

5th International Conference on Smart Energy Systems
Copenhagen, 10-11 September 2019
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A METHOD FOR MODELLING GENERATION COSTS IN A SYSTEM WITH RENEWABLES AND LARGE SCALE GRID STORAGE FOR USE IN ENERGY SYSTEM MODELS

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BACKGROUND

Balancing is essential for security of the grid, dispatchable thermal power plants – provide flexibility but must be phased out.

Net zero emission target increases dependency on renewables and nuclear. Fossil fuels with CCS cannot be used on a large scale.

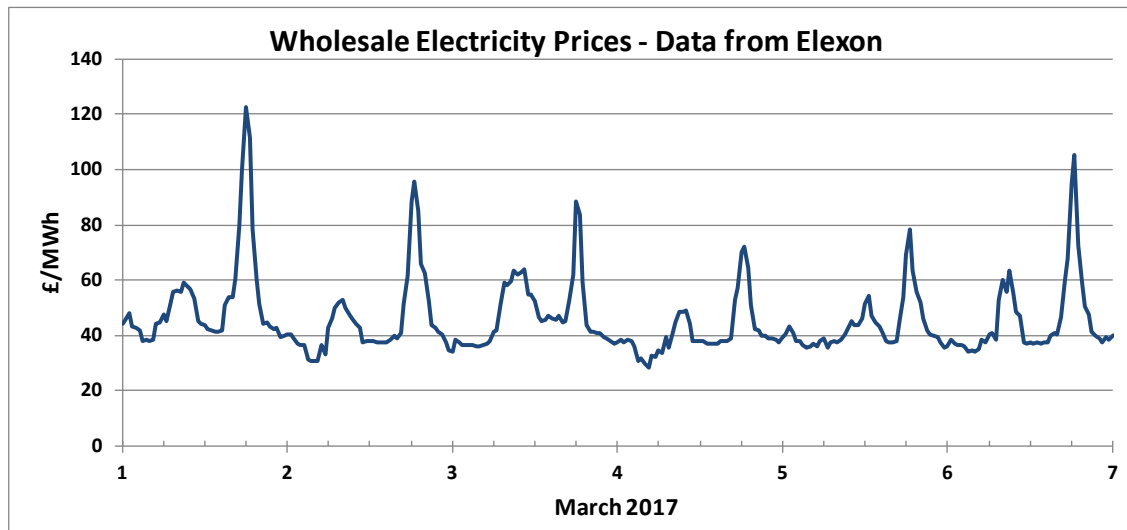
Battery storage (li-ion) is a leading proposition to providing flexibility and grid balancing.

An increase in variable renewable power generation will potentially lead to greater volatility in electricity prices.

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- Electricity prices patterns for large half-hourly consumers have generally been predictable following daily variances between peak and off-peak times (below)
- To aid planning of future electricity based investments and operation such as heat pumps, it is necessary to understand the future price patterns of electricity.
- This may present synergies between certain demand vectors such as heating and heat storage that can efficiently utilise low electricity prices
- The cost of batteries must also be factored into the cost of electricity if decisions are to be made on investment in other forms of energy storage.



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METHOD

- A simplified representation of the electricity network is constructed
- Hourly historic demand data is scaled for future demand scenarios
- Hourly renewable data is extrapolated for future energy scenarios from corresponding historic timeseries data from Renewables Ninja [1,2]
- Power generation is disaggregated via generator type rather than each generator i.e. Offshore Wind Power as a total rather than each individual Wind Farm
- Storage and Dispatchable generation are assumed to be the main grid balancing methods available
- No constraints modelled - such as transmission and power constraints
- Only electricity (battery) storage modelled
- Merit order of carbon intensity - Dispatchable (thermal) generation only used if renewable generation + storage reserves are insufficient to meet demand

[1] Pfenninger, Stefan and Staffell, Iain (2016). Long-term patterns of European PV output using 30 years of validated hourly reanalysis and satellite data. Energy 114, pp. 1251-1265. doi: 10.1016/j.energy.2016.08.060

