



JO Electrification TA from INL - CalderaCast

June 2024

Changing the World's Energy Future

Timothy David Pennington



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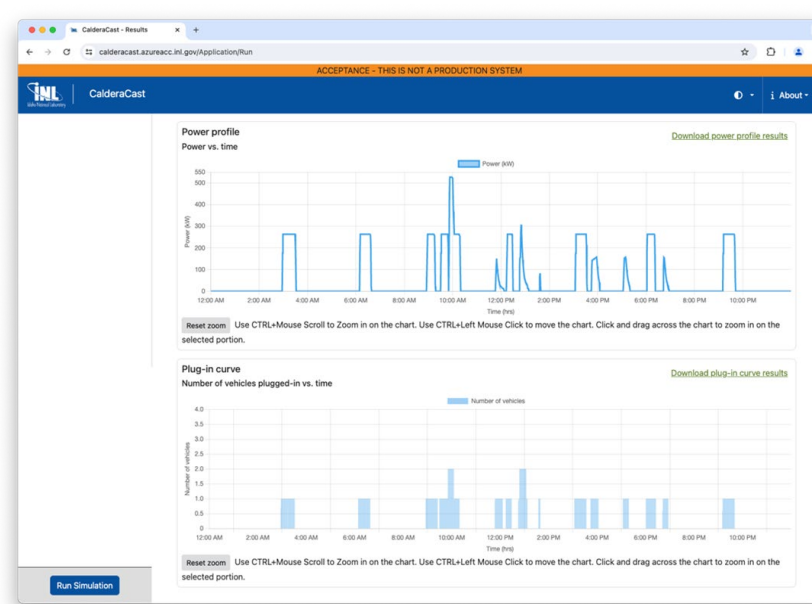
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June 2024

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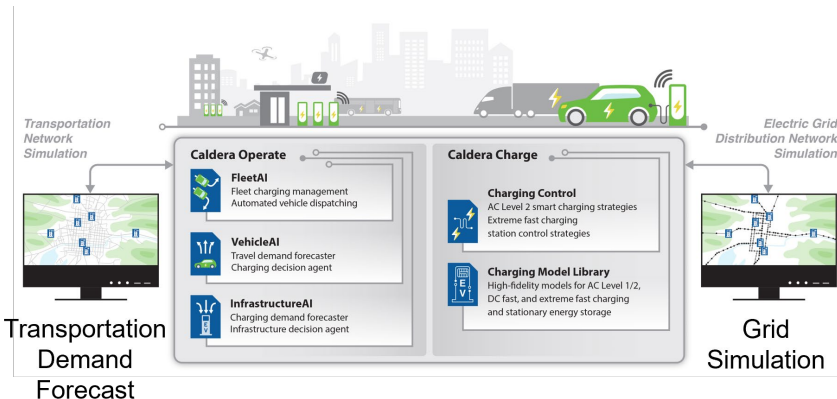
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JOET009

June 6, 2024

Timothy D. Pennington
Research Group Lead



JO Electrification TA from INL - CalderaCast (JOET009)

A Public Web Tool for Forecasting Load at Public
Corridor Charging Stations

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CalderaCast Overview

Objective:

- Leverage INL's Caldera simulation platform to provide a publicly available web tool for forecasting electric load at proposed Electric Vehicle Charging Stations along Alternative Fuel Corridors.
- This will allow stakeholders to independently evaluate potential vehicle demand and electric load of a station they are considering operating, funding, planning, or providing electrical grid connection for.

Timeline: (2 years)

Start Date: October 2022

End Date: September 2024

Budget: \$1.4M Total for FY23 & 24

Progress: 85% Complete

Partners:

- Coordinating with PNNL on related tool development.
- Substantial stakeholder input and testing by utilities, state agencies, potential charging station operators, and related industry groups.

CalderaCast Relevance

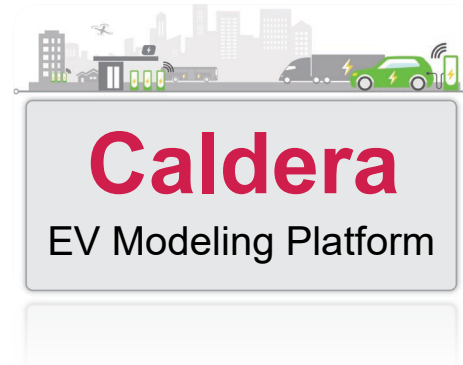
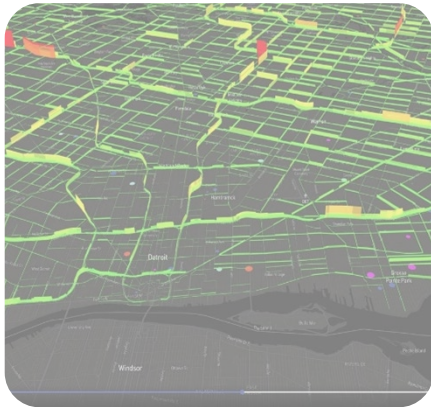
- Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure is expanding rapidly with significant support from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).
- However; many state agencies, utilities, and potential charging station operators tasked with implementing new stations have little or no prior experience with this particular and unique type of electric load.
- Estimating the vehicle demand, and resulting electrical load is a necessary part of properly planning these stations to ensure: state usage/coverage goals, utility interconnections, and business operating plans.
- Caldera is an INL developed simulation platform previously used to research potential electric load from future EV charging. CalderaCast makes that capability available outside of the lab to users with basic information about proposed charging stations.

Approach: Caldera Background

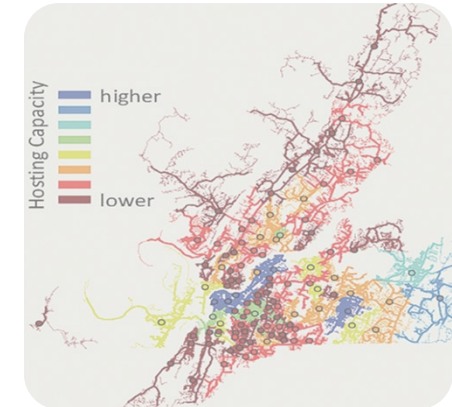
Why Caldera?

Caldera is the “Missing Link” to understanding EV charging demand and providing solutions to satisfy energy needs

Transportation Models



Energy System Models



Simulating mobility

Existing tools lack understanding of grid topology, power availability, charging cost information, detailed charge profiles

Linking Transportation and Grid Tools

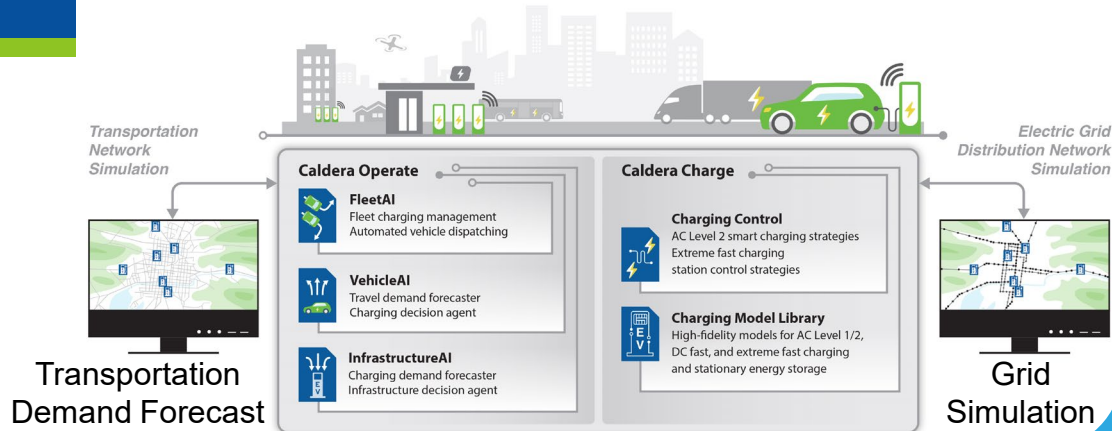
Demonstrates EV charging effects and illustrates system optimization by co-simulating both grid and driving conditions

Simulating distribution and traditional loads

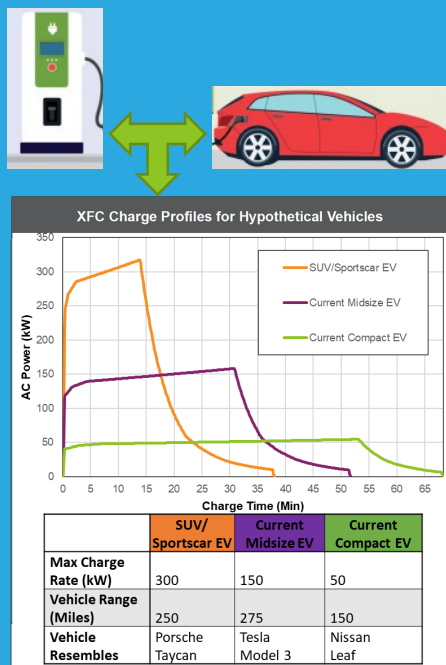
Existing tools lack understanding of when and where EVs will charge, detailed load profiles, effects of control strategies

