

Exploiting Flexibility in Coupled Electricity and Natural Gas Markets: A Price-Based Approach

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Introduction

- Renewable energy sources make up a **high share** of electricity production.
- GFPPs are an ideal choice to facilitate the transition to a **green energy system**.

Decision-making in energy markets + Sources of uncertainty in energy systems → Optimization under uncertainty

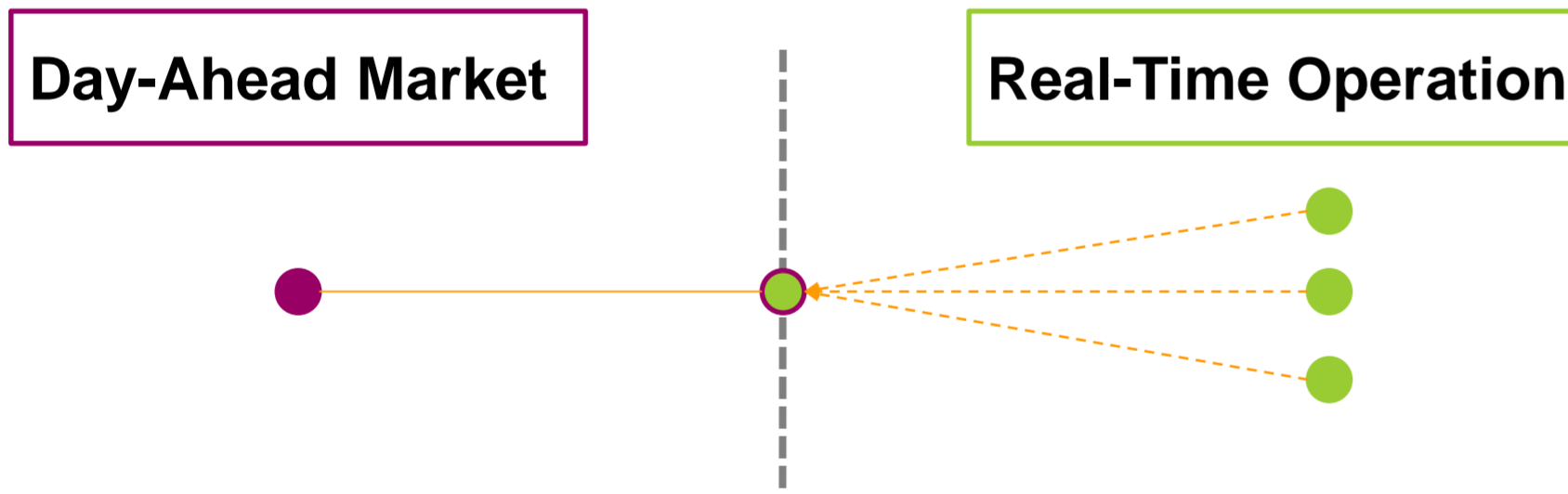


- Tighter coupling** of electricity and natural gas markets can promote the **integration of renewables** in the energy system.
- Coupling these two markets is a natural way to **increase the coordination** between the two systems that have existing synergies mainly through the GFPPs.
- Manage high uncertainty on both supply and demand sides.

Aim

- Design **market-based coordination mechanisms** and decision support tools to harness flexibility and promote integration of renewables.
- Preserve existing sequential market structure.
- Optimal tuning of market parameters to enhance temporal coordination.
- Implicit coordination** via proper flexibility price signals.

