

# When Will California's Electric Distribution System Need to be Upgraded to Meet Electric Vehicle Charging Demand?

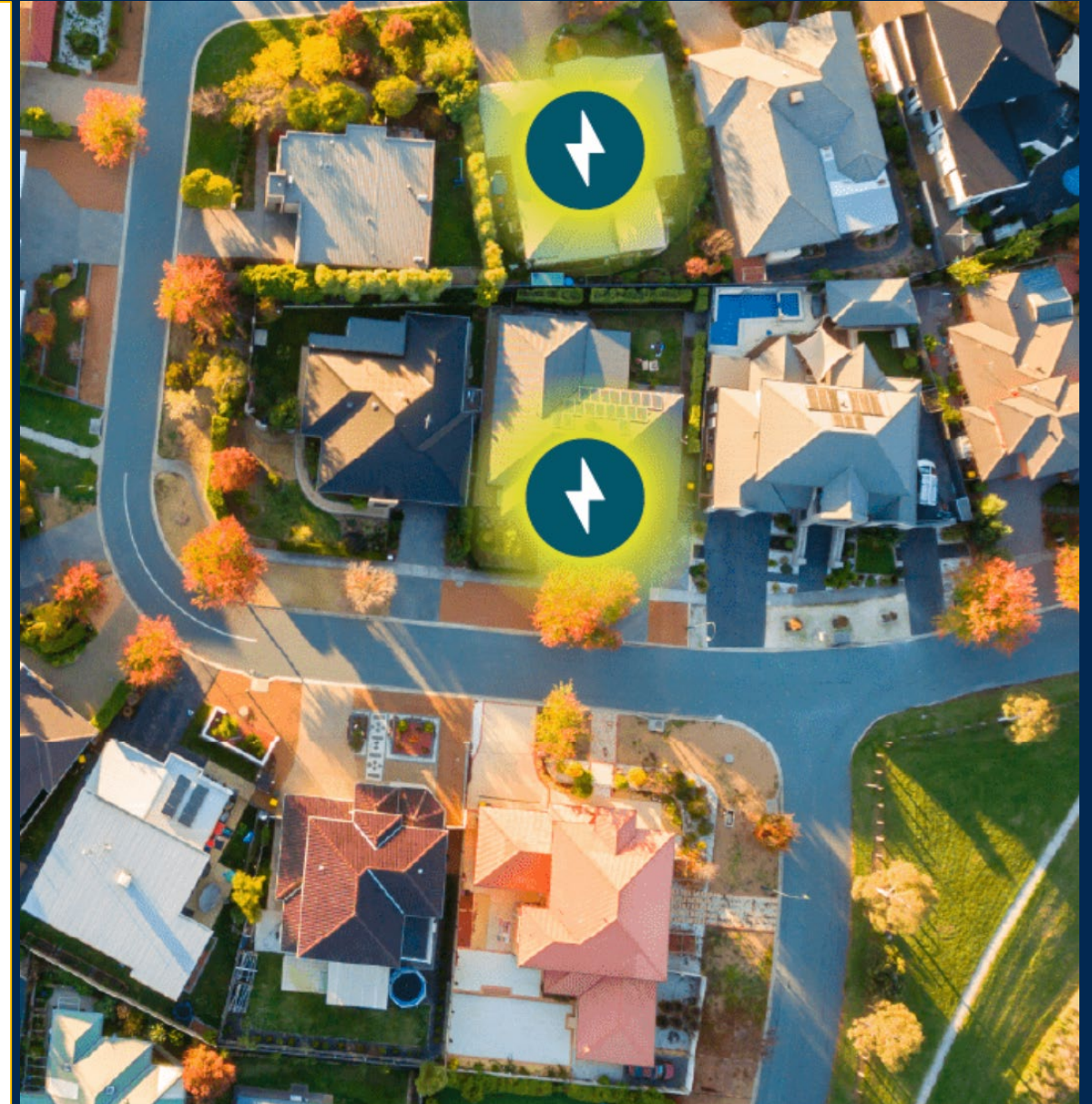
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**UCDAVIS**

