



Optimal allocation of energy storage in the GB grid for renewable curtailment reduction through open-source software development

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Brunel
University of London

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The logo for DIGES, featuring the letters 'D', 'I', 'G', 'E', 'S' in a blue, outlined font. The 'I' is replaced by a battery icon, and the 'S' is replaced by a power line tower icon. The logo is centered within a large, stylized, light green and blue circular graphic that resembles a thick, curved arrow or a partial circle.

Key objectives

- Explore how placing energy storage in the network could enable better integration of renewables in the short- to medium-term
- Improve geographical resolution of available optimisation models to adequately address the locational benefits of energy storage
- Implement optimisation model in an open-source framework

Why Python?

Open source

Wide availability of libraries

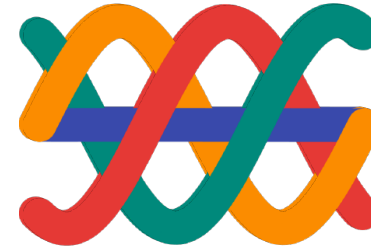
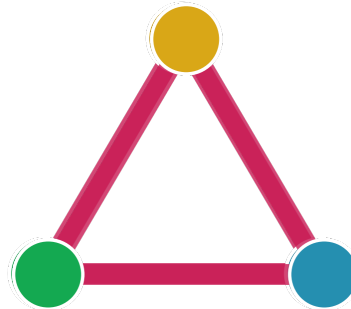
Research community increasingly adopting Python / open-source

Can be linked with machine learning libraries

Available Python libraries for power system analysis

- PyPSA
- Pandapower
- PYPOWER

PyPSA is used extensively in Europe by researchers and regulators (ACER / FNA).



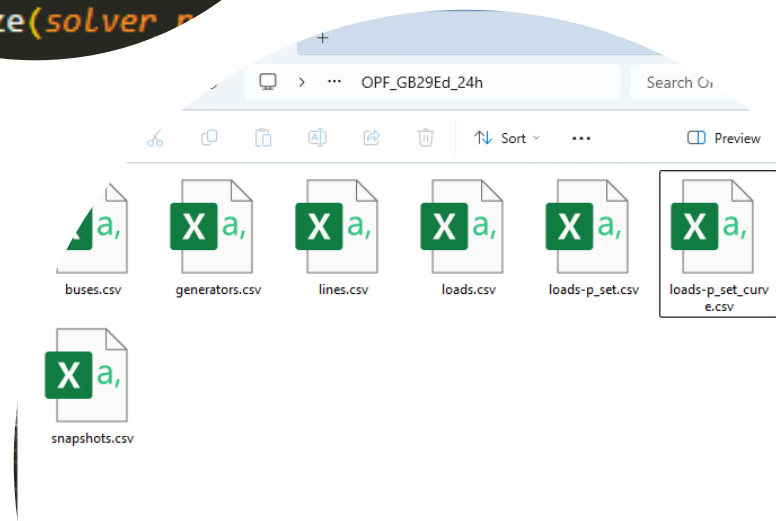
	PyPSA	pandapower	PYPOWER
Purpose	Power system simulation and optimization	Power flow and grid analysis	Power flow and optimal power flow
Power Flow Analysis	Yes	Yes	Yes
Optimal Power Flow (OPF)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Multi-Period Optimization	Yes	No	No
AC/DC Network Support	Yes	AC only	AC only
Large Scale Analysis	Yes	No	No
Renewable Energy Modeling	Yes	Limited	Limited
Documentation and examples	Very limited	Limited	N/A

