

# How Flexible Electrification Can Integrate Fluctuating Renewables

Göke, Leonard ; Weibezahn, Jens; Kendziorski, Mario

Document Version Final published version

Published in: Energy

DOI: 10.1016/j.energy.2023.127832

Publication date: 2023

License CC BY

Citation for published version (APA): Göke, L., Weibezahn, J., & Kendziorski, M. (2023). How Flexible Electrification Can Integrate Fluctuating Renewables. *Energy*, *278*, Article 127832. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2023.127832

Link to publication in CBS Research Portal

# **General rights**

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

Take down policy If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us (research.lib@cbs.dk) providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Download date: 03. Jul. 2025









Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

# Energy

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/energy

are robust to restrictions on the expansion of the transmission grid.

# How flexible electrification can integrate fluctuating renewables

Leonard Göke<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, Jens Weibezahn<sup>d,a</sup>, Mario Kendziorski<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Workgroup for Infrastructure Policy (WIP), Technische Universität Berlin, Straße des 17. Juni 135, 10623 Berlin, Germany

<sup>b</sup> Energy, Transportation, Environment Department, German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin), Mohrenstraße 58, 10117 Berlin, Germany

e Energy and Process Systems Engineering, Department of Mechanical and Process Engineering, ETH Zurich, Tannenstrasse 3, Zurich 8092, Switzerland

<sup>d</sup> Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure (CSEI), Department of Economics, Copenhagen Business School, Porcelænshaven 16A, 2000 Frederiksberg, Denmark

ARTICLE INFO	A B S T R A C T
Keywords:	To phase out fossil fuels, energy systems must shift to renewable electricity as the main source of primary energy. In this paper, we analyze how electrification can support the integration of fluctuating renewables, like wind and PV, and mitigate the need for storage and thermal backup plants. Using a cost-minimizing model for
Macro-energy systems	
Sector integration	
Decarbonization Flexibility Integrated energy system Flexible electricity demand	system planning, we find substantial benefits of electricity demand in heating, transport, and industry adapting
	to supply. In Germany, flexible demand halves the residual peak load and the residual demand and reduces
	excess generation by 80%. Flexible operation of electrolyzers has the most significant impact accounting for
	42% of the reduction in residual peak load and 59% in residual demand. District heating networks and BEVs

#### 1. Introduction

International governments are pursuing different strategies to combat climate change and keep global warming "well below 2 degrees [...] compared to pre-industrial levels", as stated in the Paris Climate Agreement [1]. Yet, policies have two common denominators: First, expanding electricity generation from wind or photovoltaic (PV), and second, utilizing more electricity in the heating, transport, or industry sector.

Electricity generation from wind and PV is for instance at the heart of the European Union's energy policy [2], part of the Inflation Reduction Act by the US government [3], and a key element of the Chinese energy strategy [4]. Wind and solar offer a great technical potential, exceeding global primary consumption at least three times, and declined in levelized costs by 70% and 90% over the past ten years, respectively [5,6]. In some countries, wind and PV already constitute a major share of net power generation, for instance, 62% in Denmark or 33% in Germany in 2022 [7,8]. Since these numbers include surplus generation exported to neighboring countries, the share of net consumption can be even higher, for example amounting to 35% for Germany in 2022 [8]. However, further increasing these shares and completely phasing out fossil fuels, planned in Germany until 2035, remains a challenge, because wind and PV power are weather dependent and fluctuate over time and location [9]. As a result, higher shares require complementary technologies that can flexibly secure supply,

like storage systems, carbon-neutral thermal plants, or transmission infrastructure [10,11].

also provide substantial flexibility, while the contribution of space and process heating is negligible. The results

The utilization of electricity as a primary source of energy can take two different paths, either consume electricity directly or deploy electricity to produce synthetic fuels. The starting point for fuel production is the electrolysis of hydrogen, which can then be processed into other derivatives by adding carbon. While direct electrification is generally more efficient than the production of synthetic fuels, the latter has two advantages: First, the fuels can be stored comparatively easily, and second, they are highly versatile and can be used where direct electrification is difficult. In residential heating, most policies encourage a shift to electric heat pumps; in transport, to battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and to some extent power fuels [2,3,12,13]. In the industry, the strategy is to either electrify suitable processes directly or utilize synthetic fuels [14]. Energy policy promotes electrification, because it is already cost competitive in a lot of cases, for instance in heating or transport, and non-emitting alternatives are scares [15]. Biomass only has a limited sustainable potential between 100 and 300 EJ, far from sufficient to satisfy global demand [5]. Carbon capturing, if available, will most likely be limited to industrial applications.

Overall, electrification decisively shapes the demand renewable wind and solar must supply. It impacts the total level, the pattern, and the elasticity of electricity demand-and therefore, to what extent

E-mail address: lgo@wip.tu-berlin.de (L. Göke).

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2023.127832

Received 27 January 2023; Received in revised form 10 May 2023; Accepted 13 May 2023 Available online 20 May 2023

0360-5442/© 2023 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).





ENERGI

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding author at: Energy and Process Systems Engineering, Department of Mechanical and Process Engineering, ETH Zurich, Tannenstrasse 3, Zurich 8092. Switzerland.

Nomenclature

#### Energy 278 (2023) 127832

i tomenenene e	
Abbreviations	
BEV	battery electric vehicle
CC	combined cycle
CHP	combined heat and power
HVAC	high-voltage alternating current
HVDC	high-voltage direct current
NTC	net-transfer capacity
PtX	power-to-x
PV	photovoltaic
OC	open cycle
Parameter	
$v_{t,r,i,c}^{var}$	variable costs of generation
$v_{t,r,i,c}^{fix}$	fixed costs of storage or generation capacity
$v_{rr'c}^{fix}$	fixed costs of transmission capacity
$d_{t,r,c}$	demand
$\alpha_{t,r,i}$	capacity factor
$\eta_{t,r,i}$	conversion efficiency
$\delta_{t,r,i}$	self-discharge rate
$ \rho_{t,r,i} $	charging efficiency
р	peak demand
Sets	
t	time-steps
r	regions
i	technologies
с	energy carriers
Variables	
$K_{ri}^{gen}$	generation capacity
$K_{r,i}^{st}$	storage power capacity
$K_{ri}^{lvl}$	storage energy capacity
$K_{r,r'i}^{exc}$	transmission capacity
$G_{t,r,i,c}$	generation quantity
$U_{t,r,i,c}$	use quantity
$S_{t,r,i,c}^{in}$	charged quantity
$S_{t,r,i,c}^{out}$	discharged quantity
$S_{t,r,i}^{lvl}$	storage level
$E_{t,r,r',i}$	exchange quantity

flexible technologies, for instance storage, must complement renewables [16]. As a result, different options for electrification set different requirements for electricity supply. Heat pumps for example have a temperature-dependent efficiency that drives up consumption in winter when PV generation is lowest [17]. Therefore, they require seasonal storage or more investment in wind generation that peaks in winter as well [18]. Heating with synthetic fuels on the other hand mitigates flexibility needs, but its low efficiency increases the total electricity demand.

