# International Electricity Trade Economic Considerations

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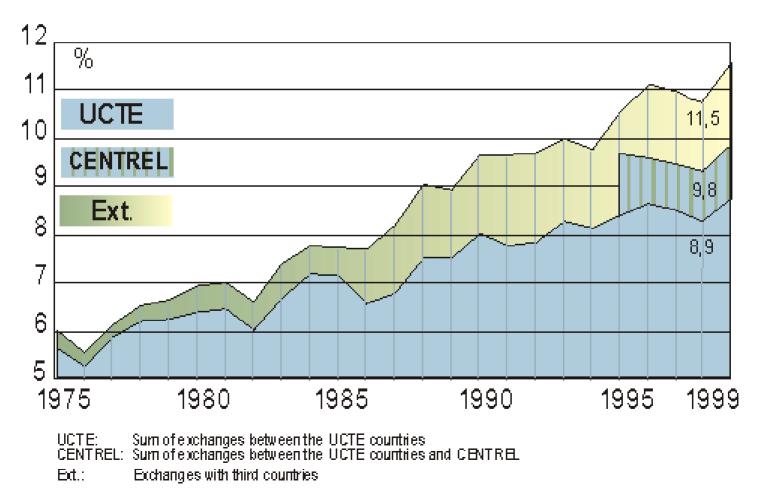
Workshop on International Electricity Grid Interconnection in Northeast Asia Beijing, May 14-16, 2001

Gains
Costs
Pricing
Congestion in Competitive Market
Congestion in Monopoly / assymetric market
Financing options
International cooperation
Conclusion

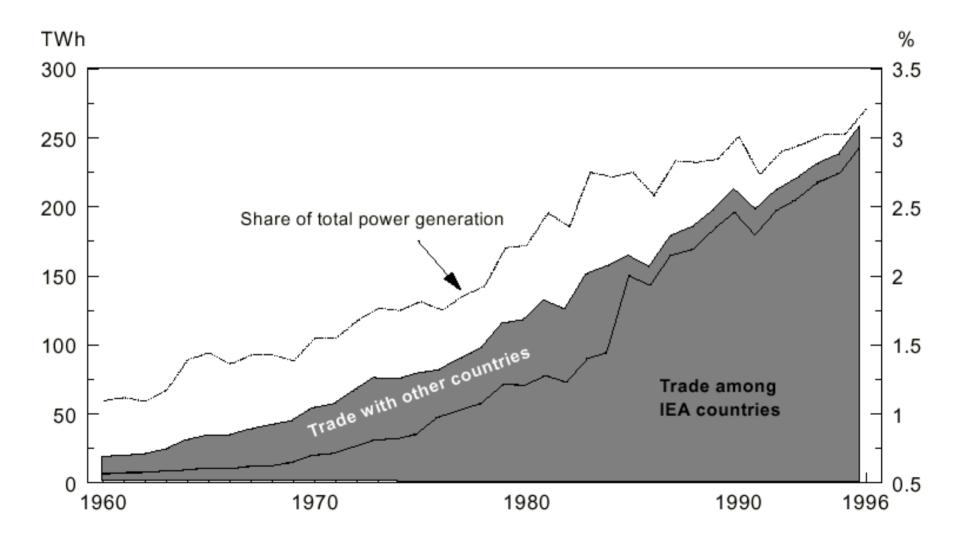
# EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TRADE 11% OF ELECTRICITY



