

## Optimized Execution of Dispatching

### Algorithmic Intelligence over Steel



The ZIB/TUB/OGE MODAL GasLab Team

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Federal Ministry  
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# Algorithmic Intelligence over Steel



**Your mission**, should you choose to accept it:

Given: A country-wide century-old infrastructure, worth 3 billion \$ that is responsible for delivering 25% of Germany's energy consumption and a plan calling for a 690 million \$ construction upgrade to support the Energiewende and go green.

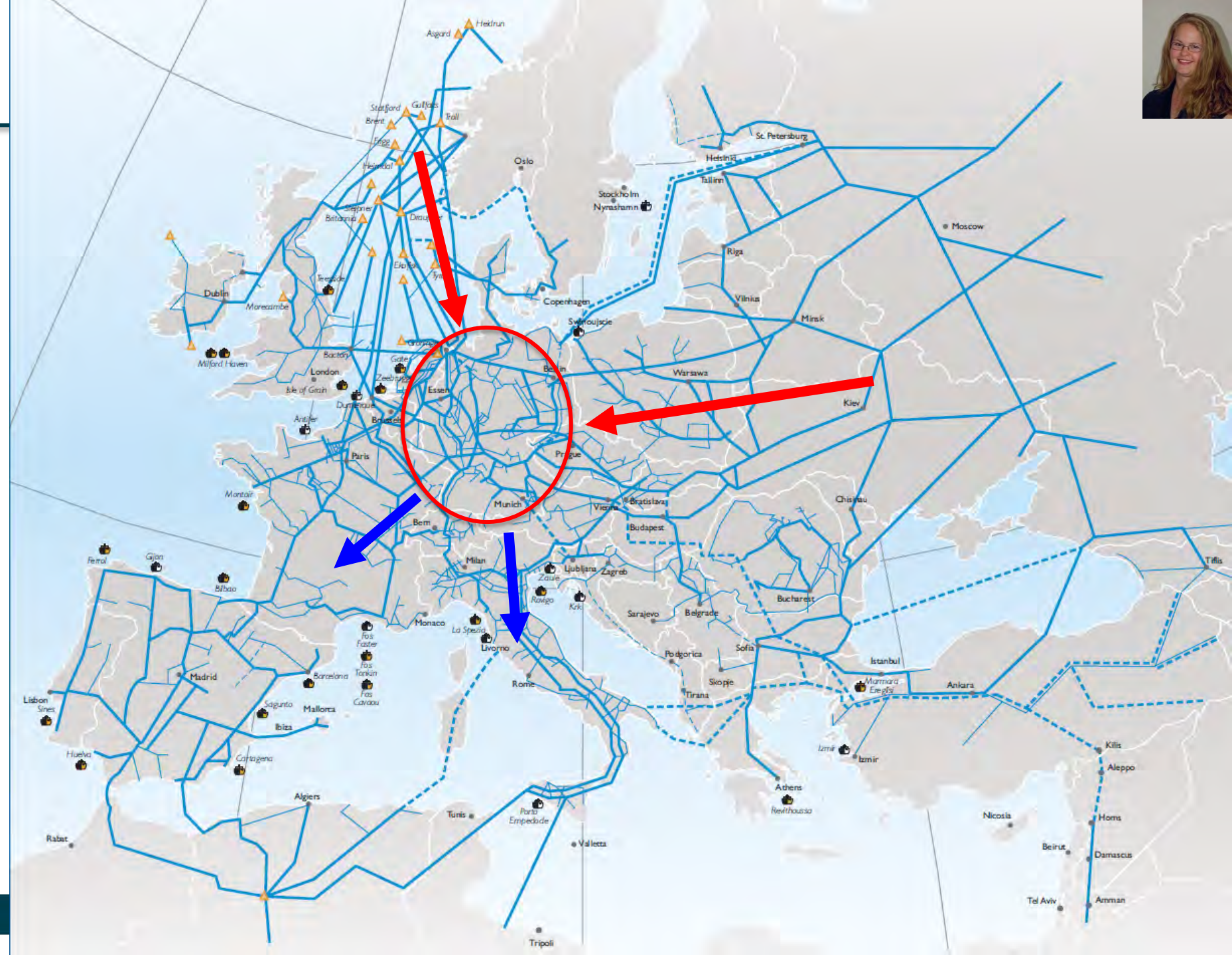
Goal: Build an intelligent decision support system that makes this network ready for the 21st century to avoid burying billions of € in steel.



# The German Gas Network

is the Heart of European Gas Transport

and a critical infrastructure to supply Central, Southern and Western Europe with natural gas from Russia and Norway.



# The Unboundled European Gas Market since 2009

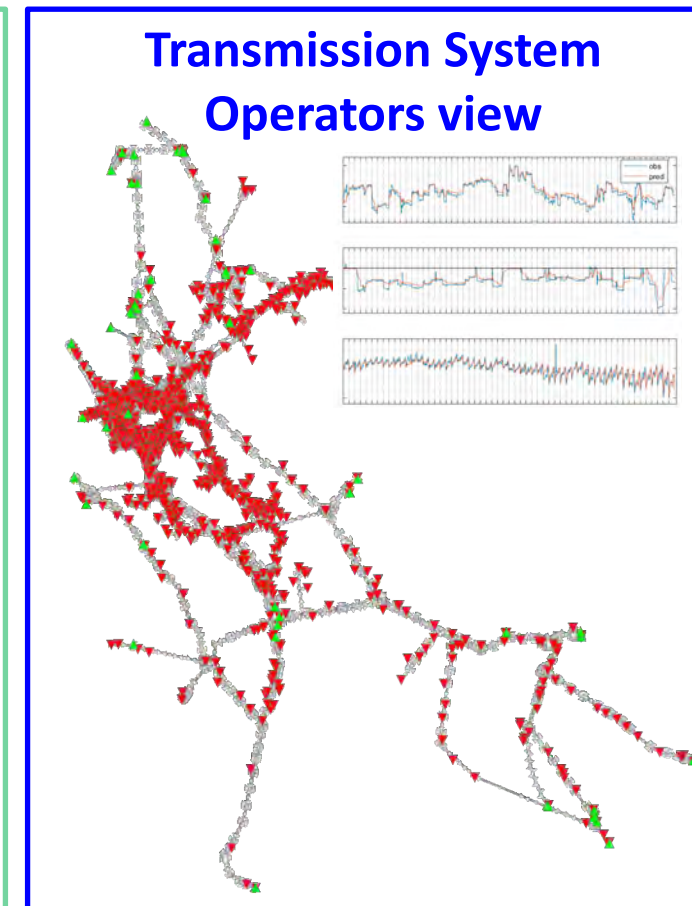
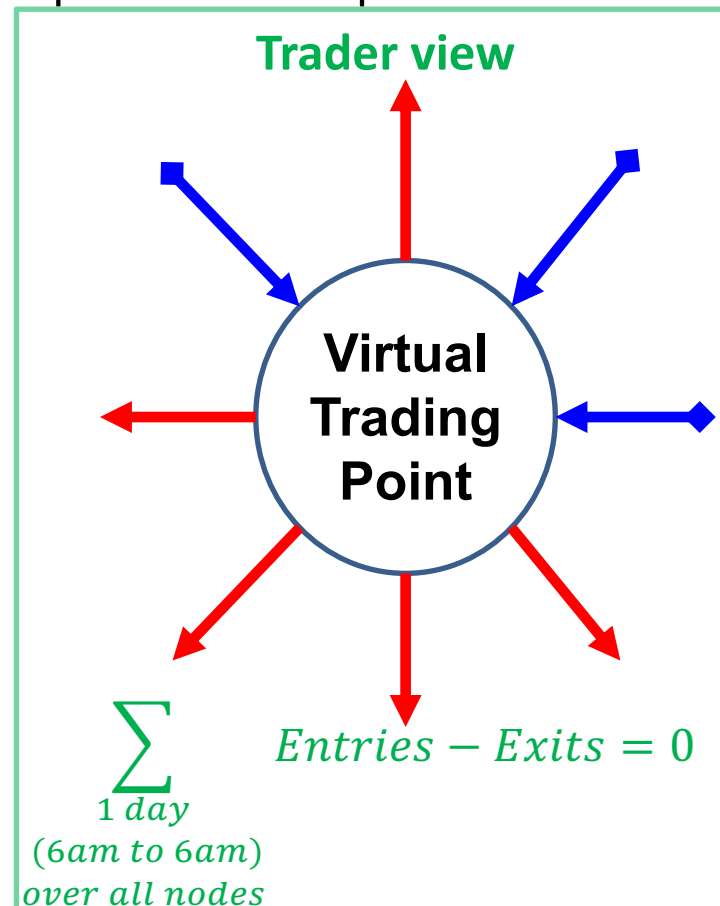


