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Tackling Energy Sector Challenges by Intersecting Materials, Manufacturing, and Systems

Defense Energy Seminar
Naval Postgraduate School
May 28, 2024

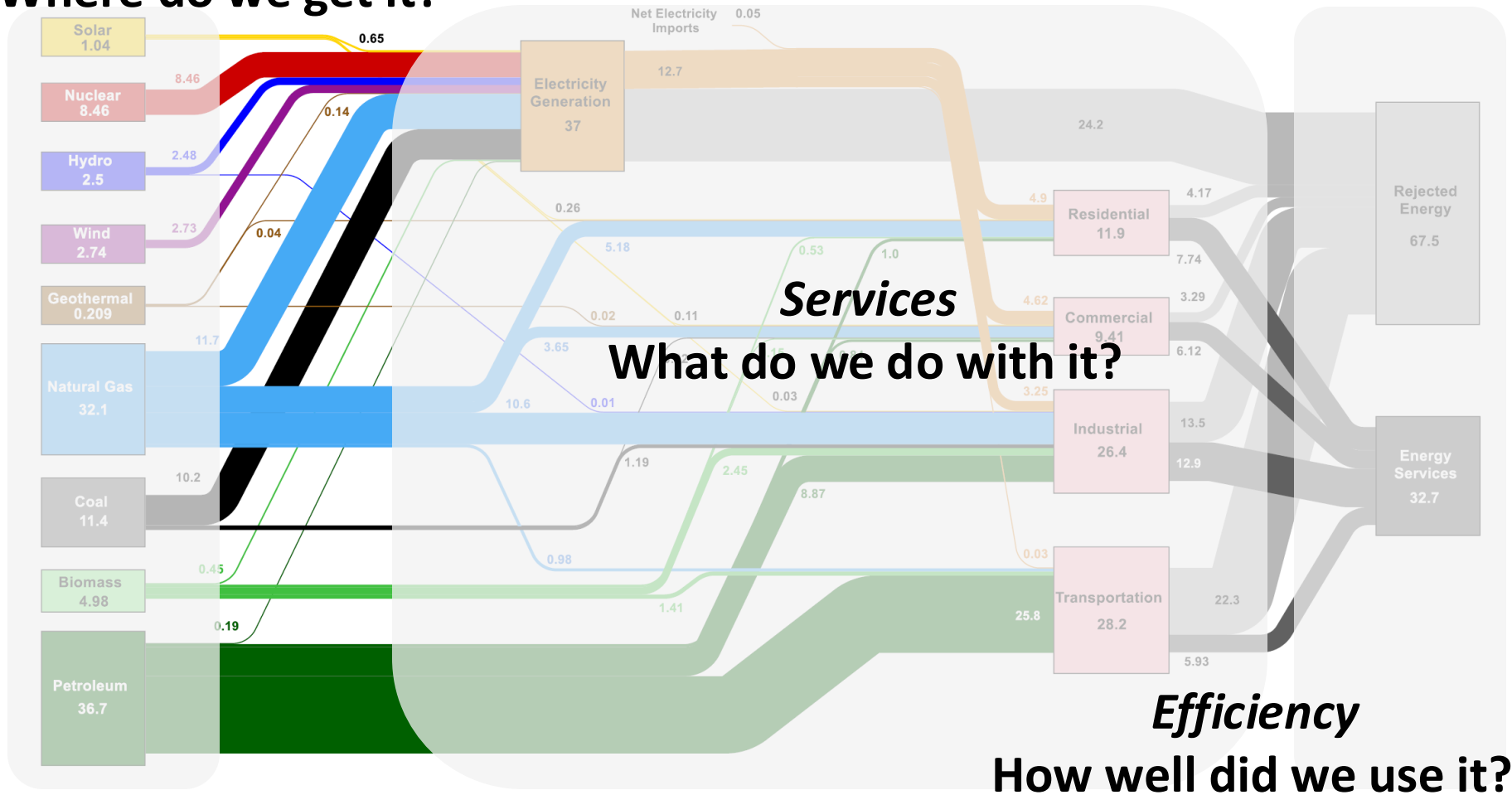
Prof. Saniya LeBlanc
Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
The George Washington University

sleblanc@gwu.edu
www.leblanclab.com

Energy Flows

Resources

Where do we get it?



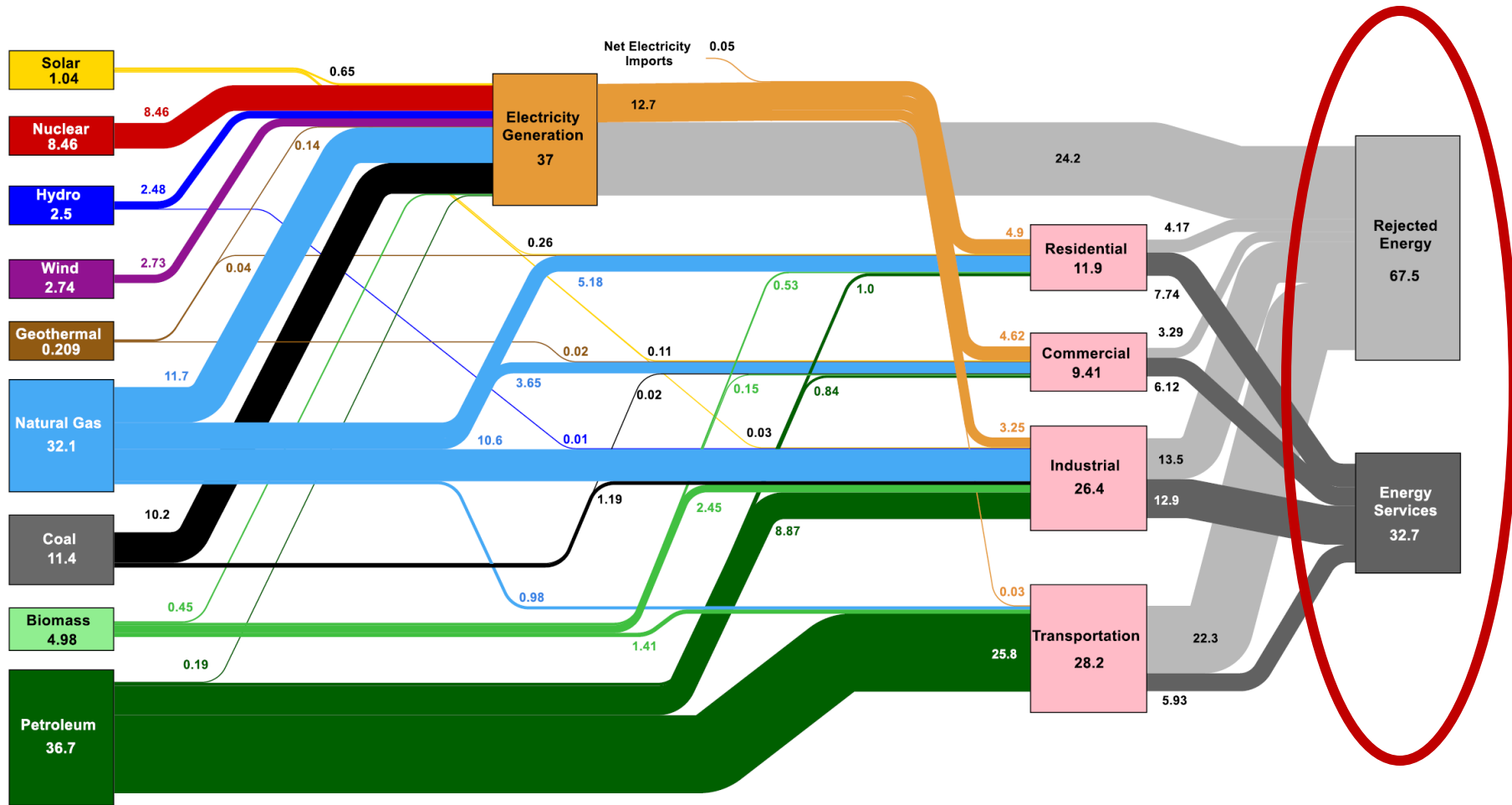
Services

What do we do with it?

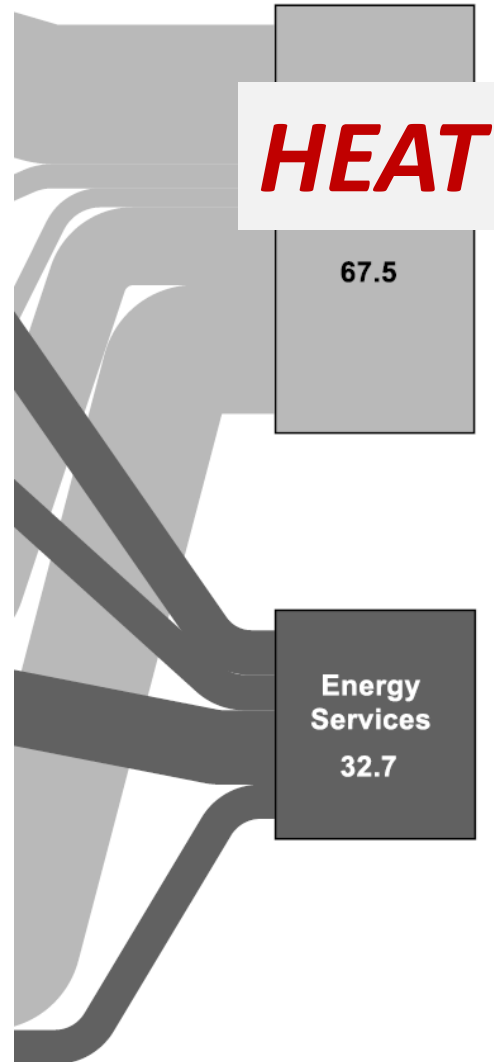
Efficiency

How well did we use it?

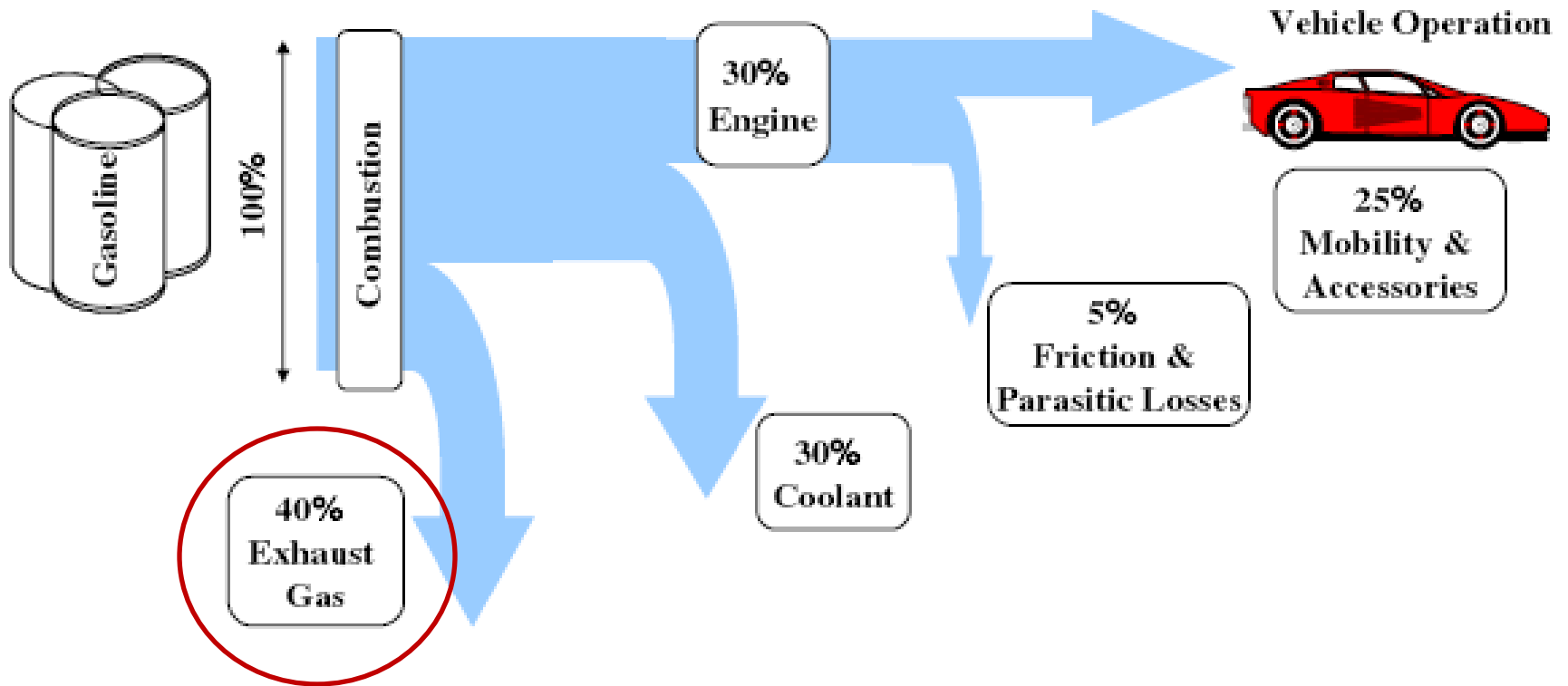
Where did all that energy go?



Where did all that energy go?

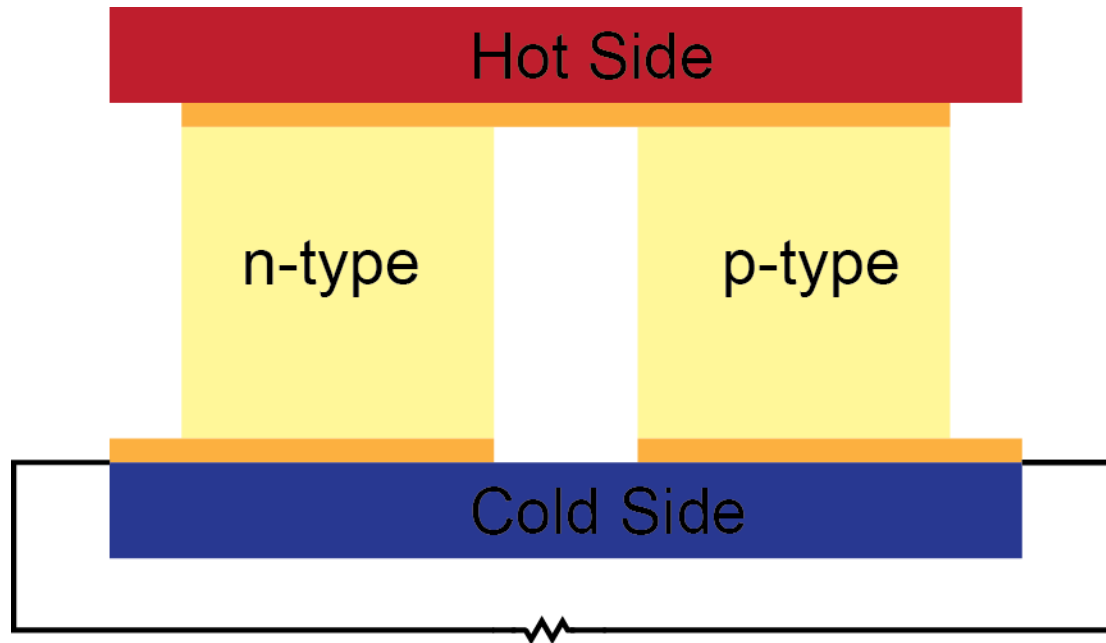


Efficiency Example



Thermoelectric Energy Conversion

Power generation & Heat pumping



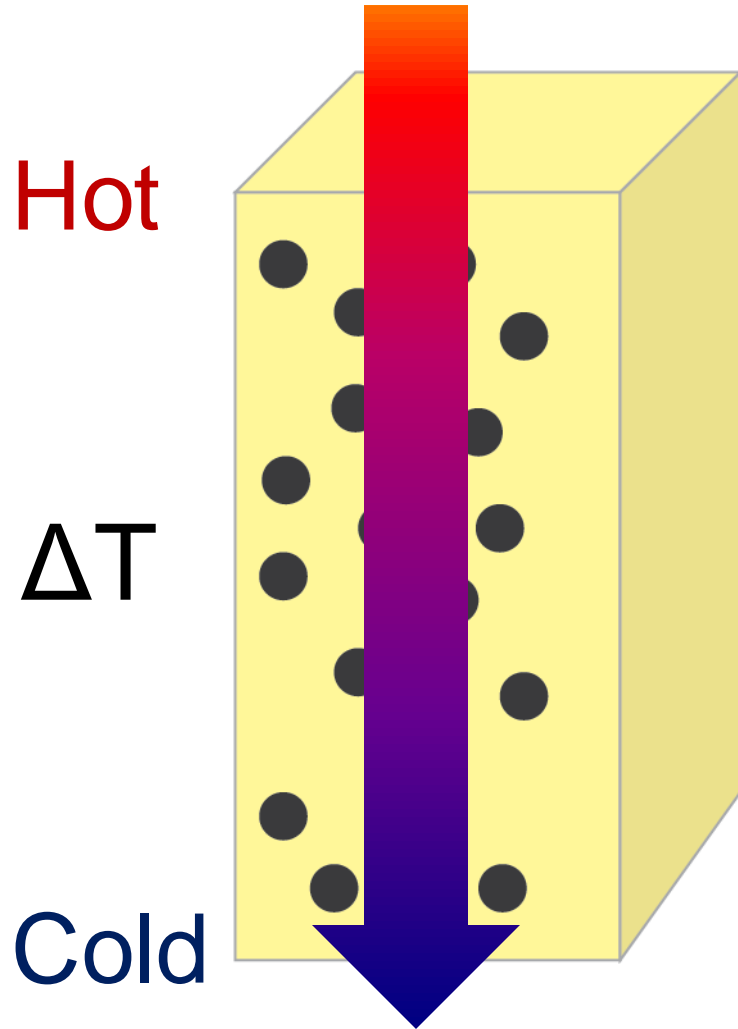
Advantages:

- Distributed generation
- Localized control of energy transfer
- Reliable
- No moving parts
- Silent

