

International Conference on Smart Energy Systems and 4th Generation District Heating  
Copenhagen, 25-26 August 2015

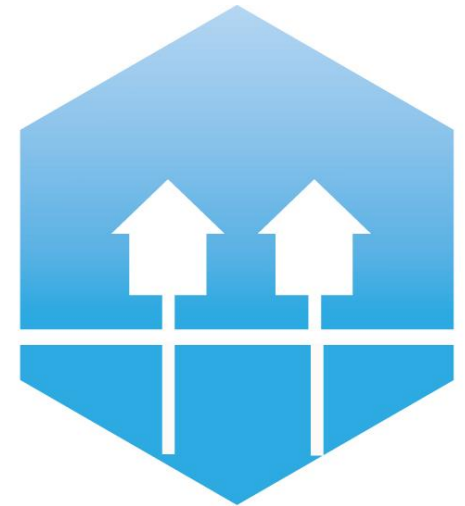
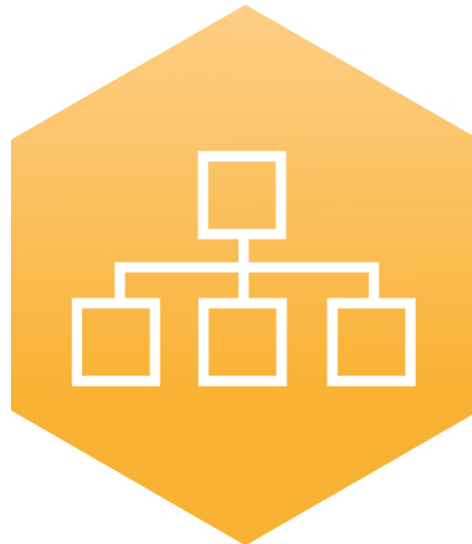
## A methodology for designing flexible multi-generation plants

*C. Lythcke-Jørgensen<sup>\*a</sup>, F. Haglind<sup>a</sup>, A. V. Ensinas<sup>b</sup>, M. Münster<sup>c</sup>*

<sup>a</sup> DTU Mechanical Engineering, Thermal Energy

<sup>b</sup> EPFL, Industrial Process and Energy Systems Engineering lab.

<sup>c</sup> DTU Management Engineering, System Analysis



**AALBORG UNIVERSITY**  
DENMARK

# 4DH

**4th Generation District Heating  
Technologies and Systems**

# Agenda and purpose



- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Design methodology**
- 3. Summary**