Electric Vehicle Research Center  
Institute of Transportation Studies



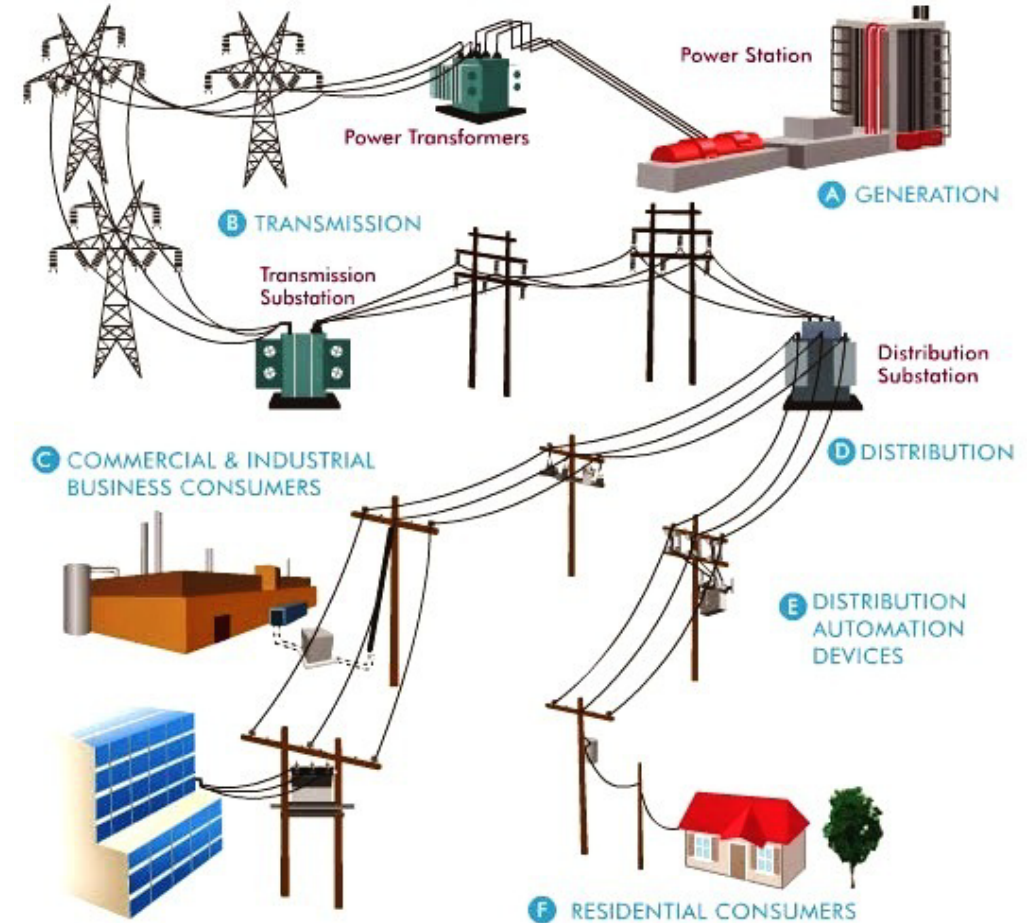
# INTRODUCTION

## Background

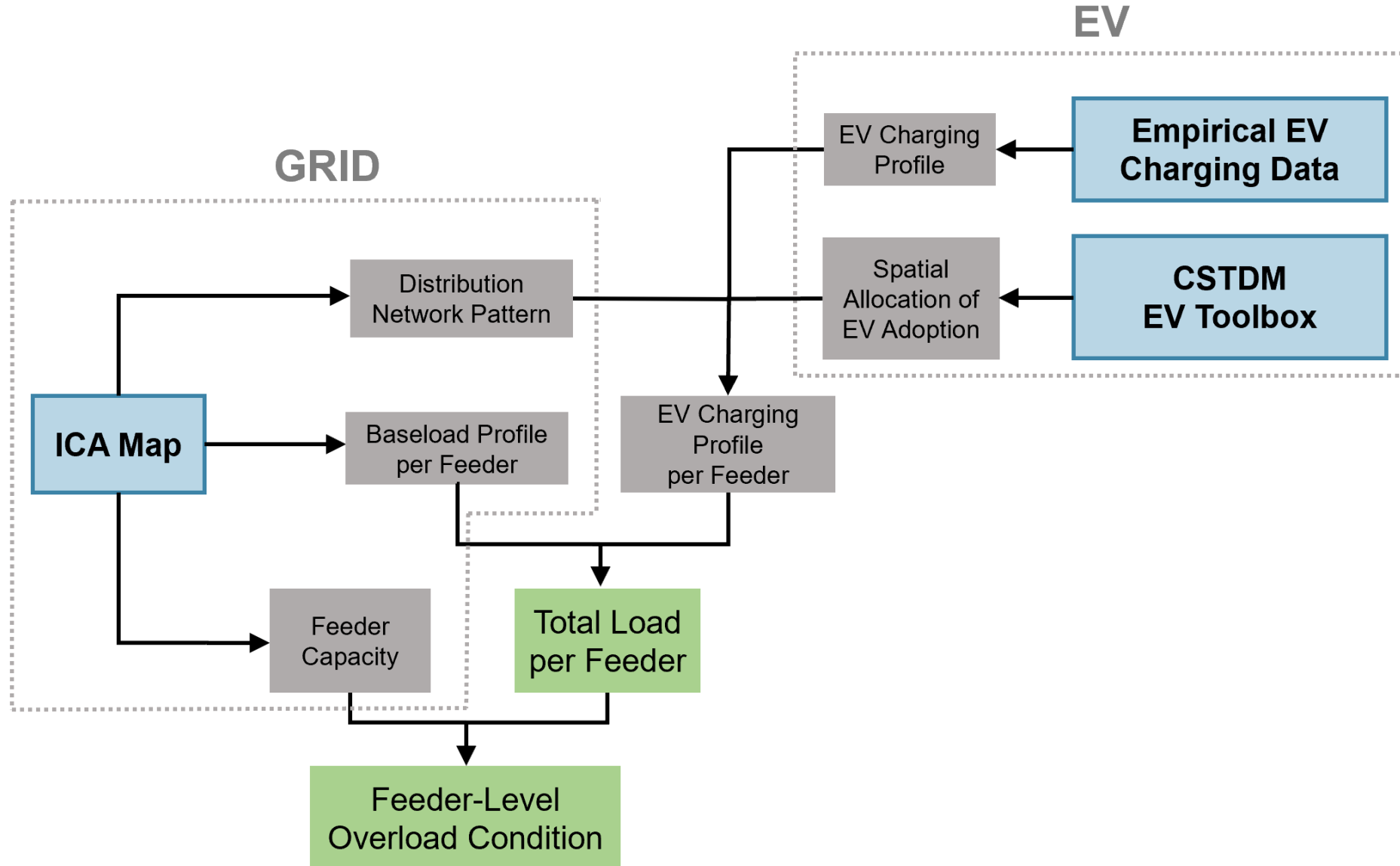
- California's ambitious EV policies may generate a large burden of EV charging load on the power system.
- The distribution grid will encounter challenges before the generation and transmission levels.
- It is essential to understand:
  - How constrained the distribution grid will be
  - How much upgrade should be in place for future EV charging demand

## In this study

- We use spatial and temporal data from the utilities that address distribution network capacity limits at feeder level;
- We employ EV adoption model, travel demand model, and empirical EV charging data for future EV charging load projection;
- We examine overload condition in the distribution system from 2022 to 2045 in the 3 major IOU territories.

