

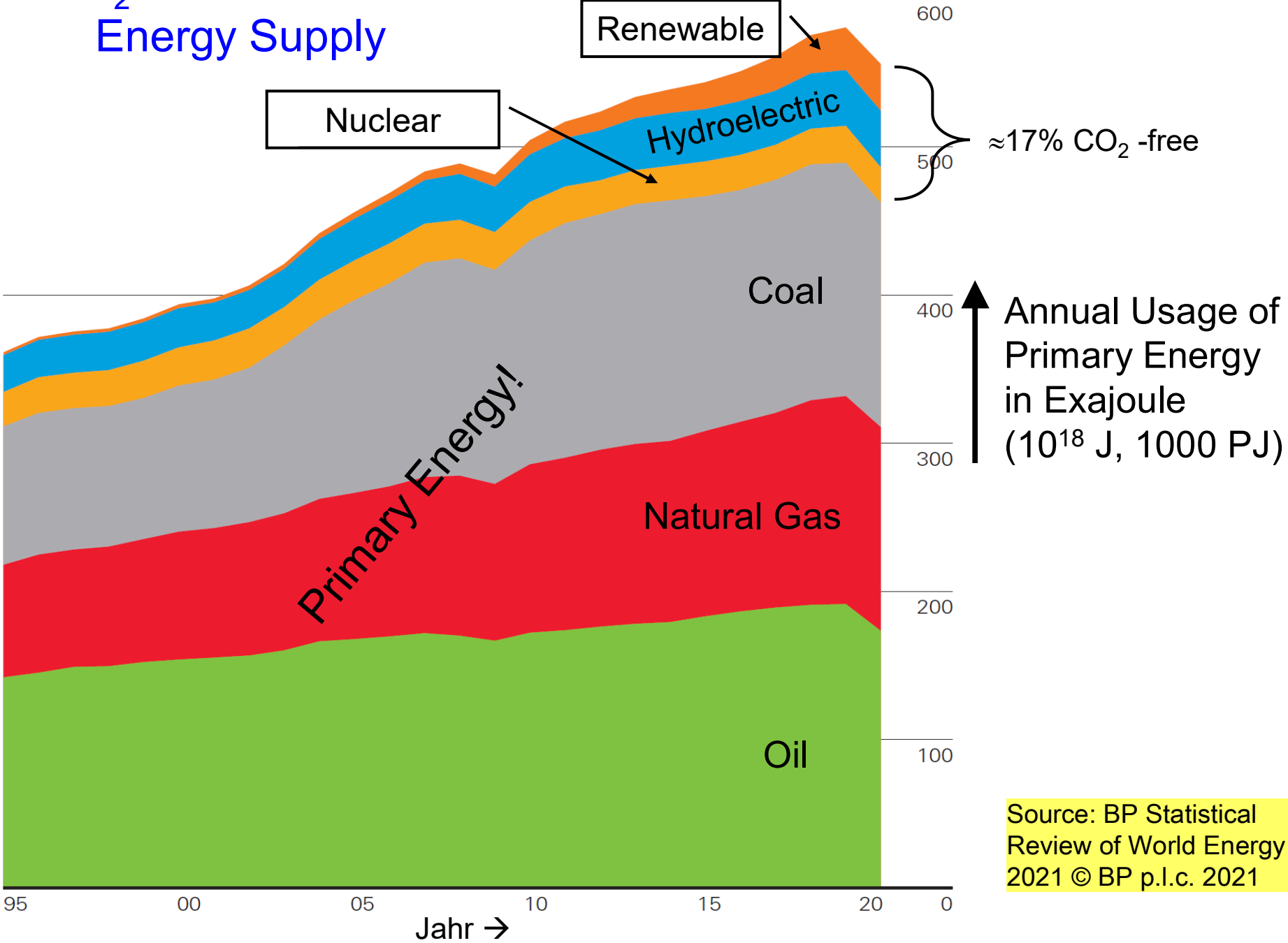
Renewable Energy in Europe – What is Needed, What is Possible?

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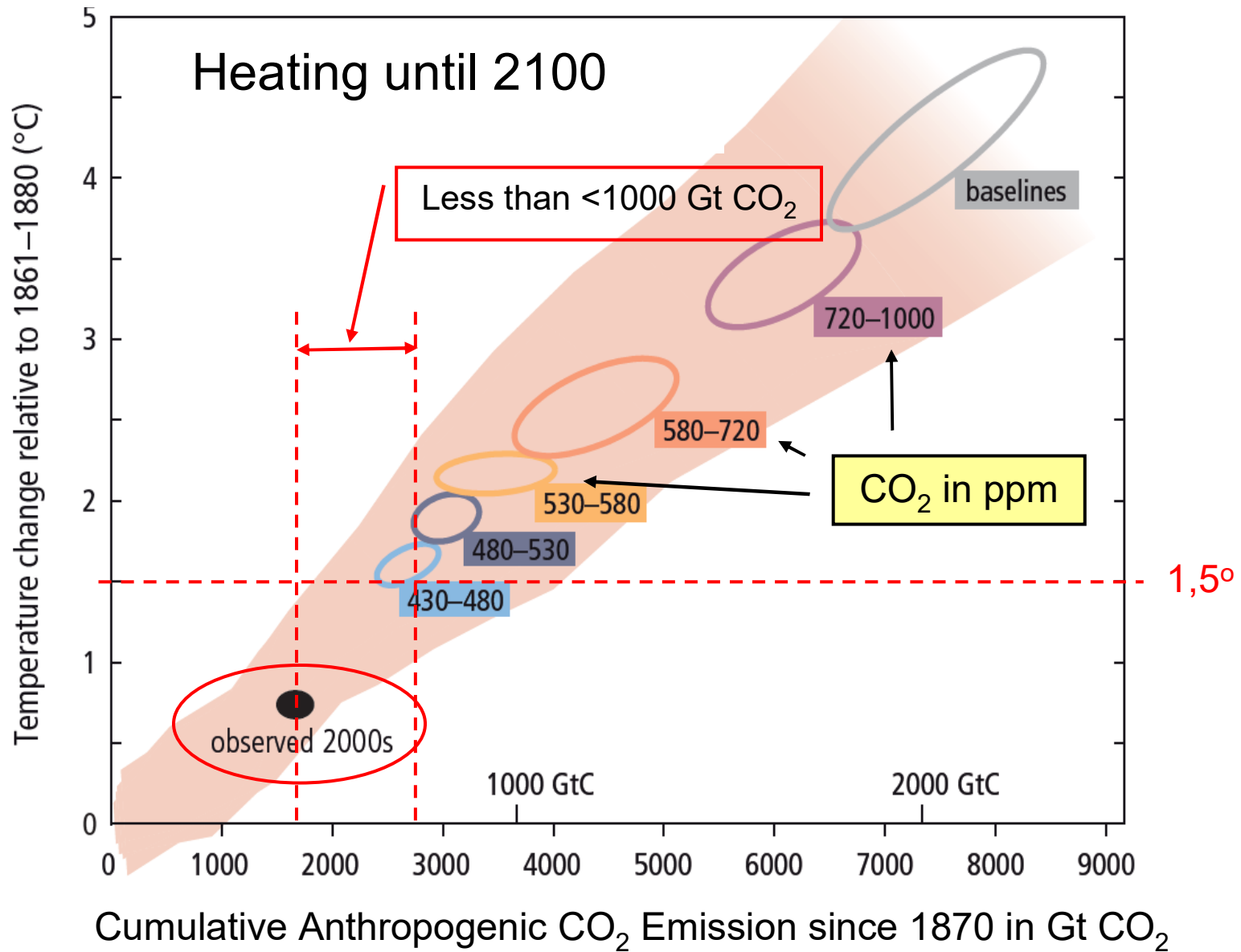
- Energy and Climate – The CO₂-Problem
- Where is the Energy used? – „Sectors“
- Greenhouse-gas free Energy Supply
„100% Renewable Energy“
- Storage Requirements
- Storage Technologies & cost
- Solutions to the Storage problem

CO₂ and the Global Energy Supply



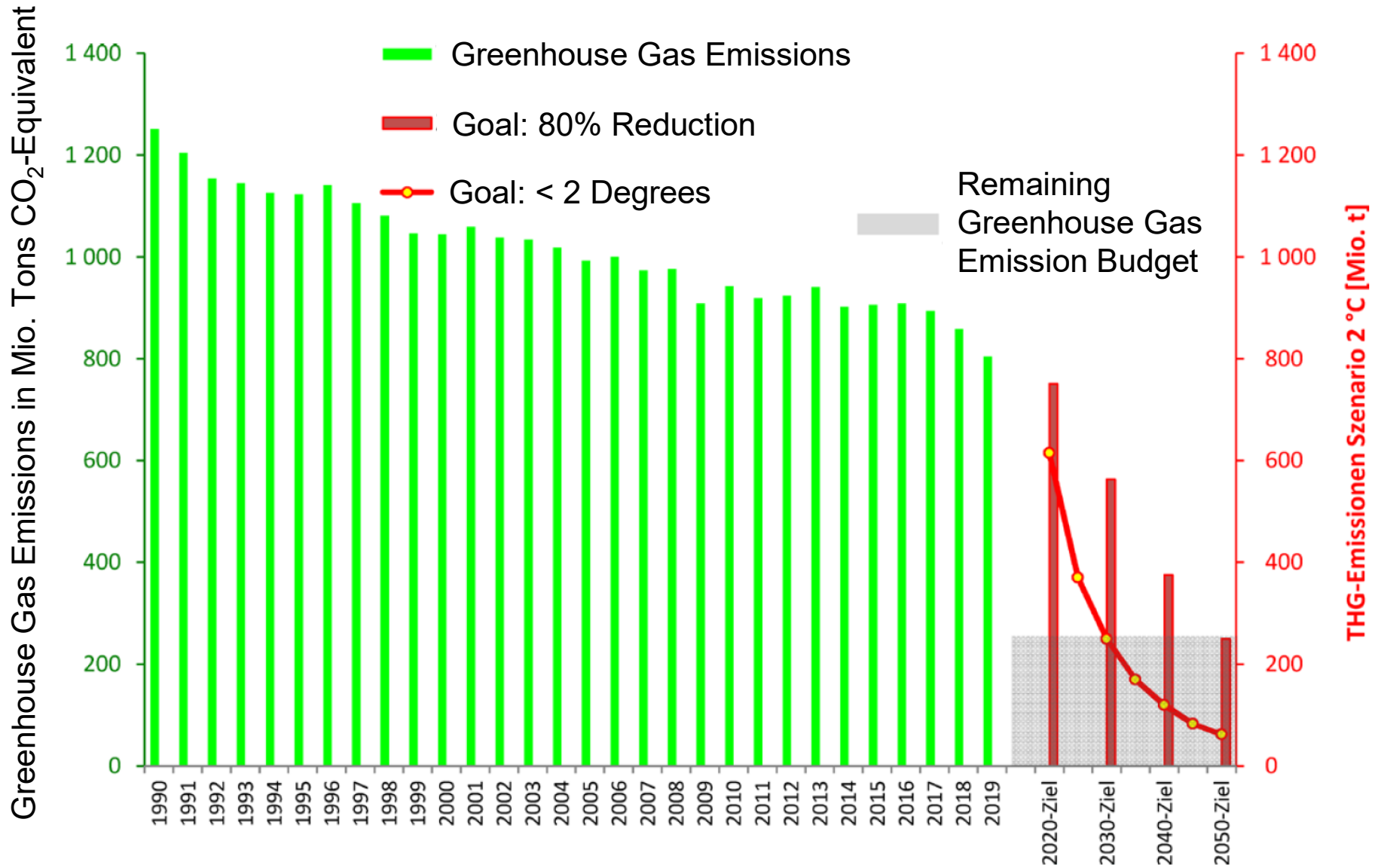
Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2021 © BP p.l.c. 2021

Global Heating as a Consequence of the Cumulated CO₂-Emission



Quelle: IPCC-AR5 Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report

Consequences for Germany?



Primary Energy – Final Energy – Net Energy

Units: Joule, J, kJ, 1 kWh = 3600 kJ

Primary Energy: Energy stored in the originally occurring form (“Energy source”),

- Chemical energy of coal, oil, Biomass or natural gas
- Transformed from other energy carriers like Solar, Wind,

Secondary Energy: Supplied by transformation of primary energy, for instance:

- Coal, Gas, Nuclear Energy to Electricity
- Crude oil to fuel (petrol, diesel fuel, ...).

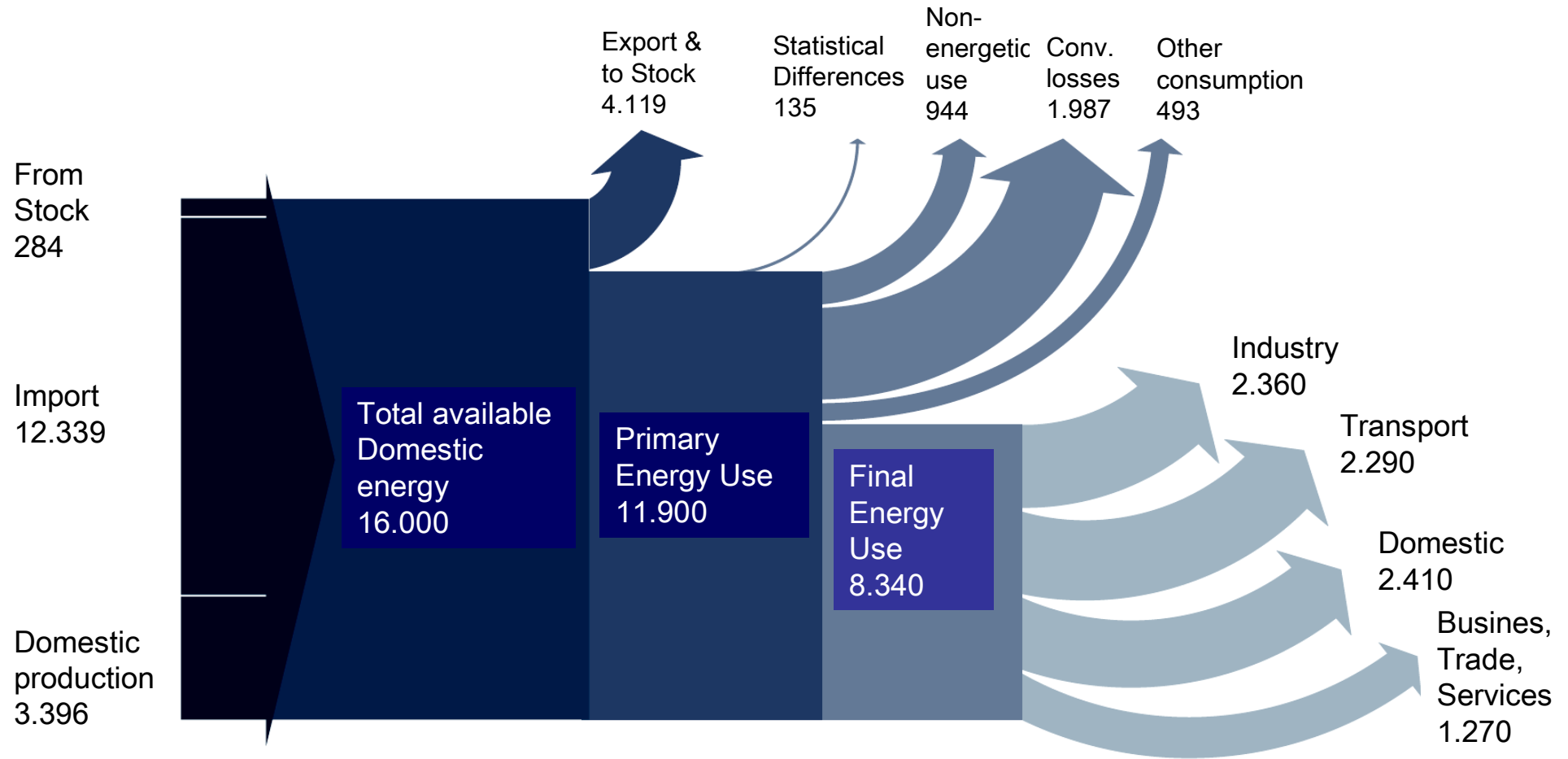
Considerable losses usually occur in this process.

Final Energy: Energy useable by consumer, (electricity, petrol, diesel) after “transfer”, (there may be transfer losses).

Net Energy (Useful Energy): Actually used Energy (e.g. light, mechanical power, ...), i.e. final energy minus transformation losses (e.g. fuel to heat or fuel to motion) occurring by consumer.

Energy Fluxes, Germany 2020

Figures in Petajoule, 1 PJ = 10¹⁵ Joule (278 GWh)



Der Anteil der erneuerbaren Energieträger am Primärenergieverbrauch liegt bei 16,5 %.
 Abweichungen in den Summen sind rundungsbedingt.
 * Alle Zahlen vorläufig/geschätzt.
 29,3 Petajoule (PJ) $\hat{=}$ 1 Mio. t SKE
 Quelle: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Energiebilanzen 09/2021

Source: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Energiebilanzen 09/2021

What is a Peta Joule (PJ) ?

Answer 1: 1 PJ = 10^{15} Joule or 278 GWh
or 278 Mio. kWh



Answer 2:

Daily Energy consumption of a human:

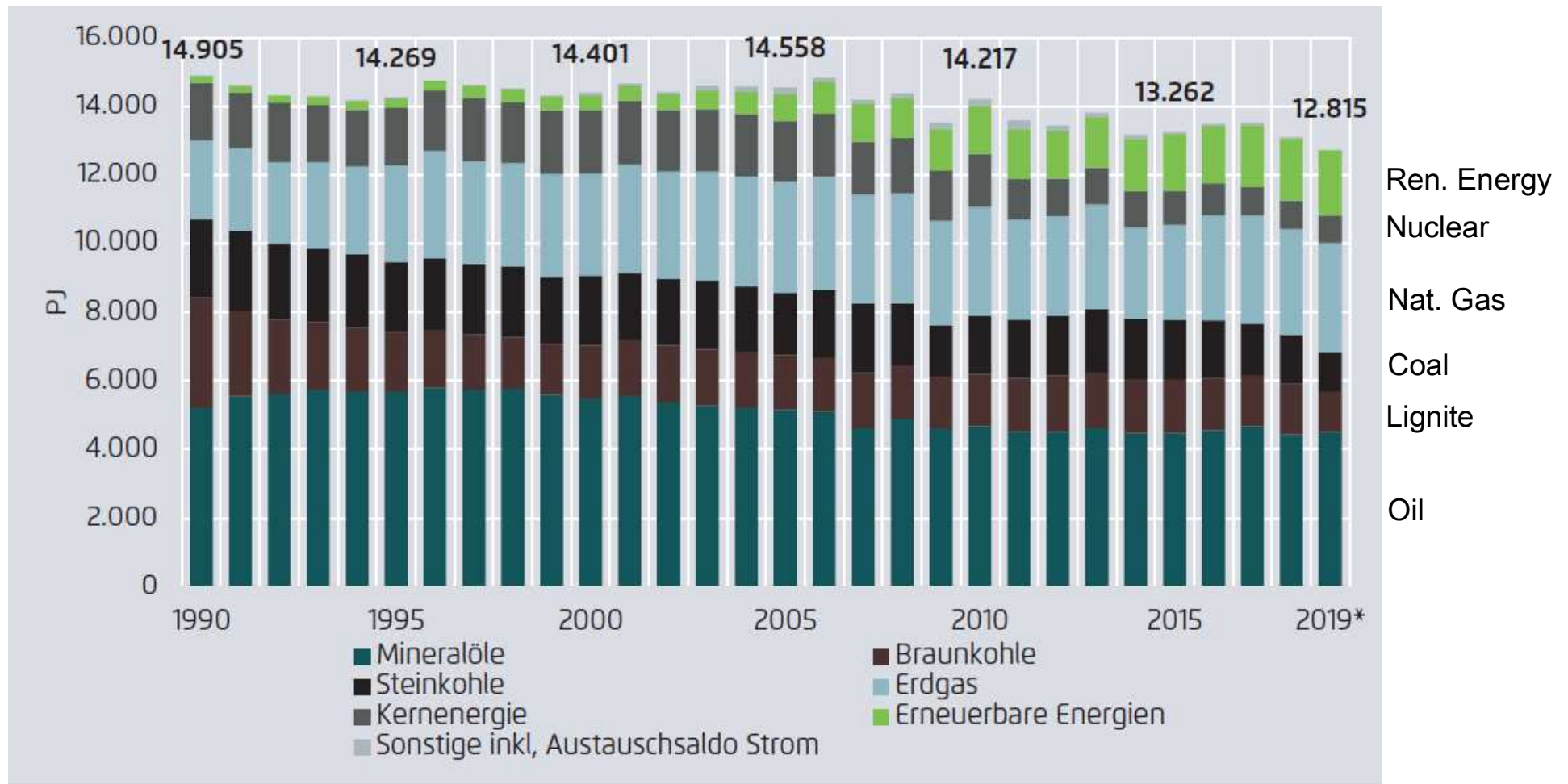
≈ 2400 Kilocalories or $\approx 10.000.000$ Joule (10.000 kJ, 10^7 J)

4 ½ Chocolate bars

All Germans (83 Mio.) per year (365 Tage):
„Consume“ $3 \cdot 10^{17}$ J or **300 PJ** as food.

