

Electrification Futures Study: Scenarios for Demand-Side Adoption in the United States

Caitlin Murphy

Scenarios Forum 2019, Session 35
Denver, Colorado
March 13, 2019



Key Take-Aways

Electrification is a highly complex research topic with a broad scope:

- Involves interactions among all sectors via numerous technologies
- Crosses many jurisdictions and levels of government/regulators
- Impacts both electric system investment and operational decisions

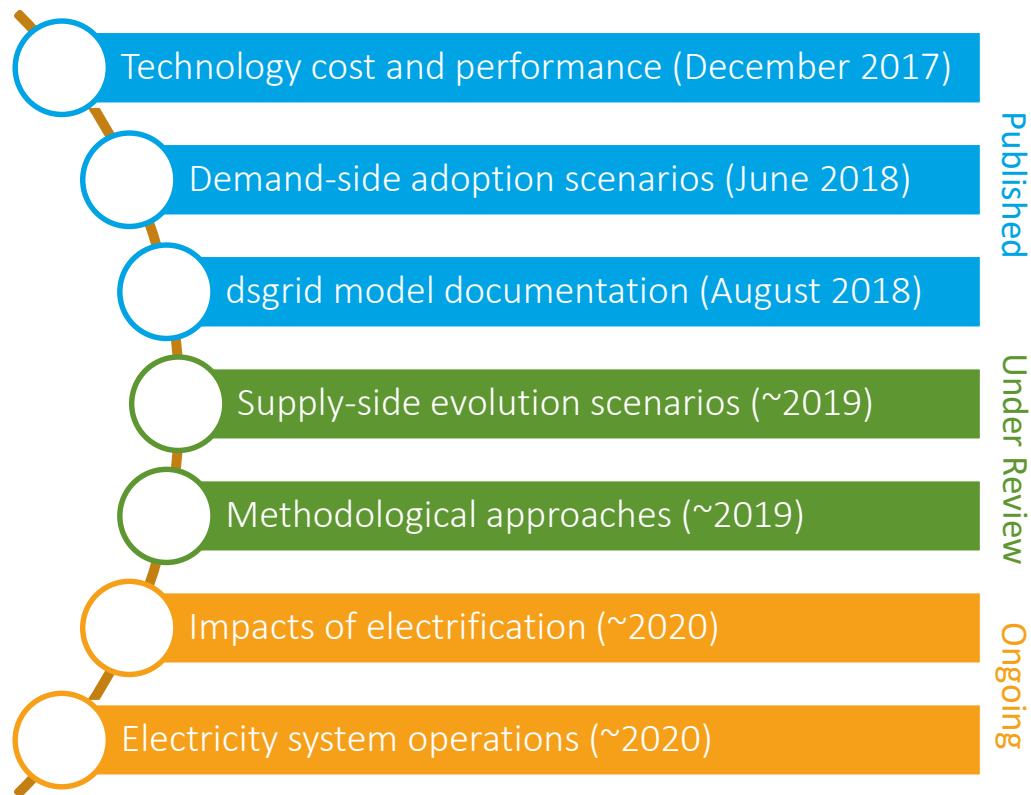
Quantifying the effects of electrification in a meaningful way requires applying high-resolution modeling (across this broad scope):

1. Technological resolution
2. Spatial resolution
3. Temporal resolution

What is the Electrification Futures Study (EFS)?

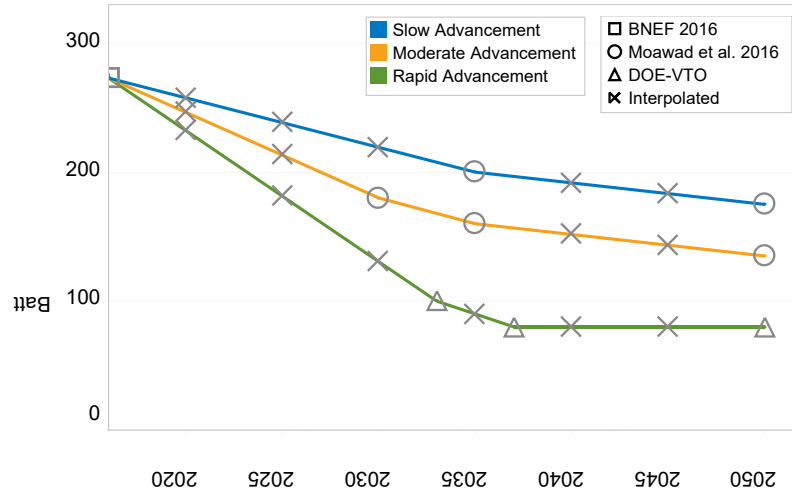


EVOLVED
ENERGY
RESEARCH



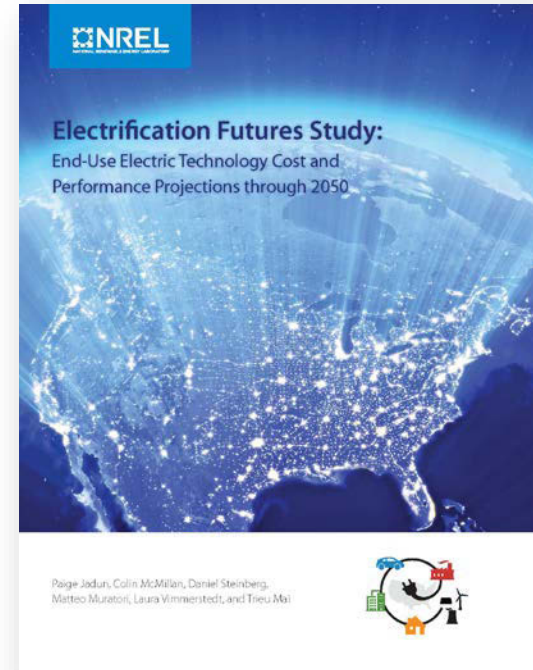
+ Planned research on distribution system and utility business model impacts (2020-21)