Gas Trading Companies  $\cap$  Transport System Operators =  $\emptyset$

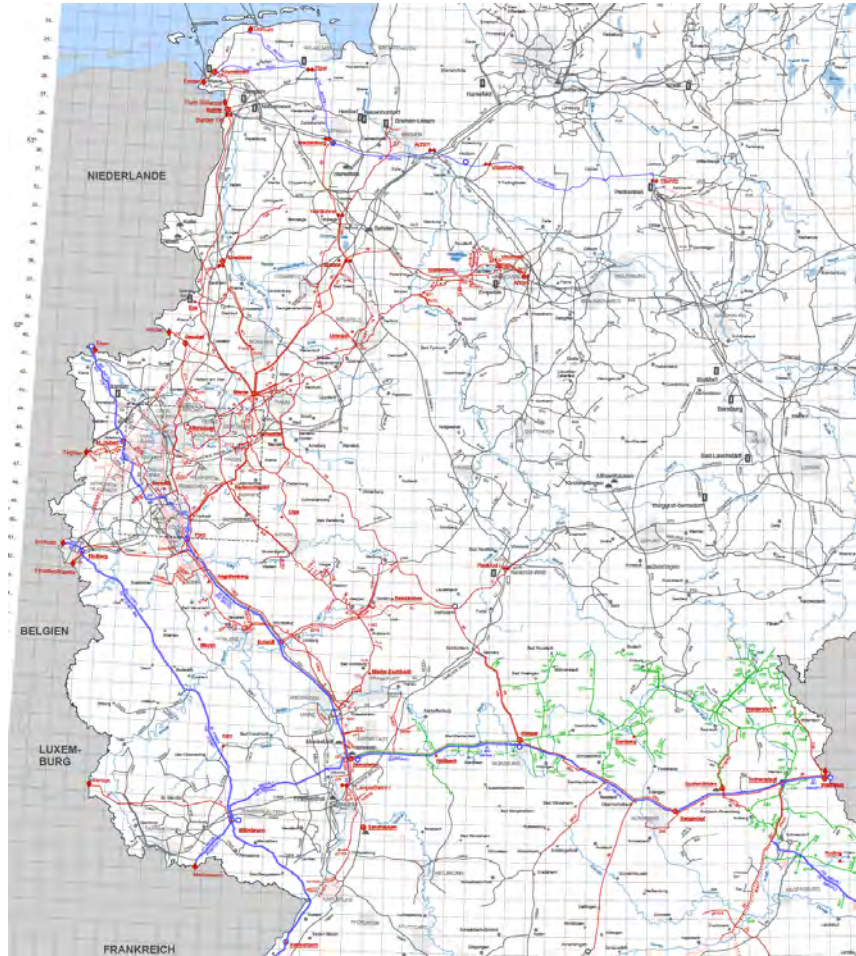
REGULATION (EC) No 715/2009 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

Traders buy and sell gas | transmission system operators transport it.

- ▶ Capacity products are typically either **firm** = sure deliver **or flexible** = best effort.
- ▶ The traders give transport orders to the TSO within the limits of the acquired capacity.
- ▶ The TSO then has to fulfill the order accordingly.
- ▶ German market p.a.:  
**trading \$ > 54 billion**  
**transport \$ > 2 billion**

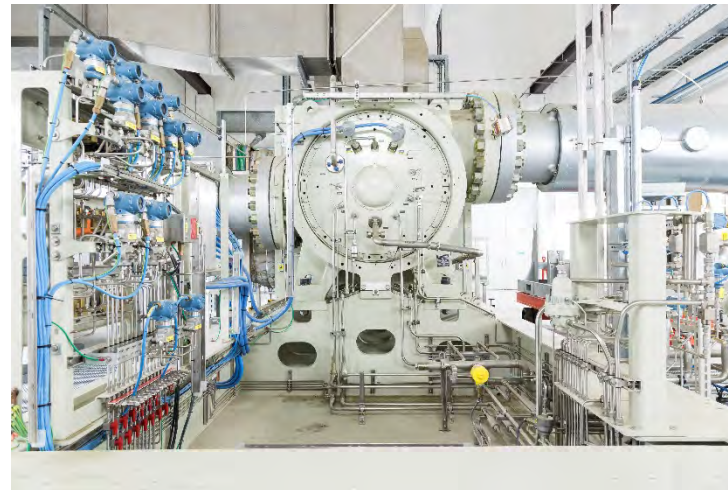


# The Challenge – Gas Transport Network Operations

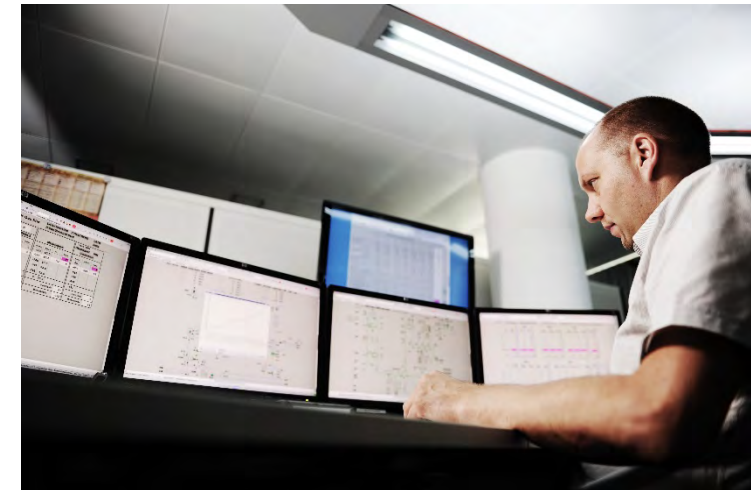


Colored: OGE operated pipelines

- ▶ Central dispatching of OGE controls the operation of more than 100 compressor units, almost 300 control valves and more than 3,000 valves in a 12,000 km gas network.
- ▶ In order to guarantee a secure supply in the future, further IT systems are needed to support the dispatcher.



Turbo Compressor



Dispatcher at work



# Business Impact of Optimized Execution of Dispatching

## Digital Transformation

The use of **AI** for an optimized dispatching addresses **one of our core objectives** within the framework of OGE's digital transformation.

## Corporate Strategy

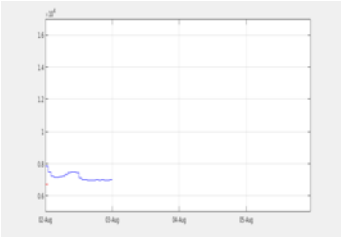
OED will enable OGE to deal with the more complex requirements of a **future gas grid with more or pure hydrogen**.

## Economic Benefits

OED can **avoid network expansion costs of one billion \$ for Germany**, based on planning scenarios for the supply of gas power plants.



# 3 Goals to Optimize Execution of Dispatching

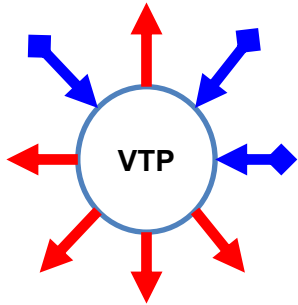


► **Forecast** – High-precision gas-flow prediction

Increases the accuracy by **34%** compared to industry standard.



Used in **operations** since 2018



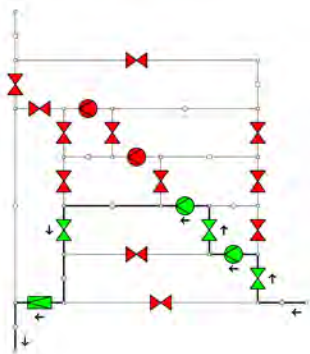
► **FDAC** – Firm Dynamically Allocable Capacity product

Enables the German Energiewende while saving **\$ 690,000,000**.

Based on high quality flow forecasts, detects network conditions, where critical power plants can no longer be safely supplied by the Virtual Trading Point (VTP).



Used in **operations** since 2018



► **KOMPASS** – High Quality Recommendations for Control Operation

Will **ensure security of supply** even in more complex environments  
Improves efficiency of operations.



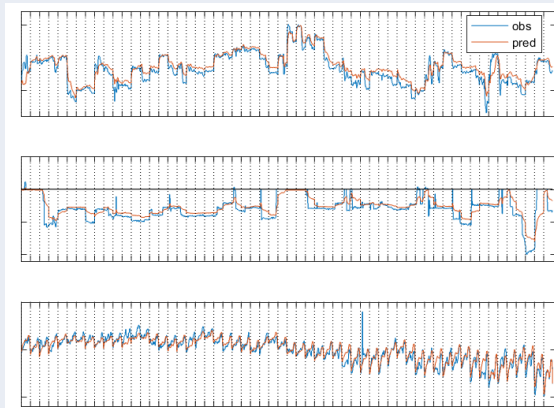
First version in **test phase** since 2019

Enables future possibilities: H<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, power2gas

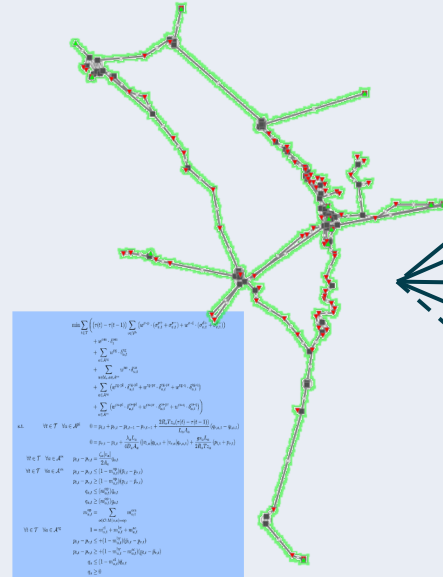




## 1. Forecasting



## 2. Flow Model



## 3. Station Models

Station Mittelbrunn

Station Stolberg

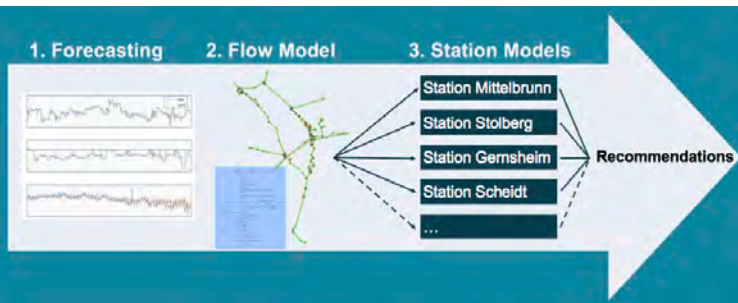
Station Gernsheim

Station Scheidt

...