Corresponds to ca. **1/40** of the annual German Total Primary Energy usage of ≈ 12.000 PJ.

Primary Energie Use in Germany

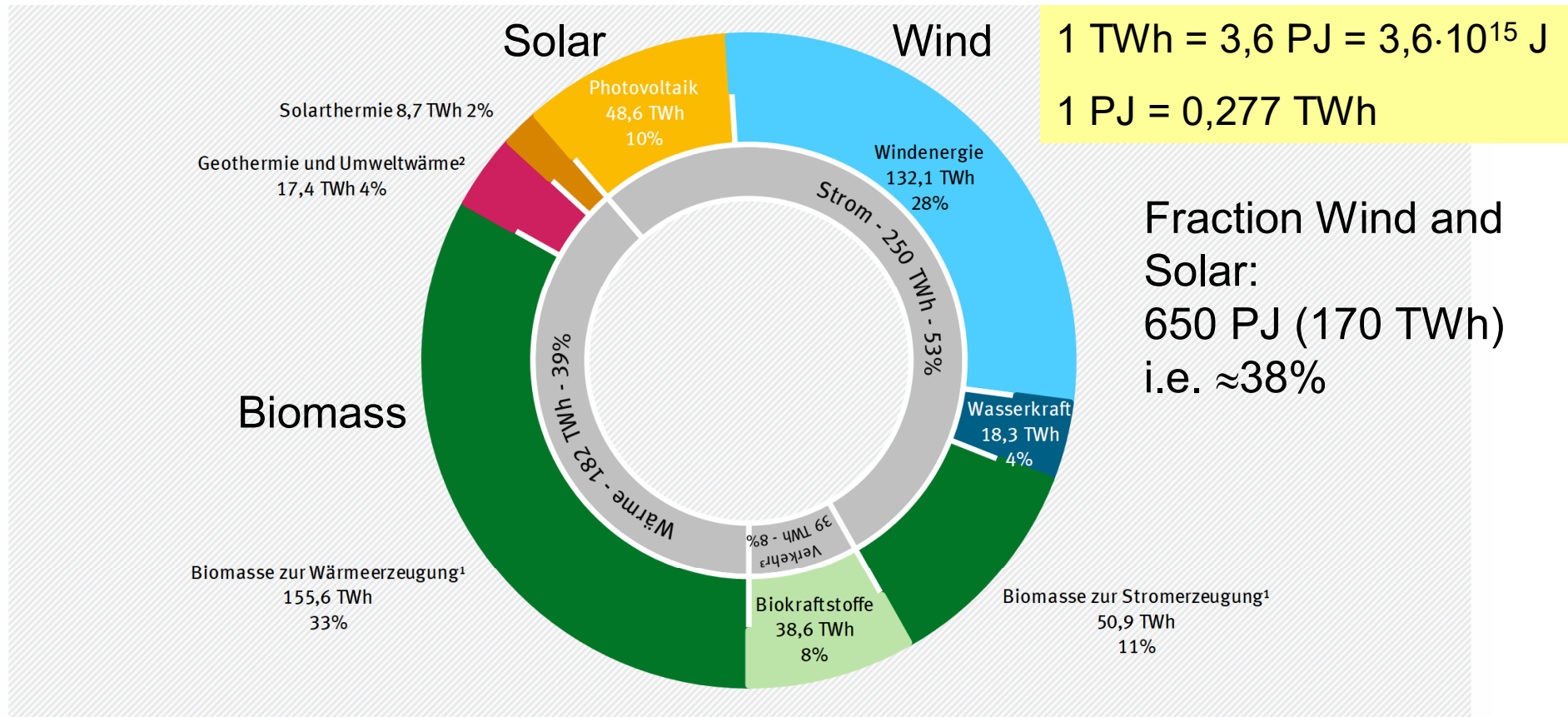


Energiebilanzen (2019a), *vorläufige Angaben

Renewable Energy 2020: 1700 PJ ($\approx 17\%$)

Source: Agora Jahresauswertung: Die Energiewende im Stromsektor:
Stand der Dinge 2019

Energy Supply from Renewable Sources, Germany, 2020, total: 470 TWh or 1700 PJ



¹ mit biogenem Anteil des Abfalls

² Stromerzeugung aus Geothermie etwa 0,2 TWh (nicht separat dargestellt)

³ Verbrauch von EE-Strom im Verkehr etwa 4,9 TWh

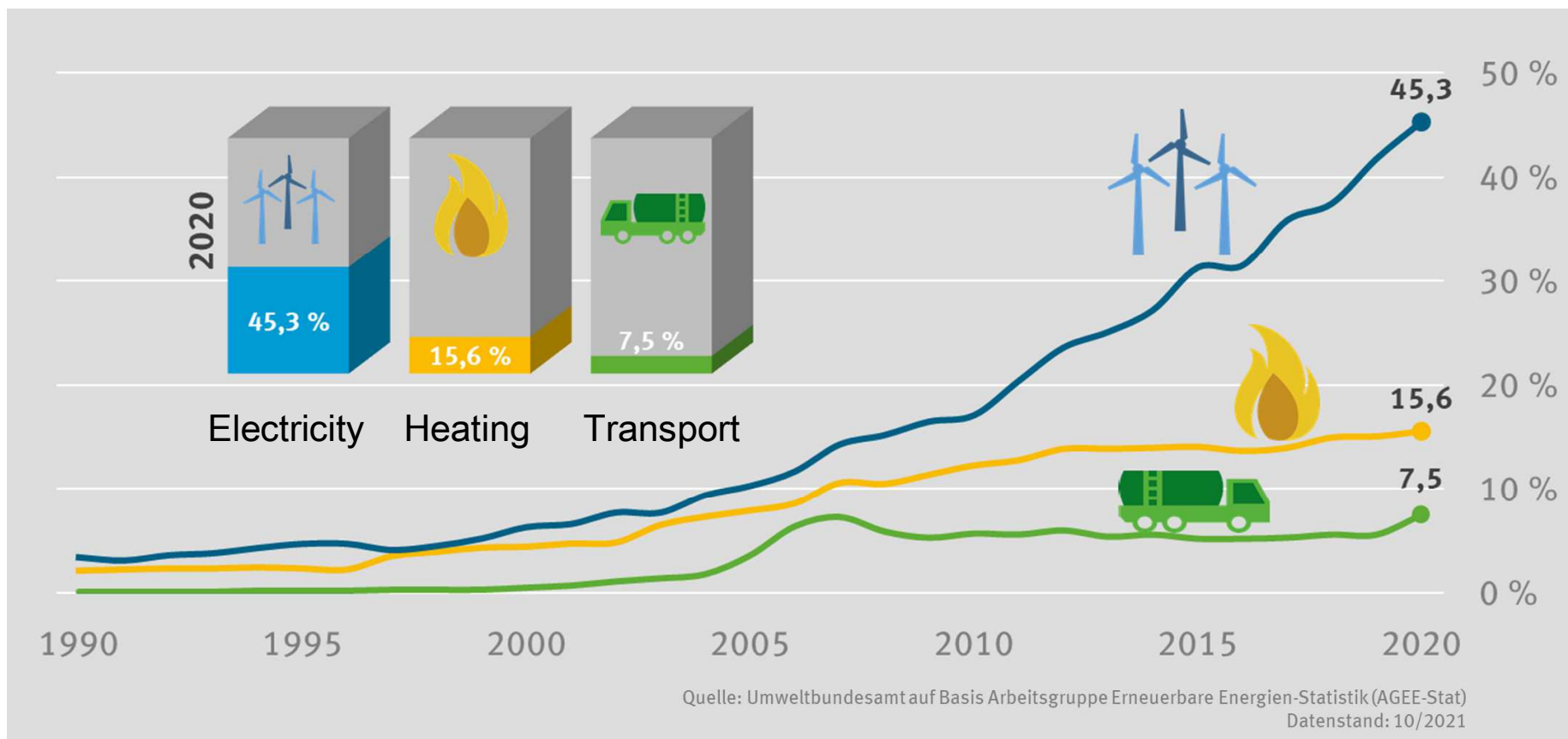
Abweichungen bedingt durch Rundungen

Quelle: Umweltbundesamt (UBA) auf Basis AGEE-Stat
Stand 10/2021

Source: Umweltbundesamt auf Basis AGEE-Stat:

<https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/themen/klima-energie/erneuerbare-energien/erneuerbare-energien-in-zahlen#uberblick>

Fraction of RE in the Sectors Electricity, Heating and Transport, Germany 1990 - 2020



Source: Umweltbundesamt: <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/themen/klima-energie/erneuerbare-energien/erneuerbare-energien-in-zahlen#uberblick>

100% Renewable Energy (RE) in Germany, Europe, the World

See also: Lecture by
Hans-Martin Henning

0. Approximation: Today (2022/2023 in D) we have $\approx 17\%$ fraction of RE from the total use of primary energy
→ does it mean that an increase by a **Faktor $1/0.17 \approx 6$** is necessary for 100% RE??

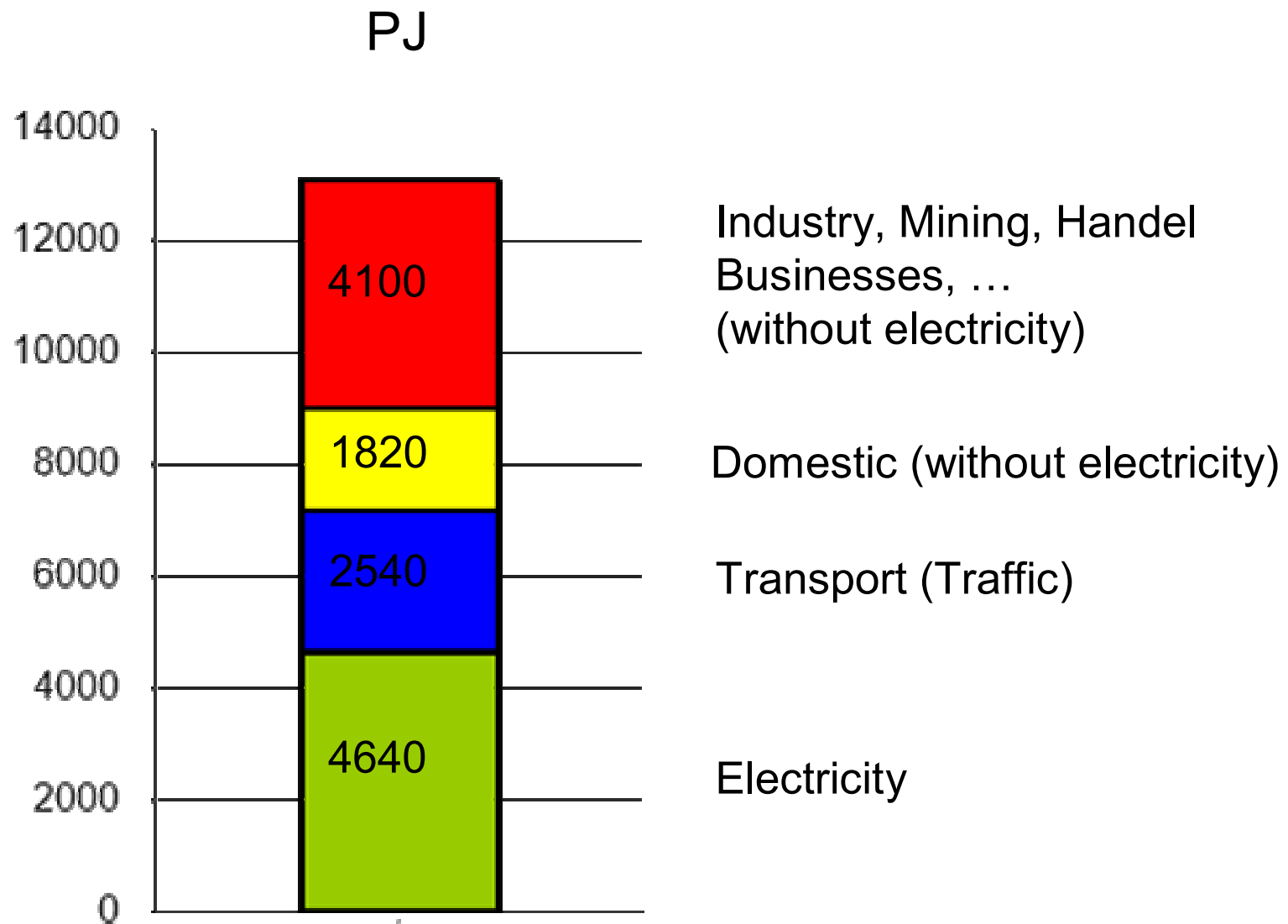
The matter is more complicated!

Problems:

Renewable Energy is „much better“ than fossil Energy

- 1) **Primary Energie** is not a good measure, actually we are interested in **Net Energy**. Therefore we need to look at the sectors individually.
- 2) The RE supply is very variabel, we need to look at **Energy-mix, Storage and Excess-capacity**.

Primary Energy use in Germany in the Sectors



For 2018, Source: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Energiebilanzen

Looking into the Sectors 1: Electricity

Primary Energy Use 2018: 4640 PJ (35,4% of PEU)

Net inland 2000 PJ Electricity (≈ 64 GW x 1 yr)

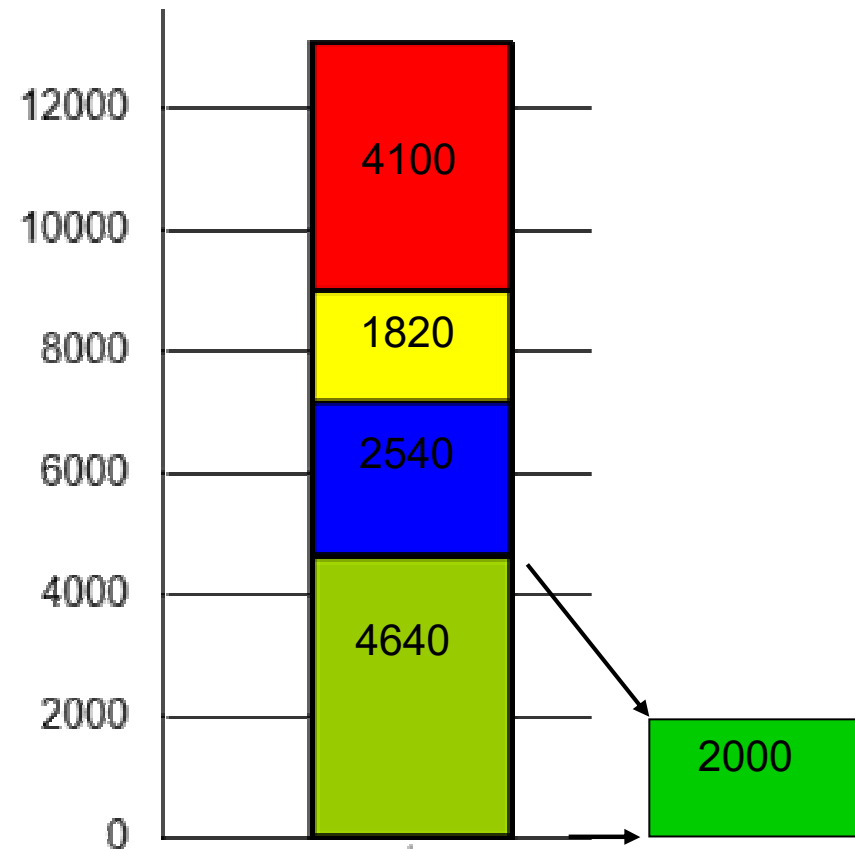
$\approx 45\%$ RE: Final Energy \approx Primary Energy

$\approx 55\%$ Fossil+Nuclear: Final Energie ≈ 0.35 *Primary Energy

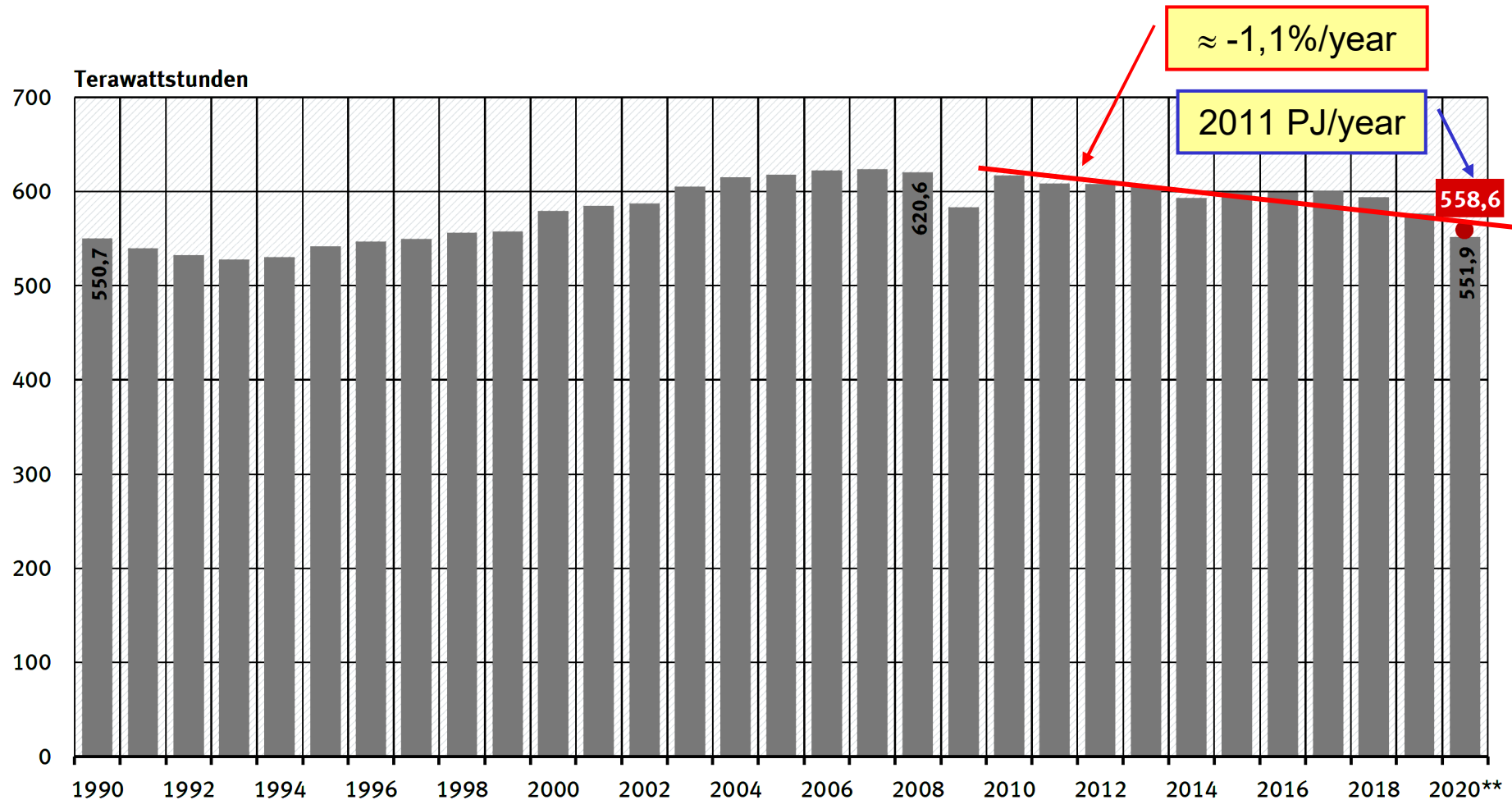
→ $\approx 23\%$ of Primary Energie from Renewable E.

