



## *Picking the best from the all-resources menu:* **Advanced Tools for Resource Planning**

**Bryan Palmintier, PhD**

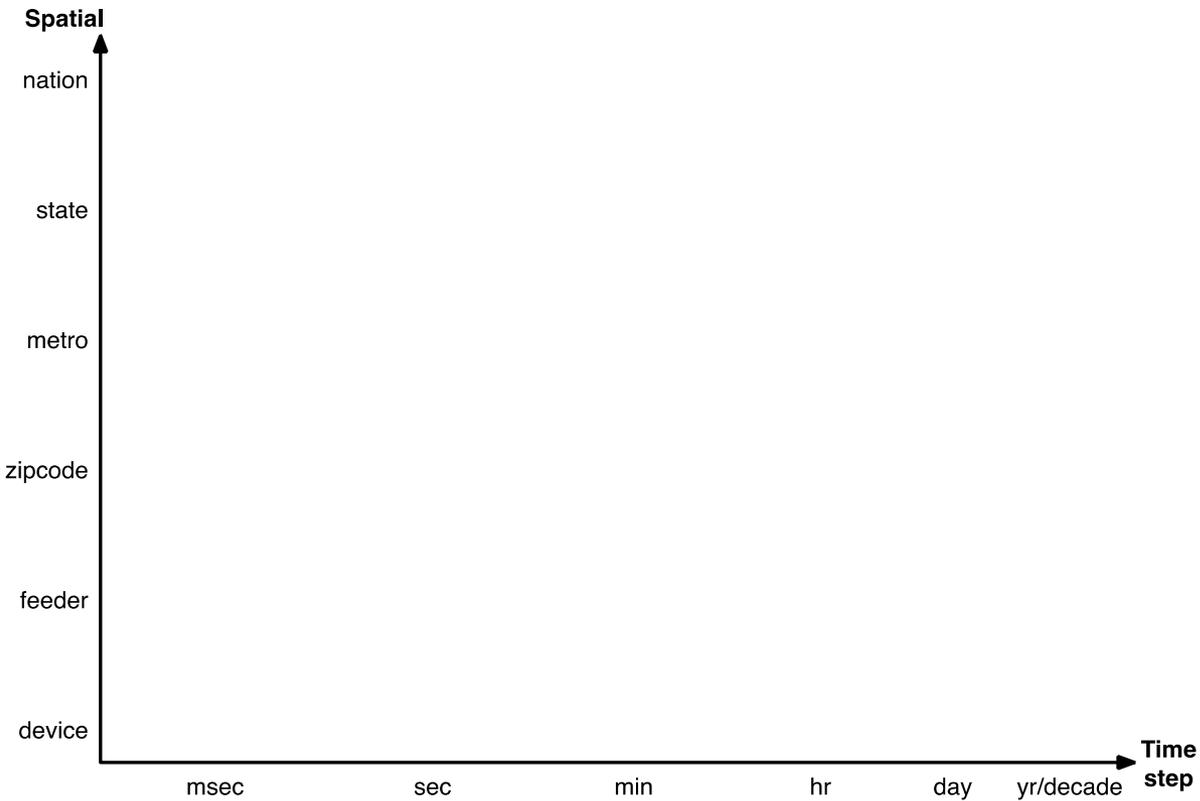
Senior Research Engineer, Power Systems Engineering Center  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

GETTING THE MENU RIGHT: An All-Resources Approach to  
Planning for a More Dynamic, Low-Carbon Grid

McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis, MN  
November 28, 2017

