

# Model based dispatch optimisation for residential districts – analysing the integration of electricity storage systems and their environmental impact

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## Abstract

In the European Union, residential districts consume a high share of the total electricity, which is still mainly generated by conventional power plants. Consequently, utilising renewable energy carriers is necessary to mitigate climate change. Electricity storage systems are needed to address the fluctuation and the temporal shift between power generation and consumption, caused by a switch to energy carriers like solar and wind. To assess the electricity generation and the storage operation a techno-economic bottom-up model is applied. The goal is the dispatch optimisation of the analysed residential district in on-grid and off-grid cases considering an increasing application of battery electric vehicles. The combination with a Life Cycle Assessment allows the valuation of the environmental impacts of the applied electricity storage system. Gained results show that the operation of a lithium-ion-iron-phosphate (LFP) or a vanadium-redox-flow (VRF) battery system with an installed capacity of 182 kWh is resulting in an increased utilisation of generated photovoltaic electricity. A reduction up to 17,968 kWh of grid supply is possible by utilising the LFP in scenario I. Higher installed capacities are dependent on electricity generation and demand. In the analysed energy system model increasing demand due to battery electric vehicles makes higher installed capacities of LFP meaningful. The off-grid system exhibits high degrees of self-supply and autarky, when the installed capacity of LFP accounts for 2850 kWh. But a self-sufficient operation is not possible. The low amount of charge and discharge cycles is indicating that calendric aging is more important than cycle life for stationary electricity storage systems. The valve-regulated-lead-acid battery is not operated due to its low cycle life, furthermore it exhibits the highest amounts in all analysed impact categories when discharging 1 MWh of electricity. The operation of VRF shows higher impacts in climate change and freshwater ecotoxicity than the LFP but results in lower values in the impact category resource depletion.

## Introduction

Households account for 29% of the entire electricity consumption in the European Union [1]. As the electricity generation in the European Union is still covered to 74% by conventional power plants, households contribute significantly to the emission of greenhouse gases [2]. Consequently, designing a sustainable energy system for residential districts is important to mitigate climate change. Substituting fossil fuels by renewable energies includes the utilisation of energy carriers such as solar and wind energy. To address their fluctuation and the temporal shift between power generation and consumption, electricity storage systems (ESS) are needed to secure a safe energy supply [3]. There is a variety of storage technologies available, which cause environmental impacts by their production and utilisation, for instance resource depletion and climate change [4–6]. Subsequently, finding an optimal economic and ecologic solution for residential districts is essential to balance resource use, climate change and costs.

Real-world systems are usually represented by models [7]. There is a variety of models, model generators or frameworks available to create and calculate energy system models [8]. Previous studies have analysed national [9], international energy systems [10] or small networks (household networks) in particular. Dispatch optimisation of energy system models that represent an accumulation of household networks are currently underrepresented. In the area of small networks, ESS integration is considered, for instance in Zhang et al. [11] and Naumann et al. [12], whereas it is neglected in more extensive energy systems, e.g. in Barteczko-Hibbert et al. [13]. Moreover, if a storage facility is present in a system, often only one storage technology is investigated, e.g. in Huneke et al. [14] or Rauner and Budzinski [9]. Stadler et al. investigate the environmental impacts of a house's power supply and take into account the charging of battery electric vehicles (BEV) [15]. However, electromobility is hardly integrated into other studies. In the field of energy system modelling, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is rarely conducted concerning the utilised ESS. This raises the question about the influence of different storage technologies on the dispatch and the environmental effects of an energy system. In order to determine the environmental impacts, LCAs have already been prepared for various stationary battery storage systems. However, the number is still small [16]. In addition, efficiency, power dependence and life cycles are rarely considered [17]. To the author's knowledge, LCA of concrete applications of various battery storage devices in neighbourhood power networks have not yet been investigated.

This paper searches for an optimal dispatch for a valve-regulated-lead-acid (VRLA), lithium-ion-iron-phosphate (LFP) and vanadium-redox-flow (VRF) battery by considering their efficiencies and life expectancies in on-grid and off-grid situations to deduce an adequate battery capacity. In order to address a future shift to BEVs, different shares are considered. Finally, a LCA, based on recent literature is conducted to evaluate the environmental impact of the

utilised storage systems. As a result, an open source optimisation model for the electricity supply of a residential district is created to address climate change by the utilisation of renewable energies and ESS under the consideration of security supply aspects as well as economic and ecologic factors.

## **Background**

Recent literature applies energy system modelling mostly for component sizing, component location, comparative analysis and operational management [18]. The component design serves, among other things, to determine the required power, the number and the capacity of the generation and storage technologies used, for instance in Zhang et al. [11], Puri [19] and Huneke et al. [14]. The comparative analysis are used to compare different optimisation methods, such as the deterministic method compared to the generic method e.g. in Upadhyay and Sharma [20]. Optimisation of operational management is often aimed at minimising operating costs. In grid-connected models, it is possible to feed surplus electricity into the grid and thus sell it on the electricity exchange [21]. For example, Chen et al. are investigating a self-sufficient power grid with the aim of storing surplus electricity generated by renewable energies for a later utilisation [22]. Mustonen and Nanthavong analyse the electricity grid of a village over a 24-hour operating period and go into more detail on the non-linearity of the cost development of the electricity producers [23]. Kriett and Salani additionally integrate the influence of electromobility into the household grid they are investigating [24]. Investigations into environmental influences are more frequently linked to component design for instance in Kazemi and Rabbani [25] and Chedid and Rahman [26]. In the field of operational management, Stadler et al. investigate the influence of electromobility on the power grid of a house, whereby costs or carbon dioxide emissions can be optimised [15]. In addition to investigating environmental impacts in the household sector, other authors examine global or national energy systems and integrate environmental impacts into their optimisation e.g. in Rauner and Budzinski [9], Barteczko-Hibbert et al. [13] and Volkart et al. [10]. LCA is often used to determine the potential environmental impacts of products or processes [27]. Peters et al. identify 79 LCAs about lithium-ion-batteries and 34 LCAs about electromobility [28]. The LCAs on electromobility examine the use of BEV in comparison to conventional vehicles, whereby the batteries are considered as part of the BEV [17]. Of the 79 studies, only a few investigate the production phase of stationary battery storage systems [16]. An example for the investigation of stationary battery storage is provided by McManus, which investigates the production of 1 kg or 1 MJ capacity of different battery types considering the energy densities of the technologies [4]. In addition to McManus, Rydh and Sandén determine the cumulative energy demand for a battery storage system with 50 kW power and 450 kWh capacity with an electricity supply of 150 kWh through photovoltaic over the production and utilisation phase. They

consider different battery technologies taking into account different discharge depths, efficiencies and energy densities [29]. In addition to this work on different battery technologies, Weber et al. analyse the provision of 1 MWh of electricity over 20 years by a vanadium-redox-flow battery, taking into account the production, utilisation and disposal phase [6]. A more recent comparison of stationary ESS is provided by Baumann et al. [5], which determine the carbon dioxide footprint and the life cycle costs for a wide variety of battery technologies on the basis of their energy densities, efficiencies, cycle life and costs [5].

## Methods

A techno-economic bottom-up model for a residential district based on hourly data is created and combined with an LCA for the utilised ESS. The energy system model is created by using the open energy modelling framework (oemof) [30], which is an open source framework developed at the University of Applied Sciences in Flensburg. Oemof optimises the modelled energy system with the goal of minimising the sum of variable costs ( $c^{var}$ ) for the total period of time (T) according to equation (1) with  $f_{(p,s),t}$  being the flow between its predecessor (p) and its successor (s) component in timestep (t) multiplied with the length of the timestep ( $\tau_t$ ) [31]. A full description of the framework contains the documentary of oemof [32]. The complete mathematical approach is explained in [33].

$$(1) \quad \min: \sum_{t \in T} \sum_{(p,s) \in F} c_{(p,s),t}^{var} * f_{(p,s),t} * \tau_t$$

The parametrisation of the model is realised by a literature research for specific technologic and economic data for power generation plants, ESS and load profiles representing households and BEVs. A simplified representation of the model is displayed in Figure 1. Scenarios are defined which consider different situations of grid operation. Off-grid as well as on-grid operation with different amounts of BEVs are investigated. Following, the dispatch optimisation of the scenarios for the time period of one year is carried out. Adding the ecological pillar to the model an LCA is conducted to evaluate the environmental burden of the utilised ESS.

