

# Adaptive Charging Network

## Research Portal

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Zachery J. Lee



Sunash Sharma



Tongxin Li



John Pang



Steven Low



Caltech





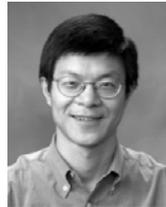
# Acknowledgement



G. Lee



C. Jin



S. Low



Z. Lee



S. Sharma



Z. Low, Cornell K. Eriksson, Lund



T. Lee



D. Lee



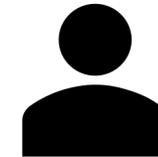
D. Chang



R. Lee



C. Ortega



D. Johansson, Lund



D. Guo



T. Li



J. Pang

and many others ...



# Agenda

Motivation: workplace charging

Caltech adaptive charging network (ACN)

- Testbed to commercial deployment

ACN Research Portal

- ACN – Data, Sim, Live
- Example applications

Pricing demand charge

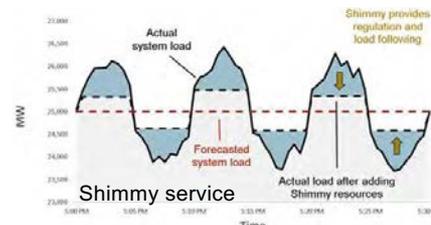
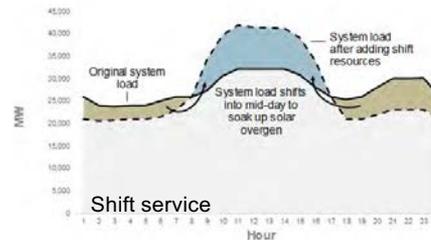
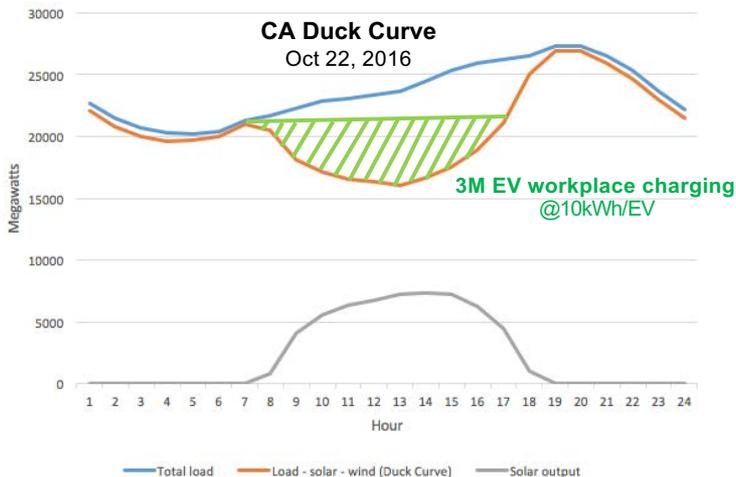




# 100% clean electricity

## CA commitment

- 50% renewables by 2030, 100% by 2045
- 1.5M ZEV by 2025, 5M by 2030



Source: 2025 CA DR Potential Study (LBNL 2017)

	Annual DR value
Shift service	\$190 / EV
Shimmy service	\$150 / EV
@1.5M EV	\$50B

Assumptions: DR value from 2025 CA DR Potential Study (LBNL 2017); each EV drives 12K miles/year, needs 11kWh/day, workplace charging; 10% provide DR

**Drivers twice as likely to get EV when workplace charging is available**

(EDF Renewables survey Feb 2018)



# 100% clean electricity

## CA commitment

- 50% renewables by 2030, 100% by 2045
- 1.5M ZEV by 2025, 5M by 2030

How much EVs are enough for 100% renewables?



# V2G

2018 CA in-state generation: 195 TWh

- Daily generation: 534 GWh

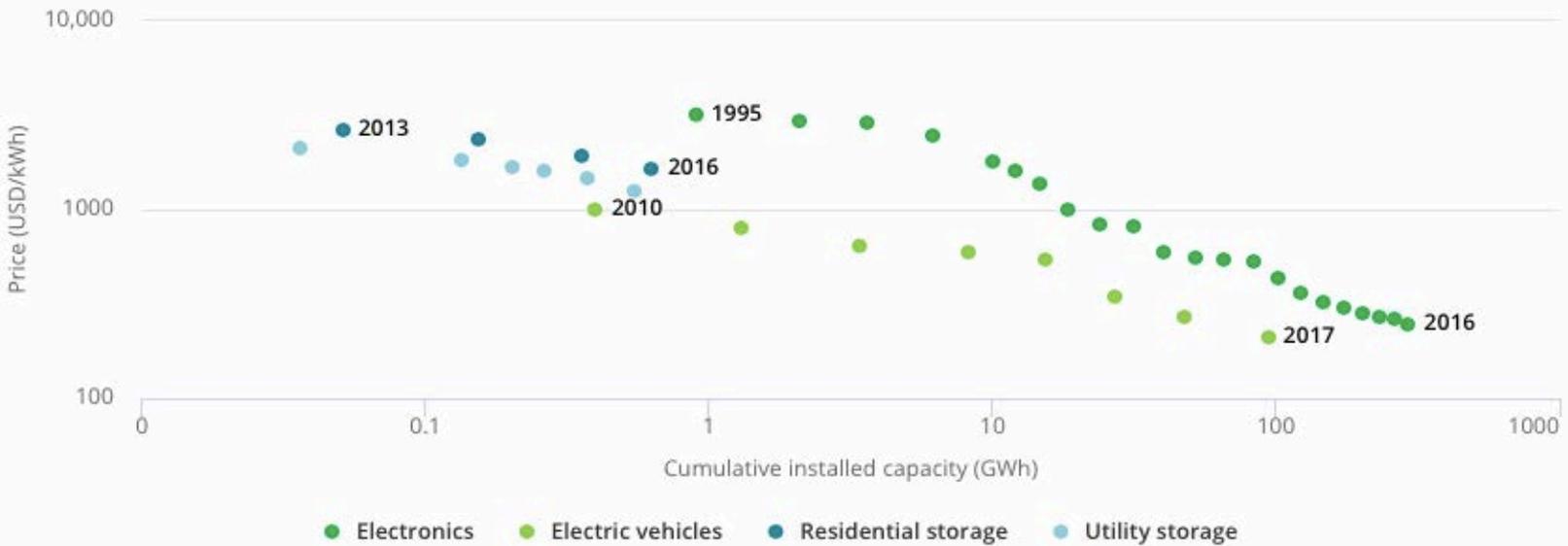
## Scenario

- Wind + solar : 50% generation (~20 days in 2018)
- Energy shortfall: 267 GWh

## Storage need seems within reach

- Battery capacity of 300-mile EV: 100 kWh (Tesla 2020)
- 267 GWh = 2.67 million EVs (18% of CA cars)
- CA mandate: 5 million ZEVs in 2030
- ... all depends on aggregate flexibility

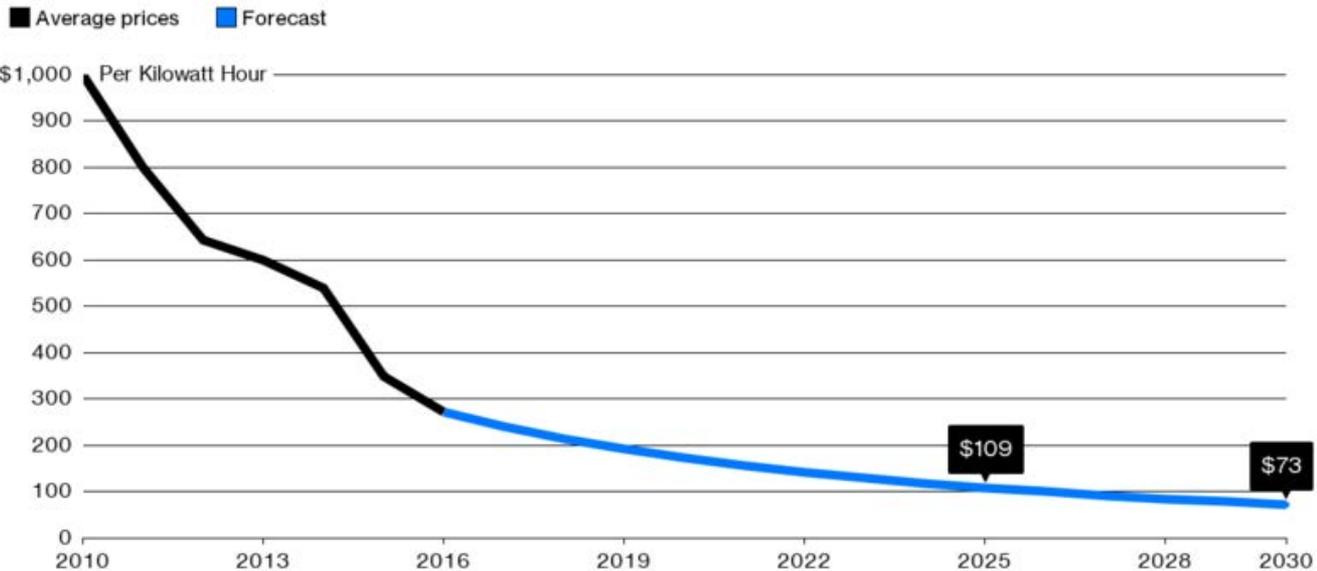
# Price and installed capacity of Li-ion batteries



Source: <https://www.iea.org/gevo2018/>

## More Bang for Your Buck

Greater efficiency means a \$1,000 battery in 2010 will cost \$73 in 2030



At \$73 / kWh, 300 GWh only costs \$22B

Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance



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ACN Research Portal

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Pricing demand charge





# ACN testbed

2016 GlobalSIP Conference:

## Adaptive Charging Network for Electric Vehicles

George Lee<sup>1,2</sup>, Ted Lee<sup>2</sup>, Zhi Low<sup>3</sup>, Steven H. Low<sup>2</sup>, and Christine Ortega<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PowerFlex Systems

<sup>2</sup>Division of Engineering & Applied Science, Caltech

<sup>3</sup>Math Department, Cornell

2018 SmartGridComm Conference:

## Large-Scale Adaptive Electric Vehicle Charging

Zachary J. Lee\*, Daniel Chang\*, Cheng Jin<sup>†</sup>, George S. Lee<sup>†</sup>, Rand Lee\*, Ted Lee<sup>†</sup>, Steven H. Low\*<sup>†</sup>

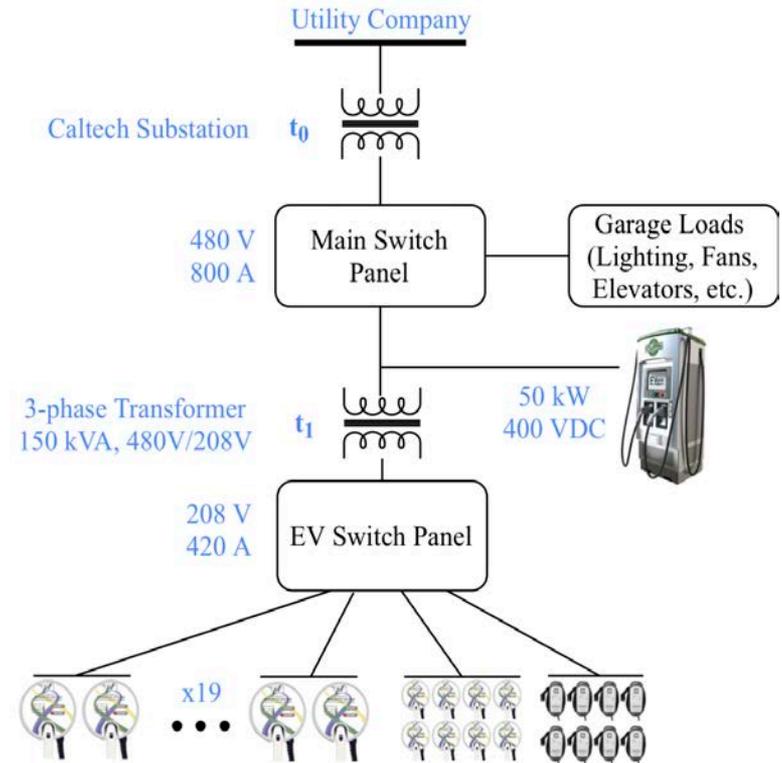
\*Division of Engineering & Applied Science, Caltech, Pasadena, CA

<sup>†</sup>PowerFlex Systems, Los Altos, CA.

