

MANUAL

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HERON User Manual

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HERON User Manual

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1 Introduction

HERON is a generic software plugin of RAVEN to perform stochastic technoeconomic analysis of grid energy-resource systems with economic drivers. The development targets analysis of electricity and secondary product generation and consumption in regional balancing areas, including flexibility to include arbitrary resources as well as arbitrary resource consumers and producers. HERON is developed to drive optimization via economic drivers such as system cost minimization, profitability, and net present value (NPV) maximization. As a plugin of RAVEN, HERON provides two primary functions: the automatic generation of RAVEN workflows, and models for optimizing high-resolution dispatch of arbitrary systems including resources, resource consumers, and resource producers. HERON leverages the synthetic history training and generation tools, sampling workflows, code Application Programming Interfaces (API), and optimization schemes.

2 Installation and how to run

2.1 Installation

As a plugin of RAVEN, HERON is installed as a submodule. RAVEN maintains up-to-date instructions for plugin installation in its manuals and other documentation (see the link to the Raven plugin installation)

2.2 How to run

The code can be run easily on a linux/mac system by defining an alias to the Python script 'main.py' in the src folder of HERON.

2.3 Component

The **<Component>** represents the component which is a part or element of a larger whole, use to produce, consume one source of energy and produce another.

The **<Component>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- **name**: *string, required*, Name of the component

The **<Component>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<produces>**: Produces a resource by consuming any generic fuel. The **<produces>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **resource**: *string list, required*, Resource to be consumed or produced.
 - **dispatch**: *dispatch_opts, optional*, Amount to be dispatched.

The **<produces>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<capacity>**: The node **<capacity>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
The **<capacity>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **resource**: *string, optional*, Resources to be consumed or produced.
- The **<capacity>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
- * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.

- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<minimum>**: The node **<minimum>** has the following *ValuedParams* options: The **<minimum>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **resource**: *string, optional*, – no description yet –
 The **<minimum>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<consumes>**: *comma-separated strings*, The producer can either produce or consume a resource. If the producer is a consumer it must be accompanied with a transfer function to convert one source of energy to another.
- **<transfer>**: The node **<transfer>** has the following *ValuedParams* options: The **<transfer>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.

- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<stores>**: Stores the energy in a battery. The **<stores>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **resource**: *string list, required*, Resource to be consumed or produced.
 - **dispatch**: *dispatch_opts, optional*, Amount to be dispatched.

The **<stores>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<capacity>**: The node **<capacity>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
The **<capacity>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- * **resource**: *string, optional*, Resources to be consumed or produced.

The **<capacity>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.

- **<minimum>**: The node **<minimum>** has the following *ValuedParams* options: The **<minimum>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- * **resource**: *string, optional*, – no description yet –

The **<minimum>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto Regressive Moving Average value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.

- **<rate>**: The node **<rate>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:

The **<rate>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto Regressive Moving Average value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.

- **<initial_stored>**: The node **<initial_stored>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:

The **<initial_stored>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<demands>**: Demands a resource which it consumes. The **<demands>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **resource**: *string list, required*, Resource to be consumed or produced.
 - **dispatch**: *dispatch_opts, optional*, Amount to be dispatched.

The **<demands>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<capacity>**: The node **<capacity>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
The **<capacity>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- * **resource**: *string, optional*, Resources to be consumed or produced.

The **<capacity>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
- * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<minimum>**: The node **<minimum>** has the following *ValuedParams* options: The **<minimum>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **resource**: *string, optional*, – no description yet –
 The **<minimum>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<penalty>**: The node **<penalty>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
 The **<penalty>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - * **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - * **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - * **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - * **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - * **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - * **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - * **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<economics>**: The **<Economics>** contains the attributes required to compute the key economic metrics
 The **<economics>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<lifetime>**: *integer*, – no description yet –
- **<CashFlow>**: – no description yet – The **<CashFlow>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **name**: *string, required*, – no description yet –
 - * **type**: *string, required*, – no description yet –
 - * **taxable**: *bool, required*, – no description yet –
 - * **inflation**: *string, required*, – no description yet –
- * **mult**
 - target: bool, required, --no description yet --period: period_opts, optional, --no description yet --*

The **<CashFlow>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- * **<driver>**: The node **<driver>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
 The **<driver>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- * **<reference_price>**: The node **<reference_price>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
 The **<reference_price>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- * **<reference_driver>**: The node **<reference_driver>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
The **<reference_driver>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
- **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- * **<scaling_factor_x>**: The node **<scaling_factor_x>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
The **<scaling_factor_x>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
- **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- * **<depreciate>**: *integer*, – no description yet –

3 Cases Introduction

HERON relies on this `<xml>` node which informs the algorithm as to how the case has to be processed by using the predefined metrics described in the following sections.