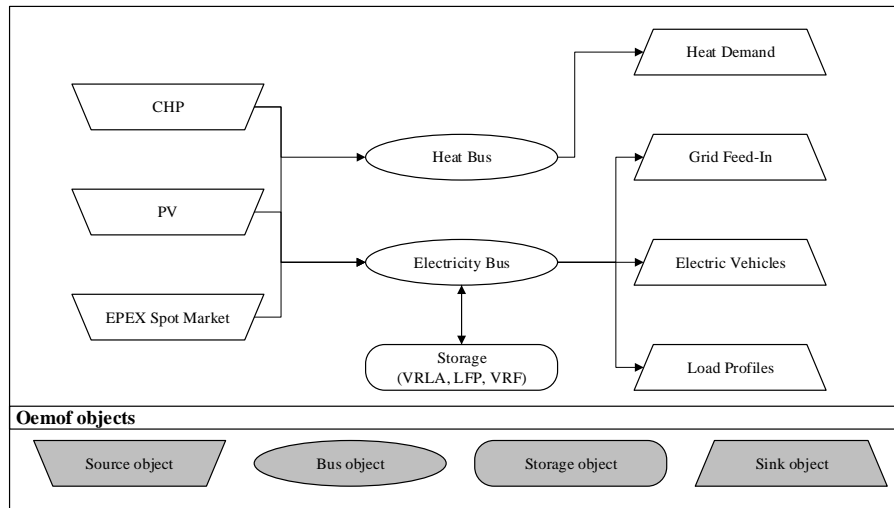


Figure 1 Simplified energy bus system model

### Demand modelling

The applied load profiles were metered with a resolution of 15-minutes during 2008 to 2011 for 497 households [34]. Tjaden et al. select 74 load profiles from 2010 with typical seasonal and daily performance of households electricity consumption and are closing data gaps to create a 1-second sampled load profiles [35]. The load profiles are again adapted to an hourly resolution and adjusted to the 2017 calendar year. The total demand accounts for 346,836 kWh per year with a maximum power demand of 98 kW.

To model the electricity demand of BEVs load profiles published from Schäuble et al. [36] and created from Heinz [37] are utilised. Heinz creates different load scenarios for BEVs in his work [37]. In the model the load profile type 3 is applied assuming that the BEV is only charged at home. The charge power accounts for 3.7 kW resulting in a total demand of 1,433 kWh per year. The load profiles are converted to hourly values and adjusted to the 2017 calendar year. Different load profiles for weekdays and weekends are applied. The amount of BEVs is varying over the defined scenarios.

### Energy generation modelling

The energy supply is provided by combined heat and power (CHP), photovoltaics (PV) and the electricity grid. The CHP is fired with natural gas and designed based on the electricity load curve of the households. It is assumed that all generated heat will be consumed and sold at break-even for instance to provide thermal energy to a heat grid. The CHP is designed to reach 6,000 full load hours per year. Consequently an electric power of 30 kW resulting in a total power of 101 kW is installed [38]. The electricity generation from the CHP is not controlled by a load profile. It is only limited by the total maximum power and the variable costs. The variable costs of the CHP are containing costs for fuel, lubricating oil and maintenance, which are estimated based on [39]. To allocate the total variable costs to

generated heat and electricity, the total efficiency method [40] is applied. This method is based on the thermal and electric efficiency of the CHP and a reference system thus securing a realistic allocation of the costs. Based on the above-mentioned assumption concerning the heat consumption the variable costs for heat are set to zero. The variable costs for the generated electricity account for 1.1307 €cent per generated kWh.

To cover the remaining electricity demand PV is utilised. Assuming a generation of 180,000 kWh covered by the CHP and a total demand of 346,836 kWh a residual demand of 166,694 kWh exists. In Germany, the average PV system size accounted for 7 kWp for newly installed systems in 2018 [41]. By generating a load profile of a 7 kWp PV system located in Pforzheim, with a system efficiency of 15% [42] results in an electricity generation of 6,964 kWh per year. The load profile is generated with an hourly resolution by utilising the PV GIS of the European Commission [43], which exhibits a high accuracy [44]. This equals an installed capacity of 168 kWp. Applying a security factor of 10% results in 184 kWp installed capacity, which is distributed over 26 households. Operational costs for PV systems are caused by maintenance and operation [45]. Although being fixed costs those are allocated over the generated electricity as the amount of kWh generated is constrained. Thus, variable costs account for 5.528 €cent per kWh.

As a reference system the model has the possibility to consume electricity from the electricity grid, which is represented by the European Power Exchange (EPEX) spot market prices of 2017. The hourly price profile is fed into the model. The electricity supply from the grid is only constrained by the hourly prices. Caused of errors raising when applying negative prices, all negative prices are set to zero.

### **Battery modelling**

Three battery types are analysed based on available manufactures data. The SAGM 12V/205Ah (ampere hours) [46] represents a VRLA, the TR 12.8V/92Ah [47] a LFP and the VoltStorage SMART [48] a VRF. The utilised batteries are represented as a storage object in oemof [30]. According to oemof the storage object is defined by the nominal capacity, maximum input (charge rate) and output flows (discharge rate), capacity loss, initial capacity, inflow and outflow efficiency and the maximal depth of discharge ( $DOD_{max}$ ). Subsequently, the calculation of the needed parameters is explained.

Generally, the nominal capacity of batteries is measured by Ah. To work in kWh the capacity is multiplied with the nominal voltage of the battery, assuming an ideal battery [49]. The installed capacity is estimated according to [50; 51] which conclude that per kWp installed power PV one kWh of storage capacity is economically viable ( $Q_{inst,BatPV}$ ). The second analysed capacity ( $Q_{inst,BatLP}$ ) is calculated based on an average daily electricity consumption of the analysed residential district. Because of the possibility to trade electricity three days in advance at the EPEX, the

second analysed battery capacity is able to cover three days. Although the battery suffers from calendric and cycling degradation [18; 12] the capacity is assumed to be constant.

The maximum discharge rate is calculated based on the installed capacity divided by the possible discharge time provided by the manufacturer. Thus, the capacity is secured to be available although higher discharge speeds might be possible. Due to the lack of data concerning charge rates the maximum charge rate is assumed to equal the maximum discharge rate. Only one datasheet [47] provides a charge rate, which is higher than the discharge rate. In contrast, in Yoshida et al. [52] the charge rate is lower than the discharge rate for a lithium-ion-battery, thus the assumption is a compromise. The total efficiency (DC-DC) is taken from Baumann et al. [5]. Monthly storage losses are based on Sterner and Stadler [53] and are converted into hourly efficiencies ( $\eta_{storage}$ ). By equating charge and discharge efficiency the discharge efficiency is calculated by equation (2) [21; 54]. Differences between  $\eta_{charge}$  and  $\eta_{discharge}$  can be assumed to be 5% [14] and result in a slight misallocation of storage losses. To include losses resulting from inverting AC to DC the DC-DC efficiency is multiplied with the square of the inverter efficiency of 95% [42] resulting in the total AC-AC efficiency.

$$(2) \quad \eta_{charge} = \eta_{discharge} = \sqrt{\frac{\eta_{total,DC-DC}}{\eta_{storage}}}$$

The minimal state of charge ( $SOC_{min}$ ) is based on values from Baumann et al. [5]. The starting capacity ( $SOC_{start}$ ) is set to 50% of the total installed capacity.

