

# Modeling Transitions to Connected and Automated Vehicles

Brian Bush, Laura Vimmerstedt, Jeff Gonder  
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## OVERVIEW

Timeline: March 2017 – June 2019

Total Funding: \$315,000

## RELEVANCE

### Objectives

Determine how cost, technology, and stakeholder behavior can accelerate or impede CAV adoption and affect energy use, both during transition and at end states with varying CAV use, through development of a semi-quantitative "CAV scenario generation" model, identifying data gaps needing future research.

### Impact

Supports efforts to estimate potential energy and mobility impacts of CAVs at both a national level and in 50+ metropolitan regions by creating a nimble analytic tool that stakeholders can use to generate numerous scenarios for CAV adoption under a variety of conditions to understand the range of effects of CAVs and the circumstances likely to lead to particular CAV outcomes.

## SUMMARY

- Developed the CAV scenario generation model and performed analysis of CAV adoption and energy outcomes under numerous scenarios of costs, technology development, and behavior.
- Evaluated known and hypothetical situations with possibly adverse effects.
- Ranked and quantified factors impacting systemwide energy use in CAV adoption scenarios.
- Developed a novel clustering of travelers into cohorts related to CAV adoption and linked that to the NHTS.

## FUTURE WORK

Future work could address questions such as:

- What are the likely effects of transportation strategies on energy-use changes associated with CAV deployment?
- What are the most effective strategies to leverage CAV deployment to decrease energy use?
- How might effective strategies vary among different metropolitan regions?

## COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION

**Traveler behavior data**  
Whole Traveler Survey team  
(LBNL and NREL)

**Statistics**  
Joanne Wendelberger  
(LANL)

**Modeling discussions**  
MA3T (ORNL)

**Workflow**  
SMART Workflow Task Force

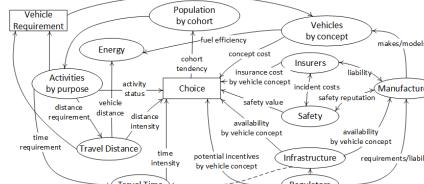
## APPROACH

- Develop system dynamics simulation to model the circumstances and dynamics of transitions from predominantly individual ownership of non-CAVs to various future scenarios of high connectivity/automation.
- Identify/quantify tipping-point hypotheses.
- Evaluate known and hypothetical situations with possibly adverse effects.
- Analyze sensitivities and influences for CAV scenarios.

### Dimensionality Captures Primary Differentiators

| Population Cohorts | CAV/Travel Concepts  | Activity Purposes  |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Time-Sensitive     | Telecommuting<br>Telecommuting substitutes for travel  | Work   |
| Automation-Prom    | Propensity for using automation  | Shopping   |
| Sharing            | Propensity for ride-hailing and car-sharing  | Errands  |
| Traditional        | No propensity for automation or sharing  | School   |
| Non-Driver         | Unable or unwilling to drive   | Social   |
|                    | Categories have been revised based on Lawrence Berkeley National Lab's recent Whole Traveler Survey. | Other  |
|                    |  | Categories are based on the 2017 National Household Travel Survey. |

### Influences and Feedbacks in the CAVs Scenario Generation Model



**Sector representations enable model objectives.**  
System modeling represents influences and feedbacks that determine CAV adoption and energy consumption.

Source: NREL.

### Explored Sensitivities Using Multiple Scenario-Screening Analyses

We used scenario-screening analyses to identify influential factors for CAV adoption and energy consumption.

- Screening Study (FY 17): Broad exploration of stakeholder interactions and CAV-adoption futures
- Energy Study (FY 18): Assessment of factors leading to variability in total energy consumption
- Comprehensive Study (FY 19): Quantification of interactions of stakeholder and energy factors

The three studies use Latin hypercube sampling (LHS) or Sobol experimental designs for 50,000 to 100,000 simulation runs each.

Visualization, statistical, and machine-learning techniques identified sensitivities, correlations, leverages, bottlenecks, and tipping points.

