

# Renewables Integration into Power Grid Systems

Prof. G.R. Tynan  
UC San Diego MAE Dept.

MAE 119

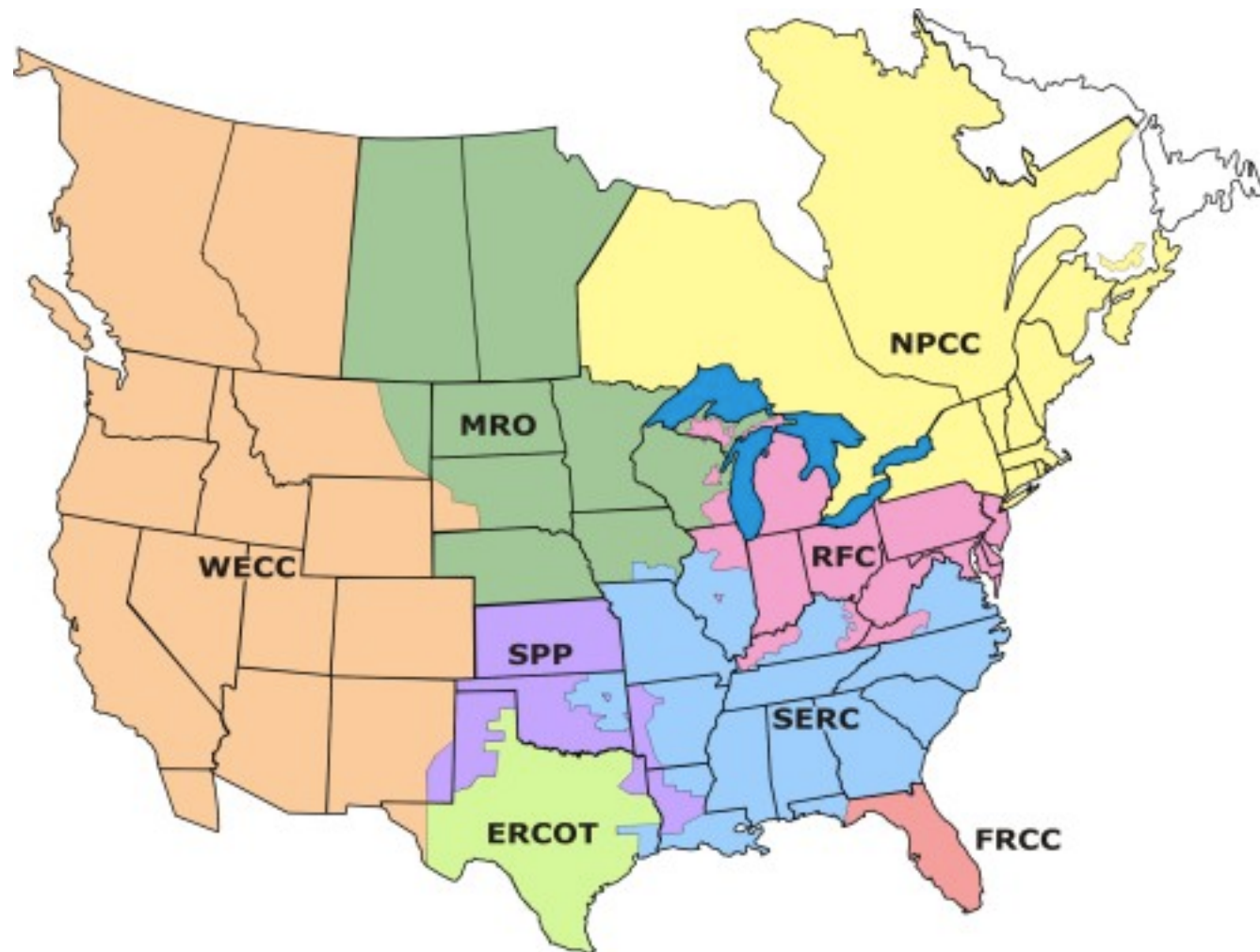
# Outline: Hierarchy of Issues to Consider

- What does a grid really look like?
- Instantaneous Power:  $\text{Generation} = \text{Load}$
- Characterizing Renewable Electricity Variations:
  - Time-scales & Magnitudes
- A (painfully) simplified model to see the physics: AC Circuit
- Synchronous Generators
- Response to transient load-mismatch: Frequency Stability, Reactive Power Transients & Voltage Stability
- Need for Storage: Time-scales of response; Power & Energy Required

# Outline: Hierarchy of Issues

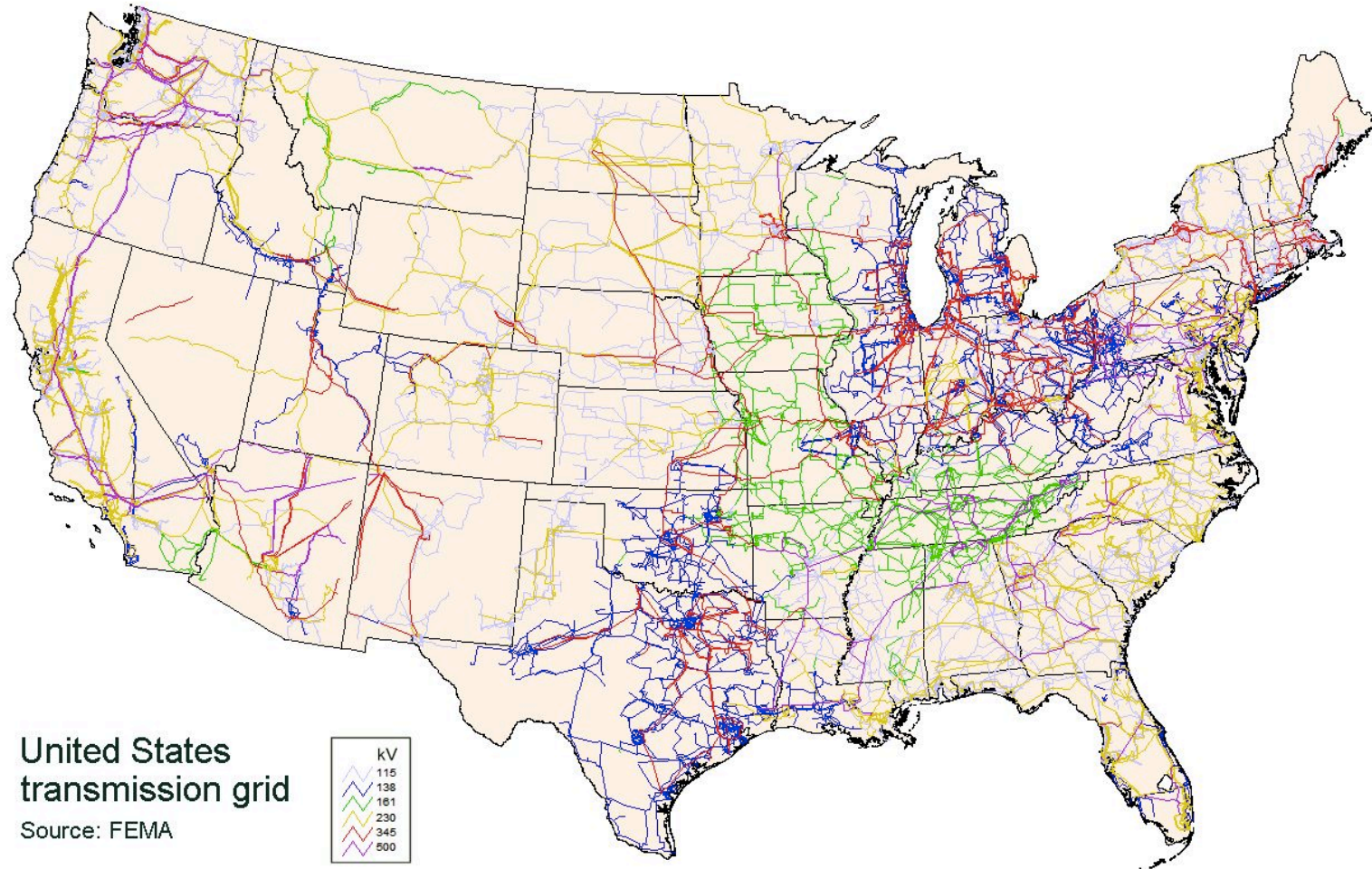
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# Continental scale view of interconnected regions in N. America



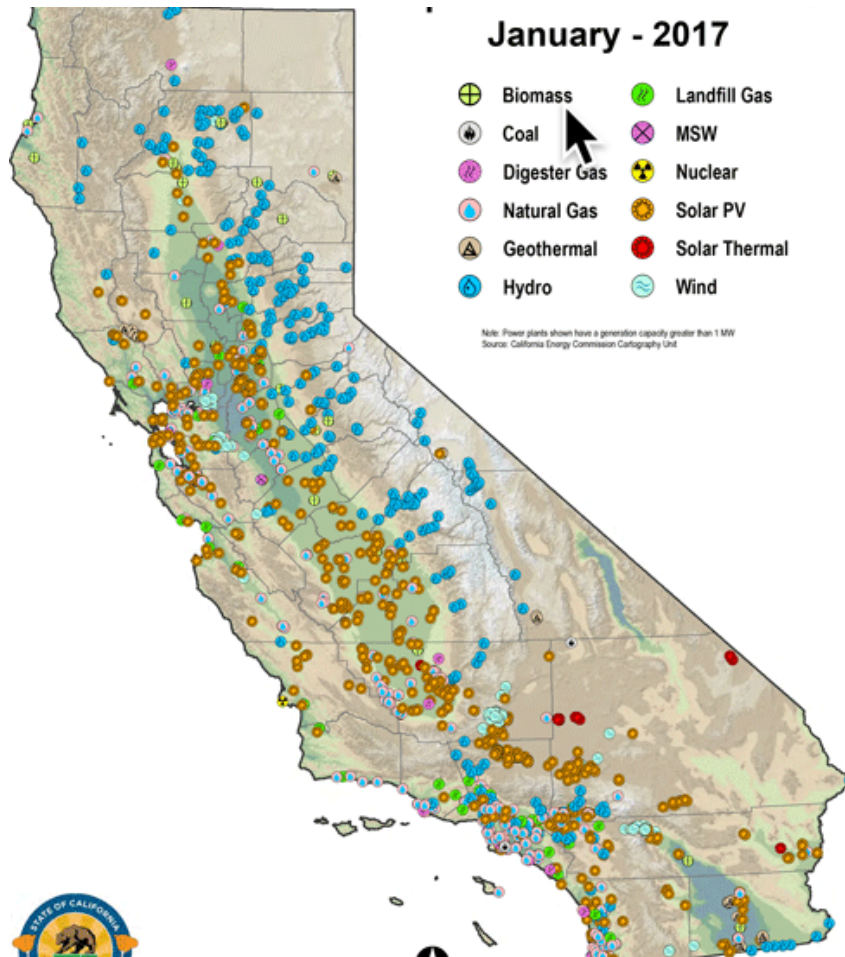
Global Energy Network Institute, NERC Regions

# U.S. Transmission Grid



Source: FEMA

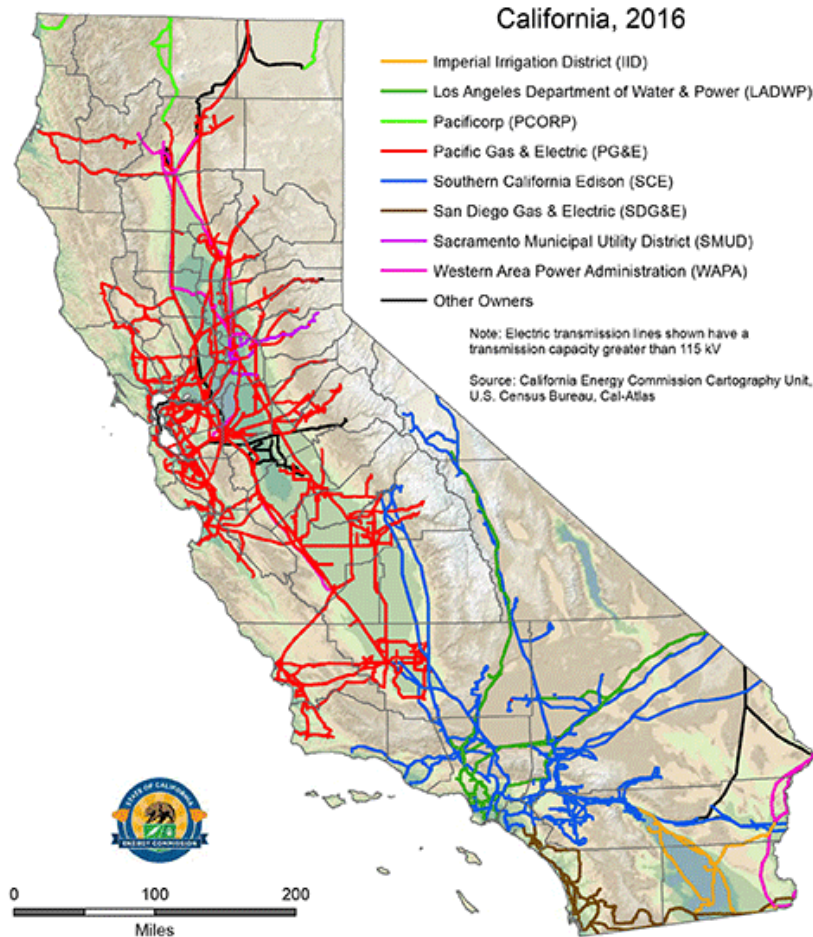
# Electrical Power Generation Stations



- Multiple Sources
- Wide spatial distribution
- Wide range of sizes (10's MW up to ~1000MW)
- Q: How does energy get to load centers (i.e. where the people are located)?



