

Future Energy Grids – Challenges and Potential for ICT

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Mischa Ahrens, Florian Allering, Birger Becker, Kevin Förderer, Christian Hirsch, Fabian Kern, Sebastian Kochanneck, Manuel Lösch, Ingo Mauser, Jan Müller, Fabian Rigoll, Fredy Rios, Julian Rominger, Sebastian Steuer, and many students

Institute for Applied Informatics and Formal Description Methods (AIFB)

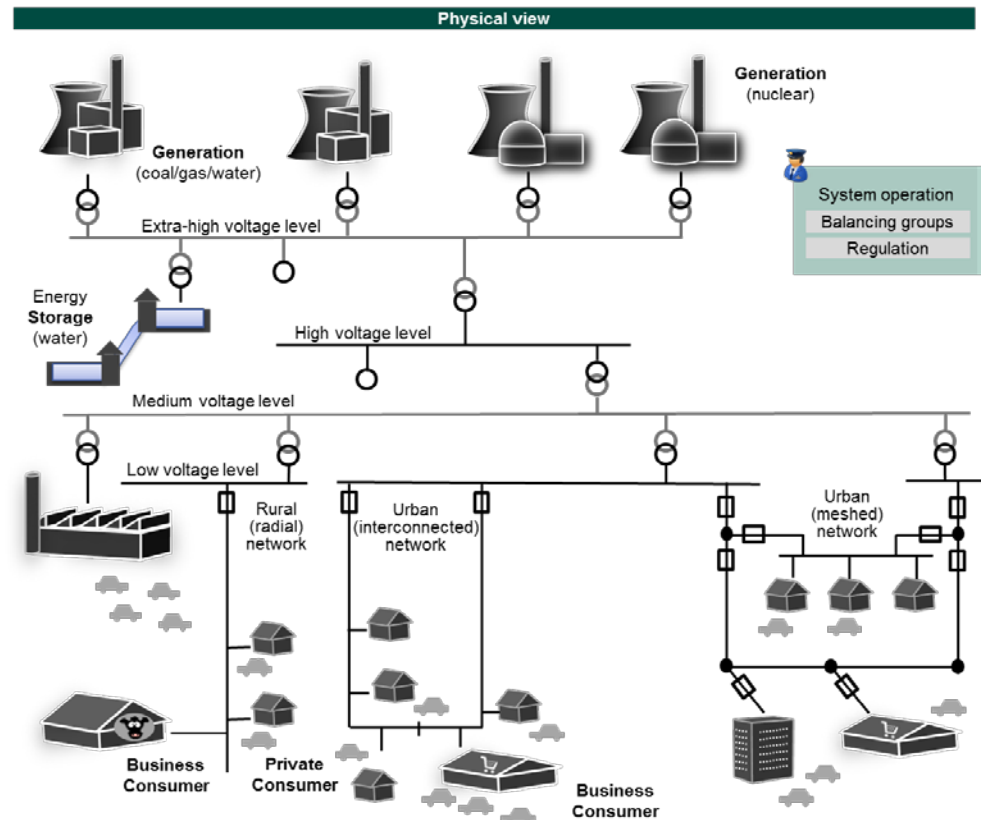
FZI Research Center for Information Technology



Starting points ...

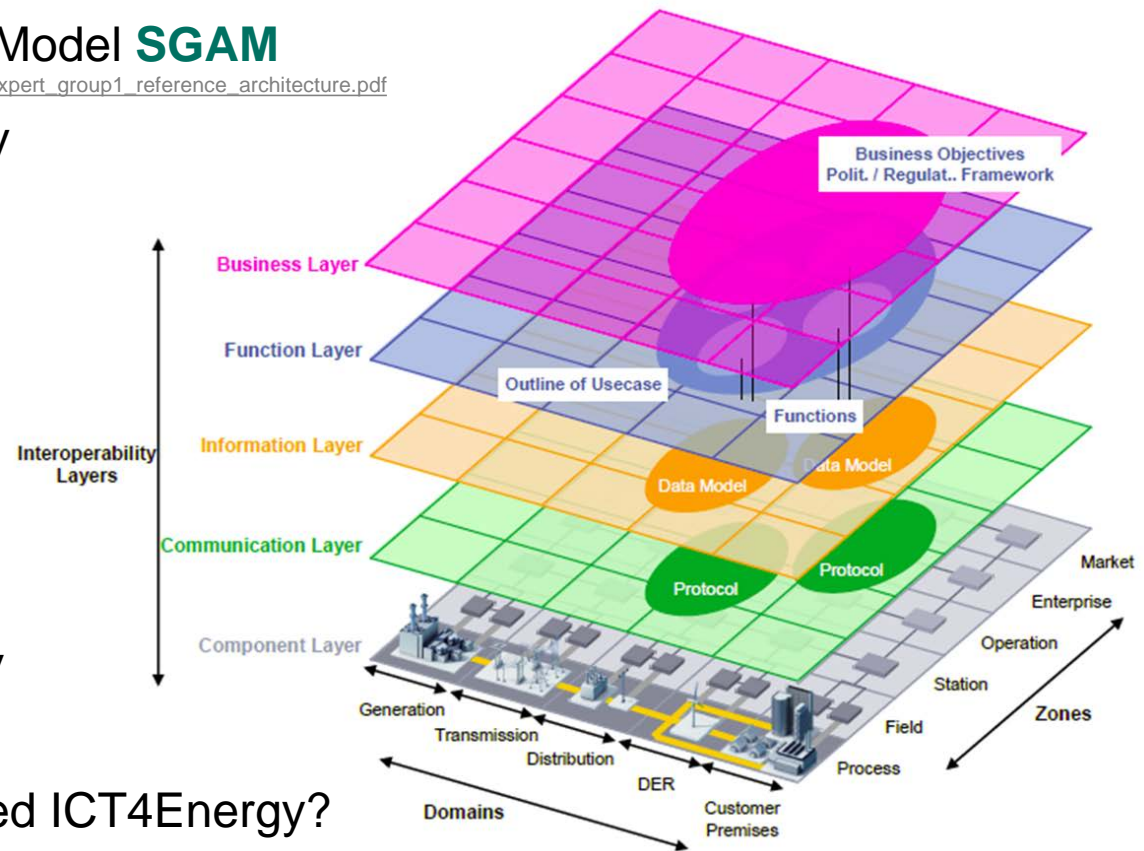
■ Didn't we have a nice, stable energy system:

- (almost) constant voltage on several levels
- (almost) constant frequency
- (almost) no black-outs
- Mainly central power generation followed by transmission, distribution, consumption
- Intelligent system of balancing power, almost no need for communication
- Affordable power prices



Ongoing Changes: Smart Grids

- Use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for an increasingly smarter and more efficient power generation, transmission, distribution and consumption.
- Smart Grid Architecture Model **SGAM**
https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/xpert_group1_reference_architecture.pdf
- But still no fundamentally different structure of the grid
- New problem: **Cybersecurity**, i.e. vulnerability of the energy grid by attacks on the “ICT”
- Vulnerable due to mainly centralised structure
- So, why do we really need ICT4Energy?



Further changes: European Energy Technology Targets

Strategic Energy Technology Plan 20-20-20:

March 2007: EU targets to be met by 2020:

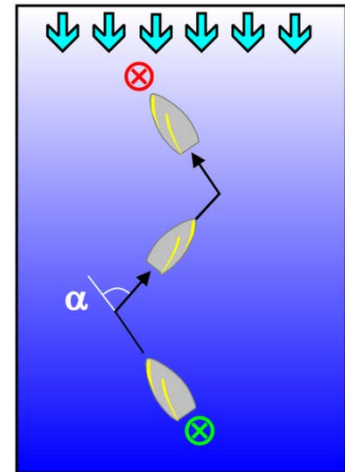
- 20% reduction of EU greenhouse gas emissions (relative to 1990)
- 20% share of renewables of overall EU energy consumption
- 20% increase in energy efficiency. (relative to 1990)

More ambitious targets of Germany:

Fall 2010:

30% renewables by 2020,
50% by 2030,
80% (??) by 2050

For a sailor, “wenden”
means tacking:
→ There won’t be
just one tack!



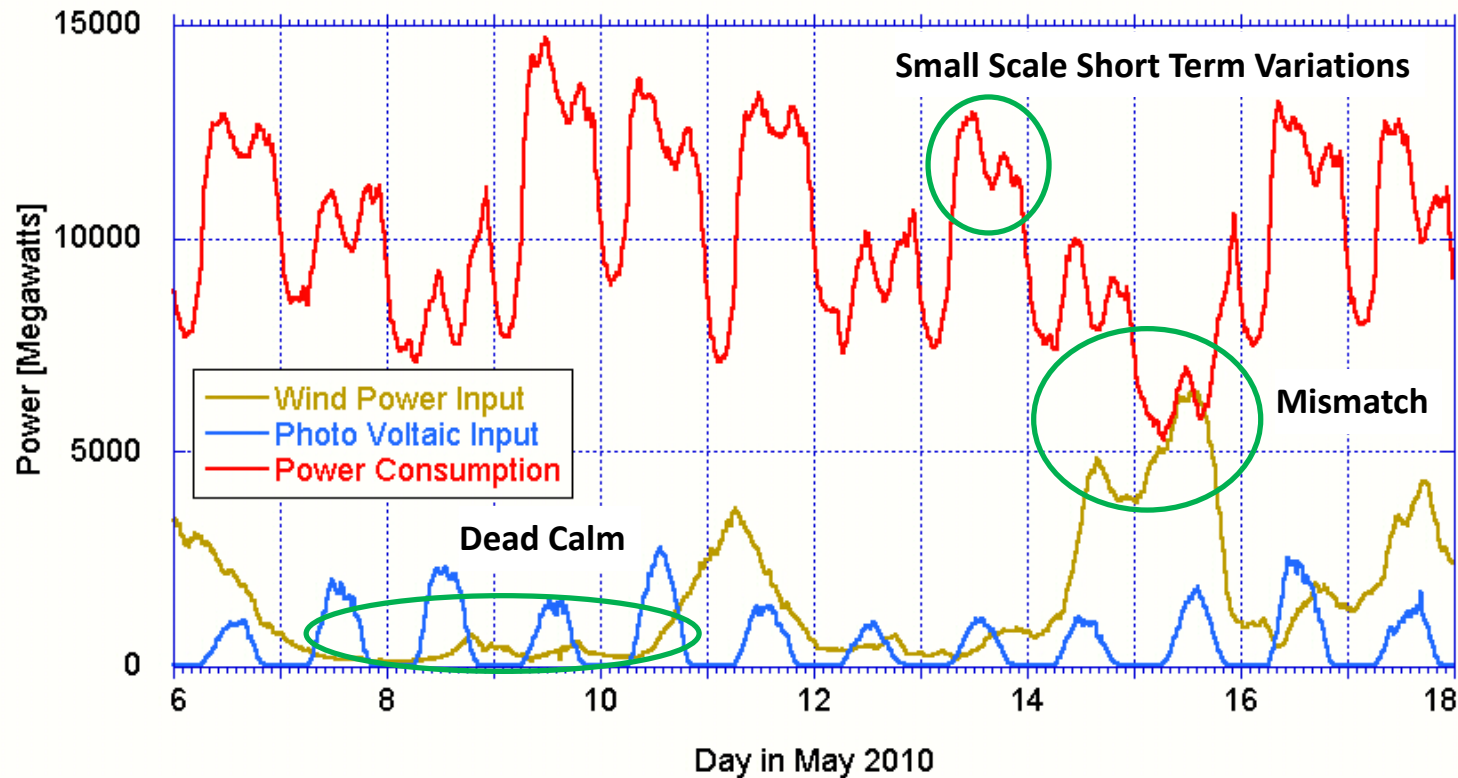
Spring 2011: “Energiewende”

Highly accelerated replacement of nuclear power
with renewables (by 2022)

2010: 140 TWh (22 % of total) → 2012: 90 TWh → 2022: 0 TWh ??

