

# Pathways for ramping-up hydrogen into the natural gas system

17. Symposium Ennergieinnovation (EnInnov). 16-18.02.2022, Graz, Austria

Roberta Cvetkovska  
Peter Nagovnak  
Thomas Kienberger

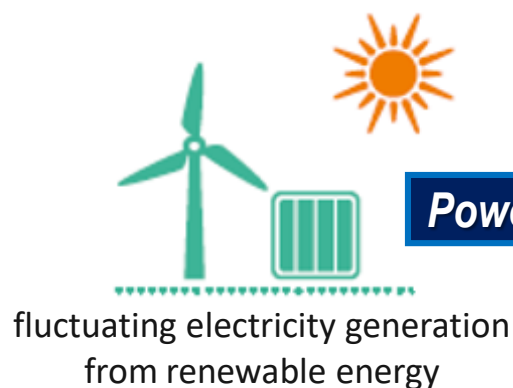
- Introduction – hydrogen applications
- Methodology – data set and scenarios definition
- Specific costs – comparison of the costs of fossil and renewable gases
- Ramp-up curves – injecting hydrogen in the natural gas network
- Summary

# Introduction

## Renewable hydrogen applications

- Energy system in transition → net zero
  - Energy carriers structure and innovative applications

- Preferred fields of application:
  - metallurgical and chemical industry
  - heavy duty transport
  - peak power generation



**Feedstock in industry applications**

**Fuel in transport means (direct or intermediate use)**

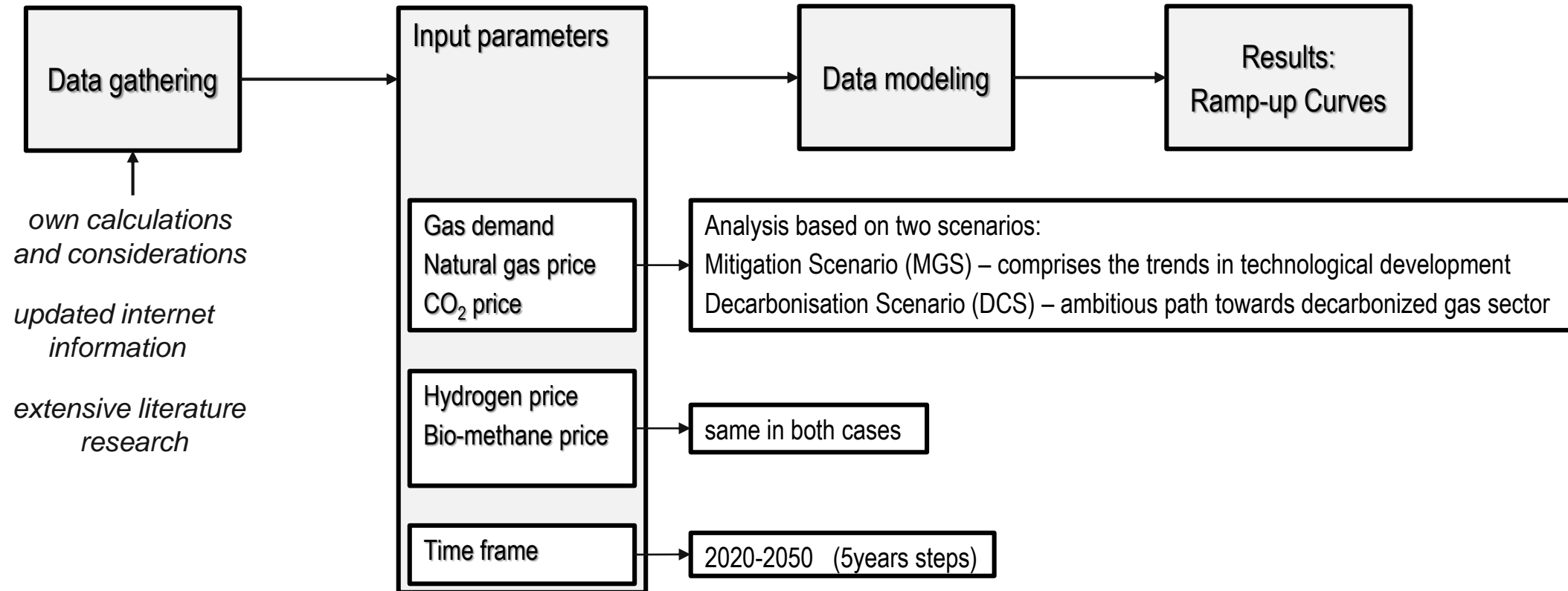
**Energy carrier for electricity and heat production**

- Benefits of blending:
  - reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (greening natural gas)
  - storage and transport of hydrogen
  - reliable source of demand
  - can provide learnings and incremental changes towards 100% hydrogen network

