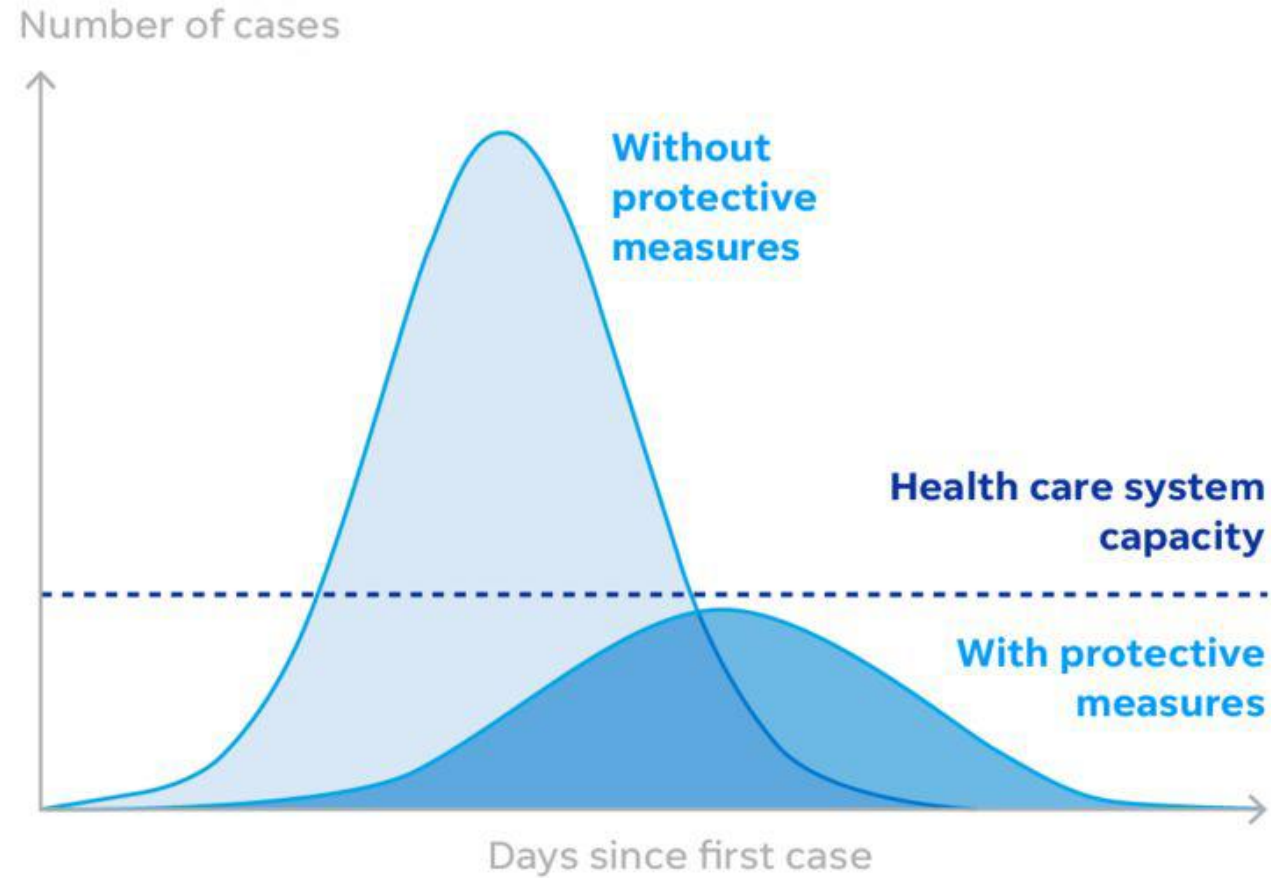


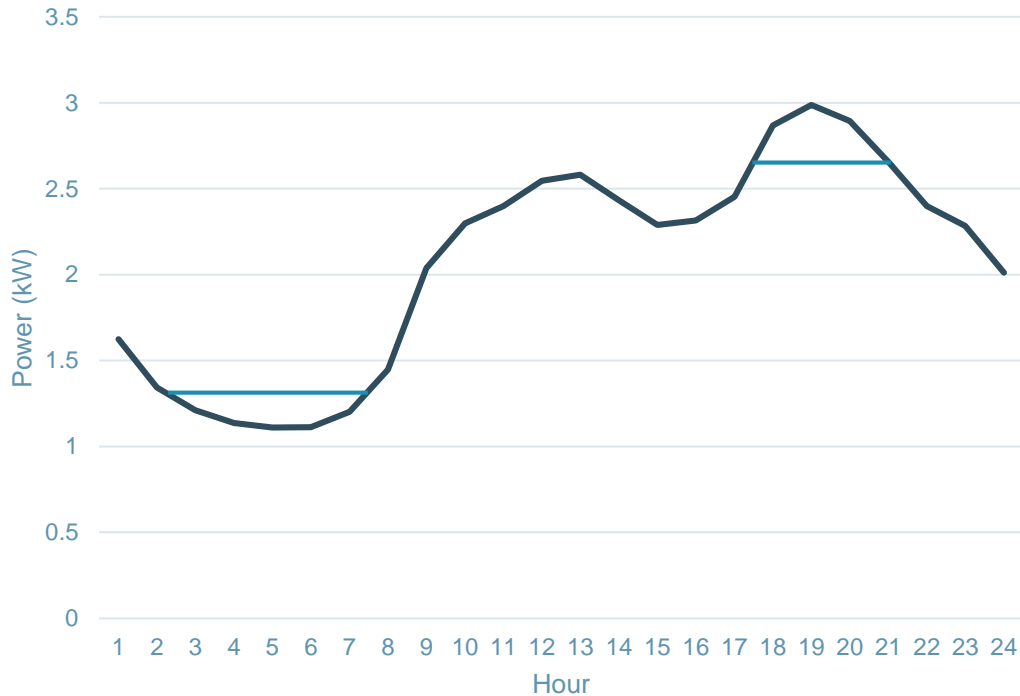
# Comparison of Priority Service and Multilevel Demand Subscription for Mobilizing Residential Demand Response

Yuting Mou<sup>1</sup>, Céline Gérard<sup>2</sup>, Daniel Avila<sup>2</sup>  
Anthony Papavasiliou<sup>2</sup>, Philippe Chevalier<sup>2</sup>  
1. VITO/EnergyVille 2. UCLouvain

# Flatten the Curve



# Peak-Shaving in Power Service



NORMAL	
Redevance fixe (€/an)	54,49
Prix par kWh (c€/kWh)	7,669
BIHORAIRE	
Redevance fixe (€/an)	54,49
Prix par kWh heures pleines (c€/kWh)	8,855
Prix par kWh heures creuses (c€/kWh)	6,546

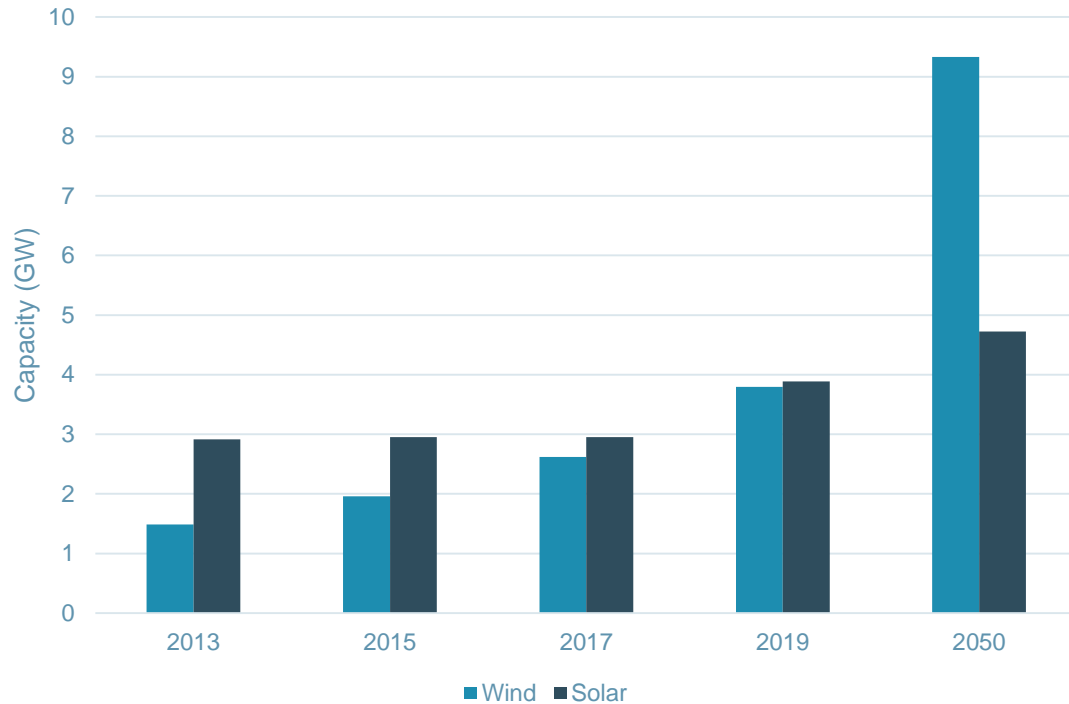
## Heures creuses/ heures pleines

Les plages horaires des heures creuses du bi-horaire s'étendent **la nuit (de 22h à 7h le lendemain) et le week-end (du vendredi 22h au lundi 7h).**