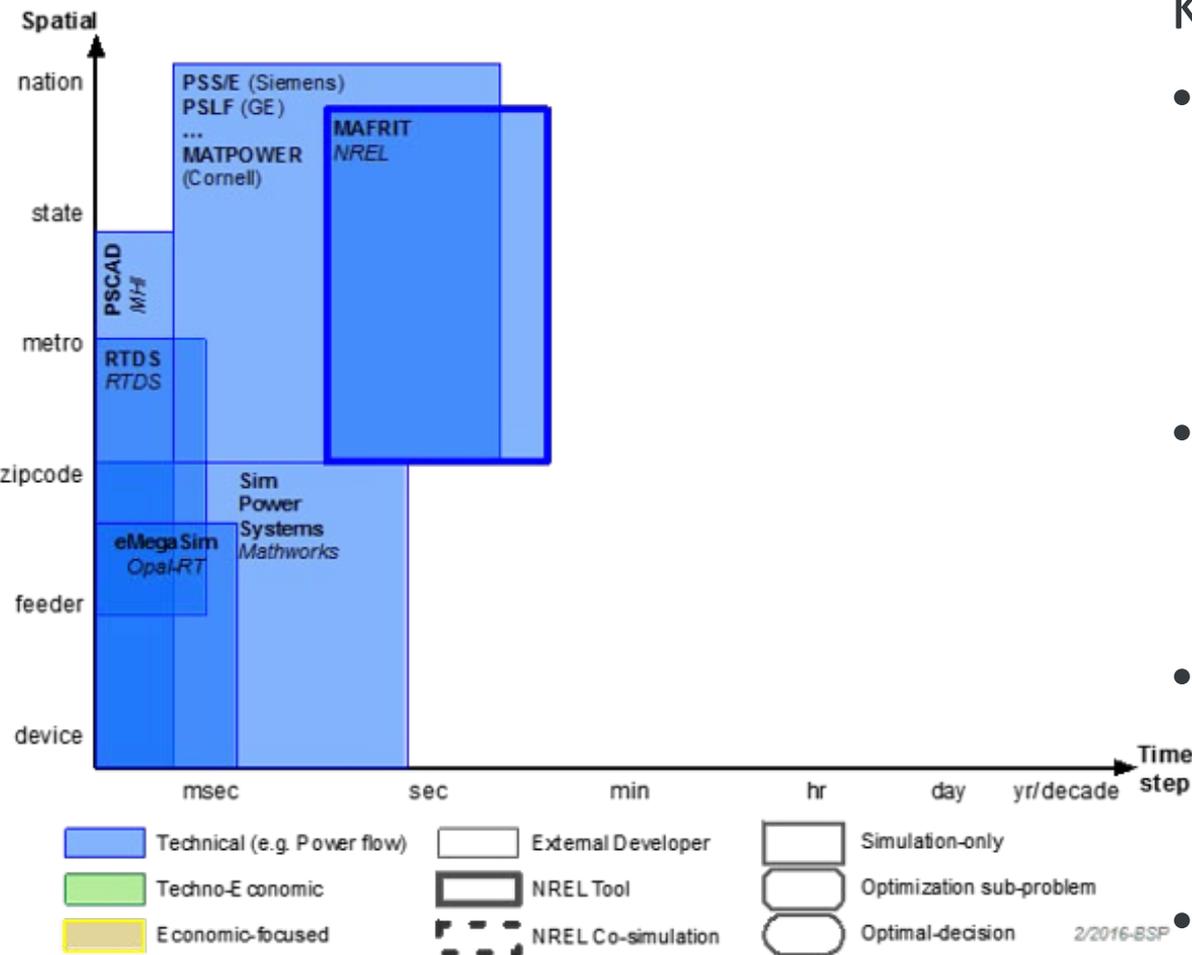
NREL /PR-5D00-70697

# Tools: A wide range of space and time



2/2016-BSP

# Tools: “Dynamics” Simulation

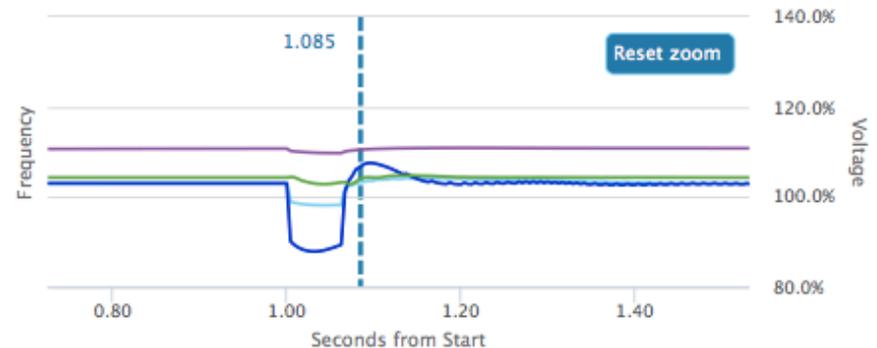
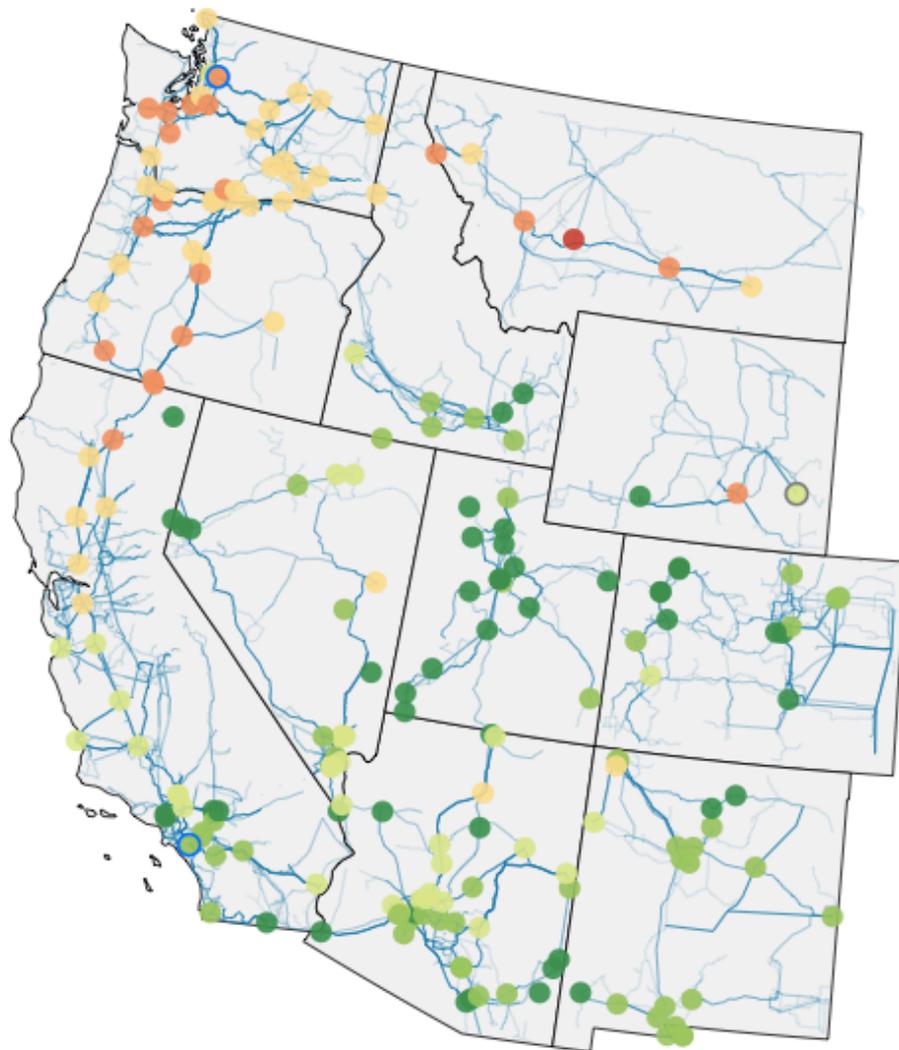


## Key Questions:

- How will system respond to a fault/outage?
  - Frequency
  - Voltage
- Can inverter-based technologies provide sufficient inertia?
- Will protection and control schemes provide reliability?
- What ride-through settings are required

## Western Wind and Solar Integration Study

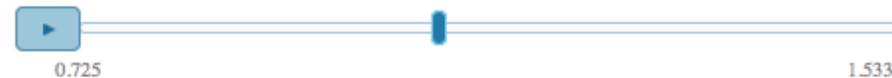
The primary objectives of Phase 3 of the Western Wind and Solar Integration Study (WWSIS-3) were to examine the large-scale transient stability and frequency response of the Western Interconnection with high wind and solar penetration. WWSIS-3 evaluated a variety of system conditions, disturbances, locations, and renewable penetration levels to help draw broader conclusions. Key finding was that with good system planning, sound engineering practices, and commercially available technologies, the Western Interconnection can withstand the crucial first minute after grid disturbances with high penetrations of wind and solar.



### Voltage

- 95.0% - 97.5% or 102.5% - 105.0%
- 92.5% - 95.0% or 105.0% - 107.5%
- 90.0% - 92.5% or 107.5% - 110.0%
- 87.5% - 90.0% or 110.0% - 112.5%
- less than 87.5% or more than 112.5%

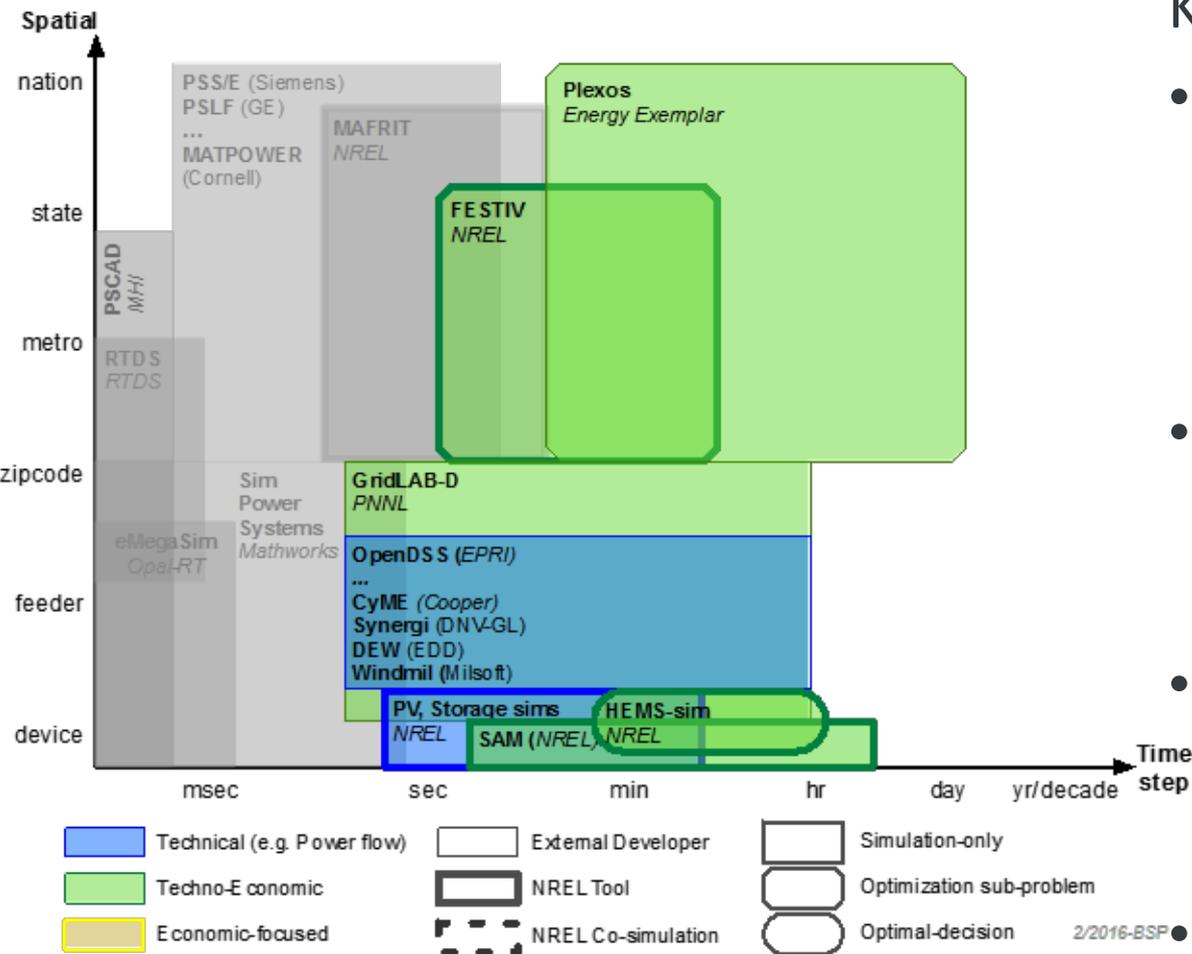
○ 60.00 Frequency (Hz) 60.00 ○



### Scenario:

Aeolus Fault High Renewables ▾

# Tools: Operations Simulation (Production Cost / QSTS)



## Key Questions:

- Can supply meet demand at all times?
  - Curtailment?
  - Congestion?