The variable costs for the utilised electricity storage are calculated by using the ampere hours throughput model, thus considering their cycle life [55]. The Ah-model is applicable as it allows an estimation of battery cycle life without needing exact information of the analysed battery, although it neglects the exact process of (dis)charging [56]. It utilises the lifetime curve of the battery, which is provided by datasheets of the manufactures and displays the amount of cycles to failure depending on different DOD until end of life of the battery. Thus, it is easy to apply and is frequently used [17; 28; 21]. By applying the installed capacity ( $Q_{inst,bat}$ ) in Wh the total lifetime throughput (LT) is calculated as described in equation (3) [21]. Averaging different DOD ( $d_n$ ) and their corresponding cycles to failure ( $f_n$ ) results in an average LT value. The factor n depends on the considered  $DOD_{max}$ .

$$(3) \quad LT_{total} = \frac{\sum_{l=1}^n LT_n}{n} = \frac{1}{n} * \sum_{l=1}^n (Q_{inst,bat} * d_n * f_n)$$

By defining the calendric lifetime to be 10 years, which is the minimum lifetime for VRLA [5] a LT per year ( $LT_{year}$ ) can be derived. Based on the  $LT_{year}$  variable costs are calculated based on literature data from [5]. They publish

operation and maintenance costs for batteries, not considering the electricity demand for periphery or battery management system (BMS). Those operational costs are already included in the AC-AC efficiency of the ESS [53]. In addition battery degradation costs are considered based on investment costs from [5]. Generally, the end of life of a battery is reached when the available battery capacity decreases to 80% of its initial capacity [57; 58]. Consequently, up to 80% of initial capacity is remaining [59; 57; 60]. Although other research suggest a non-linear degradation of the battery after reaching the 80% [61; 62] it is assumed that only a replacement investment of 20% ( $i$ ) of the initial investment must be undergone as the stationary application of batteries is a less stressful application [60]. This is an optimistic assumption taken. As a result of the optimisation an application of 100% would lead to almost no ESS operation. Finally,  $BDC_{kWh}$  are calculated according to equation (4) [21]. Adding the variable costs for operation and maintenance results in the total costs per  $kWh_{LT}$ , which arise for every charged kWh in the ESS.

$$(4) \quad BDC_{kWh} = i * \frac{C_{rep} * Q_{inst,bat}}{LT_{total}}$$

A summary of all parameters set in the model is depicted in **Table 1**.

### Scenario analysis

Scenario I assumes a grid connected energy system with no BEV in the system. The scenario shall indicate how economically viable an ESS can be utilised in collaboration with PV and CHP compared to the consumption of electricity from the grid. The installed capacities of  $Q_{inst,BatPV}$ ,  $Q_{inst,BatLP}$  are analysed, thus the scenario is divided into IPV and ILP. Furthermore, self-supply degree and autarky degree are calculated. All results are compared to a base scenario without an integrated ESS.

Scenario II assumes a grid connected energy system now with 74 electric vehicles in the system. The installed capacities of  $Q_{inst,BatPV}$ ,  $Q_{inst,BatLP}$  are again analysed, thus the scenario is divided into IIPV and IILP. It will display the impact of an increasing use of electro mobility on the operation of residential districts.

Scenario III assumes an off-grid energy system and is analysed without any electric vehicle connected. The installed capacities of  $Q_{inst,BatPV}$ ,  $Q_{inst,BatLP}$  are analysed, thus the scenario is divided into IIIPV and IIILP. As the energy demand cannot fully provided by the modelled electricity generation an extra electricity provider is installed. This emergency generation is integrated instead of the EPEX spot market and highly priced. Thus, it is only activated when electricity is missing. Consequently, this scenario will show whether a battery storage system combined with PV and CHP can supply the system autarky.



Table 1 Summary of parameters

<b>Energy generation</b>	<b>CHP</b>	<b>PV</b>	<b>Grid</b>
$P_{\text{installed,el}}$ [kW]	30	184	1,000,000
$C_{\text{var,el}}$ [€cent/kWh]	1.131	5.528	EPEX Spot 2017
<b>ESS</b>	<b>VRF</b>	<b>LFP</b>	<b>VRLA</b>
$Q_{\text{inst,BatPV}}$ [kWh <sub>inst</sub> ]	182	182	182
$Q_{\text{inst,BatLP}}$ [kWh <sub>inst</sub> ]	2,850	2,850	2,850
$LT_{\text{spez}}$ [kWh <sub>LT</sub> /kWh <sub>inst</sub> ]	873	3,854	10,000
$P_{\text{max,chargePV}}=P_{\text{max,dischargePV}}$ [kWh]	25	36	18
$P_{\text{max,chargeLP}}=P_{\text{max,dischargeLP}}$ [kWh]	390	570	285
$\eta_{\text{storage}}$ [%]	98.75	99.90	99.29
$\eta_{\text{charge}} = \eta_{\text{discharge}}$ [%]	82.79	93.08	83.39
$\eta_{\text{total,AC-AC}}$ [%]	69.53	86.73	68.54
$DOD_{\text{max}}$ [%]	80	77	56
$SOC_{\text{start}}$ [%]	50	50	50
$C_{\text{var,Bat}}$ [€cent/kWh <sub>LT</sub> ]	0.547	1.297	1.936
$BDC_{\text{kWh}}$ [€cent/kWh <sub>LT</sub> ]	0.916	1.604	5.269
$C_{\text{var,Bat,total}}$ [€cent/kWh <sub>LT</sub> ]	1.463	2.901	7.205

## Life cycle assessment

LCA is a preferred approach to quantifying potential environmental impacts and is frequently applied [17; 28; 63]. Due to its life cycle approach all stages of life concerning a product or process from material mining over procurement, production, use and end-of-life is considered. All material and energy inputs assigned to processes or products must be considered [27]. LCA is based on the ISO 14044, which is a framework how to conduct an LCA [64; 65].

The goal of the assessment is to provide an analysis of the applied ESS. It is supposed to assist on the decision which ESS to utilise considering the potential environmental impact. Figure 2 depicts the analysed product system and visualises the system boundaries. Production including transport and use phase are analysed. The end-of-life stage is disregarded as the analysed time period is one year. Furthermore, this approach is used in Zackrisson et al. [65]. Recycling processes are already available for VRLA but not yet established for VRF and LFP [5].

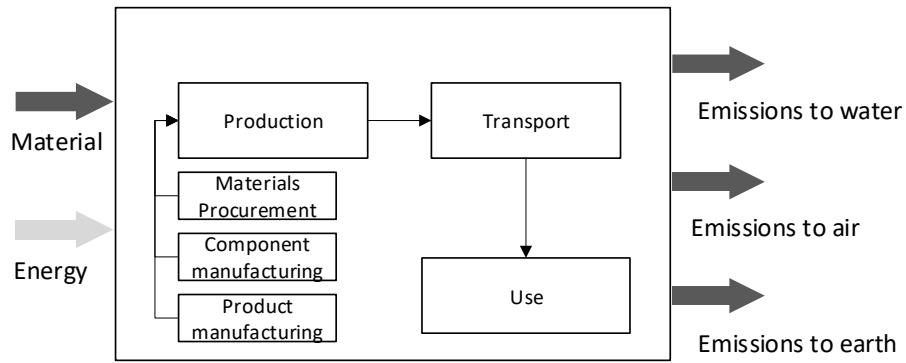


Figure 2 Analysed product system

Often the functional unit is based on installed battery capacity e.g. in McManus [4]. That approach is impractical as ESS properties, especially lifetime and efficiency are varying [17; 16]. By applying the approach of the lifetime throughput, which was already introduced for the variable costs' calculation for the ESS, the lifetime of the battery can be considered [17]. From manufactures data the specific lifetime throughput ( $LT_{spez}$ ) is derived following the equation (5) by averaging different DOD ( $d_n$ ) and their corresponding cycles to failure ( $f_n$ ). The factor  $n$  depends on the considered  $DOD_{max}$  (see Table 1).

$$(5) \quad LT_{spez} = \frac{\sum_{l=1}^n d_n * f_n}{n}$$

Additionally, the AC-AC efficiency (see Table 1) is considered to calculate the electricity losses ( $W_{loss}$ ) due to the storing process.  $LT_{spez}$  is derived from equation (5) where  $\eta_{total,AC-AC}$  represents the AC-AC efficiency of the ESS (see equation 6) [17].

$$(6) \quad W_{loss} = LT_{spez} * \left(1 - \frac{1}{\eta_{total,AC-AC}}\right)$$

Consequently, the functional unit is 1 MWh discharged from the utilised ESS, without considering discharge due to losses.

The International Reference Life Cycle Data System (ILCD) [66] midpoint impact assessment factors are applied as they contain the most advanced assessment factors according to Hauschild et al. [67]. There are 18 different impact categories defined in the ILCD. This study focuses on climate change, resources - mineral, fossils and renewables and ecosystem quality - freshwater ecotoxicity. This selection is based on Peters et al. [28].

