

# Accelerating Data Access, Analytics, and Collaboration

Panel Presentation & Discussion

NASPI Work Group Meeting  
November 3, 2020



# Today's Panelists



**Mack Grady**, Baylor University  
Lessons Learned from the  
Texas Synchrophasor Network



**Theo Laughner**, PowerGrid-RX  
The Need for PQ Analytics



**Sascha von Meier**, UC Berkeley  
Panel Moderator



**Kamron Tangney**, Powerside  
microPMU: From the lab to the grid



**Laurel Dunn**, UC Berkeley  
A National Infrastructure for  
Artificial Intelligence on the Grid

**Accelerating Data Access, Analytics and Collaboration Session  
NASPI Work Group Virtual Meeting**

**“Lessons Learned from the Texas Synchrophasor Network”**

**Prof. Mack Grady**

**Prof. of ECE at Baylor, Prof. Emeritus of ECE at U.T. Austin**

**Supported by**

**Schweitzer Engineering Labs  
DoD Defense Threat Reduction Agency  
ERCOT**

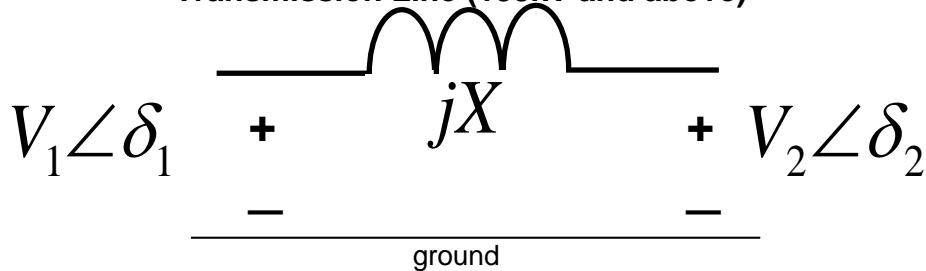
**November 3, 2020**

# Why are Synchrophasors Important?

Power flow depends on angle difference. Stability depends on angle swings. We could always calculate angles with loadflows and stability programs, but there was no way to measure them remotely.

Then came synchrophasors!

Average Power Flow  $P$  Through a Mostly Inductive Transmission Line (138kV and above)

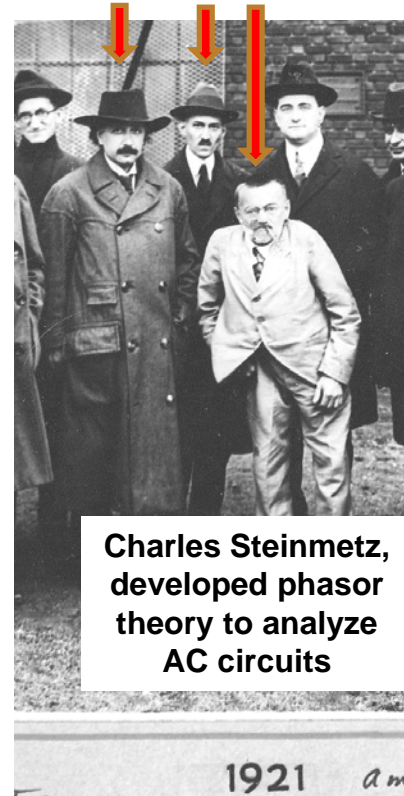


These are about 1pu

$$P = \frac{V_1 V_2}{X} \sin(\delta_1 - \delta_2)$$

For small  $x$ ,  $\sin(x) = x$

Because synchrophasors are phasors, we need not transmit sub-cycle measurements to concentrators. 30 measurements per second are adequate.



Charles Steinmetz, developed phasor theory to analyze AC circuits



**SEL donated and continues to donate** all our equipment. Our first 1-minute of data came from the fire station at McDonald Observatory in far West Texas, in late November 2008. One student was with me out there, another was at U.T. Austin at the PMU concentrator that SEL donated.

The U.T. student sent me a one-minute screen shot of the relative voltage phase angle graph, and I didn't believe it – **too noisy!** Loadflows don't do that! Furthermore, how could we know the **net 30 degree phase shift** due to transformers?

Regarding the net 30, a former student at ERCOT was later check the system operators loadflow so I could determine the proper net 30. Still, power grids are nervous, the noise is normal, so one must learn how to deal with noise and net 30.

