



# Advanced Analytics to Capture the Full Value of Demand Response and Energy Flexibility in Industrial Sites

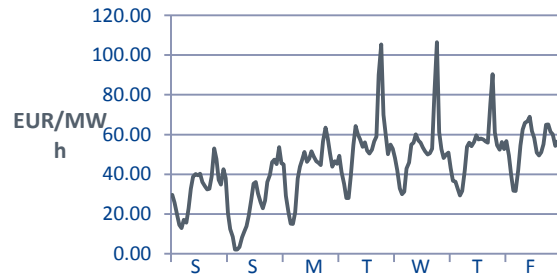
*Aurélien Crucifix, Consultant, N-SIDE*

New problems in energy optimization: the industrial perspective

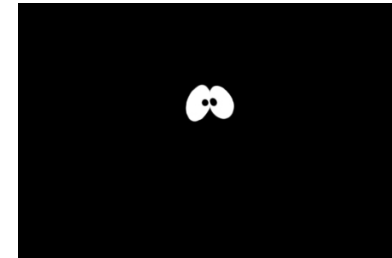
January 27, Edinburgh

# Why and how to leverage flexibility from energy-intensive processes ?

Increasing electricity price volatility

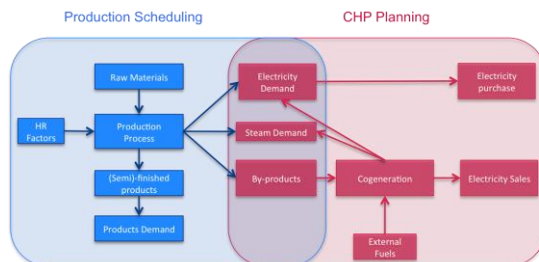


Increasing need for Demand Response services



**Advanced Analytics  
to transform this  
complexity into  
opportunities**

Increasing complexity of the energy structure of the industries



Increasing amount of data to be leveraged



1. Demand Response: Opportunities and challenges for industrial sites
  - A. The markets: Where to value my flexibility ?
  - B. The processes: Where to find and how to manage my flexibility ?
2. Advanced Analytics to make the most out of energy flexibility

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# How to design an optimal energy flexibility strategy ?

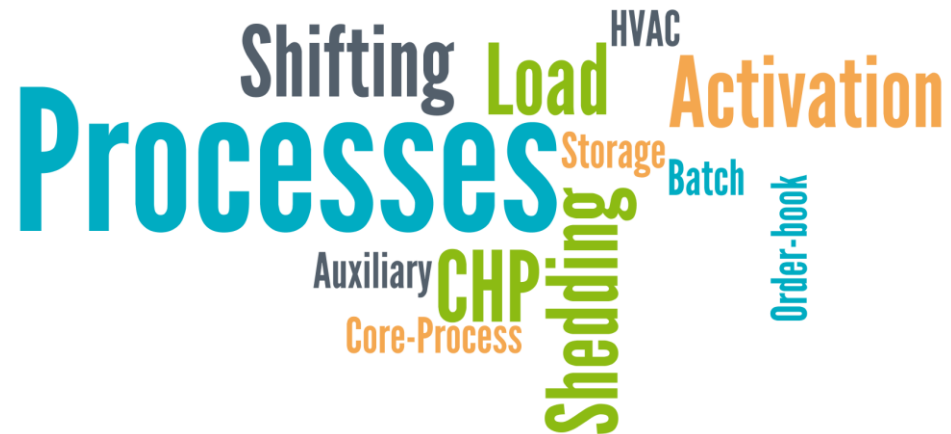
## Markets

Where to value my flexibility ?



## Processes

Where to find and how to manage my flexibility ?



# The market challenge: Where to value my flexibility ?

Direct Market Access  
Indirect Market Access

Years / Months in advance

1 to 7 days in advance

Real-time

Price  
based

Forward contracts (OTC)

Fixed contracts

Day-ahead market

Spot-price based  
contracts

Intraday and balancing  
markets

Deviation penalties

Reserve

Reserve participation  
(e.g. France, Belgium)

Contract with an  
aggregator

Reserve participation  
(e.g. Germany, Austria)

