

# **„Integrating renewable energies - estimating needs for flexibility, competition of technologies and the impact of grid extensions“**

JRC Modelling Workshop  
5<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Frieder Borggrefe, Yvonne Scholz, Thomas Pregger  
German Aerospace Centre (DLR), Institute of Technical Thermodynamics



Wissen für Morgen



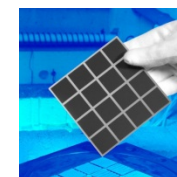
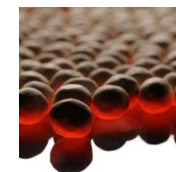
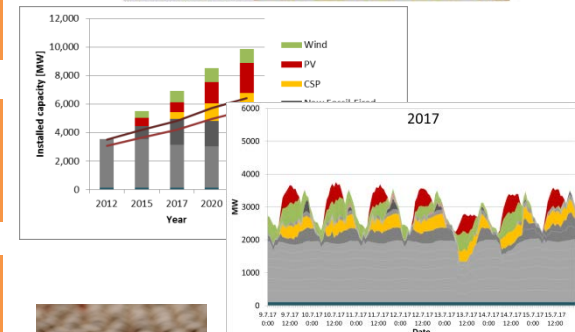
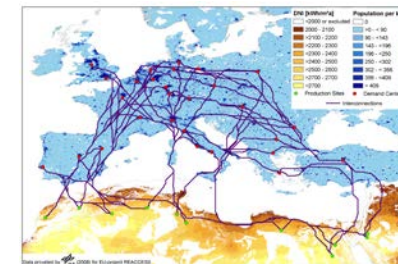
# Structure

1. Introduction: The DLR System Analysis Group
2. REMix: Load balancing and flexibility options
3. Load balancing with high shares of renewable energies, BMWi 2014
4. Results: Technology assesment
5. Critical discussion of modelling approaches



