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# Frequency constrained unit commitment in isolated power systems with high penetration of RES

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- Introduction
- RES generation providing spinning reserve
- Frequency constrained unit commitment (FCUC)
- Concluding remarks





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# Introduction

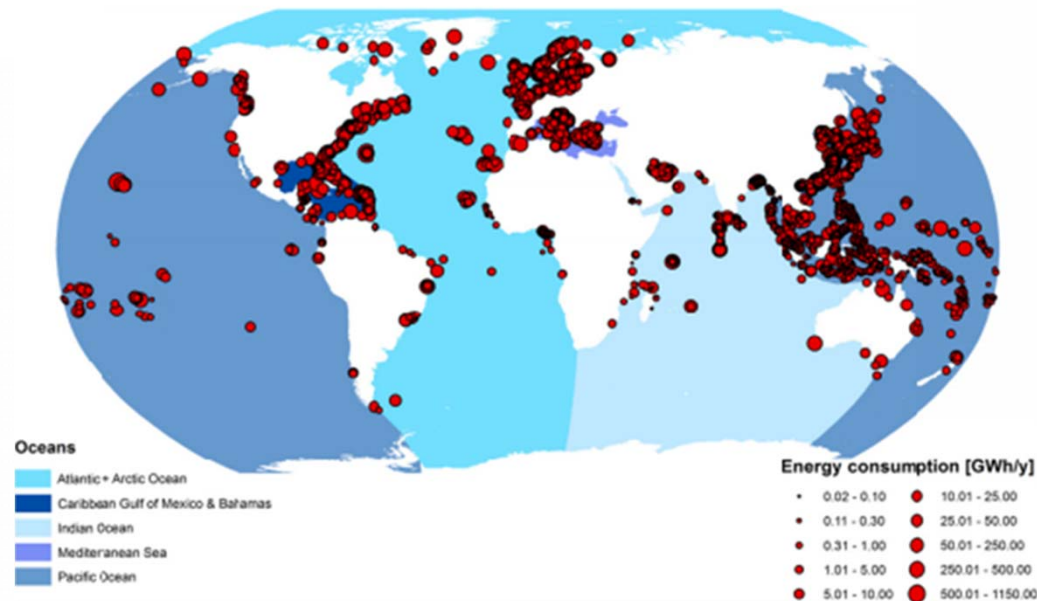
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# Introduction

- There are **thousands of isolated power systems** worldwide and their number is increasing (e.g., off-grid systems).



# Introduction

- Isolated power systems are especially **sensitive to active power unbalances** due to their:
  - **isolated nature** (lack of supporting interconnections)
  - the **small number of committed generation units**, with relatively large individual generation levels and reserve requirements.
  - spatially concentrated variable RES
- They are thus per se low-inertia power systems.

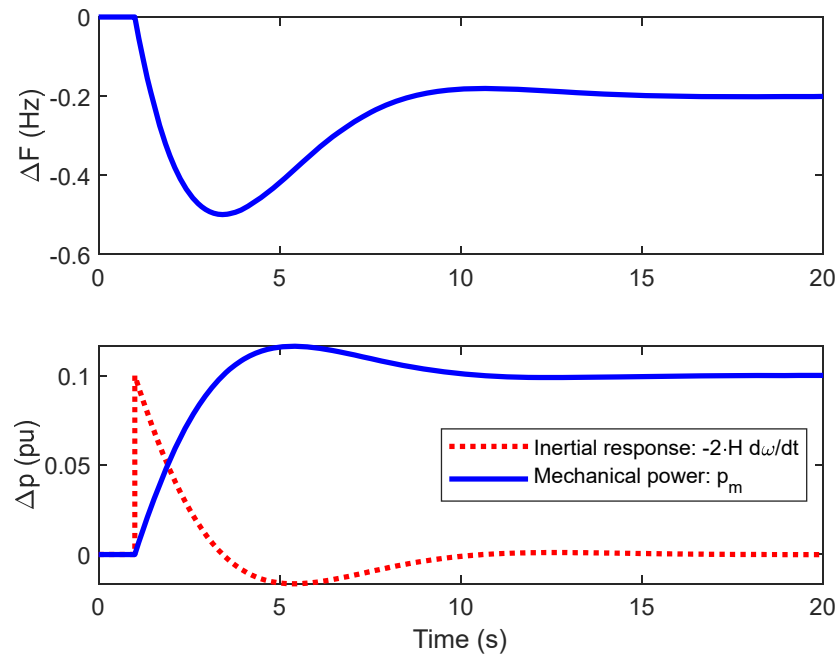


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# Introduction

- Large active power unbalances (e.g., generation outages) lead to **frequency deviations**, confined by the **primary frequency control (PFC)** activating the spinning reserve.



$$\Delta p_e = \Delta p_m - 2H \cdot \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

# Introduction

- The **objective of operation planning** is to supply the electrical demand at minimum variable cost such that, among others, **security of supply** is guaranteed.
- To guarantee security of supply, a certain **amount of spinning reserve** is held back for the **PFC** and secondary frequency control.
- The amount of spinning reserve basically **follows a static N-1 criterion**, although frequency stability is of course a dynamic problem.

