

# **Sustainable Power Generation MJ2405**

## **Energy Economics and Power Generation System Aspects**



**KTH Industrial Engineering  
and Management**

*With support from:*

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**Prof. Em. Lars Strömberg**



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# Perspectives in economic evaluations

## Business (private) focus

Time frame: Project life

Costs:

All costs paid by project owner. Includes taxes.

Environmental costs assumed equal to environmental fees.

Revenues:

All revenues to be earned by project owner. Includes subsidies.

**Problem:**

- Cost projections

## Community (public) focus

Time frame: Often beyond project life

Costs:

All costs paid by community as a result of project plan. Includes project owner.

Taxes paid by community members are not direct costs.

Often includes environmental costs = actual cost of damage caused.

Revenues:

All revenues earned by community. Includes also non-monetary benefits.

**Additional problems:**

- Time frame
- How to value non-monetary benefits and costs of environmental damage



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# Energy Production Cost (Levelized Cost of Electricity = LCOE)

Per \$/kWh of electricity output

$$LCOE = \frac{\xi}{\eta} + \frac{\beta C_o}{kWh} + \frac{O\&M}{kWh}$$

$\eta$  – overall plant efficiency

$\xi$  – unit cost of fuel ( \$ / kWh input)

kWh – plant annual utilization (operation hours)

$\beta$  – capital charge factor (cost of money)

$C_o$  – capital cost of plant (\$)

O&M – annual cost of operation and maintenance (\$)



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# ENERGY ECONOMICS - OVERVIEW

## *The challenge:*

To find the technical solution that will provide the amounts of heat and/or electricity needed at the least cost and with consideration to various restrictions imposed by laws and environmental regulations.

Economic evaluation must often cover a long period of time - usually 10 years and often up to 25 - 40 years.

This leads to uncertainties:

- Future inflation rate
- Future fuel prices
- Future taxes
- More strict environmental laws
- Economic lifetime, maintenance/repair costs and readiness for or reliability of new technologies



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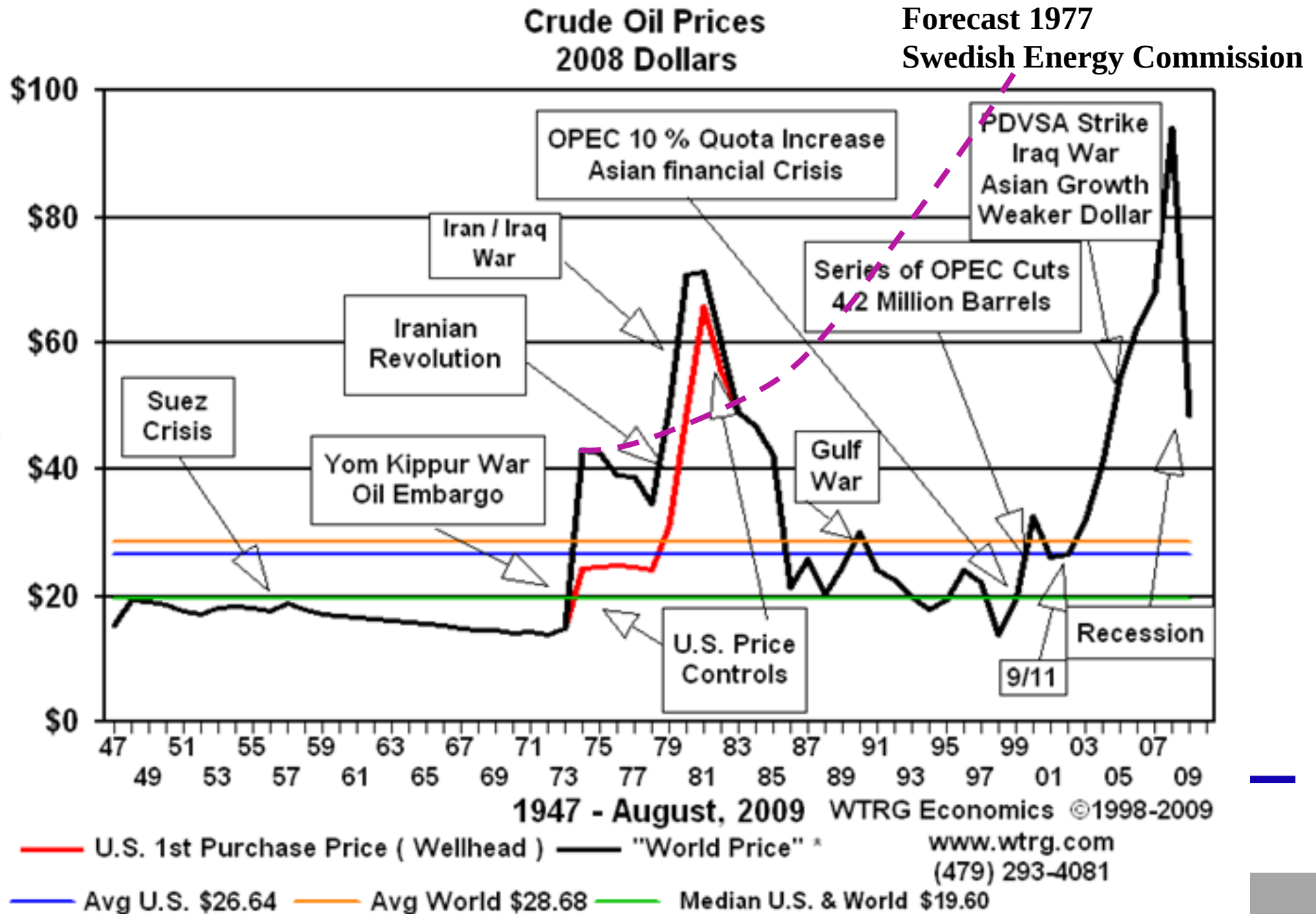
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# UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT FUEL COSTS



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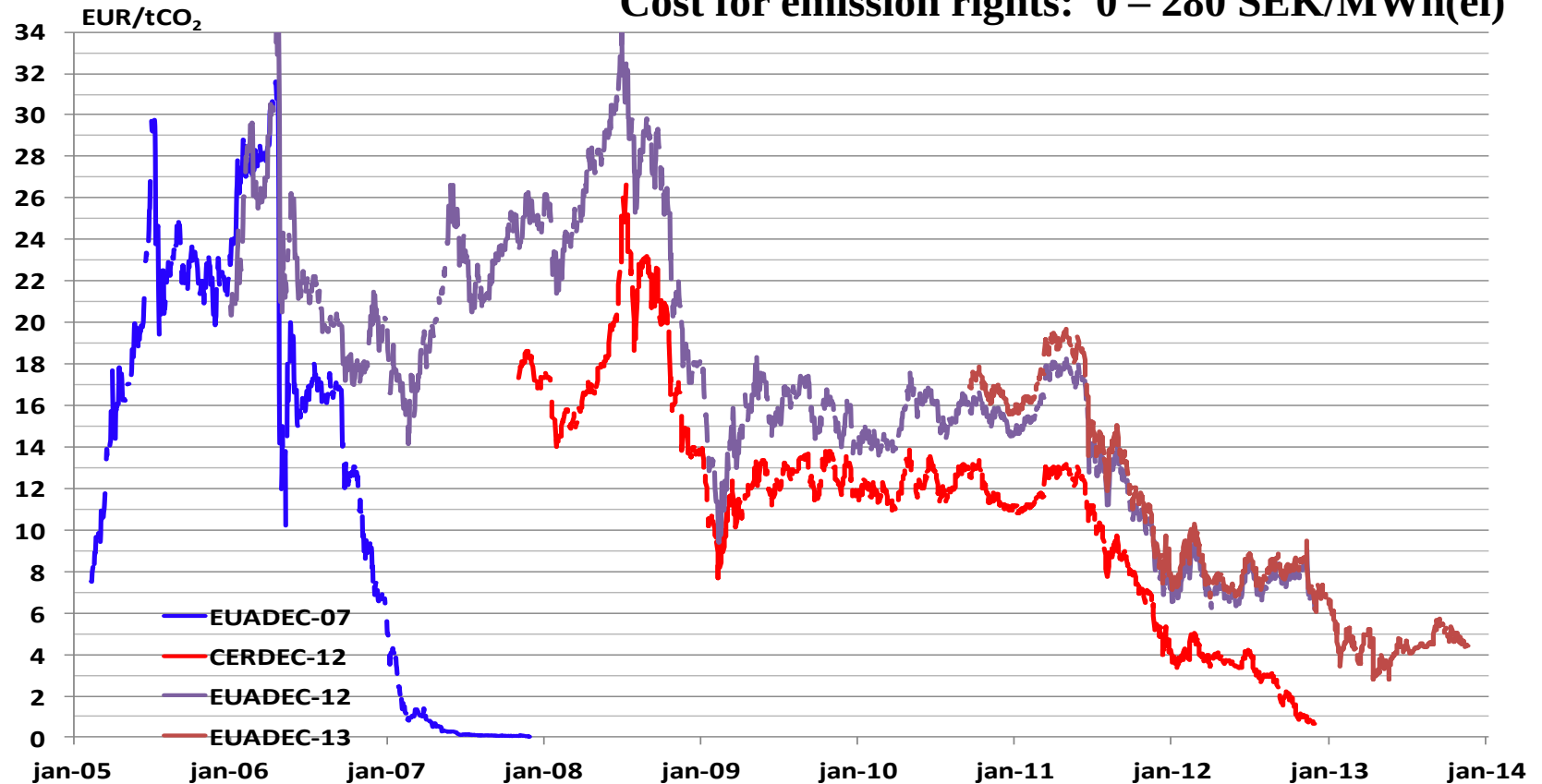
2008 \$/BARREL



# UNCERTAINTY ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS

*Emission rights for CO<sub>2</sub>*

CO<sub>2</sub> emission from steam plant burning coal  
330 kg/MWh(f) gives about 750 -900 kgCO<sub>2</sub> /MWh(el).  
Cost for emission rights: 0 – 280 SEK/MWh(el)

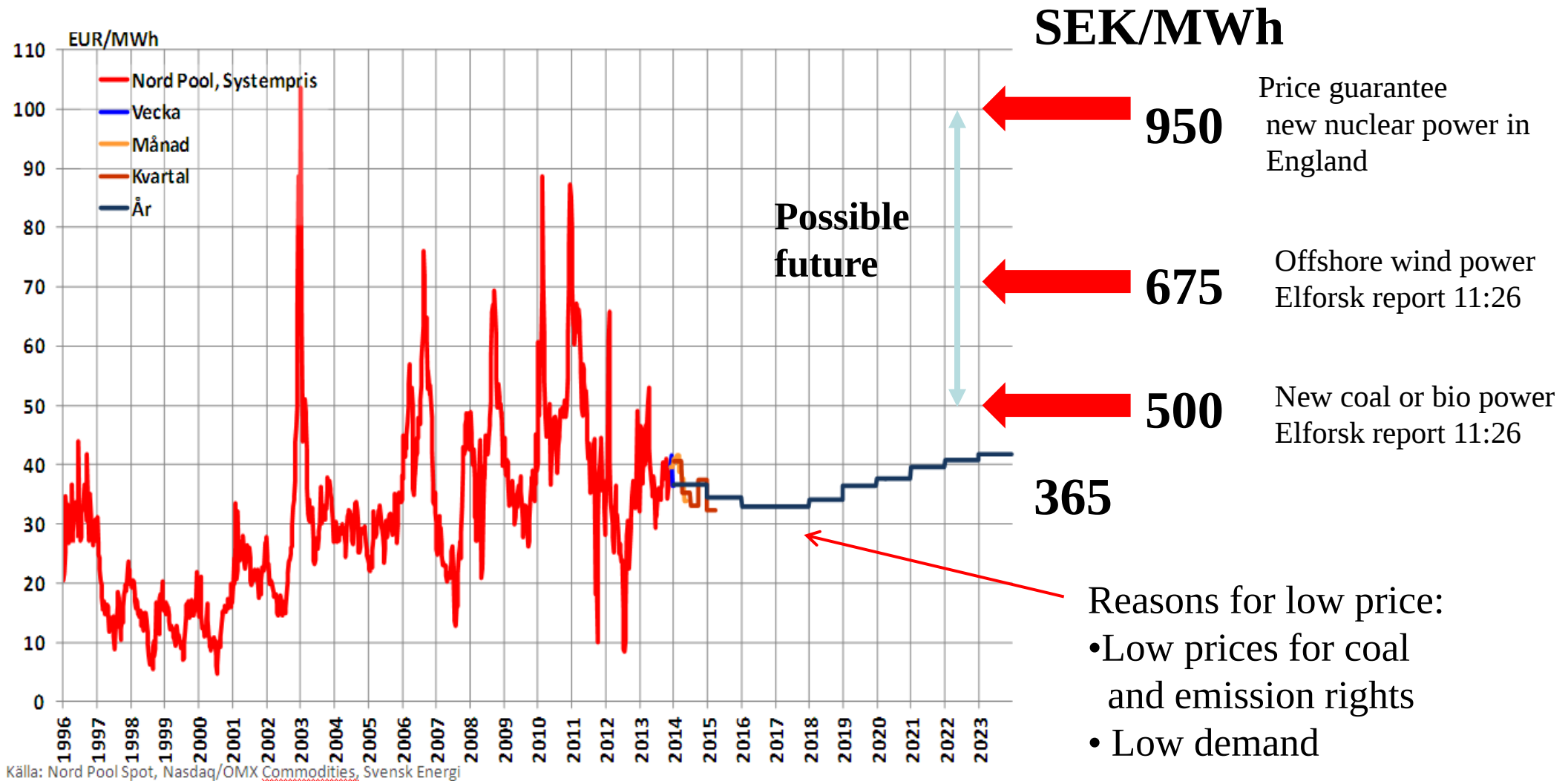


Source: Nasdaq/OMX Commodities; Svensk Energi



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# UNCERTAINTY ABOUT ELECTRICITY PRICE



# UNCERTAINTY ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL SUBSIDIES

*Price for Swedish electricity certificates*

SEK/MWh



A guess for  
next 5 – 10 years

In Sweden, all companies selling electricity need to buy "electricity certificates" for a fraction of the sold amount of electric energy (now about 18%), to support renewable energy sources. Those generating power with renewable sources receive 1 certificate per MWh el sold on the market. Other countries (like Germany) use fixed feed-in tariffs. Leads to less uncertainty.

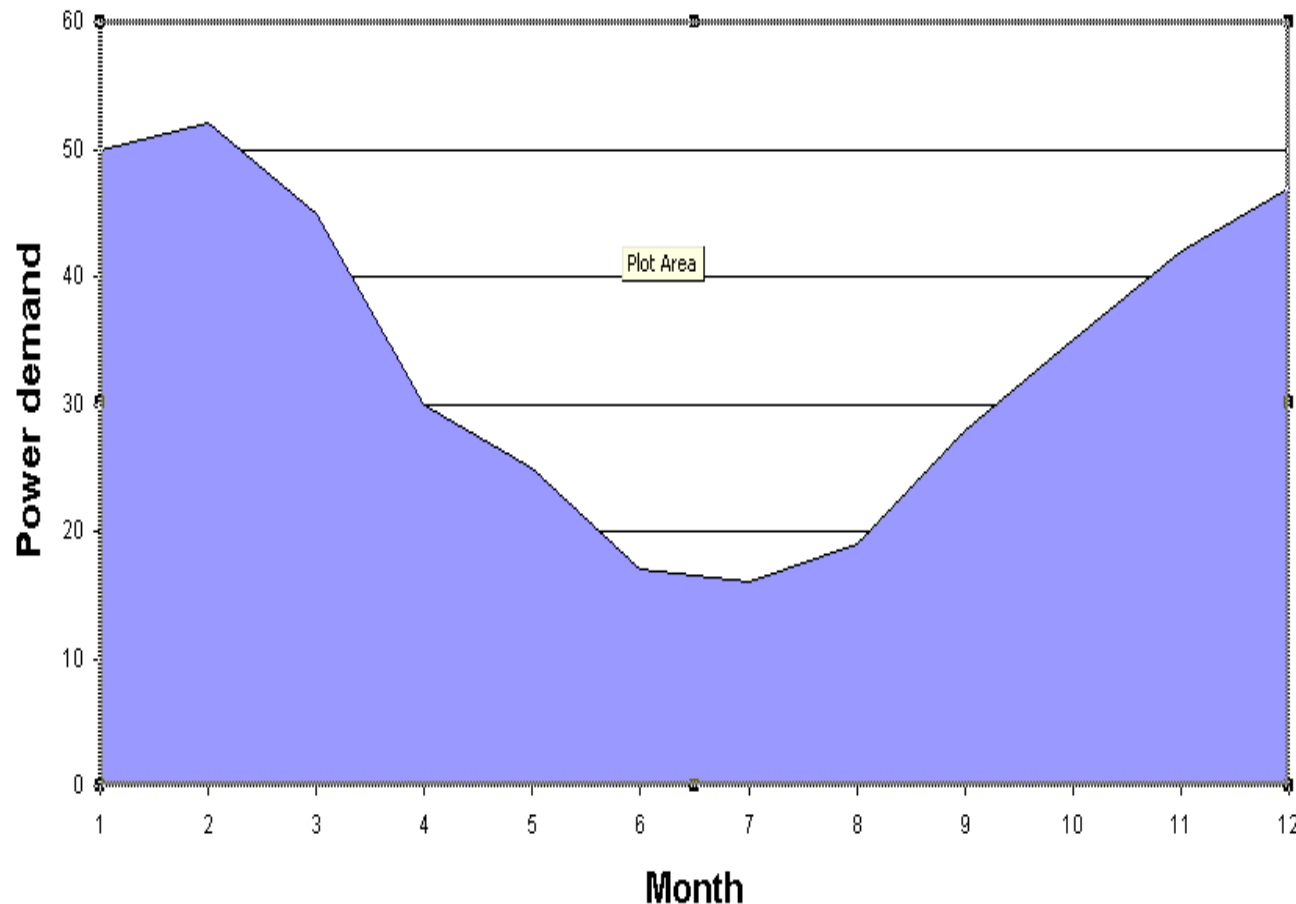


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# LOAD INFORMATION NEEDED FOR OPTIMIZING THE CAPACITY AND TYPE OF ENERGY SUPPLY PLANTS

*Peak load, total annual energy and load variation must be known.*

Chronological load curve



The power demand will vary with time.