Approach: Caldera Background

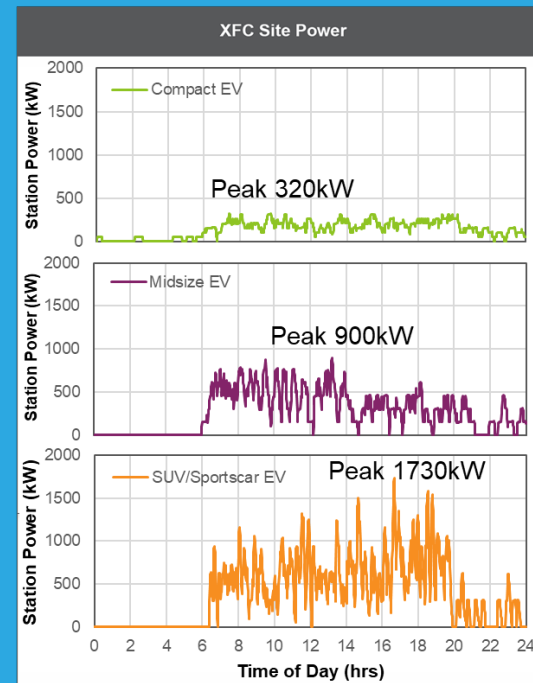
Electric Vehicle & Infrastructure Decision Management Simulation Platform



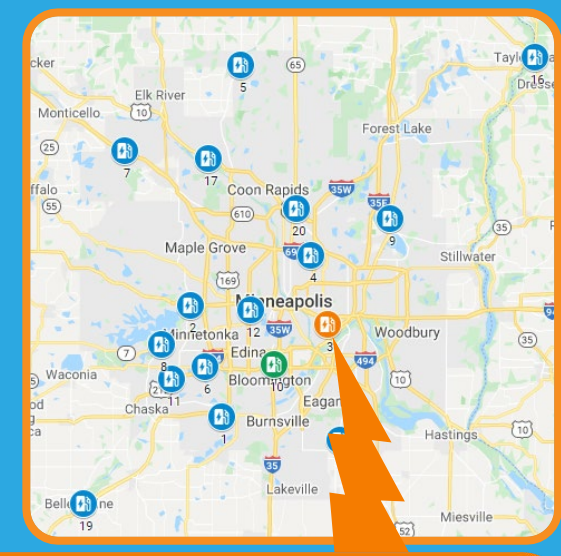
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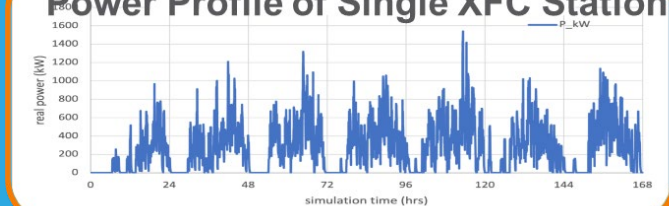
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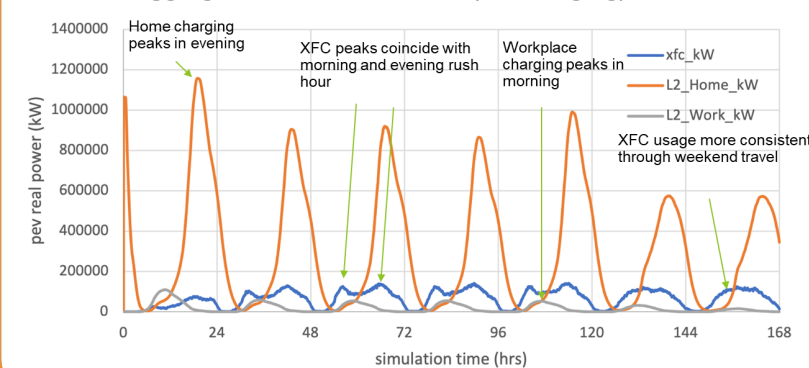
3



Power Profile of Single XFC Station



Aggregate Power Load Profile (All Charging)

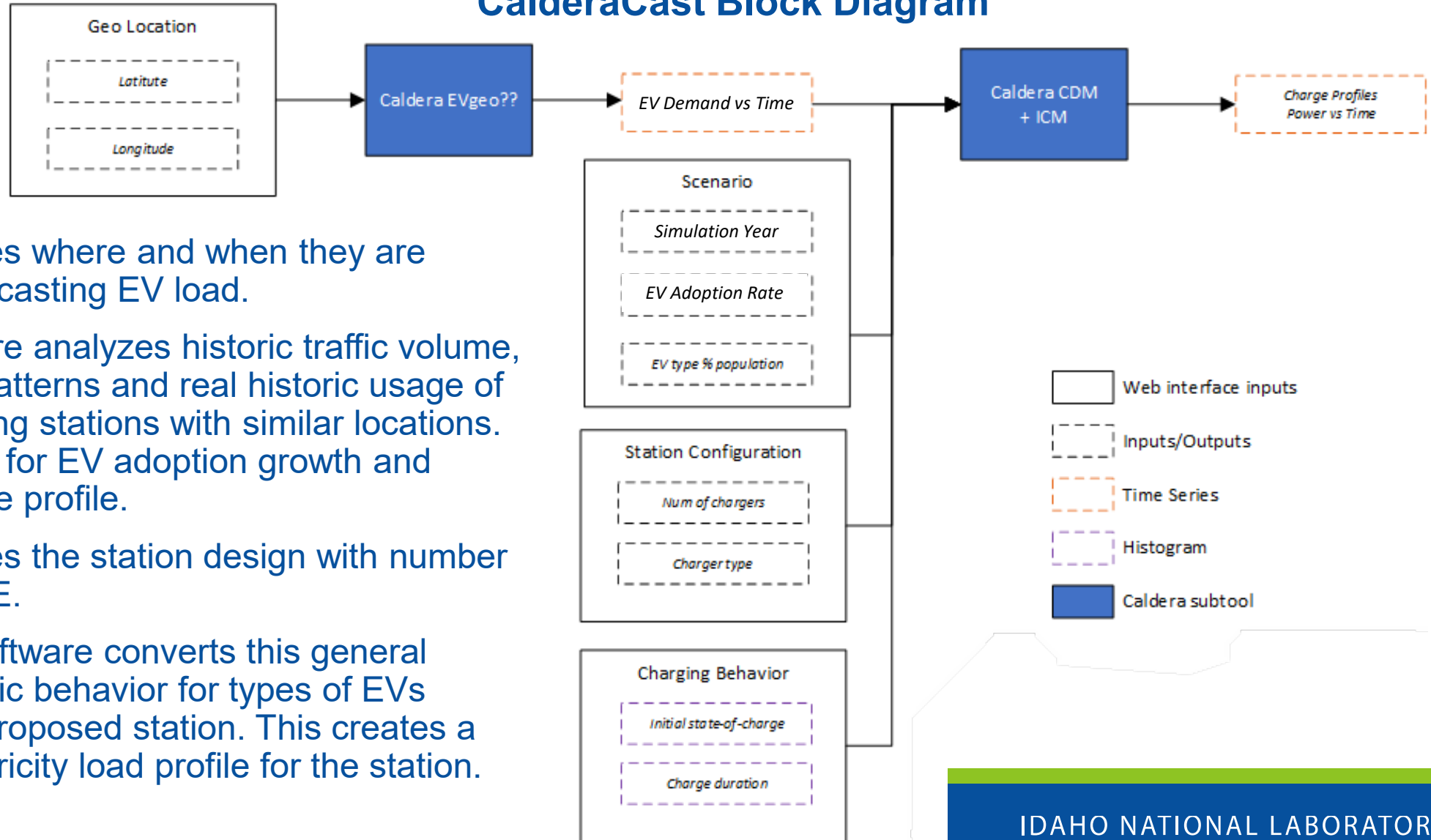


Caldera is an agent-based modeling platform for predicting detailed system impacts and demonstrating intelligent management strategies.

Approach

CalderaCast Simulation Workflow

CalderaCast Block Diagram



- The user indicates where and when they are interested in forecasting EV load.
- “EV Geo” software analyzes historic traffic volume, trends in traffic patterns and real historic usage of some EV Charging stations with similar locations. Adds forecasting for EV adoption growth and produces a usage profile.
- The user indicates the station design with number and type of EVSE.
- “Caldera Sim” software converts this general usage into specific behavior for types of EVs charging at the proposed station. This creates a high-fidelity electricity load profile for the station.

Milestones

Milestone ID	Schedule	Milestone Description	Status
M1.1	FY23 Q1	Set assumptions and locate input data sets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Time
M1.2	FY23 Q2	Complete simulation development, initiate web development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Time
M1.3	FY23 Q3	Web interface for internal review, hosting agreement in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Time
M1.4 (Go/No-Go)	End FY23	CalderaCast ready for deployment on web, promoted to users	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process
M1.5	FY24 Q2	Improvements to CalderaCast deployed to web	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process
M1.6	End FY24	Integrate with other EV Grid Assist tools and deploy to web	<input type="checkbox"/> Future Task

M1.4 – CalderaCast tool development was completed by the team and “beta sessions” were held with seven stakeholders by end of FY23. Feedback and subsequent review processes have necessitated changes primarily to non-simulation related aspects. As of early May 2024 the code has been “locked” and under final cybersecurity review for several months, with only non-functional changes made for approval. Communications and outreach are being planned for the expected launch.

M1.5 – While the website public release has been delayed by reviews and approvals the research team has worked on improvements to accuracy, coverage, and user experience. These improvements will be deployed soon after site release and will initiate our continuous improvement deployment process.

Technical Accomplishments

Stakeholder Outreach and Beta Volunteer Engagement

- Previously held 3 “Listening Sessions” including NEVI stakeholders
- Received very useful feedback:
 - More than half have never done EV infrastructure before
 - Majority use nameplate power rating, some use static derating, some have proprietary method
 - Interested in the “average daily peak power” as well as the range of power profiles



3 sessions
[DEC. 14, 2022
DEC. 15, 2022
JAN. 11, 2023]

193 participants

39 States represented
1 District represented
2 Countries represented

STAKEHOLDERS

• Federal and State DOTs
• State Energy Centers
• Utilities

• National Labs
• Charging Station Operators
• National orgs – NRECA, NRUC, etc.



