

OpenMod Africa



The plan4res modelling suite

Sandrine Charousset, EDF, 2025/06/04



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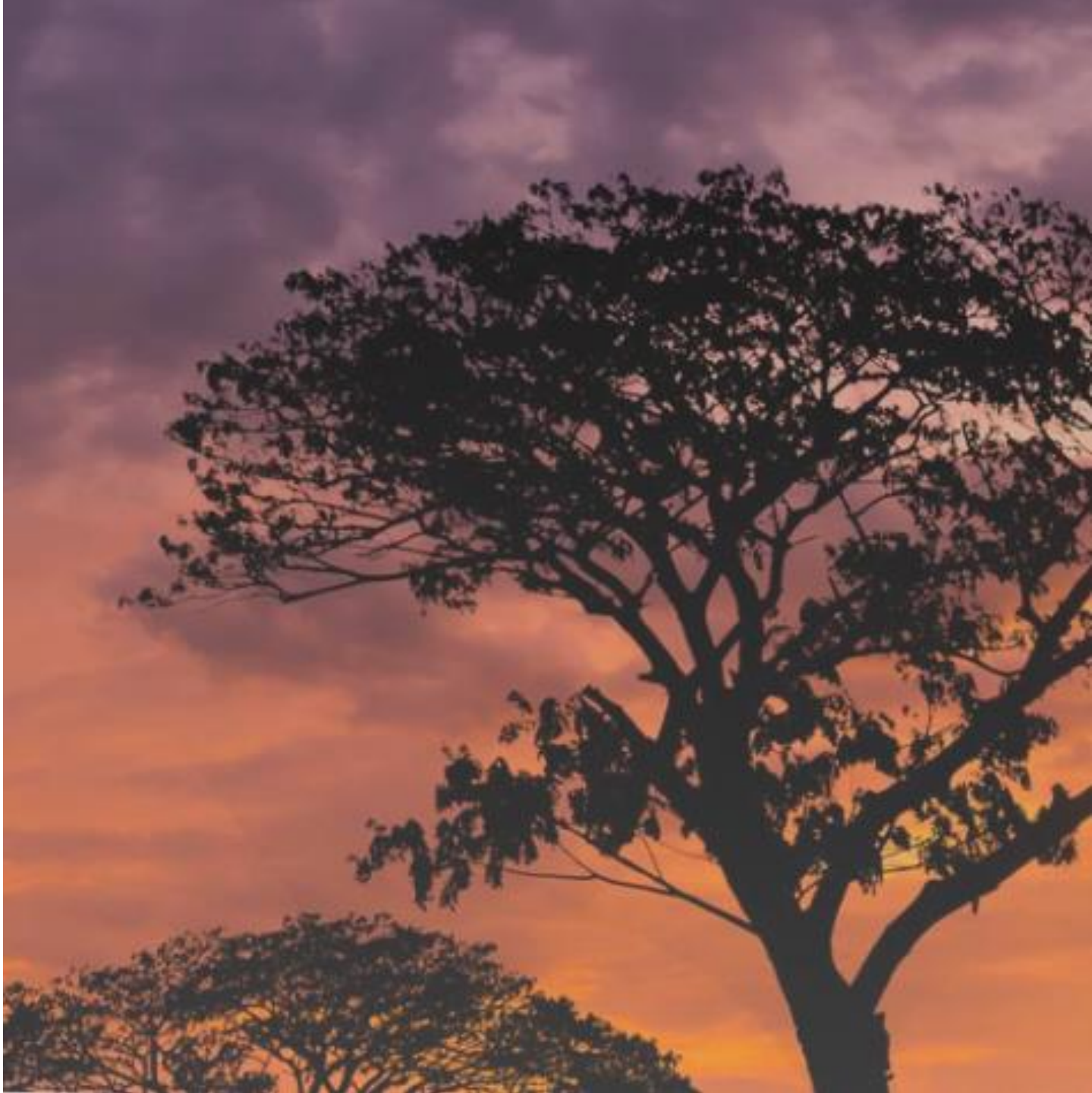


- ☐ Scope of Model
- ☐ Optimisation Methods

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Scope of Model



The plan4res electricity system modelling suite



a Stochastic Power System model composed of 3 embedded layers:

□ The Capacity expansion model computes the optimal mix on a given year

- ✓ electric generation plants,
- ✓ Short term storages (batteries....),
- ✓ interconnection capacities

□ The seasonal storage valuation model computes the optimal strategy for seasonal storages

- ✓ For Hydro reservoirs
- ✓ And also all other 'seasonal' flexibilities such as Seasonal Demand response

□ The European unit commitment (EUC) model computes the optimal dispatch:

- ✓ Supply power demand and ancillary services
- ✓ Minimal inertia in the system
- ✓ Maximum transmission and distribution capacities between clusters
- ✓ Technical (including dynamic) constraints of all assets

Plan4res is based on the SMS++ optimisation and modelling framework [The SMS++ Project](#)



The SMS++ Project

A Structured Modeling System for mathematical models

Main characteristics

☐ Adaptable Geography perimeter

- Europe or lower perimeter
- Subcountry representation is possible

☐ Uncertainties:

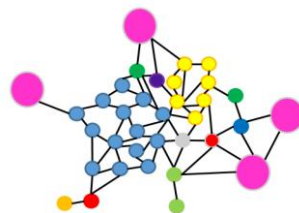
- Electricity demand
- RES profiles (PV, Wind, RoR...)
- Inflows
- Failures of traditional plants

☐ Modular Time horizon and granularity

- Typically 1 yr. with hourly granularity

☐ Modular Grid

- Regions and interconnections
- Regions can be:
 - Countries
 - Groups of countries
 - Sub country regions



☐ Power plants

- Operational decision of power plants based on their specific fuel costs
- Technical constraints (ramping, min up-/downtimes,...)