Optimal Power Flow in PyPSA – CSV Files

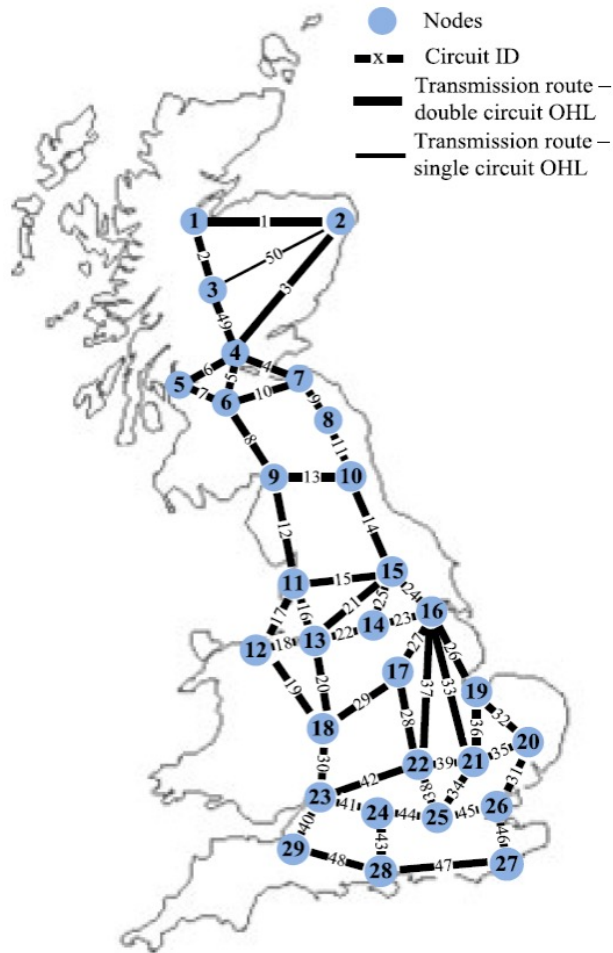
- Model takes inputs in the form of CSV files for various aspects of the power system (generators, demand, lines, etc.)
- For running the optimal power flow, the main CSV files are *snapshots.csv* and *generators.csv*
- Optimal power flow is executed by the optimize function in PyPSA
- Possibility to use different solver packages

```
solver options for HiGHS  
solver_options = {  
    "presolve": "on",  
    "solver": "simplex",  
    "mip_max_nodes": 100000,  
    "time_limit": 600,  
    "parallel": "on",  
    "mip_gap": 0.01  
}
```

```
optimize(solver_options)
```



GB Reduced Network



- This system is adopted from the data from Edinburgh University, available here:

<https://www.maths.ed.ac.uk/OptEnergy/NetworkData/reducedGB/>

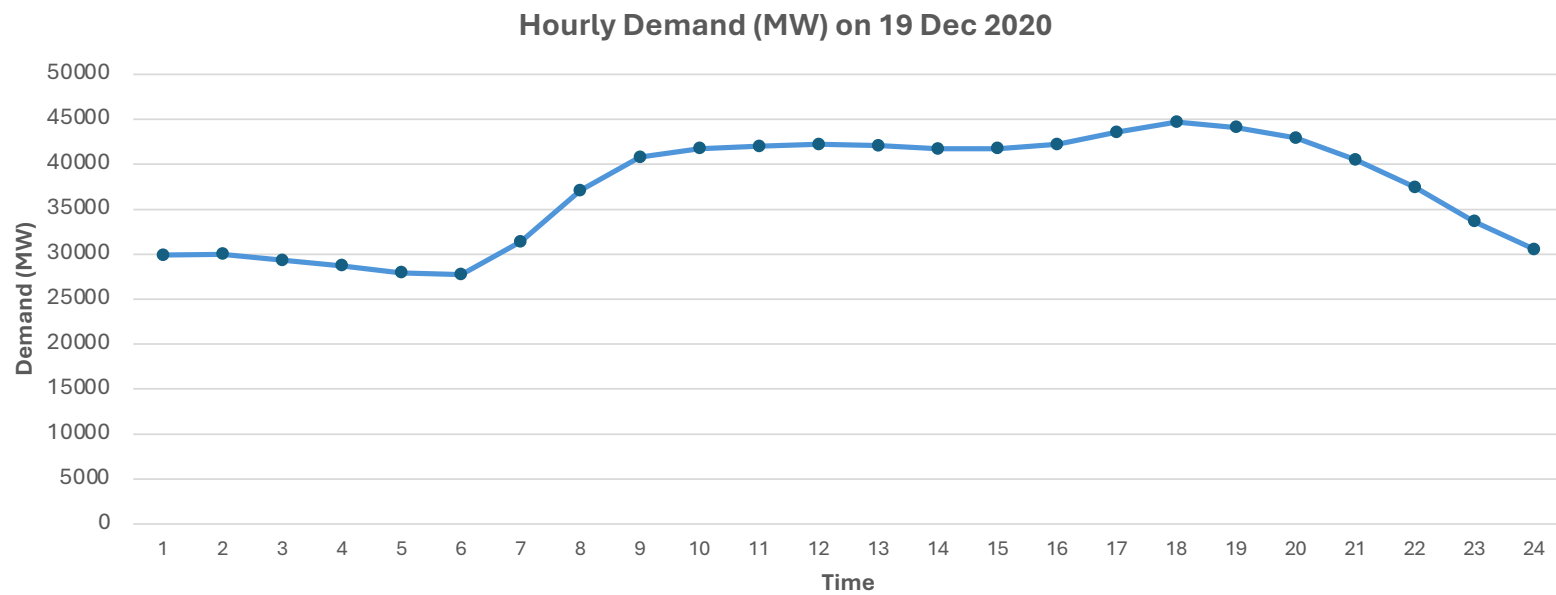
- It has 29 buses, 66 generators, and 99 transmission lines
- Originally implemented in MatPower, and we transferred it to PyPSA
- Also added interconnectors and HVDC “bootstraps” (not shown in map)



