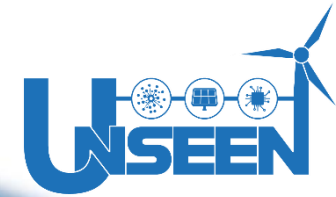
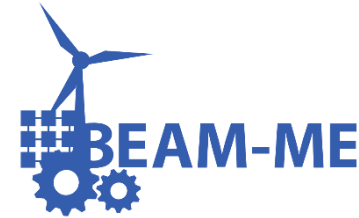


# Pushing Computational Boundaries: Solving Integrated Investment Planning Problems for Large-scale Energy Systems with PIPS-IPM++

OR 2021, online, September 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

Karl-Kien Cao, Manuel Wetzel, Nils-Christian Kempke, Thorsten Koch

German Aerospace Center (DLR)  
Institute of Networked Energy Systems  
Energy Systems Analysis



Supported by:



on the basis of a decision  
by the German Bundestag

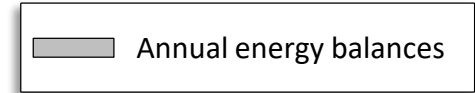
Knowledge for Tomorrow

# Motivation

A photograph of the Earth's horizon from space, showing the blue atmosphere, white clouds, and green and brown landmasses. The Earth is curved, and the background is white.

Knowledge for Tomorrow

# Motivation: Energy System Optimization Models



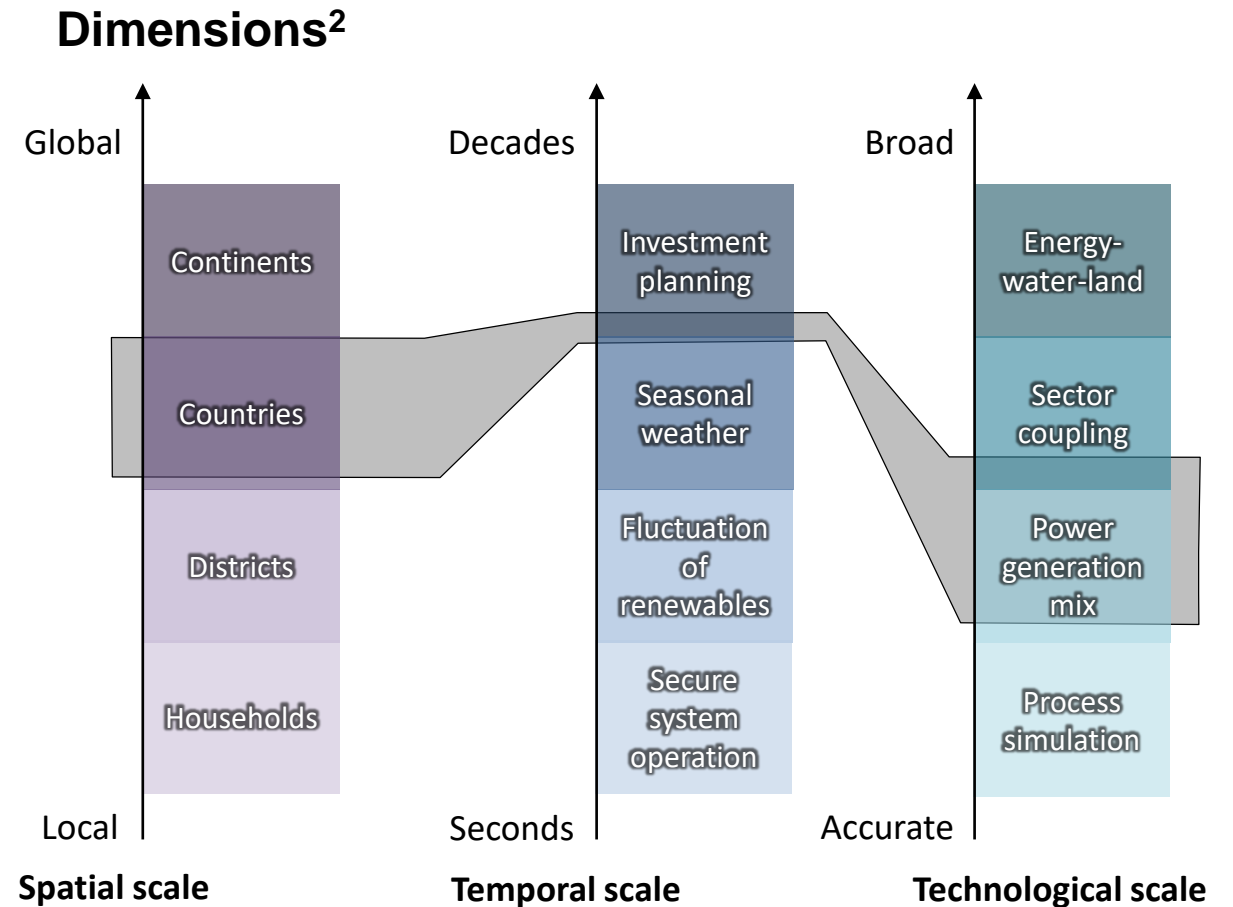
## Purpose

Future insights on

- supply and demand of energy
- infrastructure and investment needs
- feasibility

## Trends<sup>1</sup>

- Addressing uncertainty and transparency
- Addressing the growing system complexity
- Increasing resolutions and scope



1: According to: Pfenninger, S., Hawkes, A., & Keirstead, J. (2014). Energy systems modeling for twenty-first century energy challenges. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 33, 74-86.  
 2: Based on: Cao, K. K., Haas, J., Sperber, E., Sasanpour, S., Sarfarazi, S., Pregger, T., ... & Kneiske, T. M. (2021). Bridging granularity gaps to decarbonize large-scale energy systems—The case of power system planning. *Energy Science & Engineering*.