{zlee, slow}@caltech.edu



# Physical system





# Cyber system

Model predictive control: QCQP

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{r \geq 0} \quad & C(r) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & r_i(t) \leq \bar{r}_i(t) \quad \forall i, \forall t \\ & \sum_t r_i(t) \delta = e_i \quad \forall i \\ & \sum_i r_i(t) \leq P(t) \quad \forall t \end{aligned}$$

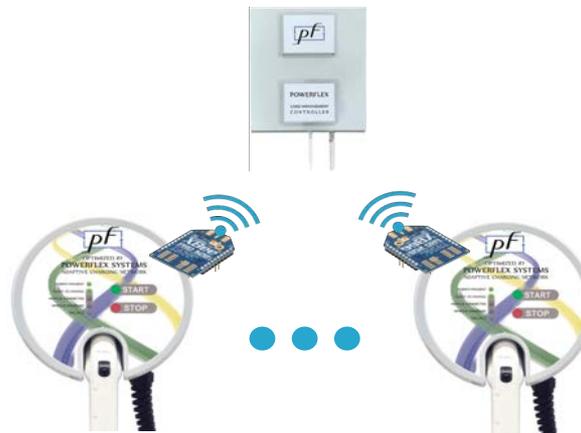
PF cloud



IP/cellular



Garage



Mobile app

# First deployment Feb 19, 2016

Online optimization of electric vehicle charging

- Enables mass deployment at lower capital & operating costs
- First pilot @Caltech: 54 adaptive programmable chargers
- 2x 150kVA transformers, breakers, grid sensors, etc



