

# Federated Architecture for Secure and Transactive Distributed Energy Resource Management Solutions (FAST-DERMS)

**Annabelle Pratt, Chief Engineer, NREL (PI)**

**Jason MacDonald, Principal Scientific Engineering Associate, LBNL (PI+1)**

December 12, 2024. For ADMS Test Bed and FAST-DERMS Workshop

# FAST-DERMS Project



Supported by the Department of Energy under the Grid Modernization Laboratory Consortium

## *Objectives:*

- ▶ *Develop and demonstrate a control architecture* for heterogeneous distributed energy resources (DER) to provide grid services to the bulk power system at scale and support aggregation and transactive management.
- ▶ *Enable DER contribution to bulk services* at scale by simplifying transmission and distribution (T&D) interaction and increasing reliability of aggregated resource response.
- ▶ Three key project activities:
  - Architecture development
  - Reference controls development
  - Laboratory demonstration

# Project Team



PI: Annabelle Pratt, Chief Engineer, NREL

Co-PI: Jason MacDonald, Principal Scientific Engineering Associate, LBNL

## **National Laboratories:**

- National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory

## **Universities:**

- Iowa State University
- University of North Carolina - Charlotte

## **Utilities:**

- San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E)
- Southern Company
- ComEd – An Exelon Company
- New York Power Authority (NYPA)

## **Industry Partners:**

- Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
- Oracle
- GridBright, Inc

# Architecture Development

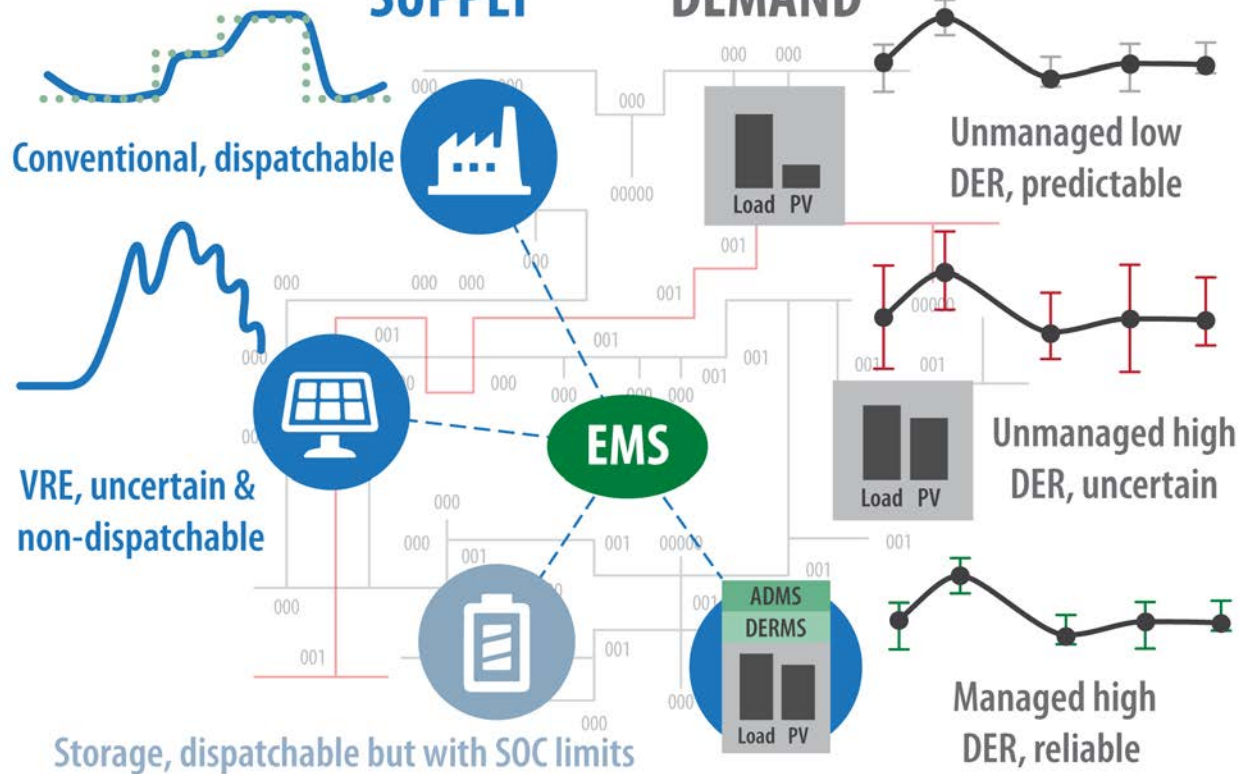
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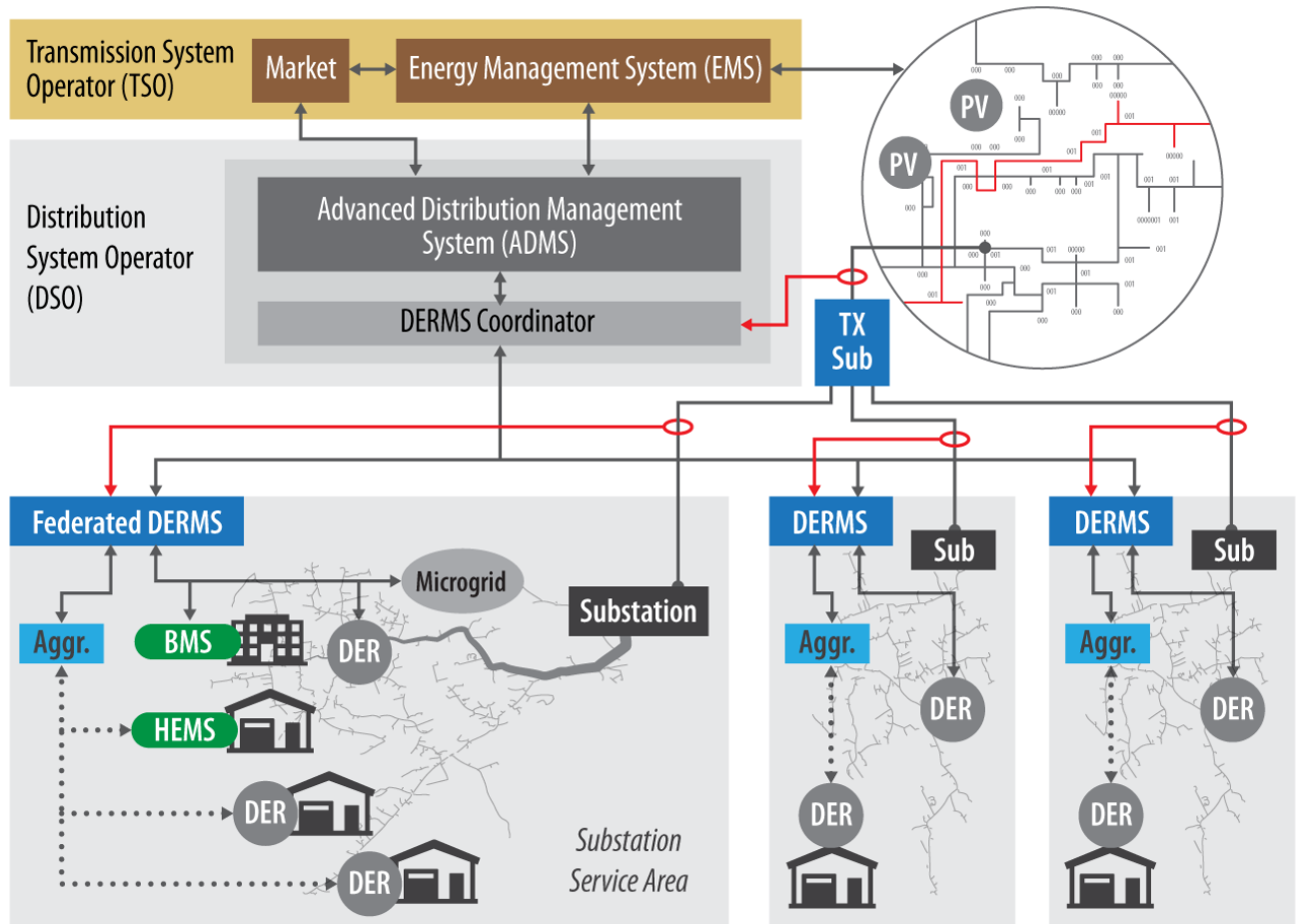
Annabelle Pratt

