

# Quelques évolutions récentes autour des modèles d'optimisation pour le système électrique

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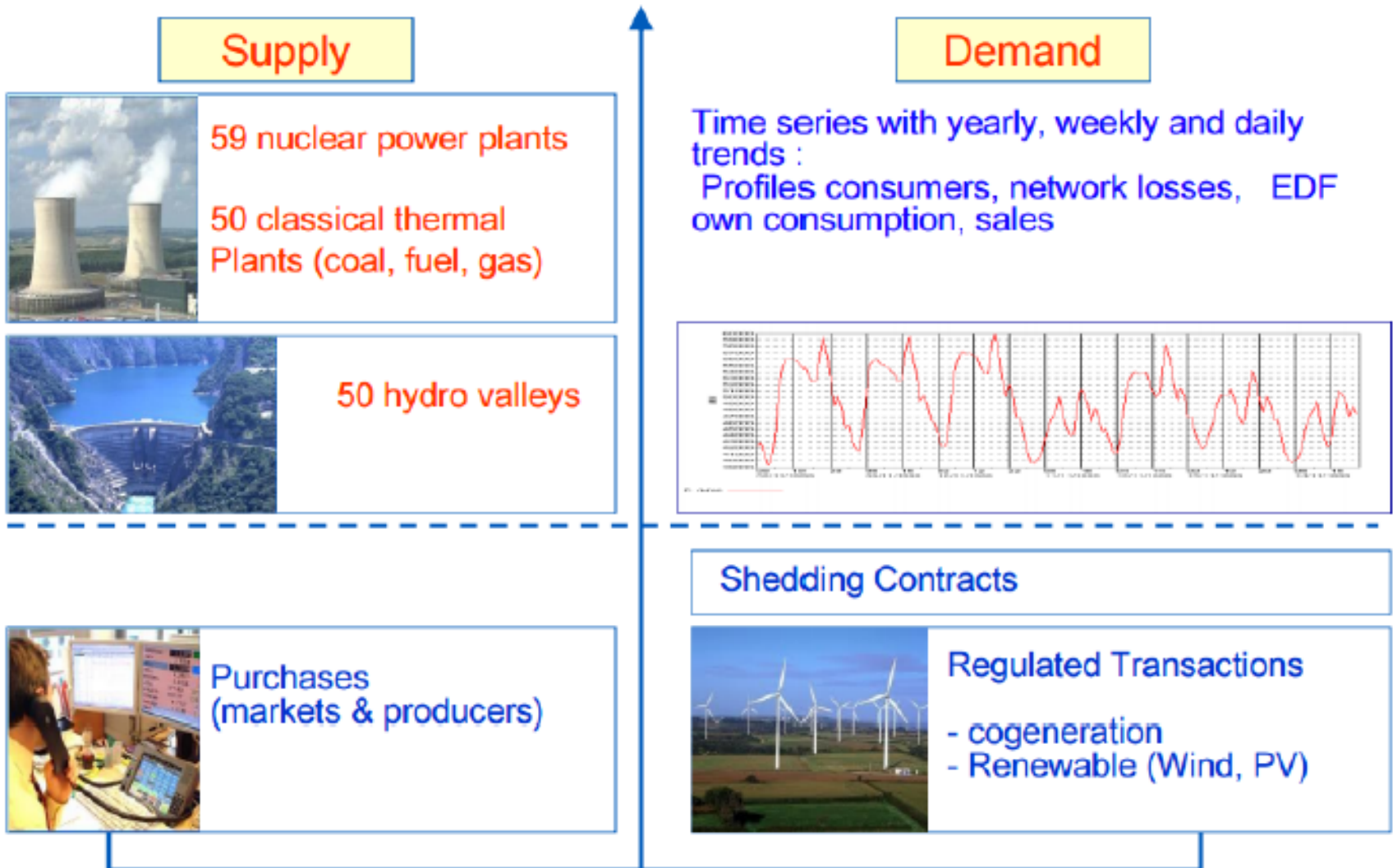
# Plan

- ▶ **Introduction : The Generation Management Chain**
- ▶ **Classical Problems**
- ▶ **New Problems**
- ▶ **Challenges for Optimization**



## The Generation Management Chain : Context and Process

# Generation Management



# Generation Management

Supply

Uncertainties

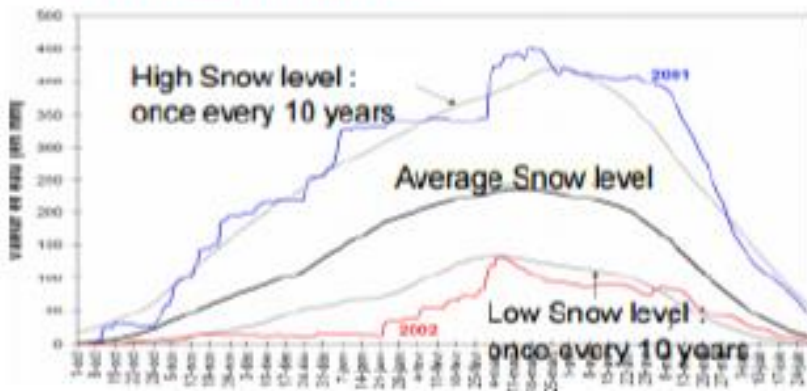
Load

## On power plants

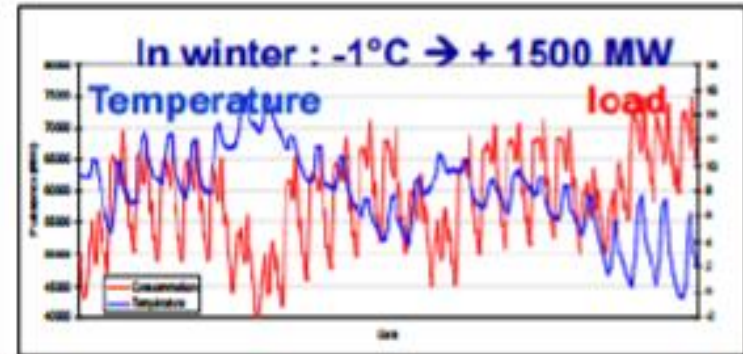
Random outage process  
Shut-down duration  
Level of nuclear fuel stock