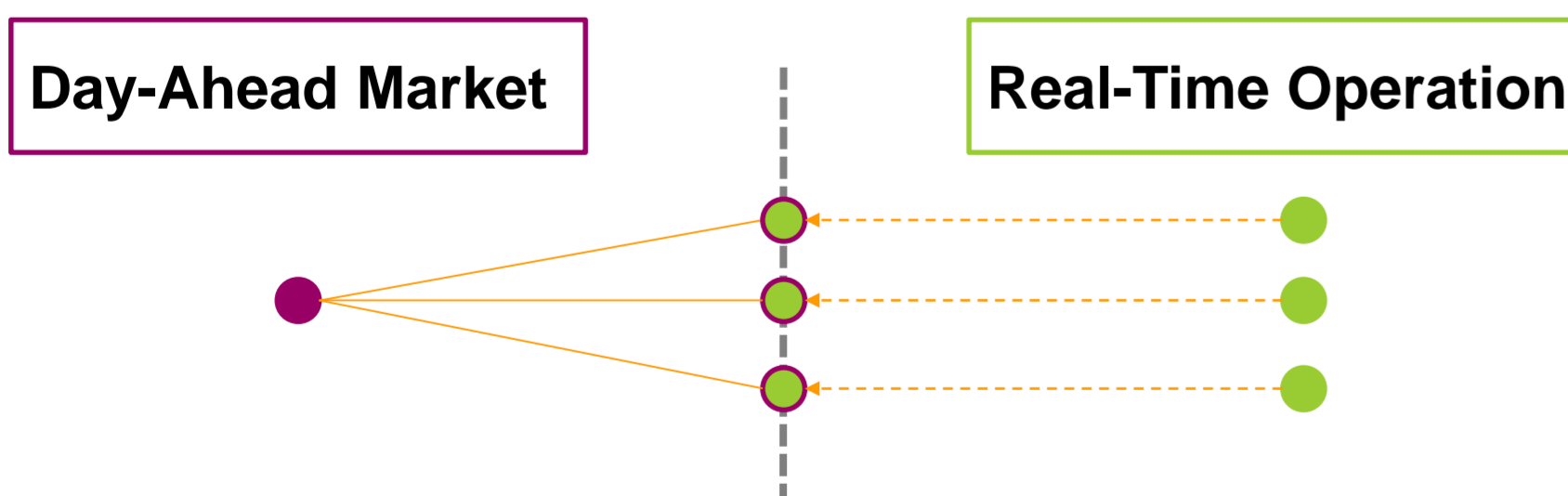
Market Clearing Approaches



Sequential market clearing

Sequential clearing of two trading floors:

- Day-ahead market is cleared based on deterministic description of uncertain wind power production.
- A balancing market is cleared for real-time operation.
- Imperfect temporal coordination.



Stochastic market clearing

Co-optimization of two trading floors:

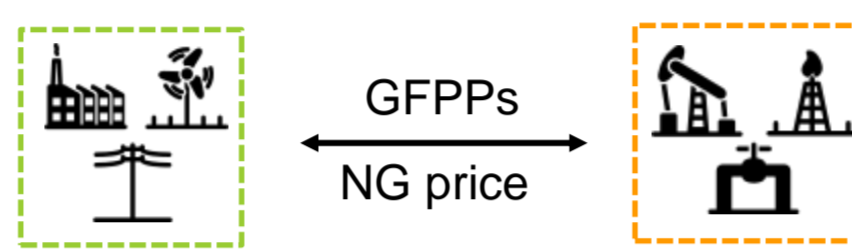
- Day-ahead dispatch is determined by co-optimizing day-ahead and real-time dispatch, where wind power uncertainty is probabilistically described.
- A balancing market is cleared for real-time operation.
- Perfect temporal coordination.

GFPPs: Gas-fired power plants
NG: Natural gas
LMP: Locational marginal price

Electricity and Natural Gas Markets

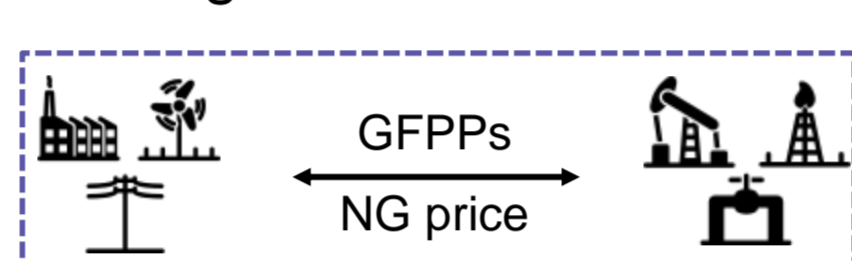
Decoupled Market

Partial price coordination: GFPPs price-quantity offers based on estimated natural gas price.