**Main point: Synergies from process integration ought to be considered in energy system models!**



# 1. Introduction

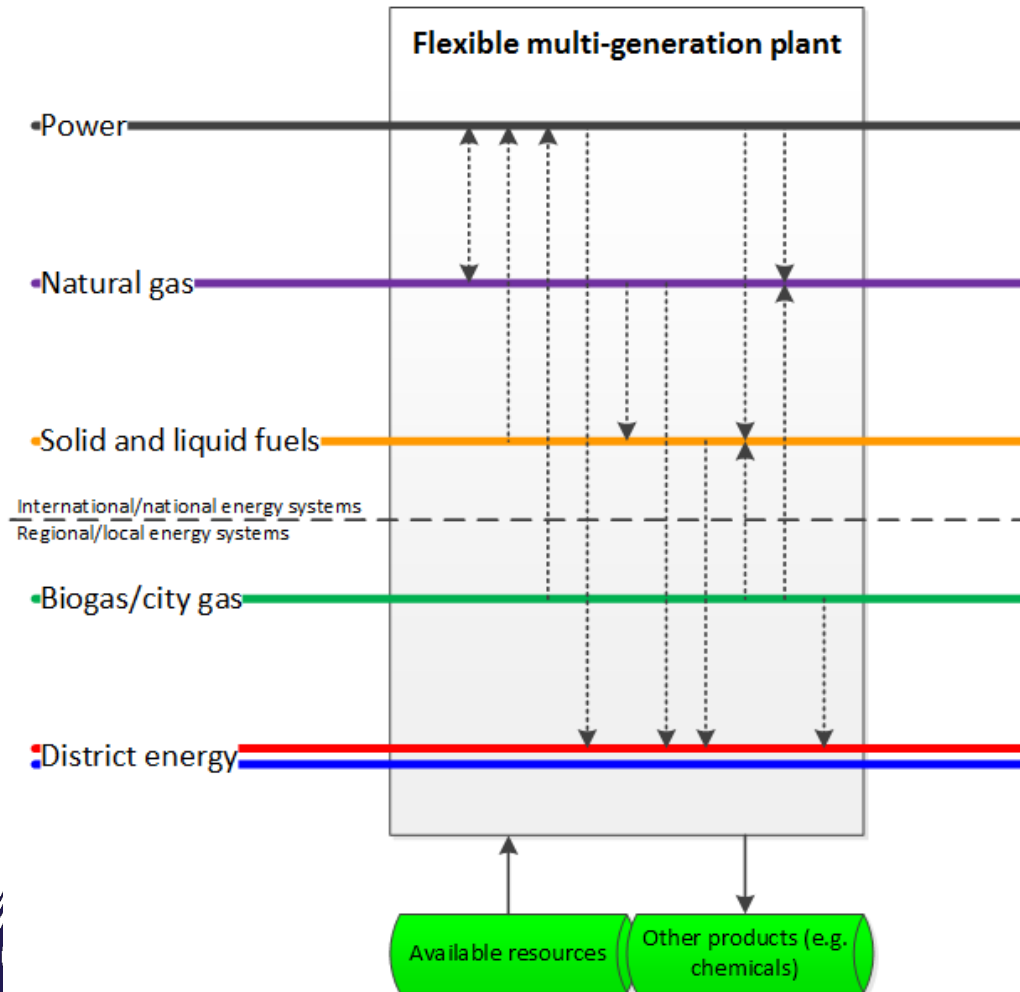


## What are flexible multi-generation plants?

**Definition:** *'A flexible multi-generation plant (FMG) is an integrated, flexibly operated facility that provides multiple links between layers of the energy system'*



# 1. Introduction

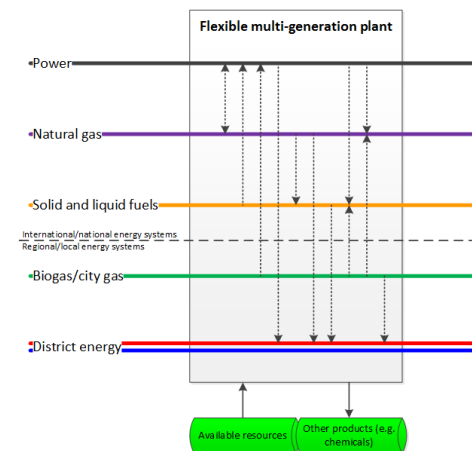


# 1. Introduction

## Why should we be interested in FMGs?

Hypothesis: If carefully designed, FMGs may

- achieve high aggregated energy conversion efficiencies through process integration and connection to district energy systems (*synergies*)
- balance production from intermittent renewable energy resources in a cost-efficient way (*energy system valves*)



## 2. Design methodology



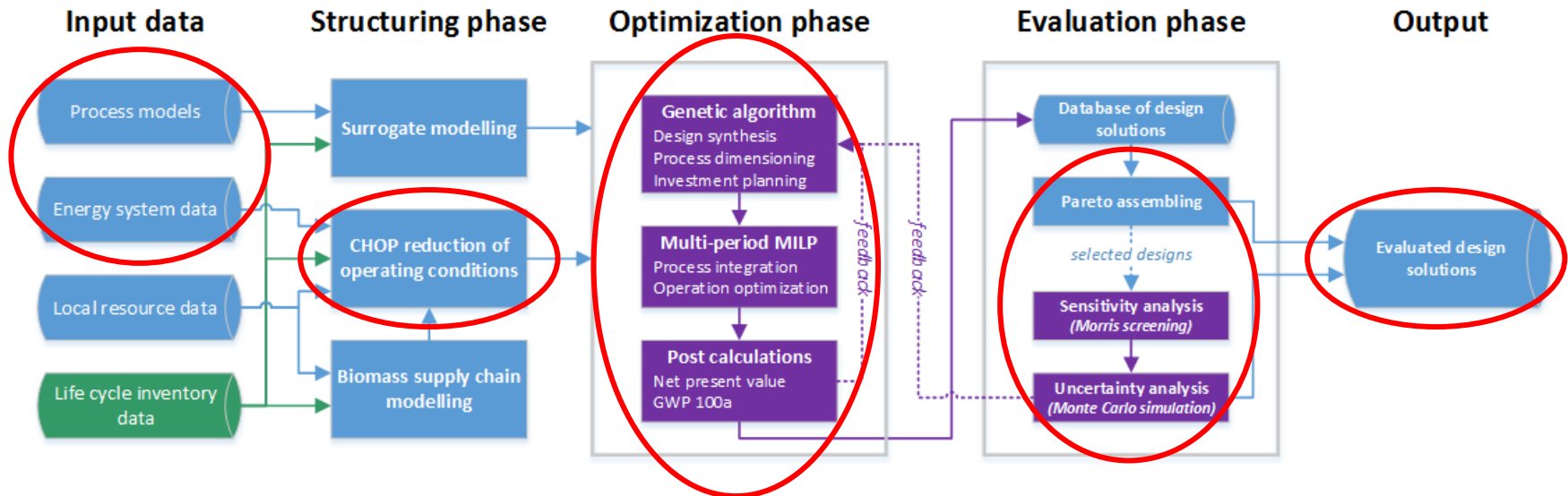
### What must be considered when designing FMGs?

