





# Firm-level optimisation of EV workplace charging:

Trade-offs, impacts, and tools

E-Mobility Power System Integration Symposium — Berlin, Germany

Session: Charging Infrastructure Planning II

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Speaker:** Marcel Seger, DPhil Student, ECI Energy Group, University of Oxford **Collaborators:** Christian Brand, Christoph Clement, James Dixon, Charlie Wilson



#### 0 | Introduction

# My educational background blends entrepreneurship w/ operations research

#### Study Background & DPhil Research Group



Marcel Seger

DPhil (PhD) Student (final year)

#### **Educational Track**



2022 - today

DPhil (PhD) in Geography & the Environment at the Environmental Change Institute (ECI), University of Oxford



2019 - 2022

Honours Degree in Technology Management at Center for Digital Technology & Management (CDTM)



2014 - 2022

B.Sc. & M.Sc. In Management & Technology (Industrial Engineering) at TU Munich





Environmental *Change*Institute

**iDODDLE**Research Project

#### **Key Information & Context**

#### **Research Objective**

Studying the impacts of <u>digitalised daily life on climate change</u> across the domains food, home, energy, and mobility

#### **Funding**

This research was supported by European Research Council ERC Consolidator Grant, #101003083 (2021 – 2025)







#### **Agenda**





### Today's talk is structured in eight main sections

#### Overview

1 | Motivation
Problem context: Decarbonising transport

2 | Background
Case study: Context-relevant information

3 Model Structure

Approach: Outlining four-step structure

4 Methodology

Methods: Drawing from operations research (OR)

5 Results
Analysis: Scenario analyses

6 Discussion
Review: Main findings, limitations & further research

Web Application
Demonstration: Development of interactive tool

8 Q&A
Appendix: References and back-up slides

#### **1** | Motivation (1/2)

# Increased uptake of EVs requires extensive build-out of charging infrastructure

#### **Problem context: Decarbonising transport**

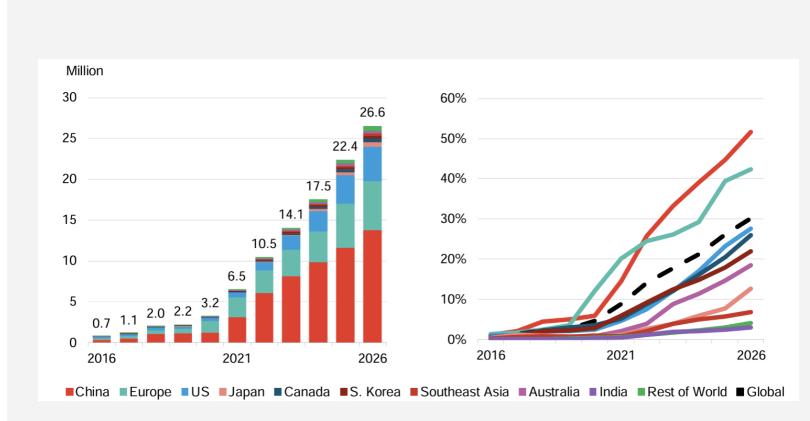


Fig. 1 | Global near-term EV sales (I.) and share of new passenger vehicle sales by market. Note: Europe includes the EU, the UK and EFTA countries. EV includes BEVs and PHEVs. Figure taken from [1].

#### **Further notes**

- **88**% of GHG emissions are covered by net-zero legislation as of 2023 [2].
- Mitigation efforts in **transport sector** feature strong focus on road vehicle electrification.
- 65% of commitments in nations' revised nationally determined contributions (NDCs) as of the Glasgow Climate Pact (2021) are focused on electrification & fuel-switching [3].
- Helping deliver these commitments requires widespread charging infrastructure at workplaces and public places to bring 'convenience parity' between EVs and internal combustion vehicles (ICVs) [4].

#### **1 | Motivation** (2/2)

# Number of workplace chargers is projected to grow fivefold (UK) / double by 2030

#### Future drivers & outlook to 2030



#### 8 million EVs

Annual sales volume by 2030 [+400% (2024)] [5]



#### 82 **GWh**

+300% electricity demand for EV charging by 2030 [5]



#### Workplace chargers

+500% forecasted for UK / +200% in DE by 2030 [6,7]



#### Scope 3 emissions

Firms' reporting obligation of employee commute [8]



#### **Decision support system**

Identified need for data-driven decision support to plan and operate EV workplace charging infrastructure [9]

#### 2 | Background

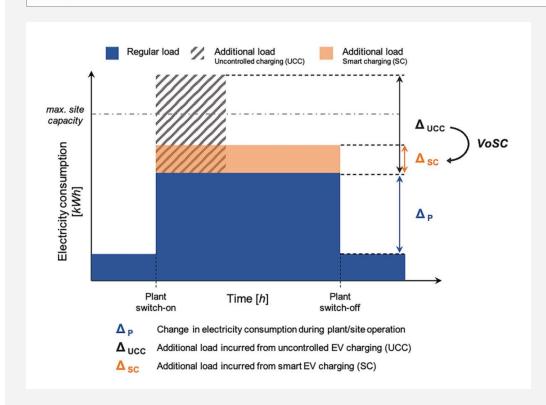




## Roll-out of extensive EV charging infrastructure on employee car park

#### **Case study: Context-relevant information**

RQ1 What are the benefits of coordinated EV workplace charging for firms?



**Fig. 1** | Schematic electricity consumption profile of industrial site.



Fig. 2 | Aerial image of employee car park.

