# AAM - A DEMAND RESPONSE ASSET Powering the AAM Revolution

FAA Challenge 2022



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### Overview

### Agenda

- Advanced Air Mobility
- The UAM Energy Problem
- Our Solution UDS & Development
- MIMIC Simulation & Systems Performance
- Life Cycle Analysis

#### **Industry Advising Partners:**





### Introductions





Nick Gunady Graduate Researcher AAE, CISA Lab

**Akshay Rao** Graduate Researcher *ME, Warsinger Water Lab* 



Sai Mudumba Graduate Researcher AAE, CISA Lab



Seejay Patel Undergraduate Researcher Ur AAE, CISA Lab

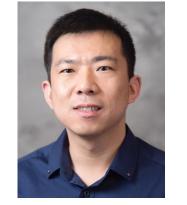


Ethan Wright Undergraduate Researcher AAE, CISA Lab



#### **Dr. Dan DeLaurentis**

Faculty Advisor Focus: Systems of Systems (AAE)



**Dr. ShaoShuai Mou** Faculty Advisor Focus: Multi-Agent Control (AAE)

## Introduction



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### What is Advanced Air Mobility (AAM)?

#### A revolutionary air transport system:



#### Key aspects of AAM

- Novel aviation systems electric propulsion
- Transport passengers and cargo
- Service underserved communities
- On Demand Mobility (ODM)



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### **Electrified Airports - The Future of Clean Aviation**

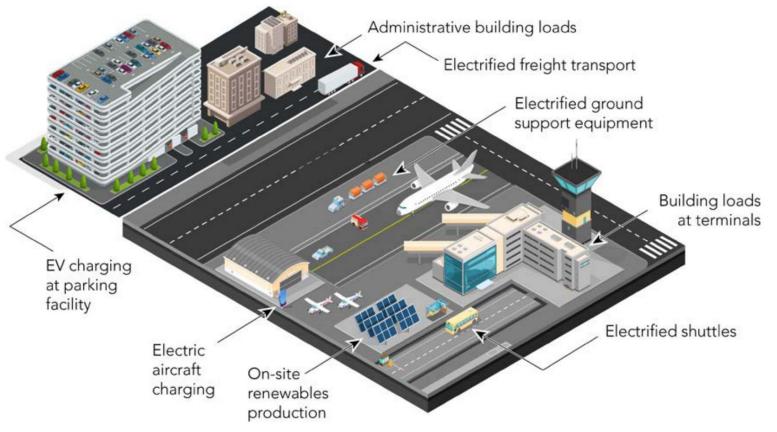


Figure 6. Integrated energy requirements of future airports

Illustration by Josh Bauer, NREL



# Advanced Air Mobility

#### **Civil Transport**

- Passenger-Carrying UAM
- Cargo (middle-mile delivery)
- RAM Regional Air Mobility

#### Emergency Response

- Air Ambulance
- Aerial Firefighting

#### **Small UAS Operations**

- Cargo (last-mile delivery)
- Small-scale commercial (real estate, mapping, etc.)
- Recreational









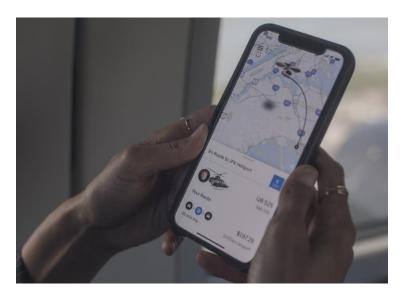




School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### Urban Air Mobility and the ODM "Air Taxi" CONOPS





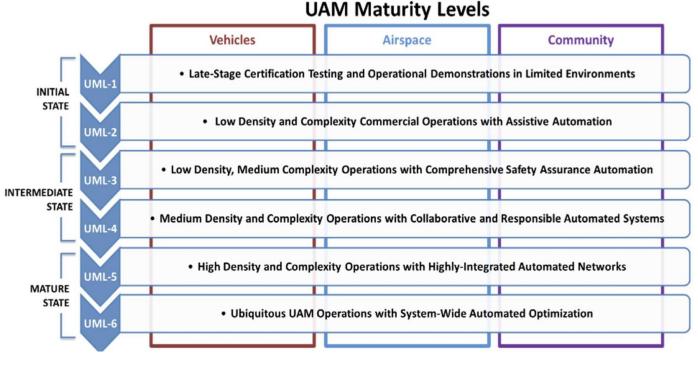
https://evtol.com/features/evtol-ride-hailing-apps/



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

#### **UAM - Hailing Air Taxis from your phone**

- Uber Elevate white paper 2016
- Hundreds of UAM vehicles currently in varying stages of development



https://ntrs.nasa.gov/api/citations/20205010189/downloads/UML%20Paper%20SciTech%202021.pdf

# *"Hailing a piloted air taxi by 2024 is well within the realm of possibility"*

#### -Billy Nolen, FAA Acting Administrator

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/evtol-flying-vehicles-air-taxi-60minutes-2022-04-17/?intcid=CNM-00-10abd1h



### Investments in AAM

### Advanced Air Mobility - A Multi-Billion-Dollar Market

- UAM investments
  - \$6.3B funding
  - 48 + UAM startups
  - 454 Total Rounds

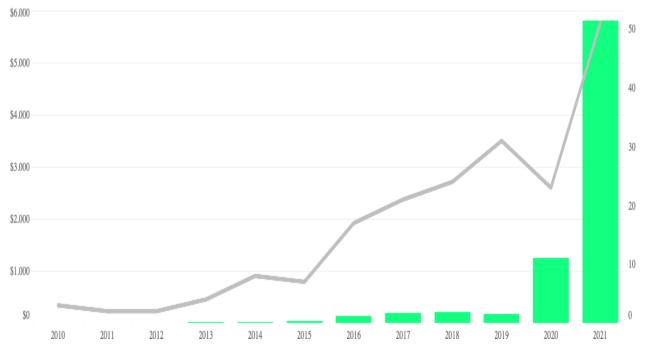








Deals (#) Disclosed Funding (\$M)





School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

6/21/2022 **10** 

## **Problem Formulation**

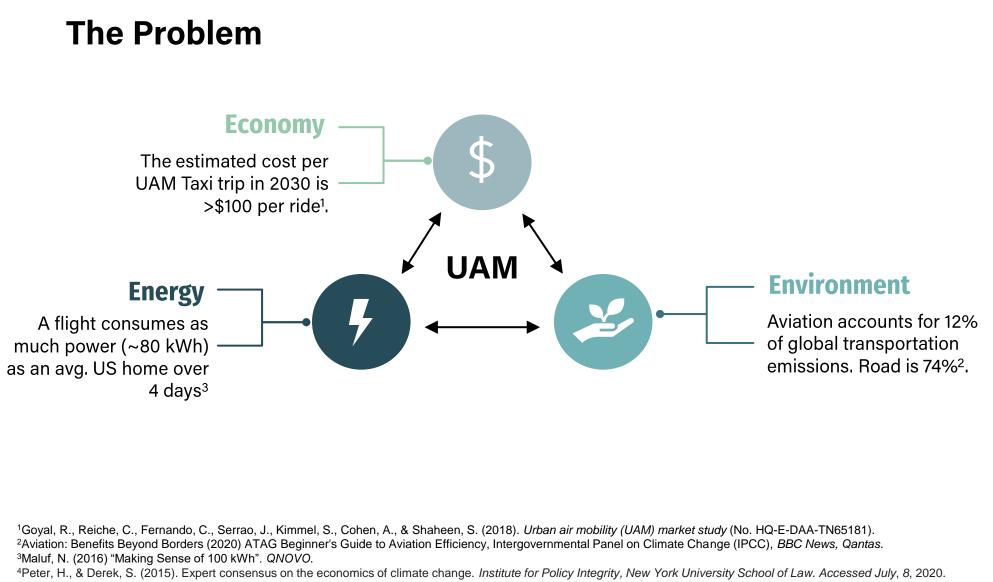


### **The Problem**

Energy infrastructure is simply not prepared to accommodate the energy needs of on demand UAM services.