- Synthesis of processes from many technological alternatives
- Design with respect to process dimensioning and integration
- Operation optimization with respect to hourly demand and price fluctuations and long-term energy system development
- Local resource availability
- Investment planning
- ...



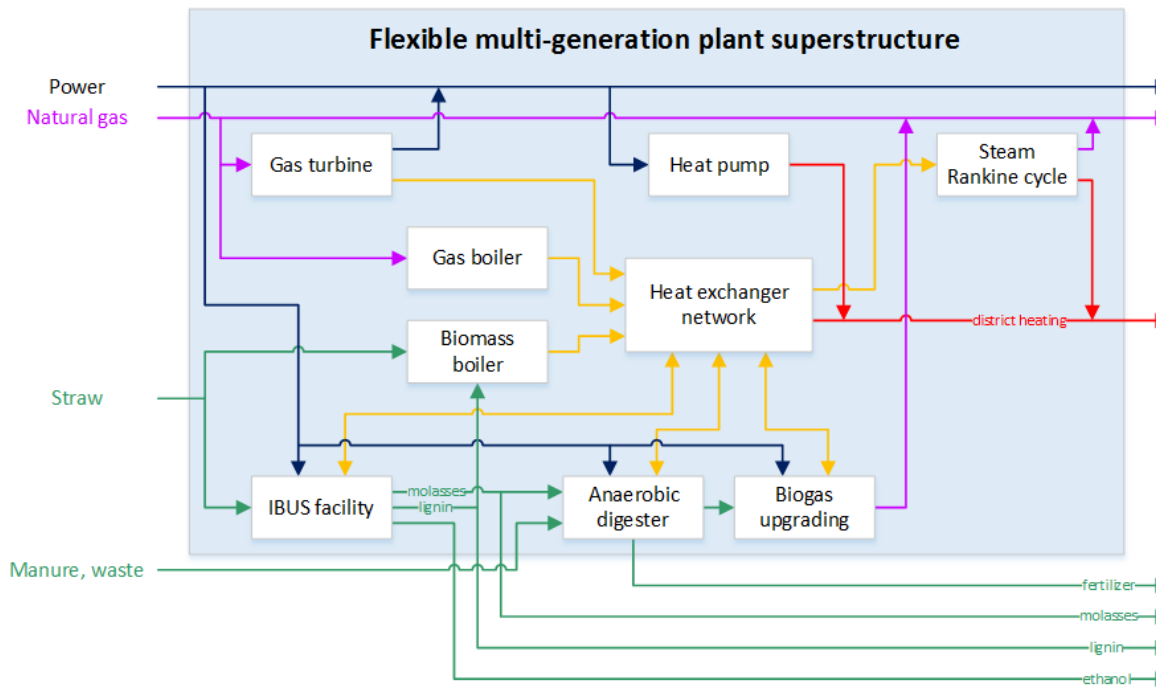
# 2. Design methodology

## Methodology overview



# 2. Design methodology

## Case study – input data



- Process models
- Energy system data
- Local resource data
- Life cycle inventory data



