

# MESSAGE<sub>ix</sub> Workshop

## Session III: Building an Energy System Model (Part 2) and Adding energy policies

MESSAGEix Workshop team:

Behnam Zakeri, Paul Kishimoto, Oliver Fricko, Francesco Lovat, Muhammad Awais, Laura Wienpahl

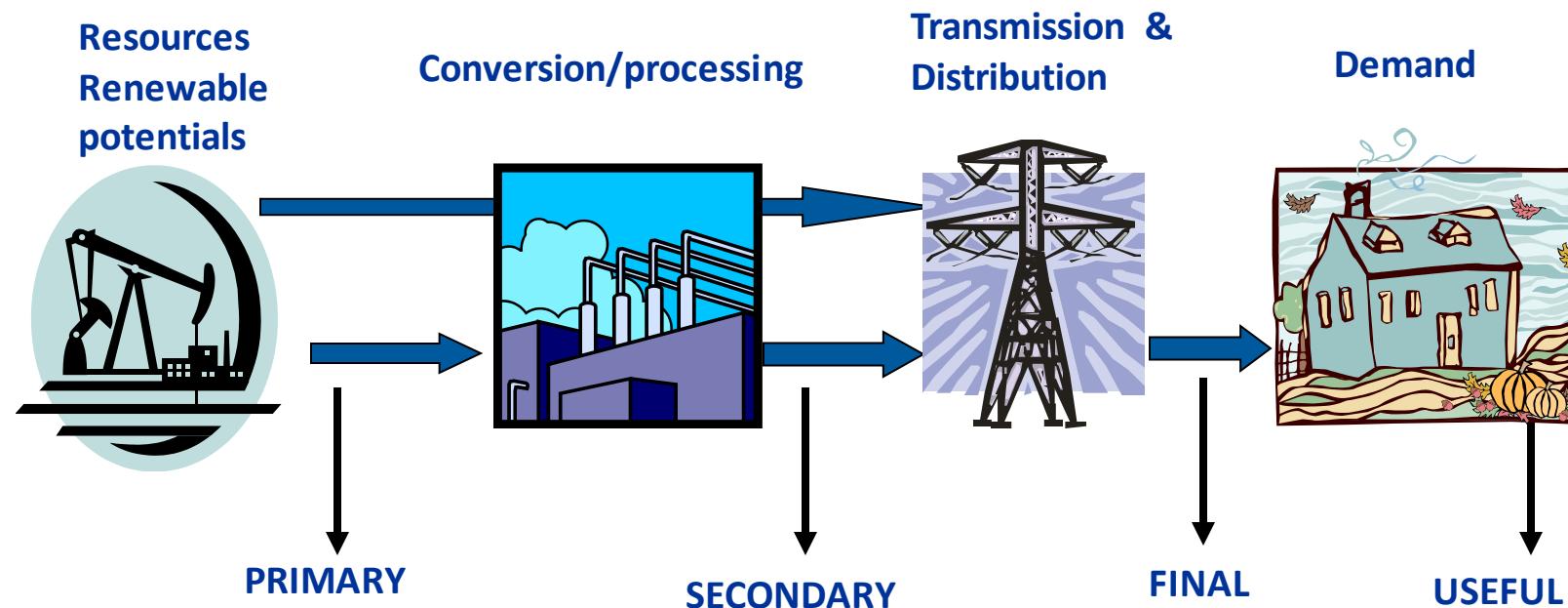
*Energy, Climate, and Environment (ECE) Program  
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria*