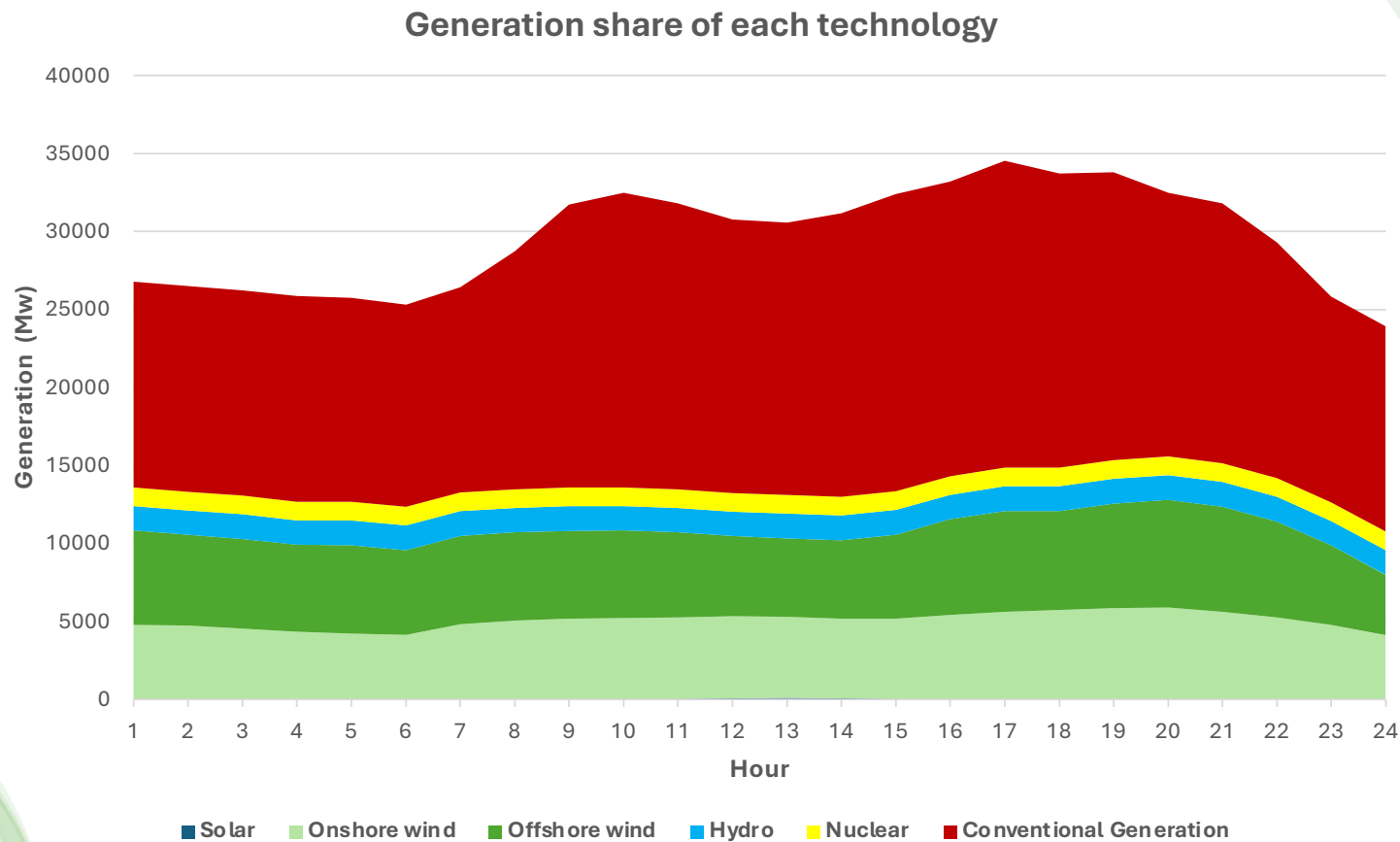
Approach for 2020 and 2040

- System details (lines, buses, links, and conventional generators) haven't changed compared to the Edinburgh model
- The demand for a winter day in 2020 has been calculated based on Elexon raw data
- Renewable and conventional generation details are adopted from DUKES
- Gurobi optimizer has been used for the OPF
- Model outputs include generation and storage dispatch, line utilisation, RES curtailment and total operation cost
- Weather data has been adopted from [Renewables.ninja](https://renewables.ninja)