## Market

## Design/Operations:

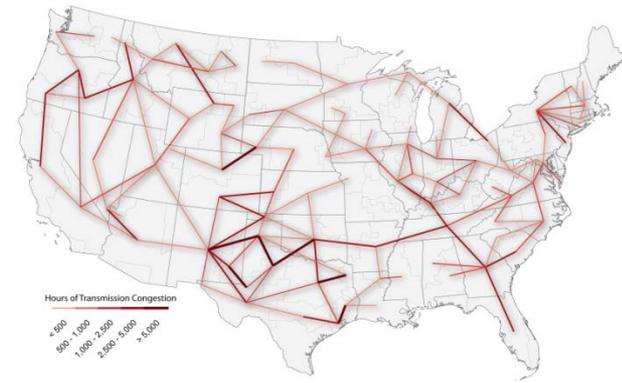
- Locational prices
- Can Distribution operate effectively?

- Voltage?

## Value of forecasts?

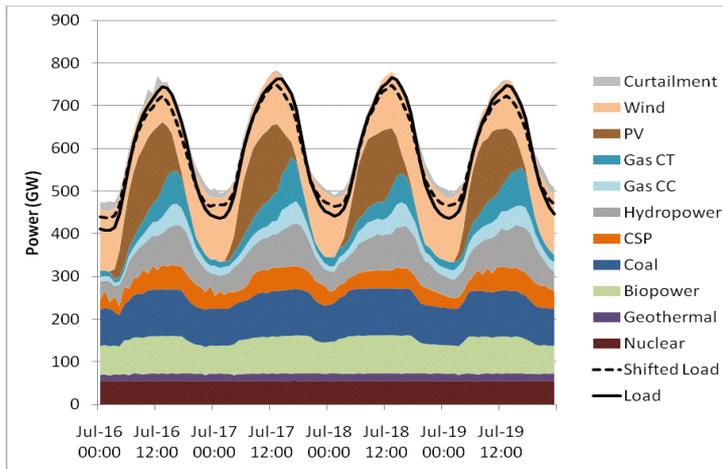
- Viable cash-flow?

# Typical Operations Simulation Outputs

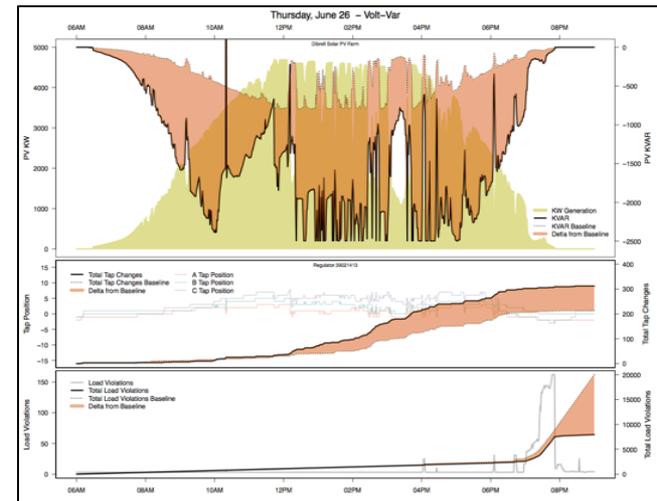


Transmission congestion

## Prices and total production cost

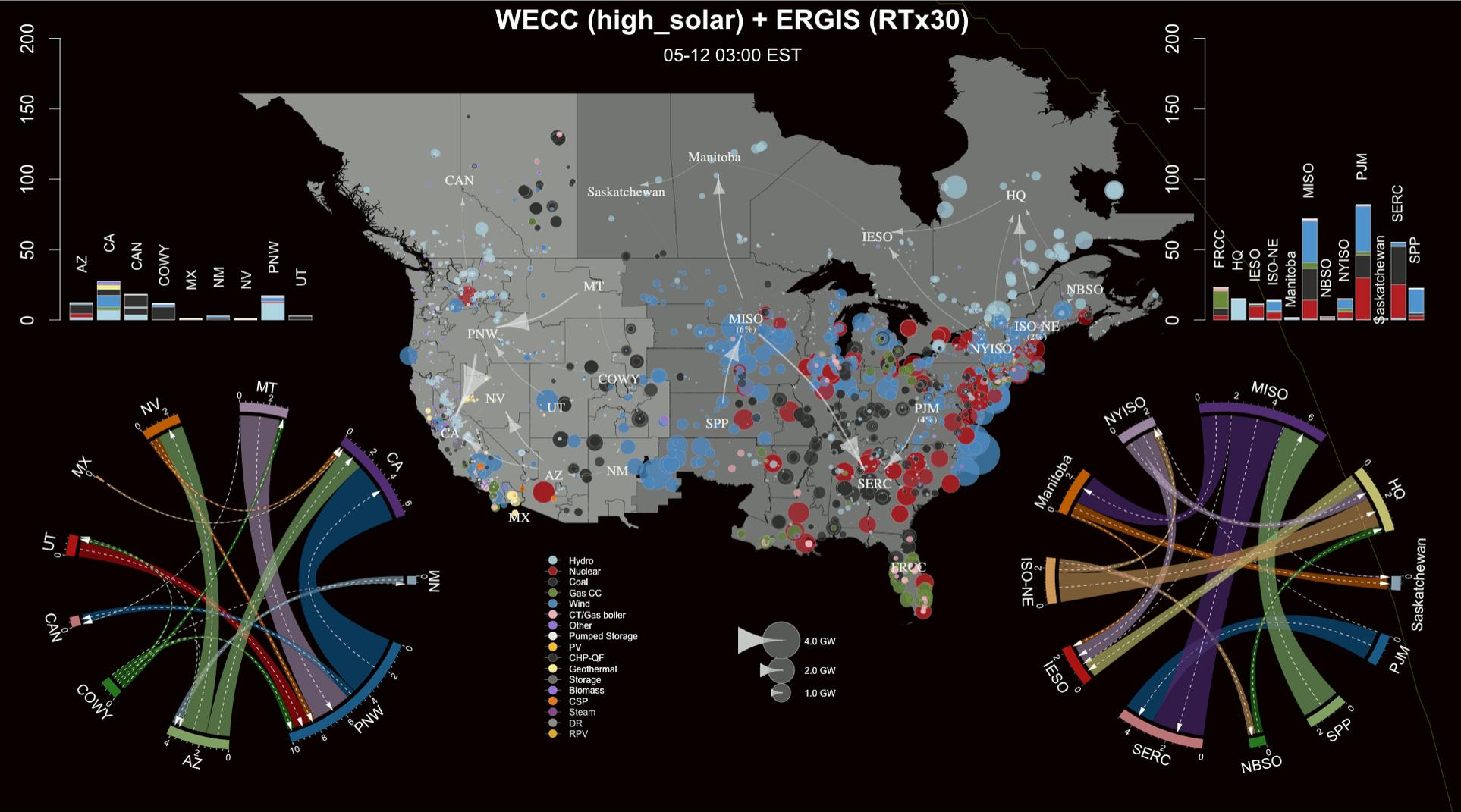


Dispatch information (ramping, cycling, fuel usage by type)