12

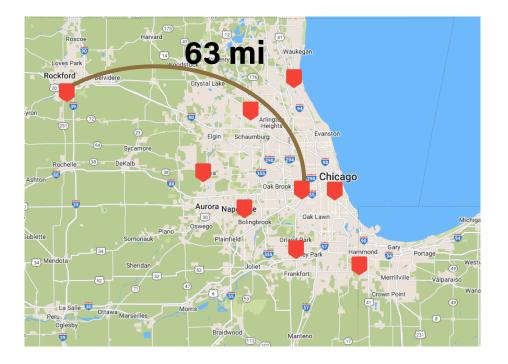


Nick

13

# Supplying Energy for UAM Operations

#### **On Demand UAM presents significant challenges**



- Est. 50 MWh required for a network of 8 vertiports per day (NASA Langley)
- Local networks are unprepared for large spikes in power demand from UAM (Black and Veath)
- Severe Implications Blackouts, long-term damage

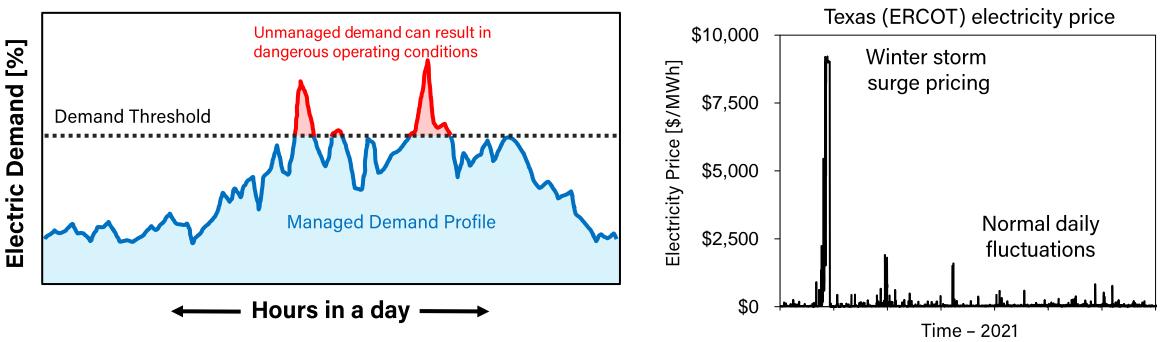
Vehicle	Uber Elevate Notional Vehicle
Passengers (pax)	4
Cruise Speed (mph)	150
Range (miles)	69
Vehicle Battery Capacity (kWh)	160

Sells, B. E., Maheshwari, A., Chao, H., Wright, E., Crossley, W., & Sun, D. (2021). Evaluating the impact of urban air mobility aerodrome siting on mode choice. In *AIAA AVIATION 2021 FORUM* (p. 2371).
 Schwab, A., Thomas, A., Bennett, J., Robertson, E., & Cary, S. (2021). *Electrification of Aircraft: Challenges, Barriers, and Potential Impacts* (No. NREL/TP-6A20-80220). National Renewable Energy Lab.(NREL), Golden, CO (United States).

6/20/2022 | 14 Nick

### Energy Cost of Operating UAM

### Managing the energy demand of a UAM fleet is a safety necessity...



Black & Veath, "eVTOL electrical infrastructure study for UAM aircraft," NIA & NASA, 2018.

...and presents an opportunity for operating cost optimization



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### Potential Clean Energy Sources for UAM

There is a need for systems to be able to easily integrate with a diverse set of energy systems

Energy System	Pro	Cons
Solar	<ul> <li>Cheapest levelized and capital cost</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Requires a lot of area</li><li>Intermittent power</li></ul>
Wind	Low footprint area	<ul><li>Aircraft interference</li><li>High maintenance cost</li></ul>
Hydrogen	<ul> <li>Stable (no intermittency)</li> <li>Higher power density than renewables</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More expensive than the energy used to make hydrogen</li> <li>Low Technology Readiness</li> </ul>
Nuclear	<ul><li>High energy density</li><li>Stable (no intermittency)</li></ul>	<ul><li>High cost</li><li>Centralized</li><li>Public acceptance</li></ul>



### Stakeholder Interviews

### **Market Research & Industry Interviews**

### Future UAM Operators

- American Airlines (partnership with Vertical Aerospace)
- An Undisclosed UAM Operator

### Airports

- San Diego International Airport
- Mineta San Jose International Airport

#### Aerospace OEM

• GE Aviation Systems

OEMs hope to enter the UAM space, but lack the insights required to design for operations that have yet to be fully defined



Expressed need for a system to give insights into detailed operating parameters and costs as well as a solution to avoid the restrictions of current infrastructure limits

Airports are seeking robust methods for sizing on-site UAM infrastructure assets for better clarity in planning

> 6/20/2022 | **17** Nick

### Stakeholder Interviews – Airports

### **Types of Airports**





School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### **Problem Formulation**

- UAM On Demand Mobility requires significant daily energy and charging throughout the day, causing spikes in energy usage
- **Current infrastructure is not prepared** for significant energy spikes
- Upgrading infrastructure for UAM is prohibitively costly for UAM operators
- Renewables such as Hydrogen are lower TRL, and still require significant investment

How can UAM operators effectively supply the energy required for near-term operations and entry into service?



# The UAM Dispatch System (UDS)



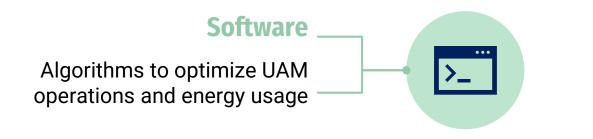
School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### **The Solution**

A resource management software framework for intelligently managing UAM operations with demand response.

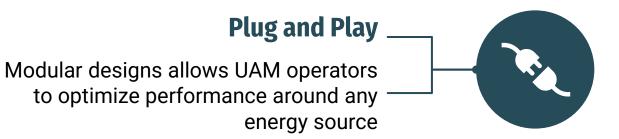


### The UAM Dispatch System (UDS)



#### **Prediction and Analytics**

Access Key Performance Indicators, connecting UAM demand with energy management





### Concept Overview - UDS contd.



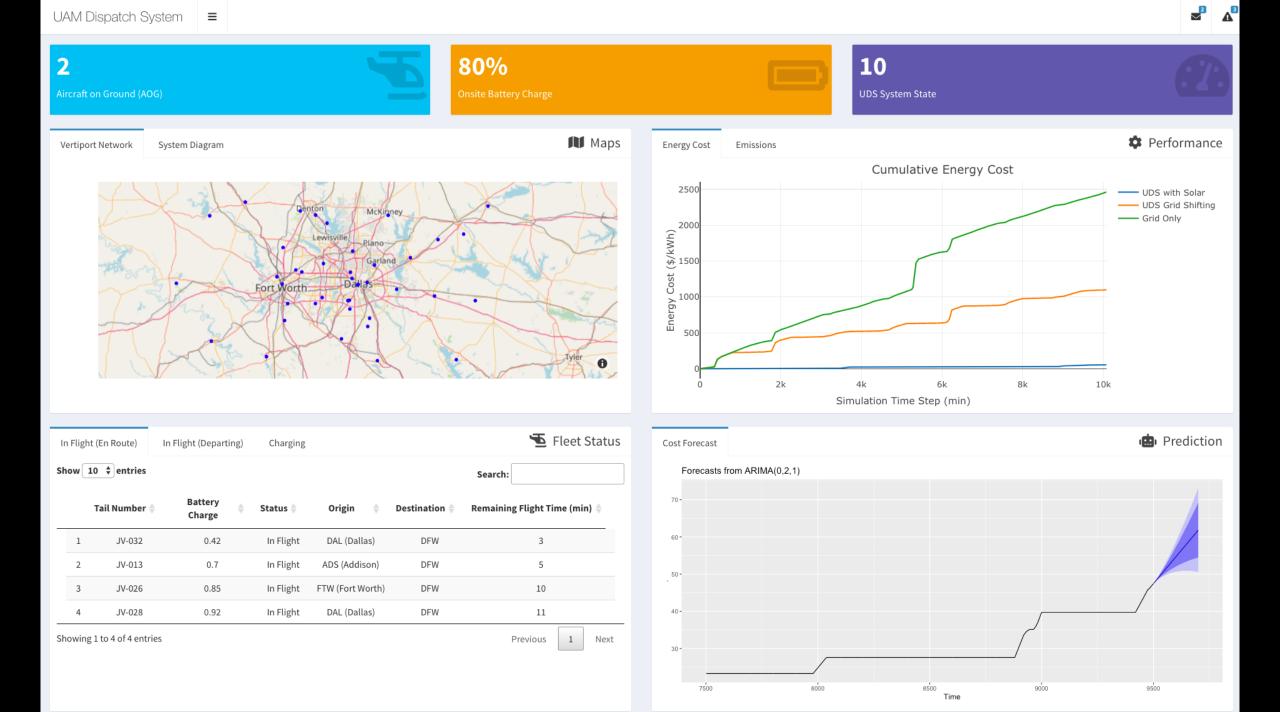
UDS provides a high-level decision-support web-app platform to design and operate UAM power infrastructure for the clean vertiports of the future.

