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# Energy and Water Assessments: Virtual and Conventional

Automatic Building detection and Energy Model creation (AutoBEM) technologies for remote audit of individual buildings at urban scales



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#### 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 (top 8%)
- 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
- Certified Scrum Master
- Artificial Intelligence
- President's National S&T Council's Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence Subcommittee's Artificial Intelligence Consortium







### **Energy Consumption and Production**



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## **Energy Audit**

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### Typical audit criteria

- Location, fuel types, building type
- Form area, shape, number floors, WWR, thermal zones
- Architecture walls, roof, window, skylight, foundation
- HVAC System type, efficiency, control, fan, pump, water heating
- Internal loads lighting, plug, occupancy

	Item	Descriptions (Example)	
	Location	City, State, Country	
	Available fuel types	Gas, electricity	
	Building Type (Principal Building Function)	Office	
Fo	rm		
	Total Floor Area (sq feet),(Width & Depth)		
	Building shape		
	Number of Floors		
	Window Fraction		
	Window Locations		
	Shading Geometry		
	Azimuth		
	Thermal Zoning		
	Floor to floor height (feet)		
	Floor to ceiling height (feet)		
	Glazing sill height (feet)		

### What matters and how much?

- 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
  - 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

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- Top 10 annual <u>energy (kWh)</u> and <u>demand/peak-shaving (kW)</u> variables for each of the 16 building
- Publication in-review with supplemental Excel spreadsheets for each bldg. type, location, and vintage for 47-470 variables each.

	Small Office	Outpatien t	Large Office	Medium Office	Hospital	Warehous e	Small Hotel	Large hotel
Inputs	458	3483	1072	760	1955	333	1823	887
	Stri p	Retail	Quick Service	Full Service	Mid Rise	High Rise	Secondary	Primary
	Mall		Restaurant	Restaurant	Apt	Apt	School	School
Inputs	800	438	281	286	1464	4617	1621	1051



### Int'l Performance Measurement & Verification Protocol (IPMVP)

IPMVP Option	How Savings Calculated	Typical Application
A. Retrofit Isolation: Key Parameter Measurement Savings estimated in the field by measurement of key performance parameters	Engineering calculation of baseline and reporting period from measurements, estimated values. Estimated Value x (Baseline-Period, measured parameter – Reporting-period, measured parameter)	Lighting retrofit (power draw measured periodically and hours estimated from schedule)
<ul> <li>B. Retrofit Isolation: All Parameter</li> <li>Measurement</li> <li>Field measurement of energy use of ECM affected system.</li> </ul>	Measurements of baseline and reporting period energy using measurements of proxies of energy use Baseline Energy - Reporting-Period Energy	Variable speed drive and controls to a motor to adjust pump flow. Measure electric power with a kW meter every minute for a week.
<b>C. Whole Facility</b> Savings based on whole facility or sub-facility	Analysis of utility meter data Baseline Energy - Reporting-Period Energy (usually from revenue- grade meter)	Multiple ECMs affecting many systems. Requires 12 month baseline of elec. and gas.
<b>D. Calibrated Simulation</b> Simulation of whole facility or sub-facility. Usually requires considerable skill.	Energy use simulation, calibrated with hourly or monthly utility bills. Baseline energy from the calibrated model [hypothetical or without ECMs] – Reporting-period energy from the calibrated model [with ECMs]	Multiple ECMs affecting many systems. Useful when no meter available in baseline period.

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## **Building Energy Modeling**





## 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

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### **Model America 2020 plans**

- 124 million
   BEM by
   12/31/20
- Analysis of energy and demand measures
- Freely available in 2021

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### Automatic Detection and Building Energy Model Creation (AutoBEM)

### **Data Sources**

- Imagery (satellite, aerial)
- Street-level imagery
- Cartographic layers
- Elevation, GIS
- Tax assessors
- Ranking of descriptors
   EE and Demand impacts
   (281–4,617 per building type)







Occupancy

### **Software Tools**

- Occupancy (every 90m)
- Aerial best footprints
- Street height, type, WWR
- LiDAR geometry
- GIS database API
- Building type
- Model generator
- Fastest buildings simulator
- Web-based visual analytics

Result: Simulated buildings for any area of interest that match 15-minute electrical data more accurately than most manually created models

### **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	Building footprints
variables	
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	



### **Computer Vision for DC**



(e) 🚫



Open Competition Precision/Recall – 30/35 ORNL Current Precision/Recall – 60+/60+

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3D Building Model Generation

### **Street-level Image Processing (height)**







### **Street-level details**



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

© 🔧





Ground truth



Input image

Model output

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### **Oak Ridge National Laboratory**



### The University of Tennessee (2 days)



### **Digital Twin of a Utility**



## 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

3.5+ 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

Analysis – 5-10 mins 9. nergy

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

## Virtual Utility – interactive results



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· 7. 23	60246	
100	ID	60246
1	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
1	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
2	Gas HVAC ECM	\$ 4276.69
	Gas Water Heater ECM	\$ 725.58
	Heat Pump Water Heater ECM	\$ 476.95
	Insulation ECM	\$ 736.27
5	Infiltration ECM	\$ 1577.50
	Lighting ECM	\$ 2898.95
1.4		

E=energy (MWh), D=demand (kW), [min,avg,max]

- **1.** Lighting Efficiency (0.85 W/ft<sup>2</sup>) E=[77, 784, 6757] D=[23, 999, 14410]
- **2.** Infiltration (reduce 25%) E=[40, 774, 4648] D=[-0.8, 840, 14020]
- **3.** Insulation (R16.12 to R28.57) E=[12, 204, 1600] D=[1.9
  - D=[1.9, 817, 13928]
- **4.** Smart thermostat **2.2C (4F)** pre-condition E=[-72, 1.4, 525] D=[-938, 918, 13907]



## Accuracy compared to 15-minute data

Emissions

ORNL posts

OPNI

Creates & maintain

virtual building

output

### Empirical Validation

- 15-minute wholebuilding electrical for 178,368 bldgs
- More accurate than BEM created by a human<sup>1</sup>
  - ½ error of the average manually-created **BEM** when compared to measured data

#### **Use Cases** Peak rate structure Demand-side mgmt : Energy use intensit Energy efficiency Customer education EPB retrieves data for dashboards EPB requests AutoBEM data Analyzes data to driv



### Measures

- Lighting, HVAC COP, infiltration, insulation
- Smart thermostats
- Water heaters
- PV/solar
- EV charging
- Future weather
- Dual-fuel HVAC
- Microgrids

Result: \$11–35 million/year in potential savings identified via simulation-informed data and valuation for energy, demand, emissions, and cost impact to EPB and each customer for each building under five use cases covering nine monetization scenarios

**Operational Use of BEM Simulations** 



<sup>1</sup>Garrison, Eric, New, Joshua R., and Adams, Mark (2019). "Accuracy of a Crude Approach to Urban Multi-Scale Building Energy Models Compared to 15-min Electricity Use." Best PhD Student Paper award. In Proceedings of the ASHRAE Winter Conference, Atlanta, GA, Jan. 12-16, 2019. [PDF] [PPT]

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## **Virtual Utility Integration**



## **Tech Commercialization Fund with Google**

- Environmental Insights Explorer
  - <u>https://insights.sustainability.google/</u>

ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS EXPLORER

Impact begins with insights. Explore data to make informed decisions and inspire action.



# Discussion

HPC Tools for Modeling and Simulation Capturing building energy consumption

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![](_page_24_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

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