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# The power grid: bottleneck or enabler of the energy transition?

#clisciety

presented by Lia Strenge <sup>1</sup>

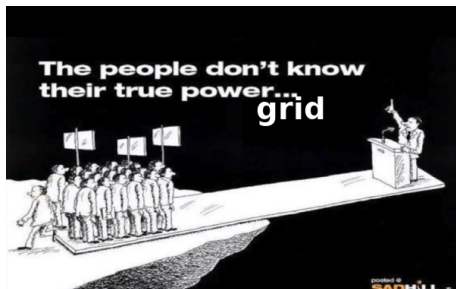
<sup>1</sup>Technische Universität Berlin



## Part I: Intro, our work and our questions

**Assumption:** We all want the power grid to become an enabler of the energy transition.

**Who does not?** History and the current regulatory framework



<http://a398.idata.over-blog.com/600x375/3/27/09/71/aout-2013/Janvier-2014/Mars-2014/aout-2014/Les-gens-ne-connaissent-pas-leur-vrai-pouvoir.JPG>

**Our goal:** Avoiding that myths about the power grid become an obstacle to the energy transition.



# Current power grid operation in the energy transition

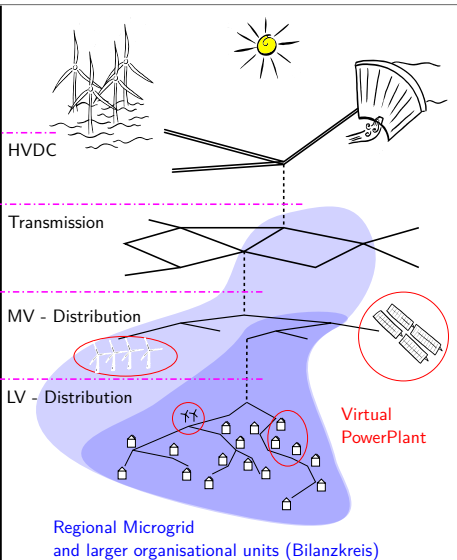


Separation of concerns according to network layer. Driven by physics, and central provision of power balancing. Limited inter-layer communication and coordination. Every operator assumed that the others could achieve their goals.

Balancing/Frequency

Voltage

Voltage/Safety

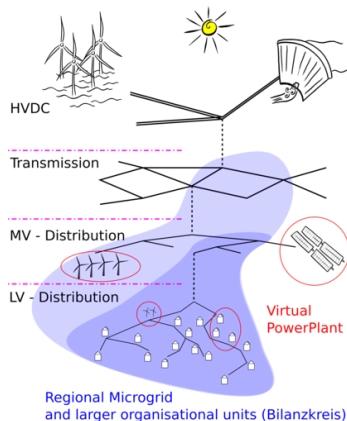


## Cocohype project motivation (research)

What are the adequate principles for the operation and design of multi-layered hybrid power systems with distributed actors?

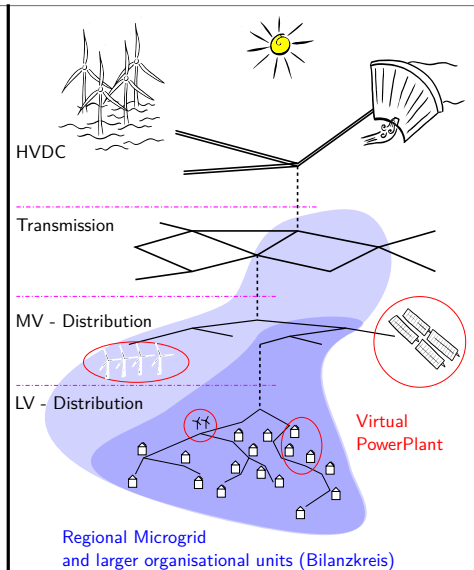
Inspiration, e.g., specific questions:

- How to coordinate and aggregate control (e.g., ancillary services) from lower grid levels?
- How to use distributed generation to ensure resilience (e.g., by islanding)?
- What is the appropriate size of the organisational units (microgrids, virtual power plants)?
- How to structure and minimise communication needs?



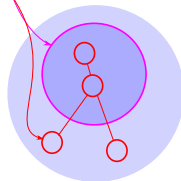


# The power grid transformation in the energy transition (research)



Dynamics driven by inverters and weather, not just synchronous machines and demand. Control distributed, balancing locally.

We derive new **virtual boundaries** and control objectives within them, validate that distributed, low communication control can achieve them, and prove that they consistently combine to achieve the overall systems voltage, frequency and safety objectives.

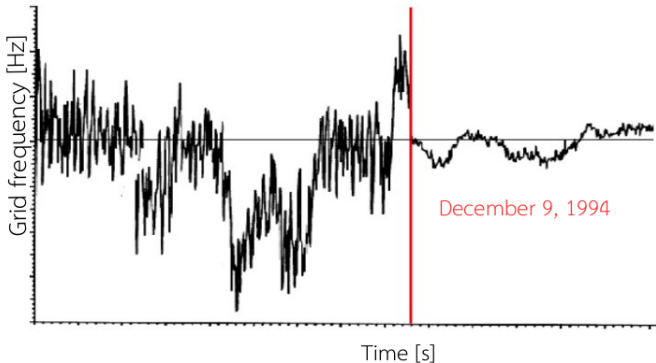




# elena international (research transfer)



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Source: Energiemuseum Berlin

Open Source Software for frequency modeling: PowerDynamics.jl on  
github: <https://github.com/JuliaEnergy/PowerDynamics.jl>



# The role of the civil society in the power grid transformation? #clisciety



<http://clisciety.blogspot.de/>

We believe that the power grid can only become an enabler of the energy transition if there is an (informed) public attention to its transformation!

- ① Energy distribution as service or participative entity?
- ② Where do local and global meet? Centralized solutions vs. decentralized solutions
- ③ How can the sustainability movement develop a position for the power grid transformation? Solutions/protest forms!

## Part II: Your questions



## Part III: Interactive exercise

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Please write down 3 characteristics a "sustainable power grid" would have for you and discuss it with your neighbor(s) - here and at home.





## References

- [1] T. Kittel, S. Auer, and C. Horn. Sneak preview: Powerdynamics.jl – an open-source library for analyzing dynamic stability in power grids with high shares of renewable energy. *Wind Integration Workshop 2018*, 2018.
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- [3] L. Strenge, H. Kirchhoff, G. L. Ndow, and F. Hellmann. Stability in meshed DC microgrids using probabilistic analysis. In *IEEE International Conference on DC Microgrids*, 2017.
- [4] J. Schiffer, D. Zonetti, R. Ortega, A. Stanković, T. Sezi, and J. Raisch. A survey on modeling of microgrids—from fundamental physics to phasors and voltage sources. *Automatica*, 74:135 – 150, 2016. ISSN 0005-1098. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.automatica.2016.07.036>.
- [5] P. Schultz, J. Heitzig, and J. Kurths. A random growth model for power grids and other spatially embedded infrastructure networks. *European Physical Journal: Special Topics*, 223(12):2593–2610, 2014.