

The effects of nuclear power plant closures in Germany 2021-2023 on network flows and RE-dispatch

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Outline

1. Motivation

2. Brief description of the Model

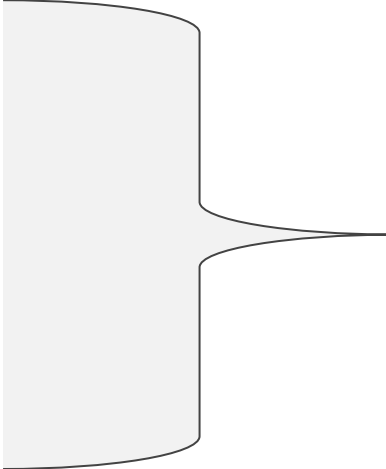
3. Scenario Overview

4. Results:

1. Power production with and without nuclear power plants
2. Analysis of power flows and Redispatch
3. Exploring historical power price data on the Day-Ahead-Market (2021-2023)
4. Outlook to 2030

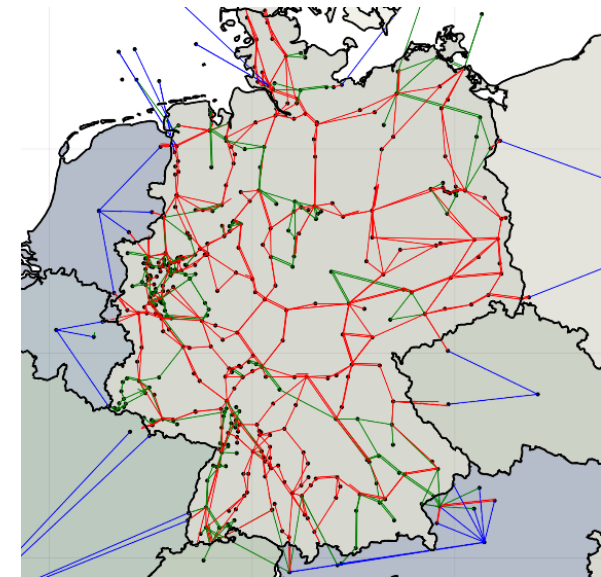
5. Summary and Conclusions

Motivation

- End of 2021 decommissioning of
 - Grohnde
 - Grundremingen C
 - Brockdorf
 - 15.04.2023 decommissioning of
 - Isar 2
 - Emsland
 - Neckarwestheim 2
 - Natural Gas Prices historically high due to Russia's invasion into Ukraine in February 2022
 - Understanding the impact of nuclear power plant closures on the electricity grid, in the light of supply security
 - Outlook to coal phase out in 2030
- 
- A light gray bracket-shaped graphic is positioned to the right of the first two bullet points. It has a wide, rounded left side and tapers to a point on the right, where a thin line connects it to the text 'Net capacity of 8.1 GW'.
- Net capacity of 8.1 GW
- Source: [MaStR](#)

Power System model - Overview

- Linear Optimization model, minimizing overall costs of operation
- Market simulation based on 2 Phases
 1. Market clearing following the merit order principles (Similar to Day-Ahead-Market)
 2. Congestion management and Redispatch using the DC load flow approach
- Highly detailed spatial representation of German high voltage grid
- Neighbouring Countries aggregated as 1 Node
- Temporal resolution on hourly level
- Grid Data from the Joint Allocation Office (JAO)



Source: Own illustration

Base Scenario 2021

- All 6 Nuclear powerplants active
- Target year 2021
- Purpose: Point of reference for model outputs

