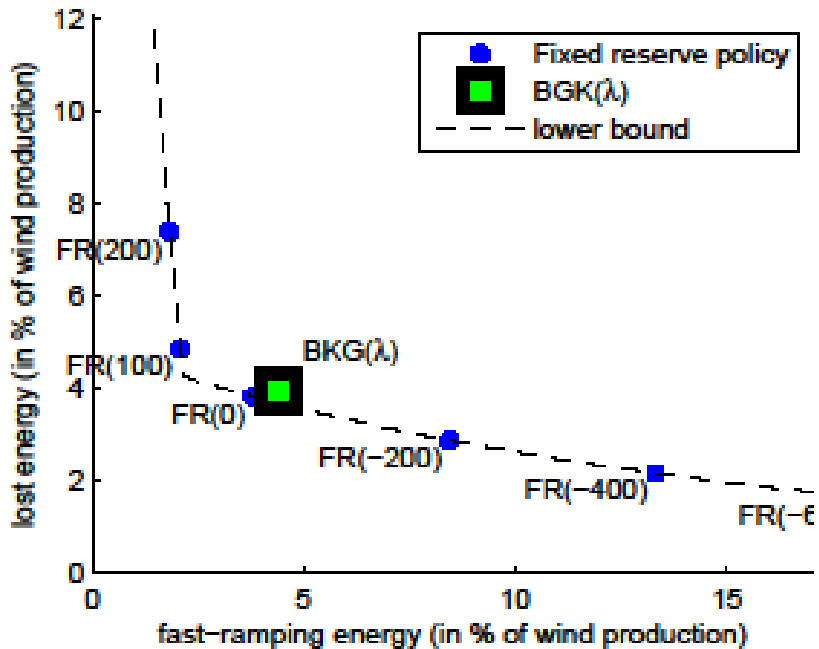
# The BGK policy (from [7])

■ BGK [x] : try to maintain storage in a fixed level  $\lambda B_{\max}$

► Compute estimate of storage size  $B_t^f(t+n)$

$$P_t^f(t+n) := D_t^f(t+n) - W_t^f(t+n) + u_t^f(t+n)$$

$$u_t^f(t+n) = \min\left(\frac{1}{\eta}(\lambda B_{\max} - B)^+, C_{\max}\right) - \min((\lambda B_{\max} - B)^-, D_{\max}).$$



■ Close to lower bound for large storage

# Scheduling policies for small storage

$$P_t^f(t+n) := D_t^f(t+n) - W_t^f(t+n) + u_t^f(t+n)$$

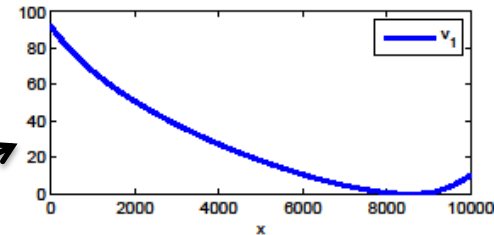
■ Fixed reserve  $u_t^f(t+n) = x$

■ BGK [x] : try to maintain storage in a fixed level  $\lambda B_{\max}$

▶ Compute estimate of storage size  $B_t^f(t+n)$

■ Dynamic reserve

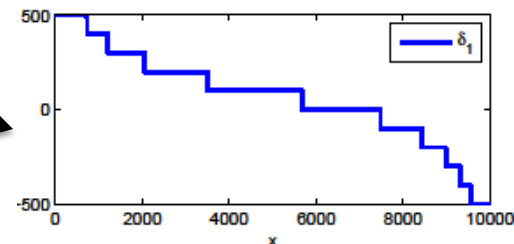
▶ Based on  $X(t+1) = \phi(X(t), -\varepsilon(t+1) - u(t))$  process:  
cost = energy loss +  $\gamma$  fast-ramping



▶ Optimal policy  $\delta_\gamma(x) := \arg \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}} \{ \mathbb{E} (c(x, u) + v(\phi(x, -u - \varepsilon))) \}$ .

