



## Needs for Flexibility in Energy Systems Caused by the Increasing Share of Variable Renewable Energy Generation in 2020, 2030 and 2050 Scenarios

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*Publication date:*  
2017

*Document Version*  
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link back to DTU Orbit](#)

*Citation (APA):*

Koivisto, M. J. (Author), Sørensen, P. E. (Author), Maule, P. (Author), Nuño Martinez, E. (Author), & Traber, T. (Author). (2017). Needs for Flexibility in Energy Systems Caused by the Increasing Share of Variable Renewable Energy Generation in 2020, 2030 and 2050 Scenarios. Sound/Visual production (digital)

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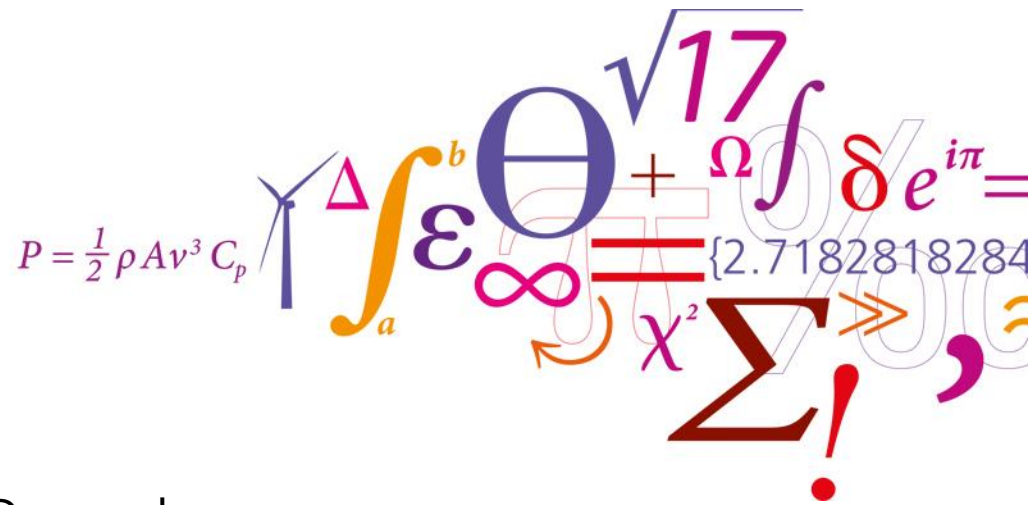
# Needs for Flexibility in Energy Systems Caused by the Increasing Share of Variable Renewable Energy Generation in 2020, 2030 and 2050 Scenarios

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June 29<sup>th</sup> 2017, Kongens Lyngby, Denmark



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# Flex4RES project

- Flex4RES is a project lead by **DTU Management Engineering**, with funding from **Nordic Energy Research**:
  - <http://www.nordicenergy.org/flagship/flex4res/>
- The project investigates how an intensified interaction between **coupled energy markets**, supported by coherent regulatory frameworks, can facilitate the **integration of high shares of variable renewable energy (VRE)**, ensuring stable, sustainable and cost-efficient Nordic energy systems
- For assessing the need for flexibility in future scenarios with higher shares of VRE generation, **DTU Wind Energy provides simulated hourly VRE generation time series** for the project
  - Both wind (onshore & offshore) and solar PV are simulated
  - **Nordic and Baltic countries**
    - Also relevant surrounding countries for market studies

# The analysed scenarios

Scenario	Offshore wind (GW)	Onshore wind (GW)	Solar (GW)	Total (GW)
2014	1.46 (12%)	9.78 (82%)	0.65 (5.4%)	11.9
2020	3.56 (17%)	15.9 (78%)	0.99 (4.9%)	20.4
2030	3.87 (11%)	30.6 (84%)	1.76 (4.9%)	36.3
2050	3.87 (6.4%)	54.3 (91%)	1.75 (2.9%)	60.0

The installed VRE generation capacities are from the baseline scenario from the Nordic Energy Technology Perspectives (NETP) 2016 report:  
<http://www.nordicenergy.org/project/nordic-energy-technology-perspectives/>



