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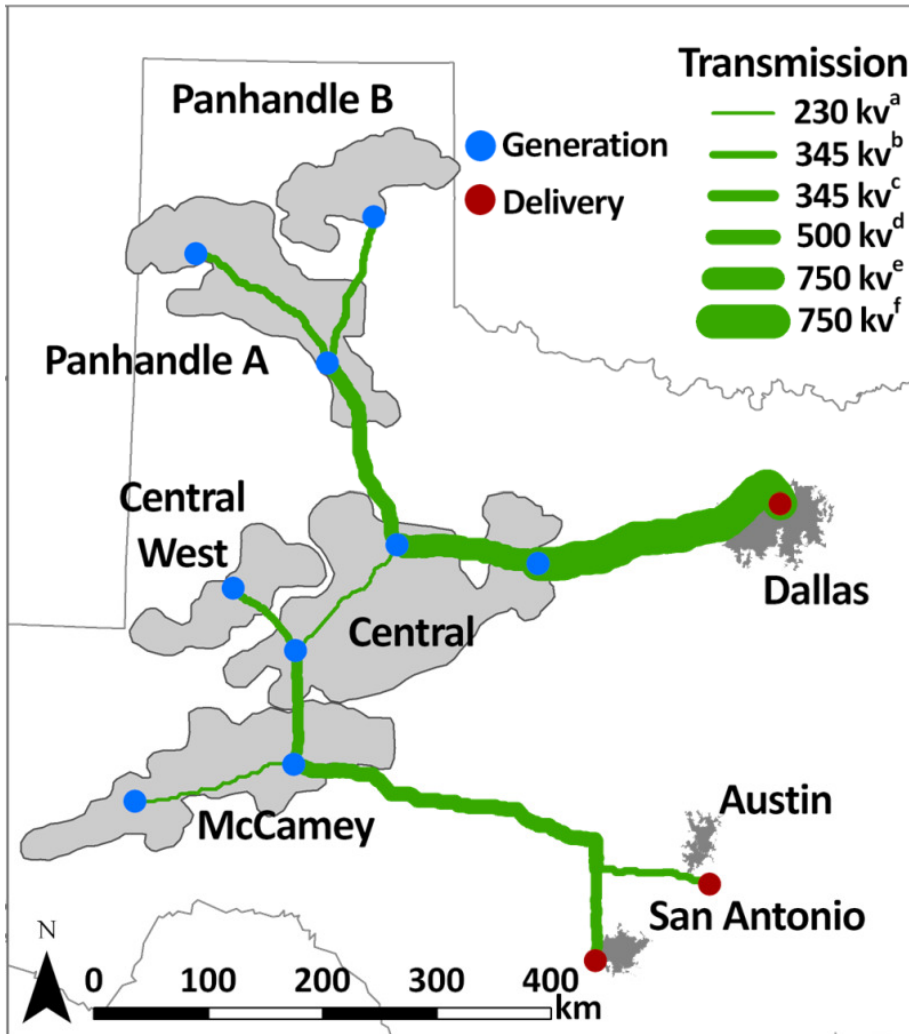


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SimWIND: A Geospatial Infrastructure Model for Optimizing Wind Power Generation and Transmission

Benjamin R. Phillips

*SRA International, Inc. /
 U.S. Department of Energy*

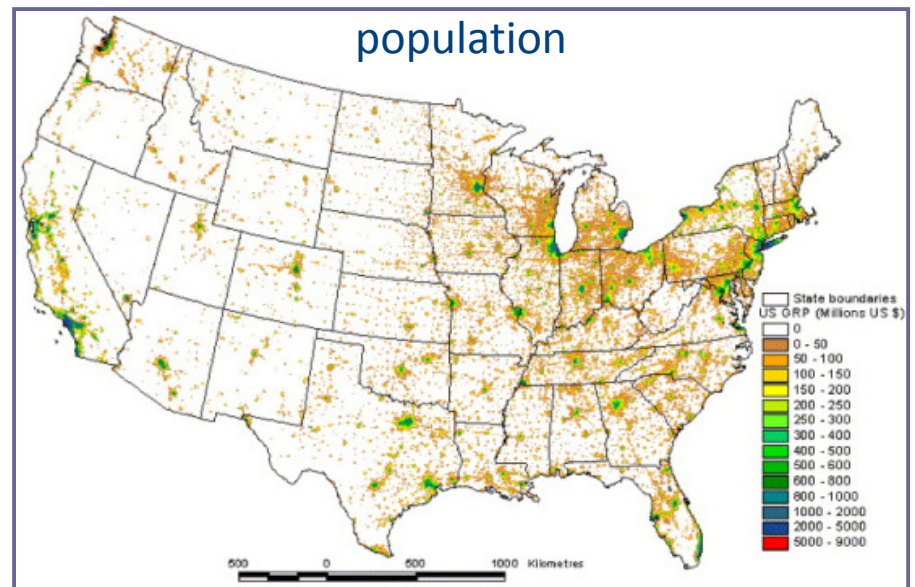
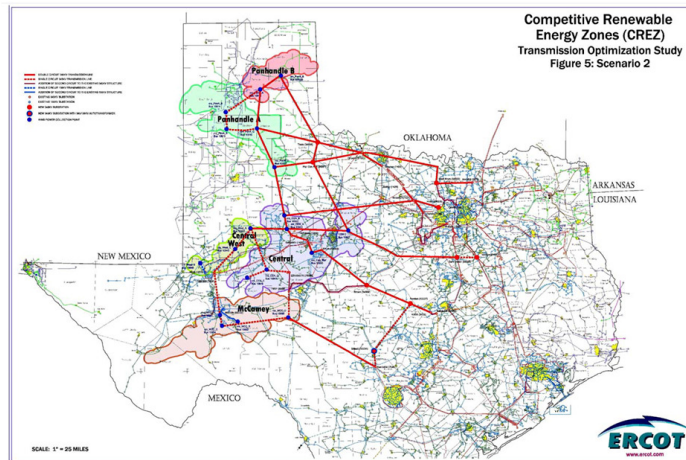
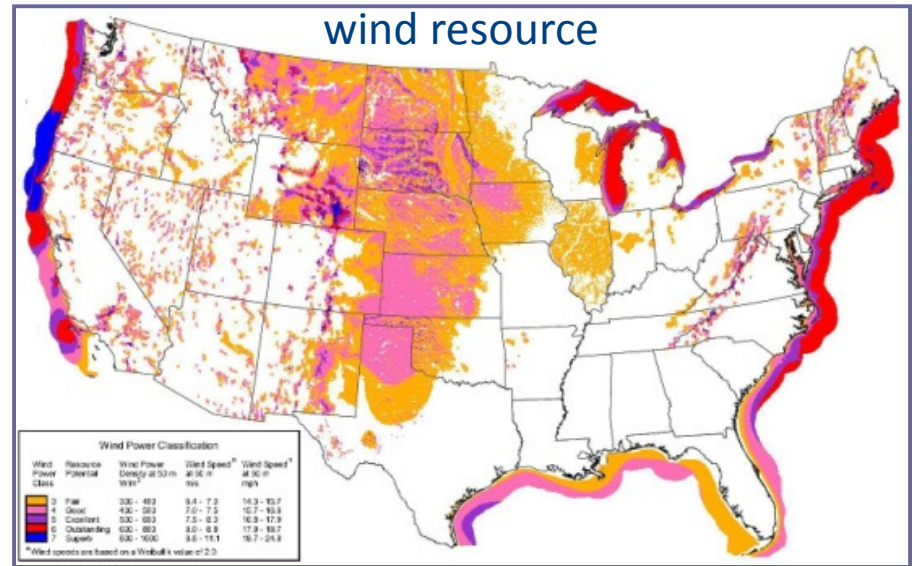
Richard Middleton