# The Big Picture

## SUPPLY

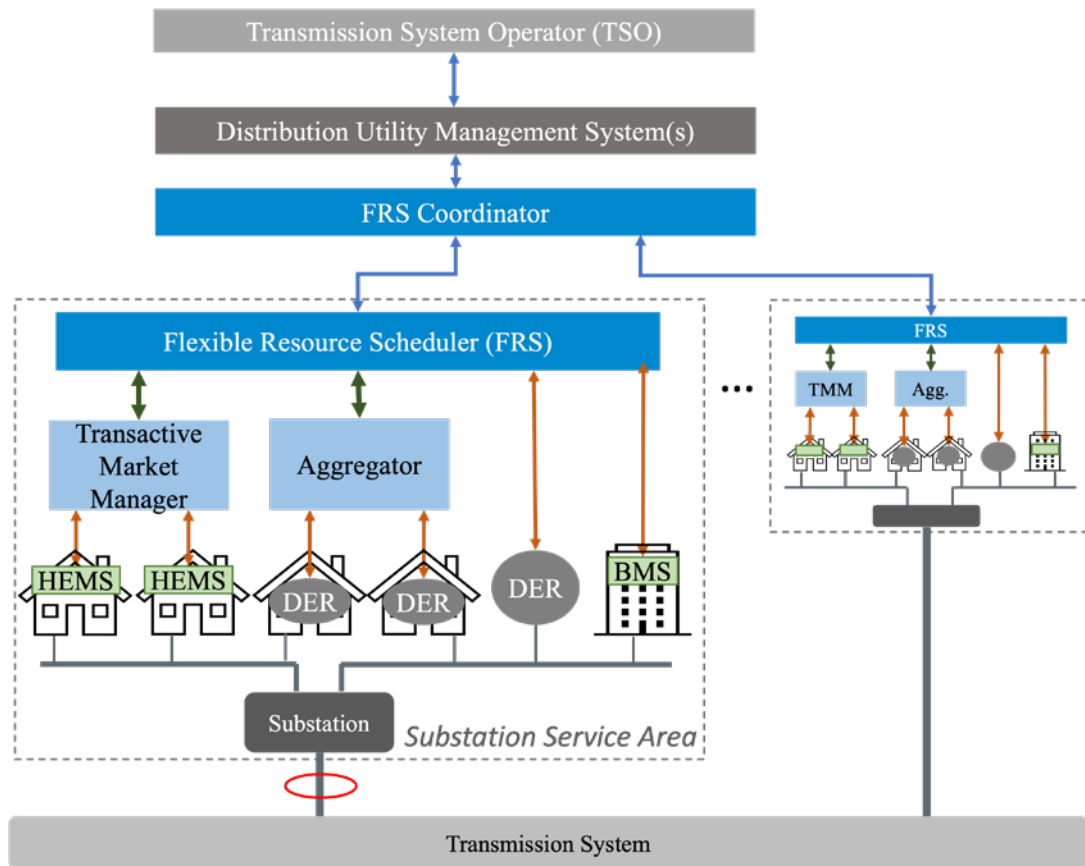
## DEMAND



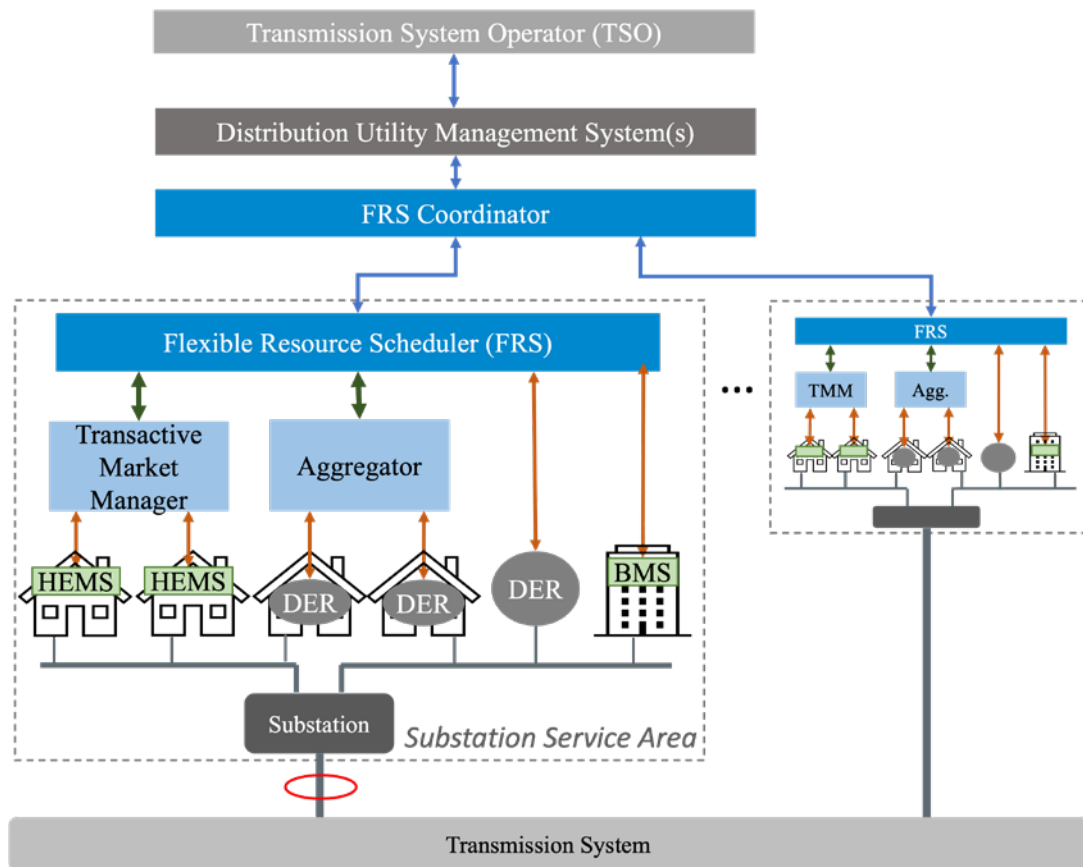


BMS = Building Management System    HEMS = Home Energy Management System    Sub = Substation    Aggr. = Aggregator

# Federated Architecture for Secure and Transactive Distributed Energy Resource Management Solutions (FAST-DERMS)



# FAST-DERMS Architectural Features



- **Simplify T&D interaction** by defining and measuring transmission services provided at the distribution substation.
- Demonstrate **distributed intelligence** by managing aggregations at the distribution substation through our Flexible Resource Scheduler (FRS).
- Perform **network-aware optimization** to maintain distribution health while simultaneously providing bulk service.
- Employ “**Total DSO**” **architecture** model such that the DSO represents the aggregated resource response in the bulk transmission system.