Part of exchanges in the consumption 1975 - 1999

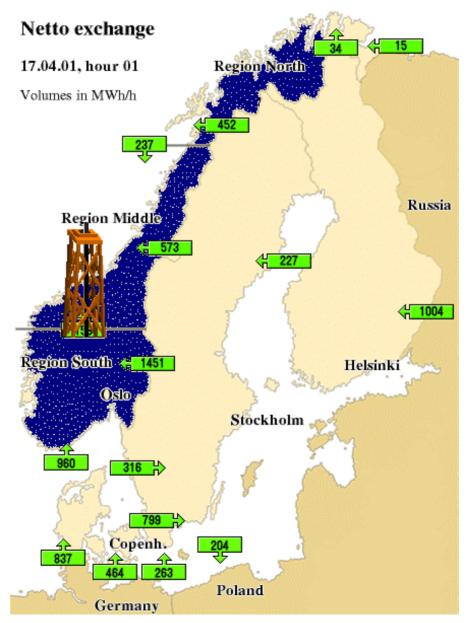


#### SIMILAR GROWTH RATES IN IEA COUNTRIES



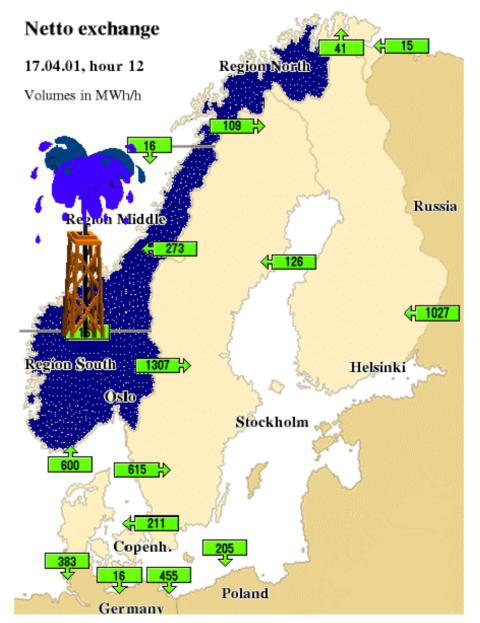
# TRADING TO USE GEOGRAPHICAL ADVANTAGES

Night-time import 3436 MW cheap off peak power



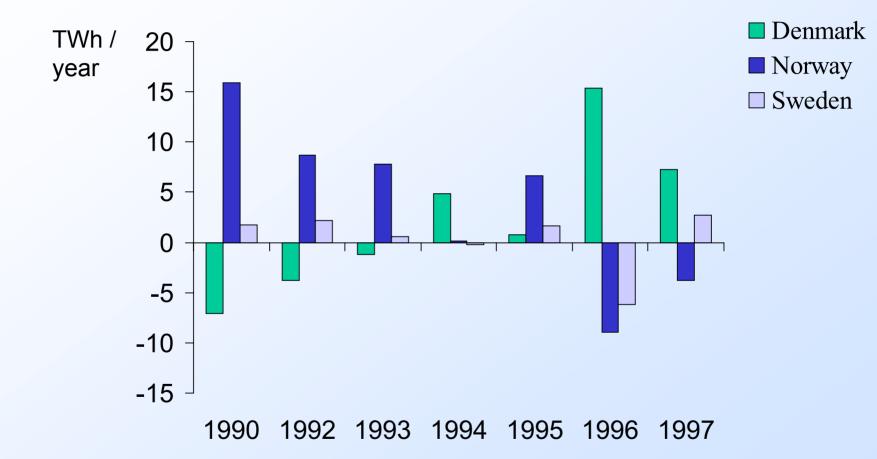
# TRADING TO USE GEOGRAPHICAL ADVANTAGES

