



# SECURES

SECURING AUSTRIA'S ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN TIMES OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE

---

## Modelling the effects of climate change on the Austrian future electricity system

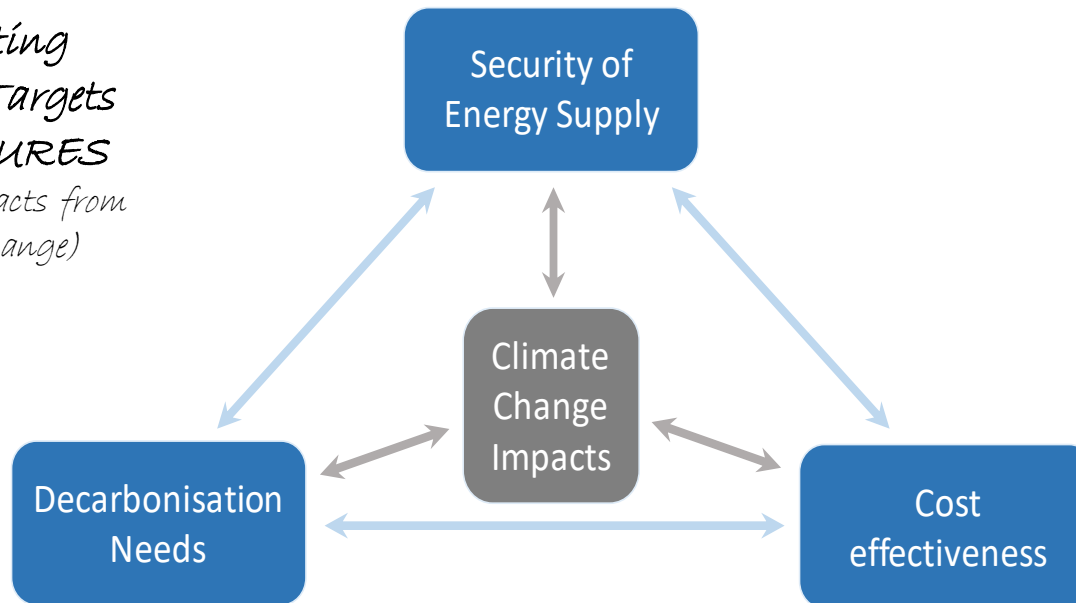
**icem 2023: Towards Climate-Resilient Energy Systems, 27-29 June 2023, Padova, Italy**

**Demet SUNA, Gustav RESCH, Nicolas PARDO-GARCIA, Gerhard TOTSCHNIG, Peter  
Widhalm (AIT Austrian Institute of Technology)**

Franziska SCHÖNIGER, Florian HASENGST (TU Wien, Energy Economics Group)

# Motivation and Objectives

*Conflicting  
Policy Targets  
in SECURES  
(with impacts from  
climate change)*



## Objectives

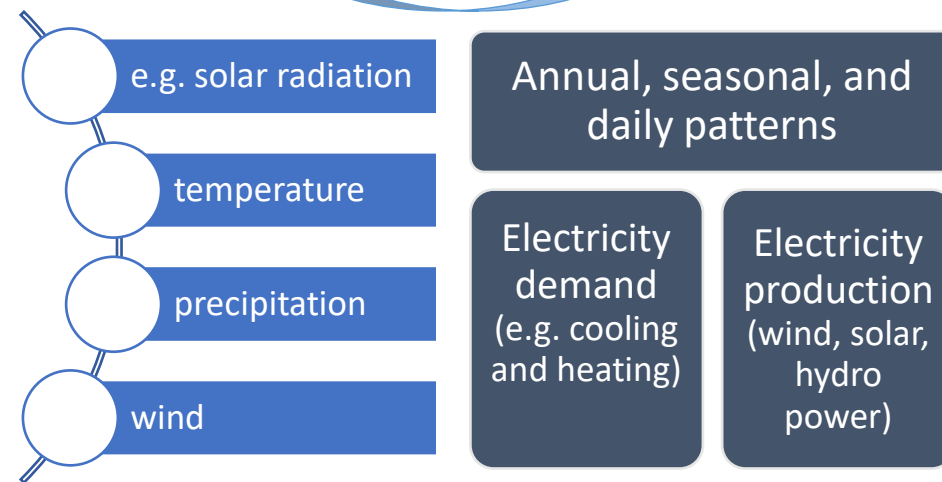
- define a suitable set of **future trend scenarios for electricity sector** for Austria and Europe
- conduct a **comprehensive model-based scenario analysis**
- **assess security of supply** and the related **need for flexibility in consideration of national/European plans and targets**

# Methodology



- Impact of climate change on **meteorological patterns** in Austria and Europe
- Analysis of the impact of changing patterns on future electricity demand & supply

- Data processing
- Choice of pathways, years



Austria and the EU27 + CH, NO, UK: Electricity markets are largely interconnected, developments in other countries are of relevance for Austria

- **Scenario design** to cover different aspects of decarbonisation, climate change, and supply security of the electricity system
  - Incorporation of stakeholder feedback
  - More recent data & developments
  - Exchange about modelling approaches how to evaluate & integrate extreme events

# Scenario-design I: Main aspects

## Reference (REF)

- **General (EU-wide): Existing measures** and targets are acknowledged (according to ENTSOe-TYNDP /NECPs)
- **AT:** „100%“ RES based electricity supply in accordance with certain assumptions (Demand: UBA-WAM-NEKP- Scenarios)
- Climate context: **strong climate impacts (→ RCP 8.5)**

## Decarbonization Needs (DN)

- **General (EU-wide):** Measures are taken for a **deep decarbonisation by 2050**  
→ Implicit **Decarbonisation of industry (NEFI-AT) and mobility** → **strong sector-coupling**
- **EU-wide (and AT): Emissions-Target** → **100%** Climate neutrality by 2050 (European Green Deal)
- Climate context: **moderate climate impacts (→ RCP 4.5)**