With data flowing in at 30 to 60 readings per second, PMU concentrators do not wait very long for data that is delayed by the internet, **so one must learn how to deal with missing data (and do not treat the missing values as zero!)**.

# One of the Best Uses for Synchrophasors: Observing Grid Response to Generator Trips

## Classic Unit Trip. Curve-Fit 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Damped Response and Compute **Normalized Damping Ratio**

Start Sec	Stop Sec	Exponential Steady State Transition Curve				Damped Sinusoidal Term						Avg. Sum Squared Error
		A	B	T1	Tau1	C	T2	Tau2	Tdamp	Fdamp	Zeta	
5.5	11	17.05	18.58	5.91	0.24	1.73	6.18	4.64	1.59	0.628	0.055	0.0044
												Alpha
												0.215
												F0
												0.629

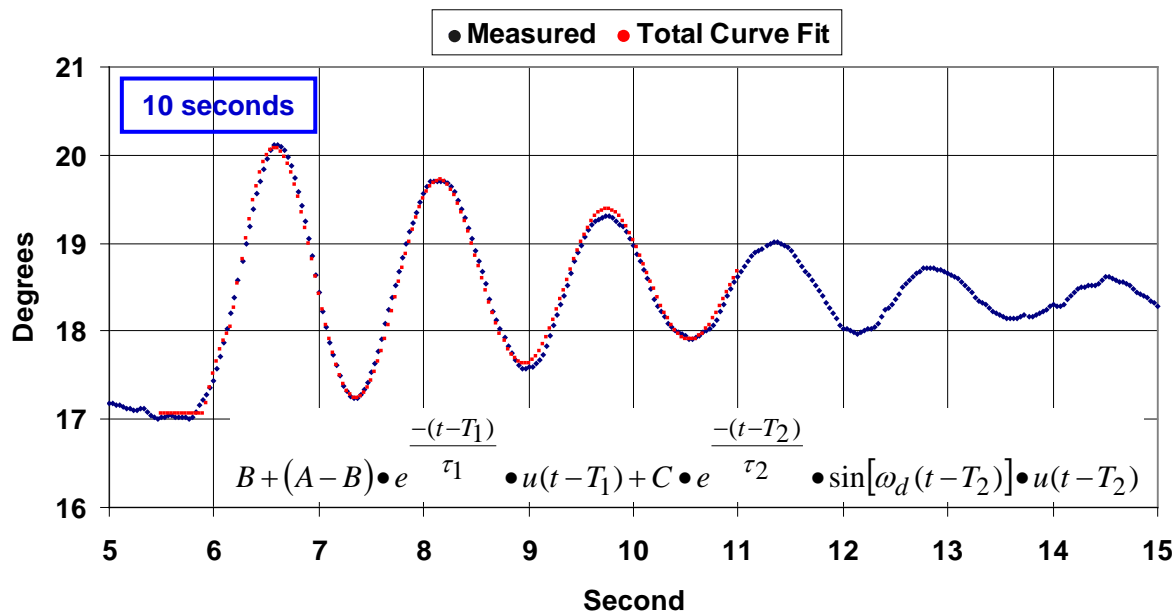
Steady-State Change  
= 18.58 – 17.05 = 1.53  
degrees