*It's not so much about blending as it is about increasing H<sub>2</sub> production.  
→ For instance, 15 % H<sub>2</sub> in the gas system might be used directly (e.g. at industrial sites) or blended into natural gas grid.*

# Methodology

## Data set and scenarios definition

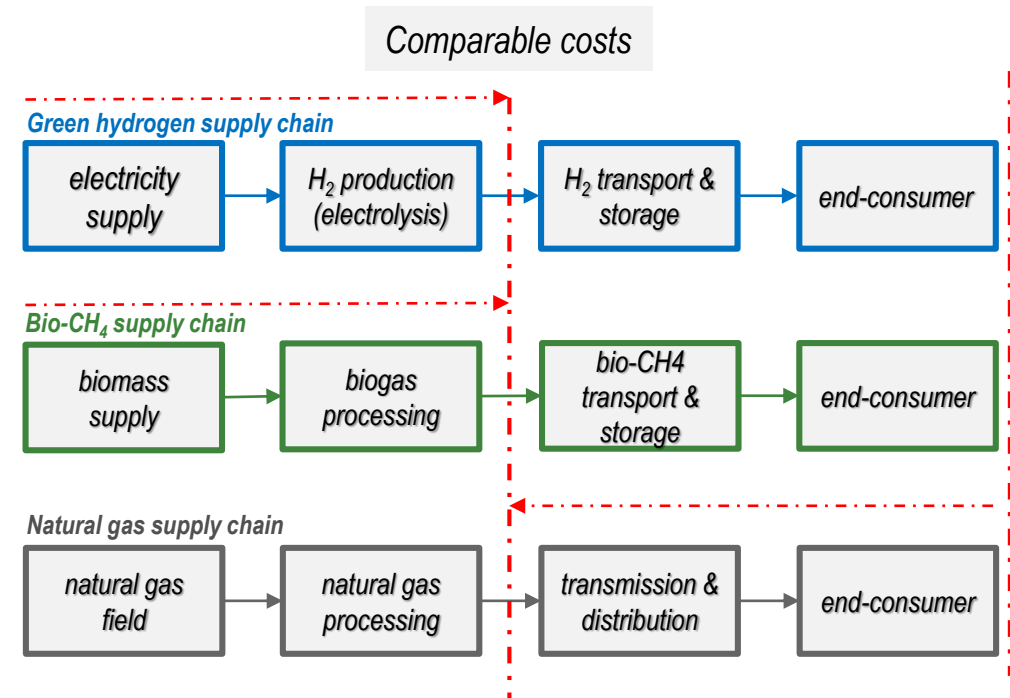


Limitations: - application to dedicated direct use of hydrogen  
- requirements of end-use appliances