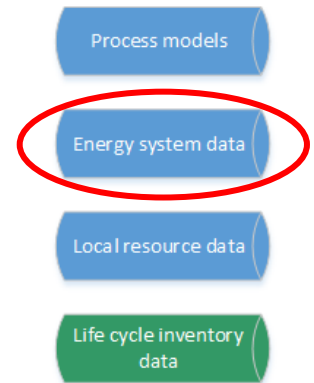
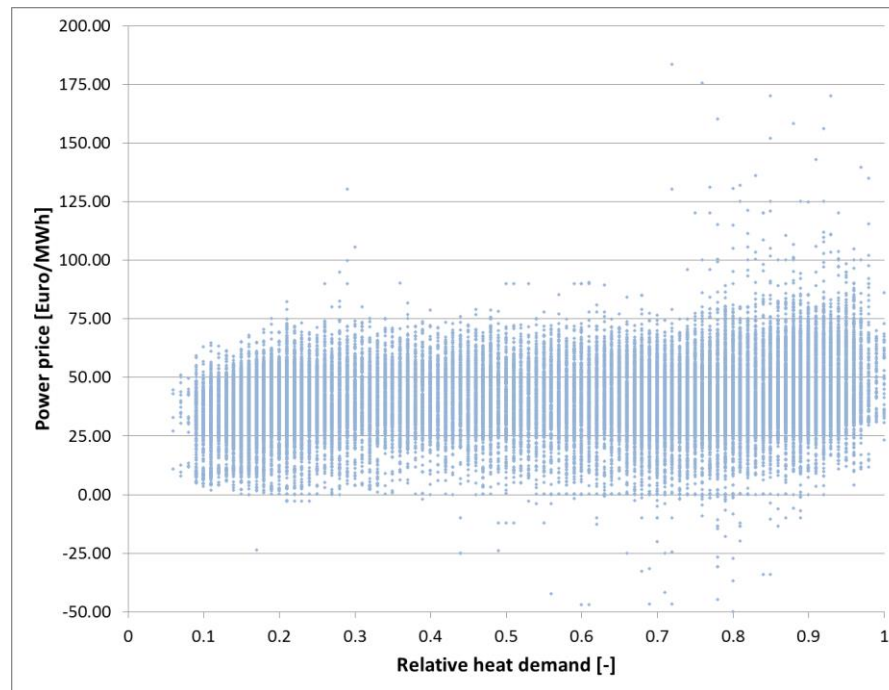


# 2. Design methodology



## Case study – input data

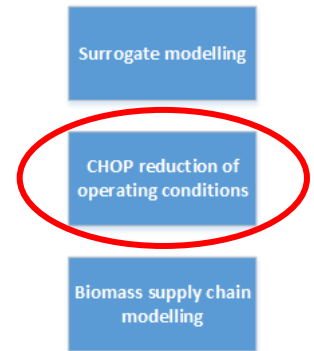
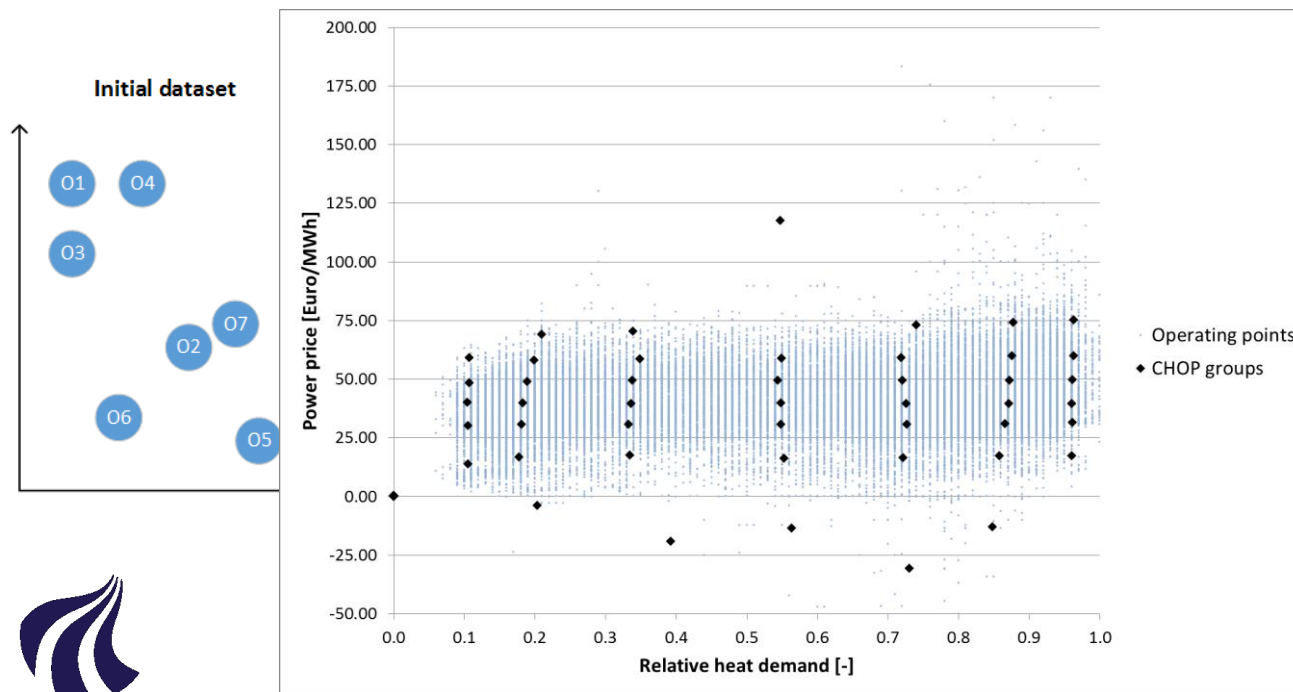
Scatter plot from [Lythcke-Jørgensen et al. 2015]