[2] Staffell, Iain and Pfenninger, Stefan (2016). Using Bias-Corrected Reanalysis to Simulate Current and Future Wind Power Output. Energy 114, pp. 1224-1239. doi: 10.1016/j.energy.2016.08.068

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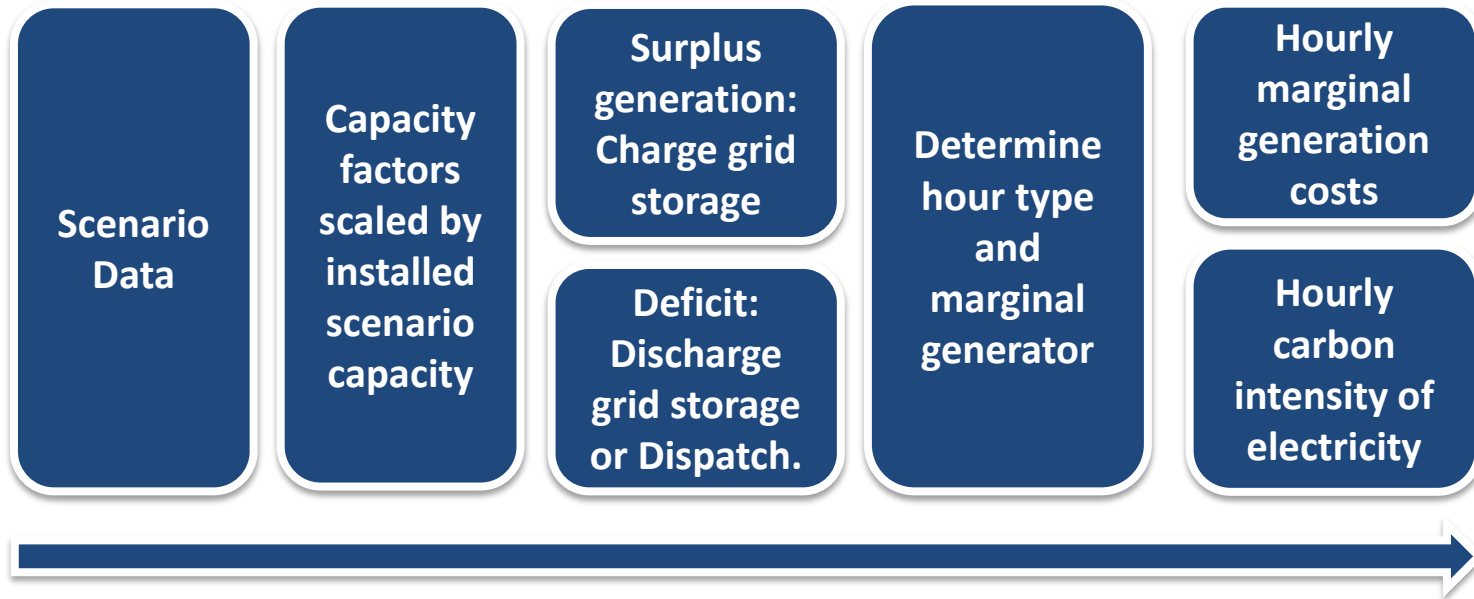


Four Hour Types:

1. **Surplus Generation** – Hours where supply exceeds demand and storage capacity
 2. **Charge Hours** – Hours where storage is charged with surplus generation
 3. **Discharge Hours** – Hours where storage is discharged
 4. **Dispatch Hours** – Hours where backup dispatchable generation is required
- Charge and Discharge hours subdivided into part and full-cycles
 - Dispatch hours subdivided into off-peak and peak ($\approx 3\%$ highest dispatch) hours
 - Different algebraic expression to calculate marginal costs of each hour type
 - Mixed hour types weighted accordingly

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Surplus Hours Cost =

f

- **Variable costs** of Marginal Renewable Generator
- **Cost of Constraining Marginal Renewable Generator**

