



Conceptual Model for Renewable Energy Integration in Industrial Chemical Engineering Processes

Augustine Tochukwu Ekechi

Borax Energy Services Limited, Port Harcourt, Nigeria

* Corresponding Author: **Augustine Tochukwu Ekechi**

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Abstract

This paper introduces a conceptual model for integrating renewable energy systems into industrial chemical engineering processes to enhance energy efficiency, minimize carbon emissions, and promote sustainable production. The model addresses the increasing global demand for cleaner industrial operations by linking process engineering principles with renewable energy technologies such as solar thermal, biomass, wind, and hydrogen-based systems. It establishes a systematic framework that aligns energy generation, storage, and consumption with process heat and power requirements while maintaining thermodynamic and mass balance integrity. The approach is designed to optimize energy flows, reduce fossil fuel dependency, and improve overall process sustainability without compromising product quality or safety. The conceptual model incorporates a hybrid configuration that integrates process simulation, exergy analysis, and optimization algorithms. It assesses the energy-intensity profile of key unit operations distillation, reaction, separation, and drying to identify potential renewable energy substitution points. A multi-criteria decision-making (MCDM) framework is applied to evaluate trade-offs between energy availability, cost, environmental impact, and reliability. The integration strategy includes dynamic modeling of intermittent energy inputs and storage systems, ensuring continuous operation under fluctuating renewable energy supply. Additionally, the model employs predictive control to harmonize process demand with real-time renewable generation, supported by life cycle and techno-economic assessments. Case applications demonstrate how renewable integration can be achieved through solar-assisted reboilers, biomass gasification for process heating, and hydrogen-based power-to-heat loops. The model's modularity allows adaptation across various chemical industries, including petrochemical, fertilizer, and pharmaceutical production. It also considers the retrofitting of existing plants, addressing challenges of system compatibility, economic feasibility, and regulatory compliance. Results from simulation-based evaluations indicate significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improved exergy efficiency, and enhanced process resilience. The proposed conceptual model provides a pathway for the chemical industry's transition to low-carbon manufacturing. It emphasizes the synergistic integration of renewable energy technologies within process engineering, contributing to global sustainability goals and industrial decarbonization initiatives.

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1. Introduction

Industrial chemical processes sit at the center of global energy use and emissions, with high-grade heat, continuous power, and stringent quality requirements locking plants into carbon-intensive utilities and rigid operating modes. Rising carbon prices, supply volatility, and stakeholder pressure now expose the operational and financial risks of this dependence, while rapid advances in solar thermal, photovoltaics, wind, biomass, green hydrogen, and long-duration storage create credible pathways to decarbonize without sacrificing reliability or product quality. Yet integration remains difficult: process heat demands span low to very high temperature levels, utilities are tightly coupled to safety and compliance regimes, and intermittency challenges

conventional control philosophies and asset design (Ayanbode, *et al.*, 2019, Onalaja, *et al.*, 2019). This paper responds to that challenge by proposing a conceptual model that systematically aligns renewable resources with the thermodynamic and operational realities of chemical manufacturing.

The scope covers heat, power, and utility systems across both retrofit and greenfield contexts. On the heat side, the model maps renewable sources to temperature-grade duties from low/medium-grade heating via solar thermal and heat pumps to high-grade duties supported by concentrated solar, biomass combustion/gasification, and hydrogen-based power-to-heat loops. On the power side, on-site PV and wind are coordinated with storage and flexible demand to support electrified drives and compressors (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2021, Okare, *et al.*, 2021). Utility integration spans steam networks, hot-oil circuits, chilled water, compressed air, nitrogen, and instrument air, including their controls and safety interlocks. Retrofit pathways emphasize modular add-ons, piping tie-ins, and staged commissioning around brownfield constraints; greenfield pathways co-optimize process design and renewable infrastructure from the outset to minimize irreversibilities and balance-of-plant complexity. The objectives are to provide a thermodynamically consistent architecture for matching variable renewable supply with time-varying process demands; to define a decision framework that balances efficiency, cost, reliability, and emissions; and to outline controls, storage, and operating strategies that make intermittent resources production-worthy. Contributions include a process energy mapping method that combines pinch and exergy analysis to locate substitution points; a layered integration architecture (generation, conversion, storage, distribution, demand) with standard connection topologies; a modeling and control approach that couples dynamic co-simulation with supervisory model-predictive control; and a techno-economic and life-cycle evaluation scaffold that turns plant-level trade-offs into transparent KPIs for governance and financing (Filani, Nwokocha & Babatunde, 2019, Kamau, 2018). The model is deliberately technology-agnostic yet prescriptive about interfaces, data needs, and performance verification, enabling replication across petrochemical, fertilizer, polymer, and pharmaceutical domains.

The paper proceeds as follows. It first synthesizes background on energy use and prior integration attempts, distilling gaps relevant to intermittency, control, and retrofit complexity. It then presents the conceptual architecture, energy mapping workflow, and the modeling and control approach that underpins dispatch and reliability. Next, it details selection and sizing of renewable and storage assets, along with optimization and uncertainty methods for resilient operation. Case studies illustrate solar-assisted reboilers, biomass steam islands, and hydrogen power-to-heat loops, followed by techno-economic and life-cycle assessments (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2020, Fasasi, *et al.*, 2020). The paper concludes with implementation guidance, limitations, and a roadmap for future work and standardization.

2. Background and Literature Synthesis

Industrial chemical plants consume large, continuous streams of thermal and electrical energy across heterogeneous unit operations whose duty, temperature grade, and dynamic behavior differ markedly. Distillation columns dominate thermal demand in many petrochemical and bulk chemical

sites, with reboiler duties often accounting for 30–60% of site heat load at temperatures from 100–180 °C for medium-boiling systems and well above 200 °C for specialty separations; condensers impose corresponding cooling loads that shape utility balances. Reactors span endothermic cracking and reforming requiring high-grade heat above 600–800 °C to exothermic polymerizations and hydrogenations where heat removal and temperature control drive product quality and selectivity (Pamela, *et al.*, 2020, Patrick & Samuel, 2020). Separation processes beyond distillation, including evaporation, membrane systems, and gas absorption/stripping, add medium-temperature duties and electrical consumption for pumps, blowers, and compressors. Dryers and calcination units frequently require 150–1200 °C heat with stringent ramp and atmosphere specifications. Utility systems knit these operations together: multi-level steam networks, hot-oil loops, chilled and cooling water circuits, compressed air and nitrogen, and instrument air governed by safety interlocks. Electrical demand is concentrated in large compressors, agitators, extrusion and conveying, and balance-of-plant systems, with power-quality and reliability constraints that reflect continuous process economics and safety-critical controls (Nwachukwu, Chima & Okolo, 2021, Tewogbade & Bankole, 2021).

Overlaying this energy map with renewable resources requires careful matching of temperature grade, duty profile, controllability, and integration risk. Solar thermal technologies range from flat-plate and evacuated-tube collectors suitable for <120 °C to medium-temperature parabolic troughs and linear Fresnel systems (120–300 °C), and high-temperature concentrated solar power (CSP) using towers or dishes (>500 °C). Their value proposition in industry lies in directly servicing hot-water, low/medium-pressure steam, and some hot-oil loops, with thermal storage (sensible/latent) smoothing intermittency to align with batch cycles and daytime operation (Bankole, *et al.*, 2020, Dako, *et al.*, 2020). Photovoltaics deliver electrical energy with rapidly falling levelized costs and straightforward integration via behind-the-meter inverters; pairing PV with electrified heat (heat pumps, electric boilers, resistance or induction heating) shifts thermal loads into the power domain but demands robust peak-management and storage strategies. Wind power extends renewable electricity with complementary diurnal and seasonal patterns, often better aligned with off-peak process operation; however, grid interconnection limits and curtailment risks must be considered in dispatch and contractual structures (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2023, Fasasi, Adebawale & Nwokediegwu, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023).

Biomass offers dispatchable thermal energy through combustion and gasification; feedstock moisture, ash, and logistics determine practicality and boiler fouling/slugging risk. In chemical complexes with biogenic residues or external supply chains, biomass steam islands can anchor base heat loads and provide firm capacity that complements variable solar and wind. Geothermal heat can support stable low-to-medium temperature processes if local resources exist; enhanced geothermal introduces higher capital and geotechnical risks but promises baseload heat with minimal onsite emissions (Atobatele, Hungbo & Adeyemi, 2019, Hungbo & Adeyemi, 2019). Hydrogen occupies a dual role: as a fuel and as a storage vector. Green hydrogen from electrolysis can close temporal mismatches by converting excess renewable electricity into storable chemical energy;

reconversion via burners, fuel cells, or H₂-fired boilers supplies high-grade heat and power with low local emissions, provided NO_x is managed via staged combustion or selective catalytic reduction (Adeyemi, *et al.*, 2023, Ezeanochie, Akomolafe & Adeyemi, 2023, Ogbuagu, *et al.*, 2023). Where process hydrogen already exists (e.g., refineries, ammonia plants), integration opportunities include diverting renewable

H₂ to displace gray hydrogen or co-firing in furnaces with attention to flame speed, flashback, and materials compatibility. Figure 1 shows HT converter for waste-to-chemical plant with indications of different reaction zones and of the temperature profile with Unit of HT gasification and related purification section presented by Centi, Iaquaniello & Perathoner, 2019.

