Tracing prices: A flow-based cost allocation for optimized power systems

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Abstract

Highlights

- Flow Allocation schemes determine peer-to-peer (P2P) allocation between sources and sinks
- P2P allocation can be used to assign payments of consumers to single network assets
- Using shadow prices, Capital Expenditures are accurately allolcated to users which profit from investments
- The P2P cost assignments are in alignment with the nodal pricing scheme of a welfare-maximized system
- This opens the possibility to transparently integrate transmission constraints and investment costs in national and international development plans
- Applying to a German future scenario shows how higher electricity costs arise for buses which rely on investments in transmission and local backup generation

Nomenclature

- $\lambda_{n,t}$ Locational Market Price at bus n and time step t in \in /MW
- $d_{n,t}$ Electric demand per bus n, demand type a, time step t in MW
- $s_{i,t}$ Operational state of asset i, at time step t in MW
- o_i Operational price of asset i in \in /MW
- c_i Capital Price of asset i in \in /MW
- $K_{n,i}$ Incidence values ($\neq 0$ if i is attached to n)

1 Introduction

Today's power systems are subject to a deep and ongoing transformation. The needed shift to from controllable to weather-driven power generation, the constant improvement and innovation of technology require rigorous system planning and international cooperation. The core of the problem manifests in the costs. Firstly, these should be as small as possible while meeting ecological and sociological standards. Secondly, they must be distributed in a fair and transparent manner. Cost-driving aspects or market players should be detected and addressed appropriately. In this context, power system modelling has increasingly gained attention during the last years. Many studies show how cost-efficiency and renewable energy are brought together. However, the question of how and, more importantly, upon what grounds costs are distributed was often left open.

This study fills this gap. On the basis of an optimized network the operational state of each time step and corresponding characteristics are are in detailed considered to allocate all system costs. The presented approach builds upon two basic concepts: Firstly, the revenue of an network asset at the costoptimum exactly matches its operational and capital expenditures, also known as the zero-profit condition. Secondly, flow tracing, following Bialek's Average Participation, assigns the operation of single network assets to consumers in an plausible manner. The following shows how combining these allow for an transparent allocation of all operational (OPEX) and capital expenditures (CAPEX) to the consumers in the network.

2 Flow-based Cost Allocation

2.1 Zero-Profit Rule

In long-term operation and investment planning models, the total costs \mathcal{T} of a power system is the sum

operational expenditures for generators \mathcal{O}^G , expenditures for emissions \mathcal{E} , capital investments for the transmission system \mathcal{I}^F and so on, *i.e.*

$$\mathcal{T} = \sum_{\mathcal{O}} \mathcal{C}^{\circ} = \mathcal{O}^{G} + \mathcal{E} + \mathcal{I}^{F} + \dots$$
 (1)

In turn, each of the terms C° consists of the costs associated to an asset i in the system,

$$C^{\circ} = \sum_{i} C_{i}^{\circ} \tag{2}$$

where an "asset" describes any operating components of the network, such as a generator, line, energy storage etc. We refer to the set of assets as I. In a longterm equilibrium of a power system with perfect competition, the zero-profit condition states that each cost term C_i° can be considered as a cost-weighted sum of the operational state $s_{i,t}$ of asset i and time t, i.e.

$$C_i^{\circ} = \sum_t \gamma_{i,t}^{\circ} \, s_{i,t} \tag{3}$$

where $\gamma_{i,t}^{\circ}$ denotes a corresponding cost factor in \in /MW. If \mathcal{C}_i° describes the OPEX occasioned by asset i, the cost factor $\gamma_{i,t}^{\circ}$ is simply given by the marginal operational price o_i . However, as we will show in the following, if it describes the CAPEX of asset i, $\gamma_{i,t}^{\circ}$ is a composition of shadow prices $\mu_{i,t}$ given at the cost-optimum.

For a detailed demonstration, we derive Eq. (3) for each cost term separately while considering generators, transmission lines and storages in the network. Therefore, let o_i denote the operational price per MWh for asset i and c_i the capital price for one MW capacity expansion. Table 1 summarizes all derived relations, these can be inserted into Eqs. (2) and (3) for each single cost term.

Generators

Let $S \subseteq I$ be the set of generators in the network, such that $g_{s,t} = s_{s,t}$ describes the power production of generator $s \in S$. The OPEX occasioned by generator s is given by a cost-weighted sum of the production, thus

$$\mathcal{O}_s^G = \sum_t o_s \, g_{s,t} \tag{4a}$$

of multiple cost terms \mathcal{C}° . Typically, these include In case a fix price for emissions μ_{CO2} in \in per tonne-CO₂ equivalents, is assumed, a further the cost term per generator s

$$\mathcal{E}_s = \mu_{\text{CO2}} \sum_t e_s \, g_{s,t} \tag{4b}$$

adds to \mathcal{T} . Here, e_s denotes the emission factor in tonne- CO_2 per MWh_{el} of generator s. In contrast to OPEX and emission costs, the CAPEX of S are not a function of the production $g_{s,t}$, but of the actual installed capacity G_s of generator s. In the optimization it limits the generation $g_{s,t}$ in the form of

$$g_{s,t} - G_s \le 0 \perp \bar{\mu}_{s,t} \quad \forall \ s,t$$
 (4c)

The constraint yields a shadow-price of $\bar{\mu}_{s,t}$ in literature often denoted as the Quality of Supply. It can be interpreted as the the price per MW that Constr. (4c) imposes to the system. If $\bar{\mu}_{s,t}$ is bigger than zero, the constraint is binding, which pushes investments in G_s . As shown in detail in Appendix A.3, over the whole time span, the CAPEX for generator s is payed back by the production $g_{s,t}$ times the shadow price $\bar{\mu}_{s,t}$,

$$\mathcal{I}_s^G = c_s G_s = \sum_t \bar{\mu}_{s,t} g_{s,t} \tag{4d}$$

This representation connects the CAPEX with the operational state of generator s, *i.e.* matches the form in Eq. (3).

Transmission Lines

Let $L \subset I$ be the set of transmission lines in the system, these may include Alternating Current (AC) as well as Directed Current (DC) lines. Further let $f_{\ell,t} = s_{\ell,t}$ represent the power flow on line $\ell \in L$. If the OPEX of the transmission system is taken into account in \mathcal{T} (these are often neglected in power system models), these may be approximated by $\mathcal{O}_{\ell}^F =$ $\sum_{t} o_{\ell} |f_{\ell,t}|$, that is, a cost weighted sum of the net flow on line ℓ . Again this stands in contrast to the CAPEX which not a function of $f_{\ell,t}$ but of the transmission capacity F_{ℓ} . It limits the flow $f_{\ell,t}$ in both directions,

$$f_{\ell,t} - F_{\ell} \le 0 \perp \bar{\mu}_{\ell,t} \quad \forall \ \ell, t$$
 (5a)

$$-f_{\ell,t} - F_{\ell} \le 0 \perp \mu_{\ell,t} \quad \forall \ \ell, t \tag{5b}$$