Scenarios for end-use electric technology advancement



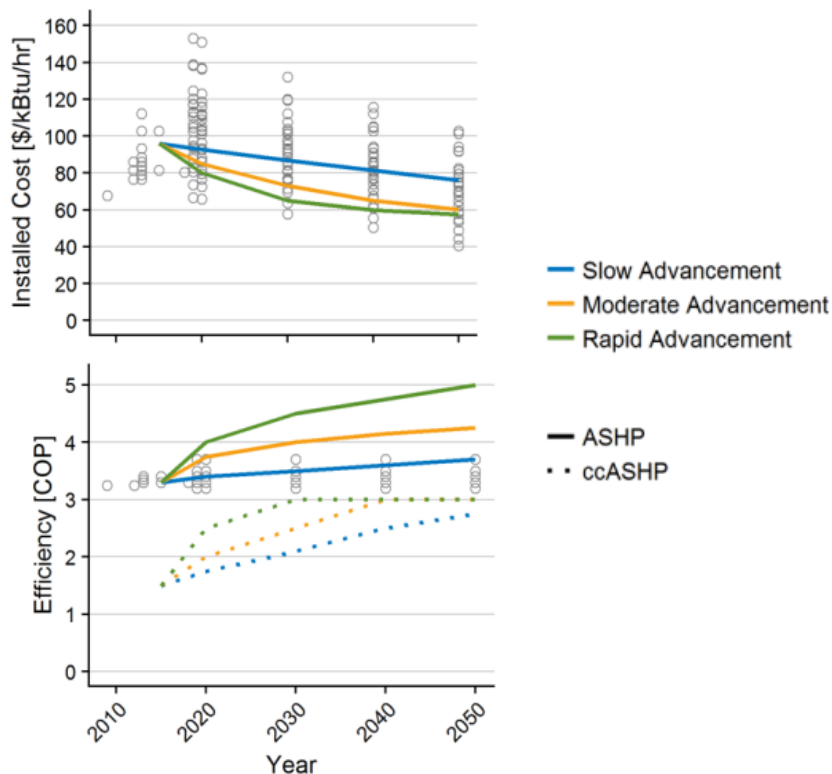
Technology data is foundational to cost-benefit assessments

- 3 trajectories (**slow**, **moderate**, **rapid**) for **buildings** and **transportation**
- Literature-based summary of **industrial** electrotechnologies