## Security of Supply (SoS)

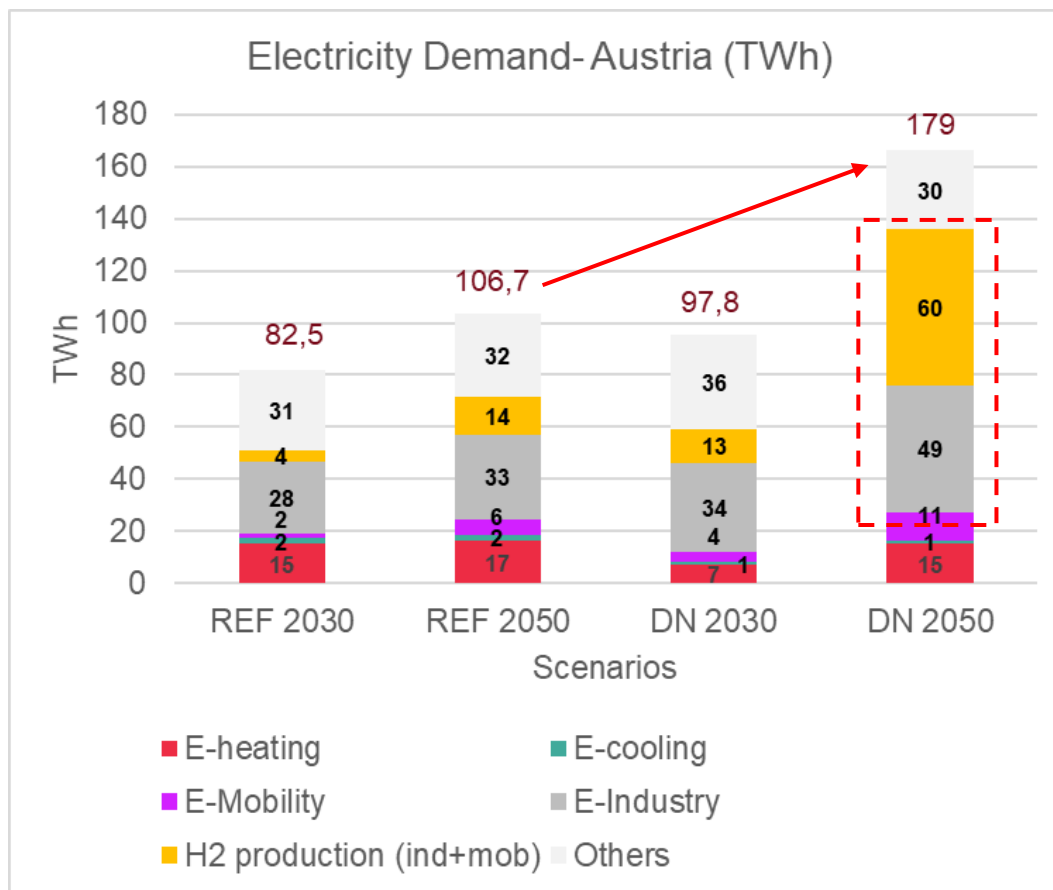
Analysing extreme weather events / years.

For example:

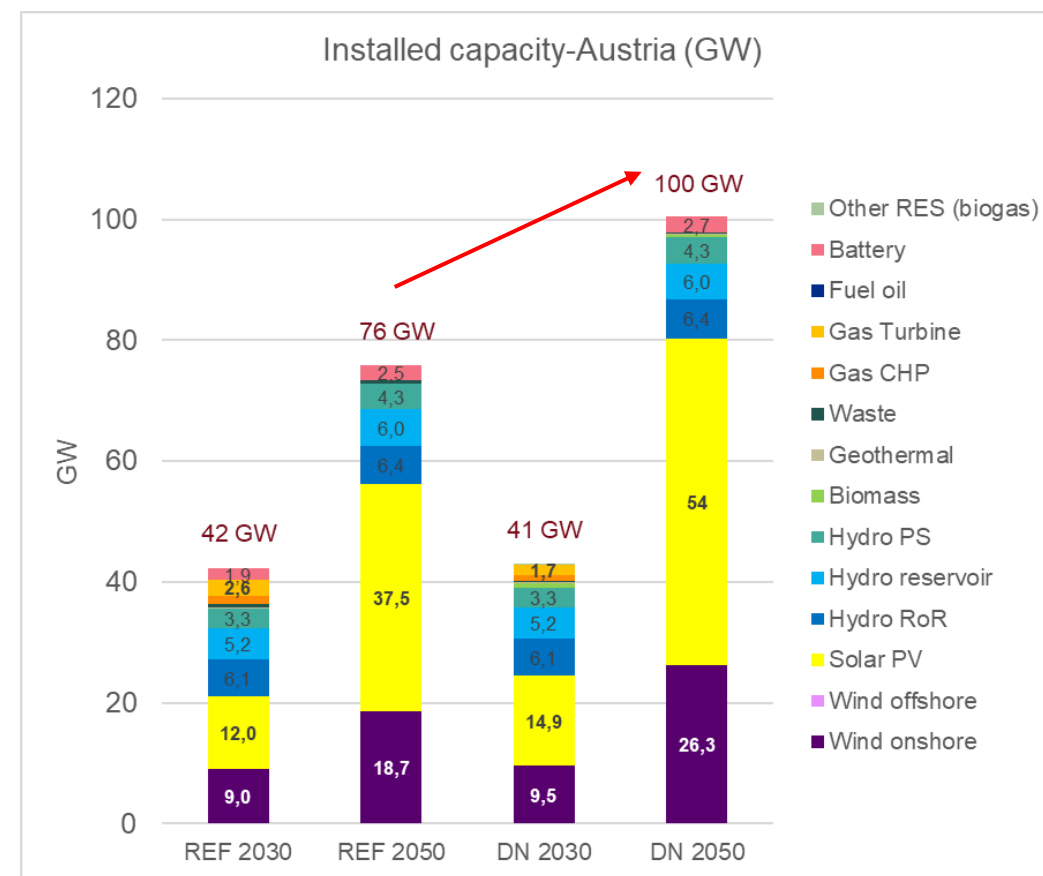
- Heat waves
- Cold periods
- Lulls (Wind, Solar, Hydro)
- **Combined Effects** (Dark Doldrums – dunkelflaute)

