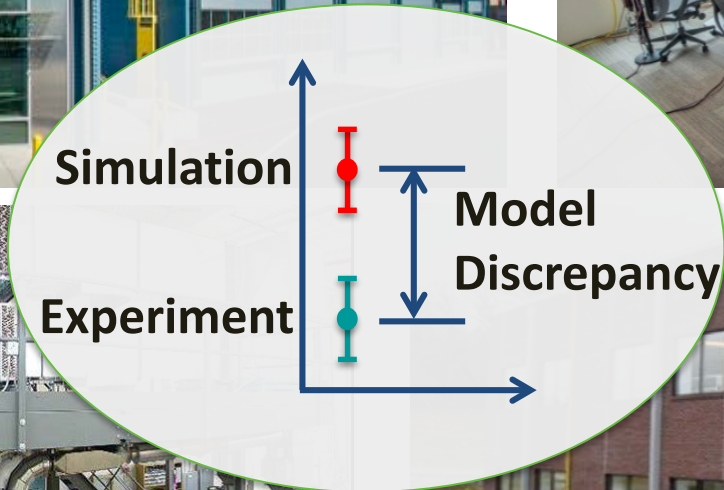


# Validation and Uncertainty Characterization for Energy Simulation



Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

Argonne National Lab, National Renewable Energy Lab, Oak Ridge National Lab

# Project Summary

## Timeline:

Start date: 10/1/2015

Planned end date: 9/30/2018

## Key Milestones:

First full submission to SSPC 140;  
5/31/2018

## Budget:

### **Total Project \$ to Date:**

- DOE: \$2,200,000
- Cost Share: \$250,000

### **Total Project \$:DOE: \$2,700,000**

- Cost Share: \$260,000\*  
\**de facto* cost-share from Southern California Edison.

## Key Partners:

ASHRAE SSPC 140
Southern California Edison

## Project Outcome:

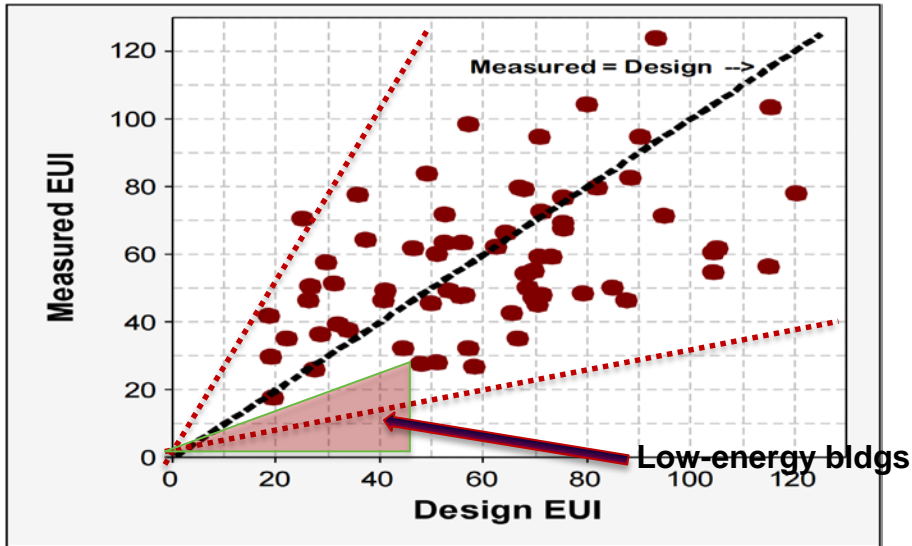
Provide empirical data for ASHRAE Standard 140 *Standard Method of Test for the Evaluation of Building Energy Analysis Computer Programs* to enable improved accuracy of BEM engines and improved characterization of their accuracy, leading to:

- More accurate BEM engines
- Consistent and validated products
- Confidence in all BEM tools, → greater adoption and influence on design decisions → more efficient buildings

# Team Roles

- **LBNL:** FLEXLAB measurements of space cooling and heating loads
- **ORNL:** FRP measurements of a multi-zone VAV system
- **NREL:** performance mapping of small RTU's
- **ANL:** uncertainty characterization for experimental measurements and propagation from simulation inputs to simulation outputs
  
- **TAG:** vendors, practitioners and researchers: review plans and results – one to two meetings per year
- **ASHRAE** Standing Standard Project Committee 140 *Standard Method of Test for the Evaluation of Building Energy Analysis Computer Programs*: review of submissions for inclusion in Standard 140

# Context and Problem Characterization

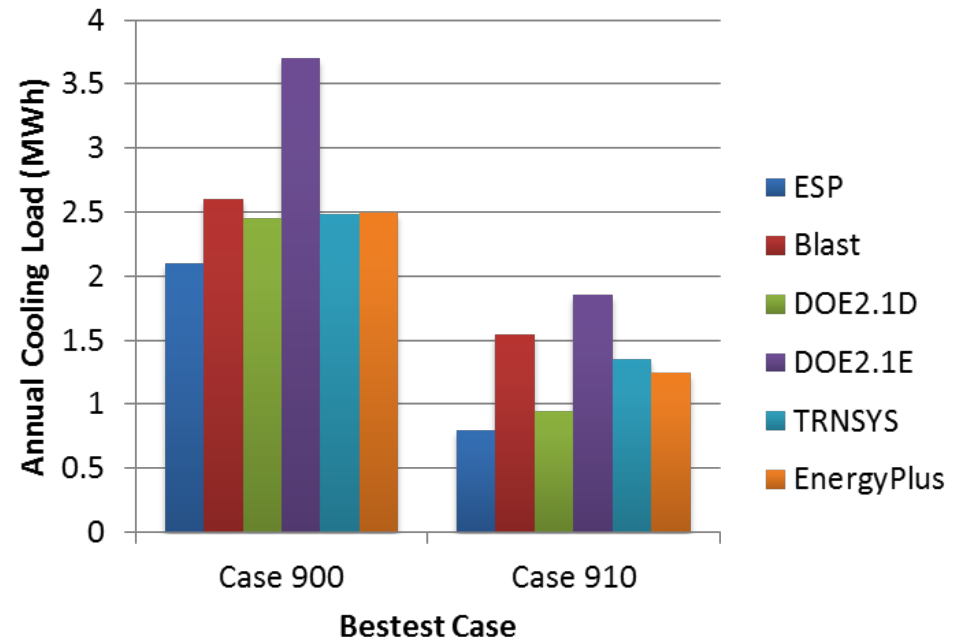


- The Standard 140 framework accommodates empirical tests but does not yet include any
- We now have facilities to make cost-effective empirical testing possible:
  - LBNL FLEXLAB
  - ORNL FRP
  - NREL HVAC