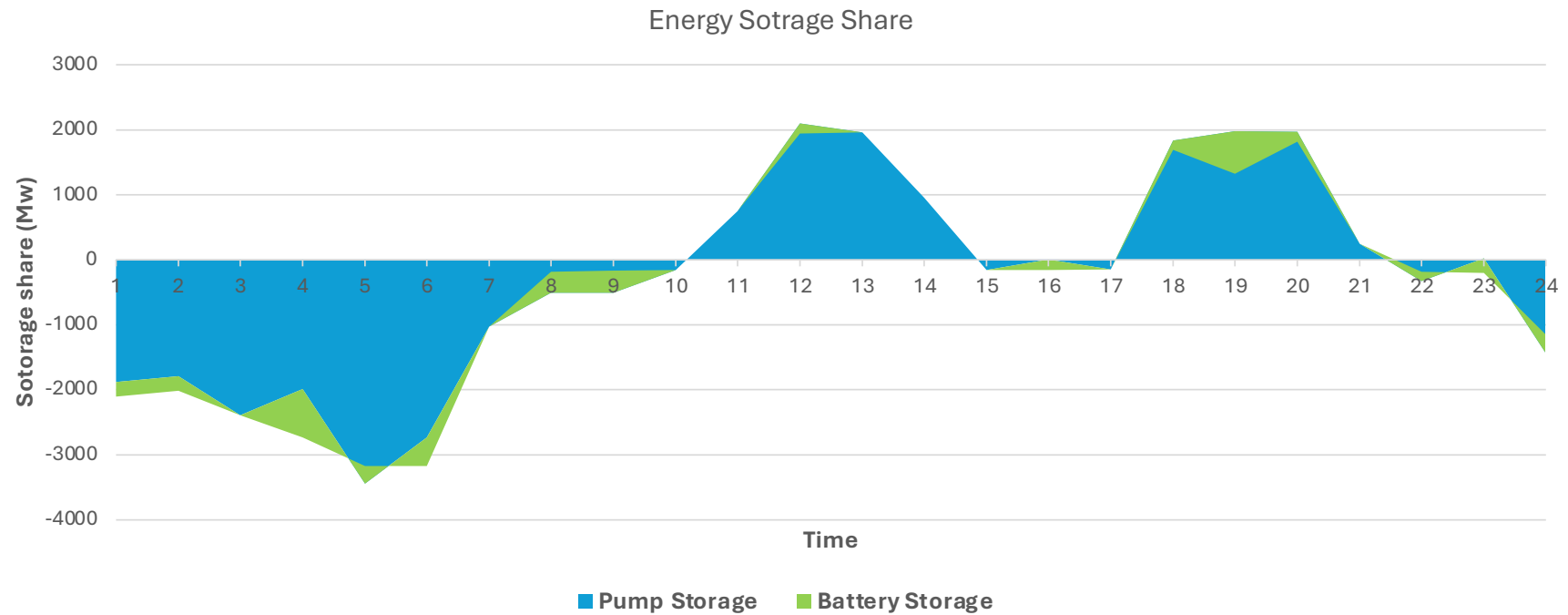
Hourly Demand



Generation output

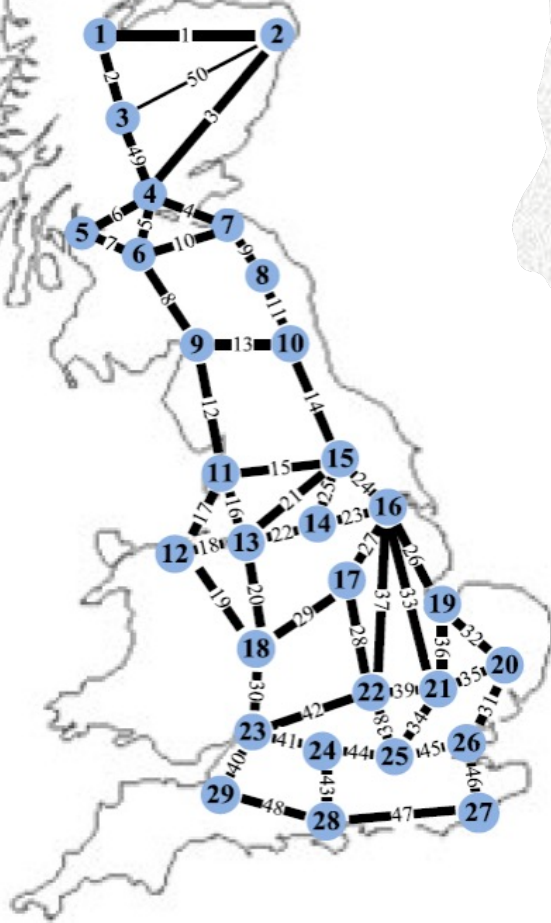


Energy Storage operation

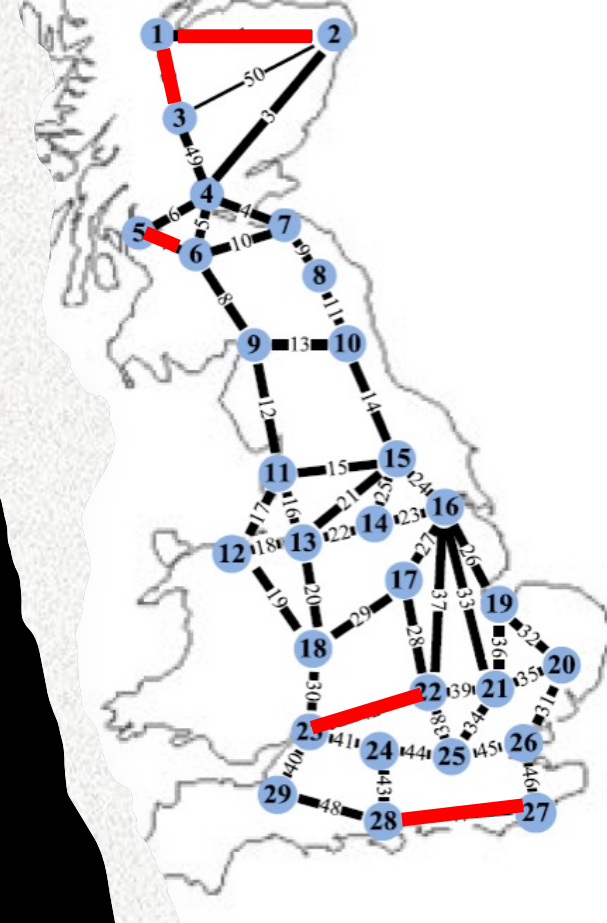


Congested Lines

- Nodes
- Circuit ID
- Transmission route – double circuit
- Transmission route – single circuit OHL



- Nodes
- Circuit ID
- Transmission route – double circuit OHL
- Transmission route – single circuit OHL



Technology	Curtailment (MWh)
Battery Storage	71,995
Pumped Storage	121,886
Conventional generation	666,746
Wind Offshore	15,622
Wind Onshore	52,727