In this paper, we analyze how electrification can support the integration of fluctuating renewables and mitigate the need for storage and thermal backup plants. For this purpose, we apply a comprehensive yet highly detailed energy system planning model. It applies an hourly temporal and sub-national spatial resolution to accurately capture fluctuations of renewables. To investigate how demand from direct and indirect electrification can adapt to these fluctuations, capacity in the heat, transport, and industry sectors is endogenous to the model and operational restrictions in these sectors are represented in detail. As a result, the model determines a cost-efficient equilibrium between supply- and demand-side options for flexibility. For example, load peaks of electric heat pumps can either be covered by grid batteries and thermal plants or mitigated by pairing heat pumps with local heat storage or even switching to other heating systems, like hydrogen boilers or district heating.

Thanks to this methodology, our study represents the first comprehensive analysis of flexibility in renewable energy systems that accurately captures the fluctuations of wind and solar while also considering all relevant options to balance them.

Most previous research excludes relevant options creating a positive bias toward the considered alternatives. For instance, several studies on renewable integration are limited to supply-side options and exclude transmission or electrification, potentially overestimating the need for storage and firm capacity [19–22].

In the next step, analyses do consider electrification—but only in a single sector. For instance, some studies exclusively consider synergies between renewable electricity and the generation of synthetic fuels, most importantly hydrogen [23–25]. Other studies analyze how electric mobility benefits renewable integration [26–28], or solely focus on flexibility from residential and district heating [29–32]. Finally, there are studies that do cover several sectors but limit the analysis to a single region not considering transmission infrastructure [32–34].

Compared to the few studies that consider storage, electrification, and transmission, our analysis fully addresses the challenges of integrating fluctuating wind and solar into the system. To capture fluctuations, we leverage 96 clusters and an hourly resolution, providing greater spatio-temporal detail than previous analyses. In addition, we introduce novel methods to model operational constraints on the consumer level in the heating and transportation sector. On this basis, we can visualize and quantify the contribution of each sector to the system's flexibility, offering new insights into the synergies of supply and demand in renewable energy systems.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows: The next Section 2 describes the general methodology and introduces several innovations to represent operational restrictions and flexibility related to electrification. Afterwards, Section 3 presents the specific case study, a fully renewable European energy system, that the model is applied to. Section 4 presents the results of the model including an in-depth analysis of system flexibility based on residual load curves. Section 5 concludes by discussing policy implications and giving an outlook on future work. Finally, the appendix provides additional details on the deployed model and its results.

#### 2. Methodology

For the analysis, we apply a linear optimization model that decides on the expansion and operation of technologies to satisfy final energy demand. The model's objective is to minimize total system costs consisting of annualized expansion and operational costs for technologies and costs of energy imports from outside the system. Expansion and operation in the model cover both technologies for the generation, conversion, or storage of energy carriers and grid infrastructure to exchange energy between different regions.

The model deploys a graph-based formulation specifically developed to model high shares of fluctuating renewables and sector integration, which is capable to vary temporal and spatial resolution within a model [35]. Thanks to this feature, high resolutions can be applied where the system is sensitive to small imbalances of supply and demand—for instance, in the power sector, while more inert parts, like transmission of gas or hydrogen, are modeled at a coarser resolution. This method does not only reduce computational complexity but can also capture inherent flexibility in the energy system, for instance in the gas grid.  $\sum_{c \in C} d$ 

 $S_{t,r,i}^{lvl}$ 

Eq. (1) to (3c) provide a stylized formulation of the underlying optimization problem. In all equations, variables are written in upperand parameters in lower-case letters. Regarding expansion, the model decides on capacities K for generation, storage, and exchange; with regard to operation on quantities for generation G, use U, storage S, and exchange E. The problem's objective in Eq. (1) minimizes the sum of fixed costs depending on capacities, and variable costs depending on generation. Specific fixed costs  $v^{fix}$  include annualized but not discounted investment costs plus fixed operational costs. To compute total costs, components are summed over all time-steps T, regions R, technologies I, and carriers C.

$$\min_{K,G,U,S,E} \sum_{r \in R, i \in I} K_{r,i}^{gen/st/lvl} \cdot v_{r,i}^{fix} + \sum_{r \in R, r' \in R, c \in C} K_{r,r',c}^{exc} \cdot v_{r,r',c}^{fix} + \sum_{t \in T, r \in R, i \in I, c \in C} G_{t,r,i,c} \cdot v_{t,r,i,c}^{var}$$
(1)

Eq. (2a) to (2d) list the capacity restrictions that constrain the operational variables by connecting them to capacities. Eq. (2a) limits the generation *G* to the installed capacity  $K^{gen}$  corrected with the capacity factor  $\alpha$  that reflects the share of capacity currently available. Analogously, Eq. (2b) restricts the storage in- and outflow,  $S^{in}$  and  $S^{out}$ , to the storage power capacity  $K^{st}$ ; Eq. (2c) restricts the storage level  $S^{lvl}$  to the energy capacity  $K^{lvl}$ . In Eq. (2d) the capacity of the transmission infrastructure  $K^{exc}$  limits the exchange of energy *E* where the first subscript *r* refers to the exporting and the second subscript r' to the importing region.

$$\sum_{c \in C} G_{l,r,i,c} \leq \alpha_{t,r,i} \cdot K_{r,i}^{gen} \quad \forall t \in T, r \in R, i \in I_{le}$$
(2a)

$$S_{t,r,i,c}^{in} + S_{t,r,i,c}^{out} \leq K_{r,i}^{st} \quad \forall t \in T, r \in R, i \in I_{st}$$
(2b)

$$\leq \qquad K_{r,i}^{lvl} \quad \forall t \in T, r \in R, i \in I_{st}$$
(2c)

$$E_{t,r,r',c} + E_{t,r',r,c} \leq K_{r,r',c}^{exc} \quad \forall t \in T, r \in R, r' \in R, c \in C$$
(2d)

Finally, the balances in Eq. (3a) to (3c) restrict the operational variables. First, the energy balance in Eq. (3a) ensures that supply meets the demand *d* at all times, in each region, and for each energy carrier. Eq. (3b) controls how technologies convert energy carriers setting the amount of generated energy *G* to the product of utilized energy *U* and the efficiency  $\eta$ . The storage balance in Eq. (3c) tracks the storage level  $S^{lvl}$  which connects the storage balance in the previous period t-1 plus in- and minus outflows. The parameters  $\delta$  and  $\rho$  reflect self-discharge and charging losses, respectively.

$$\sum_{i \in I} (G_{t,r,i,c} - U_{t,r,i,c} + S_{t,r,i,c}^{out} - S_{t,r,i,c}^{in}) + \sum_{r \in R'} (E_{t,r,r',c} - E_{t,r',r,c})$$
  
=  $d_{t}$   $\forall t \in T, r \in R, c \in C$  (3a)

$$\sum_{c \in C} \eta_{t,r,i} \cdot U_{t,r,i,c} = \sum_{c \in C} G_{t,r,i,c} \quad \forall t \in T, r \in R, i \in I$$
(3b)

$$\delta_{t,r,i} \cdot S_{t-1,r,i}^{lvl} + \sum_{c \in C} \rho_{t,r,i} \cdot S_{t,r,i,c}^{in} - S_{t,r,i,c}^{out} = S_{t,r,i}^{lvl} \ \forall t \in T, r \in R, i \in I_{st}$$
(3c)

To achieve high detail and comprehensive scope, the model makes several simplifying assumptions that are common in the literature and found not to impose a significant bias on results. First, the model does not consider operational restrictions of individual power plants, like ramping rates or start-up times, and the need for ancillary services, like balancing reserves. Previous studies agree that such operational detail has little impact on results if models include options for shortterm flexibility, like batteries or demand-side response, and conclude modeling of renewable systems should rather prioritize temporal and spatial detail [36–39]. This is especially true in the analyzed case of a fully renewable energy system that excludes large-scale thermal power plants, as these are subject to the most significant operational restrictions. Second, the model uses a transport instead of a power flow formulation to represent grid operation. Previous research found this simplification to be sufficiently accurate [40]. In addition, model parameterization uses net-transfer capacities (NTCs) already reflecting power flow restrictions instead of physical grid capacities, as detailed in Section 3.

