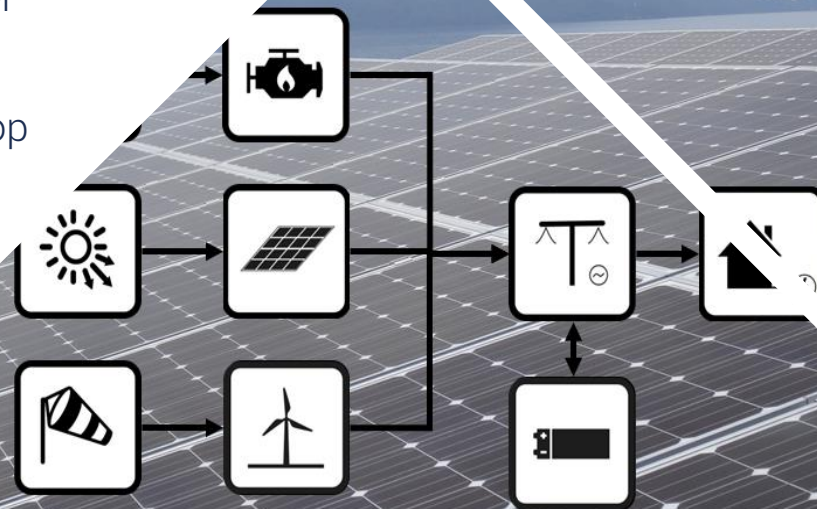


# Sizing and Optimization of Hybrid Mini-Grids with *micrOgridS*

— *an Open-Source Modelling Tool.*

Sarah Berendes, Paul Bertheau, Philipp Blechinger

3rd International Hybrid Power Systems Workshop  
8.5.2018



## *Applied research to target 100% RE in the mix*

- Not-for-profit research institute
- 100 % subsidiary of Reiner Lemoine Foundation (RLS)
- Established 2010 in Berlin
- Managing Director: Dr. Kathrin Goldammer
- Approximately 25 researchers + students
- Member of: ARE, eurosolar, SDSN, dena



**Reiner Lemoine**  
Founder of Reiner Lemoine-  
Foundation



# Agenda

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- 1) Motivation
- 2) Methods & Modelling Approach
- 3) Case Study
- 4) Conclusions

# Agenda

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- 1) Motivation
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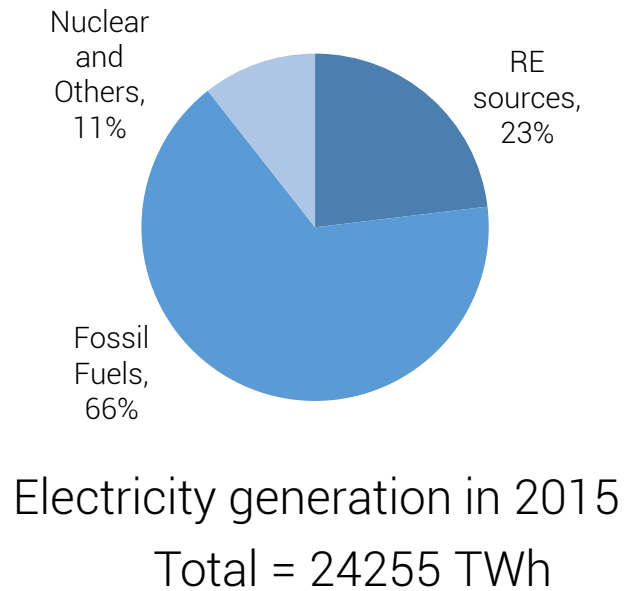
# Motivation: Hybridization Potential

## SDG # 7



1)

## World



2)

## Island States/ SIDS

- Strong dependency on petroleum goods
- Highest electricity rates worldwide
- Vulnerability to effects of climate change

3)

## Software tools are crucial to ...

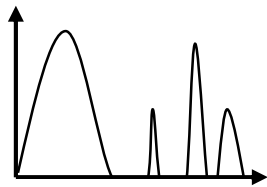
- map the complexity of interactions of system components
- provide optimized sizing of system components
- identify optimized operational strategies
- provide guidance for political decision making and identify investment cases

# Motivation: Software Tools for Hybrid Mini-Grids

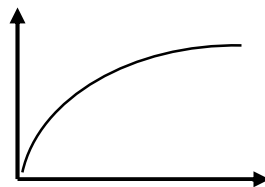
Software tools are crucial to ...

