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# Co-simulation tool for hybrid energy system optimisation

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# *Background*

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), estimates the human induced global warming between 0.8°C and 1.2°C

Allen, M.R., O.P. Dube, W. Solecki, F. Aragón-Durand, W. Cramer, S. Humphreys, M. Kainuma, J. Kala, N. Mahowald, Y. Mulugetta, R. Perez, M. Wairiu, and K. Z. (2018)

## *Some consequences...*

- 2/3 of the population could be affected by weather related disaster.
- Up to 16% of the Mediterranean climate region may become arid.
- Annual damage due to flooding could rise from €5billion/year to €112billion/year.

(European Commission, 2018a).



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# *Actions*



November 28th 2018 the European Commission presented a long term strategic vision for a competitive carbon neutral economy by 2050 (“2050 long-term strategy”).



Committed to a net zero target by 2050 as recommended by The Committee on Climate Change (CCC) in his report “Net Zero - The UK's contribution to stopping global warming”

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# Actions

Impact of the building sector:

- 40% energy demand EU.
- 32% energy demand world.
- 26% (considering direct and indirect) GHG emissions in the UK.

(Sajn 2016; Mauro *et al.*, 2015; Committee on Climate Change, 2019a)

Due to the low replacement rate refurbishing existing buildings is a necessary path for the reduction of GHG and the Committee on Climate Change indicates the main interventions:

- Efficiency improvement (in terms of reduced energy demand).
- Low-carbon heating systems.

One of the options to reach the net-zero target is:

- **FULL ELECTRIFICATION OF THE HEATING COMPARTMENT**

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# *Case study*



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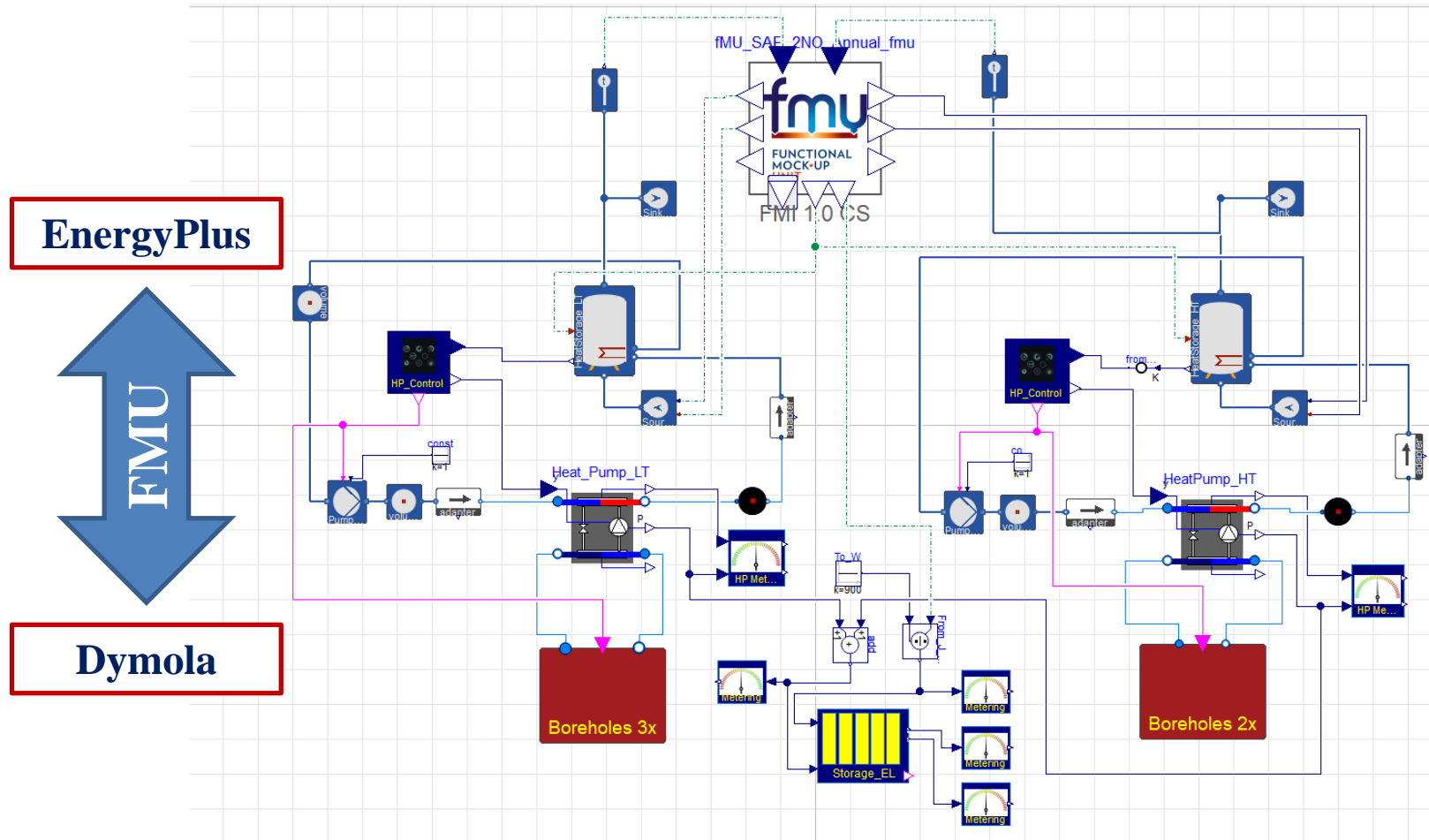
# *Case study*