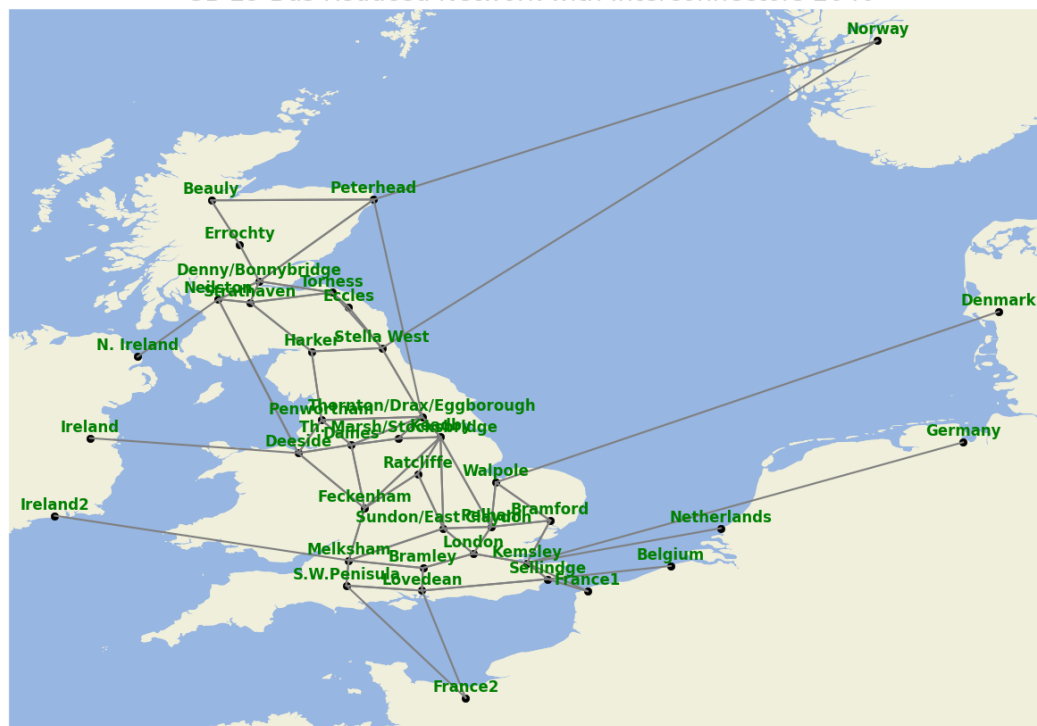
Total
Curtailment



Approach for 2040

- System details (lines, buses, links, and conventional generators) haven't changed compared to the Edinburgh model but all the planned interconnectors are added till 2040
- Simplified modelling of interconnectors using export/import prices
- Electricity demand for a week in December (12-18 Dec) used as input
- Renewable and conventional generation details are adopted from a dataset published in FES 2024
- We consider energy storage installation (batteries) in Scotland

