

ENERGISE Program Kickoff

DOE Award #: DE-EE0008006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy



Robust and resilient coordination of feeders
with uncertain distributed energy resources:
from real-time control to long-term planning

Lead: University of Vermont

October 11, 2017

The Energy Systems Laboratory at UVM (TESL@UVM)



Six EE faculty
working on grid
and energy
problems



Mads Almassalkhi



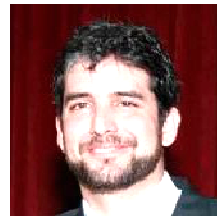
Jeff Frolik



Paul Hines



Hamid
Ossareh



Luis Duffaut
Espinosa



Pavan
Racherla

Broad expertise

- Power systems
- Optimization
- Control theory
- Stochastic systems
- Weather/Climate
- Communications

Advising more than 10 graduate students in the area of power/energy (most PhD)

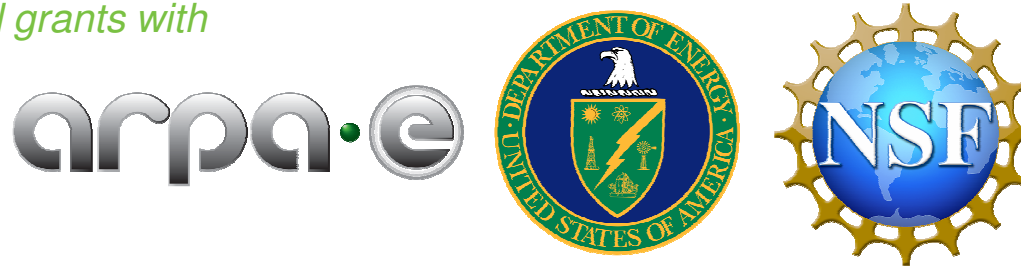
TESL@UVM is growing



Recent and ongoing industry-research projects with



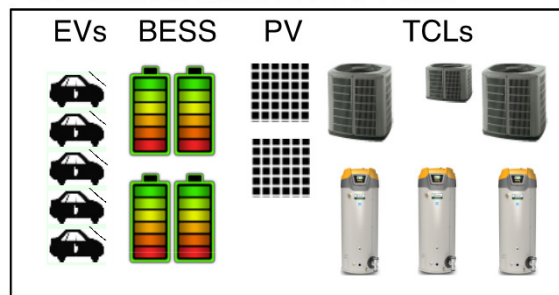
Ongoing federal grants with



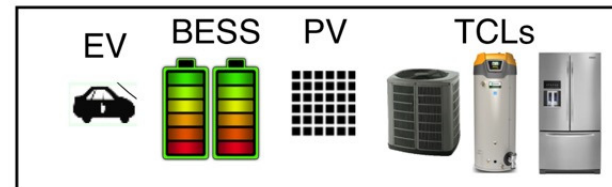
ENERGISE: How the Why?

- ❖ Consider a 1000-feeder distribution system in Year 2030 with
 - >50% solar PV by energy and >100% solar PV by peak demand
 - Millions of “active nodes” (controllable net-load devices) have been installed

Commercial DER hub



Residential DER hub



How do we leverage these uncertain/variable DERs optimally for robust and resilient grid operations and future markets while still giving customers what they need, when they need it?

Key idea: adapt wide-area control concepts to Dist. Ops.

→ Primary, secondary, tertiary control becomes within- and between-feeder balancing, and DSO markets



❖ UVM leads project (Almassalkhi, Ossareh, Racherla)

- power engineering, optimization, control theory, data analytics
- open-source software & HiL validation



Dr. Mads Almassalkhi



Dr. Hamid Ossareh



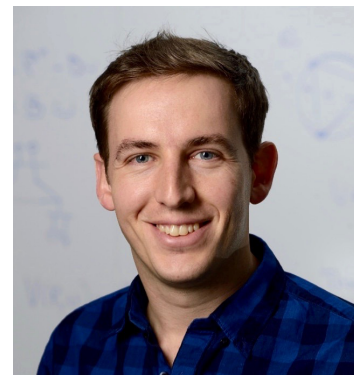
Dr. Pavan Racherla



- ❖ **JHU:** optimization & markets (Gayme, Mallada)
 - Optimization, dynamical systems, and energy market design



Dr. Dennice Gayme



Dr. Enrique Mallada



❖ PNNL: flexible load modeling (Kundu)

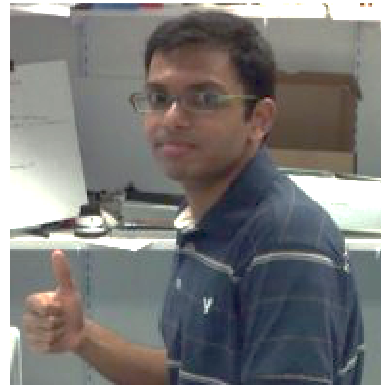
- Power systems, control, modeling, large-scale validation



Dr. Soumya Kundu



❖ **NIST**: HiL, cyber, & interop considerations, smart grid



Dr. Dhananjay Anand

❖ **Con Edison (ORU)**: utility partner, validation (data & models)

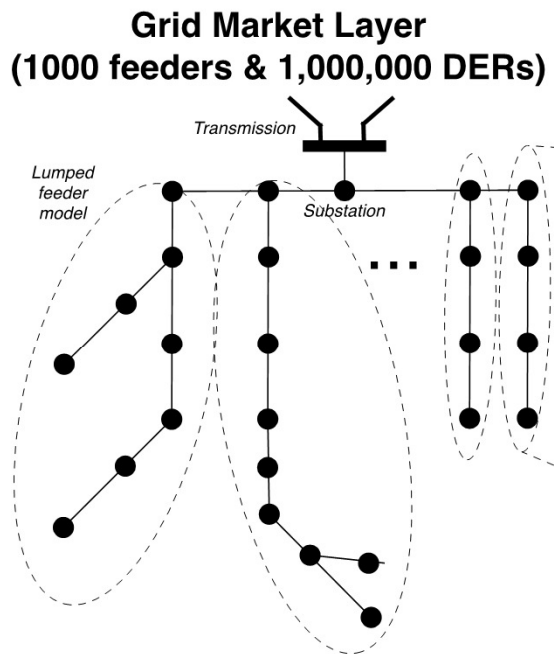
- Andrew Reid, Joe White, and Mike McGuire

- ❖ **Project outcome:** a technology that unleashes the flexibility of controllable grid assets and, in the process, reinvents the utility from a volt/VAR-focused loss-minimizer into **a full-service energy coordinator**.
 - Aligns well with New York state's REV's notion of Distributed System Platform (DSP) and Distribution System Operator (DSO)
 - *Report of the Market Design and Platform Technology Working Group (2015)*

- ❖ **Technical objectives:**
 1. **Technology development:** extend optimization and control tools and algorithms to facilitate integrated management of grid constraint and heterogeneous end-use resources
 2. **Full-scale hardware validation:** implement and validate technology at NIST's Smart-Grid Test Bed using hardware-in-the-loop simulation for normal and contingency operation for >100 physical active nodes
 3. **Large-scale software validation:** implement technology and validate technology with PNNL's GridLab-D with >1,000,000 active nodes over a one-year representative period
 4. **Benefit assessment:** Assess the financial and reliability benefits for various levels of variable renewable generation, flexible load, and energy resources.