Decentralized, full electric, heating system will serve 39 homes in total



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# Co-Simulation Model



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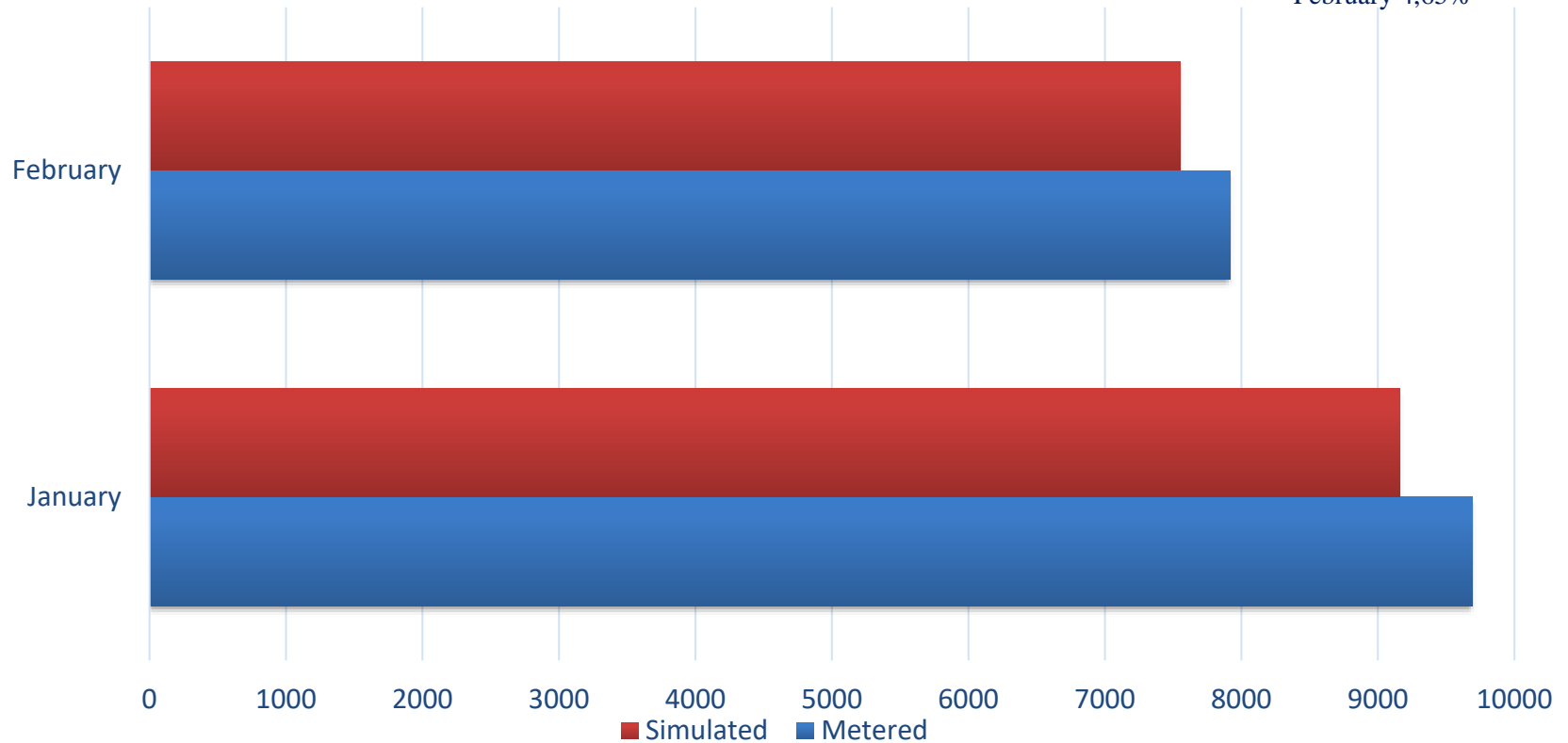
# *Validation*