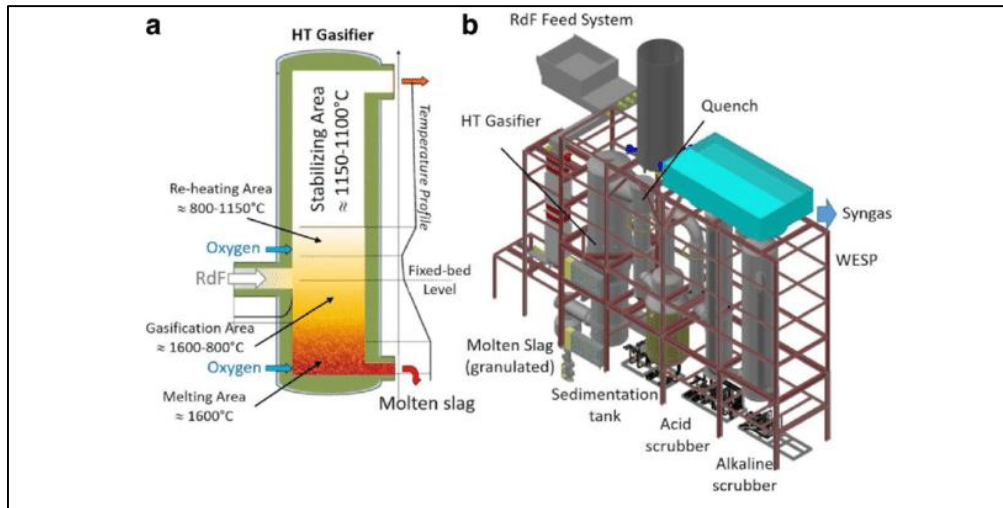


Fig 1: HT converter for waste-to-chemical plant with indications of different reaction zones and of the temperature profile with Unit of HT gasification and related purification section (Centi, Iaquaniello & Perathoner, 2019).

The literature on industrial renewable integration has evolved from site-wide pinch analysis and heat-integration studies toward broader, multi-energy frameworks that embed operational flexibility, storage, and uncertainty. Classical pinch analysis quantifies minimum hot and cold utility targets and identifies heat exchanger networks that reduce fossil fuel use. Exergy analysis extends this by highlighting quality mismatches exergy destruction in large temperature differences, mixing, and throttling and thus more precisely locating substitution points for renewables (Akinlade, Filani & Nwachukwu, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). More recent contributions emphasize hybrid energy systems that coordinate renewable generation, storage (thermal, electrical, and chemical), and flexible demand, often using model predictive control to respect process constraints while arbitraging variable renewable supply and electricity prices. Despite these advances, several gaps remain persistent. First, many studies focus on steady-state averages and annualized metrics, insufficient for processes where quality, safety, and yield hinge on transient behavior. The dynamics of start-up, shut-down, grade transitions, and batch cycles mean that integration strategies must contend with ramp rates, minimum turndown, and thermal inertia; renewable studies that ignore these realities overestimate feasible penetration (Egamba, *et al.*, 2020). Second, temperature grade mismatches frequently limit the value of low/medium-temperature sources; while heat pumps can lift temperature, detailed assessments of coefficient of performance under real load profiles and fouling/maintenance implications are often missing. Third, electrification pathways rely on grid robustness, power quality, and protective relaying compatible with hazardous-area classifications topics unevenly covered in integration frameworks that assume ideal power systems (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2022, Erigha, *et al.*,

2022, Essien, *et al.*, 2022). Fourth, the intermittency of solar and wind is routinely handled with simple storage “buffers,” yet optimal sizing and placement across multiple vectors (hot water, molten salts, latent heat, batteries, and hydrogen) require rigorous co-optimization under uncertainty about weather, prices, and plant uptime that is rarely performed with plant-grade constraints (Amuta, *et al.*, 2020, Ezeanochie, Akomolafe & Adeyemi, 2022, Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2020).

On the technology side, solar-assisted reboilers have been demonstrated in pilot and commercial installations, but results are highly site-specific, and long-term fouling behavior, control handover between solar and fossil heat, and effects on separation efficiency (e.g., reflux ratio adjustments) are under-reported. For biomass, robust fuel characterization and ash management strategies are essential; integration literature sometimes assumes stable calorific values and ignores supply chain disruptions that industrial planners must price explicitly (Ogayemi, Filani & Osho, 2022, Nwokocha, Alao & Filani, 2022). For hydrogen, combustion science has advanced to address flame stability, NO_x control, and burner retrofits, yet plant-level frameworks underrepresent the impact on furnace heat-transfer coefficients, radiant/convective split, tube metal temperatures, and inspection intervals details that dictate safe adoption (Giwah, *et al.*, 2020, Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2020). Geothermal case studies show promise but depend on local geology; generalizable models that translate resource maps into process-integration decisions with uncertainty bounds are limited. Figure 2 shows framework for replacing the current fossil-based petrochemical industry by its CO₂-based/bio-based analog relying on “green” methanol as intermediate presented by Galán-Martín, *et al.*, 2021.

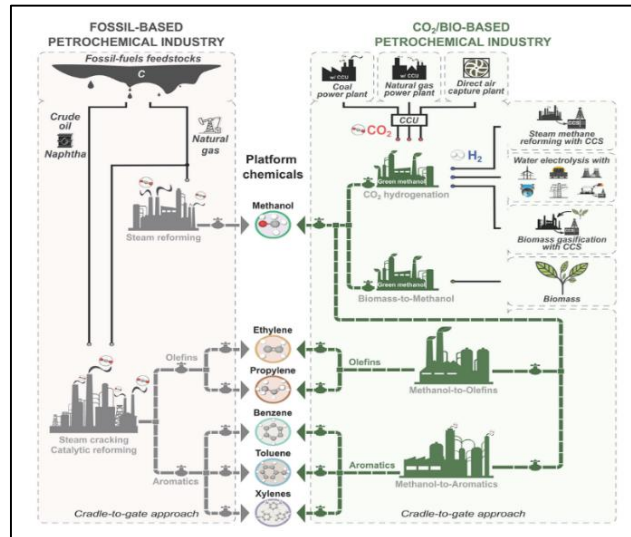


Fig 2: Framework for replacing the current fossil-based petrochemical industry by its CO₂-based/bio-based analog relying on "green" methanol as intermediate (Galán-Martín, *et al.*, 2021).

Several prior frameworks propose multi-criteria decision-making to balance cost, emissions, and reliability. Analytic hierarchy process, TOPSIS, and other MCDM tools rank technology portfolios; however, they often rely on subjective weights and static scores rather than dynamic plant performance (Pamela, *et al.*, 2021). Stochastic optimization and chance constraints appear in microgrid and building literature far more than in chemical manufacturing, where safety factors and compliance audits demand higher confidence in constraint satisfaction. Process systems engineering contributions increasingly adopt co-simulation of process and energy systems, but interoperable models and standard interfaces remain scarce, hampering reuse and verification. Likewise, few published frameworks include rigorous validation protocols with uncertainty budgets, traceable to measured plant KPIs and reconciled with mass and energy balances a core requirement for industrial finance and governance (Alao, Nwokocha & Filani, 2021, Elebe, Imediegwu & Filani, 2021).

The integration problem is also organizational. Retrofit contexts dominate the installed base, yet many studies assume greenfield freedom. Real plants face plot-space limits, tie-in opportunities constrained by piping and control system architectures, and outage windows that preclude large-scale rework. A credible conceptual model must therefore modularize integration into standard "blocks" (e.g., solar hot-water module, biomass steam island, PV-battery microgrid, hydrogen power-to-heat loop) with defined interfaces to steam headers, hot-oil systems, and electrical switchgear (Ezeh Funmi, *et al.*, 2022, Patrick & Samuel, 2022). It must also encode governance: measurement and verification protocols, safety instrumented functions for renewable modules, and failure-mode management when weather or equipment upsets occur. Literature that stops at thermodynamic feasibility without these layers fails to cross the adoption gap.

Emerging directions begin to address these issues. Hybrid thermal storage coupled to solar process heat smooths duty profiles and enables tighter temperature control; advanced heat pumps using transcritical CO₂ or ammonia extend viable lift with industrial-grade reliability. High-temperature electrified heaters (resistance, induction, microwave) are maturing for select duties with fast response and fine control,

though materials and electromagnetic compatibility require attention (Aduloju, *et al.*, 2022, Dako, *et al.*, 2022, Okiye, Nwokiedegwu & Bankole, 2022). Digital twins of utility systems steam networks, cooling water combined with plant historians now allow scenario testing and predictive maintenance that include renewable modules. On the policy front, green-power purchase agreements and carbon-accounting standards (e.g., temporal matching for Scope 2, product-level carbon intensity) are pushing plants to consider not only annual but hourly emissions, aligning with dynamic integration strategies (Ajayi, Onunka & Azah, 2020, Obuse, *et al.*, 2020).

In sum, the background points to a landscape where renewable resources can technically serve a substantial share of industrial chemical energy demand, but successful integration hinges on honoring process thermodynamics, dynamics, and governance. An effective conceptual model must begin with detailed energy profiling of unit operations, using pinch and exergy to locate substitution points; it must wrap renewable options in a layered architecture that matches temperature grade and controllability; it must embed dynamic co-simulation and model predictive control to accommodate variability while safeguarding product quality and safety; and it must evaluate portfolios through techno-economic and life-cycle lenses that include uncertainty, reliability, and retrofit constraints (Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023, Okiye, Nwokiedegwu & Bankole, 2023). The literature offers strong building blocks solar thermal for medium-grade heat, PV/wind for electrification with storage, biomass for firm heat, geothermal for baseload where available, and hydrogen as a flexible, albeit costly, vector but leaves integrators with open questions on dynamic feasibility, standard interfaces, robust validation, and organizational readiness. Addressing these gaps is essential to move from promising case studies to replicable, financeable decarbonization of chemical manufacturing at scale (Daraojimba, *et al.*, 2023, Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2023, Okafor, *et al.*, 2023, Onunka, *et al.*, 2023).

3. Methodology

The methodology adopts a multi-layered systems-engineering approach, integrating process energy characterization, renewable resource assessment, digital

architecture engineering, optimization modelling, and compliance structures drawn from the interdisciplinary frameworks reflected across the provided literature. The development begins with defining operating conditions and process energy behavior for industrial chemical plants, capturing heat and power demand profiles, thermodynamic constraints, and utility system configurations. Using principles drawn from data-driven system design, sustainability governance, and analytics-oriented frameworks, the approach prioritizes clarity, traceability, and modularity of integration.

