



# Assessing Capacity Value of Wind Power

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Advanced Review

## Capacity value assessments of wind power

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This article describes some of the recent research into the capacity value of wind power. With the worldwide increase in wind power during the past several years, there is increasing interest and significance regarding its capacity value because this has a direct influence on the amount of other (nonwind) capacity that is needed. We build on previous reviews from IEEE and IEA Wind Task 25<sup>5</sup> and examine recent work that evaluates the impact of multiple-year data sets and the impact of interconnected systems on resource adequacy. We also provide examples that explore the use of alternative reliability metrics for wind capacity value calculations. We show how multiple-year data sets significantly increase the robustness of results compared to single-year assessments. Assumptions regarding the transmission interconnections play a significant role. To date, results regarding which reliability metric to use for probabilistic capacity valuation show little sensitivity to the metric. © 2016 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd

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### INTRODUCTION

During the past several years, there has been a significant increase in the level of installed wind and solar power on electric power systems around the world. As the capacity and energy share of generation from these power sources has become more significant, the question of how to take variable generation into account in resource (power) adequacy assessment has received more attention.<sup>1</sup> How much of the installed capacity of wind and solar should count toward planning reserve margins (firm capacity that can be counted on during peak demand or other high-risk periods) is a critical issue—if these resources can deliver a high fraction of installed capacity during high-risk time periods, then the required level of capacity from other sources would

be less than if wind or solar provided little capacity value.

In the literature, there are many ways to estimate capacity value. The preferred method for assessing the capacity value of wind and solar generation is a probabilistic approach grounded in the well-known loss of load probability (LOLP) and related reliability metrics. This recommendation has emerged from the IEEE Wind Power Coordinating Committee Task Force paper for wind power<sup>2</sup> and Duignan et al.<sup>3</sup> for solar power. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) approved this method in a task force paper,<sup>4</sup> and it was included in the Recommended Practices for Wind Integration Studies.<sup>5</sup> Other studies have echoed the preference for these probabilistic methods, specifically highlighting the effective load-carrying capability (ELCC) method.<sup>2,6,7</sup> Other standard, but less commonly used, reliability metrics include equivalent conventional power (ECP), equivalent firm power (EFP), and secured capacity.<sup>8,9</sup>

The objective of this article is to summarize recent work on wind capacity valuation methods that has helped to answer some of the questions raised in Ref 2 and NERC.<sup>4,6</sup> We find that some of the interesting questions regarding multiple years of