Energy plant must serve energy demand and peak power demand.

$$\text{Energy} = \int \text{Power } dt$$

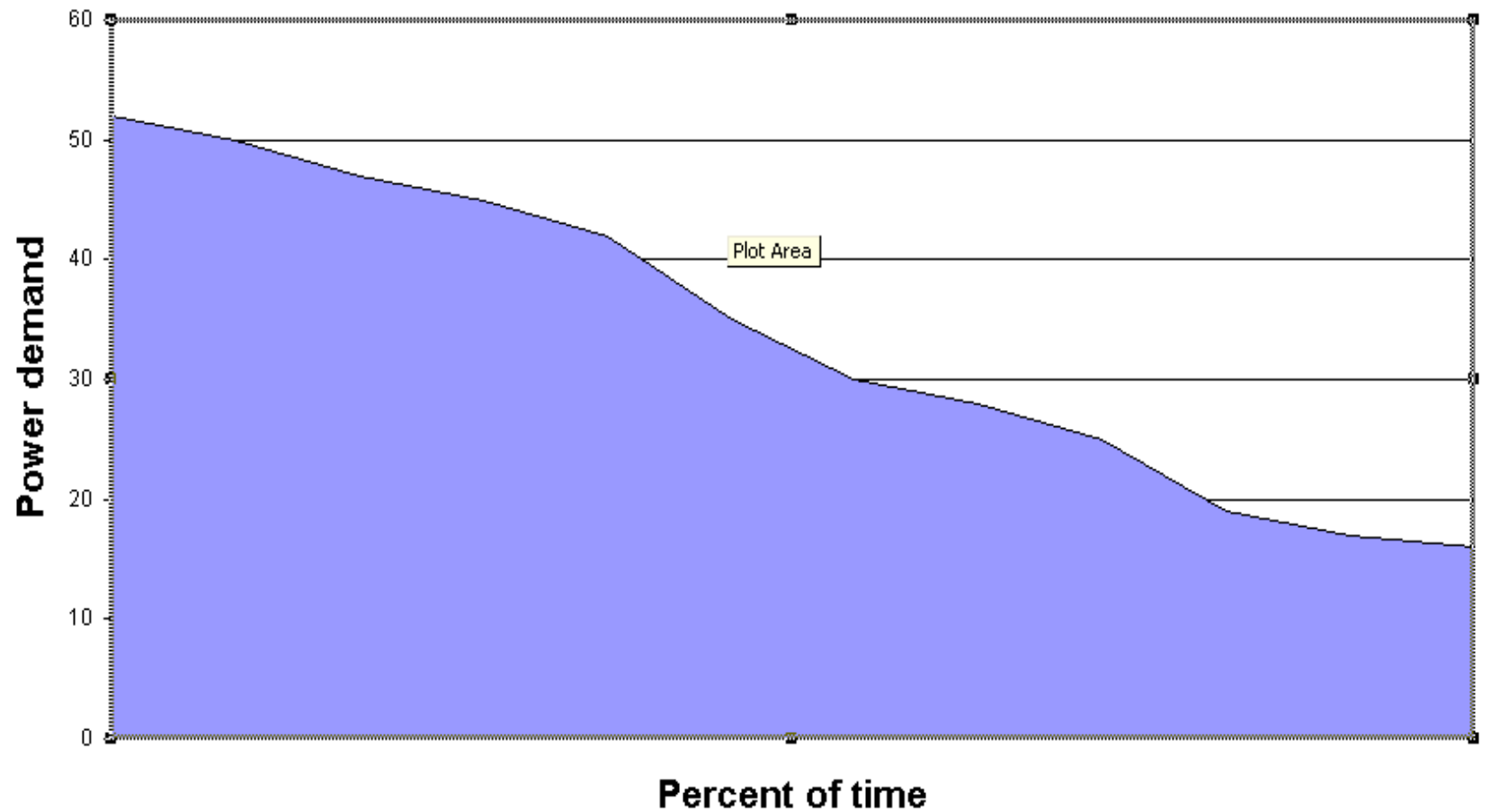
$$Q = \int P \, dt$$

Define utilisation time  $\tau$   $\tau = \frac{Q}{P_{\max}}$

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# ALTERNATIVE PRESENTATION OF THE LOAD VARIATION

Consecutive load curve



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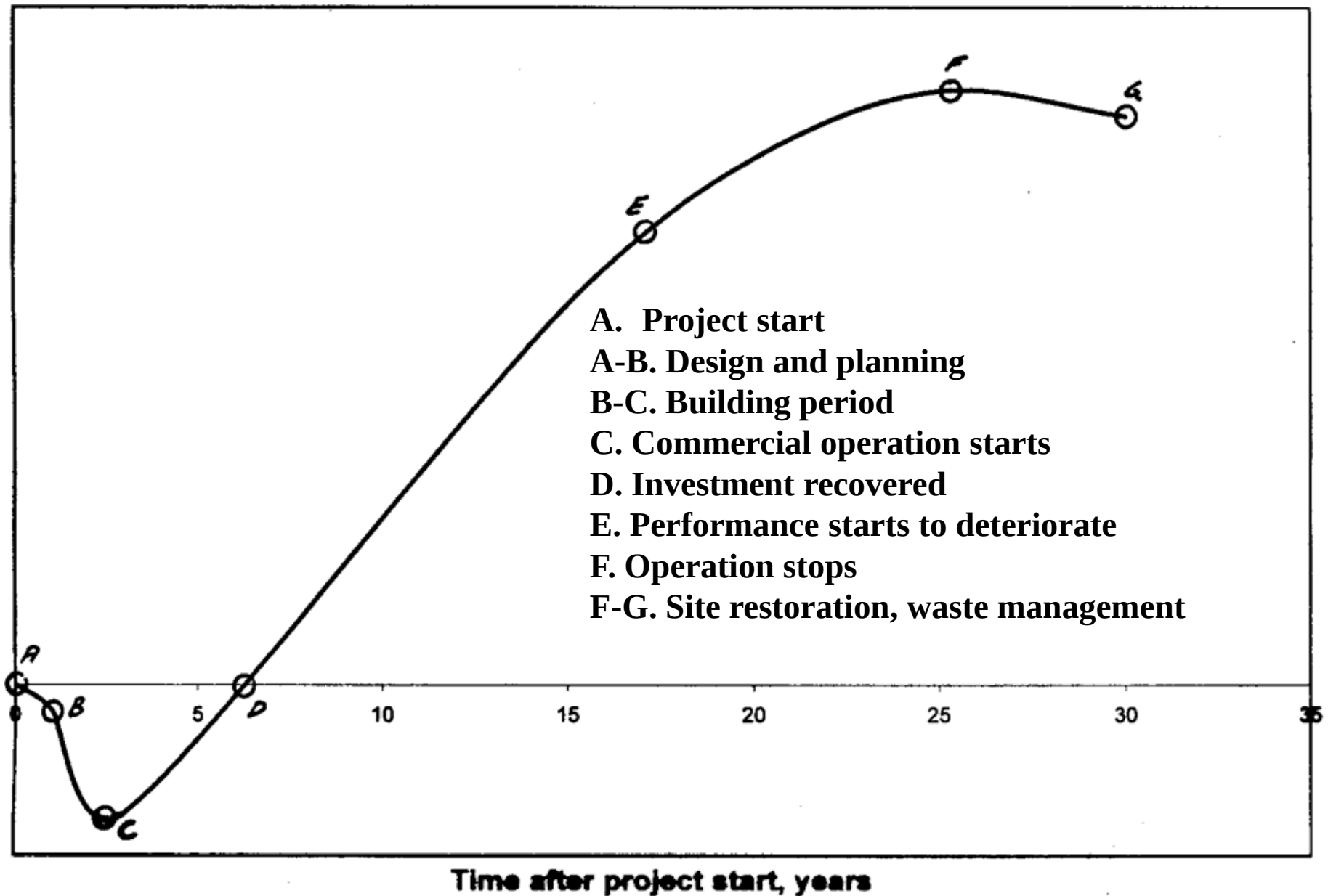
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# CASH FLOW IN AN ENERGY PROJECT



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Cumulative cash flow



# DIFFERENT TYPES OF COSTS

## Initial investment:

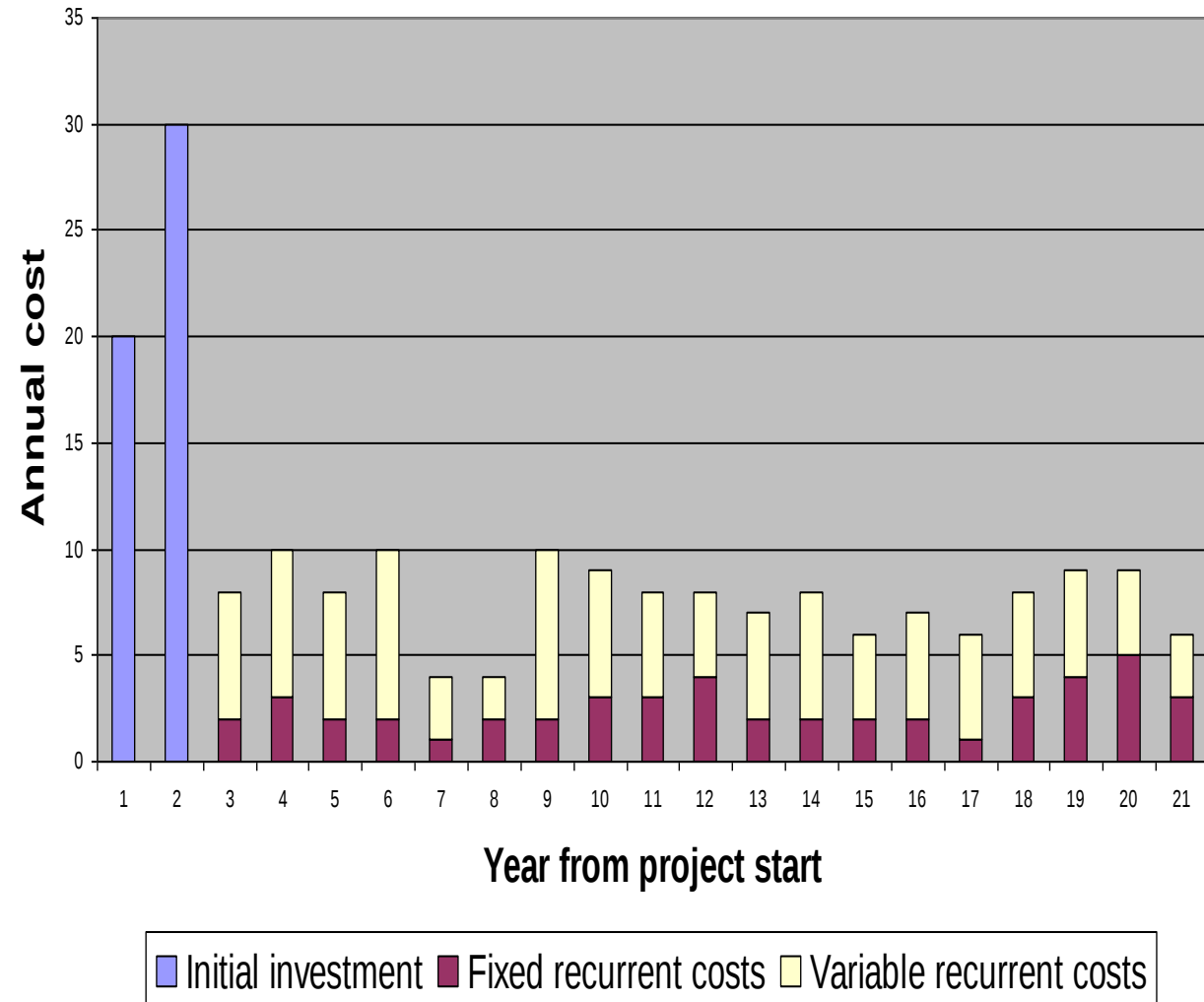
- All expenditure before commercial operation

## Fixed recurrent costs

- Expenditure during operating period that are independent of the plant output

## Variable recurrent costs

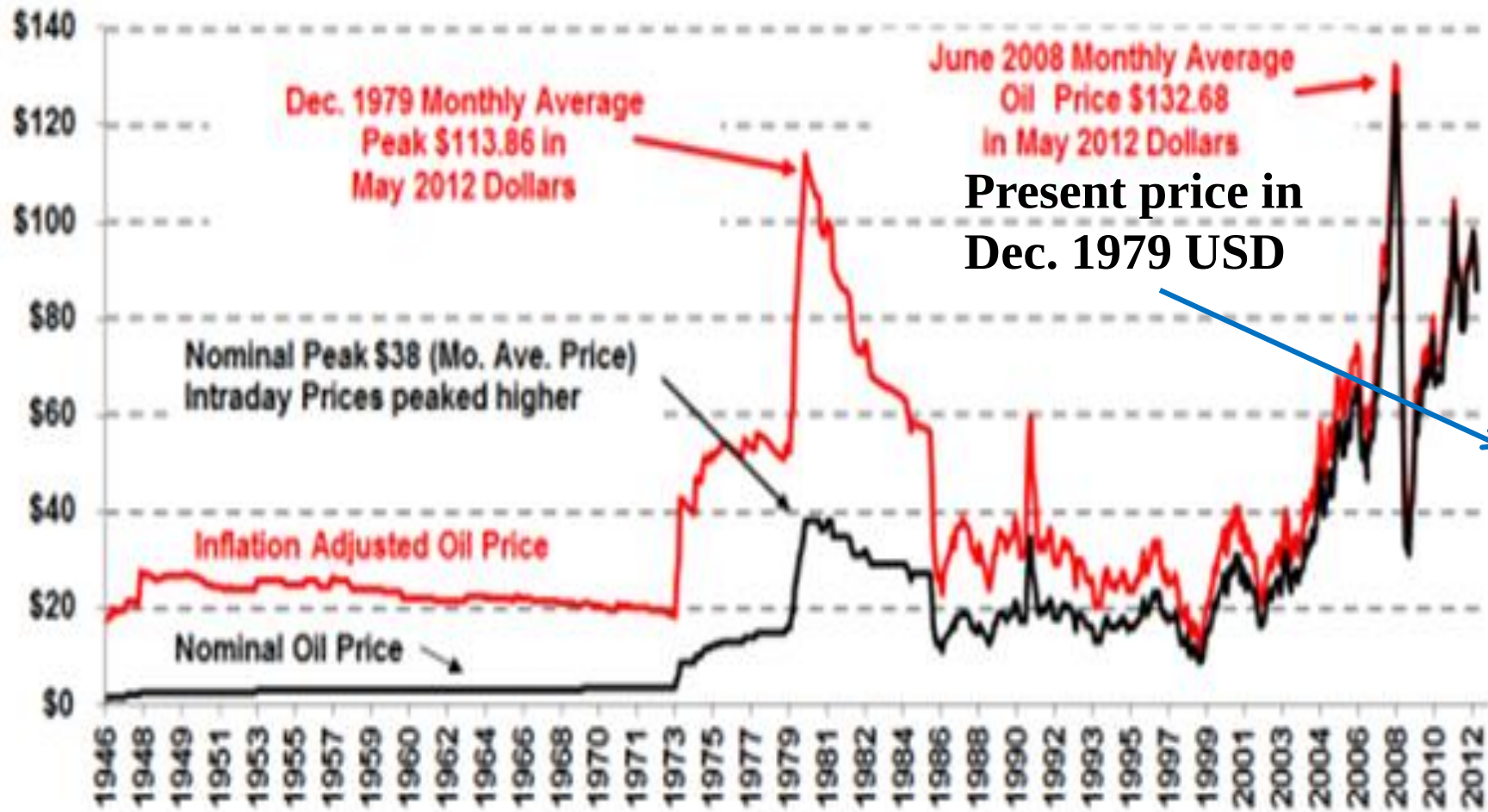
- Expenditure during operating period that depend on the plant output



# Effects of inflation can be important!

One 2012 USD is equivalent to  $38/113,86 = 0,33$  Dec.1979 USD

USD/barrel



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# ADJUSTMENT OF THE INTEREST RATE FOR INFLATION

Nominal interest rate (actually paid)  $i_n$

Inflation rate  $f$

“Real” interest rate  $i_r$

The value  $C_1$  after 1 year of a cost  $C_0$  without inflation:

$$C_1 = (1+i_n) \cdot C_0$$

The value  $C_1$  after 1 year of a cost  $C_0$  with inflation:

$$C_1 = (1+i_n) \cdot (1-f) \cdot C_0 = [1+(i_n - f) - \underbrace{i_n \cdot f}_{\text{small}}] \cdot C_0 \approx [1+(i_n - f)] \cdot C_0$$

Approximately

$$\underbrace{i_r}_{\text{small}} = i_n - f$$

*Factors that determine the nominal interest rate used for evaluations:*

- Bank interest rate
- Desired profit
- Risk assessment
- Competing investments



## **COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE INITIAL INVESTMENT**

The investment is the cost paid in the beginning of the project. A practical approach if the costs of different options are compared on basis of net present values.

Another approach:

Investment as just an exchange from money value to equipment value. Then the investment is not really a cost.

The cost appears when the value of the equipment deteriorates with time and use. The capital shall be paid back by annual “instalments” or “amortization”.

Depreciation cost can be calculated in different ways:

- constant amount for each year of the plant lifetime,
- constant fraction of the remaining value,
- or by some other formula (like constant amounts each year “annuities”).

There is also a cost associated with borrowing the capital – from external source or from internal funds. (Interest on loan or Internal rate of return)

**The sum of amortization/depreciation and the interest is “the capital cost”.**



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# Capital costs as constant annuities

Constant fraction,  $a$ , of investment,  $I$ , paid each year.

How can " $a$ " be calculated?