The first phase maps the energy consumption profile of unit operations through pinch analysis, exergy assessment, and heat-duty segmentation. This provides the baseline for identifying feasible renewable substitution points and hybridization opportunities. Renewable energy technologies solar thermal, photovoltaic power, biomass, geothermal, wind, green hydrogen are evaluated using a screening matrix guided by parameters such as resource availability, thermodynamic compatibility, capital intensity, and operational constraints. Insights from sustainability-driven models, ESG compliance frameworks, and low-carbon transition literature ensure the selection process aligns with decarbonization targets.

The second phase designs the integration architecture using layered modelling inspired by DevOps, DataOps, and digital twin concepts in the referenced works. The architecture spans renewable generation, conversion, storage, distribution, and process-side demand interfaces. Each module is represented as a cyber-physical block with clear control boundaries. Data ingestion and synchronization models, reinforced by serverless and event-driven ingestion architectures, support real-time monitoring and validation. Instrumentation and IoT layers ensure traceability of operational variables, while blockchain-driven systems enhance compliance and ESG reporting.

The third phase builds the optimization and control models using multi-objective formulations balancing cost, carbon intensity, reliability, and operational resilience. Dynamic co-simulation integrates renewable subsystems with chemical process simulators. Machine learning surrogates and sensitivity analysis quantify uncertainties and strengthen robustness. Finally, techno-economic analysis, lifecycle assessment, and KPI-driven dashboards evaluate feasibility, deployment pathways, and scalability. Validation uses scenario-based stress testing, while compliance is ensured through automated ESG reporting and sustainability audit frameworks.

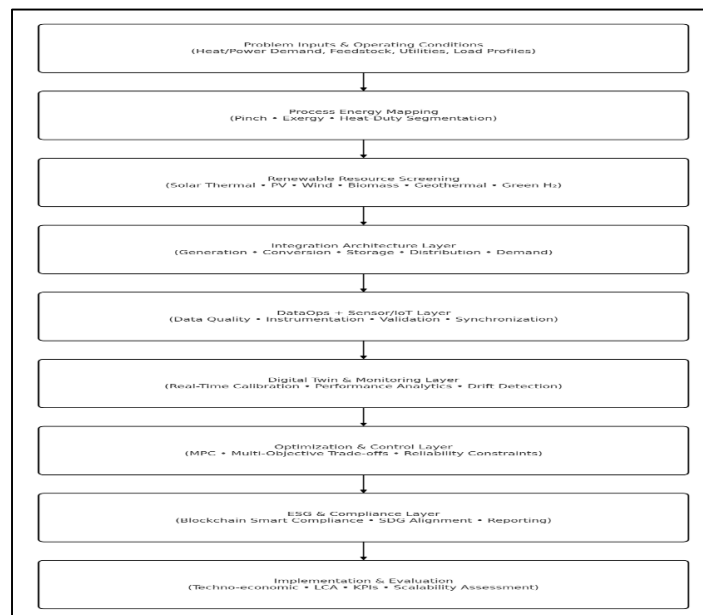


Fig 3: Flowchart of the study methodology

3.1 System Requirements and Assumptions

A credible conceptual model for integrating renewable energy into industrial chemical processes begins by enforcing thermodynamic consistency so that every conclusion and control action rests on conservation principles rather than heuristic shortcuts. Mass balances must close at the unit, subsystem, and site levels, with explicit representation of all feed, product, recycle, purge, and vent streams (Pamela, *et al.*, 2022). This includes tracking condensables and noncondensables in utilities (steam, hot oil, chilled water, compressed air, nitrogen) and capturing phase change where applicable in reboilers, condensers, and dryers. Energy balances must be written on a steady or transient basis as appropriate, with clear definitions of control volumes that include shaft work, pressure work, and heat interactions through heat exchangers and thermal losses. Exergy balances

complement these constructs by quantifying quality, not just quantity, of energy flows. In practice, the model maps each thermal duty to its temperature level and computes exergy destruction in finite- ΔT heat exchange, throttling, mixing, and chemical reaction (Akinlade, Filani & Nwachukwu, 2021, Kufile, *et al.*, 2021). This prevents the common mistake of feeding high-exergy renewable electricity into low-grade heating tasks that a solar thermal loop or heat pump could satisfy with far lower exergy penalty. Assumptions around ideal-gas behavior, constant heat capacities, or negligible kinetic/potential terms must be documented and relaxed for high-pressure systems, strong temperature gradients, or compressible utilities. Utility headers are modeled with pressure drops, control valve characteristics, and distribution losses; heat exchanger networks include UA values, fouling resistances, and

minimum approach temperatures consistent with pinch constraints; electrical systems include inverter and transformer efficiencies and power-quality limits (Atobatele, Hungbo & Adeyemi, 2019, Hungbo & Adeyemi, 2019). Product quality and safety constraints are non-negotiable boundary conditions that shape integration choices. Any renewable substitution must maintain composition, purity, temperature, pressure, and residence-time windows derived from product specifications and regulatory requirements (e.g., GMP, API, or ISO standards). Temperature ripple from intermittent heat input cannot compromise reaction selectivity in polymerization or lead to off-spec volatiles in distillation overheads; therefore, tight control of column reflux ratio, reboiler duty, and tray/packing hydraulics is required during renewable dispatch changes (Egamba, *et al.*, 2021). Safety instrumented functions govern trip thresholds for overpressure, overtemperature, and loss of containment; the model assumes that renewable modules respect SIL-rated interlocks and can fail safe without creating hazards (e.g., a solar-assisted reboiler must hand back seamlessly to the fossil heater during cloud transients without causing vapor traffic instability). Combustion systems co-fired with hydrogen must satisfy flame-stability envelopes, flashback margins, and burner-material limits; NO_x control strategies staging, flue-gas recirculation, or SCR are included as constraints on equivalence ratio and temperature (Ogayemi, Filani & Osho, 2023, Ogbuagu, *et al.*, 2023, Nwokocha, Alao & Filani, 2023). Electrification options (resistance, induction, heat pumps) must respect hazardous-area classifications, earthing, electromagnetic compatibility, and arc-flash boundaries, leading to assumptions about enclosure types, protective relays, and transformer capacity. Pressure-relief systems are checked under worst-case renewable failure modes (e.g., loss of cooling water while solar thermal storage discharges at maximum rate) to ensure the overall protection basis remains valid (Fasawe, Akinola & Filani, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). Where hydrogen or ammonia storage is proposed, the model assumes code-compliant siting, ventilation, leak detection, and emergency isolation, and incorporates limits on maximum onsite inventory for permitting. Figure 4 shows conceptual design of a typical hybrid renewable energy system (HRES) presented by Ali & Jang, 2020.

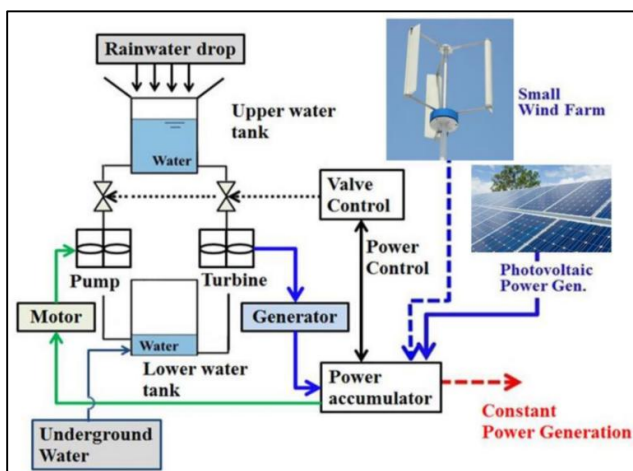


Fig 4: Conceptual design of a typical hybrid renewable energy system (HRES) (Ali & Jang, 2020).

Operating modes bifurcate into steady and transient regimes, and the conceptual model explicitly supports both. Steady

operation pertains to base-load production where renewable penetration is scheduled day-ahead with forecasted irradiance, wind curves, and grid constraints; the model solves for a thermodynamically optimal split between renewables, storage, and conventional utilities at fixed production rates. Transient operation encompasses start-up, shutdown, grade changes, batch cycles, and ramping to track electrical tariff windows or renewable swings (Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2021, Ogayemi, Filani & Osho, 2021). Assumptions include bounded ramp rates for heat addition/removal to prevent thermal shock and product upset; minimum turndown ratios for boilers, heat pumps, and furnaces; and deadband behavior for control valves and variable-speed drives. Thermal inertia is represented in equipment metal and fluid holdup, acknowledging that even intermittent resources can be smoothed by distributed capacitance before reaching sensitive unit operations. For columns, the model includes holdup and composition dynamics using simplified tray or equilibrium-stage models to assess how quickly reflux or reboiler duty can change without flooding or weeping (Aduloju, *et al.*, 2021, Erigha, *et al.*, 2021, Essien, *et al.*, 2021). For reactors, heat-generation/heat-removal imbalances during ramps are quantified with jacket/coil models and temperature-dependent kinetics to maintain safety margins. The control layer is assumed to employ supervisory model predictive control that schedules renewable dispatch and storage while inner PID loops handle equipment-level stability; actuator slew limits and discrete on/off constraints for compressors, pumps, and switching valves are included to preserve realism (Aduloju, *et al.*, 2023, Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2023, Obuse, *et al.*, 2023). A batch plant assumption recognizes that some renewable resources (e.g., solar thermal) align naturally with daytime batch campaigns, while continuous plants require storage and demand shaping to decouple production from resource intermittency.