Recommendations

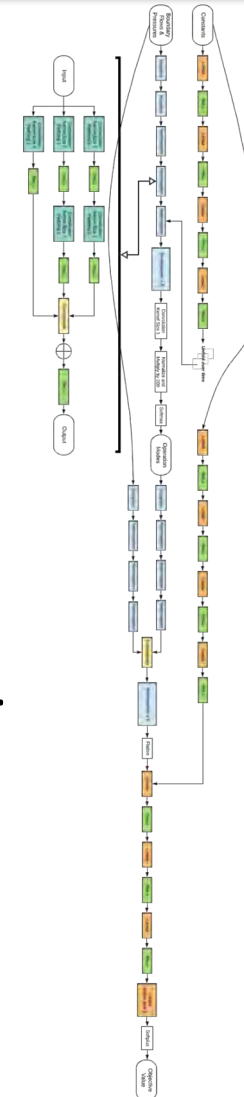




# The KOMPASS near real-time Decision Support System

**Running 24/7, providing updated recommendations every 15 min.**

1. Control Database aggregates new data from 3 external systems every 15 min.
2. Based on the data a valid initial state is constructed.
3. Several heuristics try to devise possible solutions to the overall flow situation.
4. **Mixed-Integer Programming (MILP) based flow model, warm starting using the heuristic solutions, computes an optimized overall strategy.**
5. Result of the flow model defines the demand curves for the individual stations.
6. **For each station in parallel:**
  - ▶ Heuristics quickly devise initial solutions.
  - ▶ **The MILP station model computes optimized actions for the stations.**
7. Actions are combined and postprocessed into recommendations.



**Example: GAN DNN  
ML Station Heuristic**

Two stage architecture inspired by Generative Adversarial Networks

Learning good control decisions with a time-convolutional residual deep neural network

Good, but not optimal decisions in < 0.1 s



# Mixed-Integer Program for Optimal Network Control

Descriptive  
Predictive  
Prescriptive



$$\begin{aligned} \min \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} & \left( (\tau(t) - \tau(t-1)) \sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}^b} (w^{\sigma-p} \cdot (\sigma_{v,t}^{p+} + \sigma_{v,t}^{p-}) + w^{\sigma-d} \cdot (\sigma_{v,t}^{d+} + \sigma_{v,t}^{d-})) \right. \\ & + w^{\text{om}} \cdot \delta_t^{\text{om}} \\ & + \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{rg}}} w^{\text{rg}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{rg}} \\ & + \sum_{u \in \mathcal{U}_a, a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{cs}}} w^{\text{us}} \cdot \delta_{u,t}^{\text{us}} \\ & + \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{rg}}} (w^{\text{rg-pl}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{rg-pl}} + w^{\text{rg-pr}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{rg-pr}} + w^{\text{rg-q}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{rg-q}}) \\ & \left. + \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{cs}}} (w^{\text{cs-pl}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{cs-pl}} + w^{\text{cs-pr}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{cs-pr}} + w^{\text{cs-q}} \cdot \delta_{a,t}^{\text{cs-q}}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Objective function

Momentum equation

$$\text{s.t. } \forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}} \quad 0 = p_{l,t} + p_{r,t} - p_{l,t-1} - p_{r,t-1} + \frac{2R_s T z_a (\tau(t) - \tau(t-1))}{L_a A_a} (q_{r,a,t} - q_{l,a,t})$$

Pressure loss

$$0 = p_{r,t} - p_{l,t} + \frac{\lambda_a L_a}{4D_a A_a} (|v_{l,a}| q_{l,a,t} + |v_{r,a}| q_{r,a,t}) + \frac{g s_a L_a}{2R_s T z_a} (p_{l,t} + p_{r,t})$$

$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{rs}}$

$$p_{l,t} - p_{r,t} = \frac{\zeta_a |v_a|}{2A_a} q_{a,t}$$

Resistor constraint

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{va}} \quad p_{l,t} - p_{r,t} \leq (1 - m_{a,t}^{\text{op}})(\bar{p}_{l,t} - \bar{p}_{r,t})$$

$$p_{l,t} - p_{r,t} \geq (1 - m_{a,t}^{\text{op}})(\bar{p}_{l,t} - \bar{p}_{r,t})$$

$$q_{a,t} \leq (m_{a,t}^{\text{op}}) \bar{q}_{a,t}$$

$$q_{a,t} \geq (m_{a,t}^{\text{op}}) \bar{q}_{a,t}$$

$$m_{a,t}^{\text{op}} = \sum_{o \in \mathcal{O}: M(o,a)=\text{op}} m_{o,t}^{\text{om}}$$

Valves

$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{rg}}$

$$1 = m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}} + m_{a,t}^{\text{by}} + m_{a,t}^{\text{ac}}$$

$$p_{l,t} - p_{r,t} \leq (1 - m_{a,t}^{\text{by}})(\bar{p}_{l,t} - \bar{p}_{r,t})$$

$$p_{l,t} - p_{r,t} \geq (1 - m_{a,t}^{\text{by}} - m_{a,t}^{\text{ac}})(\bar{p}_{l,t} - \bar{p}_{r,t})$$

$$q_a \leq (1 - m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}}) \bar{q}_a$$

$$q_a \geq 0$$

Regulators

$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{cs}}$

$$1 = \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_a} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} + m_{a,t}^{\text{by}} + m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}}$$

$$p_{l,t} = p_{a,t}^{\text{by}} + p_{a,t}^{\text{l-cl}} + \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_a} p_{c,a,t}^{\text{l-cf}}$$

$$p_{r,t} = p_{a,t}^{\text{by}} + p_{a,t}^{\text{r-cl}} + \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_a} p_{c,a,t}^{\text{r-cf}}$$

$$q_{a,t} = q_{a,t}^{\text{by}} + \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_a} q_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}}$$

$$p_{c,a,t}^{\text{l-cf}} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \leq p_{c,a,t}^{\text{l-cl}} \leq \bar{p}_{c,a,t}^{\text{l-cf}} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}_a$$

$$\bar{p}_{c,a,t}^{\text{r-cf}} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \leq p_{c,a,t}^{\text{r-cl}} \leq \bar{p}_{c,a,t}^{\text{r-cf}} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}_a$$

$$q_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \leq q_{c,a,t}^{\text{cl}} \leq \bar{q}_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}_a$$

$$p_{a,t}^{\text{by}} m_{a,t}^{\text{by}} \leq p_{a,t} \leq \bar{p}_{a,t}^{\text{by}} m_{a,t}^{\text{by}}$$

$$q_{a,t}^{\text{by}} m_{a,t}^{\text{by}} \leq q_{a,t} \leq \bar{q}_{a,t}^{\text{by}} m_{a,t}^{\text{by}}$$

$$p_{a,t}^{\text{l-cl}} m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}} \leq p_{a,t} \leq \bar{p}_{a,t}^{\text{l-cl}} m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}}$$

$$p_{a,t}^{\text{r-cl}} m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}} \leq p_{a,t} \leq \bar{p}_{a,t}^{\text{r-cl}} m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}}$$

$$w \cdot p_{c,a,t}^{\text{l-cf}} + x \cdot p_{c,a,t}^{\text{r-cf}} + y \cdot q_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} + z m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} \leq 0 \quad \forall (w, x, y, z) \in \mathcal{H}_c \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}_a$$

Station selection

$$m_{a,t}^{\text{by}} = \sum_{o \in \mathcal{O}: M(o,a)=\text{by}} m_{o,t}^{\text{om}}$$

$$m_{a,t}^{\text{cl}} = \sum_{o \in \mathcal{O}: M(o,a)=\text{cl}} m_{o,t}^{\text{om}}$$

$$m_{c,a,t}^{\text{cf}} = \sum_{o \in \mathcal{O}: M(o,a)=c} m_{o,t}^{\text{om}} \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}_a$$

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad 1 = \sum_{o \in \mathcal{O}} m_{o,t}^{\text{om}}$$

$$1 = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}} m_{f,t}^{\text{fd}}$$

Compressor station

Flow conservation and demand

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}^b \quad 0 = \sum_{(l,v)=a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{v,a,t} - \sum_{(v,r)=a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{v,a,t}$$

$$+ \sum_{(l,v)=a \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{a,t} - \sum_{(v,r)=a \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{a,t} + d_{v,t}$$

$$d_{v,t} \geq (1 - \sum_{f=(f^+,f^-) \in \mathcal{F}: v \notin f^-} m_{f,t}^{\text{fd}}) \bar{d}_{v,t}$$

$$d_{v,t} \leq (1 - \sum_{f=(f^+,f^-) \in \mathcal{F}: v \notin f^+} m_{f,t}^{\text{fd}}) \bar{d}_{v,t}$$

$$\hat{p}_{v,t} = p_{v,t} - \sigma_{v,t}^{p+} + \sigma_{v,t}^{p-}$$

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}^0 \quad 0 = \sum_{(l,v)=a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{v,a,t} - \sum_{(v,r)=a \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{v,a,t}$$

$$+ \sum_{(l,v)=a \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{a,t} - \sum_{(v,r)=a \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{A}^{\text{pi}}} q_{a,t}$$

