

Chair of  
Energy Systems &  
Energy Economics

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

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## MULTI-OBJECTIVE ENERGY SYSTEM MODELLING TO DEFOSSILISE THE EXISTING COMMERCIAL BUILDING STOCK OF A MUNICIPALITY

**EURO 2022 (3.–6. July 2022) – Christine Nowak**

A Collaboration with Jonas Finke and Valentin Bertsch

# Agenda

## Motivation

heating transition in the existing **commercial building stock**

## Methods

feasibility study and **energy system model**

## Results & Discussion

**multi-objective** optimisation findings, **trends** and **objective conflicts**

## Summary & Outlook

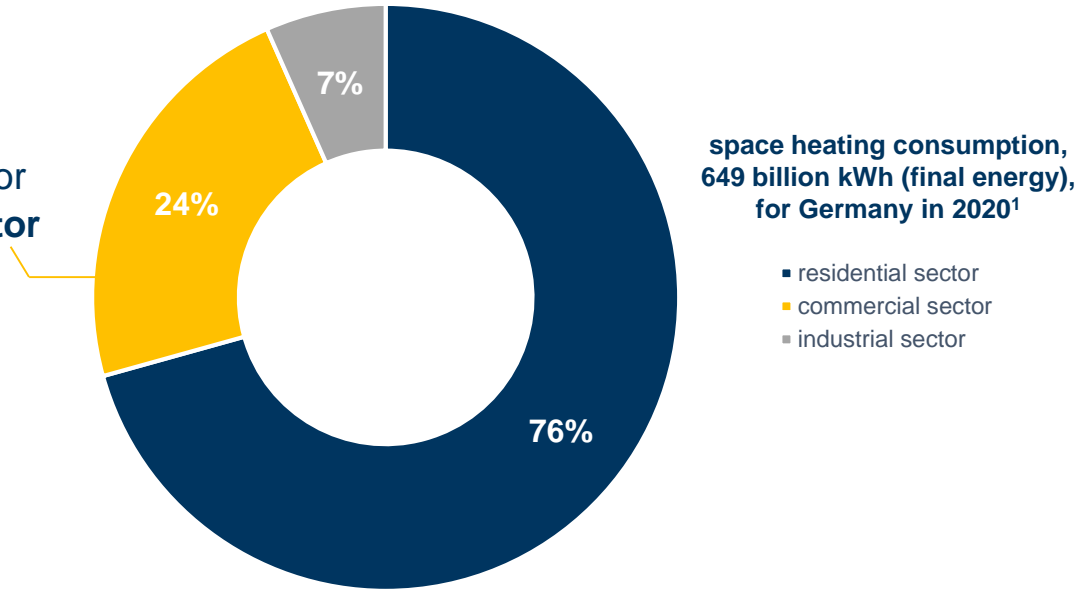


**Motivation**



# Motivation

- **heating transition** is inevitable, and a lot still needs to be accomplished
- **existing building stock** is especially challenging
- a lot of research for the residential sector – not so much for the **commercial sector**



# Motivation

- **energy system modelling**  
suited to find optimal heating supply
- **multi-objective optimisation**  
to understand **trade-offs**



## Research Question

How can the **heating supply**  
for **existing municipal commercial buildings**  
be **optimally** designed  
in terms of **costs**,  
**greenhouse gas emissions and**  
**self-sufficiency?**



**Methods**



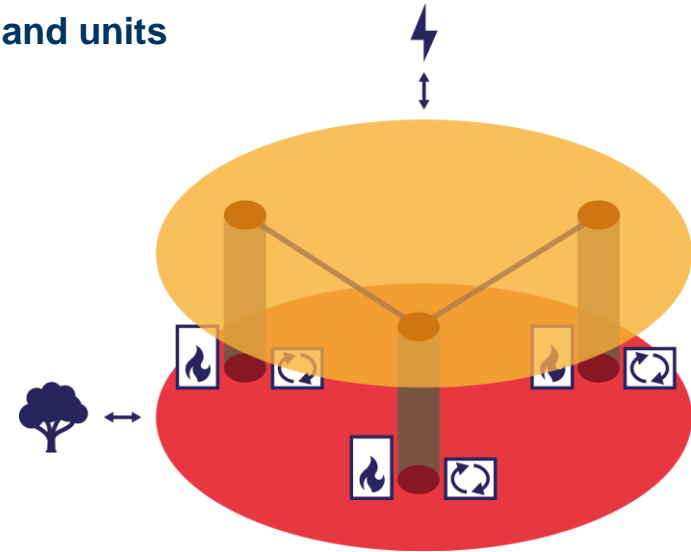
# Energy System Optimisation Framework Backbone