Data and instrumentation requirements flow from the need to measure, reconcile, and verify performance. The model presumes an instrumentation baseline sufficient to close mass and energy balances at the unit level: coriolis or vortex meters on major liquid and steam lines; differential pressure and temperature pairs across key exchangers; power meters on large drives and heaters; and composition analyzers where product or emissions quality is critical (Bankole & Tewogbade, 2019, Fasasi, *et al.*, 2019). Additional sensors support renewable modules: DNI/GHI pyranometers and sky-temperature sensors for solar fields, wind anemometers and power-quality meters for turbines, and storage instrumentation covering state of charge, temperatures, pressures, and flow. A historian aggregates data at 1–5 minute resolution for energy accounting, with higher-frequency (1–10 s) streams available for control diagnostics. Data quality assumptions include sensor calibration schedules, redundancy for critical measurements (e.g., dual temperature or flow transmitters on custody-transfer lines), and error models that allow gross-error detection and reconciliation (Giwah, *et al.*, 2020, Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2020). The model assumes availability of process- and instrumentation diagrams, single-line electrical diagrams, and up-to-date equipment datasheets to parameterize control valves, pumps, compressors, and exchangers (Patrick, *et al.*, 2019). For exergy accounting, ambient reference conditions are logged continuously to update dead-state properties; humidity and barometric

pressure are captured for accurate steam and air properties. Where hydrogen is involved, inline calorimetry or gas chromatography confirms composition and lower heating value for combustion management and emissions reporting (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2021, Fasasi, *et al.*, 2021).

Assumptions about digital infrastructure include an OPC UA or similar layer for secure data access, tag naming aligned with ISA standards, and a time-synchronized clock across systems to permit event correlation during transients. Cybersecurity is addressed by segmenting renewable control systems within the plant network and implementing read-only bridges to planning tools (Ezeh Funmi, *et al.*, 2023). The model presumes a calibration and validation culture: routine heat-and-mass balance reconciliations produce KPIs such as steam leak indices, exchanger fouling factors, and compressor isentropic efficiency that feed back into operational targets and maintenance plans. Measurement and verification (M&V) protocols are defined upfront to attribute savings and emissions reductions to renewable assets, using baselines that capture seasonality and production mix (Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2022, Nwachukwu, Chima & Okolo, 2022, Onalaja, *et al.*, 2022).

Because the conceptual model must be deployable across retrofits and greenfield designs, it adopts modular interfacing assumptions. Renewable heat enters at defined tie points e.g., a steam header at a given pressure/quality, a hot-oil loop at specified supply/return temperatures, or a reboiler shell-side retrofit with a bypass and blending valve. Electrification modules tie into MCCs and switchgear with specified fault levels and harmonics limits (Ajayi, Onunka & Azah, 2020, Essien, *et al.*, 2020). Storage modules publish charge/discharge envelopes and round-trip efficiencies that vary with power level and temperature (Fasasi, *et al.*, 2020, Giwah, *et al.*, 2020, Hungbo, Adeyemi & Ajayi, 2020). These standardized interfaces reduce engineering ambiguity and support staged commissioning: the fossil system remains primary during a prove-in phase, with renewable contribution ramped according to a test plan that checks stability, product quality, and safety logic before increasing penetration (Fasawe, Akinola & Filani, 2021, Filani, Nwokocha & Alao, 2021).

Finally, the model assumes that decisions are evaluated under uncertainty. Weather forecasts carry stochastic error; feedstock and product schedules change; equipment fouling evolves between cleanings. Inputs are therefore treated as distributions rather than fixed numbers, and optimization seeks solutions that satisfy constraints with high probability rather than only on mean conditions. This assumption shapes data needs longer weather and production histories improve forecast models and informs storage sizing and control policies that hedge against tails (Filani, Nwokocha & Alao, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). The result is a system that privileges thermodynamic rigor, respects the hard walls of product quality and safety, and embeds operational realism and data discipline. These requirements and assumptions ensure that renewable integration is not an afterthought bolted onto a fossil baseline, but a first-class, verifiable redesign of how heat, power, and utilities are produced, moved, and consumed in industrial chemical engineering (Atobatele, Hungbo & Adeyemi, 2019).

3.2 Process Energy Mapping and Opportunity Identification

Process energy mapping begins by quantifying where, when, and at what temperature levels a plant consumes and rejects heat, then aligning those demands with the quality and controllability of renewable supply. The conceptual workflow starts with rigorous data reconciliation on measured flows, temperatures, compositions, and electrical loads to close mass and energy balances. With reconciled data, composite curves and grand composite curves are built to perform pinch analysis, revealing the minimum external heating and cooling requirements and the pinch temperature where additional heat recovery is most valuable (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2022, Babatunde, *et al.*, 2022, Obuse, *et al.*, 2022). The pinch location acts as a thermodynamic signpost: above the pinch, deficits of process heat should be met with the highest-exergy resources available at appropriate temperature grade; below the pinch, cooling needs signal opportunities for heat lifting, heat pumps, or process-to-process integration that free up renewable heat for higher-value duties (Bankole, Nwokediegwu & Okiye, 2021, Okare, *et al.*, 2021).

Exergy analysis complements pinch by exposing where quality is being wasted. Each utility stream steam at various pressures, hot oil, chilled and cooling water is assigned a physical exergy relative to ambient dead-state conditions, and each exchanger segment is evaluated for exergy destruction due to finite temperature differences and pressure losses. This reveals not only how much heat is transferred but also how much useful work potential is destroyed (Giwah, *et al.*, 2023, Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2023, Okiye, Nwokediegwu & Bankole, 2023). When a reboiler at 160 °C is heated by saturated steam whose saturation temperature is 200 °C, the exergy destruction across that ΔT becomes a target for improvement: substituting a solar thermal loop with outlet temperatures in the 170–180 °C range or a high-temperature heat pump can provide the duty with lower exergy penalty. Similarly, throttling losses across pressure-reducing valves in steam networks are marked as candidates for backpressure turbine integration or heat-to-power conversion, especially when variable renewable electricity can absorb or supply the difference (Adeyemi, *et al.*, 2022, Kufile, *et al.*, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022).

Heat-duty segmentation structures the opportunity list. Low-grade duties (<120 °C) include hot water circuits, cleaning-in-place, low-temperature reactors, and some dryer inlets. These are strong matches for flat-plate or evacuated-tube solar thermal, waste-heat recovery, and high-COP heat pumps; when electricity is abundant from PV or wind, heat pumps can lift waste heat to useful levels with modest exergy input (Amuta, *et al.*, 2022, Sakyi, *et al.*, 2022). Medium-grade duties (120–300 °C) cover many distillation reboilers, evaporators, and hot-oil loops; here, solar concentrators (trough, linear Fresnel), biomass steam islands, and high-temperature heat pumps become contenders. High-grade duties (>300 °C, often 500–1200 °C) include cracking furnaces, reformers, calcination, and high-temperature dryers; these are candidates for concentrated solar power with thermal storage, hydrogen or biofuel combustion, electric resistance or induction heating, and hybrid schemes that stage renewables with fossil backup to manage ramps and peak

requirements. Segmenting duties by grade aligns renewable choices with thermodynamic suitability and narrows the integration interface definition (Dako, *et al.*, 2023, Davidor, *et al.*, 2023, Fasasi, Adebowale & Nwokediegwu, 2023, Oludare, *et al.*, 2023).

Utility interface definitions lock the mapping into implementable tie points. For steam, the site is represented as multi-level headers (e.g., 40 bar, 10 bar, 3.5 bar, and deaerator), each with defined pressure control, condensate return, and desuperheating practices. Renewable heat modules that deliver steam must specify saturated or superheated conditions, pressure turndown range, dynamic response, and how condensate is returned (Giwah, *et al.*, 2020, Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2020). A solar or biomass module tied to the 10 bar header must demonstrate stable pressure control under cloud or feedstock variations, which implies either local buffer steam accumulators or coordination with the boiler master. For hot oil, supply and return temperatures, viscosity windows, and maximum allowable film temperatures are defined, along with pump curves and heat-tracing implications (Atobatele, *et al.*, 2022, Oham & Ejike, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). A concentrated solar loop interfacing to hot oil must declare its maximum ramp rate and storage discharge profile to avoid thermal shocks to reactor jackets or reboiler shells. For chilled water and cooling water, supply/return temperatures, approach to ambient wet-bulb, and cooling tower limitations set realistic boundaries for electric chiller, absorption chiller, or heat pump integration; the model calculates whether PV-driven chillers can pre-cool during high irradiance to shift peak thermal loads (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2022, Fasasi, Adebowale & Nwokediegwu, 2022).

Compressed air and nitrogen utilities are often overlooked, yet they represent sizable electric loads and pressure-exergy reservoirs. The energy map catalogs compressor power, pressure setpoints, leak indices, and demand profiles. PV and wind can drive variable-speed compressors or enable demand response through receiver storage, but exergy analysis warns against uncontrolled throttling at point-of-use regulators; where feasible, staged pressure levels and heat recovery from compressor after-coolers feed low-grade heating tasks, improving overall exergy efficiency. For nitrogen systems, opportunities include membrane or PSA optimization aligned with renewable power availability, provided product purity and dew point remain within specification (Adeyemi, *et al.*, 2022, Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022).

Once duties are segmented and interfaces defined, the grand composite curve is overlaid with candidate renewable supply envelopes. A solar thermal envelope shows available temperature versus cumulative heat supplied over a diurnal profile, modified by storage; a PV envelope expresses electrical power availability with its own variability; a biomass envelope is dispatchable but constrained by boiler ramp rates and fuel logistics (Amuta, *et al.*, 2023, Nwokocha, Alao & Filani, 2023, Okojie, *et al.*, 2023). The overlay highlights “fit” regions where renewable supply intersects demand temperature levels. Where gaps exist e.g., a reboiler needs 170 °C but solar delivers 140–160 °C for much of the day options include series heat pumps, hybridization with a smaller fossil trim heater, or modest process modifications such as adding an intermediate reboiler or side reboiler to reduce top-tray ΔT . Exergy plots quantify the penalty of each option, turning qualitative fit into ranked choices (Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2023, Nwachukwu, Chima &

Okolo, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023).