KEY

● DOT ● Energy Office ● Utilities ● Other

- Held 3 “Beta Sessions” in September
- 7 Total Stakeholder Organizations Represented
 - 5 State Agencies
 - 1 Engineering Firm
 - 1 Consumer Advocate Organization

Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

CalderaGeo

EV charging behavior platform

Perform EV stations analytics – Exploratory analysis of EV WATTS data

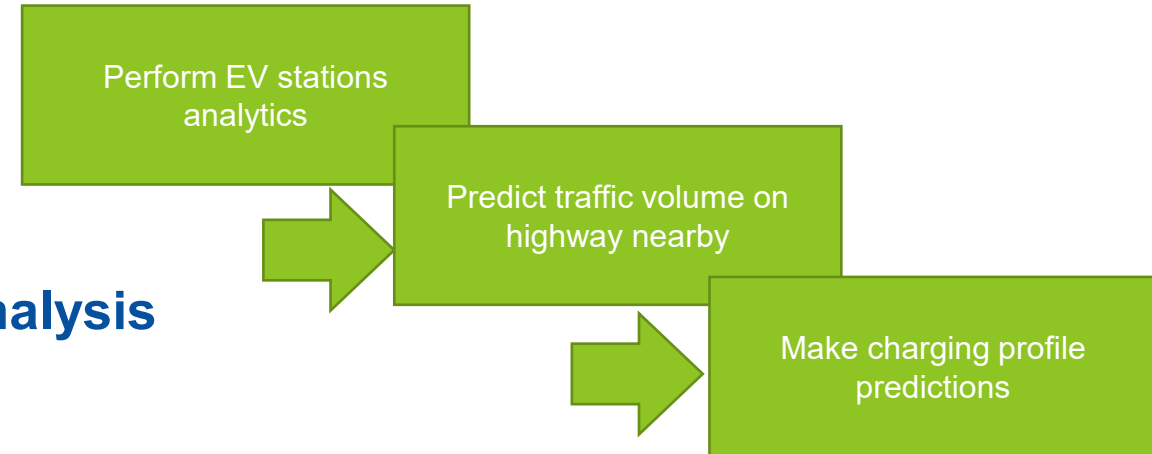
1. Identify stations along the highway
2. Estimate traffic volume in the nearby area
3. Model stations usage profile
4. Build correlation with location, population density and traffic

Predict traffic volume on highway nearby – Estimate traffic counts on highway segment and monitoring stations

1. Specify the location of the proposed EV charging station.
2. Identify the closest TMAP station and surrounding highway segments.
3. Provide traffic predictions

Make charging profile predictions – Predict charging profile

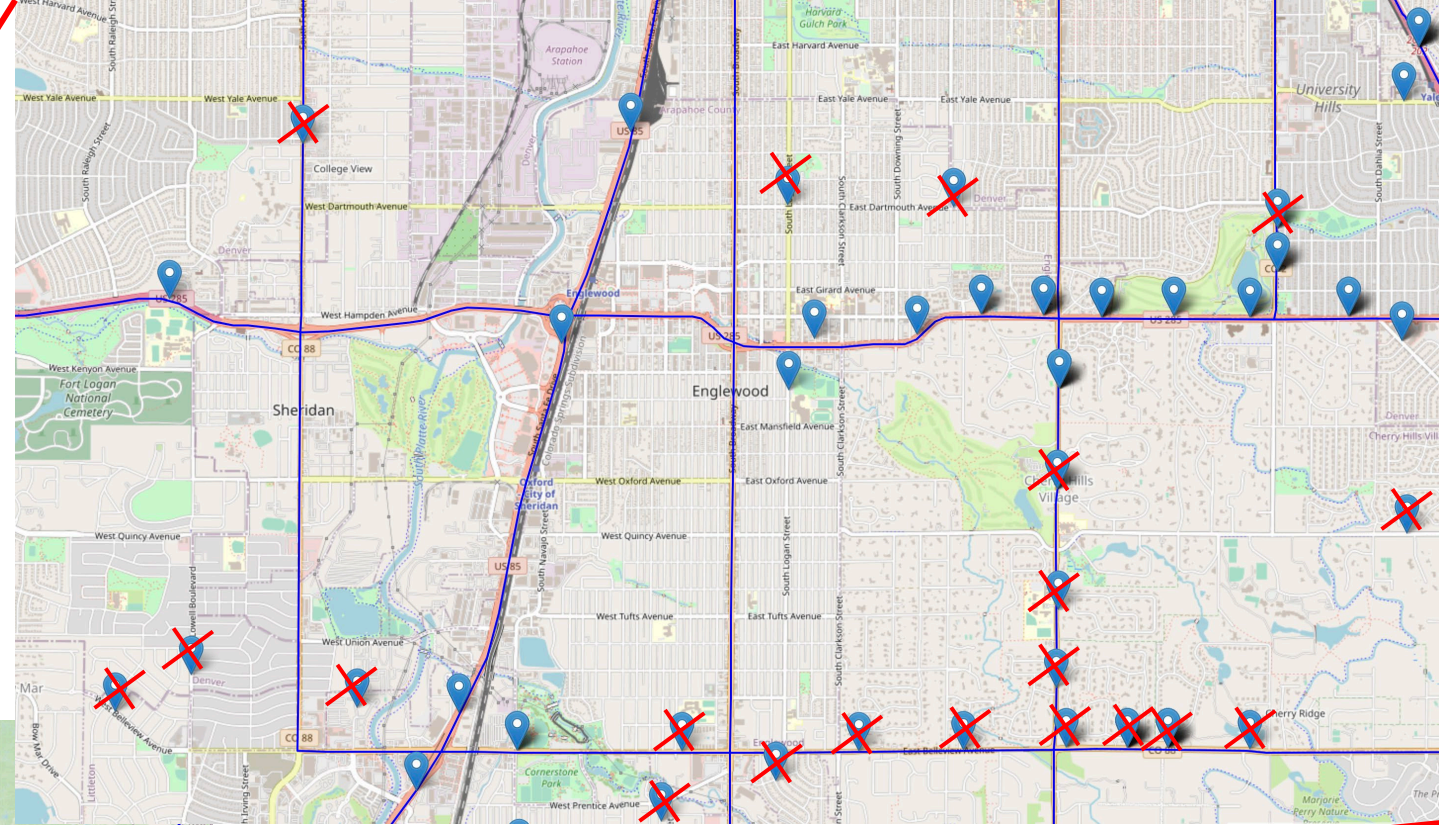
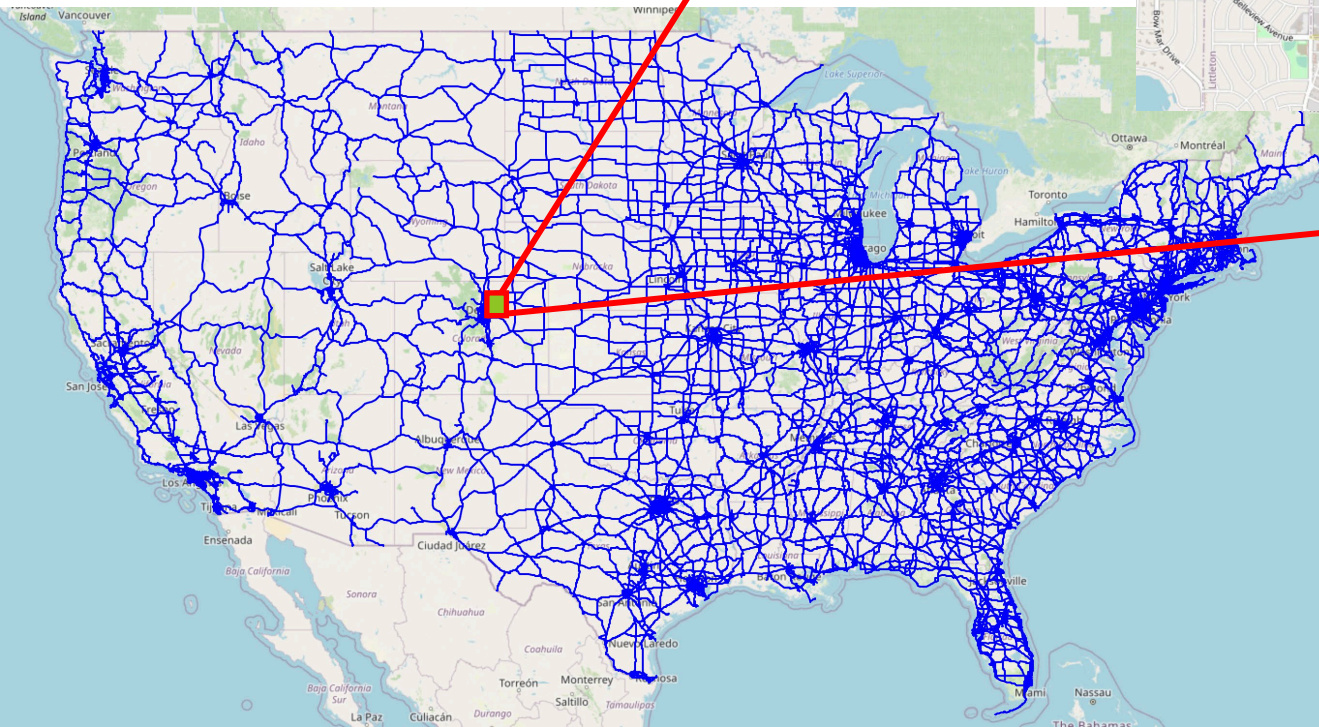
Model potential stations usage profile, considering location population density and traffic predictions made in previous steps



Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Data sources

Main data sources are EV WATTS from Energetics, National Transportation Atlas Database from BTS, Highway Performance Monitoring System from FHWA, and Travel Monitoring Analysis System from USDOT.



EV WATTS STATIONS OF INTEREST

Figure on the left shows the US NHS (National highway system).

Figure on top (blowup of a location in figure on left) shows EV WATTS stations close to corridors. Stations not close to corridors (e.g., home-based) are removed from training set for machine learning.