Daytime exports 543 MW of peak power



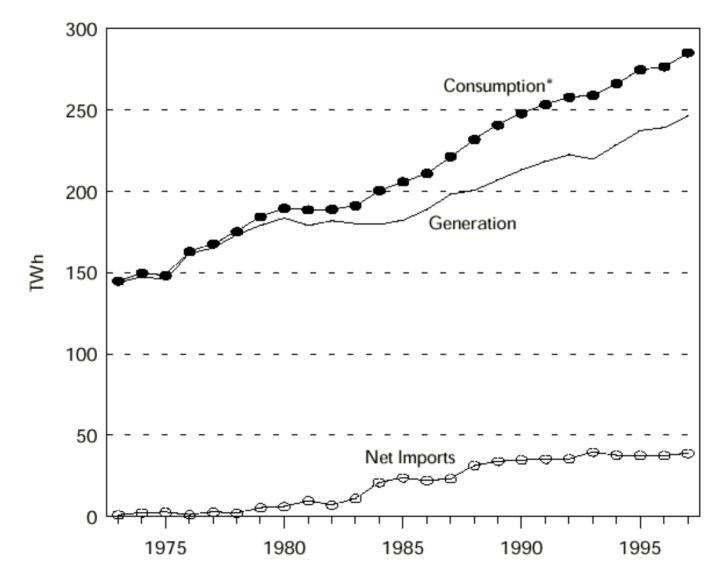
Source: Nordpool

#### TRADING TO BALANCE PEAKS



Source: Electricity Information 1997, IEA, Energy Statistics Yearbook, UN 1997 Remark: High Norwegian exports in 1990 are partly due to lower overall demand level

TRADING TO BALANCE HISTORICAL DIFFERENCES



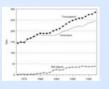
#### ADVANTAGES OF INTERNATIONAL ELECTRICITY TRADE

Using geographical differences

Balancing of peaks and seasonal differences

Balancing of historically development

Pooling of reserve power

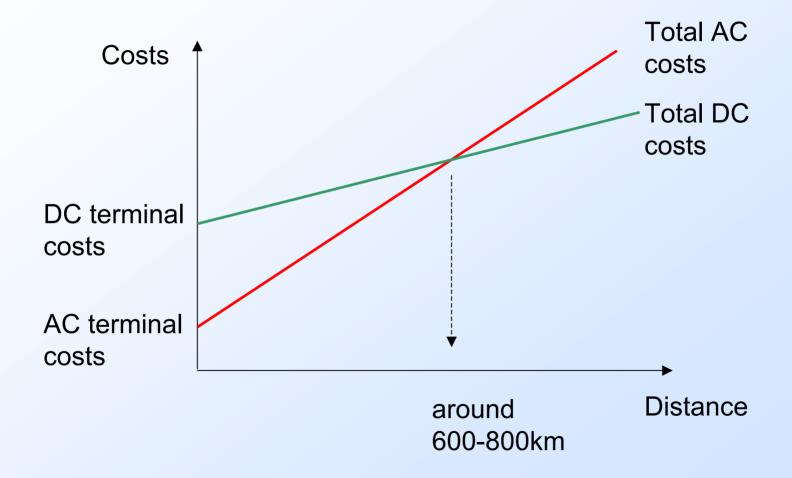




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Gains Costs Pricing **Congestion in Competitive Market** Congestion in Monopoly / assymetric market **Financing options** International cooperation Conclusion

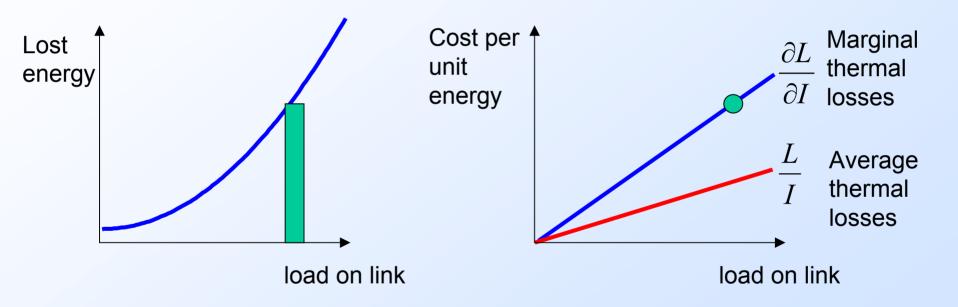
#### **INVESTMENT COSTS FOR INTERCONNECTION**