Due to the cost minimizing approach, the model computes the ideal system from a techno-economic perspective neglecting political constraints and assuming full cooperation between countries. Therefore, results should not be interpreted as a simulation or forecast, but rather as a study on technical feasibility and affordability of renewable energy systems.

The following two subsections describe how the model captures operational restrictions and flexibility related to electrification in heating and transport extending the stylized model formulation above. Model specifics beyond the mathematical formulation, like considered regions, technologies, and sectors, will follow in Section 3. The appendix and the linked supplementary material provide more detailed information and the code of the underlying open-source modeling framework AnyMOD [41].

# 2.1. Operation of heating systems

The different technological options to electrify the supply for process and space heat also affect the flexibility of electricity demand differently. Indirect electrification using synthetic fuels is generally the most flexible. Electrolysis or other processes can easily adapt to renewable supply and store their products for later consumption. In contrast, the direct use of electricity with heat pumps or electric boilers is more energy-efficient but also more constrained. Specific constraints differ depending on whether systems provide industry, residential, or district heat and operate in combination with heat storage. In the following, we describe how the model captures these different constraints.

First, applying the graph-based approach, industry, residential, and district heat use a four-hour resolution representing their inherent flexibility. This means, that while the energy balance is an hourly constraint for electricity, for heat, supply does not have to equal demand in each hour but over the sum of four hours. In residential heating, this resolution captures the thermal inertia of buildings [42]; in district heating, the inertia of the network itself [43]; and in industrial heating, the possibility to reschedule processes.

Fig. 1 illustrates the concept comparing the electricity demand of an electric boiler providing process heat for an hourly and four-hour resolution. In the hourly case, the electricity demand of the boiler is fixed according to the hourly time-series. In the four-hour case, the demand is flexible but still subject to two constraints. The total demand for each four-hour period must equal the sum of the hourly demand. Consequently, in Fig. 1 areas above and below the hourly time-series are equal in size in each four-hour period. And, even with a fourhour resolution for heat, electricity demand is still an hourly variable and subject to an hourly capacity constraint. This constraint's impact greatly depends on the total utilization within the specific time-step. For instance, in the four-hour period from hours 36 to 40, the electric boiler must achieve an average utilization rate of 97.5%. As a result, the most flexible operation possible is to operate at 90% utilization in one hour and at full capacity in the others.

Second, the model introduces a different operational concept for industrial and residential heating systems. In contrast to the power sector, systems for industrial or residential heating are locally bound and do not feed generation into a transmission network. Instead, they must directly match local demand. On this small-scale, the operation of base- and peak load plants is not cost efficient, and so the profile of demand directly dictates operation.

To account for this restriction, the model has two different ways to describe the operation of technologies. Eqs. (4a) and (4b) provide the formulation for the common case of technologies interacting within a network. The formulation consists of an energy balance that ensures the summed generation *G* from all technologies *i* equals the demand *d* 



Fig. 1. Exemplary electricity demand resulting from different resolutions for process heat.

at each time-step t and a capacity constraint that limits the output of each technology to the installed capacity K in each time-step t. In the problem formulation above, these constraints correspond to Eqs. (2a) and (3a), respectively.

$$\sum_{i \in I} G_{i,t} = d_t \quad \forall t \in T$$
(4a)

$$G_{i,t} \leq K_i \quad \forall t \in T, \ i \in I$$
 (4b)

In contrast, Eqs. (5a) and (5b) describe the case of unconnected technologies each operating to match local demand individually. Instead of an energy balance for each time-step, a single capacity balance ensures that the installed capacity can meet peak demand p. The second equation fixes the operation of technologies in each time-step according to the demand profile, which corresponds to the ratio of current demand to peak demand. Since this formulation replaces the energy balances for each time-step with a single constraint on capacity and the inequality constraint for capacity with an equality constraint, it also reduces the complexity of the optimization model.

$$\sum_{i \in I} K_i = p \tag{5a}$$

$$G_{i,t} = \frac{a_t}{p} \cdot K_i \quad \forall t \in T, \, i \in I$$
(5b)

Fig. 2 shows the operation of the same capacities for each formulation to illustrate their differences. In the first case, a cost minimizing model will automatically operate capacities according to the merit order, hence the name merit-order formulation. With increasing demand, technologies are successively deployed in the order of their marginal costs. In the second formulation, termed must-run, all technologies must run simultaneously with generation shares corresponding to capacities. In industrial or residential heating, at a given capacity the merit-order formulation will overestimate the generation share of technologies with low marginal costs and vice versa underestimate the generation of technologies with high marginal costs. As a result, implausible investment into "peak load" capacities can occur. For instance, residential hydrogen boilers could be built to run at very low utilization and provide additional heat when electricity for heat pumps is scarce. However, in practice, this is implausible implying consumers install two redundant heating systems in their homes.

Accordingly, in the model, technologies providing process or space heat use the must-run formulation; technologies providing electricity, hydrogen, and synthetic gas the merit-order formulation. District heat uses the merit-order formulation as well to capture how the operation of different plants within heating networks is flexible. On the other hand, substations that transfer district heat to final industrial or residential consumers and determine the demand for district heating use the must-run formulation.

Finally, the model can invest in heat storage to add flexibility. For district heating, the implementation of storage is straightforward and

analogous to carriers like electricity or hydrogen. For space and process heating, viz. local technologies using the must-run formulation, the storage is directly embedded into the specific heating technology. This setup again prevents inconsistencies resulting from the interplay of unconnected local technologies, like heat storage charged by hydrogen boilers but discharging to consumers with heat pumps.

Fig. 3 describes this concept for an electric heat pump. The upper row illustrates how the heat pump converts electricity to heat in a ratio equal to the coefficient of performance (COP). The vertical lines indicate the capacity constraints imposed on the hourly electricity demand. The generated heat, modeled at a four-hour resolution, can either cover demand or be transferred to the storage system displayed in the lower part of the figure. The level of storage investment determines the power and energy capacity of the storage. Storage losses depend on the self-discharge rate, the charge, and the discharge efficiency.

