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# Economics of Public Electric Vehicle Charging

## Quantifying Tangible Value and Financial Analysis

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Noel Crisostomo & Kadir Bedir CEC



## Project 1

### Quantify tangible value of public PEV charging

- Estimate the tangible value of the existing public charging infrastructure network to the PEV driver
- Estimates correspond to willingness to pay (WTP) for public charging

**WTP for Charging Infrastructure** is a function of:  
electric range, charging availability & location, annual VMT, vehicle type, income

## Project 2

### Financial and DER Analysis of a DCFC plaza Case Study in San Diego

Evaluate financial viability of high power (125 kW & 400 kW) electric vehicle charging stations

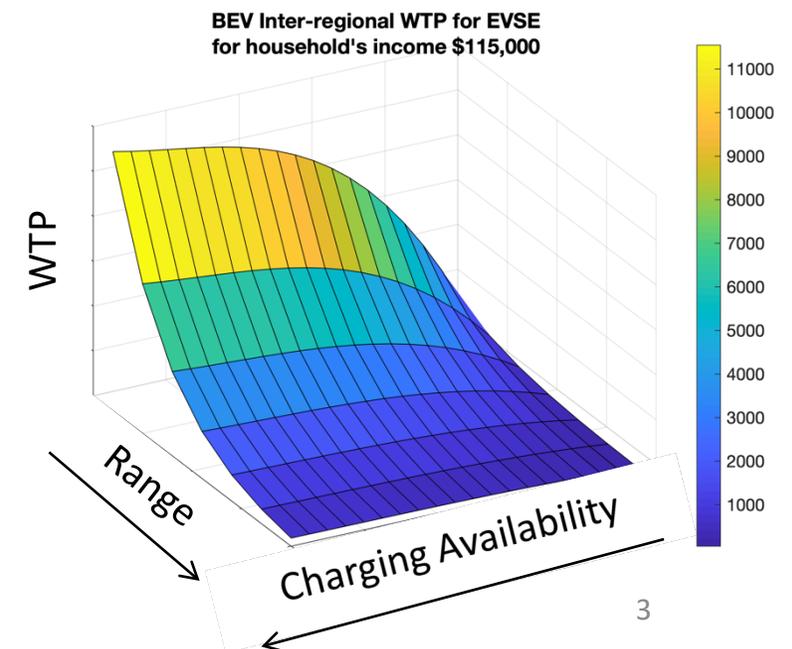
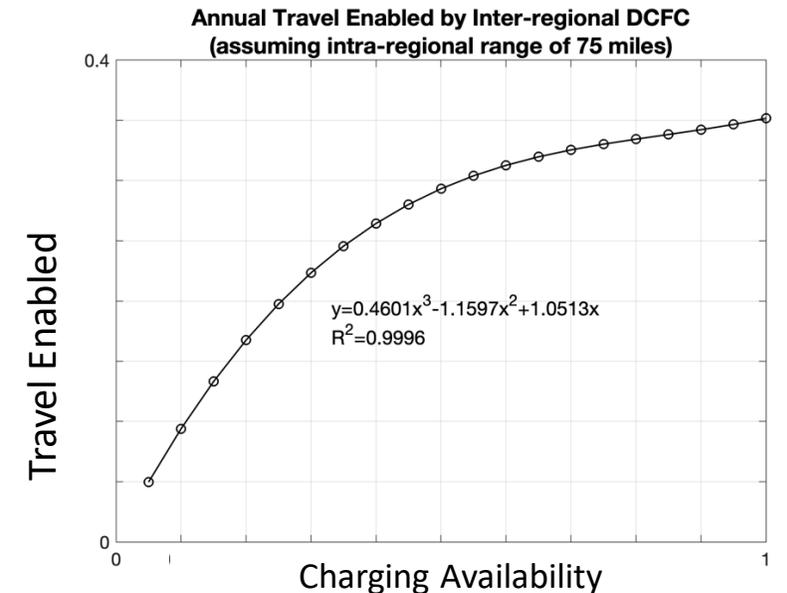
- Estimation of operational costs for public charging
- Calculation of investors net income/profitability indices/cash flow
- Insights on break-even retail electricity price [in \$ per kWh]

# Project I: Methods



- Estimate **e-miles enabled by public chargers** (effect of chargers on e-miles, decreasing with vehicle range)
- Estimate **willingness to pay for enabled mile of travel** (based on WTP for vehicle range, which also enables additional e-travel)
- Function of **vehicle range and charging availability**
- **Heterogeneity**: income (marginal utility increase & value of time), annual VMT and daily distribution, charger type

Caveat: Awareness of public charging infrastructure differs from its actual availability, especially during early PEV adoption.



# Project I: Analysis

## PHEV traveler's value for public charging:

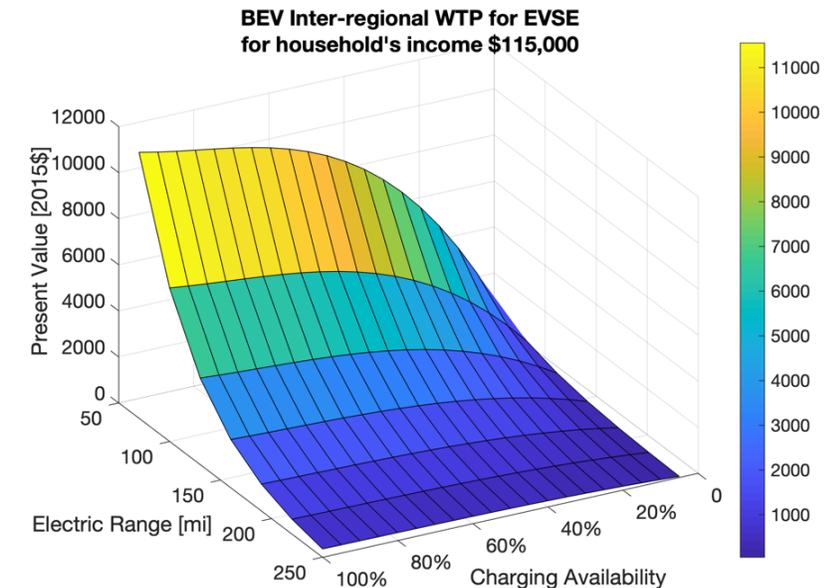
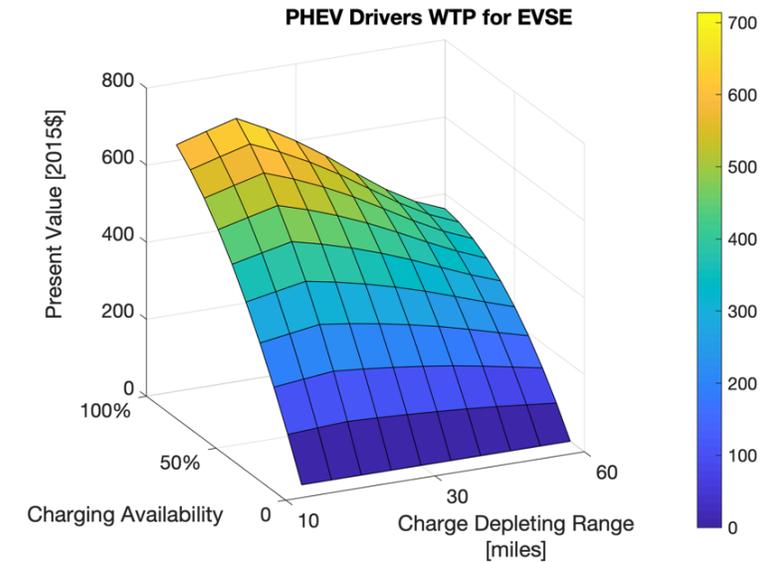
- value of energy savings from additional miles conducted in charge-depleting mode