# VARIABLE COSTS FOR INTERCONNECTION CAPACITY

Energy losses grow quadratic

Variable costs grow linear



Marginal pricing results in economic efficiency

Use over-recovered costs to pay for fixed costs

Gains

Costs

Pricing

**Congestion in Competitive Market** 

Congestion in Monopoly / assymetric market

- **Financing options**
- International cooperation
- Conclusion

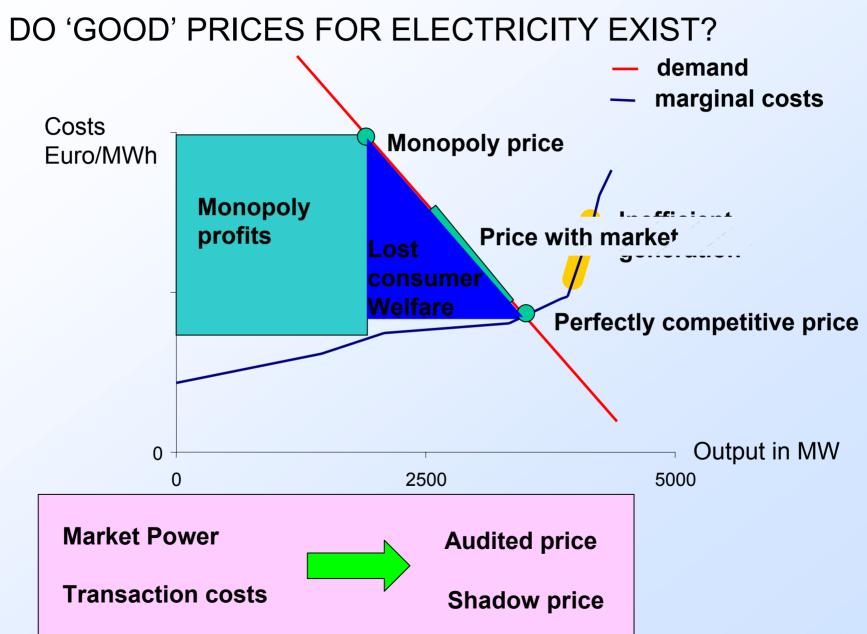
aggregate information in complex systems

offer unifying framework for communication

keep overall system efficient when decisions are decentralised/ automated

# PRICES

But - do they exist?



# ELECTRICITY LIBERALISATION TO INTRODUCE COMPETITION

# Advantages of competition in a liberalised market

- incentivice management improve organisation/technology
- reveal costs (Nuclear Energy in UK)

# The problems with liberalisation

• Market Power :

Foreclosure due to transmission constraints Inelastic demand

Missing regulatory commitment brings risk for investors

# **REGULATION IN A LIBERALISED ENVIRONMENT**

Transmission and distribution are a natural monopolies and need regulation

i) ensuring open access

(ii) equitable distribution of welfare gains

(iii) monitoring international contracts

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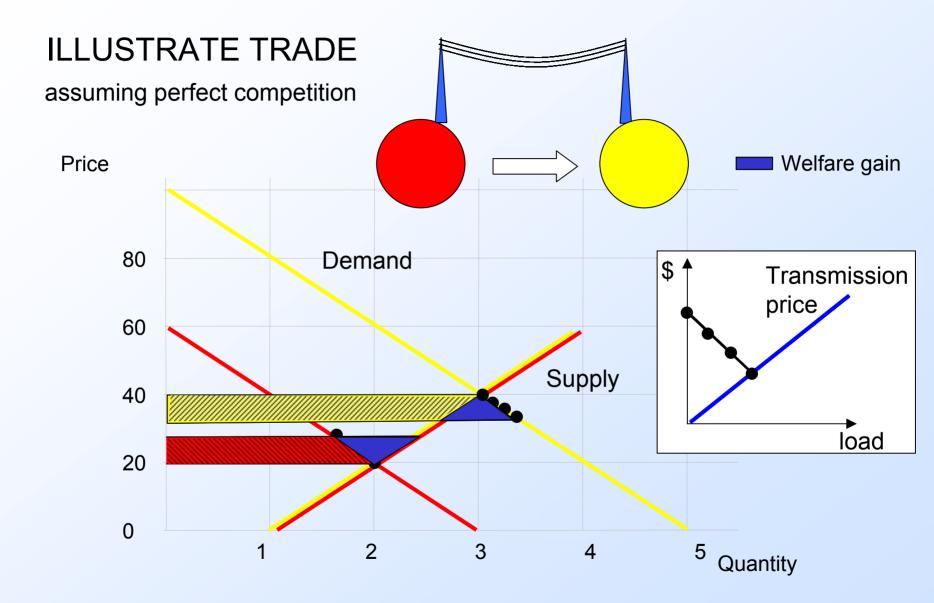
Congestion in Competitive Market