#### Motivation: regulatory context

- Enforcement of recent EU laws add regulatory pressure for firms
  - Corporate Sustainability
    Reporting Directive (CSRD):
    more stringent reporting of
    Scope 3 emissions, including
    employees' commute practices
    to the workplace
  - Energy performance of buildings (EPBD): legal requirement to provide min. 1x charging station on business car parks w/ >20 parking spots ('GEIG' in Germany – in effect since 01.01.2025)

#### **3 | Model Structure** (1/2)



# We benchmark each model type against uncontrolled charging (UCC) [%D

#### Approach: Outlining four-step structure

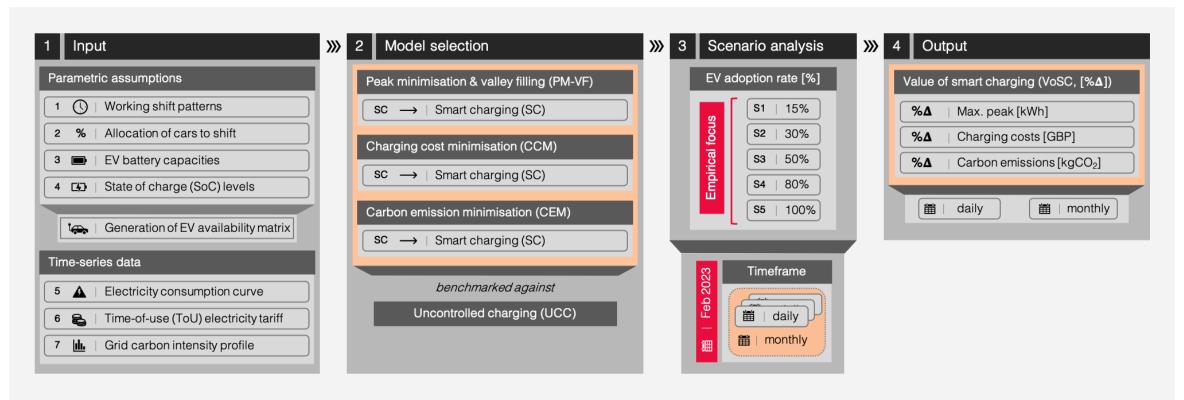


Fig. 4 | Schematic overview of our modelling framework. Step 1: Specification of input parameters. Step 2: Selection of model, assessing (i) peak minimisation & valley filling (PM-VF), (ii) charging cost minimisation (CCM), or carbon emission minimisation (CEM). Step 3: Scenario analysis with varying EV adoption rates [%] and temporal scale. Step 4: Computation of model results for each objective function in relative terms (%Δ).

#### 3 | Model Structure (2/2)



## Parametric assumptions and time-series data are used as model inputs

#### Step 1: Input

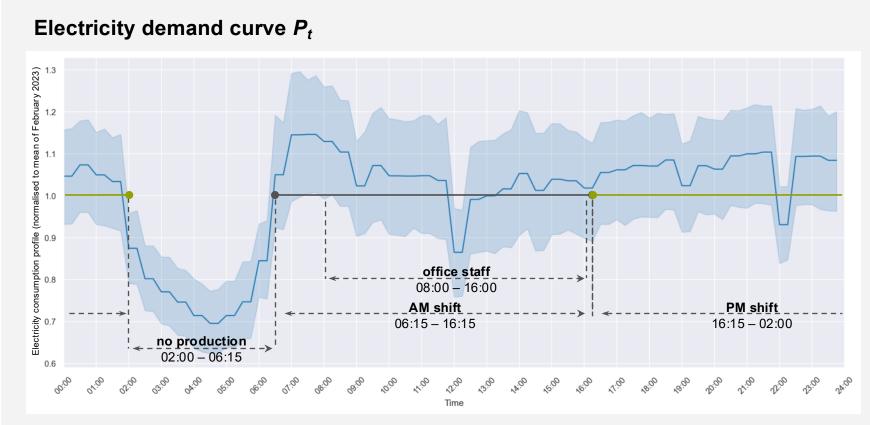
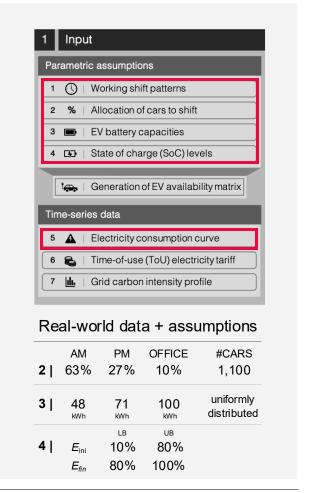


Fig. 5 | Electricity consumption profile of industrial production site in Feb 2023. Note: Time-series data has been normalised to mean of Feb 2023 for data sensitivity reasons. Shaded area represents 95%-confidence interval.

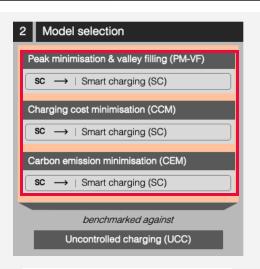


#### **4 | Methodology** (1/2)

# Each model pursues a different optimisation goal, yet w/ identical constraints

#### Methods: Drawing from operations research (OR)

Peak	min. & valley filling (PM-VF):	Charging cost min. (CCI	M): Carbon emission min. (CEM):
min	$z_{PM-VF} = \sum_{t \in T} (P_t + y_t - C)^2$	$min \ z_{CCM} = \sum_{t \in T} y_t * A$	$\lambda_t \qquad min \ z_{CEM} = \sum_{t \in T} y_t * \gamma_t$
[1]	$s.t.  y_t = \sum_{m \in M} x_{mt} f_{mt}$	$\forall t \in T$	Total charging load
[2]	$-p_{max} \le x_{mt} \le p_{max}$	$\forall \ t \in T; \ m \in M$	Charging power restrictions
[3]	$0 \le E_m^{ini} + \sum_{k \in T \mid k \le t} x_{mt} f_{mt}$	$\leq E_m^{cap} \ \ \forall \ t \in T; \ m \in M$	Battery capacity restrictions
[4]	$E_m^{fin} = E_m^{ini} + \sum_{k \in T \mid k \le t} x_{mt} f_{mt}$	$\geq E_{T+1} \ \forall \ t \in T; \ m \in M$	Minimum state-of-charge (SoC) requirement
[5]	$0 = x_{mt}(1 - f_{mt})$	$\forall \ t \in T; \ m \in M$	Logical operator ensuring car availability
	$C = \frac{max(P_t) + min(P_t)}{2}$ (1 if EV m \in M is narked at	t worknlace at time t E T	Constant C
	$f_{mt} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if EV } m \in M \text{ is parked at} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	otherwise	Definition of car availability matrix



