



# Cutting Electricity Cost For Service Provider Networks

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FDC

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Aamir Qayyum

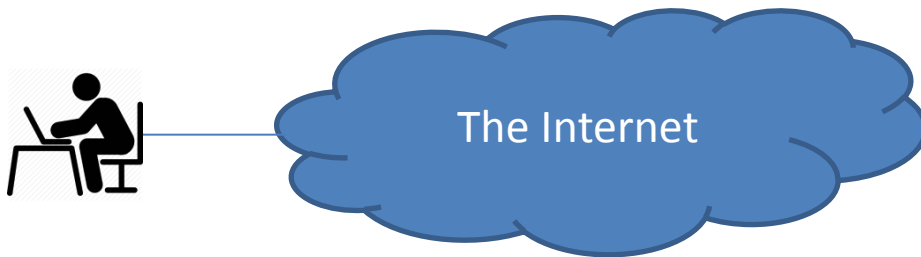
# Agenda

- Background and motivation
- Opportunity and key idea
- Case studies:
  - Data centers
  - Cellular networks
- Conclusions and future work

# Background



# Background





A YouTube data center



The Internet



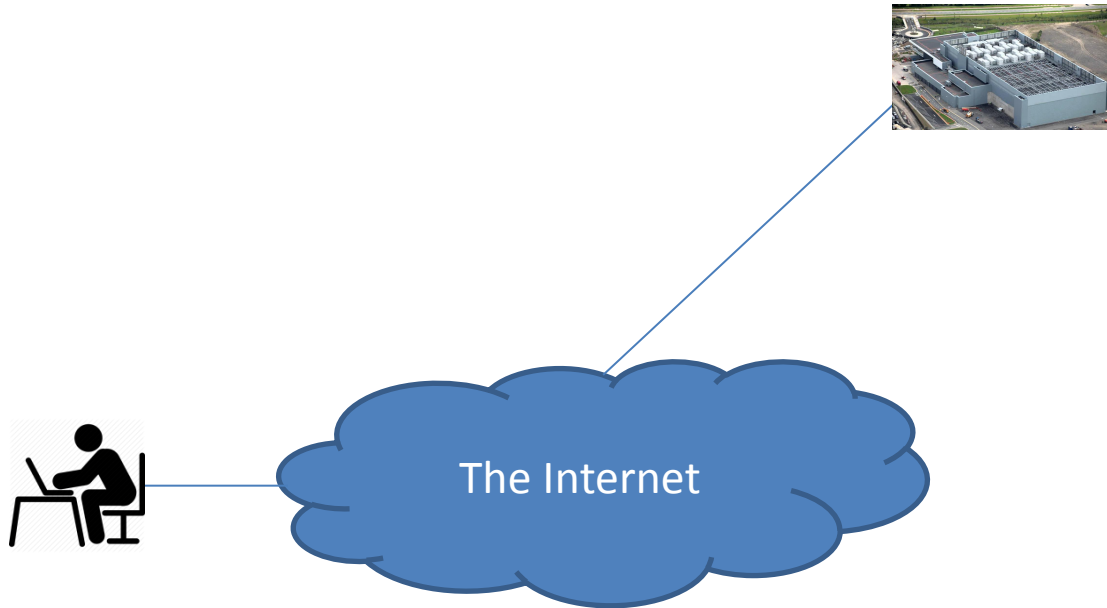


The Internet

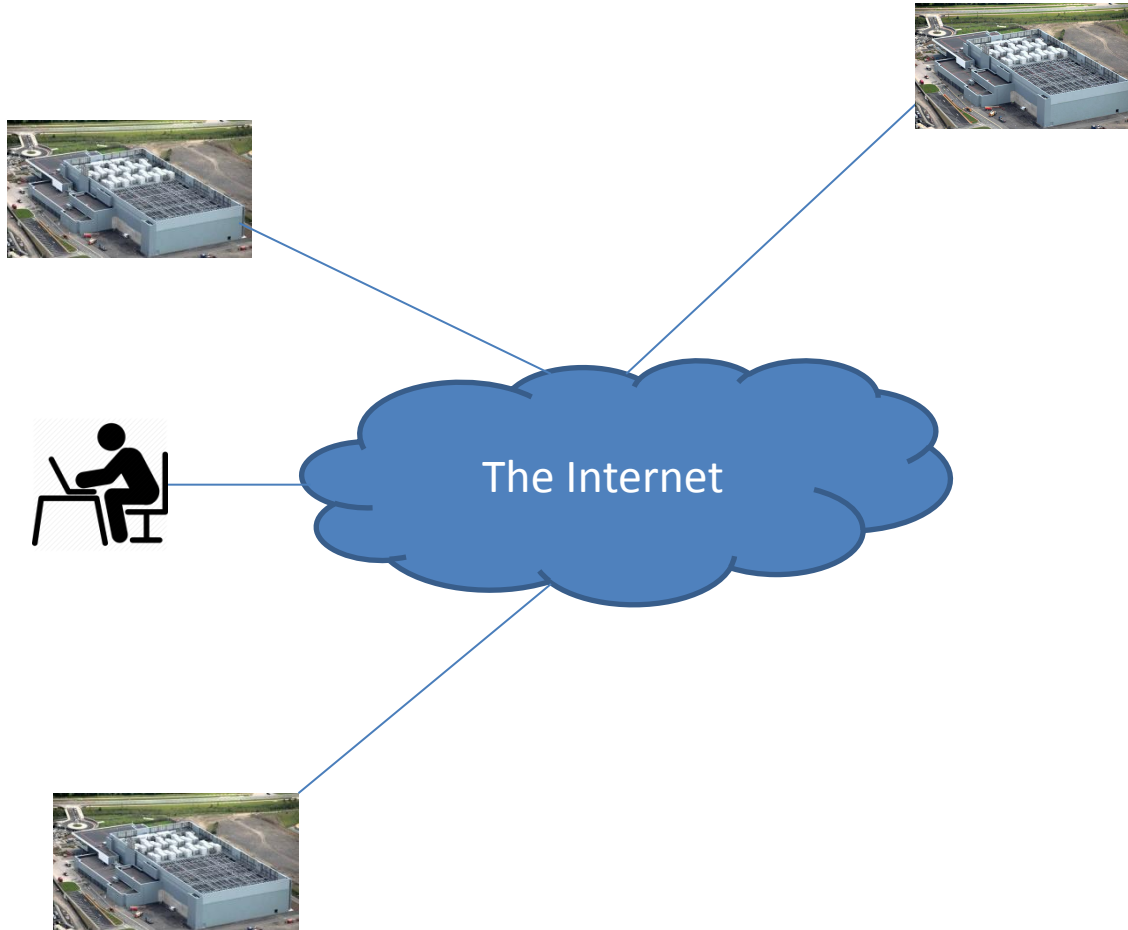


Source: <http://cnet.co/1Q9SkZ0>

# Background

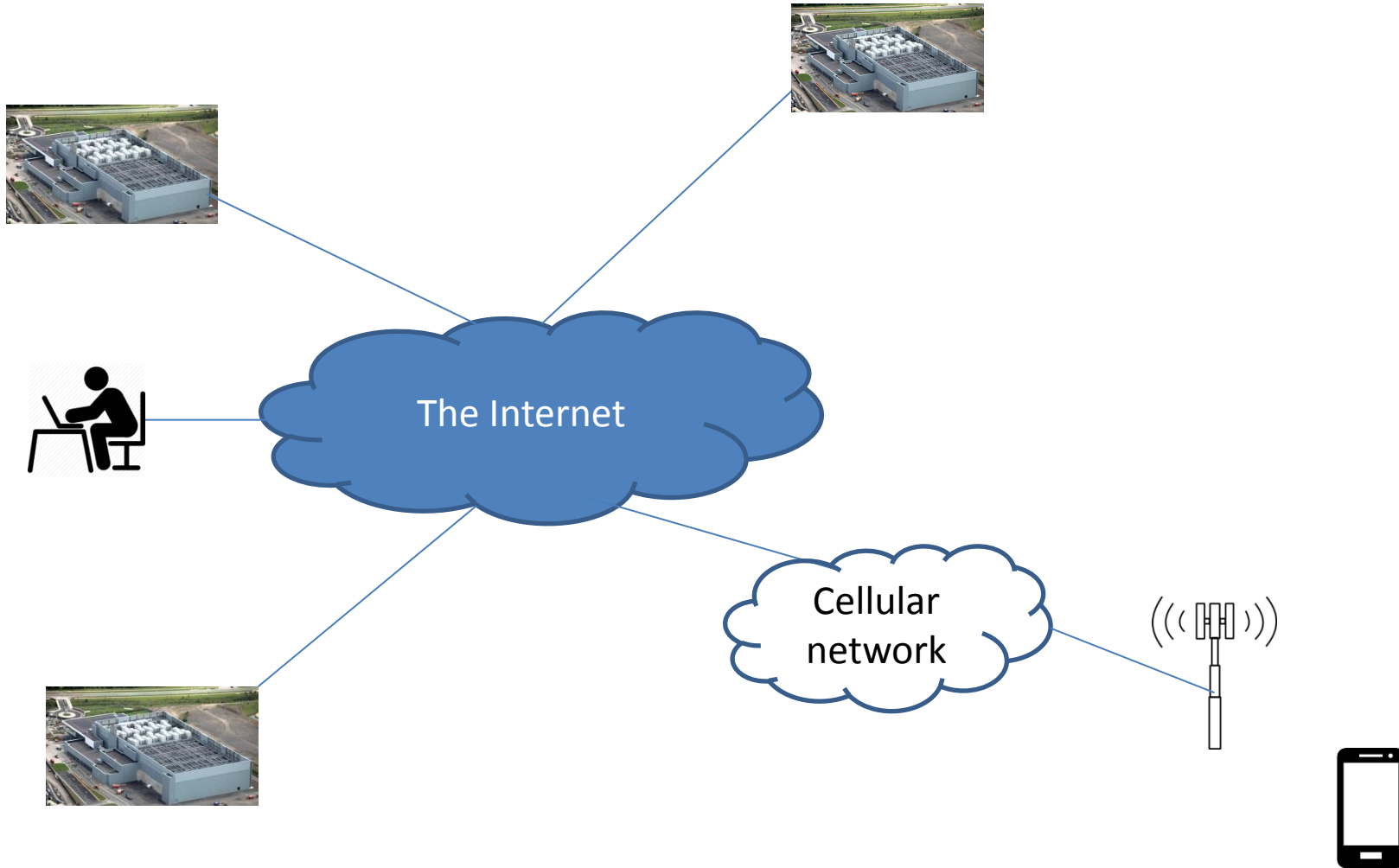


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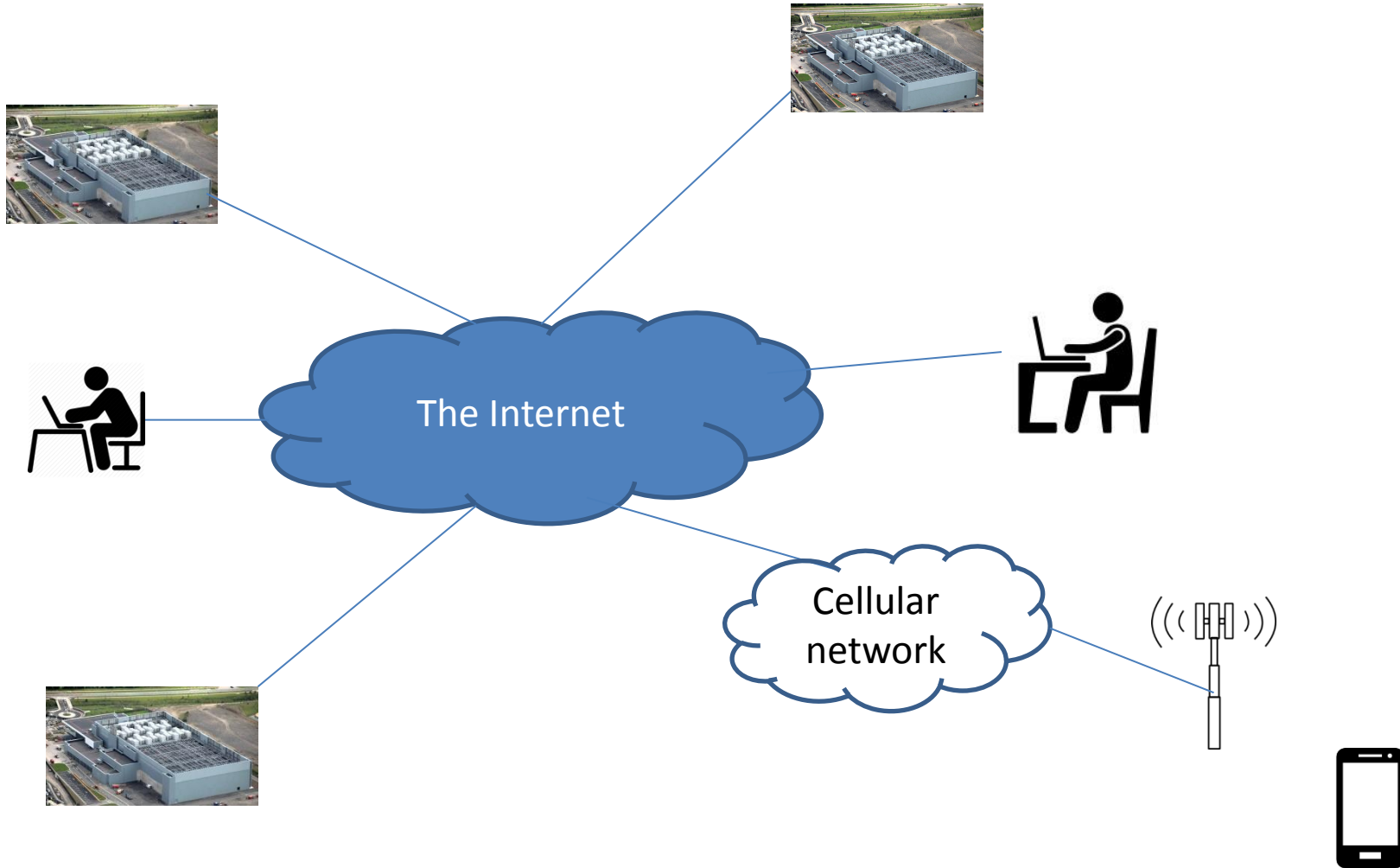




