

# Creating a Digital Twin of an Electric Utility

Reimagining building energy modeling in a world of high performance computing, big data, imagery, and advanced metering infrastructure

Presented at:

**Argonne National Laboratory**

**Chicago, IL**

Presented by:

**Joshua New, Ph.D., C.E.M., PMP, CMVP**

Building Technologies Research & Integration Center

Subprogram Manager, Software Tools & Models

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

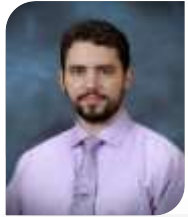
September 25, 2018



# Overview

- Jim Ingraham's vision for Utilities of the Future
- Introduction and Context
- 2 Nation-Scale Use Cases
  - Climate zone assessment
  - GEB market creation
- Urban-Scale modeling
  - Automatic Building detection and Energy Model creation (AutoBEM)
- Virtual EPB project (Electric Power Board of Chattanooga, TN)
  - Utility-prioritized use cases
  - Developed capabilities
  - Preliminary results

# Virtual EPB – bios



- Joshua New, Ph.D., C.E.M., PMP, CMVP
  - BTRIC “Software Tools & Models” responsible for development of DOE’s building simulation tools, HPC, and AI for big data mining.
  - Led 62 projects (9.4/year) totaling \$10M/\$28M (\$1.3M/yr)
    - 133/133 deliverables (44/yr) on-time and on-budget; 100+ publications (13.8/yr)



- James (Jim) Ingraham, B.S. Finance
  - EPB, VP of Strategic Research; electric utility and broadband communications; market research and data modeling



- William (Bill) Copeland, B.S. Economics, MBA
  - EPB, Director of Business Intelligence, EPB business systems, visual analytics



- Hsiuhan (Lexie) Yang, Ph.D. Civil Engineering
  - Computer vision specializing in aerial imagery
  - Machine learning for large data: NASA, AIST, NSF, DOE



- Mark Adams, M.S. Ag&Bio, Mechanical Engineering
  - Building simulation expert, EnergyPlus/OpenStudio developer



Jim Ingraham: EPB Vice President Strategic Research



# A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Crossroads

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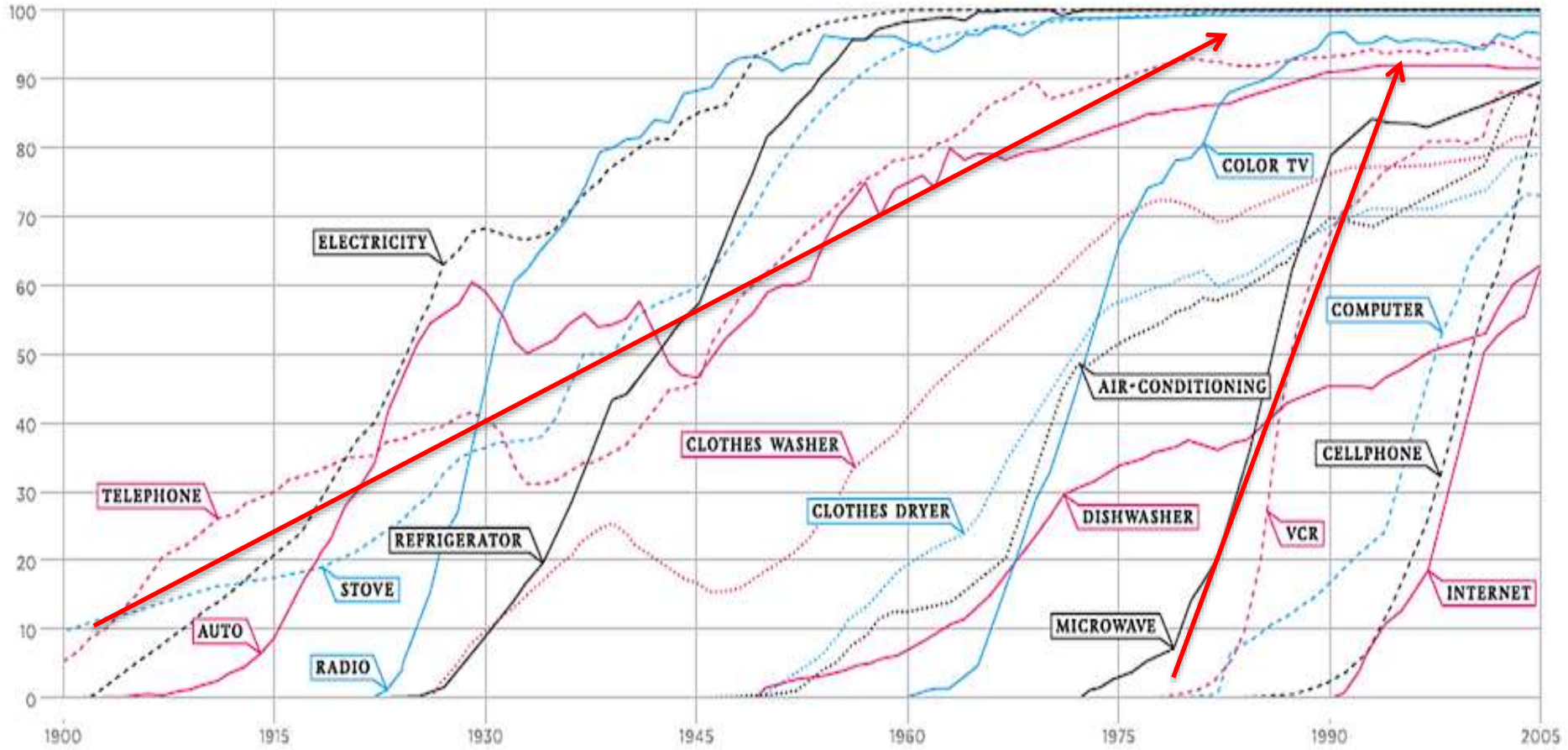


Globalization  
Technological Innovation  
Climate Change

# Technology Adoption Rates Accelerate

PERCENT OF  
U.S. HOUSEHOLDS

## CONSUMPTION SPREADS FASTER TODAY





# Wireless Broadband IoT Age Is Upon Us



Papal Conclave 2005



# Gigabit Speed Wireless Broadband Coming Soon in 2018-2019

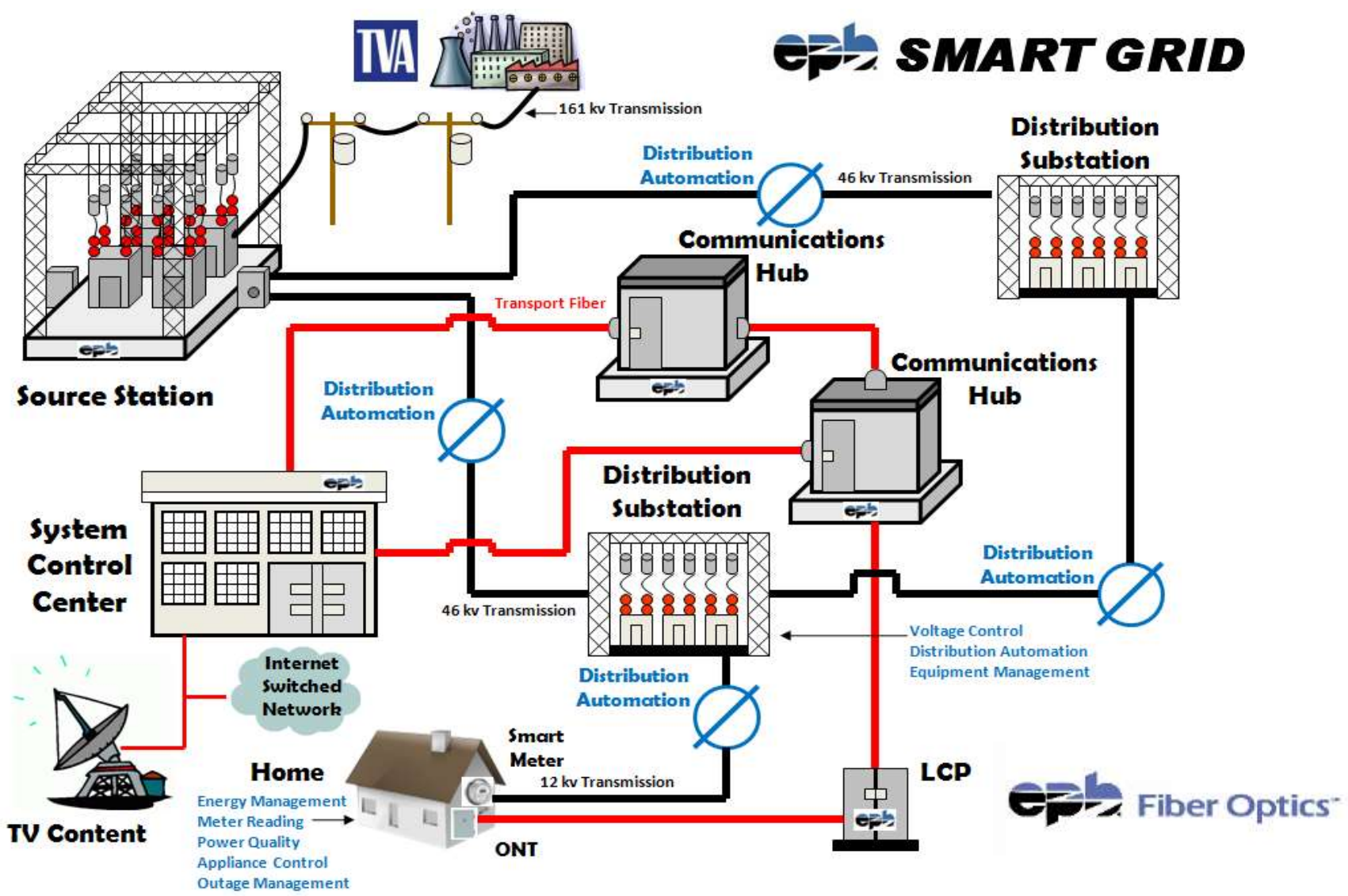
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Papal Conclave 2013



# ENERGY and INTERNET NETWORKS



# A New Generation of Smart Energy Appliances

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2011



\$250

Artificial Intelligence

2015



\$5000

5KWh





## OATI Microgrid Technology Center



©2017 OATI, Inc.

## Why Tesla's new solar roof tiles and home battery are such a big deal



New Residential Customers Rising



## CORPORATE RENEWABLE ENERGY BUYERS' PRINCIPLES: INCREASING ACCESS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

**65** COMPANIES

**48** MILLION MWH OF DEMAND FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

**\$5** TRILLION IN MARKET CAP



# Some Partner With The Electric Company

**amazon**



**Dominion  
Energy<sup>SM</sup>**





# Some Do It On Their Own



**SIGNAL ENERGY**<sup>®</sup>  
CONSTRUCTORS

WE HARNESS **CREATIVE ENERGY**

# Or Hire An Energy Service Company

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**TENASKA**<sup>®</sup>



**CAESARS**  
ENTERTAINMENT<sup>®</sup>



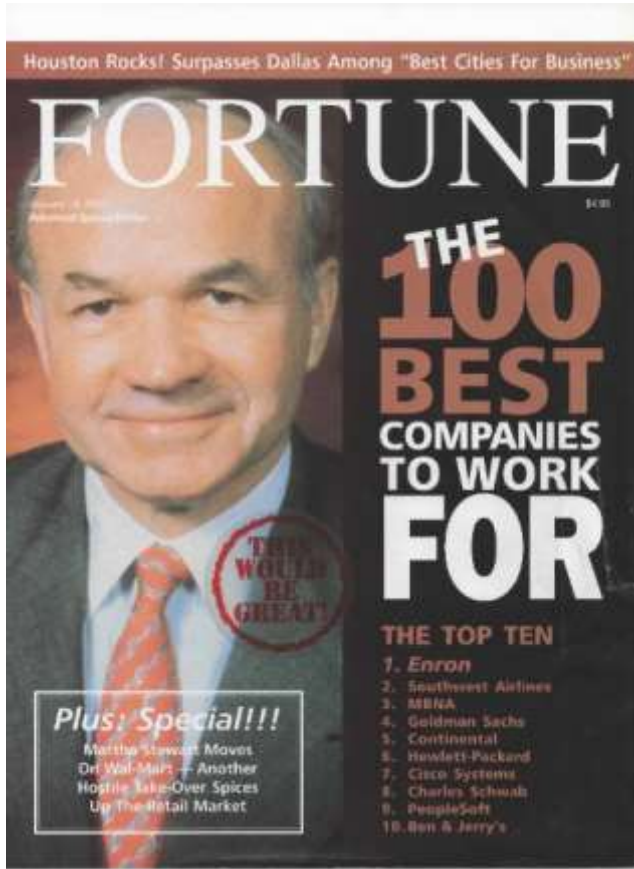
**MANDALAY BAY**<sup>®</sup>  
RESORT AND CASINO, LAS VEGAS

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An MGM Resorts Luxury Destination







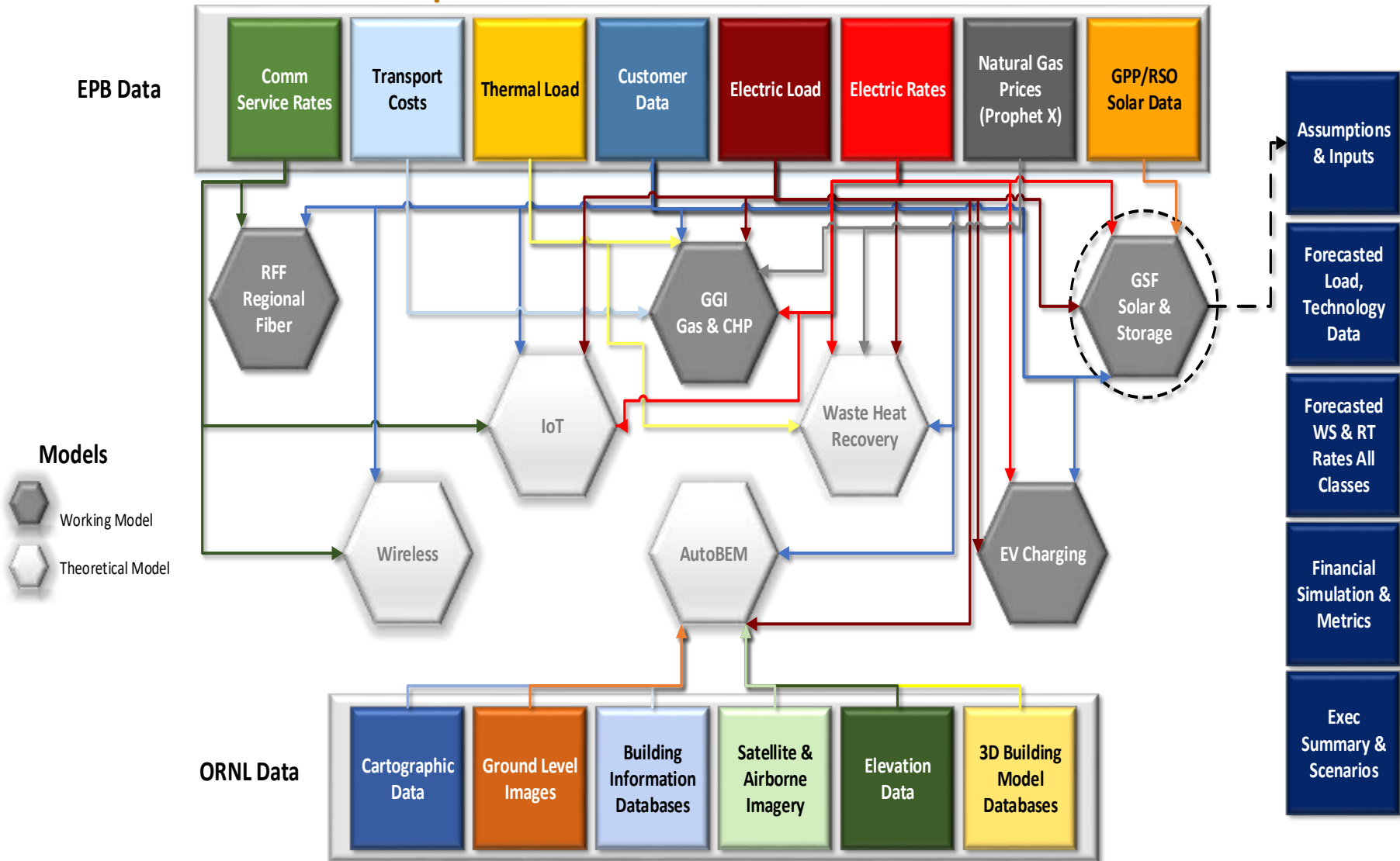
Who Can You Trust? DOE BTO AUTOBEM Can Be an Answer



# Who Will Die



## Power Heat Optimization & Electric Network Investment Model X





# THE UTILITY OF THE FUTURE AT THE CUSTOMER PREMISE



TELEVISION



INTERNET APPLIANCES



ENERGY MGMT.