consumption of building Energy needed for next trip Battery capacity of EV m Final battery energy of EV mInitial battery energy of EV m EV presence matrix Set of EVs Set of time intervals Power consumption of building in interval i Set of intervals prior to interval i Charging/discharging period of EV m Electric vehicle (EV) Maximum charging or discharging power Arrival time of EV mDeparture time of EV mCharging/discharging power of EV m in interval i Total load for charging/discharging the available EVs in interval i Time interval

Average of peak and minimum power

For further references, see [10, 11].

#### **4 | Methodology** (2/2)

300 250 200

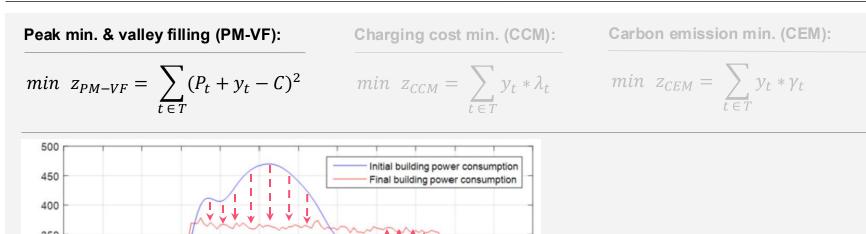
150

No cars

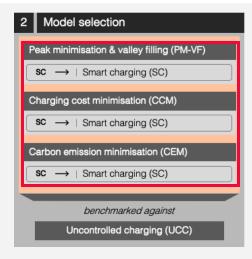
available

# Each model pursues a different optimisation goal, yet w/identical constraint

#### Methods: Drawing from operations research (OR)







$$C = \frac{max(P_t) + min(P_t)}{2}$$

#### **Mathematical Objective Function**

Minimising the least square difference:

$$min z_{PM-VF} = \sum_{t \in T} (P_t + y_t - C)^2$$

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# PM-VF reduces peaks by -21.3% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 50%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

# Peak minimisation & valley filling (PM-VF) | EV adoption rate = 50%

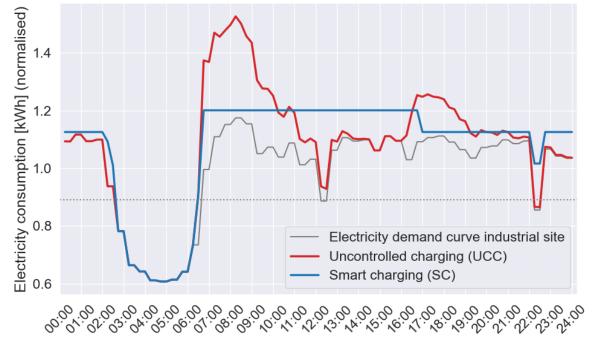
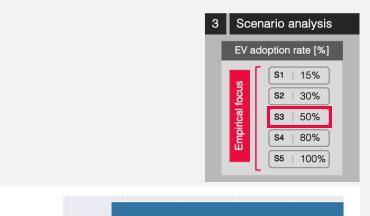


Fig. 7 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type PM-VF for EV rate = 50%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.



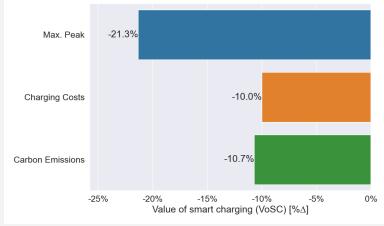


Fig. 8 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



# CCM reduces costs by -19.6% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 50%

#### Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

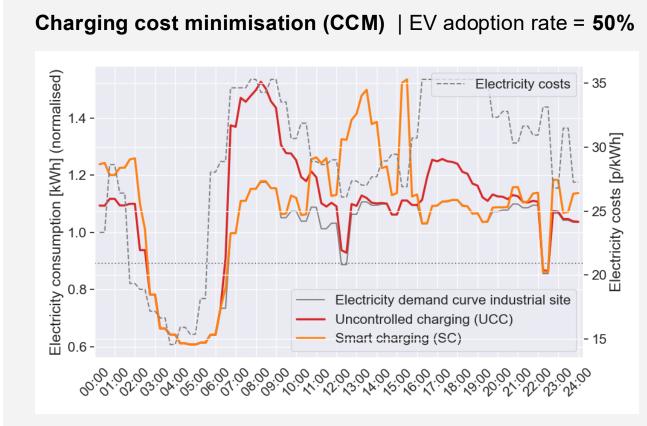


Fig. 9 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type CCM for EV rate = 50%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

