



Long-term forecasting of reactive power demand in distribution networks

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Introducing Electricity North West



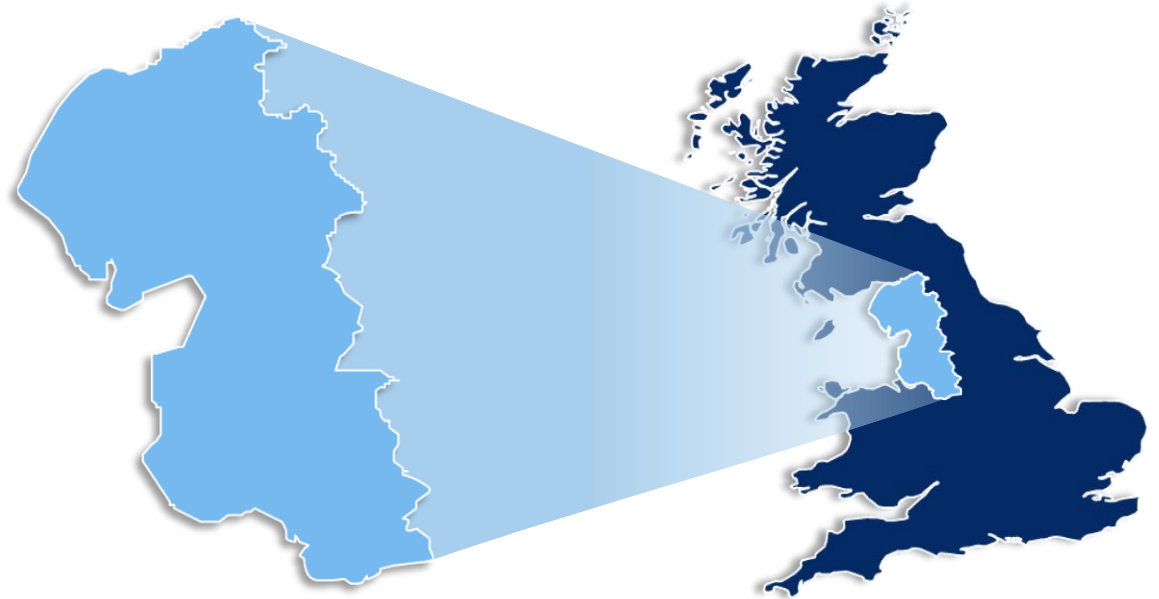
4.9 million



2.4 million



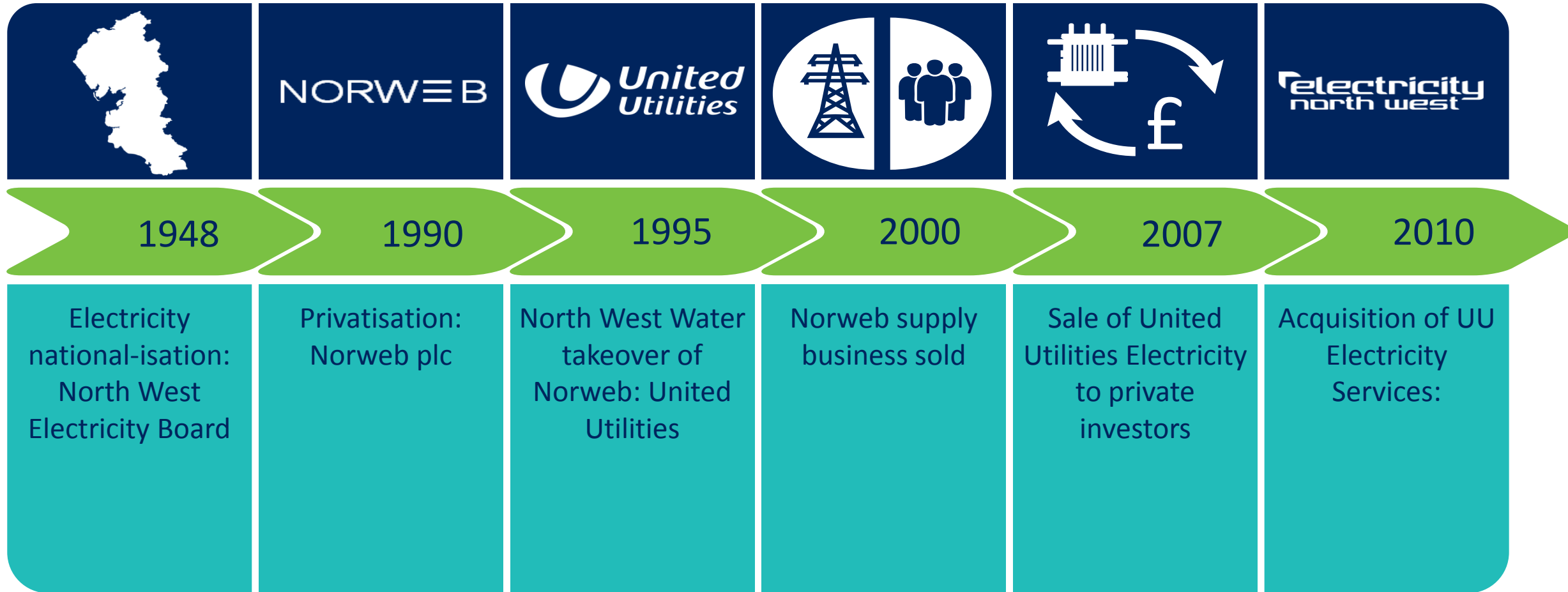
25 terawatt
hours



£12 billion of network assets

56 000 km of network ● 96 bulk supply substations
363 primary substations ● 33 000 transformers

