# Hydrogen value chain – activities at Aalto



**Aalto University** School of Engineering

Mika Järvinen, Professor Energy Conversion and Systems group Department of Mechanical Engineering Aalto University



## Contents

- Introduction to Energy @ Aalto
- Enabling green hydrogen economy sufficient renewable and sustainable energy
- Production, storage and transportation of hydrogen.
- Utilization of hydrogen and its derivatives in energy field
- Summary



# ntrocuction to Energy @ Aalto



#### **Merger of three Finnish Universities**



## Aalto University 2010



#### Six dynamic schools work across cross-cutting research areas...



#### **Every Aalto school works on Energy: Examples**



**Energy efficient** electrical machines

Smarter regulation of electricity distribution networks

Improving systems with operations research



Advancing the circular economy of metals



**Research for safe** and viable disposal of radioactive nuclear waste



**Design for society** 



Revolutionizing photonics with nanomaterials



Advanced energy solutions: nuclear power production & renewable energy technologies



**Renewable energy** materials



**Co-creating poverty** alleviating, sustainable innovations in complex global systems

Adaptive combustion research for high industrial impact

**Smart Energy Transitions** 



**STEEM – Sustainable Transitions of European Energy Markets** 



**Wood Architecture** 





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# Energy Conversion and Systems

Mika Järvinen, 8.8.2023

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

## Global Warming of 1.5°C

An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty





## **Personnel profile**

- 9 + 3 new TT professors in the "pipeline"
- 3 Professors of practice (+ 1 PoP on Wind power)
- 3 Lecturers
- 2 Senior Scientists + 2 Staff Scientists
- 14 Post-docs
- 43 Doctoral students
- In-house Master's thesis students
- In total 110-120



Mika Järvinen Head of group

Thermal power plants, CCUS, wind power, P2X, circular economy, waste, plastics



**Risto Kosonen** Vice head HVAC, buildings and built environment



Panu Mustakallio HVAC, buildings and built environment



Sanna Syri Energy markets and systems

Our research group covers the energy value chain, from sustainable energy production and conversion, storage and end use. We have strong focus on energy markets and optimization in dynamic environments.



Annukka Santasalo-Aarnio Energy storage systems, P2X fuels, electrolysis circular economy, hydrogen storage



**Olli Himanen** Hydrogen technologies





Ilkka Keppo Energy markets and systems



Jaakko Jääskeläinen Energy markets and systems



**Risto Lahdelma** Energy systems optimization, district heating



Hannele Holttinen Wind power



Martti Larmi Sustainable combustion, ICEs, hydrogen and X2P topics.



Ossi Kaario CFD modeling, sustainable combustion and flows in energy



Ville Vuorinen

CFD modeling, sustainable combustion and flows in energy









# Enabling green hydrogen economy – sufficient renewable and sustainable energy



## Wind resource in Finland



Aalto-yliopisto Aalto-universitetet **Aalto University** 

# Status map of projects

| Stage of development   | Onshore<br>MW |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Pre-screening          | 11 093        |
| Land use plan started  | 16 489        |
| Land use plan draft    | 2 581         |
| EIA ongoing            | 18 938        |
| Land use plan proposal | 2 397         |
| EIA done               | 2 271         |
| Land use plan done     | 2 856         |
| Permitted              | 3 069         |
| Under construction     | 3 405         |
| Totally new on the way | 63 100        |
| In production 2021     | 2 300         |
| In production 2022     | 5 700         |
| Predicted 31.12.2023   | 7 200         |



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Suomen Tuulivoimayhdistys



| Offshore |  |
|----------|--|
| MW       |  |
| 42 960   |  |
| 1 400    |  |
| 0        |  |
| 10 792   |  |
| 0        |  |
| 900      |  |
| 1 155    |  |
| 400      |  |
| 0        |  |
| 57 607   |  |
| 44       |  |
| 44       |  |
| 44       |  |
|          |  |



# Solar PV potential

- 772 potential areas with a combined capacity potential up to 30 GWp
- Results concentrated on the west coast
- Average site area 60 ha, the areas are on average smaller in the south





Eetu Laitila, 2023 Aalto, Valorem Preliminary QGIS based modeling study including sustainability aspects

## Comments

- energy in Finland.
- There exists already 7.2 GW wind power by the end of 2023, and in overall there are 63 + 57 = 120 GW new wind power plants in the "pipeline". Not all of these will rationalize.
- 2022 power consumption was ~88 TWh. To give a perspective, with 50 GW, we would be able to generate 0.05 TW × 8760 h × 0.35 = 153 TWh.
- Decarbonization requires electrification that increase the power consumption by a factor of 2-3.