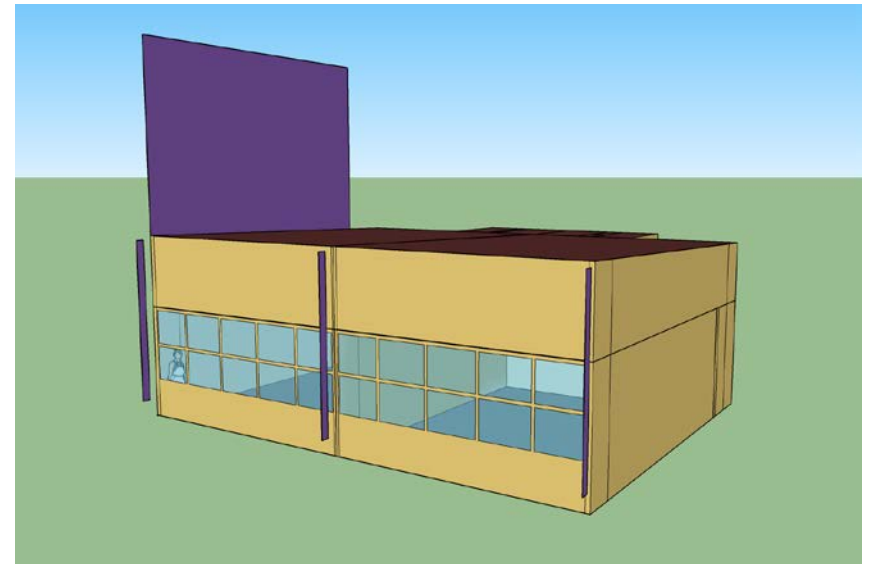
Sources of differences between simulated and actual performance:

- **Uncertainty**
  - Algorithms
  - Input parameters
  - Modeler decisions
- **Variability**
  - Weather
  - Occupancy
  - Operation

Standard 140-2007 Cooling Load Comparison



# Zone Heating and Cooling Loads



Lawrence Berkeley National Lab – Philip Haves – [phaves@lbl.gov](mailto:phaves@lbl.gov)

Baptiste Ravache  
Mehry Yazdanian

Darryl Dickeroff  
Xiufeng Pang

# LBNL – FLEXLAB testing approach

## Focus on heat transfer in occupied spaces

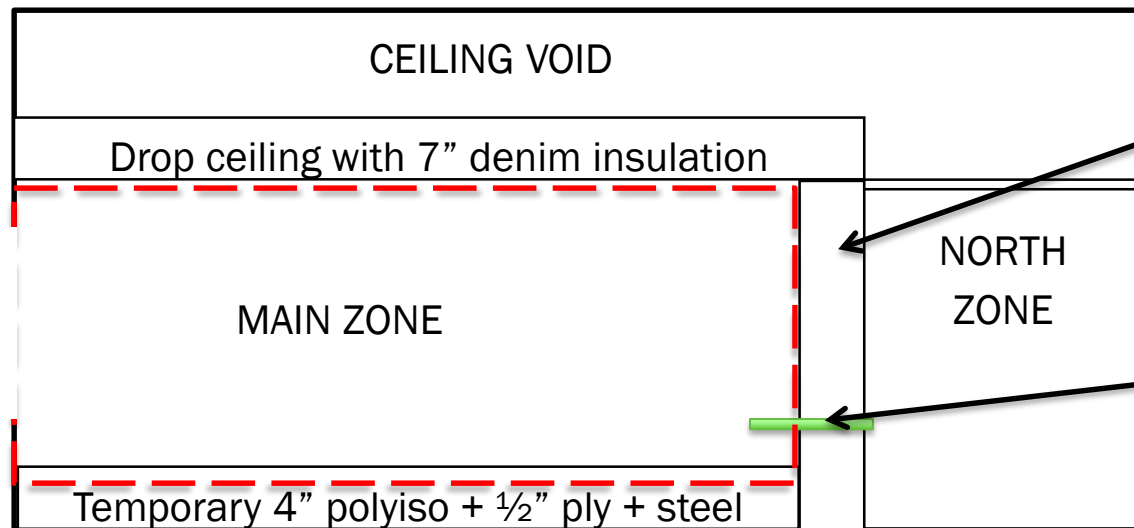
- Space conditioning:
  - Mixing ventilation
  - Radiant panels and slabs
- Ideal vs realistic conditions:
  - **Ideal:** model assumptions: no furniture, ideal internal heat sources, good mixing
  - **Realistic:** furniture, lights, simulated occupants, imperfect mixing
- Zone type:
  - Interior: no fenestration, ~adiabatic walls
  - Exterior: window, opaque part of window wall has lower R-value



# FLEXLAB Configuration and Tests

N-S Sectional  
View

South  
façade with  
window



Temporary  
wall:  
4.5" polyiso +  
drywall  
Injection tube -  
pressurizes cell  
against infiltration

Test cells reconfigured to have a simple main zone that can be modeled by programs having limited modeling capabilities:

- insulated drop ceiling
- temporary north wall

Decouple main zone from construction complexities in ceiling void and north zone

Tests performed:

- Low mass (insulation covering slab)
- High mass (exposed floor slab)
- Constant zone temperature
- Night set-back

Cooling/heating load measured on air-side

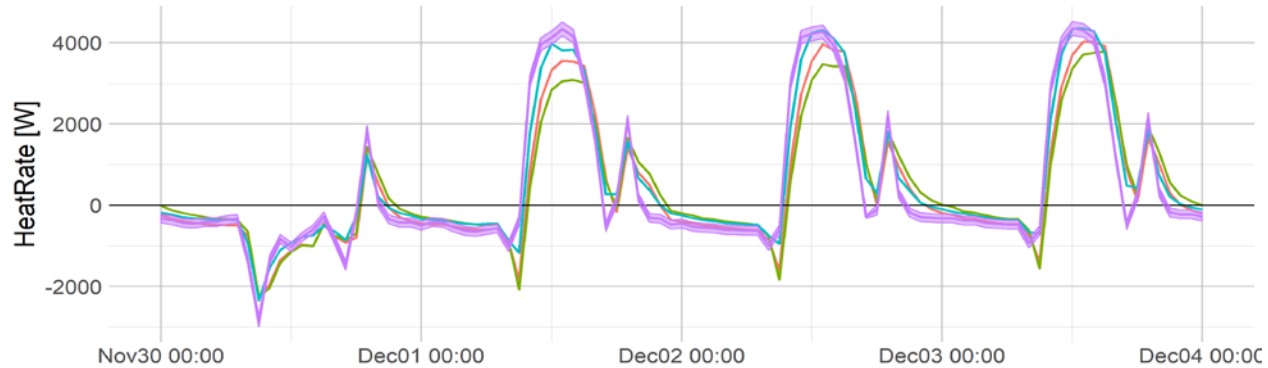
# Outcomes

- 17 documented tests of 7 different physical and operational configurations – stress tests of conventional overhead mixing ventilation → SSPC 140:
  - Construction: as-builts ...
  - Instrumentation
  - Measurements – 10 min averages of 1 sec samples, ~200 points:
    - Weather – solar on horiz and S vert, air and sky temps, wind
    - Rate of cooling/heating delivered (airflow, supply-return  $\Delta T$ )
    - Air temperatures (41 per test cell)
    - Surface and slab temperatures (106) and heat fluxes (23)
- Comparisons with EnergyPlus and DOE-2 for QA
- Extended shakedown of new construction and instrumentation → well prepared to make further measurements efficiently