Our heritage



RIIO regulatory framework



RIIO =

Revenue = Incentives + Innovation +
Outputs

ED1 = Electricity Distribution
14 DNO areas
Eight years

**£1.8
BILLION**

Total to be spent on
the network 2015 -
2023



**£24.6
BILLION**

Total to be spent on the network
2015 - 2023

£10

Resulting annual average
savings in consumer bills

8%

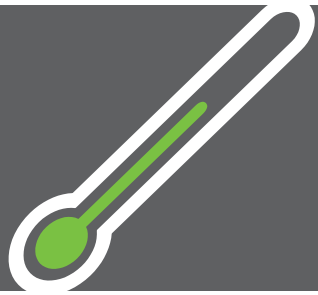
The power distribution
part of a dual fuel bill

30%

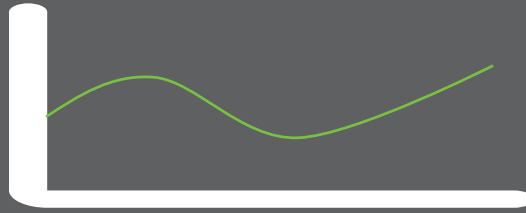
Network reliability
increase since 2002



Views of future demand and generation affect our plans for network capacity



Thermal ratings of equipment
– forward and
reverse power flows



Allowed range of voltage around
statutory limits
– demand, generation, reactive



Fault-level ratings for network
protection

Standards of security of supply including asset redundancy,
automation, generation contribution and demand response



Many ways to meet
customers' capacity needs



Reactive power (Q) demand in UK

Critical at transmission-distribution (T-D) interfaces

Acute Q decline during minimum load (P)

Challenges to maintain transmission voltages

Long-term forecasting of Q demand

Limited works

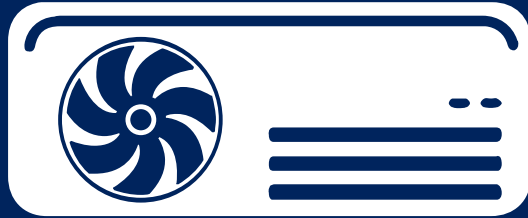
REACT project (2013-2015)
First approach using network and demand data

ATLAS project (2015-2018)
Enhanced approach, more extensive network modelling

Two related NIA projects



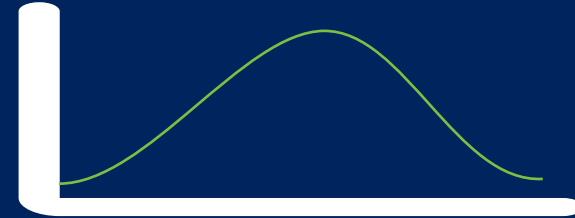
Demand Scenarios with Electric Heat and Commercial Capacity Options



Winter / summer peak load

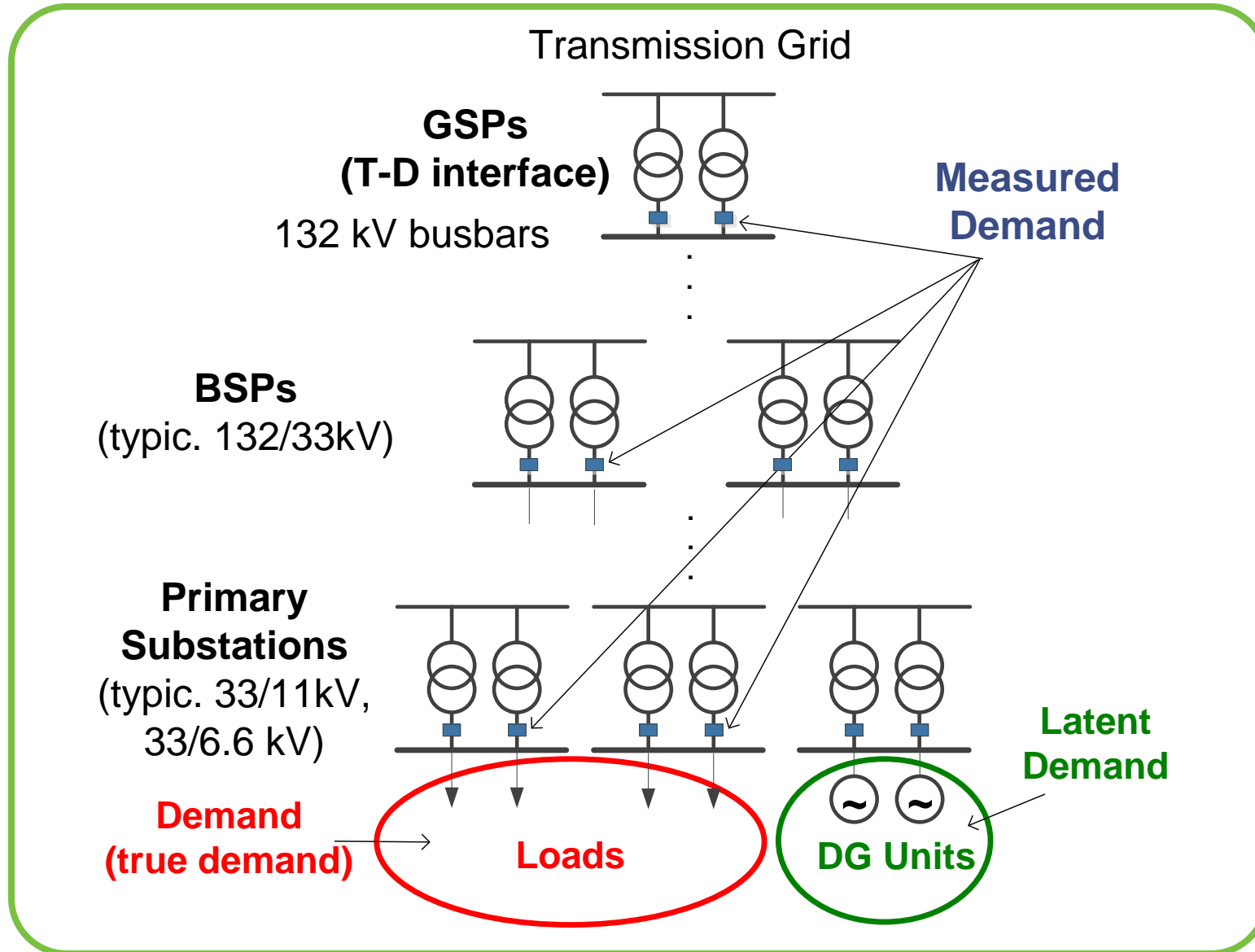
April 2015 - October 2016

ATLAS (Architecture of Tools for Load Scenarios)