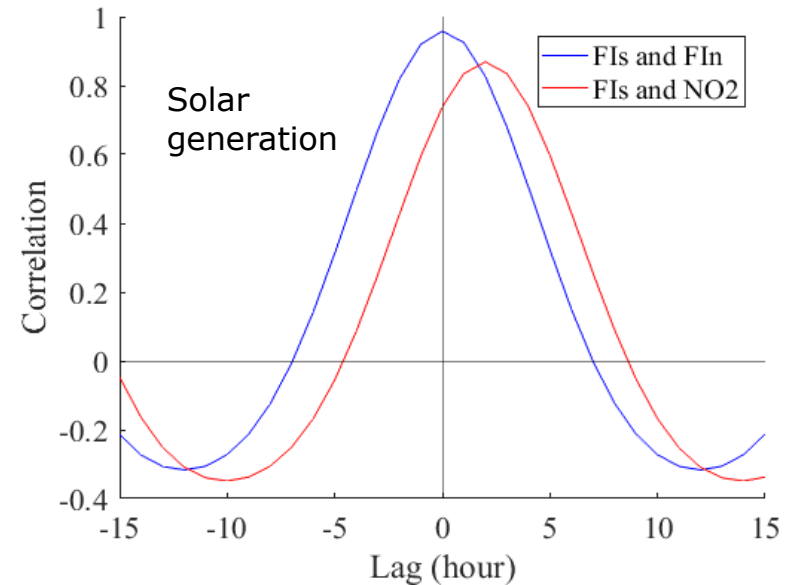
# Wind and solar PV simulations

- CorWind, a simulation tool developed at DTU Wind Energy, was used to simulate hourly **wind generation** time series for the analysed regions
  - Solar **photovoltaic (PV) generation** time series were also simulated
- Simulations were carried out for **34 meteorological years** (1982-2015)
- A **Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model** was used to generate the underlying meteorological time series data
  - Mesoscale reanalysis
  - Local downscaling is done so that historical capacity factors are met
  - Some references about WRF and its applications:
    - M. Marinelli et al., "Wind and photovoltaic large-scale regional models for hourly production evaluation," *IEEE Trans. Sustain. Energy*, vol. 6, no. 3, pp. 916–923, July 2015.
    - W. Wang et al., WRF-ARW Version 3 Modeling System User's Guide. Boulder, CO, USA: Mesoscale & Microscale Meteorology Division, National Center for Atmospheric Research, 2009.
    - A. N. Hahmann et al., "A reanalysis system for the generation of mesoscale climatographies," *J. Appl. Meteorol. Climatol.*, vol. 49, no. 5, pp. 954–972, May 2010.

# Spatial correlations of VRE generation

	Offshore wind	Onshore wind	Solar
Offshore wind	0.40 (0.13... 0.81)	0.38 (0.04... 0.91)	-0.13 (-0.22... -0.05)
Onshore wind		0.33 (0.02... 0.84)	-0.12 (-0.28... -0.03)
Solar			0.89 (0.74... 0.98)

Average [spatial correlations](#) for different VRE generation types between the analysed regions (values in the brackets are the min and max correlations between all possible region pairs)