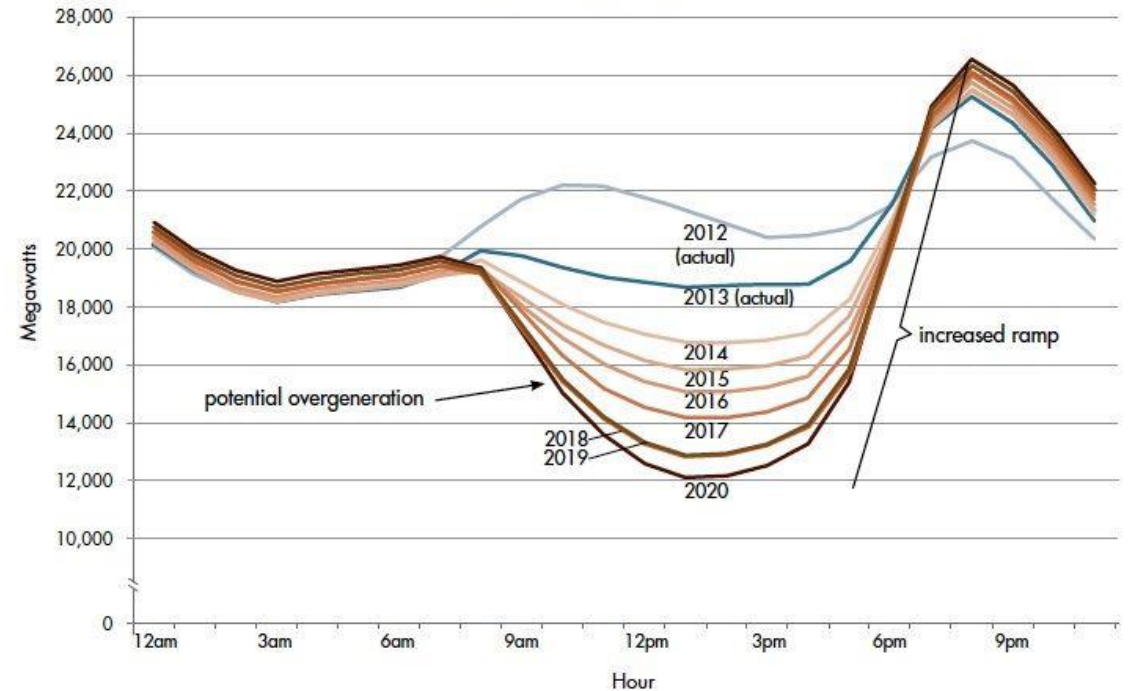
**Dans quelques communes** desservies par ORES, elles s'étendent de **21h à 6h** (week-end : du vendredi 21h au lundi à 6h).

# Is a Time-of-Use Tariff Future-Proof?

Renewable Production Capacity in Belgium



Net load - March 31



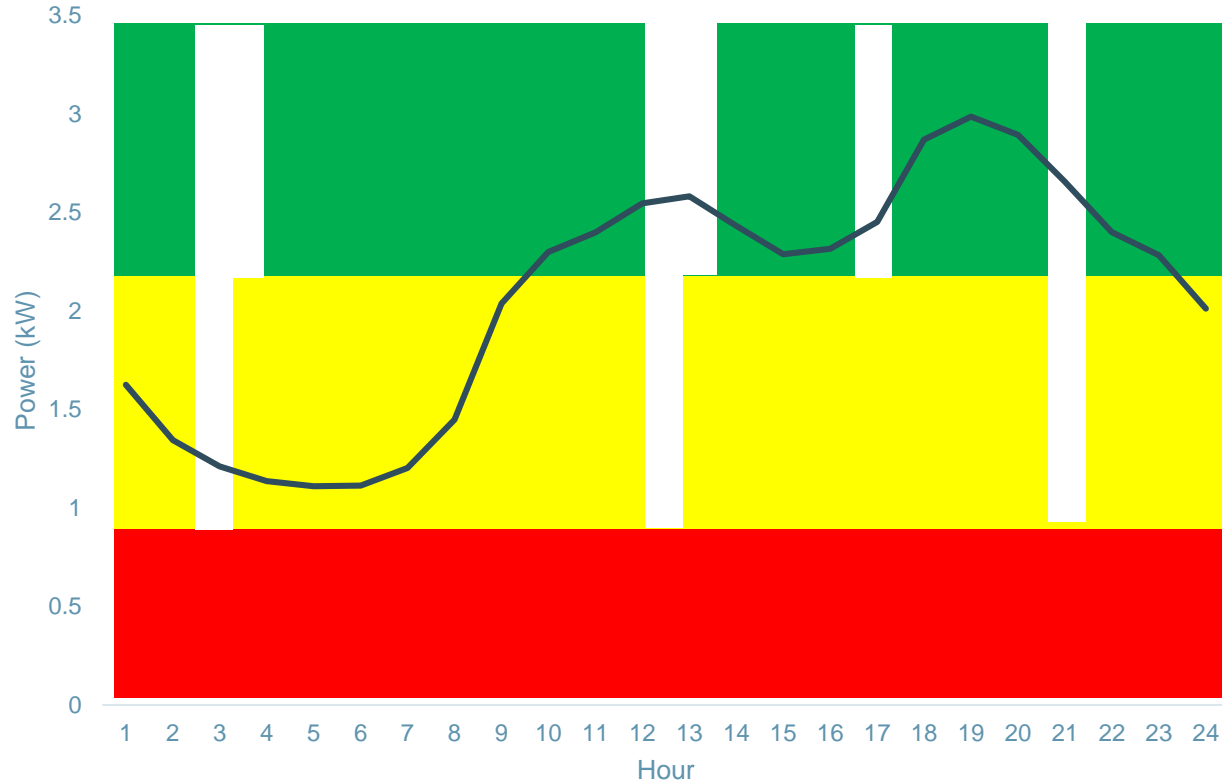
# Outline

- Motivation
- A Bilevel Optimization Formulation of Priority Service and Multilevel Demand Subscription
- Performance Evaluation of Priority Service and Multilevel Demand Subscription
- Case Study on the Belgian Power System
- Conclusions and Perspectives

# Motivation

- To deal with the increasing integration of renewable production, we investigate new pricing schemes for electricity retailers.
- We consider a future where households are equipped with PV panels, resulting in decreasing energy needs from the main grid, but where capacity needs remain or even increase due to electrification. This calls for a careful design of electricity tariffs.
- Power as a service with differentiated quality:
  - Deadline differentiated pricing policy for deferrable electric loads [Bitar & Low, 2012];
  - Duration differentiated energy service [Nayyar et al., 2016].
- We compare reliability-differentiated pricing (priority service) and reliability-duration-differentiated pricing (multilevel demand subscription) → Complexity versus Efficiency

# Illustration of Priority Service



Reliability (%)	Price (€/kW-month)	Equivalent Price (¢/kWh)
75	30	5.6
87.5	40	7.4
100	50	9.3

- Strips of higher priority corresponding to higher price (simple).
- Consumers self-select how to allocate individual devices to strips (non-intrusive).