Detailed Distribution voltage and equipment operation

# Large-scale Production Costing in Context: The big picture

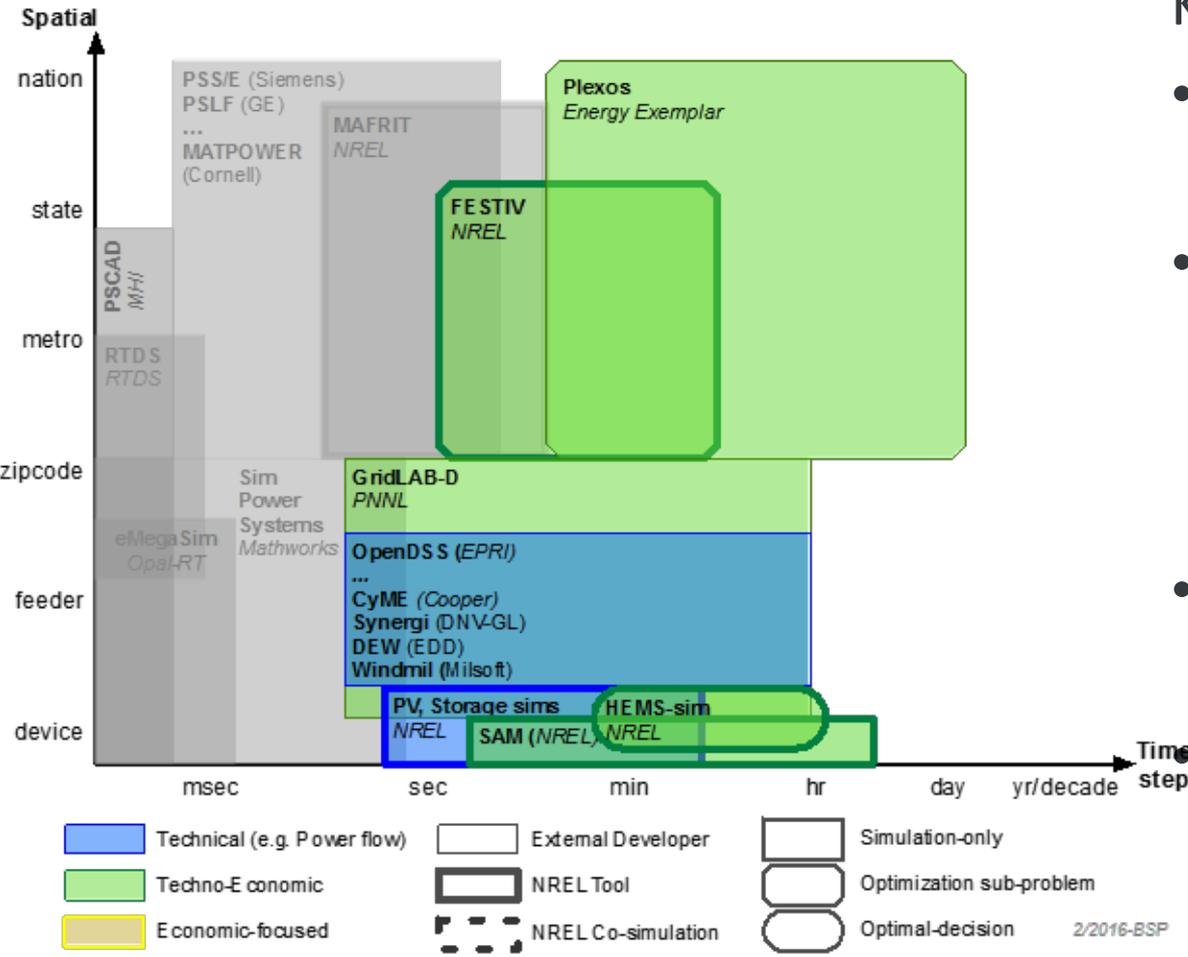


# Tools: Metric Assessment

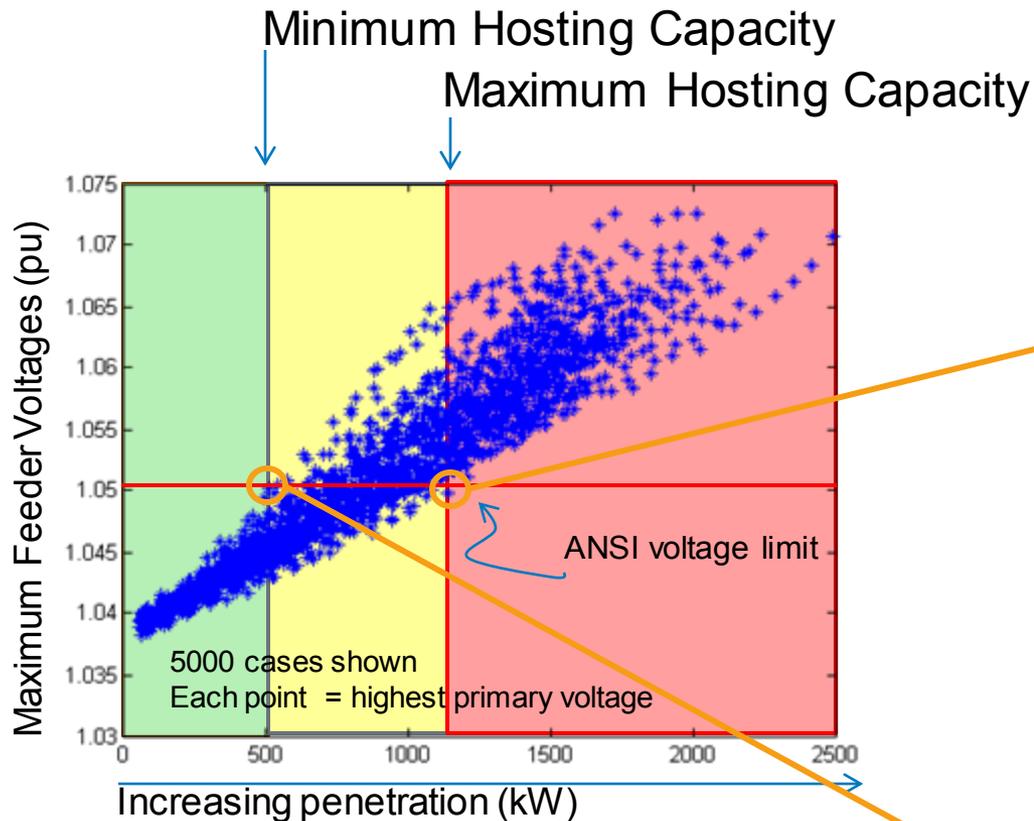
## Key Questions:

- What is the system capacity margin?
- What type and quantity of reserves and “ancillary” services?
  - Which resources?
- What is the DER hosting capacity?

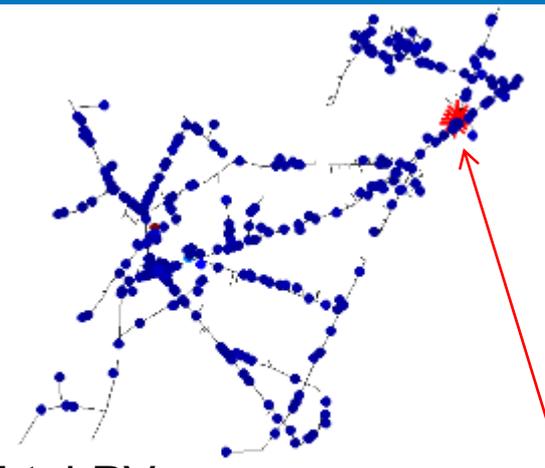
Cost-benefit analysis



# Hosting Capacity Background

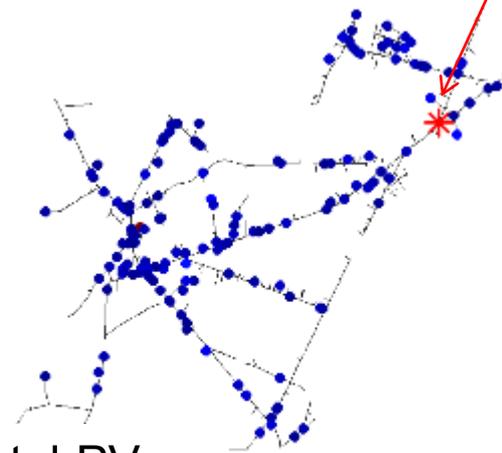


No observable violations regardless of size/location
Possible violations based upon size/location
Observable violations occur regardless of size/location