Coupled Market

Perfect price coordination: GFPPs price offers based on true value of natural gas.



Optimization Models

Sequential coupled electricity and natural gas model

Day-ahead Market

$$\min C_e^D + C_g^D$$

$$\text{s.t. } Q_e^D$$

$$Q_g^D$$

Balancing Market

$$\min C_e^B(s') + C_g^B(s')$$

$$\text{s.t. } Q_e^B(s')$$

$$Q_g^B(s')$$

ξ_e^D / ξ_g^D Day-ahead dispatch decisions Electricity/Gas
 C_e^D / C_g^D Day-ahead dispatch cost Electricity/Gas.
 $C_e^B(s') / C_g^B(s')$ Balancing re-dispatch cost Electricity/Gas for realization s' .

Stochastic coupled electricity and natural gas model

$$\min C_e^D + C_g^D + \mathbb{E}_s[C_e^B(s) + C_g^B(s)]$$

$$\text{s.t. } Q_e^D; Q_g^D$$

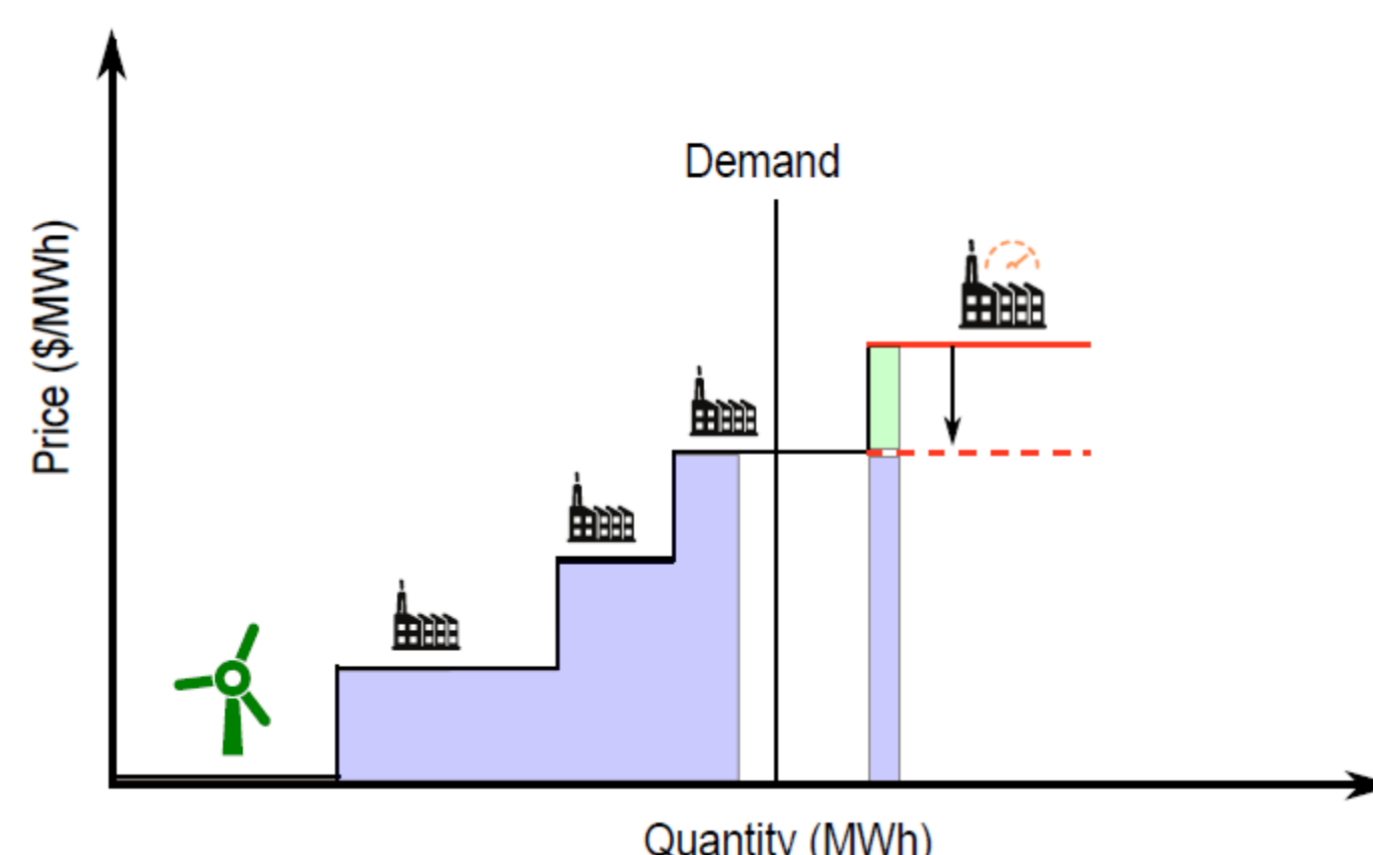
$$Q_e^B(s), Q_g^B(s), \forall s \in \mathcal{S}$$