# Introduction

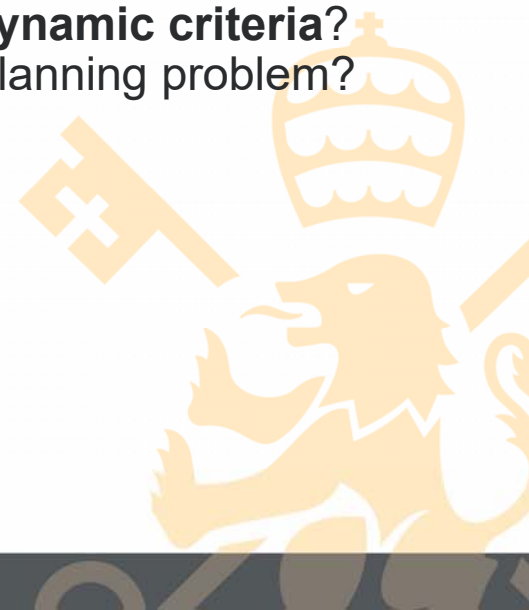
- Currently, the spinning reserve is mainly **provided by synchronous generation** (e.g., thermal and hydro generation).
- The **growing penetration of RES generation** affects reserve provision and frequency stability by substituting synchronous generation,
  - **reducing** further the available **resources for spinning reserve**.
  - **reducing** further the available **inertia and PFC capacity**.





# Introduction

- Questions arise such as:
  - What if **RES generation started providing spinning reserve**? Is it viable? Is it feasible?
  - What if the determination of the amount **of spinning reserves followed dynamic criteria**?  
What are these criteria? How can be frequency stability included into the planning problem?  
What formulations should be used to be efficient? Transparent?





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# RES generation providing spinning reserve

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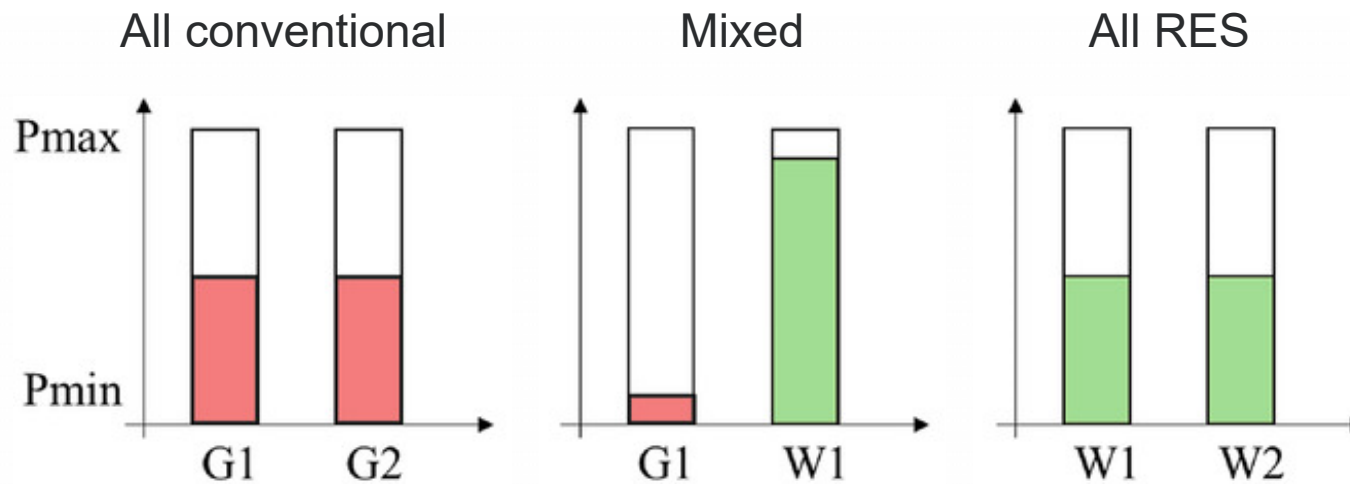
# RES generation providing spinning reserve

- Currently, RES generation does not provide down- or upwards spinning reserve.
- **Grid codes** require the ability to provide PFC, but this is **not tantamount to a mandatory and planned** provision of PFC.
- Providing spinning reserve could be **an option to further foster RES penetration** instead of simply spilling it at high penetration levels.

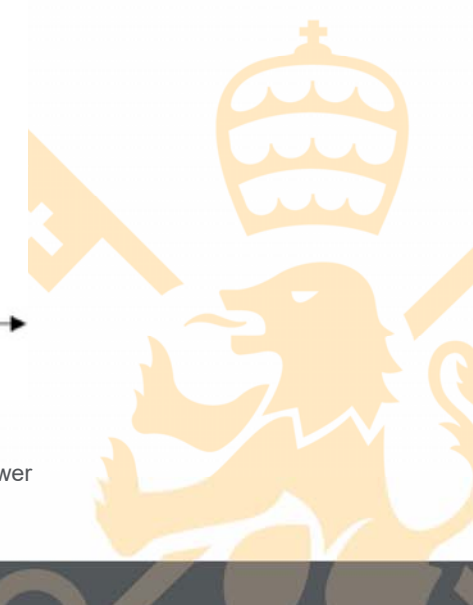


# RES generation providing spinning reserve

- The **idea is to avoid using conventional generation** that is just providing spinning reserve but making use of RES generation.



Source: Rajabdorri, M., et al.: Viability of providing spinning reserves by RES in Spanish Island power systems. IET Renew. Power Gener. 2021; 15: 2878–2890.





