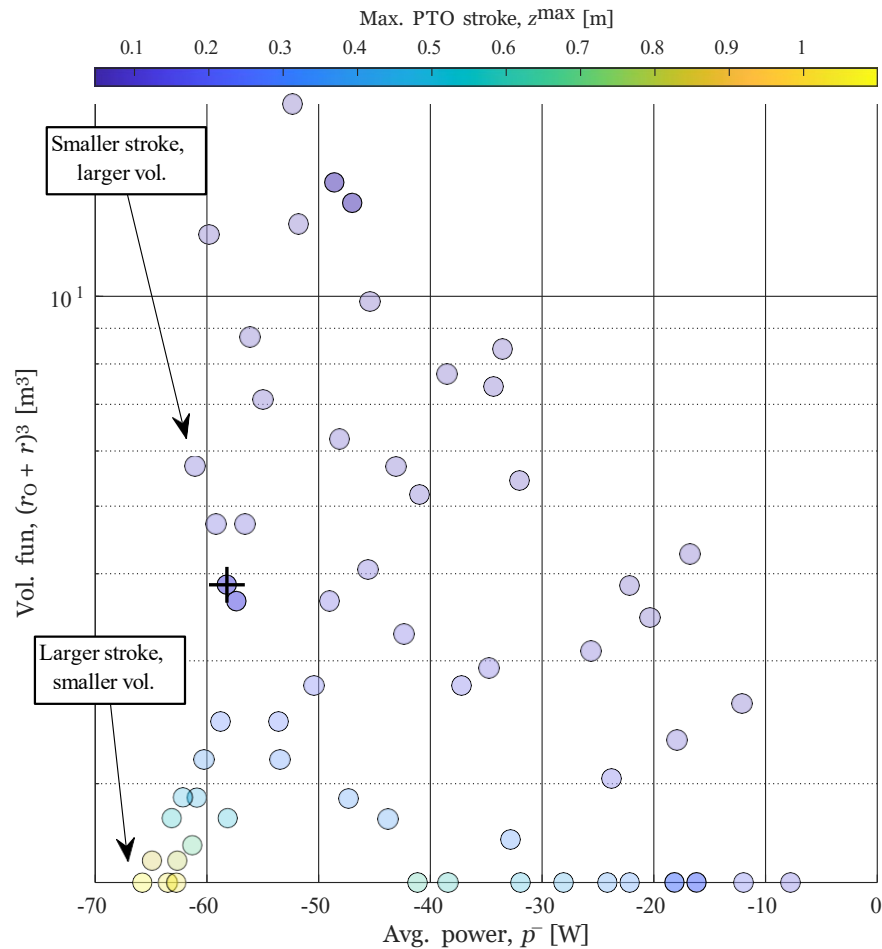


## 2.1.3.704 – WEC Design Optimization



Presenter(s): Ryan Coe, Giorgio Bacelli  
Organization(s): Sandia National Labs

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Presentation Date: July 20, 2022

# Project Overview

## Project Summary

WEC developers need faster, more robust, analytical design approaches/tools, utilizing optimization algorithms. This project seeks to overcome these critical issues in WEC design by creating a hybrid optimization system that simultaneously optimizes geometry and controls of existing WEC concepts.

## Intended Outcomes

The WEC design optimization tool developed by this project is applicable for all resonating WEC devices and is available on an open-source platform for free, giving developers a means of performing rapid and holistic design optimization studies to improve performance and reduce LCOE.

