

Reservoir air-conditioning: a sustainable seasonal thermal energy storage technology

Julian David Hunt, Yoshihide Wada

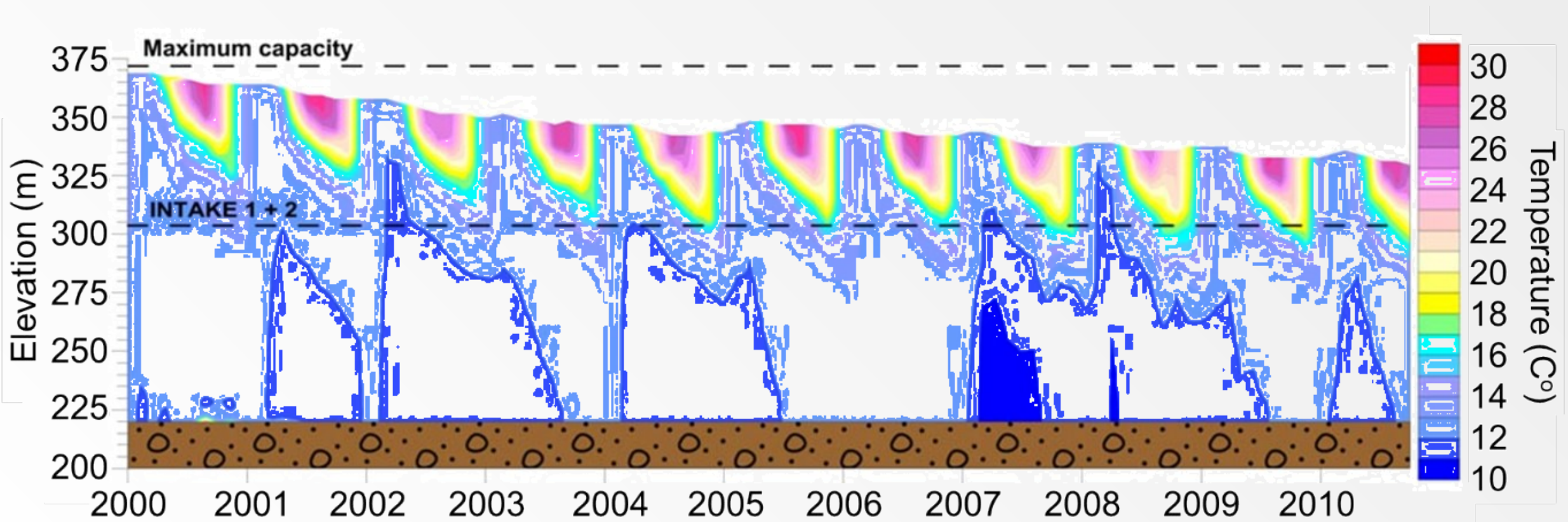
Climate Livability Initiative, Center for Desert Agriculture,
KAUST

Cross-sectoral ISIMIP and PROCLIAS Workshop, 05-08 June
2023



Reservoir air-conditioning: a sustainable seasonal thermal energy storage technology

- The thermocline layer works as insulation, maintaining the cold bottom of the reservoir.
- 1°C increase in Lake Mead's temperature equals 1% global cooling demand.



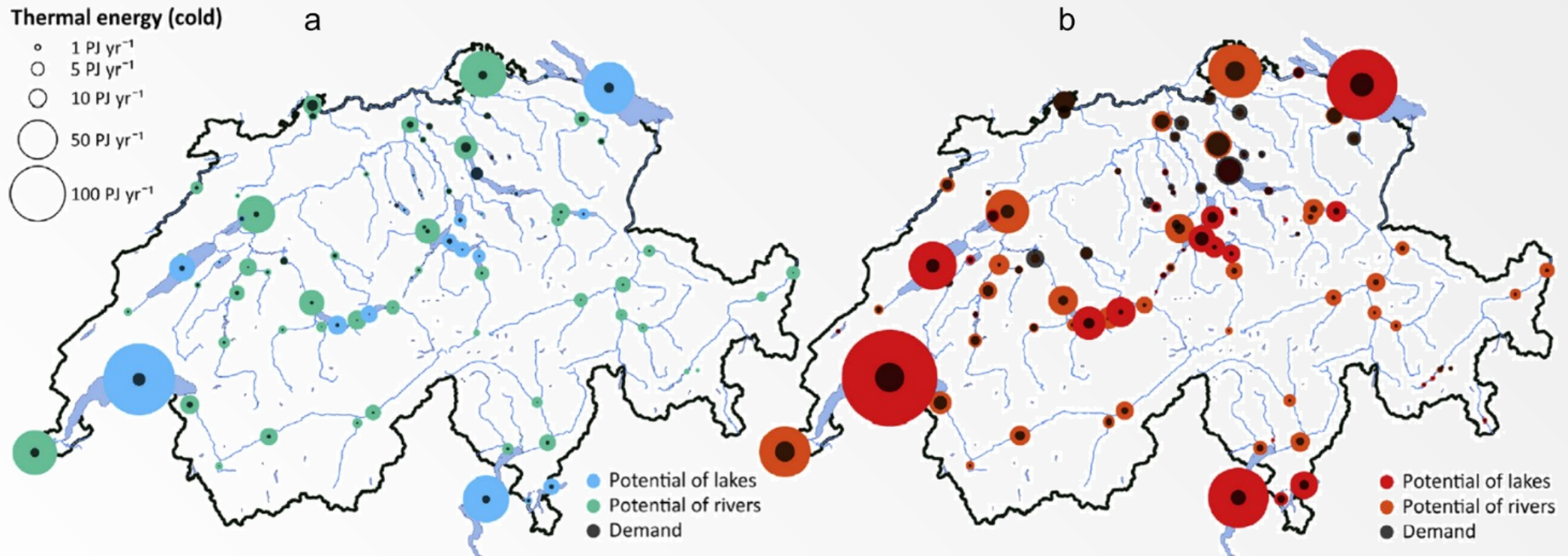
Lake Mead's temperature profile from 2000 to 2010 (
<https://www.nps.gov/lake/learn/hydrology.htm>)



Change of subject:

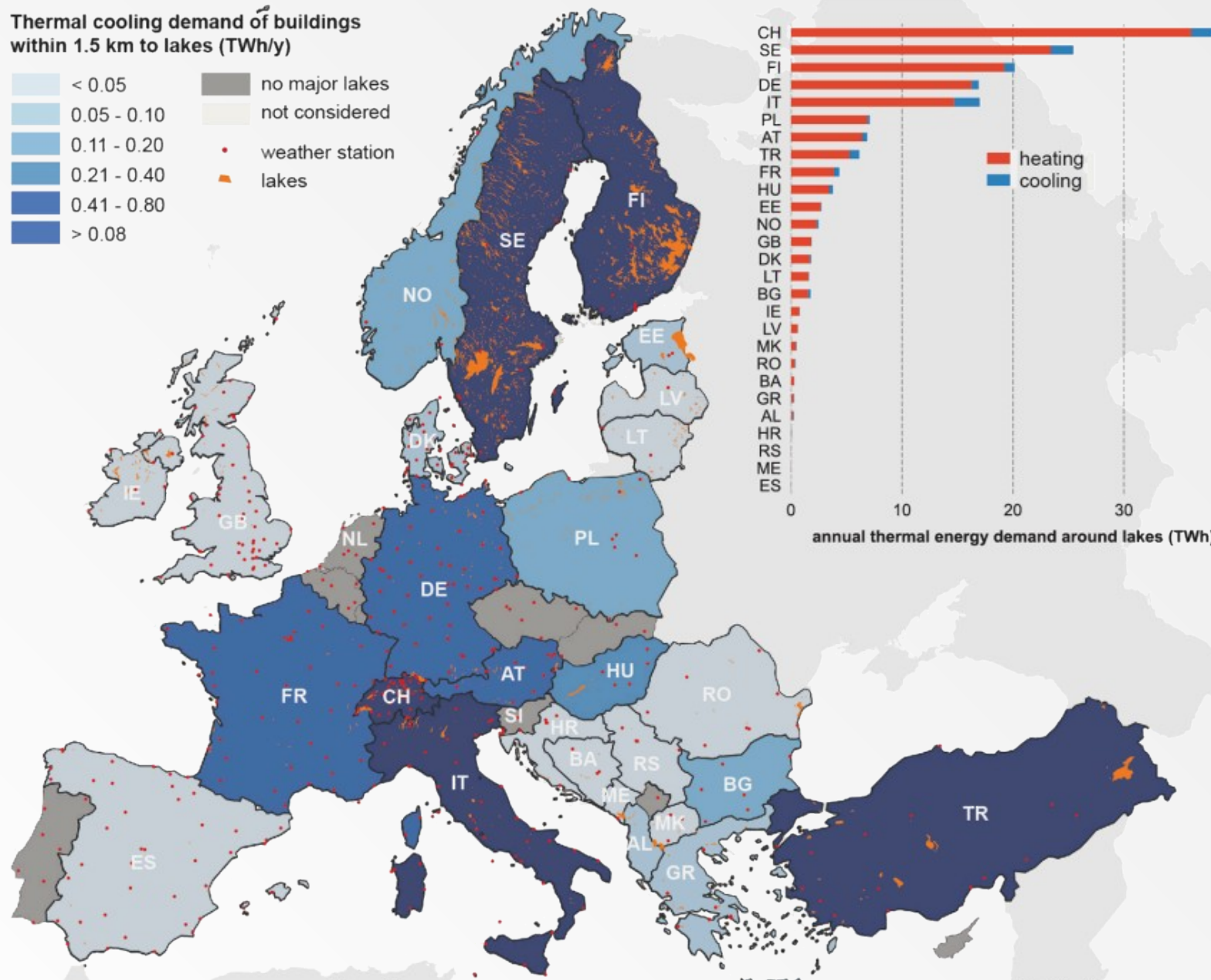
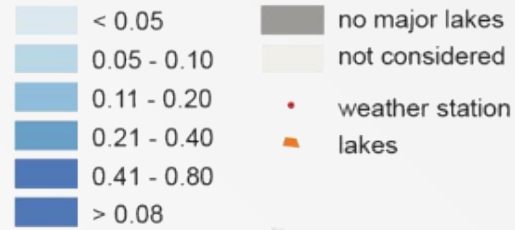
Reservoir air-conditioning: a sustainable seasonal thermal energy storage technology

- The topic has been explored both in a country and regional level.
- Decided to work in other topic.





Thermal cooling demand of buildings within 1.5 km to lakes (TWh/y)



Potentials for using lakes and reservoirs for cooling and heating in Europe



New subject:

International Journal of Hydrogen Energy

**Hydrogen storage in lakes, hydropower, and pumped hydro
storage reservoirs**

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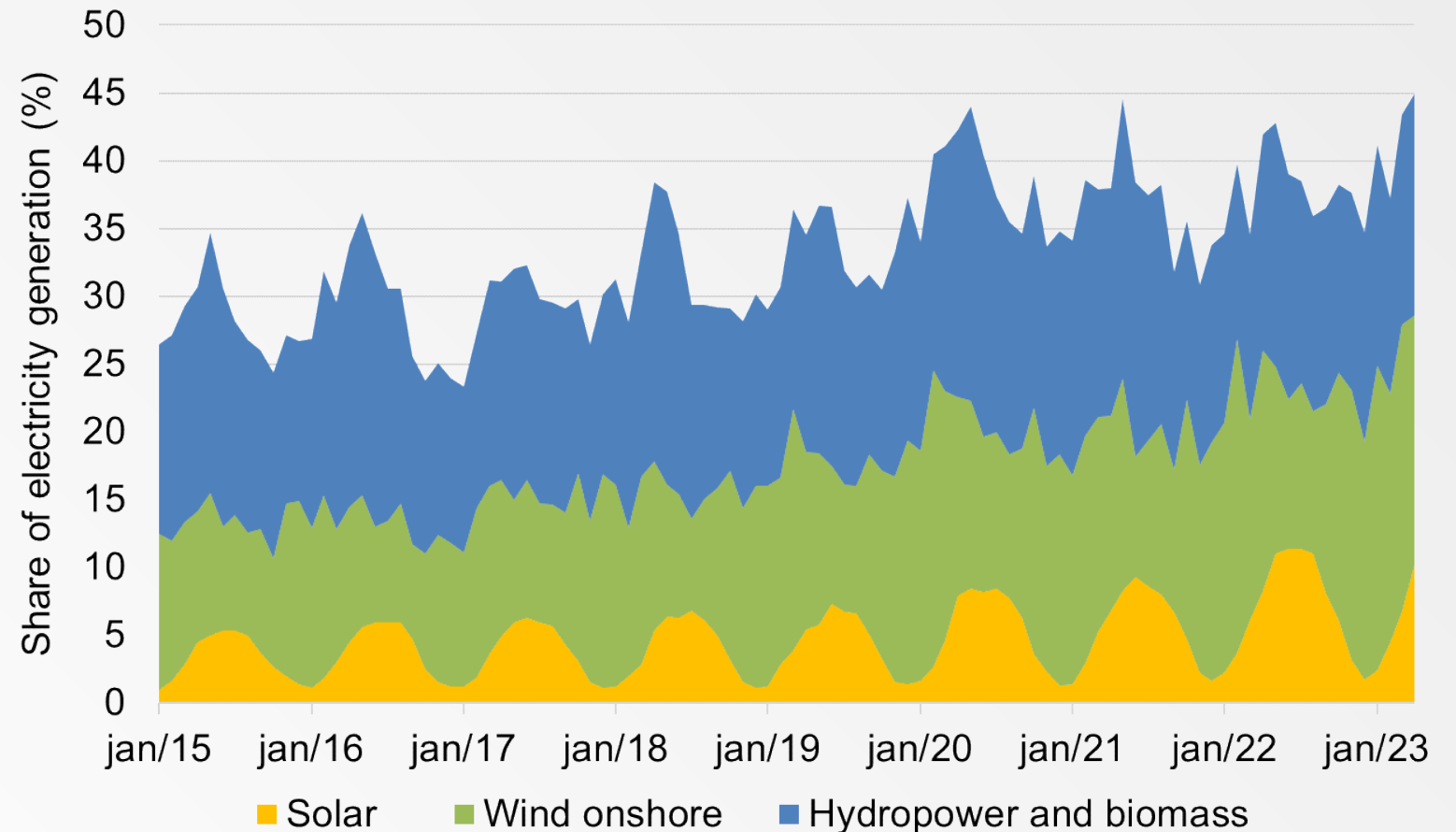


Hydrogen storage in lakes, hydropower, and pumped hydro storage reservoirs

Motivation:

- Increase in solar and wind increases the demand for energy storage.
- Solar energy demands seasonal energy storage.
- Hydrogen is current the most promising solution for seasonal storage.
- New hydrogen energy storage solutions should be investigated.