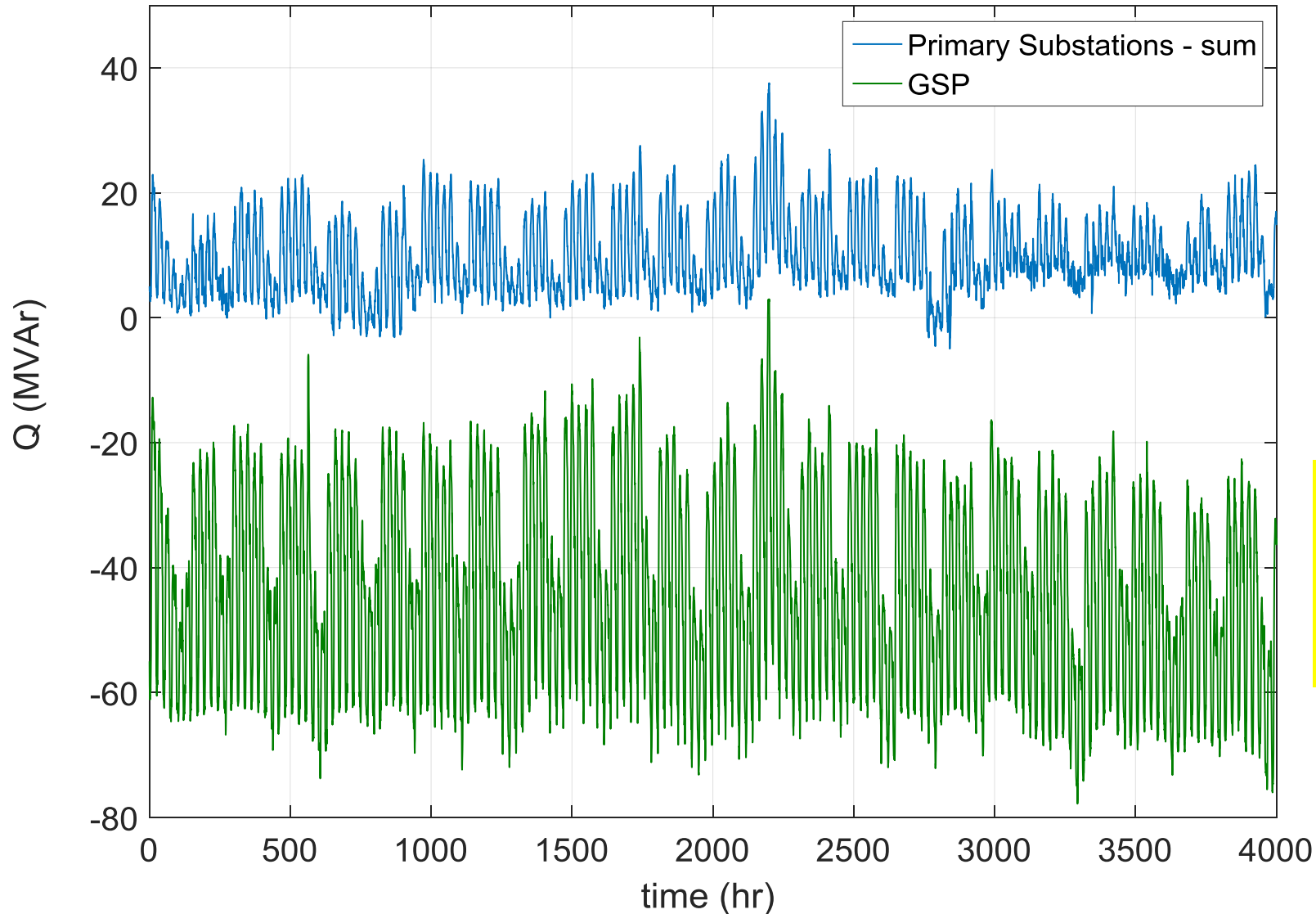


Half-hourly through year
Seasonal peak and minimum
P and Q, then S and load factor

November 2015 – December 2017



Monitored reactive demand



Inductive primaries, but
capacitive GSPs (i.e., Q exports
to transmission)

Interaction of demand &
generation with distribution
networks → significant effects on
Q exports



Scenario based

Time-series network
modelling

T-D interface to primary
substations

Half-hourly resolution in
analyses

Effects of low carbon
technologies (LCTs),
econometrics,
demographics,
renewables