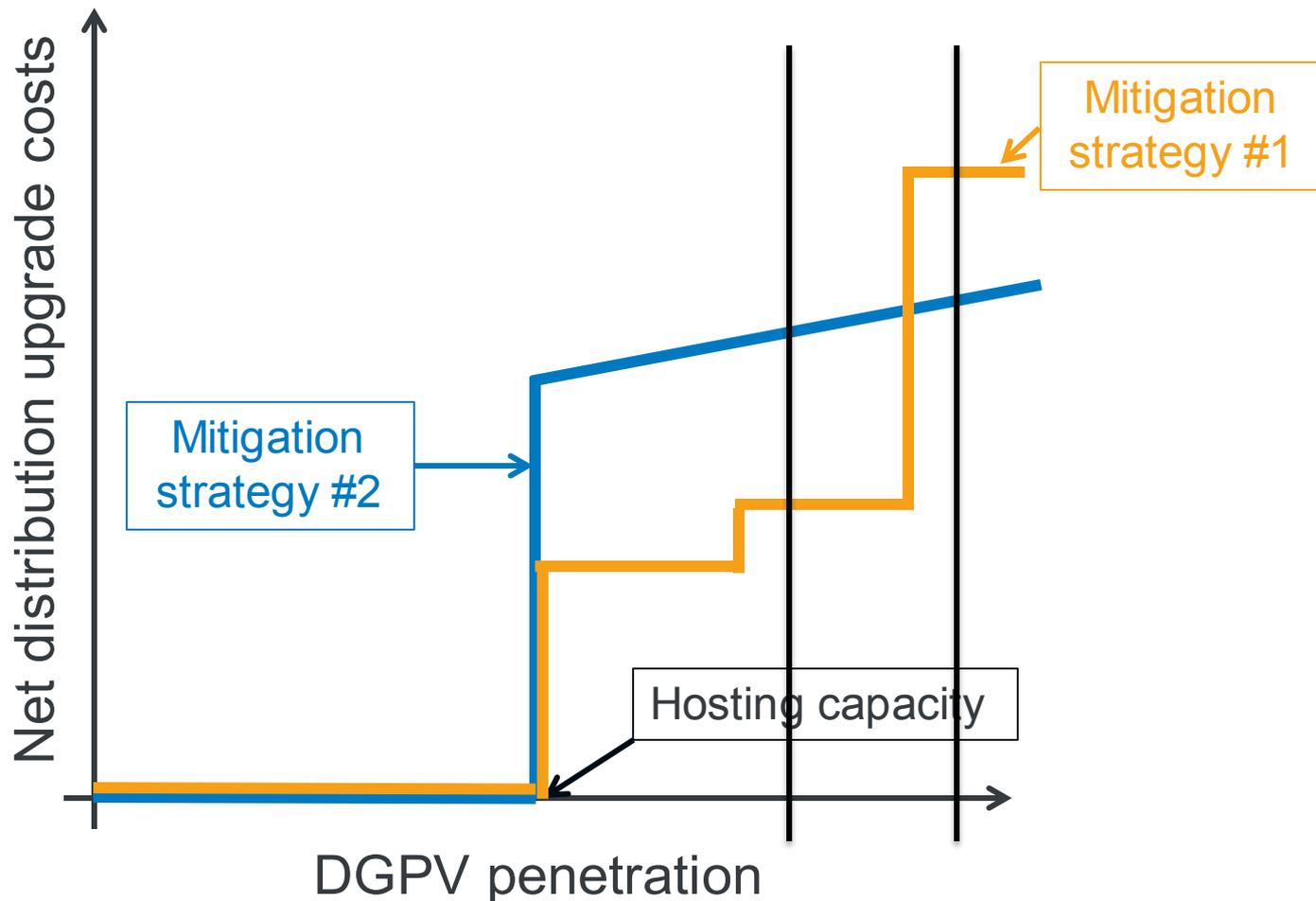
Total PV:  
1173 kW

Voltage violation

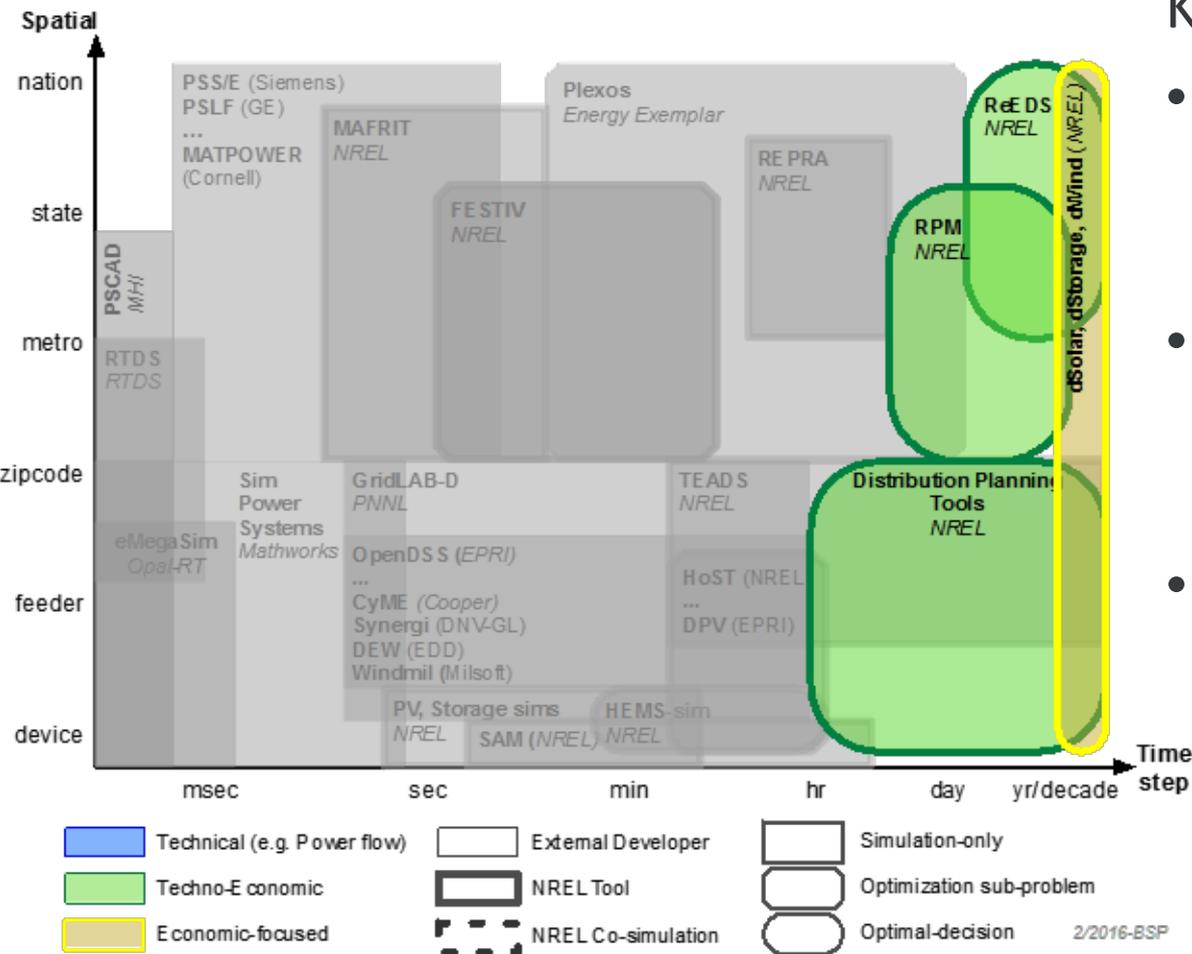


Total PV:  
540 kW

## Costs on a specific feeder or distribution system



# Tools: Planning & Trends

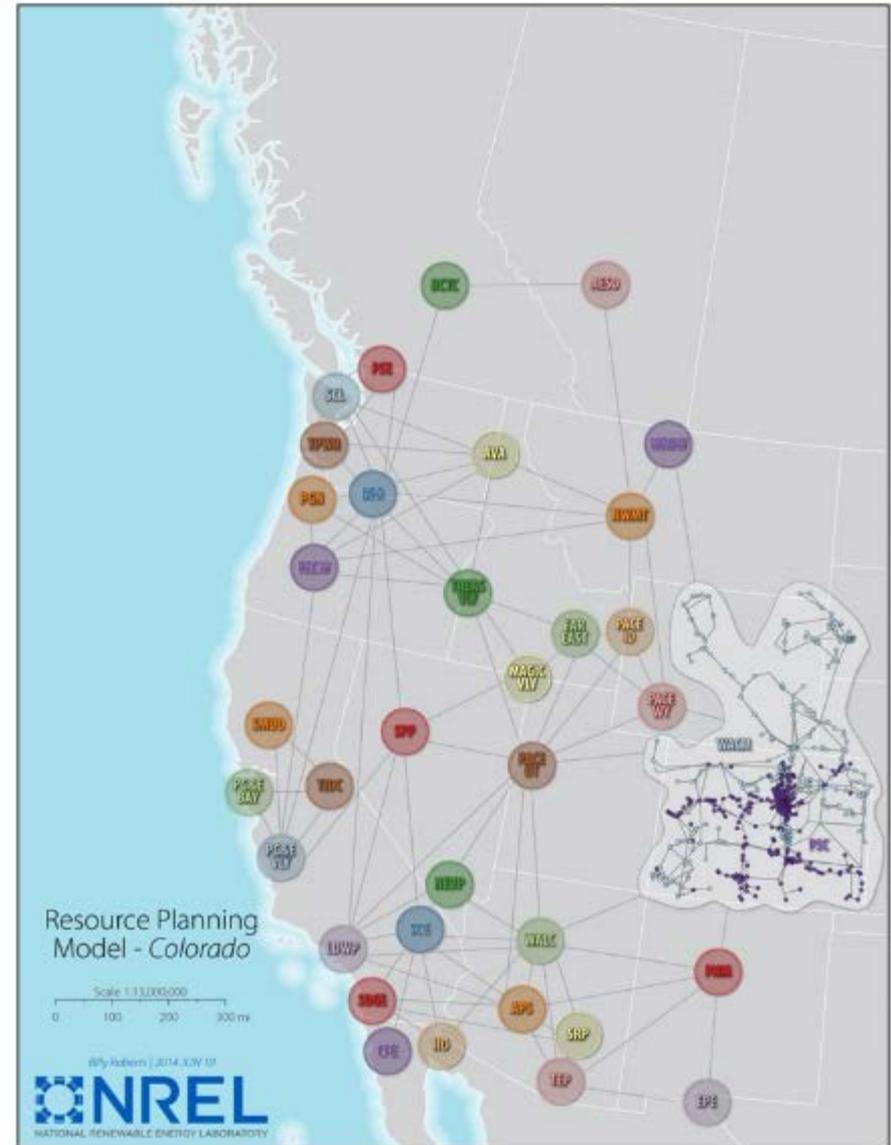


## Key Questions:

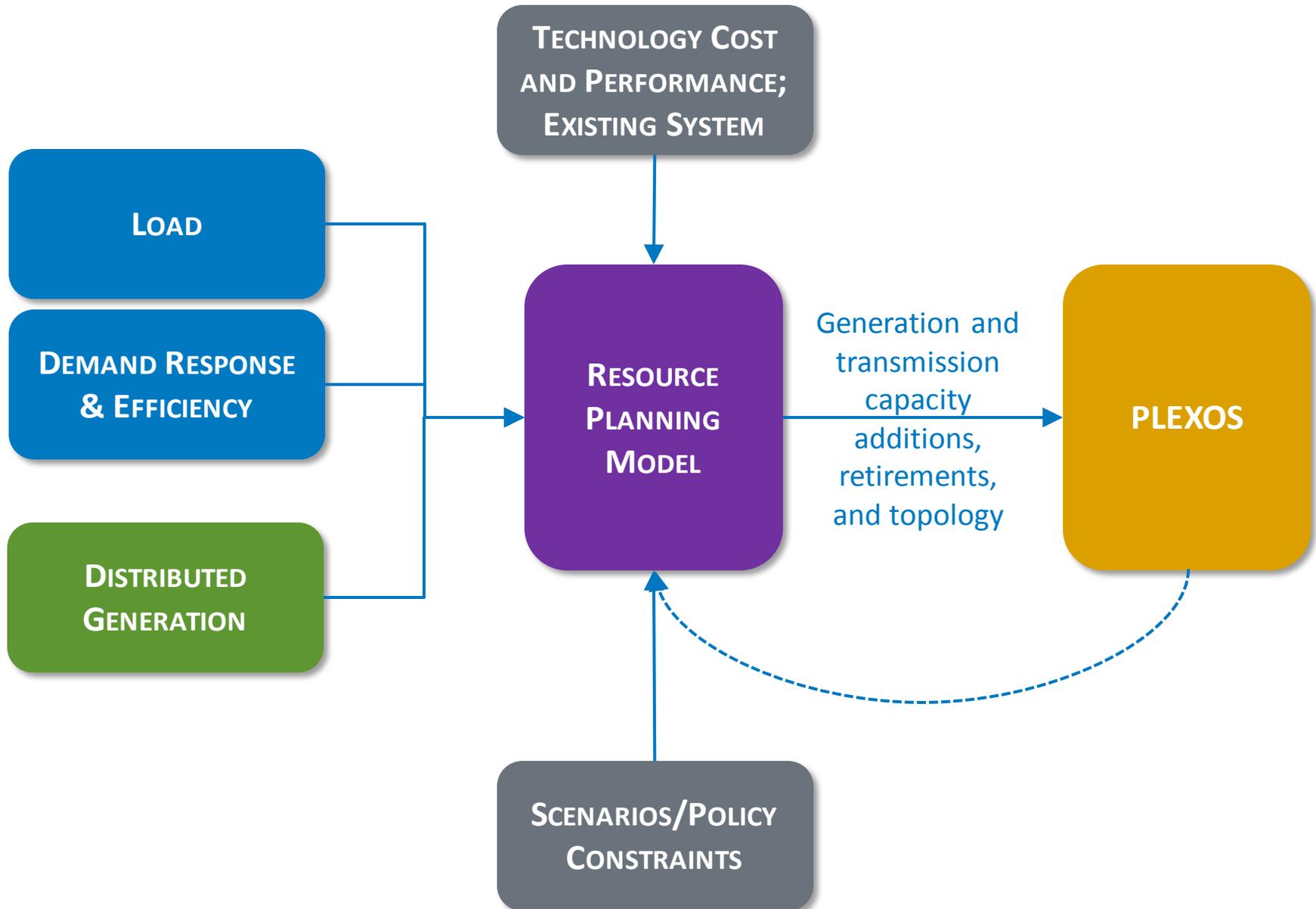
- What is least cost mix of generation and transmission?
- How might tariffs/prices/incentives impact DER adoption?
- What are costs and options to expand hosting capacity?

# The Resource Planning Model (RPM): detailed capacity expansion and dispatch for a region, utility service territory, or state

- Highly detailed capacity expansion and dispatch (2010-2035/2050)