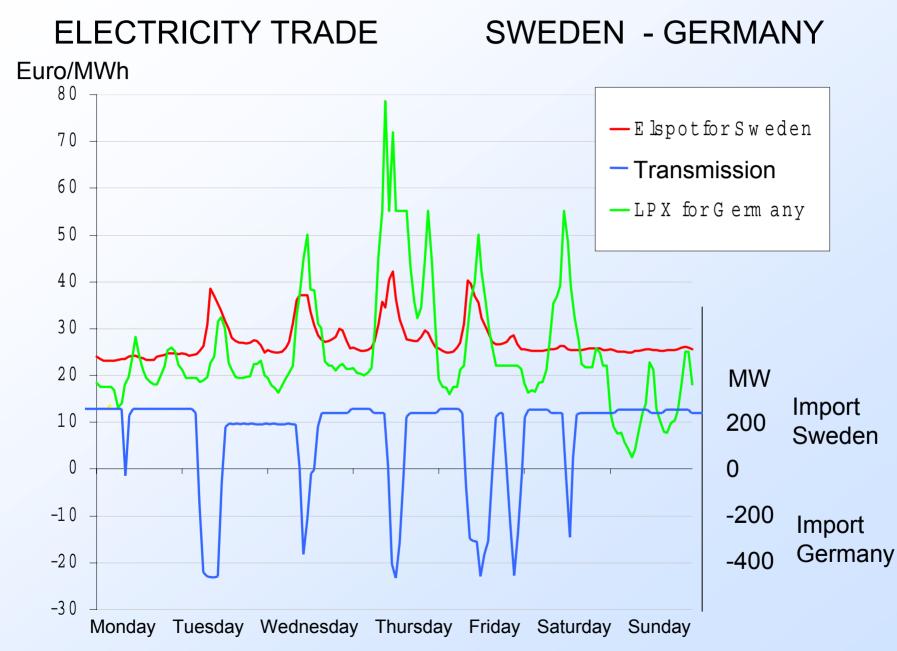
Congestion in Monopoly / assymetric market

**Financing options** 

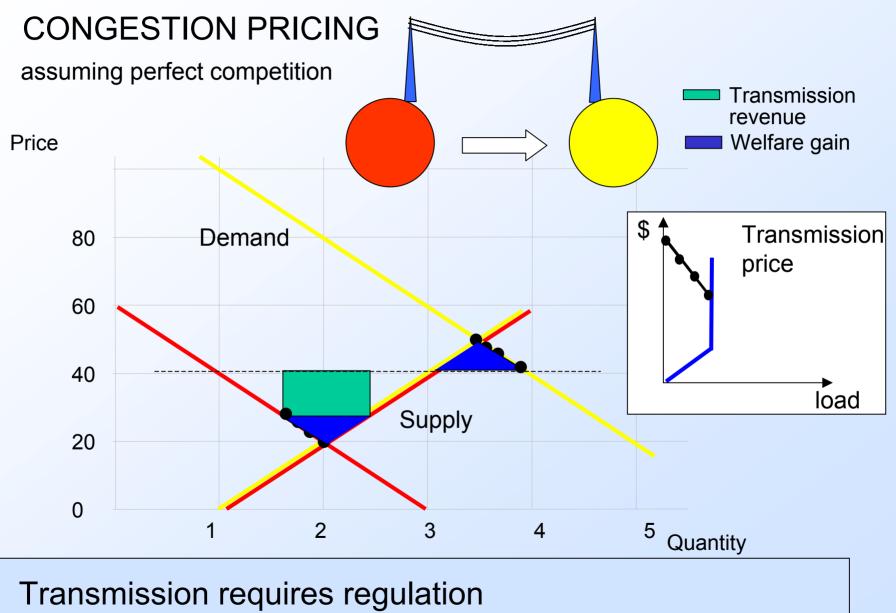
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Source: www.LPX.de data, www.nordpool.no, week 16-24.4.2001



