

# Valuing EV Managed Charging for Bulk Power Systems

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# Research Question

What is the value of light-duty electric vehicle (EV) managed charging (EVMC) to the bulk power system and how does it vary with:

- Single-day vs. Multi-day flexibility
- Dispatch mechanism:
  - Direct load control (DLC)
  - Real-time pricing (RTP)
  - Time-of-use tariff (TOU)
- EVMC participation levels

What is the value in terms of bulk power system energy, capacity, and avoided emissions?



## Electric Vehicle Managed Charging: Forward-Looking Estimates of Bulk Power System Value

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Jiazi Zhang, Paige Jadun, and Matteo Muratori

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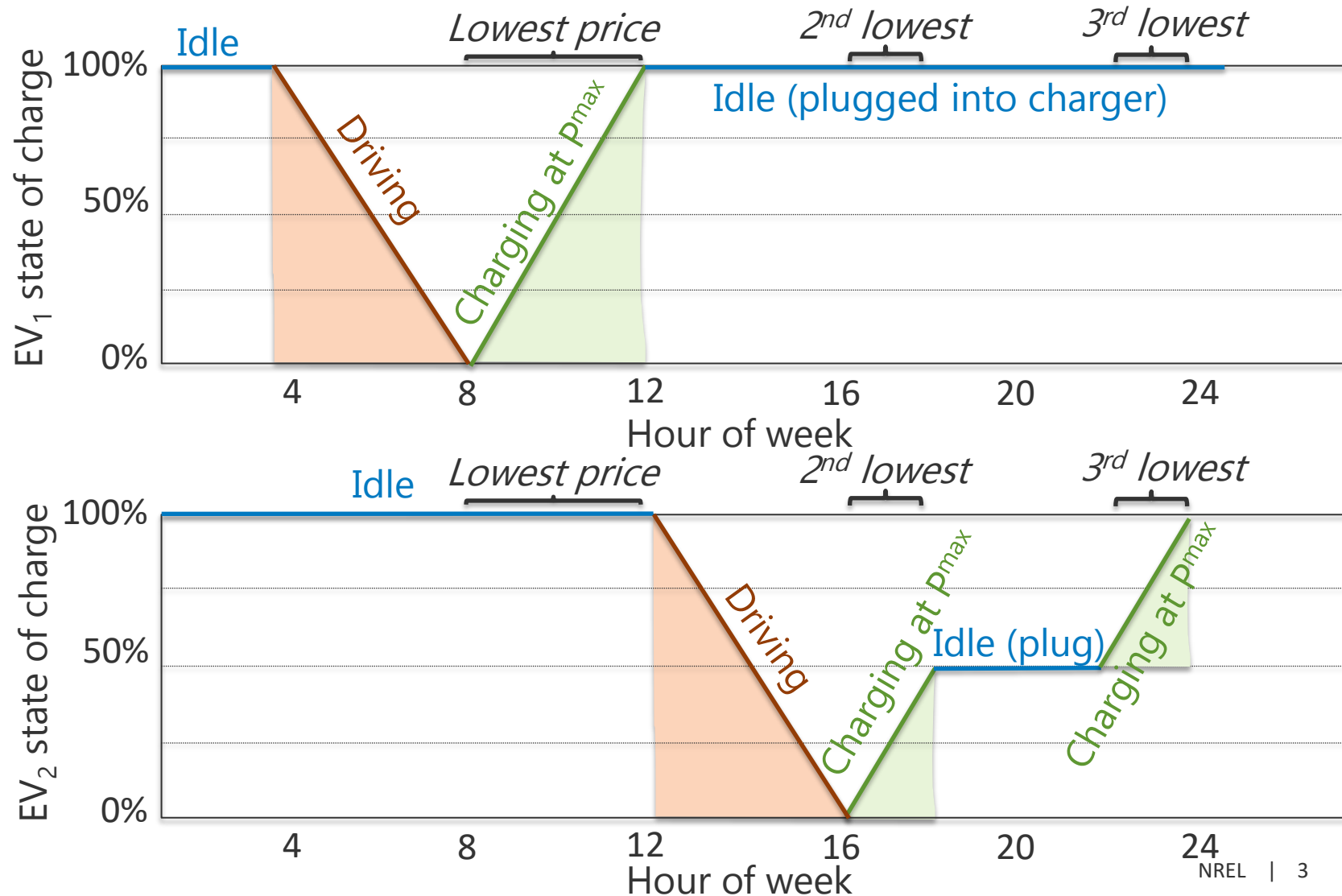
Technical Report  
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<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy22osti/83404.pdf>

# Methodological Finding: Energy and capacity bounds of EV aggregations *cannot* be naively added

- Aggregation is needed for EVs to participate in wholesale electricity markets (>0.1 MW), but simple addition of individual vehicle flexibility overestimates resource
- **Why:** A fully-charged vehicle's ability to increase load can be paired with another vehicle's ability to accept more charge

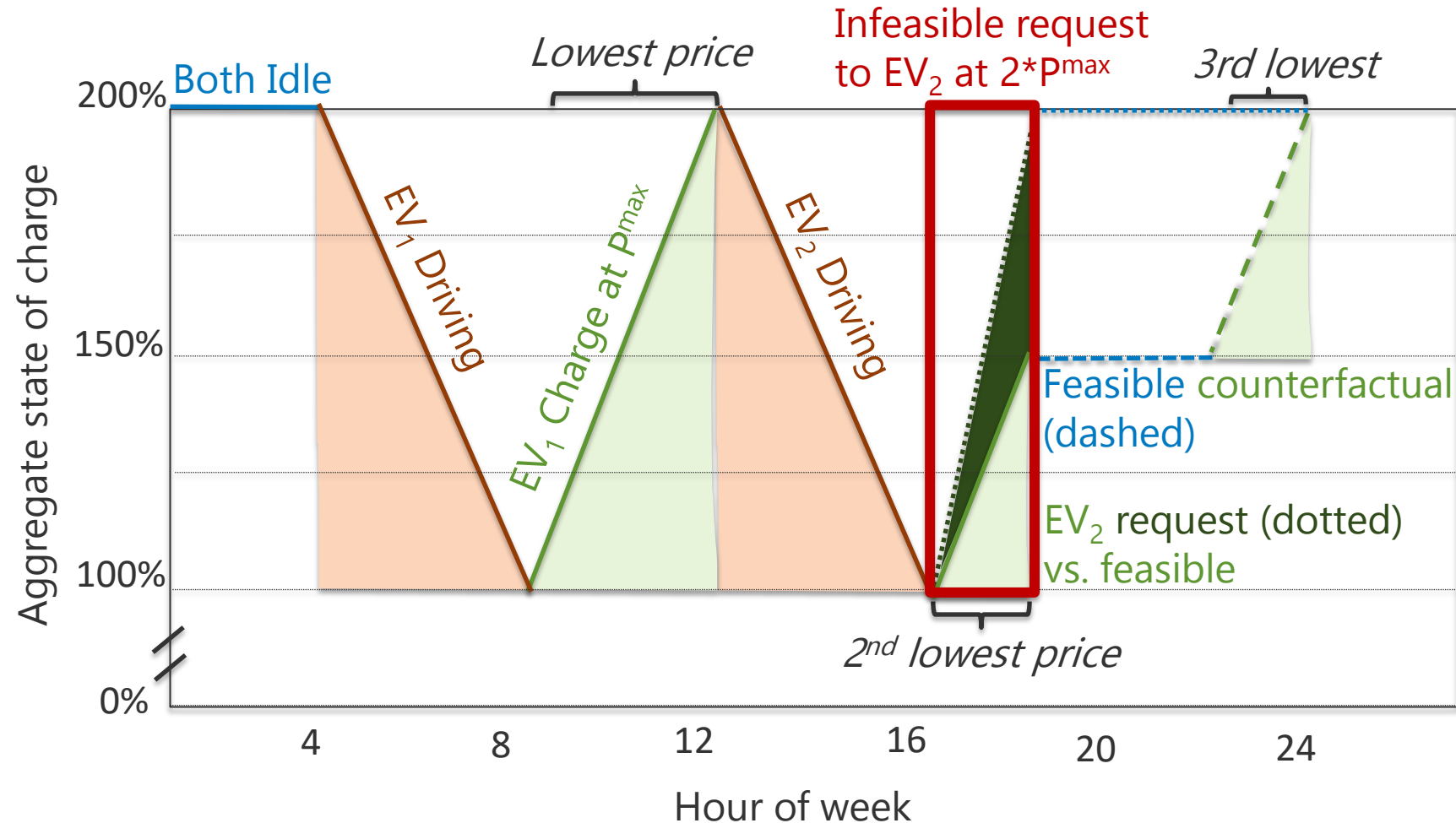
## Individual Vehicle Charging Schedules



# Methodological Finding: Energy and capacity bounds of EV aggregations *cannot* be naively added

- Aggregation needed for EVs to participate in wholesale electricity markets (>0.1 MW), but simple addition of individual vehicle flexibility overestimates resource
- **Why:** A fully-charged vehicle's ability to increase load can be paired with another vehicle's ability to accept more charge
- **Question:** How feasible is Direct Load Control?