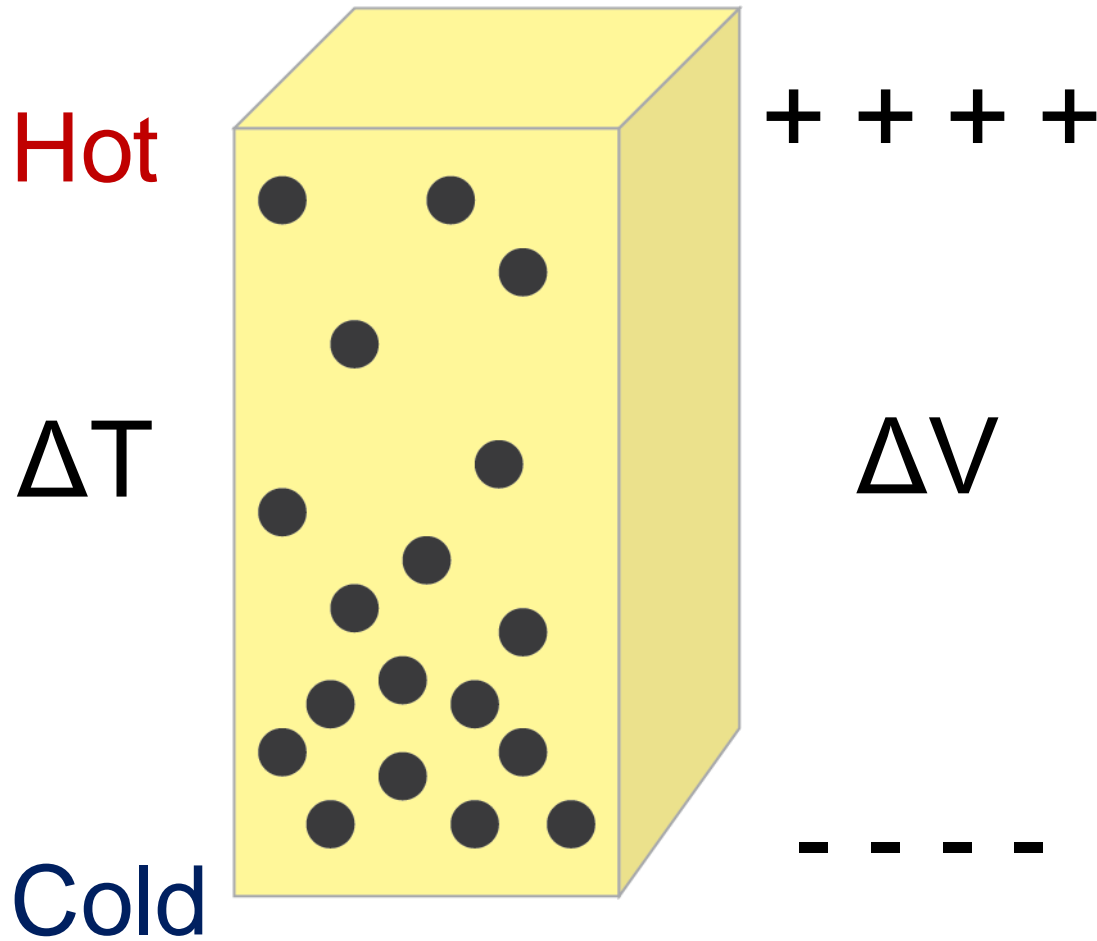
Challenges:

- System integration
- Conversion efficiency
- Operating temperatures

Thermoelectric Effect



Thermoelectric Effect



Thermoelectric Figure of Merit

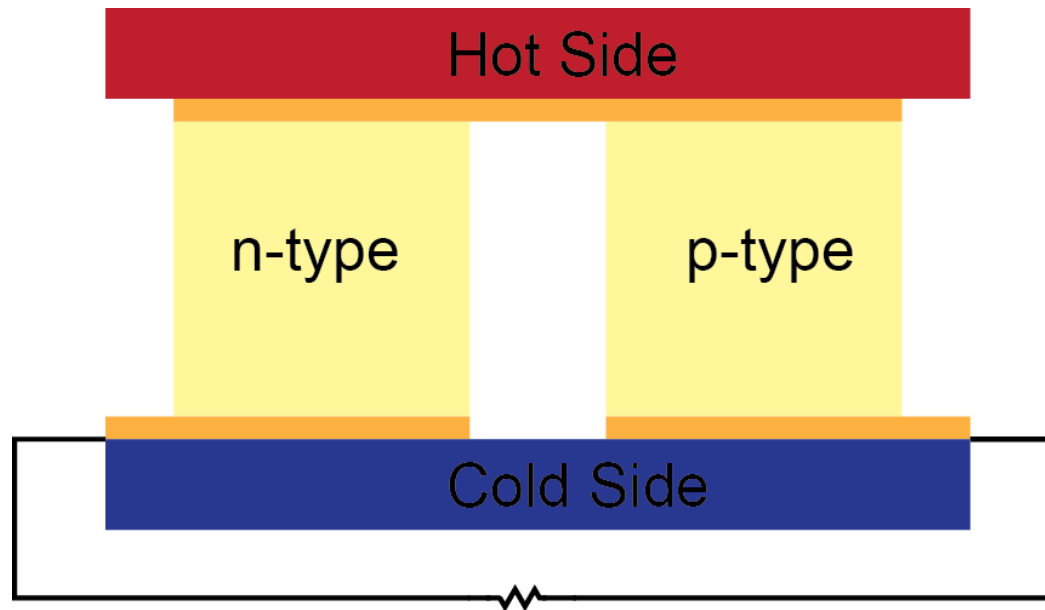


Figure-of-merit:

$$ZT = \frac{S^2 \sigma}{k} T$$

S = Seebeck coefficient
 σ = electrical conductivity
 k = thermal conductivity

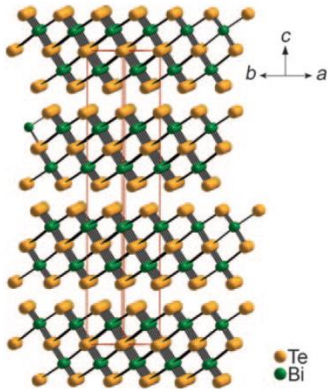
Thermoelectric material:

Requires good charge transport while minimizing thermal energy carrier transport.

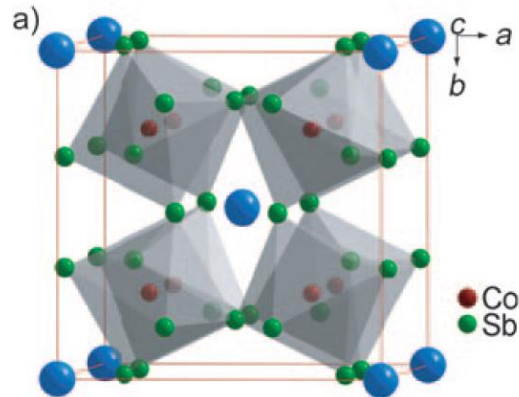
High S, σ **Low** k

Thermoelectric Materials

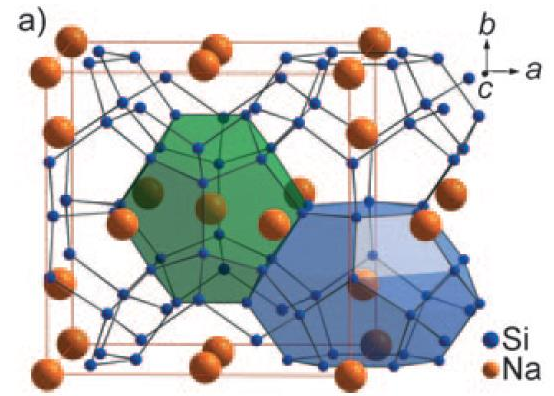
Chalcogenide



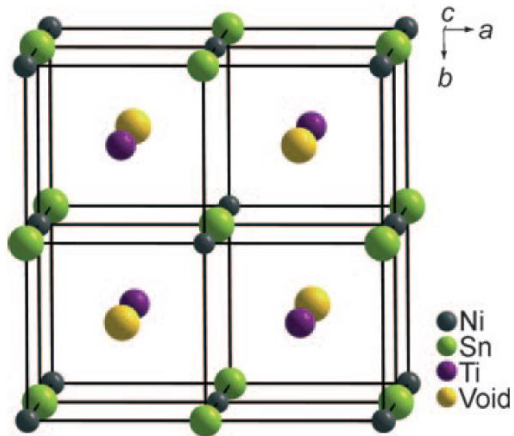
Skutterudite



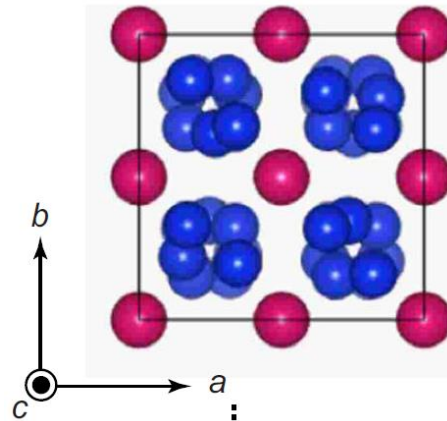
Clathrate



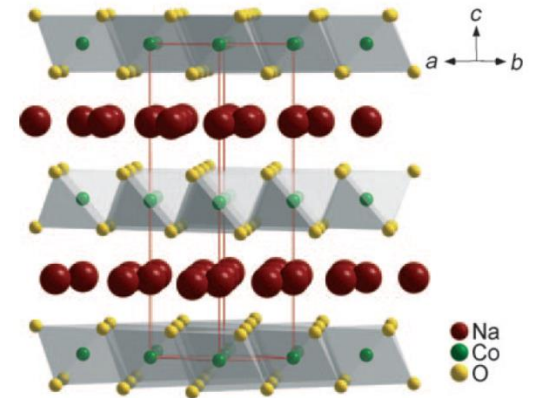
Half Heusler



Silicide



Metal Oxide

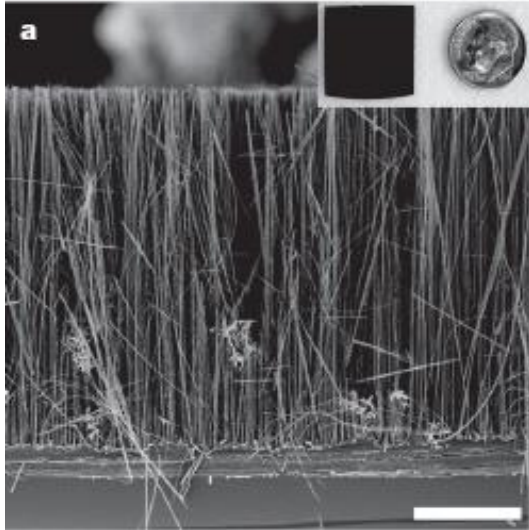


Sootsman *et al.*, *Angew. Chem.* (2009)

Miyazaki *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* (2008)

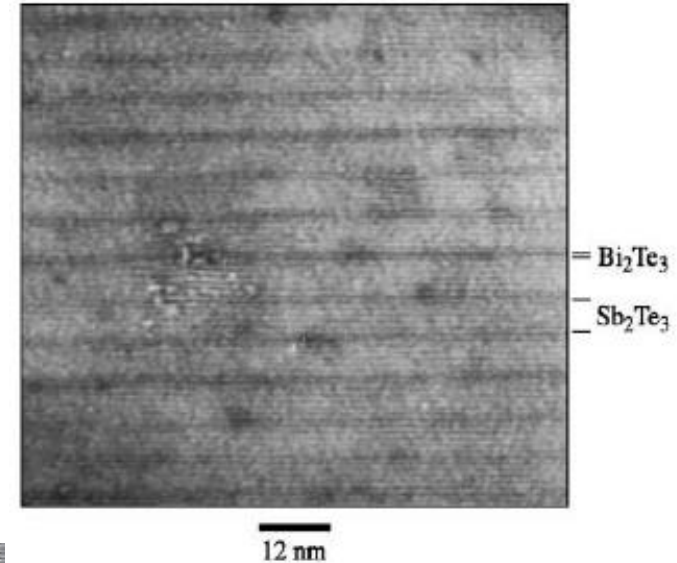
Nanostructured Materials

Wires:



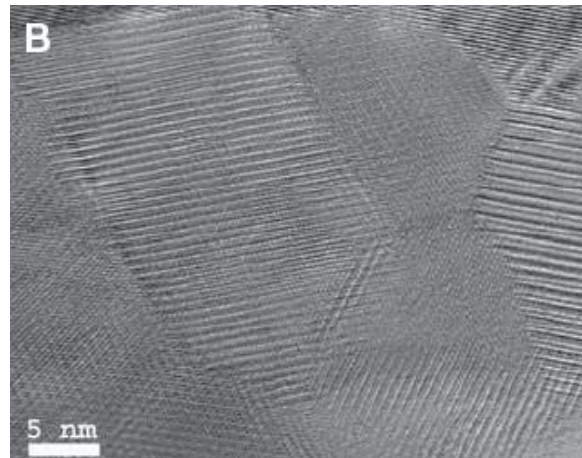
Hochbaum *et al.*, *Nature* (2008)

Superlattices:



Bottner *et al.*, *MRS Bul.* (2006)
Harman *et al.*, *J. Elec. Matl.* (2000)

Particles:

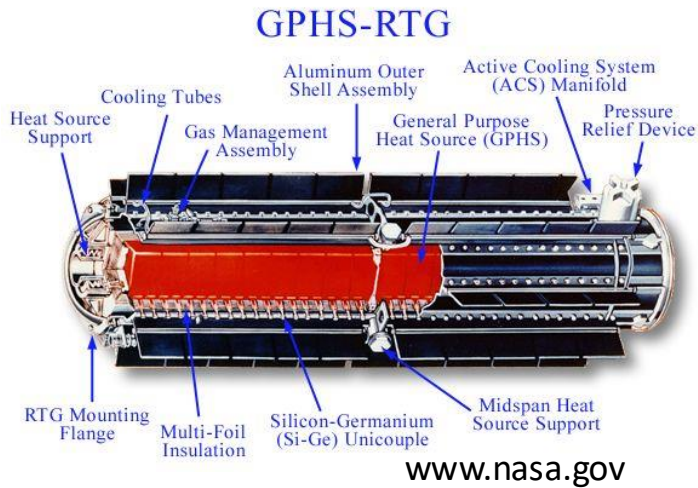


Poudel *et al.*, *Science* (2008)

Thermoelectrics Applications

Current

Space exploration:



Electronics cooling:



Future

Industrial furnaces:



Appliances:



Automotive exhaust:

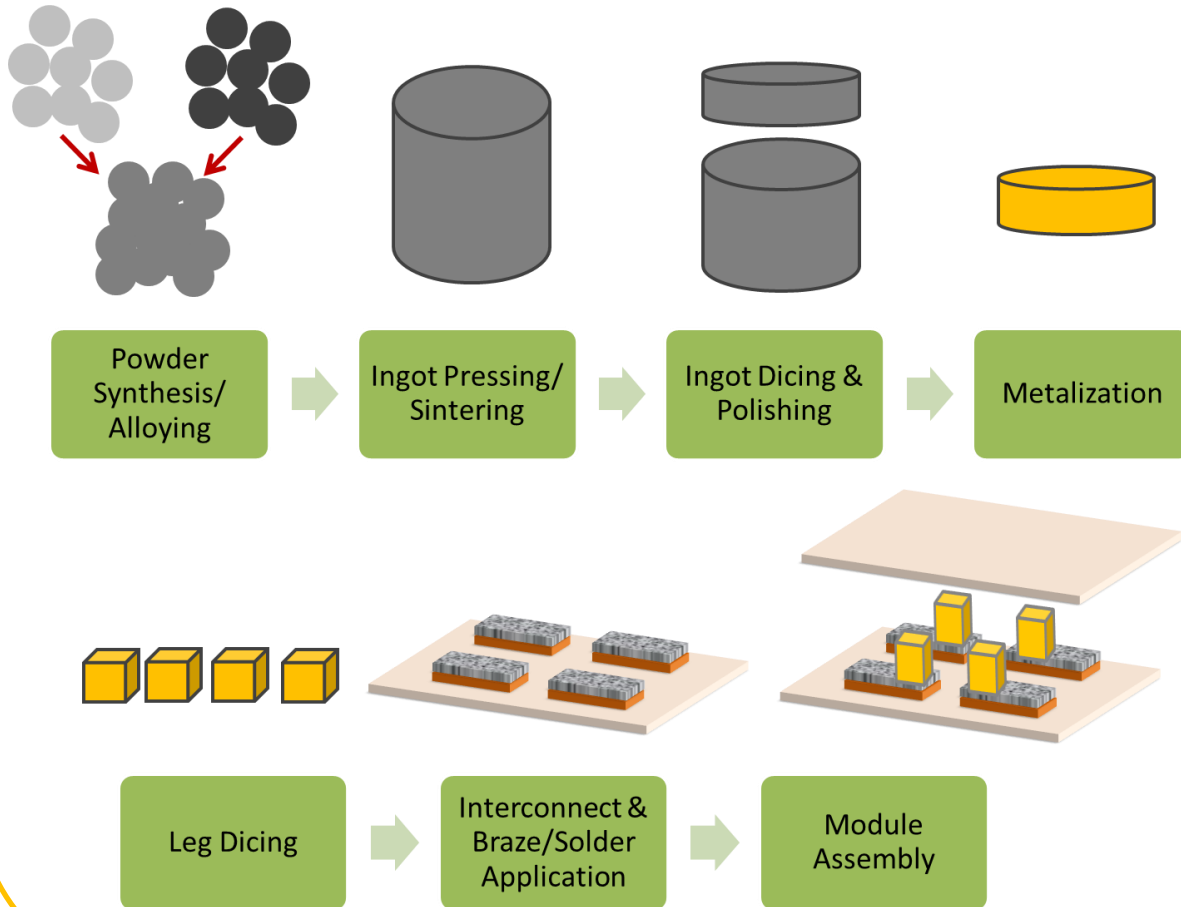


Body heat:

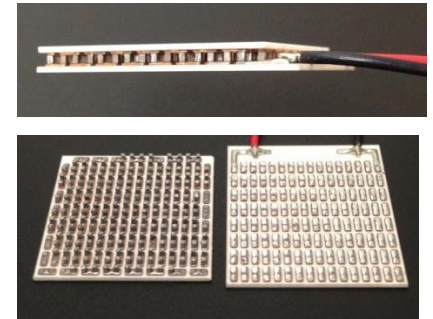


Manufacturing Process

Traditional Manufacturing

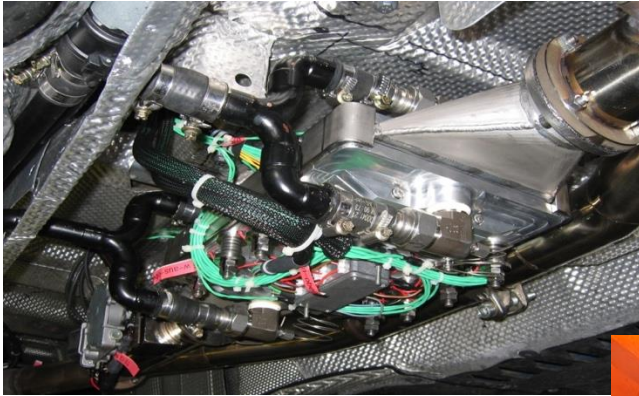


Thermoelectric Module



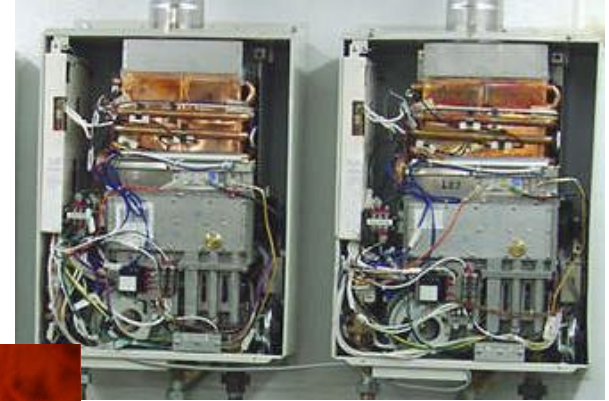
Potential Applications

Automotive Exhaust



www.bosch.com

Water Heater



www.water.arredemo.org

Industrial Furnace



www.risenterprises.com

Gas Turbine



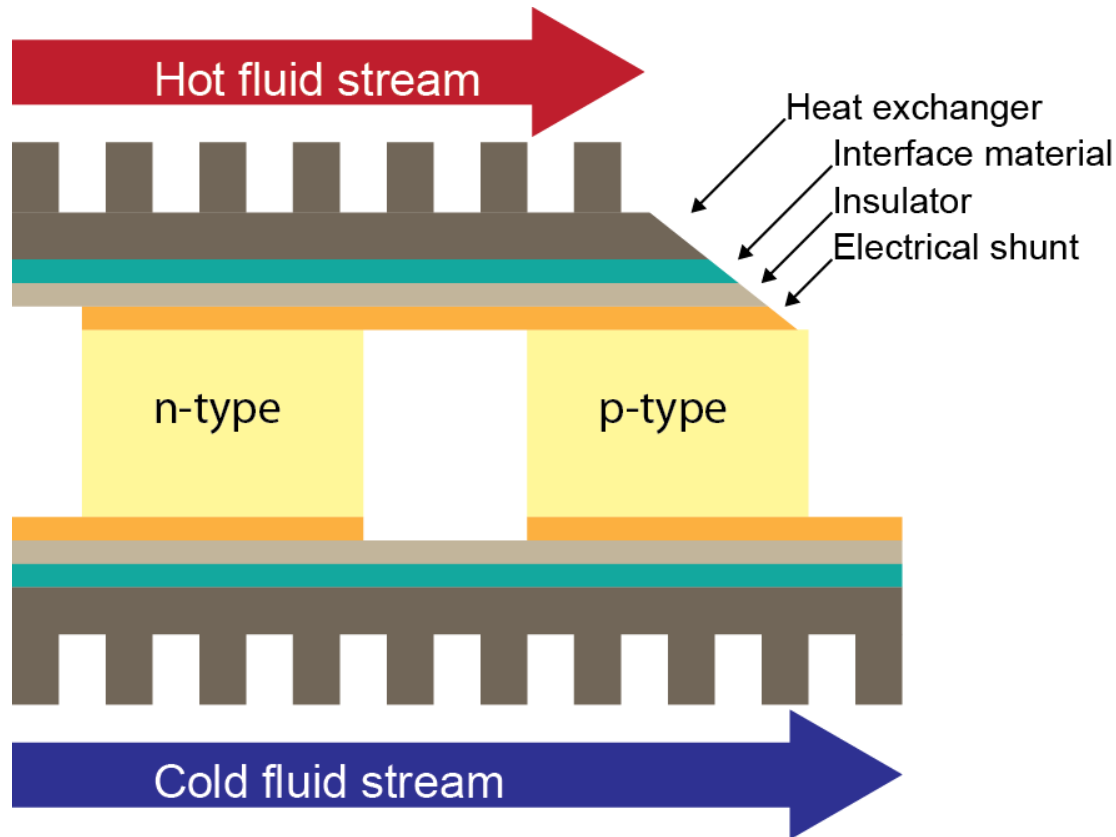
www.usa.siemens.com

Glass Lehr



www.glassfurnacemaker.com

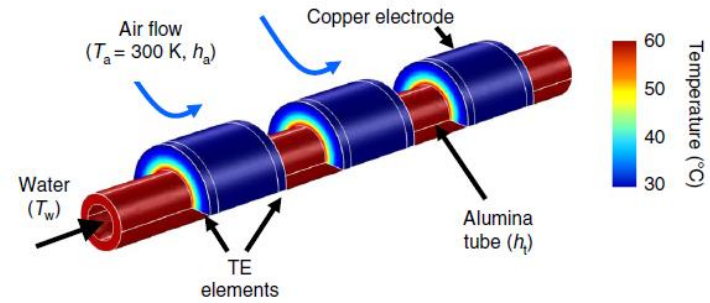
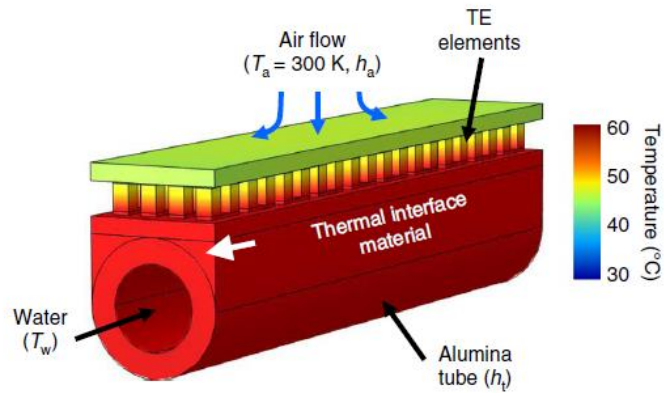
System Figure-of-Merit



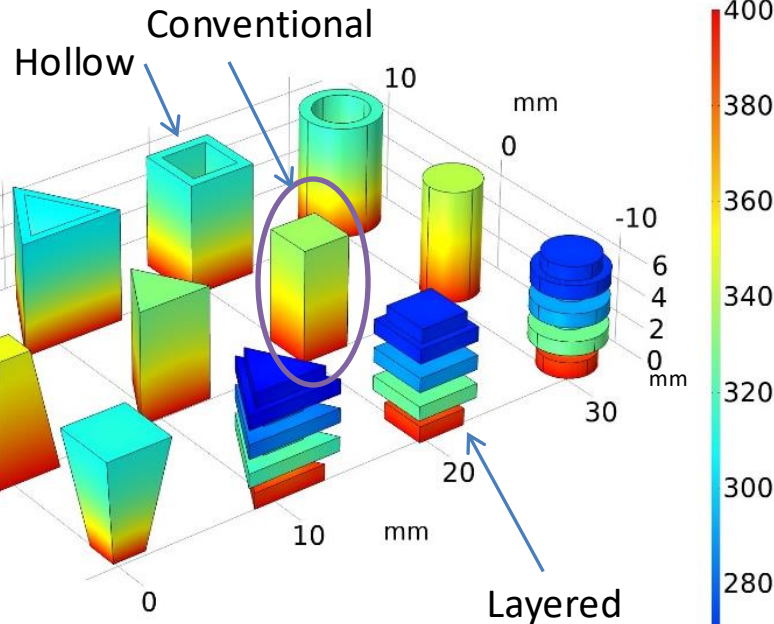
$$ZT = \frac{S_{pn}^2}{KR} T$$

S = combined Seebeck coefficient
R = electrical resistance
K = thermal conductance

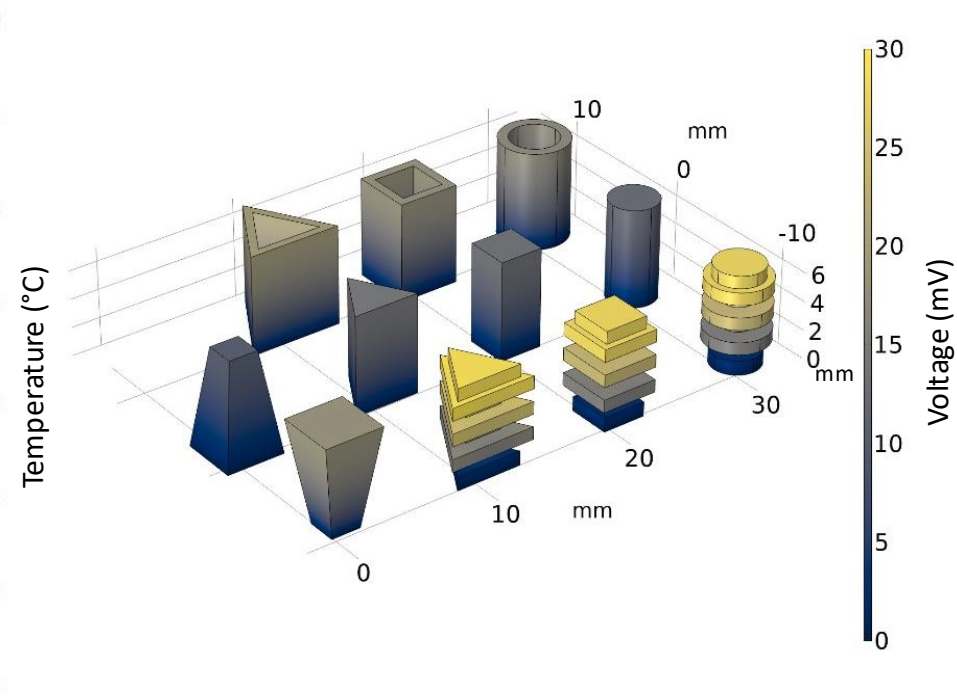
System Integration & Adaptability



F. Kim et al., *Nature Energy* (2018)

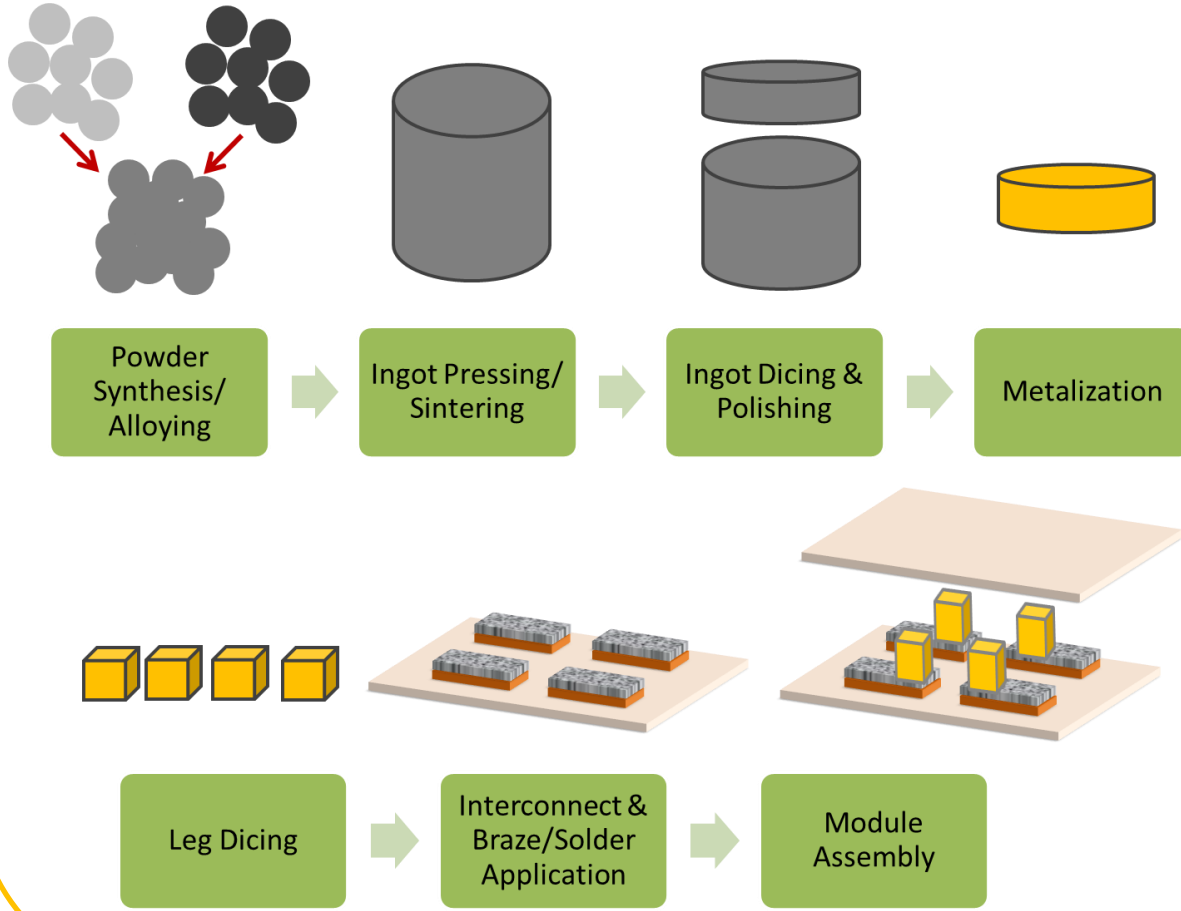


Y. Thimont, S. LeBlanc, *J. Applied Physics* (2019)

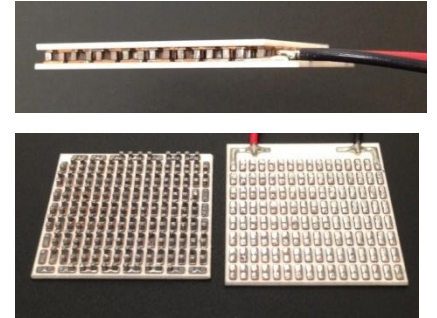


Manufacturing Challenges

Traditional Manufacturing



Thermoelectric Module



- **Limited geometries**
- **Significant material loss**
- **Interface & integration challenges**
- **Lengthy processing time**
- **Rudimentary assembly**

Materials-to-Device Integration

Materials

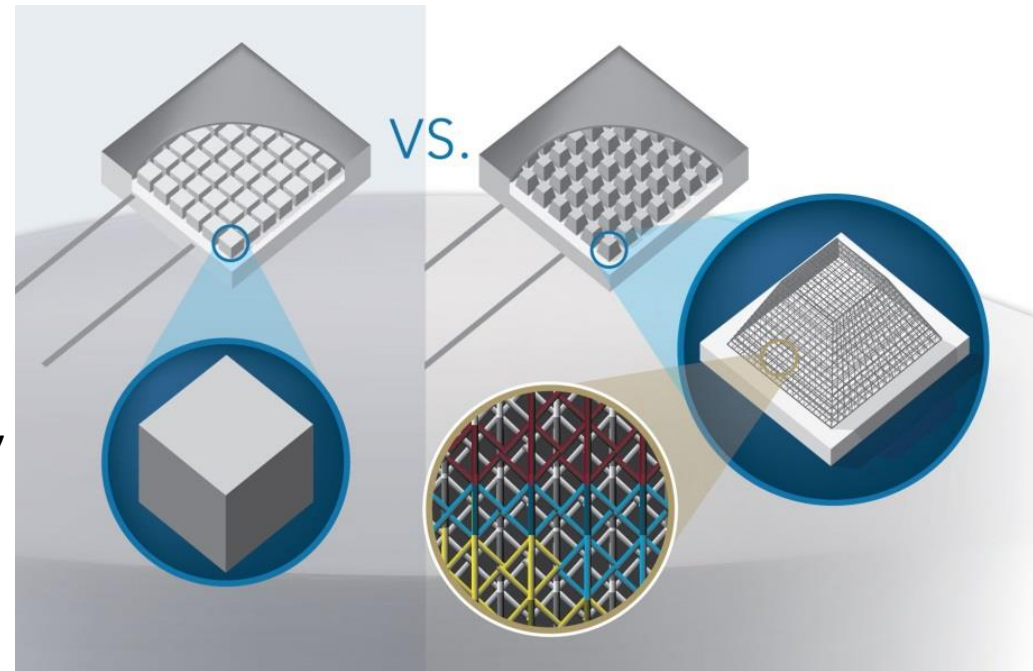
- *Engineer material composition*
- *Control material structure from nano- to meso-scale*

Manufacturing

- *Enable new, tunable device geometry beyond solid block-like “legs”*
- *Eliminate assembly steps*

System integration

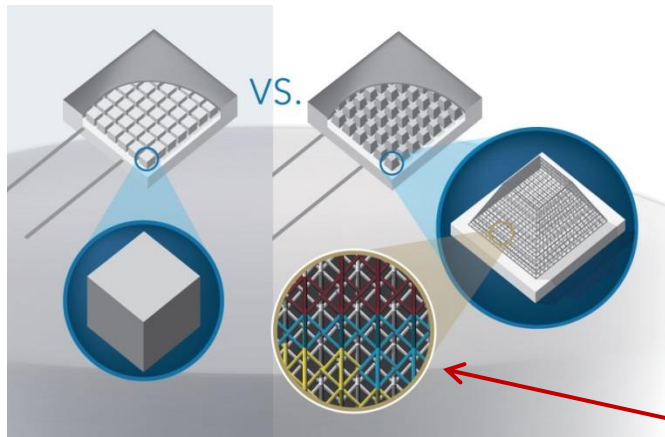
- *Build thermoelectric materials and device into system-level components (electrical shunts, substrates, heat exchangers)*
- *Engineer interfaces between materials and components*



Re-envision Thermoelectric Module

Enable multifunctional materials:

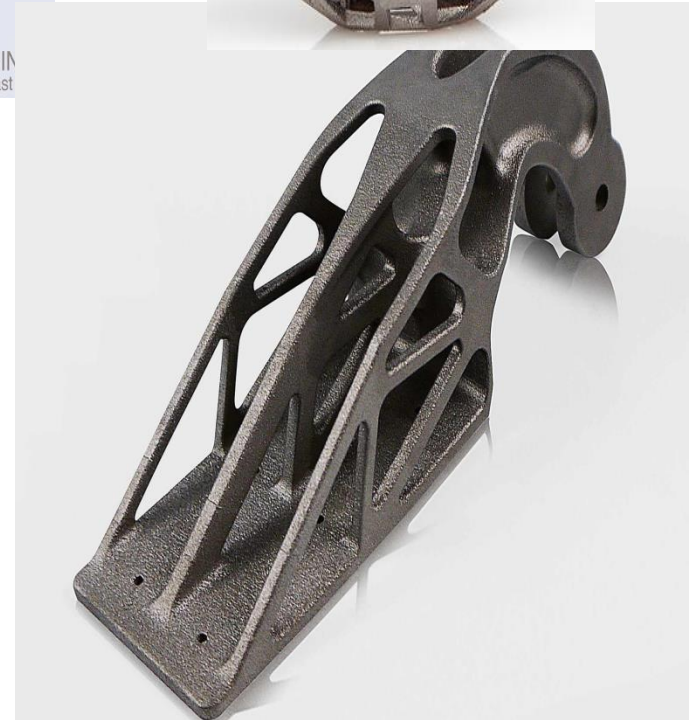
“Sheets” of thermoelectric material with hierarchical structure and engineered composition to enable integrated thermal management and power generating panels.