# Specific costs

Natural gas, hydrogen, bio methane, carbon emissions

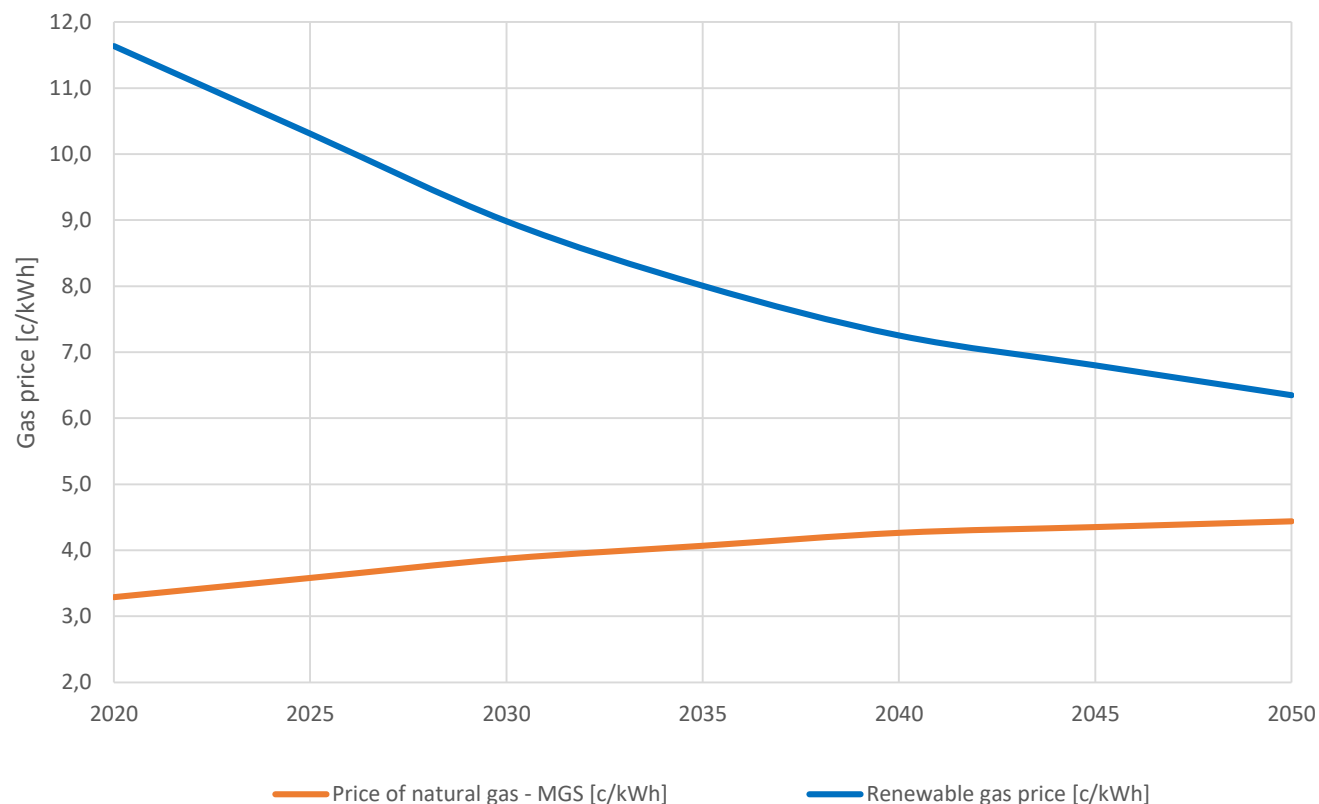
- Comparison of the production costs of hydrogen and bio-methane with the energy share of the price of natural gas and the related carbon emissions
- **Production costs of hydrogen:**
  - CAPEX (size of plants considered 1-100 MW)
  - OPEX (electricity cost)
- **Production costs of bio-methane:**
  - CAPEX (size of plants considered 50 – 1000 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h)
  - OPEX (substrate costs)
- **Costs for natural gas:**
  - Energy share of the price (~50%) + CO<sub>2</sub> price



# Specific costs

## Natural gas, hydrogen, bio methane, carbon emissions

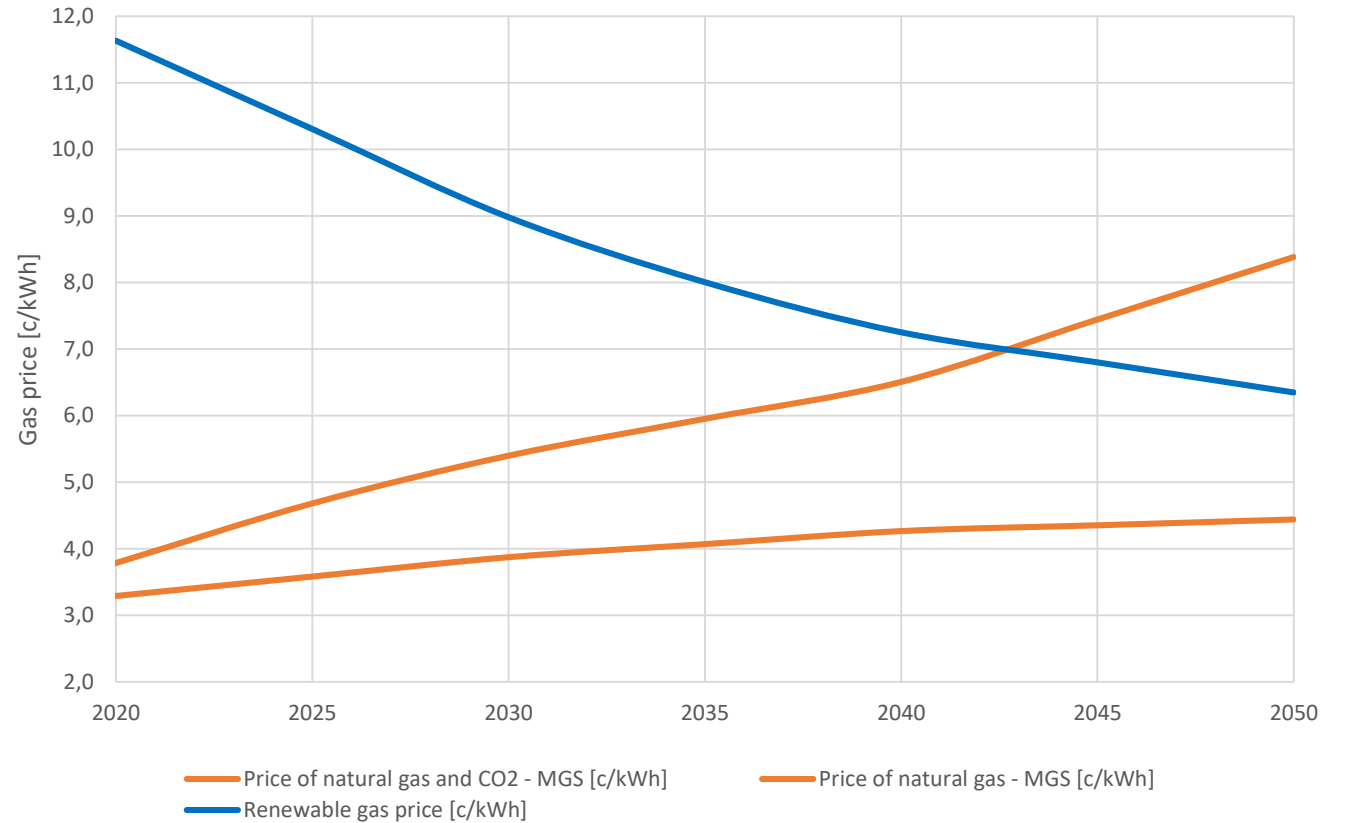
- **Development of H2 costs:**
  - expected decrease based on learning curves, technology development and production scaling-up effects
  
