

The background features a night view of a city with illuminated buildings and a large power transmission tower in the foreground. A blue, glowing network of nodes and lines is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# ICT-based Renewable Energies Integration and Testing

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# Energy Systems are Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)

With special characteristics

- 1. Regarded as critical infrastructure (KRITIS)**
  - > indispensable lifeline of modern societies
- 2. Cross-continental size (EU-perspective)**
  - > from North Africa to Scandinavia, from Ireland to Asia
- 3. Propagation of phenomena and their dynamics**
  - > instantaneous propagation velocity of instabilities
- 4. Omnipresent conflicts of objectives**
  - > monetary, technical, (national/international) political interests
- 5. Undergoing rapid and fundamental change...**



# Three Major Trends

...that influence the stability of KRITIS Energy

- 1. Conversion of the energy system, e.g.**
  - > many smaller systems, prone to forecast-errors, system-critical as a whole
  - > networking through digitalization
  - > competition and new business models
- 2. Digitization trends, including**
  - > internet of Things (IoT): several billion devices on the Internet and connected to our power grid (televisions, baby monitors, alexa, etc.)
  - > Smart Services, Cloud, Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data,...
- 3. Susceptibility to new effects, e.g.**
  - > occurrence of "classic" IT challenges (errors, update management, interactions)
  - > sophisticated cyber-attacks (with state-funded resources)

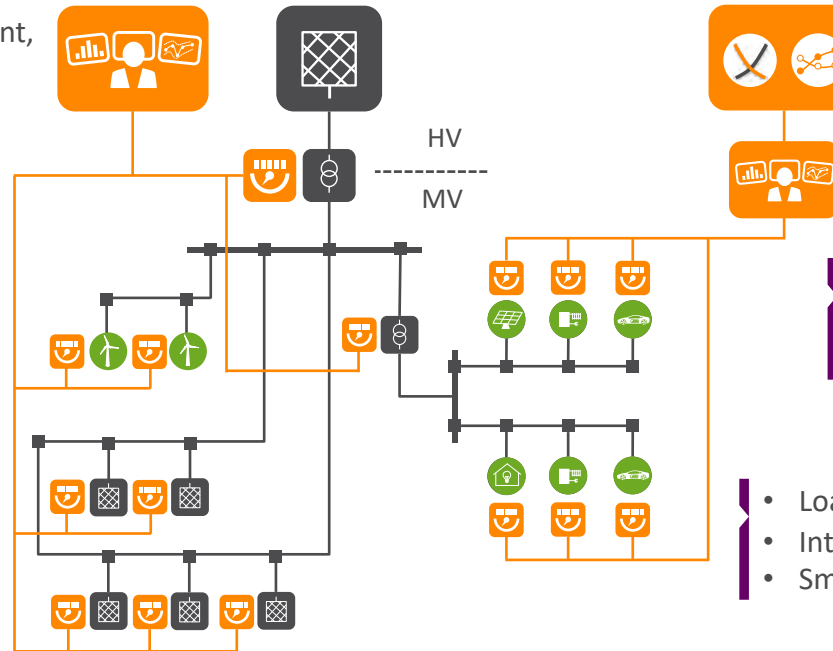


# Energy Systems are Complex Cyber-Physical Systems

Diverse tasks in heterogeneous, distributed (sub)systems under different responsibilities

- Forecast of network conditions,
- Optimized reactive power management,
- Detection of anomalies in power and communication networks.

- Monitoring of the operating states,
- Automation yellow traffic light phase,
- decentralised system services.



- Algorithmic energy trading,
- Market integration of renewable energies.