- map the **complexity** of interactions of system components

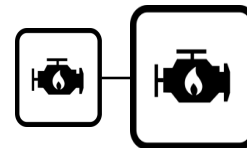
increases by:



natural  
intermittency  
of RE sources



non-linear  
DG efficiency



parallel  
operation of  
different DGs

## Software tools are crucial to ...

- map the complexity of interactions of system components
- provide optimized sizing of system components
- identify optimized operational strategies
- provide guidance for political decision making and identify investment cases



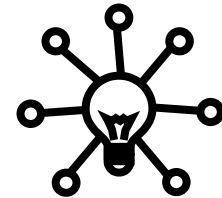
# Motivation: Software Tools for Hybrid Mini-Grids

## Open source software is crucial to ...

- meet scientific standards in software based research
- foster bottom-up approaches by reducing barriers associated with high license cost of proprietary software tools
- improve research quality & completeness & knowledge pooling due to collaborative modelling



open source



collaborative

**openmod** open energy  
modelling initiative

*„ (...) models need to meet scientific standards as public acceptance becomes increasingly important“  
Hilpert et. al<sup>3)</sup>*

# Agenda

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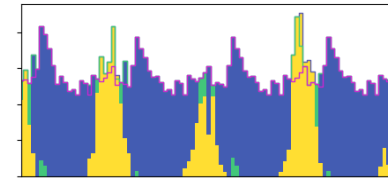
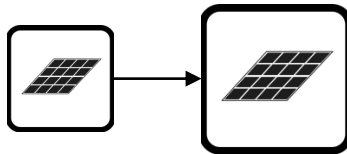
- 1) Motivation
- 2) **Methods & Modelling Approach**
- 3) Case Study
- 4) Conclusions

