

# Decentral Heat Storages in System-Beneficial District Heating Systems – an Integrated Optimization Approach

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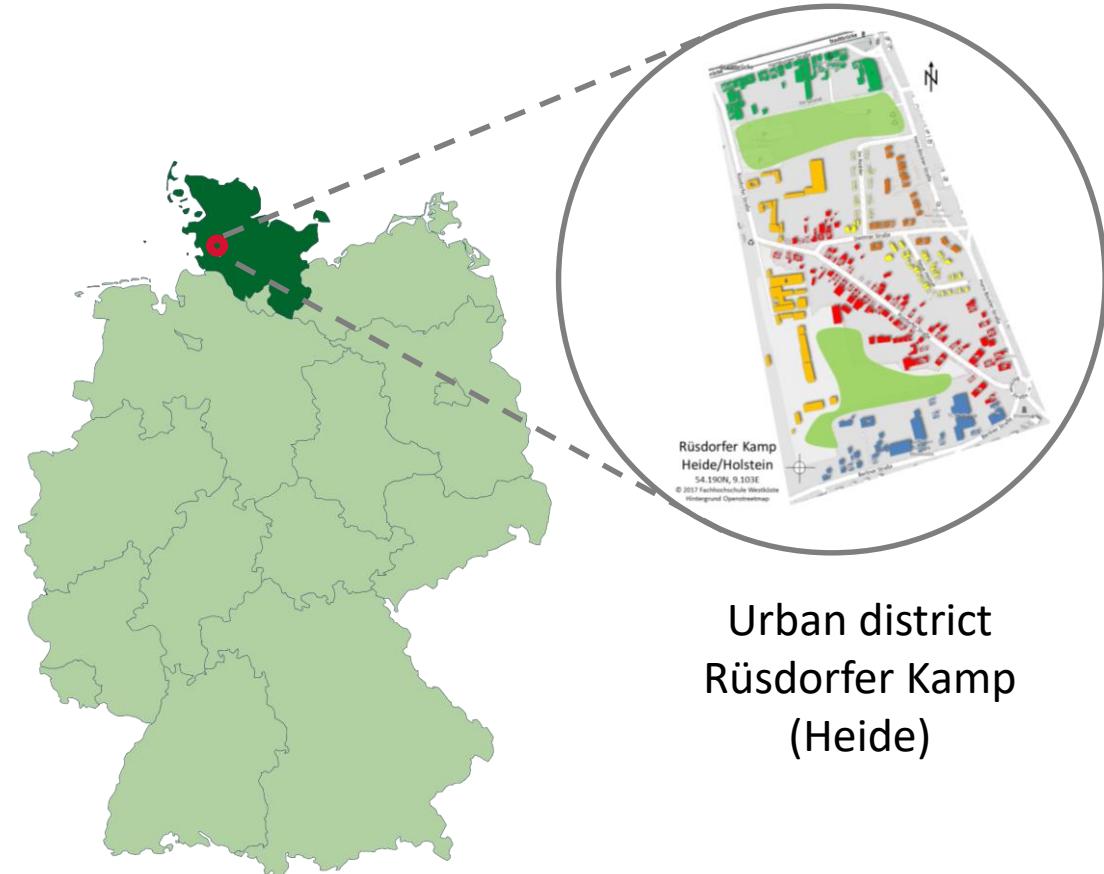
# Background



## Research Project QUARREE100

- Resilient, scalable and transferable energy system solutions for built-up urban districts
- High share of renewable energies in all energy sectors
- Integration of urban districts in the overall energy system

- Implementation of a district heating system (DHS)
- Option of distributed thermal energy storages (DTES) could be a promising solution for this district

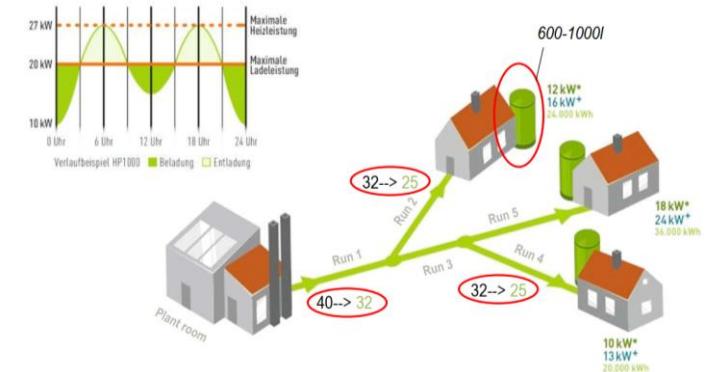


(1) [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Deutschland\\_Lage\\_von\\_Schleswig-Holstein.svg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Deutschland_Lage_von_Schleswig-Holstein.svg)

