

# A Thermohydraulic Model of Bidirectional Heat Networks with Prosumers

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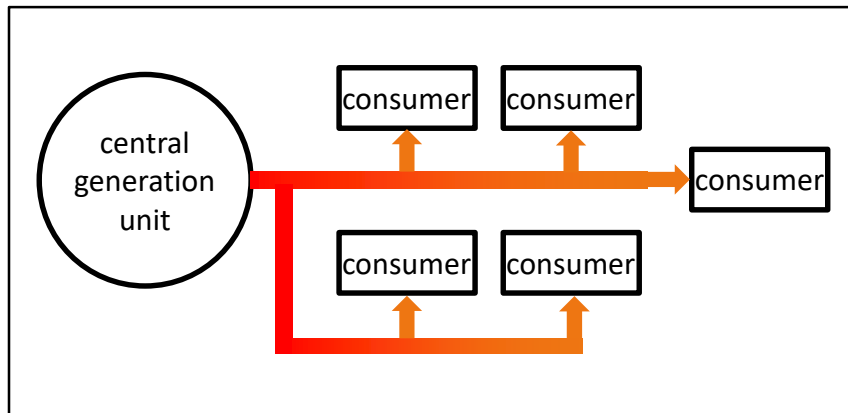
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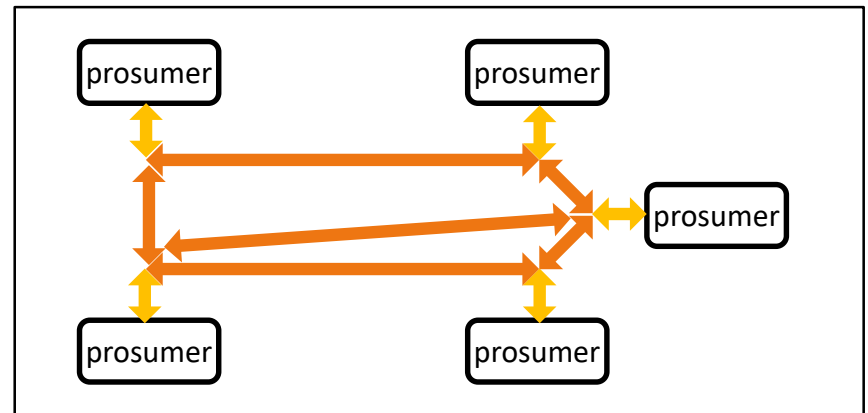
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# Smart Grids in the heat sector