## Project Information

### Principal Investigator(s)

- Ryan Coe
- Giorgio Bacelli

### Project Partners/Subs

- AquaHarmonics
- CalWave

### Project Status

Ongoing

### Project Duration

- Project Start Date: July 2018
- Project End Date: Sept. 2024

### Total Costed (FY19–FY21)

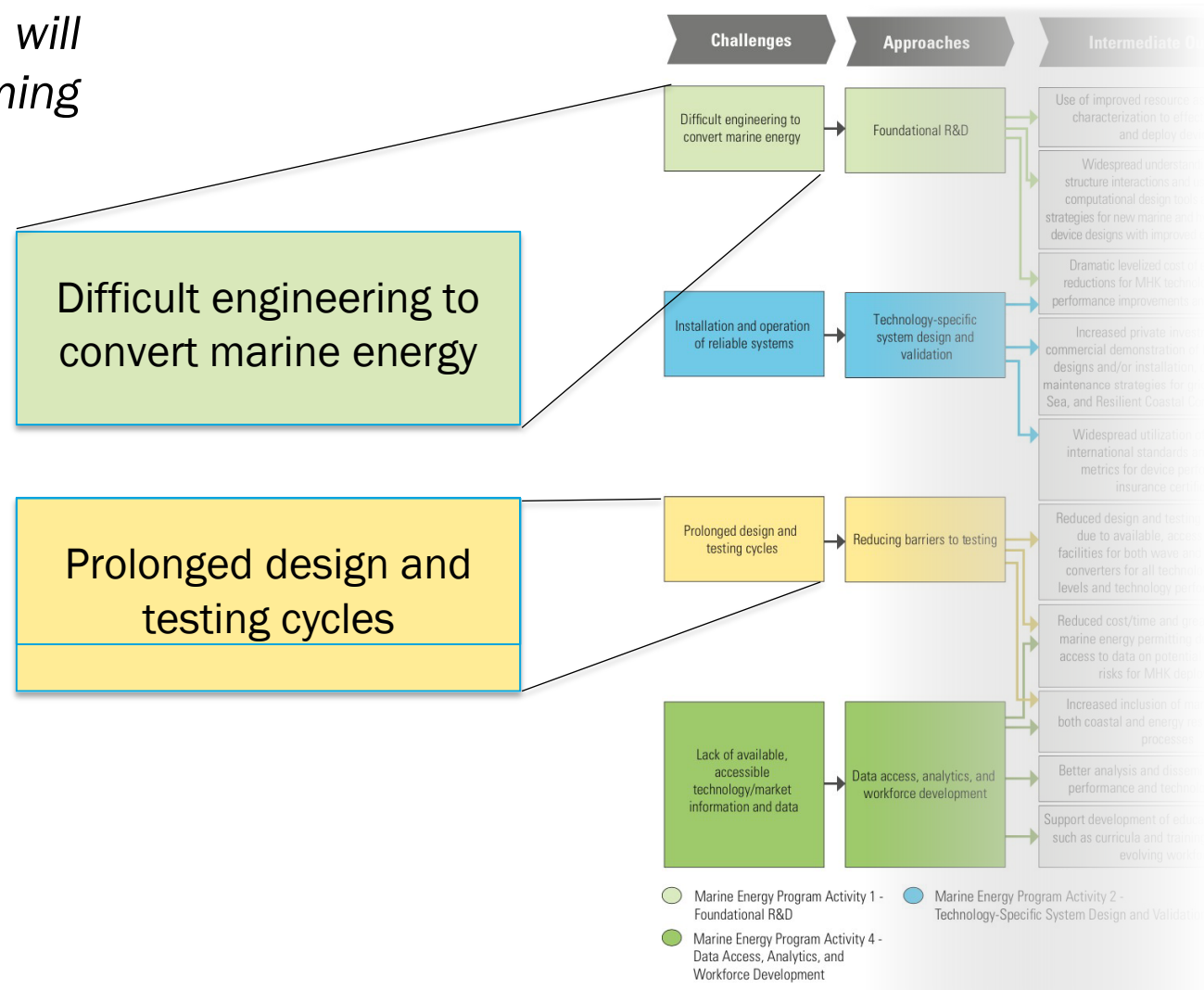
\$482k

# Project Objectives: Relevance

*A holistic tool for WEC modeling, control, and design will streamline design cycles and produce better performing machines*