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall o \in \mathcal{O} \quad m_{o,t}^{\text{om}} \leq \sum_{(o,f) \in \mathcal{O}\mathcal{F}} m_{f,t}^{\text{fd}}$$

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}^{\text{b-ex}} \quad p_{v,t} \leq \bar{p}_v^{\text{exit}} + (1 - \sum_{f=(f^+,f^-) \in \mathcal{F}: v \in f^-} m_{f,t}^{\text{fd}}) (\bar{p}_{v,t} - \bar{p}_v^{\text{exit}})$$

Exit pressure

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall (f, \mathcal{V}^{w1}, \mathcal{V}^{w2}) \in \mathcal{W} \quad 0 \leq (1 - m_{f,t}^{\text{fd}}) C_1 - \sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}^{w1}} \text{sgn}(f, v) d_{v,t} + \sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}^{w2}} \text{sgn}(f, v) d_{v,t}$$

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad \forall g \in \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G} \quad \hat{d}_{g,t} = \sum_{v \in g} (d_{v,t} - \sigma_{v,t}^{d+} + \sigma_{v,t}^{d-})$$

Flow direction

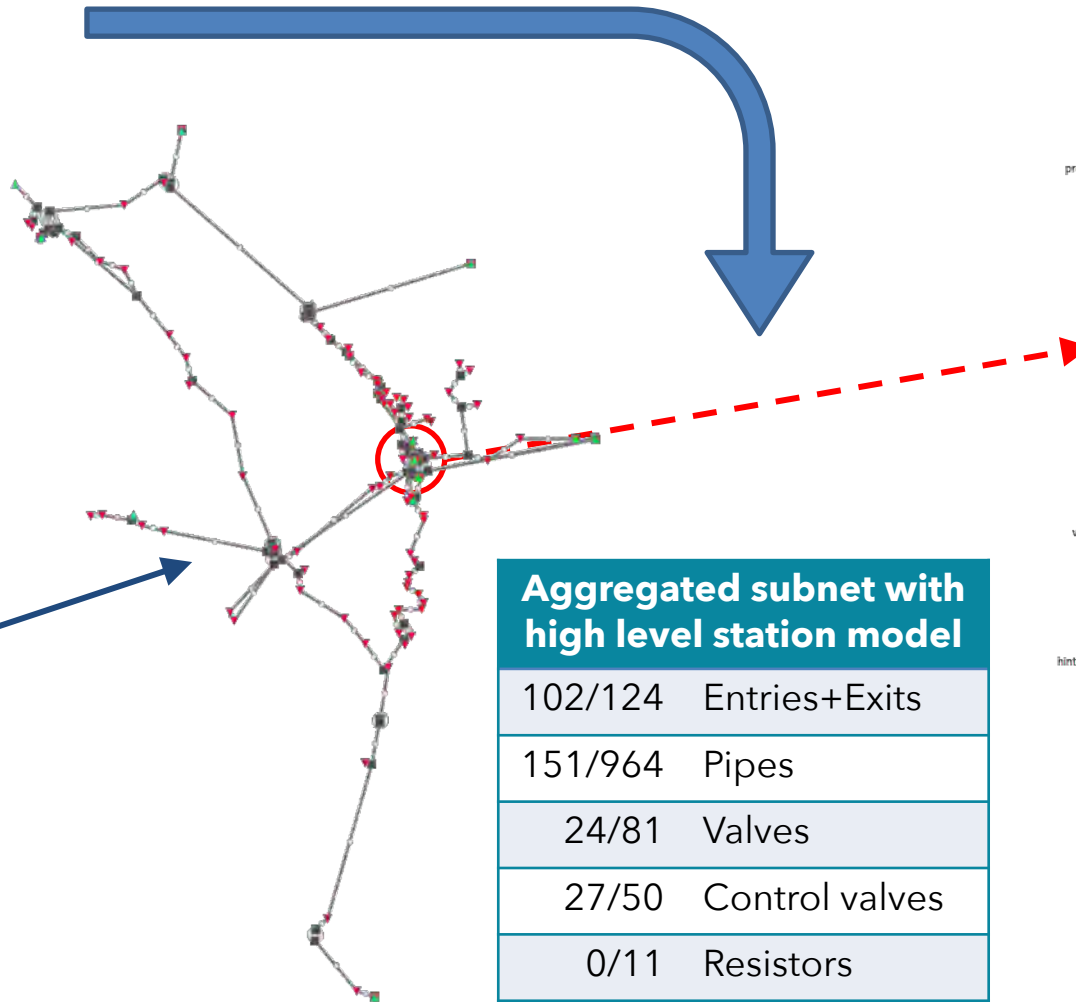
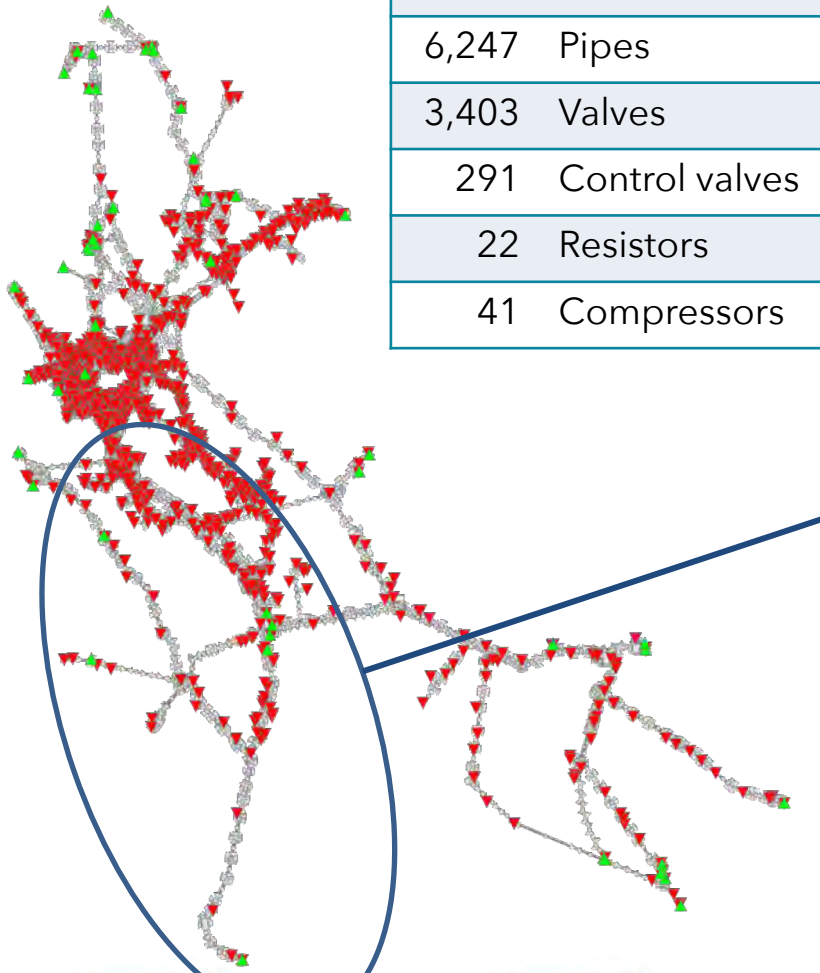


# Determine Transient Gas Flows with Network Optimization

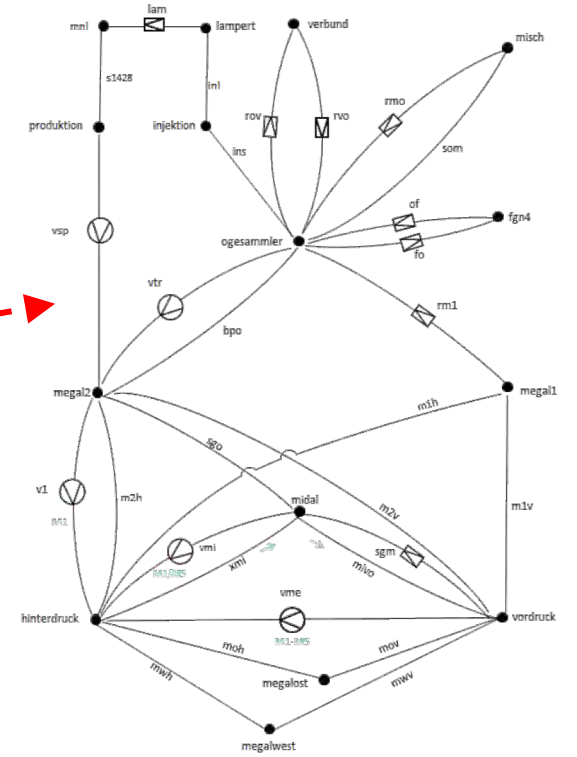
Descriptive  
Predictive  
Prescriptive



Full Network	
1,194	Entries+Exits
6,247	Pipes
3,403	Valves
291	Control valves
22	Resistors
41	Compressors