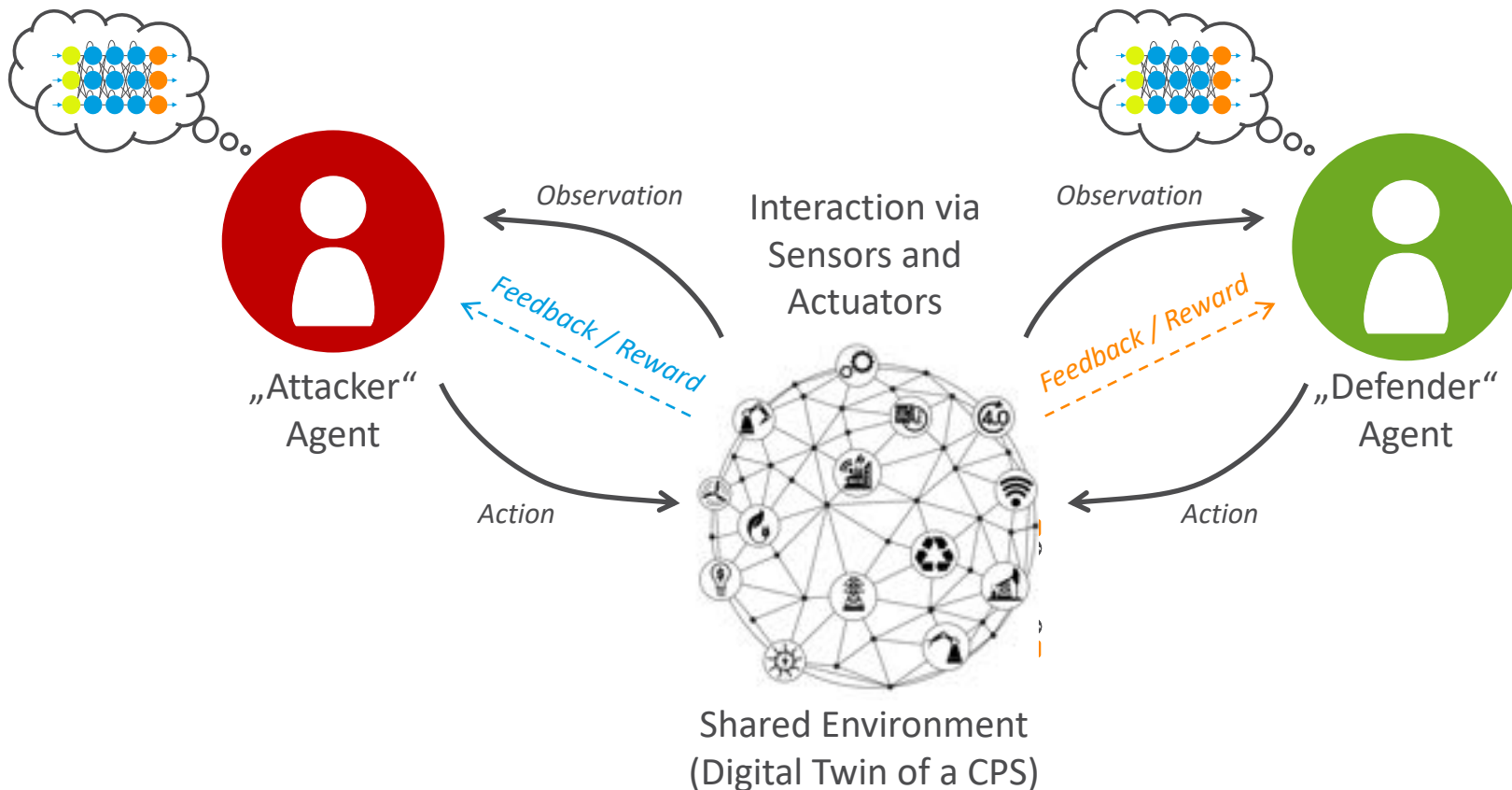
- Virtual power plants,
- multi-modal optimization,
- Sector coupling.

- Load and flexibility management,
- Integration of end customers,
- Smart metering.

*A wide range of error-sources/entry-points into a safety-critical infrastructure...*

# AI-based Testing (Adversarial Resilience Learning)

Competing agents explore vulnerabilities by interacting on a shared environment



### Testing/Analysis – only Attacker

- > Test laboratory for resilient systems
  - > (ICT-)device testing
  - > attacker explores vulnerabilities
  - > "conquest" of the system