> Access the UDS Dashboard:

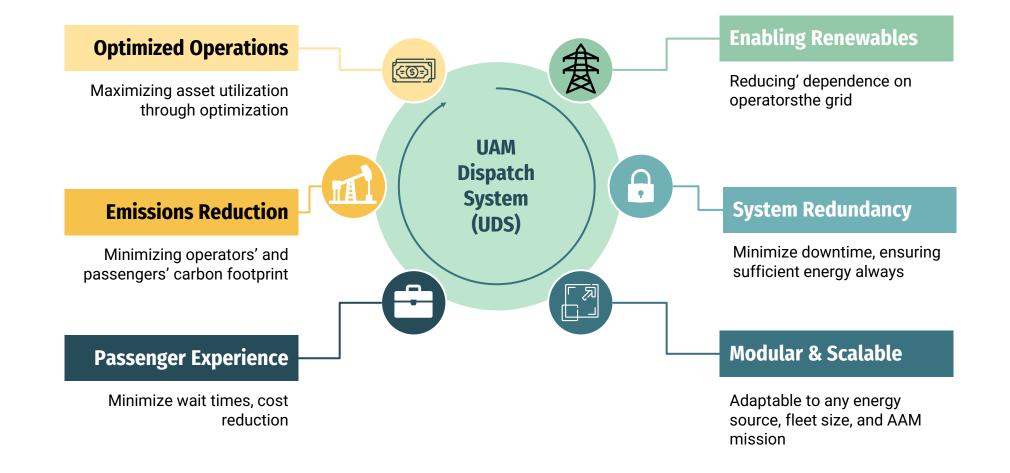
bit.ly/UDSdashboard



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics



### **UDS Value Through the Operation**

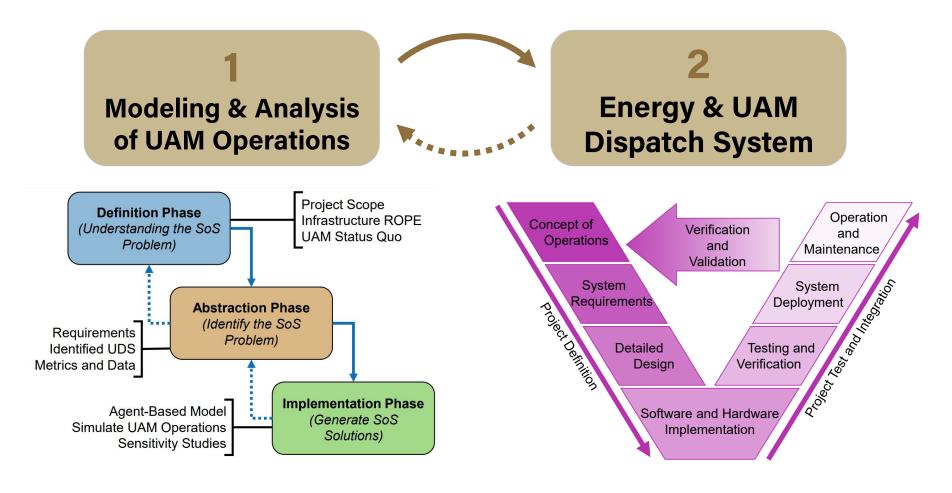




# Development



### Concept Development Using a 2-Phase Approach



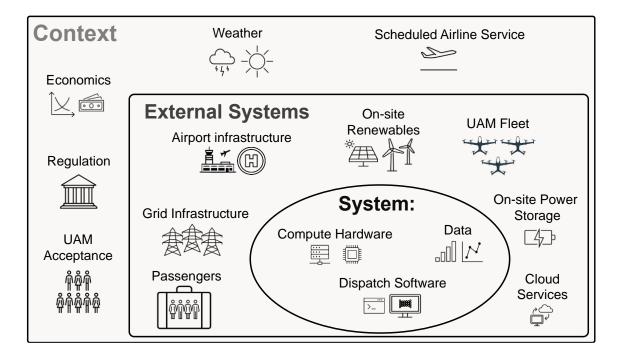


School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

### *Our Problem as a System-of-Systems*

UAM Infrastructure is a System-of-Systems (SoS)

What categorizes an SoS?	How does an SoS behave differently?
<ul> <li>Managerial Independence</li> <li>Operational Independence</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Emergent Behavior</li> <li>Interactions and Intentions</li> </ul>
What approach did we use to model this SoS?	What did we accomplish by modeling this SoS?
<ul><li>The DAI Approach</li><li>Agent-Based Simulation</li></ul>	<ul><li>Evaluation of SoS Metrics</li><li>Sensitivity Analysis</li></ul>



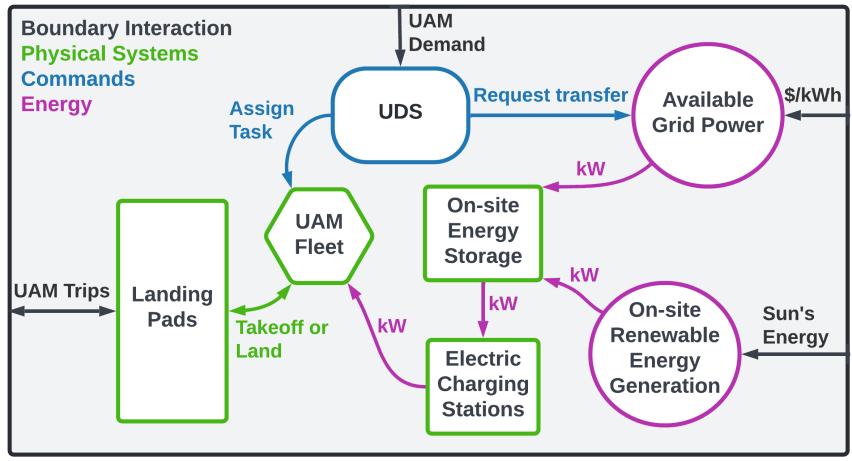
Due to the complexity of UAM systems and their interactions, traditional systems methods are not applicable.



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics M. W. Maier, "Architecting principles for systems-of-systems," *Systems engineering*, vol. 1, pp. 267–284, 4 1998

6/20/2022 **28** Seejay

# The Interactions and Intentions of UAM

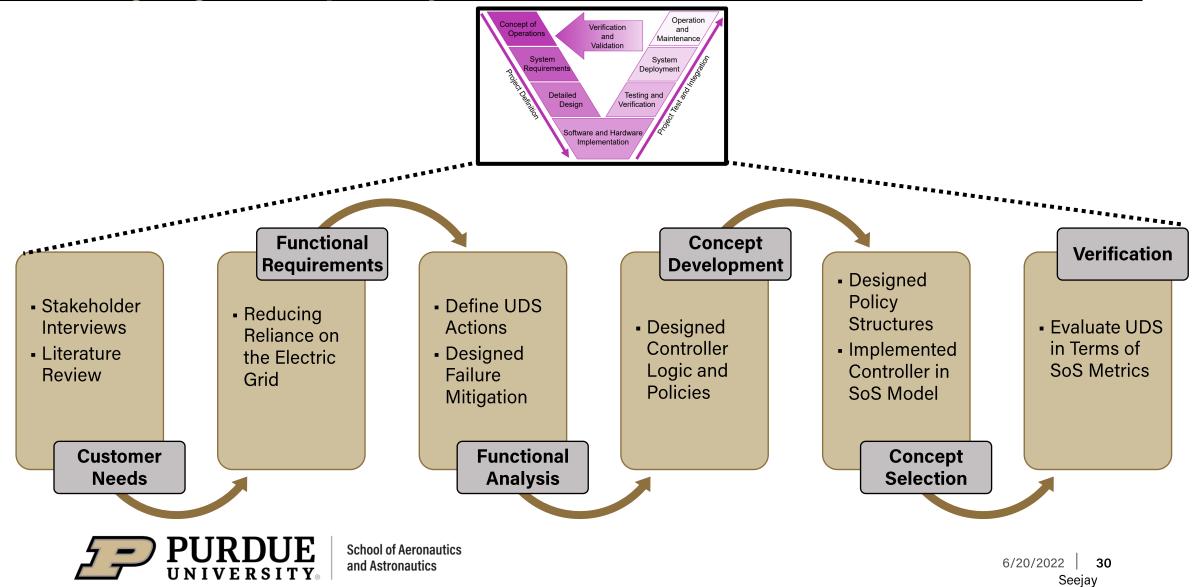


Network Diagram of UAM Systems and Interactions



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

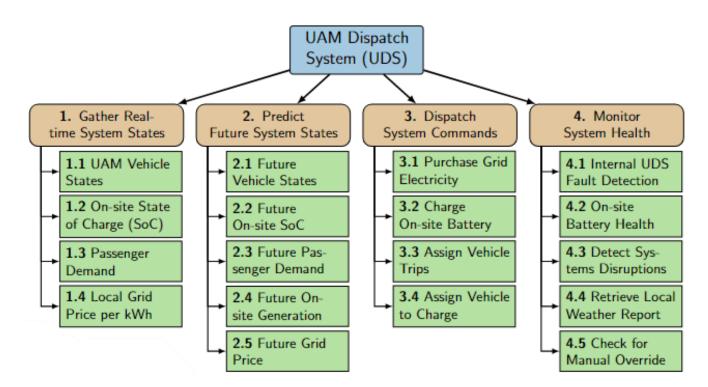
### Designing UAM Dispatch System (UDS)