# The Devices Obey “Traffic Signals”

## Households

Control, Privacy



Flexible

## ColorPower Appliance Priorities

Obey consumers' preferences  
Obey grid traffic signals



Emergency



Not Flexible

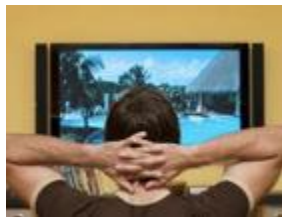


## Grid

Coordinates power access for  
flexible appliances

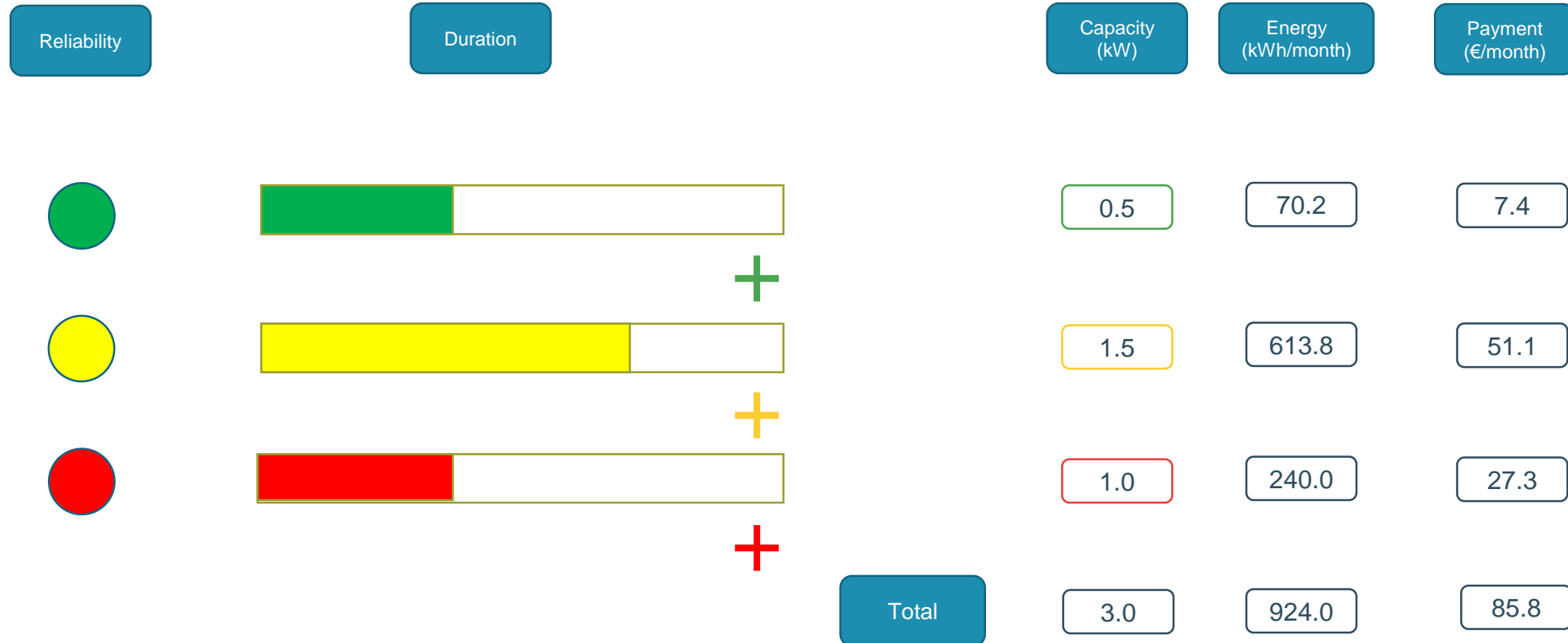


System operator  
tunes DR levels.

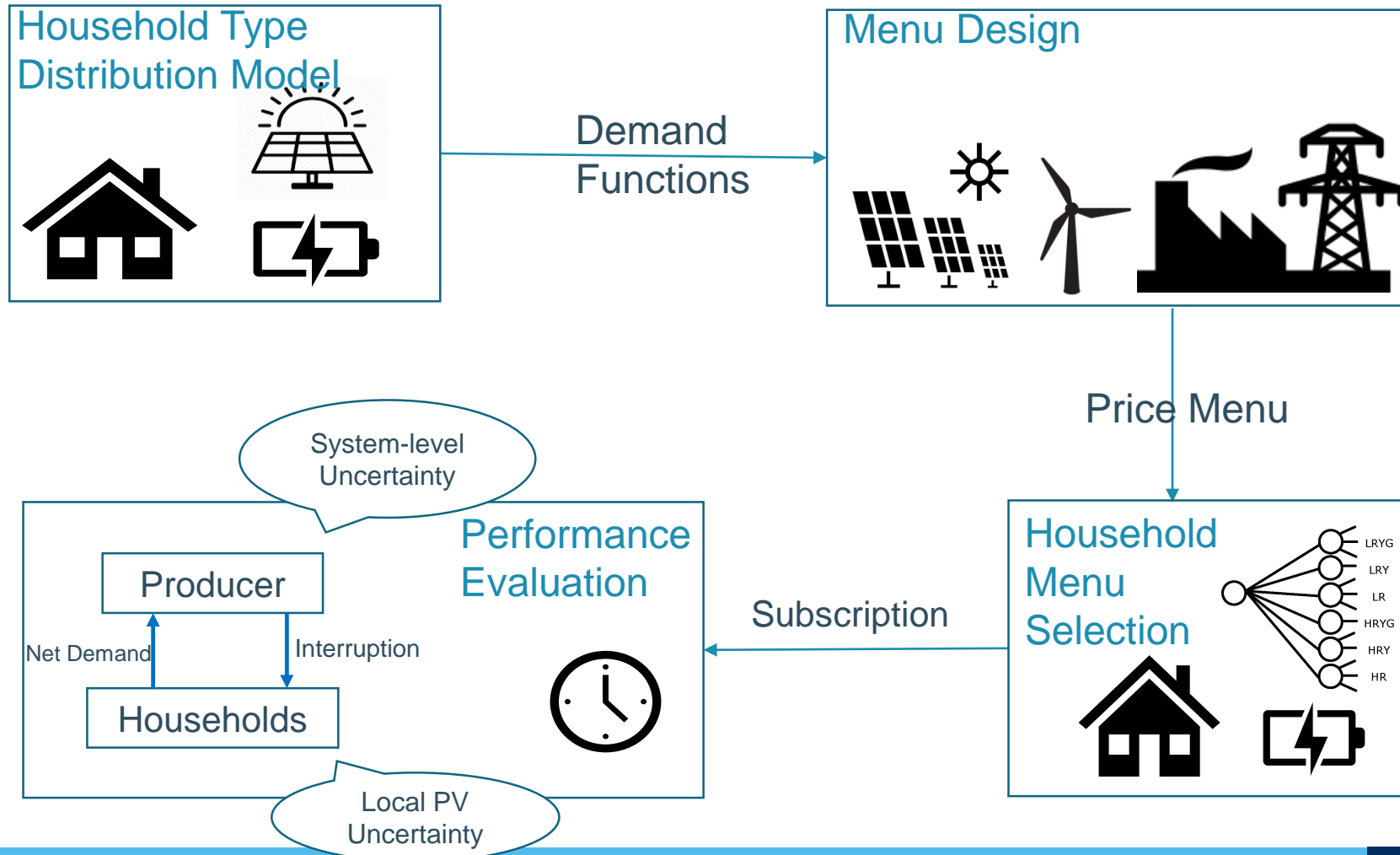




# Implementation of Multilevel Demand Subscription



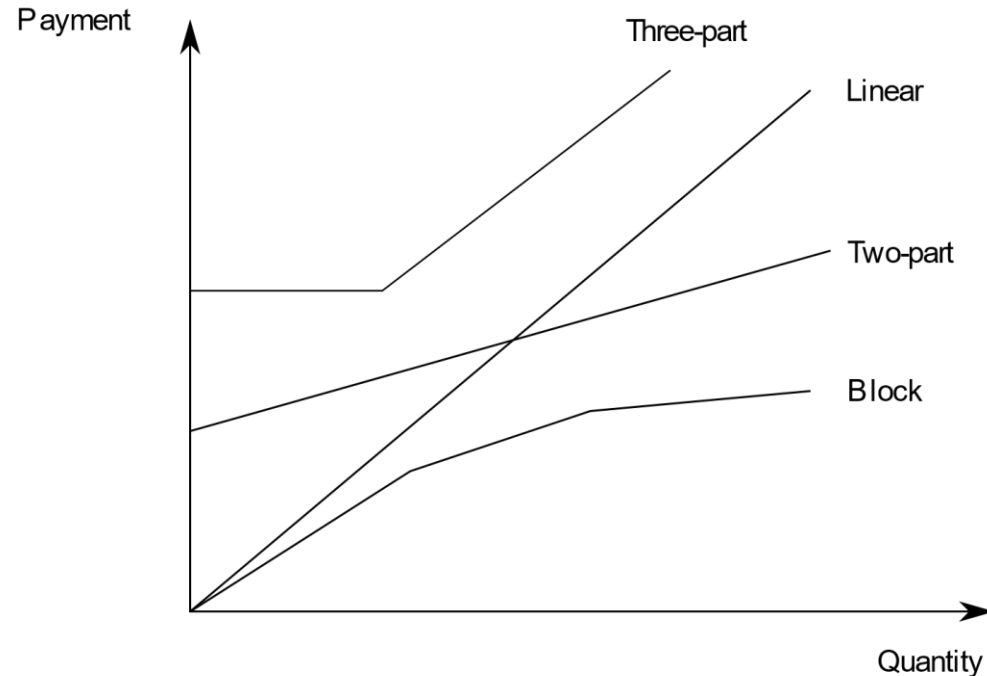
# Research Overview



# Menu Design

- Nonlinear Pricing Theory
- Information Asymmetry
- A Bilevel Optimization Formulation of Priority Service
- Extension to Multilevel Demand Subscription

# Theory of Nonlinear Pricing



- Robert Wilson. [Nonlinear pricing](#). Oxford University Press, 1993.
- Hung-po Chao, and Robert Wilson. [Priority service: Pricing, investment, and market organization](#). *The American Economic Review* (1987): 899-916.
- Hung-po Chao, Shmuel Oren, Stephen Smith, and Robert Wilson. [Multilevel demand subscription pricing for electric power](#). *Energy Economics* 8, no. 4 (1986): 199-217.



© Nobel Media. Ill. Niklas Elmehed.