# Motivation: Energy System Optimization Models

## Purpose

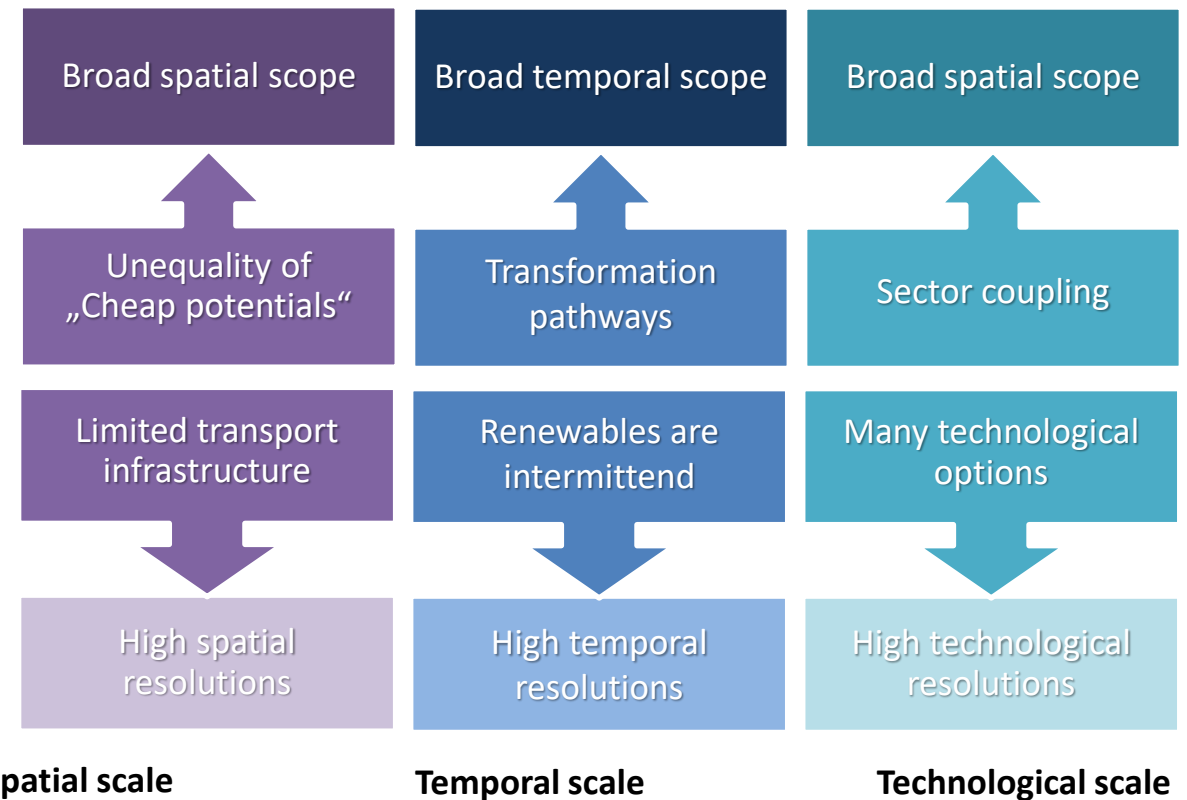
Future insights on

- supply and demand of energy
- infrastructure and investment needs
- feasibility

## Trends<sup>1</sup>

- Addressing uncertainty and transparency
- Addressing the growing system complexity
- Increasing resolutions and scope

## Dimensions



1: According to: Pfenninger, S., Hawkes, A., & Keirstead, J. (2014). Energy systems modeling for twenty-first century energy challenges. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, 33, 74-86.



# Motivation: Energy System Optimization Models

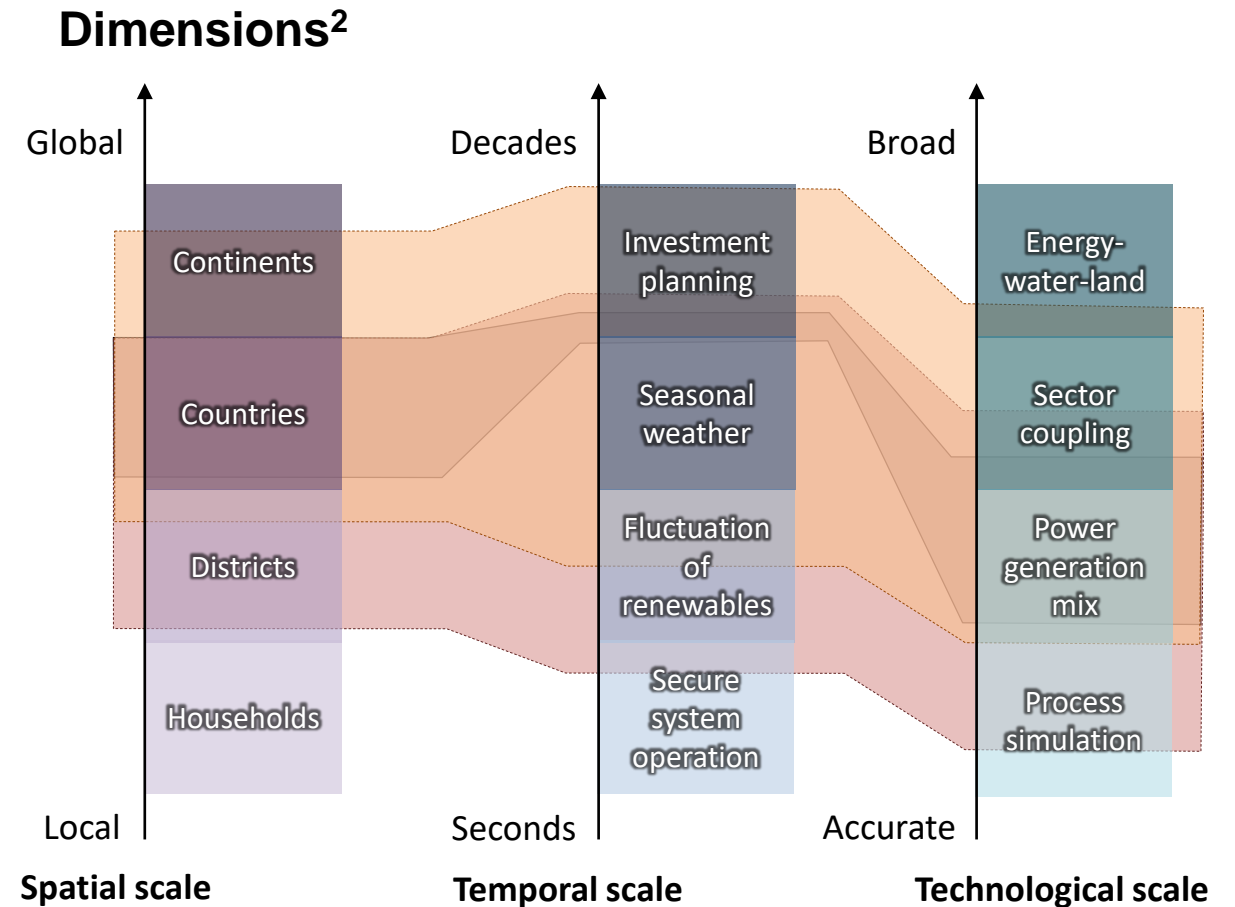
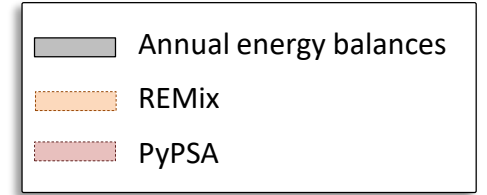
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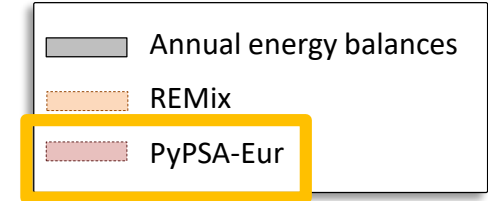
## Trends<sup>1</sup>