Ring Magnitude, degrees

Damped Resonant  
Frequency, Hz

Normalized  
Damping  
Ratio

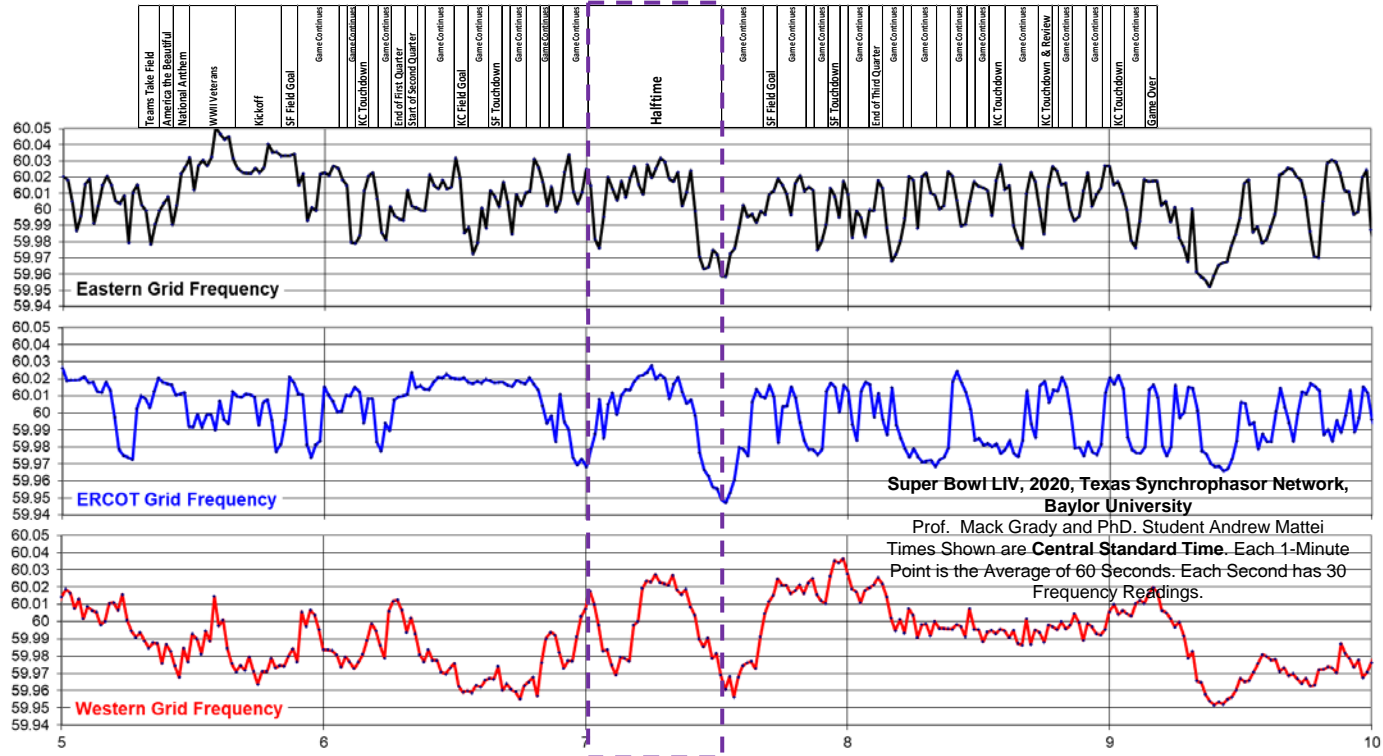
Unit Trip 2011/05/30 03:03:00 GMT. UT Pan Am Relative to U.T. Austin.



Relative voltage phase angles within the same grid are extremely useful - but not useful between grids. Frequency, however, can spot national events.

(Eastern, **ERCOT**, and **Western** Grid Frequencies, 5-Hour Graph)

### Super Bowl 2020 Half-Time



## Screening the Data

- Synchrophasor data are extremely useful in studying events over seconds and minutes, but are also very useful for averaging frequency, voltage magnitudes, and phase angles over minutes, hours, days, and months. Average values are necessary to define “normal.”
- It is essential to examine data very carefully BEFORE using it to search for events. Expect 1-2% of data to be missing. This means that you must develop methods to “skip over” the missing data, else you will trigger mostly on “false” alerts.
- It would be nice if we could view every minute of frequency, voltage magnitude, and voltage angle on a computer screen. Typically, each hour has at least one minute with “surprises.” The solution is to develop a set of event triggers.



	ALL	ERCOT	EAST	WEST	MCDABC	EPROa	EPROb
FFT Dropout Data Trigger	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CAT0 Detection</b>							
Two PMUs with Freq Min <=	59.90	59.90	59.92	59.90	59.90	59.90	59.90
<b>CAT1 Detection</b>							
<b>AND Conditions</b>	ALL	ERCOT	EAST	WEST	MCDABC	EPROa	EPROb
Waveform Peak-to-Peak >=	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Red Count <=	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
FFT Max >=	0.4	0.4	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.6
FFT Max <=	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
<b>OR Conditions</b>	ALL	ERCOT	EAST	WEST	MCDABC	EPROa	EPROb
Freq Min <=	59.95	59.95	59.95	59.95	59.95	59.95	59.95
Freq Max >=	60.05	60.05	60.05	60.05	60.05	60.05	60.05
<b>Else, CAT 2 Detection</b>							
<b>AND Conditions</b>	ALL	ERCOT	EAST	WEST	MCDABC	EPROa	EPROb
Waveform Peak-to-Peak <	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
FFT Max >=	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
FFT Max / Waveform Peak-to-Peak >=	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Freq with Max FFT >=	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.5
<b>Else, CAT 3 Detection</b>							
FFT Max >=	0.40	0.40	0.60	1.0	0.40	0.40	0.40
<b>CAT 4 Detection Only</b>							
Waveform Peak-to-Peak <	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
FFT Max >=	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
FFT Max / Waveform Peak-to-Peak >=	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