- **Development of bio-CH4 costs:**
  - Expected decrease based on scaling-up and plant size
  
- **Development of natural gas costs:**
  - CO<sub>2</sub> costs – main supporting mechanism fronting cost-competitiveness against H<sub>2</sub>



# Specific costs

## Natural gas, hydrogen, bio methane, carbon emissions

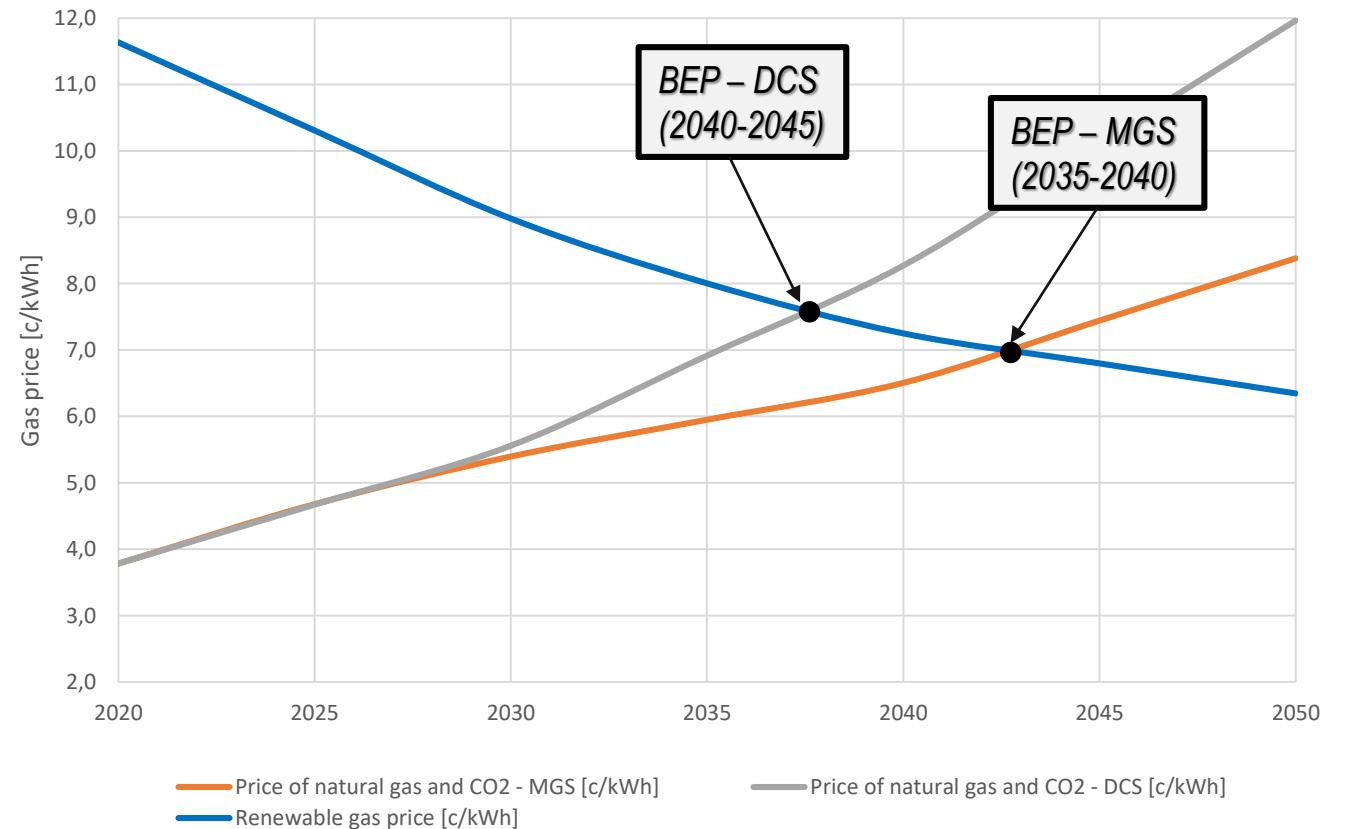
- **Development of H2 costs:**
  - expected decrease based on learning curves, technology development and production scaling-up effects
  