## On weather

- Temperature of rivers
- Renewables production
- Random inflows



## On weather



## On social events



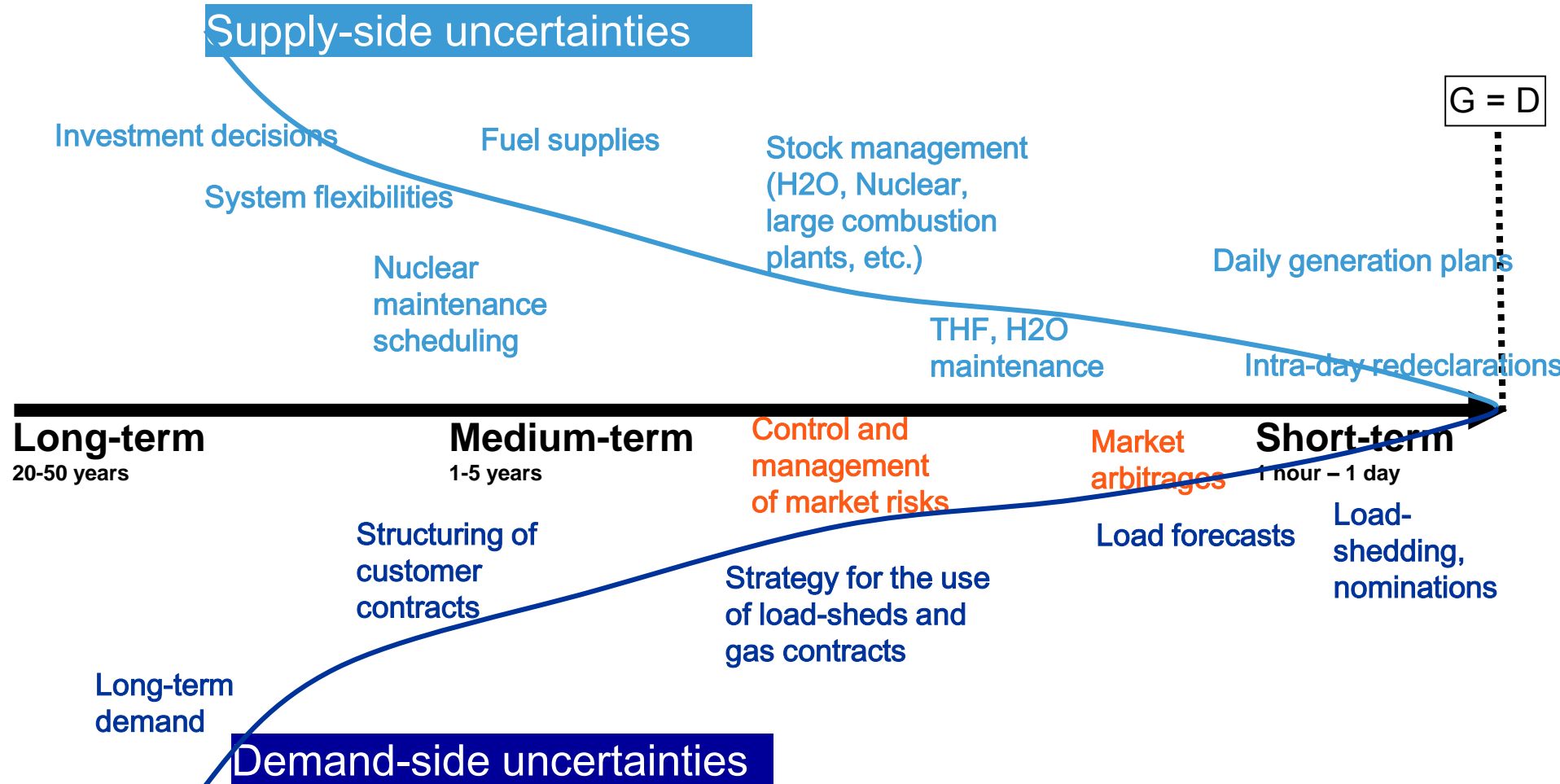
## On economic context

- Industrial activity
- Customers behavior /competitors
- Exchanges with other countries



## Classical Problems

# Energy management



# Uncertainties in Energy Management

## ► Weather

- Temperature
- Wind
- Sun
- Snow melting

## ► Technical

- Failures
- Duration of plant shutdown
- Level of fuel (nuclear)
- ...

## ► Market

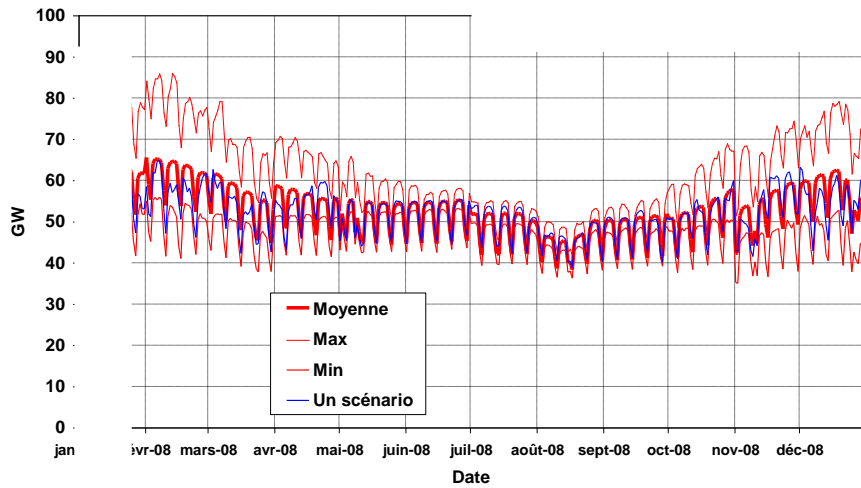
- Prices...