## BEV intra-regional traveler's value for public charging:

- value of added electrified miles (additionally depends on the value of an enabled mile and the value of reduced time to access a charger)

## BEV inter-regional traveler's value for public charging:

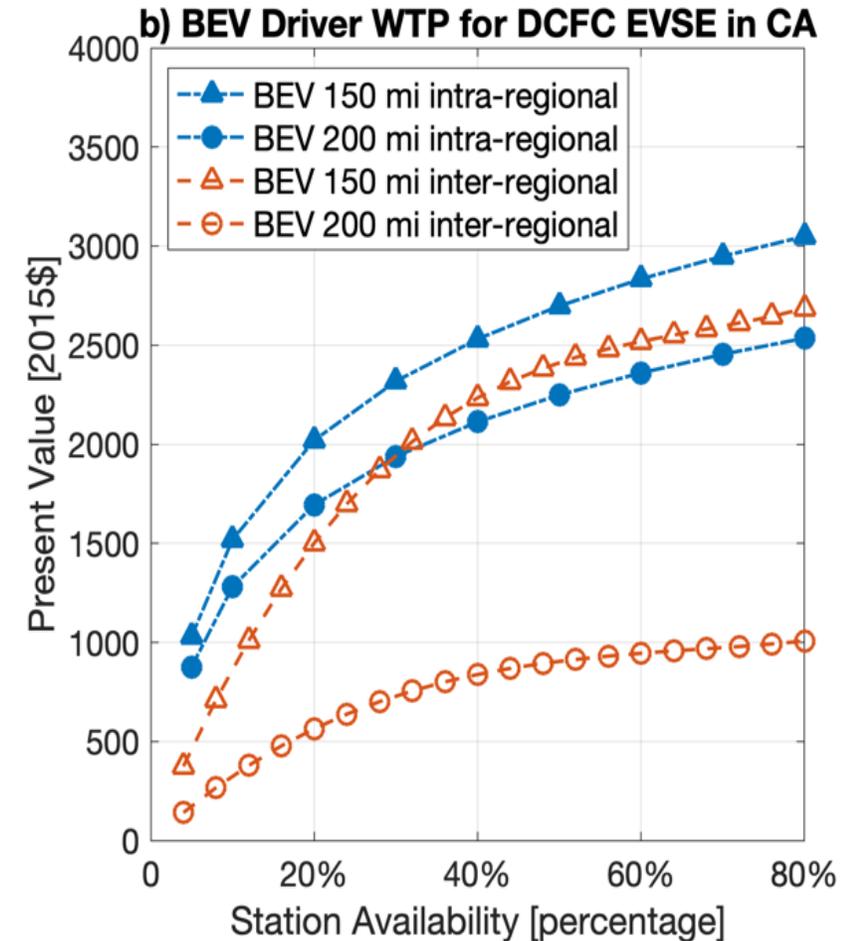
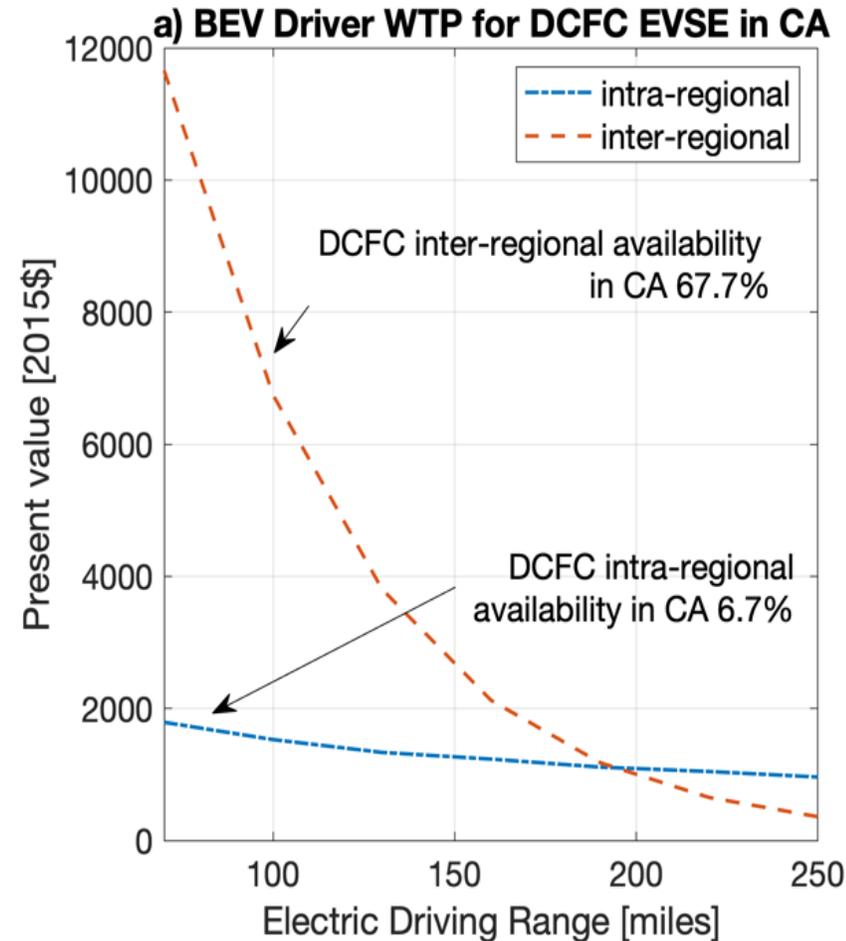
- based on the value of added miles (accounting for recharging time)