## 1. Introduction

# DLR - Who we are



## Research Areas

Aeronautics

Space Research and Technology

Transport

Energy

Space Administration

Project Management Agency

Solar Research

Wind Energy Research

Systems Analysis

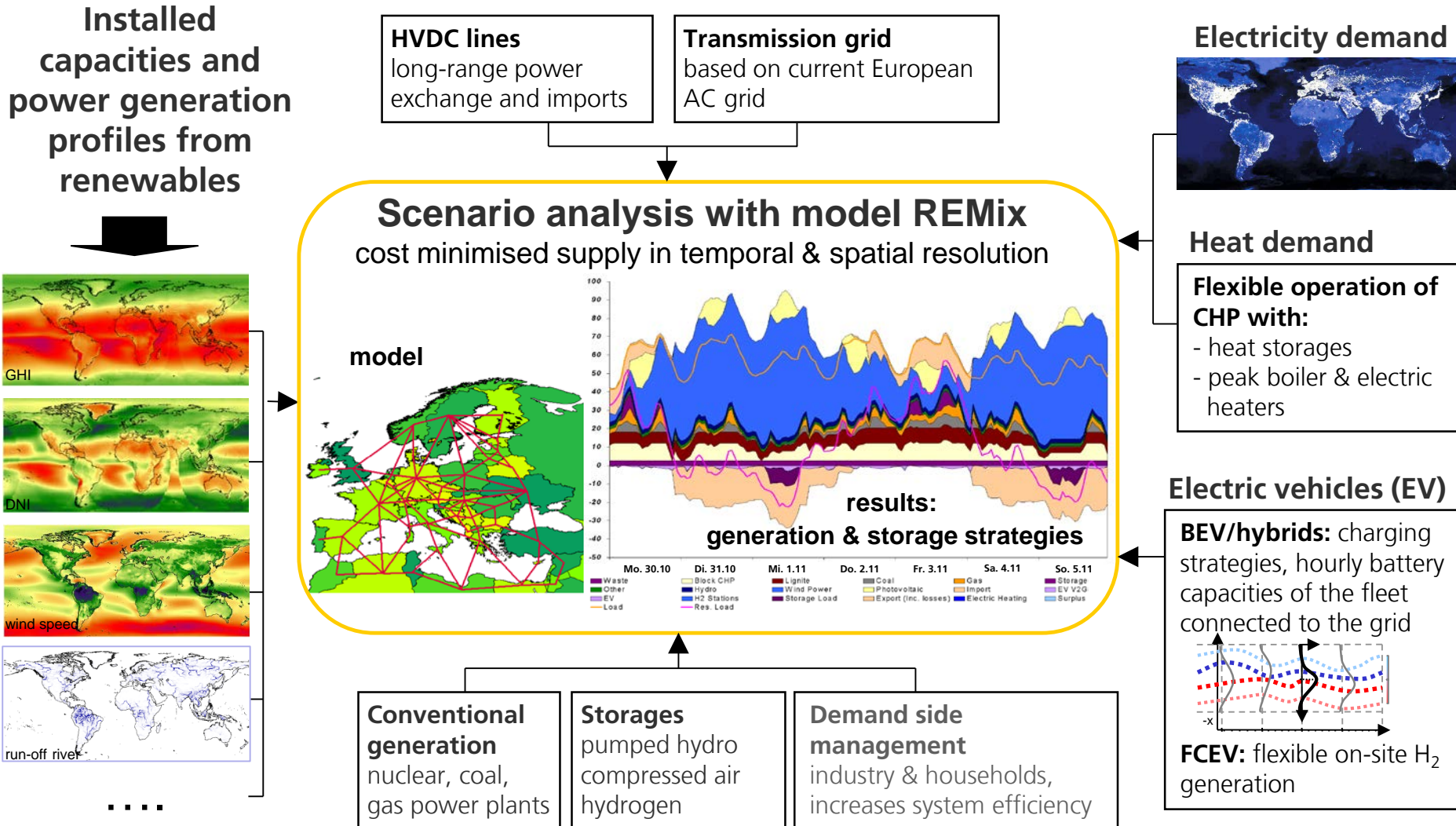
Thermal & Chemical Storage

High & low Temp. Fuel Cells

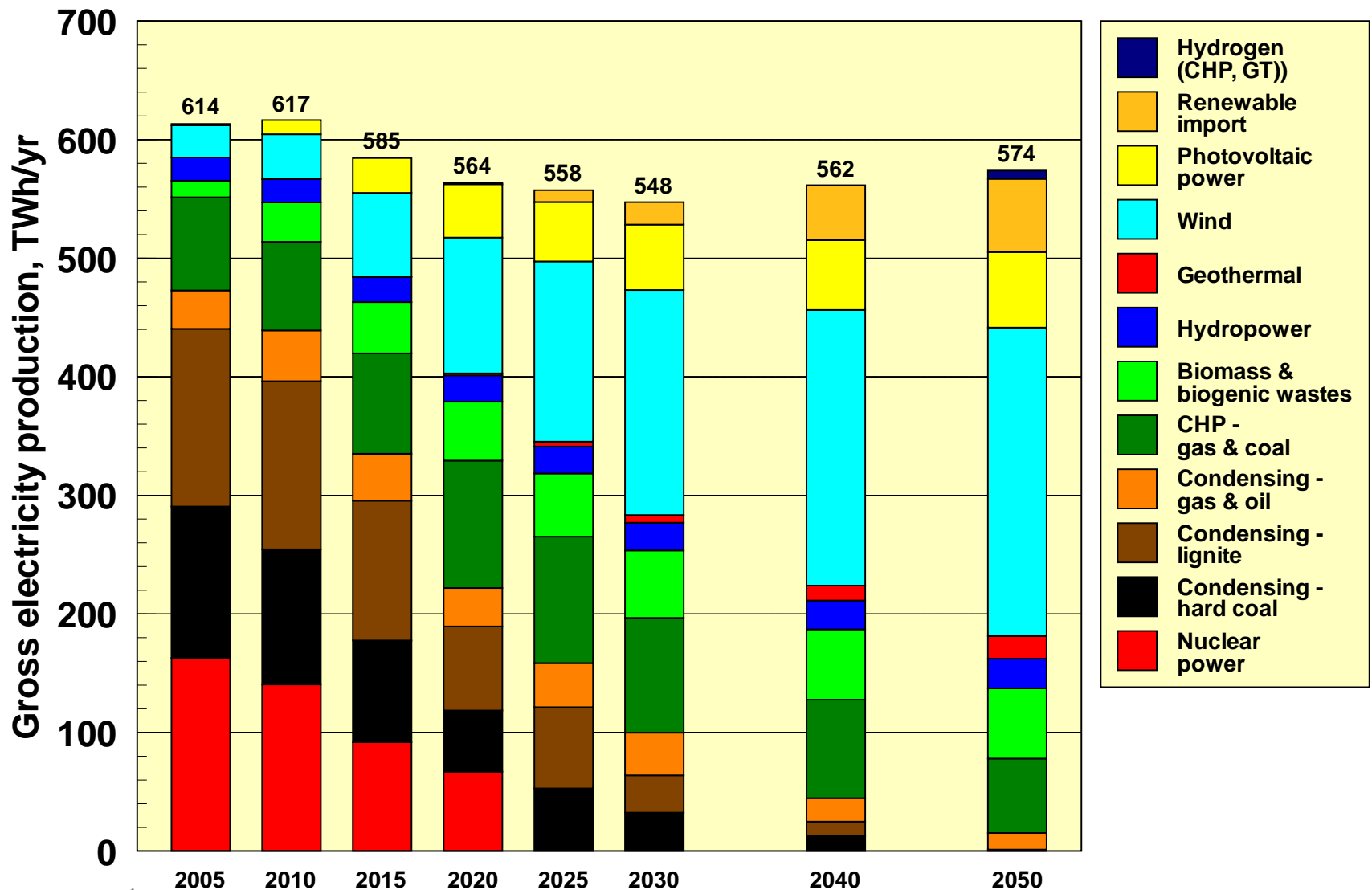
Combustion & Gas Turbine Technologies



## 2. Energy systems model REMix: validation of power supply, load balancing and flexibility demand

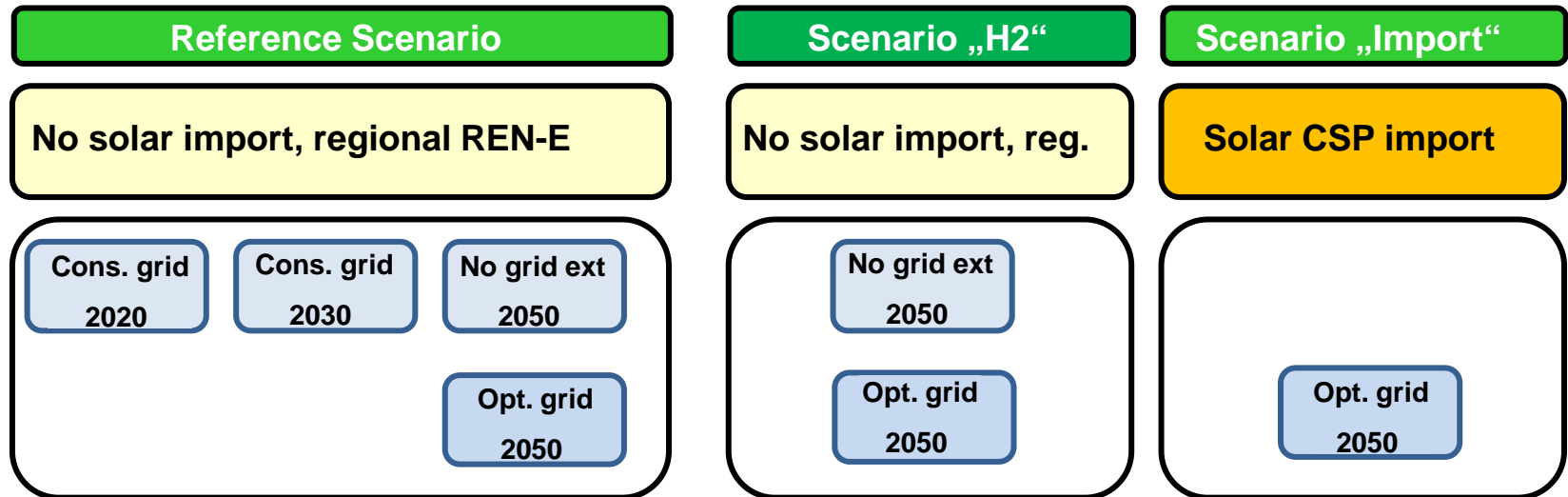


# Results: Structure of gross electricity generation in Scenario A



### 3. Potential for load balancing to integrate large shares of REN-E

## Investigated Scenarios



- How will flexible technologies be used and to what extent competition might arise between these technologies?
- What characteristics define an efficient electricity mix for the integration of large shares of renewables?



