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# Energy, Exergy, Economic, and Exergoenvironmental Analyses of a Novel Hybrid System to Produce Electricity, Cooling, and Syngas

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Abstract: Efficient solar and wind energy to electricity conversion technologies are the best alternatives to reduce the use of fossil fuels and to evolve towards a green and decarbonized world. As the conventional photovoltaic systems use only the 600-1100 nm wavelength range of the solar radiation spectrum for electricity production, hybrid systems taking advantage of the overall solar radiation spectrum are gaining increasing interest. Moreover, such hybrid systems can produce, in an integrated and combined way, electricity, heating, cooling, and syngas through thermochemical processes. They have thus the huge potential for use in residential applications. The present work proposes a novel combined and integrated system for residential applications including wind turbines and a solar dish collector for renewables energy harvesting, an organic Rankine cycle for power production, an absorption chiller for cold production, and a methanation plant for CH<sub>4</sub> production from captured CO<sub>2</sub>. This study deals with the energy, exergy, economic, and exergoenvironmental analyses of the proposed hybrid combined system, to assess its performance, viability, and environmental impact when operating in Tehran. Additionally, it gives a clear picture of how the production pattern of each useful product depends on the patterns of the collection of available renewable energies. Results show that the rate of methane production of this hybrid system changes from 42 up to 140 Nm<sup>3</sup>/month, due to CO<sub>2</sub> consumption from 44 to 144 Nm<sup>3</sup>/month during a year. Moreover, the energy and exergy efficiencies of this hybrid system vary from 24.7% and 23% to 9.1% and 8%, respectively. The simple payback period of this hybrid system is 15.6 and the payback period of the system is 21.4 years.

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**Keywords:** solar dish; Organic Rankine Cycle; absorption chiller; wind turbine; energy and exergy analysis; economic analysis

#### 1. Introduction

Increasing energy demand, fossil fuel depletion, and environmental concerns with the use of fossil fuels drive the present society towards renewable energy use [1–5]. Abundant in nature and renewable, solar energy has been increasingly used in recent decades [3,6–8]. However, the efficiency of solar to electricity conversion technologies is still a concern for a promising future [9–12]. Thus, hybrid systems utilizing all ranges of solar radiation spectrum are gaining popularity for electricity, heating, cooling, and solar fuel production through thermoschemical processes [13–15]. Moreover, several studies have been performed to show that the multigeneration systems are capable of energy production in comparison to standalone configurations [16–18]. Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) power systems are proved to be one of the promising technologies for the exploitation of low-temperature energy sources [19].

Wang et al. [20] reported the experimental analysis of a solar-based organic Rankine cycle (ORC) having both flat plates and evacuated tube-based collectors for low-temperature applications. The obtained results of this system revealed an isentropic efficiency of 45.2%, providing a mechanical power output of 1.73 kW.

Wang et al. [21] studied flat plate collectors with an ORC cycle for three conditions including power generation, combined heat, and power (CHP) and combined cooling and power (CCP) model. The results showed the maximum power generation of this system is in the power mode and CHP mode. Wang et al. [22] examined an energy optimization of a flat plate solar collector with an ORC for the combined generation of cooling, heating, and power (multigeneration system). NSGA-II algorithm was applied to optimize the total heat transfer area and the power production.

Calise et al. [23] reported the performance of a hybrid system based on solar energy, geothermal energy, and an auxiliary boiler, for the combined production of cooling, heating, power, and freshwater purposes. The results of this study demonstrated the maximum exergy efficiencies of about 50% and 20%, when operating in the heating and cooling mode, respectively.

Bellos and Tzivanidis [24] reported examination of an ORC based hybrid system with an ejector device, with 87% and 12% energy and exergy efficiencies, respectively. Gogoi and Saikia [25] studied a combined system having a solar-based ORC cycle and an absorption cooling system, considering five different working fluids for the environmental conditions of Jaipur, India. They concluded that the system provided a net power up to 1.7 MW in February with R245fa as the working fluid, and a maximum cooling of 6.0 MW was obtained with Neopentane.

El-Emam and Dincer [26] examined a hybrid system driven by solar energy and biomass to produce hydrogen, electricity, and supply cooling. The outcome of this study showed the energy and exergy efficiencies of 40% and 27%, respectively for this hybrid system. Khalid et al. [27] investigated a hybrid system using biomass to supply power, hot water, and space cooling/heating. They report thermal and exergy efficiencies of 91% and 35% for this cogeneration system, respectively.

El-Emam and Dincer [28] examined a novel hybrid system consisting of a solar tower, a Rankine power cycle, an electrolyzer, a desalination unit, and an absorption chiller. The proposed system supplied cooling, heating, and power; moreover, it was capable of freshwater and hydrogen production. They reported the maximum energy and exergy efficiencies were 40% and 30%, respectively. Utilization of waste heat of photovoltaic/thermal (PV/T) systems in a thermoelectric-based electrolyzer for hydrogen production was proposed by Behzadi et al. [29]. The exergy efficiency of up to 12.01% was obtained for this system.

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Moaleman et al. [30] proposed a system that produces power and heating by the integration of thermal collectors and a linear Fresnel reflector. The results revealed the yearly production of cooling, heating, and power generation of 3944, 6528, and 2290 kWh, respectively for this system.

Exergoenvironmental analysis of any power system to evaluate the exergy-based cost of unit power is recent, and most of the previous studies on hybrid systems have not been paid much attention to it. A detailed exergoeconomic and exergoenvironmental analysis of a solar combined cycle system by Cavalcanti [31] indicated that the solar field could help to increase the electricity production by 4.2%, reduce the costs production by 2.6%, and decrease the exergy based environmental impact by 3.8%. Table 1 summarizes the key points of each research.

**Table 1.** The summary of key point of each research.

No.	Authors	Ref	System	Key Points
1	Wang et al.	[20]	R245a ORC solar powered	The electrical power production is equal 1.73 kW with 45.2% isentropic efficiency
2	Wang et al.	[21]	Solar powered ORC and ejector refrigeration cycle to produce power, heating, and cooling	For the CCP and CHP modes, the optimum average output was 5.84, 8.89 kW, respectively.
3	Wang et al.	[22]	Solar powered triple cycle to produce electrical power, heating, and cooling	The system efficiency in CHP, CCP, and power modes is equal to 19.10%, 27.24%, and 10.47%, respectively.
4	Calise et al.	[23]	Solar powered ORC, and multieffect distillation, absorption chiller to produce electrical power, heating, cooling, and fresh water	The exergy efficiency is between 40% and 50% during the thermal recovery operation and it is between 16% and 20% during the cooling operation.
5	Bellos and Tzivanidis	[24]	The ORC based hybrid system with an ejector device	The optimum system energy and exergy efficiencies are equal to 87% and 12%
6	Gogoi and Saikia	[25]	Solar powered ORC with absorption chiller	Maximum power is produced (1.74 MW) by the R245fa and the minimum value (1.62 MW) with Neo-pentane
7	El-Emam and Dincer	[26]	The helium cycle and SOFC powered by solar and biomass energy	The system energy and exergy efficiencies are 39.9% and 27.5%
8	Khalid et al.	[27]	ORC, gas cycle, and absorption chiller	The system energy and exergy efficiencies are 91.0% and 34.9%, respectively. The levelized cost of electricity is \$0.117/kW h.
9	El-Emam and Dincer	[28]	Heliostat solar receiver and steam cycle	This system produces 4 MW electric power, 1.25 kg/h of hydrogen, and 90 kg/s of fresh water
10	Behzadi et al.	[29]	Photovoltaic/thermal cells and thermoelectric generator	The exergy efficiency and total cost rate reach 12.01% and 0.1762\$/h
11	Moaleman et al.	[30]	Concentrating photovoltaic-thermal unit and water-ammonia absorption chiller	The system trigeneration energy efficiency reaches 58.01%