Robert B. Wilson  
The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in  
Memory of Alfred Nobel 2020

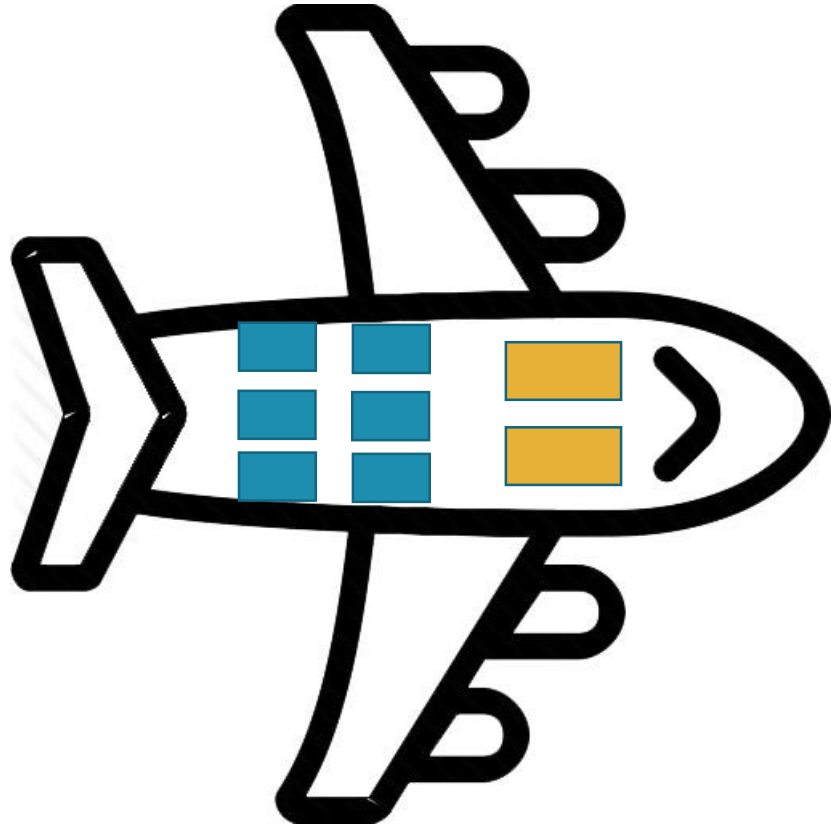
Born: 16 May 1937, Geneva, NE, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: Stanford University,  
Stanford, CA, USA

Prize motivation: "for improvements to auction theory and  
inventions of new auction formats."

Prize share: 1/2

# Information Asymmetry



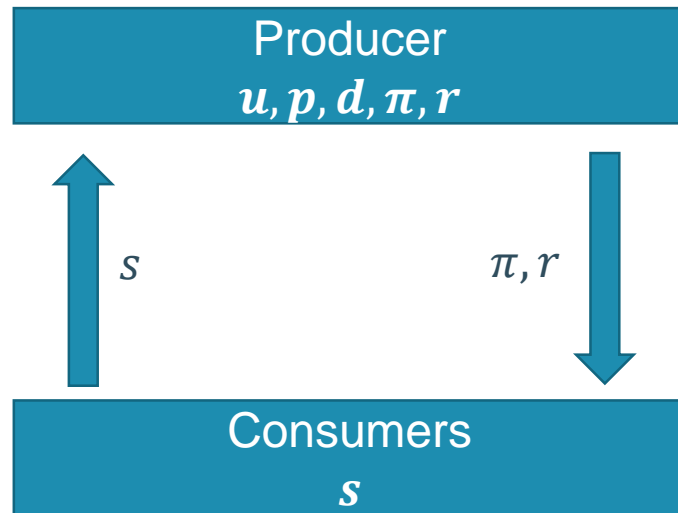
- Flight from Brussels to Shanghai
  - Jessie, business, 4000 €
  - Yuting, holiday, 1000 €
- Pricing schemes:
  - Uniform price: 800 €
  - Business class: 2000 €; economic class: 600 €
- Electricity service:
  - Time-of-use tariff: when to consume
  - Priority service: reliability

private

# Shortcomings of Traditional Theory and Our Proposition

- The cost function is assumed to be convex, so non-convex production costs, such as start-up and min-load costs, cannot be handled.
- The presented model is static, in the sense that there is no coupling over time periods (e.g. due to minimum up and down times, ramp constraints).
- We incorporate unit commitment into the menu design problem and model it as a Stackelberg game, which is reformulated as a bilevel optimization problem.
- Non-convex costs are captured directly. The time-coupling constraints of generators and the pumped hydro storage are modeled explicitly.

# Priority Service Bilevel Model

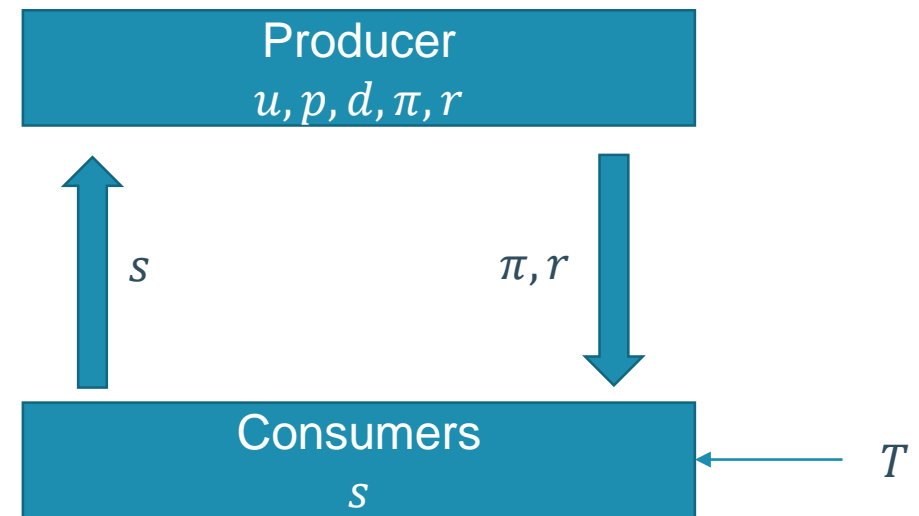
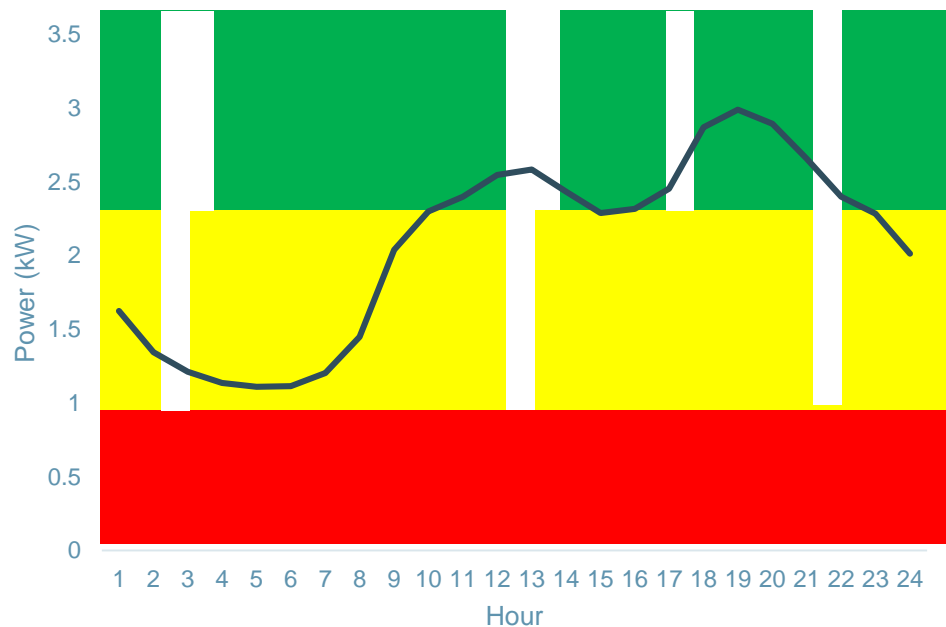


$$\begin{aligned} \max_{u,p,d,\pi,r} \quad & SW(u, p, d, \pi, r) \\ \text{subject to:} \quad & (u, p, d) \in \mathcal{X} \\ & r = \phi(d, s^*) \\ & \Pi_* = \psi(u, p, s^*, \pi) \\ & s^* \in \operatorname{argmax}_s \{CS(r, \pi) : s \in S\} \end{aligned}$$

$u, p$	unit commitment and production decisions
$d$	power supply to different options
$r, \pi$	reliability and price
$s$	subscription decision
$\Pi_*$	profit target



# Extension to Multilevel Demand Subscription

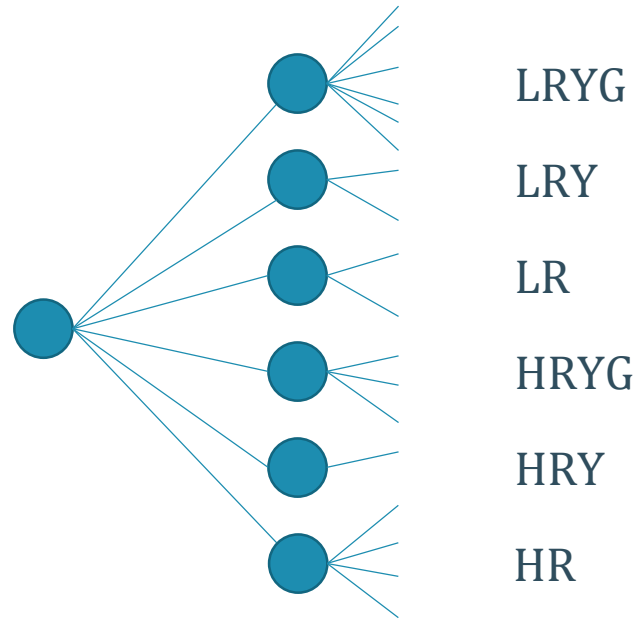


- Consumers: reduce un-utilized subscription.
- Producer: better estimation of the valuation of consumers.