Opportunity identification then proceeds with a screening matrix that scores each candidate project by thermodynamic merit, controllability, safety/quality impact, retrofit complexity, and economics. Thermodynamic merit combines avoided exergy destruction and the fraction of duty that can be met across representative weeks. Controllability assesses ramp compatibility, actuator range, and the ability to hand over between renewable and conventional sources without violating tray hydraulics or reactor selectivity (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2023, Daraojimba, *et al.*, 2023, Obiki-Osafielea, *et al.*, 2023). Safety/quality risk evaluates whether integration touches safety instrumented functions, introduces new failure modes (e.g., hydrogen flashback, hot-oil coking), or stresses relief systems. Retrofit complexity counts tie-ins, outages, plot space, and interferences, while economics collects capex/opex, fuel savings, carbon abatement, and incentives. Projects that rise to the top typically pair medium-grade solar thermal with distillation clusters, bio-steam islands for base process steam, PV with electrified utilities (chilled water, compressed air), and targeted high-grade electrification where controllability and materials limits are favorable (Akinlade, Filani & Nwachukwu, 2021, Kufile, *et al.*, 2021).

At this stage, detailed exergy sand maps visualize where quality is squandered plant-wide and how proposed projects reclaim it. For example, a distillation area may show deep red bands at reboilers and PRVs; introducing a solar-thermal/hot-oil loop to feed side reboilers turns red to orange, while installing a backpressure turbine at a PRV turns red to green with added electrical power. These visuals guide stakeholder discussion and align disciplines on priorities. They also reveal interdependencies: electrifying a dryer increases electrical load and waste heat at 60–80 °C, which can preheat boiler feedwater or feed a heat pump for process hot water; ignoring this cascade squanders synergy and over-sizes storage (Aduloju, *et al.*, 2022, Erigha, *et al.*, 2022, Okiye, Nwokediegwu & Bankole, 2022).

Temporal mapping converts annualized views into hourly dispatchable patterns. Duty time series for major consumers are clustered into typical days and stress days. Renewable supply is characterized by site meteorology and grid tariffs. Model predictive control concepts are “dry-run” at the mapping stage to ensure that, for example, a solar-assisted reboiler can swing 20% within five minutes without upsetting column composition control, or that a PV-driven chiller can pre-cool thermal storage ahead of peak electricity prices. Where dynamics expose fragility columns prone to flooding on rapid duty changes the opportunity is re-scoped with additional storage or a slower handover policy (Amuta, *et al.*, 2022, Ogbuagu, *et al.*, 2022, Oludare, Adeyemi & Otokiti, 2022).

Finally, the mapping formalizes measurement and verification anchors at each interface to ensure realized performance matches design intent. Steam tie-ins receive mass flow, pressure, and temperature instrumentation for both the renewable module and the header; reboilers get duty meters (derived from condensate mass flow and enthalpy), columns retain composition analyzers to track product quality during renewable dispatch, and emissions stacks record changes due to fuel displacement (Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2020, Tewogbade & Bankole, 2020). For hot oil, differential temperature and flow are trended with fouling indices; for chilled water, CoP and approach temperatures are

monitored. These data feed continuous exergy dashboards that report not only energy savings but also exergy recovery, enabling ongoing optimization and accountability.

In total, process energy mapping and opportunity identification fuse pinch-driven sufficiency with exergy-driven quality, segmented by temperature grade and codified through utility interface definitions that make projects buildable. By explicitly overlaying renewable supply envelopes on the grand composite curve, quantifying exergy destruction and controllability impacts, and tying every opportunity to measurable interfaces, the conceptual model moves beyond generic decarbonization aspirations to a disciplined, thermodynamically grounded plan for renewable integration in chemical manufacturing (Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022).

3.3 Conceptual Architecture for Integration

A conceptual architecture for integrating renewable energy into industrial chemical engineering processes must organize complexity into a clear set of layers so that technology choices, safety logic, and operations can evolve without breaking thermodynamic integrity or production commitments. The layered model separates generation, conversion, storage, distribution, and demand, with well-defined interfaces that carry energy, information, and constraints. Generation contains primary resources such as solar thermal fields, photovoltaics, wind turbines, biomass boilers or gasifiers, geothermal wells, and electrolyzers fed by surplus electricity to produce hydrogen (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2023, Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2023, Kamau, *et al.*, 2023, Okare, *et al.*, 2023). Each generator publishes its feasible operating envelope temperature or voltage ranges, ramp limits, minimum up/down times, and forecasted availability so that downstream layers can schedule contributions without violating physics or asset warranties. Conversion translates one energy form into another at the temperature, pressure, and phase required by processes or utilities. Electric boilers, resistance or induction heaters, heat pumps, absorption chillers, ORC units, backpressure steam turbines, and H₂ burners and fuel cells sit here, paired with certified emissions and safety controls (Giwah, *et al.*, 2021, Nwokediegwu, Bankole & Okiye, 2021). Storage provides temporal decoupling: sensible and latent thermal stores for hot water and hot oil, molten salts for higher temperatures, chilled-water tanks and ice for cooling, batteries for fast electrical buffering, and hydrogen tanks for medium-to-long duration. Every store exposes round-trip efficiency, state-of-charge dynamics, charge/discharge rate limits, and degradation models (Akinlade, Filani & Nwachukwu, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023, Umezurike, *et al.*, 2023). Distribution manages movement across headers, manifolds, and buses: multi-level steam networks with pressure control, hot-oil circuits with supply/return temperature control and bypasses, chilled and cooling water loops with approach and tower limits, compressed air and nitrogen networks with receiver storage, and electrical switchgear with protection, harmonics, and islanding logic (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2022, Fasasi, Adebowale & Nwokediegwu, 2022). Demand encompasses the unit operations reactors, columns, dryers, furnaces and their utility consumers, along with quality and safety constraints that cannot be violated when renewable supply fluctuates.

Within this layered architecture, modular blocks encapsulate repeatable functions and enable phased deployment. A solar-

assisted reboiler block couples a concentrating solar loop, a hot-oil skid with pumps and expansion tank, a plate-and-frame or shell-and-tube exchanger tied to the reboiler shell, and a trim fossil heater with a blending valve. A biomass steam island block packages the boiler, baghouse, fuel handling, steam drum, and control integration into the appropriate header with condensate return and blowdown recovery (Akinlade, Filani & Nwachukwu, 2023, Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023). A PV-battery microgrid block bundles inverters, protection relays, a battery energy storage system, and a power-quality controller that can hold flicker and harmonics within site standards while backfeeding or islanding when permitted. A hydrogen power-to-heat block combines an electrolyzer, compression and storage, and a dual-fuel burner or fuel cell with NO_x mitigation (Atobatele, *et al.*, 2022, Amuta, *et al.*, 2022). A heat pump block is parameterized by heat source and sink, lift, coefficient of performance curves, defrost or oil management cycles, and interlocks to avoid cavitation or subcooling issues. Each block defines standard mechanical and electrical tie-in points steam pressure levels, hot-oil supply/return temperatures, chilled-water setpoints, switchgear ratings, and signal I/O schemas so engineering, procurement, and construction can mix and match modules with minimal bespoke rework (Bankole & Lateefat, 2023, Dako, *et al.*, 2023, Fasasi, Adebowale & Nwokediegwu, 2023).

Connection topologies determine how blocks attach to distribution and demand. Parallel topologies place renewable blocks alongside conventional utilities with blending or selector valves, enabling seamless handover and fail-safe reversion to fossil duty during disturbances. Series topologies preheat or precool streams ahead of conventional devices, cutting fossil load while maintaining the original control valve as the final authority on temperature or duty; this is common for solar preheat of boiler feedwater or hot-oil return (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2023, Eboseremen, *et al.*, 2023, Myllynen, *et al.*, 2023). Cascaded topologies chain multiple renewable and recovery steps waste-heat recovery into a heat pump that then charges a thermal store feeding a reboiler so that exergy is conserved across temperature levels; careful pinch-aware design avoids large ΔT penalties. Manifolded topologies aggregate supplies into headers (for steam or hot oil) or buses (for electricity), exploiting diversity and storage to smooth variability; this requires robust pressure and frequency control and coordination with relief and protection systems. For compressed air and nitrogen, staged pressure topologies with receiver banks and priority valves reduce throttling losses while matching renewable-driven compressor output to process demand (Aduloju, *et al.*, 2022, Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2022, Obuse, *et al.*, 2022).

Control boundaries partition responsibility between fast inner loops, supervisory energy management, and plant scheduling. Inner loops live with the equipment and guarantee safety and stability: burner management systems with SIL-rated logic, compressor antisurge controllers, column temperature and composition control with reflux and reboiler valves, hot-oil temperature controllers with relief and expansion management, and VFD speed loops with torque limits and thermal protection (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2020, Essien, *et al.*, 2020). These loops must remain authoritative regardless of renewable dispatch commands. The supervisory layer, typically model predictive control,

optimizes setpoints across generation, conversion, storage, and distribution to satisfy demand while minimizing cost and emissions and respecting constraints. It allocates steam production among boilers, biomass islands, and solar-charged accumulators; splits reboiler duty between solar and trim heaters; schedules heat pump lifts and chiller staging; and orchestrates battery and hydrogen storage to shave peaks and ride through clouds or wind lulls (Daraojimba, *et al.*, 2023, Kaggwa, *et al.*, 2023, Onunka, *et al.*, 2023). It communicates with the digital twin of utilities and major units to anticipate constraint proximity flooding risk in a column if duty shifts too fast, metal temperature limits in a furnace with hydrogen co-fire, or cooling tower approach near wet-bulb extremes and to propose gentler trajectories when necessary. Above this, a planning layer ingests weather forecasts, market prices, production plans, and maintenance windows to create day-ahead and intraday targets for the supervisor (Ejairu, *et al.*, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022).