$\approx 77\%$ of Primary Energy from Fossil + Nuclear

→ **100% EE** require ≈ 2000 PJ Energy from Wind, Solar, ...
Only $\approx 45\%$ of present day Primary Energy use for Electricity!



Looking into the Sectors 1: Total Electricity Usage in Germany 1990-2020 in TWh (=Billion KWh)



* Berücksichtigung des Stromhandelssaldos

** 2020 vorläufig; Ziel 2020: Energiekonzept der Bundesregierung 2010: Senkung des Bruttostromverbrauchs um 10 % gegenüber 2008

Quelle: Umweltbundesamt auf Basis AG Energiebilanzen, Sondertabelle Bruttostromerzeugung in Deutschland von 1990 bis 2020 nach Energieträgern, Stand 02/2021

Source: Umweltbundesamt: Sondertabelle Bruttostromerzeugung in Deutschland 1990-2020

Looking into the Sectors 2: Traffic

Primary Energy usage 2018: 2540 PJ (19,4%)

≈ 10% Trains, Tram Final Energy ≈ Primary Energy

≈ 90% Combustion engines: Final Energy ≈ 0,2*Primary Energy

Replacement by:

Electric cars

Final Energy = 0,8*Primary Energy

→ ≈10% (260 PJ) already electrified
(Trains, Tram)

≈90% (2280 PJ) Combustion engines

→ Battery electrical power

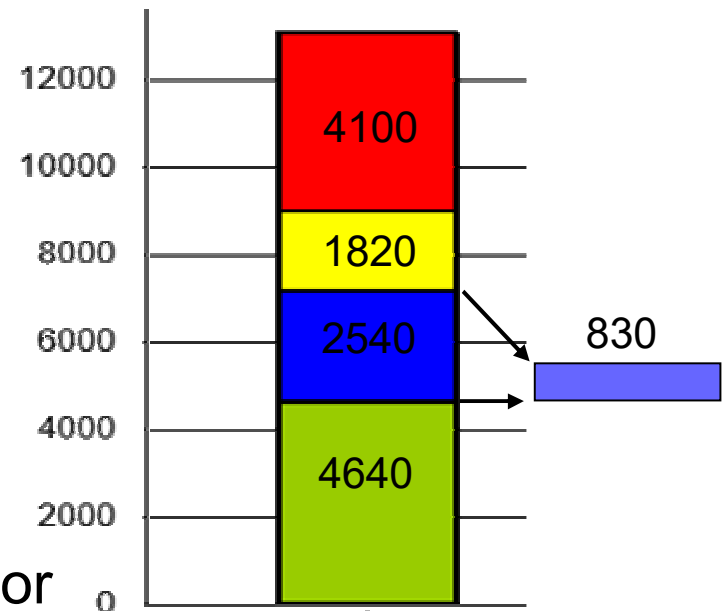
→ 570 PJ

→ **100% RE** requires only **≈830 PJ**

Just ≈ 30% of today's

Primary Energy usage in the traffic sector

→ **570 PJ (ca. 20%)** additional Electricity



Remarks: H₂-cars: +80% additional electricity
 Synthetic fuels: +200% additional Electricity

See also Lecture by:
Maximilian Fichtner
„The transformation
of propulsion“

Looking into the Sectors 3: Domestic use (w.o. Electricity)

Primary Energie usage 2018: **1820 PJ** (13,9%)

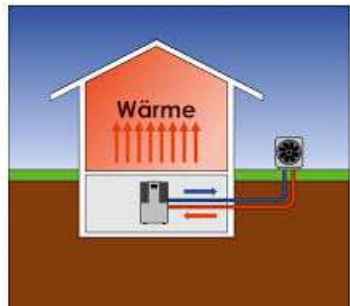
Essentially only Heating: 1820 PJ (90% Efficiency)

→ Replacement by Heat Pumps with avg. COP = 4:

1820 PJ (Net Energy 1640 PJ) → 410 PJ

Another ≈700 PJ

Coefficien Of Performance

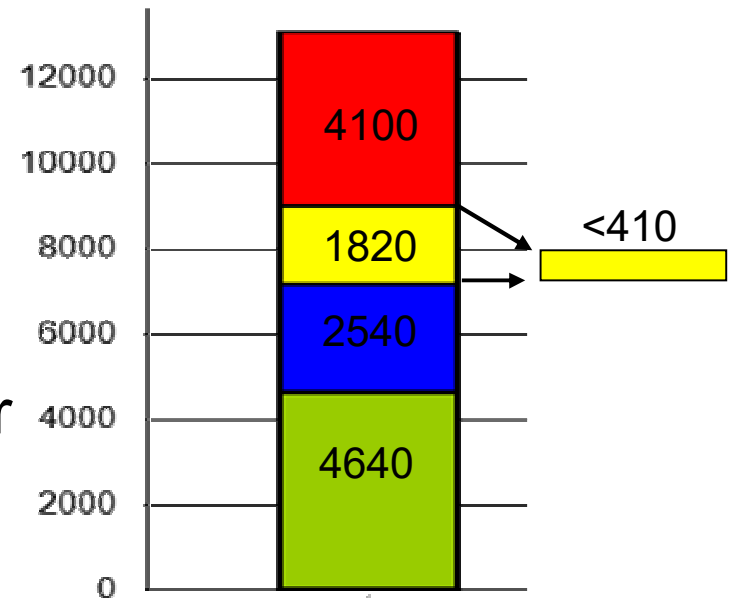


Already > 50% of new houses with Heat Pumps, more in the future ...

→ Total Energy requirement ≈**410 PJ**

Only ≈ 22% of today's Primary Energy Usage in the Domestic Sector (without electricity)

→ **max. 20%** additional Electricity usage (better insulation, additional Geothermal Energy, Biomass, ...)



Looking into the Sectors 4: Industry, Mining, Bussines & Trade (without electricity)

Primary Energy use 2018: 4100 PJ (31,3%)

Many different Processes

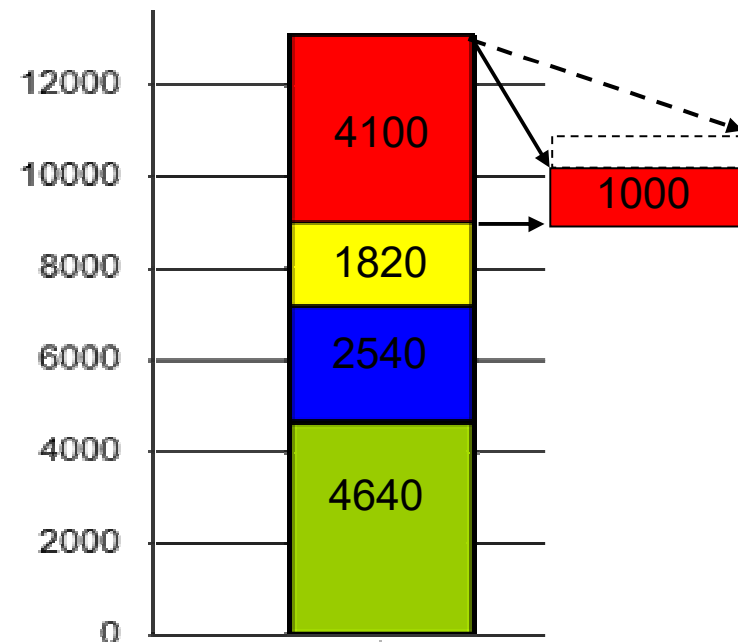
→ Energy requirement of (additional) electricity difficult to estimate, assume: 1000 PJ

(similar Faktor: Used Energy/Primary Energy as in Transport, Domestic)

Rest via Recycling (non energetic consumption), Biomass, Fossil Energy + CCS

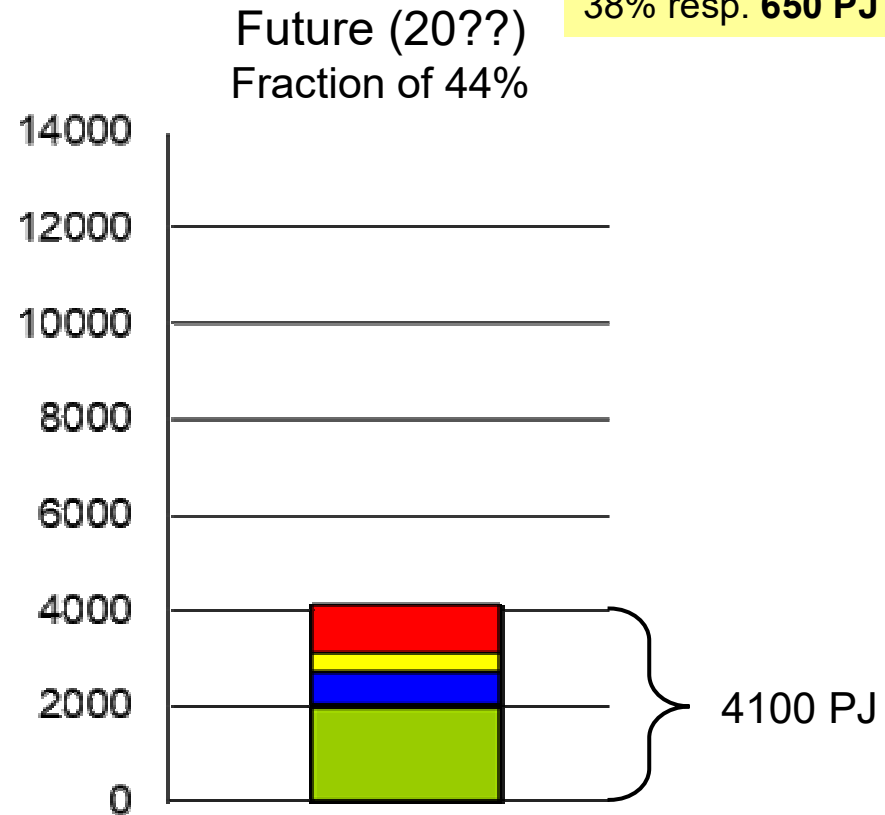
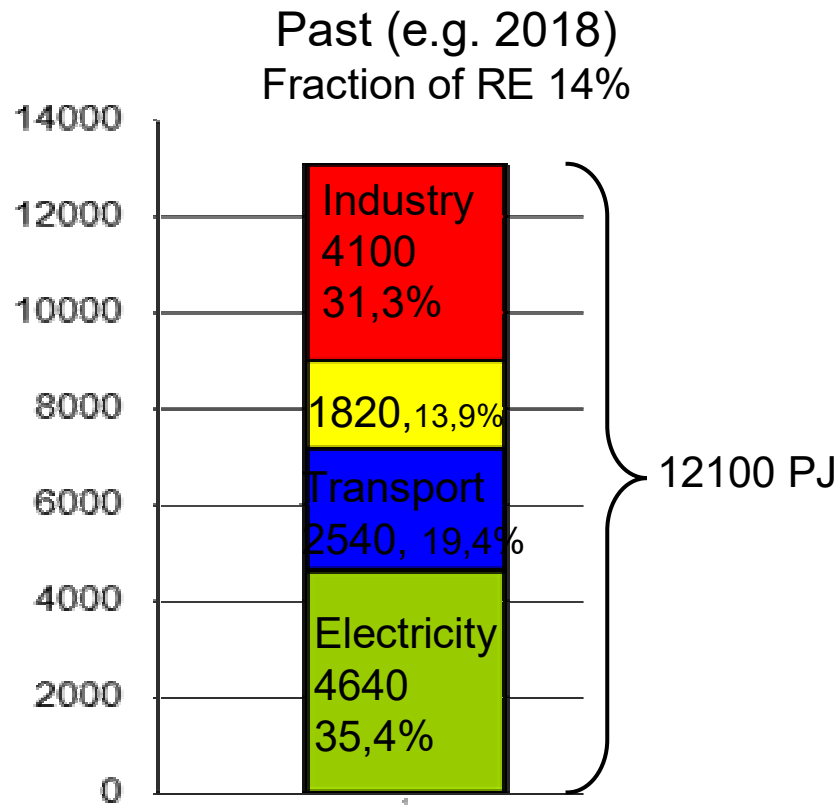
→ Required \approx **1000 PJ**
additional Electricity (e.g. for H₂)

ca. 50% additional Electricity
required



Primary Energy usage and Renewable Energy required for Replacement (Germany 2018)

Renewable Energy:
 2018: 1700 PJ*
 Wind+Solar thereof:
 38% resp. **650 PJ**



Preliminary Conclusion:

„For 100% RE we would have to increase RE-by a Factor of ≈ 2.4 “
 More Energy required as Electricity (2000 \rightarrow 3800 PJ, +90%)

Problem: Variability of RE \rightarrow Storage

*Source: Agora Jahresauswertung: Die Energiewende im Stromsektor: Stand der Dinge 2019

Question: How much Storage Capacity is Required for 100% Electricity Supply from Renewable Sources?

Measure of Storage Size:
$$\text{SupplyTime} = \frac{\text{Stored Energy}}{\text{Mean Consumption}}$$

Some Answers: 3 Months (!)

Better Answers: Depends on Energy Mix (i.e. Wind – Solar)
 Depends on Excess capacity*
 Depends on desired Reliability of Supply

Let us have a look on these topics ...

*Term

„Excess Capacity“ will be explained later

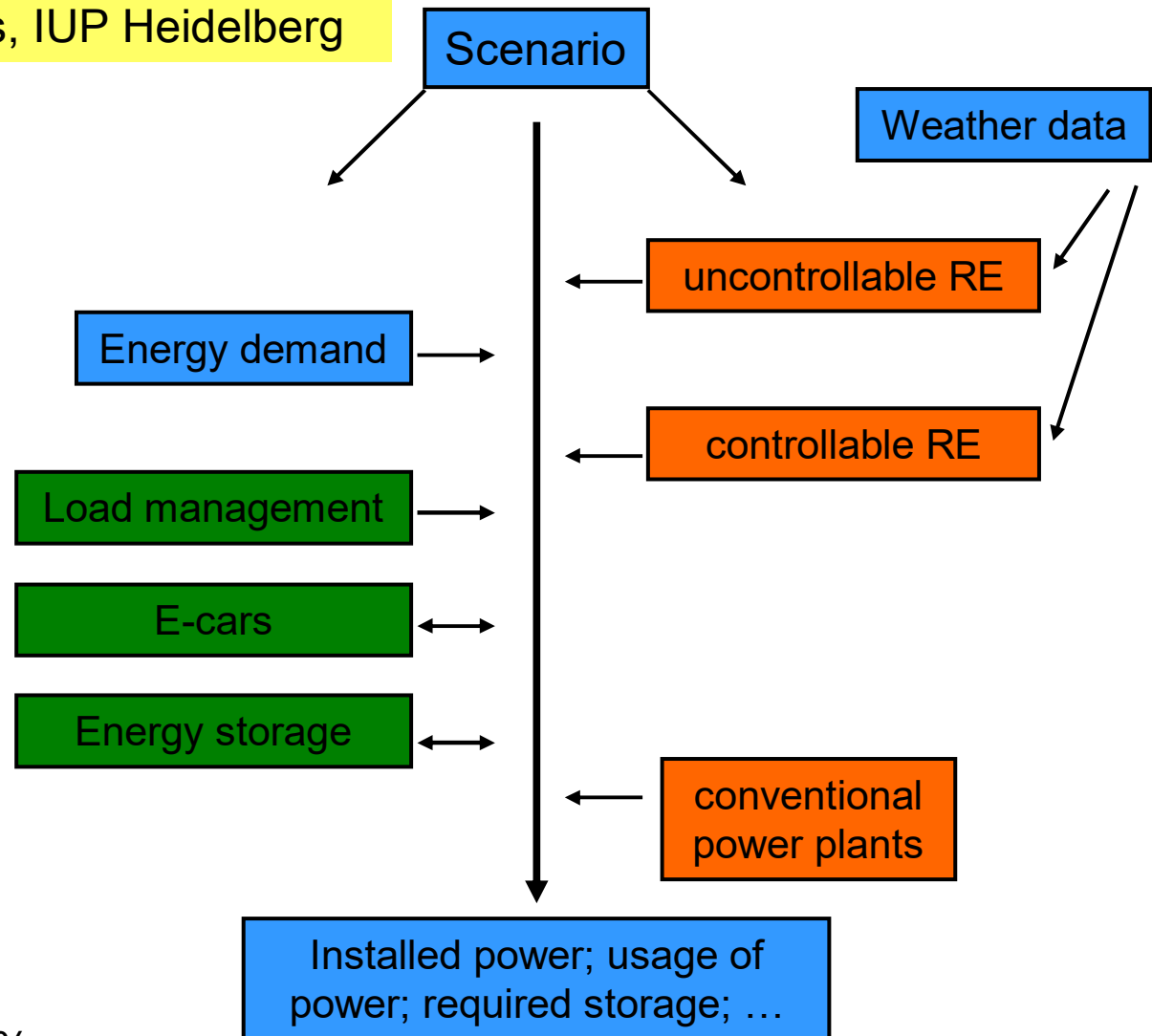
See also: Lecture by Franz W. Iven

The “Meteorological based Energy Equilibrium Testing – Model” (MEET)

