

# Track access charges in Austria

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# Content

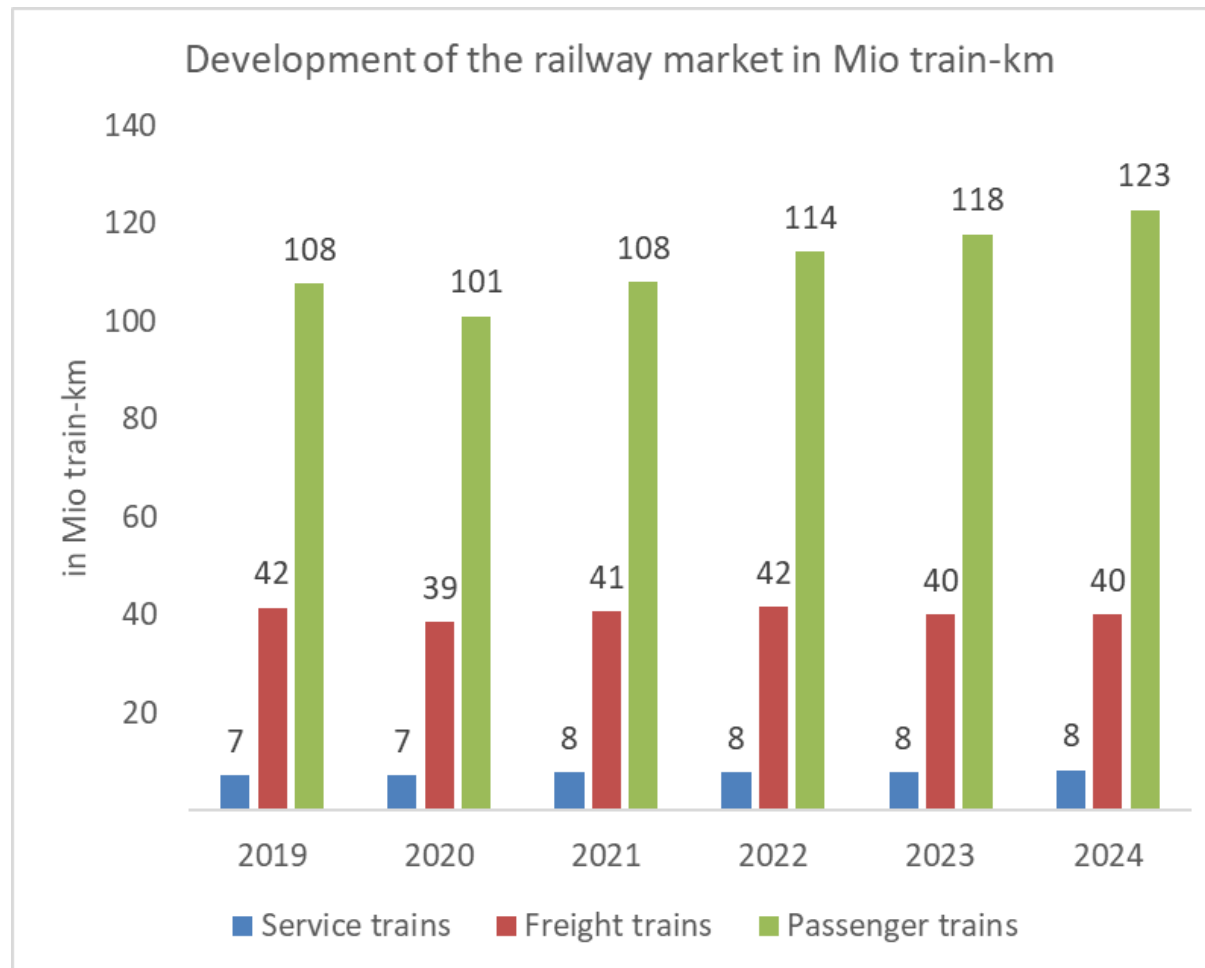
- Introduction
- Charging scheme in Austria
- Direct cost calculation
- Market segmentation and mark-ups
- Other charging components
- Conclusion & remarks

