

# Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure Systems: Adoption, Deployment, and Management Insights

**Eleftheria (Ria) Kontou, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Civil and Environmental Engineering

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

NAE 2023 Regional Meeting and Symposium

Funding acknowledgment: research partially supported by DOE VTO (DE-EE0009235);  
views do not necessarily represent the funding agency



# Grand Challenge: Decarbonize Transportation Systems

**Climate change** mitigation requires massive shifts to clean vehicle technologies and travelers' attitude change



Energy and air quality burdens disproportionately incurred by **disadvantaged communities**

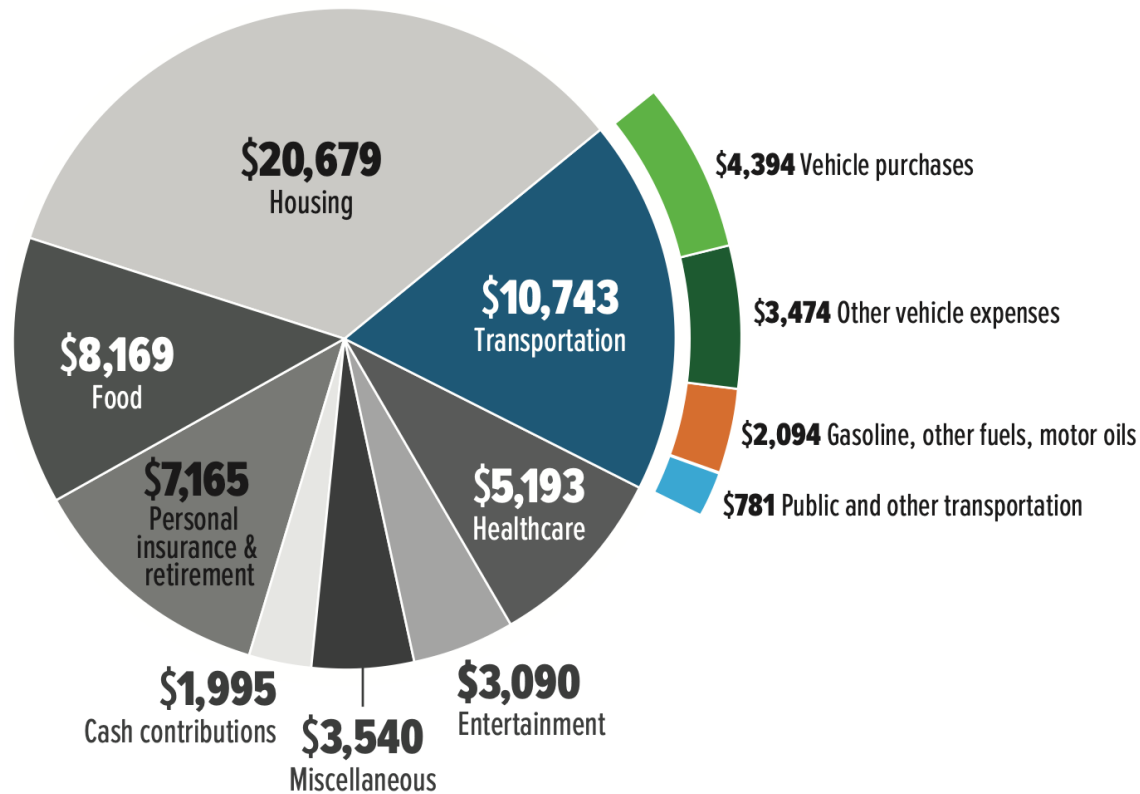


**Resilience** of sustainable transport systems and infrastructure against extreme events



# Transport **Energy Burden**

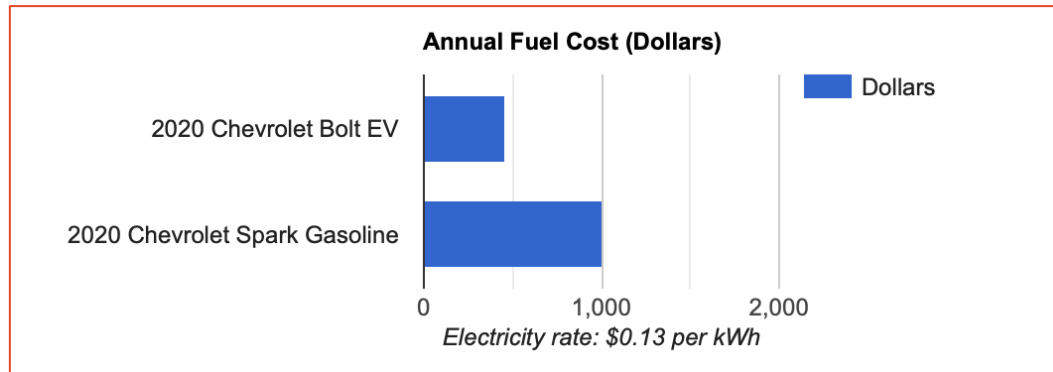
## 2019 AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES



- **Significant transport costs for overburdened households**
  - Gasoline & diesel price volatility is an economic uncertainty for households and businesses

Data source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Consumer Expenditure Surveys (2019)  
Figure source: The U.S. National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization (2023)