☐ Storages

- Hydro storages including complex cascaded systems
- Battery storages

☐ Intermittent generation

- Generation of wind, solar, run of river based on meteorological profiles

☐ E-mobility

- Storage capability of electric vehicles (vehicle-to-grid, power-to-vehicle)
- Limitation of storage availability by driving profiles

☐ Demand Response

- Load shifting of a given energy consumption during a sub-period
- Load curtailment based on a given potential (e.g. during one year)

Thermal power plants



□ Constraints

- Minimum and maximum power
- Ramping rate limits
- Minimum up and down times
- Simple constraints between active power and reserves
- Simple modelling of inertia and system services

□ Cost functions

- Convex quadratic or piecewise linear (cutting plane model)
- Start up costs

Intermittent Generation



□ Constraints

- Maximum power depending on uncertainty scenarios
- Ramping rate limits
- Simple constraints between active power and reserves
- Simple modelling of inertia and system services

□ Cost functions

- Linear (usually no cost)

Seasonal storage



❑ Constraints

- Minimum and maximum volume of the reservoir
- Minimum and maximum power injections
- For each turbine, minimum and maximum ow rate of water
- Power is given as a function of ow rate by a concave cutting plane model
- Ramping rate limits on ow rates
- Simple constraints between active power and reserves

❑ Valleys can be modeled

- Valley are modeled as a graph with arcs connecting the reservoirs
- For each arc, uphill and downhill ow delays
- But requires extensions to pre-processing

❑ Cost functions are provided by the Seasonal Storage Valuation (SSV) as a Cutting plan model

Short term storage



□ Constraints

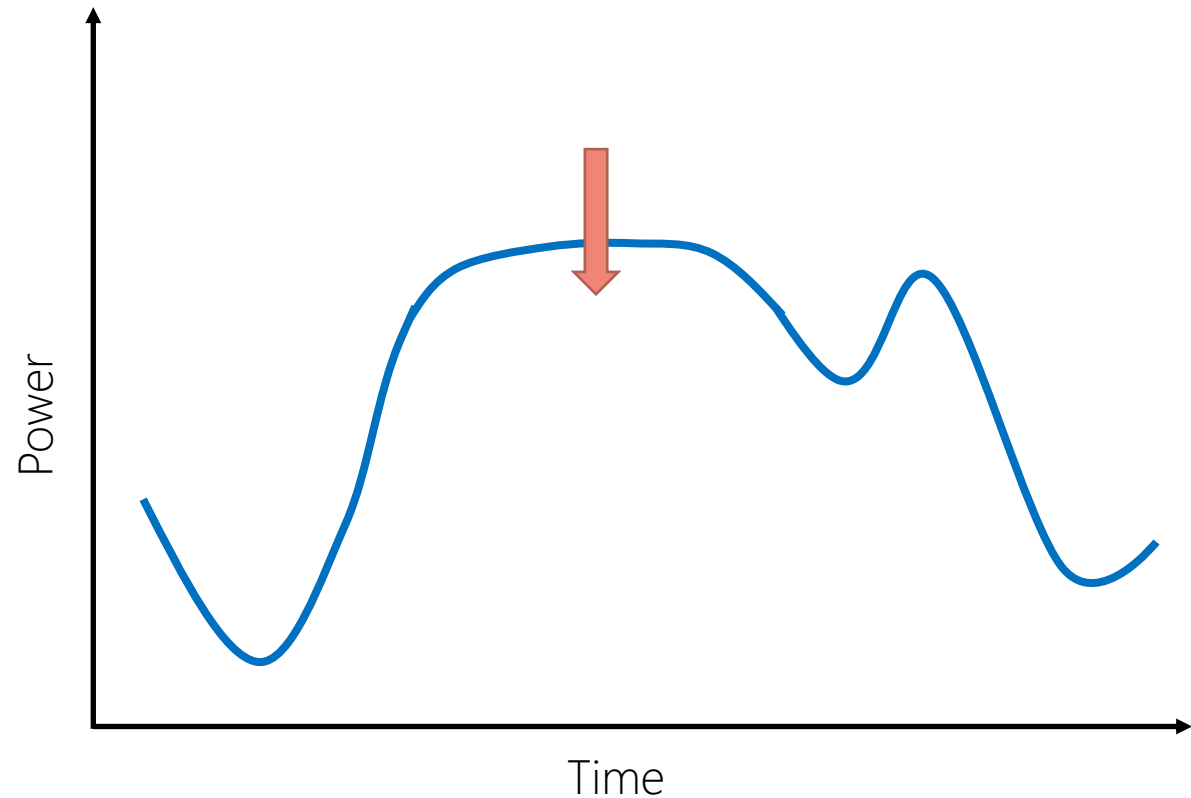
- Minimum and maximum volume of the storage
- Minimum and maximum injected power into the grid
- Ramping rate limits
- Potentially different injection and withdrawing efficiency ratio
- Simple constraints between active power and reserves
- Simple modelling of inertia and system services (eg for hydro)

□ Cost functions

- Linear costs

Demand Response : Load curtailment

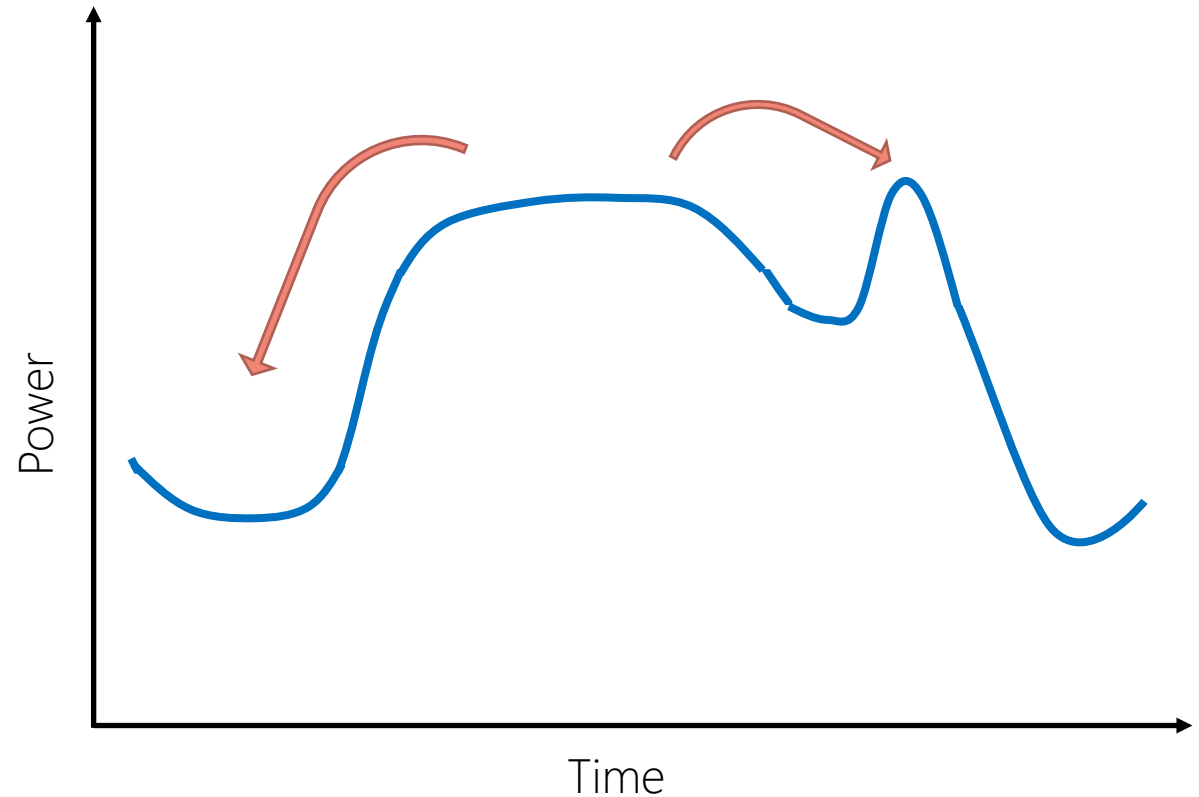
- ❑ Load curtailment Ex: Mid-term contracts (for instance annual contracts) between utilities and consumers, where each consumer agrees to reduce his consumption when this is required by the utility
 - Energy storage that can be optimized over the whole mid-term horizon as a seasonal storage