Major problems to cope with:

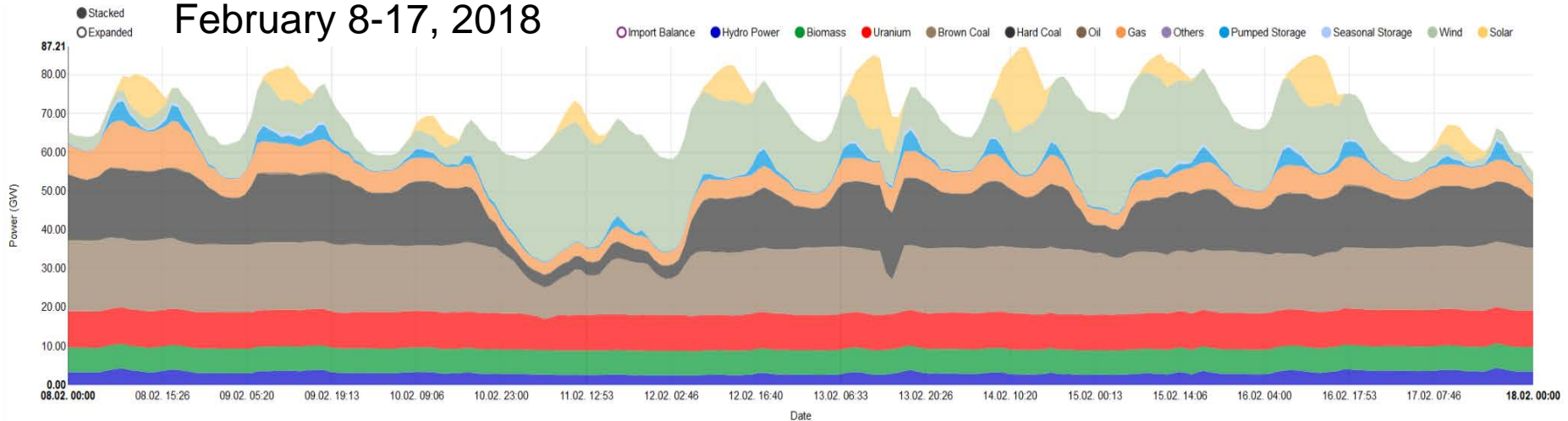
Fluctuations – in demand and supply



- Variations at different time scales, only partially predictable
- How to deal with fluctuations? → demand and supply management
- How to compensate for a „dead calm“??

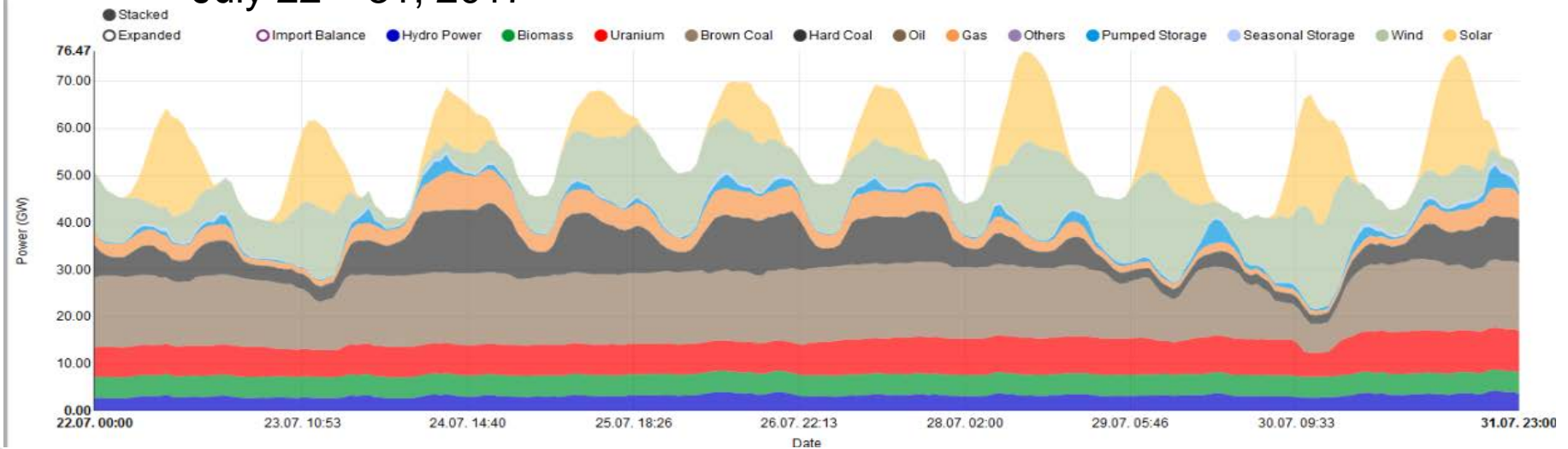
Power generation in Germany

February 8-17, 2018



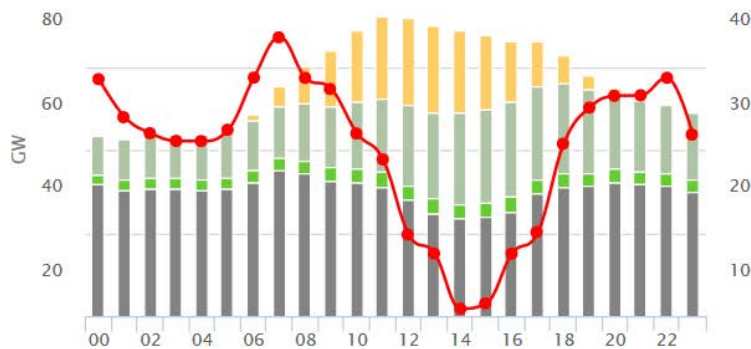
Source: Fraunhofer ISE, www.energy-charts.de

July 22 – 31, 2017



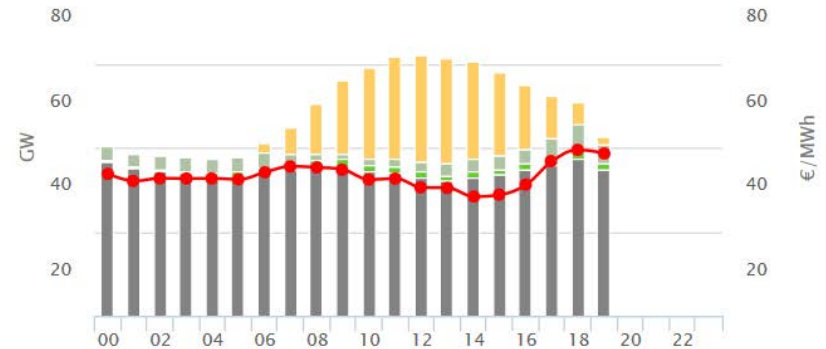
Major Problems: **Uncertainty** actual and predicted wind+solar on 14.6.2017

Predicted power generation



+ prices at day-ahead market

Actual power generation



+ prices at intra-day market

<https://www.eex-transparency.com/>

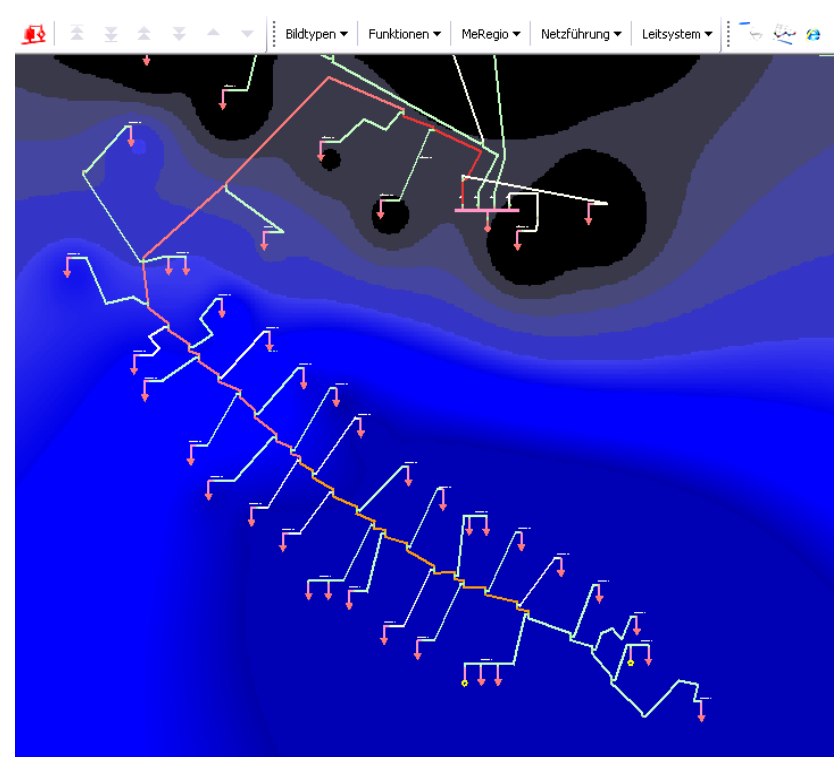
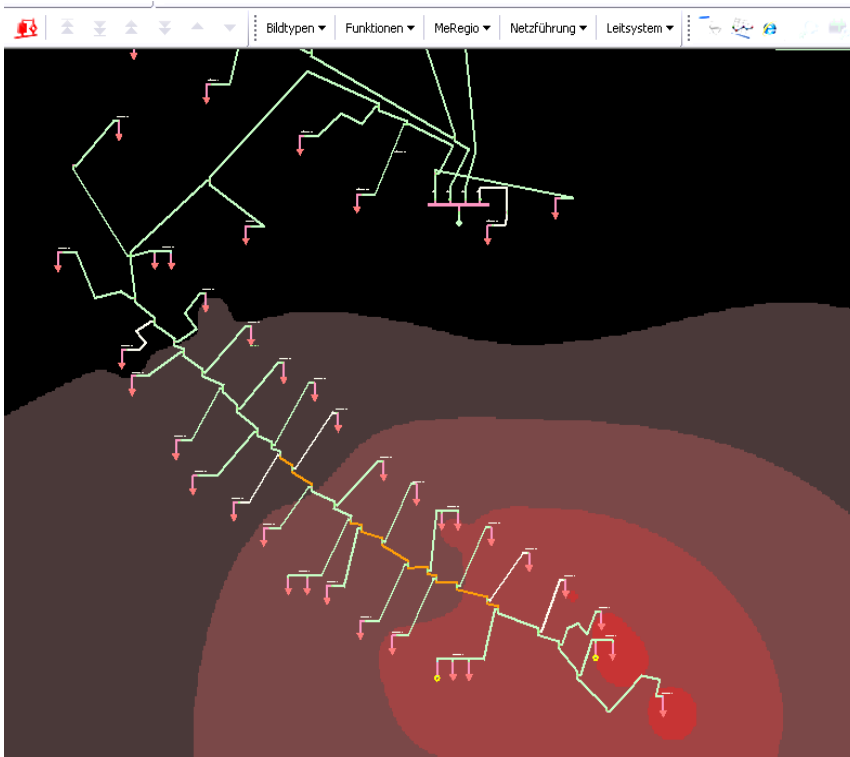
- 14.6.17, predicted: at 12 h: PV 20 GW, Wind 25,4 GW
- 14.6.17, actual: at 12 h: PV 25,5 GW, Wind 4,7 GW
- **Additional need of 10 GW from conventional power plants!**
- **How to deal with these spontaneous deviations??**

Major Problems: decentralization bottlenecks in the low voltage distribution grid

**Local voltage increase
due to PV power infeed**

**Local voltage decrease
due to EV charging**

These visualizations are a result of E-Energy project MeRegio.



