

# Capacity Credit of Renewables and Storage in Low-Carbon Power Systems

#### Prof Pierluigi Mancarella

Chair of Electrical Power Systems, The University of Melbourne Professor of Smart Energy Systems, The University of Manchester *veski* Innovation Fellow

pierluigi.mancarella@unimelb.edu.au

"Tendencias actuales para el reconocimiento de potencia en sistemas eléctricos con bajas emisiones de CO<sub>2</sub>"

Santiago, Chile, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

#### Outline

- Context:
  - Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) sources
  - Supply adequacy
- "Capacity Credit" of VRE (and storage):
  - Definitions
- Approaches to capacity credit assessment
- Case study examples
- Concluding remarks

## What is meant by intermittent/variable generation?

- Generation whose output varies with environmental conditions and for which the operator has no control upon the "available fuel"
- Many renewables (such as wind, solar, etc.) are classified as being intermittent/variable

#### - Variable Renewable Energy (VRE)

- Can VRE provide *reliable supply*?
- How intermittent/variable is conventional thermal generation?

#### Long-term reliability: generation (or more generally "supply") adequacy

- Generation adequacy:
  - Capability to meet demand with a certain level of reliability of supply
- Various reliability indicators to measure adequacy
  - LOLP (Loss of Load Probability)
  - **LOLE** (Loss of Load Expectation)
    - Probability of (peak) demand exceeding available generation
  - **EENS** (Expected Energy Not Supplied)

## Classical approach to determining generation adequacy and plant margin



- The higher the planned *capacity margin*, the lower the LOLP (or other reliability indicator)
- Generation capacity is considered "adequate" if the system meets minimum levels required for LOLP, EENS, etc.

"The Book": R. Billinton and R.N. Allan, *Reliability evaluation of power systems*, Springer, 1996

### Example: Generation adequacy and capacity margin



#### **Capacity measures for variable generation**

- <u>Capacity credit</u> (or *capacity value*) of VRE sources is a measure of the amount of load that can be served on an electricity system by variable plant with no decrease in the reliability level (e.g., no increase in the LOLP)
  - It is often expressed in terms of *conventional thermal capacity that variable generation capacity can replace*
- <u>Capacity factor</u> is the energy produced by a generator relative to the maximum possible energy output (100% of max output at all times)
  - Capacity factor for base load thermal generators can be around 85%
  - Wind achieves capacity factors of 20% 50%



#### **Determinants of capacity credit**

- The degree of correlation between demand peaks and variable output
- The average level of output
  - A higher level of average output over peak periods will tend to increase capacity credit
- The range of variable outputs (*diversity*)
  - For example, having different types of variable plant on a system decreases variance and increases overall renewables capacity credit

#### Displaced conventional capacity by wind generation – a simple UK example



Note: calculations assume 40% wind capacity factor

#### Capacity Credit in Low-carbon Power Systems: a more general definition

- Capacity Credit of generation, storage, or flexible load resources:
  - Contribution of the resource to supply adequacy
- The amount of <u>conventional power generation</u> that can be <u>replaced or avoided</u> by adding VRE, Storage, Demand Response (DR) to the system without reducing the system reliability level



#### Key questions pertinent to capacity credit

- How much can we rely on VRE to provide security of supply?
  - System adequacy
  - "Firm capacity" of VRE?
- How can storage (and DR) help firm up the capacity of VRE?
- How should VRE capacity be valued in markets



#### How to Calculate Capacity Credit: Methods

#### Methods based on approximations and proxies

- Capacity Factor Approximation Method
- Loss-of-Load Probability-Weighted Capacity Approximation
- Garver-Method, Z-Method
- Pros: Low computational burden
- Cons: Not accurate (variance can be up to 100%)
  - especially with different VRE types, penetration levels
  - basically not trustable *at all* with storage, complex system and market operation, etc.



#### Simple formulas? Forget-about-it!

#### How to Calculate Capacity Credit: Methods

#### **Reliability-based methods**

#### Analytical methods

- Example: Capacity Outage Probability Table (COPT)
- Pros: Simple
- Cons:
  - Not accurate



 Time-independent: the temporal correlation between demand and wind/solar or storage/DR cannot be considered



#### How to Calculate Capacity Credit: Methods

#### **Reliability-based methods**

- Monte-Carlo Simulation (MCS)
  - Pros:
    - Accurate, as can model system operation in any detail
  - Cons:
    - Computationally (very) heavy
      - However, fortunately the state of the art is rich in acceleration and fast sampling techniques
- Methodology:
  - Calculate the **net load profiles** (load not covered by VRE, storage or DR) from:
    - Time series of wind/solar (from different climatic years)
    - Production models
  - Calculate conventional generators' available capacity profile
  - Assess reliability indicators (LOLE, EENS, etc.)

#### How to Calculate Capacity Credit: Monte-Carlo Simulation (MCS)



#### How to calculate the Capacity Credit of a resource: Metrics

#### Effective Load Carrying Capability (ELCC)

 The amount by which the system's load can increase (when a resource is added to the system) while maintaining the same system reliability (as measured by LOLP, LOLE, etc.)