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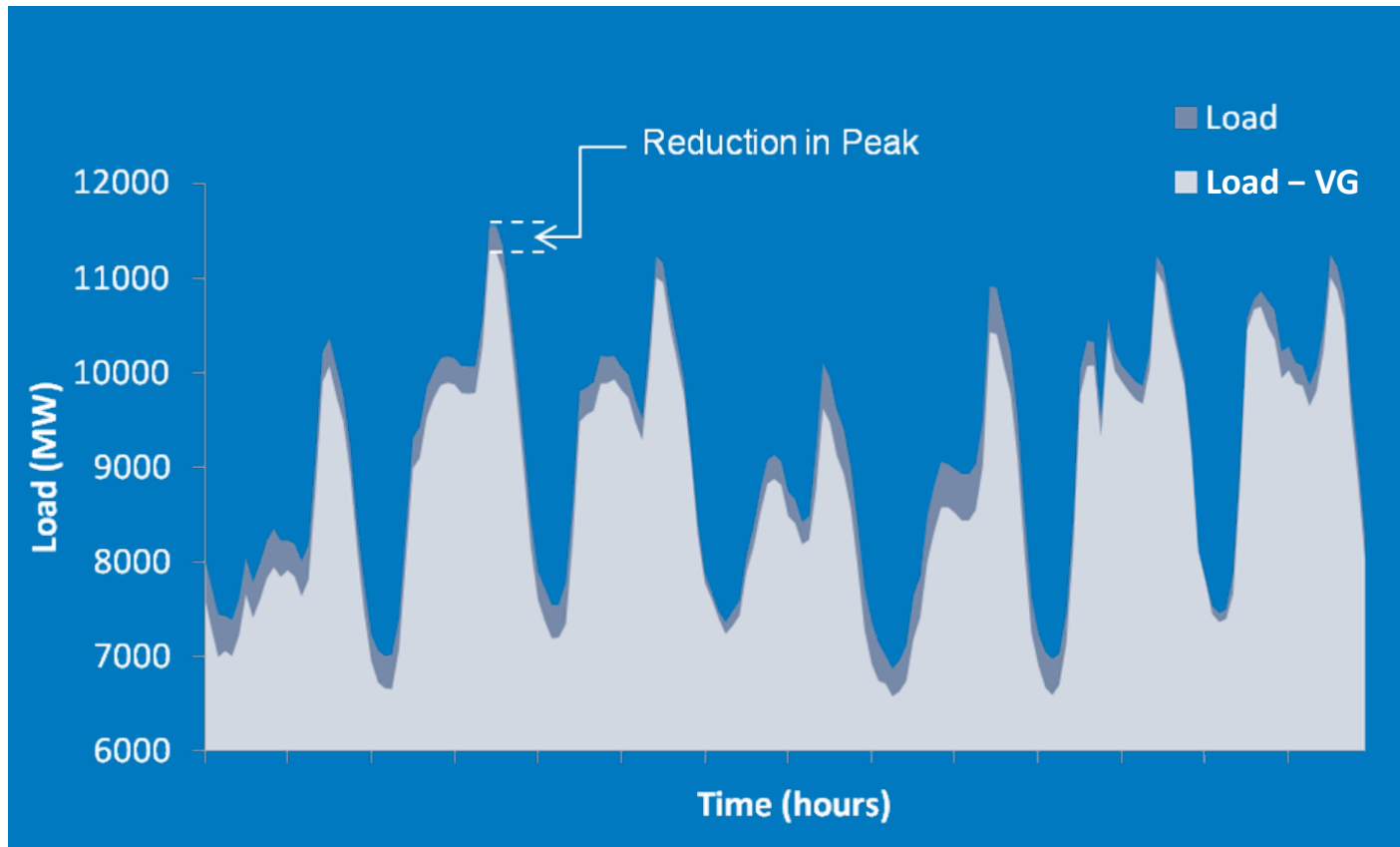
<sup>2</sup>General Electric (GE) Energy Consulting, Schenectady, NY, USA