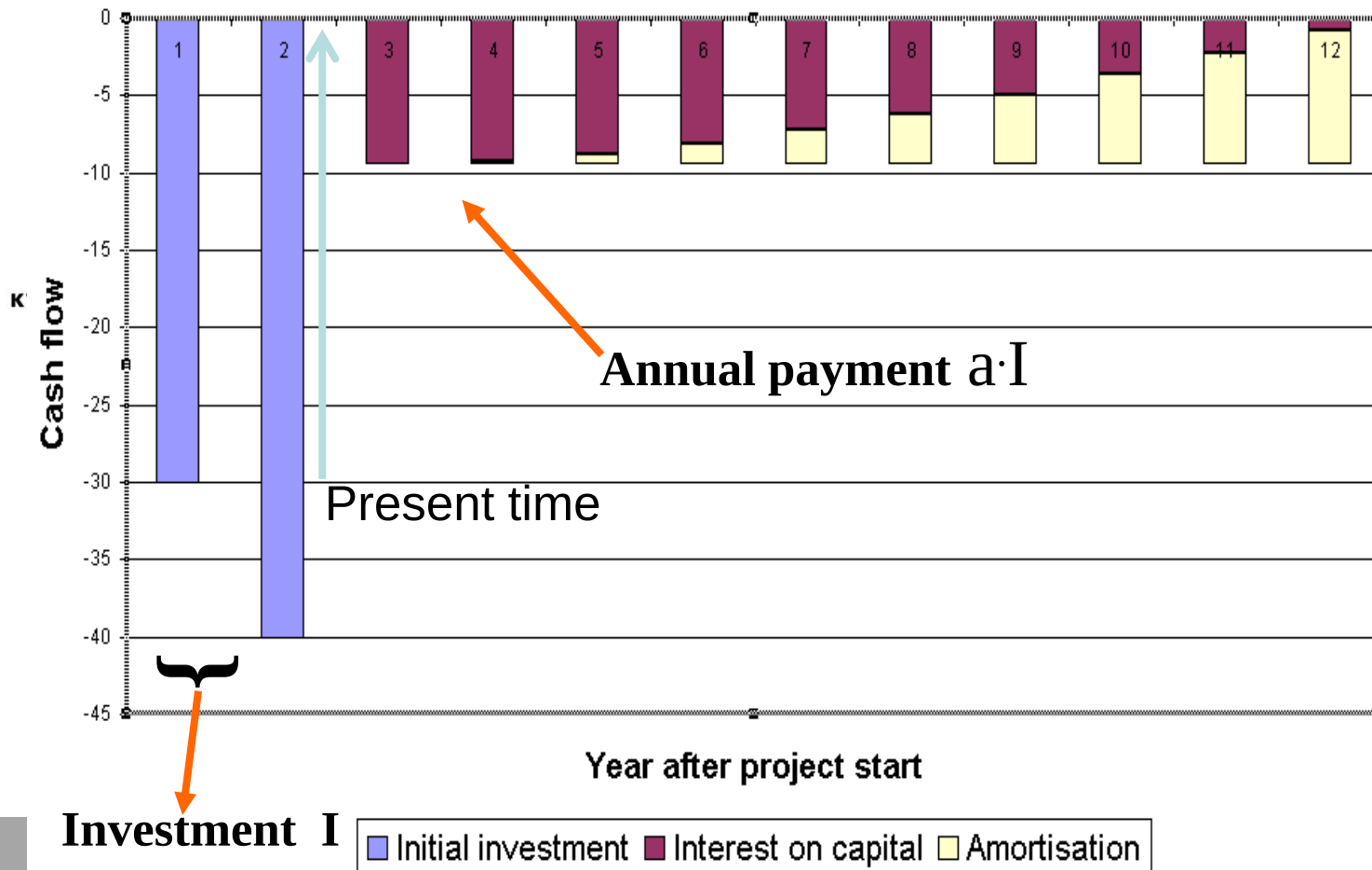
*Net present value*

$$NPV = \sum_z \frac{a * I}{(1+i)^z}$$

$$NPV = I = \sum_n \frac{\Delta I}{(1+i)^n}$$

$z$  project life years

$n$  project implementation years



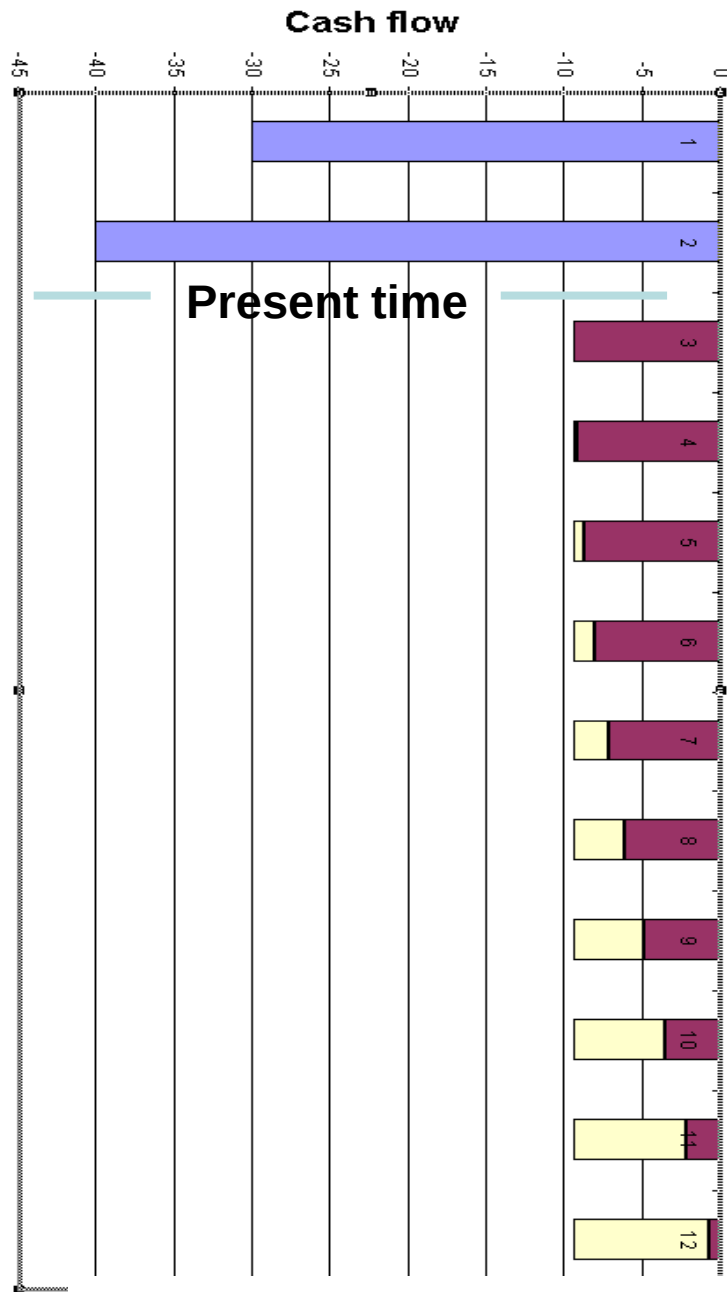
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Initial investment Interest on capital Amortisation

Year after project start



} = Present value  $I = I_1 + I_2 + I_1 \cdot i^2 + I_2 \cdot i$

Payment

Present value

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^2$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^3$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^4$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^5$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^6$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^7$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^8$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^9$

$a \cdot I$

$a \cdot I / (1+i)^{10}$

$$\text{Net present value} = (\text{first term}) \cdot \frac{1 - q^z}{1 - q} = \frac{a}{(1+i)} \cdot I \cdot \frac{1 - 1/(1+i)^{10}}{1 - 1/(1+i)} = I \text{ if } a = \frac{i \cdot (1+i)^{10}}{(1+i)^{10} - 1}$$

Interest during  
construction time

## FIXED RECURRENT COSTS

Fixed recurrent costs must be paid in all cases, regardless if the plant is operated or not.

*Examples:*

- Recovery of the capital costs

### Certain operation and maintenance costs (Fixed O&M costs)

- Insurance
- Salaries to staff
- Some maintenance independent of plant operating time
- Some taxes

Annual fixed recurrent O&M costs are often expressed as a fraction of the initial investment,  $I$ .

$$C_{rf} = c \cdot I$$

” $c$ ” often in range 1 – 3% , but depends on the technology



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## TYPICAL POWER PLANT CAPITAL COSTS

- The main machinery equipment, such as the boiler, turbine, generator, etc, often constitutes less than half of the total
- Remaining parts are, for example:
  - Fuel handling and storage, ash handling, electrical switchyard, flue gas treatment, water treatment, etc.
  - Auxilliary equipment
  - Foundations, buildings, ground lease, roads, cooling water
  - Instrumentation and Control, Lighting, Ventilation...
- Investment costs are typically (2015) in **€/kW** installed capacity:

|                                        |             |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| • New large GT Combined Cycle          | 700 - 800   |
| • Conventional large coal-fired steam  | 1500        |
| • Biomass CHP                          | 3000        |
| • Gas Turbine open cycle or ICE engine | 300 - 600   |
| • Nuclear ???                          | 6000 - 8000 |
| • Wind (onshore/offshore)              | 1000 / 3000 |



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# Capital cost as a function of capacity utilization factor

Capital costs for a unit expressed in €/MWh electrical output  
The example is calculated for 10 % interest rate, 25 years



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| Operating hours →            | 1500 | 3000 | 5000 | 7000 | 7500 | 8000 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Specific investment<br>€/kWe |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 100                          | 6    | 3    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| 500                          | 30   | 15   | 9    | 6    | 6    | 6    |
| 1000                         | 60   | 30   | 18   | 13   | 12   | 11   |
| 1500                         | 90   | 45   | 27   | 19   | 18   | 17   |
| 2000                         | 120  | 60   | 36   | 26   | 24   | 23   |
| 3500                         | 210  | 105  | 63   | 45   | 42   | 39   |



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## VARIABLE RECURRENT COSTS

Variable re-current costs depend on the operation of the plant

Examples:

- Fuel costs  $(b \text{ SEK/MWh}_{\text{fuel}})$
- Lubricants and other consumables
- Some maintenance costs  $(\Psi \text{ SEK/MWh}_{\text{fuel}})$
- Some taxes
- Waste handling costs

Annual variable re-current cost will be:

$$C_{rv} = \frac{b + \Psi}{\eta} \cdot P_{\text{rated}} \cdot \tau$$

$P_{\text{rated}}$  is the rated output of the plant  
 $\eta$  is the average efficiency



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# FUEL COSTS

- Fuel costs are subject to large variations. Proper forecasts are always vital for project survival.
  - **Natural Gas price** is subject to new pricing mechanisms. Roughly around 28 EUR/MWh in central Europe, almost stable.
  - **Coal prices** (bituminous coal) are relatively stable around 40-80 USD/ton, or 4 - 8 EUR/MWh.
  - **Lignite price** is 13 EUR/ton or 5 EUR/MWh.
  - **Biomass (wood) price** is stable at ~20 EUR/MWh for fresh woodchip and 30 EUR/MWh for dried wood pellets.
- All fuel costs are more or less dependent on and vary with the international crude oil prices



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# Typical O&M costs [€/MWh el]

Can vary much

- Onshore wind has half the O&M cost of offshore wind  
17 €/MWh vs. 30 €/MWh



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| Power Rating [MW] |         | Thermal power plants for solid fuels |              | Gas fired      |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
|                   |         | Complicated units                    | Simple units | Combined Cycle |
|                   | Wind    |                                      |              |                |
| 1 - 3             | 15 - 30 |                                      |              |                |
| 30                |         | 16                                   | 10           |                |
| 100               |         | 13                                   | 8            | 5              |
| 500               |         | 7                                    | 6            | 4              |
| 1000              |         | 5                                    | 3,5          |                |



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# ANNUAL COSTS

## Annual cost breakdown:

### Fixed costs (independent of operation)

- Amortization / Depreciation
- Interest on invested capital
- Salaries, insurance, some maintenance, some taxes

### Variable costs (proportional to energy output or time of operation)

- Fuel
- Some maintenance, repairs, some taxes

$$C_{\text{annual}} = C_{\text{fixed}} + C_{\text{var}} = (F + D \cdot \tau) P_{\text{rated}}$$



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# Costs' overview for different power plants

The numbers below stem from the tables in the slides above. Costs are given in €/MWh

|                          | Biomass<br>small | Biomass<br>large | Bio<br>CHP | Coal | Gas | Lignite | Nuke | Wind |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|------|-----|---------|------|------|
| Fuel                     | 60               | 53               | 25         | 18   | 51  | 11      | 10   | 0    |
| O&M                      | 16               | 13               | 17         | 5    | 4   | 5       | 15   | 17   |
| Capital                  | 36               | 30               | 30         | 18   | 9   | 18      | 42   | 55   |
| Generation cost          | 112              | 96               | 72         | 41   | 64  | 34      | 67   | 72   |
| Consumables              | 3                | 3                | 3          | 5    | 1,7 | 5       | 4    | 1    |
| CO2 cost                 |                  |                  |            | 16   | 8   | 17      |      | 0    |
| Total generation<br>cost | 115              | 99               | 75         | 62   | 74  | 56      | 71   | 73   |
| Marginal cost            | 75               | 65               | 40         | 41   | 63  | 35      | 22   | 15   |



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## EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL COST DATA

Cost level 2010-2011; KPI about 306

| Process                                   | Gas Turbine<br>Natural gas | Combi Cycle<br>Natural gas | Steam Condensing<br>Coal | Nuclear<br>Uranium               |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Capacity MW                               | 20                         | 420                        | 740                      | 1600                             |
| Specific investment<br>SEK/kW             | 3600                       | 7000                       | 14500                    | 28000                            |
| Fuel price<br>SEK/MWh(f)                  | 320                        | 250                        | 90                       | 14,4                             |
| Efficiency %                              | 30                         | 58                         | 46                       | 36                               |
| Fixed O&M %<br>of investment              | 1,3                        | 2,9                        | 2,0                      | Included in<br>variable O&M cost |
| Other variable<br>O&M costs<br>SEK/MWh(f) | 10                         | 10                         | 7                        | 36                               |

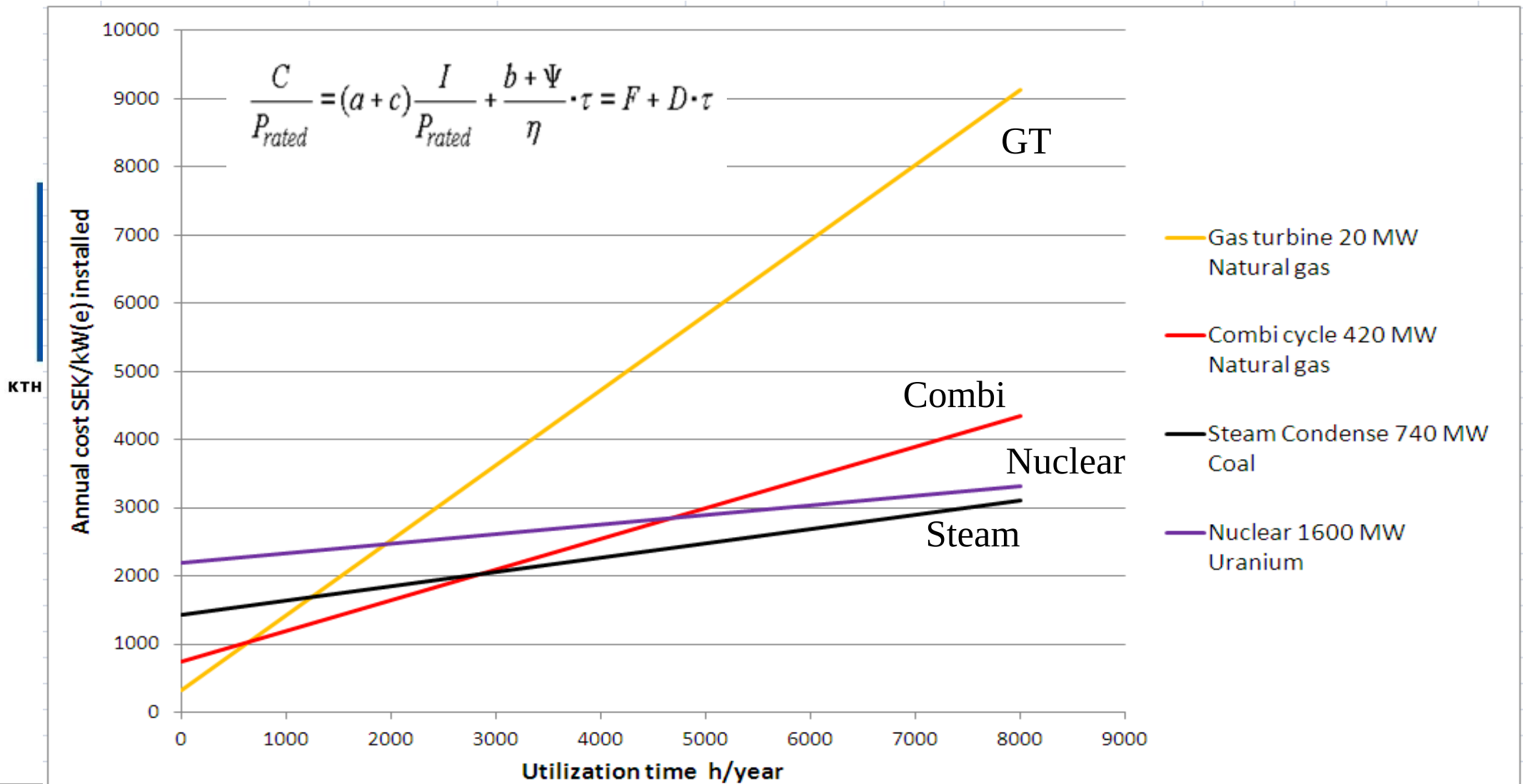


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Source: Elforsk report 11:26, except for gas turbines where data obtained from suppliers  
KPI is Swedish Consumer Price Index