9 June 2021

# MESSAGEix Workshop, Previous Session

## *Recap...*

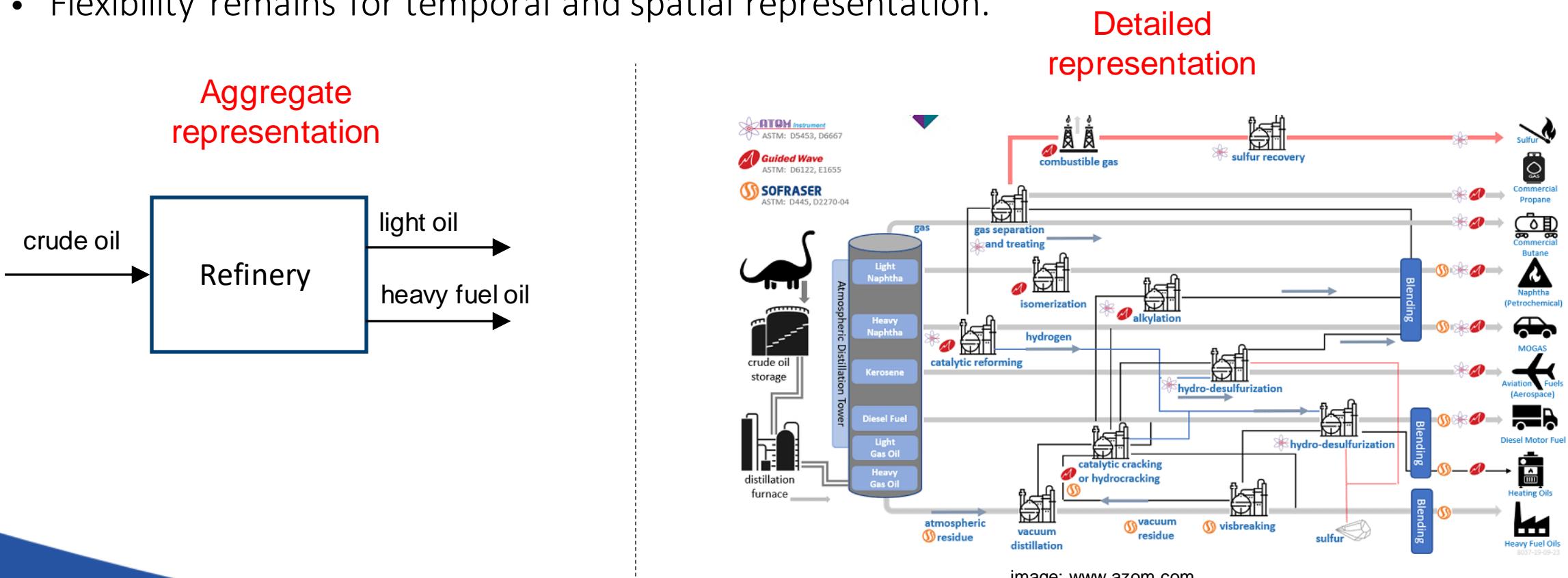
- MESSAGEix is a cost minimization model for energy planning
- A system of interlinked resources, technologies, commodities, levels, etc. to deliver certain services
- Getting familiar with Jupyter Notebook: building a simple model from scratch



# MESSAGEix: A flexible representation of the system

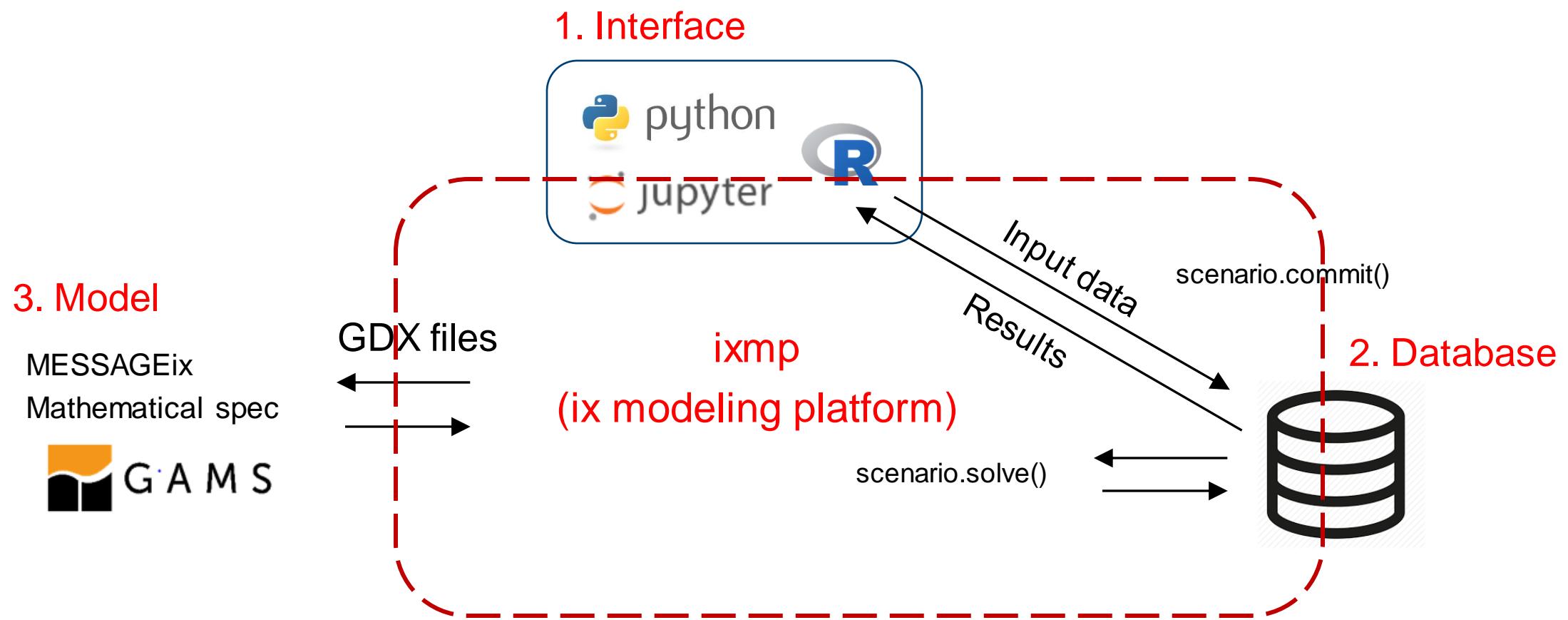
## Recap...