At the cost-optimum, the two constraints yield the shadow prices $\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t}$ and $\mu_{\ell,t}$. Again, we use the relation

	i	\mathcal{C}°	\mathcal{C}_i°	$ \qquad \gamma_{i,t}^{\circ}$	$s_{i,t}$
OPEX Production	s	\mathcal{O}^G	$\sum_t o_s g_{s,t}$	O_S	$g_{s,t}$
OPEX Transmission	ℓ	\mathcal{O}^F	$\sum_t o_\ell f_{\ell,t} $	O_ℓ	$ f_{\ell,t} $
OPEX Storage	$\mid r \mid$	\mathcal{O}^E	$\sum_t o_r g_{r,t}^{\mathrm{dis}}$	O_r	$g_{r,t}$
Emission Cost	s	$\mid \mathcal{E} \mid$	$\mu_{\text{CO}2} e_s g_{s,t}$	$\mu_{\mathrm{CO2}} e_s$	$g_{s,t}$
CAPEX Production	s	$\mid \mathcal{I}^G \mid$	c_sG_s	$ar{\mu}_{s,t}$	$g_{s,t}$
CAPEX Transmission	ℓ	\mathcal{I}^F	$c_{\ell}F_{\ell}$	$(ar{\mu}_{\ell,t} - \underline{\mu}_{\ell,t})$	$f_{\ell,t}$
CAPEX Storage	r	\mathcal{I}^E	c_rG_r	$\bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\mathrm{dis}} - \bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\mathrm{dis}} + (\bar{\eta}_r^{\mathrm{dis}})^{-1} \lambda_{r,t}^{\mathrm{ene}}$	$g_{r,t}$

Table 1: Mapping of different cost terms to the cost allocation scheme given in Eqs. (8). These include OPEX & CAPEX for production, transmission and storage assets in the network, as well as a cost term for the total Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.

that over the whole time span, the investment in line ℓ is payed back by the shadow prices times the flow (for details see Appendix A.4)

$$\mathcal{I}_{\ell}^{F} = c_{\ell} F_{\ell} = \sum_{t} \left(\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t} - \underline{\mu}_{\ell,t} \right) f_{\ell,t}$$
 (5c)

Again, the shadow prices $\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t}$ and $\underline{\mu}_{\ell,t}$ can be seen as a measure for necessity of transmission investments at ℓ at time t. Hence, a non-zero values indicate that Constr. (5a) or (5b) are bound and therefore that the congestion on line ℓ at time t is imposing costs to the system.

Storages

Let $R \in S$ denote all storages in the system. In a simplified storage model, G_r limits the storage dispatch $g_{r,t}^{\mathrm{dis}}$ and charging $g_{r,t}^{\mathrm{sto}}$. Further it limits the maximal storage capacity $g_{r,t}^{\mathrm{ene}}$ by a fix ratio h_r , denoting the maximum hours at full discharge. The storage r dispatches power with efficiency η_r^{dis} , charges power with efficiency η_r^{sto} and preserves power from one time step t to the next, t+1, with an efficiency of η_r^{ene} . In Appendix A.5 we formulate the mathematical details. The OPEX term which adds to the objective function is given by

$$\mathcal{O}^E = \sum_r o_r g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} \tag{6a}$$

Using the result of [2] the CAPEX can be related to the operation of a storage unit r through

$$\mathcal{I}^{E} = c_{r} G_{r}$$

$$= \sum_{t} \left(\bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} - \underline{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} + (\eta_{r}^{\text{dis}})^{-1} \lambda_{r,t}^{\text{ene}} \right) g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}$$

$$- \sum_{t} \lambda_{n,t} K_{n,r} g_{r,t}^{\text{sto}} \quad \forall \ r$$
(6b)

where $\bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}$ and $\mu_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}$ are the shadow prices of the upper and lower dispatch capacity bound and $\lambda_{r,t}^{\text{ene}}$ is the shadow price of the energy balance constraint.

2.2 Allocation of Power Dispatch

After showing that cost terms C° for OPEX and CAPEX can be represented by cost-weighted sum of the operational state $s_{i,t}$, we now demonstrate how the operational state in turn is allocated to consumers. This builds the second crucial ingredient of the cost allocation.

Dispatch and flow in a system can be considered as a superposition of individual contributions of nodes and assets. In order to artificially quantify these contribution, the literature provides various methods, named flow allocation schemes. Each of these follow a specific set of assumptions which result in peer-to-peer allocations $A_{m\to n}$. That is a measure for the power supplied at node m and consumed at node n.

In the following, we resort to one specific flow allocation scheme Average Participation (AP), also known as Flow Tracing. The basic idea is to trace the power injection at bus m through the network while following the real power flow on transmission lines and applying the principal of proportional sharing.

At each bus, including the starting bus m, the traced flow might be mixed with incoming power flows from other buses. As soon as the power is absorbed or flowing out of a bus, the traced flow originating from m splits in the same proportion as the total flow. This assumption leads to regionally confined allocation $A_{m\to n}$ based on a straightforward principal. A mathematical formulation of the AP scheme is documented in Appendix B. For a detailed comparison with other scheme we refer to [].

The peer-to-peer allocations $A_{m\to n,t}$ fulfill some basic properties. On the one hand it allocates the all power productions at time t, i.e. when summing over all receiving nodes n the allocations yield the gross power generation of producing assets $i \in S \cup R$ (generators and storages) attached to m, denoted by $g_{m,t}$. Mathematically this translates to

$$g_{m,t} = \sum_{i \in S \cup R} K_{m,i} \, s_{i,t} = \sum_{n} A_{m \to n,t}$$
 (7a)

where $K_{m,i}$ is 1 if asset i is attached to bus m and zero otherwise. On the other hand, when summing over all supplying nodes, the allocation $A_{m\to n,t}$ yields the gross nodal demand $d_{n,t}$ at node n and time t, which leaves us with

$$d_{n,t} = \sum_{m} A_{m \to n,t} \tag{7b}$$

As the standard formulation implies, we assume that only net power production of m is allocated to other buses. That is, if the nodal generation $g_{m,t}$ does not exceed the nodal demand $d_{m,t}$, all of it is allocated to local consumers, i.e. $A_{m\to m,t}=\min\left(g_{m,t},d_{m,t}\right)$. The principal of proportional sharing sets the allocation of a single producing asset $i\in S\cup R$ proportional to the nodal allocation $A_{m\to n,t}$ and weights it by the share $w_{i,t}=K_{m,i}s_{i,t}/g_{m,t}$ that asset i contributes to the nodal generation $g_{m,t}$, leading to

$$A_{i,n,t} = w_{i,t} A_{m \to n,t} \quad \forall \ i \in S \cup R, n, t$$
 (7c)

This relation builds one crucial key to the cost allocation. It states how much of the power produced by asset $i \in S \cup R$ is finally consumed by consumers at n.

Yet, we didn't touch the allocation from transporting assets $i \in L$ to consumers. To tackle this, let $H_{\ell,n}$ denote a linear mapping between the injection $(g_{m,t} - d_{m,t})$ and the flow $f_{\ell,t}$, such that

$$f_{\ell,t} = \sum_{m} H_{\ell,m} (g_{m,t} - d_{m,t}) \quad \forall \ \ell \in L, t$$
 (7d)

Usually, $H_{\ell,n}$ is given by the Power Transfer Distribution Factors (PTDF) which indicate the changes in the flow on line ℓ for one unit (typically one MW) of net power production at bus m. For transport models or networks with High Voltage Directed Current (HVDC) lines, these can calculated or extended using the formulation presented in [6]. Inserting Eq. (7a) into Eq. (7d) and expanding the sum yields

$$A_{\ell,n,t} = \sum_{m} H_{\ell,m} \left(A_{m \to n,t} - \delta_{n,m} d_{n,t} \right) \quad \forall \ \ell \in L, n, t$$
(7e)

Complementary to Eq. (7c), this allocation indicates the power flow on line ℓ and time t which is ending up at node n and therefore consumed by $d_{n,t}$. Note that the assignment of line flows to consumers is different from the traced flow returned by the AP scheme, as we're only taking the peer-to-peer relation $A_{m\to n,t}$ and, for reasons to be yet to come, from there calculate the power flow.