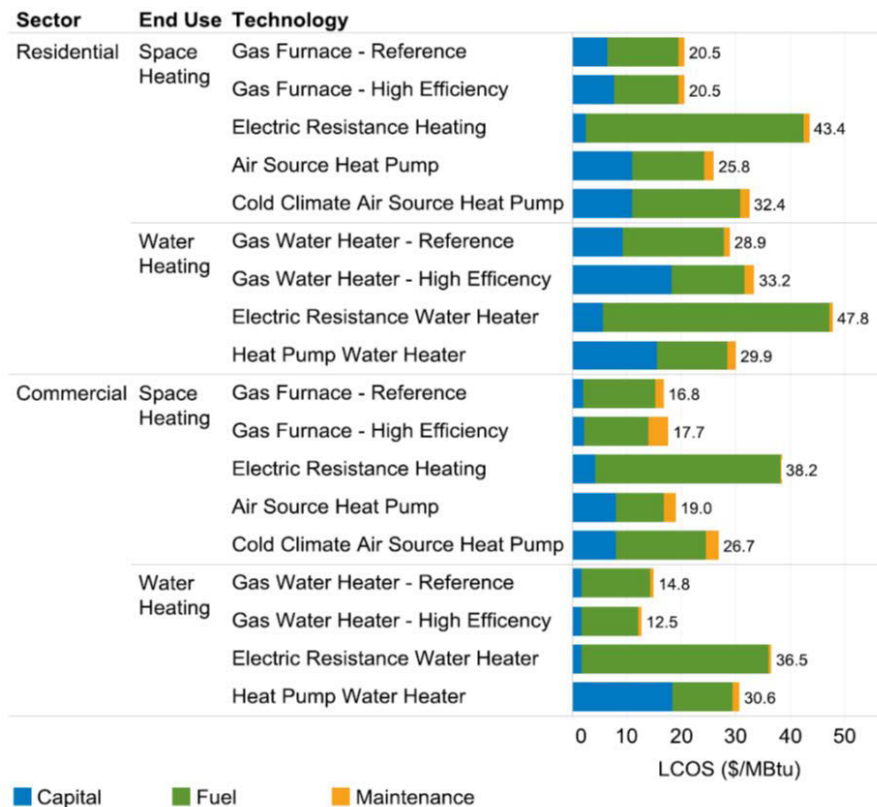


<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy18osti/70485.pdf>

End-use electric technology cost and performance

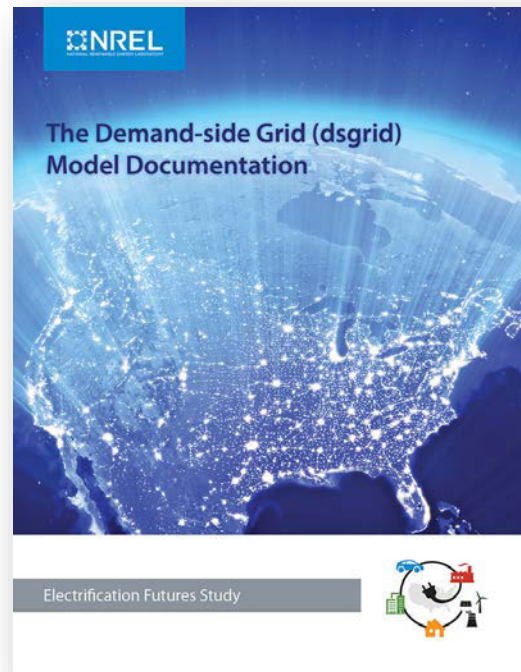
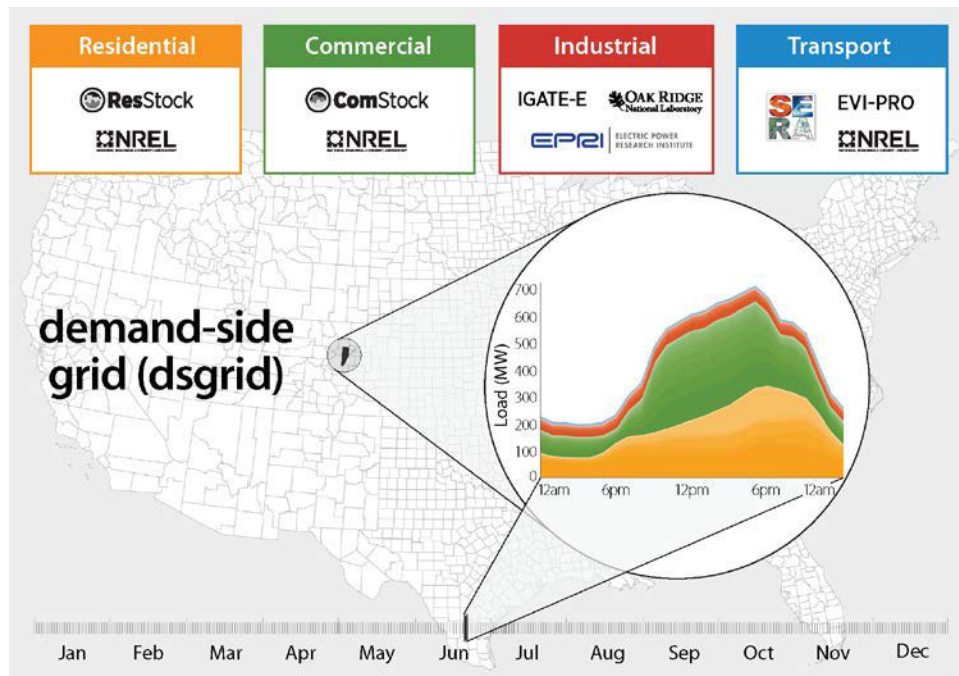


Commercial ASHPs
installed cost and efficiency projections



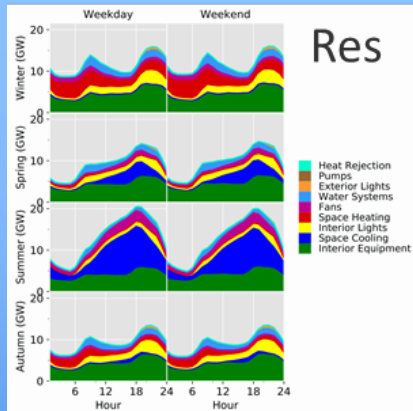
Levelized cost of services (2020 Moderate) NREL | 5