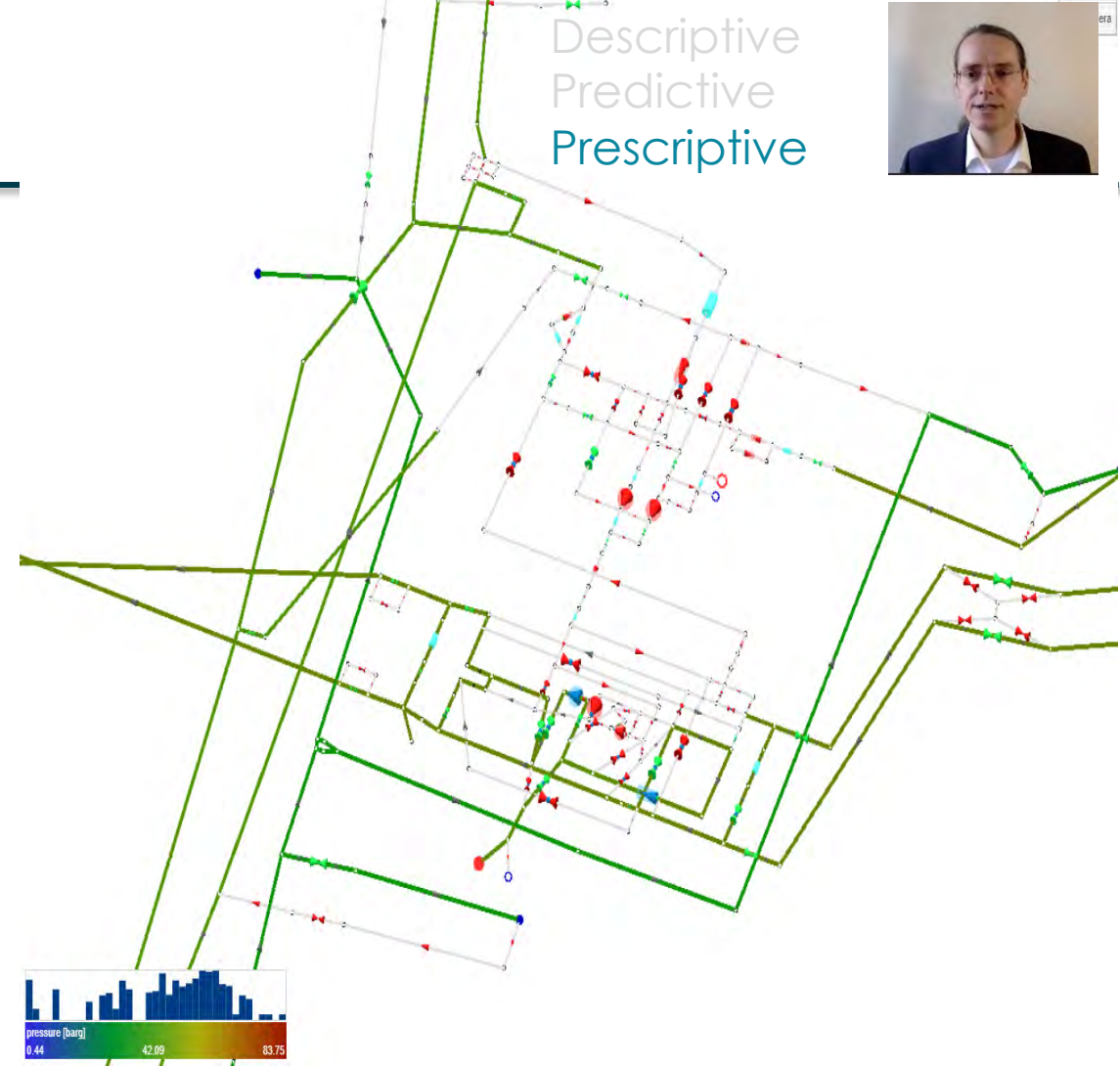
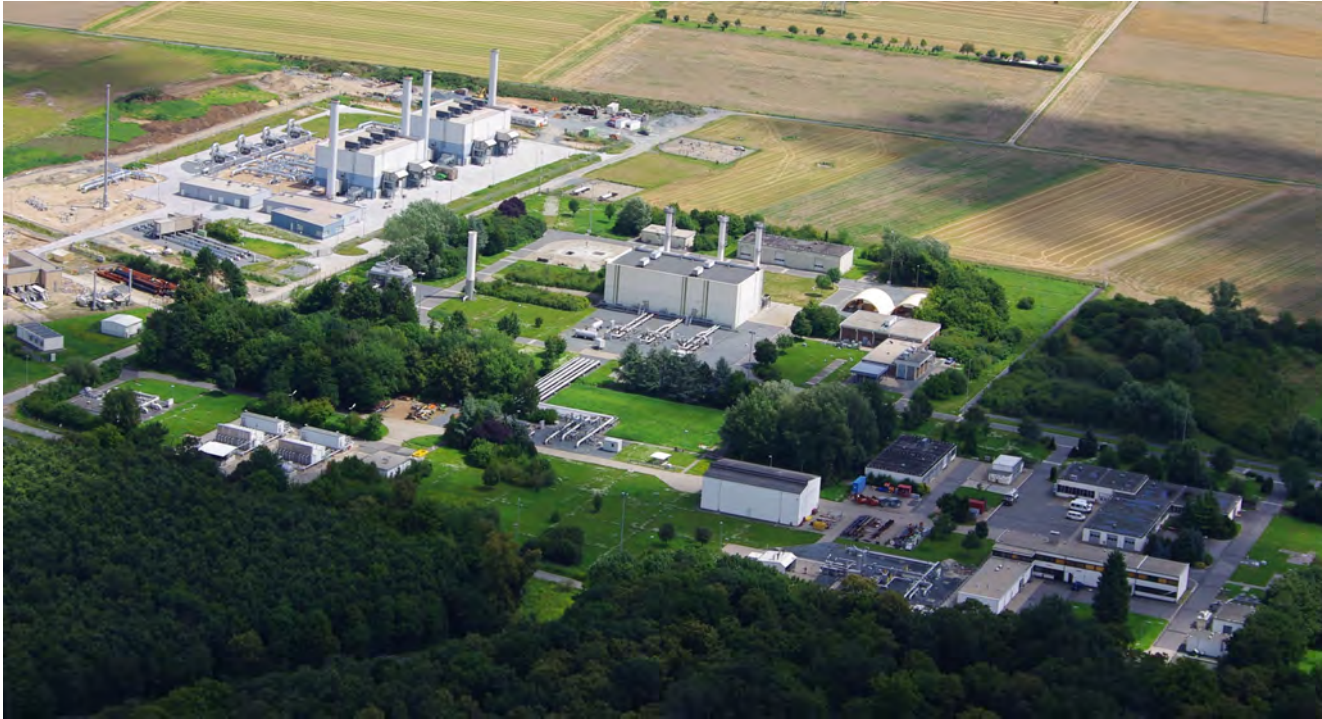
Aggregated subnet with high level station model	
102/124	Entries+Exits
151/964	Pipes
24/81	Valves
27/50	Control valves
0/11	Resistors
16/16	Compressors



# The Combinatorics of Gernsheim



Descriptive  
Predictive  
Prescriptive



▶ 30,000,000,000,000,000 mathematically possible combinations of valve and compressor states.

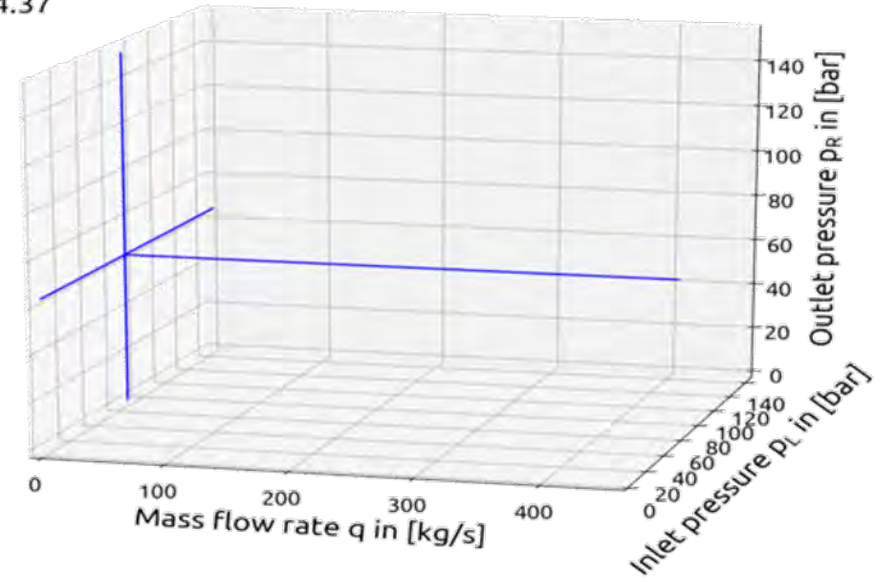
▶ 200,000 feasible operation modes identified based on practitioners knowledge.