With Eqs. (7c) and (7e) a full set of allocations between the operational state $s_{i,t}$ of asset $i \in I$ is derived. Naturally, the sum over all receiving nodes reproduces the operational state $s_{i,t}$ of asset i,

$$s_{i,t} = \sum_{n} A_{i,n,t} \quad \forall \ i,t \tag{7f}$$

2.3 Cost Allocation

Using the presented relations, we are able to straightforwardly define the full cost allocation. Therefore, the expression in Eq. (7f) is inserted in Eq. (3) which leads to

$$C_{n \to i,t}^{\circ} = \gamma_{i,t}^{\circ} A_{i,n,t}$$
 (8a)

By default, all cost of a cost term C_i° associated with asset i are allocated, thus $C_i^{\circ} = \sum_n C_{n \to i,t}^{\circ}$; likewise all system costs are distributed, $\mathcal{T} = \sum_{\circ,i,n,t} C_{n \to i,t}^{\circ}$.

The cost allocation entails a further important property. When summing over all assets i and cost terms \circ , the cost allocation yields $\mathcal{C}_{n,t}$, which we refer to as the nodal payment or payment. This exactly matches the payment determined by the Locational Marginal Price (LMP) $\lambda_{n,t}$, thus

$$C_{n,t} = \sum_{\circ,i} C_{n\to i,t}^{\circ} = \lambda_{n,t} d_{n,t} \quad \forall \ n,t$$
 (8b)

In a cost-optimal setup with minimized \mathcal{T} , the Locational Marginal Price (LMP) describes the change

of costs for an incremental increase of electricity demand $d_{n,t}$ at node n and time t. Mathematically this translates to the derivative of the total system cost \mathcal{T} with respect to the local demand $d_{n,t}$, $\lambda_{n,t} = \partial \mathcal{T}/\partial d_{n,t}$. At the optimum the LMP is given by a shadow price of the nodal balance constraint (see Appendix A.1 for details). Equation (8b) which is in detailed proved in ... connects the cost allocation to a nodal pricing scheme implied by the LMP.

2.4 Design Constraints

Power system modelling does rarely follow a pure Greenfield approach with unlimited capacity expansion. Rather, today's models are setting various constraints defining socio-political or technical requirements. However, this will alter the equality of total cost and total revenue. More precisely, each constraint h_j (other then the nodal balance constraint) of the form

$$h_i\left(s_{i,t}, S_i\right) < K \tag{9a}$$

where K is any non-zero constant and S_i denotes the nominal capacities of asset i, will alter Eq. (3) to

$$C_i^{\circ} - \mathcal{R}_i^{\circ} = \sum_{t} \gamma_{i,t}^{\circ} \, s_{i,t} \tag{9b}$$

$$= \sum_{n,t} \mathcal{C}_{n \to i,t}^{\circ} \tag{9c}$$

According to the nature of Eq. (9a) and the corresponding \mathcal{R}_i , it is either larger, equal or lower than \mathcal{C}° . Whereas Eq. (8b) still holds true, the total of payments do not return the total system cost \mathcal{T} anymore. The total mismatch \mathcal{R} is given by

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{T} - \sum_{n,t} \mathcal{C}_{n,t} \tag{9d}$$

In the following we highlight two often used classes of designs constraints in the form of Eq. (9a) and show how to incorporate them into the cost allocation.

Capacity Expansion Limit

In more realistic setups, generators, lines or other assets can only be built up to a certain limit. This might be due to land use restrictions or social acceptance considerations. When constraining the capacity S_i to an upper limit \bar{S} , in the form of

$$S_i - \bar{S} < 0 \perp \bar{\mu}_i^{\text{nom}} \quad \forall \ i \in I,$$
 (10a)

the zero profit condition alters as soon as the constraint becomes binding. Then, asset i is payed an additional scarcity rent

$$\mathcal{R}_i^{\text{scarcity}} = -\bar{\mu}_i^{\text{nom}} S_i \quad \forall \ i \in I$$
 (10b)

This rent may account for different possible realms, as for example the increased market price due in higher competed areas or additional costs for social or environmental compensation. To end this, the share in $C_{n\to i,t}^{\circ}$ which consumers pay for the scarcity rent can be recalculated by a correct weighting the shadow price $\bar{\mu}_s^{\text{nom}}$ with the capital price c_i , leading to

$$\mathcal{R}_{n \to i, t}^{\text{scarcity}} = \frac{\bar{\mu}_i^{\text{nom}}}{c_i + \bar{\mu}_i^{\text{nom}}} \, \mathcal{C}_{n \to i, t}^{\circ} \quad \forall i \qquad (10c)$$

Brownfield Constraints

In order to take already built infrastructure into account, the capacity S_i can be constrained to a minimum required capacity \underline{S} . This introduces a constraint of the form

$$\underline{S} - S_i \le 0 \perp \underline{\mu}_i^{\text{nom}} \quad \forall i \in I$$
 (11a)

Again, such a setup alters the zero profit condition of asset i, as soon as the constraint becomes binding. In that case, asset i does not collect enough revenue from $C_{n\to i,t}^{\circ}$ in order to match the CAPEX. The difference, given by

$$\mathcal{R}_i^{\text{subsidy}} = \mu_i^{\text{nom}} S_i \quad \forall \ i$$
 (11b)

has to be subsidized by governments or communities. It is rather futile wanting to allocate these cost to consumers as assets may not gain any revenue for their operational state, *i.e.* where $C^{\circ} = \mathcal{R}_i^{\text{subsidy}}$.

2.5 Numerical Example

Consider a two bus system, depicted in Fig. 1, with one transmission line and one generator per bus. Generator 1 (at bus 1) has a cheap operational price of $50 \in /MWh_{el}$, generator 2 (at bus 2) has a expensive operational price of $200 \in /MWh_{el}$. For both, capital investments amount $500 \in /MW$ and the maximal capacity is limited to $\bar{G}_s = 100$ MW. The transmission line has a capital price of $100 \in /MW$ and no upper capacity limit. With a demand of 60 MW at bus 1 and 90 MW at bus 2, the optimization expands the cheaper generator at bus 1 to its full limit of 100 MW. The 40 MW excess power, not consumed

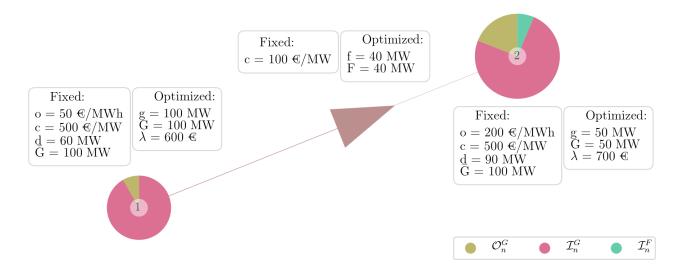


Figure 1: Illustrative example of a 2 bus network with one optimized time step. Fixed prices and constraining values are given in the left box for each bus and the transmission line. Optimized values are given in the right boxes. Generator 1 at bus 1 has a cheaper operational price o, capital prices are the same for both. As both generator capacities are constraint to 100 MW, the optimization also deploys the generator at bus 2.