**And strong correlations between all uncertainties...**

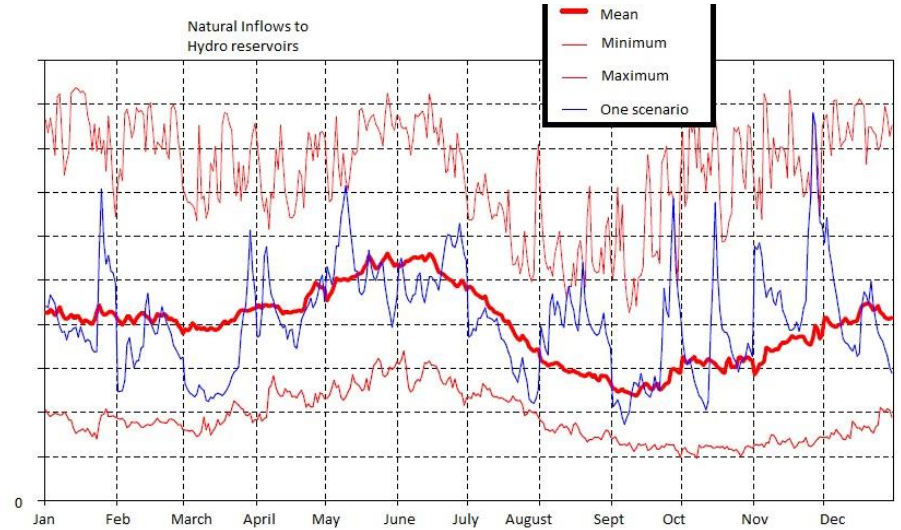


# Exemples

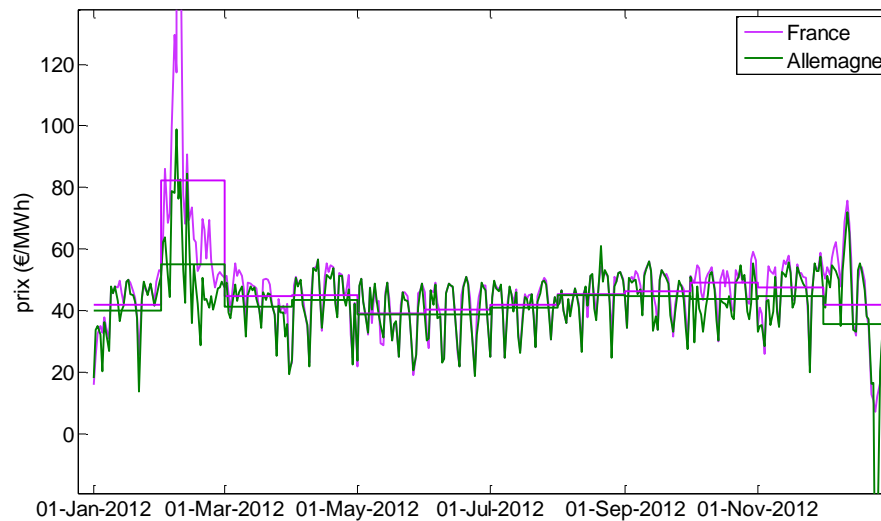
Demande ferme EDF-France (moyenne journalière)



Natural Inflows to Hydro reservoirs



prix spot journalier et mensuel



# Energy Management – the traditional problems

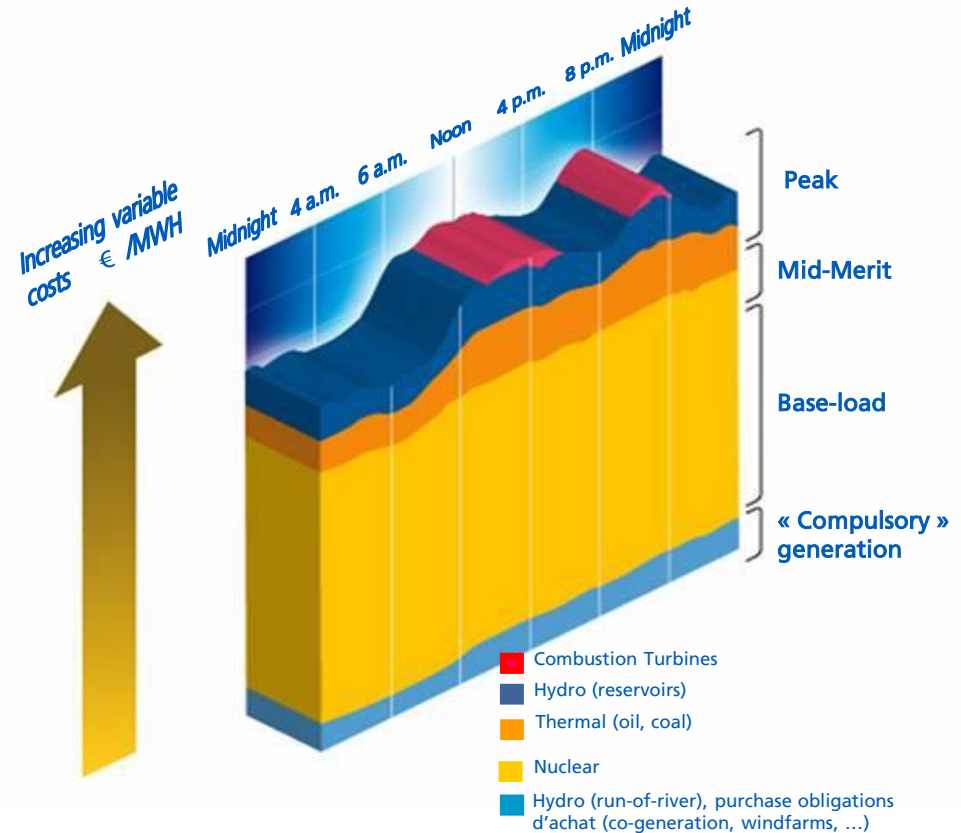
❑ Computing optimal schedules for all generating plants :