HOME AUTOMATION



VIRTUAL REALITY



ALT. GEN.



SMART CITY




TELEPHONE



INTERNET

COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE SERVICE MODEL CUSTOMERS



COMMERCIAL MOBILE RESIDENTIAL



STORAGE



FUEL CELL GAS GEN.



CHP WHR TRI-GEN



CUSTOMER SERVICE




CYBER DEFENSE



ELECTRICITY



BROADBAND



UTILITY SYSTEM DATA

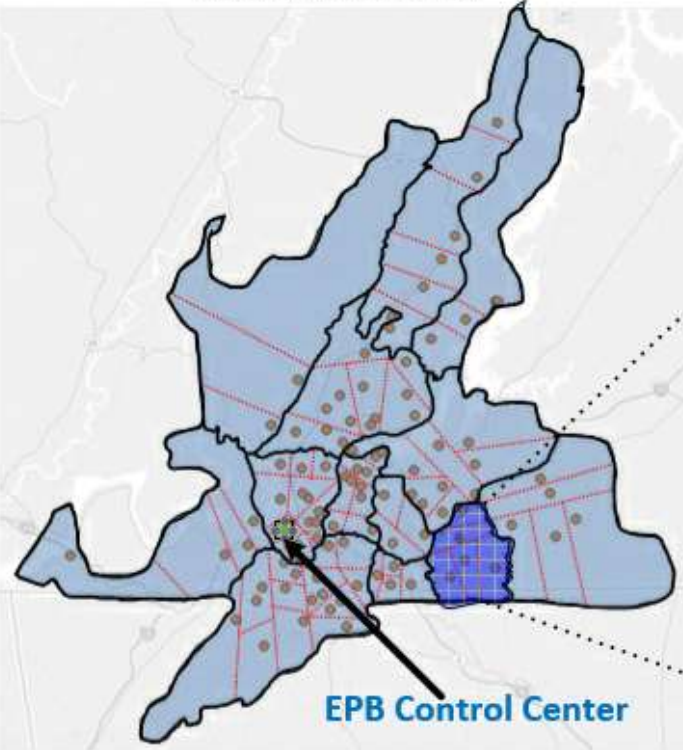


MANAGED SERVICES

# Control and Manage Load Factor Is The Key

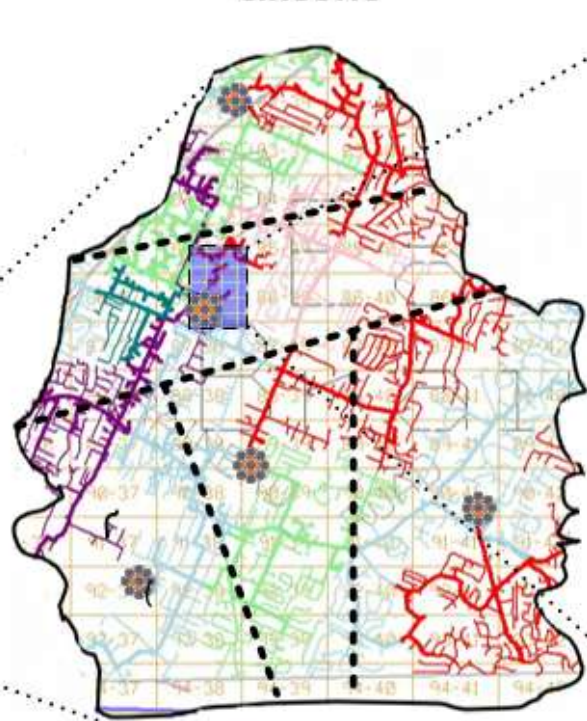
## AUTOBEM = MANAGE LOAD FACTOR

**ELECTRIC SYSTEM**



**111 SUBSTATIONS  
336 FEEDERS  
166,000 BUILDINGS**

**CIRCUITS**



**MICROGRID  
UTILITY SCALE  
GENERATION/STORAGE/  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

**CUSTOMER**





# DARPA'S INTERNET CHANGED THE WORLD



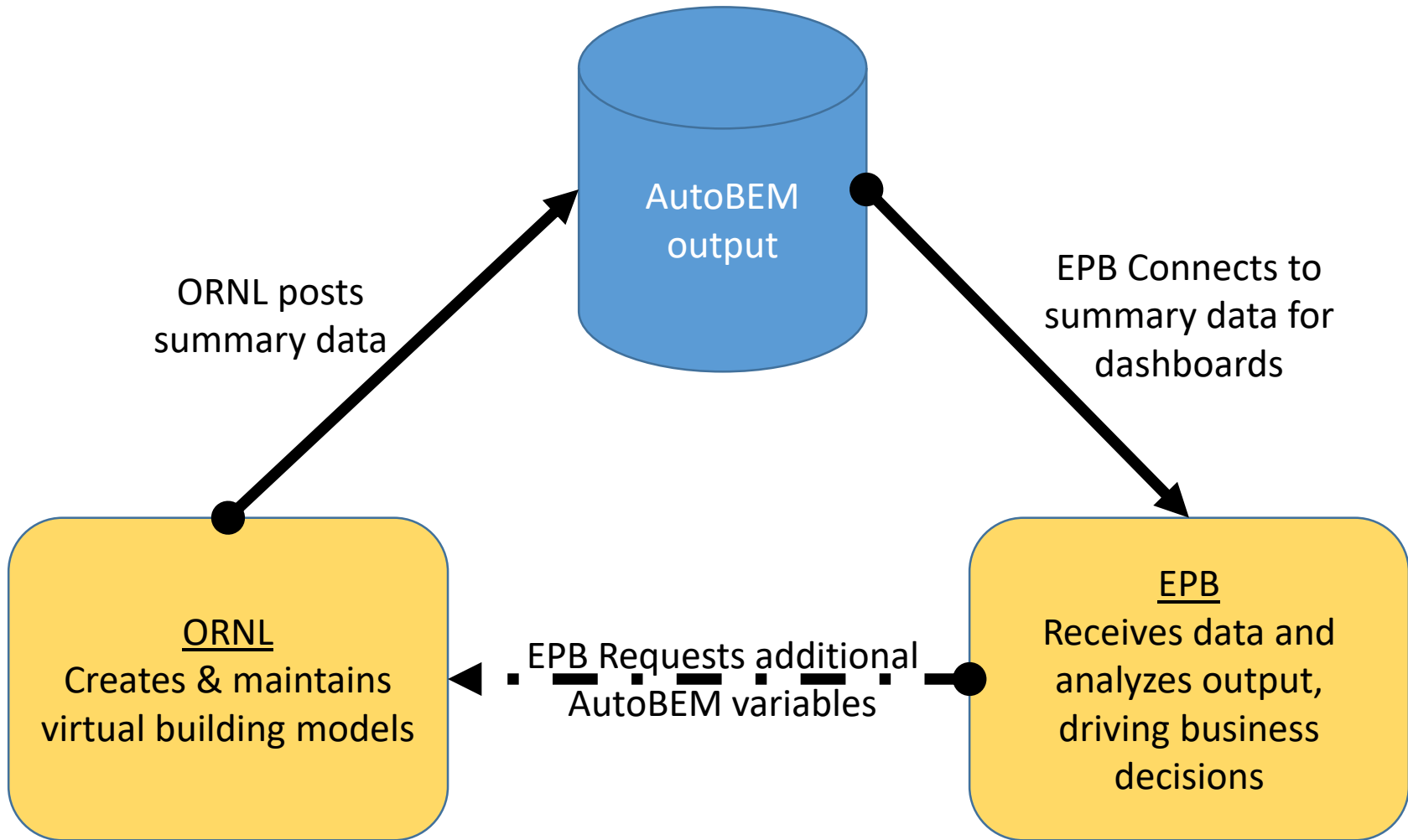
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



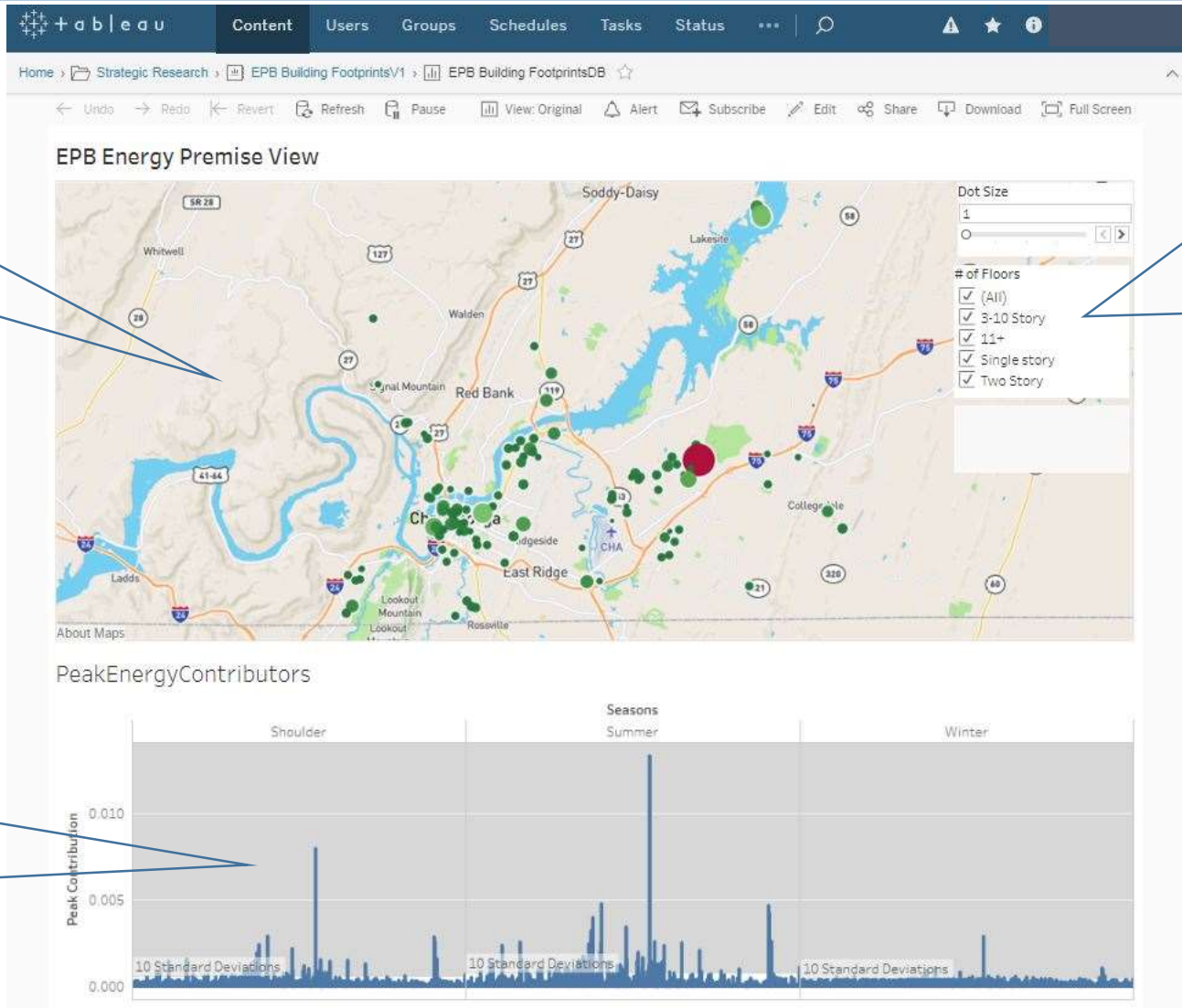
AUTOBEM COULD BE THE NEXT GAME CHANGER

# ORNL/EPB Coordination





# EPB's operational systems



Map showing premises, colored by AutoBEM attribute

Use of filters create an interactive experience for business users, driving business decisions

Chart showing same data, in time series format

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# Joshua New, Ph.D., C.E.M., PMP, CMVP

## • Career

- 2009+ Oak Ridge National Laboratory, R&D staff
  - ETSD, Building Technology Research & Integration Center (BTRIC), Building Envelope & Urban Systems Research Group (BEUSR)
  - Urban Dynamics Institute, Resiliency Team member
- 2012+ The University of Tennessee, Joint Faculty

## • Education

- The University of TN, (2004-2009), Knoxville; Ph.D. Comp. Sci.
- Jacksonville State University, AL (1997-2001, 2001-2004)  
M.S. Systems&Software Design, double-B.S. Computer Science and Mathematics, Physics minor

## • Professional Involvement

- IEEE, Senior Member
- ASHRAE, defines international building codes
  - TC1.5, Computer Applications, Voting member and officer
  - TC4.2, Climatic Information, Voting member and officer
  - SSPC169, Weather Data for Building Design Standards (24% of page count of building code), Voting member
  - TC4.7, Energy Calculations, Voting member and officer
  - SSPC140 and ASHRAE Guideline 14 involvement

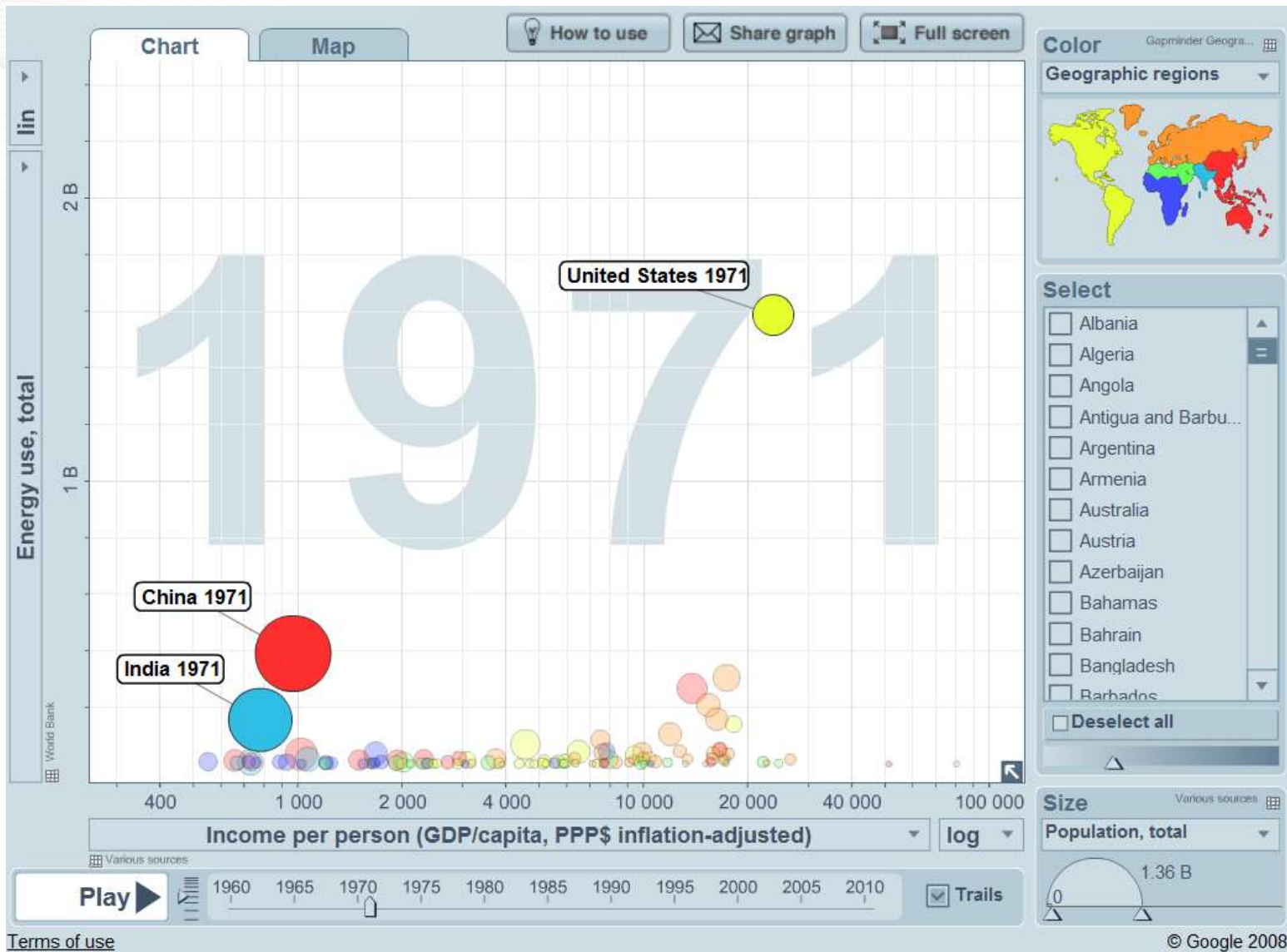


## Certifications

- AEE, Lifetime Member
  - Certified Energy Manager
  - Certified Measurement & Verification Professional
- PMI, Member
  - Project Management Professional