# Scenario-design II: Demand and capacity projections

## Electricity Demand- Austria (TWh)

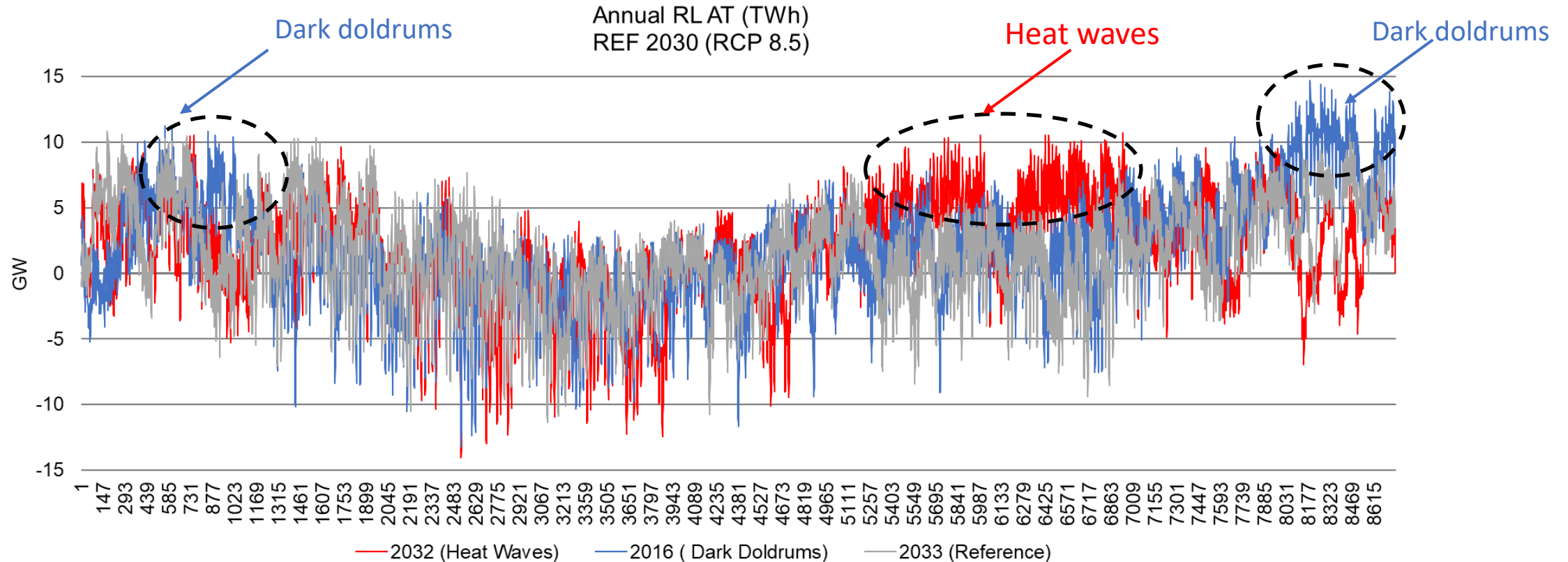


## Installed Capacity (GW)



# Identification of critical system conditions

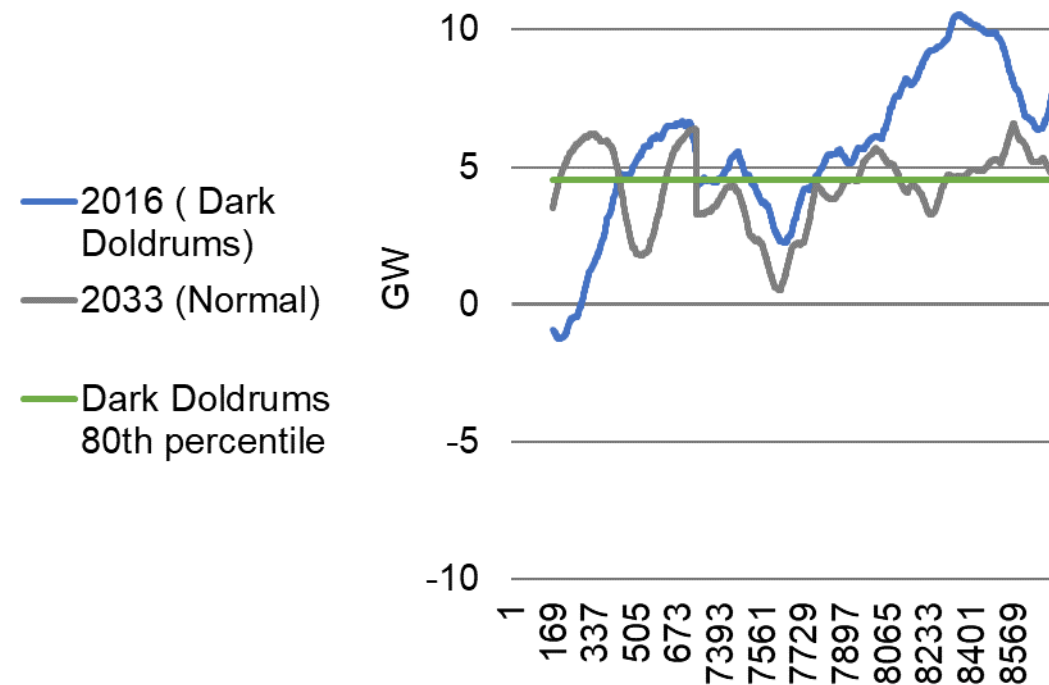
**Residual load:** Demand (without using demand-side flexibility options) minus production of variable renewables (run-of-river, wind, PV)



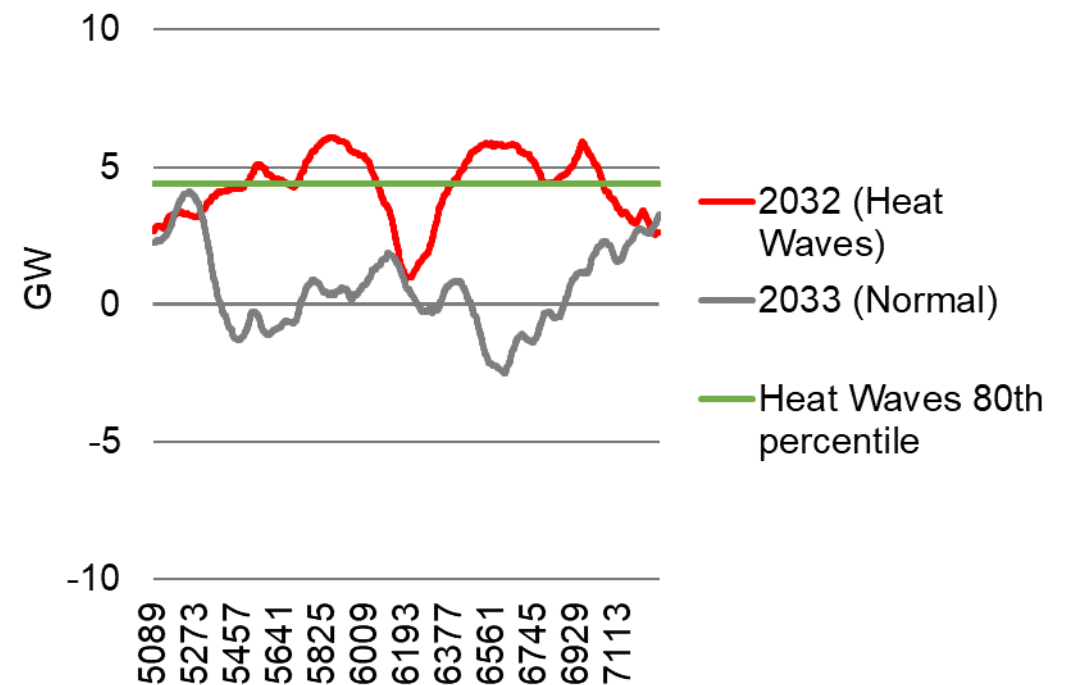
# Identification of critical system conditions

**Peak Periods of Residual Load:** periods where over a time span larger than **7 days** is **above 80<sup>th</sup> percentile** of the positive RL (representative for **dark doldrums** and/or **heatwaves**)