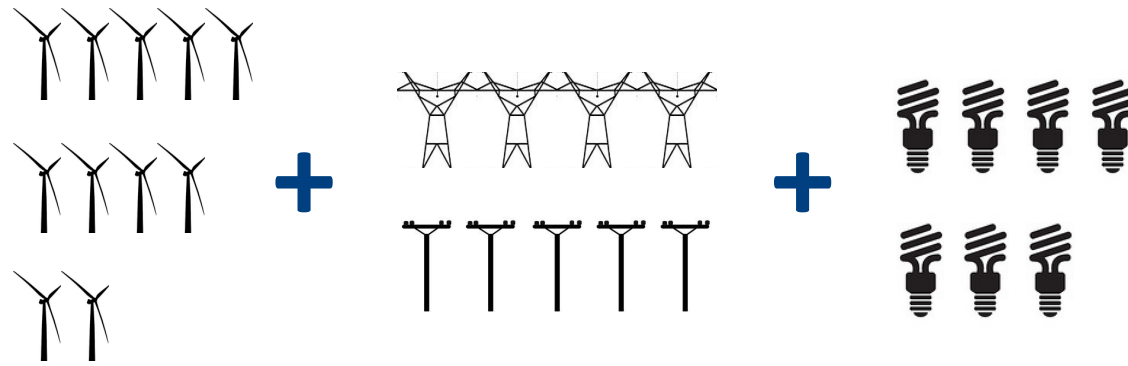
*Los Alamos National Laboratory,
 Earth and Environmental Sciences*

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Challenge and Opportunities

- Targeting 10 times today's wind capacity by 2030
- Need to optimally develop and connect resources
- Major infrastructure improvements needed
- Regional transmission planning: FERC 1000, etc.





Unique algorithm to devise a candidate network of all possible least-cost network arcs

Simultaneously optimize for a given wind power target:

- Location and amount of power to generate
- Location and capacities of transmission lines

Quantitative, discrete spatial accounting of:

- Geographical (land slope, roughness, etc.) and Social (land use, population, politics, etc.) costs
- Transmission losses

SimWIND Mixed integer-linear program

- Candidate network defined by nodes (i,j) and arcs (ij) with capacities (c)
- Model “builds” wind farms $(w_i, \text{capacity factor } \beta_i)$ and transmission lines $(t_{ijc}, \text{loss } \alpha_{ijc})$ to serve loads (l_{kj}) with a power delivery *Target*
- Network and solution are optimized over a weighted cost surface

Minimize:

$$\sum_{i \in A} \overbrace{F_i^w w_i}^{(a)} + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in N_i} \sum_{c \in C} \overbrace{F_{ijc}^t t_{ijc}}^{(b)} + \sum_{j \in B} \sum_{k \in K} \overbrace{F_{jk}^l l_{jk}}^{(c)} \quad (1)$$

Subject to

$$e_{ijc} \leq Q_c^{\max} t_{ijc} \quad \forall i \in I, \forall j \in N_i, \forall c \in C \quad (2)$$

$$e_{ijc} \geq Q_c^{\min} t_{ijc} \quad \forall i \in I, \forall j \in N_i, \forall c \in C \quad (3)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N_i} \sum_{c \in C} e_{ijc} - \sum_{j \in N_i} \sum_{c \in C} \alpha_{jic} e_{jic} = \begin{cases} \beta_i a_i & \text{if } i \in A \\ -b_i & \text{if } i \in B \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \forall i \in I \quad (4)$$

$$a_i \leq Q_i^w w_i \quad \forall i \in A \quad (5)$$

$$w_i \leq W_i \quad \forall i \in A \quad (6)$$

$$b_j \leq \sum_{k \in K} Q_k^l l_{jk} \quad \forall j \in B \quad (7)$$

$$b_j \leq Q_j^b \quad \forall j \in B \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{j \in B} b_j \geq \text{Target} \quad (9)$$

$$w_i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\} \quad \forall i \in A \quad (10)$$

$$t_{ijc} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i \in I, \forall j \in N_i, \forall c \in C \quad (11)$$

$$l_{jk} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall j \in B, \forall k \in K \quad (12)$$

$$e_{ijc} \geq 0 \quad \forall i \in I, \forall j \in N_i \quad (13)$$

$$a_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i \in A \quad (14)$$

$$b_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in B \quad (15)$$

Decision variables

e_{ijc} amount of electricity transported from node i to node j with transmission capacity c (MW)

$t_{ijc} \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if a transmission line is built on arc } ij \text{ with capacity } c \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

w_i number of wind turbines built at source i

$l_{jk} \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if a load center of capacity } k \text{ is built at node } j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

a_i generation capacity installed at node i (MW)

b_j electricity delivered to load center j (MW)