Summary of Approach

- ❖ Decompose operation across spatio-temporal scales and use corrective control to manage uncertainty



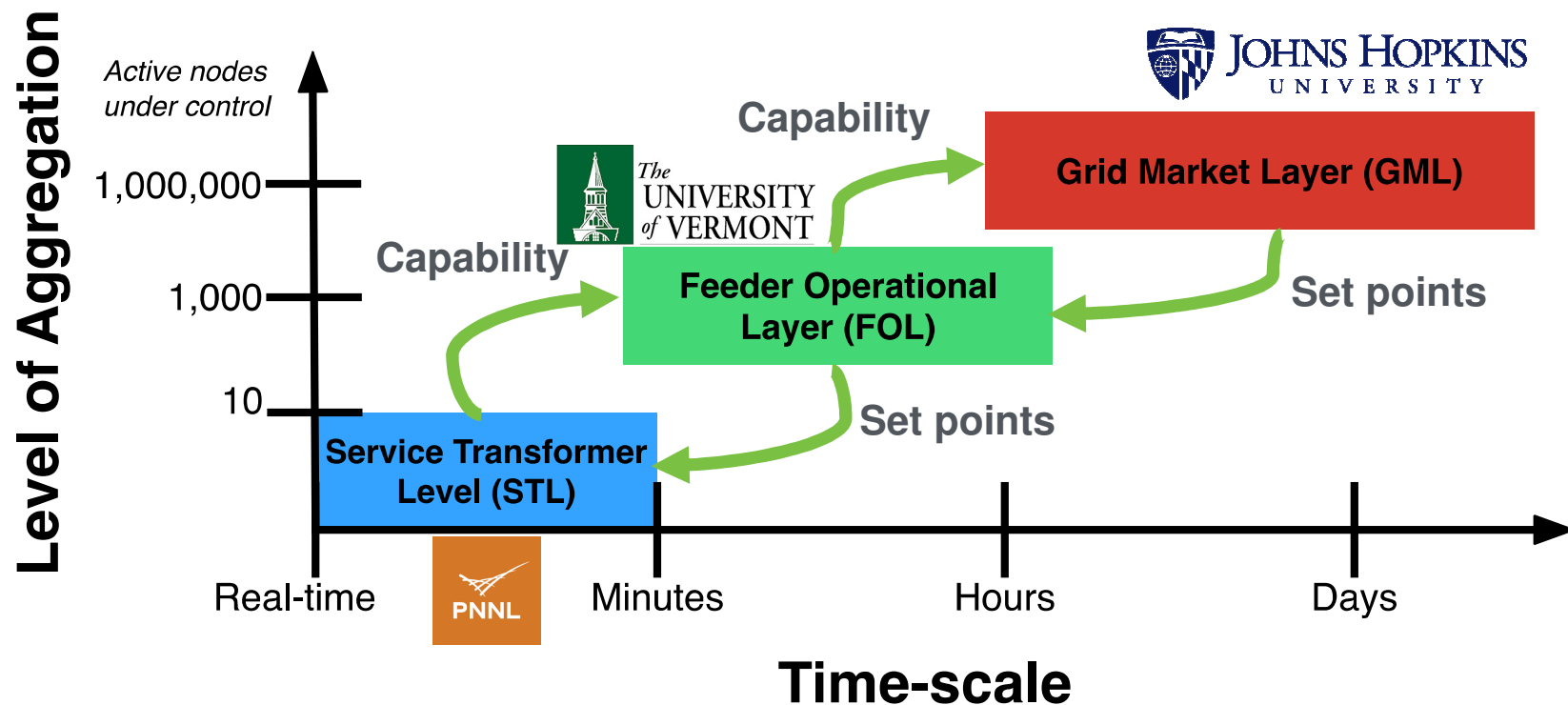
Manage resources economically

Manage network optimally

Manage resources dynamically

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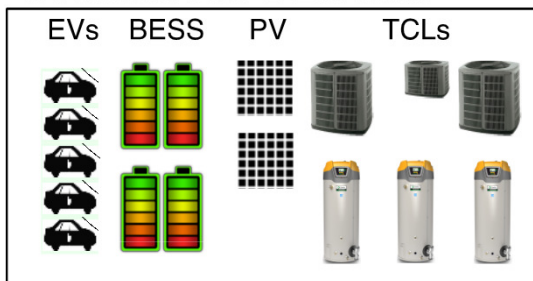


Need to study different time-scale separations and levels of aggregation

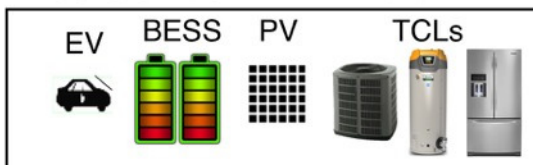
Service Transformer Layer (STL)

- ❖ Each STL element represents 10-50 flexible devices at service level transformer
- ❖ **Goal:** characterize & model dynamical aggregated resources at service transformer and quantify modeling uncertainty
 - Aggregate modeling constructs an uncertain but dispatchable flexible energy resource
 - Leverage existing expertise at PNNL
 - **Uncertainty quantification**, dynamic aggregate models, constraint-aware controller design