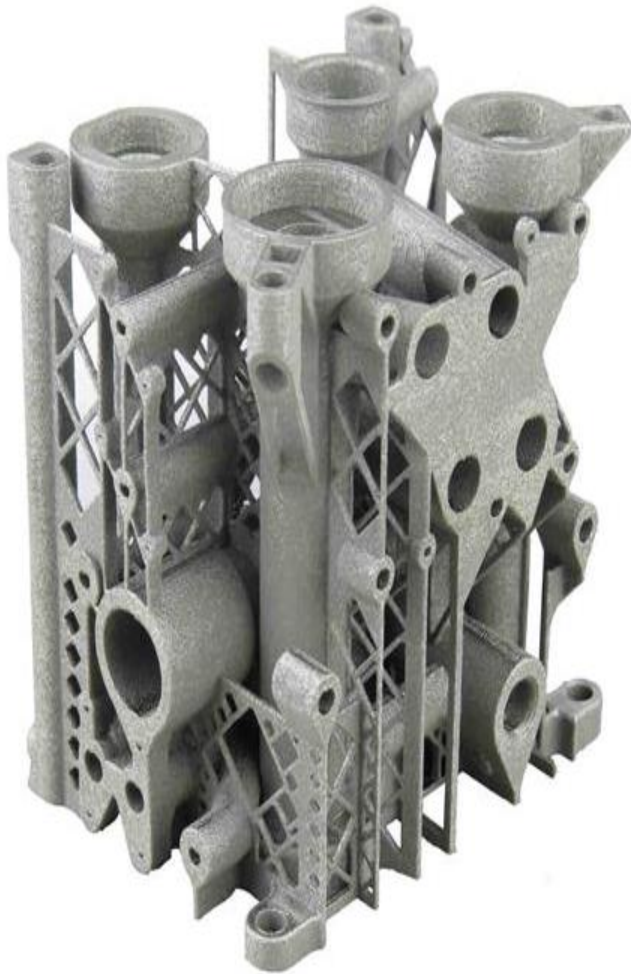
Strong, Lightweight, Customized Parts



LaserCUSIN
Quelle: TU Fast

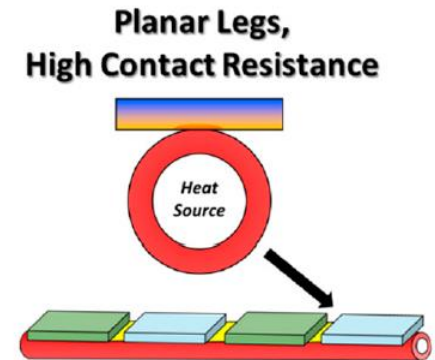
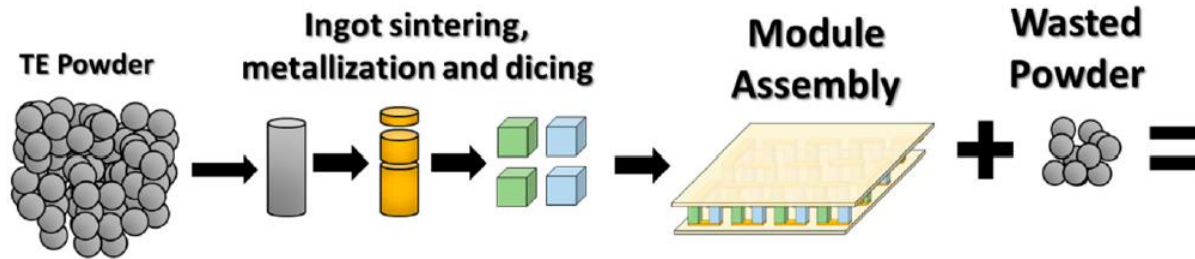


...with Small, Complex Features

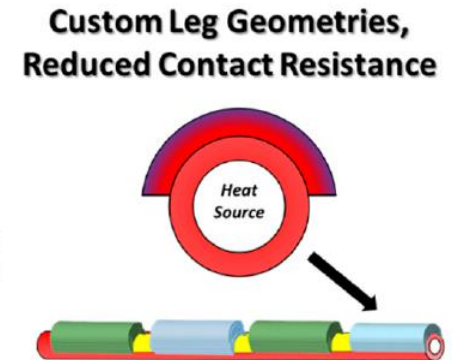
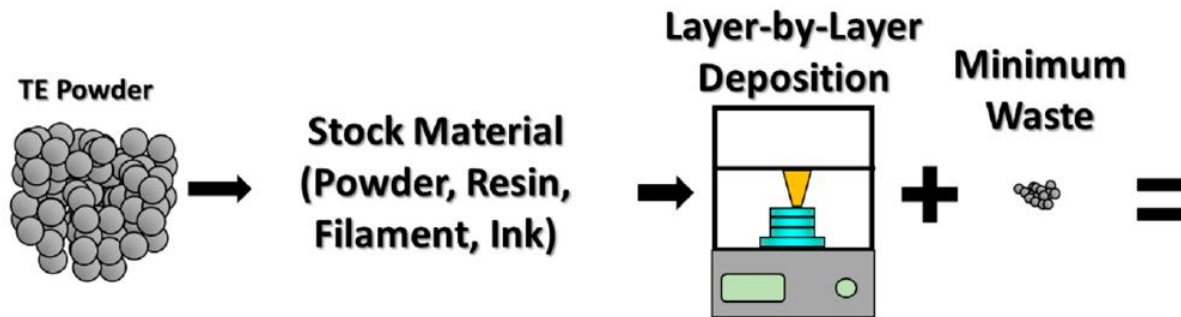


Additive Manufacturing as a Tool

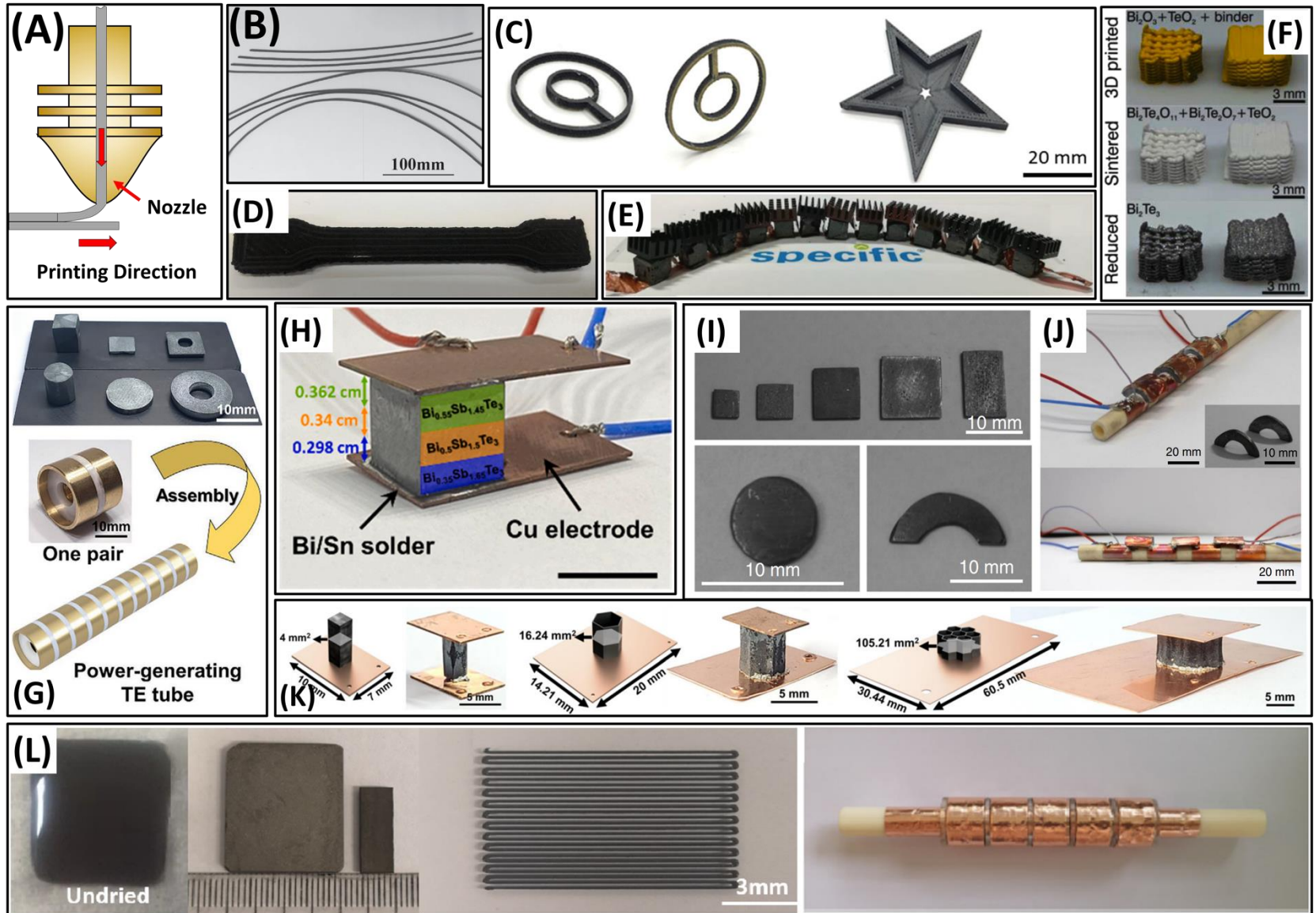
CONVENTIONAL MANUFACTURING



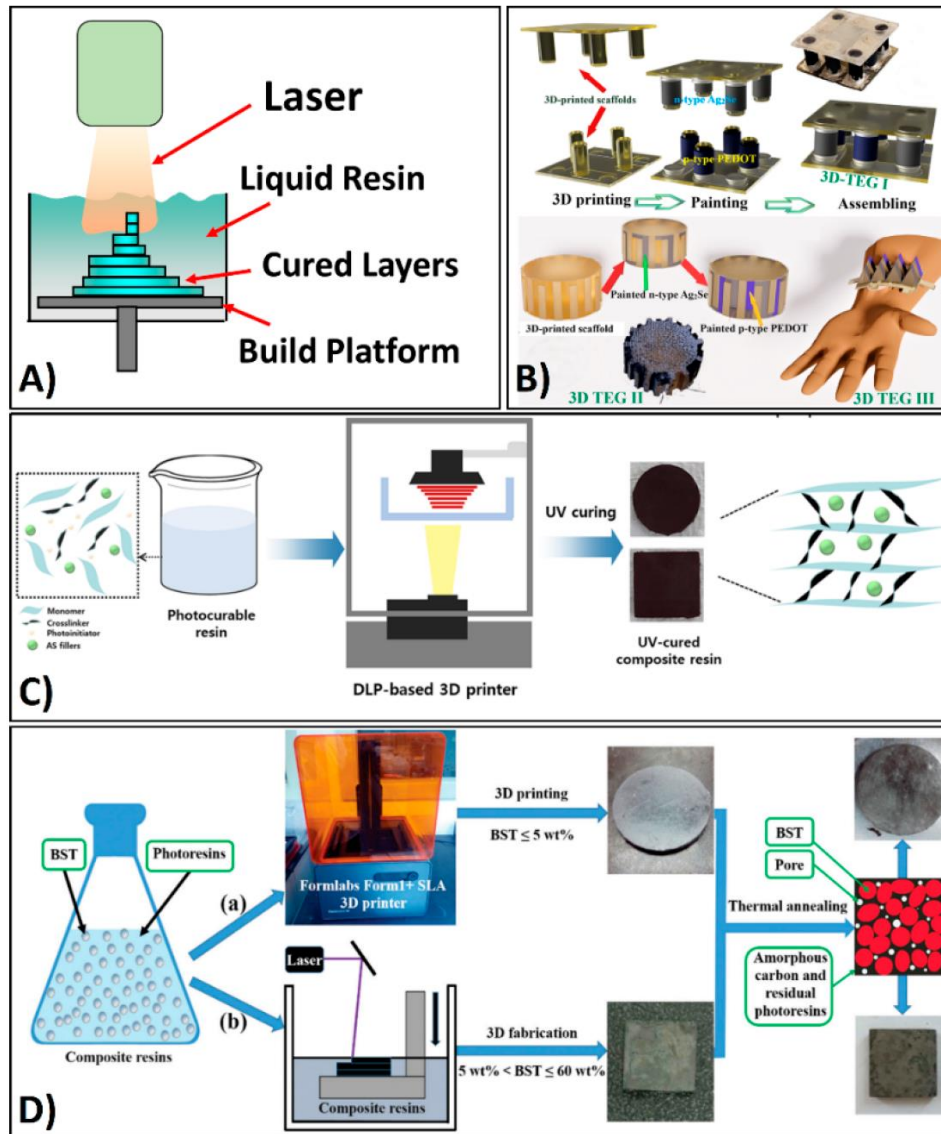
ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING



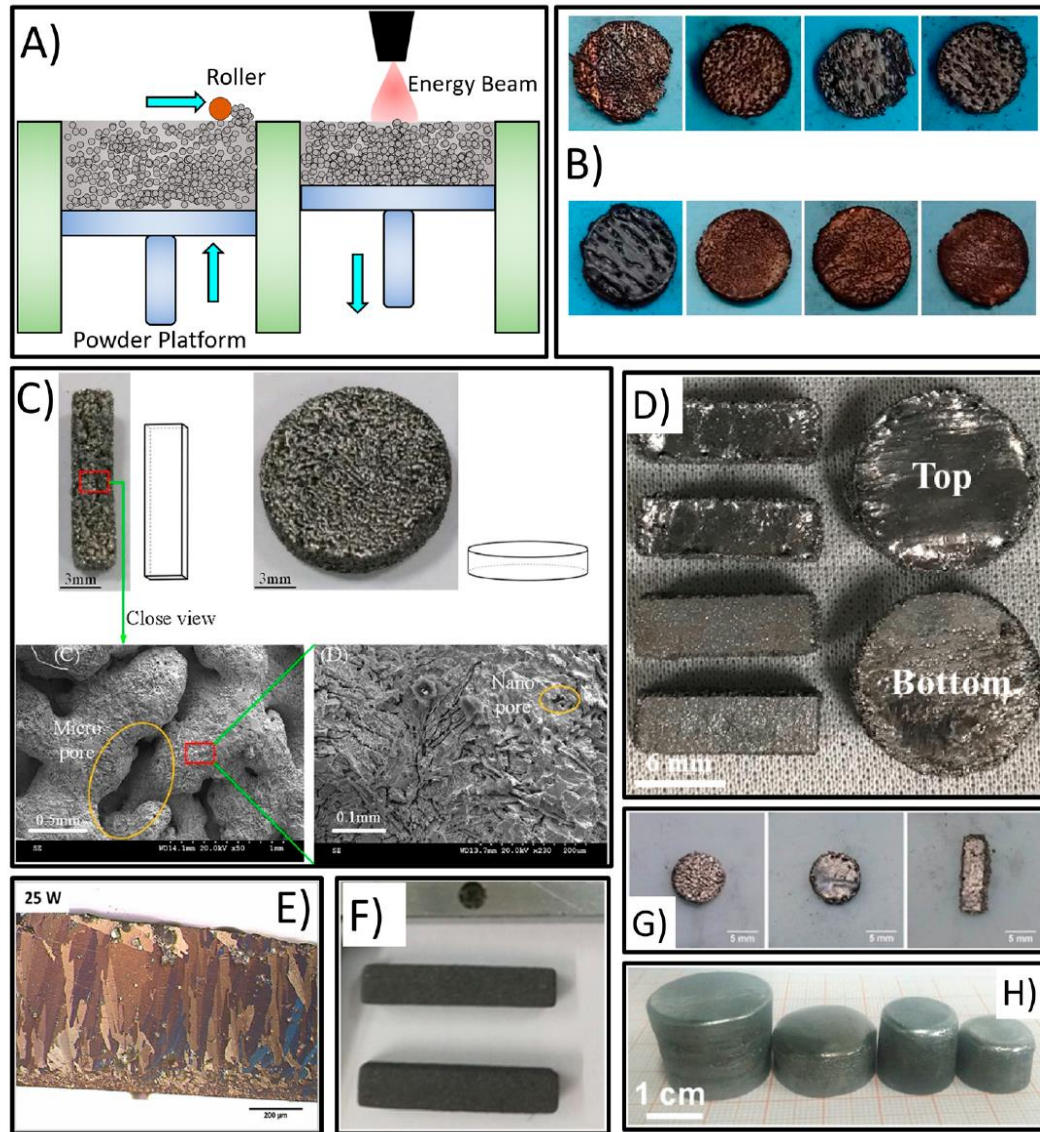
Material Extrusion



Vat Polymerization

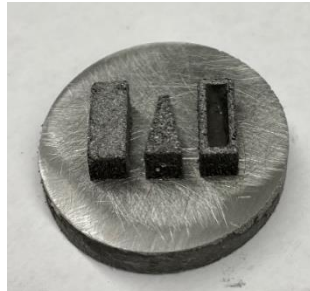
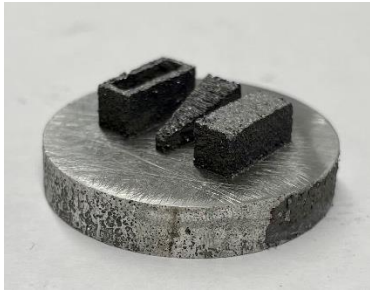


Powder Bed Fusion



Custom Shapes & Properties

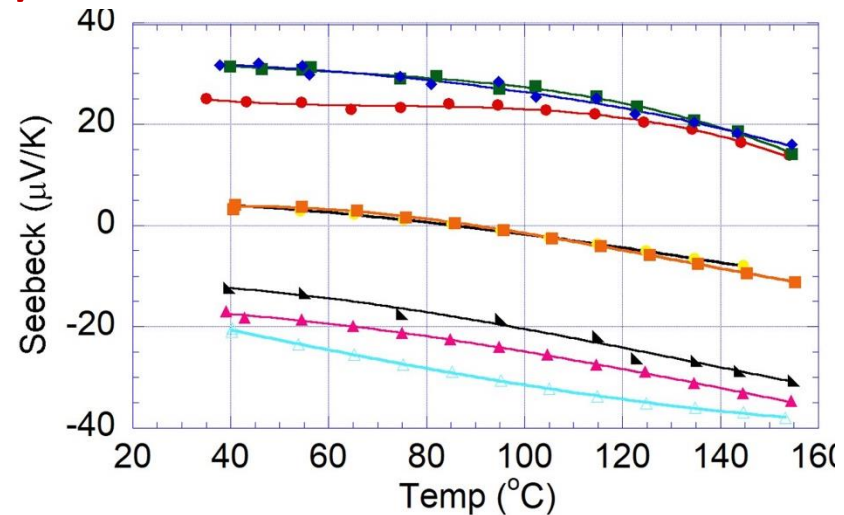
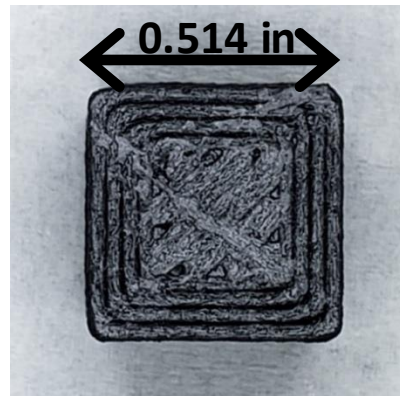
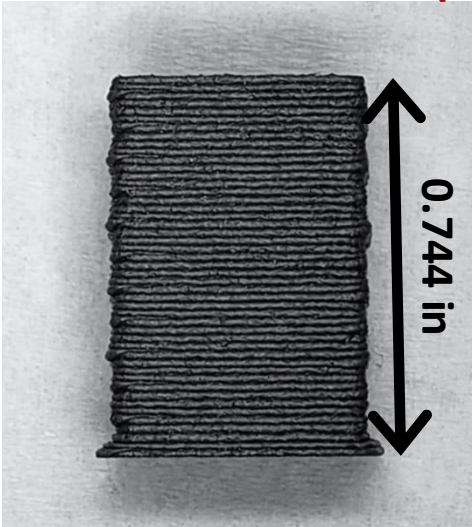
Laser powder bed fusion (selective laser melting):