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Pertinent literature reveals that attempts have been made to design, develop, and analyze hybrid systems using carbon-free renewable energy sources for cooling, heating, and power (CHP). Further, a few applications were also coupled with the CHP system to produce freshwater, hydrogen, and in limited cases syngas. The present proposed system goes also in the direction of the increasing use of renewable energy sources. However, limited studies existed in literature about the combined use of solar and wind energy sources in Ref. [32], but the production of syngas from the combination of renewable energy sources has not been investigated yet. Further, in most of the previous studies, systems' efficiency was limited to energy and exergy only. The addition of economic and exergoenvironmental assessment of the proposed hybrid system gives additional relevance to this study. The system under consideration is said to be hybrid as it is based on a combination of renewable energy sources. The innovations of this research are as follows:

- Developing the new hybrid system consisting of the solar and wind energy resources
- Producing electricity, cooling, and syngas by this hybrid cogeneration system
- Energy, exergy, economic, and exergoenvironmental (4E) analyses

#### 2. Mathematical Modeling

### 2.1. System and Process Description

Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of the proposed system, the arrows also illustrating the process. The proposed system comprises six subsystems: solar dish, ORC, single-effect absorption chiller, proton-exchange membrane (PEM) electrolyzer, wind turbine, and methanation plant. The working fluids in the solar dish, ORC, and absorption chiller subsystems are Terminol VP-1, R134a, and lithium bromide solution, respectively. Terminol VP-1 is capable of operating under pressures of 15 bar and temperatures up to 400 °C [33]. R134a exhibits the highest energy and exergy efficiencies for the ORC system [33–35]. Water, as a refrigerant and lithium bromide as an absorbent, is one of the most used working fluid pairs in the absorption chillers [36].

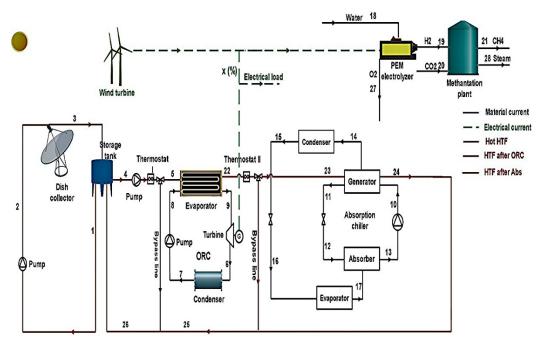


Figure 1. The schematic diagram of the system.

Terminol VP-1 passes through a solar dish collector to absorb the solar radiation heat (1). A thermal energy storage tank is used to attenuate the fluctuations of solar radiation and for the system's operating even during the night and to the operating fluid reach the desired temperature. The thermostat I

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avoids sending the Terminol at temperatures lower than 80 °C to the ORC's evaporator. When the Terminol temperature is under 80 °C, it can be pumped through the bypass line back to the storage tank, and when it is over 80 °C it is pumped to the evaporator (2) of the ORC subsystem to heat the ORC working fluid. The superheated R134a enters the turbine (9) to generate power, then it passes through the condenser and it is pumped back to the evaporator to close the ORC. The electricity produced from the ORC subsystem provides part of the electricity needs in the methanation subsystem; the remaining electricity can be used to supply the electric loads or even sent to the electric grid. Thermostat II avoids sending the Terminol at temperatures lower than 60 °C to the absorption chiller's generator. When the Terminol temperature is under 60 °C, it is sent back through a bypass line to the storage tank, and when its temperature is over 60 °C it enters the absorption chiller's generator (3) to provide the heat required for the cooling products in the evaporator.

Wind turbines produce part of the electricity required by the electrolyzer. The hydrogen produced in the electrolyzer enters the methanation plant (19), where it reacts with supplied  $CO_2$  (A2) to produce  $CH_4$  syngas (A3) and steam (A4). In this way, the syngas (that has many useful applications) production is fully based on renewable sources. Besides that, cooling and power are produced simultaneously by absorption chiller, ORC, and wind turbines, respectively. Additionally, the heat released by the condenser of the absorption chiller and by the ORC condenser, oxygen released by the electrolyzer, and steam released by the methanation plant can be useful for any purpose.

The following main assumptions are considered in the system's modeling and simulation:

- The storage tank is used to attenuate some small system fluctuations, and it is assumed that along a day the HTF conditions when leaving the storage tank are the same as the HTF leaving the solar dish [37,38].
- Ambient pressure and temperature are 1 atm and 15 °C [39]
- The Weibull distribution density function is assumed for the wind speed in wind turbine power production [40]
- The dish collector is assumed to be always directed to the sun
- The efficiency of the ORC turbine and pumps are considered to be 85% [39,41]
- For the heat exchanging components such as the condenser and the evaporator, energy effectiveness is assumed to be 85% [1,39]
- The Terminol pressure loss is presumed to be 3% through the pipe [1,39]
- Heat loss of components is assumed around 3% of the energy released by the hottest steam at these components [1,39]

The solar radiation and wind turbine modelling are presented in Appendix A.

## 2.2. Mass and Energy Balances

The following reaction occurs in the electrolyzer for water splitting [42]:

$$H_2O\left(l\right) + \text{electrical energy } \rightarrow H_2\left(g\right) + \frac{1}{2}O_2\left(g\right)$$
 (1)

The performance of the electrolyzer can be obtained from the following equation [42-44]:

$$\eta_{\rm V} = \frac{1.25}{\rm V_{\rm elec}} \tag{2}$$

As the voltage efficiency of the PEM is assumed to be 72%, an operational voltage of 1.74 V is achieved. The mass flow rate of the produced hydrogen can be expressed as [42–44]:

$$\dot{m}_{H2} = \frac{\dot{W}_{elec}}{V_{elec} * F} \tag{3}$$

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where F represents the Faraday's constant, 96,495 C/mole, and subscript elec denotes electrolyzer [42–44]. The reaction that happens in the methanation plant can be expressed as:

$$CO_2 + 4H_2 \leftrightarrow CH_4 + 2H_2O \tag{4}$$

The Coefficient of Performance (COP) of the absorption chiller is defined as:

$$COP = \frac{\dot{Q}_{Eva}}{\dot{Q}_{Gen} + \dot{W}_{P}}$$
 (5)

where subscripts Eva, Gen, and p denote evaporator, generator, and chiller's pump.

Mass and energy balances and energy efficiencies for each component of the proposed system are summarized in Table 2 [34,40,41,45–47].

Table 2. Mass and energy balance equations and energy efficiency of the system's components.