# 2. Design methodology

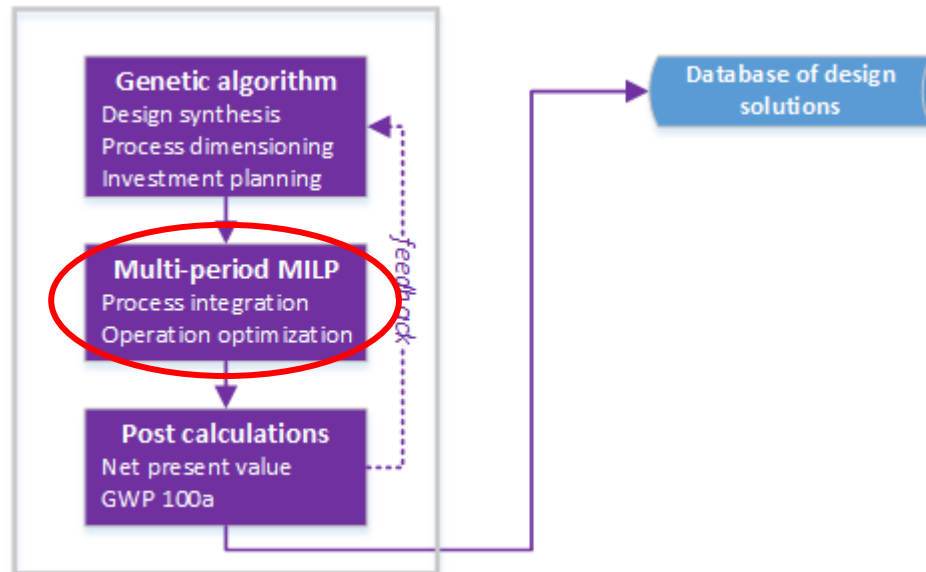
## Case study – structuring phase

Figures from [Lythcke-Jørgensen et al. 2015]



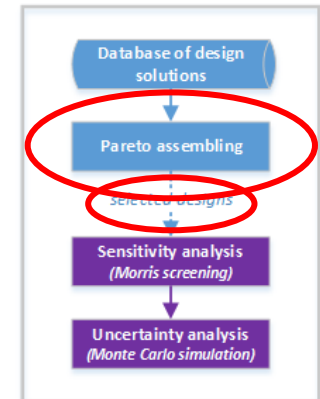
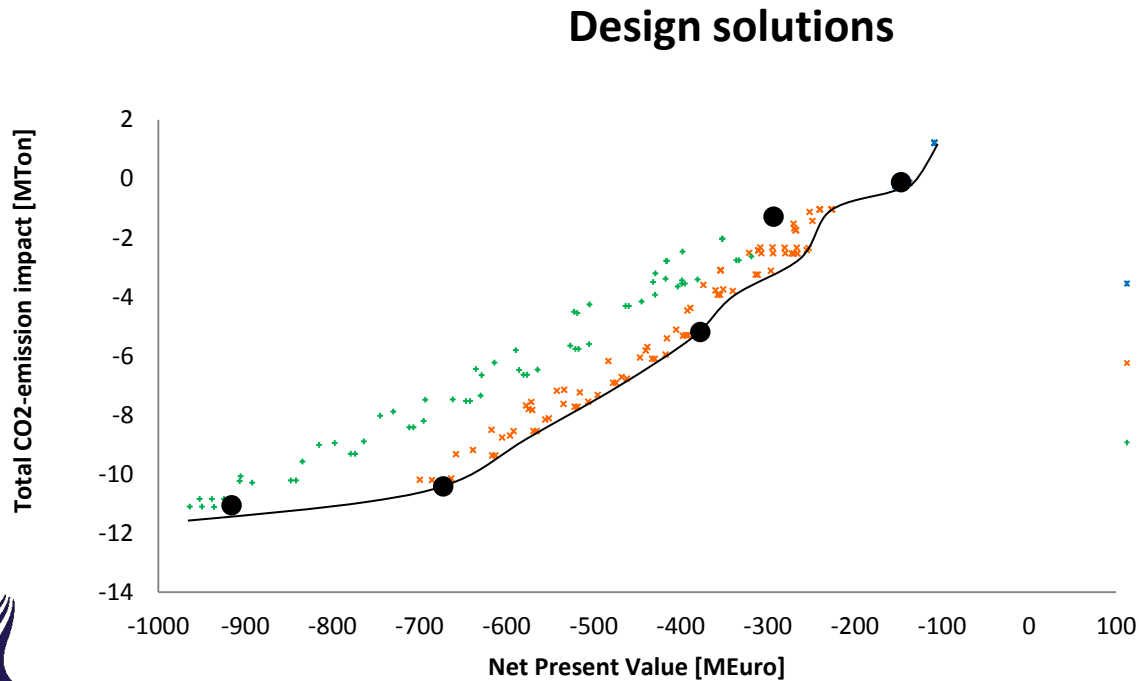
# 2. Design methodology