Charge Hours Cost =

f

- Fixed costs of storage
- Variable costs of storage
- Fixed costs of Marginal Renewable Generator
- Variable costs of Marginal Renewable Generator
- **Charge amount**
- Storage Capacity
- **Capacity factor** of Marginal Renewable Generator

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Discharge Hours Price =

f

- **Cost of charging storage capacity**
- Discharge amount
- Storage efficiency

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Off-peak Dispatch Hours Price =

- f {
- Variable operating costs of Dispatchable Generator
- }

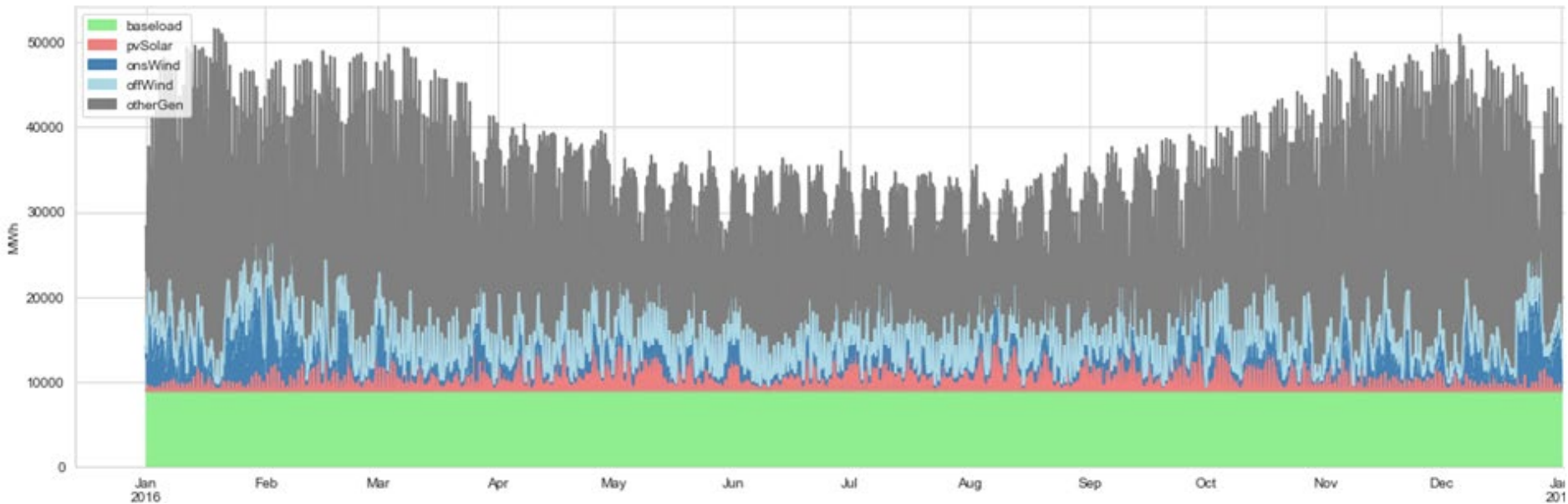
Peak Dispatch Hours Price =

- f {
- Variable operating costs of Dispatchable Generator
 - **Fixed operating costs** of Dispatchable Generator
 - Capacity of Dispatchable Generation
 - Outage Rate
 - Hourly Dispatchable Generation
- }

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COMPARISON TO 2016 DATA

	Dispatchable TWh	All Renewables TWh	Daily wholesale costs £		
			min	mean	max
2016 Actual Data	140.84	47.78	22.11	41.12	166.63
2016 Simulated	148.15	51.36	22.25	58.30	160.08