# REMix OptiMo

## Linear energy systems modelling

### Configuration

Investments: yes

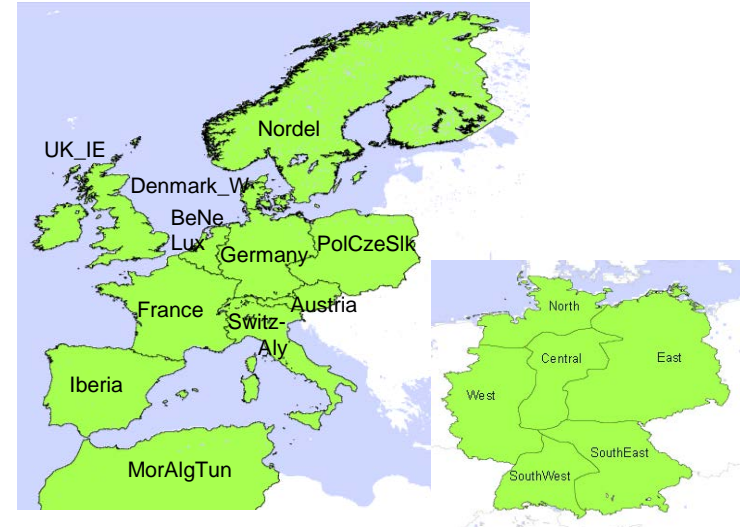
Configuration: LP (Linear programming)

Time slices: 1 Year, 8760 days

Regions: 16

### Model variables:

- Generation-, transport and storage- capacities
- Electricity generation
- Transport and storage
- Heat generation and storage
- Excess capacity



### Technologies

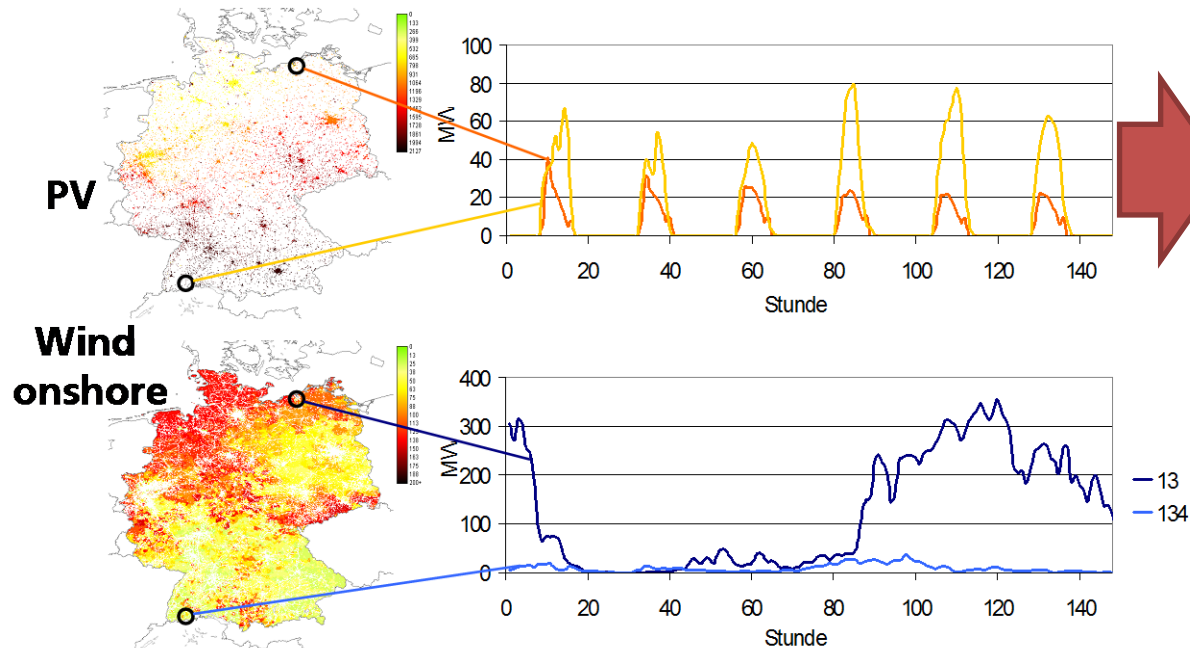
	Electricity	Heat
CHP	20	23
Conventionals	40	
DSM	30	
Storages	5	
Renewables	4	
CSP	2	
Electric vehicles	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>23</b>

Time steps	
All hours of one year	8760h



## REMix: Data

# Feed-in from fluctuating renewables



<b>0</b>	Reference scenario: No additional flexibility options
<b>+</b>	Flexible CHP based on thermal storage, conventional and electric peak load boiler
<b>++</b>	Additional load management options
	Heat pumps
	Electric vehicles - flexible charging
<b>+++</b>	Additional construction of electricity storages (e.g. CAES)



# Identification of flexibility from heat demand

- GIS-based method with 1 x 1 km<sup>2</sup> area pixel
- Upper bound for district heating grids

Demand per capita



Density of heat supply



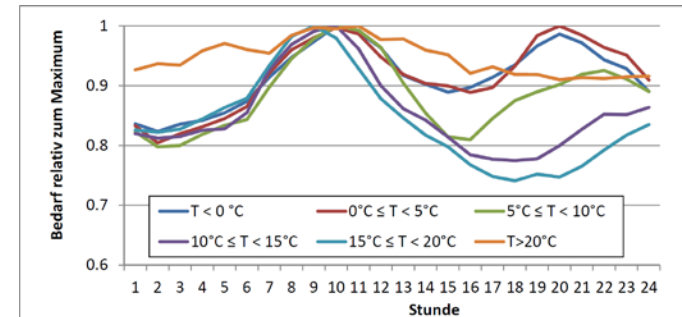
District heating



- 23 technologies
- Potential district heating areas
- Annual demand
- Heat density
- Costs



0	Reference scenario: No additional flexibility options
+	Flexible CHP based on thermal storage, conventional and electric peak load boiler
++	Additional load management options Heat pumps Electric vehicles - flexible charging
+++	Additional construction of electricity storages (CAES- Storages)