# Motivation and research question

- Benefits of distributed thermal energy storages (DTES) in DHS:
  - Optimization of overall DHS operation [1–4]
  - Avoidance of low mass flows in summer
  - Hot warm water storage in many cases reasonable anyway (e.g. multi-family houses)
  - Integration of renewable energies [4, 5]
  - Leaner piping network due to peak-shaving [1, 6, 12]

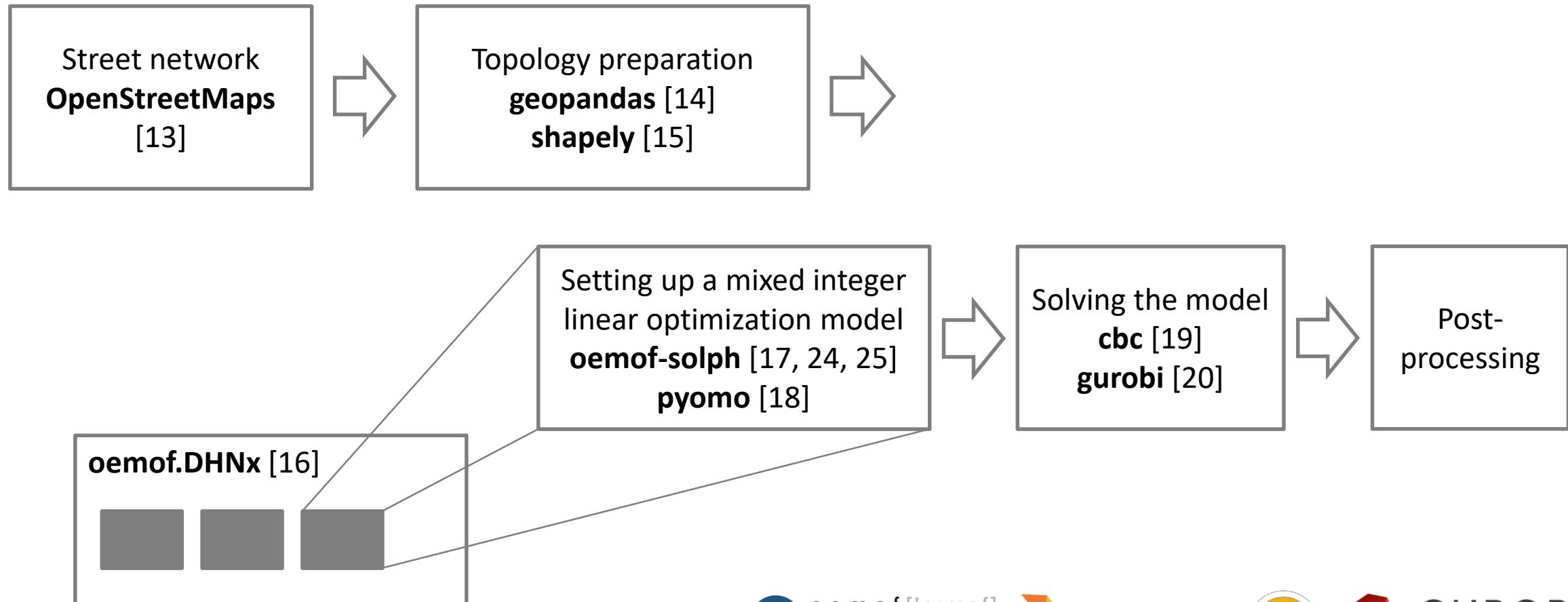
➤ **How to optimize the topology and the sizing of a district heating network with distributed thermal storages?**



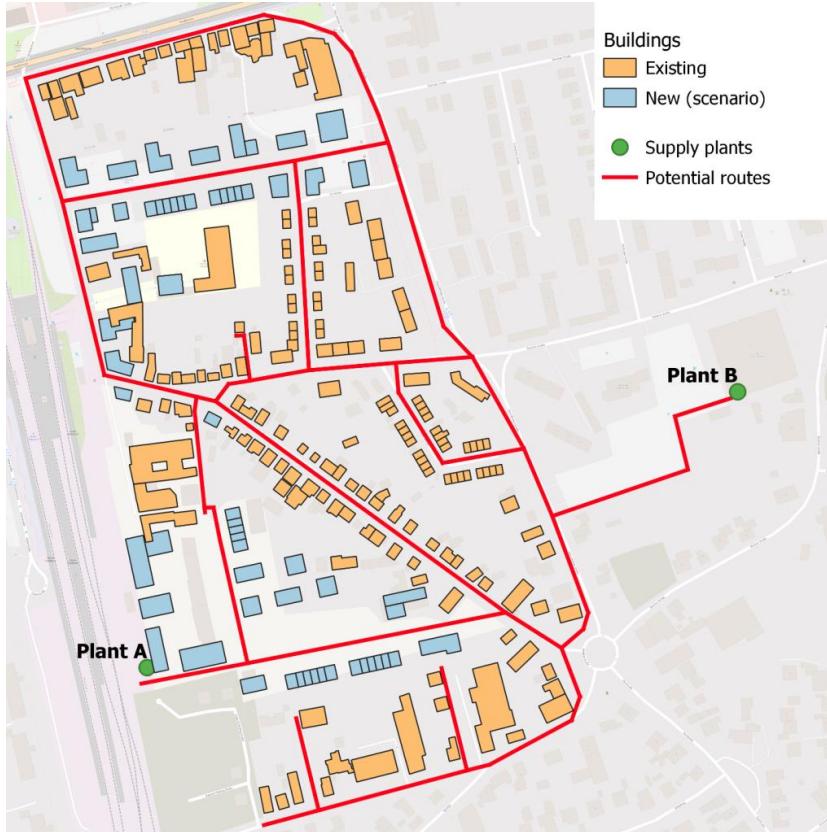
Source: ENERPIPE GmbH [12]