# Light-Duty **Transport Electrification** Real Impacts

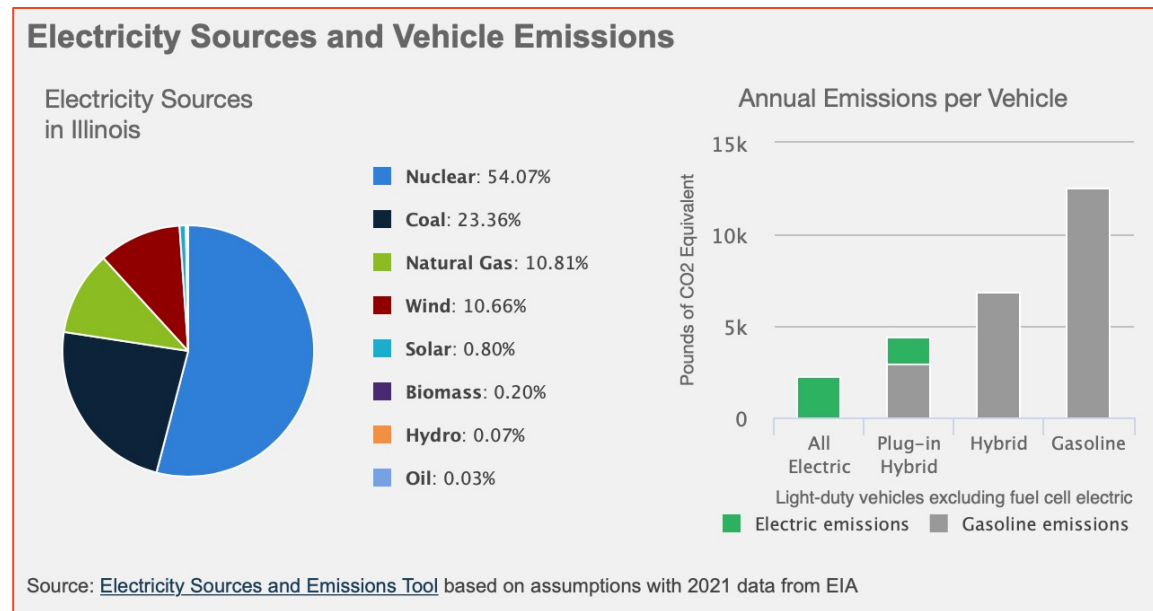


## Travel Cost Savings

- EV \$453 vs CV \$1,000 per year

## Emissions Reduction

- 82% annual CO<sub>2</sub>-eq decrease

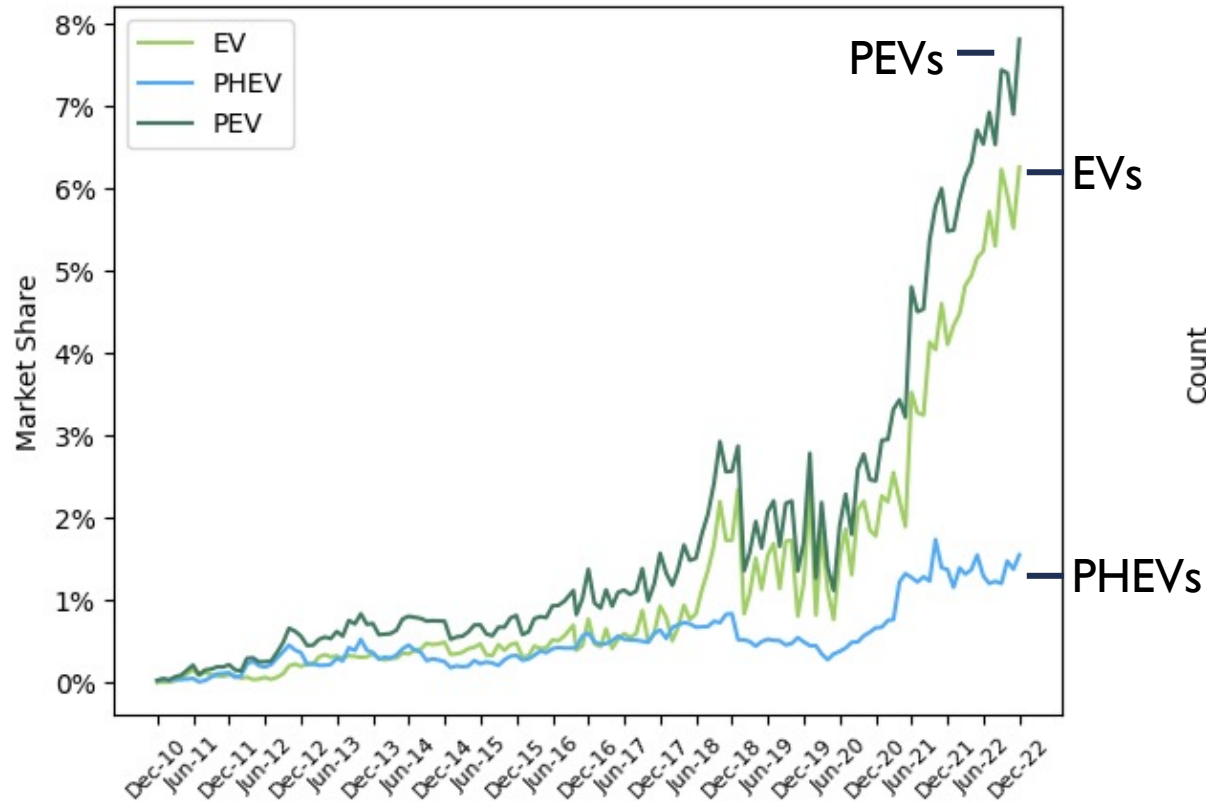


Figures source: Alternative Fuels Data Center. 2021. <https://afdc.energy.gov/states/il>