▶ 1,285 relevant operation modes extracted using analytical evaluation of historical data.





cfg = None  
q = 0.00  
p<sub>L</sub> = 67.50  
p<sub>R</sub> = 64.37



Pressure levels  
(color)

Amount of flow  
(line thickness)

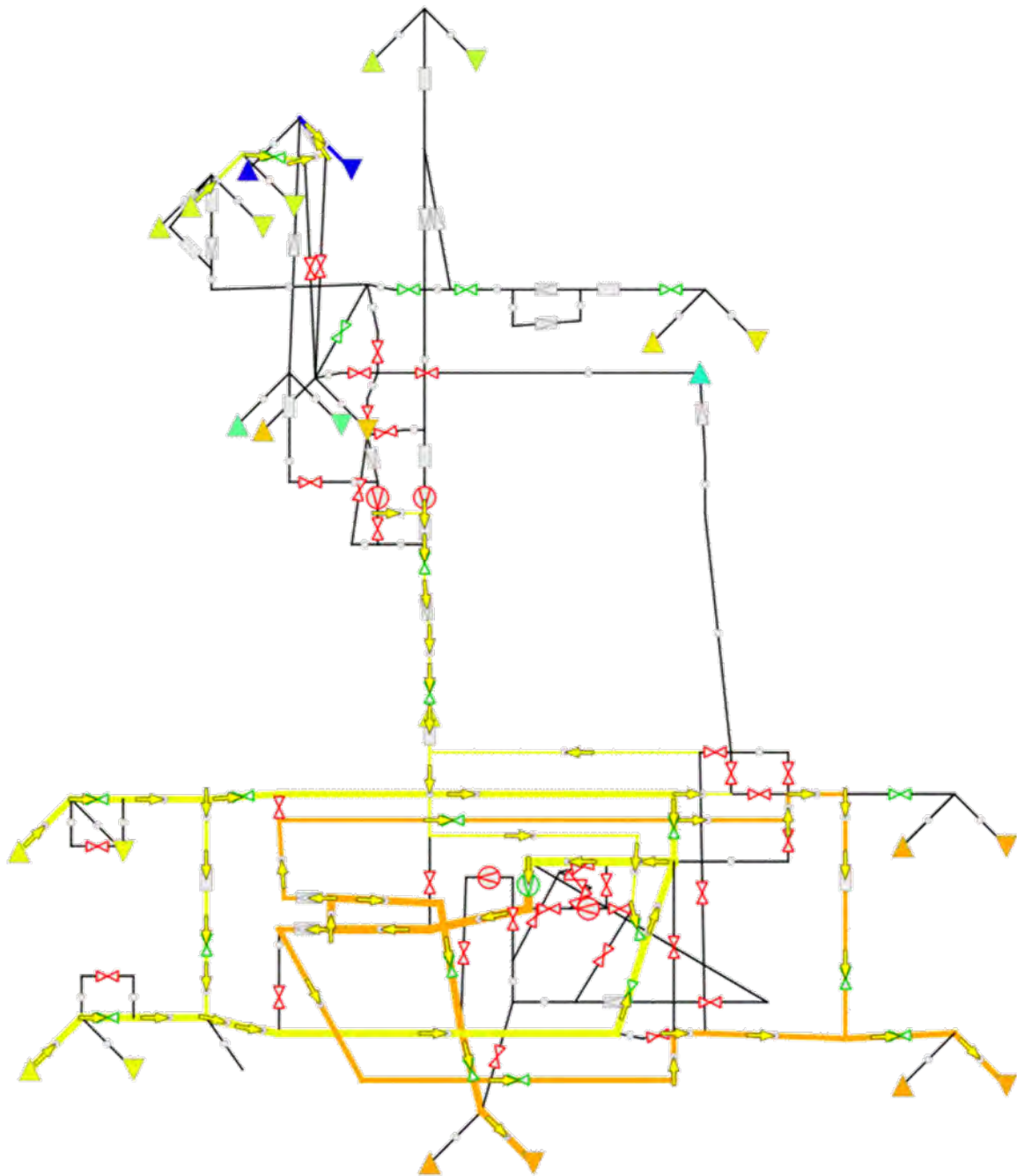
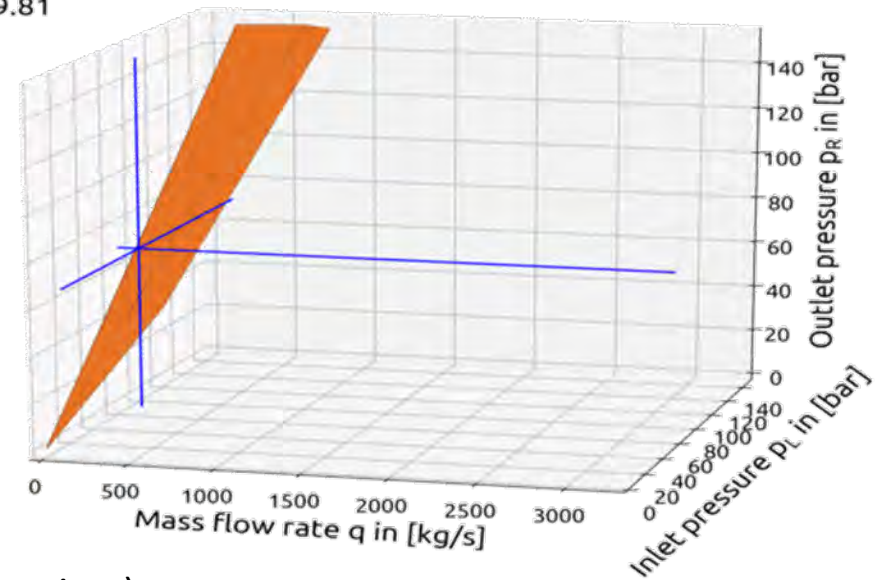
Flow direction  
(arrows)

Element usage  
(red/green syms)

Current point of  
operation  
for the two active  
compressors  
in the station  
(Blue lines cross)

Feasible  
operating range  
for chosen  
set of machines:  
**Orange:**  
a single machine  
**Blue:** multiple  
parallel machines

cfg = U4  
q = 120.70  
p<sub>L</sub> = 64.37  
p<sub>R</sub> = 69.81

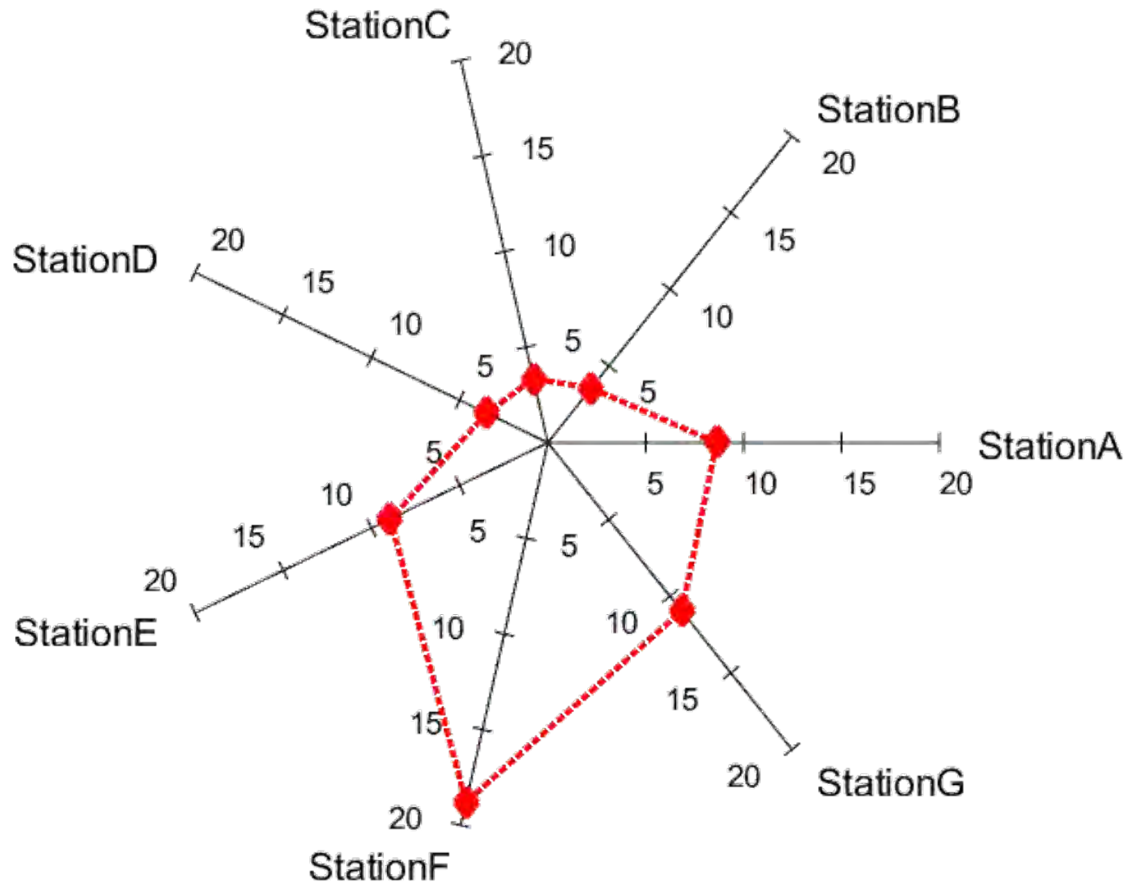


Demonstrator: Station control for a flow direction change (series of states over time)

# Computational results



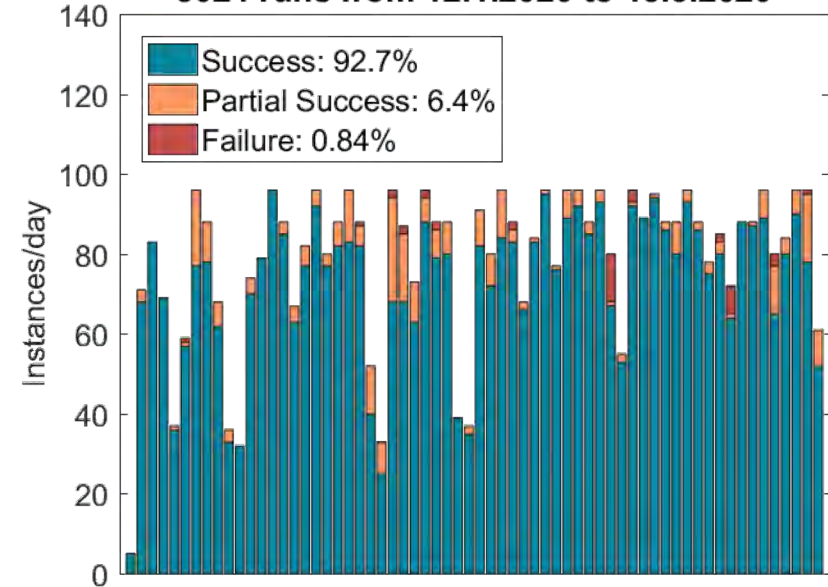
Station Model Computing Times; mean [s]