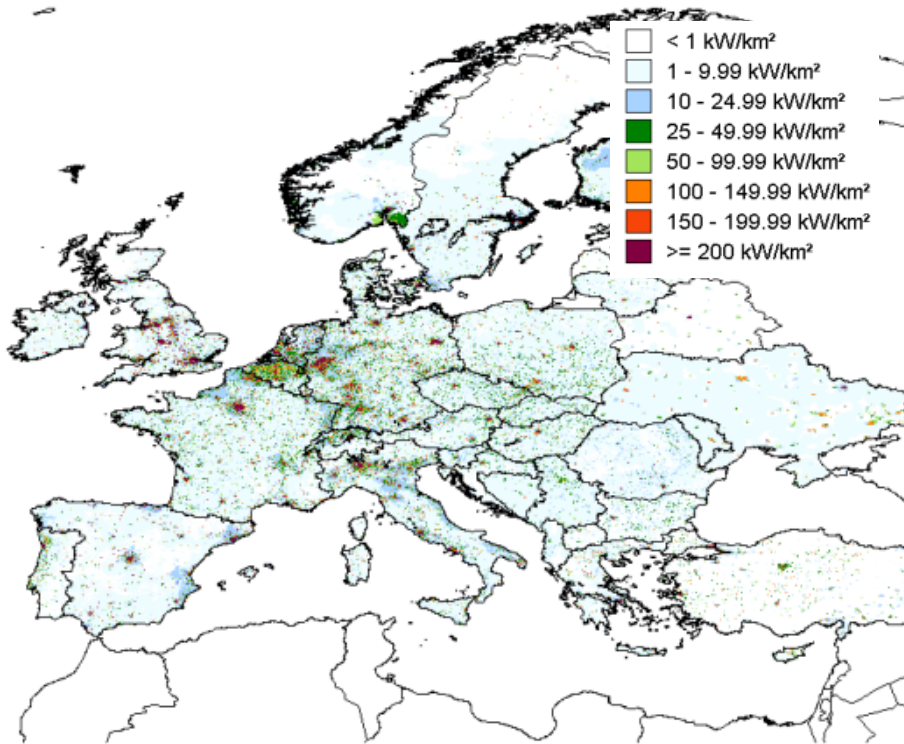


## REMix: Data

### Identification of flexible load

30 different endusers with the ability for load shifting and load shedding

**Theoretic potential for DSM in 2010**



<b>0</b>	<b>Reference scenario: No additional flexibility options</b>
<b>+</b>	<b>Flexible CHP based on thermal storage, conventional and electric peak load boiler</b>
<b>++</b>	<b>Additional load management options</b> Heat pumps Electric vehicles - flexible charging
<b>+++</b>	<b>Additional construction of electricity storages (CAES- Storages)</b>

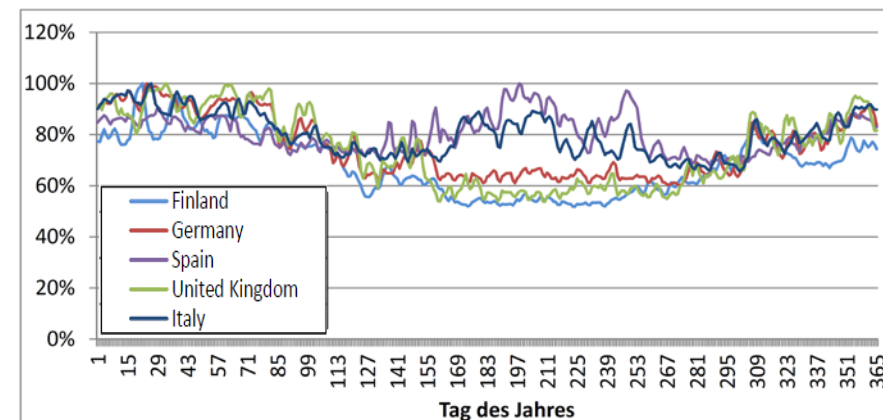
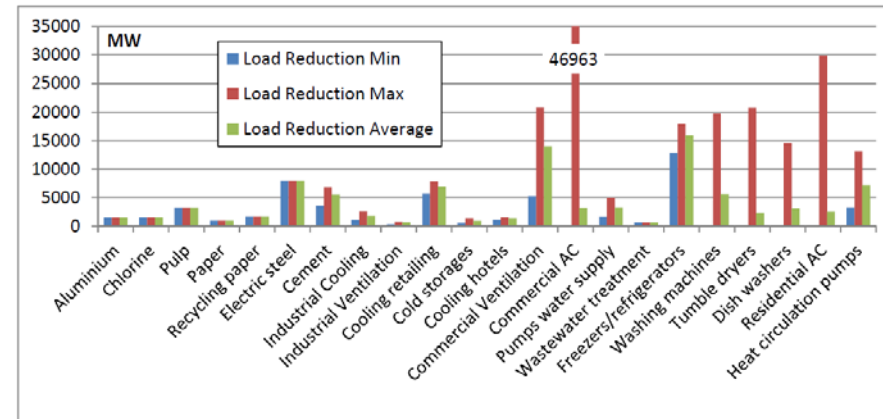
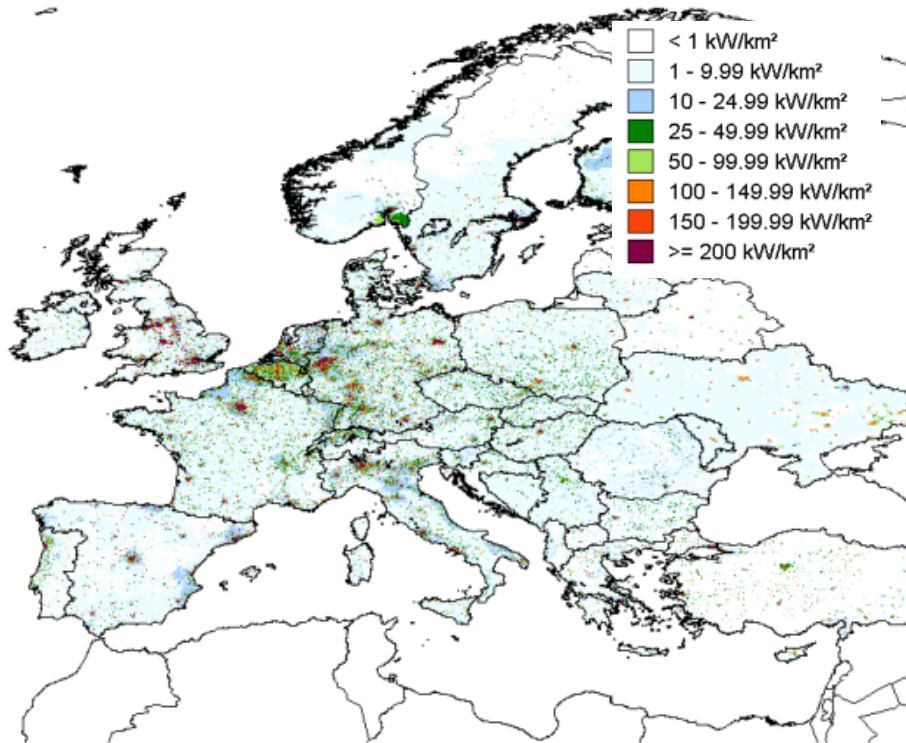