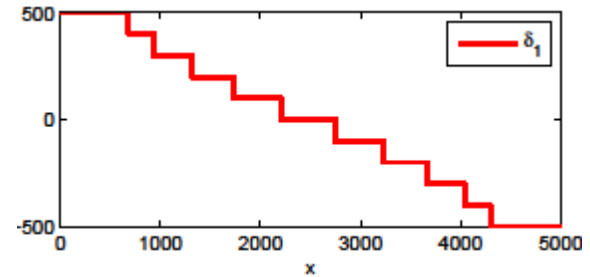
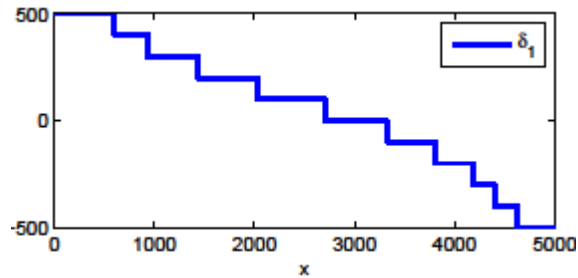
▶ Apply  $\delta_\gamma$  to  $B_t^f(t+n)$ :

$$u_t^f(t+n) = \delta_\gamma(B_t^f(t+n))$$

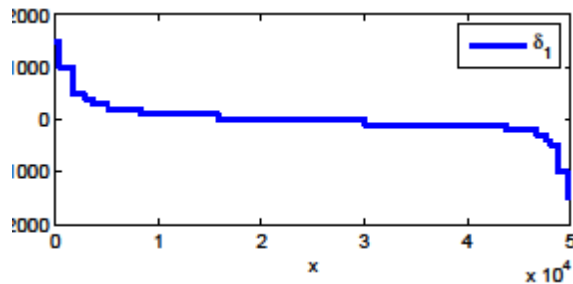


# Influence of storage capacity on $\delta_\gamma$ ( $\gamma=1$ )

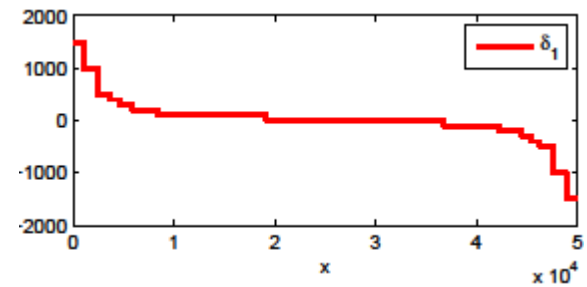
$B_{\max} = 5\text{GWh}, C_{\max} = D_{\max} = 2\text{GW}$



$B_{\max} = 50\text{GWh}, C_{\max} = D_{\max} = 6\text{GW}$



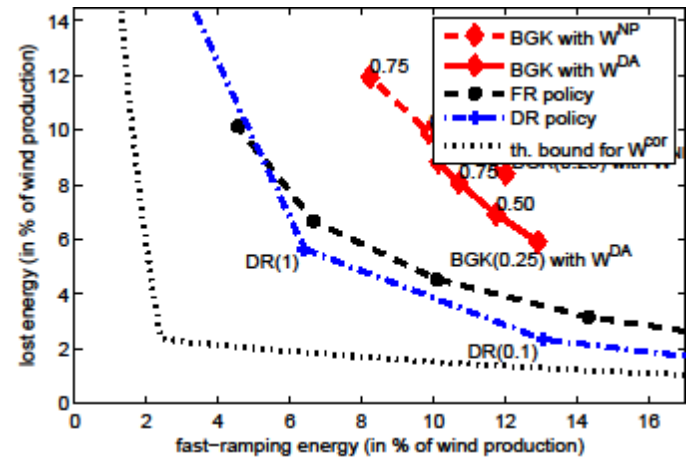
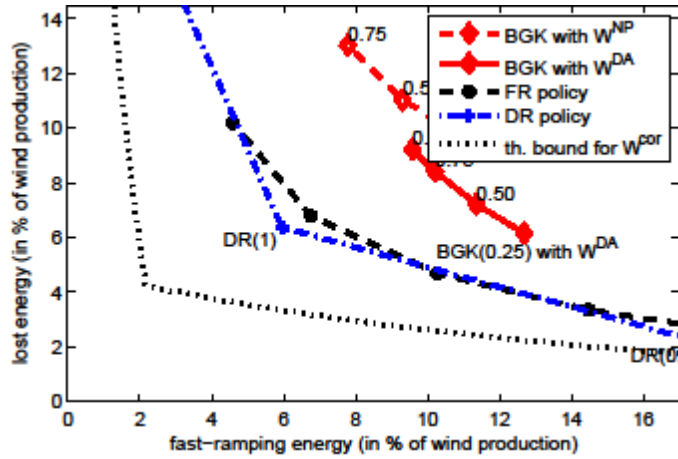
$\eta = 0.8$