- Satisfying the equilibrium between Generation and Demand
- Minimising generation costs
- Respecting all technical constraints
- Dealing with Uncertainties

Some 'classical' optimisation problems:

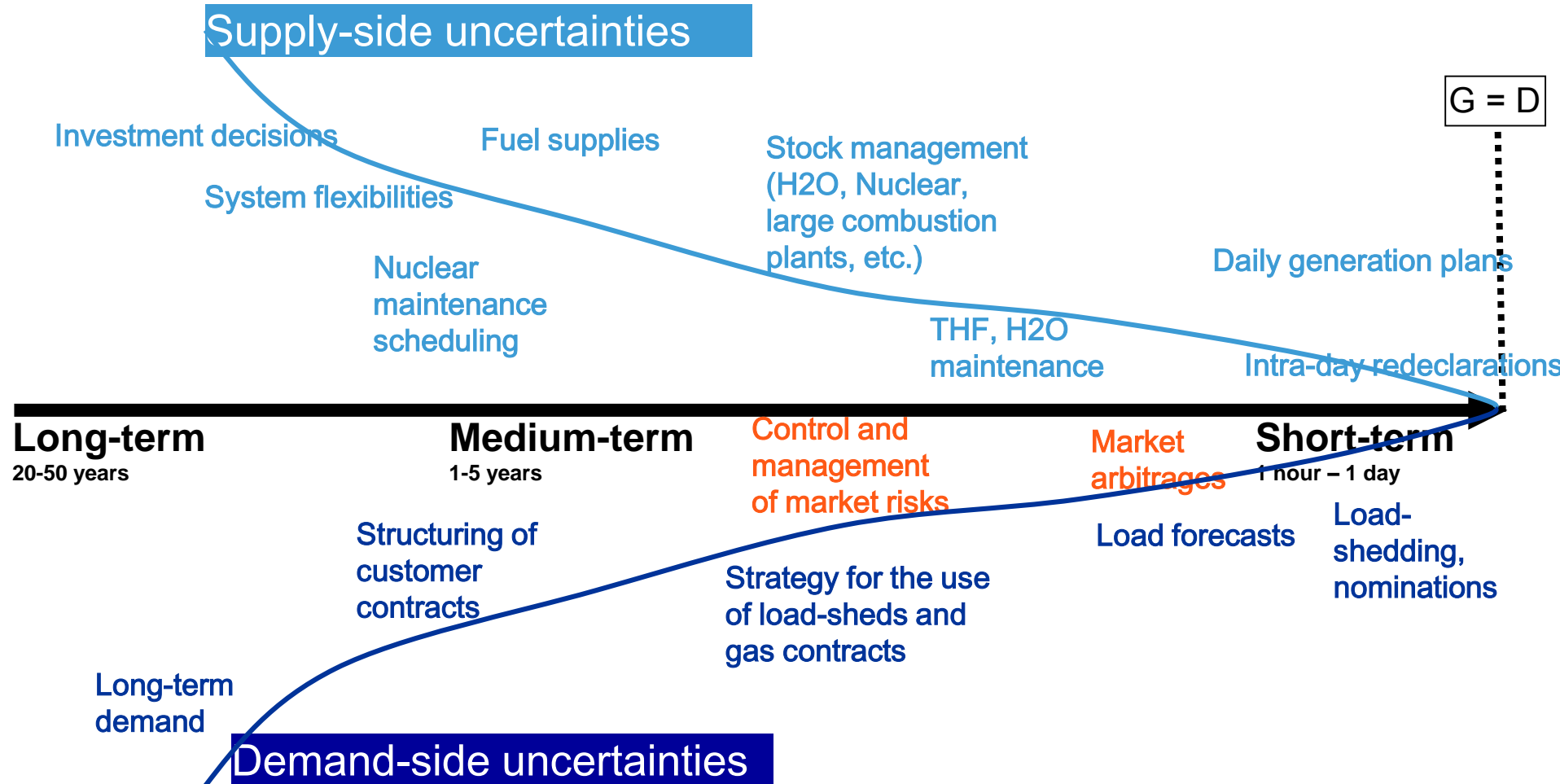
- Planning Nuclear Outages for Refuelling
- Computing optimal strategies for stock management
- Optimising hourly schedules the day before (Unit Commitment)

EDF R&D : Créer de la valeur et préparer l'avenir



Merit order of generation means  
Example of a high consumption on a winter day

# Energy management



Details in appendix and  
on the PGMO web site  
([www.fondation-  
hadamard.fr/pgmo](http://www.fondation-hadamard.fr/pgmo))



## New Problems

# Energy Management – recent evolutions

➤ Strong increase of the share of renewable generation , intermittent and highly unpredictable