<sup>3</sup>Vahion Teknillinen Tutkimuskeskus (VTT), Espoo, Finland

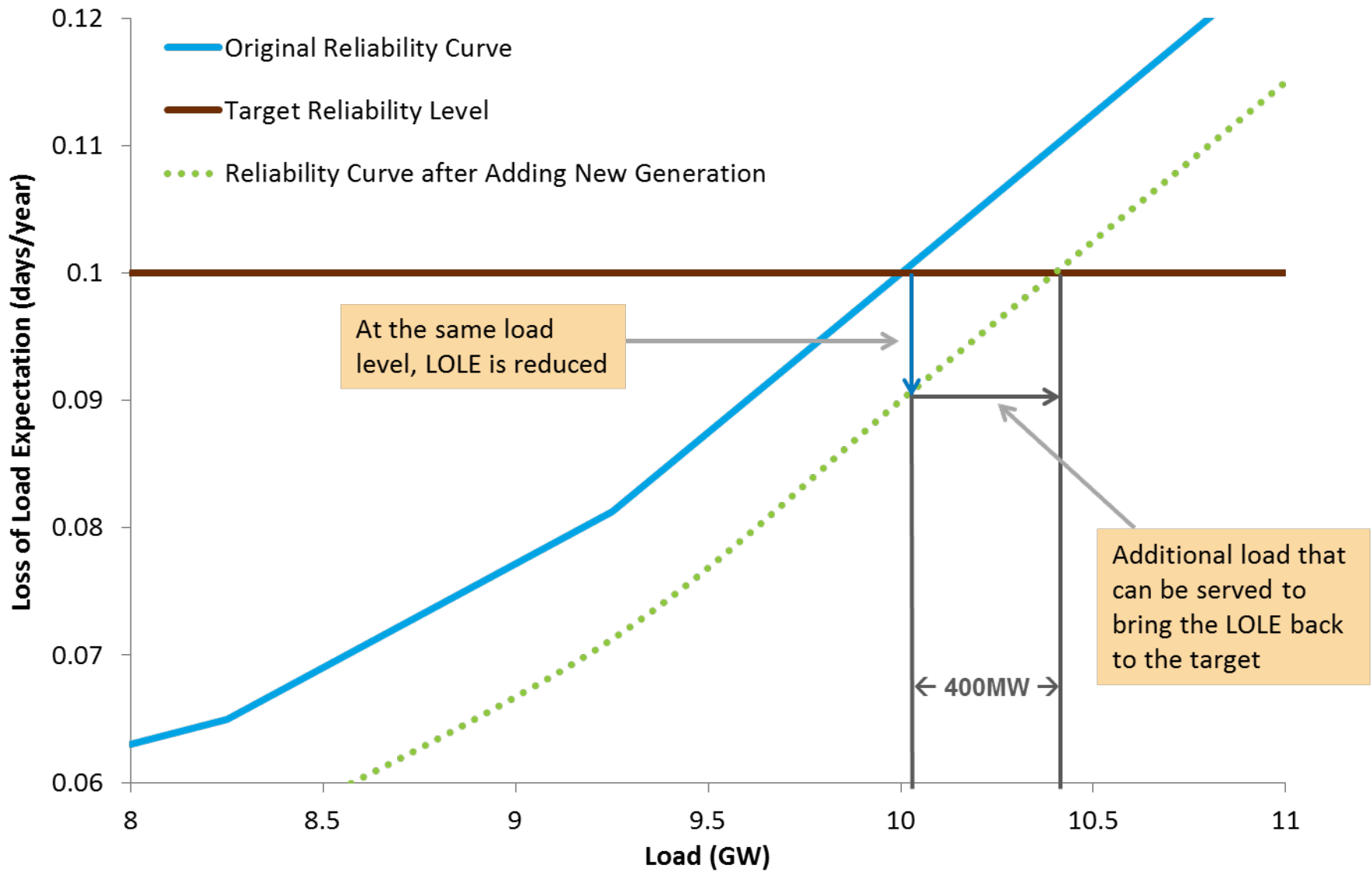
<sup>4</sup>Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden

Conflict of interest: The authors have declared no conflicts of interest for this article.

