### The effect of high-resolution modelling on renewable energy optimal portfolios

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## Solar PV and wind energy lead the transition of the global electricity sector.

#### THE PROBLEM



Illustrative example for three Sardinia wind plants. From Zedda (2019)

#### COMPLEMENTARITY

Generation and demand curves do not match!

#### **THE 2020 DISTRIBUTION**



#### HOW A REGION APPEARS TO BEHAVE



#### HOW A POINTS IN A REGION ACTUALLY BEHAVE





Apply portfolio theory from climatic to hourly time scales, using a high-resolution grid and aggregated regions, to:

- 1. Cover a percentage of the hourly demand
- 2. Avoid exceedance and shortage
- 3. Geographically distribute renewable capacity to minimize risk at a given penetration level



#### 100 MW all at only one region and technology



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100 MW split evenly between technologies, one region



100 MW evenly split between regions, one technology



### 100 MW evenly split between all regions and technologies



### 100 MW **selectively** split between all regions and technologies







Global penetration → Mean

Risk → Variance

## The e4clim model







Generation data

#### **Climate data: ERA5**

Climate data

Demand data 2m temperature 10 m wind components Mean sea level pressure Surface pressure Mean surface downward radiation flux

Mean surface downward radiation clear sky

**Electricity data** 

REE CCAA monthly generation CCAA monthly demand National hourly demand CCAA yearly installed capacity

Ministerio Local "daily" installed capacity



#### Generation

#### **Generation to capacity factor**

Simulated: how much of the potential generation the climatic conditions produce.

Observed: how much production is reported compared to the potential generation from the installed capacity CF time series

Demand

time series

#### Calibration

Generation: CF is calibrated nationally to observations to reach realistic values

Change the installed capacities to: Maximize penetration (percentage of demand covered by renewable generation) Minimize supply risks (variance as proxy, predictability of PV is considered)

Constrained to:

Demand time series

Dem Capacities are non-negative data Total capacity can not exceed the 2020 mix Optimization

# So, what are the results?

#### **PARETO FRONT**





#### THE HIGH PENETRATION DISTRIBUTION





#### **PARETO FRONT**



#### THE LOW RISK DISTRIBUTION



#### **PARETO FRONT**



# Analyzing the time series

#### HOURLY PENETRATION SERIES



Example: PV in Andalucia

#### **HOURLY PENETRATION SERIES**



#### THE PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTIONS



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#### THE PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTIONS



#### THE FOURIER SPECTRA

#### For the high penetration scenario



#### THE FOURIER SPECTRA

#### For the high penetration scenario



# The limits of the system

#### THE DIVISION INTO REGIONS

Split the grid into subsequent regions defined by a mesh



#### THE OPTIMIZATION FOR EACH GRID RESOLUTION

And optimize the IC for each grid resolution



#### THE PURSUIT OF THE RESOLUTION-INDEPENDENT PARETO FRONT



Risk from 5% to 70% in 5% intervals

#### THE ASYMPTOTIC PARETO



## The conclusions



The grid allows for a **more accurate** representation of reality.

The grid also returns **more optimal** scenarios.

The role of **covariances** is key to the difference in optimal mixes.

There is an intrinsic system limit to optimal scenarios.



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