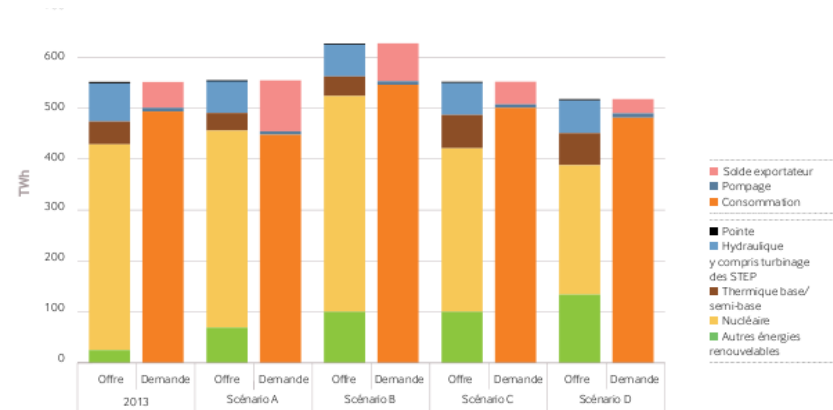
➤ Regulatory evolutions

- Capacity mechanism,
- Balancing markets

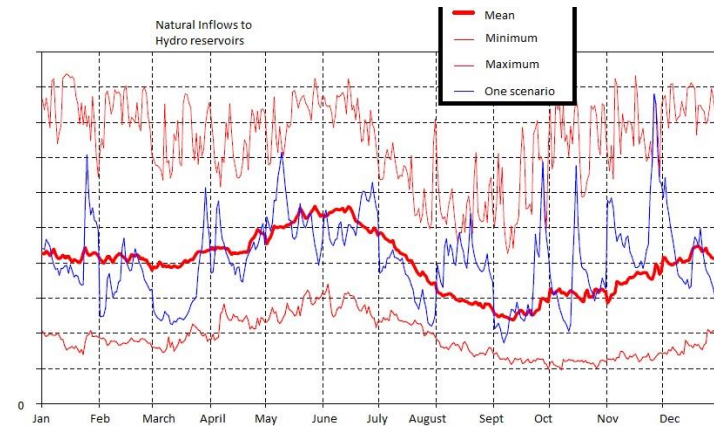
➤ Communicating meters (Linky)

- Load « piloting »
- Local optimisations

➔ New problems emerge  
The classical problems remain but become more and more difficult



Comparison of the electric mix in 2030 – 4 different prospective scenario (Annual energy)  
Source : Bilan Prévisionnel RTE 2014



# New Challenges -uncertainties

- ❑ Strong increase of the share of renewable generation : Wind power and Photovoltaic Power :
  - The unpredictability of the residual demand facing the traditional maneuvering mix (the non fatal part) increases
  - The uncertainties of the models increase

Huge need of stochastic models, mainly on the short-term

# New Challenges -technologies

## □ Communicating meters:

- Load Management increases

Optimising together generation and demand

- ❖ New controls appear in the typical problems

$X$  : commands on production

$Y$  : commands on demand

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X,Y} \quad & c_P^T X + c_D^T Y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \end{aligned}$$

$$AX = dY + d^0$$

$$F_P X \leq f_P$$

$$F_D Y \leq f_D$$

$$X_R, Y_R \in \mathbb{R}^{N_R}$$

$$X_B, Y_B \in \{0, 1\}^{N_B}$$



# New Challenges -regulation

## □ Regulatory evolutions :

- Balancing markets
- Capacity mechanism
- Local Actors

## New problems to be modelled :

- ❖ New markets
- ❖ Local Global Interactions
- ❖ New local problems

# New challenges – Network modelling

National  
(High Voltage)



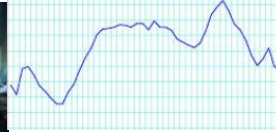
Regional  
(Medium Voltage)



Local  
(Low Voltage)



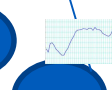
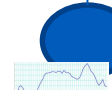
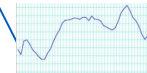
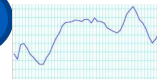
'electrontensifs'



Production centralisée



Industrie



# New Problems

## ▶ New objective functions

- Decentralised Optimisation => New actors
- Bilevel (Multilevel) Optimisation

## ▶ New decision variables

- Flexibilities on demand
- Network

## ▶ New constraints

- Coupling constraints

Merci

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# APPENDIX



## Planning Nuclear Outages for Refuelling

# Planning Nuclear Outages

## Main Objective

Compute optimal schedules for outages (minimising costs) for nuclear plants dealing with operational constraints and seasonality of the electricity demand

## Outline of the problem

58 plants, between 3 and 5 outages to plan for each plant, over a 5 years period

Numerous operational constraints , mainly because of the human resources and machines that are used during a refuelling or maintenance

**Costs** : intrinsic cost of refuelling and replacing cost for energy (the production of the stopped plant has to be replaced by coal or fuel plants at a higher cost)

# Planning Nuclear Outages

## Modelling

### Costs :

- Nuclear Fuel cost ,
- Other fuel cost

### Decision variables

- Outages dates → **integer variables**
- Amount of fuel at each refuelling → **integer**
- Energy produced by each plant at each time step of each scenario → **continuous/integer**

### Constraints

- **Demand** : **coupling constraint**
- **technical constraints** (constraints on the power level at end of cycle, minimum and maximum power, minimum and maximum levels on fuel stock, maximum number of hours « not at maximum level »,... → **non linear constraints**)
- **constraints on the outages schedules**: (early.late dates for some outages, max number of outages at the same time, constraints on ressources, coupling constraints between plants....)  
→ **non linear constraints**