conventional district heating network



Prosumer-dominated bidirectional heat network

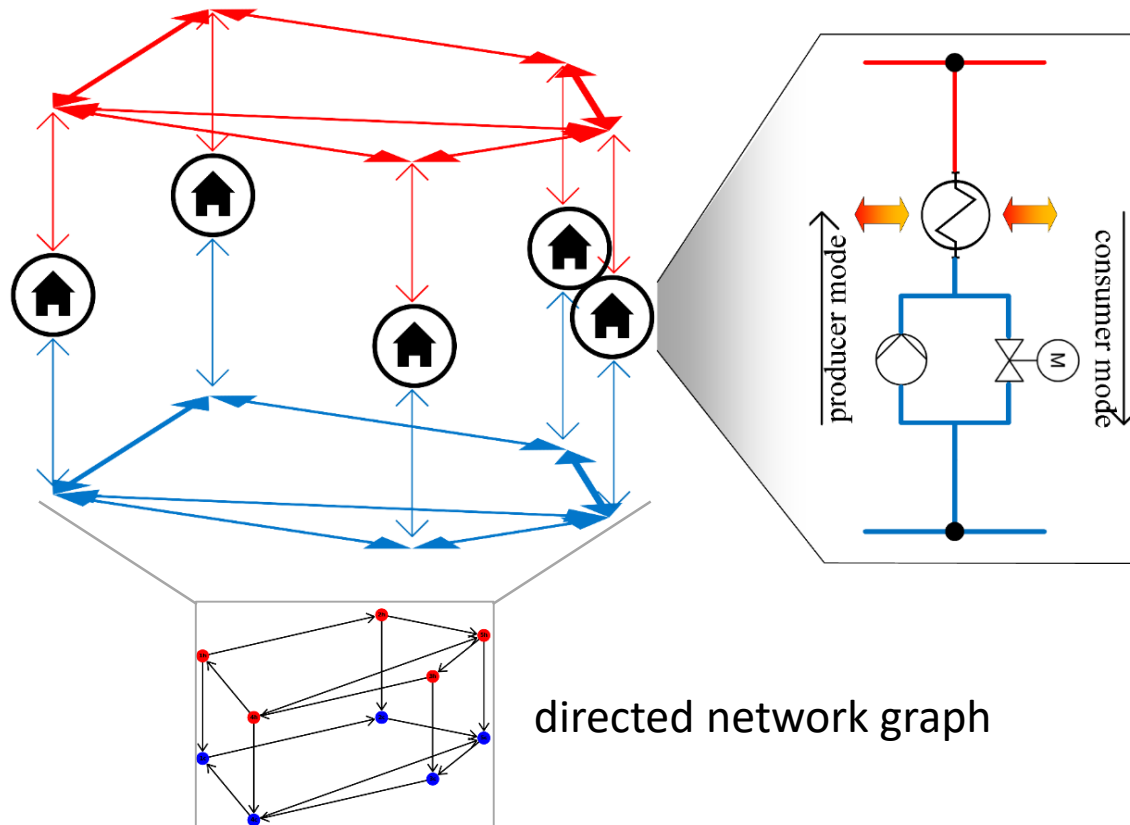
- **Hydraulic infrastructure ?** – volume flow directions not pre-determined
- **Thermohydraulic behavior ?**  
– temperatures, pressure, volume flows (spatial & temporal)
- **How to operate and control ?** – distributed actuators

# Objective: Thermohydraulic Model

- Prosumer-dominated network with **bidirectional heat exchange**
- Basis: hydraulic **infrastructure** concept
- Equation based approach for **control** and operation application
- Component models: considering control inputs of **decentral actuators**
- Formulation in terms of **temperatures, volume flows and pressure**
- Including heat transfer to **secondary side**: temperatures at prosumer
- **Network analysis**: Equation system for thermohydraulic steady-state
- **Application cases**: simulation and control, mathematical solvability



# Infrastructure Concept

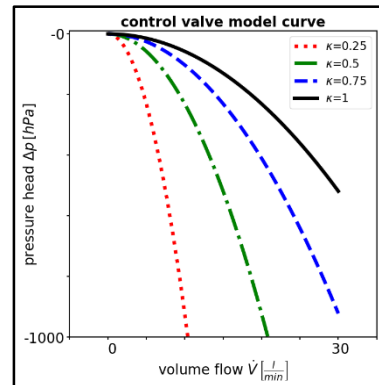
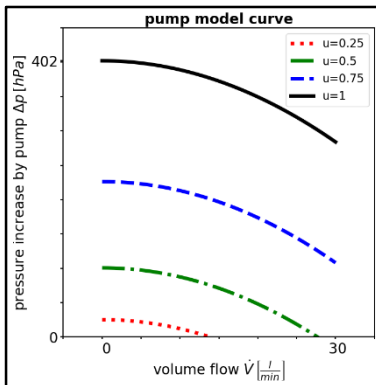


Peric et al (2020). CoSES Laboratory for Combined Energy Systems At TU Munich.  
*IEEE Power and Energy Society General Meeting (Accepted for Publication).*

[Preprint on Researchgate](#)