Activation from TSO

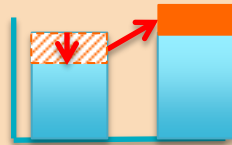
Activation from  
aggregator

# The process challenge: Where to find and how to manage my flexibilities ?

## Electricity Consumption

Consume electricity at optimal moment

1 Load Shifting



2 Load Scheduling



3 Load Shedding



4 Fuel Switching



## Electricity Generation

Produce electricity at optimal moment

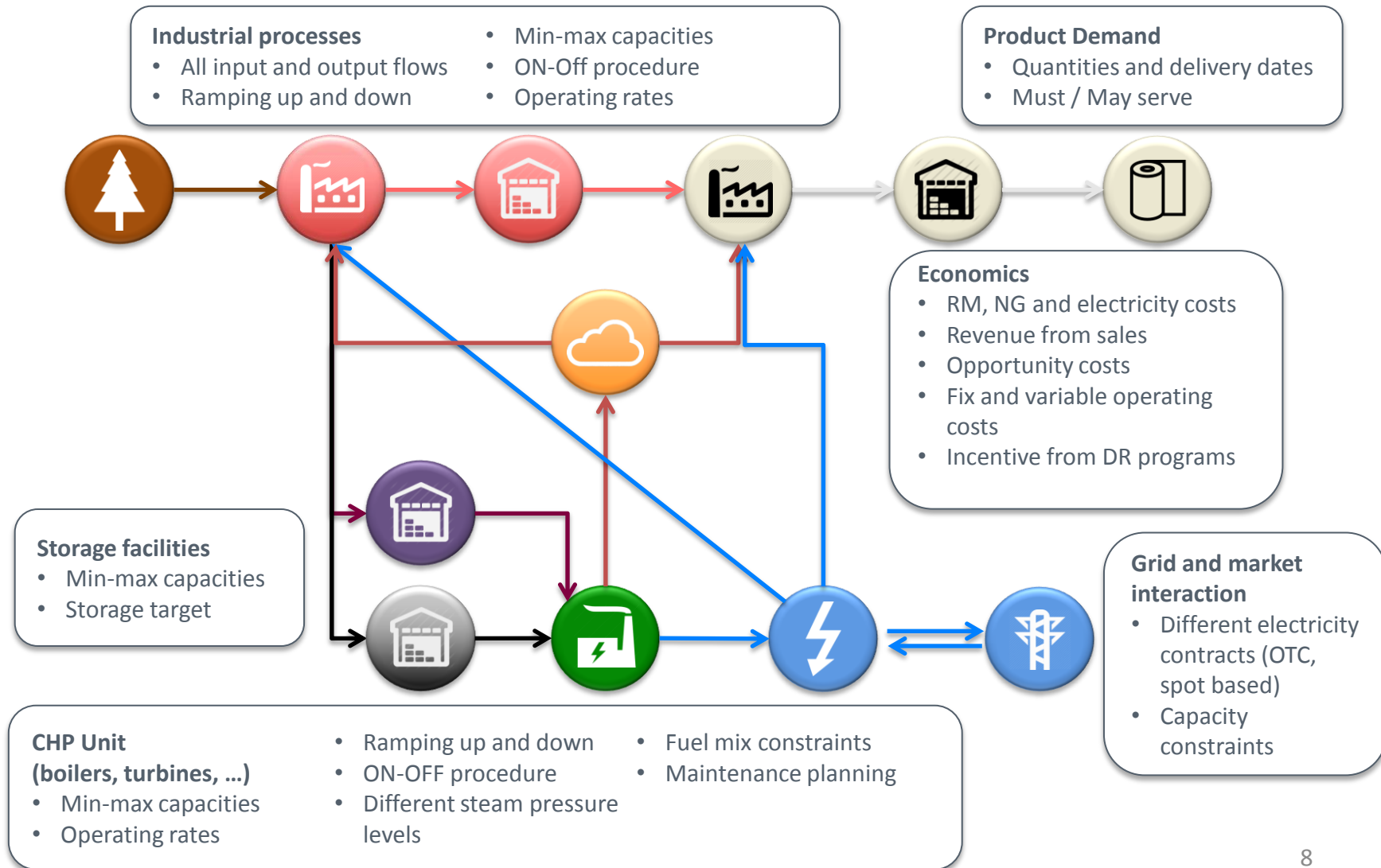
5 CHP Modulation



6 By-product Optimization