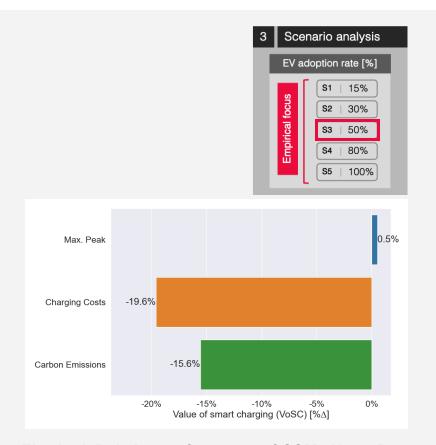


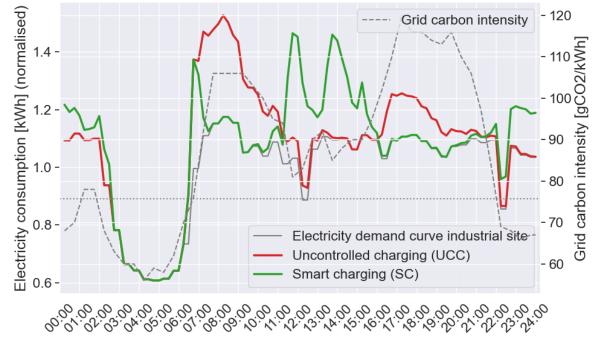
Fig. 10 | Relative performance of CCM. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



# CEM reduces $CO_2$ by -19.3% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 50%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

# Charging emission minimisation (CEM) | EV adoption rate = 50%



**Fig. 11** | **Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note:** Graph shows results for model type CEM for EV rate = 50%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

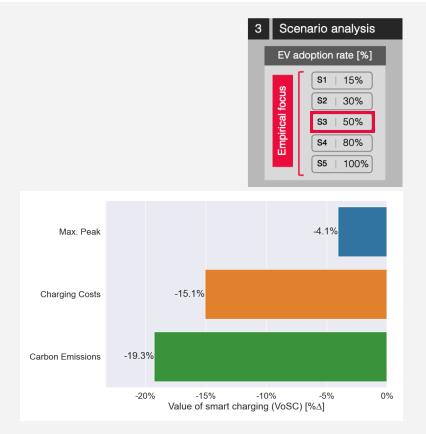


Fig. 12 | Relative performance of CEM. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].

# Results reveal trade-off space betw. max. peak, charging costs & CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

**Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates (summary)** 

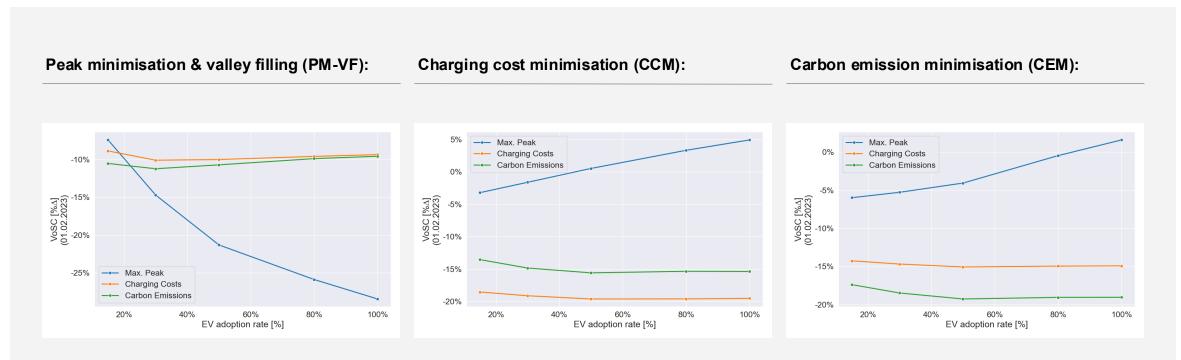


Fig. 13 | Visual summary of key metrics max. peak, charging costs and carbon emissions differentiated by model type | EV rates [S1-5: 15–100%]. Note: Quantitative assessment of output changes (VoSC) [%Δ], measured against UCC, for PM-VF (I.), CCM (m.), and CEM (r.), exemplarily for Feb. 2023.





### Deployed models yield robust outcomes to time-variant parameters

Analysis: Temporal sensitivity analysis (28 single-day model runs for Feb 2023)

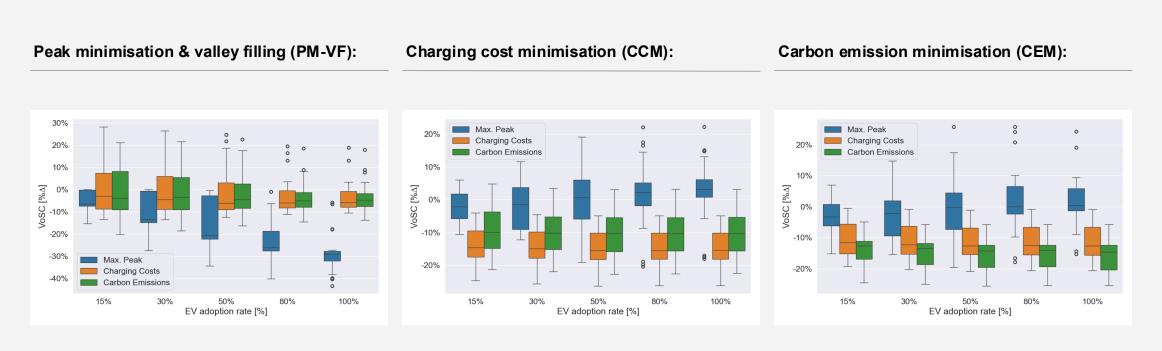


Fig. 14 | Overview of model results, grouped by model type, for increasing EV rates [S1–5: 15–100%], computed over a 4-week long time frame [Feb 2023]. Note: Statistical analysis of 28 single-day model results, capturing output changes (VoSC, [% $\Delta$ ]), measured against UCC, for each model type (a) PM-VF, (b) CCM and (c) CEM by plotting the variability of the key output metrics (i) max. peak (blue), (ii) charging costs (orange) and (iii) carbon emissions (green) using boxplots as visualisation tool. Note: Lower % $\Delta$  numbers (y-axis) refer to higher saving potentials