\* Figure adapted from [1], general methodology discussed in [3] and [4]

#### How to calculate the Capacity Credit of a resource: Metrics

- Equivalent Generation Capacity Substitution (EGCS):
  - The amount of *conventional generation* that could be displaced (retired) by adding a new resource while preserving the level of system adequacy



\* Adapted from [1], [3] and [4]

### Melbourne, 2020 Capacity credit, Santiago, 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2020

#### Example: Australian National Electricity Market (NEM) grid

- Wind Potential: 20 GW
- Solar Potential: 17 GW
- System Peak Demand: 36 GW
- Proposed Pumped-Hydro Storage Plant (PHSP):
  - 15 Utility Scale PHSP Projects
  - total = 2.9 GW \* 17 h  $\approx$  50 GWh



#### **EGCS of Wind and Solar in NEM**



Individual: The sum of EGCS values of wind & solar when operated independently

Aggregate: The EGCS value of wind & solar when they are both in the system

#### **EGCS of Wind, Solar and PHSP**



Installed Wind&Solar Cap/Max Potential = 1
 Installed Wind&Solar Cap/Max Potential = 0.8
 Installed Wind&Solar Cap/Max Potential = 0.4
 Installed Wind&Solar Cap/Max Potential = 0.2

## Adequacy of a VRE-based NEM

## *How much storage do we need?*

PHSP maximum charging and discharging power:

- 6h (green)
- 12h (blue)
- 24h (red)



#### Results from [5]

#### Conventional generation increases

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Capacity credit, Santiago, 23rd Sep 2020

#### **Role and impact of network**

Illustration of capacity credit evaluation in multi-area system<sup>[6]</sup>

- Capacity credit can be grossly over-estimated without considering network constraints
- Network constraints have impact on system scheduling and generation adequacy
- Meshing the system and a stronger interconnection to an area with large storage (TAS) or high capacity margin (QLD) can unlock more CC



See [6] for details

#### Capacity Credit of Distributed Energy Storage: UK case study example



The energy/power ratio of batteries is assumed to be equal to 2

See [1] for details

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#### **Key concluding remarks**

- Capacity Credit (CC) is a key technical concept for system planning and market design in the presence of renewables and other enabling technologies such as storage
- Given the complexity of system and market operation with renewables and storage, simple formulas do not work!
- Reliability-based Monte Carlo Simulations assessment is the state-of-the-art and most suitable methodology
- Different metrics for capacity credit may be adopted (e.g., EGCS, ELCC) with different reliability indicators (e.g., LOLE)
- Renewables can provide significant capacity value, especially if "firmed up" by storage, but the assessment is case specific and requires suitable modelling
- Networks can be both enabling and constraining system CC
- Distributed storage can provide (substantial) CC but requires suitable market signals over-riding self-consumption incentives

#### References

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#### How to calculate the Capacity Credit of a resource: Metrics

- Equivalent Conventional Capacity (ECC):
  - The capacity of a virtual conventional generator that can replace the new resource while maintaining the same system reliability level
- Equivalent Firm Capacity (EFC):
  - The capacity of a virtual, fully reliable conventional generator that can replace the new resource while maintaining the same system reliability level LOLE of original



#### **EGCS of Wind and PHSP**



Installed Wind Cap/Max Potential = 1
 Installed Wind Cap/Max Potential = 0.8
 Installed Wind Cap/Max Potential = 0.4
 Installed Wind Cap/Max Potential = 0.2



Installed Solar Cap/Max Potential = 1
 Installed Solar Cap/Max Potential = 0.8
 Installed Solar Cap/Max Potential = 0.4
 Installed Solar Cap/Max Potential = 0.2

#### **Capacity credit assessment in multi-area systems**

	Wind Potential	Solar Potential	P Pr	HSP ojects	Peak Demand	
QLD	3.89GW	4GW	0.31	GW*5h	8.9GW	
NSW	7GW	7GW	1G	W*14h	15.1GW	
VIC	5.21GW	4.9GW	0.03	GW*6h	10GW	
SA	2GW	0.98GW	0.360	GW*13h	2.52GW	
TAS	0.9GW	0	1.2G	W*24h	1.5GW	
Total	19GW	16.88GW	2.9G	W*17h	36GW	
	Conv Generatio	Conventional Generation Capacity		Conventional Generation Capacity Margin		
QLD	13.0	13.63GW		4.73GW		
NSW	15.32GW			0.22GW		
VIC	10.0	10.67GW		0.67GW		
SA	2.4	2.43GW		-0.09GW		
TAS	2.46GW			0.96GW		
Total	44.:	51GW		6.39GW		
Interconnector		From/To	To/Fro	m Ca	apacity/MW	
Terranora		QLD	NSW	-	210	
ONI		OLD	NSW		1078	



See [6] for details

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VIC

TAS

VIC

VIC

NSW

VIC

SA

SA

1600

594

600

220

VIC1-NSW1

Basslink

Heywood

Murraylink

#### **Case studies for multi-area system**

- NEM Wind +Solar +Storage Aggregation System
- Three cases are studied:
  - Base Case (BA):
    - the system is treated as a single area system
  - Multi-area Case 1 (MAC1):
    - network constraints are considered
    - all interconnectors are assumed to be fully reliable and with nominal capacity
  - Multi-area Case 2 (MAC2):
    - both network constraints and interconnectors' unavailability are considered

See [6] for details

#### **Results and analysis for multi-area systems**

#### NEM: Wind + Solar + Storage System