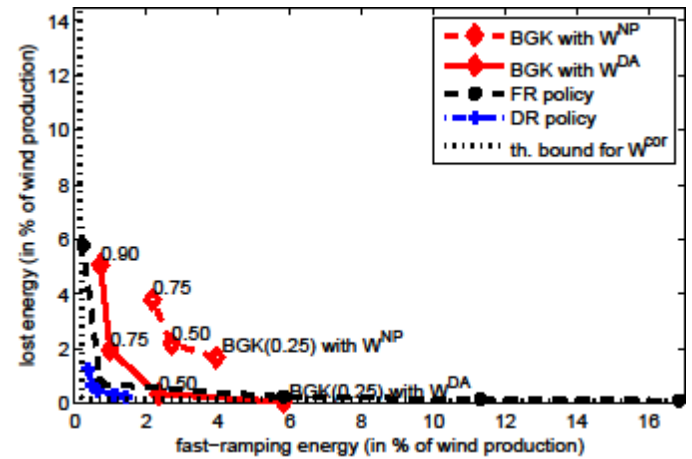
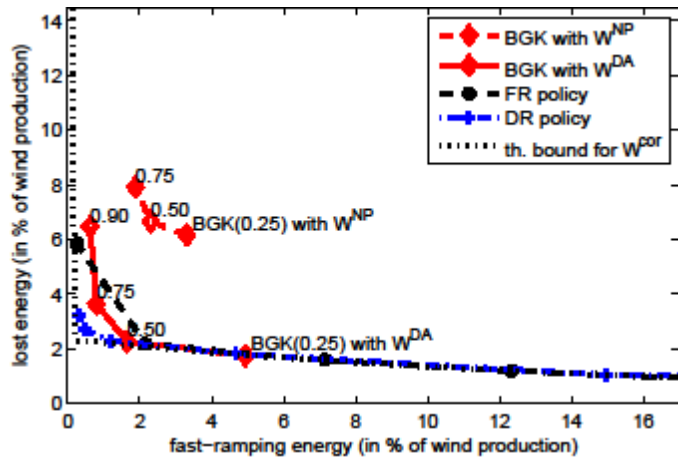
$\eta = 1$

# Influence of storage capacity on perf.

$B_{\max} = 5\text{GWh}, C_{\max} = D_{\max} = 2\text{GW}$



$B_{\max} = 50\text{GWh}, C_{\max} = D_{\max} = 6\text{GW}$



$\eta = 0.8$

$\eta = 1$

# Conclusion

- Maintain storage at fixed level: not optimal
  - ▶ worse for low capacity
- 50GWh and 6GW is enough for 26GW of wind
- Quality of prediction matters
- Still gap between lower bound and performance



# Questions ?

- [1] Cho, Meyn – *Efficiency and marginal cost pricing in dynamic competitive markets with friction*, Theoretical Economics, 2010
- [2] Le Boudec, Tomozei, *Satisfiability of Elastic Demand in the Smart Grid*, Energy 2011 and ArXiv.1011.5606
- [3] Le Boudec, Tomozei, *Demand Response Using Service Curves*, IEEE ISGT-EUROPE, 2011
- [4] Le Boudec, Tomozei, *A Demand-Response Calculus with Perfect Batteries*, WoNeCa, 2012
- [5] Papavasiliou, Oren - *Integration of Contracted Renewable Energy and Spot Market Supply to Serve Flexible Loads*, 18th World Congress of the International Federation of Automatic Control, 2011
- [6] David MacKay, *Sustainable Energy – Without the Hot Air*, UIT Cambridge, 2009
- [7] Bejan, Gibbens, Kelly, *Statistical Aspects of Storage Systems Modelling in Energy Networks*. 46th Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems, 2012, Princeton University, USA.