Inputs

F^w, F^t, F^l fixed cost for opening constructing a wind turbine^(w), constructing a transmission line^(t), and building a load center^(l) (\$)

Q^w, Q^t, Q^l, Q^b capacity of one wind turbine^(w), a transmission line^(t), a load center^(l), and the node demand^(b) (MW)

α_{ijc} transmission loss between i and j with capacity c (MW)

β_i capacity factor for wind farm at node i

Target amount of system-wide electricity to deliver (MW)

W_i maximum number of wind turbines at each site i

Sets

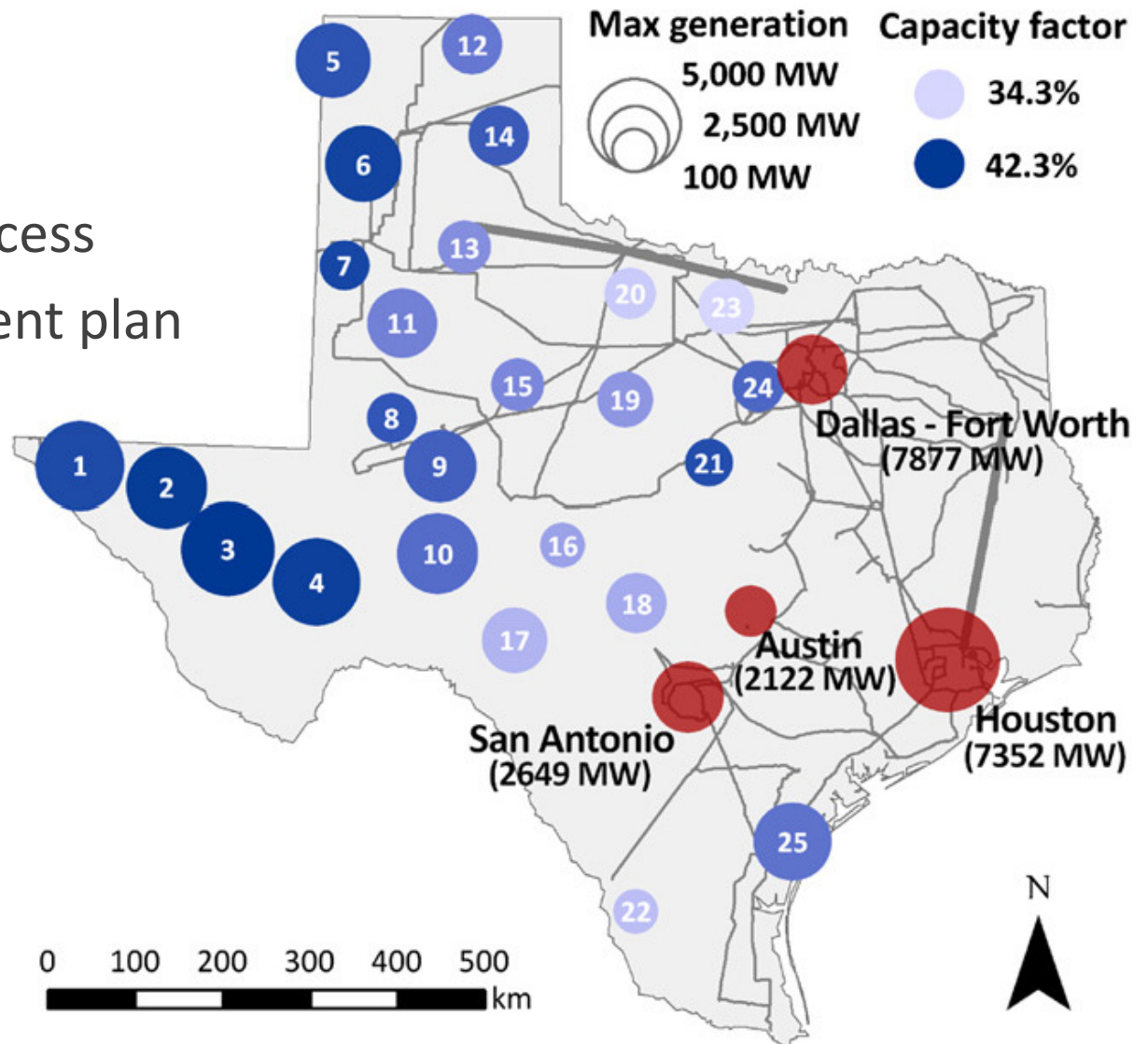
I, A, B set of all nodes, wind farm sites nodes, and load centers