## Triggers for the Three Grids

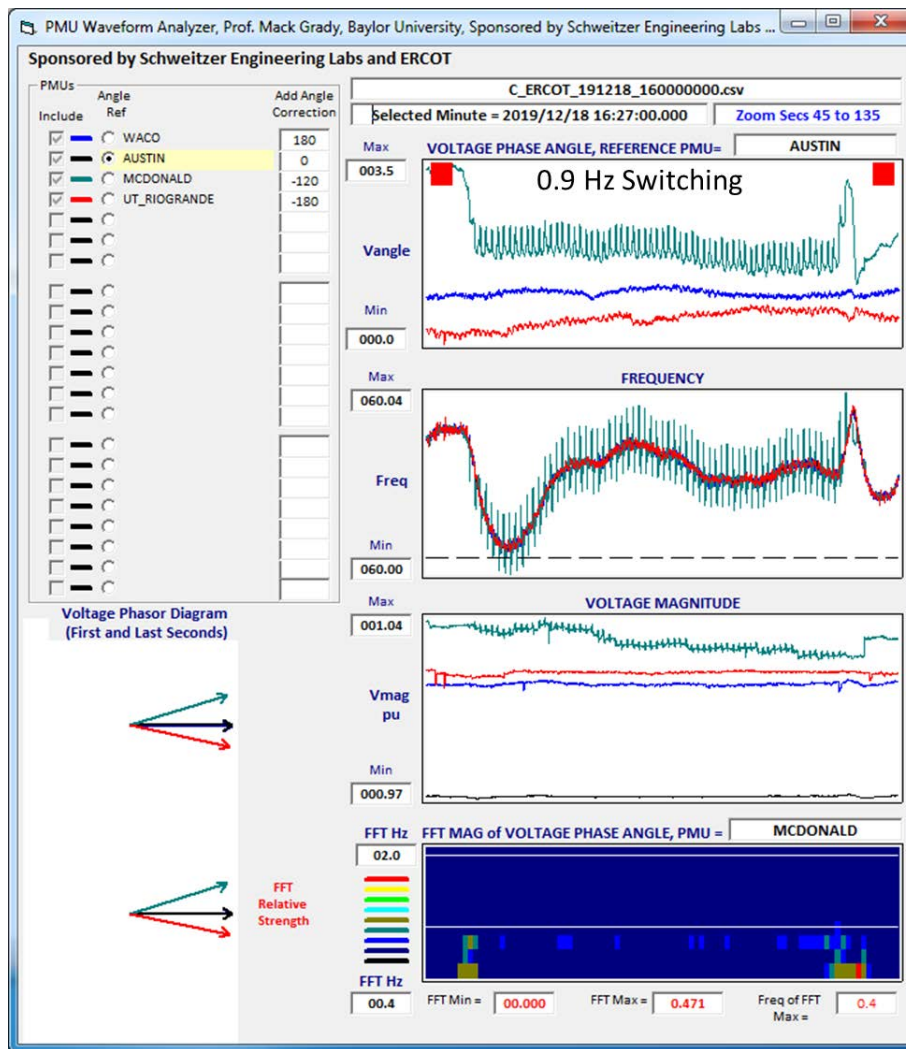
CAT0. Large unit trips

CAT1. Significant Ringing

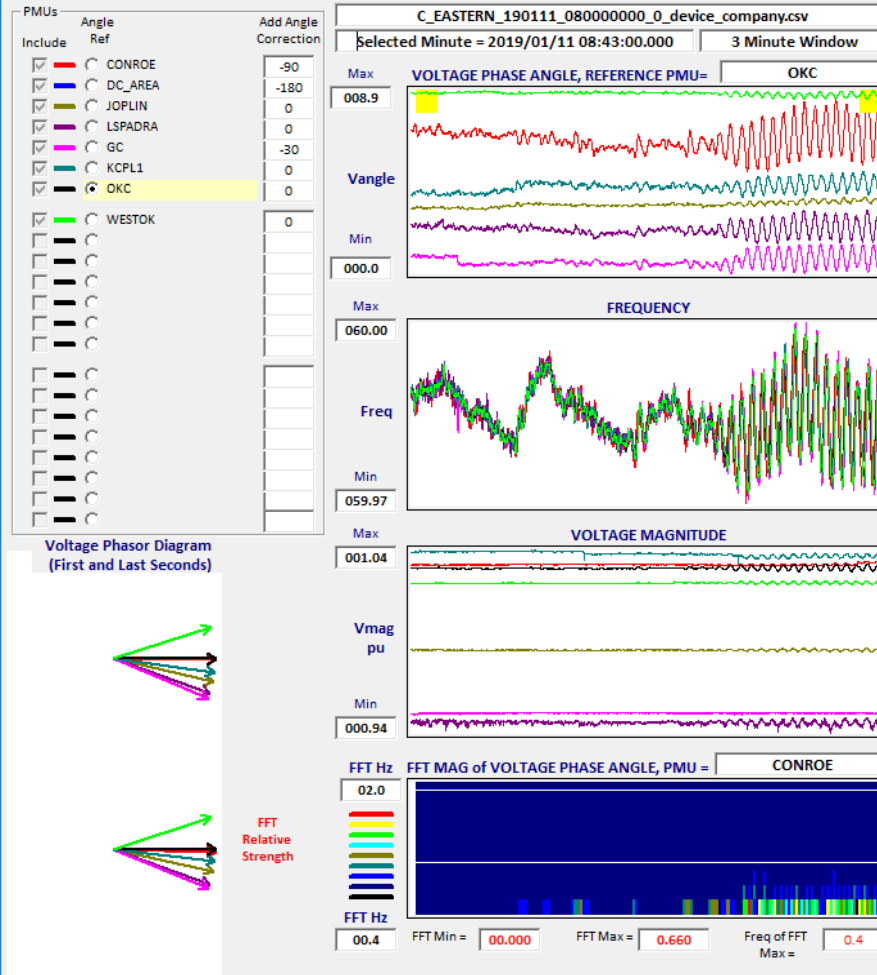
CAT2. Less-Significant Ringing

CAT3. Slightly Higher-Freq. Ringing

CAT4. 2 – 8 Hz Ringing



Sponsored by Schweitzer Engineering Labs and ERCOT



Thank  
you!

# THE NEED FOR PQ ANALYTICS

THEO LAUGHNER, PE

THEO LAUGHNER STARTED POWERGRID-RX TO HELP UTILITIES MAXIMIZE THEIR INVESTMENT IN DATA FOR THE CONTEMPORARY GRID. HE STARTED THIS ENDEAVOR AFTER A 21-YEAR CAREER AT TVA, WHERE HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTEGRATING DATA FROM OVER 1700 PQ MONITORS, DFRs, REVENUE METERS, AND MICROPROCESSOR RELAYS INTO AN ENTERPRISE DATABASE SYSTEM. HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT TVA GARNERED HIM THE PRESTIGIOUS NSPE TOP 10 OF ALL FEDERAL ENGINEERS IN 2017.

