

# Three Pillars of Hourly Matching: A Tour From Model Land to Real World

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## Setting the scene

- Voluntary 24/7 CFE procurement in electricity, Delegated act for H2 Regulation
- Both focus on the “Three Pillars” – set of rules on temporal, spatial and additionality aspects of matching demand and clean power supply
- Today we go through the **three pillars** and discuss:
  - how the pillars are implemented in the real world
  - how the pillars are implemented in mathematical models
  - caveats and challenges of model implementations
  - impact of model setups on results and policy recommendations

legor?

## Temporal matching: definition

- maybe we show some teasing screenshot before showing this slide with math, e.g., industry fighting for easier regulation.

**Hourly matching** is modelled with a constraint (2), which matches electricity demand for electrolysis process with generation of renewable resources on an hourly basis.

$$\sum_{r \in R} g_{r,t} + \sum_{s \in S} (\bar{g}_{s,t} - g_{s,t}) - ex_t = d_t \quad (1)$$

Here eq. 2 from <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ad2239/pdf>

- maybe here we say along the lines that the main fight in the Delegated Act was for this equation.
- explain the equation
- Now, what are the hidden issues? let's talk about the first point – flexibility.

# Temporal matching: flexibility changes everything

figure from the paper – how flexibility changes everything – results and policy recommendations  
Elisabeth

# Temporal matching: (excess hydrogen story)

figure from the paper – interplay of excess and results (Hydrogen story)  
Elisabeth

## Temporal matching: (CFE story)

Here, the **hourly matching** constraint is extended to include electricity consumption from the regional grid:

$$\sum_{r \in CFE, t \in T} g_{r,t} + \sum_{s \in STO, t \in T} (\bar{g}_{s,t} - \underline{g}_{s,t}) - \sum_{t \in T} ex_t + \sum_{t \in T} CFE_t \cdot im_t \geq x \cdot \sum_{t \in T} d_t \quad (2)$$

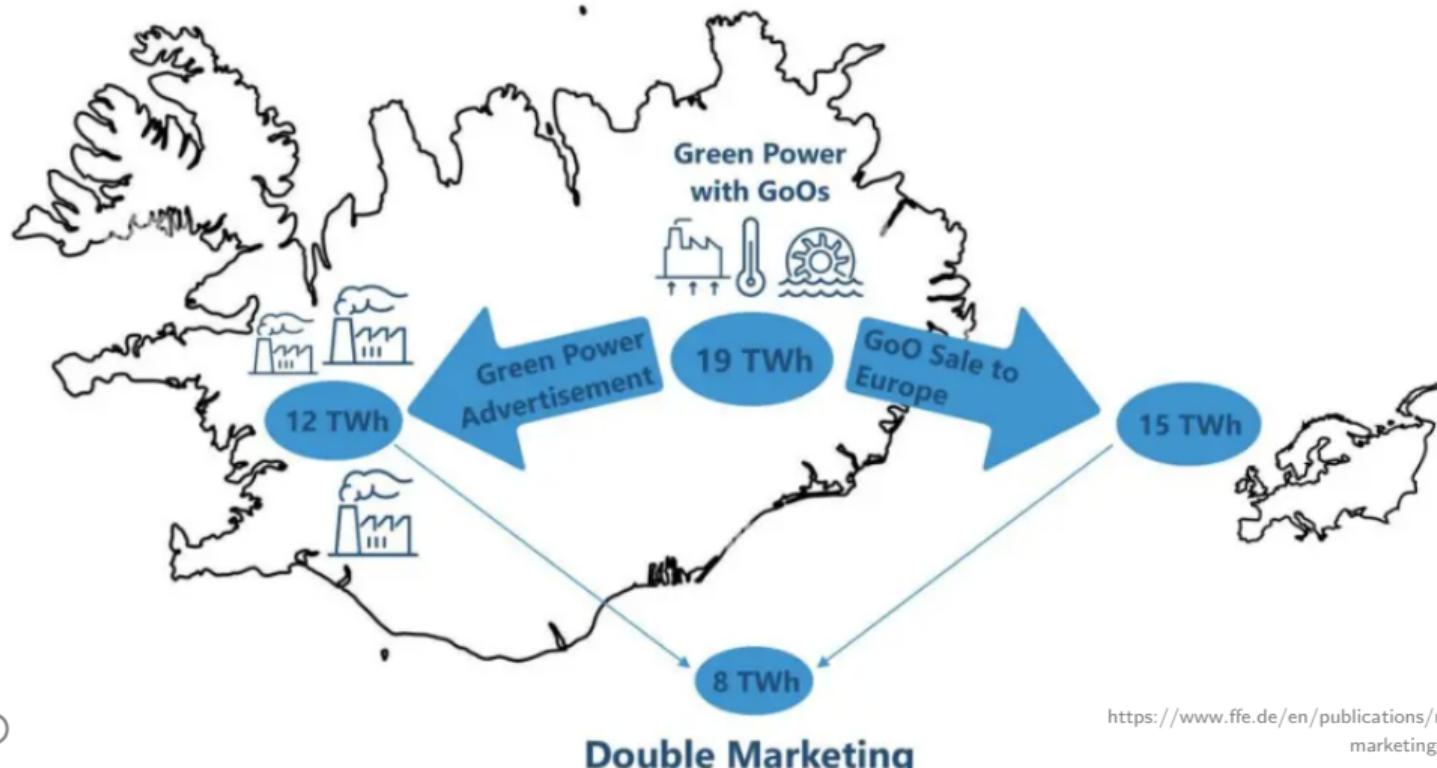
The **grid CFE factor**  $CFE_t$  in eq. (2) defines the share of carbon-free electricity in grid imports.