## Aggregated Vehicles Charging Schedule



# Tests show naïve aggregation produces highly infeasible charging flexibility requests

## Legend

$P^{\max}$ : upward charging flexibility in each time period

$P^{\min}$ : downward charging flexibility in each time period

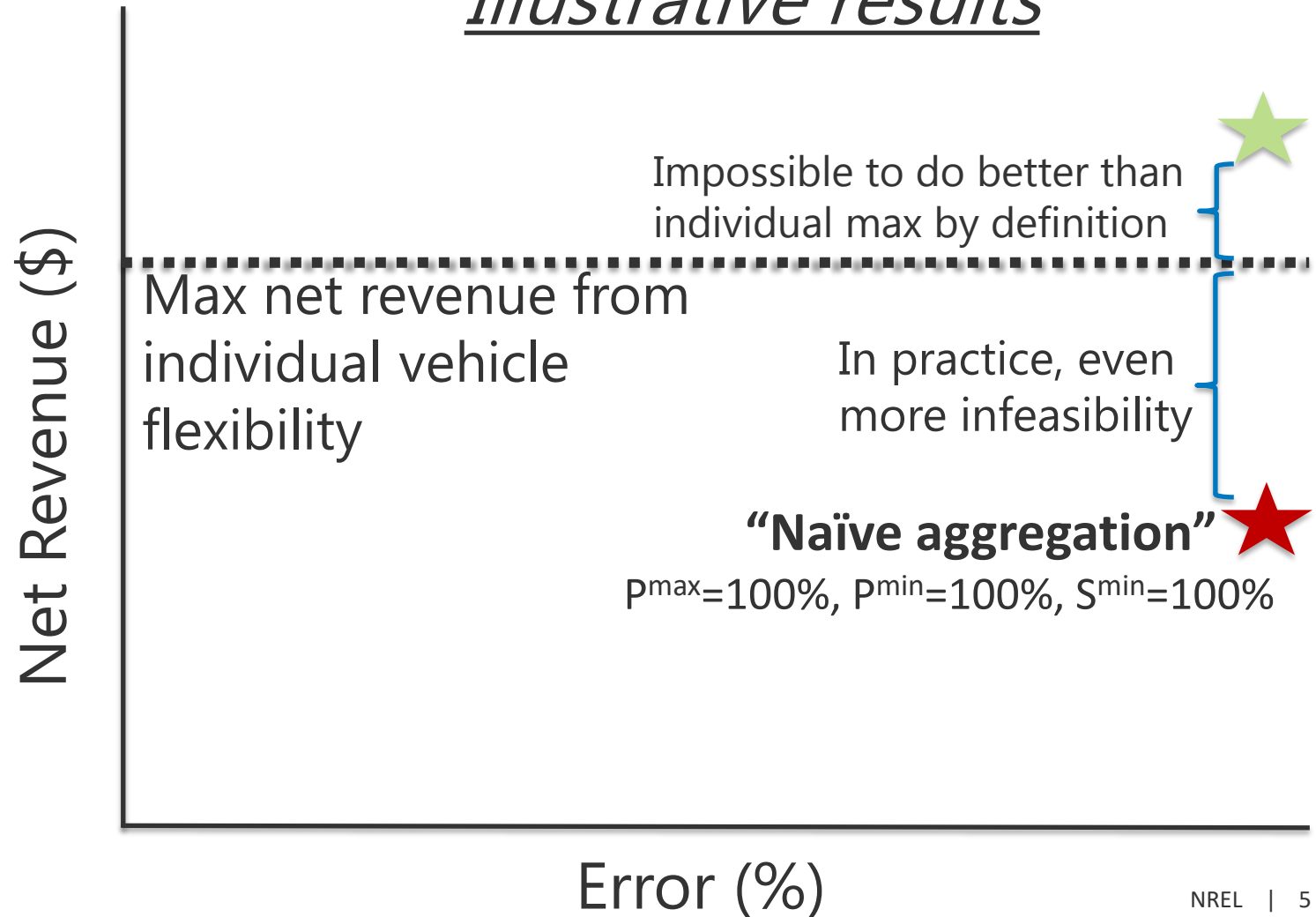
$S^{\min}$ : max quantity of deferred load in each time period

**Red:** Revenue under feasible re-dispatch to individual EVs

**Green:** Revenue if aggregate request was fulfilled

▲●★ : Three different objectives

## Illustrative results



# Feasible redispatch of aggregate managed EV resource requires scaling power and energy bounds

## Legend

$P^{\max}$ : upward charging flexibility in each time period

$P^{\min}$ : downward charging flexibility in each time period

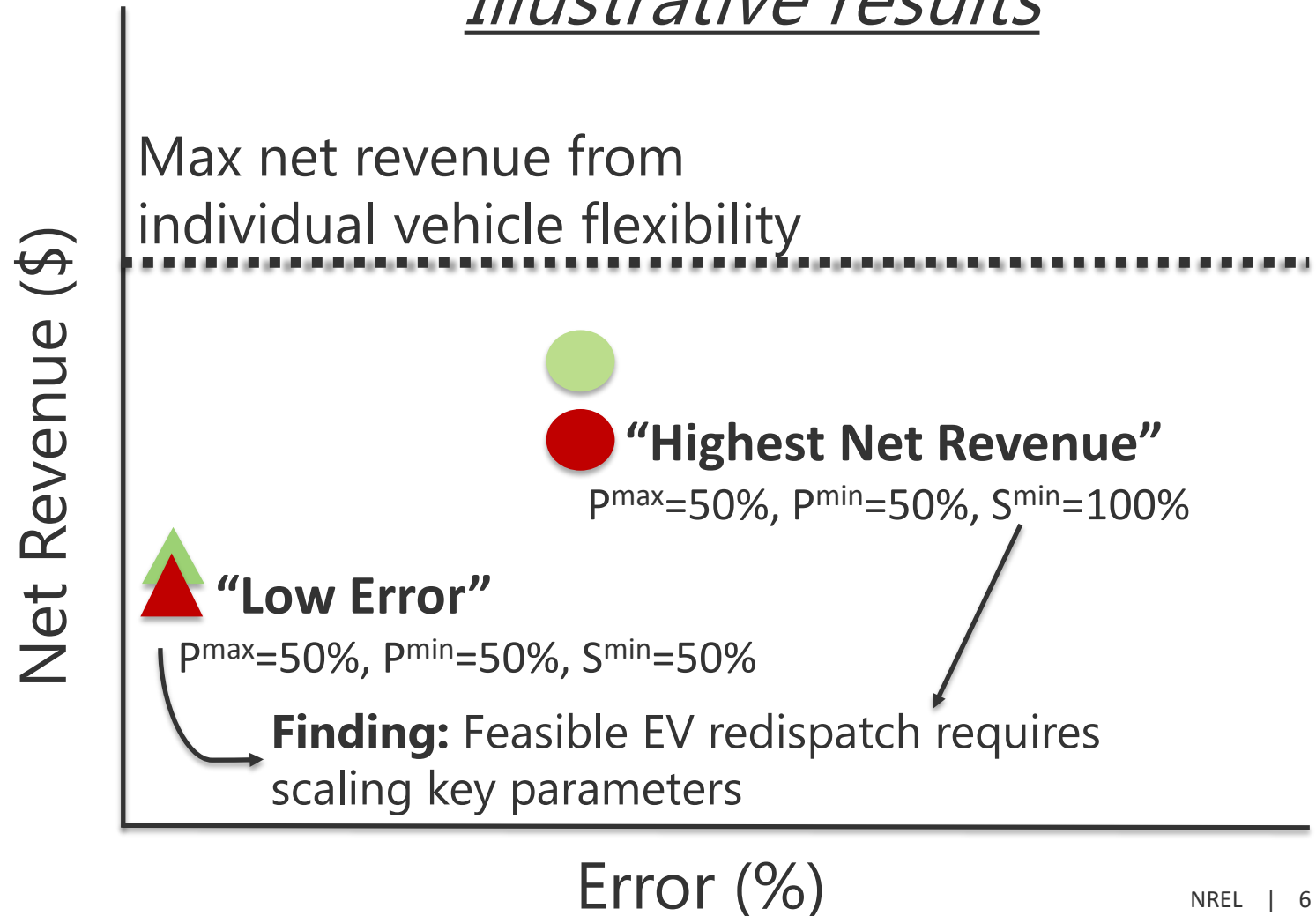
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**Red:** Revenue under feasible re-dispatch to individual EVs

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▲●★: Three different objectives

## Illustrative results



# Study Setting

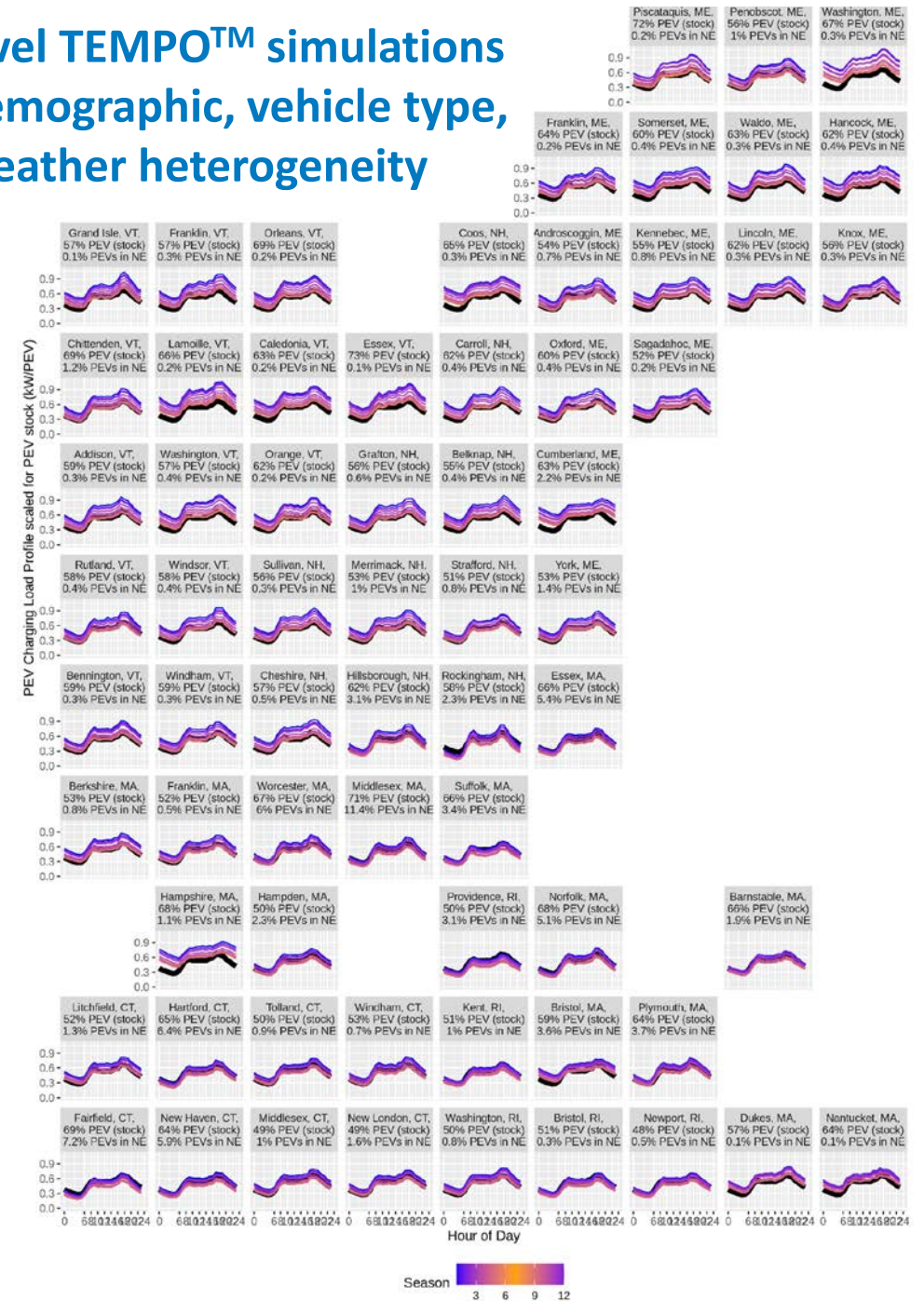
## Hourly operational model of an envisioned 2038 New England Power System