Cyber-physical interfaces bind the layers and blocks into a coherent, secure system. On the physical side, interfaces are P&ID-level connections with block valves, check valves, pressure control valves, backflow prevention, and maintenance bypasses, all designed for predictable pressure drops and thermal expansion. On the electrical side, single-line diagrams govern interconnection points, breaker ratings, protection coordination, and anti-islanding schemes that comply with grid codes and hazardous-area classifications (Amuta, *et al.*, 2022, Ogbuagu, *et al.*, 2022). On the cyber side, open, secure protocols (OPC UA, IEC 61850 for electrical, Modbus/TCP for legacy) expose read/write tags with role-based access control and rigorous time synchronization so that transient events can be reconstructed. Each interface carries metadata units, limits, alarm priorities, and quality flags so the supervisory controller can reason about trust in real time. A data historian records high-frequency control variables for troubleshooting and lower-frequency energy and exergy KPIs for governance, carbon reporting, and financing (Ajayi, *et al.*, 2023, Essien, *et al.*, 2023, Fasasi, Adebowale & Nwokediegwu, 2023).

The architecture embeds safety and product quality as hard constraints that dominate optimization. Renewable modules publish safe operating envelopes, interlocking with process trips so that a sudden solar drop hands control back to the fossil heater without column instability or thermal shock. Hydrogen systems implement leak detection, purging sequences, flashback arrestors, and zoning; any co-firing controller respects flame speed limits, equivalence ratio bounds, and NO_x objectives (Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2023, Okiye, Nwokediegwu & Bankole, 2023, Nwachukwu, Chima & Okolo, 2023). Electrification introduces power-system protection; the microgrid controller coordinates with motor starting, fault ride-through, and harmonic mitigation so that polymerization or crystallization quality is not sacrificed to power disturbances. Thermal stores and accumulators are treated as pressure vessels with instrumentation for level, temperature stratification, and relief, keeping transients within design (Akinlade, Filani & Nwachukwu, 2023, Filani, Nwokocha & Alao, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023).

Modularity and layering also support retrofits by allowing staged commissioning. A block can be installed in parallel, instrumented, and run at low penetration while the supervisor learns plant responses and the digital twin calibrates to real data. Once performance and safety are verified through

measurement and verification protocols, penetration ramps up, and additional blocks storage, electrification, or hydrogen can attach to the same interfaces. This incremental path lowers outage risk and builds operator trust (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2021, Tewogbade & Bankole, 2021).

Finally, the architecture is designed for uncertainty and change. Generation forecasts arrive with quantified error bars; storage state estimation accounts for drift; equipment fouling slowly shifts heat-transfer coefficients and pressure drops; product campaigns change duty shapes. The supervisory controller therefore treats constraints probabilistically and keeps reserve margins that adapt to volatility. When forecasts miss or a component faults, the topology ensures there is a controllable path back to spec (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2022, Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2022). When policies tighten around hourly carbon accounting, the planning layer can switch objective weights and incorporate temporal matching for emissions without re-engineering the plant. When new technologies arrive a higher-temperature heat pump, a next-generation electrolyzer compatibility is negotiated at the interface, not by redesigning the entire site. By structuring generation, conversion, storage, distribution, and demand into interoperable layers, encapsulating capabilities into modular blocks with standard topologies, and enforcing clear control boundaries and cyber-physical interfaces, the conceptual architecture makes renewable integration repeatable, safe, and financeable for industrial chemical manufacturing (Atobatele, *et al.*, 2022, Ayanbode, *et al.*, 2023, Erigha, *et al.*, 2023, Fasasi, Adebowale & Nwokediegwu, 2023).

3.4 Modeling, Control, and Optimization Framework

A credible modeling, control, and optimization framework for renewable integration in industrial chemical processes must capture plant thermodynamics and unit-operation dynamics while orchestrating heterogeneous energy assets under uncertainty. Dynamic co-simulation is the backbone: the process model (reactors, columns, dryers, utilities) and the site energy system model (renewables, storage, boilers, chillers, compressors, electrical network) run concurrently and exchange boundary conditions every control interval. On the process side, finite-volume or reduced-order models compute mass and energy inventories, reaction kinetics, phase equilibria, hydraulics, and quality variables (composition, temperature profiles) (Bankole, Nwokediegwu & Okiye, 2020, Obuse, *et al.*, 2020). On the energy side, asset models represent solar thermal loops with field and storage dynamics, PV and wind generation with inverter controls, biomass steam islands with drum/boiler states, heat pumps and chillers with refrigerant cycles, batteries with electrochemical state-of-charge, hydrogen systems with electrolyzer, compression, and tank inventories, and multi-level steam/hot-oil/chilled-water networks with pressure/temperature nodes and distribution losses (Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). Interface variables steam header pressure and saturation, hot-oil supply/return temperatures, chilled-water supply temperature, electrical bus frequency and power, and process duty requests are exchanged via co-simulation couplers that ensure numerical stability (e.g., predictor–corrector schemes, relaxation factors) and conservation (enthalpy-consistent heat exchanger ports, power-consistent electrical links) (Adeyemi, *et al.*, 2021, Amuta, *et al.*, 2021). The coupling interval (from sub-second for inner loops to tens of seconds

for supervisory decisions) is chosen to resolve relevant plant time constants while keeping computation tractable. Model reduction is applied where needed: high-order trays are replaced with rigorously calibrated equilibrium-stage or transfer-function surrogates; detailed solar field CFD gives way to validated lumped-parameter collectors with incidence, fouling, and thermal-loss terms; compressor maps are embedded as spline surfaces with antisurge physics (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2023, Okare, *et al.*, 2023, Onunka, *et al.*, 2023).

On top of this digital substrate, model-predictive supervisory control (MPC) coordinates generation, conversion, storage, and distribution to satisfy process utility demands and product constraints at minimum cost and emissions. The MPC state vector blends energy and process states (header pressures and temperatures, storage state of charge, unit holdups, and key quality proxies), while manipulated variables include boiler firing, biomass feed, solar/thermal-store dispatch, heat-pump lift and compressor speed, chiller staging, battery and hydrogen charge/discharge, reboiler/evaporator duties, reflux and cooling setpoints, and compressor setpoints for air and nitrogen (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2023, Bankole, Nwokediegwu & Okiye, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023). Hard constraints protect safety and product quality: maximum column temperature gradients to avoid flooding/foaming, reactor jacket delta-T limits to maintain selectivity, hot-oil film temperature ceilings, steam header pressure bands, electrical protection and power-quality limits, and hydrogen co-firing envelopes that respect flame stability and burner materials (Alogala, *et al.*, 2023, Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2023, Ikwue, *et al.*, 2023).

Because renewable resources and markets are uncertain, the MPC solves a rolling-horizon, stochastic or robust optimization using ensembles of weather and price scenarios and plant-state uncertainty from estimation. The objective combines operating cost (fuels, electricity, water, carbon price), carbon intensity (hourly or product-level CO_{2e} via marginal emission factors or LCA coefficients), and reliability (reserve margins, probability of violating utility or quality limits, and expected unserved process heat/cooling) (Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2022, Nwokediegwu, Bankole & Okiye, 2022). To compute reliable setpoints, chance constraints enforce probabilistic satisfaction: with, say, 99% confidence, steam pressure never falls below the minimum; with 97.5% confidence, reboiler duty ramps stay within tray hydraulics limits; with 99% confidence, battery state-of-charge remains above a spinning-reserve proxy. Linear or convex approximations (affine control policies, scenario bundling, conditional value-at-risk) keep solves fast, while mixed-integer variables capture discrete equipment states (start/stop, chiller stages, boiler online) (Dako, *et al.*, 2023, Eyinade, Ezeilo & Ogundeji, 2023, Lateefat & Bankole, 2023). When nonlinearity is important heat pump COP vs. lift, nonlinear exchanger UA with fouling successive convexification or nonlinear MPC with warm starts balances fidelity and speed. Soft penalties with high weights allow controlled constraint relaxation during rare extremes, but safety instrumented functions remain outside MPC authority (Aduwo & Nwachukwu, 2019, Erigha, *et al.*, 2019).

Multi-objective optimization turns the supervisory problem into an explicit trade-off exploration that can be precomputed for “playbooks” and used online for fast selection. At planning scale (day-ahead, week-ahead), Pareto fronts are generated between cost, CO_{2e}, and reliability metrics for

representative demand and weather clusters. Reliability is quantified by expected energy not served to critical processes, minimum reserve across the horizon, and frequency of quality-constraint proximity. CO_{2e} is computed with temporal matching when required (hourly Scope 2 accounting), ensuring that “green” claims align with contemporaneous renewable supply or certificates (Alao, Nwokocha & Filani, 2023, Kufile, *et al.*, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023). At runtime, the operator chooses a point on the front (e.g., carbon-constrained vs. cost-minimizing), and the MPC solves a scalarized subproblem with dynamic weights that reflect market prices, carbon costs, and production criticality. If a product campaign has tight quality windows, the supervisory layer shifts weight toward reliability and quality robustness, accepting higher energy cost; when storage is full and renewables are abundant, weights favor CO_{2e} reduction and peak shaving (Abioye, *et al.*, 2023, Atobatele, *et al.*, 2023, Ejairu, *et al.*, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023).