# INTRODUCTION

# Introduction

- New charges for the Minimum Access Package (MAP) scheme introduced 2018 (based on the Directive 2012/34/EU and Implementing Regulation 2015/909)
- Focus on the charges of the main IM (ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG)
- Exclusion under Article 2 of the Directive 2012/34/EU for smaller IMs
- The data presented are based on the network statement of the main IM and the RB's decision on charges for 2018/2019

# Market development in train-km



## Passenger transport

Record ridership growth, driven by new infrastructure and regional services

## Freight transport

Stagnating volumes with extensive ad-hoc path use and persistent network quality issues

# CHARGING SCHEME

# Overview Charging Scheme

## Basic Charges

Charge per train-km



Charge per gross tonne-km



Mark-ups per Segment

## Incentives, Performance Regime and other charges

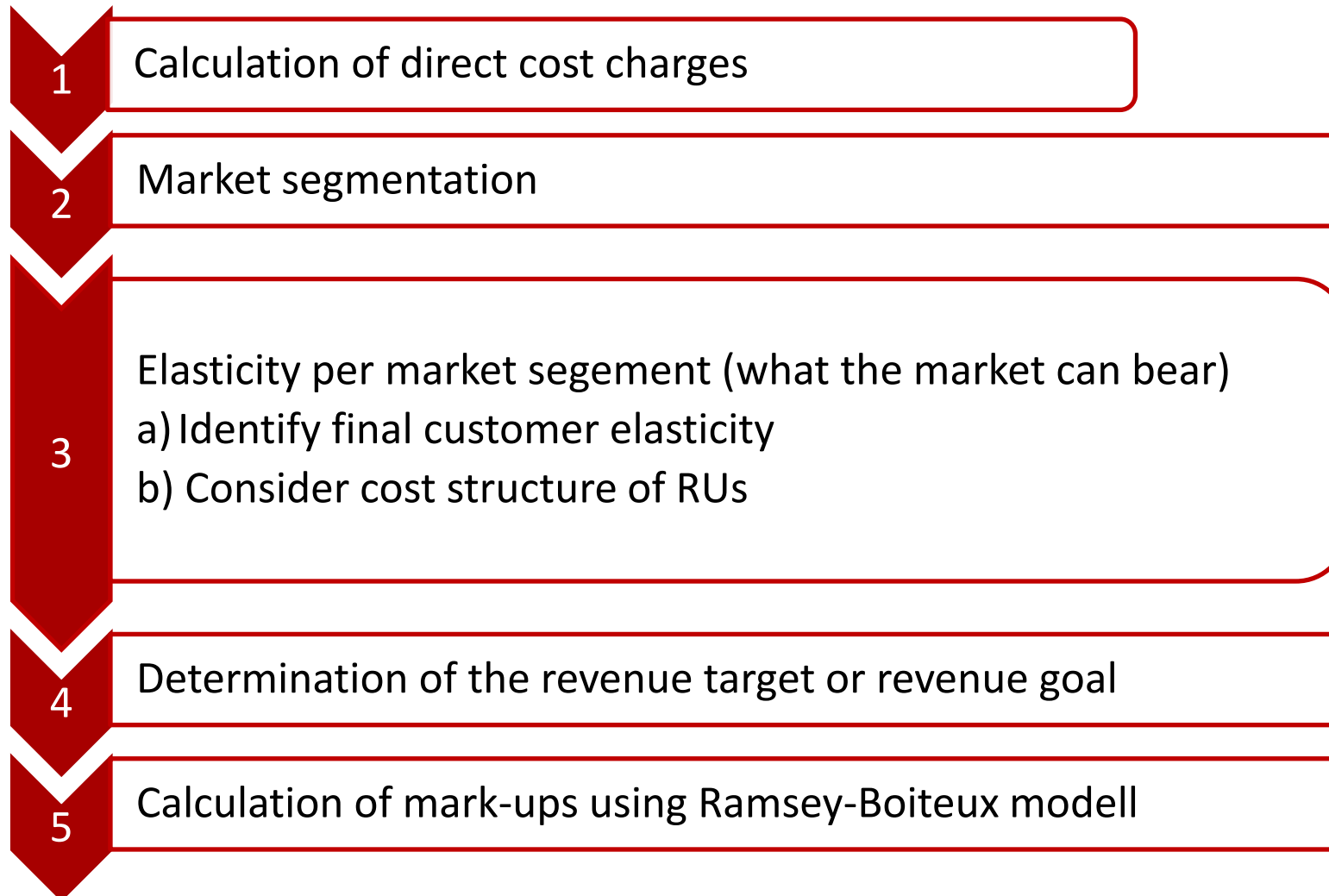
Charge for congested infrastructure

Performance Regime

Traction unit factor

Noise bonus

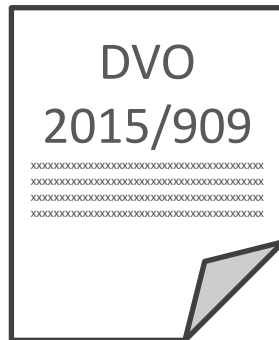