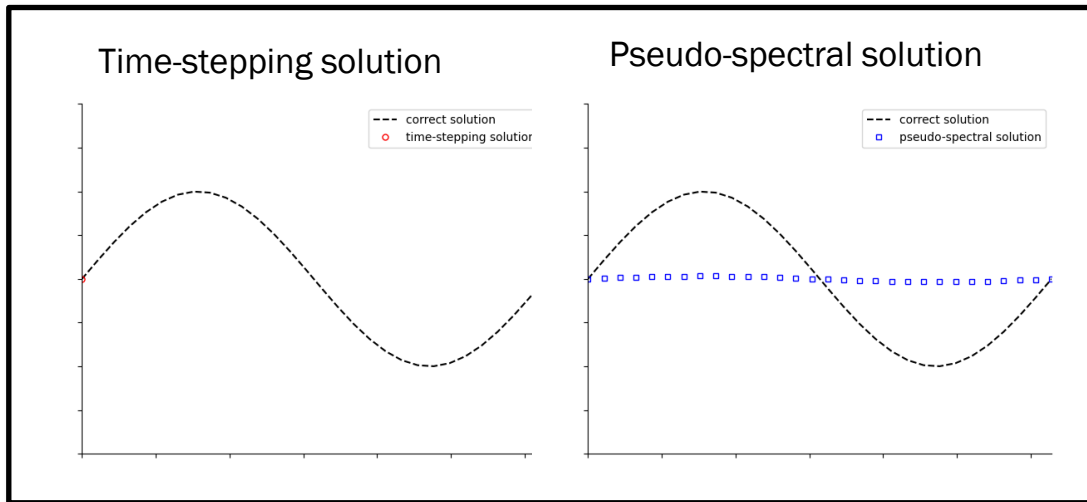
Directly address difficult engineering problems with new theoretical frameworks

Numerical optimization tool allows for fast, complete, and systematic design studies



Multi-Year Program Plan, pg. xv

# Project Objectives: Approach

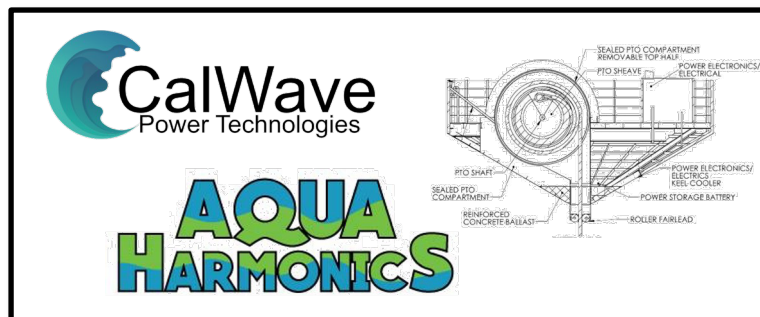


## *Pseudo-spectral solution method*

- *Efficient for constrained problems w. nonlinear dynamics*
- *Find solution and maximize power*
- *Unstructured & structured (e.g., PID) controllers*
- *Model entire “wave-to-wire” system*



*Fully open-source: written in Python (no license fees), available on GitHub (<https://github.com/SNL-WaterPower/WecOptTool>)*



*Direct collaboration with developers helps tailor tool for realist problems*

# Project Objectives: Expected Outputs and Intended Outcomes

## Outputs:

- Peer-reviewed journal articles and technical reports
- Presentations and webinars
- Open-source code

## Outcomes:

- Developers have access to holistic modeling and design tool
- More efficient and effective design cycles
- Higher performance and lower cost WECs

# Project Timeline

FY 2019

- WaveSparc coordination – Meeting WaveSparc team to discuss plans for this project and coordinate efforts/communication
- v0 release – Release a beta version of the WEC Design Optimization Toolbox
- Webinar – Host a public webinar demonstrating usage of the WEC Design Optimization Toolbox

FY 2020

- Select industry partner – Select an industry partner for case study and establish necessary CRADA, etc. for guarding proprietary information
- v1 release & webinar – Release fully functional version of WecOptTool

FY 2021

- User survey – complete a survey of at least 5 potential or current users to get feedback
- Transition to Python (from MATLAB)
- Add automatic differentiation (better handling of high-dimensionality problems relevant in industry collaborations)

# Project Budget

FY19	FY20	FY21	Total Actual Costs FY19–FY21
Costed	Costed	Costed	Total Costed
\$190K	\$172K	\$120K	\$482K