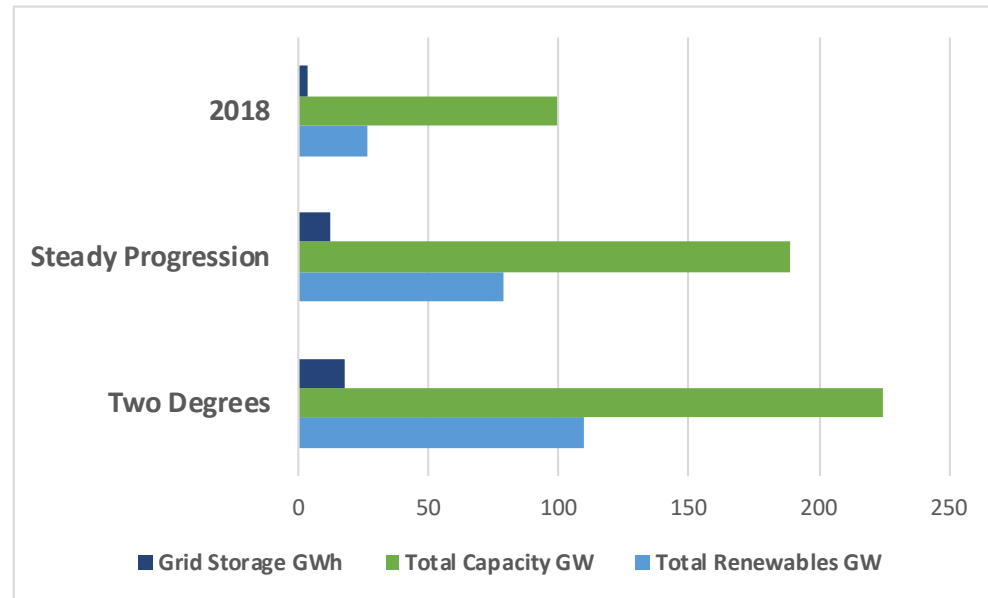
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Future Energy Scenarios

- Annually updated report on projections for UK
- Four scenarios accounting for prosperity and ambition
- “Steady Progression” + 30% Demand
“Two Degrees” + 25% Demand
(relative to 2018)