## System Functional Decomposition

### **Four Main Functions:**

- Gather Real-time System States
  - Connectivity and communication
- Predict Future System States
  - Forecast key system states
- Dispatch Energy Commands
  - Optimal allocation of vehicles and energy
- Monitor System Health
  - Failure detection and mitigation

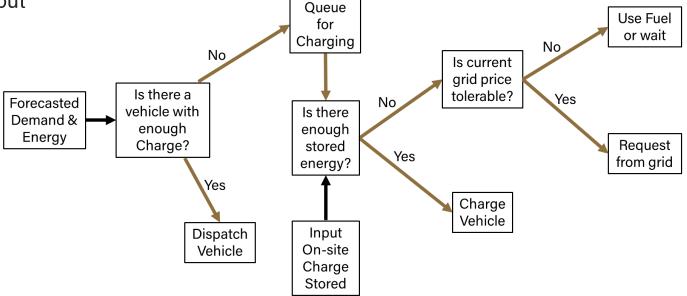




### Implementing Demand Response Controller Logic

### **Controller design development**

- UDS controller logic iteration with varying objectives:
  - Maximizing passenger throughput
  - Emissions reduction
  - Operation Cost minimization
  - Multi-objective





### System Performance



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

# A Framework for Simulating UAM Energy Systems

#### Use high-fidelity data and equations

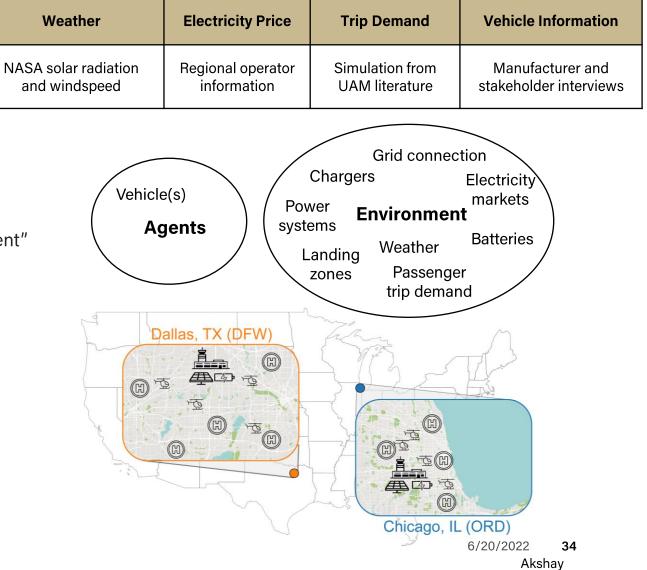
- Physical equations quantify system dynamics (conservation of energy and mass)
- Historic data bases simulation in reality (electricity price, on-site energy, trip demand)

#### ... to study emergent behavior

- Resolve interactions between "agents" and "environment"
- Measure aggregate behavior in complex systems (energy consumption, operational cost, etc.)

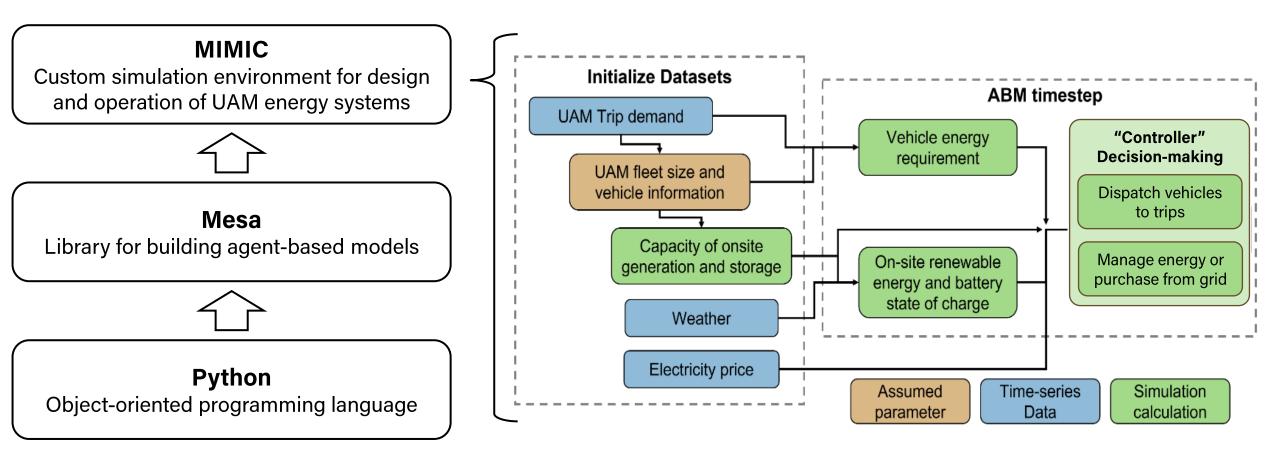
#### ... of uses cases and new algorithms

- Evaluate potential UAM fleet deployments
- Design cost-optimization algorithm architectures





## Agent-based model (ABM) framework for UAM





### **ABM Assumptions and Parameter sensitivities**

### **Initial model assumptions**

Service to-and-from the airport

Vehicles land and are queued for charging

Controller can direct vehicles from charging to take-off queue

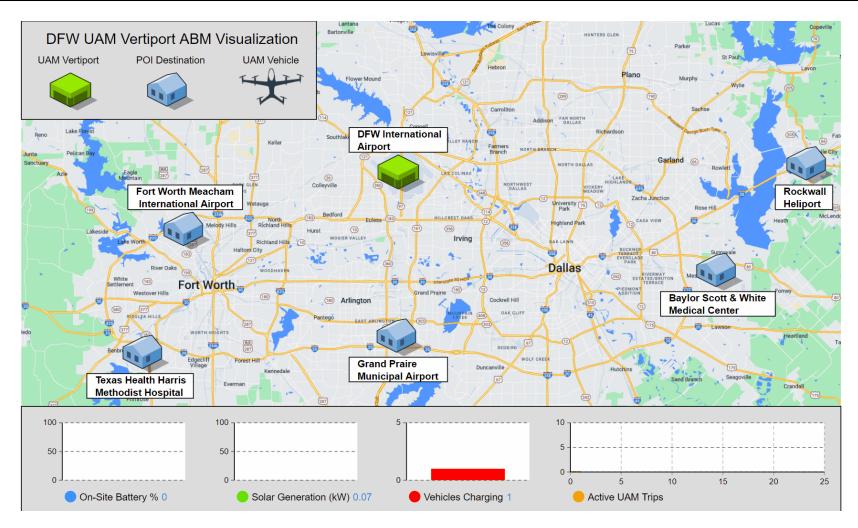
Power draw limits and charging rates are informed by manufacturer specifications

#### **Parameters of interest**

Energy systems	Aviation systems
On-site solar power	Prototypical vehicle (e.g. Archer-5 seater)
On-site battery capacity	Vertiport network
Solar panel efficiency	Passenger demand
Chargers (grid-connections)	Landing zones