The stochastic coupled market model establishes an **ideal benchmark** in terms of minimum expected system cost.

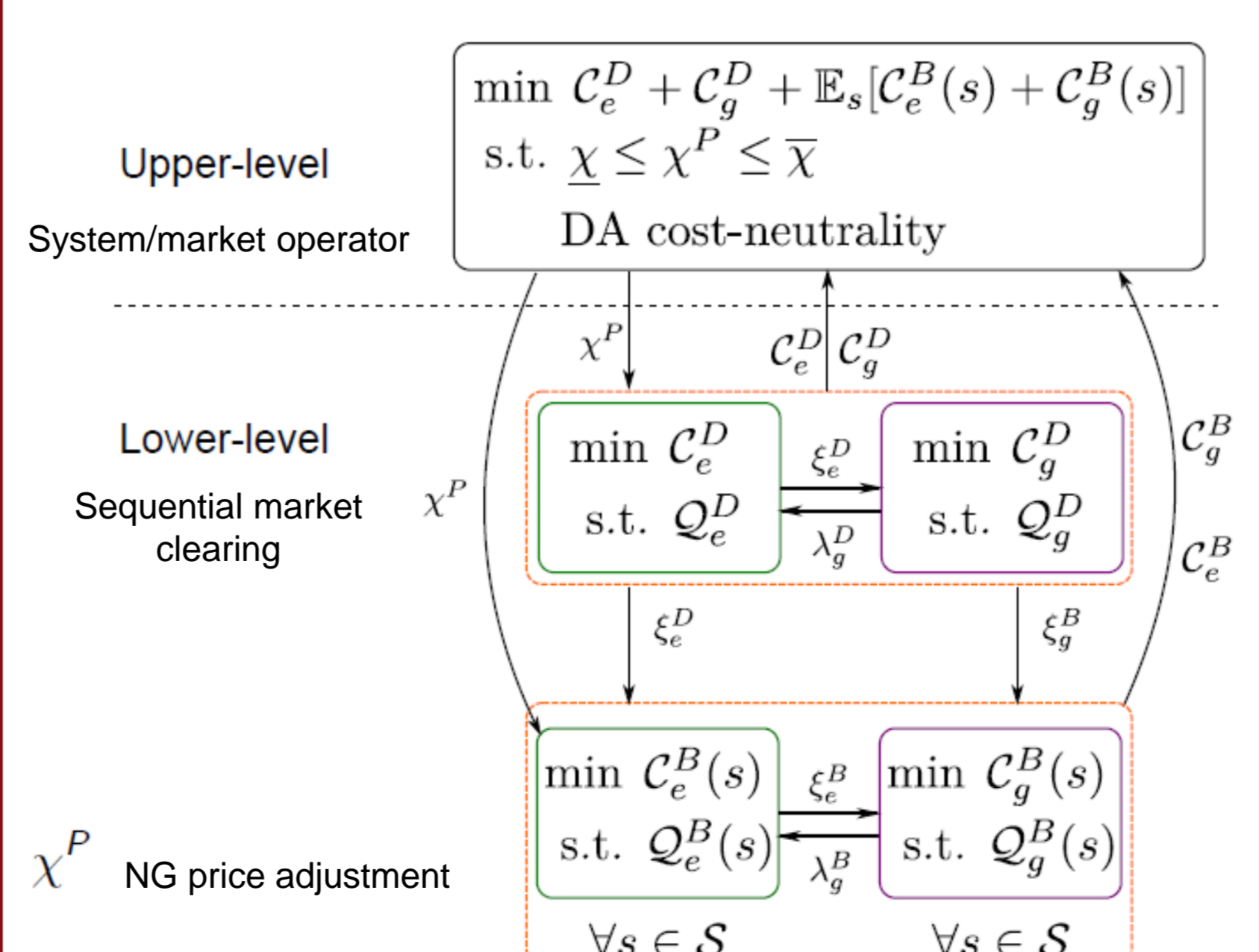
Implicit coordination mechanisms

- Reveal adequate flexibility to cope with real-time imbalances.
- Respect merit-order principle** of sequential market.
- Ensure **cost-neutrality** at the day-ahead stage.

Flexibility price signals



Price-based coupled electricity and natural gas model



Results

Three thermal units -- Two GFPPs -- Two NG producers

Unit i	1	2	3	4	5	Unit k	1	2
P_i^{\max}	80	110	50	100	100	G_k^{\max}	150	100
P_i^+	10	0	30	25	20	G_k^+	50	20
P_i^-	10	0	30	25	20	G_k^-	50	20
C_i	30	10	-	-	60	C_k	120	160
ϕ_{ig}	-	-	0.2	0.3	-			

Table 1: Electricity and natural gas system data.