- Addressing uncertainty and transparency
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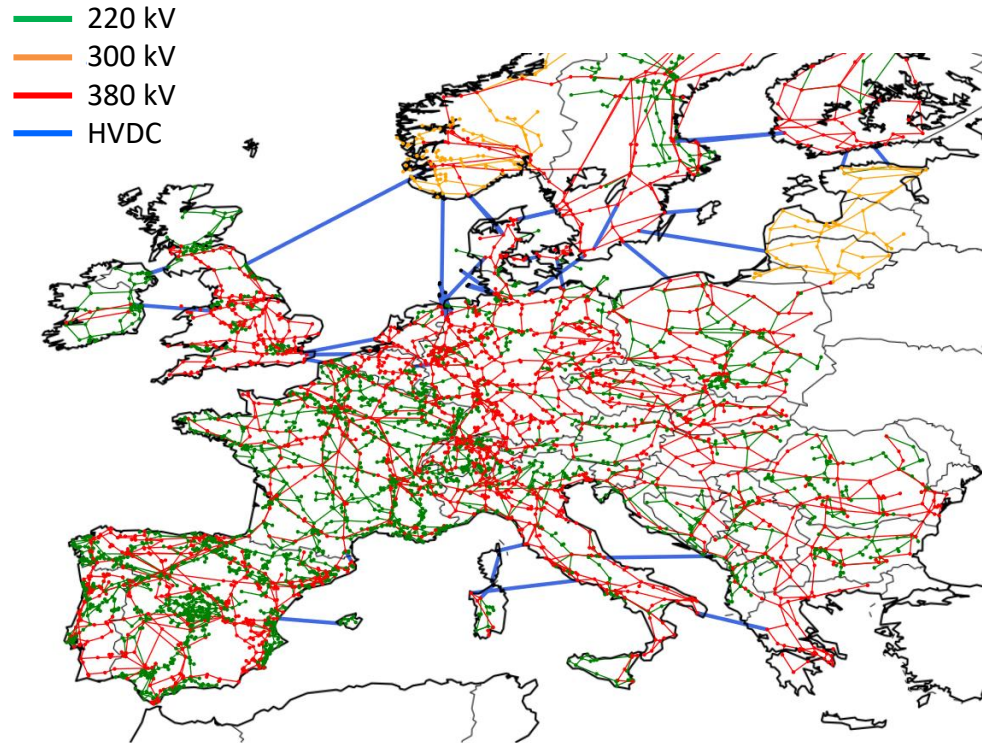


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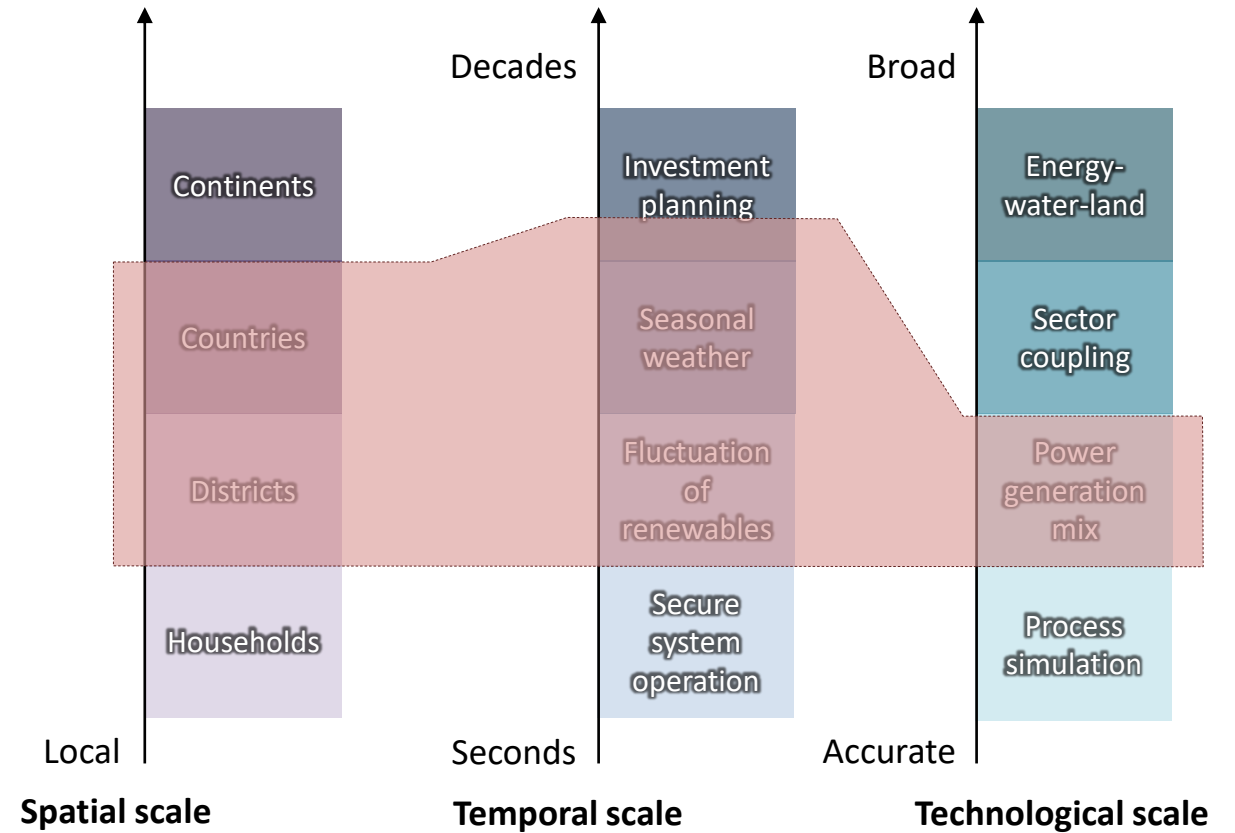
# Modelling Large-scale Energy Systems



## Example: Representation of PyPSA-Eur



## Dimensions<sup>2</sup>



Source: Hörsch, J., Hofmann, F., Schlachtberger, D., & Brown, T. (2018). PyPSA-Eur: An open optimisation model of the European transmission system. *Energy Strategy Reviews*, 22, 207-215.