Only heat leaving the system boundary, indicated by the black line in Fig. 3, adds to the must-run output referenced in Eq. (2b). Discharging the storage enables the heat pump to produce less than the current must-run output but requires previous charging. In this way, storage can reduce demand when electricity is scarce at the cost of storage losses increasing overall demand. Due to high discharge rates, long storage durations are not viable with local heat storage.

### 2.2. Charging of BEVs

The flexibility of BEVs in future energy systems is still subject to uncertainty and depends on technological and regulatory developments. In this study, we make a middle-ground assumption on the flexibility of electricity demand from BEVs. On the one hand, we assume charging to be flexible within limits and can adapt to supply which does not reflect current regulation in all European countries but neither requires additional infrastructure [44]. On the other hand, we do not assume that BEVs can feed electricity back to the grid, also termed bidirectional charging or vehicle-to-grid, which requires bidirectional chargers [45].

Fig. 4 demonstrates how the model implements flexible charging based on an exemplary driving and charging pattern for private passenger cars. First, an hourly profile restricts the charging of BEVs to reflect the capacity of vehicles currently connected to the grid. Second, on each day the electricity charged must match the consumption for driving. Consequentially, areas above and below the curve for consumption are equal in size for each day, analogously to Fig. 1. Instead of explicitly modeling battery levels, this approach implicitly assumes that on average batteries can balance charging and consumption over one day at least.

To implement the approach, transport services use a daily resolution in the model. Conversely, other electricity demand for transport, for instance for rail transport, is inflexible and uses an hourly resolution.



Fig. 2. Illustration of deployment concepts.



Fig. 3. Representation of residential heat pump paired with local heat storage.



Fig. 4. Exemplary electricity demand of BEVs.

# 3. Case study

To study the impact of electrification on renewable integration, we apply the outlined planning model to a fully renewable European energy system. The analysis covers all countries of the European Union, along with the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and the Balkans at the same time within one model. Thanks to this large spatial scope, mapped in Fig. 5, the analysis accounts for transmission infrastructure and the exchange of energy as one option to integrate renewables. The spatial resolution to capture local fluctuations of renewable generation corresponds to the 96 regions indicated by the gray lines that further break down market zones in the power system.

Blue lines indicate where the model can invest in grid infrastructure for hydrogen between clusters at costs of 0.4 million  $\in$  per GW and km

and energy losses of 2.44% per 1000 km [46]. The distance between the geographic center of clusters serves as an estimate for pipeline length.<sup>1</sup> As the model does not account for transport restrictions within each cluster, it cannot differentiate between on-site and off-site production of hydrogen.

The representation of the power grid aggregates clusters according to the zones of the European power market. Yellow and orange arrows indicate pre-existing high-voltage alternating current (HVAC)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The model does not consider the repurposing of existing gas pipelines exclusively for the transport of hydrogen. There is still little information on the feasibility and costs of this option and it is limited to non-academic industry reports [47].



Fig. 5. Pre-existing grid infrastructure (solid) and new potential connections (dashed) in the model.



Fig. 6. Exemplary capacity-cost curve for NTCs between Germany and the Netherlands.

and direct current (HVDC) connections. Arrows without a number indicate a potential connection without pre-existing capacity. Building on data in ENTSO-E [48], the expansion of specific connections is subject to a capacity-cost curve. Fig. 6 exemplarily shows this curve for the NTC between Germany and the Netherlands. In this case, the specific investment costs of the NTC discretely increase from 200 to 3700 million  $\in$  per GW and expansion is subject to an upper limit of 7.5 GW. Transmission losses amount to 5% and 3% per 1000 km for HVAC and HVDC, respectively [40].

In addition to the grid-based transport of electricity and hydrogen, the model allows for the exchange of biomass and liquid fuels between regions using vehicles. This type of exchange does not require investments in infrastructure, but does incur variable costs that are proportional to the transported distance and energy quantity.

The temporal scope of the model consists of a single year. Using a brownfield approach, today's transmission infrastructure and hydro power plants are available without expansion. In total, the applied model includes 22 distinct energy carriers that can be stored and converted into one another by 120 different technologies covering heating, transport, industry, and the production of synthetic fuels. Section A of the appendix provides comprehensive documentation [49,50]. The representation of the industry sector does not include the non-energy demand for energy carriers as feedstock in the (petro-)chemical sector. However, the available biomass potential discussed at the end of this section is adjusted to account for the demand in this area.

Fig. 7 provides an overview of technologies for electricity generation. Vertices in the graph either represent energy carriers, depicted as colored squares, or technologies, depicted as gray circles. Entering edges of technologies refer to input carriers; outgoing edges refer to outputs. Extraction turbines and biomass plants can be operated flexibly decreasing their heat-to-power ratio at the cost of reduced total efficiency. Both reservoirs and pumped storage operate as storage, but reservoirs are charged based on an exogenous time series while charging of pumped storage is endogenous.

The choice of technologies and their parameterization are based on the reports by the Danish Energy Agency [46], except for transport where data comes from Robinius et al. [51]. For hydrogen fueled power plants, we assume a 15% mark-up on the costs of the corresponding natural gas technology in line with Öberg et al. [52]. Section B of the appendix lists all technology data for the power sector.

The capacity and energy potential of PV and wind are differentiated according to the 96 clusters displayed in Fig. 5. In addition, openspace PV and onshore wind are further broken down into three categories with different full load hours for each cluster to reflect different site qualities; rooftop PV and offshore wind are broken into two further categories. Capacity limits are scaled to comply with the overall energy potential for each country reported in Auer et al. [53]. Time-series data for capacity factors is, like all time-series data, based on the climatic year 2008 [54].

BEVs for private passenger and light freight transport have a charging capacity of 5 kW; BEVs for public passenger and heavy road transport of 150 kW [55]. Applying a safety margin all charging profiles are reduced by 75%.

To estimate the technical potential of different space heating technologies, we use national Eurostat data on urbanization [56]. For rural areas, we assume that ground- and water-source heat pumps can cover the entire demand, but district heating is not available. Vice versa, for cities, district heating can cover the entire demand, but heat pumps are not available. For towns and suburbs, district heating, ground-source, and water-source heat pumps can each cover 50% of



Fig. 7. Subgraph for electricity supply.

the demand. To estimate the technical potential of different process heating technologies, technology info from Danish Energy Agency [46] on eligibility for different processes is paired with national data on industry activity [57,58].

The use of biomass in each country is subject to an upper energy limit that sums to 1081 TWh for the entire model. This assumption is based on a total potential of 1658 TWh, which is reduced by 577 TWh to account for the demand for feedstock in the industry sector [59,60]. In addition to the production and exchange of energy within Europe, the model can import renewable hydrogen by ship at costs of 111.71  $\in$  per MWh and by pipeline from Morocco or Egypt at 76.9 and 73.56  $\in$  per MWh, respectively [61]. Imports by ship enter the system in the coastal regions of Western Europe, while imports by pipeline are arrive into the southernmost clusters of Spain and Italy.

# 4. Result

To give an impression of the resulting energy system, Section 4.1 summarizes the energy flows and balances when solving the model for the described case study. Since these results are largely in line with previous studies, the main purpose is to provide a context for the subsequent Section 4.2 that closely analyses the system integration of renewables and the contribution of flexible electrification.