# Requirements for a comprehensive software tool

sizing of system components

+

optimized operational strategies

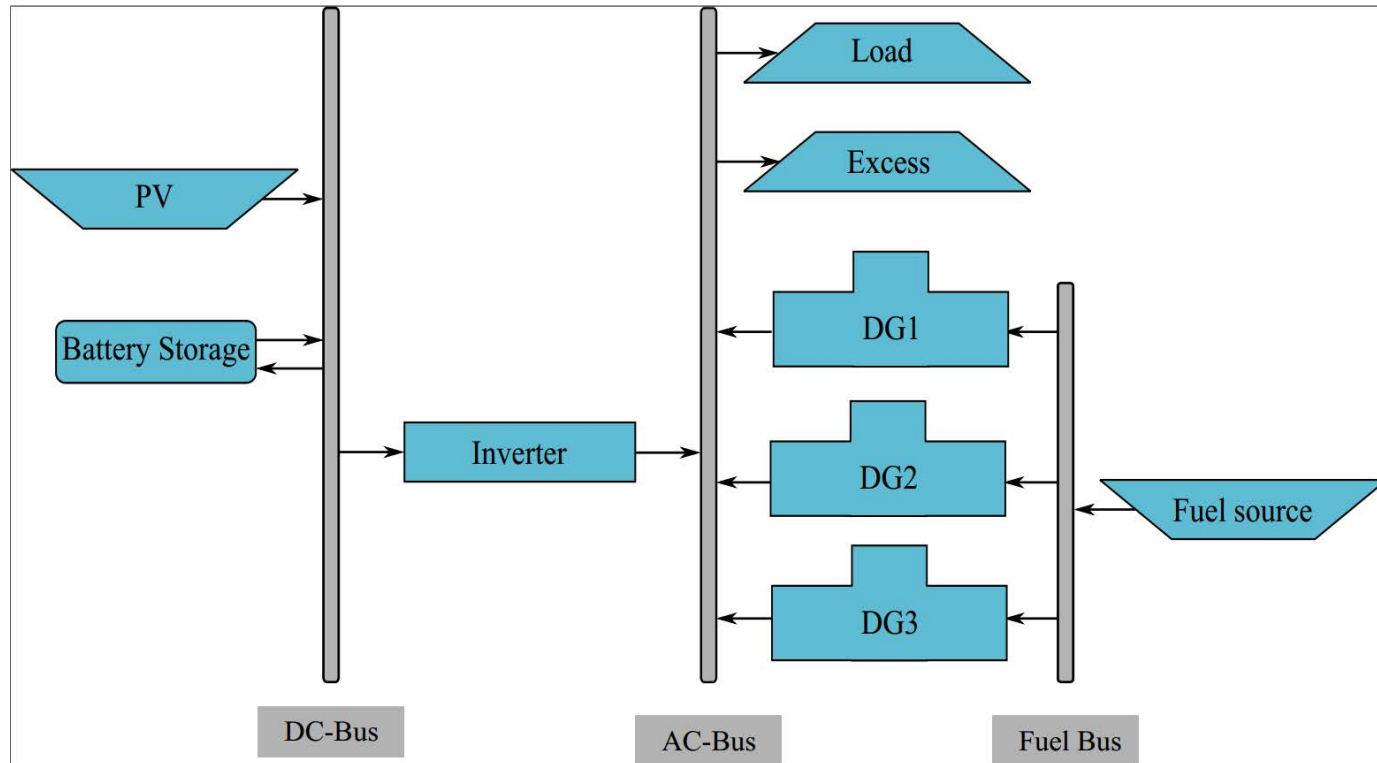


	high	priority medium	low
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PV</li> <li>generic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wind</li> <li>biomass</li> <li>micro-hydro</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>geothermal</li> <li>tidal sources</li> </ul>
Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>lead-acid BESS</li> <li>Li-ion BESS</li> <li>generic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>thermal</li> <li>fuel cell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Redox-Flow BESS</li> <li>high temperature BESS</li> <li>pumped hydro</li> </ul>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>grid controller</li> <li>diesel gensets</li> <li>inverters</li> <li>AC- and DC Bus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>grid</li> </ul>	

- adjustable time resolution (15 mins – hourly)
- multi-objective optimization
- include **stability criteria** (rotating mass and spinning reserve)

# micrOgridS – Overview

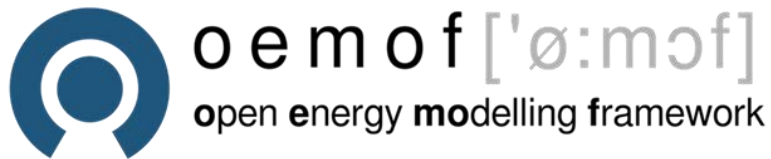
The micrOgridS tool as an open-source optimization tool adopted for the purpose of HMG design.



# micrOgridS – Main functions

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- generates sizing of PV and BESS
- calculates optimized hourly dispatch
- allows to modify the scheduling horizon by utilizing the Rolling Horizon Approach
- formulated as a Mixed Integer Linear Problem
- based on the Open Energy Modelling Framework (Oemof) that is programmed in Python



- open-source framework for energy system modelling
- hosted by RLI and ZNES Flensburg
- modular and generic
- developed in a community project
- embedded in Open Energy Modelling Initiative
- well-documented

## Website:

<https://oemof.org/>

## Github:

<https://github.com/oemof/oemof>

## Documentation:

<https://oemof.readthedocs.io/en/stable/>

**Latest release :** oemof v 0.2.1

# micrOgridS – Objective and Constraints

## Objective Function

A single objective function describing the total annualized system cost  $TC$  of the HMG

$$\min TC = \sum_j (CC_j + OPEX_j) + AWC + \sum_{dg} FC_{dg} \quad \forall j, \forall dg$$

$TC$	total annualized system cost
$CC_j$	capital cost of component $j$
$OPEX_j$	operation cost of component $j$
$AWC$	average wear cost of battery
$FC_{dg}$	fuel cost of diesel genset $dg$

## Stability Constraints:

- Spinning reserve
- Rotating mass
- simplified (N-1)-constraint
- generator order

# Agenda

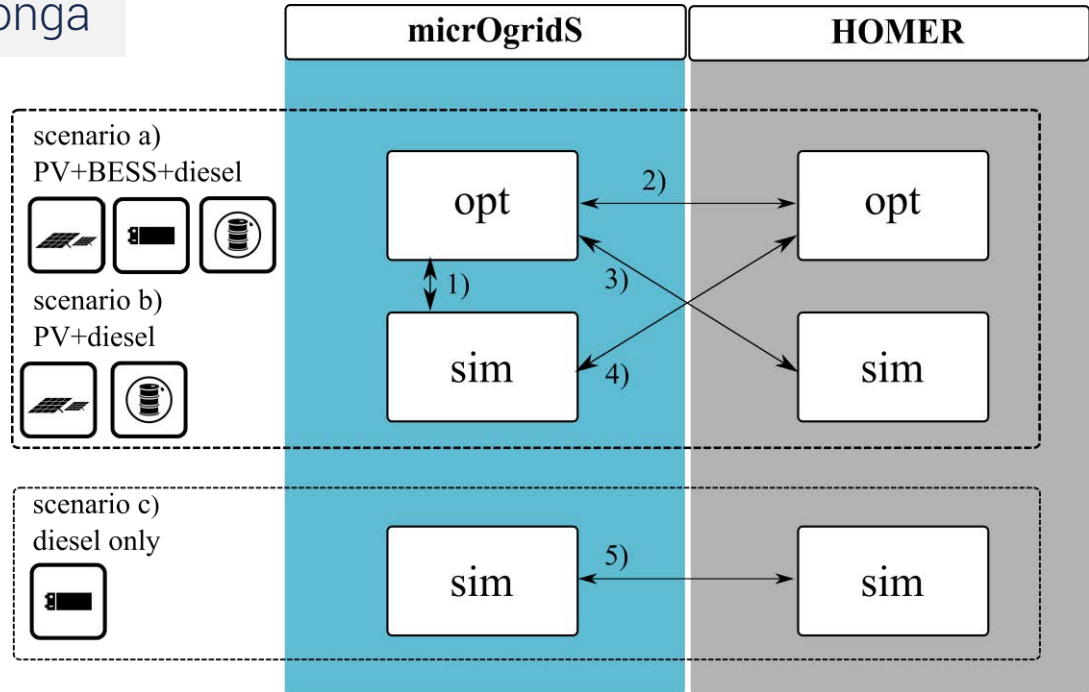
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- 1) Motivation
- 2) Methods & Modelling Approach
- 3) Case Study**
- 4) Conclusions



# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

## Case Study: Lifuka Island, Tonga

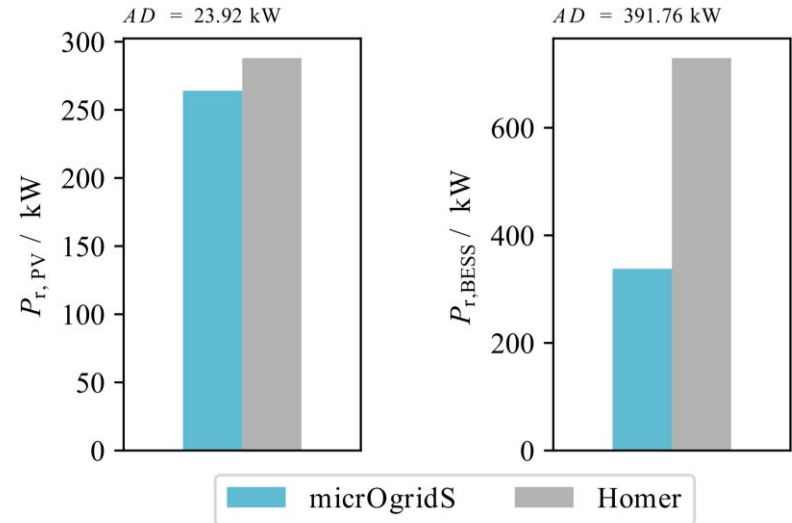
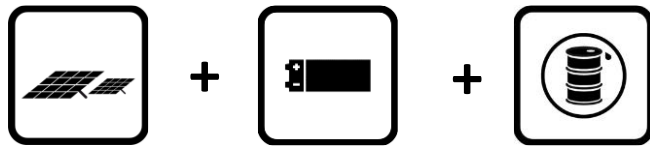


- Project lifetime: 20 years
- $WACC = 0.094$

		PV	BESS	DG1=DG2	DG3
<i>installed capacity</i>	[kW]	free	free	186	320
<i>CAPEX</i>	[\$/kW]	2500	300	500	
<i>OPEX</i>	[\$/kW], [\$/kW/h <sub>on</sub> ]	2.5	3.88	0.02	
<i>lifetime</i>	[yrs]	20	10	20	

# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

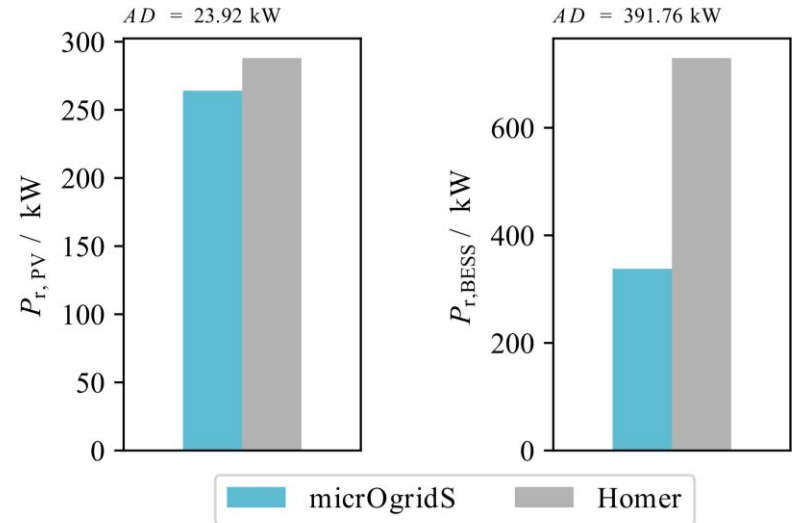
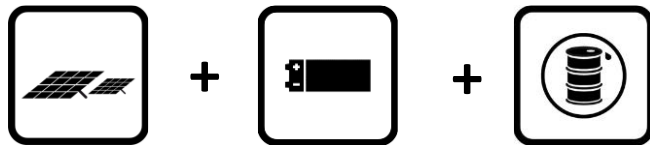
## Case Study: Comparison with Homer