# RES generation providing spinning reserve

- The **unit commitment formulation**, minimizing variable operation costs, needs to be modified by considering a possible **deloaded operation**:

$$\min_{x,P} suc(x_{g,t}) + gc(P_{g,t})$$

$$\sum_{g \in G} P_{g,t} = D_t$$

$$\underline{P}_{g,t} = \bar{P}_{g,t} = W_{g,t} \cdot x_{g,t} \quad \forall g \in W \subset G$$

$$\underline{P}_{g,t} \cdot x_{g,t} \leq P_{g,t} \leq \bar{P}_{g,t} \cdot x_{g,t}$$

⋮

$$\sum_{g \in G \setminus W, g \neq gg} (\bar{P}_{g,t} - P_{g,t}) \geq L_{gg} \cdot P_{gg,t}$$



$$\min_{x,P} suc(x_{g,t}) + gc(P_{g,t})$$

$$\sum_{g \in G} P_{g,t} = D_t$$

$$\bar{P}_{g,t} = W_{g,t} \quad \forall g \in W \subset G$$

$$\underline{P}_{g,t} \cdot x_{g,t} \leq P_{g,t} \leq \bar{P}_{g,t} \cdot x_{g,t}$$

⋮

$$\sum_{g \in G, g \neq gg} (\bar{P}_{g,t} - P_{g,t}) = L_{gg} \cdot P_{gg,t}$$





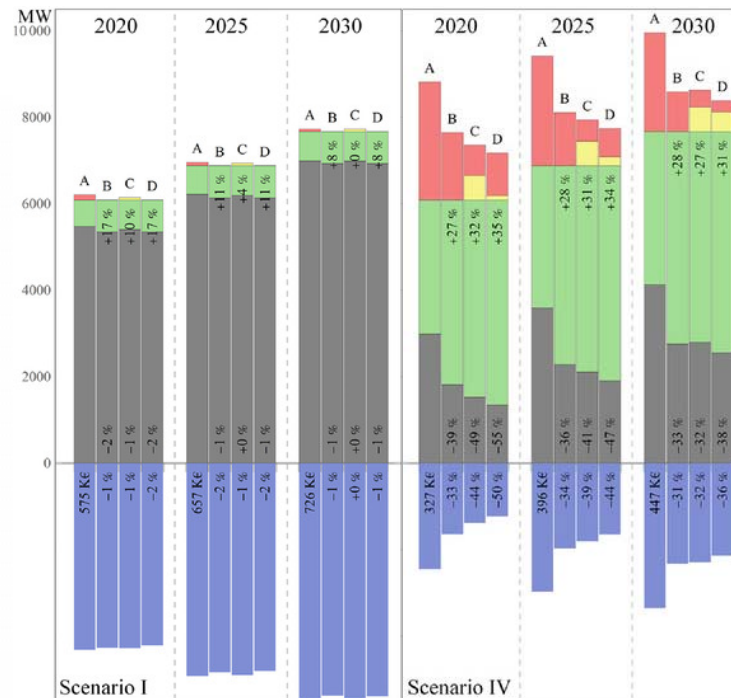
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# RES generation providing spinning reserve

- Impact of providing down- and upwards reserve on variable operation costs, and RES generation spillage:

A: no reserve  
B: downward reserve only  
C: down and fix upwards reserve  
D: down and variable upwards reserve

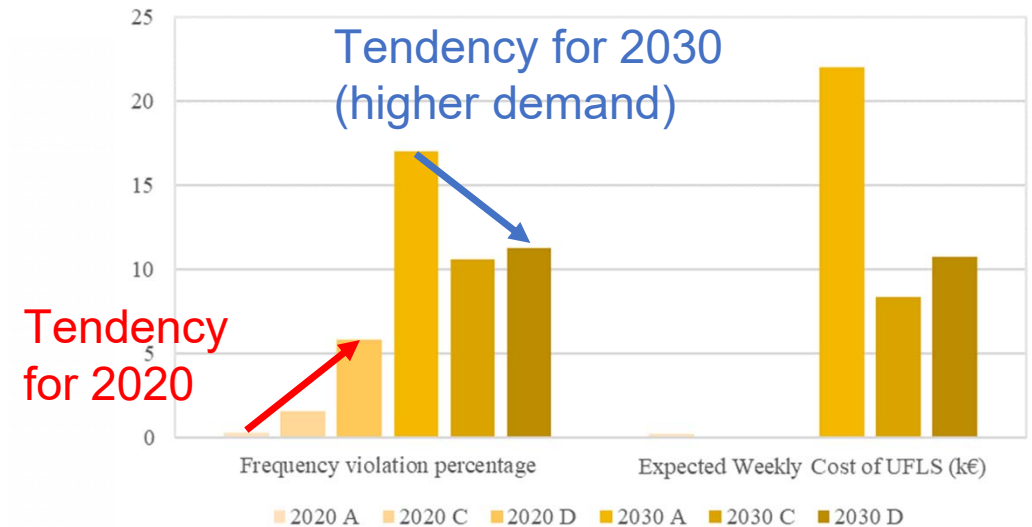
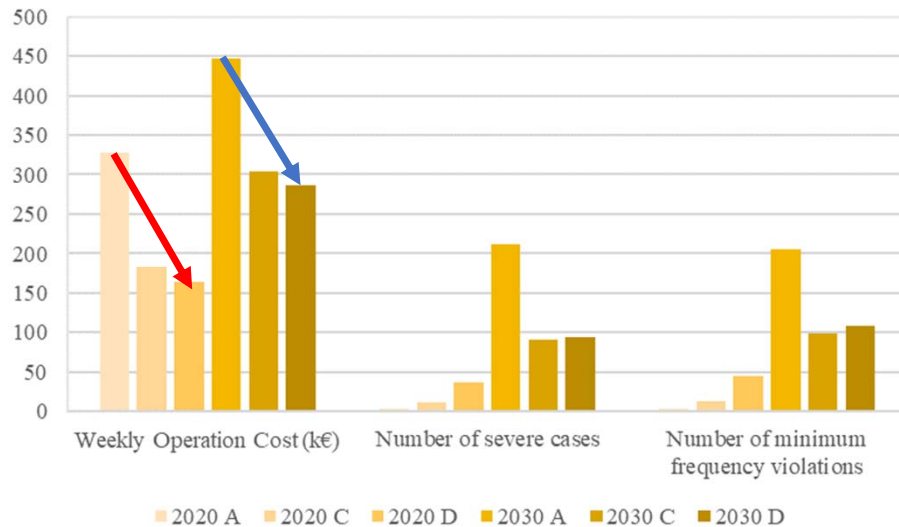


