

Meeting notes, Energy Systems Integration Workshop May 27-28, 2014, Copenhagen Denmark

Day One, May 27, 2014 - Research Task Force on integrated gas-electricity modelling

The research task force meeting provided an opportunity for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers with interdisciplinary analytical and modelling skills to network, brainstorm and ultimately define research priorities on combined gas and electricity analysis as part of the Energy Systems Integration Workshop. This meeting took place on the morning of 27th May prior to the opening plenary session.

The research task force was composed of 20 researchers from leading universities and research institutes across Europe, namely Austrian Institute of Technology, Danish Technical University, EWI Cologne, Florence School for Regulation, Imperial College London, KU Leuven, University College Dublin, University College Cork, University of Cardiff, University of Manchester, University Duisburg-Essen and VTT Finland. Senior workshop participants also joined the group to add industry experience to the discussion.

The participants debated and defined a research agenda in a consensus-based approach in two parallel working groups and two different sessions where participants were mixed between working groups. The main goals of the working groups were to:

- Define real-world challenges at gas-electricity interface and energy system benefits of integrated approach
- Discuss modelling approaches: status of model development (commercial models, research models), challenges with mathematical formulation, data sources

The inter-linkages between gas and electricity are very diverse and were prioritised in decreasing order or importance, as follows:

- Power plants using natural gas; including CHP
- Dual fuel heat source technologies (households, commerce, industry)
- Dual fuel gas compressors and de-compression pre-heaters
- Transport fuel
- Electrolysis

From a system perspective, gas and electricity systems have many common modelling constraints, which mean that common modelling approaches can be developed. Common constraints include security of supply, greenhouse gas emission limits, climate and weather. Weather constraints include short-term (daily) variability (Wind/solar forecast error and gas price), as well as long term (annual/seasonal) variations (e.g wind/PV/hydro and the storage capability of gas system).

Modelling time scales differ considerable between gas and electricity systems due to different dynamics. Electricity is transported very fast (speed of light, steady state can be assumed), but gas at moderate speeds (<100km/h). Therefore, separate and dedicated models for each system will continue to be

important for a dedicated analysis of one system. Integrated models will be able to capture the interactions but will need to carefully choose an appropriate time scale.

The research task force recommended increasing research efforts on the following topics:

- Operations
 - Alignment and coordination of gas and electricity markets for efficient interactions
 - Impact of power system variability on gas network
 - Enhanced line-pack operation
 - Utilise gas system flexibility
 - Gas supply constraint in power system unit commitment
- Planning
 - Co-optimise supply and network expansion
 - Ensuring system reliability and adequacy
 - Reliable gas supply networks for power system backup while gas consumption and revenues are decreasing
 - System-wide opportunities for electrolysis (Power-to-gas) compared to other storage and flexibility resources
 - Market arrangements and governance
 - Impact of common uncertainties and externalities affecting both systems simultaneously

Day One, May 2627, 2014 - Opening Plenary Session

Marie Donnelly from the European Commission kick started the workshop outlining the challenges that lie ahead for Europe in the energy area. There is currently a major shift in energy policy underway in Europe through the Integrated Road-Map where ambitious agendas for clean energy, integrated markets and access to indigenous sources of energy are being set. There is a need for an integrated approach that combines policy, regulation, technology and new business models.

Dana Christensen from NREL followed with a detailed description on why grid modernisation is important. He then outlined the US initiative on grid modernisation, introduced NREL's Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF) and emphasised the collaboration potential that now exists globally with ESIF and Energy Systems Integration.

Marianne Thellersen from DTU welcomed all participants to the campus and Mark O'Malley concluded the opening plenary with a synopsis of the Washington workshop and the themes of the Copenhagen workshop. There was general consensus among all speakers of the opening plenary that Energy Systems Integration is important international.

Day One, May 27, 2014 - Session: Regulation, Policy and Market Design Session

Session Speakers: Ignacio Perez-Arriaga (Comillas University Madrid, Spain & MIT, USA), Andrew Ott (PJM, USA), Anne E. Hoskins (Commissioner – Maryland Public Service Commission, USA), Eric Callisto (Commissioner – Public Service Commission Wisconsin, USA).

In principle, energy-system integration is a technical issue, characterized by the interaction and feedbacks of the different energy technologies and carriers, and reflected by the non-linear (and hence, largely unexpected, and often undesired) behaviour of the system. In a world with many market players and not always easily controllable energy technologies, energy policy orientations, market designs and the regulatory framework sets scene against which all the action takes place. The regulatory

environment (as a concrete translation of adopted legislation and policies) steers the markets in some directions, with often unintended consequences. Clearly, the policy and regulatory context not only sets the boundary conditions, but also acts as a driver, for certain system responses.

In the session, many examples illustrating the mutual influence on both sides of the Atlantic¹ were discussed. Governments mandate renewables (many of which are non-dispatchable) strongly affecting the usual merit order for electricity generation, sometimes leading to negative wholesale prices. Conventional thermal units are pushed out of the merit order by the renewables in Europe, while in the US low-price shale gas has reversed the classical merit order between gas-fired and coal-fired plants. Resulting low coal prices in the US and the world market combined with the low-price signal of CO₂ allowances in the European Trading Emission, leads to increased coal import in Europe with the paradoxical situation that CO₂ emissions rise in some countries with a strong renewables-injection. Interactions between the gas grids and the electricity generation system are a further case in point, in Europe because of cycling needs of gas-fired plants and because of harsh winter weather conditions in the USA. Could we have avoided such "strange" effects with more systems thinking?