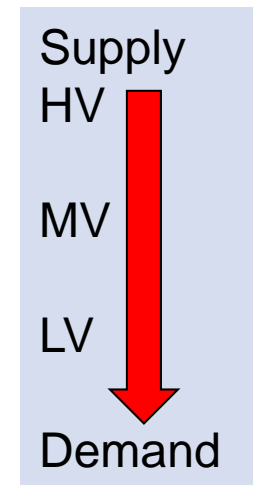
Source: Stephan Kautsch ABB

Traditional Energy Management

Power grid needs a steady balance between demand and supply
(otherwise problems from fluctuations of frequency and voltage)

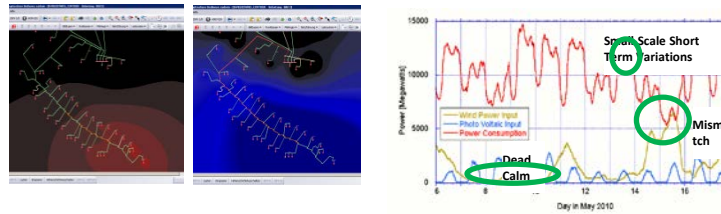
■ Traditional assumptions of energy management and control:

- **Demand cannot be controlled**
 - **Electricity cannot be stored**
 - **Mainly centralized supply at the high voltage grid**
 - **Demand located in the low voltage grid.**
- Standard control using spinning reserve, balancing power (primary, secondary, minute, hour,...)
- Triggered by deviations of frequency



→ **Major Principle: Supply follows demand**

Future Energy Management



Implications of renewable energy sources:

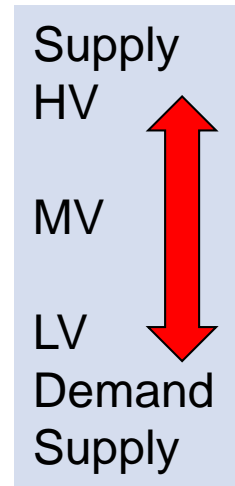
- Supply only partially controllable or predictable.
- Supply becomes **decentralized** and moves towards demand side into the low voltage distribution grid
- Potential **reversal of power flow**

→ **New Challenge: Demand has to follow supply!**

Consequence

- **Discover and exploit degrees of freedom** for decentralized “demand (and supply) management” (**load shifting**)
- Develop new **storage technologies**

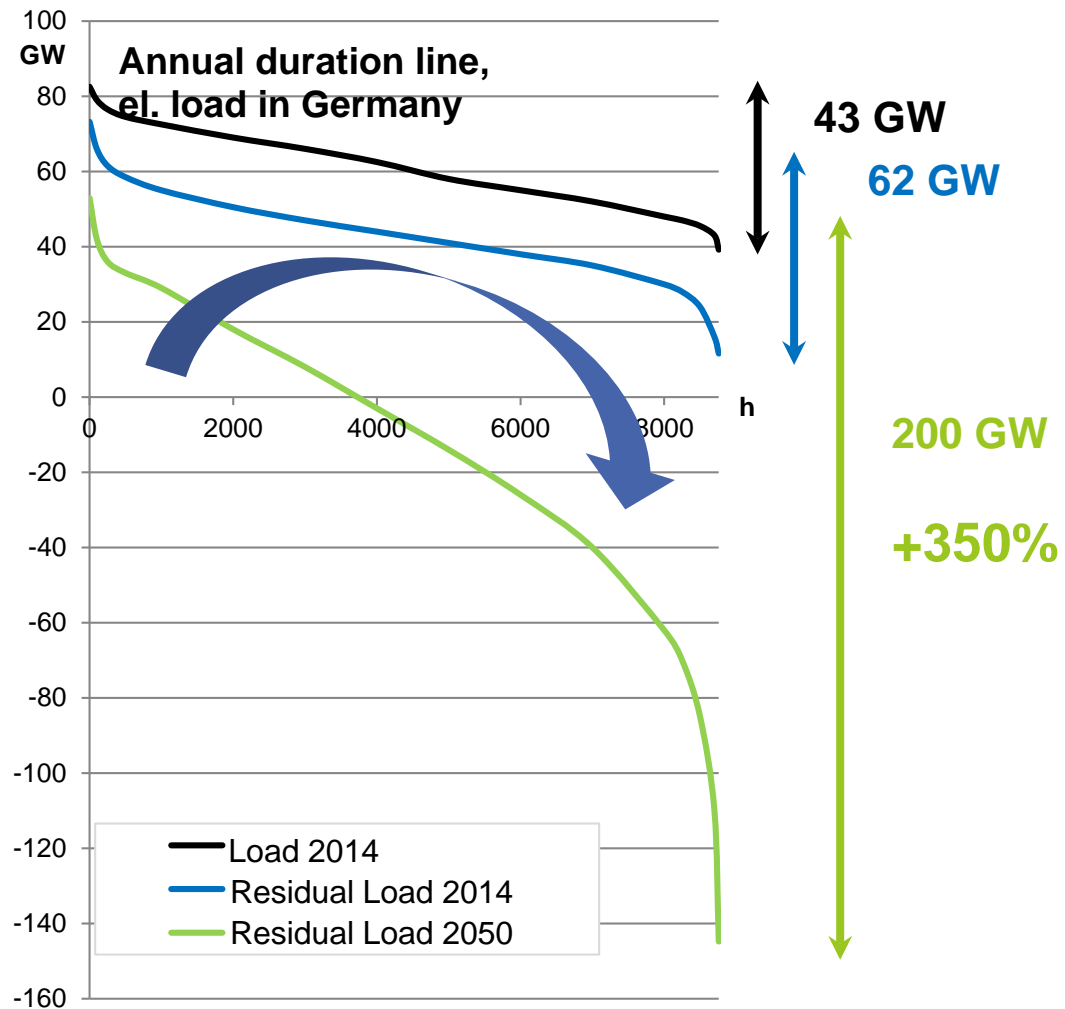
⇒ Strong need for **flexibility** by intelligent “**demand and supply management**” to increase dependability of the energy system in spite of fluctuating, hardly controllable power generation from renewable sources.



Need for flexibility – a fundamental problem



In the future there will be abundant energy, but not always at the appropriate time.



Eigene Darstellung basierend auf: Statusbericht Flexibilitätsbedarf im Stromsektor, Technische Universität München, Lehrstuhl für Energiesysteme, 2015; ENERGIESYSTEM DEUTSCHLAND 2050, Fraunhofer ISE, Hans-Martin Henning, Andreas Palzer, 2013

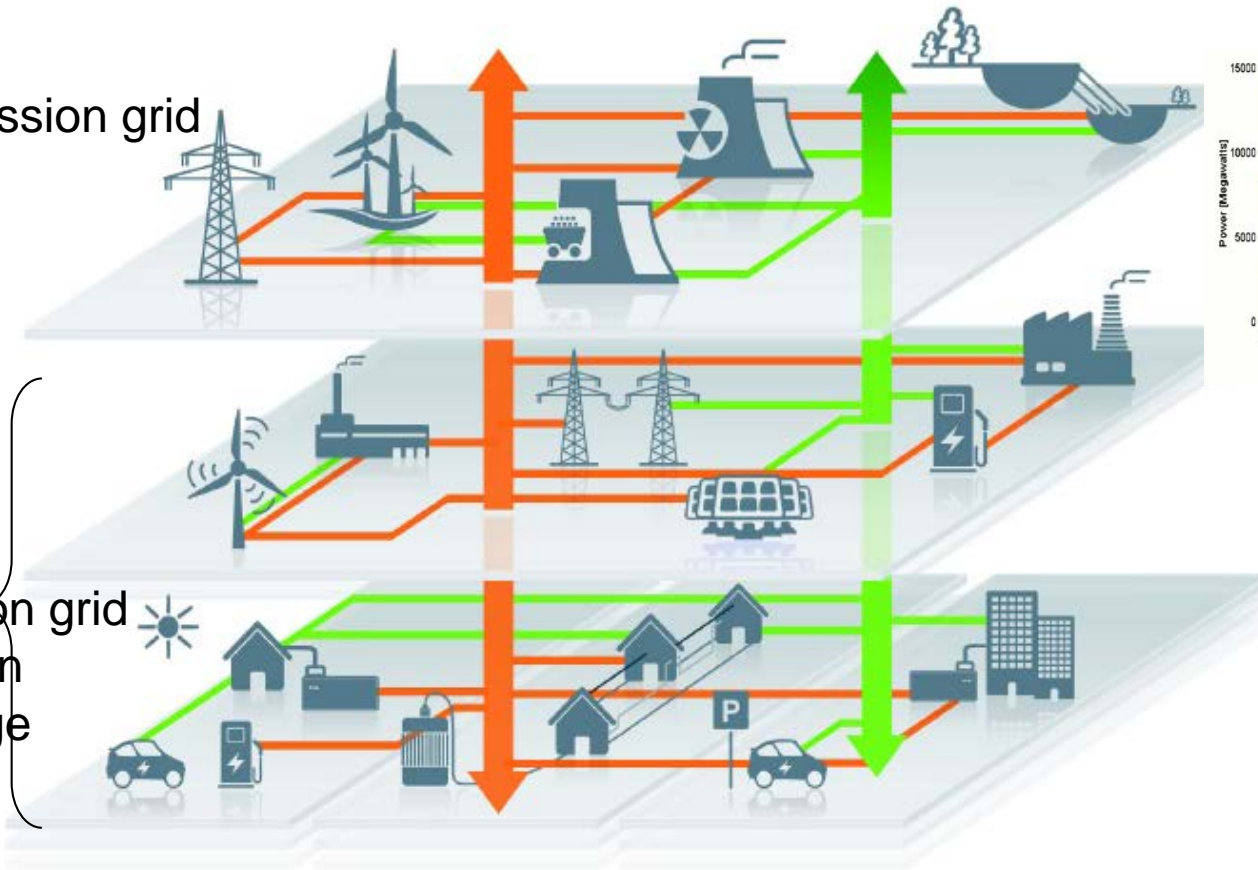
How can we create flexibility in demand and supply of energy?

- **Discover** degrees of freedom with respect to time and size of power consumption or generation
 - Observe the relevant components (→ HVAC like components)
 - Ask explicitly (→ user controlled devices, appliances, EVs, ...)
 - **Exploit** the information about flexibility to adjust the load profile to external requirements (for balancing supply and demand)
 - **Utilize** storage capacities.
- **This has to be supported by intelligent use of ICT:**
- **Measuring**
 - **Modelling and simulation**
 - **Prediction and optimization**
 - **Operational control**

Future Energy System + ICT

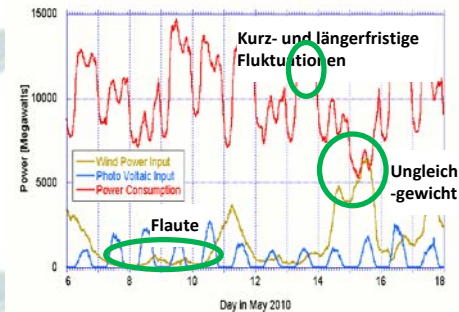
Transmission grid

Distribution grid
+collection
+exchange

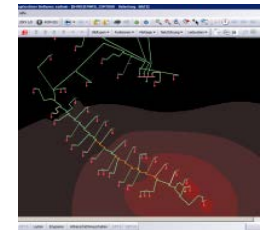


- Energy flow (electricity)
- Information flow

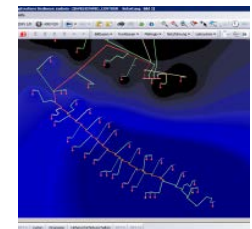
(**Energy information network with distributed system intelligence**)