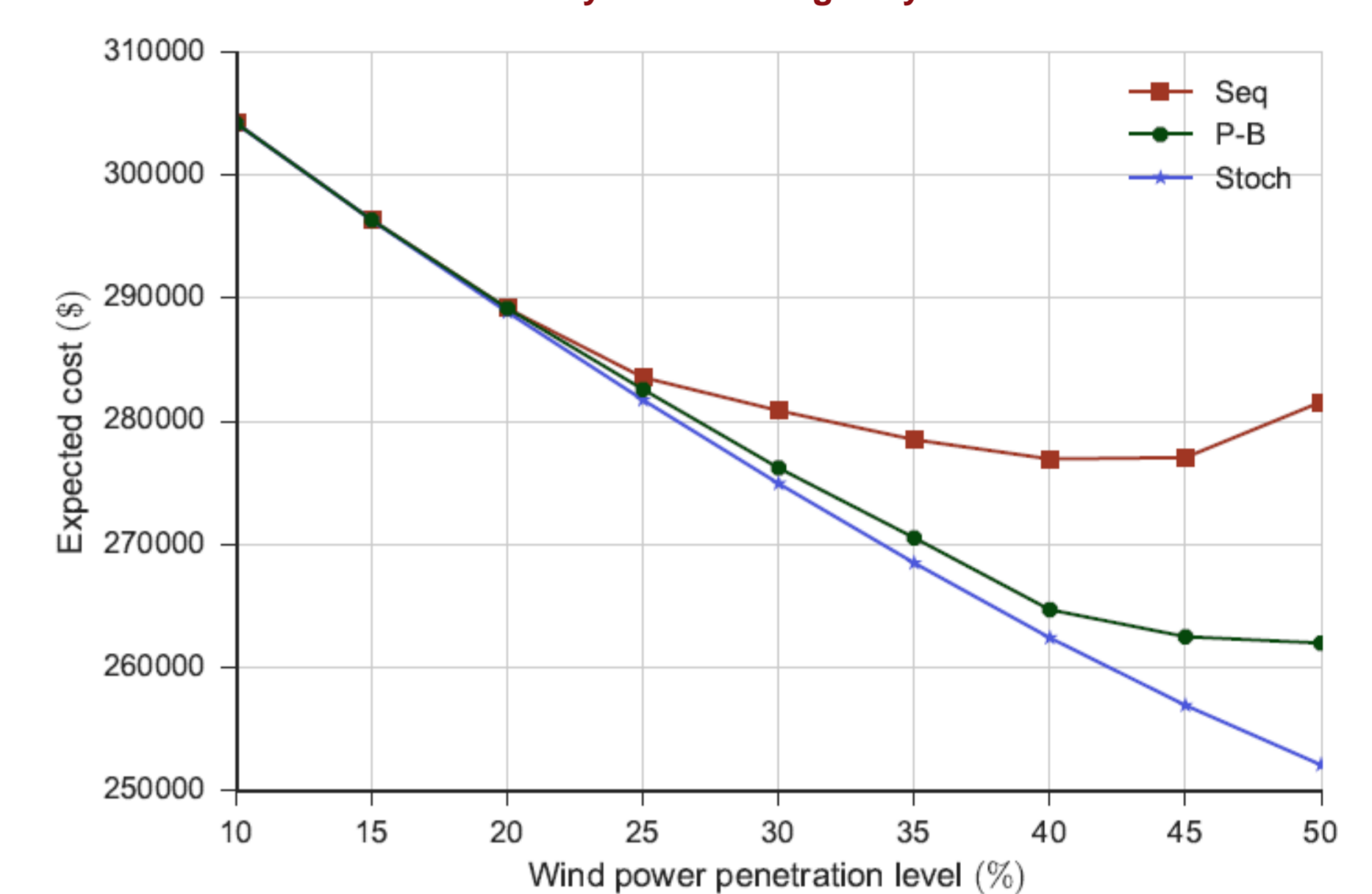


Figure 1: Impact of wind power penetration level on the expected system cost.

Wind power penetration level (%)	25	30	35	40	45	50
Exp. savings (\$)	971.5	4663	8035.6	12251.8	14562.4	19601.6
Exp. payment/charge (\$)	-352.1	-177.1	-21.4	133.5	2.2	302.3

Table 2: Expected payment/charge to generate flexibility price signal.

Real-time surplus/deficit can be addressed through proper regulation, e.g., flexible capacity remuneration mechanisms.