- Peak load is 28.9 GW (0.5 GW from EVs; compare to 25.8 GW in 2021)
- Within-ISO generation is 84% clean (wind, solar, hydropower, biomass, nuclear)
- EVs are 45% of light-duty passenger vehicle fleet (100% of sales); 80% of EVs are battery electric vehicles

## Charging flexibility (V1G) estimated from 101,000 sample vehicles' charging profiles

- Mobility service is preserved in all scenarios
- Ubiquitous charging assumption

## County-level TEMPO™ simulations capture demographic, vehicle type, and weather heterogeneity



# Key Finding: Aggregating vehicles for direct load control (DLC) comes at a feasibility cost

## Estimated production cost savings for within-session aggregate flexibility models with different scaling factors



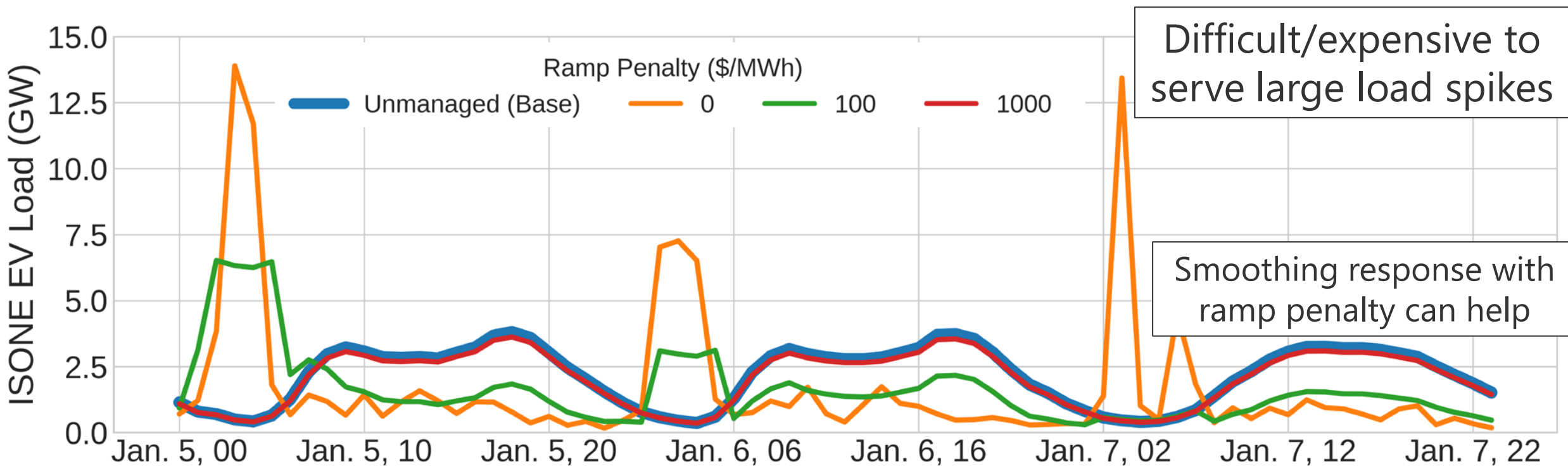
**Recall:** Naïve (“outer-approx”) aggregations effectively assume that one already-fully-charged vehicle’s ability to increase load can be paired with another already-charging vehicle’s ability to accept more charge.



# Key Finding: Individual vehicles responding to price works for small numbers of vehicles, but is difficult to scale up

## Charging profiles for the unmanaged case vs. vehicles responding to day-ahead energy prices

Energy prices were computed using the unmanaged profile as the EV load forecast (zero foresight of price-responsiveness)



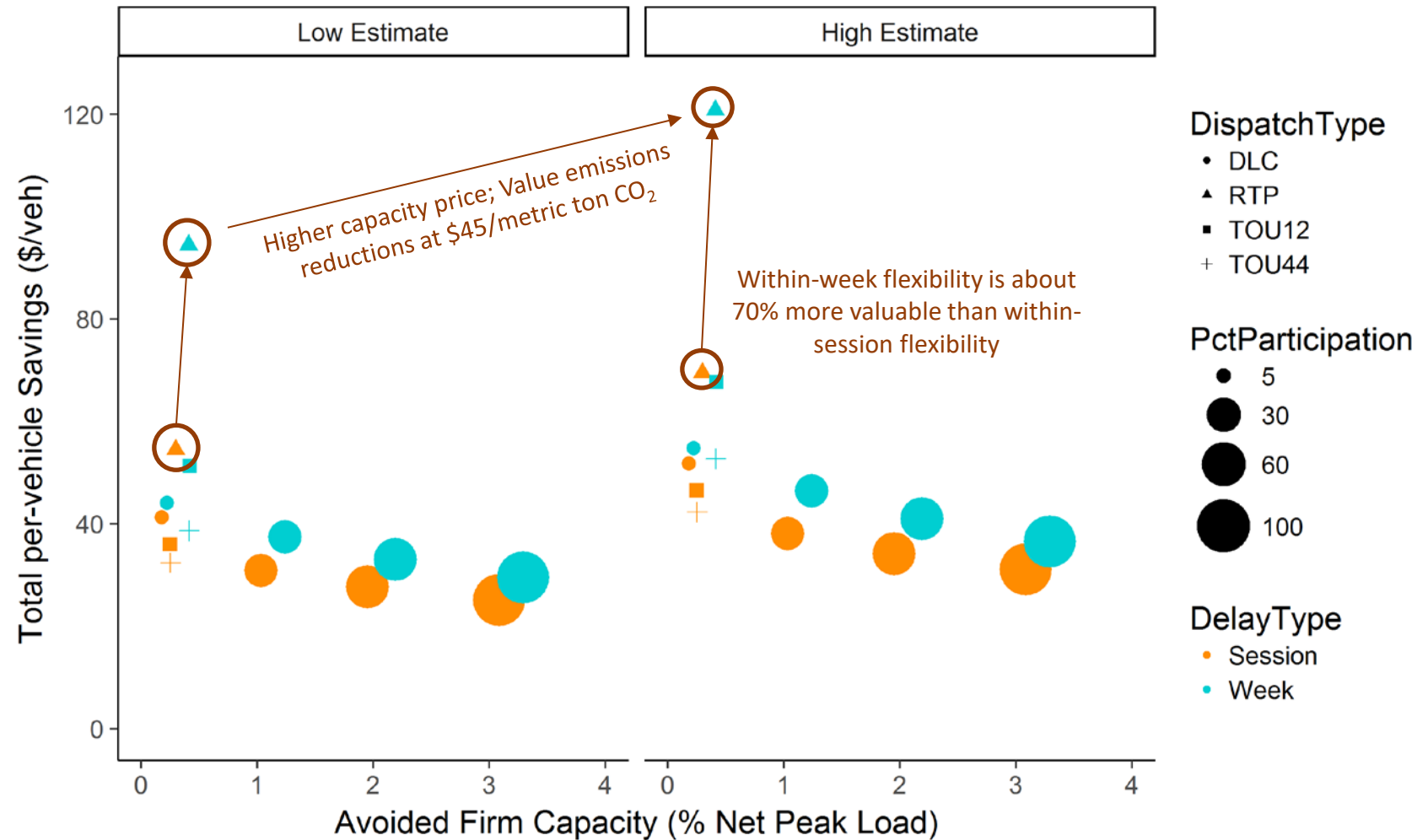
This is an extreme example, but we also find that the bulk system value of 2% of vehicles responding to an RTP is improved with a small ramp penalty (\$1/MW for within-session and \$10/MW for within-week).

# Key Finding: Highest per-vehicle value from low participation, RTP

## All-in value of production cost savings, capacity savings, and emissions reductions

The highest per-vehicle-year value is produced at low participation rates by individual vehicles responding to real-time prices computed in the day-ahead market

- Per-vehicle value tops out at about \$10/month, and that does not yet account for enablement and incentive costs
- Up to 1% of production costs and nearly 2% of within-ISO emissions can be avoided by about 2% of the 2038 LDV fleet actively participating in EVMC
- Price-responsive EVMC is not anticipated in the day-ahead unit commitment problem in this study (no foresight assumption)