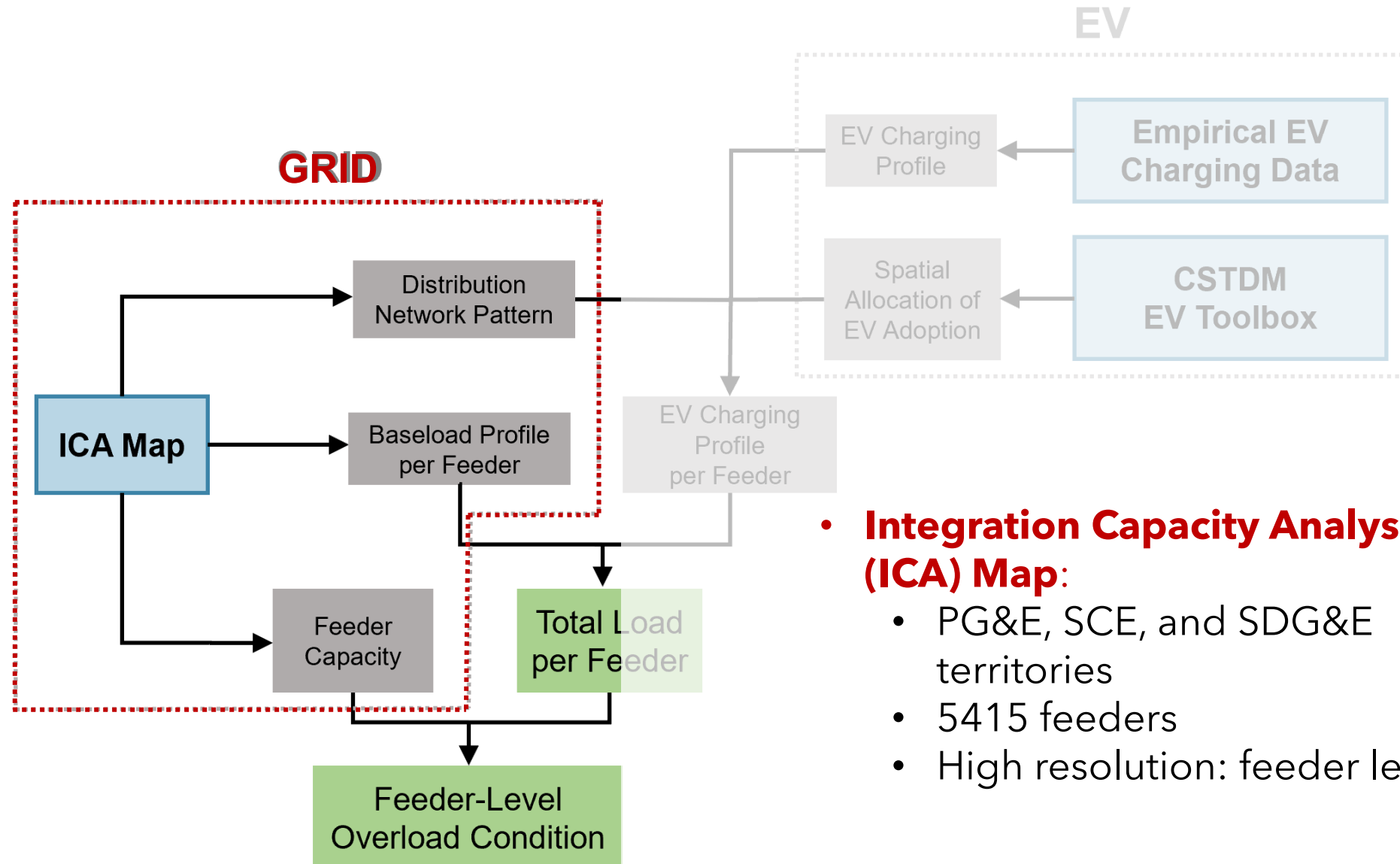


# METHODS



# METHODS

## Spatial and Temporal Data from Utilities

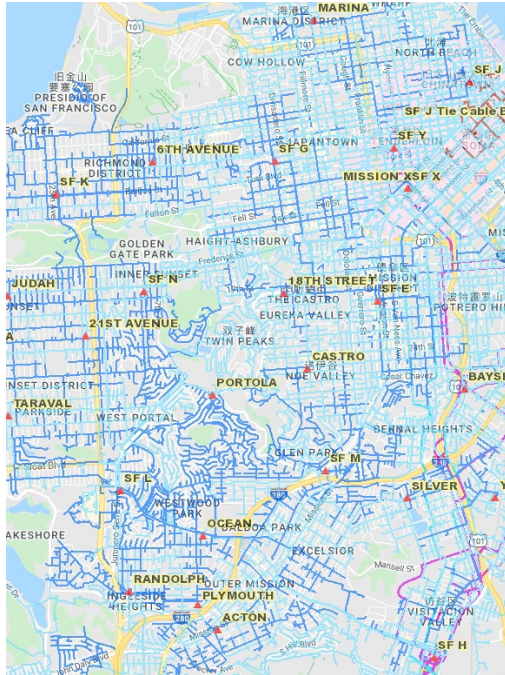


- **Integration Capacity Analysis (ICA) Map:**
  - PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E territories
  - 5415 feeders
  - High resolution: feeder level