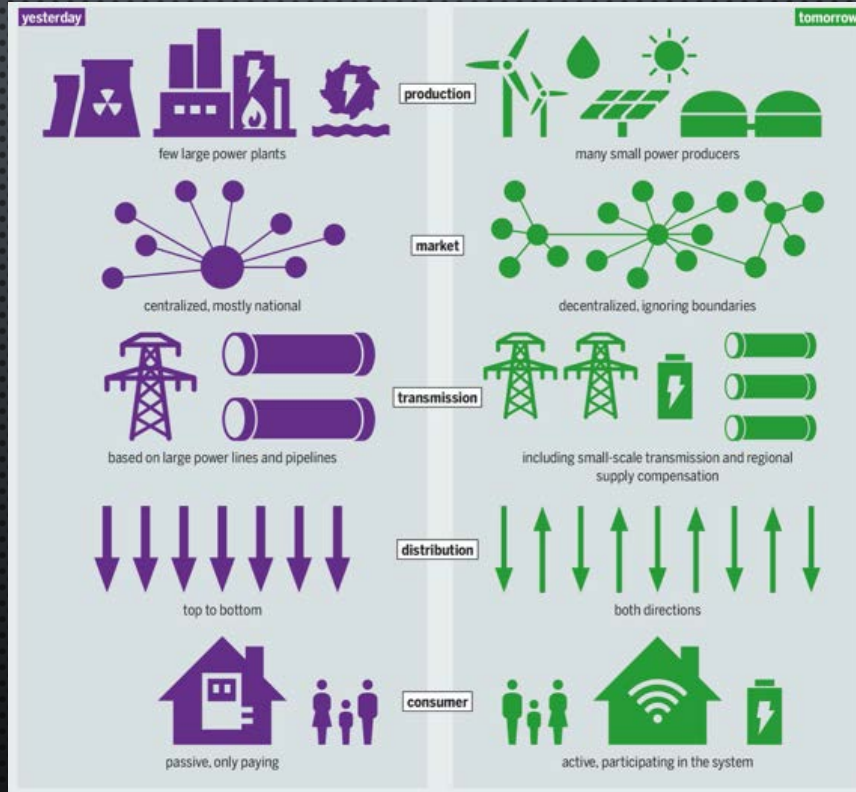




# POWER QUALITY – A RETROSPECTIVE



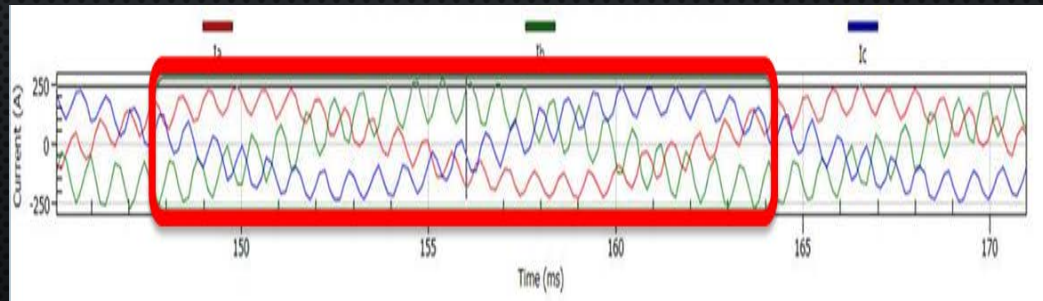
Historically –  
End use “consumer”  
phenomenon



Who is the  
consumer...

Generation?  
Transmission?  
Distribution?  
Consumer?