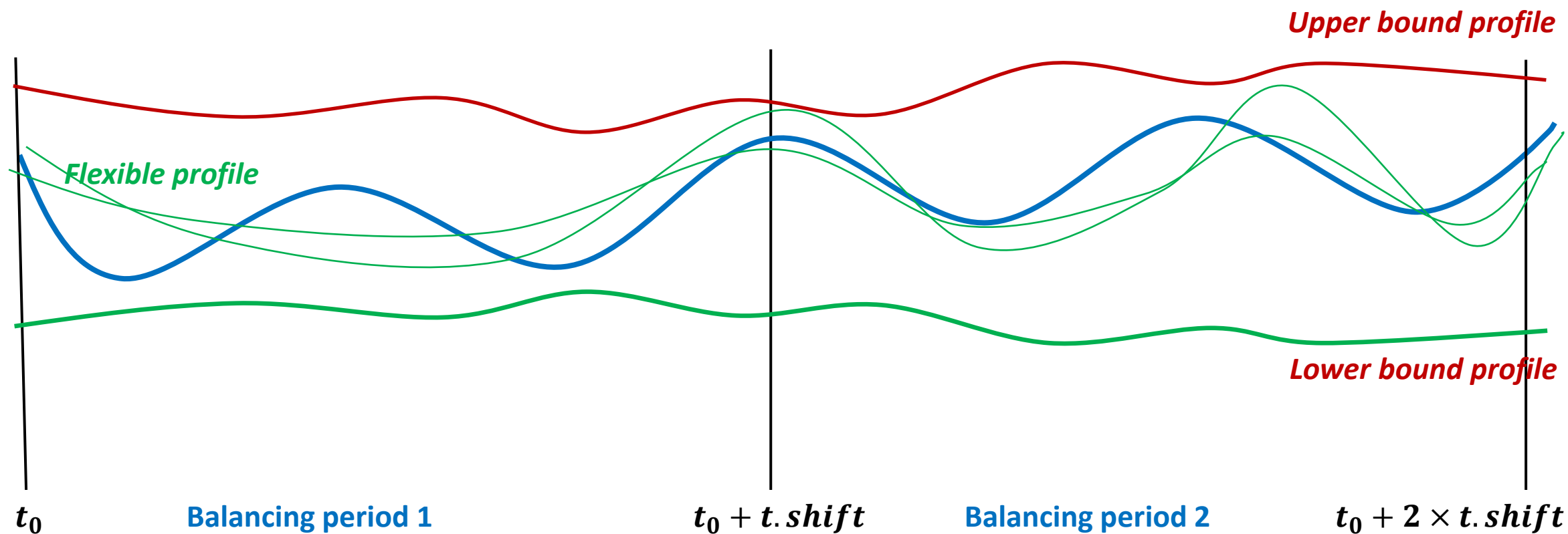
Demand Response : Load Shifting

❑ Load shifting (Ex: Appliances with fixed energy needs on a given period allowing some flexibility on the load profile e.g. EV battery)

- Data: a reference consumption signal with a given energy consumption on a given period
- The flexible profile (to be optimally chosen) should
 - in terms of energy: consume the same energy as the reference profile on the given period
 - in terms power: not deviate too much from the reference profile



Modelling load shifting



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Optimisation Problems



■ **The Capacity expansion model** computes the optimal mix:

- ✓ electric generation plants,
- ✓ storages,
- ✓ interconnection capacities between clusters
- ✓ distribution grid capacities,

■ **The seasonal storage valuation model** computes the operation strategies for seasonal storages:

- ✓ For Hydro reservoirs
- ✓ And also all other 'seasonal' flexibilities such as Demand response

■ **The European unit commitment model** computes the optimal operation schedule for all the assets dealing with constraints:

- ✓ Supply power demand and ancillary services
- ✓ Minimal inertia in the system
- ✓ Maximum transmission and distribution capacities between clusters
- ✓ Technical constraints of all assets

Capacity Expansion

$$\min_{\kappa} \left\{ C^{inv}(\kappa) + \max_{\eta \in Y} C^{op}(\kappa, \eta) \right\}$$



Generation Mix

Interconnexion Capacities

Seasonal Storage Valuation

$$C^{op}(\kappa) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{s \in S} C_s(x_s) \right]$$



Water Values

Strategies

Unit Commitment

$$\min \sum_i C_i^{op}(p_{:,i}, p_{:,i}^{pr}, p_{:,i}^{sc}, p_{:,i}^{he}) + \alpha(v^{hy})$$



Optimal Schedules

Marginal Costs

Compute dispatch for all assets on a short-term horizon
(eg. 1 week)

$$\min \sum_i C_i^{op}(p_{:,i}, p_{:,i}^{pr}, p_{:,i}^{sc}) + \alpha(v^{hy})$$

C_i^{op} : Operational costs of unit i subject to it's operational variables
 $p_{t,i}, p_{t,i}^{pr}, p_{t,i}^{sc}$: Provision of power, primary/secondary reserve by unit i in timestep t submitted to dynamic constraints
 α : Approximation of the value of seasonal storages
 v^{hy} : Storage level

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Generation Mix

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Seasonal Storage Valuation

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Water Values

Strategies

Unit Commitment

$$\min \sum_i C_i^{op}(p_{:,i}, p_{:,i}^{pr}, p_{:,i}^{sc}, p_{:,i}^{he}) + \alpha(v^{hy})$$