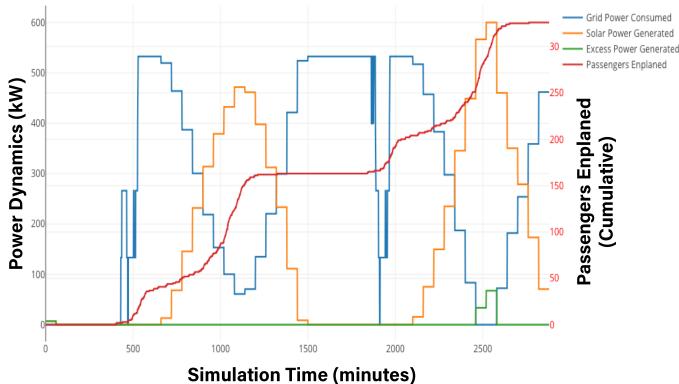
## Simulation Visualized





### MIMIC Solar Case Study

UDS + Solar & Grid Energy utilized in a 24 hr passenger demand profile - Dallas

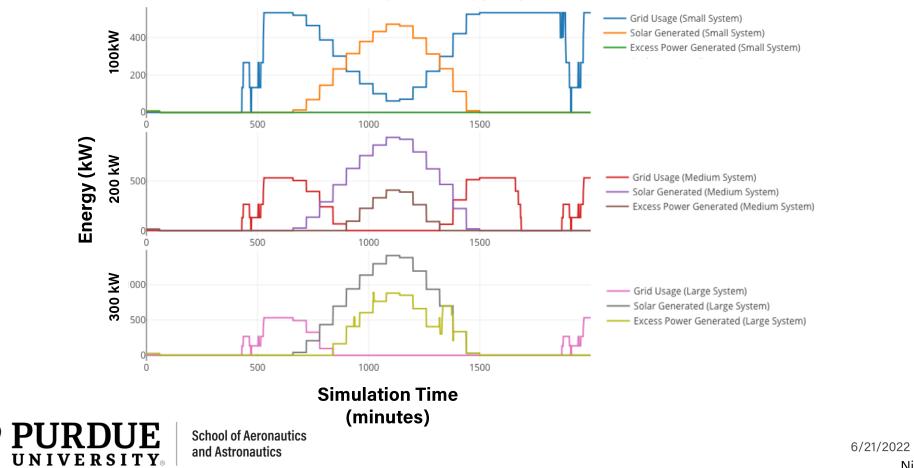


**Passengers Enplaned & Power Dynamics** 



### MIMIC Solar Array Sizing Case Study

Comparing the energy dynamics of UDS with varying solar sizes - Dallas



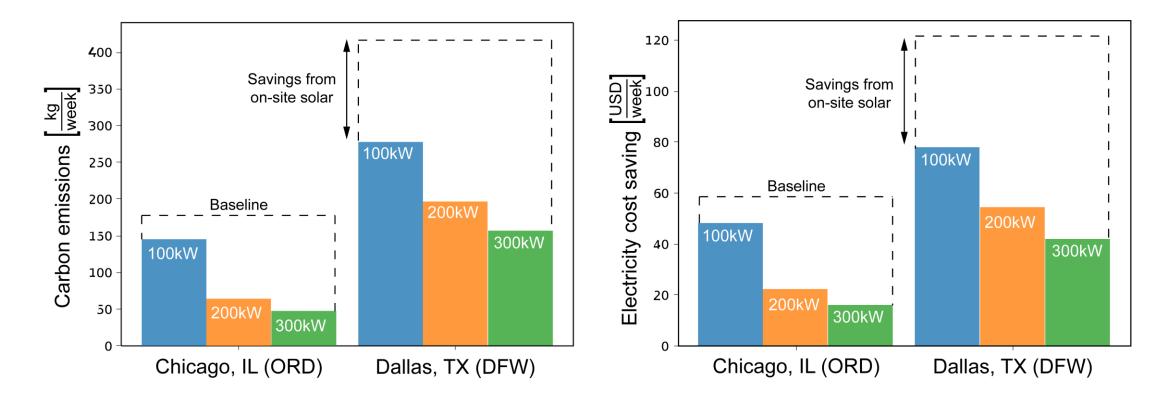
39

Nick

Small, Medium, Large Energy Dynamics

### MIMIC Case Study - Expected Savings from Solar Energy

#### Applying UDS + Solar with Minor Load Shifting at ORD, DFW





### **UDS & MIMIC Web-App Demonstration**

Access UDS & MIMIC:



bit.ly/UDSdashboard



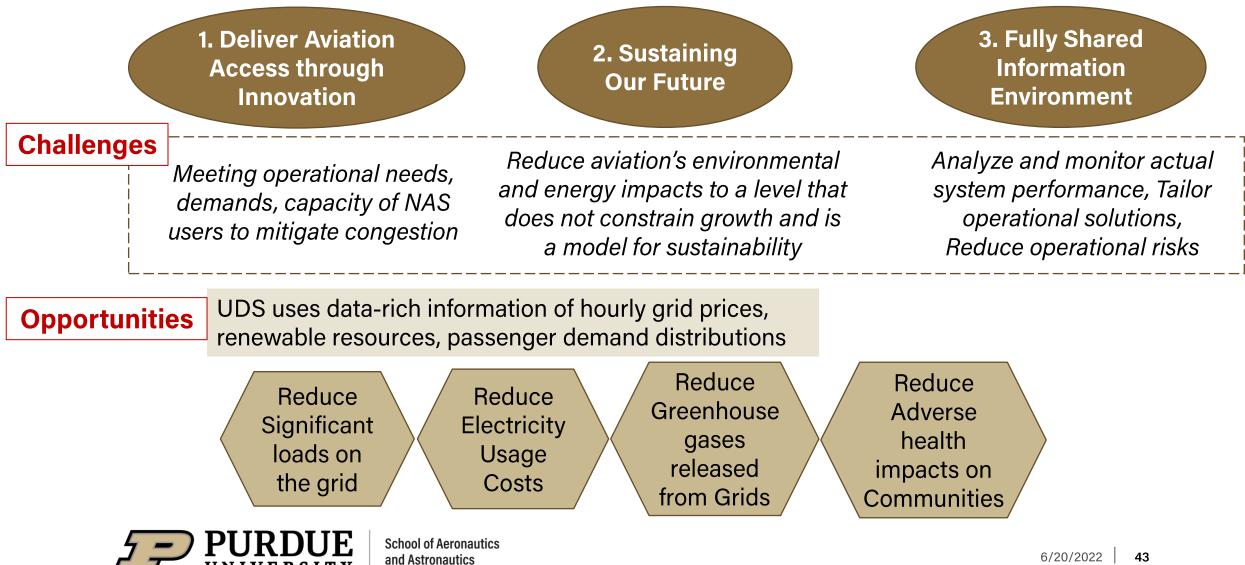
School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

41

## Life Cycle Analysis



## Long-Term Performance - FAA 2025 & 2035 Vision



## **UDS System Cost Comparison**

Our system costs are marginal compared to the capital cost of UAM UML2+

UDS System Costs

Item	Cost
Software development	\$4.5k - \$500k
Information techology	\$150k - \$250k

\*Based on studies of US microgrid deployments. Controller costs vary by system complexity. Information technology represents computing costs and upgrades over the system lifetime (30 years).

Giraldez Miner, J. I et al., "Phase I microgrid cost study: Data collection and analysis of microgrid costs in the United States" NREL, 2018.

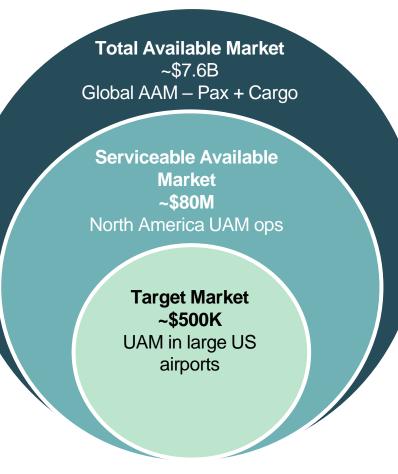
Scale of UAM Investments

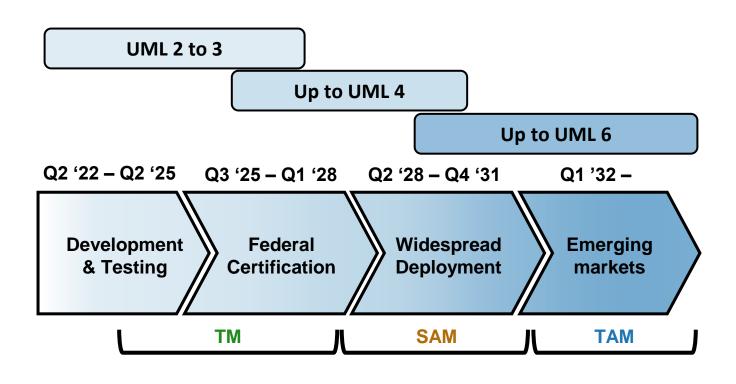
Item	Cost
Batteries	\$150k – \$1M
Chargers	\$200k+ per charger
Vehicles	\$1M+ per vehicle
Grid Connections	\$100k - \$80M**

\*\*Grid connections vary by power draw. Significant charges are incurred for 1+MW chargers.

Black & Veath, "eVTOL electrical infrastructure study for UAM aircraft," NIA & NASA, 2018









# Conclusion



We provide a decision-support platform to design (MIMIC) and operate (UDS) demand-response capable infrastructure for clean AAM vertiports of the future.