- There is no pre-defined sectors, technologies, commodities, etc.
- The level of technical detail depends on the user's preferences and research questions.
- Flexibility remains for temporal and spatial representation.



# The MESSAGE<sub>ix</sub> framework: Workflow of modeling

*Recap...*



# A tutorial to the MESSAGEix framework – Part 2

## *Agenda of this Session*

- Working with MESSAGEix tutorials (hands-on sessions):
  1. Reviewing Westeros Baseline as a simple energy system model
  2. Adding policies and constraints to a scenario

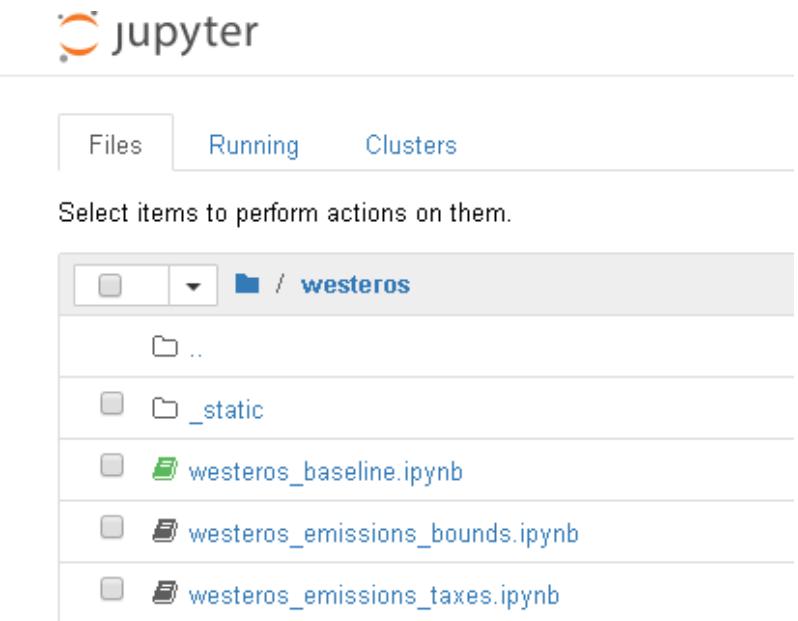
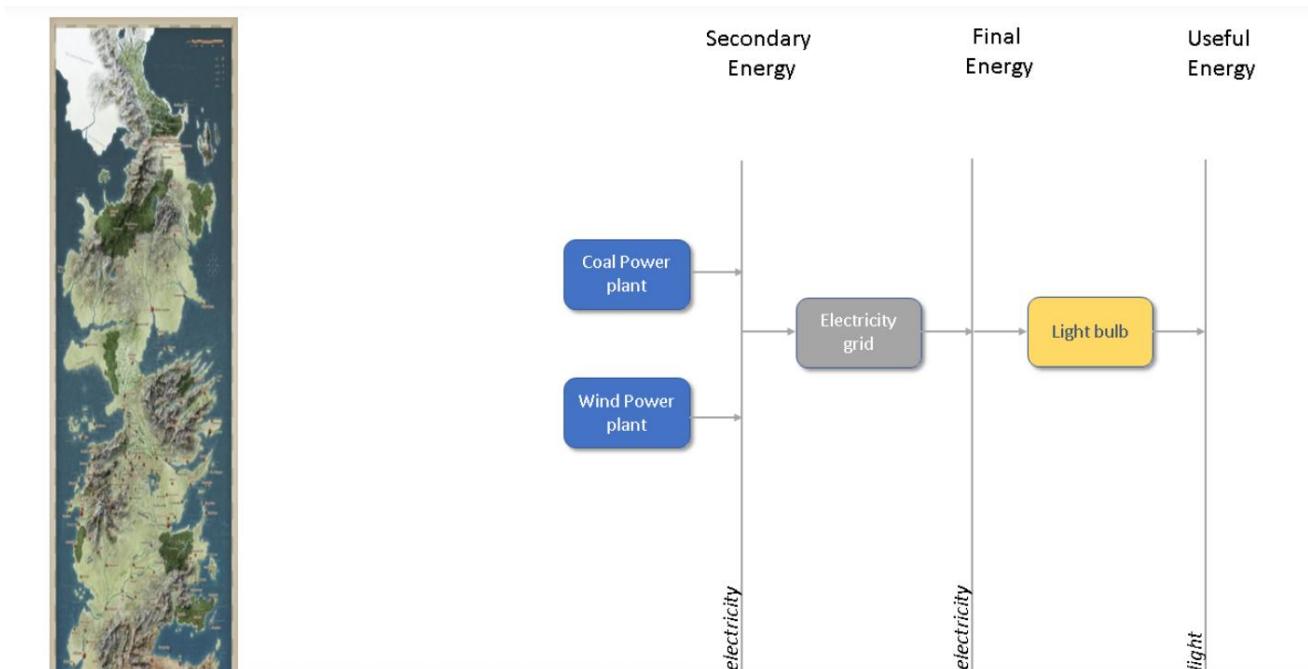
## The objective:

- Be able to find information on MESSAGEix sets, parameters, and equations
- Learn about MESSAGEix tutorials and their main features
- Be able to build a simple energy model using Jupyter Notebook
- Learn how to represent some general constraints and policies

# Working with tutorials

## *Building an energy system from scratch*

- Locate your tutorial folder in your machine
- Open an Anaconda command window, activate your message\_ix environment, and call *jupyter notebook*
- Navigate to the folder for Westeros tutorials and open the baseline



# Building a MESSAGEix model

## *Different steps of modeling*

- Creating a new scenario (or loading an existing one)
- Declaring required sets (*node, technology, commodity, level, etc.*)
- Defining required parameters (adding numeric data, relating sets to each other, etc.)
  - *demand*
  - *techno-economic parameters*
  - *bounds and dynamic constraints*
- Solving the model
- Postprocessing and plotting

# Working with MESSAGEix scenarios

## *A short note on model/scenarios*

- Importing required software packages

```
import ixmp
```

```
import message_ix
```



- Loading the ixmp platform (connection to the database):

```
mp = ixmp.Platform()
```



- Creating a new scenario:

```
my_scen = message_ix.Scenario(mp, model, scenario, version='new')
```

Modeling platform      model/scenario identifiers



Example: `model = 'building energy system'`, `scenario = 'baseline'` (or `'high-efficiency'`)



# Working with MESSAGEix scenarios

## *A short note on model/scenarios (2)*

Creating a new scenario

```
my_scen = message_ix.Scenario(mp, model, scenario, version='new')
```

Modeling  
platform

model/scenario identifiers

**Listing your scenarios**

```
mp.scenario_list()
```

model	scenario	version	default
MESSAGEix-mymodel	baseline	1	1
MESSAGEix-mymodel	baseline	2	0
MESSAGEix-mymodel	baseline	3	0
MESSAGEix-mymodel	low-emissions	1	1
MESSAGEix-mymodel	low-demand	1	1