# Procedure for determining charges





# **DIRECT COST CALCULATION**

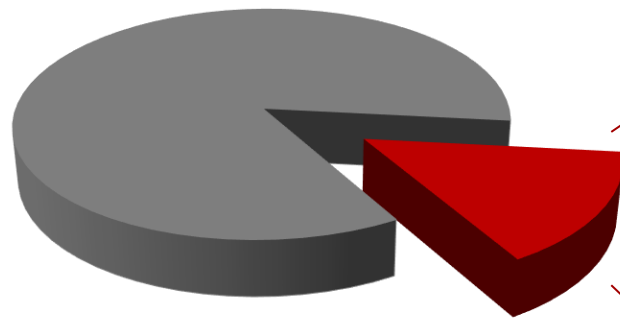
# Calculation of direct costs charges



**Market Segments  
by ÖBB-Infra**

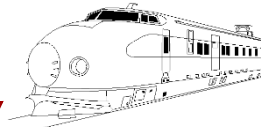


**Charges per train-km  
and per gtkm**

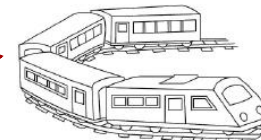


■ Total Cost ■ Direct Cost

High Speed > 200 km/h



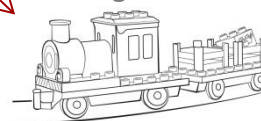
High Speed < 200 km/h



Regional Trains



Freight Trains



- Commercial passenger Services
- Long distance passenger PSO
- Local passenger PSO high volume
- Local passenger PSO low volume
- Freight Services without manipulation
- Freight Services with manipulation



01.10.2025

Slide 10

# (Relevant) Cost positions



Operating cost



Maintenance cost

Unplanned maintenance  
Planned maintenance  
Inspection / Service



Train path allocation



Depreciation

# Operational cost 1/2

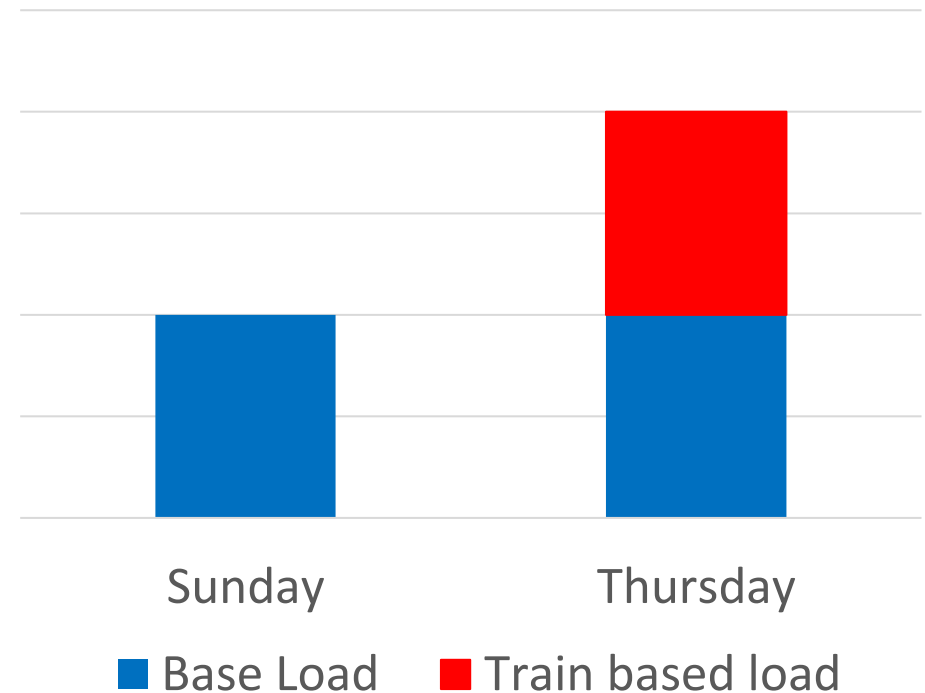
- Operational cost for traffic management
- Do these costs vary with train services?
- How do IM calculates the share depending on train services?
- Do-So modell (Thursday – Sunday modell)
- Cost for overtime work