MIMIC: 1<sup>st</sup> Agent-based framework for UAM Energy Infrastructure UDS: A novel, flexible platform for algorithm development and use-case testing

Case studies with on-site solar show <u>dramatic price and emissions savings</u> (>50%) on operational electricity expenditure In accordance with FAA's 2025 and 2035 plans (a) delivering access through innovation (b) sustainability through future development (c) fully shared information environment



### Future Work

### **Scientific study**

- Understanding grid-support and electricity markets
- Platform to see system impacts of certification standards
- Developing new algorithms (deep learning) for enhanced prediction

### **Product development**

- Increased partnerships with UAM manufactuers and operators
- Case studies of deployments in new airports
- Business intelligence to inform energy system investments



# Thank you to our partners:









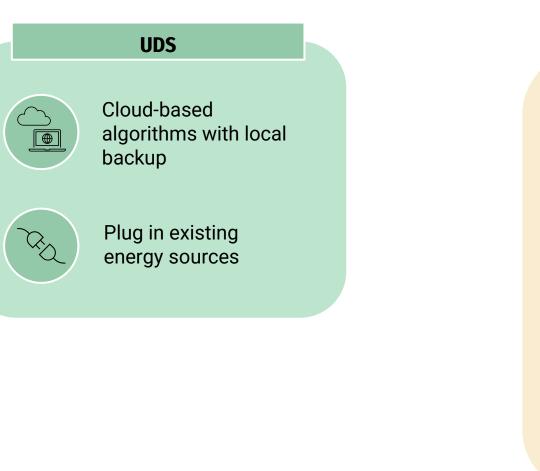
Thank you to all those at FAA & NIA for making this competition possible!



## Backup



## UDS Modularity – With and Without Solar



#### UDS with Solar



Cloud-based algorithms with local backup



Plug in to grid energy systems



Onsite power generation (solar)



Onsite power storage (batteries)



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

6/20/2022 **51** Nick

## Cost of Energy Infrastructure

#### **Upgrading energy infrastructure requires**

Estimated Budget Pricing Summary	Description
\$100,000	Service supply extension; up to 1 MW (up to 3 chargers)
\$264,000 to \$1,300,000 per mile	New conductor / reconductor; up to 5 MW (up to 8 chargers)
\$3,000,000 to \$11,000,000	New transformer bank; over 10 MW (over 15 chargers)
\$40,000,000 to \$80,000,000	New substation bank; over 20 MW (over 30 chargers

Black & Veath, "eVTOL electrical infrastructure study for UAM aircraft," NIA & NASA, 2018.



# Case Studies (Dallas, Chicago)



### UAM Vehicles for ODM Require Frequent Charging

#### **Archer-like 5-seater**



Vehicle	Archer 5-seater
Passengers (pax)	4
Cruise Speed (mph)	150
Range (miles)	60
L/D	11.3
Vehicle Configuration	Vectored Thrust
Max Flight Time (minutes)	24
MTOW (kg)	3175
Vehicle Battery Capacity (kWh)	160
DOC (\$/hr)	685
DOC/pax	171



## Simulation Functionality

#### **Location-Specific Inputs**

#### **Airline / Operator Parameters**

- UAM vehicle models
- UAM fleet compositions
- Passenger demand models

#### **Energy Parameters**

- Solar energy generation
- Hydrogen energy generation
- Grid power load & cost
- Onsite energy storage



#### **Simulation Outcomes**

#### **Economic Metrics**

- High-fidelity operating costs
- Per seat-mile revenue & cost

#### **Aircraft Operating Metrics**

- UAM vehicle flight hours
- Passenger throughput
- Emissions

#### Energy

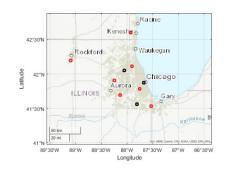
Expected grid load & cost



### **Passenger Demand Generation**

#### **Two demand generation protocols**

- Baseline Model: Op Limits Trips (ORD to Baseline Network)
  - Baseline network as sited by Sells, et al. [1]
  - Passenger demand datasets from Maheshwari, et. al
- Secondary Implementation: Scheduled Service-driven
  - Use airport arrivals (open-sky / flight radar + T-100 passenger load factor)
  - Estimate % of possible UAM Trips from scheduled passengers arriving at ORD
  - Use customer preference survey from SAN to generate heuristics on mode choice







School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Sells, B. E., Maheshwari, A., Chao, H., Wright, E., Crossley, W., & Sun, D. (2021). Evaluating the impact of urban air mobility aerodrome siting on mode choice. In *AIAA AVIATION 2021 FORUM* (p. 2371).
 Maheshwari, A., Mudumba, S. V., Sells, B. E., Delaurentis, D. A., and Crossley, W. A., "Identifying and analyzing operational limits for passenger-carrying urban air mobility missions," Vol. 1 PartF, 2020. https://doi.org/10.2514/6.2020-29

### **UAM Trip Demand dataset**

#### Simulated Airport shuttle service using flight schedule and survey data in literature

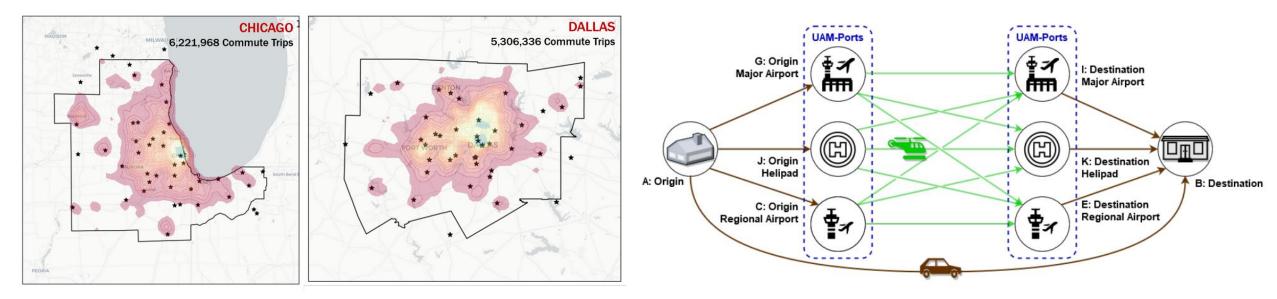


Fig. 3 Geographic distribution of all commute trips in Chicago and Dallas Metropolitan Areas, along with all the "existing infrastructure" locations (marked with  $\star$ ). Areas with trip density lower than a threshold are not colored on the map for brevity.

Maheshwari, A., Sells, B. E., Harrington, S., DeLaurentis, D., & Crossley, W. (2021). Evaluating impact of operational limits by estimating potential uam trips in an urban area. In *AIAA Aviation 2021 Forum* (p. 3174).

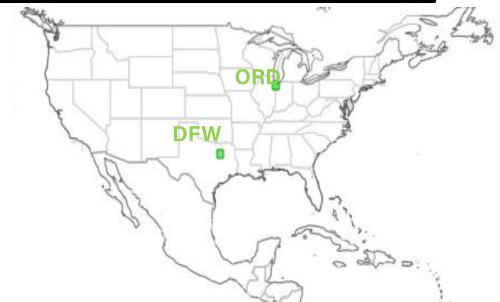


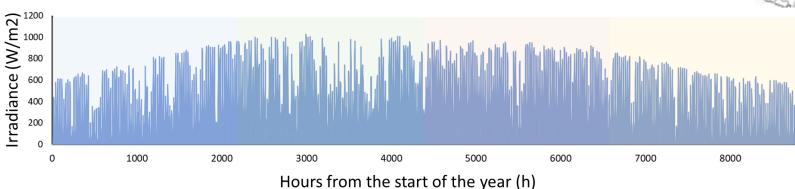
### Solar irradiance data

- Satellite reanalysis from NASA-MERRA2
- Data resolution: 1hr, 0.5° x 0.625°
- Irradiance: Shortwave EM radiation that is

incident upon the Earth's surface  $\left[\frac{W}{m^2}\right]$ 

Example data for DFW:

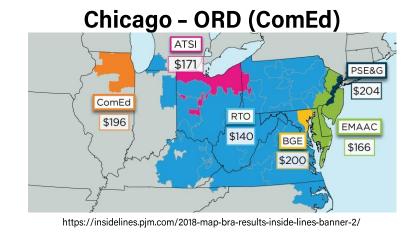


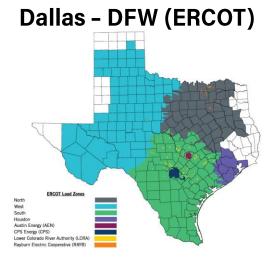


Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO) (2015), MERRA-2 tavg1\_2d\_rad\_Nx. Greenbelt, MD, USA, Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center (GES DISC), Accessed: April 02, 2022. 10.5067/Q9QMY5PBNV1T