- Existing planning tools for DH networks, e.g.:
  - THERMOS [7, 8]
  - Li et al. [9], Dorfner [10], Bordin et al. [11]

# Modeling approach – Overview



# Modeling approach – Topological input data



Potential routes for piping network;  
Background map: [13]

- Geometry preprocessing
- Assignment of IDs



Network after geometry  
processing; Background map: [13]

- Street network (e.g. from OpenStreetMaps [13]) serves as potential routes for the district heating network
- Detailed district heating system model (customers are represented individually)

# Modeling approach – Mathematical background

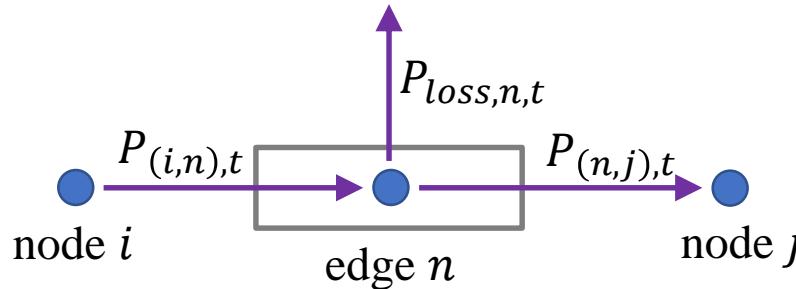


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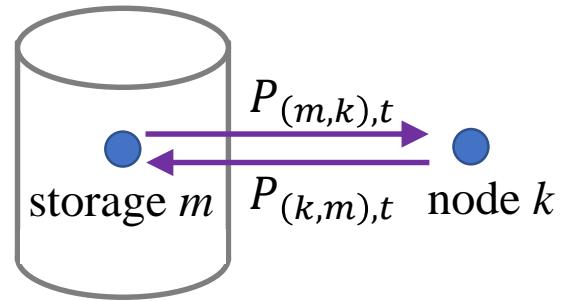
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## District heating pipes [8, 21]



$$\begin{aligned} C_n &= P_{(n,j),invest} \cdot c_{invest} + y_{(n,j)} \cdot c_{investfix} \\ P_{loss,n,t} &= P_{(n,j),invest} \cdot f_{loss,t} + y_{(n,j)} \cdot f_{lossfix,t} \\ P_{(n,j),t} &= P_{(i,n),t} - P_{loss,n,t} \\ P_{(i,n),invest} &= P_{(n,j),invest} \\ P_{(n,j),invest\ min} \cdot y_{(n,j)} &\leq P_{(n,j),invest} \leq P_{(n,j),invest\ max} \cdot y_{(n,j)} \\ -P_{(i,n),invest} &\leq P_{(i,n),t} \leq P_{(i,n),invest} \\ -P_{(n,j),invest} &\leq P_{(n,j),t} \leq P_{(n,j),invest} \\ y_{(n,j)} &\in \{0,1\} \end{aligned}$$

## Thermal storages [17]



$$\begin{aligned} W_{m,t} &= W_{m,t-1} \cdot (1 - \delta_{m,t}) - P_{(m,k),t} \cdot \Delta t + P_{(k,m),t} \cdot \Delta t \\ W_{m,t_{last}} &= W_{m,t_{zero}} \\ 0 \leq W_{m,t} &\leq W_{nom} \end{aligned}$$