# Operational cost 2/2

- Problem: Number of employees necessary, even if there is no traffic, is not known
- Do-So modell (Thursday – Sunday modell)
- Sunday is taken as Base Load (not depending on train services)
- Additional services needed are considered depending on train services
- Part of overtime cost also considered depending on train services

Employees necessary for operating services



# Maintenance cost

- Maintenance cost is divided into three categories:
  - Unplanned / ad hoc maintenance
  - Planned / preventive maintenance
  - Inspection / service
  
- Analysis of maintenance according to the different asset classes, like
  - Track, gravel, sleeper
  - Catenary
  - Railway crossings
  - Railway embankments, tunnels and bridges
  - Switches and signalling



# Unplanned maintenance

- Unplanned maintenance when an asset cannot be used anymore
- Therefore, immediate maintenance is necessary
- Maintenance cost is analysed per type of maintenance and asset
- Type of maintenance is then analysed how much it depends on train runs
- Exclusion for acts of god/force majeure (floods or avalanches) and damages caused by RUs or third parties





# Planned maintenance

- Planned or preventive maintenance is planned ahead
- Maintenance cost is analysed per type of maintenance and asset
- Type of maintenance is then analysed how much it depends on train runs
- Example: Renewal of tracks, gravel and sleeper





# Inspection and service

- Inspection depends on time and therefore not applicable as direct cost
- However, during inspection smaller maintenance and service tasks are done
- These tasks (partly) depend on the number of train runs (greasing railway points)
- For each task a threshold is calculated that allocates part of cost to direct cost



# Train path allocation

- Train path allocation necessary for train runs
- The cost for train path allocation increases with the number of train services
- Therefore, part of cost does vary with the train runs
- Analysis of the different processes and allocating these thresholds to the cost

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Wien Hbf

Wien Grillgasse

Kledering

Traiskirchen Aspengbahn

Wiener Neustadt

Innere Aspengbahn

Gesamtverkehr Sollenau - Wiener Neustadt Hbf siehe Fahrplanbild 510

☒ Zustieg im Nahverkehr (REX, R, S-Bahn) nur mit gültigem Ticket, ausgenommen in Stationen ohne Möglichkeit zum Ticketkauf.