Component	<b>Mass Balance Equation</b>	<b>Energy Balance Equation</b>
	Sola	r dish
Dish collector	$\dot{m}_2 = \dot{m_3}$	$\dot{m}_2 c_p (T_3 - T_2) = \eta_{th} \dot{Q}_S$
Pump	$\dot{m}_1 = \dot{m}_2$	$\dot{W}_{ m p}=rac{\dot{m}_1(h_{2s}-h_1)}{\eta_{ m p}}$
	Absorpt	ion chiller
Pump	$\dot{m}_{13}=\dot{m}_{10}$	$\dot{W}_p = rac{\dot{m}_{13}(\dot{n}_{10s} - \dot{n}_{13})}{\eta_p}$
Expansion valve 1	$\dot{m}_{15}=\dot{m}_{16}$	$h_{15} = h_{16}$
Absorber	$\dot{m}_{12} + \dot{m}_{17} = \dot{m}_{13}$	$\dot{m}_{17}h_{17}+\dot{m}_{12}h_{12}=\dot{m}_{13}h_{13}+\dot{Q}_{A}$
Generator	$\dot{m}_{11} + \dot{m}_{14} = \dot{m}_{10}$	$\dot{m}_{10}h_{10} + \dot{m}_{23}h_{23} = \dot{m}_{11}h_{11} + \dot{m}_{14}h_{14} + \dot{m}_{24}h_{24} + \dot{Q}_G$
Condenser	$\dot{m}_{15}=\dot{m}_{14}$	$\dot{Q}_C = \dot{m}_{14}(h_{14} - h_{15})$
Expansion valve 2	$\dot{m}_{11}=\dot{m}_{12}$	$h_{11} = h_{12}$
Evaporator	$\dot{m}_{16}=\dot{m}_{17}$	$\dot{Q}_E = \dot{m}_{16}(h_{17} - h_{16})$
	0	RC
Pump	$\dot{m}_8 = \dot{m}_7$	$\dot{W}_p=rac{\dot{m}_{ORC}(h_{8s}-h_7)}{\eta_p}$
Evaporator	$\dot{m}_8 = \dot{m}_9$ and $\dot{m}_5 = \dot{m}_{22}$	$\dot{Q}_E = \dot{m}_{ORC}(h_9 - h_8) = \dot{m}_{HTF}(h_5 - h_{22})$
Turbine	$\dot{m}_6 = \dot{m}_9$	$\dot{W}_T = \dot{m}_{ORC}(h_9 - h_{6s})\eta_T$
Condenser	$\dot{m}_6 = \dot{m}_7$	$\dot{Q}_{C}=\dot{m}_{ORC}\;(h_{6}-h_{7})$
	P	EM
PEM electrolyzer	$\dot{m}_{18} = \dot{m}_{27} + \dot{m}_{19}$	$\dot{m}_{18}h_{18} + \dot{W}_{elec} = \dot{m}_{27}h_{27} + \dot{m}_{19}h_{19}$
	Wind t	turbines
Wind turbine	-	$\begin{array}{l} \dot{W}_{wind,ave} = \\ \dot{W}_{wind,er} \bigg[ \frac{\exp\left(-\left(\frac{u_{c}}{C}\right)\right)^{K} - \exp\left(-\left(\frac{u_{c}}{C}\right)\right)^{K}}{\left(\frac{u_{c}}{C}\right)^{K} - \left(\frac{u_{c}}{C}\right)^{K}} - \exp\left(-\left(\frac{u_{f}}{C}\right)\right)^{K} \bigg] \end{array}$
	Methana	tion plant
Methanation plant	$\dot{m}_{19} + \dot{m}_{20} = \dot{m}_{21} + \dot{m}_{28}$	$\dot{m}_{19}h_{19}+\dot{m}_{20}h_{20}=\dot{m}_{21}h_{21}+\dot{m}_{28}h_{28}$

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In Table 1, T, h,  $c_p$ , and m denote temperature, specific enthalpy, constant pressure specific heat, and mass flow rate, respectively. W and Q represent power and heat transfer rates.  $\eta$  is polythrophic efficiency. Subscripts E, T, C, and elec refer to evaporator, turbine, condenser, and electrolyzer, respectively. HHV stands for the higher heating value.

The energy efficiency of the whole system can be set as:

Energy efficiency = 
$$\frac{\dot{W}_{T} + \dot{W}_{windturbine,ave} - \dot{W}_{p} - \dot{W}_{elec} + \dot{m}_{21}HHV_{CH_{4}} + \dot{Q}_{E}}{A_{a}G_{b} + \dot{W}_{windturbine,er}}$$
(6)

where subscripts E, T, P, and elec refer to the evaporator of the absorption chiller, turbine of the ORC, pumps, and electrolyzer, respectively. The energy efficiency of the whole system is the ratio between the useful energy effect of the system and the energy input required to drive it (even if it uses only renewable energy sources). The energy inputs are solar and wind energy and useful outputs are cooling at the evaporator of the absorption chiller, electricity, and produced syngas methane.

## 2.3. Exergy Balance

Exergy analysis is a powerful tool to identify inefficiencies of industrial processes and to improve them. Exergy comprises thermomechanical and chemical components, and it is the maximum amount of useful work that can be achieved by a system when it evolves up to reach equilibrium with the environment.

The total specific exergy of a stream is expressed as [48]:

$$ex = (h - h_0) - T_0(s - s_0) + T_0 \sum_i x_i R_i \ln y_i + \sum_i x_i ex_{chi} + \frac{V^2}{2} + gz$$
 (7)

where h and T are enthalpy and absolute temperature, and  $R_i$  is the particular gas constant of chemical species i.  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  denote the mass fraction and mole fraction of chemical species i,  $ex_{chi}$  is the specific chemical exergy of chemical species i. and z, g, and v are height, gravitational acceleration, and velocity, respectively. The subscript i denotes chemical species i, and 0 refers to the environment condition (dead state).

Potential and kinetic exergy changes can be assumed negligible. Table 3 summarizes the exergy efficiency and the exergy destruction rate ( $\dot{E}_D$ ) for each component of the proposed system [49–54].

Where, for wind turbine equations,  $\rho$  represents the air density,  $A_2$  denotes the swept area of the wind turbine, and u is the wind velocity as mentioned above.

The whole system exergy efficiency can be obtained as:

$$\text{Exergy efficiency} = \frac{\dot{W}_{T} - \dot{W}_{p} + \dot{W}_{windturbine,ave} - \dot{W}_{elec} + \dot{m}_{21} ex_{21} - \dot{Q}_{E} \left(1 - \frac{T_{0}}{T_{E}}\right)}{A_{a}G_{b}\left(1 - \frac{4}{3}\left(\frac{T_{amb}}{T_{sun}}\right) + \frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{T_{amb}}{T_{sun}}\right)^{4}\right) + \dot{W}_{windturbine,er}} \tag{8}$$

where subscripts E, T, P, amb, 0 denote evaporator of the chiller, turbine, pumps, ambient, and dead state condition, respectively. The exergy efficiency is defined as the ratio between the useful exergy output from the system and the needed exergy input. Similar to energy efficiency, the inputs of the system are solar and wind energy and outputs are cooling at the evaporator of the absorption chiller, electricity, and produced syngas methane.

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**Table 3.** Exergy efficiency and exergy destruction rate for each component of the proposed system.

