

Engineering Clean Energy Systems

- Systems
- Strategy
- Concept definition phase
- Open critical reviews

System Development Methods



Strategic planning

- Characteristics – Clear and stable goal
 - Start with a purpose, a vision of where you want to be
 - Choose a direction
 - Develop a plan to get there
 - Waterfall development
- Advantages
 - Goal provides priority
 - **Focus on what's important**
 - Don't do things that block the goal
 - Efficient systems
- Disadvantage
 - Big mistakes from changing goals
- Example – mature systems, high reliability

Agile development

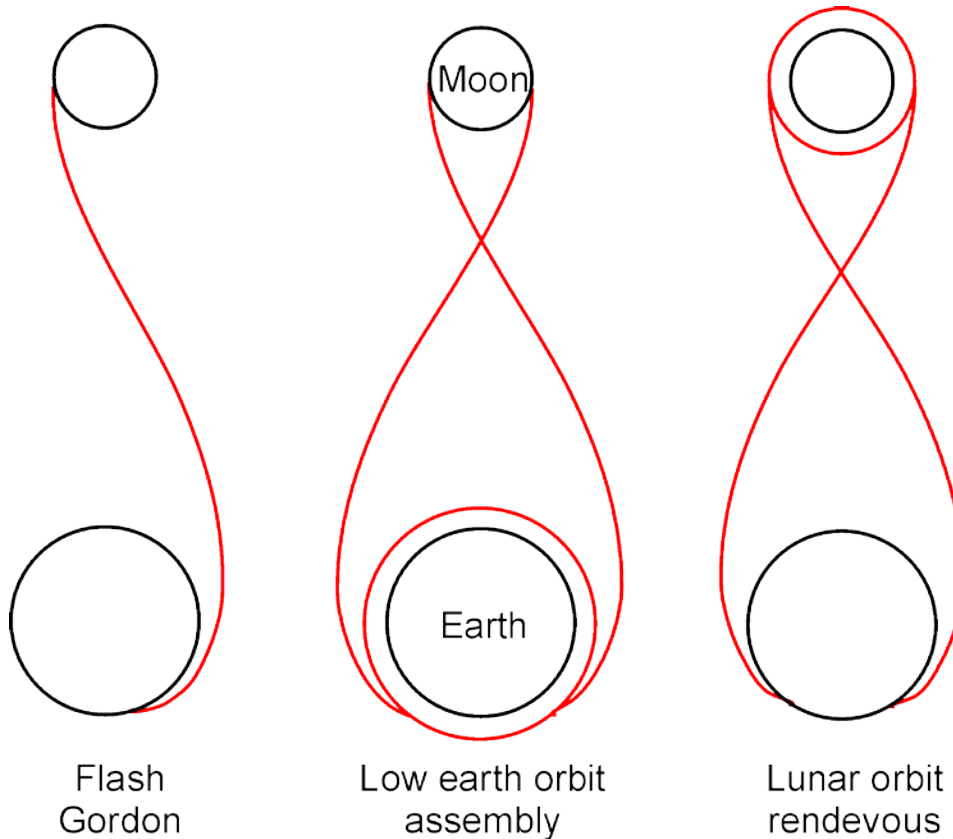
- Characteristics – Fuzzy goal
 - Iteration
 - Local optimization
 - Natural evolution
 - Rapid prototyping
 - Spiral development
 - Requires an inexpensive cycle
- Advantages
 - Adapts to changing requirements
 - Clarifies fuzzy goals
- Disadvantage
 - Dead ends, stranded technology
- Example – Early internet, consumer products

Pavlak, A.,
Strategy vs. Evolution,
American Scientist, 98, 2010,
pp. 448-450



Apollo

A strategic systems engineering success



Strategic goal

“We will put a man on the moon before the end of the decade and return him safely to earth”

