Mehr als die Vergangenheit und die Gegenwart interessiert mich die Zukunft, denn in ihr gedenke ich zu leben. (Albert Einstein)

Technical and economic design of a simplified



highly renewable European electricity system

Let the weather decide!

2000 – 2007: 1h, 45x45km² 1980 – 2010: 1h, 30x30km² Renewable Energy Atlas

Modeling of a highly renewable European electricity system



$$G_n^R(t) = G_n^W(t) + G_n^S(t)$$

$$\left\langle G_{n}^{R}\right\rangle =\gamma_{n}\left\langle L_{n}\right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle G_n^W \right\rangle = \alpha_n \left\langle G_n^R \right\rangle$$
$$\left\langle G_n^S \right\rangle = \left(1 - \alpha_n\right) \left\langle G_n^R \right\rangle$$

$$G_n^R(t) - L_n(t) =$$

= $B_n(t) + P_n(t) + S_n(t)$

actio = reactio

$$G_n^B(t) = -min(B_n(t), 0)$$

 $C_n(t) = max(B_n(t), 0)$

 $F_l(t) = \sum_n PTDF_{ln} P_n(t)$



 $G_n^R(t) - L_n(t) = B_n(t) + P_n(t)$





How much ...

- ... wind energy?
- ... solar PV energy?
- ... backup energy + power?
- ... transmission?
- ... storage?

What are important temporal and spatial scales?

- I. Time scales: storage
- **II.** Spatial scales: backup + transmission
- III. Costs
- IV. Outlook

I. Time scales: how much storage?



European aggregation: Wind + Solar power generation + Load



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How much storage? @ 100% penetration in EU

$$S(t) - S(t-1) =$$

$$= \begin{cases} \eta_{in} \Delta(t) \quad (\Delta > 0) \\ \eta_{out}^{-1} \Delta(t) \quad (\Delta < 0) \end{cases}$$

$$C_E = \max_t S(t) - \min_t S(t) \\ \eta_{in} = \eta_{out} = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\eta_{in} = \eta_{out} = 1$$

$$0.0 \quad 0.2 \quad O.8 \quad 1.0$$

$$Seasonal optimal mix = 60\% \text{ wind power} + 40\% \text{ solar power}$$

How much storage? @ 100% penetration in EU



annual consumption (2009) = 3360 TWh

70% wind power generation = 875 GW installed capacity \approx 115000 km² = 175.000 x 5 MW turbines = 4350 x 200 MW wind farms

30% solar PV power generation = 550 GW installed capacity \approx 3500 - 7500 km²





Storage Singularity



$$C_E(\text{random}) << C_E(\text{original})$$

temporal correlations



synoptic time scale







II. Spatial scales:how much backup+ transmission?

Coupling schemes between transmission and backup

$$\Delta_{n}(t) = G_{n}^{RES}(t) - L_{n}(t) = B_{n}(t) + P_{n}(t)$$







$$P_n(t) = 0$$



 $\min\left(\sum_{l}F_{l}^{2}(t)\right)$

Localized flow

$$\beta(t) = \frac{\sum_{n} \Delta_{n}(t)}{\sum_{n} \langle L_{n} \rangle}$$

 $B_n(t) = \beta(t)$

Flow with synchronized balancing

Zero flow

Balancing distribution (Germany)

$$B_n(t) = G_n^{RES}(t) - L_n(t) - P_n(t)$$

$$\left\langle G_n^{RES} \right\rangle = \left\langle L_n \right\rangle$$







Principal flow patterns













beyond EU: world-wide grid



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III. Costs









Levelized Cost of SYSTEM Energy





Heterogeneous renewable electricity networks







Who pays for the heterogeneity?



Challenge: cooperative $2020 \rightarrow 2050$ investments + markets



Flow tracing







Flow tracing







IV. More challenges

wind + solar + hydro + bio + + transmission + storage



coupling of electricity + heating + transportation.

backup flexibility classes



big networks: renormalization scaling of power flows, small-world AC/DC networks, self-organizing power flows.

climate change + mesoscale turbulence

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Fundamental Research on Renewable Energy Systems

at the interface between engineering + physics + mathematics

Martin Greiner, Aarhus University greiner@eng.au.dk

- (1) Highly Renewable Energy Systems
- (2) Complex Networks



- (3) Wind-farm Modeling + Optimization
- (4) Turbulence

FunRes

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