## Heat consumption [kWh]

% Diff

January 5,37%

February 4,65%



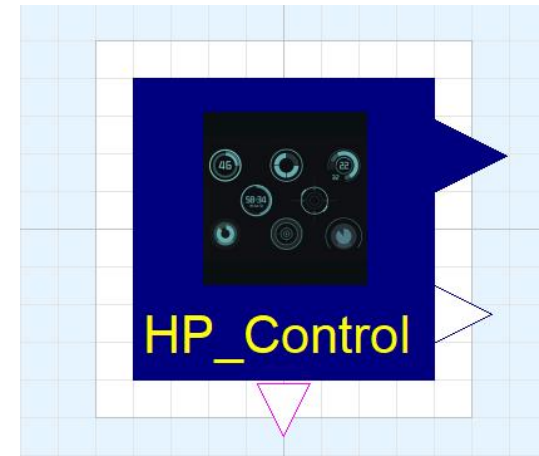
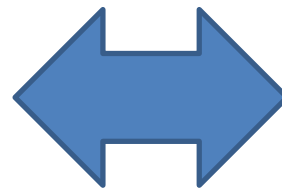
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# Control

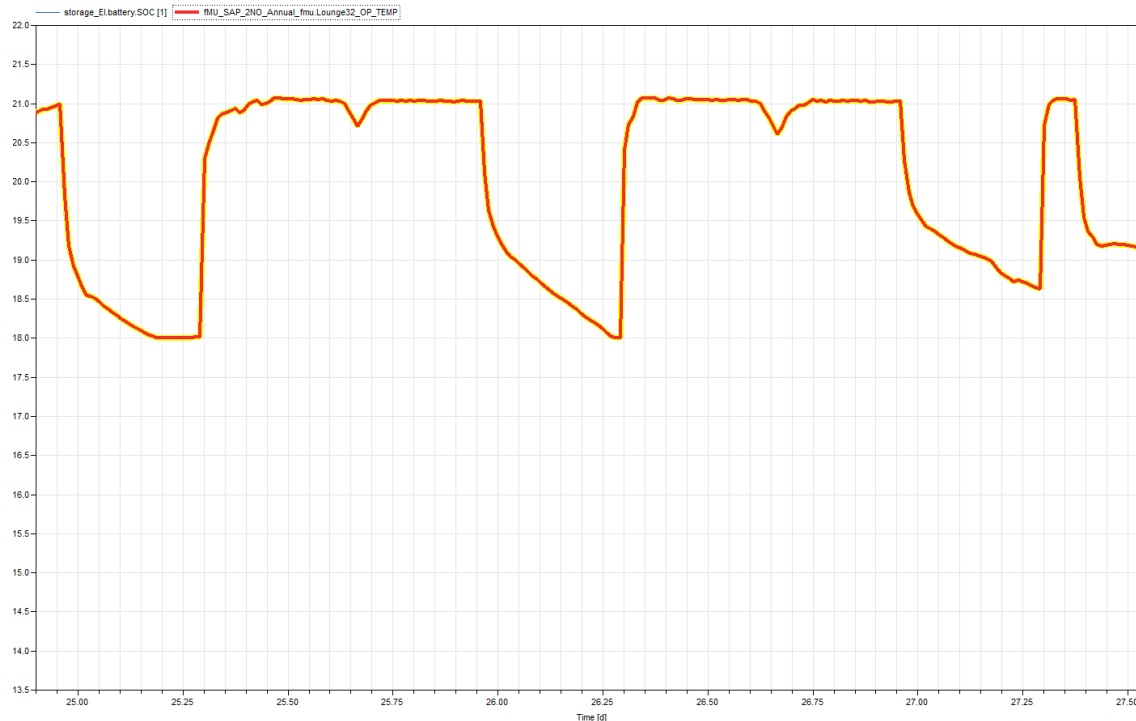
## Avoid the high electricity price in the afternoon