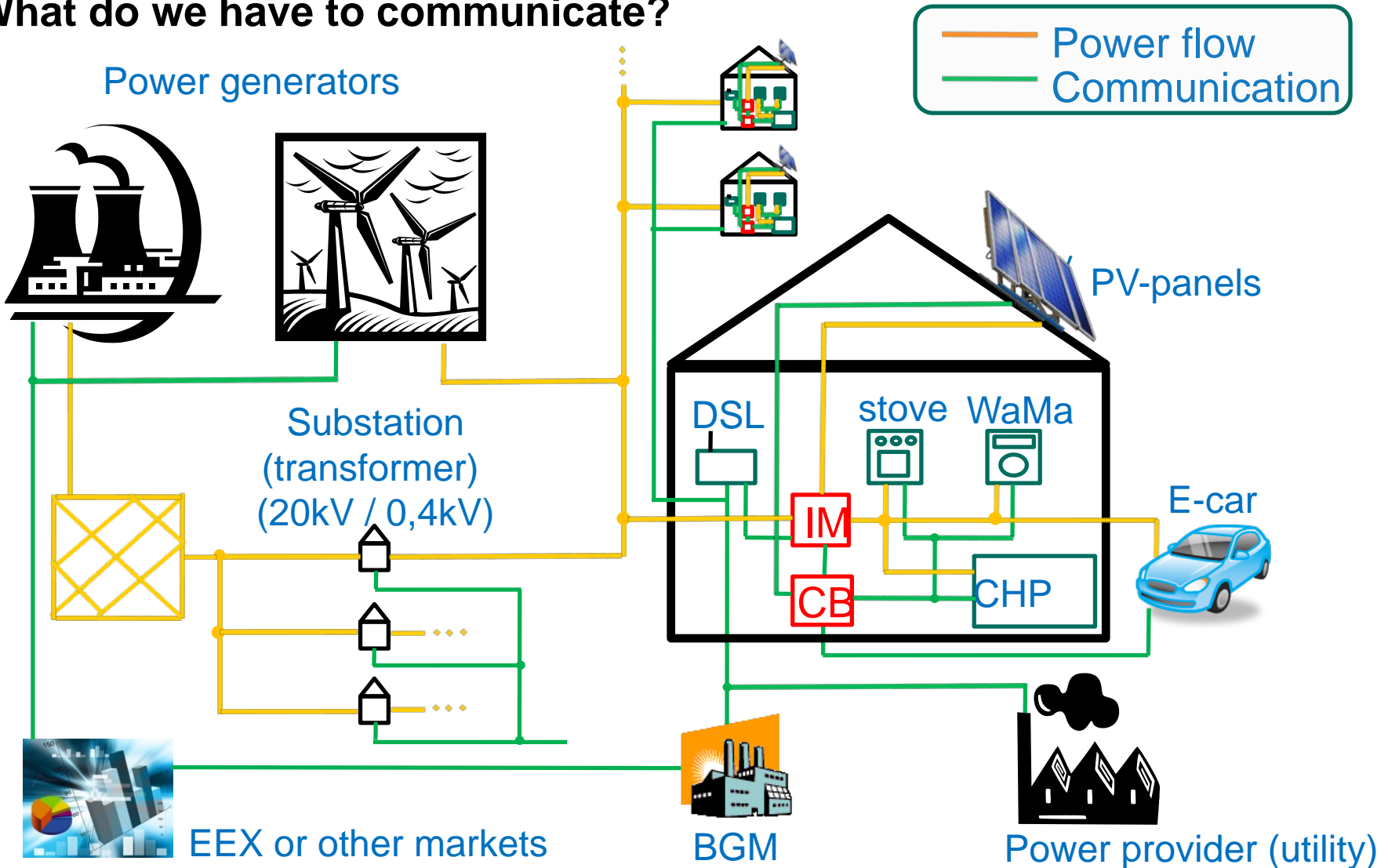
Voltage increase by PV



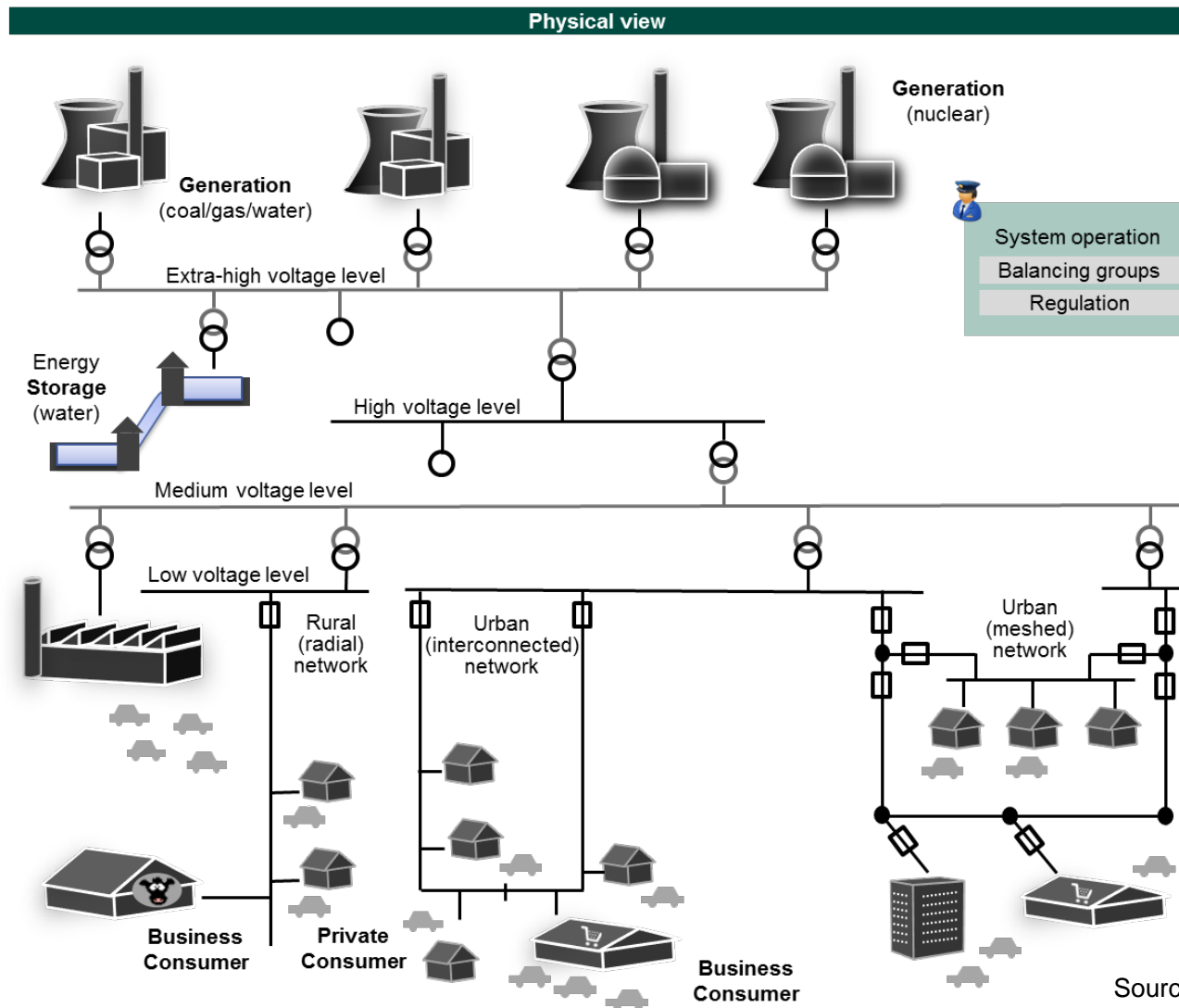
Voltage decrease by EVs



Where should “system intelligence” be located? What do we have to communicate?

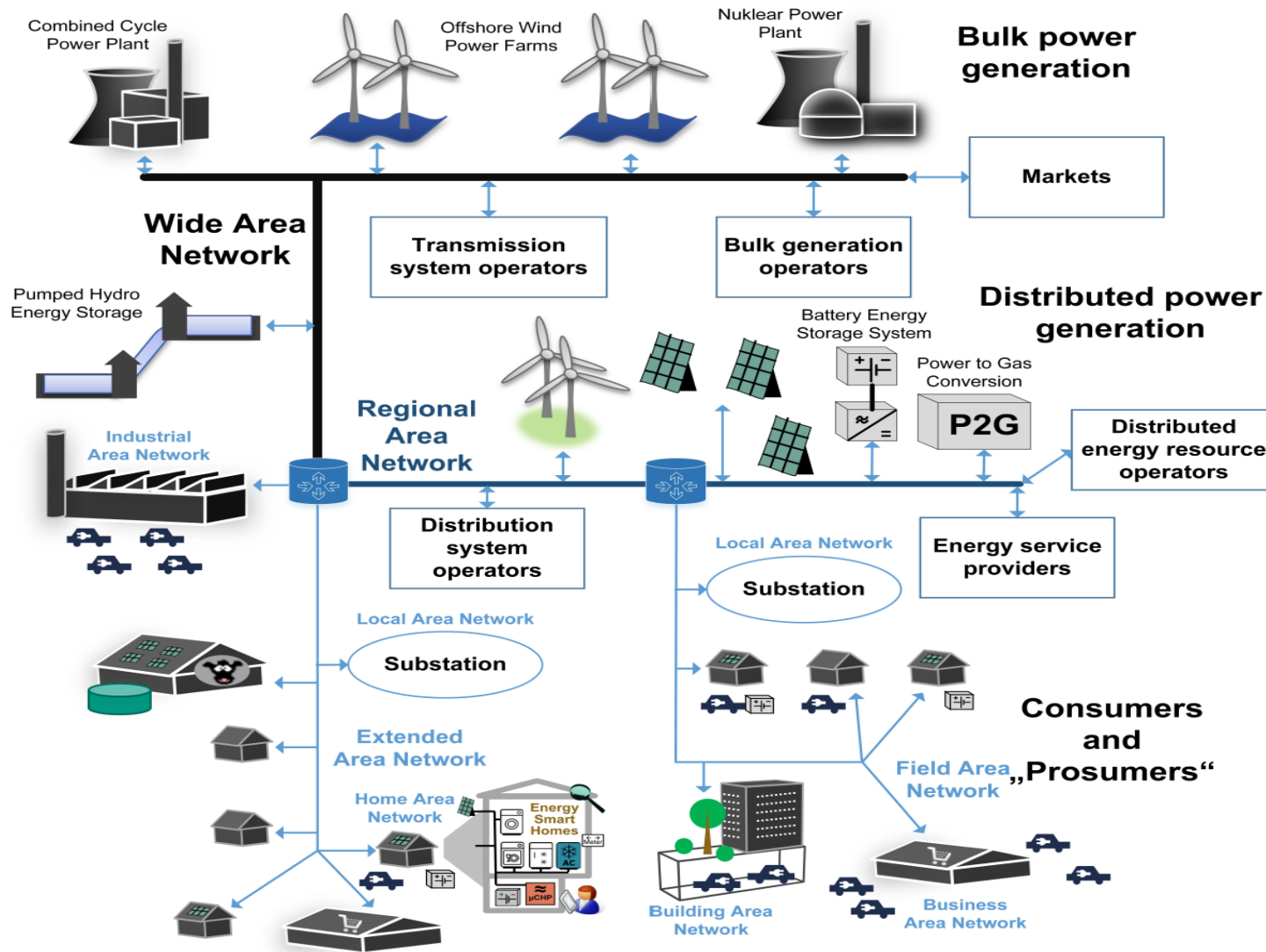


Who is communicating in the power grid?



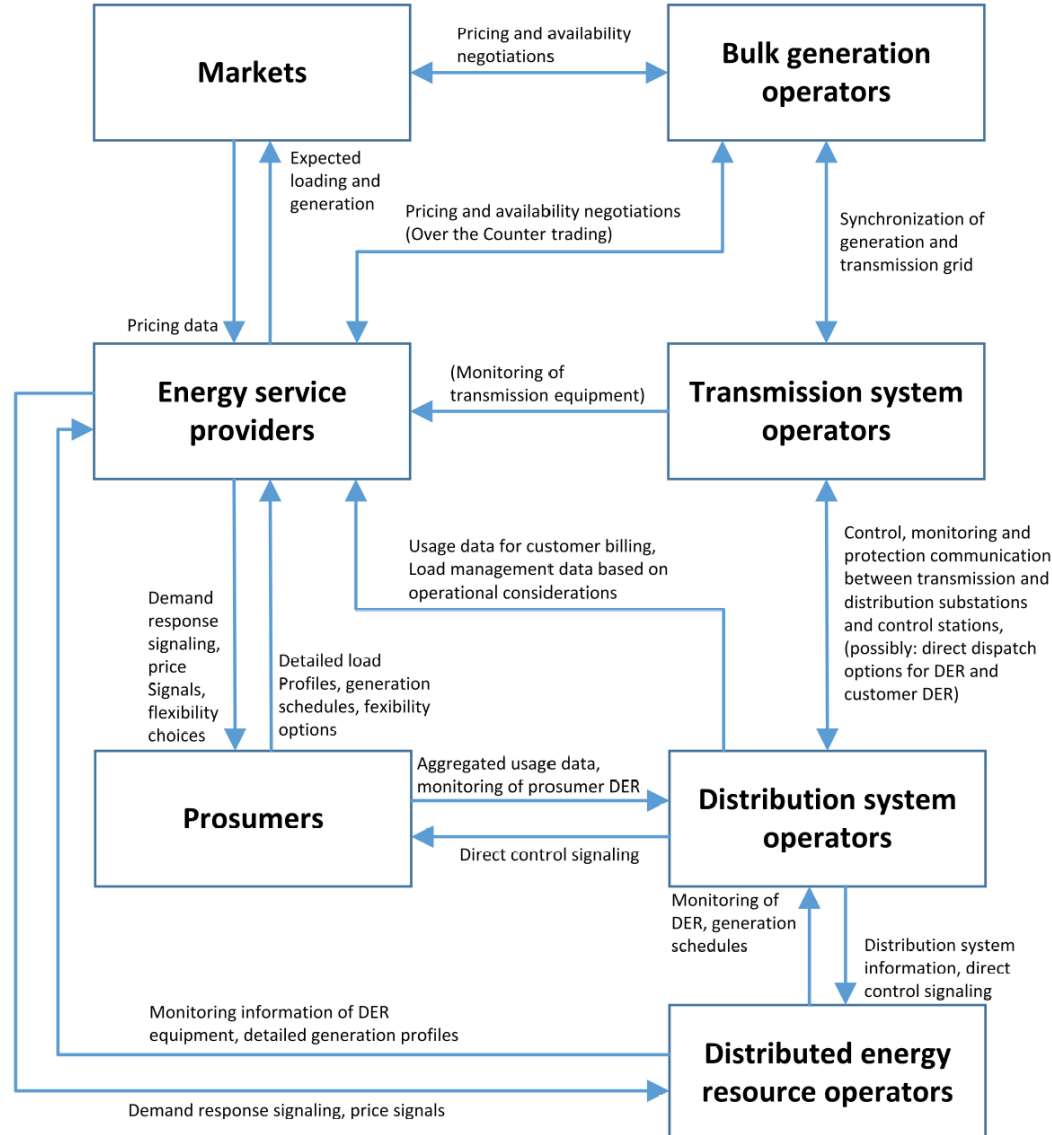
Source: C. Gitte

Who is communicating in the power grid?



