

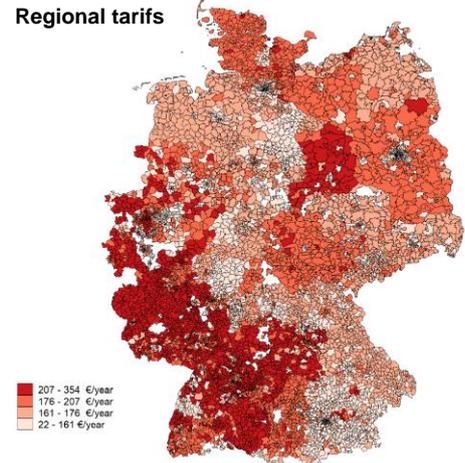
Bachelorthesis

Analyzing regional differences of default utility tariffs for electricity

More than 33 % of all residential customers are still in the default utility tariff of their regional electricity provider. The associated tariffs are often more expensive than the tariffs of competitors. It is also significant that the default tariffs vary between different electricity providers. Consequently, depending on the location, residential customers have different tariffs. The question arises whether these differences are fair from the consumer's point of view. As a result, a reform of the default utility tariffs could be interesting. However, before investigating on this question, one would first have to understand and analyze how the tariffs are currently structured and how the regional differences can be explained. The questions arise, whether regional differences in the default tariffs can be explained solely by differences in grid fees, which are currently the only regionally differentiated price component.

Therefore, the thesis should elaborate if there is an additional relation with socio-economic parameters, e.g., regional GDP, number of inhabitants or the size of the electricity provider. For this, a regionally resolved data set on basic tariffs and structural parameters should be compiled to perform analysis with regard to the question described above.

Regional tariffs



Source: Gugler et al.: Market Liberalization: Price Dispersion, Price Discrimination and Consumer Search in the German Electricity Markets. ZEW Discussion Paper. 2018.

Key tasks and objectives of the thesis

- Familiarization with the topic of electricity tariff design and analysis of correlations
- Generating a composed dataset with a regional dimension and data for tariff structure, grid fees and further socio-economic data (regional resolved tariff data and grid fees are available at the ewi; some are open source e.g. socio-economic data on grid level ([Link](#)))
- Identification of possible correlations between the regional tariff structure and further structural parameters using appropriate methods

Your profile

- Study of mathematics, computer science or economics with a quantitative focus
- Experiences in programming (e.g. with Python) is an advantage

First literature

- <https://ag.greencity.de/gesunkene-strompreise-landen-nicht-bei-verbrauchern/>
- Gugler et al.: Market Liberalization: Price Dispersion, Price Discrimination and Consumer Search in the German Electricity Markets. ZEW Discussion Paper. 2018.

Contact



Nils Namockel

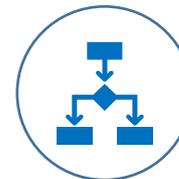
Tel.: 0221/27729-104,
nils.namockel@ewi.uni-koeln.de

Topics



- Electricity Market
- Tarif design
- Price Discrimination

Methods



- Data Analysis
- Correlation Analysis
- Working with Geodata