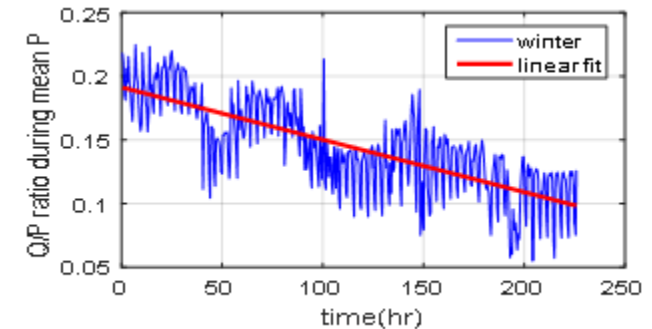
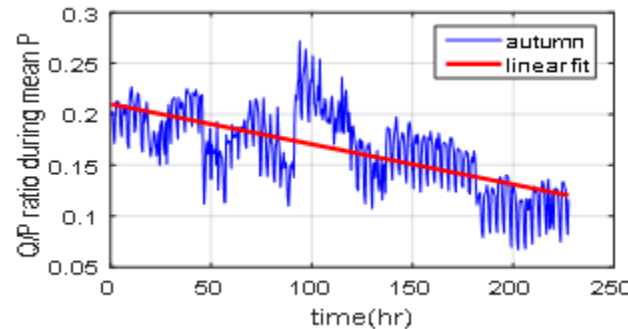
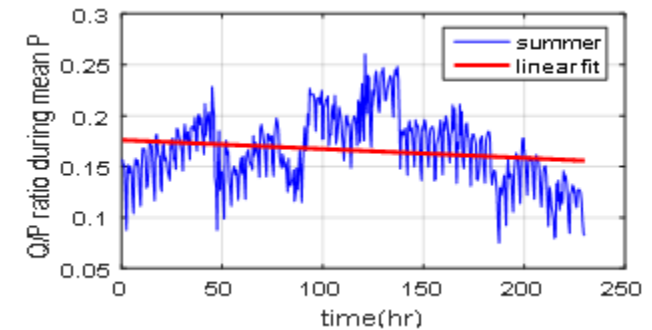
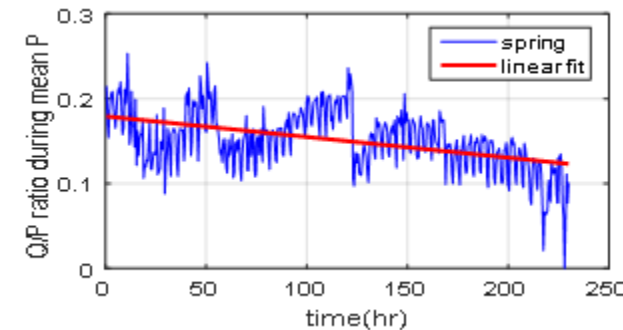
Use of forecasted P
demand and generation