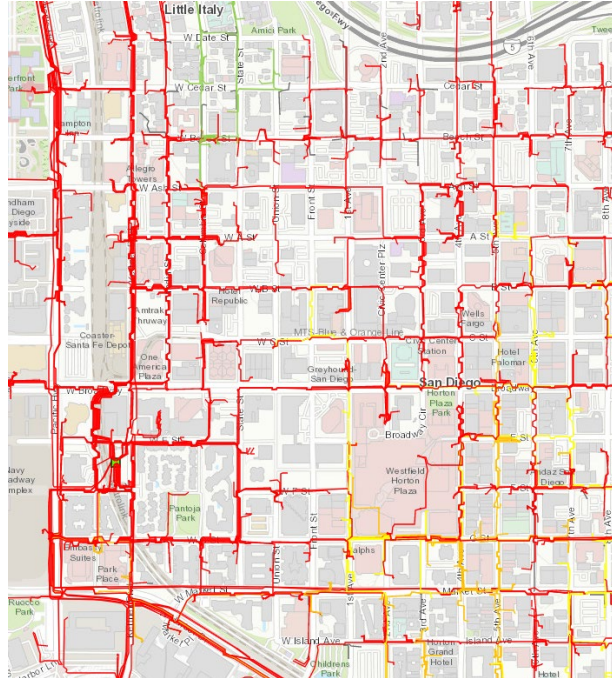
# METHODS

## ICA Map

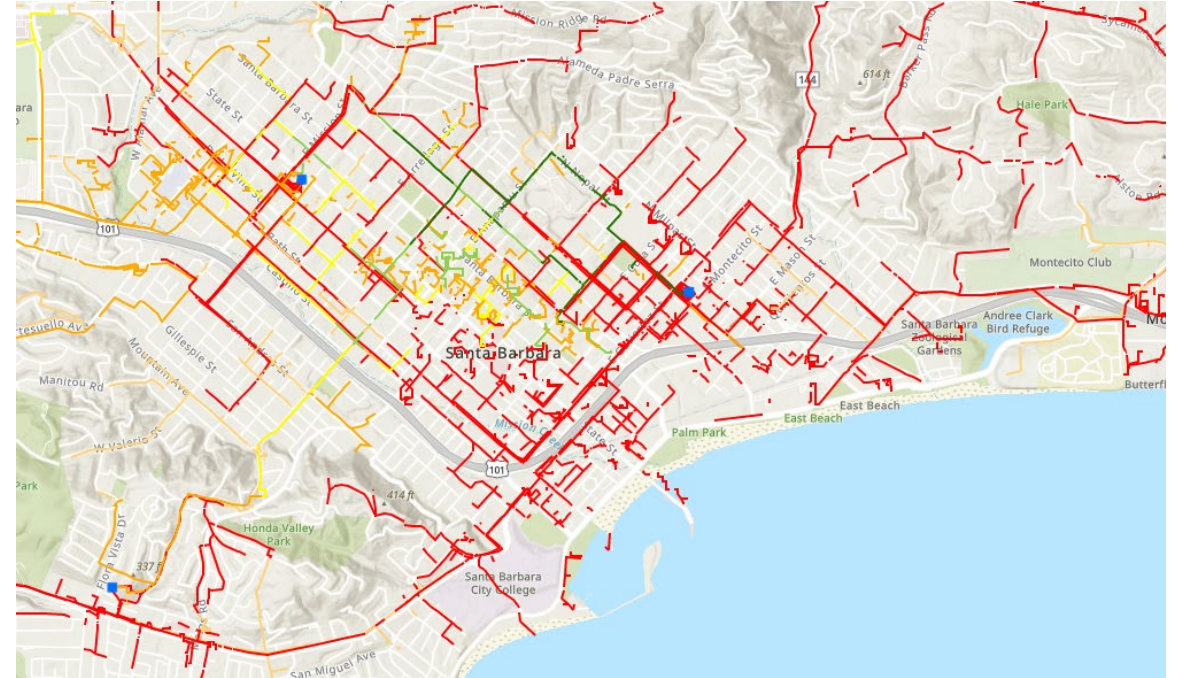
### PG&E



### SDG&E

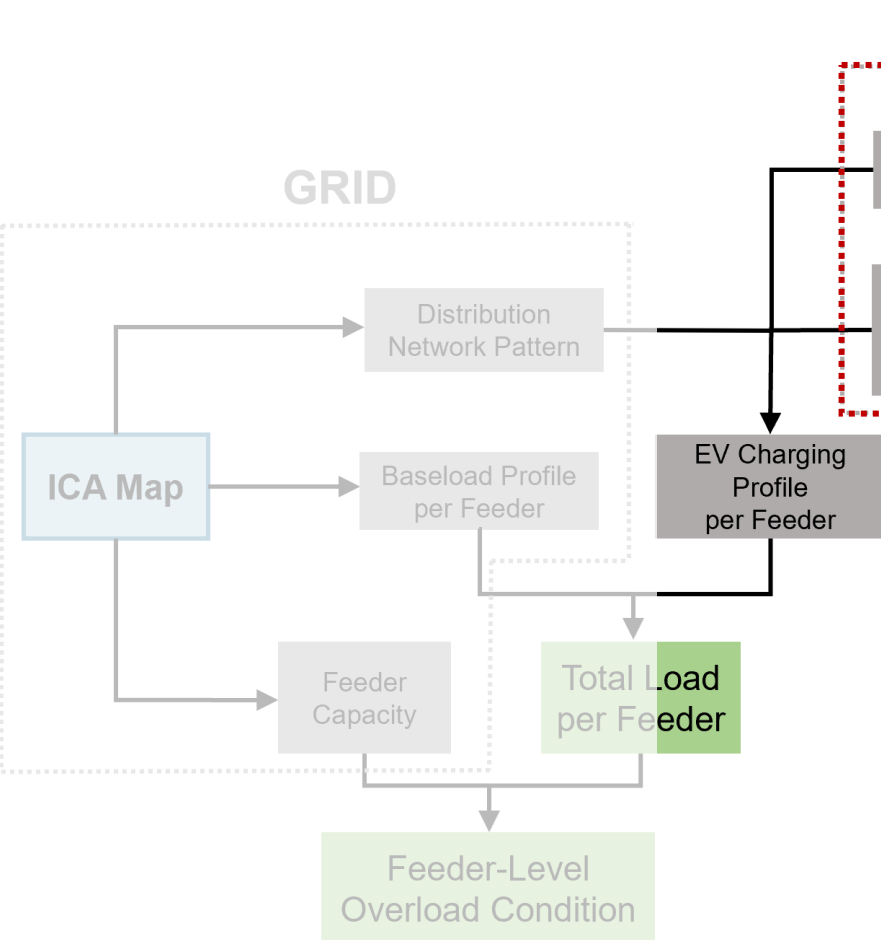


### SCE



# METHODS

Number of EV Trips in each Region



## EV

### California Statewide Travel Demand Model (CSTDM):

- Light duty vehicles (LDV) trips from and to each Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ)
- Trip purposes