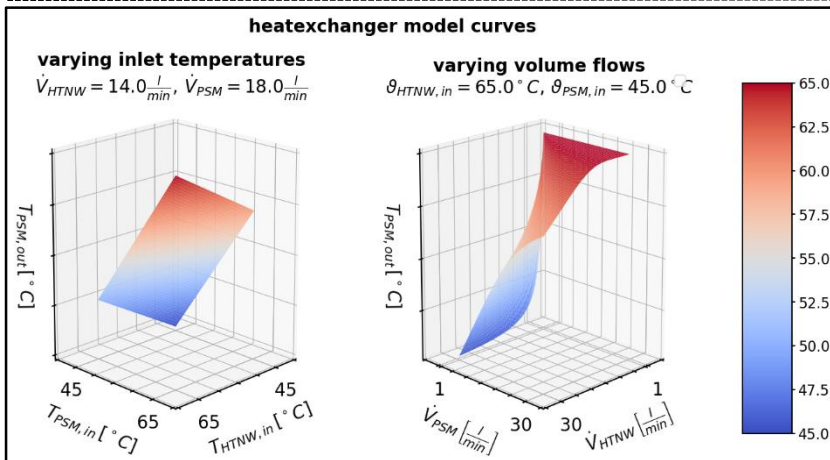
# hydraulic and thermal Component Models