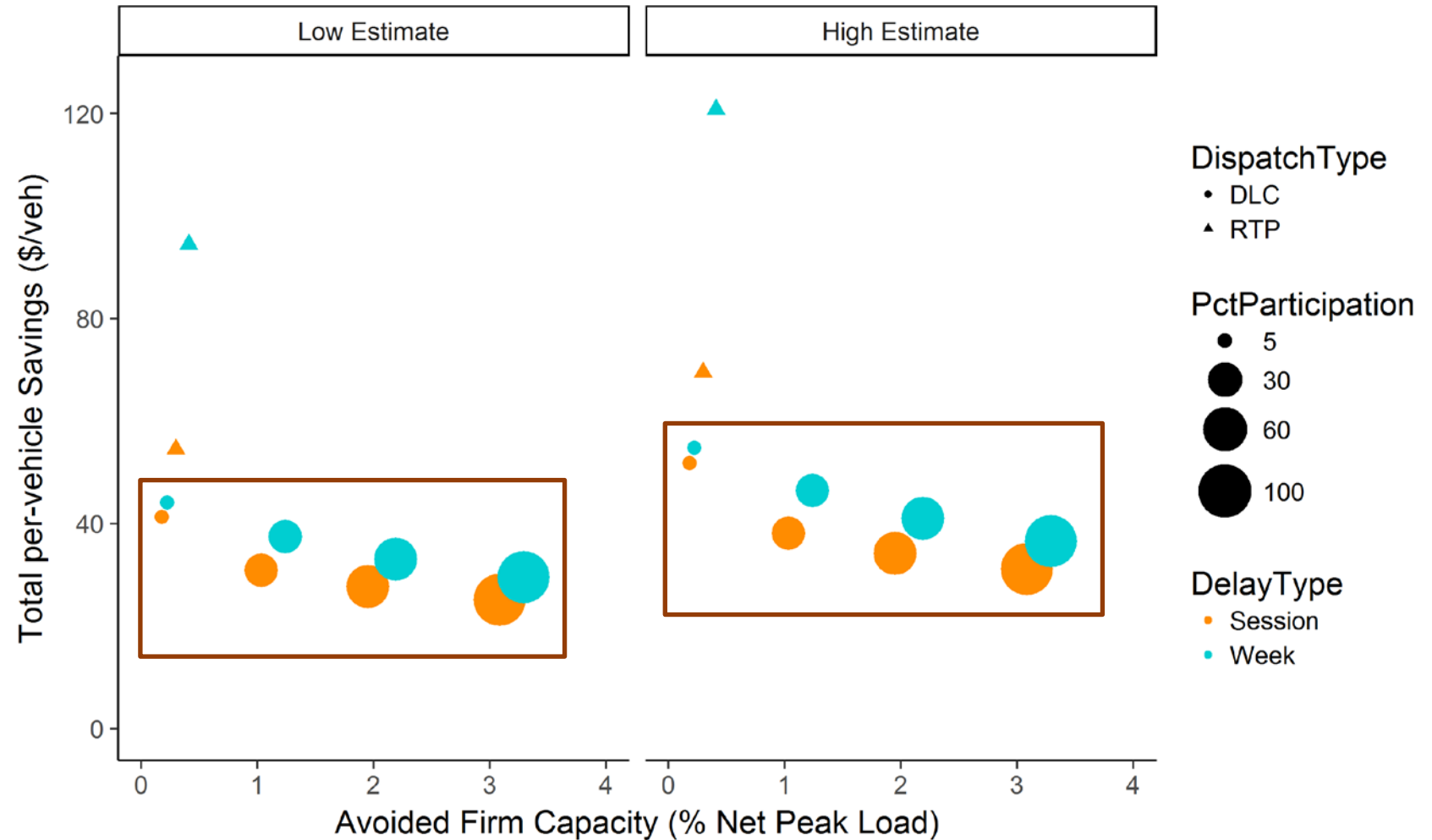


# Key Finding: Higher participation levels require DLC and mute the advantages of multiday flexibility

*All-in value of production cost savings, capacity savings, and emissions reductions*

Only direct load control provided significant production cost savings for all participation levels. With low-error DLC:

- All EVs (45% of the LDV fleet) providing within-session flexibility reduces production costs 4.4% and within-ISO emissions 5.2%
- All EVs (45% of the LDV fleet) providing within-week flexibility reduces production costs 5.6% and within-ISO emissions 6.9%
- Within-week is 70% more valuable than within-session flexibility at 5% participation with RTP; For DLC, the within-week advantage is 20% at 30% participation and drops to 17% for 100% participation



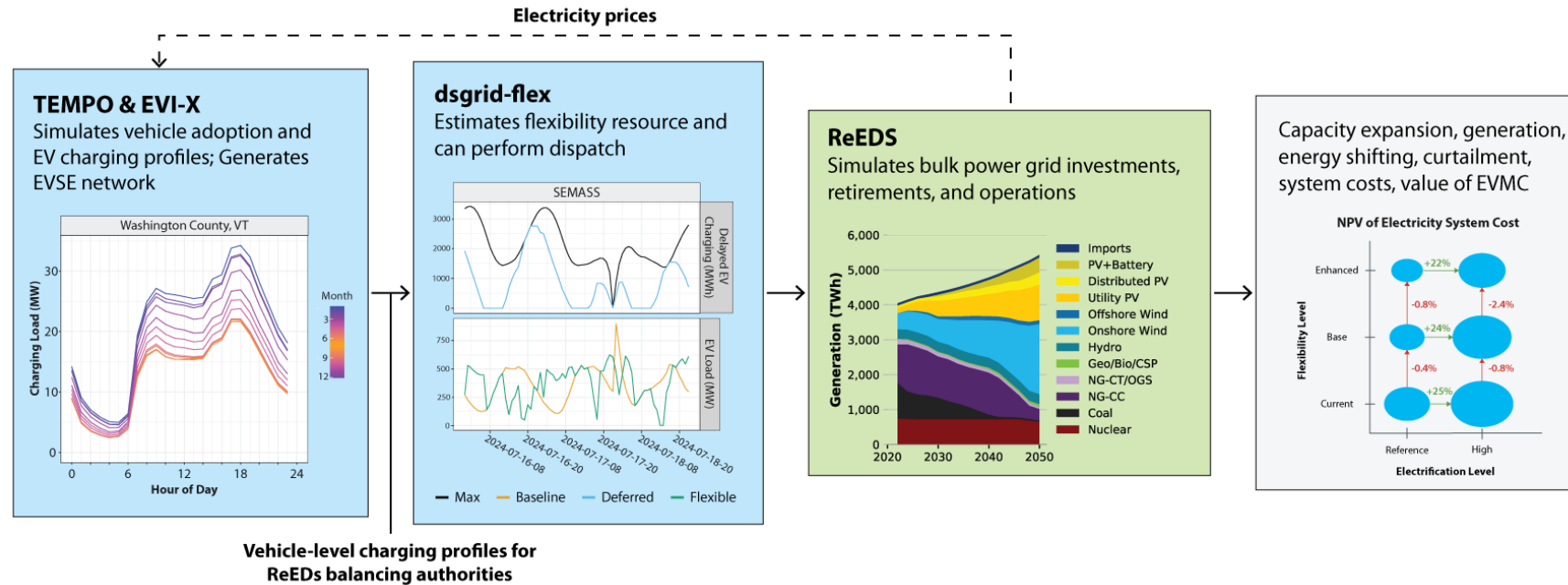
# Summary of key findings

- Coordination of EVMC response is required starting at modest participation levels and comes at a cost
- Highest per-vehicle value is achieved at low participation levels responding to time-varying price
- Within-week flexibility is more valuable than within-session flexibility, but in our study the effect is muted at higher participation levels
- If all EVs fully participate through a low-error DLC mechanism, we estimate total system savings of:

Flexibility type	Production Cost Savings (%)	Power Sector Emissions Savings (%)	Firm Capacity from EVMC (MW)
Within-session (single day)	4.4	5.2	780
Within-week (multi-day)	5.6	6.9	830

yielding per-vehicle value estimates of **\$25/vehicle-yr to \$37/vehicle-yr.**

# New Project: Managing Increased Electric Vehicle Shares on Decarbonized Bulk Power Systems



## Building on the completed project's innovations around:

- Single and multi-day charging flexibility
- Exploration of aggregation and comparing direct control to price responsive dispatch

## The new multi-year project, sponsored by the DOE EERE Vehicle Technologies Office (VTO), is extending the methodology to include:

- Capacity expansion modeling with EVMC as an investible resource
- Medium and heavy-duty vehicles
- Spatially resolved electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) and EV charging
- Fixed assets (e.g., EVSE scenarios) as management strategies
- Nationwide, path-dependent impacts on bulk power system costs and related metrics

Backmatter

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# Research Question

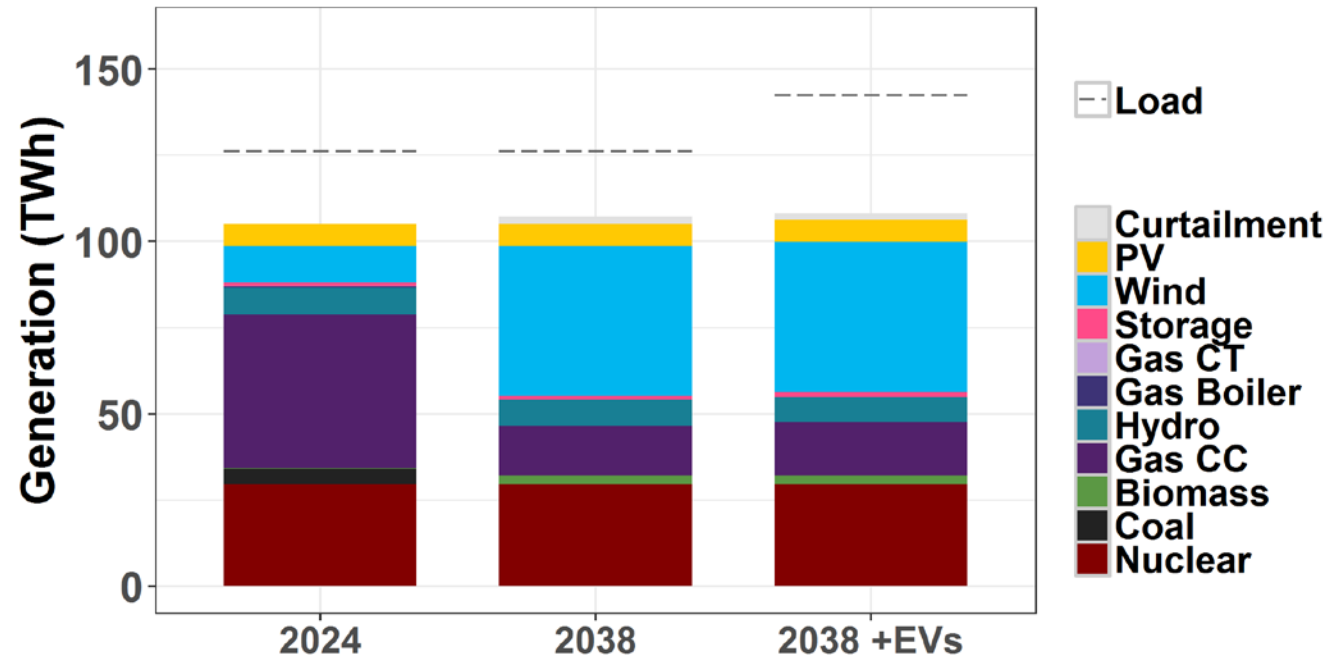
What is the potential value of EV managed charging (EVMC) and how does it vary depending on:

- Flexibility type (within-session or within-week)
- Participation level (5% to 100%)
- Dispatch mechanism (direct load control [DLC], real-time price [RTP], time-of-use [TOU] rate)

