

IES

Integrated Energy Systems



HERON: Overview

A Broad Look at the
Holistic Energy Resource Optimization Network
Software

FORCE Workshop
March 2022, Virtual

Outline

- Motivation
- What is HERON?
- Why HERON?
- Example Studies
- Current Efforts Overview
- Q&A

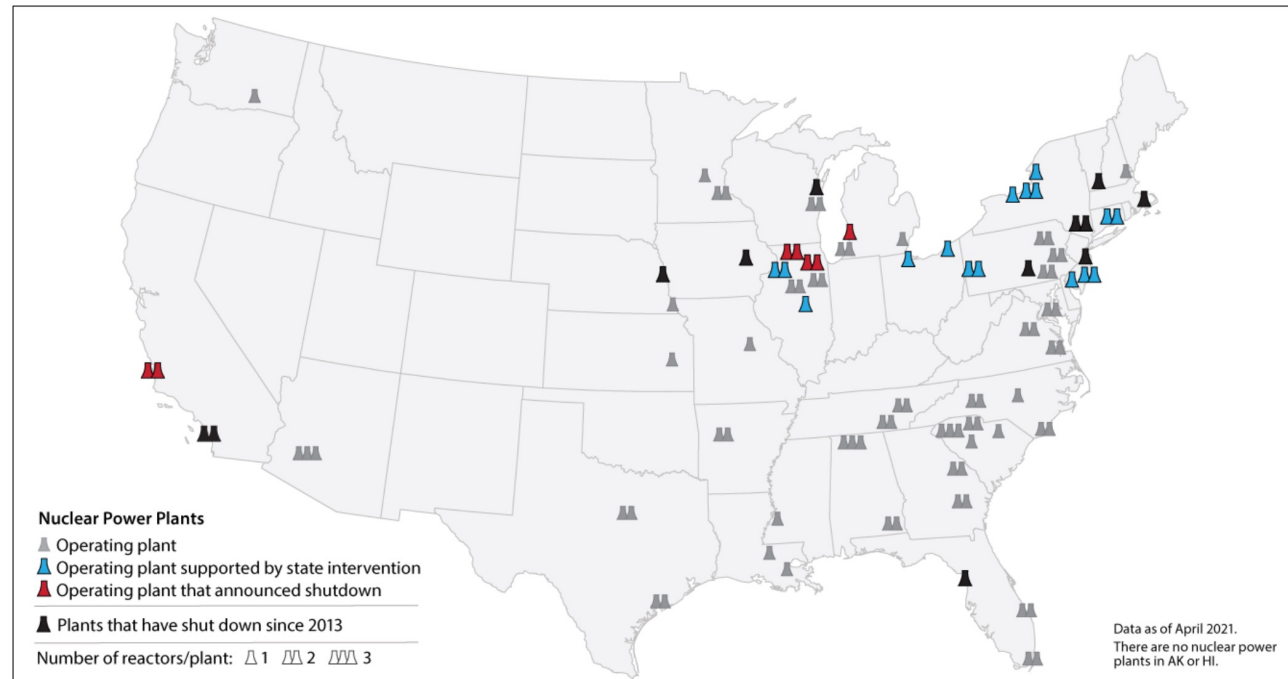
Acknowledgements

HERON development: cross-lab, university-included, industry-informed



Motivations

- Changing Energy Landscape: Nuclear Power Plants (NPP)
 - **12 NPP retired** from Feb 2013 through April 2021
 - Main reasons cited: cost of repairs, operating losses, low electricity prices
 - **7 NPP plan retirement** from April 2021 through August 2025
 - Main reasons cited: operating losses, ending power purchase agreements



Motivation

- Changing Energy Landscape
 - Increased solar, wind deployment
 - **Variable** renewable energy sources (VREs)
 - Introduces significant **uncertainty**
 - Creates **complications** for baseload power
 - Cheap natural gas
 - Cleaner than coal
 - Acts as a “peaker” coupled with VRE
 - Still a carbon emitter
- Impact
 - Baseload nuclear needs to be more **flexible** to be competitive