N_i set nodes adjacent to node i

C, K set of discrete transmission line and load center capacities

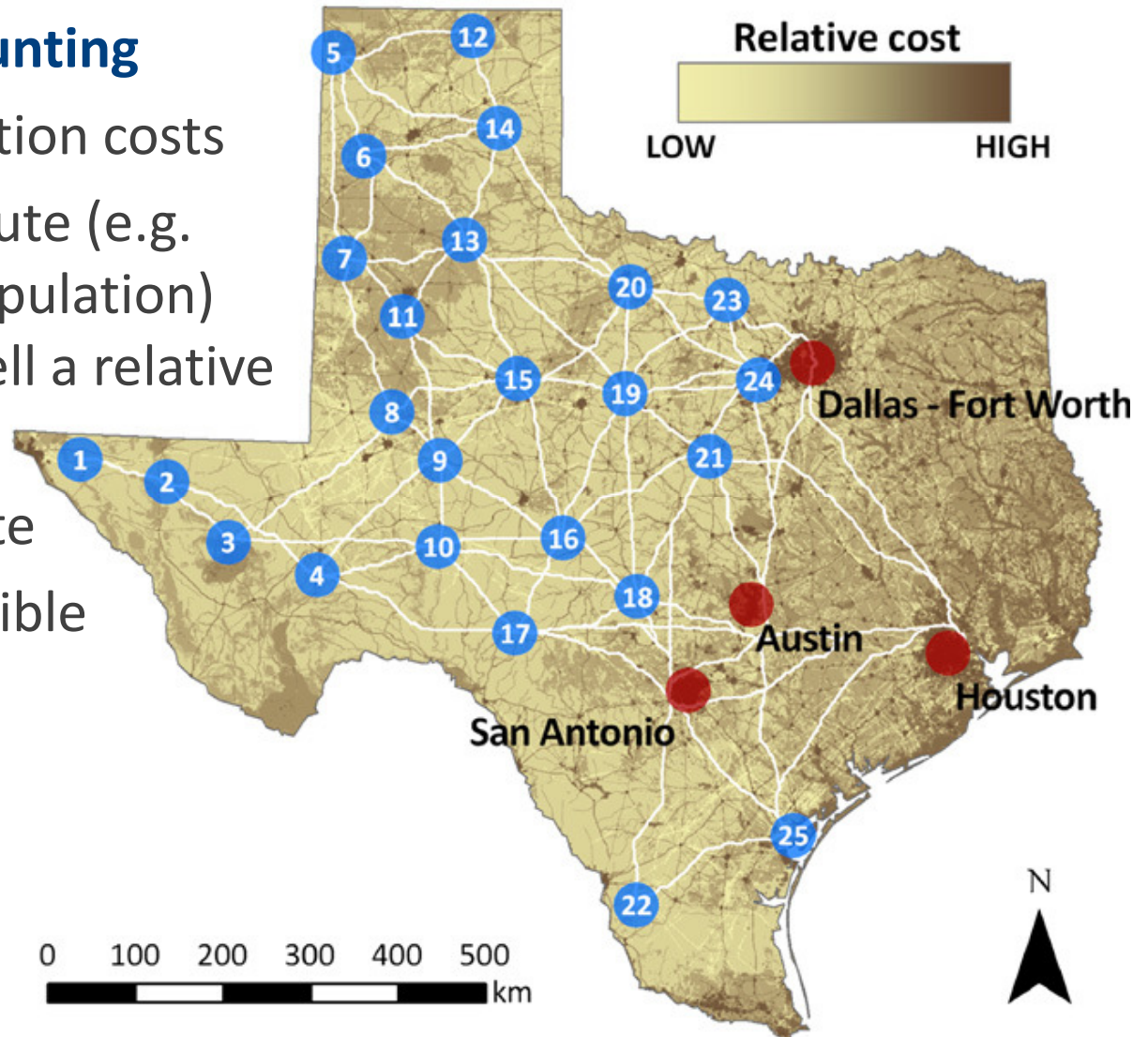
ERCOT case study

- Isolated system
- CREZ selection process
- Existing development plan
- Clear disparity between quality resource and demand locations

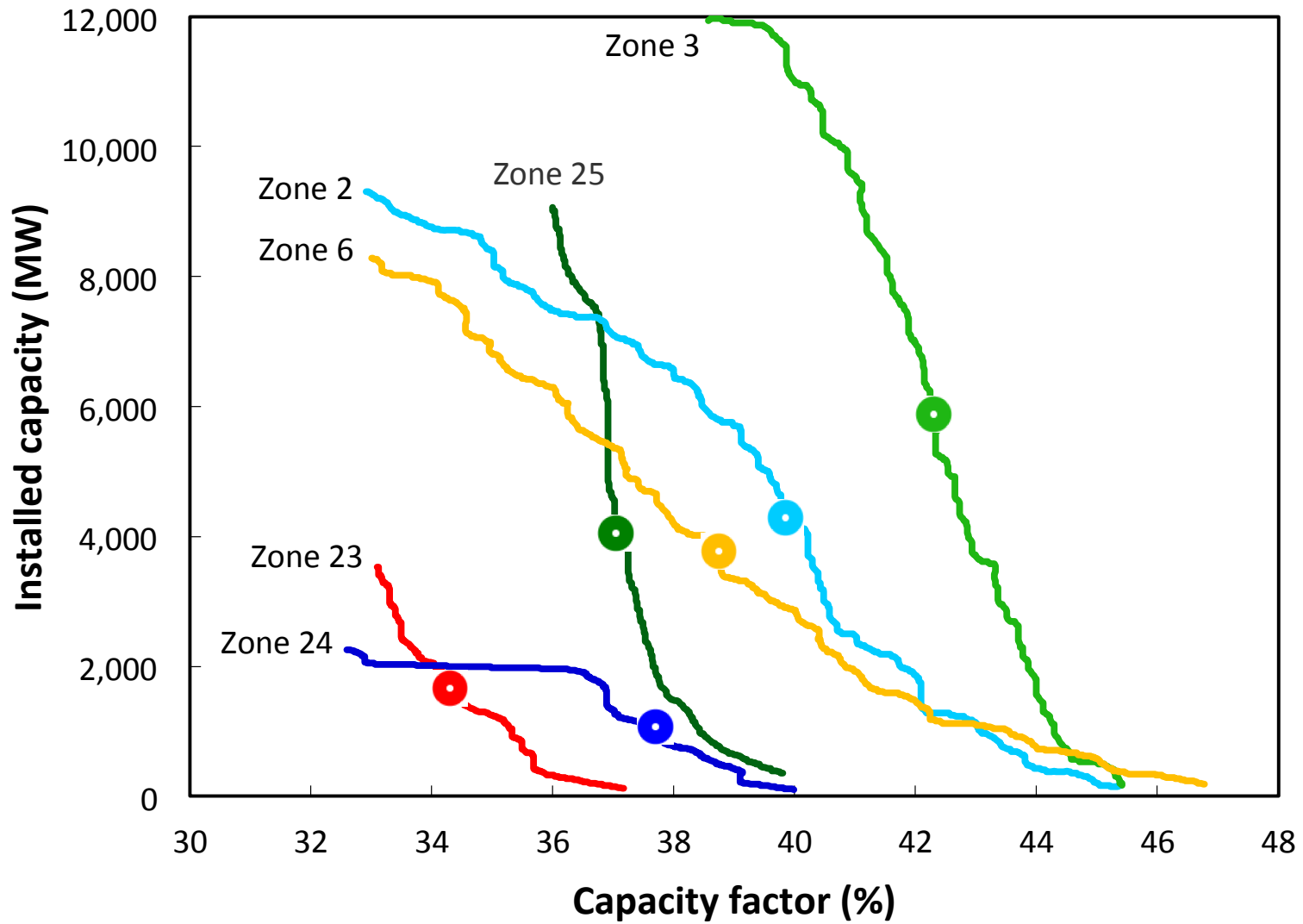


Geospatial cost accounting

- ROW and construction costs
- Weight each attribute (e.g. slope, land use, population) to give each grid cell a relative cost
- Develop a candidate network of all possible least-cost arcs