#### **Reflections and outlook**

Review: Main findings, limitations & further research



#### **Summary of main findings**

- Optimal solution space
  - Optimising for respective model objective (PM-VF, CCM, CEM) yields lowest overall objective value across model types
- Trade-offs between key metrics:
  - In turn, trade-offs between objectives for achieving key metrics (max. peak, charging costs, carbon emissions) are indispensable
- Robustness of results:
  - Temporal sensitivity analysis reveals robustness of results



#### **Model limitations**

- Model implementation
  - Model assumes perfect foresight of EV availability and parameter inputs, which can be justified given a workplace setting
- Technical limitations
  - Model does not incorporate physical charging power constraint, for SoC > 80% to reflect change from constant current to constant voltage.
- Behavioural travel assumptions
  - Further model parametrisation to reflect travel patterns of commuters



#### **Further research**

- Integration of Vehicle-to-Building
  - Model expansion to include bidirectional charging capabilities by including negative range of decision variable x<sub>mt</sub> to allow for discharging
- Access to charging infrastructure
  - Advancing model to cover sensitivity analysis of employees' access to charging infrastructure and the implication on firms' power demand
- Computation of cost-benefit analysis
  - Integrating net-present value (NPV) analysis to facilitate decision making





### Full paper is available in npj sustainability mobility and transport

#### **Publication reference**





Full publication available here:

https://www.nature.com/articles/s44333-025-00032-w

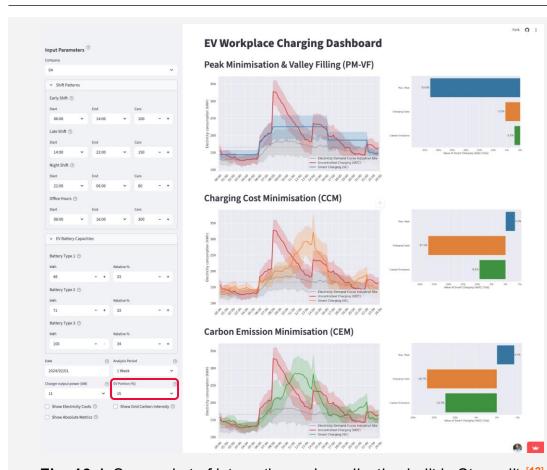
Fig. 15 | Screenshot of published study in npj sustainable mobility and transport

#### 7 | Web Application

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# Open source web app allows firms to compute bespoke scenario analyses

#### Demonstration of open-source web application for firm-specific decision support



#### **Programming languages & tools**

Data pipeline



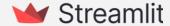
Model formulation



Optimisation



Visualisation





Available open-source



<u>Live</u> <u>Demo</u>



#### 7 | Web Application



# Add-on: Evaluation of web application using Design Science Research (Paper 2)

Semi-structured interviews w/ business executives

#### **Summary**

- We build a digital artefact using Streamlit to assists workplace decision makers to more accurately predict the impact of EV workplace charging
- We developed, demonstrated, and evaluated the prototype through three rigour design & evaluation cycles, collecting qual. + quant. data from eight case study partners (medium- to large-sized firms in Germany)
- With a total SUS score of 82%, we deemed the prototype as acceptable.
- Going forward, we will open-source the web application to the public.

#### Contribution to theory

- Decision type: 'Decision support system'
  - Guiding workplace decision makers with building and operating EV workplace charging infrastructure
- Core contribution through 'exaptation', i.e. repurposing existing optimisation algorithms for dedicated applications in workplace charging decision contexts

#### Selected quotes: perceived usefulness

"I actually find this **really useful**. Because I think a lot of companies still have no real idea of the challenges that come with electrification in general, and with reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. And just getting an overview of what's basically out there and how things can be optimised is, I think, a huge help for any company."

Case study ID: 4a [Pharma]

"But it's just nice to be able to argue using valid data, and I think data will become increasingly relevant in the future anyway. And of course, all this information is something I'd otherwise have to gather myself with a lot of effort. Having it all from a single source—just entering my own values, which I already have—that's a great solution."

Case study ID: 2a [Office supply manufacturer]







Q&A

...and a special 'thank you' to:

my collaborators **Dr Christoph Clement** and **Dr James Dixon** and my supervisors **Prof Dr Charlie Wilson** and **Prof Dr Christian Brand** 



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Thank you for your attention!

Any Questions?

Please **reach out** to discuss potential further collaboration



**Environmental Change Institute** 

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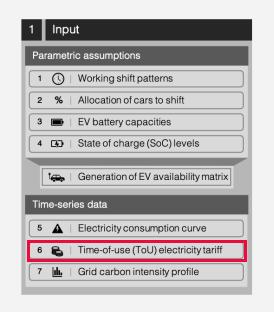




# Electricity cost curve based on Octopus Agile Tariff for February, 2023

#### Model Structure | Step 1: Time-series input data (1/2)





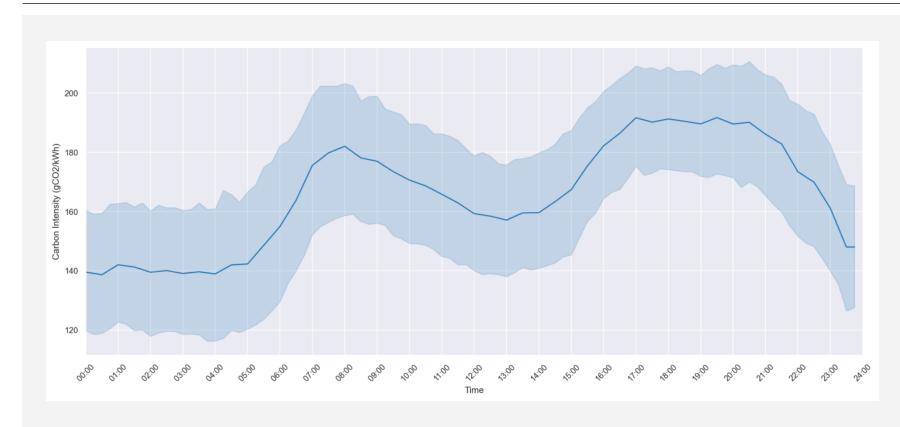
**Fig. A1 | Time-series data of electricity costs in Feb 2023. Note:** Graph depicts evolution of half-hourly electricity prices [p/kWh], taken from Octopus Agile Tariff (Nov 2022 v1) [13]. Shaded area represents 95%-confidence interval.