|                           | 7403 | 7404 | 7405 | 7406 | 7407  | 7408  | 7409  | 7410  | 7411  | 7412  | 7413  | 7414  | 7415  | 7416  | 7417  | 7418  | 7419  | 7420 | 7421 | 7422 | 7423 | 7424 | 7425 | 7426 | 7427 | 7428 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                           | an   | an   | an   | an   | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   |
| von                       | an   | an   | an   | an   | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an    | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   | an   |
| Wien Hbf (Bahnsteige 1-2) | 6:15 | 6:32 | 7:15 | 7:32 | 12:01 | 13:01 | 13:08 | 14:01 | 15:01 | 15:08 | 16:01 | 16:08 | 17:01 | 17:08 | 18:01 | 18:08 | 19:01 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Wien Meidling             | 6:21 | 6:38 | 7:21 | 7:38 | 12:06 | 13:06 | 13:13 | 14:06 | 15:06 | 15:13 | 16:06 | 16:13 | 17:06 | 17:13 | 18:06 | 18:13 | 19:06 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Wien Grillgasse           | 6:33 | 6:50 | 7:33 | 7:50 | 12:18 | 13:18 | 13:25 | 14:18 | 15:18 | 15:25 | 16:18 | 16:25 | 17:18 | 17:25 | 18:18 | 18:25 | 19:18 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Kledering                 | 6:38 | 6:55 | 7:38 | 7:55 | 12:23 | 13:23 | 13:30 | 14:23 | 15:23 | 15:30 | 16:23 | 16:30 | 17:23 | 17:30 | 18:23 | 18:30 | 19:23 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Maria Lanzendorf          | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:28 | 13:28 | 13:35 | 14:28 | 15:28 | 15:35 | 16:28 | 16:35 | 17:28 | 17:35 | 18:28 | 18:35 | 19:28 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Laxenburg-Biedermannsdorf | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:33 | 13:33 | 13:40 | 14:33 | 15:33 | 15:40 | 16:33 | 16:40 | 17:33 | 17:40 | 18:33 | 18:40 | 19:33 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Güntramsdorf-Kaiserau     | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:38 | 13:38 | 13:45 | 14:38 | 15:38 | 15:45 | 16:38 | 16:45 | 17:38 | 17:45 | 18:38 | 18:45 | 19:38 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Mollersdorf Aspengbahn    | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:43 | 13:43 | 13:50 | 14:43 | 15:43 | 15:50 | 16:43 | 16:50 | 17:43 | 17:50 | 18:43 | 18:50 | 19:43 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Traiskirchen Aspengbahn   | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:48 | 13:48 | 13:55 | 14:48 | 15:48 | 15:55 | 16:48 | 16:55 | 17:48 | 17:55 | 18:48 | 18:55 | 19:48 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Tumau                     | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:53 | 13:53 | 14:00 | 14:53 | 15:53 | 16:00 | 16:53 | 17:00 | 17:53 | 18:00 | 18:53 | 19:00 | 19:53 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Ober Wattersdorf          | an   | an   | an   | an   | 12:58 | 13:58 | 14:05 | 14:58 | 15:58 | 16:05 | 16:58 | 17:05 | 17:58 | 18:05 | 18:58 | 19:05 | 19:58 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Tafelberg                 | an   | an   | an   | an   | 13:03 | 14:03 | 14:10 | 14:53 | 15:53 | 16:00 | 16:53 | 17:00 | 17:53 | 18:00 | 18:53 | 19:00 | 19:53 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Sollenau                  | an   | an   | an   | an   | 13:08 | 14:08 | 14:15 | 14:58 | 15:58 | 16:05 | 16:58 | 17:05 | 17:58 | 18:05 | 18:58 | 19:05 | 19:58 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Leobendorf                | an   | an   | an   | an   | 13:13 | 14:13 | 14:20 | 14:58 | 15:58 | 16:05 | 16:58 | 17:05 | 17:58 | 18:05 | 18:58 | 19:05 | 19:58 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Theresienfeld             | an   | an   | an   | an   | 13:18 | 14:18 | 14:25 | 14:58 | 15:58 | 16:05 | 16:58 | 17:05 | 17:58 | 18:05 | 18:58 | 19:05 | 19:58 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Wiener Neustadt Nord      | an   | an   | an   | an   | 13:23 | 14:23 | 14:30 | 14:58 | 15:58 | 16:05 | 16:58 | 17:05 | 17:58 | 18:05 | 18:58 | 19:05 | 19:58 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Wiener Neustadt Hbf       | an   | an   | an   | an   | 13:28 | 14:28 | 14:35 | 14:58 | 15:58 | 16:05 | 16:58 | 17:05 | 17:58 | 18:05 | 18:58 | 19:05 | 19:58 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

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Fahrplanänderungen ab 6. Mai 2019

Gelb: Neue Züge

Grün: Geänderte Fahrplanzeiten

# Depreciation

- Depreciation is usually time-based and therefore not part of direct cost
- However, use-based depreciation can be considered direct cost
- More intensive use of infrastructure can lead to shorter lifecycle
- Used-based depreciation for assets:
  - Tracks, gravel and sleepers
  - Catenary
  - Bridges



# Modulation of direct costs

- Different trains cause different costs
- Therefore, they should not bear the same direct costs
- Modulation to four different train classes (categories)
  - High speed > 200 km/h
  - High speed < 200 km/h
  - Local trains
  - Freight trains
- Direct costs are calculated by:
  - Train-km
  - Gross tonne-km (train-km x weight)