Component	Exergy Efficiency	Exergy Destruction Rate
		Solar dish
Dish collector	$\frac{\dot{m}_2(ex_3 - ex_2)}{G_b A \left(1 - \frac{4}{3} \left(\frac{T_{amb}}{T_{sun}}\right) + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{T_{amb}}{T_{sun}}\right)^4\right)}$	$\dot{m}_2(ex_3-ex_2)+G_bA\!\!\left(1-\tfrac{4}{3}\!\left(\tfrac{T_{amb}}{T_{sun}}\right)\!+\tfrac{1}{3}\!\left(\tfrac{T_{amb}}{T_{sun}}\right)^4\right)$
Pump	$\frac{\dot{m}_1(ex_1-ex_2)}{\dot{W}_p}$	$\dot{m}_1(ex_1-ex_2)+\dot{W}_p$
	Ab	sorption chiller
Pump	$\frac{\dot{m}_{13}(ex_{10}\!-\!ex_{13})}{\dot{W}_{p}}$	$\dot{m}_{13}(ex_{13}-ex_{10})+\dot{W}_{p}$
Expansion valve 1	-	$\dot{m}_{15}(ex_{15}-ex_{16})$
Absorber	$\frac{m_{13}ex_{13}}{m_{17}ex_{17}+m_{12}ex_{12}}$	$\dot{m}_{17} e x_{17} + \dot{m}_{12} e x_{12} - \dot{m}_{13} e x_{13} - \dot{Q}_A \Big( 1 - \frac{T_0}{T_A} \Big)$
Generator	$\frac{\dot{m}_{14}ex_{14}}{\dot{m}_{10}(ex_{10}{-}ex_{11}){+}\dot{m}_{23}(ex_{23}{-}ex_{24})}$	$\dot{m}_{10}(ex_{10}-ex_{11})+\dot{m}_{23}(ex_{23}-ex_{24})-\dot{m}_{14}ex_{14}-\dot{Q}_{G}\!\!\left(1-\frac{T_{0}}{T_{G}}\right)$
Condenser	$\frac{Q_c \left(1 - \frac{T_0}{T_c}\right)}{m_{14} e x_{14} - m_{15} e x_{15}}$	$\dot{m}_{14} e x_{14} - \dot{m}_{15} e x_{15} - \dot{Q}_c \Big( 1 - \frac{T_0}{T_c} \Big)$
Expansion valve 2	$\dot{m}_{11}(ex_{11}-ex_{12})$	
Evaporator	$\frac{-\dot{Q}_{E}\left(1-\frac{T_{0}}{T_{E}}\right)}{\dot{m}_{16}(ex_{16}-ex_{17})}$	$\dot{m}_{16}(ex_{16}-ex_{17})-\dot{Q}_{E}\!\!\left(1-\frac{T_{0}}{T_{E}}\right)$
		ORC
Pump	$\frac{\dot{m}_7(ex_8-ex_7)}{\dot{W}_p}$	$\dot{m}_7(ex_7-ex_8)+\dot{W}_p$
Evaporator	$\frac{\dot{m}_8(ex_9{-}ex_8)}{\dot{m}_5(ex_5{-}ex_{22})}$	$\dot{m}_2(ex_5-ex_{22})-\dot{m}_8(ex_9-ex_8)$
Turbine	$\frac{\dot{W}_T}{\dot{m}_9(ex_9{-}ex_6)}$	$\dot{m}_9(ex_9-ex_6)-\dot{W}_T$
Condenser	$\frac{\dot{Q}_{Con}\left(1-\frac{T_0}{T_{Con}}\right)}{\dot{m}_6(ex_6-ex_7)}$	$\dot{m}_6 \big(ex_6-ex_7\big) - \dot{Q}_{Con} \! \Big(1 - \tfrac{T_0}{T_c}\Big)$
		PEM
PEM electrolyzer	$\frac{\dot{m}_{19} e x_{19}}{\dot{W}_{elec} + \dot{m}_{18} e x_{18}}$	$\dot{m}_{18} ex_{18} - \dot{m}_{27} ex_{27} - \dot{m}_{19} ex_{19} + \dot{W}_{elec}$
	V	Vind turbines
Wind turbine	$\frac{\dot{W}_{windturbine,ave}}{\frac{8}{27}\rho A_2 u^3}$	$\frac{8}{27}\rho A_2 u^3 - \dot{W}_{windturbine,ave}$
	Me	thanation plant
Methanation plant	$\frac{m_{21}ex_{21}}{m_{19}ex_{19}+m_{20}ex_{20}}$	$\dot{m}_{19}ex_{19}+\dot{m}_{20}ex_{20}-\dot{m}_{21}ex_{21}-\dot{m}_{28}ex_{28}$

## 2.4. Economic Analysis

Financial analysis can provide a valuable point of view about the capital investment cost, payback period, and the system's income cash flow. Therefore, this assessment plays a key role to bring an understanding of the financial supports and outcome of the energy system to policymakers, decision-makers, and investors. Each of the following indices is necessary to have a proper economic understanding of a system.

The total investment cost,  $C_0$ , is obtained as [55,56]:

$$C_0 = K_{Solar dish} + K_{Absorption chiller} + K_{Methanation} + K_{Elec} + K_{ORC}$$
(9)

where subscripts refer to the main subsystems, and K denote the investment cost of each subsystem, which are listed in Table 4, where T, P, A, and E represent the turbine, pump, surface area of the heat exchanger, and evaporator of an absorption chiller, respectively.

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Component	Cost Function (\$)	Source (s)
	ORC	
Turbine	$2237 \left(\dot{W}_{T}\right)^{0.41}$	[57]
Pump	$1026 \left(\frac{\dot{W}_{\rm p}}{300}\right)^{0.25}$	[58]
Condenser	0338.6 A	[58]
Evaporator	216.6 + 353.4 A	[58,59]
	Absorption chiller	
Absorption chiller	$\begin{array}{c} 14,740.2095 \\ (\dot{Q}_{E})^{-0.6849} + 3.29 \end{array}$	[60]
Wind turbine	53,000	[61]
Solar dish	5650	[55,56]
Storage tank	2000	[55,56]
Methanation	500	[62]
Electrolyzer	2260	[62]
Piping	3% of total initial cost	[55,56]

Table 4. Cost of purchase and installation of the system's components.

The yearly income cash flow of the proposed system, denoted as CF, is expressed as [55,56]:

$$CF = Y_{electrical} k_{electrical} + Y_{cooling} k_{cooling} + Y_{CH4} k_{CH4}$$
(10)

where Y represents the yearly energy parameter, and k is the specific cost of each of the products, as detailed in Table 5.

**Table 5.** The specific cost of each product for financial analysis [56,63].

Products of the System	Price (\$ kWh <sup>-1</sup> )
k <sub>electrical</sub>	0.22
k <sub>cooling</sub>	0.074
k <sub>CH4</sub>	0.093

For the investment, the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is obtained as [55,56]:

$$IRR = \frac{CF}{C_0} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{(1 + IRR)^N} \right]$$
 (11)

The Net Present Value (NPV) presents the total investment gain during the lifetime of the project, which can be expressed as [55,56]:

$$NPV = -C_0 + CF \frac{(1+r)^N - 1}{r(1+r)^N}$$
 (12)

where r and N denote discount factor and project lifetime, here considered to be 3% and 25 years, respectively. The Simple Payback Period (SPP) can be obtained as [55,56]:

$$SPP = \frac{C_0}{CF} \tag{13}$$

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and the Payback Period (PP) equation is [55,56]:

$$PP = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{C_F}{CF - r.C_0}\right)}{\ln(1 + r)} \tag{14}$$

As it can be seen, each index is independent of the others and can be taken individually. Table 3 summarizes the cost of purchase and installation of the system's components, and Table 4 summarizes the electricity, cooling, and syngas prices.

## 2.5. Exergoenvironment Analysis

The exergoenvironment (exergy-environmental) study is a complement to the analysis of an energy system. This analysis clarifies the relationship between exergy destruction and environmental impact and highlights the effect of the system on the environment as caused by the system's inefficiencies. The smaller the impact factor is, the smaller is its environmental impact, which is achievable by reducing the system's exergy destruction rate.

The exergoenvironment factor is obtained as [64–66]:

$$f_{ei} = \frac{\dot{E}x_{tot,des}}{\sum \dot{E}x_{in}}$$
 (15)

where  $\dot{E}x_{tot,des}$  and  $\Sigma$   $\dot{E}x_{in}$  denote, respectively, the overall exergy destruction rate and input of exergy into the system. For an energy system, the effectiveness factor of environmental damage can be evaluated as [64–66]:

$$\theta_{ei} = f_{ei}.C_{ei} \tag{16}$$

where Cei represents the coefficient of exergoenvironmental impact expressed as [64-66]:

$$C_{ei} = \frac{1}{\eta_{ex}} \tag{17}$$

For any energy system there is an exergoenvironmental impact improvement that illustrates the positive effect of the energy system on the environment, which can be evaluated as [64–66]:

$$\theta_{\rm eii} = \frac{1}{\theta_{\rm ei}} \tag{18}$$

The stability factor of exergy can be obtained as [64–66]:

$$f_{es} = \frac{\dot{E}x_{tot,des}}{\dot{E}x_{tot,out} + \dot{E}x_{tot,des} + 1}$$
(19)

#### 3. Result and Discussion

# 3.1. System Specification

In this section, the results of the modeling that was performed in the MATLAB software are reported and discussed. One main code has been written in MATLAB. Four subroutines are written for water lithium bromide properties calculation, wind turbine energy and exergy analyses, sunrise and sunset time calculation for each day of a year, and Terminol properties calculation. Refprop software was used for R134a properties calculation. The section of the program is shown in Figure 2.