## The mathematical problem

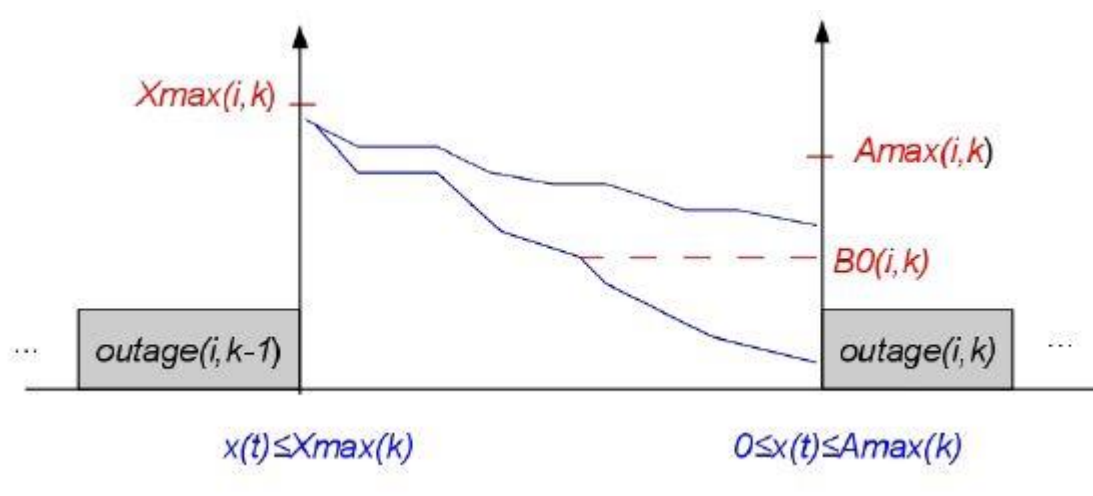
A weekly timestep over 5 years

**10000 integer variables, 100000 real variables, 1.7M constraints (deterministic approach)**

**Stochastic problem, strongly combinatorial, non linear, with coupling constraints, to be solved in a short calculation time**

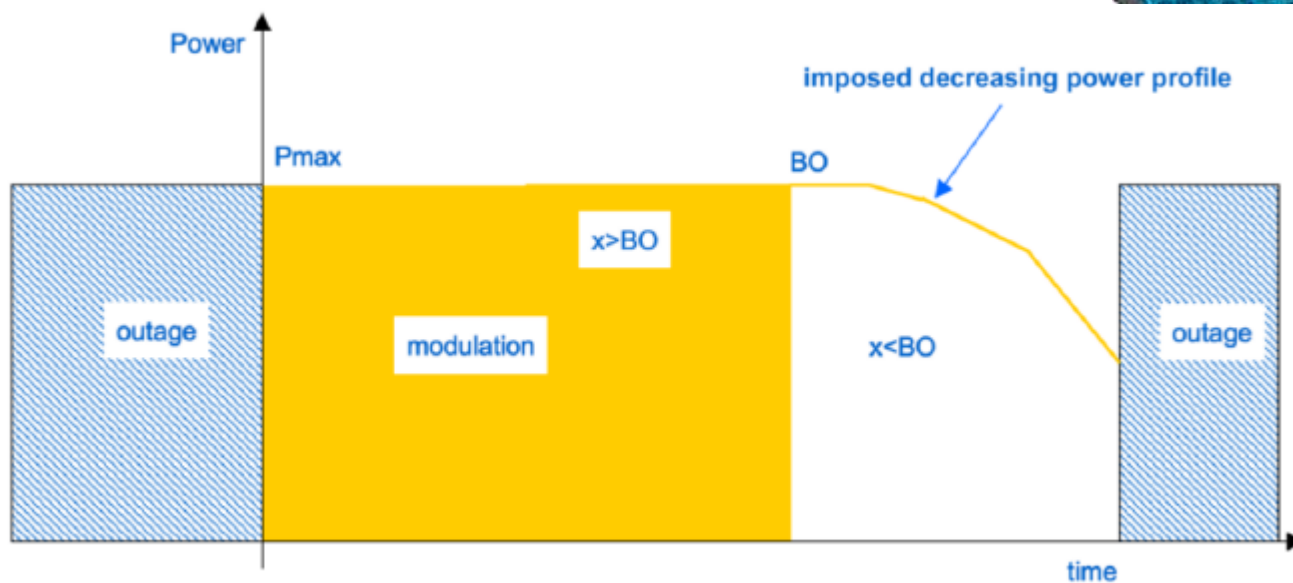
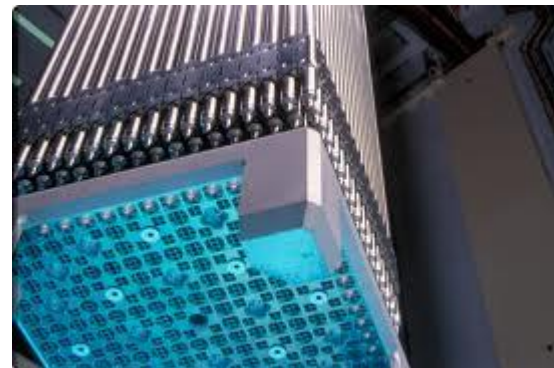


# Constraints on stock level, inducing non linearities



Stock constraints : dynamics , bounds,

# Constraints on production, inducing non linearities



Modeling : introducing « state » variables  
Discrete and continuous variables are coupled...