## 4.1. Energy balances

The Sankey diagram in Fig. 8 illustrates energy flows in the solved model. On the right side, the diagram shows the final demand for energy and transport services. Going from right to left, the diagram details how the model deploys conversion processes, storage, and secondary energy carriers to meet the demand from primary energy sources. To be clear and concise, the diagram aggregates individual technologies, like different types of BEVs, into one node. The ratio of flows entering and leaving a node reflects the average efficiencies greater than one and the generated heat exceeds the electricity consumed, so outgoing flows exceed incoming flows. Technologies can have multiple in- and outputs, like alkali electrolysis, which produces hydrogen but also provides waste heat to district heating networks. For storage, incoming and outgoing flows relate to the same energy carrier, though outgoing flows are smaller reflecting storage losses.

Overall, the results show a clear emphasis on direct electrification in the heating, transport, and industry sector. In space and district heating, heat pumps and electric boilers provide 99.5% of the total demand. The transport sector uses BEVs and overhead lines wherever possible and synthetic carriers only cover the exogenous demand for transport fuels. Although indirect electrification using hydrogen is an option to create these fuels, the model predominantly utilizes the available biomass potential instead. Overall, indirect electrification is only relevant in process heating above 100°C, which accounts for 85% of the total hydrogen demand. This is partly due to the limited potential of direct electrification at these temperature levels. Nevertheless, only 73% of the electrification potential is utilized suggesting that in some cases the model deploys indirect over direct electrification despite its inefficiency because it is more flexible. Generating and storing hydrogen for later use is comparatively easy but there are no options for heat storage above 100°C and the operational flexibility in process heating is small.

While the general prevalence of direct electrification aligns with previous research, our results deviate in several details. First, the endogenous share of district heating is close to the upper limit and exceeds fixed shares in previous studies [30,62]. Our methodology capturing how district heating is more flexible than individual heating presumably drives these results. Second, thermal plants only provide 25.6 TWh of firm generation, much less than in previous deep decarbonization studies limited to the power system and a single region [19, 21]. This suggests electrification and transmission greatly contribute to renewable integration and substitute thermal backup plants.

The results mapped in Fig. 9 highlight the importance of transmission. The figure shows the net-exchange for different transmission infrastructures and electricity generation and demand by country.

In the electricity grid, 70% of the potential grid expansion is realized. NTC capacities for HVAC more than double from 109 to 275 GW and quadruple for HVDC from 19 to 75 GW. Traded quantities increase correspondingly, but net positions remain comparatively balanced. For instance, Germany has net-imports of 124.5 TWh in the results compared to net-exports of 17.4 TWh in 2021, but nevertheless exports double compared to 2020 and amount to 115.2 TWh [63]. This indicates that a key driver of grid expansion is to balance local fluctuations of renewable supply.

The results for the exchange of hydrogen are opposed and trade is much more unilateral. Some countries, like Spain or Romania, have a comparative advantage in producing hydrogen due to high capacity



Fig. 8. Sankey diagram for the solved model, in TWh/Gpkm/Gtkm.



Fig. 9. Net-exchange (in TWh), electricity generation and demand.

factors and are exclusively exporting. Other countries, like Italy, serve as intermediaries or are exclusively importing, like Belgium. Overall, domestic hydrogen production is cost-efficient and hydrogen imports from outside of Europe are negligible totaling 3.2 TWh imported by Italy and the UK.

## 4.2. Residual load curves

While the previous section only indicates how the system achieves the integration of fluctuating renewables, this section provides a definite analysis based on residual load curves.



Fig. 10. Residual load curves for Germany [8].

Residual load refers to the remaining demand, or load, not covered by supply from fluctuating renewables. Accordingly, the residual load curves show total demand minus fluctuating renewable generation sorted in descending order and depict the energy that sources other than fluctuating renewables must supply [64]. The *y*-axis intercept of the curve represents the residual peak load, which is the maximum capacity that must be met by sources other than fluctuating renewables. The area above the *x*-axis represents the total energy that non-fluctuating sources must supply. Conversely, the area below the *x*axis corresponds to the excess energy from fluctuating sources during periods where supply exceeds demand. Visualizing the electricity balance this way provides insights into the interplay of fluctuating supply and flexible demand in the system.

Exemplary for the entire system, the following analysis focuses on Germany, the country with the highest demand and a relatively small renewable potential. The curve and overall results are consistent across most countries. The only exception are countries with a high share of flexible generation from hydro reservoirs that are discussed in further detail below. Fig. 10(a) compares residual load in 2021 and in the model results if demand were completely inflexible. The inflexible demand is not a direct result of the model but computed ex-post assuming electric heating without the flexibilities described in Section 2.1, charging of BEVs proportional to loading profiles, and power-to-x (PtX) processes, mostly electrolyzers, operating at constant capacity. For illustration, Fig. 17 in appendix C provides a section on the time-series data the residual load curves are based on.

The comparison of historic values and model results in Fig. 10(a) shows a dramatic increase in residual load when moving to a renewable energy system without flexible demand. Compared to 2021, residual peak load almost triples from 62.9 to 178.2 GW and residual demand amounts to 338.3 TWh, but fluctuating generation also exceeds demand in 3491 h resulting in 205.5 TWh of excess generation.

Fig. 10(b) illustrates how flexible heating and charging of BEVs reduce residual demand. To compute these curves, inflexible demand computed ex-post is successively replaced by hourly demand from model results; first for flexible space and process heating, then for district heating, and finally for BEVs. This order is arbitrary and only serves the communication of the results.

The impact of flexible space and process heating is small and only reduces residual peak load by 4.3 GW and residual demand by 2.0 TWh.

Correspondingly, the model does not invest in local heat storage. The influence of flexible district heating is much more pronounced reducing peak load by 29.4 GW and residual demand by 38.7 TWh. At the same time, excess generation only decreases by 36.3 TWh because heat pumps can shift operation to periods with higher efficiencies. To achieve this flexibility, the model builds 40.5 TWh of thermal water storage and combined heat and power (CHP) gas engines with 3.0 GW heating capacity. The effect of flexible BEV charging is significant as well. Residual peak load decreases by 18.2 GW and residual demand by 28.7 TWh.

The flexible operation of electrolyzers displayed in Fig. 10(c) has the greatest impact on residual demand. When electrolyzers adapt to supply instead of operating at constant capacity, residual peak load decreases by 37.8 GW and residual demand by 98.1 TWh. In this case, 82.8 GW of electrical electrolyzer capacity operate at a utilization rate of 44.4%. To match volatile hydrogen production with demand, the model invests in 13.0 TWh of hydrogen storage in salt caverns, still only 0.1% of the total storage potential in Germany [65].