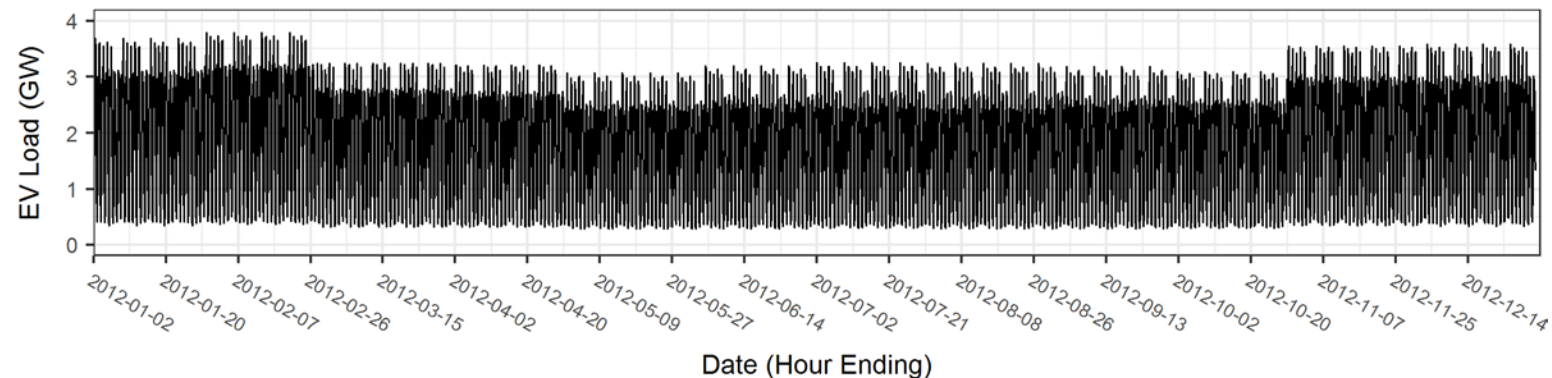
This study:

- Grid-to-vehicle (V1G)
- Constant mobility service
- Ubiquitous charging
- Technical potential (no costs for EVMC)
- Case study in an envisioned ISO-NE in 2038

## ISO New England (ISO-NE) PLEXOS Models Based on SEAMS

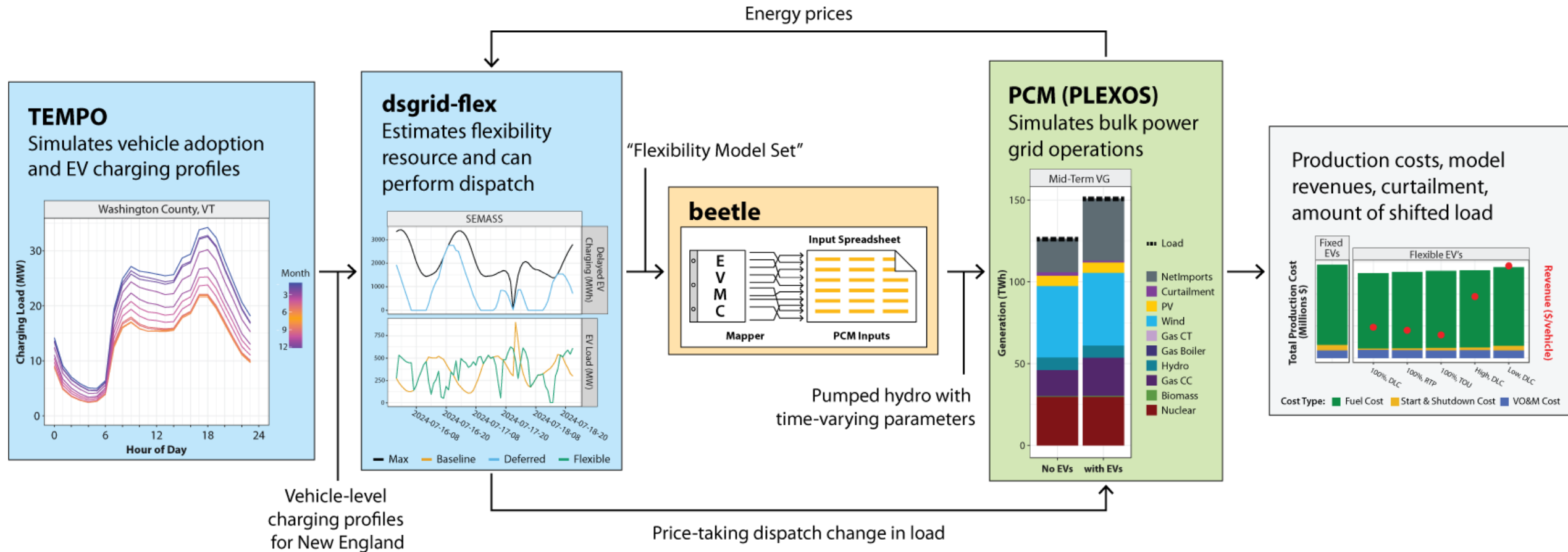


## Personal Passenger Light-Duty Vehicle (LDV) EV Charging from TEMPO



# Analysis Approach

## New high-resolution modeling capability

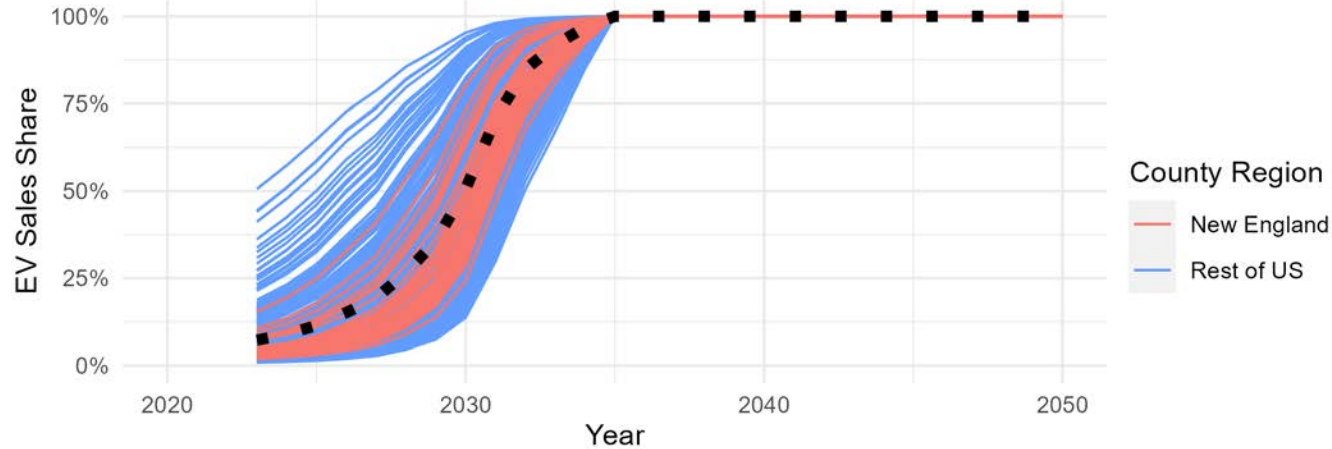




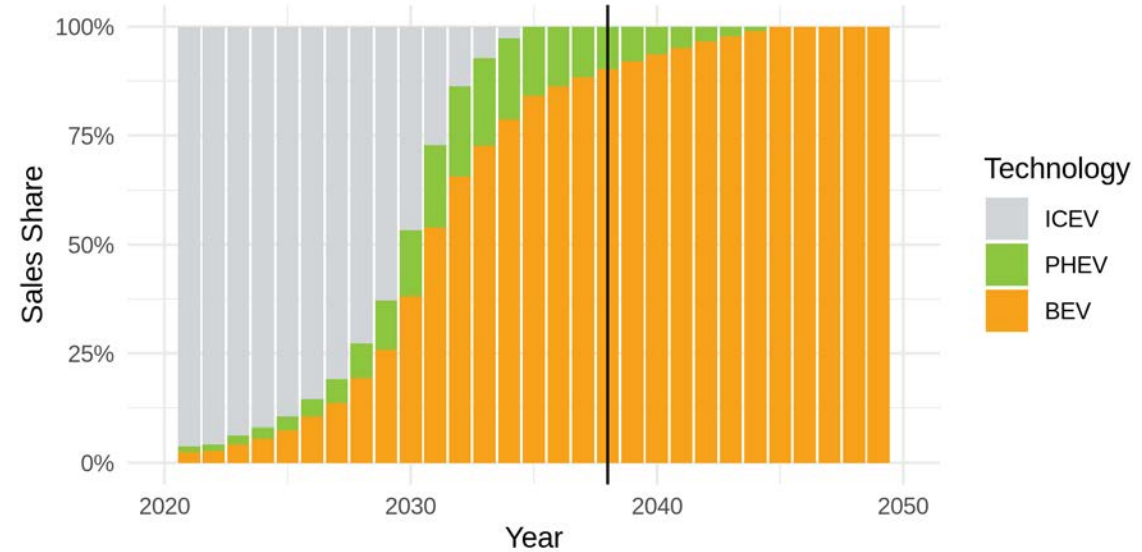
# Analysis Approach

## All EV Sales by 2035 Adoption Scenario from TEMPO

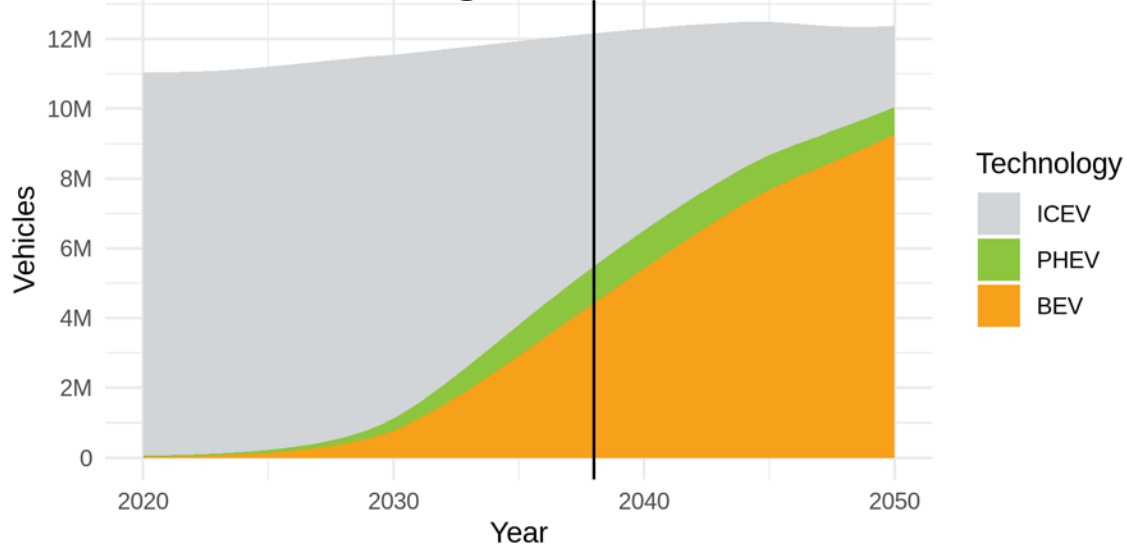
### EV Sales Share of Passenger Light-duty Vehicles (LDVs) for All Counties in the Contiguous U.S.