Significant increase in the share of renewables, especially wind





## • As comparison Germany/Finland:

- Population 85/5.6 millions
- 64/7 GW wind power
- Area 360000/340000 km<sup>2</sup>
- climate aspects.
- have positive impacts on climate.



 We have great potential to make Finland a model country for the sustainable wind power development, very important for sustainability and biodiversity globally. This has direct link to

 Based on IPBES and IPCC (2022), most climate actions have negative impacts on biodiversity but most biodiversity action

- What if 50-60 GW wind production drops to ~zero suddenly for weeks?
- Renewable LCoH should be lower than fossil product ~1.5
  €/kg, but still the RES projects should be paid back, are PPAs still going to work?
- Cannibalization?
- What will future's energy system and markets look like?



# Production, storage and transportation of hydrogen.



# Background

- Most, 95...98%, of the H<sub>2</sub> is today made from natural gas by steam reforming, releasing CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>+2H<sub>2</sub>O↔CO<sub>2</sub>+4H<sub>2</sub>
- Green hydrogen requires cheap, renewable and sustainable electricity to compete with fossil H2
- Electrolysis is an extremely energy intensive process, and its efficiency is typically lower than 70%. If we then use a fuel cell (or combined GT cycle) to make electricity from  $H_2$ , with efficiency of 60%, we will waste 58% of the precious renewable electricity to heat, heat recovery should be used then.
- → Maximal use of power as power!



Energy Conversion and Management 271 (2022) 116200



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Energy Conversion and Management

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/enconman



#### Choice of the kinetic model significantly affects the outcome of techno-economic assessments of CO<sub>2</sub>-based methanol synthesis

Judit Nyári<sup>\*</sup>, Daulet Izbassarov, Árpád I. Toldy, Ville Vuorinen, Annukka Santasalo-Aarnio

Research Group of Energy Conversion, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Aalto University, FI-00076 Espoo, Finland



Kinetic model selected for the basis of modelling has significant impact on Levelized cost of Methanol







AppliedEner

Applied Energy 348 (2023) 121536



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Applied Energy

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/apenergy

Steam gasification of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) with CaO in a bubbling fluidized bed gasifier for enriching H<sub>2</sub> in syngas with Response Surface Methodology (RSM)

Shouzhuang Li<sup>®</sup>, Muddasser Inayat, Mika Järvinen

Energy Conversion and Systems Research Group, Department of Mechanical Engineering, School of Engineering, Aalto University, Sähkömiehentie 4J, 02150 Espoo, Finland







Applied Energy 339 (2023) 120976



#### Participation of hydrogen-rich energy hubs in day-ahead and regulation markets: A hybrid stochastic-robust model



Arsalan Najafi<sup>a</sup>, Omid Homaee<sup>a</sup>, Michał Jasiński<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Mahdi Pourakbari-Kasmaei<sup>c</sup>, Matti Lehtonen<sup>c</sup>, Zbigniew Leonowicz<sup>a,b</sup>

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<sup>c</sup> Department of Electrical Engineering and Automation, Aalto University, 02150, Maarintie 8, Espoo, Finland

- > The decisions in the DA market change in RM by regulation up/down actions to compensate for the forecasting error of the DA electricity loads.
- > The HT is charged using the hydrogen released by the electrolyzer to refuel the HVs. The HT charges mostly during reasonable pricing hours.
- > The existence of the HT resulted in proper refueling of the HVs in DA and compensating for the errors in the RT horizon.
- > Due to the increase in the FC production to compensate for the RT demands error, the RT discharge of the HT is always higher than or equal to the DA values.
- $\succ$  The P2G is fed by electricity, when the electricity prices are lower than gas prices, while the decisions may change, paying attention to the difference of the RM and DA prices.







CHP: Combined heat and power. **DA:** Day-ahead market. **EH:** Energy hub. FC: Fuel cell. **HT:** Hydrogen Tank **HRS:** Hydrogen refueling station.

HV: Hydrogen Vehicle. **P2G:** Power-to-gas. **RM:** Regulation market. RT: Real Time

#### Wind Farm-based Green Hydrogen: A Virtual Power Plant Case Study

Ramin Ahmadi Kordkheili, Mahdi Pourakbari-Kasmaei,

Matti Lehtonen Dept. Electrical Engineering and Automation Aalto University Espoo, Finland ramin.ahmadikordkheili@aalto.fi, Mahdi.Pourakbari@aalto.fi, Matti.Lehtonen@aalto.fi

Reza Ahmadi Kordkheili

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- The paper studied the planning-operation actions of a real wind farm (Capacity: 700 MW).
- > Considering Gas/H2 network as Virtual Clean-H2 storage resulted in increasing the profit of Wind Farm by about 2,3 M€/year.





