

# Impacts of Optimal Energy Storage Deployment and Network Reconfiguration on Renewable Integration Level in Distribution Systems

Sérgio F. Santos<sup>a</sup>, Desta Z. Fitiwi<sup>a,b</sup>, Marco R. M. Cruz<sup>c</sup>, Carlos M. P. Cabrita<sup>d</sup>,  
and João P. S. Catalão<sup>a,c,e\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> C-MAST, University of Beira Interior, R. Fonte do Lameiro, 6201-001 Covilhã, Portugal

<sup>b</sup> University Pontificia Comillas, R. Calle Alberto Aguilera, 23, 28015 Madrid, Spain

<sup>c</sup> INESC TEC and Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto, R. Dr. Roberto Frias, 4200-465 Porto, Portugal

<sup>d</sup> CISE, University of Beira Interior, R. Fonte do Lameiro, 6201-001 Covilhã, Portugal

<sup>e</sup> INESC-ID, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, Av. Rovisco Pais, 1, 1049-001 Lisbon, Portugal

---

## Abstract

Nowadays, there is a wide consensus about integrating more renewable energy sources—RESs to solve a multitude of global concerns such as meeting an increasing demand for electricity, reducing energy security and heavy dependence on fossil fuels for energy production, and reducing the overall carbon footprint of power production. Framed in this context, the coordination of RES integration with energy storage systems (ESSs), along with the network's switching capability and/or reinforcement, is expected to significantly improve system flexibility, thereby increasing the capability of the system in accommodating large-scale RES power. Hence, this paper presents a novel mechanism to quantify the impacts of network switching and/or reinforcement as well as deployment of ESSs on the level of renewable power integrated in the system. To carry out this analysis, a dynamic and multi-objective stochastic mixed integer linear programming (S-MILP) model is developed, which jointly takes the optimal deployment of RES-based DGs and ESSs into account in coordination with distribution network reinforcement and/or reconfiguration. The IEEE 119-bus test system is used as a case study. Numerical results clearly show the capability of ESS deployment in dramatically increasing the level of renewable DGs integrated in the system. Although case-dependent, the impact of network reconfiguration on RES power integration is not significant.

*Keywords:* Energy storage; distributed generation; network reinforcement; network switching; renewable energy sources; stochastic mixed integer linear programming.

---

## Nomenclature

### *Sets/Indices*

$g/\Omega^g/\Omega^{DG}$  Index/set of generators/DGs

$k/\Omega^k$  Index/set of branches

$s/\Omega^s$  Index/set of scenarios

$t/\Omega^t$  Index/set of time stages

$w/\Omega^w$  Index/set of snapshots

\* Corresponding author at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto, R. Dr. Roberto Frias, 4200-465 Porto, Portugal.

E-mail address: catalao@ubi.pt.

---

39	$\zeta/\Omega^s$	Index/set of substations
40		
41	<i>Parameters</i>	
42	$ER_g^E, ER_g^N, ER_\zeta^{SS}$	Emission rates of existing and new DGs, and energy purchased, respectively
43		(tCO <sub>2</sub> e/MWh)
44	$IC_{g,i}, IC_k, IC_{tr}, IC_{es,i}$	Investment cost of DG, line, transformer and energy storage, respectively (M€)
45	$LT_{es}, LT_g, LT_k, LT_{tr}$	Lifetimes of energy storage, DG, distribution line, and transformer system, respectively
46		(years)
47	$MC_{es}^E, MC_{es}^N$	Maintenance cost of existing / new storage per year (M€)
48	$MC_g^E, MC_g^N$	Maintenance costs of existing and new DGs (M€/yr)
49	$MC_k^N, MC_k^E$	Maintenance cost of new and existing line (M€/yr)
50	$MC_{tr}^N, MC_{tr}^E$	Maintenance cost of new/existing transformer per year (M€)
51	$OC_{g,i,s,w,t}^E, OC_{g,i,s,w,t}^N$	Operation cost of unit energy production by existing and new DGs (€/MWh)
52	$\eta_{ch,es}, \eta_{dch,es}$	Charging/discharging efficiency
53	$\lambda_{s,w,t}^{CO_2e}$	Price of emissions (€/tons of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent)
54	$\lambda_{s,w,t}^{es}$	Variable cost of energy storage (€/MWh)
55	$\lambda_{s,w,t}^s$	Price of electricity purchased (€/MWh)
56	$\mu_{es}$	Scaling factor
57	$\rho_s, \pi_w$	Probability of scenario $s$ and weight (in hours) of snapshot group $w$
58	$v_{s,w,t}$	Penalty for unserved power (€/MW)
59		
60		

---

61	<i>Variables</i>	
62	$D_{s,w,t}^i$	Active power demand at node $i$ (MW)
63	$E_{es,i,s,w,t}$	Reservoir level of ESS (MWh)
64	$I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch}, I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch}$	Charging/discharging indicator variables
65	$P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch}, P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch}$	Charged/discharged power (MW)
66	$P_{g,i,s,w,t}^E, P_{g,i,s,w,t}^N$	Active power produced by existing and new DGs (MW)
67	$P_{k,s,w,t}$	Power flow through branch $k$ (MW)
68	$P_{\zeta,s,w,t}^{SS}$	Active power imported from grid (MW)
69	$u_{g,i,t}, u_{k,t}$	Utilization variables of existing DG and lines
70	$x_{g,i,t}, x_{es,i,t}, x_{k,t}, x_{tr,ss,t}$	Investment variables for DG, storage systems, transformer and distribution lines,
71		respectively
72	$\delta_{i,s,w,t}$	Unserved power at node $i$ (MW)
73	$\varphi_{k,s,w,t}$	Losses associated to each feeder (MW)
74		
75	<i>Functions</i>	
76	$EC_t^{DG}$	Expected cost of energy from DGs (M€)
77	$EC_t^{ES}$	Expected cost of energy from energy storage (M€)
78	$EC_t^{SS}$	Expected cost of energy purchased from upstream (M€)
79	$EmiC_t^{DG}$	Expected emission cost of DG power production (M€)
80	$EmiC_t^N, EmiC_t^E$	Expected emission cost of power production using new and existing DGs, respectively
81		(M€)

---

82	$EmiC_t^{SS}$	Expected emission cost of purchased power (M€)
83	$ENSC_t$	Expected cost of unserved power (M€)
84	$InvC_t^{DNS}, MntC_t^{DNS}$	NPV investment/maintenance cost of DNS components (M€)

85

86 **1. Introduction**87 *1.1. Background and Motivations*

88 Driven by a number of technical, economic and structural factors, the integration of renewable energy  
89 sources (RESs) is gaining an unprecedented momentum in many countries all over the world. In other words,  
90 the level of RESs integrated in power systems is increasing worldwide. Some of the main reasons that explain  
91 the massive integration of RESs are the continuous growth of energy consumption worldwide, the  
92 environmental issues associated with energy production (pollutant and inefficient production practices) and the  
93 climate change concerns [1], [2]. Policy makers in many states across the globe are setting forth ambitious RES  
94 integration targets [3]. This is expected to reduce the energy production from conventional sources such as oil,  
95 gas and coal, which currently provide about 80% of primary energy worldwide according to the report in [4].  
96 Despite the increasing trend of RES developments, mainly wind, solar and geothermal, their share in the  
97 primary energy is still very low, standing at 0.5% according to [4]. Generally, increasing RES integration and  
98 reducing heavy dependence on fossil fuels for energy production has been at the forefront of the goals set by  
99 several countries, resulting in a significant increase of RES in the recent years [5]. This urgency comes mainly  
100 from the need to reduce greenhouse gases, a large portion of which comes from conventional energy sources  
101 [6]. In the long term, the energy production share of RESs is expected to increase between 30 to 80% by 2100  
102 [7]. Such wide range estimation comes from the present uncertainty surrounding the efforts of decommissioning  
103 nuclear power plants. In this regard, only a few countries such as Germany have so far shown determination to  
104 scale down or even permanently abolish using nuclear sources for energy production [8].

105 The transition from conventional to “clean” energy power generation paradigm involves a significant  
106 number of social, economic, environmental, political and technological factors [9]. With these changes, the  
107 creation of a standard set for renewable and environmental policies, which lead to the direct creation of a new

108 chain of value, is required. The development of such strategies will cause geopolitical changes in the energy  
109 area [10].

110       Among the vast non-conventional generation sources, solar and wind power sources have been especially  
111 attracting large-scale investments in recent years. In particular, the level of RES-based distribution generation  
112 (DG) has been steadily increasing in many electrical distribution systems. However, the integration of RESs has  
113 certain challenges [11]. The most prominent challenge emanates from the nature of such resources. These  
114 resources are subject to natural variation and partial unpredictability (uncertainty), both of which make the  
115 operation, control and planning of power systems very complicated. In addition, the integration of RESs (if not  
116 properly planned and managed) may pose technical challenges such as uncertain current flows and voltage  
117 violations, network congestion and increasing losses among others. These challenges are especially critical at  
118 distribution levels as the reliability, power quality and system stability could be undermined. To overcome or  
119 alleviate the negative consequences of RES integration in the distribution systems, a number of smart-grid  
120 related technologies and concepts are available which can be rolled out in coordination with the variable energy  
121 sources. Among these technologies, energy storage systems (ESSs) have been poised to be viable solutions to  
122 increase the level of penetration of RES-based distributed generations while minimizing their side effects [12].  
123 The use of ESS “levels” the gap between renewable generation and demand by storing energy in periods of low  
124 electricity demand or high production from renewable energy sources, and releasing the stored energy in  
125 periods of higher demand [13]. Such a practice brings about several technical and economic benefits especially  
126 in terms of cost reduction as well as reliability, power quality and stability improvements in the system. In  
127 addition, distribution reconfiguration can increase the flexibility of the network system, possibly paving the  
128 way to an increased penetration level of variable energy sources.