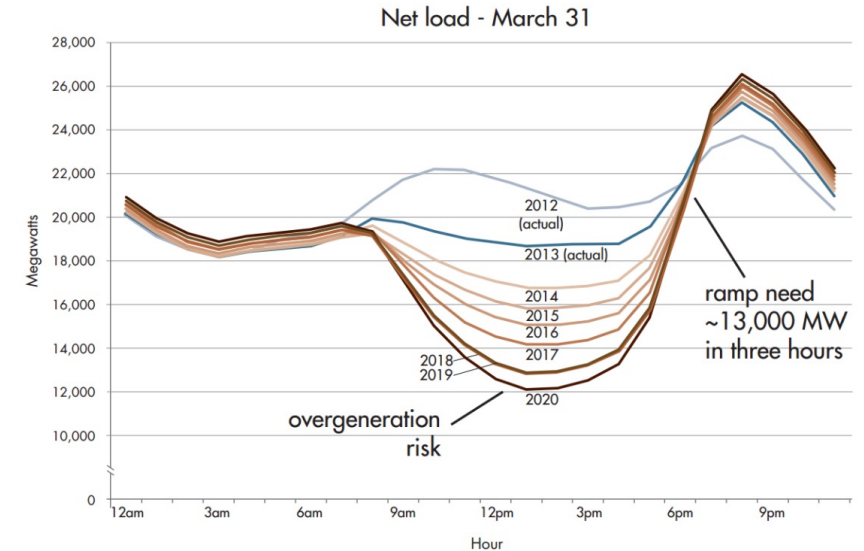
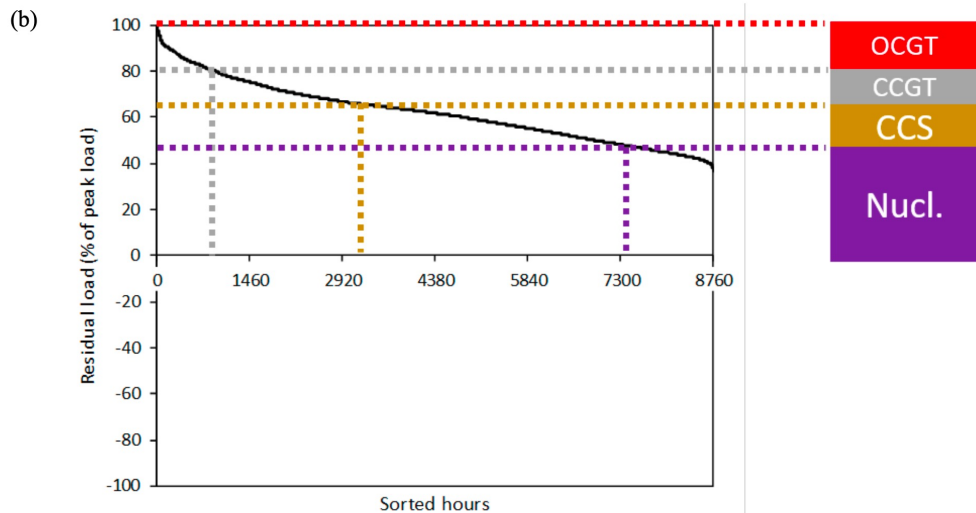
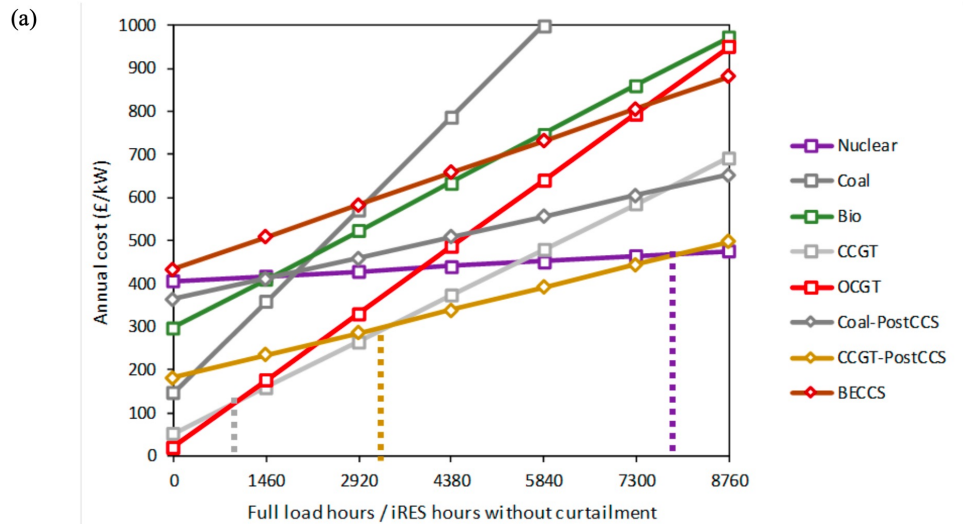


Figure 1. The CAISO duck chart
Source: CAISO 2013

Motivations



- Traditional Screening Curve
 - Based on **baseload** operation
 - Cost = Fixed + Marginal
 - Fixed: Capex, fixed Ops and Maintenance (O&M)
 - Marginal: Fuel, variable O&M
- Assumes Dispatchability
 - **Baseload**: 7000+ hours over demand
 - **Peaker**: 1000 hours or less over demand
 - **VREs** leave peaks, lower minimum demand
 - Requires less baseload, more peakers
 - Also assumes **single-commodity** market

Motivations

- Changing Energy Landscape
 - Main characteristics:
 - Increase in **inflexible intermittent** energy sources (VREs)
 - Larger **gap** between daily max, min electricity prices
 - **Less baseload**, more flexibility required
 - Battery **storage** is prohibitively expensive
 - How can Nuclear respond?
 - Flexible operation
 - Curtail production during low-demand hours
 - Minimal savings: most of nuclear cost is fixed, so not operating means losses
 - Integrated Energy Systems
 - **Switch production** during low-demand hours
 - Viability depends on **regional markets** for secondary commodities
 - Also depends on **uncertainty** of VREs