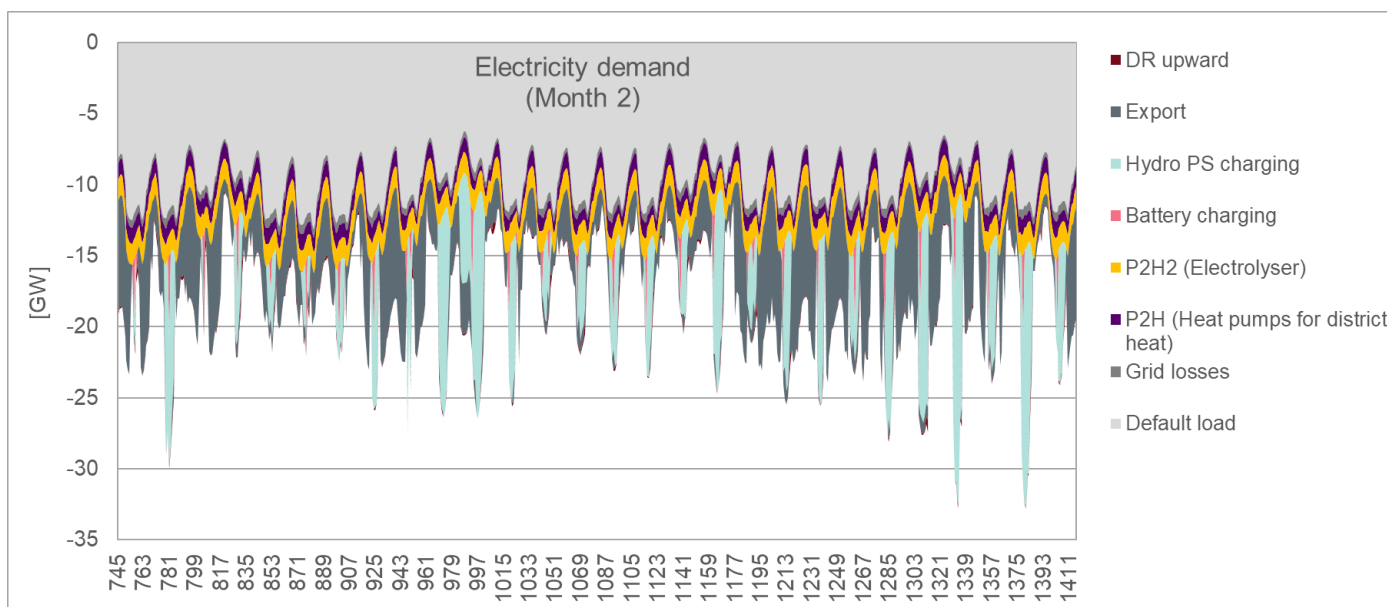
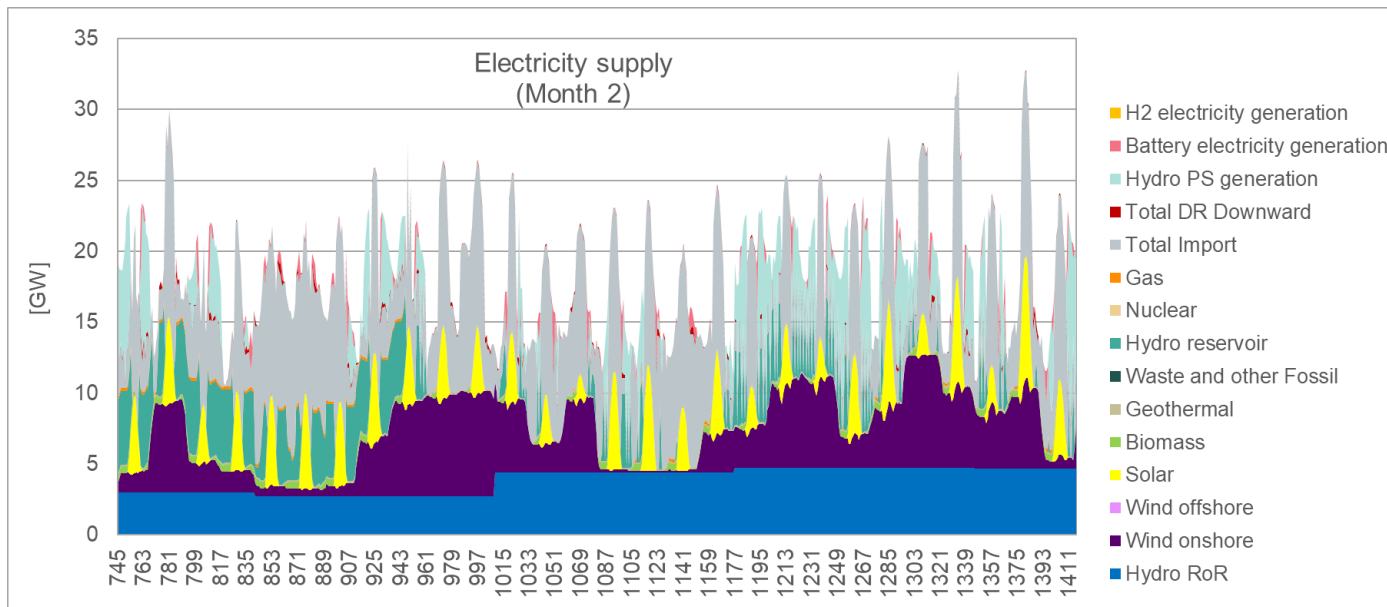
Annual RL-REF 2030 –Austria (RCP 8.5)  
(TWh)  
Weather year 2016; Months: 1, 11,12



Annual RL-REF 2030-Austria (RCP 8.5)  
(TWh)  
Weather year 2032; Months: 8,9,10







Scenario:

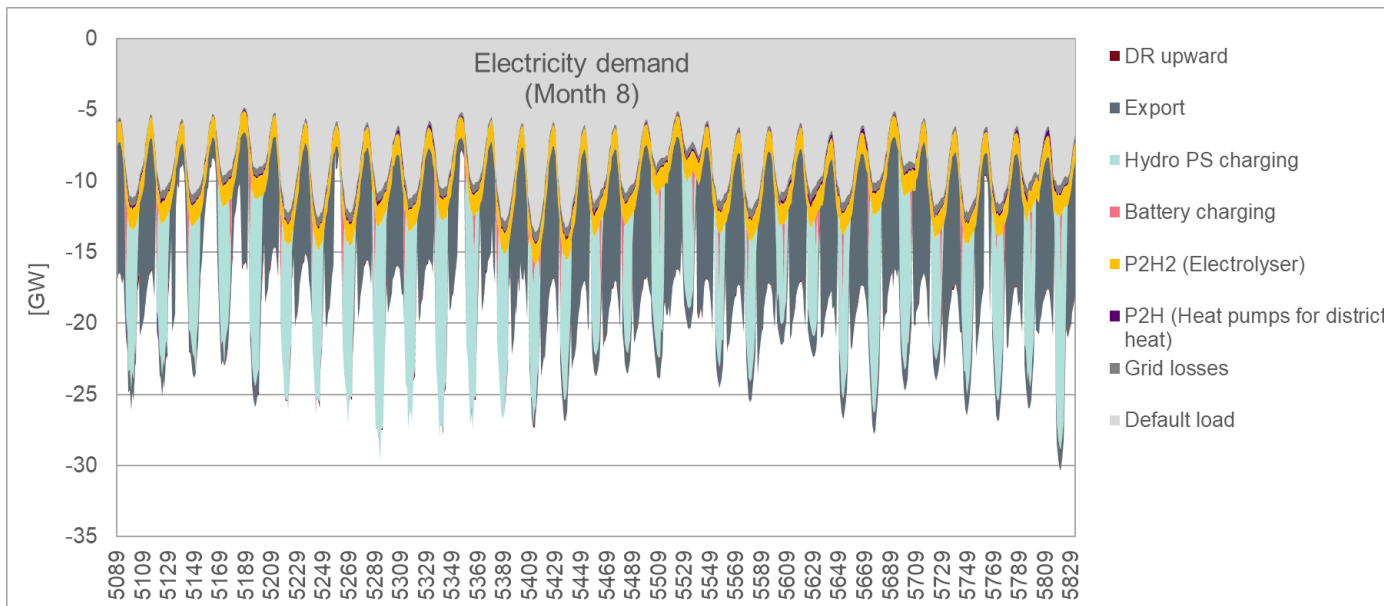
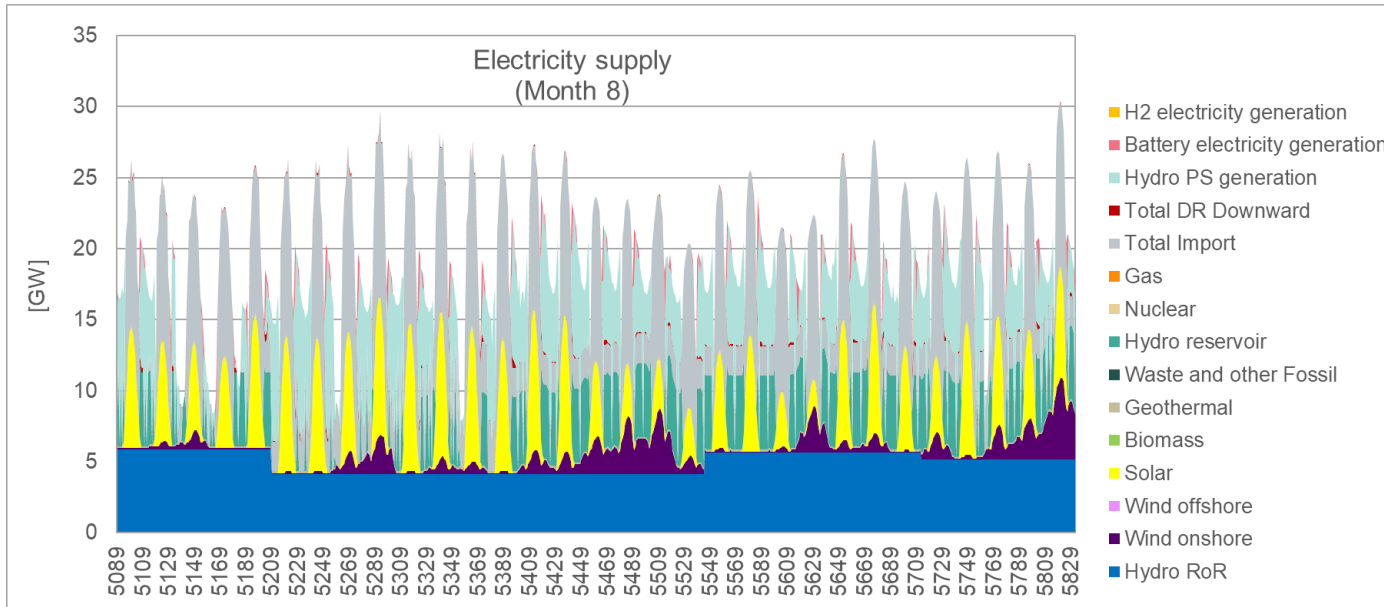
(Decarbonisation Needs) **DN 2050**

Normal year  
2049

Moderate Climate  
Impacts

- **Electricity supply** (top) &
- **Electricity demand** (bottom) in a typical winter month
- Strong wind contribution
- Moderate generation from PV
- Slightly lower RoR in comparison to summer
- Cross- border exchange: imports dominate





Scenario:

(Decarbonisation Needs) **DN 2050**

Normal year  
2049

Moderate Climate  
Impacts

**Electricity supply** (top)

&

**Electricity demand** (bottom)

in a typical summer month

- Moderate wind contribution
- Strong generation from PV
- Slightly higher RoR in comp. to winter
- Cross border exchange: higher export than imports

# Simulation Results III: Comparing key assets of the Austrian power system by 2050 in case of DN 2050

Normal year

Moderate Climate Impacts

Energy system assets	Endogenous expansion			Total stock (planned & expansion)	Yearly electricity generation
	Planned stock	(beyond planned)			
<b>Electricity supply (incl. CHP)</b>	GW	GW	GW	GW	TWh
Wind onshore	26.3	0.0	26.3	26.3	65.8
Wind offshore	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Solar	54.0	0.0	54.0	54.0	61.1
Hydro RoR	6.4	0.0	6.4	6.4	39.6
Biomass	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.2
Geothermal	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.9
Waste	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Hydro reservoir	6.0	0.0	6.0	6.0	13.0
Nuclear	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gas	0.0	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.7
<b>Heat/Steam supply</b>	GW	GW	GW	GW	
Biomass	2.4	0.0	2.4	2.4	
Geothermal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Heat pumps (for district heating)	1.8	0.0	1.8	1.8	
<b>Storage &amp; selected flexibility components</b>	GW	GW	GW	TWh (storage size)	TWh (asset use per year)
Batteries	2.7	8.7	11.5	0.04	10.2
Hydro pumped storage	4.3	0.0	4.3	0.95	9.5
Thermal storage	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.03	0.4
H2 storage	0.0	1.8	1.8	9.15	2.4
H2 electrolyser	0.0	7.1	7.1		57.7
H2 reelectrification	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0

Heat Wave

Moderate Climate Impacts

Energy system assets	Endogenous expansion			Total stock (planned & expansion)	Yearly electricity generation
	Planned stock	(beyond planned)			
<b>Electricity supply (incl. CHP)</b>	GW	GW	GW	GW	TWh
Wind onshore	26.3	5.3	31.6	31.6	68.2
Wind offshore	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Solar	54.0	8.4	62.4	62.4	76.1
Hydro RoR	6.4	0.0	6.4	6.4	31.5
Biomass	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.5
Geothermal	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0
Waste	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Hydro reservoir	6.0	0.0	6.0	6.0	8.9
Nuclear	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Heat/Steam supply</b>	GW	GW	GW	GW	
Biomass	2.4	0.0	2.4	2.4	
Geothermal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Heat pumps (for district heating)	1.8	0.0	1.8	1.8	
<b>Storage &amp; selected flexibility components</b>	GW	GW	GW	TWh (storage size)	TWh (asset use per year)
Batteries	2.7	15.9	18.7	0.07	18.9
Hydro pumped storage	4.3	0.0	4.3	0.95	11.6
Thermal storage	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.09	0.8
H2 storage	0.0	3.2	3.2	15.94	15.9
H2 electrolyser	0.0	16.1	16.1		76.3
H2 reelectrification	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0