## Network Model:

- highly **adaptable** structure with **grids, nodes, lines and units**
- various **energy carriers** and **sectors**
- **flexible spatial** and **temporal resolution**

## Optimisation:

- **investment** and **operational** planning
- **cost** minimisation

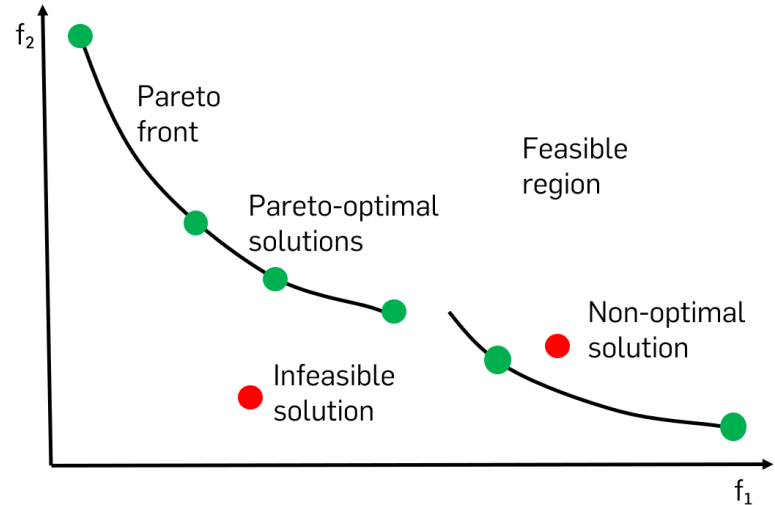


# Multi-objective Optimisation

- new features in Backbone:  
**emission minimisation** as well as  
**self-sufficiency maximisation**
- optimisation of **multiple objectives**
- **Pareto-front**: set of Pareto-optimal solutions

## Augmented Epsilon-Constraint Optimisation Method (AUGMECON):

- reformulate all but one objective to **constraints**
- implemented AUGMECON in Backbone  
for **three objectives**





# Case Study

## Three Existing Commercial Buildings in a Small Municipality:

- municipality hall, primary school and kindergarten

## Feasibility Study:

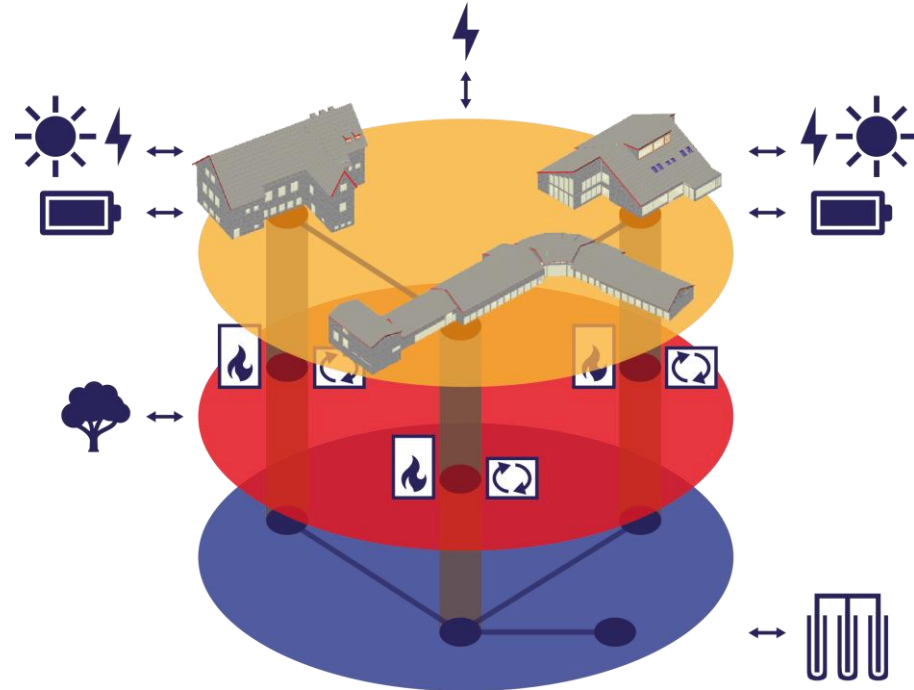
- “A low-temperature heating network with heat pumps/geoth. probes is feasible if refurbishments are conducted.”  
→ provides **real world data**