Motivations

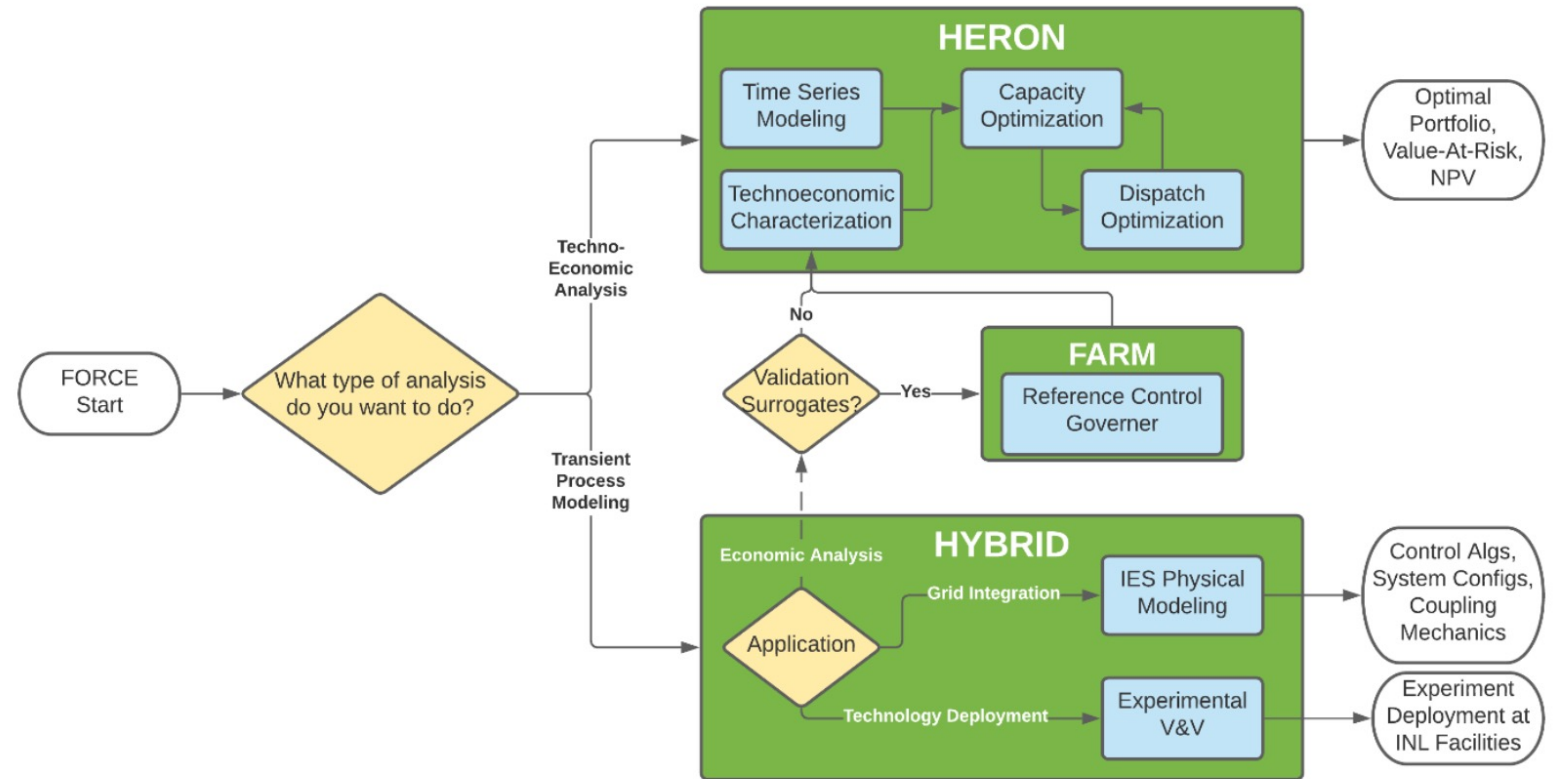
- Gaps in Capacity Expansion Modeling Software (CEM)
 - Beyond screening curve
 - Improve representation of **volatility**, **storage**, power **ramping**
 - Improve nuclear representation
 - Assume **licensing** extensions, **advanced** nuclear options
 - Introduce **flexibility** through thermally-coupled IES
 - Requires arbitrary commodity markets
 - Multiple Market System
 - Multiple **time** resolutions
 - Multiple **commodities**
 - Time-**contiguous** decision making
 - Capture Uncertainty
 - VRE availability **uncertainty** in contiguous time
 - Market pricing, demand uncertainty



FORCE

Capabilities

- Portfolio optimization
- Dispatch optimization
- Process model simulation
- Control simulation
- Economic analysis
- Supervisory control
- Stochastic analysis
- Workflow automation
- Validation and verification
- Digital twinning



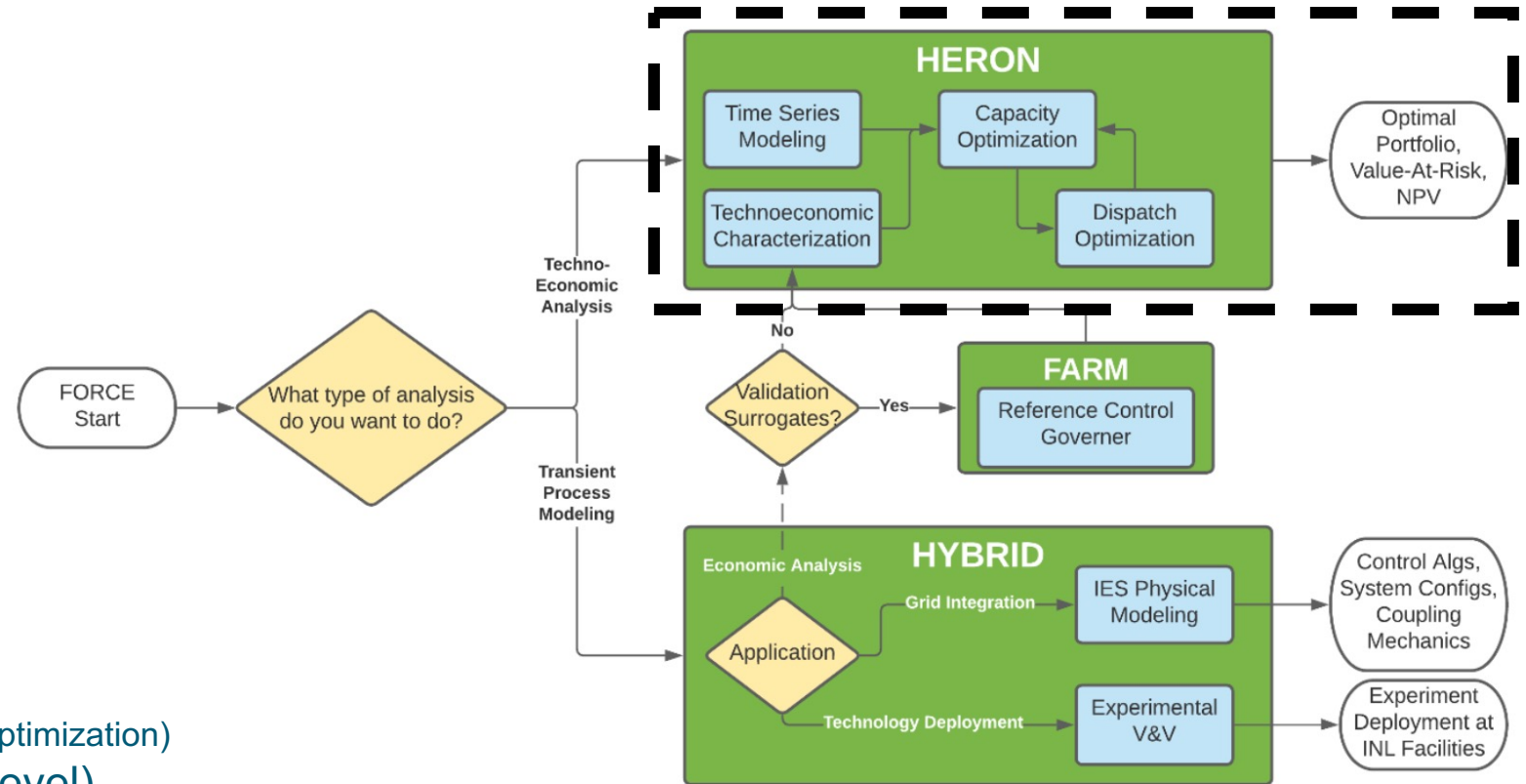
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HERON