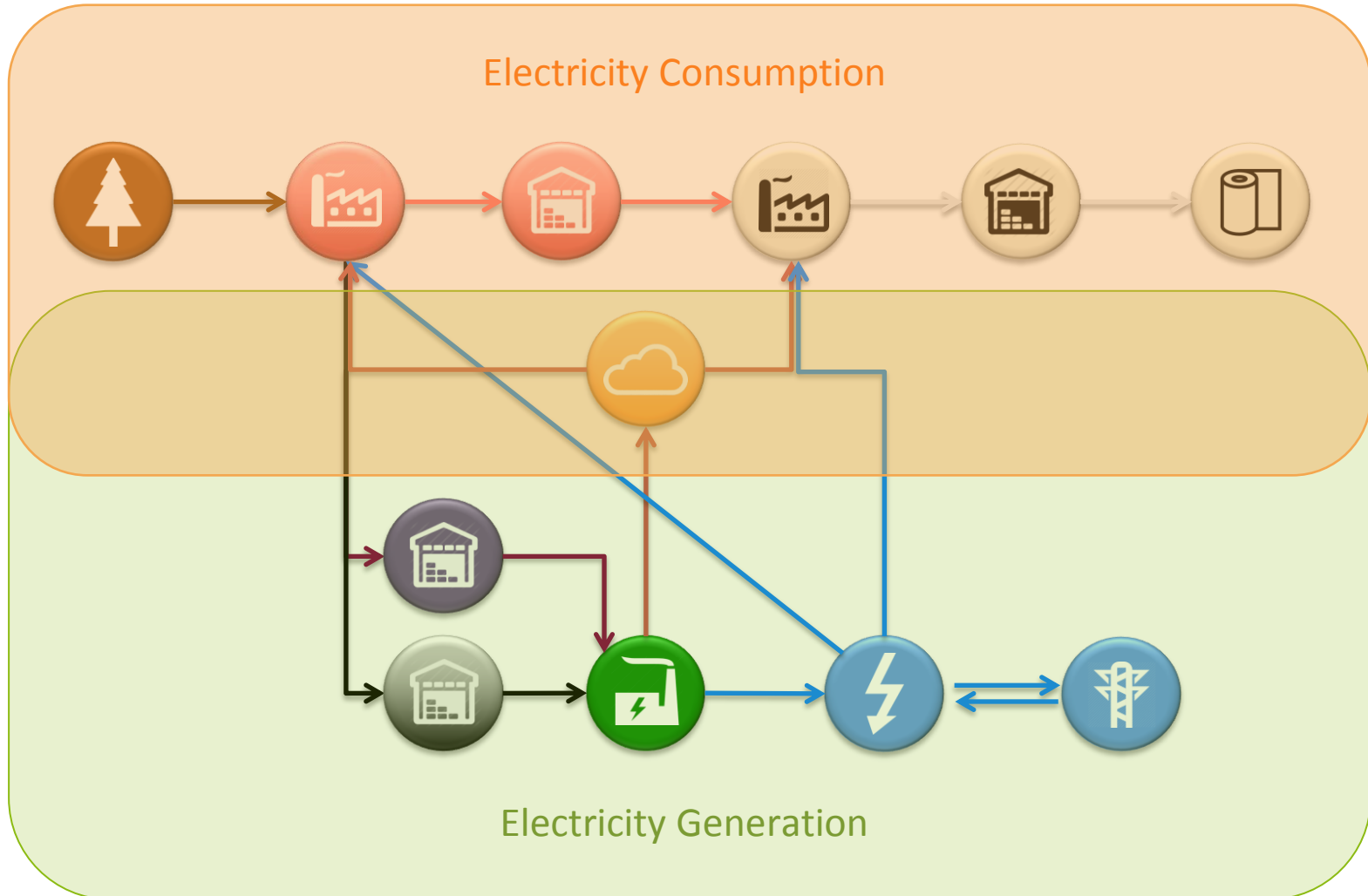


# A mathematical model is key for considering all the factors...





...in an integrated way...



## ... on the different key timeframes



- Optimal electricity contract
- Optimal investment in flexibility assets



- Optimal choice of flexibility products and volumes
- Optimal power and energy price



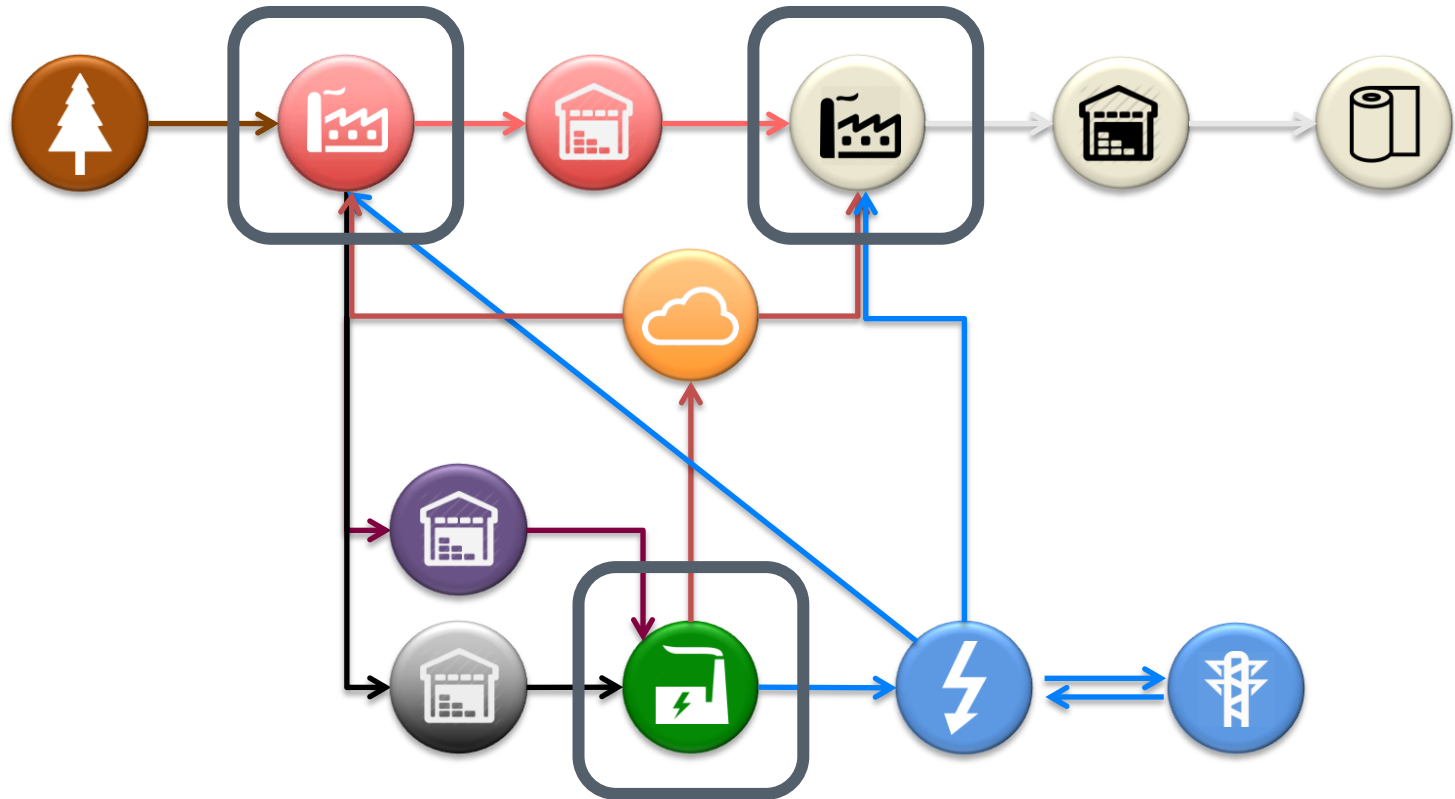
- Optimal scheduling of electricity load
- Optimal planning of CHP unit