# Performance Evaluation

- Scenario Tree of Interruption Patterns and Local Uncertainty
- Interaction between System-Level Uncertainty and Local Uncertainty

# Scenario Tree



H, L	high or low PV production
R, Y, G	Red, yellow or green color is served

Probability of each path can be calculated according to the probability of high/low PV production and the reliability of each option.

Reliability (%)	Price (€/kW-month)
75	30
87.5	40
100	50

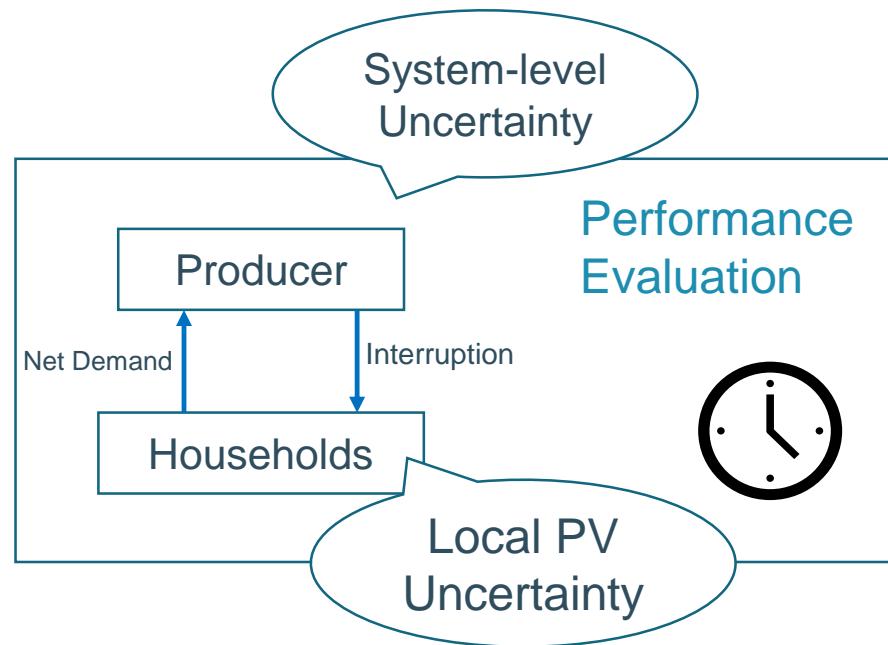
$$P_{\text{RYG}} = r_1$$

$$P_{\text{RYG}} + P_{\text{RY}} = r_2$$

$$P_{\text{RYG}} + P_{\text{RY}} + P_{\text{R}} = r_3$$

$$P_{\text{LRYG}} = P_{\text{L}} \times P_{\text{RYG}}$$

# Interaction between System-Level Uncertainty and Local Uncertainty



- The interface between the producer and the household is the service contract.
- The producer meters and reacts to net demand.
- Household faces rooftop solar power supply as well as the interruption of different service options.
- The simulation adopts a rolling horizon approach.

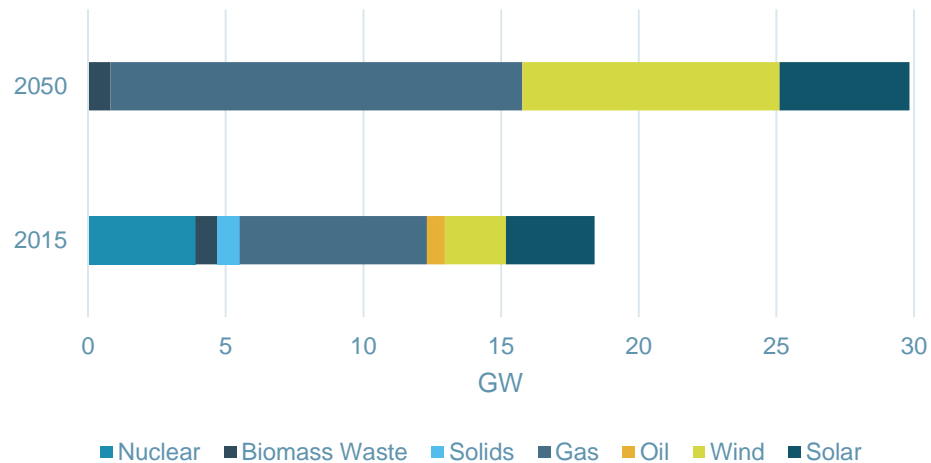
# Case Study

- System settings
- Price menus
- Policy analysis

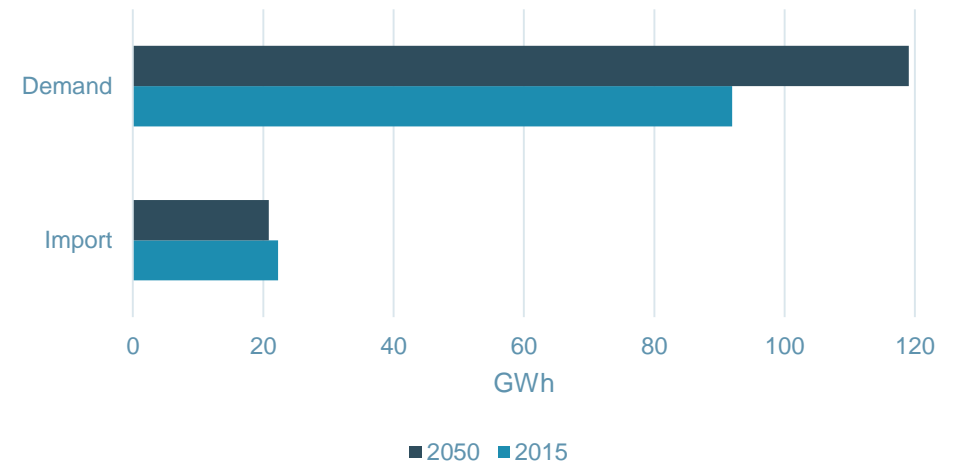
# System Settings

We consider a forward-looking scenario of the year 2050, and work with eight representative days, each of which is split into six 4-hour blocks.

Installed Capacity in Belgium



Import and Demand in Belgium



# System Settings (Cont'd)

Battery Type	Energy Limit (kWh)	Power Limit (kW)	Efficiency (%)	Overnight Cost (€)
Large (Tesla)	13.5	5	95	11,100
Small (Moixa)	3.84	0.85	95	5,120

Household Type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Peak	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night
PV Panel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Battery	Large	Large	Small	Small	No	No	No	No
Proportion (%)	6.83	1.5	6.83	1.5	6.83	1.5	61.5	13.5

# Price Menus

## Priority service

Reliability (%)	Price (€/kW-month)
58.5	26.4
85.3	39.3
100.0	48.5

## Multilevel demand subscription

Reliability (%)	Duration (%)	Price (€/kW-month)
58.5	33.3	14.9
	66.7	22.9
	100.0	<b>26.4</b>
85.3	33.3	22.1
	66.7	34.1
	100.0	<b>39.3</b>
100.0	33.3	27.3
	66.7	42.1
	100.0	<b>48.5</b>