## Energy Supply and Storage Options:

- geothermal probes, heat pumps, pellet boilers, public electricity grid, photovoltaics (PV), battery storages

## Scenario:

- year 2030, some refurbishments



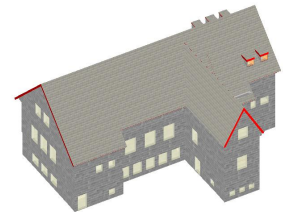
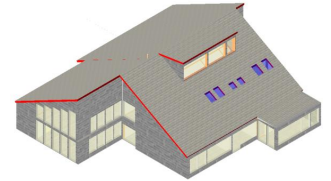
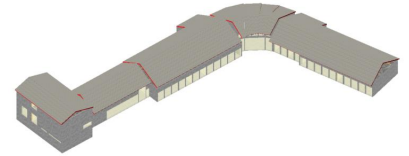
# Case Study

## Data:

- **costs, technical data and electricity demand** from feasibility study
- **heating demand** and **capacity factor time series** for PV based on locational weather data for the year 2021
- **variable emission factors** for the public electricity grid, scaled for 2030
- **variable electricity prices** (consumer prices including scaled variable wholesale prices + inflation) for 2030
- electricity **selling prices** for PV included

## Implementation in Backbone:

- 1 year, hourly resolution
- **linear programming, investment planning**
- three objectives: **costs, emissions and self-sufficiency (i.e. energy imports)**