129       Given the background, this paper develops a new joint optimization model that maximizes the RES  
130 integration in distribution network systems. The model simultaneously determines the optimal allocation, sizing  
131 and timing of DGs as well as ESSs. In addition, this work presents a comprehensive analysis on the impacts of  
132 distribution reconfiguration and joint deployment of ESSs on the RES-based integration level.

### 133 *1.2. Literature Review*

134       This section presents a detailed review of relevant works in the subject areas of distribution network  
135 reconfiguration, distributed generation and energy storage systems from the perspective of maximizing

136 renewable DG integration. The ultimate goal for the simultaneous consideration of distribution system  
137 reconfiguration (DSR) and ESS and DG deployments is to support a large-scale RES integration.

138       The increased penetration of variable renewable DGs will have a positive and/or negative impact based on  
139 system conditions. Conventional electrical networks carry a unidirectional power flow. The introduction of  
140 DGs implies a bidirectional power flow, and increased variability and uncertainty in the system. Such  
141 variability and uncertainty of RES power production can be partly counterbalanced by deploying ESSs. In other  
142 words, integrating ESSs in the network systems can counteract the unpredictable variation of the energy  
143 supplied by intermittent RESs. In addition, ESSs balance demand and power generation. Excess energy is  
144 stored during periods of high RES power production and low demand, and is released during periods of peak  
145 demand [13]. The placement and sizing optimization of ESSs is important to mitigate the unpredictable  
146 variation of the energy supplied by RESs. In [14], authors present a detailed review on this subject area,  
147 including the individual ESS applications with respect to several storage options, settings, sizing methodologies  
148 and control.

149       Previous studies in the literature about DSR has traditionally focused on the minimization of system losses  
150 [15]. However, the DSR problem needs to address not only the classic objectives, i.e. minimizing losses, the  
151 voltage profile improvement and/or system reliability, but also two additional problems complementary to  
152 these issues: the massive RES integration and the paradigm of smart grid from the perspective of intelligent  
153 reconfiguration [16], [17], [18]. Because of all this, performing reconfiguration is becoming one of the most  
154 relevant topics in connection with the distribution network systems.

155       Based on the solution techniques applied to solve the problem pertaining to the simultaneous integration  
156 DGs and ESSs along with DSR, the literature can be broadly categorized as: (i) heuristic and metaheuristic  
157 techniques [19], [20]; (ii) mathematical techniques [21]–[23]; (iii) hybrid techniques [24], [25].

158       A number of heuristic and metaheuristic techniques have been employed in the literature. Ref. [26] uses  
159 particle swarm optimization (PSO) to find the optimal location and sizing of ESSs with the aim of reliability  
160 improvement in radial electrical distribution networks. The proposed optimal ESS planning is addressed as an  
161 optimization problem which aims at minimizing the cost of energy not supplied (ENS) as well as installation  
162 costs of ESSs while respecting a number of technical constraints. These include security constraints such as  
163 voltage and line flow limits. Authors in [27] propose a method to find the energy and power capacities of a  
164 storage system that minimizes the operating cost of a microgrid system. The energy management strategy

165 (EMS) used is based on a fuzzy expert system which is responsible for setting the power output of the ESS. The  
166 design of the energy management strategy is carried out by means of a genetic algorithm, which is used to set  
167 the fuzzy rules and membership functions of the expert system. Since the size of storage system has a major  
168 influence on the energy management strategy, ESSs are jointly optimized with EMS. In addition, the proposed  
169 method uses an aging model to predict the lifetime of ESSs. Authors in [28] present a methodology for the  
170 optimal allocation and economic analysis of ESS in microgrids on the basis of a net present value (NPV). As the  
171 performance of a microgrid strongly depends on the allocation and arrangement of its ESS, optimal allocation  
172 methods and economic operation strategies of ESSs are required for the microgrid. A matrix real-coded genetic  
173 algorithm is applied to find an optimal ESS allocation, in which each chromosome in the algorithm consists of a  
174 2-D real number matrix representing the generation schedule of ESSs and distributed generation sources.

175 The literature also includes some works based on mathematical techniques. Authors in [29] suggest a  
176 dynamic programming approach to compute the optimal energy management of storage devices in grid-connected  
177 microgrids. Stored energy is controlled to balance the power of loads and renewable sources, in effect  
178 minimizing the overall cost of energy. The algorithm incorporates an arbitrary network topology, which can be  
179 a general one-phase, balanced, or unbalanced three-phase system. It employs a power flow solver in network  
180 domain, within a dynamic programming recursive search in time domain. In [30], authors have modelled the  
181 impact of real-time pricing schemes (from the smart grids perspective) on a hybrid DG system (mixed  
182 generation for heating and electricity loads) coupled with storage units. They have formulated a dynamic  
183 optimization model to represent a real-life urban community's energy system composed of a co-generation unit,  
184 gas boilers, electrical heaters and a wind turbine. Ref. [31] calculates electricity grid losses while considering  
185 limitations of using energy storage devices. Dynamic programming is used to solve the problem on CIGRÉ low  
186 voltage grid as a standard benchmark. Authors in [32] analyse the technical and economic impacts of distributed  
187 generators along with energy storage devices on distribution systems. The technical analysis includes analysing  
188 the transient stability of a system with DGs and energy storage devices such as battery and ultracapacitor. DGs  
189 are represented as small synchronous and induction generators. Different types and locations of faults and  
190 different penetration levels of DGs are considered in the analysis. For economic analysis, the costs of the system  
191 with different DG technologies and energy storage devices are compared using the software tool "hybrid  
192 optimization model for electric renewables (HOMER)". In [23], the proposed model aims to minimize the total  
193 NPV cost (investment, maintenance, losses and unserved energy). As already mentioned earlier, most of the  
194 previous works install a given amount of RESs at predetermined locations in the network. In [33], authors

195 propose an optimal contingency assessment model using a two-stage stochastic linear programming including  
196 wind power generation and a generic ESS. The optimization model is applied to find the best radial topology by  
197 determining the best switching sequence considering contingencies. Another perspective is through the smart  
198 grids paradigm. In the smart grid context, hourly reconfiguration is still under-researched idea, but this may  
199 partly help to solve the problem of RES fluctuations. Authors in [22] explore the potential of increasing DG  
200 integration in distribution systems both in a static (reconfiguration in each planning stage) or dynamic network  
201 topology (reconfiguration using remotely controlled switches and network management schemes).

202 The literature in the hybrid methods category is summarized as follows. Authors in [34] propose two  
203 different strategies for constructing reliable microgrids considering temporary and sustained faults, and  
204 supply-adequate microgrids considering both real and reactive power self-sufficiency. This is defined as a new  
205 probabilistic index for simultaneous consideration of reliability indices, real and reactive supply-adequacy for  
206 the construction of microgrids. All this take into account the uncertainty in the characteristics of the DG units  
207 and loads for constructing and enhancing microgrids. For the sensitivity studies, two corrective actions are  
208 proposed to improve the performance of microgrids in terms of reliability and supply-adequacy. Three different  
209 types of algorithms are used at different stages, including a tabu search optimization algorithm as the main  
210 optimization method and graph theory-related algorithms as well as forward-backward-based probabilistic  
211 power flow methods.

212 As mentioned earlier, there is a global consensus for the integration of DG sources, especially RES as a  
213 way to meet the growing demand for electric energy and to reduce the carbon footprint of energy production.  
214 Nevertheless, the realization of this considerable objective faces two big challenges. The first challenge is  
215 related to the variability and uncertainty introduced on the system by RESs. The second one is related to the  
216 stability of the system and quality of energy supplied. To overcome these challenges, it is necessary to integrate  
217 a set of enabling technologies, as well as design an effective coordination mechanism among different  
218 technologies in distribution systems. It should be noted that, in addition to these challenges, there exists a set of  
219 system restrictions related to operation as well as economics that cannot be violated. The integration of these  
220 technologies is a topic which has been researched for some time; yet, integration of a specific set, namely DG  
221 and ESS along with dynamic DSR has not been adequately studied. Therefore, the main contribution of the  
222 present work lies in the joint analysis of these technologies with the specific aims of improving system  
223 flexibility, increasing RES penetration, reducing losses, enhancing system stability and reliability.



### 224 1.3. Contributions

225 The main contributions of this work are twofold:

- 226 • A multi-stage and stochastic optimization model, which considers simultaneous integration of ESSs  
227 and RES based DGS as well as network reconfiguration/investments;
- 228 • A thorough analysis related to the impacts of system flexibility as a result of network reconfiguration  
229 and expansion, and/or ESS deployments made in coordination with investments in variable generation  
230 sources on the RES integration level, system cost and losses.

### 231 1.4. Structure

232 The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents a brief description of the developed  
233 mathematical model. Numerical results are discussed in Section 3. The last section concludes this paper.

234

## 235 2. Model Formulation

### 236 2.1 Description of Terminologies

237 Some terminologies used in this paper are snapshot, scenario and time stage. A snapshot refers to an hourly  
238 operational situation. Alternatively, it can be understood as a demand—generation pattern at a given hour. A  
239 scenario, on the other hand, denotes the evolution of an uncertain parameter over a given time horizon (often yearly).  
240 For example, the hourly variations of wind power production and electricity consumption collectively form a group  
241 of snapshots; whereas, the annual demand growth (which is subject to uncertainty) and RES power output  
242 uncertainty are represented by a number of possible storylines (scenarios) [35]. Time stage (also referred to as  
243 decision stage) stands for the yearly decision stages throughout the planning horizon. The length of planning horizon  
244 in the present work is three years, which is divided into yearly decision stages.

### 245 2.2. Objective Function

246 The problem is formulated as a multi-objective stochastic MILP optimization with an overall cost  
247 minimization as in (1). The objective function in (1) is composed of NPV of five cost terms each weighted by a  
248 certain relevance factor  $\gamma_j; \forall j \in \{1,2, \dots,5\}$ .