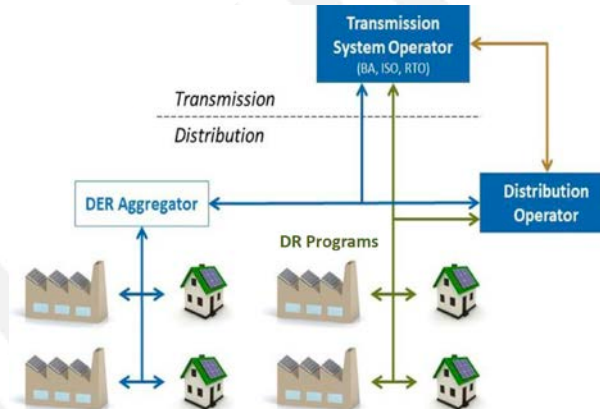


# Architectures for Future Grid Interaction

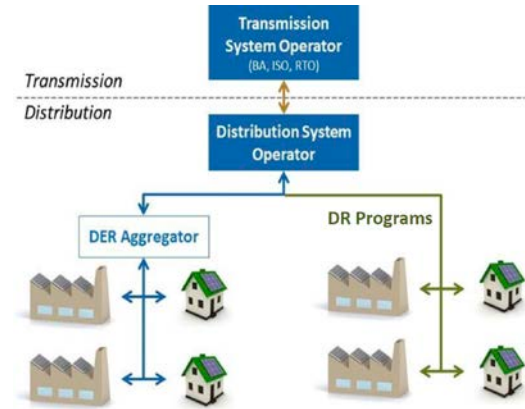
## Total TSO



## Hybrid

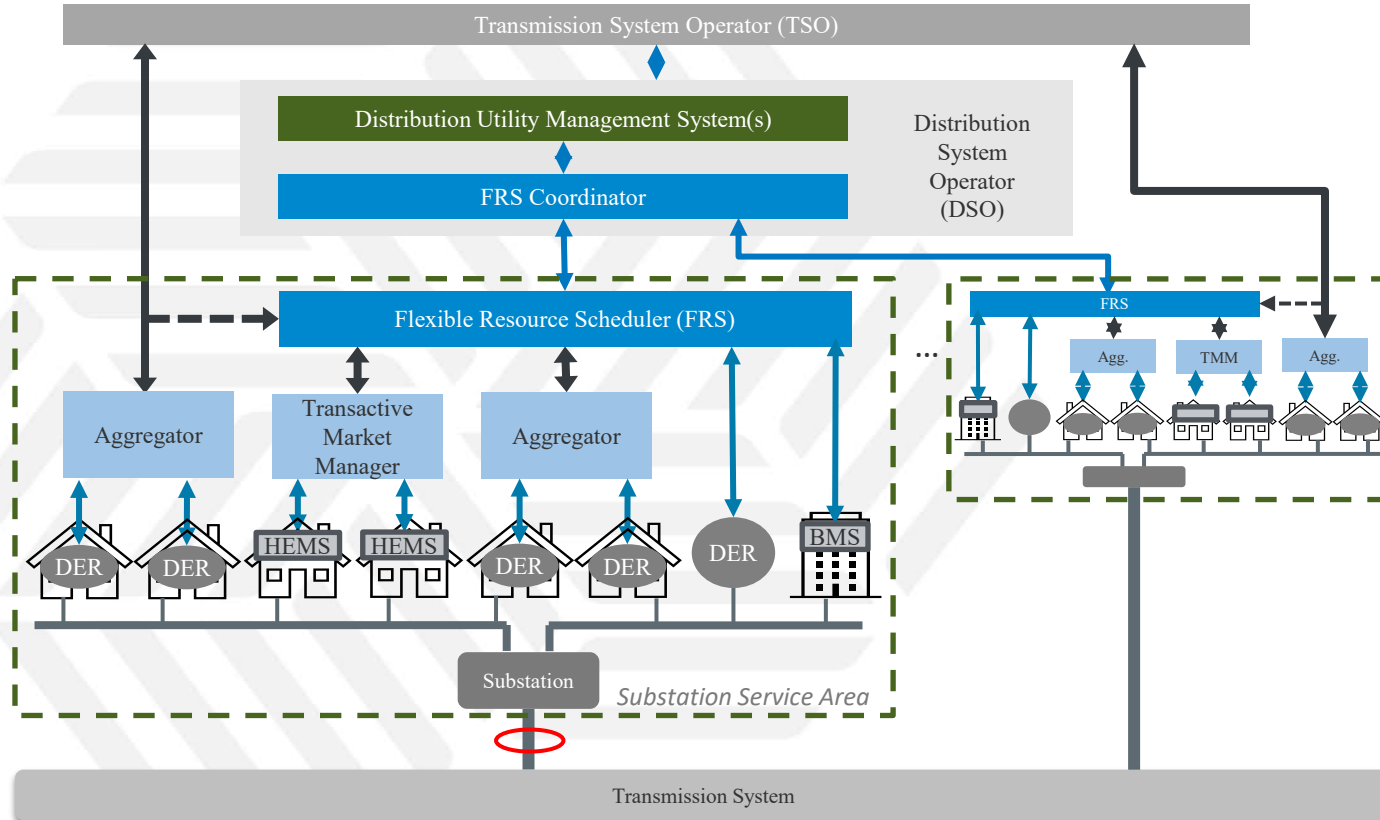


## Total DSO



Source: Paul De Martini, "T-D Operational Coordination", Newport Consulting, December 9, 2020 (Presentation to National Council on Electricity Policy)

# FAST-DERMS Extension to Hybrid Architecture



# FAST-DERMS Project



- ▶ Three key project activities:
  - Architecture development
  - Reference controls development
  - Laboratory demonstration
- ▶ Architecture:
  - Developed and published System Architecture and Reference Implementation (Jan 2022)
  - Defines system-level principles and objectives, concepts, specifications for FAST-DERMS
  - <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy22osti/81566.pdf>

## Federated Architecture for Secure and Transactive Distributed Energy Resource Management Solutions (FAST-DERMS)

System Architecture and Reference Implementation

January 2022

Fei Ding  
Weijia Liu  
Jason MacDonald  
James Ogle  
Annabelle Pratt  
Avijit Saha  
Joe Hagerman  
Murali Baggu

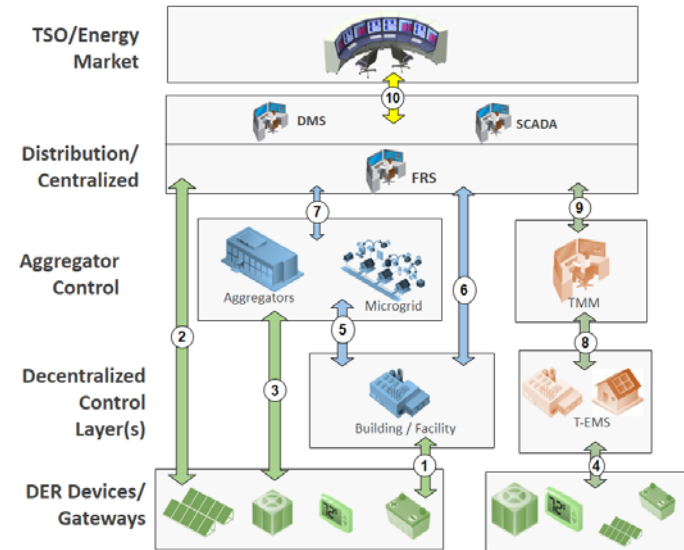
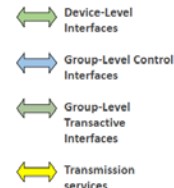
# FAST-DERMS Progress: Architecture

## ► Architecture:

- PNNL Grid Architecture team developed and published a companion document
- “Grid Architecture Guidance Specification for FAST-DERMS” (April 2021)
- [https://gridarchitecture.pnnl.gov/media/Grid\\_Arch\\_Guidance\\_for\\_FAST%20DERMS.pdf](https://gridarchitecture.pnnl.gov/media/Grid_Arch_Guidance_for_FAST%20DERMS.pdf)

## ► Communications architecture, led by EPRI:

- Complex communication landscape
- Extends across multiple layers
- Standards-based
- Interoperable



# Summary and Takeaways



- ▶ We need DER—including BTM DER—to contribute to grid services to ensure reliable grid operations.
- ▶ BTM DER need to be aggregated to participate meaningfully.
- ▶ Need a scalable solution that can aggregate small resources that are not under direct control of distribution system operators into a reliable service provider.
- ▶ FAST-DERMS addresses this need through a federated architecture approach.
- ▶ We are developing a reference controls solution and will demonstrate it in a realistic laboratory environment on a real utility feeder.
- ▶ Reference controls will be made available open-source at the end of the project.

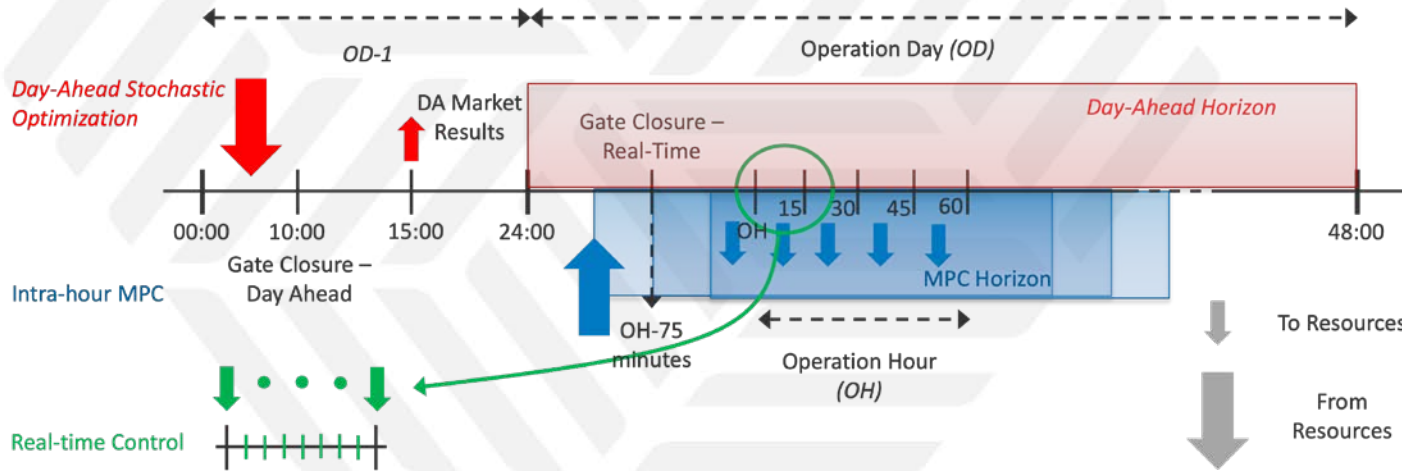
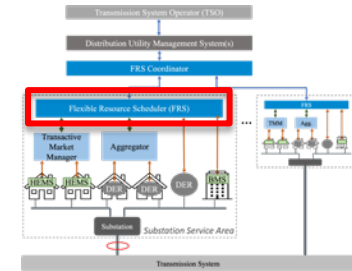
# Reference controls development

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Jason MacDonald

# Controllers: Flexible Resource Scheduler

- Temporal hierarchy of coordination and control via the FRS:
  - **Day-ahead stochastic optimization** for wholesale market bidding
  - **Intra-hour model predictive control** for DER management and response allocation
  - **Real-time PID control** for dispatch error correction.



- Simultaneous distribution management & transmission service provision

# Controllers: FRS Day Ahead Optim.

- **Network-aware, Scenario-based Stochastic Optimization** determines substation power and reserve offers consistent across most any possible uncertainty scenario, at minimum total cost.
  - Thousands of random variables makes scenario selection critical.

$$\min_{u(t)} E[\text{Total Cost}]$$

subject to:  $\forall d \in N_{scenarios}$

[DER Power (P & Q) and Energy Constraints]<sub>d</sub>

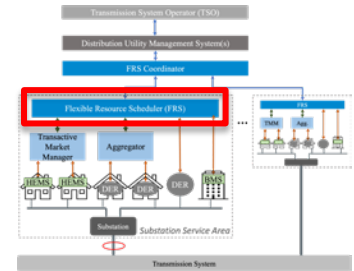
[Linearized AC Power Flow]<sub>d</sub>

[Power System Constraints (Voltage and Thermal)]<sub>d</sub>

[Constant Substation Energy and Reserve Offers]<sub>d</sub>

[Minimum distribution system cost recovery]<sub>d</sub>

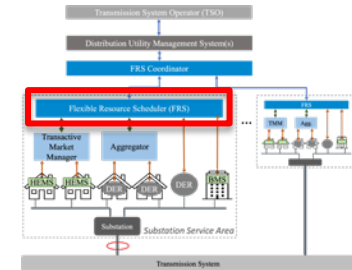
- Decision variables: power and reserve schedules for DER and aggregators, and price fore transactive market managers.