# INCREASING COMPLEXITY RESULTS IN UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES





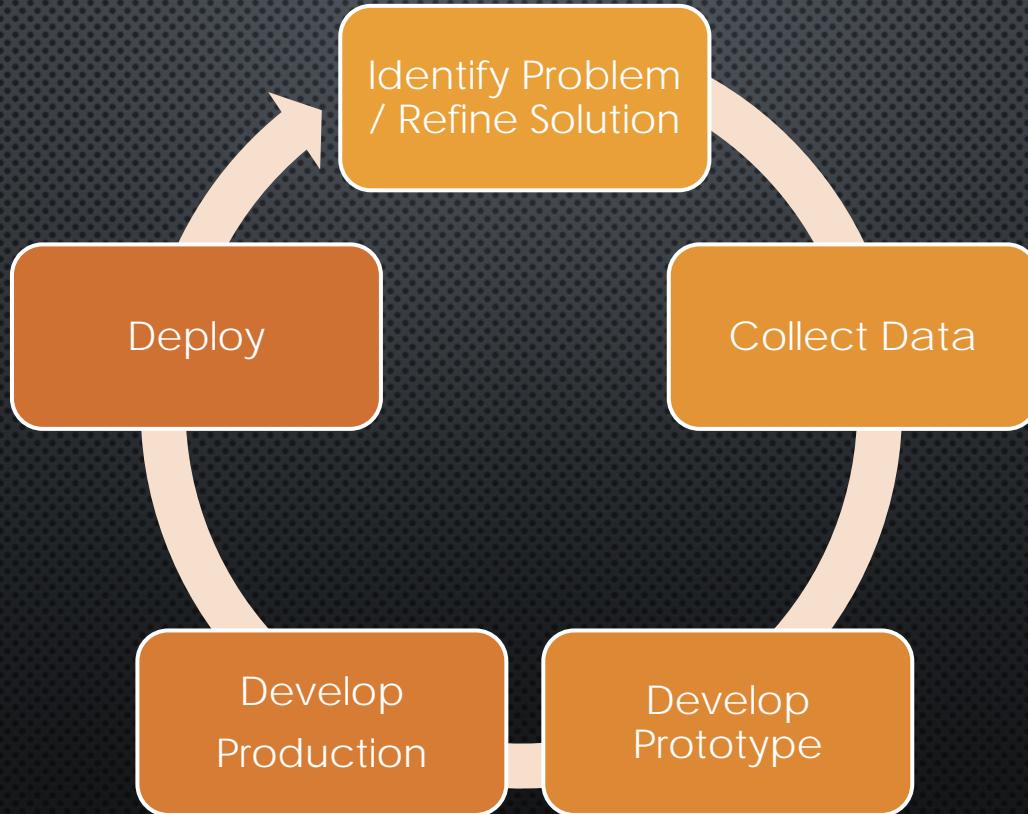
# ASSET MANAGEMENT FUTURE STATE

VISION – MOVE FROM TIME-BASED TO CONDITION-BASED MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS. PREVENT CATASTROPHIC FAILURE OF ASSETS AND UNPLANNED INTERRUPTIONS TO CUSTOMERS.

Automatically Detect and Alert the Following:

- Capacitor Units with Shorted Elements or Blown Fuses
- Non or Mis-operation of Capacitor Unbalance Protection
- Control Circuit Element Failures
- Timing of Breakers and Circuit Switchers
- Alignment of Circuit Switcher and Pre-Insertion Inductors
- Breaker and Circuit Switcher Restrikes
- Bus PT Incipient Failure

# DEVELOPMENT CYCLE – 3 YEARS



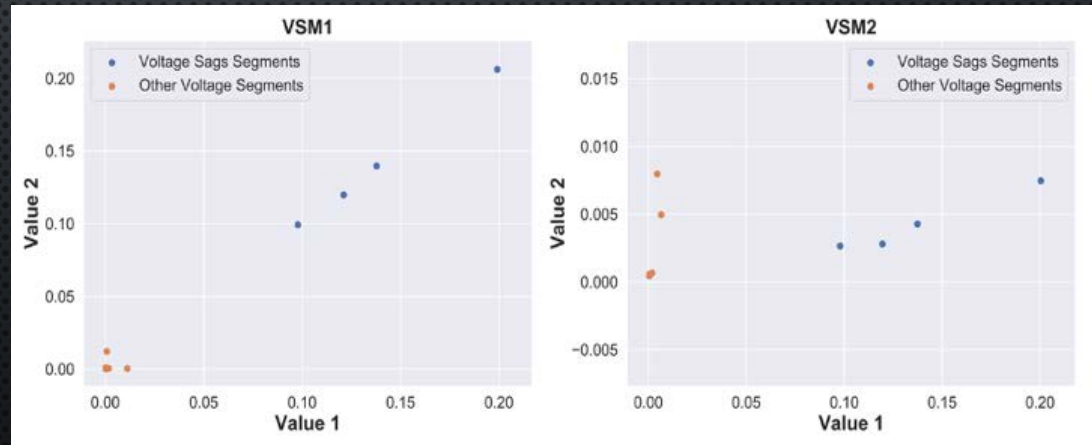


# THE PROMISE - REDUCING DEVELOPMENT TIME

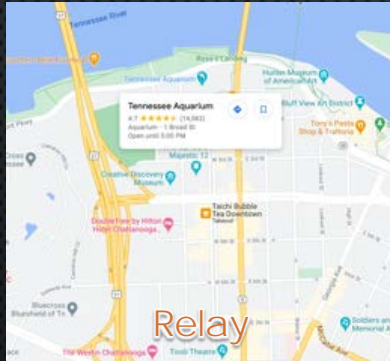
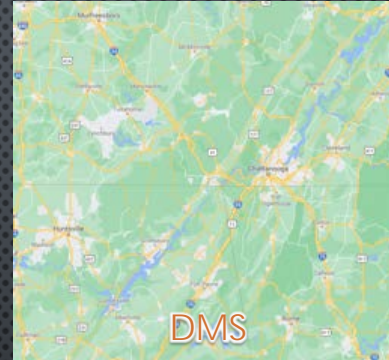
```
Data Exploration  
Test out metrics on data samples  
  
In [*]: def sagMetric(data, seconds=2):  
    # data : window of measurement data in which to check for voltage sag  
    # seconds : half the width of the voltage sag in seconds.  
    T = np.size(data)  
    # Find the minimum point of the data window. This is potentially the  
    # center of the voltage sag  
    minidx = np.argmin(data)  
    minval = data[minidx]  
    meanval = np.mean(data)  
  
    n = seconds * 100  
    prevval = data[max(0, minidx - n)]; postval = data[min(minidx + n, T-1)]  
    # Compute the values of the metric on this data  
    t1 = (prevval - minval) / meanval; t2 = (postval - minval) / meanval;  
    return [t1, t2]
```