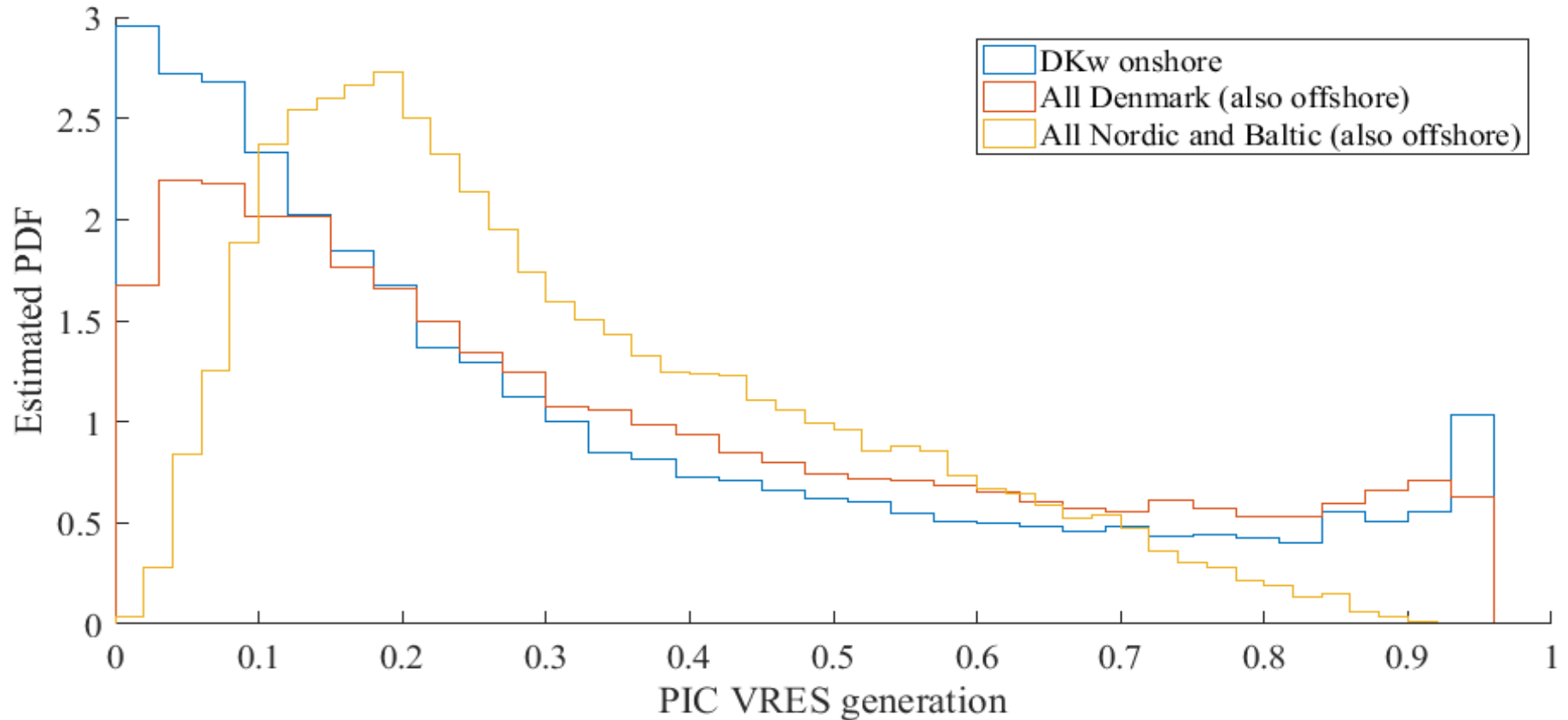
Cross-correlation function between two different solar region pairs

Standard deviation of a sum: 
$$\text{Std}(\sum_{i=1}^k x_i) = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i^2 + 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \text{Cov}(x_i, x_j)}$$

Negative correlation between solar and wind seems to hold also for the stochastic part (cloud movements etc.):

J. Ekström, M. Koivisto, I. Mellin, J. Millar, M. Lehtonen, "A Statistical Model for Hourly Large-Scale Wind and Photovoltaic Generation in New Locations", *IEEE Trans. Sustain. Energy*, early view article

