# Robustness indicators for power systems

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## Agenda

- 1. Project background
- 2. Reliability, Resilience, and Robustness
- 3. Robustness indicator types
- 4. Robustness indicator: frequency extremes
- 5. Robustness indicator: inertia correlation
- 6. Robustness indicator: transfer corridor unavailability and utilization rate
- 7. Main conclusions
- 8. Proposals for future studies



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Project background

Has the ROBUSTNESS of the Nordic power system decreased?

- The Nordic power system is undergoing significant transformation, driven by
  - global energy transition
  - electrification
  - European market integration
  - → Escalated strain = decreased Robustness?
- Robustness indicators can provide information of how grid properties develop over time
- Challenge to find indicator to quantify general robustness

Project background

Has the ROBUSTNESS of the Nordic power system decreased?

- Project focus
  - What is Robustness?
  - How can robustness indicators be developed?
  - Can open data be used to quantify robustness?



#### What is Robustness?

## Reliability, Resilience, and Robustness

concepts which describe functionalities of the power system



How can robustness indicators be developed?

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## **Robustness indicator types**



## **Robustness indicator: frequency extremes**



addressing risk of extreme frequencies

- Locality: Global
- Lag: based on historical data
- Lead: utilising forecasts
- Existing method: based on inertia

## **Robustness indicator: inertia correlations**

to understand the impact on different variables in various time resolutions

- Time frame: >years
- Locality: global and regional
- Lag: based on historical data
- Complexity:
   multifaceted assessment



## **Correlation parameters:**

- production per generation type
- actual load
- cross-border flow
- transmission unavailability
- generation unavailability
- day ahead spot price

	Transmission unavailability: Data before 2022														
-	0.236	0.425	-0.033	0.315	0.097	0.244	0.361	0.080							
-	0.289	0.531	-0.040	0.408	0.122	0.329	0.461	0.079							
-	-0.024	-0.034	-0.003	-0.067	0.019	-0.074	-0.045	0.056							
-	-0.011	-0.017	0.000	-0.016	-0.012	-0.016	-0.012	-0.019							
-	0.037	0.031	-0.002	0.023	-0.007	0.006	0.010	0.030							
	SE1-SE2	SE2-SE3	SE3-SE4	SE1-NO4	SE1-FI	SE2-NO3	SE3-NO1	SE3-FI							

## Robustness indicator: transfer corridor unavailability and utilisation rate

addressing grid adequacy and use

- Locality: regional
- Lag: based on historical data
- Super positioning in two dimensions



**Robustness indicator: transfer corridor unavailability and utilisation rate** Dimension 1: Transfer corridor Unavailability

- 100%: *NTC* = 0 MW all the time
- 0%: NTC =  $NTC_{max}$  all the time



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**Robustness indicator: transfer corridor unavailability and utilisation rate** Dimension 2: Transfer corridor Utilisation Rate

- 100%: all of the NTC is needed, all the time
- 0%: no power transfer is needed during that time period



## **Robustness indicator: transfer corridor unavailability and utilisation rate** Combined robustness indicator

- More than 90% of the transfer corridors in the Nordic Power System (weighted by their respecitve NTC<sub>max</sub>) are showing signs of decreasing robustness
- No transfer corridor is showing any sign of an increasing robustness
- In summary, the proposed Robustness Indicator clearly shows that the Nordic Power System has on average, become less robust during the studied time period of 2015 – 2023



## Main Conclusions

Global and regional robustness indicators using open data, focusing on :

- Frequency
- Inertia
- Transfer corridors

#### • Frequency extremes

By analysing the relationship between kinetic energy and frequency deviations potential risks may be identified. Frequency robustness is a relevant indicator for anticipating system responses to disturbances, especially in low-inertia situations.

#### • Inertia correlation

The study of inertia correlations with variables such as power generation, load, cross-border flow, production and transmission unavailability, and electricity spot prices, highlights how system inertia fluctuates over time. This correlation-based approach provides an overview of the factors affecting stability and resilience.

• **Transfer corridor unavailability and utilisation rate** Analysing the combined impact of unavailability and utilization rates, a trend toward decreased robustness within the Nordic power system have been identified.

#### • Maintenance and cancelled outages

The rising trend of cancelled planned outages may signal a maintenance backlog, potentially affecting long-term system reliability. While public data limitations prevent definitive conclusions on this issue, the potential of detrimental impact by delayed maintenance on system robustness could be severe.



## Proposals for future studies

#### Expansion

- Address local robustness
   indicators
- Requires some proprietary data
- Correlate site-specific statistics with global and local measurements

#### Further improvement

• Enhanced Correlation Analysis

Time-segmented analyses of time-series data could identify extreme values in correlation factors, which could reveal rapid fluctuations and periods of unavailability

#### • Broader Scope of Analysis

Expand the analysis to include hydro power generation impact in Norway and assess how mitigation strategies and control unit limitations affect frequency extremes

- Assessment of Maintenance Backlog
   Investigating the possibility of a rising maintenance back-log
   that could affect future grid reliability, by probabilistic methods
- **Refinement of Composite Robustness Indicators** Tracing the robustness indicators over time would provide valuable insights. Investigating the uncertainty within these indicators would enhance the reliability of conclusions drawn from robustness assessments



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