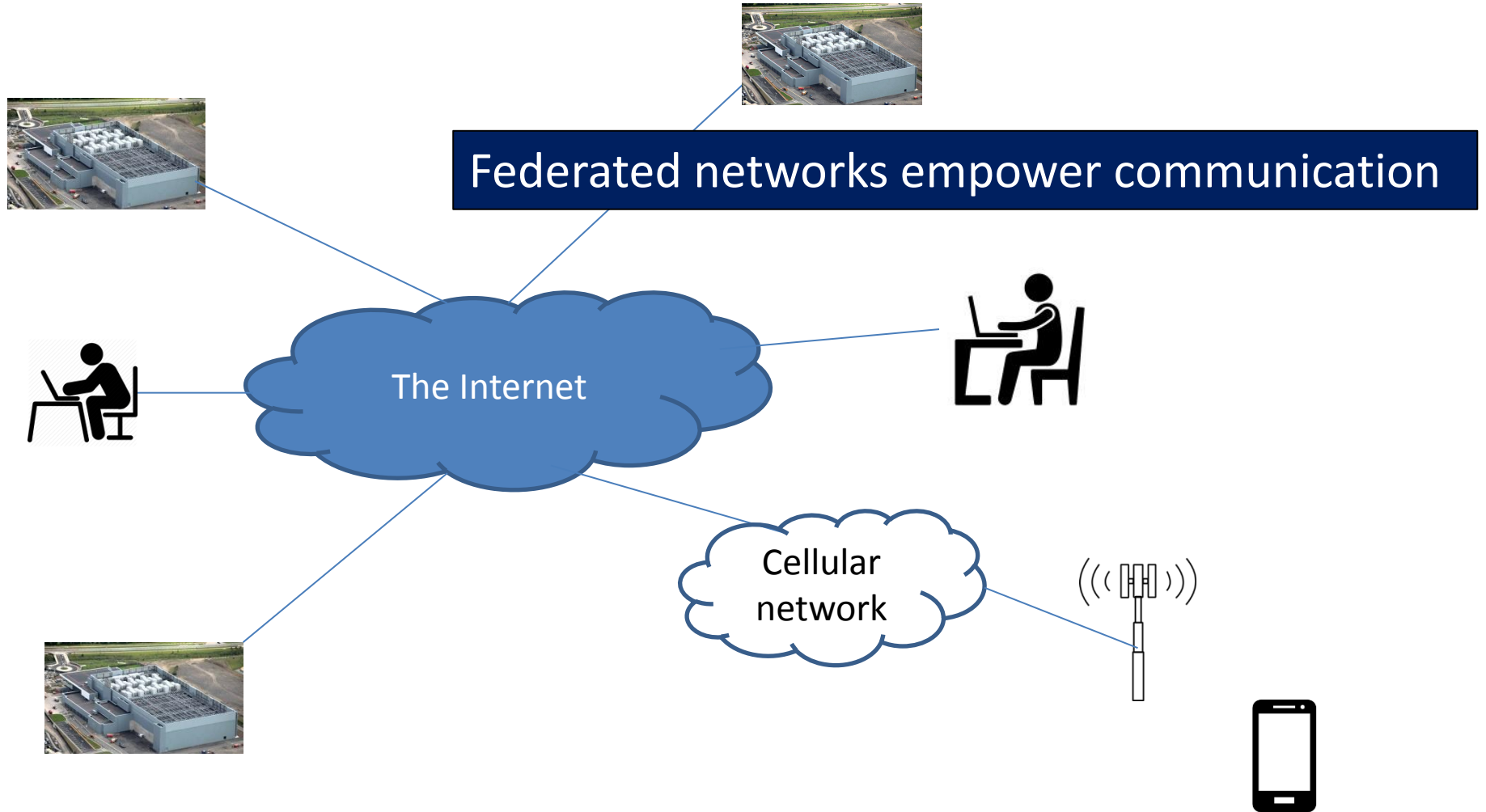
# Background



# Background



# Background



# Network Scale



Image source: <http://bit.ly/1awWnLn>

# Network Scale

1 Data Center ~ 50,000 - 80,000 servers



Google's data center locations  
<http://bit.ly/1Wblvbe>



# Network Scale

1 Data Center ~ 50,000 - 80,000 servers

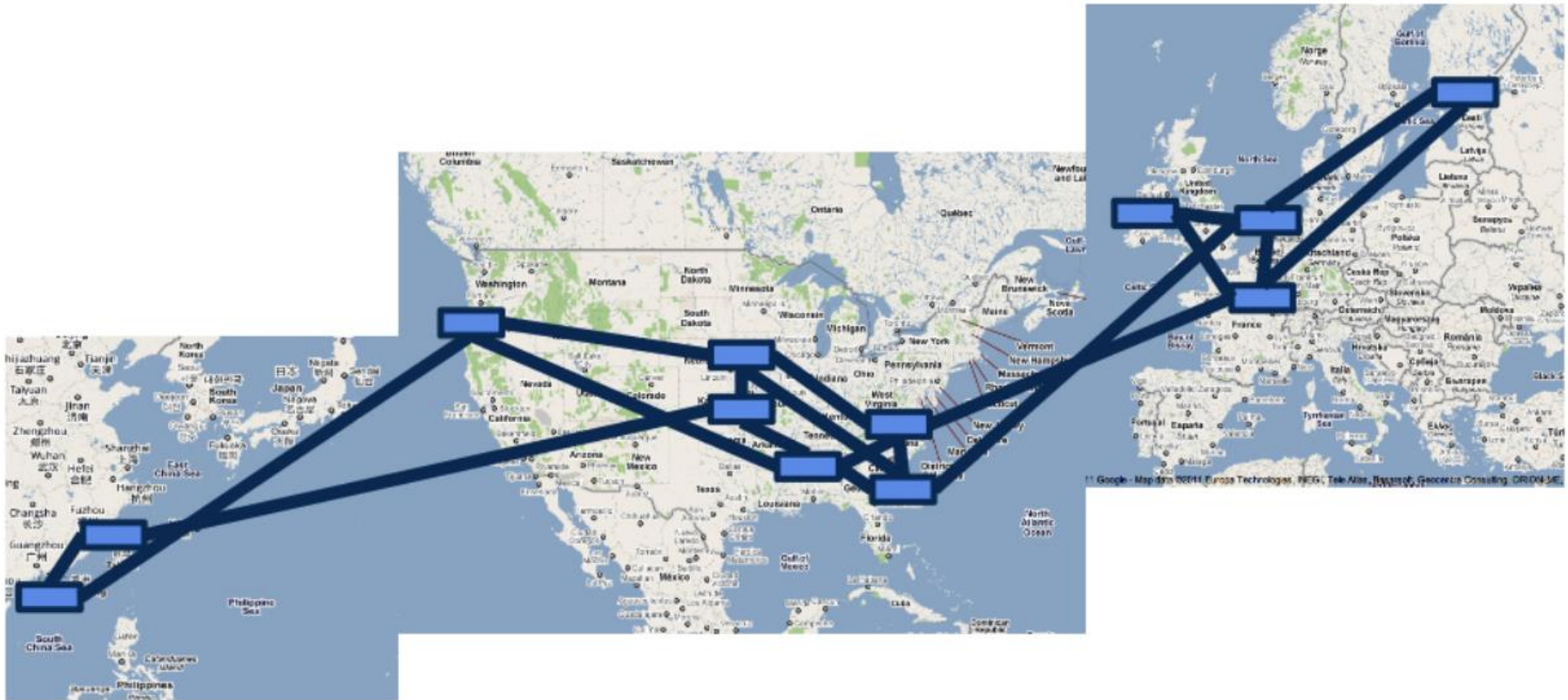


Microsoft Azure's data center locations