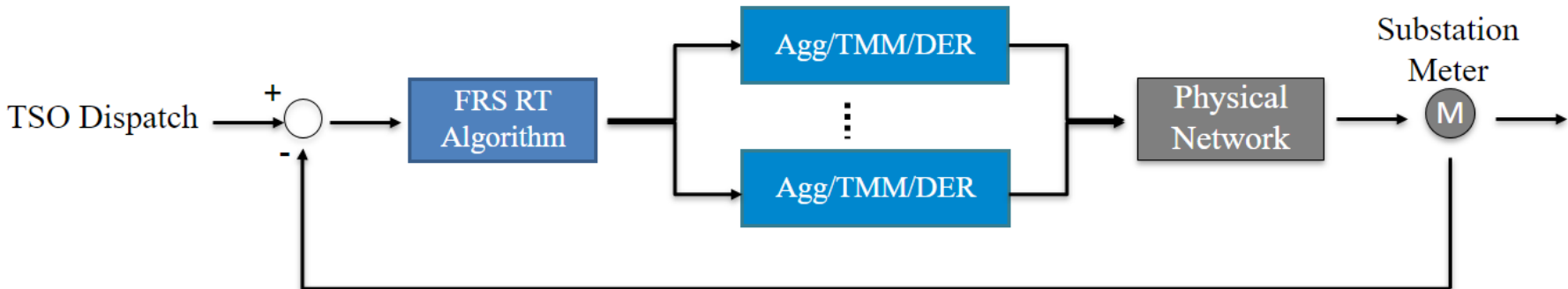
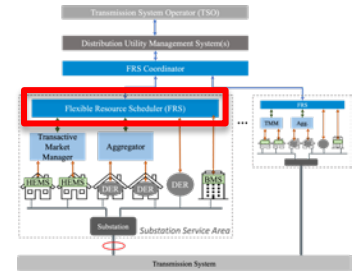
# Controllers: FRS Intra-Day MPC

- ▶ **Rolling horizon, deterministic optimization** that chooses DER power setpoints and reserve allocations to minimize the deviation between substation power and available TSO reserves with the Day Ahead market awards.
  - 15-minute granularity, 4-hour rolling horizon
  - Requires communication of state of charge from DER/Aggregators.
  - Constraint structure remains the same as the Day Ahead.
  - A distribution operating reserve requirement calculated based on the uncertainty in the forecasts is added to the TSO market reserves.



# Controllers: Real-Time Controller

- ▶ Simple Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) controller drives the error between the substation power and ISO dispatch to zero.
  - Simplicity is key: FRS provides one-way communications in real time to DERs and aggregations, no telemetry required.
  - Dispatch signal disaggregated every 1-minute according to reserve allocations from the MPC.

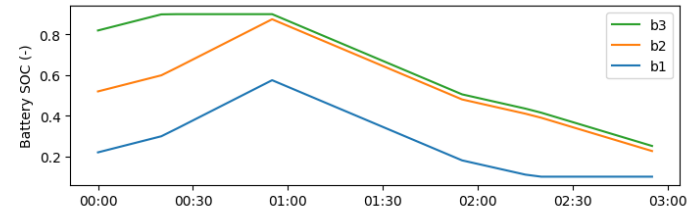
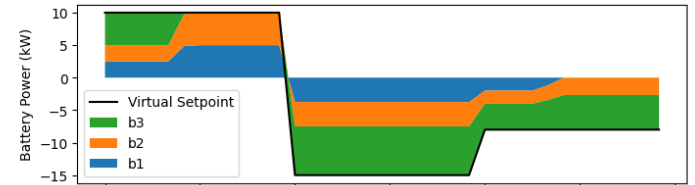
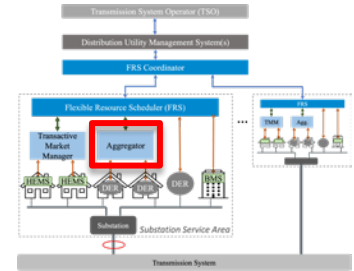


# Controllers: Battery Aggregator

- ▶ Merges batteries into a single virtual battery model
  - Linearizes models before aggregating
  - Virtual battery capacity = sum of capacities
  - SOC and efficiency uses a weighted average

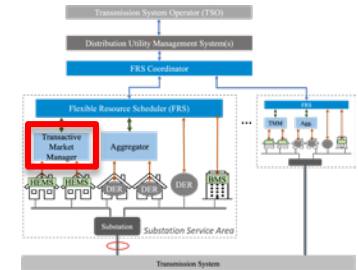
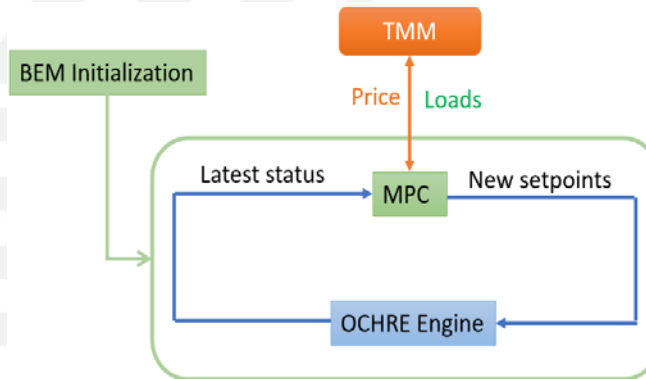
$$P_i = P_i^+ - P_i^-$$
$$SOC_i(k+1) = SOC_i(k) + \frac{\eta^+ \Delta t}{E_i} P_i^+ - \frac{\Delta t}{\eta^- E_i} P_i^-$$

- ▶ Aggregator Objective:
  - Distribute virtual battery power setpoint equally to individual batteries based on battery capacity



# Controllers: Transactive Market Manager

- ▶ ORNL's TMM design is both an aggregator and a collection of Transactive Home Energy Managers (T.HEMs) based on Model Predictive Control
  - TMM receives price forecast / signals from FRS and passes to house-level MPCs
  - MPCs determine optimal control actions and compose house level bids / compute house level control actions to send to OCHRE house models.
  - TMM aggregates bids for FRS optimization.

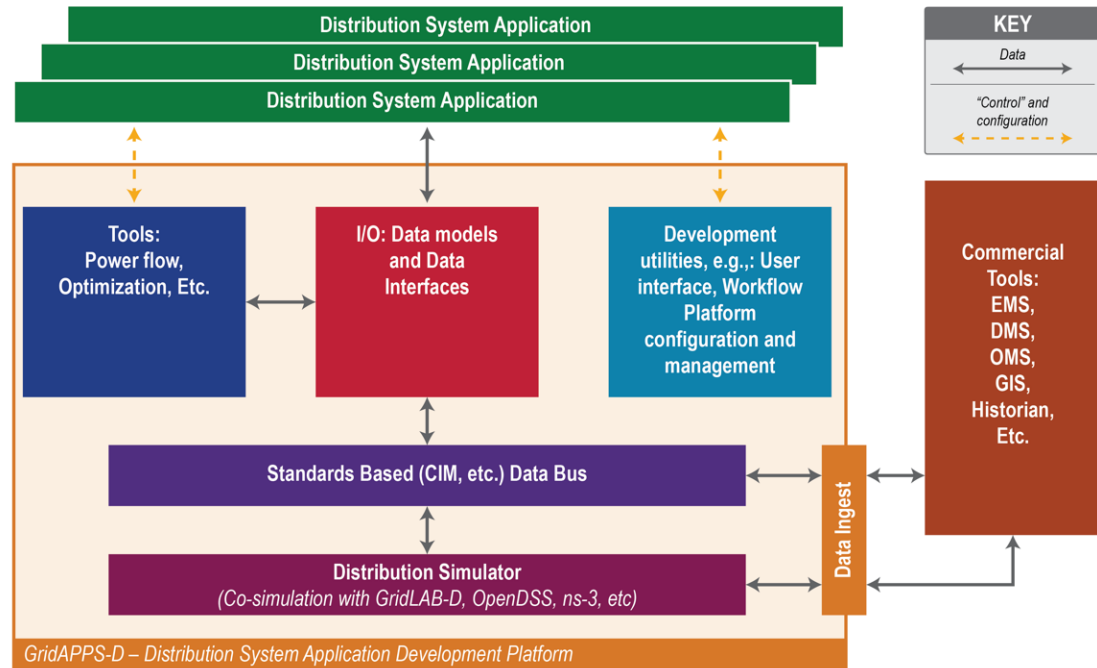


# Platform: GridAPPS-D

## ► Overview:

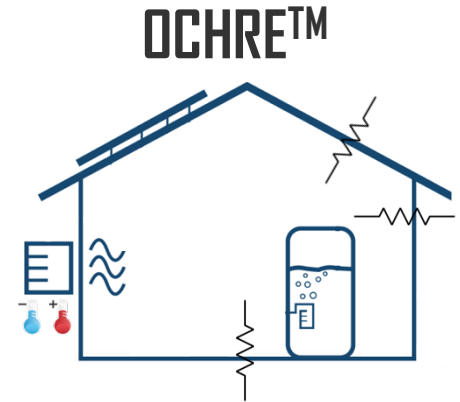
- An open-source platform for advanced distribution management system (ADMS) application development
- Built-in distribution simulator, cosimulation, and common services for developers and applications
- Can integrate with external software systems using standard communications (e.g., IEEE Std. 2030.5, DNP3).