# 40 Years: Energy and Quality of Life

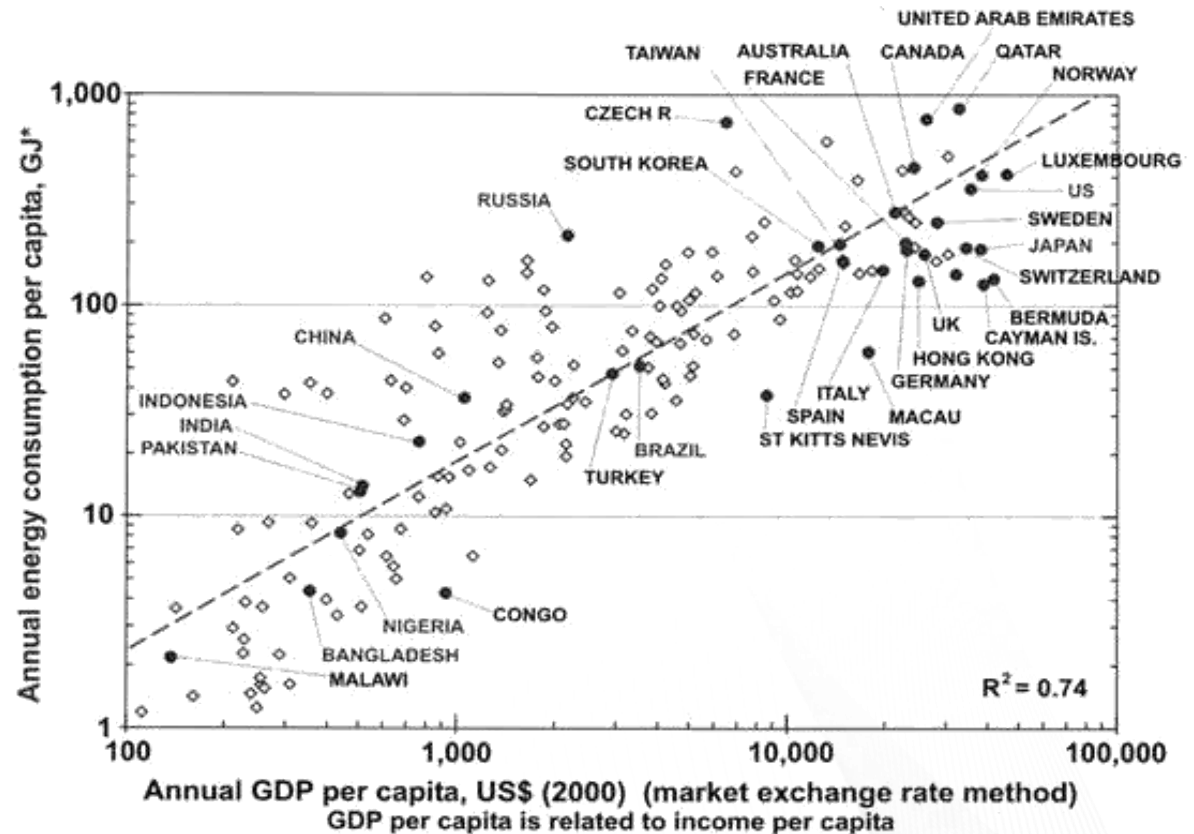


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# Energy Efficiency and Sustainability - global

- Buildings (China, India, US, UK, Italy) – 39% to 45% of primary energy
- Buildings in U.S.
  - 45% of primary energy & CO<sub>2</sub>;
  - 74% of electricity
- Buildings in China
  - 60% of building floor space in 2030 has yet to be built
- Buildings in India
  - 67% of building floor space in 2030 has yet to be built

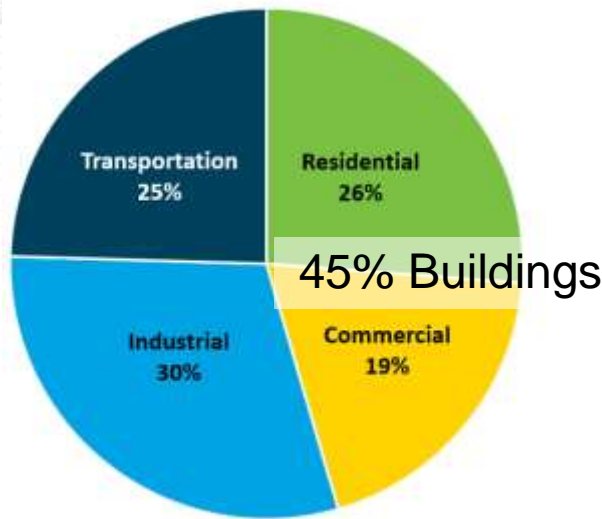


\*1,000,000,000 GJ = 1 EJ  
1 GJ = 1,000,000,000 J

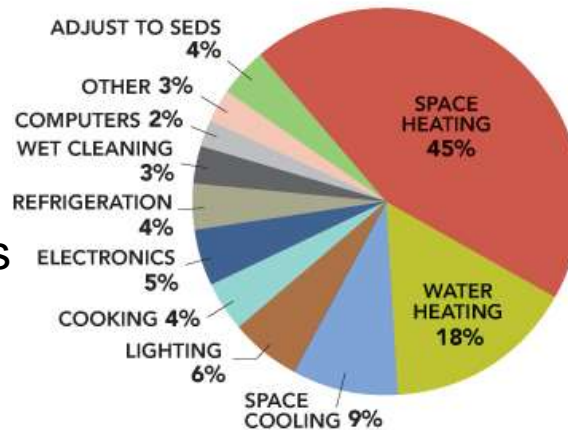
Source: Energy Information Administration  
International Energy Annual 2003  
July 8, 2005

# Energy Consumption and Production

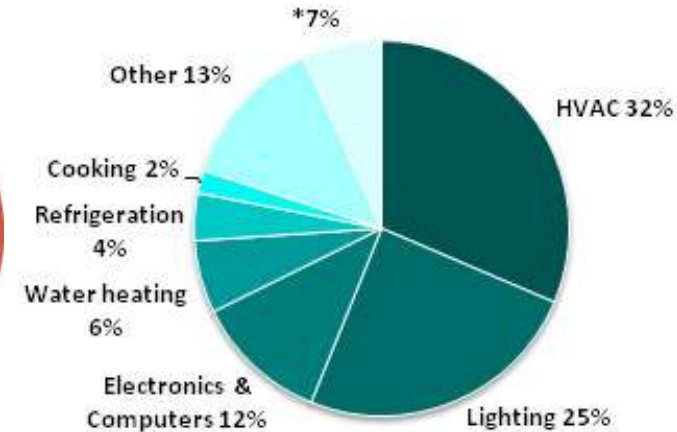
U.S. Energy Consumption by Sector



RESIDENTIAL SITE ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY END USE



Commercial Site Energy Consumption by End Use



**Buildings consume 73% of the nation's electricity**

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, January 2016 to January 2017, [Monthly Energy Review – Table 2.1](#).

124 million U.S. buildings  
\$395 billion/yr energy bills

Goal of the DOE

Building Technologies Office:  
45% energy reduction per sq. ft.  
by 2030 compared to 2010 baseline

Building Energy Modeling – building descriptions + weather = estimated building energy consumption

\$9B/yr – ESCO; \$7B/yr – utility EE  
\$14B/yr – DR management systems  
0.3% modified, BEM < 10% of those



# Building Energy Modeling + Resilience of the Electric Grid + ASHRAE's Changing Climate Zones



# ASHRAE Climate Zones

- Based on weather stations, most w/ 18+ yrs of quality data (1961-1990)

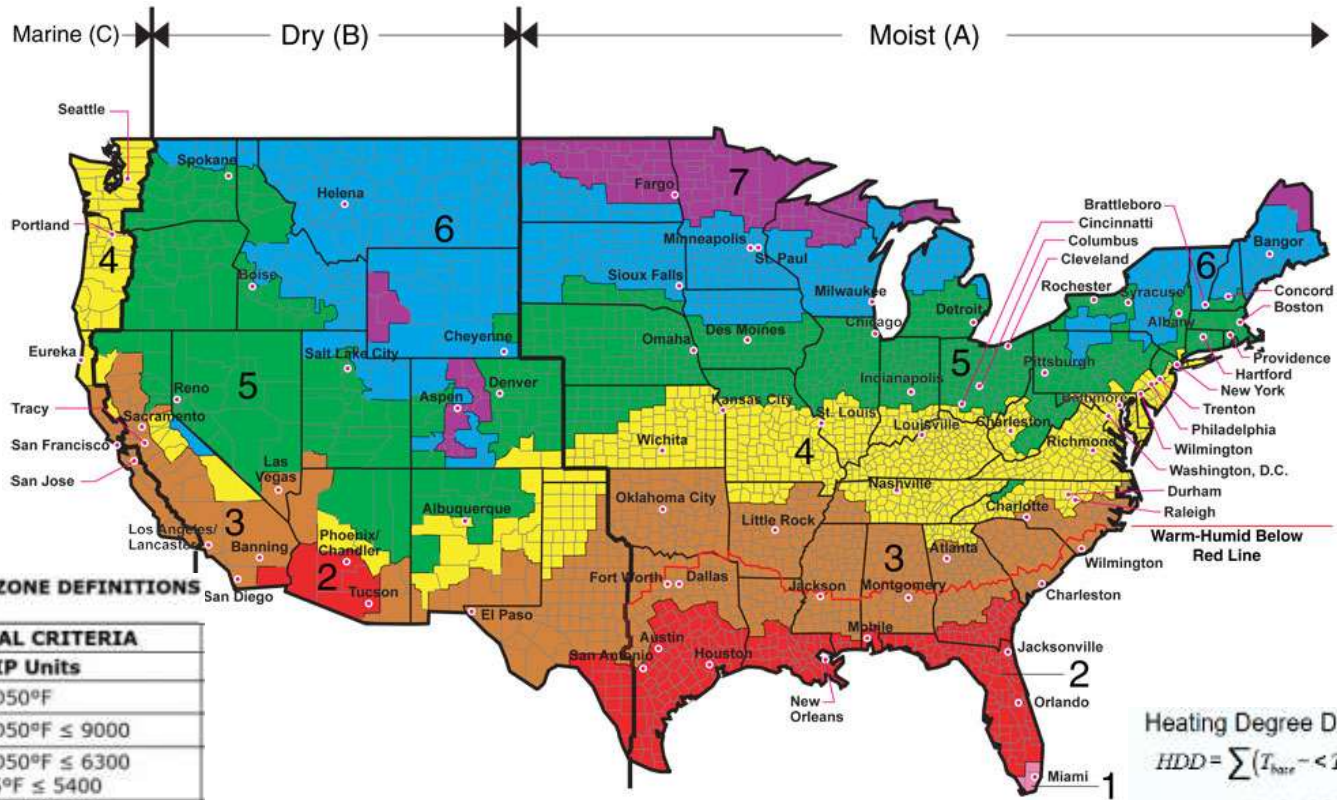


TABLE 301.3(2) INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE ZONE DEFINITIONS

| ZONE NUMBER | THERMAL CRITERIA                            |
|-------------|---|
|             | IP Units                                    |
| 1           | 9000 < CDD50°F                              |
| 2           | 6300 < CDD50°F ≤ 9000                       |
| 3A and 3B   | 4500 < CDD50°F ≤ 6300<br>AND HDD65°F ≤ 5400 |
| 4A and 4B   | CDD50°F ≤ 4500 AND<br>HDD65°F ≤ 5400        |
| 3C          | HDD65°F ≤ 3600                              |
| 4C          | 3600 < HDD65°F ≤ 5400                       |
| 5           | 5400 < HDD65°F ≤ 7200                       |
| 6           | 7200 < HDD65°F ≤ 9000                       |
| 7           | 9000 < HDD65°F ≤ 12600                      |
| 8           | 12600 < HDD65°F                             |

Updated every 4 years (2021)

Climate Zone 0 (extremely hot):  
10,800 < CDD 50°F

Int'l Energy Conservation Code (IECC)  
adopts for 2018 code

Heating Degree Days:

$$HDD = \sum (T_{base} - <T_t >)^+$$

$$T_{base} = 18^{\circ}\text{C} (65^{\circ}\text{F})$$

Cooling Degree Days:

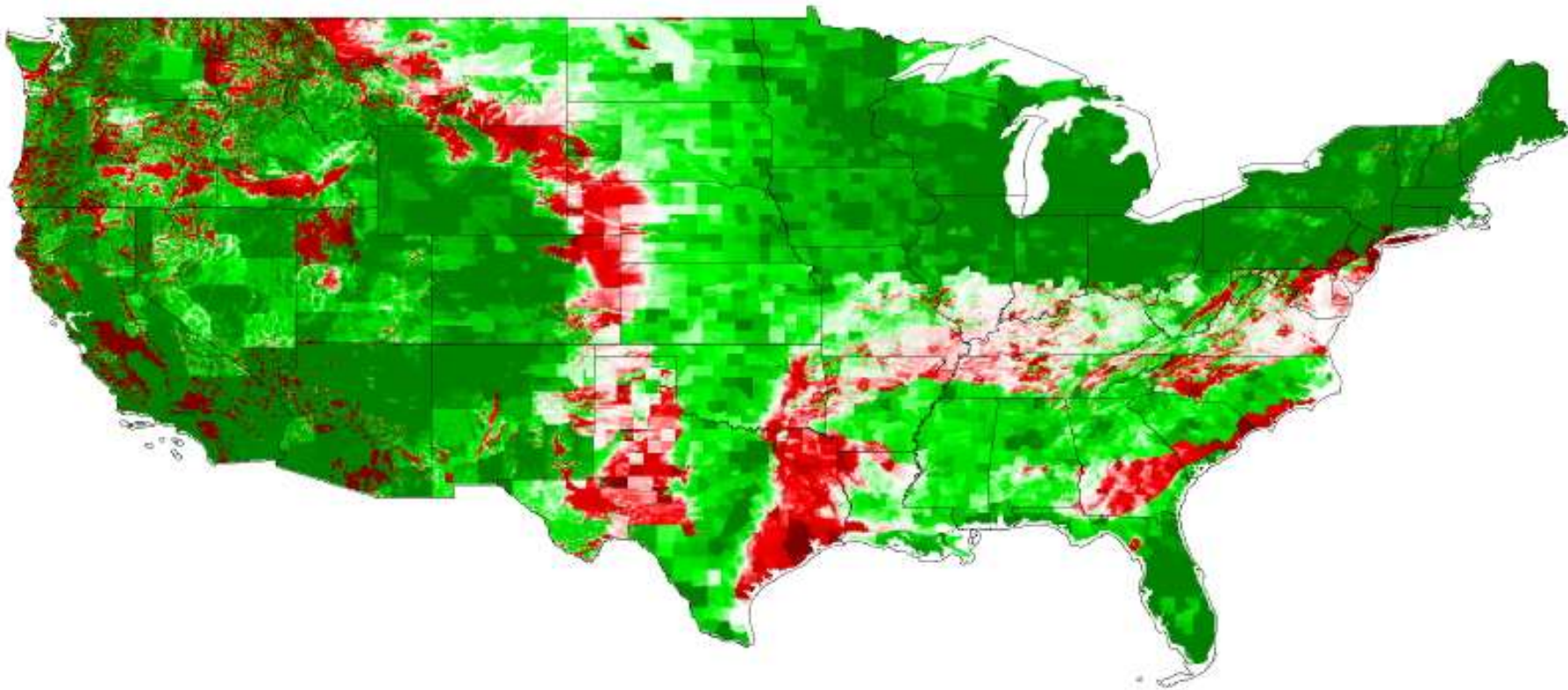
$$CDD = \sum (<T_t > - T_{base})^+$$

$$T_{base} = 10^{\circ}\text{C} (50^{\circ}\text{F})$$



# Building-adjusted CZ improvement

- What other (e.g. political) variables should be included?
- How could the nation's energy security and critical infrastructure resiliency be improved by incorporating future scenarios into the built environment?
- **How much energy and \$ could be saved by having a forward-looking climate-aware building code?**