- **Development of bio-CH4 costs:**
  - Expected decrease based on scaling-up and plant size
  
- **Development of natural gas costs:**
  - CO<sub>2</sub> costs – main supporting mechanism fronting cost-competitiveness against H<sub>2</sub>



# Specific costs

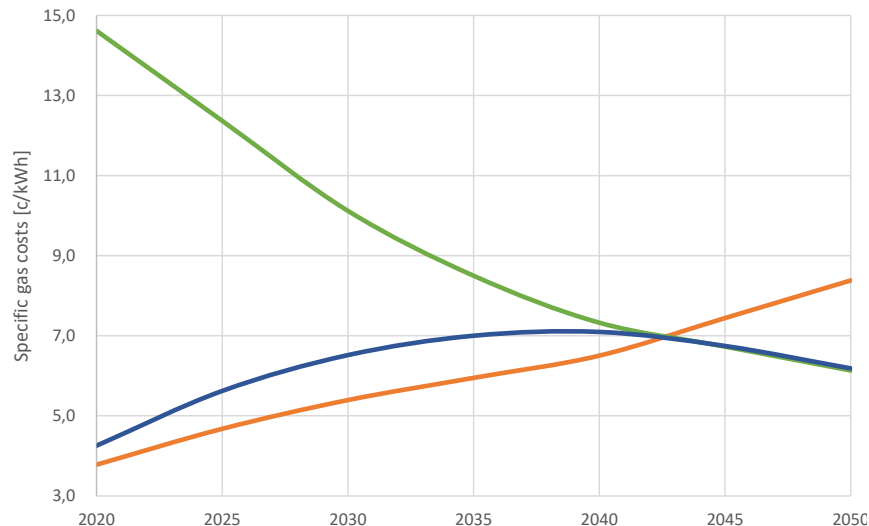
## Natural gas, hydrogen, bio methane, carbon emissions

- **“Break-even point”** is defined as a point in time at which hydrogen and bio-methane become cheaper than natural gas
- BEP is foreseeable after 2035 but before 2045
- CO<sub>2</sub> price-range:
  - MGS: 25 (2020) – 200 (2050) €/t CO<sub>2</sub>
  - DCS: 25 (2020) – 270 (2050) €/t CO<sub>2</sub>