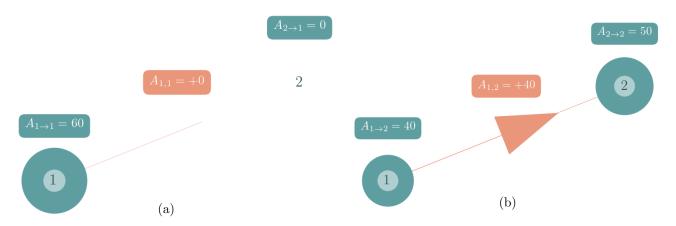


Figure 2: Power allocations $A_{i,n,t}$ in the example network Fig. 1 using Average Participation. Consumers at for bus 1, figure (a), are, with 60 MW, totally supplied by the local generator and do not consume any imported power from bus 2. In contrast consumer at bus 2, figure (b), retrieve 40 MW from generator 1, induce a flow of 40 MW on the transmission line and consume 50 MW from the local generator.

at bus 1, flows to bus 2 where the generator is built with only 50 MW.

Figure 2 shows the allocation $A_{i,n,t}$ for n=1 and n=2 separately. The "sum" of the two figures give to the actual dispatch and flow. The resulting P2P payments are given in Fig. 3.

The left graph Fig. 2a shows that d_1 is with 60 MW totally supplied by the local production. Consequently consumers at bus 1 pay $3k \in OPEX$, which is the operational price of $50 \in I$ times the 60 MW. Further they pay $33k \in I$ for the CAPEX at

generator 1. Note that $3k \in$ of these account for the scarcity imposed buy the upper expansion limit \bar{G}_s . The rest makes up 60% of the total CAPEX spent at generator 1, exactly the share of power allocated to d_1 . Consumers at bus 1 don't pay any transmission CAPEX as no flow is associated with there demand. The right graph Fig. 2b shows the power allocations to d_2 . We see that 50 MW are self-supplied whereas the remaining 40 MW are imported from generator 1. Thus, consumers pay for the local OPEX and CAPEX as well as the proportional share of

expenditures at bus 1 and the transmission system. As the capacity at generator 2 does not hit the expansion limit \bar{G}_s , no scarcity cost are assigned to it. The allocated $\mathcal{I}_{2\to 2}^G$ compensates the full investment of generator 2. Again, $2k \in$ of the $22k \in$ which are allocated to investment in generator 1 are associated with the scarcity cost for generator 1. The payed congestion revenue of $4k \in$ is exactly the CAPEX of the transmission line. The sum of all values in

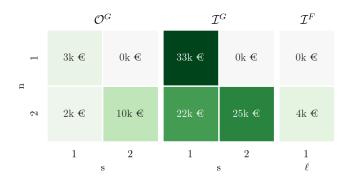


Figure 3: Full P2P cost allocation $C_{n\to i,t}^{\circ}$ on the optimized example network in Fig. 1. Consumers compensate OPEX and CAPEX of the generators they retrieve from (compare with Fig. 2). As bus 1 is totally self-supplying, all it payment is assigned to the local generator. As bus 2 imports power from bus 1 and thus induces a flow on line 1, it not only compensates local expenditures but also OPEX and CAPEX at bus 1 and CAPEX for the transmission.

the payoff matrix in Fig. 3 yield $\mathcal{T} - \mathcal{R}^{\text{scarcity}}$, the total system cost minus the scarcity cost (which in turn is negative). The sum of a column yields the total revenue per the asset i. These values match their overall spending plus the cost of scarcity. The sum a row returns the nodal payments $C_n = \lambda_n d_n$. For example the sum of payments of consumers at bus 1 is $36k \in$. This is exactly the electricity price of $600 \in /MW$ times the consumption of 60 MW, $\lambda_1 d_1$.

The fact that OPEX and CAPEX allocations are proportional to each other results from optimizing one time step only. This coherence breaks for larger optimization problems with multiple time steps. Then CAPEX allocation takes effect only for time steps in which one or more of the capacity constraints Constrs. (4c), (5a) and (5b) become binding.

3 Application Case

We showcase the behavior of the cost allocation in a more complex system, by applying it to an cost-optimized German power system model with 50 nodes and one year time span with hourly resolution. The model builds up on the PyPSA-EUR workflow [8] with technical details and assumptions reported in [7].

We follow a brownfield approach where transmission lines can be expanded starting from today's capacity values, originally retrieved from the ENTSO-E Transmission System Map [5]. Pre-installed wind and solar generation capacity totals of the year 2017 were distributed in proportion to the average power potential at each site excluding those with an average capacity factor of 10%. Further, wind and solar capacity expansion are limited by land use restriction. These consider agriculture, urban, forested and protected areas based on the CORINE and NATURA2000 database [3, 4]. Pumped Hydro Storages (PHS) and Run-of-River power plants are fixed to today's capacities with no more expansion allowed. Additionally, unlimited expansion of batteries and H₂-storages and Open-Cycle Gas Turbines (OCGT) are allowed at each node. We impose a effective carbon price of $120 \in \text{per tonne-CO}_2$ which, for OCGT, adds an effective price of $55 \in /MWh_{el}$ (assuming a gross emission of 180 kg/MWh and an efficiency of 39%). All cost assumptions on operational costs o_i and annualized capital cost c_i are summarized in detail in Table 2.

The optimized network is shown in Fig. 4. On the left we find the lower capacity bounds for renewable generators and transmission infrastructure, on the right the capacity expansion for generation, storage and transmission are displayed. The optimization expands solar capacities in the south, onshore and offshore wind in the upper north and most west. Open-Cycle Gas Turbines (OCGT) are build within the broad middle of the network. Transmission lines are amplified in along the north-south axis, including one large DC link, associated with the German Süd-Link, leading from the coastal region to the southwest. The total annualized cost of the power system roughly sums up to 42 billion €.

Figure 5 displays the load-weighted average elec-

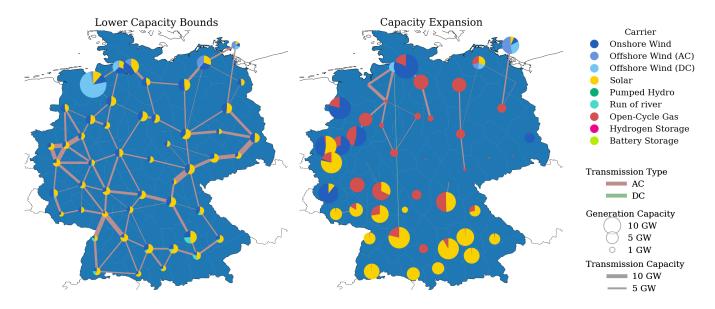


Figure 4: Brownfield optimization of the German power system. The left side shows existent renewable capacities, matching the total capacity for the year 2017, which serve as lower capacity limits for the optimization. The right side shows the capacity expansion of renewables as well as installation of backup gas power plants. The effective CO_2 price is set to $120 \in PC$ connected the capacity expansion.