Gains

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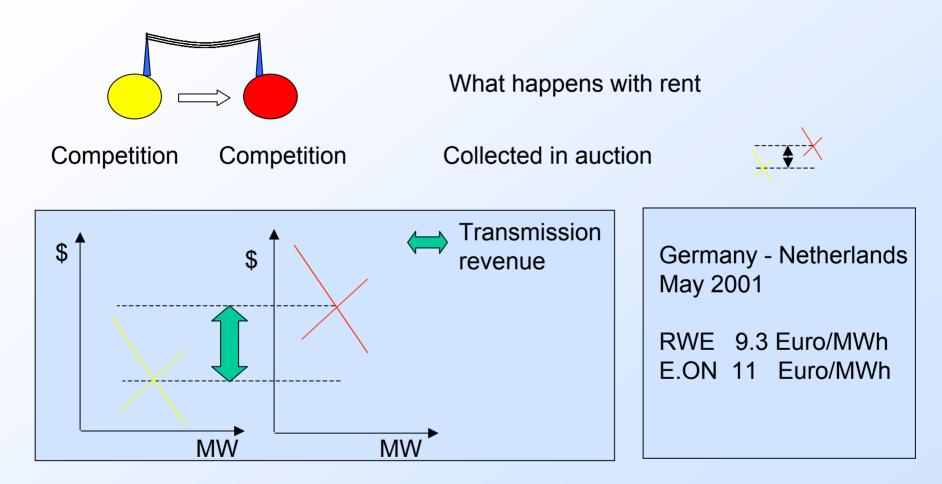
**Congestion in Competitive Market** 

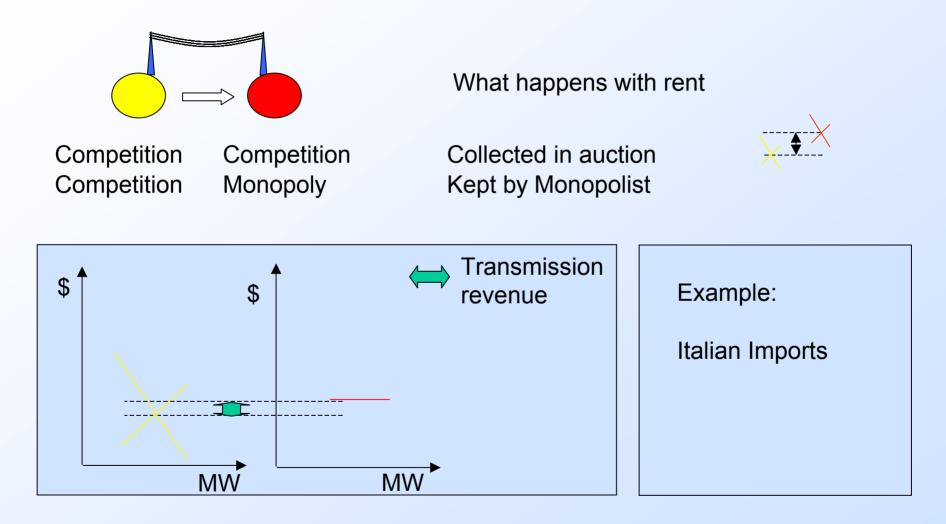
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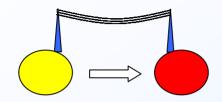
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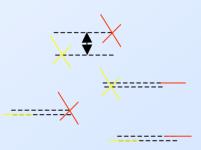