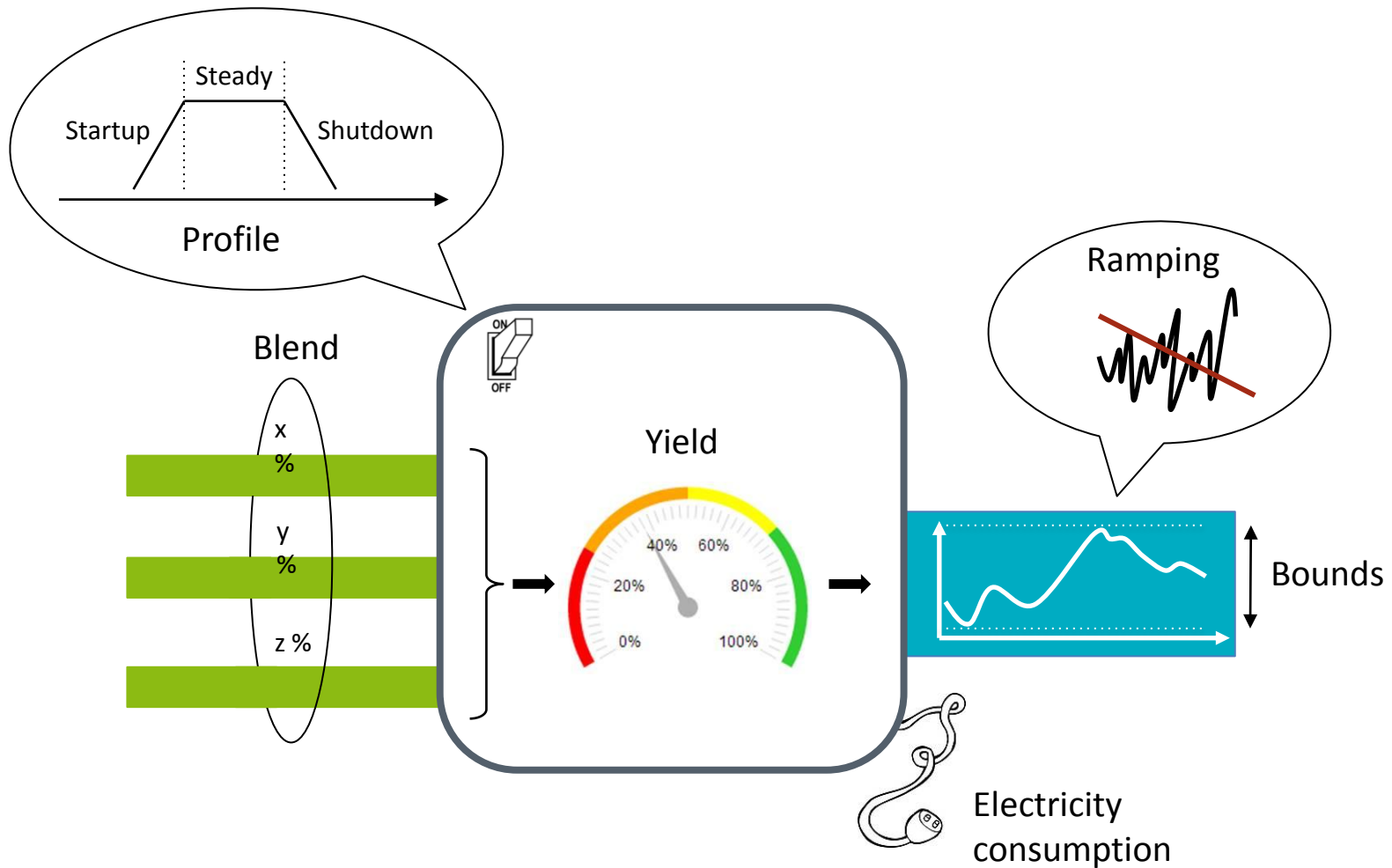
- Optimal imbalance minimization
- Optimal activation management

1. Demand Response: Opportunities and challenges for industrial sites
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An complex **integrated optimization model**  
of the plant must be solved



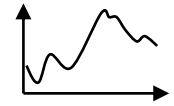
# Modelling industrial processes



# Mixed Integer Programming (MIP) for industrial processes

## Modeling an industrial process

- Mostly continuous variables to model quantities (e.g. flows between processes)
- Some binary variables, to capture the discrete nature of some decisions (e.g. on-off status)
- Usually linear(isable) constraints (e.g. piecewise linear representation of the yield of the machines)