## Case study – optimization phase



# 2. Design methodology

## Case study – evaluation phase

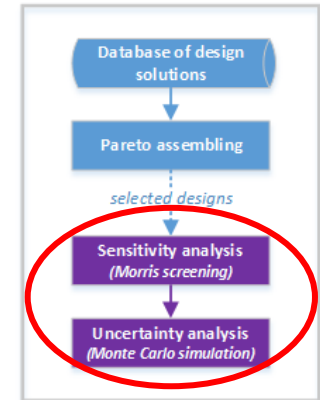
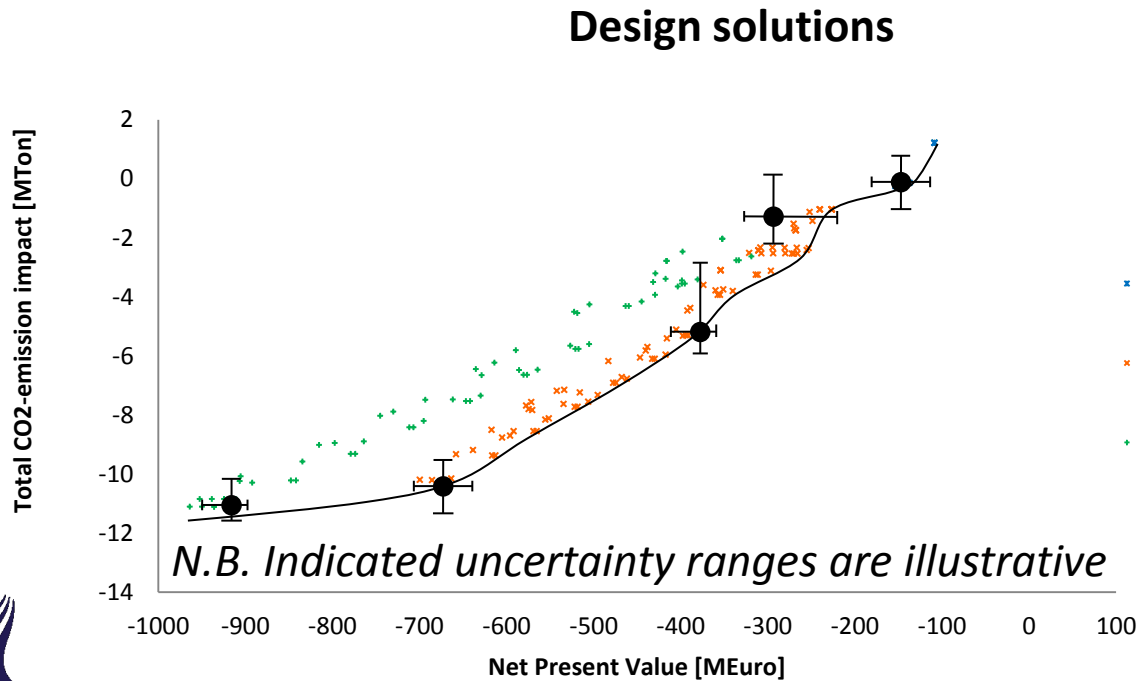