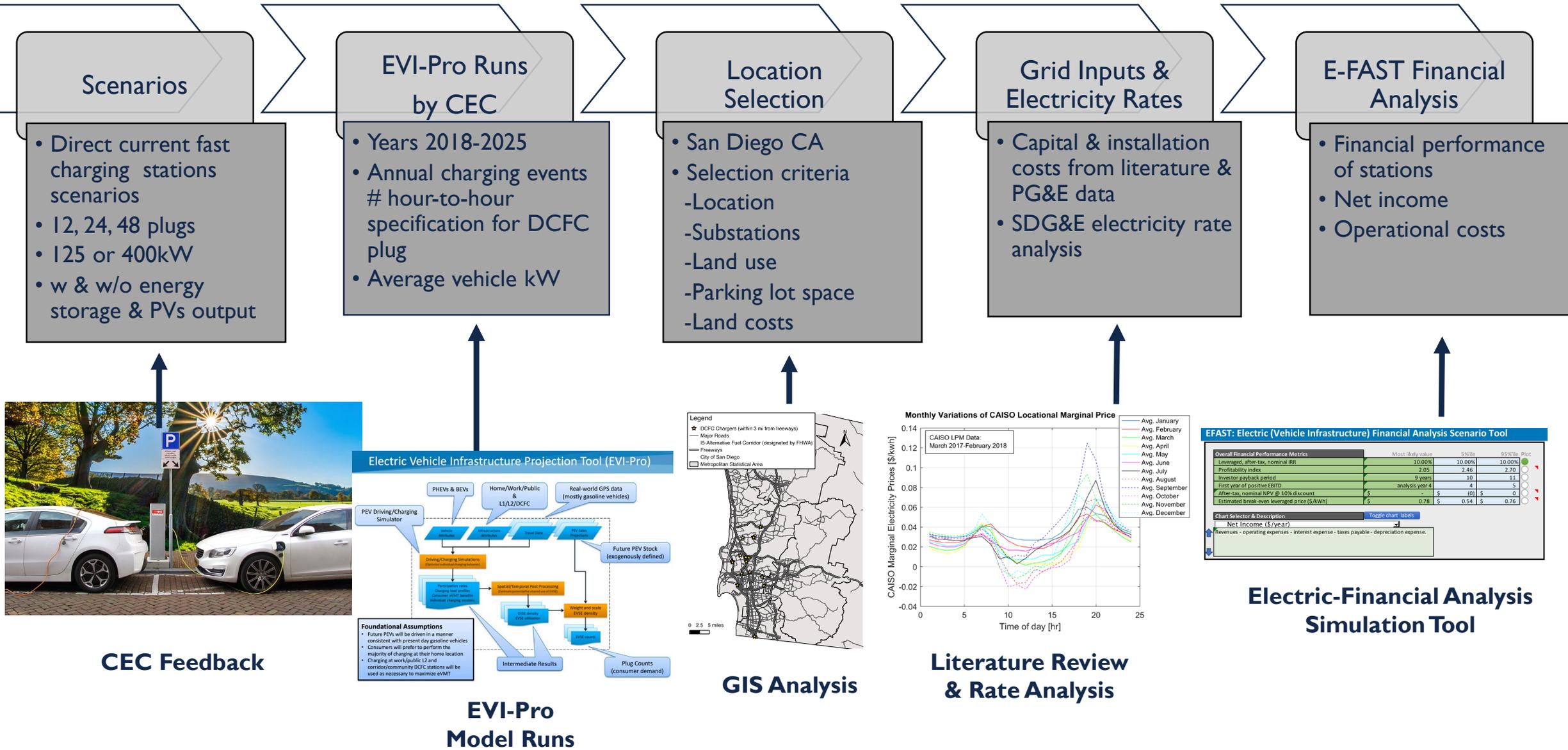
# Project I: Results

## BEV Driver Value of Direct Current Fast Charging

- When range  $\leq 200$  mi high value of dense inter-regional fast charging network
- Value of charging increases as charging availability increases with diminishing returns, for both intra- and inter-regional travel

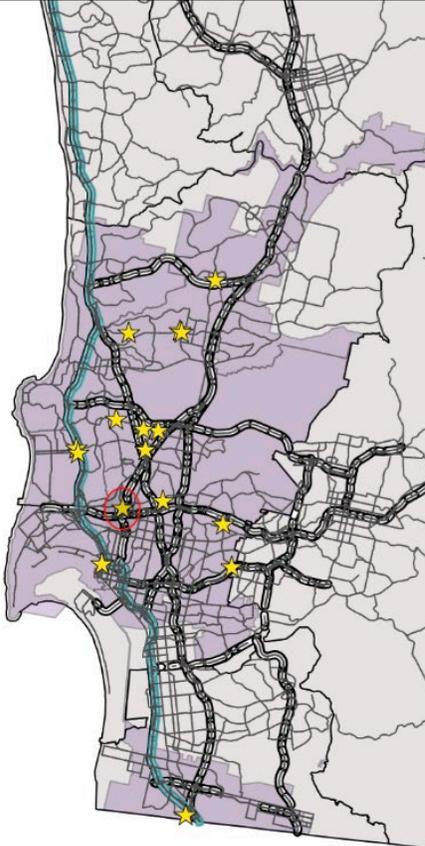


# Project 2: Methods



# Project 2: Analysis

## Location



## Scenarios Definitions

<b>Power Requirements &amp; Performance Definitions</b>	<b>DCFC – 125 kW 12 / 24 / 48 ports</b>	<b>DCFC – 400 kW 12 / 24 / 48 ports</b>
Peak plug power (KW)	125 kW	400 kW
Peak power-sharing (W/station)	500 kW / 1.5 MW / 4 MW	2 MW / 4.4 MW / 8 MW
Alternative scenario 1: Only ES	46 kW / 139 kW / 367 kW	184 kW / 404 kW / 735 kW
Energy storage power (kW):	122 kWh / 366 kWh / 970 kWh	485 kWh / 1,067 kWh / 1,939 kWh
Battery capacity (kWh):		
Alternative scenario 2:	ES: same as above	ES: same as above
Energy storage + PV size	PV: 393.1 kW (PVWatts)	PV: 393.1 kW (PVWatts)