Optimal Schedules

Marginal Costs

Seasonal Storage Valuation

Compute strategies for managing seasonal storage on a mid-term horizon (eg 1 year)

$$C^{op}(\kappa) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{s \in S} C_s(x_s) \right]$$

$C^{op}(\kappa)$: Operational costs depending on investment decisions κ

C_s : Operational costs on sub-period s

\mathcal{M} : Feasible set associated with operation decisions

S : Set of sub-periods (e.g. weeks)

x : Operation decisions on sub-period s

κ : Investment decisions taken by capacity expansion model

- **The Capacity expansion model** computes the optimal mix:

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- ✓ distribution grid capacities,

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Capacity Expansion

$$\min_{\kappa} \left\{ C^{inv}(\kappa) + \max_{\eta \in Y} C^{op}(\kappa, \eta) \right\}$$



Generation Mix

Interconnexion Capacities

Seasonal Storage Valuation

$$C^{op}(\kappa) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{s \in S} C_s(x_s) \right]$$



Water Values

Strategies

Unit Commitment

$$\min \sum_i C_i^{op}(p_{:,i}, p_{:,i}^{pr}, p_{:,i}^{sc}, p_{:,i}^{he}) + \alpha(v^{hy})$$



Optimal Schedules

Marginal Costs

Capacity Expansion

Design the optimal generation, transmission and distribution mix for a given long-term horizon (eg. 2050)

$$\min_{\kappa} \left\{ C^{inv}(\kappa) + \min_{\eta \in Y} E C^{op}(\kappa, \eta) \right\}$$

κ : Investment decisions (generation assets, transmission)

Y : Set of uncertainty scenarios

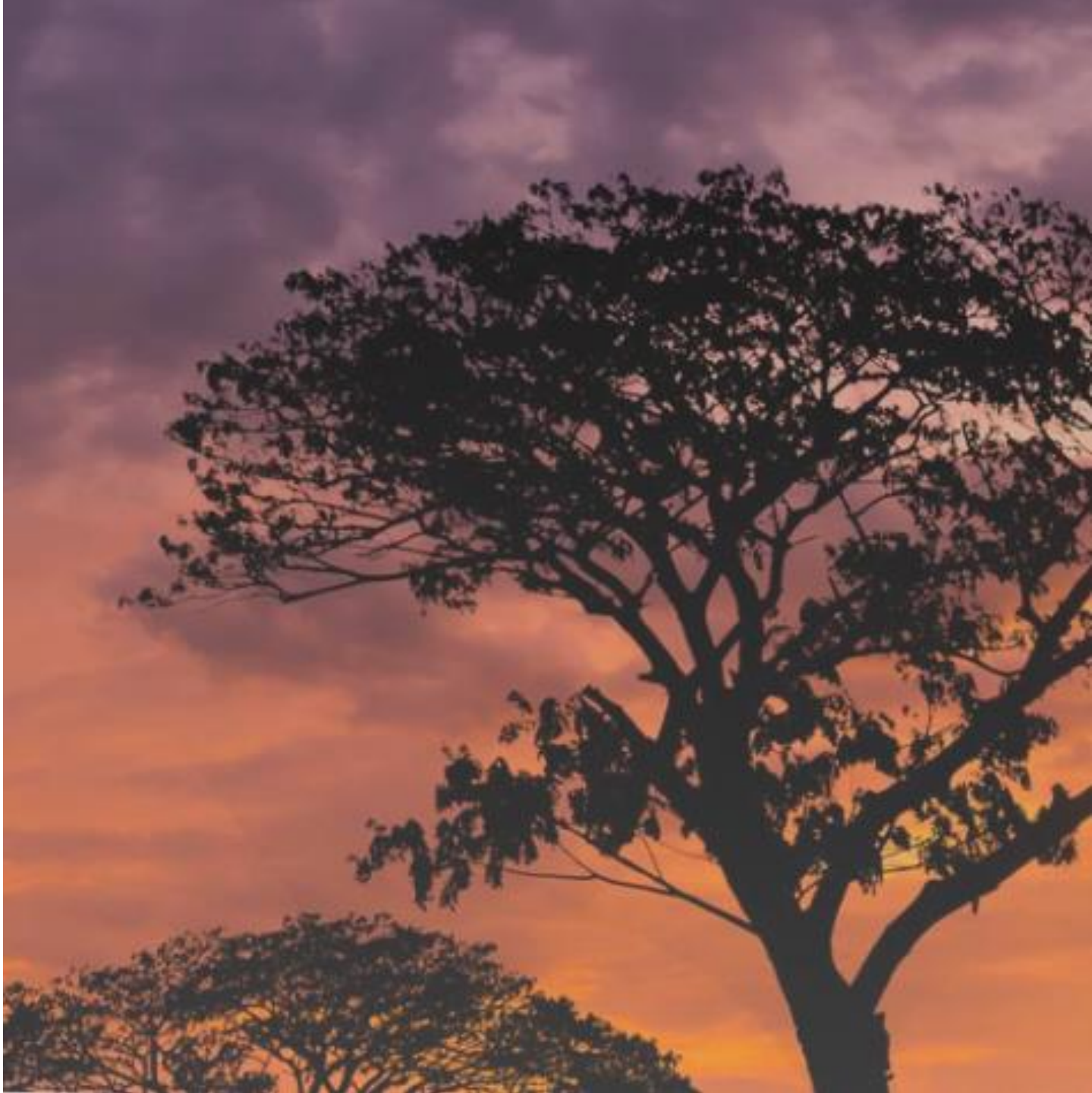
C^{inv} : Costs induced by installing capacity κ