### Grid carbon intensity profile in South-East England for February, 2023

#### Model Structure | Step 1: Time-series input data (2/2)



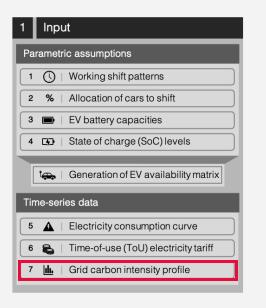


Fig. A2 | Time-series data of grid carbon intensity in Feb 2023. Note: Graph depicts evolution of half-hourly grid carbon intensity [gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh], taken from nationalgridESO [14]. Shaded area represents 95%- confidence interval.

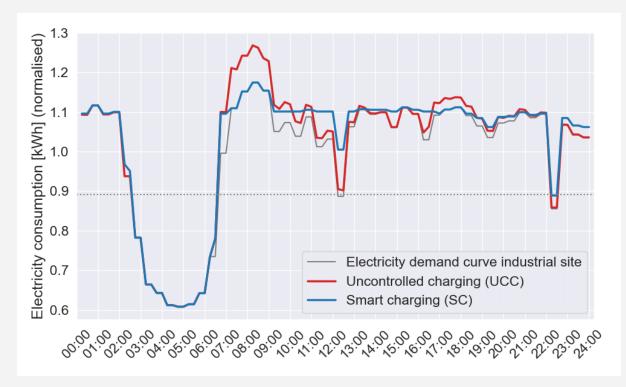


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# PM-VF reduces peaks by -7.4% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 15%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

#### **Peak minimisation & valley filling (PM-VF)** | EV adoption rate = **15%**



**Fig. A3** | **Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note:** Graph shows results for model type PM-VF for EV rate = 15%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

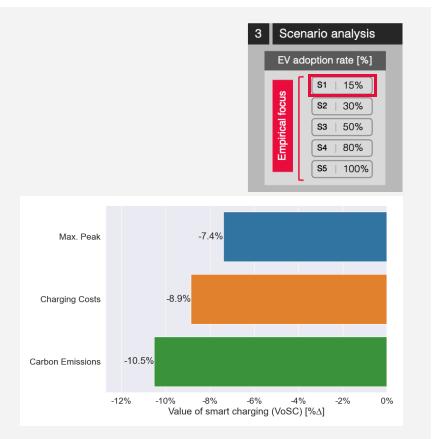


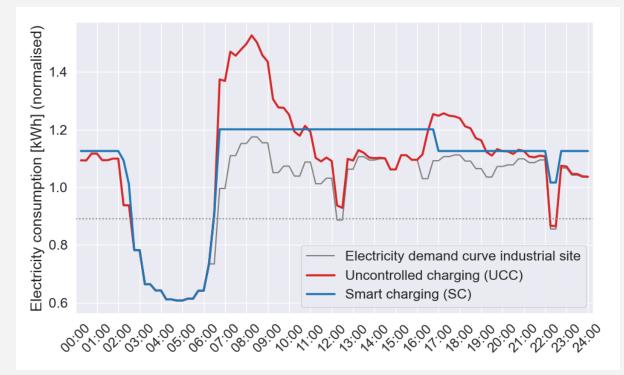
Fig. A4 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



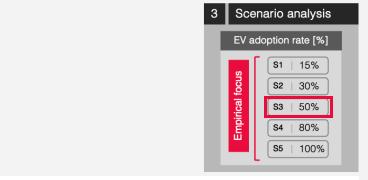
# PM-VF reduces peaks by -21.3% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 50%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

### **Peak minimisation & valley filling (PM-VF)** | EV adoption rate = **50**%



**Fig. A5** | **Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note:** Graph shows results for model type PM-VF for EV rate = 50%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.



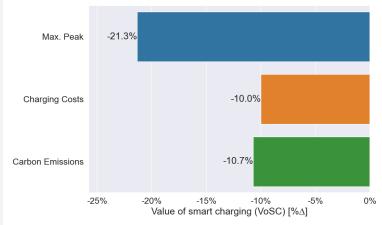
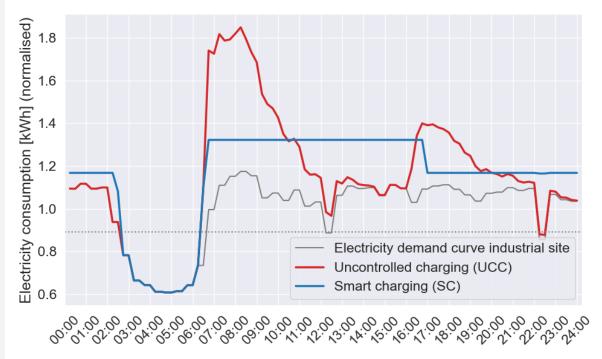


Fig. A6 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].