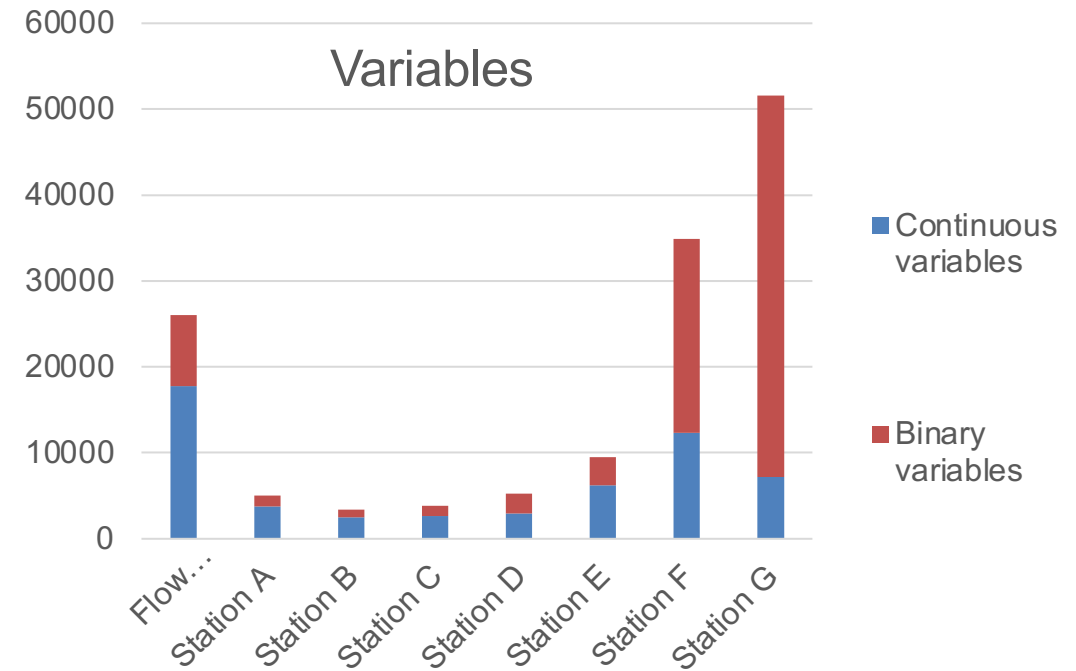
Netmodel Computing Time; mean: 21 min.

Computed from 2,559 successful runs with 14 time steps

5024 runs from 12.1.2020 to 15.3.2020

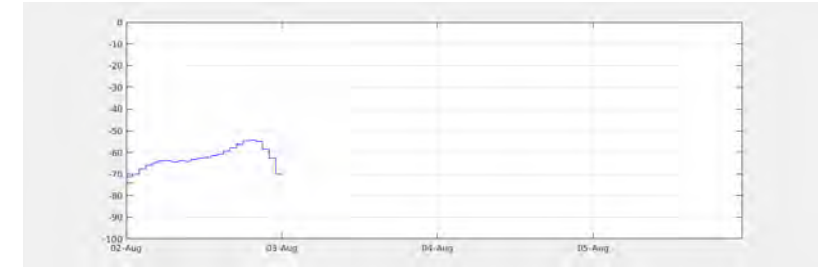
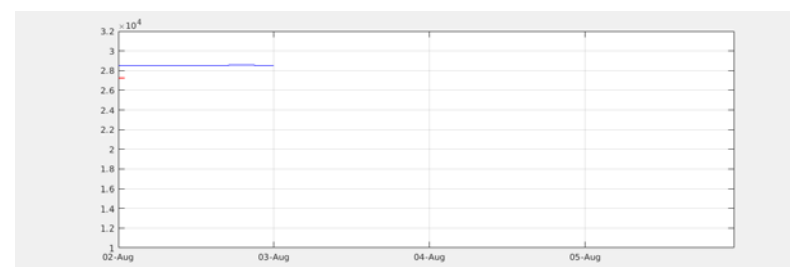
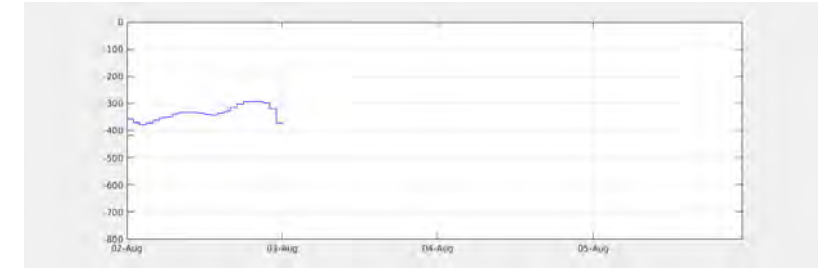
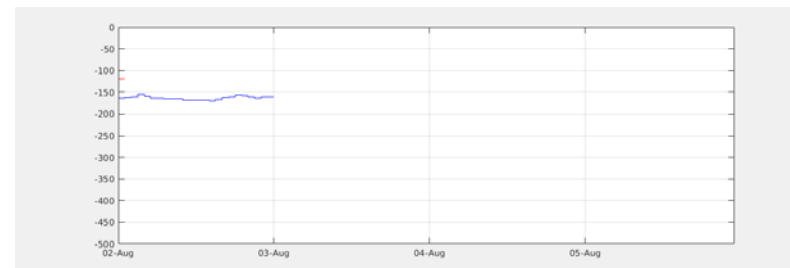
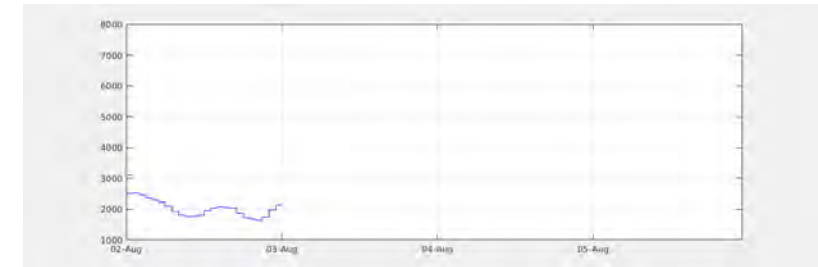
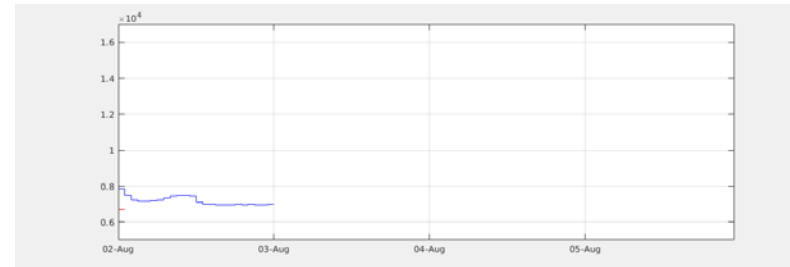
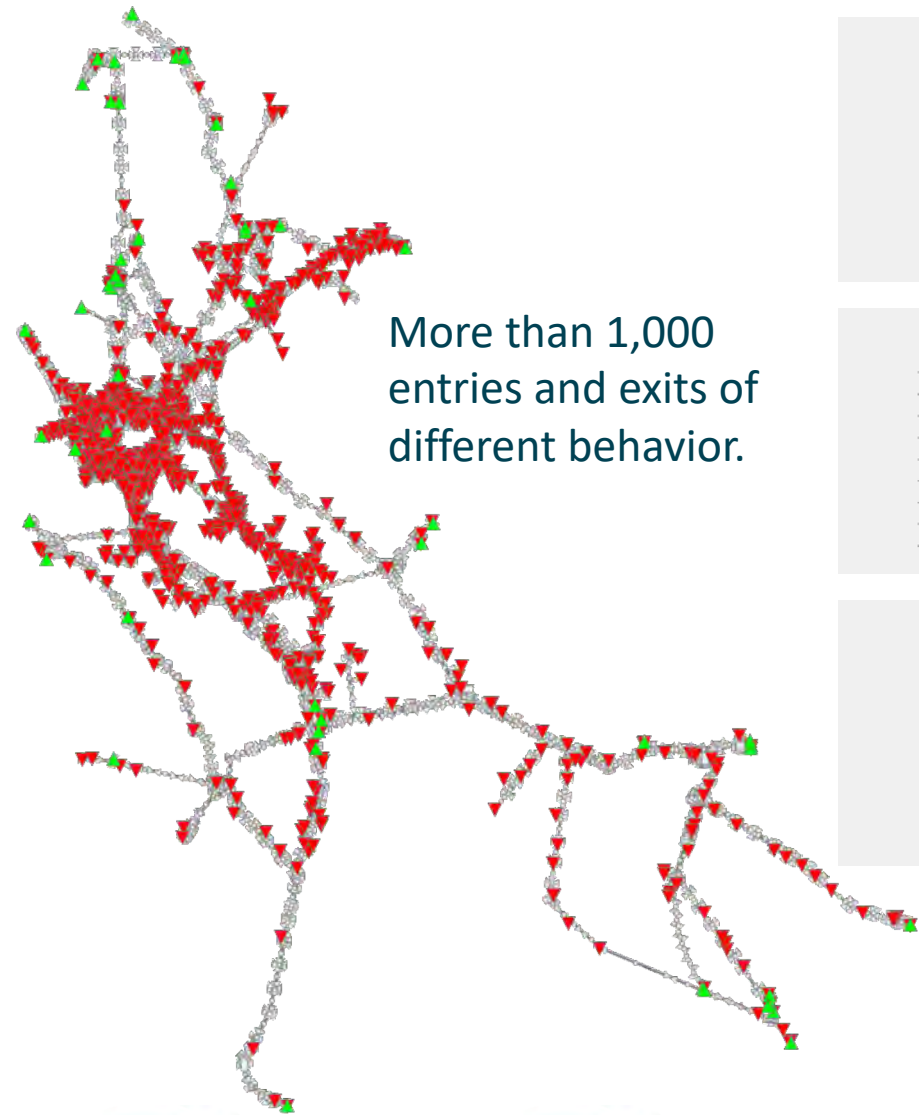