- FAST-DERMS leverages data bus, simulation, co-simulation, and communication interfaces.



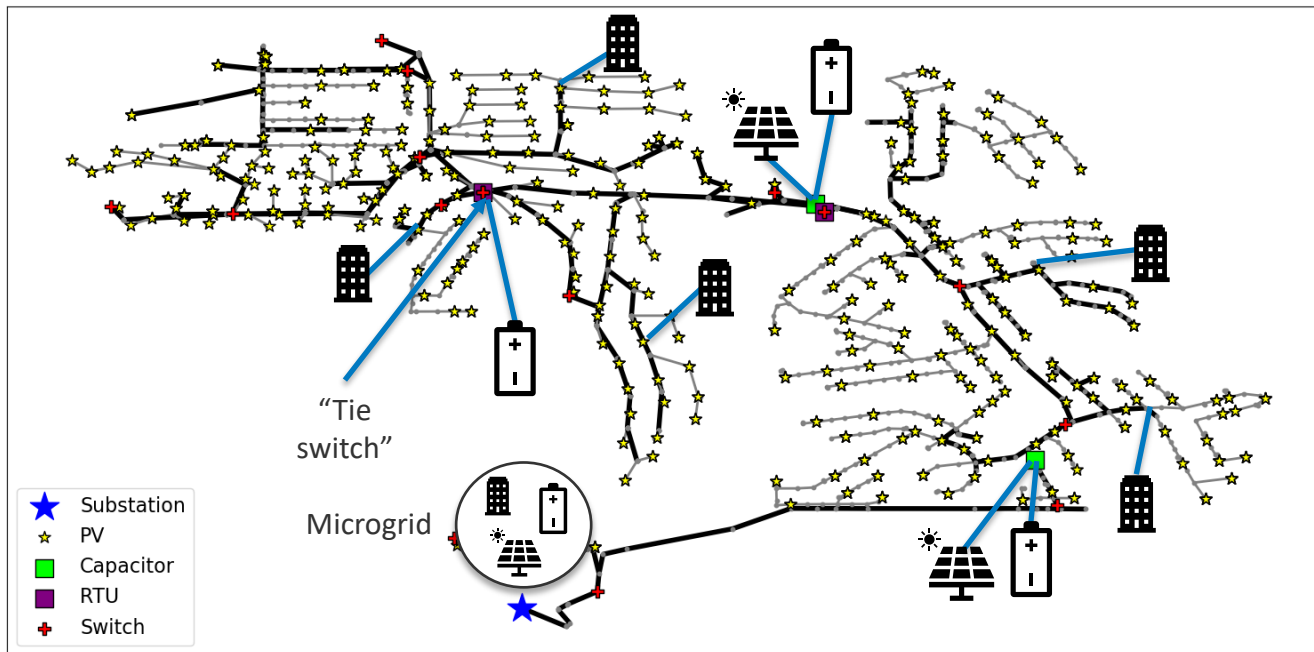
# Co-Simulation: OCHRE

- ▶ OCHRE™:
  - Object-Oriented Controllable High-Resolution Residential Energy Model (open source)
  - Residential building simulation suitable for cosimulation with power systems
  - Implementation on high-performance computing for many homes.
  - <https://ochre-docs-final.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>.



# Modified SDG&E feeder

- Model augmented with Utility Scale PV and Batteries, responsive commercial buildings, Current modeling PV and Batteries
- Replace some load with 100 homes modeled in OCHRE, and responsive to either battery aggregator or TMM



# Simulation Results: Battery Aggregator + PV

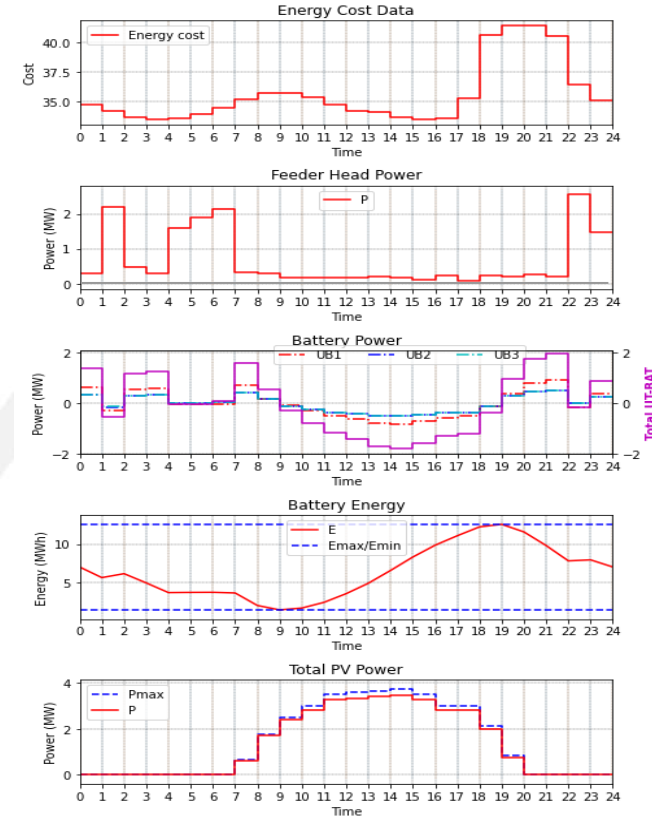
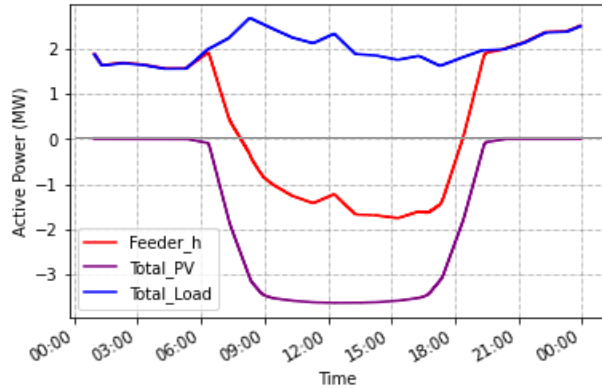
## Day-Ahead Results

▶ Southern Company feeder:  
light load and high PV day—  
baseline:

Lorem Ipsum Added utility-  
scale battery systems to model  
to address reverse power flow.

Day-ahead FRS stochastic  
optimization:

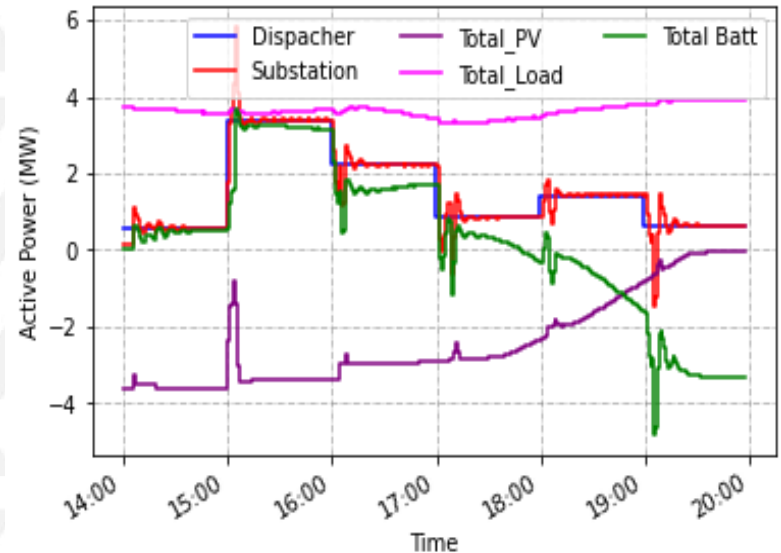
- Objective is to minimize cost, subject to network constraints
- No reverse power flow allowed (per use case)
- Performs energy arbitrage using battery
- Limited PV curtailment.