- Use all the photovoltaic production in the heat pumps
- Store the eventual surplus in the battery
- Switch off the heat pumps in the hours in which the electricity is more expensive storing the PV production in those hours
- Use the stored energy to run the heat pumps after 4pm



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# Control



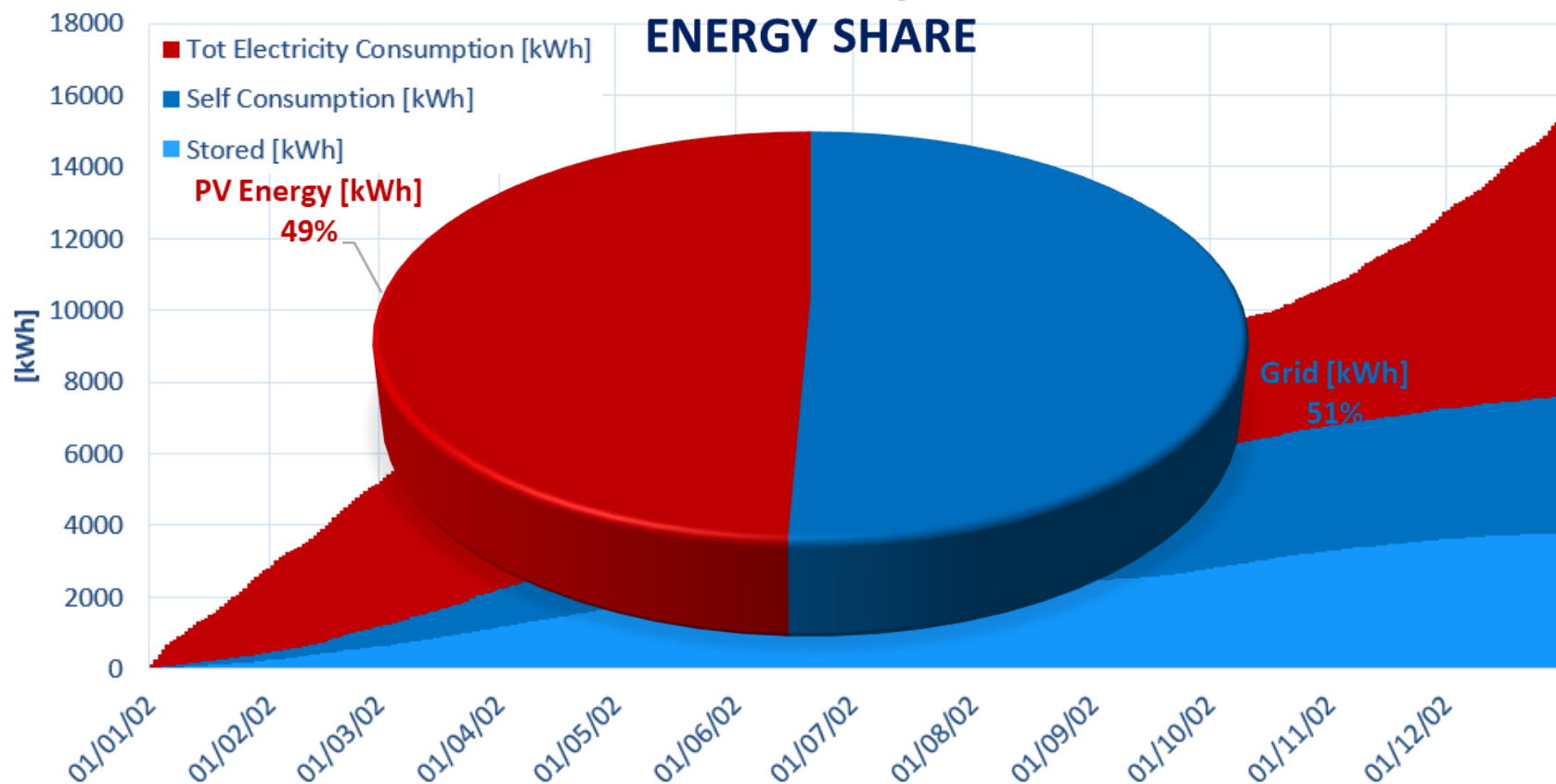
Thanks to the thermal storage and to the thermal inertia of the buildings even with the HP off the room temperature stays basically constant with a fluctuation of  $\sim 0.4^{\circ}\text{C}$