- Worldwide community
- Development time – 1 week
- Device agnostic

- Shareable
- Able to be vetted / improved by community
- Instantly deployable across data sets



# GRID DATA SOURCES – A GEOGRAPHIC ANALOG





# GRID DATA SOURCES – A GEOGRAPHIC ANALOG



- Combined
- Seamless
- Provides new ways of viewing data
- Allows crowd-sourced and model-based data



# THOUGHTS

- THE GRID IS INCREASING IN COMPLEXITY
- WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE DON'T KNOW
- MEASURE EVERYTHING LET ANALYTICS SORT IT OUT

# microPMU

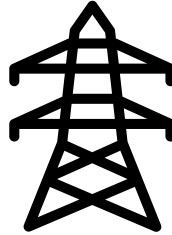
From the lab to the grid

P  W E R S I D E <sup>TM</sup>

# 3 Major Customer Types



Universities



Utilities

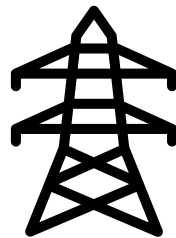


Utility Product  
Providers

# Most successful collaborations



University



Local  
Utility

# Issues with current collab



Local Utility +  
Local University



Limited Duration



No easy way to  
share/transfer data



# Objections to Data Sharing



Don't want to expose  
my issues

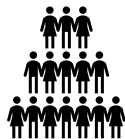


Grid security



Change from  
Status Quo

# Benefits of data sharing



Larger pool of potential  
collaborators



Access to larger data set



Utilities don't have time to  
spend on research projects

# Advancing Data Analytics for the Grid

## How you can get more from your data

Laurel Dunn

A National Infrastructure for AI on the Grid

# Inaccessible data prevents progress

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Asking questions of data is **too slow for every-day work**

**New collaborations** are challenging to establish

Big data warrants **new/different skills** and expertise

Analysts need **real data** to develop solutions that work

# Real solutions require real data

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Algorithms are only as good as the data that train them

- **Robust solutions** require large training datasets
- Datasets must capture the **relevant dynamics**
- Real **systems are complicated**; data are messy

Analysts need your help

- To **understand the problems**
- To identify **viable solutions**
- To **get relevant data**

# Open data creates ... more powerful tools

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Promote discovery of **new use cases**

Compare solutions on basis of **predictive power**

**Synthesize training data** across utilities

Lowers barrier to **deploy solutions** developed by ...

- Other utilities
- Top universities
- Research institutes
- Tech startups
- Students
- **Anyone else**

# Open data creates ... more skilled analysts

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Promote discovery of **new use cases**

Student work **improves “data literacy”** of interns & hires

Students (usually) work for free and are willing/able to help

- Class projects & curriculum
- MS/PhD theses
- Student groups, hackathons, coding challenges, etc.

# How to create open access data

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## 1. Install dedicated sensors

- Substation
- Distribution grid
- Demonstration sites (campuses, microgrids, testbeds, etc.?)

## 2. Choose to remain anonymous

## 3. Remove locations

## 4. Remove sensitive data streams (e.g., power flow)



# Data streams that may be easier to share

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1. Archived data from the distant past
2. Voltage magnitude & angle
3. DFR data
4. Power quality data
5. Experimental data
6. Other ideas? Let us know!

# Support the advancement of analytical tools

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## A National Infrastructure for AI on the Grid

### Three project pillars

1. Create training **DATA** analysts can readily use to build solutions
2. Provide access to PredictiveGrid, a state-of-the-art data **PLATFORM**
3. Build a **COMMUNITY** of analysts to share new ideas and insights

# Thank you!



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