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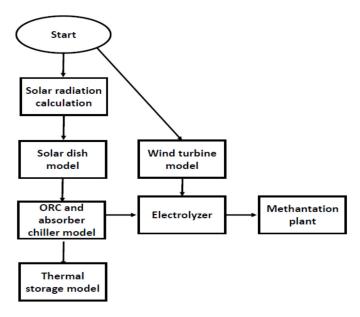


Figure 2. The subsection and methodology of the program.

The proposed system is located in the Tehran province (Iran) that has an annual average of 13 h of daylight per day. The city experiences relative humidity from 64% to 25% during a year. Moreover, the annual rainfall can range from 40.8 mm to 1.1 mm, and the wettest month of the year can have 10 rainy days [67].

Table 6 summarizes the system's specifications, and Table 7 lists the basic parameters of the solar dish collector [51]. Table 8 includes the wind turbine specifications (model Tuge 10 kW [61]). The different thermodynamic properties for different points are from the system on 13:00 of 15th of July, which is shown in Table A2 in Appendix B.

Table	<b>6.</b> S	ystem	specificati	ons.
-------	-------------	-------	-------------	------

Parameter	Units	Value
$\dot{m}_1$	kg s <sup>-1</sup>	3
m <sub>storage</sub>	kg	1000
P <sub>8</sub>	kPa	1013
P <sub>9</sub>	kPa	1013
P <sub>6</sub>	kPa	106.4
P <sub>7</sub>	kPa	106.4
$\Delta T_{superheat}$	°C	20
$\eta_{electrolyzer}$	-	0.74
T <sub>5</sub>	°C	110
x <sub>13</sub>	-	0.41
T <sub>13</sub>	°C	43
T <sub>22</sub>	°C	80
T <sub>23</sub>	°C	80

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**Table 7.** Basic parameters of the solar dish collector [51,68–70].

Parameter	Units	Value
Concentration ratio	-	28.26
Concentrator diameter	m	3.80
Paraboloid rim angle	-	45.6°
Paraboloid rim angle	m	2.26
Collector aperture	m <sup>2</sup>	10.29
Spiral length	m	9.5
Spiral outer mean diameter	mm	12.2
Spiral inner maximum diameter	mm	11.7
Spiral inner mean diameter	mm	10.5
Spiral inner minimum diameter	mm	9.3
Absorber emittance	-	0.9
Absorber absorbance	-	0.9
Mirror reflectance	-	0.7
Distance between absorber and reflector base	mm	2100

**Table 8.** Wind turbine specification [61].

Parameter	Units	Value
$\dot{W}_{ m er,windturbine}$	kW	10
$\mathrm{u}_{\scriptscriptstyle\mathcal{C}}$	${\rm m}~{\rm s}^{-1}$	3
$u_r$	${\rm m\ s^{-1}}$	11
$u_{\mathrm{f}}$	${\rm m\ s^{-1}}$	25
A <sub>2</sub>	m <sup>2</sup>	82
Number of wind blades	-	3
Tower height	m	18.2

### 3.2. Validation of a Model

To the best of the authors' knowledge, no similar system has been investigated before, and it is not possible to validate the results for the whole system. However, validation can be done for all of the components of the system.

For the solar dish, Equation (A5) is used, and based on the reference [55] the mean uncertainty is less than 1%.

Ref. [71] is used for validation of the ORC results. The reported reference for the ORC has the same configuration with this paper, having a heat source temperature of 115 °C. The power consumption of the pump, the heat exchanging rate in the evaporator and condenser, and power production of the turbine are calculated. The physical properties of R245a are near the R134a and the conditions of both cycles are below the critical point. So, all of the main and important parameters in both cycles are checked and validated. The energy efficiency predicted by the model of the present paper is 10%, which compares well with 9.7% efficiency in [71]; the mean deviation is lower than 3%.

Ref [72] is used for validation of the absorption chiller results. In that reference are conducted the energy and exergy analyses of a lithium bromide absorption chiller with 90 °C generator temperature and 10 kW capacity. The COP calculated with the model is 79%, which compares well with that of 76% reported [72], the mean deviation being close to 3.7%.

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The wind turbine model is validated by comparing the evaluated monthly average output of wind turbines with the power curve given on the manufacturer webpage. Figure 3 shows the results of that comparison, with a mean deviation of 3.9%.

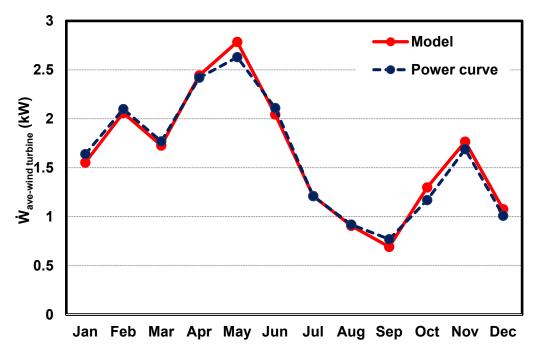


Figure 3. Results for validation of the wind turbine model.

For validation of the solar radiation, Table 1 of reference [73] is considered. In this table, the monthly average of solar radiation recorded in Iran meteorological stations from 2003 to 2010 is presented. The average error is around 3.5%, which is acceptable in engineering calculation [74].

For modeling the PEM electrolyzer, the ref [43] is used. This paper mentioned that the error of the model is 1.5% by comparing experimental results. For validation of the methanation plant, the ref [75] is considered. The deviation of methane production by Equation (4) is 2.5%. In general, by considering all of the uncertainties in various components of the system, the total error for this model is around 3.6%.

## 3.3. Results of Energy, Exergy Analyses

The metrological data for Tehran are presented in Appendix B. Figure 4 shows the monthly averaged useful thermal power gain of the solar dish of the proposed system for one year. As expected, this figure follows the pattern of the monthly direct solar beam in Figure A2. It is expected a system's heat gain from solar energy changes from 1000 (in Winter) up to 2100 W (in Summer). According to Figure 4, the system may experience 52% heat gain reduction during the fall season, the maximum heat gain occurs in June and July, while the minimum heat gain occurs in December.  $\rm s^{-1}$ 

As can be seen in Figure 5, the averaged ORC electricity production for each month of a year follows a trend similar to that of the useful heat gain from the solar dish, as the ORC energy exergy source is the solar dish heat gain. The electricity production changes from 10 W up to 170 W during a year, June and December having the maximum and minimum electricity production, respectively.

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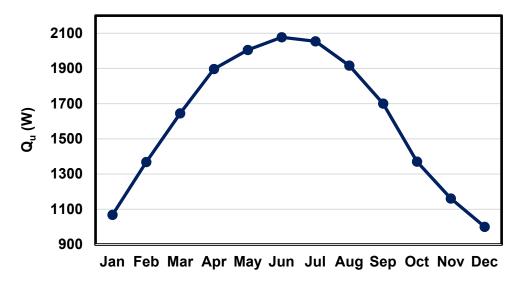


Figure 4. Monthly averaged useful heat gain from a solar dish during a year (Location: Tehran).