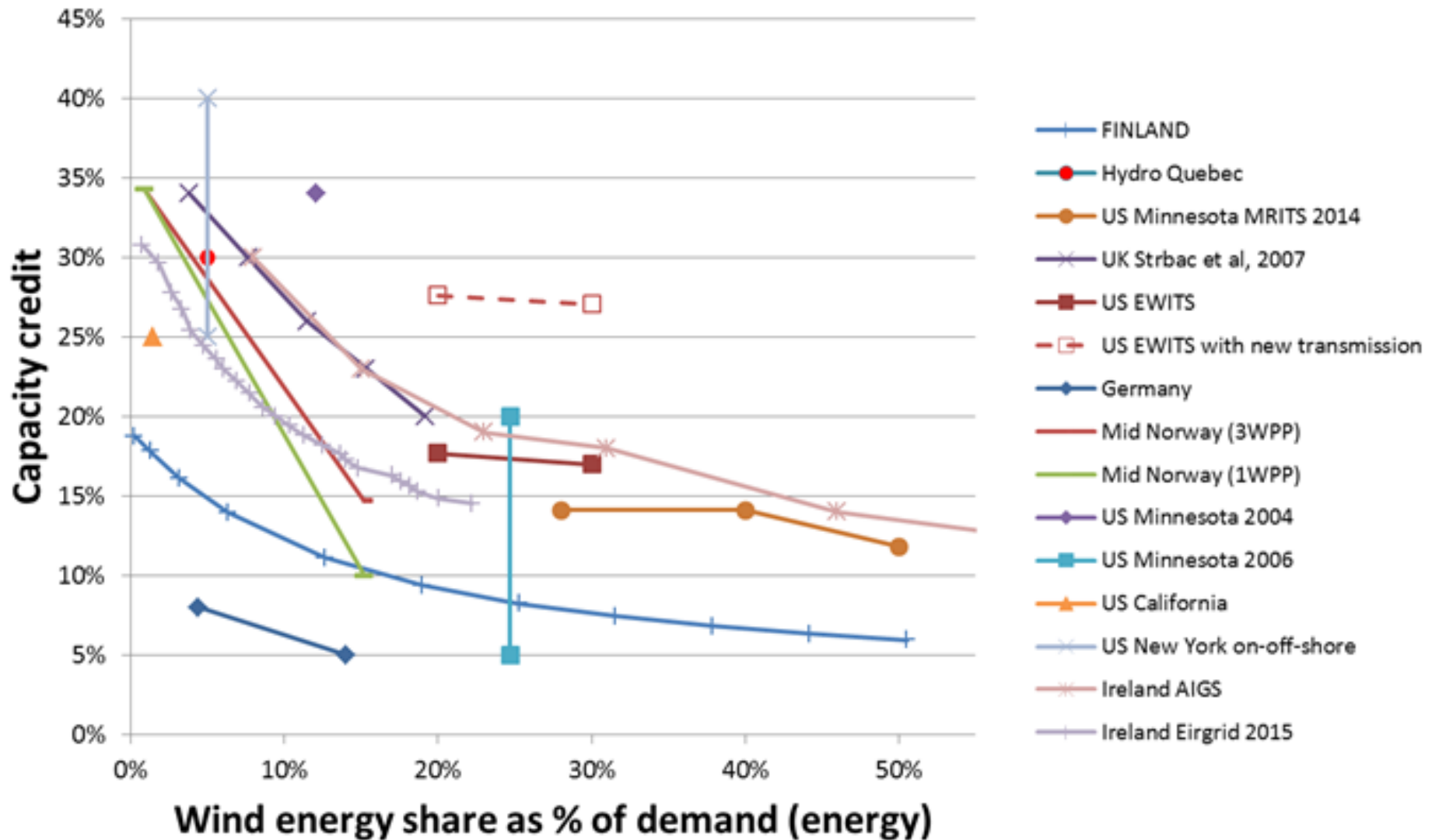
# CV: contribution to system resource adequacy



- We care about Effective Load Carrying Capability (ELCC) in highest Loss of Load Probability (LOLP) hours