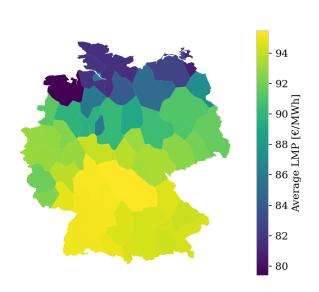


Figure 5: Average electricity price $\bar{\lambda}_n$ per region as a result from the optimization of the German power system. Regions in the middle and south of Germany have high prices whereas electricity in the North with a strong wind, transmission and OCGT infrastructure is cheaper.

tricity price $\bar{\lambda}_n$ per region, defined by

$$\bar{\lambda}_n = \frac{\sum_t \lambda_{n,t} d_{n,t}}{\sum_t d_{n,t}} \tag{12}$$

We observe a relatively strong gradient from south (at roughly $92 \in /MWh$) to north ($80 \in /MWh$). Regions with with little pre-installed capacity and capacity expansion, especially for renewables, tend to have higher prices. The node with the lowest LMP in the upper northwest, stands out through high pre-installed offshore capacities.

In Fig. 6 we show the total of all allocated costs. The allocated cost to capital expenditures is given by $\mathcal{C}^{\circ} - \mathcal{R}^{\circ}$. The difference \mathcal{R} consists of scarcity rents $\mathcal{R}^{\text{scarcity}}$ and subsidies $\mathcal{R}^{\text{subsidy}}$. Note that the sum of all contributions in Fig. 6 equals the total cost \mathcal{T} . In the following, we address each of the displayed cost terms and its corresponding allocations separately.

The largest proportion of the payments is associated with CAPEX for generators, transmission system and storage units in decreasing order. Taking different technologies into account, we observe a fundamental difference between the controllable OCGT and the variable renewable resources: As shown in detail in Fig. C.6, more than half of all investments in OCGT is determined in one specific hour. At this time (morning, end of February),

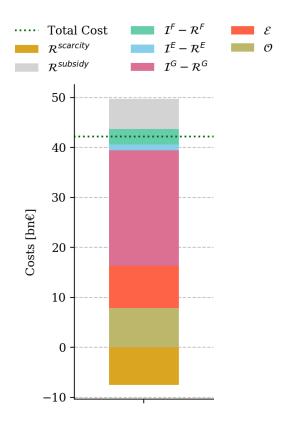


Figure 6: Total allocated payments of the system.

the system hits the highest mismatch between low

renewable power potentials and high demands. The necessity for backup generators manifests in high allocation of CAPEX for OCGT and consequently high LMP. With a few exceptions in the South West and East, all consumers receive power from OCGT at this time, thus all pay high amounts for the needed backup infrastructure (operational state of the system is in detailed shown in Fig. C.7). Note that this is the most extreme event, which ensures backup infrastructure for other inferior extreme events. The total CAPEX allocation for OCGT infrastructure is depicted in Fig. C.1d. This correlates with our findings of the extreme event. Contrary to this, CAPEX for renewable infrastructure are allocated evenly throughout several thousands of hours. As for onshore and offshore wind farms, the produced power deeply penetrates the network, see Fig. C.4, thus it is not only local, but also remote consumers which cover the CAPEX, see Fig. C.1. This in turn benefits local consumers, which profit from the cheap operational prices of local wind farms. This explains why these regions end up with a low average LMP.

Together with the emission cost \mathcal{E} , the total OPEX \mathcal{O} amount around 16 billion \in . As to expect, 99.97% are dedicated to OCGT alone, as these have by far the highest operational price. For a detailed regional distribution of payments per MWh and the resulting revenues for generator, see Figs. C.2 and C.3. Since during ordinary demand peaks, it is rather local OCGT generators which serve as backup generators, thus the OPEX allocation of OCGT clearly differs from the CAPEX allocation. In the average power mix per region, see Fig. C.4, we observe that regions with strong OCGT capacities predominately have high shares of OCGT power. The average operational price for renewables is extremely low $(0.2 \in MWh)$, thus they play an inferior role in the OPEX allocation.

The negative segment in Fig. 6 is associated with scarcity costs $\mathcal{R}^{\text{scarcity}}$, caused by land use constraints for renewables and the transmission expansion limit. These sum up approximately to 7.5 b€. Note again, that according to Eq. (10b) this term is negative and is part of the allocated CAPEX payments. It translates to the cost that consumers pay "too much" for assets limited in their capacity expansion. In the real world this money would be spent for augmented land costs or civic participation in the dedicated areas. In Fig. C.9 we give a detailed insight of how the scarcity cost manifest in the average cost per consumed MWh. The scarcity for wind and solar is relatively low and impact the average price at roughly 2€/MWh. It primarily affects, different to the pure CAPEX allocation, regions in close vicinity. Remarkably, the scarcity cost per MWh for run-of-river power plants amounts up to 16€. This high impact is due to the steady power potential from run-off water and the strong limitation of capacity expansion. However, as these power plants in particular are already amortized, the scarcity cost should be reconsidered and removed from a final cost allocation.

A high influence on the price comes from the scarcity of transmission expansion. Right beside regions with high wind infrastructure, it occasions costs higher than MWh $4 \in /MWh$ (maximal $8 \in /MWh$), see Fig. C.8. As to expect, the constraint mainly suppresses transmission expansion along the north-south axis.

The last cost term in Fig. 6, is caused by lower capacity constraints for pre-existing assets. These

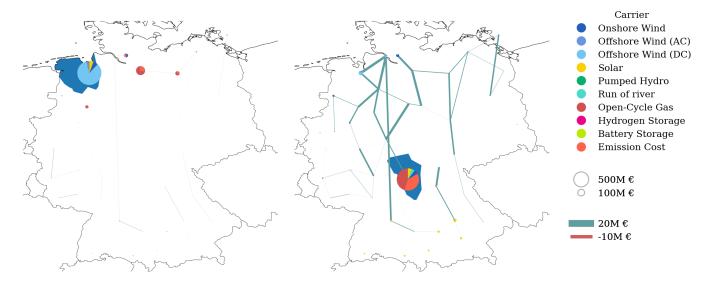


Figure 7: Comparison of payments of the node with the **lowest LMP** (**left**) and the node with the **highest LMP** (**right**). The region of the paying bus is colored in dark blue. The circles indicate where to which bus and technology combined OPEX and CAPEX payments. Further the thickness of the lines indicates the dedicated amount of payments. The cheap prices in the North...

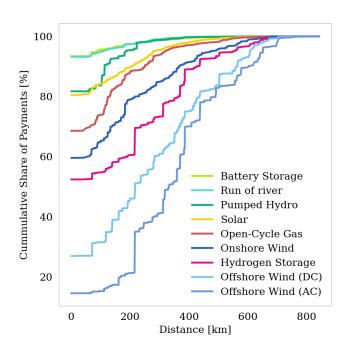


Figure 8: Average distance between payer and receiver for different technologies and shares of the total production.

violate the optimal design and are not compensated through the nodal payments $d_{n,t} \lambda_{n,t}$. Most of these "non-allocatable" costs account for Pumped Hydro Storage, onshore wind, offshore wind and the transmission system, see Fig. C.5 for further details. Again, as most of the named assets are already amortized (PHS, transmission system), the subsidy should be reconsidered in a final cost allocation.