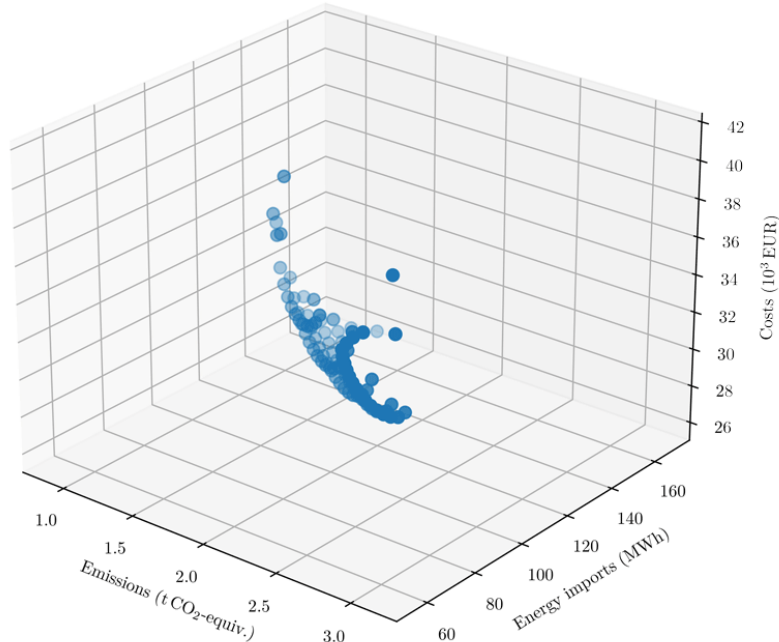




## Results & Discussion



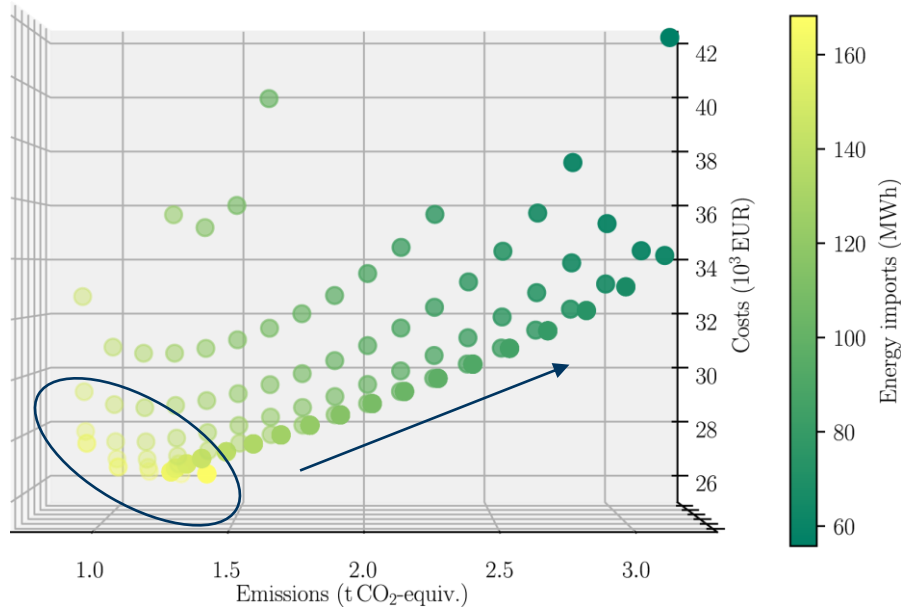
# Tri-Objective: Costs, Emissions and Self-sufficiency



## Objectives Influences:

- min **costs**  
from investments, operation costs and fixed operation and maintenance costs
- min **emissions** & max **self-sufficiency**  
from pellets and public grid electricity

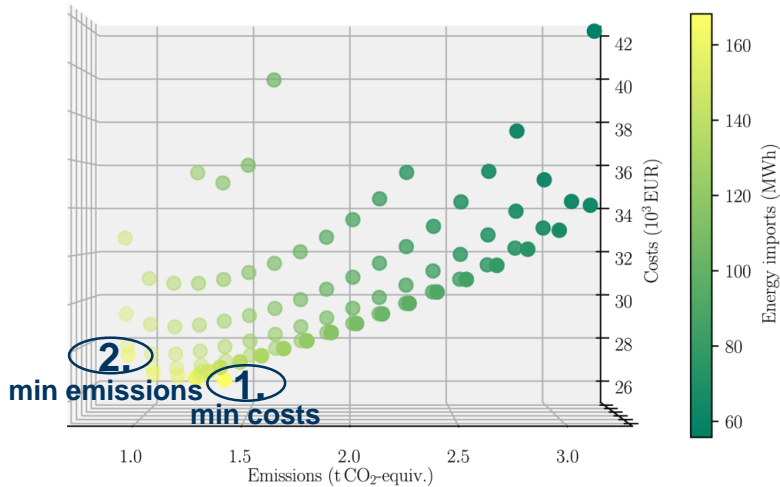
# Tri-Objective: Costs, Emissions and Self-sufficiency



## Trends:

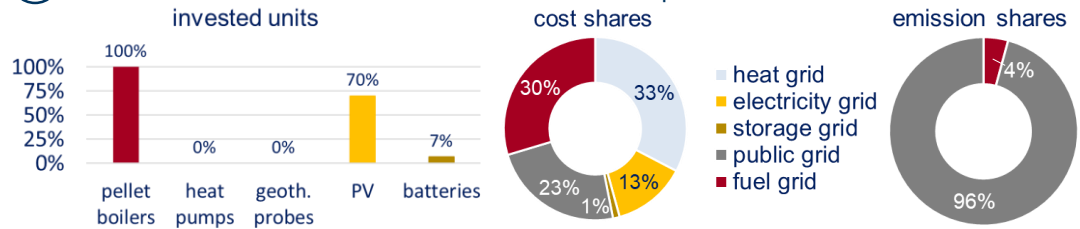
- when **allowing low self-sufficiency:**
  - clear **correlation** between **costs and emissions**, both are low
  - but there is **still a conflict**, due to investments in battery storages and PV
- the **higher** self-sufficiency, the **higher** costs and emissions