Wind Resource Curves



Adapted from ERCOT, 2006

Resistive Losses and Transmission Cost

$$\text{Loss} = \frac{Q\sigma d}{V^2}$$

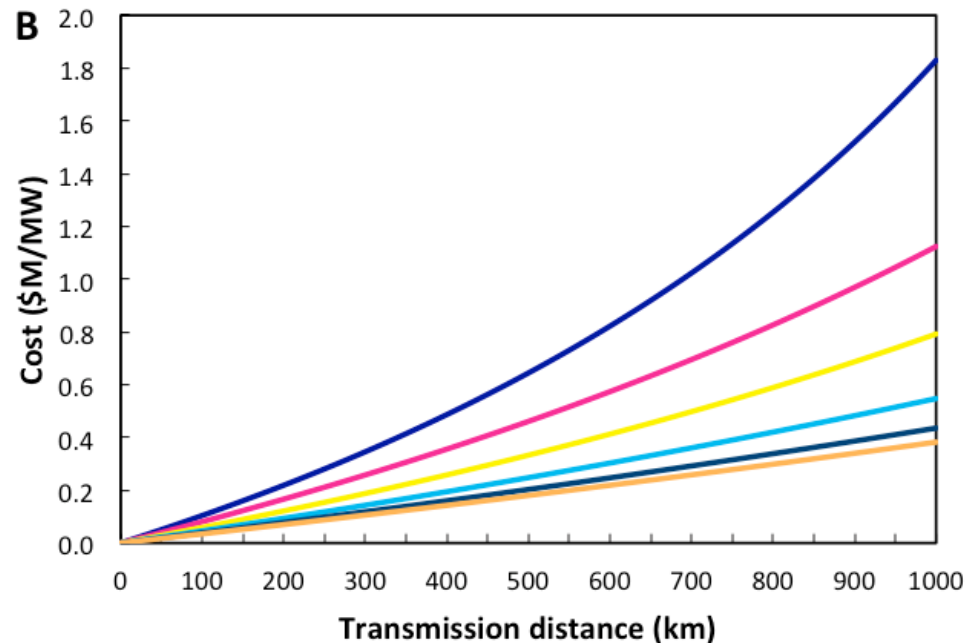
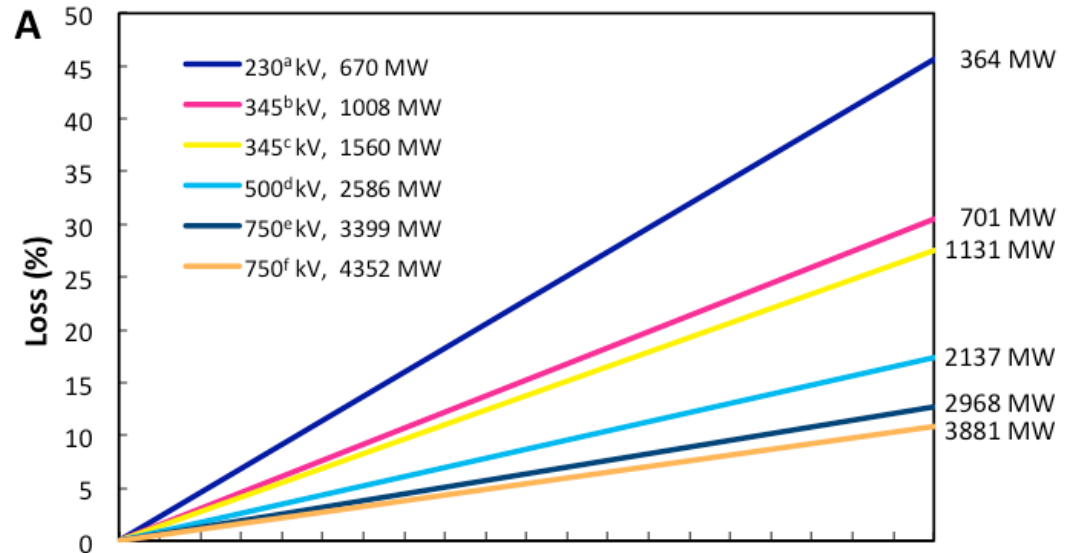
Q (MW) total electricity generated