3.1 Case

The `<Case>` contains the basic parameters needed for a HERON case.

The `<Case>` node recognizes the following parameters:

- `name`: *string, required*, An appropriate user defined name of the case.

The `<Case>` node recognizes the following subnodes:

- `<mode>`: *[min, max, sweep]*, Minimize, maximize or sweep over multiple values of capacities.
- `<metric>`: *[NPV, lcoe]*, This metric can be NPV (Net Present Value) and lcoe (levelized cost of energy) used for techno-economic analysis of the power plants.
- `<differential>`: *[yes, y, true, t, si, vero, dajie, oui, ja, yao, verum, evet, dogru, 1, on, no, n, false, f, nono, falso, nahh, non, nicht, bu, falsus, hayir, yanlis, 0, off, Yes, Y, True, T, Si, Vero, Dajie, Oui, Ja, Yao, Verum, Evet, Dogru, 1, On, No, N, False, F, Nono, Falso, Nahh, Non, Nicht, Bu, Falsus, Hayir, Yanlis, 0, Off]*, Differential represents the additional cashflow generated when building additional capacities. This value can be either 'True' or 'False'.
- `<num_arma_samples>`: *integer*, Number of copies of the trained signals.
- `<timestep_interval>`: *integer*, Time step interval between two values of signal.
- `<history_length>`: *integer*, Total length of one realization of the ARMA signal.
- `<economics>`: `<economics>` contains the details of the econometrics computations to be performed by the code.

The `<economics>` node recognizes the following subnodes:

- `<ProjectTime>`: *float*, Total length of the project.
- `<DiscountRate>`: *float*, Interest rate required to compute the discounted cashflow (DCF)

- **<tax>**: *float*, Taxation rate is a metric which represents the rate at which an individual or corporation is taxed.
- **<inflation>**: *float*, Inflation rate is a metric which represents the the rate at which the average price level of a basket of selected goods and services in an economy increases over some period of time.
- **<verbosity>**: *integer*, Length of the output argument.
- **<dispatch_increment>**: *float*, This is the amount of resource to be dispatched in a fixed time interval. The **<dispatch_increment>** *does not recognize the following parameters* :
 - **resource**: *string, required*, Resource to be consumed or produced.

4 Economics Introduction

The **<Economics>** node describes the basic metrics used to compute the key economic parameters for the techno-economic analysis of component configurations.

4.1 CashFlow

– no description yet –

The **<CashFlow>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- **name**: *string, required*, – no description yet –
- **type**: *string, required*, – no description yet –
- **taxable**: *bool, required*, – no description yet –
- **inflation**: *string, required*, – no description yet –
- **mult**
target: bool, required, --no description yet --period: period_opts, optional, --no description yet --

The **<CashFlow>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<driver>**: The node **<driver>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:

The **<driver>** node recognizes the following subnodes:

- **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
- **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
- **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto Regressive Moving Average value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:

- * **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<reference_price>**: The node **<reference_price>** has the following *ValuedParams* options:
 The **<reference_price>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<reference_driver>**: The node **<reference_driver>** has the following *Valued-Params* options:
 The **<reference_driver>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.

- **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
- **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
- **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
- **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
- **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<scaling_factor_x>**: The node **<scaling_factor_x>** has the following *Valued-Params* options:
 The **<scaling_factor_x>** node recognizes the following subnodes:
 - **<fixed_value>**: *float*, It can be a fixed value.
 - **<sweep_values>**: *comma-separated floats*, It can be a value which is to be swept over multiple values.
 - **<opt_bounds>**: *comma-separated floats*, Opt bounds.
 - **<ARMA>**: *string*, It can be an Auto **R**egressive **M**oving **A**verage value. The **<ARMA>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **variable**: *string, optional*, Variable generated by an ARMA model.
 - **<Function>**: *string*, It can be a value generated by running a function. The **<Function>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **method**: *string, optional*, The method containing the function.
 - **<variable>**: *string*, Variable
 - **<growth>**: *float*, Growth factor required to grow the variable from one year to another. The **<growth>** node recognizes the following parameters:
 - * **mode**: *growthType, optional*, The growth mode can be linear or exponential.
- **<depreciate>**: *integer*, – no description yet –

References