## Objective function

$$\min! \sum_n C_n$$

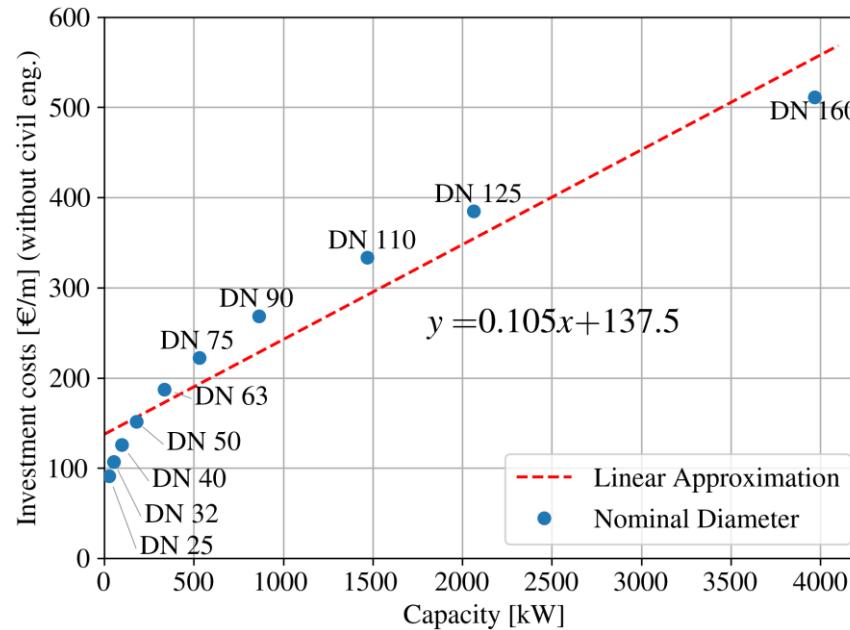
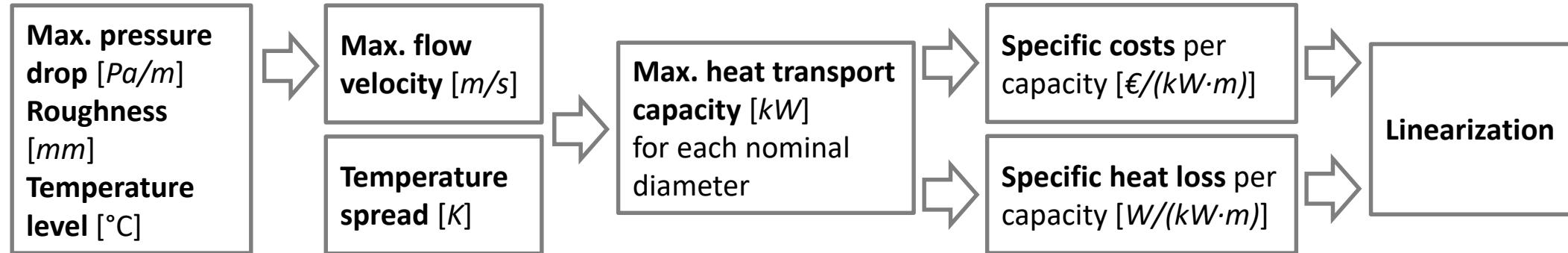
## Variables

$C_n$	€	Investment costs of DHS pipe <i>n</i>
$P_{(n,j),invest}$	kW	Capacity of DHS pipes
$P_{(n,j),t}$	kW	Heat flow at time step <i>t</i>
$y_{(n,j)}$	-	Investment decision variable (0 = no investment; 1 = investment)
$W_{m,t}$	kWh	Quantity of heat in storage at <i>t</i>