# Example: California Electrical Transmission Network

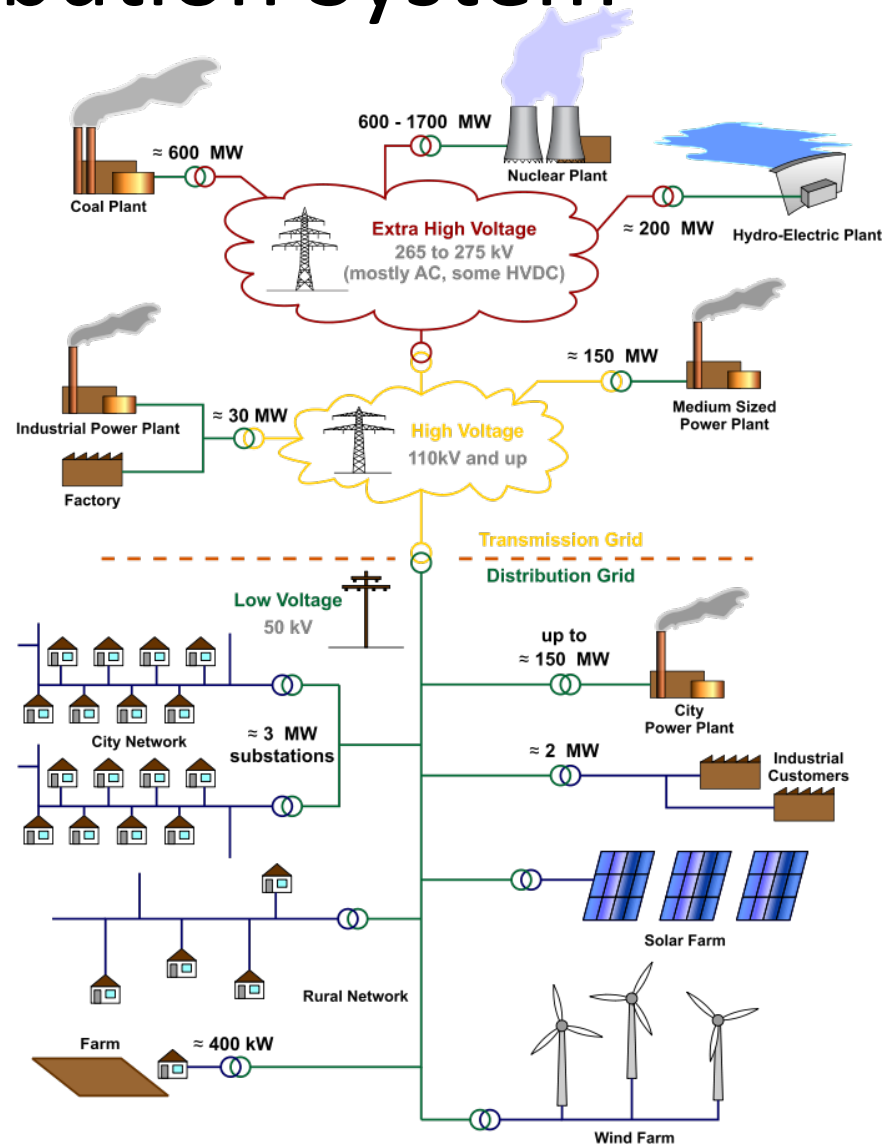


- Transmission network w/  $V > 115\text{kV}$  shown
- Note interconnections across state borders
- Multiple transmission line owners/operators
- Power transferred over 100-1000 km's

# Power to the People: The Transmission & Distribution System

“Transmission”  
System

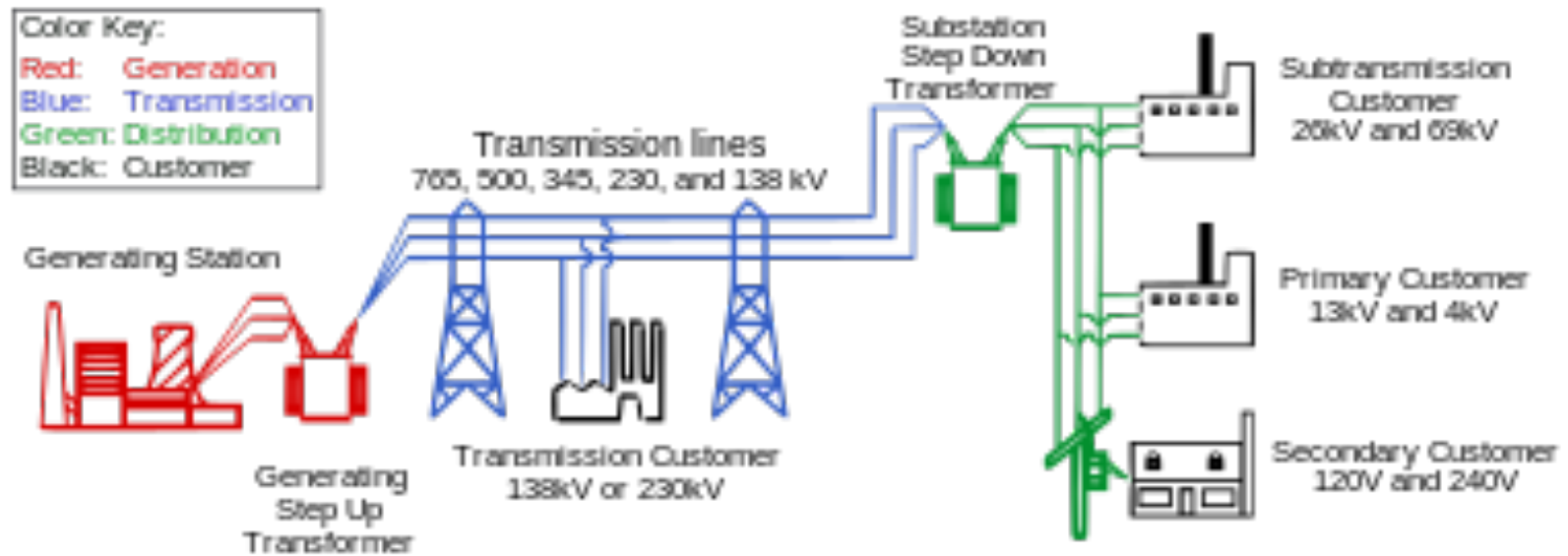
“Distribution”  
System



Source: Wikipedia



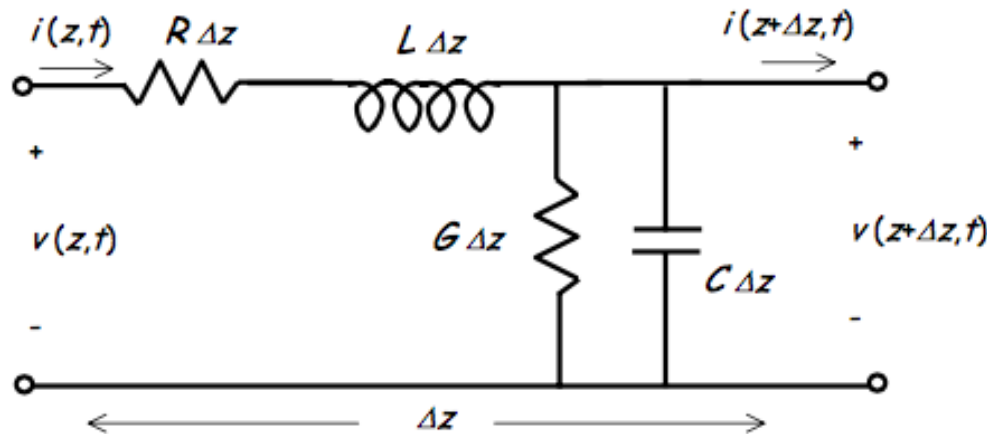
# Distribution System Schematic



Source: Wikipedia

# Simplified AC Circuit Models: Transmission Line

i.e.,



Where:

$R$  = resistance/unit length

$L$  = inductance/unit length

$C$  = capacitance/unit length

$G$  = conductance/unit length

∴ resistance of wire length  $\Delta z$  is  $R\Delta z$ .

Assuming sinusoidal  
Time variations of  $V(z,t)$   
And  $I(z,t)$  then  $V$  and  $I$  obey  
The **Telegrapher's Equations**:

$$\frac{\partial V(z)}{\partial z} = -(R + j\omega L)I(z)$$

$$\frac{\partial I(z)}{\partial z} = -(G + j\omega C)V(z)$$

Source: [http://www.itc.ku.edu/~jstiles/723/handouts/2\\_1\\_Lumped\\_Element\\_Circuit\\_Model\\_package.pdf](http://www.itc.ku.edu/~jstiles/723/handouts/2_1_Lumped_Element_Circuit_Model_package.pdf)

# Simplified AC Circuit Models: **Transmission Line (cont'd)**

Can show  $V(z)$  and  $I(z)$  obey:

Source: [http://www.itc.ku.edu/~jstiles/723/handouts/2\\_1\\_Lumped\\_Element\\_Circuit\\_Model\\_package.pdf](http://www.itc.ku.edu/~jstiles/723/handouts/2_1_Lumped_Element_Circuit_Model_package.pdf)

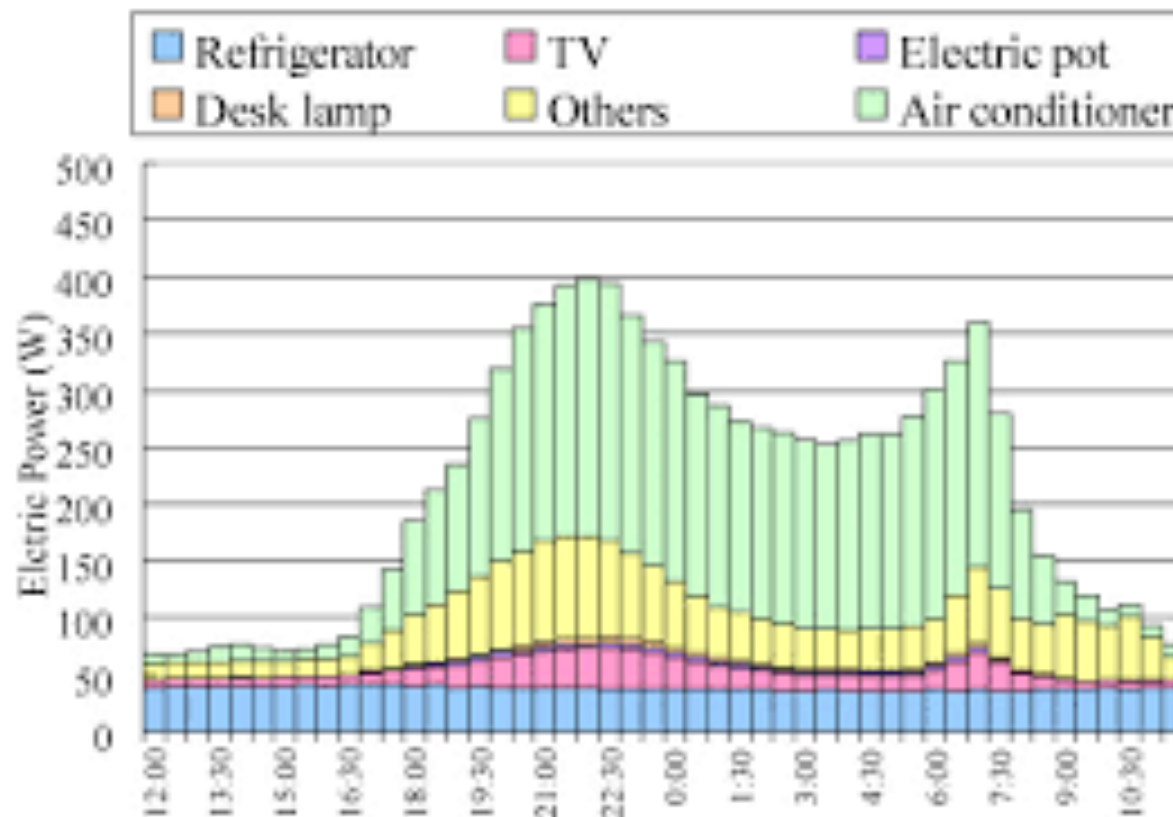
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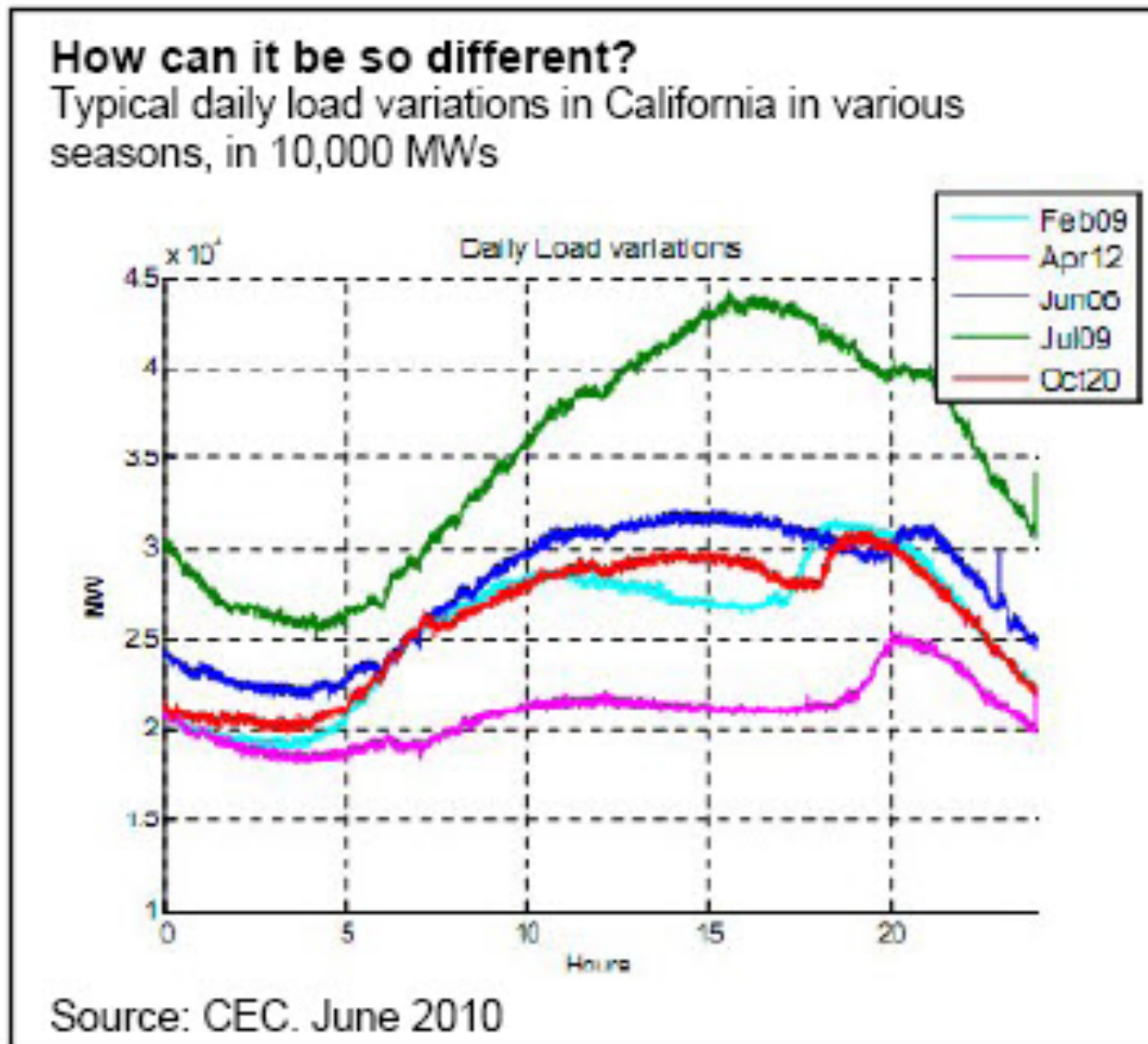
# Safe & Stable Grid Operation Requires

## Power Generated = Power Consumed

Demand Curve at Household Level:

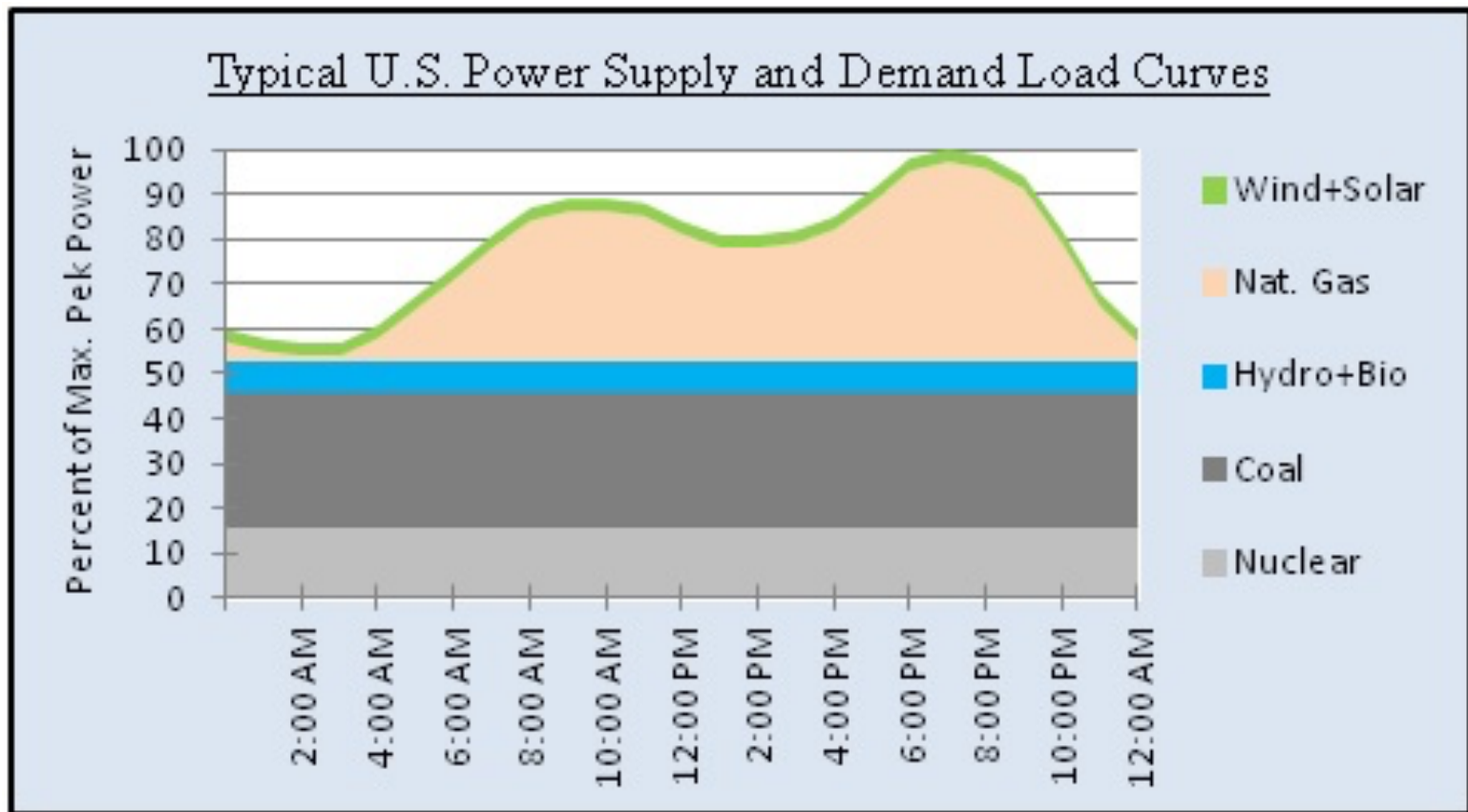


# Demand Curve at State Level (e.g. California) Shows Significant Diurnal and Seasonal Variation:





# Demand & Supply Curve at National Level:



Source: The Energy Collective

# Key Concept: Capacity Factor

- Capacity Factor,  $C_F$  defined as

$$C_F = \frac{P_{ave}}{P_{MAX}}$$

$C_F =$

*where*

$$P_{ave} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T P(t) dt$$

$P_{MAX} \sim \text{Max. System Design Power}$

# Typical Capacity Factor

Energy Source	Capacity Factor (typ.)
Baseload Coal Plant	>90%
Baseload Nuclear/Hydro	>90%
Solar PV	15%
Wind	30-40%
Natural Gas CCGT (Baseload)	>90%
Natural Gas (Peaker)	<<90%

# Capacity Factor Impacts Energy Production Over Extended Periods

e.g. A 1 GW<sub>e</sub> Nuclear Plant w/ C<sub>F</sub>=90%  
Produces **~7.9 TW-Hr** of Electrical Energy/Year

e.g. A 1 GW<sub>e</sub> Solar PV Plant w/ C<sub>F</sub>=15%  
Produces **~1.3 TW-Hr** of Electrical Energy/Year

# Actual & Projected CA Demand Curves

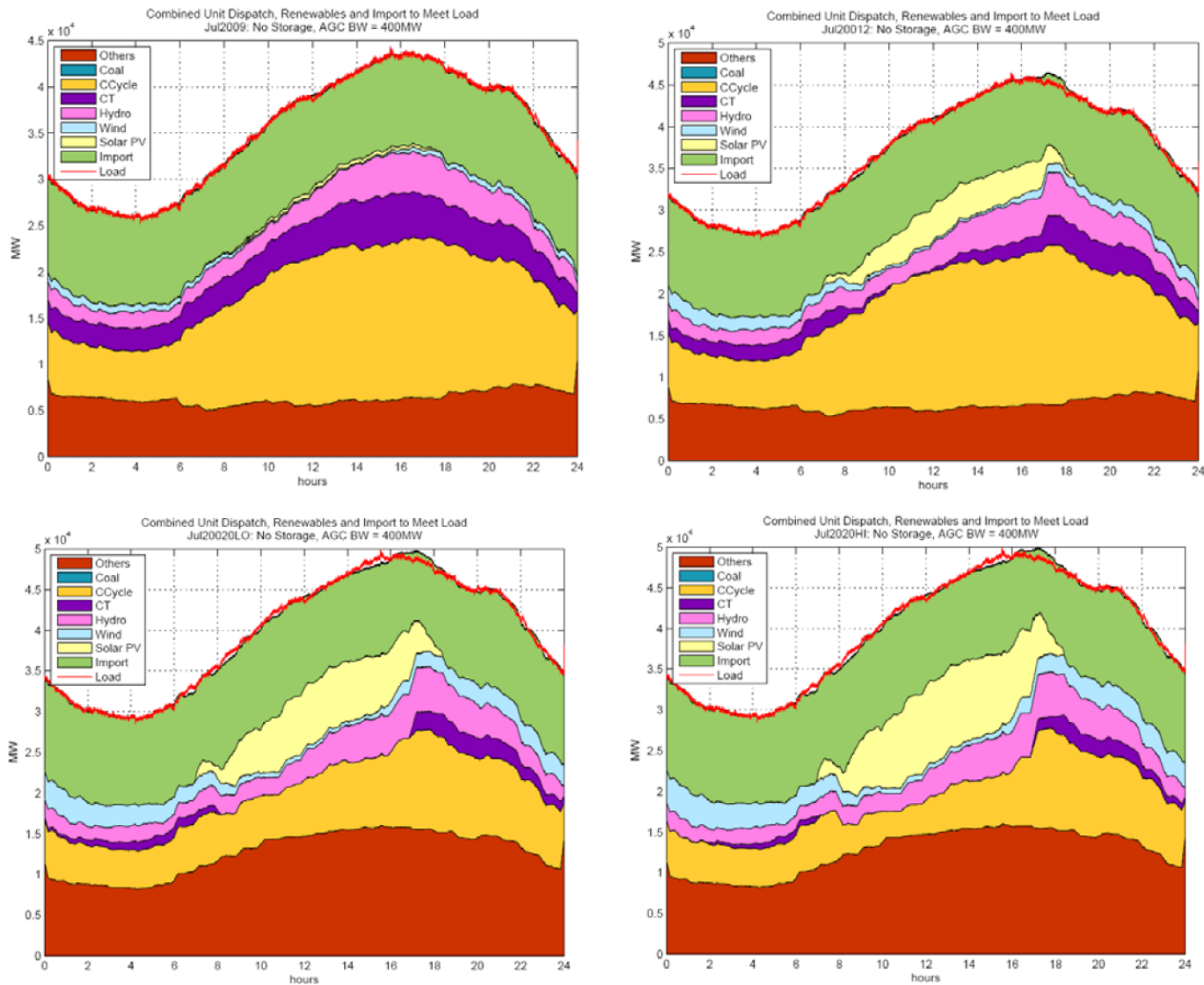


Figure 15. Generation by type and load for July days in 2009, 2012, and 2020

Source: model outputs

CEC, 2010

# Outline: Hierarchy of Issues

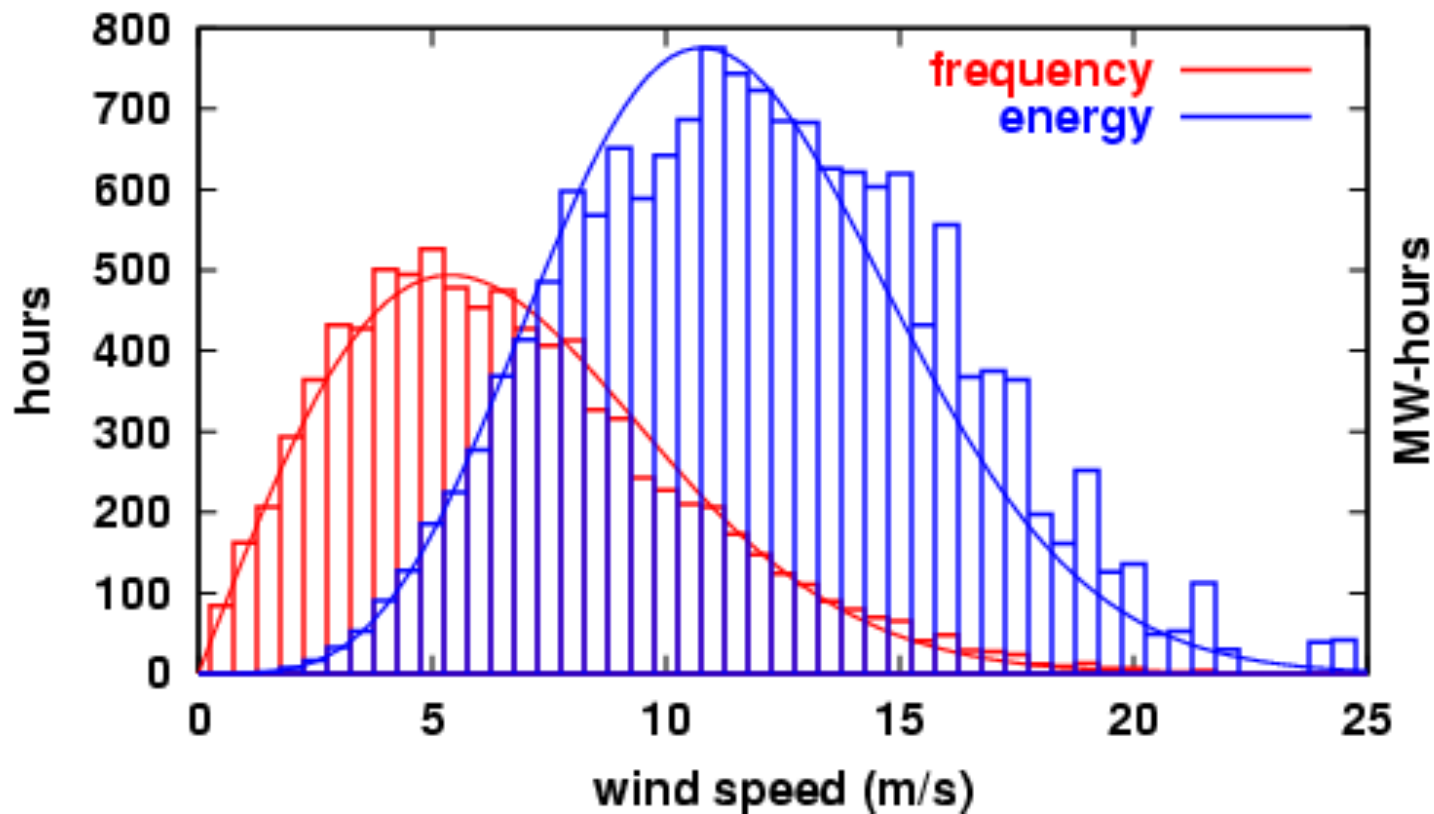
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# Variety of relevant time-scales for intermittency

- Short term (seconds-minutes)
  - Wind gusts
  - Clouds, Contrails for CSP Systems
  - Clouds for PV Systems
- Intermediate term (hours – days)
  - Weather systems modify wind, DNI, GHI
- Long term (Weeks to Seasonal)

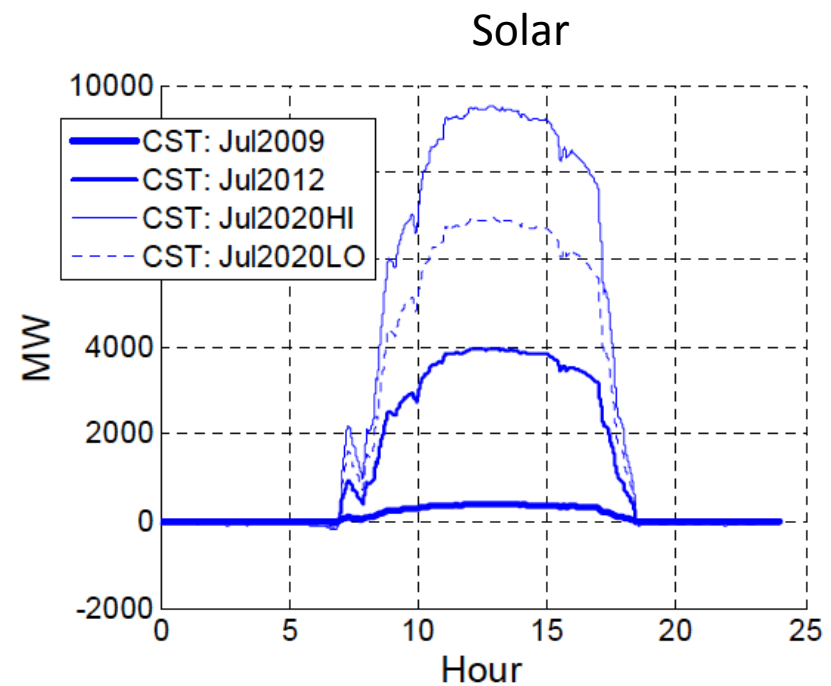
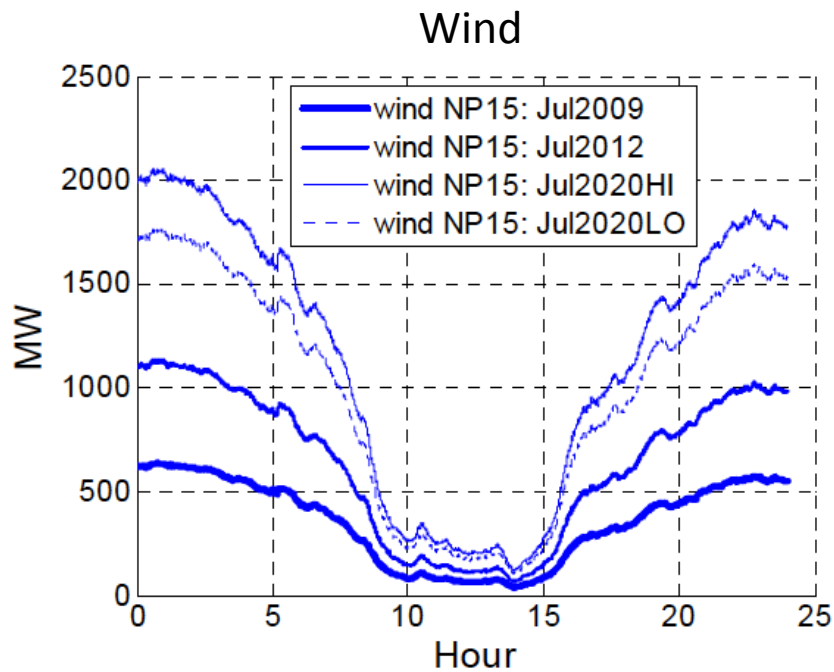
# Short term effects – e.g. wind gusts