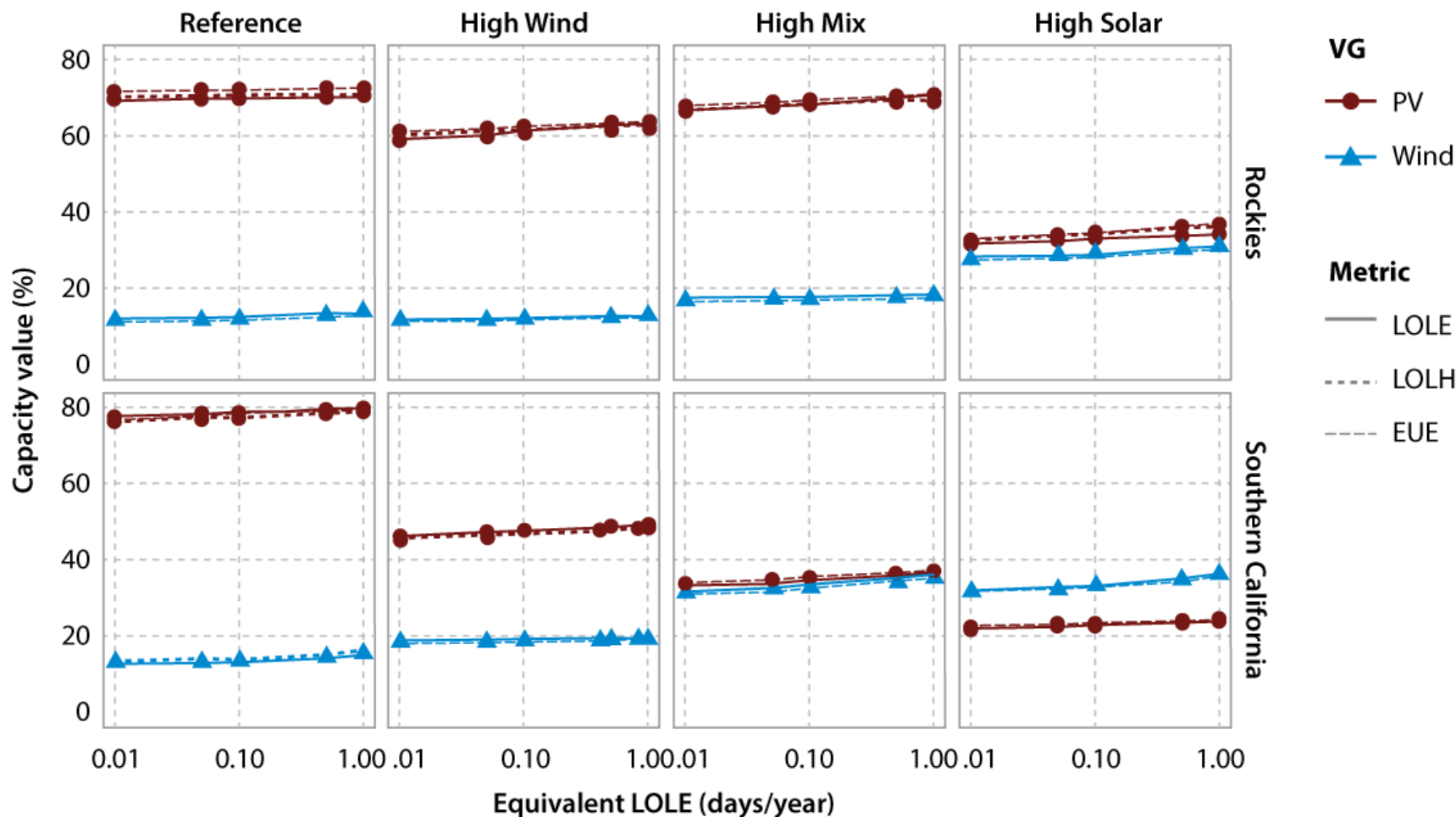
# Declining CV with wind penetration level



# Key topics in wind capacity valuation

- **Choice of CV metric/method**
  - Probabilistic-based reliability metrics
  - Simplified CV methods
- **Impact of multiple-year data sets**
- **Impact of transmission assumptions**

# CV insensitive to probabilistic-based reliability metrics



CV of wind and solar relatively robust against underlying reliability metric if LOLE, LOLH, or EUE are used