# Direct costs per market segment

| Market segments                                 | Direct costs in €<br>per train-km | Direct costs in €<br>per gross tonne-km |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Commercial passenger                            | 0.649                             | 0.002129                                |
| Long distance passenger PSO                     |                                   |   |
| Local passenger PSO high volume                 | 0.747                             | 0.003482                                |
| Local passenger PSO low volume                  |                                   |   |
| Freight without manipulation                    | 0.741                             | 0.001926                                |
| Freight with manipulation<br>(both subsegments) |                                   |   |
| Service trains                                  | 0.741                             | 0.001926                                |

# **MARKET SEGMENTATION AND MARK-UPS**

# Mark-ups

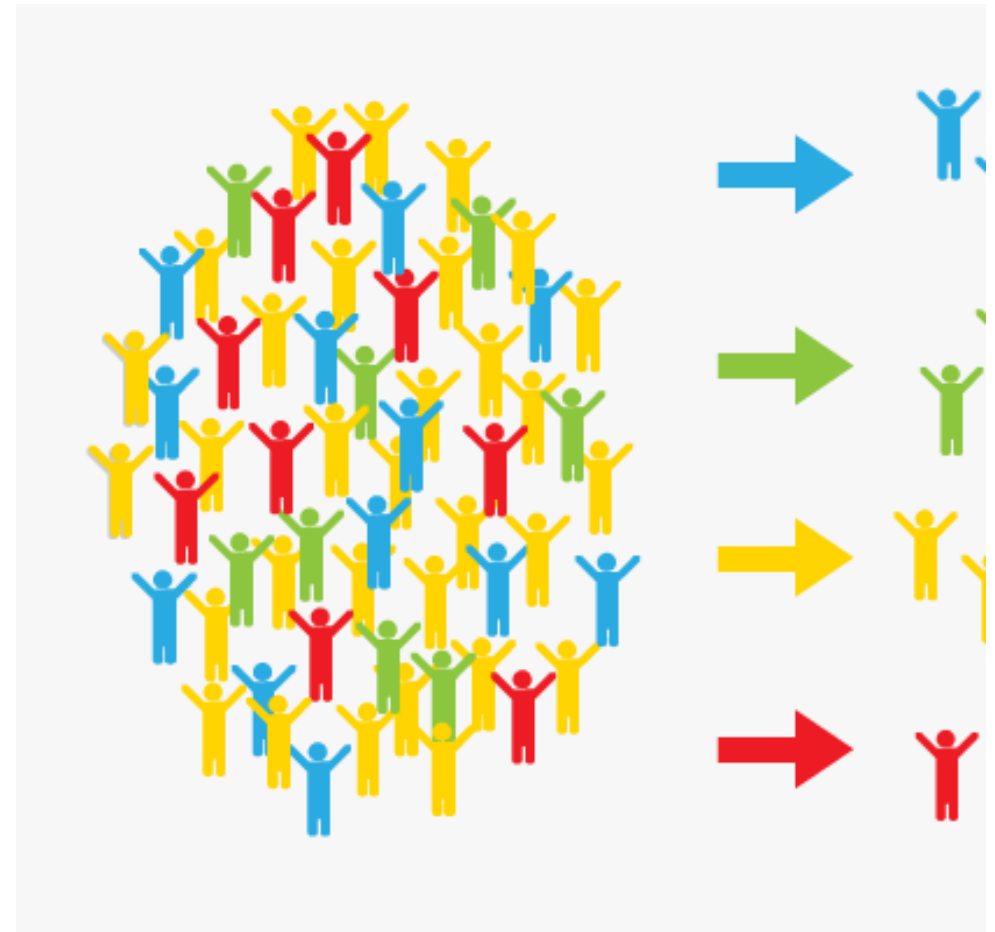
- Mark-ups for the timetable periods from 2018 until 2021
- No mark-ups from 2022 onwards (until 2028?)
- Planned reintroduction for mark-ups from 2029 onwards