# Flexibility needs I: Approach

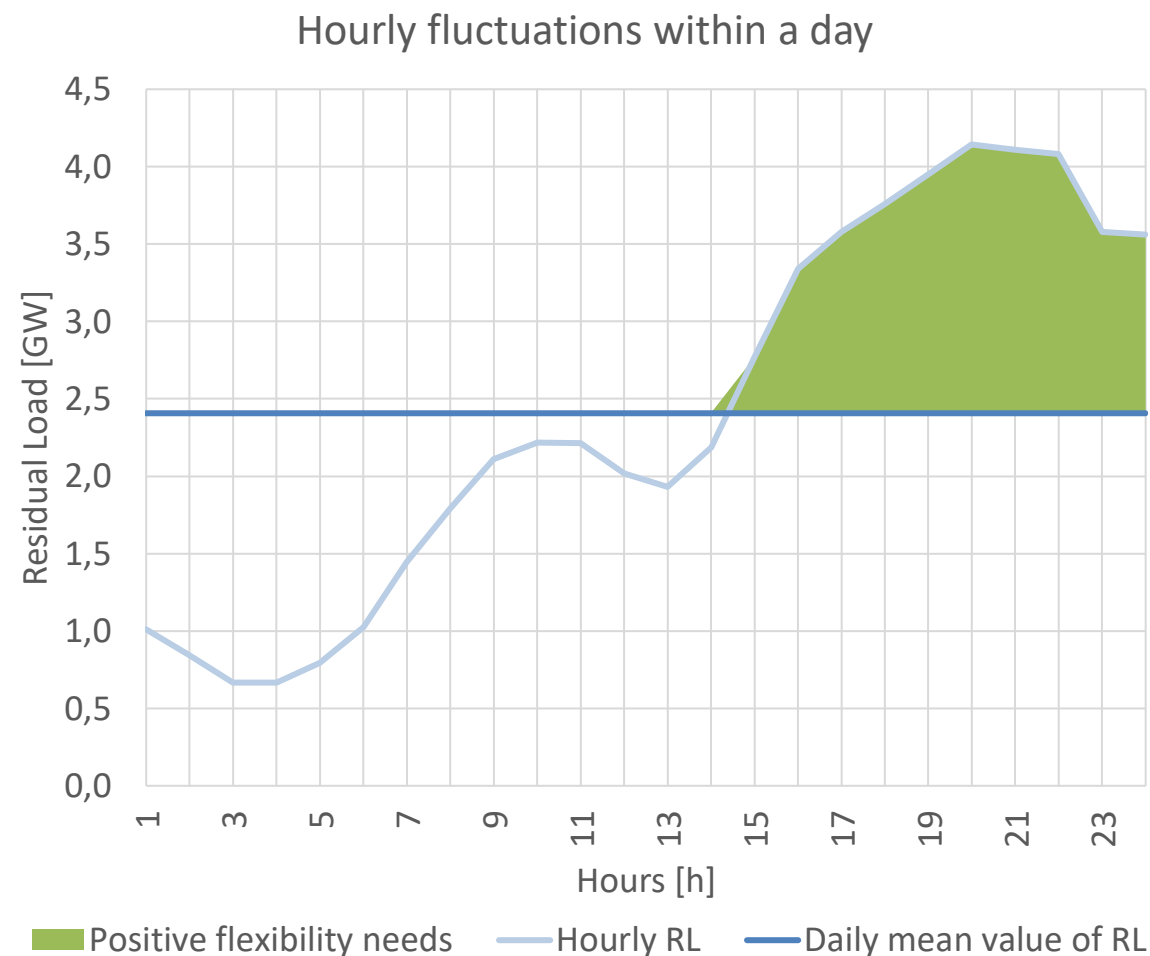
## → Indicators used in detail: Analysis on security of supply and of Flexibility Needs

1. Residual load: Demand subtracted by weather-dependent RES supply

### 2. Demand for flexibility:

- Residual load, aggregated (average per year)
- Analysis of fluctuations of residual load

per time period (**hourly**, daily, weekly, seasonal)



Daily flexibility needs: Hourly fluctuations in comparison to daily average

# Flexibility needs II:

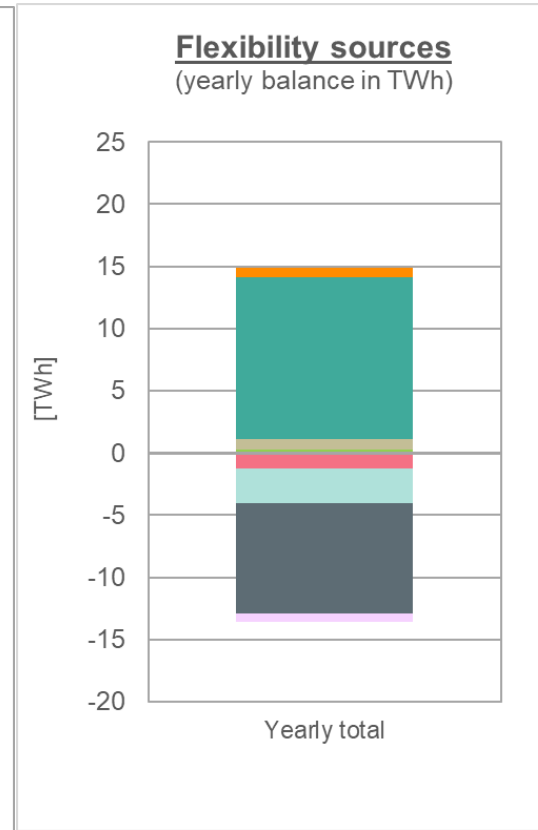
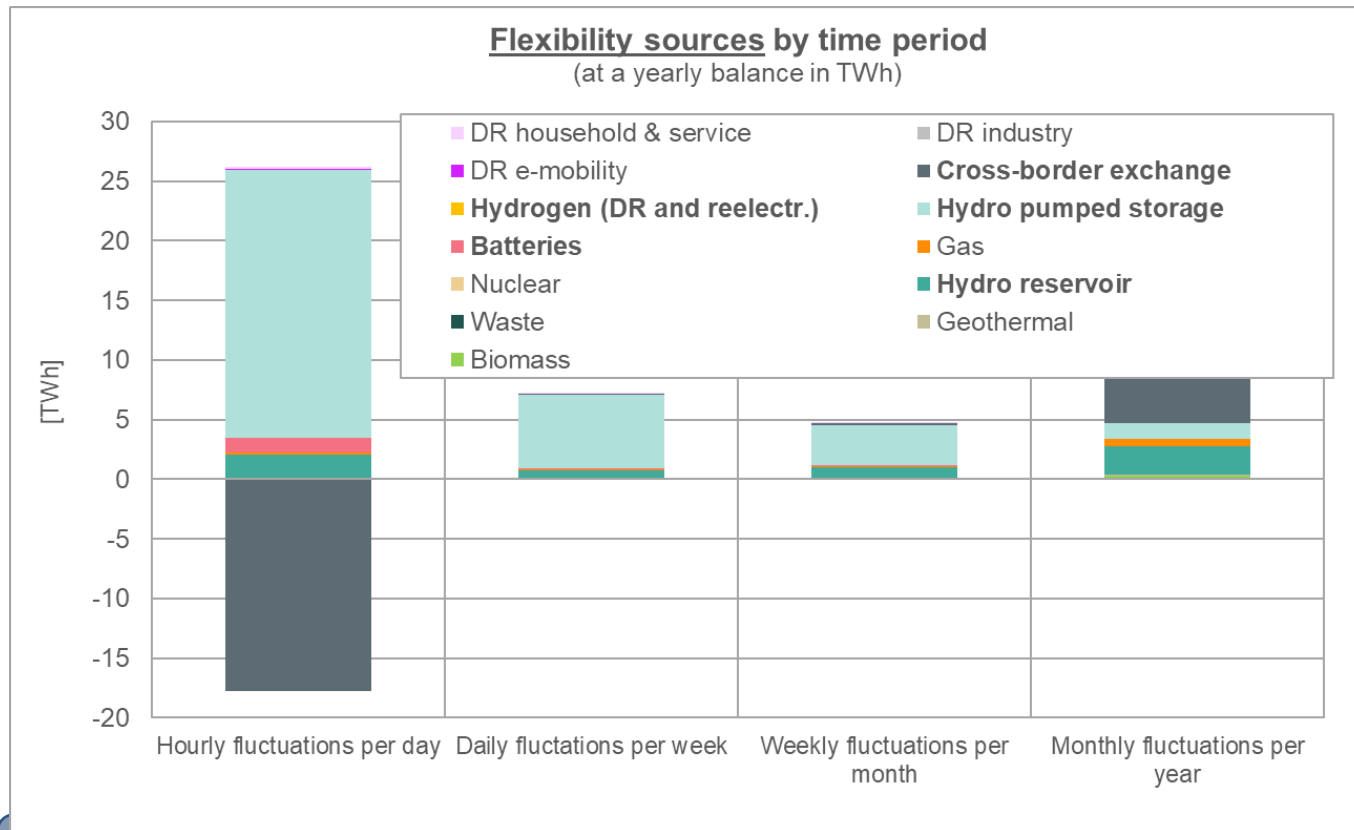
## Contribution of flexibility options to meet flexibility needs: at different time periods & at an annual balance