In Fig. 7 we compare the total cost allocation of the region with the lowest average LMP (left side) against the one of the region with the highest LMP (right side). The region with the cheapest electricity is in the Northwest. We see that this bus is fairly independent of investments in the transmission system, as it is supplied by steady, cheap offshore power. Moreover, the CAPEX of the local offshore wind farms are partly payed by subsidies, see Fig. C.5. Only a small share of the payments is allocated to remote OCGTs, resulting from the extreme event mentioned earlier.

In contrast the regions with the highest LMP, spends most its money to local OCGT operations, emission cost and the transmission system. Its payments to onshore and offshore wind infrastructure are low despite a third of its supply comes from wind power. Instead, a lot of its payments are assigned to the transmission infrastructure. Hence, the wind power supply at this region is not restricted by exhausted wind power resources but by bottlenecks in

the transmission system.

4 Conclusion

In this work we presented a new cost-allocation scheme based on peer-to-peer dispatch allocations from asset to consumer. Starting from an optimized long-term investment model, we were able to decompose single cost terms into contributions of single consumers. For three typical classes of assets, namely generators, transmission lines and storage units, we showed how operational prices and shadow prices must be weighted with the dispatch allocation in order to allocate all system costs. Further we highlighted the impact of additional design constraints, that is constraints with a non-zero constant on the right hand side, such as lower and upper capacity expansion limits. These alter the locational marginal price and therefore distort the cost allocations. In the case of upper capacity expansion limits, this leads to an additional charge for consumers which have to compensate for e.q. land use restrictions. For lower capacity investment bounds, the cost have to be subsidized by the overall system operator or the government, as those cannot be allocated. ...

Network Optimization

A.1LMP from Optimization

The nodal balance constraint ensures that the amount of power that flows into a bus equals the power that flows out of a bus, thus reflects the Kirchhoff Current Law (KCL). Alternatively, we can the demand $d_{n,t}$ has to be supplied by the attached as-

$$g_{n,t} - \sum_{\ell} K_{n,\ell} f_{\ell,t} = d_{n,t} \perp \lambda_{n,t} \quad \forall \ n,t \qquad (A.1)$$

where $K_{n,\ell}$ is +1 if line ℓ starts at bus n, -1 if it ends at n, 0 otherwise. The nodal generation $g_{n,t}$ collects all nodal production, see Eq. (7a). shadow price of the nodal balance constraint mirrors the Locational Marginal Prizes (LMP) $\lambda_{n,t}$ per bus and time step. In a power market this is the €/MWh_{el}-price which a consumer has to pay.

A.2Full Lagrangian

The Lagrangian for the investment model can be condensed to the following expression

$$\mathcal{L}(s_{i,t}, S_i, \lambda_{n,t}, \mu_j) = + \sum_{i,t} o_i s_{i,t} + \sum_i c_i S_i + \sum_{n,t} \lambda_{n,t} \left(d_{n,t} - g_{n,t} + \sum_{\ell} K_{n,\ell} f_{\ell,t} \right) + \sum_j \mu_j h_j(s_{i,t}, S_i)$$
(A.2)

where $h_i(s_{i,t}, S_i)$ denotes all inequality constraints attached to $s_{i,t}$ and S_i . Note that according to Eq. (7a) $g_{n,t}$ is a composition of $s_{i,t}$ and $f_{\ell,t} = s_{\ell,t} \forall \ell \in$ L.

In order to impose the Kirchhoff Voltage Law (KVL) for the linearized AC flow, the term

$$\sum_{\ell,c,t} \lambda_{c,t} C_{\ell,c} x_{\ell} f_{\ell,t} \tag{A.3}$$

can be added to \mathcal{L} , with x_{ℓ} denoting the line's and zero otherwise.

The global maximum of the Lagrangian requires stationarity with respect to all variables:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial s_{i,t}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial S_i} = 0 \tag{A.4}$$

A.3**Zero Profit Generation**

For each generator the optimization defines a lower capacity constraint, given by

$$-g_{s,t} \le 0 \perp \underline{\mu}_{s,t} \quad \forall \ s,t \tag{A.5}$$

Constrs. (4c) and (A.5), which yield the KKT variables $\bar{\mu}_{s,t}$ and $\mu_{s,t}$, imply the complementary slackness,

$$\bar{\mu}_{s,t} (g_{s,t} - \bar{g}_{s,t} G_s) = 0 \quad \forall \ n, s, t$$
 (A.6)

$$\mu_{s,t} g_{s,t} = 0 \quad \forall \ n, s, t \tag{A.7}$$

The stationarity of the generation capacity variable leads to

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial G_s} = 0 \rightarrow c_s = \sum_t \bar{\mu}_{s,t} \,\bar{g}_{s,t} \quad \forall \ n,s$$
 (A.8)

and the stationarity of the generation to

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial g_{s,t}} = 0 \rightarrow o_s = K_{n,s} \lambda_{n,t} - \bar{\mu}_{s,t} + \underline{\mu}_{s,t} \quad \forall \ n,s$$
(A.9)

Multiplying both sides of Eq. (A.8) with G_s and using Eq. (A.6) leads to

$$c_s G_s = \sum_t \bar{\mu}_{s,t} g_{s,t} \tag{A.10}$$

The zero-profit rule for generators is obtained by multiplying Eq. (A.9) with $g_{s,t}$ and using Eqs. (A.7) and (A.10) which results in

$$c_s G_s + \sum_t o_s g_{s,t} = \sum_t \lambda_{n,t} K_{n,s} g_{s,t}$$
 (A.11)

It states that over the whole time span, all OPEX and CAPEX for generator s (left hand side) are paved back by its revenue (right hand side).

Zero Profit Transmission System **A.4**

The yielding KKT variables $\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t}$ and $\mu_{\ell,t}$ are only impedance and $C_{\ell,c}$ being 1 if ℓ is part of the cycle c non-zero if $f_{\ell,t}$ is limited by the transmission capacity in positive or negative direction, i.e. Constr. (5a) or limit, the complementary slackness

$$\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t} \left(f_{\ell,t} - F_{\ell} \right) = 0 \quad \forall \ \ell, t \tag{A.12}$$

$$\mu_{\ell,t} \left(f_{\ell,t} - F_{\ell} \right) = 0 \quad \forall \ \ell, t \tag{A.13}$$

sets the respective KKT to zero.

The stationarity of the transmission capacity to

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial F_{\ell}} = 0 \rightarrow c_{\ell} = \sum_{t} (\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t} - \underline{\mu}_{\ell,t}) \quad \forall \ \ell \quad (A.14)$$

and the stationarity with respect to the flow to

$$0 = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial f_{\ell,t}} \tag{A.15}$$

$$0 = -\sum_{n} K_{n,\ell} \lambda_{n,t} + \lambda_{c,t} C_{\ell,c} x_{\ell} - \bar{\mu}_{\ell,t} + \underline{\mu}_{\ell,t} \quad \forall \ n, s$$
(A.16)

When multiplying Eq. (A.14) with F_{ℓ} and using the complementary slackness Eqs. (A.12) and (A.13) we obtain

$$c_{\ell} F_{\ell} = \sum_{t} (\bar{\mu}_{\ell,t} - \underline{\mu}_{\ell,t}) f_{\ell,t}$$
 (A.17)

Again we can use this to formulate the zero-profit rule for transmission lines. We multiply Eq. (A.16) with $f_{\ell,t}$, which finally leads us to

$$c_{\ell} F_{\ell} = -\sum_{n} K_{n,\ell} \lambda_{n,t} f_{\ell,t} + \lambda_{c,t} C_{\ell,c} x_{\ell} f_{\ell,t}$$
 (A.18)

It states that the congestion revenue of a line (first term right hand side) reduced by the cost for cycle constraint exactly matches its CAPEX.