micrOgridS		Homer		%RD			
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	LCOE	RE share	fuel consumption	excess energy
264	338	288	730				
micrOgridS/Homer							
		PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]				
		264	338				
		288	730				

# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

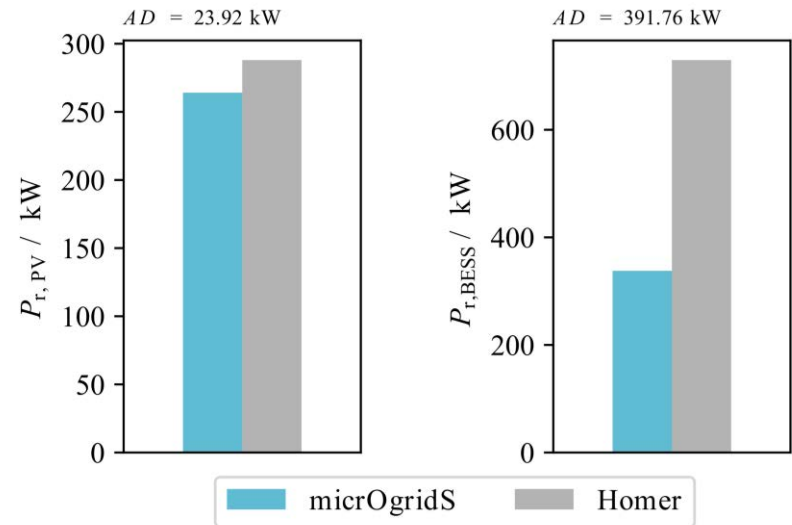
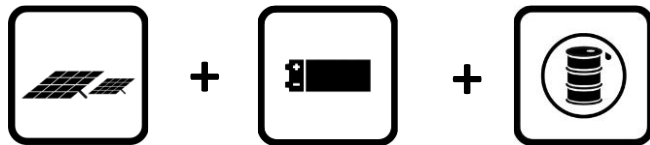
## Case Study: Comparison with Homer



micrOgridS		Homer		%RD			
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	LCOE	RE share	fuel consumption	excess energy
264	338	288	730	-10%			
micrOgridS/Homer							
		PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]				
		264	338	-12.1%			
		288	730	-6.4%			

# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

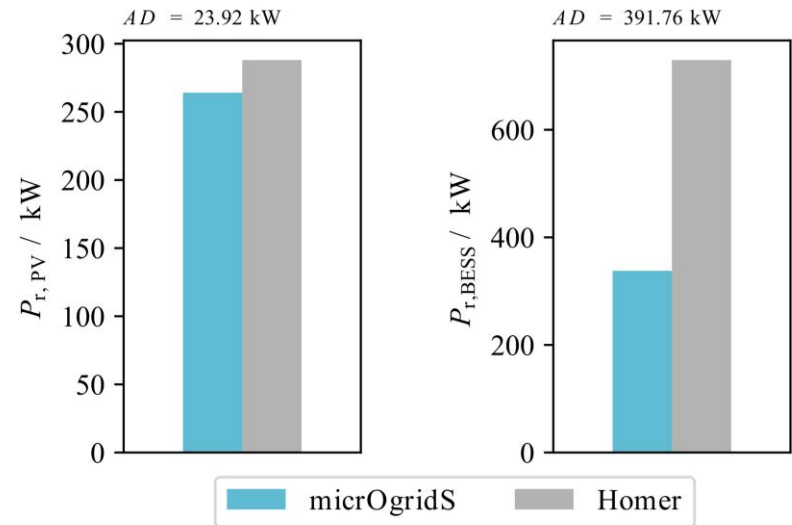
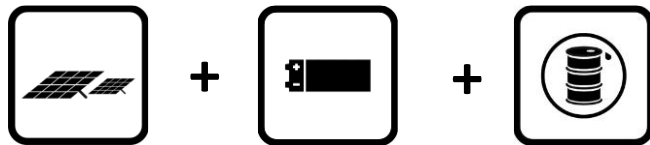
## Case Study: Comparison with Homer



micrOgridS		Homer		%RD			
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	LCOE	RE share	fuel consumption	excess energy
264	338	288	730	-10%	-3.9%		
micrOgridS/Homer							
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]						
264	338			-12.1%	24.7%		
288	730			-6.4%	7.6%		

# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

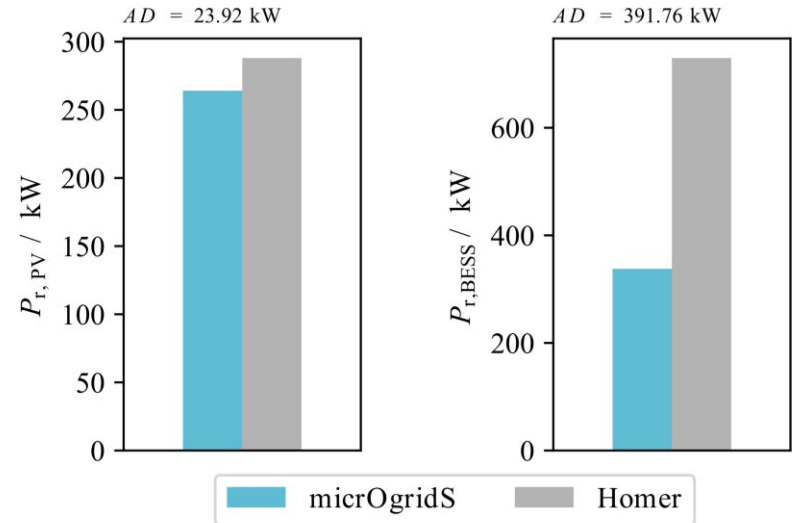
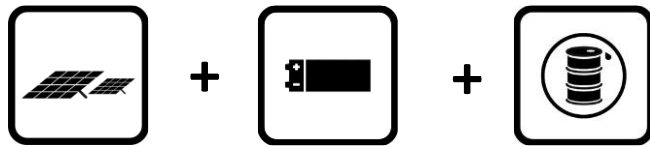
## Case Study: Comparison with Homer



micrOgridS		Homer		%RD			
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	LCOE	RE share	fuel consumption	excess energy
264	338	288	730	-10%	-3.9%	-4.3%	
micrOgridS/Homer							
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]						
264	338			-12.1%	24.7%	-15.7%	
288	730			-6.4%	7.6%	-10.8%	

# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

## Case Study: Comparison with Homer



micrOgridS		Homer		%RD			
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]	LCOE	RE share	fuel consumption	excess energy
264	338	288	730	-10%	-3.9%	-4.3%	-35.7%
micrOgridS/Homer							
PV [kW]	BESS [kWh]			LCOE	RE share	fuel consumption	excess energy
264	338			-12.1%	24.7%	-15.7%	-70.5%
288	730			-6.4%	7.6%	-10.8%	-61.9%