Collaboration with Prof. Ji Ma

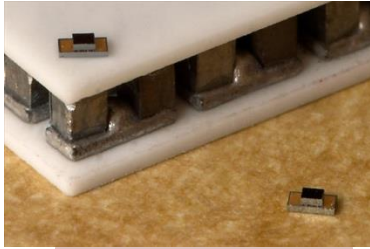


Material extrusion (fused filament fabrication):

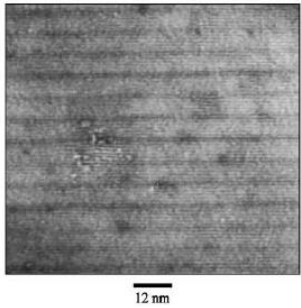


Energy Systems Materials to Devices

Thermoelectrics



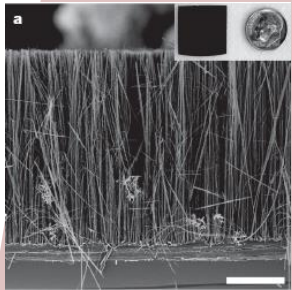
www.micropelt.com



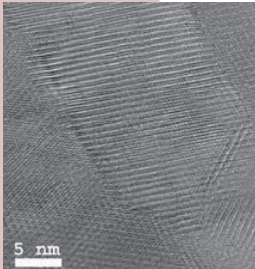
Böttner *et al.*,
MRS Bulletin,
2006

Bi₂Te₃
Sb₂Te₃

12 nm



Hochbaum *et al.*,
Nature, 2008

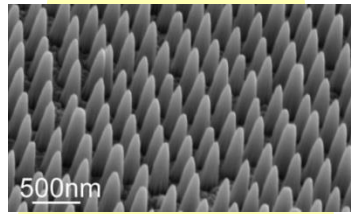


Poudel *et al.*,
Science, 2008

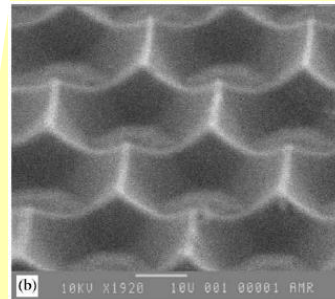
Solar cells



www.soultek.com



Zhu *et al.*, *Nano Letters*, 2009

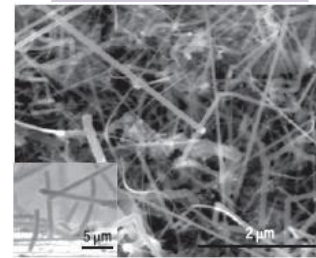


Manea *et al.*, *Solar Energy
Matls. & Solar Cells*, 2005

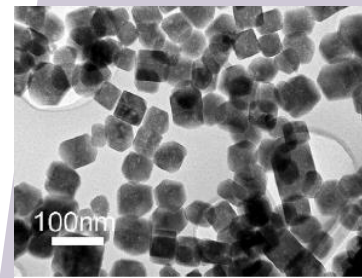
Batteries



www.teslamotors.com



Chan *et al.*, *Nature
Nanotech.*, 2008

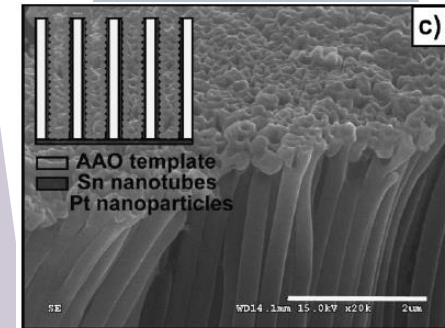
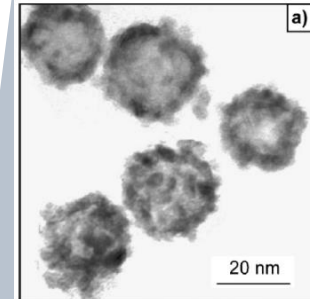


Xiao *et al.*,
Electrochimica Acta, 2009

Fuel cells

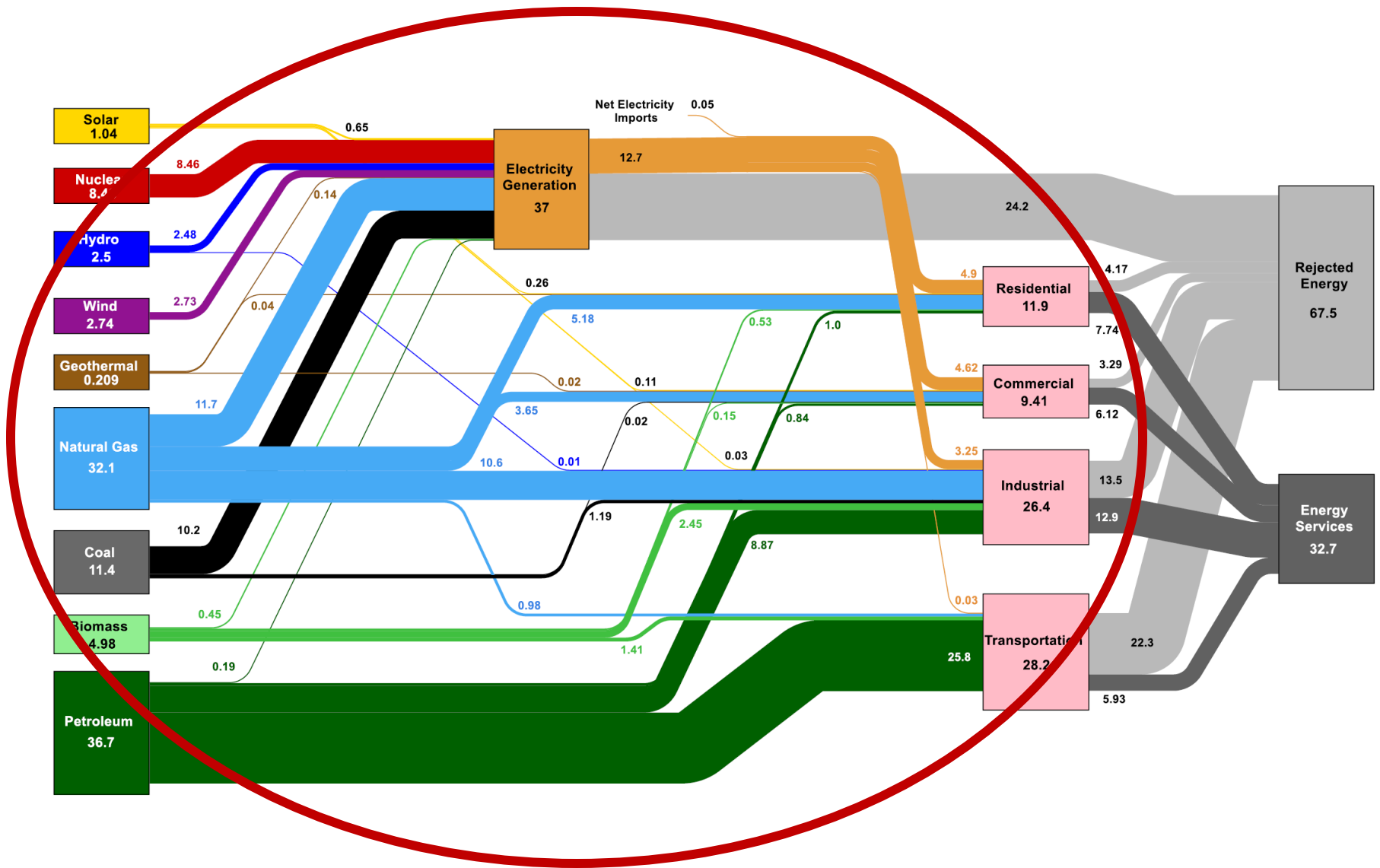


www.gm.com

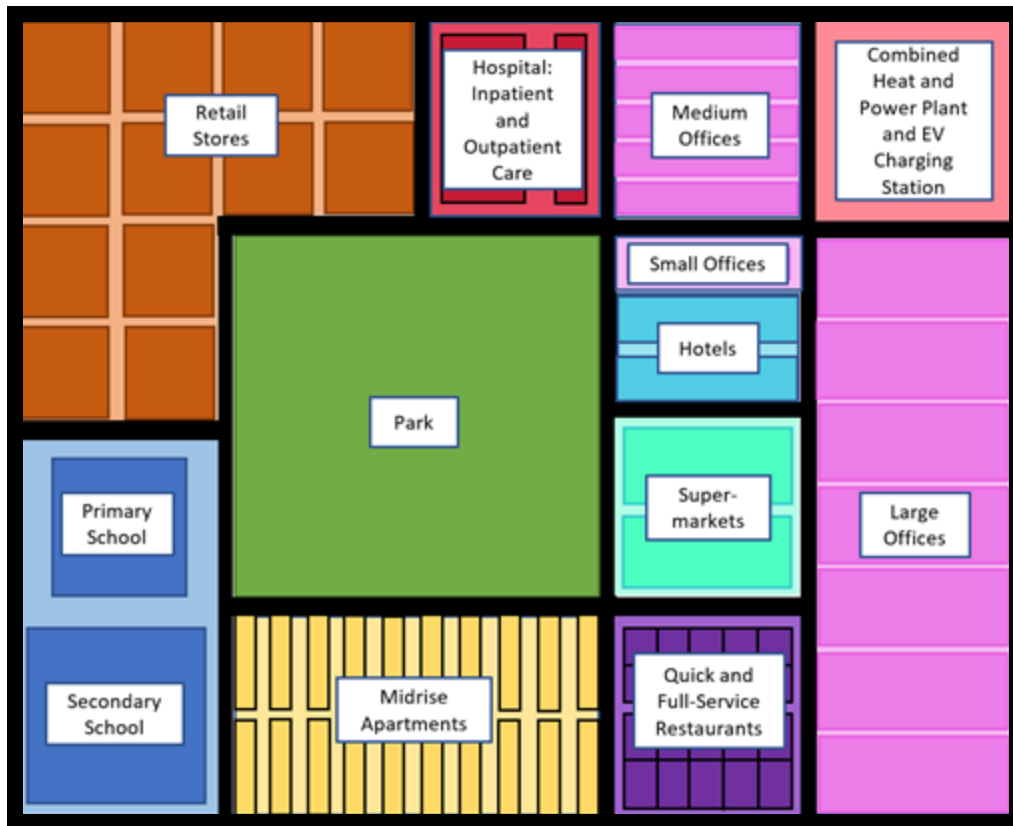



Guo *et al.* *Adv. Mater.*, 2008

How do we manage all that energy?



Example Community's Energy Systems



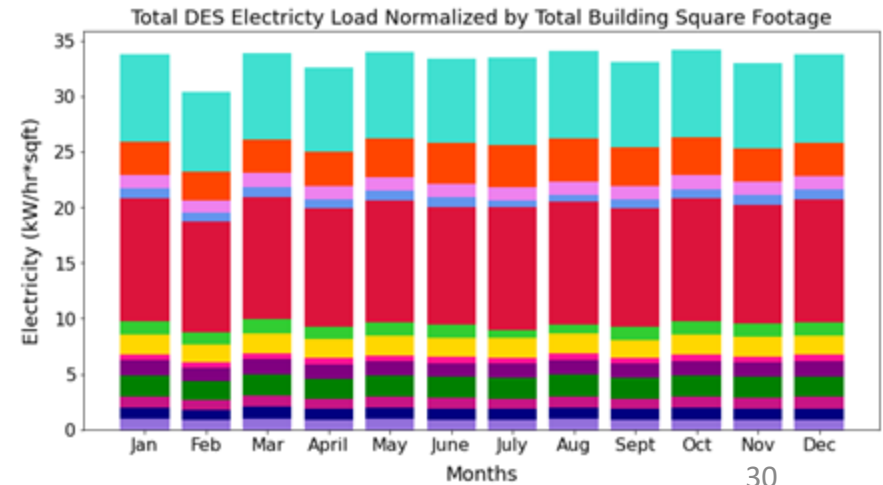
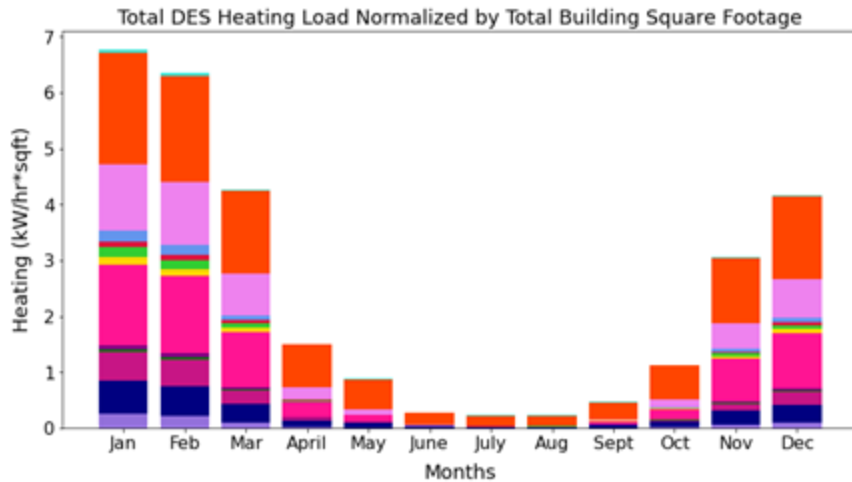
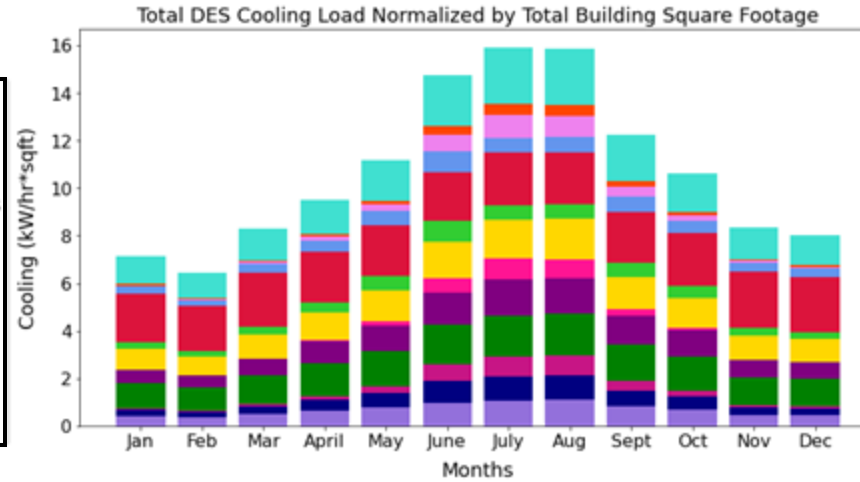
 = One City Block (100,000 square feet)

-  1 Primary and 1 Secondary School
-  20 Midrise Apartments
-  10 Quick Service and 10 Full-Service Restaurants
-  7 Large, 5 Medium, and 4 Small Office Buildings
-  2 Supermarkets
-  2 Hotels
-  1 Combined Heat and Power Plant, and 1 EV Charging Station
-  1 Hospital with Inpatient and Outpatient Care
-  12 Retail Stores

- Climate Zone 4A
- Combined Heat and Power Plant
- Hot and Chilled Water Thermal Storage
- Battery Storage
- Solar Photovoltaic Panels
- Electric Vehicle Charging Station

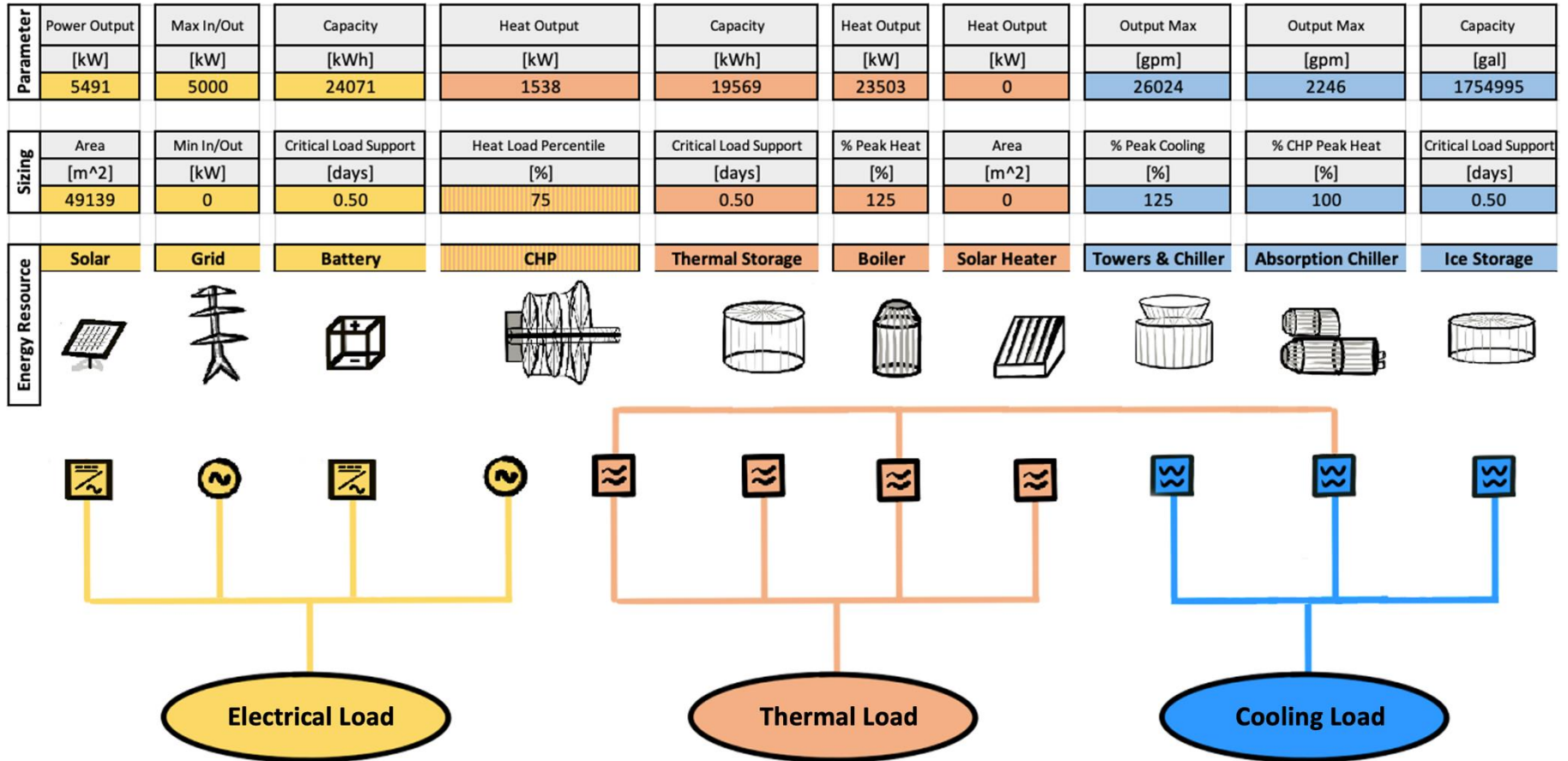
Energy Loads

- 10 Full Service Restaurants
- 2 Supermarkets
- 12 Stand Alone Retail Stores
- 1 Secondary School
- 10 Quick Service Restaurants
- 1 Primary School
- 1 Outpatient Care Facility
- 20 Mid Rise Apartments
- 2 Large Hotels
- 1 Hospital
- 4 Small Offices
- 5 Medium Offices
- 7 Large Offices