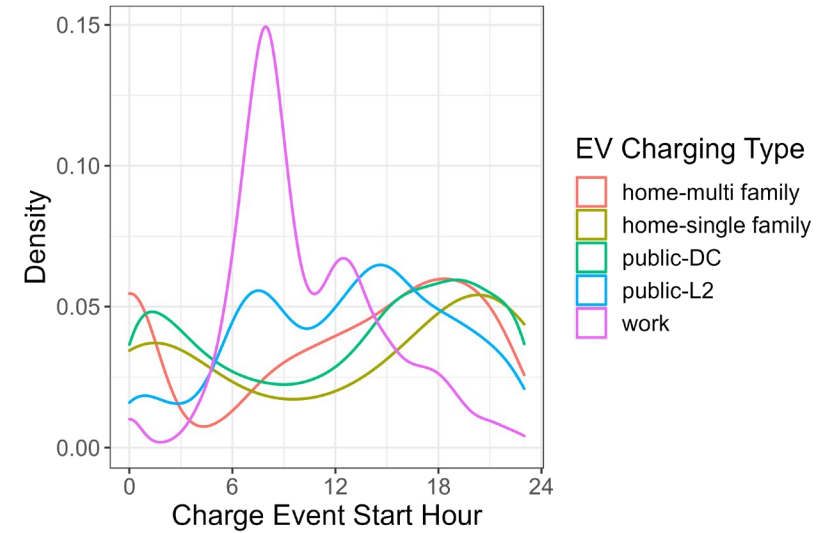
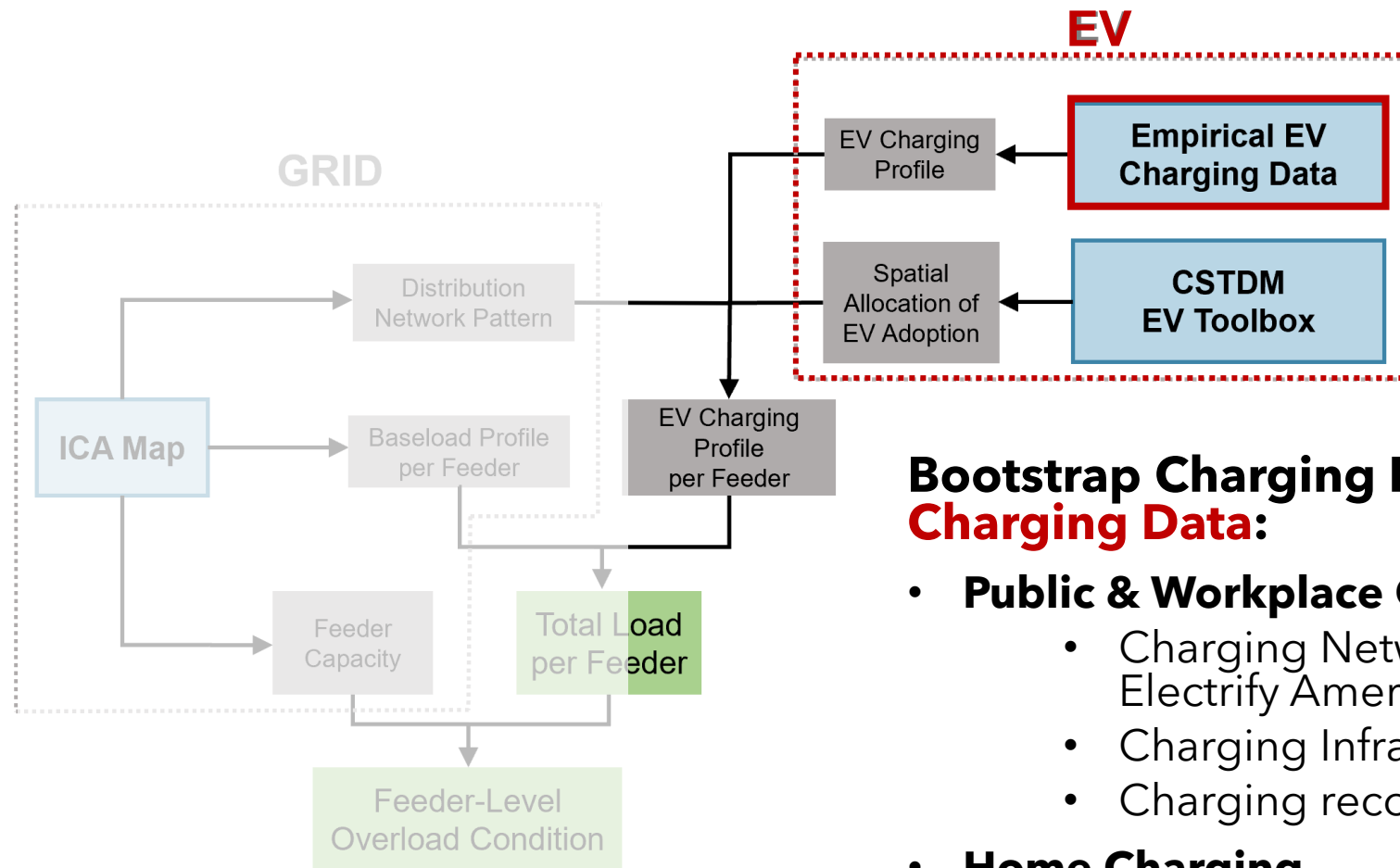
### EV Toolbox:

- EV adoption model
- Projection on the number of household with EV at census tract level

### Fleet electrification:

- EV sales growth: up to 100% EV within LDV sales by 2035
- EV on the road: 6.6 million by 2030  
24 million by 2045

# METHODS | Simulate EV Charging Profiles

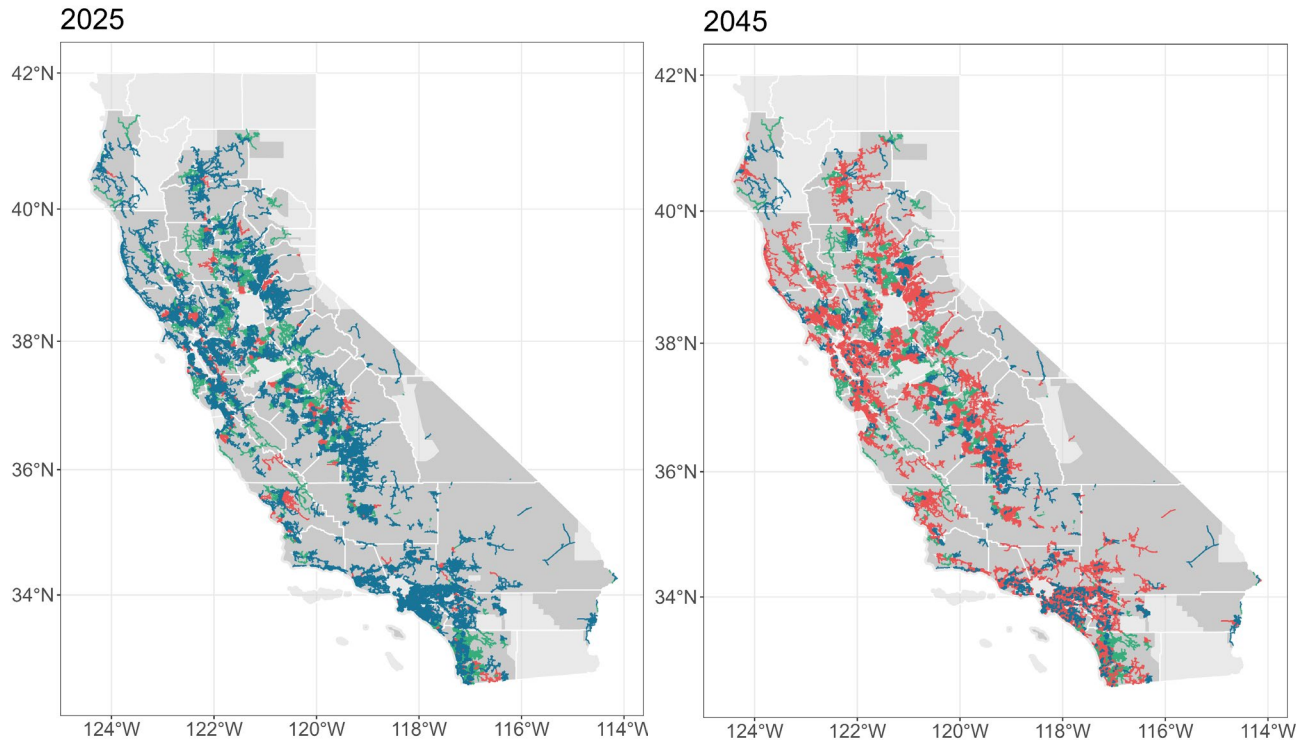


## Bootstrap Charging Events from **Empirical EV Charging Data**:

- **Public & Workplace Charging**
  - Charging Network Providers: EVgo, Chargepoint, Electrify America, BTC POWER, etc.
  - Charging Infrastructure installed by Utilities
  - Charging records 2014 - 2023
- **Home Charging**
  - eVMT project
  - Data loggers on 300 EVs, track for 1 year