- **P2H:** Power-to-hydrogen
- H2P: Hydrogen-to-power
- **EES:** Electrical energy storage

#### Optimal Sizing of a Wind-PV Grid-Connected Hybrid System for Base Load– Helsinki Case

Amin Moghimy Fam, Matti Lehtonen, Mahdi Pourakbari-Kasmaei Dept. Electrical Engineering and Automation Aalto University Espoo, Finland amin.moghimyfam@aalto.fi, matti.lehtonen@aalto.fi, Mahdi.Pourakbari@aalto.fi Mahmud Fotuhi-Firuzabad Dept. Electrical Engineering Sharif University of Technology Tehran, Iran fotuhi@sharif.edu

- This paper mainly studied the feasibility of using Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems consisting of both PV panels and wind turbines in Finland.
- Results show that even in Finland with a small amount of solar irradiation, considering PV decreases the investment cost required to supply the base load by roughly 91% than considering wind power alone!
- Furthermore, the size of the storage shows that clean H2 is one of the few options to make carbon neutrality possible. (to be studied in more detail)







Applied Catalysis B: Environmental Volume 315, 15 October 2022, 121541



#### Hydrogen evolution in alkaline medium on intratube and surface decorated PtRu catalyst

Farhan S.M. Ali<sup>a</sup>, Ryan Lacdao Arevalo<sup>b</sup>, Matthias Vandichel<sup>b</sup>, Florian Speck<sup>c</sup>, Eeva-Leena Rautama<sup>a</sup>, Hua Jiang<sup>d</sup>, Olli Sorsa<sup>a</sup>, Kimmo Mustonen<sup>e</sup>, Serhiy Cherevko<sup>c</sup>, Tanja Kallio a 🖉 🖾

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Abstract For anion exchange membrane (AEM) electrolysis, challenges include finding an optimal catalyst for hydrogen evolution reaction (HER), as the noble metals are scarce while non-noble metals are inferior. Here, the noble metal amount is reduced in a straightforward solution synthesis which produces Pt-Ru surface <u>nanoparticles</u> and unique intratube nanowires decorated on single walled <u>carbon nanotubes</u> (SWNT). In halfcell tests, 5 *wt*<sub>PtRu</sub>-% Pt-Ru SWNT demonstrates stable 10mAcm<sup>-2</sup> HER current at 46mV overpotential and outperforms commercial electrocatalysts. When integrated in an AEM electrolyser, a high current density of 500mAcm<sup>-2</sup> at a low voltage of 1.72V is achieved with 34µgcm<sup>-2</sup> metal loading. First-principles calculations reveal that both the Pt-Ru alloy nanoparticle and intratube nanowires promote near optimal H<sup>\*</sup> binding energy, thereby releasing the H<sub>2</sub> faster. Thus, our approach yields an active low metal loading alkaline HER catalyst without sacrificing the performance in an AEM electrolyser.

# Utilization of hydrogen and its derivatives in energy field.



# Background

- We should first prioritize use of  $H_2$  in sectors that are not chemical industry, aviation.
- such or convert it to methane, methanol, ammonia... to on combustion or by fuel cell.
- nitrogen oxides formation issues.



possible to decarbonize in any other way, such as metallurgy,

• In energy sector we can use  $H_2$  as energy storage medium as reduce volume and then use these with heat engines based

• Even  $H_2 + 0.5 O_2 = H_2O$ , the actual reaction mechanism is very complex, and if air is used, there can be significant thermal

Comment | Published: 05 October 2022

## Using ammonia as a shipping fuel could disturb the nitrogen cycle

Paul Wolfram 🖂, Page Kyle, Xin Zhang, Savvas Gkantonas & Steven Smith

Nature Energy 7, 1112–1114 (2022) Cite this article

[just 0.4% of ammonia converting into  $N_2O$ (GWP<sub>N2O</sub>=273) may negate climate benefits of green ammonia ...]

- Another problem is the slip of gases due to incomplete combustion, CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub> are much worse GHGs than CO<sub>2</sub>!
- Research and development for these new sustainable combustion technologies is in the core of our research.





### of gases due to incomplete ch worse GHGs than CO<sub>2</sub>! for these new sustainable in the core of our research.

Different fuels – including green fuels – may have very different burning characteristics (ignition time and flame speed) affecting combustion dynamics strongly. Hydrogen is a very different fuel than what we are used to. Retrofitting, optimization, combustion research needed!





### **Results from prof.** Ville Vuorinen's group

3D flame structure essential (e.g. flame stability)





## **Education highlights Designing energy systems** within planetary boundaries - New textbook for game changers of energy transition





#### TIINA AND ANTTI HERLIN FOUNDATION

### Mika Järvinen and Hanna Paulomäki