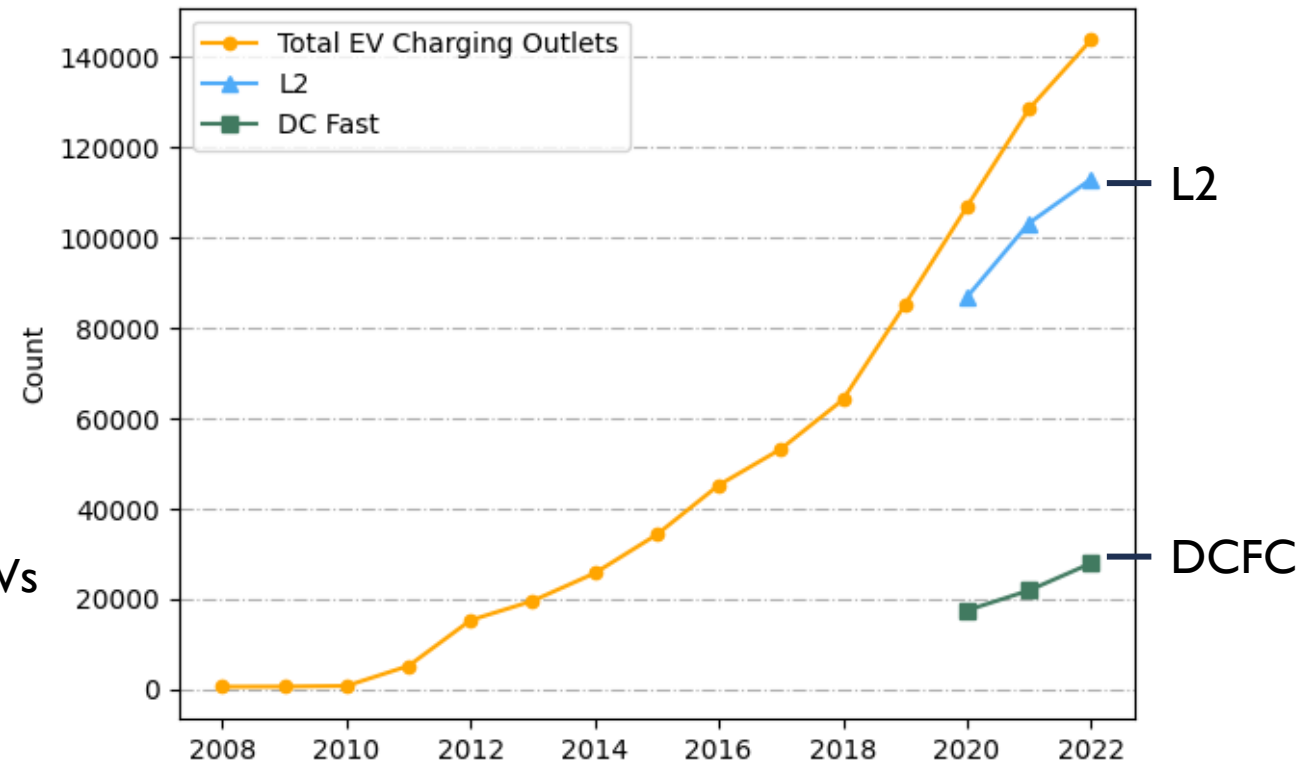


# US **Transition** to Electric Vehicles

Light-duty plug-in vehicle monthly market share



Electric vehicle public charging ports



Data source: Alternative Fuels Data Center. 2023. <https://afdc.energy.gov/stations/#/find/nearest>  
Data source: Department of Energy. 2023. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/vehicles/articles/fotw-l275-january-30-2023-monthly-plug-electric-vehicle-sales-united-states>

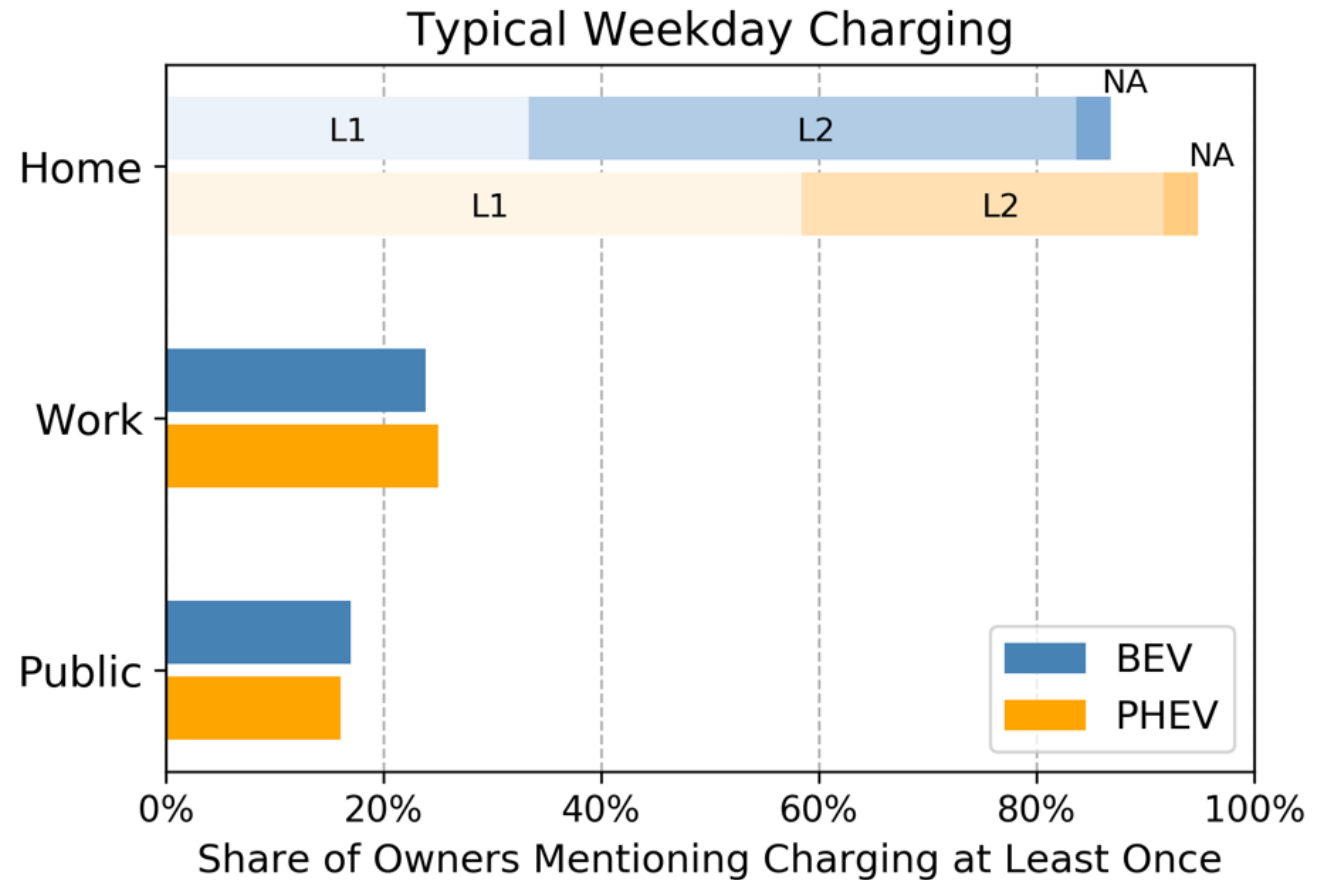
# Charging Locations

## Where do plug-in electric vehicle drivers charge on weekdays?

### Battery EV owners:

- 88 % charging at home
- 24 % charging at work
- 17 % public charging

Figure from: Greene, Kontou, et al. 2020.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2019.11.011>