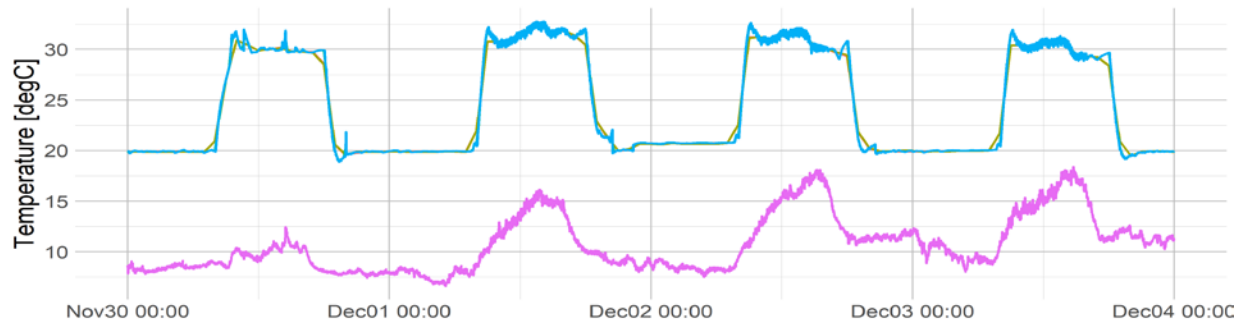


# Sample (good) result and presentation format:

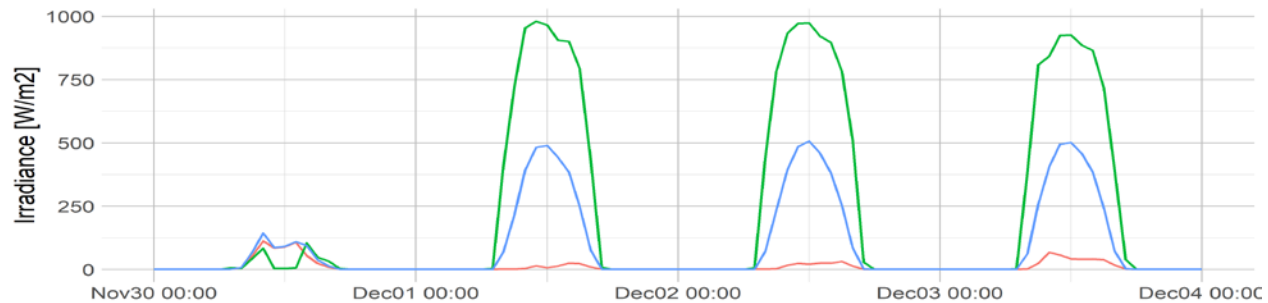
**SCENARIO 11:06: LOW MASS, EXPOSED WINDOWS, NO INT GAIN, VAR SET-POINT (20C / 30C)**



Variable : ■ DOE21 ■ DOE22 ■ Eplus ■ measurements



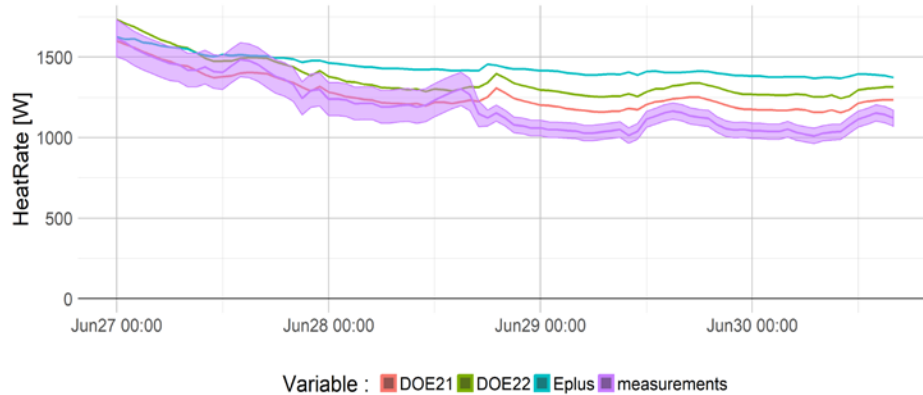
Variable : ■ DOE21 ■ DOE22 ■ Eplus ■ Measurements ■ Outside Drybulb



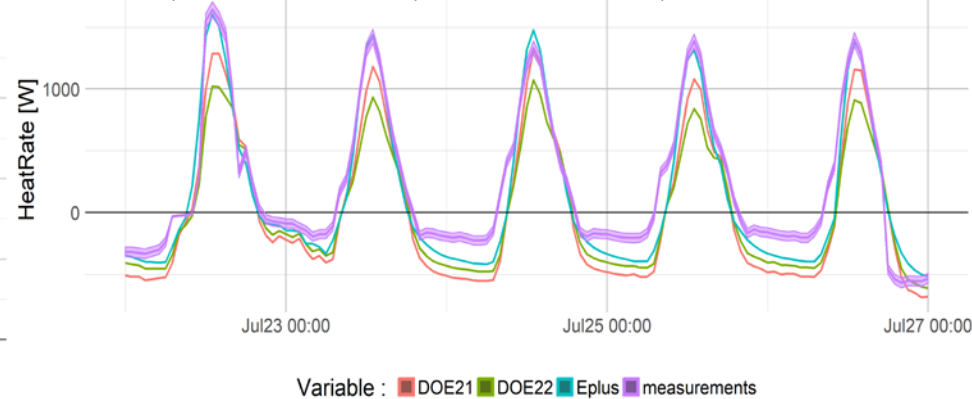
■ DiffuseHorizontal ■ DirectNormal ■ GlobalHorizontal