JFK May 25, 1961



Overall Strategic Goal

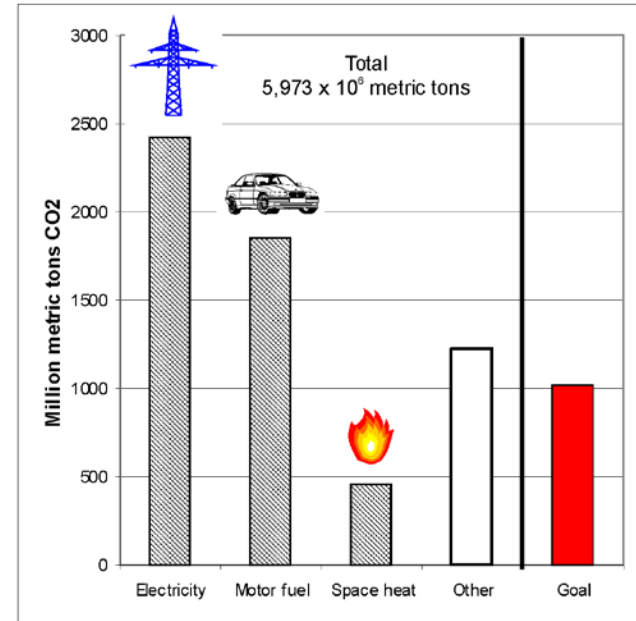
- Big reductions in fossil fuel consumption is inevitable
 - Fossil fuel is a finite resource
- Flexible time frame
 - Environmental concerns and climate change may accelerate schedule
- Consistent with Obama's Copenhagen goal
 - 83% reduction of CO2 emissions below 2005 levels by 2050

Big (90%)
reductions in
greenhouse gas
emissions



Allocated Requirement

- Red bar represents Obama's Copenhagen of 17% residual emissions
- "Other" includes difficult to eliminate applications
 - Chemical industry
 - Fuel for aircraft
- Zero carbon electric power allows many fossil fuel applications to be shifted to electricity



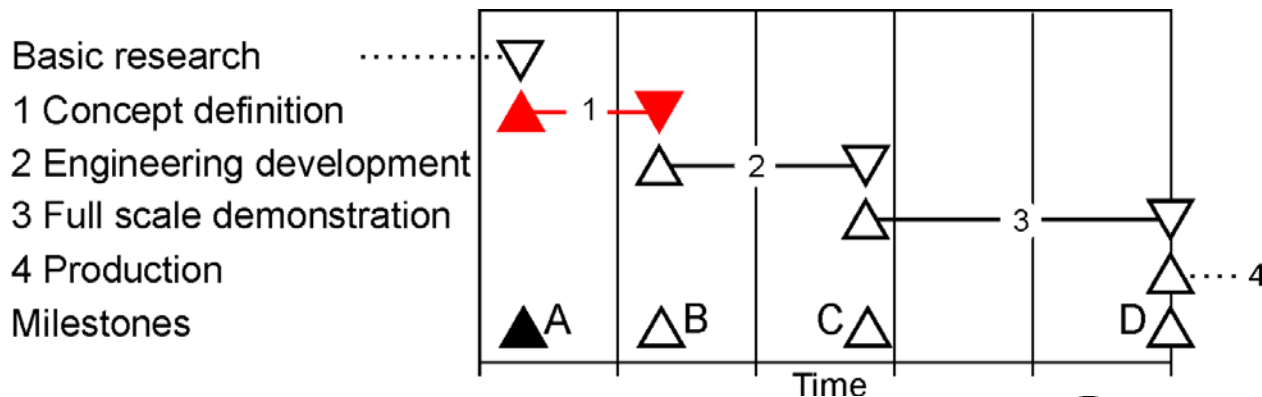
America's CO₂ emissions 2005

Zero carbon electric power

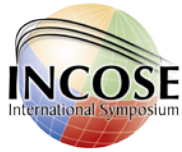


Concept Definition Phase

- Develop the full range of feasible scenarios
 - Based on goals (m/s A) and known technology
 - Establish technical constraints
- Compare them, tradeoffs
 - Provide technical recommendations
 - Society chooses a direction (m/s B), an informed value choice
- Phases 2, 3, 4 are agile