# COMPARISON OF ANNUAL COSTS

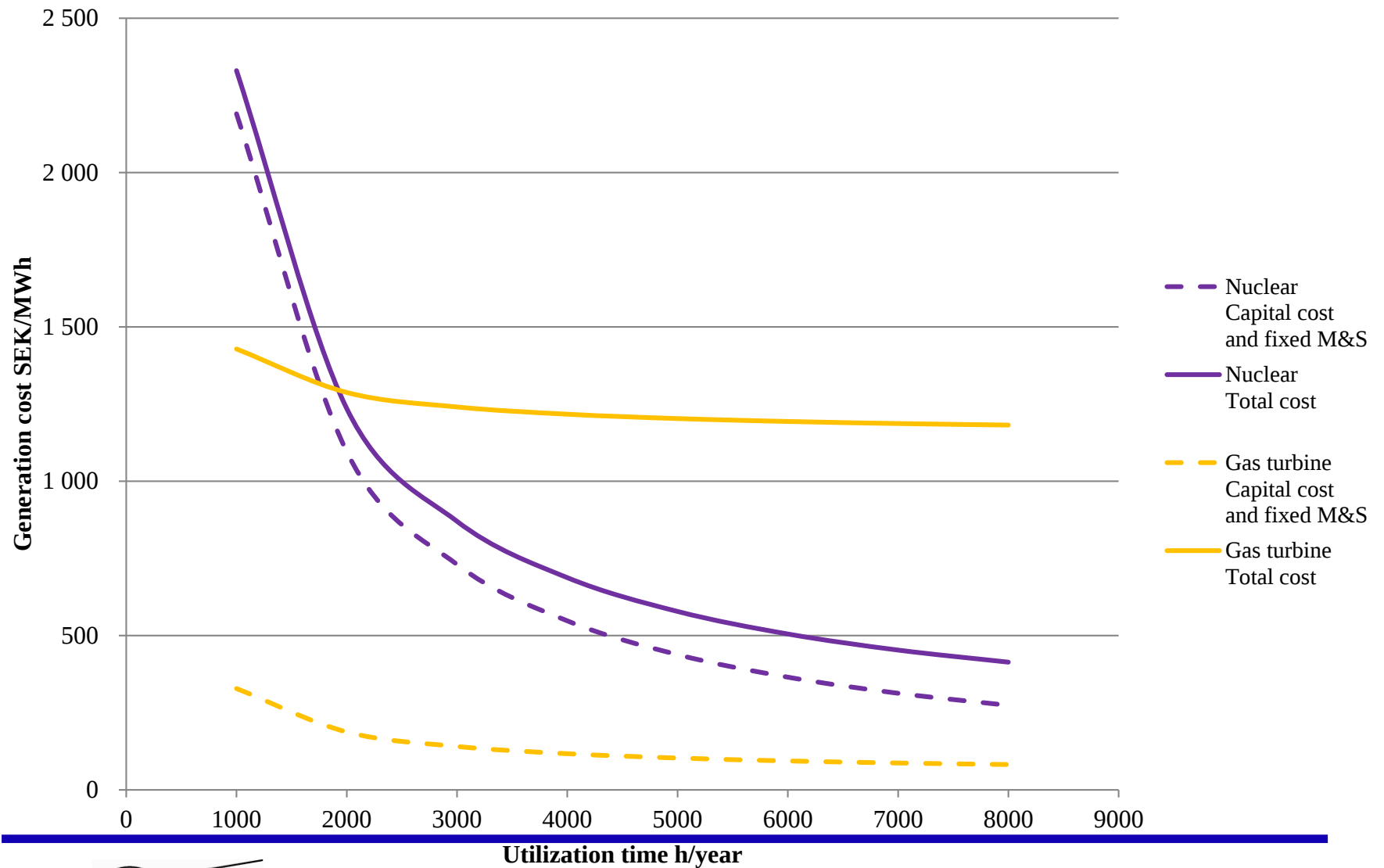
*Calculated for interest rate 6% and 25 years economic life  
No environmental penalties*



# Contribution of fixed and variable costs to the total cost of electricity generation

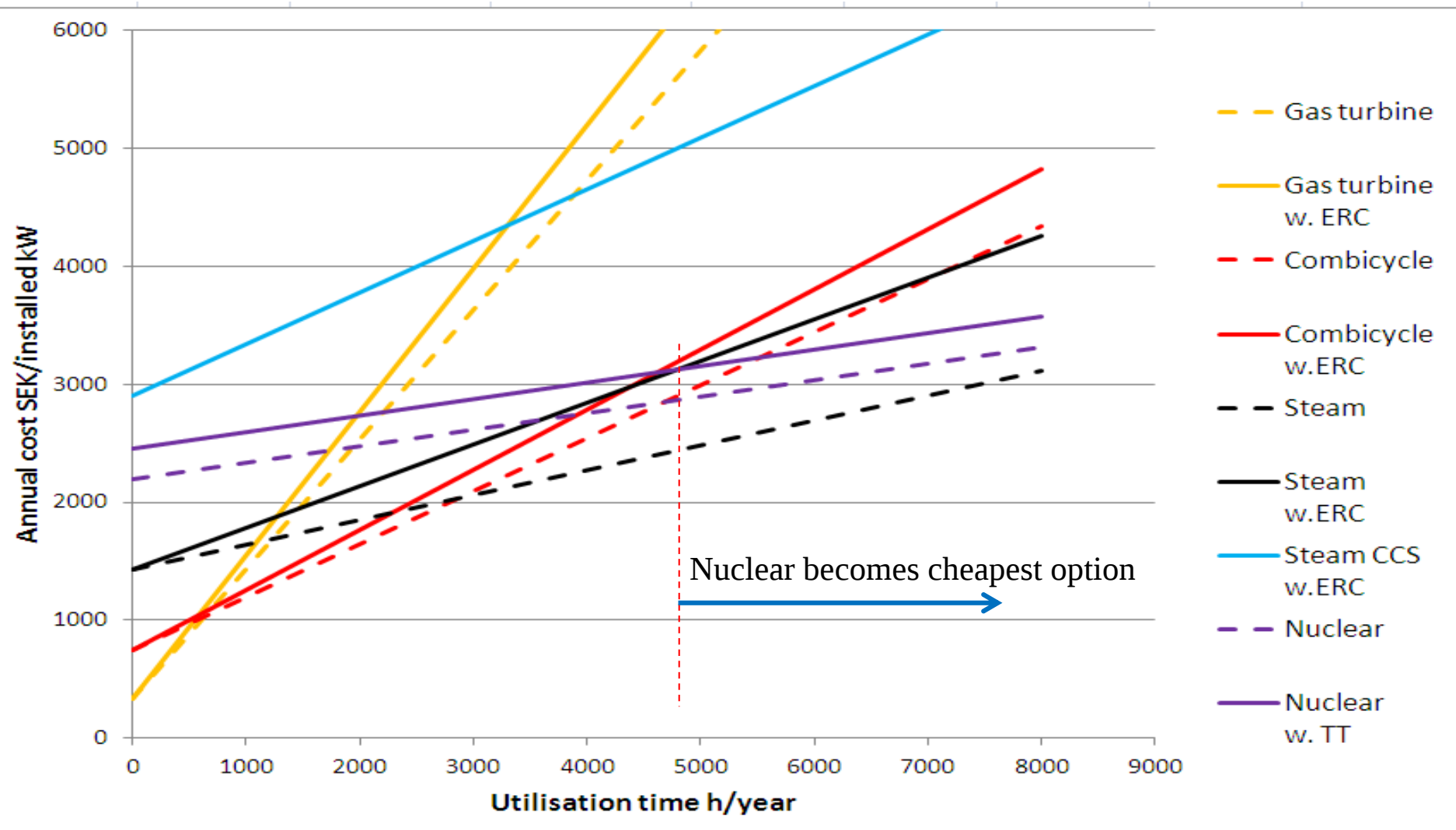


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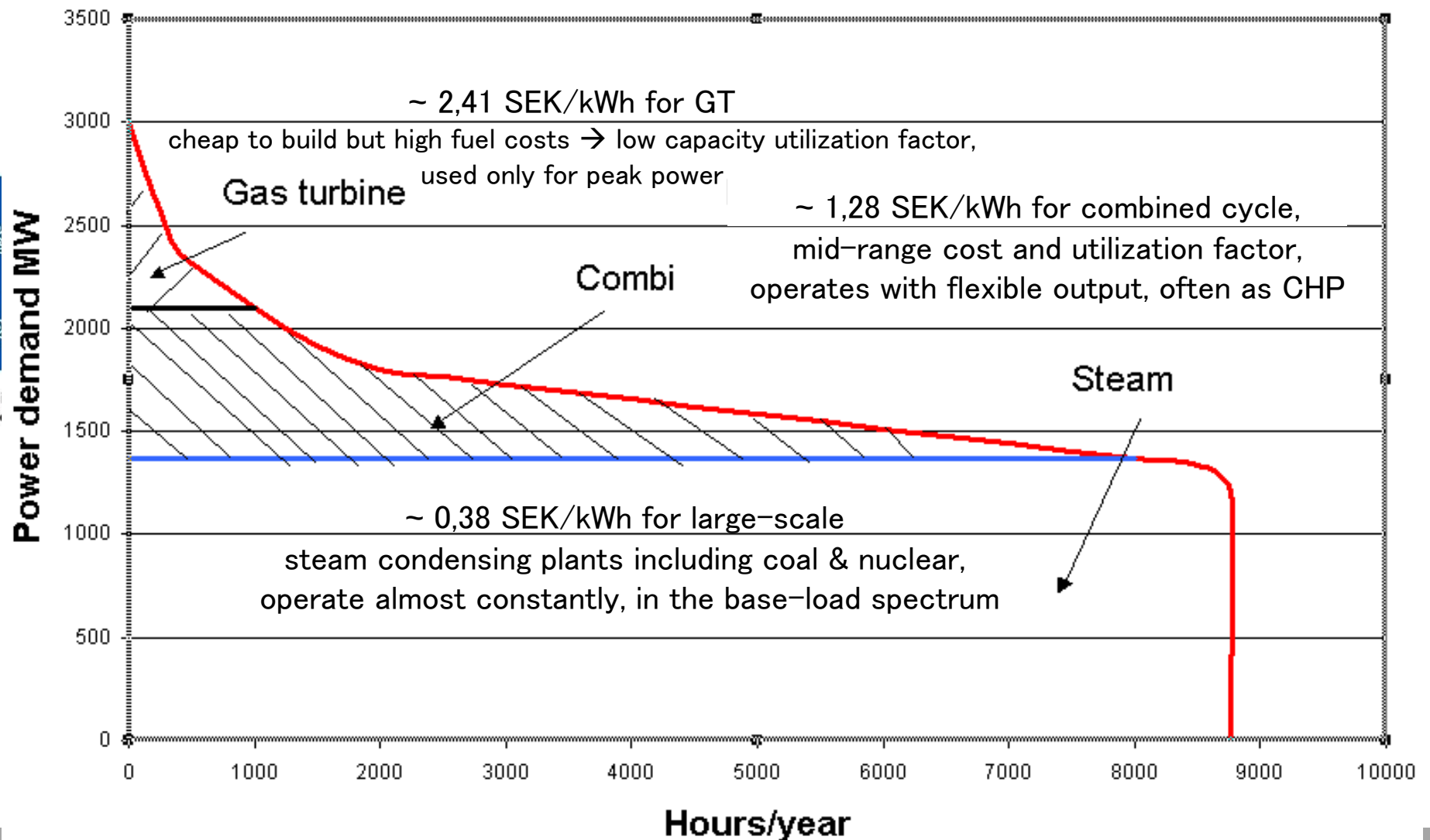
## COMPARISON OF ANNUAL COSTS, if 200 SEK/ton CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Right Cost, ERC 144 SEK/MW(th) annually for nuclear plant, thermal tax



ERC at 200 SEK/tonCO<sub>2</sub> makes nuclear very interesting.  
Break-even at about 85 SEK/ton. ERC varies between 7 - 30 EUR/tonCO<sub>2</sub>

# LOAD SHARING and CAPACITY FACTOR

Optimum mix of generation technologies → average generation cost 0,434 SEK/kWh



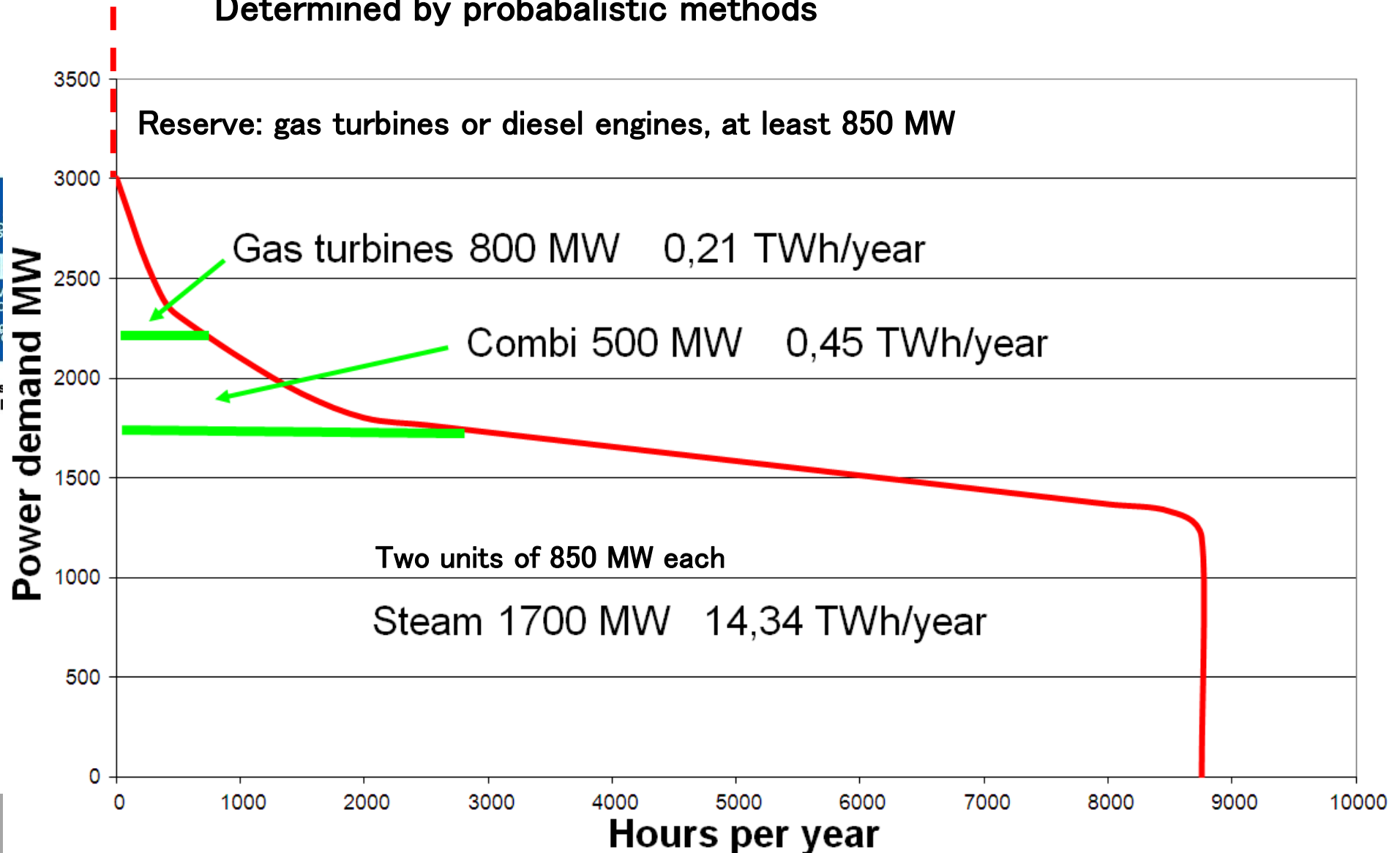
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# RESERVE CAPACITY

The installed generation capacity shall exceed the expected peak demand.  
Size of reserve: At least the capacity of the largest plant in the system.  
Determined by probabalistic methods



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# How much is reasonable to charge for the electricity?

Some options:

- a) All consumers pay the average cost for generating the electricity
- b) The tariff is set as the average or maximum generation cost at the time when the electricity is used
- c) The tariff is set as the cost for supplying the additional load of each consumer considering the characteristics of the load.  
(The new load curve will change the operation of existing plants and may require more capacity )
- d) The tariff is set according to the estimated paying power of the different consumer groups

Criteria:

- Costs must be recovered (option d may need government subsidies)
- Tariff shall encourage energy efficiency (options b and c)
- Tariff must be socially acceptable (option d)



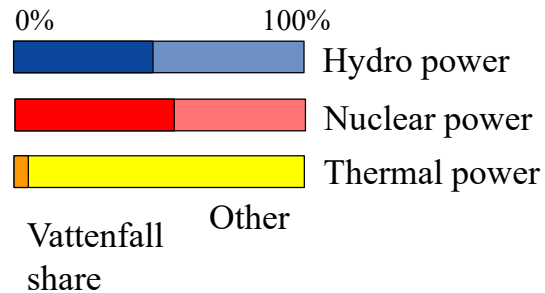
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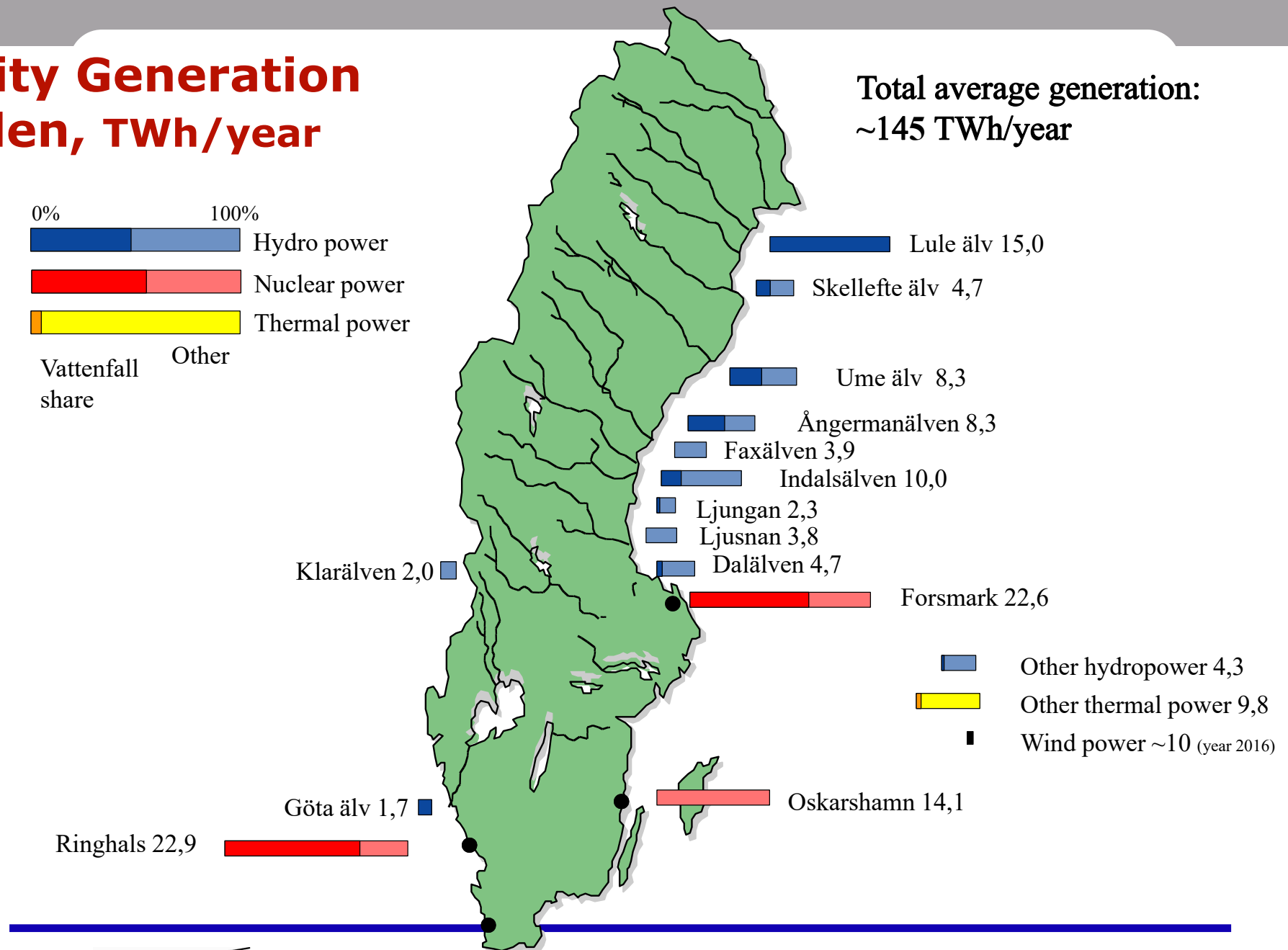
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# Electricity Generation in Sweden, TWh/year