dsgrid: bottom-up engineering model to estimate hourly electricity consumption

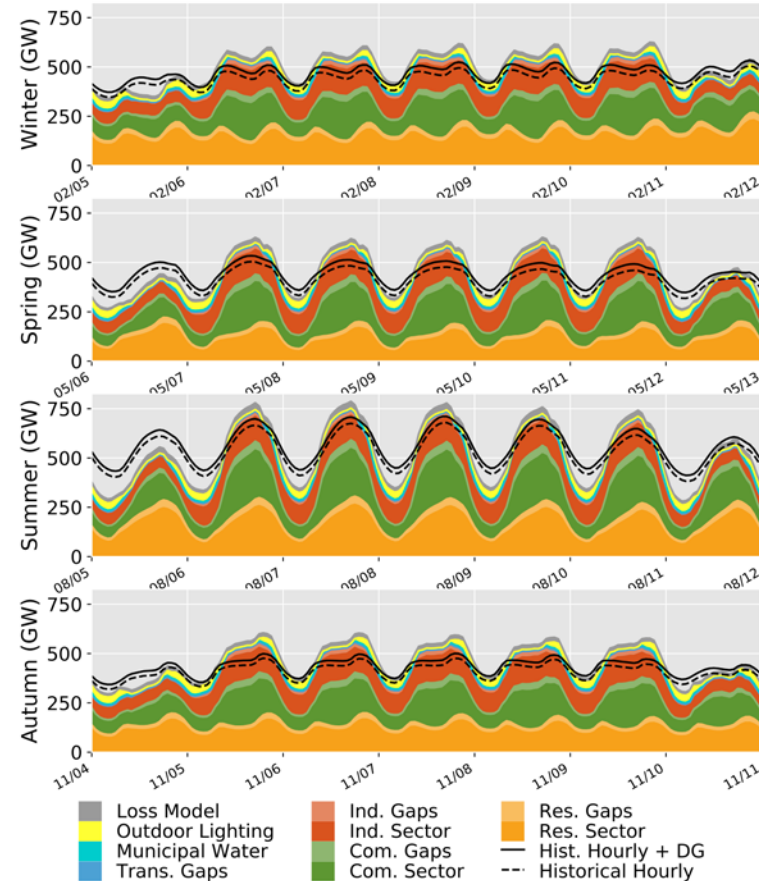
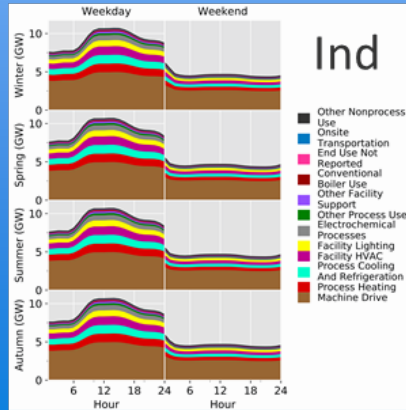
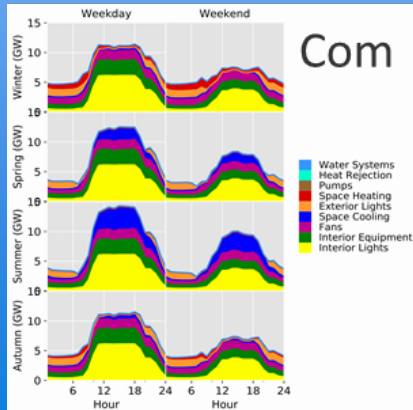


<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy18osti/71492.pdf>

Enables a detailed understanding of how equipment replacement could impact consumption



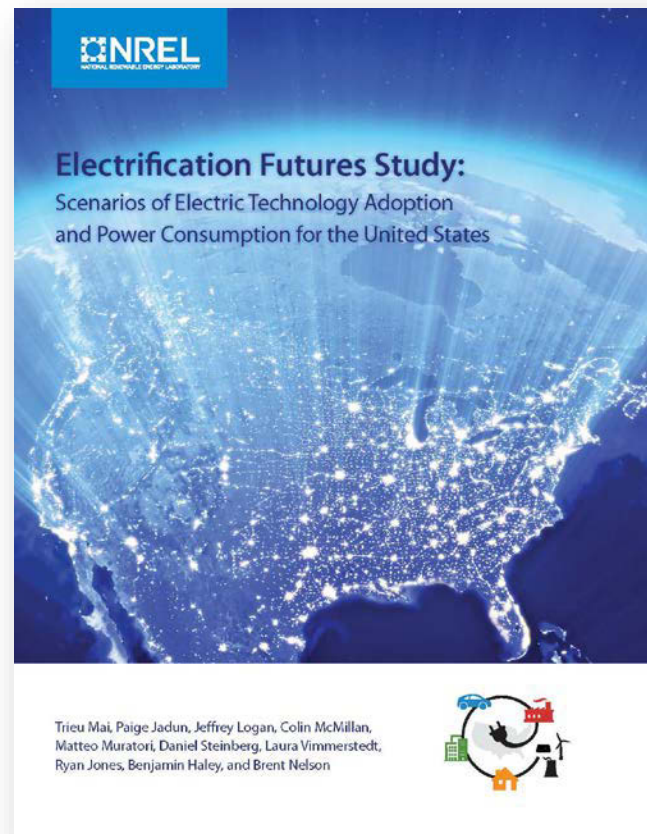
Combines bottom-up sector, gap, and loss models (*Examples from 2012 WNC region*)



Demand-Side Scenarios Report

(June 2018)

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy18osti/71500.pdf>



Developing demand-side scenarios



OBJECTIVES

Characterize **changes to end-use sectors** under increasing levels of electrification
Quantify how electrification impacts **total electricity demand** and **consumption profiles**



APPROACH

Expert judgment **adoption projections** and **consumer choice modeling**
Bottom-up **stock and energy accounting model** (EnergyPATHWAYS)



SCENARIOS

Reference: Least incremental change (~AEO2017)

Medium: Widespread electrification among low(er)-hanging fruit opportunities

High: Transformational electrification

Buildings Sector Details

- In the combined buildings sector (residential + commercial) in 2050, electric equipment provides up to:
 - 61% of space heating
 - 52% of water heating
 - 94% of cooking services (High scenario; right column)
- Appliance lifetimes limit total penetration