<http://bit.ly/1mqvi26>



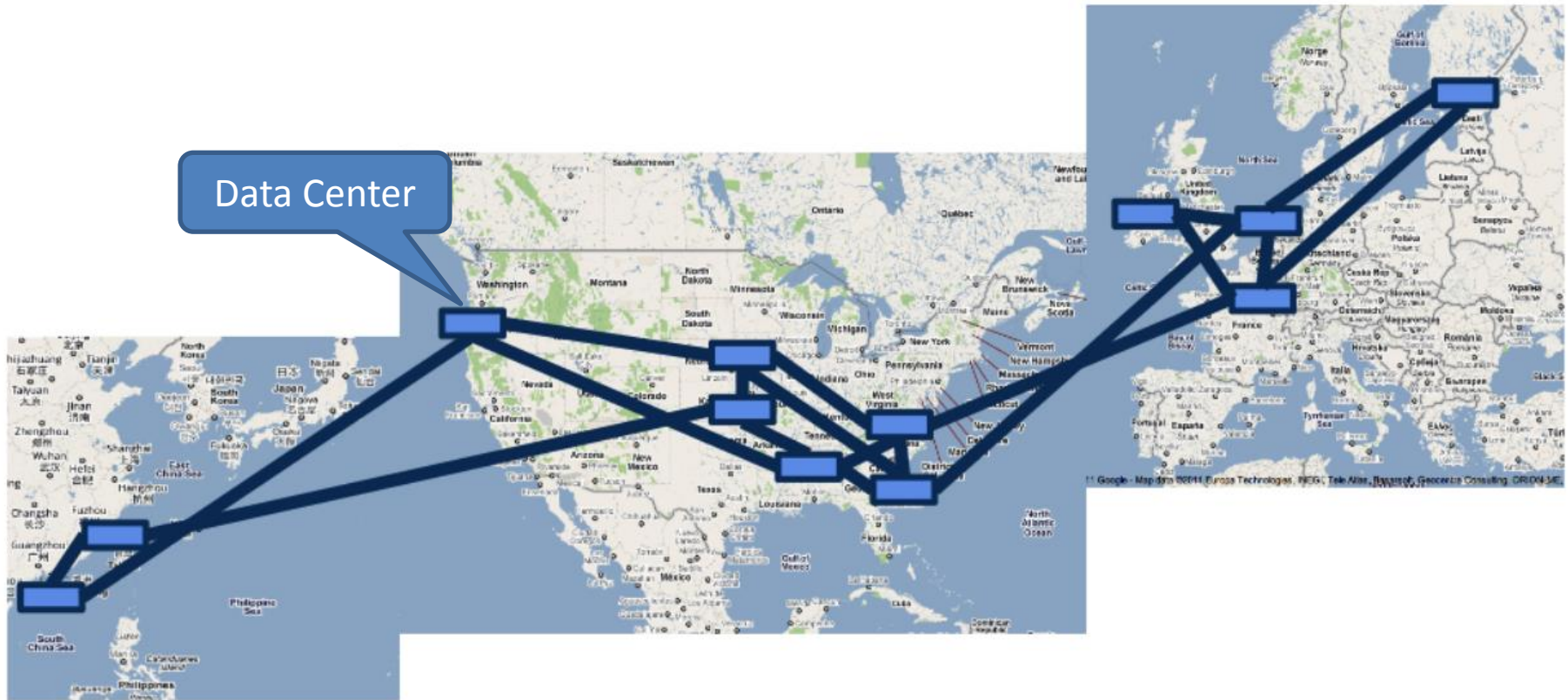
# Network Scale



## Google's B4 SDN

Image Source: Jain et. al, "B4: Experience with a globally-deployed software defined WAN", SIGCOMM 2013

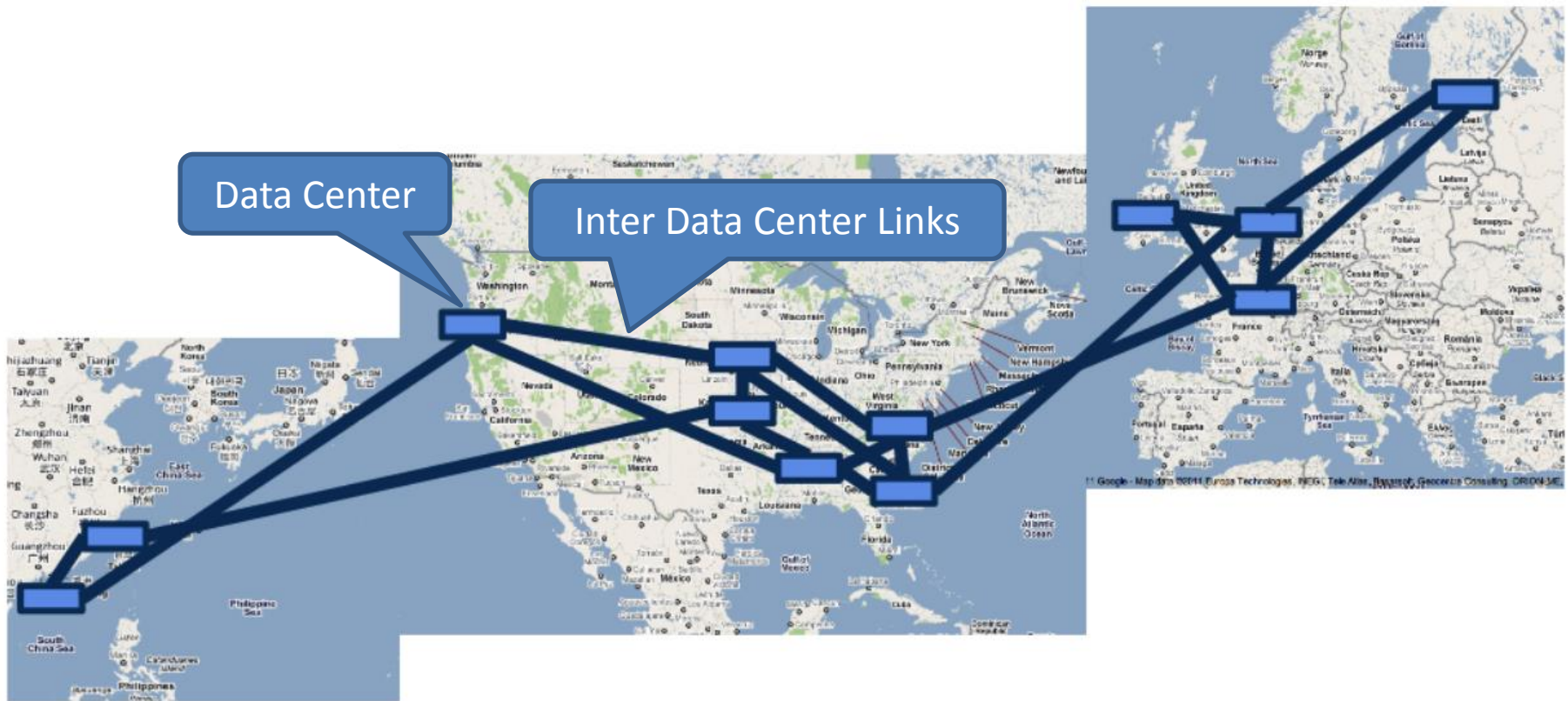
# Network Scale



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Image Source: Jain et. al, "B4: Experience with a globally-deployed software defined WAN", SIGCOMM 2013

