
Inverting spatially low resolved electricity system modeling results: How feasible are they when dis-aggregated into high resolution?

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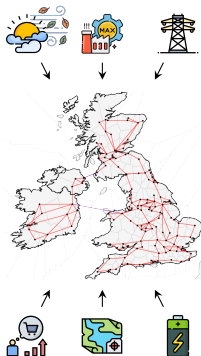
MAY 25th, 2022

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Institutions: ^aKarlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT),
Institute for Automation and Applied Informatics

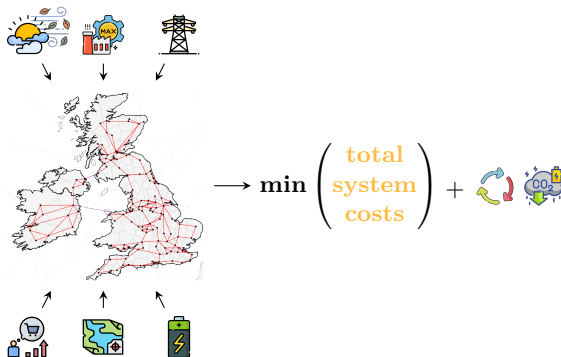
^bTechnical University of Berlin (TUB)

Study uses the open source electricity system model PyPSA-EUR.



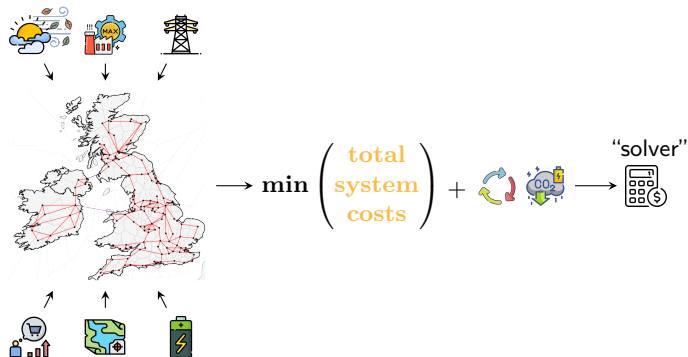
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PyPSA minimises the total system costs,
subject to constraints to account for climate targets,
physics & electrical laws.

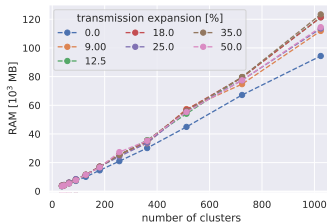
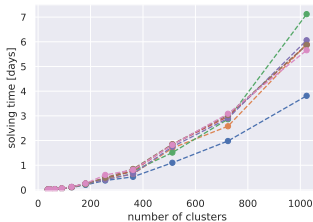


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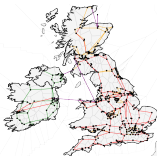
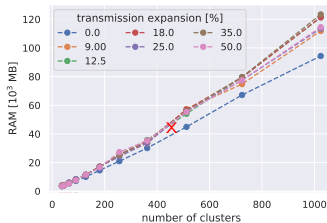
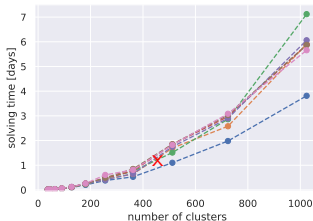
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Such large optimisation problems lead to computational challenges.



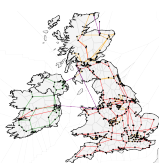
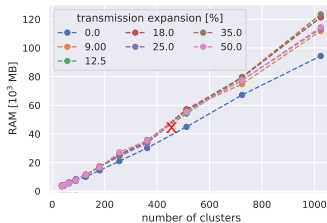
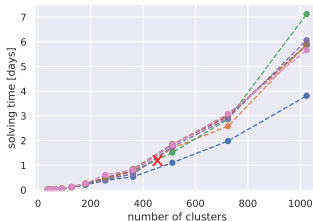
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447 nodes

≈ 1.5 days, 50 GB

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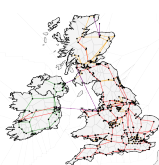
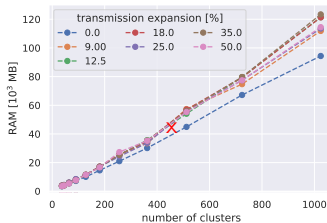
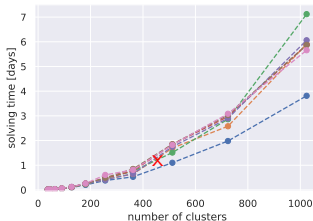
≈ 1.5 days, 50 GB



1491 nodes

≈ 10-15 days, 160 GB

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447 nodes

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1491 nodes

≈ 10-15 days, 160 GB



5373 nodes

≈ 50-75 days, 800 GB

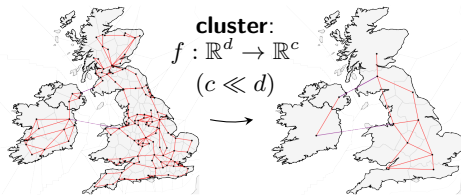
Reduce network-size → lift computational burden

Usually, the network is reduced using some kind of aggregation.