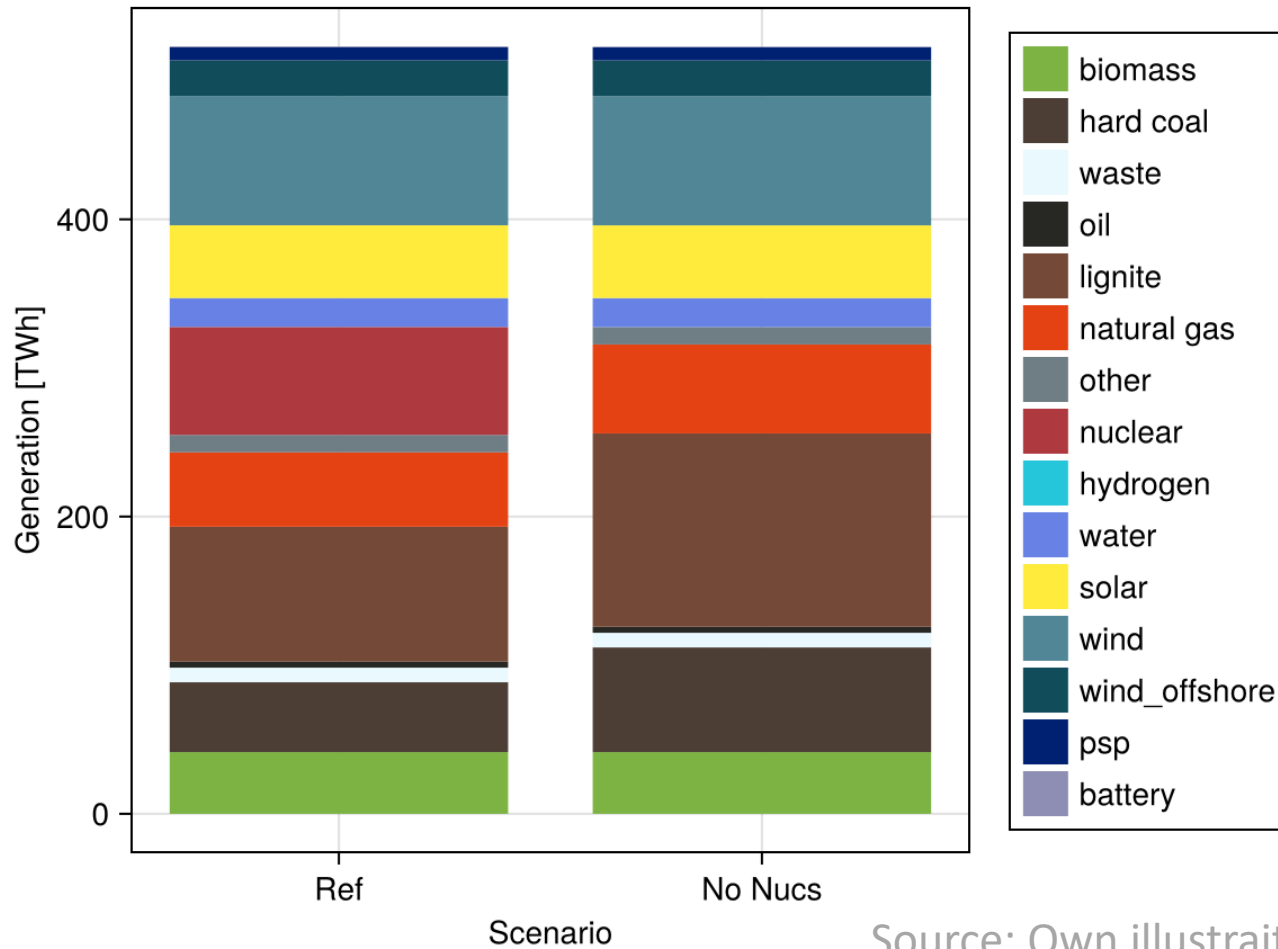
No NPP Scenario

- No nuclear power plants
- Weather year 2021
- Purpose: Illustrate the effects of the nuclear power phase out