σ (Ω /phase) conductor resistance

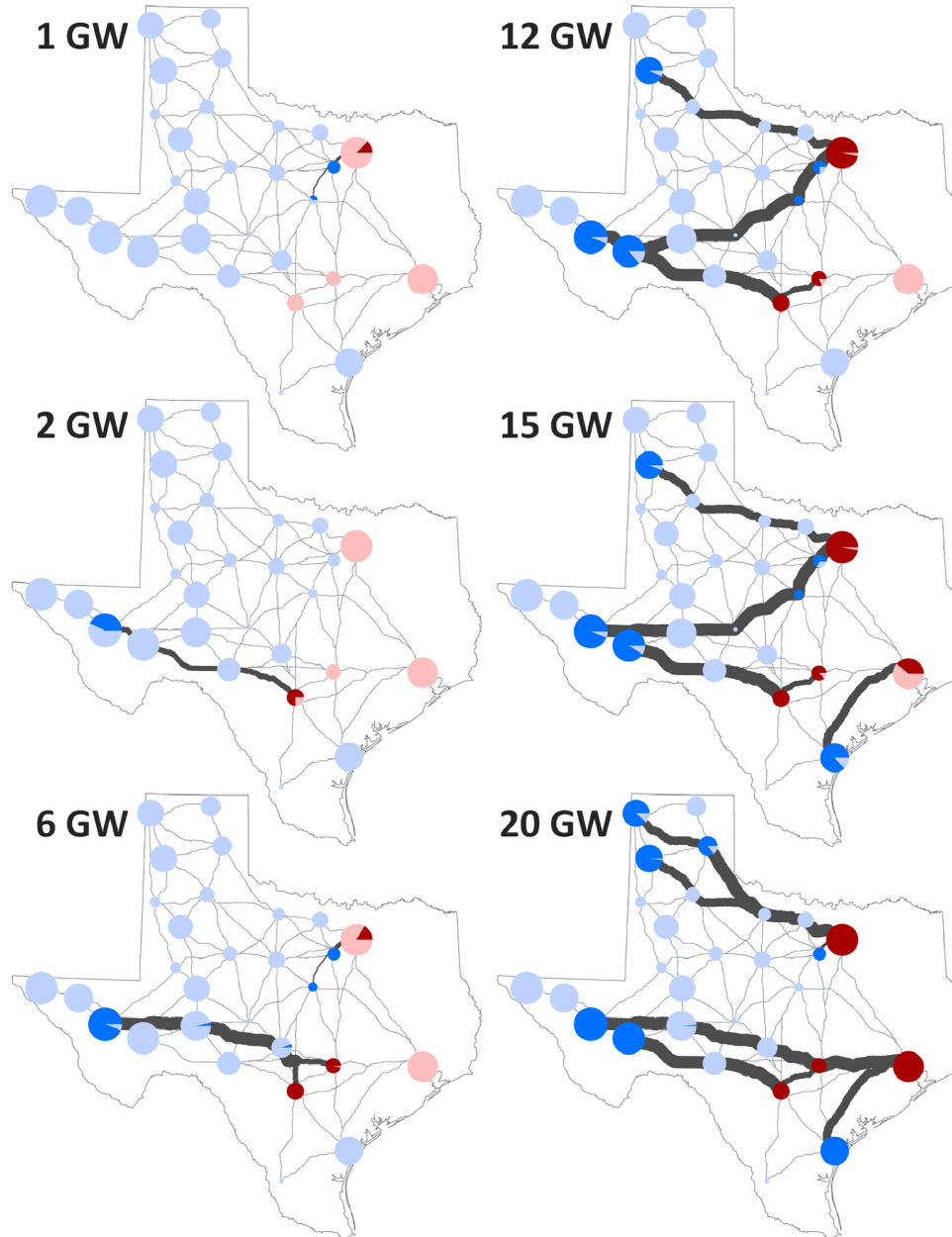
d (km) distance from source to load

V (kV) line voltage

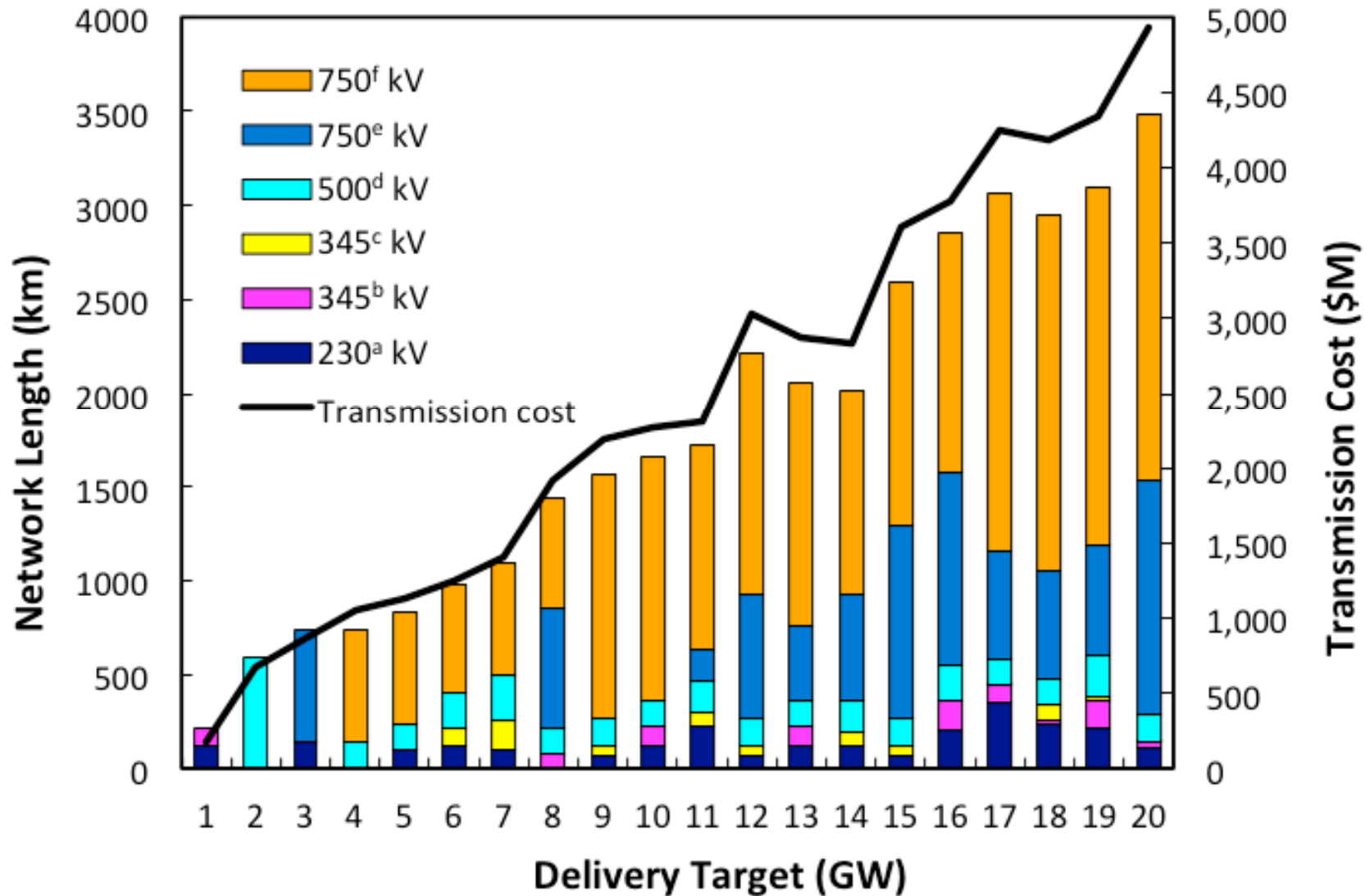
IEAGHG R&D Programme, 2002



SimWIND Example Solutions

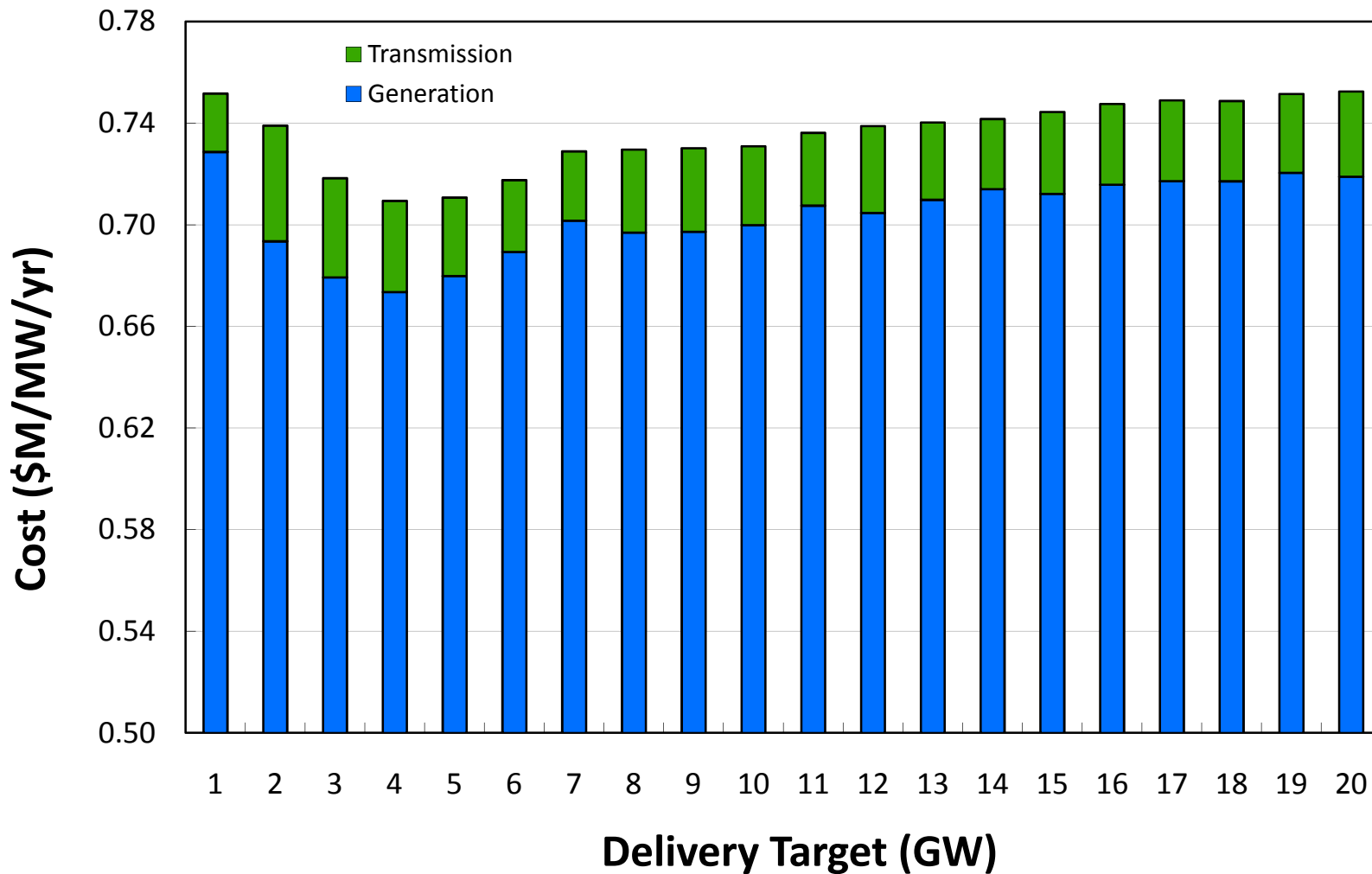


Transmission Network Length and Cost

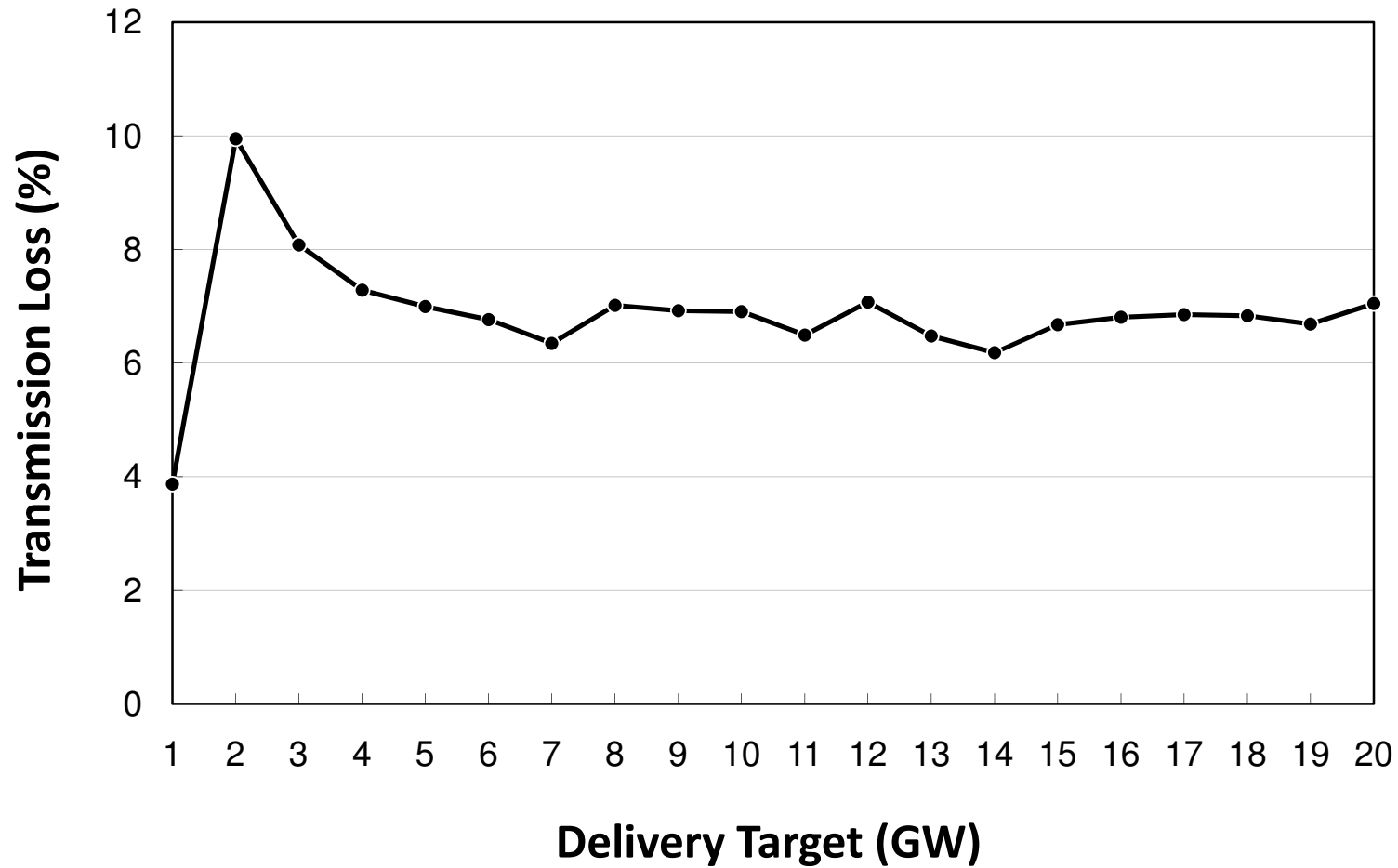


Annualized Costs for Generation and Transmission

- Generation accounts for ~95% of system costs



System-Wide Transmission Losses