- Portfolio optimization
- Dispatch optimization
- Stochastic analysis
- Workflow automation
- Economic analysis
 - Multiyear, Multi-history
 - Expected Value, Value at Risk

HYBRID

- Process model simulation
 - Steady state
 - Transient
- Control simulation
- Economic analysis
 - (Component-level daily/weekly optimization)
- Supervisory control (system-level)
- Validation and verification
- Digital twinning



What is HERON?

... and what isn't it?

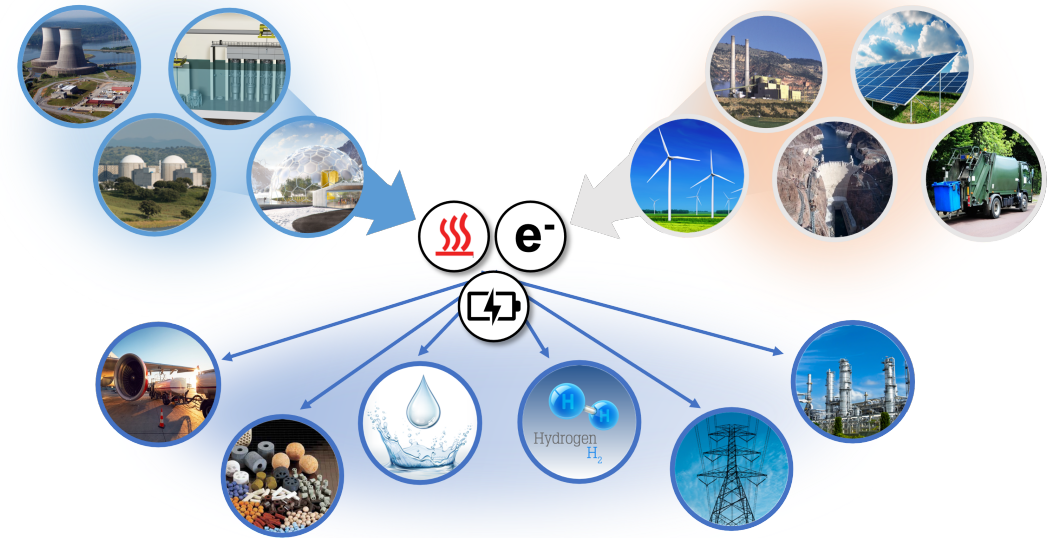
What is HERON?

- Software for stochastic macro technoeconomic analysis of mixed-energy systems
- Command-line software tool
- Optimizes portfolio mixes to maximize statistical benefit
 - Expected NPV
 - Value at Risk
- Free, open source, openly available (<https://github.com/idaholab/HERON>)



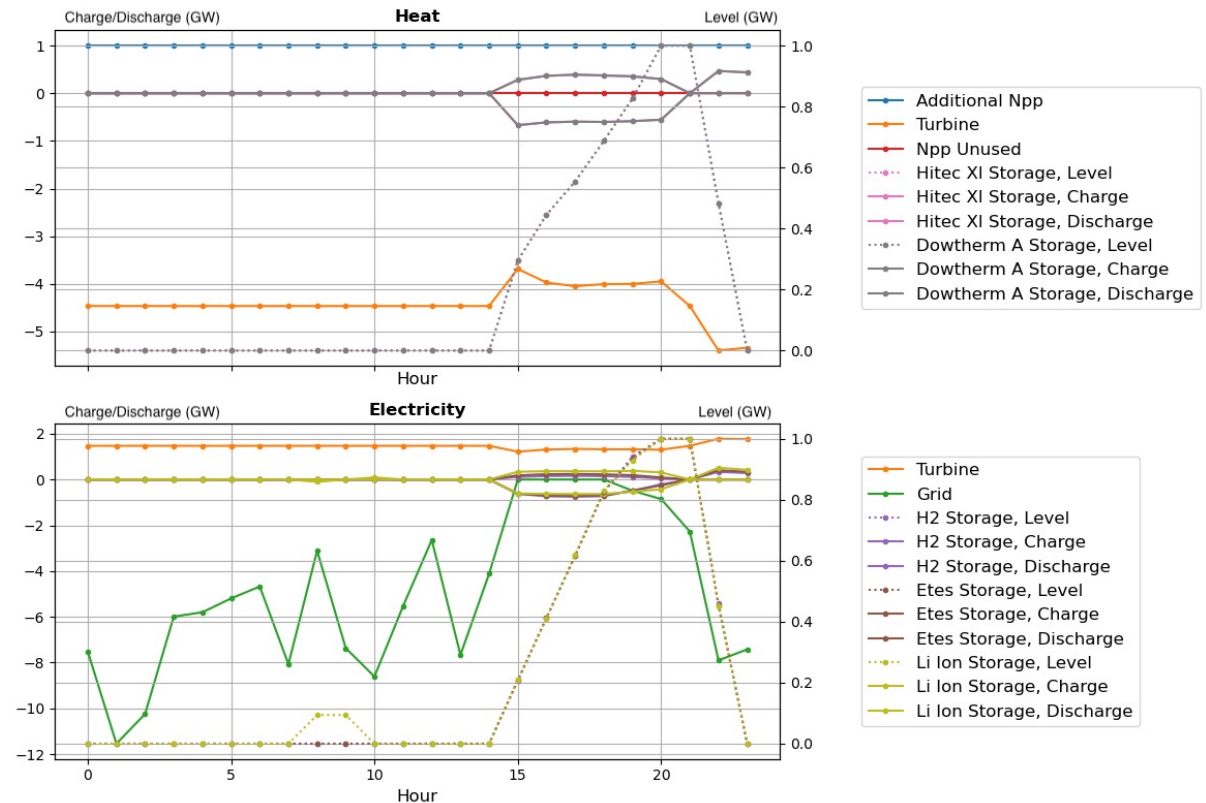
What is HERON?