### **Life cycle inventory**

The life cycle inventory for the ESS is based on a literature research and the ecoinvent 3.3 database [68]. The material procurement is primarily based on data from ecoinvent, whereas component and product manufacturing, transport and use phase are based on literature research thus being the foreground system. Procurement represents the background system. In the following the different inventories and methodology for the modelling of the LCA are described.

The foreground system of the VRLA is modelled according to Spanos et al. by utilising their published inventory [17]. The battery management system (BMS) is modelled according to Ellingsen et al. [69], as they provide the most detailed inventory for BMS [16]. It substitutes the balancing and control electronics applied by Spanos et al. The share of the BMS of the total weight is not adapted. As Spanos et al. analyse a battery with an energy density of 34 Wh/kg the inventory is assumed to fit for the SAGM 12V/205Ah, which exhibits an energy density of 35.39 Wh/kg.

The inventory for the production of LFP batteries is based on the work of Peters and Weil [16], which created unified inventories for lithium-ion-batteries. Zackrisson et al. describe the manufacturing process for 1 kg of LFP with an anode made of carbon [65], which is representing the utilised LFP TR 12.8V/92Ah. For the modelling default providers for BMS [69], pack housing [70], cell package [69], electrolyte [71], cathode [70] and anode binder [72] according to Peters and Weil [16] are set. The full inventory can be obtained from Peters and Weil [16]. As Zackrisson et al. analyse a battery with an energy density of 93 Wh/kg the inventory is assumed to fit for the TR 12.8V/92Ah, which exhibits an energy density of 95.74 Wh/kg.

The inventory for the production of 1 kg of VRF battery is based on Weber et al. [6]. The energy density is taken from Weber et al. [6] as the datasheet does not provide any data.

Preferably market processes from the ecoinvent database 3.3 are utilised to model the background system as those represent a consumption mix dependent on a region or product [68]. The production is assumed to take place in Europe, thus processes delivering energy are modelled when possible with European energy mixes. For the procurement of materials mostly global processes are applied, which use a global supply chain [68].

To assess the transport from the production plant to the final user an average intra Europe transport distance of 600 km is assumed [73]. Furthermore, it is assumed that the inverter is transported with the battery as one system. The inventory of the inverter is scaled to the needed maximum power for each ESS thus the inverter size is varying for each applied battery system. As a result of the process an amount of kWh installed capacity is calculated based on the energy densities of each ESS.

The use phase is basically just converting the delivered installed capacity into a  $LT_{total}$  by applying the  $LT_{spez}$  for each ESS. Considering the efficiency, a part of the  $LT_{total}$  is converted to losses, while the rest is usable electricity discharged from the battery. The considered electricity mixes to cover the battery losses is covered by the “market group for electricity, low voltage electricity, low voltage for Europe without Switzerland” from the ecoinvent database 3.3. assuming a usage in Europe.

## Results

### Dispatch optimisation – Scenario I

The optimisation of scenario IPV shows that only the LFP and the VRF battery system are able to decrease the total electricity demand of the modelled system compared to the base scenario. The VRLA is only charged to cover its losses due to the constrained minimum state of charge, thus it is increasing the energy demand of the system by 1,498 kWh. The energy system with a VRLA applied, consumes the most energy from the electricity grid and utilises the lowest amount of PV and CHP generated electricity. Consequently, it exhibits the lowest degree in self-supply and autarky. The energy system using the LFP battery system consumes the lowest amount of electricity and decreases the consumption by 17,968 kWh. Electricity supplied by the grid accounts for 62,417 kWh and is the lowest value achieved in scenario I. A high utilised share of PV and CHP increases the degree of self-supply by 10% and autarky by 6% compared to the base scenario. The VRF system reduces the overall electricity generation by 9,534 kWh and utilises the highest share of CHP and PV, which is mainly due to its comparatively high inefficiencies during charge, discharge and storage. A summary of the results is displayed in Figure 3.

The ESS performances are displayed in Figure 4. PV electricity is mostly stored in the ESS followed by CHP and the grid. The VRLA exhibits the lowest amount of discharged electricity due to its expensiveness. The highest electricity losses are achieved by applying the VRF battery system, which suffers from the lowest total efficiency. The highest impact can be allocated to the losses during storing the electricity especially for higher installed capacities. The highest discharge – charge efficiency reaches the LFP system in scenario IPV with 84%.

When analysing the yearly demand curve of the base scenario it exhibits the typical patterns with a higher electricity demand during winter periods and lower during summer periods. The entire year, electricity is supplied by the electricity grid, but showing a small amount during the summer period. The average CHP electricity generation accounts for 18.23 kW and is increased to 18.8 kW by utilising the LFP. The CHP only charges electricity into the battery during winter periods, when electricity generation from PV is decreasing and EPEX prices are high. The electricity supplied by the grid is reduced and reaches its smallest value during summer periods. During winter periods grid electricity supply increases due to lower PV generation. Noticeable are peaks of grid electricity supply due to falling electricity prices up to 0 €cent per kWh. The average grid electricity charge power accounts for 0.2 kW over the year. The PV electricity feed-in the grid can be delayed by eight days compared to the base scenario. High electricity feed-in from PV is available from the 52<sup>nd</sup> day until the 305<sup>th</sup> day. The average PV charge power into the ESS accounts for 2.6 kW over the year.

Utilising the VRF system, almost the same yearly curve occurs, showing a slightly higher charge of PV electricity into the battery over the year most likely due to the higher losses of the VRF battery. The average electricity power of CHP increases to 19.4 kW. PV and grid electricity are charged into the battery with an average power of 3.4 kW and 0.4 kW respectively. Concerning the VRLA the dispatch optimisation results show almost the base scenario due its high battery degradation costs.

Scenario ILP shows a tremendous increase in grid electricity consumption of 23,208 kWh for the VRLA and 31,883 kWh for the VRF system. Only the LFP system slightly reduces the grid electricity consumption by 92 kWh. The VRLA and VRF systems store higher amounts of electricity generated by PV and CHP to cover their efficiency losses. This results in higher self-supply rates, as battery losses are considered as demand. Only the LFP system is able to deliver a significantly higher amount of electricity than in scenario IPV, which leads to a slight increase in the degree of autarky (+2%) and self-supply (+2%). The increase is also based on higher losses of the battery, which are covered by a higher electricity charge from PV. All results are summarized in Table 3.

The analysed yearly demand curve exhibits higher charge power into the ESS by the electricity grid, especially during price periods when prices falling to 0 €cent per kWh.