Spillage and variable operation cost reduces with reserve provision.



# RES generation providing spinning reserve

- Impact of high-RES generation scenario providing spinning reserve on frequency stability:





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# Frequency constrained unit commitment (FCUC)

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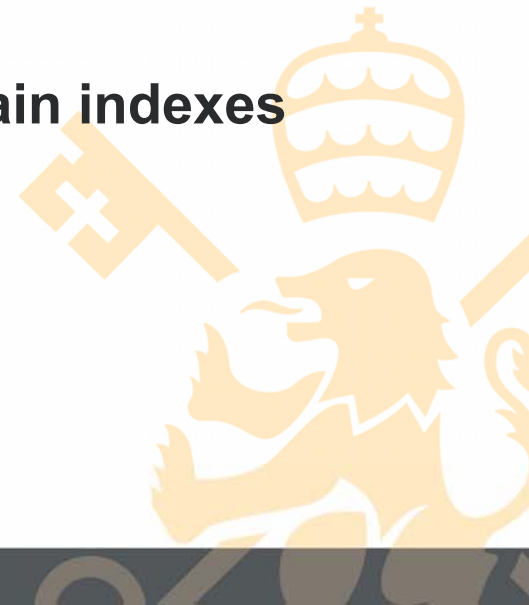
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## FCUC

- Currently, the reserve criterion is a static one, although related frequency stability is a dynamic problem.
- **FCUC** formulations explicitly consider **frequency stability constraints**.
- Different approaches exist, but they coincide **in estimating certain indexes** related to the underlying frequency dynamics.





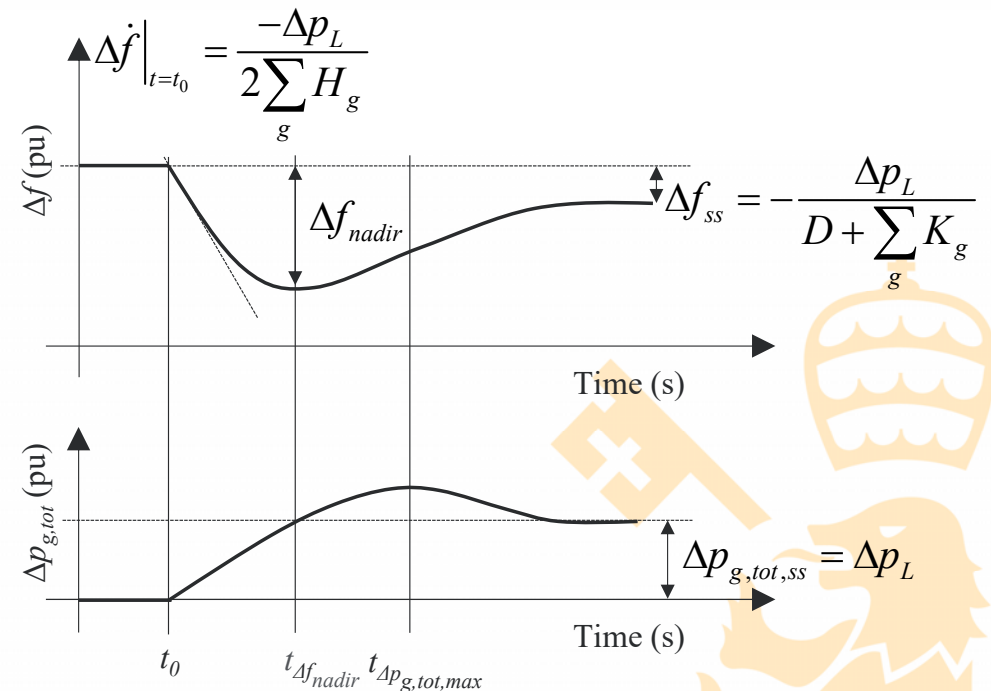
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# FCUC