Total average generation:  
~145 TWh/year

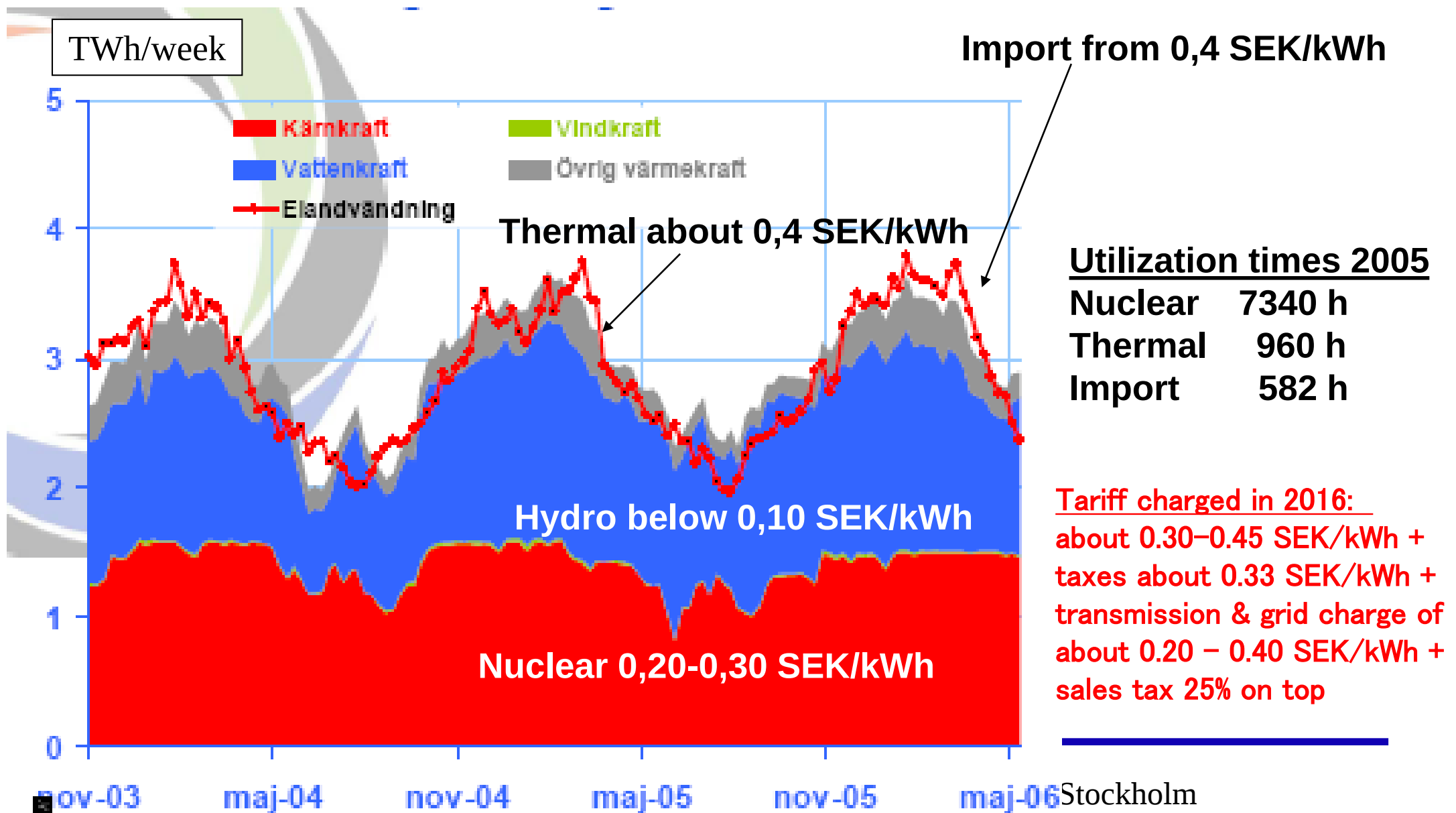


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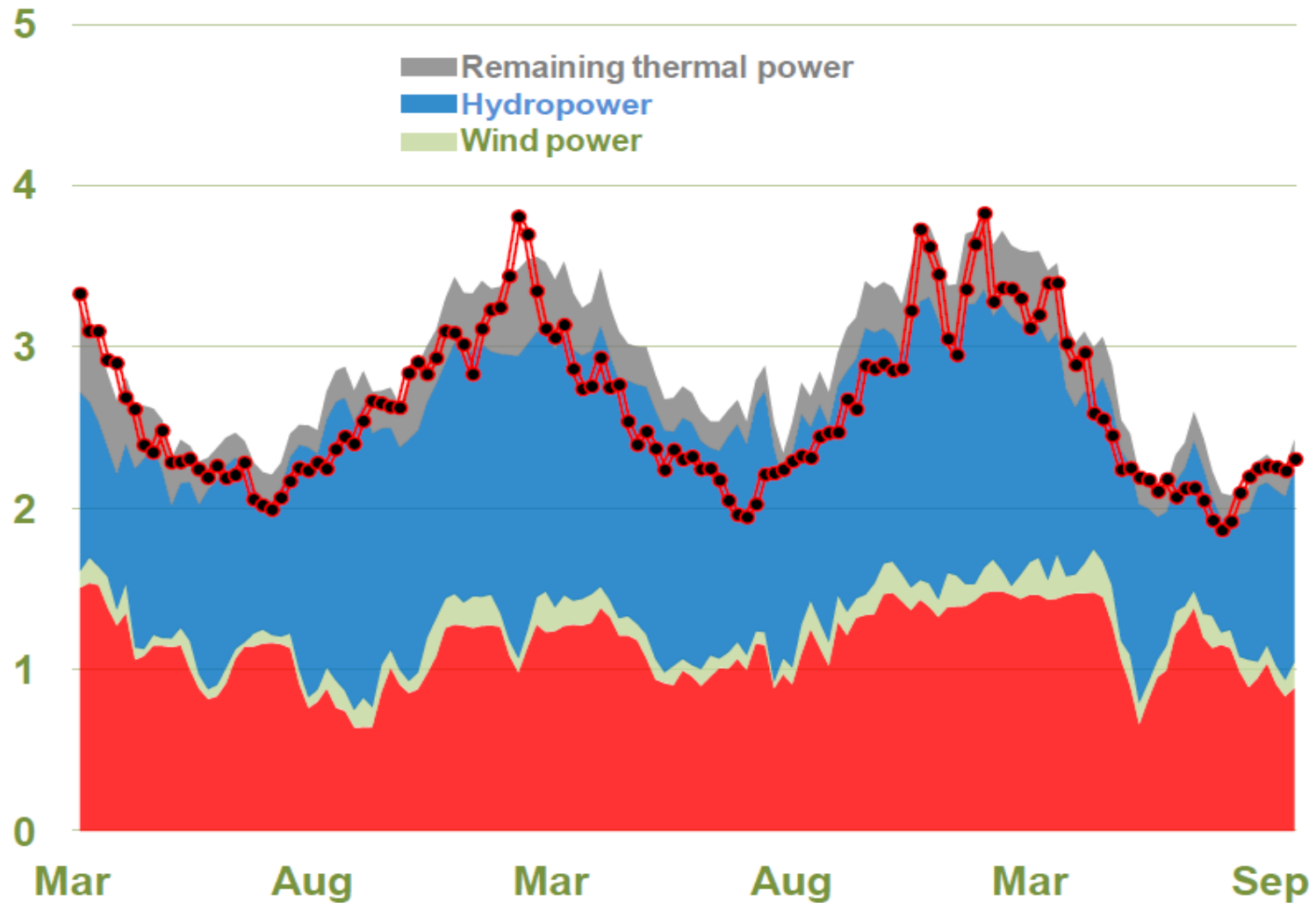
# Electric power generation and use in Sweden



6-05-18 Tariff essentially based on cost for generation of the peak kWh used

# Typical seasonal variations for Sweden

TWh/week



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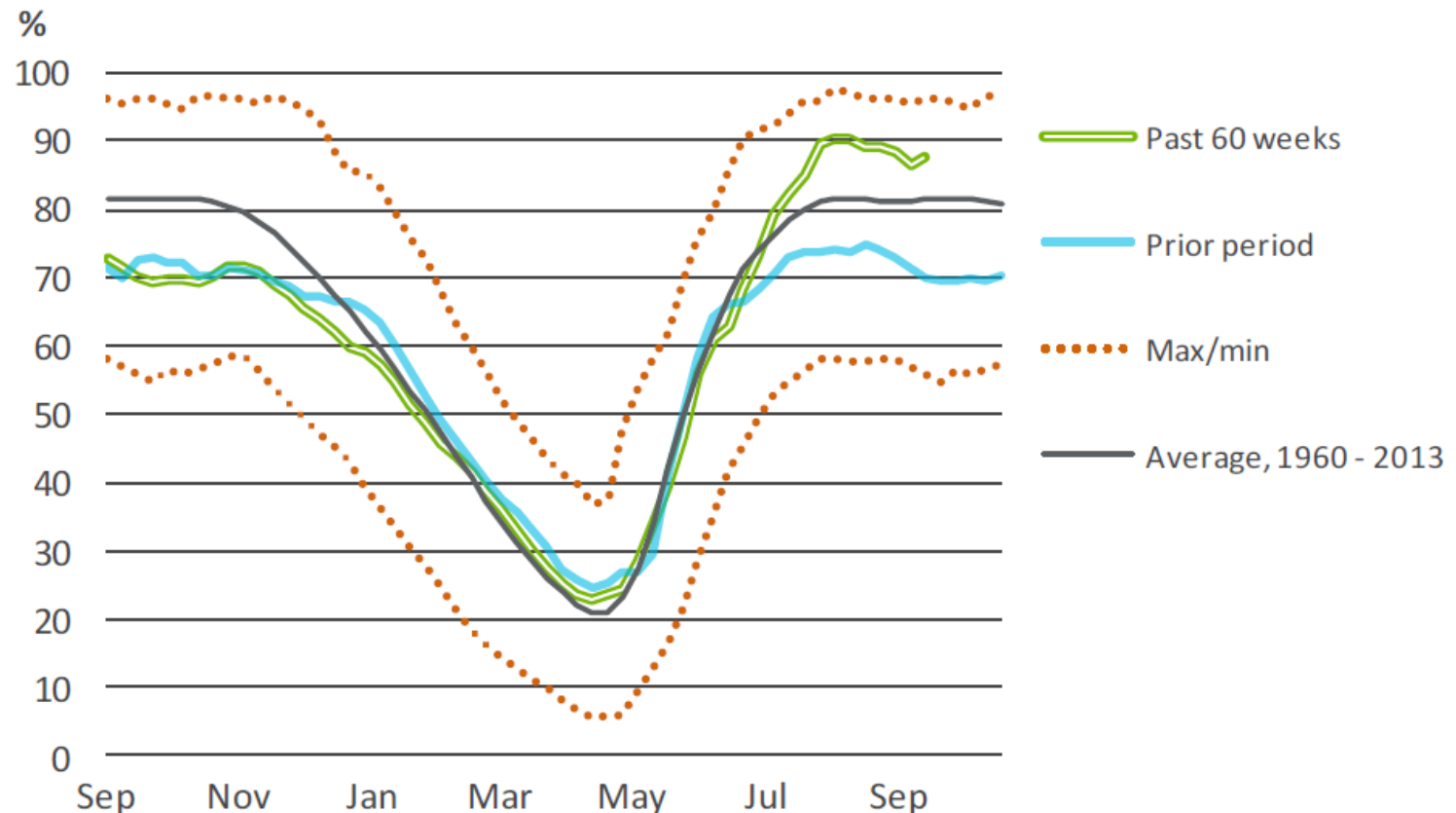
# Hydro dams/reservoirs relative filling

(100% = 34 TWh; Max, min & average for 1960-2013)

Sweden and Norway are interesting cases, with lots of hydropower available, however the biggest availability is from snow melting in spring and rain in summer, while the highest demand for power is in the coldest season (winter). Thus, the water dams are crucial for the system stability. They are emptied in winter and filled up in spring/summer.

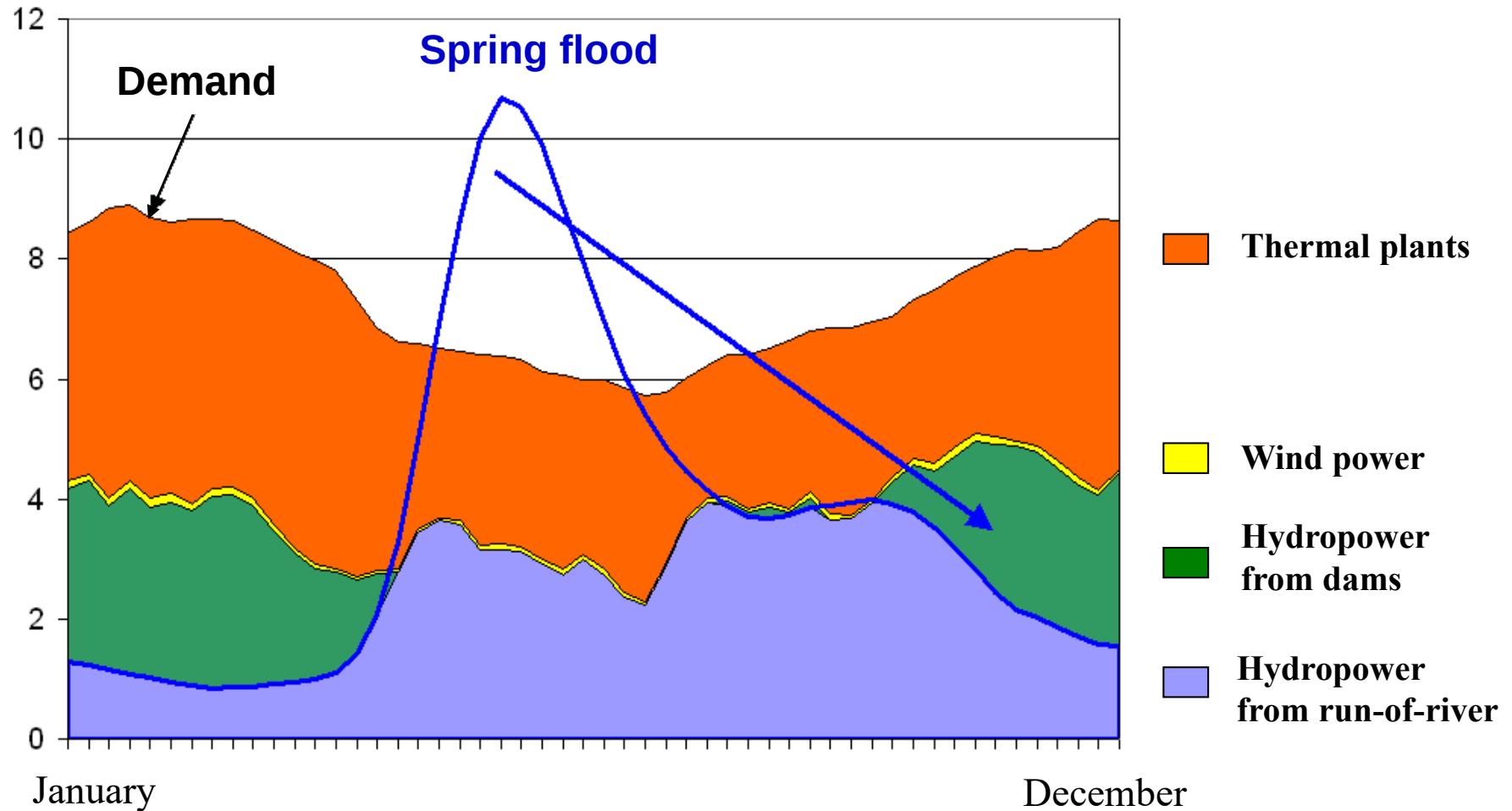


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# Seasonal hydrostorage in dams

