

Pilot-Scale Demonstration of Advanced Adiabatic Compressed Air Energy Storage

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Electricity Storage

Pumped hydro storage (PHS)





Electricity Storage

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Electricity Storage

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Advanced adiabatic compressed air energy storage (AA-CAES) 30°C 600°C **M**/G 30°C



Electricity Storage

Pumped hydro storage Advanced adiabatic (PHS) compressed air energy storage (AA-CAES) $\eta_{\text{cycle}} \thickapprox 80\text{-}85\%$ η_{cycle} ≈ 70-75% (real-life) (projected) M/G 30°C 600°C M/**G** 30°C



- Built by ALACAES in decommissioned tunnel
- Experiments with sensible and sensible/latent heat storage:
 - Capacity of sensible heat storage (SHS): 12 MWh
 - Capacity of latent heat storage (LHS): 171 kWh
- World firsts:
 - First AA-CAES pilot plant (no turbine)
 - First AA-CAES pilot plant with rock cavern (mostly unlined)
 - First pilot-scale experiments with combined SHS/LHS



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AA-CAES Pilot Plant: Cavern



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Geissbühler et al., *Pilot-scale demonstration of advanced adiabatic compressed air energy storage, Part 1: Plant description and tests with sensible thermal-energy storage*, in preparation

AA-CAES Pilot Plant: LHS



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Becattini et al., *Pilot-scale demonstration of advanced adiabatic compressed air energy storage, Part 2: Tests with combined sensible/latent thermal-energy storage,* in preparation

AA-CAES Pilot Plant: SHS



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Becattini et al., *Pilot-scale demonstration of advanced adiabatic compressed air energy storage, Part 2: Tests with combined sensible/latent thermal-energy storage,* in preparation

AA-CAES Pilot Plant: Efficiency

Run	Cycle	η_{TES}	$\eta_{ m plant,est}$
1	A1	90.3%	73.8%
	A2	83.0%	68.4%
	A3	76.1%	62.7%
2	A1	87.6%	70.2%
	A2	82.3%	66.2%
	B1	89.1%	69.6%
	B2	86.7%	69.7%
	C1	84.2%	70.4%
	C2	84.1%	70.2%
	C3	77.7%	65.2%

- Efficiency estimated for case of sensible TES only
- Assumptions:
 - Turbine modeled
 - $\eta_{s,comp} = \eta_{s,turb} = 0.85$
 - $\eta_{mot} = \eta_{gen} = 0.97$
- Efficiency w/o TES: up to 79.8%



Geissbühler et al., *Pilot-scale demonstration of advanced adiabatic compressed air energy storage, Part 1: Plant description and tests with sensible thermal-energy storage*, in preparation

Concluding Remarks & Outlook

- AA-CAES pilot plant demonstrated technical feasibility:
 - Mostly unlined cavern
 - Combined sensible/latent TES at temperatures up to 560°C
 - TES located inside cavern to simplify construction/reduce cost
 - Estimated plant efficiencies of 65-70% based on experimental data
- Focus shifting toward techno-economic analysis of industrial-scale plant:
 - Optimal plant configuration (power and capacity)
 - Optimal plant site in Switzerland (cavern, grid connection)



Concluding Remarks & Outlook





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AA-CAES Pilot Plant: LHS





Becattini et al., *Pilot-scale demonstration of advanced adiabatic compressed air energy storage, Part 2: Tests with combined sensible/latent thermal-energy storage,* in preparation

AA-CAES Pilot Plant: LHS





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Economic and Environmental Aspects

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Economic and Environmental Aspects



Abdon A. et al., Techno-economic and environmental assessment of stationary electricity storage technologies for different time scales, Energy, 139:1173-1187, 2017