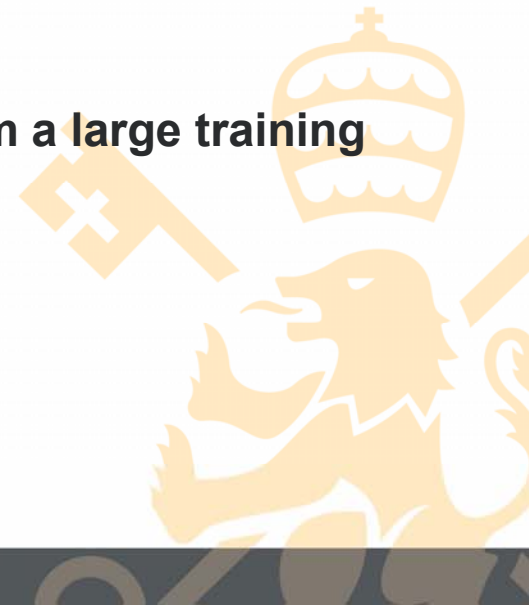
• Commonly, three indexes are considered:

- Initial rate-of-change of frequency (RoCoF)
- Steady-state frequency,  $f_{ss}$
- Frequency nadir,  $f_{nadir}$



# FCUC

- FCUC approaches can be broadly grouped into analytical or data-driven approaches:
  - **Analytical approaches** include **explicit expressions** for RoCoF, nadir and steady-state frequency
  - **Data-driven approaches** estimate them through **functions deduced from a large training set**.





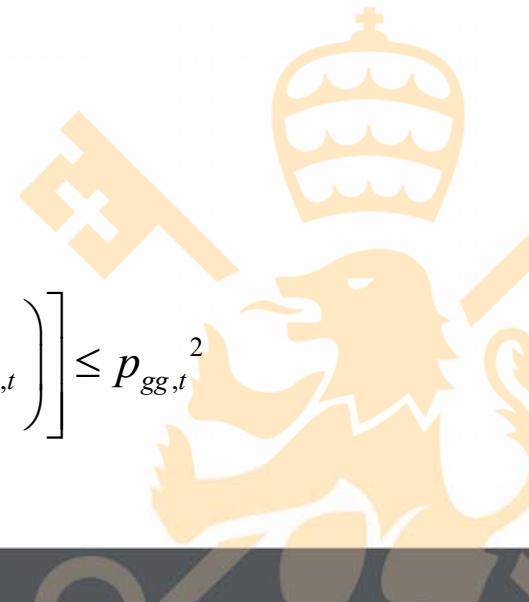
# Analytical FCUC

- In an analytical approach, the standard UC formulations **is extended** by adding the following terms (here, for generation outages):

$$\Delta \dot{f} \Big|_{t=t_0} \geq \Delta \dot{F}_{ini} \qquad 2 \cdot \left( \sum_{g, g \neq gg} H_g \cdot x_{g,t} \right) \cdot \Delta \dot{F}_{ini} \leq -p_{gg,t}$$

$$\Delta f \Big|_{t=\infty} \geq \Delta F_{ss} \qquad \left( \sum_{g, g \neq gg} K_g \cdot x_{g,t} \right) \cdot \Delta F_{ss} \leq -p_{gg,t}$$

$$\Delta f(t) \geq \Delta F_{nadir} \qquad (\Delta F_{nadir})^2 \left[ 2 \cdot \left( \sum_{g, g \neq gg} \frac{K_g}{T_g} \cdot x_{g,t} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{g, g \neq gg} H_g \cdot x_{g,t} \right) \right] \leq p_{gg,t}^2$$



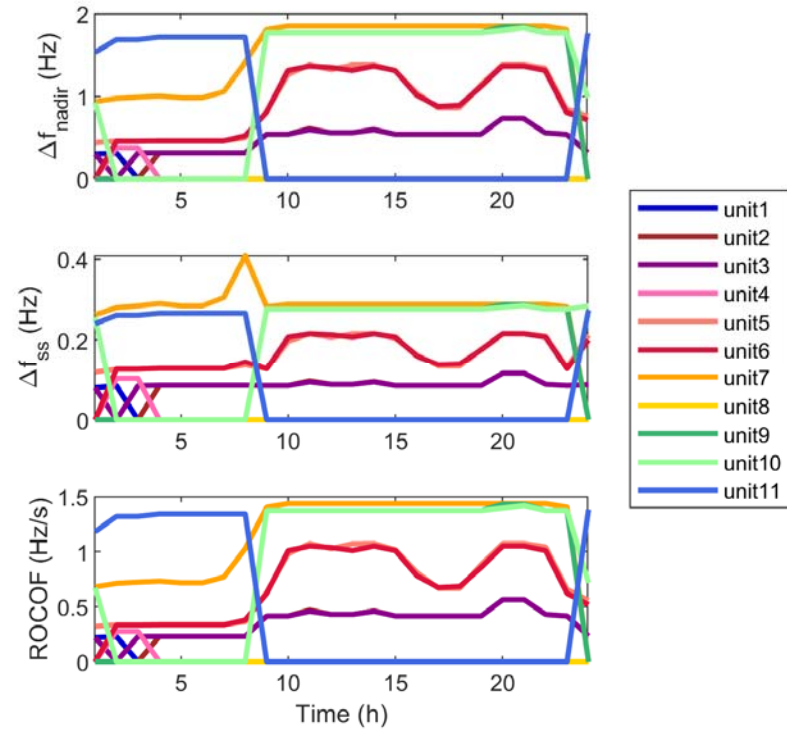
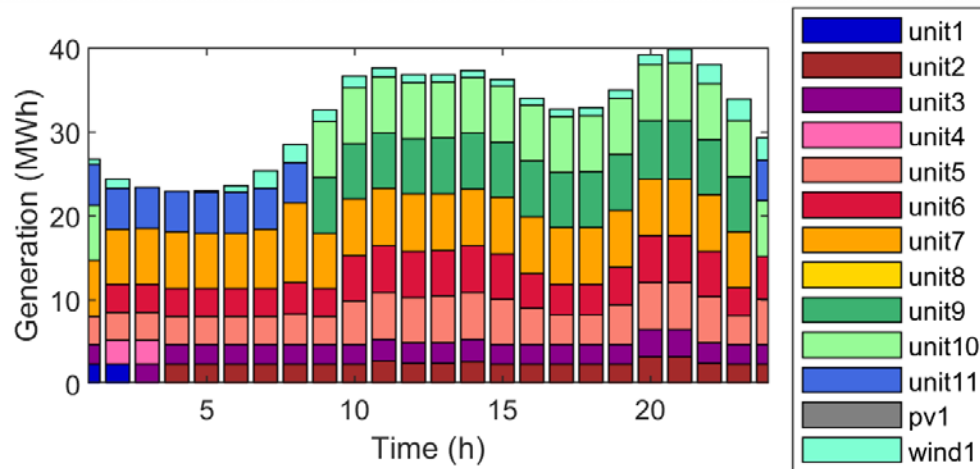