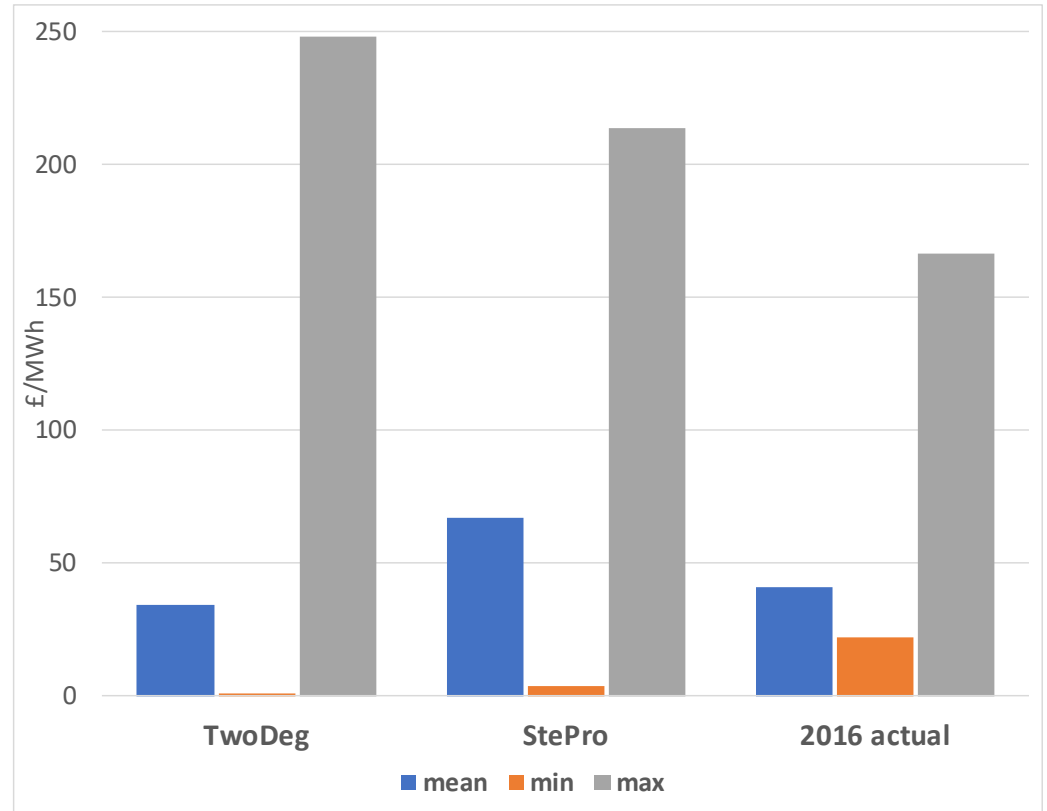


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- Higher renewables scenario had lower mean costs – even less than current
- And lower minimum cost
- But higher maximum costs – fewer dispatch hours
- Owing to increased cost volatility



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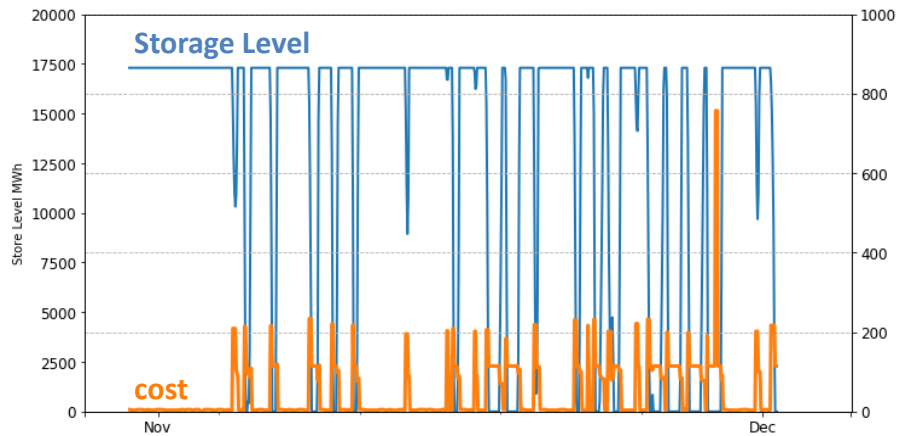
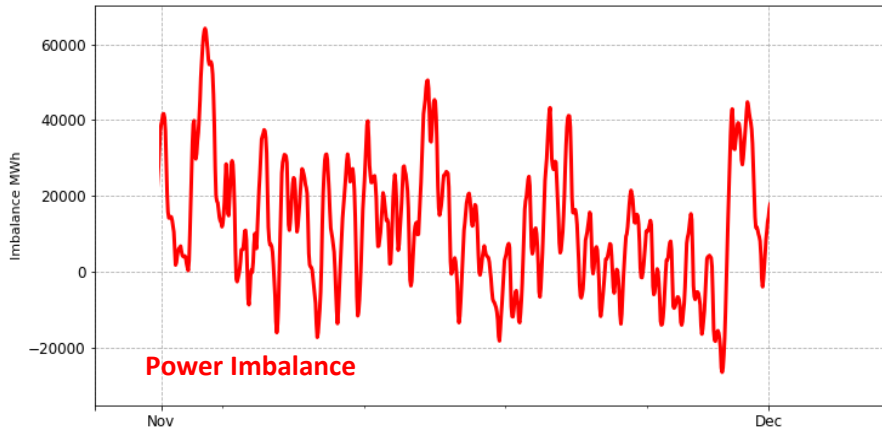
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TwoDegree Scenario:

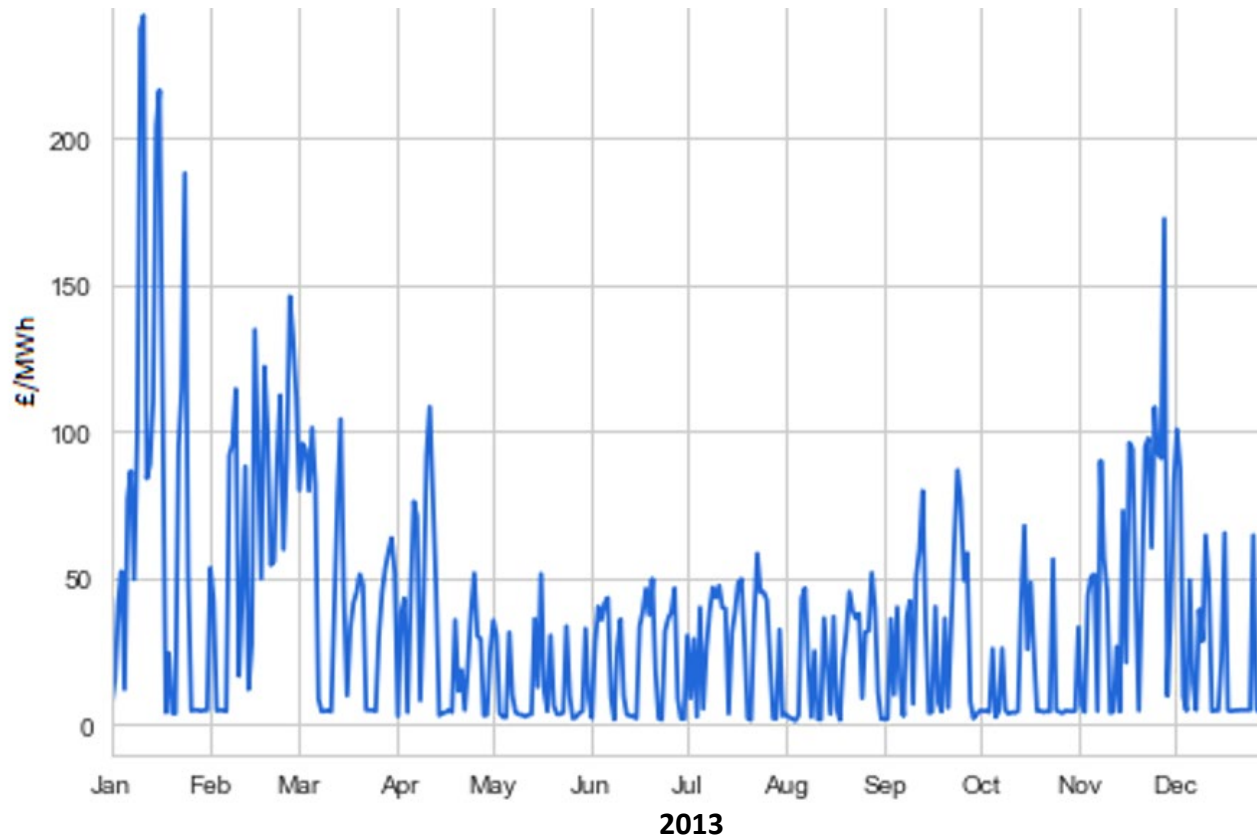
- Store Capacity - 17.5 GWh
- Renewable Capacity – 109 GW
- Demand +25% (rel. to 2017)
- High cycling of storage between charge and discharge cycles
- Dispatchable generation frequently required due to depleted storage
- Very low costs for surplus hours due to low operating costs of renewable generators
- Higher cost for discharge than off-peak dispatchable (assuming CCGT))