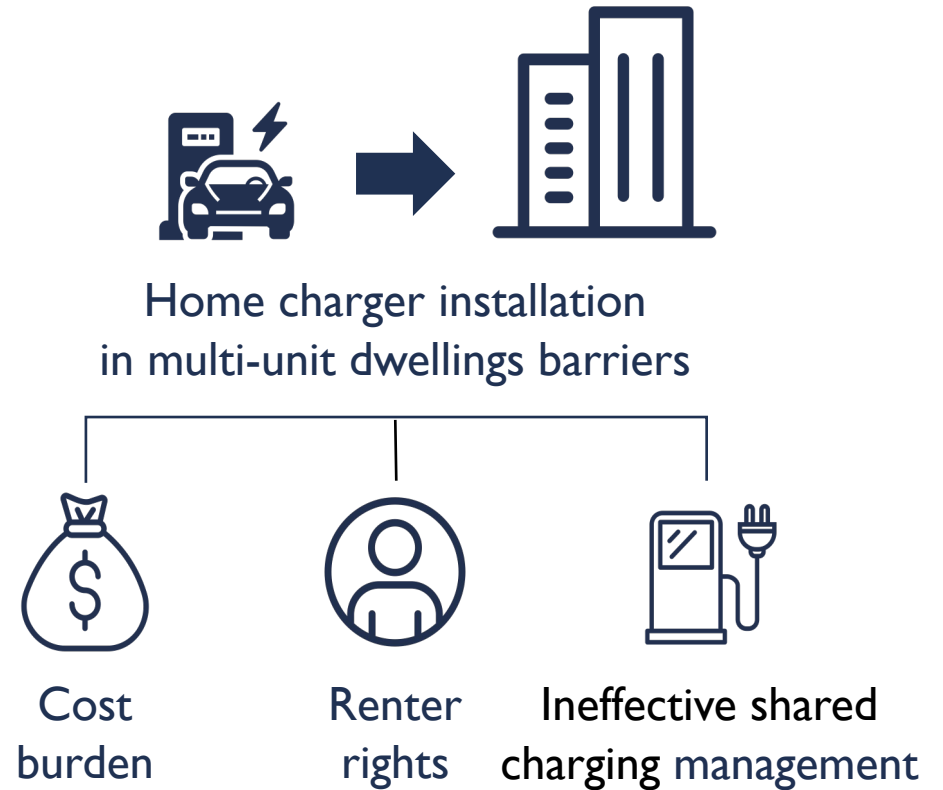


# Ubiquitous **Residential** Charging ?

**Multi-unit dwellers face barriers related to home parking and charging access**



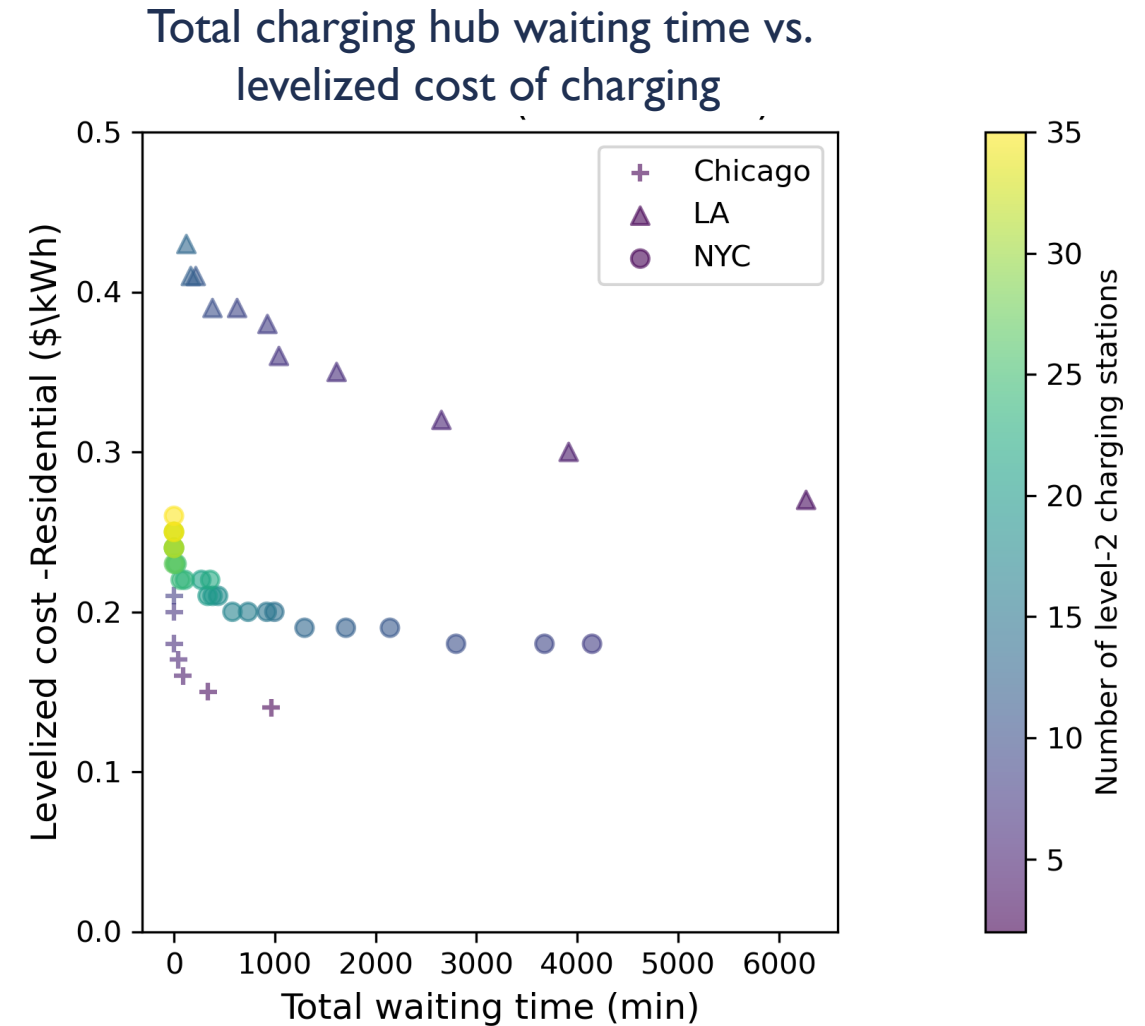
Limited access to reliable charging infrastructure could hinder electric vehicle adoption



# Shared Charging Management in Apartment Complexes

- Dynamic session-station allocation
- Day-ahead or stochastic residents charging demand
- Right-size infrastructure
- High station utilization
- Technoeconomic assessment of various business models
  - Residential ownership
  - Utility ownership
  - Private company ownership

Figure from: Zhang et al.  
<https://ssrn.com/abstract=4246024>



Results for avg. number of vehicles per apartment complex based on 2019 American Housing Survey data