Relevant components: pumps, control valves, heat exchangers, pipes



$$\Delta p^{pu} = a_1^{pu} \cdot (\dot{V}^{pu})^2 + a_2^{pu} \cdot (u^{pu})^2$$

$$\Delta p^{va} = a_1^{va} \cdot (\kappa^{va})^{-2} \cdot (\dot{V}^{va})^2$$

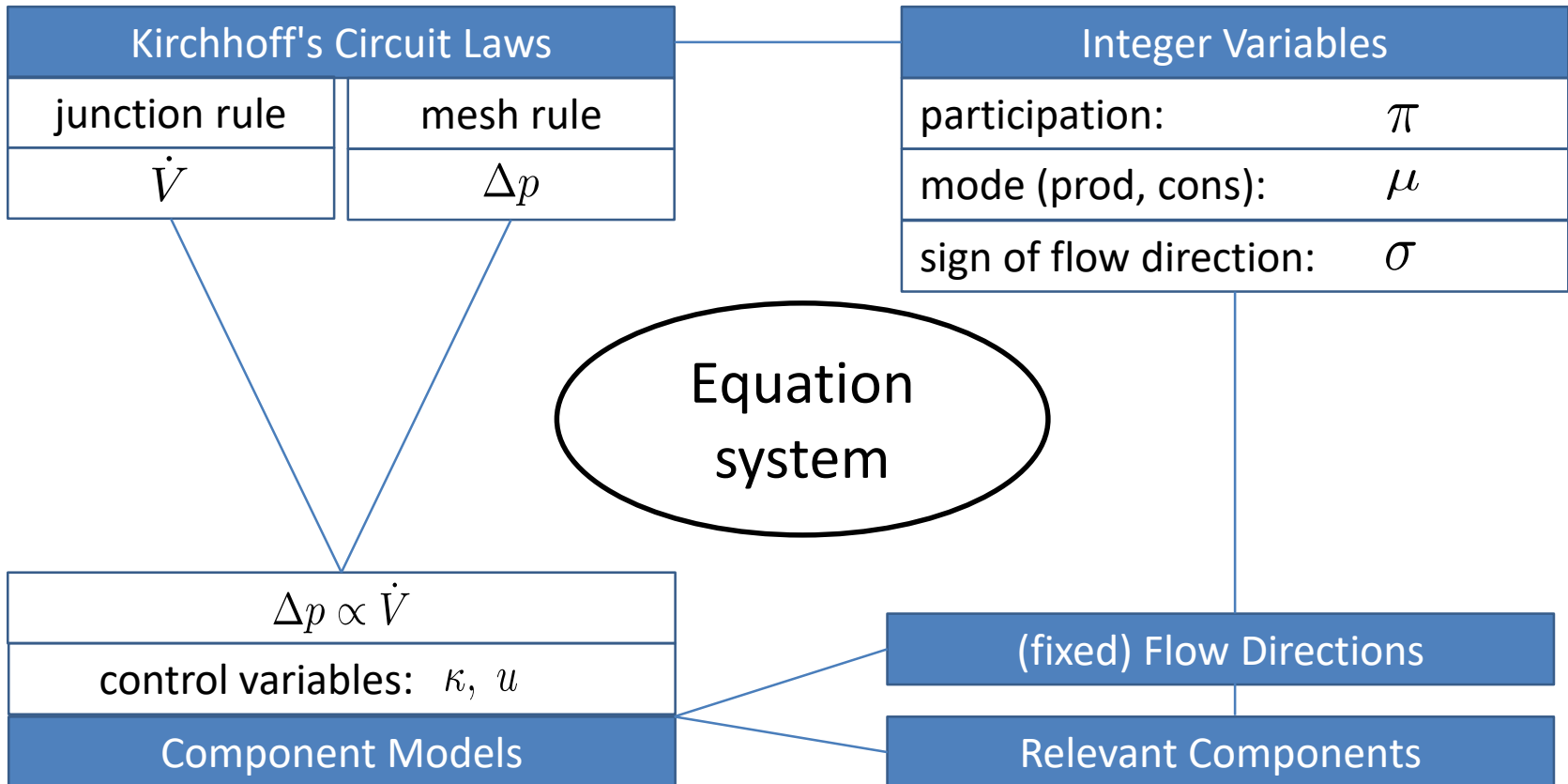


$$\begin{pmatrix} b_{11}^{hx} & b_{12}^{hx} & b_{13}^{hx} & 0 \\ b_{21}^{hx} & 0 & b_{23}^{hx} & b_{24}^{hx} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T_1' \\ T_1'' \\ T_2' \\ T_2'' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

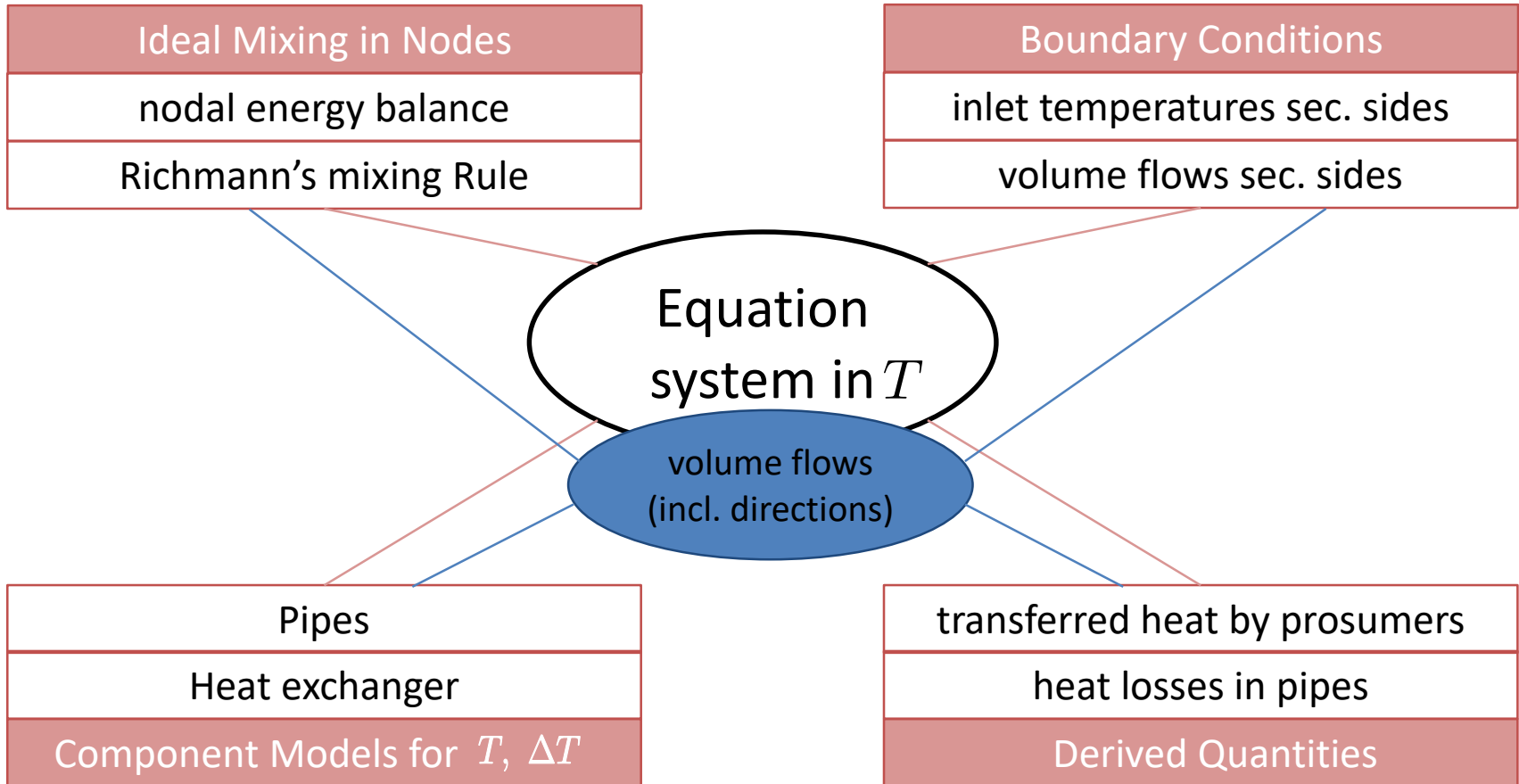
linear in temperatures,  
highly nonlinear in volume flows