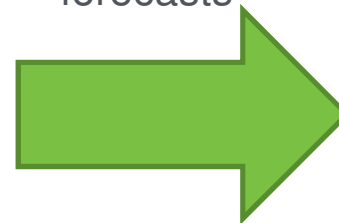
Commercial DER hub



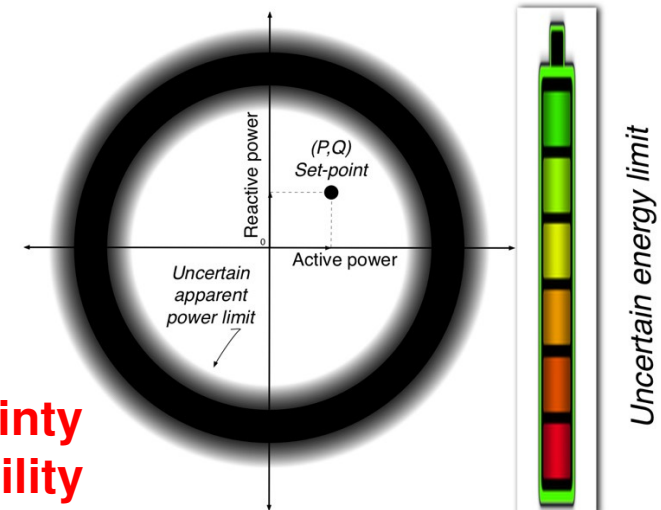
Residential DER hub



+ Solar/weather forecasts

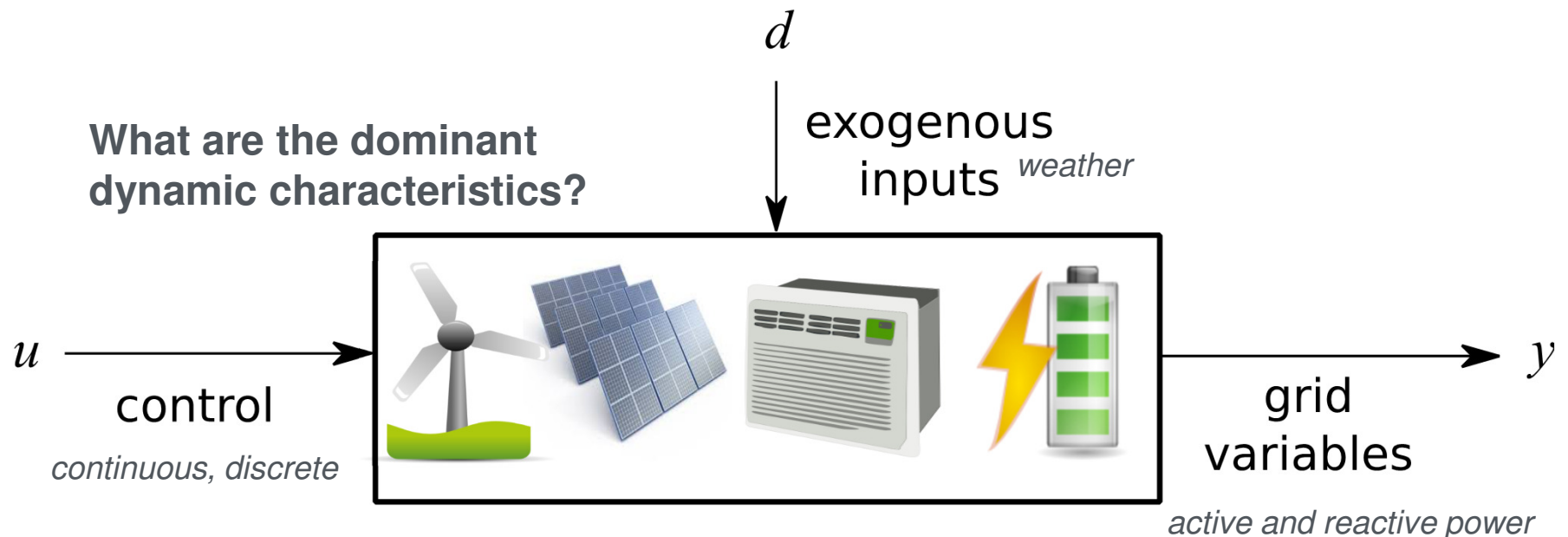


Aggregated controllable load

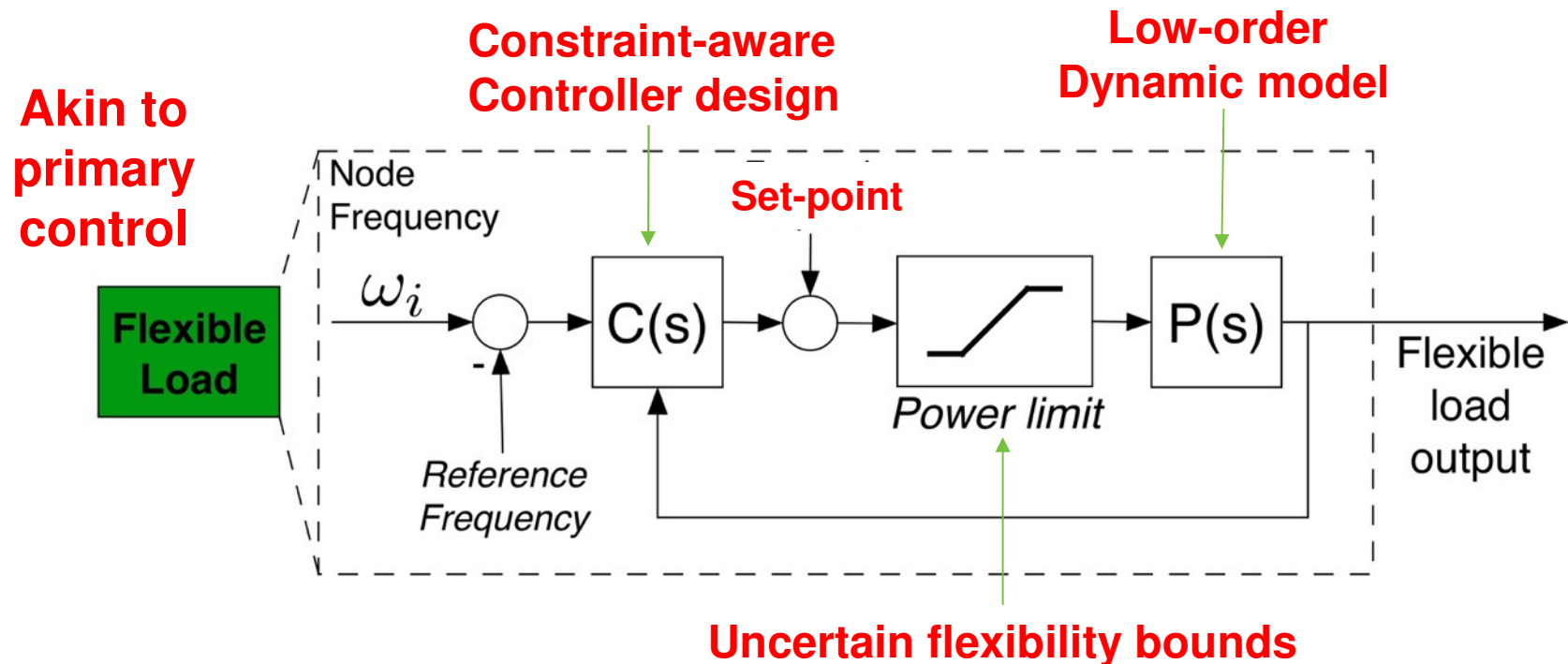


Uncertainty in flexibility

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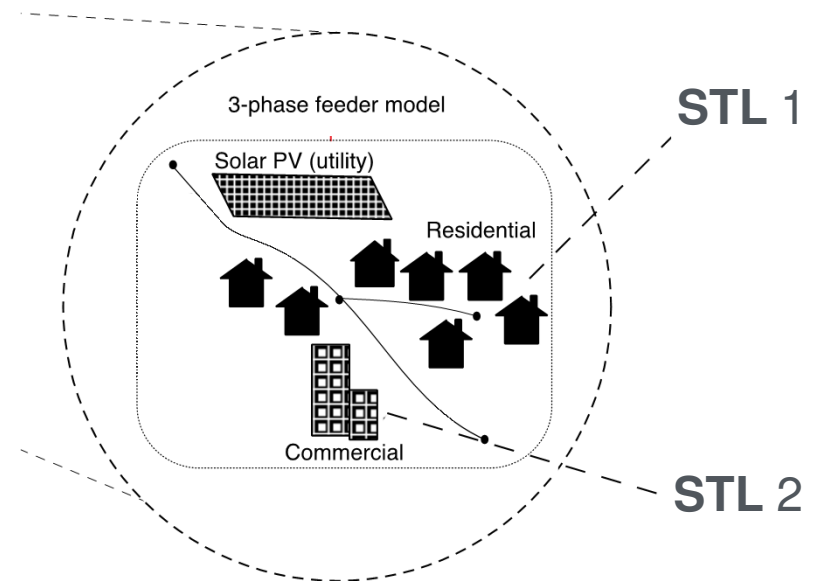
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2. Optimize feeder asset schedules to regulate bidirectional unbalanced power flows and voltages under net-load uncertainty

- ❖ Distribution System State Estimator (DSSE)
 - Robustly estimate nodal voltages and topology changes in near real-time
- ❖ Full unbalanced grid optimization
 - Considers mechanical switching (legacy) devices and flexible STL elements on different time-scales