Tobias Tröndle Doctoral Thesis, IUP Heidelberg

Developed at IUP Heidelberg

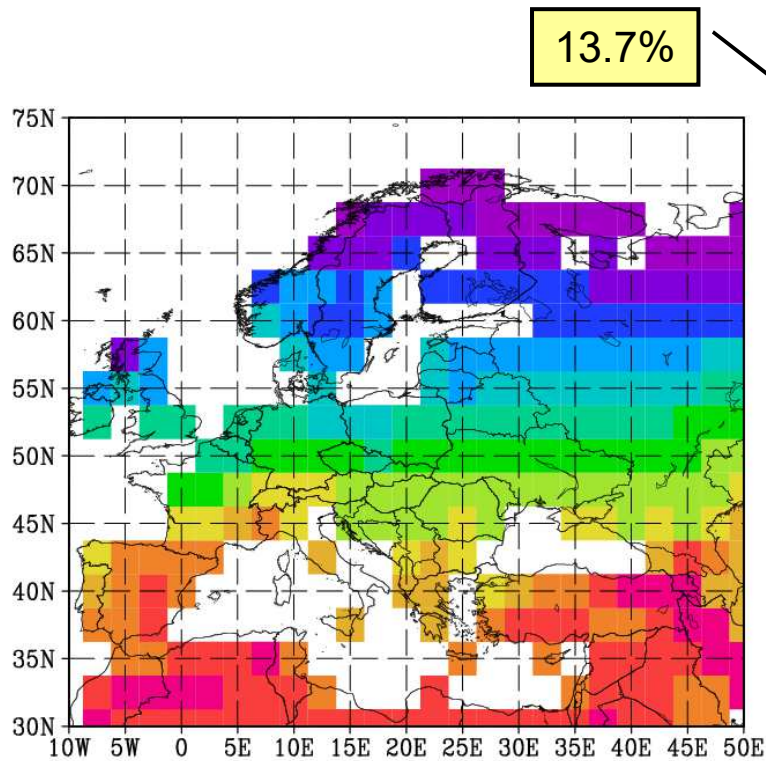
- Electricity only
- Time period: 1 year, MERRA*- and ERA-interim - weather data for 2000-2010
- All of Europe
- 10 different types of power sources
(Gas, Coal, Nuclear, Biomass, Hydro, Solar-thermal, photovoltaic, wave, Wind)
- Unlimited grid capacity („copper plate“)
- Spatial resolution: 2,5°
- Time resolution: 1 hour
- Energy storage efficiency: 81%



*Modern Era Retrospective-Analysis for Research and Applications, NASA

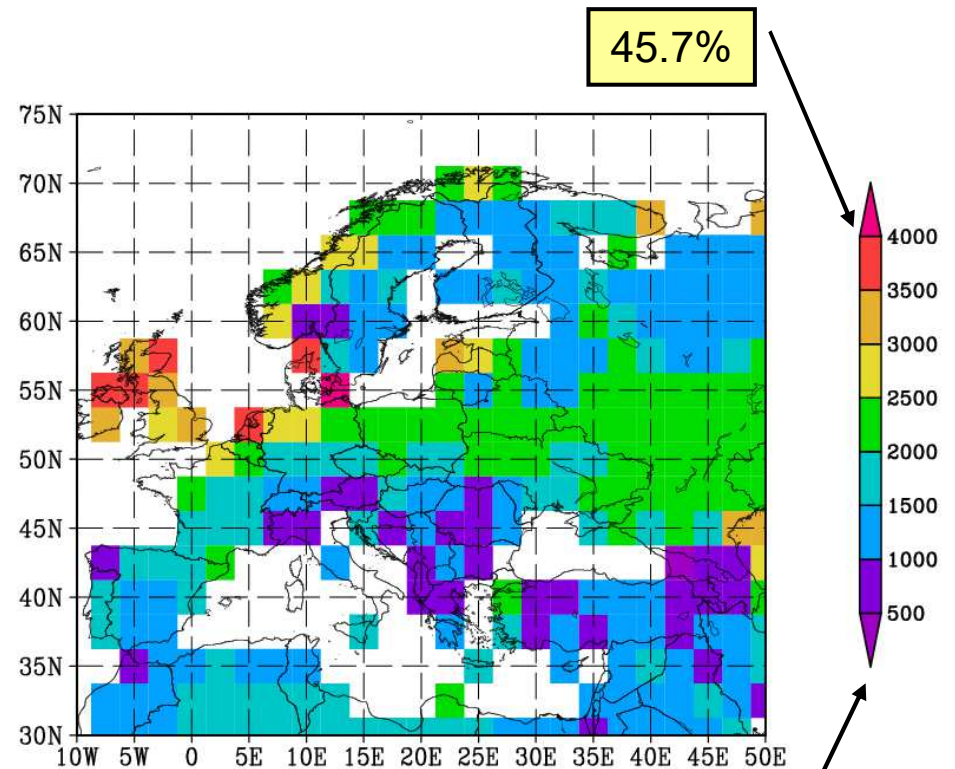
Potential of Wind and Solar Power in Europe (Mean 2000 to 2010)

Annual PV electricity
generation potential



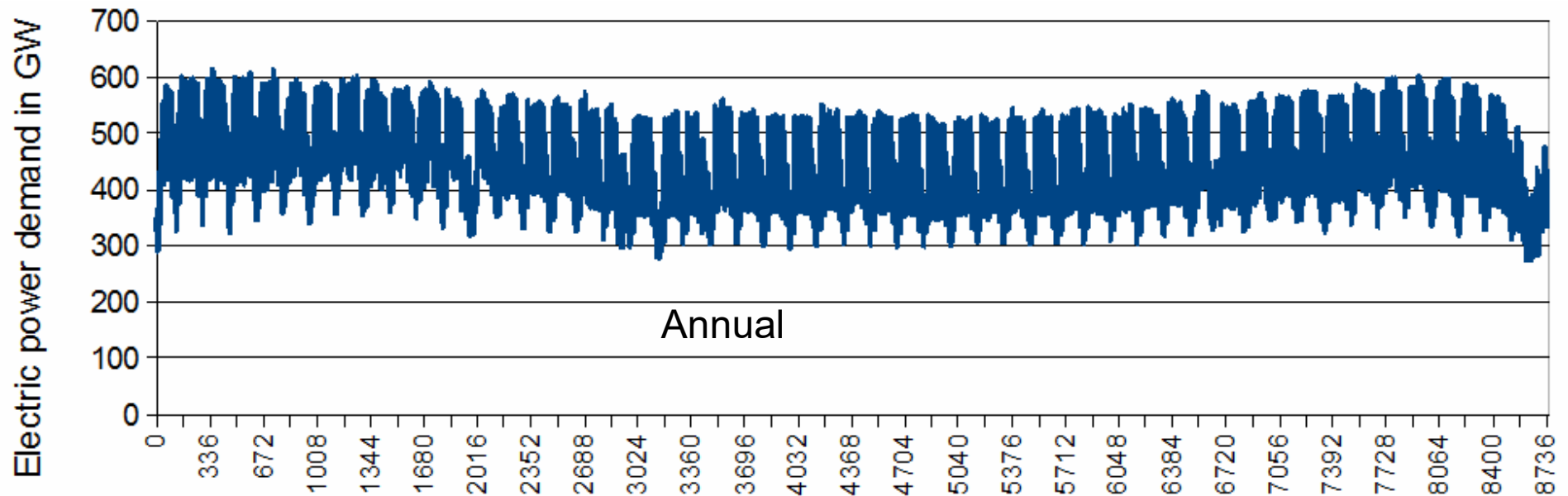
Percentage:
Fraction of generated
kWh's of 8760 kWh

Annual wind-electricity
generation potential



kWh per year and kW_{peak}

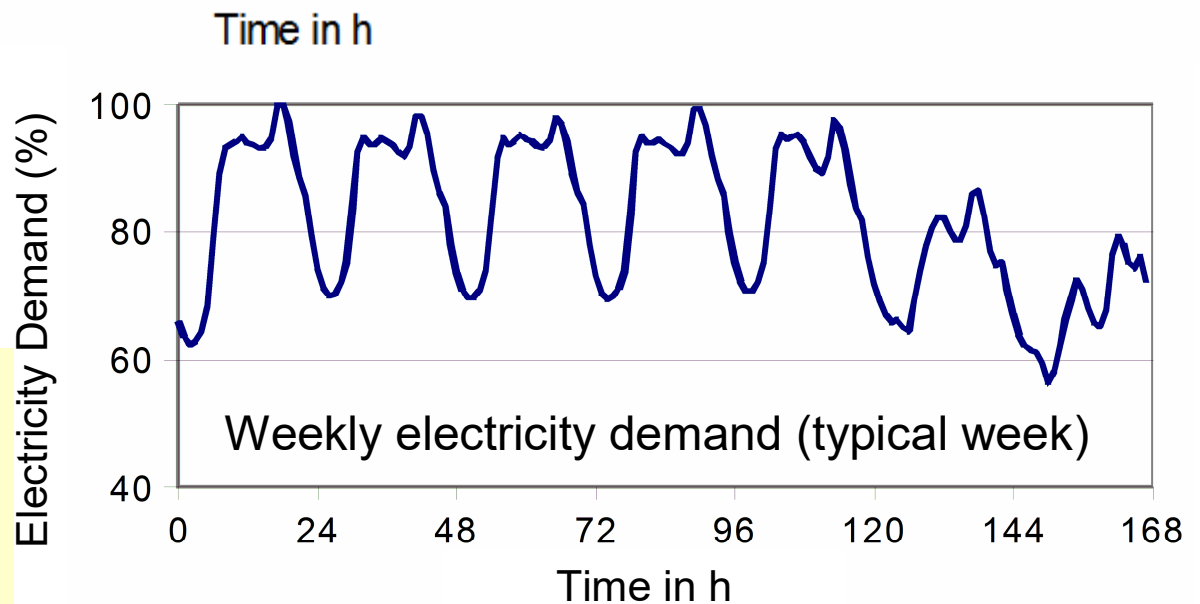
Annual/Weekly Electricity Demand in Europe (MEET)



Scaled from Germany 2008

→ Most of the variation in demand is diurnal variation

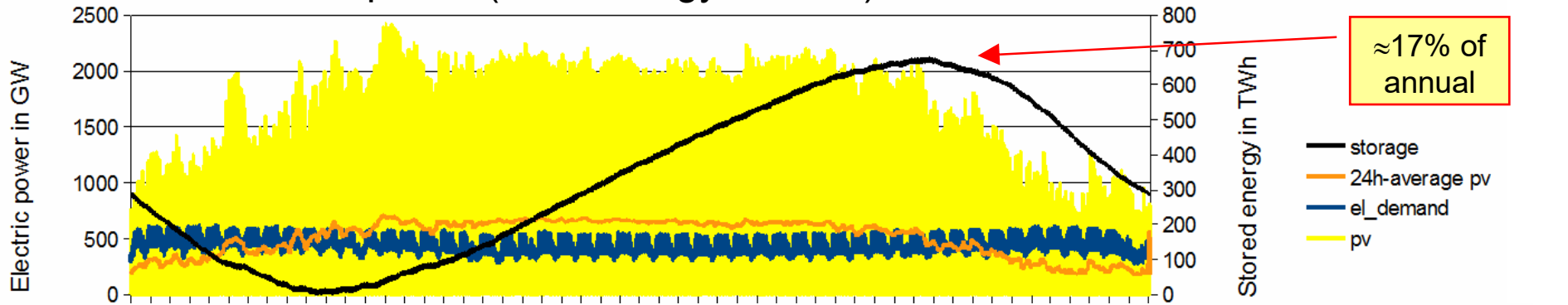
Tröndle (2014), Development of a global electricity supply model and investigation of electricity supply by renewable energies with a focus on energy storage requirements for Europe, Doctoral Thesis, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg.



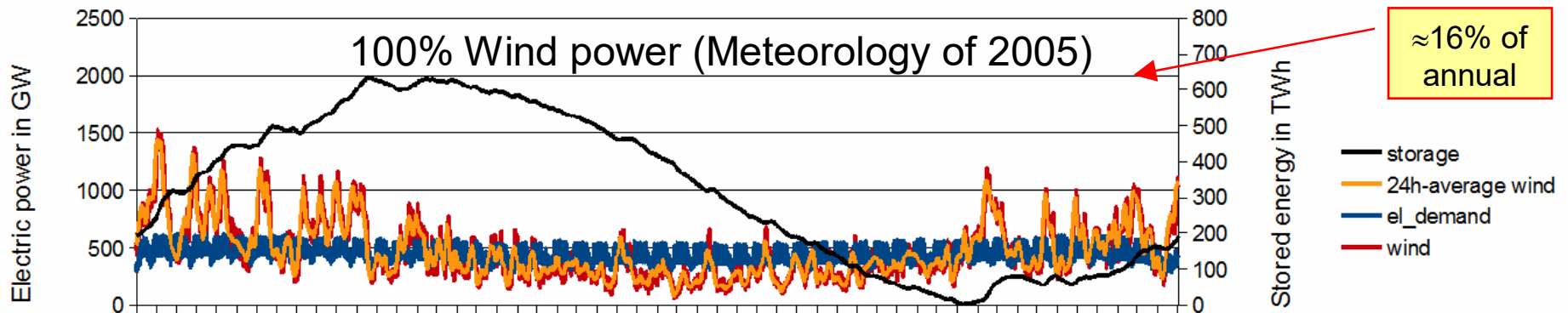
Time Series of Wind, Solar, and Storage (Europe)

Annual electricity demand of Europe: 3956 TWh

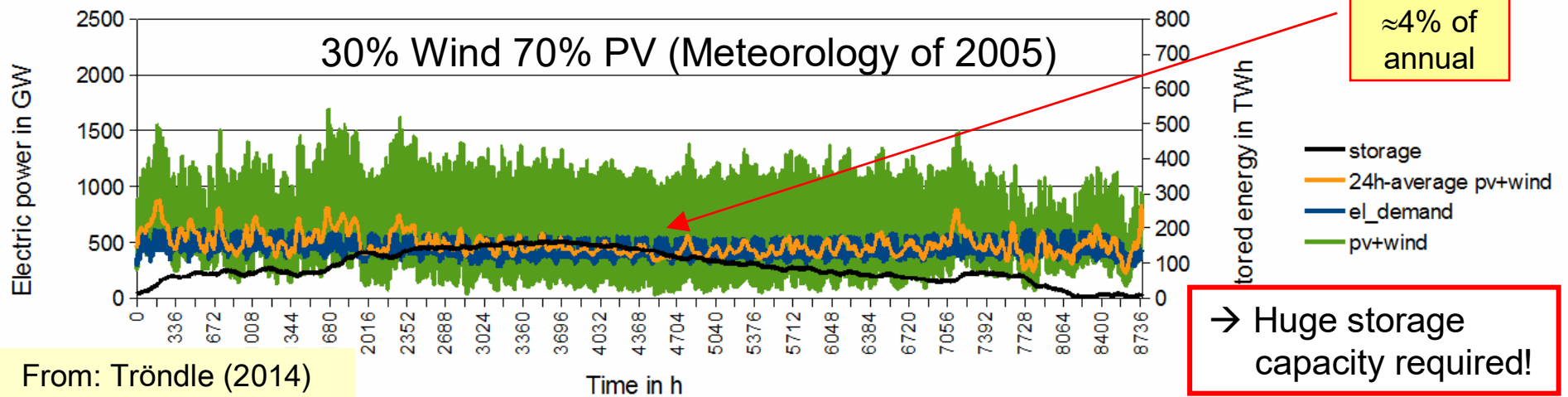
100% PV power (Meteorology of 2005)



100% Wind power (Meteorology of 2005)



30% Wind 70% PV (Meteorology of 2005)



From: Tröndle (2014)

Time in h

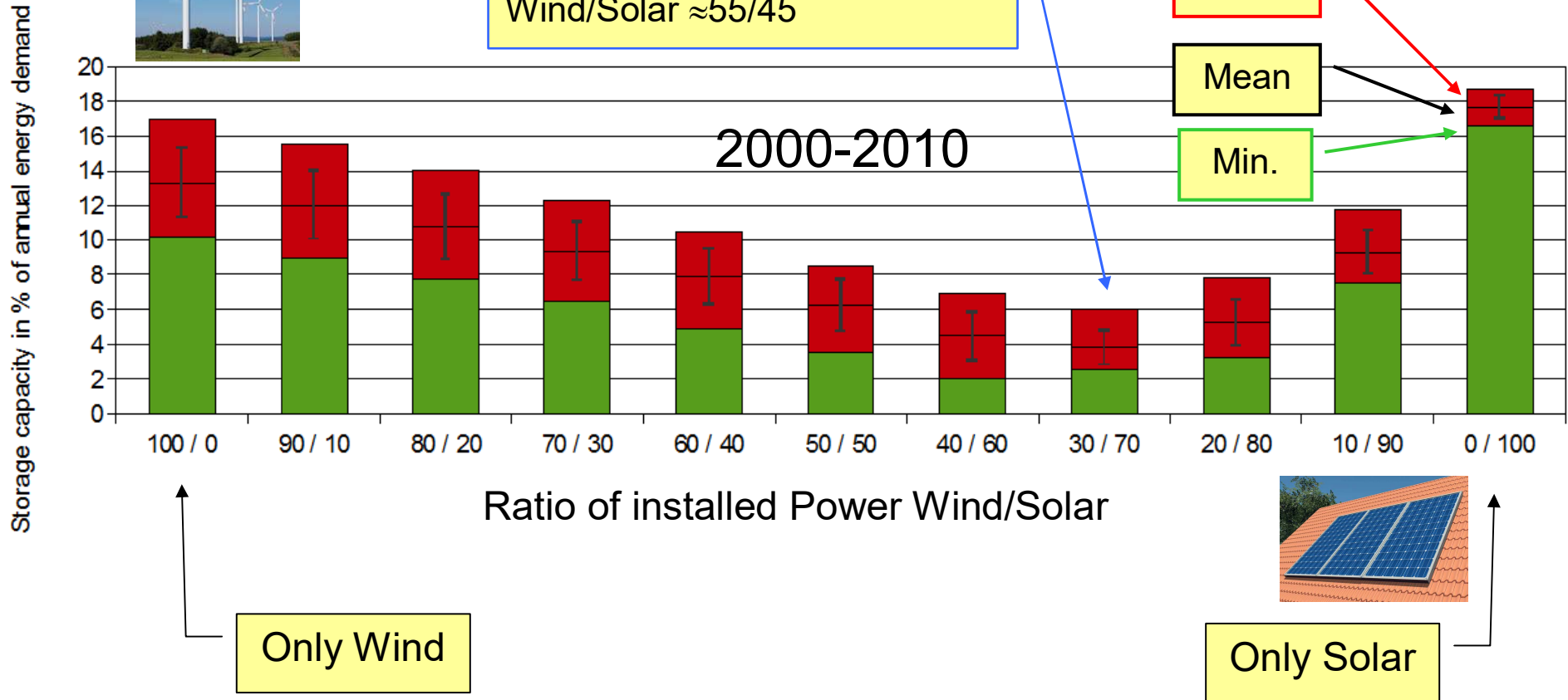
Required Storage Capacity (100% renewable), Wind + Solar (2000 – 2010)



Wind + Solar (2000 – 2010)