- Features:
 - Mixed-Energy
 - electricity, hydrogen, water, heat, arbitrary commodities
 - Flexible Economics
 - arbitrary economic drivers
 - Capital costs
 - Fixed Operations, Maintenance costs
 - Variable Operations, Maintenance costs
 - Fuel consumption costs
 - Market sales for commodities
 - Policy-driven incentives



What is HERON?

- Features (ct'd):
 - Stochasticity
 - uncertain wind, solar, demand, prices
 - portfolio across many scenarios
 - optimize expected profit or Value at Risk
 - Contiguous Time
 - No time “slices”
 - Time “windows” capture connected time
 - Include inertial terms
 - Production ramp limitations
 - Commodity storage level tracking
 - Step-by-step volatility



What is HERON not?

- Not Capacity Expansion
 - HERON solves for optimal portfolios, not evolution (yet)
 - Evolution requires coupling with CEM
- Not Market Constructor
 - Market information is an input to HERON
 - However, market ROMs includable through RAVEN
- Not Regional Database
 - HERON process user inputs, no pre-defined models
 - May be able to use some existing data from published analysis
 - Current work: import model data from HYBRID
- No Graphical User Input
 - ... yet!

Why HERON?

How did we get here?

Why HERON?

- Limitations in existing portfolio optimizers
 - **Statistical analysis** is afterthought or not present
 - Limited representation of **Wind, Solar, Nuclear**
 - Rarely include **multiple markets**, commodities
 - Often not **openly** available, easily extensible
 - Many designed on mostly-**baseload** pre-VRE expectations
- Integration with FORCE tools
 - Open-source models from HYBRID
 - Validation through FARM
 - Stochastic engine through RAVEN
 - Economic analysis through TEAL
 - Part of open-source solutions for Lab, University, Industry collaboration

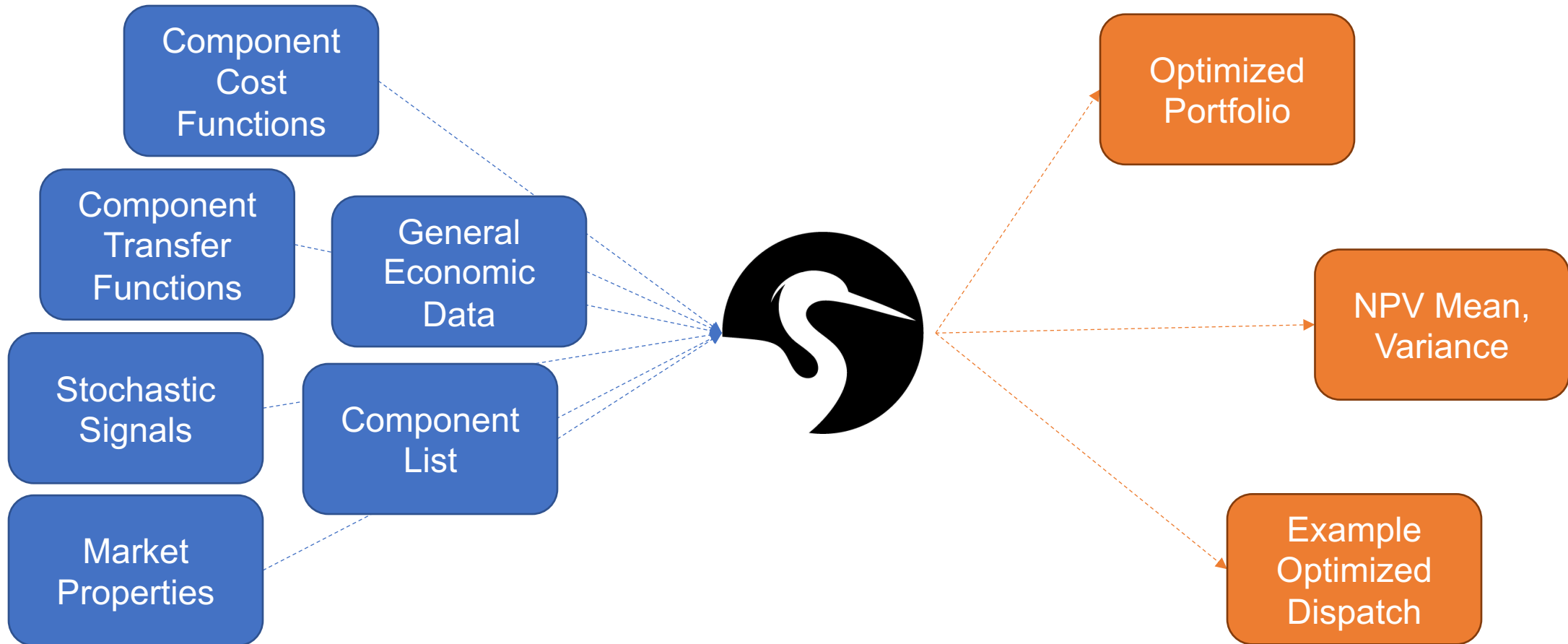
Why HERON?