# Wind generation variability decreases as the geographical area increases



PIC = Proportion of Installed Capacity

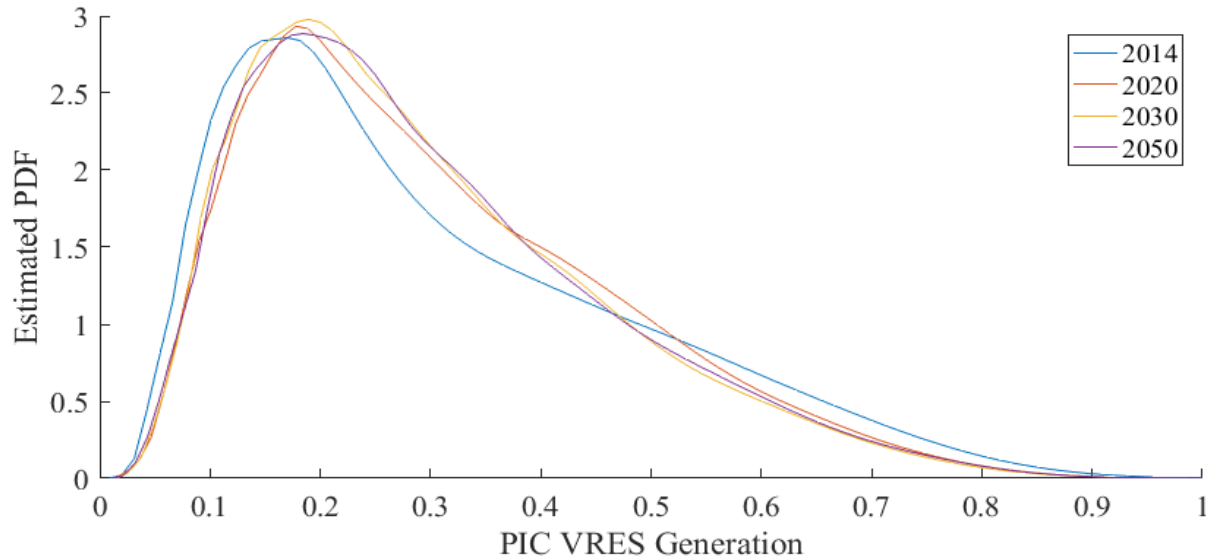


# Relative shares of installed onshore wind capacity in the different regions

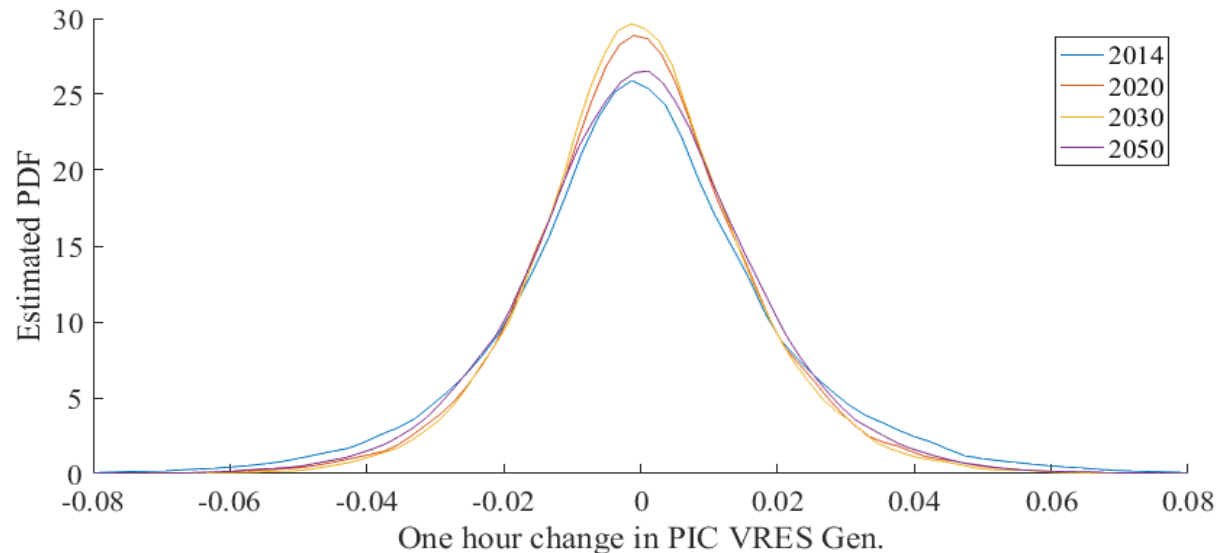
Scenario	DK	SE south (SE3 and 4)	NO south (NO1, 2 and 5)	SE north (SE1 and 2)	NO north (NO3 and 4)	Baltic countries	FI
2014	36%	29%	3%	15%	6%	7%	4%
2020	26%	18%	3%	15%	20%	9%	10%
2030	17%	18%	5%	19%	18%	17%	5%
2050	15%	22%	3%	20%	19%	18%	3%

- From 2014 to 2020, the geographical distribution moves away from Denmark and southern Sweden (with currently high installed capacities), towards a **more dispersed geographical distribution for 2020**.
- From 2020 to 2030, the share in Denmark decreases. The share in Finland also decreases, but the share in the Baltic countries increases significantly. The end result is only a **slightly increased geographical spread for 2030**.
- **The shares in 2050 are quite similar to 2030**; however, the share in southern Sweden increases a little.