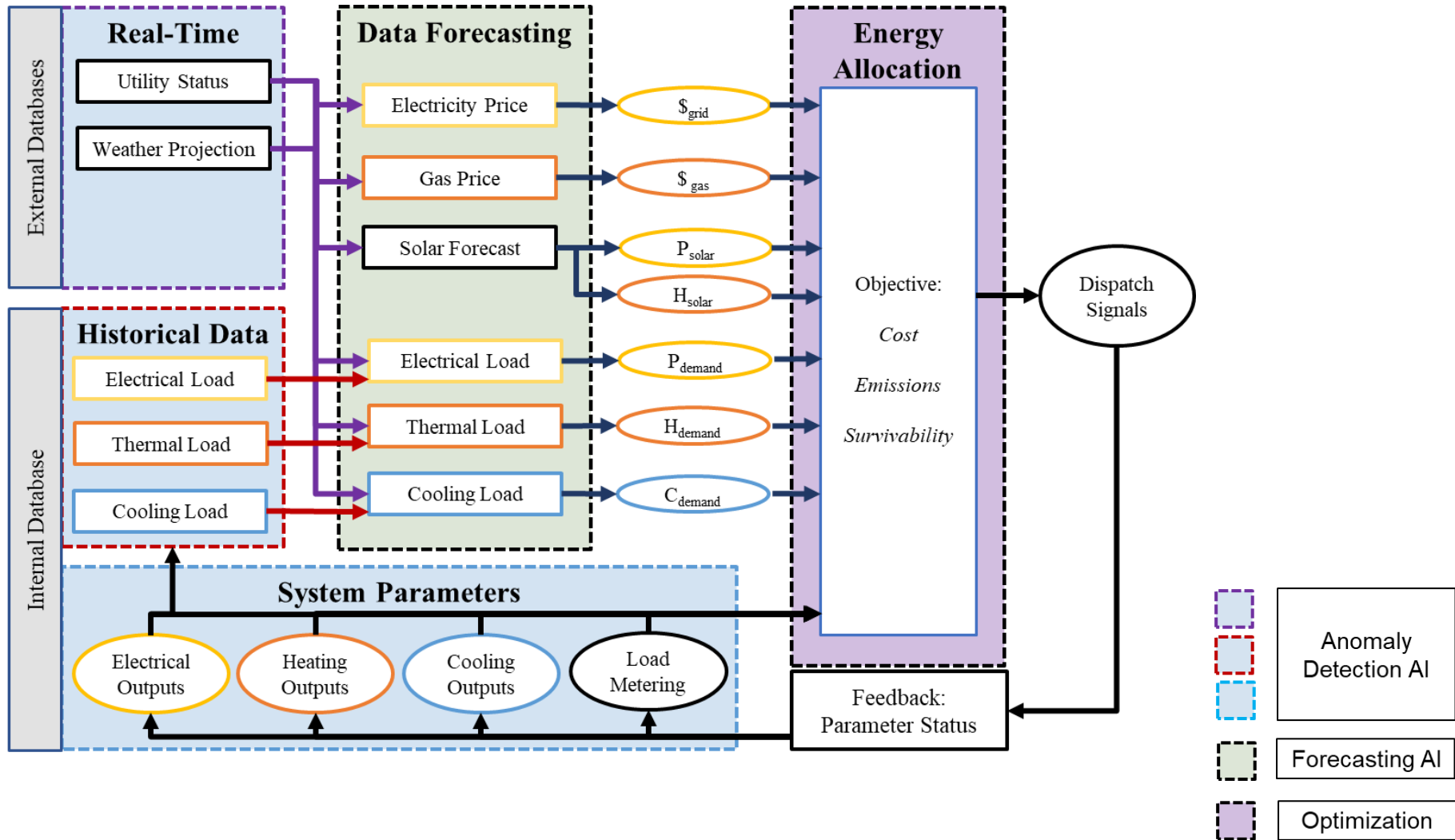


(normalized by building square footage)

Energy System Mix



Energy Management System: Design



Baseline & Emergency Operation

EMS Baseline Operation Objective Function:

- Minimizes energy resource **operational cost**
- Heavy penalty (**outage cost**) on any load shed, both critical and non-critical load

$$\min \sum_{t \in T} \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Grid} \\ C^{GR}(P_t^{GRb}, P_t^{GRs}) \\ \text{CHP} \\ \sum_{i \in I} C^{HP}(P_{i,t}^{HP}, H_{i,t}^{HP}, x_{i,t}, y_{i,t}, z_{i,t}) \\ \text{Boilers} \\ \sum_{k \in K} C^{BO}(H_{k,t}^{BO}, u_{k,t}) \\ \text{Battery} \\ \sum_{e \in E} C^{BS}(P_{e,t}^{BSc}, P_{e,t}^{BSd}) \\ \text{Thermal Storage} \\ \sum_{s \in S} C^{TS}(H_{s,t}^{TSc}, H_{s,t}^{TSd}) \\ \text{Grid} \\ \sum_{c \in C} C^{IS}(C_{c,t}^{ISc}, C_{c,t}^{ISd}) \\ \text{Towers \& Chillers} \\ \sum_{a \in A} C^{CT}(C_a^{CT}, l_a) \\ \text{Steam Chiller} \\ \sum_{b \in B} C^{SC}(j_b) \\ \text{Load Shed} \\ C^{ls}(P_t^{ls}, H_t^{ls}, C_t^{ls}) \\ \text{Critical Load Shed} \\ C^{lsc}(P_t^{lsc}, H_t^{lsc}, C_t^{lsc}) \end{array} \right]$$

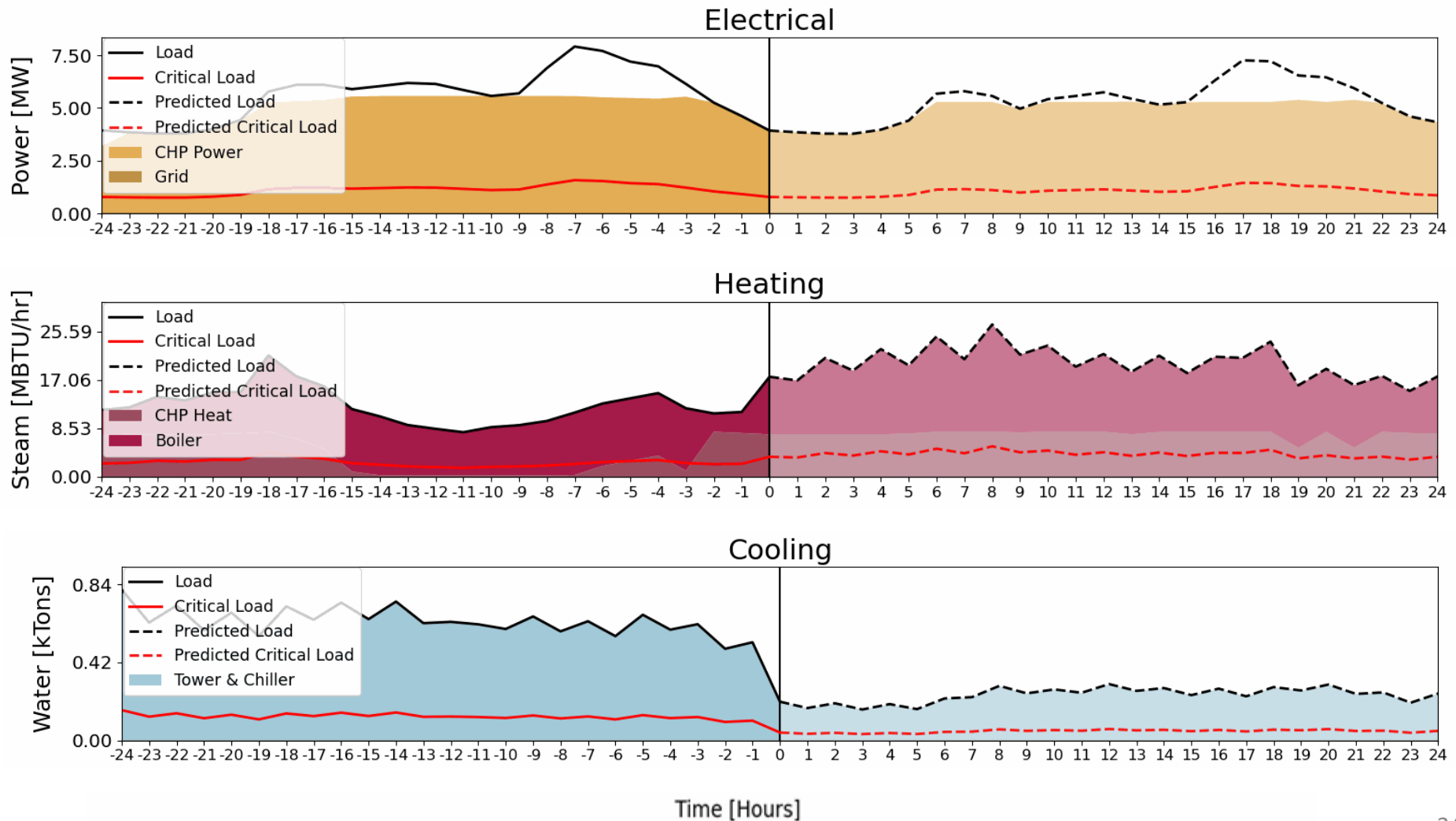
EMS Emergency Operation Objective Function:

- Minimizes energy resource **operational cost**
- Heavy penalty (**outage cost**) for critical load shed
- Mild penalty (**lack of storage cost**) for not having stored energy

$$\min \sum_{t \in T} \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Grid} \\ C^{GR}(P_t^{GRb}, P_t^{GRs}) \\ \text{CHP} \\ \sum_{i \in I} C^{HP}(P_{i,t}^{HP}, H_{i,t}^{HP}, x_{i,t}, y_{i,t}, z_{i,t}) \\ \text{Boilers} \\ \sum_{k \in K} C^{BO}(H_{k,t}^{BO}, u_{k,t}) \\ \text{Battery} \\ \sum_{e \in E} C^{BS}(P_{e,t}^{BSc}, P_{e,t}^{BSd}) \\ \text{Thermal Storage} \\ \sum_{s \in S} C^{TS}(H_{s,t}^{TSc}, H_{s,t}^{TSd}) \\ \text{Grid} \\ \sum_{c \in C} C^{IS}(C_{c,t}^{ISc}, C_{c,t}^{ISd}) \\ \text{Towers \& Chillers} \\ \sum_{a \in A} C^{CT}(C_a^{CT}, l_a) \\ \text{Steam Chiller} \\ \sum_{b \in B} C^{SC}(j_b) \\ \text{Critical Load Shed} \\ C^{lsc}(P_t^{lsc}, H_t^{lsc}, C_t^{lsc}) \\ \text{Electrical Storage Penalty} \\ \sum_{e \in E} (C^{BSe}(E_{e,t}^{BS})) \\ \text{Thermal Storage Penalty} \\ \sum_{s \in S} (C^{TSe}(E_{s,t}^{TS})) \\ \text{Cold Storage Penalty} \\ \sum_{c \in C} (C^{ISe}(E_{c,t}^{IS})) \end{array} \right]$$