249 The first term in (1),  $TInvC$ , represents the total investment cost under the assumption of a perpetual  
 250 planning horizon. In other words, “the investment cost is amortized in annual instalments throughout the  
 251 lifetime of the installed component”.

252 Here, the total investment cost is the sum of investment costs of DGs, distribution network system (DNS)  
 253 components (feeders and transformers) and ESSs, as in (2). This cost is computed as in (7)—(9).

254 The second term,  $TMC$ , in (1) denotes the total maintenance costs which is given by the sum of  
 255 maintenance costs of new and existing DGs as well as that of DNS components and ESSs at each stage plus the  
 256 corresponding costs incurred after the last time stage, as in (3). Note that the latter depend on the maintenance  
 257 costs of the last stage according to a perpetual planning horizon. These maintenance costs are computed using  
 258 Eqs. (10)—(12).

259 The third term,  $TEC$ , in (1) refers to the total cost of energy in the system, which is the sum of the cost of  
 260 power produced by new and existing DGs, supplied by ESSs and purchased from upstream at each stage as in  
 261 (4). Equation (4) also includes the total energy costs incurred after the last time stage under the assumption of a  
 262 perpetual planning horizon. Note that these costs depend on the energy costs of the last stage. The detailed  
 263 mathematical expressions for computing the cost of DG power produced and ESS power supplied as well as that  
 264 of purchased power are given in (13), (14) and (15), respectively. The fourth term  $TENSC$  represents the total  
 265 cost of unserved power in the system, given as in (5). This is computed using Eq. (16). The last term,  $TEmiC$ ,  
 266 gathers the total emission costs in the system, given by the sum of emission costs for the existing and new DGs  
 267 in Eqs. (17)—(19) as well that of purchased power (20).

$$\text{Minimize } TC = \gamma_1 * TInvC + \gamma_2 * TMC + \gamma_3 * TEC + \gamma_4 * TENSC + \gamma_5 * TEmiC \quad (1)$$

268 As mentioned earlier, the objective function is composed of five terms, each associated with a certain  
 269 relevance factor. These factors can have dual purposes. The first one is to provide the planner with the needed  
 270 flexibility for the planner to include/exclude each cost term in/from the objective function. In this case, the  
 271 associated relevance factor is set to 1 if the cost term is included; otherwise the factor is set to 0. Another  
 272 purpose of these factors boils down to the relative weight in which the planner wants to apply on each cost term.  
 273 To emphasize the importance of a given cost term, a relatively higher value can be assigned than any other term  
 274 in the objective function.

$$TInvC = \sum_{t \in \Omega^t} (1+r)^{-t} (InvC_t^{DG} + InvC_t^{DNS} + InvC_t^{ES})/r \quad (2)$$

*NPV of investment cost*

$$TMC = \sum_{t \in \Omega^t} (1+r)^{-t} (MntC_t^{DG} + MntC_t^{DNS} + MntC_t^{ES}) \quad (3)$$

*NPV of maintenance costs*

$$+ \frac{(1+r)^{-T} (MntC_T^{DG} + MntC_T^{DNS} + MntC_T^{ES})}{r}$$

*NPV maintenance costs incurred after stage T*

$$TEC = \sum_{t \in \Omega^t} (1+r)^{-t} (EC_t^{DG} + EC_t^{SS} + EC_t^{ES}) + \frac{(1+r)^{-T} (EC_T^{DG} + EC_T^{SS} + EC_T^{ES})}{r} \quad (4)$$

*NPV of operation costs*      *NPV operation costs incurred after stage T*

$$TENSC = \sum_{t \in \Omega^t} (1+r)^{-t} ENSC_t + \frac{(1+r)^{-T} ENSC_T}{r} \quad (5)$$

*NPV of reliability costs*      *NPV reliability costs incurred after stage T*

$$TEmiC = \sum_{t \in \Omega^t} (1+r)^{-t} (EmiC_t^{DG} + EmiC_t^{SS}) + \frac{(1+r)^{-T} (EmiC_T^{DG} + EmiC_T^{SS})}{r} \quad (6)$$

*NPV emission costs*      *NPV emission costs incurred after stage T*

275

276 Equation (2) translates the total investment costs within the planning horizon, where  $InvC_t^{DG}$  denotes the  
 277 investment costs of DGs,  $InvC_t^{DNS}$  is the investment costs in the distribution network system and  $InvC_t^{ES}$  is  
 278 the investment cost in ESS. Equation (3) represents the total maintenance costs of new and existing DGs, DNS  
 279 components and ESSs at each stage. These costs are updated by the NPV factor associated to each year. Here,  
 280  $MntC_t^{DG}$  denotes the maintenance cost of DGs while  $MntC_t^{DNS}$  and  $MntC_t^{ES}$  correspond to the maintenance  
 281 costs of distribution network system and ESSs, respectively. Equation (4) shows the total cost of energy in the  
 282 system, which is the sum of the cost of power produced by new and existing DGs, supplied by ESSs and  
 283 purchased from upstream at each stage.  $TENSC$  in (5) represents the total cost of unserved power in the  
 284 system. This is interpreted as the energy not supplied costs ( $ENSC$ ). The total emission cost of power  
 285 production using DGs ( $EmiC_t^{DG}$ ) and that of purchased power ( $EmiC_t^{SS}$ ) is given by (6).

286 Equations (7)–(9) represent the investment costs of DGs, feeders and energy storage system,  
 287 respectively. Notice that all investment costs are weighted by the capital recovery factor,  $\frac{r(1+r)^{LT}}{(1+r)^{LT}-1}$ . The  
 288 formulations in (7)–(10) ensure that the investment cost of each component added to the system is considered  
 289 only once in the summation.

$$InvC_t^{DG} = \sum_{g \in \Omega^g} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} \frac{r(1+r)^{LT_g}}{(1+r)^{LT_g} - 1} IC_{g,i}(x_{g,i,t} - x_{g,i,t-1}) ; \text{where } x_{g,i,0} = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$InvC_t^{DNS} = \sum_{k \in \Omega^k} \frac{r(1+r)^{LT_k}}{(1+r)^{LT_k} - 1} IC_k(x_{k,t} - x_{k,t-1}) \\ + \sum_{ss \in \Omega^{ss}} \sum_{tr \in \Omega^{tr}} \frac{i(1+i)^{LT_{tr}}}{(1+i)^{LT_{tr}} - 1} IC_{tr}(x_{tr,ss,t} - x_{tr,ss,t-1}) ; \quad (8)$$

$$InvC_t^{ES} = \sum_{c \in \Omega^c} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} \frac{r(1+r)^{LT_{es}}}{(1+r)^{LT_{es}} - 1} IC_{es,i}(x_{es,i,t} - x_{es,i,t-1}) ; \text{where } x_{es,i,0} = 0 \quad (9)$$

290 Equation (10) stands for the maintenance costs of new and existing DGs at each time stage. The  
 291 maintenance cost of a new/existing feeder is included only when its corresponding investment/utilization  
 292 variable is different from zero, as shown in (11). Equation (12) is related to the maintenance costs of energy  
 293 storage at each stage.

$$MntC_t^{DG} = \sum_{g \in \Omega^g} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} MC_g^N x_{g,i,t} + \sum_{g \in \Omega^g} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} MC_g^E u_{g,i,t} \quad (10)$$

$$MntC_t^{DNS} = \sum_{k \in \Omega^{ef}} MC_k^E u_{k,t} + \sum_{k \in \Omega^{ne}} MC_k^N x_{k,t} + \sum_{tr \in \Omega^{E-tr}} MC_{tr}^E u_{tr,ss,t} + \sum_{tr \in \Omega^{N-tr}} MC_{tr}^N x_{tr,ss,t} \quad (11)$$

$$MntC_t^{ES} = \sum_{c \in \Omega^c} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} MC_{es} x_{es,i,t} \quad (12)$$

294

295 The total cost of power produced by new and existing DGs is given by equation (13). Note that these costs  
 296 depend on the amount of power generated in each scenario, snapshot and stage. Therefore, they represent the  
 297 expected costs of operation. Similarly, equations (14) and (15) account for the expected costs of energy supplied  
 298 by the energy storage system, and that purchased from upstream (i.e. transmission grid), respectively.

$$EC_t^{DG} = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \pi_w \sum_{g \in \Omega^g} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} (OC_{g,i,s,w,t}^N P_{g,i,s,w,t}^N + OC_{g,i,s,w,t}^E P_{g,i,s,w,t}^E) \quad (13)$$

$$EC_t^{ES} = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \pi_w \sum_{es \in \Omega^{es}} \lambda_{s,w,t}^{es} P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{pdch} \quad (14)$$

$$EC_t^{SS} = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \pi_w \sum_{\zeta \in \Omega^s} \lambda_{s,w,t}^{\zeta} P_{\zeta,s,w,t}^{SS} \quad (15)$$

299 The penalty for the unserved power, given by (16), is also dependent on the scenarios, snapshots and time  
 300 stages. Therefore, Equation (16) gives the expected cost of unserved energy in the system.

$$ENSC_t = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} \pi_w v_{s,w,t} \delta_{i,s,w,t} \quad (16)$$

301 The expected emission costs of power generated by new and existing DGs are given by (17)—(19), and  
 302 that of energy purchased from the grid is calculated using (20). Note that, for the sake of simplicity, a linear  
 303 emission cost function is assumed here. In reality, the emission cost function is highly nonlinear and  
 304 nonconvex, as in [36].

$$EmiC_t^{DG} = EmiC_t^N + EmiC_t^E \quad (17)$$

$$EmiC_t^N = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \pi_w \sum_{g \in \Omega^g} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} \lambda_{s,w,t}^{CO_2e} ER_g^N P_{g,i,s,w,t}^N \quad (18)$$

$$EmiC_t^E = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \pi_w \sum_{g \in \Omega^g} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} \lambda_{s,w,t}^{CO_2e} ER_g^E P_{g,i,s,w,t}^E \quad (19)$$

$$EmiC_t^{SS} = \sum_{s \in \Omega^s} \rho_s \sum_{w \in \Omega^w} \pi_w \sum_{\zeta \in \Omega^\zeta} \sum_{i \in \Omega^i} \lambda_{s,w,t}^{CO_2e} ER_\zeta^{SS} P_{\zeta,i,s,w,t}^{SS} \quad (20)$$

305 Note that  $\rho_s$  denotes the probability of each scenario while  $\pi_w$  is the weight associated with each  
 306 representative snapshot. These parameters appear in Eqs. (13)—(20). Setting values for these parameters is not  
 307 generally straightforward. For the sake of simplicity, all scenarios are assumed to be equally probable. The steps  
 308 being followed to determine the value of each representative snapshot are described as follows. First, a large number  
 309 of snapshots are clustered into a predefined number of groups, substantially lower than the original number of  
 310 snapshots. The number of groups needs to ideally strike the right balance between accuracy and numerical feasibility.  
 311 Each group contains a set of snapshots with similar characteristics. Then, a representative snapshot (for instance, the  
 312 medoid) is selected in each group. This snapshot is used in the analysis by assigning a weight  $\pi_w$  proportional to the  
 313 number of snapshots grouped together.