debugging



charger



transformer & subpanels



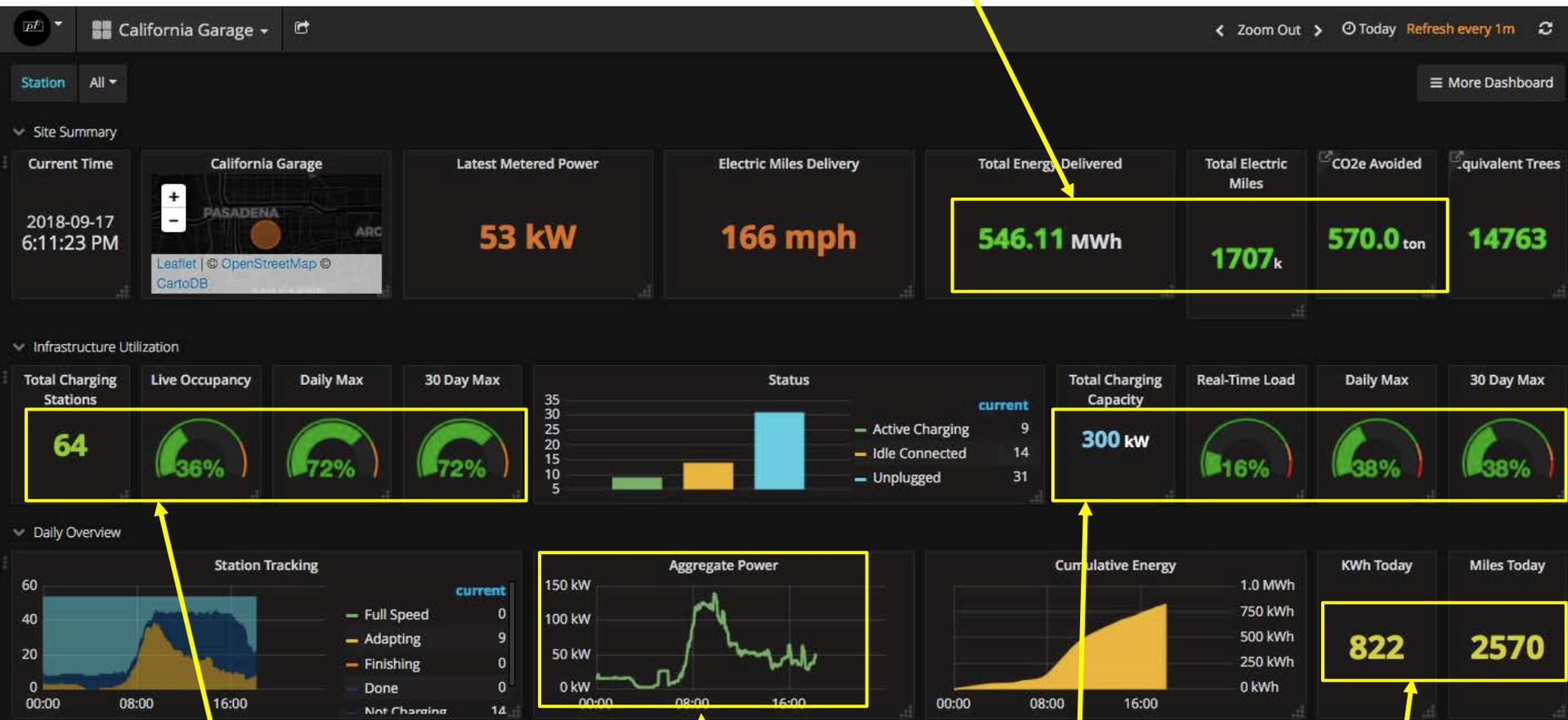
main panel





# Caltech ACN

energy delivered & impact to date



charging station utilization

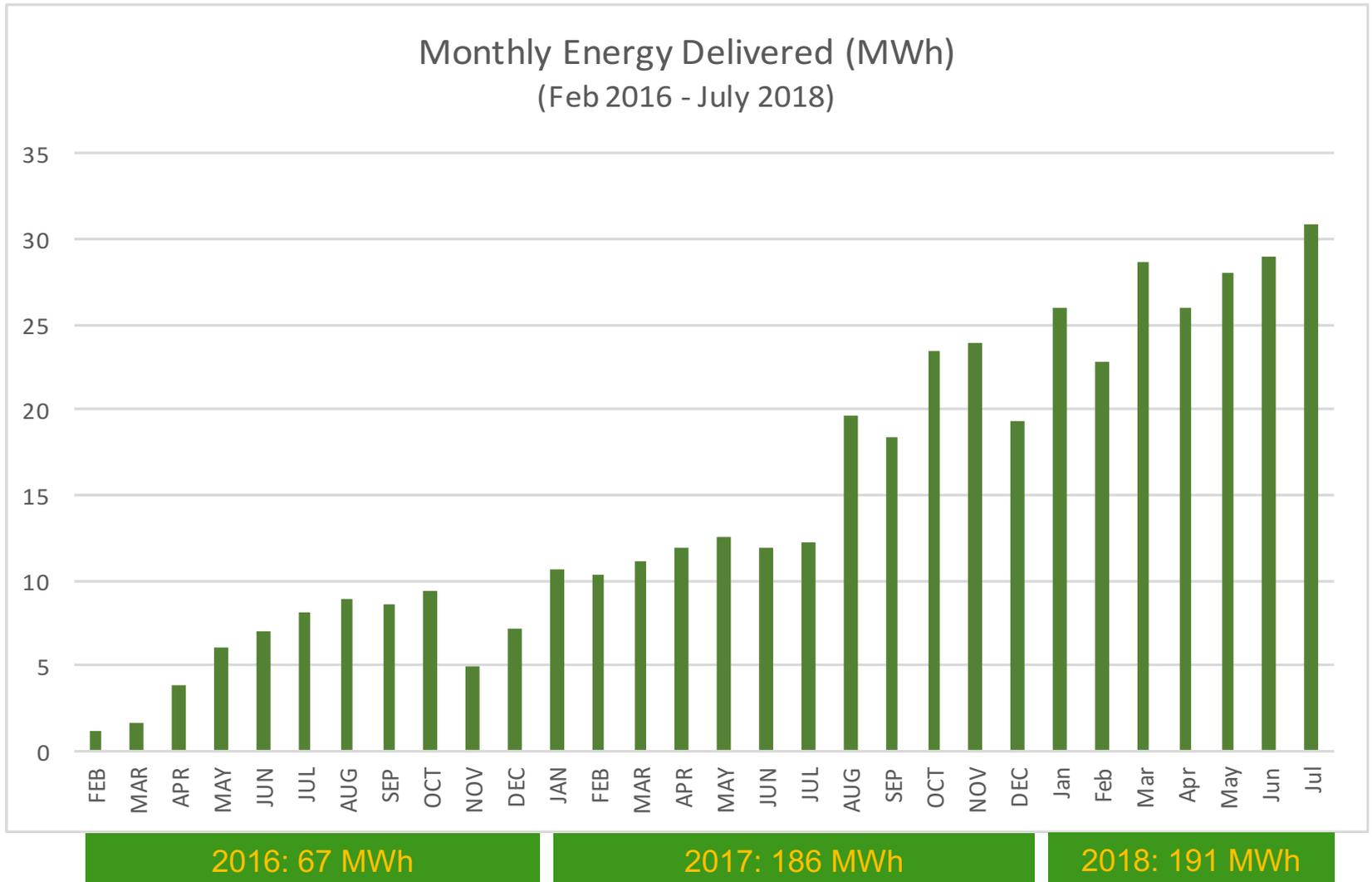
peak power

power utilization

today's energy delivered

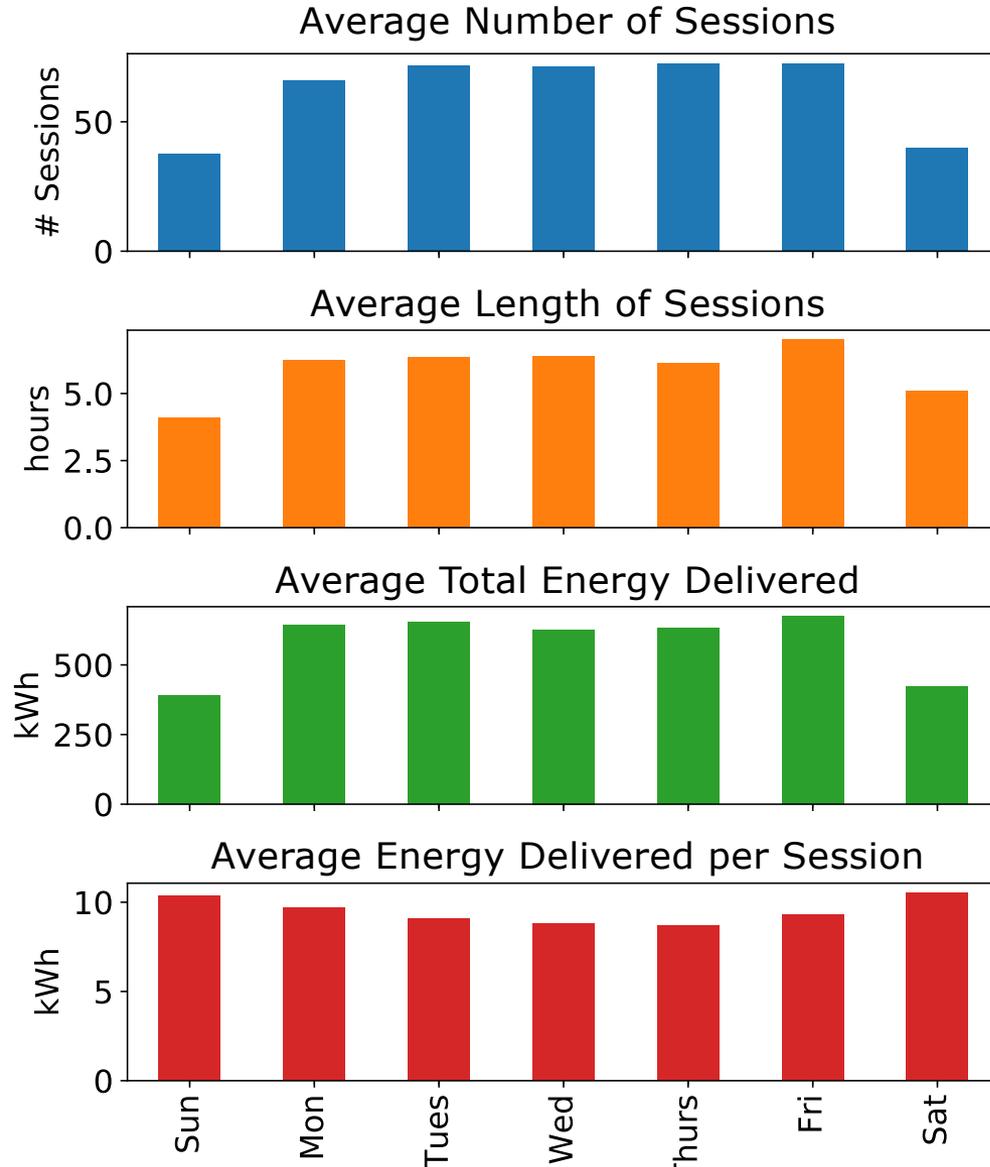


# Caltech ACN





# Caltech ACN



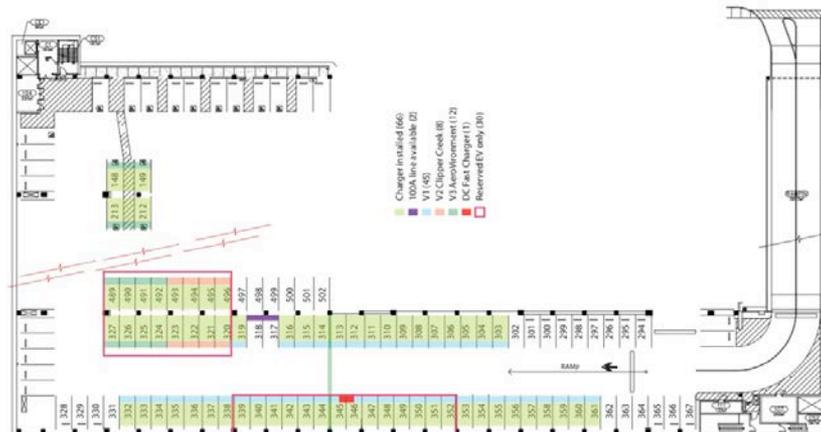
predictable  
daily behavior



# Caltech ACN

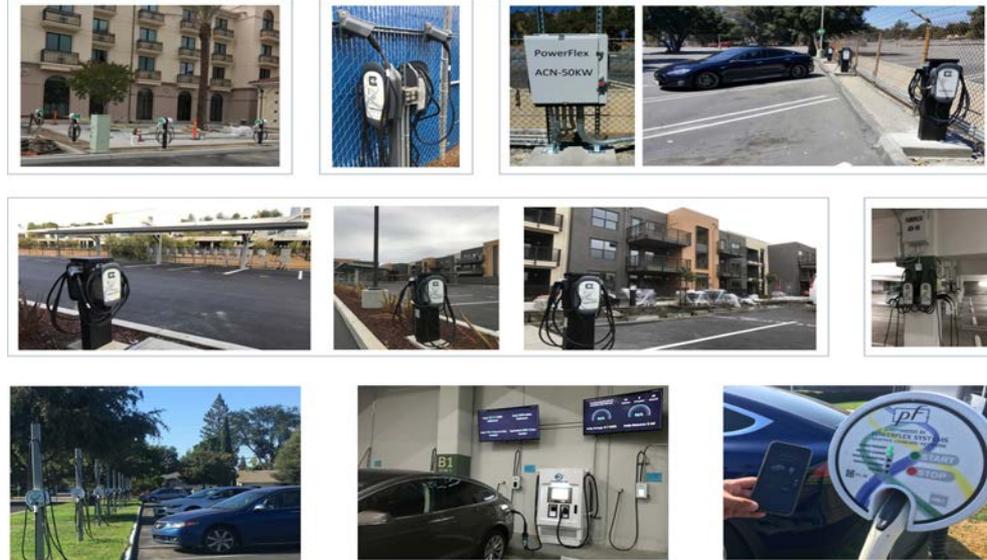
## Spatial utilization snapshot (June 1 – August 31, 2018)

	total	per day	per space	remark
#parking spaces	53			
#days (June 1 – Aug 31, 2018)	92			inc. weekends
#charging sessions	6,103	66	115	>1 session /space/day
occupancy (space-day)	3,374	37	64	69% occupancy
energy delivered (kWh)	54,562	593	1,029	11 kWh /space/day
#hours occupied	28,407	309	536	5.8 hours /space/day





# Caltech ACN



- Operational since 2016
- Delivered 1 GWh (by July 2020, CA)
- Equivalent to 3.2M miles, 1,000 tons of avoided CO2e



Feb 2020

**2,000+**  
EV CHARGING  
STATIONS DEPLOYED

**10,000,000+**  
ELECTRIC MILES  
DELIVERED SAFELY



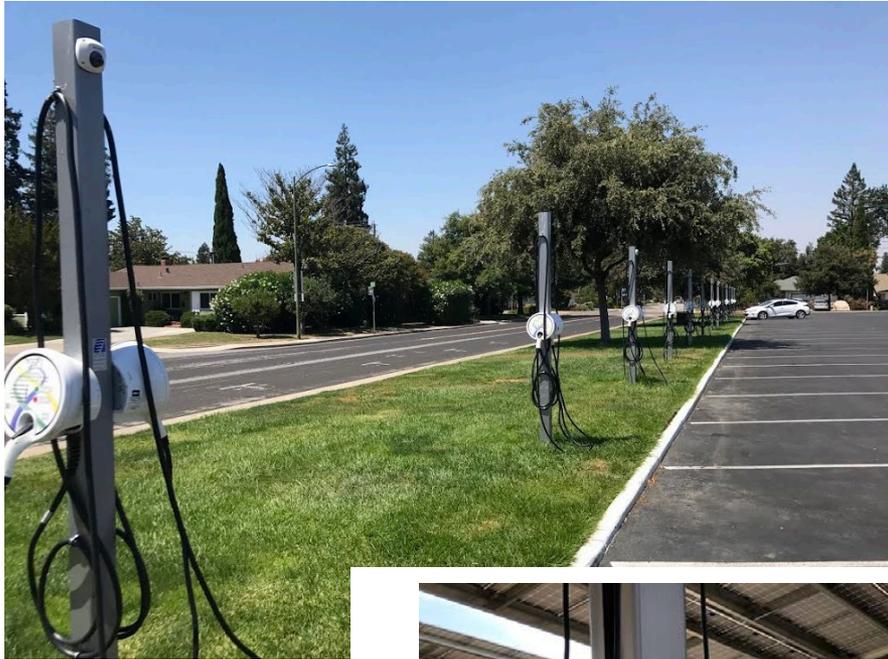
# NREL, Golden CO



120 EVSEs



# Bay Area high schools



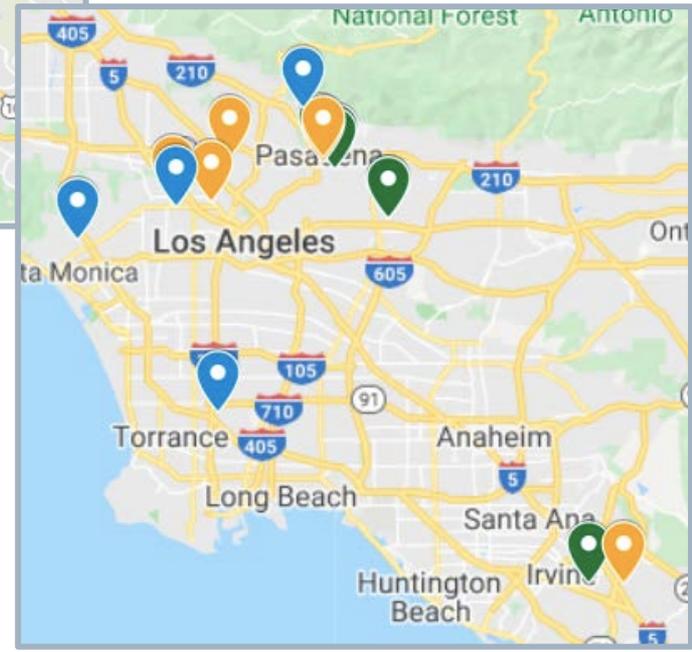
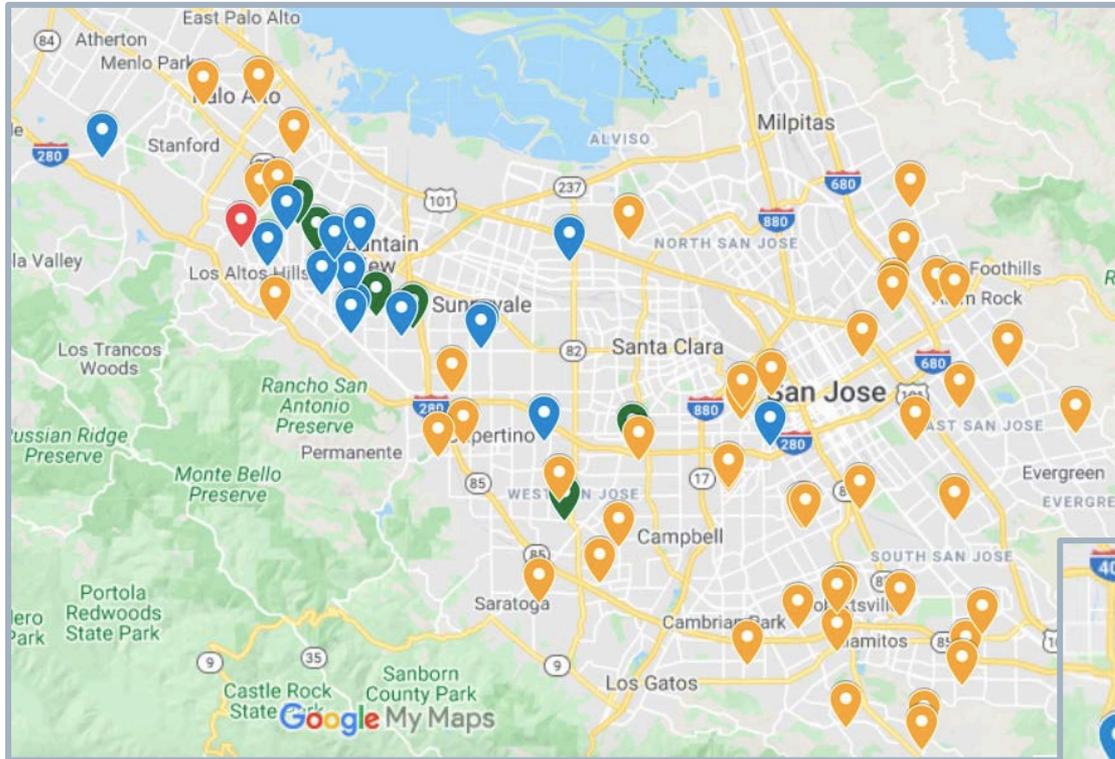
DCFC