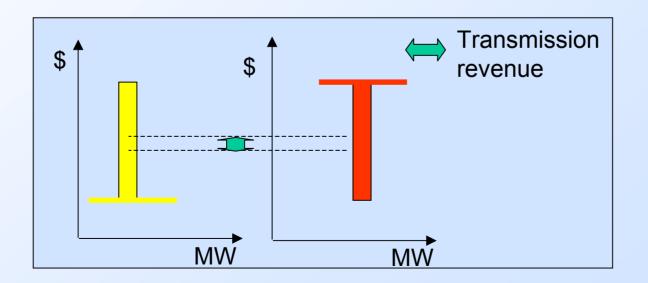


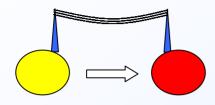


Competition Competition Monopoly Monopoly Competition Monopoly Competition Monopoly What happens with rent

Collected in auction Kept by Monopolist Kept by Monopolist Kept by Monopolists





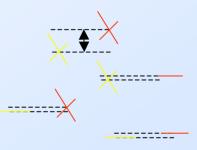






Competition Competition Monopoly Monopoly

Competition Monopoly Competition Monopoly Collected in auction Kept by Monopolist Kept by Monopolist Kept by Monopolists



Example: United Kingdom - France

Before 1992France sold to England at price of calculated costsLiberalisation in UK 1992France sold to England at Pool price and kept profitCompetition in EuropeTransmission capacity is auctioned at 4.6 Euro/MWh

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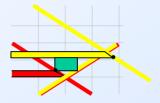
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# **FINANCING OPTIONS**

Private ownership

Might induce congestion



Private Public Partnership

- Private investor constructs and maintains line
- Payments based on available capacity

Public ownership

- Lowest interest rates but funding problem
- Option value for restructuring of industry

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#### **ELECTRICITY TRADE BRINGS CLOSE COOPERATION** UCTE CENTREL Obertragungsnetsbetre ber sind nssocierte Mitglieder der UCTE/ les de Stonnaires des téseaux sont membres NORDEL UKTSOA UCTE Transmission System Operators CENTREL Obertragangsnetzbetre ber sind associaetis Mitglieder der UCTE NORDE UKTSOA ETSO-Steering http:// www.etso-net.org ATSO Beobachterstatus/ statut d'observateur ETSO-Steering-Committee observer status Beobachterstatus/ EU-Mitgliedstaaten SF statut d'observateur observer status tats membres de l' **EU-Mitgliedstaaten** D EU member state UCTE Etats membres de EU member sta RU http://www.ucte.org/ BY Union of the Electricity Industry UA F http://www.eurelectric.org RO E BG Regular Meetings of European TR Regulators E MA DZ τN **European Commission** TR http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/energy\_transp

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Electricity Interconnections have to be designed as winwin games (Example France - Spain)

Short term bargaining power with exporting country

- competitive markets
- long term contract framework

Barter (i.e. electricity for steel) trades hedge price volatility

- Energy flows usually parallel
- Electricity price related to gas/oil price potential conflicts if relative value of barter good changes

Electricity interconnections motivate co-operation on all levels (administrative, technical, political)

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#### CONCLUSION

International interconnections can bring significant welfare gains

Interconnection pricing

- Marginal costs for efficient decisions
- Auction possible if competition on both sides
- Long term contracting if monopolies involved

Welfare gain from interconnection has to be split!

International interconnections bring co-operation on all levels