Energy Management System: Operation

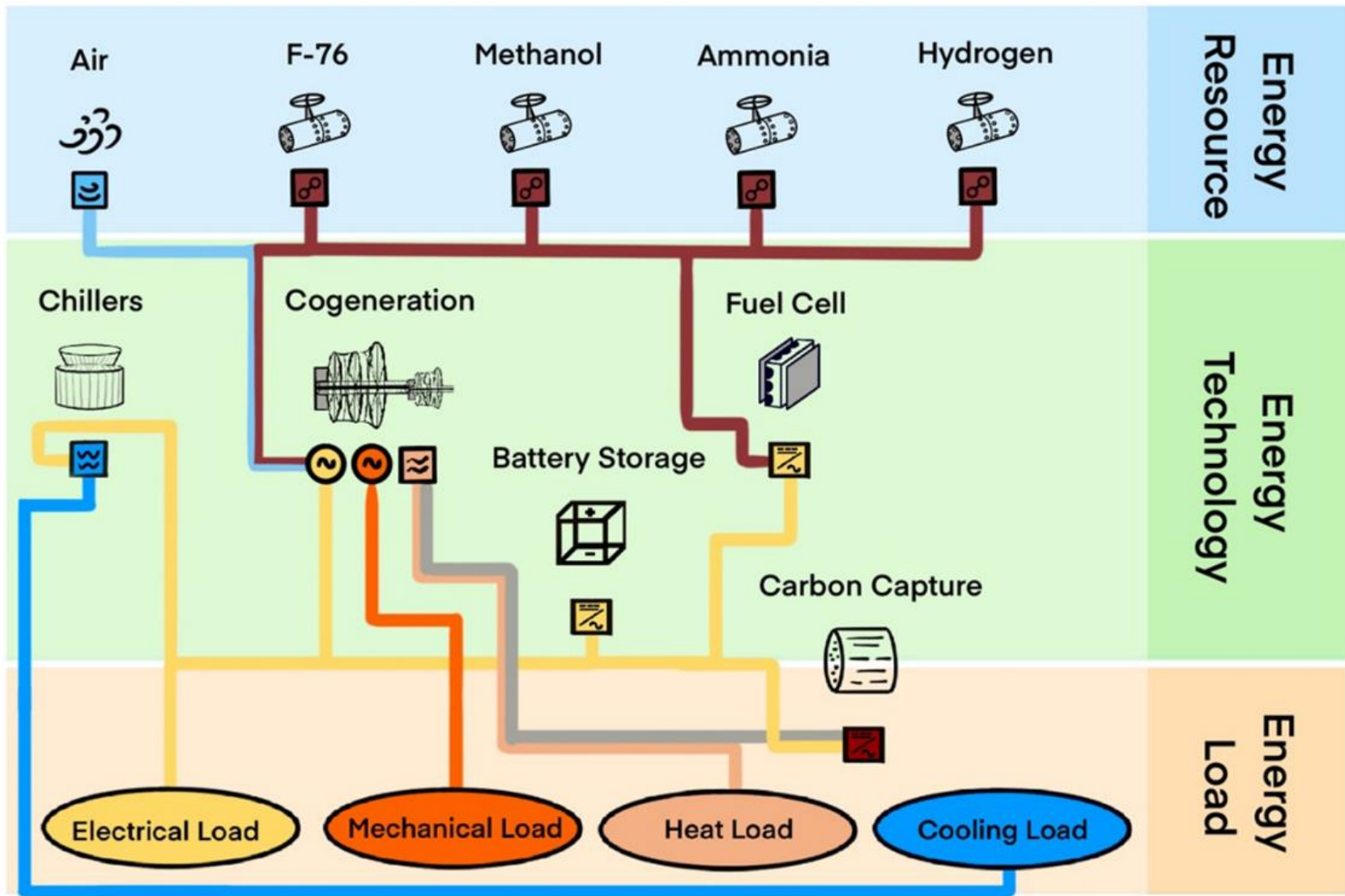
Synthetic Case 1 ~ Jan 1, 1 AM



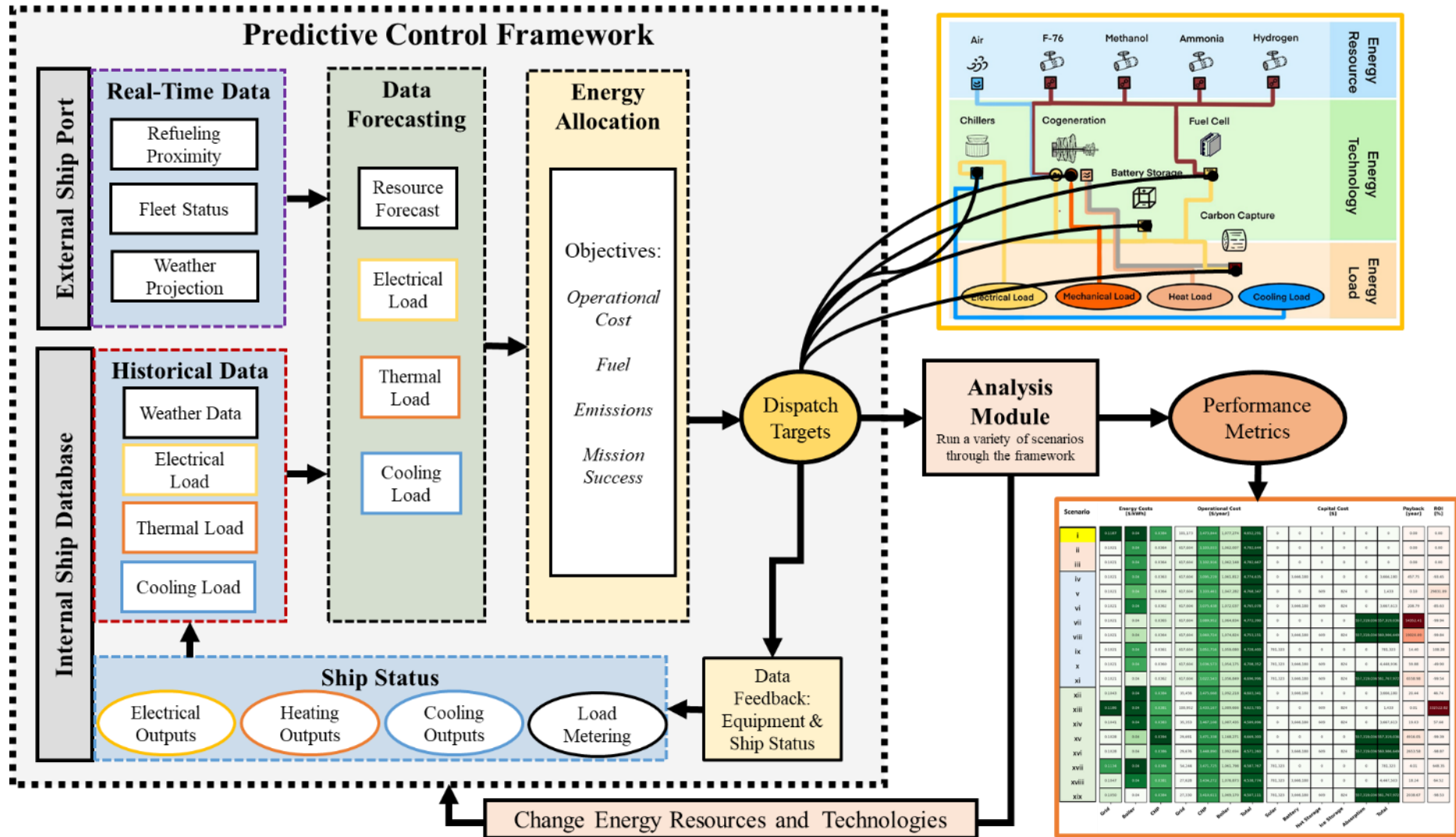
Scenarios Evaluated by Costs

Name	Grid Buy	Grid Sell	Technologies	Energy Costs [\$ /kWh]			Operational Cost [\$ /year]			Capital Cost [\$]					Payback [year]	ROI [%]		
				Grid	Boiler	CHP	Grid	CHP	Boiler	Total	Solar	Battery	Hot Storage	Ice Storage			Absorption	Total
i	Yes	No	Base: CHP, Boiler, and Chiller	0.1088	0.24	0.0815	7,196,547	1,006,820	773,031	8,976,397	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
ii	Yes	Yes	Base: CHP, Boiler, and Chiller	0.1087	0.24	0.0818	7,215,898	992,942	772,289	8,981,129	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
iii	Yes	No	Base + Battery	0.1057	0.25	0.0731	7,324,488	967,034	769,023	9,060,545	0	26,981,656	0	0	0	26,981,656	-320.65	-1.09
iv	Yes	No	Base + Hot + Ice	0.1084	0.21	0.0807	7,264,084	938,866	670,561	8,873,511	0	0	966	390,328	0	391,294	3.80	6.89
v	Yes	No	Base + Battery + Hot + Ice	0.1055	0.22	0.0712	7,372,051	927,773	658,344	8,958,168	0	26,981,656	966	390,328	0	27,372,950	1501.57	-0.98
vi	Yes	No	Base + Solar	0.1092	0.26	0.0770	6,736,123	815,563	742,066	8,293,751	5,338,792	0	0	0	0	5,338,792	7.82	2.84
vii	Yes	No	Base + Solar + Battery	0.1092	0.26	0.0770	6,736,123	815,563	742,066	8,293,751	5,338,792	26,981,656	0	0	0	32,320,448	47.35	-0.37
viii	Yes	No	Base + Solar + Battery + Hot + Ice	0.1055	0.22	0.0712	7,372,051	927,773	658,344	8,958,168	5,338,792	26,981,656	966	390,328	0	32,711,742	1794.43	-0.98
ix	Yes	No	Base + Absorption	0.1090	0.24	0.0810	7,166,456	1,033,177	773,419	8,973,052	0	0	0	0	4,643,355	4,643,355	1387.96	-0.98
x	Yes	No	Base + Solar + Battery + Hot + Ice + Absorption	0.1056	0.25	0.0760	6,666,833	885,153	622,238	8,174,224	5,338,792	26,981,656	966	390,328	4,643,355	37,355,097	46.57	-0.36
xi	Yes	Yes	Base + Battery	0.1057	0.25	0.0732	7,340,397	950,164	769,114	9,059,675	0	26,981,656	0	0	0	26,981,656	-343.52	-1.09
xii	Yes	Yes	Base + Hot + Ice	0.1083	0.21	0.0832	7,296,713	920,750	691,254	8,908,717	0	0	966	390,328	0	391,294	5.40	4.55
xiii	Yes	Yes	Base + Battery + Hot + Ice	0.1055	0.24	0.0716	6,685,617	874,659	627,589	8,187,864	0	26,981,656	966	390,328	0	27,372,950	34.51	-0.13
xiv	Yes	Yes	Base + Solar	0.1090	0.26	0.0779	6,757,147	799,135	744,394	8,300,676	5,338,792	0	0	0	0	5,338,792	7.85	2.82
xv	Yes	Yes	Base + Solar + Battery	0.1057	0.27	0.0728	6,650,264	921,375	742,562	8,314,201	5,338,792	26,981,656	0	0	0	32,320,448	48.46	-0.38
xvi	Yes	Yes	Base + Solar + Battery + Hot + Ice	0.1055	0.24	0.0716	6,685,617	874,659	627,589	8,187,864	5,338,792	26,981,656	966	390,328	0	32,711,742	41.24	-0.27
xvii	Yes	Yes	Base + Absorption	0.1093	0.24	0.0799	7,106,630	1,084,474	768,762	8,959,867	0	0	0	0	4,643,355	4,643,355	218.38	-0.86
xviii	Yes	Yes	Base + Solar + Battery + Hot + Ice + Absorption	0.1056	0.25	0.0784	6,657,776	904,798	627,246	8,189,820	5,338,792	26,981,656	966	390,328	4,643,355	37,355,097	47.21	-0.36

Energy Analysis for Future Navy Ships



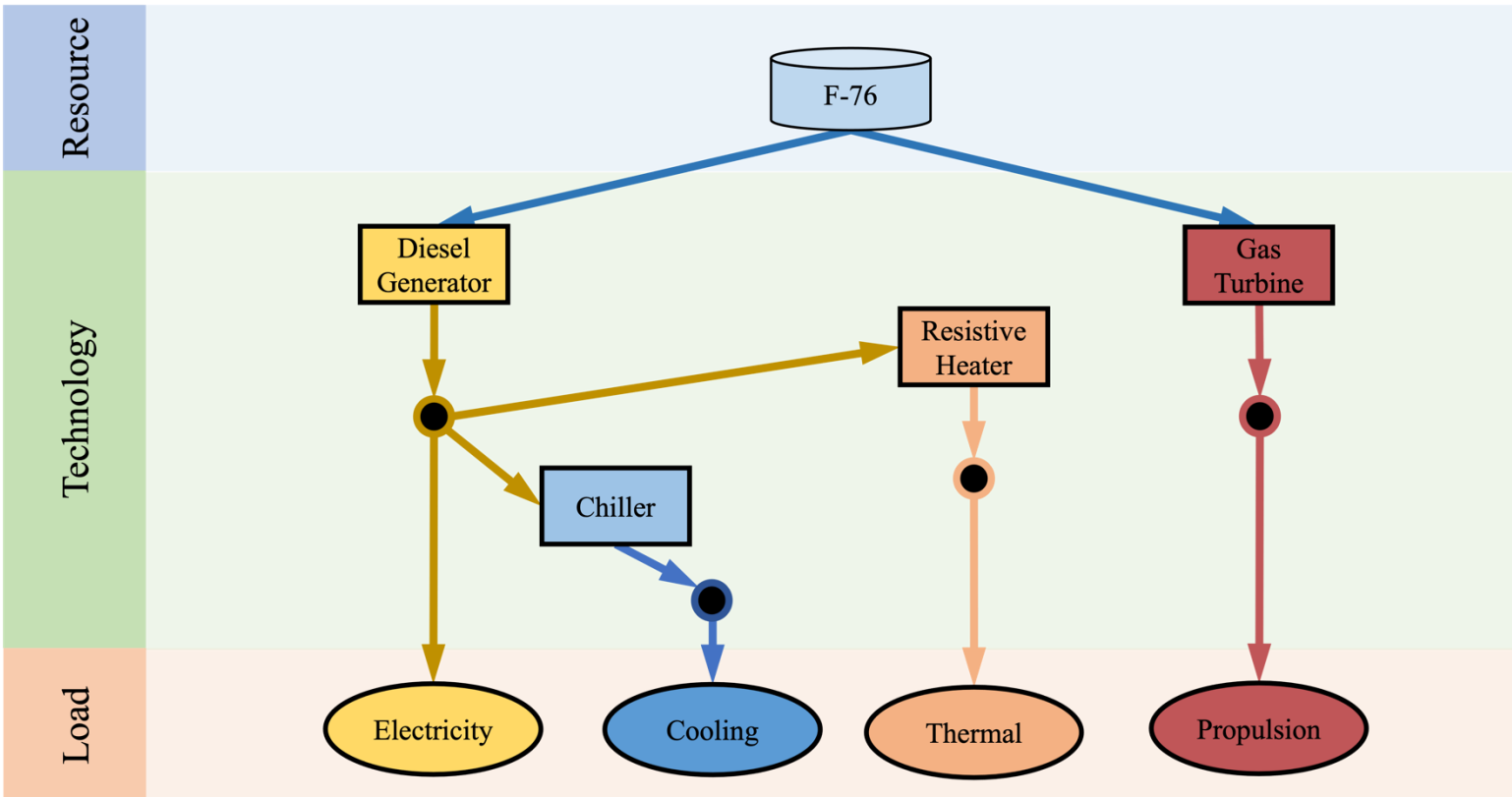
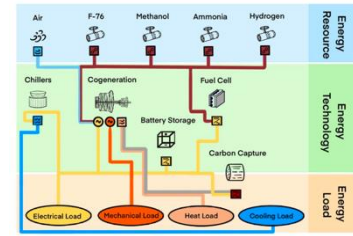
Ship Energy Analysis Tool



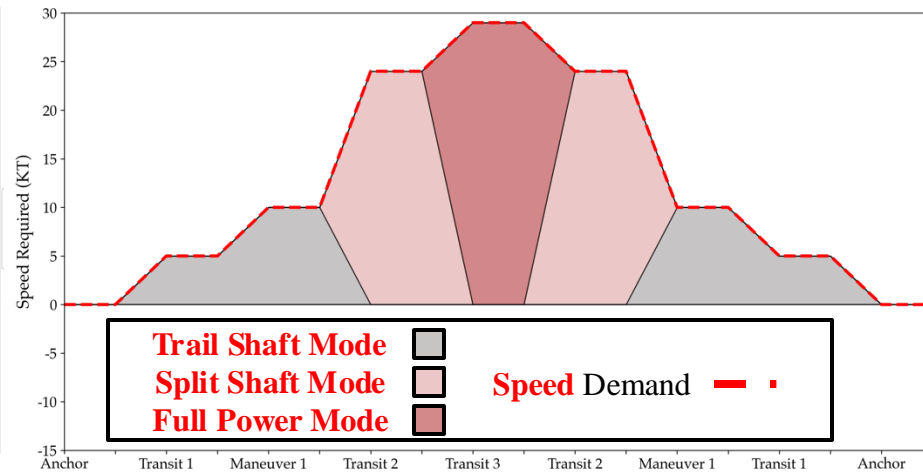
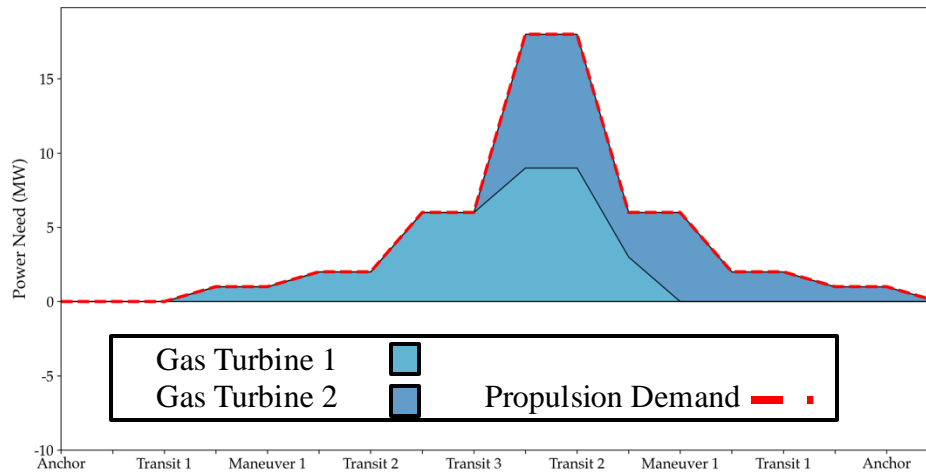
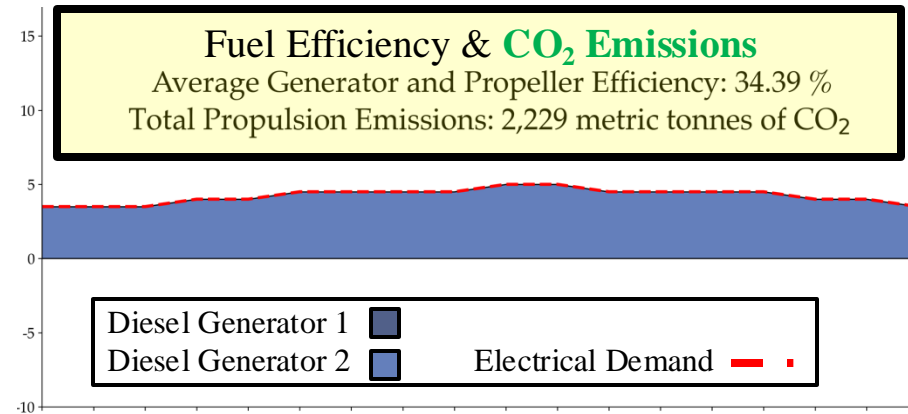
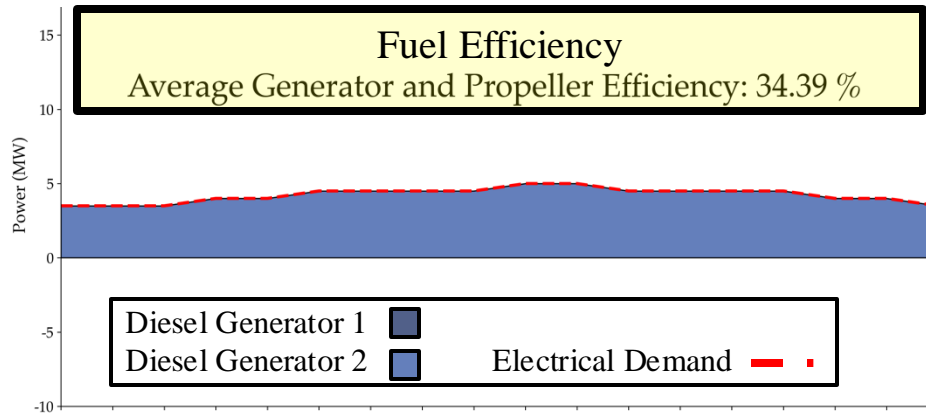
Example Ship Energy System Model



building a base model

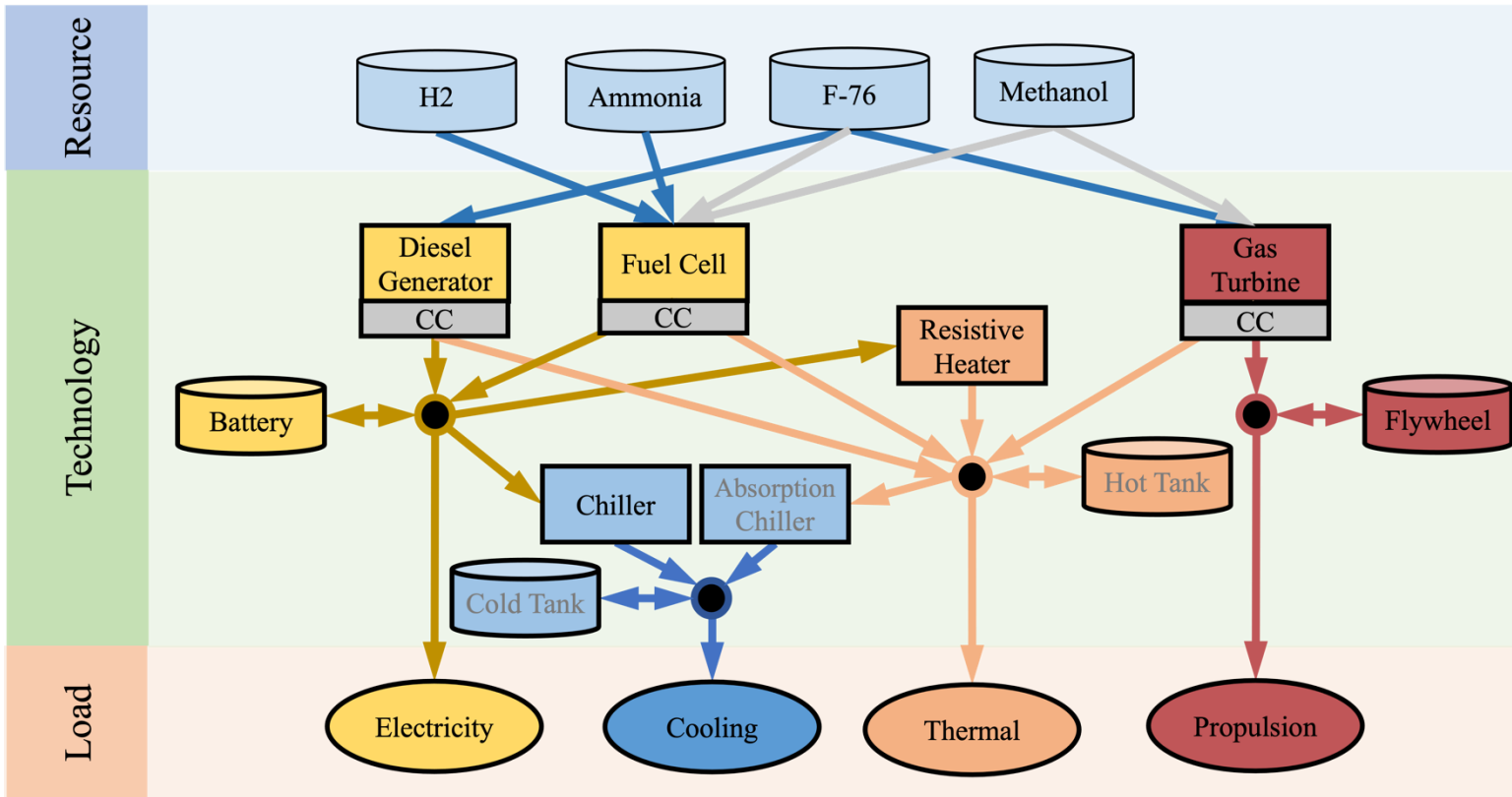


Energy System Analysis Tool Sample Output



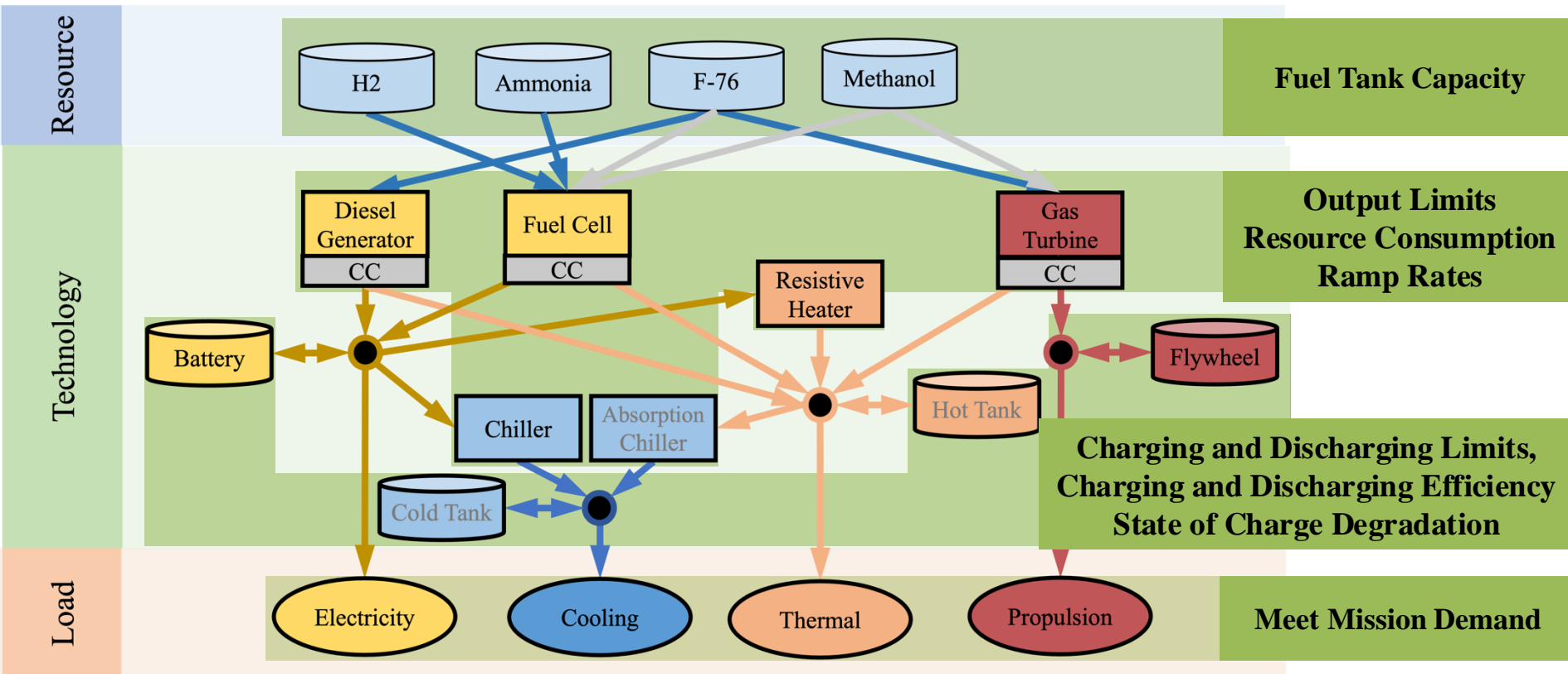
Example Ship Energy System Model

adding storage, alternative fuels, fuel cell, carbon capture, and heat recovery.



