

Smart EV charging: Innovation co-creation for more solar miles and smooth grid integration

- Electric vehicles are on the rise, and so is EV charging.
- But some challenges remain for a sustainable system integration of large number of EV.
- We investigate the innovation eco-system spurring the development for smart and solar charging solutions.
- A qualitative model is developed to highlight the dynamics in the innovation eco system for smart and solar charging.

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Background

Three main challenges emerge from integrating a large number of EVs in a sustainable manner:

- (1) Attractive EV charging and easy access (Patt et al., 2019).
- (2) Charging with renewable energies (Bauer, 2019).
- (3) Avoiding unnecessary, expensive grid expansions (Muratori, 2018; Rüdüsüli et al., 2019).

Smart and solar charging are promising solution (IRENA, 2019).

Research Question

What are the socio-economic leverage points influencing innovation dynamics of business models for smart (solar) EV charging?

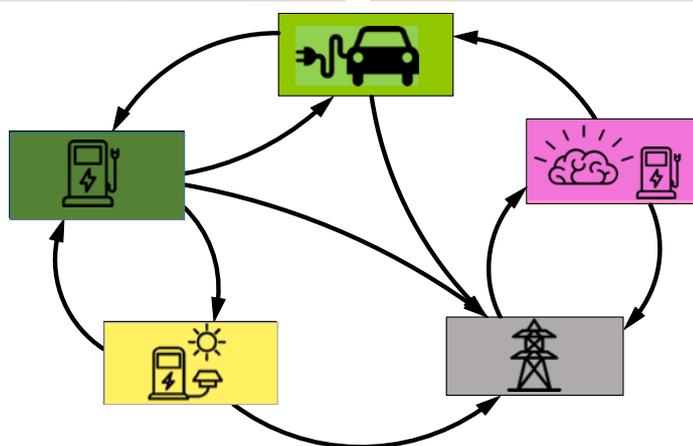
Method

Qualitative mixed method approach:

- Interviews with experts from the field
 - Literature review
 - Workshop with 22 participants elaborating extreme scenarios.
- Iterative development of a qualitative system dynamics model capturing the dynamics of the innovation eco system.

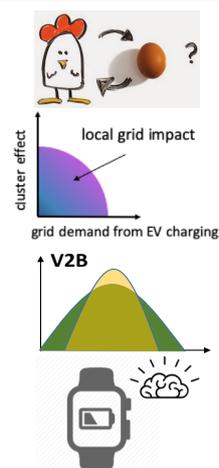


Overview model of the innovation eco system for smart charging



Key insights on dynamics of innovation co-creation of smart charging

- Financial attractiveness of public charging investments depends on user base, but EV diffusion depends on public charging infrastructure (Schroeder & Traber, 2012)
- Highly local effects can occur caused by consumer clusters. Even at low EV adoption rates heavy grid impacts can happen (Muratori, 2018).
- Solar charging at companies allow a better match of PV generation and EV charging.
- Smart charging will target to optimally coordinate charging time and power, but also the simultaneity effect.



References

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