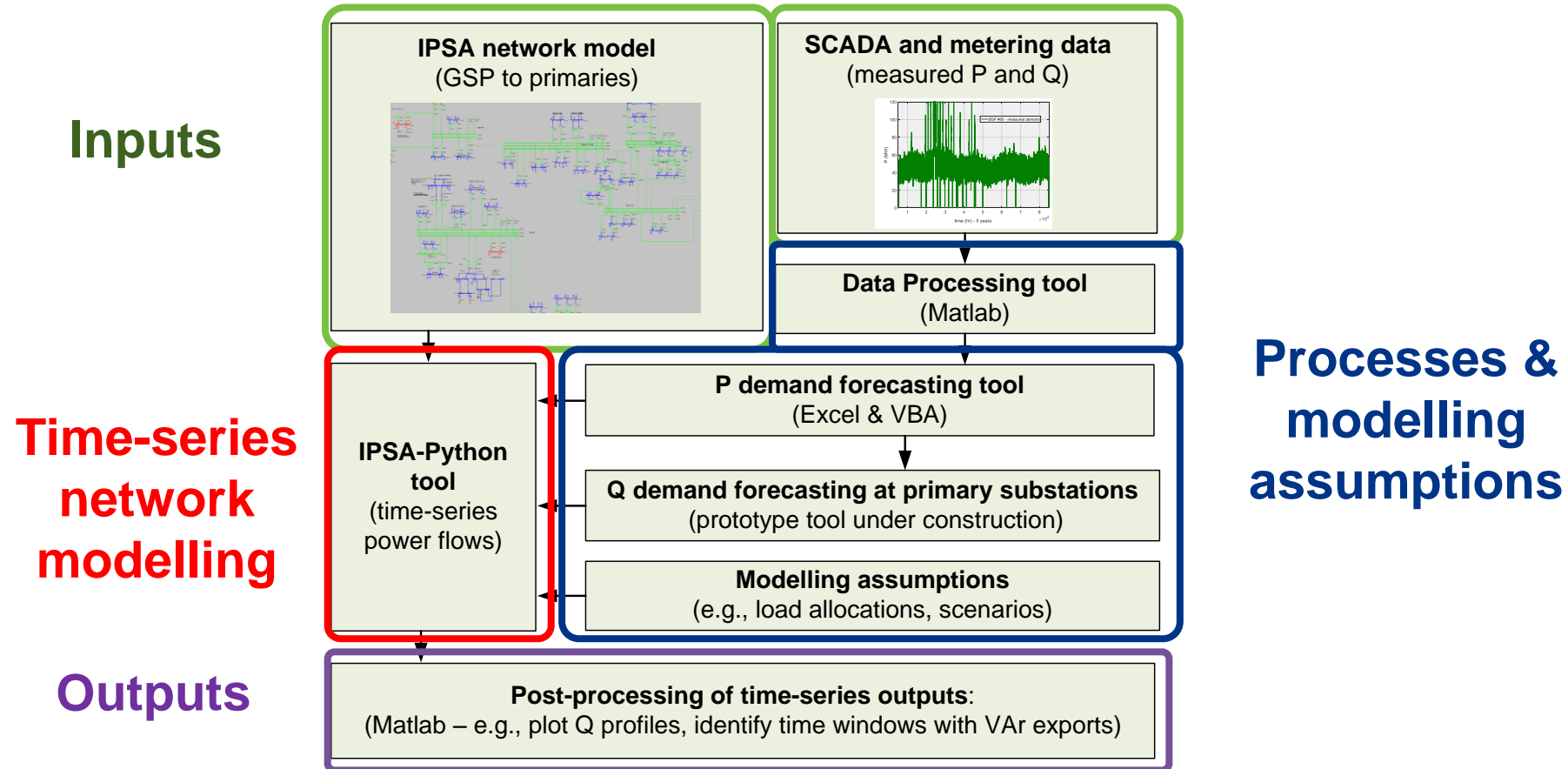
Focus on periods of
peak & min P demand

Future Q at primary substations – no network modelling

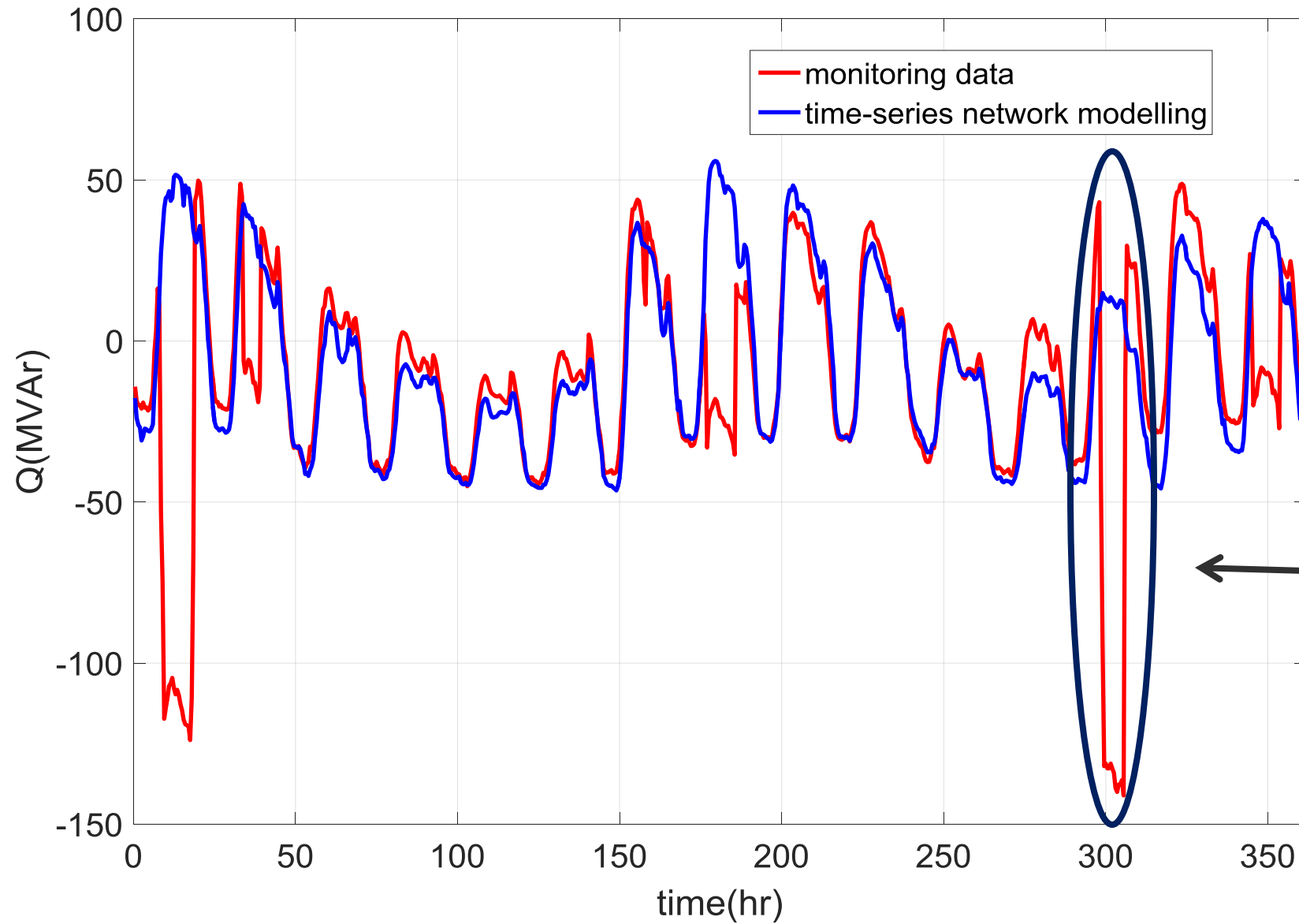


- Assessment using future P at primary substations (EELG model) and trends in Q/P ratio
- Q/P ratio trends
 - historical FY12 to 16 measured P and Q demand
 - seasonal trends
 - individual linear trends
 - min/mean/max daily P
 - future Q/P ratios
 - half-hourly for whole year
 - per GSP