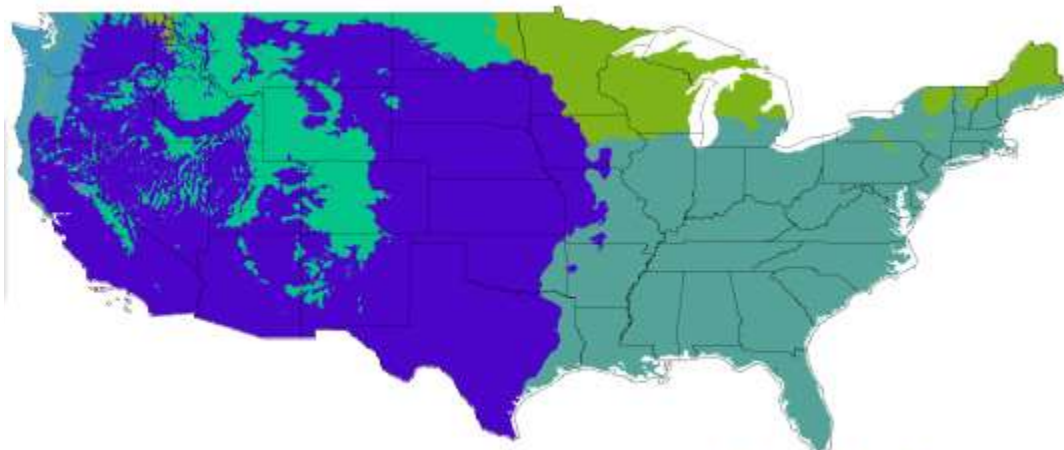
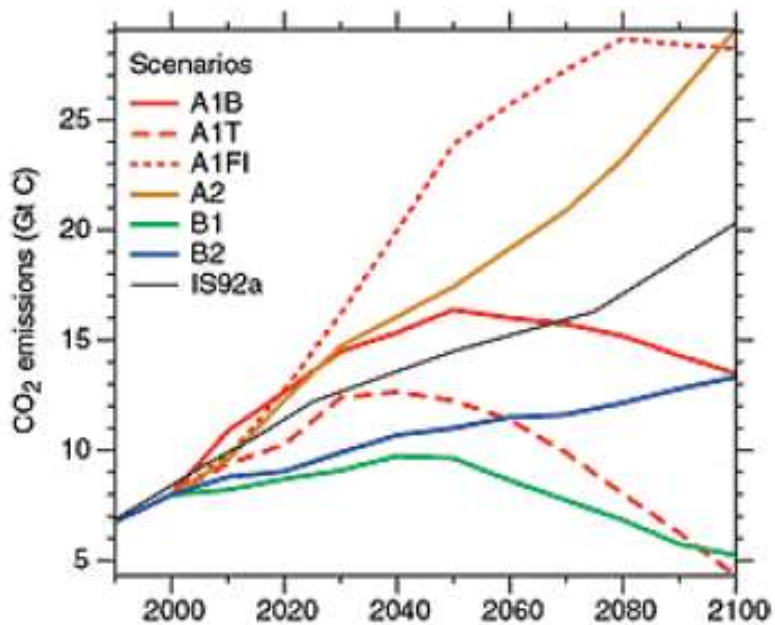
# Climate Change Impacts



Contemporary Period



Clustering-based Climate Zones (K=5): HadGCM A1FI 2050



Clustering-based Climate Zones (K=5): HadGCM A1FI 2100

# Building Energy Modeling

+  
**Grid-interactive Efficient Buildings**

+  
**New Energy Market**  
(save  $x \pm y$  at confidence level of  $z$ ,  
time-sensitive value trades)



# Building Energy Modeling



**Optimal Return on Investment  
(for building energy savings)**

Simulation Engine and Analysis Platform  
U.S. Dept. of Energy  
\$93M, 1995-?

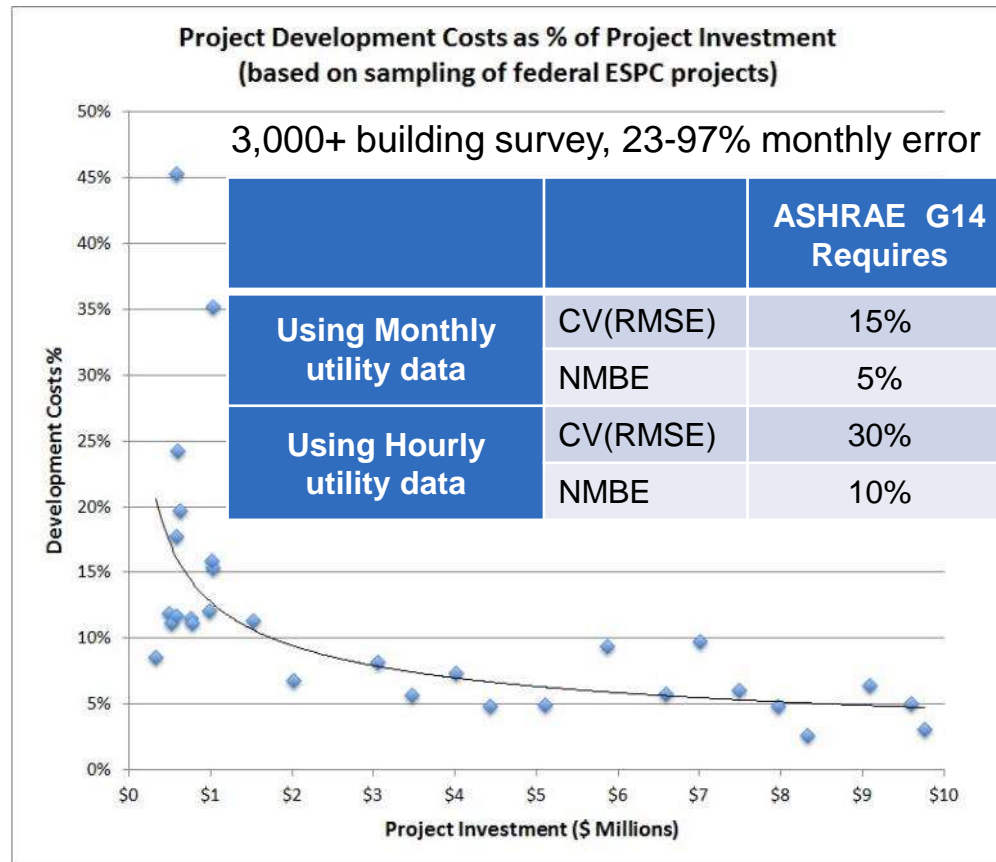


**EnergyPlus**



**OpenStudio**

Free, open-source (GitHub),  
free support community (unmethours.com)





# HPC scalability for desktop software

Titan is the world's fastest buildings energy model (BEM) simulator

>500k building simulations in <1 hour

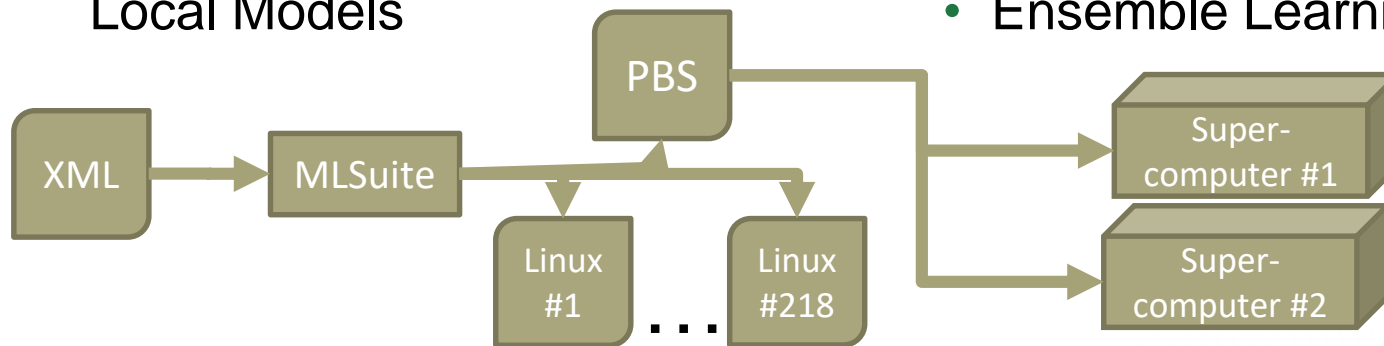
130M US buildings could be simulated in 2 weeks

8M simulations of DOE prototypes (270 TB)

| CPU Cores | Wall-clock Time (mm:ss) | Data Size | EnergyPlus Simulations |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 16        | 18:14                   | 5 GB      | 64                     |
| 32        | 18:19                   | 11 GB     | 128                    |
| 64        | 18:34                   | 22 GB     | 256                    |
| 128       | 18:22                   | 44 GB     | 512                    |
| 256       | 20:30                   | 88 GB     | 1,024                  |
| 512       | 20:43                   | 176 GB    | 2,048                  |
| 1,024     | 21:03                   | 351 GB    | 4,096                  |
| 2,048     | 21:11                   | 703 GB    | 8,192                  |
| 4,096     | 20:00                   | 1.4 TB    | 16,384                 |
| 8,192     | 26:14                   | 2.8 TB    | 32,768                 |
| 16,384    | 26:11                   | 5.6 TB    | 65,536                 |
| 32,768    | 31:29                   | 11.5 TB   | 131,072                |
| 65,536    | 44:52                   | 23 TB     | 262,144                |
| 131,072   | 68:08                   | 45 TB     | 524,288                |

# MLSuite: HPC-enabled suite of Artificial Intel.

- Linear Regression
- Feedforward Neural Network
- Support Vector Machine Regression
- Non-Linear Regression
- K-Means with Local Models
- Gaussian Mixture Model with Local Models
- Self-Organizing Map with Local Models
- Regression Tree (using Information Gain)
- Time Modeling with Local Models
- Recurrent Neural Networks
- Genetic Algorithms
- Ensemble Learning



***Acknowledgment: Dr. Lynne Parker (NSF Div. Dir. Info. and Intel. Systems);  
Dr. Richard Edwards (doctoral student, now Amazon's ad analytics)***

# Calibration Performance – automated M&V

National HPC Resources



## High Performance Computing

- Different calibration algorithms
- Machine learning – big data mining
- Large-scale calibration tests

Applied Research



## Features

- Calibrate any model to data
- Calibrates to the data you have (monthly utility bills to submetering)
- Runs on a laptop and in the cloud
- 35 Publications:  
[http://bit.ly/autotune\\_science](http://bit.ly/autotune_science)
- Open source (GitHub):  
[http://bit.ly/autotune\\_code](http://bit.ly/autotune_code)

Industry and building owners

## Results

|                      |      | ASHRAE G14 Requires | Autotune Results |
|----------------------|------|---------------------|------------------|
| Monthly utility data | CVR  | 15%                 | 1.20%            |
|                      | NMBE | 5%                  | 0.35%            |
| Hourly utility data  | CVR  | 30%                 | 3.65%            |
|                      | NMBE | 10%                 | 0.35%            |

Results of 20,000+ Autotune calibrations  
(15 types, 47-282 tuned inputs each)

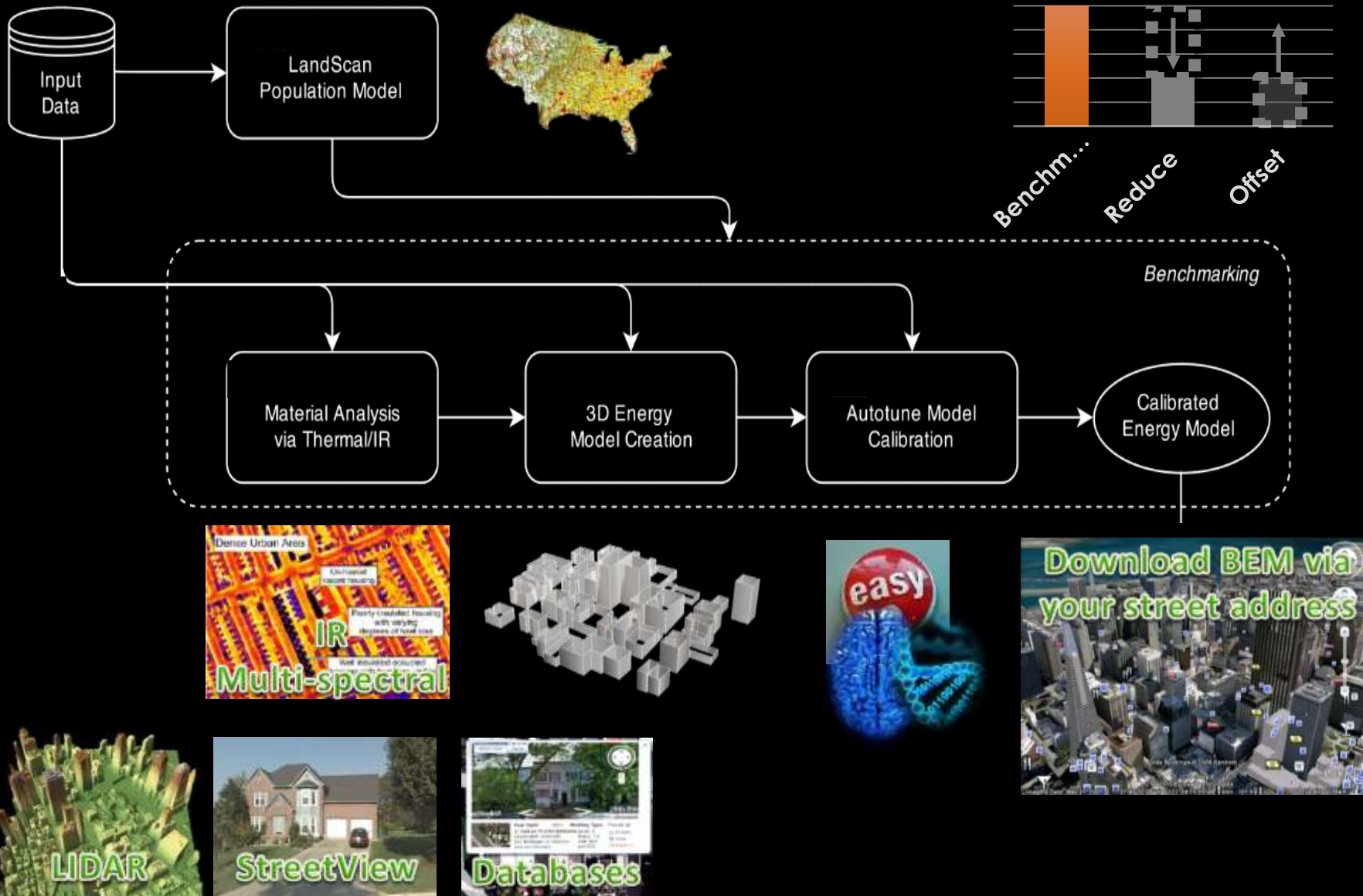
## Other error metrics

| Residential home                       | Tuned input avg. error       |
|--|------------------------------|
| Within 30¢/day (actual use \$4.97/day) | Hourly – 8%<br>Monthly – 15% |
|  | 3 bldgs, 8-79 inputs         |