See also: Lecture by Gerhard Luther

Fraction of Electricity produced
Wind/Solar $\approx 55/45$

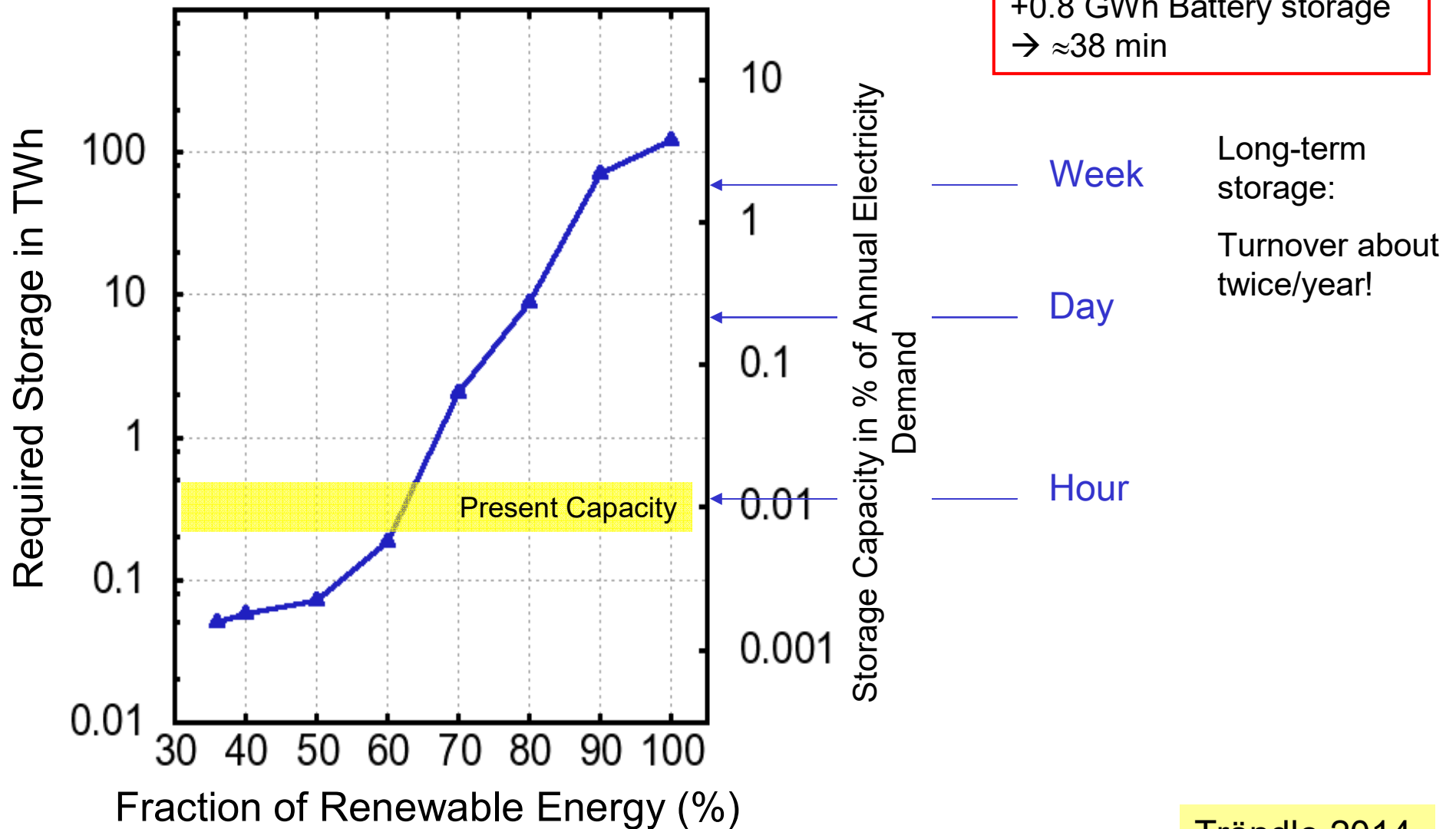


→ Combination of Wind + Solar reduces required storage capacity by a factor of >4
Still large storage requirement (ca. 2 weeks)!

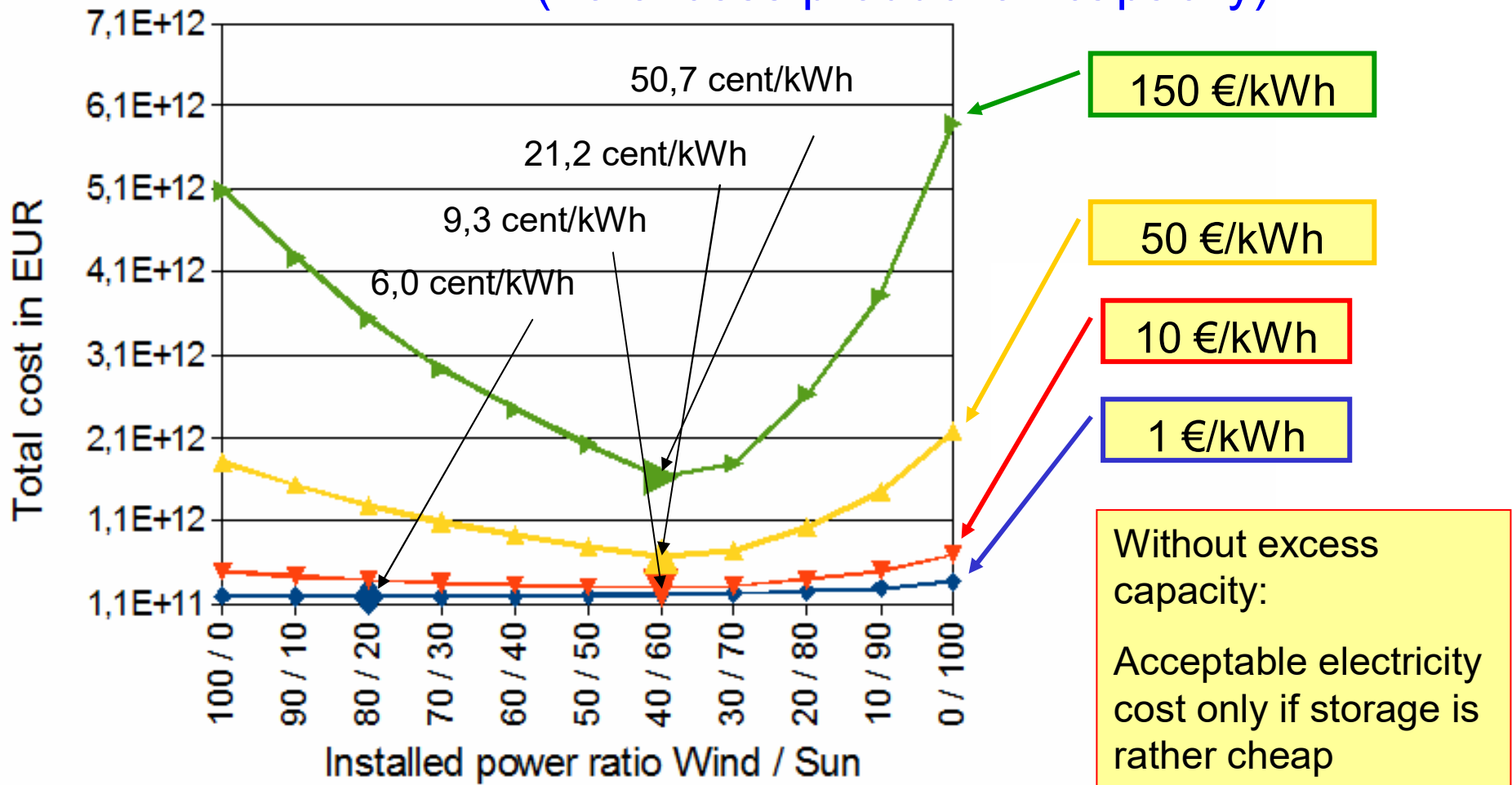
Required Storage Capacity vs. Renewable Energy Fraction

Wind/Solar = 30/70

Germany:
 37.4 GWh Pump storage
 +0.8 GWh Battery storage
 → ≈38 min



Cost of Power including Storage (no excess production capacity)



| | Cost | Lifetime (years) |
|----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| PV: | 1700€/kW | 20 |
| Wind: | 1000€/kW | 15 |
| Storage: | 1, 10, 50, 150 €/kWh, | Lifetime 40 years, Interest: 5% |

What is **Excess Capacity**?

All Electricity supply systems encompass a (annual mean) production capacity exceeding größer the (annual mean) consumption.

thus:

$$\text{Excess capacity} = \frac{\text{Installed Capacity} - \text{Mean Consumption}}{\text{Mean Consumption}} \cdot 100\%$$

Example: Germany has had 100-120% Excess Capacity since decades (Without Renewable Energy!).

Do not confuse with **Capacity Factor**

Renewable Energy is usually available only during a fraction of time, thus:

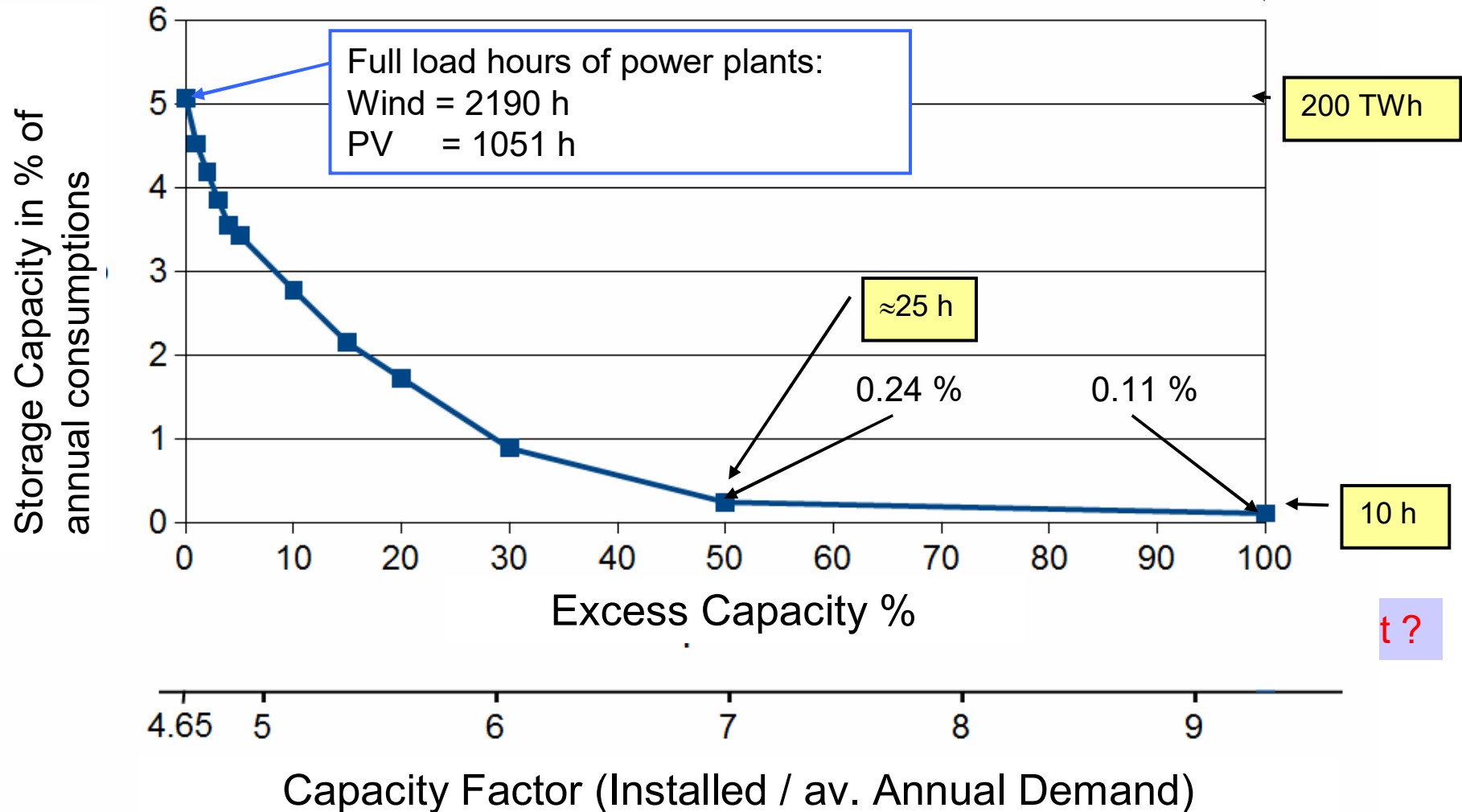
$$\text{Capacity Factor} = \frac{\text{Installed Power} \cdot 8760 \text{hours}}{\text{Annual Harvest}} \cdot 100\%$$

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|-----|
| Typ. Capacity Factors: | Solar Germany | 10% |
| | Solar S. Europe: | 20% |
| | On shore Wind: | 20% |
| | Off shore Wind: | 40% |

Required Storage vs. Excess Capacity

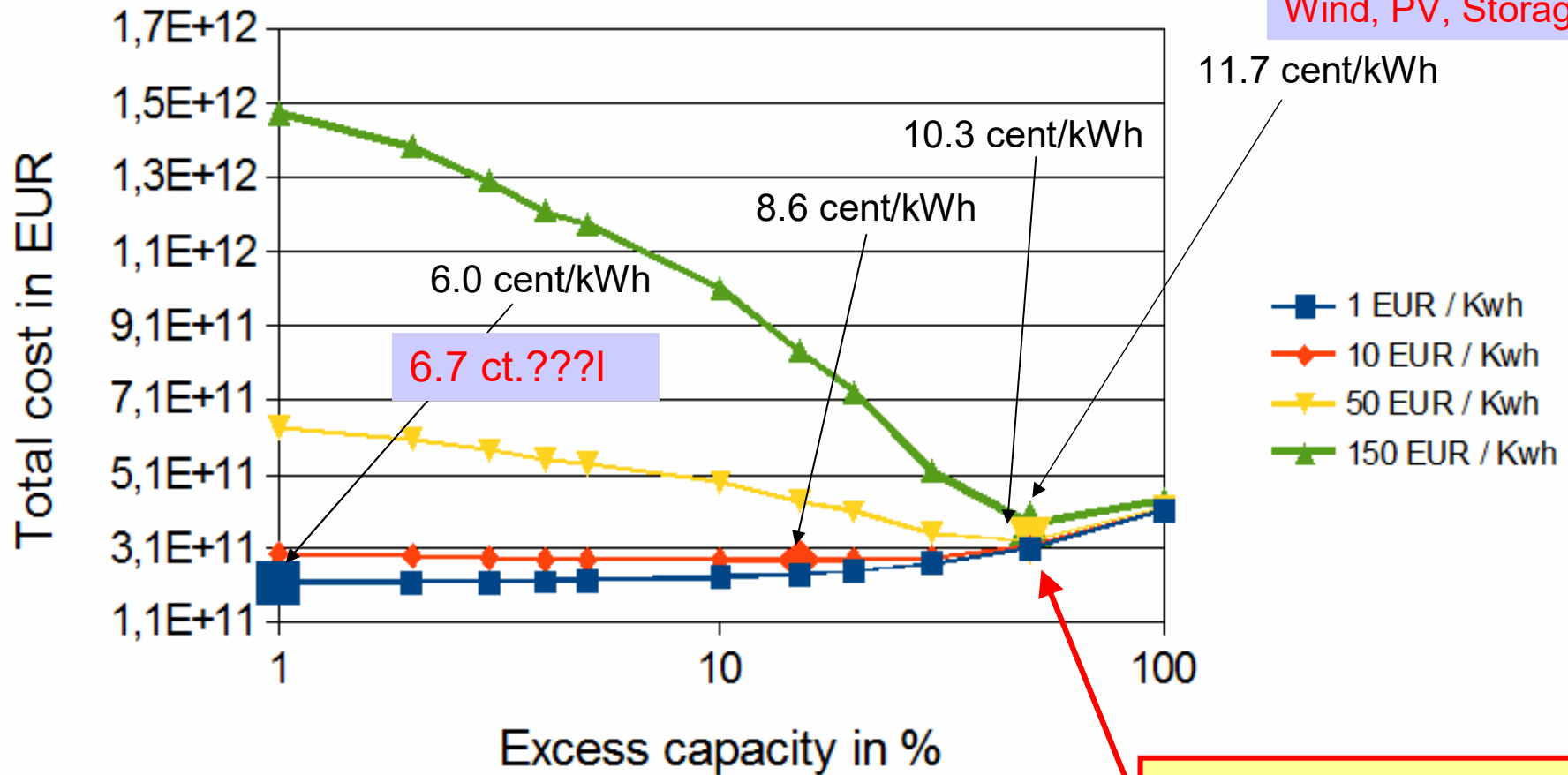
Considerably lower storage requirements by installing „excess capacity“, i.e. capacity which is not always used.

twice the cost for electricity generation, 2.2% of storage cost



Cost of Power + Storage including excess cap

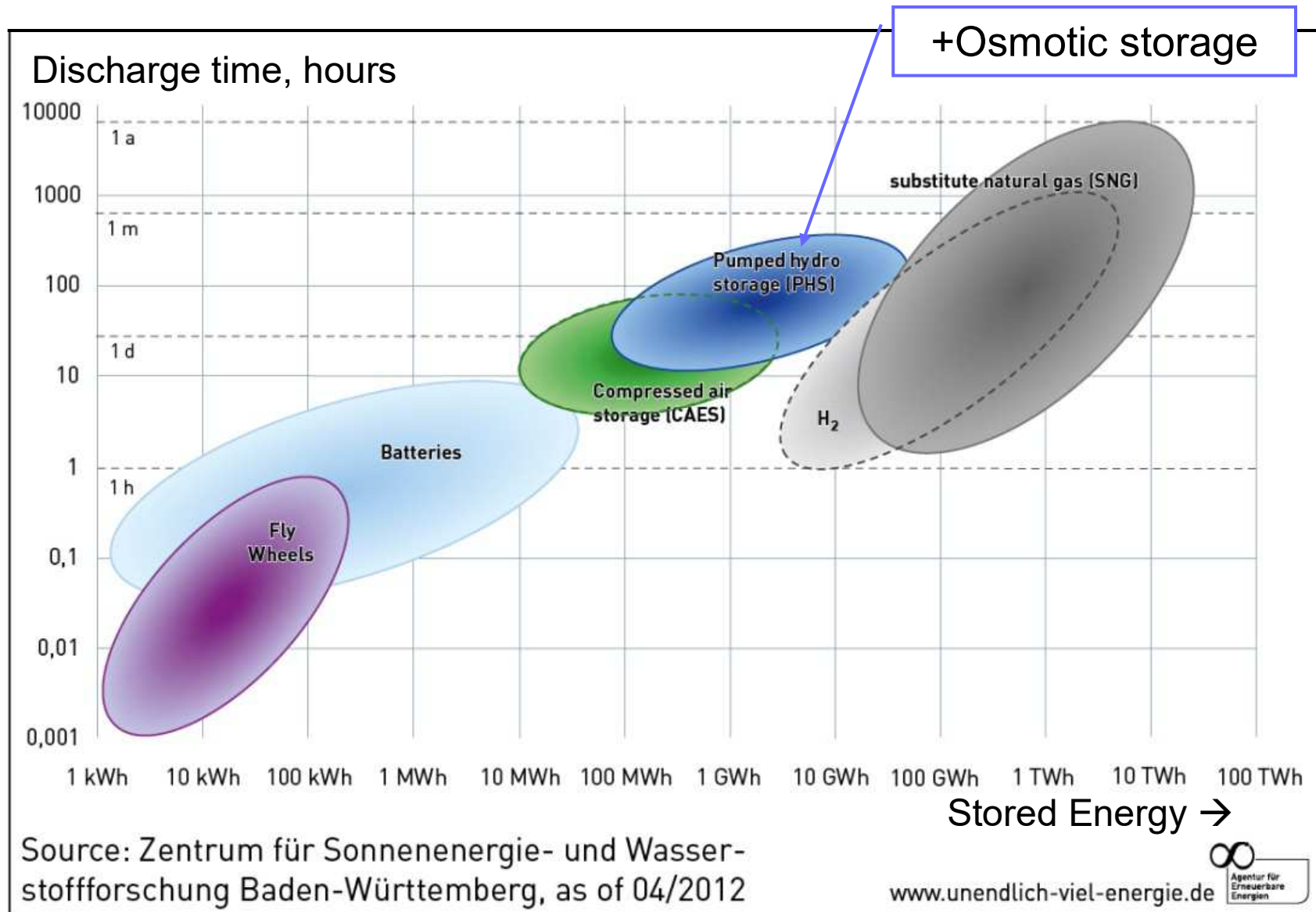
Breakdown of cost:
Wind, PV, Storage?



| | Cost | Lifetime |
|---------|----------|----------|
| (years) | | |
| PV: | 1700€/kW | |
| 20 | | |
| Wind: | 1000€/kW | 15 |

With excess capacity:
- Much lower cost.
- Economic optimum much less dependent on storage cost

Storage Technologies for Electric Energy



Diffusion: The Pfeffer Cell Apparatus

Wilhelm Pfeffer 1877

van't Hoff's law:

Particles (ions) in a solution behave similar to molecules in a gas.