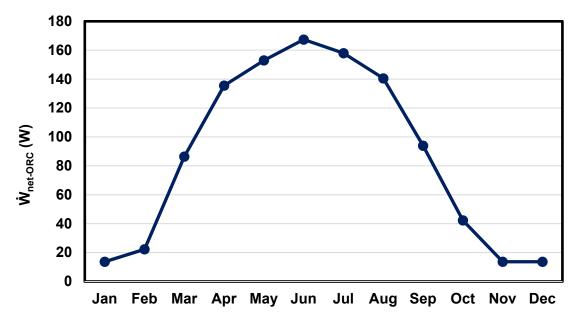


Figure 5. Monthly averaged Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) electricity production during a year.

Fluctuations on the monthly averaged electricity production by the wind turbines, during a year, are presented in Figure 6. As expected, fluctuations in the wind turbine power generation follow the wind speed fluctuations presented in Figure A3. The maximum and minimum electricity power production from wind occur in May and September, respectively. The electricity production by the wind turbines ranges from 600 W up to 2700 W, which is considerably higher than the ORC power production.

Figure 7 presents the monthly averaged hydrogen production in the PEM electrolyzer for a year. As mentioned before, since electricity consumption of the PEM electrolyzer is provided mainly by wind turbines, the trend in Figure 7 is similar to the trend in Figure A3. It is observed from Figure 7 that the minimum hydrogen production, of about 170 Nm<sup>3</sup> month<sup>-1</sup>, occurs in September. The maximum hydrogen production of about 580 Nm<sup>3</sup> month<sup>-1</sup> occurs in May.

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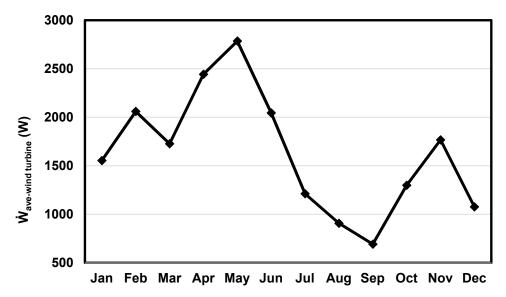


Figure 6. Monthly averaged wind turbine electricity production during a year.

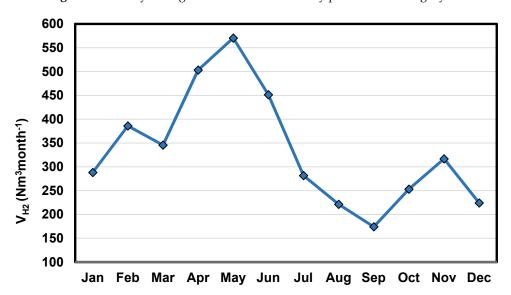


Figure 7. Monthly-average electrolyzer hydrogen production during a year.

Figure 8 presents the monthly averaged methane production of the methanation plant during a year. This figure follows a similar trend as that of the four previous figures, due to the direct link between the methane production in the methanation plant and the hydrogen production in the electrolyzer. The methane production rate changes from 42 Nm<sup>3</sup> month<sup>-1</sup> (in September) up to 140 Nm<sup>3</sup> month<sup>-1</sup> (in May) during a year.

Figure 9 presents the energy efficiency of ORC, the efficiency of the integration of ORC and absorption chiller, and the energy efficiency of the whole proposed system. As can be seen, the energy efficiency of the ORC system, ranging from 0.8% (in February) up to 3.9% (in June), is smaller when compared with the other two energy efficiencies. The addition of the absorption chiller unit to the system leads to an increase in its energy performance, adding cooling production to the system using energy recovery from the thermal storage tank. After this integration, the efficiency range of the ORC + absorption chiller combination upgrades from 4.6% (in November and December) up to 12.2% (in February). It must be mentioned that in months with lower ORC energy efficiency, integration of the ORC with absorption chiller can have four or five times increase on the efficiency of the ORC + absorption chiller combination. However, in months with the higher ORC energy efficiency, the integration brings two or three times an increase in the efficiency of the ORC + absorption chiller

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combination. The third trend in Figure 9 refers to the energy efficiency of the whole system. As it can be observed, the energy efficiency of the whole system tends to follow a similar trend to that of the wind speed fluctuations, evidencing the major role of the wind turbines on the energy efficiency of the whole system and only a minor role of the solar radiation. The energy efficiency of the whole system changes from 9.1% (in September) up to 24.7% (in May).

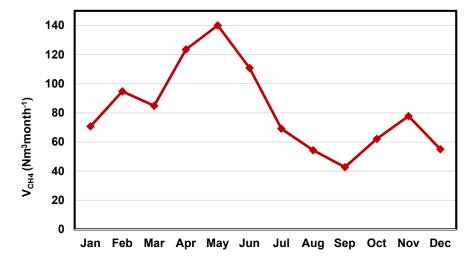


Figure 8. Monthly-average methane production of methanation plant during a year.

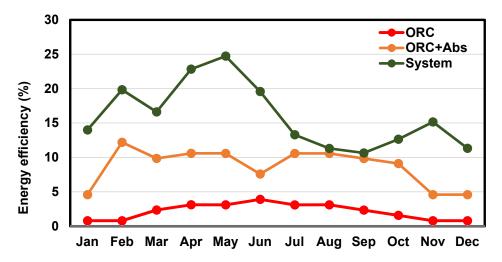


Figure 9. Monthly averaged energy efficiency of the system during a year.

Figure 10 presents the exergy efficiency of ORC, the exergy efficiency of the ORC + absorption chiller combination, and the exergy efficiency of the whole proposed system. It is seen that adding absorption chiller and wind turbines increases the exergy efficiency, even with some differences. The exergy efficiency of the ORC changes from 0.8% (in February) to 4.2% (in June). A combination of ORC with an absorption chiller increases the exergy efficiency four times in February, and the slightest increase happens in June. It is to be noted that this ORC + absorption chiller combination leads to an exergy efficiency increase that is not so notorious as the increase in energy efficiency (Figure 9). On the other hand, the exergy efficiency of the whole system is significantly enhanced because of the dominance of the products of the whole system, over the inputs when wind turbine, PEM electrolyzer, and the methanation plant are added. The exergy efficiency of the whole system changes from 8% (in September) up to 23% (in May). Similar to what happens with the previous figures, the exergy efficiency behavior tends to follow the wind speed trend, also in this case evidencing the strong dependence of the system on the wind energy and exergy.

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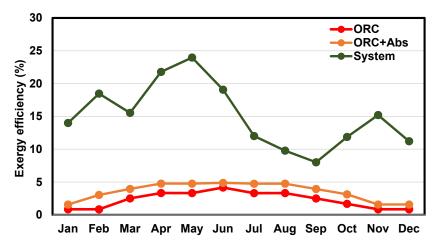


Figure 10. Monthly averaged exergy efficiency of the system during a year.

#### 3.4. Results of Exergoenvironment Analysis

Table 9 shows the exergoenvironment impact factor ( $f_{ei}$ ), effectiveness factor of environmental damage ( $\theta_{ei}$ ), and the stability factor of the exergy ( $f_{es}$ ).

**Table 9.** The fei,  $\theta_{ei}$ , and  $f_{es}$  for ORC, ORC + absorption chiller combination and the whole proposed system.

	fei	θei	fes
ORC	0.045	1.978	0.758
ORC + Abs	0.220	6.188	0.908
System	0.680	4.504	0.762

This shows ORC, ORC + absorption chiller combination, and the whole proposed system. According to Equation (15), the exergoenvironment impact factor is directly affected by exergy destruction rate and has an inverse relation with input exergy to the system, which implies the fact that the lower this factor, the more acceptable the system. As it can be seen, adding absorption chiller and wind turbine both harm this exergoenvironment impact factor. The factor is less than 0.1 for ORC, which makes it the best system over the other two; integration of ORC and absorption chiller increases this factor to 0.2, which for the whole system this factor reaches the value of 0.7. Therefore, from the exergoenvironment impact factor, this integration is not desirable.