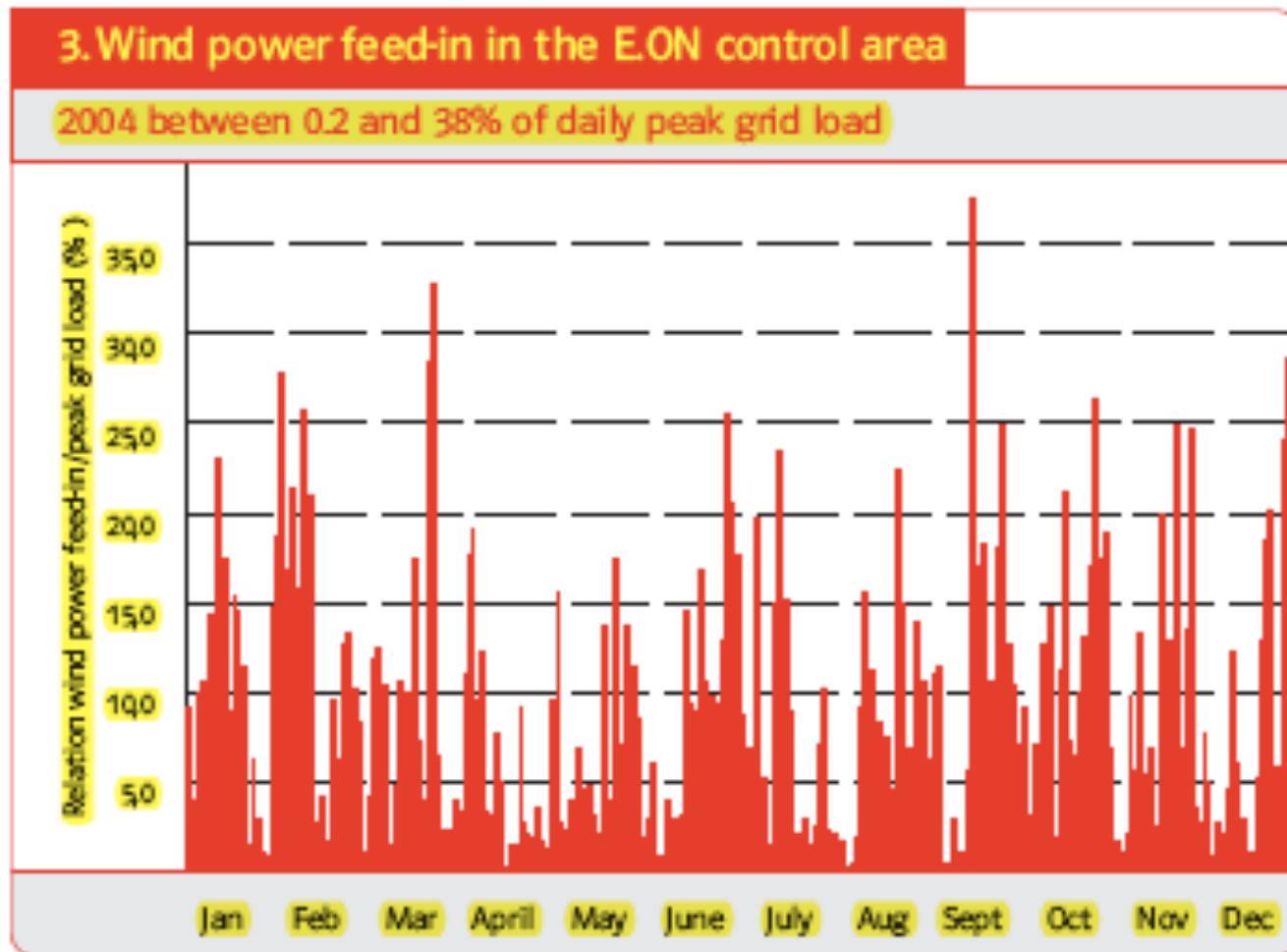
Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Lee\\_Ranch\\_Wind\\_Speed\\_Frequency.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Lee_Ranch_Wind_Speed_Frequency.png)

# Diurnal & Seasonal Variability

## CA Data & Projections

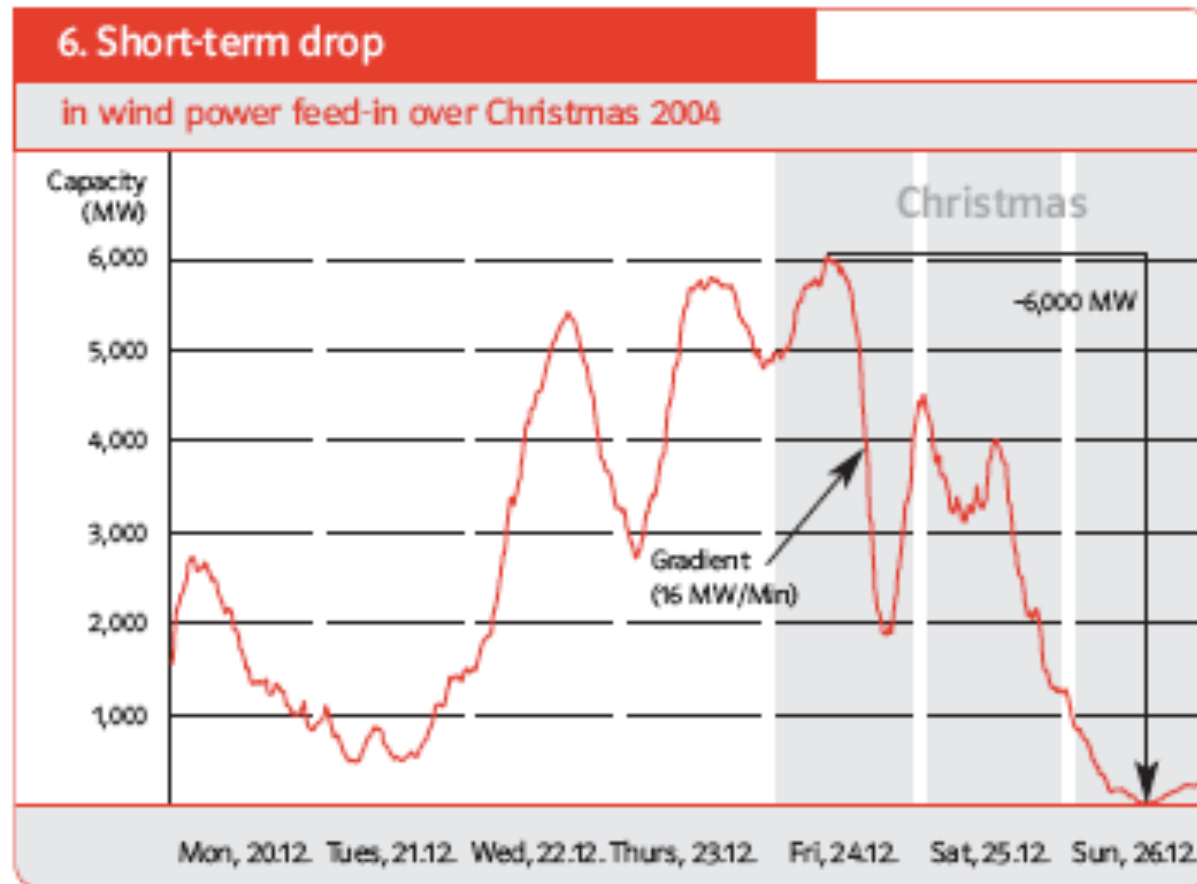


# Wind Speed Variability Leads to Significant Variation in Wind-generated Power



Source: E.ON Netz, "Wind Report 2005"

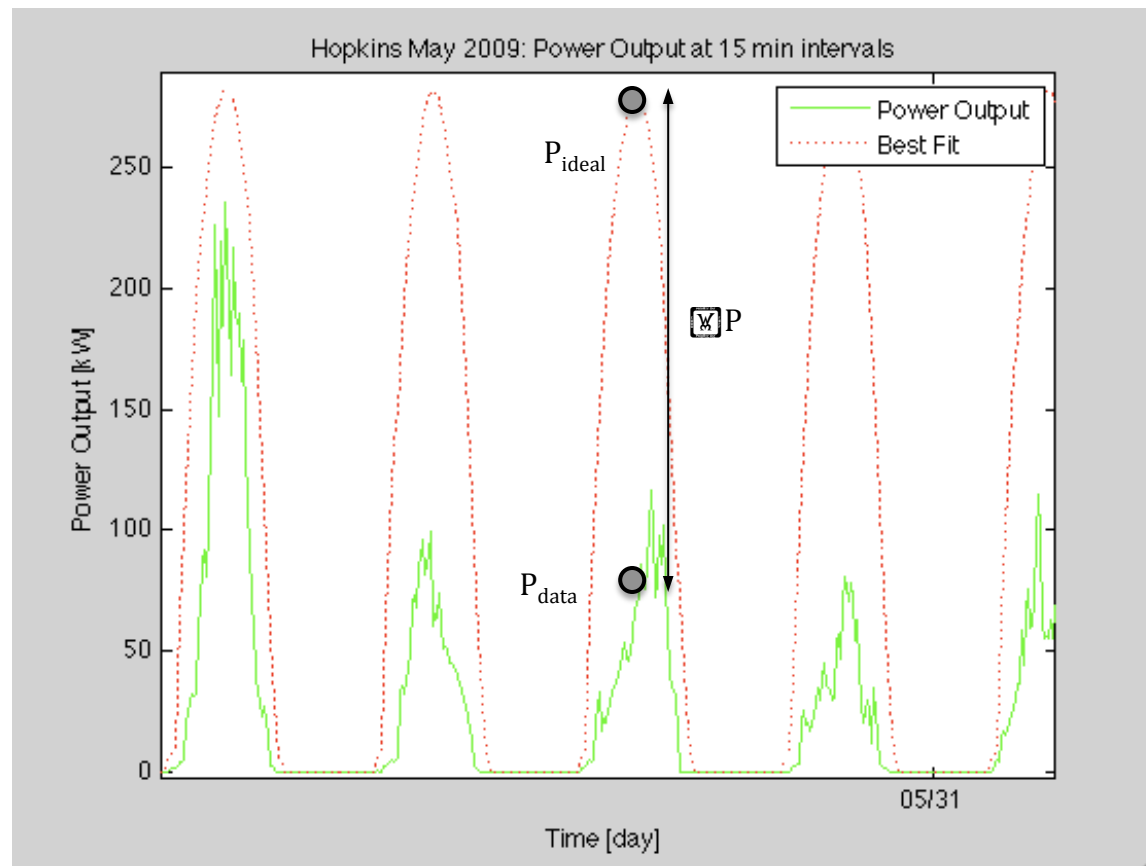
## Can Also Experience Rapid Changes in Rate of Power Feed-In:



“Handling Such Significant Differences in Feed-in Level Poses a Major Challenge to Grid Operators”