# Network Scale



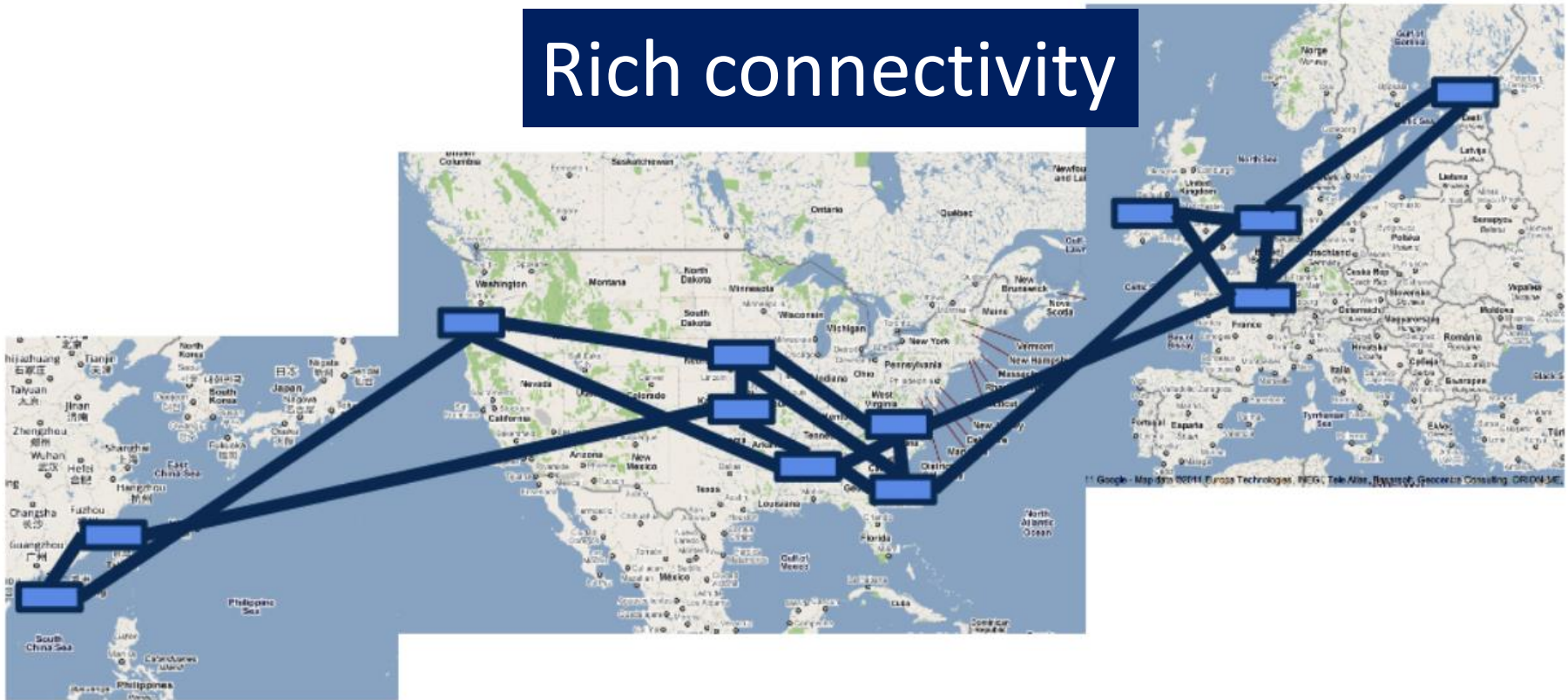
## Google's B4 SDN

Image Source: Jain et. al, "B4: Experience with a globally-deployed software defined WAN", SIGCOMM 2013



# Network Scale

Rich connectivity



## Google's B4 SDN

Image Source: Jain et. al, "B4: Experience with a globally-deployed software defined WAN", SIGCOMM 2013

# Network Scale

- Amazon

# Network Scale

- Amazon
  - 87 data centers
  - At least 2 M servers

Source: <http://bit.ly/11erCWn>



# Network Scale

- Amazon
  - 87 data centers
  - At least 2 M servers
- Telenor Pakistan
  - 8000 cellular sites

# Network Scale

Massive infrastructure

# Network Scale

Massive infrastructure



Massive power draw

# Network Scale

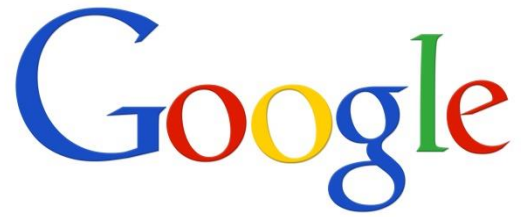
With great power comes



# Network Scale



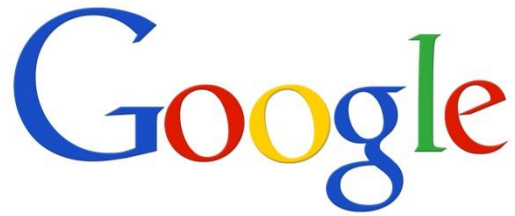
# Motivation





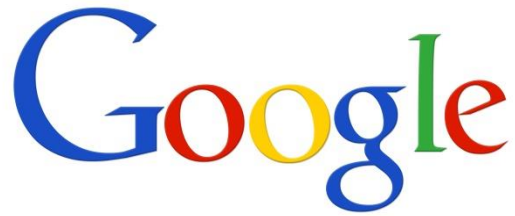
# Motivation

Annual DC Opex



\$951 M

# Motivation

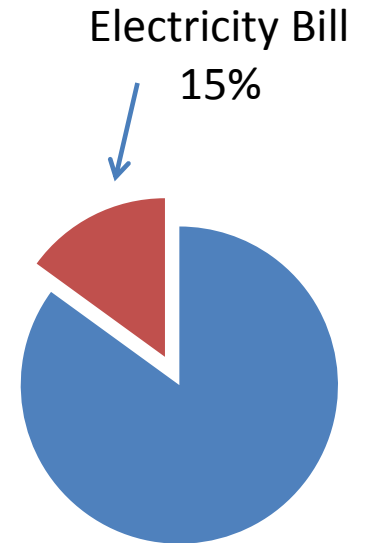


Annual DC Opex

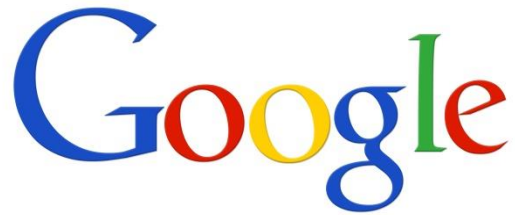
\$951 M

Electricity Cost

\$143 M



# Motivation

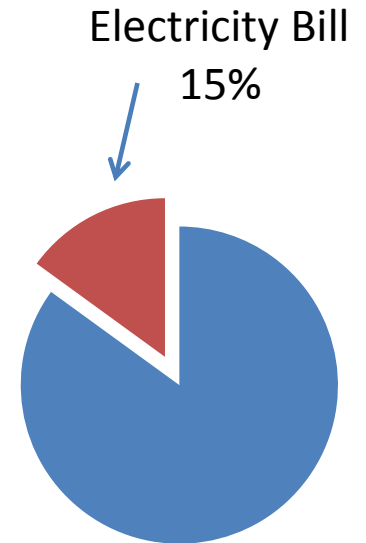


Annual DC Opex

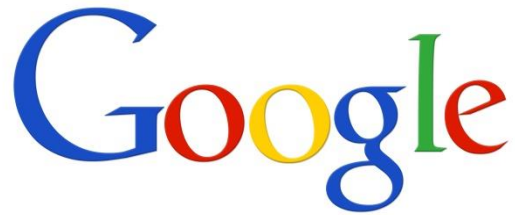
\$951 M

Electricity Cost

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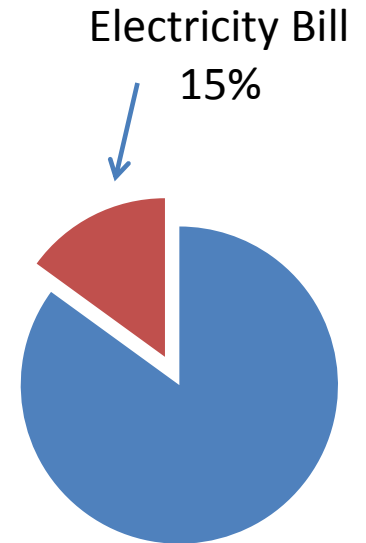