C^{op} : Expected operational costs with given capacity κ

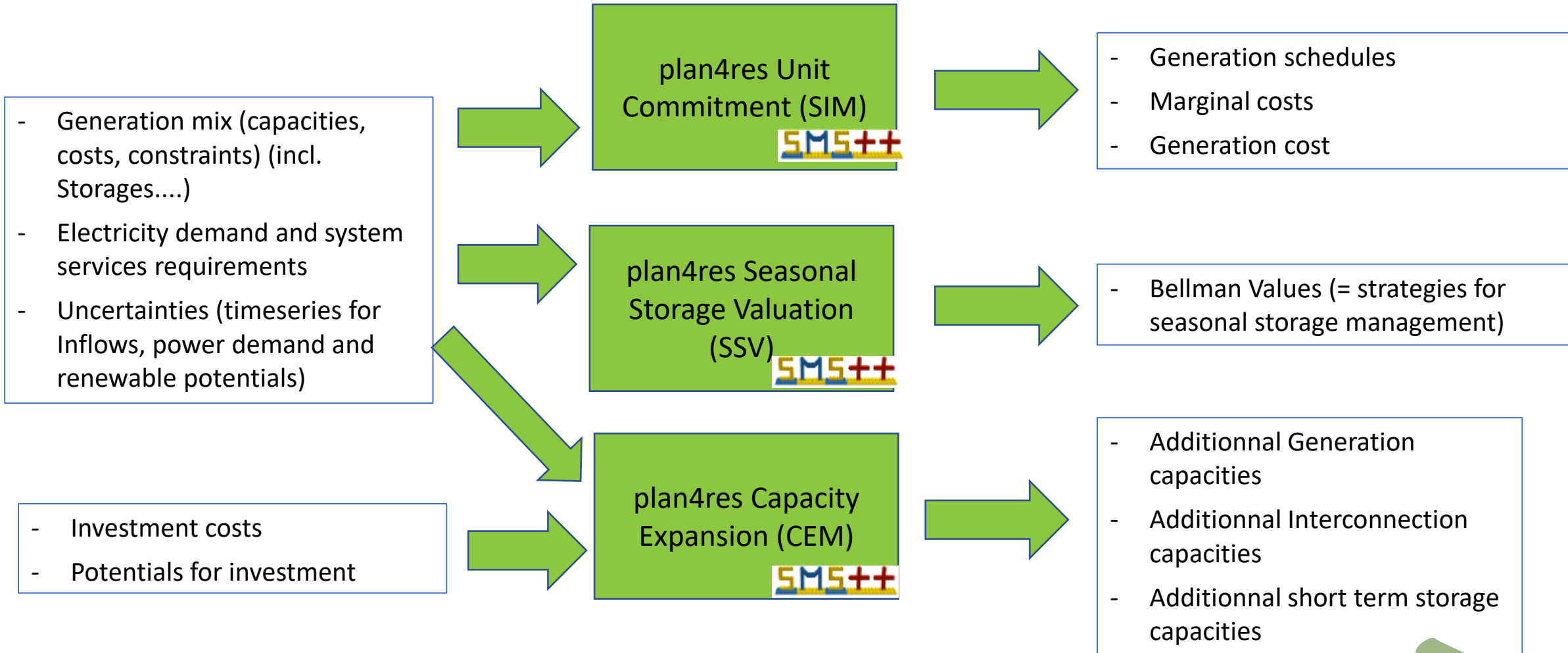
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Inputs and Outputs



Inputs and Outputs



Input Format: excel and csv files



[Data format and linkages – africaenergymodels.net](http://africaenergymodels.net)

Zone	Name	NumberUnits	MW	MW	€/MWh	€/MW/yr	MW	MW	€/MW
			MaxPower	MinPower	VariableCost	FixedCost	MaxAddedCapacity	MaxRetCapacity	InvestmentCost
Baltics	Biomass w/ CCS	1	140.00	0	42.7947925	64350	0	0	9704850
Benelux	Biomass w/ CCS	1	6 596.00	0	42.7947925	64350	1000	0	9704850
Britain	Biomass w/ CCS	1	7 107.00	0	42.7947925	64350	2000	0	9704850
Denmark	Biomass w/ CCS	1	3 018.00	0	42.7947925	64350	0	0	9704850
EasternEu	Biomass w/ CCS	1	23 701.00	0	42.7947925	64350	2000	0	9704850
Finland	Biomass w/ CCS	1	10.00	0	42.7947925	6			
Germany	Biomass w/ CCS	1	23 431.00	0	42.7947925	6			
Iberia	Biomass w/ CCS	1	8 439.00	0	42.7947925	6			
Norway	Biomass w/ CCS	1	278.00	0	42.7947925	6			
Balkans	Biomass w/o CCS	1	346.162174	0	38.304	4			
Baltics	Biomass w/o CCS	1	390.834754	0	38.304	4			
Benelux	Biomass w/o CCS	1	674.853699	0	38.304	4			
Britain	Biomass w/o CCS	1	1876.66987	0	38.304	4			

Name	Type	Direction	StartLine	EndLine	MaxPowerFlow	MinPowerFlow	Impedance	MW	MW	€/MW
MaxAddedCapacity	MaxRetCapacity	InvestmentCost								
Denmark>Germany	AC	Bidirectional	Denmark	Germany	3100	-3100	0	10000	0	2142500
Denmark>Norway	AC	Bidirectional	Denmark	Norway	1700	-1700	0	10000	0	2142500
Denmark>Sweden	AC	Bidirectional	Denmark	Sweden	2440	-2440	0	10000	0	2142500
Finland>Sweden	AC	Bidirectional	Finland	Sweden	1950	-2250	0	10000	0	2142500
France>Germany	AC	Bidirectional	France	Germany	9547.99513	-8260	0	10000	0	2142500
France>Italy	AC	Bidirectional	France	Italy	866	-1160	0	10000	0	2142500
France>Switzerland	AC	Bidirectional	France	Switzerland	3200	-1100	0	10000	0	2142500
Germany>Norway	AC	Bidirectional	Germany	Norway	1444	-1444	0	10000	0	2142500
Germany>Sweden	AC	Bidirectional	Germany	Sweden	353.958333	-610	0	10000	0	2142500
								10000	0	2142500
								10000	0	2142500

hydrotype	size		size		size		size		fuelcost	fuelcost	water	primary	secondary	waterval	efficiency
	number	max	number	max	number	max	number	max							
0	1	27171.8	0	22+07	0	1.9E+07	5068181.081	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-Balks_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	10000	0	7987+07	0	1E+07	1488181.044	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-CX_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	10000	0	81E+07	0	4.8E+07	480917476	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-ED_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	10000	0	1000000	0	1.8E+07	11847108.4	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-FR_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	4000	0	9411+00	0	1.9E+07	1014044	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-FI_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	9979.8	0	1000000	0	1.8E+07	11847108.4	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-IT_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	10000	0	1000000	0	1.9E+07	8009801738	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-DE-Germany_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	14586	0	8.7E+07	0	4.8E+07	19889712	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-SE_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		
0	1	10000	0	1000000	0	1.8E+07	11847108.4	1	0	4.3	0.1	0.1	EDF_inflow-Hydro-CapEx-Presso-Costs-Sweden_18002018_18002018_v1.csv		

Output Format: csv files

[Data format and linkages – africaenergymodels.net](http://africaenergymodels.net)