### Sales Share by Vehicle Type in New England



### New England LDV Stock



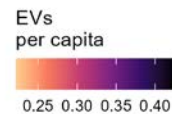
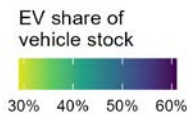
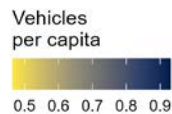
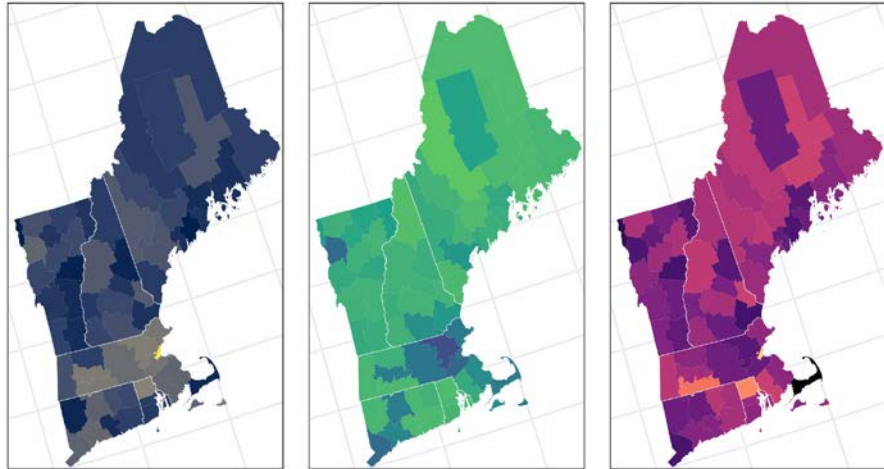
### 2038 Scenario

- 5.3 million EVs
- EVs are 45% of the LDV stock
- 80% of EVs are battery-electric vehicles (BEVs)
- 16.3 TWh/yr
- 3.79 GW unmanaged peak load

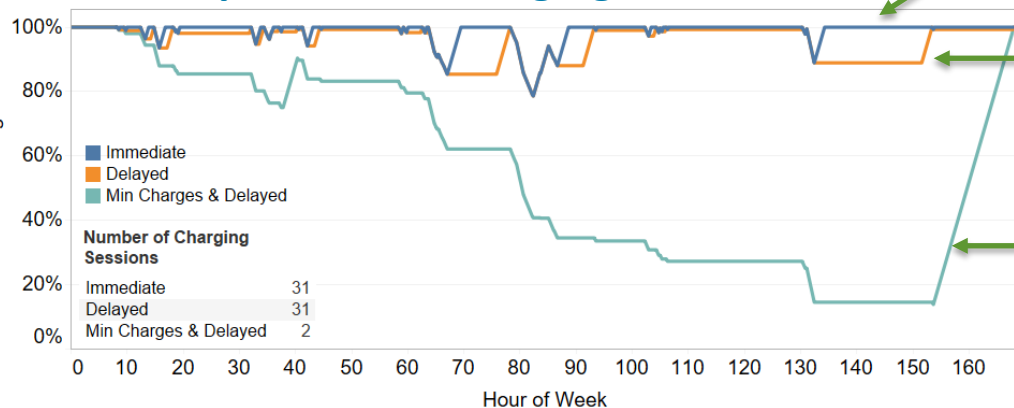
# Analysis Approach

## Heterogeneous, vehicle-level modeling with TEMPO

### County-level demographic and weather patterns



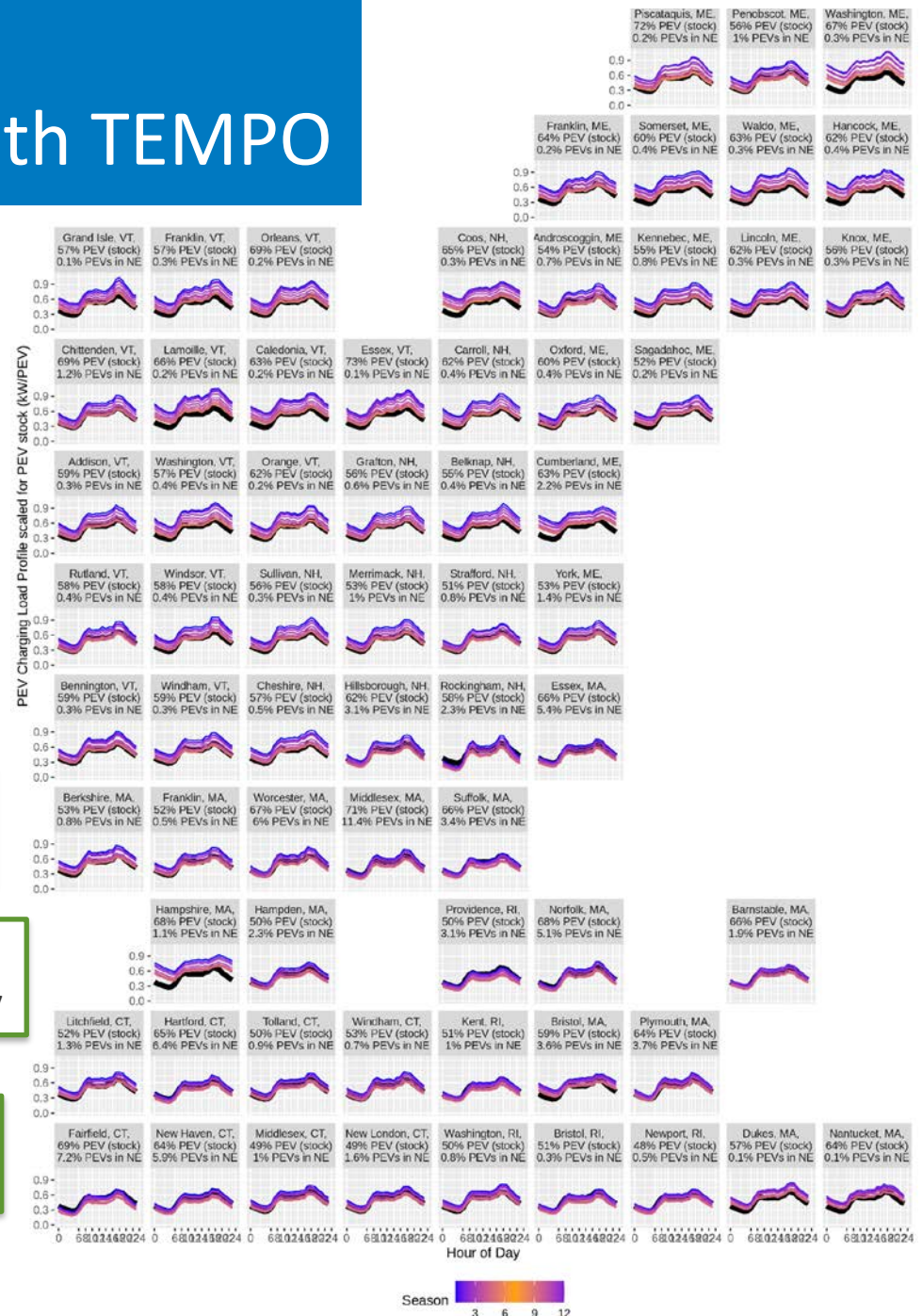
### Sample-vehicle charging simulations



As-early-as possible, un-managed charging

As-late-as possible for within-session flexibility

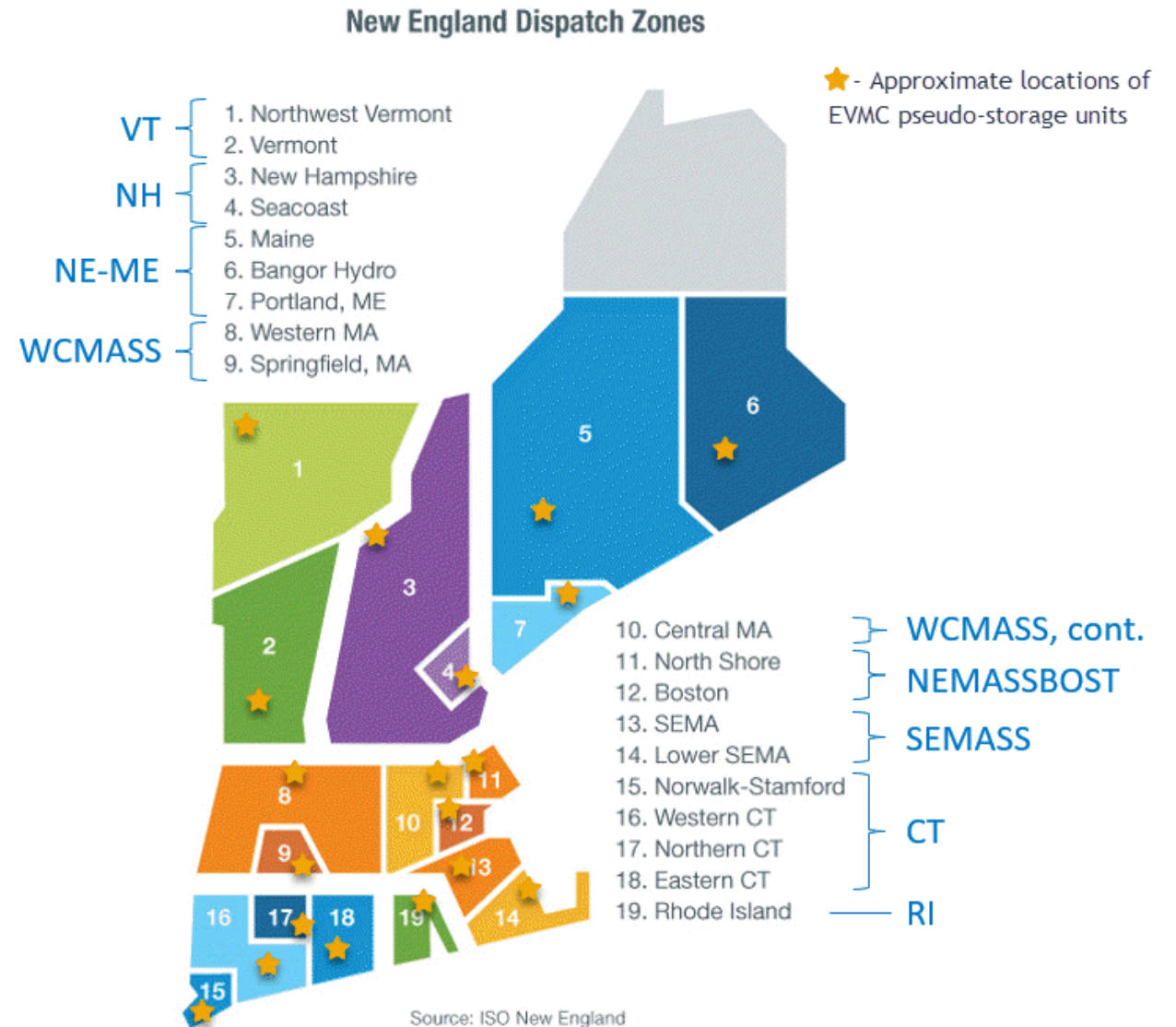
As-late-as possible for within-week flexibility