- **ELCC estimations**

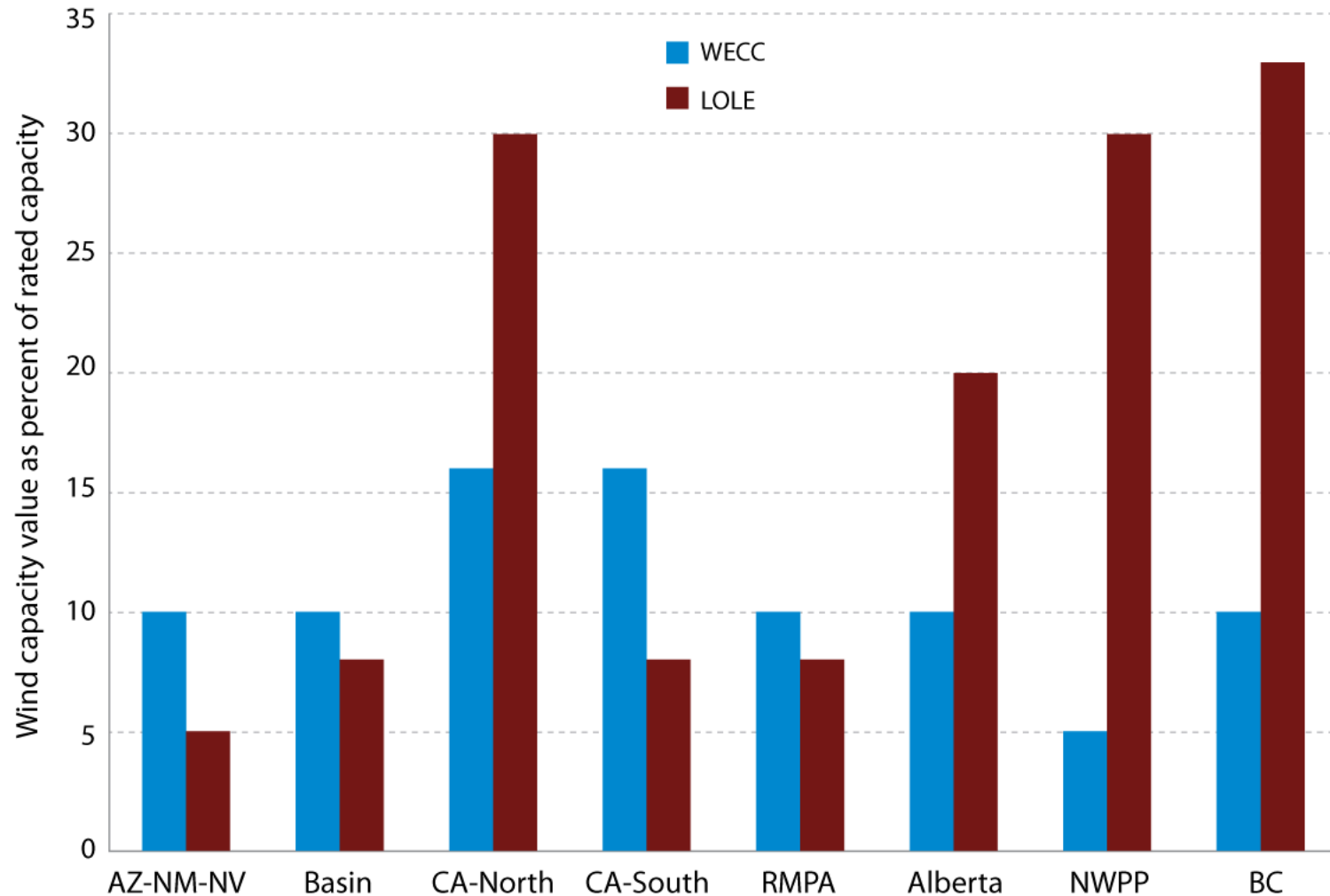
- Approximate the relationship between capacity additions and LOLP
- e.g., Z-method (Dragoon and Dvortsov 2006), Garver's method (Garver 1966), and Garver's method extended to multistate generators (D'Annunzio and Santoso 2008)

- **Capacity factor proxy**

- Applied to “high risk” hours (e.g., Milligan and Parsons 1999 for wind, Madaeni et al. 2013 for solar)
- Ad-hoc rule of thumbs