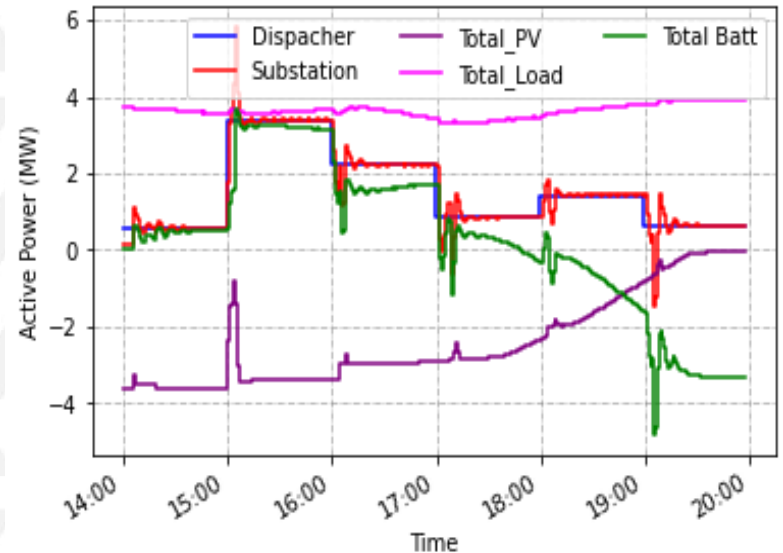
# Simulation Results: Battery Aggregator + PV

- Real-Time Results
- Model predictive control:
  - Operates over 4-hour horizon
  - Updated every 15 minutes.
- Real-time control:
  - PID controller
  - Time step of 1 minute.
- Continuing work to reduce overshoot.



# Simulation Results: ADMS Integration

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- Model predictive control:
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# Simulation Results: ADMS Integration

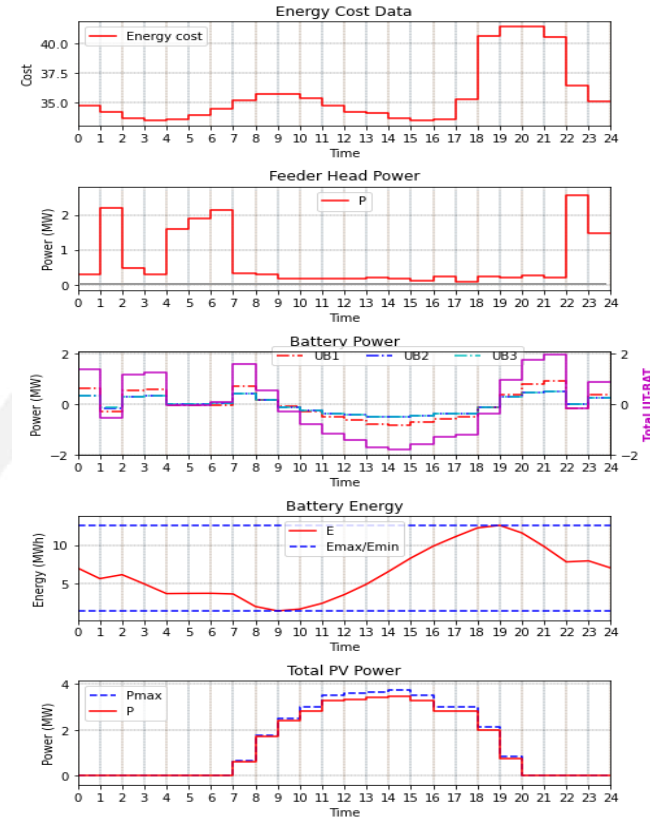
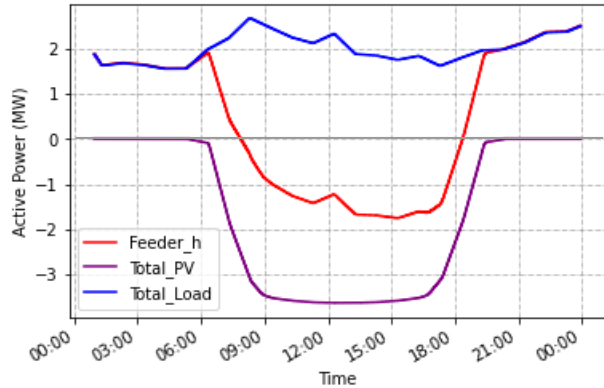
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# Simulation Results: TMM

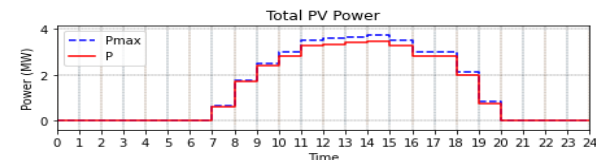
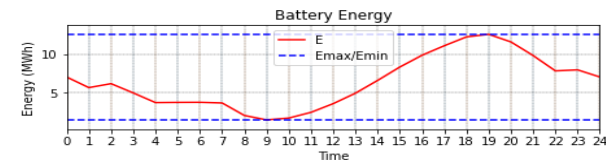
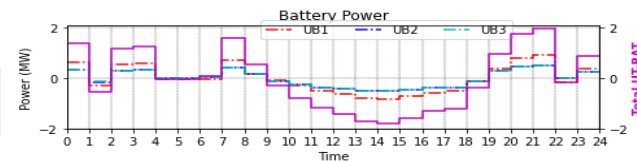
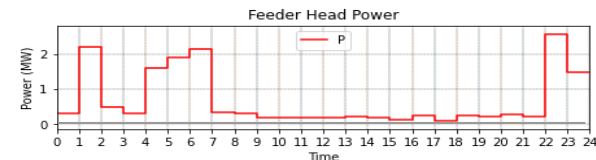
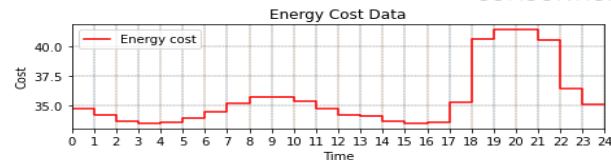
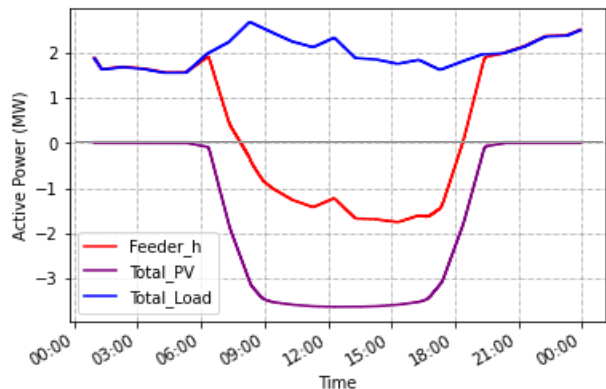
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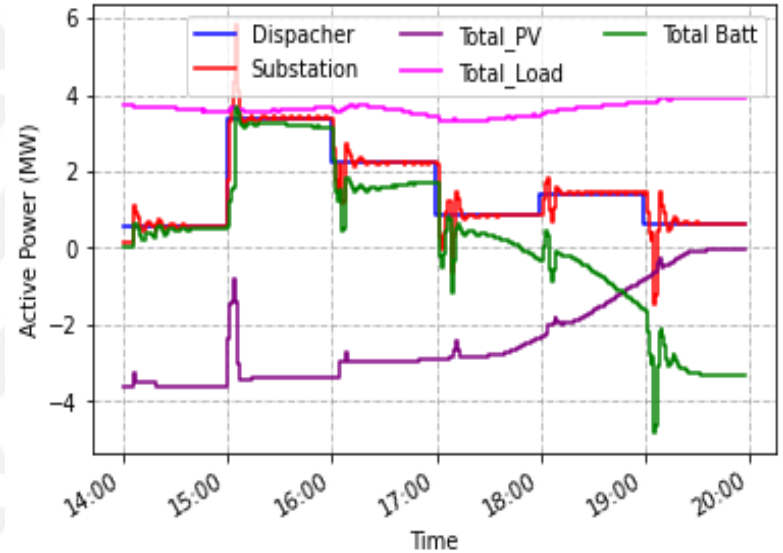
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# Simulation Results: TMM