314

315

316 2.3. Constraints

317 a) Kirchhoff's current law (Active power balance)

318 The active power balance at each node is enforced by equation (21):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{g \in \Omega^{DG}} (P_{g,i,s,w,t}^E + P_{g,i,s,w,t}^N) + \sum_{es \in \Omega^{es}} (P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} - P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch}) + P_{\zeta,s,w,t}^{SS} + \sum_{in,k \in i} P_{k,s,w,t} - \sum_{out,k \in i} P_{k,s,w,t} + \delta_{i,s,w,t} \\
 & = \sum_{in,k \in i} 0.5\varphi_{k,s,w,t} + \sum_{out,k \in i} 0.5\varphi_{k,s,w,t} + D_{s,w,t}^i ; \quad \forall \zeta, \forall \zeta \in i.
 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

319 Equation (21) denotes that the sum of all incoming flows should be equal to the sum of all outgoing flows  
 320 at each node. The losses in every feeder are considered as “virtual loads” which are equally distributed between  
 321 the nodes connecting the feeder. Note that losses are a quadratic function of flows (not shown here). Hence, they  
 322 are linearized using a first order approximation, as in [23]. Five linear partitions are used throughout the  
 323 analysis in this paper, which is in line with the findings in [37].

324 b) Energy Storage Model Constraints

325 For the sake of simplicity, a generic ESS is employed here. This is modelled by the set of constraints in  
 326 (22)—(28). Equations (22) and (23) represent the bounds of power capacity of the ESS while being charged and  
 327 discharged, respectively. Inequality (24) prevents simultaneous charging and discharging operation of the ESS  
 328 in a given operational time  $w$ . The amount of stored energy in the ESS reservoir at a given operational time  $w$   
 329 as a function of the energy stored until  $w - 1$  is given by (25). The maximum and minimum levels of storages  
 330 in the operational time  $w$  are also considered through inequality (26). Equation (27) shows the initial level of  
 331 stored energy in the ESS as a function of its maximum reservoir capacity. In a multi-stage planning approach,  
 332 Equation (28) ensures that the initial level of energy in the ESS at a given year is equal to the final level of  
 333 energy in the ESS in the preceding year. Moreover, the reservoir level at the end of the planning horizon should  
 334 be equal to the initial level, which is enforced by the second constraint in (28). Such a constraint guarantees that  
 335 the optimal solution returned by the solution algorithm is not because of the initial reservoir level. Here,  
 336  $\eta_{es}^{dch}$  is assumed to be  $\eta_{es}^{ch}$ .

$$0 \leq P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} \leq I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} x_{es,i,t} P_{es,i}^{ch,max} \tag{22}$$

$$0 \leq P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} \leq I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} x_{es,i,t} P_{es,i}^{ch,max} \quad (23)$$

$$I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} + I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} \leq 1 \quad (24)$$

$$E_{es,i,s,w,t} = E_{es,i,s,w-1,t} + \eta_{ch,es} P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} - P_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} / \eta_{dch,es} \quad (25)$$

$$E_{es,i}^{min} x_{es,i,t} \leq E_{es,i,s,w,t} \leq x_{es,i,t} E_{es,i}^{max} \quad (26)$$

$$E_{es,i,s,w_0,T1} = \mu_{es} x_{es,i,T1} E_{es,i}^{max} \quad (27)$$

$$E_{es,i,s,w_1,t+1} = E_{es,i,s,W,t}; \quad E_{es,i,s,W,T} = E_{es,i,s,w_0,T1} \quad (28)$$

337 Notice that inequalities (22) and (23) involve products of charging/discharging indicator variables and  
 338 investment variable. In order to overcome these nonlinearities, new continuous positive variables  $z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch}$ , and  
 339  $z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch}$ , which replace the bilinear products in each constraint, are introduced such that the set of linear  
 340 constraints in (29) and (30) hold. For instance, the product  $I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} x_{es,i,t}$  is replaced by the positive variable  
 341  $z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch}$ . Then, the bilinear product is decoupled by introducing the set of constraints in (29) [38]. Similarly, the  
 342 product  $I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} x_{es,i,t}$  is decoupled by including the set of constraints in (30).

$$z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} \leq x_{es}^{max} I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch}; \quad z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} \leq x_{es,i,t}; \quad z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch} \geq x_{es,i,t} - (1 - I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{dch}) x_{es}^{max} \quad (29)$$

$$z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} \leq x_{es}^{max} I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch}; \quad z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} \leq x_{es,i,t}; \quad z_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch} \geq x_{es,i,t} - (1 - I_{es,i,s,w,t}^{ch}) x_{es}^{max} \quad (30)$$

### 343 c) Active Power Limits of DGs

344 The active power limits of existing generators are given by (31). Inequality (32) represents the  
 345 corresponding constraints in the case of new generators. Note that the binary variables multiply both bounds to  
 346 make sure that the power generation variable is zero when the generator remains either unutilized or unselected  
 347 for investment.

$$P_{g,i,s,w,t}^{E,min} u_{g,i,t} \leq P_{g,i,s,w,t}^E \leq P_{g,i,s,w,t}^{E,max} u_{g,i,t} \quad (31)$$

$$P_{g,i,s,w,t}^{N,min} x_{g,i,t} \leq P_{g,i,s,w,t}^N \leq P_{g,i,s,w,t}^{N,max} x_{g,i,t} \quad (32)$$

348 It should be noted that these constraints are applicable only for conventional DGs. In the case of variable  
 349 generation sources (such as wind and solar PV), the upper bound  $P_{g,i,s,w,t}^{max}$  should be set equal to the minimum  
 350 of the actual production level at a given hour, which is dependent on the level of primary energy source (wind  
 351 speed and solar radiation), and the rated (installed) capacity of the generating unit. The lower bound  $P_{g,i,s,w,t}^{min}$  in  
 352 this case is simply set to zero.

353 d) Active Power Limits of Power Purchased

$$P_{s,w,t}^{SS,min} \leq P_{s,w,t}^{SS} \leq P_{s,w,t}^{SS,max} \quad (33)$$

354 For technical reasons, the power that can be purchased from the transmission grid could have minimum  
 355 and maximum limits, which is enforced by (33). However, it is understood that setting such limits is difficult.  
 356 These constraints are included here for the sake of completeness. In this work, these limits are set to 1.5 times  
 357 the minimum and maximum levels of the total load in the system.

358 e) Logical constraints

359 The set of logical constraints in (34) ensure that an investment decision already made cannot be reversed.  
 360 In addition to the constraints described above, the direct current (DC) based network model and radiality related  
 361 constraints presented in [23] are used here.

$$x_{k,t} \geq x_{k,t-1}; \quad x_{g,i,t} \geq x_{g,i,t-1}; \quad x_{es,i,t} \geq x_{es,i,t-1} \quad (34)$$

362 f) Radiality constraints

363 There are two conditions that must be fulfilled in order a distribution network system (DNS) to be radial.  
 364 First, the solution must have  $N_i - N_{SS}$  circuits. Second, the final topology should be connected. Equation (35)  
 365 represents the first necessary condition for maintaining the radial topology of a DNS.



$$\sum_{k \in \Omega^{ij}} OR(x_{k,t}, u_{k,t}) = N_i - N_{SS} \quad ; \forall t \quad (35)$$

366 Note that the above equation assumes that a line investment is possible in all corridors. Hence, in a given  
 367 corridor, we can have either an existing branch or a new one, or both connected in parallel, depending on the  
 368 economic benefits of the final setup (solution) brings about to the system. The radiality constraint in (35) then  
 369 has to accommodate this condition. One way to do this is using the Boolean logic operation given as in (35).  
 370 Unfortunately, this introduces nonlinearity. We show how this logic can be linearized using an additional  
 371 auxiliary variable  $z_{k,t}$  and the binary variables associated to existing and new branches i.e.  $u_{k,t}$  and  $x_{k,t}$ ,  
 372 respectively. Given  $z_{k,t} = OR(x_{k,t}, u_{k,t})$ , this Boolean operation can be expressed using the following set of  
 373 linear constraints:

$$z_{k,t} \leq x_{k,t} + u_{k,t}; \quad z_{k,t} \geq x_{k,t}; \quad z_{k,t} \geq u_{k,t}; \quad 0 \leq z_{k,t} \leq 1 \quad ; \forall t \quad (36)$$

374 Then, the radiality constraints in (69) can be reformulated using the  $z_{k,t}$  variables as:

$$\sum_{k \in \Omega^{ij}} z_{k,t} = N_i - N_{SS} \quad ; \forall t \quad (37)$$

375 When all loads in the DNS are only powered up by power imported through a number of substations, the  
 376 final solution obtained automatically satisfies the two aforementioned conditions; hence, no additional  
 377 constraints are required i.e. (36) along with (37) are sufficient to guarantee radiality. However, it should be  
 378 noted that, in the presence of DGs and reactive power sources, these constraints alone may not ensure the  
 379 radiality of the distribution network, as pointed out in [39] and further discussed in [40].