  - **unit-level plant and transmission representation** within the region of interest
- Flexible structure for a dynamic regional focus
- **Hourly chronological dispatch** for representative sets of days (or weeks) to characterize dispatch for a given year
- Key outputs: detailed generation and transmission capacity builds, emissions, fuel consumption, system costs; wholesale electricity prices, credit prices, and allowance prices

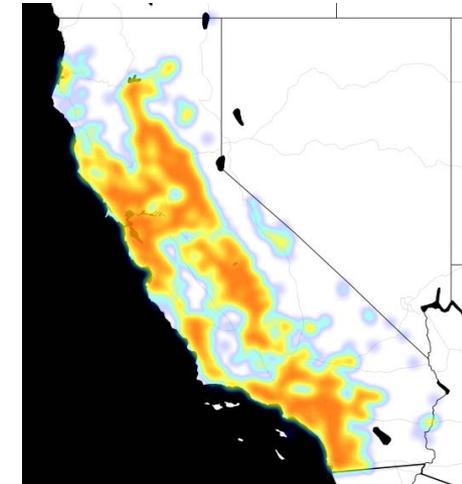
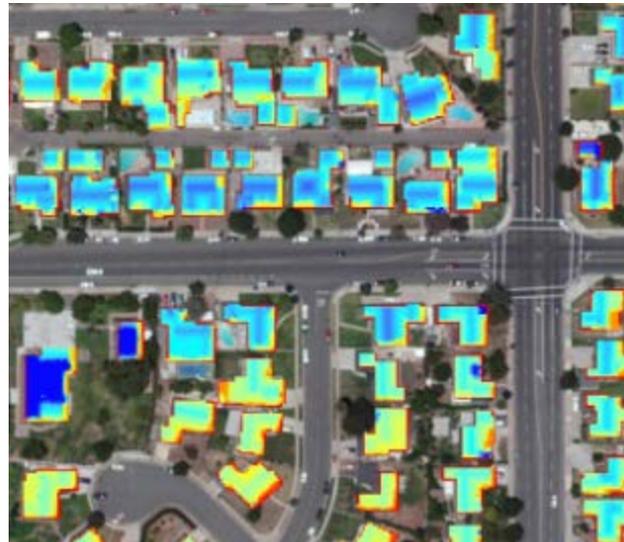
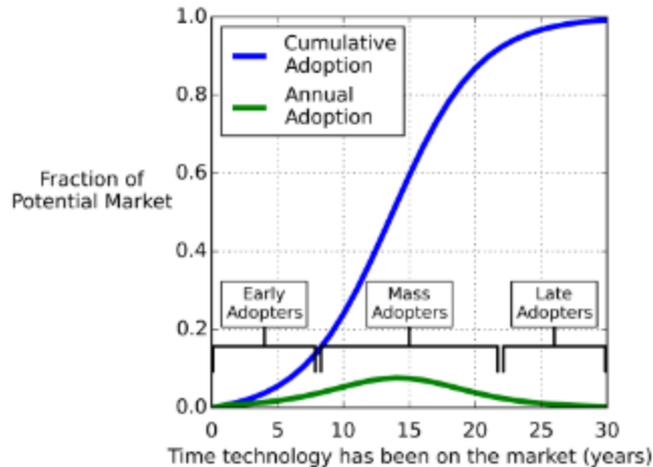
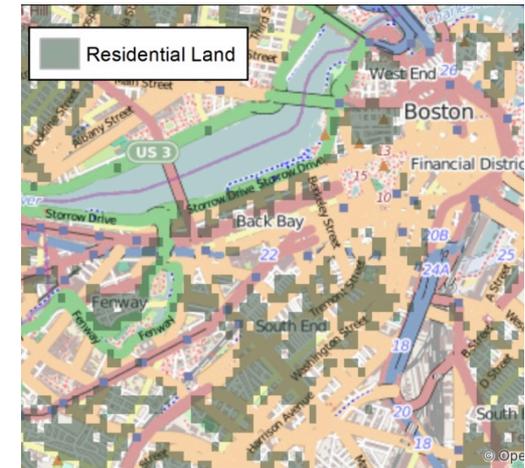