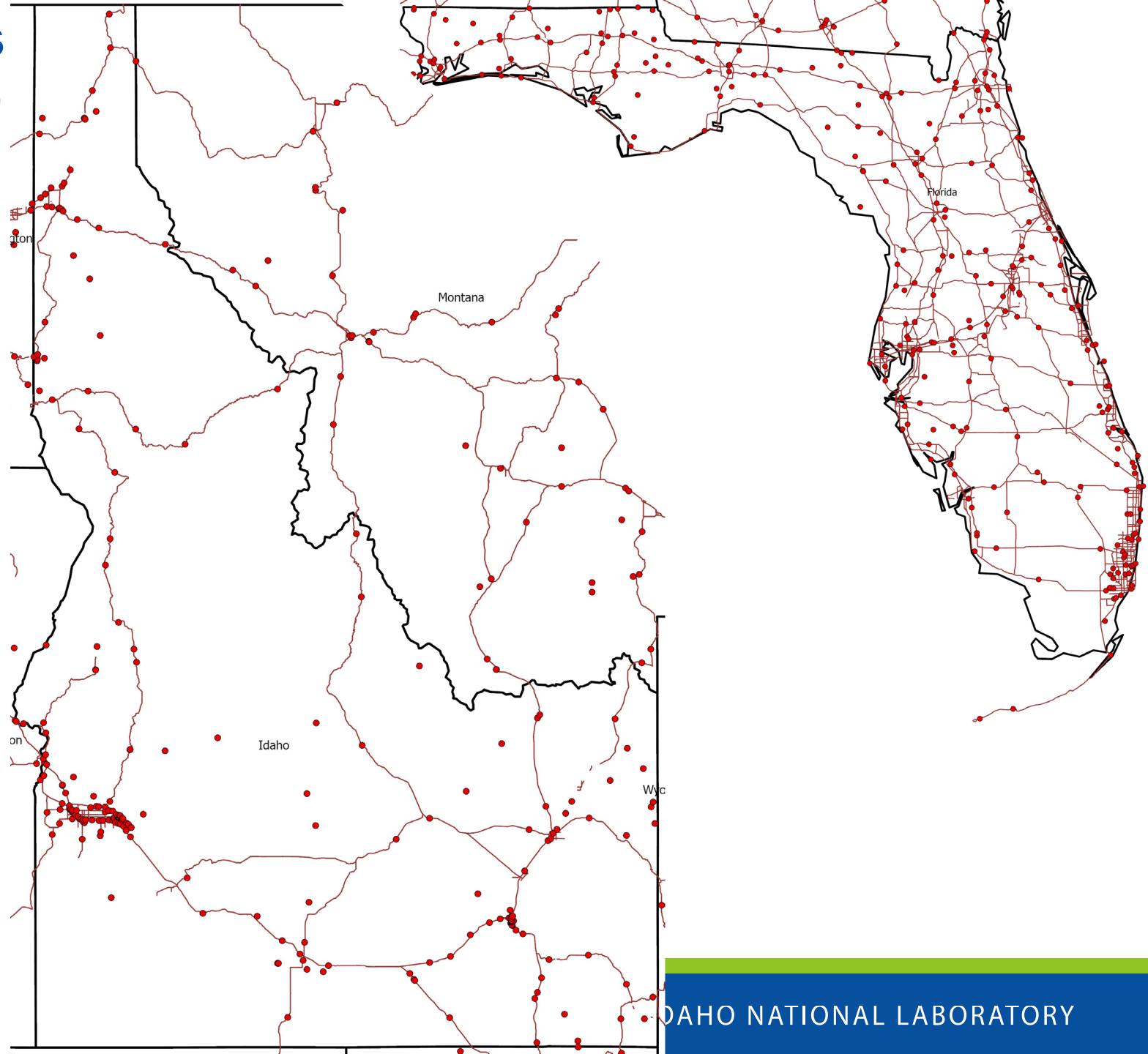
Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Alternative Fuel Corridor Traffic Data Coverage

Travel Monitoring Analysis System

(TMAS) from USDOT has good temporal resolution and national coverage.

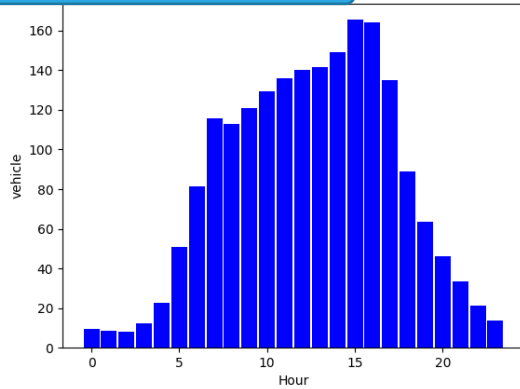
Alignment with Alt Fuel Corridors (AFC) appears good as seen in these maps.



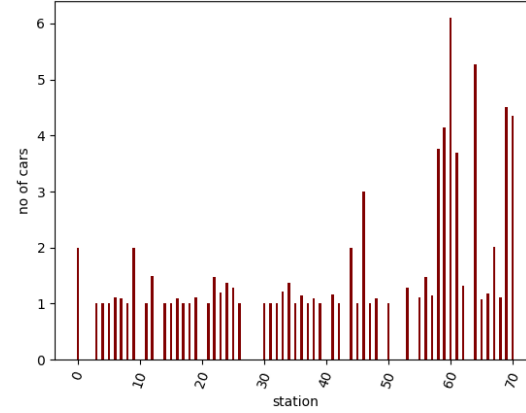
Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Perform EV stations analytics – Exploratory analysis of EV WATTS data

Traffic volume

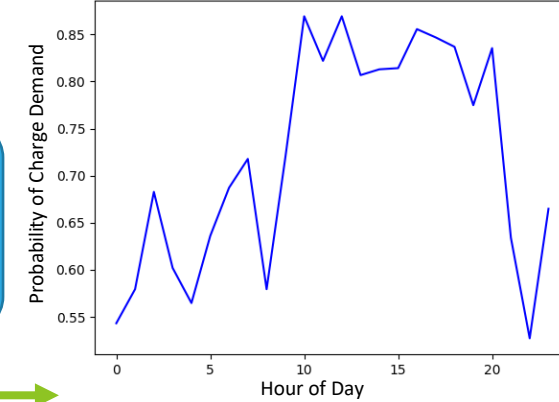


daily average car visits

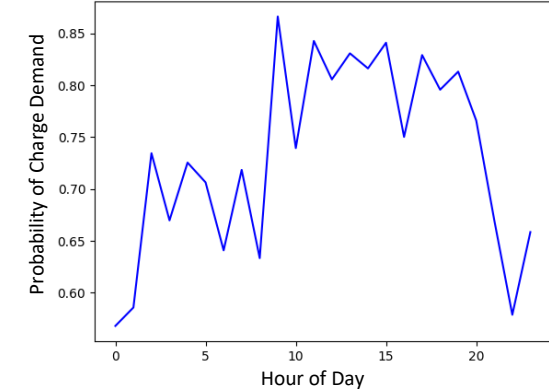


Profiles vary based on location due to difference in traffic volume trends

Charging distribution (station = 70)



Charging distribution (station = 60)



EV station usage profile
+ Average daily charge events
+ Traffic volume on highway nearby