# Tri-Objective: Costs, Emissions and Self-sufficiency

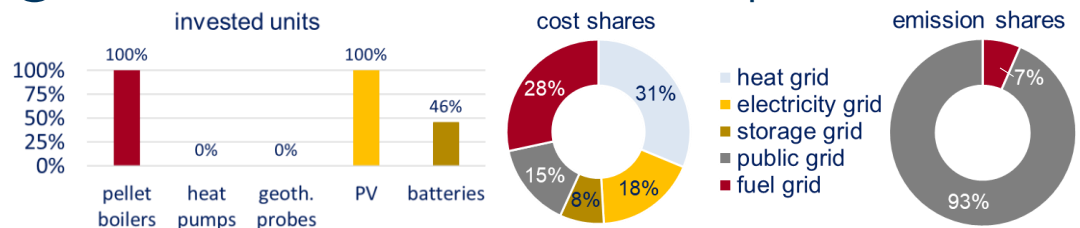


## Results:

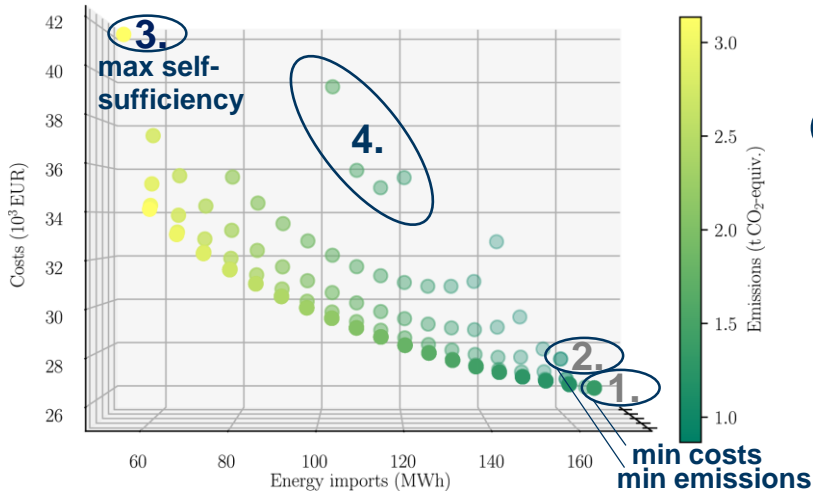
1. **min costs: 26 126 €**, 1.35 t CO<sub>2</sub>-equiv. and 168.24 MWh



2. **min emissions: 27 289 €**, 0.87 t CO<sub>2</sub>-equiv. and 160.88 MWh

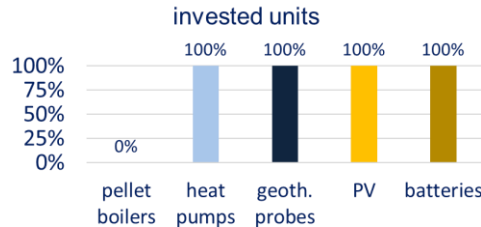


# Tri-Objective: Costs, Emissions and Self-sufficiency

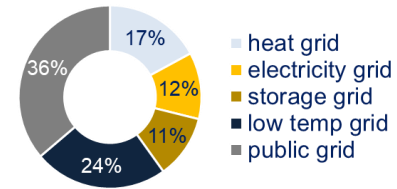


## Results:

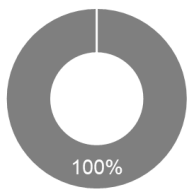
3. **max self-sufficiency:** 41 219 €, 3.14 t CO<sub>2</sub>-equiv. and 55.77 MWh