 - Ensure robust voltage profiles under uncertainty of available net-load resources
 - Optimize fast flexible STL elements for corrective control
 - Techno-economic optimization: balance operational roles (volt/VAr/losses) with market incentives (revenue)

⇒ Feeder Operational Layer (100-200 STLs per FOL)



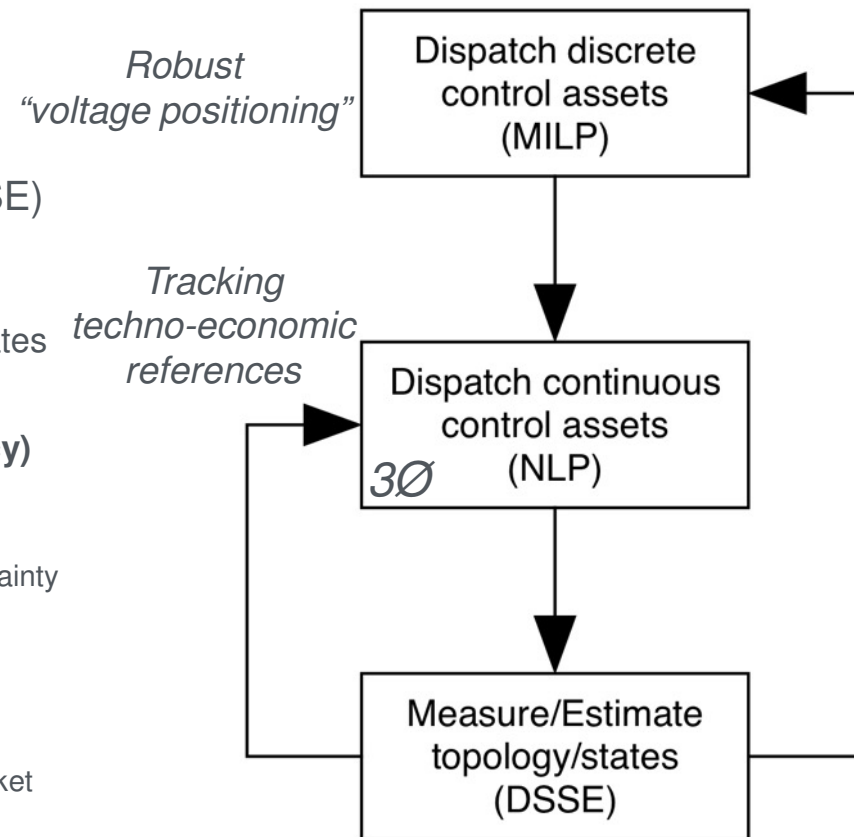
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❖ Distribution System State Estimator (DSSE)

- Robustly estimate nodal voltages and topology changes in near real-time
- STLs run separate observer to provide states

❖ **Full unbalanced grid optimization**

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Considers STL flexibility and very-short-term solar forecasts

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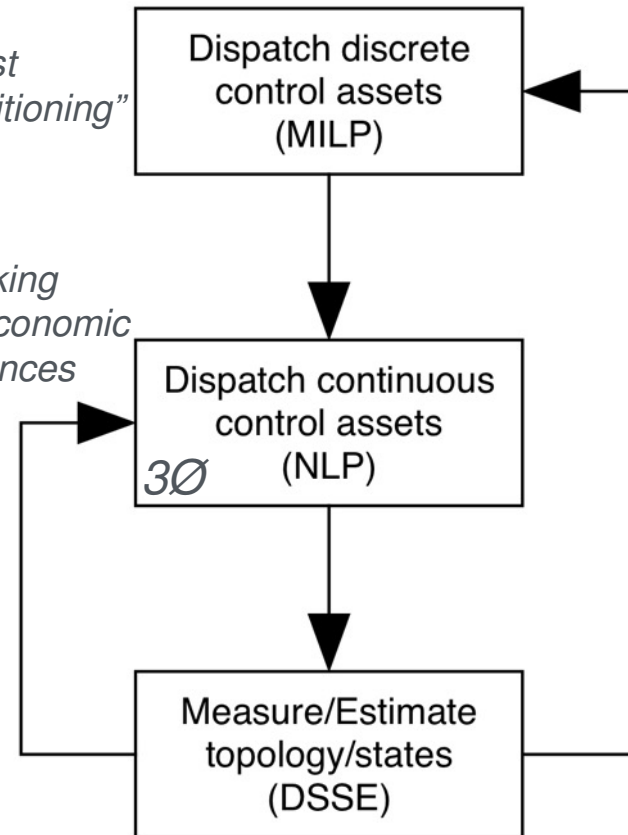
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*Robust
"voltage positioning"*