Onsite PV



# Deployment in CA

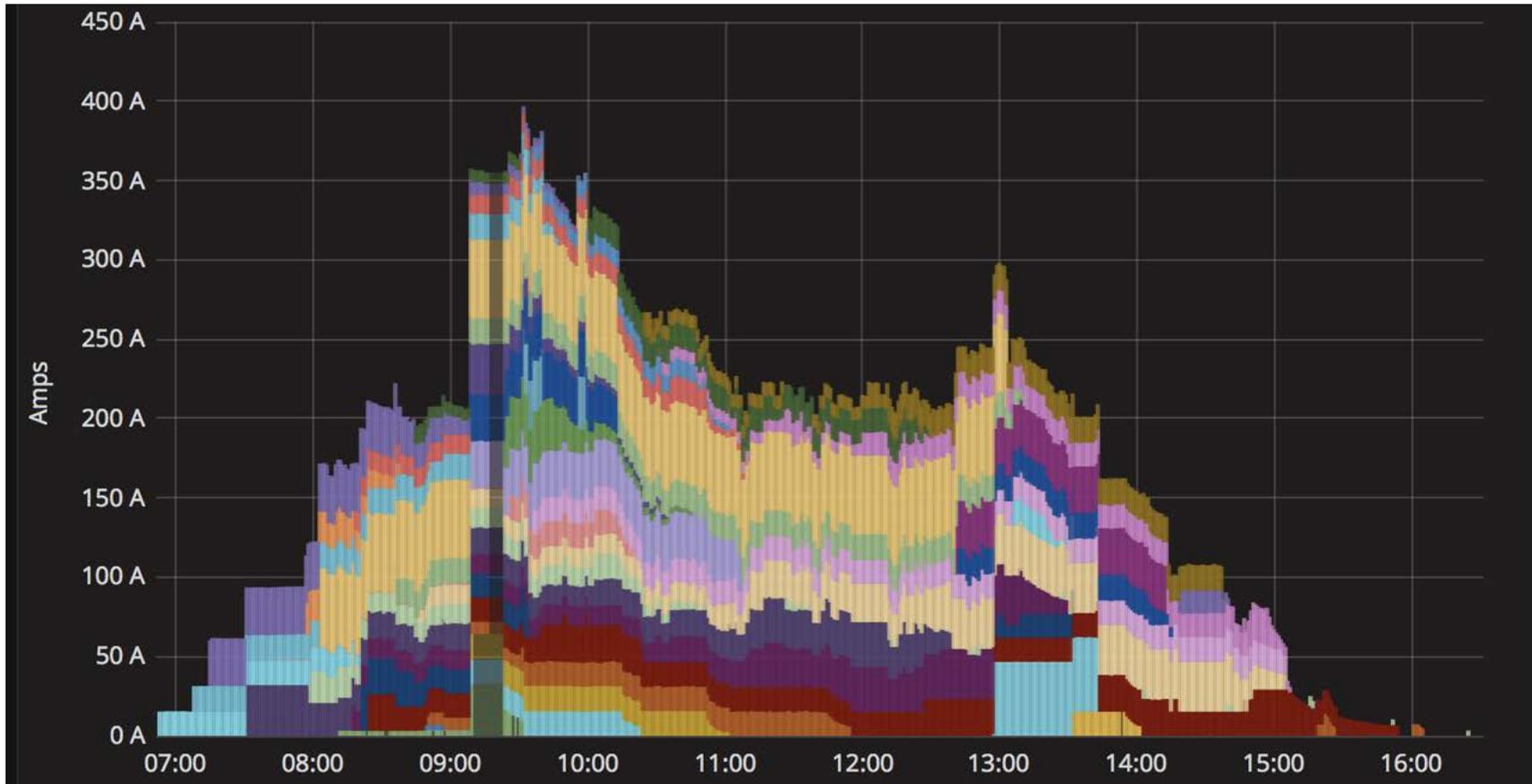


PowerFlex deployment, Sept 2018



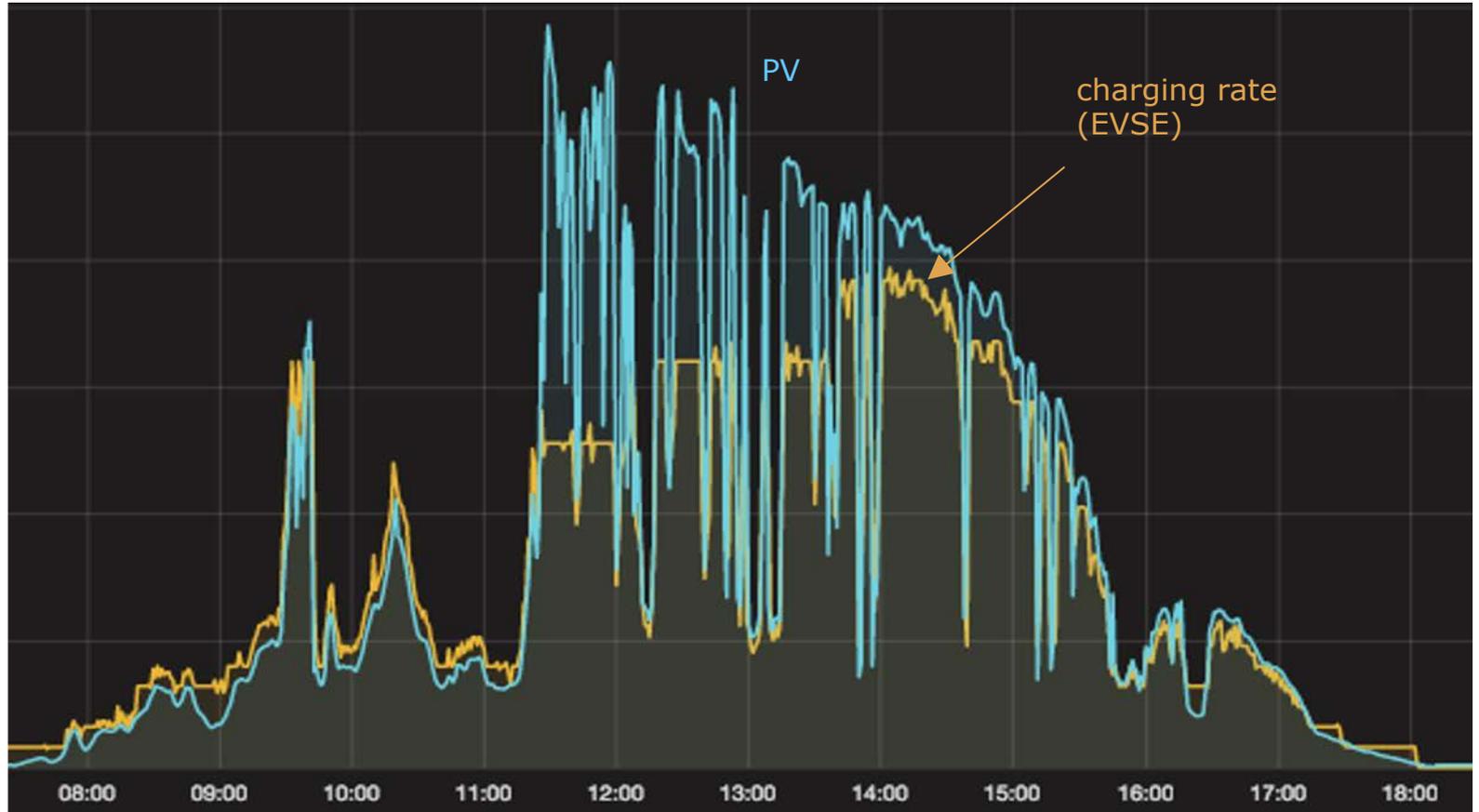


# Adaptive charging





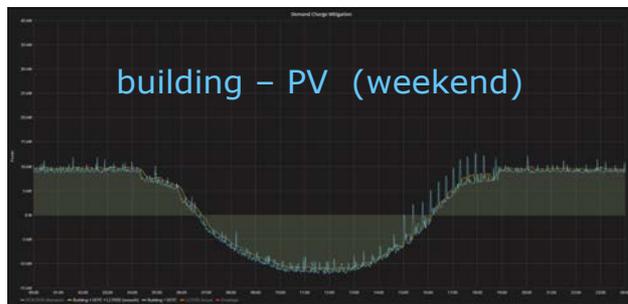
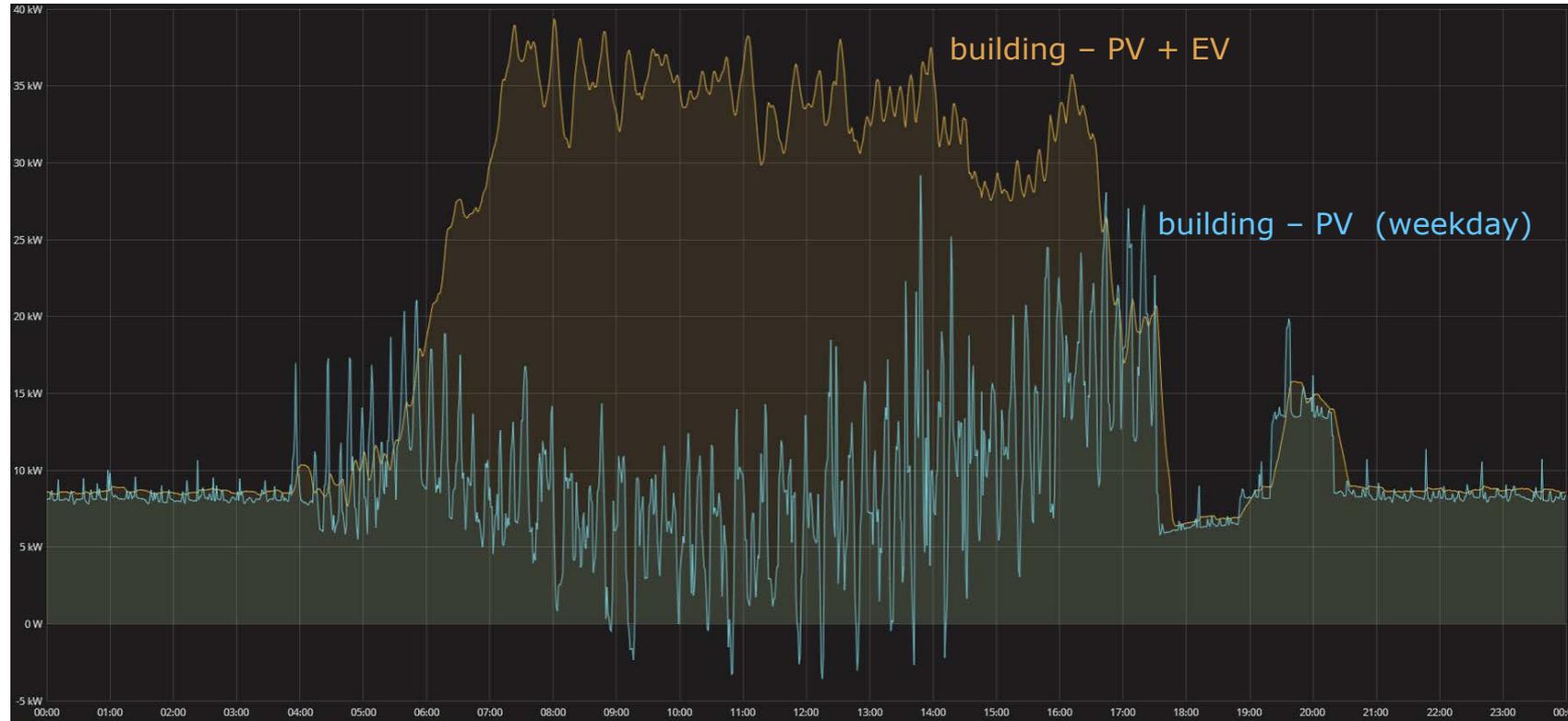
# Online tracking



Real-time tracking of PV generation at JPL (10/2016)



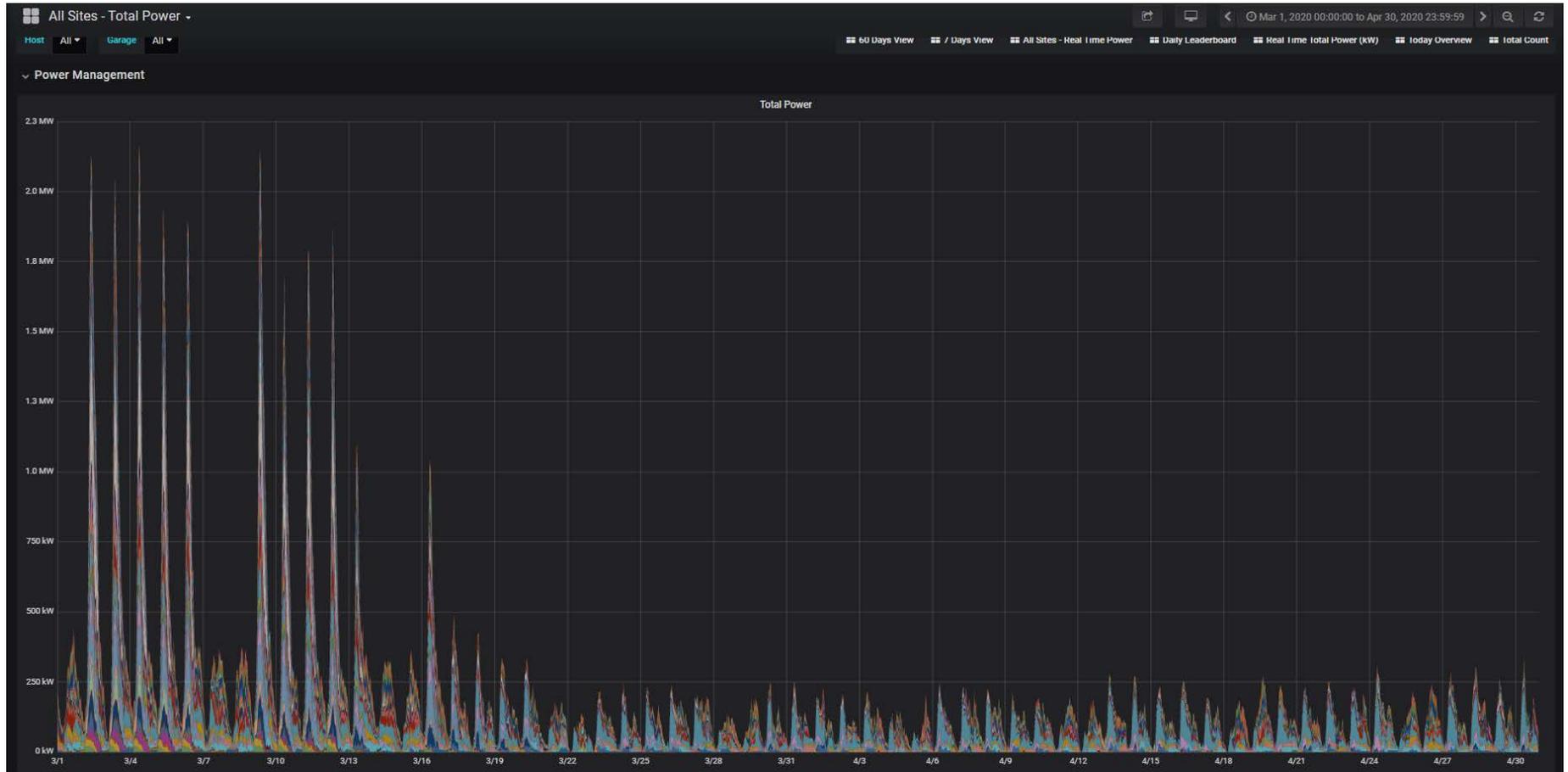
# Duck Curve & DCM



Weekend Duck Curve: building load (10kW) – PV

- NREL: demand charge mitigation** (Nov 2018)
- Fill Duck Curve valley and maintain net load between 30 kW – 40 kW
  - On weekdays: building load is much higher and much more volatile

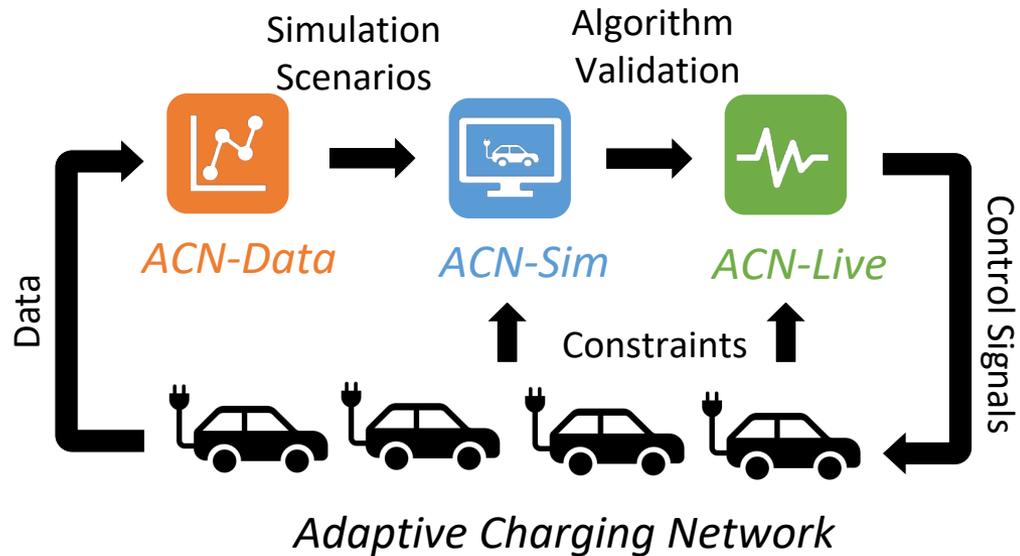
# COVID dramatically reduce workplace EV charging