# Application of micrOgridS – Case Study

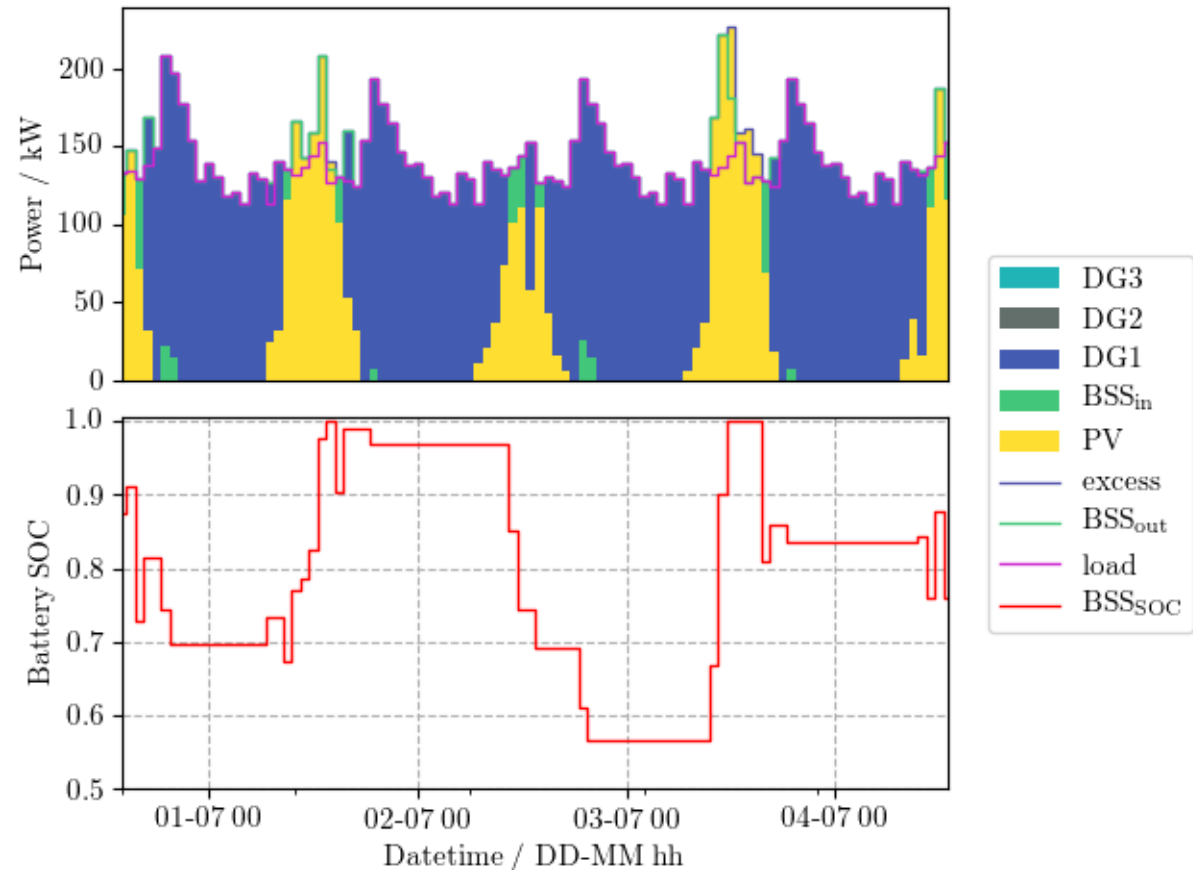
micrOgridS results in

↓ LCOE,  
fuel  
excess energy

↑ computational  
time

due to

- optimized dispatch strategy
- simplified BESS component model
- comparability issues through lack of transparency



# Agenda

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# Conclusions & Further Development

micrOgridS represents a valid base for HMG related modelling tasks.

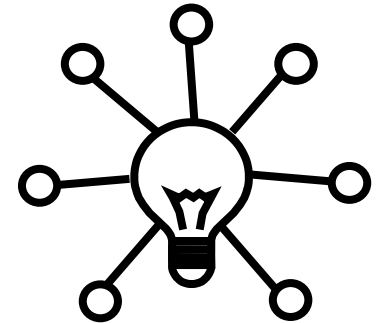
Oemof is a useful toolbox to model the elaborated requirements for a comprehensive software tool.

All high priority components are integrated.

There are deviations compared to Homer.

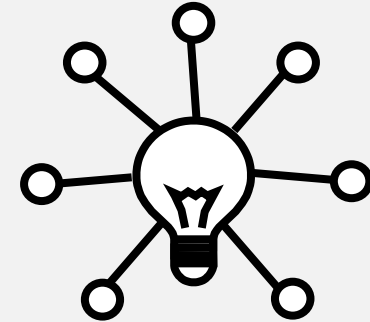
Further development targets e.g. :

- integrate missing requirements
- reduce computational time (time series aggregation approaches, solver algorithm)
- GUI development (web-based interface, reduced in complexity)



# Thank you!

Join the open source modelling community!



Thanks to the Photovoltaik Institut AG Berlin  
for funding and collaboration in this project.



## Comments & Ideas?

- ... Partnerships
- ... Research Collaboration
- ... Joint Project Proposals



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Web: <http://www.rl-institut.de>

- 1) United Nations (2015). Web source:  
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/UN-Guidelines-for-Use-of-SDG-logo-and-17-icons.October-2016.pdf>
- 2) International Energy Agency. World Energy Outlook 2017
- 3) Lucas, H., et al. (2017). „Critical challenges and capacity building needs for renewable energy deployment in Pacific Small Island Developing States (Pacific SIDS). “, Renewable Energy vol 107, pp. 42-52
- 4) Hilpert, S et al (2017, February). Addressing energy system modelling challenges: The contribution of the open energy modelling framework (oemof). doi: 10.20944/preprints201702.0055.v1
- 5) P. Peerapong and B. Limmeechokchai, “Optimal electricity development by increasing solar resources in diesel-based micro grid of island society in thailand,” Energy Reports, vol. 3, pp. 1–13, Nov. 2017.
- 6) J. Y. Tao and A. Finenko, “Moving beyond LCOE: impact of various financing methods on PV profitability for SIDS,” Energy Policy, vol. 98, pp. 749–758, Nov. 2016.