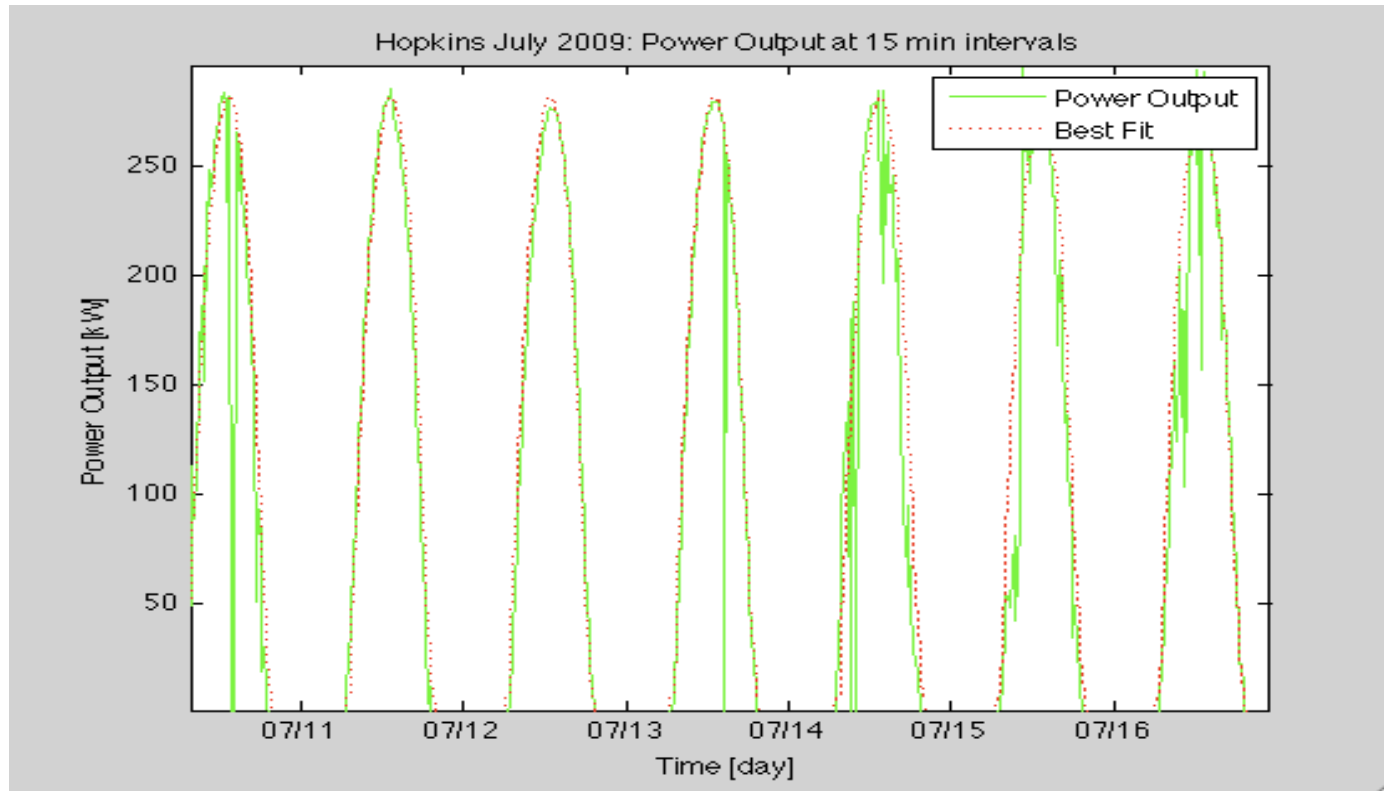
Source: E.On Netz, “Wind Report 2005

# Another Example: UCSD PV System

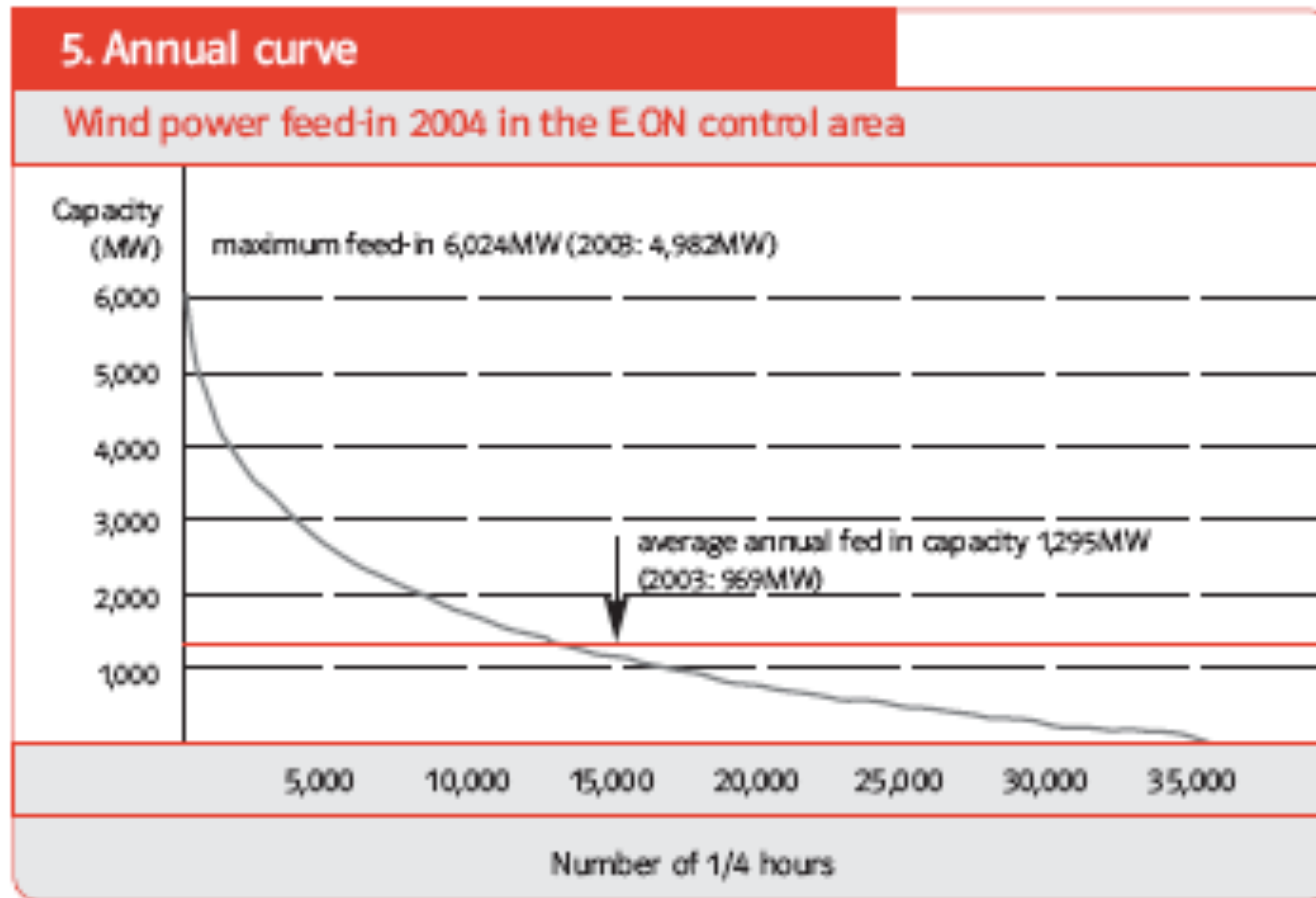




# Another Example: UCSD PV System



Plot in terms of Capacity v Amount of Time at that production rate. Result: Reduced Capacity Factor



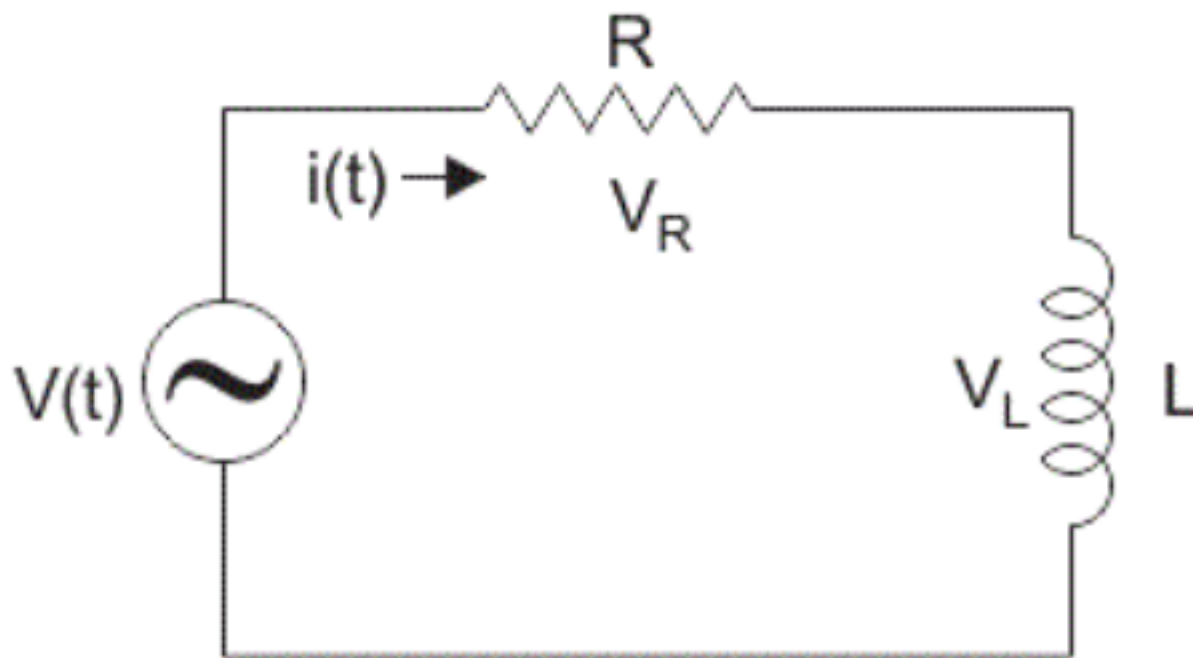
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- A (painfully) simplified model to isolate the physics:
  - Simple 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit
- What does voltage source really look like?
  - Synchronous Generators
- Response to transient source-load mismatch: Frequency Stability, Reactive Power Transients & Voltage Stability
- Need for Storage: Time-scales of response; Power & Energy Required
- Storage Technologies

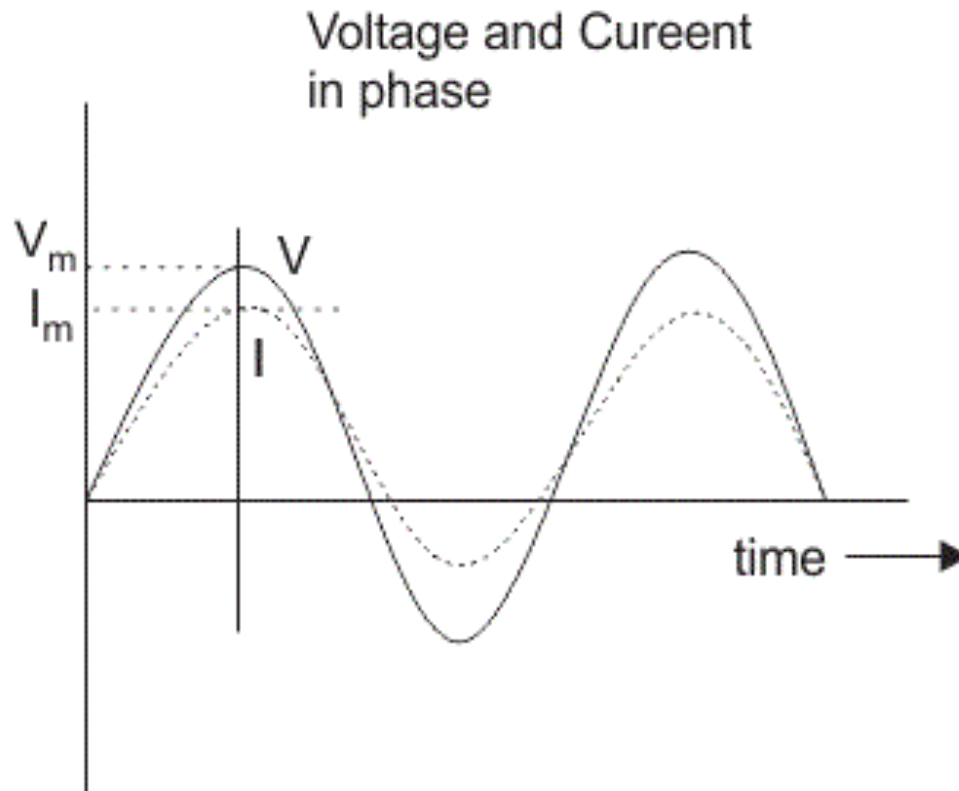
# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

Think of distribution network as an equivalent circuit: Series LR Circuit



# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

Recall: Current from an AC Voltage Across a Purely Resistive Load  
Ohms Law  $V=IZ$  where  $Z=R$  (purely real) for resistive load:

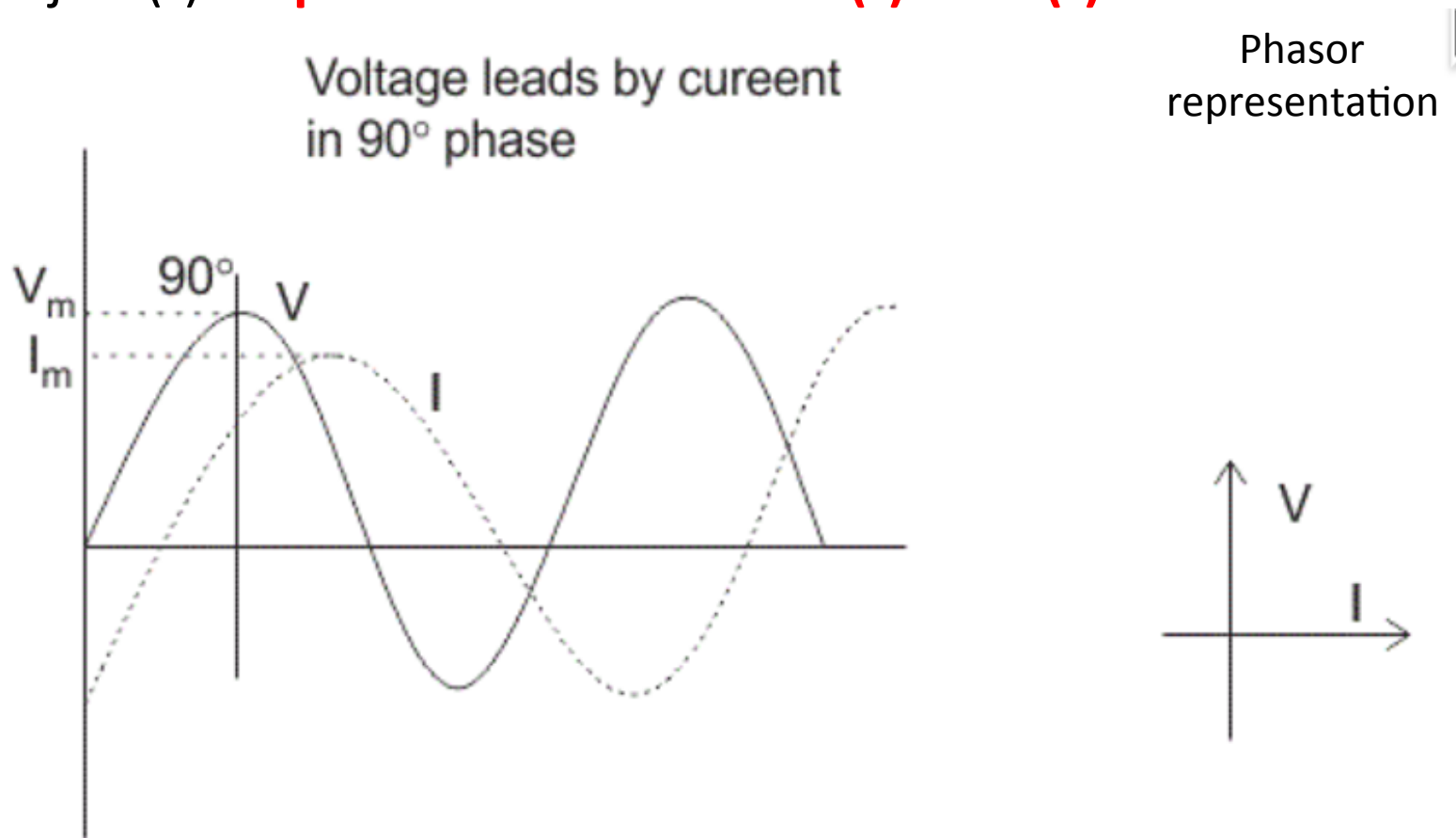


Phasor  
representation



# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

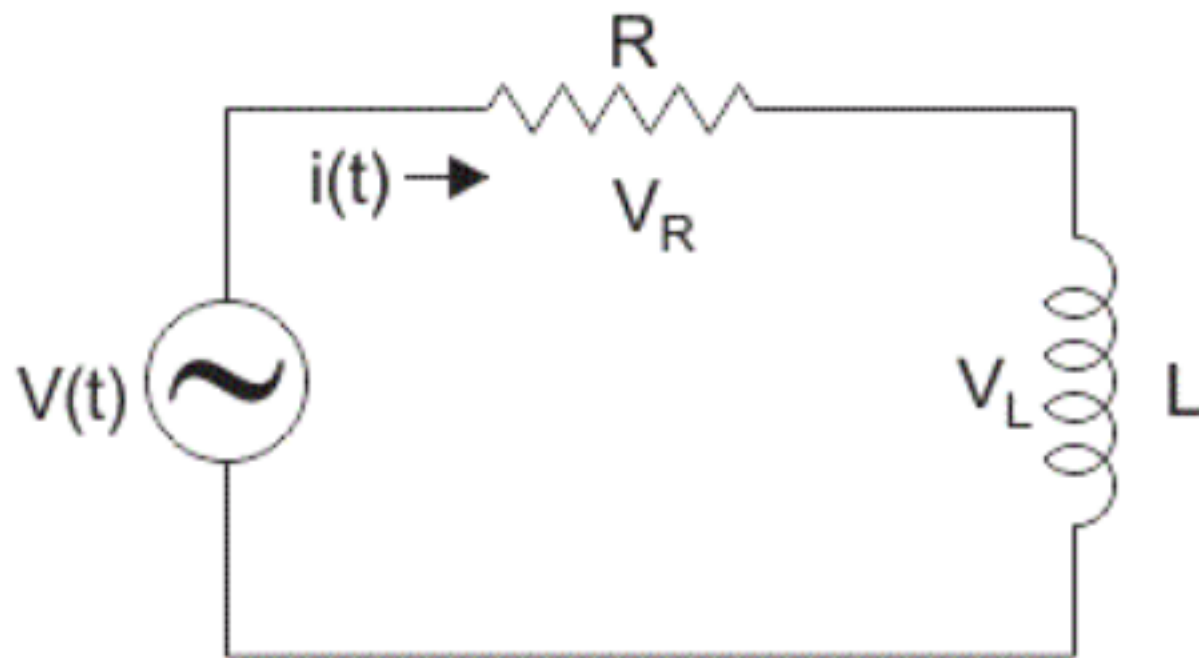
Recall: Current from an AC Voltage Across a Purely Inductive Load  
Ohms Law with Impedance,  $Z = j\omega L$  (i.e.  $Z$  is purely Imaginary) Gives  
 $V = j\omega L I(t) \rightarrow$  **phase shift between  $V(t)$  and  $I(t)$ !**





# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

What does  $i(t)$  and  $V(t)$  across the RL load look like now?



# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

What does  $I(t)$  and  $V(t)$  look like now? Solution:

**Step- I.** In case of series RL circuit, resistor and inductor are connected in series, so current flowing in both the elements are same i.e  $I_R = I_L = I$ . So, take current phasor as reference and draw it on horizontal axis as shown in diagram below.