# ACN research portal

- ACN-Data
- ACN-Sim
- ACN-Live (HW-in-the-loop)



Lee, Li, Low. ACN-Data: analysis and applications of an open EV charging Dataset  
ACM e-Energy, June 2019

Lee, Johansson, Low. ACN-Sim: an open-source simulator for data-driven EV charging research  
IEEE SmartGridComm, October 2019



# ACN-Data

Caltech, JPL, Bay Area office

- 35,000+ EV charging sessions (late 2019)
- Publicly available: [ev.caltech.edu](http://ev.caltech.edu)
- Growing daily 85 sessions / day

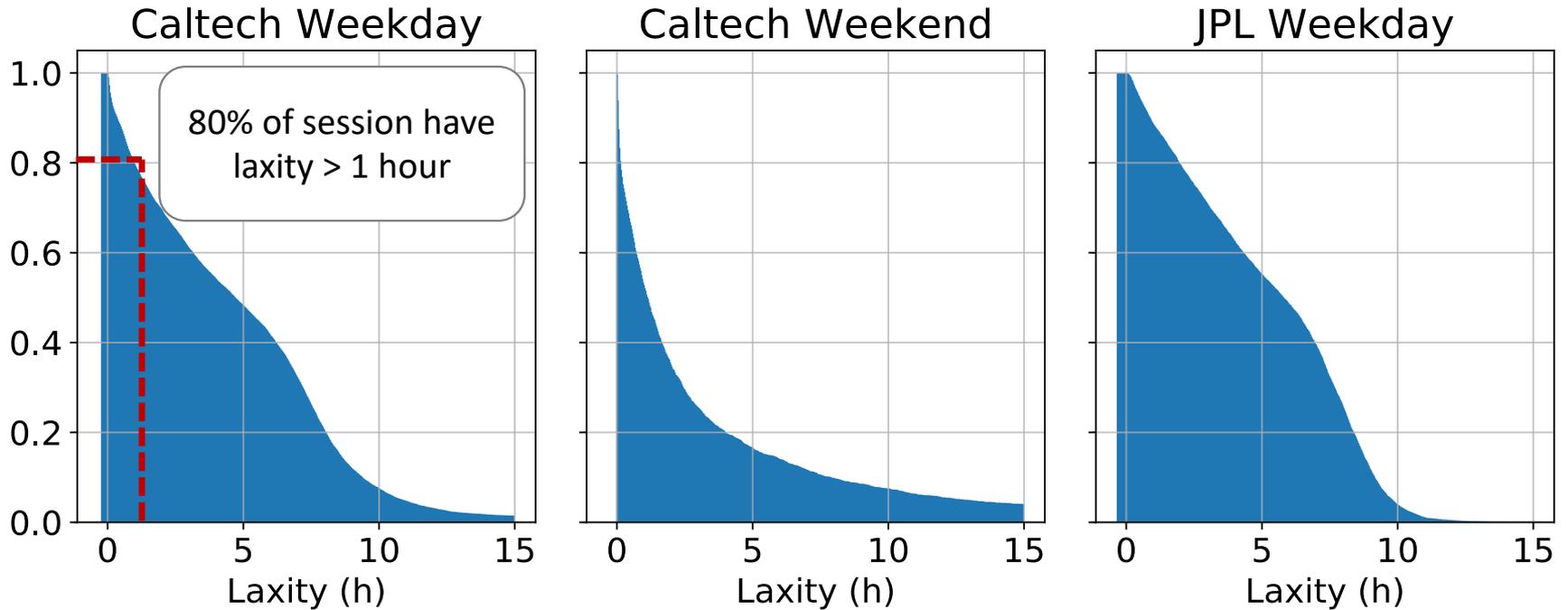
Real **fine-grained** data for

- Modeling user behavior
- Evaluating charging algorithms
- Evaluating charging facilities
- Evaluating grid impacts



# User flexibility

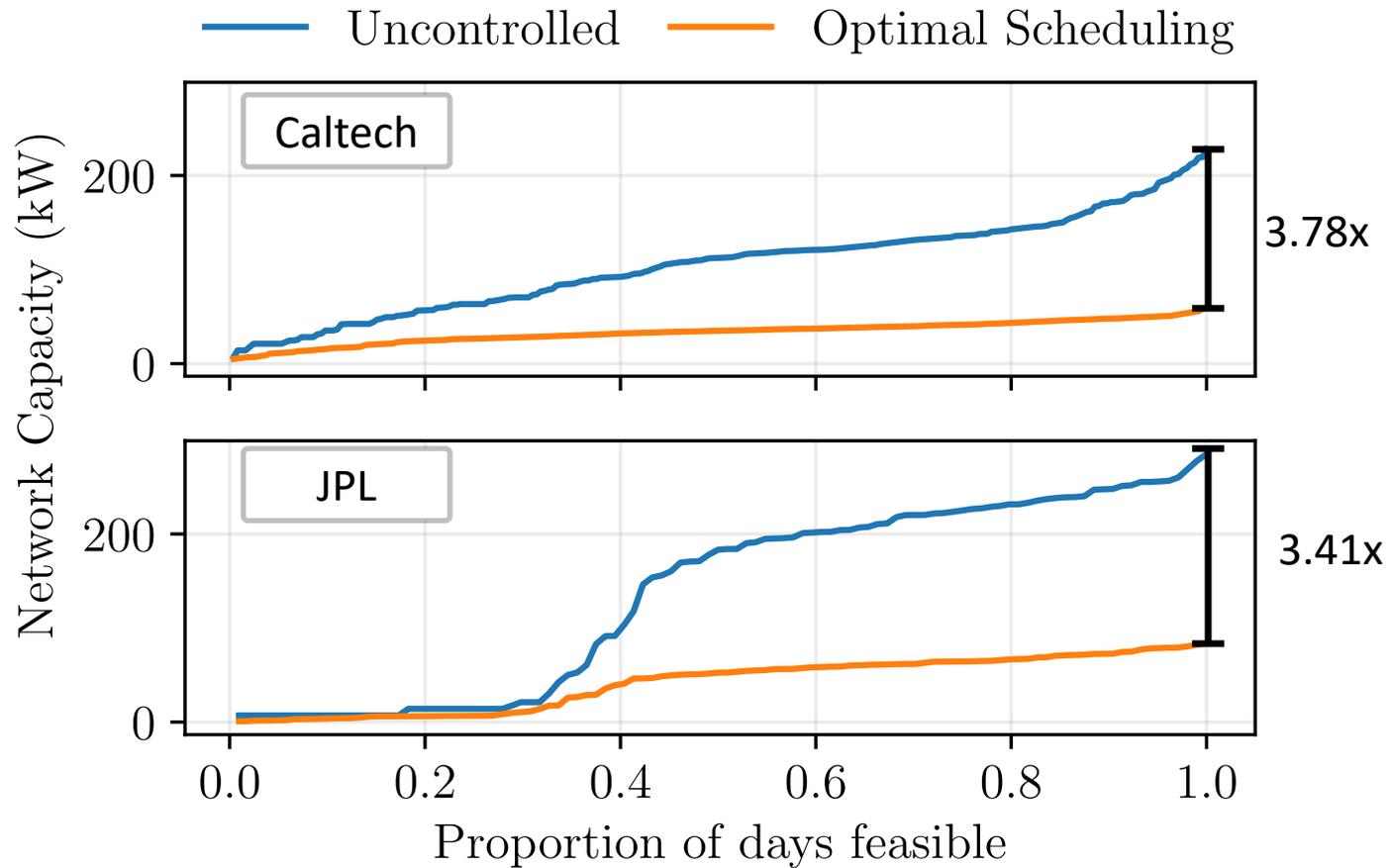
## User flexibility



$\text{laxity} := \text{session duration} - \text{min charging time}$



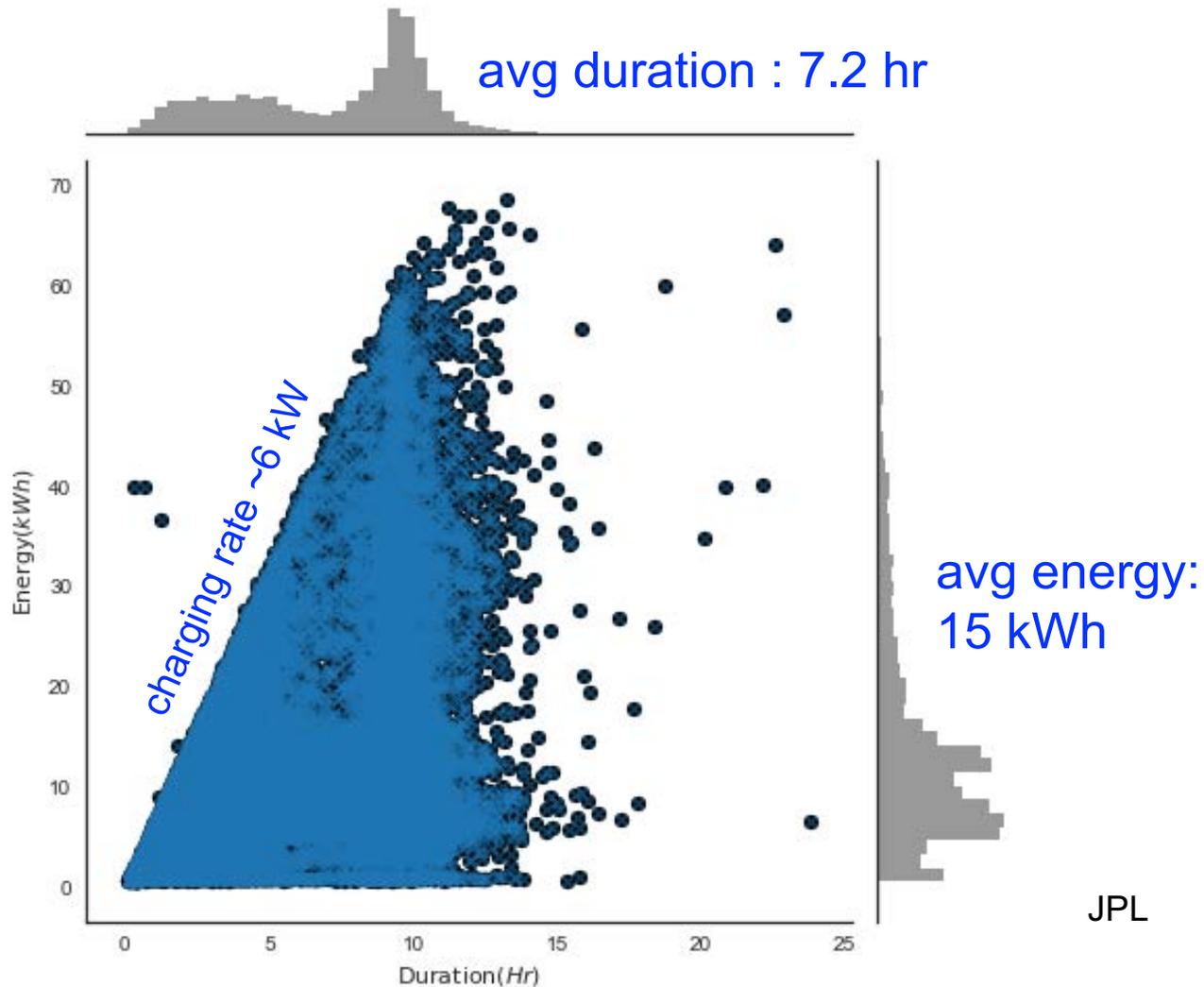
# ACN flexibility





# User behavior

## Duration and energy delivered

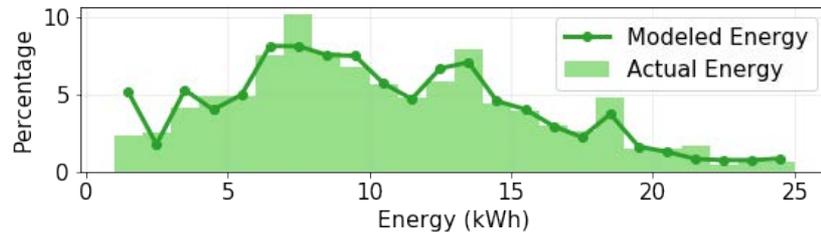
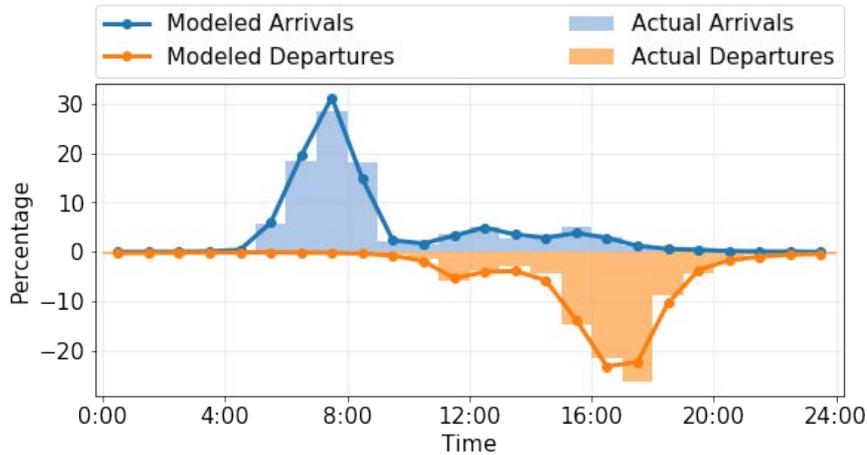