In total, flexible electrification has a substantial effect in reducing residual peak load from 178.2 to 88.5 GW, residual demand from 338.3 to 170.8 TWh, and excess generation from 205.5 to 41.9 TWh. Fig. 10(d) finally shows how the system meets the residual demand. In line with the results in the previous section, transmission covers the major portion. At peak load, Germany imports 52.8 GW, which corresponds to 96% of the total import capacity. Imports also cover 88.3 TWh of the residual demand and exports reduce excess generation by 28.7 TWh.<sup>2</sup> Thermal plants and energy storage are less important. Thermal plants cover 25.2 GW of peak load and provide 8.8 TWh of generation, almost equally divided between open-cycle (OC) hydrogen turbines and gas engines. For electricity storage, the model does not invest in batteries and only deploys the pre-existing hydro plants, which cover 10.5 GW of peak load and 8.7 TWh of residual demand. Charging of hydro plants reduces excess generation by 9.9 TWh resulting in only 3.3 TWh of excess generation being finally curtailed.

In the presented scenario, the power grid is the greatest source of flexibility, both on the supply and demand side, and NTC capacities

 $<sup>^2\,</sup>$  These numbers are smaller than total imports and exports stated in the previous section because they are the sum of net-positions in each hour.







Fig. 12. Residual load curves for Norway with grid expansion.

almost triple. But grid expansion frequently faces public opposition and under extreme weather conditions total generation can be insufficient to balance out local shortages. To check the robustness of our results against this background, we solve the model for an additional scenario without any grid expansion. General results without grid expansion do not differ substantially from the reference scenario. Annualized costs of the energy system increase by 5.8% from 278.1 to 294.3 billion  $\in$  and most notably the exchange and use of hydrogen increase to substitute the power grid. Analogously to section 4.1, appendix C provides a Sankey diagram and map with detailed scenario results.

With regard to renewable integration, Fig. 11 shows the residual load curves for the scenario without grid expansion. Results on the demand side are similar to the reference scenario and flexible electrification reduces the residual peak load from 173.9 to 91.4 GW and the residual demand from 317.7 to 110.0 TWh. The only substantial difference is a greater contribution from flexible PtX that decreases residual demand by 139.4 instead of 98.1 TW in the previous scenario. Correspondingly, hydrogen production increases by 10.0 TWh and utilization of electrolyzers drops by 3.4% compared to the reference scenario.

On the supply side, differences between scenarios are more pronounced and thermal plants largely substitute imports. Compared to the reference scenario, thermal plants cover 78.9 instead of 25.2 GW of the residual peak load, while imports drop from 52.8 to 8.9 GW. Total contribution to residual demand changes accordingly increasing from 8.8 to 36.2 TWh for thermal plants but decreasing from 153.2 to 43.0 TWh for imports. Similar to the reference scenario, thermal generation is almost equally divided between hydrogen turbines and gas engines.

As a contrast to Germany, Fig. 12 shows residual load curves for Norway. Due to the exceptional Norwegian hydro resources, fluctuating renewables only supply 37.9% of electricity, compared to 99.2% in Germany. The model represents hydro reservoirs as storage systems with an exogenous inflow resulting in the large positive area in Fig. 12. Due to its hydro reservoirs, Norway has a surplus of flexible generation and is even capable to export when residual demand is high. For the same reason, the country does not depend on flexible demand and its consideration hardly changes the residual load curve. Accordingly, Norway does not invest in heat or hydrogen storage, unlike Germany, and operates electrolyzers less flexible at a utilization rate of 84.4%, greatly above the 44.4% in Germany and close to the technical limit of 94.2%. Residual load curves for other countries without exceptional hydro resources are similar to Germany and are provided in Fig. 20 in appendix C. The only country with results comparable to Norway is Switzerland, which has exceptional hydro resources as well.

#### 5. Conclusion

In this paper, we analyze flexible electrification in energy systems that rely on wind and solar as the main source of primary energy. Using a cost minimizing system model, we find substantial benefits of secondary demand from heating, transport, and industry adapting to fluctuating supply. In Germany, flexible demand halves the residual peak load, halves the residual demand, and reduces excess generation by 80%. Flexible operation of electrolyzers has the greatest impact and accounts for 42% of the reduction in residual peak load and 59% in residual demand. District heating networks and BEVs provide substantial flexibility as well; the contribution of space and process heating is negligible. Leveraging this flexibility is cost-efficient but requires additional investments into systems for the storage and generation of hydrogen and heat.

To what extent flexible electrification is beneficial to reduce the residual load also depends on the availability of supply-side options to cover the residual load. Our analysis considers thermal plants, electricity storage, and the transmission grid. In the reference case, the latter is greatly expanded and covers most of the residual demand. Without grid expansion, the model deploys more thermal plants but does not substantially increase investment in demand-side flexibility. In case the supply-side already has a surplus of flexibility, there is no investment into demand-side flexibility at all. For instance, in Norway storage for hydrogen or heat is dispensable thanks to the large hydro reservoirs.

The purpose of our techno-economic analysis is not to assess the level of flexibility conceivable under current policy and market conditions. Instead, we identify where efforts to leverage the flexibility potential promise the greatest benefits. In light of our results, policy should prioritize the integration of electricity and hydrogen markets. Only if hydrogen production is sensitive to electricity prices, operators of electrolyzers have an incentive to adapt to renewable supply. The next priority is integrating district heating, followed by incentives for flexible charging of BEVs. Additional flexibility on the consumer level not only faces practical obstacles concerning privacy, automated control, and commercial aggregators but also has the smallest benefit on the system level.

For our analysis, it was key to consider a broad range of flexibility options and apply a high level of detail to spatio-temporal fluctuations of renewables. Nevertheless, future research can expand these qualities. Regarding flexibility, geothermal energy is a dispatchable technology to consider but excluded in this study due to a lack of data on regional potentials [66,67]. Similarly, there is interest in carbon capture, utilization, and storage from a flexibility perspective [68]. With regards to a more detailed analysis of carbon utilization, modeling should also explicitly consider the non-energy demand for feedstock in the (petro-)chemical industry. Regarding detail, extending the analysis to cover multiple climatic years and include extreme weather conditions could improve the robustness of the results. The same applies to the representation of power grid constraints within market zones.

#### CRediT authorship contribution statement

Leonard Göke: Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Visualization, Software, Writing – original draft. Jens Weibezahn: Writing – review & editing, Project administration. Mario Kendziorski: Methodology, Validation.

## Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

## Data availability

The used data is openly available and linked in the paper.

## Acknowledgments

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program via the project "OSMOSE" under grant agreement No. 773406 and from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy via the project "MODEZEEN" (grant No. FKZ 03EI1019D). A special thanks goes to all Julia developers.

#### Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary material related to this article can be found online at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2023.127832. The model data and script is available on GitHub: https://github.com/leonardgoeke/ EuSysMod/releases/tag/flexibleElectrificationWorkingPaper.