Variables



# Online Forecasting of Demand and Supply

Descriptive  
Predictive  
Prescriptive



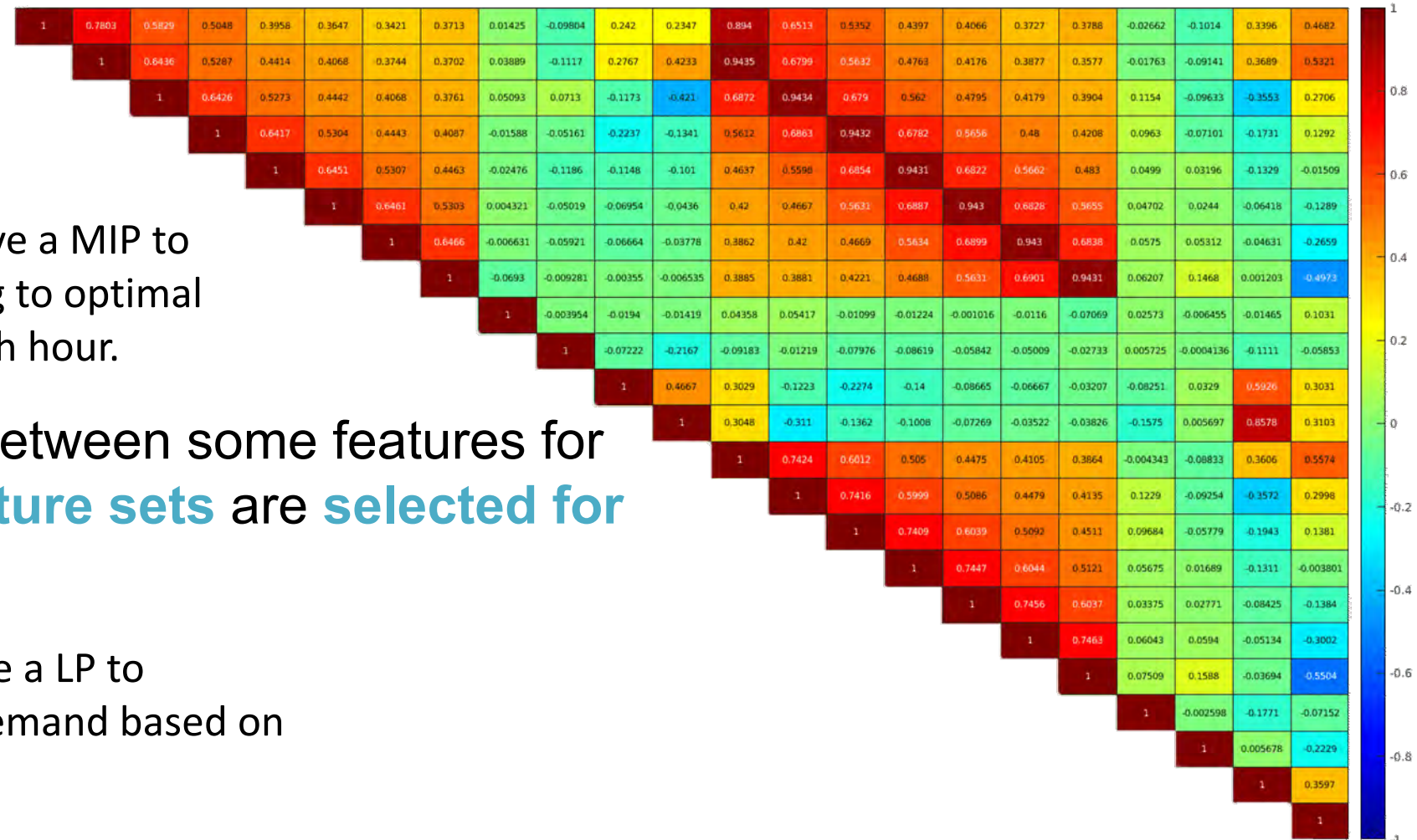
## Preprocessing

Solve the most relevant points with sophisticated forecast model, use computationally less expensive model for less important points.





## Heat Map of correlations between features



- ▶ Step 1 (offline computation): Solve a MIP to compute sparse solutions leading to optimal feature sets for each node at each hour.

Due to high correlations between some features for some nodes, **optimal feature sets** are **selected for each node** individually.

- ▶ Step 2 (online 24/7 at OGE): Solve a LP to forecast hourly supply and the demand based on these feature sets.





# Innovative use of Analytics

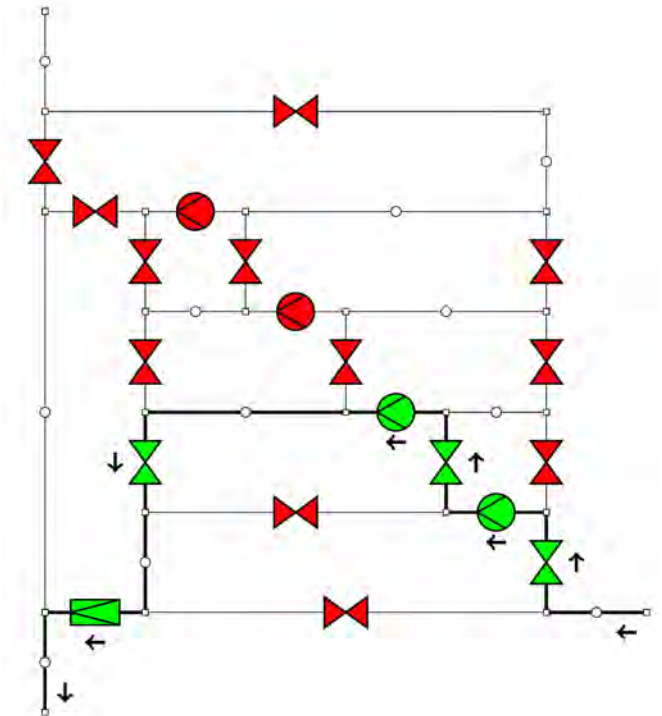
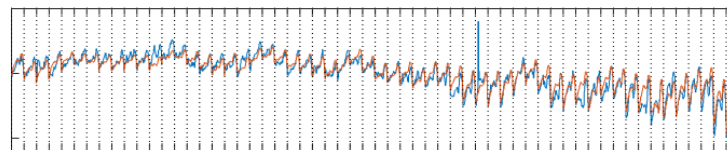
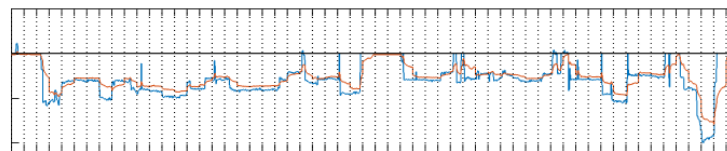
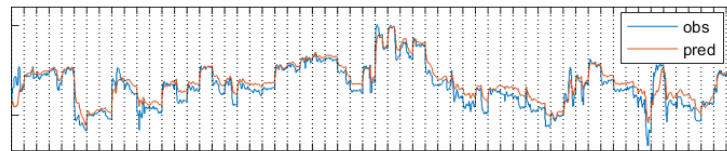


- **Describe** a model of an existing network infrastructure built during the past 100 years.

- **Predict** the future gas supply and demand at over 1,100 network points for the next 24 h.

- **Prescribe** the necessary action to ensure safe operation and security of supply.

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial x} = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(p + \rho v^2)}{\partial x} + \frac{\lambda}{2D} |v| v \rho + g s \rho = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \rho \left( \frac{1}{2} v^2 + e \right) \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \rho v \left( \frac{1}{2} v^2 + e \right) + p v \right) + \frac{k_w}{D} (T - T_w) = 0$$



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- Y. Chen, X. Xu, T. Koch (2020): **Day-ahead high-resolution forecasting of natural gas demand and supply in Germany with a hybrid model**, *Applied Energy*, 262(114486)
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# Thank you very much for your attention!



“The final test of a theory is its capacity to solve the problems which originated it.”

George Dantzig (1963) in  
*Linear Programming and Extensions*



# Thank you very much!

