



Probabilistic Forecasting and Bidding Strategy of Ancillary Services for Aggregated Renewable Power Plants

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- Motivation
- Methodology: Bidding based on probabilistic forecasts
- Case Study
- Results
- Conclusion



### • Variable renewables need to participate to grid balancing

• Balancing relies on ancillary services offered by power producers



# Motivation (2/3)



- A renewable Virtual Power Plant (VPP) offers reserve to the grid
  - Bidding in reserve markets is challenging for variable producers



# Motivation (3/3)



#### • Which offer strategy?

- O Decision theory: need to forecast production with uncertainty quantification
- O State of the art: day-ahead energy market. Prices are independent from production





#### Workflow

- O Framework: day-ahead markets for energy and reserve, symmetrical reserve
- O Reserve clearing in the morning: forecast horizons 24h-48h



# Methodology (2/5)



#### Probabilistic forecast of aggregated production

- O Direct forecast of aggregated production with Quantile Regression Forests (QRF)
- O Data augmentation: NWP with several lags and lead time at each horizon





### Optimal quantile for reserve when bidding reserve and energy

• Optimal quantile on price differences ("spread") for bids and penalties [Soares 2016]:

 $\alpha_R = \frac{\Delta \hat{\pi}_{RE}}{\Delta \hat{\pi}_{RE} + \Delta \hat{\pi}_{RE}^*}$ 

- Probability of reserve activation  $\hat{a}_R$  matters:  $\Delta \hat{\pi}_{RE} = \hat{\pi}_R^{\uparrow} + \hat{\pi}_R^{\downarrow} + \hat{a}_R^{\uparrow} \cdot \hat{\pi}_{E_R}^{\downarrow} + \hat{a}_R^{\downarrow} \cdot \hat{\pi}_{E_R}^{\downarrow} - \hat{\pi}_E$
- Difference in penalties matters also:





Multiple price forecasts needed !

# Methodology (4/5)



Probabilistic forecast of price spread between reserve and energy



Day 1 Day 2 Day 3

# Methodology (5/5)

- Optimal quantile with dependence between price and production
  - Minimize the expected net loss (bid sales penalties)

$$\mathbb{E} \left( l_R \right) = \int_{y=0}^{R} \mathbb{E} \left( \Delta P_{RE}^* | Y = y \right) \cdot (R - y) f_Y(y) \, dy$$
$$+ \int_{y=R}^{1} \mathbb{E} \left( \Delta P_{RE}^* | Y = y \right) \left( (y - R) f_Y(y) \, dy \right)$$

- Dependence model of spread price and VPP production by copula (KDE)
  - $\mathbb{E}\left(\Delta P_{RE} \,\middle|\, Y = \hat{y}\right) = \int_{\pi = -\infty}^{\pi = +\infty} \hat{f}_{\Delta P_{RE} \,\middle|\, Y = \hat{y}}\left(\pi\right) d\pi$
- O Energy bid = VPP mean forecast





## **Case Study**





## Case study setup

- Wind PV VPP selling energy and aFRR (German data)
- 42 MWp, 3 wind farms + 10 PV farms
- O All models are trained on 09/2015 12/2015, and tested on 01/2016 03/2016
- 40 Bootstraps of VPP production per timestep

## Results (1/3)



#### Production forecast

- Adequate reliability
- O QRF deals efficiently with multiple energy sources (GBT benchmark less versatile)



## Results (2/3)



#### Spread price forecast and optimal quantiles



Quantile score -45% vs climatology



#### Optimal quantile aFRR nominal value

Offer based on copula is more conservative than deterministic approaches





#### Average revenue increases of: +5 % to +10%



Camal S, Michiorri A, Kariniotakis G. Optimal Offer of Automatic Frequency Restoration Reserve from a Combined PV/Wind Virtual Power Plant. IEEE Trans Power Syst 2018;99. doi:10.1109/TPWRS.2018.2847239.



- A bidding strategy based entirely of probabilistic forecast
  - O Dependence between renewable production and prices hedges against underfulfilments
  - O Increased revenue of 5% and risk of not providing reserve limited to 0.1%
- A direct regression model for aggregated production forecast

QRF is adapted to forecast multi-source renewable production

• Applicable to different balancing services

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## References



[Camal 18]: Camal S, Michiorri A, Kariniotakis G. Optimal Offer of Automatic Frequency Restoration Reserve from a Combined PV/Wind Virtual Power Plant. IEEE Trans Power Syst 2018;99. doi:10.1109/TPWRS.2018.2847239.

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