- CHP
- CHP and ethanol
- CHP, ethanol and biomethane



# 2. Design methodology

## Case study – evaluation phase



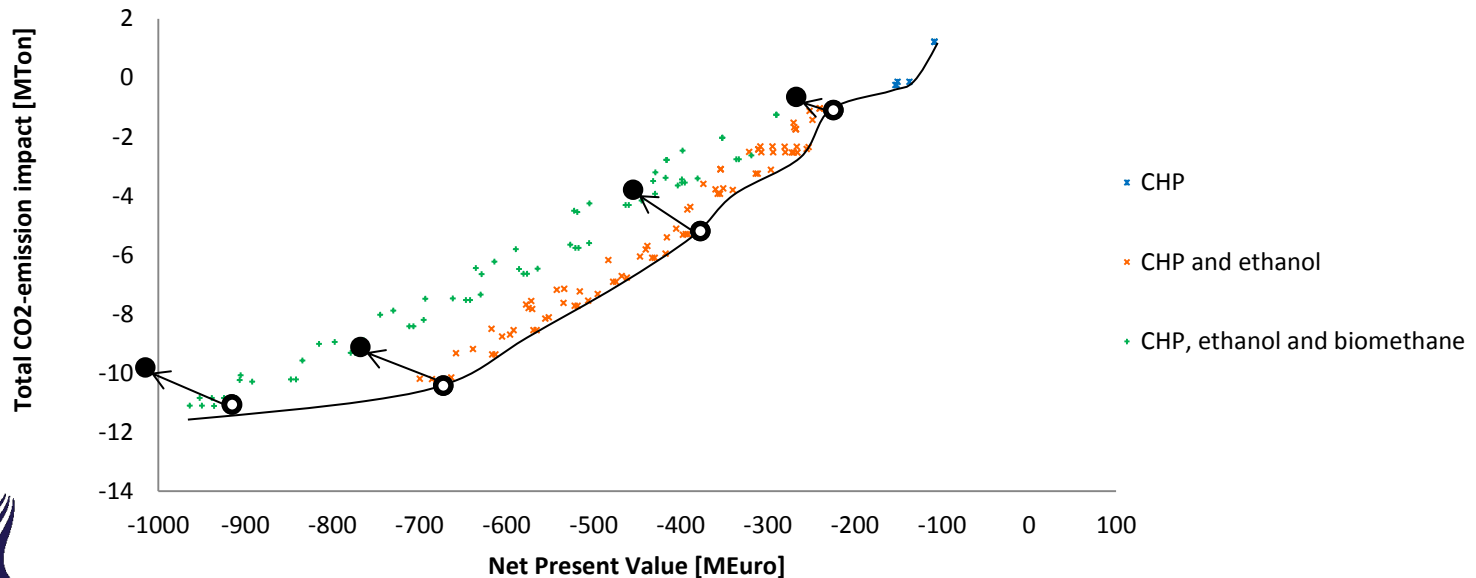
- CHP
- CHP and ethanol
- CHP, ethanol and biomethane



# 2. Design methodology

## So, why should we care on the energy system level?

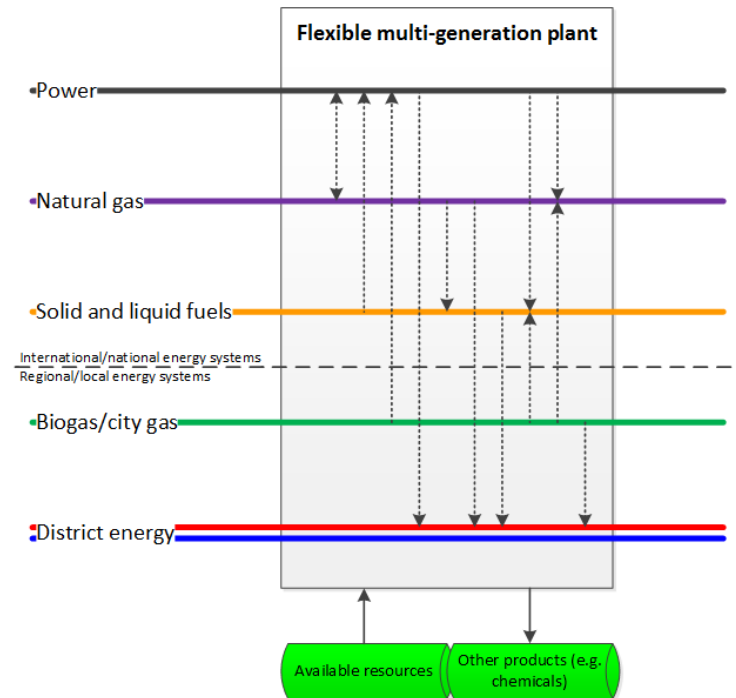
Design solutions



# 3. Summary and perspective

**Main point: Synergies from process integration ought to be considered in energy system models!**

- FMGs may provide efficient links between the layers of the energy systems (*energy system valves*)
- Future work: Various FMG case studies using long term energy system data to assess energy system impact



# Thank you for your attention



## Questions & comments?

**Christoffer Lythcke-Jørgensen**

M.Sc., Ph.D. stud.  
DTU Mechanical Engineering  
Thermal Energy

(+45) 30427200  
[celjo@mek.dtu.dk](mailto:celjo@mek.dtu.dk)  
[www.tes.mek.dtu.dk](http://www.tes.mek.dtu.dk)