Source: M. Ahrens (KIT-AIFB)

Who is communicating in the power grid?



Source: M. Ahrens (KIT-AIFB)

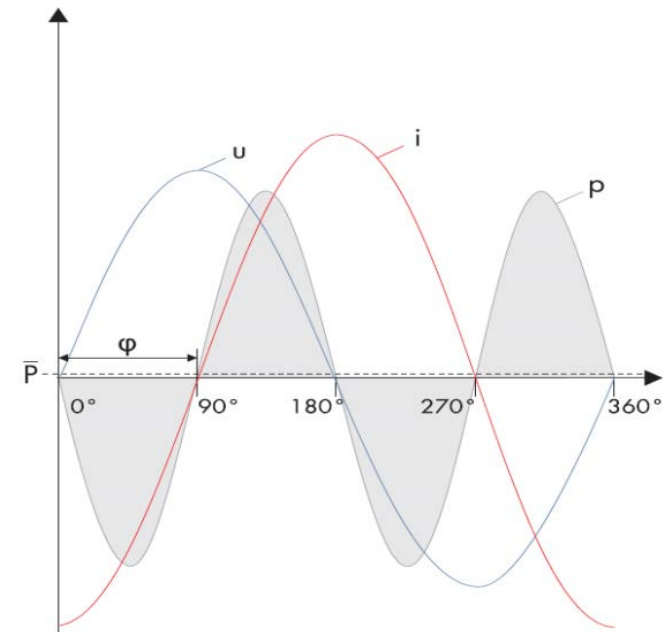
What do we have to communicate?

■ Information on the current state of relevant components

- Energy consumers
- Energy producers
- Storage („Prosumer“)
- Grid components (Substations, cables,...)

■ Which information?

- Voltage (+ current? + frequency?)
- Power
- Phase shifts ($\cos \varphi$)
- Current degrees of freedom wrt
 - Amount of consumption / production
 - Time period for consumption / production



What is sent to whom?

- **Exchange information on the current state with those who need this information for performing their duties:**
 - Next level energy manager (distribution system operator, energy supplier (trader), demand side manager, aggregator, ...)
 - Partner in the energy system who is involved in cooperation.

- **Communicate derived data:**
demand/supply forecast values, price, and control signals
 - “Day-ahead”, “intra-day”,... price signals
 - Control signals for the anticipated use of components in the energy system
 - Sent between buildings, markets, aggregators, DSOs, TSOs, ...

■ Which and how much information is needed?

- On each consumer/producer or aggregated over many?
- On which time scale? Real-time? Every second, minute, x minutes, hours?

■ How to communicate?

- Using the power grid (Powerline? Digital current?)
- Using a data grid (fibre? DSL? phone? ...)
- Wireless (WLAN, GSM, GPRS, UMTS, LTE, LoRa, ...)?

■ Where is the information processed?

- Decentralized (within a house? an EV? a grid segment?)
- Centralized (in a balancing group? at the power supplier? at the distribution grid operator?)

■ Which system architecture is needed?

- Central, decentral, hierarchical,
- Tree-like, mesh-like, cellular?

... and even more ...

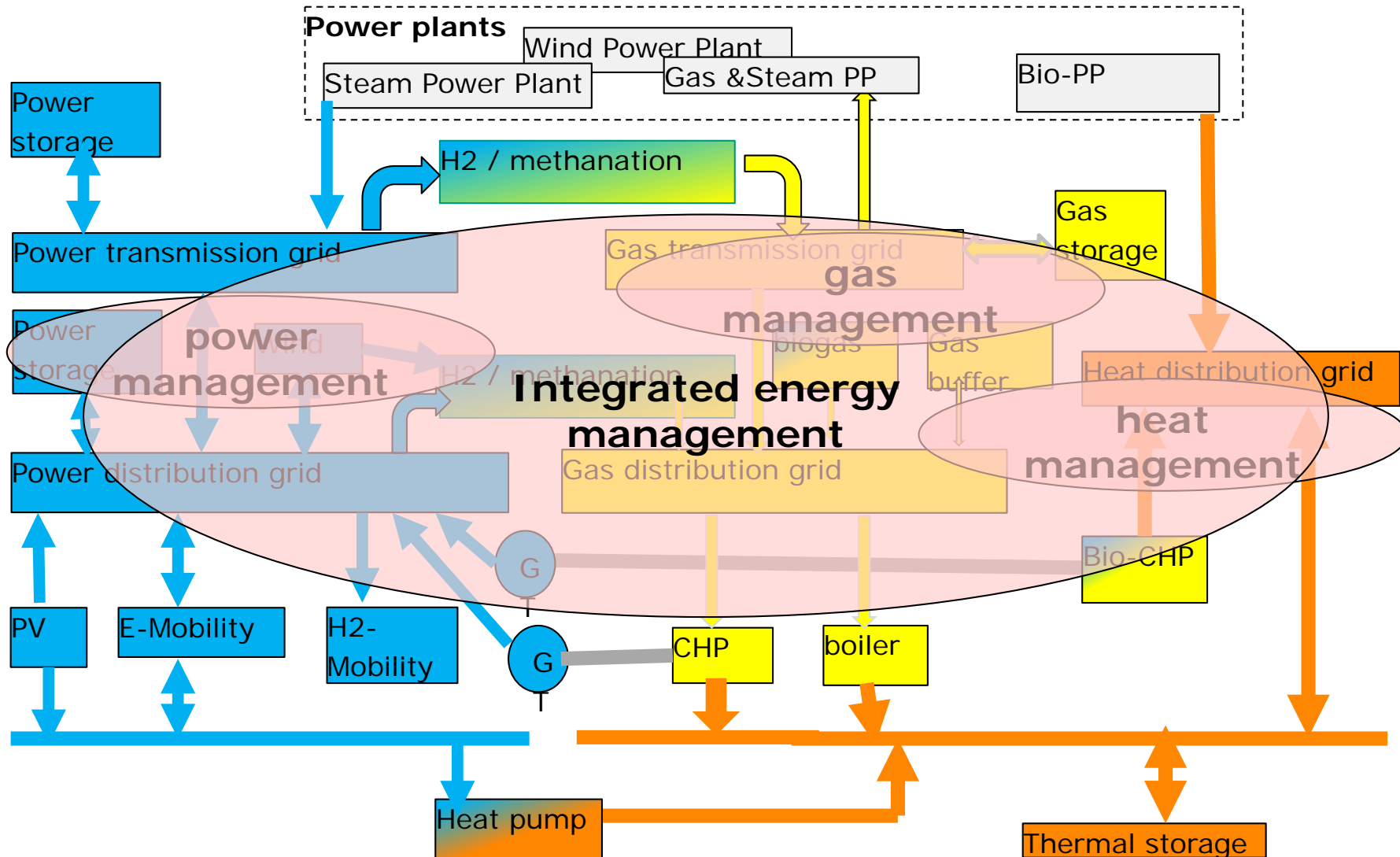
- **Which are the most appropriate concepts for the control of demand and supply of electrical (and thermal) energy?**
 - Market mechanisms
 - Exact or approximate planning and optimisation
 - Strictly local versus strictly global versus hierarchical, Trade-offs
- **What are the objectives?**
 - Balancing demand and supply
 - Generation of system services (reactive power, balancing energy,...)
 - Reduction of energy consumption
 - Generation of monetary profit
- **What about data protection and privacy??**
 - Anonymisation / Pseudonymisation
 - Traceability
- **Which problems arise wrt security and safety?**
 - Access protection, detecting and preventing attacks
 - Resilience, dependability / manipulation of data, robustness issues

Integrated multi-modal energy grids

power

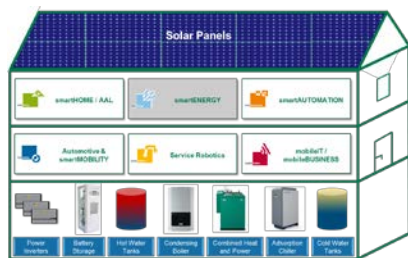
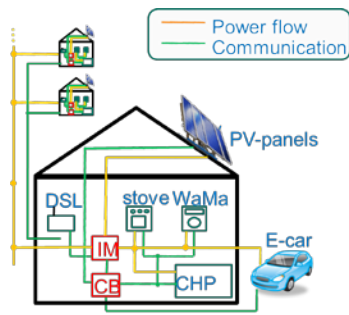
gas

heat



- **Balancing demand and supply** within each grid
- **Energy conversion** in between gas, power, and heat, e.g.
 - „**real conversion**“ of power to gas
e.g. by electrolytic methods (H_2) and methanation in order to consume overflow of power supply from wind power plants
 - „**virtual conversion**“ of power to gas in bivalent systems
e.g. by switching between gas boiler and electric boiler
- **Interoperability** of energy management systems for power, gas, and thermal grids (→ standardized interfaces?)
- **Integrated energy information grid with distributed system intelligence**
in order to increase the **efficiency**, **flexibility**, and **stability** of the integrated grids.

■ „Smart Homes“ and buildings

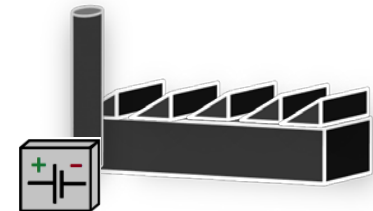


■ Electric vehicles



- G2V and V2G
- Most of the time parked somewhere
- Charging process offers high potential for flexibility

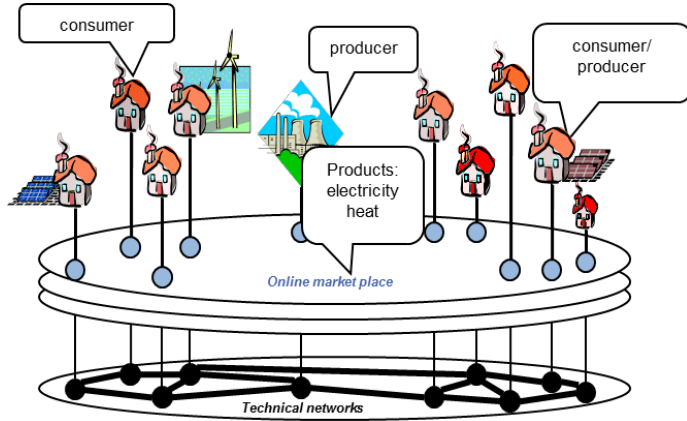
■ Industrial processes



- Exploit potential flexibility without reducing productivity
- Utilize large consumers (HVAC), producers (CHP) or storage for energy system services

Some projects ...