COVID impacts

- Personnel availability

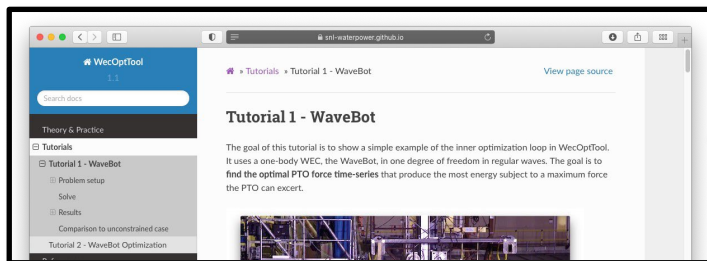
WecOptTool utilized to support

- FOA1663
- FOA1837
- FOA2080
- WEC Co-Design

# End-User Engagement and Dissemination



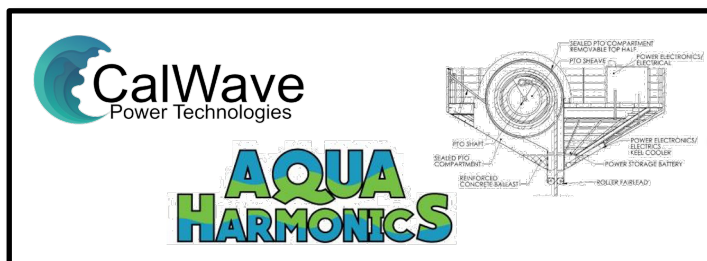
*Open-source tool for WEC developers and researchers to apply to their own problems, request features, and contribute*



*Open-source case-studies to investigate application of design optimization tool and showcase usage*



*Webinars to demonstrate usage and receive user feedback*



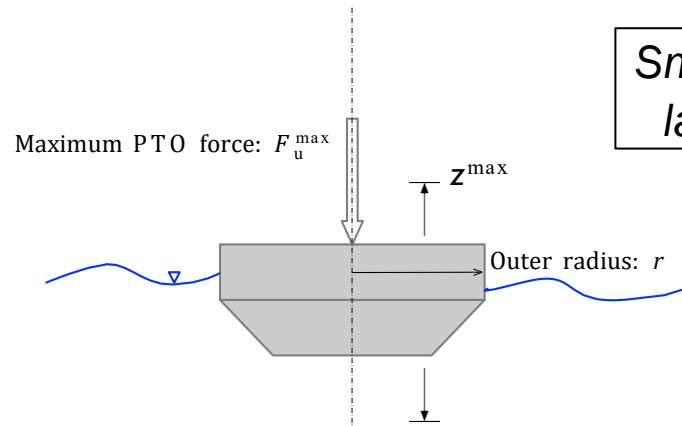
*Developer collaborations and published case-studies when possible*