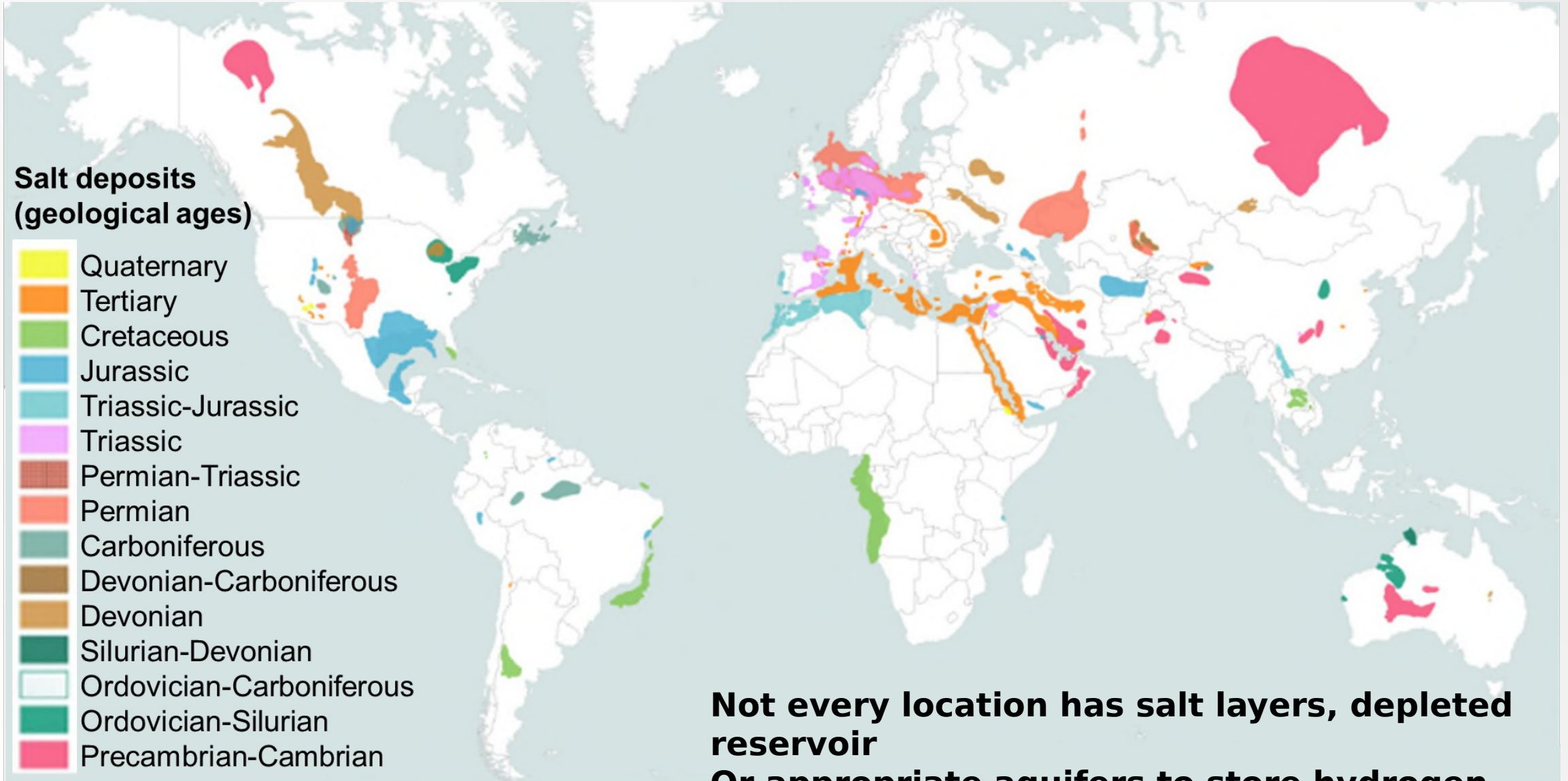
Share of electricity generation from renewable energy sources in the European Union from 2015 to 2023





Motivation:

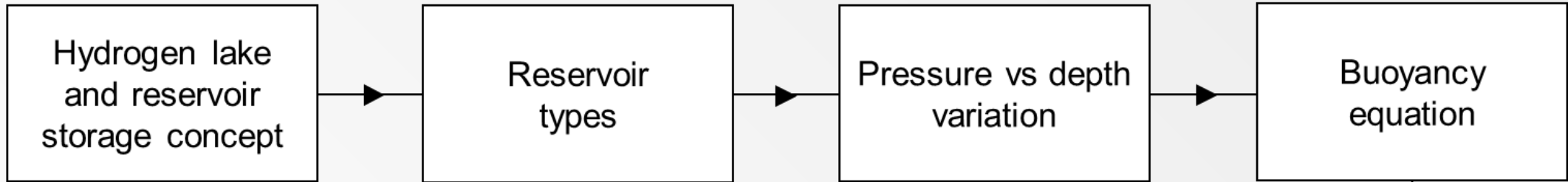
Existing salt layers around the world



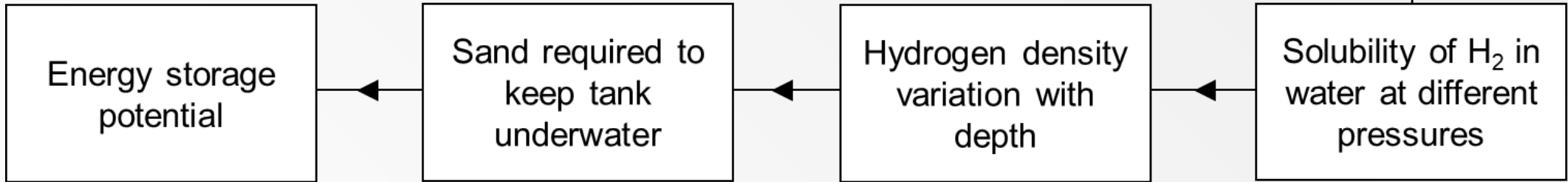


Methodology: Methodological framework

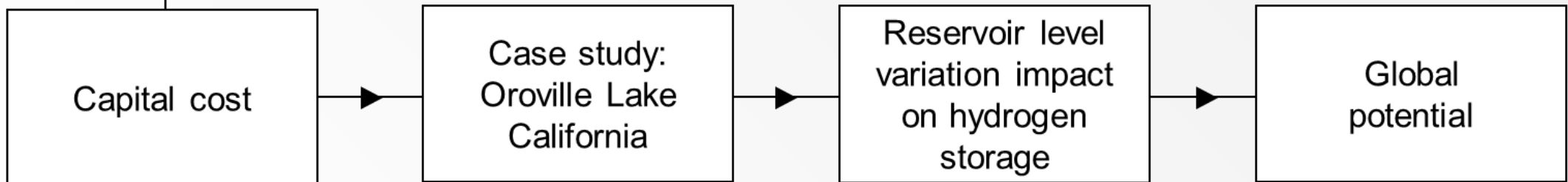
Step 1: Hydrogen storage in lakes and reservoirs



Step 2: Plant design



Step 3: Global potential





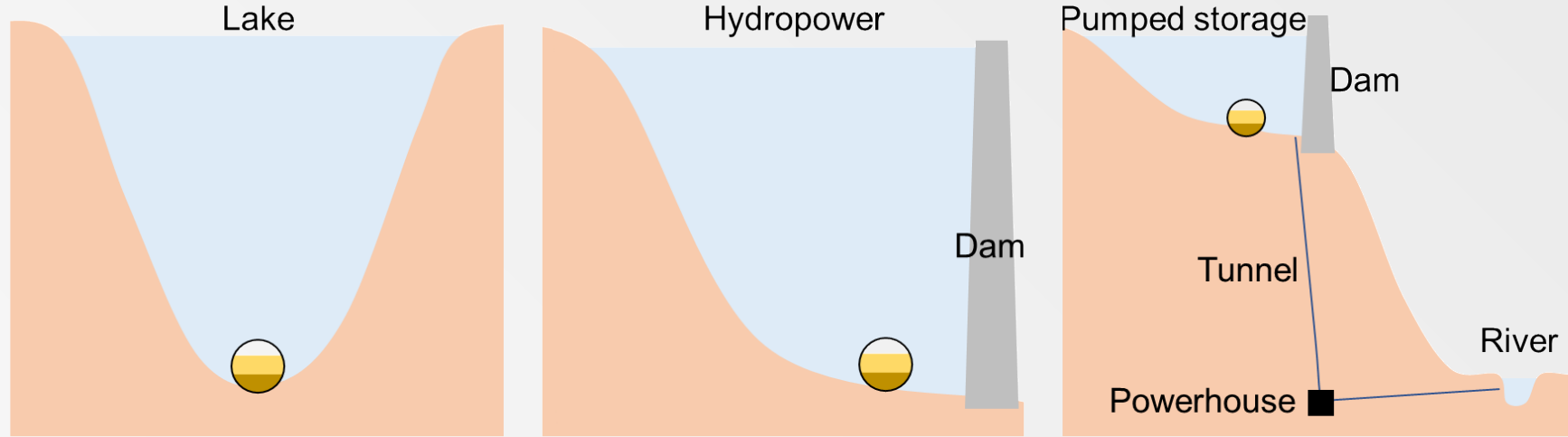
Methodology:

Main equation

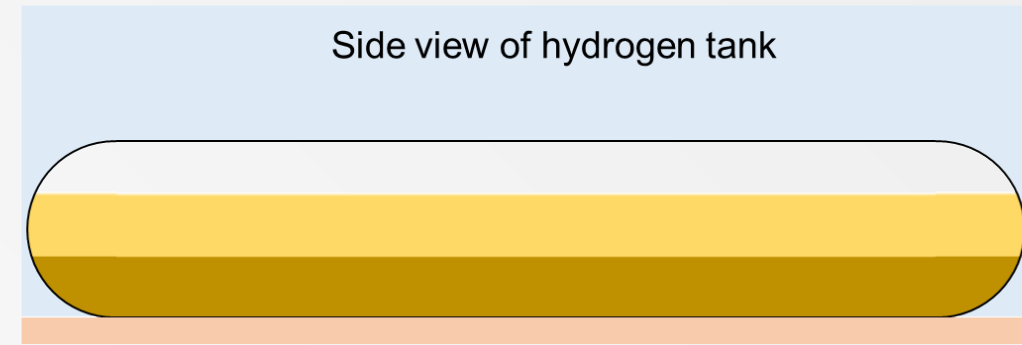
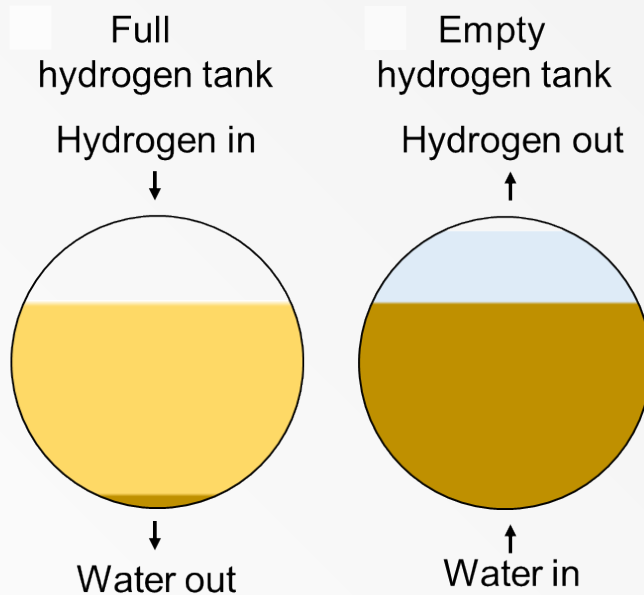
$$P_T = P_r + \frac{D}{10.2}$$

- is the pressure of the hydrogen tank.
- is the pressure of the atmosphere on the top of the reservoir/lake.
- is the depth of the storage tank.

Hydrogen storage in:

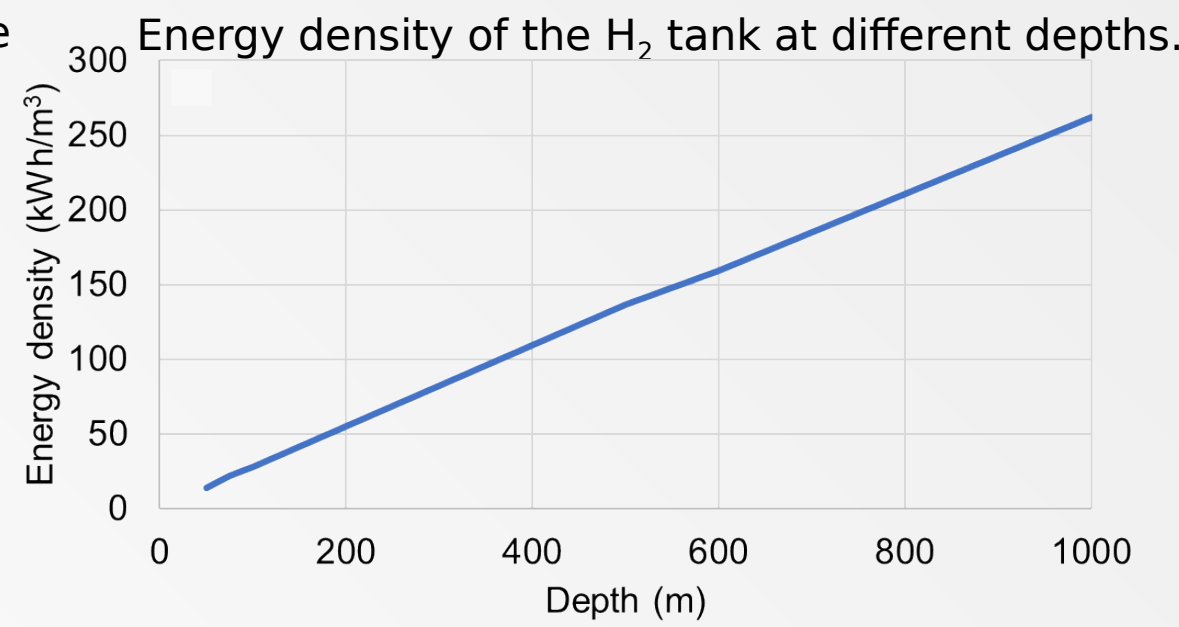
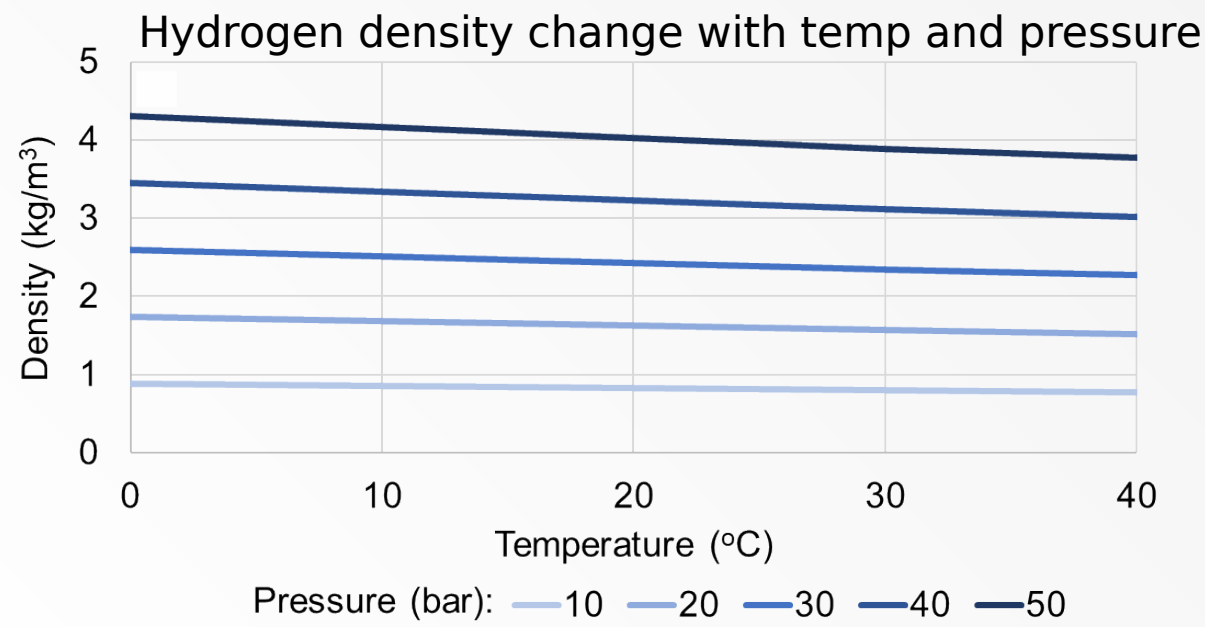
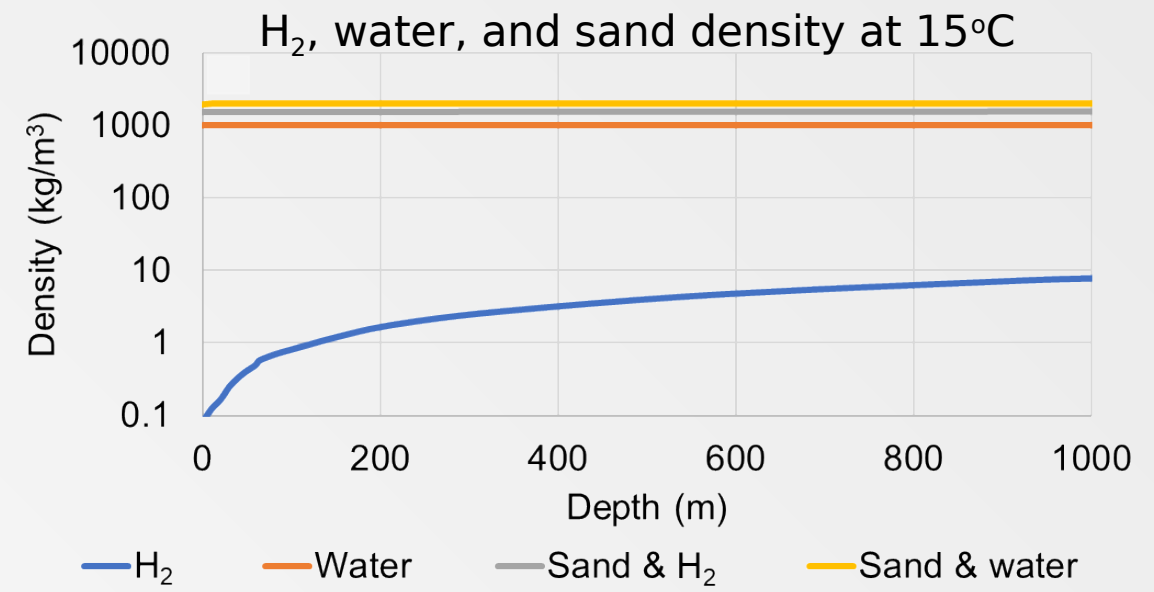
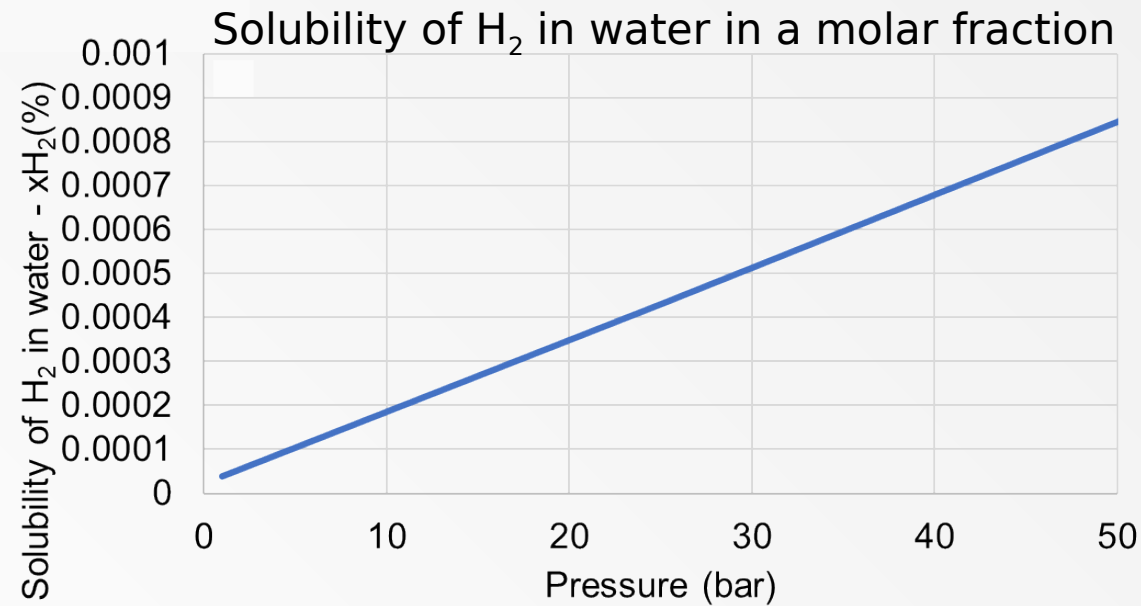


Legend: Water H₂ Sand & H₂ Sand and water



Pressure inside the tank = pressure outside the tank

Results:





Case study:

(a) Oroville reservoir location in California, (b) Oroville reservoir satellite image

Oroville reservoir

Feather River,

Butte County,

California, USA

Reservoir area: 64.75 km²

Reservoir volume: 4.3 km³

Hydroelectric power capacity: 132

MW

Pump capacity: 819 MW





Case study:

Oroville reservoir maximum depth: 210 m

Reservoir bottom temperature: 8°C

Reservoir bottom area: 456.300 m²

Pipeline diameter: 10 m

Volume storage capacity: 2.176.200 m³

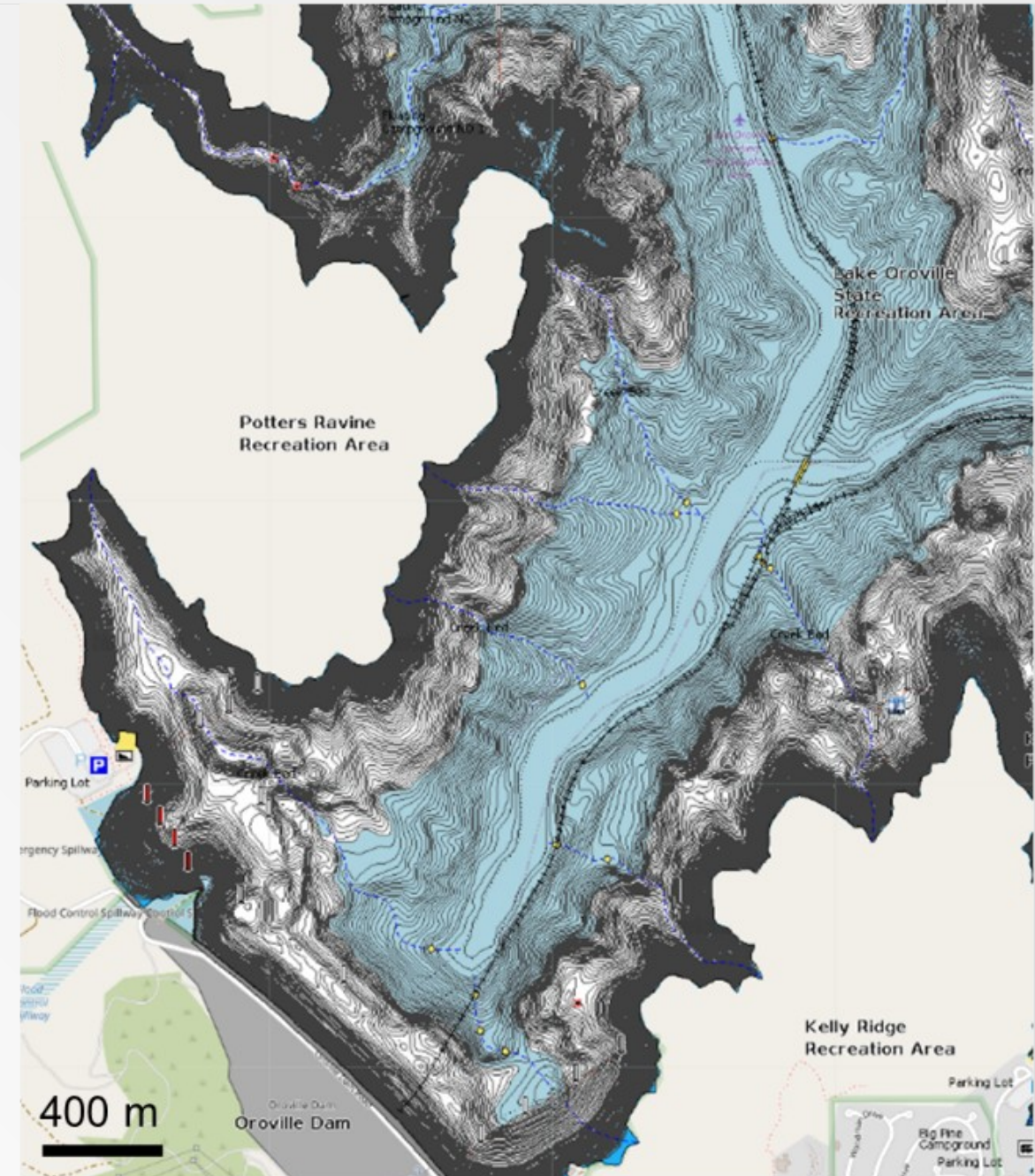
Pressure: 20.6 bar

Hydrogen density: 1.691 kg/m³

Hydrogen storage capacity: 3.679.650 kg

Electricity storage capacity: 86 GWh

Oroville reservoir bathymetry





Case study:

Solar capacity: 400 MW

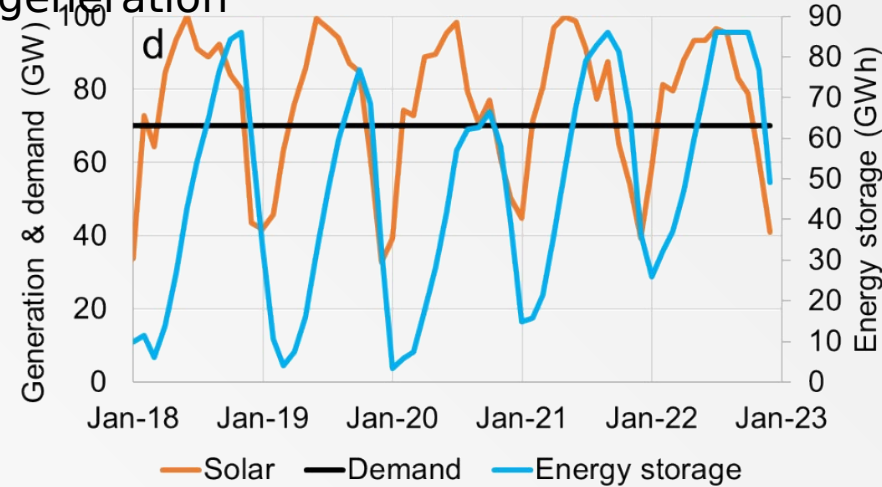
Demand: 70 MW

Electrolysis & batteries:
330 MW

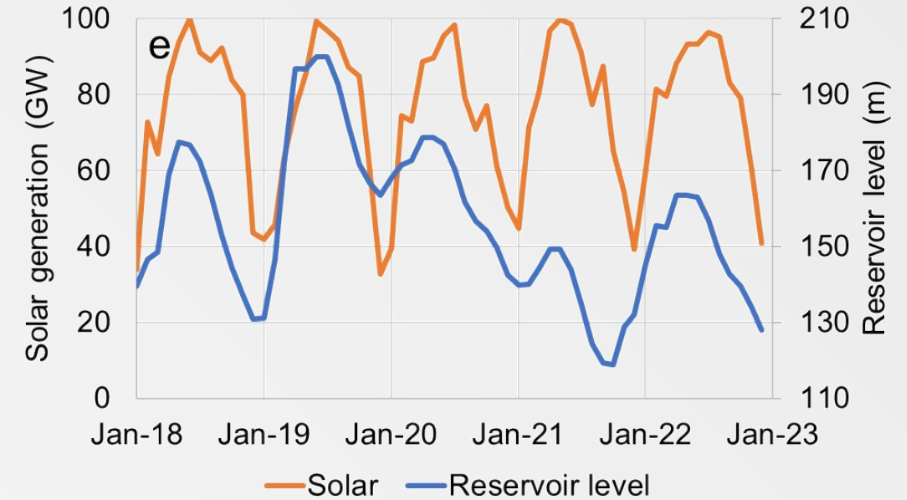
Energy curtailed: 14%

Reservoir levels have a
significant impact on the
hydrogen storage
capacity

Solar generation, demand and energy storage generation



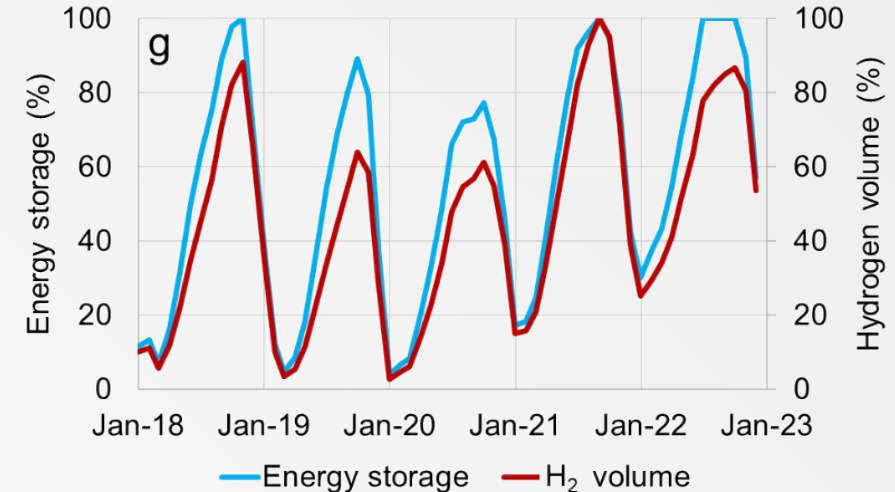
Reservoir level and solar generation



Reservoir level and H₂ density in the tank



Energy storage and H₂ volume in the tank



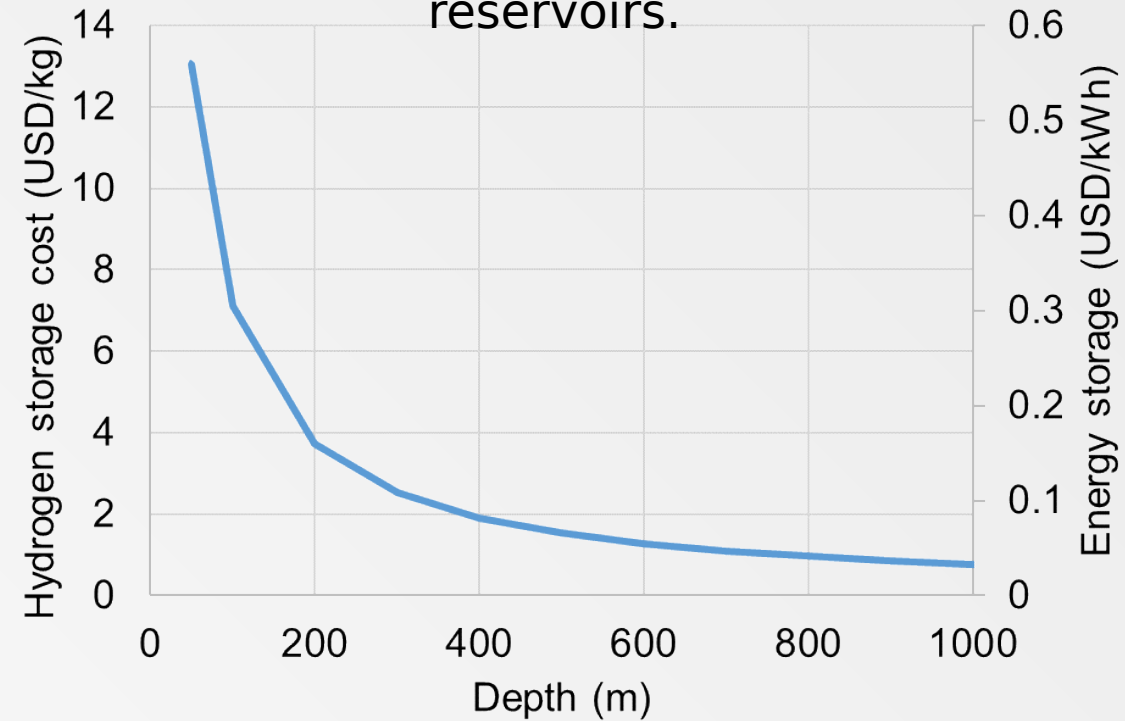


Results

Capital cost for H₂ storage 200 m deep and 15°C

Component	Cost description	Cost
Pipe	HDPE pipe system 10 meters in diameter and 100 m long (7,850 m ³), extrapolating the costs in [38].	12,000 USD
Pipe sand	Desert sand for 1 USD per tonne [39] to fill a volume of 5,024 m ³ with a density of 1,600 kg/m ³ (8,038 tonnes).	8,000 USD
Construction	50% of the equipment costs, as equipment costs are very low.	10,000 USD
Total costs	-	30,000 USD
Hydrogen storage capacity	The hydrogen storage capacity is 4,836 m ³ at 20.6 bar pressure and 1,651 kg/m ³ density.	7,983 kg
Hydrogen storage capital cost	Store 7,983 kg at an installed capacity of 30,000 USD.	3.76 USD/kg
Energy storage costs	Assuming an energy density of 33.3 kWh/kg and a generation efficiency of 70%, the energy storage capacity of the tank is 186 MWh.	0.16 USD/kWh

Hydrogen storage and energy storage capital cost variation with depth in existing lakes and reservoirs.



5 to 25 times cheaper than storing hydrogen in salt caverns



Global Potential

Databases:
HydroLAKES
GRanD

Lakes and reservoirs
average depth > 30 m

Number of lakes: 1760

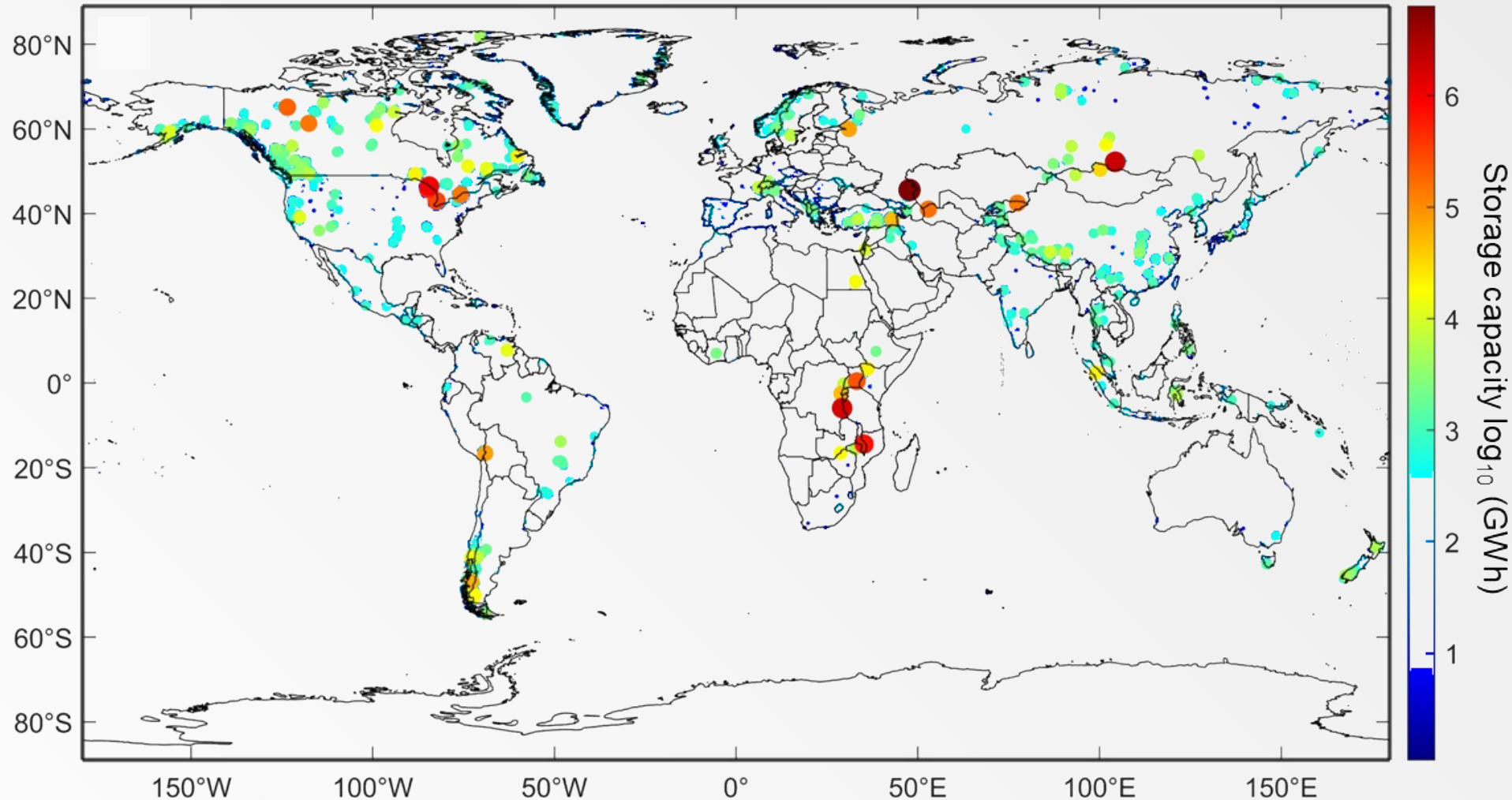
Lakes storage
capacity: 12 PWh

Number of reservoirs:
3403.

Reservoirs storage
capacity: 3 PWh

Total storage capacity:
15 PWh

Lakes and reservoirs hydrogen storage global potential organized by storage.





Global Potential

Lakes and reservoirs H₂ storage global potential organized by H₂ storage cost.