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# Results

## Electricity

### ENERGY SHARE



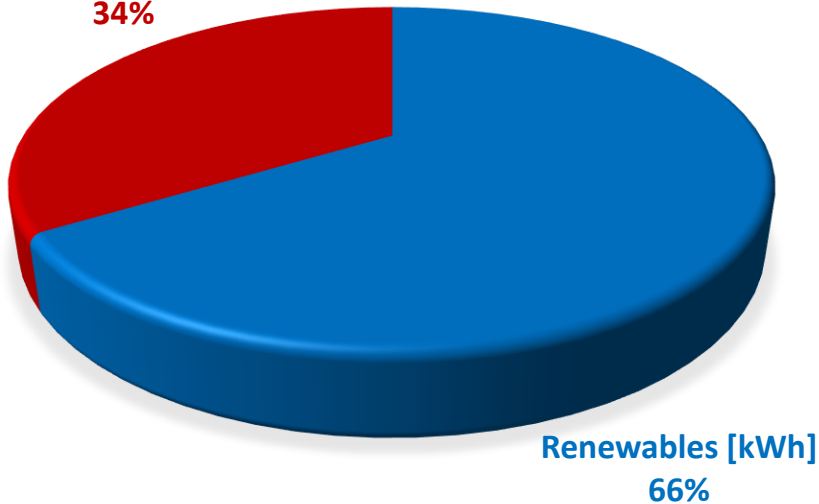
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# Results

## RENEWABLES SHARE

Non Renewables [kWh]

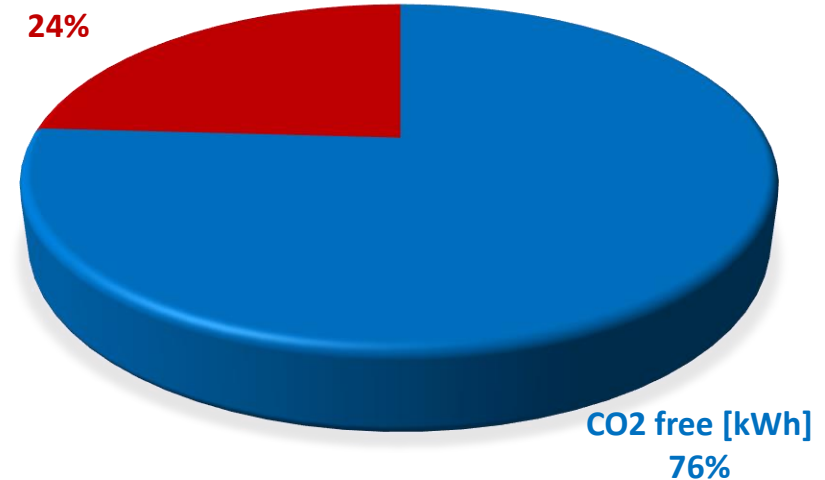
34%



## CO<sub>2</sub> FREE ENERGY

Non CO2 free

24%



## Energy Mix UK 2018 (Source:DUKES 2019)

Gas	39.5%	Coal	5.1%
Renewables	33.0%	Other fuels	2.9%
Nuclear	19.5%		



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# *Conclusions*

- The co-simulation of this energy cluster gives the opportunity to study the system in a very precise and accurate way
- Dymola in particular allows us to simulate all the dynamics of the energy centre with a detailed view of the energy flows through all the branches of the system.
- Dymola offers also the opportunity to create and manage the control strategies of the entire system, this is vital from the point of view of optimization
- The simulation shows that the PV system is capable to provide almost 50% of the electricity needed by the heating system, furthermore taking into account the UK's energy mix the share of renewable energy goes up to 66% and 76% of the electricity is carbon-free.

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## *Future steps*

- Optimization of the control strategy to find the optimum in between energy efficiency and cost of electricity.
- Investigation of a seasonal heat storage in the boreholes, using the excess of PV production during the summer.
- Optimization of the battery size, looking at the balance between storage cost and energy savings.

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*Thank you for your  
attention, any question?*

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