

# Designing fair and stable pricing mechanisms for consumers: a mixed approach between coalitional game theory and bilevel models

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*SESO 2018*

May 22, 2018

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Proposed model: mix bilevel/coalitional games

Sketch of the model  
Algo 1 to solve cons. load scheduling pb  
Imbalance cost  
Aggregator problem

# Outline

- 1 The proposed model: a mix between bilevel and coalitional games

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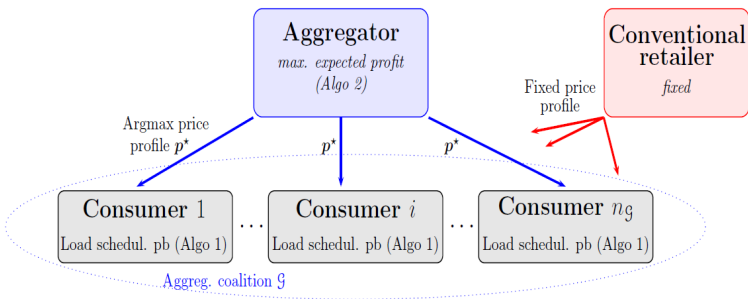
# Sketch of the model

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**Figure:** Global - bilevel - scheme of proposed approach. *At the lower level, a coalitional game problem.*

# A Stackelberg (bilevel) setting

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**At the beginning of a temporal period** of  $n$  days, each discretized in  $T$  time-slots: a **sequential decision-making**

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- 1 **aggregator - leader (upper-level)** determines a price profile  $\mathbf{p}^* = (p^*(t))_{t=0}^{nT-1}$  over  $n$  days to come  
→ reach a targeted profit  $\Pi_{agg}$

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- 2 each **consumer - follower (lower-level)**, observing aggregator's price profile, chooses his load profile  $\mathbf{x}_{i,l}$  for each  $l \in \mathcal{L}_i$   
→ schedule max. number of loads while minimizing cost under constraints (in next slide)

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**End of temp. period:** each consumer decide whether stay/quit coalition  $\mathcal{G}$  (or join for player with conv. retailer)

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And **repeat, period after period...**

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- constant power (resp. *duration*)  $w_{i,l}$  ( $\mu_{i,l}$ )
- per-unit reservation price  $r_{i,l}$ , chosen privately by  $i$

$$\sum_{t=0}^{nT-1} p^*(t)x_{i,t} \leq r_{i,l}w_{i,l}\mu_{i,l} \quad (1)$$

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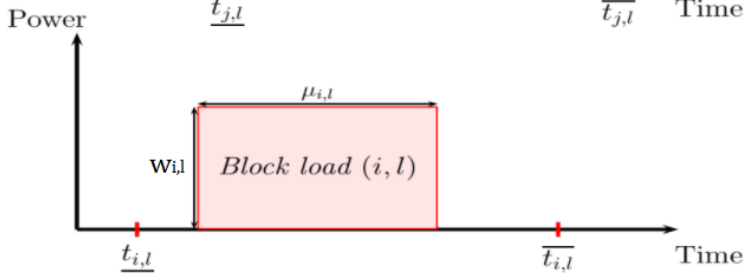
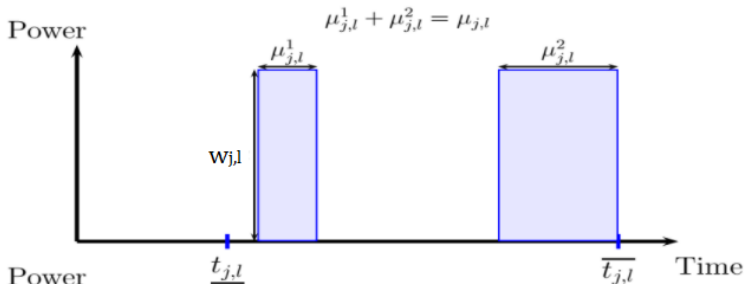
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# Structuring assumption: constant power profiles

2 types of loads: *interruptible* (top), *block* (bottom)



→ **combinatorial** problems...

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# Load scheduling for a flexible consumer: Algo 1

**Algo 1:** exhaustive search, block by block (independent)

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# Load scheduling for a flexible consumer: Algo 1

**Algo 1:** exhaustive search, block by block (independent)

For **block load**  $l \in \mathcal{B}_i$

- Sort  $\tau \in \{\underline{t}_{i,l}, \bar{t}_{i,l} - \mu_{i,l} + 1\}$  by increasing

$$\sum_{t=\tau}^{t=\tau+\mu_{i,l}-1} p^*(t)$$

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$$\sum_{t=\tau}^{t=\tau+\mu_{i,l}-1} p^*(t)$$

- 2 Following this order,
  - 1 If  $\sum_{t=\tau}^{t=\tau+\mu_{i,l}-1} p^*(t) \leq r_{i,l} \mu_{i,l}$ , schedule load on time-slots  $\tau, \tau + 1, \dots, \tau + \mu_{i,l} - 1$ . **STOP**
  - 2 Else, while  $\tau < \bar{t}_{i,l} - \mu_{i,l} + 1$ ,  $\tau = \tau + 1$ , **GO TO 2)1).**

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# Load scheduling for a flexible cons.: Algo 1 (2)

**Algo 1:** exhaustive search, block by block (independent)

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# Load scheduling for a flexible cons.: Algo 1 (2)