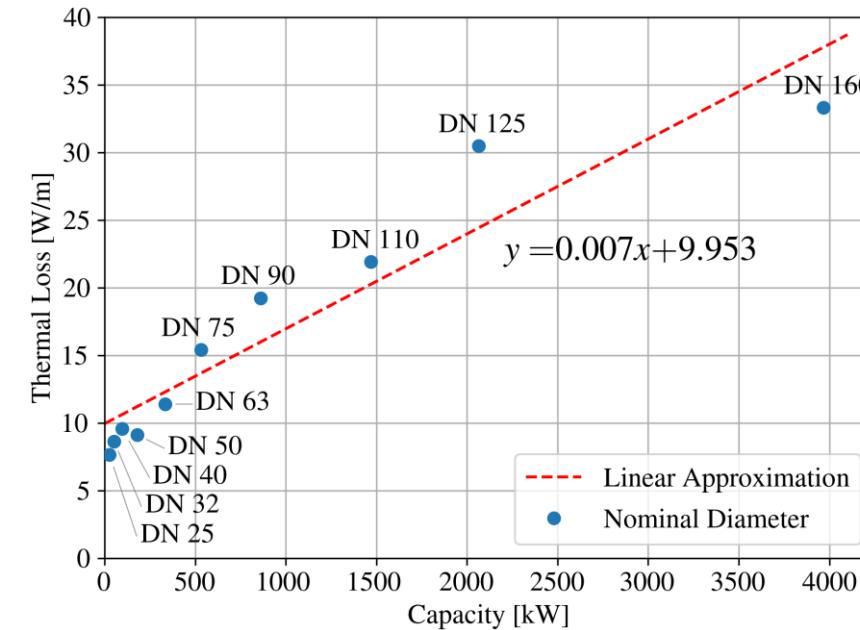
## Parameters

$c_{invest}$	€/kW	Capacity dependent investment costs
$c_{investfix}$	€	Fix investment costs
$f_{loss}$	kW/kW	Capacity dependent heat loss
$f_{lossfix}$	kW	Fix heat loss
$P_{(n,j),invest\ min}$	kW	Minimum pipe capacity
$P_{(n,j),invest\ max}$	kW	Maximum pipe capacity
$W_{nom}$	kWh	Capacity of thermal energy storage
$\delta_m$	-	Loss rate
$\Delta t$	0.25 h	Time step width

# Modeling approach – Pipeline parameters



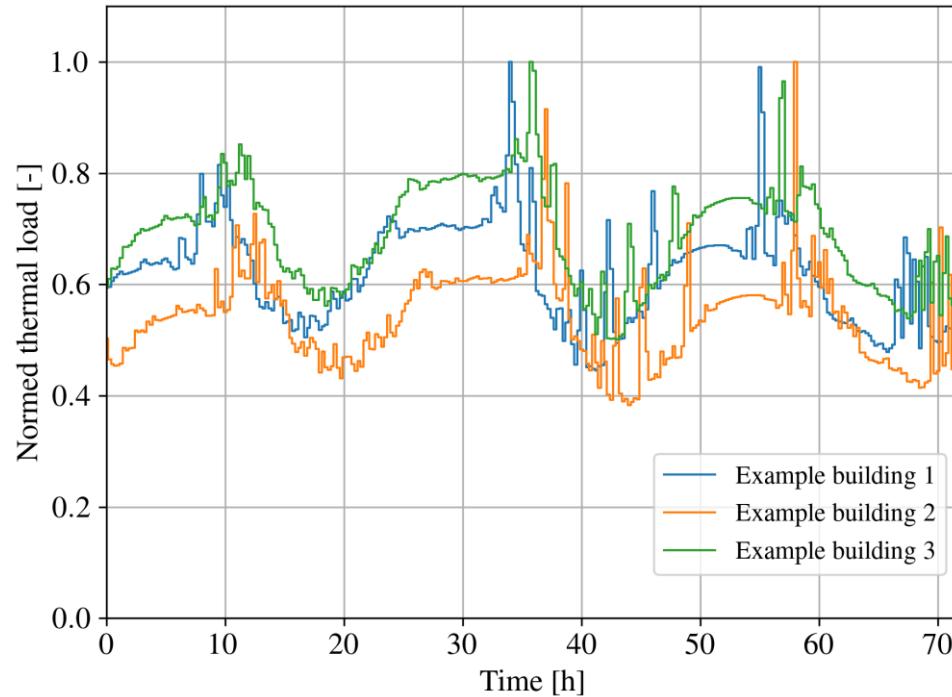
Cost function for pipes:  $50 \text{ €/m} + (700 \text{ m}^{-1} * \text{DN})^{1.3} \text{ €/m}$  [7]



Heat losses based on manufacturer data [22]

# Modeling approach – Simultaneity factor

- Coldest period (3 days) in 1/4 hour time resolution as optimization period
- Heat demand data based on detailed building simulation with TRNSYS of different buildings types including a time shift randomly drawn from a normal distribution [23]