Electric Power System

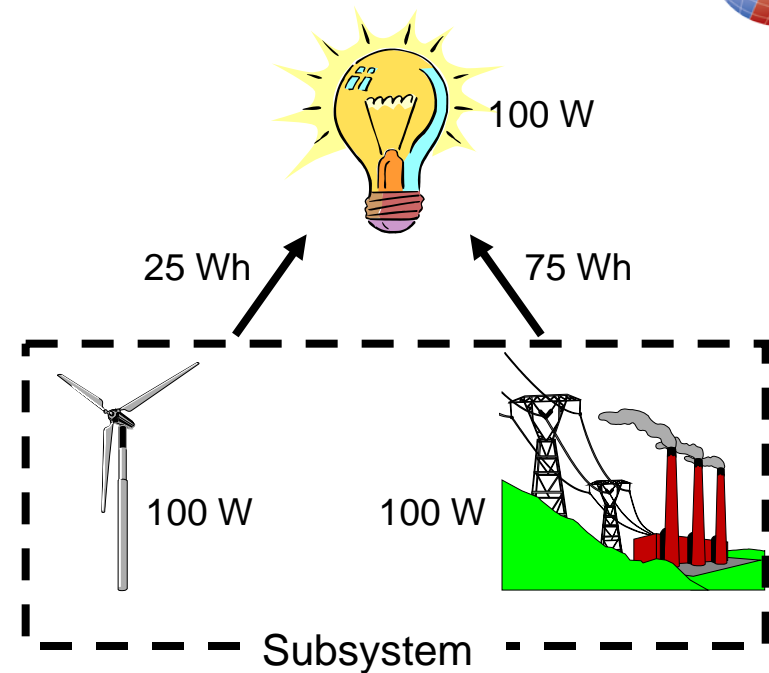


- Systems Architecture 101
 - Systems are all about interfaces
 - **“Partition the system into functional components with simple interfaces”**
- Partitioning is critical with intermittent generators
 - Intermittent generators cannot stand alone
 - Must rely on “something else” to keep the lights on
 - Partitioning simplifies the interfaces



Wind Scenarios

- Decompose the system
 - Closed, stand-alone subsystems
 - Subsystems have same reliability as traditional generators (~ 0.97)
- Wind + (something else)
 - Wind + (fossil fuel)
 - Wind + storage
 - Wind + hydro
 - Wind + biomass
 - Wind + (long distance transmission)
 - Wind + geothermal
 - Wind + nuclear
 - Combinations



1. Wind systems may not be clean
2. Value of wind is wholesale cost of fossil fuel
3. Wind has no peak capacity



Other Scenarios

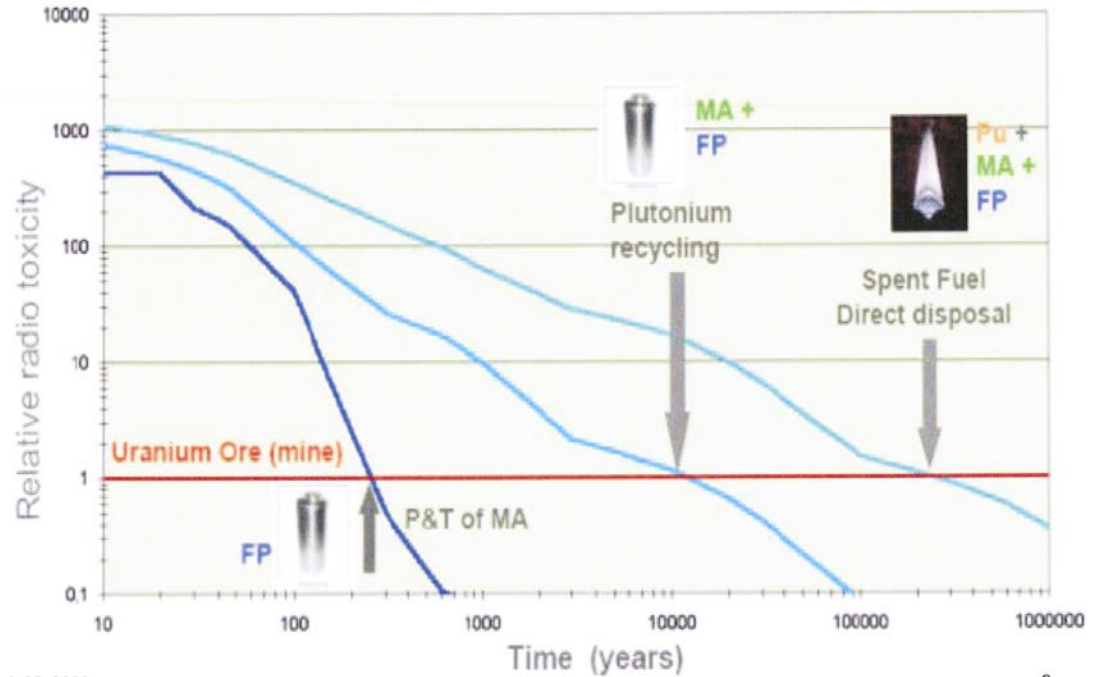
What are the best systems for reducing emissions?
Is there a dominant technology?