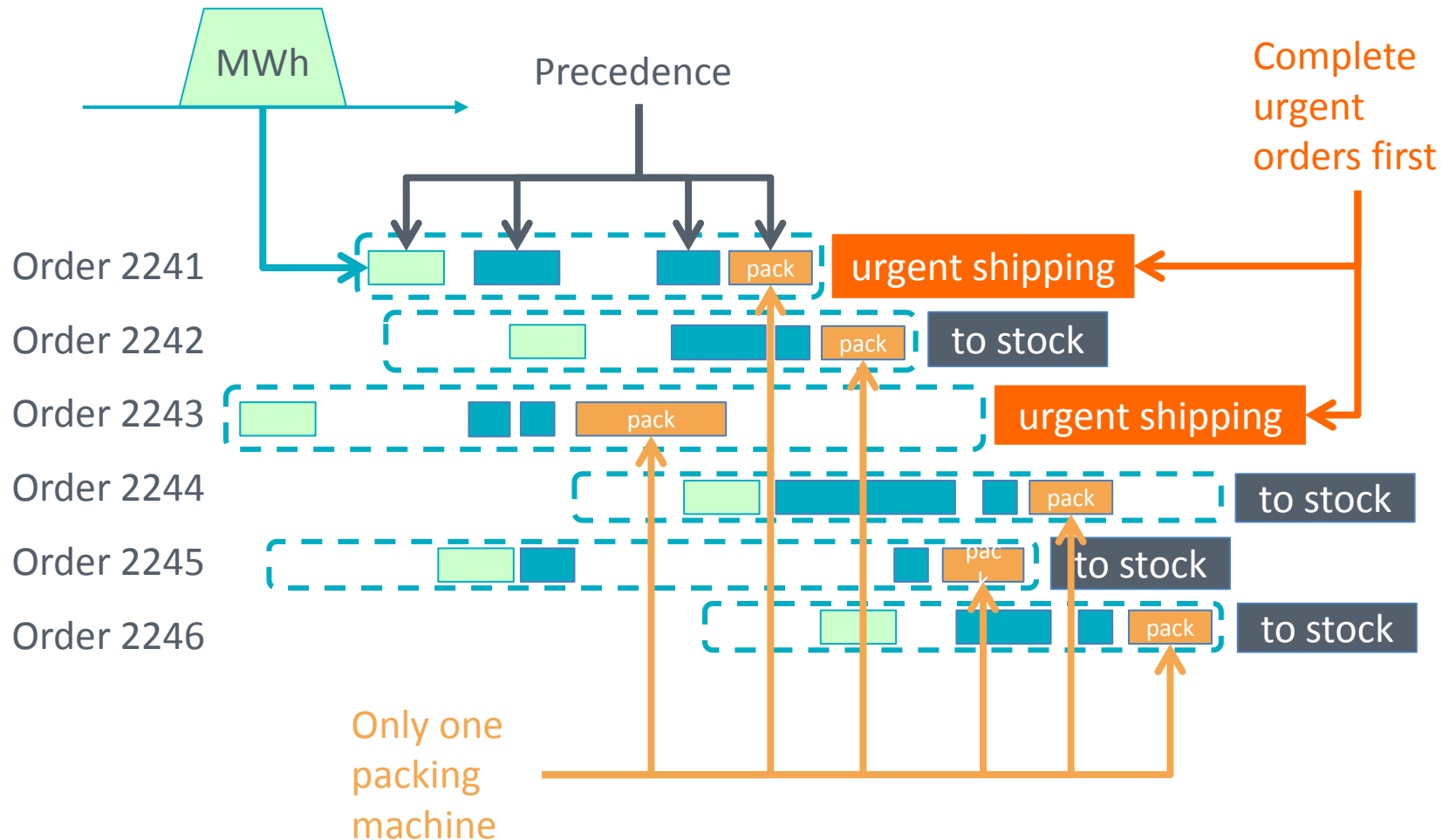
## Finding the optimal set of decisions

- Difficult problems: non-convex, no polynomial-time algorithm
- In practice, with a good solver, **global optimum** is found within a few minutes
- Widely used branch-and-bound algorithm: recursive tree search of binary options

## Some technical challenges arising from MIP

- **Solving time** may rise exponentially with the number of binary variables and the addition of coupling constraints
- Ill-conditioning and **numerical difficulties** are likely to arise with data of poor quality
- Some processes are better represented by **non-linear constraints and integer variables** (i.e. batch processes).

# Modelling batch processes

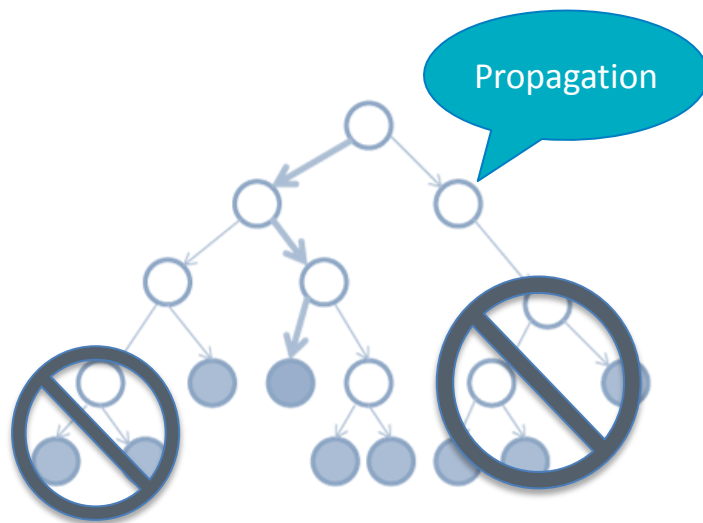




# Constraint Programming (CP) for batch production

## Modeling a production unit of a batch process

- Only discrete variables, to model machines performing activities as well as start and end time of activities
- Need for disjunctive constraints: at most one activity scheduled on a given machine at any time, stock evolution, setup times,...
- Complex precedence and transition constraints