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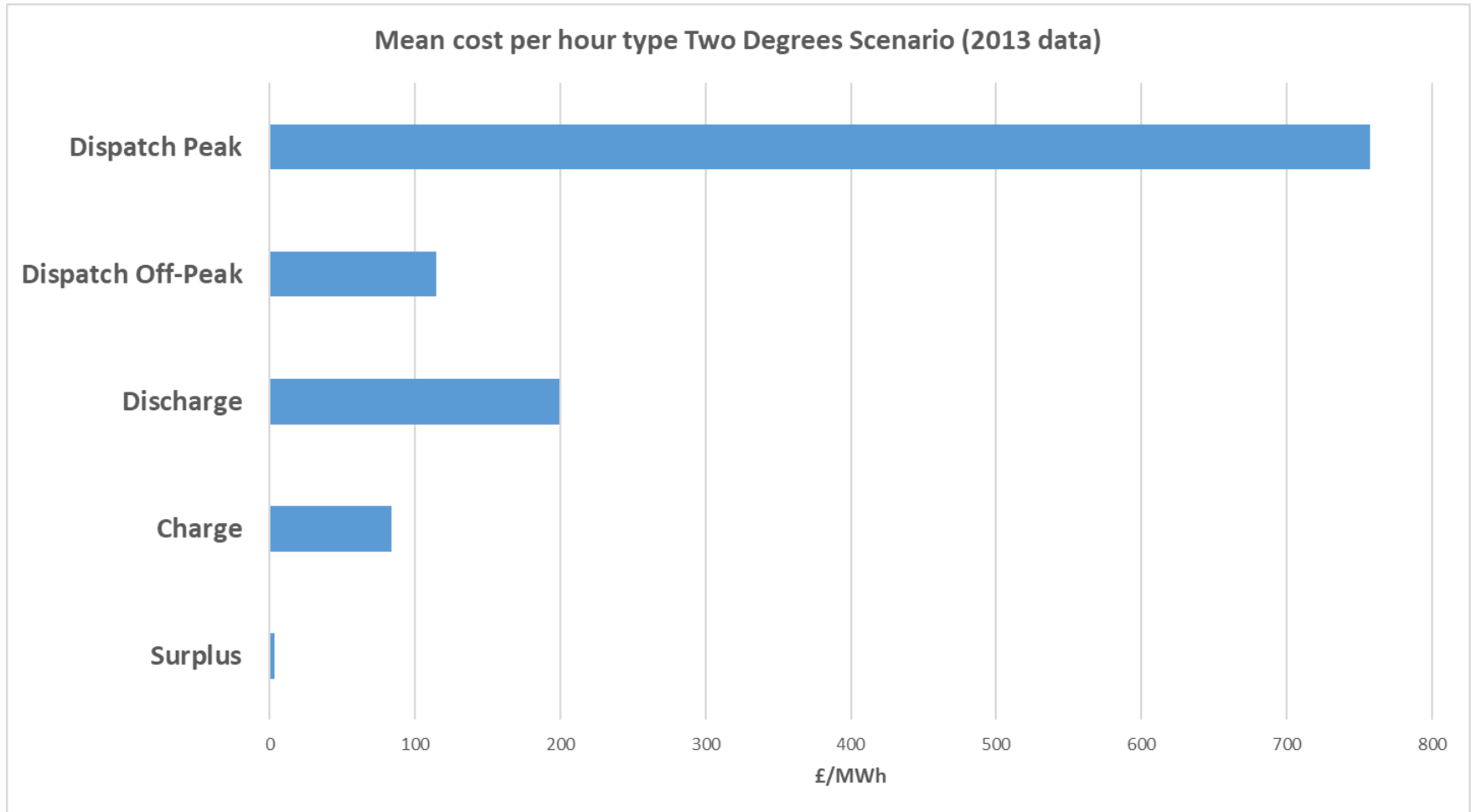
MODELLED DAILY MARGINAL GENERATION COSTS FOR TWO DEGREES SCENARIO



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Conclusions

- While renewable generators have very low marginal costs, the higher marginal costs of including electricity storage to integrate renewables must be considered
- Battery storage projections add a significant cost to power generation
- Dispatchable/thermal generators are still cheaper than li-ion storage, even considering carbon costs
- High renewable capacity leads to increase cost volatility
- Depending on dominant renewable generator, high degree of seasonality in mean generation costs.

Future Work

- Comparison to other forms of storage (thermal energy storage with electrified heating)
- Publication in IJSEPM

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Questions?

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