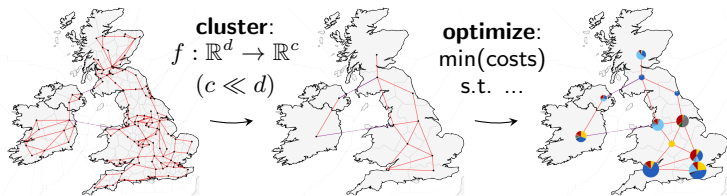
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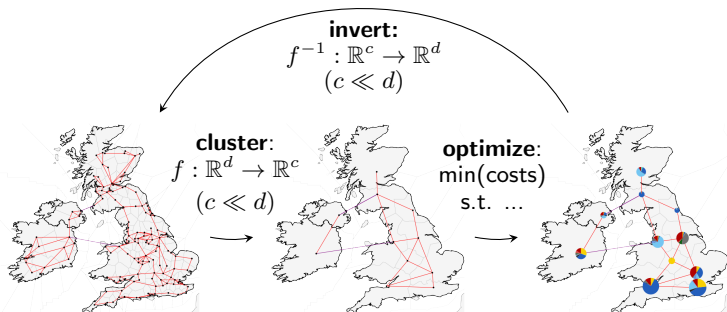
Reduce network-size → lift computational burden

And then passed to the “solver”.



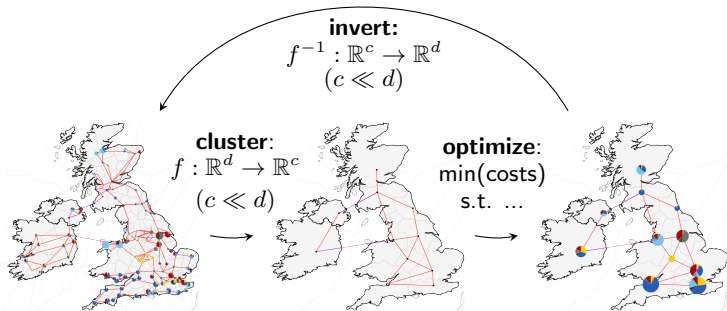
Reduce network-size → lift computational burden

But it is not clear, how feasible these results are with respect to the original problem.



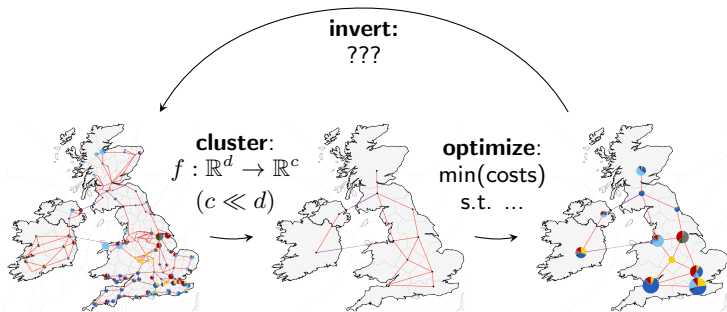
Reduce network-size → lift computational burden

And: Is there a “best way” of feeding the results back into original model?



Reduce network-size → lift computational burden

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Three approaches to dis-aggregate results: 1. uniform

Abbreviation	Explanation
uniform	uniformly distribute resulting optimal capacity of a cluster across associated high-resolution nodes
re-optimized	
min excess	

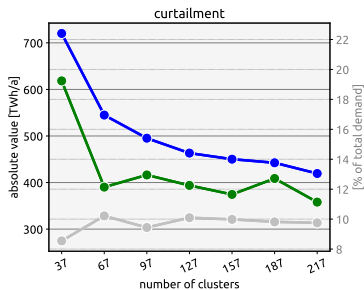
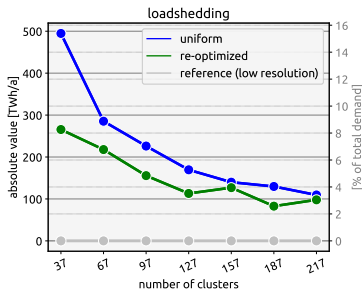
Three approaches to dis-aggregate results: 2. re-optimized

