

JRC SCIENTIFIC AND POLICY REPORTS

Smart Energy Grids and Complexity Science

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2012



Report EUR 25626 EN



European Commission

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JRC76681

EUR 25626 EN

ISBN 978-92-79-27736-8 (pdf) ISBN 978-92-79-27737-5 (print)

ISSN 1831-9424 (online) ISSN 1018-5593 (print)

doi:10.2790/69368

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2012

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Printed in The Netherlands

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1. Foreword

This report proposes ideas and an approach to address present and future challenges in future smart energy systems through the particular lenses of complexity sciences.

Complexities arising inside and around emerging energy distribution systems prompt a multilayered and integrated approach in which different disciplines and areas of expertize are pooled together. The interfaces between system layers and intellectual disciplines are the focus, rather than on the details of any individual layer or the particularities of one approach.

A group of people sharing this view and willing to procede in this way organized a workshop at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, Petten, the Netherlands on 24th June 2012.Experts from different field of expertise convened to present their current research and discuss the future challenges of emerging smart energy systems via the afore-mentioned perspectives.

2. Background

Growing concerns over energy sustainability, security of power supply, and market competitiveness—and the resulting need to integrate increasing shares of renewable energy and dispersed energy resources—are impacting the energy system operationally and architecturally.

Smart energy grids represent one of the key means for the decarbonisation and decentralisation of the electricity system. Their implementation will change the way we live our lives and how we interact socially and culturally. In this scenario, the business and social actors in the energy landscape will need dramatically to adapt their behaviours, strategies and means of producing, delivering, storing, and consuming energy.

The existing paradigm of passive distribution and one-way communications and power flows from large suppliers to final consumers will be replaced by an active and responsive system. In the future, smart grids—enabled by pervasive information and communication technologies (ICT) withbidirectional communication, and power exchange between suppliers and consumers will be established. Many end-users will become independent *prosumers*, interacting within a physically constrained network through various ICT systems.

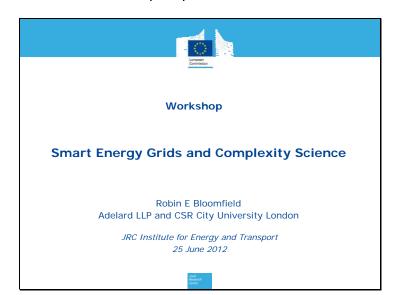
A smart energy grid is not only a diverse set of dynamic, distributed energy suppliers, it is also an energy system which connects smart (i.e., responsive, energy efficient, and variable) users to sustainable (i.e., low carbon, renewable) energy sources. And the grid itself is smart whenever it is able to modify its output, and able to monitor, control and meter the energy demands of consumers in a regulated and fair way.

In many ways, the concept of the smart grid can be extended to other (virtual and physical) complex networks characterising the urban environment, such as the transport of water, fuels, wastes, passengers and packages. Which of the aspects of complexity science, characterizing a smart energy grid, are potentially applicable to these other networks?

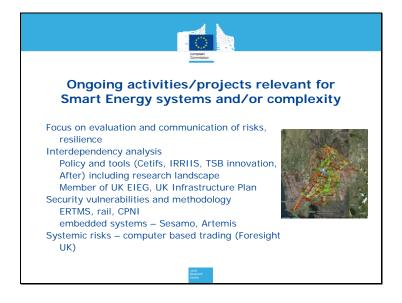
To further explore the background and the various areas of expertize some talks presented and discussed relating to:

- The practical application of complex science to energy (electric) systems within a broader context
 including economic shifts and volatility, consumer behaviour, weather and climatic uncertainty, and the
 growing need to address climate adaptation including emergency response. Furthermore a path was
 proposed towards the application of complexity science in these areas through research and explicative
 applications;
- The verification of current developments in related fields;
- Analysis of the links/synergies between different approaches;
- Consideration of the possibility of establishing a working group of experts, research institutions, stakeholders, policy decision makers with different backgrounds and expertise; ranging from the social sciences to power systems engineering, and from ICT to economics. The aim would be to develop and share a common systemic view of the problems;

2.1 Robin Bloomfield: Smart Grids and Complexity Science









Complexity science approach to energy system

Evaluating complex adaptive systems

What can we learn from swans, cats, dragons, toads, bugs and oxymorons?

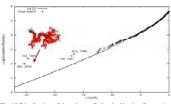




Fig.15 Distribution of drawdowns D for the Nasdaq Composite index, showing several "outliers" in the tail, that quality as dragon-kings. It turns out that these anomalous events are



How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

Interested in how much these systems need to be trusted and how to evaluate that trust

- Interworking with existing methodologies
 - Not all issues complex science ones, indeed engineering complexity out of a system
- Adaptation, understand regulation, governance and shaping of systems
 - Part system designed, part grow and evolve
- Importance of soft or intangible infrastructures
- Performative models
- Small changes
- Possible driver questions
- Risk frameworks
- Viability domains





Engineering complex adaptive systems

Developing intervention strategies for different time bands

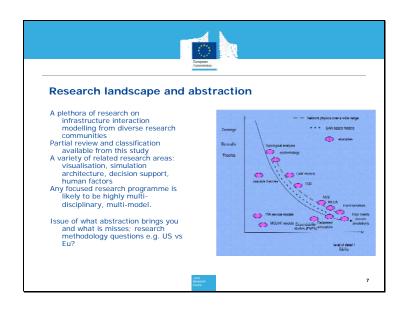
- Circuit breakers and trip protection
- Forced diversity in ecology, disrupt correlation
- Alignment of economic incentives

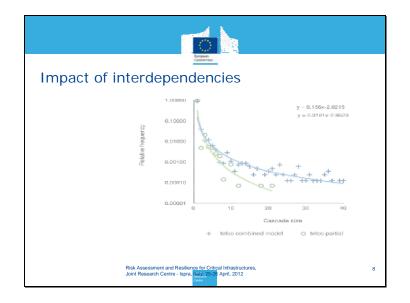


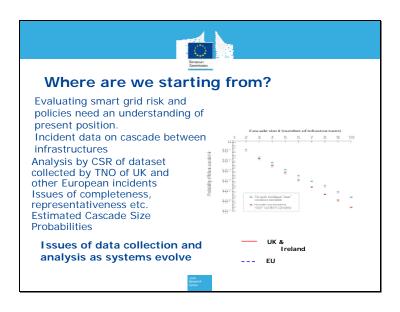
New approaches to resilience assessment and communication

- · Investigate viability domains and recovery
 - Of socio-tech systems
- Specification for single, group and collective
- Deriving risk targets for properties failure and success
- Possible separation of conventional and complex risks
 - (Fukushima vs flash crash)
- Emphasis on stability as a dependability attribute
- The risk of change or not
- Methodology issues
 - Abstraction, data, extrapolation

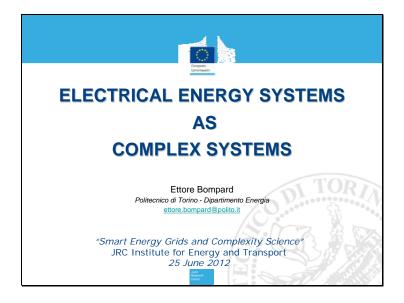


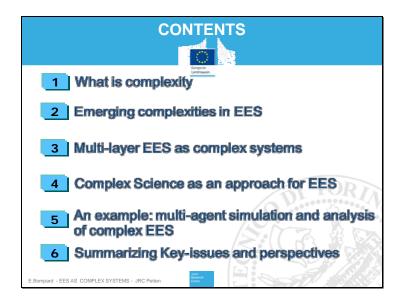


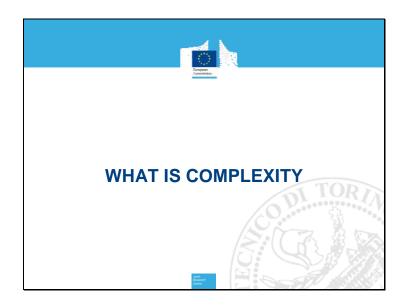




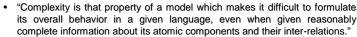
2.2 Ettore Bompard: Electrical Energy Systems as Complexity Science







DEFINITIONS OF COMPLEXITY



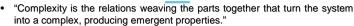
-- Bruce Edmonds, Syntactic Measures of Complexity [doctoral dissertation], Manchester Univ

- "Complexity: the greater the extent of inter-connections between components of a system, the more difficult it is to decompose the system without changing its behavior."
 - -- RAMAMOORTHY, CV. An analysis of graphs by connectivity considerations. Journal of the Association of Computing Machinery, 1966, 13, 211-222.
- "Complexity in economics has simply meant not assuming that an economic agent acted as if it had the computational resources to completely cope with the demand placed on it by its environment."

-- HOLM, HJ. Complexity in Economic Theory

Lund, Sweden: University of Lund: Lund Economic Studies, 1993

DEFINITIONS OF COMPLEXITY



-- Francis Heylighen. Complexity: 5 questions, Automatic Press/vip, 2008

- "The philosophy of complexity is that this is in general impossible: complex systems...has properties -- emergence properties -- that cannot be reduced to the mere properties of their parts."
 - --Francis Heylighen. Complexity and self-organization. Encyclopedia of library and information sciences, 2008.
- "Complexity can emerge in a system when the whole cannot be fully understood by analyzing its components."
 - P. Cilliers. Complexity and post modernism: understanding complex systems. Psychology pres
- "Complexity is concerned with how the nature of a system may be characterized with reference to its constituent parts in a non-reductionist manner."

--S.M. Manson. Simplifying complexity: a review of complexity theory Geoforum 32, 405-414

E.Bompard - EES AS COMPLEX SYSTEMS - JRC Petten

OUR UNDERSTANDING OF COMPLEXITY



"A system, that can be decomposed in a set of elementary parts with autonomous behaviors, goals and attitudes and an environment, is complex if its modeling and related simulation tools cannot be done resorting to a set of whichever type of equations expressing the overall performance of the system, in terms of quantitative metrics, or of a function on the basis of state variables and other quantitative inputs."

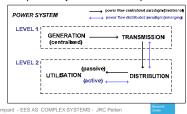




EMERGING PARADIGM OF EES

- Traditional paradigm: four subsystems. ① Generation (centralized) ② transmission ③ distribution ④ utilisation. The first three subsystems are devoted to assure "quality electricity" to the fourth.
- devoted to assure "quality electricity" to the fourth.

 Emerging paradigm, "generation" is no longer only associated to subsystem 1 (with a limited number of large-sized generators) but also with subsystem
 a the users become "prosumer" (producer / consumers huge number of small-sized generators from renewable sources). Subsystem becomes active (capable of injecting power) with the possibility of bidirectional power flows.