Scenario:

(Decarbonisation Needs) **DN 2050**

Normal year  
Weather  
year: 2049

Moderate Climate  
Impacts



- Cross-border exchange increases short term flexibility demand in Austria
- Hydro pump-storage is an important flexibility option during all time periods

Austria

SECURES

# Flexibility needs II:

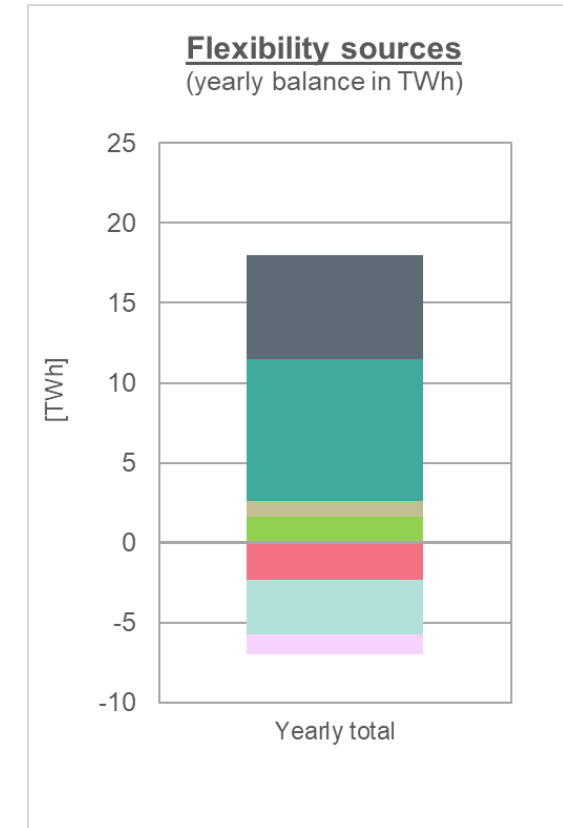
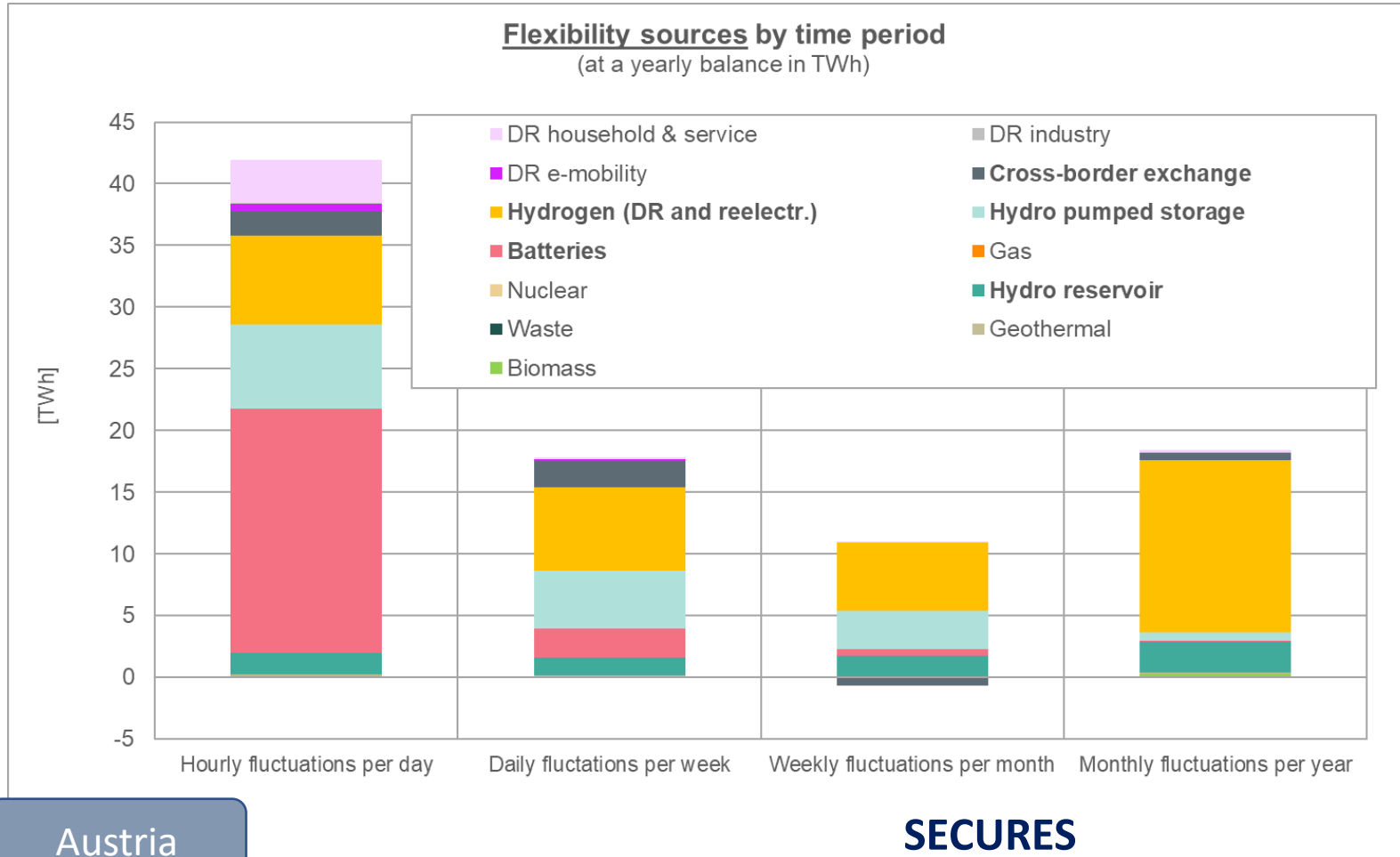
## Contribution of flexibility options to meet flexibility needs: at different time periods & at an annual balance

Scenario:

(Decarbonisation Needs) **DN 2050**

**Heat Wave (weather year 2057)**

**Moderate Climate Impacts**



# Conclusions

- The **moderate impact of climate change** on demand (and generation) **can be offset in a “normal” year mainly by the planned/assumed change in the generation technologies** in Austria, however it needs additional capacities in flexibility options (mainly batteries and hydrogen electrolysers )
- **Hydro pump storage and cross-border exchange** are currently main flexibility options and will also be important in the future.
- **Heat Wave scenario** demonstrates **most critical system scenario** (wind and water lulls) in a decarbonized power system by 2050; needs additional generation capacities (PV and wind) and flexibility options for a system friendly operation.