# Electricity price data (\$/MWh)





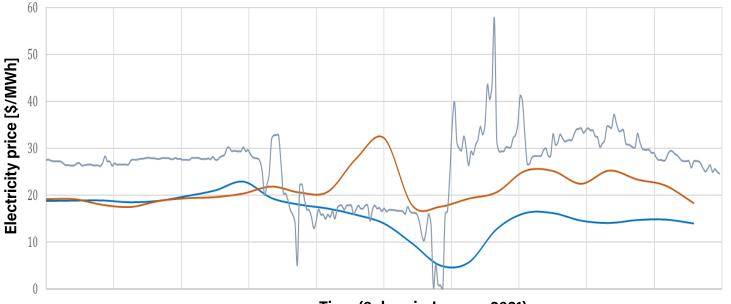
https://www.ercot.com/news/mediakit/maps



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics



— Dallas — Chicago — San Diego



Time (3 days in January 2021)

http://www.energyonline.com/Data/GenericData.aspx?DataId=4

## Simulation Development – Summary of Datasets Used

### **Case Studies in Chicago and Dallas**

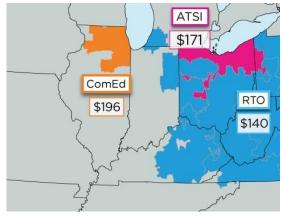
- Calculating On-site Solar Generation
  - NASA Merra-2 historical data on locationbased solar irradiance

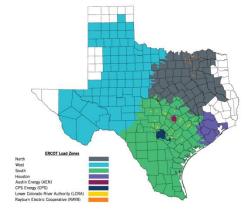
#### Calculating Grid Price and Emissions

- Data from local Utility Providers gathered for each location
- Each Grid has a different emissions index

#### Simulating UAM Demand

• Simulated Airport shuttle service using flight schedule, survey data, and previous research





https://www.ercot.com/news/mediakit/maps



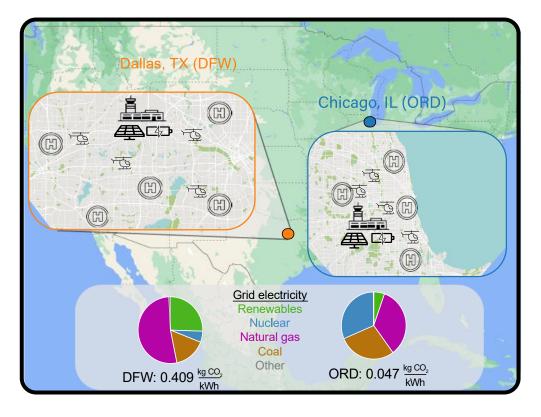
https://insidelines.pjm.com/2018-map-bra-resultsinside-lines-banner-2/

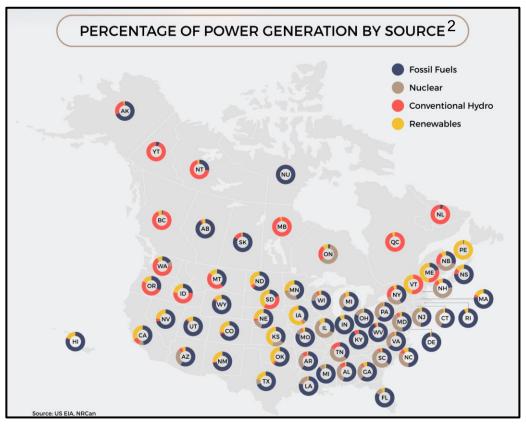
## Emissions



## Electrifiction is only the first step to decarbonization

For emission-free UAM, we must support a diverse mix of clean energy sources<sup>1</sup>



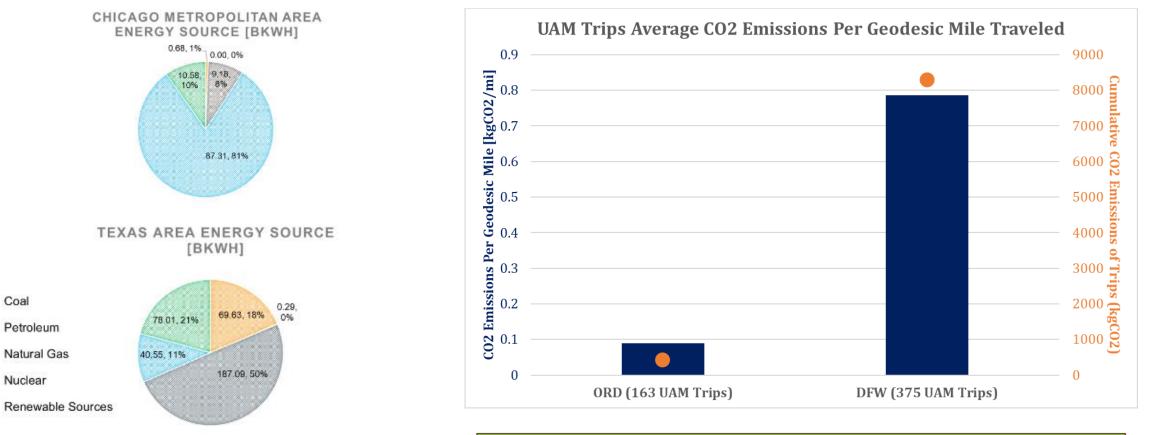


<sup>1</sup> Meckling, J., Sterner, T., & Wagner, G. (2017). Policy sequencing toward decarbonization. *Nature Energy*, 2(12), 918-922. <sup>2</sup>*M. Heath & A. Foyer (2022) North American Electricity Mix by State and Province. EnergyMinute.* 



## Emissions Study

- Chicago 2020 Grid Emissions Index: 0.0470 kgCO2/kWh
- Dallas 2020 Grid Emissions Index: 0.4090 kgCO2/kWh





Coal

.

=

쬀

**School of Aeronautics** and Astronautics

**Charging UAM Vehicles from the Grid Releases CO2 Emissions! CO2 Emissions from a purely Solar Power would be Zero!** 

## Example system initialization with solar PV

#### Sizing assumptions with sensitivity

Parameter	Range of values
Number of vehicles	4 - 50
Onsite energy requirement to fleet battery storage ratio	0.5 – 1.5
Onsite battery power to fleet battery power ratio	0.1 - 1

#### **Fixed parameter assumptions**

Parameter	Value
Power density (Solar)	$0.15 \ \frac{kW}{m^2}$
Power density (Hydrogen)	1.55 $\frac{\text{kWh}}{\text{L}}$
Power density (Diesel)	$0.50 \frac{\text{kWh}}{\text{L}}$
Solar panel efficiency	22 %

#### Solar panel power equations

Initial sizing:Area =  $\frac{\text{Onsite energy * daylight hours}}{\text{Power density}}$ Per-timestep:Energy = Area \* Irradiance \* Efficiency



## Systems Safety & Reliability

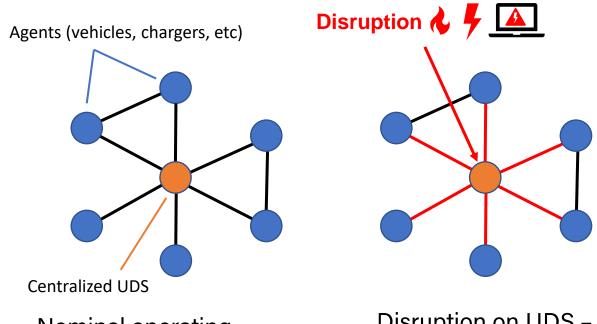


#### UDS does not have control over flight-critical systems

Scope	Failure Mode	Causes	Effects	Mitigation
Internal	Unexpected sys- tem shutdown	Cyber-attack, Physical system failure, Server failure	Long-term oper- ation disruption, Revenue loss	Decentralized control mode, Secure and ro- bust software
	Communications failure	Server delays, Physical system failure	Unintended pre- dictions and dis- patches	Regular mainte- nance, Redun- dant systems
External	 Loss of Power	 On-site power failure, Grid blackout	 Loss of control, Operational delays, Revenue loss	Localized com- puting
	Inaccurate data transmitted	Abnormal sys- tem operation, communication disruption	Unintended pre- dictions and dis- patches, loss of optimal control	Regular mainte- nance, Nominal operation moni- toring



## Multi-agent operating mode for centralized failure.



Nominal operating mode with centralized UDS Disruption on UDS – e.g. cyber attack, physical damage Decentralized UDS protocol when central UDS is inactive



# Commercialization – Business Model Canvas

<ul> <li>Key Partners</li> <li>Airports</li> <li>UAM Manufacturers</li> <li>Grid Service Providers</li> <li>Computational Service Providers</li> <li>Governing Bodies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Key Activities</li> <li>Optimize</li> </ul> Key Resources <ul> <li>Data</li> </ul>	Value Pro • Reduce Emissic • Increase		Customer Relationships• Operators• OperatorsChannels• Email, IM• Publications	Customer Segments • UAM Operators • UAM Manufacturers
Cost Structure		Revenue Streams			
Value Driven		<ul> <li>Partnerships with operators, utility providers,</li> <li>Consulting Engineering</li> </ul>			