- Why stochastic sampling?
 - Why not just analyze historical or forecast data?
- “Golden Year Problem”
 - Common practice: solve optimal portfolio for **single history**
 - Fails to capture range of **possible** outcomes
 - Driving economics is in **outlier** scenarios
 - High demand/low VRE
 - Low demand/high VRE
 - Sudden ramping demand
 - Stressed storage usage
 - Historic or Forecasted single scenarios can't reliably capture outliers

Inputs and Outputs

How does this stuff work anyway?

HERON I/O



Example Studies

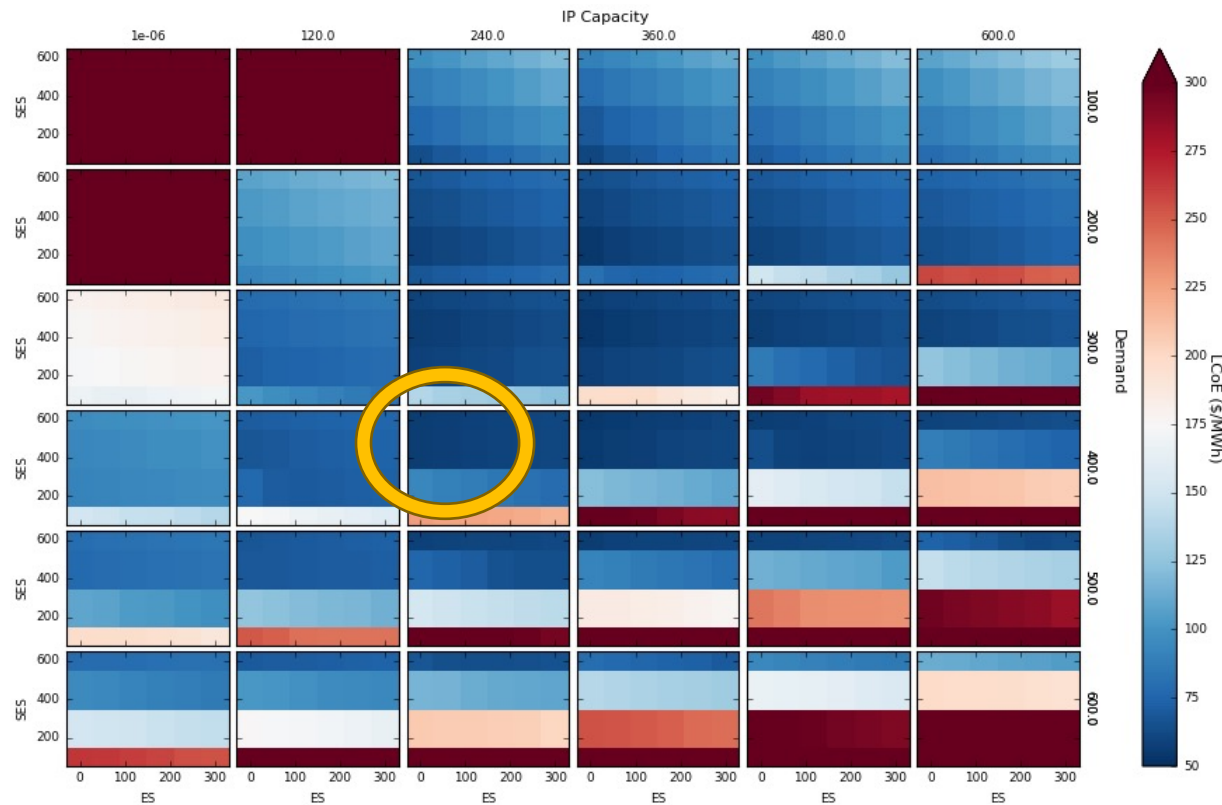
TEA is as TEA does

Example Studies

- A sampling of what has been done, and can be done
- 2017: Nuclear-Hydrogen
- 2018: Nuclear-Water Desalination (APS)
- 2019: Nuclear-Hydrogen in Midwest (Exelon)
- 2020: Nuclear-Hydrogen in Regulated, Deregulated Markets (EPRI)
- 2021: Nuclear-Thermal Energy Storage in NYISO (EPRI)

2017: Nuclear-Industrial Coupling

- What are potentially profitable configurations of nuclear-industrial coupling given stochastic wind?
 - Nuclear, Natural Gas (SES), Battery (ES), Hydrogen Generator (IP)