# RESULTS

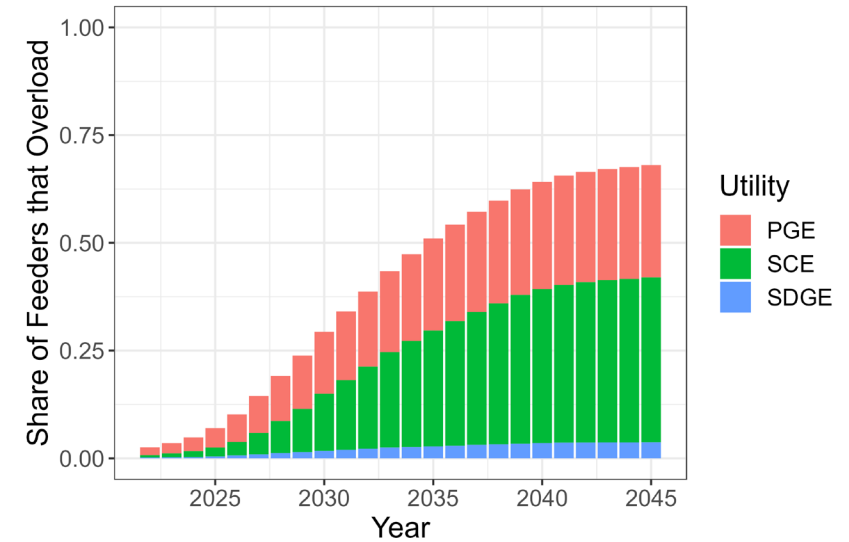
## When & Where will Overload Happen?



### Feeder Condition

- No Overload
- Baseload Overload
- EV Overload

- **Spatial Diversity** of Overloading:
  - EV Charging Demand
  - Existing Infrastructure Capacity

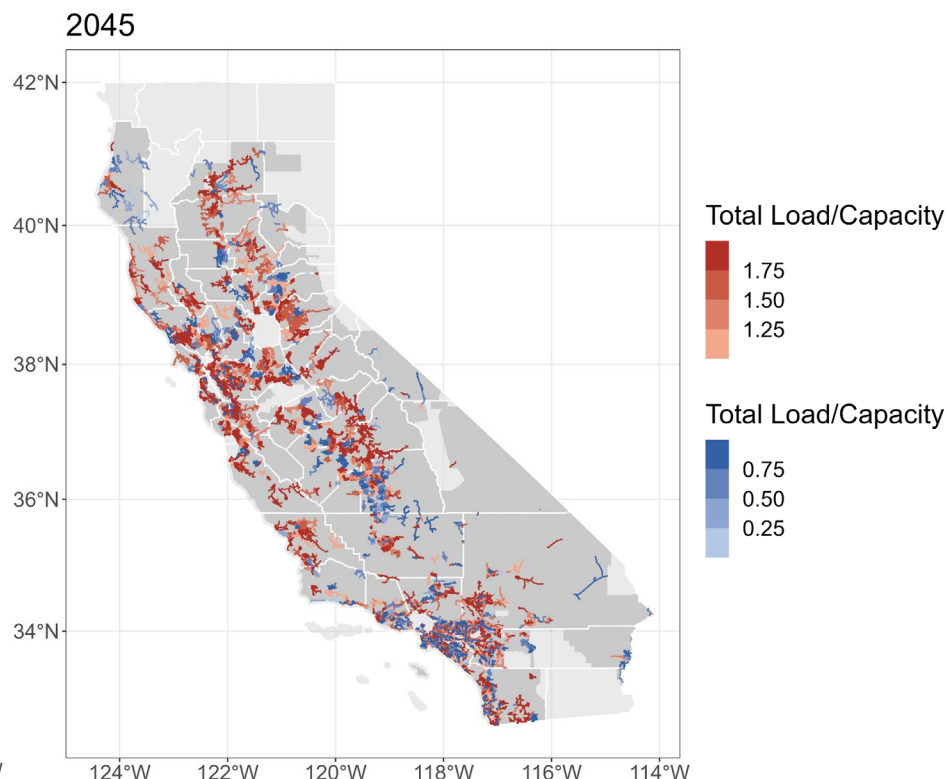
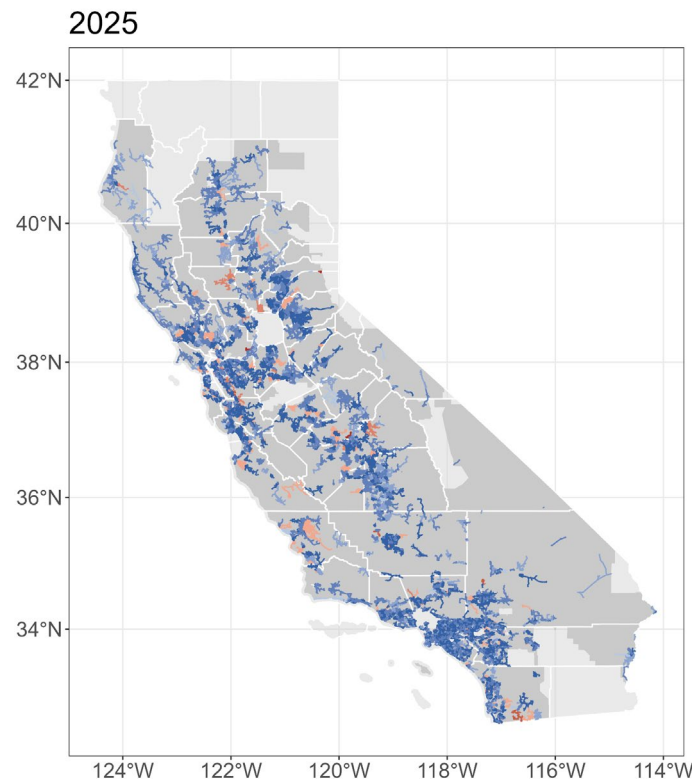
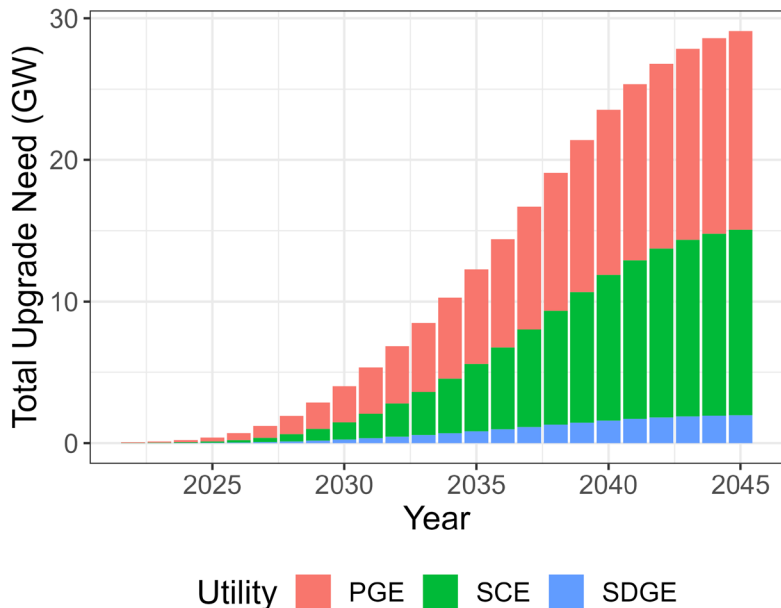