### Training – Attacker and Defender

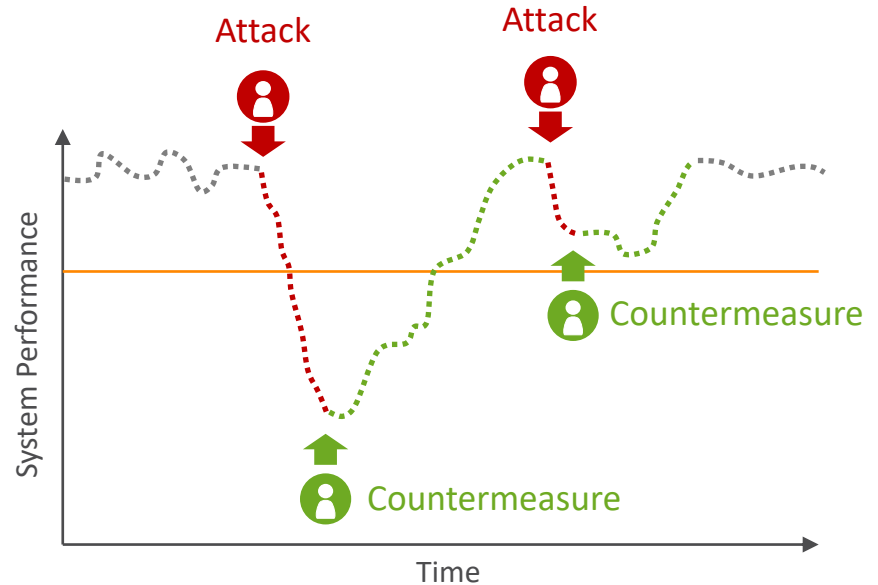
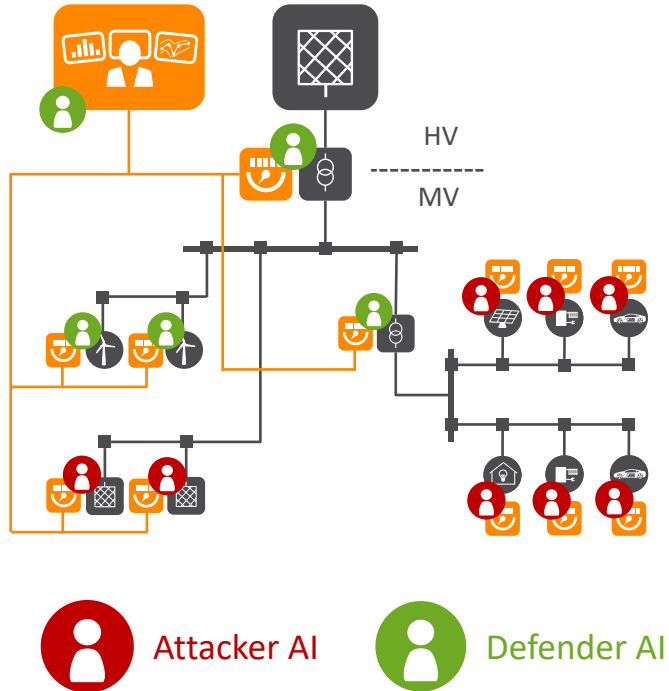
- > AI for automated operation
- > Resilience strategies of the overall system
  - > Attacker trains defender

**“Attacks” not only malicious**, but also complex dynamics & environmental factors

- > forecast deviations
- > damage caused by accidents etc.
- > dynamic interactions (*from inefficient over ineffective to instable*)

# Demo: Cyber-Attack on a Power System

Prevention of (sub-)system takeover as a secondary problem



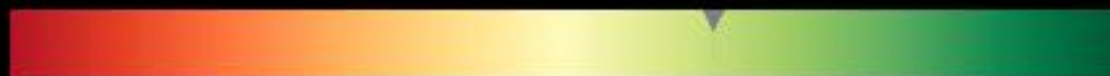
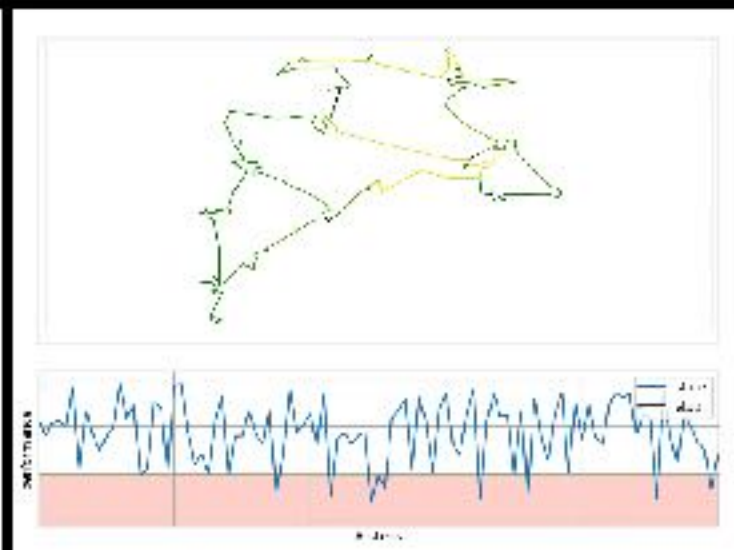






# Demonstrator für Adversarial Resilience Learning

KI-basierte Analyse der Resilienz von Smart Grids



# Conclusion and Outlook

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in testing and Adversarial Resilience Learning (ARL)

**Traditional means/methods have been proven to miss:**

- > vulnerabilities to interdependent/dynamic failures
- > specialized/targeted attacks

**ARL as an AI-based game-theoretic approach to vulnerability testing (CPS modelling)**

- > resilient operation of interconnected systems
- > equilibria more relevant than “absolute” safety

**There is no way back from digitalized energy systems!**

- > most promising answer against on-line dynamics and highly specialized/targeted attacks is *Operational Flexibility (on-line change of system characteristics)*



**Smart Grid  
Cyber-Resilience Lab**

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