### Used Multiple Studies to Explore Sensitivity to Variable Ranges

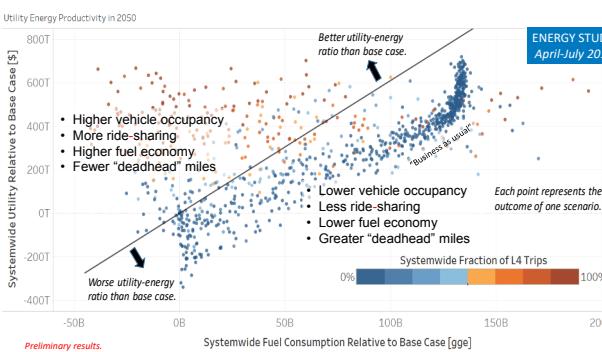
| Variable  | Range in Screening Study     | Range in Energy Study        | Range in Comprehensive Study |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Value of time                                       | \$4/hr to \$60/hr            | \$4/hr to \$60/hr            | \$4/hr to \$60/hr            |
| Multiplier for cost of insuring CAVs                | 50% to 200%                  | Not varied                   | 50% to 200%                  |
| Accident rate of CAV relative to LD                 | 20% to 200%                  | Not varied                   | 20% to 200%                  |
| Consumer utility for using CAVs                     | \$10,000 to +\$40,000        | -\$10,000 to +\$40,000       | -\$10,000 to +\$40,000       |
| Variable cost of using CAVs relative to LD          | +\$0.50/mile to +\$1.50/mile | +\$0.50/mile to +\$1.50/mile | +\$0.50/mile to +\$1.50/mile |
| Minimum cum. travel prior to insurance underwriting | 100 miles to 109 miles       | Not varied                   | 100 miles to 109 miles       |
| Rate of CAV cost reduction                          | 0%/year to 20%/year          | 0%/year to 20%/year          | 0%/year to 20%/year          |
| Initial infrastructure readiness for L4             | 50% to 100%                  | 50% to 100%                  | 0% to 100%                   |
| Fraction of passenger time freed by L4              | 50% to 100%                  | 50% to 100%                  | 40% to 90%                   |
| Valuation of safety by CAV-averse travelers         | 100% to 1000%                | Not varied                   | 100% to 1000%                |
| Valuation of safety by CAV-prone travelers          | 10% to 100%                  | Not varied                   | 10% to 100%                  |
| Multiplier for vehicle occupancy                    | Not varied                   | 30% to 300%                  | 30% to 300%                  |
| Multiplier for "deadhead" of L4                     | Not varied                   | 100% to 200%                 | 100% to 200%                 |
| Relative cost of transit to LD                      | Not varied                   | \$0.25/mile to \$3.00/mile   | \$0.25/mile to \$3.00/mile   |
| Relative cost of LD taxi to LD                      | Not varied                   | \$0.50/mile to \$4.00/mile   | \$0.50/mile to \$4.00/mile   |
| Relative cost of non-vehicular replacements to LD   | Not varied                   | -\$10/mile to \$0/mile       | -\$10/mile to \$0/mile       |
| Relative cost of automated highway                  | Not varied                   | Not varied                   | \$0/mile to \$3/mile         |
| Multiplier for L4 fuel efficiency                   | Not varied                   | 50% to 150%                  | 50% to 150%                  |

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PROGRESS

### Results of Scenario-Based Approach

- We selected a scenario-based approach using a semi-quantitative model to explore long-term CAV adoption outcomes because the many data gaps and uncertainties regarding future travel behavior, characteristics of CAV technologies, and ownership/business models limit the validity of a fully-quantitative choice model. This approach lends itself to representing the complex CAV adoption landscape of overlapping stage gates where stakeholders block or accelerate.
- We melded results of the WholeTraveler survey that addressed important traveler behavior data gaps with results of the NHTS to synthesize traveler cohorts, trip mixes, local deliveries, and mode splits nationally and in the largest metropolitan regions.
- Scenario-screening analysis results revealed influential factors for CAV adoption and energy consumption. In particular, technological and behavioral assumptions lead to qualitatively different end states for CAVs and energy.
- In scenario-screening analyses, small changes in combinations of assumptions can rapidly separate end states of CAV adoption. Multiple evolutionary pathways can converge on similar outcomes for specific metrics, or conversely can diverge to scenarios that yield disparate mobility systems.

### Identifying Leverage Points and Influential Factors for CAV Adoption and Energy Consumption Across a Range of Outcomes



Outcomes with higher "traveler satisfaction" (system-wide utility) tended to require more fuel consumption unless CAVs level 4 travel concepts predominate. System-wide utilities showed a linear relationship to fuel consumption in low L4 CAV adoption scenarios, but that did not persist at high L4 CAV adoption levels.

Source: NREL.

- Points of leverage fall into three categories: (i) necessary conditions that impede CAV adoption unless a minimally favorable threshold is present; (ii) conditions that accelerate CAV adoption; (iii) conditions not strongly affecting CAV adoption, but affecting energy use.
- The model can be used to identify the conditions necessary to reach a range of outcomes, including extremes of technology penetration. Varying assumptions regarding CAV usage may result in either very high or very low systemwide energy usage.
- Consumer preference, time valuation, and technology costs influence fuel consumption most.
- In scenario analysis results, high adoption of level 4 CAVs could be relatively rare (fewer than 30% of scenarios modeled), given wide ranges of plausible input assumptions regarding traveler propensities (ownership preference, attitude towards automation, and value of time) and technology characteristics.
- Although local-delivery concepts may shift significantly, their energy impact relative to changes in personal travel patterns remains relatively minor.