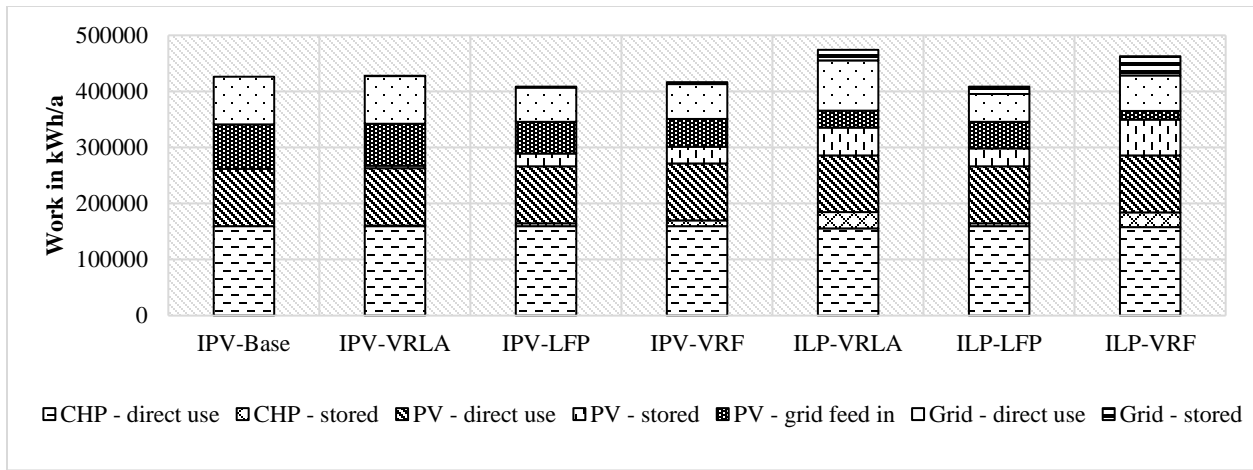


Figure 3 Scenario I - utilized electricity generation for demand covering

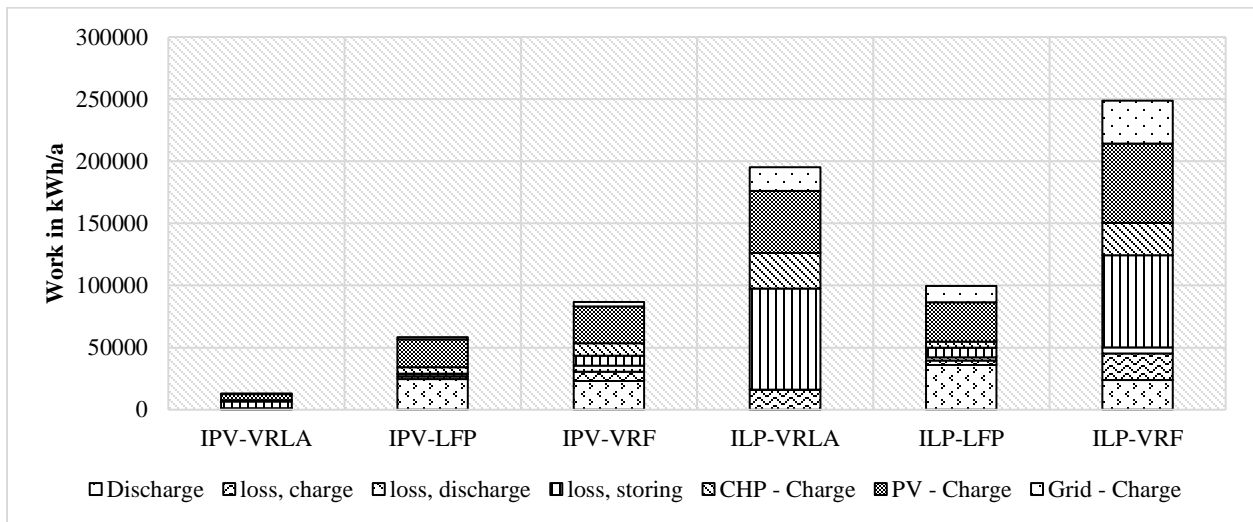


Figure 4 Scenario I storage charge/discharge performance

### Dispatch optimisation - Scenario II

Comparing the two base scenarios additional 106,054 kWh per year are consumed in scenario II due to the electricity consumption of the electric vehicles. This extra demand is mostly covered by electricity from the grid, which almost doubles, followed by CHP and PV generation with an increase of 14,688 and 8,813 kWh per year respectively.

The utilisation of the VRLA system shows the same results as in scenario I and is not further analysed. Again, the energy system using the LFP battery system generates the lowest amount of electricity and decreases the generation by 21,998 kWh compared to the base scenario. Grid delivered electricity accounts for 141,306 kWh and is the lowest value achieved in scenario II. A high utilised electricity share of PV and CHP generation increases the degree of self-supply by 9% and autarky by 5% compared to the base scenario. The VRF battery system reduces the overall electricity generation by 9,942 kWh and utilises the highest share of CHP and PV generation. It reaches the same value for self-

supply degree but a lower value for the autarky degree (63%) compared to the LFP battery system. A summary of the results is displayed in Figure 5.

The ESS performances are displayed in Figure 6. PV electricity is mostly stored in the ESS followed by CHP and grid electricity. The VRF, which suffers from the lowest total efficiency, exhibits the highest losses. The highest efficiency regarding discharge – charge ratio reaches the LFP system in scenario IIPV with 85%, whereas the VRF system reaches 54%. Utilising the LFP battery system the CHP generation increases to 20.4 kW. The CHP is again charging electricity into the battery during winter periods, when electricity generation from PV is decreasing and EPEX prices are high. This occurs, when the CHP cannot provide enough electricity to cover the entire demand. Compared to scenario I those periods increased slightly. For the entire year the electricity supplied by the grid increased compared to scenario I, resulting in no periods of self-supply. During winter periods grid electricity supply again increases due to lower PV generation. Noticeable are again peaks of grid electricity supply due to low electricity prices. The average grid electricity charge power accounts for 0.25 kW over the year. The PV grid feed-in starting point can be delayed again. The average PV power charge rate accounts for 3.1 kW over the year.

Utilising the VRF system, almost the same yearly curve occurs, showing a slightly higher charge of PV electricity into the battery over the year. The average electricity power of CHP increases to 20.6 kW. PV and grid electricity are charged into the battery with an average power of 3.5 kW and 0.6 kW respectively.

Scenario IILP shows a tremendous increase in grid electricity consumption of 28,706 kWh for the VRLA and 37,335 kWh for the VRF system. Only the LFP system reduces the grid electricity consumption by 11,922 kWh. The VRLA and VRF systems store higher amounts of electricity generated by PV and CHP to cover their efficiency losses. This results in higher self-supply rates, when battery losses are considered as demand. LFP and VRF system are able to deliver a significantly higher amount of electricity than in scenario IIPV, which leads to an increase in the degree of autarky (+6%) and self-supply (+7%) at least for the LFP system. The self-supply degree of the VRF system increases by 4% as the total losses are increasing as well. The autarky degree decreases to 57%. Only the LFP system can reduce total electricity demand significantly by utilising generated PV electricity. All results are summarized in Table 3.

The analysed yearly demand curve exhibits higher charge power into the ESS by the electricity grid, especially during price periods when prices falling to 0 €cent per kWh.