Level 1: Generation (centralised, large scale – hundreds of MW) + Transmission

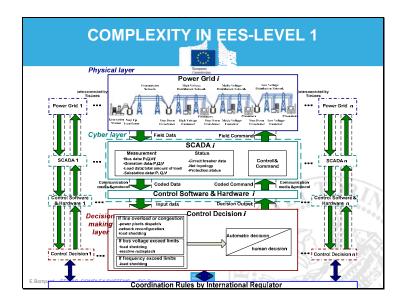
Level 2: Distribution + Utilisation (small scale – down to KW)

EMERGING FEATURES



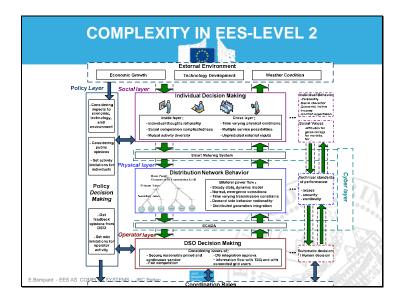
- Market structure based on competition (self-interested players interacting in competitive markets).
- Achievement of the objective of energetic efficiency and environmental protection based on market mechanisms.
- Aggregation of distributed generation and storage (small size, low predictable, connected to distribution system).
- Shift from centralised decision making (regulated monopoly) to distributed decision making, based on the maximisation of the individual utilities of a multitude of selfinterested players that interact with a physically constrained network through various ICT technologies

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COMPLEXITY IN EES-LEVEL 1

- The physical layer is the electrical power grid (wires, transformers, circuit breakers...) to transfer electrical power from generators to customers.
- A widespread change of the electrical network may result from decisions of system operators made in the decision-making layer.
- The cyber layer acts as an interface between the decisionmaking and the physical layers and vice versa.
- Electricity markets require efficiently exploiting available resources to supply customers, which causes more complex interactions within the above layers.
- The performance of the power system depends on a multitude of self-interested decision makers, each of them acting on a portion of the EU interconnected power transmission grid.

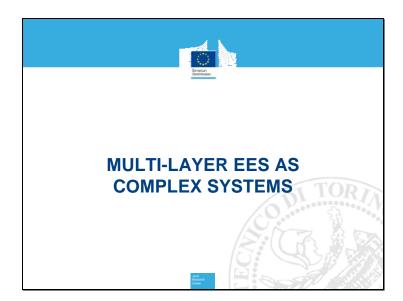


COMPLEXITY IN EES-LEVEL 2



- Shift in the paradigm from "passive" distribution, unidirectional flow (generation final users) to "active" distribution with bidirectional flows with active users (prosumers).
- Emergence of bilateral power flow in Level 2 has enormously incorporated complexity into the physical layer.
- Initiatives have been laid upon the shoulder of traditional passive end-users, among whom tremendous social complexity can arise as a result.
- Appropriate sets of policies and coordination rules need to be set for the whole social welfare (economic growth, security and environment sustainability).

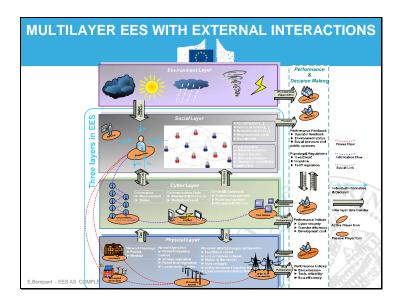
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COMPLEX SYSTEMS (MLICS)

- EES operation and performances are related to various interacting aspects that may be social, psychological, technical, economic and environmental.
- EES may be schematized by three layers: social, cyber and physical.
- The layers interact among themselves and with external inputs to determine the overall performance of the system that can be measured by a set of meaningful metrics (energy savings, environmental pollution, market efficiency...).
- The overall "system control" can be exerted only in terms of policy actions, implemented by laws and regulations (compelling, prohibiting, incentivising or de-incentivizing)

 Esto-influence-the behaviour of the various players.



LAYERS IN EES: PHYSICAL



- Physical layer is the layer in which power is flowing.
- In the layer, are included power grids (radial or meshed) with (active and reactive) power injection/withdrawal at specific locations (nodes) which generated (real and reactive) power flow depending on the "electrical" topology of the network in terms of connections among nodes and their admittances.
- The grid needs to be operated under a set of strict operational constraints (voltage profile, max line flow limits, steady state and dynamic security constraints)

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LAYERS IN EES: CYBER



- Cyber layer is the layer in which information (for technical/economic operations) are flowing over ICT supports.
- The operation of the grid relays on an ICT communication/command/control systems that transfer technical data for the field, in terms of digital and analogue information to human/automatic decision makers and, vice versa, provide command and control action to the fields.
- The information exchange is also key in a smooth functioning of electricity markets for real time price information (retail market) and power exchange operation (wholesale market)

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LAYERS IN EES: SOCIAL



- Social layer: is the layer in which, individually and within a social network, people makes decisions
- The decision making incorporates human and automatic procedure to control the status of the players and their interactions with the system at various levels (from a national Transmission System Operator to a single prosumer) with reference to the physical/economic flows.

F Bompard - FES AS COMPLEX SYSTEMS - JRC Petten



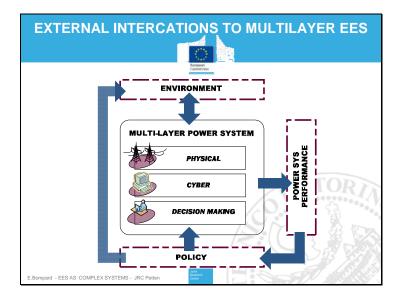
TIMEFRAMES FOR MULTILAYERS EES



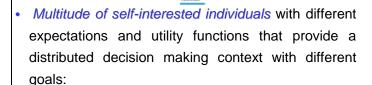
- In the short term EES interact with an external environment, in terms of social, economic (market) and environmental conditions, subject to some constraints and incentives provided by the policy/regulation.
- In the mid/long term the change in the policy/regulation, considering possible changes in the environment strive for an improvement of the expected performances (economic efficiency, energy sustainability, security of supply).

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COMPLEX ISSUES IN EES



 Policy makers with considerations for global environment, energetic problems, social expectations, economic efficiency and security of supply metric to create sets of targets, laws, rules and instruments for achieving global goals.

COMPLEX ISSUES IN EES



- Individuals with constraints from policies and technical possibilities, and with considerations of economic terms from the other parts of the system to decide on the behaviour of himself so that he can get what is needed as both easy and economic as possible.
- The system operator, operates with constraints from policy makers and operational feasibility, and considering gathered information and expectations from individuals, to do the most reliable and economical operation for the system.

COMPLEX ISSUES IN EES



- The distributed decision making interacts with the network structure with physical (Kirchhoff's law) and operational constraints defining its (active and reactive) flows (flow networks).
- The states the system (feasible/unfeasible, of secure/unsecure reliable and unreliable, stable and instable, vulnerable and resilient, survivable and un-survivable performance) built in real time and in medium/long term are based on those distributed devices over its physical layer with a set of communication/control channels provided by its Cyber layer.

COMPLEX ISSUES IN EES



• The modelling of the system comprises the model of each individual (SO, DSO, prosumer...) for the technical (power profile, ICT channel ...) and economic (profit, cost), defining a utility and interactions among themselves and with the cyber and physical layers. Providing study case and running simulation on the interactions with desired time frame, the global performance can be derived.

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COMPLEX SCIENCE AS AN APPROACH FOR EES



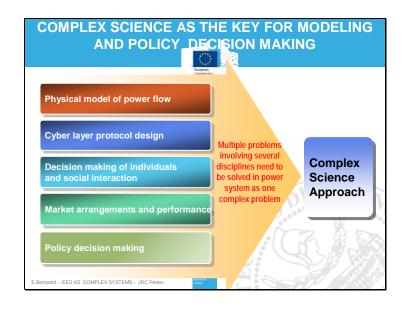
WHY WE NEED COMPLEX SYSTEM METHODOLOGIES IN EES

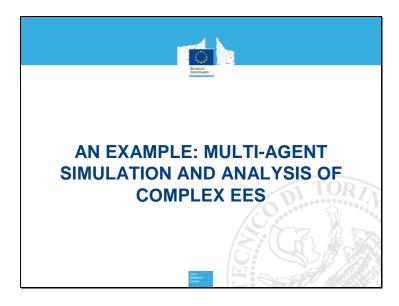


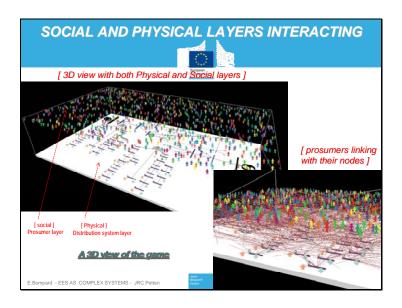
- Difficult to capture all the interactions with traditional "closed form" models (analytical equations).
- Traditional models are mainly focused only on one layer or in one of its subsets.
- Need for cross-boundary analysis in which the focus is more on the interactions (connecting variables) among the layers than on the layer itself.
- Provide a realistic simulation of the EES and their interactions (internal and external) as a tool for policy decision making support.
- Testing and assessment "in vitro" of legislative and regulation measures ex-ante

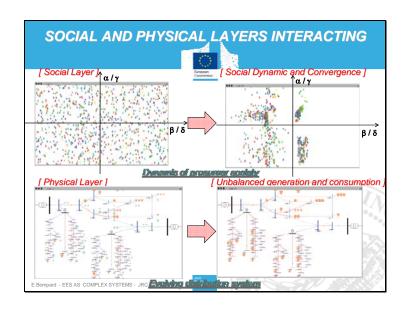
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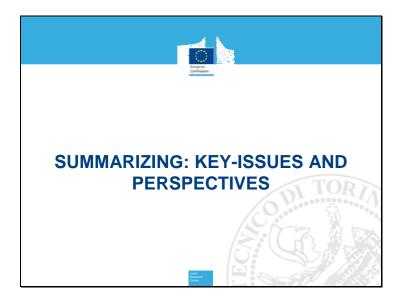


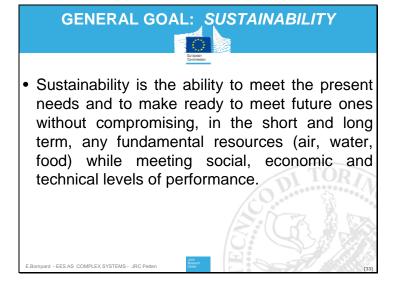












THE CONTEXT



- A complex world with distributed decision makings, characterized by a multitude of self-interested individuals considering specific psychological and social profiles, interacting among themselves and with the environment to produce global system performance.
- Competition and markets, is the key word to achieve the goal (as economic efficiency, social welfare - education, health, social security, satisfaction of energy needs, reduction of environmental impacts).
- A huge amount of information, coming from different levels of the system, has been made available to decision makers through massive uses of the ICT technology
- The context is complex and not complicated; what arouses complexity is the interplay of all the "layers" and not in each layer itself

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CONTROL AND SYSTEM GOVERNANCE

- Regulatory level decision making (policy decision making) may affect
 the sought global performance "exciting" with (rules, constraints,
 incentives,...) and let the system evolving (hopefully in the right
 direction).
- The decision makers for making proper rules for driving the "complex world of interacting systems" toward the desired performance need both theoretical framework and simulation tools for assessing the impacts of new decision/s rules ex-ante, through simulating "in vitro" the overall environment.
- In complex systems both "economic" and "physical" layers are coexistent. Physical variables and constraints are related to physical laws that rule the world; they are "nature based" and cannot be altered. Economic variables are "man-made", a little bit more artificial and, to a certain extent, can be decided and changed.
- · Which are the relations among the two types of variable?
- •ы"Capture complexity to rule the world"?