# Results with (as yet) unresolved problems

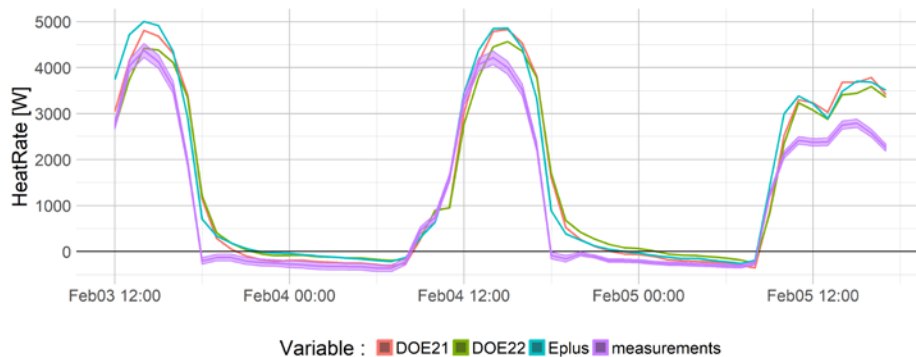
**HIGH MASS, COVERED WINDOWS, CONSTANT 1430 W INTERNAL GAINS, CONSTANT SET-POINT**



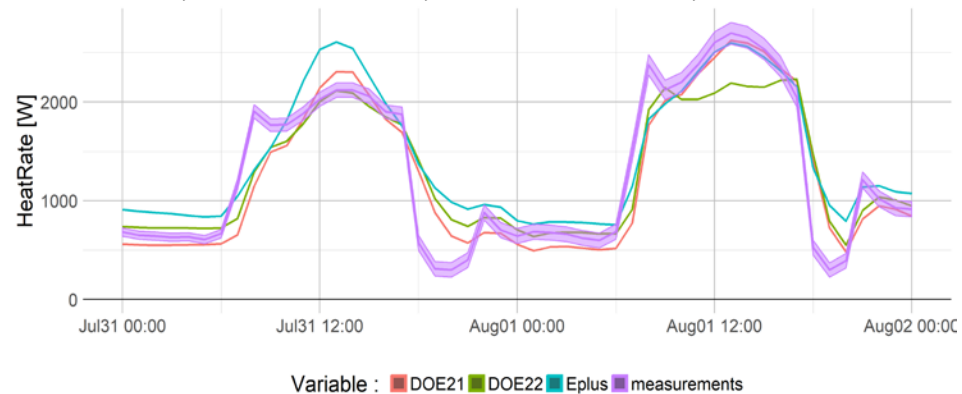
**LOW MASS, EXPOSED WINDOWS, NO INTERNAL GAINS, CONSTANT SET-POINT**



**LOW MASS, EXPOSED WINDOWS, NO INTERNAL GAINS, CONSTANT SET-POINT**



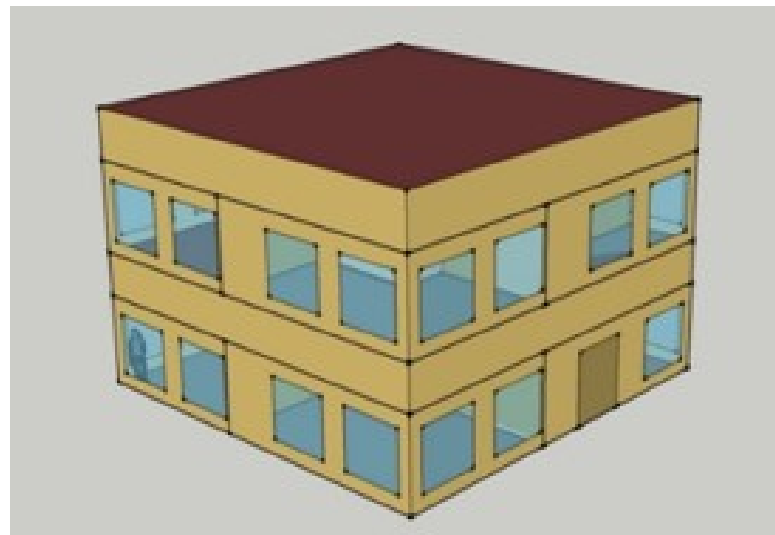
**LOW MASS, EXPOSED WINDOWS, HIGH INTERNAL GAINS, VAR SET-POINT**



## Immediate next steps:

- Quasi-real-time, component-level, measured heat balance for diagnosis
- Real-time EnergyPlus – compare measured and expected performance for automated discrepancy detection and localization

# Multizone HVAC System Validation using ORNL's Flexible Research Platform



Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Joshua New– [newjr@ornl.gov](mailto:newjr@ornl.gov)

Piljae Im– [imp1@ornl.gov](mailto:imp1@ornl.gov)

# Validation of Multi-Zone HVAC System Modeling – Test Facility

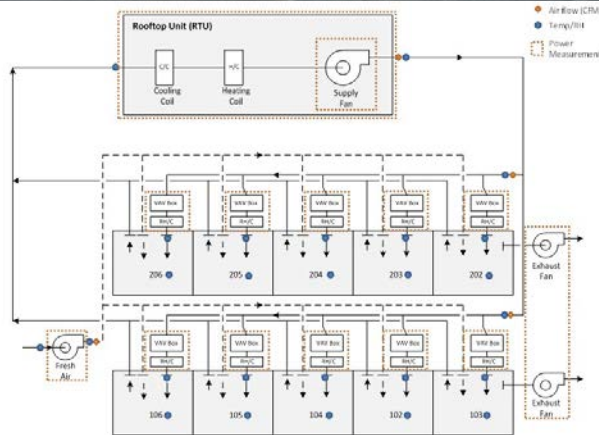
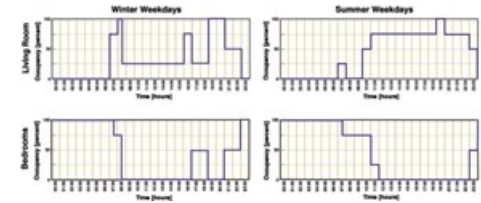
**Multizone HVAC - RTU with VAV Reheat**



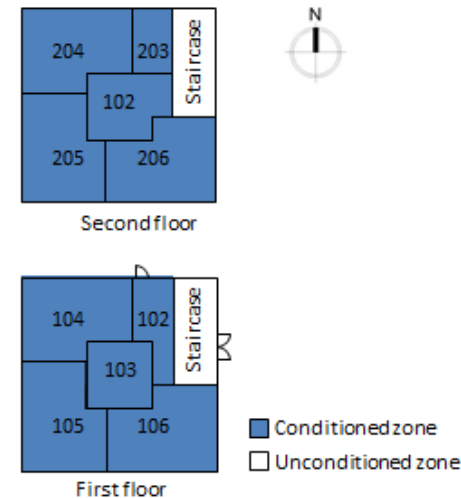
**Weather Station**



**Simulated Occupancy**



**Flexible Research Platform (FRP)**



- Flexible Research Platform (FRP): 2 story small office building (40' x 40') with 10 thermal zones.
- Multizone HVAC system: Rooftop Packaged Unit with Variable Air Volume (VAV) Reheating
- Occupancy emulation: occupancy is emulated by process control of lighting, humidifiers for human-based latent loading, and a heater for miscellaneous electrical loads (MELs).