- More than **50%** of the feeders will overload by **2035**.
- Up to **68%** of the feeders will overload by EV charging demand by **2045**.



# RESULTS

## How **Intense** will Overload Be?

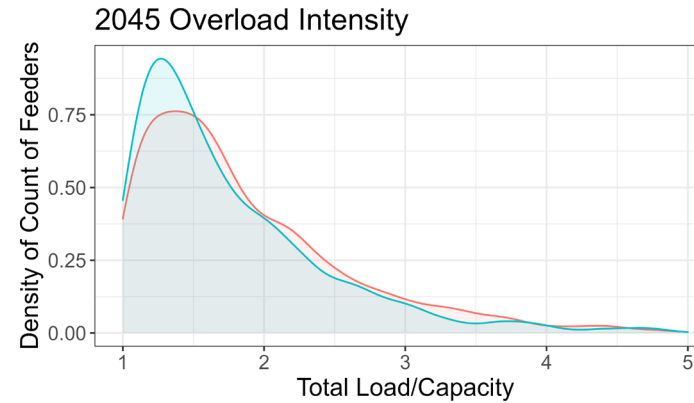
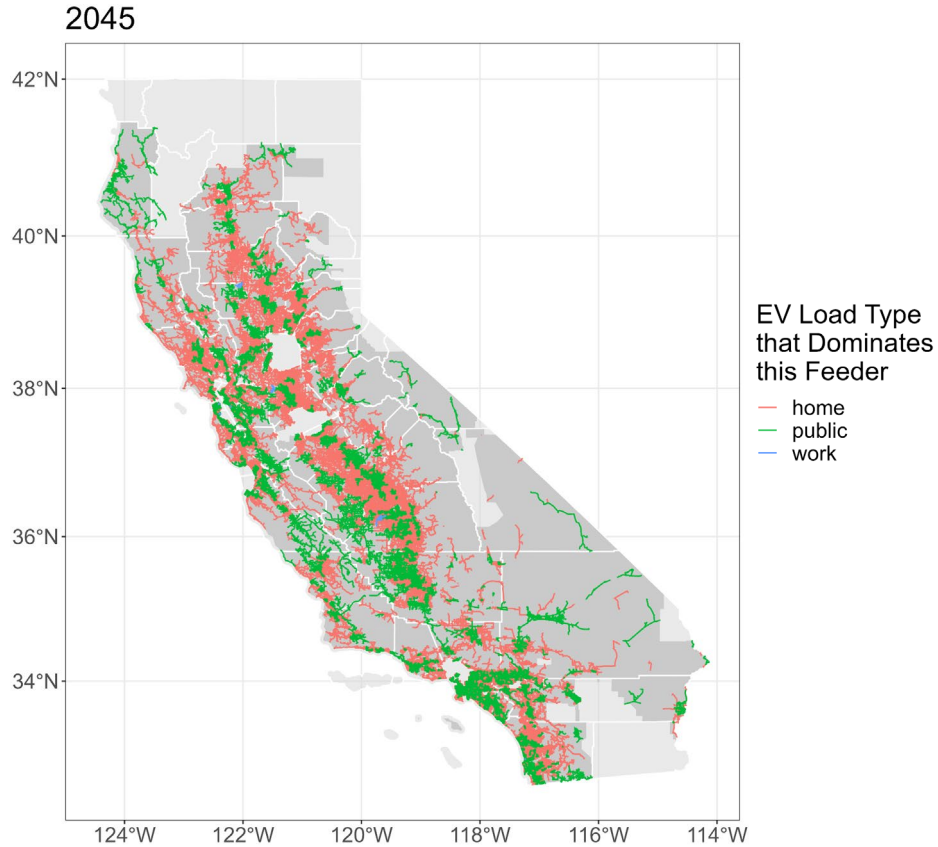


- By **2045**, more than **29 GW** capacity upgrade will be needed in the distribution grid.
- Corresponding cost range between \$7 and \$22 billion.

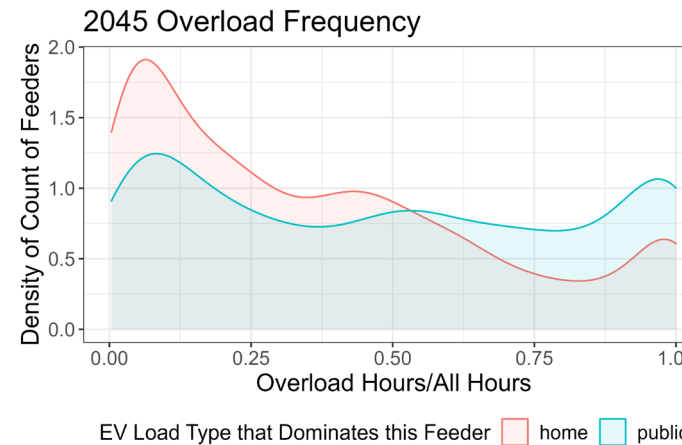
- Though overload already start in some areas in early 2020s, they are generally less intense - below 25% of existing feeder capacity.
- In 2045, most feeders around those that have severe overloading will be very close to overloading, if they are not already overloaded.