Annual DC Opex

\$951 M

Electricity Cost

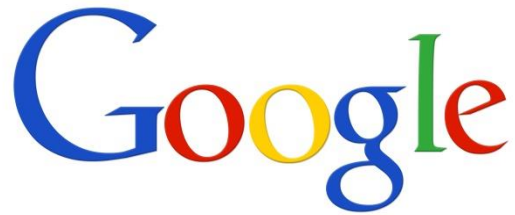
\$143 M



Electricity Cost 2012

\$81 M

# Motivation



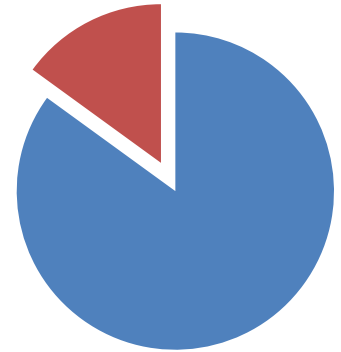
Annual DC Opex

\$951 M

Electricity Cost

\$143 M

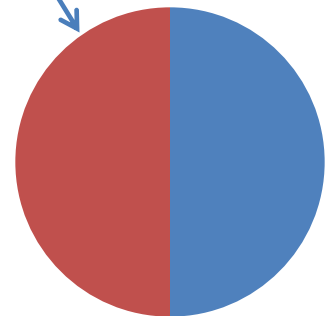
Electricity Bill  
15%



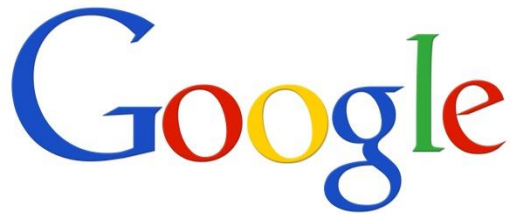
Electricity Cost 2012

\$81 M

Electricity Bill  
Upto 50%



# Motivation



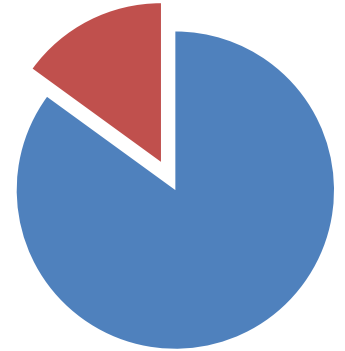
Annual DC Opex

\$951 M

Electricity Cost

\$143 M

Electricity Bill  
15%



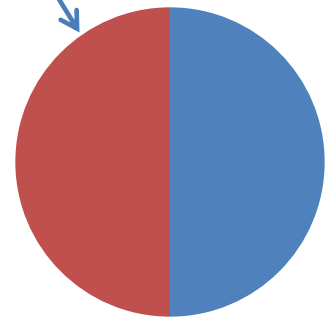
## Significant electricity costs



Electricity Cost 2012

\$81 M

Electricity Bill  
Upto 50%



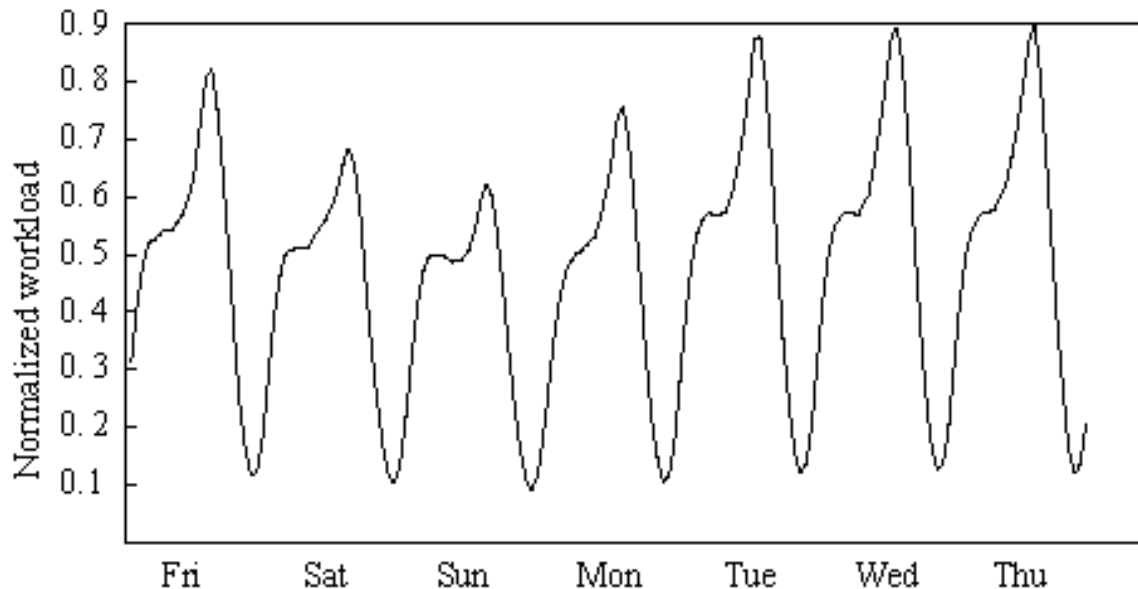


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- **Opportunity and key idea**
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# Opportunity

Network workload has systematic variations



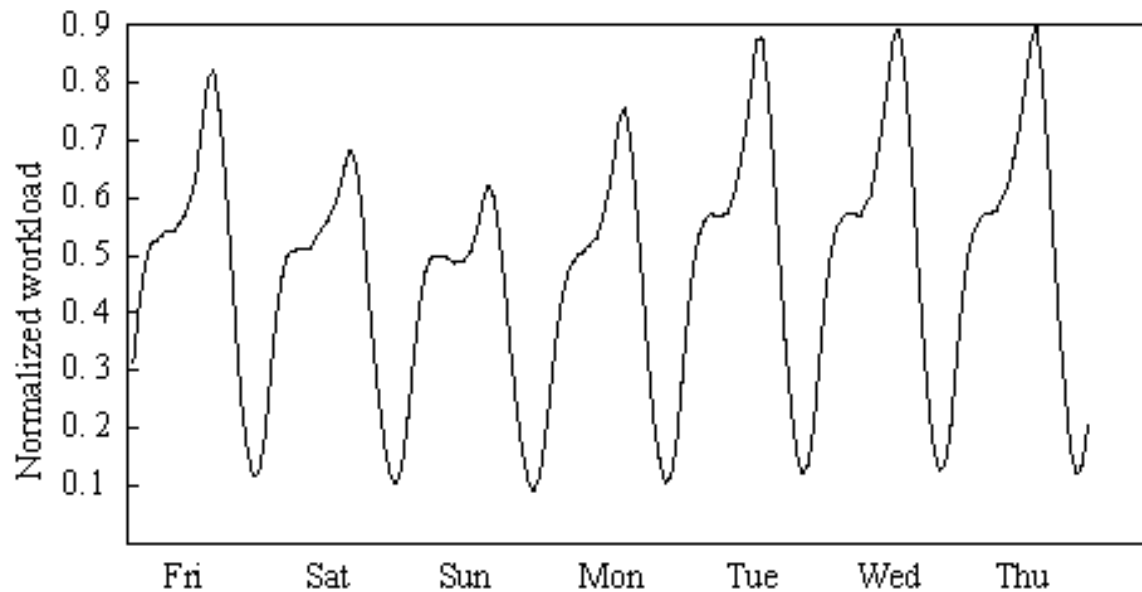
A. Nazir et. al, "Unveiling Facebook: a Measurement Study of Social Network Based Applications"

Barroso et. al, "The Case for Energy Proportional Computing", IEEE Computer, 2007

Peng et. al, "Traffic-Driven Power Savings in Operational 3G Cellular Networks", MOBICOM 2011