	A	BZ	CA	CK	CL	
1	Timestep	Hydro Run of River_Italy_0	Hydro Run of River_Norway_0	Solar PV_France_0	Solar PV_Germany_0	So
2	0	8924.261003	9384.602202	0	0	
3	1	8924.261003	9384.602202	0	0	
4	2	8924.261003	9384.602202	0	0	
5	3	8924.261003	9384.602202	0	0	
6	4	8924.261003	9384.602202	0	1264.439101	
7	5	8924.261003	9384.602202	436.4834276	7767.268764	2
8	6	8924.261003	9384.602202	5565.163702	18785.95236	
9	7	8924.261003	9384.602202	16259.00768	28178.92854	2
10	8	0	9384.602202	32081.53193	43352.19775	4
11	9	8924.261003	9384.602202	47685.81447	50758.1982	4
12	10	0	9384.602202	59252.6253	50938.83236	5
13	11	0	9384.602202	66127.23928	54190.24719	
14	12	0	9384.602202	69946.46927	65028.29663	7
15	13	8924.261003	9384.602202	68964.38156	61776.8818	5
16	14	8924.261003	9384.602202	60671.19644	53828.97888	
17	15	8924.261003	9384.602202	44193.94704	55635.32045	5
18	16	8924.261003	9384.602202	28917.02708	43171.56359	
19	17	8924.261003	9384.602202	16259.00768	32333.51416	4
20	18	8924.261003	9384.602202	8293.185124	17340.8791	2

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Design of the tool



plan4res design



Database
(IAMC
format), eg
Scenario
Explorer, or
csv files in
IAMC
format

Additional
data
(timeseries
profiles,
operational
constraints
...)

Linkage
scripts

**Plan4res
Input
Dataset
(plan4res
format=
xlsx+csv)**

plan4res
Formatting
Tool

SMS++
input
Datasets
(netcdf4)

plan4res
Solvers

SMS++
output
Datasets
(csv)

Linkage
scripts

SMS++
output
IAMC
format

plan4res design



- Plan4res is composed of:
 - Linkage scripts: from and to IAMC format (python)
 - Formatting tool:
 - Creates NetCDF4 SMS++ inputs
 - C++ version available in the container
 - Currently being rewritten in python
 - Plan4res Solvers
 - Written in C++ based on SMS++

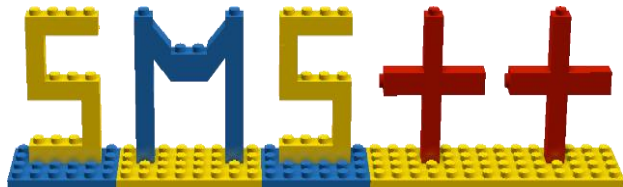


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Main modules:

- ucblock_solver
- sddpsolver
- investmentsolver



Plan4res solving modules

- 3 modules
 - `ucblock_solver`: solves a deterministic unit commitment problem (usually on 1 week)
 - `sddp_solver`:
 - Compute bellman values
 - Solves a serie of unit commitments on a sequence of periods, with bellman values as input
 - `Investment_solves`
 - Compute optimal investments
 - Simulates (= solves series of unit commitment problems on all periods, for all scenarios)

Plan4res solving modules

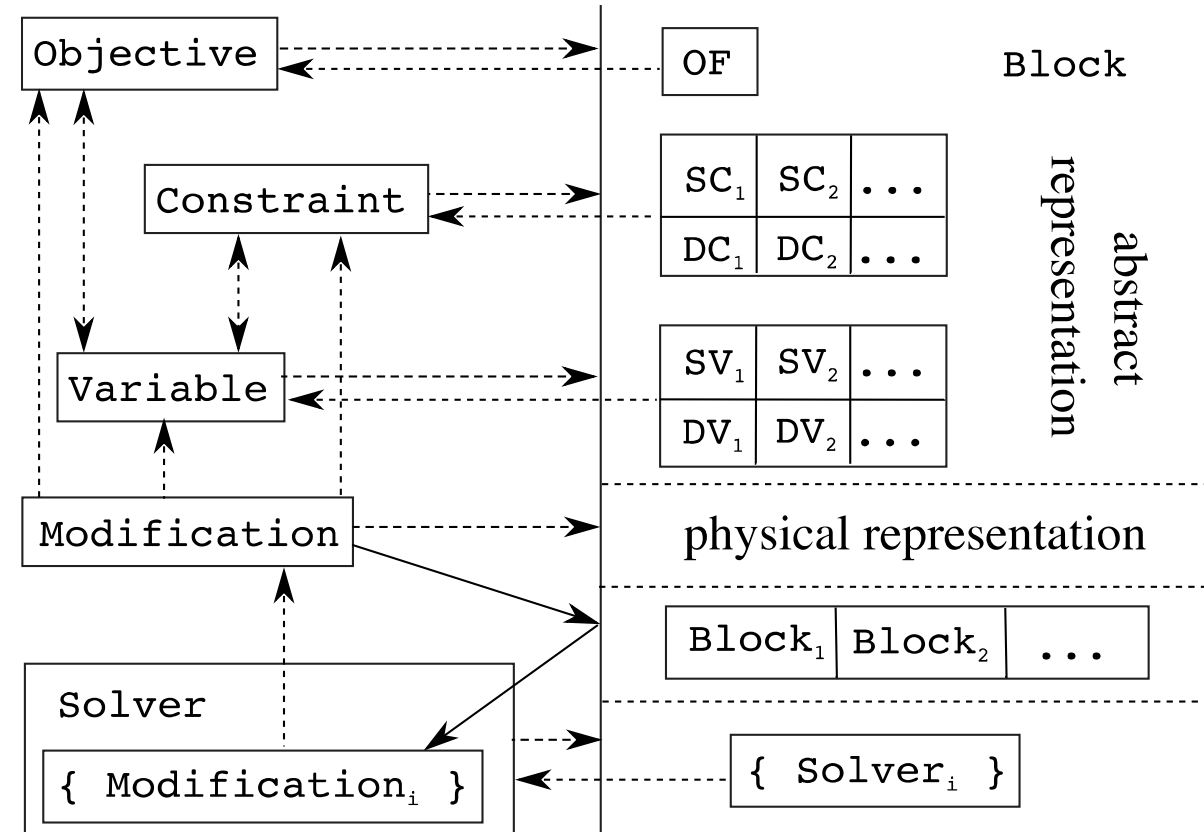
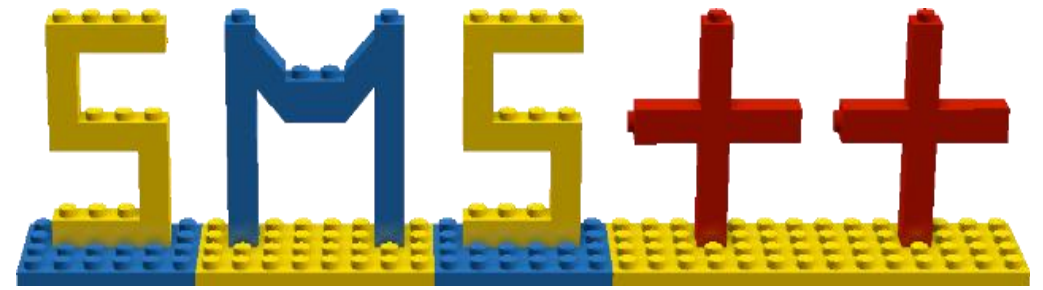