GB 29 Bus Reduced Network with Interconnectors 2040

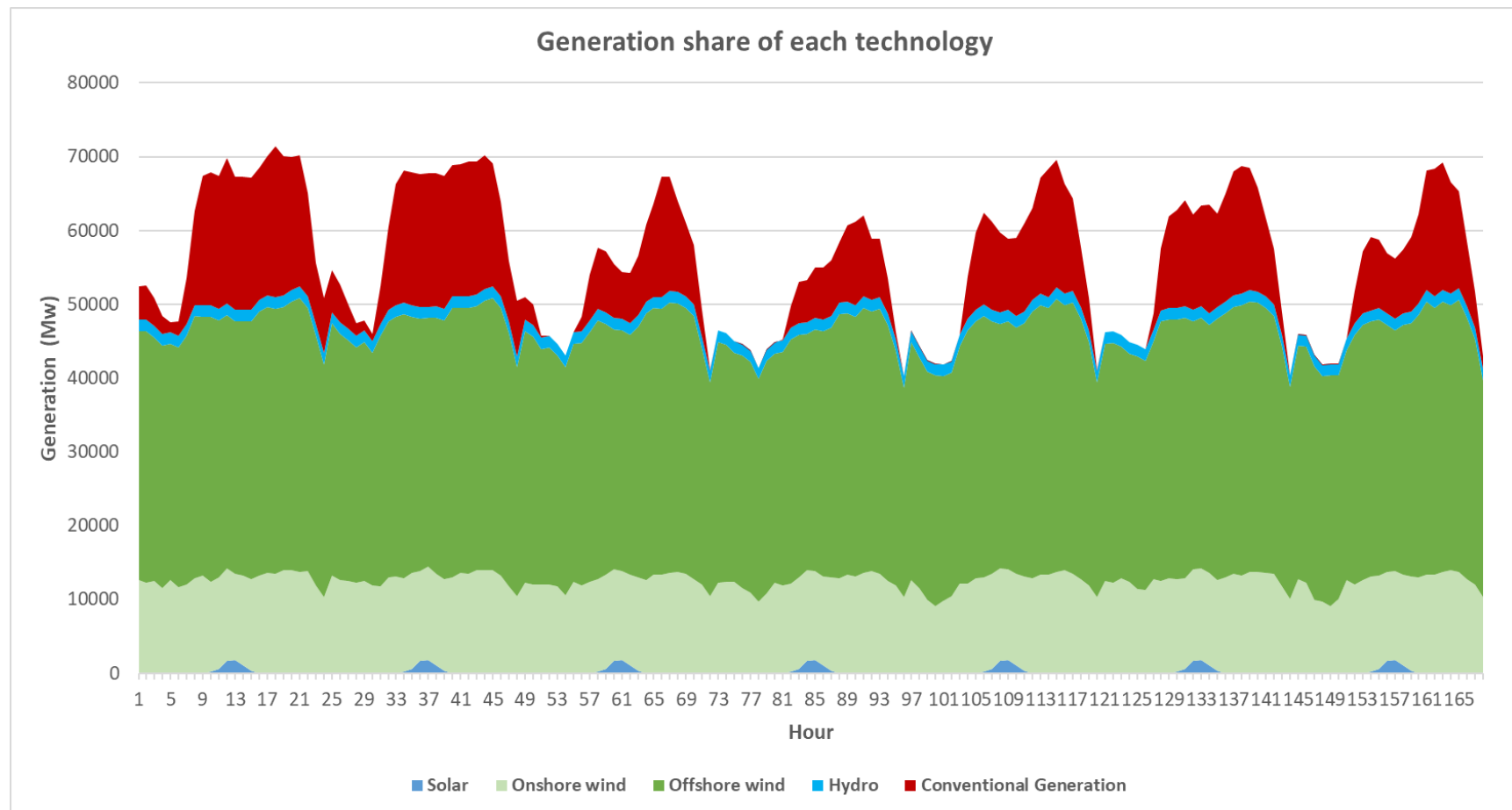


```
INFO:gurobipy:
Solved in 1529 iterations and 0.68 seconds (0.32 work units)
INFO:gurobipy:Solved in 1529 iterations and 0.68 seconds (0.32 work units)
Optimal objective 4.977565185e+07
INFO:gurobipy:Optimal objective 4.977565185e+07
INFO:linopy.constants: Optimization successful:
Status: ok
Termination condition: optimal
Solution: 44627 primals, 110086 duals
Objective: 4.98e+07
Solver model: available
Solver message: 2
```