➤ **Aim: Imitating real diversified load**

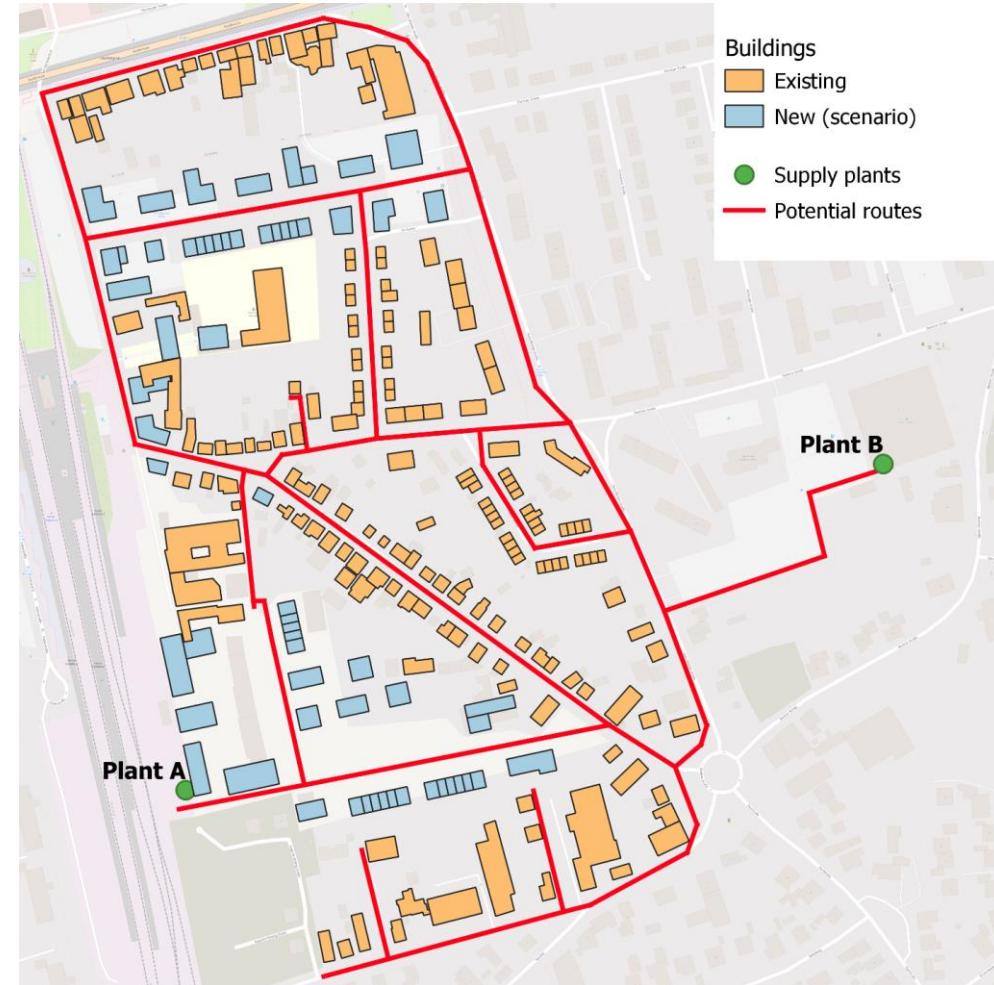
Exemplary normed demand time series

# Results – Comparison of pipeline network



## Optimization settings

Number of buildings	140
Total heat load	3.24 MW
Temperature spread	30 K
Max. pressure loss	100 Pa/m
Roughness	0.01 mm
Heat feed-in plants	2
Redundancy	100 %
Optimization period	2 x 72 h á 15 min
Size of DTES	1 m <sup>3</sup> (35 kWh)