SESAM: P2P-based energy market

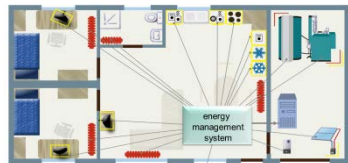
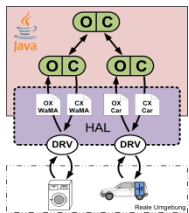


Kopernikus project ENSURE



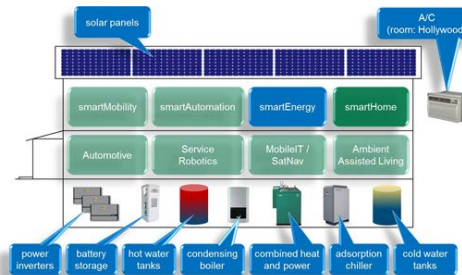
LiLa Walldorf
Living Lab

MeRegio (mobile): Organic Smart Home architecture



Energy Smart Home Lab

FZI House of Living Labs:
generic architecture for
communication and control

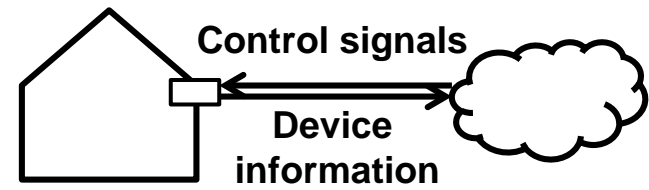


Center of competence for
applied security technologies

- The pattern determines which information needs to be exchanged

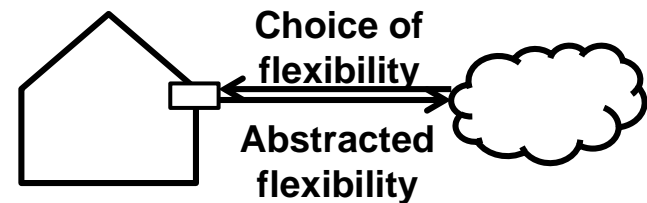
- **Physical demand response**

- Full transparency of devices



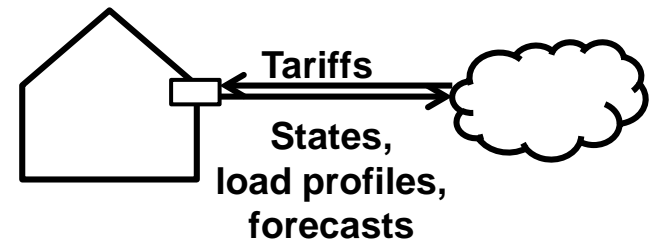
- **Direct market demand response** of abstracted flexibility

- Communication via an abstract model



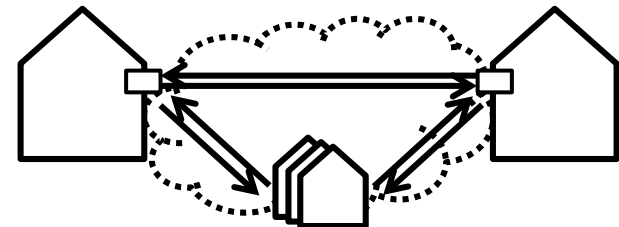
- **Indirect market demand response**

- Incentive based flexibility exploitation



- **Decentralized market demand response**

- Exchange of abstracted flexibilities and coordination signals without centralized entities



Source: K.Förderer et al, Proceedings ETG 2017

Energy Smart Home Lab on KIT Campus



Deutschland
Land der Ideen
Ausgewählter Ort 2012



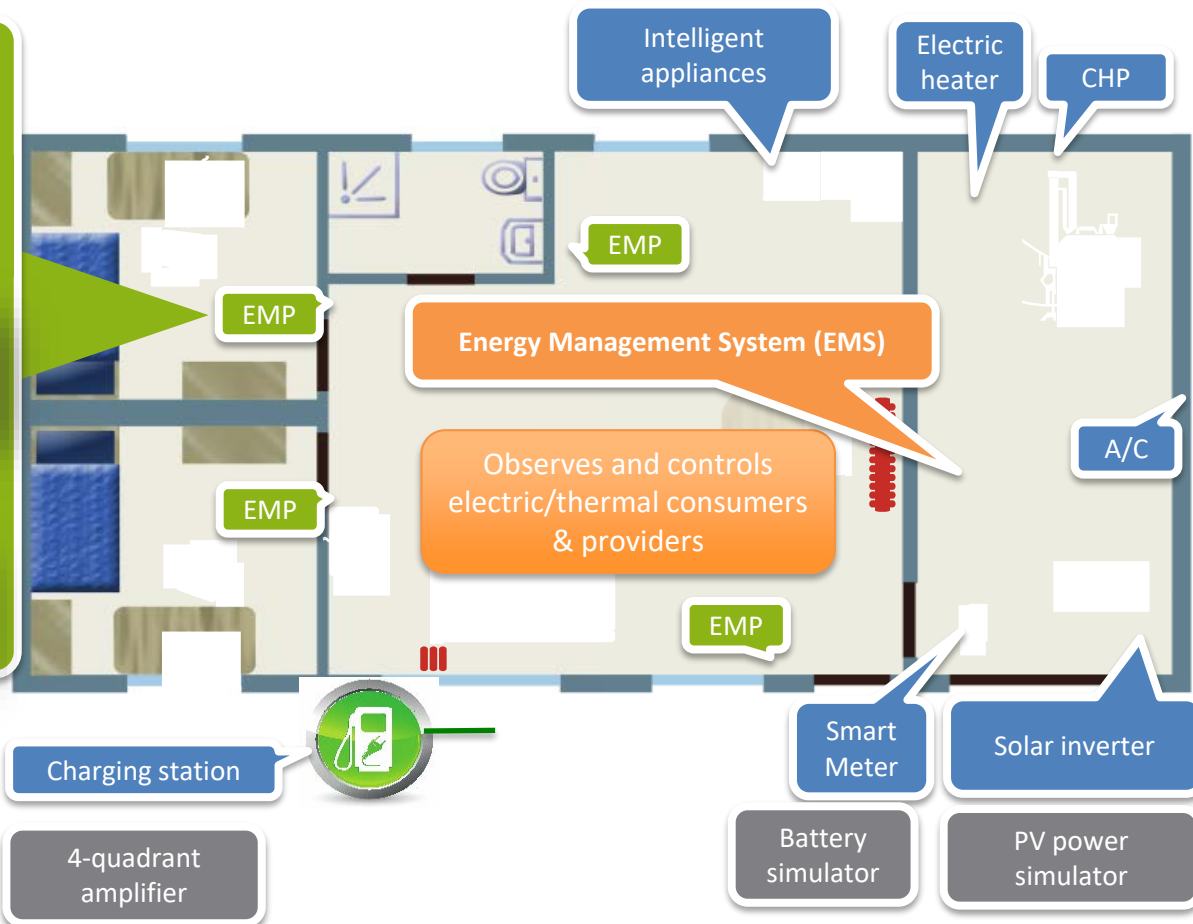
Energy Management Panel (EMP)

Visualisation of energy usage

Energy flows



Discover user preferences

User interaction in the Energy Smart Home Lab

Energy Management Panel



Provide information

- Transparent information on current energy situation
- Information on load profile

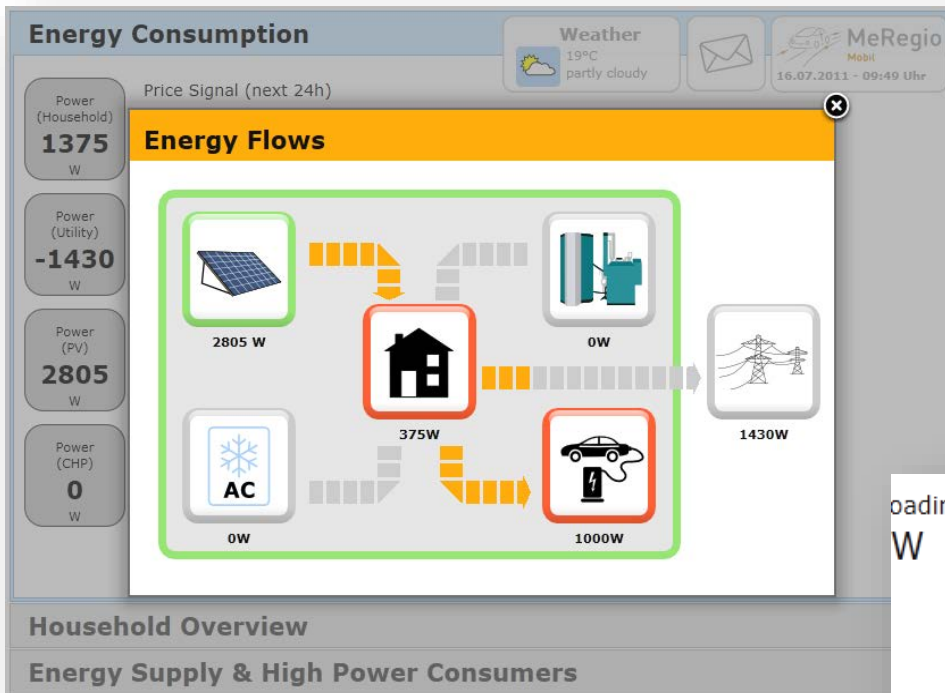
Discover degrees of freedom

- Input on preferred time of operation
- Configuration of user preferences



User interaction in the Energy Smart Home Lab

Energy Management Panel

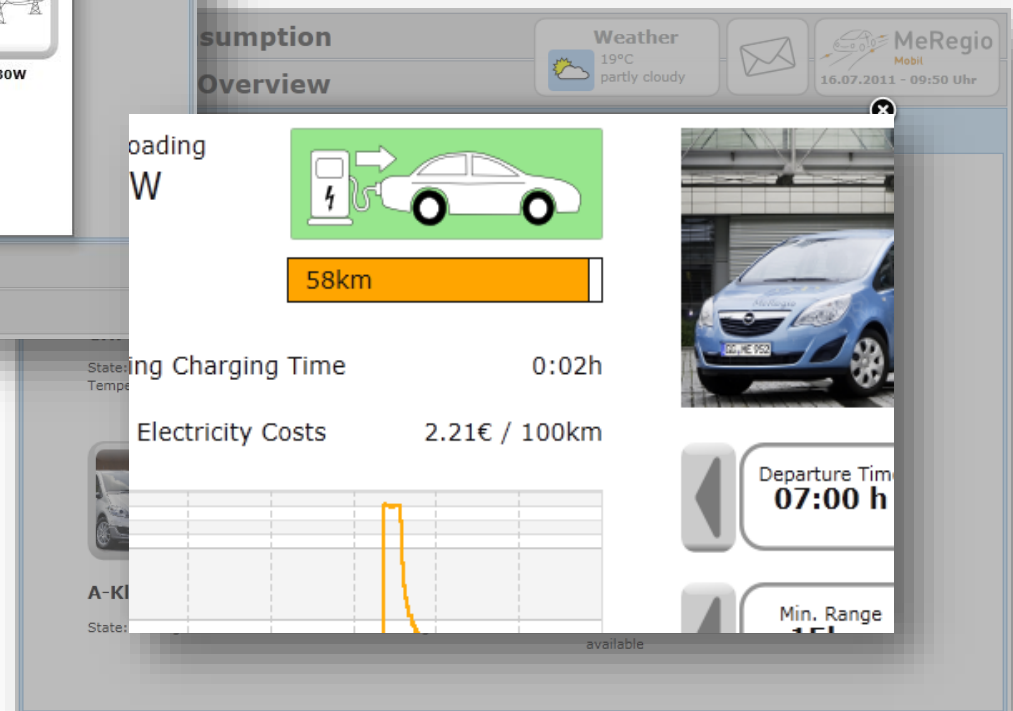


Provide information

- Transparent information on current energy situation
- Information on load profile

Discover degrees of freedom

- Input on preferred time of operation
- Configuration of user preferences



Energy Management Panel

Example Tumble Dryer

Energy Consumption

Household Overview

Weather
16°C cloudy

Kitchen



Tumble Dryer
Power: 0 W
State: Off



Dishwasher
Power: 4 W
State: On



Hob
Power: 0 W
State: Off



Deep freezer
Power: 116 W
State: On



Washing Machine
Power: 0 W
State: Off

Tumble Dryer

Program Duration: 00:35 Std.

Remaining Time: 00:00 Std.

State: Off

Power: 0 W



DoF: 06:00 Std.