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# Analytical FCUC

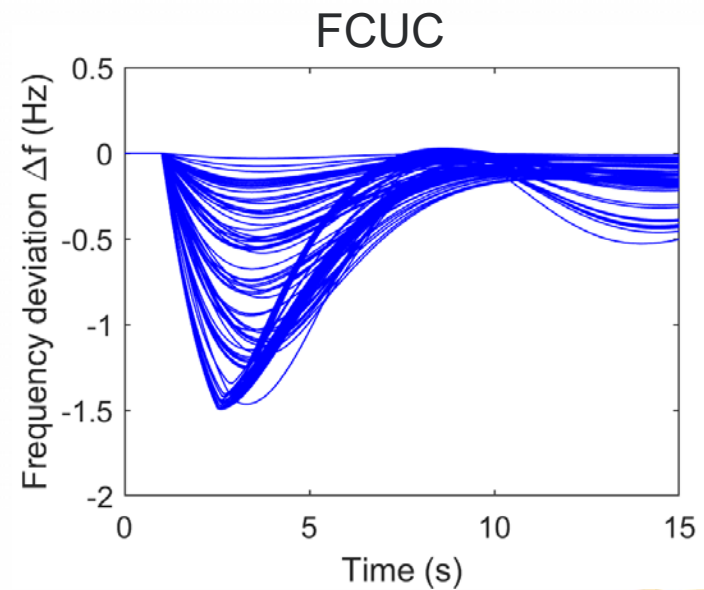
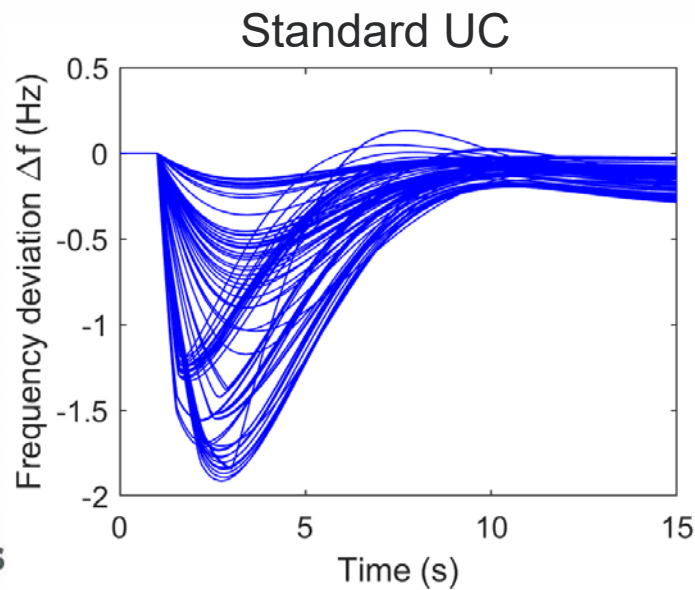
- Application of the FCUC to a Spanish isolated power system