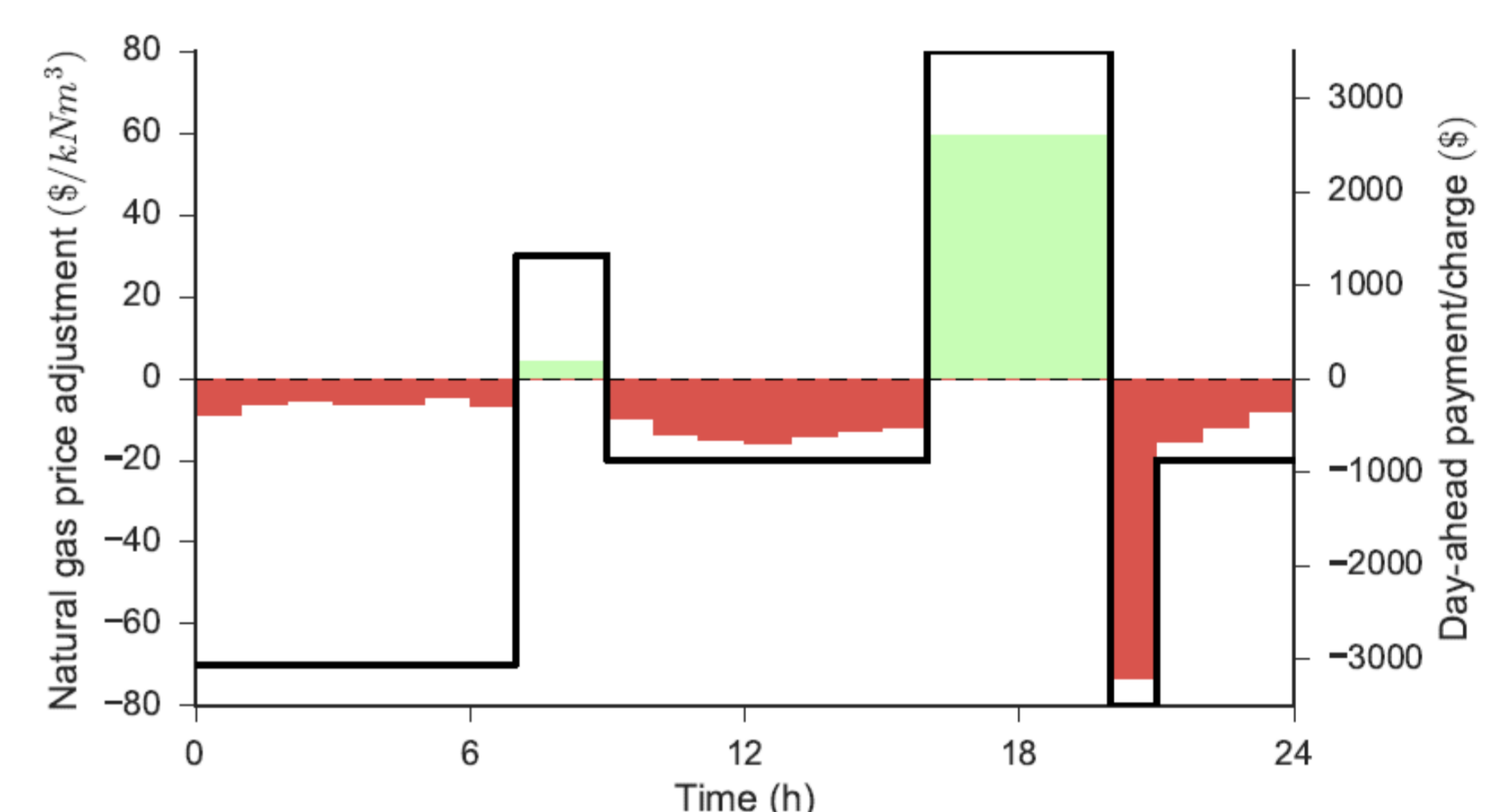


Figure 2: Hourly natural gas price adjustment (black line: left y-axis) and day-ahead financial settlement of the system operator to adjust the natural gas price (colored areas: right y-axis). Wind power penetration 50%.