Abbreviation	Explanation
uniform	uniformly distribute resulting optimal capacity of a cluster across associated high-resolution nodes
re-optimized	within each cluster, solve the full minimization problem with additional constraint that total capacities of reference model and high resolution model agree.
min excess	

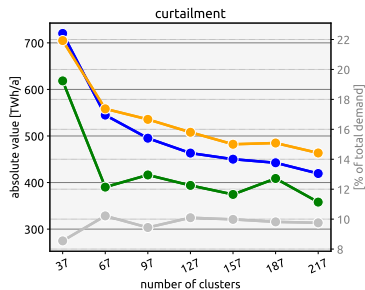
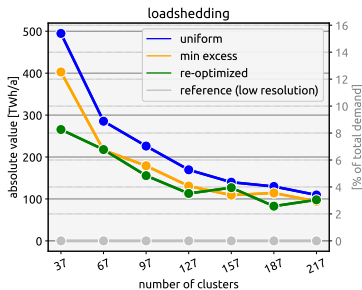
Three approaches to dis-aggregate results: 3. min excess

Abbreviation	Explanation
uniform	uniformly distribute resulting optimal capacity of a cluster across associated high-resolution nodes
re-optimized	within each cluster, solve the full minimization problem with additional constraint that total capacities of reference model and high resolution model agree.
min excess	minimize “excess electricity” (custom objective) within each cluster such that total capacities of reference model and high resolution model agree.

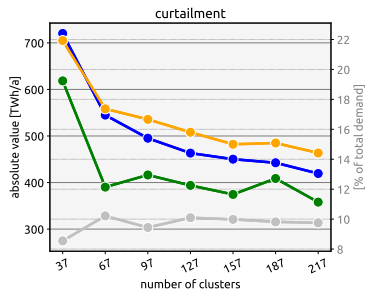
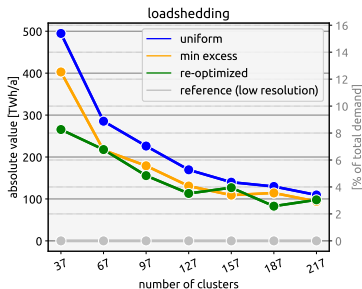
Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.



Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.

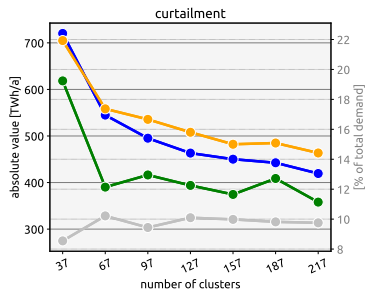
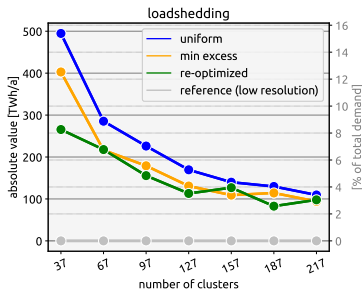


Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.



⇒ Load shedding in “min excess” similar to “re-optimized” results and 1 – 5% lower than in “uniform”. (++)

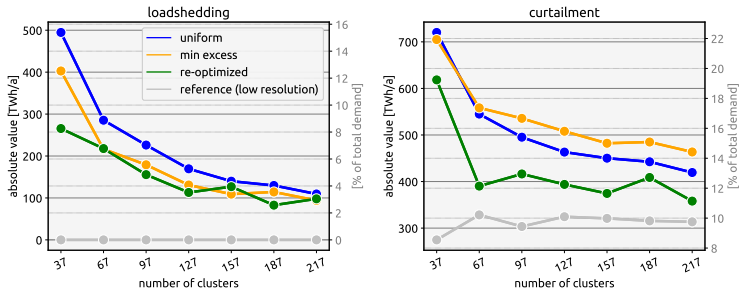
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⇒ Load shedding in “min excess” similar to “re-optimized” results and 1 – 5% lower than in “uniform”. (++)

⇒ Curtailment in “min excess” 1 – 2% higher than in “uniform” and 4 – 7% higher than in “re-optimized”. (-)

Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.