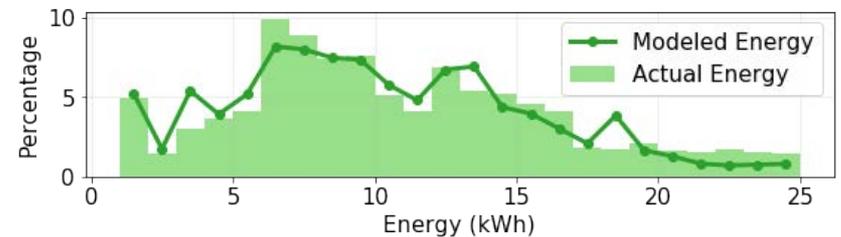
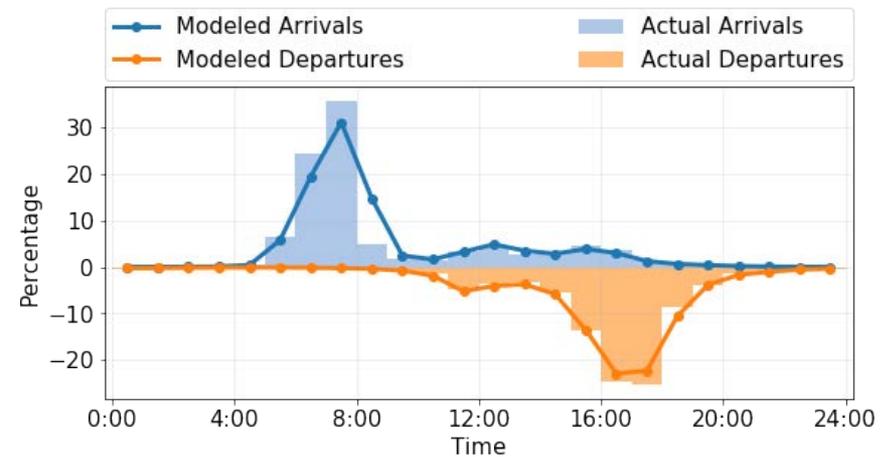
# Learning user behavior

## Gaussian mixture model

Testing Accuracy (9/1/18 – 11/1/18)

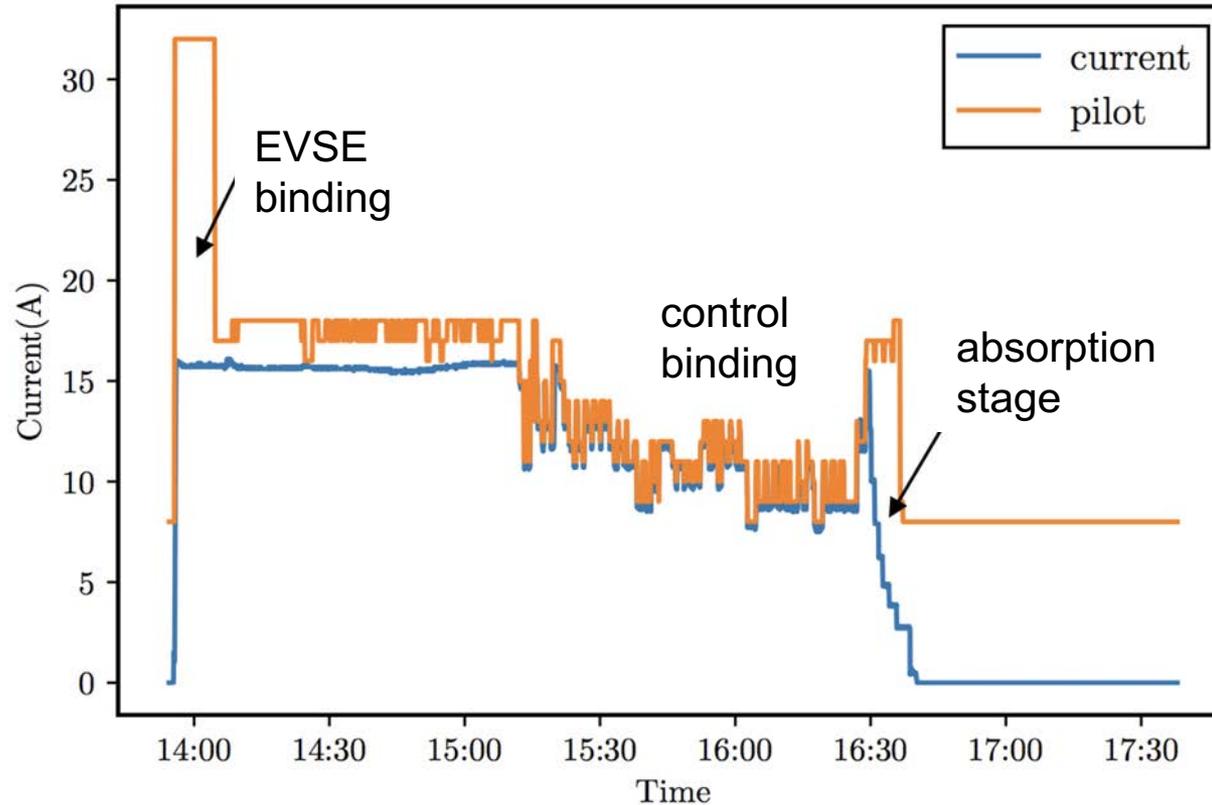


Evaluation Set Accuracy (12/1/18 – 5/1/19)





# Charging curves



Caltech Oct 13, 2018

Time series: every 5-10 secs

- pilot signal from controller
- actual current drawn by EV



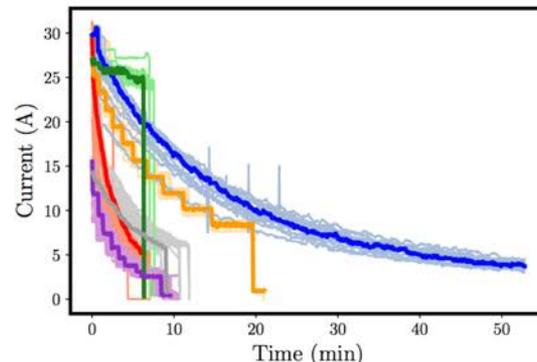
# Learning charging curves

Goal: learn representative battery behaviors

- Only small # of batteries used by small # drivers underlying 35,000 charging curves

Challenges: do not know SoC

- Can only characterize tail behavior (absorption stage)
- Charging optimization, BMS actions, missing & noisy data

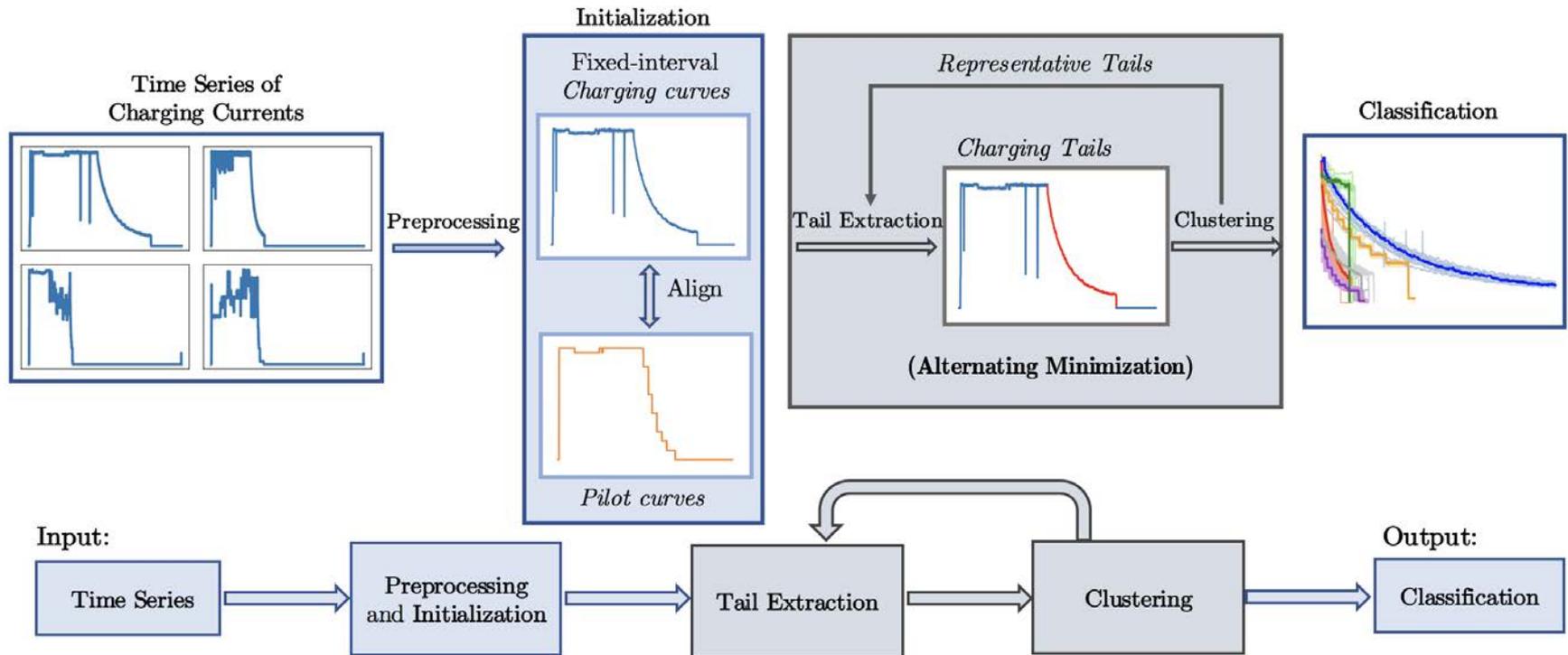


need to

- extract charging tails
- cluster charging tails



# Learning charging curves



Chenxi Sun, Tongxin Li, S. H. Low and Victor Li.  
Classification of EV charging time series with selective clustering  
PSCC July 2020



# Accessing ACN - Data

- Web Interface
- API
- Python Client
- ACN-Sim



[ev.caltech.edu](http://ev.caltech.edu)