A.5Zero Profit Storage Units

For an simplified storage model, the upper capacity G_r limits the discharging dispatch $g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}$, the storing power $g_{r,t}^{\text{sto}}$ and state of charge $g_{r,t}^{\text{ene}}$ of a storage unit r by

$$g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} - G_r \le 0 \quad \forall \ r, t \perp \bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}$$
 (A.19)

$$g_{r,t}^{\rm sto} - G_r \le 0 \quad \forall \ r,t \perp \bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\rm sto}$$
 (A.20)

$$g_{r,t}^{\mathrm{ene}} - h_r G_r \le 0 \quad \forall \ r,t \perp \bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\mathrm{ene}}$$
 (A.21)

where we assume a fixed ratio between dispatch and storage capacity of h_r . The state of charge must be allocation which is why we restrict ourselves to the

Constr. (5b) are binding. For flows below the thermal consistent throughout every time step according to what is dispatched and stored,

$$g_{r,t}^{\text{ene}} - \eta_r^{\text{ene}} g_{r,t-1}^{\text{ene}} - \eta_r^{\text{sto}} g_{r,t}^{\text{sto}} + (\eta_r^{\text{dis}})^{-1} g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} = 0$$

$$\perp \lambda_{r,t}^{\text{ene}} \quad \forall \ r,t \quad (A.22)$$

We use the result of Appendix B.3 in [2] which shows that a storage recovers its capital (and operational) costs from aligning dispatch and charging to the LMP, thus

$$\sum_{t} o_r g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} + c_r G_r = \sum_{t} \lambda_{n,t} K_{n,r} \left(g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} - g_{r,t}^{\text{sto}} \right)$$
(A.23)

The stationarity of the dispatched power leads us to

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}} = 0$$

$$o_r - \lambda_{n,t} K_{n,r} - \underline{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} + \overline{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} + (\eta_r^{\text{dis}})^{-1} \lambda_{r,t}^{\text{ene}} = 0$$
(A.24)

which we can use to define the revenue which compensates the CAPEX at r,

$$c_r G_r = \sum_{t} \left(\bar{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} - \underline{\mu}_{r,t}^{\text{dis}} + (\eta_r^{\text{dis}})^{-1} \lambda_{r,t}^{\text{ene}} \right) g_{r,t}^{\text{dis}}$$
$$- \sum_{t} \lambda_{n,t} K_{n,r} g_{r,t}^{\text{sto}} \quad \forall \ r \quad (A.25)$$

A.6**Emission Constraint**

Imposing an additional CO₂ constraint limiting the total emission to K,

$$\sum_{n,s,t} e_s g_{s,t} \le K \perp \mu_{CO2}$$
 (A.26)

with e_s being the emission factor in tonne-CO₂ per MWh_{el}, returns an effective CO_2 price μ_{CO2} in \in /tonne-CO₂. As shown in ... the constraint can be translated in a dual price which shift the operational price per generator

$$o_s \to o_s + e_s \,\mu_{\rm CO2}$$
 (A.27)

Power Allocation

Allocating net injections using the AP method is derived from [1]. In a lossless network the downstream and upstream formulations result in the same P2P downstream formulation only. In a first step we define a time-dependent auxiliary matrix \mathcal{J}_t which is the inverse of the $N \times N$ with directed power flow $m \to n$ at entry (m,n) for $m \neq n$ and the total flow passing node m at entry (m,m) at time step t. Mathematically this translates to

$$\mathcal{J}_t = \left(\operatorname{diag}\left(p^+\right) + \mathcal{K}^-\operatorname{diag}\left(f\right)K\right)_t^{-1} \qquad (B.28)$$

where \mathcal{K}^- is the negative part of the directed Incidence matrix $\mathcal{K}_{n,\ell} = \operatorname{sign}(f_{\ell,t}) K_{n,\ell}$. Then the distributed slack for time step t is given by

$$A_{m\to n,t} = \mathcal{J}_{m,n,t} \, p_{m,t}^+ \, p_{n,t}^-$$
 (B.29)

C Working Example

The following figures contain more detailed information about the peer-to-peer cost allocation. The cost or prices payed by consumers are indicated by the region color. The dedicated revenue is displayed in proportion to the size of cycles (for assets attached to buses) or to the thickness of transmission branches.

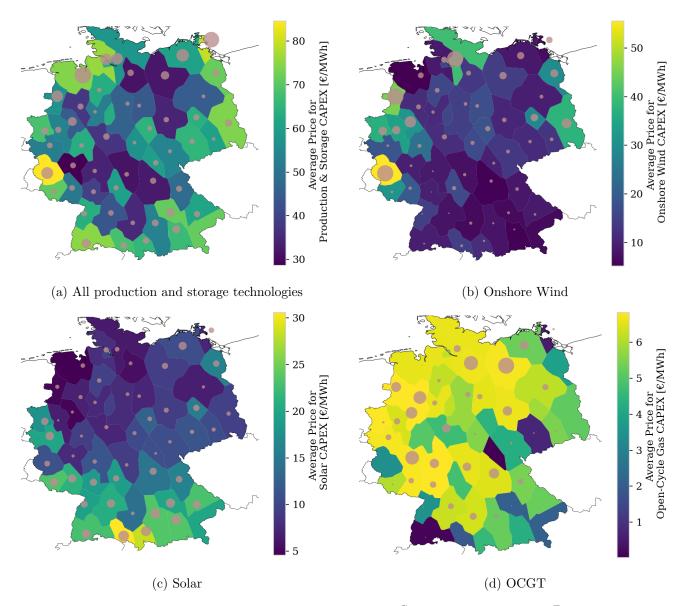


Figure C.1: Average **CAPEX allocation** per MWh, $\sum_t \mathcal{I}_{n \to s,t}^G / \sum_t d_{n,t}$ and $\sum_t \mathcal{I}_{n \to r,t}^E / \sum_t d_{n,t}$, for all production and storage assets (a), onshore wind (b), solar (c) and OCGT (d). Average Allocated CAPEX per MWh within the regions are indicated by the color, the revenue per production asset is given by the size of the circles at the corresponding bus.

		o [€/MWh]	c [k€/MW]*
	carrier		
Generator	Open-Cycle Gas	120.718	47.235
	Offshore Wind (AC)	0.015	204.689
	Offshore Wind (DC)	0.015	230.532
	Onshore Wind	0.015	109.296
	Run of river		270.941
	Solar	0.01	55.064
Storage	Hydrogen Storage		224.739
	Pumped Hydro		160.627
	Battery Storage		133.775
Line	AC		0.038
	DC		0.070

Table 2: Operational and capital price assumptions for all type of assets used in the working example. The capital price for transmission lines are given in $[k \in /MW/km]$. The cost assumptions are retrieved from the PyPSA-EUR model [8].