# Analytical FCUC

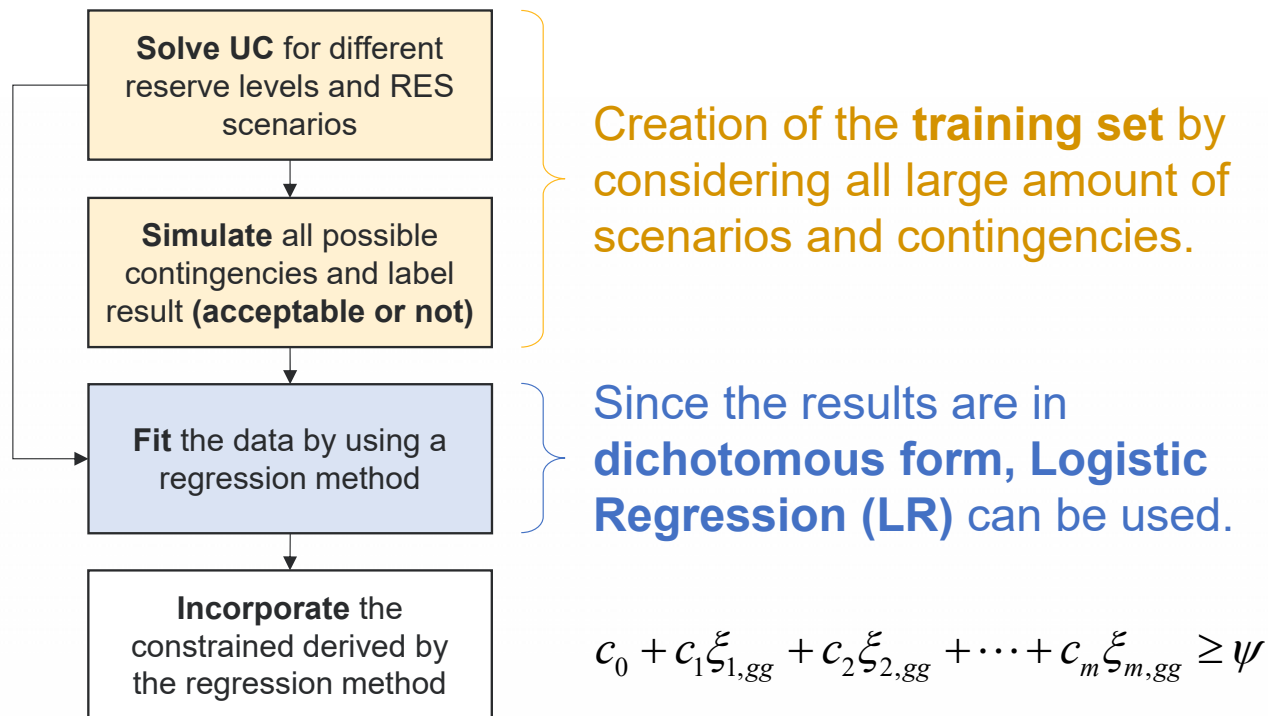
- Comparison with standard UC

	Cost (k€)	Spillage (MWh)	Average $\Delta f_{\text{radir}}$ (Hz)	Average shed load (MW)
<b>FCUC</b>	156	14.1	-0.88	0.8
<b>standard UC</b>	141	2.8	-0.93	1.2



# Data-driven FCUC

- In a data-driven approach, a three-step approach can be used:

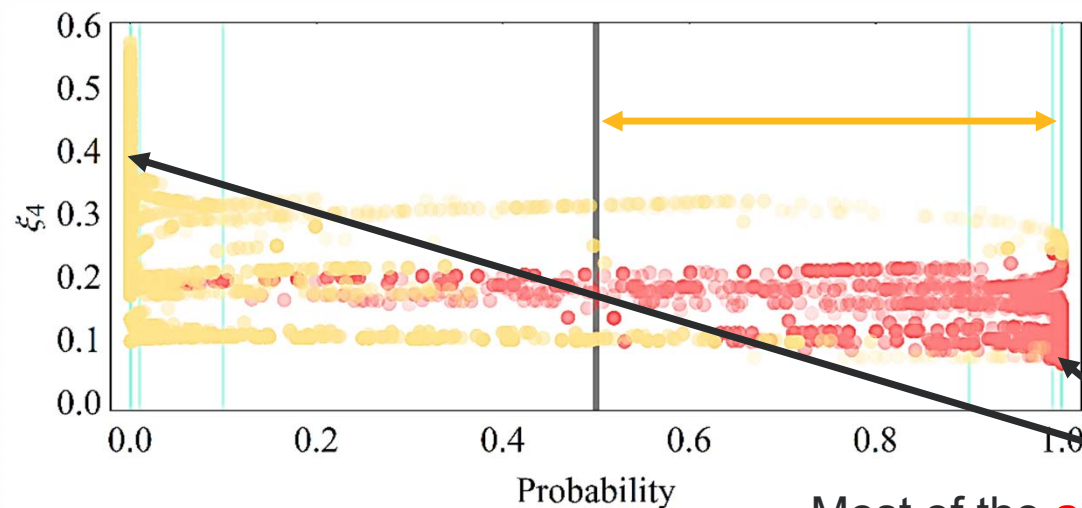


**Explanatory variables,  $\xi$ , available within UC are:** the inertia, the relative power loss, the reserve, etc.

$$c_0 + c_1 \xi_{1,gg} + c_2 \xi_{2,gg} + \dots + c_m \xi_{m,gg} \geq \psi$$

# Data-driven FCUC

- Logistic regression (LR) predicts the probability of a result of being acceptable or not in terms of the explanatory variables,  $\xi_i$ .