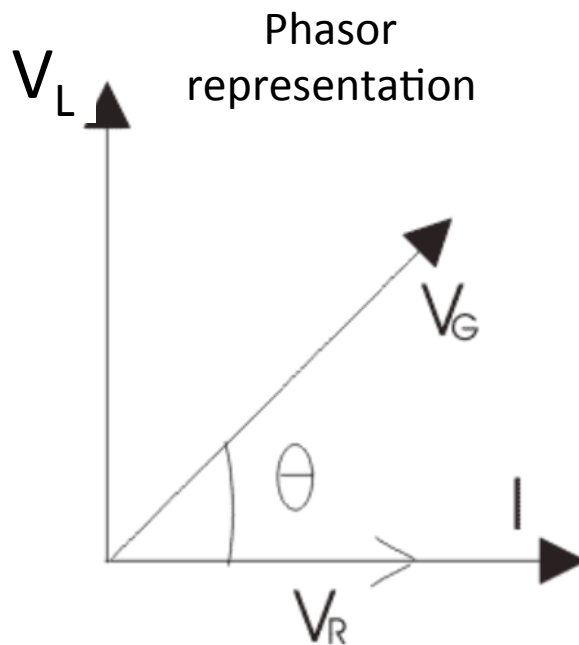
**Step- II.** In case of resistor, both voltage and current are in same phase. So draw the voltage phasor,  $V_R$  along same axis or direction as that of current phasor. i.e  $V_R$  is in phase with  $I$ .

**Step- III.** We know that in inductor, voltage leads current by  $90^\circ$ , so draw  $V_L$  (voltage drop across inductor) perpendicular to current phasor.

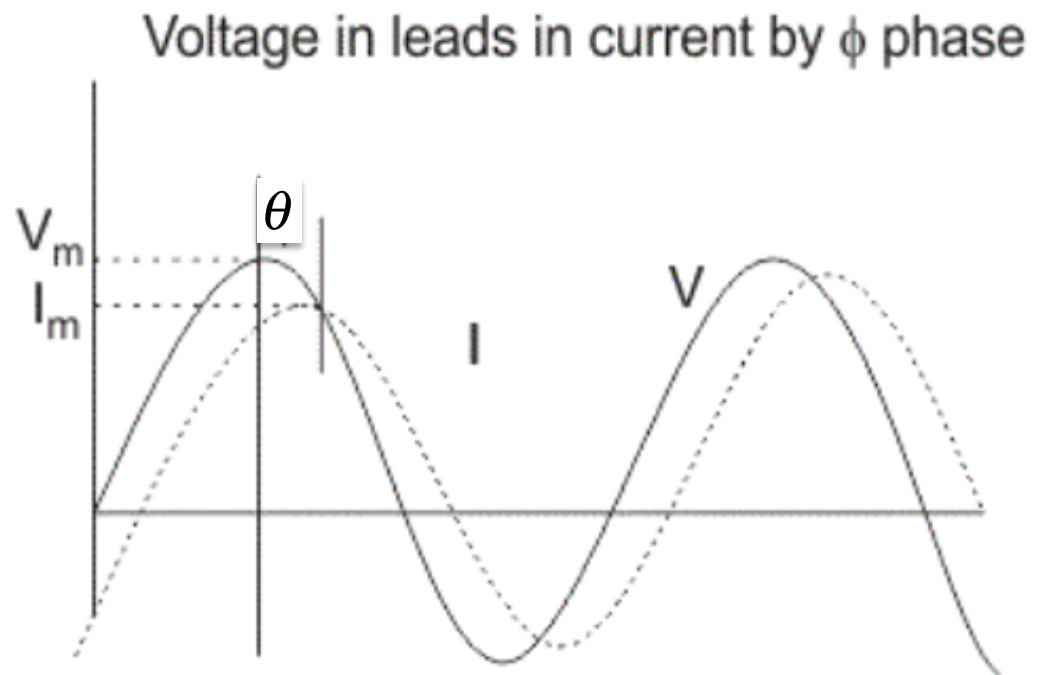
**Step- IV.** Now we have two voltages  $V_R$  and  $V_L$ . Draw the resultant vector( $V_G$ ) of these two voltages. Such as,  
and from right angle triangle we get, phase angle

# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

What does  $I(t)$  and  $V(t)$  look like now?



$$\theta = \tan^{-1}(\omega L / R)$$



# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

How does POWER in circuit behave? Remember,  $P(t) = V(t)I(t)$ ...

...So  $P(t)$  is COMPLEX:

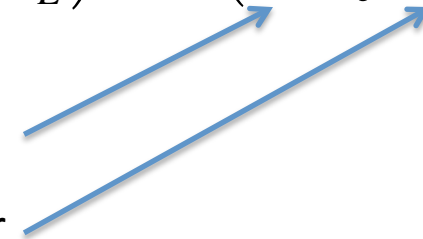
Power in Resistive Load:  $P_R(t) = Z_R I^2 = R I^2(t)$

Power in Inductive Load:  $P_L(t) = Z_L I^2 = j\omega L I^2(t)$

Total Instantaneous Power:  $P_{tot}(t) = (Z_R + Z_L) I^2 = (R + j\omega L) I^2(t)$

Real (aka "True") Power  
Dissipated in Load

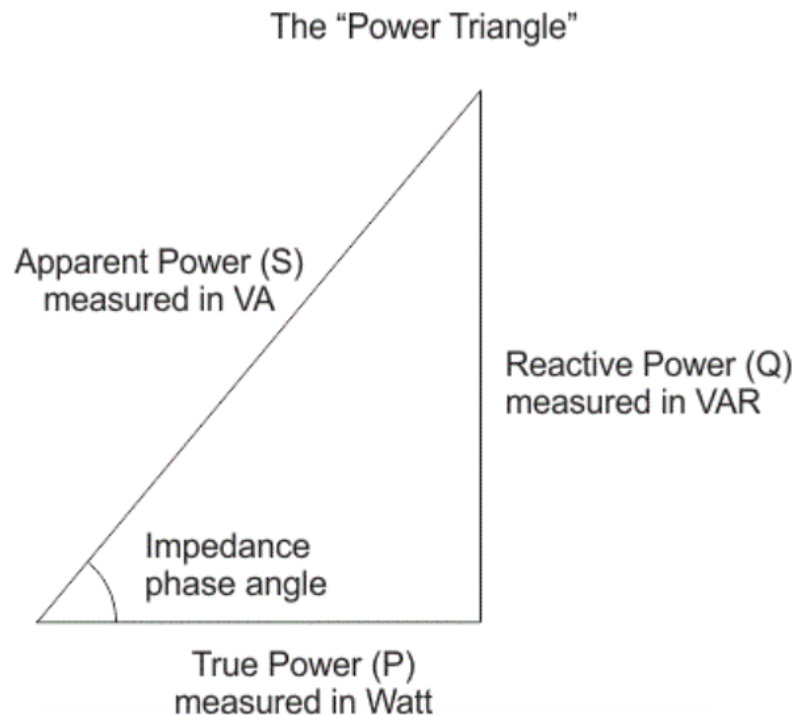
Reactive Power  
(Oscillatory Energy Sloshing  
Around in the Circuit)



# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

How does POWER in circuit behave? Remember,  $P(t) = V(t)I(t)$ ...

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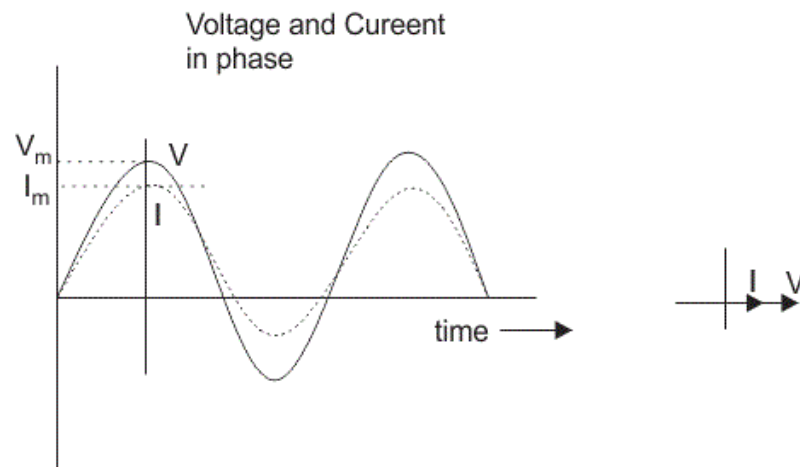


# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

$P(t)$  is COMPLEX... Consider first the real part

Power in Resistive Load:  $P_R(t) = V_R(t)I(t)$

Remember  $V(t)$  and  $I(t)$  thru R:



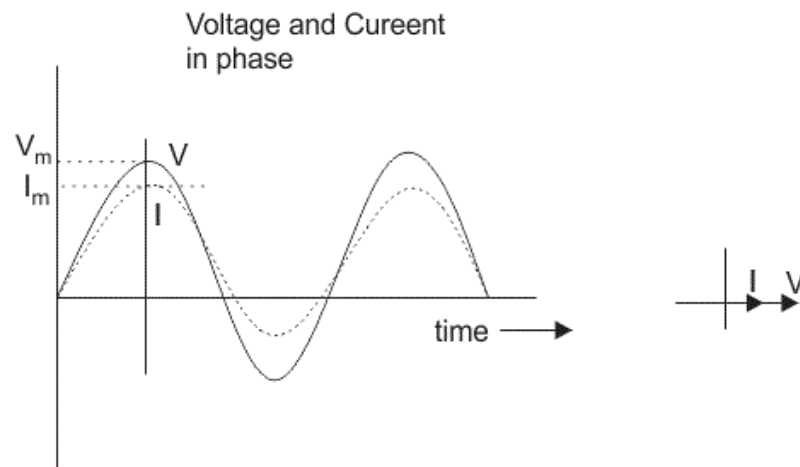
Q: What does *average* power look like (over one AC cycle?)

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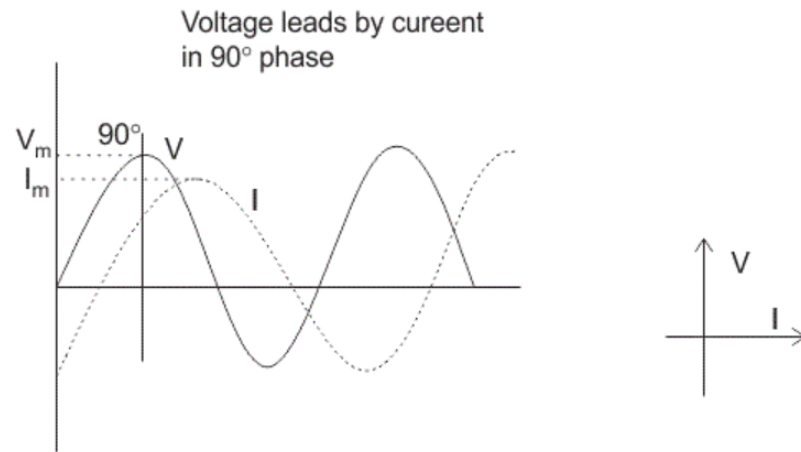
A:  $P(t) > 0$  *always* →  $\langle P(t) \rangle$  *is finite and positive* →  
*represents rate of energy dissipation*

# 1<sup>st</sup> order AC Circuit Model to Identify Key Issues:

$P(t)$  is COMPLEX... Consider next the imaginary part

Power in Inductive Load:  $P_L(t) = V_L(t)I(t)$

Remember  $V(t)$  and  $I(t)$  thru L:



Q: What does *average* power look like (over one AC cycle?)

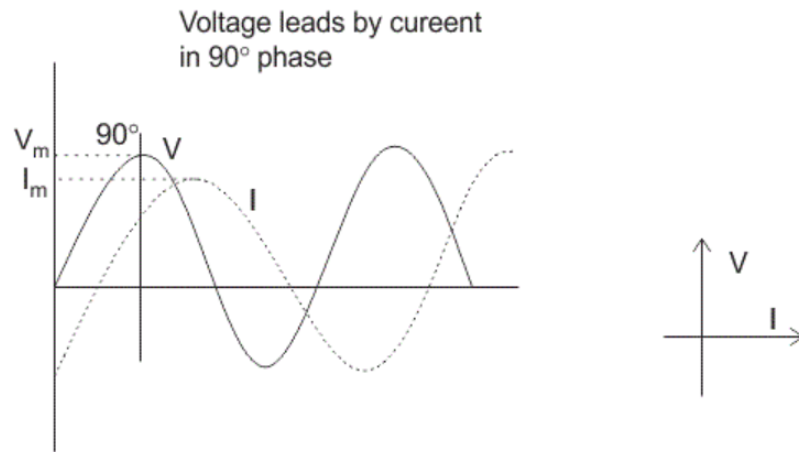


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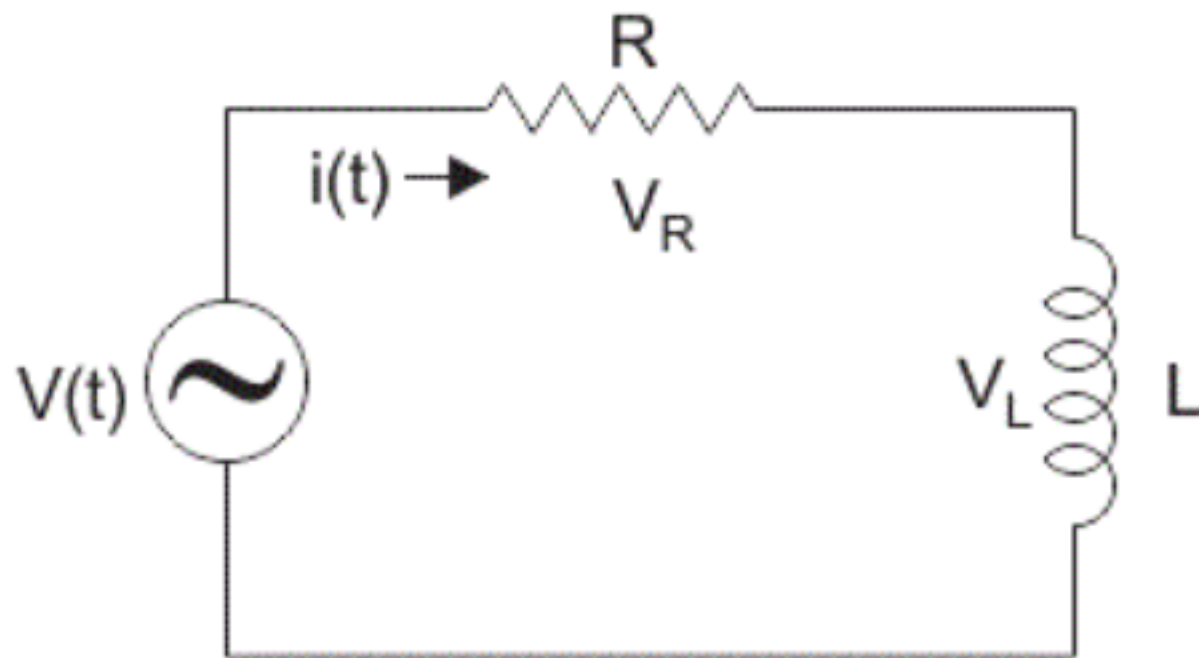
Q: What does *average* power look like (over one AC cycle?)

A:  $P_L(t)$  *OSCILLATES* in time so that  $\langle P_L(t) \rangle = 0$ ! → Energy is stored  
In L for half-cycle, then returned in other half-cycle

# So now back to our toy model of power grid:

Q: What actually determines  $V(t)$  (which we have assumed is sinusoidal?)