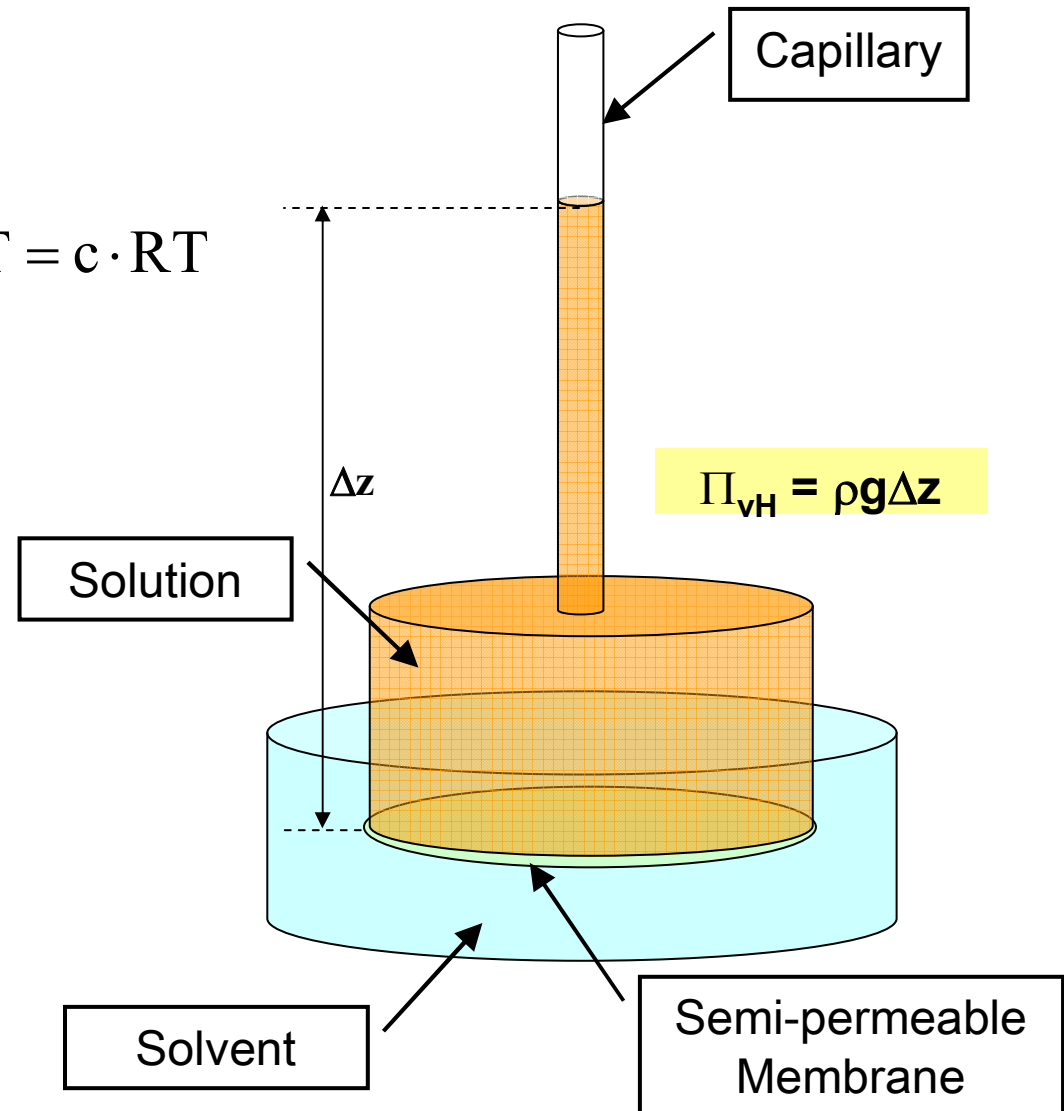
$$\Pi_{\text{vH}} V = \nu RT, \Rightarrow \Pi_{\text{vH}} = \frac{\nu}{V} RT = c \cdot RT$$

Osmotic pressures:

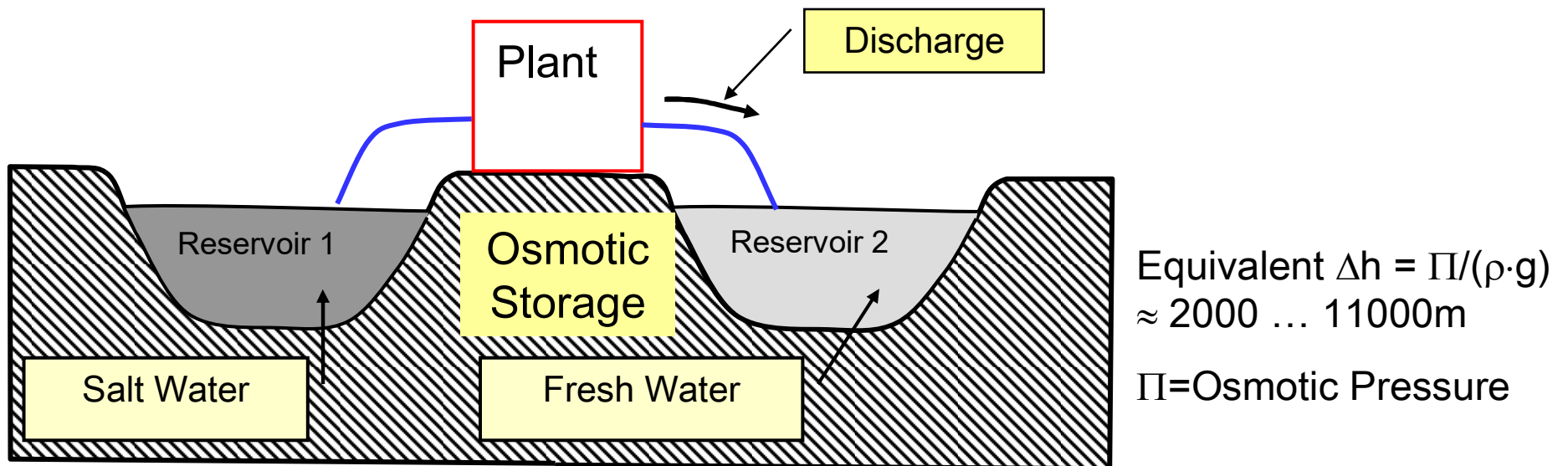
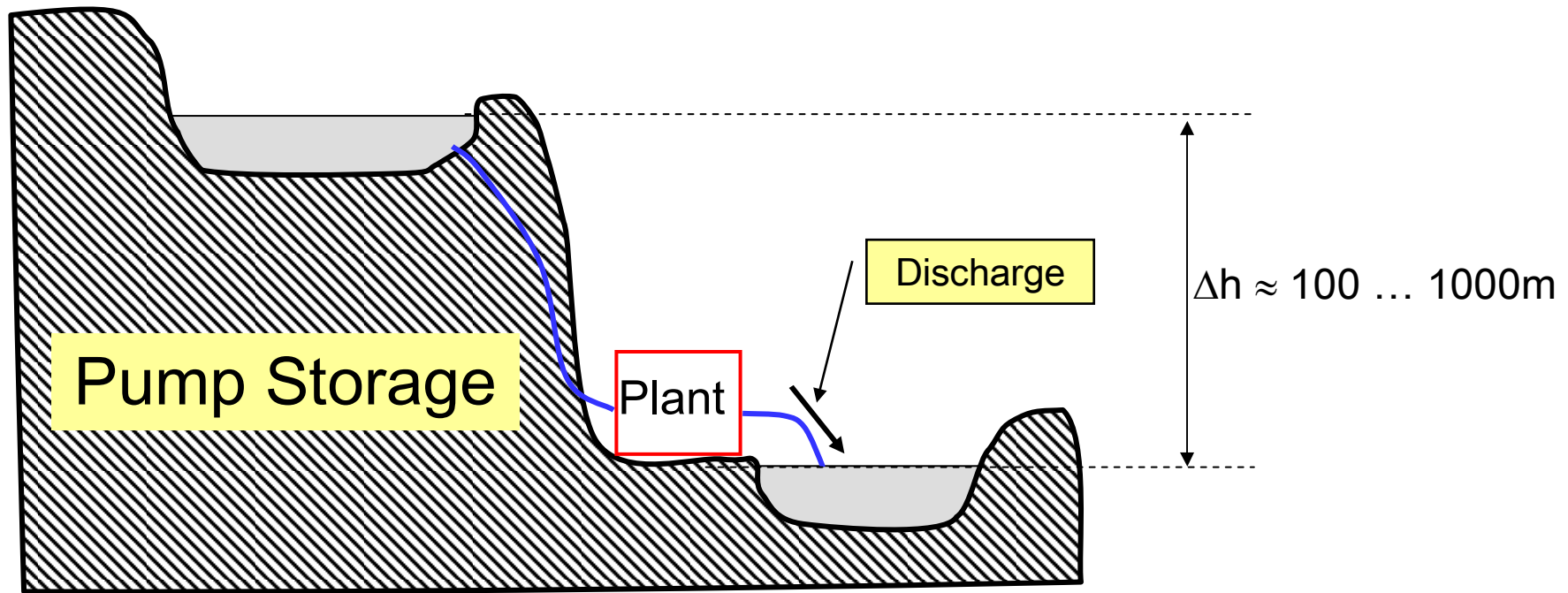
Seawater: 28.8 bar (2.88 MPa)

Lemonade: \approx 5-10 bar

Blood: \approx 9 bar



Pump Storage- vs. Osmotic Storage Plant



The Osmotic Pressure of Salt Solutions

In first approximation, i.e. for diluted solutions, the osmotic pressure Π of two salt solution with salt concentration (in moles/m³) c_1 , c_2 is given by Van't Hoff's law (Van't Hoff 1887):

$$\Pi_{\text{VH}} = n_i \cdot R \cdot T \cdot (c_2 - c_1)$$

with:

n_i = Van't Hoff factor denoting the number of ions per dissolved molecule
($n_i = 2$ for NaCl)

R = Universal gas constant: 8.31 J/(mole K)

T = Absolute temperature, e.g. 293.2 K

For concentrated solutions the ,activity' of solute (salt) and solvent (water) has to be used. This can lead to large deviations from V.H. Law

van't Hoff J.H. (1887), Die Rolle des osmotischen Druckes in der Analogie zwischen Lösungen und Gasen, Zeitschrift für Physikalische Chemie, Band 1U, Heft 1, 481–508, ISSN (Online) 2196-7156, ISSN (Print) 0942-9352, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/zpch-1887-0151>

The (theoretical) Energy Storage Density of Osmotic Plant (1)

Amount E of energy released from an initial brine volume V_0 containing an initial salt concentration c_0 giving rise to an initial osmotic pressure Π_0 :
Energy dE released upon injection of a fresh water volume dV and keeping in mind that the salt concentration $c = n/V$ reduces with the amount of fresh water admitted to the osmosis cell:

$$dE = \Pi(V) dV$$

$$E(V) = \int_0^V \Pi(V') dV'$$

Assuming a linear correspondence between osmotic pressure and salt conc.

$\Pi(c) \propto c$ and $c(V) = c_0 \cdot V_0 / (V_0 + V)$ we obtain:

$$\Pi(V) = \Pi_0 \cdot \frac{V_0}{V_0 + V}$$

and:

$$\begin{aligned} E(V) &= \int_0^V \Pi(V') dV' = \Pi_0 V_0 \int_0^V \frac{dV'}{V_0 + V'} \\ &= \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \ln \left(\frac{V_0 + V'}{V_0} \right) \Big|_0^V = \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \ln \left(\frac{V_0 + V}{V_0} \right) = \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \ln \left(1 + \frac{V}{V_0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

The (theoretical) Energy Storage Density of Osmotic Plant (2)

For very small volumina $V \ll V_0$ of added fresh water this simplifies to

$$E(V) \approx \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{V}{V_0} - 1\right) = \Pi_0 V$$

While for very large volumina $V \gg V_0$ we get approximately:

$$E(V) \approx \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{V}{V_0}\right) \propto \ln(V)$$

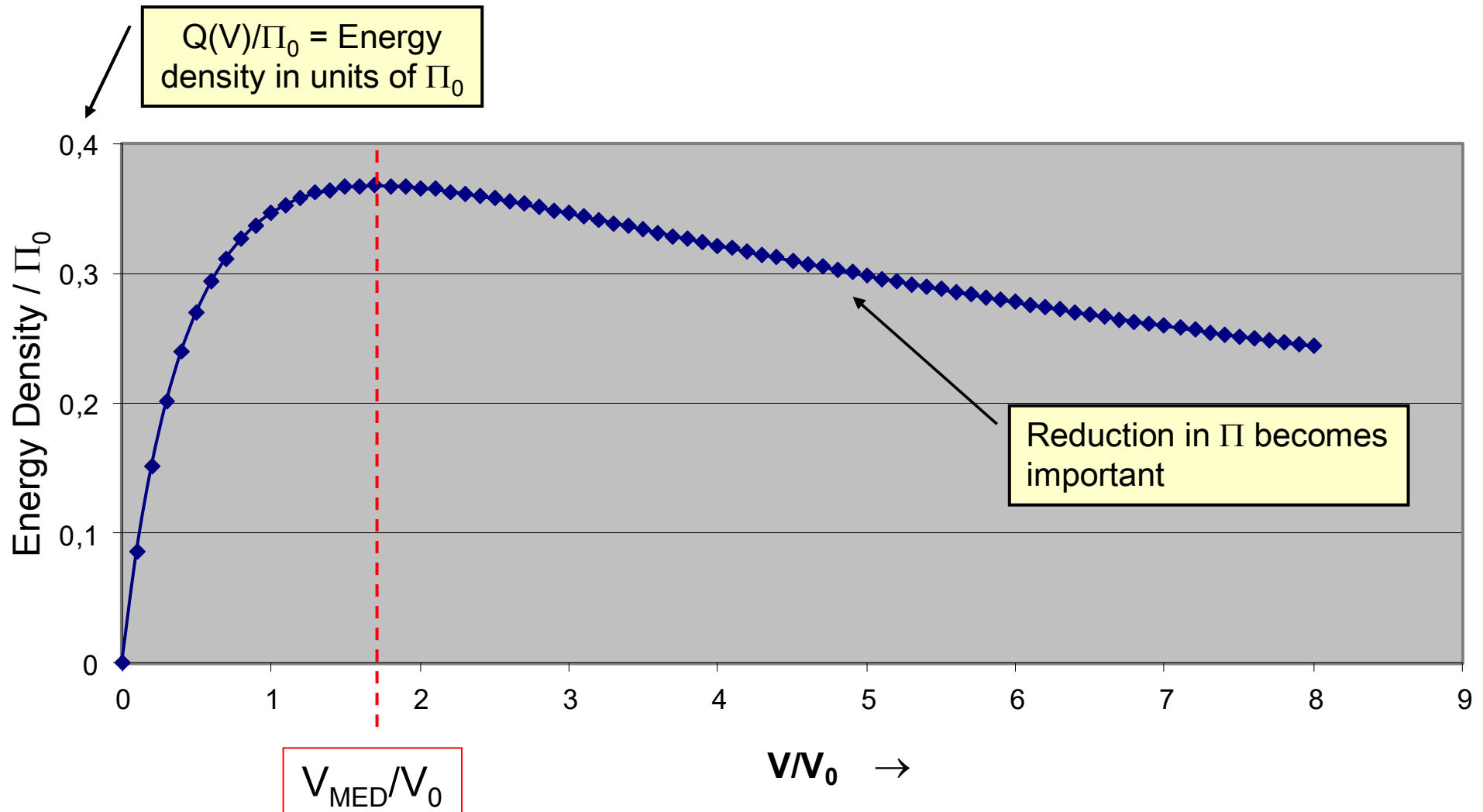
→ The amount of mixing energy for a given amount of salt solution can become infinite if infinite amounts of fresh water are available.

However the interesting quantity is the energy density $E(V)/(V+V_0)$, which can be achieved in a particular configuration.