## Finding the optimal set of decisions

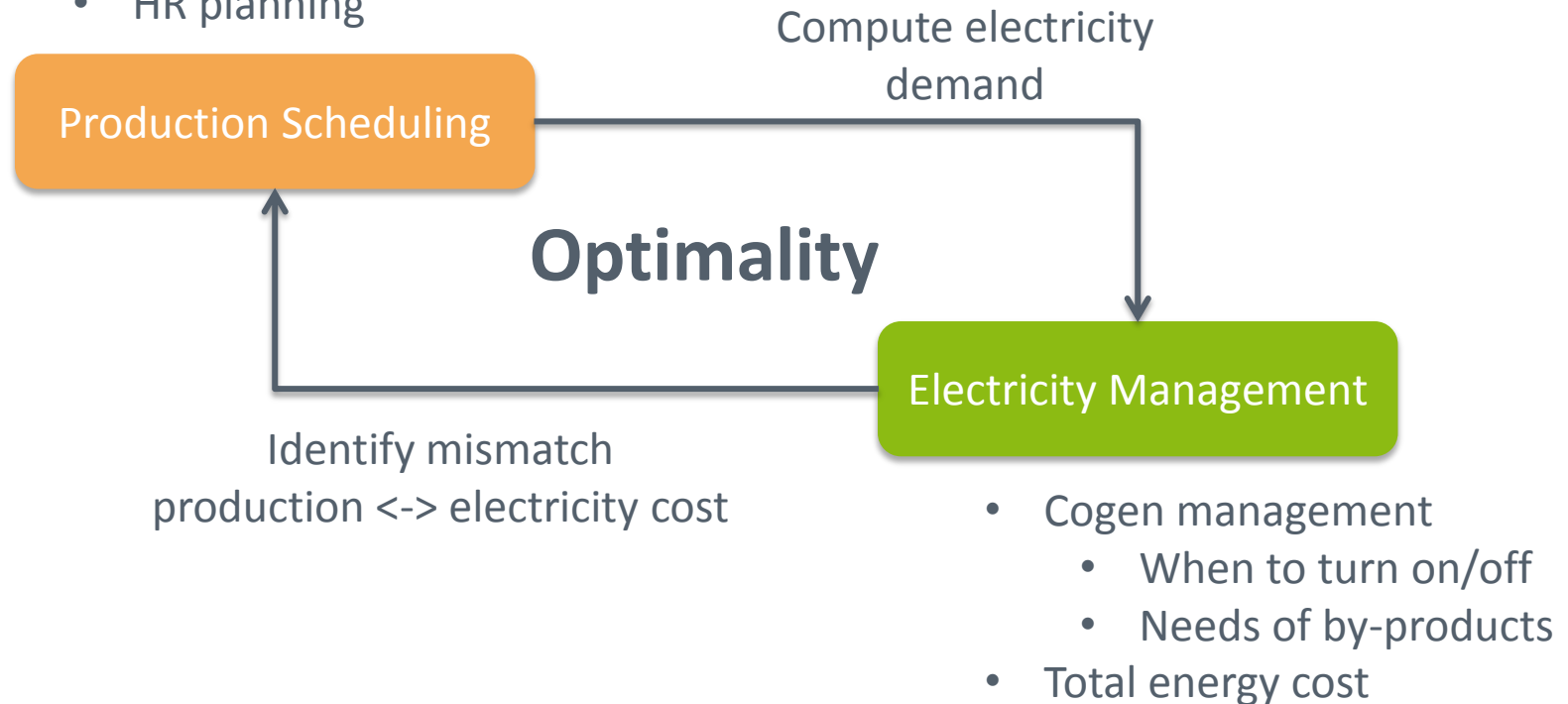
- Difficult problems: highly non-linear, no known polynomial-time algorithm
- In practice, with a good solver, **very good solution** is found within a few minutes
- Widely used propagation algorithms: do not explore decisions leading to a dead-end