# Modelling the nuclear problem

- ▶ Modelled as a recourse problem : *Outage dates and refueling quantities are recomputed monthly (with new hypothesis, mainly on uncertainties) BUT results on the forthcoming month won't be changed*

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Min}_{a(i,k), r(i,k), p(i,t,\omega), p(j,t,\omega)} \left\{ \sum_{i,k} C_{i,k} \cdot r(i,k) \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_{\omega} \pi(\omega) \left[ \sum_{j,t} C_{j,t}^{\omega} \cdot p(j,t,\omega) \cdot dt - \sum_{i,k} C_i^T \cdot x(i,T,\omega) \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

s.t.

$$\forall t, \omega \sum_i p(i,t,\omega) + \sum_j p(j,t,\omega) = D_t^{\omega}$$

+ operating constraints of NPP and CTU units

+ scheduling and resource constraints on outages of NPP units

- **i** : nucl unit, **j** : other unit, **t** : timestep, **ω** : scenario
- **x(i; t; ω)** : Stock level
- **p(i; t; ω)** : Production level
- **a(i; k)** : Outage date of unit i at cycle
- **r(i; k)** : Refueling of unit i at cycle k (energy)
- **C** : cost
- **D** : demand

- Variables  $a(i, k)$  and  $r(i, k)$  : *Here and now* variables, independent of the scenarios
- Variables  $p(i, t, \omega)$  and  $p(j, t, \omega)$  : *Wait and see* or *recourse* variables depending on the scenarios



## Computing optimal strategies for stock management

# Mid-Term Generation Management

## Main Objective

Compute an optimal strategy for stock management

## Context

10 to 200 stocks (hydraulic reservoirs, nuclear power, emission –CO<sub>2</sub>, Nox..., contracts : demand side managements, long-term fuel contracts)

500 to 10000 scénarios

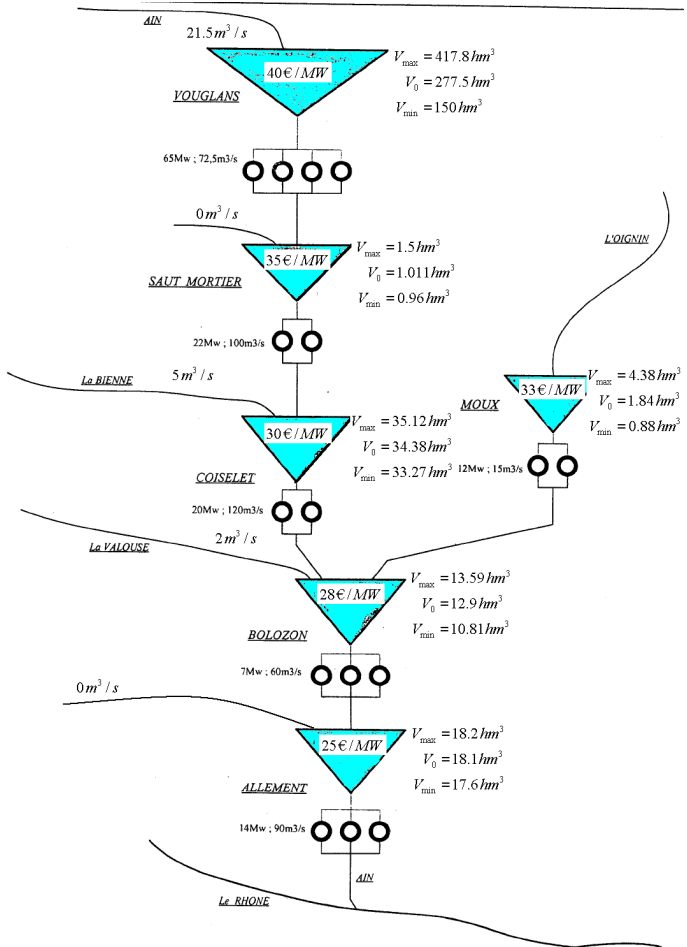
Daily time-step over 2 to 3 years

**Objective** : compute coordinated usage values for each stock.

*(usage value = what will be earned by not having to use an expensive generation plant in the future)*

⇒ **Used to define a strategy** (decision to take facing each possible future scenario, choosing between using the stock now or at a future date , minimizing the global cost)

# Mid-Term generation management : example of hydro valley



# Mi-Term optimisation

## Modelling of the problem

**Calculate Bellman Values for each stock of energy with :**

- ◆ Constraints on volumes of stocks
- ◆ Constraints on the « power », (min, max...)
- ◆ Non-anticipativity constraint : only the probabilistic distribution of uncertainties can be used
- ◆ Coupling constraints on stocks (global demand or flow constraints)

## Difficulties

- ◆ Objective function and constraints may be non-convex (head effect, running ranges...), non differentiable....
- ◆ Objective function is non separable problem,
- ◆ Big size problem : big number of stocks (up to 50) and scenarios (up to 10000)
- ◆ How to take uncertainties into account?



## Optimising hourly schedules the day before (Unit Commitment)



# Short-Term Generation Management

## Main Objective

**Compute schedules for each plant (thermal, hydrau, nuclear) for the next day and adjust them in intra-day**

- Satisfying the equilibrium between Generation and Demand
- Minimising generation costs
- Respecting all technical constraints

# Short-Term Generation Management

## Hydraulic :

- A hydro-Valley = set of interconnected power plants and reservoirs
- ~20+ valleys, some composed of more than 50 elements
- Cost = global loss of water (water values)
- Numerous operational constraints

## Thermal:

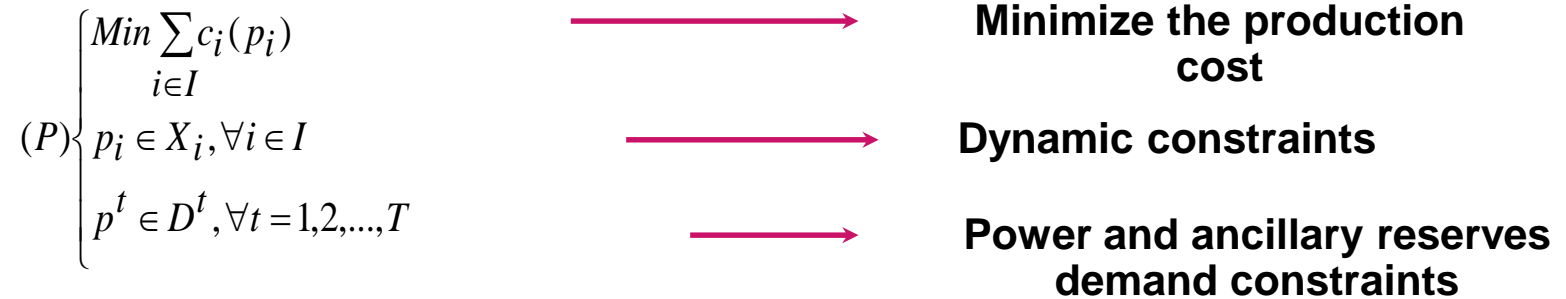
- 58 nuclear + (very few) fuel / coal plants + gaz plants
- Cost = fuel cost
- Numerous operational constraints