# Analysis Approach

## Nodal Production Cost Model with DC Powerflow

- Isolated ISO-NE from the Interconnection Seam Study (SEAMS) 2038 model
- Analyzed resource adequacy and determined that more generation capacity was not needed to support additional EV load
- Determined that additional transmission capacity was required and checked our revised assumptions with ISO-NE
- Cost assumptions from SEAMS include regionalized 2038 fuel prices from the 2017 AEO and \$45/metric ton CO<sub>2</sub> (emissions costs are included in the dispatch objective), **all in 2016\$**
- Un-managed EV load and realizations of EVMC in the real-time (RT) model are represented regionally and distributed to nodes with load participation factors
- EVMC DLC is modeled in the day-ahead (DA) unit commitment (UC) model as pseudo-storages, one per dispatch zone
- The DA model with un-managed EV charging is used to create an 8,760-hour RTP signal; Two TOU rates are constructed to mimic the RTP: TOU-1-2 and TOU-4-4



# Aggregation: Inner and Outer Approximations

Sufficient Aggregate  
Flexibility Model,  
max Energy ( $\Delta S$ )

⋮

Sufficient Aggregate  
Flexibility Model,  
max Power ( $\Delta P$ )

$\supseteq$

Sum of Individual  
Device Shiftability  
( $\sum_k \Delta S_k, \sum_k \Delta P_k$ )

$\supseteq$

Necessary  
Aggregate Flexibility  
Model ( $\Delta S, \Delta P$ )

*Outer Approximation of  
aggregate shiftability sums  
individual power and  
energy bounds*

*Inner Approximations are  
provably decomposable,  
conservative estimates that can  
be tuned to favor higher power  
or higher energy capacity (or  
something in between)*

Concept described in, e.g., Hao et al. (2013)

# Aggregation: Inner, Outer, and Scaled Outer Approximations

Sufficient Aggregate Flexibility Model, max Energy ( $\Delta S$ )

⋮

Sufficient Aggregate Flexibility Model, max Power ( $\Delta P$ )

*Inner Approximations might significantly underestimate resource*

⊂

Sum of Individual Device Shiftability ( $\sum_k \Delta S_k, \sum_k \Delta P_k$ )

Sum of Individual Device Shiftability ( $\sum_k \Delta S_k, \sum_k \Delta P_k$ )

⊂

≈  $a^*$   
 $b^*$

*Outer Approximation is typically an infeasible overestimate of flexibility*

Necessary Aggregate Flexibility Model ( $\Delta S, \Delta P$ )

Necessary Aggregate Flexibility Model ( $\Delta S, \Delta P$ )

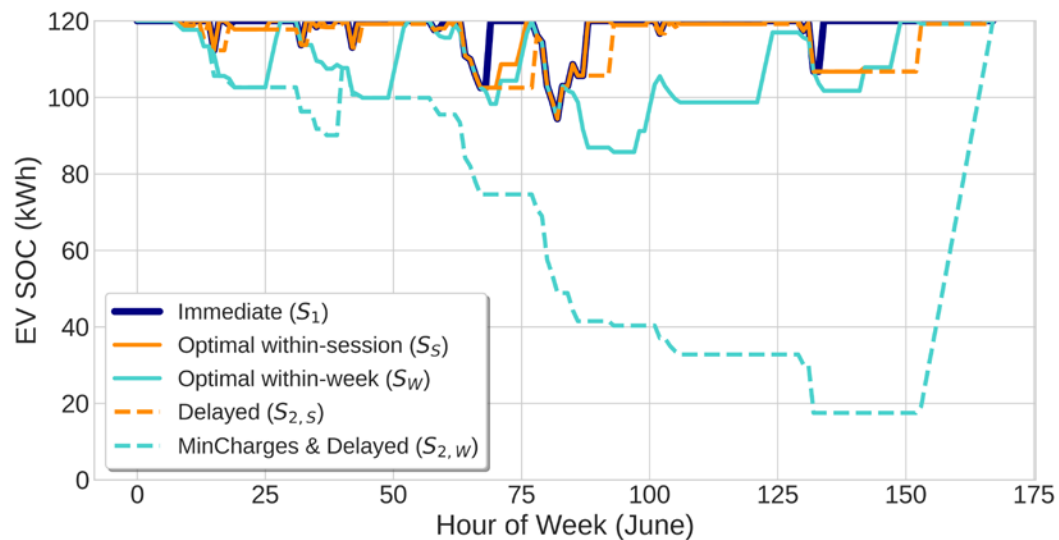
*Scaled Outer Approximation can yield more accurate representation of resource, but still does not provide a feasibility guarantee*

$$0 \leq a, b \leq 1$$

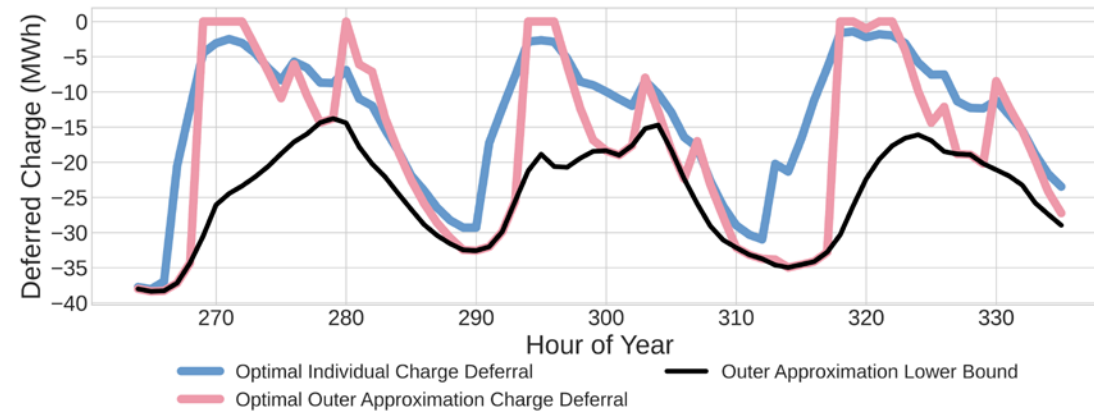
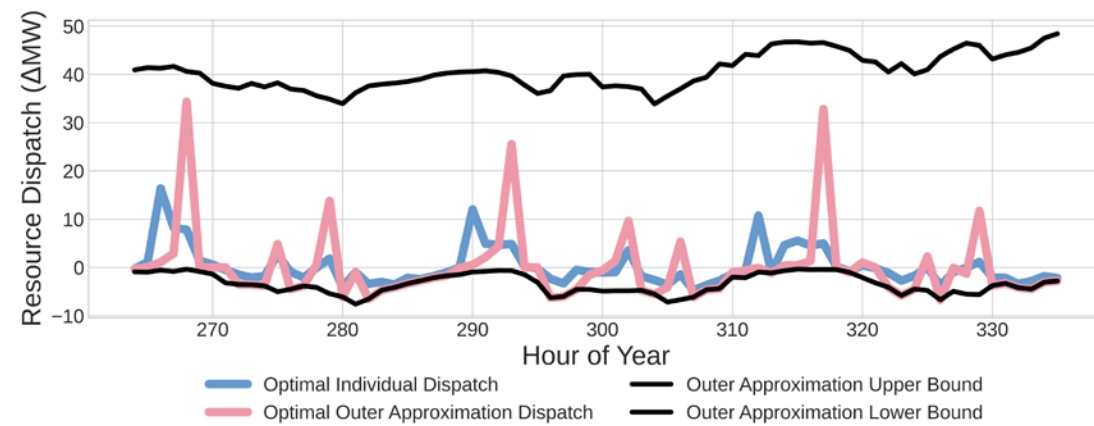
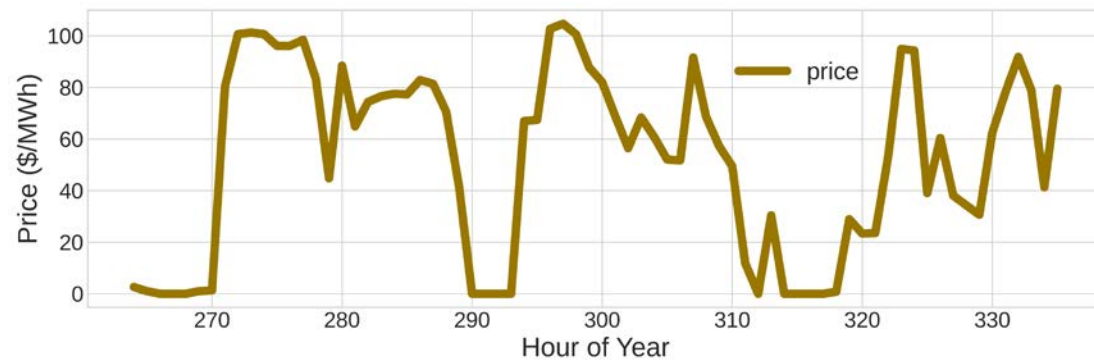
# Analysis Approach