380

### 381 3. Numerical Results and Discussions

#### 382 3.1. Data and Assumptions

383 The standard IEEE 119-bus distribution network, shown in Figure 1, is used here for carrying out the  
 384 required analysis mentioned earlier. The system has a rated voltage of 11.0 kV, and a total demand of 22709.72  
 385 kW and 17041.068 kVAr. Network data and other related information about this test system can be found in

386 [41]. According to [42], the active power losses in this system is 1298.09 kW, and the minimum node voltage of  
387 the system is 0.8783 p.u., which occurs at bus 116.

388 "Figure 1"

389 Other data and assumptions made throughout this paper are as follows. The planning horizon is 3 years  
390 long, which is divided into yearly decision stages, and a fixed interest rate of 7% is used. The expected lifetime  
391 of the generic ESS is assumed to be 15 years while that of DGs and feeders is 25 years. Two investment options  
392 with installed capacities of 0.5 and 1.0 MVA are considered for each wind and solar PV type DG units. The  
393 installation cost and emission related data of these DG units in [43] are used here. For the sake of simplicity, all  
394 maintenance cost of each DG is assumed to be 2% of the corresponding investment cost while that of any feeder  
395 is 450 €/km/year. The investment cost of each feeder is 38700 €/km. The current flow limits of each feeder are  
396 considered to be as follows. The current limit in each of the feeders {(1,2); (2,4); (1,66); (66,67)} is 1200 A  
397 while the set of feeders {(4,5); (5,6); (6,7); (4,29); (29,30); (30,31); (67,68); (67,81); (81,82); (1,105);  
398 (105,106); (106,107)} have each 800 A capacity limit. The current flow limits of the remaining feeders are  
399 considered to be 400 A. Moreover, it is assumed that all feeders can be switched on/off, if deemed necessary.

400 In addition, it is assumed that the availability of wind and solar power sources is uniform throughout the  
401 system nodes. The operational variability and uncertainty introduced by wind and solar PV type DGs, demand  
402 and electricity price are accounted for via the clustering method proposed in [44]. The maximum allowable bus  
403 voltage deviation in the system is set to 5%, and node 1 is considered as a reference with a voltage magnitude of  
404 1.0. Taking the base case demand as a reference, annual demand growths of 0%, 5% and 10% are also  
405 considered in all simulations. Emission prices in the first, second and third time stages are set to 25, 45 and 60  
406 €/tCO<sub>2e</sub>, respectively, and the emission rate of power purchased from upstream is arbitrarily set to 0.4  
407 tCO<sub>2e</sub>/MWh. The cost of unserved energy is 2000 €/MWh. A power factor of 0.9 is considered throughout the  
408 system, and is assumed to be the same throughout. The base power is set to 1 MVA. An ESS with a 1 MW  
409 power and a 5 MWh reservoir capacity is considered for investment.

### 410 3.2. Discussion of Numerical Results

411 Given the aforementioned data and assumptions, the developed optimization problem has been solved  
412 considering six different cases (designated as A through F). Case A represents the base case topology where no  
413 investments are made. This case can be alternatively understood as the “do-nothing” scenario. Case B is similar

414 to the base case (i.e. with no investments) but considers the network reconfiguration problem. Case C  
415 corresponds to a scenario where only DG investments are made on the base case topology (i.e. without  
416 reconfiguration). Case D is similar to Case C except that the former simultaneously considers optimal  
417 reconfiguration and DG investments. The last two cases (Cases E and F) correspond to scenarios where optimal  
418 investment planning in DGs is coordinated with that of ESSs. The difference is that Case E uses the base case  
419 topology (i.e. without reconfiguration) while Case F optimizes the network via reconfiguration. Table 1 clearly  
420 summarizes the different cases.

421 "Table 1"

422 The values of the most relevant variables are analysed (as depicted in Table 2) over the three years  
423 planning horizon. The results in Table 2 reveal the significant differences in overall NPV cost in the system,  
424 share of the combined energy supplied by RES and ESS, cost of total network losses and unserved power  
425 among the aforementioned cases. The results are also compared with the base case system where no investments  
426 are made and the network topology is held the same (i.e. the "do-nothing" scenario). Carrying out an optimal  
427 reconfiguration of the network alone, as in Case B, results in about 5.44 % reduction in the cost of losses, and a  
428 15.9% reduction in the NPV overall system cost compared with that of Case A.

429 In addition, network reconfiguration reduces a total of 1.18 p.u. average load curtailment in the third year  
430 to 0.57 p.u. in Case B that would otherwise occur at nodes 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 and 116 due to a number of factors  
431 such as technical constraints and high demand level.

432 Another more interesting observation from Table 2 is that Cases C and D lead to (approximately) 50%  
433 reduction in the overall system cost, and a 75% reduction in the amount of imported energy. Wind and solar  
434 power sources are complementary by nature. This natural phenomenon seems to be exploited when DG  
435 investments are not accompanied by investments in ESSs (i.e. Cases C and D). This is because, according to the  
436 DG investment solution in Table 2, the operational variability in the system seems to be handled by investing an  
437 appreciable amount in both complementary power sources (wind and solar). The level of demand covered by  
438 RESs in both cases amounts to nearly 75%. Moreover, as a result of investing in DGs, losses in the system are  
439 slashed down by about 82%. Generally, the corresponding reductions in Case D are slightly higher than those in  
440 Case C. This is due to the network reconfiguration which has been considered in Case D.

441 "Table 2".

442 The results corresponding to Cases E and F show that the total cost and cost of losses are dramatically  
443 reduced by more than 60% and 90%, respectively. These figures are in line with the results reported in a similar  
444 work [18]. The reductions in active losses are 88.56% and 89.66%, respectively. Moreover, the amount of  
445 imported energy is 11% and 10% of the total energy demand in Cases E and F, respectively. All this reveals the  
446 substantial benefits of coordinating investments in DG with ESSs. Generally, ESSs significantly improve  
447 system flexibility, enabling large-scale accommodation of RES energy. Interestingly, the total amount of  
448 installed DGs (40 MVA) is lower in Cases E and F (with ESSs) than in Cases C and D (without ESSs). Even if  
449 this is the case, in the absence of a storage medium (as in Cases C and D), there may be frequent RES power  
450 spillages when the demand is lower than the total generated power. However, the installation of ESSs leads to  
451 an efficient utilization of RES power. This is evident from the amount of energy consumption covered by the  
452 combined energy from RESs and ESSs in Cases E and F is about 90%. Normally, a network switching  
453 capability also improves system flexibility, leading to a high level RES penetration. In this particular study, the  
454 effect of network switching on the level of RES power absorbed by the system is not significant as one can  
455 observe in Table 2. This may however be case-dependent. A more frequent switching capability could, for  
456 instance, have a significant impact.

457 The optimal location and size of installed DGs and ESSs corresponding to Cases C through F is  
458 summarized in Table 3. This is also conveniently plotted in Figure 2. As the formulated problem is based on a  
459 multi-year decision framework, the aggregate investment decisions made in each stage along the planning  
460 horizon is presented in Table 4. As it can be seen in this table, majority of the investments are made in the first  
461 stage. This may be because of two reasons. The first one could be due to lack of appropriate financial and  
462 logistical constraints in the optimization model. The second and most plausible reason could be due to higher  
463 NPV factor of the first stage than any subsequent one. Note that the higher this factor is, the more relevant the  
464 associated costs in the objective function are, hence, leading to more investments in DGs and ESSs.

465 "Table 3 ".

466 "Figure 2 ".

467 "Table 4 ".

468 "Figure 3 ".

469 "Figure 4 ".

470 The average voltage profiles at each node and for each case are depicted in Figure 3. A cumulative  
471 distribution of the average voltage values, corresponding to different cases, is also conveniently represented in  
472 Figure 4. In both figures, it is interesting to see the substantial contributions of DG and ESS installations to  
473 voltage profile improvement. As shown in Figure 3, the coordinated integration of DGs and ESSs along with  
474 reconfiguration (i.e. Case F), especially leads to the best voltage profile which is almost flat throughout the  
475 system.

476 "Table 5".

477 Table 5 compares the optimal network topologies (i.e. the switches to be opened) corresponding to the  
478 different cases with that of the base case topology. The benefit of joint DG and ESS investments along with  
479 network reconfiguration in terms of losses reduction (over 89% on average) can be seen in Figure 5. The spikes  
480 observed in cases D and F are because of the variability in the RES power injected into the system.

481 "Figure 5".

482 As stated earlier, stability concern is one of the major issues that are associated with high level RES  
483 integration in distribution systems. The controllability of voltage and frequency can be dramatically  
484 undermined or even sometimes become out of reach. Because of these reasons, the penetration level of DGs  
485 (including RESs) in many distribution systems is limited to a value often less than about 25%. However, this  
486 contradicts with the ambition to meet other objectives such as reducing the carbon footprint of power  
487 production and ensuring energy security among others. The integration of RESs is likely to be supported with  
488 enabling technologies that have the capability to effectively address the integration challenges and consequently  
489 increase the penetration level. The numerical results in this work largely demonstrate the fact that large-scale  
490 integration of variable energy sources is possible when such energy sources are optimally deployed with ESSs  
491 and a mechanism that improve the flexibility of the network is put in place.