# Outcomes

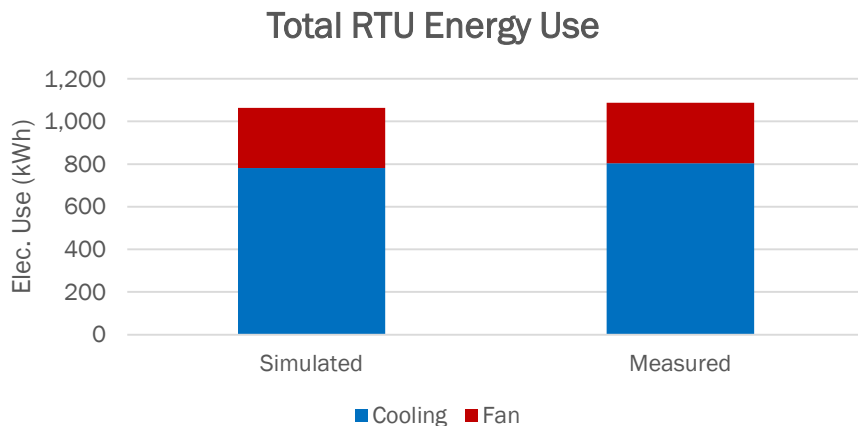
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- Multiyear test plan
- 5 documented tests (3 for cooling seasons and 2 for heating seasons)
  - Experimental plan was set based on ASHRAE Standard 140
  - Each test was performed for at least 1 week
- Modeling input documents
- Comparison analysis with EnergyPlus results

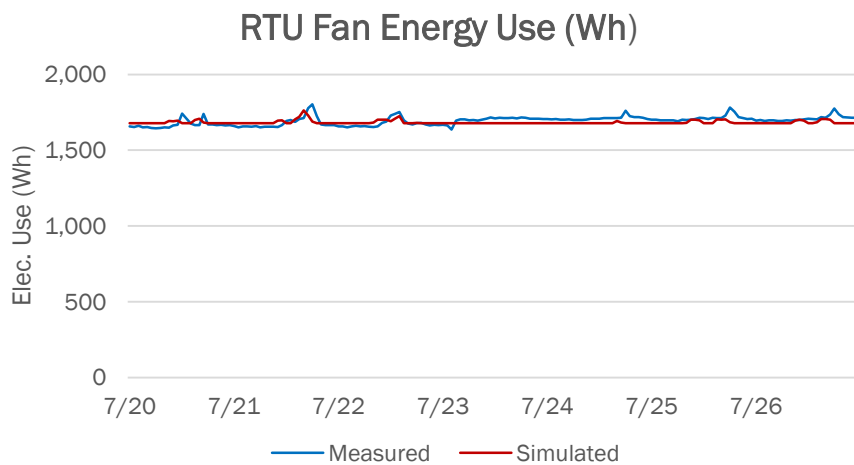
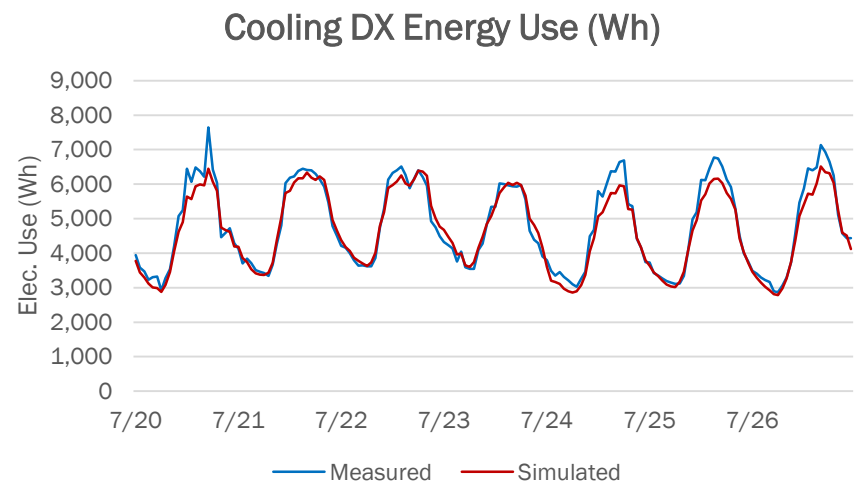
# Sample Results - I

## Test 1: Cooling Baseline :

- No occupancy emulation
- All internal lights are turned off; no internal loads
- Fixed discharge temperature of 55°F and no Outdoor air ventilation or exhaust air
- No humidity control and no heating (including no reheating)
- Fixed zone set point temp of 72°F

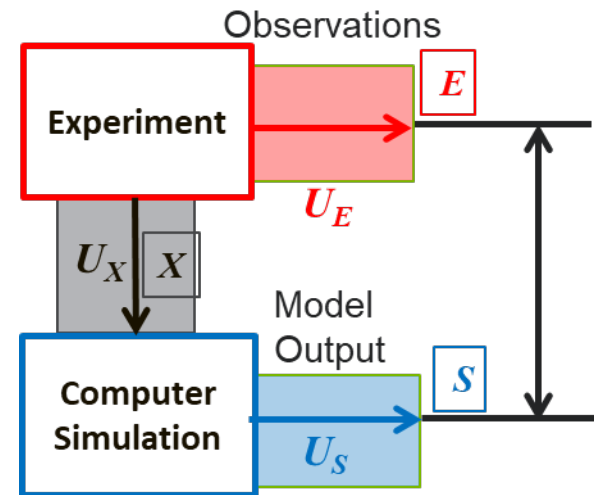
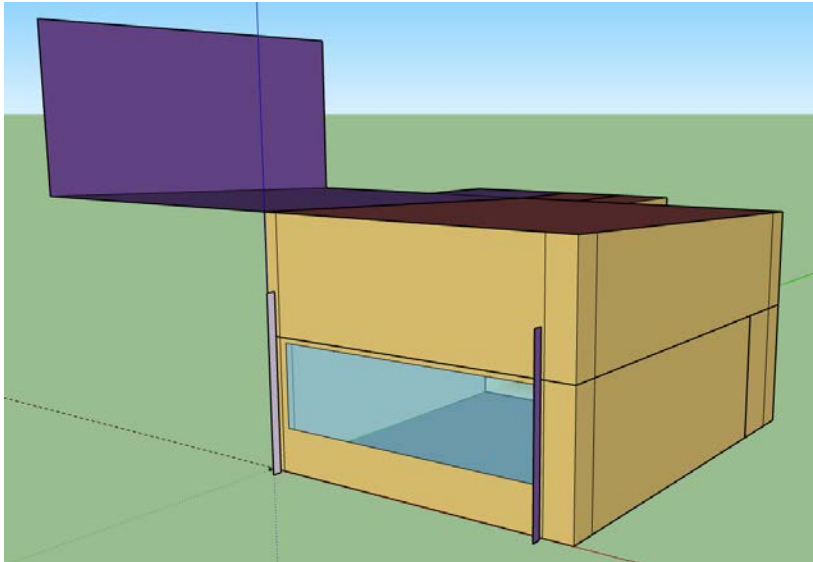


Measured HVAC Energy use is 2.2% higher than simulated



Hourly NMBE and CV(RMSE) for HVAC total energy use are about 2.2%, and 4.9%, respectively.