Similar to the exergoenvironment impact factor, the less effective factor of environmental damage, the more favorable the system. According to Equation (16), the difference in the effectiveness factor of environmental damage is that this factor is a function of exergy efficiency too, which has an inverse relation with it. This inverse relation can justify the positive impact of adding a wind turbine to the system due to its significant positive impact on the exergy efficiency of the system. Therefore, the ORC remains the best system over two, with a value of 2 of the effectiveness factor of environmental damage, and the next one is the whole system, which has a value of about 4 for this factor, and the worst case is the integration of ORC and absorption chiller with 6 for this factor.

Similarly, to the effectiveness factors of environmental damage, the case with a lower stability factor of exergy would be favorable. According to Equation (19), this factor is a function of exergy product and exergy destruction of a system. As it can be seen in Table 9, this factor is about 0.75 for ORC and the whole system, while it is about 0.9 for the unfavorable ORC + absorption chiller combination. Therefore, the proposed system has a desirable stability factor of the exergy.

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#### 3.5. Results of Economic Analysis

The results of the economic analysis are listed in Table 10. As can be seen, the SPP and PP indices for the proposed system are 15.75 and 21.6 years, respectively. Total investment cost of the system and yearly income cash flow denoted respectively as  $C_0$  and CF, are 69,665.4 and 4423.18 US\$. The total investment gains during the lifetime of the project, presented as NPV, is calculated as being 5716.1 US\$, and the IRR of the proposed system is 4%.

Parameter	Unit	Value
SPP	years	15.75
PP	years	21.6
IRR	%	3.9
NPV	US\$	5716.1
C <sub>0</sub>	US\$	69,665.4
CF	US\$	4423.2

Table 10. Economic evaluation results.

#### 4. Conclusions

This article presents a hybrid system based on solar and wind energy for residential applications. The system can produce electricity, heating, cooling, and syngas from captured CO<sub>2</sub>. Energy, exergy, economic, and exergoenvironmental analyses (4E) are performed for the system to evaluate the performance from different viewpoints and the feasibility of the system. This proposed system can be used in regions with windy and high solar radiation condition to recover the renewable energy resources to produce electricity, syngas, heating, and cooling respectively.

The result of the system assessment can be summarized as follows:

- The maximum and minimum electricity production from the ORC system is 170 and 10 W in June and December, respectively.
- Electricity production from wind turbines ranges from 600 W in September up to 2700 in May.
- In the methanation plant, syngas production is maximum in May about 140 Nm<sup>3</sup> month<sup>-1</sup>, which in September experiences its lowest amount about 42 Nm<sup>3</sup> month<sup>-1</sup>. The energy efficiency of the system changes from 24.7% (in May) to 9.1% (in September) during a year. Furthermore, annually, the exergy efficiency of the whole system ranges from 8% (in September) up to 23% (in May).
- For those three cases, stability factors of exergy are calculated and compared. This factor for ORC, ORC + absorption chiller combination and the whole system are respectively 0.75, 0.9, 0.75. Therefore, ORC and the whole system are the best cases, and ORC + absorption chiller integration is not favorable.
- The simple payback period and the payback period of the system are respectively 15.6 and 21.4 years. The total investment cost of the system and yearly income cash flow are 69,129.54 and 4423.18 US\$. The net present value is 5818.13 US\$, and the internal rate of return is 4%.

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#### Nomenclature

#### Variables

 $A_a$  Aperture of the solar dish (m<sup>2</sup>)

**CF** Cost function (\$)

 $egin{array}{ll} C & & \mbox{Parameter of wind turbine} \\ C_0 & & \mbox{Total investment cost (US$)} \\ \end{array}$ 

Cei Coefficient of exergoenvironment impact

**CF** Income cash flow (US\$)

Cp Constant pressure specific heat (J  $kg^{-1} K^{-1}$ )

**COP** Coefficient of performance

E Specific parameter obtained from Equation (2)

ex Total specific exergy ( $J kg^{-1}$ )

**ex**<sub>chi</sub> Specific chemical exergy of component I (J kg<sup>-1</sup>)

 $\dot{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathbf{D}}$  Exergy destruction rate (W)

F Faraday's constant (96,495 C mole<sup>-1</sup>)
fei Exergoenvironment impact factor

**f**es Stability factor of exergy

**Gb** Direct normal irradiance (W m<sup>-2</sup>)

HTF Heat transfer fluid
h Specific Enthalpy (J kg<sup>-1</sup>)
IRR Internal Rate of Return
K Parameter of wind turbine

K Investment cost of a component (US\$)
 k Specific cost of the products (US\$ unit<sup>-1</sup>)

**KK** Number of wind turbines

Lst Standard meridian for the local time zone (degrees)

LlocLongitude of the location (degrees)HHVHigher heating value (J kg $^{-1}$ )mMass flow rate (kg s $^{-1}$ )

 $\dot{m}_{H2}$  Hydrogen production mass flow rate in alkaline electrolyzer (kg s<sup>-1</sup>)

**NPV** Net Present Value (US\$)

N Project lifetime (equal to 25 years)

PP Payback period (years)

O Heat transfer rate (W)

**R** Universal gas constant: R = 8.314 (J mole<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>)

r Discount factor (equal to 3%)
 S Specific entropy (J kg<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>)
 SPP Simple Payback Period (years)

Т Temperature (K)  $T_s$ Solar time (s) Local solar time (s)  $T_{ls}$ Wind velocity (m s<sup>-1</sup>) u Average wind speed (m s<sup>-1</sup>) ū Cut-in speed (m s<sup>-1</sup>)  $\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{c}}$ Rated speed (m s<sup>-1</sup>)  $u_r$ Furling speed (m s<sup>-1</sup>)  $\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{f}}$ 

V Voltage (V)

Work transfer rate (W)

x Mass fraction

Y Yearly energy parameter

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## **Greek Symbols**

δ	Deflection angle (Degree)
σ	Standard deviation
$ heta_z$	Zenith angle (Degree)

 $\theta_{ei}$ Effectiveness factor of environmental damage Exergoenvironmental impact improvement Factor  $\theta_{eii}$ 

Constant parameter Latitude angle (Degree) φ

η Efficiency

Efficiency of the electrolyzer  $\eta_{V}$  $\theta_{\mathbf{Z}}$ Zenith angle (Degree)

Angle of sunset hour (Degree) w

Γ Gamma function

## **Subscripts**

0 Reference state condition (1 atm, 288 K)

1, 2, ..., 23 Points in Figure 1

amb Ambient ave Average  $\mathbf{C}$ Cooling load

chi Chemical energy for component i

CH4 Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)  $CO_2$ Carbone dioxide (Co<sub>2</sub>)

Con Condenser elec Eletrolyzer Eva Evaporator Gen Generator Η Heating load P Pump S Solar

**SOFC** Solid oxide fuel cell

Useful u

## Abbreviations

Jan January Feb February Mar March April Apr May May Jun June Jul July Aug August Sep September Oct October Nov November Dec December

## Appendix A

Appendix A.1. Solar Radiation Collection

The sunny time can be expressed as follows [76]:

$$T_{ls} = T_s + 4 (L_{loc} - L_{st}) + E$$
 (A1)

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where  $T_{ls}$  and  $T_s$  denote local and solar times, respectively,  $L_{loc}$  is the longitude, and local standard time meridian is denoted as  $L_{st}$ , and E is obtained as [76]:

$$E = 229.2 (0.000075 + 0.001868\cos \beta - 0.032077\sin \beta - 0.014615\cos 2\beta - 0.04089\sin 2\beta)$$
 (A2)

 $\beta = \frac{360(n-1)}{365}$ , and for January first n is equal to 1. The angle of sunset hour is evaluated as [76]:

$$\omega = \arccos\left(-\tan\varphi\,\tan\delta\right) \tag{A3}$$

where  $\varphi$  is the latitude angle.  $\delta$  is the deflection angle, evaluated as [76]:

$$\delta = 23.45 \sin\left(\frac{360(284+n)}{365}\right) \tag{A4}$$

The thermal efficiency of the solar dish was obtained as [55]:

$$\eta_{th} = 0.68199 - 0.19456 \frac{T_{in} - T_{am}}{G_{b}} - 0.00056 \frac{(T_{in} - T_{am})^{2}}{G_{b}}$$
(A5)

where  $G_b$  is the solar direct beam irradiation, and  $T_{in}$  and  $T_{am}$  are the inlets and ambient temperatures of the solar dish. This expression was obtained using a detailed numerical model, validated with experimental studies. The regression model used for that purpose has a correlation factor  $R^2 = 0.9997$  [55].