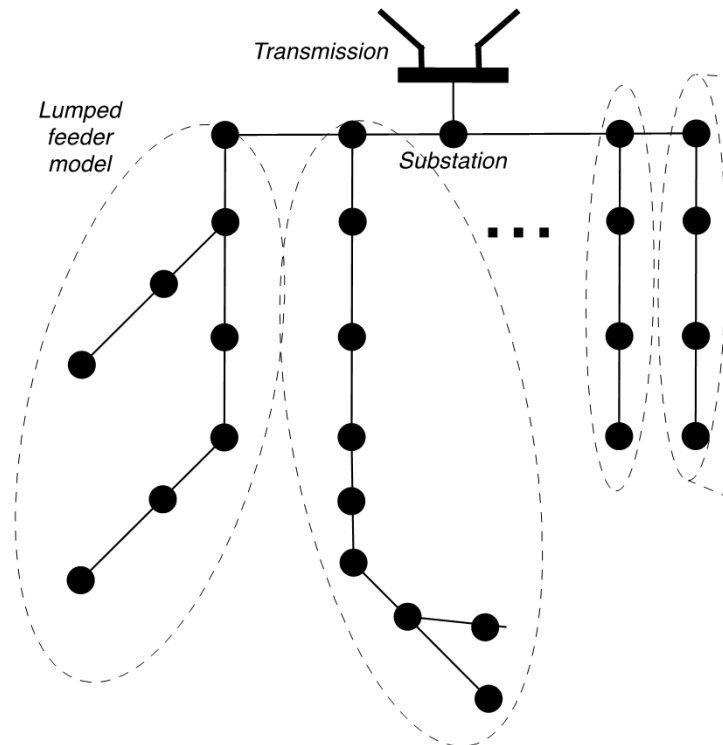
*Tracking
techno-economic
references*



Considers STL flexibility and very-short-term solar forecasts

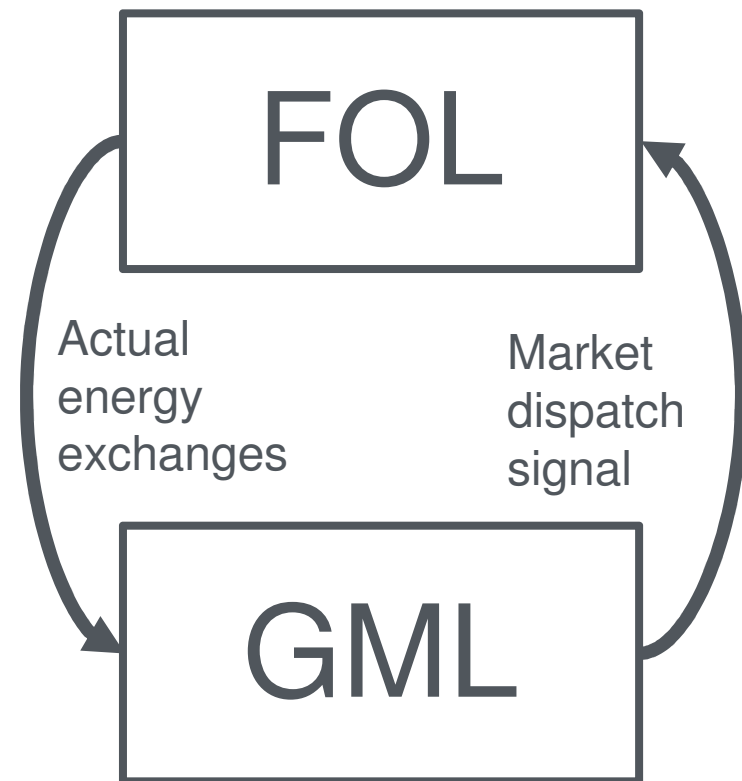
3. **Coordinate 100s of feeders via grid market layer (GML) to consider optimal economic dispatch of net-load resources**
 - **Must consider**
 - A. physical inter-feeder coupling constraints
 - B. different time-scales of (slower) market dispatch and (faster) feeder balancing operations/regulation needs.
 - Focuses on coordinating energy exchanges
 - ❖ Contingency mode updates feeder dispatch when triggered by any feeder that is unable to self-regulate and provide expected resources

Grid Market Layer (1000 feeders & 1,000,000 DERs)