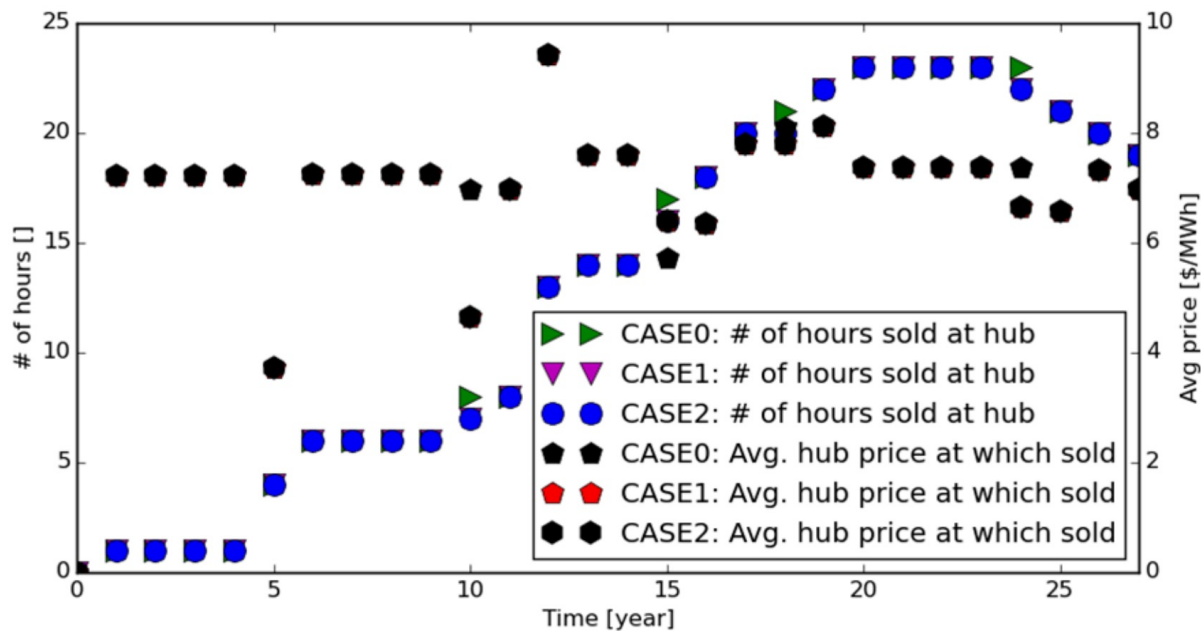


• Results

- Expected Profitability factors
 - Outlier scenarios
 - Wind penetration
 - Capacity of IES
 - Secondary market pricing

2018: Water Desalination in Arizona

- Can water desalination be a profitable IES for the Palo Verde nuclear plant?
 - Partnership with Arizona Public Service (APS)
 - Multiple desalination coupling opportunities
 - Public, Private reports

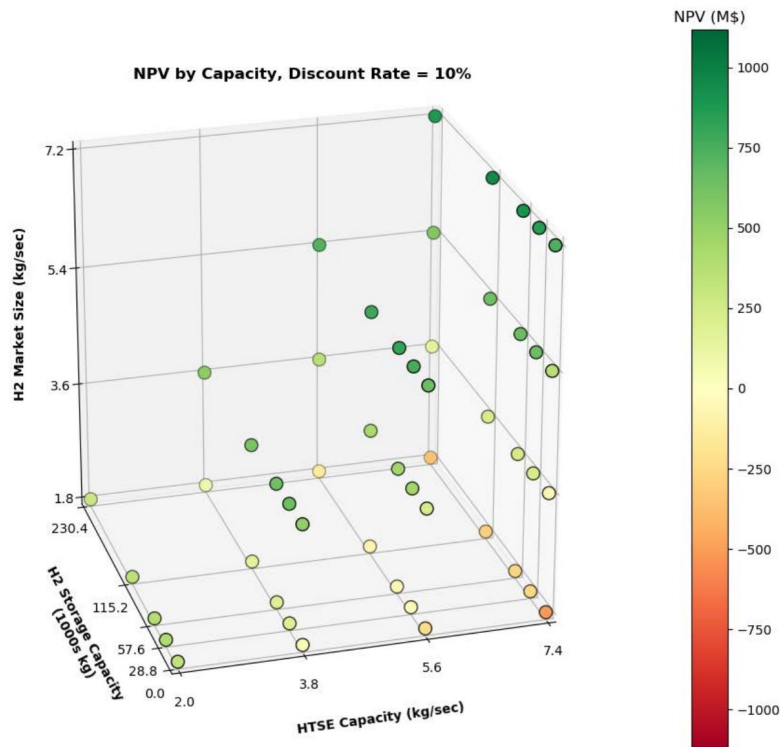


• Results

- Projected demand growth outpaces VREs
- Few IES-enabled hours
- Limited desal IES options
- Desalination is profitable
 - Flexibility through IES is not

2019: Hydrogen in Midwest

- How does introducing hydrogen IES for a Midwest reactor impact its economic viability?
 - NREL, Exelon, ANL