2030 Scenario

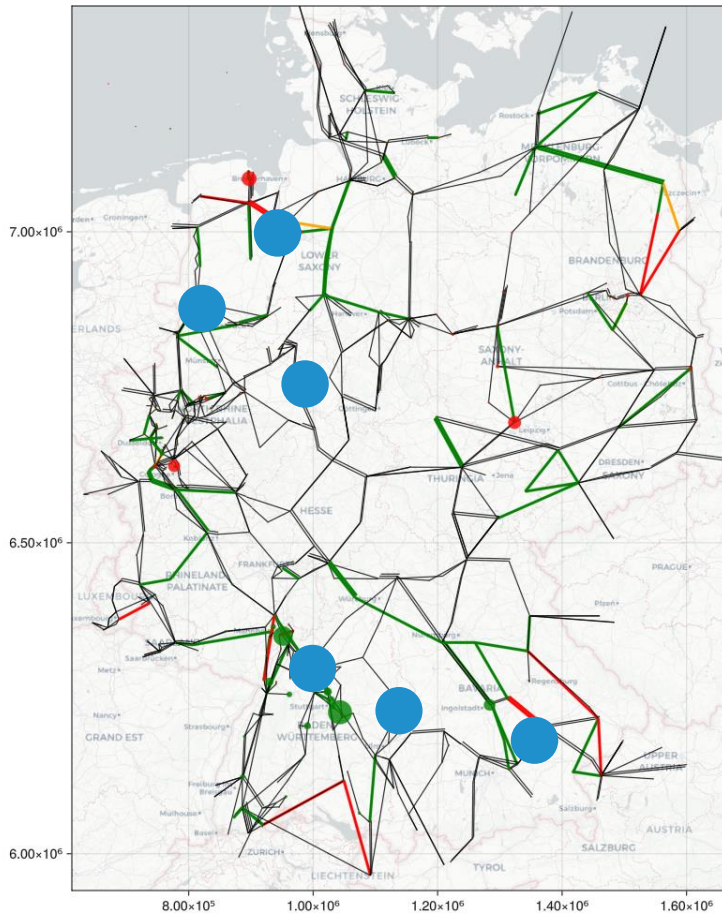
- No nuclear power plants + No Coal power plants
- Targets for Renewable Energy capacities are met
- Purpose: Provide insight on how the future energy dispatch might look like

Results 1: Power Production

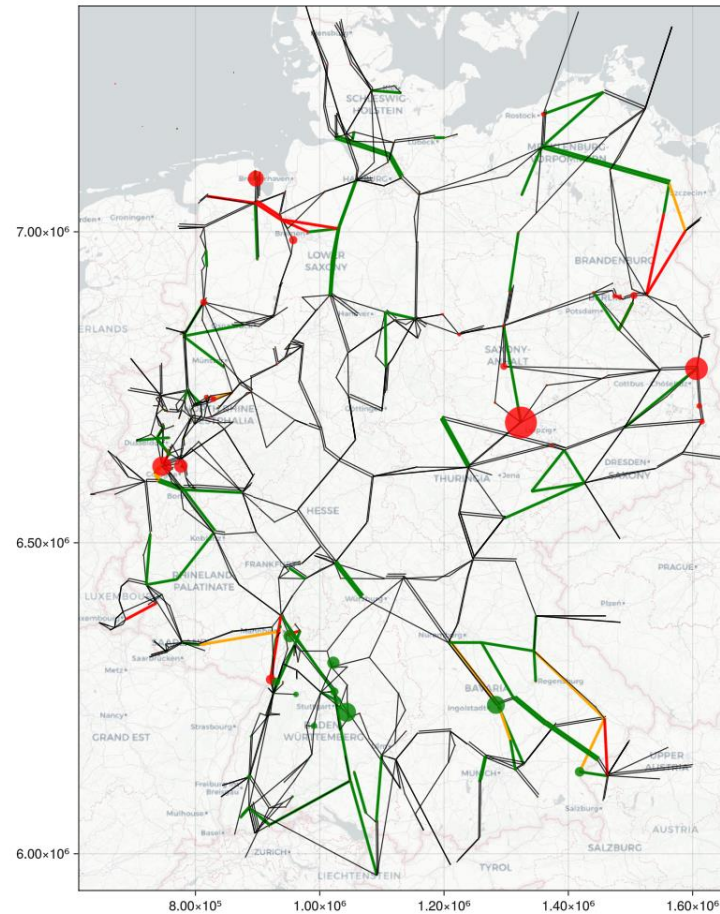


- Nuclear power is compensated by:
 - Hard Coal (+23 TWh)
 - Lignite (+49 TWh)
 - Natural Gas (+10 TWh)
- Generation capacity is still sufficient