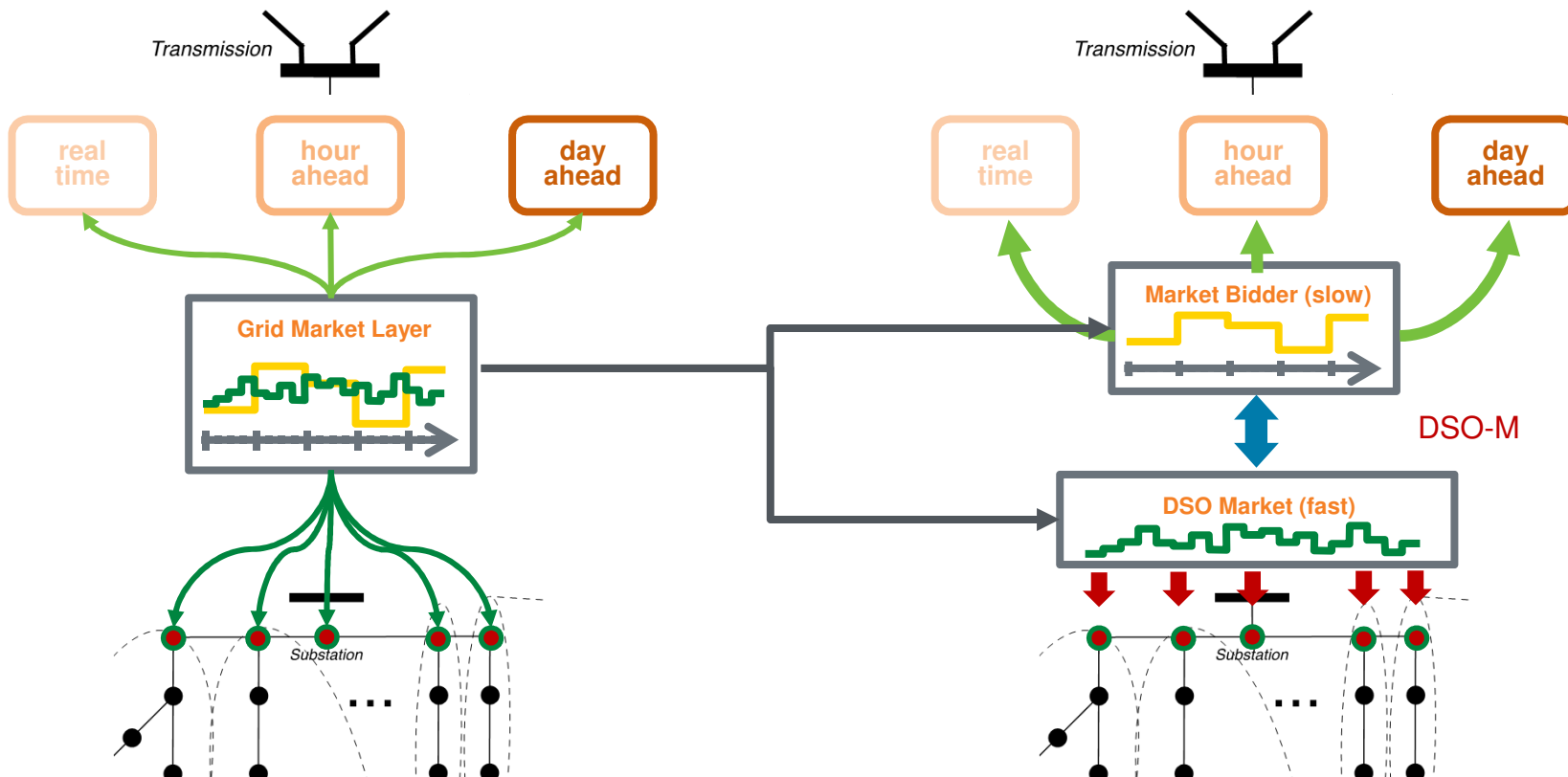


Optimally coordinate feeder resources

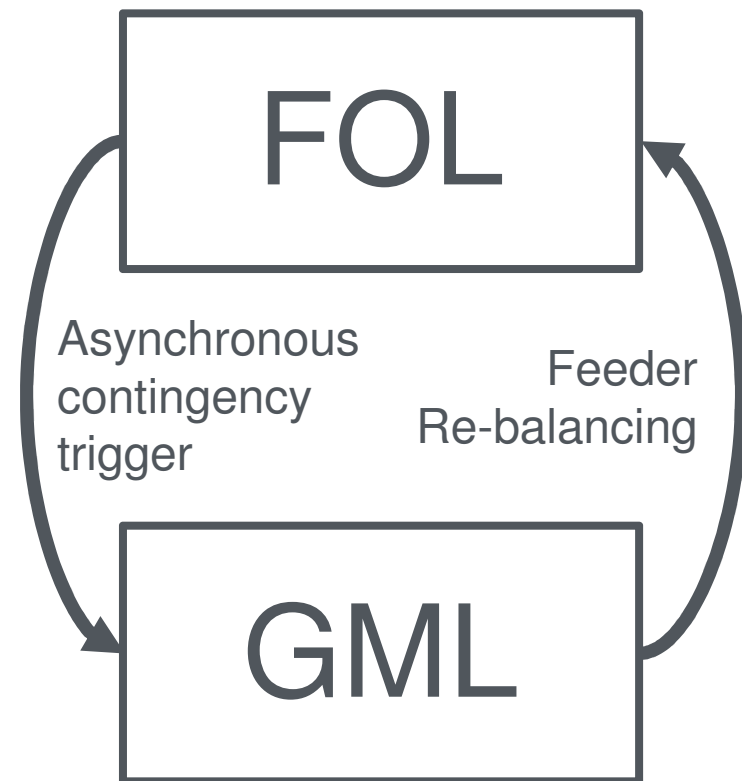
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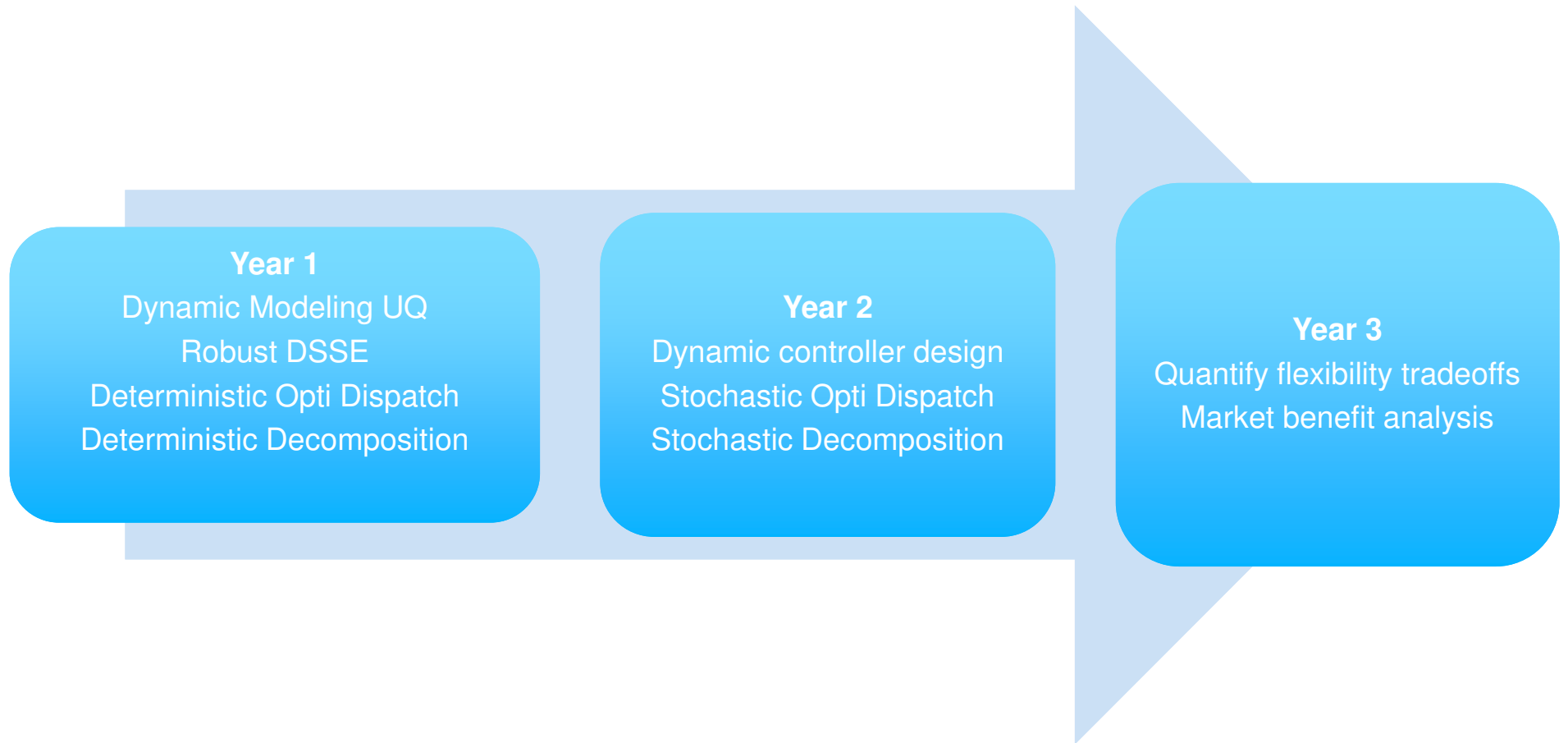
Multi-timescale Decomposition in GML