The session further documented that both sides of the Atlantic take quite different approaches, with regard to State/Federal relationships, liberalized & regulated markets, types of pricing (zonal in the EU and nodal in the US), etc. It was further mentioned that investors, although being used to deal with a variety of uncertainties, 'detest' regulatory and policy uncertainty, since such exogenous "interventions" may unleash totally unexpected effects, often leading to defacto stranded assets. Unclear policy directions are an obstacle to new investments.

Although it is difficult to compare the EU and US system, the variety of market structures, diversity of electric power pools, and a different set of policy targets and objectives, leads to a perfect situation for system-effects understanding, whereby many insights and lessons can be learned and shared.

It is essential to think about the time frame of the energy provision and security of supply: from the longer term (investment & adequacy) up to real time operations and balancing actions. It was clear that all systems aspects need to be taken into account when designing policies and regulation, and, conversely, that policy and regulation should be taken into account when modelling system aspects.

Day Two, May 28, 2014 - Parallel Session 1: Gas/Electricity Interdependence

Session Speakers: Christian Hewicker (DNV GL), Sandra Scalari (ENEL), Roch Drozdowski (GrDF)

The gas and electricity systems are the backbone of the US-European energy infrastructure (except for transport) and the interdependence between the two systems is growing with increasing gas power generation. Also increasing penetration of variable renewable energies requires flexible operation of the gas infrastructure and markets. Combined with the ageing condition of the networks and the deployment of ICT equipment, new opportunities for gas-electricity systems integration are being explored.

Joint gas-electricity contingency analysis is important to capture system dependencies. Traditional reliability analysis does not include interdependencies of systems and tends to underestimate the potential risk. The value of gas storage to provide strategic reserves and flexible, responsive fuel supply cannot be understated. In Europe, long-term policy vision and role for gas system is unclear.

¹ The next iiESI workshop will be held in Asia, specifically Kyoto on Nov 17th 2014.

Gas-electricity market harmonisation and communication is essential to ensure reliable operations. Intraday gas balancing will grow in importance due to penetration of variable renewables, even with improvements in forecasting. Line-packing can provide fast intraday gas balancing, if prepared in advance. The physics need to be respected in good markets designs. For example, moving gate closure to dispatch is ideal for electricity market design to aid renewables integration, gate closure in gas needs to occur sufficiently in advance (e.g. a couple of hours) to account for the slow dynamics of gas transport.

Increasing cyclic operation stresses the gas plants and increases outage rates. Real-time diagnosis tools for power plants can mitigate the failure risk and optimise the maintenance plan.

Gas network can be decarbonised by a wide set of technologies for example: anaerobic digestion, biomass gasification, electrolysis (hydrogen production). While continuous R&D in the less mature technologies is important, parallel systems integration studies can assess the wider system benefits and deployment synergies. As an example, a methanation process coupled to an electrolysis plant could benefit from the presence of an anaerobic digester. The methanation could utilise as reaction inputs, the waste CO_2 and heat from the digestion process.

Gas-electricity infrastructure can deliver clean, economic and secure energy systems in the long term. Capturing the interdependencies and strategically integration the systems in critical to deliver the long-term goals.

Day Two, May 28, 2014 - Parallel Session 2: Decentralisation and Demand Side Management

Session Speakers: Laurent Schmitt (Alstom); Patrick Liddy (EnerNOC); Simon Borresen (DONG Energy) Mike Hogan (RAP); Patrick Van Hove (EU)

This session focused on discussing the current challenges and solutions to integration of demand response (DR), demand side management (DSM), and distributed energy resources (DER) at significant levels into the electric power systems. The session provided several examples of successful deployments of DR and range of control mechanisms. Market mechanisms to enable value for DR services were also discussed.

Two major items that are needed to further enable aggregation of loads for DR are regulatory freedom to operate (current rules are usually made for incumbent generators and large interruptible loads) and compatible, inexpensive information and communications technology (ICT) solutions for large-scale rollouts.

The value proposition for DR was also discussed. Several examples included direct customer reimbursement through e.g. the use of \$50 WalMart gift cards in PJM all the way to markets that make different services available to aggregators.

Some additional issues that were discussed included the need for better understanding the impacts of local control and grid interactions when DR and DER are activated. When DR is activated, it may be unclear where in the system this DR is located and how it will respond to calls for activation. This may potential change the value of the response to the grid operator. There are also issues with dealing with large amounts of data necessary to directly control and verify responses from large numbers of disaggregated DR systems.

Day Two, May 28, 2014 - Energy Technology Perspectives and Panel Session

Jean Francois Gagne from IEA opened this session looking at the transformation that is needed in the future energy environment and whether the investment and scale of challenge can be met through an integrated approach. The session quickly developed into a panel discussion involving Dana Christensen, Laurent Schmitt, Karl Rose, Gustaf Olsson and Eric Callisto on how we collectively move in the direction of the best integrated system – and how iiESI can help this process. General points discussed were:

- i) The iiESI workshops would have more impact if policy makes could be engaged with a consensus message from the Regulators, Industry, and Academia participants.
- ii) There was resounding consensus that the consumer is very important and in many respects is driving the system by personal choices e.g. Photovoltaic on roof tops. Having more consumer behaviour specialists and economists at future meetings would be beneficial.
- iii) Every region/country is different so a one size does not fit all but everywhere has to develop and integrated energy system so each country can learn from each other. This workshop and the previous workshop in Washington DC in Feb. 2014 gave good insights into the differences and similarties of the US and Europe. The workshop in Kyoto, Japan on Nov. 17th 2014 should give an Asian perspective.
- iv) The stages of development are different throughout the world so a range of different solutions will be required.
- v) The energy investment issue is paramount and needs to be included in future events.

List of Attendees

Name	Organization
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Amy Vaughn	NREL

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