# Uncertainty Characterization

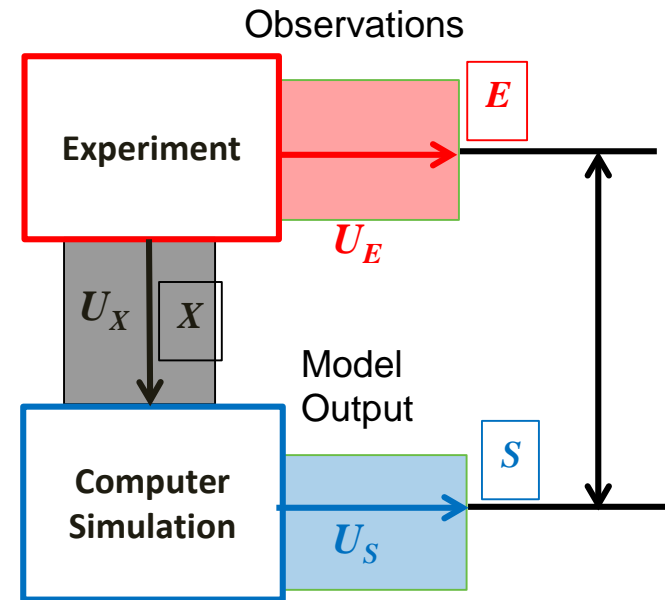


Argonne National Laboratory – Ralph Muehleisen – [rmuehleisen@anl.gov](mailto:rmuehleisen@anl.gov)

Qi Li

# Uncertainty Analysis Goals

1. Characterize the uncertainty in the experiments
2. Characterize the values and the uncertainty in model inputs given detailed description of the experiments and facilities
3. Develop a standard method for propagation of uncertainty
4. Develop discrepancy metrics for comparing experiment to simulations when there is uncertainty





# Metrics for model validation under uncertainty

- Continuous Ranked Probability Score (CRPS) (**Gneiting and Raftery 2007**)

$$CRPS(F_Y, Y') = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (F_Y(y) - \mathbb{1}(y - Y'))^2 dy$$

$F_Y$  and  $Y'$  : A predicted distribution and an observation of random variable  $Y$  respectively

$F_Y(y)$ : The cumulative distribution function (CDF) of  $F_Y$   
 $F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y)$ , i.e. the probability that  $Y$  takes a value less than  $y$  according to  $F_Y$

$\mathbb{1}(y - Y')$ : The CDF reflected by the observation  $Y'$ ,  $\mathbb{1}(y - Y') = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < Y' \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

- CRPS reduces to absolute error when  $F_Y$  becomes a deterministic prediction, i.e.  $F_Y = \hat{Y}$  and  $F_Y(y) = \mathbb{1}(y - \hat{Y})$ .

$$CRPS(\hat{Y}, Y') = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\mathbb{1}(y - \hat{Y}) - \mathbb{1}(y - Y'))^2 dy = |\hat{Y} - Y'|$$

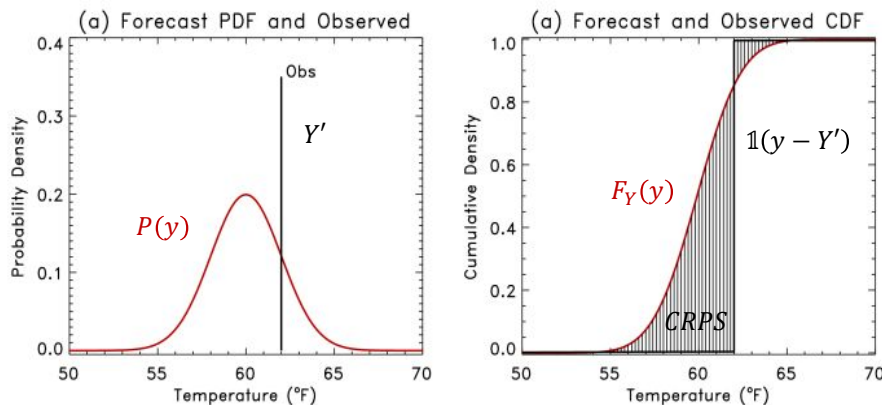
Gneiting, Tilmann, and Adrian E Raftery. 2007. "Strictly Proper Scoring Rules, Prediction, and Estimation." *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 102 (477):359–78. <https://doi.org/10.1198/016214506000001437>.

# Metrics for model validation under uncertainty

- Continuous Ranked Probability Score (CRPS) (Gneiting and Raftery 2007)

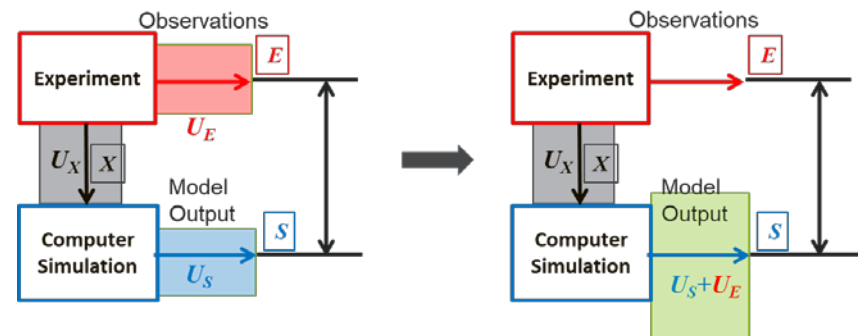
$$CRPS(F_Y, Y') = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (F_Y(y) - \mathbb{1}(y - Y'))^2 dy$$

- An illustrative example:



[http://www.met-learning.eu/pluginfile.php/5277/mod\\_resource/content/6/www/resource/msg/verification/images/Graph\\_cdf\\_pdf.jpg](http://www.met-learning.eu/pluginfile.php/5277/mod_resource/content/6/www/resource/msg/verification/images/Graph_cdf_pdf.jpg)

- Use perturbed-ensemble method to include observation uncertainty (Anderson, 1996)