# PM-VF reduces peaks by -28.5% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 100%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

# Peak minimisation & valley filling (PM-VF) | EV adoption rate = 100%



**Fig. A7 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note:** Graph shows results for model type PM-VF for EV rate = 100%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

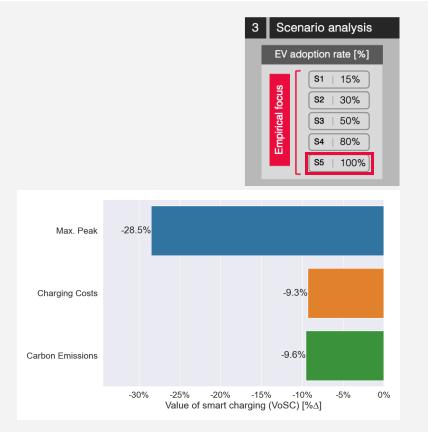


Fig. A8 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



# CCM reduces costs by -18.5% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 15%

#### Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

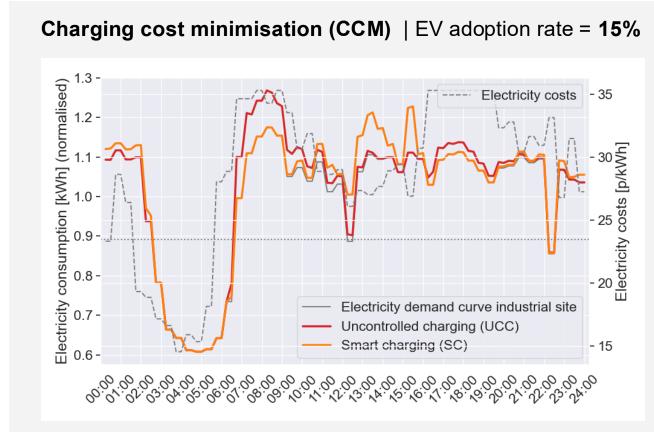


Fig. A9 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type CCM for EV rate = 15%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

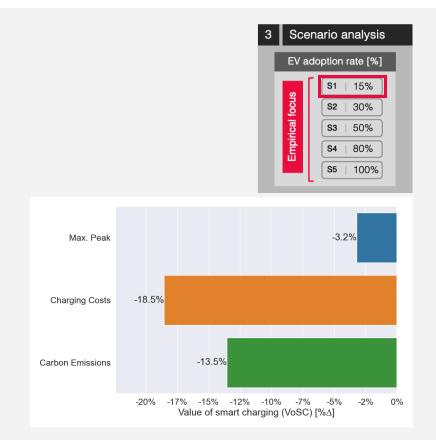
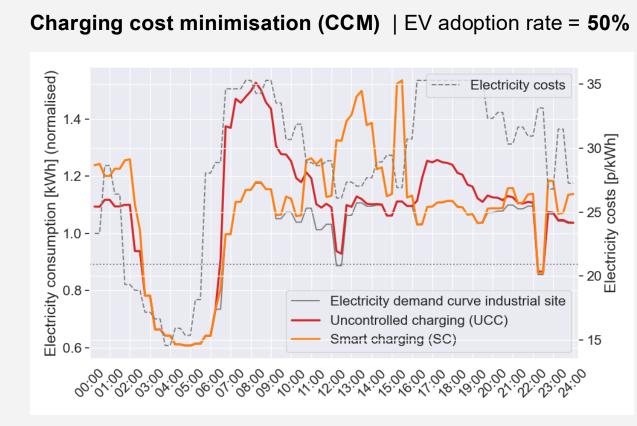


Fig. A10 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



# CCM reduces costs by -19.6% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 50%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates



**Fig. A11** | **Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note:** Graph shows results for model type CCM for EV rate = 50%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

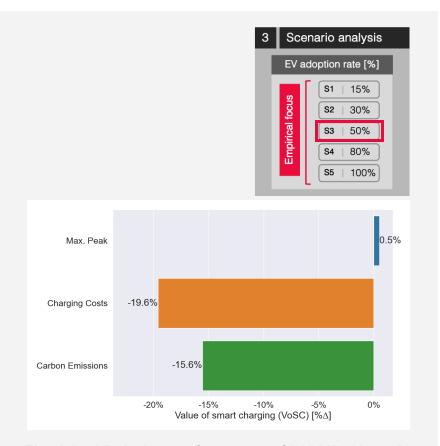


Fig. A12 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



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# CCM reduces costs by -19.5% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 100%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

# Charging cost minimisation (CCM) | EV adoption rate = 100% Electricity costs 30 Mm (25 costs [b/kWh] D Electricity Electricity demand curve industrial site Uncontrolled charging (UCC) Smart charging (SC) - 15

Fig. A13 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type CCM for EV rate = 100%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

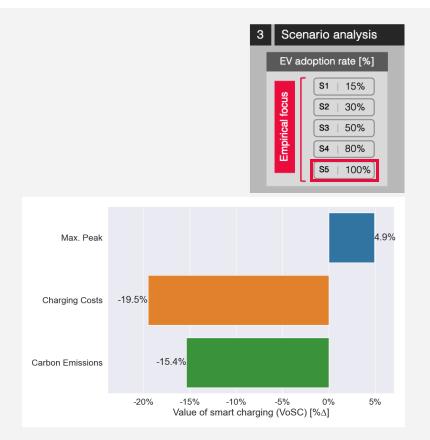


Fig. A14 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [%∆].