Charging Distribution
+ Binomial Distribution

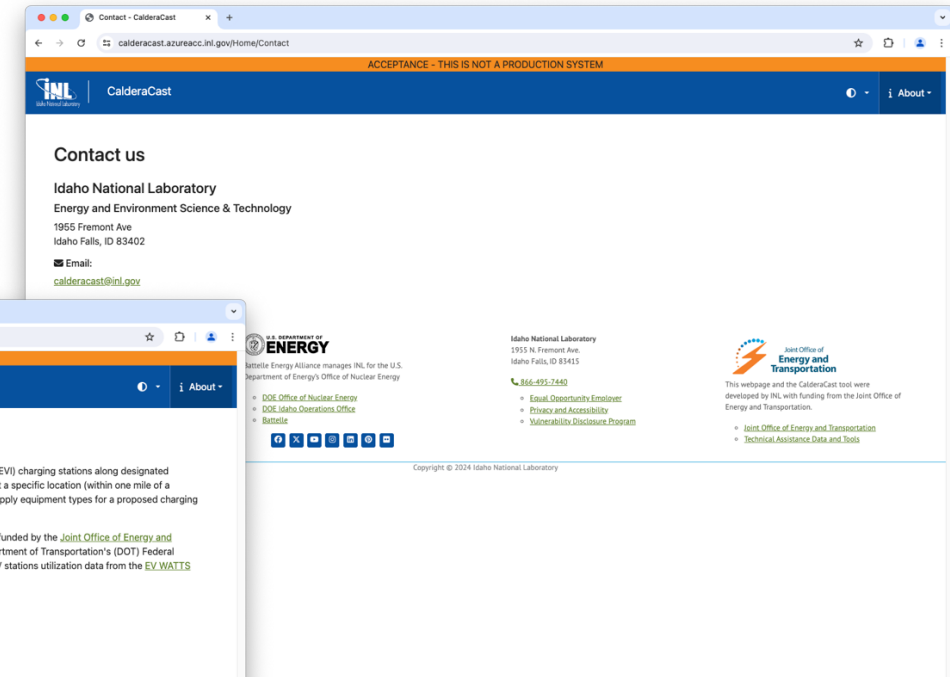
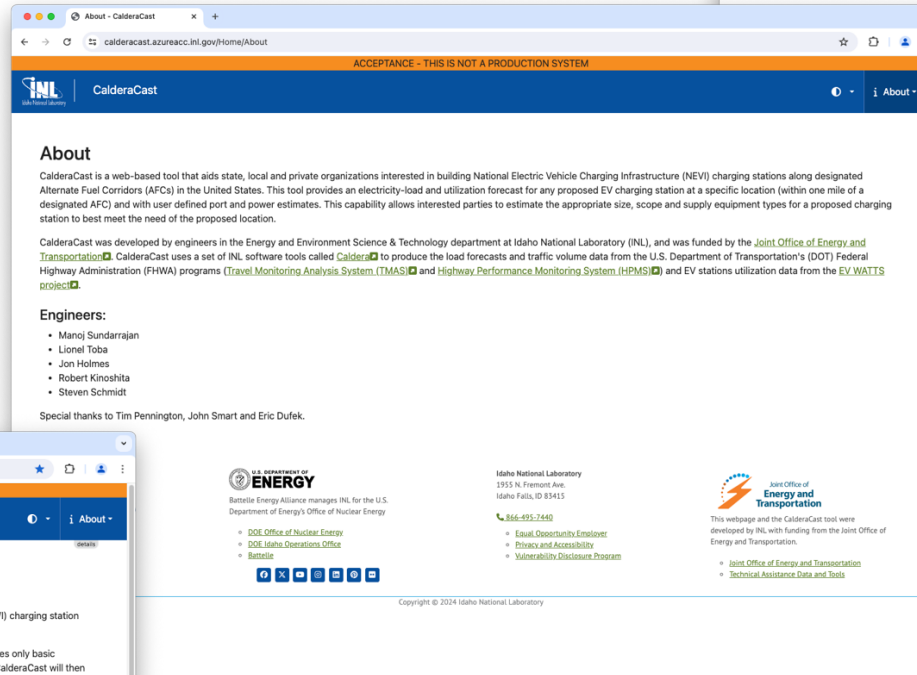
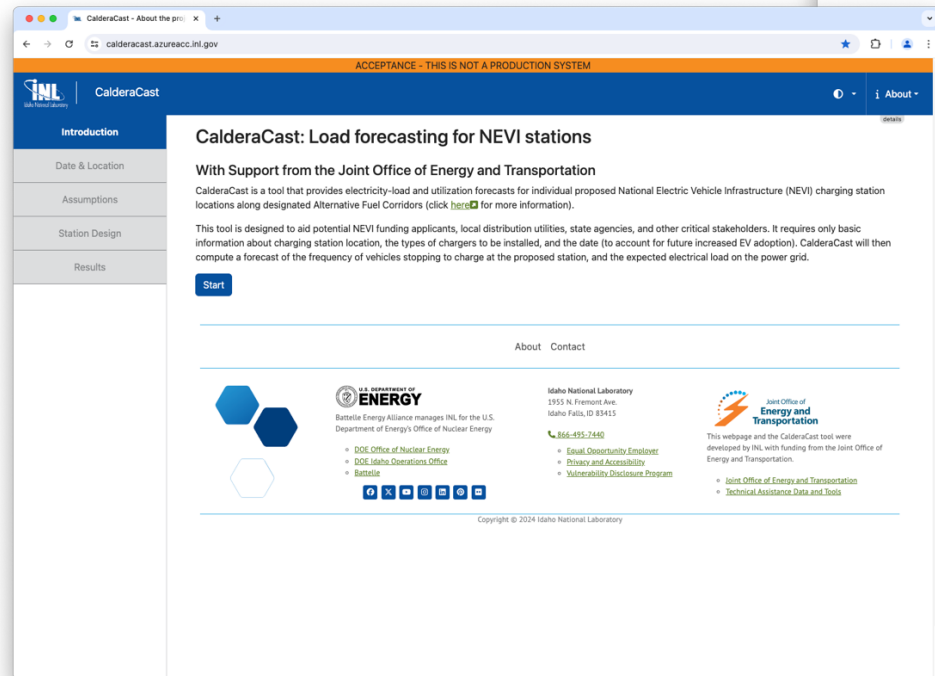
$$P_x = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}$$

where $P[X = x]$ is the probability of x successes (number of charge events) in n trials (traffic volume), each with a probability of p ($q = 1-p$)

Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Website Development

Developing the CalderaCast website has been a crosscutting effort at INL, engaging software and web architects and developers, communications and branding experts, hosting and cybersecurity staff, all in addition to our EV, simulation, and machine learning experts.



The final version of the website, shown here, matches INL, DOE, and JOET style and branding requirements. It begins with background information, an explanation of the team and support, and contact information.

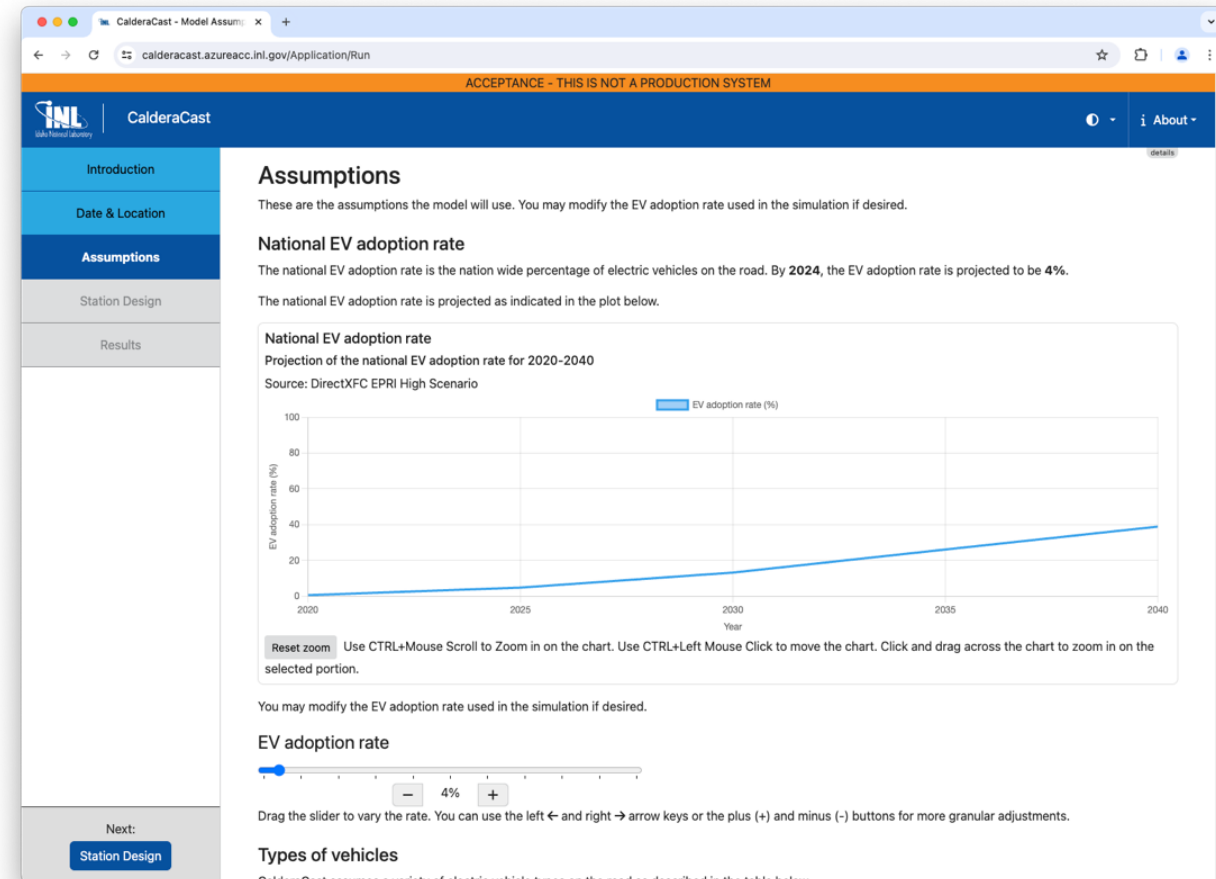
Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Website Development

Once a user clicks “Start” they begin a step-by-step process in the tool, shown on the following slides

The screenshot shows the 'CalderaCast' web application interface. The top navigation bar includes the INL logo and a 'CalderaCast' title. A sidebar on the left contains a menu with 'Introduction', 'Date & Location' (selected), 'Assumptions', 'Station Design', and 'Results'. The main content area is titled 'Date & Location' and contains two sections: 'Date' and 'Location'. The 'Date' section prompts the user to pick a date for the simulation, with a text input field containing '04/17/2024'. The 'Location' section prompts the user to pick a location for the proposed charging station, with a search bar and a map view. The map shows a region in Idaho with various towns and landmarks. A 'Next: Assumptions' button is at the bottom.

Step One prompts the user to select a date for the simulation, and then a location for the proposed charging station. The location may be entered as an address, Lat/Lon or by clicking on the map to refine the position.



Step Two shows the user assumptions that will be used in their simulation and allows them to modify those recommended settings.

Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Website Development

Types of vehicles

CalderaCast assumes a variety of electric vehicle types on the road as described in the table below.

EV types

Vehicle type	Description	Battery size	Range	Efficiency	Max C-rate	Pack voltage at peak power	Fraction of fleet
bev300_575kW	BEV SUV Truck XFC Gen 3	142.5 kWh	300.0 miles	475.0 wh/mile	3.41 C	900.0 V	0.31
bev300_400kW	BEV Midsize Car XFC Gen 3	97.5 kWh	300.0 miles	325.0 wh/mile	3.46 C	900.0 V	0.29
bev150_150kW	BEV Compact Car XFC Gen 2	45.0 kWh	150.0 miles	300.0 wh/mile	2.56 C	900.0 V	0.4

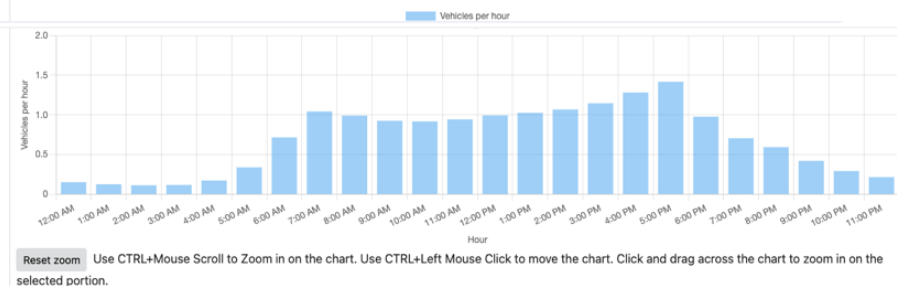
Charging station demand distribution

The number of vehicles predicted needing to stop and charge at a hypothetical charger station at **43.4821744 latitude -112.061263 longitude** with an EV adoption rate of **4%** is depicted in the plot below. The CalderaCast algorithm uses this data to produce the power profile results.