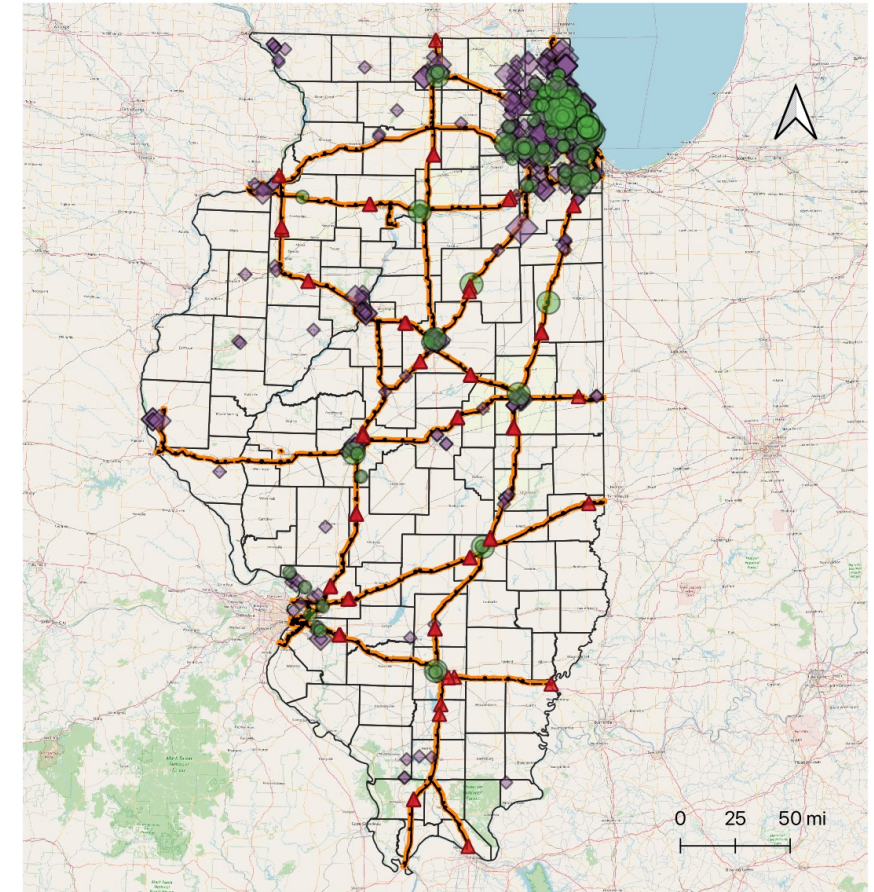
# Public Charging Value

While most of the plug-in electric vehicle charging is expected to occur in residential locations, a network of public chargers provides tangible and intangible value by:

- Enabling long-distance travel
- Coping with range anxiety
- Supporting adopters that cannot reliably charge at residences & workplaces
- Building confidence in the future of EVs

## Legend

- ▲ Rest Areas
- DC Fast Charging Stations
  - 1 - 4
  - 4 - 12
  - 12 - 22
- Level 2 Charging Stations
  - ◆ 1 - 3
  - ◆ 3 - 12
  - ◆ 12 - 26
- Interstates
- Illinois Counties



Data source: Alternative Fuels Data Center. 2021. <https://afdc.energy.gov/stations/#!/find/nearest>



# Planning for **Equitable** Charging Station **Deployment**

Charging facility location models responsive to **multiple stakeholders' feedback**

- Economic viability of network
- Electrical upgrades
- Environmental justice
- Disadvantaged and underserved population coverage and benefits