For a 'one reservoir' configuration the energy density Q is given by:

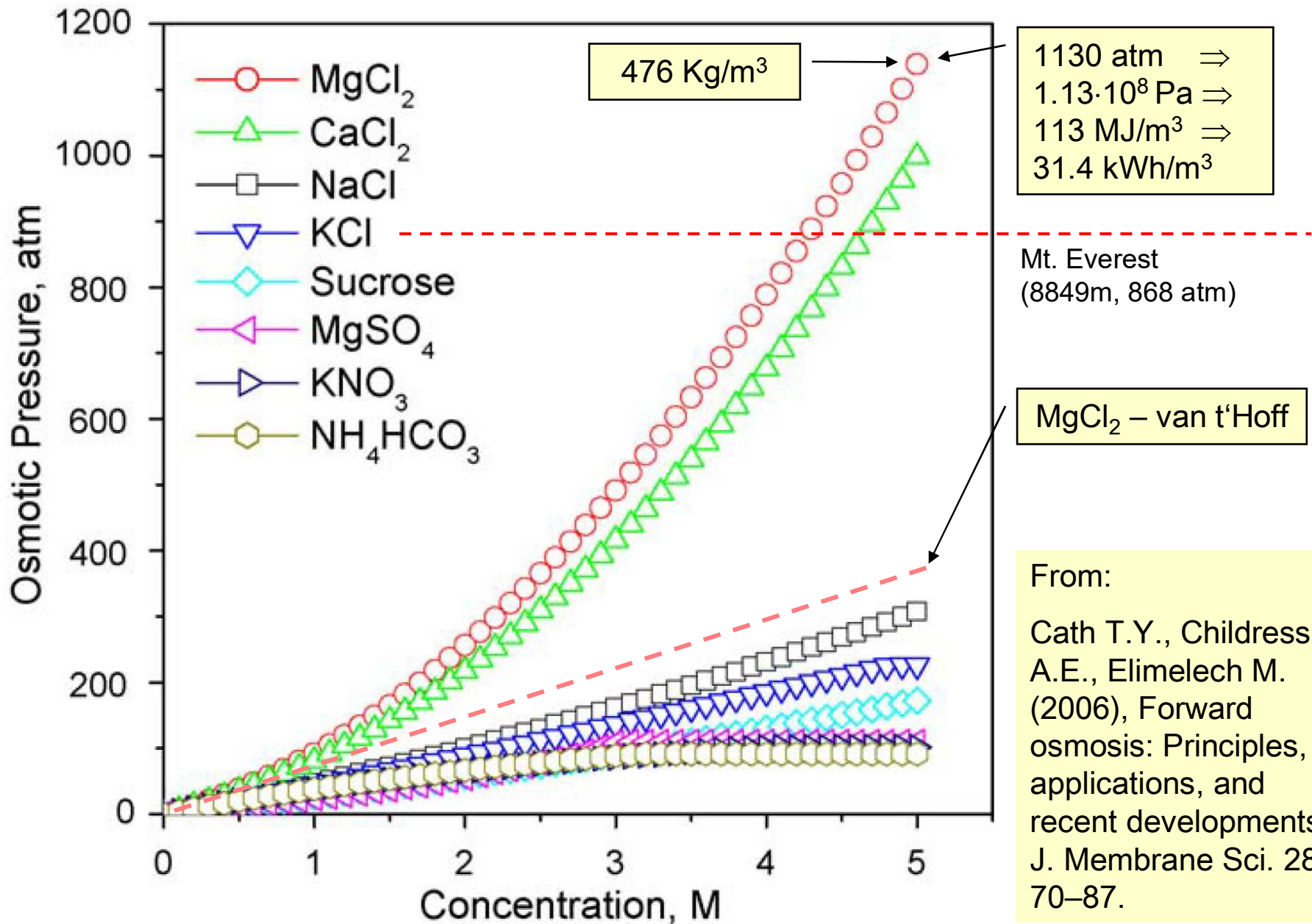
$$Q(V) = \frac{E(V)}{V + V_0} = \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \frac{\ln\left(\frac{V + V_0}{V_0}\right)}{V + V_0}$$

The (theoretical) Energy Storage Density of an Osmotic Plant (3)

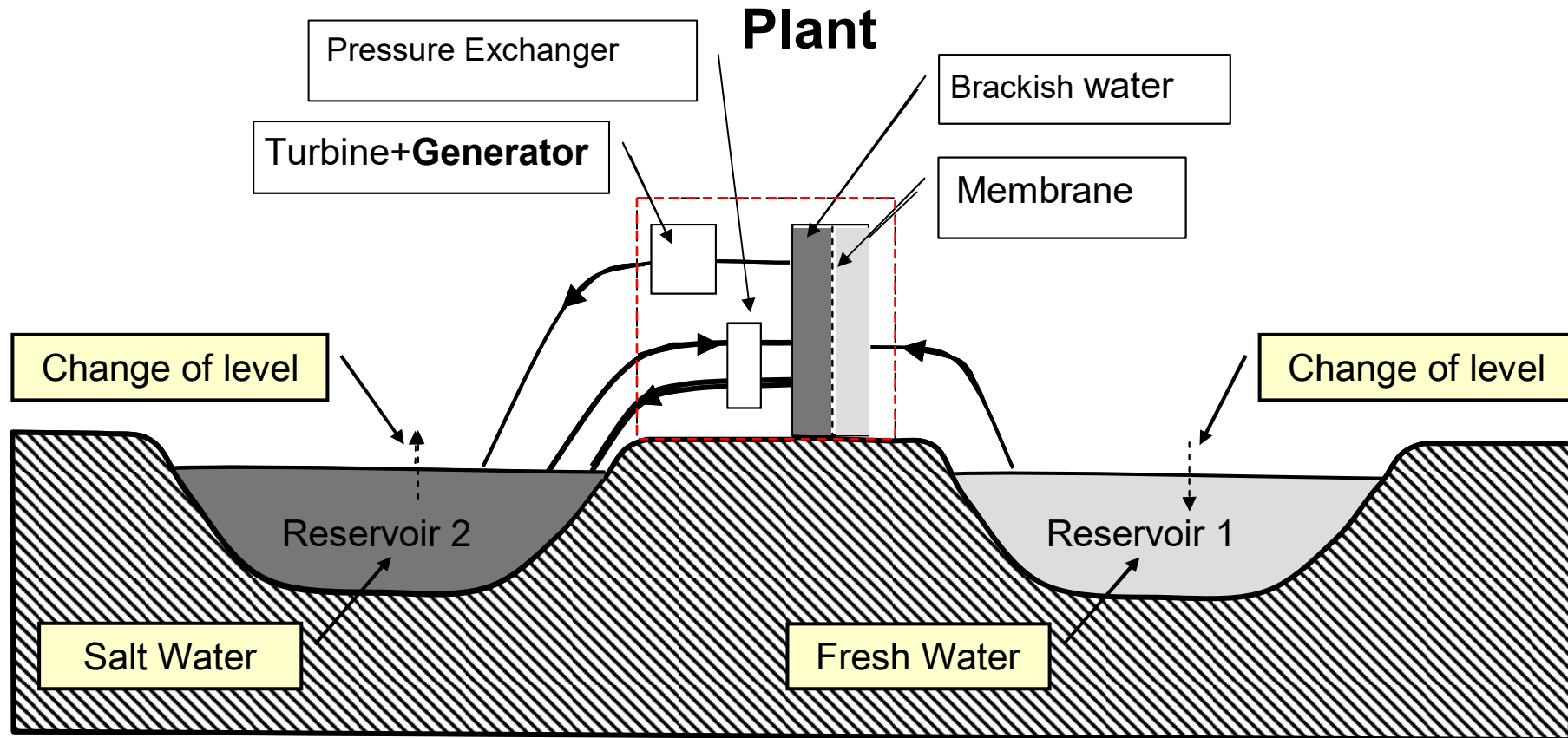


Comment: Pressure [N/m²] = Energy Density [Nm/m³ = J/m³]

Measured Osmotic Pressures of Some Salts



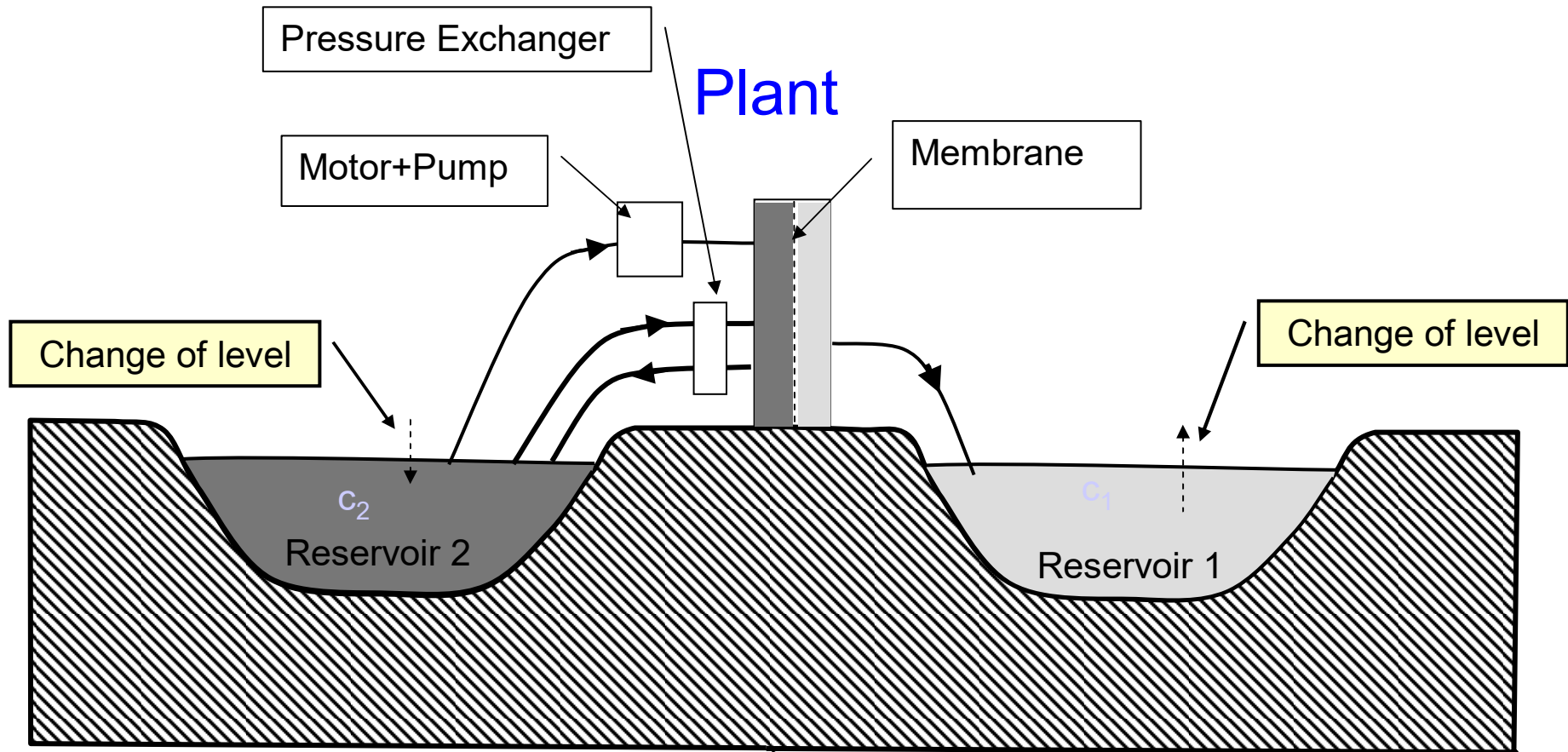
Sketch of an Osmotic Storage Plant Discharge Operation



See e.g.: Dinger F., Tröndle T., Platt U. (2013), Osmotic power plants and their potential, J. Renewable Energy, (Hindawi Publishing Corp.) Vol. 2013, Article ID 496768, doi.org/10.1155/2013/496768.

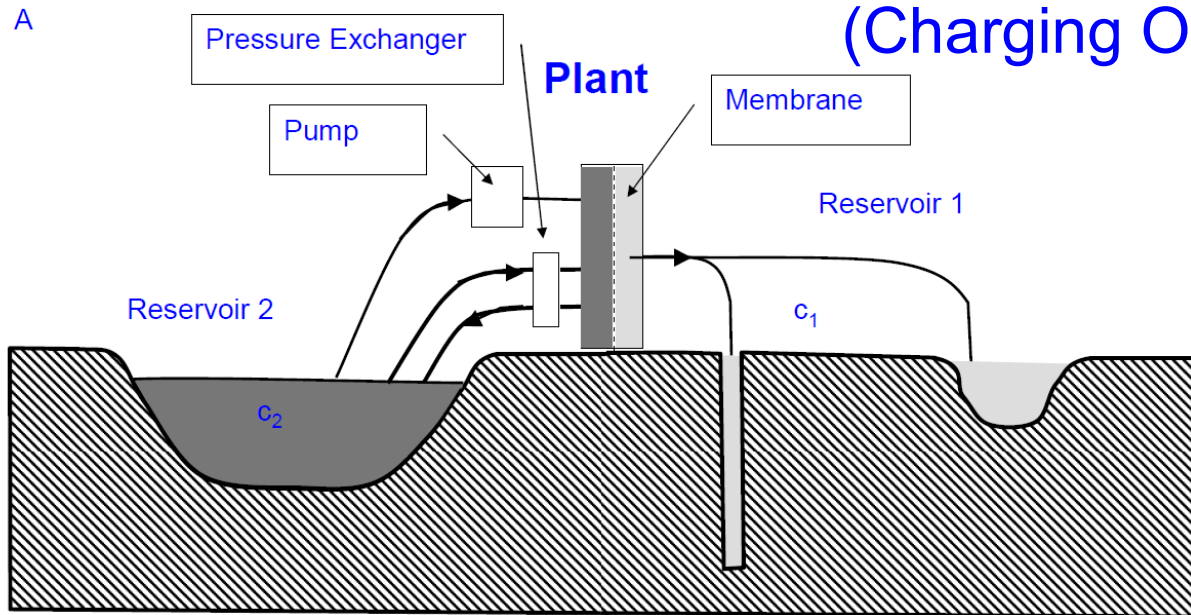
Helfer F., Lemckert C., Anissimov Y.G. (2014), Osmotic power with Pressure Retarded Osmosis: Theory, performance and trends – A review, J. Membrane Science 453, 337–358.

Sketch of an Osmotic Storage Plant Charging Operation

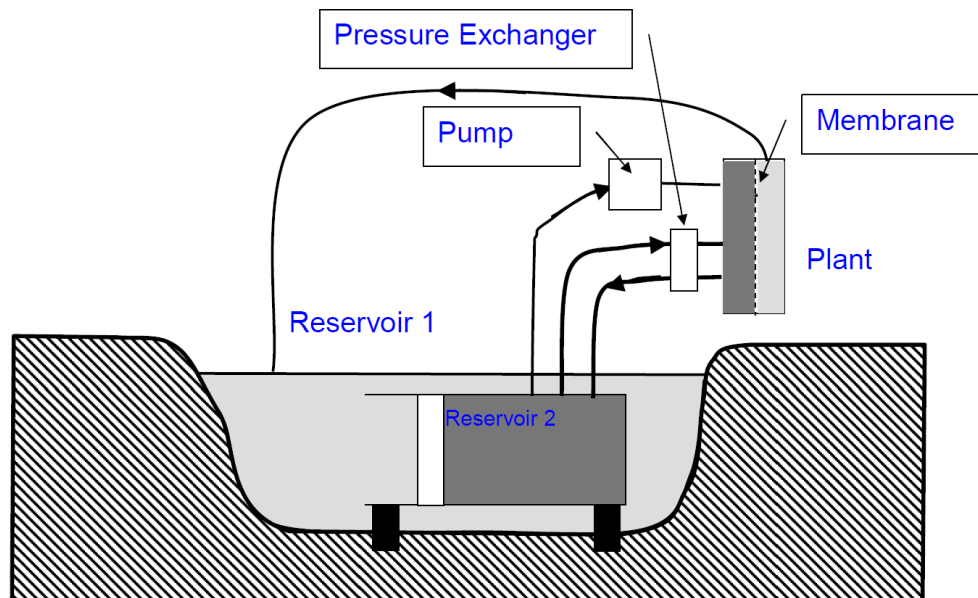


Alternative Designs of Osmotic Storage Plant

(Charging Operation)



1) Use ,external‘ supply of fresh water (River, ground water)



2) Put salt water reservoir ,inside‘ fresh water reservoir

→ Reservoir level stays constant

Energy Density and Efficiency of Storage Technologies

| Technology | Efficiency | Energy density kWh/m ³ | Remark |
|--------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Pump storage | 75-80% | ≈1* | at Δh=350m |
| Compressed air storage CAES | 54-70% | ≈3* | at p=13 MPa (130 bar) |
| Li Ion Battery | 70-95% | ≈200 | |
| Hydrogen | 34-44% | ≈2.6 (1.6*) ≈340 (200*) | Atm. pressure at p=13 MPa (130 bar) |
| Methane (Power-to-Gas) | 30-38% | ≈400* | at p=13 MPa |
| Osmotic storage | 40-60% | ≈12* | MgCl ₂ |

*including electricity re-conversion losses

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Further possibilities: | Use biomass as storage (<10% of annual consumption required) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|

„Hambacher Loch“ Hambach Surface Mine

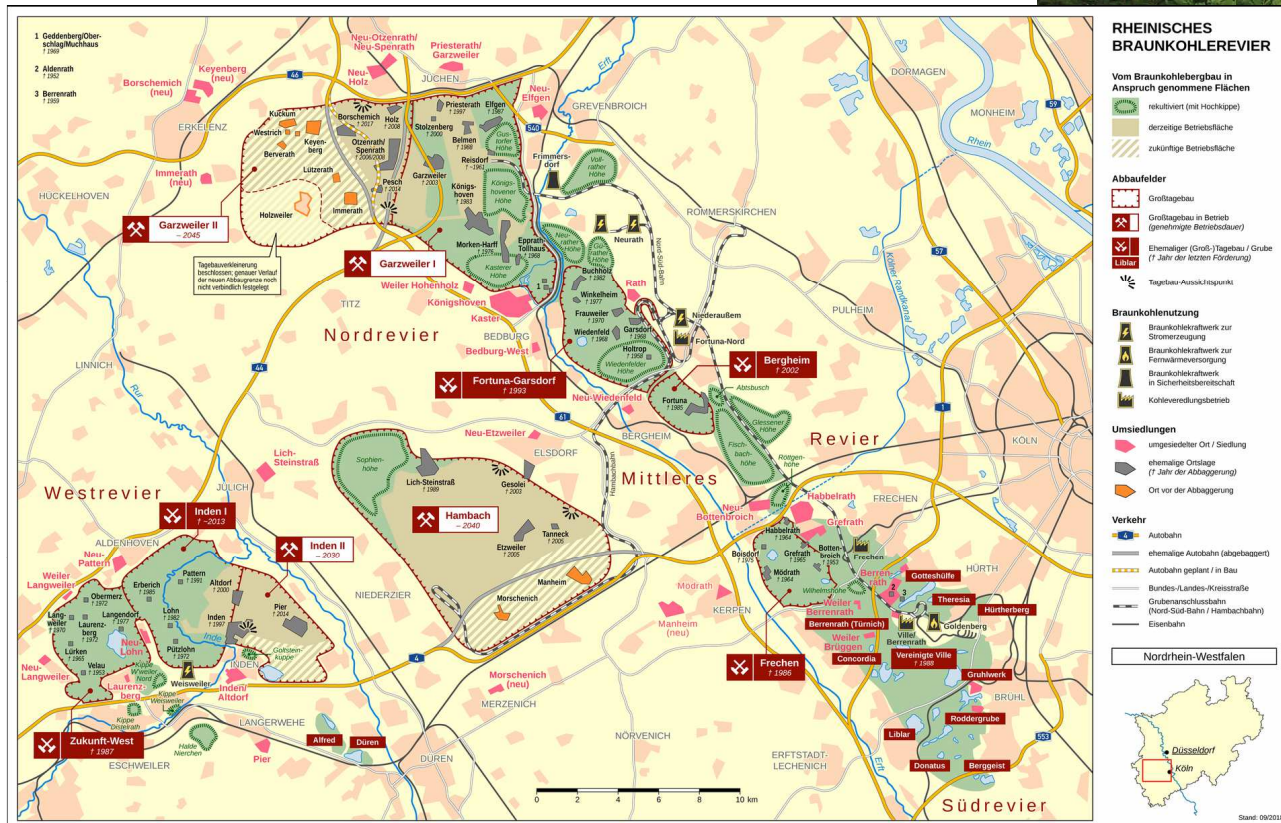
Volume: ca. 10 Mrd m³

(18.6 km³ in 2040)

→ At 11.6 kWh/m³

Stored Energy: >1·10¹⁴ Wh

or 100 TWh or Germany for ≈60 days



Total annual electricity consumption in Germany: 600 TWh

See:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hambach_surface_mine
https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tagebau_Hambach

Luther G. and Schmidt-Böcking H., The role of short-term storage like opencast mines in the energy transition.

Other (realistic) „Storage“ Technologies

Short-term storage (<24h): Small amount of energy, but turnover ca. 100 times/year

→ Pump storage, Osmotic storage, Batteries

Long-term storage (>24h) turnover few times/year

→ 1) Pump storage, Osmotic storage,

2) **Gas turbine with Bio-gas:**

Equivalent cost of storage: 1-2 €/kWh

ca. 6% of (present day) electricity generation from Bio-gas, but only about 0,25-1% of annual generation are required as long-term storage .