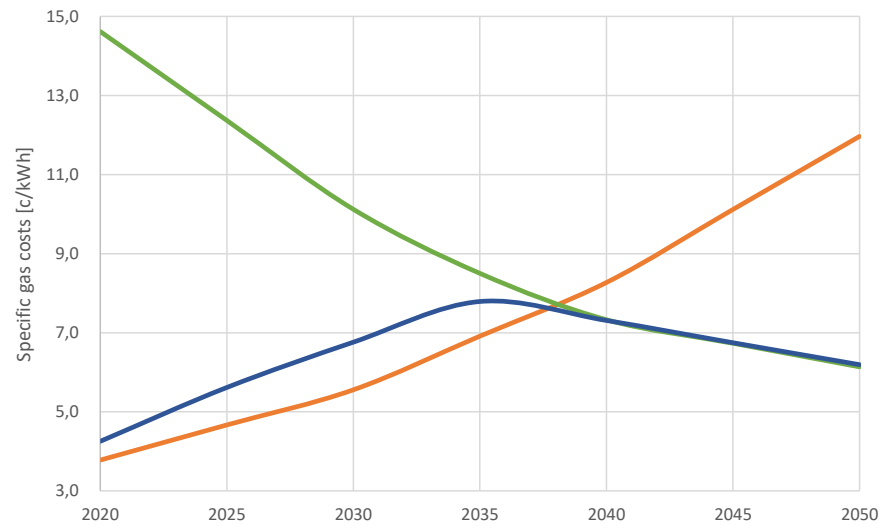




# Ramp-up curves injecting hydrogen in the natural gas network



**MGS**



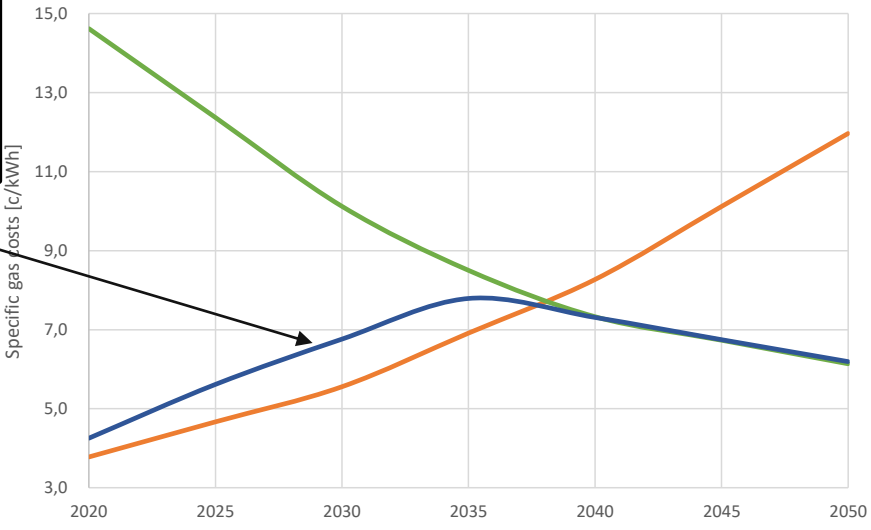
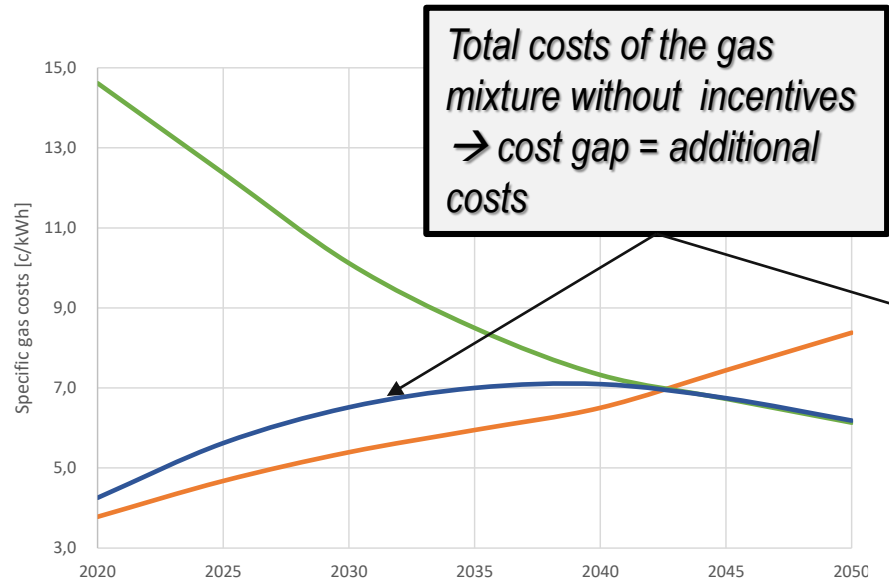
**DCS**

— Specific costs 100% natural gas [c/kWh]  
— Specific costs 100% H2 [c/kWh]  
— Costs of the gas mixture [c/kWh]