Site  
Caltech

From  
01/01/2019 12:00 AM

To  
06/20/2019 9:58 AM

Minimum Energy (kWh)  
5

Sessions Found:  
3039

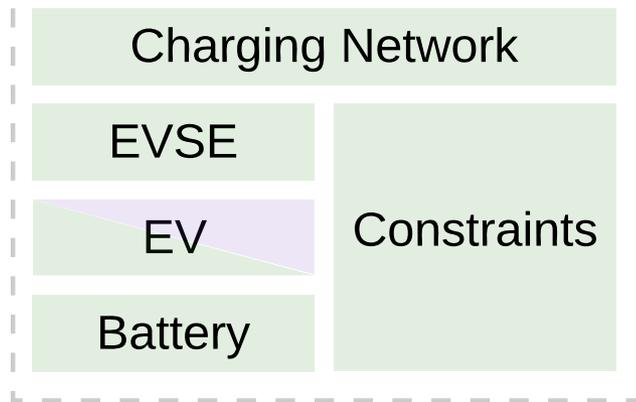
DOWNLOAD

Caltech

open-source & extensible



# ACN - Sim

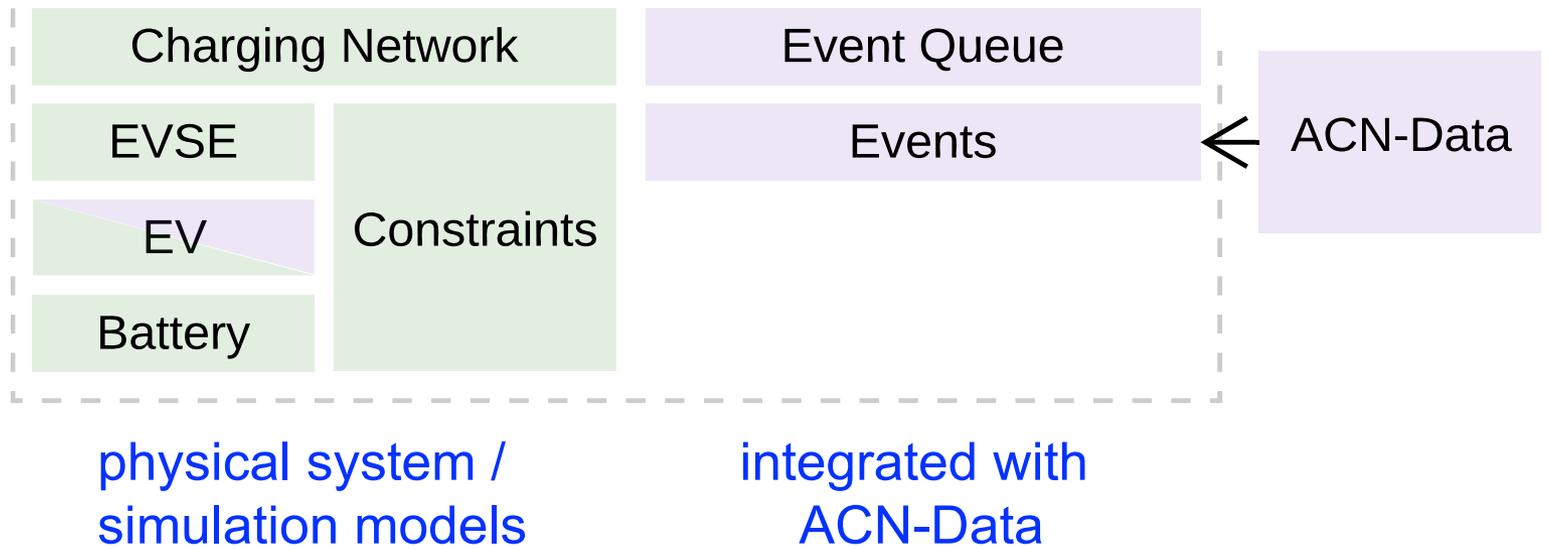


physical system /  
simulation models

open-source & extensible



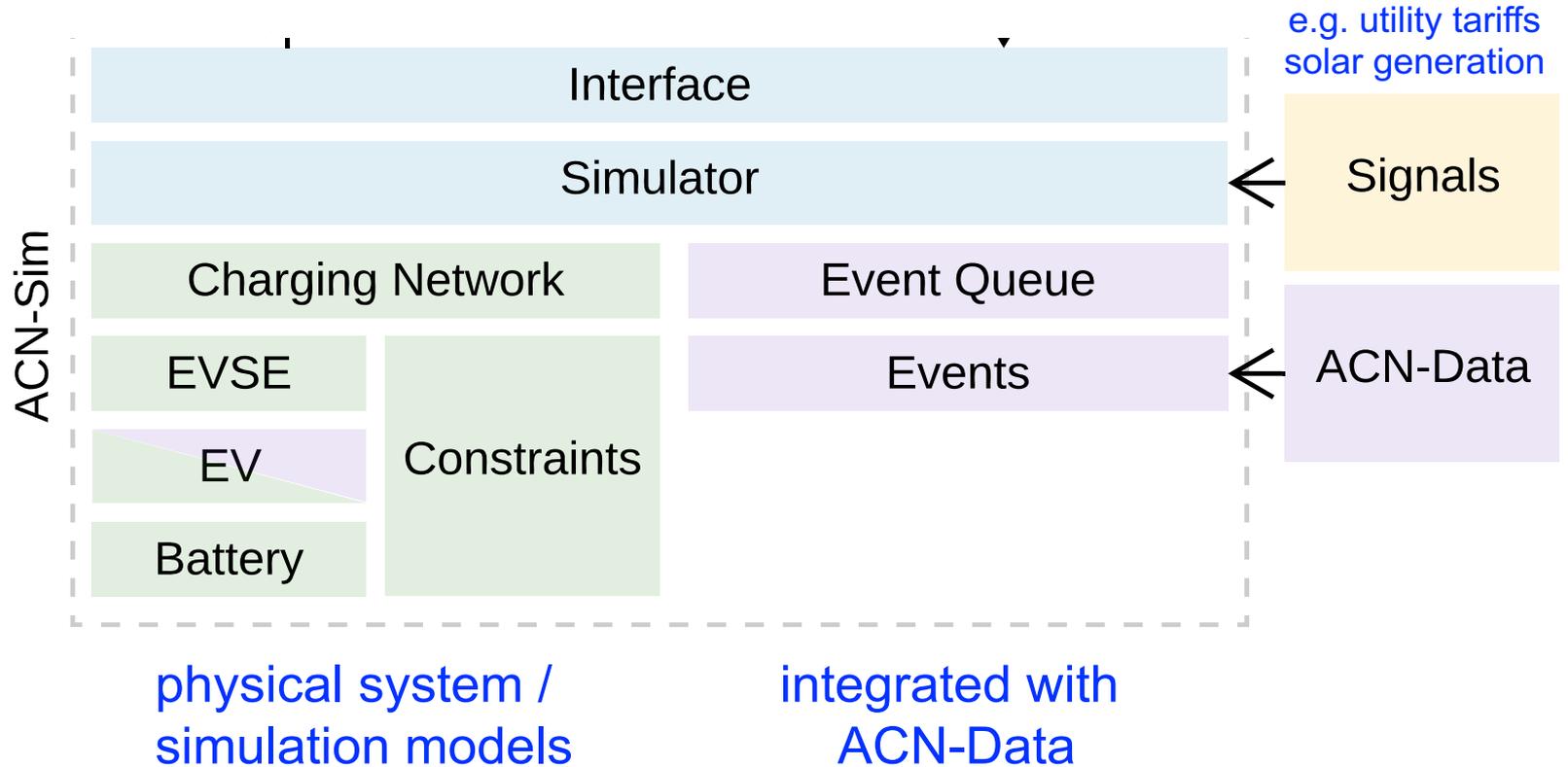
# ACN - Sim



open-source & extensible



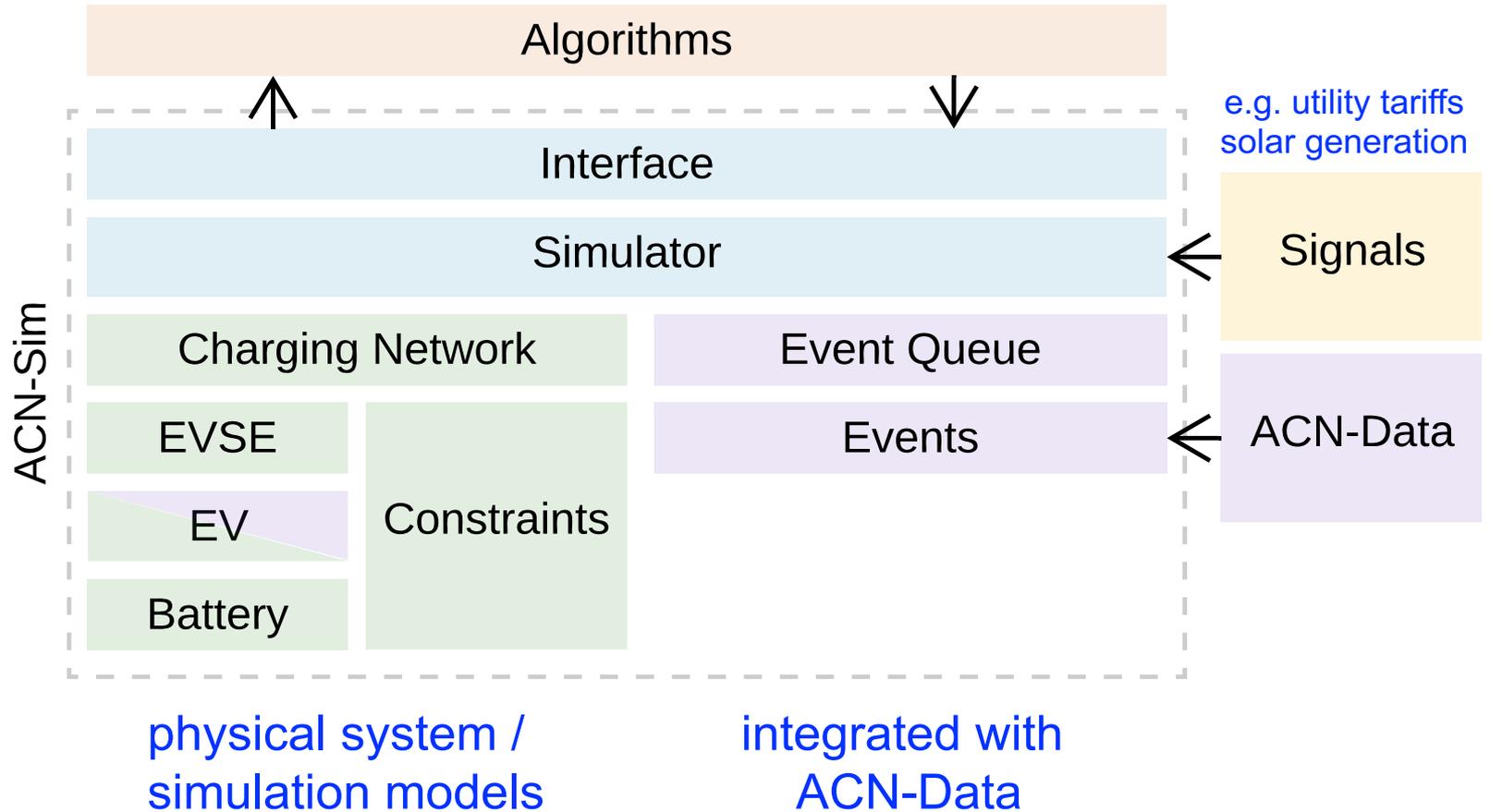
# ACN - Sim



open-source & extensible



# ACN - Sim



open-source & extensible



# Grid impact

How can large-scale EV charging mitigate Duck Curve ?



# Charging model

$N$  EVs:  $i = 1, \dots, N$   
 $T$  control intervals:  $t = 1, \dots, T$   
 EV  $i$ :  $(e_i, a_i, d_i, \bar{r}_i)$

energy demand (miles / kWh)      arrival / departure time      peak charging rate (kW)

customizable utility functions

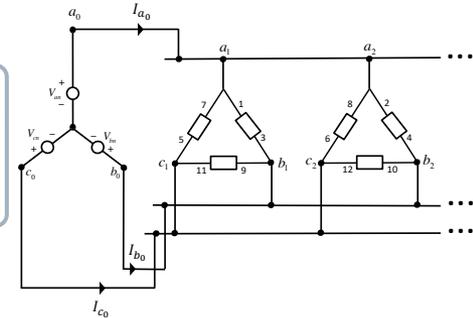
$$\max_r \sum_v \alpha_v u_v(r)$$

Compute: charging rates

$$r := (r_i(t), i = 1, \dots, N, t = 1, \dots, T)$$

$$0 \leq r_i(t) \leq \bar{r}_i(t)$$

$$\sum_{t \in T} r_i(t) \leq e_i$$



int NO	BUS NO	int NO
1	1	2
2	2	3
3	3	4
4	4	5
5	5	6
6	6	7
7	7	8
8	8	9
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39	39	40
40	40	41
41	41	42

infrastructure constraints

$$\left| \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} A_{li} r_i(t) e^{j\phi_i} \right| \leq c_{lt}(t)$$

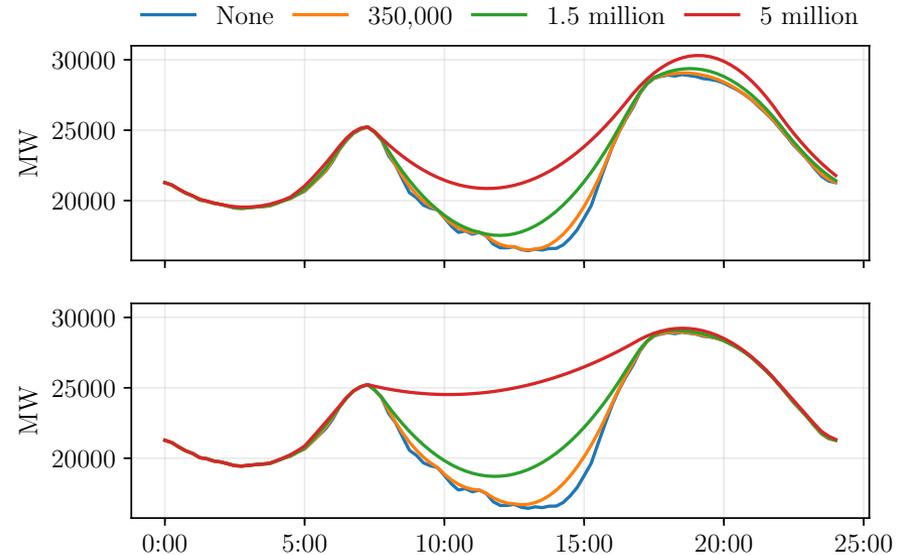
SoC constraints, or linear approx.