# Methodology

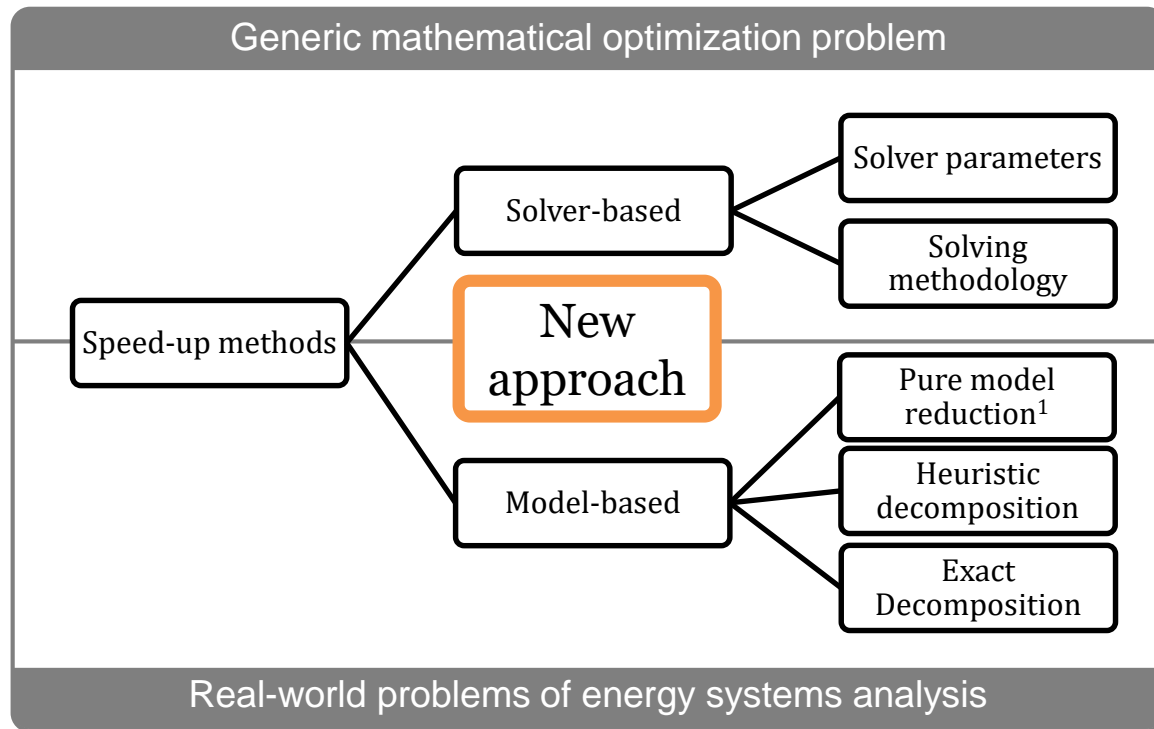


Knowledge for Tomorrow

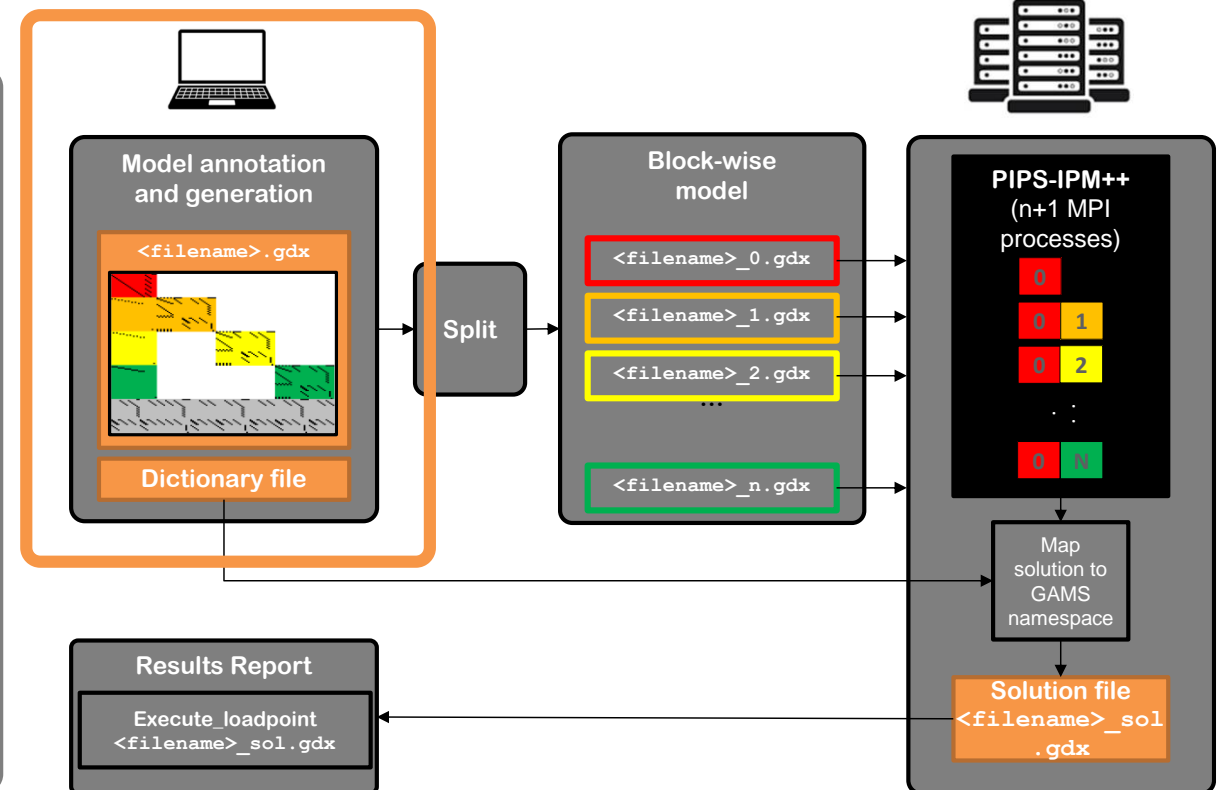


# Solving the Models

## Methods on the Software-Side<sup>3</sup>



## Modeller's Domain Knowledge + Supercomputing<sup>2</sup>



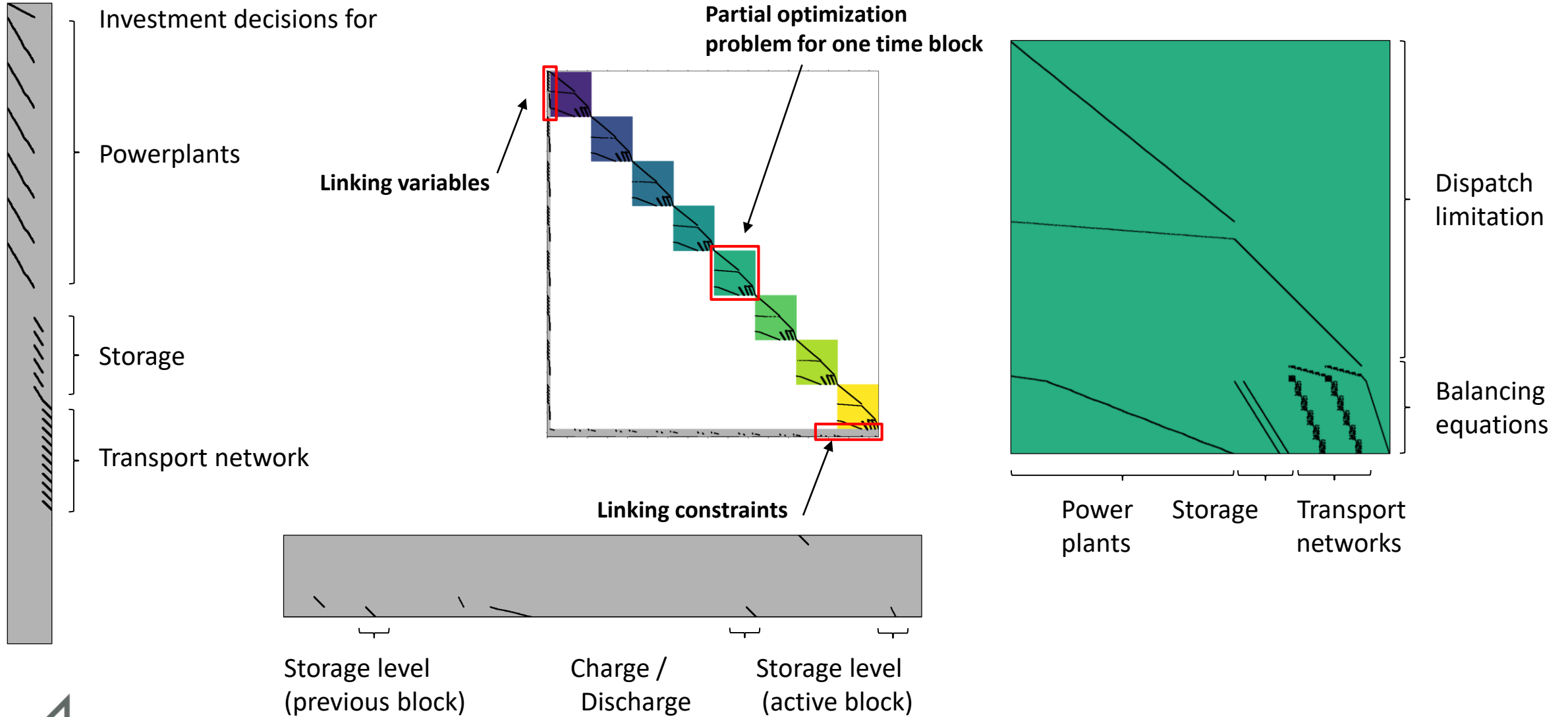
1: Investigated in: Raventós, O., & Bartels, J. (2020). Evaluation of temporal complexity reduction techniques applied to storage expansion planning in power system models. *Energies*, 13(4), 988.