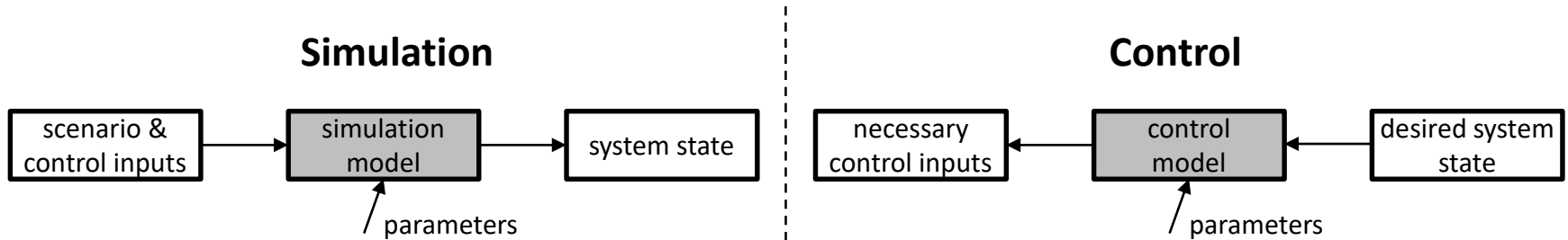
# Hydraulic Network Analysis



# Thermal Network Analysis



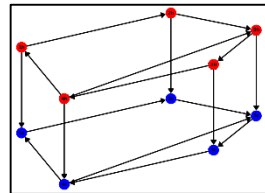
# Application Cases & Solvability



- hydraulic and thermal eq. system can be solved subsequently

- In hydraulic problem:

$$\Delta p_e = \sigma_e \cdot \left[ r_e^{hy} \cdot (\dot{V}_e)^2 + y_e^{hy} \right]$$



Mixed-integer nonlinear,  
fix  $\sigma_e \rightarrow$  MIQCP  $\rightarrow$  Gurobi 9.0

solve hydraulic problem for all possible combinations of flow directions  
 $\rightarrow$  CPU time grows exp. with network size