Challenges to validate the Q forecasting tool



Critical network data:
e.g. TSO controlled
capacitors

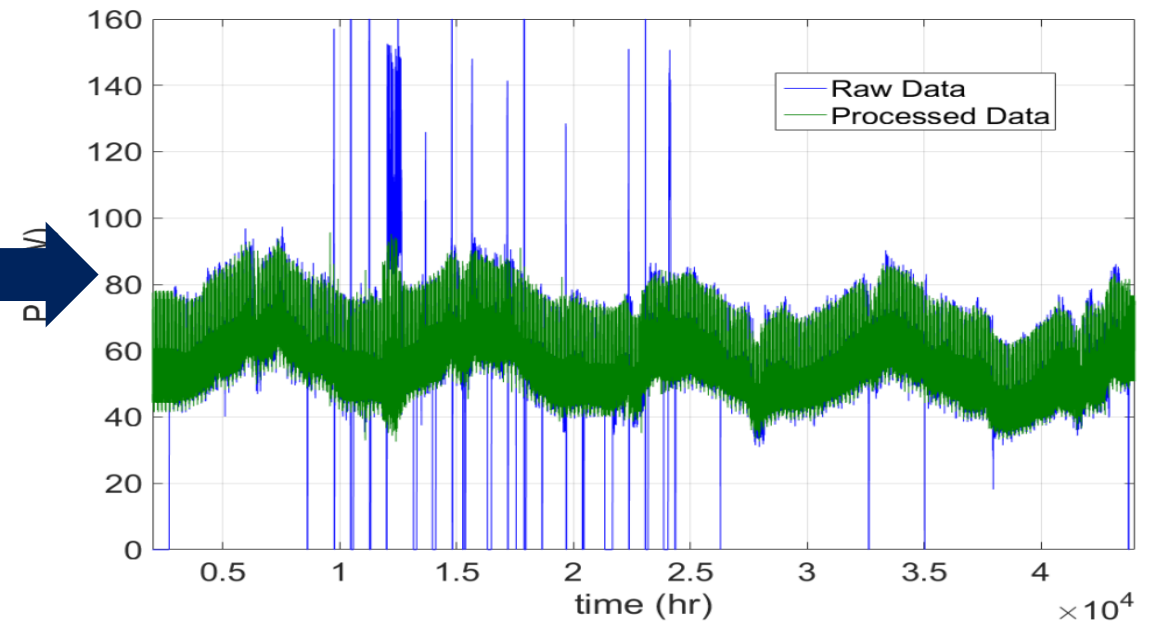
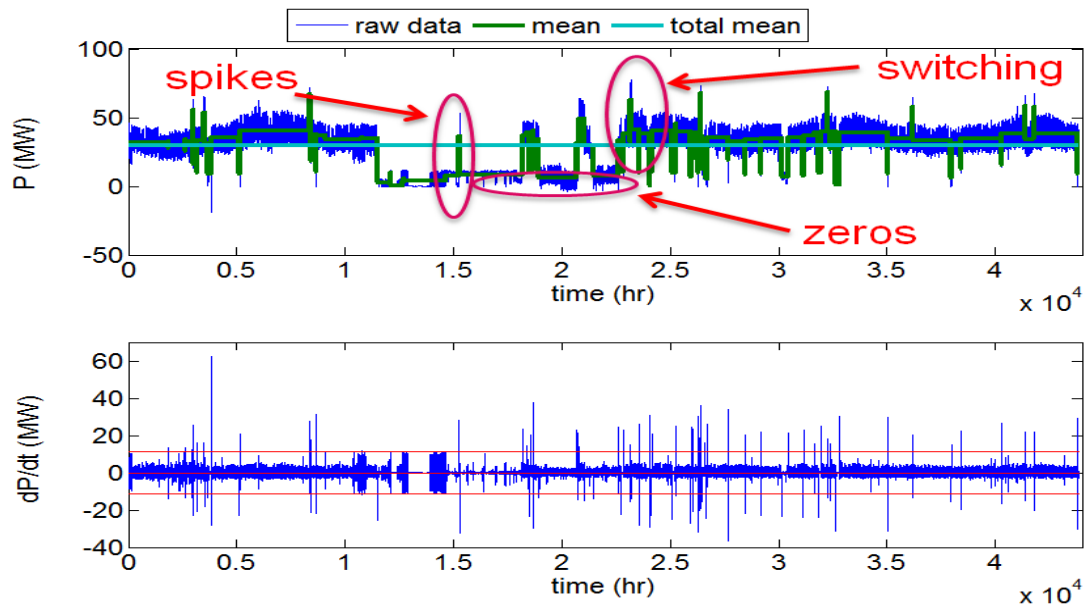
Validation of Q forecasting tool – automated processing imperfect monitoring data



Identification of Data Problems

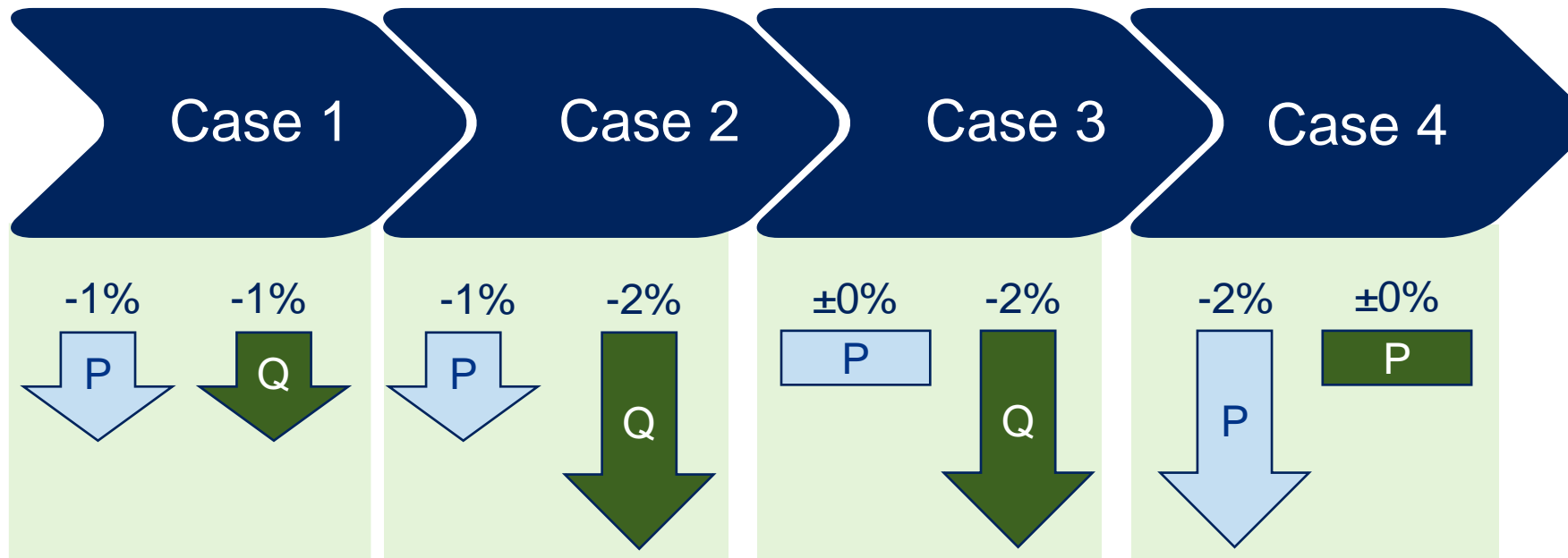


Data Corrections
(Half-hourly & daily analyses)