**Loading scenarios**

```
my_scen = message_ix.Scenario(mp, model, scenario, version=3)
```

```
my_scen = message_ix.Scenario(mp, model, scenario) (loading the default version)
```



# Working with MESSAGEix scenarios

## *Adding, modifying, and removing data*

- Working with sets:

MESSAGEix set  
my\_scen.add\_set('technology', 'item')  
my\_scen.add\_set('technology', ['item1', 'item2'])

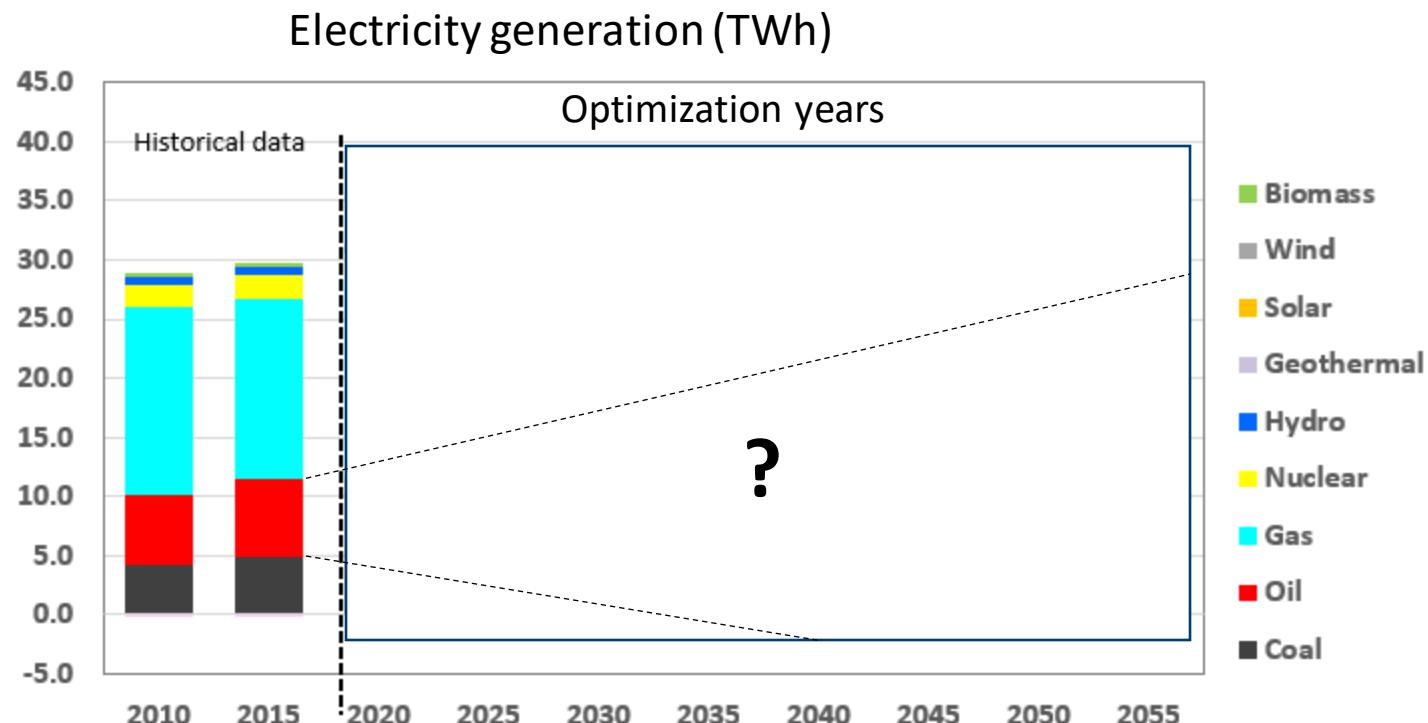
my\_scen.set('technology') → shows the content of a set  
my\_scen.remove\_set('technology', 'item2') → removes an item from a set

- Working with parameters:

MESSAGEix parameter  
my\_scen.add\_par('technical\_lifetime', df) → df is a Pandas DataFrame (like a table)  
my\_scen.par('technical\_lifetime') → shows the content of a parameter  
my\_scen.remove\_par('technical\_lifetime', df) → removes an item from a parameter