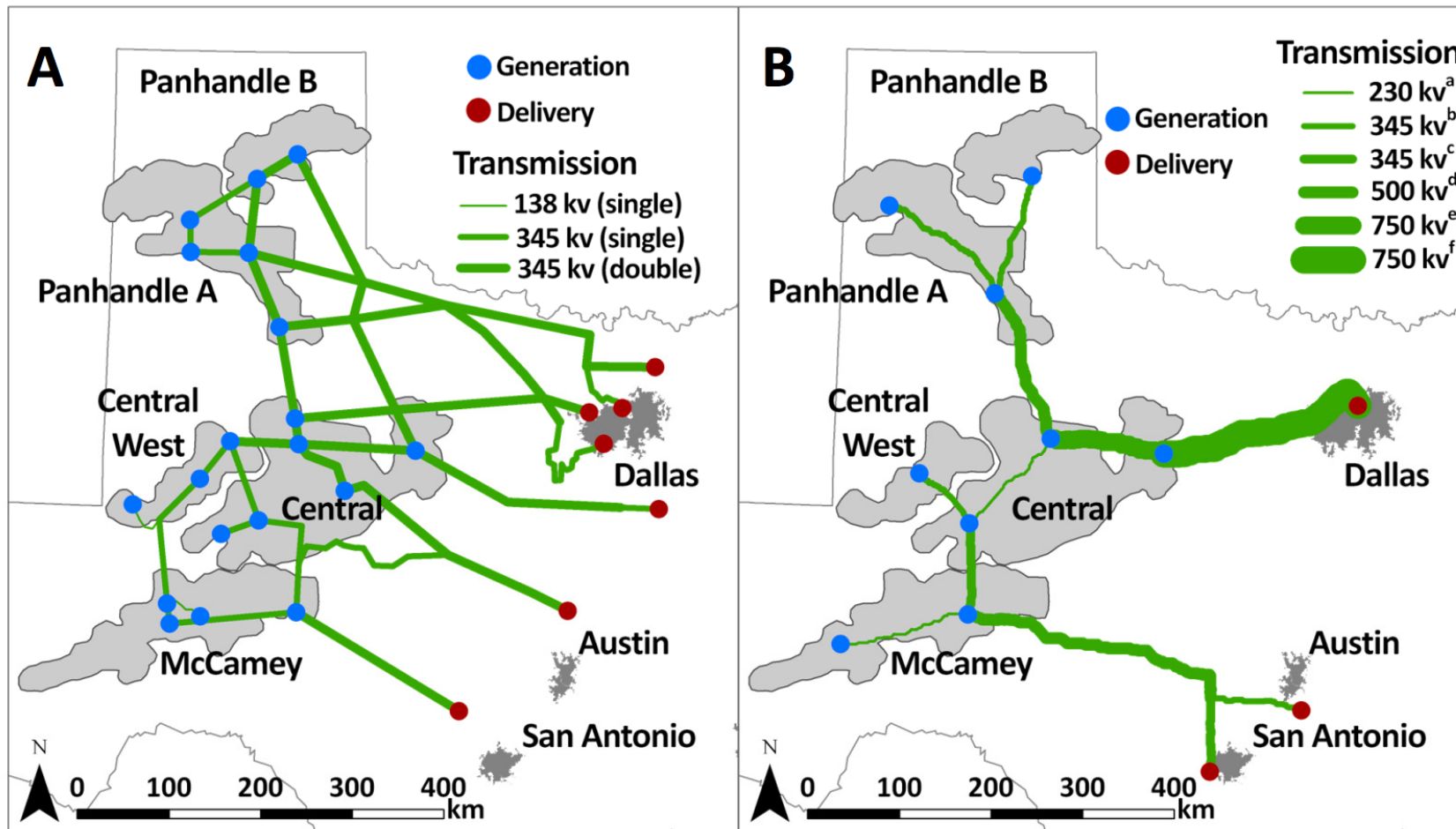
SimWIND vs. ERCOT Scenarios: 18,456 MW installed

ERCOT Scenario 2

SimWIND

Total Length: 3823 km
 Total Cost: 4728 \$M

1952 km
 2422 \$M



Adapted from ERCOT, 2006

Conclusions

- *SimWIND* quantifies potential savings from simultaneous siting of generation and transmission
- These optimal solutions are often non-intuitive
- Accounting for transmission losses amplifies economies of scale
- Offer a flexible platform for translating varied stakeholder interests into costs that are an integral part of the optimization

Priorities

- Coupling with a power-flow model to address system reliability
- Incorporating existing transmission and reserve capacity
- Considering other/multiple generation types and storage
- Incorporating dynamic planning capabilities

Phillips, B.R., Middleton, R.S., 2012, *SimWIND: A geospatial infrastructure model for optimizing wind power generation and transmission*. *Energy Policy* 43, 291–302.