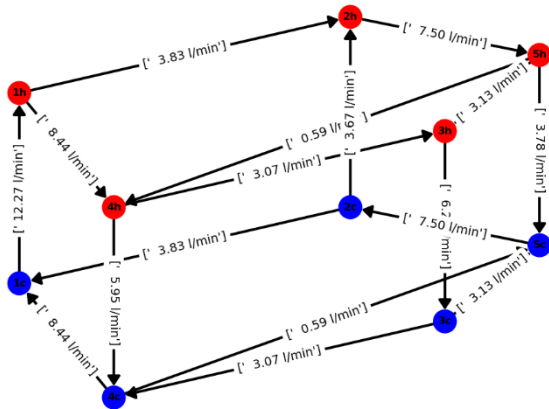
- hydraulic eq. system can not be solved separately
- thermal problem is linear in  $T$ , but highly nonlinear in  $\dot{V}$
- $\dot{V}$  s a free variable linked to the control inputs in the control case

whole eq. system is highly nonlinear  
 $\rightarrow$  simplifications or heuristics needed

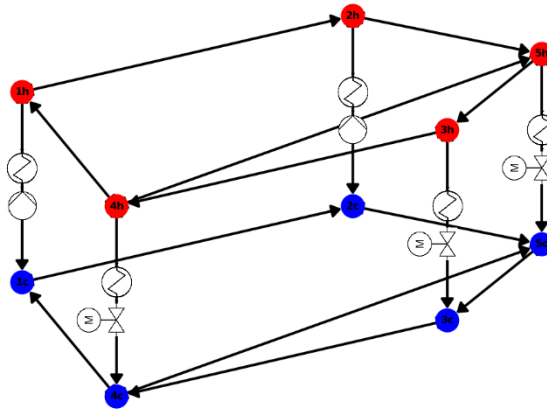


# Exemplary Simulation

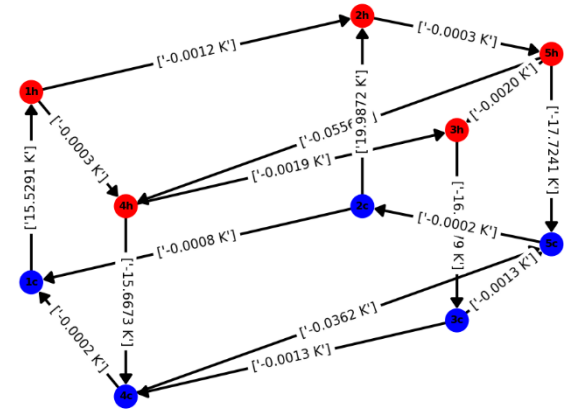
hydraulic solution



configuration



thermal solution



	Prosumer 3	Prosumer 4	Prosumer 5	Prosumer 1	Prosumer 2
mode $\mu$		consumer (-1)			producer (+1)
pump ctrl $u$		0			1
valve ctrl $\kappa$	1	0.7	0.35	0	
$\dot{V}_{sec}$		10 l/min			-10l/min
$T_{sec,in}$		45.0 °C			65.0 °C
$T_{sec,out}$	55.3 °C	54.3 °C	51.7 °C	45.9 °C	57.7 °C
$\dot{Q}_{trnsf}$	-7.2 kW	-6.5 kW	-4.7 kW	+13.3 kW	+5.1 kW

$$\sum \dot{Q}_{loss} = 6.3 \text{ W}$$

# Summary & Conclusion

- Concept for bidirectional heat networks dominated by prosumers presented
- Model equations for thermohydraulic steady-states in these networks derived
  - control inputs
  - temperatures and volume flows on secondary sides
- Mathematical solvability for application cases “simulation” & “control” investigated
- Freedom of flow directions increases the system complexity
  - High computational effort for simulation case
  - Simplifications or heuristics for control case needed
- Simulation example: [https://github.com/thomaslicklederer/ProHeatNet\\_Sim.git](https://github.com/thomaslicklederer/ProHeatNet_Sim.git)
  - high sensitivity on control inputs and topology
  - high interdependence between all prosumers and actuators

- Validation of simulations
- Further investigations on characteristics & challenges in such networks
- Develop control model by using simplifications or heuristics

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