# Grid impact

## MPC

$$\begin{aligned} \max_r \quad & \sum_v \alpha_v u_v(r) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & 0 \leq r_i(t) \leq \bar{r}_i(t) \\ & \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} r_i(t) \leq e_i \\ & \left| \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} A_{li} r_i(t) e^{j\phi_i} \right| \leq c_{lt}(t) \end{aligned}$$

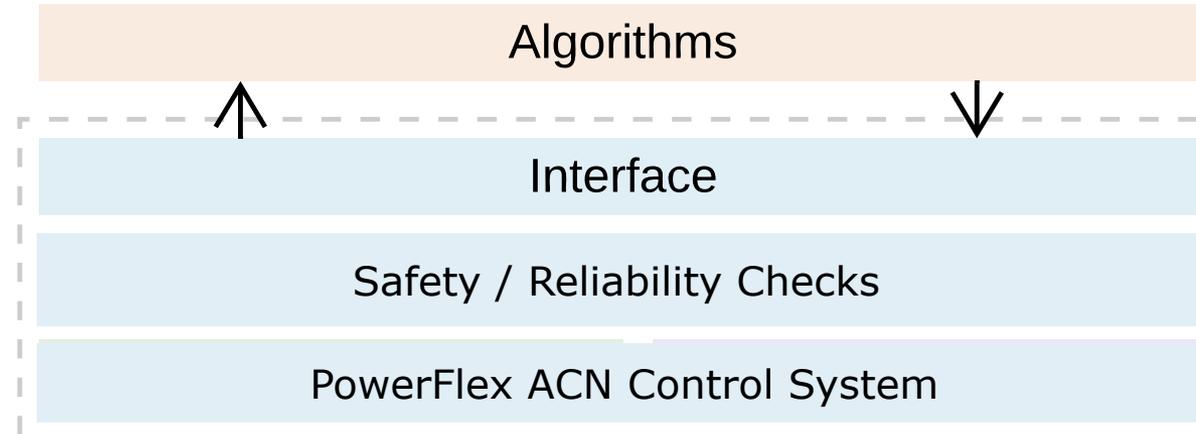


Minimize evening ramp based on [real data](#)

- EV data from ACN-Data
- Simulation models from ACN-Sim
- CAISO solar and load data



# ACN - Live



open-source  
& extensible



# Example applications

## Towards Phase Balancing using Energy Storage

Md Umar Hashmi<sup>1</sup>, José Horta<sup>2</sup>, Lucas Pereira<sup>3</sup>, Zachary Lee<sup>4</sup>, Ana Bušić<sup>1</sup>, and Daniel Kofman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> INRIA and the Computer Science Dept. of Ecole Normale Supérieure, CNRS, PSL Research University, Paris, France

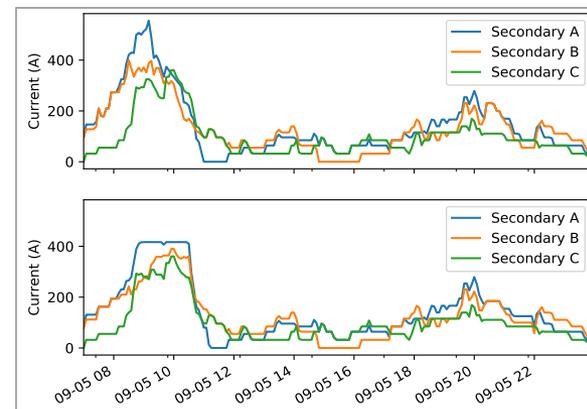
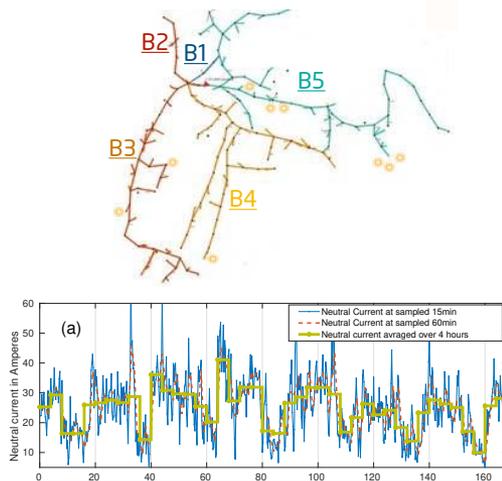
<sup>2</sup> Laboratory of Information, Networking and Communication Sciences, Télécom ParisTech, Paris, France

<sup>3</sup> ITI, LARSyS, Técnico Lisboa and prsma.com, Funchal, Portugal

<sup>4</sup>Electrical Engineering Department, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, USA

arXiv 2020

Use ACN-Data and ACN-Sim, and real substation data in Portugal, to study phase imbalance and mitigation strategy using storage





# Example applications

## FlexAbility - Modeling and Maximizing the Bidirectional Flexibility Availability of Unidirectional Charging of Large Pools of Electric Vehicles

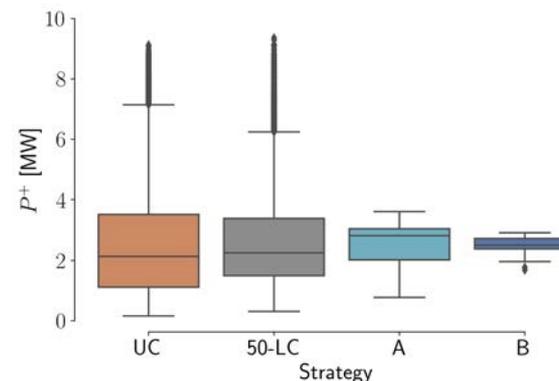
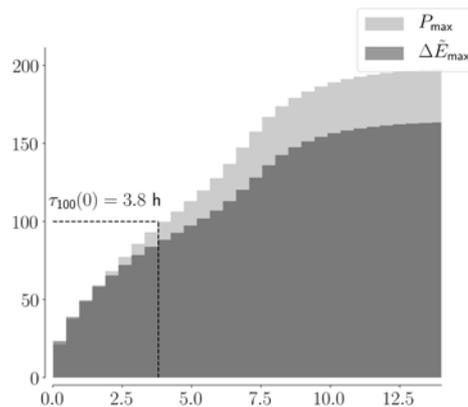
Jonas Schlund  
jonas.schlund@fau.de  
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Erlangen, Germany

Marco Pruckner  
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Friedrich-Alexander-University  
Erlangen, Germany

Reinhard German  
reinhard.german@fau.de  
Friedrich-Alexander-University  
Erlangen, Germany

ACM e-Energy 2020

Use ACN-Data in its modeling and optimization of aggregate flexibility of distributed loads, showing tradeoff between energy & power flexibility





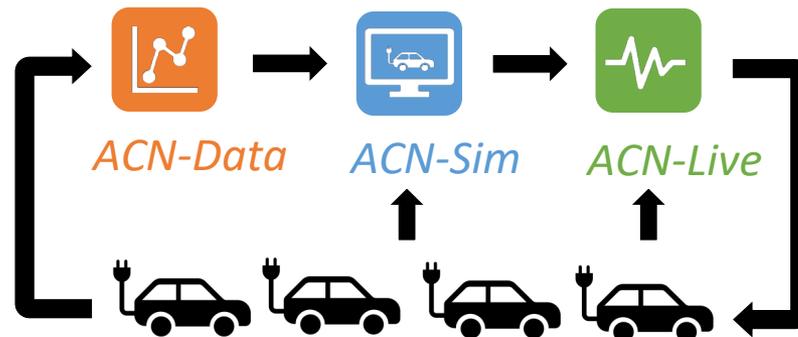
# Example applications

## Adaptive Control of Plug-in Electric Vehicle Charging with Reinforcement Learning

Authors:  [Abdullah Al Zishan](#),  [Moosa Moghimi Haji](#),  [Omid Ardakanian](#)

ACM e-Energy 2020

Use ACN-Sim to study application of reinforcement learning to optimize decentralized EV charging algorithm





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## Pricing demand charge

Z. Lee, J. Pang and S. H. Low.

Pricing EV charging service with demand charge, PSCC 2020





# Online adaptive charging

Model predictive control:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_r \quad & \sum_v \alpha_v u_v(r) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & 0 \leq r_i(t) \leq \bar{r}_i(t) \\ & \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} r_i(t) \leq e_i \\ & \left| \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} A_{li} r_i(t) e^{j\phi_i} \right| \leq c_{lt}(t) \end{aligned}$$



# Pricing design

## Charging design: charging

- Must adapt to system state in real time
- Objectives must be customized for site hosts

## Pricing design: recover individual EV's cost of

- Energy
- Externality: system peak (demand charge)
- Externality: infrastructure congestion

## Key idea: **decouple** charging and pricing

- Drivers receive energy in time, at **minimum** payments
- Charging is **socially** optimized by MPC
- Site host fully **recovers** electricity cost



# Offline optimal pricing

start with conclusion ...

At end of month

- Compute **ex post session** price  $\alpha_i^*$
- Driver pays:  $\sum_i \alpha_i^* e_i$

sum over driver's  
sessions

energy delivered  
in session  $i$



# Pricing design

$$C(r) := \sum_t p_t \sum_i r_i(t) + P \max_t \underbrace{\sum_i r_i(t)}_{\text{peak power}}$$

time-varying prices

demand charge

What is min **system** cost to meet demand ?

How to **fairly** allocate system cost to drivers ?



# Pricing design

$$C(r) := \sum_t p_t \sum_i r_i(t) + P \max_t \sum_i r_i(t)$$

Pricing min **system** cost:

$$\begin{aligned} C^{\min} &:= \min && \sum_t p_t \sum_i r_i(t) + Pq \\ &&& \text{s. t.} && \sum_t r_i(t) = e_i, && \text{meet demand} && \alpha_i \\ &&& && \sum_i A_{li} r_i(t) \leq c_{lt} && \text{infrastructure} && \beta_{lt} \\ &&& && && \text{capacity limit} && \\ &&& && r_i(t) \leq \bar{r}_i(t), && \text{EVSE limit} && \gamma_{it} \\ &&& && q \geq \sum_i r_i(t), && \text{system peak} && \delta_t \end{aligned}$$



# Pricing design

**Fairly** (incentive compatibly) allocate system cost to EVs

$$\pi_i^*(t) := \underbrace{p_t}_{\text{energy}} +$$

time-varying  
prices



# Pricing design

**Fairly** (incentive compatibly) allocate system cost to EVs

$$\pi_i^*(t) := \underbrace{p_t}_{\text{energy}} + \underbrace{\sum_l A_{li} \beta_{lt}^*}_{\text{network congestion}} + \underbrace{\gamma_{it}^*}_{\text{charger congestion}} + \underbrace{\delta_t^*}_{\text{demand charge}}$$

driver & time dependent

Driver pays for each session  $i$

$$\Pi_i^* = \sum_t \pi_i^*(t) r_i^*(t)$$

this achieves pricing goals



# Pricing design

Design principle:

$$\pi_i^*(t) := \underbrace{p_t}_{\text{energy}} + \underbrace{\sum_l A_{li} \beta_{lt}^*}_{\text{network congestion}} + \underbrace{\gamma_{it}^*}_{\text{charger congestion}} + \underbrace{\delta_t^*}_{\text{demand charge}}$$
$$\Pi_i^* = \sum_t \pi_i^*(t) r_i^*(t)$$

## Theorem

1. Demand charge:  $P = \sum_t \delta_t^*$  EVs that cause peak will pay

2. Time-invariant session price  $\alpha_i^*$ :  $\Pi_i^* := \alpha_i^* \cdot e_i$

3. Cost recovery:  $\sum_i \Pi_i^* \geq C^{min}$

$$\sum_i \Pi_i^* - C^{min} = \sum_{t,l} c_{lt} \beta_{lt}^* + \sum_{t,i} \bar{r}_i(t) \gamma_{it}^*$$



# Offline optimal pricing

At end of month

- Compute **ex post session** price  $\alpha_i^*$
- Driver pays:  $\sum_i \alpha_i^* e_i$

No uncertainty nor need for forecast



# ACN research portal

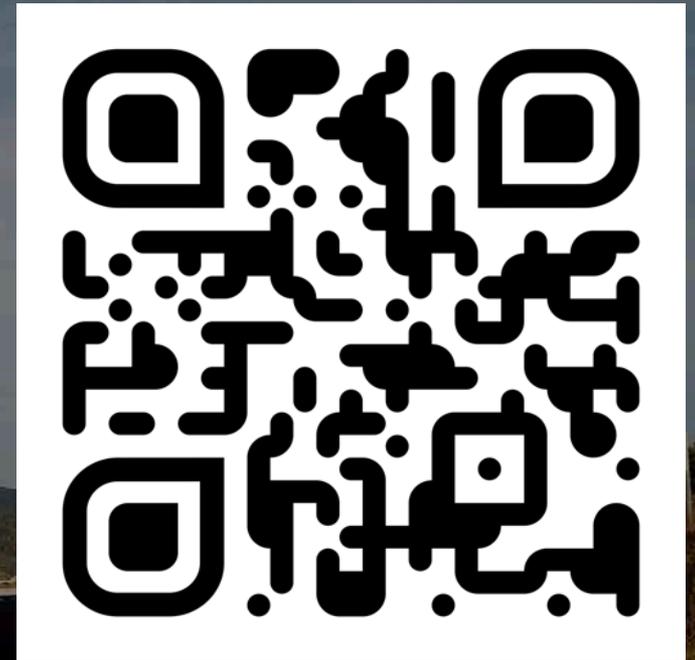
Adaptive Charging Network

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## The Adaptive Charging Network

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