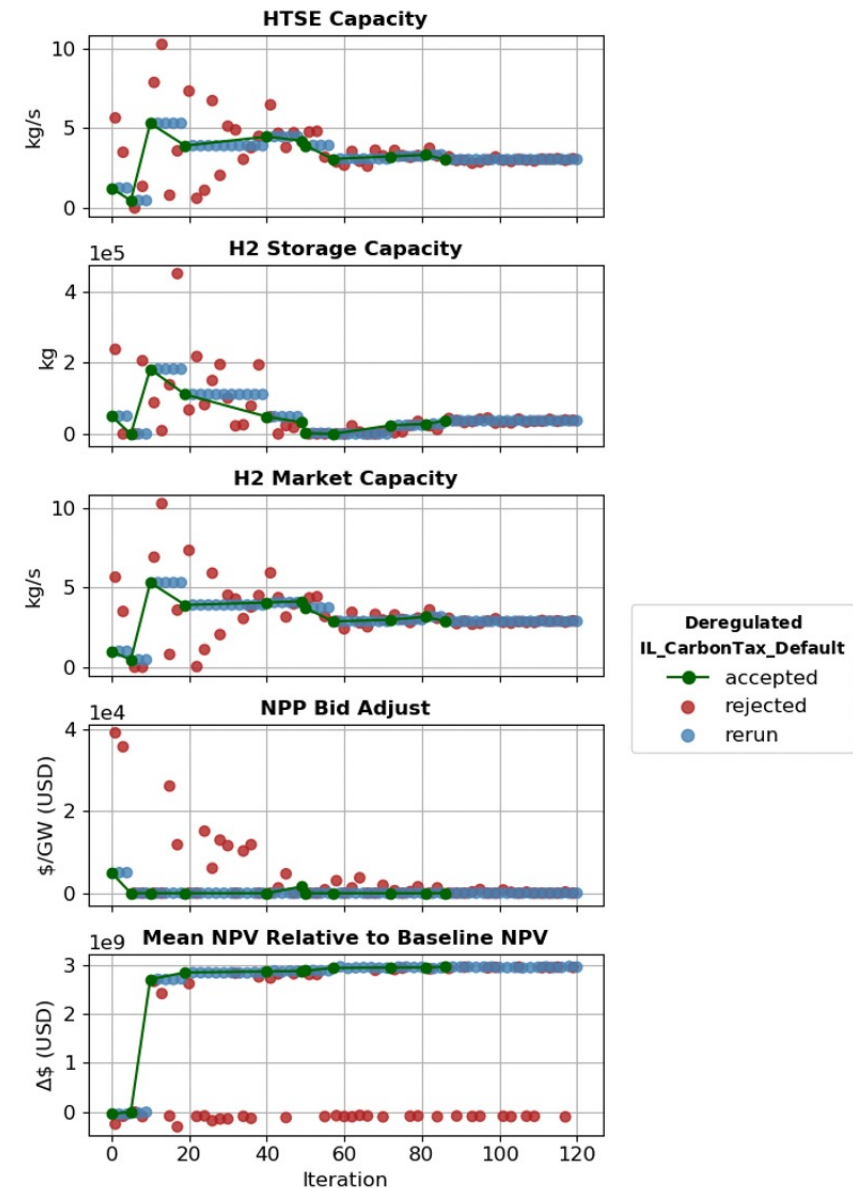


- Results

- Ideally HTSE slightly larger than demand
- Build small H₂ storage
- High H₂ price leads to larger HTSE
- Overbuilding is very expensive
- All simulations led to profitable IES
 - if sized optimally

2020: Hydrogen in Regulated, Deregulated Markets

- How does the impact of introducing hydrogen IES change in regulated versus deregulated markets?
 - Projected futures with EPRI and US-REGEN in Ohio
 - Stochastic Net Demand
- Results
 - Deregulated markets have higher prices
 - Potential for IES flexibility
 - Volatility + High Prices ideal for IES
 - Carbon Tax pushes toward Nuclear IES
 - Renewable Portfolio Standard less motivating



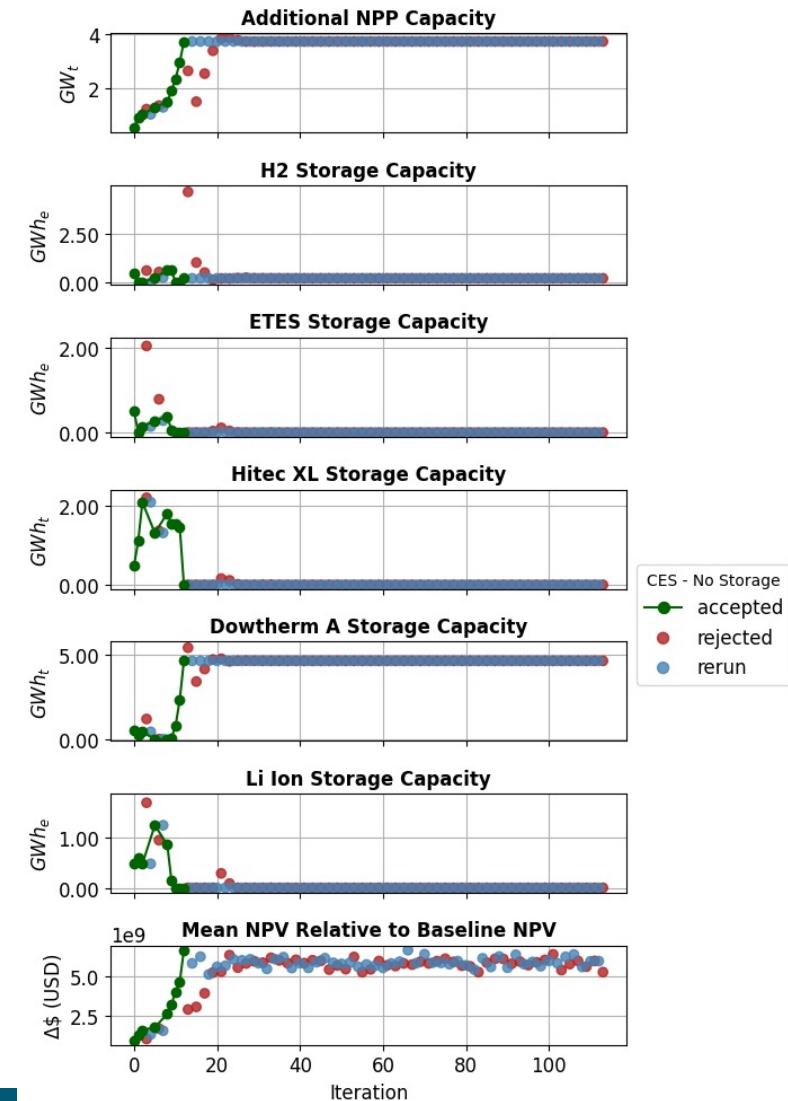
2021: Thermal Energy Storage in NYISO

- What benefits can TES offer NYISO in projected scenarios?

- Projected futures with EPRI and US-REGEN
- TES Technologies from INL Research
- No auxiliary commodity markets
- Stochastic wind, solar, demand

- Results

- TES best for volatile, high prices
- Amount of TES matters more than which tech
- TES capital costs drive inclusion
- Building TES is binary decision
 - If profitable, build fixed amount
 - Not a sliding scale for construction



Ongoing Efforts

Coming soon to a terminal near you

Usability Improvements

- Interactive Synthetic History Training (Jupyter) *September 2022*
- Value-at-Risk Economic Metric for Optimization *Complete*
- Automated Levelized Cost workflow *September 2022*
- Loading Components from HYBRID *June 2022*
 - And sending dispatch points to HYBRID
- Real-Time Optimization Demonstration *September 2022*

2022 TEA Studies

- IES direct studies
 - Thermal Energy Storage
 - Carbon Conversion
 - SynFuels Applications
 - FARM Demonstration

- Externally driven studies
 - APS and Hydrogen
 - Exelon-GMI Tri-Lab

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Questions?

- Q&A
 - as time permits

- Upcoming training sessions:
 - HERON: More In-Depth Discussion, Demonstration
 - HYBRID: Process modeling (transient, steady-state, ROM)