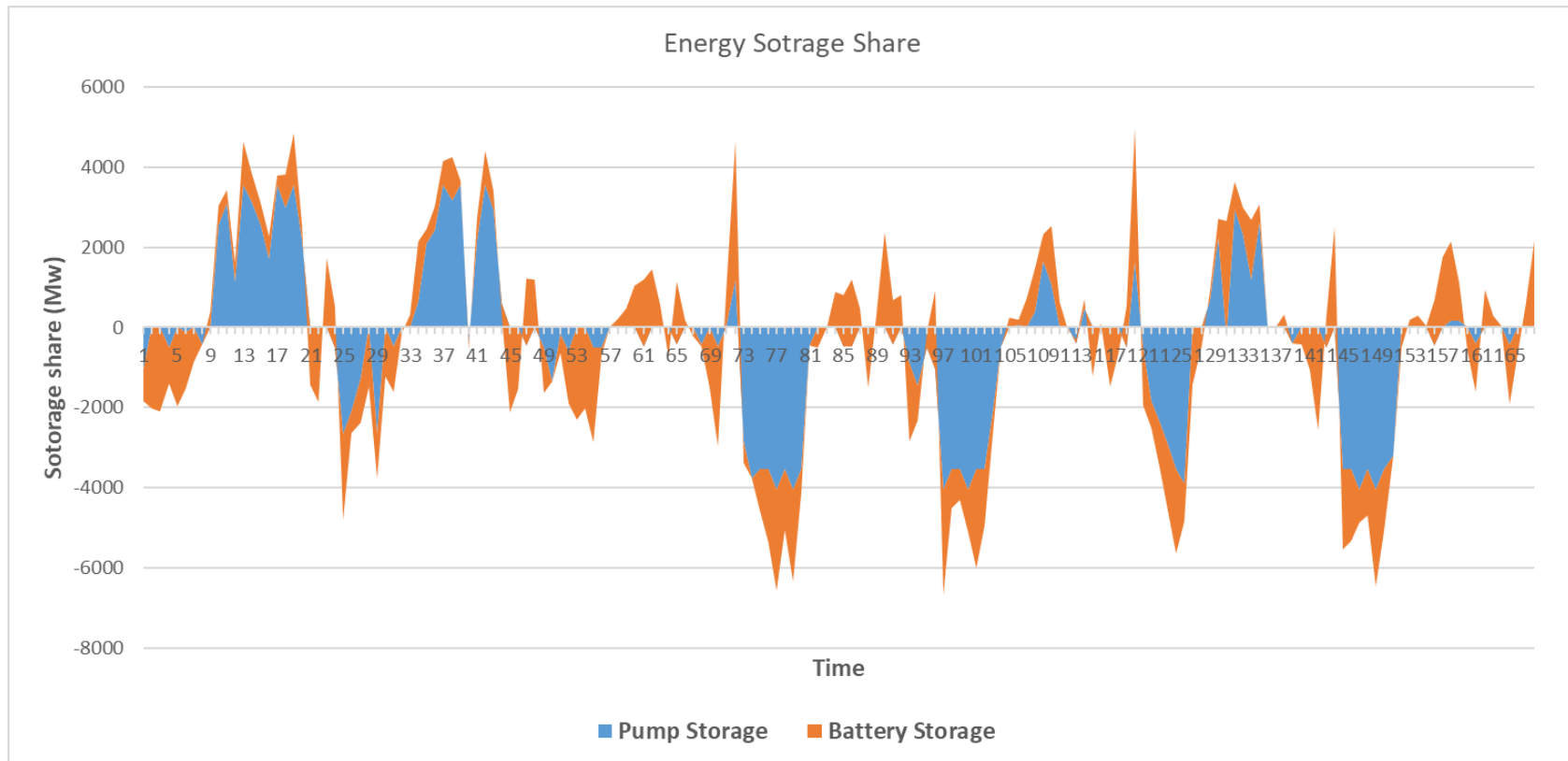
Torness Battery



Generation output



Energy Storage operation



Congested Lines

																	
snapshot	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12/12/2040 0:00	-0.52146	1	-0.52146	1	0.57653	0.57653	0.12064	0.12064	1	0.56894	0.76197	1	1	1	-0.63311	-0.41252	1
12/12/2040 1:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.67844	0.67844	0.12101	0.12101	1	0.56984	0.76318	1	1	1	-0.6286	-0.40959	1
12/12/2040 2:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.68041	0.68041	0.12468	0.12468	1	0.56615	0.75824	1	1	1	-0.64704	-0.4216	1
12/12/2040 3:00	-0.98681	1	-0.98681	1	0.67971	0.67971	0.12858	0.12858	1	0.58553	0.78419	1	1	1	-0.55022	-0.35852	1
12/12/2040 4:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.68412	0.68412	0.13156	0.13156	1	0.61094	0.81823	1	1	1	-0.42324	-0.27577	1
12/12/2040 5:00	-0.4973	1	-0.4973	1	0.57666	0.57666	0.13043	0.13043	1	0.61991	0.83023	1	1	1	-0.37845	-0.24659	1
12/12/2040 6:00	-0.53211	1	-0.53211	1	0.57647	0.57647	0.11633	0.11633	1	0.56978	0.7631	1	1	1	-0.62888	-0.40977	1
12/12/2040 7:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.6648	0.6648	0.09565	0.09565	1	0.59602	0.79825	1	1	1	-0.49778	-0.32434	1
12/12/2040 8:00	-0.61272	1	-0.61272	1	0.57604	0.57604	0.08367	0.08367	1	0.60229	0.80664	1	1	1	-0.46646	-0.30394	1
12/12/2040 9:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.65468	0.65468	0.07684	0.07684	1	0.6137	0.82192	1	1	1	-0.40946	-0.2668	1
12/12/2040 10:00	-0.62903	1	-0.62903	1	0.57596	0.57596	0.07707	0.07707	1	0.61383	0.82209	1	1	1	-0.40883	-0.26639	1
12/12/2040 11:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.65403	0.65403	0.07563	0.07563	1	0.6214	0.83223	1	1	1	-0.37098	-0.24173	1
12/12/2040 12:00	-0.6352	1	-0.6352	1	0.57593	0.57593	0.07457	0.07457	1	0.60752	0.81364	1	1	1	-0.44034	-0.28692	1
12/12/2040 13:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.65435	0.65435	0.07622	0.07622	1	0.59703	0.79959	1	1	1	-0.49276	-0.32108	1
12/12/2040 14:00	-0.62615	1	-0.62615	1	0.57597	0.57597	0.07823	0.07823	1	0.61259	0.82043	1	1	1	-0.41503	-0.27043	1
12/12/2040 15:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.65478	0.65478	0.07702	0.07702	1	0.60898	0.8156	1	1	1	-0.43306	-0.28217	1
12/12/2040 16:00	-0.64532	1	-0.64532	1	0.57587	0.57587	0.07047	0.07047	1	0.57736	0.77325	1	1	1	-0.59105	-0.38511	1