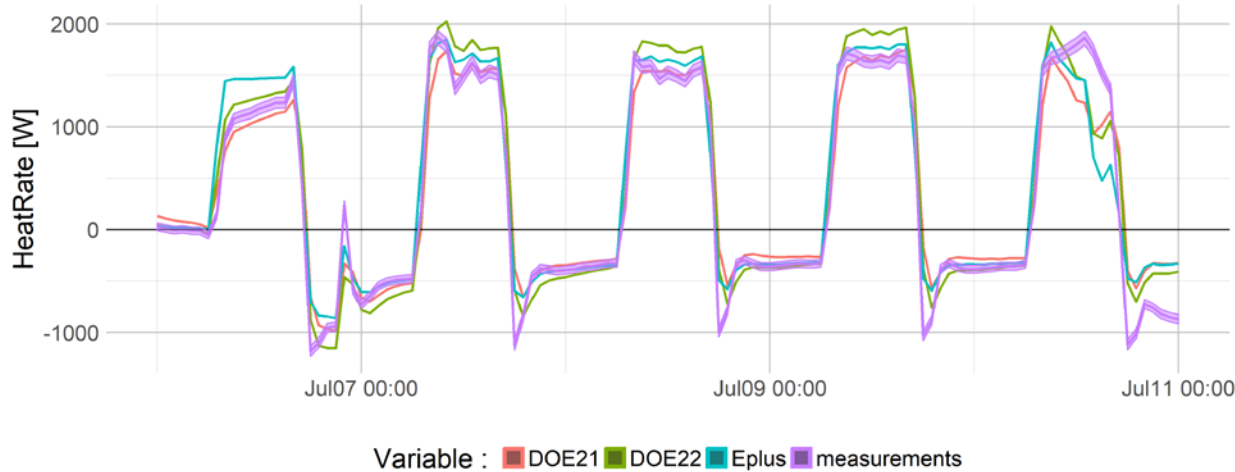


Anderson J. 1996. A method for producing and evaluating probabilistic forecasts from ensemble model integrations. *J. Climate* 9:1518–1530.

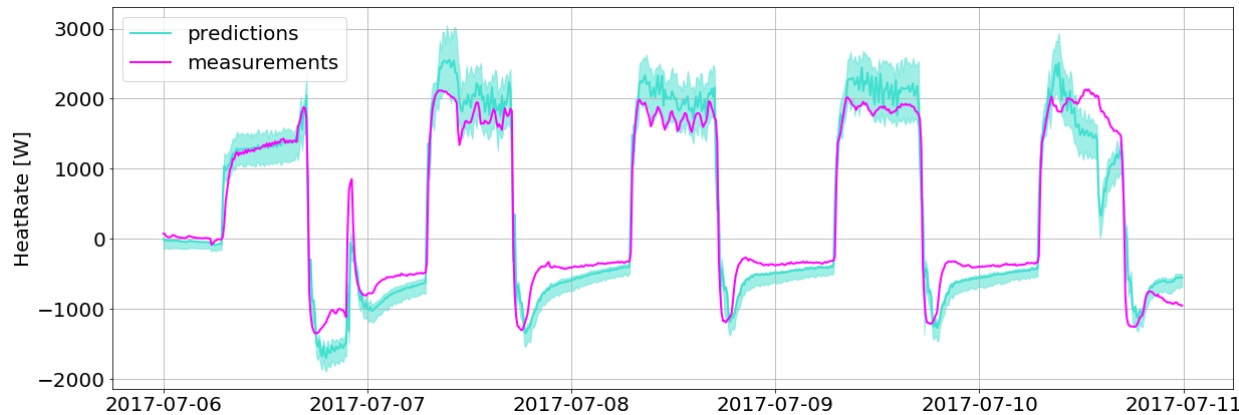
# Modeling and uncertainty quantification

- An independent ANL model to avoid biases and test the construction information

LBNL comparison result (hourly output): RNMBE 0.80%

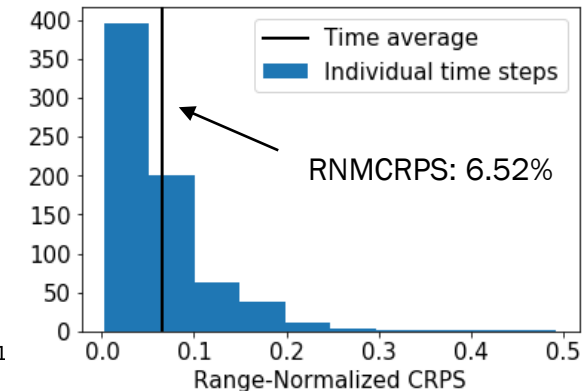


ANL comparison result (10-min output): RNMCRPS 6.52%



Considered uncertainties:

- Envelope material properties
- Room air stratification
- Non-uniform slab temperature
- Sensor error in model inputs:
  - weather conditions
  - internal load
  - test cell temperatures
- Sensor error in measurements:
  - Heat rate



# Performance Mapping of Small Roof Top Units: NREL HVAC Test Loop



National Renewable Energy Lab - Ron Judkoff <[ron.judkoff@nrel.gov](mailto:ron.judkoff@nrel.gov)>

# NREL: Performance Mapping of RTUs

## Full Performance Mapping of a 5 ton SEER 17 and a 6 ton IEER 23 Completed and Data Entered into the DOE Technology Performance Exchange (TPEX)

- 5 Ton Seer 17 (90 test conditions measured & full factorial for 387)
  - Multi-stage scroll compressor R-410A and single speed condenser fan
  - Direct drive variable supply air fan with high efficiency motor
  - Low Leak Dampers
  - Hot gas re-heat advanced humidity control
  - Economizer
- 6 Ton IEER 23 (90 test conditions measured)
  - Variable speed compressor, evaporator fan, and condenser fan
  - Direct drive compressor using R-410A
  - On board controls optimized for lowest lift & dehumidification mode not requiring re-heat
- Data will be used in the future to provide an empirical basis to HVAC BESTEST 1 and 2 in ASHRAE Standard 140 so that the tests include realistic part load behavior for testing BEMs

(TPEX: <https://www.tpex.org/content/generic-rtu-6ton-23ieer-1scrollvariable-testdata> )

# Work in Remainder of FY18

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## All

- Submit draft documentation of current tests to SSPC 140

## LBNL

- Begin extension to include furniture and radiant systems, as resources permit

## ORNL

- Complete documentation of measurements and modeling

## NREL

- Produce a paper on the issues associated with performance mapping and modeling the latest generation of variable highly efficient equipment
- Continue leading the NREL formal liaison role with SSPC-140

## ANL

- Continue model development with better quantification of uncertainty through detailed measurement data.
- Establish a validation framework based on CRPS.