*Leveraging HPC resources to calibrate models for optimized building efficiency decisions*



# Model America 2020 – BEM for every U.S. building



# Acknowledgements

- U.S. Department of Energy
- National Nuclear Security Administration
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Building Technologies Office
- Office of Electricity



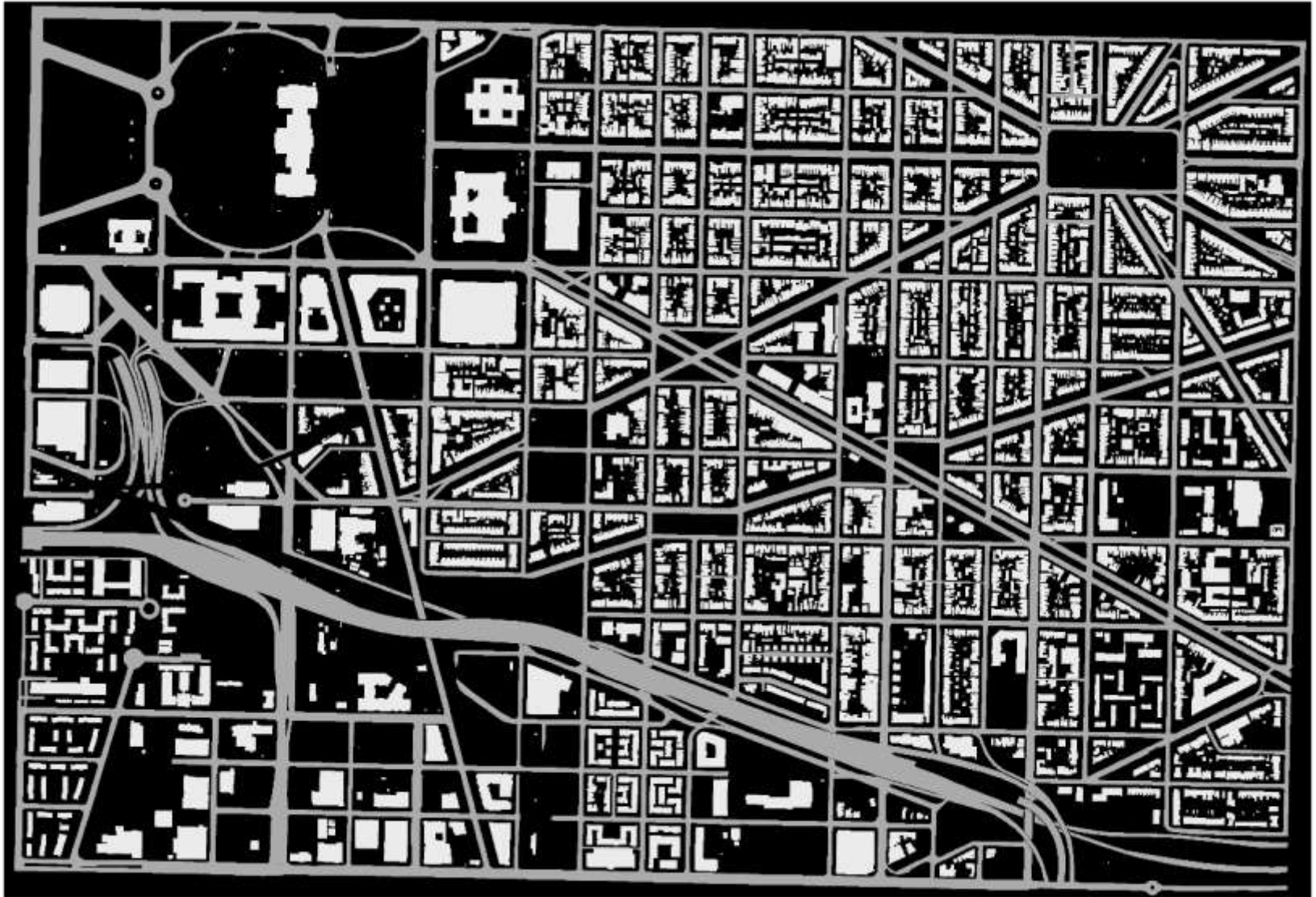
# Data Sources

- Database and image sources for urban model generation
  - Satellite and airborne imagery
  - Cartographic data
  - Ground level images
  - Elevation data
  - Building information databases
  - 3D building model databases

|                                     | Short Title  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Summary                             | Satellite imagery, including panchromatic and multispectral images                   |
| Data type                           | Image  |
| Company                             |  |
| Website                             |  |
| Temporal resolution                 | Cities - 3-11 times per week   |
| Spatial resolution                  | 0.3 m  |
| Measure accuracy                    |  |
| Cost                                | \$11 per sq. km  |
| Format                              | GeoTiff  |
| Mapping to building input variables | Building footprints  |
| Mapping to area properties          | Vegetated areas, road surface, buildings, parking lots                               |
| Mapping to material properties      | Road pavement materials (e.g., concrete, asphalt), parking lots (e.g., gravel, soil) |
| Coverage of US                      | Over 10 million km <sup>2</sup> of coverage of the contiguous US                     |
| Orientation                         | Aerial   |
| Existing internal software          | N/A  |
| Existing expertise                  | Remote sensing data analysis tool  |
| Restrictions                        | N/A  |
| Comments                            |  |

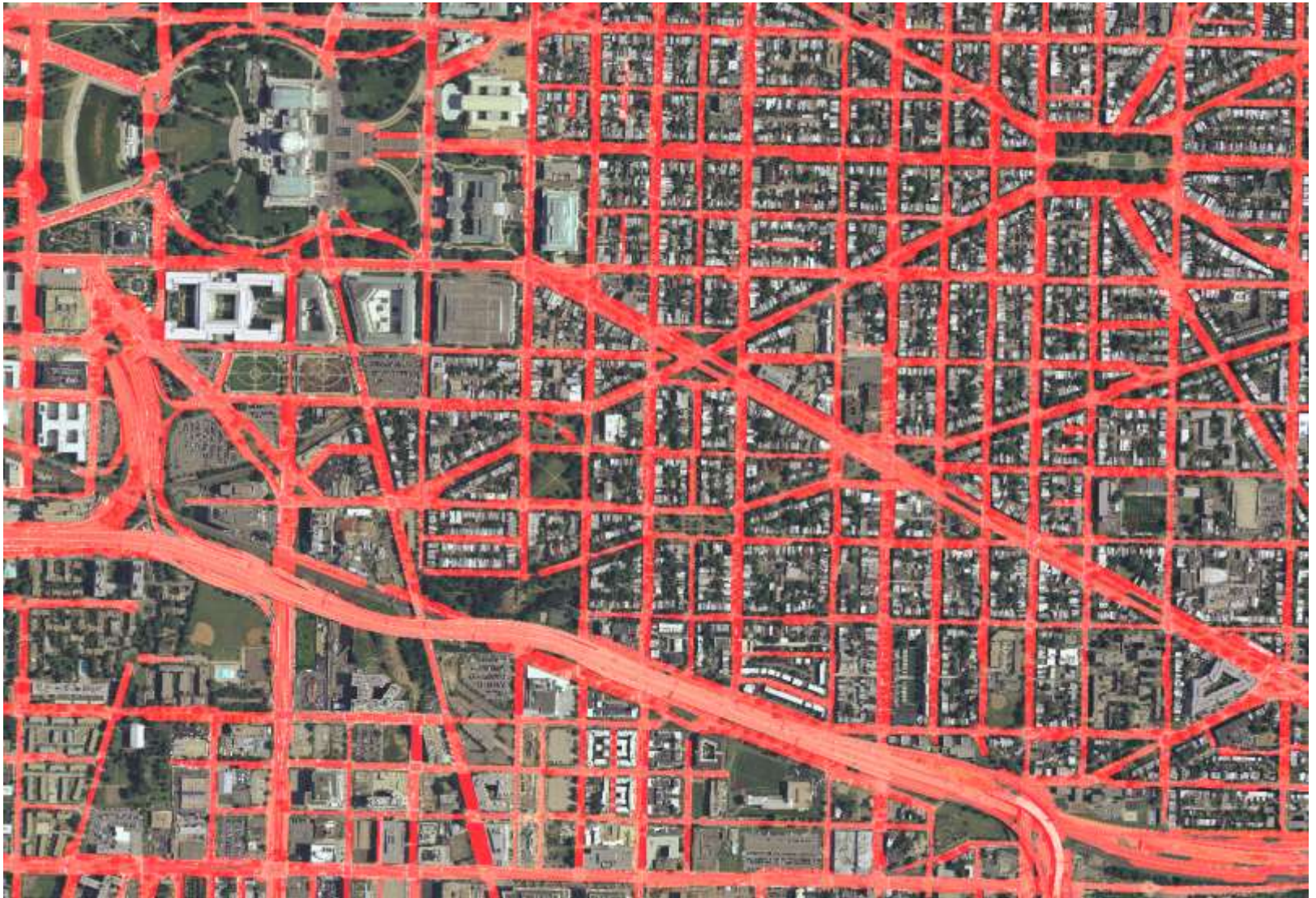


# Manual Segmentation of DC





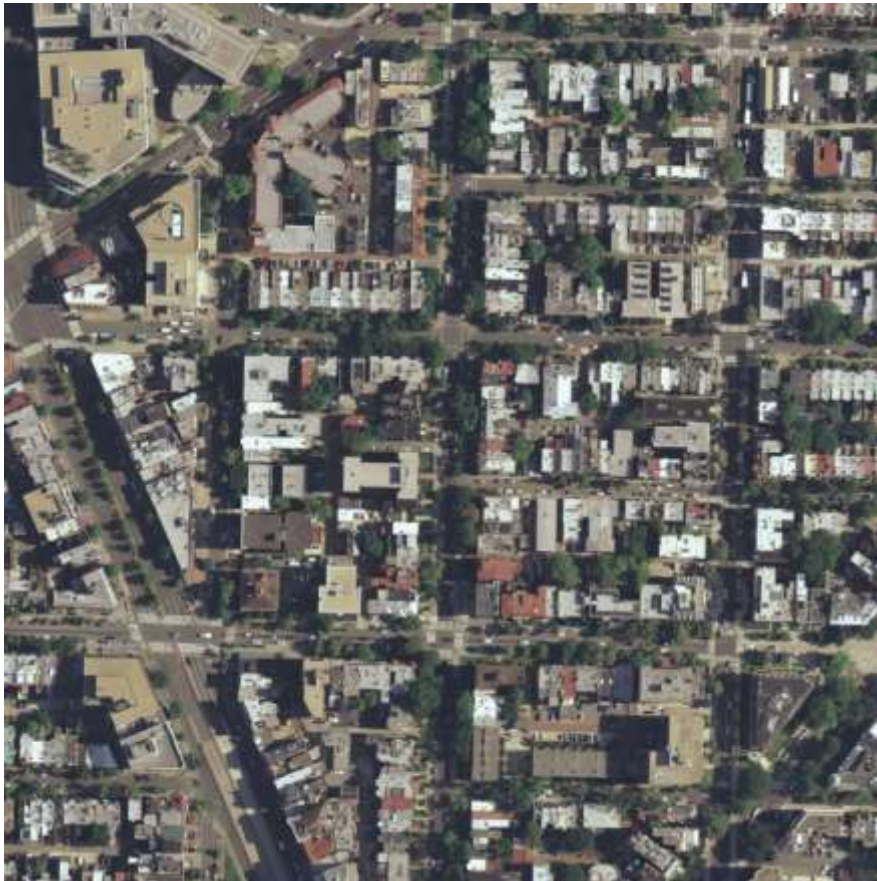
# Automatic Road Extraction





# Automatic Building Footprint Extraction

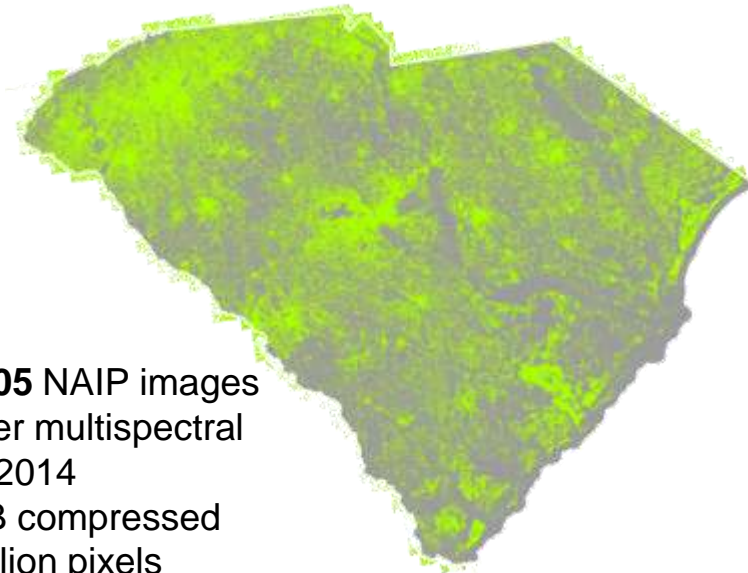
Algorithm: Deep Learning extended and using GPUs for fast building footprint and area extraction over large geographical areas.



Multi-company Competition Precision/Recall – 30/35; Current Precision/Recall – 60+/60+



# Automatic Building Footprint Extraction



- **220,005** NAIP images
- 1 meter multispectral
- 2012-2014
- 5.8 TB compressed
- 9.8 trillion pixels



Portland, OR (25,393 m<sup>2</sup>)  
Imagery: June – July 2012  
Lidar: September 2010



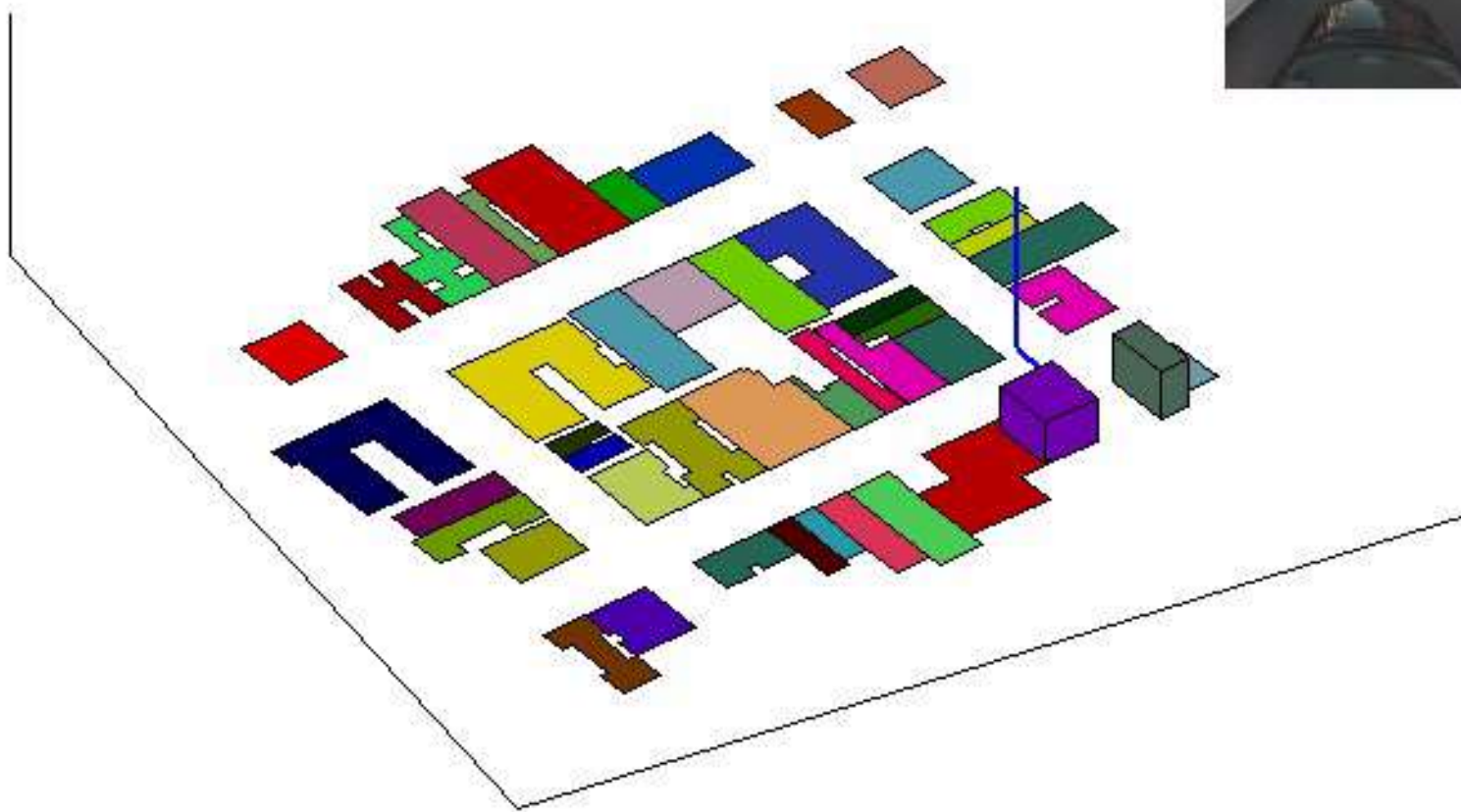
Frankfort, KY (14,801 m<sup>2</sup>)  
Imagery: June 2012  
Lidar: June 2011