- The 3 modules are implemented with the SMS++ framework (developed by University of Pisa)
- They are available within a container (developed by HPE)
- Can run on any platform (Unix, Windows, Mac)
- Includes parallelisation
- Installation process:
 - Download container: `git clone --recursive https://gitlab.com/cerl/plan4res/p4r-env.git`
 - Install container: `bin/p4r`
 - Install solvers:
 - CPLEX or equivalent
 - StOpt: `bin/p4r add-on stopt`
 - Install SMS++: `bin/p4r add-on sms++`

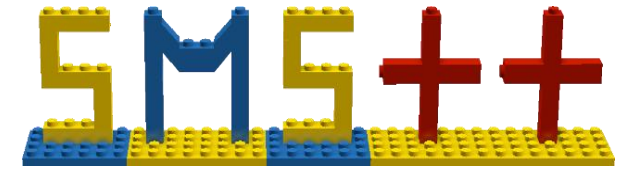


Modelling with SMS++

- ❑ **SMS++ is a set of C++ classes implementing a modelling system that:**
- ❑ allows exploiting specialised solvers
- ❑ manages all types of dynamic changes in the model
- ❑ Explicitly handles reformulation/restriction/relaxation
- ❑ does parallel from the start
- ❑ should be able to deal with almost anything (bilevel, PDE,...)
- ❑ **Includes specialized blocks for energy system modelling**

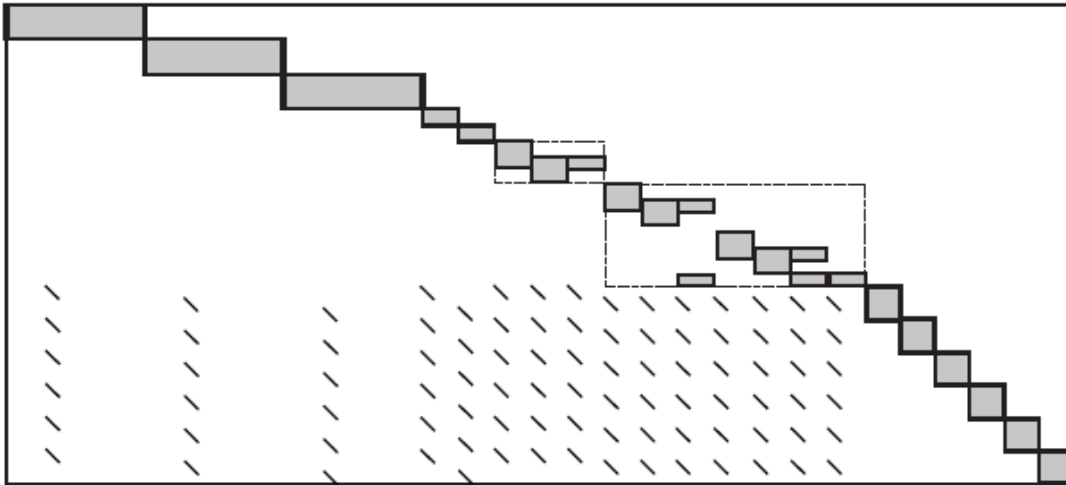


Modelling with SMS++



Nested decompositions at different time horizons

- Schedule a set of generating units to satisfy the demand at each node of the transmission network at each time instant of the horizon (24h)

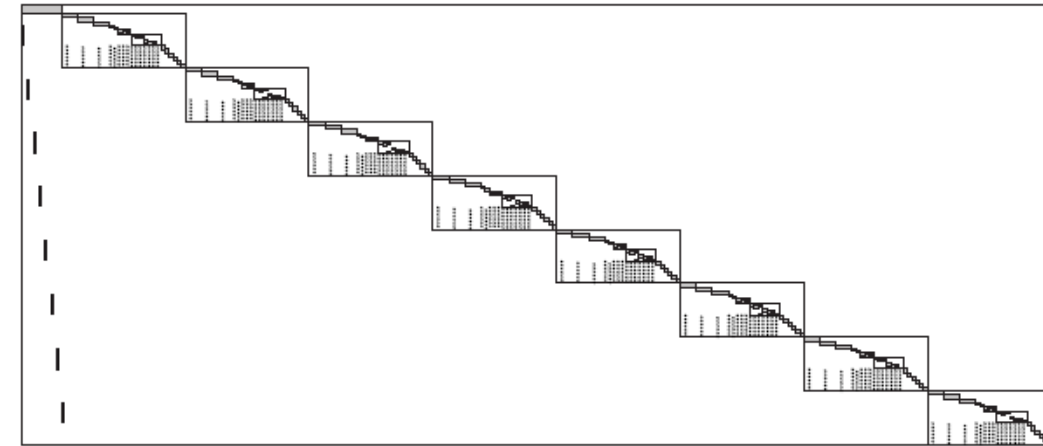


- Several types of almost independent blocks + linking constraints
- Perfect structure for Lagrangian relaxation^{1,2}

¹ Borghetti, F., Lacalandra, Nucci "Lagrangian Heuristics Based on Disaggregated Bundle Methods [...]", *IEEE TPWRS*, 2003

² Scuzziato, Finardi, F. "Comparing Spatial and Scenario Decomposition for Stochastic [...]" *IEEE Trans. Sust. En.*, 2018

- Manage water levels in reservoirs considering uncertainties (inflows, temperatures, demands, ...) to minimize costs over the time horizon