2: Based on: Scholz, Y., Fuchs, B., Borggreffe, F., Cao, K. K., Wetzel, M., von Krbek, K., ... & Buchholz, S. (2020). Speeding up Energy System Models-a Best Practice Guide.

3: Based on: Cao, K. K., Von Krbek, K., Wetzel, M., Cebulla, F., & Schreck, S. (2019). Classification and evaluation of concepts for improving the performance of applied energy system optimization models. *Energies*, 12(24), 4656.



# Understanding the Block Structure



# Results

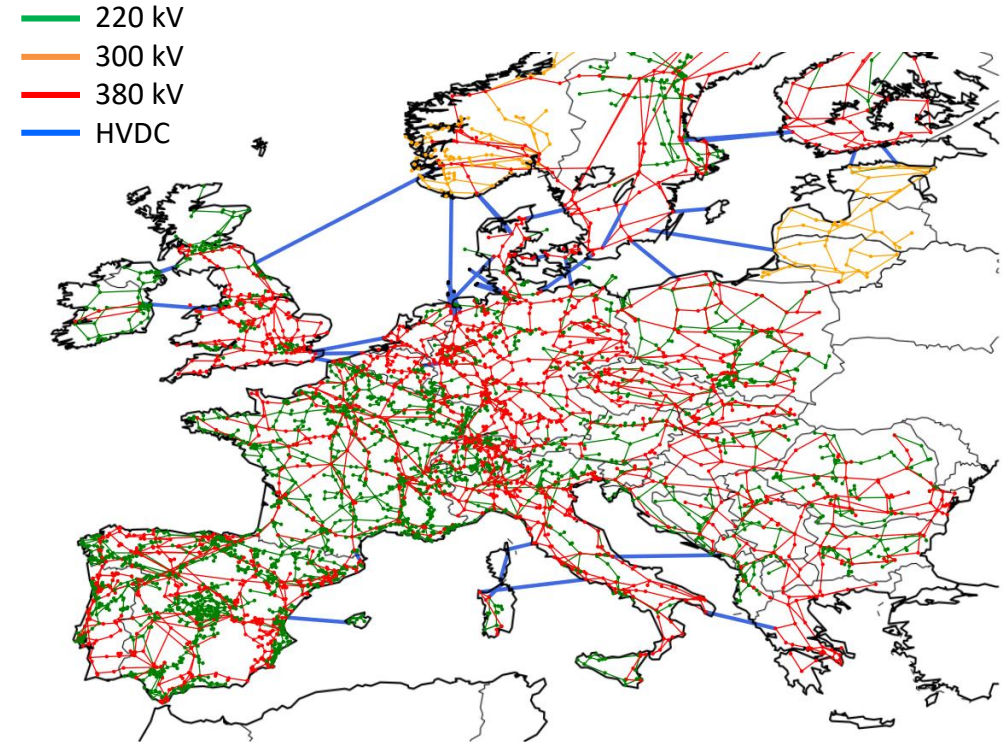


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# Solving PyPSA-Eur<sup>1</sup> with PIPS-IPM++

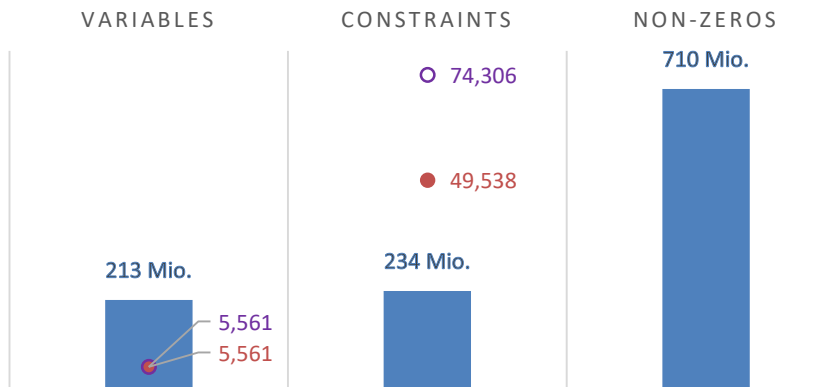
## Annotation

No. regions	No. MPI-tasks (time blocks)
37	{96, 120, 144, 192, 768}
128	{..., 96, ..., 192, ..., 384, ..., 1095}
512	{96, 144, 192, ..., 528, 768, 792, 1056}
1024	{96, 144, 192}
3475	{96, 144}



- Total
- Linking @96 blocks
- Linking @144 blocks

### PROBLEM SIZE



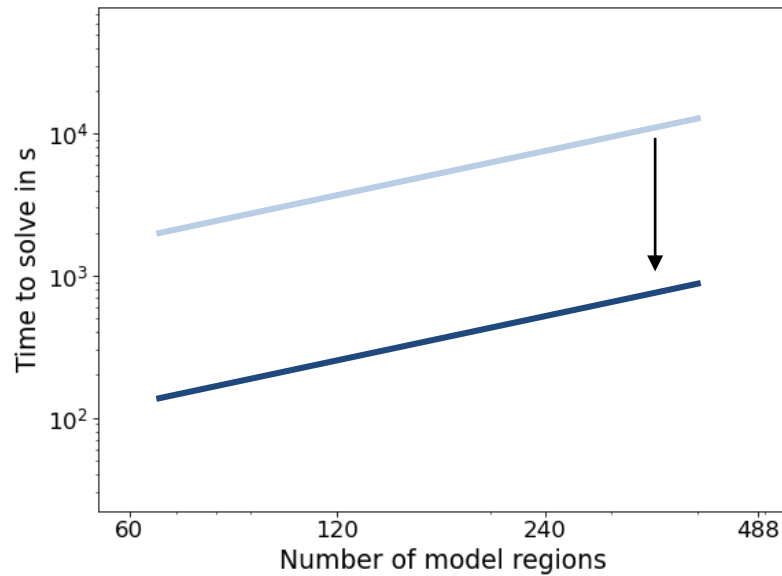
Source: Hörsch, J., Hofmann, F., Schlachtberger, D., & Brown, T. (2018). PyPSA-Eur: An open optimisation model of the European transmission system. Energy Strategy Reviews, 22, 207-215.