# REMix: Data

## Identification of flexible load

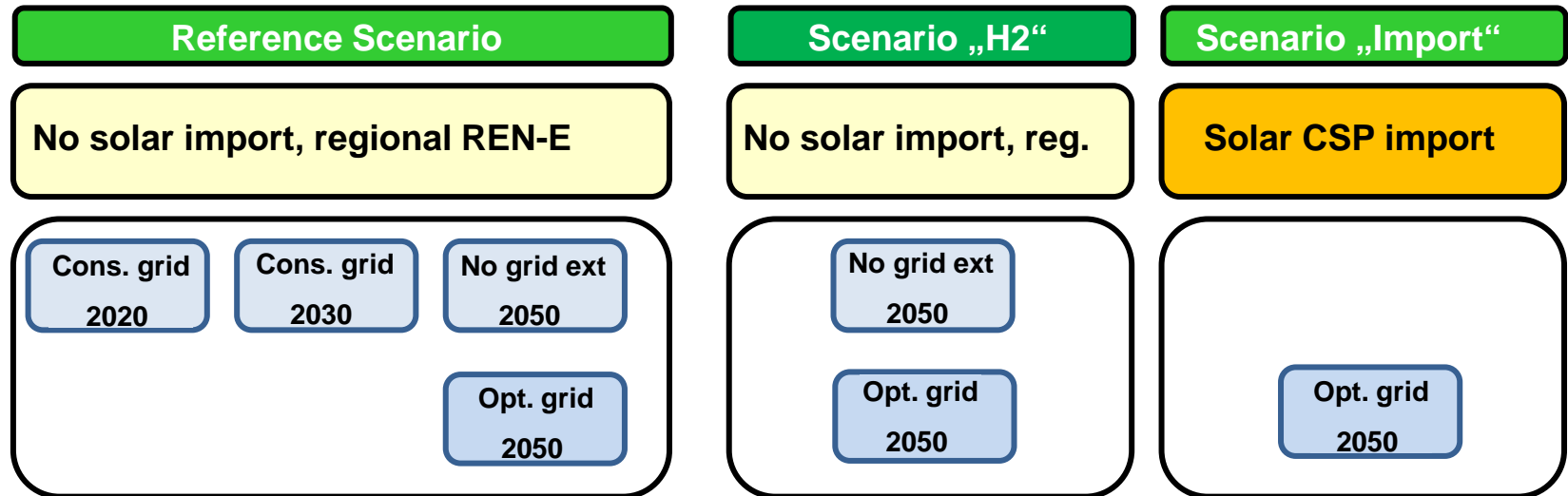
30 different endusers with the ability for load shifting and load shedding