## CEM reduces $CO_2$ by -17.4% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 15%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

#### Charging emission minimisation (CEM) | EV adoption rate = 15%

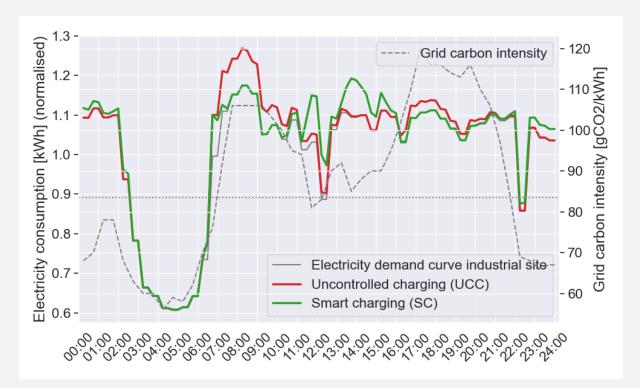


Fig. A15 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type CEM for EV rate = 15%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

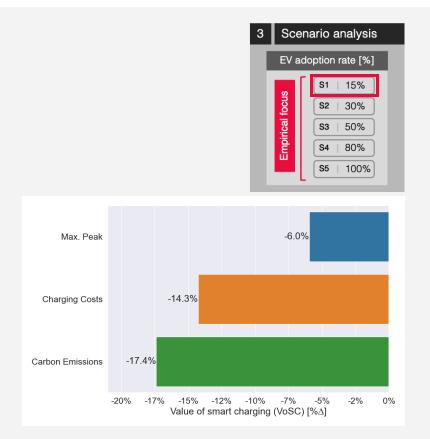


Fig. A16 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



## CEM reduces $CO_2$ by -19.3% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 50%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

# Charging emission minimisation (CEM) | EV adoption rate = 50%

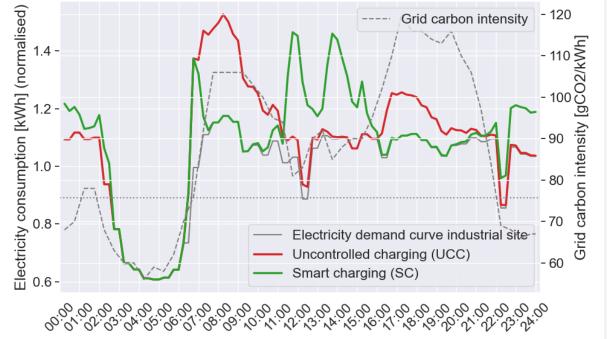


Fig. A17 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type CEM for EV rate = 50%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.

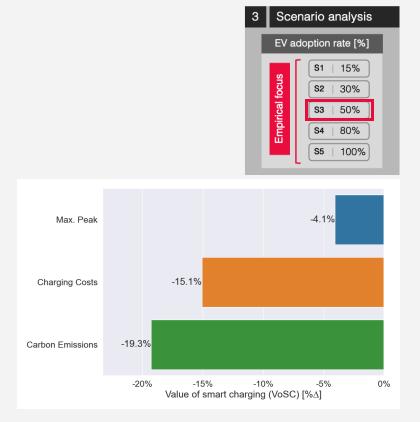


Fig. A18 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].



# CEM reduces $CO_2$ by -19.0% measured against UCC [% $\Delta$ ] | EV rate = 100%

Analysis: Scenario analysis for varying EV adoption rates

#### Charging emission minimisation (CEM) | EV adoption rate = 100%

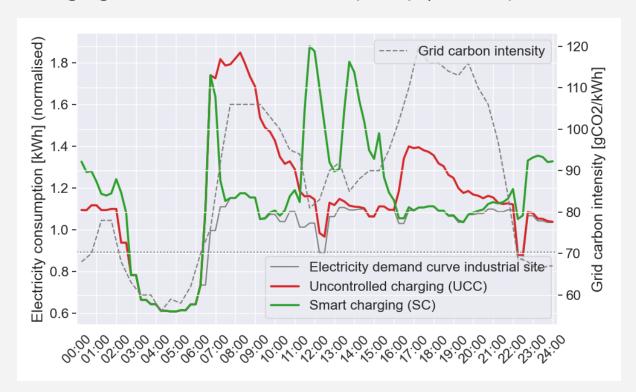


Fig. A19 | Resulting electricity demand profile from EV charging. Note: Graph shows results for model type CEM for EV rate = 100%, exemplarily for 01 Feb, 2023.



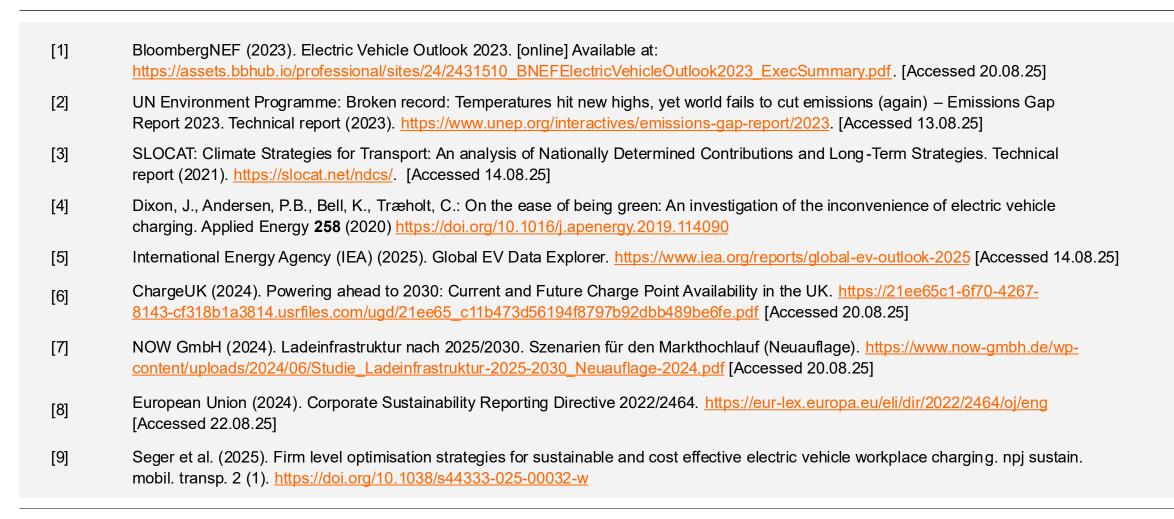
Fig. A20 | Relative performance of PM-VF. Note: Bar charts capture change in output cf. to UCC (VoSC) [ $\%\Delta$ ].





#### References

#### Overview







### References

#### Overview

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