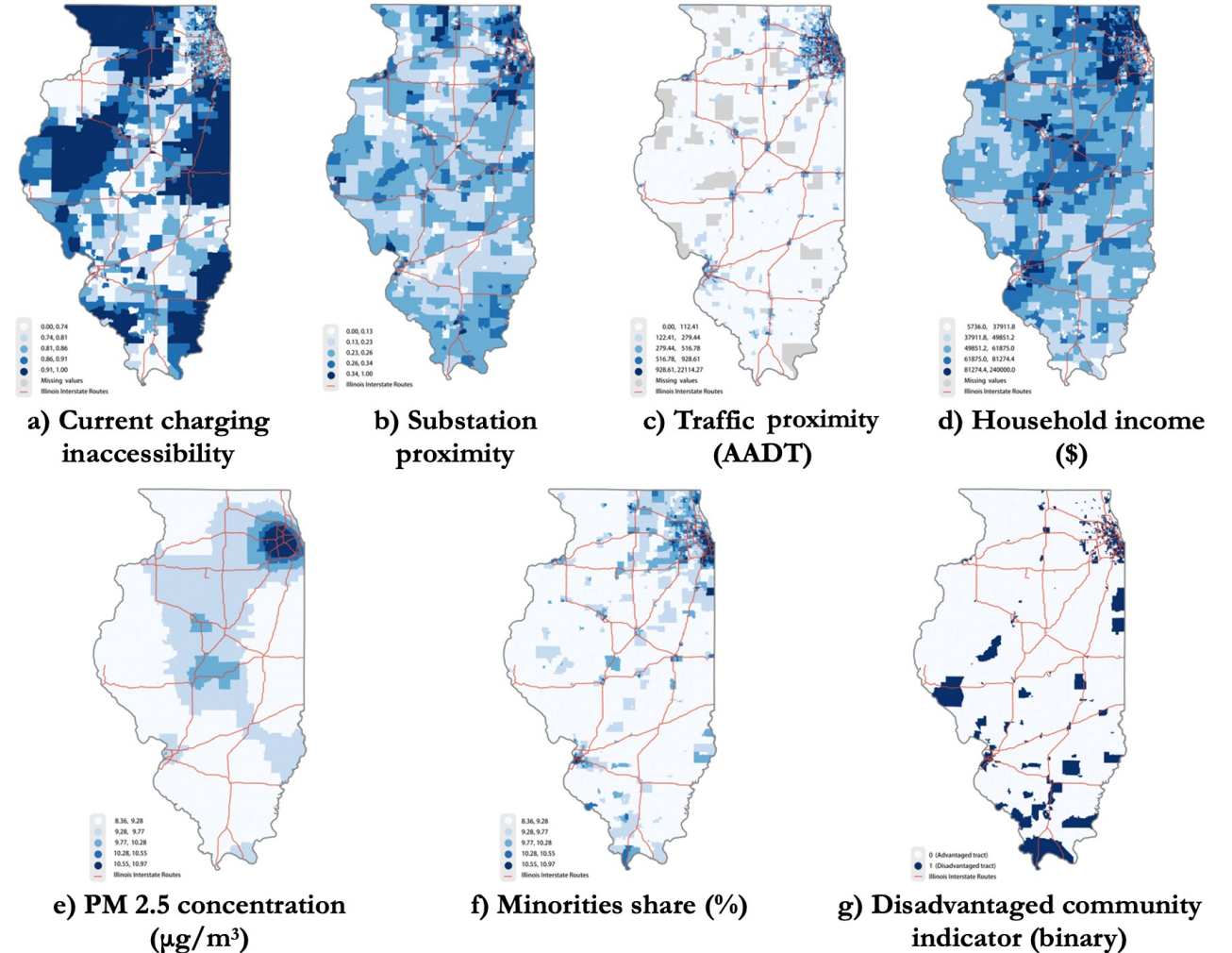


Figure source: Kontou et al. 2023. <https://doi.org/10.36501/0197-9191/22-023>

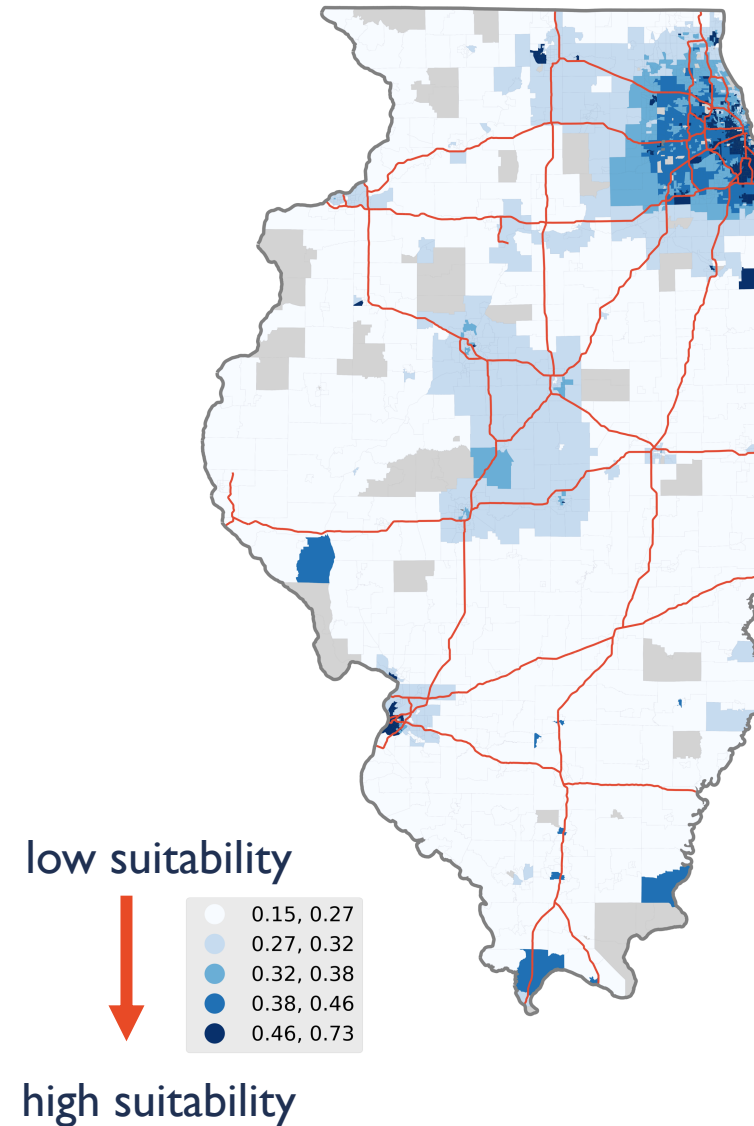
# Planning for **Equitable** Charging Station **Deployment**

Charging facility location models responsive to **multiple stakeholders' feedback**

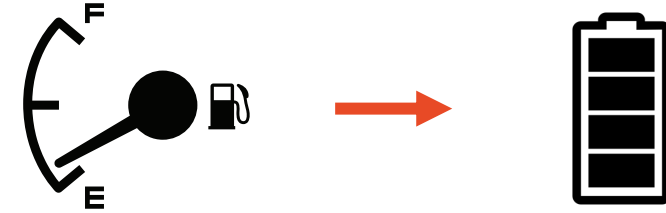
- Economic viability of network
- Electrical upgrades
- Environmental justice
- Disadvantaged and underserved population coverage and benefits

Figure source: Kontou et al. 2023.

<https://doi.org/10.36501/0197-9191/22-023>

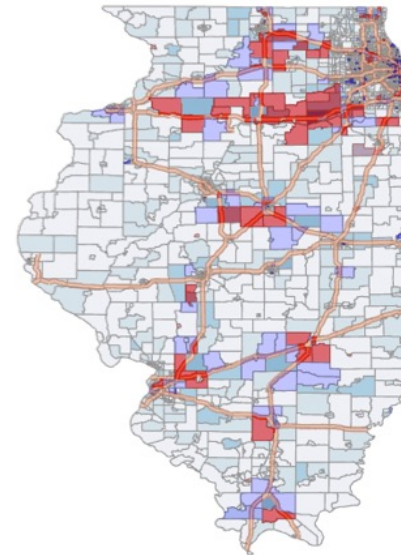


# Mid-Transition Planning

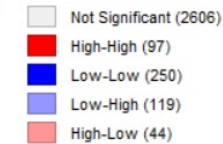


## Fossil system phasing out

- Gasoline stations and their supply chain's infrastructure as stranded assets
- What happens to these assets as the transportation sector goes electric?



IL I-80 census tracts have high charging station suitability and high gas stations sales



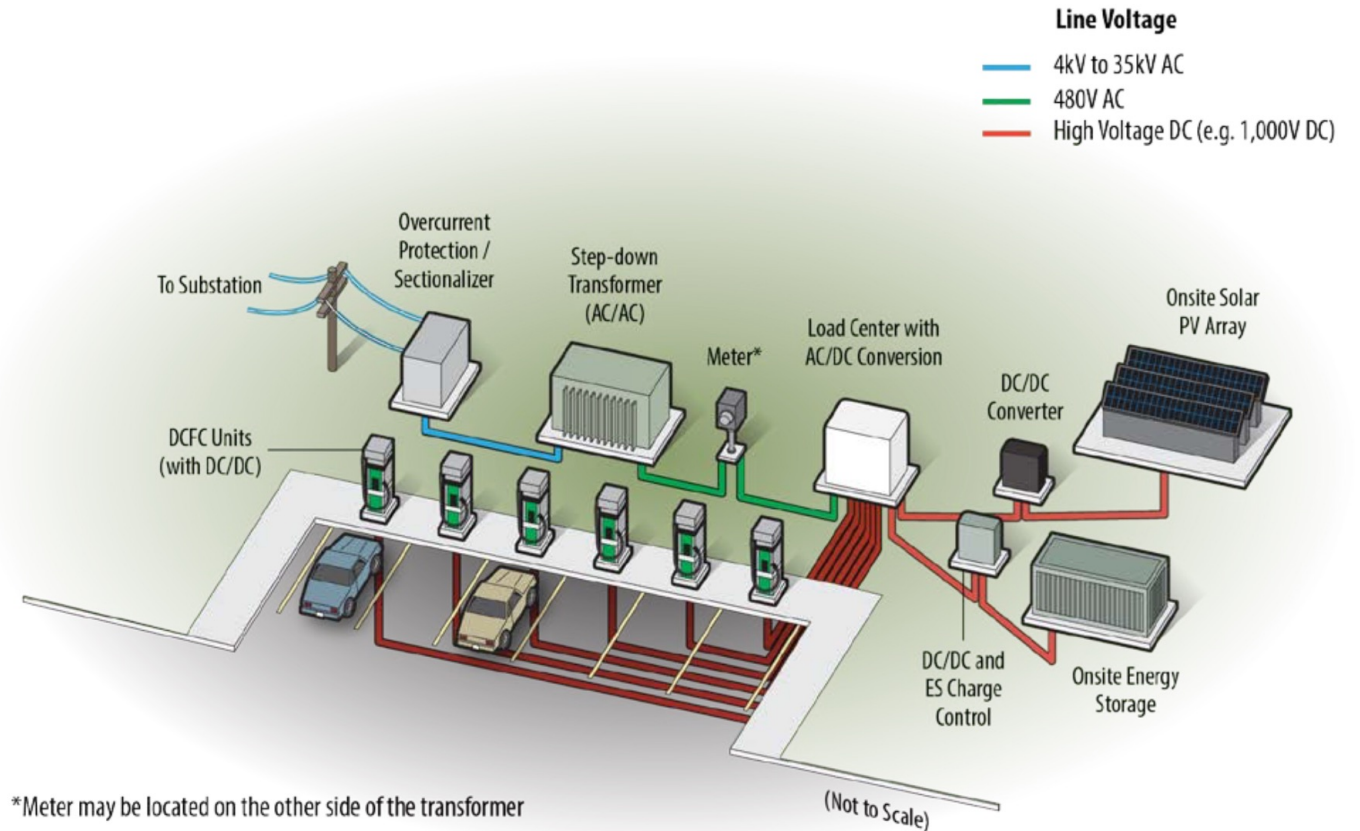
# Electrified Charging Network by **Renewables**