The data that was used to generate this profile includes traffic volume data from the U.S. DOT Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) programs ([Travel Monitoring Analysis System \(TMAS\)](#)) and [Highway Performance Monitoring System \(HPMS\)](#) and EV stations utilization data from the [EV WATTS project](#).

Charging station demand distribution

The average number of vehicles that stop to charge each hour of the day.



Seed for the random number generator

CalderaCast uses a stochastic algorithm model that relies on a random number generator. By default, the results produced by CalderaCast are different each time the simulation is run. To reproduce the same results on a subsequent run, a specific seed must be selected. The seed that was used will be reported in the results page.

Use random seed: ☒

Seed

-1

Value must be between 0 and 999999999

[What is a random number generator?](#)

Input Assumptions include: EV adoption rate, Types of EVs on the road, Charging station demand distribution, and seed control for the stochastic algorithm (for reproducible results).

ACCEPTANCE - THIS IS NOT A PRODUCTION SYSTEM

CalderaCast

Introduction

Date & Location

Assumptions

Station Design

Results

Station Design

Each icon represents a charging port on a specific type of EV charger. Select the number of EV charging ports of each type that will be available at the station. A minimum of one port must be added. Click [here](#) for more information on EV charging station terminology.

Note: Power sharing is not yet supported. All ports are assumed to operate independently, thereby not affecting the charging speed of adjacent ports. [What is power sharing?](#)

DC 350 kW

DC 250 kW

DC 150 kW

DC 50 kW

L2 19.2 kW

L2 11.5 kW

L2 7.2 kW

Charger type details

Supply equipment types

Name	Description	Max power	Max current	Max voltage
DC Fast 350 kW 500 A	Standard 350 kW 500 A Direct-Current Fast Charger	350.0 kW	500 A	920 V
DC Fast 250 kW 500 A	Standard 250 kW 500 A Direct-Current Fast Charger	250.0 kW	500 A	920 V
DC Fast 150 kW 200 A	Standard 150 kW 200 A Direct-Current Fast Charger	150.0 kW	200 A	920 V
DC Fast 50 kW 125 A	Standard 50 kW 125 A Direct-Current Fast Charger	50.0 kW	125 A	600 V
Level-2 19.2 kW	Standard 19.2 kW Level-2 Charger	17.664 kW	80 A	240 V
Level-2 11.52 kW	Standard 11.52 kW Level-2 Charger	10.5984 kW	48 A	240 V
Level-2 7.2 kW	Standard 7.2 kW Level-2 Charger	6.624 kW	30 A	240 V

About Contact

Run Simulation

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Idaho National Laboratory

1955 N. Fremont Ave.
Idaho Falls, ID 83415

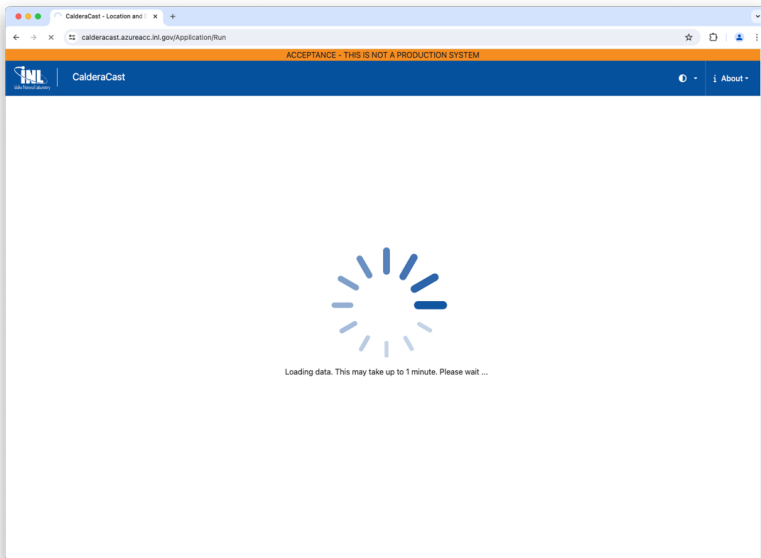
Joint Office of Energy and

Step Three allows the user to input the design of their proposed station include quantity and type of Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE). In addition to fast chargers which meet CFR 680 for corridors, the tool includes 50kW and L2 style chargers which may be present at the station for increased accuracy.

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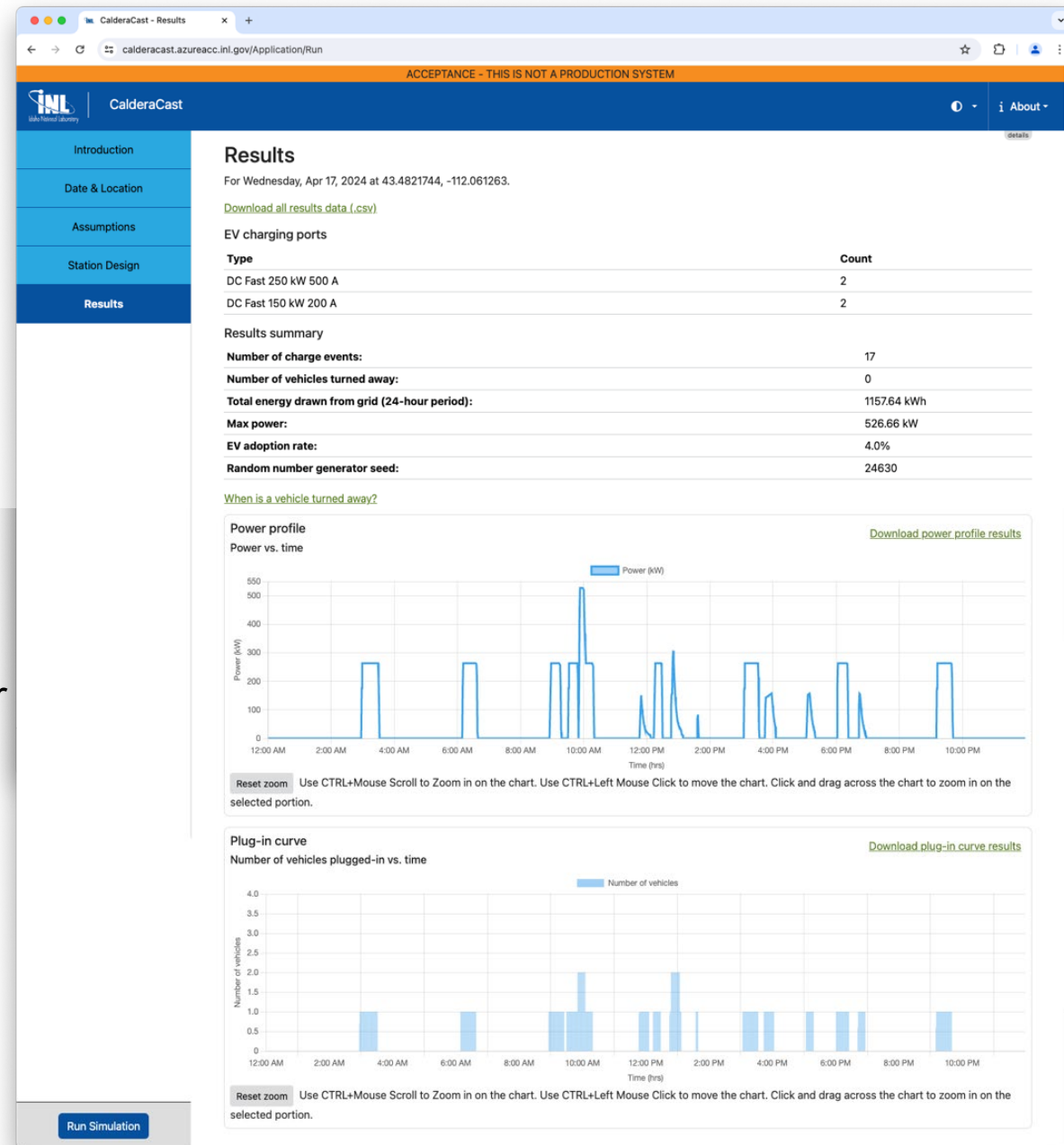
Technical Accomplishments (cont.)

Website Development



CalderaCast consists of 3 modules: the Web Interface, EV Geo, and CalderaSim. Each can take time to process and communicate with the next, resulting in less than 60 seconds of wait time.

Results are presented in the final step in the form of a Power Profile for the station, a plot of how many EVs are connected over time, and several statistics including: Number of charge events, Number turned away, Total energy, Maximum power, and documentation of the inputs. The plots and a full set of data may be downloaded for users own documentation.



Collaboration and Coordination

- INL partnered with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) for stakeholder outreach in the needs assessment phase of both projects.
- We obtained user feedback through several “Beta Sessions” with seven likely users of the tool and worked to incorporate their suggestions into the final tool.
- Once the website is released publicly we will reengage those and other stakeholders for continual feedback and improvement.
- We also intend to collaborate further with PNNL, and other labs providing technical assistance to the JOET, to enable our complimentary tools to directly inform and benefit each other.



“Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels.”