The useful heat obtained from the dish collector is evaluated as [55]:

$$\dot{Q}_{ii} = \eta_{th} \dot{Q}_{S} \tag{A6}$$

$$\dot{Q}_{S} = A_{a}G_{b} \tag{A7}$$

The energy balance for the storage tank is calculated as follows:

$$\dot{Q}_{u} = Mc_{p} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \dot{m}_{3}h_{3} - \dot{m}_{4}h_{4} - \dot{m}_{1}h_{1} - \dot{Q}_{loss}$$
 (A8)

In which, M is the mass in the storage tank.  $\dot{Q}_{loss}$  is assumed 5% of  $\dot{Q}_{u}$ . where  $A_{a}$  is the aperture surface area of the solar dish, and  $G_{b}$  can be obtained as [76]:

$$Gb = A \cos \theta_Z \exp \left( \frac{-B}{\cos \theta_Z} \right) \tag{A9}$$

where  $\theta_Z$  denotes zenith angle, and A and B are constants [76].

Appendix A.2. Wind Energy Harvesting

The average electric power that can be produced in wind turbines is expressed as [40]:

$$\dot{W}_{wind.ave} = \dot{W}_{wind.er} \left[ \frac{exp \left( - \left( \frac{u_c}{C} \right) \right)^K - exp \left( - \left( \frac{u_r}{C} \right) \right)^K}{\left( \frac{u_r}{C} \right)^K - \left( \frac{u_c}{C} \right)^K} - exp \left( - \left( \frac{u_f}{C} \right) \right)^K \right]$$
(A10)

where u<sub>c</sub>, u<sub>r</sub>, and u<sub>f</sub> denote cut-in and furling speeds, and C and K can be obtained as [77,78]:

$$C = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{u}}}{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{\bar{\mathbf{k}}}\right)} \tag{A11}$$

$$K = \left(\frac{\sigma}{n}\right)^{-1.086} \tag{A12}$$

In these equations,  $\bar{u}$  is the average wind speed,  $\Gamma$  is the Gamma function, and  $\sigma$  denotes the wind speed standard deviation.

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## Appendix B

Figure A1 presents the monthly averaged minimum, maximum, and average ambient temperatures of each month for Tehran for a year. As it can be seen on the  $T_{max}$  curve, August and February have the maximum and minimum ambient temperature, respectively, with 40 °C ambient temperature amplitude. However, according to the  $T_{mean}$  curve, July has the maximum ambient temperature, and the temperature of the city during a year generally ranges from 15 up to 35 °C.

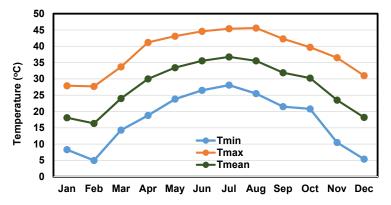


Figure A1. Monthly averaged ambient temperature of Tehran during a year.

Figure A2 presents the monthly averaged direct beam solar radiation for Tehran. April, May, Jun, July, and August have significant potential for solar radiation use (spring and summer seasons). Fall and winter seasons have solar radiation below  $200 \text{ W/m}^2$  in Tehran. The direct beam radiation presents a 100% increase in June when compared with the lowest solar radiation in December.

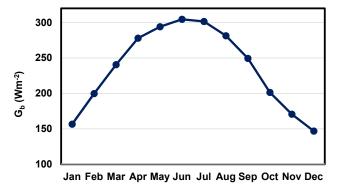


Figure A2. Monthly- average solar radiation of Tehran during a year.

Table A1 shows the number of air flows in specific wind velocity ranges during various months of a year. Figure A3 shows the monthly averaged wind velocity in each month of a year. Five different wind speed ranges are considered, and the highest average wind velocity during a year belongs to the first range for which wind speed changes from 1 to 3 m/s. Spring months reveal the highest average wind velocity in different wind speed ranges. As it can be observed in Figure A3, winter and spring seasons have the highest average wind speed, ranging from 4 to 5.5 m/s, and the lowest average wind speed occurs in summer, though December has the lowest wind speed.

Wind Speed (m $s^{-1}$ )	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
$1 \le u_1 < 3$	59	62	82	79	71	76	98	106	119	96	64	60
$4 \le u_1 < 6$	25	36	65	61	53	67	73	51	43	37	31	8
$7 \le u_1 < 10$	15	22	20	32	27	27	7	5	6	10	14	2
$11 \le u_1 < 16$	0	2	2	7	12	3	2	1	0	2	2	2
$u_1 > 16$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table A1. Wind velocity value at a variety of wind speed ranges for Tehran during a year [67].

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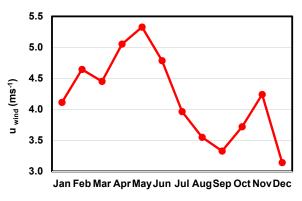


Figure A3. Monthly- average wind speed fluctuations of Tehran during a year.

The different thermodynamic properties for different points from the system on 13:00 of 15th of July are shown in Table A2 in Appendix B.

**Table A2.** The different thermodynamic properties for different points are from the system on 13:00 of 15th of July.

No.	Temperature (K)	Pressure (kPa)	Mass Flow Rate (kg s <sup>-1</sup> )	Enthalpy (kJ kg <sup>-1</sup> )
1	331.250	101.300	1.00000	794.114
2	332.750	202.600	1.00000	799.186
3	345.150	196.522	1.00000	841.966
4	343.250	101.300	1.00000	835.305
5	342.710	202.600	1.00000	833.423
6	251.100	121.600	0.03000	385.305
7	250.440	117.900	0.03000	170.139
8	252.460	1013.000	0.03000	173.024
9	330.890	982.600	0.03000	440.513
10	328.150	8.128	0.00970	122.159
11	328.150	3.236	0.00747	124.229
12	316.500	1.681	0.00747	99.302
13	316.500	4.403	0.00970	93.164
14	328.150	8.128	0.00227	2576.300
15	314.700	8.128	0.00227	174.095
16	316.500	4.403	0.00227	174.095
17	316.500	4.403	0.00227	2556.300
18	298.300	101.300	0.00016	105.547
19	298.300	101.300	0.00002	3931.716
20	298.500	101.300	0.00010	505.969
21	353.150	202.600	0.00004	910.288
22	331.210	196.500	1.00000	793.980
23	330.750	190.600	1.00000	792.429
24	329.750	184.880	1.00000	789.064
25	329.470	179.330	1.00000	788.124
26	328.890	173.950	1.00000	786.178
27	298.500	101.300	0.00015	271.148
28	353.150	202.160	0.00008	105.547

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