- depends how you scope out CFE calculation
- storage tracing
- CFE isn't a parameter but a variable

legor

# Geographical matching

legor?



## Geographical matching

# Microsoft signs 24/7 nuclear power deal with Constellation for Boydton data center

Matched carbon-free energy brings facility close to round-the clock carbon-free energy

June 30, 2023 By: Peter Judge 1 Comment



Microsoft has signed an agreement with nuclear power producer Constellation Energy, to bring a data center in Boydton Virginia closer to operating on 100 percent carbon-free energy round the clock.

The Boydton facility will receive up to 35 percent in "environmental attributes" based on Constellation's nuclear power production, which will complement Microsoft's recent wind and solar energy purchases to put the data center very close to 100 percent carbon-free electricity 24/7.

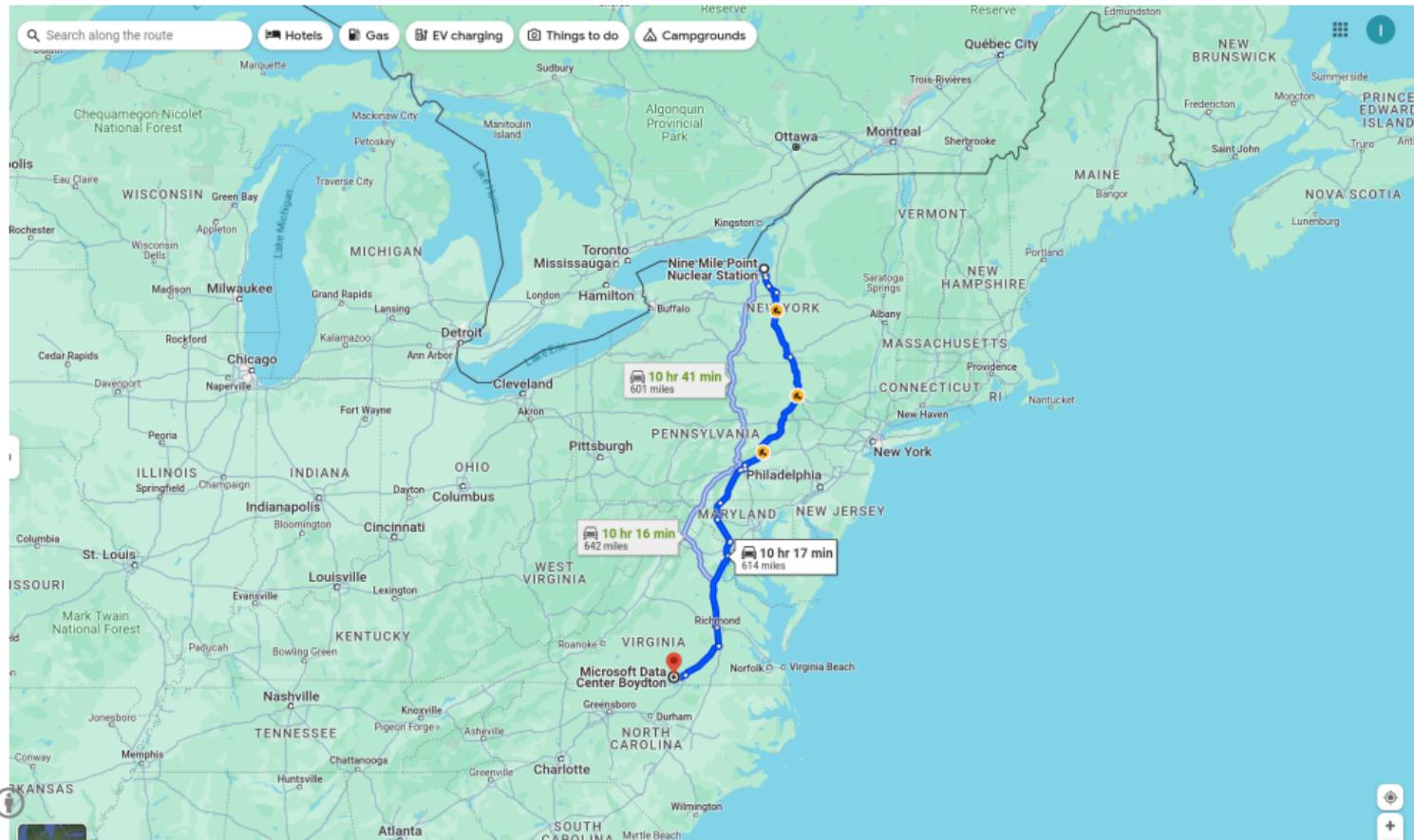


Constellation is the largest provider of carbon-free energy (CFE) in the US, with 86 percent of its output coming from the 15 nuclear power stations it owns across the US.

None of these nuclear plants are in Virginia, but the company uses a CFE matching platform to

datacenterdynamics "Microsoft signs 24/7 nuclear power deal with Constellation for Boydton data center" (June 30, 2023)

# Geographical matching



# Geographical matching

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European map here

explain how geographical matching is defined IRL

explain that it's relatively easy to implement in models

geographical matching is than both string and unstict, depending how you look at it  
in some zones, plenty of congestions!

# Additionality

legor starts?

- start with the fact that it's complex and messy both in real world and in models
- define it (over MW and MWh)
- as a funny reference, we can re-use the Microsoft PPA deal example with existing nuclear power.