The available amount of bio- gas (Germany) would be sufficient to fill the storage about 5-times/year (at twice the present electricity demand).

Model result: only 2-3 times required (at 150% capacity)

→ **Only about 1% of the electricity demand pass the storage**

100% Renewable Energy Supply, Significance for Germany (1)

Assume: 150% Capacity (50% Excess Capacity)

30%/70% Wind/Solar (mean. power: 9/7, 56%/44%)

Wind: Annual mean =30% of installed peak power

Solar: Annual mean =10% of installed peak power

Germany: \approx **60 GW**

→ 114 GW mean Electricity consumption 100% EE (+90%)

→ \approx **170 GW** incl. 50% Excess Capacity

→ \approx **750 GW Solar** (75 GW MW) + **320 GW Wind** (96 GW MW)

→ 2021 in G. installed: 56 GW Solar, 62 GW Wind
(incl. \approx 8 GW offshore)

→ **Solar x13; Wind x5** (rough calculation) **Total: x9**

Includes Elektromobility, Industry & Heating!

100% Renewable Energy Supply, Significance for Germany (2)

≈750 GW Solar (75 GW MW) + ≈320 GW Wind (95 GW MW)

Required Area for Solar at 200 W/m²: 3.750 km²

Potential G.: 6.000 km² Roof Area, 12.000km² From



Required Area for Wind at 26 MW/km² (mean value)⁽²⁾

→ 12.500 km², ≈3.5% of the total area (357.600 km²)

Compatible with 2%

Max useable on-shore Wind Power: 1800 GW³

Reduction due to off-shore Wind Energy,
Energy Imports (H₂, Electricity, Synthetic Fuels)



¹see e.g. Behnisch et al. 2020, doi: DFNS/2020_12_DFNS/025_behnisch.pdf

²Bons et al.(2019), Flächenanalyse Windenergie an Land, Abschlussbericht, CLIMATE CHANGE 38/2019 EVUPLAN, Forschungskennzahl 37EV 16 117 0 FB000157.

³Miller et al. 2015, www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1408251112

Conclusions

- 100% renewable energy is well possible with existing technologies (there is no time anyway to develop fundamentally new technologies)
- Our energy System must be converted to (>80%) carbon free within the coming two decades in order to avoid a climate catastrophe
- Renewable energy can be supplied at competitive cost
- Energy storage is probably less critical than frequently implied
- Osmotic storage can provide storage densities of up to $\approx 12 \text{ kWh/m}^3$, equivalent to a >4000 m altitude difference pump storage plant, about one order of magnitude more than conventional pump storage plants
 - No need for mountains
 - lower investment, (in particular if not too much power is required), much more freedom in siting the plant
 - However, (somewhat) lower efficiency ($\leq 60\%$ vs. $\leq 80\%$)

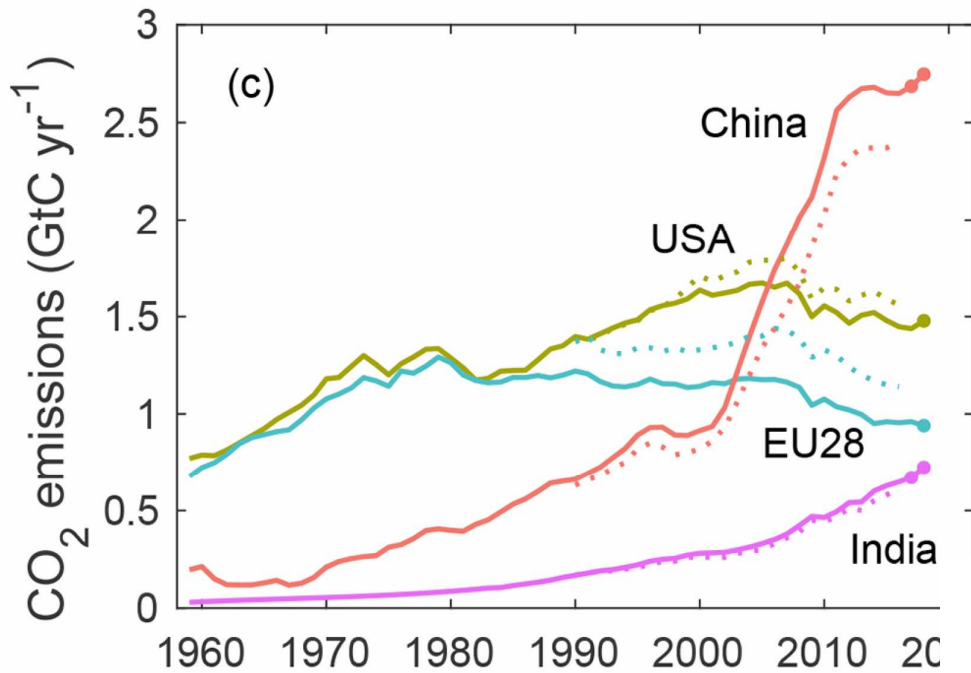
Thank You!

Some Further Literature

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Anthropogenic CO₂-Emission 1958-2018 in GtC

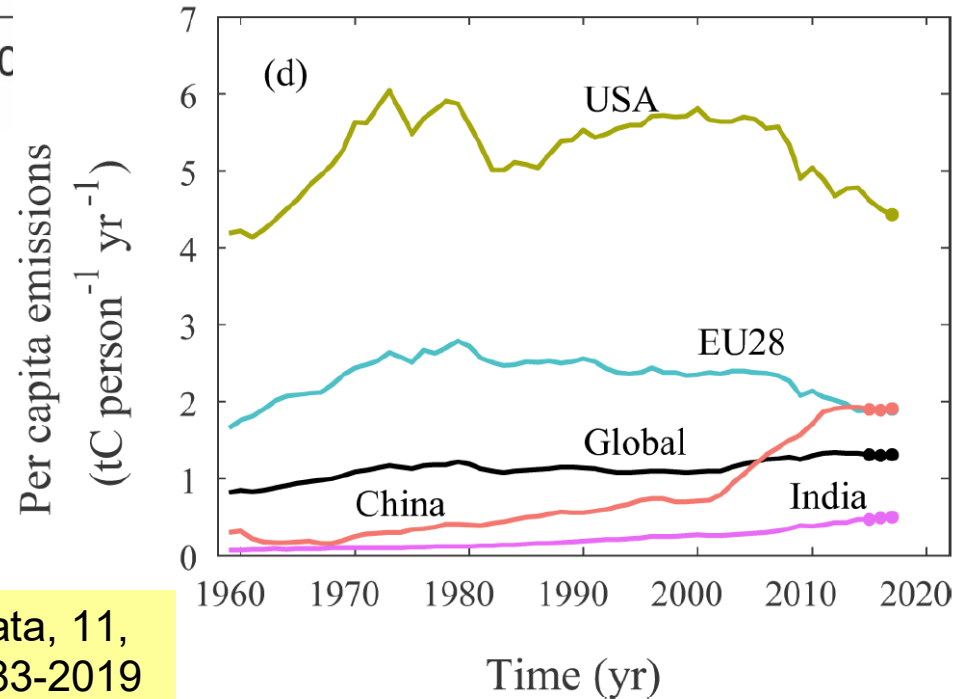


7,3 Gt CO₂

3,7 Gt CO₂

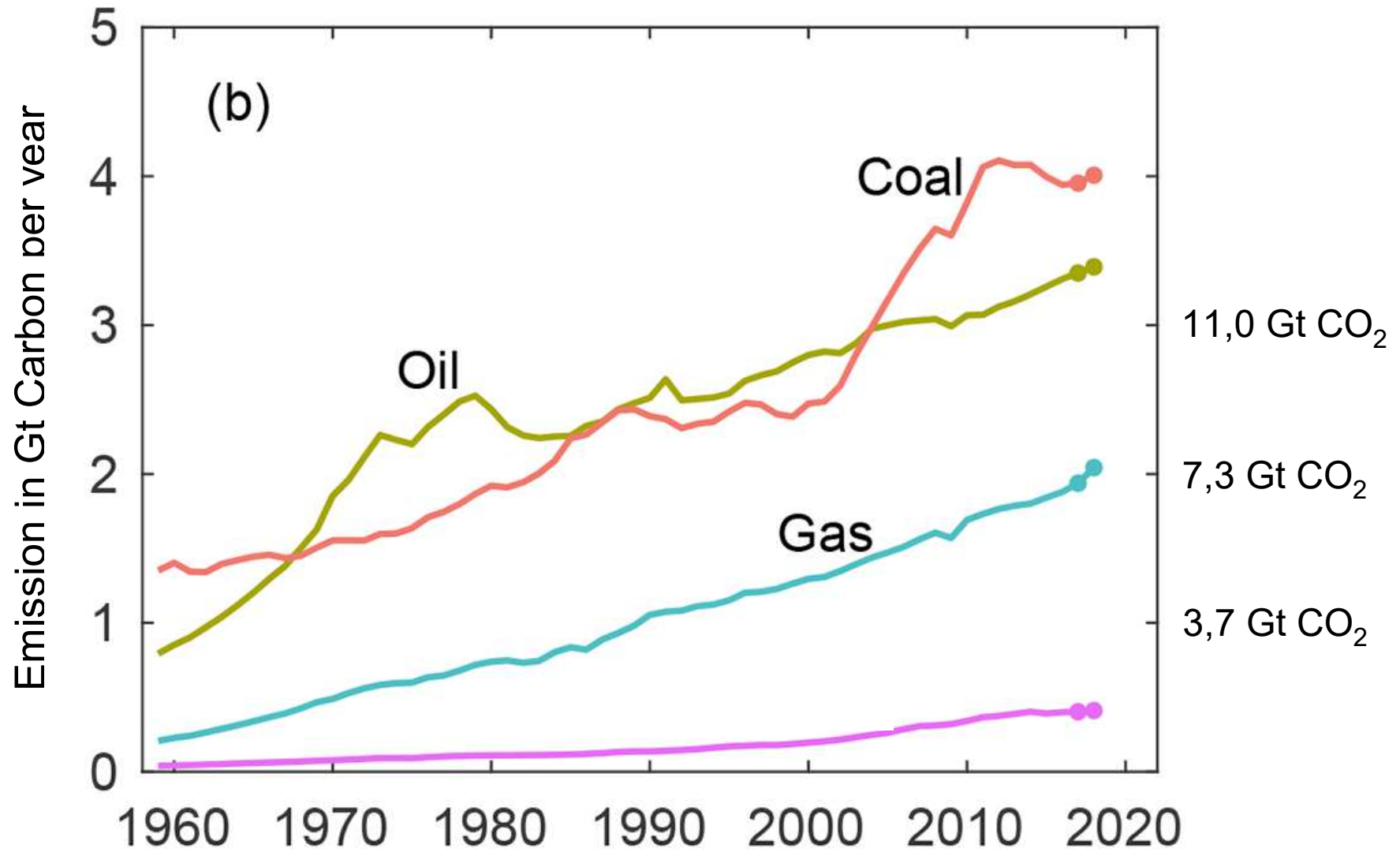
Per capita - Emission

Tons of carbon per inhabitant and year



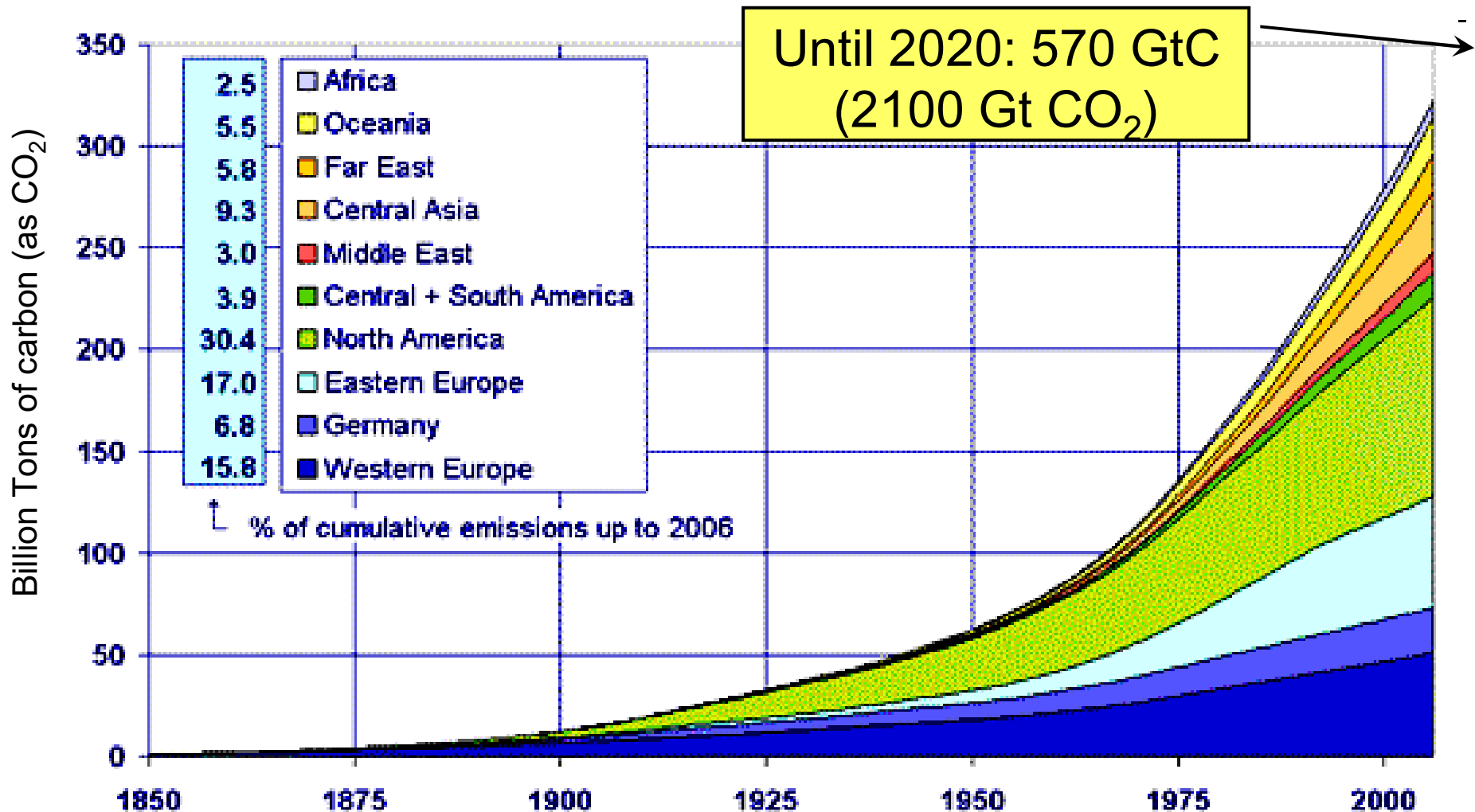
Friedlingstein P., et al. 2019, Earth Syst. Sci. Data, 11, 1783–1838, <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-11-1783-2019>

Sources of Anthropogenic CO₂-Emissions 1958-2018 in GtC



Friedlingstein P., et al. 2019, Earth Syst. Sci. Data, 11, 1783–1838, <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-11-1783-2019>

Cumulative Anthropogenic Emission of (fossil) CO₂ (in GtC) since 1850



Source: Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (CDIAC.com) and values of atmospheric CO₂ concentrations from Mauna Loa, as well as other locations. Excluding carbon emissions from change of land use and deforestation.

Which Salt(s) to Use?

Solubility data and osmotic pressures of a number of salts dissolved in water at 25°C (data from Cath et al. 2006)

| Solute | Solubility (293.2 K) (g/l) | Molecular weight (g/mole) | Molar solubility (mole/l) | Van't Hoff Const. n_i | Osmotic pressure van't Hoff law (bar@5M) | Measured Osmotic pressure (bar@5M) |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| MgCl ₂ | 543 | 95.21 | 5.70 | 3 | 371.7 | 1130 |
| CaCl ₂ | 745 | 110.98 | 6.71 | 3 | 371.7 | 1000 |
| NaCl | 358 | 58.44 | 6.13 | 2 | 247.8 | 310 |
| KCl | 347 | 74.55 | 4.65 | 2 | 247.8 | 220 |

Much higher than van't Hoff
Formula would suggest!

Cath T.Y., Childress A.E., Elimelech M. (2006), Forward osmosis: Principles, applications, and recent developments, J. Membrane Science 281, 70–87.

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Maximum Energy Storage Density of an Osmotic Plant (1)

The maximum energy density (MED) is reached at:

$$\frac{dQ(V)}{dV} = 0 = \frac{d}{dV} \left(\frac{E(V)}{V + V_0} \right) = \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \frac{d}{dV} \left(\frac{\ln \left(\frac{V + V_0}{V_0} \right)}{V + V_0} \right)$$

Equivalent to:

$$0 = \frac{d}{dV} \left(\frac{\ln \left(\frac{V + V_0}{V_0} \right)}{V + V_0} \right) = - \frac{\ln \left(\frac{V + V_0}{V_0} \right) - 1}{(V + V_0)^2}$$

→ (since $V > 0$ and $V_0 > 0$) the volume for maximum energy density, V_{MED} is:

$$\ln \left(\frac{V_0 + V_{MED}}{V_0} \right) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{V_{MED}}{V_0} + 1 = e \Leftrightarrow V_{MED} = V_0 (e - 1) \approx 1.718 \cdot V_0$$

→ The MED is:

$$Q_1 = \frac{E(V_{MED})}{V_{MED} + V_0} = \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \frac{\ln \left(\frac{V_0 + V_{MED}}{V_0} \right)}{V_{MED} + V_0} = \Pi_0 V_0 \cdot \frac{\ln \left(\frac{eV_0}{V_0} \right)}{eV_0} = \frac{\Pi_0}{e}$$

Maximum Energy Storage Density of an Osmotic Plant (2)

Depending on the assumptions there are 3 types of storage density:

0) Precipitation of salt is allowed, thus $c = \text{const.}$ during charge/discharge

1) „fresh water“ is taken/discarded from/to well, river, or ocean

2) „fresh water“ is taken from another storage reservoir,
this needs to have at least a volume of V_{MED}

$$Q_0 = \Pi_0 \left[\text{Pa} = \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}^2} = \frac{\text{Nm}}{\text{m}^3} = \frac{\text{J}}{\text{m}^3} \right]$$

$$Q_1 = \frac{E(V_{\text{MED}})}{V_{\text{MED}} + V_0} = \frac{\Pi_0}{e} \approx 0.37 \cdot \Pi_0 \Rightarrow$$

$$Q_2 = \frac{E(V_{\text{MED}})}{2V_{\text{MED}} + V_0} = \frac{E(V_{\text{MED}})}{2V_0(e-1) + V_0} = \frac{E(V_{\text{MED}})}{2(e-1)V_0} = \frac{\Pi_0 V_0}{2(e-1)V_0} = \frac{\Pi_0}{2e-2}$$

$$Q_2 = \frac{e}{2e-2} \cdot Q_1 \approx 0.79 \cdot Q_1 \approx 0.29 \cdot \Pi_0$$

The (realistic) Energy Storage Density of an Osmotic Plant

Turbine- + generator efficiencies:

$$\eta_T = \eta_G = 0.9$$

Pressure exchanger efficiency $\eta_{PX} = 0.97$

Booster pump efficiency $\eta_P = 0.9$

ϕ : Ratio between flow through the pressure exchanger and membrane flow

$\Psi = \Delta p_J / \Pi_0$: Fraction of membrane pressure drop from total osmotic pressure.