Part of Knox County, TN (18,527 m<sup>2</sup>)  
Imagery: June 2012  
Lidar: October 2014

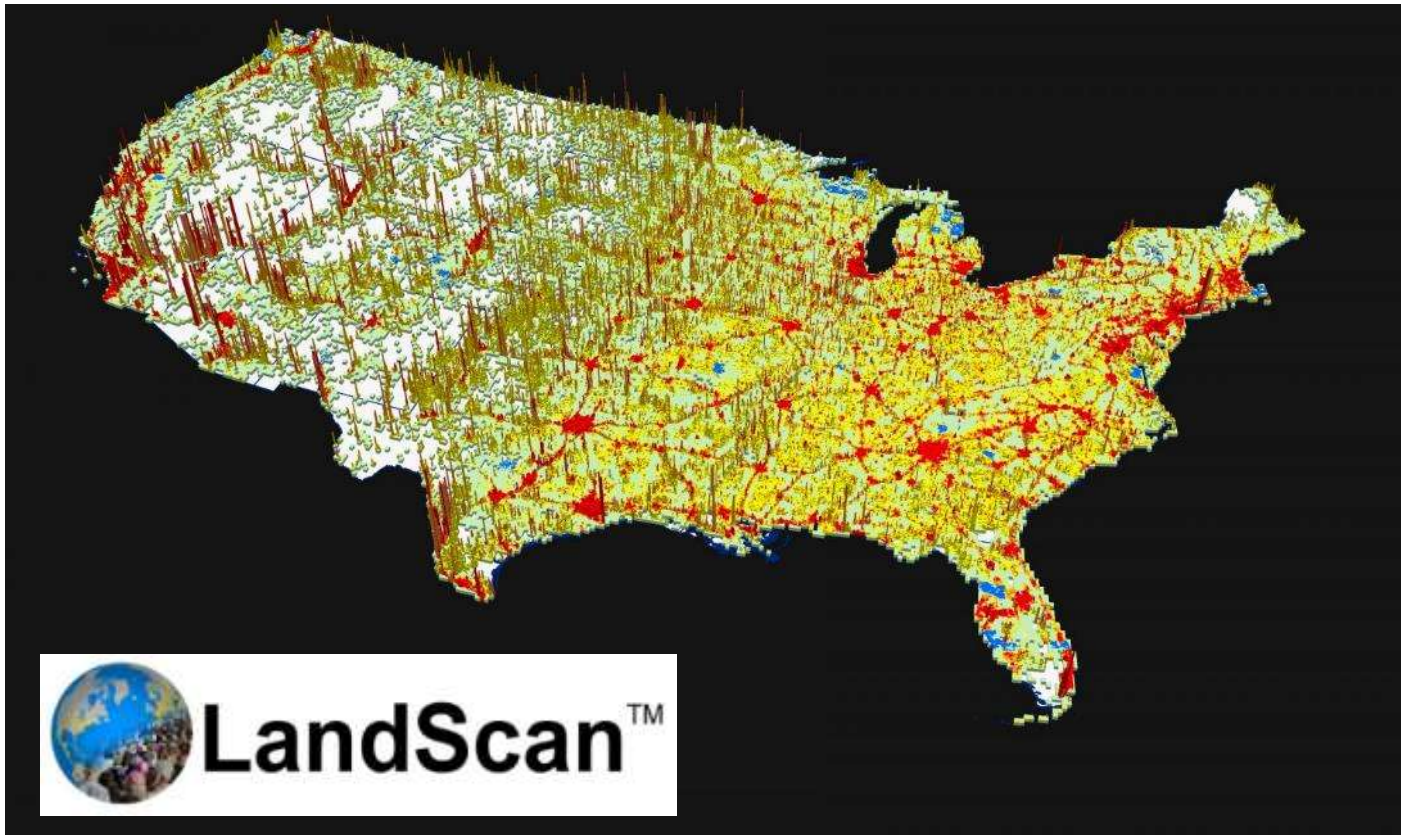
# Processing Street-Level Imagery – Jiangye Yuan

## 3D Building Model Generation



# LandScan USA – Amy Rose

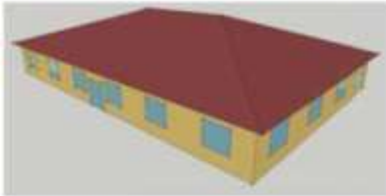
- 90-meter grid of daytime (commercial) and night time (residential) population
  - ~14 different data sources (e.g. anonymized cell phone GPS)
  - Building occupancy and schedule adaptation



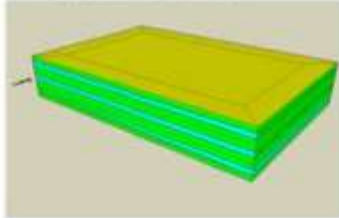


# Prototype Buildings

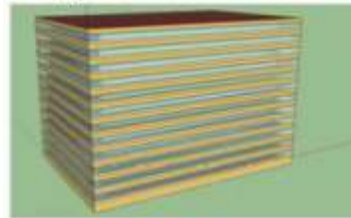
Small Office



Medium Office



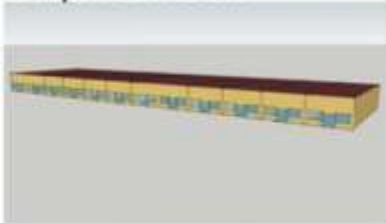
Large Office



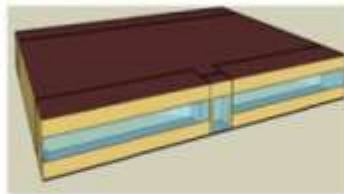
Warehouse



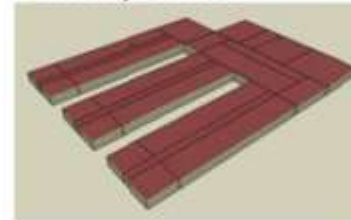
Strip Mall Retail



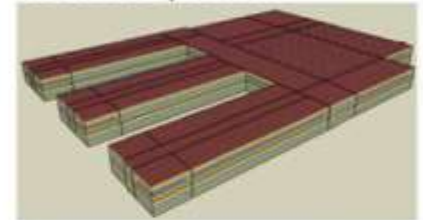
Standalone Retail



Primary School



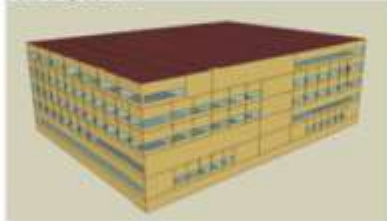
Secondary School



Outpatient Healthcare



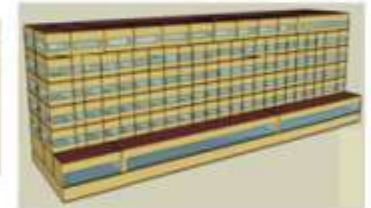
Hospital



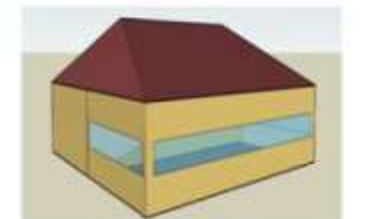
Small Hotel



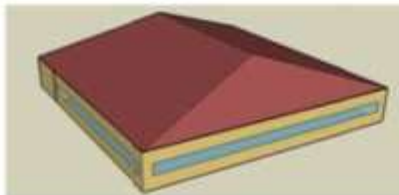
Large Hotel



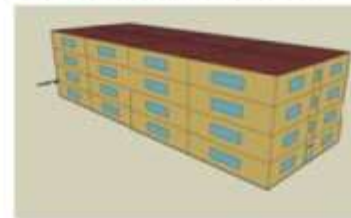
Quick-service Restaurant



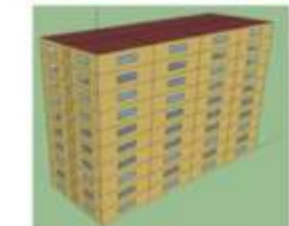
Full-service Restaurant



Mid-rise Apartment



High-rise Apartment



# Prototype and Reference Building Updates

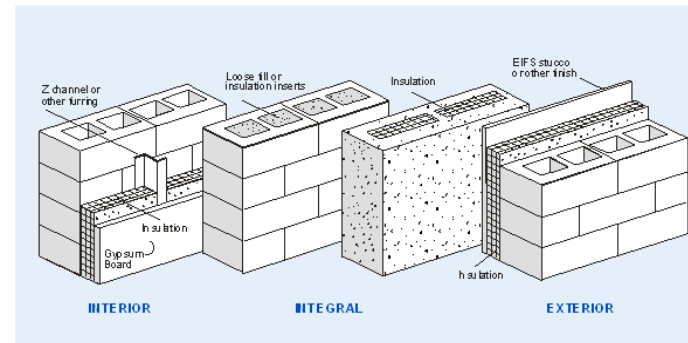
- 70, 80 → 90% of U.S. commercial floor space
- 16 types, 16 climate zones, 3 vintages = 768 buildings
  - 17-19+ types, 16-17 climate zones, 5-16+ vintages = 1,360-5,168 models
- ~3,000 avg. parameters per building
  - Square footage, HVAC layout, infiltration (i.e. airflow)
  - Construction (e.g. wall, layers of envelope)
  - Material properties (ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals)
  - Equipment and occupancy schedules

## Physical Properties of Materials

33.3

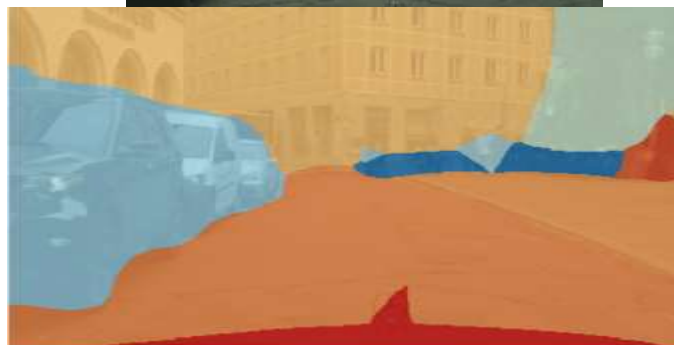
Table 3 Properties of Solids

| Material Description                    | Specific Heat, Btu/lb·°F | Density, lb/ft <sup>3</sup> | Thermal Conductivity, Btu/h·ft·°F | Emissivity                             |                                      |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
|   |                          |                             |                                   | Ratio                                  | Surface Condition                    |
| Aluminum (alloy 1100)                   | 0.214 <sup>b</sup>       | 171 <sup>u</sup>            | 128 <sup>u</sup>                  | 0.09 <sup>a</sup><br>0.20 <sup>a</sup> | Commercial sheet<br>Heavily oxidized |
| Aluminum bronze (76% Cu, 22% Zn, 2% Al) | 0.09 <sup>a</sup>        | 517 <sup>a</sup>            | 58 <sup>u</sup>                   |  |                                      |
| Asbestos: Fiber                         | 0.25 <sup>b</sup>        | 150 <sup>a</sup>            | 0.097 <sup>a</sup>                |  |                                      |
| Insulation                              | 0.20 <sup>i</sup>        | 36 <sup>b</sup>             | 0.092 <sup>b</sup>                | 0.93 <sup>b</sup>                      | "Paper"                              |
| Ashes, wood                             | 0.20 <sup>f</sup>        | 40 <sup>b</sup>             | 0.041 <sup>b</sup> (122)          |  |                                      |
| Asphalt                                 | 0.22 <sup>b</sup>        | 132 <sup>b</sup>            | 0.43 <sup>b</sup>                 |  |                                      |
| Bakelite                                | 0.35 <sup>b</sup>        | 81 <sup>u</sup>             | 9.7 <sup>u</sup>                  |  |                                      |
| Bell metal                              | 0.086 <sup>c</sup> (122) |                             |                                   |  |                                      |
| Bismuth tin                             | 0.040 <sup>e</sup>       |                             | 37.6 <sup>a</sup>                 |  |                                      |
| Brick, building                         | 0.2 <sup>b</sup>         | 123 <sup>u</sup>            | 0.4 <sup>b</sup>                  | 0.93 <sup>a</sup>                      |                                      |

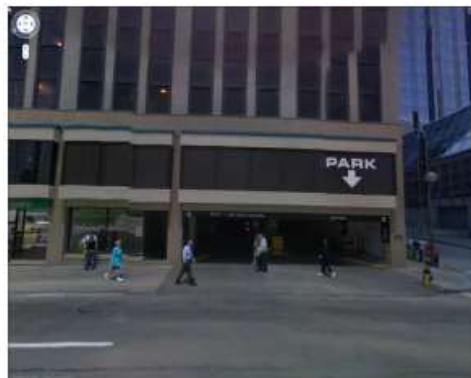


# Street-level imagery (Lexie Yang)

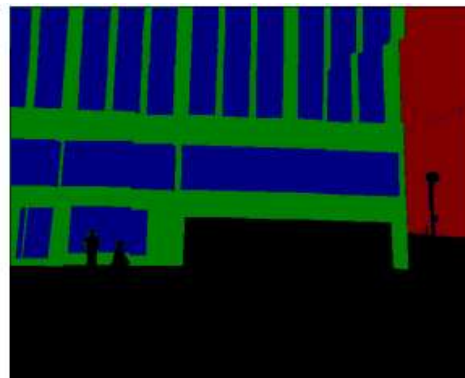
## Façade Type



- Windows (blue)
- Façade (green)
- Street/open (black)
- Other building (red)