## Other Data Definitions

- Monthly charging station energy use
- Average battery electric vehicle power levels over the analysis year
- Capital and installation costs for scenarios considered
- San Diego Gas and Electric electricity rate applicable to public DCFC

# Project 2: Results

## Break-even Electricity Prices (BEP), Profitability Indices (PI), and Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of DCFC Station with 125 kW Ports

Scenarios & Metrics	12 Plugs - DCFC 125kW			24 Plugs - DCFC 125kW			48 Plugs - DCFC 125kW		
	BEP [\$/kWh]	PI	IRR	BEP [\$/kWh]	PI	IRR	BEP [\$/kWh]	PI	IRR
Base Scenario	0.49	1.04	4.36%	0.48	1.08	8.52%	0.43	1.34	8.10%
Alt Scenario 1 Energy Storage	0.45	1.23	7.41%	0.42	1.38	8.45%	0.42	1.40	8.52%
Alt Scenario 2 Energy Storage + PV	0.50	1.10	2.22%	0.42	1.39	8.33%	0.38	1.64	11.48%

### Break-even electricity price (BEP)

- Lower with ES and the lowest with ES and PVs due to operational cost savings achieved
- Variations as # of stations increase due to utilization levels increase

### Profitability index (PI)

- Increases for Alt Scenarios & as utilization increases for larger stations

# Conclusion and Policy Implications

## Project 1

### WTP Functions for Charging Infrastructure

- Drivers' benefit from the installation of additional public charging (energy efficiency, range extension, and time savings from DCFC)
- A new modeling framework assesses the benefits of investment in expanding the public charging network to drivers.

### California Insights

To the purchaser of a new BEV with a 100-mile range and home charging in Sacramento:

- **Urban** public fast chargers are worth ~ \$1,500 per driver for *intra-regional* travel,
- **Highway** fast chargers are worth > \$6,500 per driver along *inter-city* routes.

## Project 2

### Financial and DER Analysis of a DCFC plaza

- Charging utilization is the most significant factor for achieving financial viability,
- DCFC station Internal Rate of Returns improve with the installation energy storage and photovoltaics, by reducing operational costs as driver demands grow
- Break-even prices range \$ 0.36 - 0.50 / kWh and are similar to current subscription offerings like EVgo's Pay As You Go or Membership plans in San Diego.

## Questions?

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**Noel Crisostomo** [noel.crisostomo@energy.ca.gov](mailto:noel.crisostomo@energy.ca.gov)

Paper on public charging value:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=233987&DocumentContentId=66806>

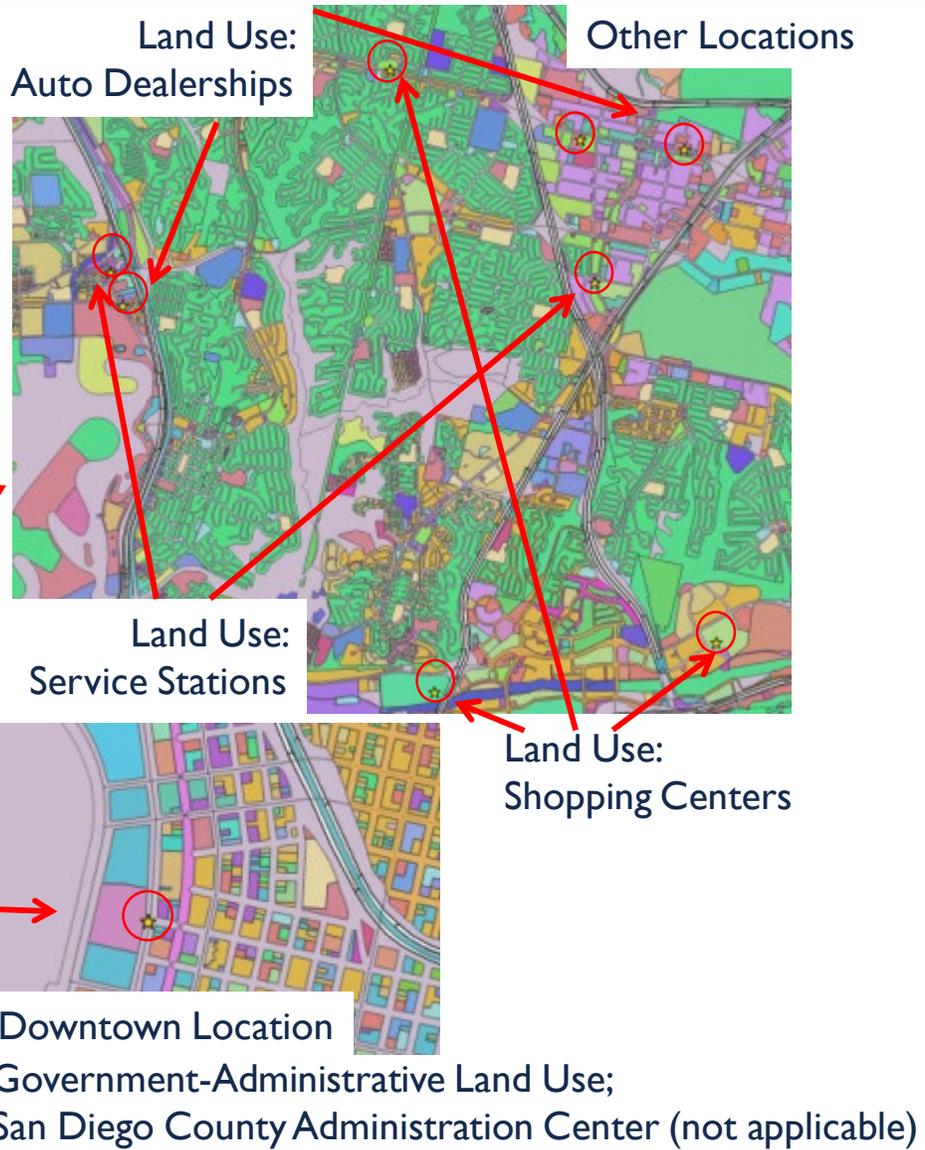
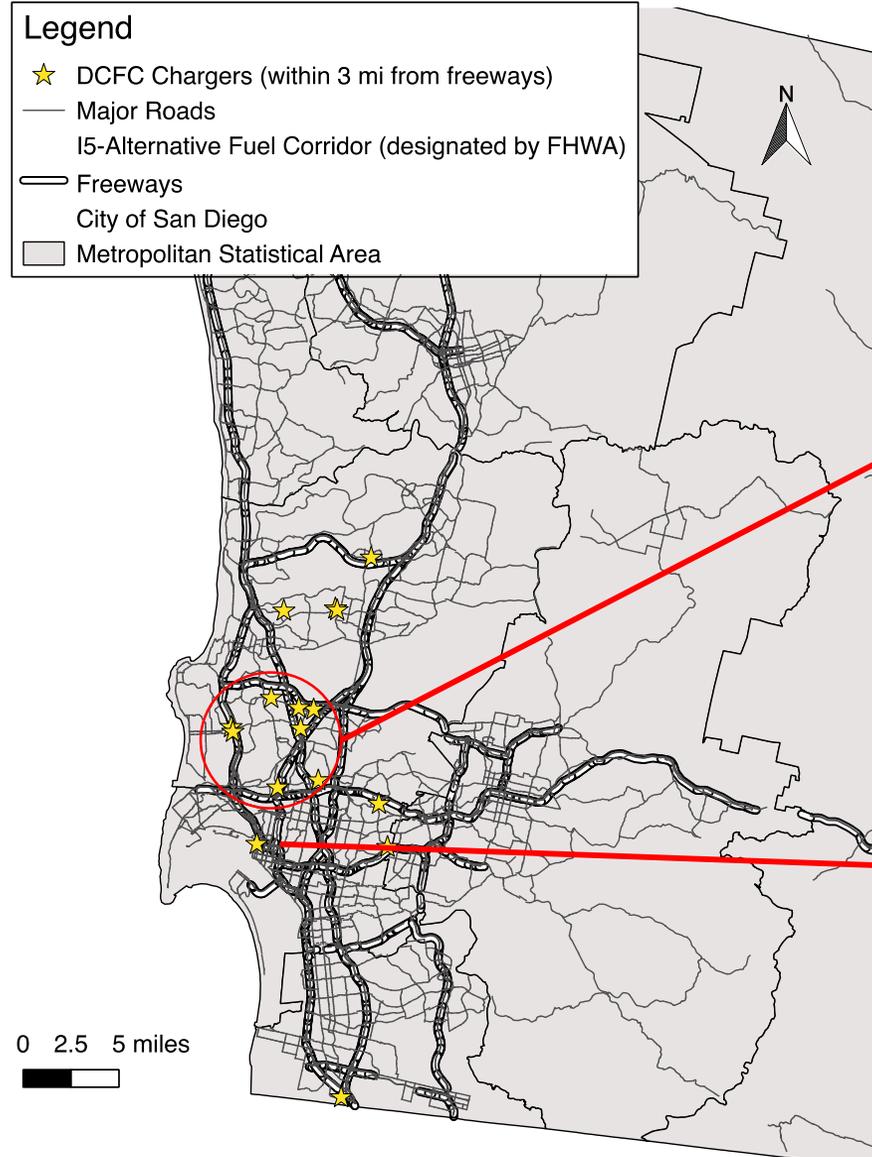
Paper on DCFC financial analysis:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=233876&DocumentContentId=66659>