Remaining Challenges and Barriers

- INL and DOE are serious about cybersecurity and a proper review and release process. CalderaCast is in some respects a new type of product for this research institution and it is the first webtool of this type submitted for review under “Zero Trust” protocols.
- As of early May, the cybersecurity approval was still a work in progress requiring new solutions to ensure all three modules of CalderaCast operate and communicate with high security. The site is expected to launch before this presentation but is not assured.
- Providing forecast coverage for Puerto Rico is also a work in progress as the same traffic and station data is not available.

Proposed Future Research

- CalderaCast could be improved to include increasingly common station controls:
 - Power sharing between ports
 - Onsite energy storage
 - Onsite energy generation
- Assessing and including the impacts of other charging stations in proximity would improve forecasts.
- Continually increasing the volume of recent data on: station usage, traffic volume, new EV types, and EVSE capabilities - will improve performance.
- Adding coverage outside of AFCs would increase usage by more stakeholders including the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) program.

CalderaCast Summary

- CalderaCast is a public webtool intended to assist NEVI stakeholders in forecasting load at proposed corridor charging stations.
- CalderaCast has built in the necessary input data to conduct stochastic estimates for nearly all possible locations of NEVI funded stations.
- Basic users only need to know the location and charging equipment at the proposed site to produce a forecast.
- Advanced users may alter assumptions and further customize their simulation.
- The tool is useful to many diverse stakeholders:
 - Funding agencies – to obtain an independent estimate of usage and cost
 - Utilities – to estimate the size and shape of unique electrical load for interconnection
 - Station operators – to forecast revenue and costs of their business plan, and evaluate multiple locations for best performance

Questions?



Idaho National Laboratory

Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy. INL is the nation's center for nuclear energy research and development, and also performs research in each of DOE's strategic goal areas: energy, national security, science and the environment.

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<https://cet.inl.gov/caldera>

Technical Backup Slides

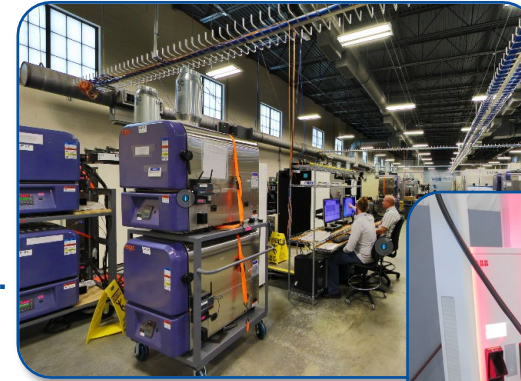
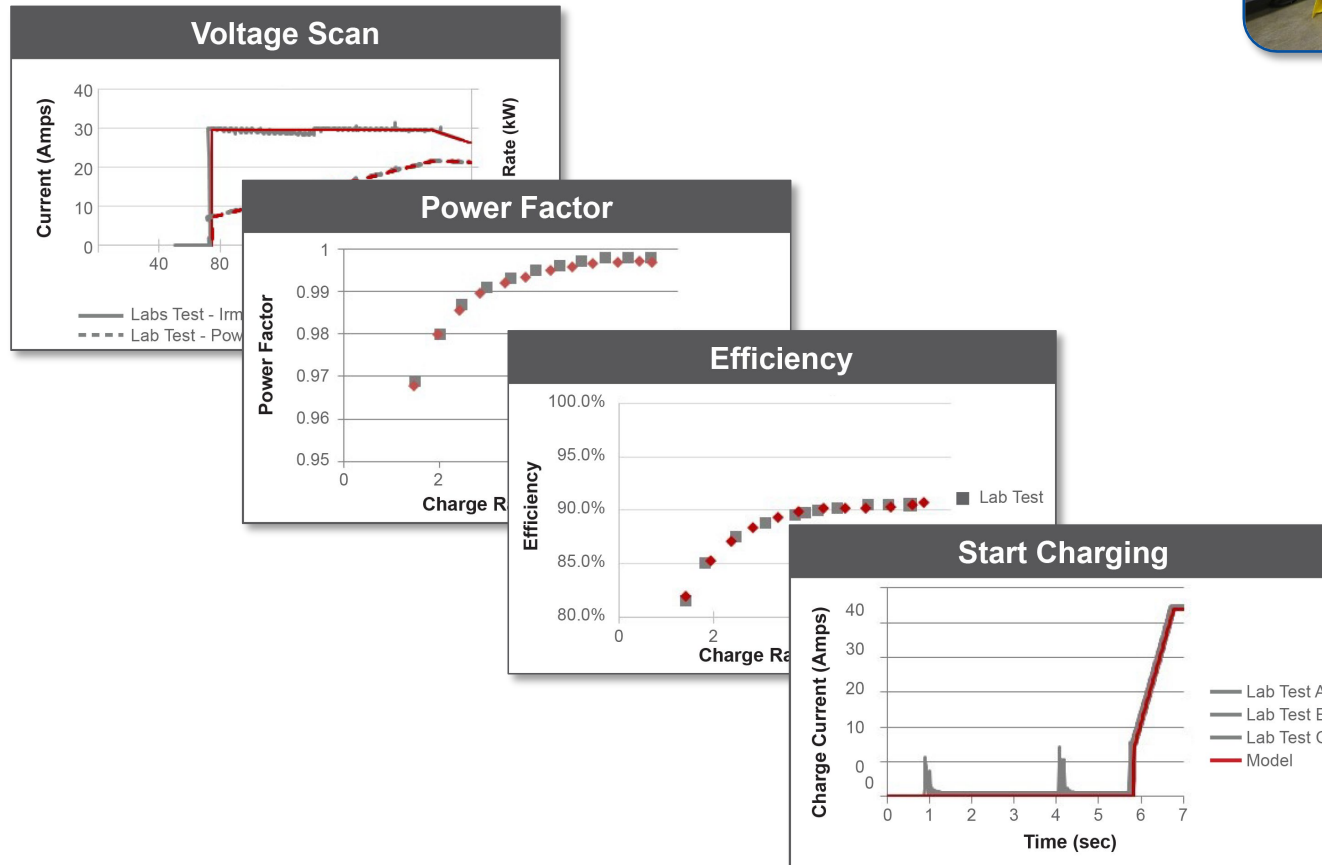
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High Fidelity EV / EVSE Charging Model library

- In Caldera EVs and EVSEs are modeled **individually** using high-fidelity models. Aggregate or composite models are **not** used.
- These high-fidelity models are based on results from testing real EVs, EVSE, and batteries in the laboratory.



- The testing is done in INL's BTC and EVIL labs.
- Each of these graphs compares lab test results to outputs from one of INL's high fidelity EV charging models.