#### 492 **4. Conclusions**

493 This paper has investigated the impacts of installing ESSs as well as network switching on the level of  
494 renewable power integration in a distribution network system. A stochastic MILP optimization model has been  
495 developed for this purpose. The resulting model is equipped with the necessary tools to jointly optimize the  
496 placement, timing and sizing of RES-based DGs and ESSs in coordination with optimal network

497 reconfiguration while respecting a number of technical, economic and environmental constraints. Numerical  
498 results have showed the capability of ESS integration in dramatically increasing the level and the optimal  
499 exploitation of renewable DGs. According to the simulation results, the simultaneous integration of DGs and  
500 ESSs resulted in an overall cost and average losses reduction of 60% and 90%, respectively. Moreover, as high  
501 as 90% RES penetration level seems to be largely possible provided that this is supported by ESS deployments.  
502 The optimal network reconfiguration, DG and ESS installations (jointly or separately) substantially contributed  
503 to voltage stability. In this particular case study, the impact of network switching on RES power integration has  
504 not been significant. However, it should be noted that this can be case-dependent; a more frequent switching  
505 operation can substantially influence the level of renewable integration.

506

#### 507 **Acknowledgments**

508 This work was supported by FEDER funds through COMPETE 2020 and by Portuguese funds through FCT,  
509 under Projects FCOMP-01-0124-FEDER-020282 (Ref. PTDC/EEA-EEL/118519/2010),  
510 POCI-01-0145-FEDER-006961, UID/EEA/50014/2013, UID/CEC/50021/2013, and UID/EMS/00151/2013.  
511 Also, the research leading to these results has received funding from the EU Seventh Framework Programme  
512 FP7/2007-2013 under grant agreement no. 309048. Moreover, Sérgio Santos gratefully acknowledges the UBI /  
513 Santander Totta doctoral incentive grant in the Engineering Faculty.

514

#### 515 **References**

- 516 [1] J. Yan, T. Shamim, S. K. Chou, U. Desideri, and H. Li, "Clean, efficient and affordable energy for a  
517 sustainable future," *Appl. Energy*, Jun. 2016.
- 518 [2] *Renewables 2015 - Global Status Report*, Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century. .
- 519 [3] A. Aslani, P. Helo, and M. Naaranoja, "Role of renewable energy policies in energy dependency in  
520 Finland: System dynamics approach," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 113, pp. 758–765, Jan. 2014.
- 521 [4] Y. Wang, S. Zhou, and H. Huo, "Cost and CO<sub>2</sub> reductions of solar photovoltaic power generation in  
522 China: Perspectives for 2020," *Renew. Sustain. Energy Rev.*, vol. 39, pp. 370–380, Nov. 2014.

- 
- 523 [5] V. Krakowski, E. Assoumou, V. Mazauric, and N. Maïzi, "Feasible path toward 40–100% renewable  
524 energy shares for power supply in France by 2050: A prospective analysis," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 171, pp.  
525 501–522, Jun. 2016.
- 526 [6] M. Bhattacharya, S. R. Paramati, I. Ozturk, and S. Bhattacharya, "The effect of renewable energy  
527 consumption on economic growth: Evidence from top 38 countries," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 162, pp.  
528 733–741, Jan. 2016.
- 529 [7] G. Gutiérrez-Alcaraz, E. Galván, N. González-Cabrera, and M. S. Javadi, "Renewable energy resources  
530 short-term scheduling and dynamic network reconfiguration for sustainable energy consumption,"  
531 *Renew. Sustain. Energy Rev.*, vol. 52, pp. 256–264, Dec. 2015.
- 532 [8] F. Hedenus, C. Azar, and D. J. A. Johansson, "Energy security policies in EU-25—The expected cost of  
533 oil supply disruptions," *Energy Policy*, vol. 38, no. 3, pp. 1241–1250, Mar. 2010.
- 534 [9] A. Colmenar-Santos, C. Reino-Rio, D. Borge-Diez, and E. Collado-Fernández, "Distributed generation:  
535 A review of factors that can contribute most to achieve a scenario of DG units embedded in the new  
536 distribution networks," *Renew. Sustain. Energy Rev.*, vol. 59, pp. 1130–1148, Jun. 2016.
- 537 [10] B. Fais, M. Blesl, U. Fahl, and A. Voß, "Comparing different support schemes for renewable electricity in  
538 the scope of an energy systems analysis," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 131, pp. 479–489, Oct. 2014.
- 539 [11] P. S. Georgilakis and N. D. Hatziargyriou, "Optimal Distributed Generation Placement in Power  
540 Distribution Networks: Models, Methods, and Future Research," *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol. 28, no. 3,  
541 pp. 3420–3428, Aug. 2013.
- 542 [12] A. Chauhan and R. P. Saini, "A review on Integrated Renewable Energy System based power generation  
543 for stand-alone applications: Configurations, storage options, sizing methodologies and control," *Renew.  
544 Sustain. Energy Rev.*, vol. 38, pp. 99–120, Oct. 2014.
- 545 [13] M. Aneke and M. Wang, "Energy storage technologies and real life applications – A state of the art  
546 review," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 179, pp. 350–377, Oct. 2016.
- 547 [14] A. Chauhan and R. P. Saini, "A review on Integrated Renewable Energy System based power generation  
548 for stand-alone applications: Configurations, storage options, sizing methodologies and control," *Renew.  
549 Sustain. Energy Rev.*, vol. 38, pp. 99–120, Oct. 2014.

- 
- 550 [15] D. Q. Hung and N. Mithulananthan, "Loss reduction and loadability enhancement with DG: A dual-index  
551 analytical approach," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 115, pp. 233–241, Feb. 2014.
- 552 [16] M. R. Dorostkar-Ghamsari, M. Fotuhi-Firuzabad, M. Lehtonen, and A. Safdarian, "Value of Distribution  
553 Network Reconfiguration in Presence of Renewable Energy Resources," *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol.  
554 31, no. 3, pp. 1879–1888, May 2016.
- 555 [17] I.-K. Song, W.-W. Jung, J.-Y. Kim, S.-Y. Yun, J.-H. Choi, and S.-J. Ahn, "Operation Schemes of Smart  
556 Distribution Networks With Distributed Energy Resources for Loss Reduction and Service Restoration,"  
557 *IEEE Trans. Smart Grid*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 367–374, Mar. 2013.
- 558 [18] D. Q. Hung, N. Mithulananthan, and R. C. Bansal, "A combined practical approach for distribution  
559 system loss reduction," *Int. J. Ambient Energy*, vol. 36, no. 3, pp. 123–131, May 2015.
- 560 [19] Y.-K. Wu, C.-Y. Lee, L.-C. Liu, and S.-H. Tsai, "Study of Reconfiguration for the Distribution System  
561 With Distributed Generators," *IEEE Trans. Power Deliv.*, vol. 25, no. 3, pp. 1678–1685, Jul. 2010.
- 562 [20] F. S. Abu-Mouti and M. E. El-Hawary, "Optimal Distributed Generation Allocation and Sizing in  
563 Distribution Systems via Artificial Bee Colony Algorithm," *IEEE Trans. Power Deliv.*, vol. 26, no. 4, pp.  
564 2090–2101, Oct. 2011.
- 565 [21] D. Q. Hung, N. Mithulananthan, and R. C. Bansal, "An optimal investment planning framework for  
566 multiple distributed generation units in industrial distribution systems," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 124, pp.  
567 62–72, Jul. 2014.
- 568 [22] F. Capitanescu, L. F. Ochoa, H. Margossian, and N. D. Hatziargyriou, "Assessing the Potential of  
569 Network Reconfiguration to Improve Distributed Generation Hosting Capacity in Active Distribution  
570 Systems," *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol. 30, no. 1, pp. 346–356, Jan. 2015.
- 571 [23] G. Munoz-Delgado, J. Contreras, and J. M. Arroyo, "Joint Expansion Planning of Distributed Generation  
572 and Distribution Networks," *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol. 30, no. 5, pp. 2579–2590, Sep. 2015.
- 573 [24] C. Lueken, P. M. S. Carvalho, and J. Apt, "Distribution grid reconfiguration reduces power losses and  
574 helps integrate renewables," *Energy Policy*, vol. 48, pp. 260–273, Sep. 2012.
- 575 [25] H. R. Esmailian and R. Fadaeinedjad, "Energy Loss Minimization in Distribution Systems Utilizing an  
576 Enhanced Reconfiguration Method Integrating Distributed Generation," *IEEE Syst. J.*, vol. PP, no. 99,  
577 pp. 1–10, 2014.