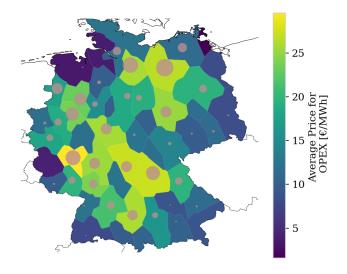


Figure C.2: Average **OPEX allocation** per consumed MWh, $\sum_t \mathcal{O}_{n \to s,t} / \sum_t d_{n,t}$. The effective prices for OPEX are indicated by the color of the region, the size of the circles are set proportional to the revenue per regional generators and storages. As OCGT is the only allowed fossil based technology, the drawn allocation is proportional to OPEX allocation of OCGT generators.

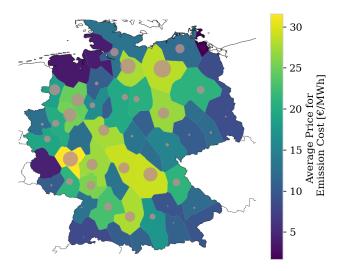


Figure C.3: Average allocated emission cost, $\sum_{t} \mathcal{E}_{n \to s,t}$, per consumed MWh. The effective prices are indicated by the color of the region, the size of the circles are set proportional to the revenue per regional generators.

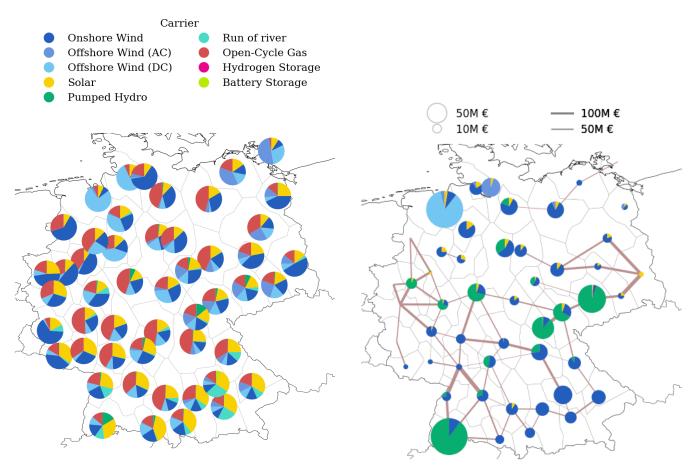


Figure C.4: Average power mix per region calculated by Average Participation. Coastal regions are mainly supplied by local offshore and onshore wind farms. Their strong power injections additionally penetrate the network up to the southern border. In the middle and South, the supply is dominated by a combination of OCGT and solar power.

Figure C.5: Total costs for subsidy $\mathcal{R}^{\mathrm{subsidy}}$ resulting from lower capacity expansion bounds (brownfield constraints). The figure shows the built infrastructure that does not gain back its CAPEX from its market revenue, but is only build due to lower capacity limits.

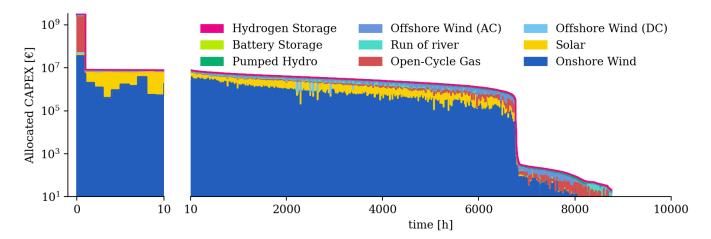


Figure C.6: Duration curve of the CAPEX allocation for production and storage technologies. Hours are sorted by the total amount of allocated expenditure. With 2.7 bn € the first value pushes investments extraordinarily high. Due to low renewable potentials, it is dominated by CAPEX for OCGT which receives 92% of the payments. This hour alone occasions about the half of all OCGT CAPEX. Figure C.6 gives a detailed picture of the operational state at this time-step. The following 7000 time-steps are dominated by revenues for onshore wind and reveal a rather even distribution. In hours of low CAPEX allocation (after the second drop) spendings for OCGT start to increase again. These time-steps however play a minor role.

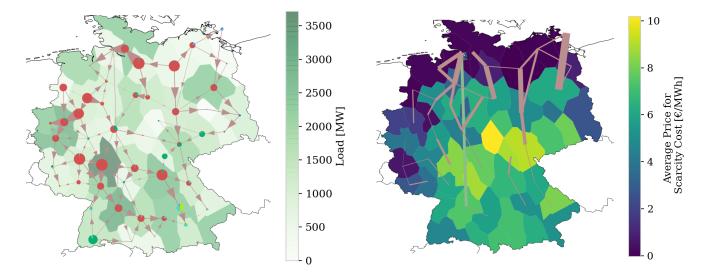


Figure C.7: Production, flow and consumption in the system at the hour with the highest allocated expenditures. The size of the circles are proportional to the power production at a node. Size of arrows are proportional to the flow on the transmission line. The depicted hour corresponds to the first value in the duration curve in Fig. C.6.

C.8:allocated transmis-Figure Average sion scarcity costconsumed MWh, per $\sum_{t} \mathcal{R}_{n \to \ell, t}^{\text{scarcity}} /$ $\sum_t d_{n,t}$. This scarcity cost results from the upper transmission expansion limit of 25%. The costs are indicated by the regional color. The lines are drawn in proportion to revenue dedicated to scarcity cost.

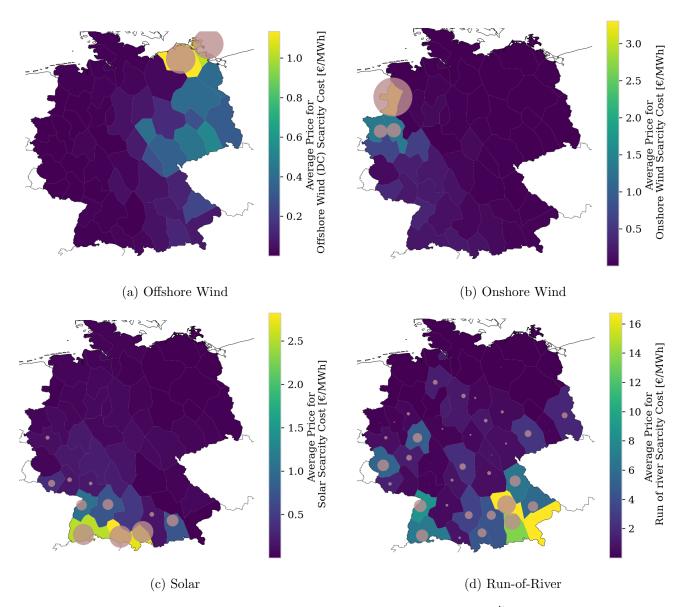


Figure C.9: Average allocated scarcity cost per consumed MWh, $\sum_t \mathcal{R}_{n \to i,t}^{\text{scarcity}} / \sum_t d_{n,t}$. These cost result from land use restrictions for offshore wind, onshore wind, solar, run-of-river. The cost per MWh are indicated by the color of a region. The revenue per production asset is given by the size of the circle at the corresponding bus.

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