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The views and opinions of the authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof. Neither the United States The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the author alone and do not reflect the positions of NREL or of the US government.

# Appendix – San Diego DCFC Location Selection

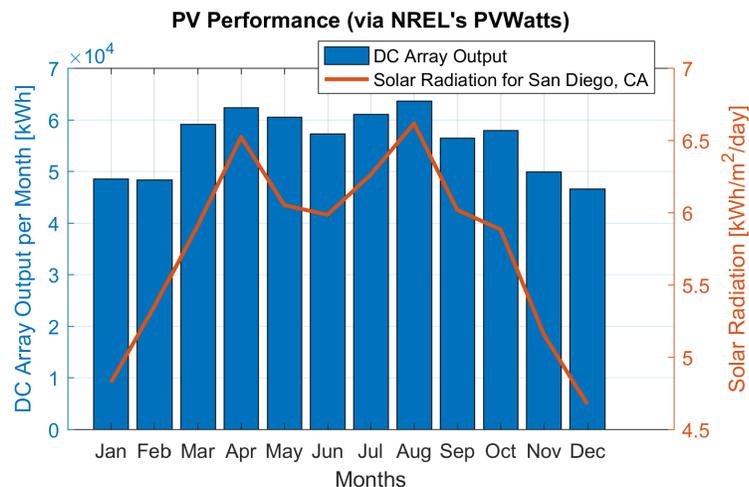


Land use data retrieved from: SanGIS Regional Data Warehouse, 2017  
<http://www.sangis.org/>

# Appendix – Photovoltaic Performance Estimation

## Performance Estimation for PVs

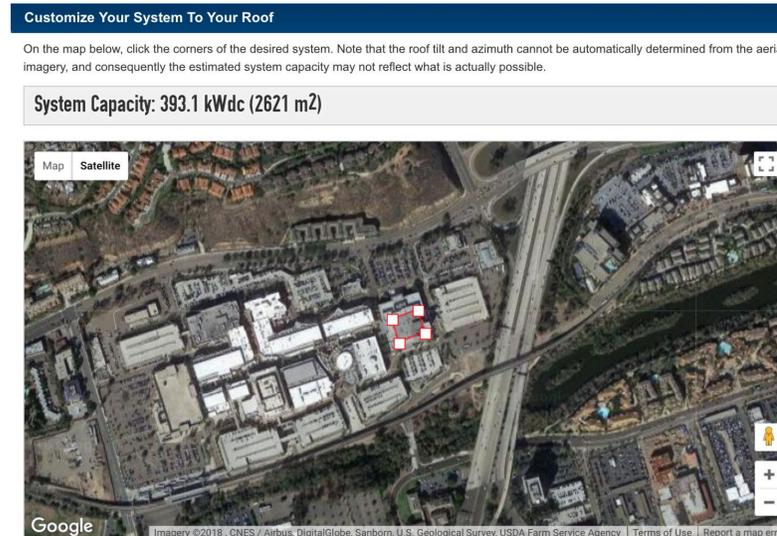
- Example:  
Using NREL PVWatts (<http://pvwatts.nrel.gov/>)



PVWatts Reference:  
Dobos, A. P. (2014). PVWatts version 5 manual (No. NREL/TP-6A20-62641). National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Golden, CO.