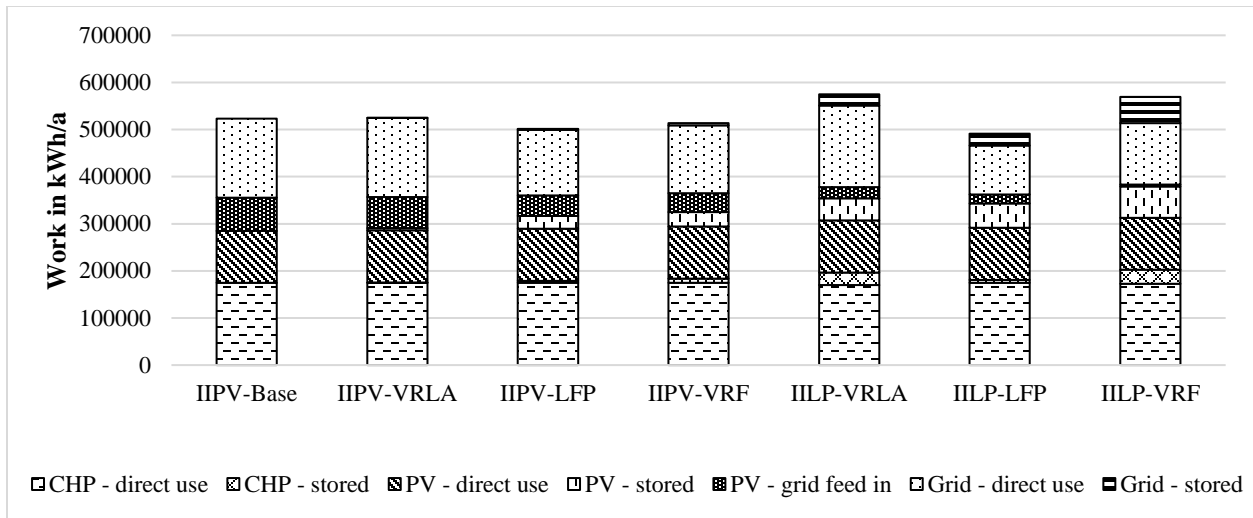


Figure 5 Scenario II - utilized electricity generation for demand covering

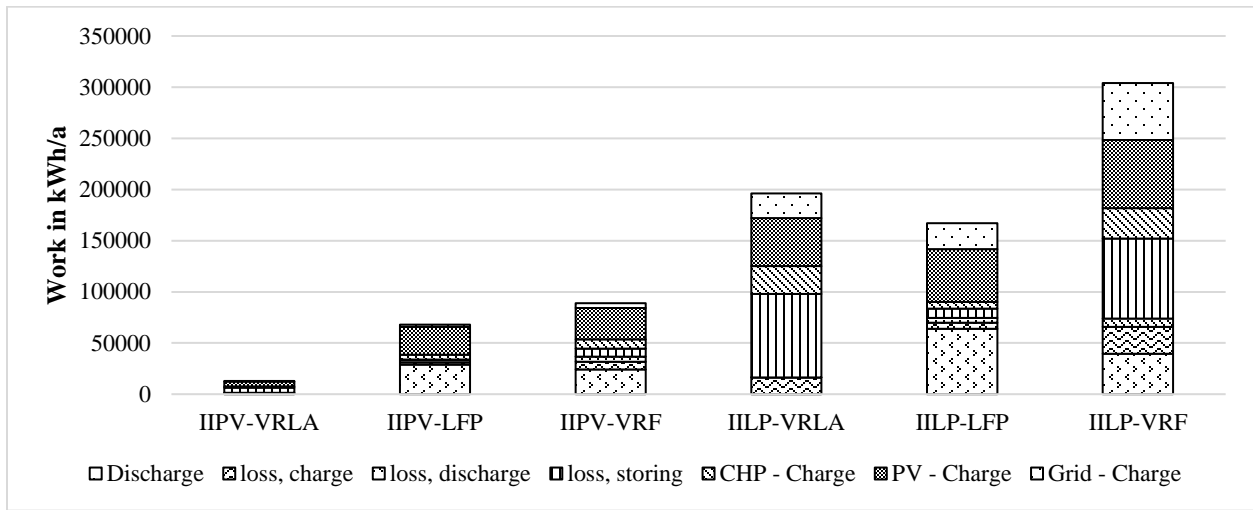


Figure 6 Scenario II storage charge/discharge performance

### Dispatch optimisation - Scenario III

In general, the designed energy model is not able to sustain autarky. All three ESS can reach self-supply degrees over 76% and autarky degrees over 87% for the analysed capacities in IIPV and IILP. Autarky periods during the year can be seen during periods of high PV electricity generation mainly in the middle of the year for all ESS. Although the VRLA and VRF systems are competitive compared to the LFP system in scenario IIPV they lose ground in scenario IILP caused by high losses during electricity storing. As the LFP system achieves the highest values of self-supply (86%) and autarky degree (90%) in IILP it is closer analysed. The lowest amount of emergency electricity and electricity consumption is reached utilising the LFP battery system in IILP. The LFP storage behaviour in IILP shows a decrease of electricity generation of 5,880 kWh per year and an increase of storage losses of 10,400 kWh



compared to IIIPV. The losses are mainly covered by PV electricity, which utilisation increases by 16,280 kWh. The total amount supplied by the emergency generation decreases by 12,976 kWh.

The ESS performances are displayed in Figure 8. PV electricity is mostly stored in the ESS followed by CHP. The VRF exhibits the highest losses. The highest efficiency regarding discharge – charge ratio reaches the LFP system in scenario IIILP with 75%.

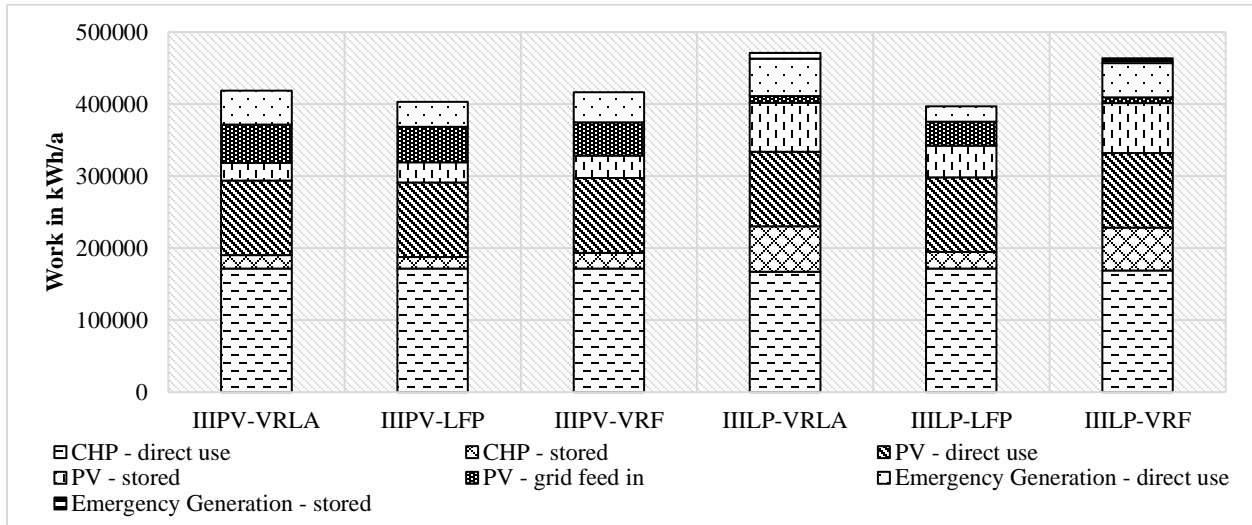


Figure 7 Scenario III - utilized electricity generation for demand covering

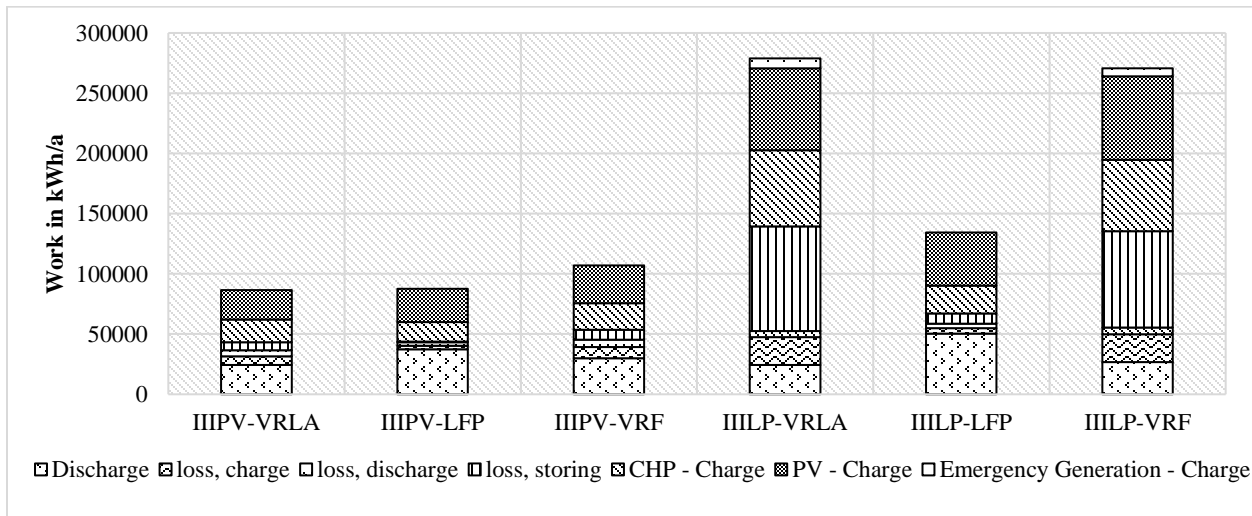


Figure 8 Scenario III storage charge/discharge performance

## LCA

When discharging 1 MWh out of the ESS different installed capacities and masses are necessary due to different efficiencies and energy densities respectively. The highest mass achieves the VRLA due to its low energy density and  $LT_{spez}$ . The low  $LT_{spez}$  leads to high replacement rates thus to a high amount of total installed capacity to provide the 1 MWh. The high  $LT_{spez}$  of VRF results in a low installed capacity but caused by the low energy density the mass is still higher than the mass of the LFP (see Table 2). The mass has a high impact on the impact category resources as depicted in Figure 10. The high utilised mass of VRLA results in a total resource depletion of 3.26 kg Sb-Eq and is significantly higher than the values for LFP (0.02 kg Sb-Eq) and VRF (0.01 kg Sb-Eq) and primarily caused by the lead production. The amount for LFP is to 60% based on the production of the BMS. The production of the VRF battery module contributes 40% to the total impact. For the impact category climate change most impacts occur due to electricity losses of the ESS, whereas LFP emitting the lowest total amount of kg CO<sub>2</sub>-Eq followed by VRF and VRLA (see Figure 11). The highest share of impacts in the battery system production hold cell production for LFP (15% of the total emissions). For VRF the highest impact is caused by the electrolyte production (15% of the total emissions) whereas the lead production is primarily causing most impacts during production for the VRLA battery system.