# Open-access data sets

The **climate data** and **energy system data sets** (hourly resolution, 1981-2100) will be made openly available in the course of the SECURES project.

Variables include temperature, radiation, wind power, and hydropower; aggregated to NUTS3 (Austria only), NUTS2, NUTS0 and EEZ (wind offshore)

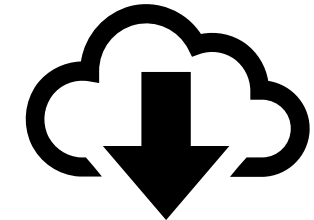
Check for updates here: <https://www.secures.at/news>



# 1<sup>st</sup> dataset: SECURES-Met

Paper: Herbert Formayer, Imran Nadeem, David Leidinger, Philipp Maier, Franziska Schöniger, Demet Suna, Gustav Resch, Gerhard Totschnig & Fabian Lehner (2023). **SECURES-Met: A European meteorological data set suitable for electricity modelling applications.** Under review: Nature Scientific Data.

Herbert Formayer, Philipp Maier, Imran Nadeem, David Leidinger, Fabian Lehner, Franziska Schöniger, Gustav Resch, Demet Suna, Peter Widhalm, Nicolas Pardo-Garcia, Florian Hasengst, & Gerhard Totschnig. (2023). **SECURES-Met - A European wide meteorological data set suitable for electricity modelling (supply and demand) for historical climate and climate change projections (1.0.0) [Data set].** Die Zukunft der Energiemärkte in Europa vor dem Hintergrund neuer geopolitischer Ungleichgewichte (IEWT 2023), Vienna, Austria. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7907883>



Variable	Short name	Unit	Aggregation methods	Temporal resolution
Temperature (2m)	T2M	°C	spatial mean	hourly
		°C	population weighted mean (recommended)	
Radiation	GLO (mean global radiation)	Wm-2	spatial mean	hourly
	BNI (direct normal irradiation)	Wm-2	population weighted mean (recommended)	
Potential Wind Power	WP	1	normalized with potentially available area	hourly
Hydro Power Potential	HYD-RES (reservoir)	MW	summed power production	daily
	HYD-ROR (run-of-river)	1	summed power production normalized with average daily production	

The screenshot shows the Zenodo dataset page for 'SECURES-Met - A European wide meteorological data set suitable for electricity modelling (supply and demand) for historical climate and climate change projections'. The page includes a search bar, navigation links for 'Upload' and 'Communities', and user options for 'Log in' and 'Sign up'. The dataset is dated May 15, 2023, and is marked as 'Open Access'. It has 77 views and 10 downloads. The authors listed are Herbert Formayer, Philipp Maier, Imran Nadeem, David Leidinger, Fabian Lehner, Franziska Schöniger, Gustav Resch, Demet Suna, Peter Widhalm, Nicolas Pardo-Garcia, Florian Hasengst, and Gerhard Totschnig. The abstract describes the dataset's purpose for electricity production and demand modeling, highlighting its high temporal resolution (hourly) and spatial resolution (1 km). The DOI is 10.5281/zenodo.7907883. The page also features an 'OpenAIRE' logo and a list of keywords including Energy System Modelling, Energy Meteorology, Europe, NUTS, Temperature, Wind Power Potential, Hydro Power Potential, Radiation, Electricity, Climate Change Projections, Austria, Energy, and Hourly.



# SECURES

SECURING AUSTRIA'S ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN TIMES OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE

---

**Demet Suna**

[demet.suna@ait.ac.at](mailto:demet.suna@ait.ac.at)

T +43 50550-6420

[www.ait.ac.at](http://www.ait.ac.at)

**More information about project SECURES: [www.secures.at](http://www.secures.at)**

# Comparing key assets of the Austrian power system by 2050

Scenario:

(Decarbonisation Needs) **DN 2050**

Normal year

Moderate Climate Impacts

Energy system assets	Planned stock	Endogenous expansion	Total stock (planned & expansion)	Yearly electricity generation	TWh	
		(beyond planned)			(storage size)	(asset use per year)
<b>Electricity supply (incl. CHP)</b>	GW	GW	GW	TWh		
Wind onshore	26.3	0.0	26.3	65.8		
Wind offshore	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Solar	54.0	0.0	54.0	61.1		
Hydro RoR	6.4	0.0	6.4	39.6		
Biomass	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2		
Geothermal	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.9		
Waste	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0		
Hydro reservoir	6.0	0.0	6.0	13.0		
Nuclear	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Gas	0.0	4.7	4.7	0.7		
<b>Heat/Steam supply</b>	GW	GW	GW			
Biomass	2.4	0.0	2.4			
Geothermal	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Heat pumps (for district heating)	1.8	0.0	1.8			
<b>Storage &amp; selected flexibility components</b>	GW	GW	GW	TWh (storage size)	TWh (asset use per year)	
Batteries	2.7	8.7	11.5	0.04	10.2	
Hydro pumped storage	4.3	0.0	4.3	0.95	9.5	
Thermal storage	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.03	0.4	
H2 storage	0.0	1.8	1.8	9.15	2.4	
H2 electrolyser	0.0	7.1	7.1		57.7	
H2 reelectrification	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	

Scenario:

(Decarbonisation Needs) **DN 2050**

Dark Doldrums

Moderate Climate Impacts

Austria

Energy system assets	Planned stock	Endogenous expansion	Total stock (planned & expansion)	Yearly electricity generation	
		(beyond planned)			
<b>Electricity supply (incl. CHP)</b>	GW	GW	GW	TWh	
Wind onshore	26,3	5,3	31,6	66,4	
Wind offshore	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	
Solar	54,0	8,4	62,4	72,7	
Hydro RoR	6,5	0,0	6,5	32,8	
Biomass	0,4	0,0	0,4	1,6	
Geothermal	0,1	0,0	0,1	1,0	
Waste	0,2	0,0	0,2	0,0	
Hydro reservoir	6,0	0,0	6,0	9,1	
Nuclear	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	
Gas	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	
<b>Heat/Steam supply</b>	GW	GW	GW		
Biomass	2,4	0,0	2,4		
Geothermal	0,0	0,0	0,0		
Waste	0,0	0,0	0,0		
Heat pumps (for district heating)	1,8	0,0	1,8		
<b>Storage &amp; selected flexibility components</b>	GW	GW	GW	TWh (storage size)	TWh (asset use per year)
Batteries	2,7	7,4	10,2	0,037	10,0
Hydro pumped storage	4,3	0,0	4,3	0,949	10,5
Thermal storage	0,0	0,5	0,5	0,074	0,9
H2 storage	0,0	4,0	4,0	20,112	15,5
H2 electrolyser	0,0	16,0	16,0		76,1
H2 reelectrification	0,0	0,0	0,0		0,0