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# Laboratory Demonstration

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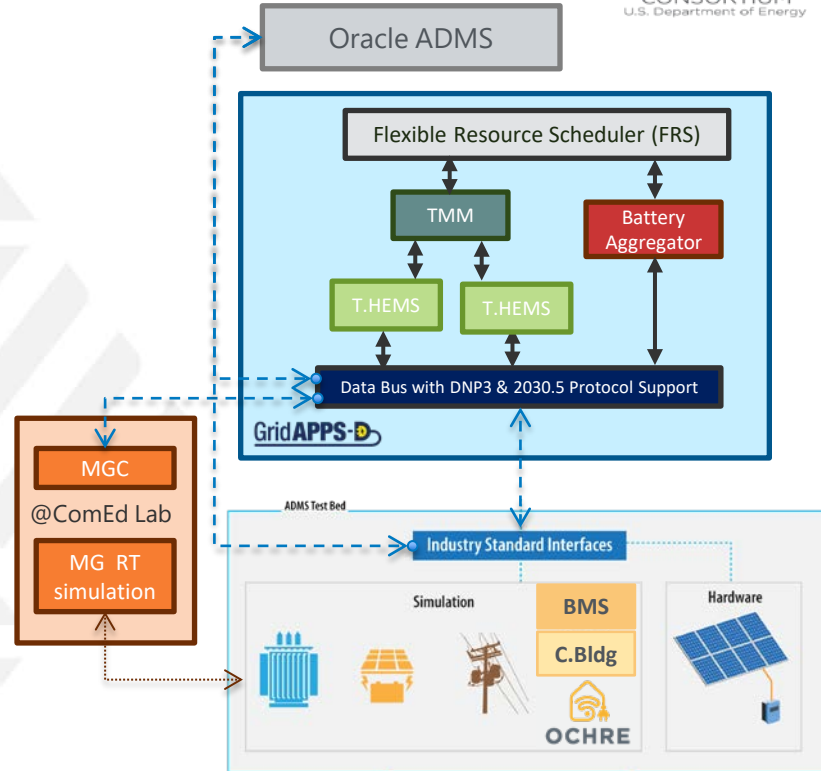
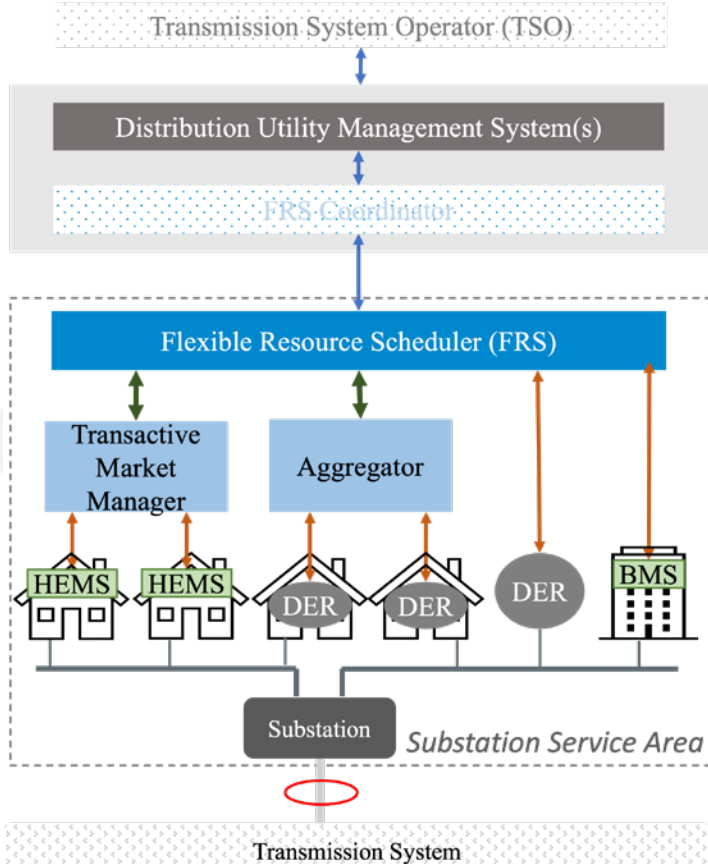
Annabelle Pratt

# Laboratory Demonstration Features



- ▶ Real-time simulation
- ▶ Interface with commercial controllers
- ▶ Industry-standard communications protocols

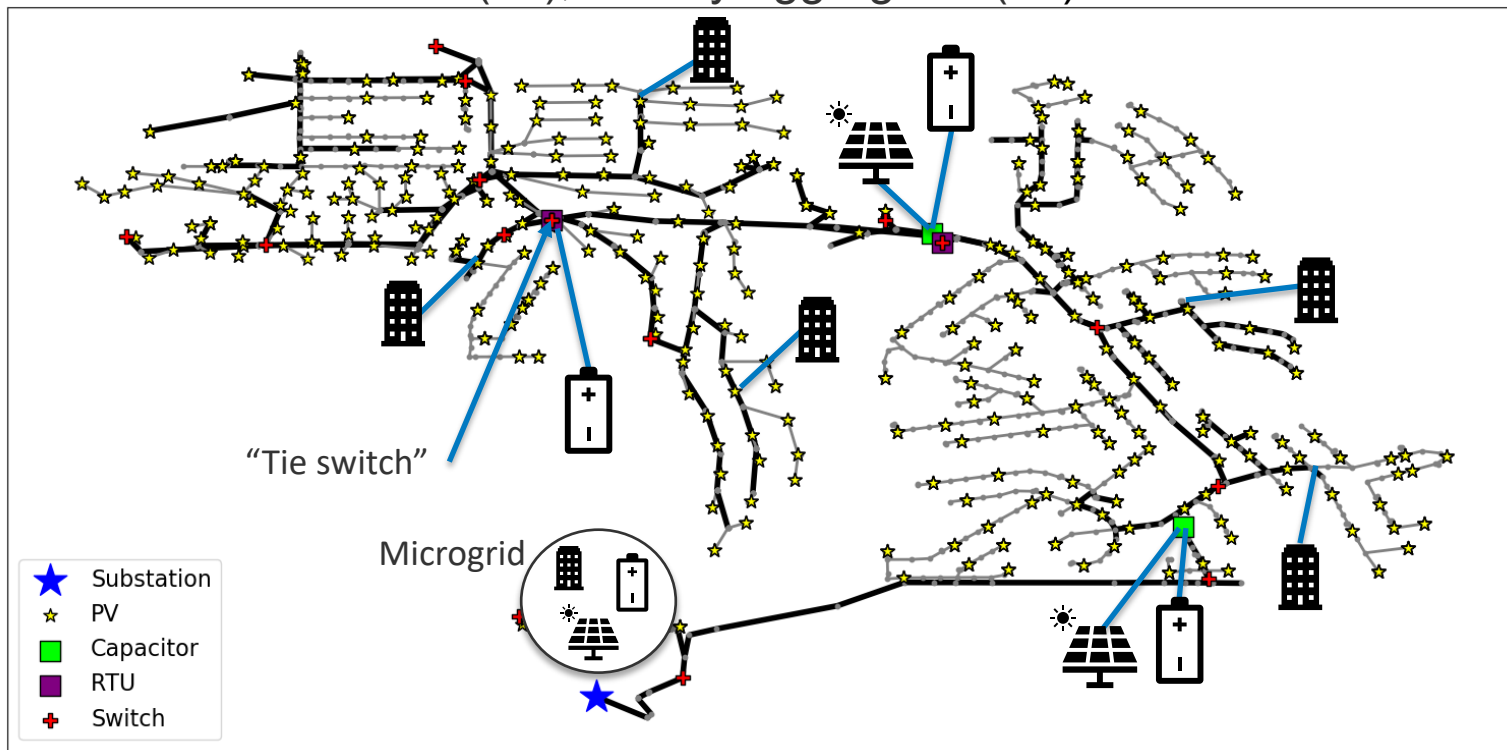
# Laboratory Demonstration





# Modified SDG&E feeder

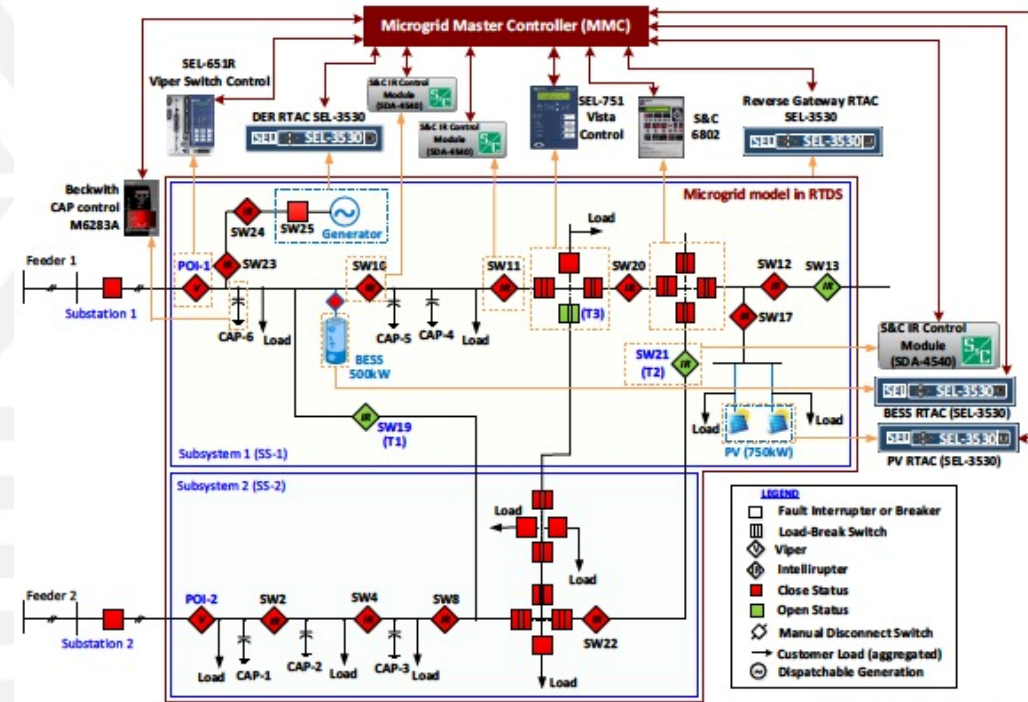
- Replace some load with 100 homes modeled with OCHRE; respond to
  - Transactive market (40), battery aggregator (60)