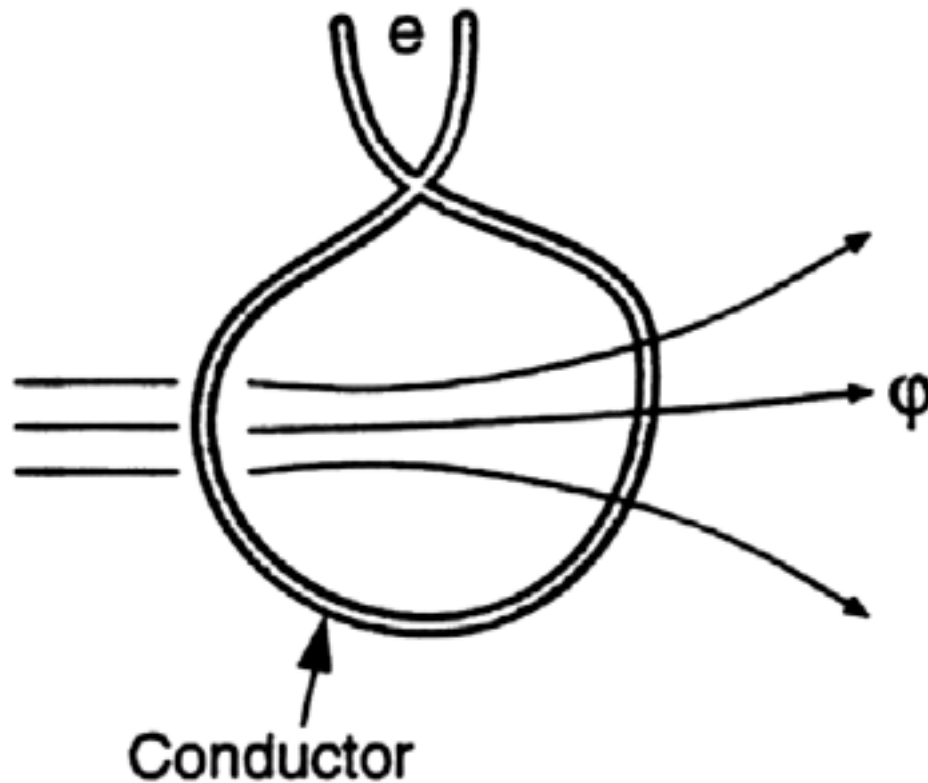
A: This is actually a real physical device: (usually) a “Synchronous Generator”



# Basics of Synchronous Generator: Electromagnetic Induction

## Lenz's Law

1. Changing Flux

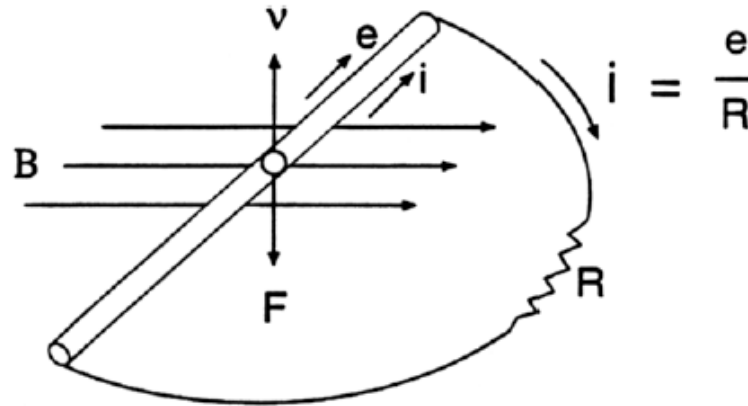


2. Induced Voltage:

$$V = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_C \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

# Basics of Synchronous Generator: Electromagnetic Induction

Example



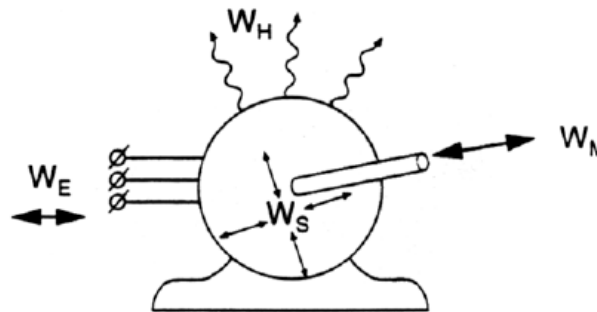
1. The upward moving conductor in a magnetic field induces a voltage (Faraday)
2. Closing the circuit generates a current
3. The current creates a force opposing the movement (Ampere and Lenz)

**Hint: Use the rule of the palm to show the direction of “F”**

**This phenomenon explains the torque applied by the generator on the turbine, when the unit is loaded**

# Basics of Synchronous Generator: Work & Energy Flow

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 W_E & & W_M & & W_S & & W_H \\
 \text{Input/output} & + & \text{Input/output} & + & \text{Change in} & + & \text{Heat} \\
 \text{of electric} & & \text{of mechanical} & & \text{stored} & & \text{dissipated} \\
 \text{energy} & & \text{energy} & & \text{energy} & & \\
 & & & & \underbrace{\hspace{2cm}} & & \\
 & & & & \text{Electrical} = & & \\
 & & & & \frac{1}{2} I^2 L + \frac{1}{2} V^2 C & & \\
 & & & & \text{Mechanical} = & & \\
 & & & & \text{Rotational energy} & & \\
 & & & & & & = 0
 \end{array}$$



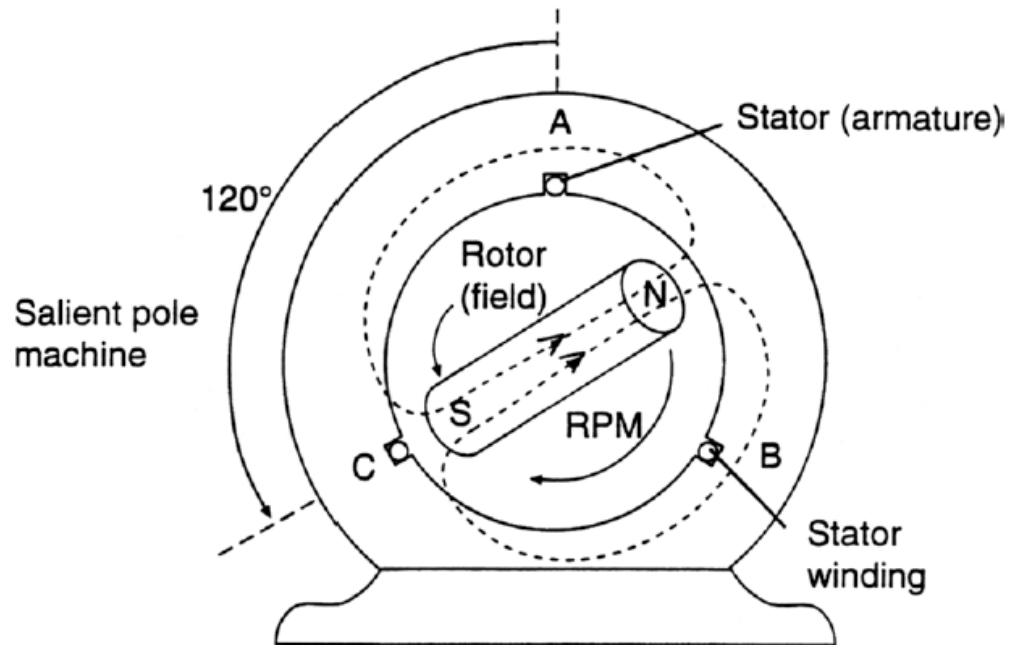
$W_H$  is always negative (i.e., heat is always released during the conversion process)

$W_E$ ,  $W_M$  and  $W_S$  can have "+" or "-" signs

$W_E$  and  $W_M$  with a "plus" means input to the machine  
"minus" means output from the machine

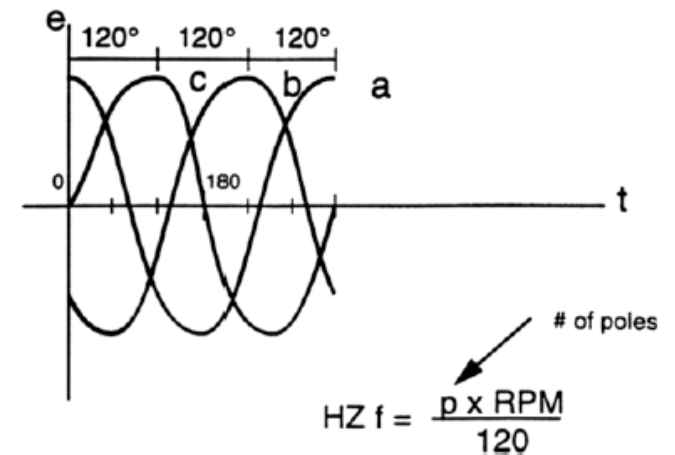
$W_S$  with a "plus" means increase of stored energy  
"minus" means decrease of stored energy

# Schematic of a Synchronous Generator:

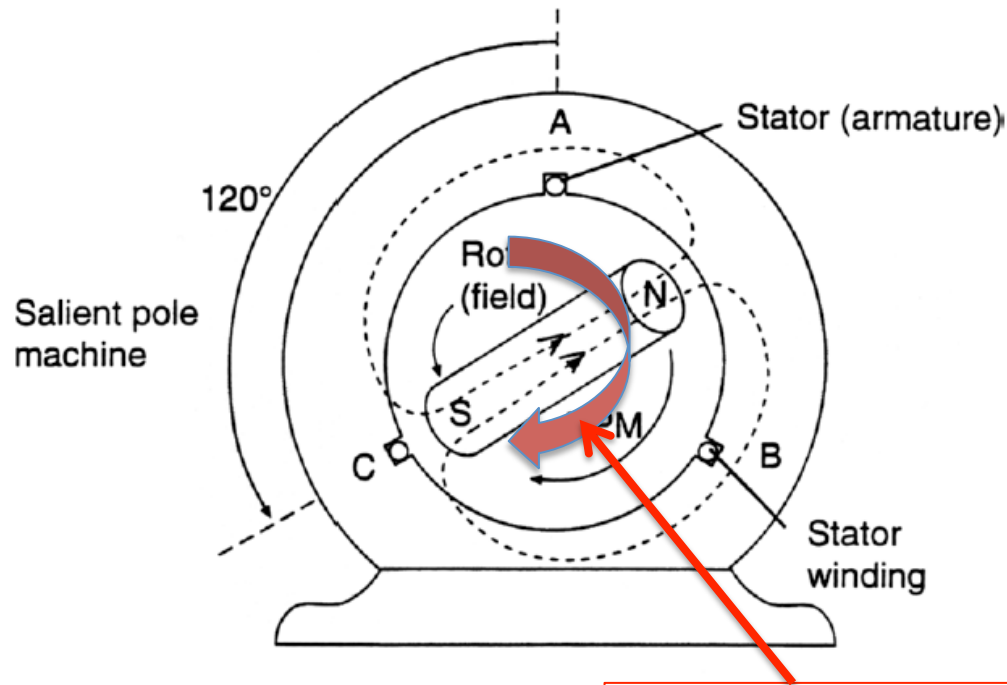


Voltage waveforms for phases A, B, C

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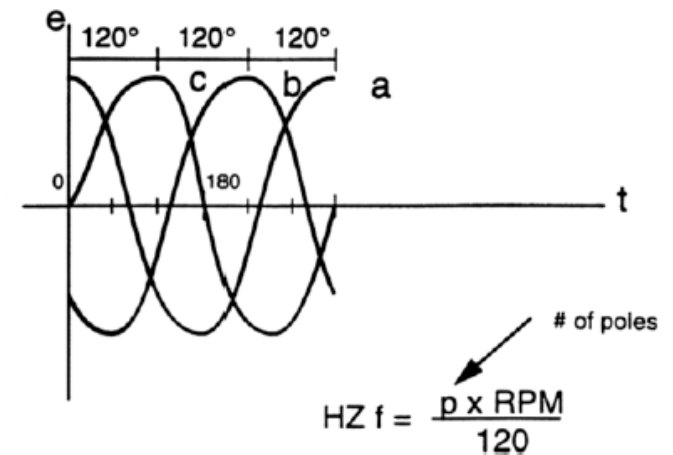


# Schematic of a Synchronous Generator:



Voltage waveforms for phases A, B, C

Voltage waveforms for phases A, B, C



**External Torque Must be Applied To the Rotor to Keep in Spinning!**

**Q: Where does that torque come from?**

**A: Mechanical Work from a Heat Engine!**

# Basics of Synchronous Generator: Power Balance Considerations

Synch. Generator Driven by Torque Input from External Source (HEAT ENGINE!).  
Angular Momentum Conservation Gives:

$$J \frac{d^2 \theta_m}{dt^2} = T_a = T_m - T_e$$

Where:

- $J$  is the total moment of inertia of the rotor mass in kg-m<sup>2</sup>
- $\theta_m$  is the angular position of the rotor with respect to a stationary axis in (rad)
- $t$  is time in seconds (s)
- $T_m$  is the mechanical torque supplied by the prime mover in N-m
- $T_e$  is the electrical torque output of the alternator in N-m
- $T_a$  is the net accelerating torque, in N-m

**In Steady-state  $T_a=0 \iff$  Generation Rate = Load**



# Basics of Synchronous Generator: Power Balance Considerations

Re-write as POWER by multiplying through by angular rotation

$$J\omega_s \frac{d^2\theta_m}{dt^2} = P_a = P_m - P_e$$

Where

$P_a \sim$  change in kinetic energy of rotation of the generator

$P_m \sim$  rate of mechanical work applied to the generator

$P_e \sim$  rate of electrical work (i.e. electrical power) produced by generator