# Stakeholder Discussion / Analysis



# Stakeholder Identification for Customer Needs

Stakeholder Category	Example Stakeholders
Passenger	Businesspeople, Children, Families, Adults including Mobility, Visually, and Hearing Challenged
Airport Authority	Decision Makers, Dispatch
UAM Operators	Ground Crew, Engineering, Aircraft Maintenance Technicians, Dispatch
Airside Operations	Aircraft Cleaning Crew, Aircraft Charging Crew
Air Traffic Control	Departure Controllers, Flight Data Controllers, Arrival Controllers
Regulatory Agencies	FAA, EASA, etc.
Local Communities	Local government, community organizers, citizens
Suppliers	Renewable Power Assets Suppliers, Aircraft Acquisition Suppliers (OEM)
Unions (Airline & Airport)	Maintenance Unions, Ground Crew Unions, Airport Workers' Unions, Grid Operators' Unions
Grid Power Suppliers	Independent System Operators (ISOs), Mechanical and electrical contractors, construction entities

#### **Stakeholders Interviewed:**









Unnamed UAM Operators



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics

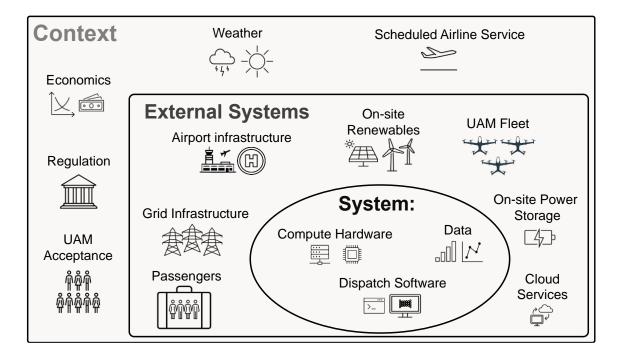
6/20/2022 **70** Seejay

# System-of-Systems Stakeholder Interviews

### **Stakeholders Interviewed:**



Unnamed UAM Operators



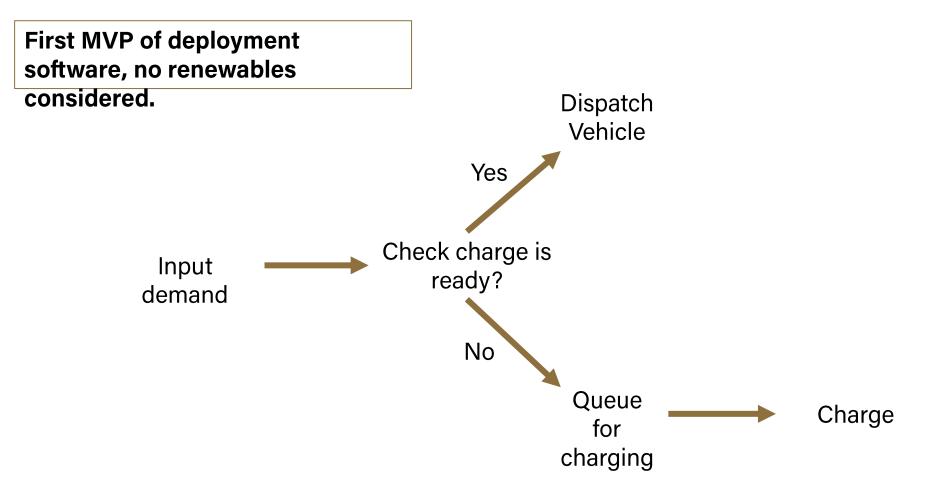
Infrastructure for future UAM operations will likely be the responsibility of the UAM operator, not the airport.



School of Aeronautics and Astronautics M. W. Maier, "Architecting principles for systems-of-systems," *Systems engineering*, vol. 1, pp. 267–284, 4 1998

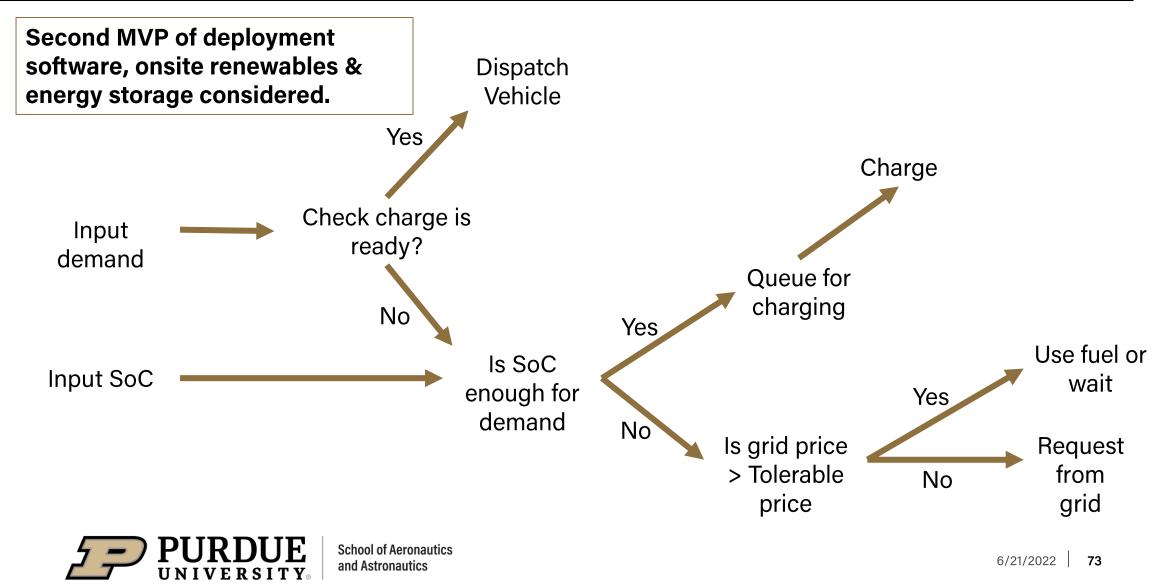
6/21/2022 **71** Seejay

### Controller Mk 1

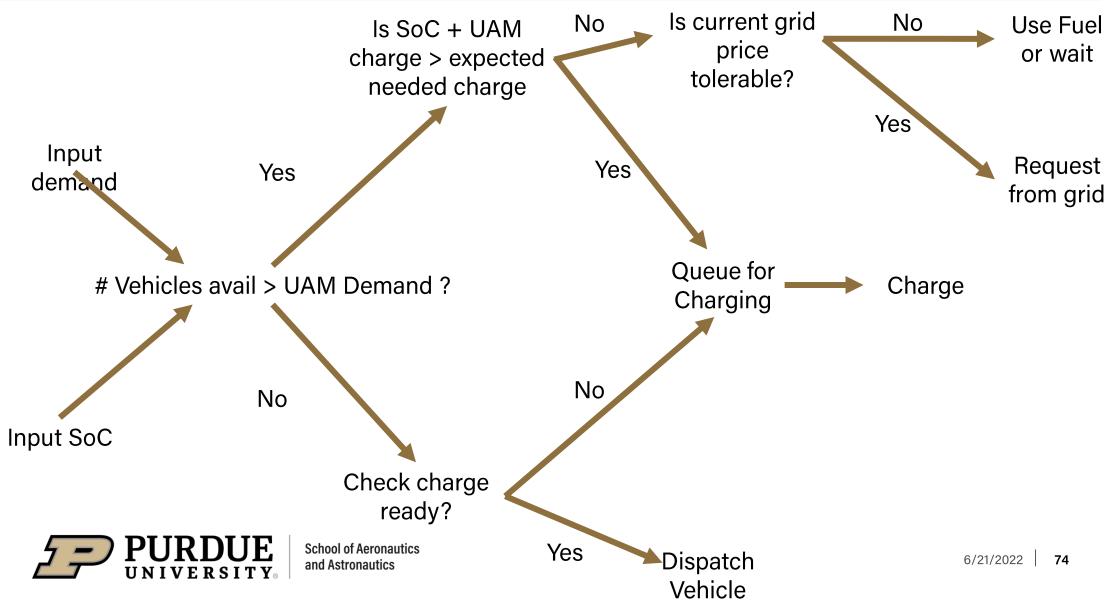




### Controller Mk 1.2



### Controller Mk 3.1 – Throughput Focus



### Controller Mk 3.2 – Renewables Focus

For all vehicles, prioritize dispatch of vehicles that have highest current charge