A CHANGE IN THE FOCUS

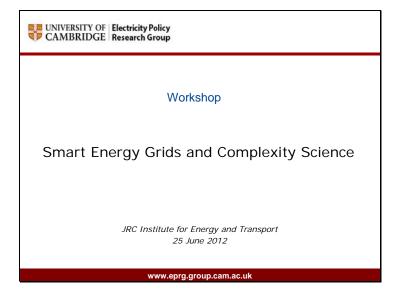


- Focus has been inside each layer traditionally; it is time to shift
 the focus from "inside" the layers to the interface variable
 among the layers to capture the complexity;
- There is a need for interdisciplinary "coordinated approach" in which different specialists work together to model the world unified by the same "complex view".
- Complexity may have a tremendous impact on cultural paradigm. Human knowledge has been divided into many disciplines with their own theoretical tools and paradigm. Complex science techniques and theoretical tools are used from literature to physics from sociology to medicine.... Might complexity overcome this separation and unify somehow again the knowledge?

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2.3 Malika Chawla: Smart Grids and Complexity Science: Smart Grids and Complexity Science



Organization

Mallika Chawla

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Focus of the Group has remained in conducting rigorous independent research on important questions from electricity and energy industry



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Ongoing activities/projects relevant for Smart Energy systems and/or complexity

Current Research: International Benchmarking of Electricity Transmission System Operators for efficiency in System Operation Functions

- Funded by the EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council)
- Part of the Autonomic Power System (APS)
- Academic team comprises of PhDs and RAs from the University of Cambridge, Durham, Manchester, Strathclyde, Sussex and Imperial College London



Complexity science approach to energy system

Objective: Examine the efficiency of different transmission arrangements that exists across the world with a view to estimate costs and incentives associated with an autonomic world

Methodology: Quantitative benchmarking using Frontier Efficiency Analysis (applying Data Envelopment Analysis and/or Stochastic Frontier Analysis) on an international dataset collected from different transmission system operators



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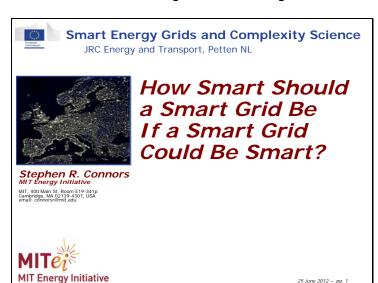
How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

Contribution

- Highlight the challenges involved in conducting such a benchmarking analysis
- Add to the skewed literature of defining inputs/outputs/environmental factors for different System Operation Functions
- Broaden our understanding of the transmission arrangement that would be best suited for a more autonomic world



2.4 Steve Connors: : How Smart should a smart grid be if a smart grid could be smart?



No Single "Smart Grid"







- The Smart Meter-Smart House Smart Grid (LV/EU) Including Net-Zero Buildings, Smart Electric Vehicle Charging and "V2G"
- » All of the Above? If so, When, Where and How?
- How Smart is Your Smart Grid?
 - » The "Genius Grid"
 - » The "Not Dumb Grid"
 - » The "Not as Smart as it Thinks it Is Grid"
- Innovating for the Smart Grid?
 - » Who's Smart Grid is It? (Access and use of Information)
 - » Who Invests? Who Pays? Who Benefits?



MITer S.R. Connors – MITEI / AGREA (connorsr@mit.edu)

25 June 2012 - pa. 3

Smart Grids in Context

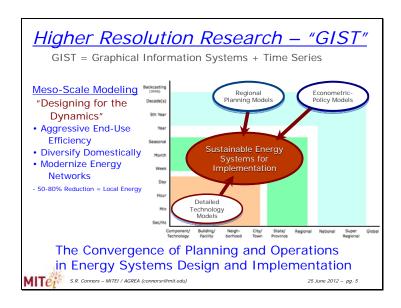


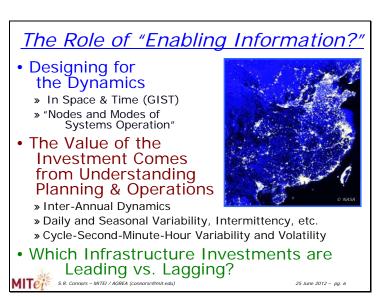
- Recommendations to the 2006 UK-DTI Energy Review to simultaneously meet Climate Change and Energy Security goals...
 - » Aggressive End-Use Efficiency
 - > Requires a detailed understanding of energy use patterns, to deploy the "three classes of energy efficiency."
 - » Diversify Domestically
 - > Requires a detailed understanding of the size, temporal and spatial variability of energy sources and sinks.
 - » Modernize Energy Networks

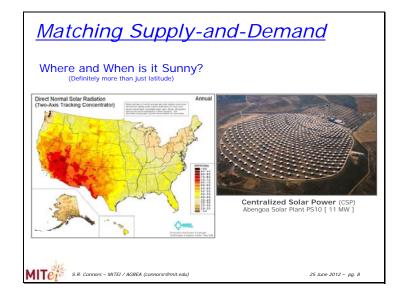
Requires a detailed understanding of the above and network thresholds and important infrastructure

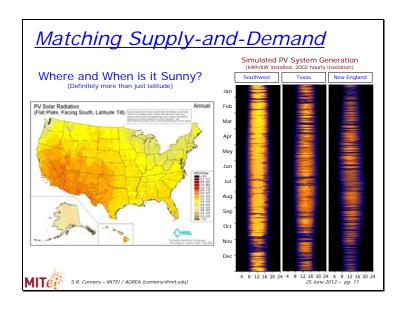
"nodes and modes"

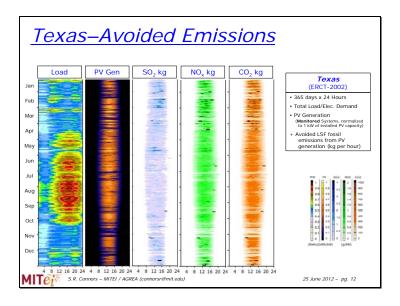
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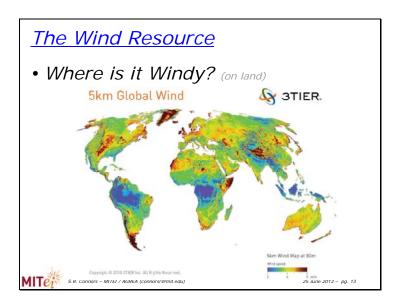


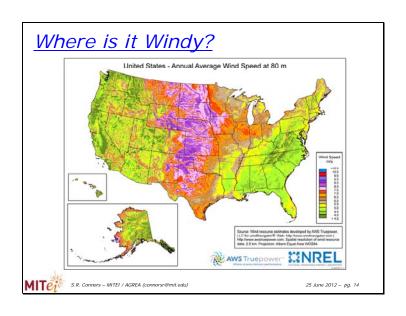


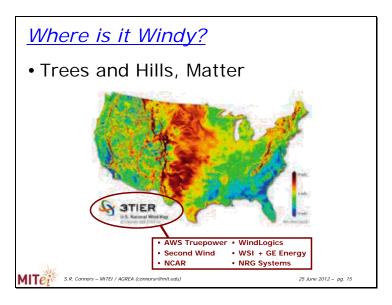


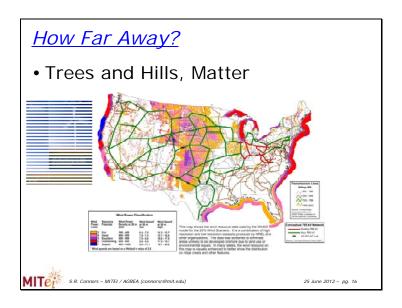


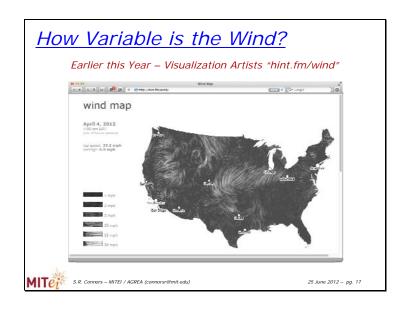


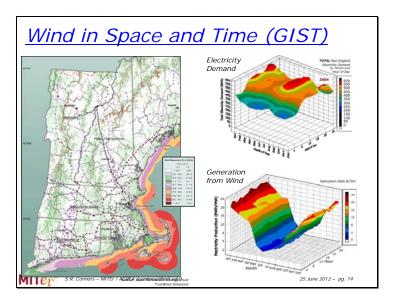




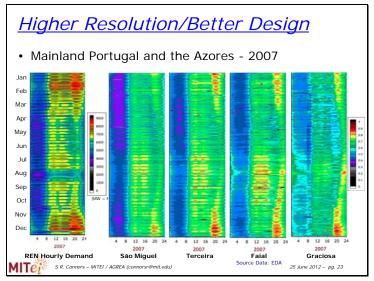


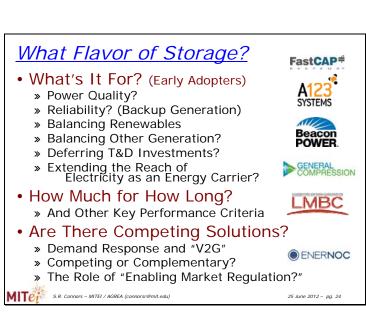












Steve's Key Questions...