Results 2: Electricity Network



Redispatch with
all 6 NPPs

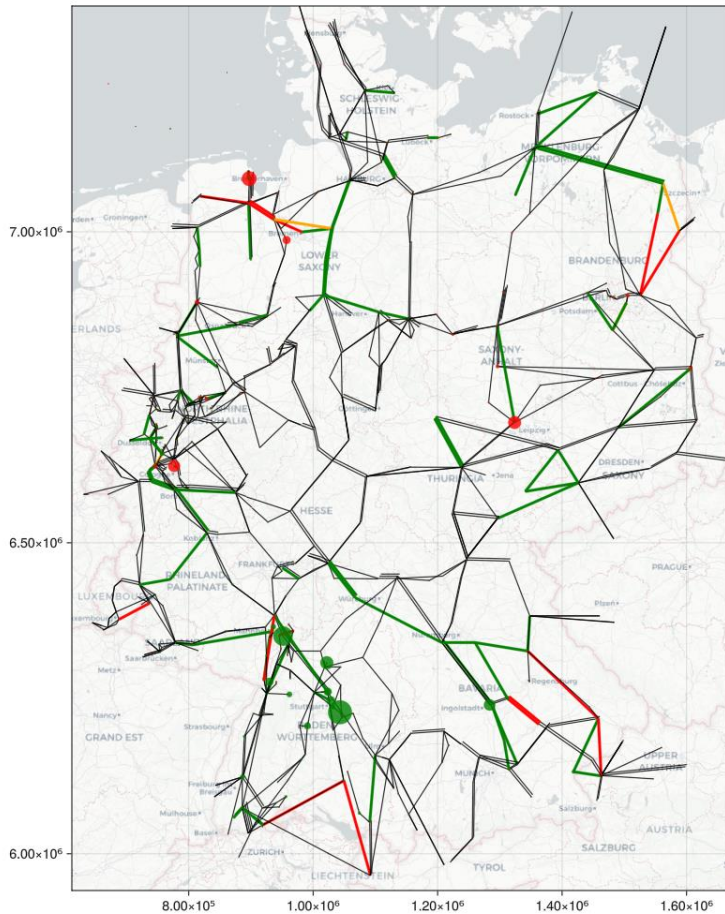


Redispatch without
NPPs

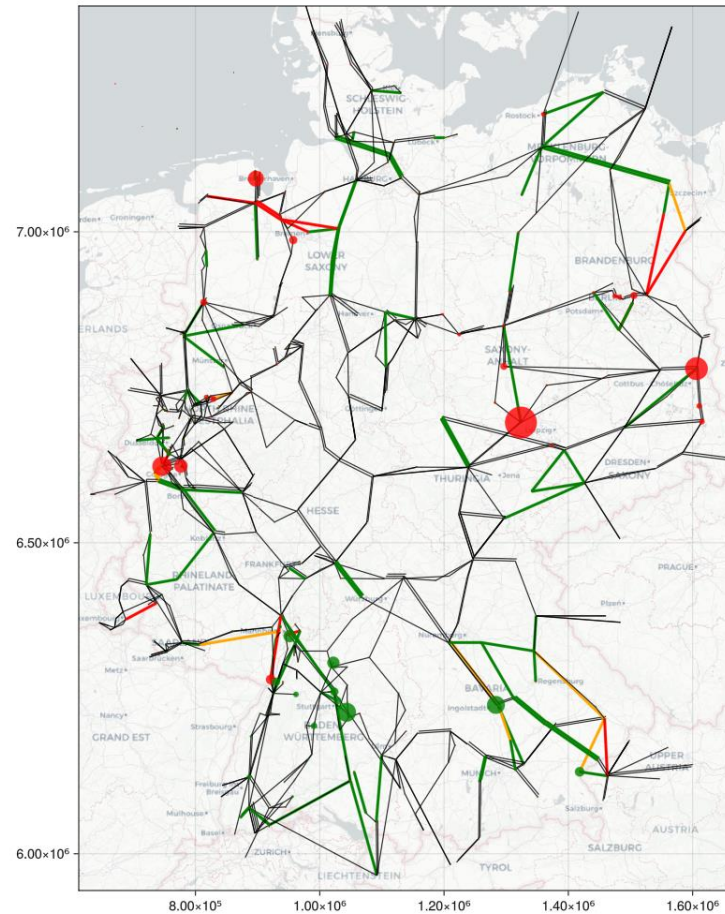
Source: Own illustration

- Slight increase of redispatch (ca. 4 TWh)
- Congestion occurs mostly in the same areas
- Price effect of redispatch small