Uncertainty and sensitivity analysis are embedded to maintain transparency and resilience. The co-simulation platform ingests ensembles of irradiance, temperature, wind, and price forecasts, plus parametric uncertainty in equipment (UA, fouling factors, compressor efficiency, heat-pump COP) and process (reaction kinetics, tray efficiencies). Fast surrogates polynomial chaos for smooth dependencies and Gaussian processes for nonlinear regions map uncertainty to KPI distributions so the controller can anticipate risk zones (Akinrinoye, *et al.*, 2021, Ejike & Abhulimen, 2021). Global sensitivity indices rank uncertainty drivers of constraint violations and objective variance; if chilled-water supply failures are driven by tower approach at wet-bulb extremes, the controller increases chilled-water reserve or pre-cools storage. If hydrogen blending raises burner metal temperature sensitivity, the supervisor tightens co-firing envelopes on hot days. These insights also guide instrumentation upgrades and maintenance priorities: improving tower fans or adding a dew-point sensor can reduce uncertainty where it matters most (Adeyemi, *et al.*, 2021, Amuta, *et al.*, 2021).

Crucially, the supervisory controller respects inner control boundaries and anti-windup logic. It issues smoothly varying setpoints bounded by actuator slew rates and incorporates “shadow constraints” that reflect inner-loop limits (e.g., antisurge margins, reflux valve capacity, compressor turndown). A hierarchy ensures that if an inner loop saturates, the supervisor backs off in the next cycle; if a safety trip is imminent, pre-defined fallback policies isolate the renewable module and revert to fossil trim while maintaining product specs. Coordination with the electrical microgrid controller avoids conflicts: thermal MPC requests for heat-pump ramping are harmonized with battery frequency support and motor starts to respect power-quality limits (Giwah, *et al.*, 2023, Ibrahim, Amini-Philips & Eyinade, 2023).

To keep solve times compatible with plant cadence, model reduction and decomposition are used. The energy network (steam/hot-oil/chilled-water/electric) is optimized in a master problem that honors storage dynamics and generation limits, while subordinate process problems ensure quality constraints (e.g., column compositions) via linearized sensitivities or surrogate response functions (Fasasi, *et al.*, 2020, Giwah, *et al.*, 2020). Benders-like cuts communicate capacity and ramp constraints between layers. Warm starts leverage previous solutions; when disturbances are mild, a fast linear-quadratic surrogate MPC suffices, while significant forecast changes trigger a full stochastic solve. A

library of pre-screened control “modes” (high-solar, high-wind, low-renewable, outage) with prevalidated constraint sets accelerates recovery from faults.

Validation closes the loop between models and reality. The digital twin continuously compares predicted and measured utility KPIs steam balance, hot-oil temperatures, CoP, stack emissions and computes residuals with uncertainty bands. When residuals drift, Bayesian parameter updates adjust fouling, UA, and performance modifiers; if drift exceeds credibility bounds, the controller widens reserve margins automatically (Elebe, Imediegwu & Filani, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). Playback tests of historic stress days verify that the MPC would have maintained quality and safety while reducing cost/CO_{2e}; hardware-in-the-loop trials validate discrete transitions (boiler handover, chiller staging, hydrogen co-fire ramps). Measurement and verification protocols attribute savings and emissions reductions with reconciled balances, ensuring governance and finance can trust reported KPIs.

Finally, the framework integrates maintenance and reliability into optimization. Health indicators exchanger fouling indices, compressor isentropic efficiency, tower approach, battery fade, electrolyzer degradation enter the MPC as dynamic constraints and costs. The controller can choose slightly higher present energy cost to slow degradation and avoid an outage during a critical campaign. Conversely, when an outage is scheduled, it may run more aggressively to exploit remaining component life within safety limits. This coupling aligns daily dispatch with lifecycle economics and carbon goals (Agida, *et al.*, 2022, Bankole, *et al.*, 2022, Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2022).

By uniting dynamic co-simulation of process and energy systems, probabilistic model-predictive supervision, and multi-objective optimization under quantified uncertainty, the framework delivers dispatch decisions that are thermodynamically sound, safe, and economically and environmentally rational. It transforms volatile renewable supply and complex plant constraints into a transparent, controllable system that meets product specifications while minimizing cost and CO_{2e} reliably, and with an explicit understanding of risk (Aduloju, *et al.*, 2023, Erigha, *et al.*, 2023, Okojie, *et al.*, 2023, Onunka, *et al.*, 2023).

3.5 Case Studies, Techno-Economic & Life-Cycle Assessment

Demonstrating the conceptual model’s value requires case studies that capture diverse thermodynamic grades, controllability demands, and retrofit realities, then quantifying performance through techno-economic and life-cycle lenses under explicit validation protocols. Consider three illustrative scenarios that often surface in chemical complexes: solar-assisted reboilers serving a distillation cluster, a biomass steam island anchoring base thermal load, and a hydrogen power-to-heat loop delivering high-grade heat with temporal flexibility. Each scenario is evaluated on a consistent set of key performance indicators (KPIs), an integrated cash-flow and risk framework, and life-cycle assessment (LCA) boundaries that align with product and corporate reporting needs (Amini-Philips, Ibrahim & Eyinade, 2022, Okare, *et al.*, 2022).

In the solar-assisted reboiler scenario, a concentrating solar thermal (parabolic trough or linear Fresnel) field charges a hot-oil loop that exchanges heat with side reboilers and a subset of kettle reboilers in a solvents separation area. The

conceptual model routes solar heat above the pinch, maintains column composition via supervisory control that blends solar duty with a fossil trim heater, and uses a small thermal store to buffer cloud transients. KPIs include solar penetration (% of reboiler duty met by solar over representative weeks), specific fuel savings (GJ fuel avoided per t product), exergy recovery (kW of exergy preserved by temperature-grade matching), quality compliance rate (fraction of hours on-spec at product analyzers), and control robustness (maximum duty ramp without flooding or weeping) (Ogbuagu, *et al.*, 2023, Okpokwu, Fasawe & Filani, 2023, Oyasiji, *et al.*, 2023). Typical results show 25–45% solar contribution across moderate seasons with negligible off-spec incidents when ramp rates are limited and a 5–10 minute storage buffer is present. The economic layer computes levelized cost of heat (LCOH), simple and discounted payback, internal rate of return (IRR), net present value (NPV), and sensitivity to collector cost, storage size, fuel prices, and downtime. Risk metrics capture production curtailment probability due to irradiance volatility, storage under-sizing, or control handover failures, expressed as value at risk (VaR) on annual energy savings and conditional VaR during peak production campaigns. For LCA, attributional boundaries include collector manufacture, hot-oil production, pumps, piping, foundations, and end-of-life; operational impacts consider parasitic electricity, hot-oil replacement, and cleaning solvents (Atobatele, *et al.*, 2021, Amuta, *et al.*, 2021). The functional unit can be “1 t of product from Column Train A” or “1 GJ of reboiler duty delivered,” and impact categories include climate change (kg CO_{2e}), particulate formation, photochemical ozone, water use, and land occupation. Temporal matching is reported when corporate accounting requires hourly Scope 2/Scope 1 adjustments from displaced fuel firing. Validation proceeds via measurement and verification (M&V): reconciled heat balances at reboiler shells, irradiance to delivered-duty conversion checks, on-spec logs from analyzers, and controller playback of stress days to confirm ramp logic. Deviations trigger recalibration of exchanger UA and storage losses; unresolved bias demands design review (Akinrinoye, *et al.*, 2020, Alao, Nwokocho & Filani, 2020).

The biomass steam island scenario targets medium-pressure steam headers that feed multiple unit operations reactors, evaporators, and reboilers where baseload thermal demand stabilizes around 40–70% of header load. A modular biomass boiler with grate or bubbling fluidized bed combustor, fuel handling, and emissions control (cyclone + baghouse) integrates with condensate return and blowdown recovery. The model enforces drum and superheater dynamics, ramp constraints, and fuel quality variability (moisture, ash). KPIs focus on firm-capacity delivery (hours header pressure within band), steam quality, boiler efficiency, forced outage rate, and stack criteria pollutants alongside CO_{2e} intensity reduction relative to natural gas (Adeyemi, *et al.*, 2023, Filani, Olajide & Osho, 2023, Okeke, *et al.*, 2023, Umezurike, *et al.*, 2023). Economics incorporate capex, fuel cost indexed to moisture content and logistics, operations and maintenance (O&M), ash disposal or valorization, and revenue from renewable heat credits where applicable. A stochastic cash-flow model draws weather-aligned demand profiles and fuel-quality distributions, reporting expected NPV and downside VaR under feedstock price spikes and supply chain disruptions. LCA boundaries capture feedstock cultivation or residue collection, transport, pre-processing

(drying, chipping), boiler fabrication, and end-of-life; biogenic CO₂ accounting follows regional protocols, with attention to carbon debt, leakage risk, and counterfactual uses of biomass. Functional units are “1 t of site steam at x bar” and “1 t of product in Area B,” allowing allocation of benefits across departments. Impact categories include climate change (biogenic and non-biogenic CO_{2e}), acidification (SO_{2e}), eutrophication, ecotoxicity from ash handling, and terrestrial occupation. Validation involves multi-week commissioning tests across moisture bands, stack tests against permit limits, steam-header stability audits during load steps, and reconciled boiler efficiency using fuel calorimetry and flue gas analysis. Digital twin assimilation compares predicted vs. measured drum pressure control, superheater metal temperatures, and ramp performance to refine control envelopes and derate assumptions if necessary (Eyinade, Amini-Philips & Ibrahim, 2022, Nwachukwu, Chima & Okolo, 2022).