### Theoretic potential for DSM in 2010



## Investigated Szenarios

# Potential for load balancing to integrate large shares of REN-E

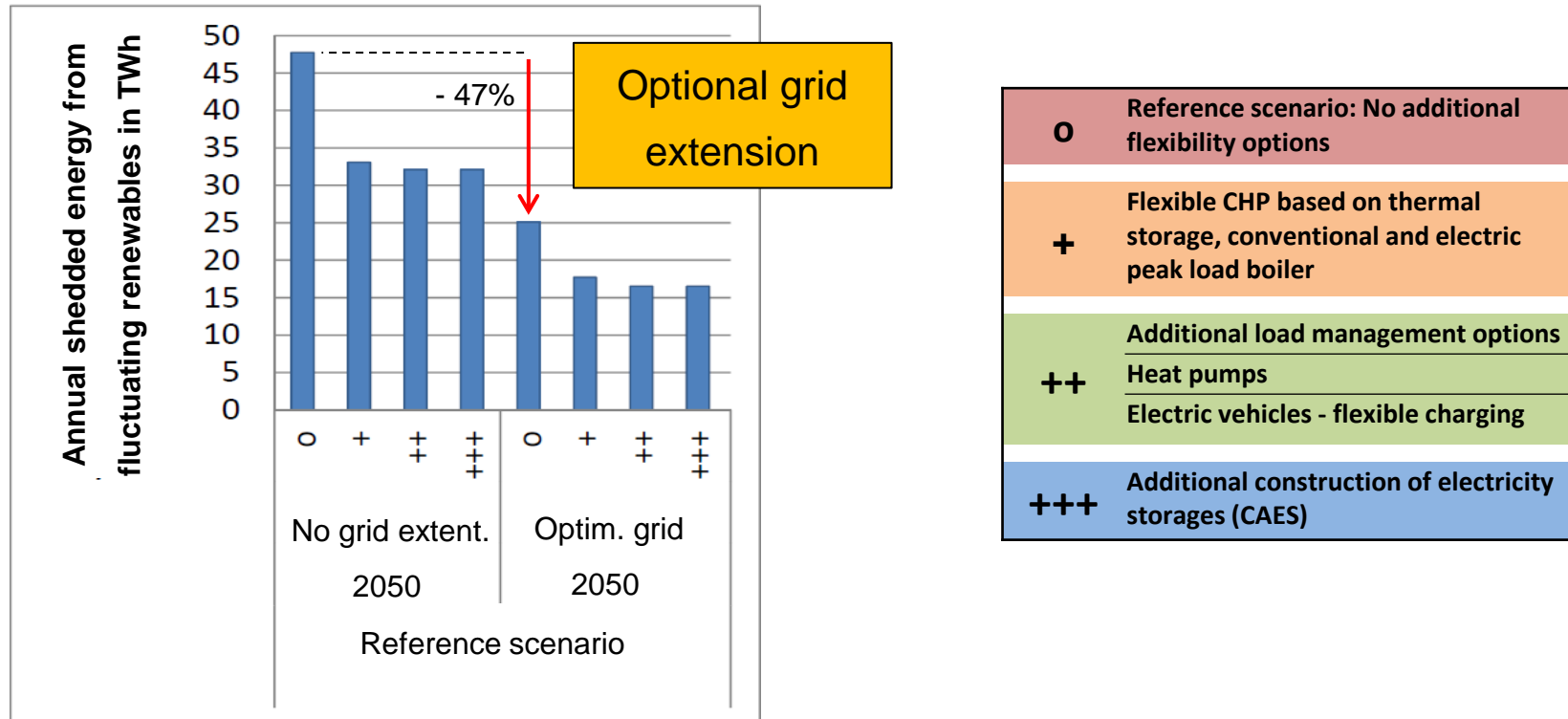


- How will flexible technologies be used and to what extend competition might arise between these technologies?
- What characteristics define an efficient electricity mix for the integration of large shares of renewables?



## 4. Results:

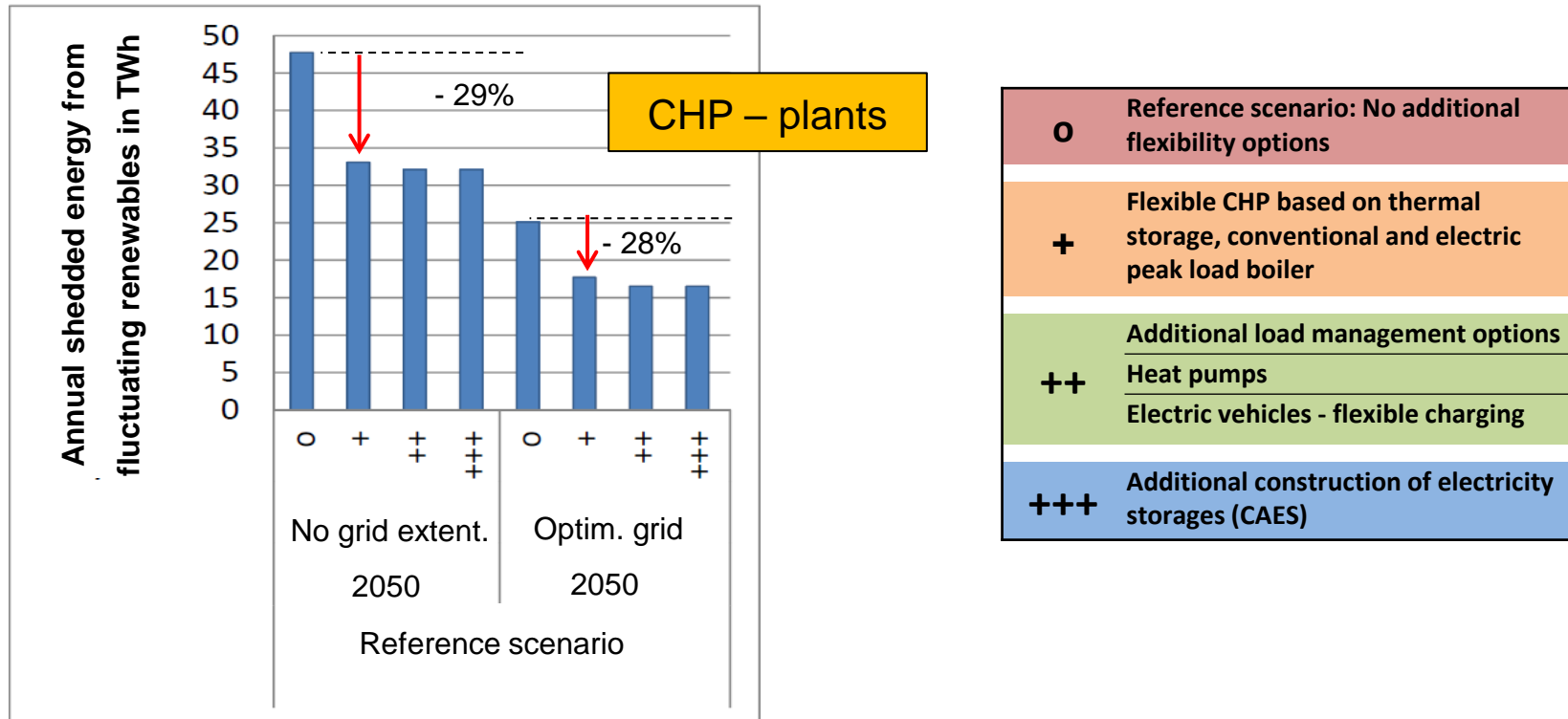
### Indicator 1 - annual shedded energy



Importance of the grid: Model endogenous grid extension significantly reduces demand for storage