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Technical Development Plan





- ❖ **UVM** leads project (Almassalkhi, Ossareh, Racherla)
 - power engineering, optimization, control theory, data analytics
 - **open-source software & HiL validation**
- ❖ **JHU**: optimization & markets (Gayme, Mallada)
 - Optimization, dynamical systems, and energy market design
- ❖ **PNNL**: flexible load modeling (Kundu)
 - Power engineering, control, modeling, **HiL & large-scale validation**
- ❖ **NIST**: **HiL & cyber validation**, dynamical systems
- ❖ **Con Edison (ORU)**: utility partner, **validation** (data+models)

Validation & Demonstration Plan

End of Year 1

Build “Year 2030”
grid scenarios with
real data and input
from ConEd (ORU)
Simulate each level
separately

Early Year 2

Small-scale coupled
software validation
(GridLab-D @ UVM)

Late Year 2

Small-scale coupled
HiL validation (OPAL-
RT @ UVM/NIST)



End of Year 3

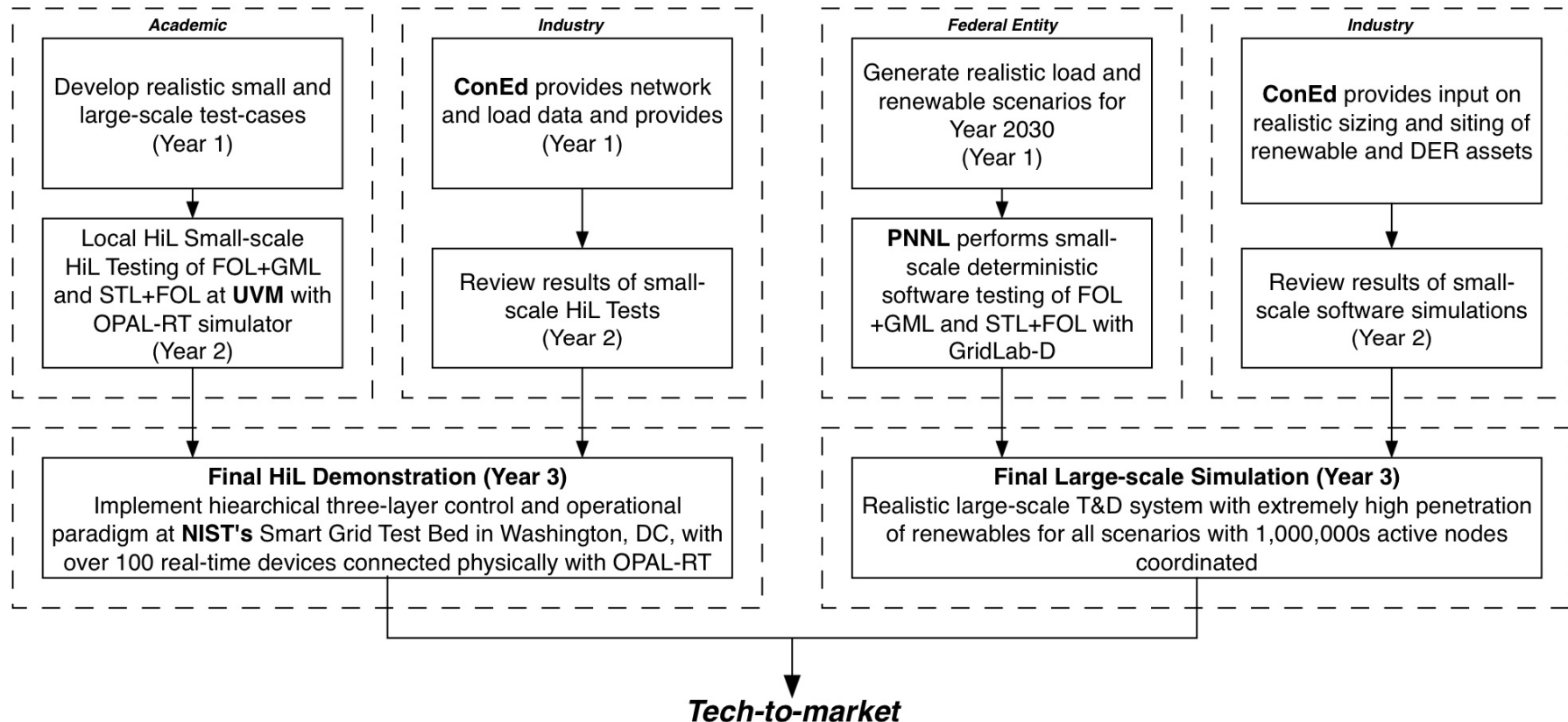
Full-scale HiL and
large-scale software
validations