- Strategic scenarios are simple concept models of end state system configurations
 - Based on known technology
 - Ignore current policy and legacy systems
 - Anticipate probable improvements.
- Analyze systems in sufficient depth to capture the structural essence - but no more.
- Provide a clear definition of the technical feasibility of various choices.
- To be followed by design reviews, management decision milestones, policy.
- Electric power
 - **Nuclear**
 - Smart grid
 - Wind
 - Coal with CGS
 - Solar
 - **biomass**
 - **Geothermal**
 - Tides
 - Ocean thermal gradient
 - Storage
 - Hydro
- Motor vehicle fuels
- www.pavlak.net/FoE_Scenarios.pdf



Nuclear Scenarios

- Imagine 80% global nuclear power
 - Cheap
 - Safe
 - Sustainable ?????
 - Secure
- Legacy systems do not scale
 - Resource
 - Waste management
- Sustainable nuclear power
 - Breeders (U-Pu or Th-U)
 - Transmute long lived fission products



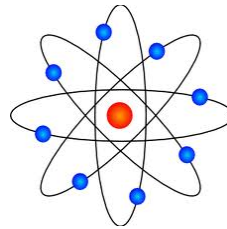
Nuclear fission has sustainable potential



The French Model

- Electric power system 90% carbon free today

- 80% nuclear
- 10% hydro
- 10% coal



- System design
 - Level diurnal variations with oversized hot water heaters & pump storage
 - Build reactors with modest load following capability
 - Eliminate fossil fuel

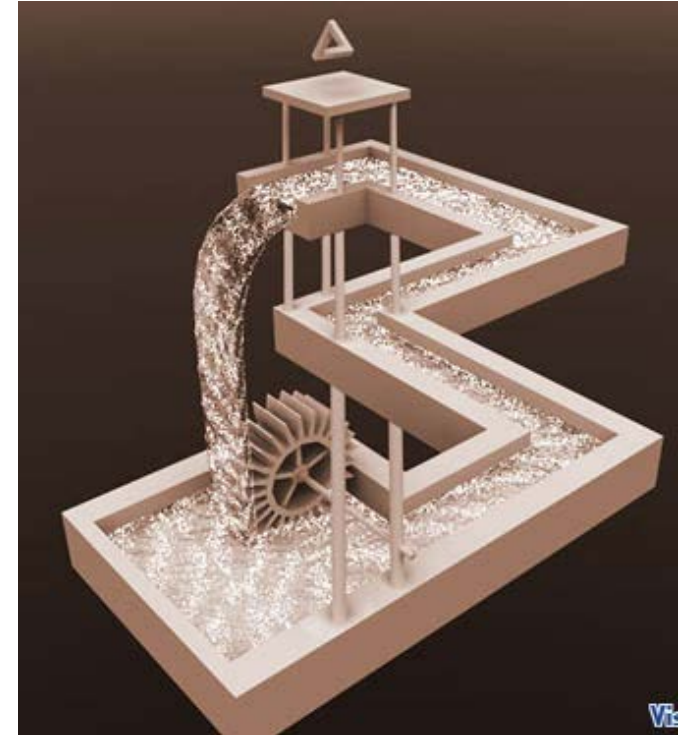
Wind

- Politicians mandating EdF to add wind turbines
- Must also add natural gas to satisfy load
- Increasing grid emission



Open Critical Reviews

- Purpose
 - Does the system satisfy requirements?
 - Clarify issues and problems to be resolved
 - Provide an objective factual basis for value choices
- Open format
 - State requirements/goals
 - Fact finding Public hearing (webinar)
 - Compare the system with requirements
 - Publish comparisons seeking feedback
 - Upgrade and document analysis based on feedback.
 - Minority/majority technical opinions



Future of Energy Initiative



Tasks

- Intermittent system scenarios
- Nuclear system scenarios
- Mentoring
 - Other system scenarios
- Critical reviews

Charter

- INCOSE-CC Initiative
 - Subgroup of INCOSE P&E working group
- Open source collaboration
- Partner with existing professional organizations
- Fund expenses for system scenarios development