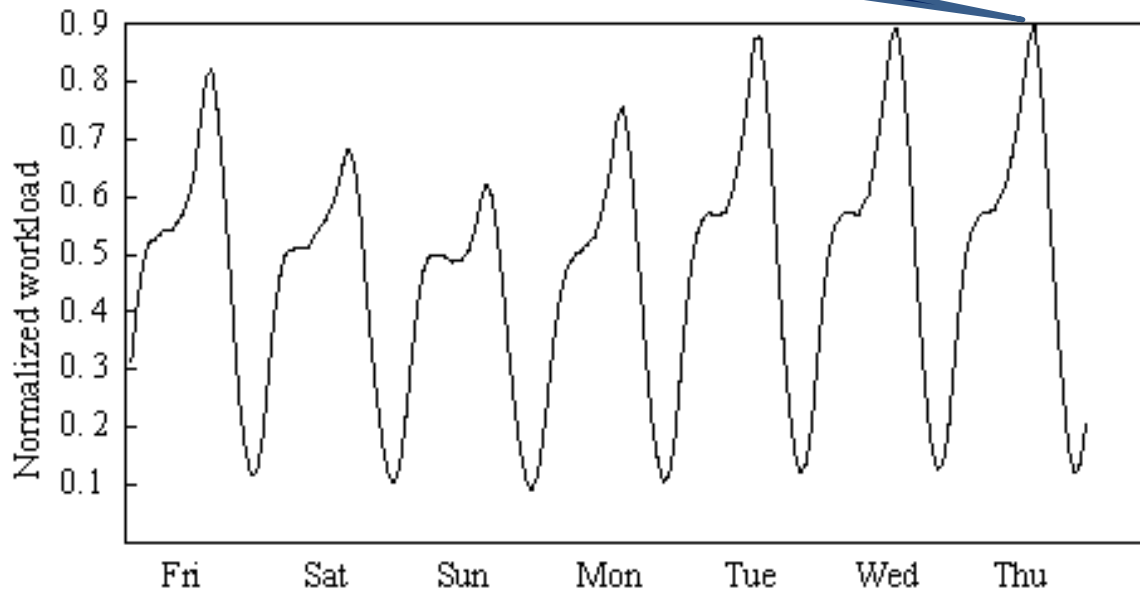
# Opportunity

Peaks and troughs quite pronounced



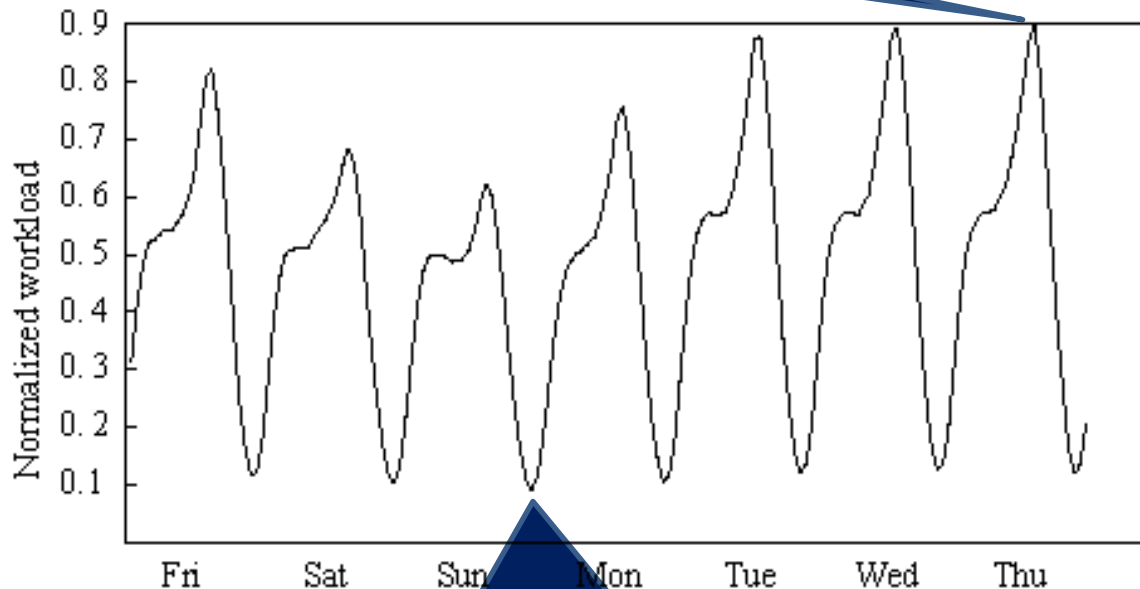
# Opportunity

Deploy sufficient resources to handle peak



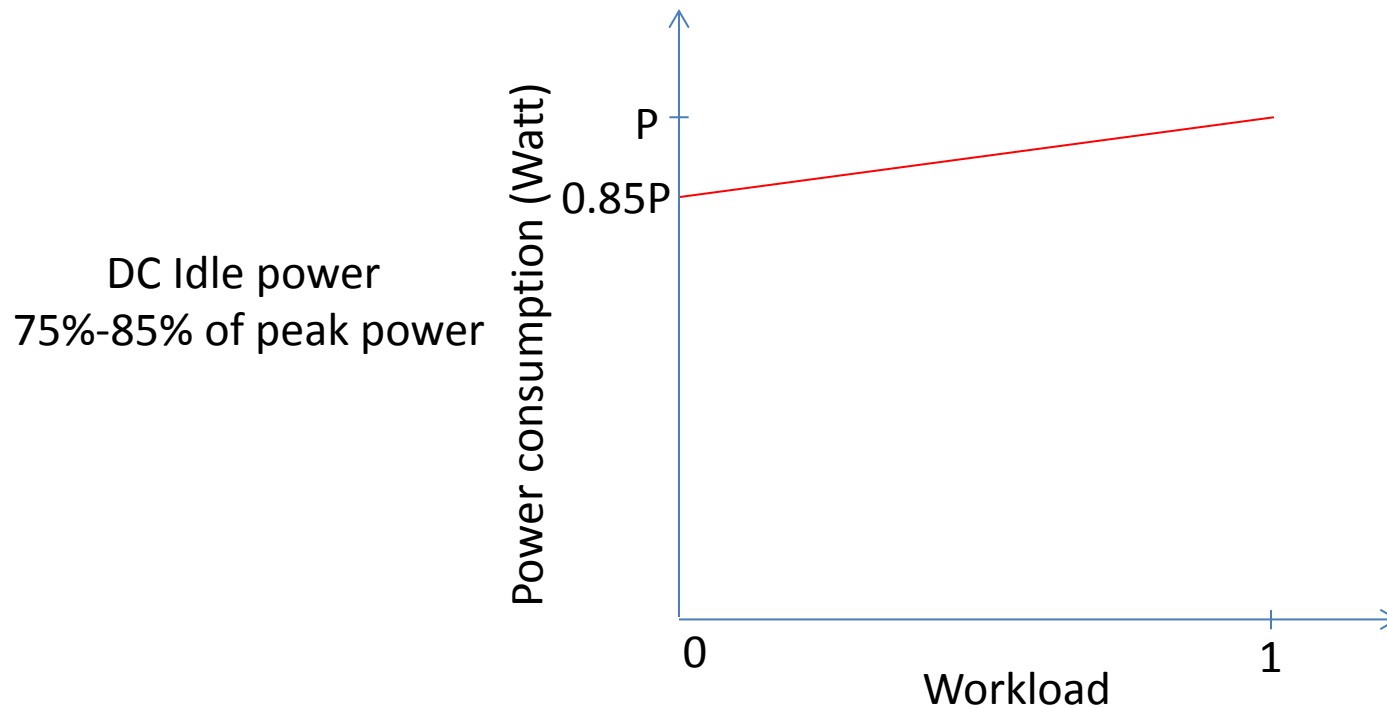
# Opportunity

Deploy sufficient resources to handle peak

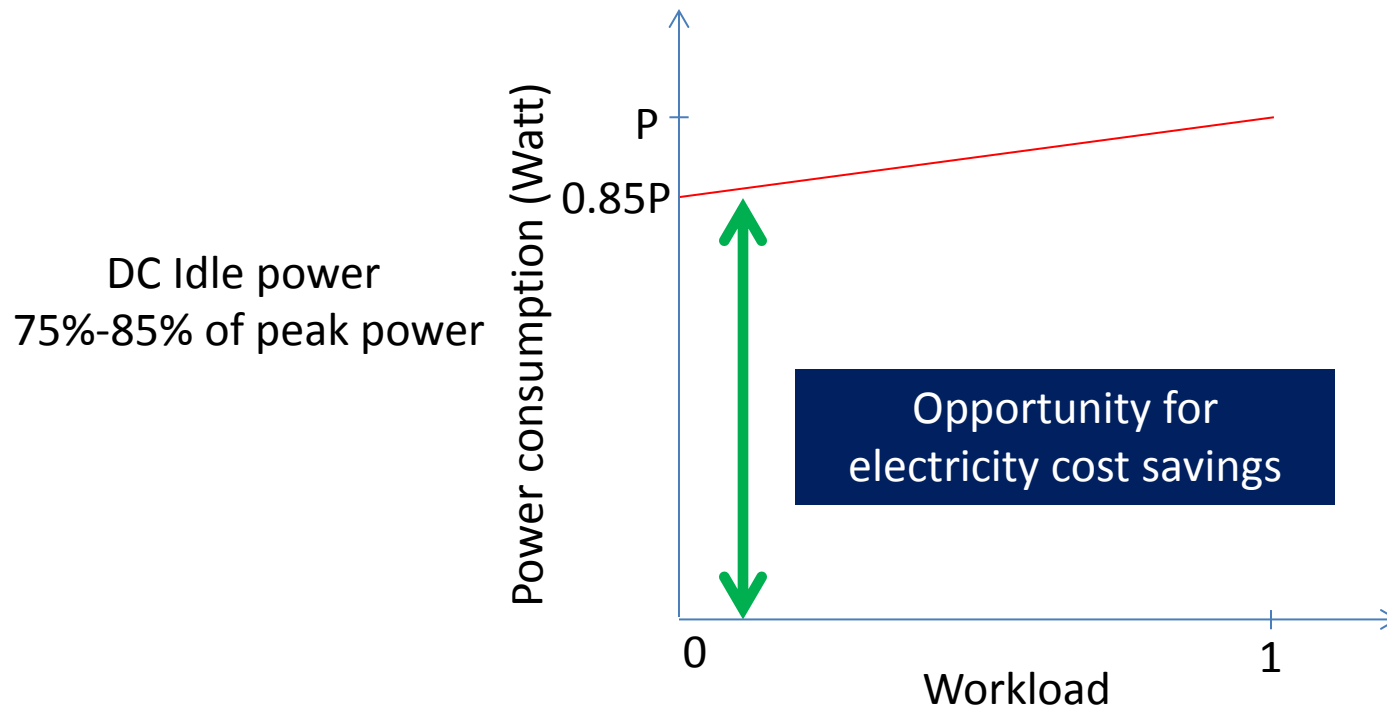


Most equipment (nearly) idle

# Opportunity



# Opportunity

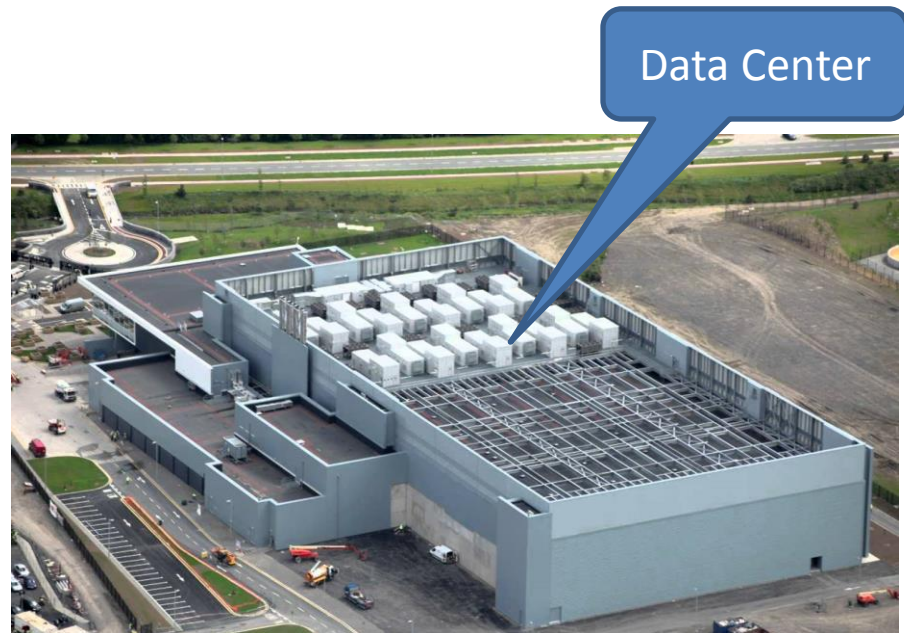




# Key Idea

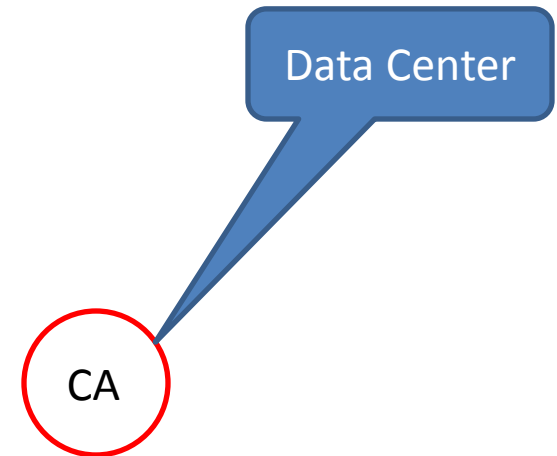
Deactivate idle equipment