Results 2: Electricity Network



Redispatch with
all 6 NPPs

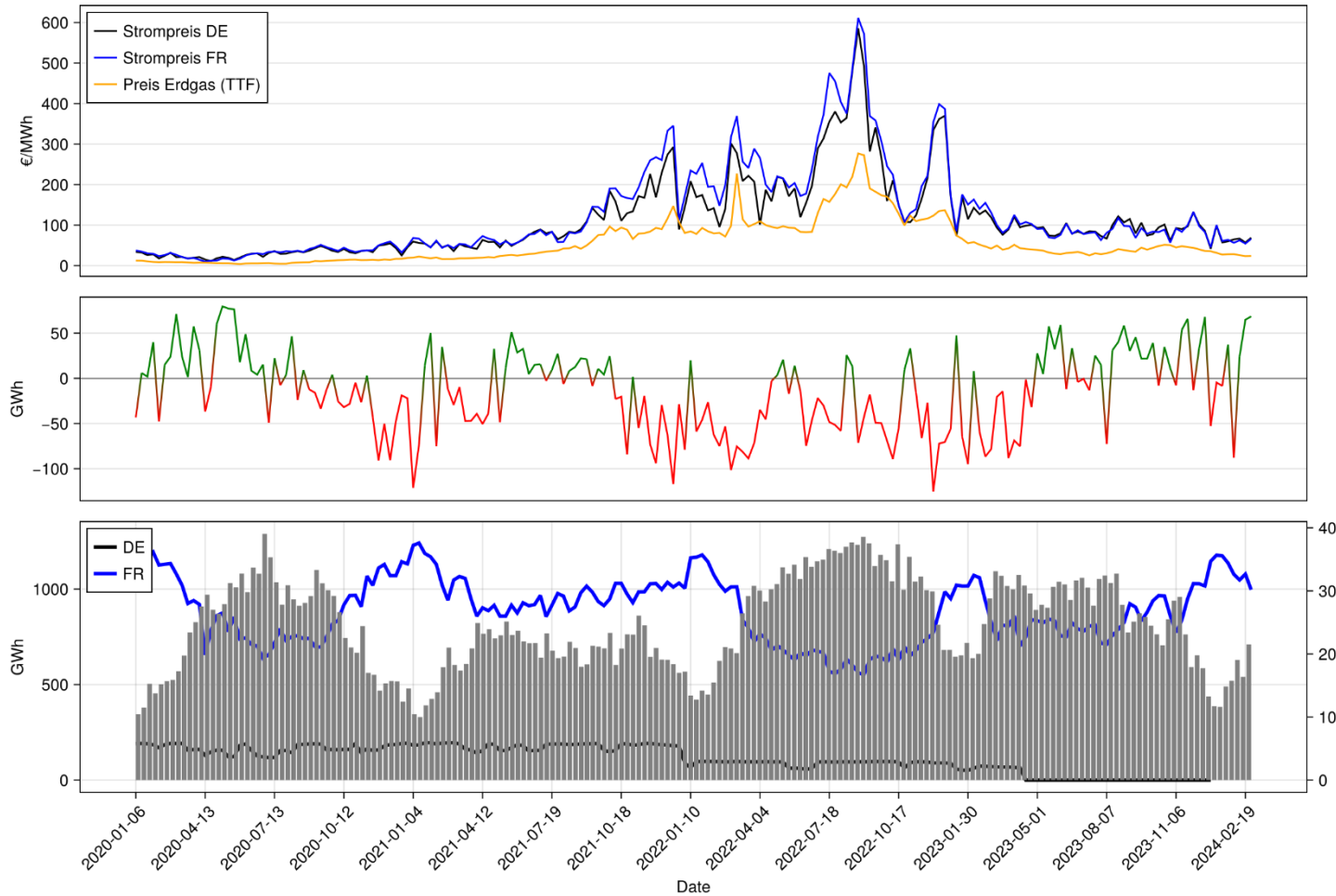


Redispatch without
NPPs

Source: Own illustration

- Slight increase of redispatch (ca. 4 TWh)
- Congestion occurs mostly in the same areas
- Price effect of redispatch small