### cost shares



### emission shares



4. **full investments**

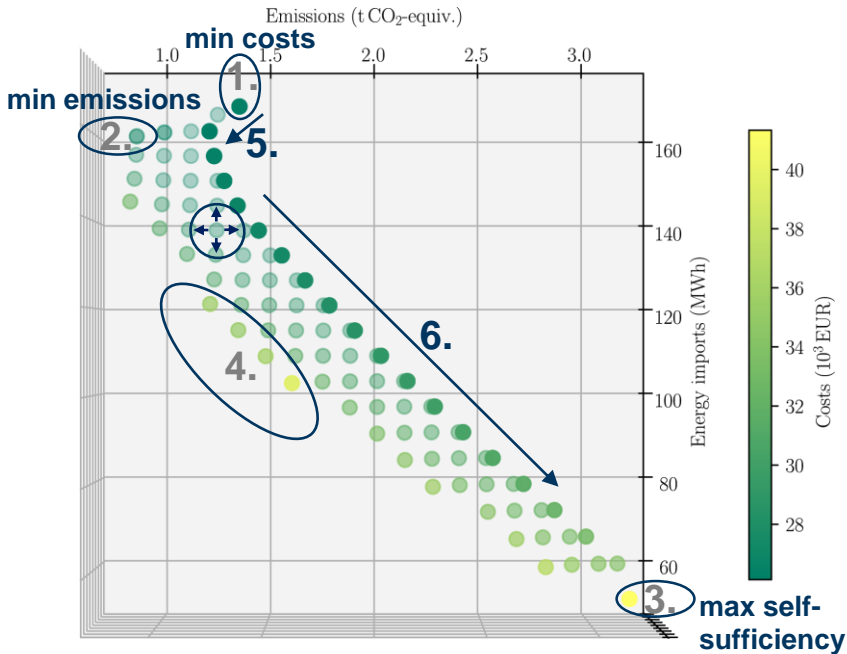
in PV and battery storages

**partial investments**

in pellet boilers and heat pumps/geoth. probes

**due to** lowering of energy imports/emissions

# Tri-Objective: Costs, Emissions and Self-sufficiency



regularity due to **constraints formulation**



**5. stricter constraint** on self-sufficiency:  
**first decrease** in emissions

due to investments in **PV** and **partially in battery storages**  
pellet boilers investments almost constant  
no heat pumps/geoth. probes



**6. even stricter constraint** on self-sufficiency:  
**increase** in emissions

due to add. investments in **heat pumps/geoth. probes**  
pellet boilers investments decrease





## Summary & Outlook

# Summary & Outlook

## Summary:

- energy system model of **three commercial municipal buildings**, optimised for **costs**, **emissions** and **self-sufficiency**
- overall: the **higher** the self-sufficiency, the **higher** costs and emissions
- **when self-sufficiency is heightened**, first there is a **decrease** and after that an **increase in emissions**
- Pareto front shows **conflicts** and equips **stakeholders** for investment decisions

## Outlook:

- extension of model: **mixed-integer** linear programming, scenarios with **data for multiple years** and with **different refurbishment levels**
- preparatory step to **load shifting investigations**

# thank you

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# Backup - Node to Node

p\_gnn

	A	B	C	D	[MW]	[-]	[-]	[MW]	[€/MW]	[-]	[MW]	[-]
1	GRID	FROM_NODE	TO_NODE		Define parameters for transfer and diffusion between nodes							
2				PARAM_GN	transferCap	transferLoss	investMIP	transferCapInvLimit	invCost	annuity	unitSize	availability
3	low_temp	sch_low_temp	low_temp_distributor		eps	0.05		0.06	97950	0.083679	0.06	1
4	low_temp	low_temp_distributor	sch_low_temp		eps	0.05		0.06	97950	0.083679	0.06	1
5	low_temp	gem_low_temp	low_temp_distributor		eps	0.05		0.03	203492	0.083679	0.03	1
6	low_temp	low_temp_distributor	gem_low_temp		eps	0.05		0.03	203492	0.083679	0.03	1
7	low_temp	kita_low_temp	low_temp_distributor		eps	0.05		0.04	153447.8	0.083679	0.04	1
8	low_temp	low_temp_distributor	kita_low_temp		eps	0.05		0.04	153447.8	0.083679	0.04	1
9	low_temp	geo_field	low_temp_distributor		eps	0.05		0.13	3302	0.083679	0.13	1
10	low_temp	low_temp_distributor	geo_field		eps	0.05		0.13	3302	0.083679	0.13	1
11	elec	kita_elec	sch_elec		100	0						1
12	elec	sch_elec	kita_elec		100	0						1
13	elec	gem_elec	sch_elec		100	0						1
14	elec	sch_elec	gem_elec		100	0						1

# Backup – Units

p\_unit

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	<b>UNIT</b>										
2		*	availability	eff00	eff01	op00	op01	maxUnitCount	investMIP	useTimeseries	
3	heat_pump_gem		1	1	1	0	1	1			
4	heat_pump_kita		1	1	1	0	1	1			
5	heat_pump_sch		1	1	1	0	1	1			
6	pv_gem		1	1	1	0	1	65			
7	pv_kita		1	1	1	0	1	35			
8	battery_charge_gem		1	0.90	0.90	0	1	5			
9	battery_discharge_gem		1	0.90	0.90	0	1	5			
10	battery_charge_kita		1	0.90	0.90	0	1	3			
11	battery_discharge_kita		1	0.90	0.90	0	1	3			
12	pellet_boiler_gem		1	0.93	0.93	0	1	1			
13	pellet_boiler_kita		1	0.93	0.93	0	1	1			
14	pellet_boiler_sch		1	0.93	0.93	0	1	1			
15	elec_sell_gem		1	1	1	0	1				
16	elec_sell_kita		1	1	1	0	1				
17	geo_probes		1	1	1	0	1	30			
18	u_emissions_ts		1			0	1				1
19	u_emissions_inputRatio_sch		1	0.5	0.5	0	1				
20	u_emissions_inputRatio_gem		1	0.5	0.5	0	1				
21	u_emissions_inputRatio_kita		1	0.5	0.5	0	1				