Gerätetyp: Trockner

Status: Programmiert

verbleibende Laufzeit: 0:53h

Programm: Baumwolle

Trocknungsstufe: Normal

Leistung: 0 W



Freiheitsgrad: 04:30 Std.

Automatischer Start um 18:00 Uhr.



Forced start

Programmed state

Degree of freedom

Automatic start: 18:00h

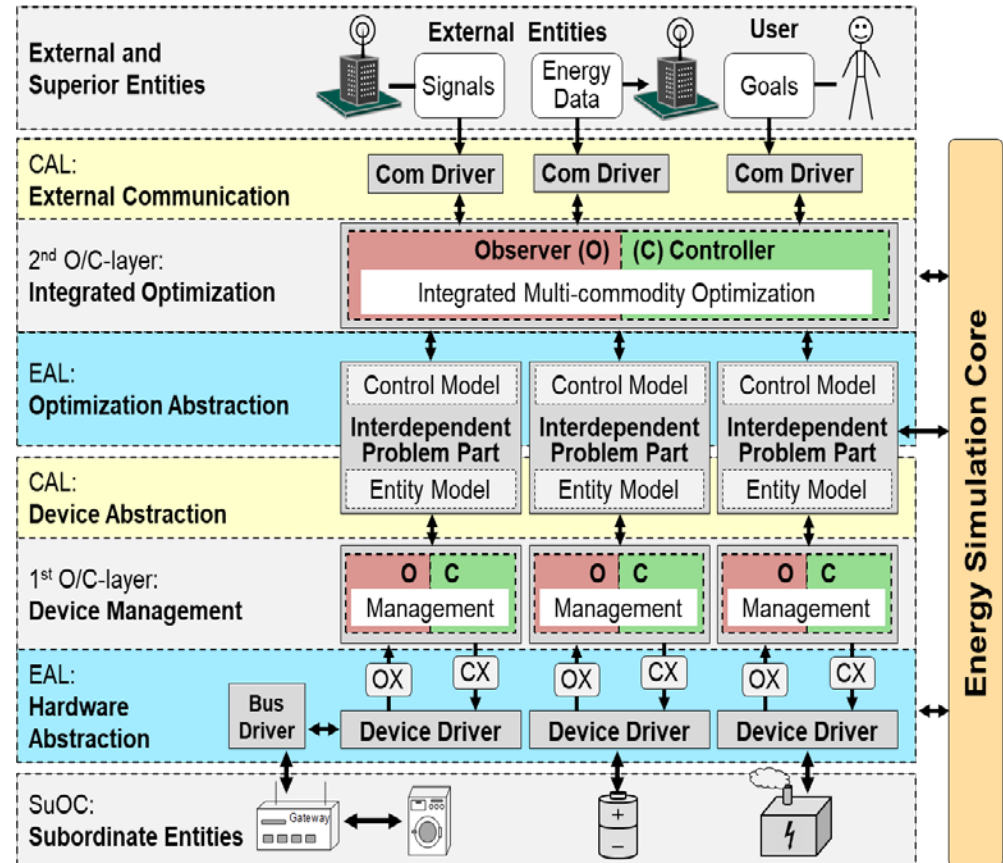
Building Energy Management System

■ Organic Smart Home

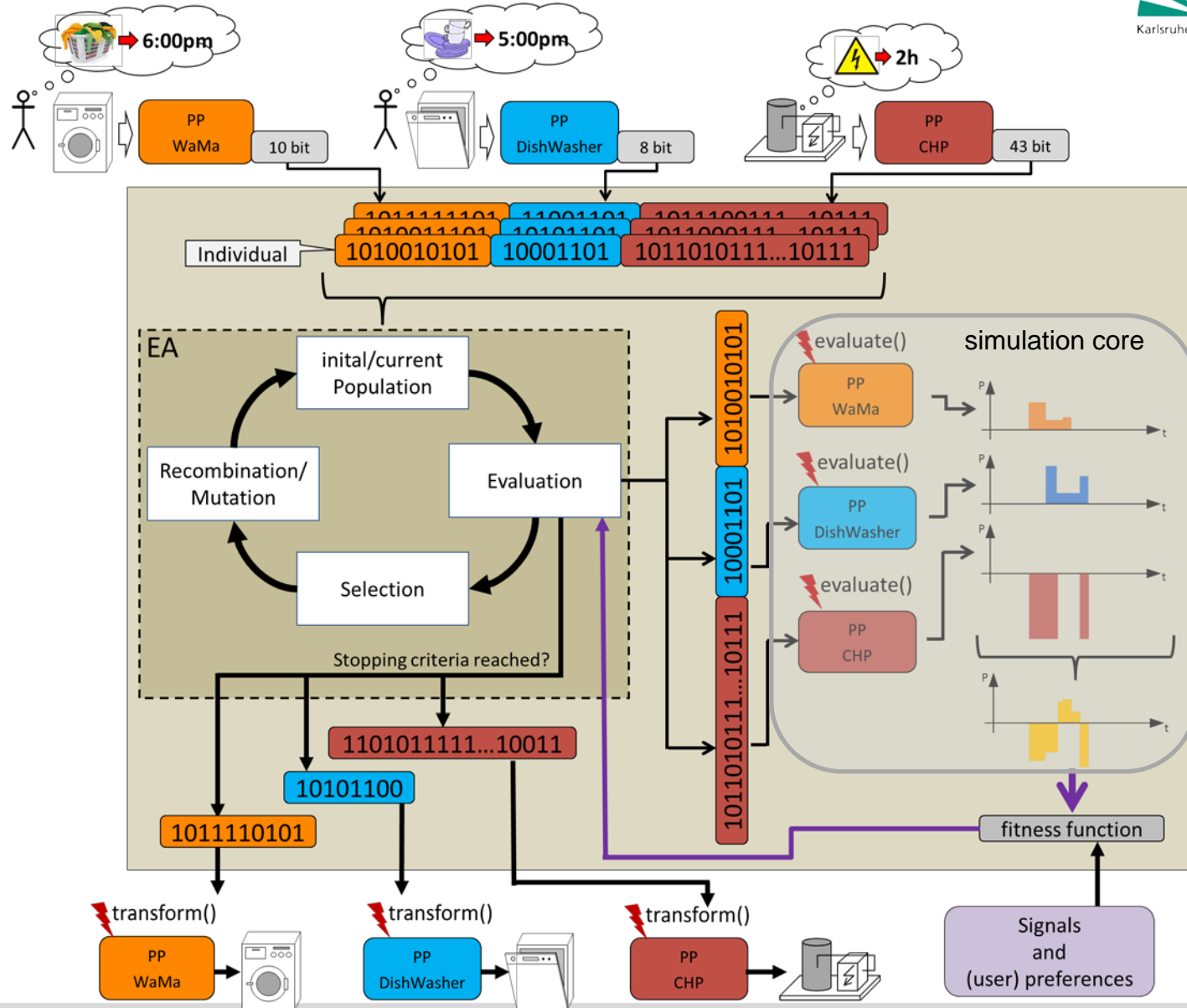
- Monitoring
- Simulation and
- Optimisation
- Control

actively running at ESHL
and at FZI HoLL

<http://www.organicmarthome.org>

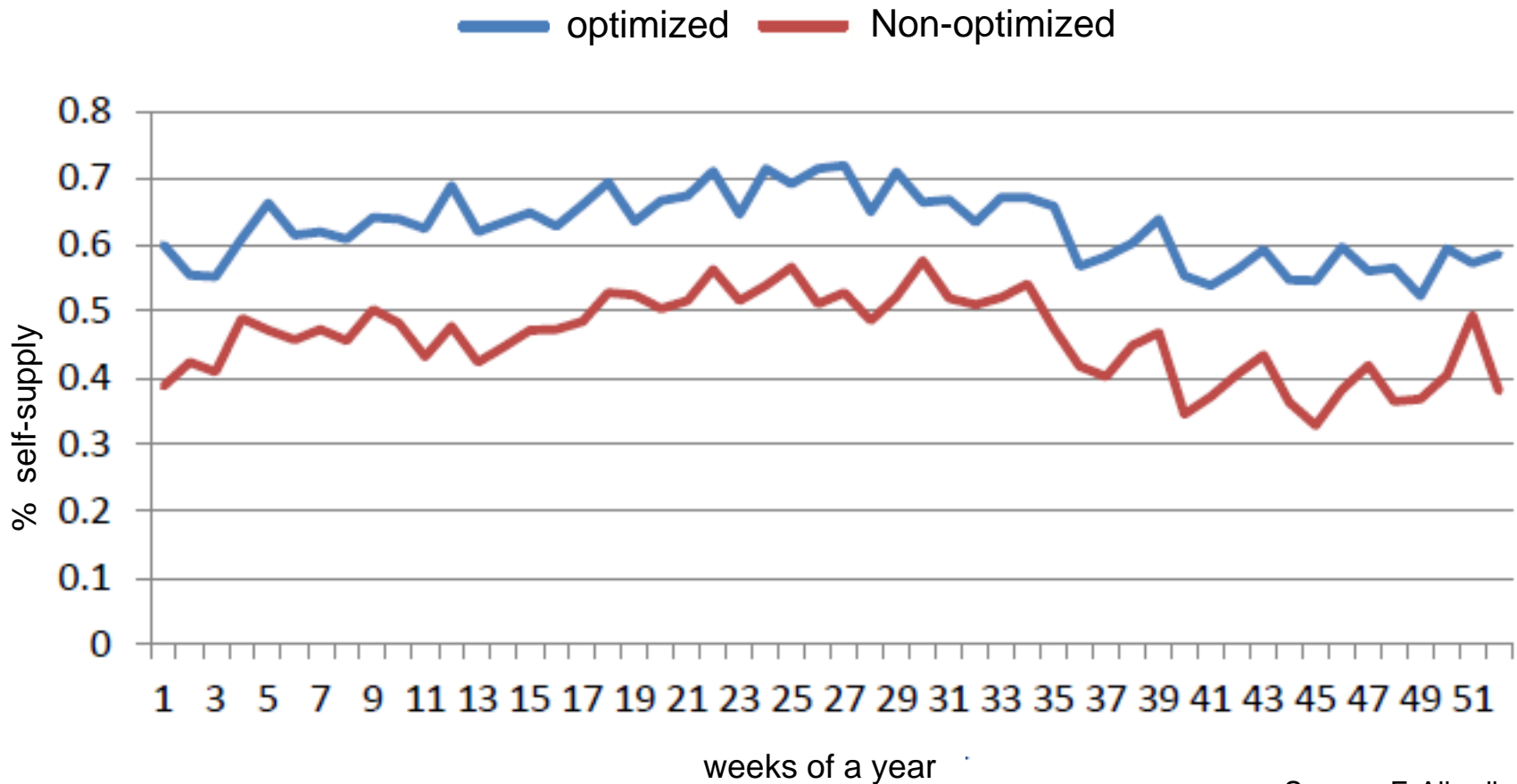


Optimization in the Organic Smart Home:



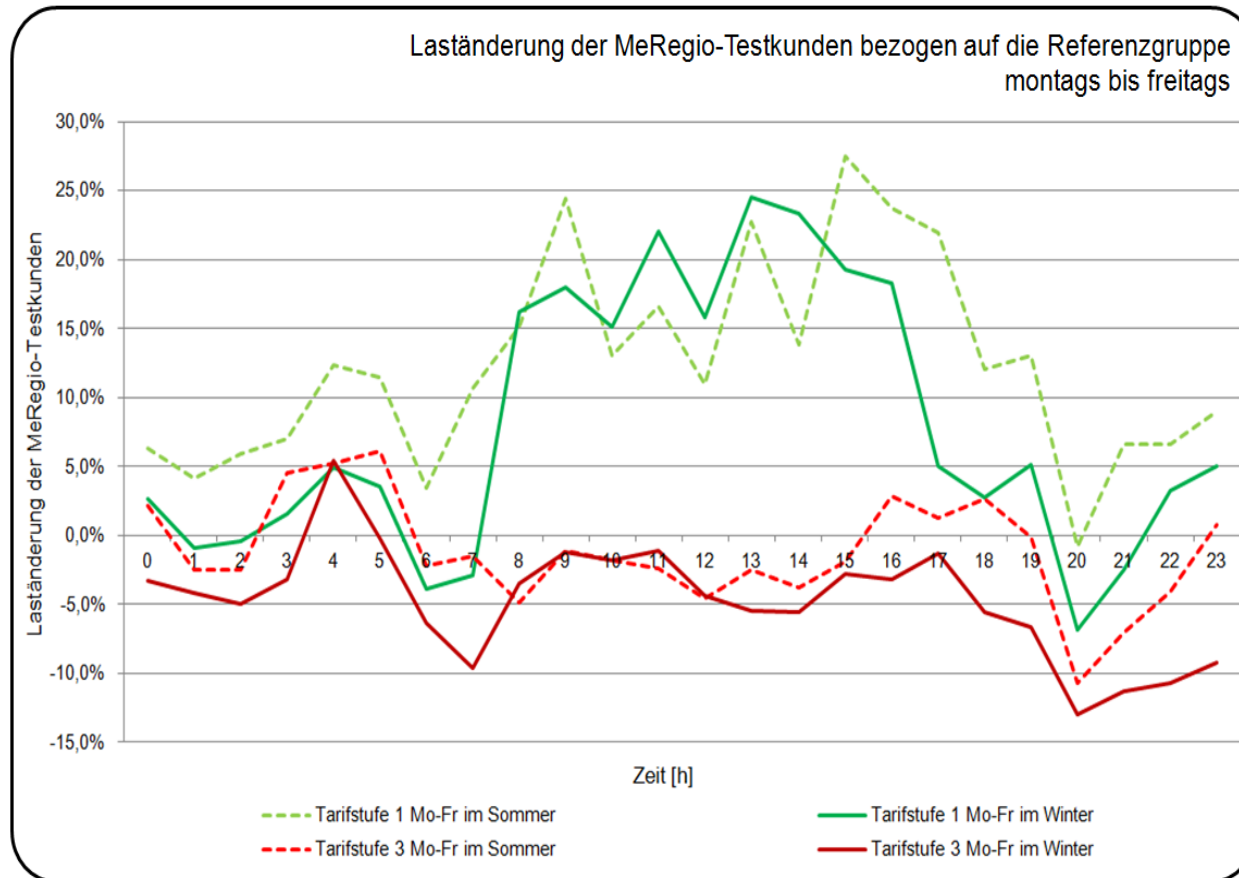
Improving self-supply by load management

- Ratio of self-supply with power from PV and μ -CHP
(typical profile of a 5-person household, without stationary batteries)



Source: F. Allering

Load flexibility observed in MeRegio pilot region (1000 customers)

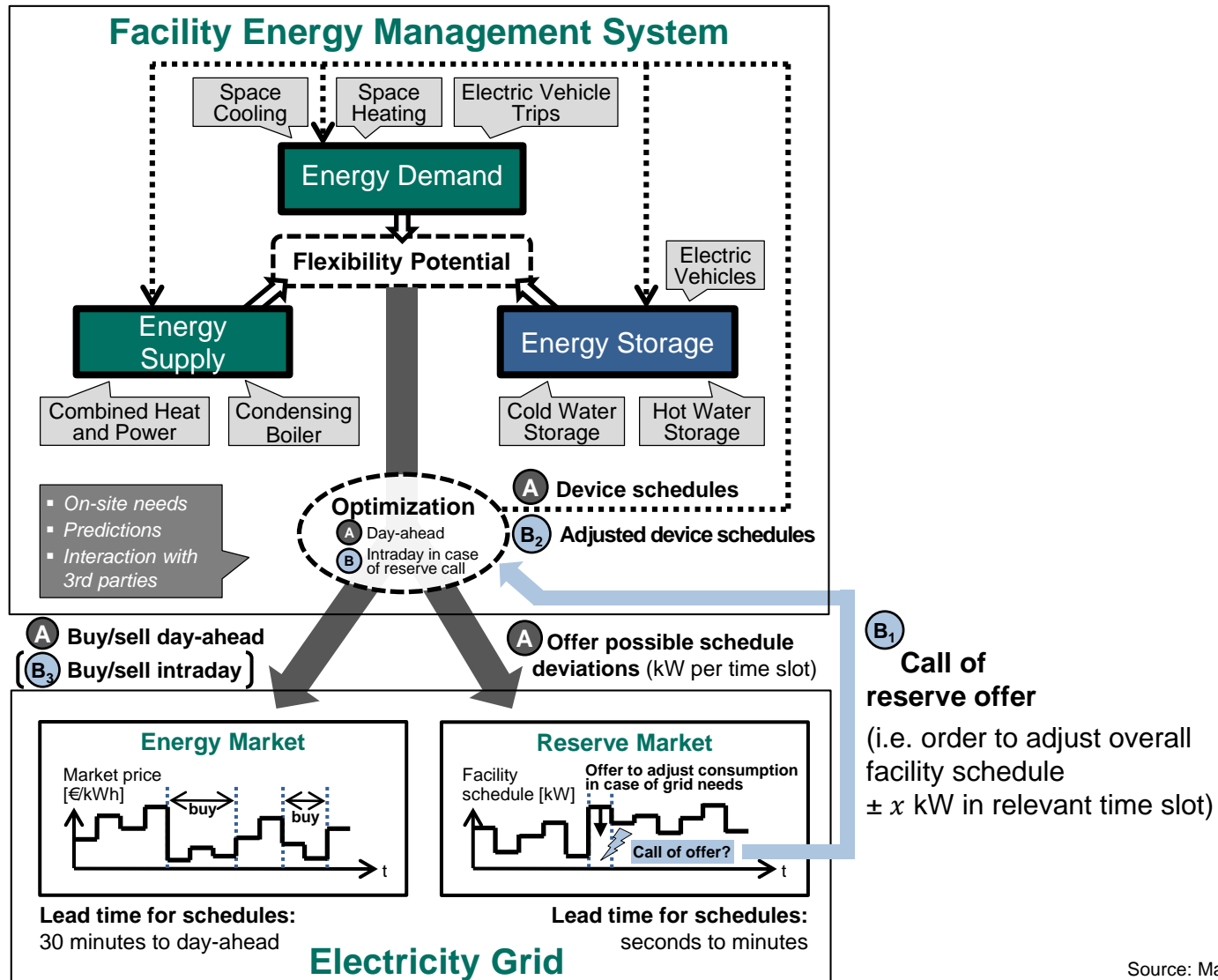


[Hillemacher et al. 2012]

How can the flexibility potential be utilized?

- **“peak shaving”**:
relevant for industry having power-based tariffs
- **Increase self-supply** with energy, reduce dependence on the grid.
- **Energy trading**: buy or sell on the spot markets
- Provide energy system services:
 - **Demand response**: adjust the load to desired profiles.
 - **Balancing power**: primary, secondary, ...
quite often using “aggregators”.

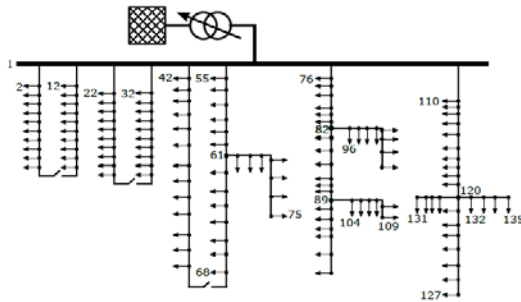
How to organize management of flexibility in larger facilities?



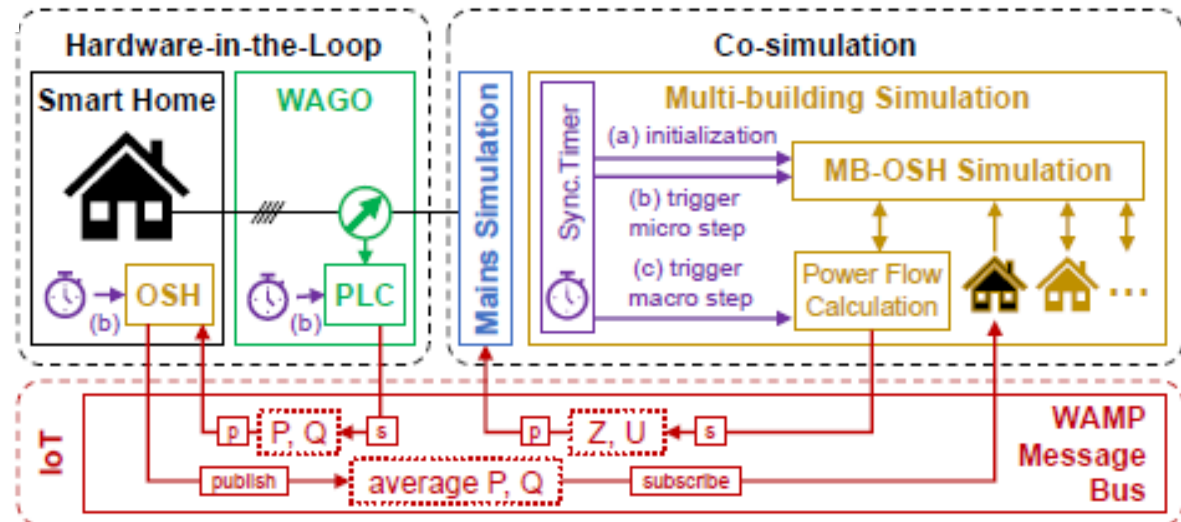
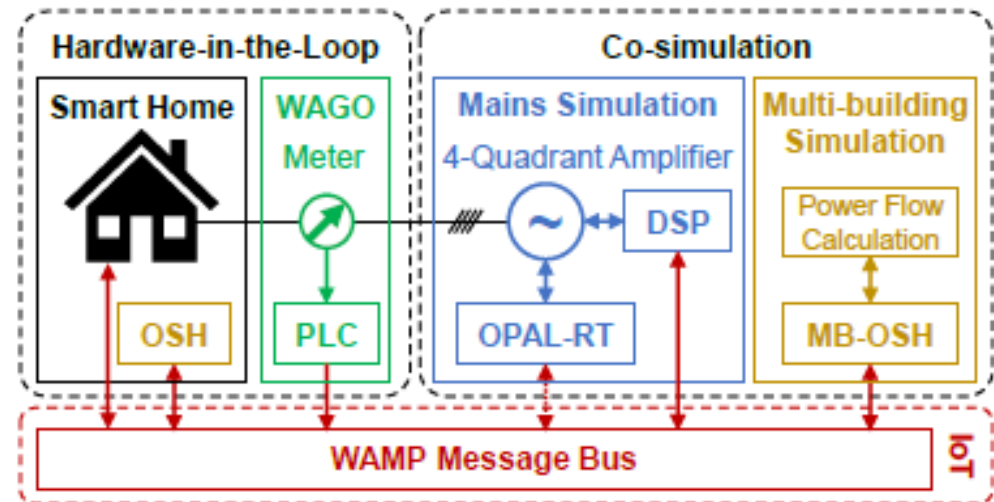
Source: Manuel Lösch (FZI)

How to test and simulate? The scenario at KIT-ESHL

- Basic “Hardware in the Loop” scenario
- Uses power grid models



- Needs time synchronization



Summarizing challenges for "ICT for energy"

- Communication of essential information between the relevant „entities“ in the grid
- Efficient and dependable information processing for various tasks
 - Prediction of power demand and supply
 - Modeling and simulation of the energy system
 - Planning and optimisation of grid operations
 - Support of market operations (trading agents, blockchains (??)...))
 - Demand and supply management
 - Control of batteries of various types of EVs (charging, power-feedback)
 - Virtualisation of components (virtual power plants, virtual storage, ...)
 - Support of system services (reactive power, demand response,...)
 - Support of emergency actions (failures, power outages,...)
 - Authentication, roaming, accounting, billing,...
- Various services for integration of electric mobility into the grid
- Various issues wrt security and safety

Power generation from renewable sources produces a need for

- **Energy information and control networks with distributed system intelligence.**
- Dependable energy supply in spite of highly decentralized, cellular systems.
- Discovery and exploitation of load flexibility.
- Integration of storage (mobile and stationary) to allow for intelligent balancing of power demand and supply and for new power system services.
- Load management and load shifting without inflicting with personal comfort or industrial productivity.
- Coping with safety and security problems.
- Inherently multi-disciplinary challenges for
 - Power Engineering
 - Control Engineering
 - (Energy) Informatics

Thanks for your attention!
Questions?

→ **We have to provide realistic and adequate solutions!**

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