TWh / week

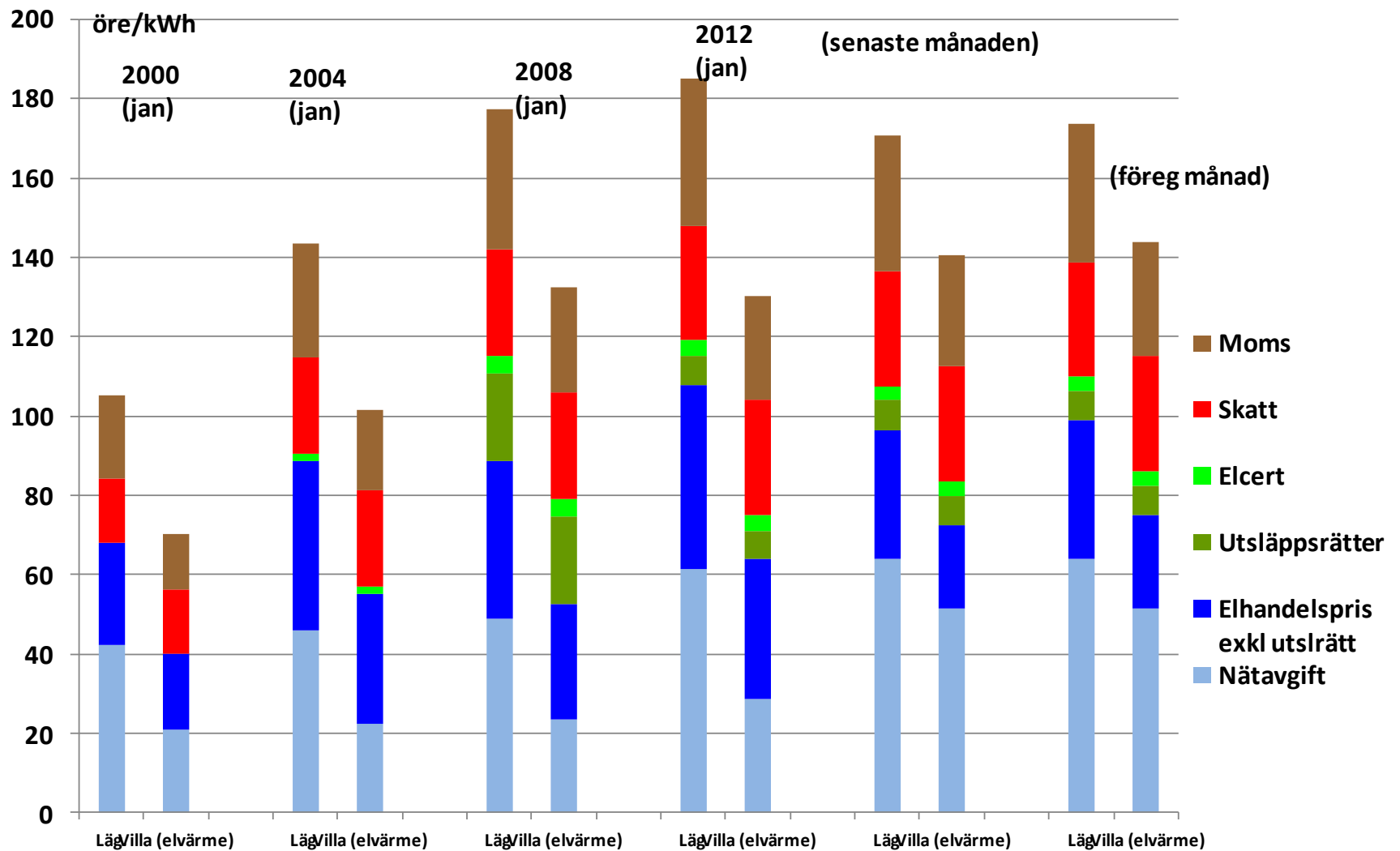


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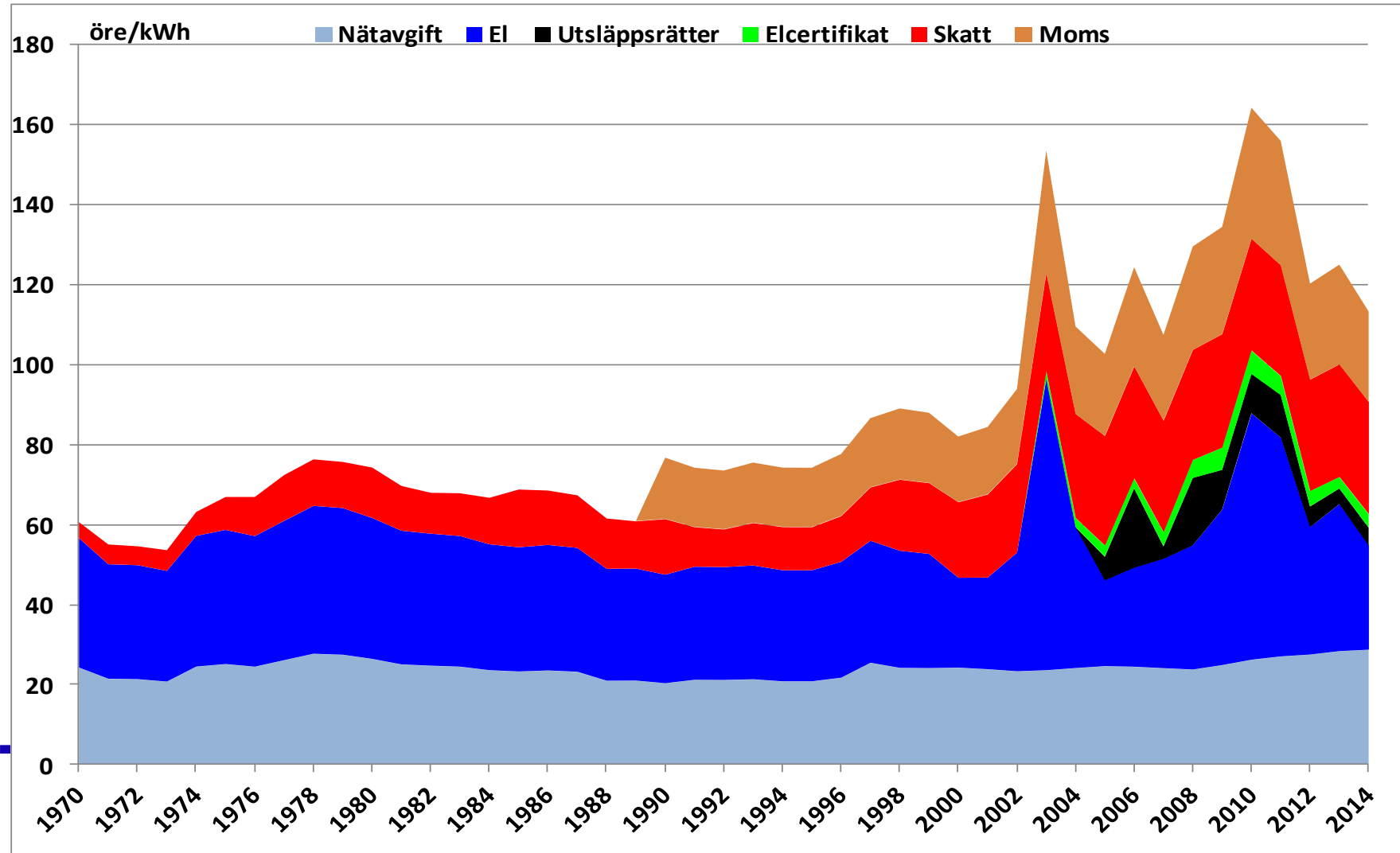
# Customer's Electricity prices in Sweden (by August 2016)



# Historical electricity price since 1970 - (20'000 kWh/year, normalized to 2010 year's prices)



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# DET NORDISKA ÖVERFÖRINGSNÄTET

## The transmission grid in the Nordic countries

## The Nordic region's Transmission Grids

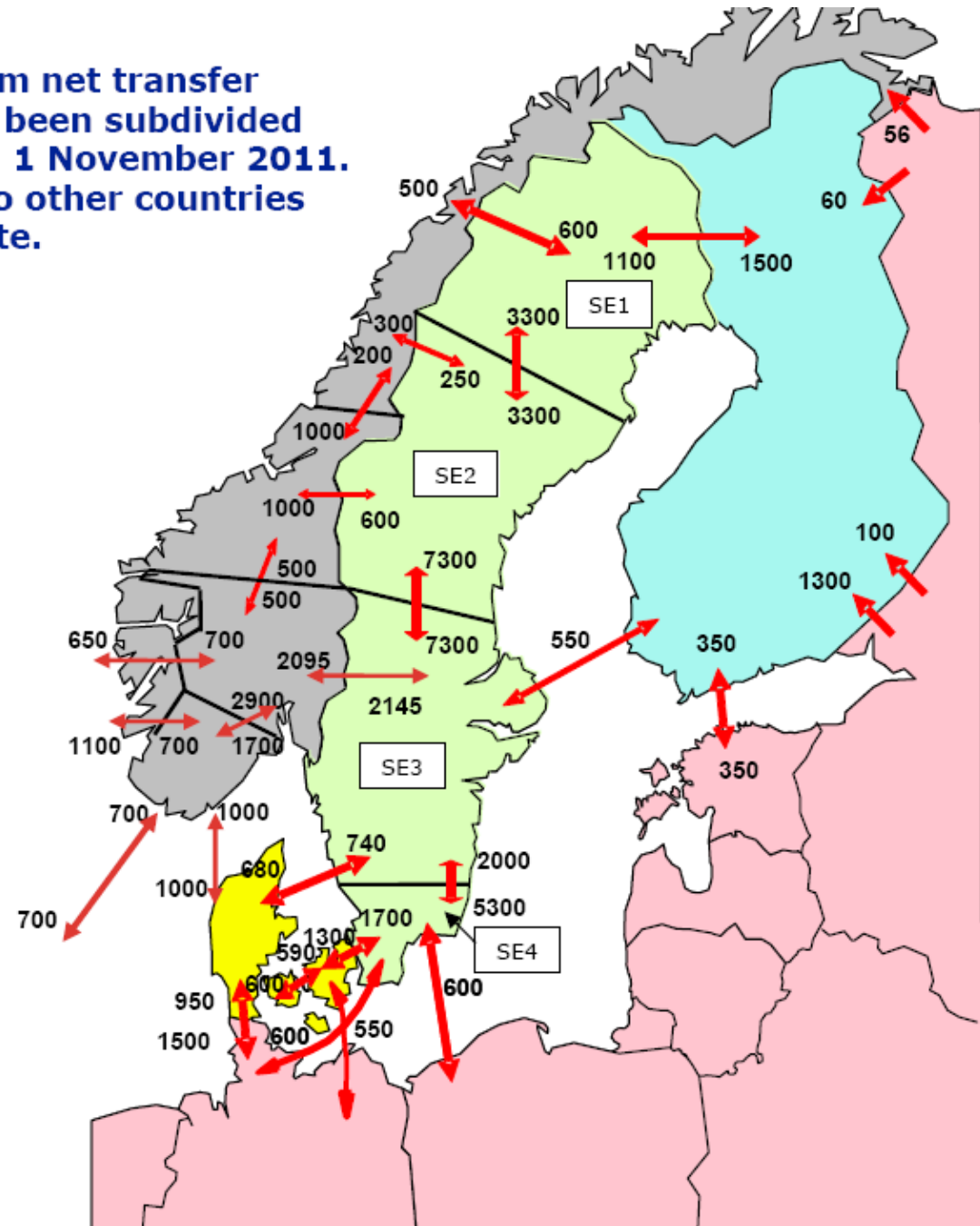
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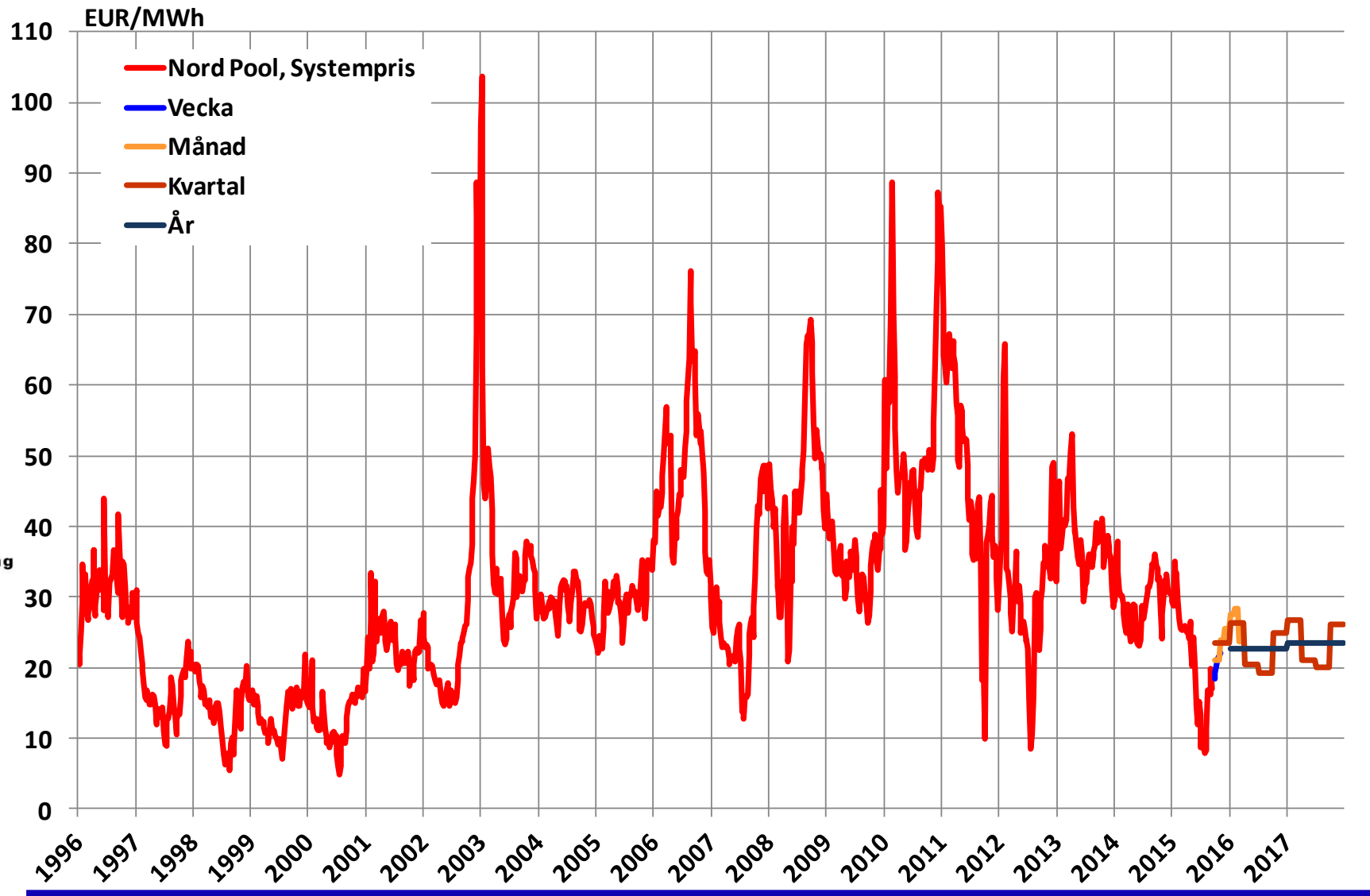
# Nordic systems' interconnections

The picture shows maximum net transfer capacities after Sweden has been subdivided into four bidding zones from 1 November 2011. Values for interconnectors to other countries might change before this date.



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# Electricity prices at NordPool market



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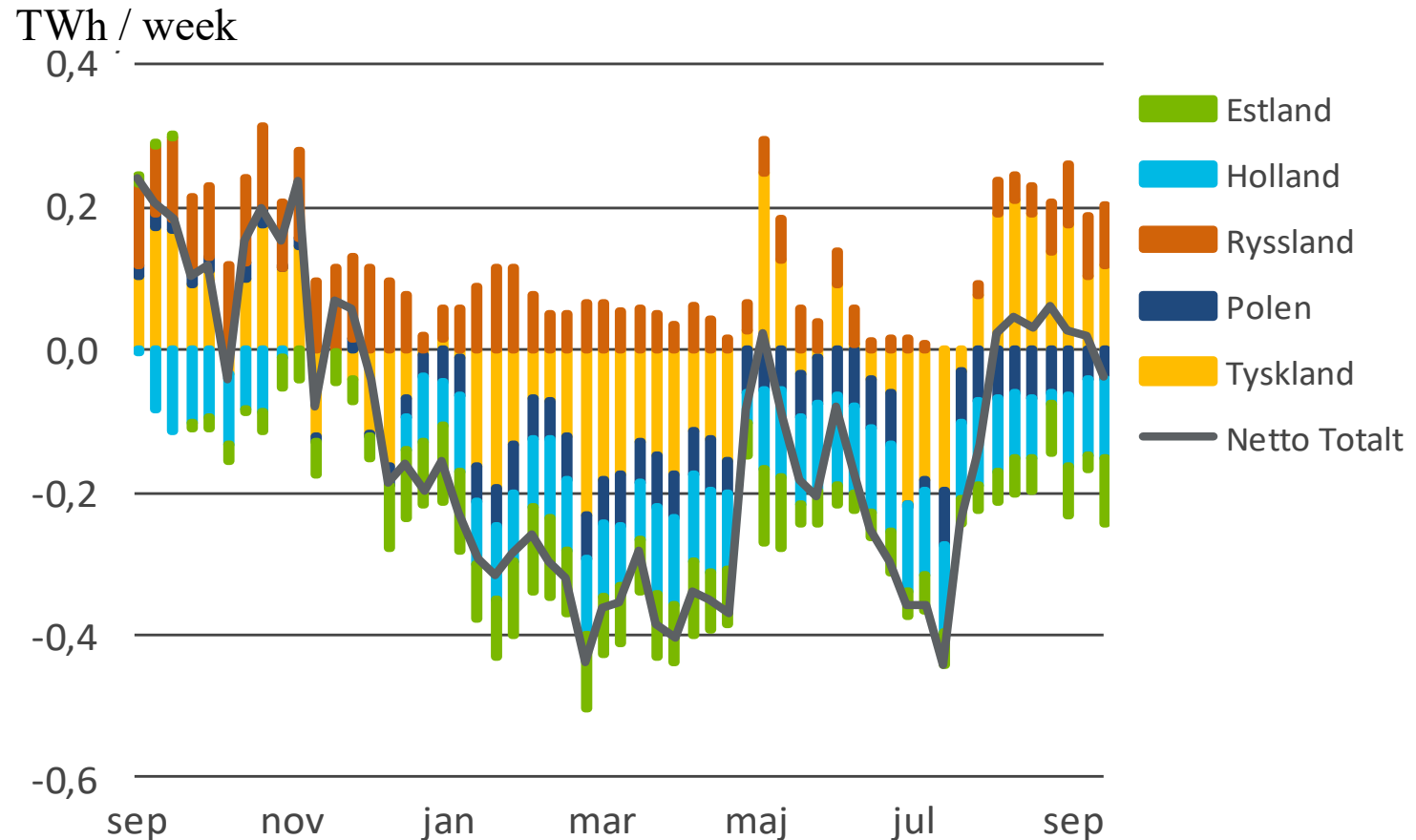