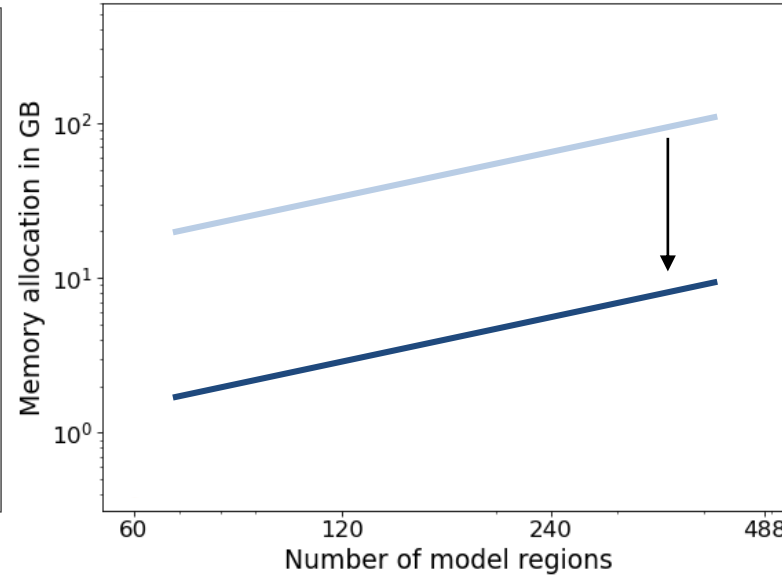
# Measuring the Performance

Commercial solver on **shared** memory  
PIPS-IPM++ on **distributed** memory

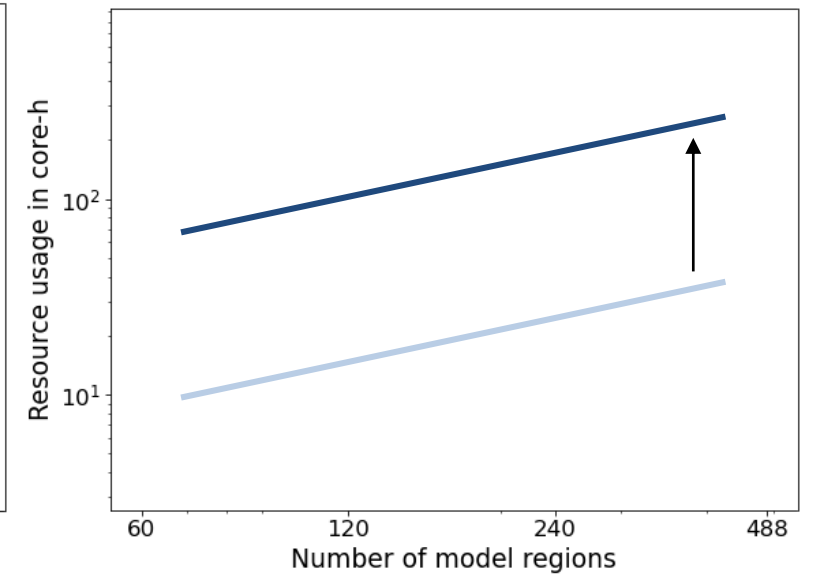
## Speed-up



## Max. memory savings



## Resources

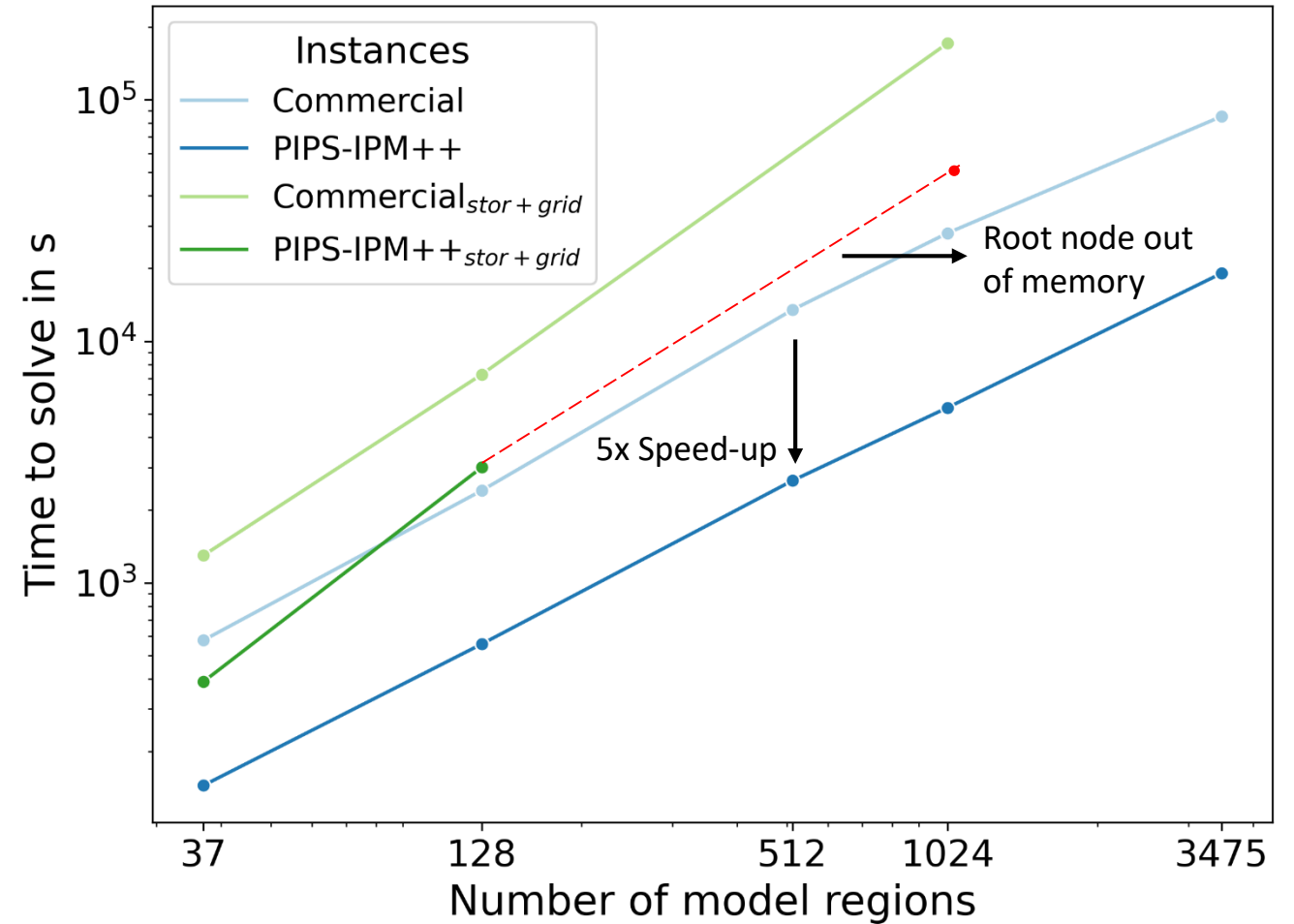


- Mitigation of both time and memory limits possible via compute node configuration on HPC systems
- Trade-off: Time to solve vs. resources consumption