The applied version of the AnyMOD.jl modeling framework is available here: https://github.com/leonardgoeke/AnyMOD.jl/releases/tag/ flexibleElectrificationWorkingPaper

All files used to derive the model's quantitative inputs are shared on Zenodo [69]: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6481534

#### References

- [1] United Nations. The Paris agreement. 2015, URL https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement.
- [2] European Commission. REPowerEU: Commission steps up green transition away from Russian gas by accelerating renewables permitting. 2022, URL https://ec. europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_22\_6657.
- [3] The White House. By the numbers: The inflation reduction act, August 15. 2022, URL https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/ 2022/08/15/by-the-numbers-the-inflation-reduction-act/.
- [4] Reuters. China vows steady green energy growth as europe returns to coal, July 27. 2022, URL https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/chinavows-steady-green-energy-growth-europe-returns-coal-2022-07-27/.
- [5] Creutzig F, Agoston P, Goldschmidt JC, Luderer G, Nemet GF, Pietzcker RC. The underestimated potential of solar energy to mitigate climate change. Nat Energy 2017;2:17140.
- [6] Weibezahn J, Krumm A, Oei P-Y, Färber L. Renewable energy: Unleashing the full potential. In: Sustainable and smart energy systems for Europe's cities and rural areas. Munich, Germany: Hanser; 2022, p. 35–64. http://dx.doi.org/10. 3139/9783446471757.005.
- [7] Danish Energy Agency. Energy statistics 2022. Electr Mix 2023. URL https://ens.dk/en/our-services/statistics-data-key-figures-and-energymaps/annual-and-monthly-statistics.
- [8] Fraunhofer ISE. Energy-charts. 2022, URL https://energy-charts.info/.
- [9] Reuters. Germany aims to get 100% of energy from renewable sources by 2035, February 28. 2022, URL https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainablebusiness/germany-aims-get-100-energy-renewable-sources-by-2035-2022-02-28/.
- [10] Schill W. Electricity storage and the renewable energy transition. Joule 2020;4:2047–64. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2020.07.022.
- [11] Schaber K, Steinke F, Mühlich P, Hamacher T. Parametric study of variable renewable energy integration in europe: Advantages and costs of transmission grid extensions. Energy Policy 2012;42:498–508. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j. enpol.2011.12.016.
- [12] Reuters. Climate change: EU unveils plan to end reliance on Russian gas, March 8. 2022, URL https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-60664799.
- [13] Reuters. Hydrogen fuel cells seek transport niches EVs can't reach, November 9. 2022, URL https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/hydrogen-fuel-cells-seektransport-niches-evs-cant-reach-2022-11-09/.
- [14] Sorknæs P, Johannsen RM, Korberg AD, Nielsen TB, Petersen UR, Mathiesen BV. Electrification of the industrial sector in 100% renewable energy scenarios. Energy 2022;254:124339. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2022.124339.

- [15] Luderer G, Madeddu S, Merfort L, Ueckerdt F, Pehl M, Pietzcker R, et al. Impact of declining renewable energy costs on electrification in low-emission scenarios. Nat Energy 2022;7:32–42. http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41560-021-00937-z.
- [16] Heggarty T, Bourmaud J-Y, Girard R, Kariniotakis G. Quantifying power system flexibility provision. Appl Energy 2020;279:115852. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/ j.apenergy.2020.115852.
- [17] Waite M, Modi V. Electricity load implications of space heating decarbonization pathways. Joule 2020;4(2):376–94. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2019.11.
   011.
- [18] Ruhnau O, Hirth L, Praktiknjo A. Heating with wind: Economics of heat pumps and variable renewables. Energy Econ 2020;92:104967. http://dx.doi.org/10. 1016/j.eneco.2020.104967.
- [19] Sepulveda NA, Jenkins JD, de Sisternes FJ, Lester RK. The role of firm lowcarbon electricity resources in deep decarbonization of power generation. 2018 2018;2:2403–20. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2018.08.006.
- [20] Dowling JA, Rinaldi KZ, Ruggles TH, Davis SJ, Yuan M, Tong F, et al. Role of long-duration energy storage in variable renewable electricity systems. Joule 2020;4(9):1907–28. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2020.07.007.
- [21] Ziegler MS, Mueller JM, Pereira GD, Song J, Ferrara M, Chiang Y-M, et al. Storage requirements and costs of shaping renewable energy toward grid decarbonization. Joule 2019;3(9):2134–53. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2019.06. 012.
- [22] Sepulveda NA, Jenkins JD, Edington A, Mallapragada DS, Lester RK. The design space for long-duration energy storage in decarbonized power systems. Nat Energy 2021;6:506–16. http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41560-021-00796-8.
- [23] Komiyama R, Otsuki T, Fujii Y. Energy modeling and analysis for optimal grid integration of large-scale variable renewables using hydrogen storage in Japan. Energy 2015;81:537–55. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2014.12.06.
- [24] Sasanpour S, Cao K-K, Gils HC, Jochem P. Strategic policy targets and the contribution of hydrogen in a 100% renewable European power system. Energy Rep 2021;7:4595–608. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.egyr.2021.07.005.
- [25] Ruggles TH, Dowling JA, Lewis NS, Caldeira K. Opportunities for flexible electricity loads such as hydrogen production from curtailed generation. Adv Appl Energy 2021;3:100051. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.adapen.2021.100051.
- [26] Verzijlbergh R, Brancucci Martínez-Anido C, Lukszo Z, de Vries L. Does controlled electric vehicle charging substitute cross-border transmission capacity? Appl Energy 2014;120:169–80. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2013.08.020.
- [27] Wei M. Impact of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles on thermal generation expansion with high wind penetration. Energy Rep 2021;7:278–85. http://dx.doi.org/ 10.1016/j.egyr.2021.06.046.
- [28] Shu T, Papageorgiou DJ, Harper MR, Rajagopalan S, Rudnick I, Botterud A. From coal to variable renewables: Impact of flexible electric vehicle charging on the future Indian electricity sector. Energy 2023;269:126465. http://dx.doi.org/10. 1016/j.energy.2022.126465.
- [29] Yifan Z, Wei H, Le Z, Yong M, Lei C, Zongxiang L, et al. Power and energy flexibility of district heating system and its application in wide-area power and heat dispatch. Energy 2020;190:116426. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy. 2019.116426.
- [30] Bloess A. Impacts of heat sector transformation on Germany's power system through increased use of power-to-heat. Appl Energy 2019;239:560–80. http: //dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2019.01.101.
- [31] Bernath C, Deac G, Sensfuß F. Influence of heat pumps on renewable electricity integration: Germany in a European context. Energy Strategy Rev 2019;26:100389. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.esr.2019.100389.
- [32] Schill W-P, Zerrahn A. Flexible electricity use for heating in markets with renewable energy. Appl Energy 2020;266:114571. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j. apenergy.2020.114571.
- [33] O. P-R, Campillo J, Ingham D, Hughes K, Pourkashanian M. Large scale integration of renewable energy sources (RES) in the future Colombian energy system. Energy 2019;186:115805. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2019.07.135.
- [34] Bellocchi S, Manno M, Noussan M, Prina MG, Vellini M. Electrification of transport and residential heating sectors in support of renewable penetration: Scenarios for the Italian energy system. Energy 2020;196:117062. http://dx.doi. org/10.1016/j.energy.2020.117062.
- [35] Göke L. A graph-based formulation for modeling macro-energy systems. Appl Energy 2021;301:117377. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2021.117377.
- [36] Poncelet K, Delarue E, Six D, Duerinck J, D'haeseleer W. Impact of the level of temporal and operational detail in energy-system planning models. Appl Energy 2016;162:631–43. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2015.10.100.
- [37] Poncelet K, Delarue E, D'haeseleer W. Unit commitment constraints in longterm planning models: Relevance, pitfalls and the role of assumptions on flexibility. Appl Energy 2020;258:113843. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy. 2019.113843.
- [38] Priesmann J, Nolting L, Praktiknjo A. Are complex energy system models more accurate? An intra-model comparison of power system optimization models. Appl Energy 2019;255:113783. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2019.113783.
- [39] Helistö N, Kiviluoma J, Morales-España G, O'Dwyer C. Impact of operational details and temporal representations on investment planning in energy systems dominated by wind and solar. Appl Energy 2021;290:116712. http://dx.doi.org/ 10.1016/j.apenergy.2021.116712.