# Potential Future Work

## All

- Iterate with SSPC 140 on documentation of current project submissions

## LBNL

- Extend overhead mixing to include furniture and different types of internal gains
- Extend to radiant systems: ceiling panels, floor slabs

## ORNL

- Extend to different supervisory control strategies for multi-zone VAV
- Further measurements on envelope for building loads
- Extend to occupancy-emulated residential buildings at ORNL

## NREL

- Develop a hybrid tabularized approach for complex performance maps
- Include fully performance-mapped equipment as part of whole building empirical validation experiments to reduce uncertainty from HVAC performance

## ANL

- Expand uncertainty framework to support IESVE, TRNSYS, etc

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# REFERENCE SLIDES



# Project Budget

**Project Budget:** Originally \$3M, then reduced to \$2.7M, followed by further, substantial cuts – now restored to \$2.7M

**Additional Funding:** Informal cost shared from complementary project, funded by Southern California Edison, to use FLEXLAB measurements to adjudicate between 2.2/eQuest and EnergyPlus.

## Budget History

FY 2016 (past)		FY 2017 (past)		FY 2018 (current)	
DOE	Cost-share	DOE	Cost-share	DOE	Cost-share
\$700k	\$60k	\$1,000k	\$100k	\$1,000k	\$90k

# Project Plan and Schedule

## Project Schedule

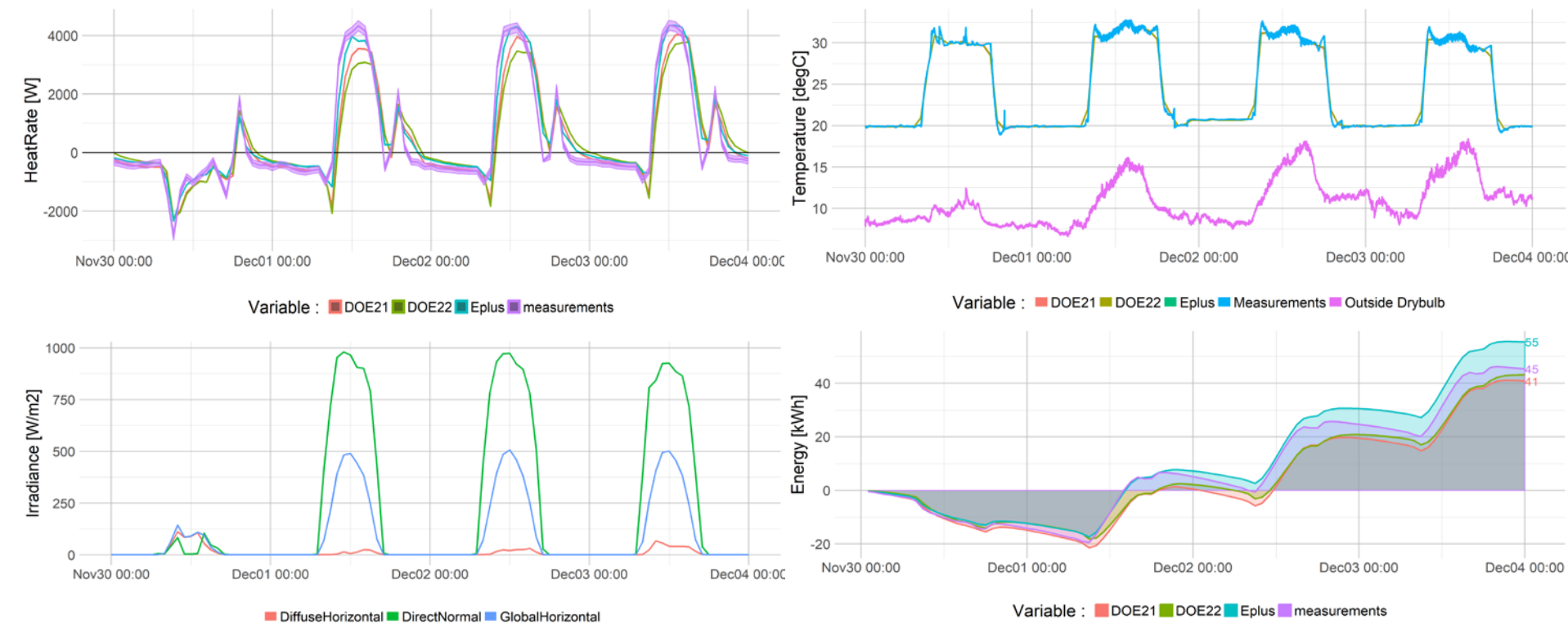
Project Start: Oct 1, 2016	Completed Work											
Projected End: Sep 30, 2018	Active Task (in progress work)											
	◆ Milestone/Deliverable (Originally Planned) use for missed											
	◆ Milestone/Deliverable (Actual) use when met on time											
	FY2016				FY2017				FY2018			
Task	Q1 (Oct-Dec)	Q2 (Jan-Mar)	Q3 (Apr-Jun)	Q4 (Jul-Sep)	Q1 (Oct-Dec)	Q2 (Jan-Mar)	Q3 (Apr-Jun)	Q4 (Jul-Sep)	Q1 (Oct-Dec)	Q2 (Jan-Mar)	Q3 (Apr-Jun)	Q4 (Jul-Sep)
Draft project plan and experimental designs	■	◆			■	◆			■	◆		
Completed Development of Validation Metric(s)					◆	■		◆				
First EnergyPlus validation with FRP data					■		◆					
First EnergyPlus validation with FLEXLAB data							■		◆			
Documented data for mixing ventilation (F/L)									■	■	◆	
Completed Heating/Cooling Tests & Analyses(FRP)					■	■	◆	■	■	◆	■	◆
Complete Validation of FLEXLAB and FRP Experiments									■	■	◆	◆
SEER 17 & IEER 23 mapped, data in TPEX, paper					■	■	◆	■	■	◆	■	◆

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**(Extra slide if needed for discussion)**

# Sample (good) result and presentation format:

**SCENARIO 11:06: LOW MASS, EXPOSED WINDOWS, NO INT GAIN, VAR SET-POINT (20C / 30C)**



**Day**

**Night**

	<b>EplustoMeas</b>	<b>DOE21toMeas</b>	<b>DOE22toMeas</b>	<b>EplustoMeas</b>	<b>DOE21toMeas</b>	<b>DOE22toMeas</b>
<b>RNMBE</b>	0.53%	-2.79%	-5.56%	2.13%	0.88%	3.44%
<b>RNCVRMSE</b>	7.36%	12.80%	15.50%	3.65%	4.25%	5.67%

*RNMBE = Range-Normalized Mean Bias Error*

*RNCVRMSE = Range-Normalized Coefficient of Variation of the RMS Error*