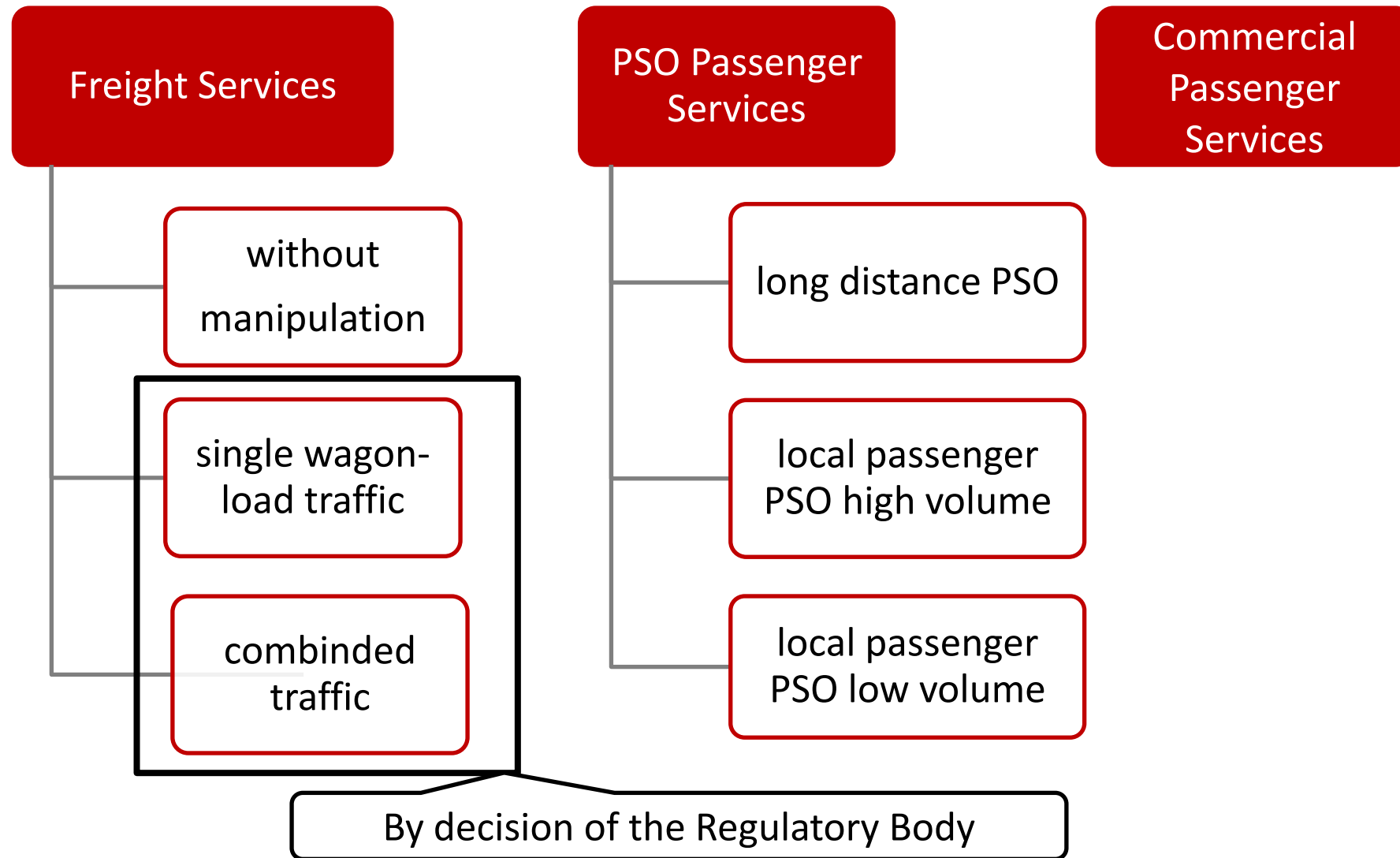
## Market segmentation and mark-ups

- Market segmentation is a precondition for mark-ups
- Article 32 (1) foresees a minimum of three segments:
  - PSO passenger services
  - Non-PSO passenger services
  - Freight
- Annex VI lists pairs of market segments to be considered