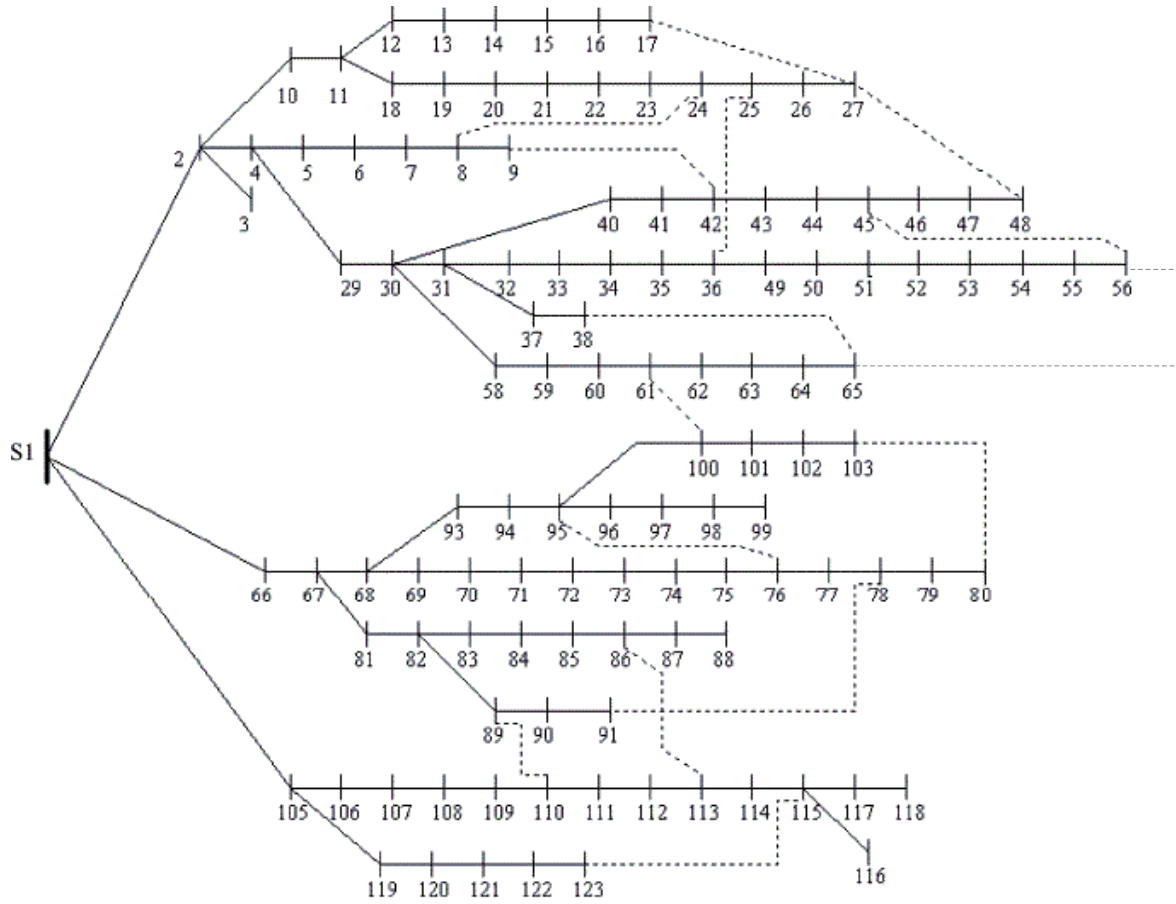


- 
- 578 [26] H. Saboori, R. Hemmati, and M. A. Jirdehi, "Reliability improvement in radial electrical distribution  
579 network by optimal planning of energy storage systems," *Energy*, vol. 93, pp. 2299–2312, Dec. 2015.
- 580 [27] J. P. Fossati, A. Galarza, A. Martín-Villate, and L. Fontán, "A method for optimal sizing energy storage  
581 systems for microgrids," *Renew. Energy*, vol. 77, pp. 539–549, May 2015.
- 582 [28] C. Chen, S. Duan, T. Cai, B. Liu, and G. Hu, "Optimal Allocation and Economic Analysis of Energy  
583 Storage System in Microgrids," *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.*, vol. 26, no. 10, pp. 2762–2773, Oct. 2011.
- 584 [29] Y. Levron, J. M. Guerrero, and Y. Beck, "Optimal Power Flow in Microgrids With Energy Storage,"  
585 *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol. 28, no. 3, pp. 3226–3234, Aug. 2013.
- 586 [30] P. Crespo Del Granado, Z. Pang, and S. W. Wallace, "Synergy of smart grids and hybrid distributed  
587 generation on the value of energy storage," *Appl. Energy*, vol. 170, pp. 476–488, May 2016.
- 588 [31] M. Farrokhifar, "Optimal operation of energy storage devices with RESs to improve efficiency of  
589 distribution grids; technical and economical assessment," *Int. J. Electr. Power Energy Syst.*, vol. 74, pp.  
590 153–161, Jan. 2016.
- 591 [32] A. K. Srivastava, A. A. Kumar, and N. N. Schulz, "Impact of Distributed Generations With Energy  
592 Storage Devices on the Electric Grid," *IEEE Syst. J.*, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 110–117, Mar. 2012.
- 593 [33] P. Meneses de Quevedo, J. Contreras, M. J. Rider, and J. Allahdadian, "Contingency Assessment and  
594 Network Reconfiguration in Distribution Grids Including Wind Power and Energy Storage," *IEEE Trans.*  
595 *Sustain. Energy*, vol. 6, no. 4, pp. 1524–1533, Oct. 2015.
- 596 [34] S. A. Arefifar and Y. A.-R. I. Mohamed, "DG Mix, Reactive Sources and Energy Storage Units for  
597 Optimizing Microgrid Reliability and Supply Security," *IEEE Trans. Smart Grid*, vol. 5, no. 4, pp.  
598 1835–1844, Jul. 2014.
- 599 [35] Desta Z. Fitiwi, "Strategy, Methods and Tools for Solving Long-term Transmission Expansion Planning  
600 in Large-scale Power Systems," PhD Dissertation, Comillas Pontifical University, 2016.
- 601 [36] P. Phonrattanasak, "Optimal placement of DG using multiobjective particle swarm optimization," in  
602 *2010 2nd International Conference on Mechanical and Electrical Technology (ICMET)*, 2010, pp.  
603 342–346.

- 604 [37] D. Z. Fitiwi, L. Olmos, M. Rivier, F. de Cuadra, and I. J. Pérez-Arriaga, "Finding a representative  
605 network losses model for large-scale transmission expansion planning with renewable energy sources,"  
606 *Energy*, vol. 101, pp. 343–358, Apr. 2016.
- 607 [38] H. P. Williams, *Model Building in Mathematical Programming*, 4th ed. Wiley, 1999.
- 608 [39] E. Romero-Ramos, J. Riquelme-Santos, and J. Reyes, "A simpler and exact mathematical model for the  
609 computation of the minimal power losses tree," *Electr. Power Syst. Res.*, vol. 80, no. 5, pp. 562–571, May  
610 2010.
- 611 [40] M. Lavorato, J. F. Franco, M. J. Rider, and R. Romero, "Imposing Radiality Constraints in Distribution  
612 System Optimization Problems," *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol. 27, no. 1, pp. 172–180, Feb. 2012.
- 613 [41] D. Zhang, Z. Fu, and L. Zhang, "An improved TS algorithm for loss-minimum reconfiguration in  
614 large-scale distribution systems," *Electr. Power Syst. Res.*, vol. 77, no. 5–6, pp. 685–694, Apr. 2007.
- 615 [42] R. S. Rao, S. V. L. Narasimham, M. R. Raju, and A. S. Rao, "Optimal Network Reconfiguration of  
616 Large-Scale Distribution System Using Harmony Search Algorithm," *IEEE Trans. Power Syst.*, vol. 26,  
617 no. 3, pp. 1080–1088, Aug. 2011.
- 618 [43] Z. F. Desta, A. W. Bizuayehu, M. Shafie-khah, J. P. S. Catalão, M. Asenso, and J. Contreras, "DG  
619 Investment Planning Analysis with Renewable Integration and Considering Emission Costs," in *the 16th*  
620 *Int. Conf. on Computer as a Tool, EuroCon2015*, Salamanca, 2015.
- 621 [44] Gregorio Muñoz-Delgado, Sergio Montoya-Bueno, Miguel Asensio, Javier Contreras, JoséI Muñoz, and  
622 JoséM Arroyo, "Renewable Generation and Distribution Grid Expansion Planning," in *Smart and*  
623 *Sustainable Power Systems*, 0 vols., CRC Press, 2015, pp. 345–404.
- 624

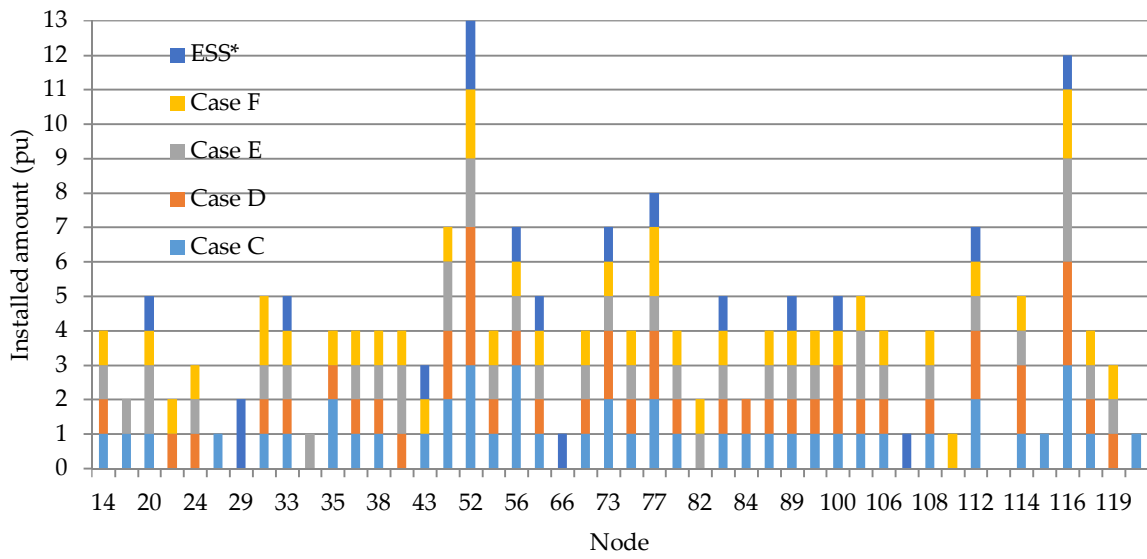
625  
626  
627

Figures



628  
629  
630  
631

Figure 1. Single line diagram of the test system in base case.