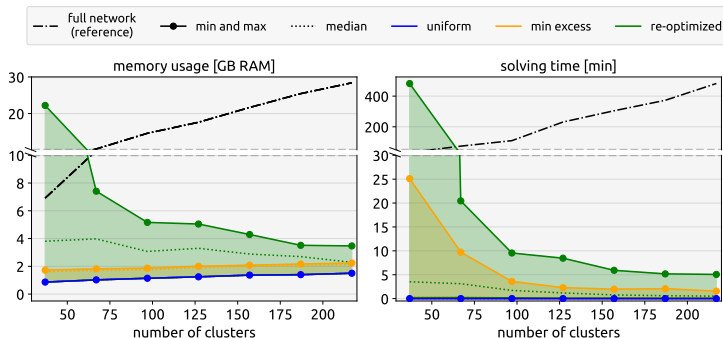


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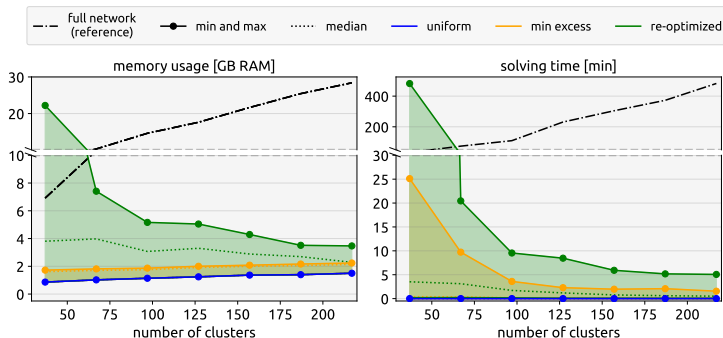
⇒ Curtailment in “min excess” 1 – 2% higher than in “uniform” and 4 – 7% higher than in “re-optimized”. (-)

⇒ **Dis-aggregated results of a 200 nodes reference model can not cover 2-4% of electricity demand, regardless of the dis-aggregation method.**

Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.



Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.



⇒ Re-optimizing can result in heavy computational burden, in few cases heavier than the original problem.

Trade-Offs of the three approaches to dis-aggregate results.

	Implementation	Solving Time	Memory (RAM)	Results Quality
uniform	✓	✓	✓	✗
min excess	✗	✓	✓	✓
re-optimize	✗	✗	✗	✓

✓ indicate a reasonable trade-off, entries with a ✗ indicate an inadequate compromise.

Thank you for your attention... Questions?



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Back-Up Slides

Outlook (Future Research).

- Research possibly better suited inverse functions.
- Adapt all proposed dis-aggregation methods to include transmission expansion.
- For *min* excess: more sophisticated distribution of storage, e.g. include in objective function.
Currently, $G_{n,H2} \sim G_{n,onwind}$ and $G_{n,battery} \sim G_{n,solar}$. Better distribution of storage could avoid more load shedding and curtailment.
- Adapt all these dis-aggregation methods to include carbon budgets or develop new ones. We only considered a carbon budget of 0.

Three approaches to dis-aggregate results.

Abbreviation	Explanation
uniform	<p>uniformly distribute the obtained capacity of a cluster c to its associated nodes, i.e.</p> $G_{c,s} \mapsto \frac{1}{ N_c } \begin{pmatrix} G_{c,s} \\ \dots \\ G_{c,s} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{ N_c }$
min excess	<p>minimize excess energy within each cluster c, i.e.</p> $\min_{G_{n,s}} \sum_{\substack{n \in N_c, \\ s,t}} \left[\bar{g}_{n,s,t} G_{n,s} - d_{n,t} - 0.7 \sum_{\substack{l_{(i,j)} \in \mathcal{L}: \\ i=n \vee j=n}} F_{(i,j)} \right]^+$ <p>$s.t. \sum_{n \in N_c} G_{n,s} = G_{c,s}$ and $G_{n,s} \leq G_{n,s}^{\max} \quad \forall n \in N_c.$</p>
re-optimized	<p>within each cluster c, solve the full minimization problem with the additional constraint $\sum_{n \in N_c} G_{n,s} = G_{c,s}.$</p>

Data I

usage	source	details
land use	CORINE	https://land.copernicus.eu/pan-european/corine-land-cover/clc-2012?tab=metadata
land use	Natura 2000	https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/natura-10#tab=metadata
offshore regions	EEZ	http://www.marineregions.org/disclaimer.php
country & synchronous zone borders	NUTS3	https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/gisco/geodata/reference-data/administrative-units-statistical-units
time series demand	OPSD	https://data.open-power-system-data.org/time_series/2019-06-05/README.md
time series wind	atlite (ERA5)	https://github.com/PyPSA/atlite
time series solar	atlite (SARAH-2)	https://github.com/PyPSA/atlite