Databases:
HydroLAKES
GRanD

Lakes and reservoirs
average depth > 30 m

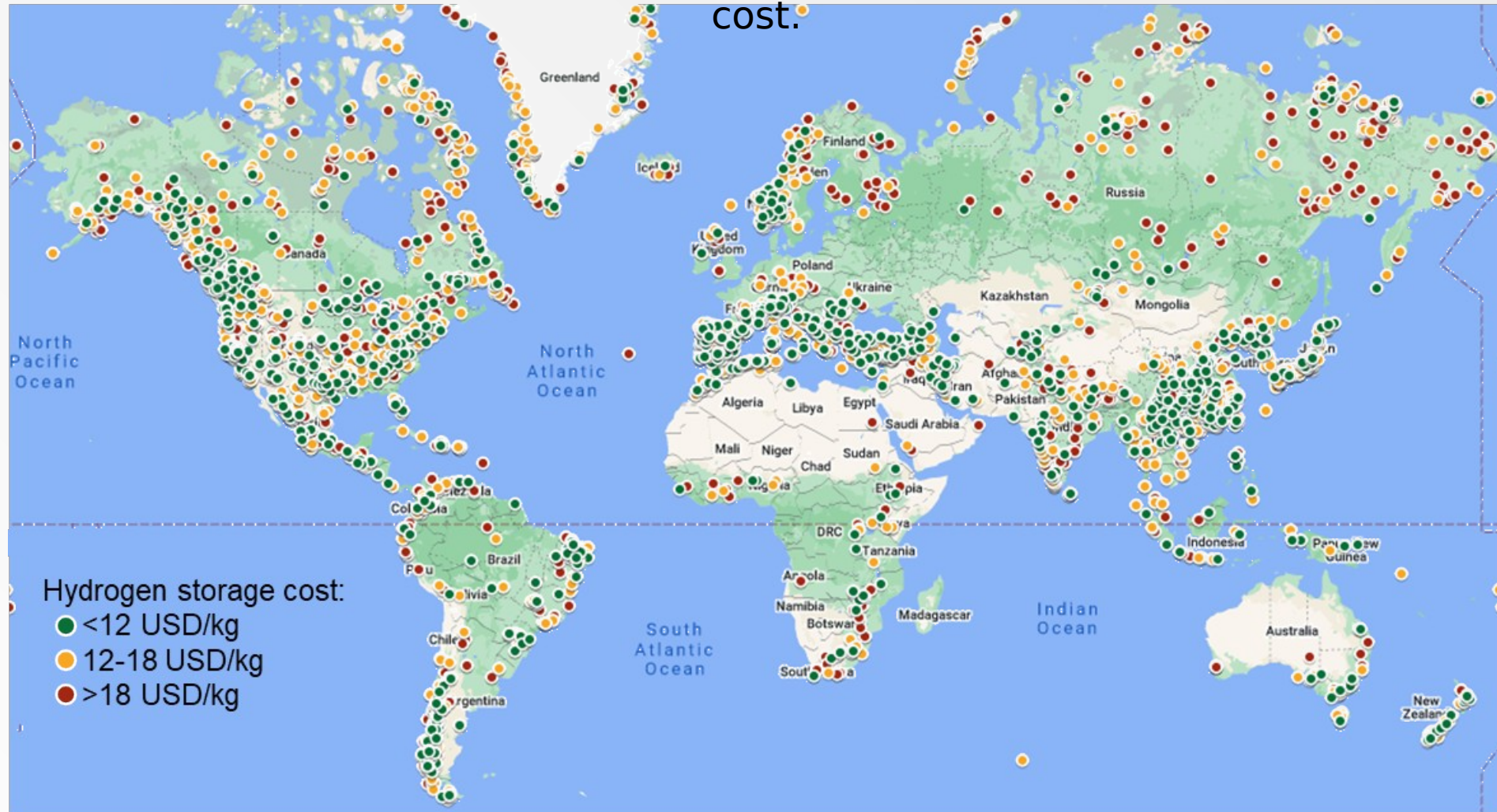
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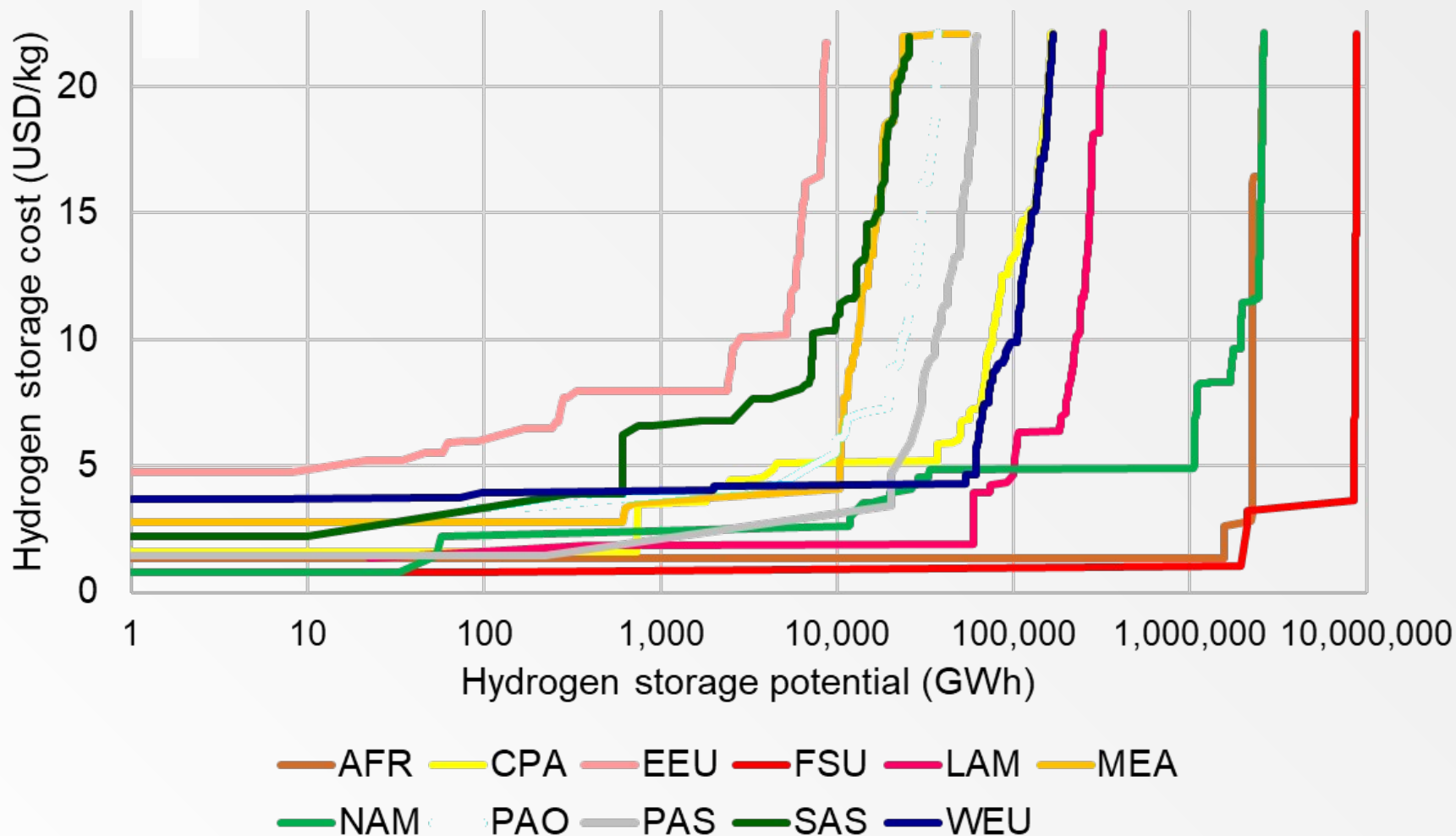
Total storage capacity:
15 PWh





Global Potential

Lakes and reservoirs H₂ storage global potential organized by cost-curve per region.



AFR is Sub-Saharan Africa, WEU is Western Europe, CPA is Centrally Planned Asia and China, EEU is Eastern Europe, FSU is Former Soviet Union, LAM is Latin America and the Caribbean, MEA is Middle East and North Africa, NAM is North America, PAO is Pacific OECD, PAS is Other Pacific Asia, SAS is South Asia



Future work

- Impact of climate change on hydrogen storage in lakes and hydropower reservoirs:
 - Lakes and reservoir levels directly impact the potential for hydrogen storage.

Conclusion

- Hydrogen storage in lakes and reservoirs consists of storing compressed hydrogen in HDPE pipes filled with desert sand. The pressure in the pipeline is the same as the pressure outside.
- This can be done because hydrogen is insoluble in water.
- The capital cost of hydrogen storage of 3.76 USD/kg at 200 m depth. 5 to 25 times cheaper than storing hydrogen in salt caverns.
- The global hydrogen storage in lakes and reservoirs is 15 PWh.
- Hydrogen storage in lakes and reservoirs is a viable and environmentally friendly technology with great potential in a future hydrogen economy.



Questions?

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