## Some Technical challenges arising from CP

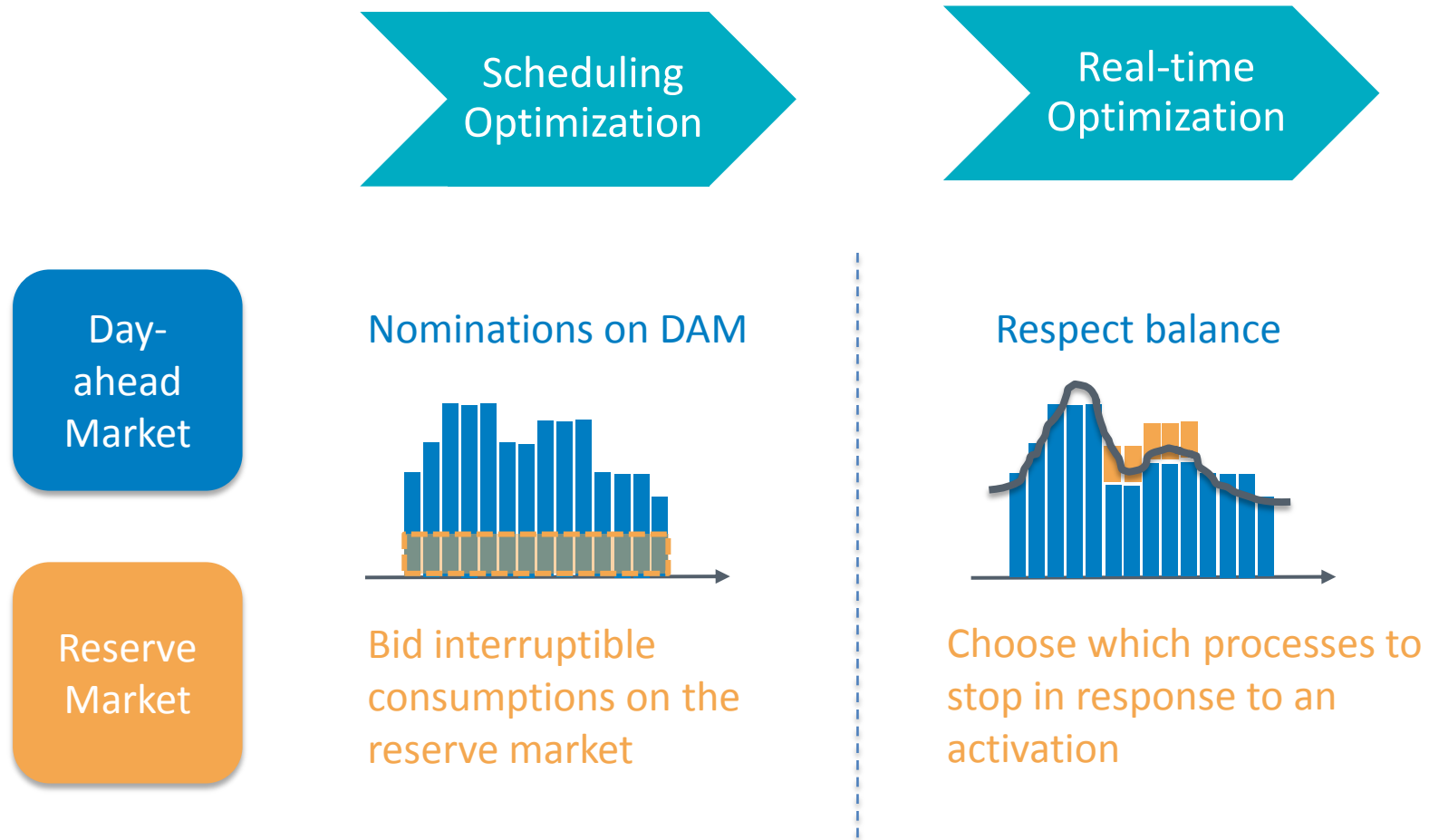
- Algorithmic efficiency strongly depends on how production has been modelled using CP constraints
  - Several models are possible
  - Good model may be millions of time faster than bad ones
  - Requires expertise
- Constraint programming enables to exploit knowledge humans have of the production process
  - Advantage: leads to more efficient algorithms
  - Disadvantage: no automatic configuration with no brain efforts
  - Advantage by far worth the effort

# The resulting integrated optimization problem is solved using decomposition techniques

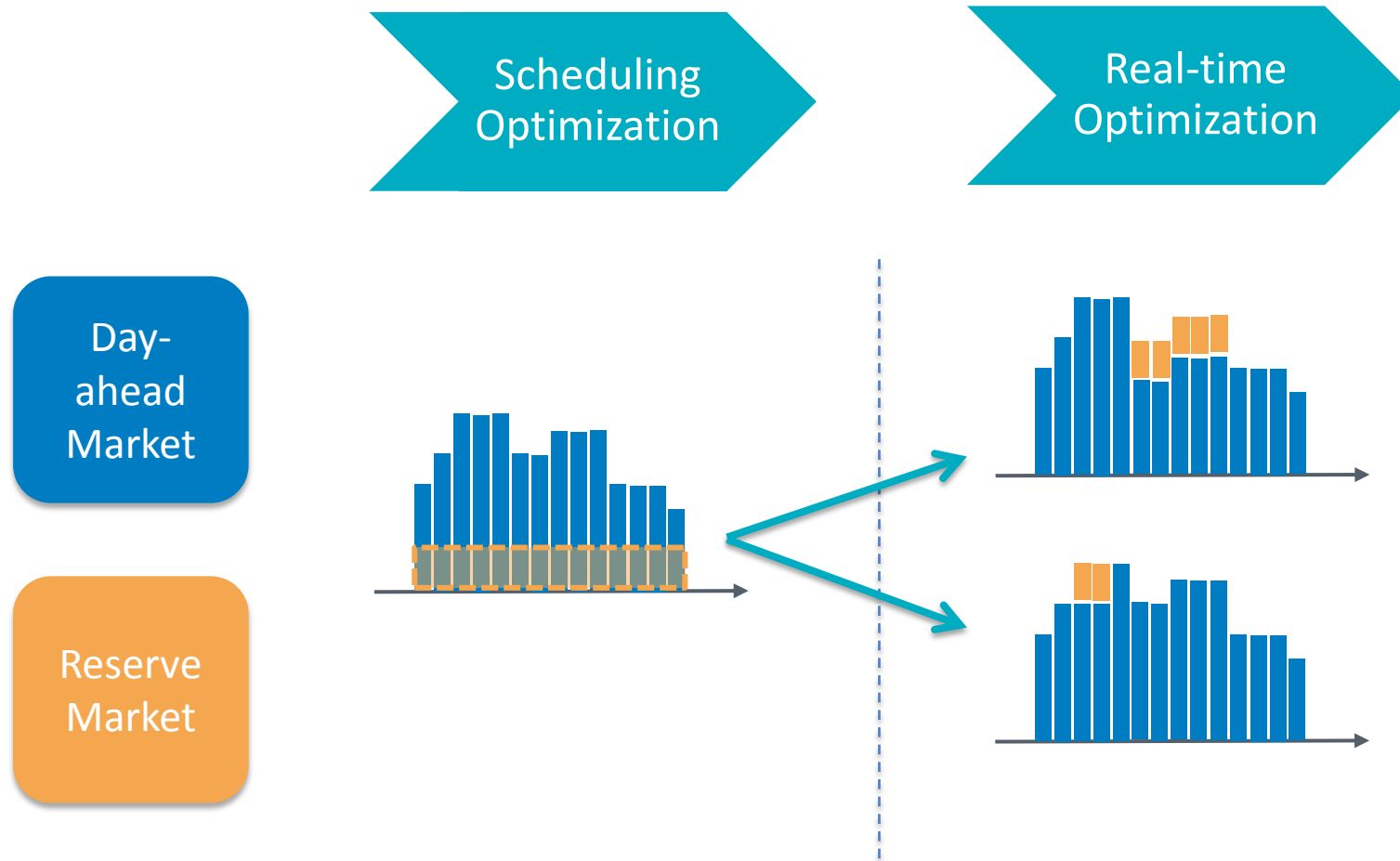
- Start of batch production
- Machine usage
- HR planning