- For **Sizing Up Storage** (Energy Side)
 - » How Much for How Long? (e.g. energy value) · Charge/Capacity Retention Rate?
 - » At What Charge/Discharge Rates? • How many will I need? How "useful" are they?
 - » At What Cycle Efficiency?
 - » At What "Spark Spread?" (e.g. economic value)
 - » At What Capacity/Capital Cost?
- All Energy is Situational (Local) ... in Space and Time



S.R. Connors - MITEI / AGREA (connorsr@mit.edu)

25 June 2012 - pg. 25

Value of "Fast" Grid Resources

- Recent Lessons Regarding the Value of Storage, DR, Smart EVs
 - > Reduce "Spilled Wind"
 - > Charge EVs at the "Right Time"
 - > Size and Location of Storage
 - > Efficiency Gains in Fossil Operations
- What Flavor of Demand Response?
 - > Emergency (EDR), Power Quality (PDR), Balancing (BDR), and Market (MDR)
 - > Expanded Definition of DR includes Fast Storage, "Grid-Aware" EV Charging (& V2G)



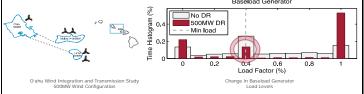
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25 June 2012 - pg. 26

Demand Response for Hawai'i JISEA



 How might DR Help Hawai'i accept more wind as it ramps up renewable generation?



- Flexible resources such as DR and storage may help the entire system run smoother.
- How do we guarantee that these types "balancing" options are "real" to local system operators?

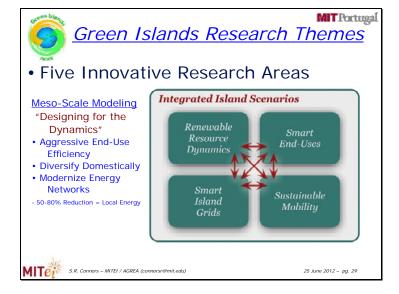


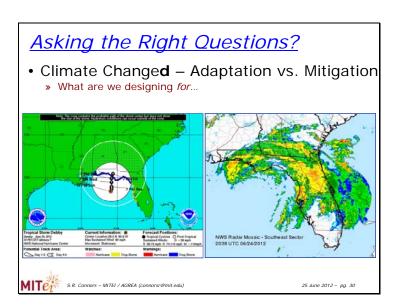
MITE: S.R. Connors - MITEI / AGREA (connorsr@mit.edu)





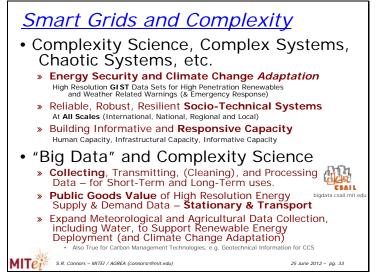
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Asking the Right Questions? • Climate Changed – Adaptation vs. Mitigation » What are we designing for... **Price Bon Deby*** **Cornel Monaco Call State Change Control Co





2.5 Andre Grebenc: Smart Grids and Complexity Science









Complexity science approach to energy system

Complexity in energy systems is in general a vague concept. It is often used as a synonym of complicated systems.

I suggest a strong complexity approach:

- Study of nonlinear, emergent, self-organized, resilient dynamic properties in new types of energy systems





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (1)

- Technological-technical complex systems
- Sustainability as a complex smart energy system
- New types of energy business models as complex systems





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (2)

- Technological-technical complex systems
 - a) Energy point of view (distributed generation (DG), demand side management (DSM))
 - b) Topological (network) point of view (small-world, scale-free networks)
 - c) Cyber point of view (Broadband Distribution PLC, Internet of things)





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (3)

Ad a) Energy point of view:

Research on new architecture of smart energy systems and networks

- mixed: large scale and scattered small scale generation
- transition of radial \rightarrow meshed networks
- new type of power protection systems
- robustness of energy part of systems (double network power injection points)
- end-user intervention to demand side management





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (4)

Ad b) Topological point of view

- Architecture and dynamics of fused power-cyber networks
- Dynamics of new type of **power networks** power flow control and optimisation under new conditions- possible emergence and chaotic behaviour
- Dynamics of **cyber networks** data flow research and possible emergence and chaotic behaviour





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (5)

Ad c) Cyber point of view

- Network fusion (power, cyber- Broadband DPLC) and systemic service robustness (DPLC - only one fused network)
- Separate networks (power, cyber)





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (6)

- Sustainability as a complex smart energy system
 - Mix of energy sources and its architecture as a complex system (emergence)
 - Energy storage and stored energy injections as a complex system (emergence)
 - Eco-energy system as a complex system





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research (7)

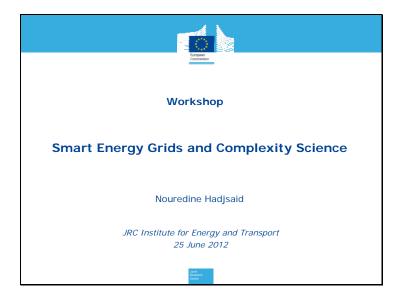
New type of energy business models as complex systems

- local energy communities as complex systems
- new stakeholder mix models (power producers, prosumers, power network operators, cyber net providers, energy communities, regulators and policy makers) their interplay as a complex system
- economy energy models (internalisation of costs) as a complex system (emergency, chaotic models??)



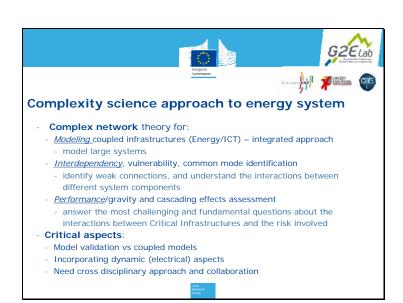


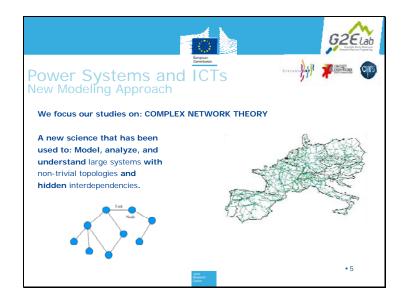
2.6 Nouredine Hadjsaid: Smart Grids and Complexity Science

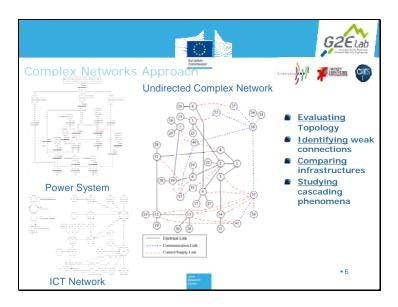


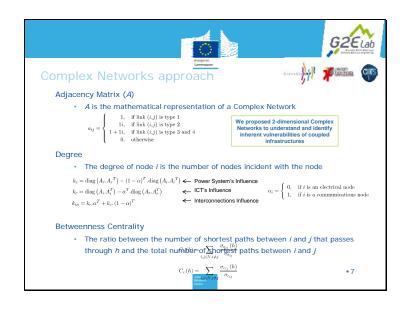


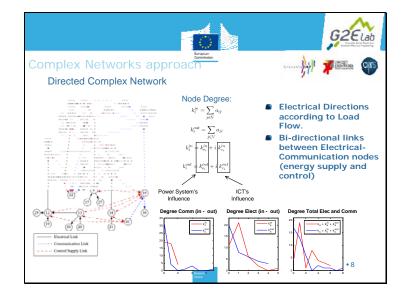


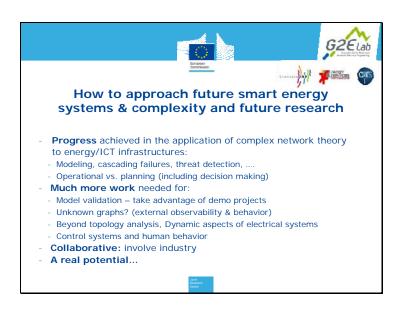




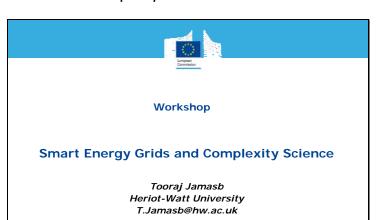








2.7Tooraj Jamasb: Smart Grids and Complexity Science



JRC Institute for Energy and Transport 25 June 2012





Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh

Tooraj Jamasb Prof., Energy Economics:

- Reform and liberalisation
- Innovation and technology economics and policy
- Household energy demand and spending
- Networks

HW Energy Theme / Academy:

- Advanced energy materials
- Asset condition monitoring
- CO₂ capture and storage
- Energy modelling, use, logistics
- Low-carbon buildings
- Petroleum engineering
- Solar energy
- Sustainable development
- •Wave and tidal energy
- •Wind and marine energy.





Ongoing activities/projects relevant for Smart Energy systems and/or complexity

Networks:

- Incentive regulation,
- Service quality,
- •Weather/geography,
- •Electric vehicles
- ■Public engagement
- Critical infrastructure,

Ongoing Projects:

- SESAME Securing the European Electricity Supply Against Malicious and Accidental Threats (FR7)
- CfSRF Centre for Sustainable Road Freight (UK Research Councils)
- SusGrid Sustainable Grid Development (Norway Research Council)





Complexity science approach to energy system

Your viewpoint, your activities and interests,...

- Smart grid Not just a technical concept
- The interface where the user/society meets the network/technology
- Socio-Economic and Technical Complexity i. Customers, ii. citizens, iii. loads
- Empowering the consumer/user (sovereignty):
 Technology,
 Economic incentives,

 - ➤ Information.