# Backup – In- and Outputs p\_gnu\_io

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	GRID	NODE	UNIT	input_output		Define parameters for units in certain nodes of certain grids									
					P9864M_GNU	conversionCoef	capacity	unitSize	varnCosts	maxRampUp	maxRampDown	invCosts	formCosts	annuity	[MWh/MW] upperLimitCapacityRatio
						[-]	[MW]	[MW]	[€/MWh]			[€/MW]	[€/MW/a]	[-]	
2															
3	heat	gem_heat	heat_pump_gem	output		1	eps	0.0273					697500	20925	0.0837
4	elec	gem_elec	heat_pump_gem	input		1									
5	low_temp	gem_low_temp	heat_pump_gem	input		1									
6	heat	kita_heat	heat_pump_kita	output		1	eps	0.04				565953.75	16978.61	0.0837	
7	elec	kita_elec	heat_pump_kita	input		1									
8	low_temp	kita_low_temp	heat_pump_kita	input		1									
9	heat	sch_heat	heat_pump_sch	output		1	eps	0.0605				539687.6033	16190.63	0.0837	
10	elec	sch_elec	heat_pump_sch	input		1									
11	low_temp	sch_low_temp	heat_pump_sch	input		1									
12	elec	gem_elec	pv_gem	output		1	eps	0.00034				1400000	28000	0.0837	
13	elec	kita_elec	pv_kita	output		1	eps	0.00034				1400000	28000	0.0837	
14	elec	gem_elec	battery_charge_gem	input		1		0.005							
15	storage	gem_battery	battery_charge_gem	output		1	eps	0.005				1000000		0.116	6
16	storage	gem_battery	battery_discharge_gem	input		1		0.005							
17	elec	gem_elec	battery_discharge_gem	output		1	eps	0.005							
18	elec	kita_elec	battery_charge_kita	input		1		0.005							
19	storage	kita_battery	battery_charge_kita	output		1	eps	0.005				1000000		0.116	6
20	storage	kita_battery	battery_discharge_kita	input		1		0.005							
21	elec	kita_elec	battery_discharge_kita	output		1	eps	0.005							
22	fuel	pellet	pellet_boiler_gem	input		1									
23	heat	gem_heat	pellet_boiler_gem	output		1	eps	0.0295				711864.4068	#####	0.0996	
24	fuel	pellet	pellet_boiler_kita	input		1									
25	heat	kita_heat	pellet_boiler_kita	output		1	eps	0.048				510416.6667	#####	0.0996	
26	fuel	pellet	pellet_boiler_sch	input		1									
27	heat	sch_heat	pellet_boiler_sch	output		1	eps	0.0654				428134.5566	#####	0.0996	
28	elec	gem_elec	elec_sell_gem	input		1									
29	public_grid	public_grid_sell	elec_sell_gem	output		1	1000	1000	-72.5						
30	elec	kita_elec	elec_sell_kita	input		1									
31	public_grid	public_grid_sell	elec_sell_kita	output		1	1000	1000	-72.5						
32	ground	geo	geo_probes	input		1									
33	low_temp	geo_field	geo_probes	output		1	eps	0.0052				1153846.154	#####	0.0591	
34	public_grid	public_grid_buy	u_emissions_inputRatio_sch	input		1									
35	public_grid	public_grid_emissions_ts	u_emissions_inputRatio_sch	input		1									
36	elec	sch_elec	u_emissions_inputRatio_sch	output		1	1000	1000							
37	public_grid	public_grid_buy	u_emissions_inputRatio_gem	input		1									
38	public_grid	public_grid_emissions_ts	u_emissions_inputRatio_gem	input		1									
39	elec	gem_elec	u_emissions_inputRatio_gem	output		1	1000	1000							
40	public_grid	public_grid_buy	u_emissions_inputRatio_kita	input		1									
41	public_grid	public_grid_emissions_ts	u_emissions_inputRatio_kita	input		1									
42	elec	kita_elec	u_emissions_inputRatio_kita	output		1	1000	1000							
43	public_grid	public_grid_emissions_cons	u_emissions_ts	input		1									
44	public_grid	public_grid_emissions_ts	u_emissions_ts	output		1	1000	1000							