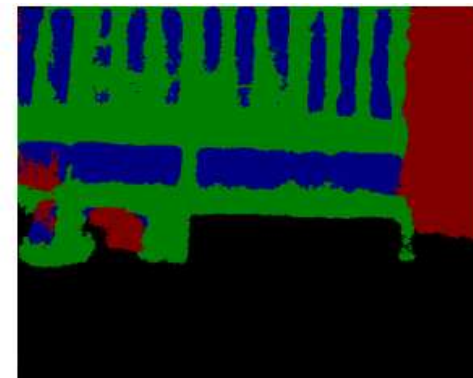


Input image



## Window-to-wall ratio

Ground truth



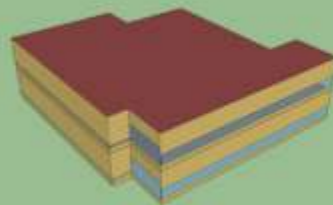
Model output



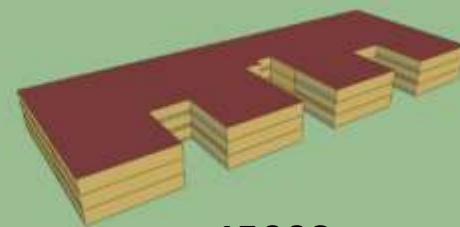
# Oak Ridge National Laboratory



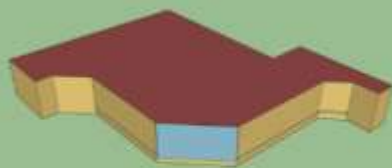
4500N



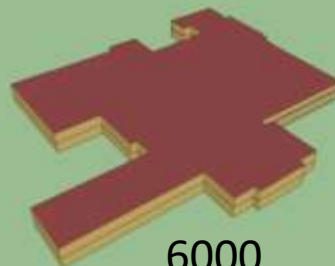
4020



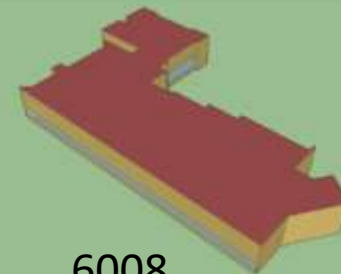
4500S



4512



6000



6008

# Oak Ridge National Laboratory (interactive)



Years  
1951 2012



4500N

Name: Central Research & Administration North  
Year Built: 1952  
Number of People: 450  
Gross Square Footage: 363,980  
Number of Floors: 3  
Energy Usage (for visualization purposes only, data is inaccurate): 0.9



[bit.ly/ornl\\_buildings](http://bit.ly/ornl_buildings)

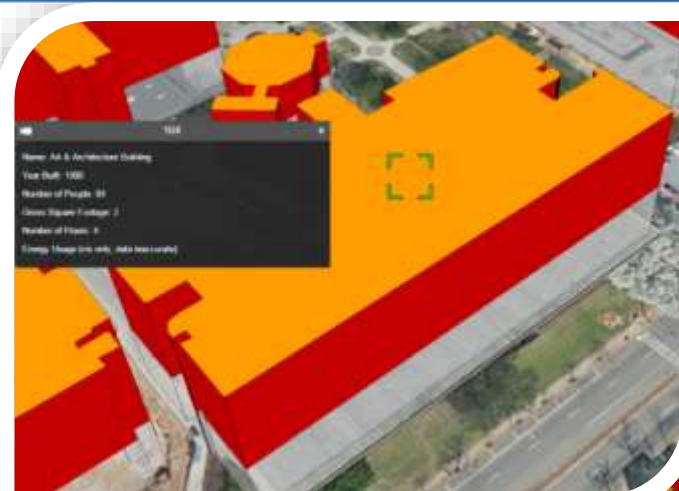
CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE INSTITUTE  
CLIMATE SCIENCE CENTER

URAN DYNAMICS INSTITUTE  
CLIMATE SCIENCE CENTER

OAK RIDGE National Laboratory | BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES RESEARCH AND INTEGRATION CENTER



# The University of Tennessee (2 days)



[bit.ly/ut\\_buildings](https://bit.ly/ut_buildings)

CLIMATE CHANGE  
SCIENCE INSTITUTE  
OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

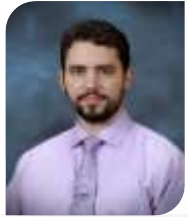
URBAN DYNAMICS  
INSTITUTE  
OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

OAK RIDGE  
National Laboratory

BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES  
RESEARCH AND  
INTEGRATION CENTER



# Virtual EPB – bios



- Joshua New, Ph.D., C.E.M., PMP, CMVP
  - BTRIC “Software Tools & Models” responsible for development of DOE’s building simulation tools, HPC, and AI for big data mining.
  - Led 62 projects (9.4/year) totaling \$10M/\$28M (\$1.3M/yr)
    - 133/133 deliverables (44/yr) on-time and on-budget; 100+ publications (13.8/yr)



- James (Jim) Ingraham, B.S. Finance
  - EPB, VP of Strategic Research; electric utility and broadband communications; market research and data modeling



- William (Bill) Copeland, B.S. Economics, MBA
  - EPB, Director of Business Intelligence, EPB business systems, visual analytics



- Hsiuhan (Lexie) Yang, Ph.D. Civil Engineering
  - Computer vision specializing in aerial imagery
  - Machine learning for large data: NASA, AIST, NSF, DOE



- Mark Adams, M.S. Ag&Bio, Mechanical Engineering
  - Building simulation expert, EnergyPlus/OpenStudio developer

# Virtual EPB Summary

- DOE's Building Technologies Office and Office of Electricity
  - Goal: create a digital twin of every building in EPB's service area
  - Final Deliverable: Simulation-informed data and valuation report for energy, demand, emissions, and \$ impact to EPB for each building in EPB's service area for 5 prioritized use cases covering 9 monetization scenarios
- 2 projects, funded and tracked separately
- Total - \$700k (OE-\$450k, 41 tasks; BTO-\$250k, 15 tasks + BTO: \$400k FY19)
- 56 tasks, 12 milestones, 1 Go/No-Go (passed)
- On-schedule except for 1 technical input (High-res bldgs) and 1 task (QA/QC)

# Utility Use Cases for Virtual EPB

- **Peak Rate Structure** - model peak segment customers in aggregate as disproportionate contributors to electric utilities' wholesale demand charges for more equitable rate structures.
- **Demand Side Management** – identify DSM products and grid services for better distribution grid management that allow both utilities and rate-payers to share in peak reduction
- **Grid stability services** – quantify improved load models
- **Emissions** – accurately account for emissions contributed by each building, providing enhanced abilities for utilities to best comply with national emission policies.
- **Energy Efficiency** – accurate modeling/forecasting of every building energy profile virtually in a scalable fashion allows better follow-up and more targeted energy audits/retrofits.
- **Customer Education** - better understand building's energy usage as a function of weather to provide better information during customer billing enquiries.

Energy, Demand, Emissions, and \$ for 9 scenarios (Customer->EPB, EPB->TVA)



# EPB buildings in Tennessee (166,944)

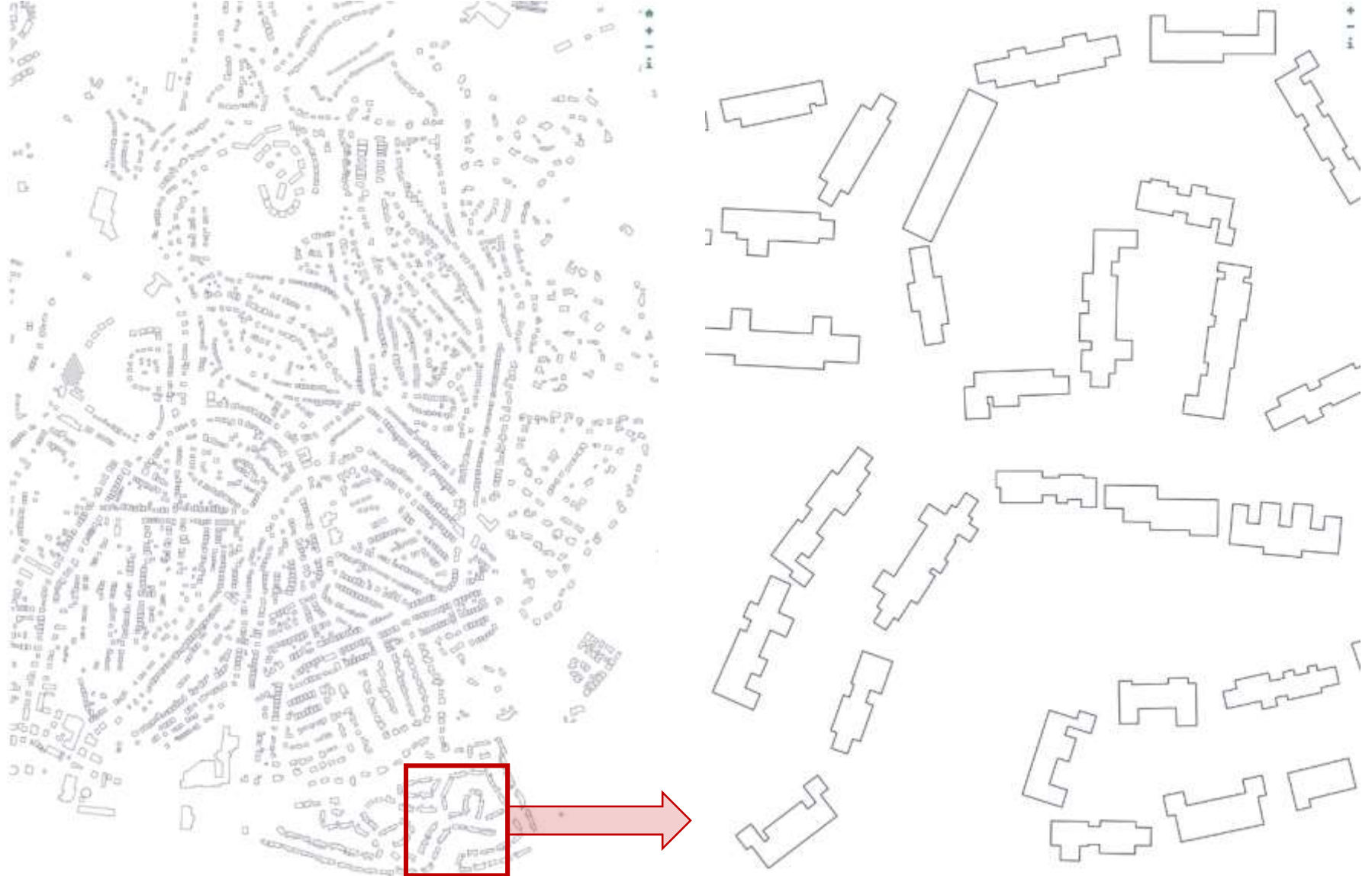


# EPB buildings in Tennessee (166,944)



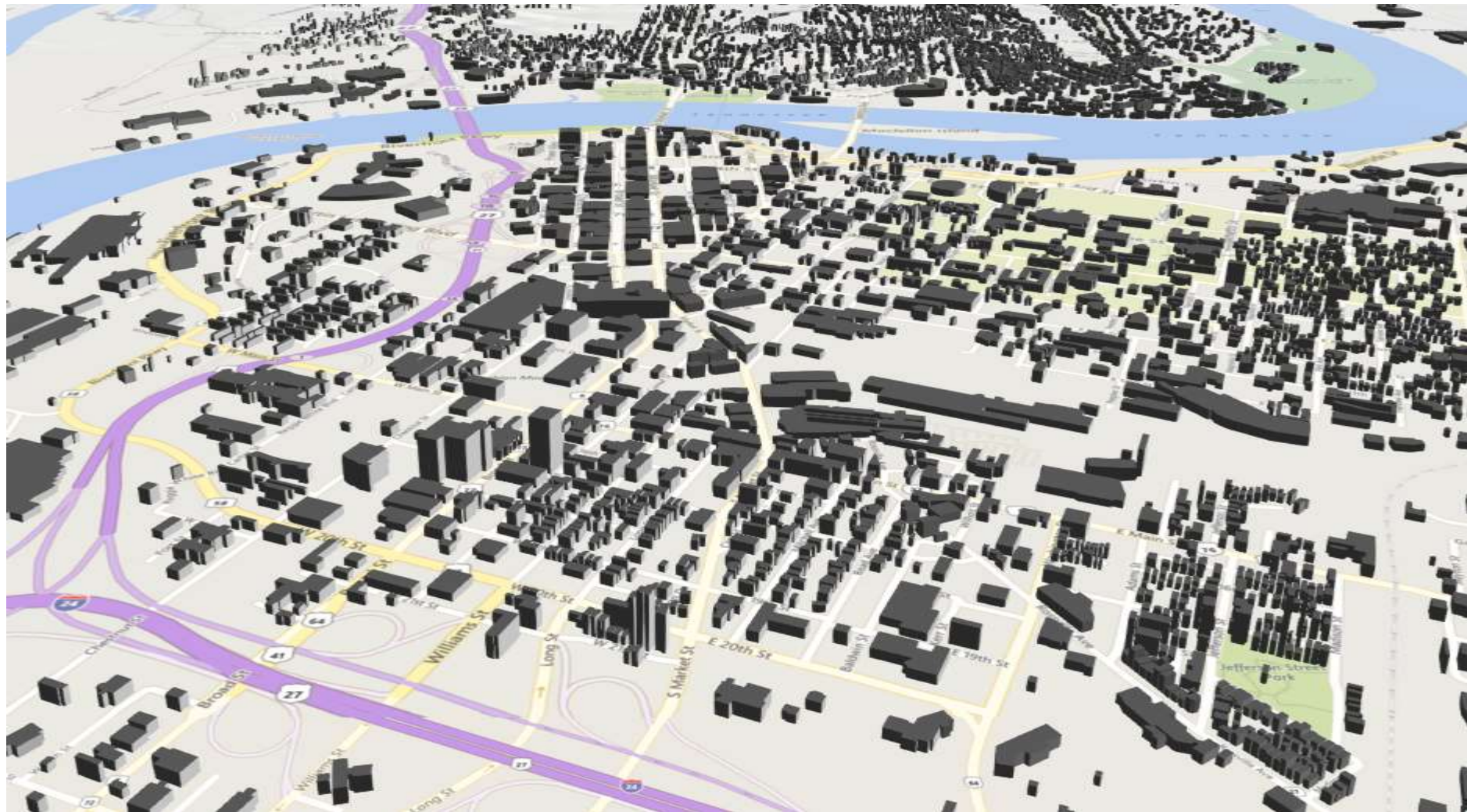


# EPB buildings in Tennessee (166,944)





# Chattanooga, TN (100,000+ buildings)



# Scientific results

- 100+ page internal report NDA/OUO
  - New, Joshua R., Hambrick, Joshua, and Copeland, William A. (2017). "Assessment of Value Propositions for Virtual Utility Districts: Case Study for the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga, TN." ORNL internal report ORNL/TM-2017/512, December 15, 2017, 107 pages.
- Sensitivity analysis for all building types
  - 80% of commercial buildings - 16 climate zones, 16 building types, averaging 5.75 vintages
  - 281-4,617 building descriptors (e.g. thermostat, insulation level) were modified

|               | Small Office | Outpatient | Large Office             | Medium Office           | Hospital     | Warehouse     | Small Hotel      | Large hotel    |
|---------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Inputs</b> | 458          | 3483       | 1072                     | 760                     | 1955         | 333           | 1823             | 887            |
|               | Strip Mall   | Retail     | Quick Service Restaurant | Full Service Restaurant | Mid Rise Apt | High Rise Apt | Secondary School | Primary School |
| <b>Inputs</b> | 800          | 438        | 281                      | 286                     | 1464         | 4617          | 1621             | 1051           |

- Fractional Factorial (FrF2) resolution IV statistical design of experiments
- Summarize 768 lists of impactful variables
  - 254,544 annual simulations were completed on the nation's fastest supercomputer (Titan)
  - 216 Excel spreadsheets were created listing the energy and demand impacts of each building property
- Quantify Most Important Building Parameters
  - Top 10 annual energy (kWh) and demand/peak-shaving (kW) variables for each of the 16 building types

# The AutoBEM technology “axe”

**135,481 building models have been created and matched to EPB’s PremiseID**

Limitations: limited building types, not calibrated, will improve quarterly

QA/QC: will show how close our simulations are to 15-min data

**2.3 million EnergyPlus building energy models using AutoBEM technology, Titan, cloud, and local servers to produce and analyze 13 TB of simulation data.**

1. Generate baseline building – OpenStudio (1.5-3h Amazon, 30h internal)
2. Run ECM measures – OS Measure (30 mins AWS, 2h internal), Custom (1m AWS, 5m intl.)
3. Copy data to Titan – 1 min (1.2GB tar.gz)
4. Submit to Titan – 0-2 hours in queue
5. EnergyPlus simulation time – 30-45 mins (5mins/sim = 1.4 years to simulate EPB on 1 core)
6. Data transfer – 40 mins (160GB tar.gz)
7. Uncompress – 10-15 mins
8. Reformat data – 20-30 mins
9. Analysis – 5-10 mins