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

Vision, what to do and how,

- Challenge: Complexity to be translated/operationalized into "simplicity"
- Complexity science: "Resilience" for the networks (broadly speaking)
- Complexity science: "Versatility" for user (multi need/purpose)
- Key words: i. New regulatory approaches, ii. Investments, iii. Innovation, iv. New business models



2.8 Marko Milovanovic: Smart Grids and Complexity Science









Complexity science approach to energy system

Innovations are developed on the basis of many assumptions with regard to consumer responses (acceptability, behavior)

Invalid assumptions lead to poor in(ter)ventions

Understanding how innovations influence human behavior is key for the success of smart energy grids





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

Understanding the unique characteristics of a smart energy grid

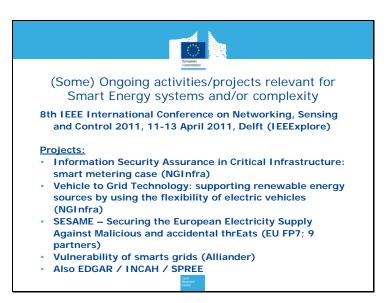
- Community of co-dependent prosumers
 - Community processes (scarcity)
- Game theory?
- Energy use becomes transparent
 - Type of information (feedback) shapes our motives
 - Individual motives
 - Social motives



2.9 Zofia Lukszo, Igor Nikolic: Smart Grids and Complexity Science









Complexity science approach to energy system

Strong Complex Adaptive Systems perspective

- Socio-technical complexity
- Evolution / coevolution / dynamics
- Multi-level / Multi-actors / Multi-criteria / Multi-time scale
- Tools / approaches
 - Socio-technical ABM of systems evolution and operation

 - Mathematical modeling and optimization
 - Network theory / topology



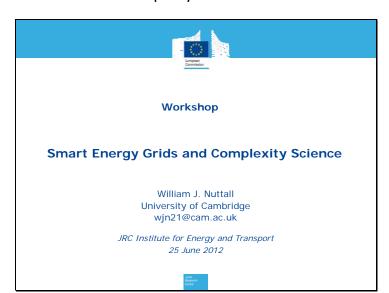


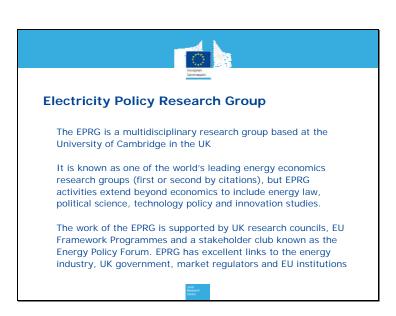
How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

- Understanding the multilevel/distributed character of future energy systems by modeling the evolution and operation
- Steering by Multi-optimization
- Security-by-design
 Big data / Open data
- Democratization of modeling energy systems (enipedia)



2.10 William J. Nuttall: Smart Grids and Complexity Science









Me and complexity

My background is in physics (PhD MIT 1993 -experimental condensed matter – phase transitions)

My interest in complexity dates back more than 20 years. It predates my interest in energy and technology policy.

In the 1980s my PhD introduced me to experts in the emerging discipline of complexity science, but frankly I did not fully appreciate it at the time.

In recent years I have been a founding committee member of the Nonlinear and Complex Physics Group of the Institute of Physics





Complexity science approach to energy system

Much of my energy technology and policy work has connected to physics in a different way. I am mostly known for my work on policy for civil nuclear power.

Arguably nuclear power favours, and is favoured by, electricity systems that lack scientific complexity. Nuclear power today is a base-load technology well suited to conventional notions of electricity transmission and distribution.

By working on nuclear power I have grown to understand issues in electricity policy. Separately, I see how complexity insights can shape the future of the electricity business.





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

I strongly support and welcome the agenda of this workshop.

Numerous other conferences have considered the complexity within the future smart electricity system and some are still attempting to define it. I am attracted to this meeting because it also considers the complexity that will sit around the future smart electricity system.

I would like to mention some issues that come to mind, which relate to broader complexity to varying degrees.





Complexity around, not just within, the future smart grid

I see this in various domains:

Technological Complexity

Social Complexity

Business Complexity

Environmental Complexity

Whether my remarks use the phrase 'complex' in a scientific or a metaphorical sense remains unresolved. At this stage they are merely ideas that interest me



Technological Complexity

The future electricity distribution has the potential to become an 'inverse infrastructure' in the spirit of the recent book edited by Tineke Egyedi and Donna Mehos of TU Delft. That is: 'bottom up, user driven, self-organising networks'.

Furthermore users will not just adopt new technologies, they will adapt them to uses never imagined by their developers ('appropriated technologies').

New sources of value will be found, but also previously unimagined risks will emerge. These risks will complement the already known (and hence managed) safety risks in distribution system maintenance that arise in shifting from one source point for power, easily interrupted at the substation, to a world of distributed generation and prosumers each of which must be disonnected before maintenance can safely be undertaken [with thanks to Ignacio Perez-Arriaga]



Social Complexity

The shift from electricity consumers to 'prosumers' will bring with it new issues of legal complexity. Previously the electricity system developed as directed by policy and the law (e.g. unbundling following liberalisation). In the future regulation and the law will need to catch up with issues driven by technological change [with thanks to Hamilcar Knops TU Delft]

Community initiatives in electricity self-reliance can run up against the legal right for consumers to switch supplier [M. Pollitt, chapter in *Competitive Electricity Markets* [...] Ed. F.P. Sioshansi, 2008]

Social complexity will involve both expanding and declining cities. To what extent will smart grid innovation be associated only with communities with obviously bright futures? How does the notion of universal quality of service survive in the smart grid world? Could this be worse than the perhaps over-hyped 'digital divide' in information services?



Business Complexity

Unbundling has led to separated businesses of generation, transmission, distribution and in some cases 'supply'.

The future smart grid brings with it the possibility of new business models such as stronger brokers and aggregators acting on behalf of consumers or prosumers.

Smart system data will have a value and could be traded, albeit constrained by legal restrictions, such as those relating to privacy concerns.

It is noteworthy that neither SMS messaging nor Apps markets were fully understood by telecoms policy makers before they appeared. I wonder what businesses might appear from the interaction of a complex electricity system with empowered prosumers.





Environmental Complexity

Here we turn to aspects of the changing climate and changing weather, with complex and slow-burning linkages to energy choices.

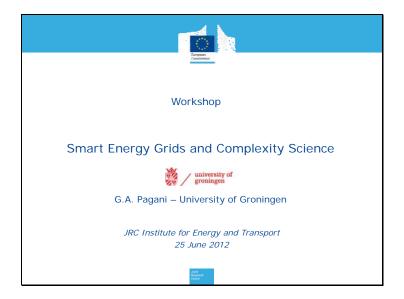
These matters have already been introduced by Steve Connors,

So I shall stop ...

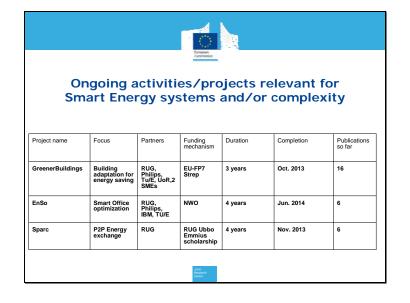
Thank you

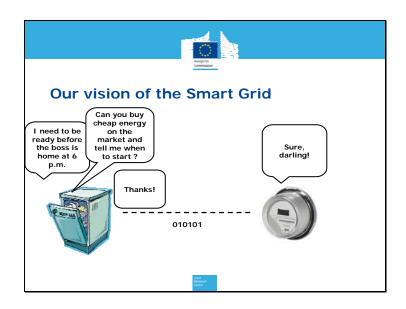


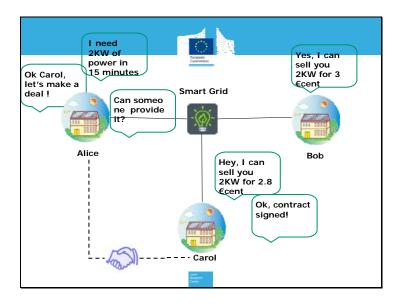
2.11 Andrea Pagani: Smart Grids and Complexity Science

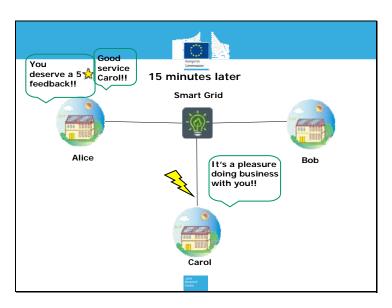


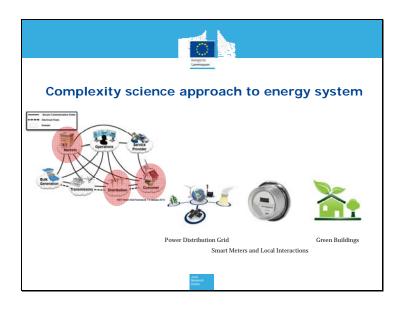


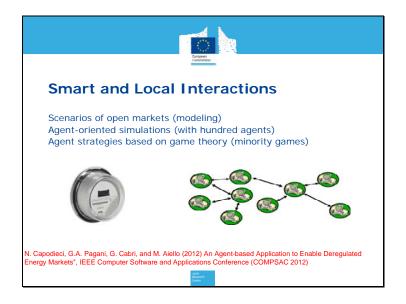


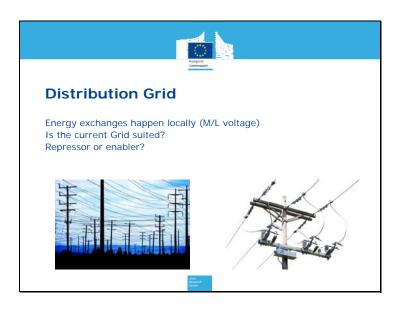












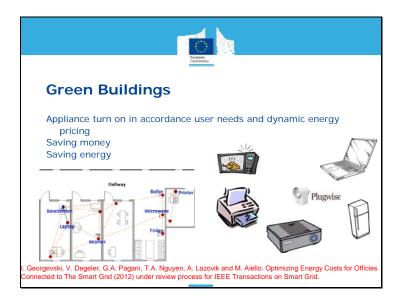


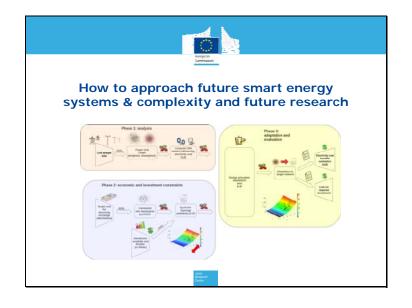
- Complex Network Analysis
- Real M/L Voltage Grid Analysis
- Effects of topology on electricity distribution costs
- Design of best suited networks

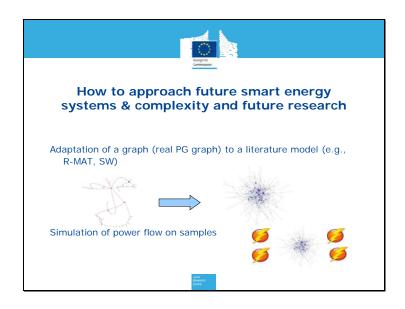


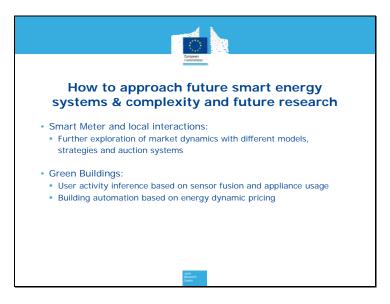
G. A. Pagani and M. Aiello. Towards Decentralized Trading: A Topological Investigation of the Medium and Low Voltage Grids (2011) in IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid, 3(2): 538 - 547.