Downloads: 3k+  
Paper reads: 1.4k+  
Webinar attendees: 100+



# Performance: Accomplishments

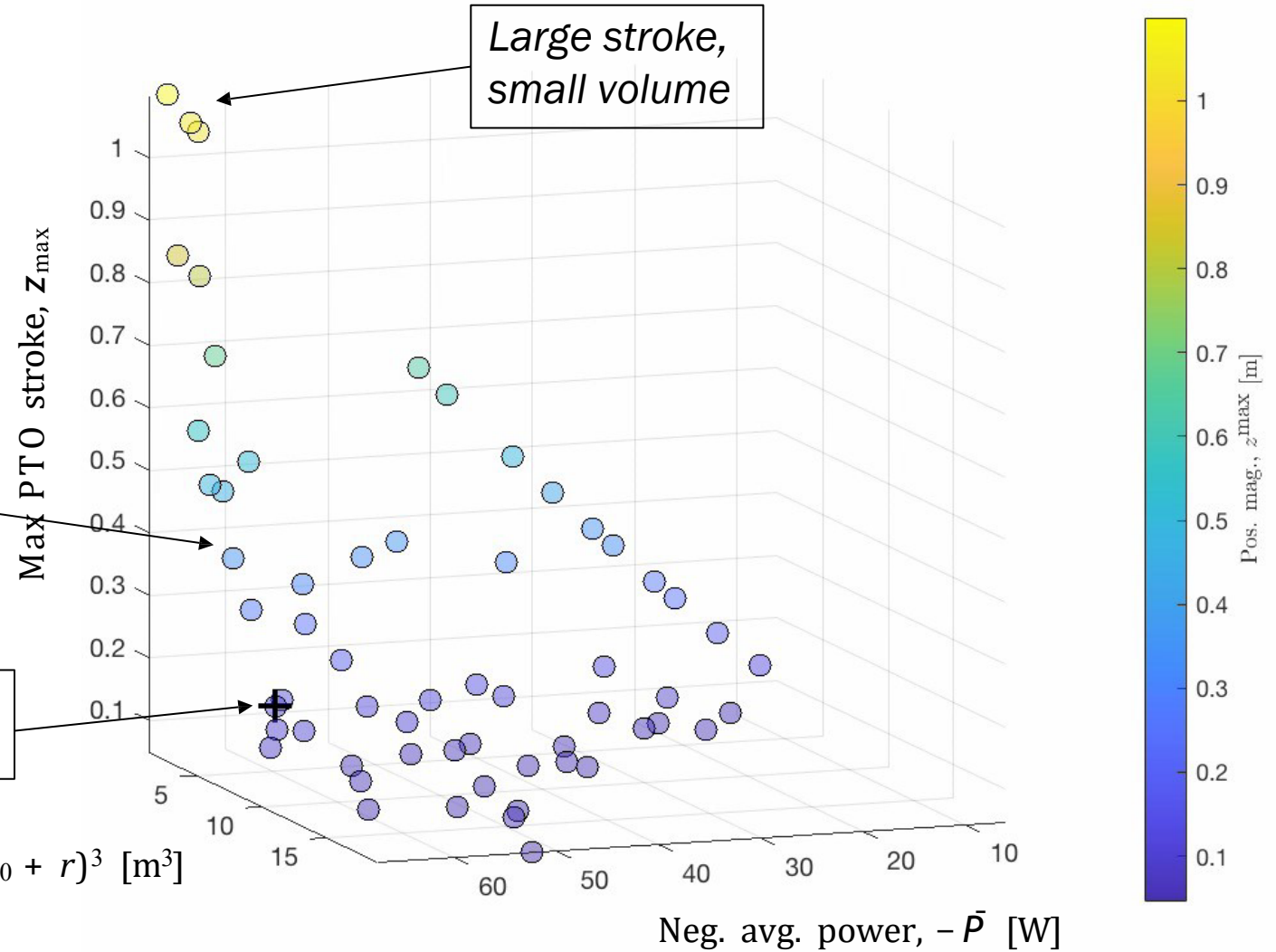
Varying the outer radius and  
 PTO stroke from the power, volume\*,  
 and PTO stroke  
 $\text{maximize } P_{avg}$   
 $\text{subject to } r \in [0.1, 1] \rightarrow 10^3$   
 $z_{max} \in [0, 1]$



Smaller stroke,  
larger volume

"knee in  
the curve"

Vol. fun,  $(r_0 + r)^3$  [m<sup>3</sup>]