## Accomplished Savings

- Alt Scenario 2
  - Power reduced due to ES (impacts only on worst case scenario)
  - PV performance reduces energy consumed per month (impacts in best case as well)

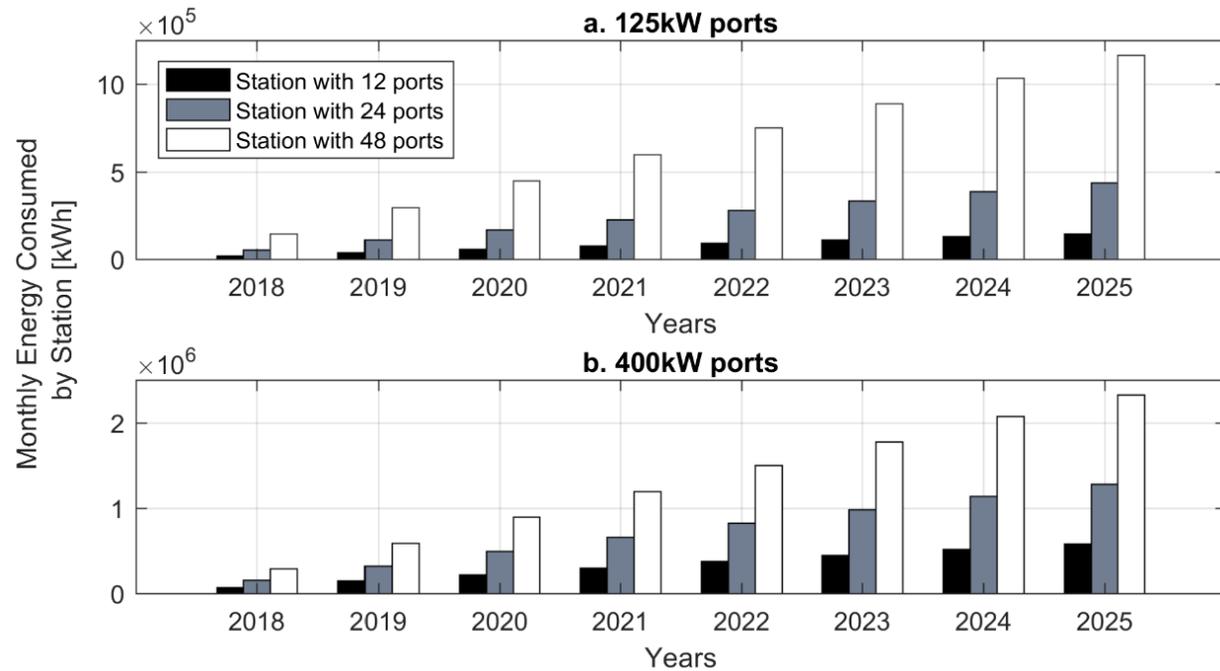


### Assumptions – based on PVWatts

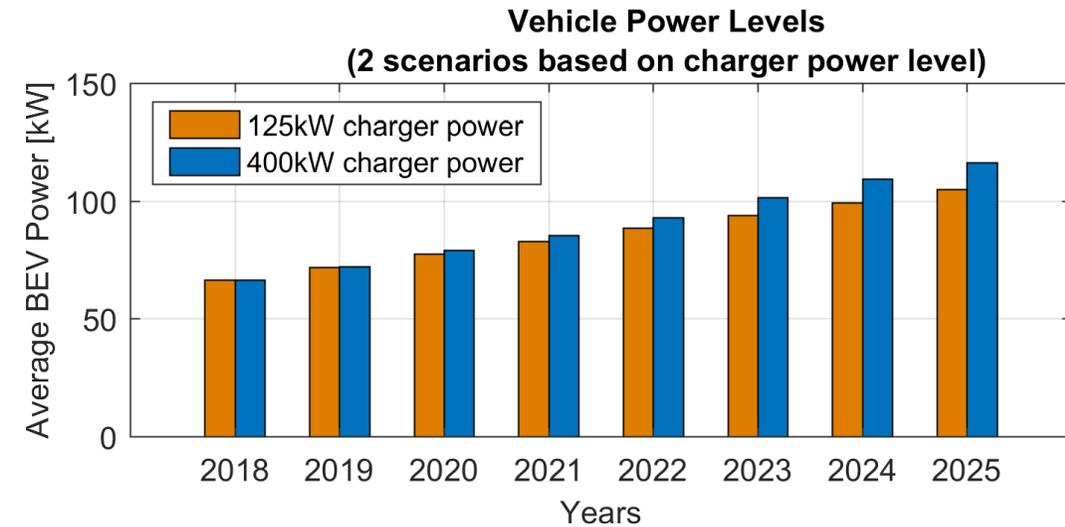
Location	San Diego, CA
DC System Size (kW)	393.1
Module Type	Standard
Array Type	Fixed (open rack)
Array Tilt (deg)	32.7
Array Azimuth (deg)	180
System Losses (%)	14
Invert Efficiency (%)	96
DC to AC Size Ratio	1.1
Capacity Factor (%)	18.7