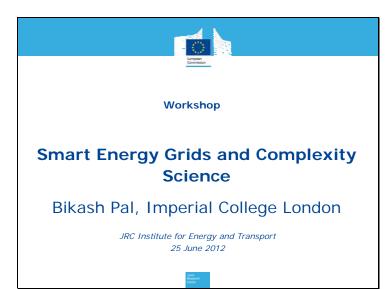






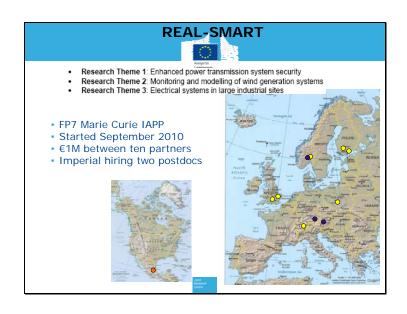


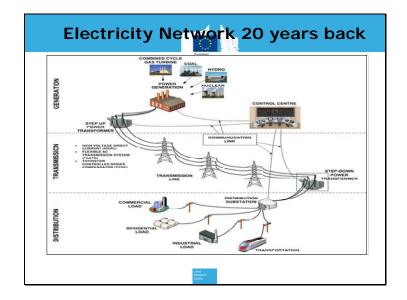
2.12 Bikash Pal: Smart Grids and Complexity Science

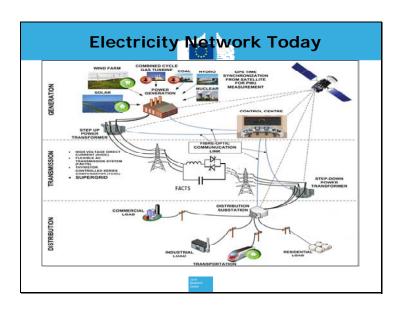


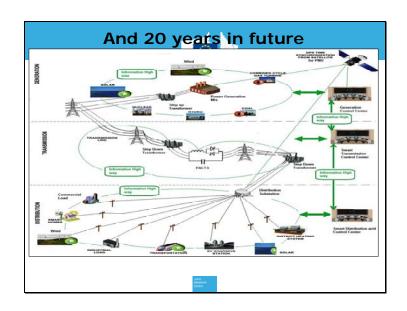
The group • Prof Alessandro Astolfi (Group Head) Prof A AstolfiProf. Richard Vinter •Dr. Balarko Chaudhuri Prof Tim Green Dr David Angeli •Dr. Paul D. Mitcheson •Dr. Bikash Pal Dr Simos Evăngelou •Dr. Imad Jaimoukha •Prof. Goran Strbac •Dr Eric Kerrigan 15 Post-Doctoral Research **Associates** 20 Graduate Research **Assistants** 65 PhD students

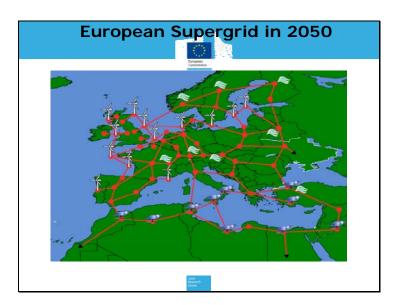
• Robust Power Transmission Control • State Estimation for Distribution Network • Wide Area Monitoring and Control • Dynamic Modelling and Analysis of wind generation











New technologies and anticipated research questions

Generation (Asynchronous)
• Will the new generation be able to maintain the

frequency?

Transmission (AC and DC)

• Is power transmission control through telecom network effective and secured?

Distribution (New forms of demand)

• Will much talked about demand control be in place?

Topic of Research Interest



- Network voltage stabilityDynamic demand control
- Centralised and distributed storage
- Dynamic interaction between the market and the system
- Frequency stabilitySecurity/stability of coupled cyber physical energy systems



Frequency stability



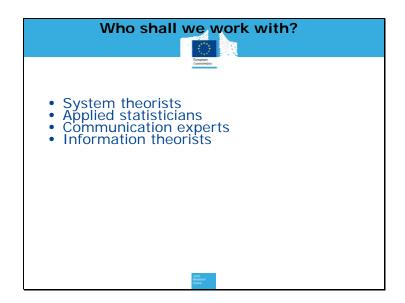
- How will the system respond to disturbance with new technologies?
 Dynamics of new generation, demand and storage are not well understood

Approaches

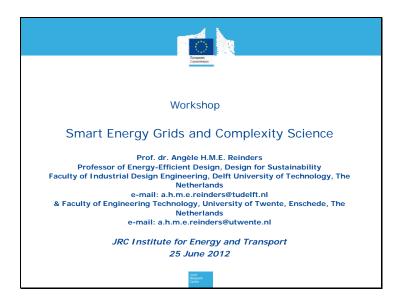
- Multi scale modellingSpatial and temporal scaleOne unified simulation tool
- Robust control



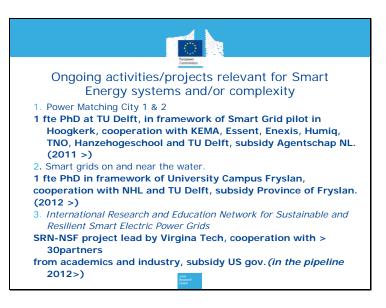


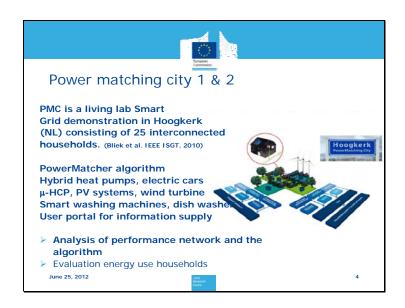


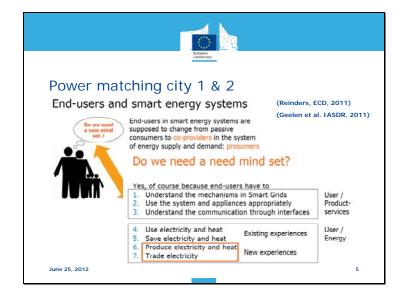
2.13 Angele Reinders: Smart Grids and Complexity Science

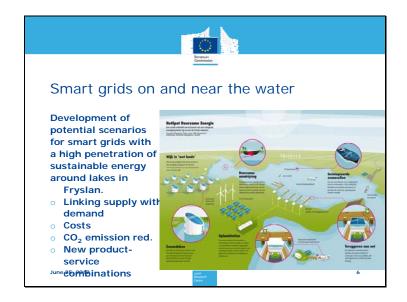


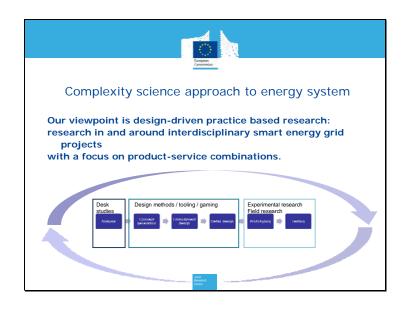


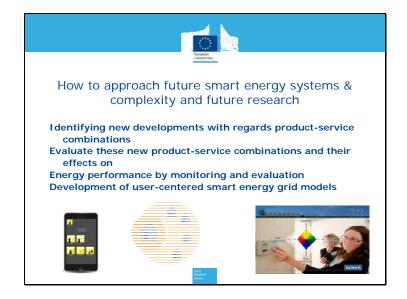








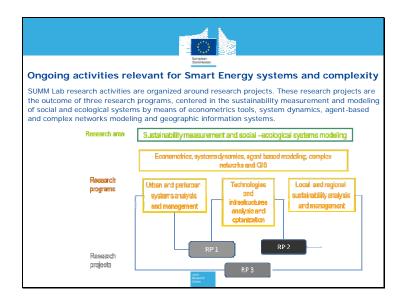


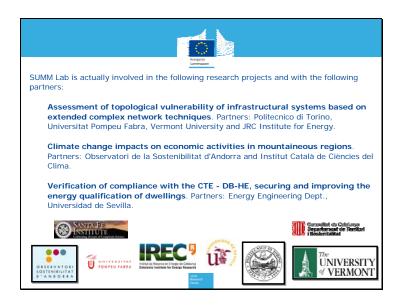


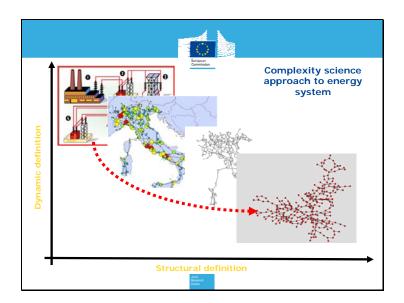
2.14 Marti Rosas-Casals: Smart Grids and Complexity Science