# Data/Modeling Flow



# Distributed Gen. Market Demand Model (dGen)

- Forecast customer adoption of distributed generation technologies (solar, storage, wind, geothermal)
  - electricity costs,
  - technology cost and performance,
  - policy and regulation, and
  - customer behavior

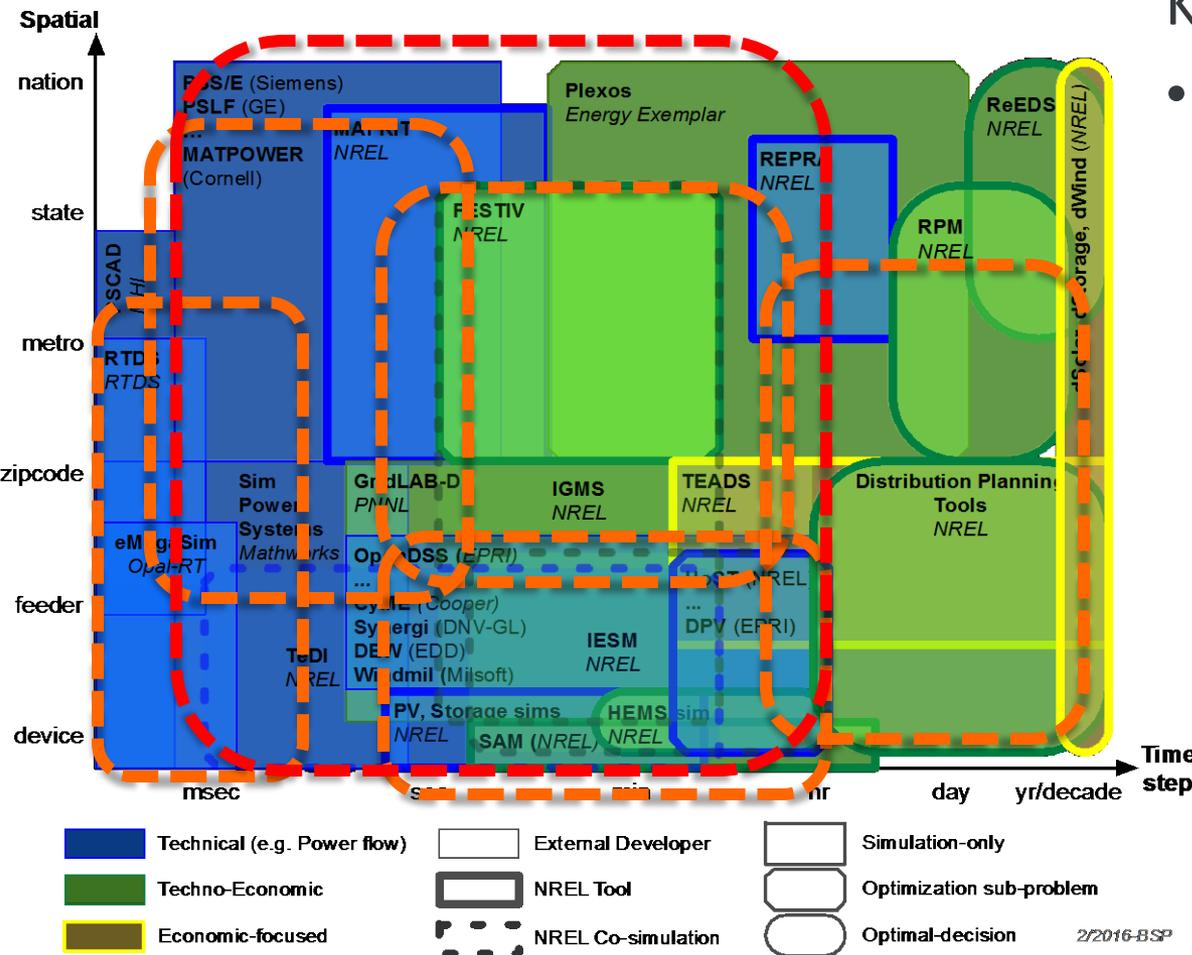


Source: <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/65298.pdf>

# Tools: Integrated Simulations

## Key Questions:

- Closed-loop interactions between T+D+
  - Physical limits on DER
  - DERs as Price-makers
  - Reactive power/Voltage



*Palmintier, et al. Modeling and Simulation Tools for Analyzing High Penetrations of Variable Renewables in Electric Power Systems. Forthcoming NREL Technical Report*

# Integrated T&D Grid Modeling System (IGMS)

## Summary:

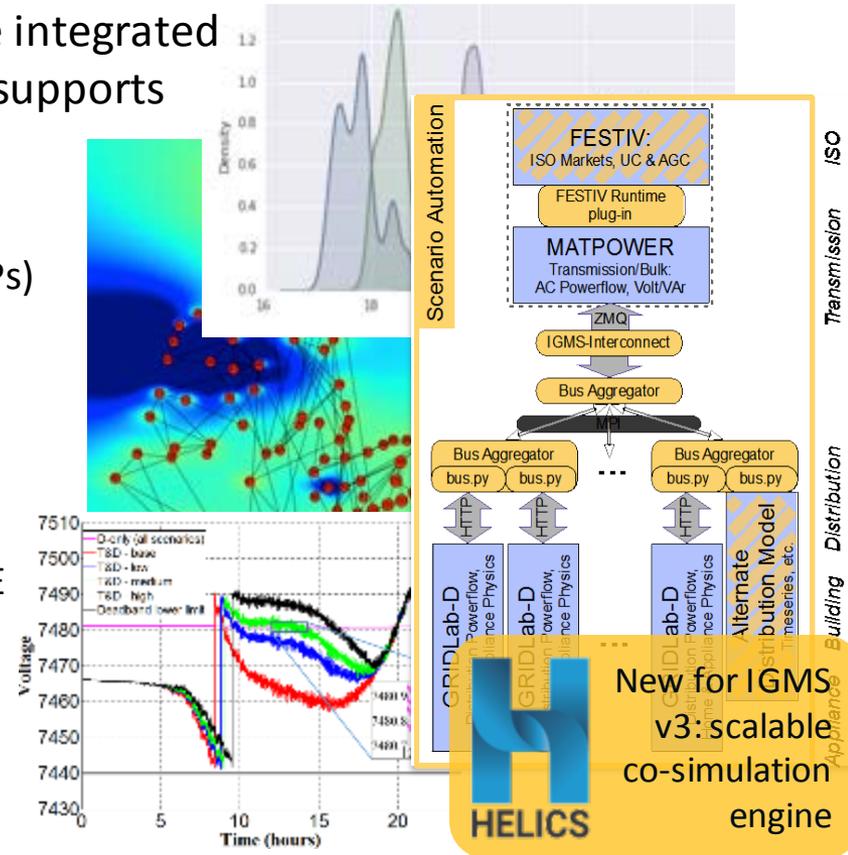
A next-generation analysis framework for full-scale integrated **market+transmission+distribution** simulation that supports millions of highly distributed energy resources.