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# Typical annual exchange flows to/from the NordPool market

To  
Nordic

From  
Nordic



## Estimated generation cost for future power plants

Capital costs calculated for 6% investment . Lifetimes per Elforsk report 11:26  
Present emission penalties and taxes. Green certificates at 280 SEK/kWh

| Process           | Power<br>MW | Fuel            | Invest-<br>ment<br>SEK/kW | $\eta$<br>%       | Annual<br>operat.<br>hours | Generation cost<br>SEK/MWh |                     |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
|                   |             |                 |                           |                   |                            | Direct                     | Owners              |
| Nuclear           | 1600        | UO <sub>2</sub> | 28 000                    | 0,36              | 7600                       | 440                        | 500                 |
| CHP Steam         | 30          | Biomass         | 23 250 <sup>*)</sup>      | 0,83 <sup>*</sup> | 4 800                      | 720 <sup>***)</sup>        | 510 <sup>***)</sup> |
| CHP Engine        | 0,05        | Biomass         | 31 400 <sup>*)</sup>      | 0,85 <sup>*</sup> | 3 000                      | 1300                       | 1020                |
| Wind, land        | 60          | None            | 13 700                    | -                 | 3 250                      | 590                        | 340                 |
| Wind,<br>offshore | 150         | None            | 21 000                    | -                 | 3 150                      | 870                        | 620                 |
| Solar PV          | 0,003       | None            | 35 700                    | -                 | 862                        | 3280                       | 1600                |



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## **COSTS ESTIMATION is never correct... Take it always with a pinch of salt!**

EXAMPLE: Olkiluoto 3, a 1600 MW PWR nuclear power plant, initiated in 2003

Energy Commission 1995:

Specific investment 25000 SEK/kW for 1000 MW plant

KPI ratio =  $278,1/254,8 = 1,091$

Logical investment 2003 for 1600 MW plant:

$I = 25000 * 1.091 * 1000 * (1600/1000)^{0.7} = 37.9 * 10^9$  SEK

Oskarshamn 3 (BWR) 1060 MW:

KTH Actual investment  $1 * 10^9$  SEK, price level 1983

KPI ratio =  $278,1/132,6 = 2.097$

Expected investment 2003 for proposed 1600 MW plant in Finland:

$I = 1 * 10^9 * 2.097 * (1600/1060)^{0.7} = 30.8 * 10^9$  SEK

18 400 SEK/kW

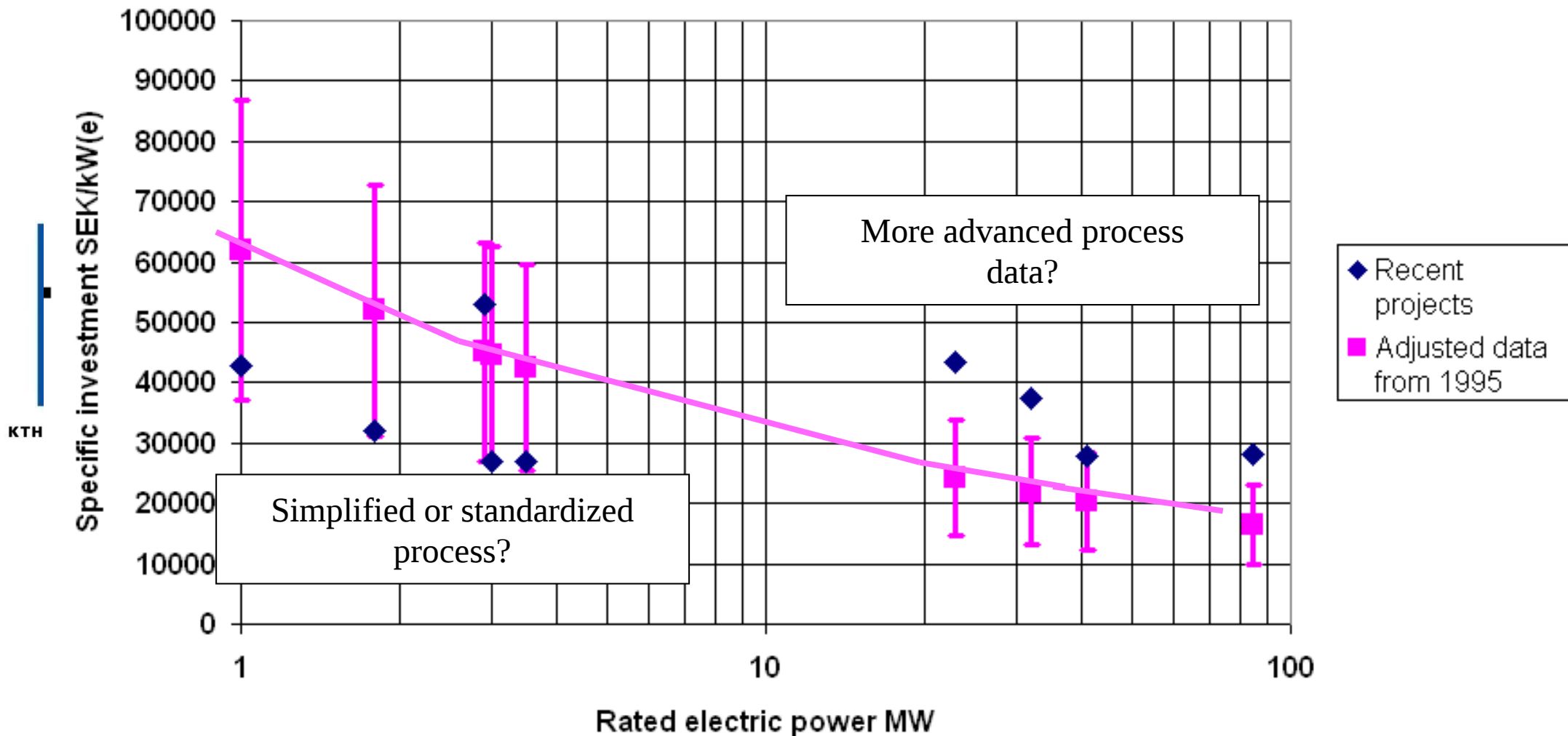
27 500 SEK/kW

**Actual proposed price from Framatom  $3.2 * 10^9$  EUR =  $29.4 * 10^9$  SEK**

(Rumours that price is subsidised and actual cost would be higher)

**Later information: at least 50% higher investment, i.e.  $> 44 * 10^9$  SEK**

## Specific investment for some biofuelled CHP plants with back pressure steam turbine built in Sweden and Finland



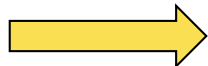
$I/P = 19200 \cdot (50/P)^{(1-0.7)}$   
 error bars  $\pm 40\%$

Inflation corrected specific investment  
 For 50 MW(el) cogeneration plant 19200 SEK/kW

# Operational situation for a power plant



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- Generally, the plants on the energy market are dispatched in order of merit related to marginal cost. (Bidding price)
  - Power plants will have a place in the dispatch order related to marginal cost only, including any CO<sub>2</sub> or other added costs.
  - CHP and renewables (Bio, Wind, Solar) are prioritized in the dispatch order when they are able to operate.
  - CHP is prioritized in commercial terms during heating season, but will have a high marginal cost at other times.
- A plant with a higher marginal cost than the actual market price will not run at all.**
- The profitability of a plant must be calculated in terms of running time, determined by its marginal operational cost.
  - Dispatch is not only related to the home market any more, and not clearly defined.

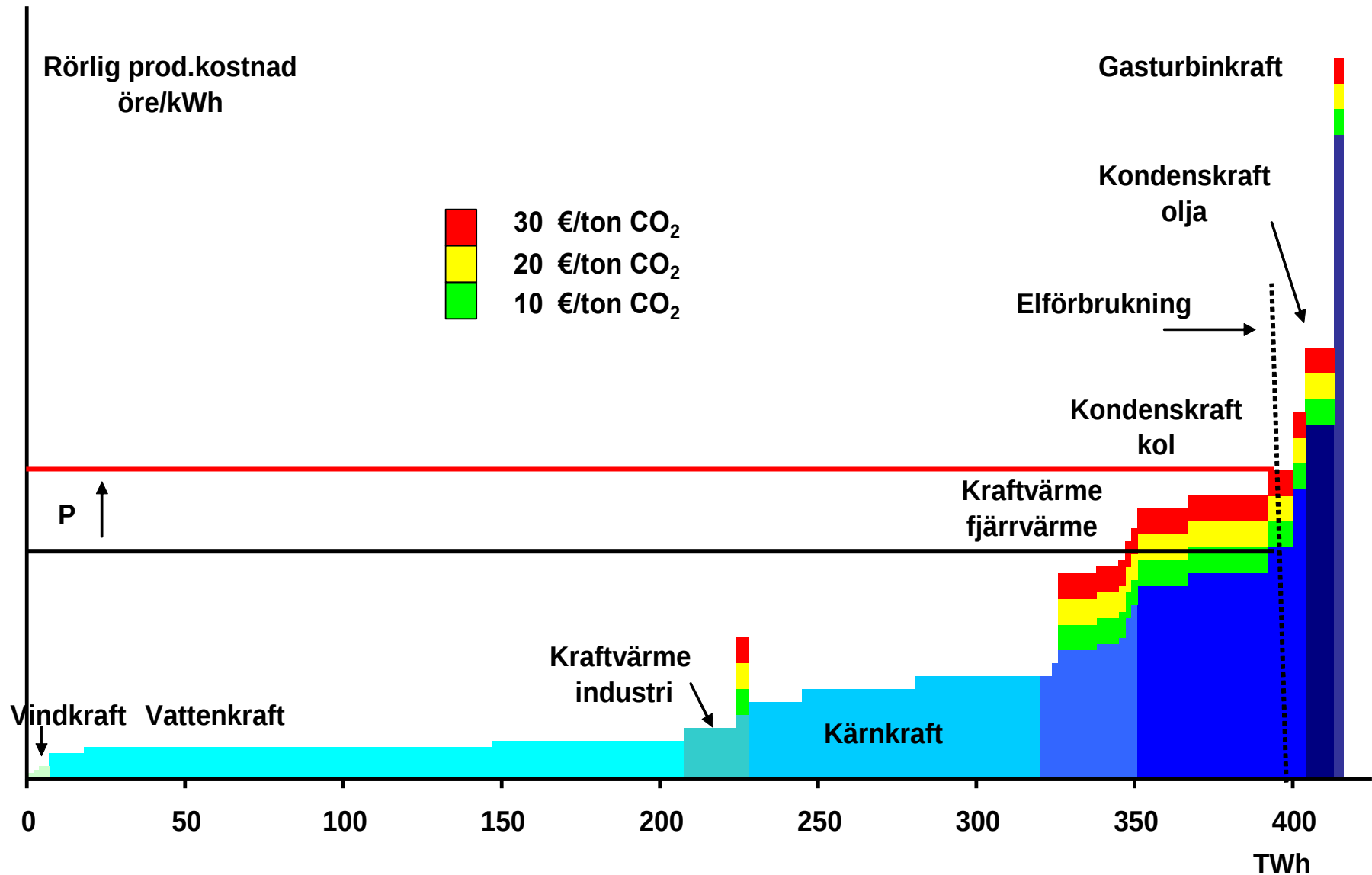


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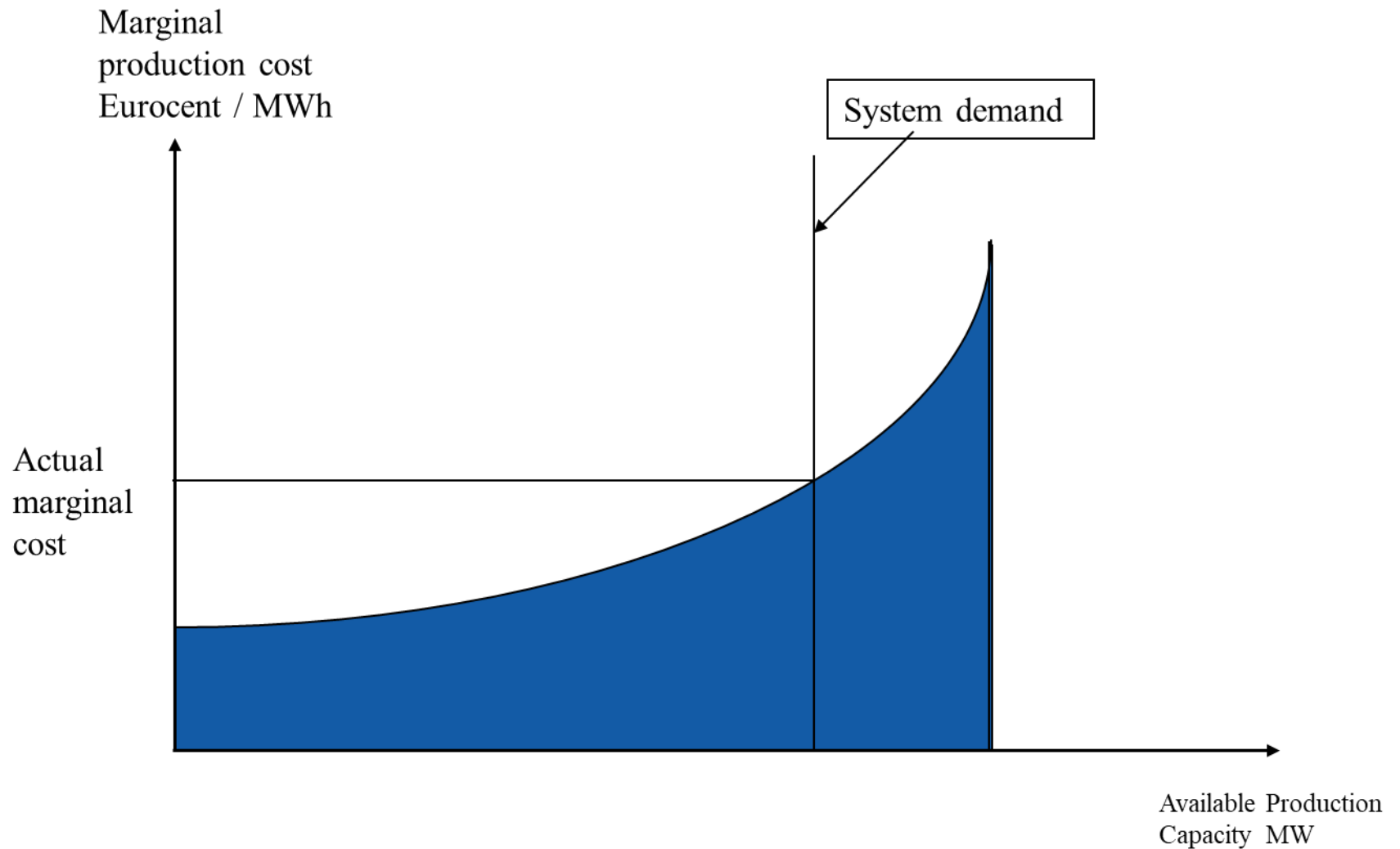
# Capacity dispatch in the Nordic market