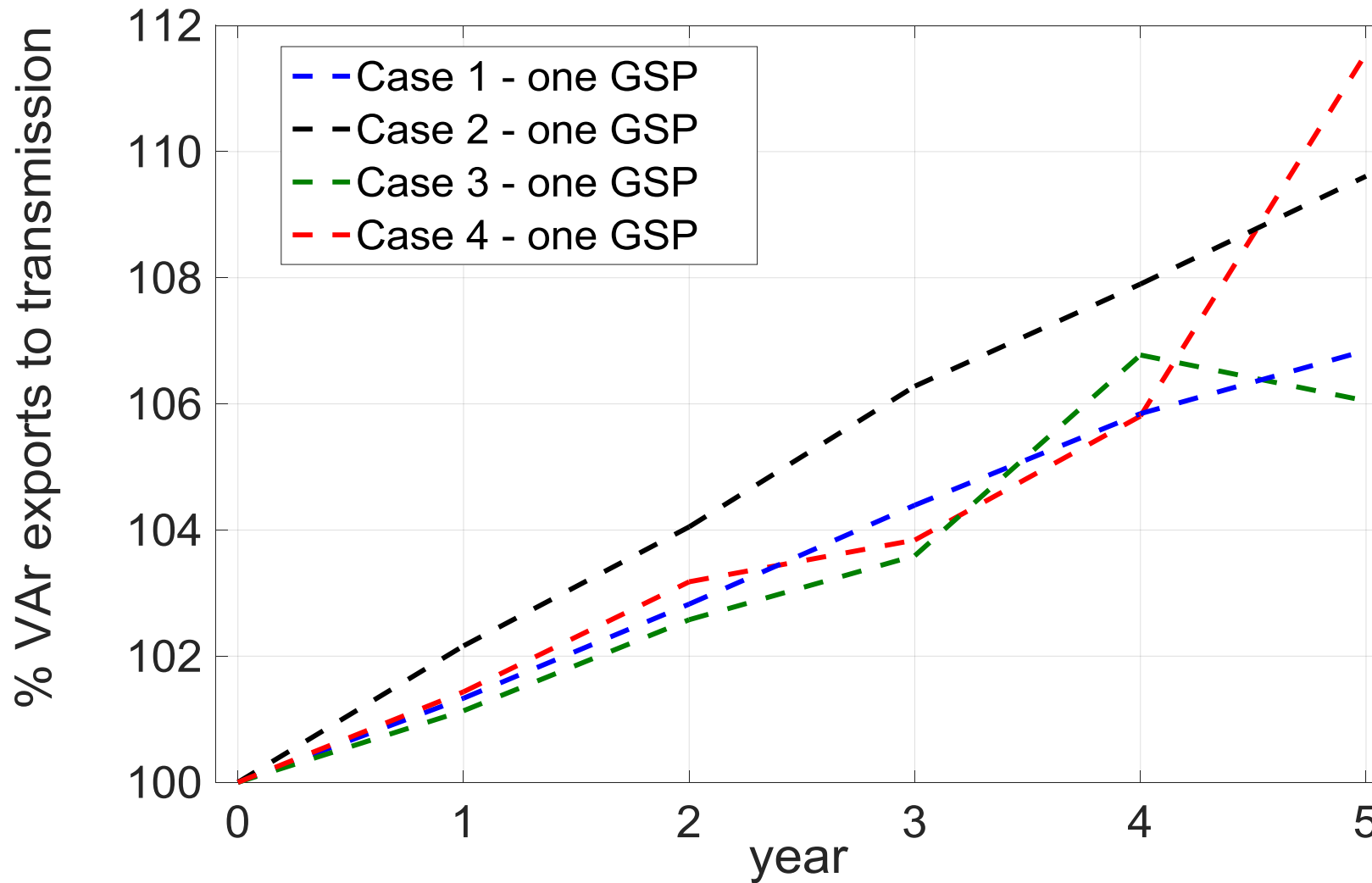




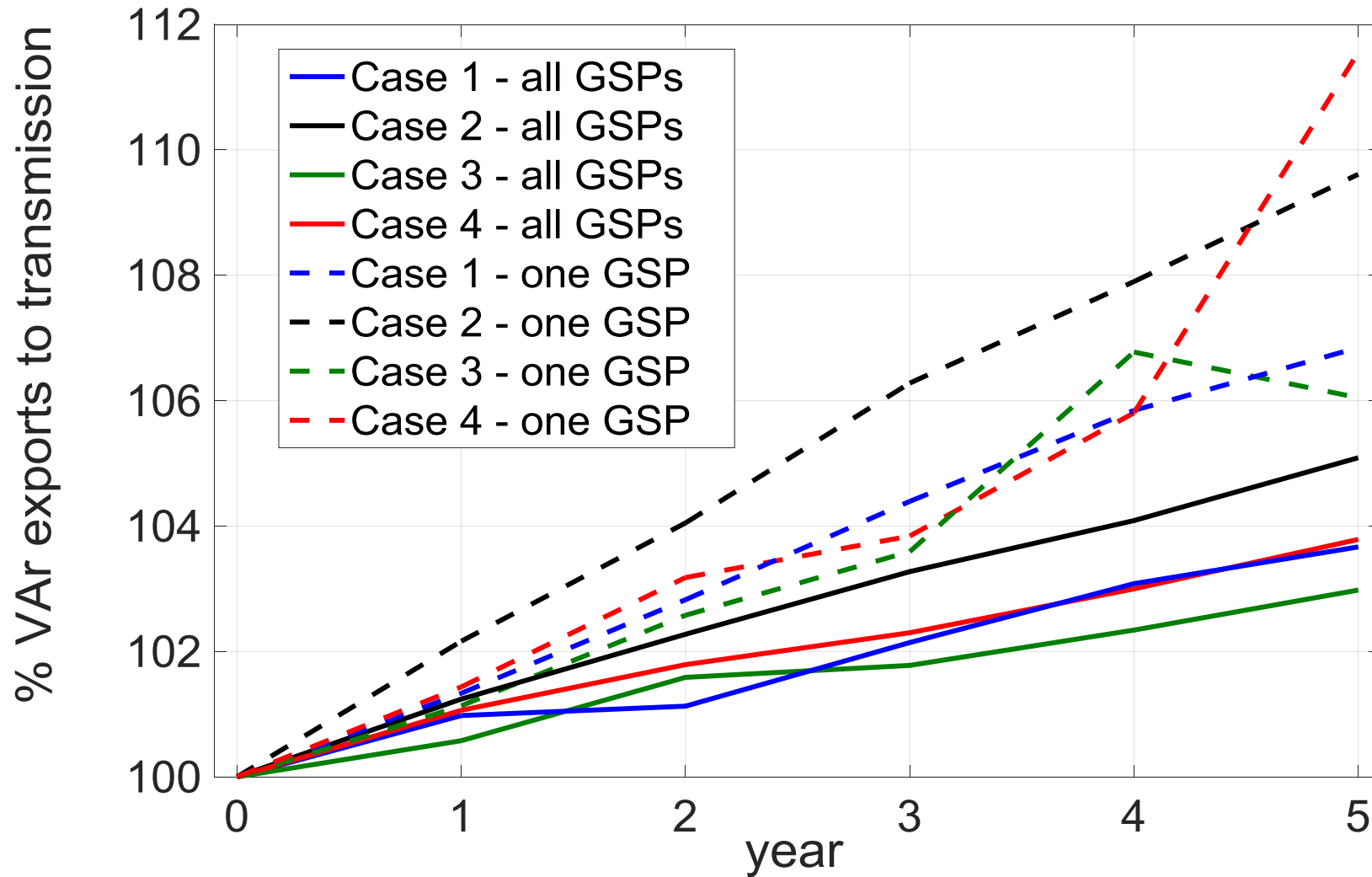
4 cases with different demand reduction at primary substations