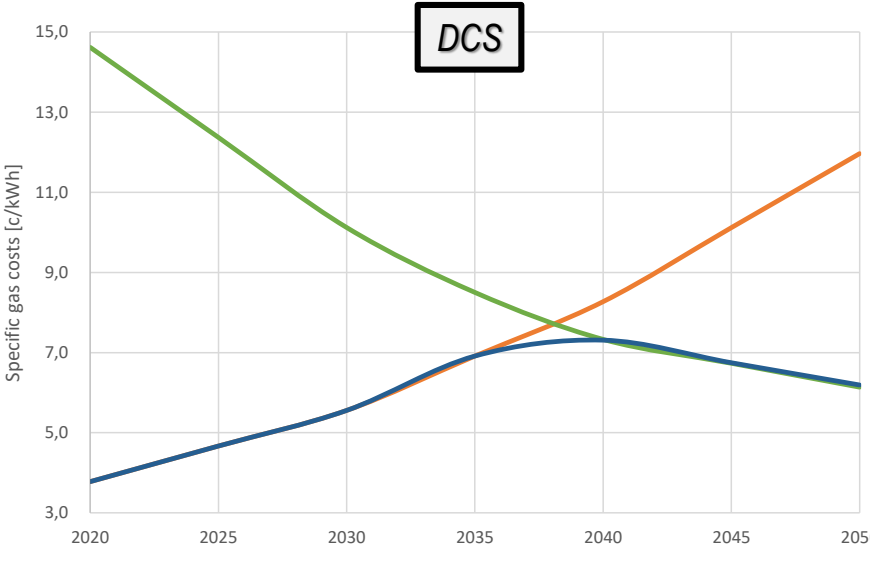
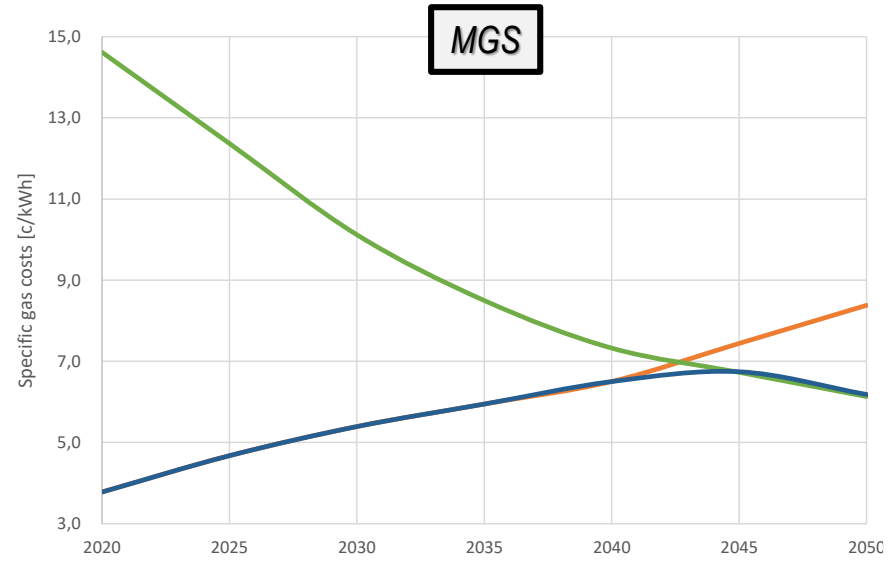
- Maximum total costs of the gas mixture have upper limit equal to the fictitious cost of gas network using solely natural gas → ***Total costs = C(100% NG)***
- Using the CO<sub>2</sub> costs to incentivize hydrogen production  
→ ***Total costs = C(100% NG) = C(gas – mixture) – C(CO<sub>2</sub>)***

# Ramp-up curves

## injecting hydrogen in the natural gas network



- Specific costs 100% natural gas [c/kWh]
- Specific costs 100% H2 [c/kWh]
- Costs of the gas mixture [c/kWh]