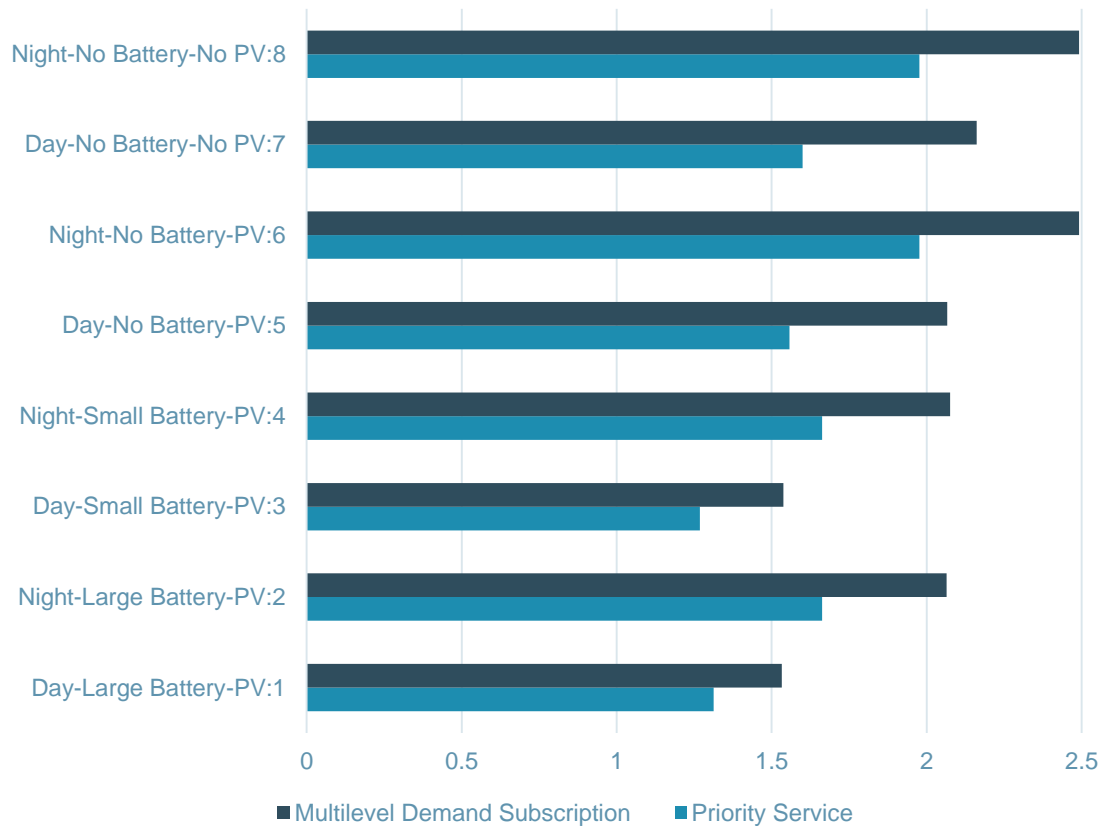
# Operational Efficiency

Policy	Production Cost (M €/month)	Shortage Cost (M €/month)	Producer Revenue (M €/month)	Supplied Energy (GWh/month)
Priority Service	42.1	22.7	139.3	1514.4
Multilevel Demand	41.1	4.4	140.5	1534.3

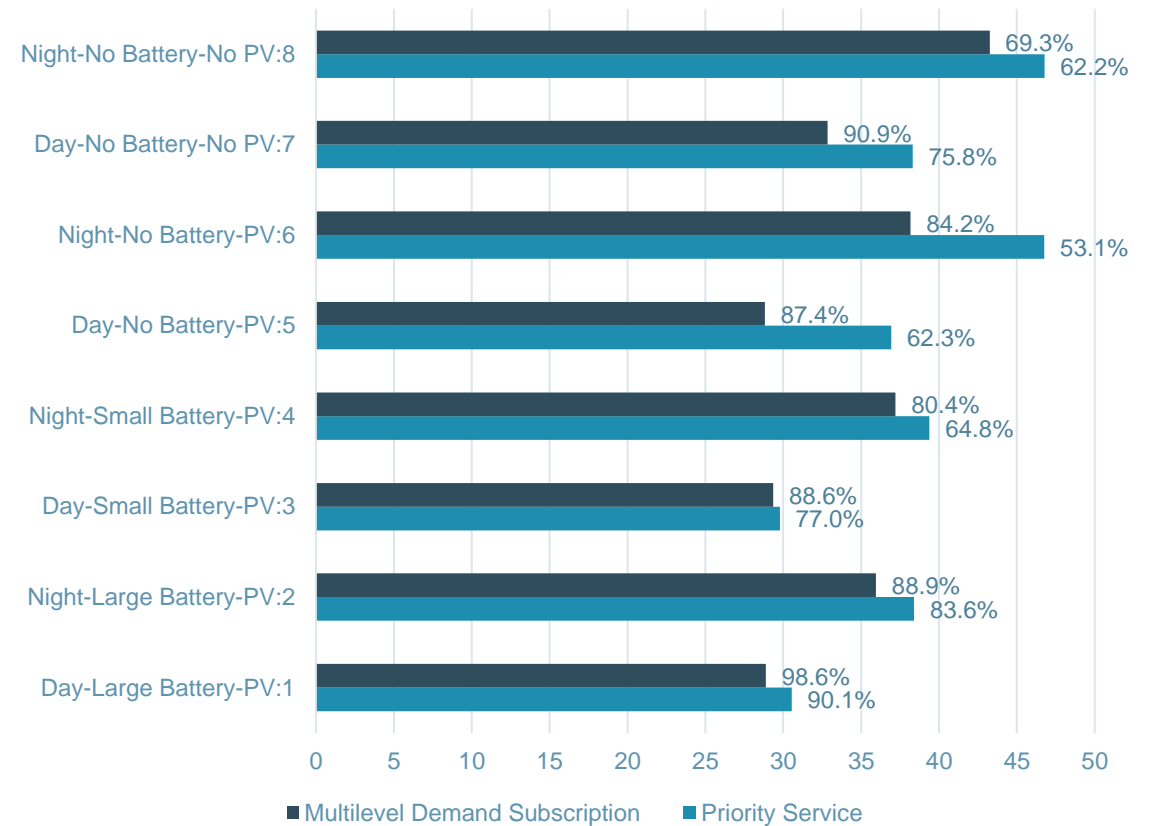
- Multilevel demand subscription supplies slightly more power to the households at a slightly lower cost and reduces discomfort of households significantly.
- The revenue of the producer increases slightly.
- Multilevel demand subscription proves to be beneficial for both the producer and households because of better differentiation.

# Service Comparison under Different Policies

Total Capacity (kW)

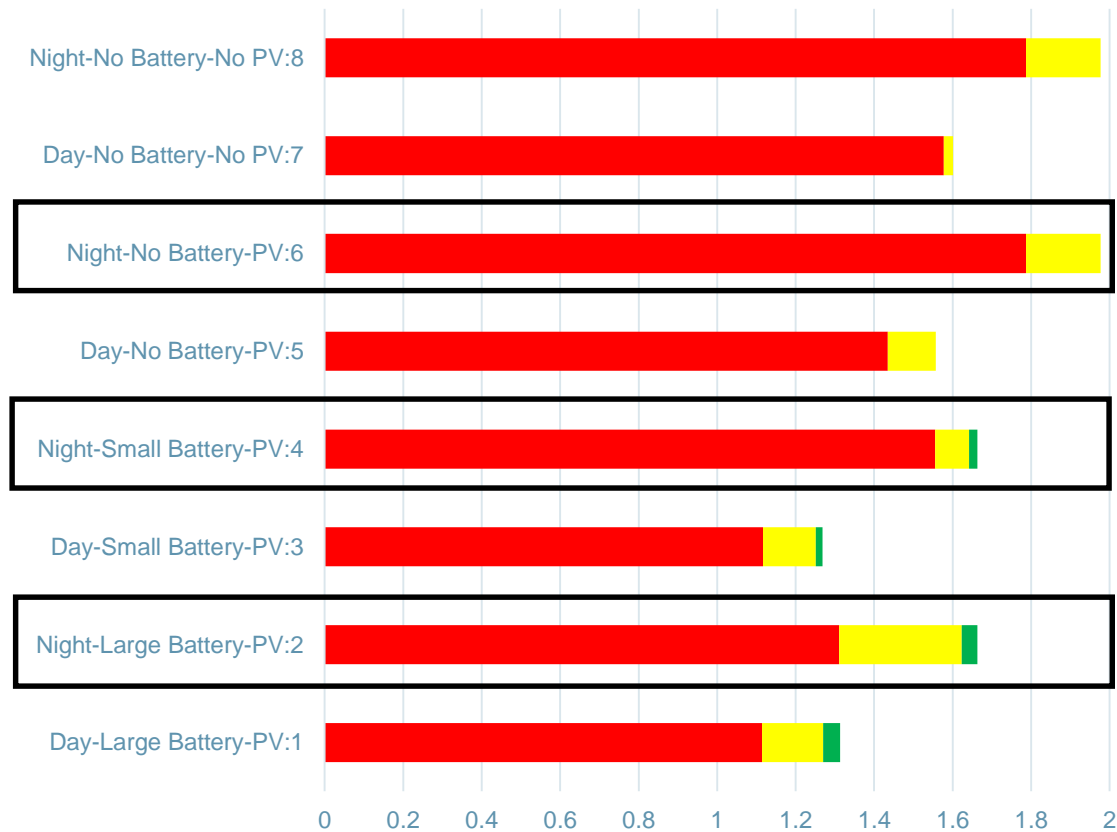


Entitled Energy per Month (kWh/month)