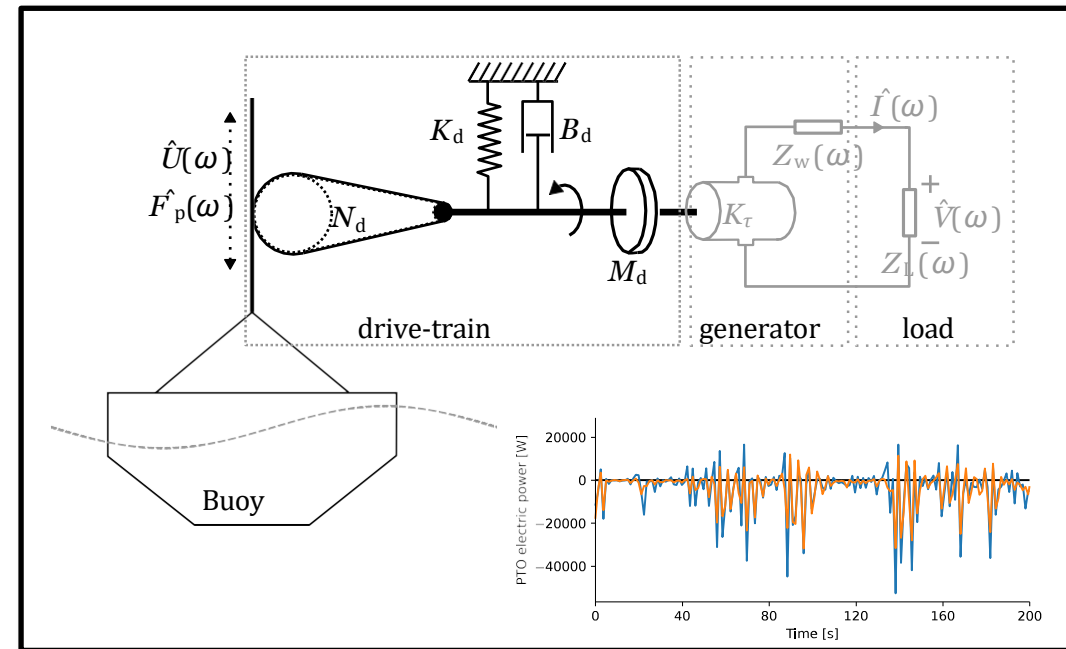


tackle challenging engineering problems

Coe et al. Initial conceptual demonstration of control co-design for WEC optimization. *J. Ocean Eng. Mar. Energy* 6, 441–449 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40722-020-00181-9>

# Performance: Accomplishments and Progress

Fully-feature power take-off system modeling now allows users to optimize designs for electrical power



CalWave, with help from EverGreen Innovations, is using WecOptTool to model their device

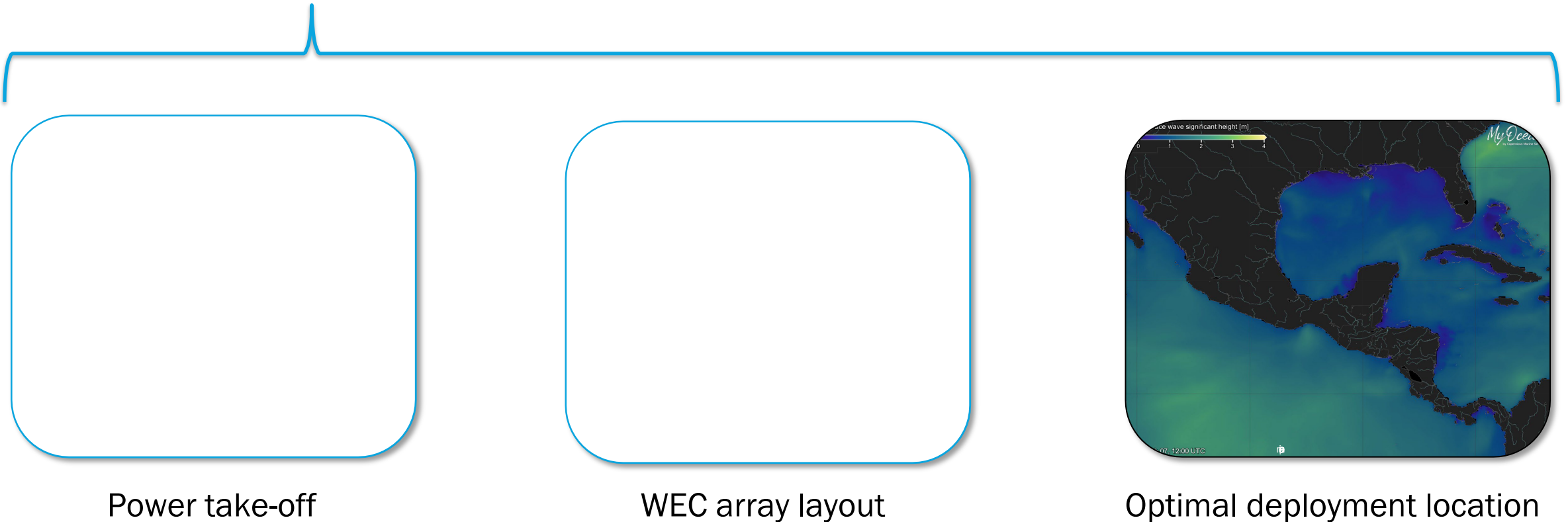
- Good agreement with existing models
- Initial results for improved control tuning are promising

faster design cycle timelines

developer access to open-source tools

# Future Work

- Engage users through outreach and dissemination
- Investigate fundamental cross-cutting design concepts
- Explore and expand capabilities



# Q&A