12/12/2040 17:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.64973	0.64973	0.06762	0.06762	1	0.61975	0.83002	1	1	1	-0.37924	-0.2471	1
12/12/2040 18:00	-0.65093	1	-0.65093	1	0.57584	0.57584	0.0682	0.0682	1	0.60038	0.80407	1	1	1	-0.47604	-0.31018	1
12/12/2040 19:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.65284	0.65284	0.07341	0.07341	1	0.61732	0.82676	1	1	1	-0.39139	-0.25503	1
12/12/2040 20:00	-0.61803	1	-0.61803	1	0.57602	0.57602	0.08152	0.08152	1	0.59634	0.79867	1	1	1	-0.4962	-0.32331	1
12/12/2040 21:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.66359	0.66359	0.0934	0.0934	1	0.59078	0.79123	1	1	1	-0.52396	-0.34141	1
12/12/2040 22:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.6704	0.6704	0.10607	0.10607	1	0.5986	0.8017	1	1	1	-0.48491	-0.31596	1
12/12/2040 23:00	-1	1	-1	1	0.67735	0.67735	0.11898	0.11898	1	0.57991	0.77667	1	1	1	-0.57829	-0.3768	1
13/12/2040 0:00:0	-0.51736	1	-0.51736	1	0.57655	0.57655	0.1223	0.1223	1	0.57111	0.76488	1	1	1	-0.62227	-0.40546	1
13/12/2040 1:00:0	-1	1	-1	1	0.679	0.679	0.12206	0.12206	1	0.56818	0.76095	1	1	1	-0.63691	-0.415	1
13/12/2040 2:00:0	-0.50515	1	-0.50515	1	0.57662	0.57662	0.12725	0.12725	1	0.61469	0.82324	1	1	1	-0.40454	-0.26359	1
13/12/2040 3:00:0	-1	1	-1	1	0.68363	0.68363	0.13065	0.13065	1	0.56429	0.75575	1	1	1	-0.65632	-0.42765	1



Conclusion

- Open-source PyPSA-based model adopted and adapted for the GB transmission grid (steep learning curve) – to be used in future projects
- Reviewed input data sources (FES, online databases) – some input data issues still to be sorted
- Validated and ran case studies for the GB system for illustrative scenarios
- Energy storage helps with RES integration and carbon reduction, but effect can be limited by transmission constraints – significant reinforcement required
- Working on adapting the model for investment optimisation

Ongoing/future work

- Extend simulation of GB-29 network for whole year
- Implement FES scenarios such as Holistic transition, incl. different scenarios for storage placement
- Co-optimize location-specific storage investment (including both “standard” and heuristic optimisation methods) and transmission expansion
- Consider different storage duration (short-term vs. long-term)
- Assess the impact of battery degradation on investment decisions