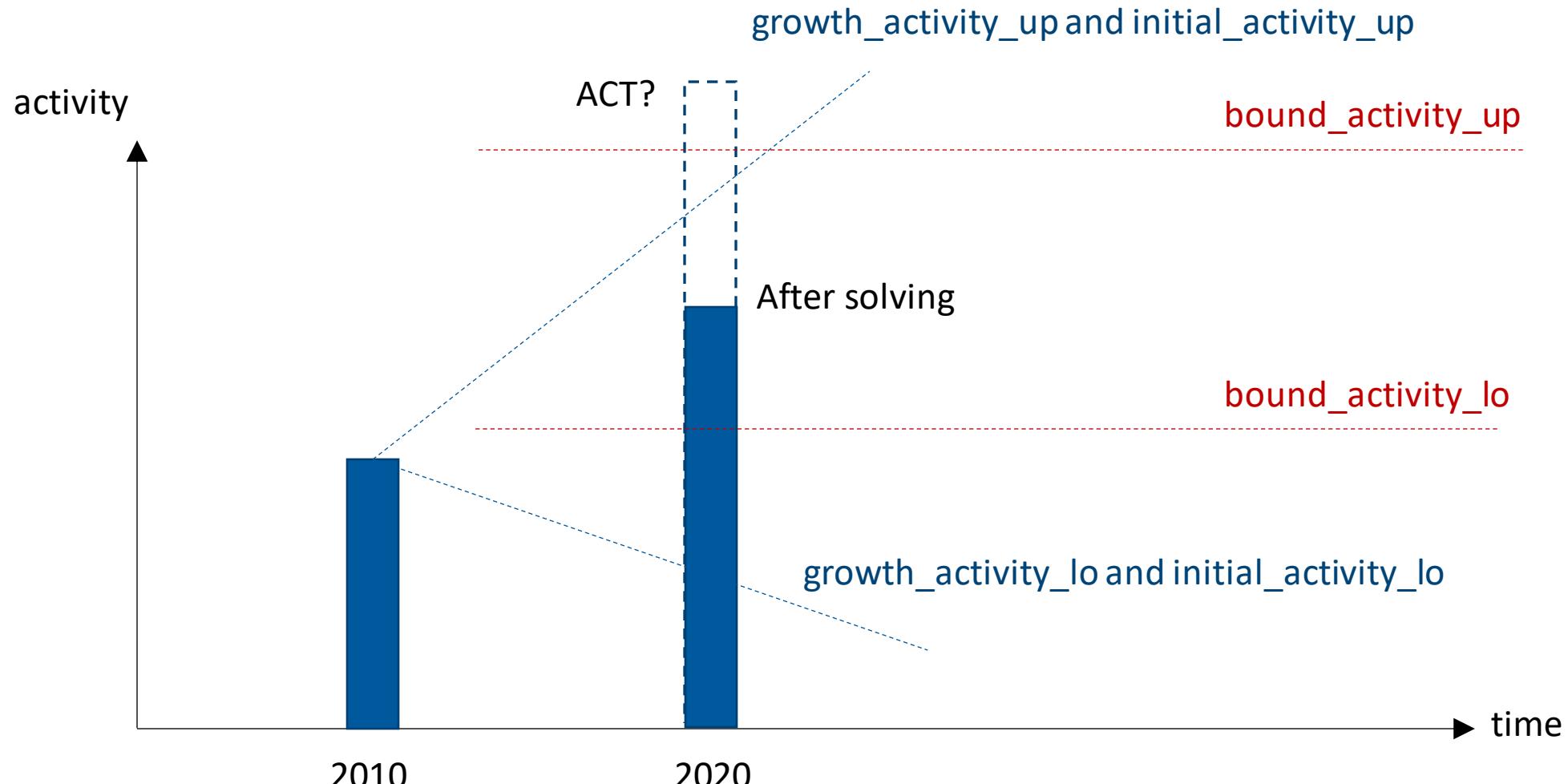
# The MESSAGE<sub>ix</sub> framework : Investment planning

*From historical activity/capacity to model years*



# Dynamic constraints

*Diffusion and contraction of technologies over time*



[Link to the documentation](#)

*Thank you very much for your attention!*

Dr. Behnam Zakeri  
Research Scholar – Energy Program  
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)  
Laxenburg, Austria  
[zakeri@iiasa.ac.at](mailto:zakeri@iiasa.ac.at)

This presentation is licensed under  
a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#)