Validation & Demonstration Plan

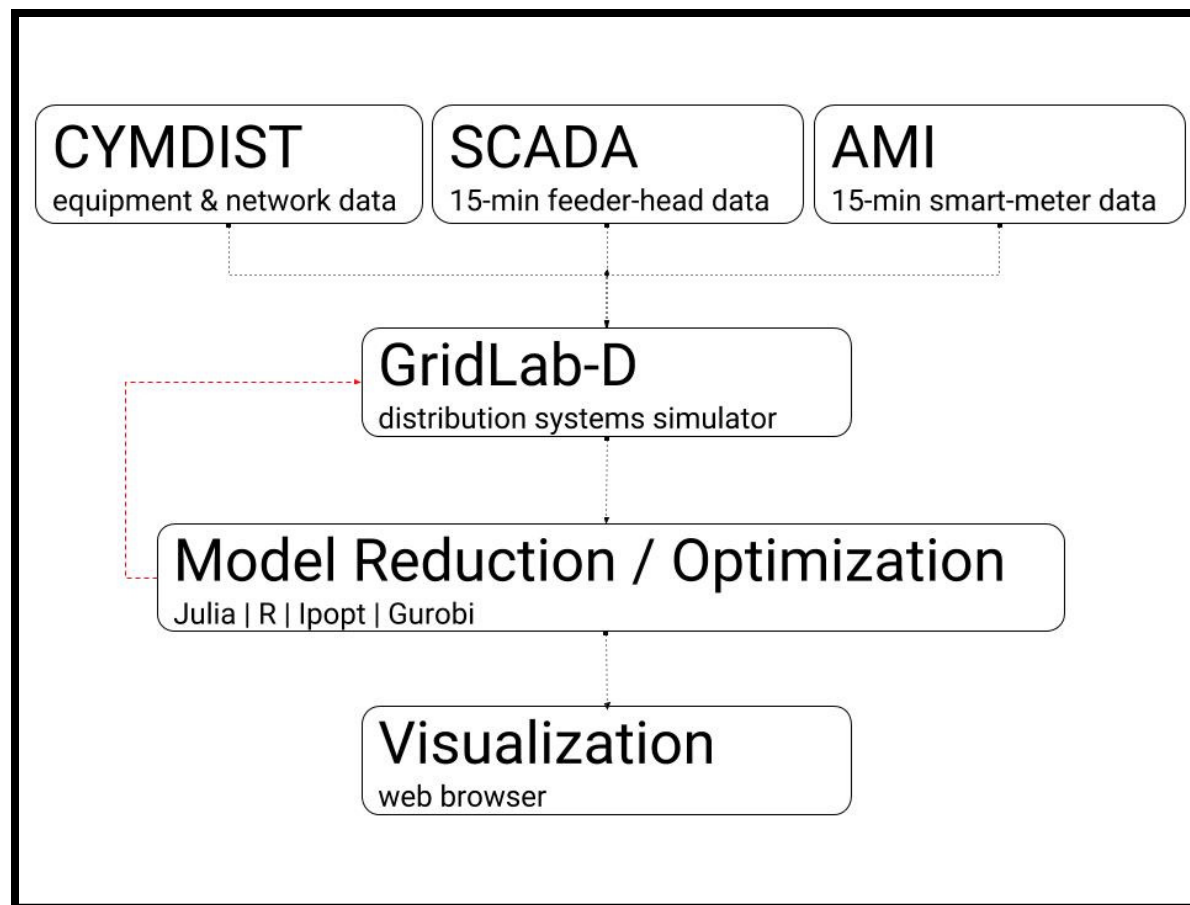


Hardware-in-the-loop testing

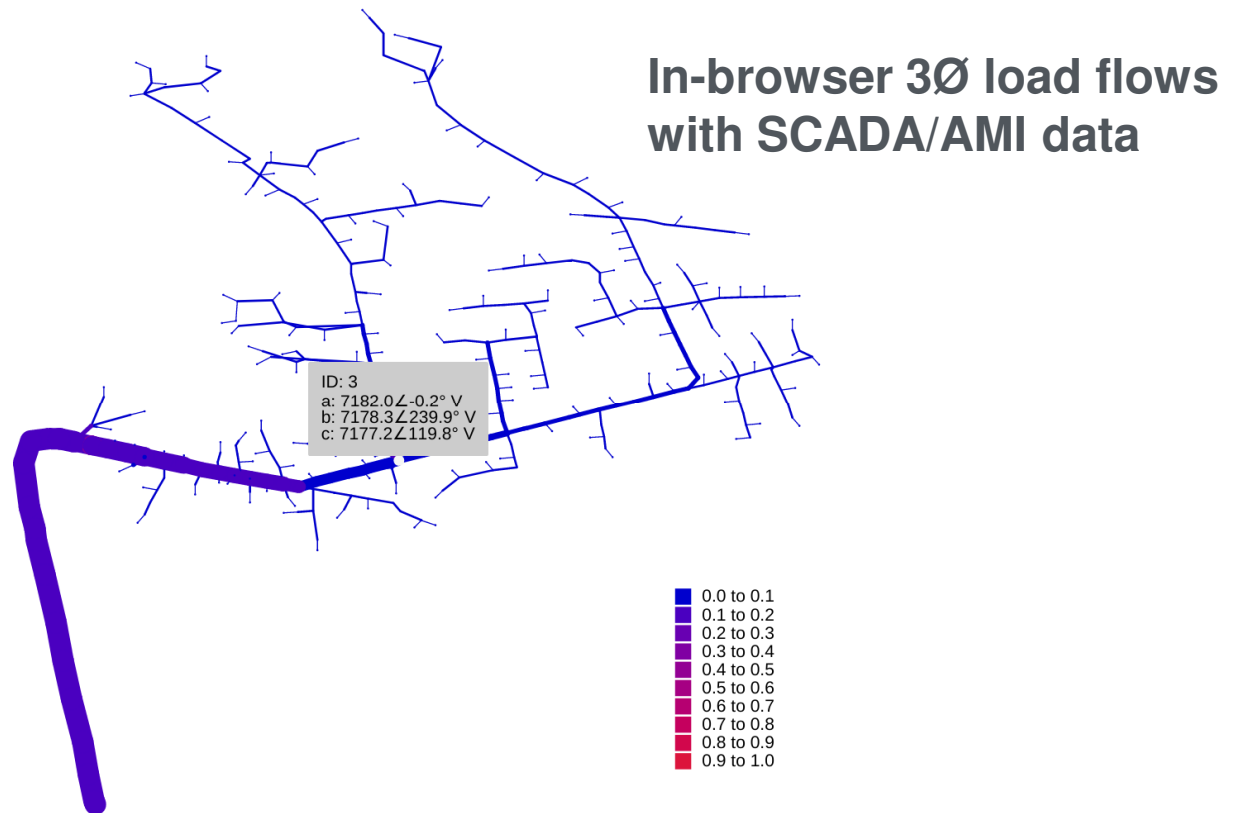
Large-scale simulations



UVM's interactive distributed grid analytics (iDGA) platform



UVM's interactive distributed grid analytics (iDGA) platform



Computation cycles & device time res

- FOL is main challenge but < 1 minute
- SOCP-hot start solution → secs on Gurobi
- NLP 3Ø solver from hot-start → secs on IPOPT for good feasible solution
- Leverage feedback to speed up solve time

Cyber security standards

- *Inf-TESLA* multicast auth @ NIST
 - Can bake into simulation environment
- Leverage PNNL projects on cyber-secure integration of DERs (e.g., B2G test-bed)

Response time

- STL responds to small imbalances in RT
- STL responds to set-point changes < 10s
- FOL responds to set-point changes < 1m
 - These are all within specs

DER sensing and control standards

- PNNL's VOLTTRON allows energy mngt
 - EV, HVAC, building loads, DERs
- NIST Testbed set up for DER compliance tests
 - Well-suited for P-Q control algos
 - Helpful for STL and FOL (incl. dynamics tests)

Comparison with FOA objectives

Performance Metric	FOA Metric	Proposed Target
Solution components	Subset of layers	Device & Enhanced layers
HiL Validation	> 10 ² physical nodes	> 10 ² with OPAL-RT
Software Validation	> 10 ⁶ virtual nodes	> 10 ⁶ with GridLab-D
Scalability (Feeders)	1000	>1000
Scalability (Active nodes)	1,000,000	>1,000,000
Computation cycle (Real-time)	1 minute	< 1 minute
Computation cycle (Planning)	5 minutes	< 5 minutes
Device Time resolution (Real-time)	1 second	1 seconds
Device Time resolution (Planning)	1 minutes	1 minutes
Response time (local: STL)	< 10 seconds	Real-time
Response time (network: FOL)	< 30 seconds	< 30 seconds
Response time (system: GML)	< 1 minute	< 1 minutes
DSSE Observability	>99%	100%
Power Flows	Multiple substations	Multiple substations
OPF Objectives	Techno-economic	Techno-economic
Predictive Control	Real-time planning	Real-time planning
Prescriptive Control	Operational planning	Operational planning

Thank you! Questions? Comments?



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