Perform EV stations analytics – Exploratory analysis of EV WATTS data

Correlation Modeling

Variables

Traffic volume

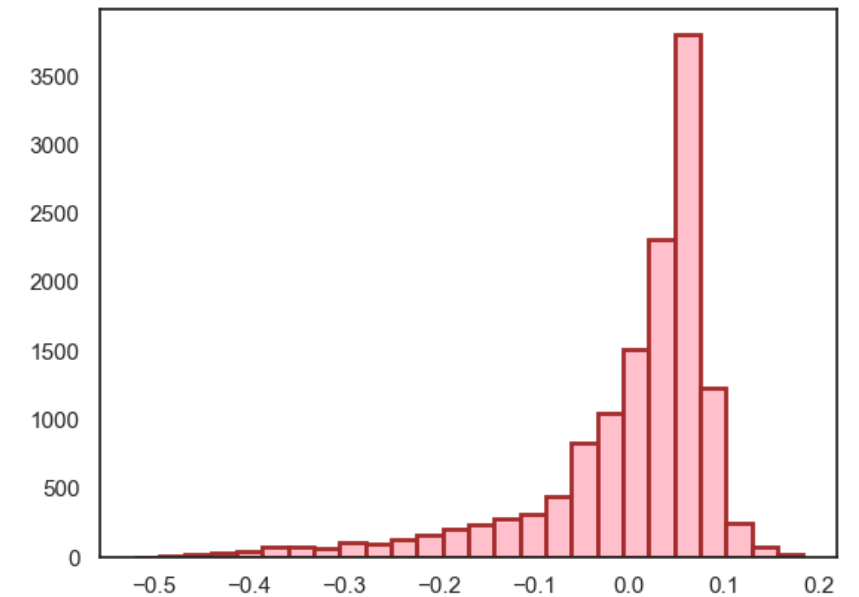
Population

Location

Model

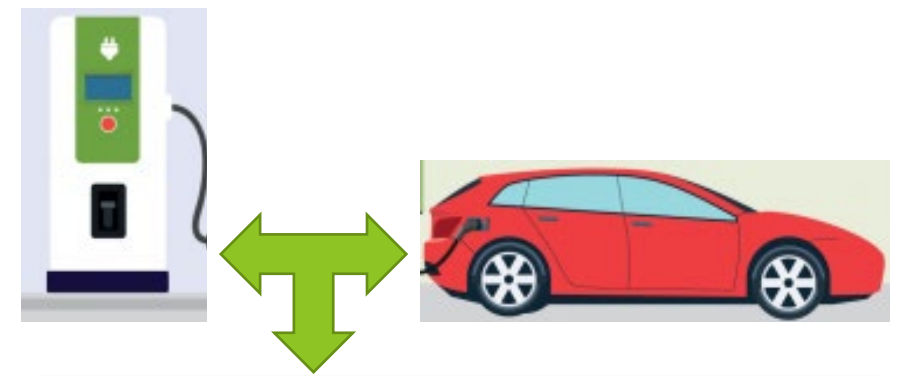
Regression ML modeling

Prediction accuracy

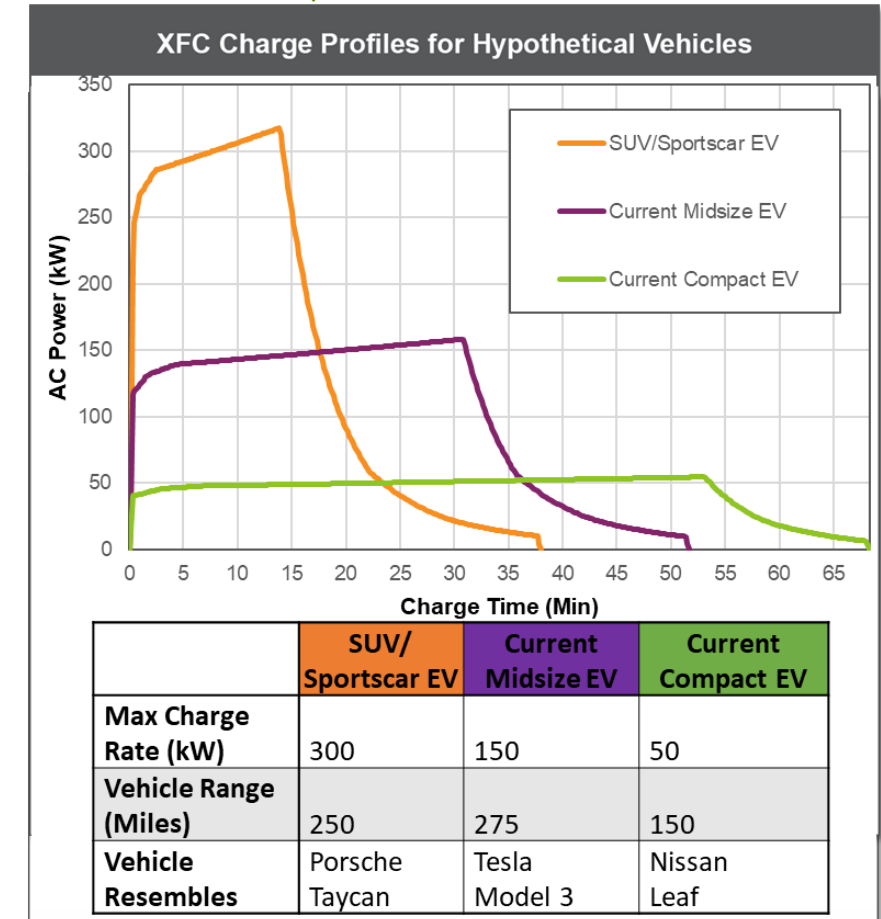


Unique Charge Profiles

- Caldera generates load profiles based on the specific vehicle and specific charger that are paired.
- For CalderaCast only models that meet NEVI minimum requirements will be used.
- Vehicle types and quantities are shown in table below.
- New charger models are being added to Caldera Library to be completed by end of April.



	Vehicle Type	EV Range (mi)	Charge Power (kW)	Driving Efficiency (Wh/mi)	Adoption Med High	2.6%	5.4%	9.5%	14.7%
					2020 ²	2025	2030	2035	2040
XFC Gen3	Sports Car	250	400	350				1%	1%
	SUV/Truck	300	575	475				6%	8%
	Midsize Car	300	400	325				4%	15%
XFC Gen2	SUV/Truck	250	350	475			7%	11%	10%
	Midsize Car	300	300	325			4%	12%	16%
	Compact Car	150	150	300			5%	6%	10%
XFC Gen1	Sports Car	250	300	350		1%	1%	1%	0%
	SUV/Truck	200	150	475	7%	25%	24%	13%	9%
	Midsize Car	275	150	300	32%	27%	23%	19%	10%
DCFC	Compact Car	250	75	300	4%	6%	4%	2%	
	Compact Car	150	50	300	18%	13%	7%	3%	
	PHEV				2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AC Only	SUV/Truck	50	Do not fast charge	475	5%	8%	11%	13%	16%
	Midsize Car	50		310	14%	13%	9%	8%	5%
	Midsize Car	20		250	20%	7%	5%	2%	

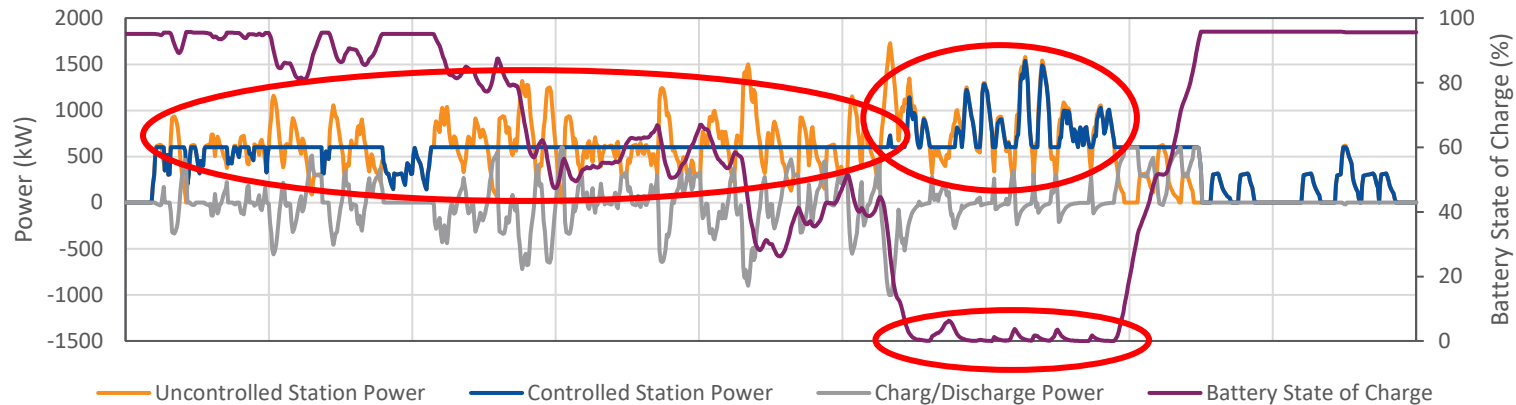


[2] E-drive: <https://www.anl.gov/es/light-duty-electric-drive-vehicles-monthly-sales-updates>

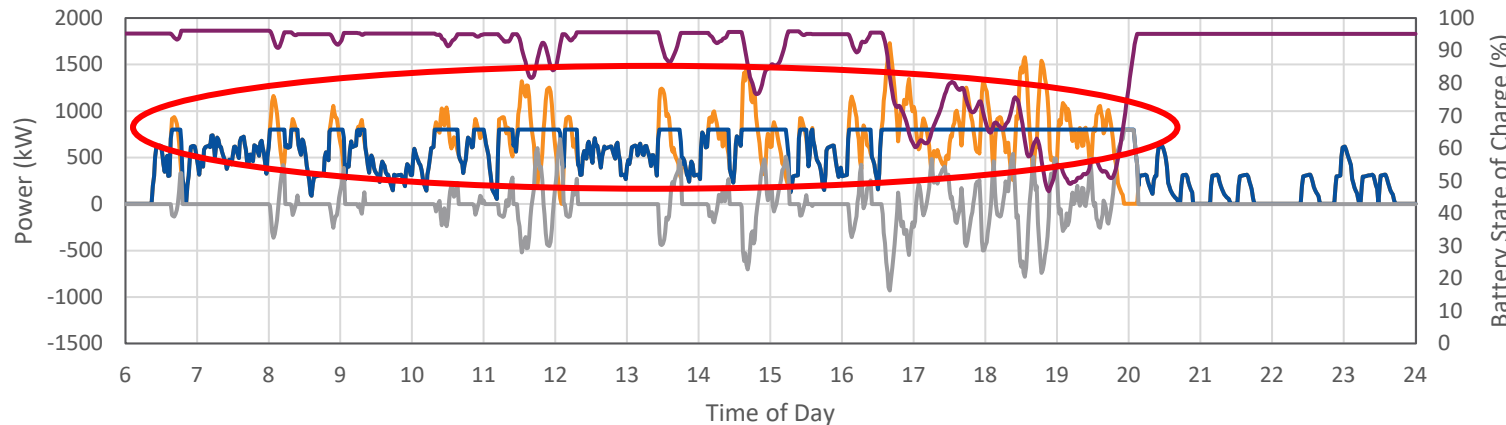
Simulating XFC with Energy Storage and Station Control

XFC Station Power with SES and Station Control

XFC Station - 500kWh SES - 600kW Control Threshold



XFC Station - 500kWh SES - 800kW Control Threshold



Battery Energy Storage System:

- 500kWh battery costs ~\$500k
- Reduces 1730kW peak to 725kW
- If demand charge were \$15/kW BESS saves \$15,000/month
- BESS payback period = 33months

Caldera can help design and simulate other EV charging power controls.

Stakeholder Comments from “Beta Sessions”

J.H. - State Agency

"Thank you. This has been great.

Actually, this is awesome.

So thanks for taking some time to talk to this."

M.B. – State Environmental Agency

"Thank you for the presentation, this looks like a great tool."

D.F. – State Transportation Department

"This is fascinating, thank you."

C.D. - Engineering Contractor

"I will say I think this is amazing and I see a lot of value in what we're doing in NEVI planning, but also like as we get further and further down the line towards looking at where is their power and what is the power need.

And like working with our utility partners, I think this is a great tool that is not available today.

So appreciate all the work that you guys have done. I think there's a lot of value in it.

Yeah, I would like to just stop all our NEVI planning until you guys are done with these two tools."

A.W. - Public Engagement Contractor

"And I think that's a great idea, having some sort of user interface system that can help adjust and right size, capacity and demand."

H.D. – State Working Group - Executing NEVI

This was all very informative. I appreciate the level of thought that's coming into this.

For planning purposes and for selection purposes this could be useful. I also really think it could be great for the utilities. We'll be excited to get them involved with it.

It would be handy in six months time to have this in our back pocket when we start to look at the next round.