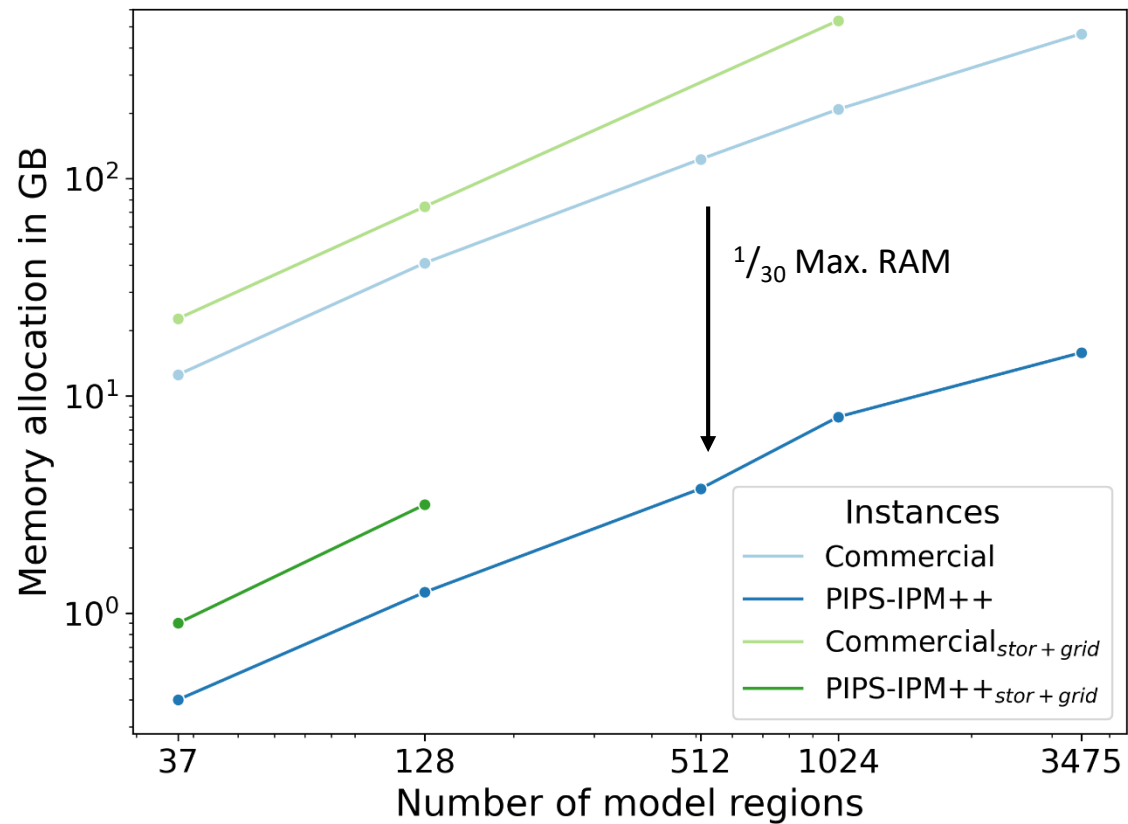
# Solving PyPSA-Eur with PIPS-IPM++

- Best-in-class:
  - Take best result for **Speed-up** across different annotations
- Operational and investment decisions
  - Investments into renewable energy generation
  - Additional investments into storage and power transmission capacities

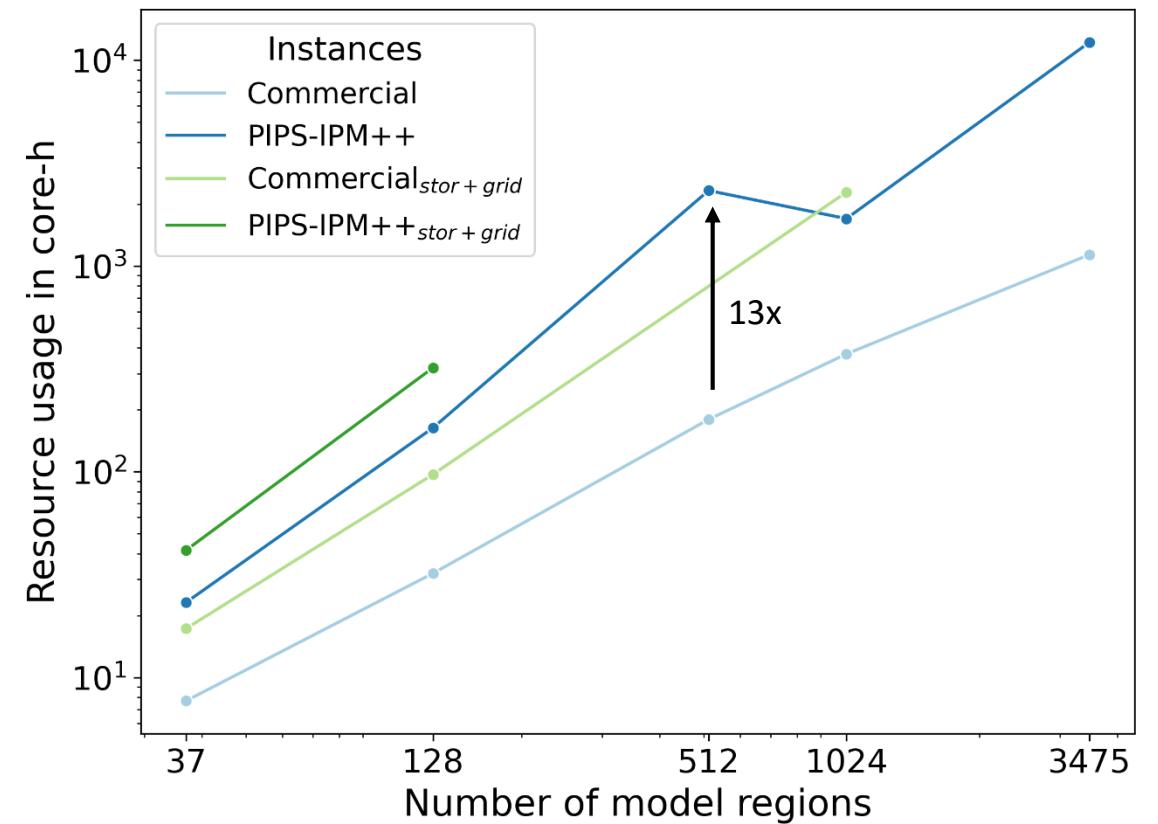


# Solving the PyPSA-Eur with PIPS-IPM++

## Max. memory savings



## Resources



# Conclusions



Knowledge for Tomorrow



# Conclusions

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## Trend

Large-scale energy system optimization models

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Higher resolutions and broader scopes