# Market Segments (as proposed by the IM)



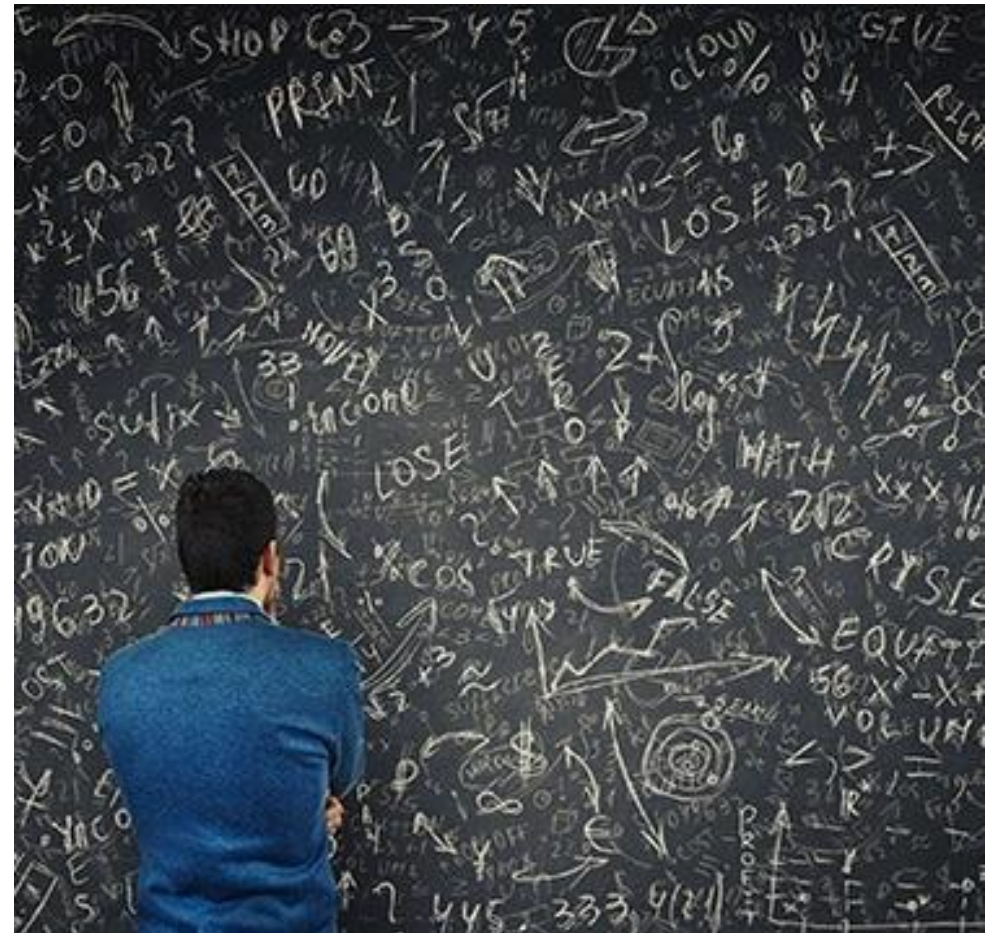
# Market segments, that cannot bear mark-ups

- Two freight market segments excluded from mark-ups
  - Combined trains (require terminals)
  - Single wagon-load trains (wagon exchange during run)
- Subsidies provided for combined and single wagon-load traffic
- Dependence on subsidies shows that these services cannot bear mark-ups
- Direct competition with road; declining share in train-km
- Therefore, excluded from mark-ups



# Mark-up Calculation

- Parameters needed for mark-up calculation:
  - Elasticity per market segment
  - Ratio charges to full cost
  - Traffic volume per market segment
  - Revenue target
- The IM organised a study in 2018, which calculated elasticities for the different market segments for Austria by using interviews
- Besides elasticities, the ratio of charges to full cost was allocated by interviews



## Decision C-538/23 (22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2025)

- Approval of mark-ups
- Publication
- Binding effect
- Revenue target and subsidies



# OTHER CHARGING COMPONENTS



## Other charging components

- Active charging components:
  - Charge for congested infrastructure
  - Performance Regime
- Former charging components:
  - Noise bonus
  - Traction unit factor



## CONCLUSION & REMARKS

# Conclusion and Remarks

- Charging scheme must be transparent and auditable
- Keep the charges system simple
- Incentives must have a real impact to influence behaviour





**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**