# Variability of the aggregate VRE generation

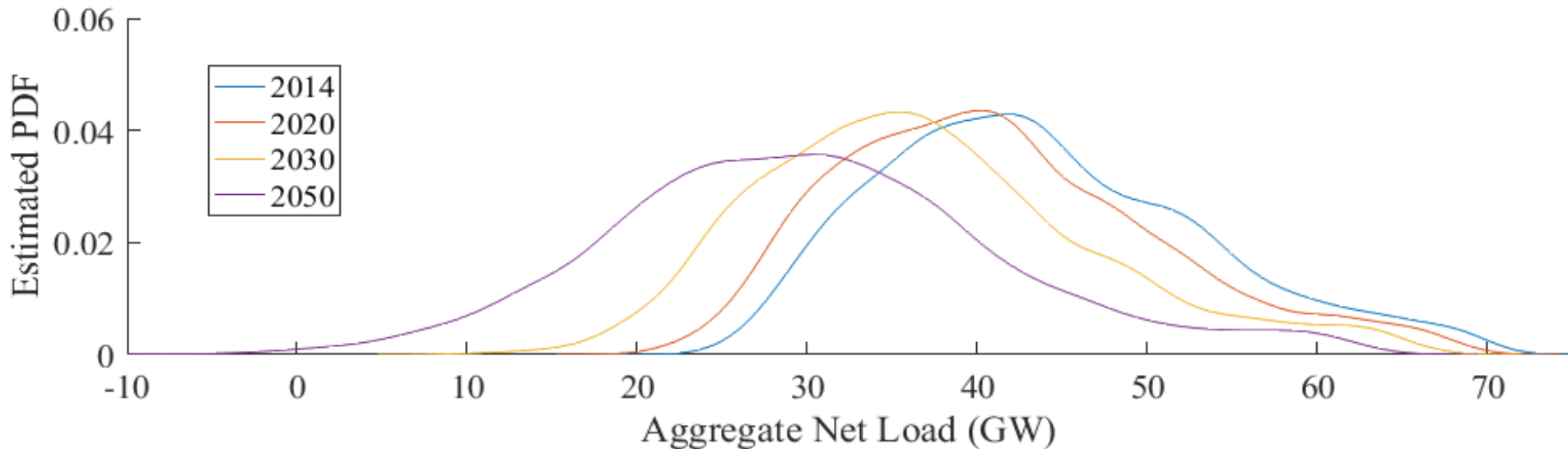


Scenario	Mean	Std
<b>2014</b>	0.305	0.179
<b>2020</b>	0.305	0.161
<b>2030</b>	0.296	0.156
<b>2050</b>	0.299	0.158



Scenario	Std
<b>2014</b>	0.0197
<b>2020</b>	0.0161
<b>2030</b>	0.0154
<b>2050</b>	0.0169