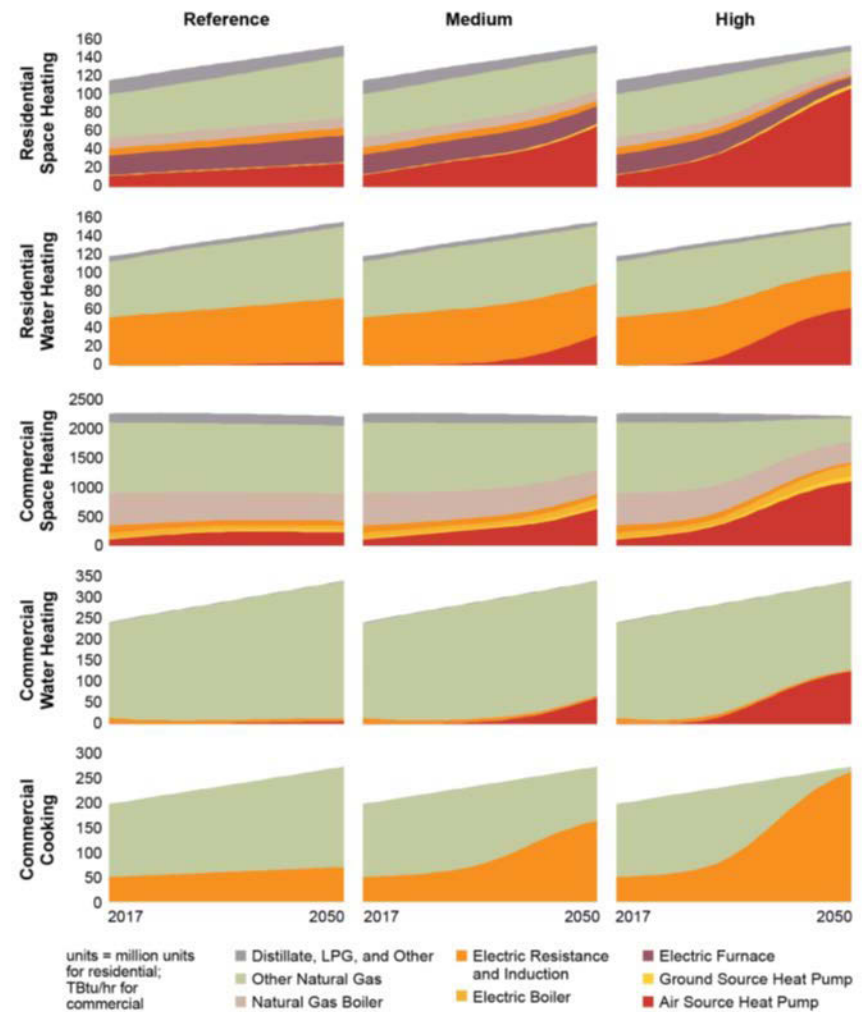
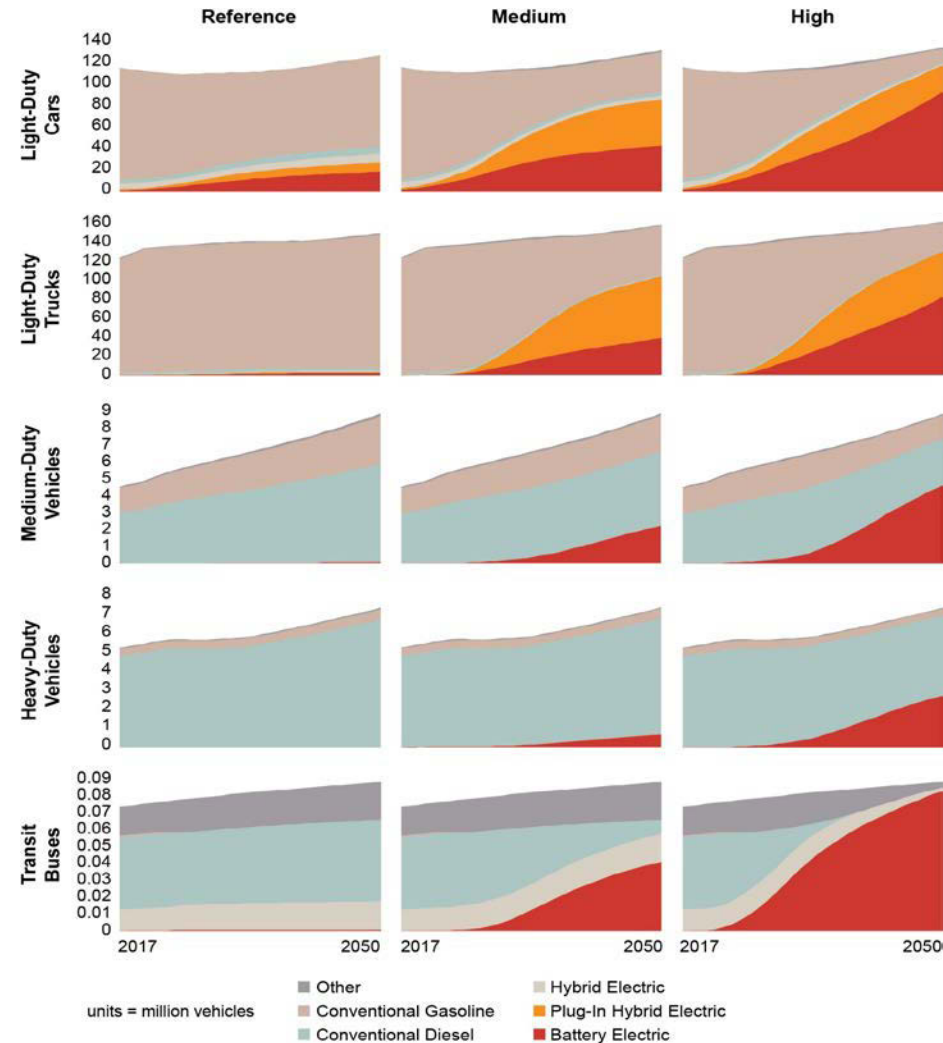