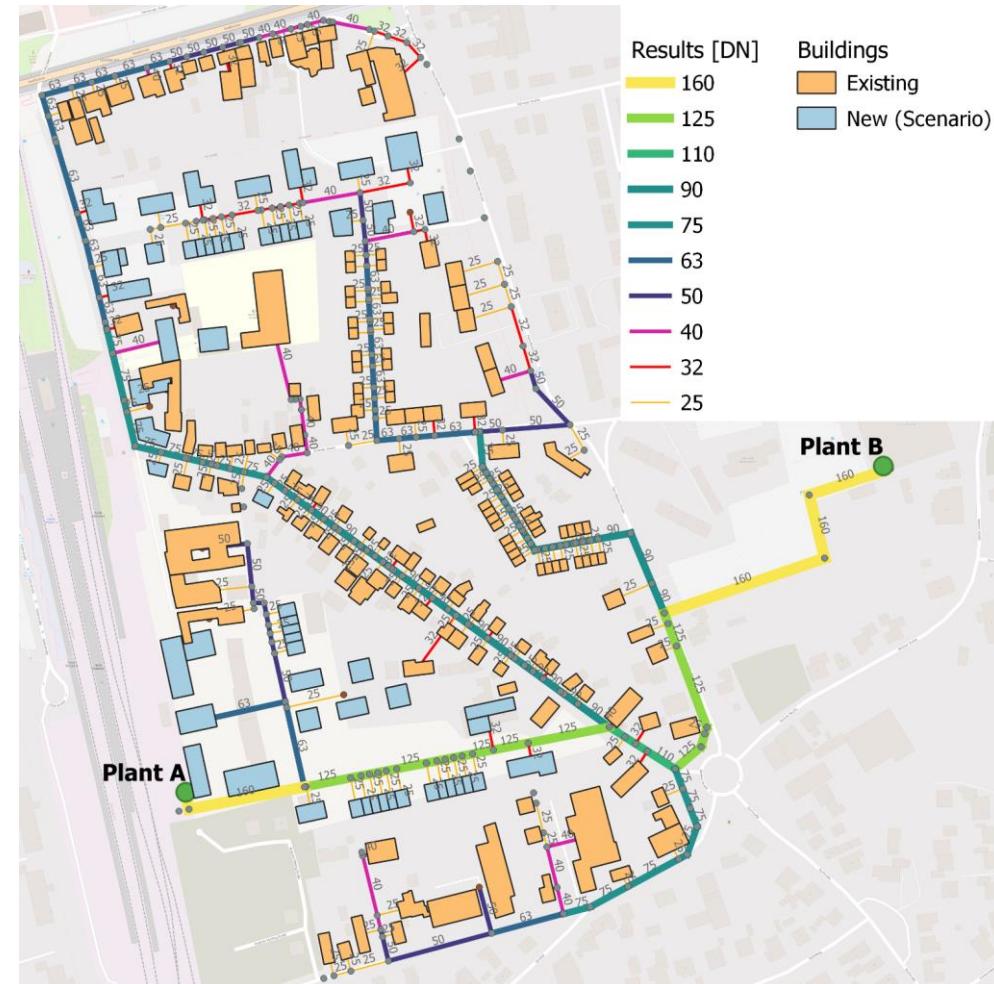


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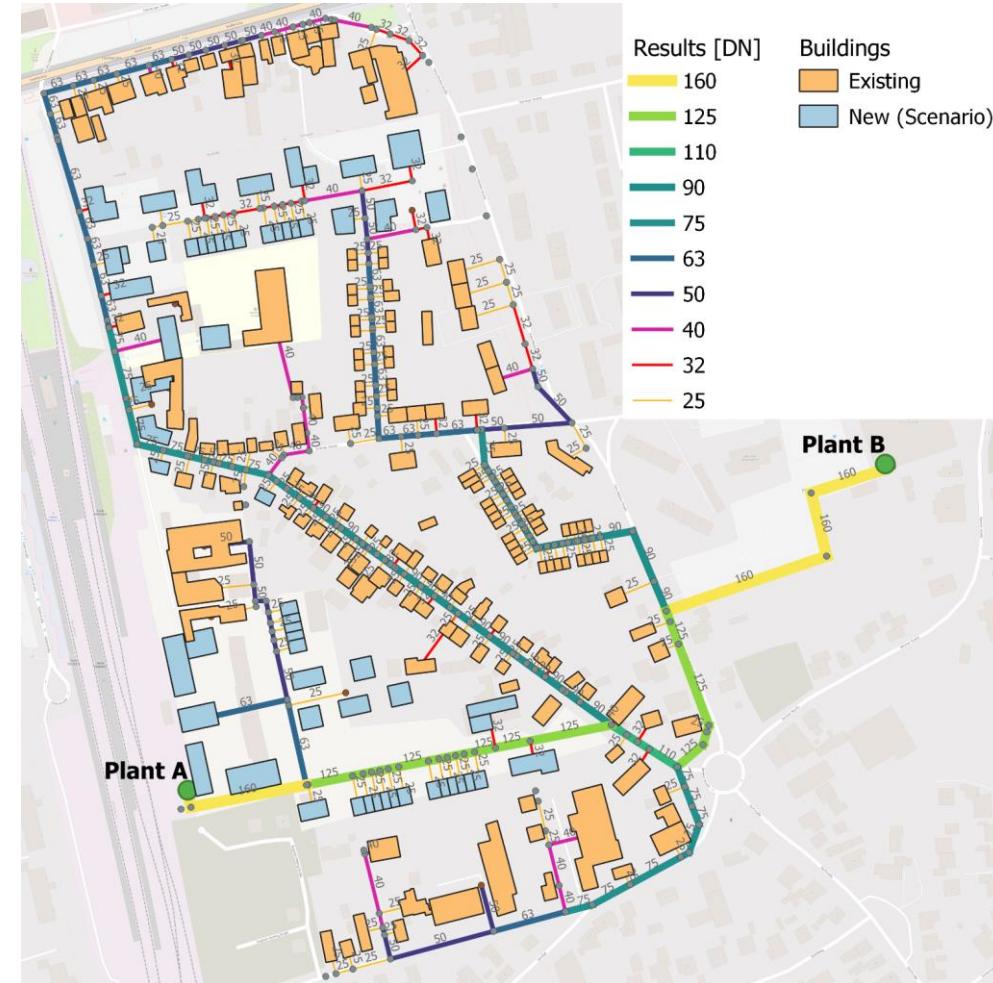