Table 2 ESS capacities and masses

ESS	VRLA	LFP	VRF
Capacity [kWh <sub>inst</sub> ]	1.65	0.30	0.15
Mass [kg]	47	3	6

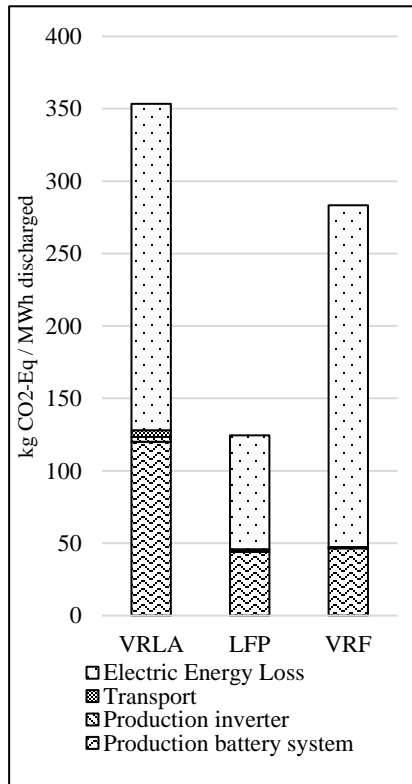


Figure 11 Comparison of the results for climate change

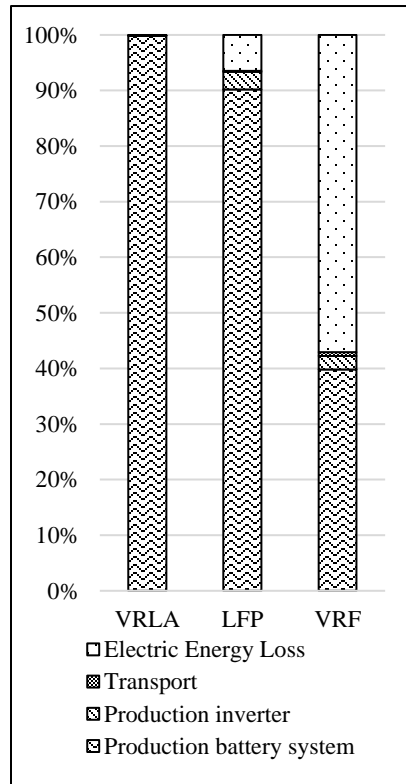


Figure 10 Comparison of the results for Resources - mineral fossils and renewables

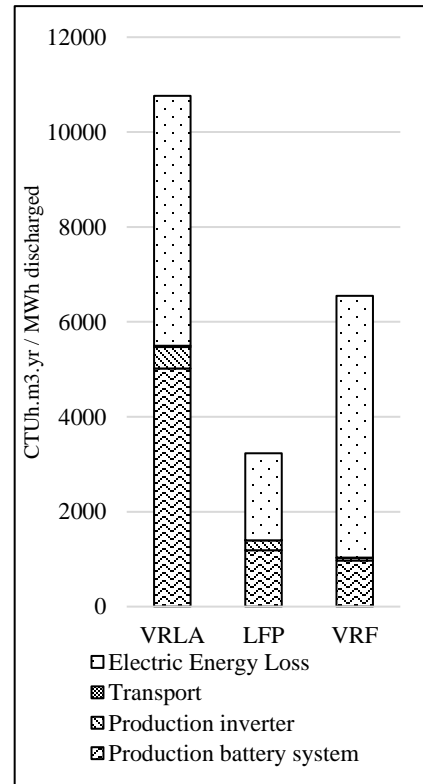


Figure 9 Comparison of the results for Ecosystem quality - freshwater ecotoxicity

The emissions for climate change for the analysed ESS are in line with recent literature [17; 5; 6]. Electricity losses contribute highly to the impact of freshwater ecotoxicity (see Figure 9). Again, the high amount of lead results in a high impact during lead production for the VRLA. The cell production for the LFP is main driver of the impact category (21% of total emissions), whereas the electrolyte production for the VRF battery module is emitting the most impacts for the VRF (14% of total emissions).

## Conclusions

Generally, the LFP battery system shows the best constellation of variable costs, energy density, efficiencies and lifetime. It is followed by the VRF system on condition the installed capacity is 182 kWh<sub>inst.</sub>. Then it is achieving similar degrees of self-supply and autarky when applied in the energy system model. Consequently, those ESS in combination with PV and CHP are competitive with the EPEX spot market under the taken assumptions in a grid connected system. The VRLA system is almost not operated during the analysed year caused by its low cycle life and high battery degradation costs respectively. High cycle life of LFP and VRF compensates their high specific costs per installed kWh. Due to the low battery degradation costs those ESS are operated more often during the analysed year. They are reaching only low amounts of used lifetime throughput, which is in line that a stationary application is less stressful for ESS. Thus, making the assumption of considering only 20% of replacement costs more likely. But it is questioning the approach only considering battery degradation costs based on cycle aging as the calendric aging might have more influence.

In scenario I too high installed capacities in the grid connected system are not recommended as they only increase storage losses. However, an increasing demand due to BEVs can make an extension of storage capacity useful. Consequently, both demand curve and supply curve are decisive for the optimal storage capacity, as it can assist to compensate the daily shift of demand and PV supply. Self-discharge rates per hour are decisive for ESS with high capacities. Thus, making the VRF system the more recommended system for hourly energy shift due its high storage losses. The LFP system shows potential being a daily storage system for instance in off-grid situations as it is able to store electricity over time more efficiently. It is noticeable, that an significant increase of storage capacity only results in little increases of the degrees of self-supply and autarky, which is in line with [50] and [51].

The analysed ESS are not able to maintain autarky in the analysed system as the summer winter discrepancy cannot be closed. The LFP reaches the highest autarky degree in the off-grid scenario with an installed capacity of 2,850 kWh<sub>inst.</sub>. Combined with long-term storage system with low self- discharge rates autarky might be possible. VRF and

VRLA suffer from high inefficiencies in scenario III. Thus, they are not recommended for high capacities in off-grid scenarios as they need extra supply to maintain their minimum state of charge.

The VRLA shows the highest impacts in all assessed categories due to its low energy density and low cycle life, which is significantly increasing the lead demand. The carbon dioxide emissions in the production phase of VRF and LFP are almost the same. During the use phase the high inefficiencies of the VRF system are contributing mainly to its impact. Substituting the European electricity mix with an electricity generation from renewables will reduce impacts due to losses for all three systems and all impact categories. Consequently, the source of electricity is an important criterion, when analysing the use phase of batteries. An increase of efficiency of the VRF system will result in an improvement in the categories of climate change and freshwater ecotoxicity. The LFP battery system consumes a higher amount of resources compared to the VRF system. The LFP system is able to store electricity with lower losses consequently its application is recommended in situations electricity is a scarce good. When electricity is over produced, for instance by PV, the VRF is recommended due to its lower variable costs and lower resource depletion.