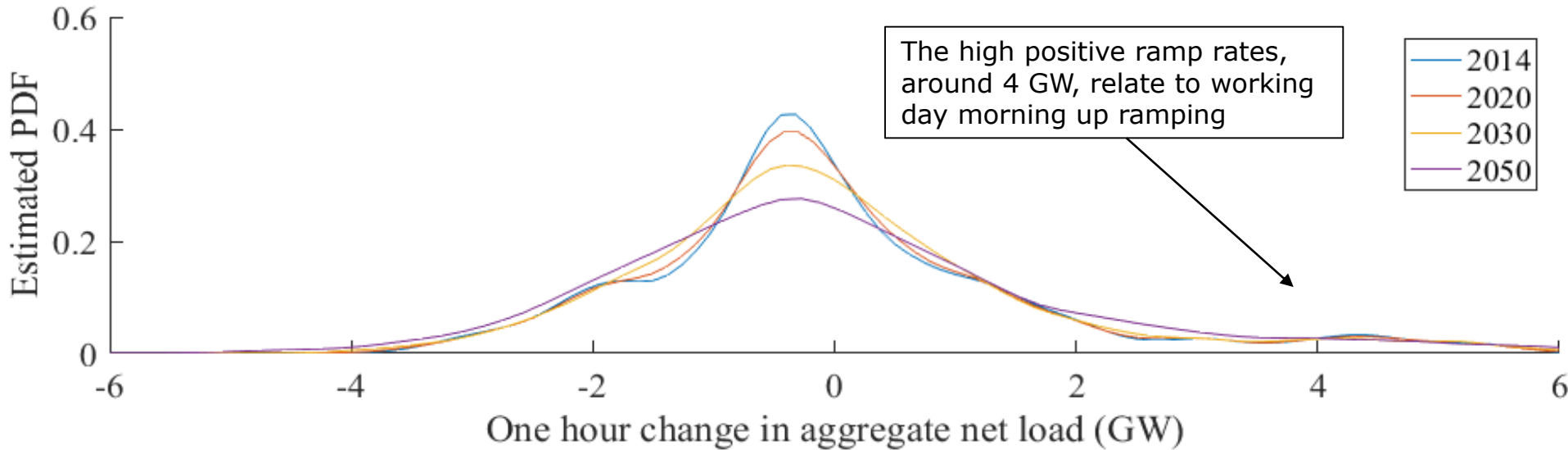
# Variability of aggregate net load (based on 2012 data)



Scenario	Mean (GW)	Std (GW)	5 <sup>th</sup> percentile (GW)	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile (GW)
<b>Only consumption</b>	47.3	9.5	33.1	64.8
<b>2014</b>	43.8	9.4	30.2	61.9
<b>2020</b>	41.2	9.4	28.0	59.8
<b>2030</b>	36.9	9.9	23.0	56.2
<b>2050</b>	30.0	11.5	12.1	50.9

Net load = electricity consumption - VRE generation, consumption data from Entso-E

# Ramp rates of aggregate net load (based on 2012 data)



Scenario	Std (GW)	5 <sup>th</sup> percentile (GW)	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile (GW)
<b>Only consumption</b>	1.63	-2.28	3.62
<b>2014</b>	1.63	-2.29	3.62
<b>2020</b>	1.63	-2.29	3.57
<b>2030</b>	1.66	-2.34	3.58
<b>2050</b>	1.86	-2.62	3.75

Consumption data from Entso-E

# Conclusions

- Hourly aggregate net load
  - Std increases notably in 2050 (22% higher than in 2014)
  - At the same time, the mean decreases
  - Thus, there will be **less energy to be generated by the other generation types**, such as hydro power, **while the need for flexibility increases** (also, e.g., demand-side response can be utilized)
- Hourly ramp rates in the aggregate net load
  - **Ramp rate Std increases moderately** in 2050 (14% higher than in 2014)
  - While ramping in consumption happens usually at well-known times, the hourly changes in VRE generation are less predictable
- Peak net load
  - The probability of very high net load decreases (when VRE share increases)
  - However, aggregate VRE generation can be zero, so the **highest possible net load is determined by peak consumption**
  - This may raise questions considering the incentives to hold **enough other generation capacity to meet the rare peak net load**

# Discussion and future work

- For now, the simulations are based on current capacity factors (i.e., full load hours) for all scenario years
  - Capacity factor changes in the future are being modelled, and the changes will be incorporated into the simulations
- CorWind can do also forecasting simulations for wind generation
  - Can be used to assess uncertainty in wind generation (in addition to variability, which was discussed in this presentation)
  - Similar capabilities are being developed also for solar PV generation:
    - E. Nuño, M. Koivisto, Nicolaos Cutululis, Poul Sørensen, "Simulation of regional day-ahead PV power forecast scenarios", *IEEE PES PowerTech*, Manchester, UK, June 2017.
- Similar simulations as presented here will also be used in the NSON-DK project
  - Focus in the North Sea area (thus much higher offshore share)
  - <http://www.nson-dk-project.dk/>