**Algo 1:** exhaustive search, block by block (independent)

For **interruptible load**  $l \in \mathcal{I}_i$

- 1 Sort  $\tau \in \{\underline{t}_{i,l}, \bar{t}_{i,l}\}$  by increasing  $p^*(\tau)$ :  $t_0, t_1, \dots, t_{\mu_{i,l}-1}$  such that  $p^*(t_0) \leq p^*(t_1) \leq \dots \leq p^*(t_{\mu_{i,l}})$

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- 2 If  $\sum_{\tau=0}^{\mu_{i,l}-1} p^*(t_\tau) \leq r_{i,l} \mu_{i,l}$ , schedule the load on time slots  $t_0, t_1, \dots, t_{\mu_{i,l}-1}$
- 3 Otherwise, do not schedule the load

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# "Share" imbalance cost between agg. and cons.

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## "Share" imbalance cost between agg. and cons.

**Imbalance** = aggreg. diff. between (day ahead) estimation  $\hat{d}_i(t)$  and (real time) realization  $d_i(t)$  of demand of  $i$

$$\Delta = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t)$$

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- **balancing cost of aggregator**

- aggreg. over-estim.: "loss"  $(p^f(t) - p^+(t))(\Delta)_+ > 0$
- aggreg. under-estim.: pay  $p^-(t)(\Delta)_- > 0$

with  $p^+(t)$  (resp.  $p^-(t)$ ) unit price to sell (resp. buy) on balancing at  $t$ , with  $p^+(t) < p^f(t) < p^-(t)$  [1];  
 $p^f(t)$  day-ahead energy price

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 $p^f(t)$  day-ahead energy price

- **balancing cost of consumer  $i$ :**

- **indiv. over-estim.:** pay  $(p^f(t) - p^+(t))(\hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t))_+ > 0$
- **indiv. under-estim.:** pay  $p^-(t)(\hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t))_- > 0$

# "Share" imbalance cost between agg. and cons. (2)

- balancing cost for consumer  $i$

$$B_i(t) = p^-(t) \left( \hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t) \right)_- \\ + \left( p^f(t) - p^+(t) \right) \left( \hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t) \right)_+$$

**random variable** at the beginning of period  $n * T$

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# Aggregator problem

- **cost**: buy in day-ahead... balancing cost (or profit)

$$\begin{aligned}c(\mathcal{G}, t) &= p^f(t) \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} \left( \sum_{l \in \mathcal{L}_i} x_{i,l}(t) + \hat{d}_i(t) \right) \\ &+ p^-(t) \left( \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} (\hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t)) \right)_- \\ &- p^+(t) \left( \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} (\hat{d}_i(t) - d_i(t)) \right)_+\end{aligned}$$

- **expected profit** over horizon  $nT$

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi(\mathbf{p}^*) &= \sum_{t=0}^{nT-1} \left\{ p^*(t) \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} \left( \sum_{l \in \mathcal{L}_i} x_{i,l}(t) + \hat{d}_i(t) \right) \right. \\ &\left. + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} \mathbb{E} [B_i(t)] - \mathbb{E} [c(\mathcal{G}, t)] \right\}\end{aligned}$$

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# Aggregator problem (2)

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## Aggregator problem (2)

... reach a targeted profit  $\Pi_{agg}$  is equivalent to following equation

$$\Pi_{agg} = \Pi(\mathbf{p}^*)$$

denoted generically  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p}^* = \mathbf{b}$

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Casted as an **optimization problem**

$$\min_{\mathbf{p}^*} \left\| \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{x}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{G}}, (\hat{d}_i(t))_{t=0, i \in \mathcal{G}}^{nT-1} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}^* - \mathbf{b} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{x}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{G}}, (\hat{d}_i(t))_{t=0, i \in \mathcal{G}}^{nT-1} \end{pmatrix} \right\|$$

$$\text{s.t. } p^*(t) \geq 0, \forall t \in \{0, \dots, nT - 1\}$$

Remark: problem solved with a (biased) estimation of reservation prices  $(\hat{r}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{G}}$

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# Solving the bilevel problem?

## Backward induction

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# Solving the bilevel problem?

## Backward induction

If aggregator prices are strictly ordered (wlog  $p^*(0) < \dots < p^*(nT - 1)$ )

- 1 **consumer reaction**: function  $\mathbf{x}_i(\mathbf{p}^*)$  uniquely by  $\mathbf{p}^*$  (unique solution in Algo 1)

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If aggregator prices are strictly ordered (wlog  $p^*(0) < \dots < p^*(nT - 1)$ )

- 1 **consumer reaction**: function  $\mathbf{x}_i(\mathbf{p}^*)$  uniquely by  $\mathbf{p}^*$  (unique solution in Algo 1)
- 2 solve aggregator quadratic pb under a "Moore-Penrose" reformulation allowing keeping only positive "components" corresponding to scheduled appliances in 1) ( $l : \sum t x_{i,l}(t) > 0$ )

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R&D

Proposed model:  
mix bilevel/coalitional games

Sketch of the model  
Algo 1 to solve cons.  
load scheduling pb  
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# Solving the bilevel problem?

## Backward induction

If aggregator prices are strictly ordered (wlog  $p^*(0) < \dots < p^*(nT - 1)$ )

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If aggregator prices are not strictly ordered: not clear... (pessimistic versus optimistic)

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# Complementary aspects

**Work in progress:**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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