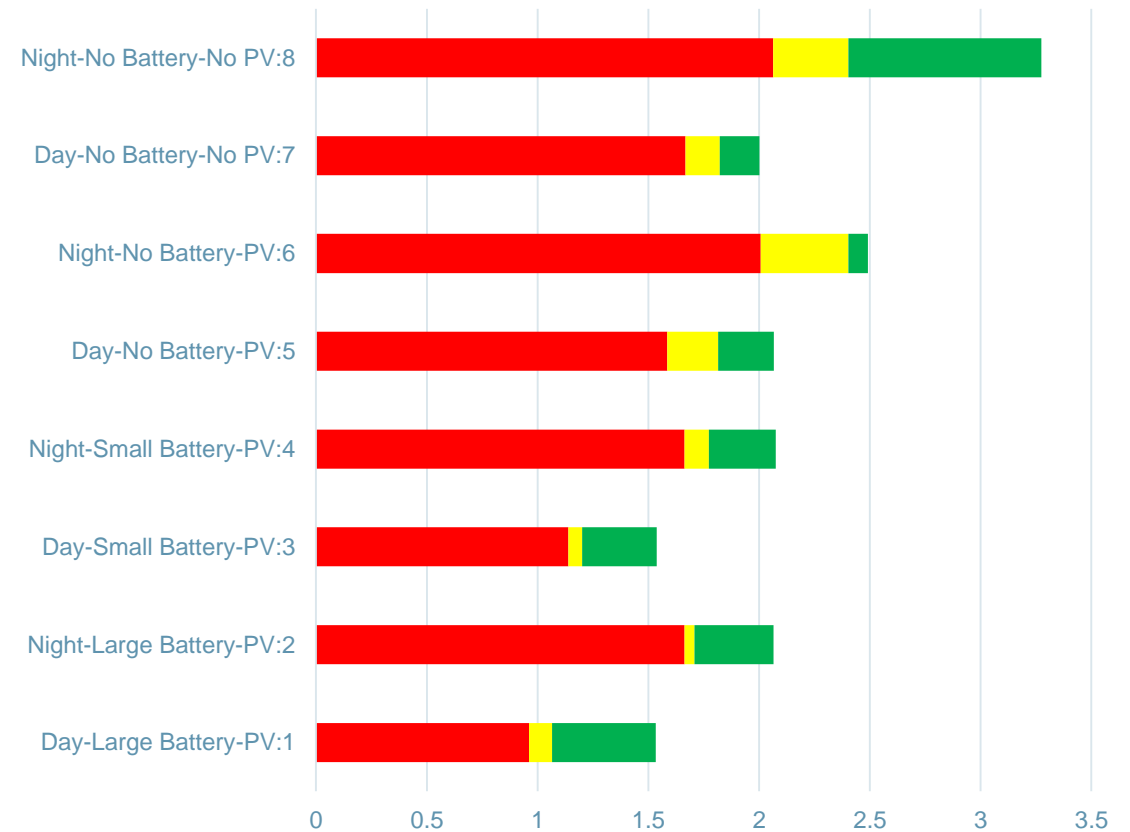


# Impact of Storage on the Demand for Capacity

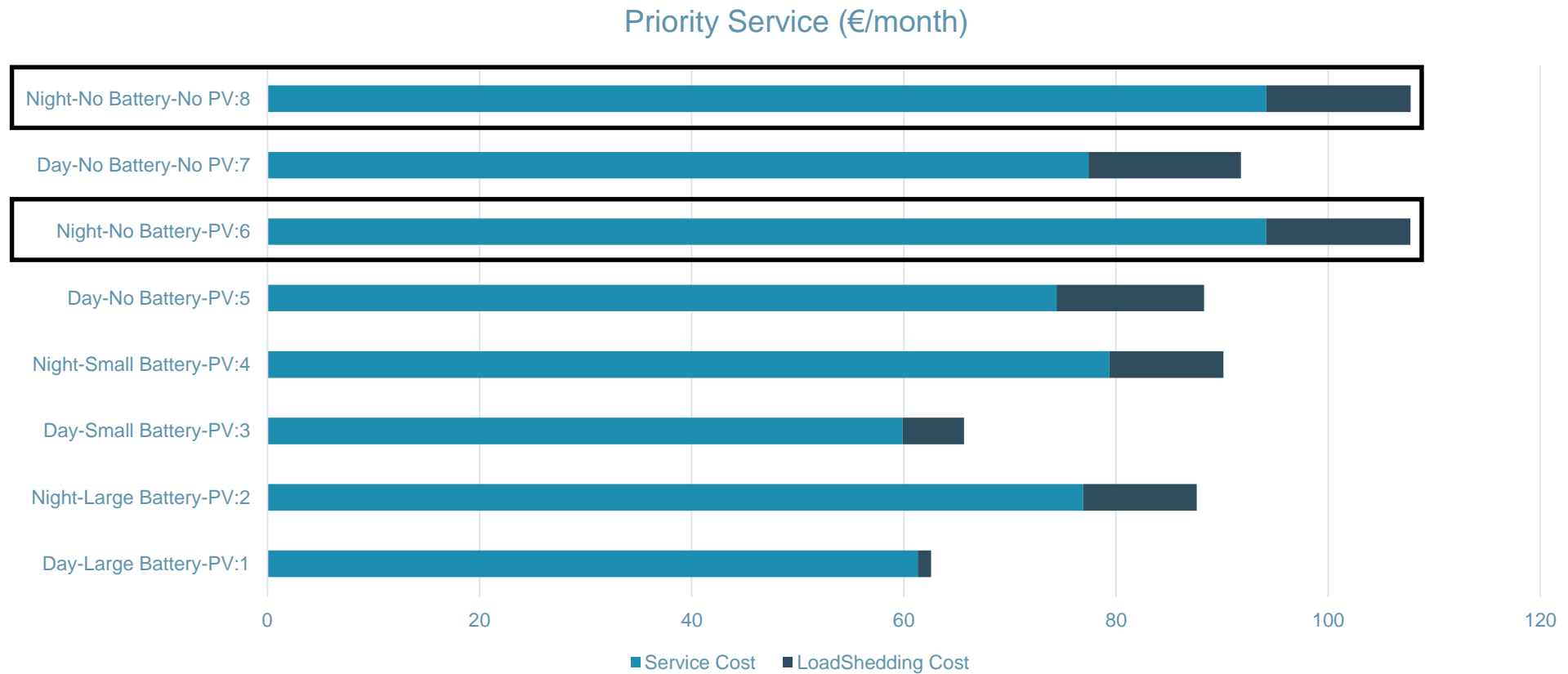
Priority Service (kW)



Multilevel Demand Subscription (kW)