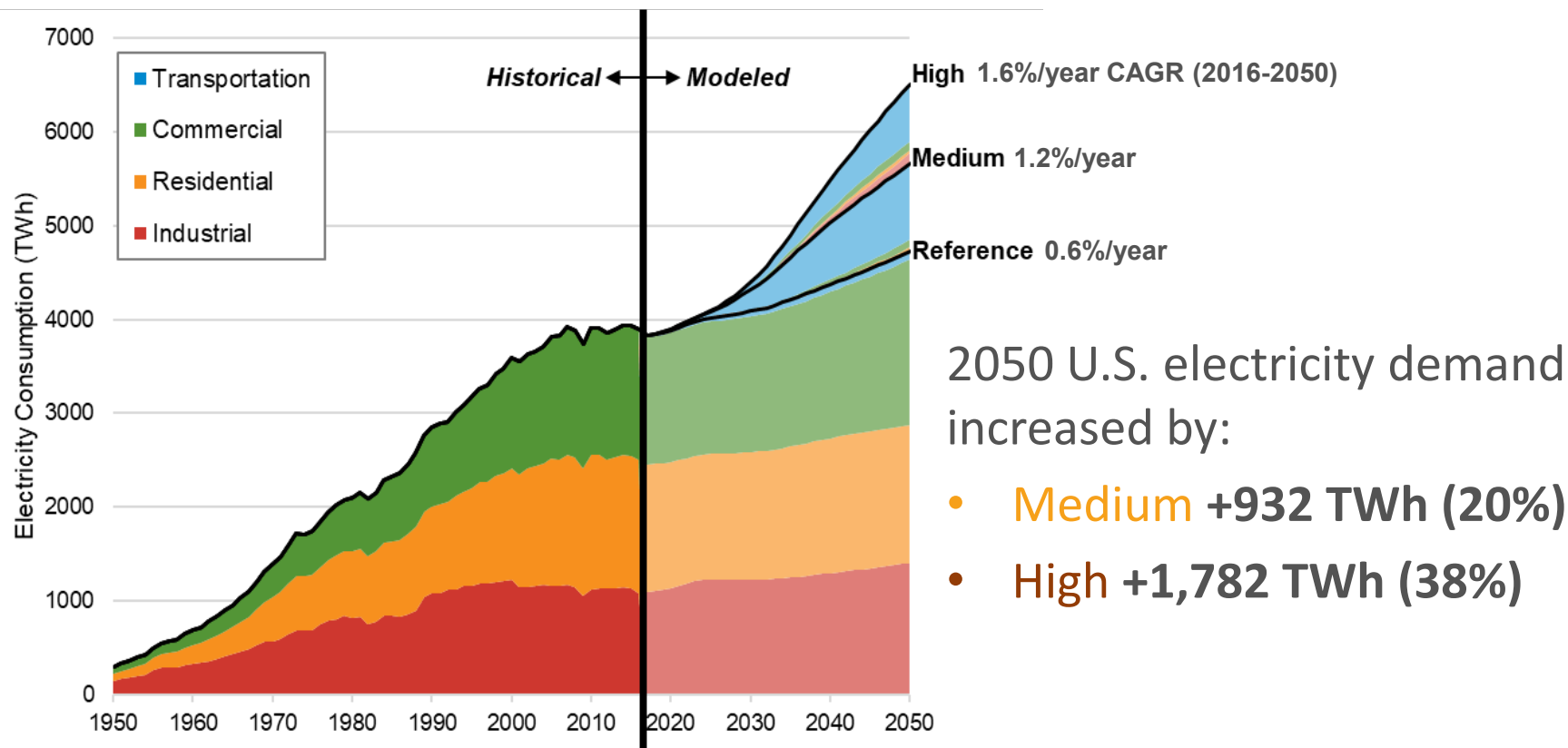
Figure 6.4. Buildings equipment stock in the electrification scenarios