## **Daily travel**

- Charging electricity from renewable sources
- Electricity tariffs that incentivize clean energy use
- Charger providers lower costs from demand charges with renewables

## **Extreme events**

- Enhance reliability of the system through microgrid connection

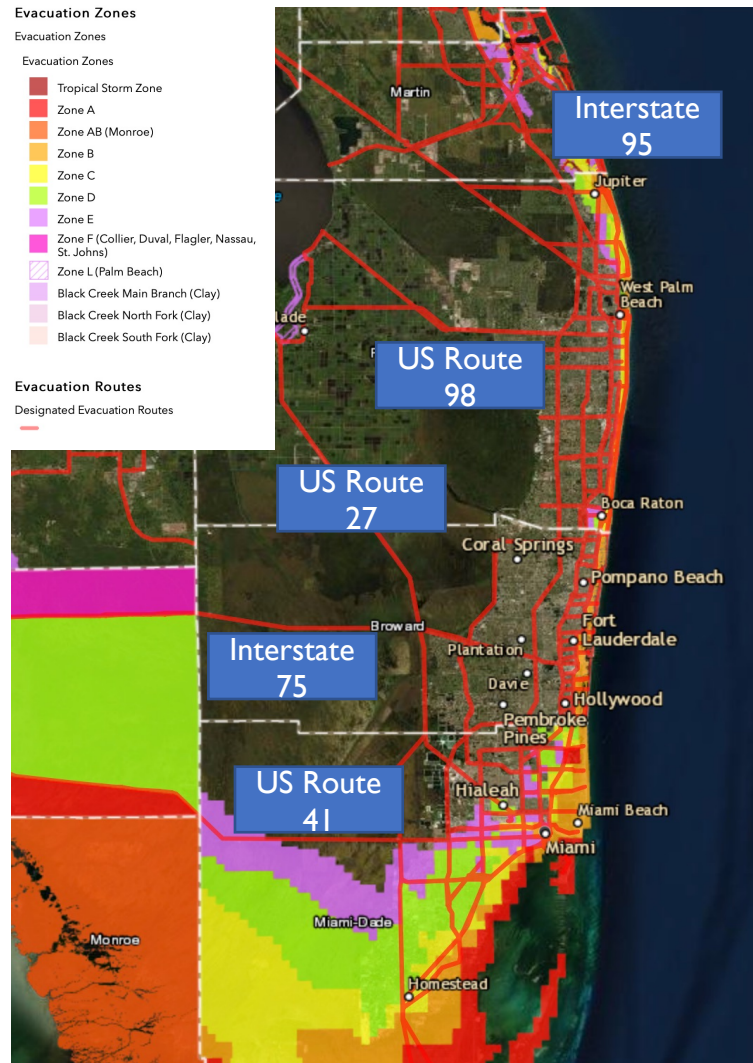


Picture from: Francfort et al. (2017). [Link](#)



# Evacuation with Electric Vehicles

## South Florida Evacuation Network



Map source: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/knowyourzone/>

## Florida Hurricane Disaster Declarations

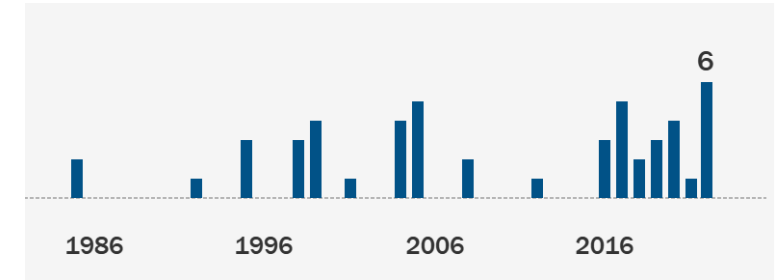


Figure source: FEMA. 2023.

<https://www.fema.gov/data-visualization/disaster-declarations-states-and-counties>