**In Steady-state  $P_a=0 \iff$  Generation Rate = Load**

# The rotation of heat engine can store significant energy:

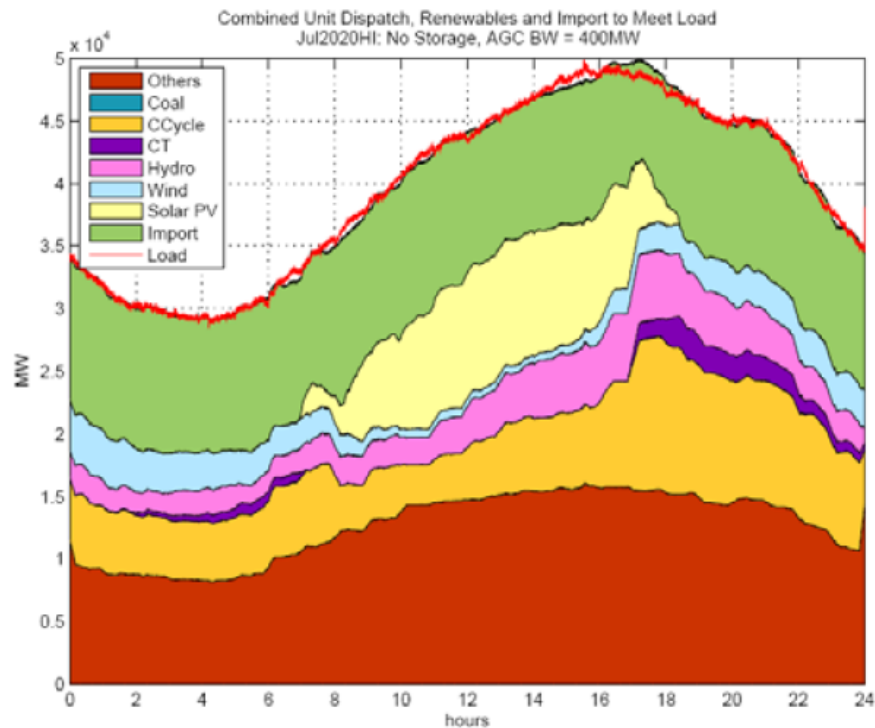
**Imagine this spinning at 3600 rpm**



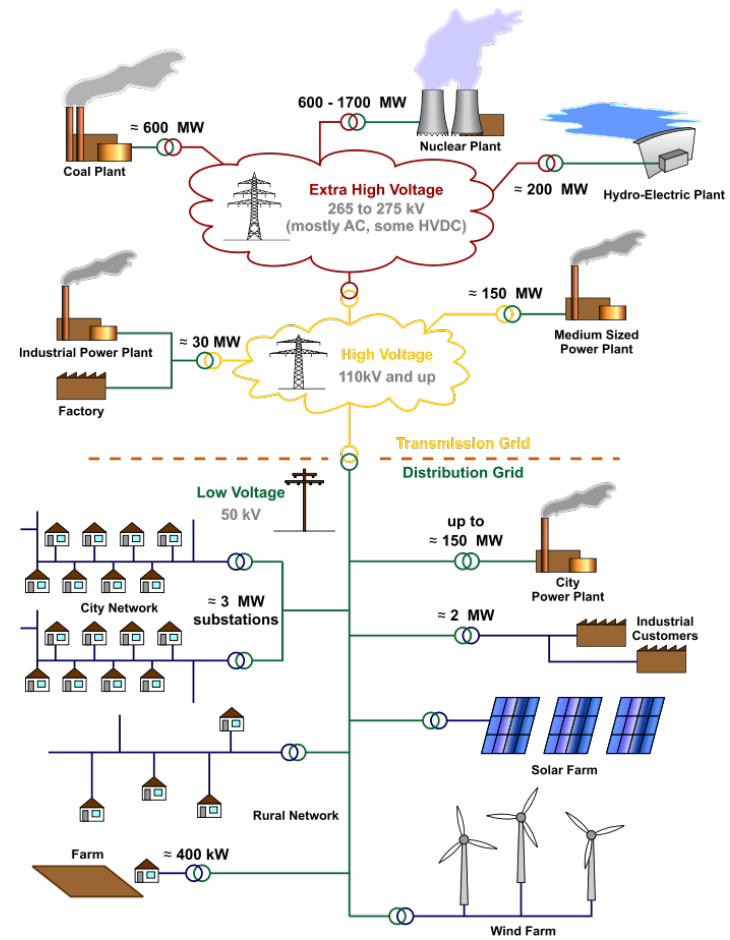
Photo: General Electric

# Now consider a grid w/ mixture of heat engines & renewables w/o storage

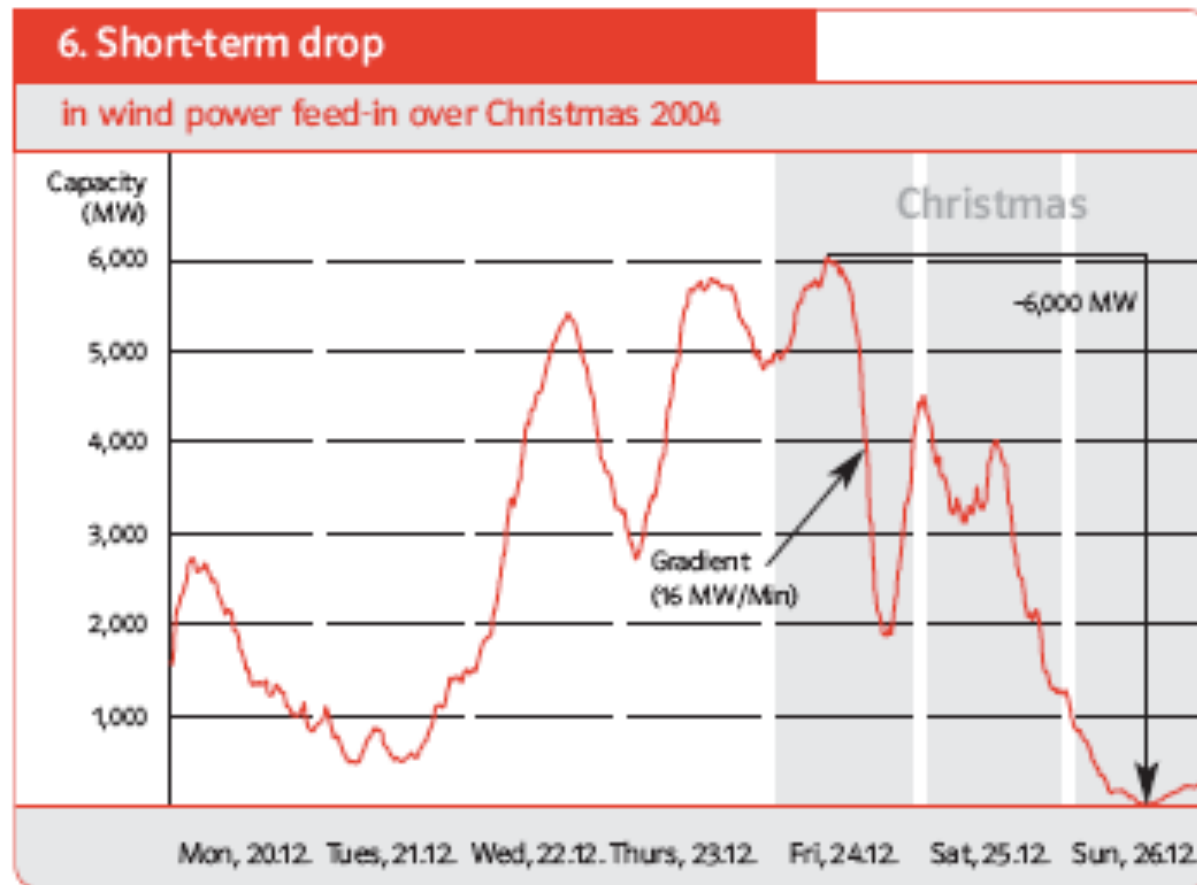
Projected demand curve for CA  
In 2020 from 2010 CEC Study:



Schematic System Architecture



# Weather-dependent Systems Can Experience Rapid Changes in Rate of Power Feed-In:



“Handling Such Significant Differences in Feed-in Level Poses a Major Challenge to Grid Operators”

Source: E.On Netz, “Wind Report 2005”

# How does grid respond to a sudden loss of generation capacity from such a disturbance?

Recall Power Balance Eqn:

$$J\omega_s \frac{d^2\theta_m}{dt^2} = P_a = P_m - P_e$$

Where

$P_a$  ~ change in kinetic energy of rotation of the generator

$P_m$  ~ rate of mechanical work applied to the generator

$P_e$  ~ rate of electrical work (i.e. electrical power) produced by generator

In Steady-state  $P_a=0 \iff$  Generation Rate = Load

**But w/ Reduction in Renewable Power Generation, Load now shift  
Remainder of System BUT...  $P_m=\text{const!} \rightarrow P_e > P_m$**

# How does grid respond? (cont'd)

With drop in renewables input we have  $P_e > P_m$  ....

Now... Recall Power Balance Eqn at Synch. Generator:

$$J\omega_s \frac{d^2\theta_m}{dt^2} = P_m - P_e < 0$$

Remember definition:

$$\frac{d\theta_m}{dt} = \omega_s$$

So rotation frequency of generators begins to change!

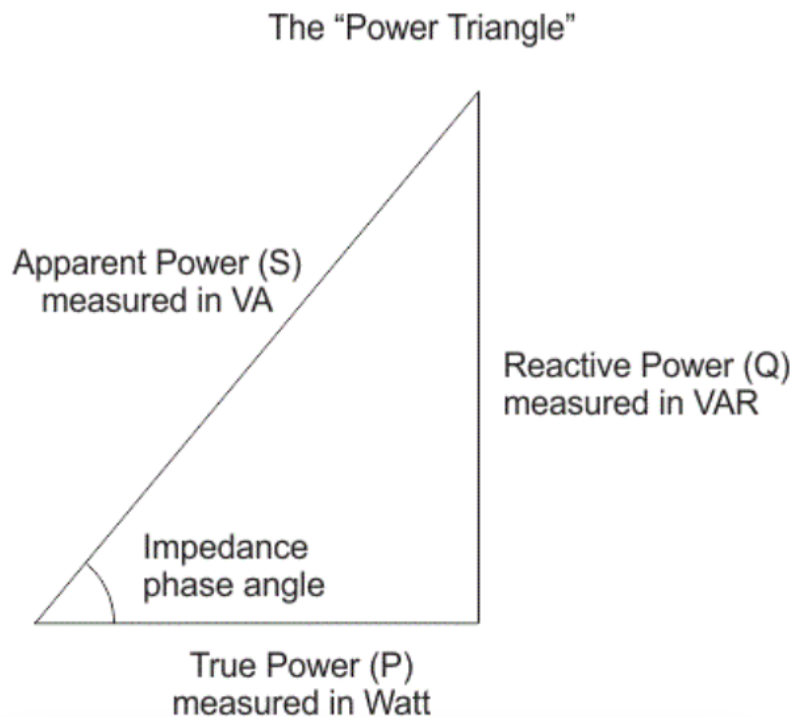
$$\frac{d\omega_s}{dt} = \frac{d^2\theta_m}{dt^2} < 0$$

**Rotation frequency of generators = Frequency of AC Voltage → AC Freq. Changes!**

# How does grid respond (cont'd):

How does POWER in circuit behave? Remember,  $P(t)=V(t)I(t)$ ...

...and  $P(t)$  is COMPLEX:



## **RESULT OF LOAD IMBALANCE:**

OSCILLATIONS IN MAGNITUDE  
OF REACTIVE AND REAL POWER

- ➔ OSCILLATIONS IN PEAK-PEAK  
VOLTAGE
- ➔ RISK OF DAMAGING EQUIPMENT
- ➔ (ARCING)
- ➔ PROTECTIONS WILL DISCONNECT
- ➔ CIRCUITS TO PREVENT PERMANENT
- ➔ DAMAGE

# Illustration of this...

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## environment

### AEMO's third report highlights wind power link to South Australia blackout

DECEMBER 12, 2016 4:32PM



A transmission tower carrying power lines, toppled by high winds near Melrose in South Australia. Picture: Debbie Prosser/AFP



#### Want to Retire Comfortably?

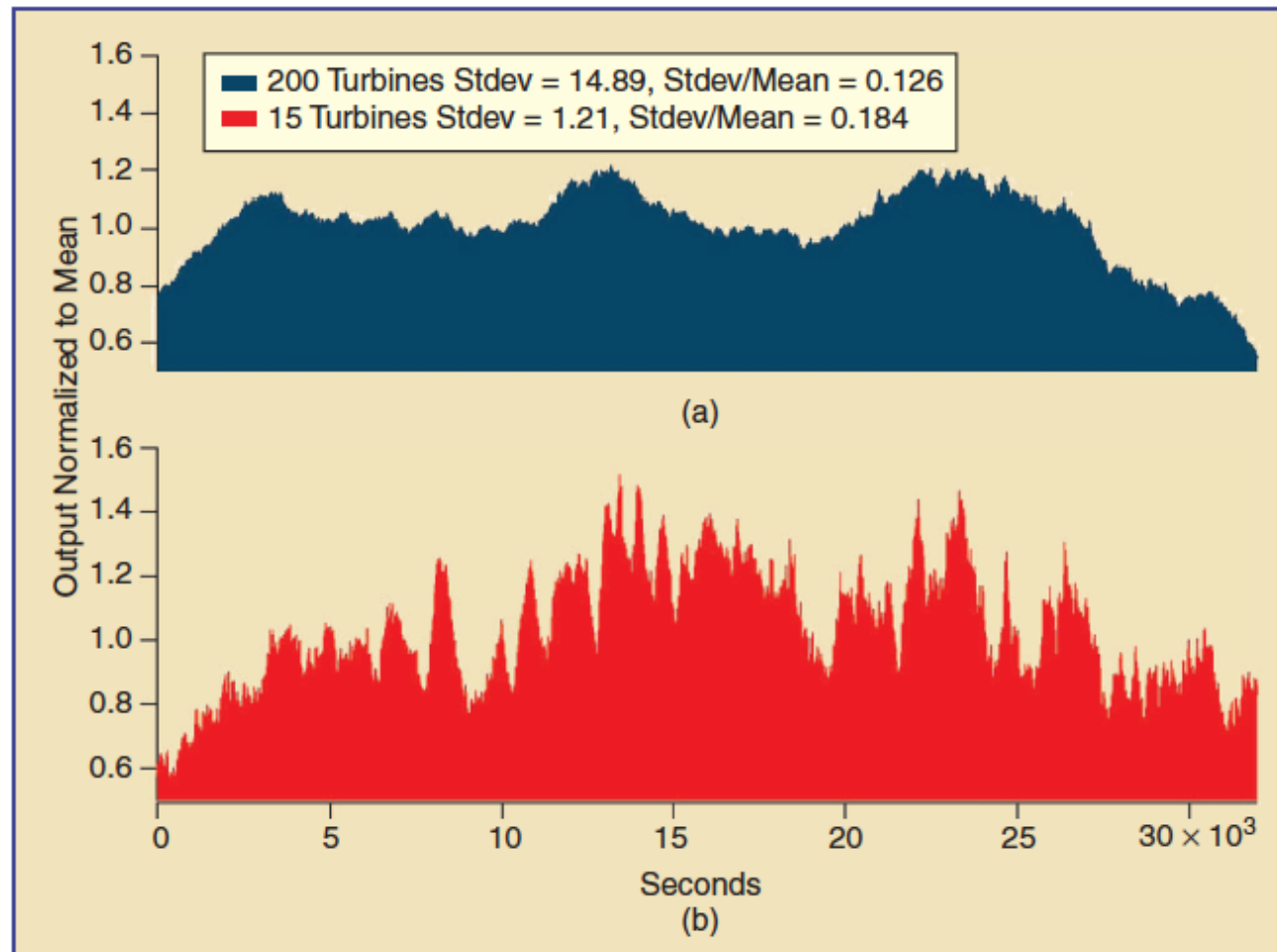
If you have a \$500,000 portfolio, download the guide by *Forbes* columnist Ken Fisher's firm. It's called, ***The Definitive Guide to Retirement Income***

<http://www.news.com.au/technology/environment/aemos-third-report-highlights-wind-power-link-to-south-australia-blackout/news-story/2bbf105bc613f70966659465043633b0>



# How to mitigate these effects?

- Spatial Averaging: deploy renewables over large enough region to “average out” temporal variations



# How to mitigate these effects?

- Reduce Load Dynamically (Demand Response)
- Incorporate Energy Storage Into System
  - Repurposed Conventional Hydro
  - Pumped Hydro
  - Electrochemical (Batteries, Flow Batteries)
  - Large Capacitors
  - Fuel Production (e.g. H from water) w/ storage for later use
  - Flywheels
  - Compressed Air
  - Thermal Storage
- Q's for storage system spec's:
  - What is peak power required from system?
  - Over what duration is storage needed?
  - What is total stored energy requirement?
  - What is optimum position within grid?

# Order-of-Magnitude estimates of regional (e.g. WECC) storage requirements

Transient Description	Magnitude of Power Imbalance (MW)	Corresponding Energy (MJ)	Possible Technology?
AC Osc. Timescales (0.1-1 sec)	0.1 – 10's	0.1 - 100	???
Frequency Transients, 1-10 sec	1-100	0.1-100	????
Short-term RE Variability, 10-10 <sup>3</sup> sec	10 - 1000	10 <sup>2</sup> -10 <sup>4</sup>	????
Diurnal Variation 3-10 hours	100-10,000	10 <sup>4</sup> -10 <sup>7</sup>	????
Seasonal 10-100 days	1000-10,000	10 <sup>9</sup> -10 <sup>11</sup>	????