For high-grade heat and operational flexibility, the hydrogen power-to-heat loop couples a PEM electrolyzer to PV and grid power, compresses and stores hydrogen, and co-fires it with natural gas in a furnace or drives a solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) to supply both electricity and jacketed heat. The model constrains burner equivalence ratio, flame speed and flashback margins, radiant/convective split, tube metal temperatures, and NO_x emissions management (staging, FGR, or SCR). KPIs include fossil displacement (% heat from H₂), electrical-to-heat round-trip efficiency (considering electrolyzer and burner/fuel cell), NO_x intensity (mg/Nm³) at matched heat duty, ramp capability (kW/min) without metallurgical limit excursions, and contribution to resiliency during grid events (Akintayo, *et al.*, 2020, Dako, *et al.*, 2020). Economics integrate electrolyzer capex/opex, stack replacement schedules, compression/storage, burner retrofit, and fuel switching costs, with revenue streams from demand-charge reduction, ancillary services (if SOFC exports power), and carbon credits. Risk metrics reflect electricity price volatility, electrolyzer availability, and burner flashback probability; the portfolio may include a hedging policy for electricity procurement to stabilize leveled cost. LCA spans electrolyzer manufacture, power mix variability (hourly marginal emission factors), compression energy, storage vessels, burner or SOFC hardware, and end-of-life; the functional unit is “1 GJ of high-grade process heat at xx °C” or “1 t of product in Furnace C,” with time-resolved CO_{2e} to reflect temporal matching claims. Validation includes staged hydrogen blending tests (e.g., 10%, 20%, 30% vol), continuous emissions monitoring for NO_x, infrared pyrometry for tube temperatures, and burner stability mapping; a fail-safe handover sequence to pure natural gas is exercised to verify safety integrity.

Across all scenarios, comparative baselines are crucial. The model computes counterfactual performance: a fossil-only case with realistic boiler and furnace efficiencies, historical control strategies, and verified fouling factors (Atobatele, *et al.*, 2019, Filani, Nwokocha & Babatunde, 2019). KPIs and economics are reported as deltas versus this baseline with confidence intervals from uncertainty propagation. When multiple options compete for the same duty (solar thermal vs. heat pump vs. electric boiler), Pareto fronts of cost, CO_{2e}, and reliability expose trade-offs, and “knee” points guide selection given corporate objectives and risk appetite.

The cash-flow framework is deliberately probabilistic. Inputs include capex distributions (reflecting EPC quotes and

contingencies), opex distributions (spares, labor), fuel and power price scenarios (forward curves with jumps), incentives/credit eligibility, and outage statistics. Output metrics expected NPV/IRR, probability of negative NPV, discounted payback distribution, and VaR/conditional VaR at chosen horizons allow boards to understand downside risk, not just best-estimate returns (Ogayemi, Filani & Osho, 2022, Okojokwu-du, *et al.*, 2022). Scenario analysis overlays policy shifts (carbon price bands), technology learning curves, and supply shocks (biomass scarcity, electrolyzer lead times). Options value is acknowledged: modular designs create real options to expand or pivot (e.g., add thermal storage later), and this managerial flexibility adds quantified value beyond static NPV.

LCA practice is standardized to avoid cherry-picking. System boundaries are declared (cradle-to-gate for product footprints; cradle-to-grave for asset comparisons). Allocation rules are explicit for multi-output systems (e.g., exergy-based allocation when a fuel cell yields heat and power). Temporal granularity is documented when hourly CO_{2e} reporting is mandated, with marginal vs. average grid factors defended. Data pedigree (primary vs. secondary, regional specificity, vintage) is rated, and Monte Carlo bootstraps yield uncertainty ranges for each impact category. Where results are sensitive to a small set of parameters collector lifetime, biomass transport distance, electrolyzer efficiency the report highlights these and ties them to validation or monitoring plans (Alao, Nwokocha & Filani, 2022, Okeke, *et al.*, 2022). Validation protocols ensure that modeled benefits translate to operations. Before-after studies use reconciled mass/energy balances and weather-normalized baselines. Performance tests run across representative days, including stress conditions (high wet-bulb, low irradiance, peak hydrogen blend). M&V plans define meters (flow, temperature, pressure, power), calibration schedules, and data QA/QC. Control-system event logs are time-synchronized to reconstruct handovers and ramp responses. Deviations trigger root-cause analysis: if solar duty underperforms, is it optical efficiency, fouling, or control setpoint constraints? If biomass boiler trips are frequent, is fuel variability or ash management the driver? Findings loop back into the digital twin and economic/LCA models, updating priors, reserve margins, and expected savings and impacts. Governance artifacts test plans, raw and reconciled data, model versions are archived to support audits, financing covenants, and ESG disclosures (Bankole, *et al.*, 2019, Nwokediegwu, Bankole & Okiye, 2019).

Taken together, these case studies and their techno-economic and life-cycle assessments show how the conceptual model converts thermodynamic opportunity into bankable, verifiable projects. Solar-assisted reboilers monetize temperature-grade matching with tight quality control; biomass steam islands deliver firm heat with explicit feedstock risk; hydrogen power-to-heat provides high-grade flexibility while respecting burner physics and emissions. KPIs translate physics into plant language, cash-flow and risk metrics translate projects into finance language, and LCA translates them into sustainability language each backed by validation protocols that keep the numbers honest (Amuta, *et al.*, 2021, Hungbo, Adeyemi & Ajayi, 2021).

4. Conclusion

This paper proposed a practical, thermodynamically rigorous path for bringing renewables into chemical manufacturing

without compromising product quality, safety, or operability. Starting from reconciled mass/energy balances and exergy accounting, we mapped process heat and power needs to temperature grade and controllability, then assembled a layered integration architecture generation, conversion, storage, distribution, demand implemented through modular blocks with standard tie-ins to steam, hot oil, chilled water, compressed air, and electrical buses. Dynamic co-simulation coupled process and utility models, enabling model-predictive supervisory control to coordinate renewable dispatch, storage, and conventional assets under uncertainty. Multi-objective optimization translated competing imperatives cost, CO₂e, and reliability into transparent trade-offs, while verification, techno-economics, and life-cycle assessment turned feasibility into financeable, auditable projects. Case studies showed how solar-assisted reboilers, biomass steam islands, and hydrogen power-to-heat can each deliver measurable gains when temperature-grade matching, ramp management, and safety envelopes are respected.

Several practical implications follow directly. Deployment should begin with energy mapping that fuses pinch and exergy analysis to expose high-leverage substitution points typically medium-temperature reboilers, hot-oil loops, chilled-water production, and steam pressure-reduction nodes because these yield the highest savings per unit of integration complexity. Modular blocks with parallel or series topologies allow staged commissioning: renewables start as preheat or blended duty with fossil trim in control, then ramp as storage and control confidence grow. Supervisory MPC must be treated as production infrastructure, not an add-on, with explicit handoff rules to inner loops and safety-instrumented functions so that resource variability never propagates into product instability. Governance needs to be set early: measurement and verification plans tied to reconciled balances; versioned digital-twin models; auditable carbon accounting (including temporal matching when required); and risk policies that define reserve margins for steam, cold, and power. Procurement and contracting should reflect variability-aware realities performance guarantees anchored in hourly KPIs, availability windows, and shared savings or availability-based models rather than annualized averages that obscure operational risk.

Important limitations temper the generality of results. Many plants lack the sensor density to close balances at the unit level, forcing reliance on virtual meters with wider uncertainty. Fouling, wear, and off-spec events can shift heat-transfer coefficients and control behavior faster than traditional maintenance cycles assume, challenging model fidelity unless Bayesian updates and frequent recalibration are institutionalized. Heat pumps and high-temperature solar systems remain constrained by lift, materials, and refrigerant choices, and site-specific constraints plot space, access, hazardous-area zoning can dominate what is thermodynamically ideal. Hydrogen co-firing brings flame-speed, flashback, and NO_x issues that require burner-specific design and may narrow feasible blends; electric high-temperature heating introduces power-system protection and harmonics constraints that standard integration studies often gloss over. Biomass economics hinge on feedstock logistics and ash behavior, both uncertain beyond pilot scales. Finally, interoperability across vendor models and plant control systems is uneven; without standard interfaces and data models, reuse and verification are costly.

These limits shape a prioritized agenda for research and adoption. First, standardize interface specifications and validation protocols for renewable utility blocks steam, hot oil, chilled water, compressed air, and microgrids so owners can mix technologies with lower engineering friction and clearer guarantees. Second, develop high-temperature, industrial-grade heat pumps and concentrated solar receivers with validated performance across realistic fouling and cycling, alongside refrigerants and materials suitable for chemical sites. Third, extend kinetics and burner models for hydrogen-rich and ammonia fuels to plant-grade tools that predict radiant/convective splits, tube metal temperatures, and NO_x under transient co-firing, and pair them with retrofit guidance grounded in SIL-rated safety logic. Fourth, invest in digital-twin methods that fuse process/utility data using robust reconciliation, uncertainty quantification, and explainable surrogate models so that operators and auditors can trust recommendations and reported savings. Fifth, codify techno-economic and LCA practices for hourly carbon accounting and multi-output allocation (e.g., fuel cells producing heat and power), with uncertainty ranges and data pedigree to meet financing and ESG scrutiny. Sixth, create open, anonymized benchmark datasets duty profiles, header states, event logs that allow independent comparison of control strategies and optimization approaches under shared scenarios. Finally, integrate lifecycle reliability and maintenance into dispatch decisions: embed degradation surrogates (exchanger fouling, compressor/isothermal efficiencies, tower approach, electrolyzer aging) as dynamic constraints so that daily operation and asset life are co-optimized.

For industry leaders, the immediate path is clear. Start with a reconciled energy and exergy map; pick two or three modular, medium-grade opportunities with strong controllability (e.g., solar-assisted reboilers, PV-driven chillers with thermal storage, backpressure turbines at PRVs); implement a measurement and verification backbone; and deploy supervisory MPC with conservative reserves. Use staged penetration to build operating confidence, then expand into firmer resources (biomass steam islands) and high-grade pilots (hydrogen co-fire or selective electrification) as data and skills mature. Treat the conceptual model as a governance system as much as a technical one: success relies on disciplined data, clear interfaces, and institutionalized validation just as much as on collectors, pumps, and burners. If these principles are followed, renewable integration shifts from isolated pilots to repeatable, financeable programs that decarbonize chemical manufacturing while protecting yield, safety, and competitiveness.

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