Results 3 – Prices

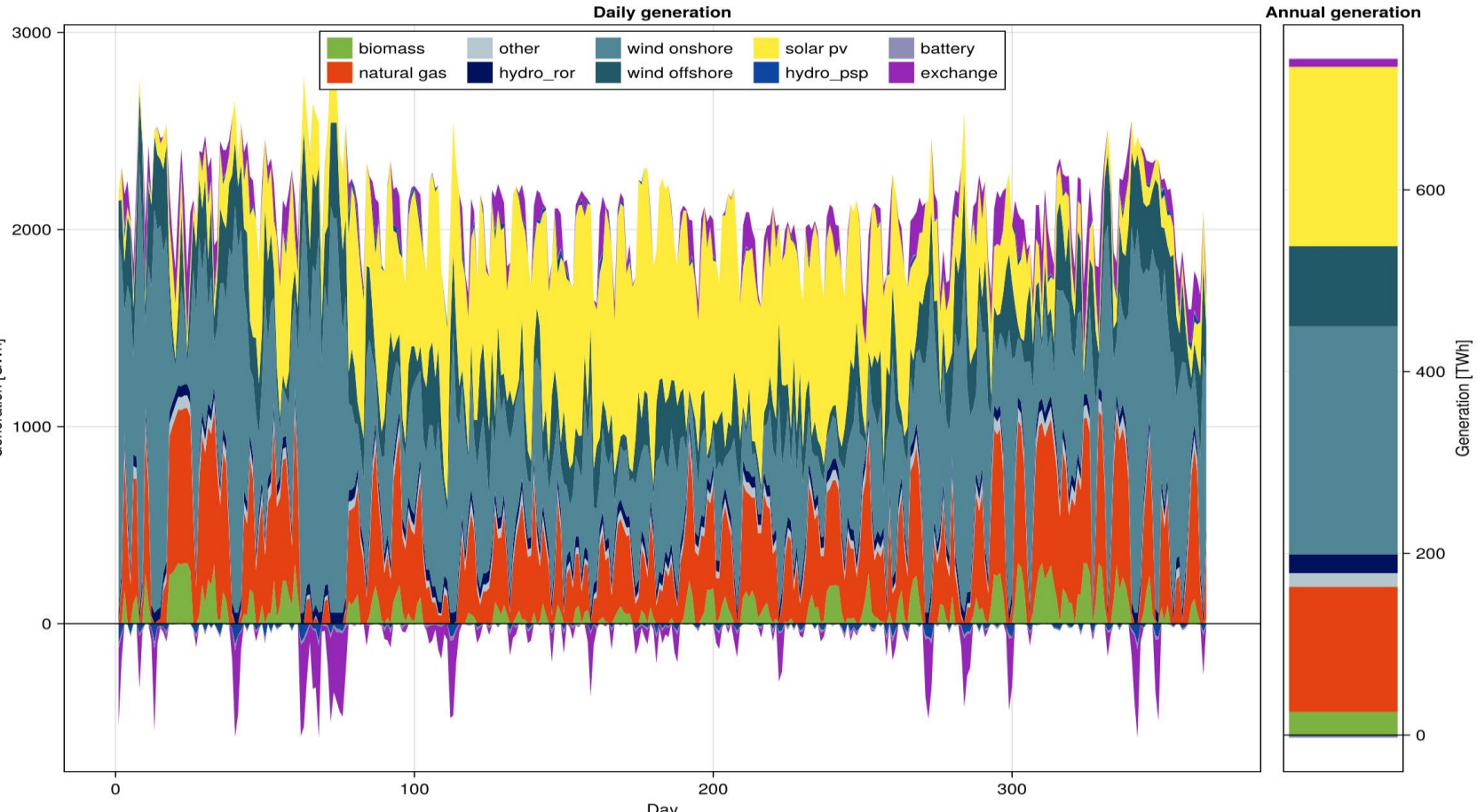


- Natural Gas prices heavily influenced historic Power prices
- Germany increased exports to France in 2022
- Day-Ahead-Prices decreased in the month following the closure of the final 3 NPP on 15th of April 2023
- Model based analysis leads to overall higher power prices of 1,1ct/kWh

Source: Own illustration based on data from: EEX and ENTSO-E Transparency Platform

Historic market prices (Top), German imports from France (middle) and available nuclear power plant capacities (bottom)

Results 4 – Outlook 2030



Hourly data, aggregated to daily values for german power mix

Source: Own illustration

- Renewable energy generation dominant
- Natural gas and biomass in combination with imports and hydro storages create flexibility
- For the chosen weather year Germany's exports exceeds imports

Summary and Conclusions

- Supply security still secured
- Only minor increase in redispatch due to the decommissioning of NPPs
- Electricity Grid can withstand the new dispatch without creating new bottlenecks
- Prices for natural Gas main driver for an increase of electricity Prices in 2022 and 2023
- Short term: NPP capacities are compensated by fossil fuels
- Mediate/long term: The building of new Renewable energy Capacities leads to a possible coal phase out in 2030 while ensuring supply security

Thank you for your attention!

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References

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[Link](#)

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