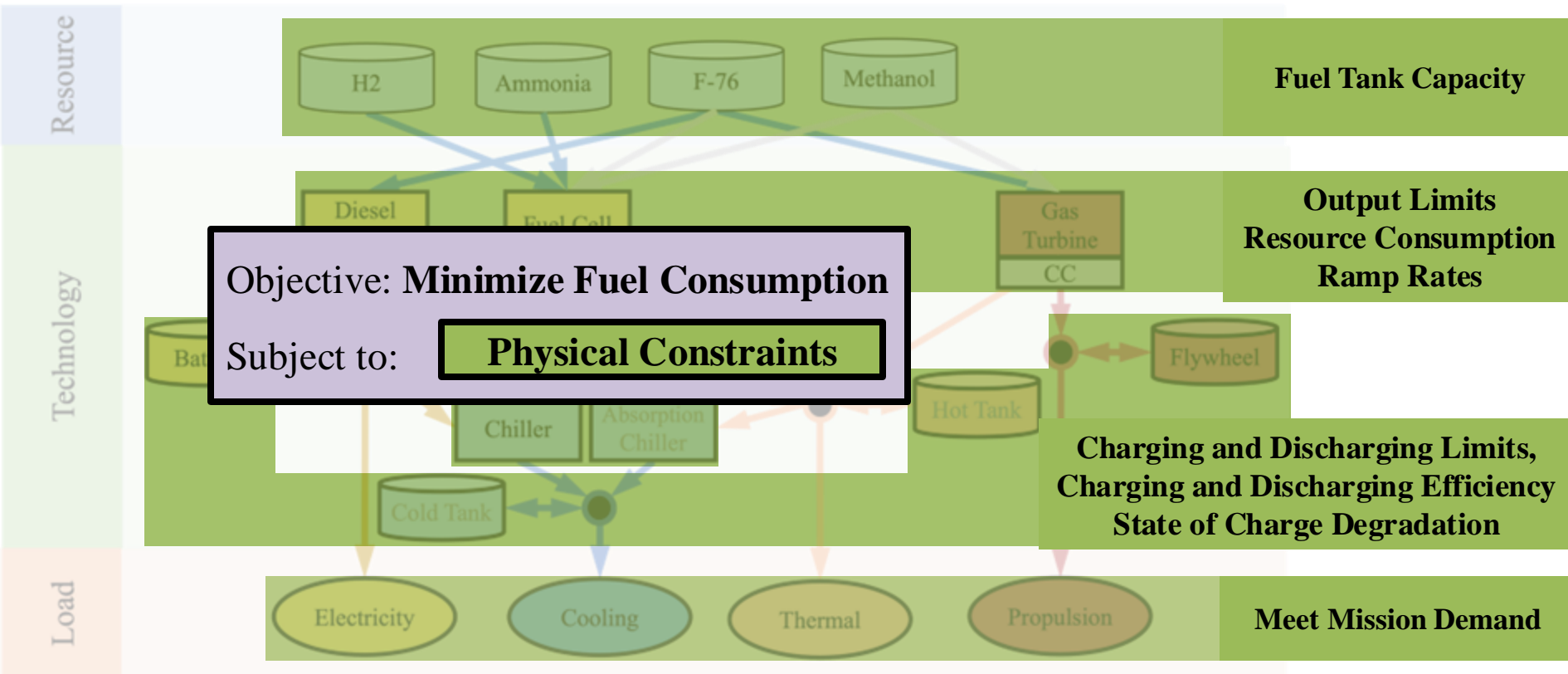
Example Ship Energy System Model

physical constraints & system objective



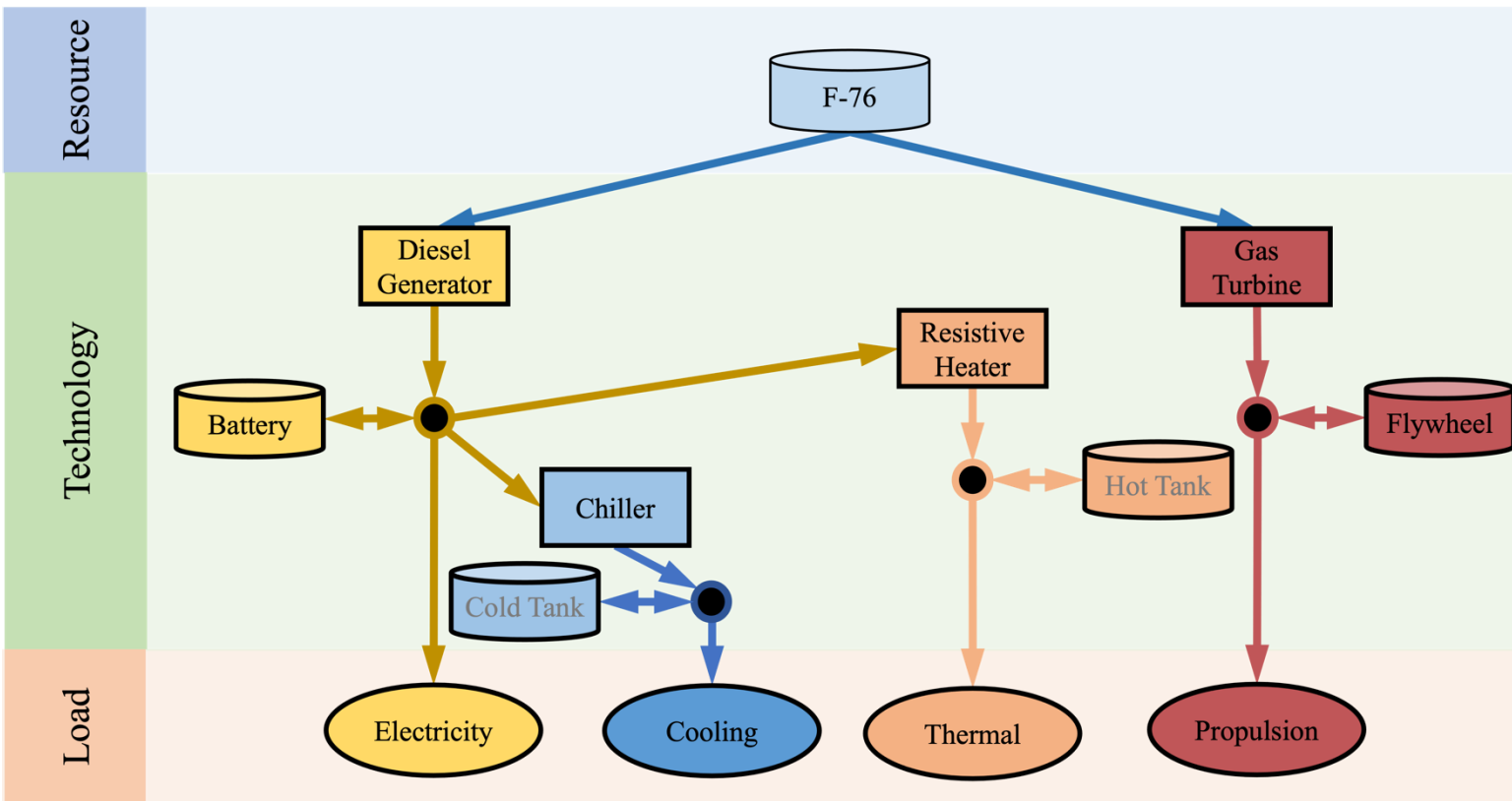
Example Ship Energy System Model

physical constraints & system objective



Example Ship Energy System Model

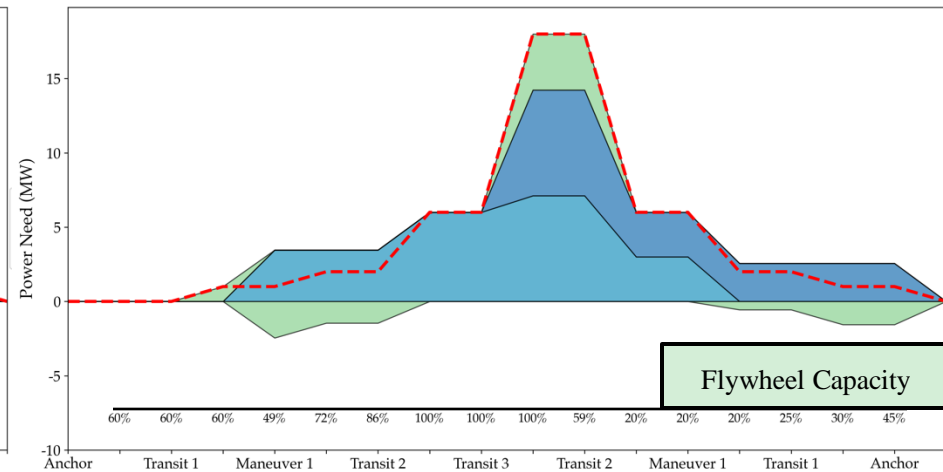
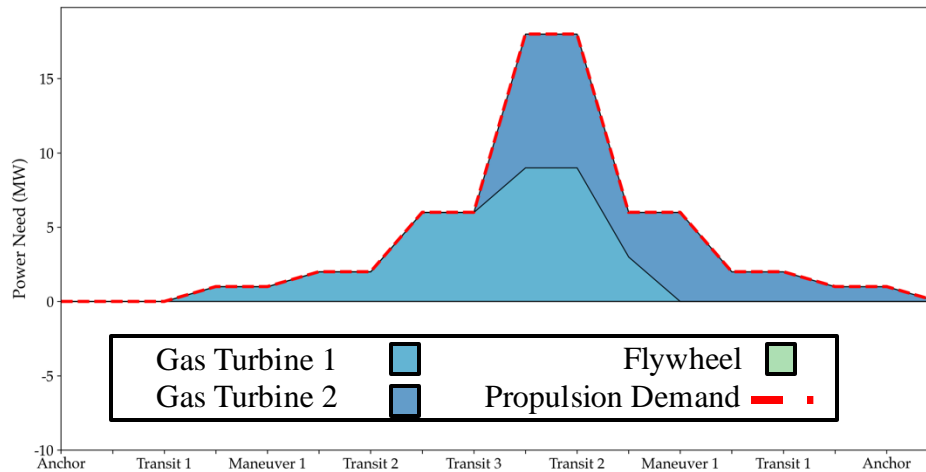
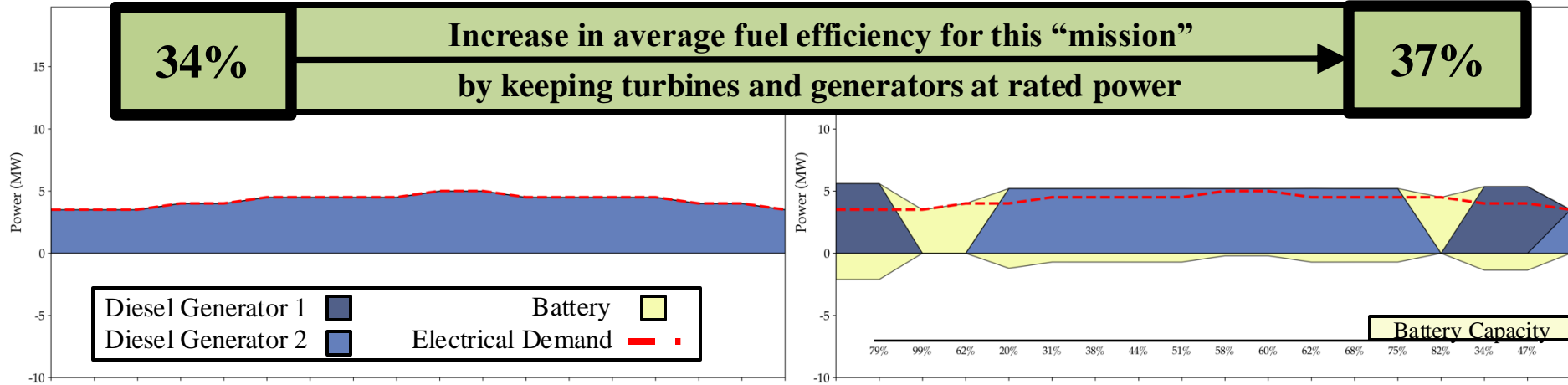
adding storage



Example Output for Energy Storage

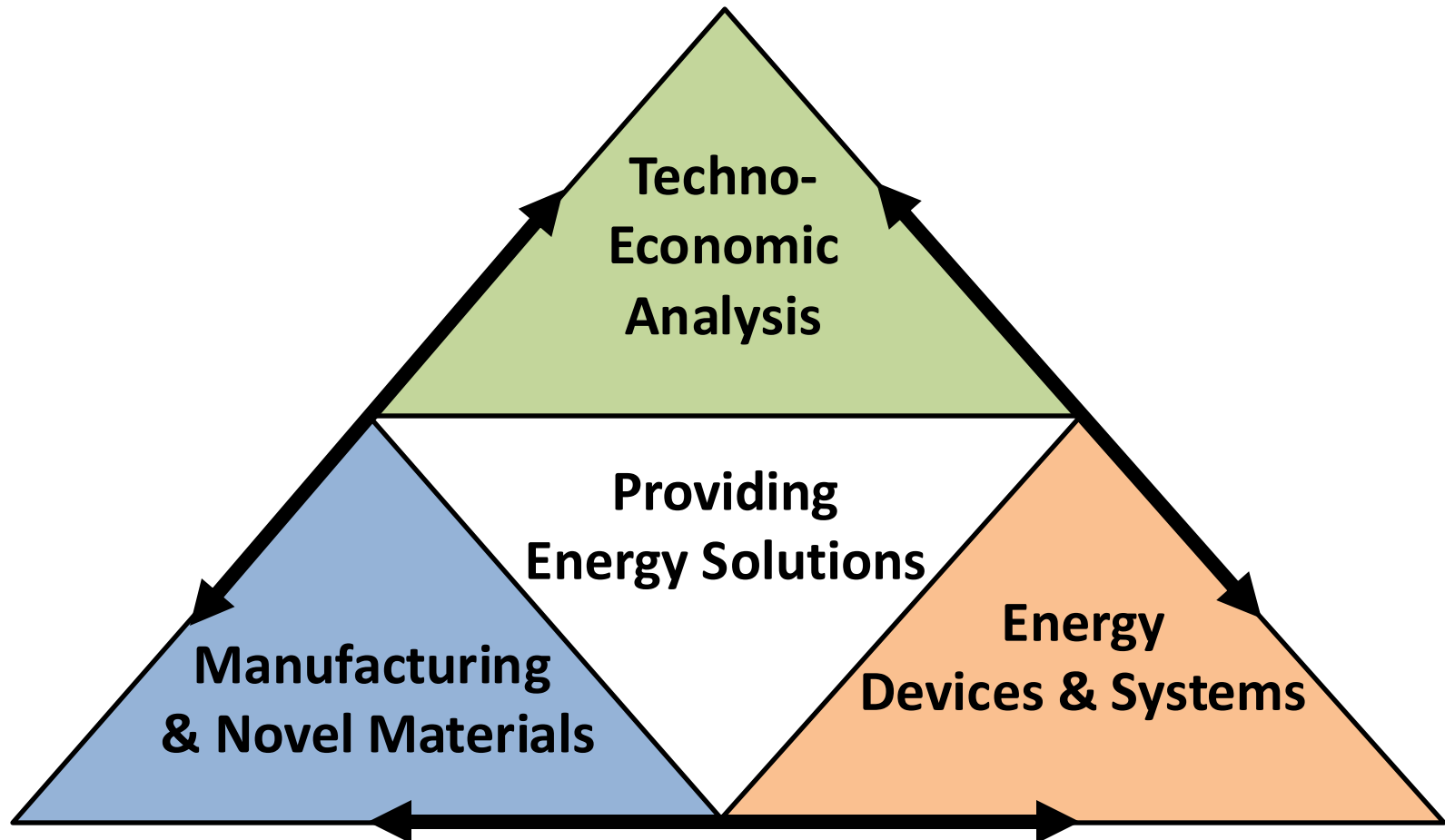
Energy Balance: All Operating Modes
 Storage Technology: 0 MWh Flywheel ~ 0 MWh Battery
 Average Generator and Propeller Efficiency: 34.39 %

Energy Balance: All Operating Modes
 Storage Technology: 10 MWh Flywheel ~ 10 MWh Battery
 Average Generator and Propeller Efficiency: 36.94 %



LeBlanc Lab: Materials to Systems

We create energy solutions using advanced materials and manufacturing techniques.



It takes a village...

Research Team:



Funding:



DE-NA0003858



N00014-20-1-2365

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