## End-to-End T&D Modeling Capability

- detailed multi-period wholesale markets (including LMPs)
- generator/reserve dispatch (AGC)
- AC Powerflow (bulk transmission)
- Full unbalanced 3-ph power flow for 100s-1000s of distribution feeders
- Physics based end-use models of buildings and DERs
- Semi-Automated import from PLEXOS, SynerGi, & CyME

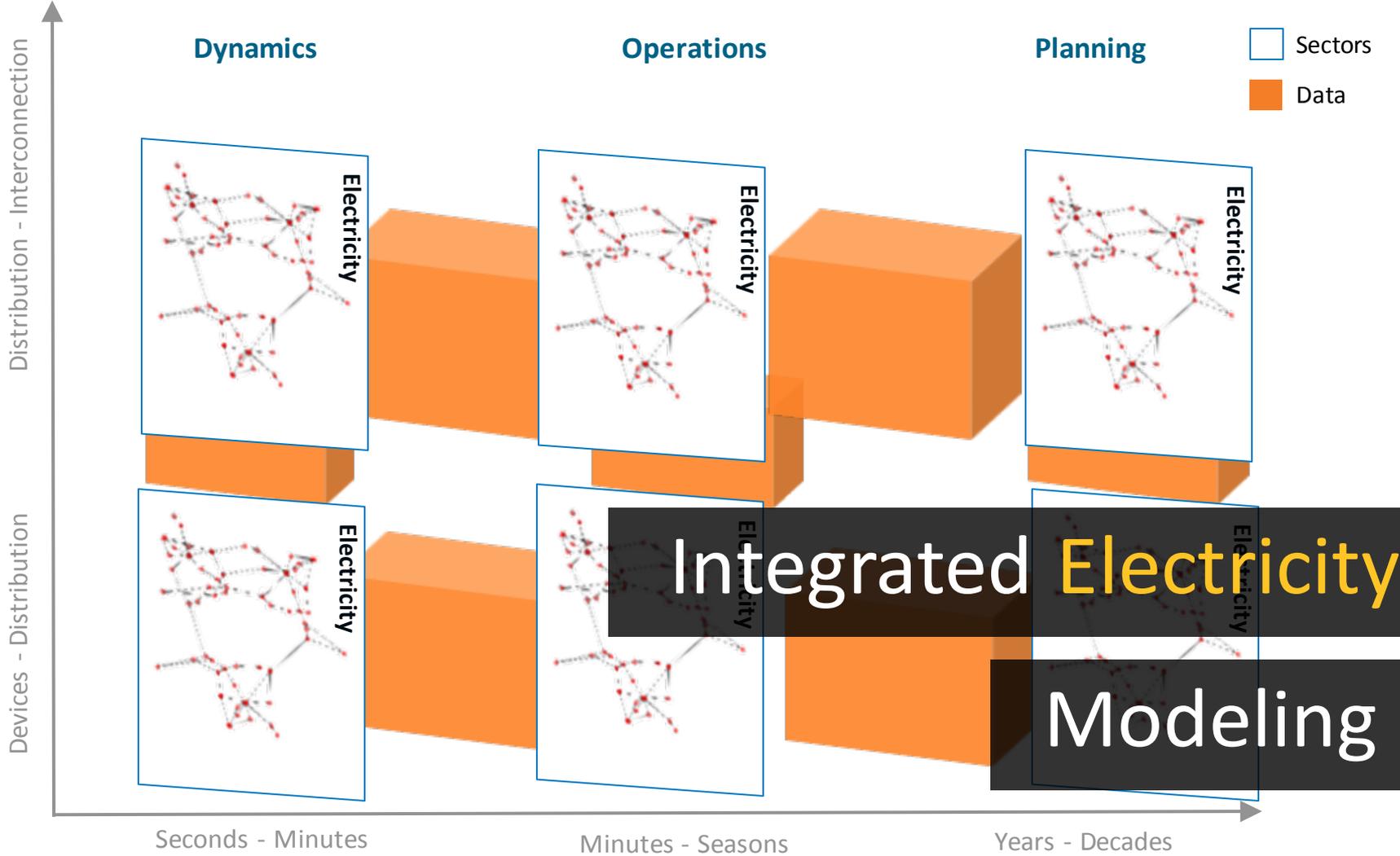
## Example Applications

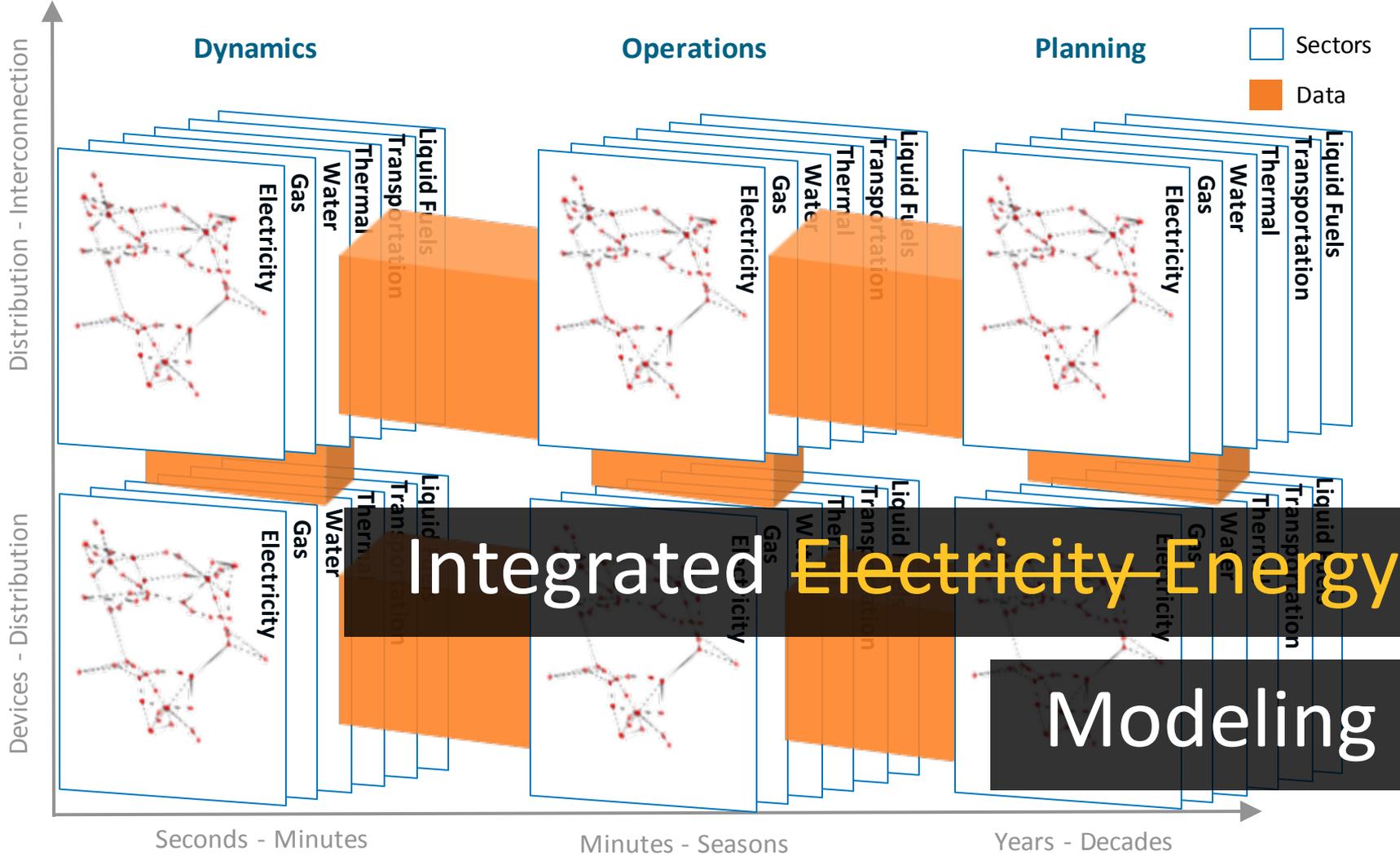
- **Past:** Analyze distributed PV support for grid operations
- **Full System:** All Transmission + all distribution + all customers. e.g. >2.3M electrical nodes, >700k customers
- **Current Research:**
  - Wholesale price interaction of DERs
  - Distribution market, DER, and service designs
  - Communication/Control Architectures (w/ HECO)



**NREL's Integrated Grid Modeling System (IGMS)** provides a first-of-a-kind co-simulation with transmission-level markets, 1000s of distribution feeders, and 1Ms of DERs

<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/65550.pdf>





# Pushing the Frontier



Interconnections  
Seam Study

What happens  
if the east joins  
the west?

December 2017



North American  
Renewable  
Integration Study

What if North  
America works  
together?

October 2019



Electrification  
Futures Study

What if the  
energy  
economy  
electrifies?

October 2019



Multi-scale  
Production Cost  
Modeling

Can we make  
models more  
detailed and  
faster?

October 2018



Los Angeles 100%

Can LA operate  
on 100%  
Renewable  
Energy

January 2020

Thank you!



Bryan.Palmintier@nrel.gov

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