## 4. Results:

# Indicator 1 - annual shedded energy

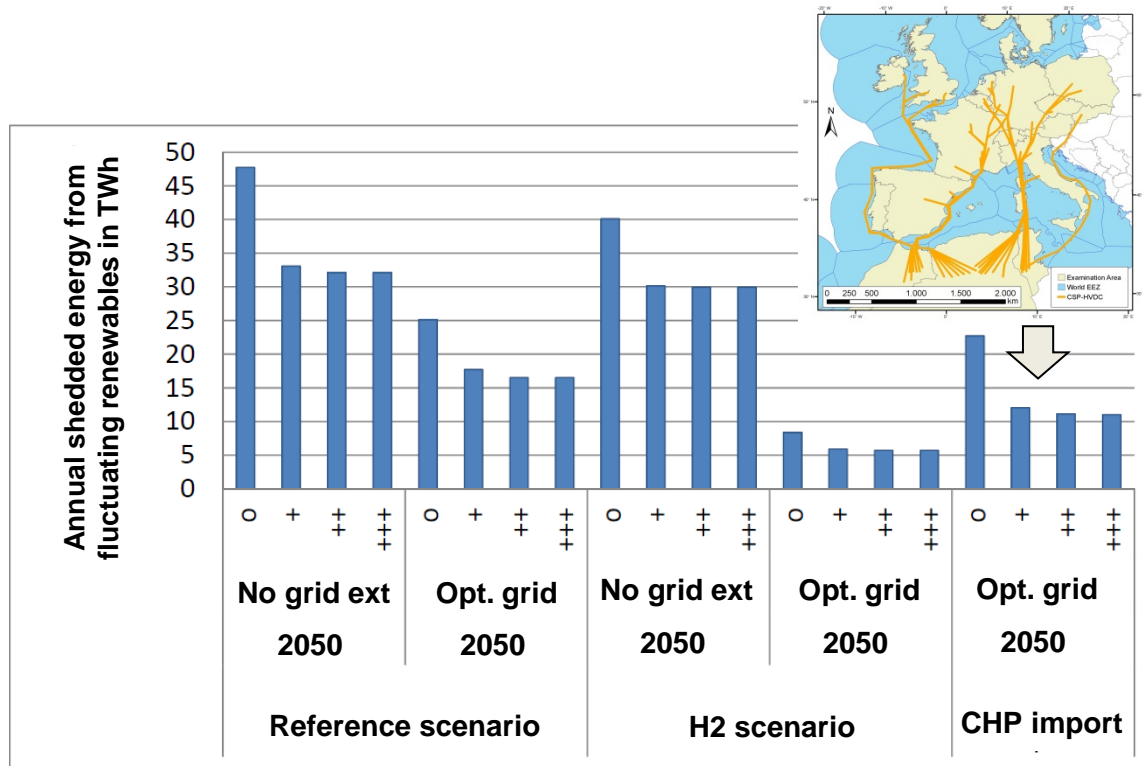


Runner up: CHP – plants can significantly reduce load shedding



## 4. Results:

# Indicator 1 - annual shedded energy

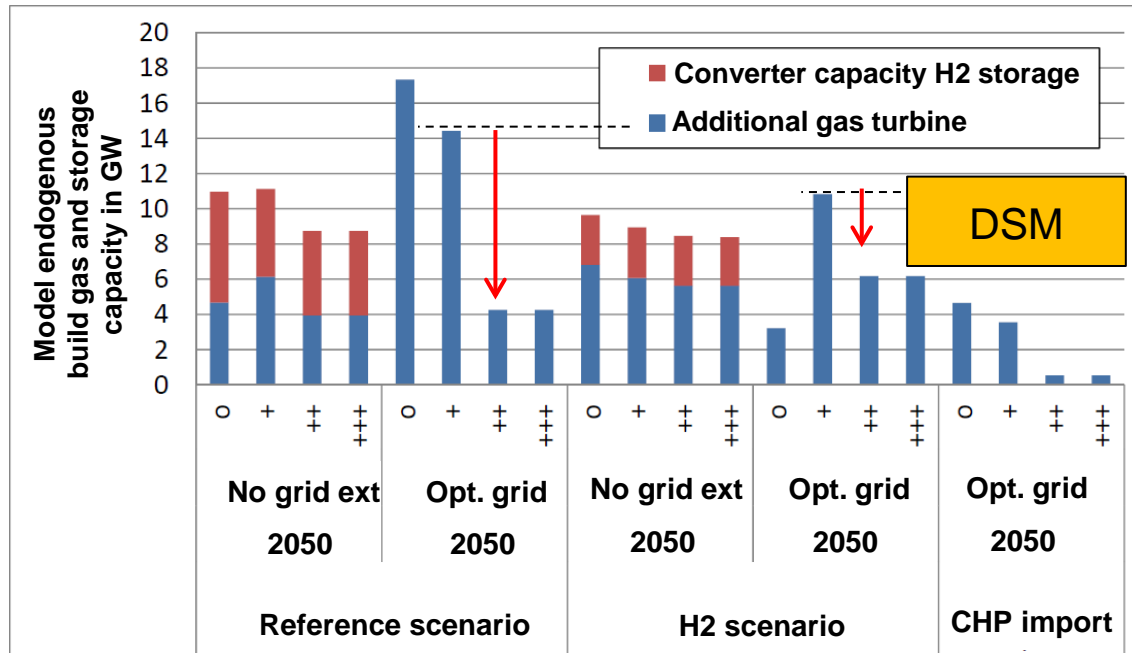


0	Reference scenario: No additional flexibility options
+	Flexible CHP based on thermal storage, conventional and electric peak load boiler
++	Additional load management options
	Heat pumps
	Electric vehicles - flexible charging
+++	Additional construction of electricity storages (CAES)



## 4. Results:

### Indicator 2 – model endogenous build of gas turbines and H2 storage



0	Reference scenario: No additional flexibility options
+	Flexible CHP based on thermal storage, conventional and electric peak load boiler
++	Additional load management options Heat pumps Electric vehicles - flexible charging
+++	Additional construction of electricity storages (CAES- Storages)

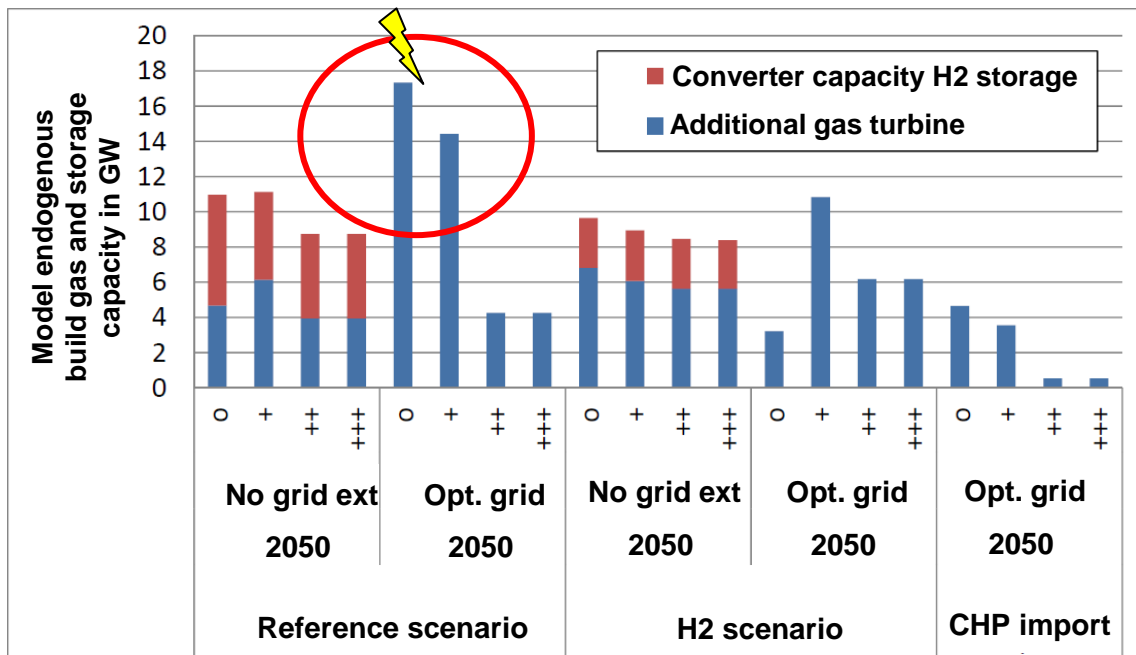
DSM will be used to cover peak hours.