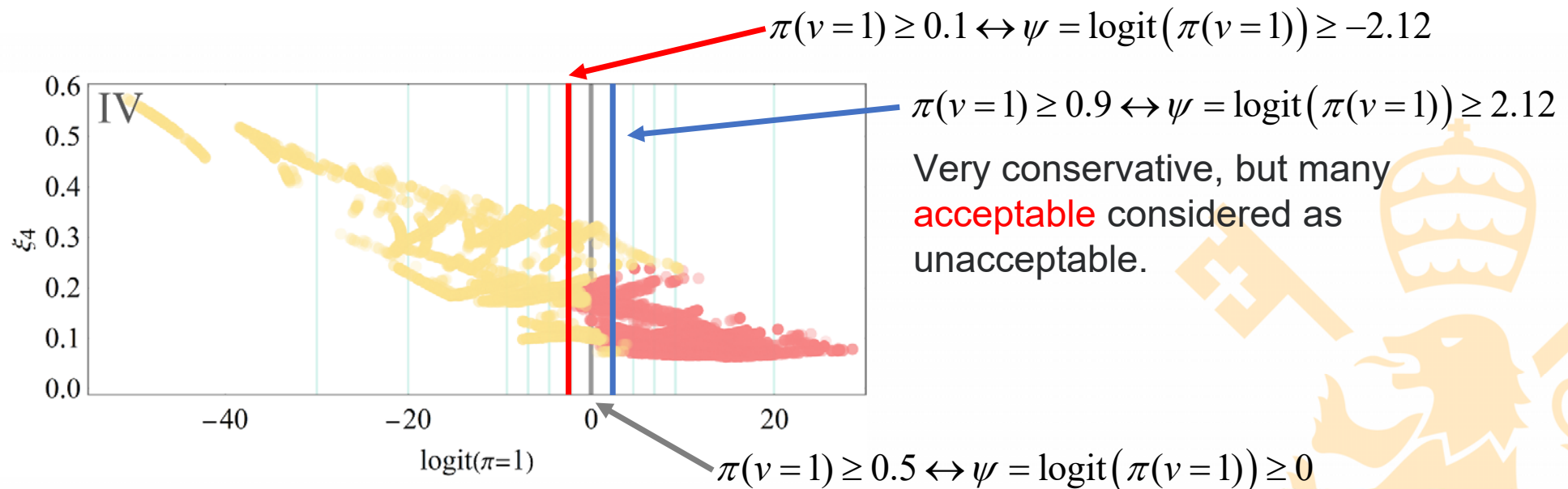
All **unacceptable** results herein have a probability being classified as acceptable,  $\pi(v=1)$ , above 0.5

Most of the **acceptable/unacceptable** results are classified as such.



# Data-driven FCUC

- If we look at the logarithm of the corresponding odds of being acceptable or not in terms of the explanatory variables,  $\xi_j$ :



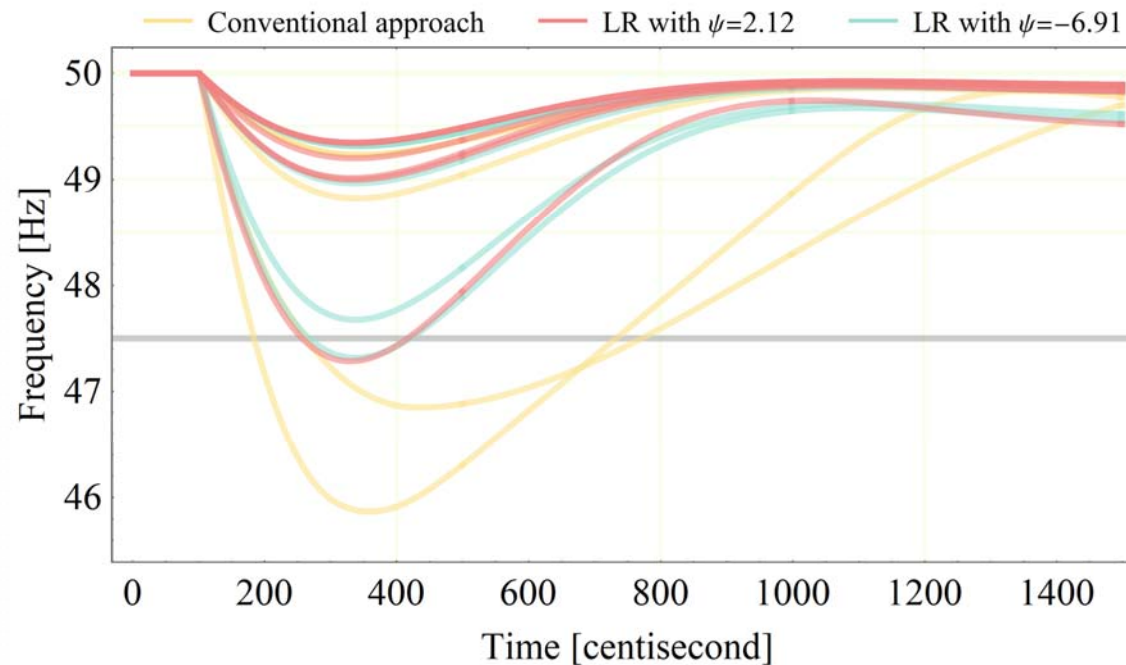
# Data-driven FCUC

- Application of the data-driven FCUC to a Spanish isolated power system and comparison with the standard UC

	HQFR (%)	LQFR (%)	average $F_{nadir}$ (Hz)	Average shed load (MW)	Operation cost (k€)
standard UC	68	32	48.29	2.3	141
FCUC $\psi = 0$	81	19	48.77	1.2	144
FCUC $\psi = -2.12$	79	21	48.68	1.5	143
FCUC $\psi = -6.91$	77	23	48.52	2.1	140

# Data-driven FCUC

- Impact on frequency dynamics





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# Concluding remarks

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## Concluding remarks

- Currently, the amount of spinning reserve follows a static N-1 criterion although the underlying problem is dynamic.
- RES generation does not provide upwards spinning reserve.
- It has been shown that providing reserve by RES generation is beneficial from the technical and economic point of view (although the economic impact is more straightforward).
- It has been shown that a dynamic criterion can be set up by using either analytical or data-driven approaches. The more conservative the approach, the costlier the operation.