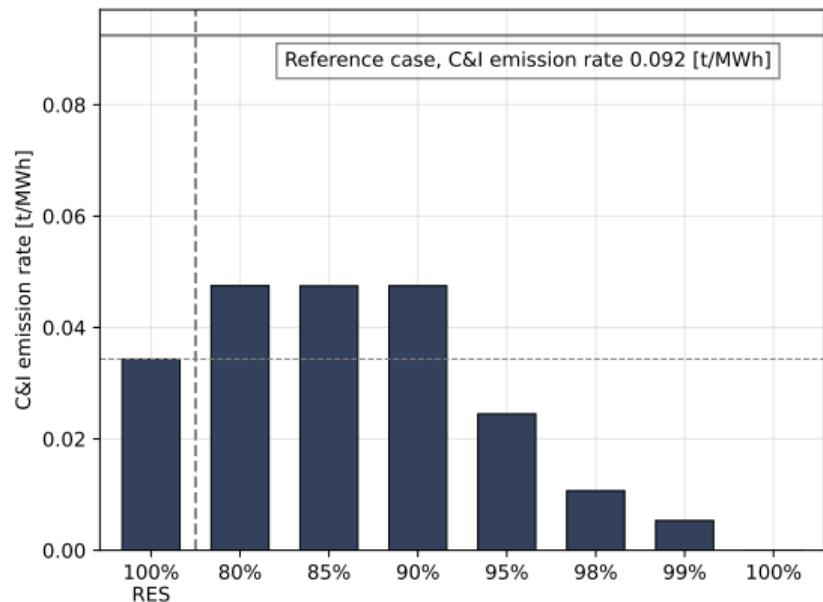
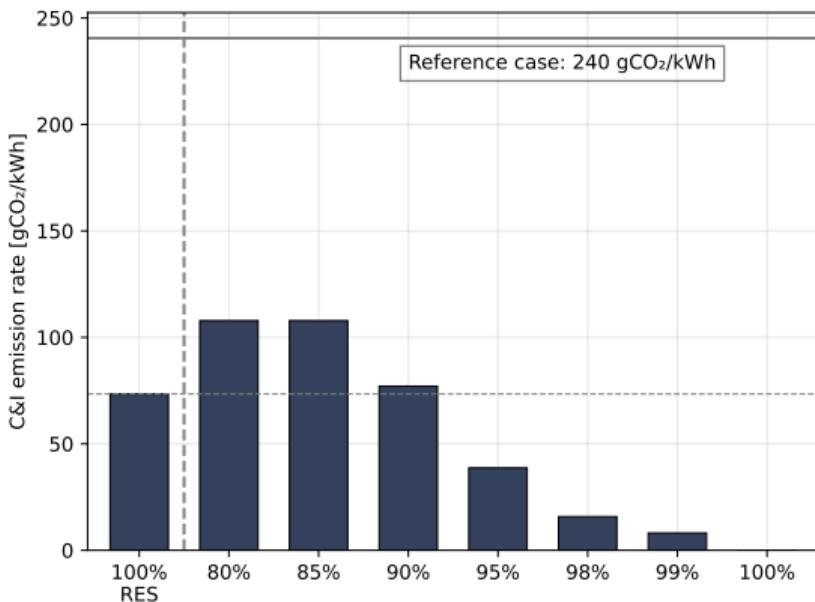
# Additionality: definition challenges

Igor or Elisabeth?

- additionality in the real world: RED definition, Google definition, DA definition

## Additionality: how to model a background grid 1/2?

legor



Scenario: Germany – 2025 – 24/7 CFE with 10% participation of C&I sector – baseload profile  
– all costs from DEA 2025. Left: Constrained RES expansion (the Easter Package), Right:  
unconstrained RES expansion.

## Additionality: how we model a background grid 2/2?

Elisabeth

- here: cooptimisation vs sequential optimisation, results and thoughts about all it.
- conclude with reference to Lissy's paper on additionality

## Take aways (first version)

- 1 Do not take results for granted, try to challenge everything!  
“We must fight our biases to see the solutions” (Auke Hoekstra)
  
- 2 Talk to others in research community, share your concerns!  
“A problem shared is a problem halved”  
(Old saying)



# Contacts, Resources, Acknowledgements

**References:** [Temporal regulation of renewable supply for electrolytic hydrogen \(2023\)](#)

**References:** [More about the 24/7 CFE research project \(2022-2024\)](#)

**Code:** This work done in a spirit of open and reproducible research:

🔗 code: [github.com/PyPSA/247-cfe](https://github.com/PyPSA/247-cfe)

🔗 code: <https://zenodo.org/records/8324521>

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