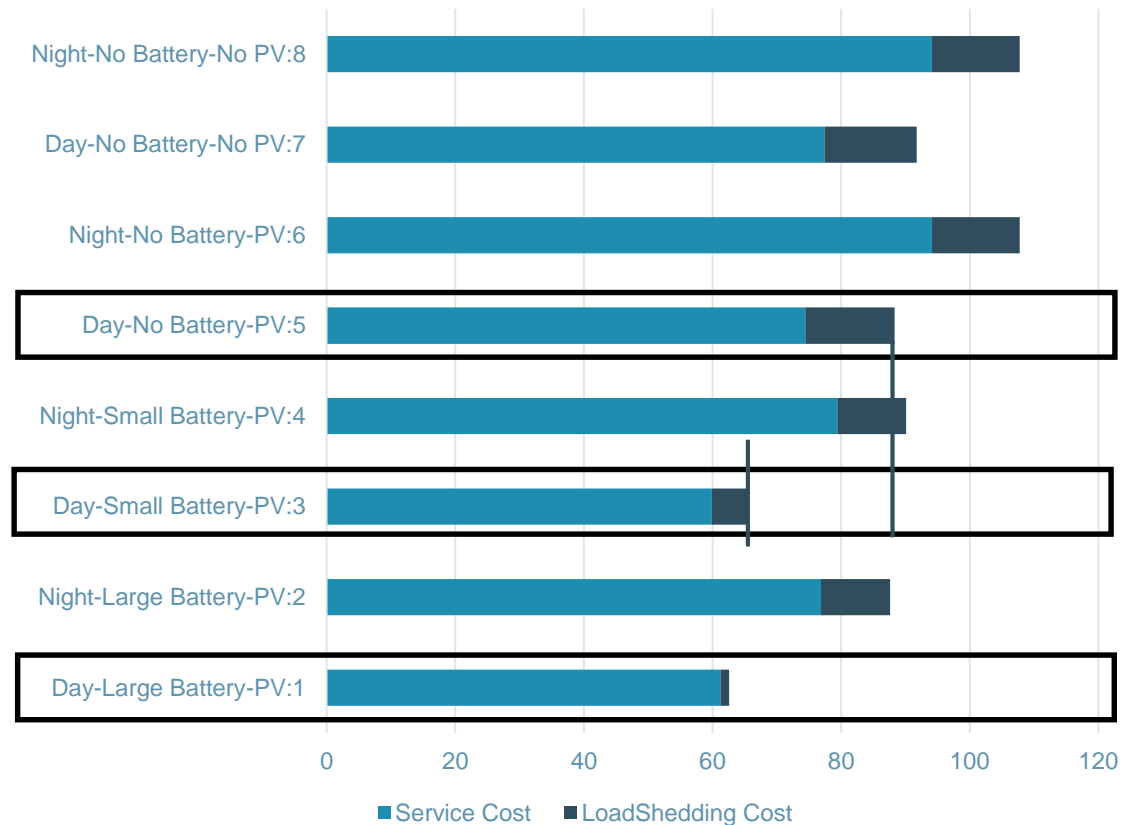


# Benefits of PV Panels

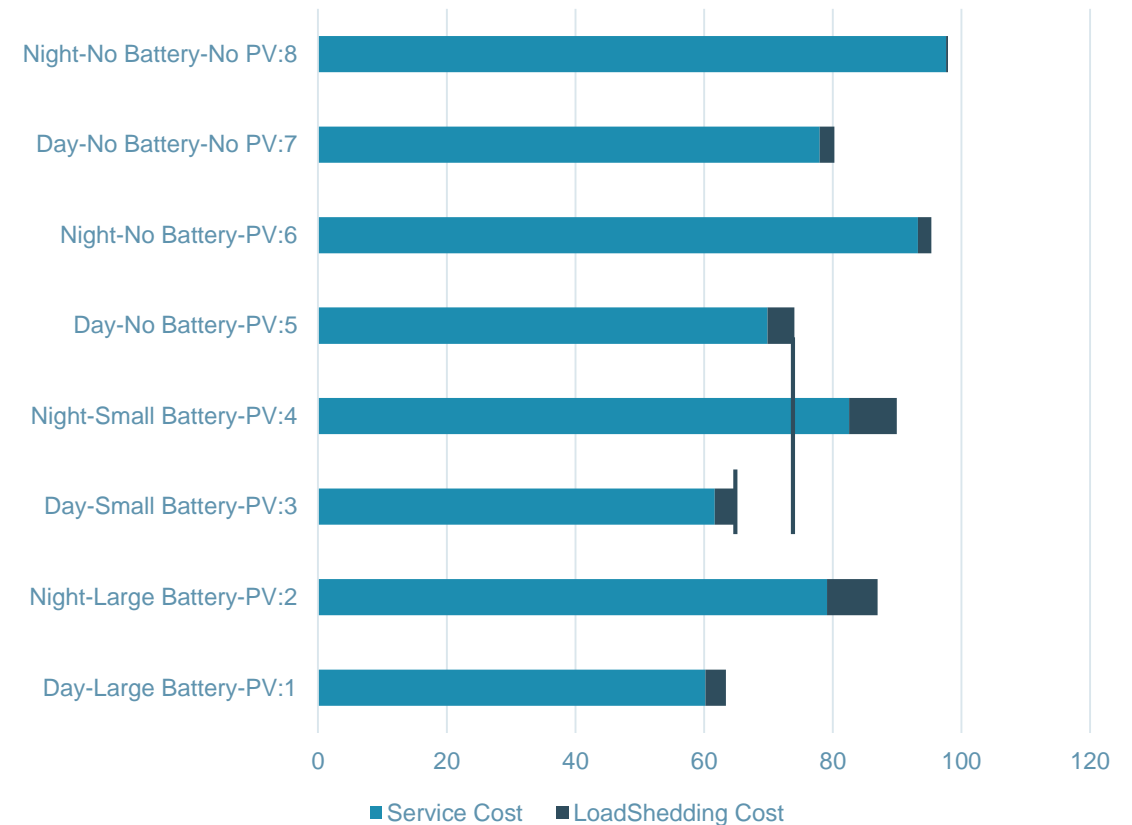


# Benefits of Local Storage under Different Policies

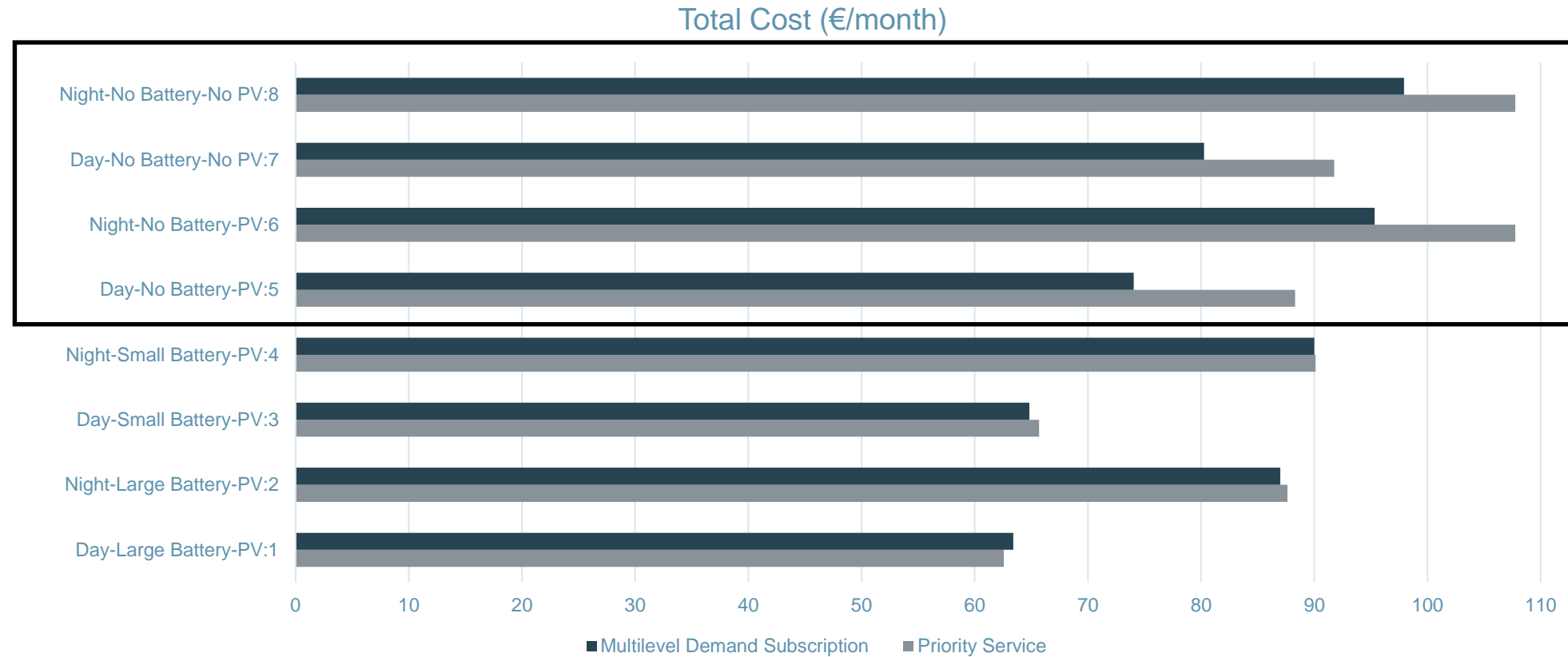
Priority Service (€/month)



Multilevel Demand Subscription (€/month)



# Cost Comparison of Households under Different Policies



# Conclusions and Perspectives

- A summary of conclusions
- Future areas of research

# A Summary of Conclusions

- **Operational efficiency:**
  - Under multilevel demand subscription, the utility is able to supply more energy to households at a lower cost.
  - The service inconvenience of households is also reduced.
- **Service comparison:**
  - The total subscribed capacity of each household under multilevel demand subscription is higher than that under priority service.
  - The subscribed energy is less.
  - Under multilevel demand subscription, the utilization ratio of the subscribed energy improves.



# A Summary of Conclusions (Cont'd)

- **Cost comparison of households under different policies:**
  - The total cost of a household equipped with a battery under multilevel demand subscription is almost identical to that under priority service.
  - If the household does not own a battery, the savings achieved by multilevel demand subscription are more significant.

# Future Areas of Research

- **Improved representation of the household model:** We are working on further improving the household models by considering more diverse household types, flexible appliances, a longer horizon, a more detailed model of uncertainty and sizing of batteries.
- **Development of home energy management systems:** HEM assists households with managing electricity consumption based on machine learning techniques or optimization models [[Gérard et al., 2019](#)].

# Ongoing Priority Service Research Projects

**ICEBERG** - Scalable Optimization of Power Systems  
with Flexible Demand and Renewable Supply

**SMARTS** - Stochastic Market Auction Redesigned  
Trading System



**European Research Council**

Established by the European Commission



# References

- Yuting Mou, Anthony Papavasiliou, and Philippe Chevalier. **A bi-level optimization formulation of priority service pricing.** *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, 35(4):2493–2505, 2020.
- Yuting Mou, Céline Gérard, Anthony Papavasiliou, and Philippe Chevalier. **Designing menus for multilevel demand subscription.** In *2021 Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS)*, 2021.
- Yuting Mou. **Nonlinear Pricing Schemes for Mobilizing Residential Flexibility in Power Systems.** *PhD thesis, Université Catholique de Louvain*, 2020.

Gratias ago Matondi  
Merci 감사합니다  
Grazie Dankie Eskerrik Asko  
Hvala Dziękuję Dank u wel  
Dankon Thank you  
Tak Shukran merci 谢谢  
Gracias Obrigado 谢谢  
Danke ευχαριστώ  
ありがとうございました