# Back-Up

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## Transformation of Energy Systems

" We analyze and optimize future scenarios with an energy supply largely based on renewable energy sources. "

## Mobility with Renewable Energy

"We study sustainable mobility concepts through sophisticated implementation and optimization of renewable energy systems. "

## Off-Grid Systems

"We support the development of sustainable energy supply for remote regions."

## Off-Grid Systems

### OUR MOTIVATION

**Economic** Decentralized energy supply systems represent an attractive market for RE and battery storage

**Ecological** Fossil fuel substitution by RE reduces harmful emissions locally and globally in off-grid systems

**Social** Electricity is a prerequisite for improved local development, health care and education.

“We support the development of sustainable energy supply for remote regions.”

### OUR EXPERTISE

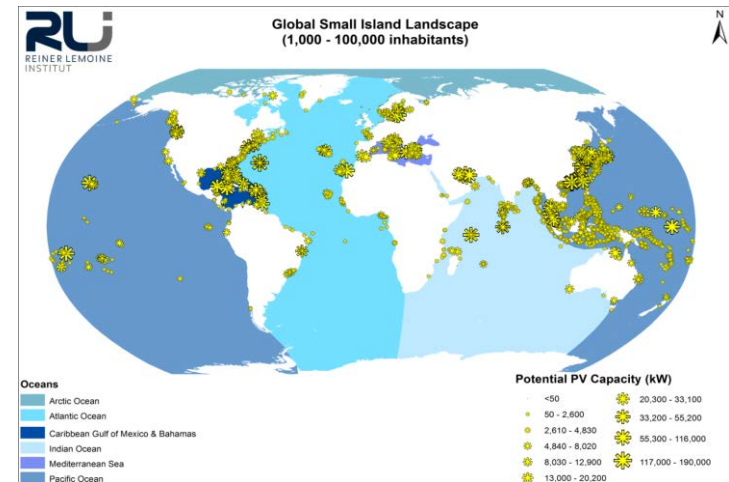
Geographic Information System

Energy System Modelling

Market Potential Analysis

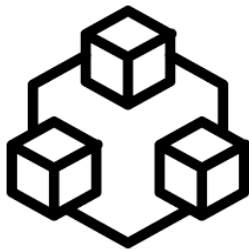
Financial Assessment

Strategic Planning



## General

- Modular, extensible, open for external modules
- Generate **robust** results
- Integrate **easy-to-use capabilities**

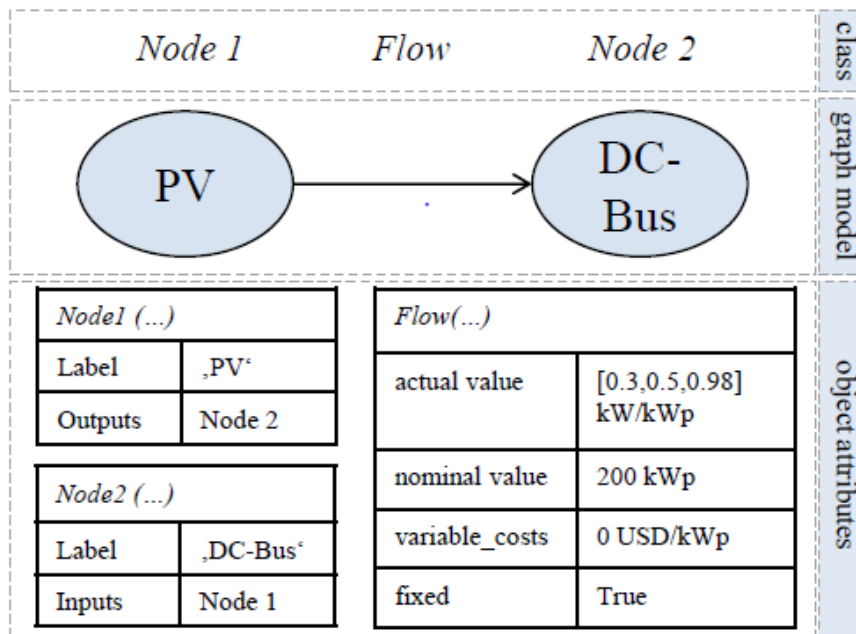


## Further functionality criteria

- Include possibility to **update uncertain parameters**
- **direct download of resource data**

# micrOgridS – Modelling of System Components

The Hybrid Micro Grid is modelled via graph-based modelling approach.



- System components are described as *Nodes*
  - *Nodes* are connected with *Flows*
  - Parameterization mainly attributed to *Flows*
- „generic“ component models