## References

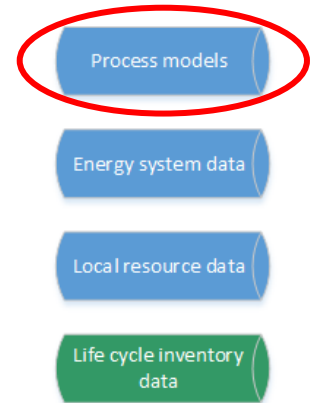
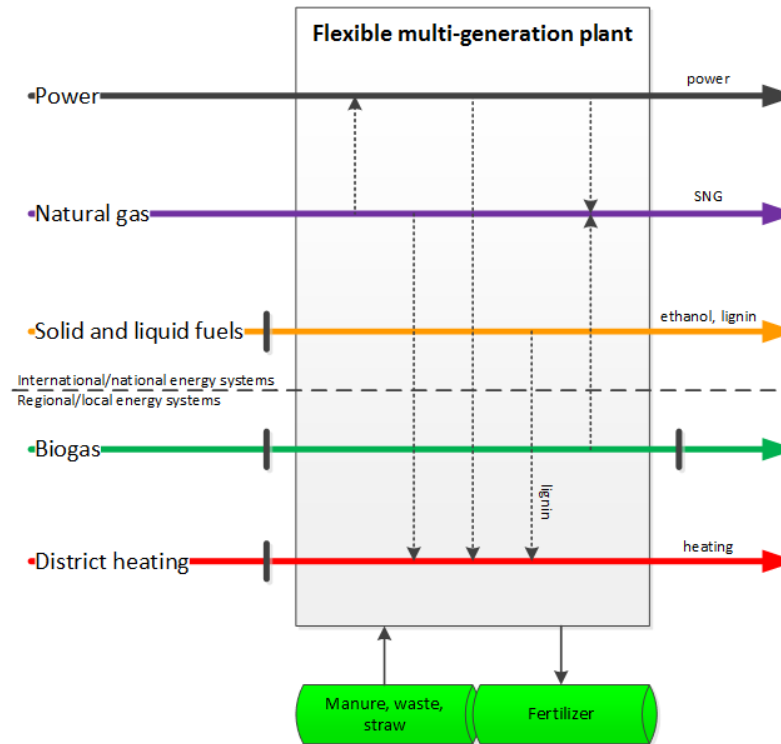
[Lythcke-Jørgensen 2015]: C. Lythcke-Jørgensen, M. Münster, A. V. Ensinas, F. Haglind, “A method for aggregating external operating conditions in multi-generation plant optimization models”, *Applied Energy* (under review).





# 2. Design methodology

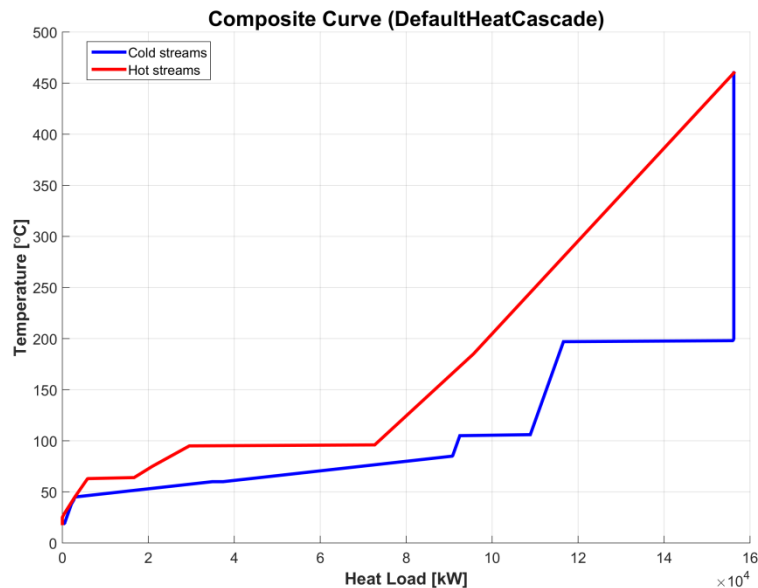
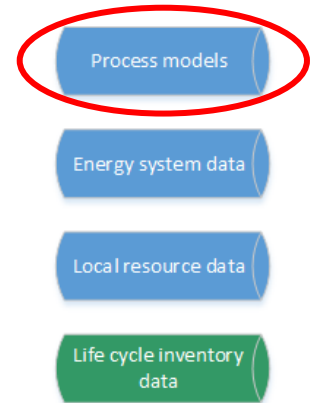
## Case study – input data



# 2. Design methodology



## Case study – input data



# 2. Design methodology

## Case study – optimization phase