Transportation Sector Details

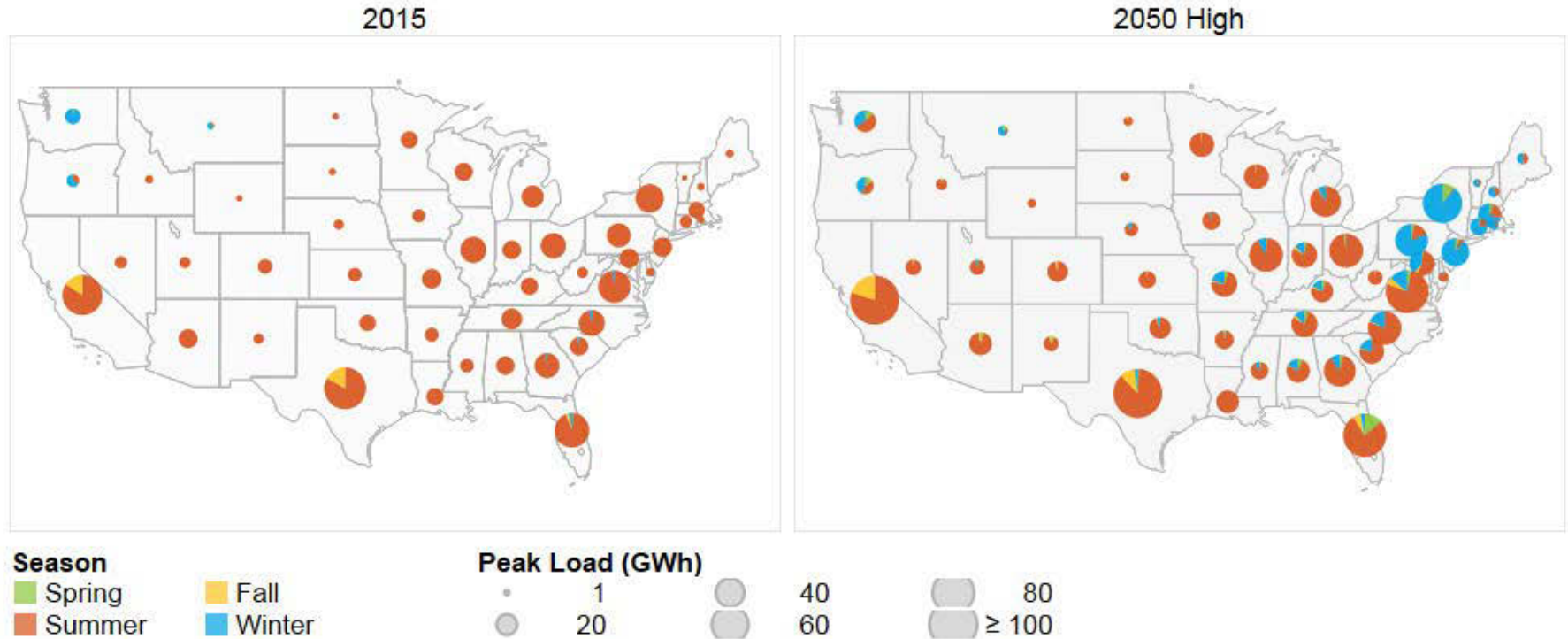
- 2050 U.S. transportation fleet (**High** scenario):
 - **240 million** light-duty plug-in electric vehicles
 - **7 million** medium- and heavy-duty plug-in electric trucks
 - **80 thousand** battery electric transit buses
- Together these deliver up to **76%** of miles traveled from electricity in 2050



Vehicle electrification dominates incremental growth in *annual* electricity demand



Electric space heating has the largest impact on the timing and magnitude of peak demand



Note: Summer = June-August, Fall = September-November, Winter = December-February, Spring = March-May

Key Take-Aways from Demand-Side Scenarios

Electrification is a highly complex research topic with a broad scope:

- Involves interactions among all sectors via numerous technologies
- Crosses many jurisdictions and levels of government/regulators
- Impacts both electric system investment and operational decisions

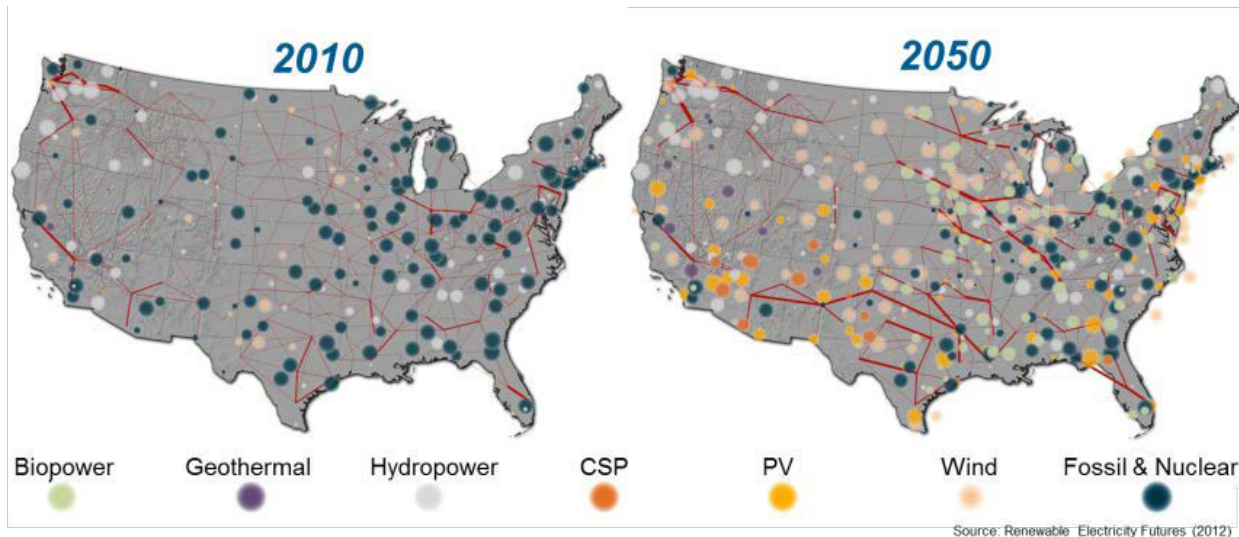
Quantifying the effects of electrification in a meaningful way requires applying high-resolution modeling (across this broad scope):