- [40] Neumann F, Hagenmeyer V, Brown T. Approximating power flow and transmission losses in coordinated capacity expansion problems. Appl Energy 2022;314(3):118859. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2022.118859.
- [41] Göke L. AnyMOD.jl: A julia package for creating energy system models. SoftwareX 2021;16:100871. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.softx.2021.100871.
- [42] Heinen S, Turner W, Cradden L, McDermott F, O'Malley M. Electrification of residential space heating considering coincidental weather events and building thermal inertia: A system-wide planning analysis. Energy 2017;127:136–54. http: //dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2017.03.102.
- [43] Triebs MS, Tsatsaronis G. From heat demand to heat supply: How to obtain more accurate feed-in time series for district heating systems. Appl Energy 2022;311:118571. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2022.118571.
- [44] Strobel L, Schlund J, Pruckner M. Joint analysis of regional and national power system impacts of electric vehicles—A case study for Germany on the county level in 2030. Appl Energy 2022;315:118945. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/ j.apenergy.2022.118945.
- [45] Hannan M, Mollik M, Al-Shetwi AQ, Rahman S, Mansor M, Begum R, et al. Vehicle to grid connected technologies and charging strategies: Operation, control, issues and recommendations. J Clean Prod 2022;339:130587. http: //dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2022.130587.
- [46] Danish Energy Agency. Technology data. 2022, URL https://ens.dk/en/ourservices/projections-and-models/technology-data.
- [47] Guidehouse. European hydrogen backbone: A European hydrogen infrastructure vision covering 28 countries. 2022, URL https://ehb.eu/files/downloads/ehbreport-220428-17h00-interactive-1.pdf.
- [48] ENTSO-E. Completing the map power system needs in 2030 and 2040. 2020, URL https://eepublicdownloads.blob.core.windows.net/public-cdncontainer/tyndp-documents/TYNDP2020/FINAL/entso-e\_TYNDP2020\_IoSN\_ Main-Report\_2108.pdf.
- [49] Ruhnau O, Lion H, Praktiknjo A. Time series of heat demand and heat pump efficiency for energy system modeling. Sci Data 2019;6:189. http://dx.doi.org/ 10.1038/s41597-019-0199-y.
- [50] Most D. Plan4res public dataset for case study 1 part MIM-1: time series used for multi-modal investment pathway modelling. 2020, http://dx.doi.org/10.5281/ zenodo.3885481, URL https://zenodo.org/record/3885481.
- [51] Robinius M, Markewitz P, Lopion P, Kullmann F, Heuser P-M, Syranidis K, et al. Wege für die energiewende - kosteneffiziente und klimagerechte transformationsstrategien für das deutsche energiesystem bis zum jahr 2050. Energy & Environment 2020;499.
- [52] Öberg S, Odenberger M, Johnsson F. Exploring the competitiveness of hydrogen-fueled gas turbines in future energy systems. Int J Hydrogen Energy 2022;47(1):624–44. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhydene.2021.10.035.
- [53] Auer H, Crespo del Granado P, Oei P-Y, Hainsch K, Löffler K, Burandt T, et al. Development and modelling of different decarbonization scenarios of the European energy system until 2050 as a contribution to achieving the ambitious 1.5°C climate target—establishment of open source/data modelling in the European H2020 project openentrance. Elektrotech Inf tech 2020;137(7):346–58. http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00502-020-00832-7.

- [54] Bourmaud J-Y, Göke L, Grisey N, Kostic M, Lhuillier N, Orlic D, et al. Zenodo. 2022, OSMOSE WP1 Dataset, URL https://zenodo.org/record/6375020# .YmAQ0tPP0uU.
- [55] ENTSO-E, ENTSO-G. TYNDP 2022 scenario building guidelines. 2022, URL https://2022.entsos-tyndp-scenarios.eu/building-guidelines/.
- [56] eurostat. Distribution of population by degree of urbanisation, dwelling type and income group. 2022, URL https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ILC\_ LVHO01\_custom\_1513595/bookmark/table?lang=en&bookmarkId=02255622edef-4fec-80da-a1ce32edaf98.
- [57] Pardo Garcia N, Vatopoulos K, Krook-Riekkola A, Moya Rivera J, Perez Lopez A. Heat and cooling demand and market perspective. 2012, http://dx. doi.org/10.2790/56532, URL https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/ handle/JRC70962.
- [58] eurostat. Employed population by occupation and sector. 2022, URL https: //ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/data/database.
- [59] Institute for Energy and Transport (Joint Research Center). The JRC-EU-TIMES model. Bioenergy potentials for EU and neighbouring countries. EUR - Sci Tech Res Rep 2015. http://dx.doi.org/10.2790/39014.
- [60] Material Economics. EU biomass use in a net-zero economy A course correction for EU biomass. 2021, URL https://materialeconomics.com/latest-updates/eubiomass-use.
- [61] Hampp J, Düren M, Brown T. Import options for chemical energy carriers from renewable sources to Germany. 2021, URL https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.01092.
- [62] Brown T, Schlachtberger D, Kies A, Schramm S, Greiner M. Synergies of sector coupling and transmission extension in a cost-optimised, highly renewable European energy system. Renew Sustain Energy Rev 2018;160:720–39. http: //dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2018.06.222.
- [63] Bundesnetzagentur. SMARD strommarktdaten. 2022, URL https://www.smard. de/home.
- [64] Schill W-P. Residual load, renewable surplus generation and storage requirements in Germany. Energy Policy 2014;73:65–79. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol. 2014.05.032.
- [65] Caglayan DG, Weber N, Heinrichs HU, Linßen J, Robinius M, Kukla PA, et al. Technical potential of salt caverns for hydrogen storage in Europe. Int J Hydrogen Energy 2020;45(11):6793–805. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhydene. 2019.12.161.
- [66] Ricks W, Norbeck J, Jenkins J. The value of in-reservoir energy storage for flexible dispatch of geothermal power. Appl Energy 2022;313:118807. http: //dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2022.118807.
- [67] Molar-Cruz A, Keim MF, Schifflechner C, Loewer M, Zosseder K, Drews M, et al. Techno-economic optimization of large-scale deep geothermal district heating systems with long-distance heat transport. Energy Convers Manage 2022;267:115906. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enconman.2022.115906.
- [68] Zantye MS, Arora A, Hasan MMF. Renewable-integrated flexible carbon capture: a synergistic path forward to clean energy future. Energy Environ Sci 2021;14:3986–4008. http://dx.doi.org/10.1039/D0EE03946B.
- [69] Göke L. Data for "how flexible electrification can integrate fluctuating renewables". Zenodo; 2022, http://dx.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6481534.