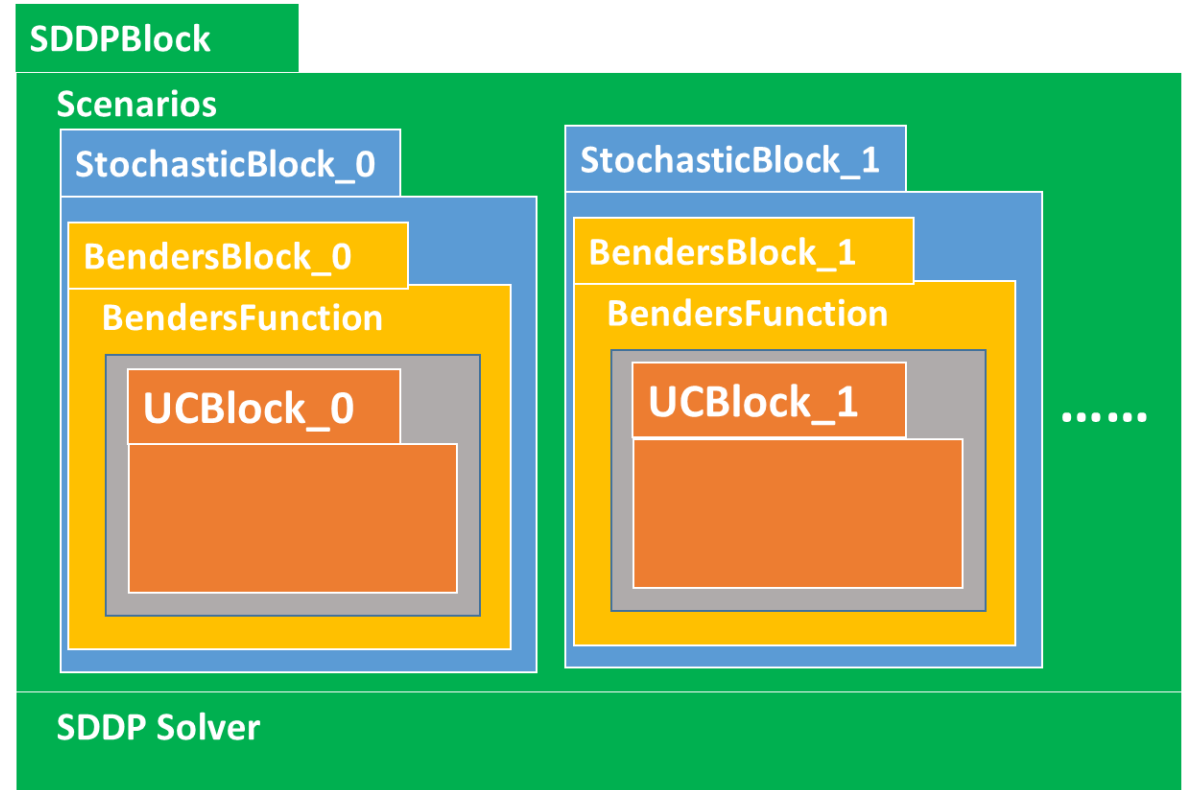
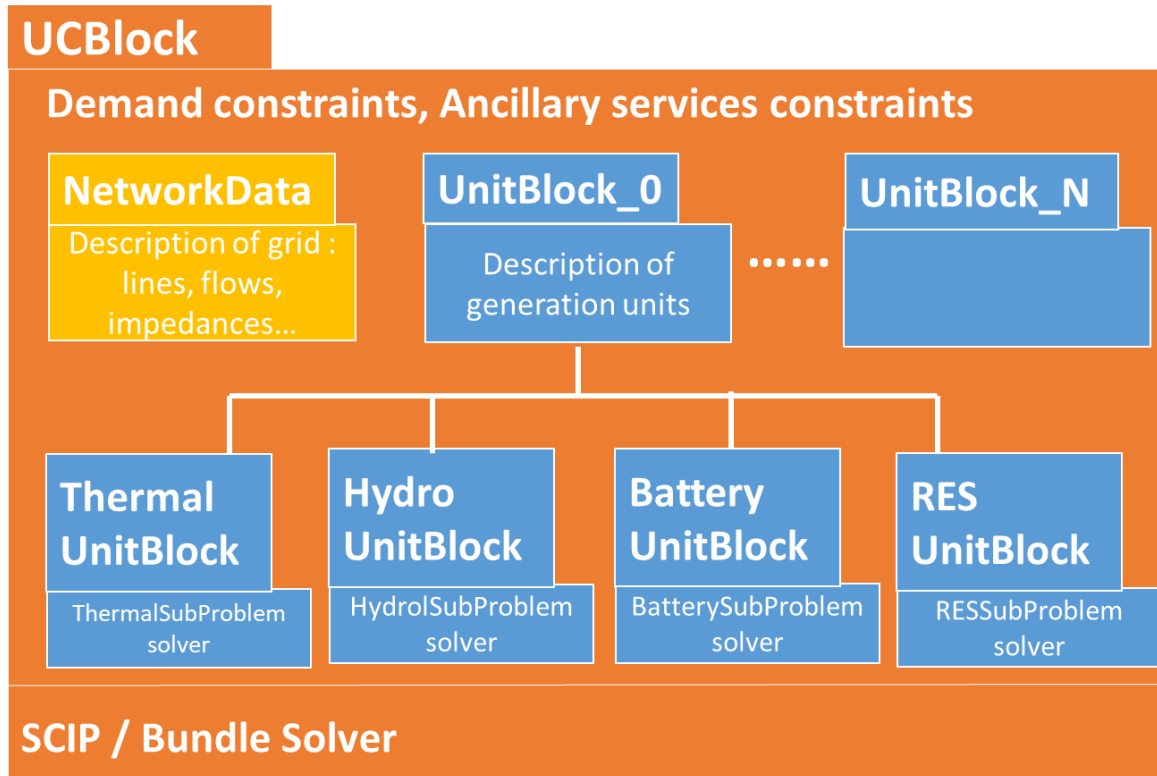


- Very large size, nested structure
- Perfect structure for Stochastic Dual Dynamic Programming^{3,4} with multiple EUC inside



³ Pereira, Pinto "Multi-stage stochastic optimization applied to energy planning" *Math. Prog.*, 1991

⁴ van-Ackooij, Warin "On conditional cuts for Stochastic Dual Dynamic Programming" arXiv:1704.06205, 2017

The Seasonal Storage Valuation and Unit Commitment in SMS++





- Plan4res documentation: [OM4A-Training-Material/plan4res-Training-Material](#)
- Plan4res gitub (containing all that is necessary for installing and running planRres): [plan4res](#)
- SMS++: <https://gitlab.com/smspp/smspp-project> 
- Plan4res on zenodo: <https://zenodo.org/communities/plan4res>
 <https://zenodo.org/communities/openentrance>



Thank you