# Appendix – Utilization Assumptions

## Monthly charging station energy use

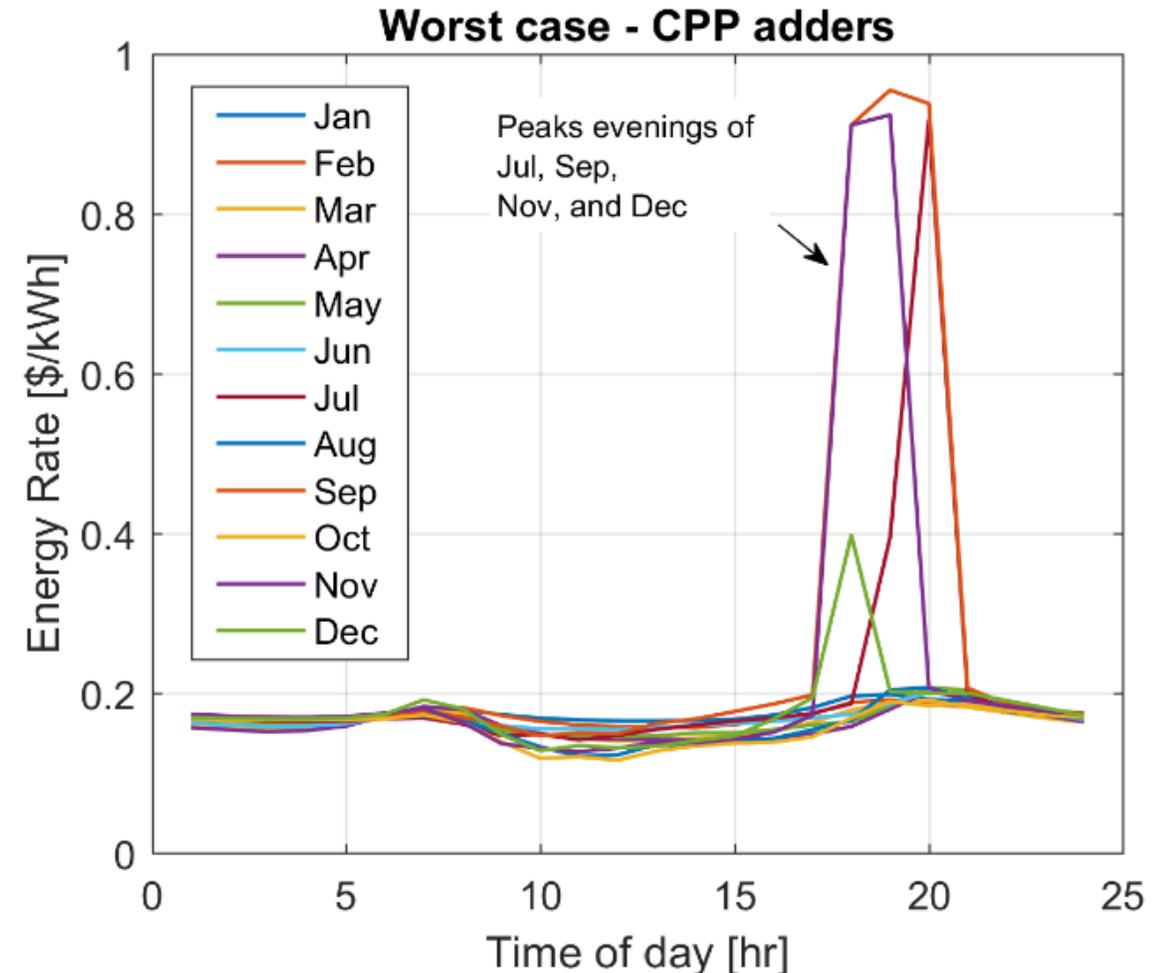
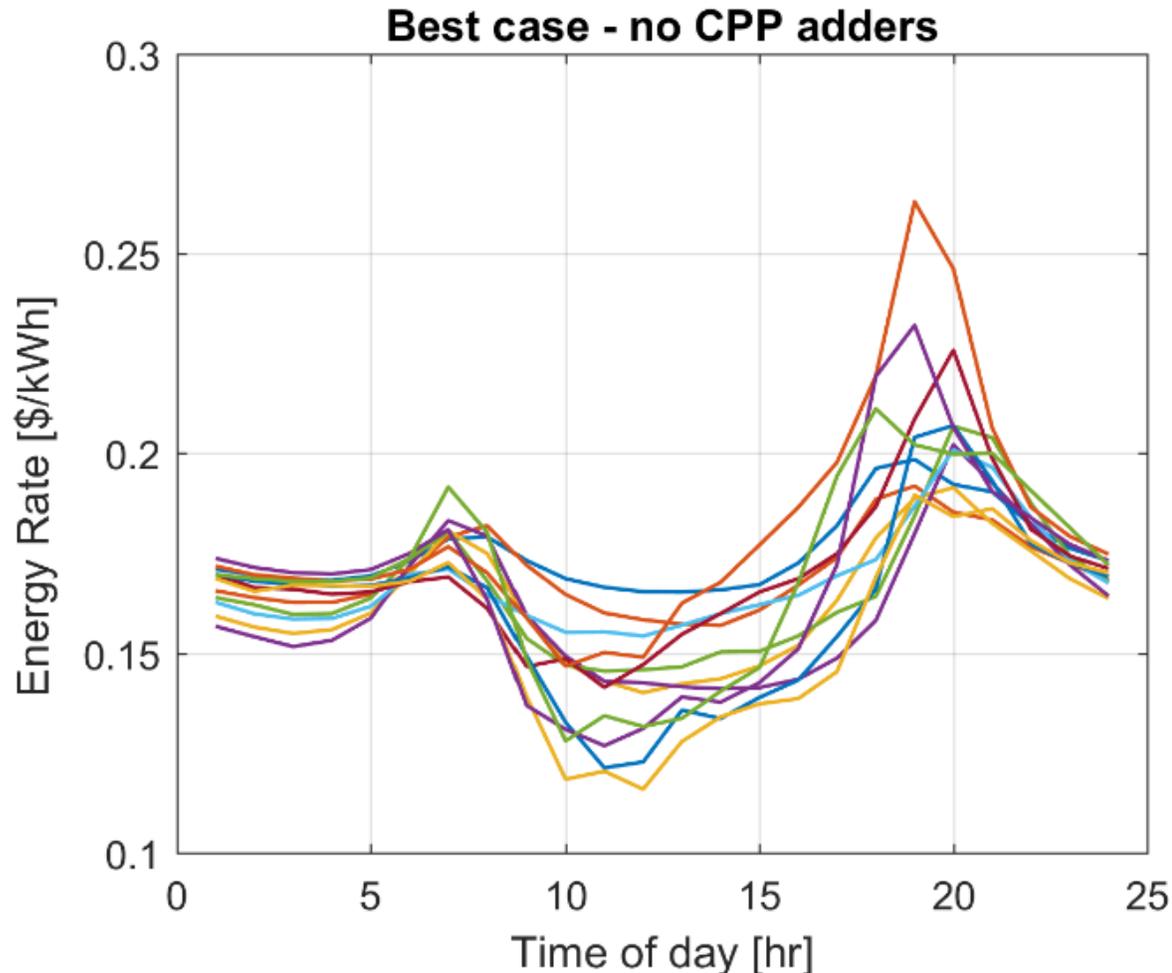