# Microgrid Modeling and Control

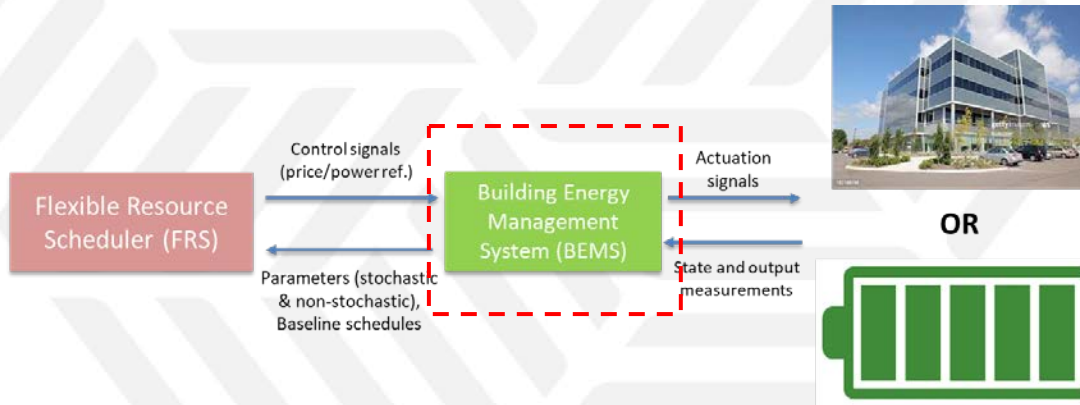
## BCM Model and MMC Testbed

- ▶ Two feeders
- ▶ Two POI switches—POI-1, POI-2
- ▶ Three Tie Switches— T1, T2, and T3
- ▶ All DERs located in Subsystem-1
- ▶ Dynamics of microgrid modeled in RTDS
- ▶ Selected intelligent electronic devices (IEDs) communicate with RTDS and MMC
- ▶ Reverse gateway (RGW) RTAC receives data from RTDS and parses such that MMC sees it coming from individual RTUs.



# Commercial Building Modeling and Control

- Represent a building with a single equivalent battery model (EBM)
  - Enables modeling consistency
  - Reduces number of operational parameters shared with FRS
  - Capture uncertainties associated with the building's flexible resources
  - 3 building types: small office building, medium office building and warehouse
  - 2 climates: Chicago, IL, and Los Angeles, CA



Power input (relative to some base profile)

Energy state

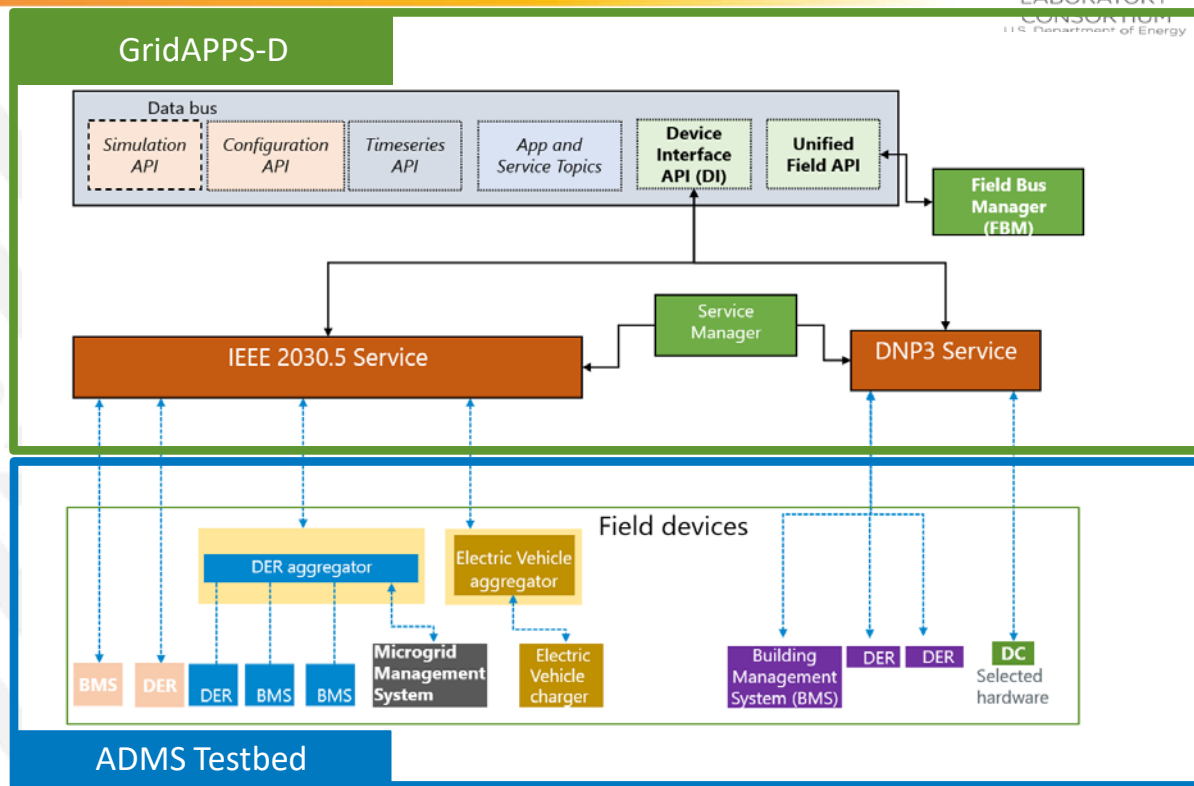
$$X_{t+1} = \alpha X_t + \Delta P_t$$

Self-discharge rate

# Enhancing GridAPPS-D Communications

New capabilities added to GridAPPS-D for FAST-DERMS.

- ▶ Introduced a field device manager that supports service plug-ins to translate CIM API to different field protocols.
- ▶ Applications are now independent of field protocol.
- ▶ Enhanced DNP3 service to support master and outstation roles.
- ▶ Developed 2030.5 Server using field device manager plug-in architecture



# FAST-DERMS Interoperability with IEEE 2030.5



- ▶ Utility partner, SDG&E, requested IEEE 2030.5 be used as one of the protocols for coordination between the utility and DER devices
  - IEEE 2030.5 is one of three allowable communication protocols for CA Rule 21
  - IEEE 2030.5 is a modern, client-server, IOT protocol,
  - Broad function set: discovery, polling and pub/sub, security, smart grid functions, e.g., demand response
- ▶ Developed both a 2030.5 client and server
  - Server runs on GridAPPS-D (utility side); clients run on ADMS Test Bed (device side)
  - Both client and server will be made publicly available
    - [https://github.com/GRIDAPPSD/gridappsd-2030\\_5](https://github.com/GRIDAPPSD/gridappsd-2030_5)
  - Client and server developed independently, compliance tested with commercial test set, then integrated
  - Learned that developing interoperable software interface even with a released standard is challenging.

# Next Steps

- Document and release open-source reference controls
- Complete Laboratory Setup
- Execute Evaluation Plan
- Disseminate results through papers and presentations
- Publish hybrid-DSO architecture addendum
- Demonstrate hybrid architecture with commercial VPP
- Continue to pursue opportunities to demonstrate architecture and controls



# Thank you.

NREL/PR-5D00-92398

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Jason MacDonald ([jsmacdonald@lbl.gov](mailto:jsmacdonald@lbl.gov))

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# Developed under this project



- ▶ Federated Architecture for Secure and Transactive Distributed Energy Resource Management Solutions (FAST-DERMS), April 2022
  - <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy22osti/81566.pdf>
- ▶ Grid Architecture Guidance Specification for FAST-DERMS, January 2022
  - [https://gridarchitecture.pnnl.gov/media/Grid\\_Arch\\_Guidance\\_for\\_FAST%20DERMS.pdf](https://gridarchitecture.pnnl.gov/media/Grid_Arch_Guidance_for_FAST%20DERMS.pdf)
- ▶ J. S. MacDonald, M. Baudette, V. R. Motakatla and Y. Lin, "An Introduction to the Federated Architecture for Secure and Transactive Distributed Energy Management Solutions (FAST-DERMS)," 2024 Annual Conference of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IECON), Chicago, IL, Oct 2024
- ▶ Y. Lin, V. Motakatla, A. Pratt, J. MacDonald, M. Baudette, A. Ingram, "Federated Controls for Distributed Energy Resource Management Applied to a Feeder with High Solar Generation and Battery Storage", accepted to *IEEE PES Grid Edge Technologies Conference & Exposition*, 2025.
- ▶ Abbas, A., Ariwoola, R., Chowdhury, B., Kamalasadana, S. and Lin, Y., 2022, October. Evaluation of Equivalent Battery Model Representations for Thermostatically Controlled Loads in Commercial Buildings. In *2022 IEEE Industry Applications Society Annual Meeting (IAS)* (pp. 1-6). IEEE.
- ▶ Y. Yao, F. Ding, and W. Liu, "A Hybrid Data-Driven and Model-Based Anomaly Detection Scheme for DER Operation", 2022 IEEE PES Innovative Smart Grid Technologies (ISGT-NA), Feb 2022.