# The model should take into account multiple markets and time frames



# Real-time activation is **uncertain** when committing a schedule



# Multi-Stage Stochastic Programming (MSSP) for multi-market optimization

## Multi-market modelling

- Multiple real-time scenarios should be considered
- Non-anticipativity constraints: scheduling decisions should be taken commonly for all real-time scenarios



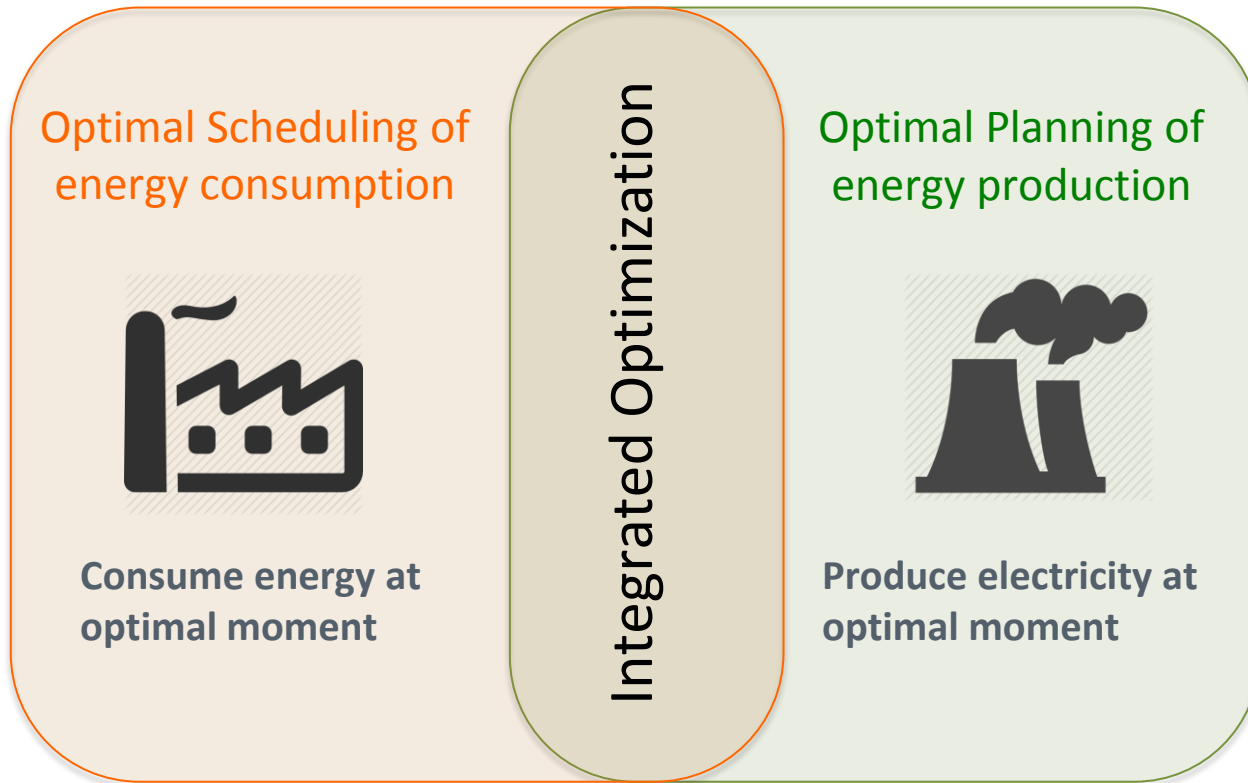
## Finding the optimal set of decisions

- Difficult problems: non-convex, no polynomial-time algorithm
- In practice, with a good solver, **global optimum** is found within a few minutes
- Widely used decomposition algorithm: solve a reduced problem and add only the violated constraints

# Technical challenges arising from MSSP

- **Problem size** rises exponentially with the number of scenarios.
- Generating the minimal number of **relevant scenarios** is crucial

# Helping industries get the full value of their energy flexibility thanks to advanced analytics





# Thank you !

**N-SIDE**  
OPTIMIZING YOUR DECISIONS



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