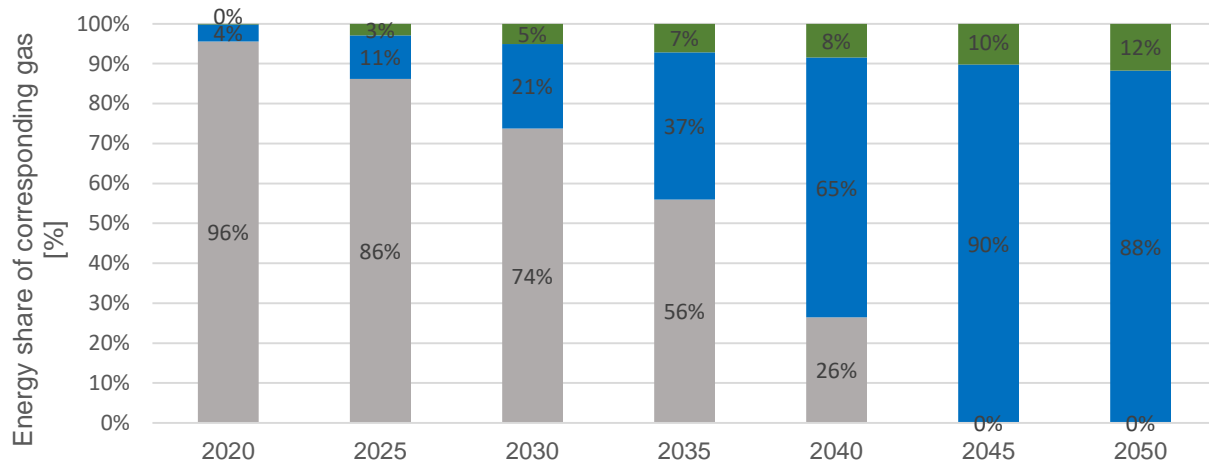


*Incentivizing the hydrogen:  
Total costs = C(100% NG)  
before the BEP*

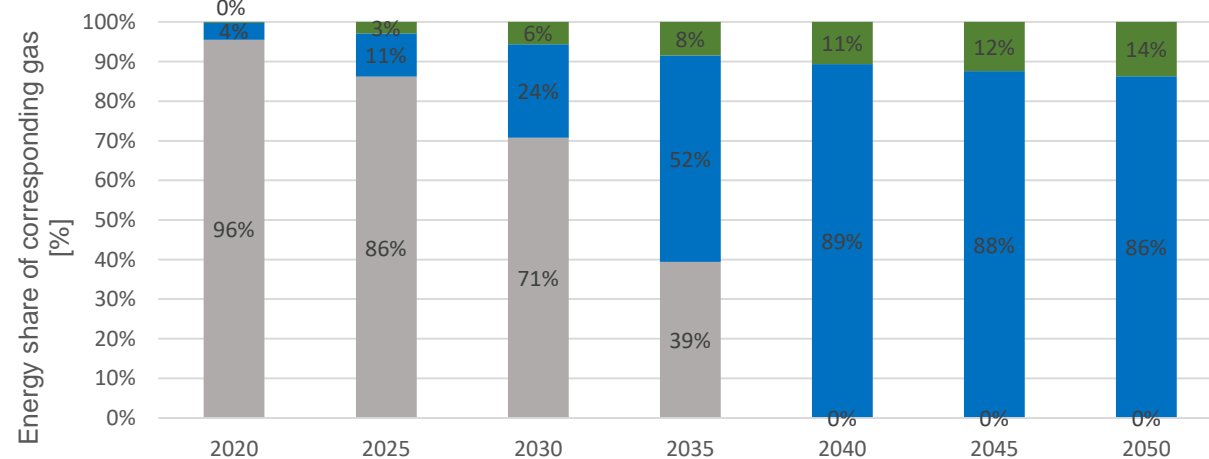
# Ramp-up curves

injecting hydrogen in the natural gas network

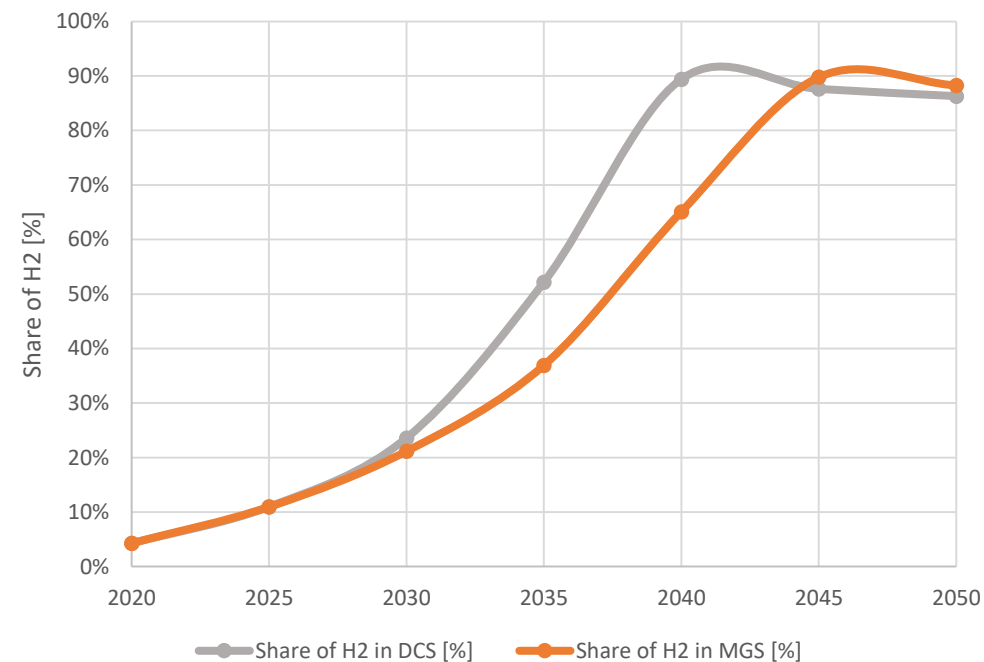
Composition of the gas - MGS



Composition of the gas - DCS



■ Natural gas ■ H2 ■ Bio CH4



# Summary

- Hydrogen facilitates the decarbonisation of key areas of the industrial, transport and heat sectors which are difficult or expensive to electrify
- Production cost structure will shape the deployment and utilization of hydrogen as a fuel and as a feedstock
- Inducing natural gas blending can be beneficial in the early phases of larger-scale hydrogen production units by ensuring a consistent demand for hydrogen
- The subsidies of hydrogen production empower its share in the natural gas network without additional energy-related costs for the end-consumers

*Thank you for your attention!*

*Presented by Roberta Cvetkovska*

17th Symposium Ennergieinnovation (EnInnov).

16.02.2022, Graz, Austria