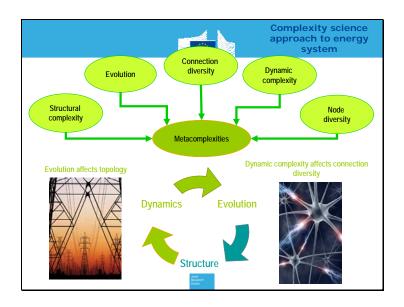


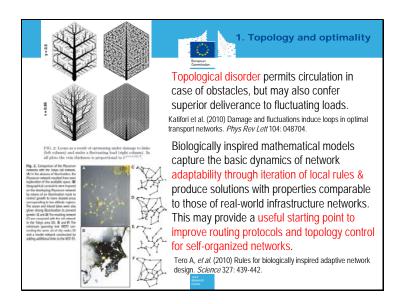


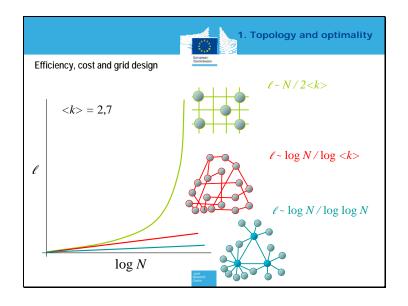


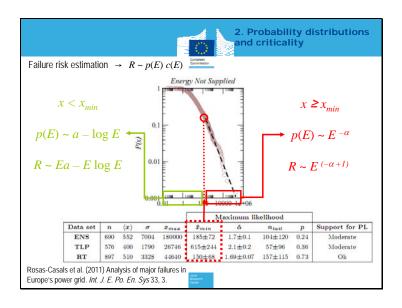


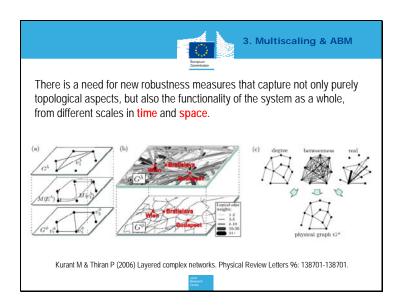


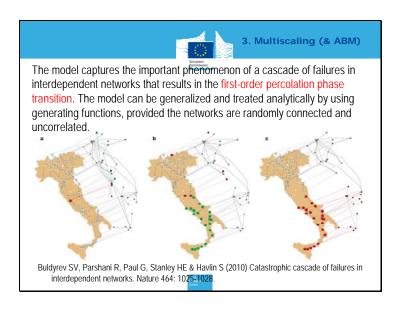


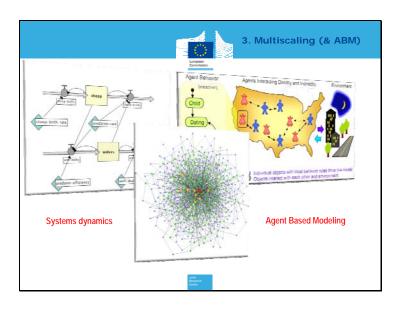


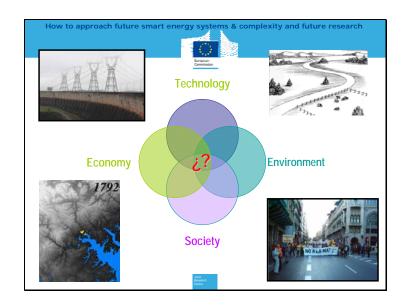


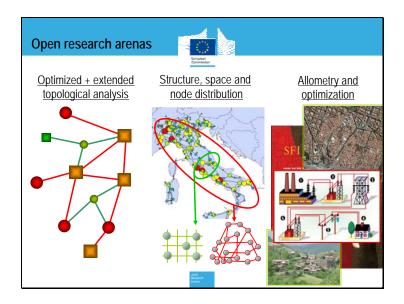


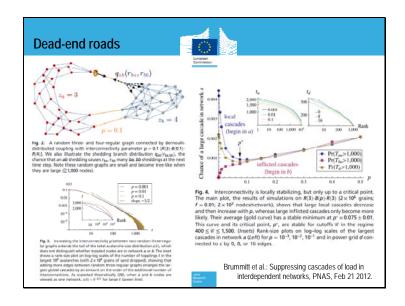


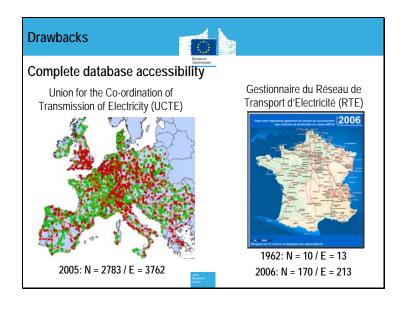


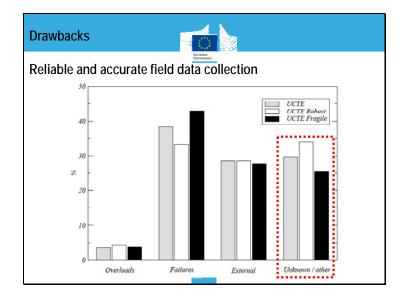












Other pressing questions



Is there a way to design a reliable power grid with a modified (N-X) criterion?

How can this criterion be adapted to the evolutionary development of a power grid? How can this be related with distribution and consumption grids?

Where is the optimal tradeoff between reliability and fragility in terms of topology? Does it exist?

Is there a way to develop planning tools with topological as well as other sustainable criteria, rather than reliability alone, like energy equity and land fragmentation? And how this fact would affect the aforementioned tradeoff?



2.15 Giorgio Sonnino: Smart Grids and Complexity Science







SMART ENERGY GRIDS IN FEW WORDS

- A Smart Grid is an electricity network that can intelligently integrate the actions of all users connected to it generators, consumers and those that do both in order to efficiently deliver sustainable, economic and secure electricity supplies.
- A Smart Grid employs innovative products and services together with intelligent monitoring, control, communication, and self-healing technologies to:
- . better facilitate the connection and operation of generators of all sizes and technologies; $\,$
- . allow consumers to play a part in optimizing the operation of the system;
- . provide consumers with greater information and choice of supply;
- . significantly reduce the environmental impact of the whole electricity supply system;
- . deliver enhanced levels of reliability and security of supply.

Smart Grids deployment must include not only technology, market and commercial considerations, environmental impact, regulatory framework, standardization usage, ICT (Information & Communication Technology) and migration strategy but also societal requirements and governmental edicts.



Complexity science approach to energy system

What Do We Want?

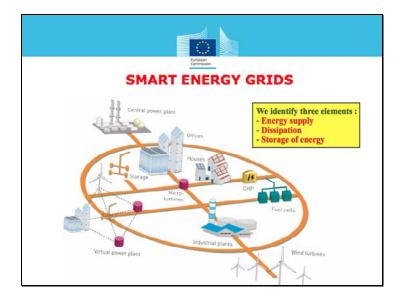
- -To perform a transition from the traditional energy supply to multiple decentralized energy resources.
- -We want less energy-production with fossil fuels.
- -To generate a "two-way flow" in the integrated system, i.e.:

ENERGY ←→ INFORMATION

I mean by this

Energy supply ←→ Rate of consumption, forecast of energy production etc.







Complexity science approach to energy system

PROBLEM 1

- Integrating large amount of renewable energy sources like wind and solar power introduces fluctuations in the power production.

PROBLEM 2

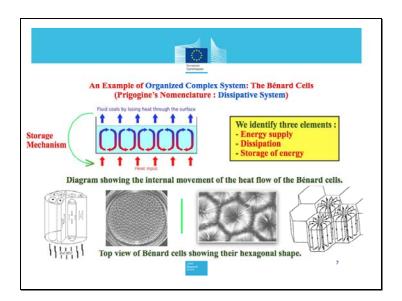
- The smart energy grid emerges from the collective interaction of the single parts, and the system cannot be predicted from the dynamics of the, non interacting, single parts (Complex Phenomenon).

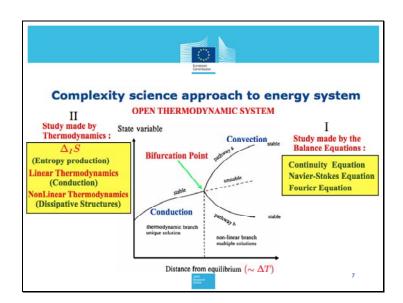


Complex Systems are very difficult to analyse for several reasons:

- Heavy numerical simulations;
- **- Difficult mathematical treatment** (in general, complex systems are treated by nonlinear dynamics).









MY SUGGESTION

Statistical thermodynamics (Prigogine's statistical thermodynamics).

- We renounce to a local description and we adopt a statistical approach;
- We assume that our network is composed by a very large number of branches and nodes;
- The first approximation consists in considering a branch between two nodes as "a unique and single point".





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

A Brief Introduction of the Idea

Our network is an open thermodynamic system (i.e., submitted to external energy supplies);

The branches are so "dense" that we can assume that the system is "quite"-continuous in space;

We introduce a probability density of finding a state with value of the power production P_E lies between P_E and $P_E + \Delta P_E$.





How to approach future smart energy systems & complexity and future research

A Brief Introduction of the Idea

Let us consider a system characterized by n degrees of variables $A_1,\ A_2,\cdots A_n$. The (local) equilibrium values are $A_1^0,\ A_2^0,\cdots A_n^0$. Denoting by $\alpha_\mu=A_\mu-A_\mu^0\ (i=1\cdots n)$ the n deviations of the thermodynamic quantities from their equilibrium value, Prigogine proposed that the probability distribution of finding a state in which the values α_μ lie between α_μ and $\alpha_\mu+d\alpha_\mu$ is given, up to a normalization constant, by [1]

$$\mathcal{F} \propto \exp\left(\frac{\Delta_I S}{k_B}\right)$$

;

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot I = \frac{d_I s}{dt}$$

A model should be adopted for estimating $\Delta_I S$.





Advantages of this approach

The system can be described by a relatively low number of variables.

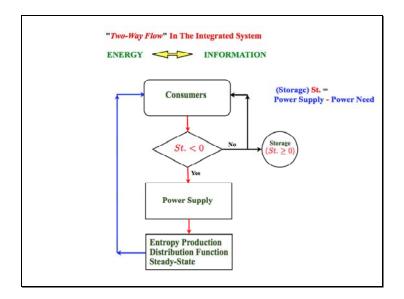
We can use the thermodynamic theorems for systems out of equilibrium:

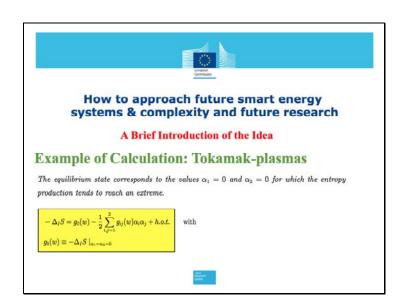
Minimum Entropy Production Theorem:

"The steady state configuration corresponds to an extreme of $\Delta_I S$ ".

General Criterion of Evolution governing the relaxation law towards the steady-state configuration.









A Brief Introduction of the Idea

Example of Calculation: Tokamak-plasmas

Coefficients g_{ij} are determined by the particular system we are analyzing [see, for example, the distribution function for tokamak-plasma out of equilibrium "General Approach for Deriving Reference Distribution Functions for Systems out of Equilibrium by Statistical Thermodynamics" G. Sonnino, A. Cardinali, G. Steinbrecher et Al., Phys. Rev. E (2012)].



3. Challenge

Smart grid design and implementation needs to be coupled with broader social and cultural considerations in order for smart grids to be successful. Indeed, while smart grids need to be studied and understood as complex techno-socio-economic systems with multiple physical, cyber, social, policy, and decision making layers, these layers also interact with changing *external* conditions (economic cycles, technological innovation, and prevailing and changing weather and climatic conditions). Many actors interact within this broader "system of systems", such as prosumers, distributors, retailers, brokers, regulators and policy makers. They act via distributed decision making processes which impact the physically constrained network via diverse electronic means (from control and command systems to smart meters).

The complexity of the smart grid system rests on the multiplicity of interacting players that operate with, and within, a defined environment as independent decision-makers, with autonomous behaviours, goals and attitudes. These broader socio-technical networks form a community with high levels of interaction and integration among its actors.