# Planning **Emergency/Portable** Charging Station Locations for Evacuations

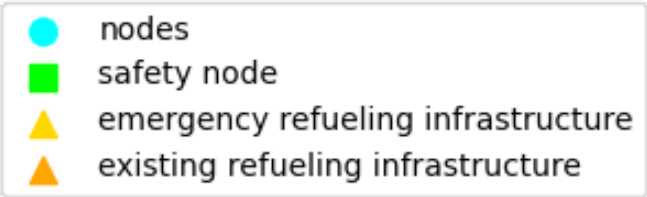
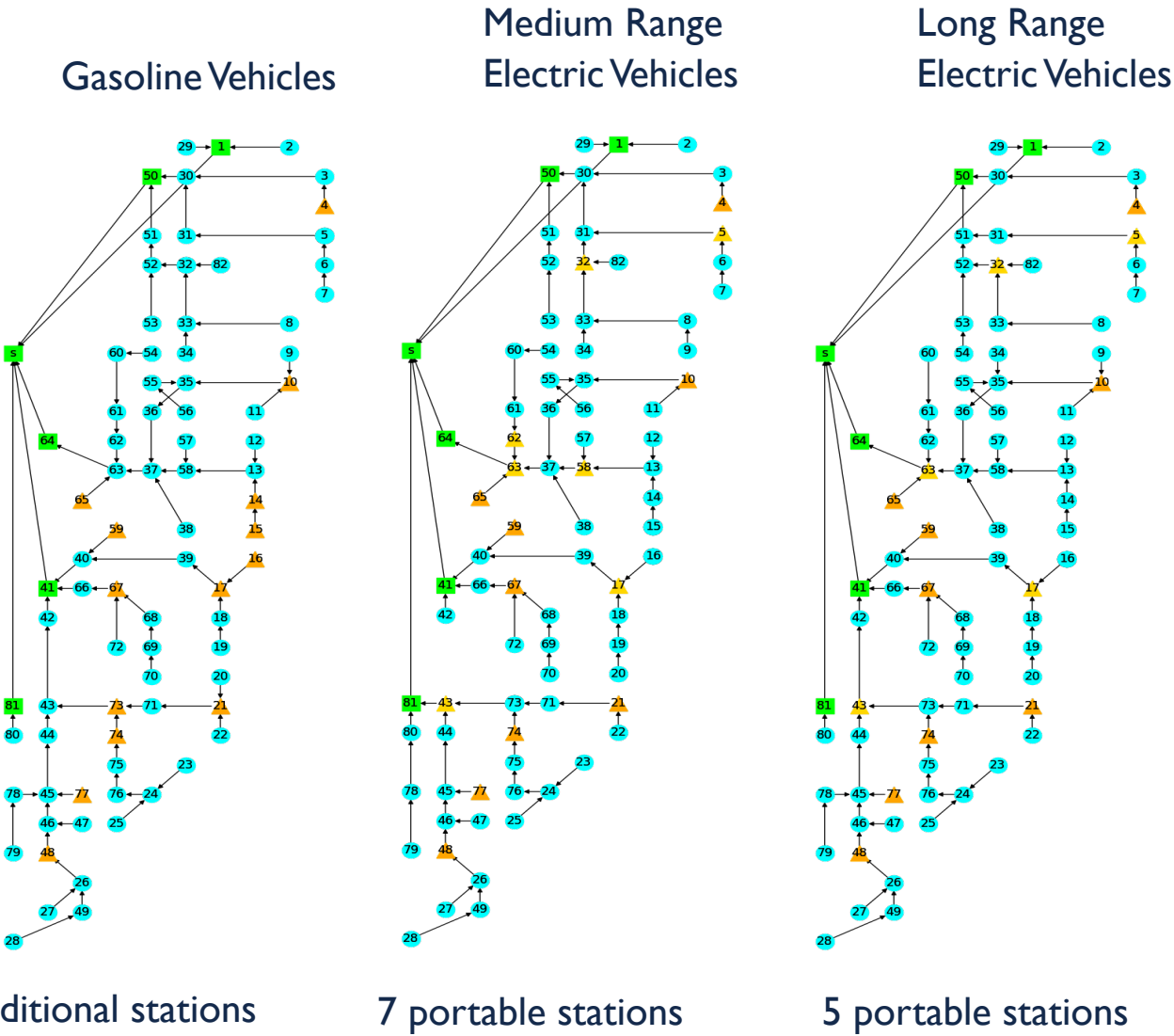


Figure source: Purba, Balisi, Kontou. In press.

South Florida Evacuation Network

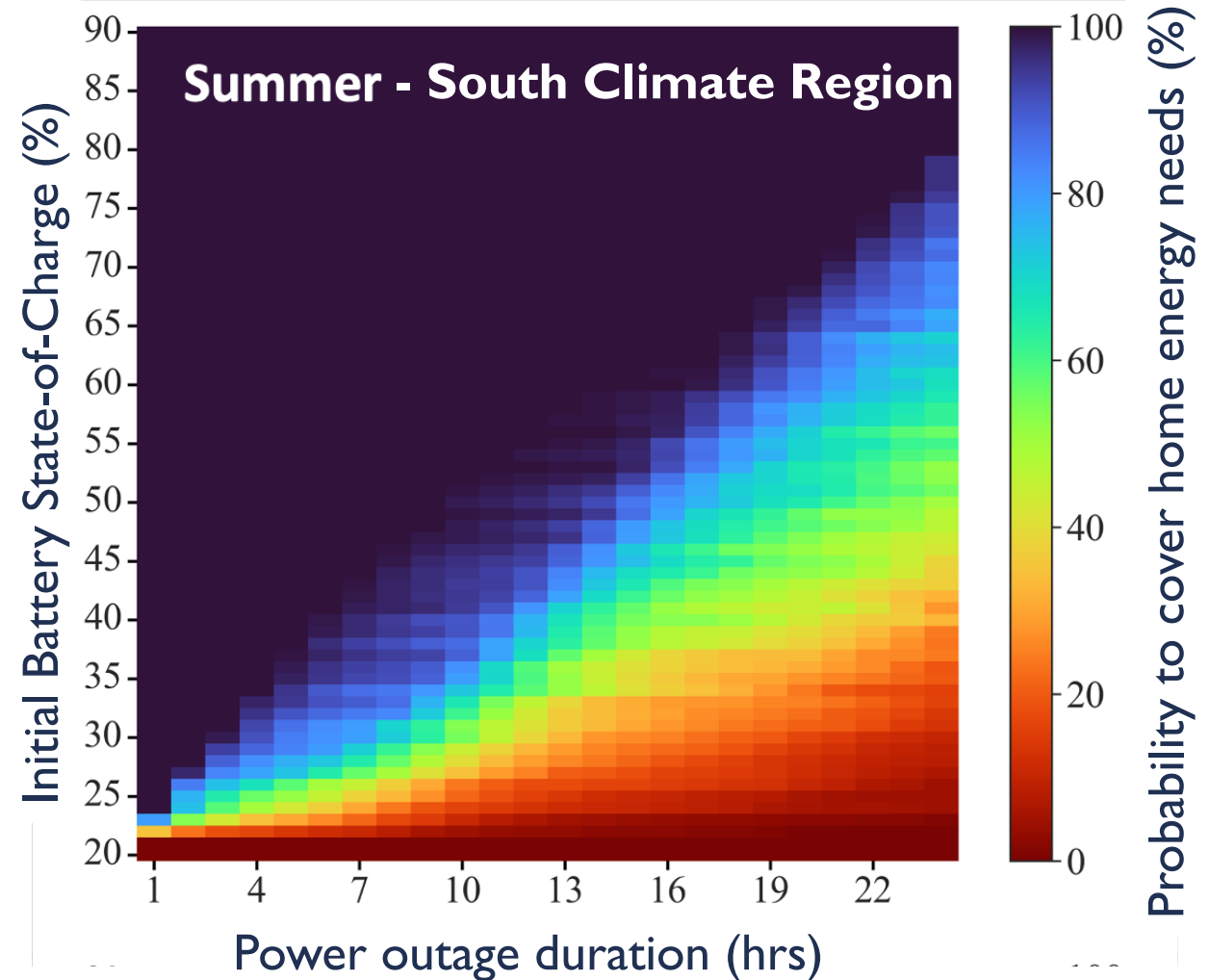


# Electric Vehicle as a Resource During a **Power Outage**

Battery electric vehicle powers residential energy needs during outages through **vehicle-to-home technology**



Graph source: Liu, Vlachokostas, Kontou. In preparation.





# Sustainable, Resilient, Equitable Transport Systems





# Thank you!

**Dr. Eleftheria (Ria) Kontou**

email: [kontou@illinois.edu](mailto:kontou@illinois.edu)

office phone: +1 217-244-3425