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# Principal supply curve

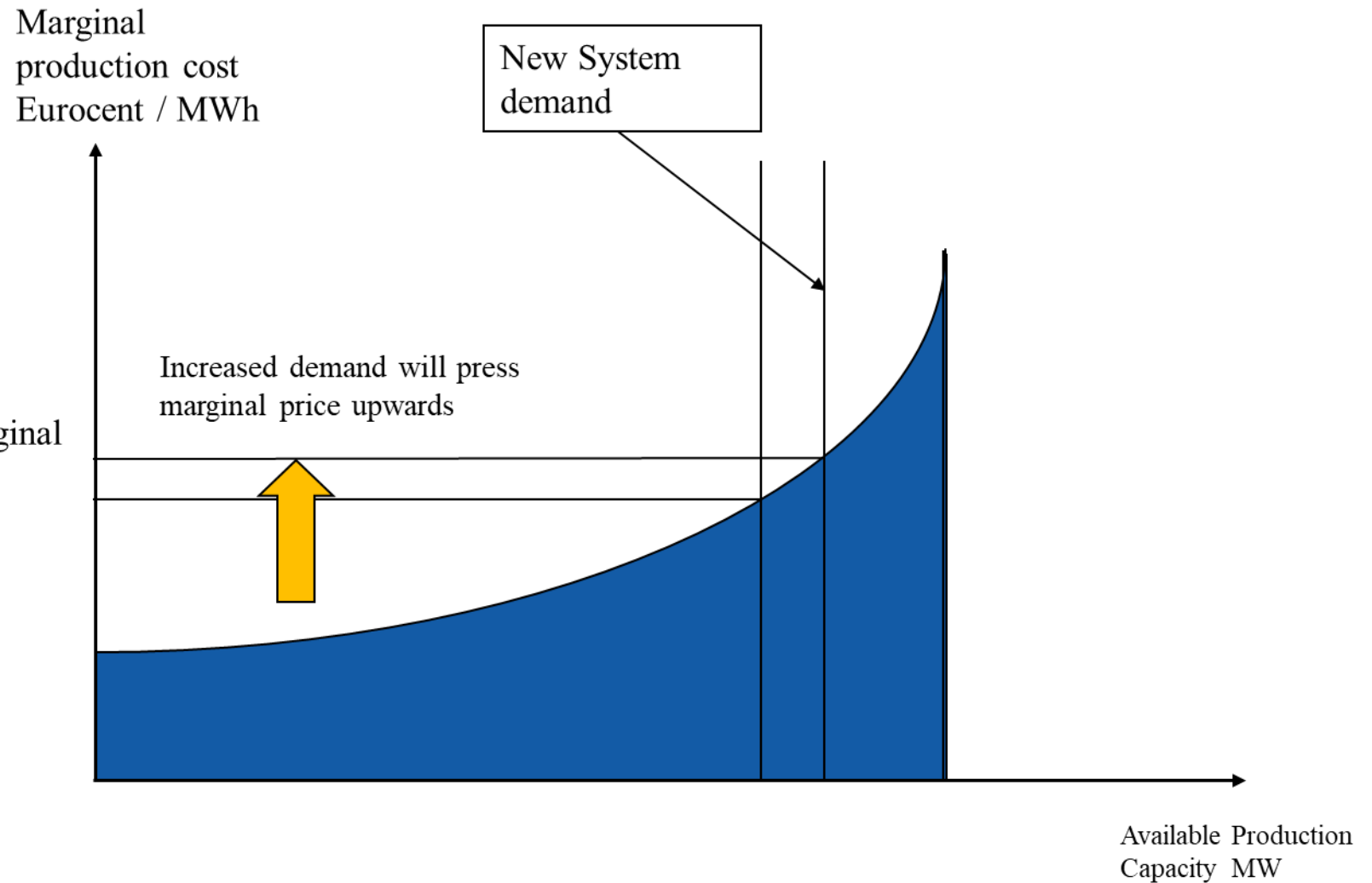


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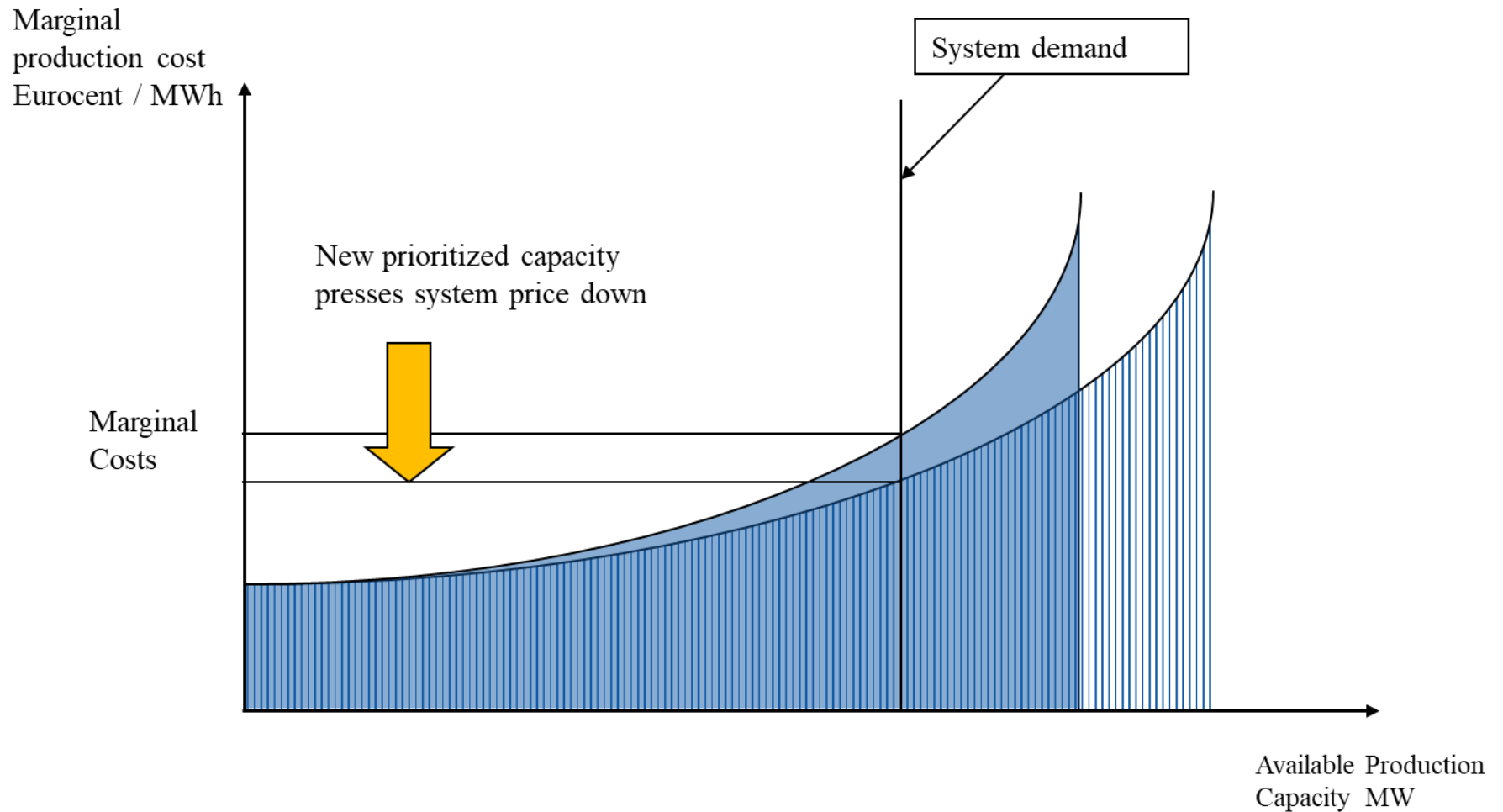
# Principal supply curve adaptation



# New prioritized capacity is introduced through subsidies

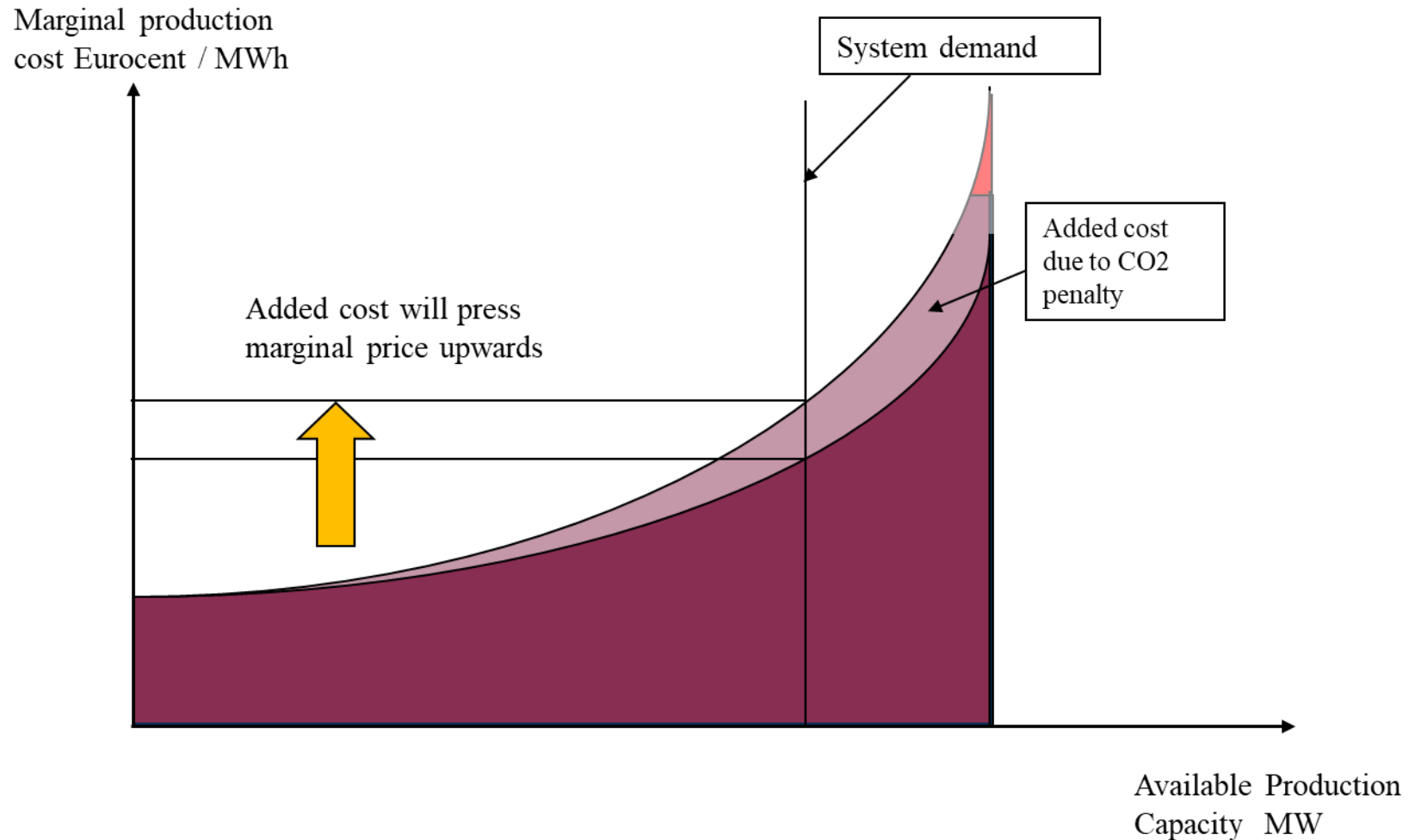


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# If CO2 cost is imposed on producers



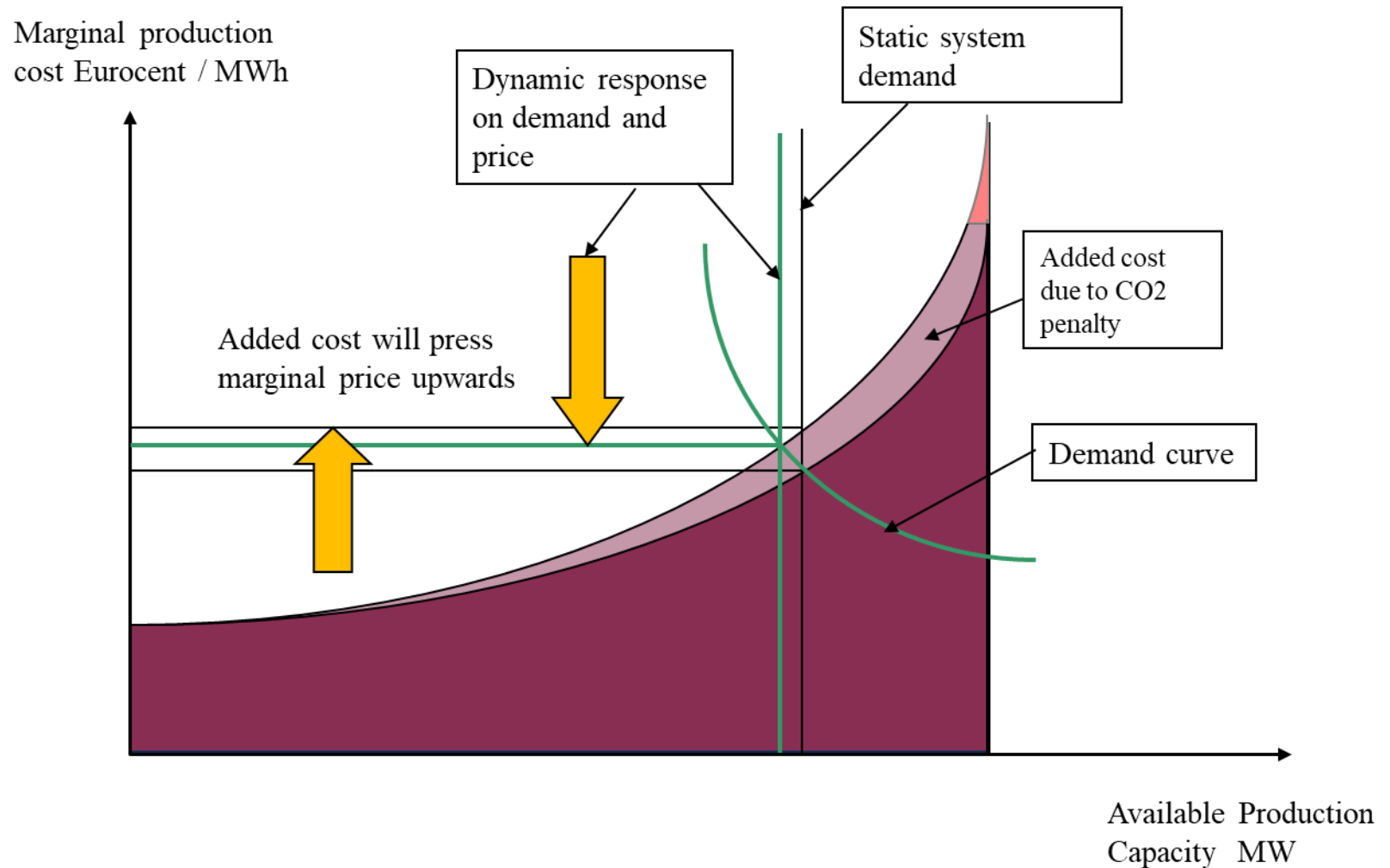
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# Principal supply curve:

## Demand reacts on increased cost

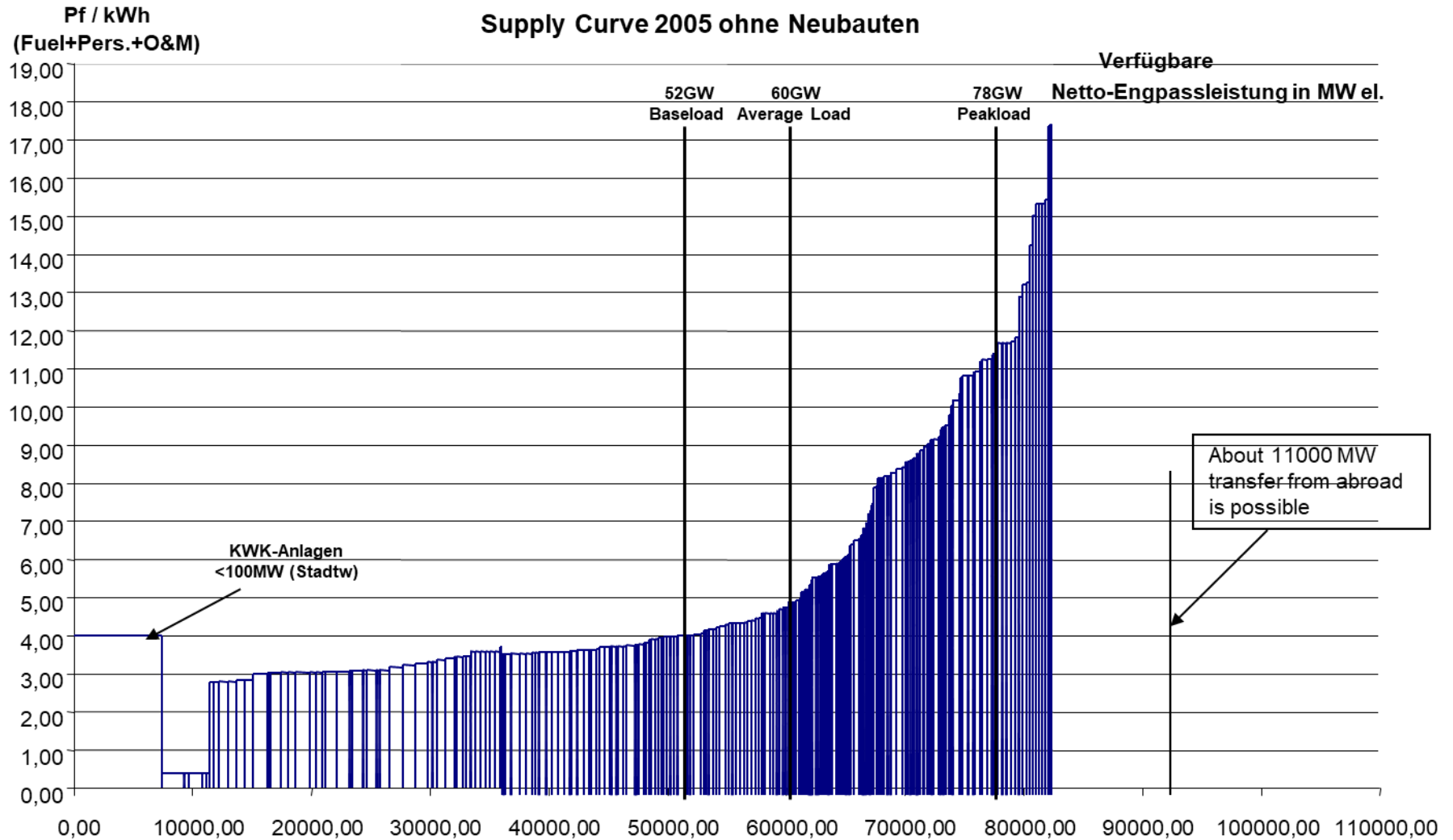


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# Supply Curve in Germany 2005, after DECOMMISSIONING Long-term variable costs



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# Swedish Power System (2014)

Practically installed capacity is about 35 GW,  
maximum ever used is about 28 GW



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| Power Source                          | TWh          | Share %    | Installed Capacity MW | Operational Hours |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Hydro                                 | 64,2         | 42,5       | 16155<br>(13400)      | 3974              |
| Nuclear                               | 62,2         | 41,1       | 9528                  | 6528              |
| Wind                                  | 11,5         | 7,6        | 5420+                 | 2122              |
| Solar                                 | ~0           | ~0         | 79                    | 800               |
| CHP-industrial                        | 5,9          | 3,9        | 1375                  | 4291              |
| CHP-district heat                     | 6,9          | 4,6        | 3681                  | 1874              |
| Peak and reserve<br>GT, steam condens | 0,5          | 0,33       | 3311                  | 151               |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>151,2</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>39549</b>          |                   |

# Future Swedish Power System Studied

Nearly 100% renewable, about 20 GW overcapacity

(Source: Prof. Lennart Söder, KTH-Elektro)



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| Power Source     | TWh          | Share %    | MW-max       | Operating Hours |
|------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Hydro            | 65,7         | 45,1       | 12951        | 5037            |
| Nuclear          | 0            | 0          | 0            | 0               |
| Wind             | 46,8         | 32,1       | 15633        | 2994            |
| Solar            | 11,6         | 8,0        | 9148         | 1268            |
| CHP-Industrial   | 6,4          | 4,4        | 1240         | 5160            |
| CHP-distr. heat  | 13,9         | 9,5        | 4127         | 2736            |
| Peak and reserve | 1,3          | 0,9        | 5081         | 256             |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>139,9</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>48180</b> |                 |