Table 3 Scenario I result

<b>electricity generation [kWh/a]</b>	<b>IPV-Base</b>	<b>IPV-VRLA</b>	<b>IPV-LFP</b>	<b>IPV-VRF</b>	<b>ILP-VRLA</b>	<b>ILP-LFP</b>	<b>ILP-VRF</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>426,171</b>	<b>427,669</b>	<b>408,204</b>	<b>416,638</b>	<b>474,373</b>	<b>408,236</b>	<b>462,830</b>
CHP - total	159,764	160,949	164,712	169,701	184,444	164,836	184,010
CHP - direct use	159,764	159,759	159,740	159,595	155,873	159,764	158,138
CHP - stored	-	1,190	4,972	10,106	28,571	5,072	25,872
PV - total	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074
PV - used	101,739	106,566	124,235	131,414	151,140	133,382	165,588
PV - direct use	101,739	101,713	101,737	101,702	101,365	101,740	101,620
PV - stored	-	4,853	22,498	29,711	49,775	31,641	63,968
PV - grid feed in	79,335	74,508	56,840	49,661	29,934	47,693	15,486
Grid - total	85,333	85,646	62,417	65,862	108,854	62,325	97,745
Grid - direct use	85,333	85,184	60,746	62,341	89,554	49,224	63,177
Grid - stored	-	463	1,672	3,521	19,300	13,101	34,568
<b>electricity stored [kWh/a]</b>	<b>IPV-Base</b>	<b>IPV-VRLA</b>	<b>IPV-LFP</b>	<b>IPV-VRF</b>	<b>ILP-VRLA</b>	<b>ILP-LFP</b>	<b>ILP-VRF</b>
<b>Discharge</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>24,614</b>	<b>23,197</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>36,108</b>	<b>23,901</b>
<b>Loss, total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,325</b>	<b>4,528</b>	<b>20,141</b>	<b>97,602</b>	<b>13,707</b>	<b>100,508</b>
loss, charge	-	1,081	2,002	7,458	16,219	3,422	21,411
loss, discharge	-	36	1,816	4,822	9	2,664	4,968
loss, storing	-	5,208	710	7,860	81,374	7,621	74,129
<b>Charge</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,506</b>	<b>29,142</b>	<b>43,338</b>	<b>97,647</b>	<b>49,815</b>	<b>124,409</b>
CHP - Charge	-	1,190	4,972	10,106	28,571	5,072	25,872
PV - Charge	-	4,853	22,498	29,711	49,775	31,641	63,968
Grid - Charge	-	463	1,672	3,521	19,300	13,101	34,568
	<b>w/o</b>	<b>IPV-VRLA</b>	<b>IPV-LFP</b>	<b>IPV-VRF</b>	<b>ILP-VRLA</b>	<b>ILP-LFP</b>	<b>ILP-VRF</b>
self - supply - degree	61%	63%	71%	72%	71%	73%	76%
autarky degree	75%	74%	81%	78%	58%	83%	63%

Table 4 Scenario II result

electricity generation [kWh/a]	IIPV-Base	IIPV-VRLA	IIPV-LFP	IIPV-VRF	IILP-VRLA	IILP-LFP	IILP-VRF
<b>Total</b>	<b>523,413</b>	<b>525,046</b>	<b>501,415</b>	<b>513,470</b>	<b>574,840</b>	<b>491,511</b>	<b>569,550</b>
CHP - total	174,452	175,630	179,035	183,610	196,719	181,052	202,356
CHP - direct use	174,452	174,405	174,429	174,388	169,715	174,403	172,549
CHP - stored	-	1,226	4,605	9,222	27,003	6,650	29,806
PV - total	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074
PV - used	110,553	115,238	137,785	140,939	157,105	162,080	176,948
PV - direct use	110,553	110,510	110,562	110,557	110,155	110,498	110,320
PV - stored	-	4,728	27,223	30,382	46,949	51,583	66,628
PV - grid feed in	70,522	65,837	43,290	40,135	23,970	18,994	4,127
Grid - total	167,886	168,341	141,306	148,785	197,047	129,384	186,120
Grid - direct use	167,886	167,856	139,109	143,903	172,960	104,036	130,462
Grid - stored	-	485	2,196	4,882	24,087	25,347	55,658
<b>electricity stored [kWh/a]</b>	<b>IIPV-Base</b>	<b>IIPV-VRLA</b>	<b>IIPV-LFP</b>	<b>IIPV-VRF</b>	<b>IILP-VRLA</b>	<b>IILP-LFP</b>	<b>IILP-VRF</b>
<b>Discharge</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>28,790</b>	<b>24,042</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>63,954</b>	<b>39,560</b>
<b>Loss, total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,318</b>	<b>5,234</b>	<b>20,444</b>	<b>97,979</b>	<b>19,626</b>	<b>112,532</b>
loss, charge	-	1,069	2,337	7,656	16,284	5,742	26,175
loss, discharge	-	24	2,124	4,998	12	4,718	8,223
loss, storing	-	5,225	773	7,790	81,683	9,166	78,134
<b>Charge</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,438</b>	<b>34,024</b>	<b>44,486</b>	<b>98,039</b>	<b>83,580</b>	<b>152,092</b>
CHP - Charge	-	1,226	4,605	9,222	27,003	6,650	29,806
PV - Charge	-	4,728	27,223	30,382	46,949	51,583	66,628
Grid - Charge	-	485	2,196	4,882	24,087	25,347	55,658
self - supply - degree	54%	55%	63%	63%	62%	70%	67%
autarky degree	63%	62%	68%	65%	51%	74%	57%

Table 5 Scenario III result

electricity generation [kWh/a]	IIPV-VRLA	IIPV-LFP	IIPV-VRF	IILP-VRLA	IILP-LFP	IILP-VRF
<b>Total</b>	<b>418,585</b>	<b>402,920</b>	<b>416,350</b>	<b>471,223</b>	<b>397,041</b>	<b>463,650</b>
CHP - total	190,301	187,547	193,583	230,223	194,644	228,354
CHP - direct use	171,531	171,531	171,531	167,060	171,531	169,114
CHP - stored	18,770	16,016	22,052	63,163	23,113	59,240
PV - total	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074	181,074
PV - used	128,108	131,433	135,106	171,714	147,713	172,983
PV - direct use	103,632	103,632	103,632	103,632	103,632	103,632
PV - stored	24,477	27,801	31,475	68,082	44,081	69,351
PV - grid feed in	52,966	49,642	45,968	9,361	33,362	8,092
Emergency Generation - total	47,210	34,299	41,693	59,925	21,322	54,222
Emergency Generation - direct use	47,210	34,299	41,693	51,760	21,322	47,477
Emergency Generation - stored	-	-	-	8,165	-	6,745
<b>electricity stored [kWh/a]</b>	<b>IIPV-VRLA</b>	<b>IIPV-LFP</b>	<b>IIPV-VRF</b>	<b>IILP-VRLA</b>	<b>IILP-LFP</b>	<b>IILP-VRF</b>
<b>Discharge</b>	<b>24,464</b>	<b>37,375</b>	<b>29,981</b>	<b>24,384</b>	<b>50,352</b>	<b>26,614</b>
<b>Loss, total</b>	<b>18,783</b>	<b>6,442</b>	<b>23,546</b>	<b>115,026</b>	<b>16,843</b>	<b>108,722</b>
loss, charge	7,183	3,010	9,212	23,156	4,616	23,291
loss, discharge	4,873	2,757	6,232	4,857	3,714	5,532
loss, storing	6,727	675	8,101	87,013	8,512	79,898
<b>Charge</b>	<b>43,247</b>	<b>43,817</b>	<b>53,527</b>	<b>139,410</b>	<b>67,194</b>	<b>135,336</b>
CHP - Charge	18,770	16,016	22,052	63,163	23,113	59,240
PV - Charge	24,477	27,801	31,475	68,082	44,081	69,351
Emergency Generation - Charge	-	-	-	8,165	-	6,745
self - supply - degree	76%	79%	79%	85%	86%	87%
autarky degree	82%	88%	82%	64%	90%	66%

<b>Nomenclature</b>		<b>Units</b>	
BDC <sub>kWh</sub>	Battery Degradation Costs	Ah	Ampere hours
BEV	Battery Electric Vehicle	CO2-Eq	Carbon Dioxide Equivalents
BMS	Battery Management System	CTUh.	Comparative Toxic Unit
CHP	Combined Heat and Power System	kWh <sub>inst</sub>	Kilowatt Hours Installed
DOD	Depth of Discharge	kWh <sub>LT</sub>	Kilowatt Hours Lifetime Throughput
EPEX	European Energy Exchange	Sb-Eq	Antimony Equivalents
ESS	Electrical Storage System		
ILCD	International Reference Life Cycle Data System		
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment		
LFP	Lithium-Ion-Iron-Phosphate Battery		
Oemof	Open Energy Modelling Framework		
PV	Photovoltaic System		
SOC	State of Charge		
VRF	Vanadium-Redox-Flow Battery		
VRLA	Valve-Regulated-Lead-Acid Battery		

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