# Key Idea



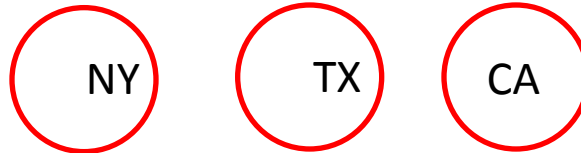
# Key Idea

CA: California



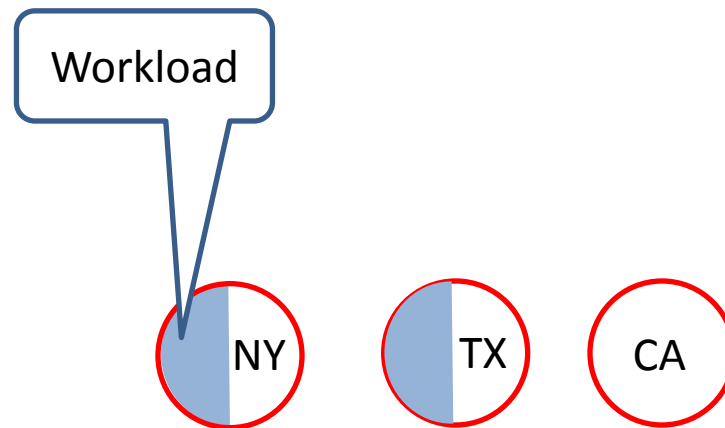
# Key Idea

CA: California  
NY: New York  
TX: Texas



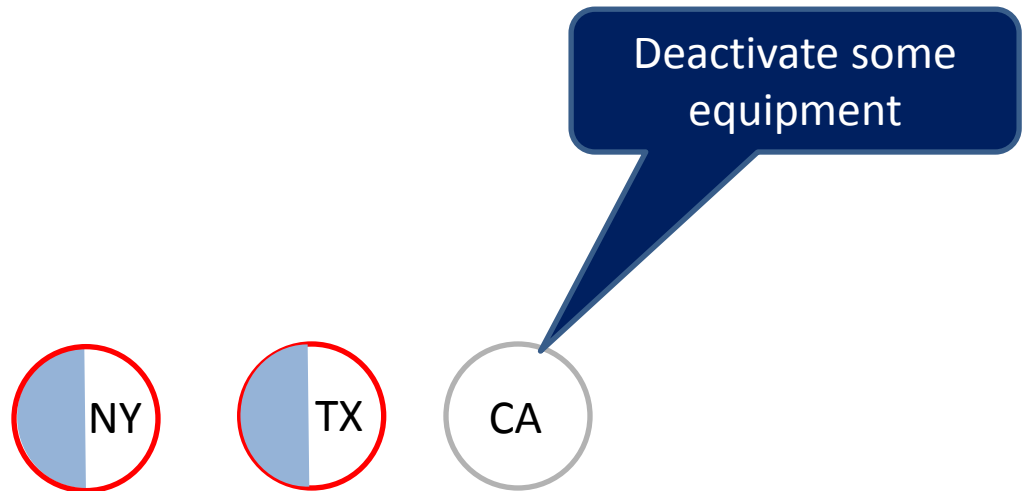
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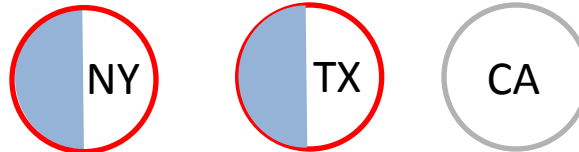
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# Key Idea

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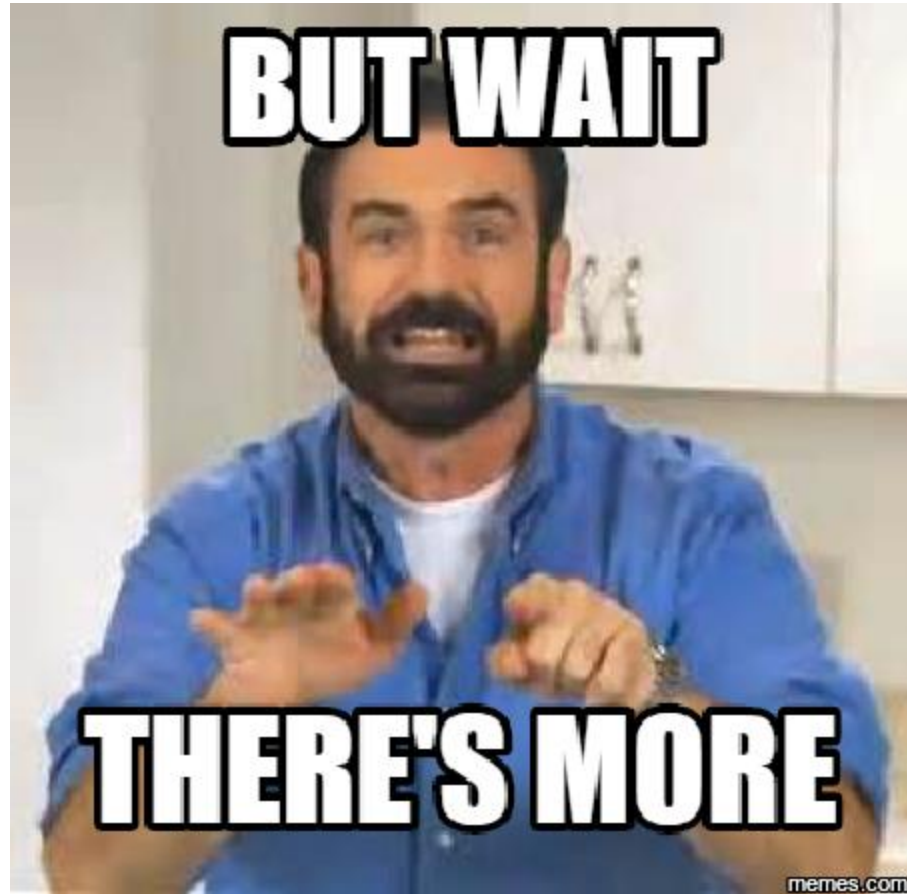
Resource pruning cuts electricity cost