No distributed heat storages

# Results – Comparison of pipeline network

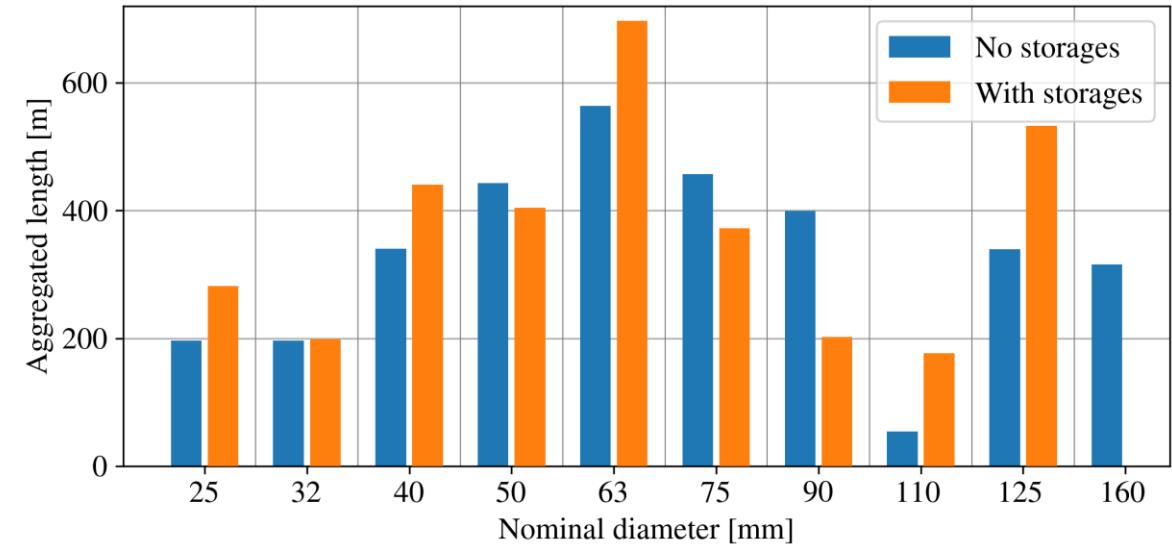
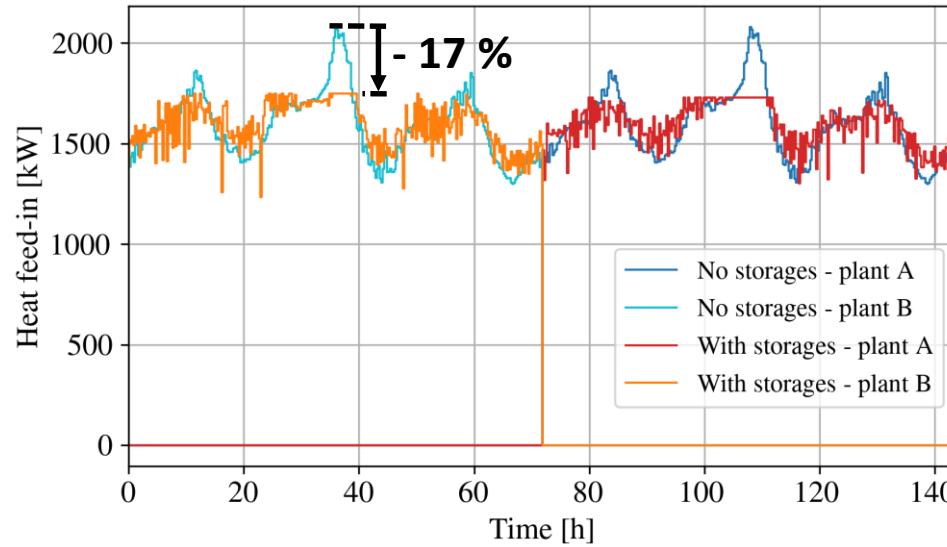


With distributed heat storages ( $1 \text{ m}^3$ )



No distributed heat storages

# Results – Investment costs and thermal loss



Results of distribution lines	Costs[€] (without civil engineering)	Thermal loss power [kW]
No storages	773,716	53.7
With storages	695,326	49.5
Difference	78,390	4.2

- Reduction of thermal power loss by **4.2 kW (- 7.8 %)**
- Savings of investment costs of **78,390 € (- 10.1 %)**
- Estimation of additional costs of storages:

$$140 \cdot 1,500 \text{ €} = \mathbf{210,000 \text{ €}}$$

- Introduction of an optimization approach for DHS networks considering distributed thermal energy storages
- Results of case study
  - Distributed thermal heat storages enable a leaner piping system
    - **10.1 %** lower costs
    - **7.8 %** lower thermal power loss
  - Investment costs savings of distribution pipes do not offset investment costs of the energy storages  
(Benefits through savings in operating costs not included)
- Further analysis
  - Detailed assessment of operating costs



<https://oemof.org/>

<https://github.com/oemof/oemof-solph>

<https://github.com/oemof/DHNx>



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# Thank you for your attention!



## Partner Research Project QUARREE100



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