## Difficulties

*Half-hour time step, 2-days horizon, déterministic*

- Between 200 000 and 300 000 variables
- 500 000 constraints, some of them coupling plants
- non convex, non linear, with mixed variables
- ◆ Very strong requirements both on optimality (gap of 1% = several millions of euros per year) and feasibility (all schedules have to be technically feasible)
- ◆ A problem to solve in a very short time (less than 10 min) due to the constraints on the operational process

# Modelling



- ✓  $I$  production units set (thermal and hydraulic)
- ✓  $T$  number of steps for the time horizon
- ✓  $p_i^t$  production schedule of unit  $i$  at time step  $t$
- ✓  $p_i : (p_i^1, p_i^2, \dots, p_i^T)$  production vector of unit  $i$  through the time horizon
- ✓  $p^t : (p_1^t, p_2^t, \dots, p_{|I|}^t)$  production vector of all units at time step  $t$
- ✓  $X_i$  local dynamic constraints of unit  $i$
- ✓  $D^t$  global demand constraints at time step  $t$  (linking)
- ✓  $c_i$  production cost of unit  $i$  through the time horizon

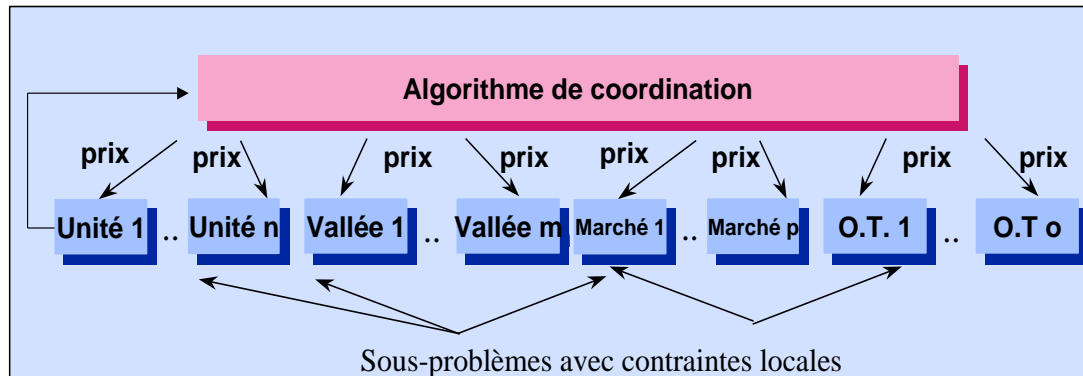
# Short-Term Generation Management

## Resolution method (deterministic)

A decomposition coordination method, based on lagrangian relaxation : coupling constraints (demand and daily constraints are relaxed)

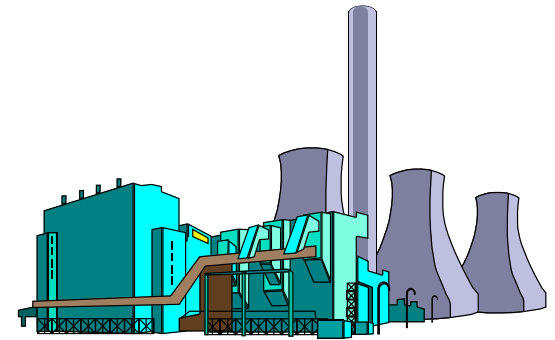
- Phase 1 : Lagrangian (about 500 iterations) : solved using a bundle algorithm which computes a lower bound of the global cost and marginal costs
- Phase 2 : Augmented Lagrangian (about 500 iterations), solved using Uzawa algorithm which computes feasible schedules (respecting demand constraints)

- Thermal sub-problems are solved with a dynamic programming
- Hydro sub-problems are solved with mixed integer linear programming



# The thermal sub-problem

- ▶ Bound constraints on the delivered power during several time intervals of the time horizon
- ▶ Operating technical constraints:
  - Minimal duration of production or halt
  - Start-up and switch off curves
  - Bound constraints on output variation
  - Maximal number of start ups, output variations, and deep output decrease per day
- ▶ The operating cost consists of:
  - Start-up costs (depending on the switch-off duration)
  - Power proportional costs
  - Output decrease costs
  - Penalties for the maximal number of start ups, output variations, and deep output decrease per day



**Solved using Dynamic Programming or MILP**

# The hydraulic sub-problem

- ▶ A hydro valley = set of interconnected reservoirs and power plants

$$\omega_r (V_r^0 - V_r^T)$$

- ▶ Cost = global loss of water

- ▶ Constraints

- Bound constraints
- Flow constraint :

$$V_r^t = V_r^{t-1} + \sum_{u \in \text{up}(r)} T_u^{t-d(u,r)} - \sum_{u \in \text{down}(r)} T_u^{t+d(r,u)} + O_r^t$$

- $V(t, r)$  Volume of reservoir  $r$  at time step  $t$
- $T_u^t$  Discharge of plant  $u$  at time step  $t$
- $o_r^t$  Inflows to reservoir  $r$  at time step  $t$
- $d(u, r)$  Travel time of water between unit  $u$  and reservoir  $r$