While much research has looked at the purpose and functionality of smart grid systems, smart grids themselves are merely one system in a "system of systems". As such, complexity is not just an attribute of the smart grid alone, but also the systems interacting with it. For example, the increasing complexity of weather and climate, the increased complexity of social behaviour and the interaction of individuals guided by narrow economic rationality, the complexities of crisis management and emergency response (including the need to envisage and militate against such events and risks), and the overall organisational structure needed to manage all those complexities, must all be studied and modelled to adequately meet the emerging challenges to modern society.

In this context, in order to understand the complexity of future smart grids, there is the need to move focus and attention from a component-oriented to an interaction-oriented view of the electric power system. The goal of this systemic understanding is to identify tools and techniques for optimal decision-making that will enable society to achieve its energy, environmental, economic and social goals. The framework that should be developed will enable the identification of emerging problems and will provide new solutions and approaches.

4. Research questions

In this context, the research questions to be address are:

- Can complexity sciences help in understanding, modelling and simulating the emerging smart grid environment within a broader sustainability context including changes in economies, consumer and social behaviour, and climate variability and adaptation?
- Can sound policy decision making be based on theoretical models and simulation tools derived in the framework of dynamic multilayer interacting complex systems?
- How can the multi-layered, multi-actor energy system satisfy economic, environmental, security and social requirements? (The lessons learned from complex systems, social sciences and advanced ICT tools can help in answering these questions.)
- How might future energy systems be affected by different threats and risks?
- How can complexity science help in better addressing those threats and risks?
- How can future technological and social changes be anticipated, managed and integrated in policy and decision making?
- How can complexity science help in addressing these socio-technical challenges?
- What is the role played by "contextual" complexity due to the social environment, climate scenarios etc.?
 How can we properly to address such complexity?

5. Conclusion: Future Smart Energy Systems

6.1 Context

Our proposal aims at investigating the present and future challenges in, and around, future smart energy systems (FSES), employing complexity sciences for modeling and analyzing the dynamics and interactions of a broad range of actors and components constituting the technical (physical and cyber), socio-economic, and environmental aspects of those systems.

The FSES includes both local smart distribution grids (characterized by numerous independent participants like prosumers, retailers, distributed-generators, energy storage, EVs as well as technologies still to be invented) and transnational super grids (e.g. connecting large-scale time-varying renewable sources to national power grids and markets).

The main characteristics of these systems are:

- pervasive deployment of information and communication technologies (ICT);
- integration of renewable generation in support of energy, environmental and other policies;
- bidirectional communication and power exchange between suppliers and consumers/prosumers;
- multiplicity of interacting players operating with, and within, a defined architecture/market;
- enhanced network flexibility and reliability in a future smart energy system;
- newly required approaches for the monitoring, control and protection/defense of power systems in both space and time.

Why complexity sciences? Complexity of the FSES arises from the multiplicity of interacting players operating as independent decision makers with autonomous behaviours, goals and attitudes. Furthermore technical power systems will operate under varying environmental conditions, exchanging transactions in the power markets. A key concept in complexity science is 'emergence'. At this early stage in the development of FSES some emergent properties can already be anticipated. However, noting the complexity of the field we expect that important emergent properties remain unforeseen. Research resting on a robust complexity science foundation will allow stakeholders to rapidly identify and interpret emergent phenomena.

The hypothesis is that complexity sciences can help in identifying tools and techniques for optimal decision making encompassing policy and regulatory design, planning and investment, as well as real time operations. FSES research incorporating complexity sciences can provide models and guidelines for future developments, and for recognizing emerging behaviors and challenges.

6.2 Proposed view for research initiative

Our view on the proposed research agenda is based on the following points:

- Unified and unifying approach to FSES studies based on a complex systems view and methods. We
 propose an approach that will embrace the technological, social, business and environmental complexity
 of smart grids in a unified view, aiming at promoting sustainability and resilience through model based
 problem solving. While much of current research concentrates on the technical functionality of smart
 grids, these should be treated as "system of systems" with many self-governing components that
 respond to different economic and environmental issues beyond the pure operational ones. Modeling
 needs to take the broader techno-socio-economic context into account.
- <u>Complexities in and around FSES</u>. The electricity system infrastructure and its evolution are strictly intertwined with a wider set of contexts (social, technical, economic, environmental). These contexts interact with FSES and each other through patterns that are difficult to represent through traditional approaches. Differently from some current research exploring complexity within future smart electricity systems, our approach will also include the complexity of the interactions with the context. As such we take our consideration to the level of "system of systems within systems" We are interested in the complexity that will surround the future smart electricity system as the means towards a full understanding of its overall sustainability. For example, the dependence on the evolution of weather and climate change, the increased intricacies of social behaviours related to the active participation and the acceptance of different energy paths, the requirements of crisis management and emergency response,

and the overall organizational structure required to manage all of them contemporaneously must all be taken into consideration.

- Multi-scale modeling. The challenges coming from the multiscale phenomena in technology, society, business and environment have to be properly addressed with multiscale modeling. The system behaviour needs to be modelled using information or models from different levels. In the end, the approach should include the growing set of links and correlations in, and around, the FSES: how society and technology coevolves, how new business and social models will enable new patterns for the generation, distribution and consumption of electricity, how huge investments can be affordable confronting rapid technical shifts, etc. The availability and relevant use of data is crucial in this step.
- Evolutionary scenarios for societies: towards sustainability and resilience. Complex systems are simultaneously robust and fragile. The FSES will possess abilities to self-heal and adjust so as to cope with shocks that would cause a traditional distribution system to fail. These benefits, however, will come at the expense of new vulnerabilities and the risk that relatively small proximate triggers (perhaps from outside the FSES itself) could cause, through a cascade or combination of factors, severe disruptions to operations. The timescales of change are interesting and relevant. Sudden shocks are not the only concern, slow-burning trends and shifts can generate challenges. Will cities be able to cope with such complexities and potentially disruptive scenarios? To what extent will smart grid innovation be associated only with communities with vibrant futures? Social complexity will involve both expanding and declining cities. It is important to consider the needs of those without access to the FSES. How will those communities respond? How does the notion of universal quality of service survive in the smart grid world? Could this be worse than the perhaps over-hyped 'digital divide' in information services? What will be the social and energetic model be in the next 50 years? Which sustainable options will be available in 2050? Which role can be played by the emerging energy smart systems in stabilizing various scenarios? We need to fit FSES in the foreseeable future anticipating lifestyles and adaptation. There is the need for new approaches to resilience assessment. New opportunities and scenarios will encompass new risks that need to be taken into account, while calling for the separation of conventional and complex risks. Finally FSES brings benefits and vulnerabilities in the related areas of system safety and security with concern for the protection of individuals but also for systems themselves.
- <u>Complexity vs. simplicity</u>. The challenge of our approach is to suggest, by means of a complexity science strategy, ways of simplifying the representation and understanding of the system (e.g.: consumers are ready to pay more for simpler solutions). We promote a complexity science approach that strives for simplicity. Through understanding the heterogeneous characteristics in FSES with complexity science and theories, simple rules and strategies can be designed and tested for a set of representative phenomena and scenarios. Complex global system behaviors can be related to the responsibilities and capabilities of individual system participants, which would be clearly recognized and characterized through models. This type of analysis can influence standardization and regulation at all stages of system evolution.
- <u>Empowering stakeholders</u>. The objective is the empowerment of stakeholders, such as: consumers, governments and other institutions. Co-dependency of individuals will promote the creation of communities that will share benefits, while receiving and paying fair tariffs for the electricity generated and consumed. There is a need to better understand the energy consumers and anticipate lifestyles in light of their adaptation to new social and economic settings. How easily will users adapt or adopt the new system? Which kind of support will they require from authorities and utilities? How long might it take for a fully functional "smart powered" society? In addition, one can foresee that emerging behaviors of prosumers/consumers will require and force the development of new mindsets, which could parallel the emergence of social networks around the Internet. Some key questions could then be posed to society, e.g. How to change environmentally important behaviours?

6.3 Research agenda

Our research agenda will be organized as follows:

- 1) Formalization of the framework:
 - · Identification of relevant components, goals and interactions
 - List and analysis of the proposed framework in terms of players, stage/scenarios, metrics to measure performance-dependability, environment/contextual factors

- Identify and assess the possible interactions among all actors
- 2) Definition of a formalized environment for studying FSES:
 - definition of "agents" and interactions
 - make possible integration and comparison among various models proposed and implemented by various researchers
 - common interface among social models/simulators of power systems/cyber systems/environmental predictions
- 3) Development (theoretical and practical implementation), according to the identified evolutionary scenarios, models on various scales of the various layers and integrate for serving general purposes in developing FSES:
 - Checking the interoperability of the various modules developed by different R&D groups
 - Integration across layers
 - Integration at different scales (geographical, temporal)
- Application to case studies, and verification and validation with model comparison with different real benchmark cases
 - Checking sustainability and resilience
 - Checking simplicity and completeness,
 - Checking empowerment of stakeholders (modes of use, benefits, and dialogue)
 - Feedback: gaps and new research openings.

7. Contributors

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European Commission

EUR 25626 EN - Joint Research Centre - Institute for Energy and Transport

Title: Smart Grids and Complexity Science

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Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union

2012 - 76 pp. - 21.0 x 29.7 cm

 ${\it EUR-Scientific and Technical Research series-ISSN~1831-9424~(online),~ISSN~1018-5593~(print)}\\$

ISBN 978-92-79-27736-8 (pdf) ISBN 978-92-79-27737-5 (print)

doi:10.2790/69368

Abstract

This report proposes ideas and an approach to address present and future challenges in future smart energy systems through the particular lenses of complexity sciences.

Complexities arising inside and around emerging energy distribution systems prompt a multilayered and integrated approach in which different disciplines and areas of expertize are pooled together. The interfaces between system layers and intellectual disciplines are the focus, rather than the details of any individual layer or the particularities of one approach.

A group of people sharing this view and willing to proceed in this way organized a workshop at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, Petten, The Netherlands on 24th June 2012. Experts from different field of expertize convened to present their current research and discuss the future challenges of emerging smart energy systems via the afore-mentioned perspectives.

As the Commission's in-house science service, the Joint Research Centre's mission is to provide EU policies with independent, evidence-based scientific and technical support throughout the whole policy cycle.

Working in close cooperation with policy Directorates-General, the JRC addresses key societal challenges while stimulating innovation through developing new standards, methods and tools, and sharing and transferring its know-how to the Member States and international community.

Key policy areas include: environment and climate change; energy and transport; agriculture and food security; health and consumer protection; information society and digital agenda; safety and security including nuclear; all supported through a cross-cutting and multi-disciplinary approach.