1. *Technological resolution*: End-use technology efficiency, load profiles
2. *Spatial resolution*: Service demand, alignment with generation portfolio/resources (e.g., resource sharing)
3. *Temporal resolution*: Annual, peak, and hourly electricity demand

Ongoing analysis involves using a detailed electricity system model to explore a range of supply-side portfolios

Regional Energy Deployment System (ReEDS)

Simulates the expansion and operation of the U.S. generation and transmission system



Model Improvements



Energy-sector natural gas consumption and price



Demand-side flexibility



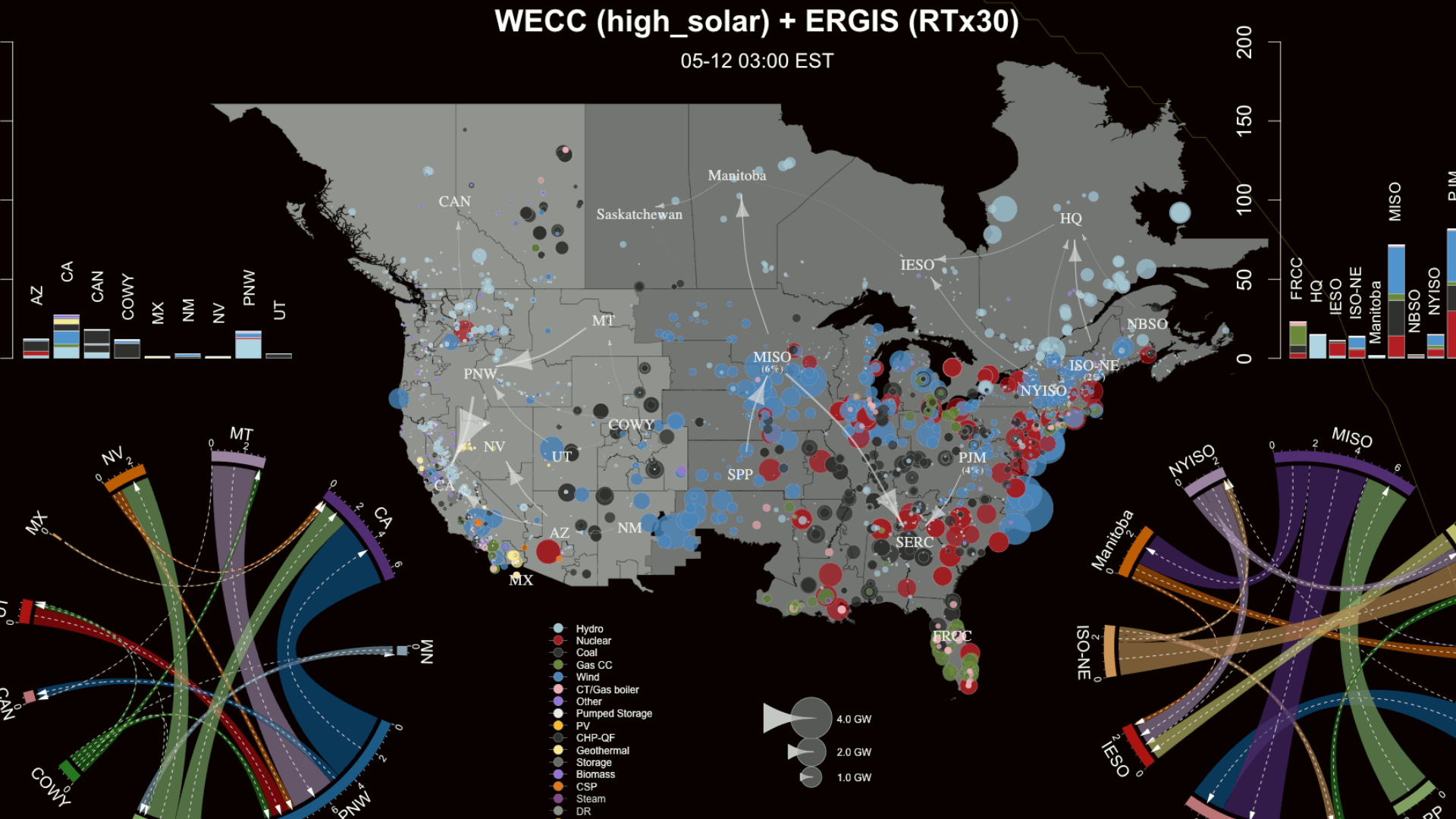
Peak demand management and capacity sharing

Supply side scenarios are designed to:

- 1) isolate the impacts of our electrification scenarios and demand-side flexibility
- 2) explore the relative impacts of different supply-side assumptions

WECC (high_solar) + ERGIS (RTx30)

05-12 03:00 EST





Thank you

caitlin.murphy@nrel.gov

www.nrel.gov/efs

NREL/PR-6A20-73385

This work was authored by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, operated by Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC, for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract No. DE-AC36-08GO28308. Funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Office of Strategic Programs. The views expressed in the article do not necessarily represent the views of the DOE or the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government retains and the publisher, by accepting the article for publication, acknowledges that the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, paid-up, irrevocable, worldwide license to publish or reproduce the published form of this work, or allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes.