632

633

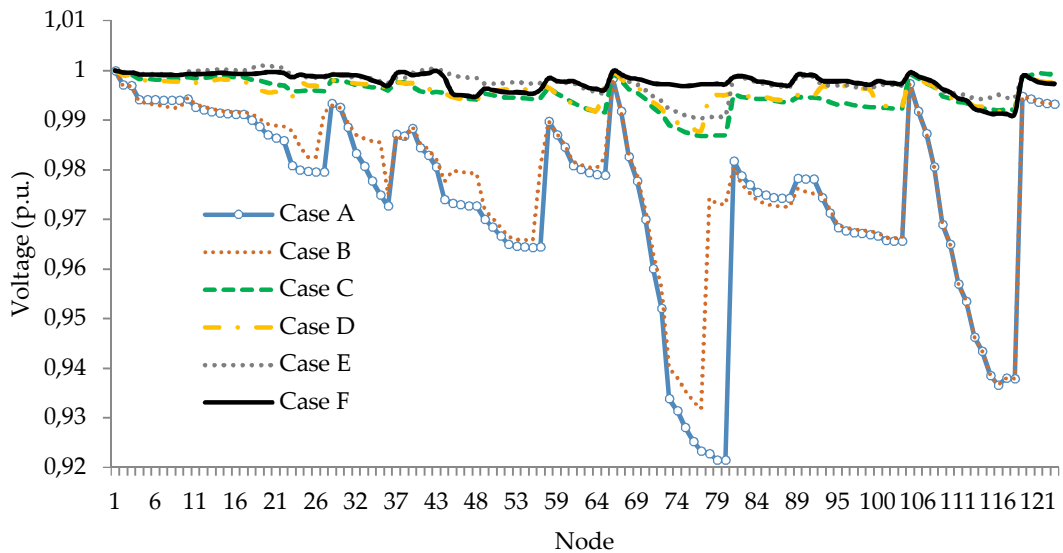
**Figure 2.** Optimal placement and size of DGs and ESSs for different cases (\* only in cases E and F)

634

635

636

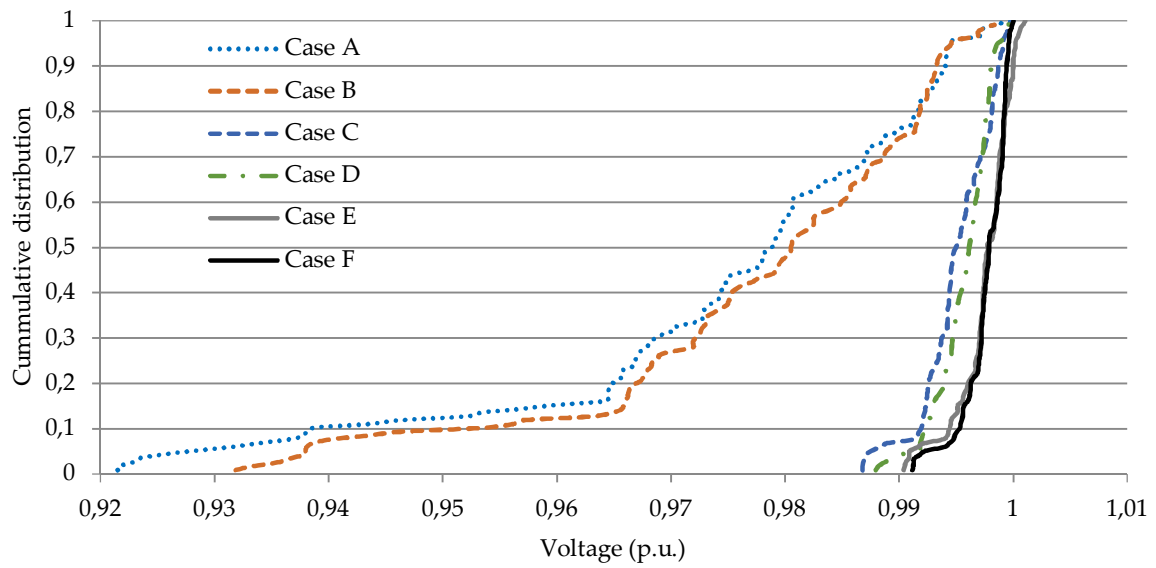
637



638

639

**Figure 3.** Average voltage profiles in the system for different cases.



640

641

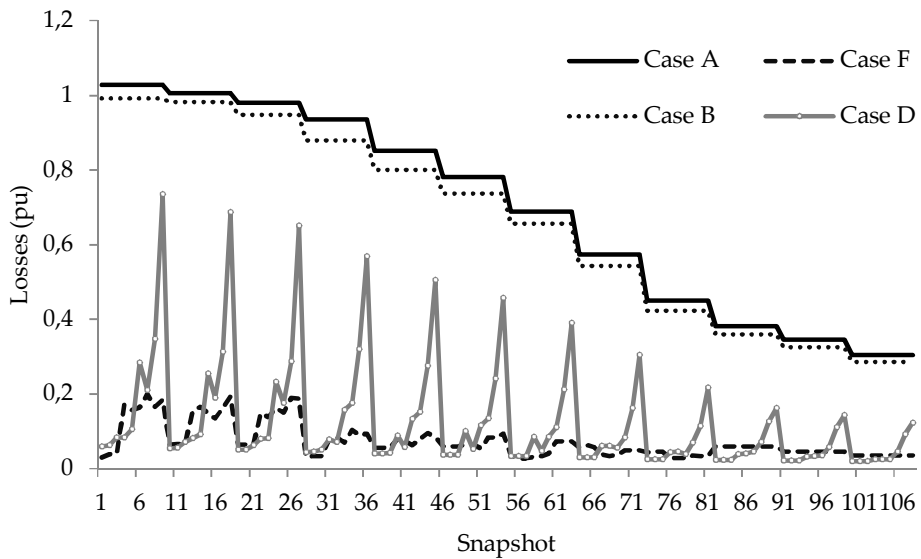
**Figure 4.** Cumulative distribution function of average voltages in the system for different cases.

642

643

644

645



646

647

**Figure 5.** Total system losses profile.

648

649

650

651  
652**Tables**

653

654

**Table 1.** Distinguishing the different cases

655

Cases	Reconfiguration	Investment	
		DGs	ESSs
A	No	No	No
B	Yes	No	No
C	No	Yes	No
D	Yes	Yes	No
E	No	Yes	Yes
F	Yes	Yes	Yes

656

657

658

**Table 2.** Results of relevant variables for different cases

659

Optimization variables		Cases*					
		A	B	C	D	E	F
Cost terms (k€)	Investment	0	0	92478	88489	100754	99368
	Maintenance	189	201	52604	50355	57295	56513
	Energy + Emission	424715	433188	121820	123232	48424	48973
	PNS	94441	2095	926	0	0	0
	Losses	12515	11834	2204	2161	1242	1098
Total cost (k€)		531860	447318	270033	264236	207715	205952
Energy share (%)	Wind	-	-	64	64	89	90
	Solar	-	-	10	11	0	0
	Imported	100	100	26	25	11	10
Installed size (p.u.)	Wind	-	-	36	33	40	40
	Solar	-	-	10	11	0	0
	ESS	-	-	-	-	18	17

\*A: Base case; B: Reconfiguration only; C: DG investment on base case topology; D: DG investment plus reconfiguration; E: DG and ESS investment on base case topology; F: DG and ESS investment plus reconfiguration.

660

661

662

**Table 3.** Optimal sizes and locations of DGs and ESSs for different cases

663

Nodes	Wind *				Solar <sup>*,§</sup>		ESS <sup>*,†</sup>	
	Case C	Case D	Case E	Case F	Case C	Case D	Case E	Case F
14	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
19	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
20	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1
21	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
24	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
32	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
33	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
34	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
35	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
37	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
38	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
42	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
43	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
44	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
52	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1
53	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
56	3	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
61	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
66	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
69	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
73	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
74	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
77	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
79	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
82	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
83	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
84	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
85	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
89	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
96	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
100	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
101	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
106	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
107	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
108	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
109	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
112	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
113	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
114	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
115	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
116	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	1
117	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
119	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
121	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total (p.u.)</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>

\*A: Base case; B: Reconfiguration only; C: DG investment on base case topology; D: DG investment plus reconfiguration; E: DG and ESS investment on base case topology; F: DG and ESS investment plus reconfiguration. § No solar type investment decisions in cases E and F; † ESS investments are not considered in the cases other than E and F.

664

665

666

**Table 4.** Optimal sizes and locations of DGs and ESSs for different cases

667

Year	Case C		Case D		Case E			Case E		
	Wind	Solar	Wind	Solar	Wind	Solar	ESS	Wind	Solar	ESS
1	31	9	29	7	36	0	17	36	0	15
2	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	1	0	2
3	3	1	2	2	2	0	1	3	0	0
Total	<b>36</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>

668

669

670

671

672

**Table 5.** Optimal reconfiguration outcome for different cases (List of switches to be opened)

673

Year	Case A	Case B	Case D	Case F
<b>1</b>	(8,24); (9,42); (17,27); (25,36); (38,65); (48,27); (56,45); (61,100); (65,56); (76,95); (91,78); (103,80); (113,86); (110,89); (115,123)	(23,24); (26,27); (35,36); (41,42); (44,45); (48,27); (54,56); (61,100); (64,65); (76,95); (77,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)	(17,27); (23,24); (35,36); (41,42); (48,27); (54,56); (56,45); (61,100); (64,65); (76,95); (77,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)	(9,42); (17,27); (23,24); (25,36); (38,65); (48,27); (54,56); (56,45); (61,100); (76,95); (91,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)
<b>2</b>	(8,24); (9,42); (17,27); (25,36); (38,65); (48,27); (56,45); (61,100); (65,56); (76,95); (91,78); (103,80); (113,86); (110,89); (115,123)	(9,42); (23,24); (26,27); (35,36); (44,45); (48,27); (54,56); (61,100); (64,65); (76,95); (77,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)	(17,27); (23,24); (35,36); (38,65); (41,42); (48,27); (54,56); (56,45); (76,95); (77,78); (95,100); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)	(9,42); (17,27); (23,24); (25,36); (38,65); (44,45); (54,56); (61,100); (64,65); (76,95); (91,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)
<b>3</b>	(8,24); (9,42); (17,27); (25,36); (38,65); (48,27); (56,45); (61,100); (65,56); (76,95); (91,78); (103,80); (113,86); (110,89); (115,123)	(9,42); (23,24); (26,27); (35,36); (44,45); (48,27); (54,56); (61,100); (64,65); (76,95); (77,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)	(17,27); (23,24); (35,36); (41,42); (48,27); (54,56); (56,45); (64,65); (76,95); (77,78); (95,100); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)	(9,42); (17,27); (23,24); (25,36); (38,65); (44,45); (48,27); (54,56); (61,100); (76,95); (91,78); (103,80); (110,89); (113,86); (115,123)

674

675

676