# Signals In, Reactions Out

Navigating Design and Modeling Challenges in Dynamic Grid Fees

Dipl.-Ing. Rebecca Hofmann



#### **Motivation**

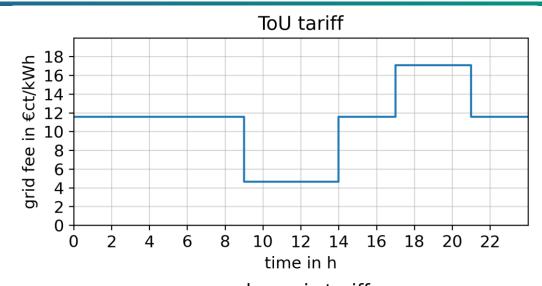
- From past to future
  - Past: generation adjusted to demand
  - Future: demand adjusted to available generation
- Current grid fee designs
  - Little to no incentives to provide demand side flexibility
- Effective system: endogenous signals
  - Availability of generation market signal
  - Availability of transport capacities grid signal

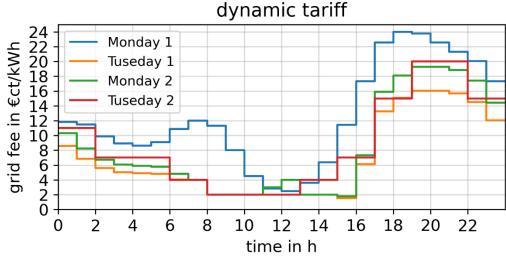
# **Grid Signals**

- Include grid signal in market price
  - Market split
  - Nodal pricing
  - Only for transmission grid
- Separate grid signal

Grid utilization from load flow calculations

- Time variable, e.g. Time-of-Use (ToU)
  - Calculated once, apply for e.g. one year
- Dynamic
  - Calculated close to real time, e.g. daily







# **Design options – determination of rate**

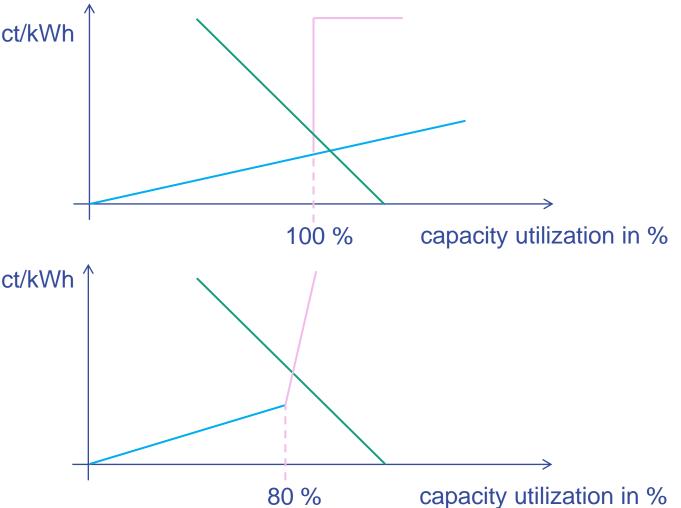
Which factors have to be considered when determining the amount of the grid fee?

- Cost reflectivity
  - Only reflect variable grid costs in variable rate
  - Reflect utilization of grid by consumer in the grid fee
    - Measurement of utilization by (relative) capacity rather than volume
    - Temporal and spatial granularity for precise reflection
    - Allow for negative rate?



# **Determination of rate - optimal pricing**

- Variable costs: mainly driven by losses  $P_{\rm L} = P^2 \cdot \frac{R}{U^2} \rightarrow \text{linear marginal costs}$
- Elastic demand
- Scarcity
  - Where is the threshold?
  - Surplus revenue
- Jump → shifting effects, over-curtailment ct/kWh ↑
  - Other curves
    - Price above marginal cost inefficient
    - Where is the threshold?



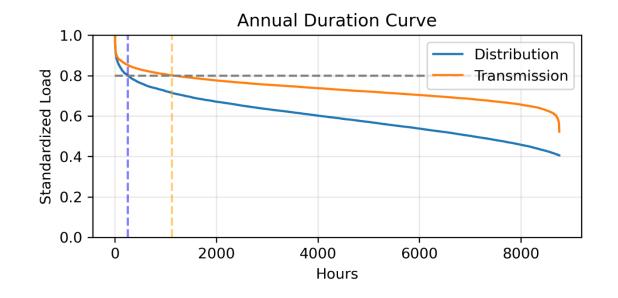


# **Design options – determination of rate**

#### Which factors have to be considered when determining the amount of the grid fee?

#### Cost recovery

- Recover the variable cost of the system operator (e.g. 20%, Simshauer 2015)
- Possible definition of threshold by definition of peak hours
- Example: 20% top load values
  → two-tier rate
  (based on: Haro 2017)
- values can be changed / added





# **Design options – process**

#### Fairness

- Fair design (potentially inefficient system)
  - Consumer vs. prosumer, Household vs. industry
  - Avoid possibility of de-solidarization
- Ensure fairness through other means
  - Base price, taxation
- Covered voltage levels
  - Installed flexibility: mostly distribution
  - Congestion as of today: mostly transmission
  - TSO and DSO signals could be counteracting
    - Superposition of signals: top-down vs. bottom-up

#### Timing

- Grid utilization is a result of market activities is a result of grid tariffs is a result of grid utilization is a result of market activities is a result of grid tariffs is a result of grid utilization...
  - As close as possible to market closing
  - As soon as possible before market opening
- Shifting effect
  - Real-time coordination



# Challenges and decisions in modeling

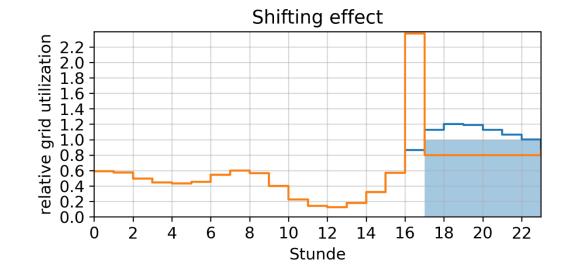
- Amount-setting
  - Cost reflectivity: How elastic is demand?
    - Bias free models
    - Modelling of constant elasticity difficult
  - Cost recovery: Which base price to set?
    - Interdependencybase price dynamic price

- Fairness
  - Consumer groups
- Superposition
  - Linked TSO and DSO signals
- Computational expenses



#### **Evaluation of effectiveness**

- Simultaneous triggering of load shift
  - Shifting effect
- Distortion of market equilibrium
- Exemption of storages and electrolyzers from grid fees (e.g. in Germany)
- Digitalization
  - Ability of customers to use signals
  - Ability of SOs to generate signals





### Conclusion

Efficient activation of so far unused flexibility



#### Challenges:

- Design: determination and calculation of rate, embedding grid signal in overall energy system
- Modelling: bias, computational expenses
- Implementation: digital infrastructure & regulatory framework







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