# Backup – Constraints

## p\_unitConstraintNode

[-]

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>CONSTRAINT</b>	<b>NODE</b>	<i>Constants for unit specific constraints</i>			
2	heat_pump_gem	eq1	gem_low_temp	-1			
3	heat_pump_kita	eq1	kita_low_temp	-1			
4	heat_pump_sch	eq1	sch_low_temp	-1			
5	heat_pump_gem	eq1	gem_elec	2.3			
6	heat_pump_kita	eq1	kita_elec	2.48			
7	heat_pump_sch	eq1	sch_elec	2.48			
8	u_emissions_inputRatio_sch	eq2	public_grid_buy	-1			
9	u_emissions_inputRatio_sch	eq2	public_grid_emissions_ts	1			
10	u_emissions_inputRatio_gem	eq3	public_grid_buy	-1			
11	u_emissions_inputRatio_gem	eq3	public_grid_emissions_ts	1			
12	u_emissions_inputRatio_kita	eq4	public_grid_buy	-1			
13	u_emissions_inputRatio_kita	eq4	public_grid_emissions_ts	1			
14							

# Backup – Prices

## ts\_PriceChange

[€/MWh] ...

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	<b>Node</b>		<i>Define initial fuel price, and subsequent changes in fuel prices as additions or reductions (in €/MWh)</i>											
2		<b>Time index</b>	t000001	t000002	t000003	t000004	t000005	t000006	t000007	t000008	t000009	t000010	t000011	t000012
3	public_grid_buy		196.72	-2.68	-3.51	-1.76	-2.53	-0.19	-0.57	0.46	1.18	3.61	0.12	2.20
4	pellet		50											



# Backup – Emissions

## p\_nEmission

[kg<sub>CO2eq</sub>/MWh], equivalent to [g<sub>CO2eq</sub>/kWh]

	A	B	C
1	<b>Node</b>	<b>Emission</b>	
2			CO2
3	pellet		0.368
4	public_grid_emissions_const		1
5			

implemented: time series of carbon intensity for grid electricity in kg<sub>CO2eq</sub>/MWh, i.e. operational emission factors (takes into account imports)

	A	B	C	D	E
1				durchschnittlicher CO2-Emissionsfaktor	Skalierungsfaktor für
2	2021	Anteil EE (%)	Anteil Gas (%)	Strommix (g/kWh)	Zeitreihe von 2021
3	2030	80	20	79.4	0.189
4	2040	95	5	19.85	0.047

# Backup – Demands

ts\_influx

[MW] ...

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	<b>GRID</b>	<b>NODE</b>	<b>Forecast index</b>			winter, summer, mixed	<i>External power inflow/outflow time series (only relevant if several nodes are integrated -</i>							
2				<b>Time index</b>	<b>SUM [MWh]</b>	t000001	t000002	t000003	t000004	t000005	t000006	t000007	t000008	t000009
3	heat	sch_heat	f00		-58.14	0	0	0	0	0	-0.020729	-0.021131	-0.026304	-0.02652
4	heat	kita_heat	f00		-54.09	0	0	0	0	-0.020077	-0.020627	-0.021165	-0.021654	-0.021982
5	heat	gem_heat	f00		-31.74	0	0	0	0	0	0	-0.005921	-0.006103	-0.009347
6	elec	sch_elec	f00		-9.15	-0.000226106	-0.000234	-0.00023	-0.000222	-0.000221	-0.000244	-0.000259	-0.000256	-0.000268
7	elec	kita_elec	f00		-12.80	-0.000316332	-0.000327	-0.000322	-0.000311	-0.000309	-0.000342	-0.000363	-0.000357	-0.000375
8	elec	gem_elec	f00		-19.51	-0.001207545	-0.001009	-0.000848	-0.000772	-0.000761	-0.000774	-0.00097	-0.001016	-0.000947
9														