-> Will be valuable only in combination with grid extensions!



## 4. Results:

### Indicator 2 – model endogenous build of gas turbines and H2 storage

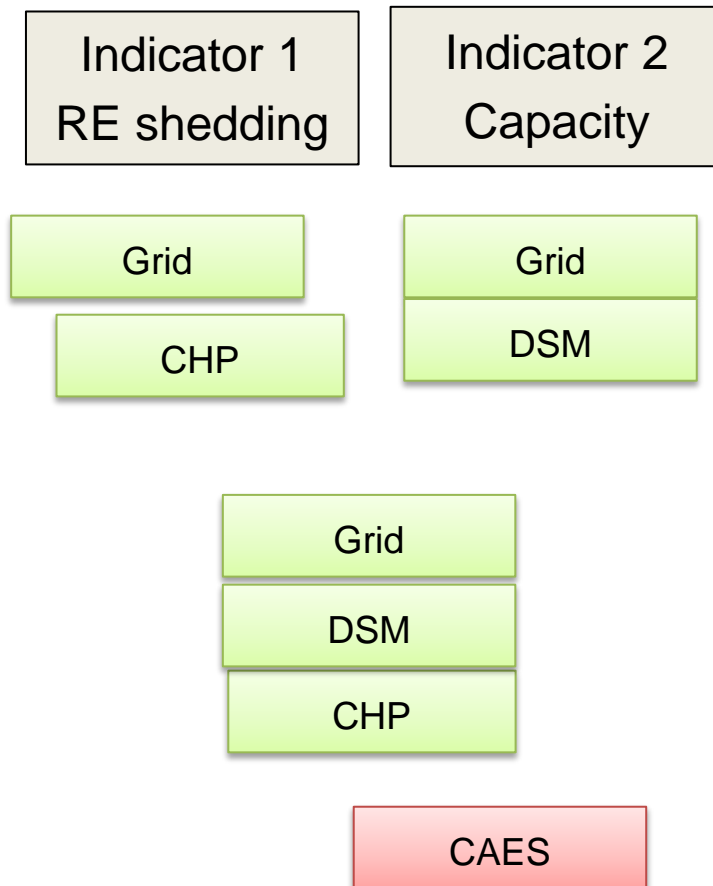


○	Reference scenario: No additional flexibility options
+	Flexible CHP based on thermal storage, conventional and electric peak load boiler
++	Additional load management options
	Heat pumps
	Electric vehicles - flexible charging
+++	Additional construction of electricity storages (CAES- Storages)



## 4. Results

# Overview



- Importance of the grid: Model endogenous grid extension significantly reduces demand for storage
- CHP plants can contribute significant flexibility
- DSM will be used to cover peak hours. Will be valuable only in combination with grid extensions
- CHP and DSM complement each other well
- By using CSP imports demand for storages can be significantly reduced.
- Long term storages will only become available if other flexibility options are not used.



## 4. Results

# Critical discussion

How to use the full potential of the data?

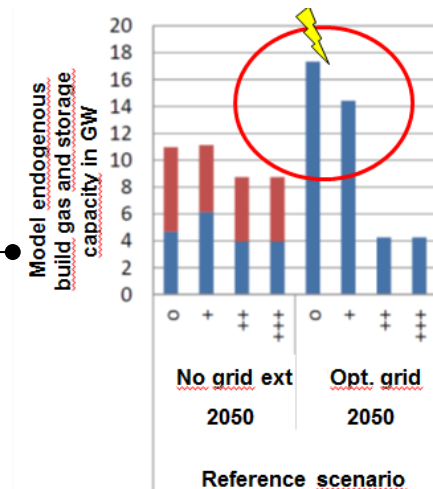
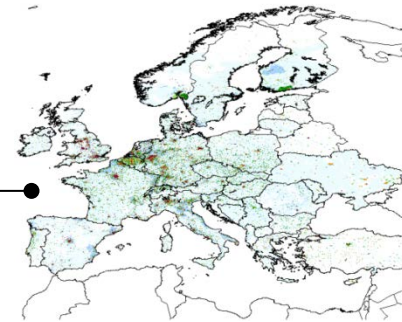
Regional aggregation: under-estimating demand for flexibility?

Indicators for renewable integration must be precise

Cost based evaluation of scenarios necessary

How to make a strong sensitivity analysis?

Beyond steady state: Investment path



# Recommendations

1. Understand your indicators

2. Get your costs right

3. Understand the sensitivity of your key parameters

4. Don't underestimate the grid ...

... but it is only half the cure

5. Don't spend too much time on CAES-modelling ...

... it is better spend in modelling the heat sector



# Recommendations

1. Understand your indicators

2. Get your costs right

3. Understand the sensitivity of your key parameters

4. Don't underestimate the grid ...

... but it is only half the cure

***Take your time and understand what is important for the quality of your model results***





## References

- **BMW/BMU 2010:** Energiekonzept für eine umweltschonende, zuverlässige und bezahlbare Energieversorgung. (in German) Ministries of Commerce and Environment for the Federal government; Berlin, September 2010
- **DLR/IWES/IfNE 2012:** Long term scenarios and strategies for the deployment of renewable energies in Germany under the consideration of European and global developments. Final report in commission of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment (in German), March 2012
- **DLR 2014:** Potential and constraints of load balancing by energy storage, demand side management, and flexible CHP with high shares of renewable electricity generation (in German) funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, June 2014
- **SCHOLZ, Y. 2012:** Renewable energy based electricity supply at low costs - Development of the REMix model and application for Europe; Dissertation, University of Stuttgart, 2012