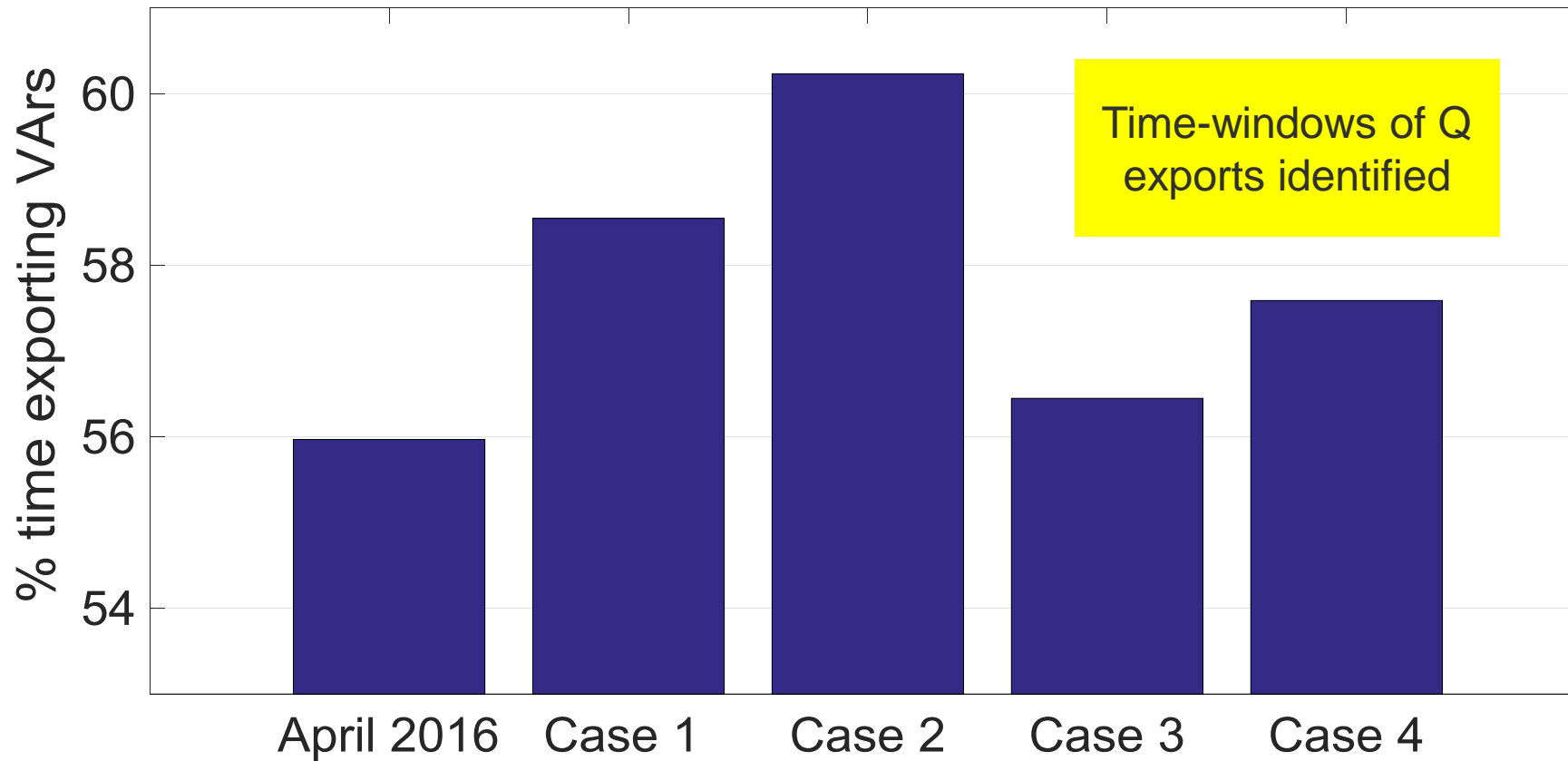


Future trends in Q exports to transmission



Future trends in Q exports to transmission







Proposed methodology for long-term forecasting of Q demand using network modelling

Transition to business as usual using time-series modelling of the whole 132 to 33kV network in North West of England

Practical benefits from time-series network modelling

Time windows of VAr exports to transmission

Future trends in individual and groups of substations

Thank you for your attention! 😊

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