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## Challenges

Computing times

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Memory demand

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## Open parallel solver PIPS-IPM++<sup>1</sup>

Exact solutions

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Distributed memory hardware

---

Speed-up vs. compute resources

---

## Future

Parameter tuning

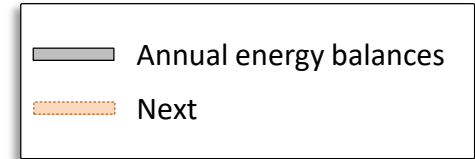
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Suitable use-cases

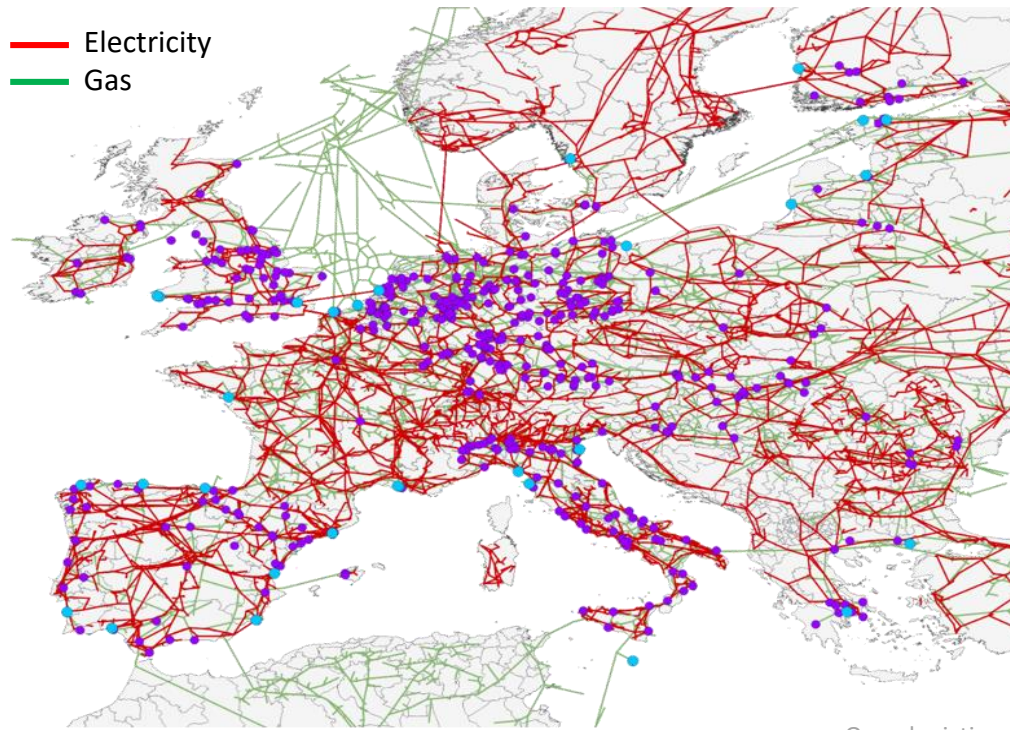




# Outlook for Modelling Large-scale Energy Systems

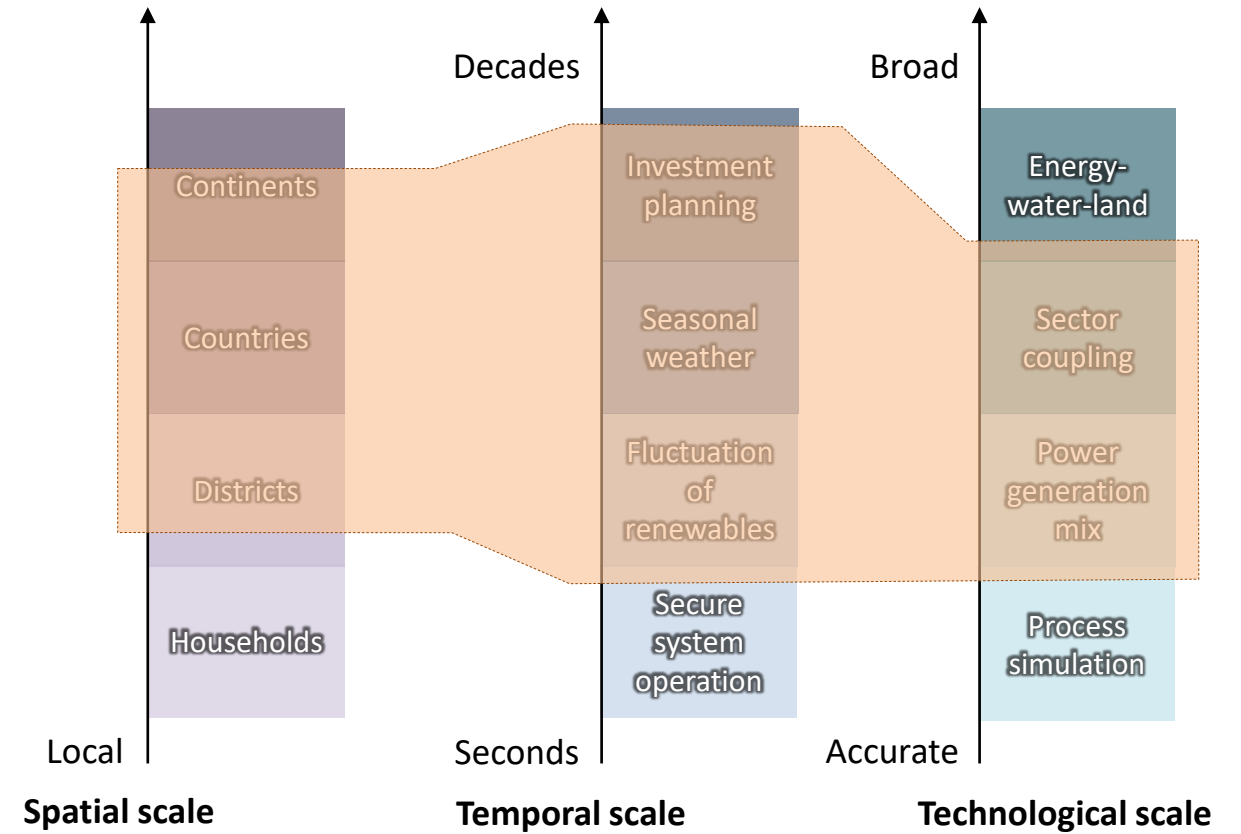


## European Power and Gas Transmission Grid



Own depiction

## Dimensions<sup>2</sup>



# Thank you!

The authors gratefully acknowledge the Gauss Centre for Supercomputing e.V. ([www.gauss-centre.eu](http://www.gauss-centre.eu)) for funding this project by providing computing time through the John von Neumann Institute for Computing (NIC) on the GCS Supercomputer JUWELS at Julich Supercomputing Centre (JSC).

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