# RESULTS

## How does Different **Types** of Charging Affect Overload?



- Feeders dominated by **home charging**:
  - less frequent
  - more intense

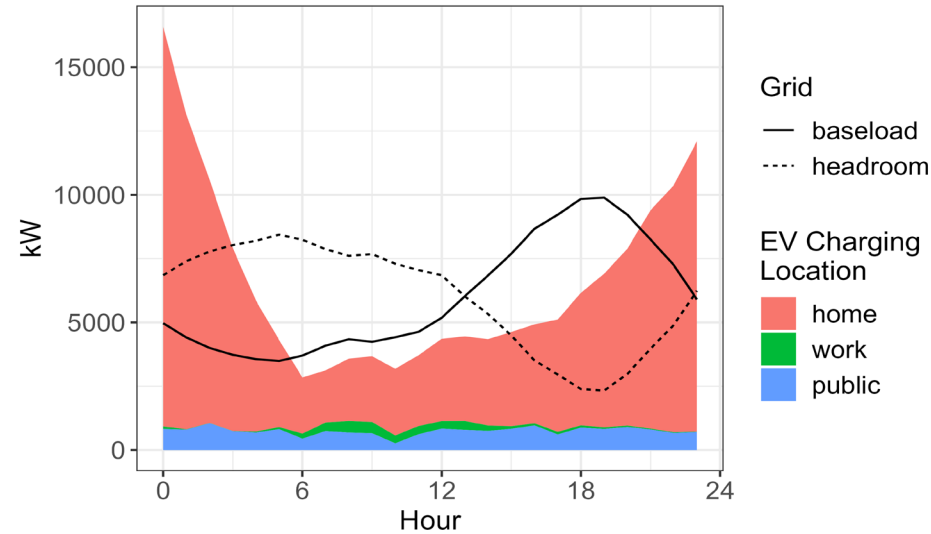


- Feeders dominated by **public charging**:
  - more frequent
  - less intense

# RESULTS

## Overload Time: **Synergy** of Baseload vs EV Load Patterns

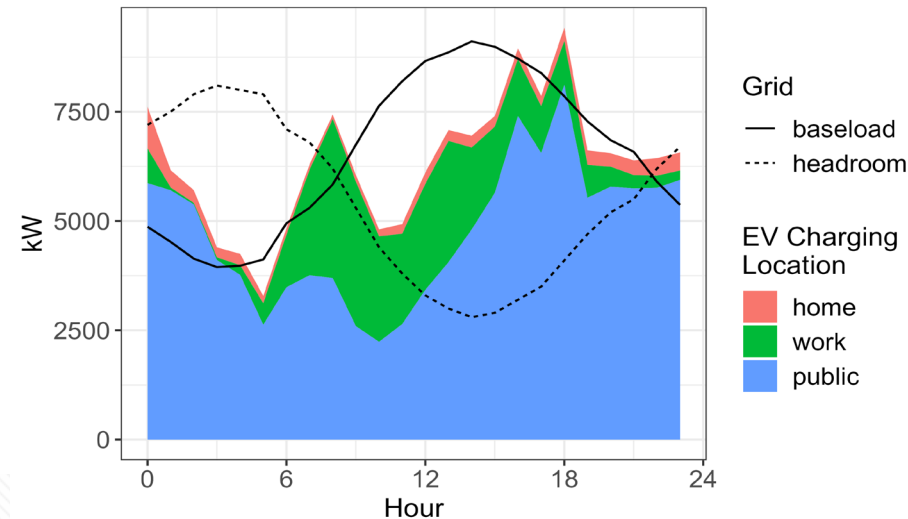
Home Charging Dominated Feeder



Feeder dominated by **Home Charging**  
(Residential Area)

- Only one peak charging load during the night
- Baseload peaks around 18:00
- Overload take place **mostly at night**

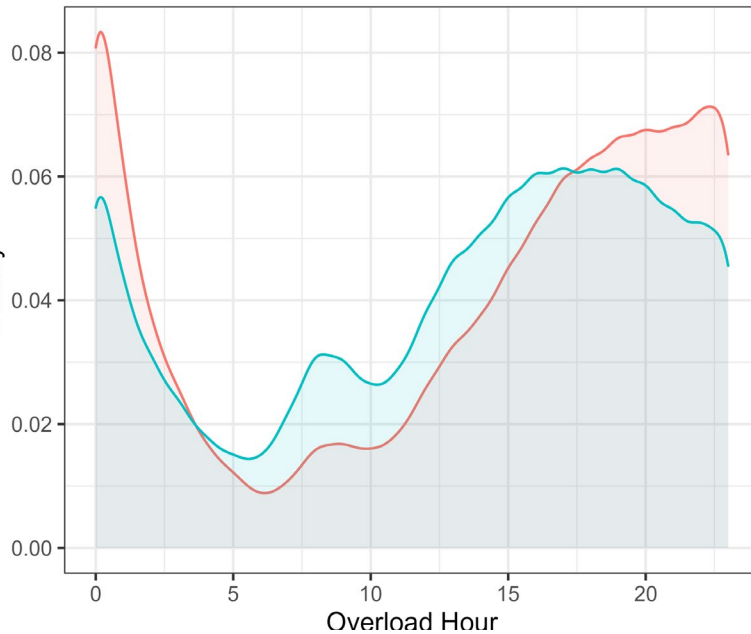
Public Charging Dominated Feeder



Feeder dominated by **Public Charging**  
(Commercial Area)

- Two charging load peaks: night and day
- Baseload peak starts earlier, usually from around noon
- Overload tends to happen **more in the day**

2045



EV Load Type that Dominates this Feeder ■ home ■ public

## CONCLUSION

- Our findings indicate a need for infrastructure upgrade in **68%** of the distribution feeders in California by **2045**, with a total upgrade need of **29 GW**.
- Overloading intensity, frequency, and time are **highly diverse spatially**, which are related to **the mix of different types of EV charging demand**.

## OUTLOOK

- Projections on the demand side development of the grid, such as rooftop solar generation and energy efficiency.
- Include heavy duty EV charging demand.

# THANK YOU!

# QUESTIONS?

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