## Deep dive into aggregation

### Dispatch Individual Vehicles within Power and Energy Envelopes



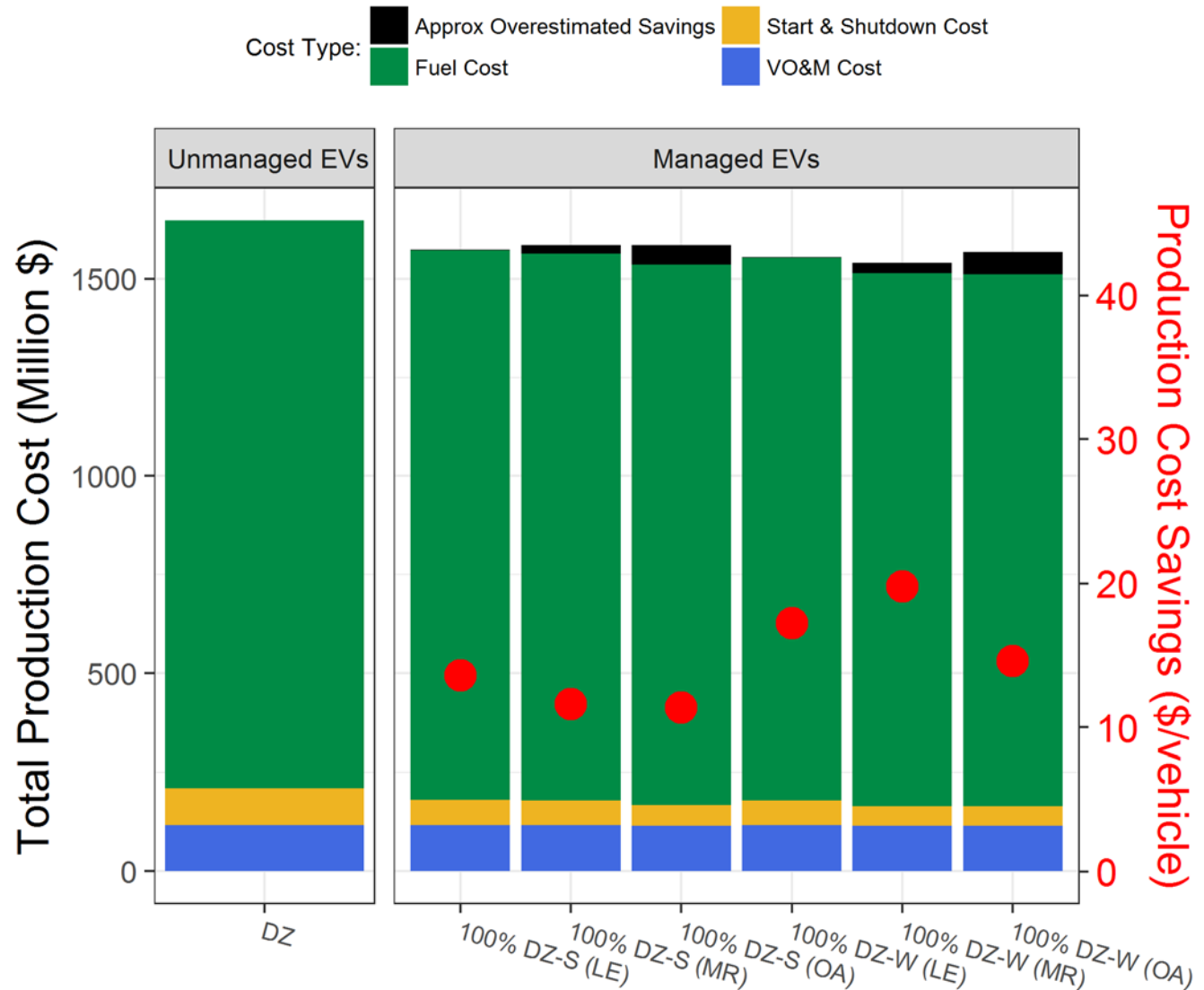
### Simply Summing Power and Energy Bounds Overestimates Flexibility



# Analysis Approach

## Deep dive into aggregation

- Performed disaggregation experiments to
  - Estimate scaling parameters that produce “low error (LE)” or “maximum revenue (MR)”
  - Estimate to what extent each “scaled out approximation” overpredicts value
- Result of applying overestimated savings results from price-taking experiments to production cost simulations shown here
- The report mostly focuses on DLC-LE results, because the reported performance should be feasible and accurate without scaling
- DLC-LE scales all parameters by 50%; real-world aggregation should be able to achieve more cost savings/revenue (e.g., compare –W (LE) to –W (MR) in this plot)



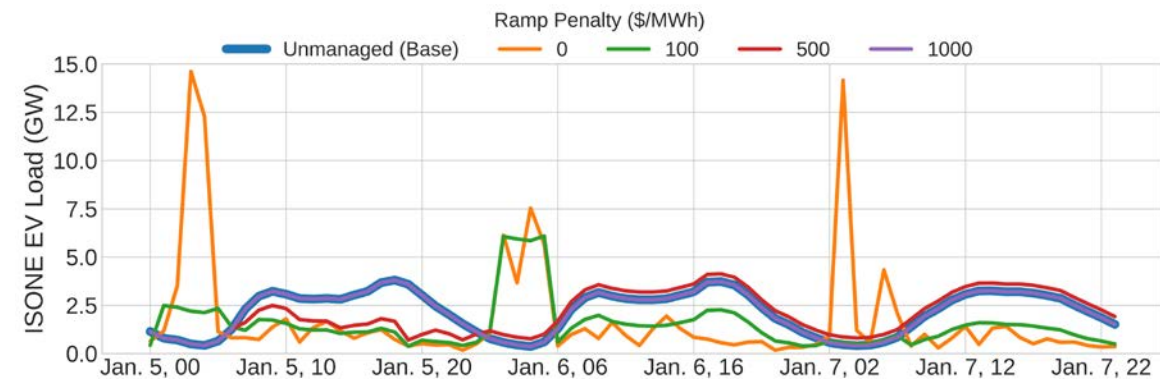
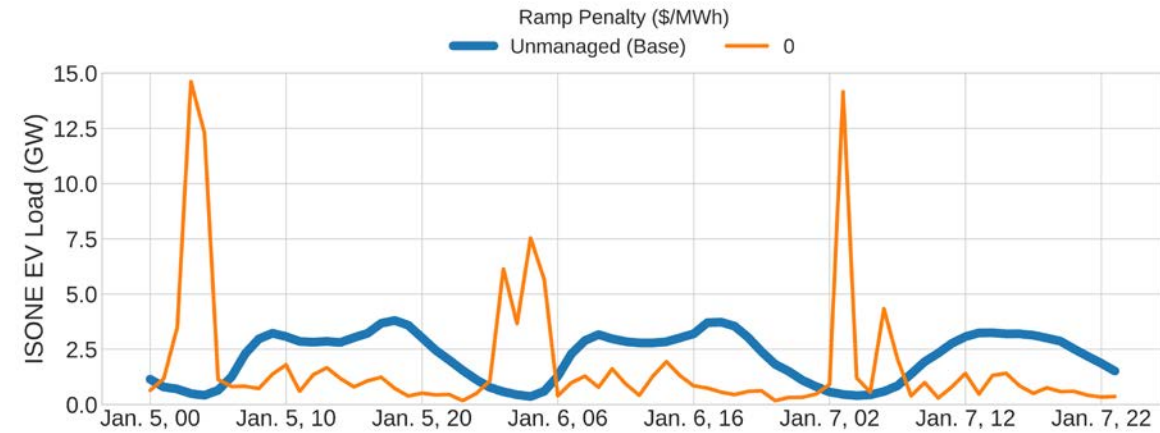
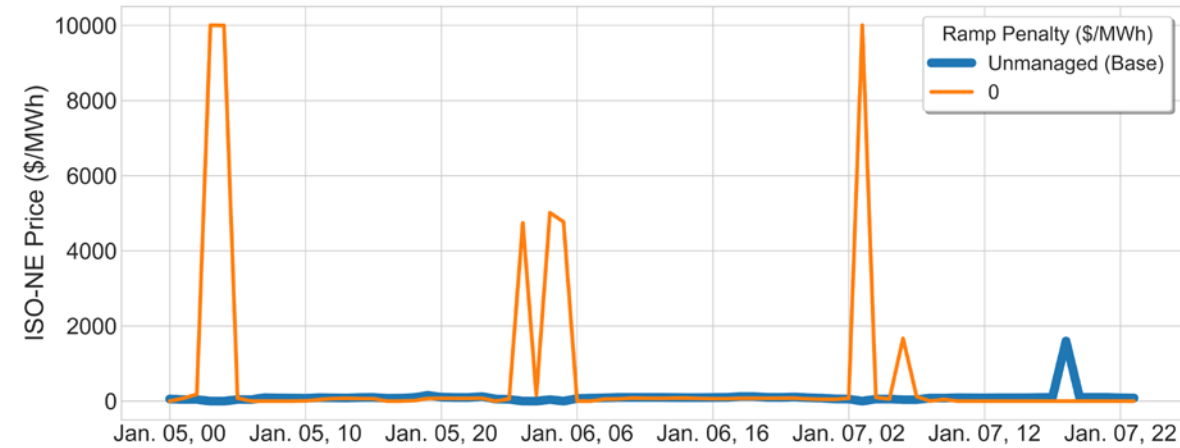
# Analysis Approach

## Testing the Limits of Price-taking

- Price-taking approaches are simpler than DLC, and let vehicles respond directly with their full flexibility
- However, too much flexible EV load chasing the same prices eliminates old, but creates new, price spikes
- Applying a penalty to aggregate ramps mutes response
- Simply muting response is not a sufficient strategy at moderate to high participation rates

**Table 7. Optimal Ramp Penalties for the Price-taking Dispatch Mechanisms that Reduce Production Costs by at Least \$1/vehicle-yr.** Combinations that do not yield sufficient production cost savings for any value of ramp penalty are indicated with dashes.

Participation (%)	Within-session			Within-week		
	RTP	TOU-4-4	TOU-1-2	RTP	TOU-4-4	TOU-1-2
5	1	10	1	10	10	1
30	100	100	-	-	-	-
60	-	-	-	-	-	-
100	-	-	-	-	-	-





# Analysis Approach

## Capacity value

- Previous work (Stephen, Hale, and Cowiestoll 2020; Jorgenson et al. 2021) identified average MW reduction of the top 100 net-load hours as a reasonable heuristic for firm capacity
- Capacity value is monetized using the 2021 [Cambium](#) data set, specifically 2038 ISO-NE capacity prices under the Mid-case 95% decarbonization by 2035 and by 2050 scenarios
- On average, unmanaged EV load adds 1,620 MW to the top 100 hours of net-load in this system
- DLC-LE EVMC with 100% participation reduces that amount by about half