## Average BEV battery power levels over the analysis years

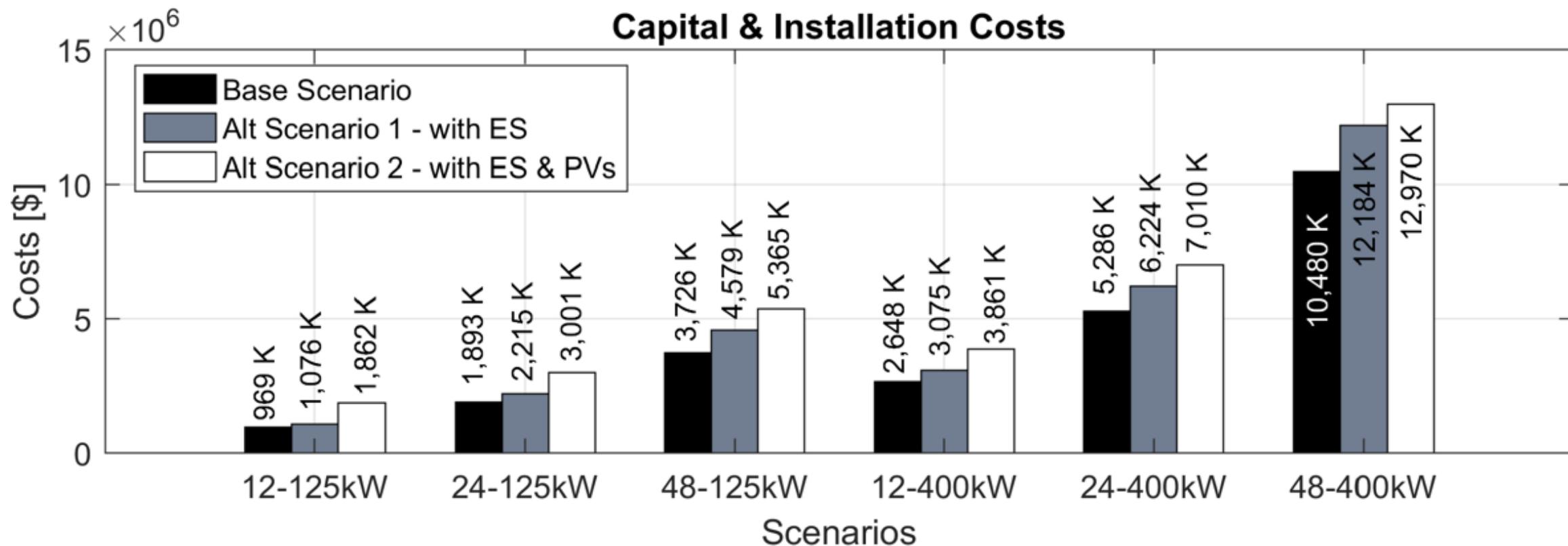


# Appendix – San Diego Gas & Electric Rate

## San Diego Gas and Electric electricity rate applicable to public DCFC



# Appendix – Capital and Installation Costs



Rate data retrieved from:

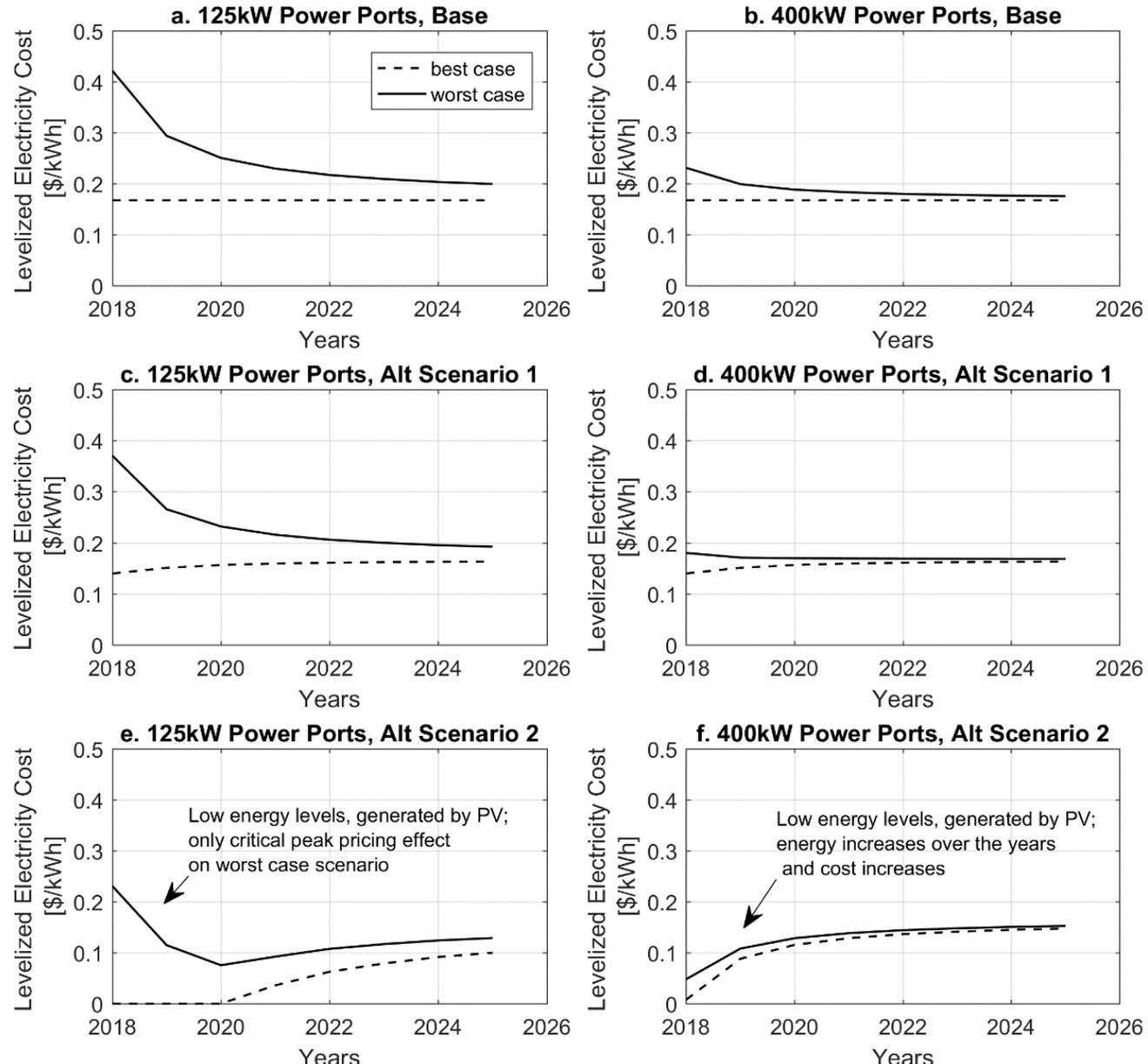
Francfort J, Salisbury S, Smart J, Garetson T, Karner D. Considerations for Corridor and Community DC Fast Charging Complex System Design 2017.

Cutler D, Olis D, Elgqvist E, Li X, Laws N, DiOrio N, et al. REopt: A Platform for Energy System Integration and Optimization 2017:1–8.

Meintz A, Zhang J, Vijayagopal R, Kreutzer C, Ahmed S, Bloom I, et al. Enabling fast charging – Vehicle considerations. J Power Sources 2017;367:216–27. doi:10.1016/j.jpowsour.2017.07.093.

# Appendix – Levelized Electricity Costs (I)

## 12 Ports Results



# Appendix – Levelized Electricity Costs (2)

## 24 Ports Results