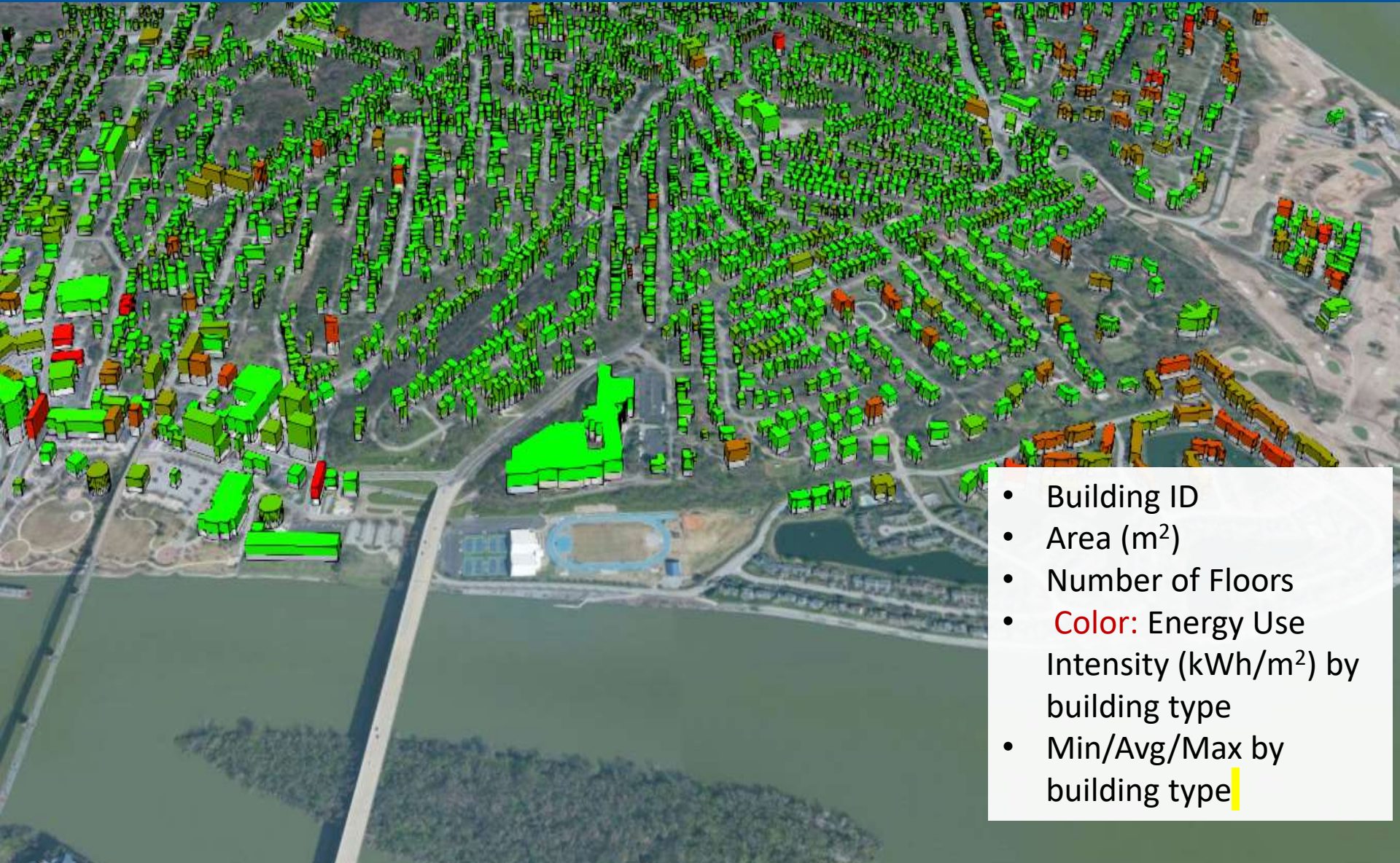
**Time for creation, annual simulation, and analyzing “all” EPB buildings  
6.5 hours (6.1h –36.5h)**



# Use Case - Scenarios

- **Preliminary** building-specific estimates of energy, demand, and cost savings totaling **\$11-\$35 million per year** based on 9 scenarios prioritized by EPB.
  - 1. Peak Rate Structure**
    1. Scenario #1a, Peak contributions for each building
    2. Scenario #1b, Cost difference, in terms of dollars per year, for all building
  - 2. Demand Side Management**
    1. Scenario #2a, Monthly peak demand savings, annual energy savings, and dollar savings based on rate structure for all buildings.
    2. Scenario #2b, Location-specific deferral of infrastructure cost savings potential
  - 3. Emissions**
    1. Scenario #3a, Emissions footprints for each building
  - 4. Energy Efficiency**
    1. Scenario #4a, Optimal retrofit list of independent ECMs
    2. Scenario #4b, Optimal retrofit package of dependent ECMs
  - 5. Customer Education**
    1. Scenario #5a, Percentile ranking of each building's EUI by building type and vintage
    2. Scenario #5b, Monthly peak demand savings, annual energy savings, and dollar savings based on rate structure for all buildings compared to AMY weather file scenario.

# 1a – Peak contribution percentile by type



- Building ID
- Area (m<sup>2</sup>)
- Number of Floors
- **Color:** Energy Use Intensity (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>) by building type
- Min/Avg/Max by building type

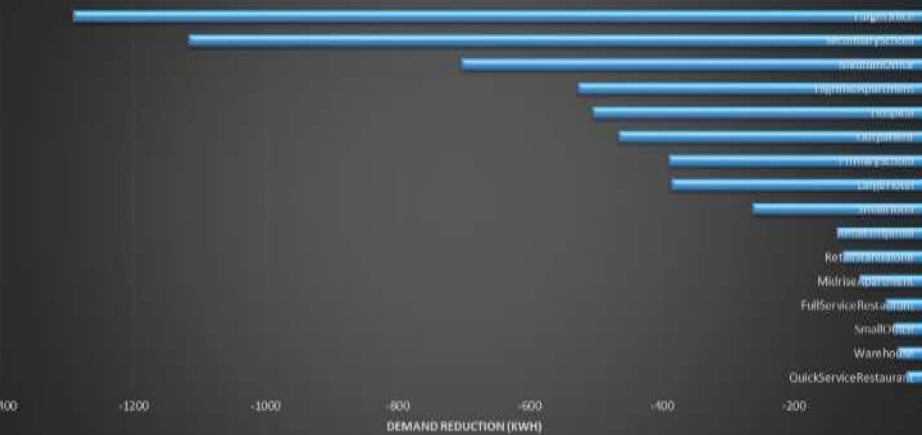
# 2a - Smart Thermostat

- Pre-heat/pre-cool 2 or 4 hours prior to peak demand hour each month
  - Single Heating or Single Cooling thermostat – up or down 4°F and 8°F
  - Dual Setpoint Thermostat – Average of baseline cooling and heating setpoints with a 0.5°C deadband
- Setback thermostat setpoint by 4°F or 8°F for peak demand hour and 4 hours after peak for each month
- Altered thermostat values affects 38 (1-4 per building type) thermostat schedules in 518 (3-118 per building type) thermal zones for 16 different building types
- The 4°F and 8°F runs are compared to baseline, unaltered simulation to determine demand reduction and energy savings potential

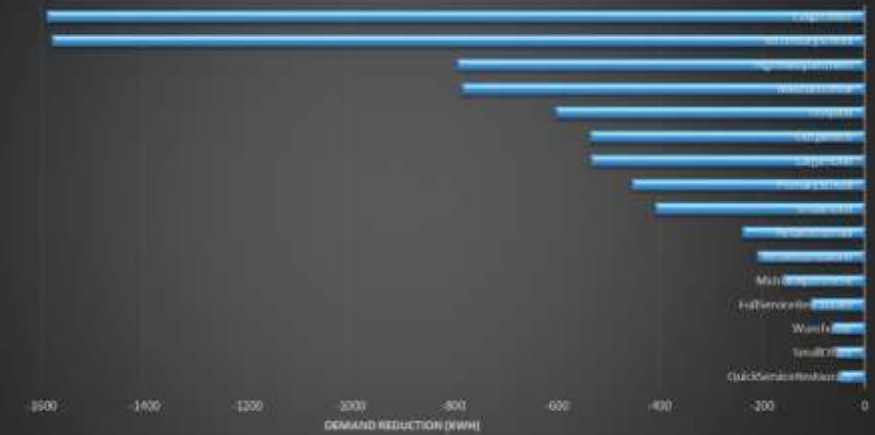


# 2a - Smart Thermostat: Maximum Demand and Energy Reduction Potential

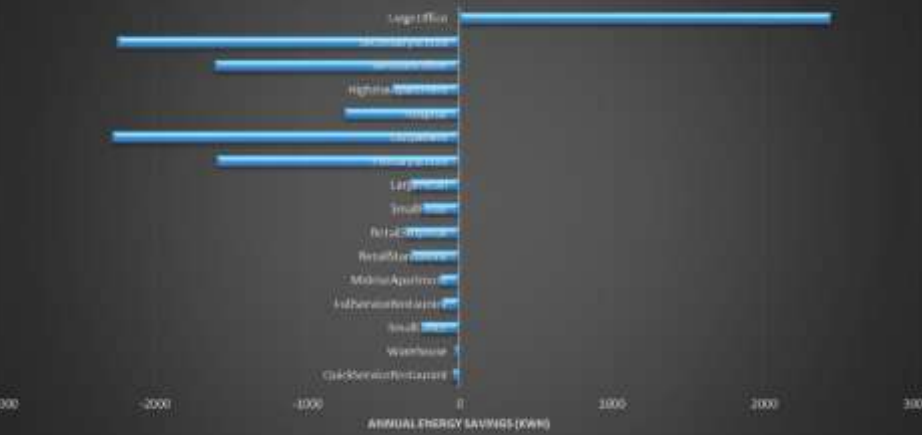
Maximum Demand Reduction Potential - 4F Change



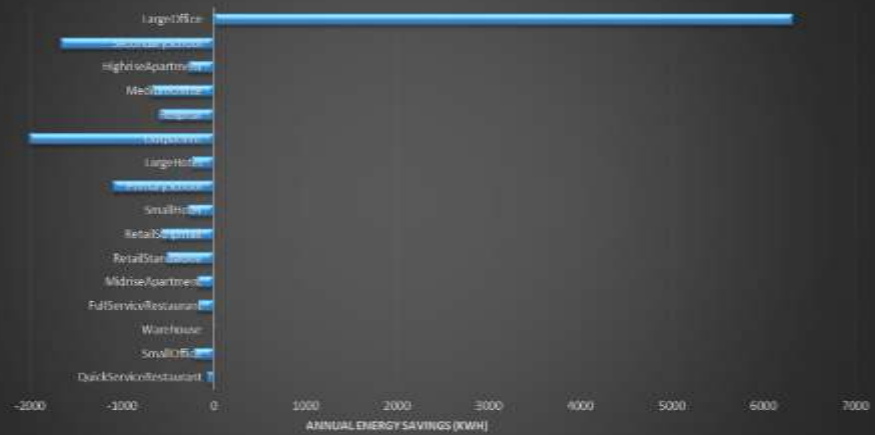
Maximum Demand Reduction Potential - 8F Change



Maximum Annual Energy Savings - 4F Change



Maximum Annual Energy Savings - 8F Change



# Resiliency and Emissions Footprints

- **2b: Demand Side Management**
  - Resiliency of critically-loaded feeders and substations

## Circuit: Customer Information

Circuit:      Circuit Count: 1  
As of Date:   XFMR Count: 146  
                  Meter Count: 703

| Circuit ID | Xfmr Structure Number - Compressed | Premise Number | Account Number - Formatted | Premise Service Address | Meter Number |
|------------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|------------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|

- **3a: Emission Footprint for each building**
  - Carbon footprint (CO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>)
  - Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
  - *Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)*
  - *Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)*

# Demand and EE opportunities

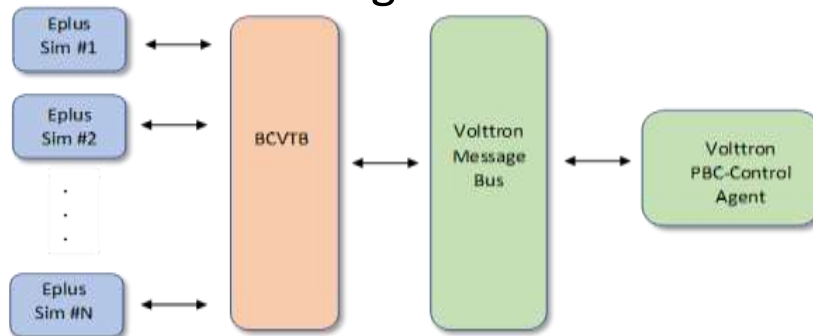
- Energy, demand, emissions, savings (customer and utility) for every building every 15 minutes

| ECMs            | Different Fields Calculated for Each ECM |           |           |            |              |           |          |         |
|-----------------|--|-----------|-----------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| HVAC            | 1.Total                                  | 2.Annual  | 3.Energy  | 4.Annual   | 5.Annual     | 6.Annual  | 7.Annual | 8.Total |
| Lighting        | Cost                                     | Electric  | Cost      | Electric   | Demand       | Demand    | Demand   | Cost    |
| Infiltration    | Savings                                  | Savings   | Savings   |            | Savings      | Cost      |          | Savings |
| 8F setback      |  |           |           |            |              | Savings   |          |         |
| HVAC Efficiency | \$                                       | kWh       | \$        | kWh        | kW           | \$        | kW       | \$      |
| 4F setback      |  |           |           |            |              |           |          |         |
| Insulation      | 9.Annual                                 | 10.Energy | 11.Annual | 12.Percent | 13.Annual    | 14.Annual |          |         |
| Water heater    | Electric                                 | Cost      | Electric  | Savings    | Demand       | Demand    |          |         |
| Heat pump       | Savings                                  | Savings   |           |            | Cost Savings |           |          |         |
| Smart WH        | kWh                                      | \$        | kWh       | \$         | \$           | kW        |          |         |



# Related Work

- **Combined Heat and Power (CHP)**
  - Sizing micro-CHP based on heating, cooling, and electrical demands
- **Transactive HVAC Control**
  - EnergyPlus models for transactive control
- **Microgrid**
  - Simplified model replaced with EnergyPlus
  - Run for area within EPB for considering microgrid
- **VOLTTRON Deployment**
  - B2G services deployment of hardware and control strategies



# Virtual EPB – interactive results



| 60246                                       |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| ID  | 60246              |
| DOE Building Type                           | SmallOffice        |
| Num Floors                                  | 3                  |
| Percentile                                  | 87.70 %            |
| Estimated wholesale vs retail cost          | \$ 9797.07         |
| CO2 emissions                               | 222052.32 lbs/year |
| Smart Thermostat - 4F cost savings          | \$ 1316.61         |
| Smart Thermostat - 8F cost savings          | \$ 2325.84         |
| TMY->AMY Smart Thermostat - 4F cost savings | \$ 204.99          |
| TMY->AMY Smart Thermostat - 8F cost savings | \$ 103.41          |
| HVAC Efficiency ECM                         | \$ 1291.79         |
| Gas HVAC ECM                                | \$ 4276.69         |
| Gas Water Heater ECM                        | \$ 725.58          |
| Heat Pump Water Heater ECM                  | \$ 476.95          |
| Insulation ECM                              | \$ 736.27          |
| Infiltration ECM                            | \$ 1577.50         |
| Lighting ECM                                | \$ 2898.95         |

# Exascale Computing Project

- Coupling:
  - Transportation (CommuterSim)
  - Weather (WRF, Nek5000)
  - Buildings (OpenStudio/EnergyPlus)
  - Population (LandScan)
  - Socio-economics
- Individual-person, agent-based models, fully-coupled simulations running on the fastest computers in the world



EXASCALE COMPUTING PROJECT

Titan (ORNL), when the world's fastest 27 petaflops, world's 7<sup>th</sup> (top500.org)

Summit (ORNL), world's fastest in June, 207 PF

Aurora (ANL),  
Frontier (ORNL)



Exascale...





# Discussion

**HPC Tools for  
Modeling and Simulation**  
Capturing building energy consumption

**Joshua New, Ph.D., CEM, PMP, CMVP**

BTRIC, Software Tools & Models  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

[newjr@ornl.gov](mailto:newjr@ornl.gov)



**epb**