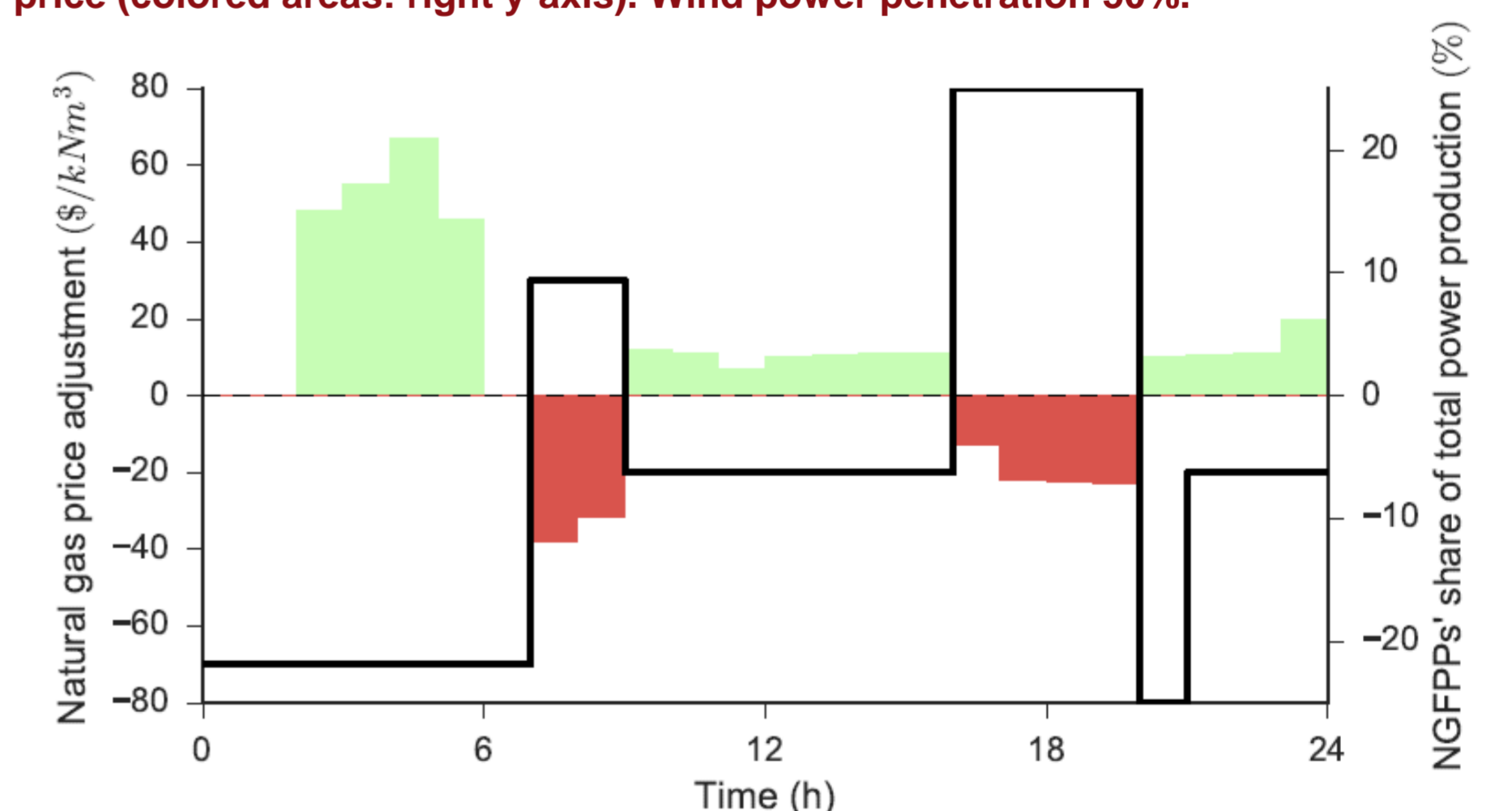


Figure 3: Hourly natural gas price adjustment (black line: left y-axis) and difference in NGFPs' share of total power production between P-B and Seq (colored areas: right y-axis). Wind power penetration 50%.

Conclusions

- The proposed mechanism enables an **implicit temporal coupling** of the day-ahead and balancing markets, while preserving the existing sequential market clearing of those trading floors.
- The adjustment of natural gas price **affects the dispatch of units** and **reveals available flexibility** to handle wind power uncertainty.
- Cost-neutrality at the day-ahead stage is **ensured**, while the natural gas price adjustment only affects the payment/charge at the balancing stage.

Acknowledgements

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