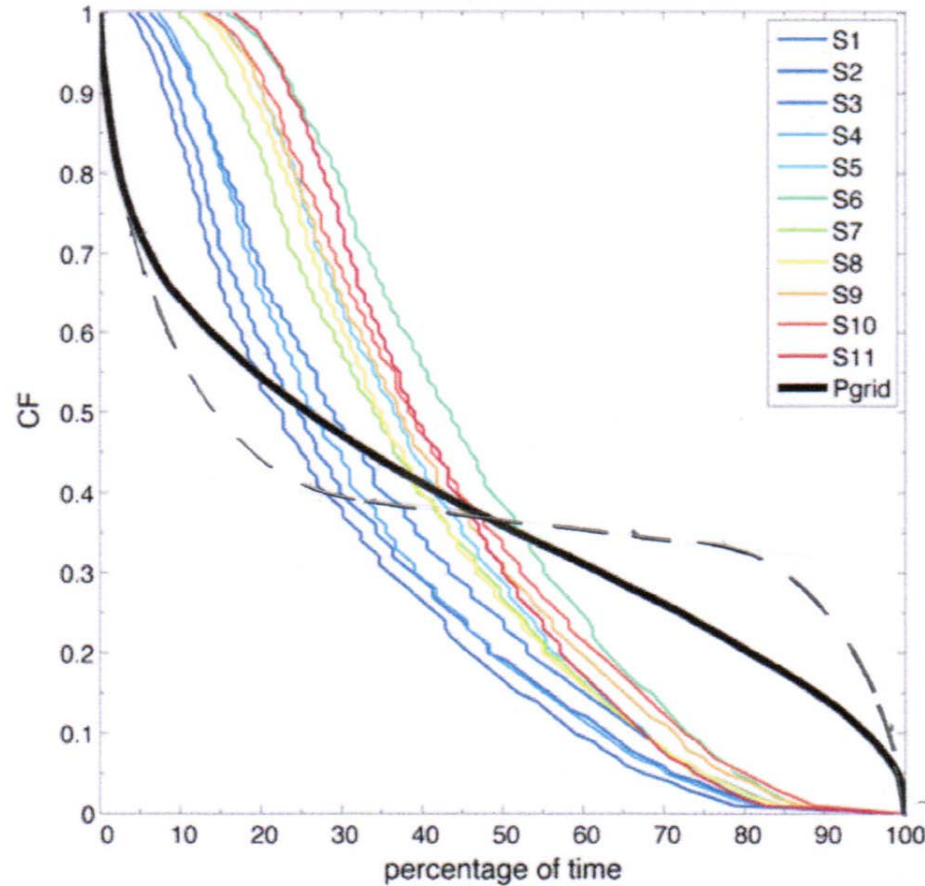


Global Leadership

- We have clear and stable goals
 - Big (90%) reductions in greenhouse gas emissions
 - Zero carbon electric power
 - Cheap, safe, sustainable and secure nuclear systems
- Next step is classic concept definition phase
 - System scenarios
 - Intermittent generators
 - Nuclear
 - Everything else
 - Novel methods
 - Open critical reviews
 - Identify technically feasible choices
 - Partner with appropriate organizations
- We live in a world with no one in charge
 - Special interests have too much influence
 - Enormous legacy inertia
 - Need open independent system design