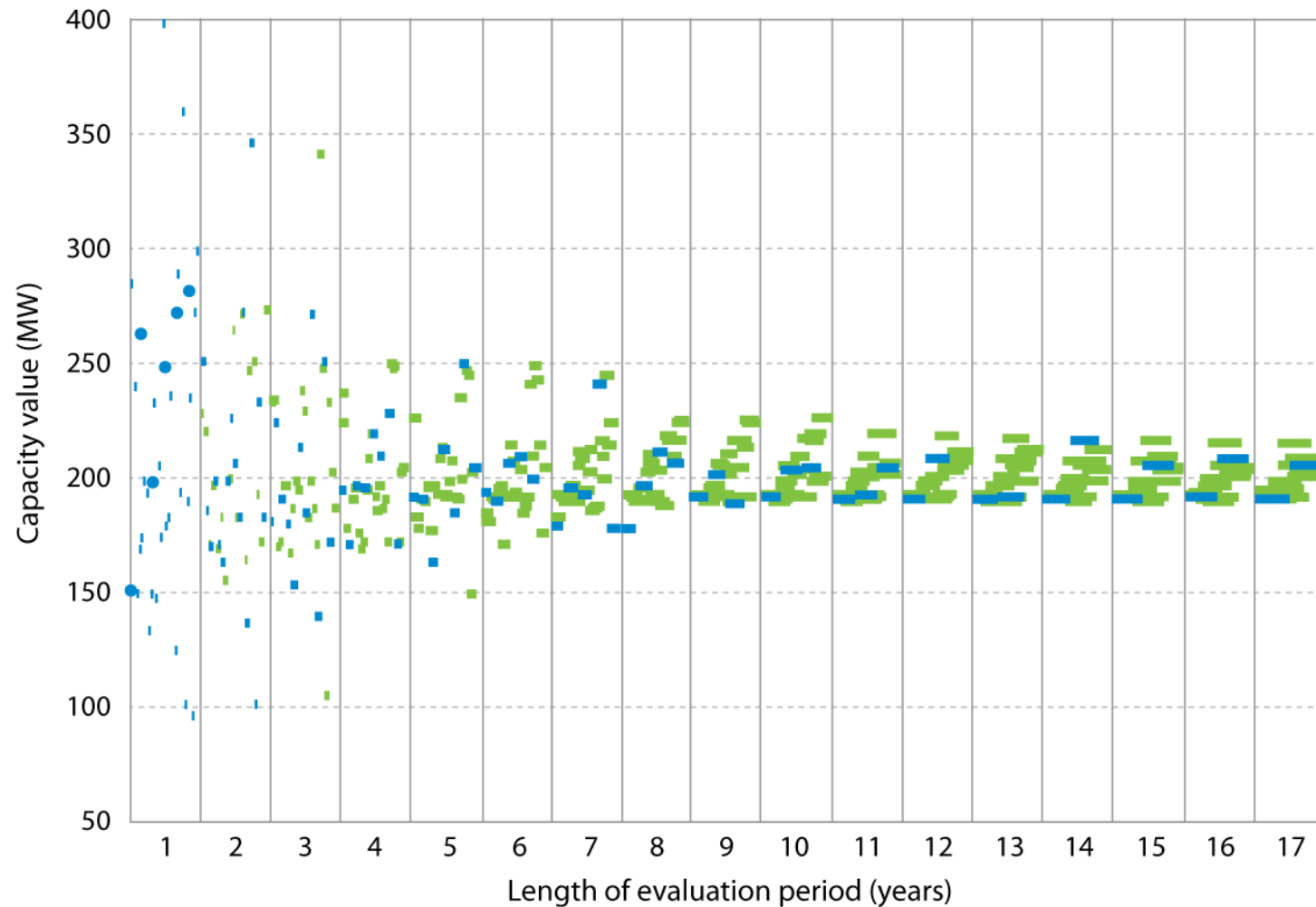


# Rule of thumb CV methods are inconsistently inaccurate



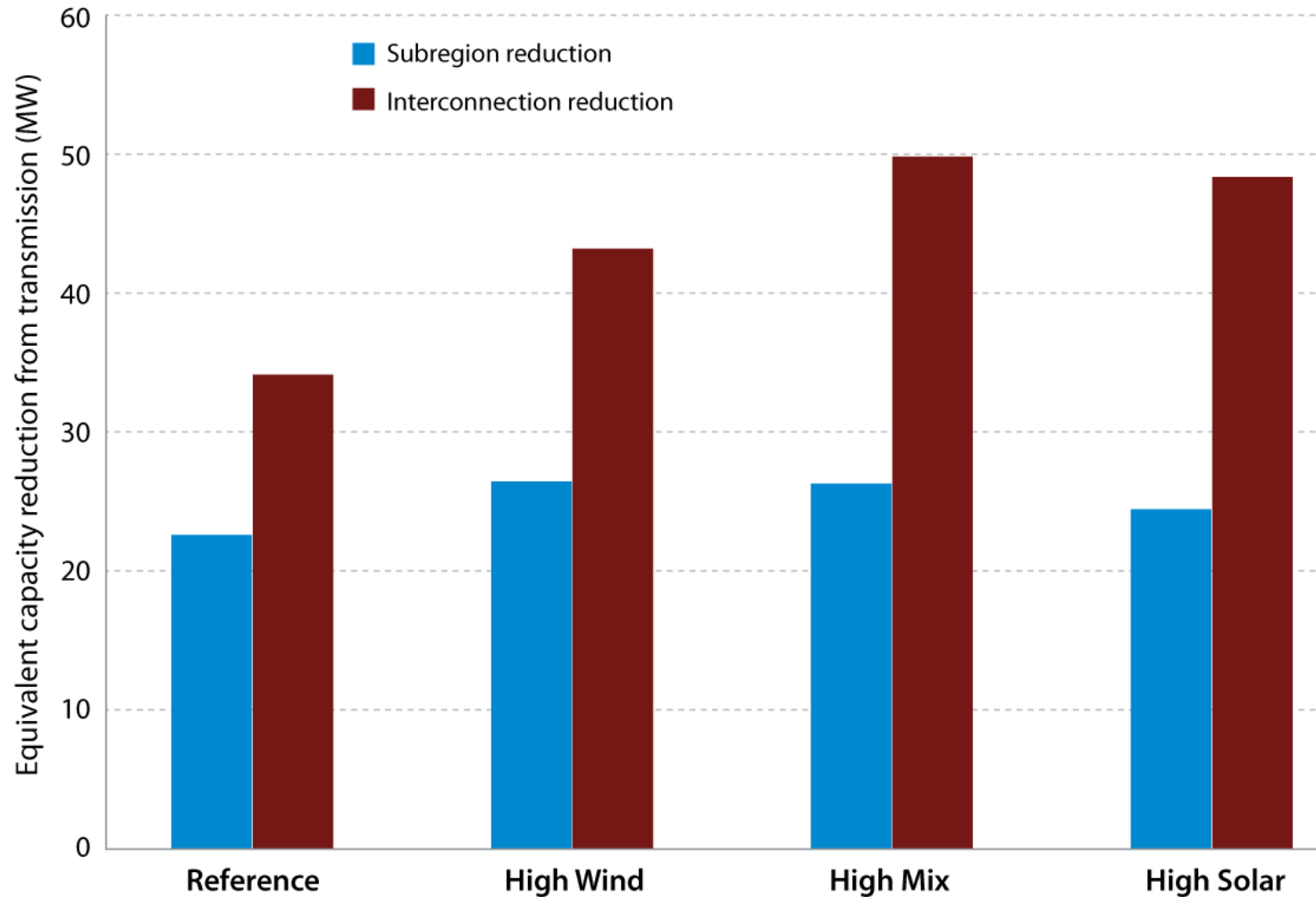
Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) rules of thumb versus full reliability model

# Achieve more robust CV results with multiple-year data sets



Studies suggest 8-9 years to converge on long-term value, which is key for planning decisions

# Transmission assumptions impact resource adequacy level



Greater reduction in required ELCC for reliability target is achieved with increasing degrees of interconnection

# Summary and future research needs

- **LOLP-based CV methods** are most accurate, and results are relatively insensitive to choice of LOLE, LOLH, and EUE
- **CV rule of thumb methods** are often inconsistent and unreliable
- **Multiple-year data sets** significantly increase the robustness of results compared to single-year assessments
- **Transmission** interconnection assumptions have significant impact on resource adequacy and associated contribution needed by wind
- **Future research needs:** continued improvements in multi-area methods, simplified methods, flexibility valuation, and capacity market structures

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