Power-%

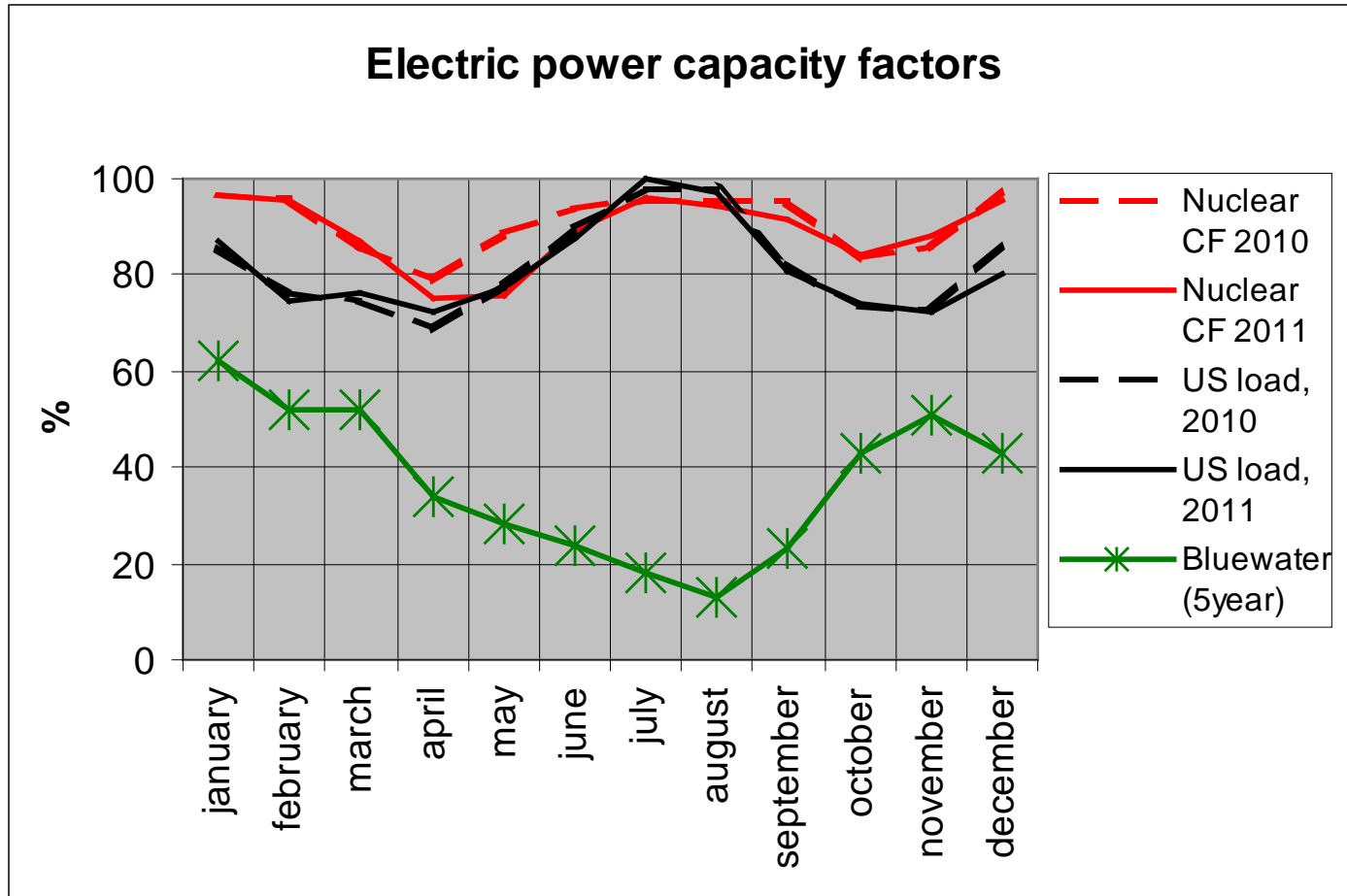


U.S Offshore, East Coast

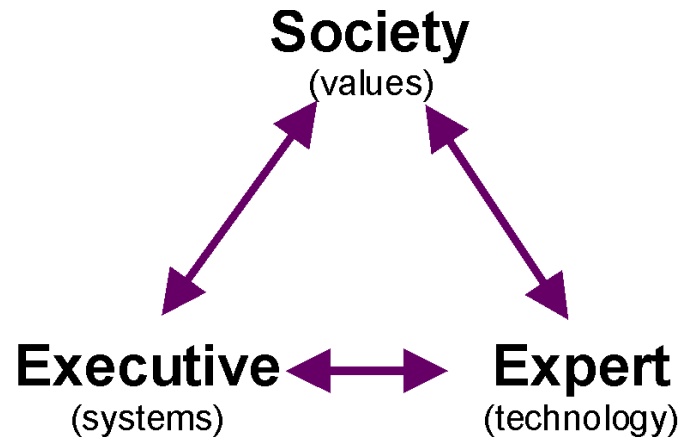
Kempton, W., et al, Electric power from offshore wind via synoptic scale interconnection, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 107:16, pp. 7240-7245; supporting information, Figure S-3, available at:
www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.0909075107



Capacity Factors



Architecture Governance



- Roles are separate and distinct
- No one role dominates
- Healthy tension between roles

- Executive – INCOSE
 - Balanced coordination between experts and society
 - Encourages best practices: strategy, systems, design reviews
 - Technology neutral
- Expert – Open source collaboration
 - Responsible for technical analysis, research & development, technical coordination
 - Technology bias
- Society
 - Responsible for value judgment
 - Chooses policy



So Many Stakeholders!

- One challenge to clean energy systems development is the number, diversity and innumeracy of stakeholders
 - Energy affects everyone and everyone has an opinion
- Strategy will be to partner with existing professional organizations
 - Invited papers
 - Critical review sessions