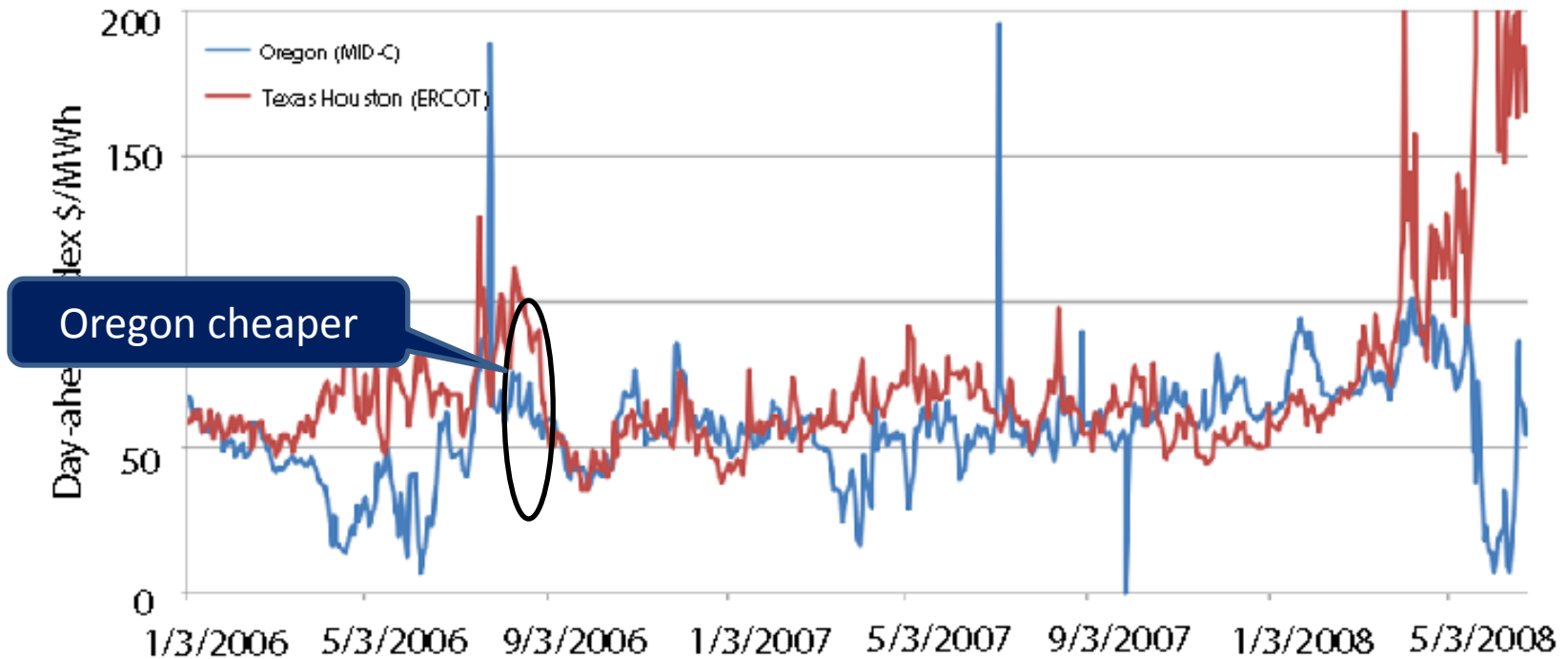


# Key Idea

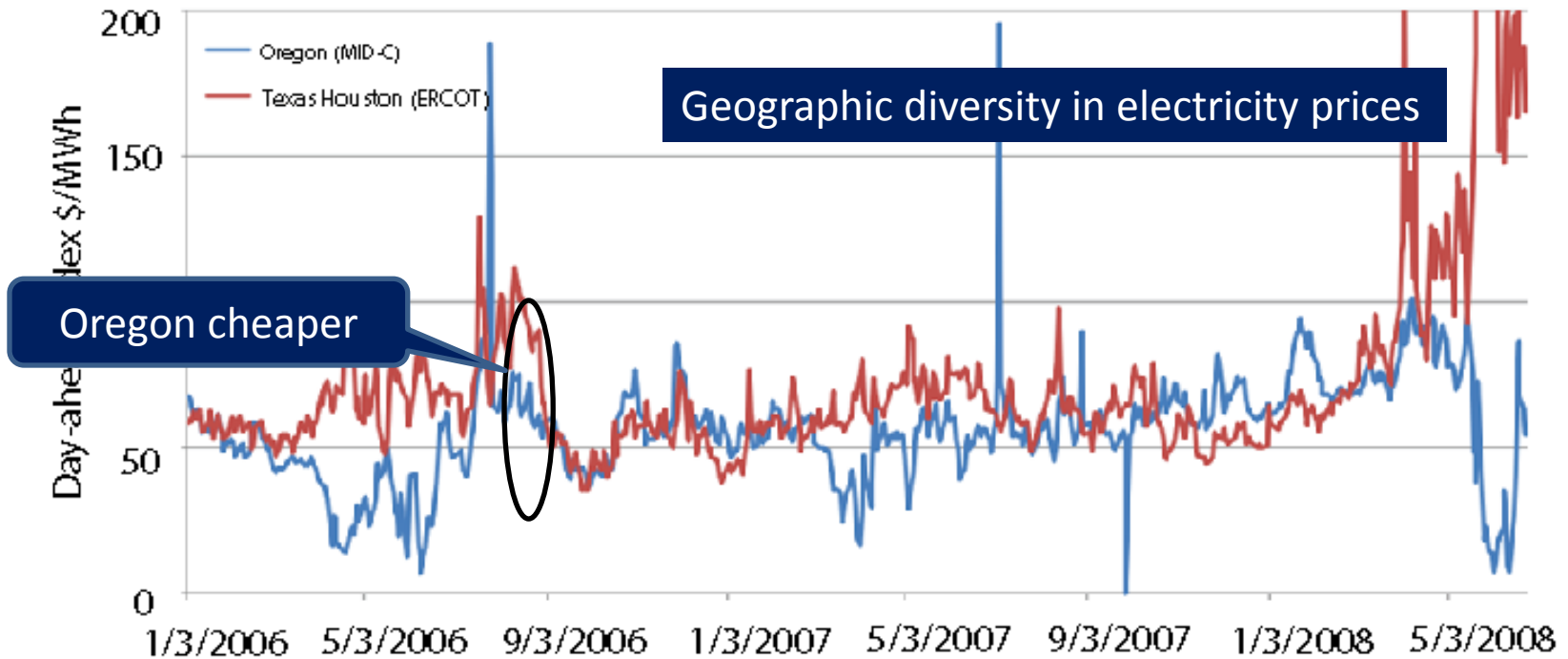
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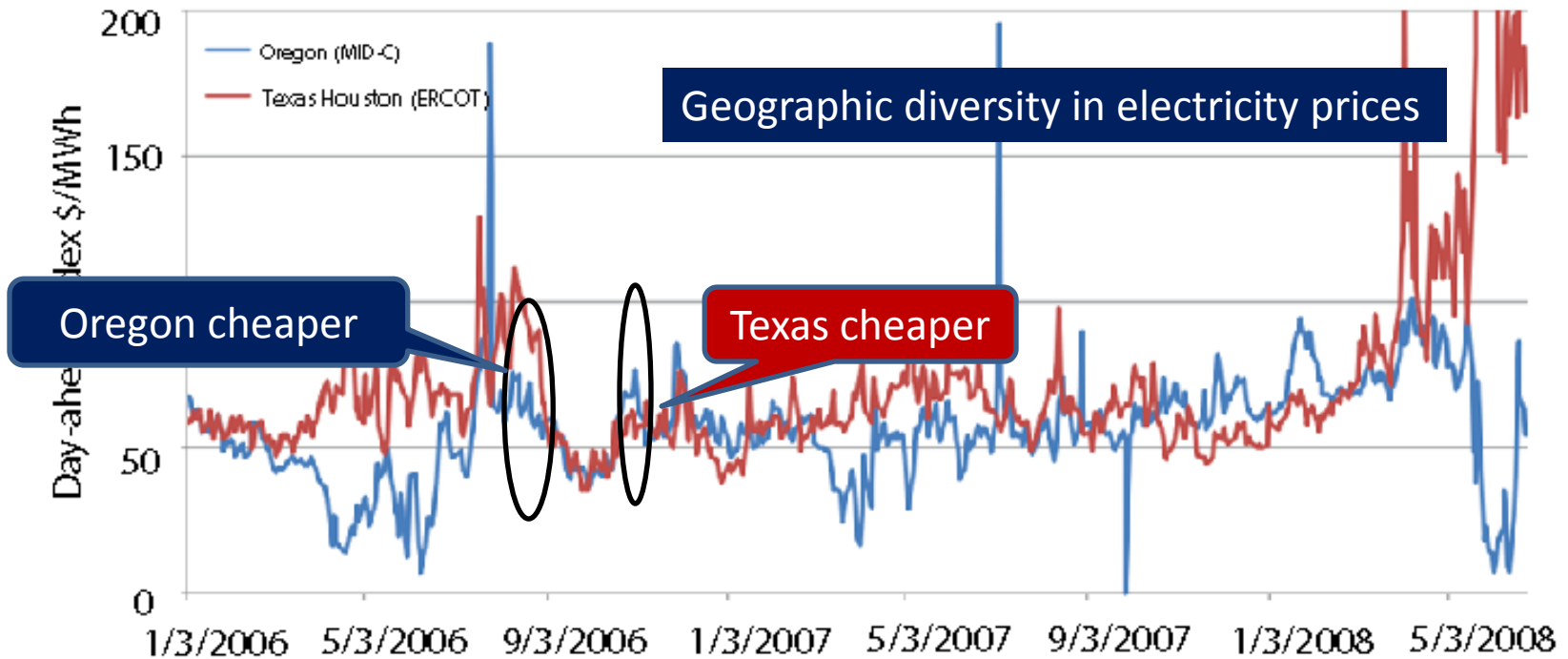
# An Observation



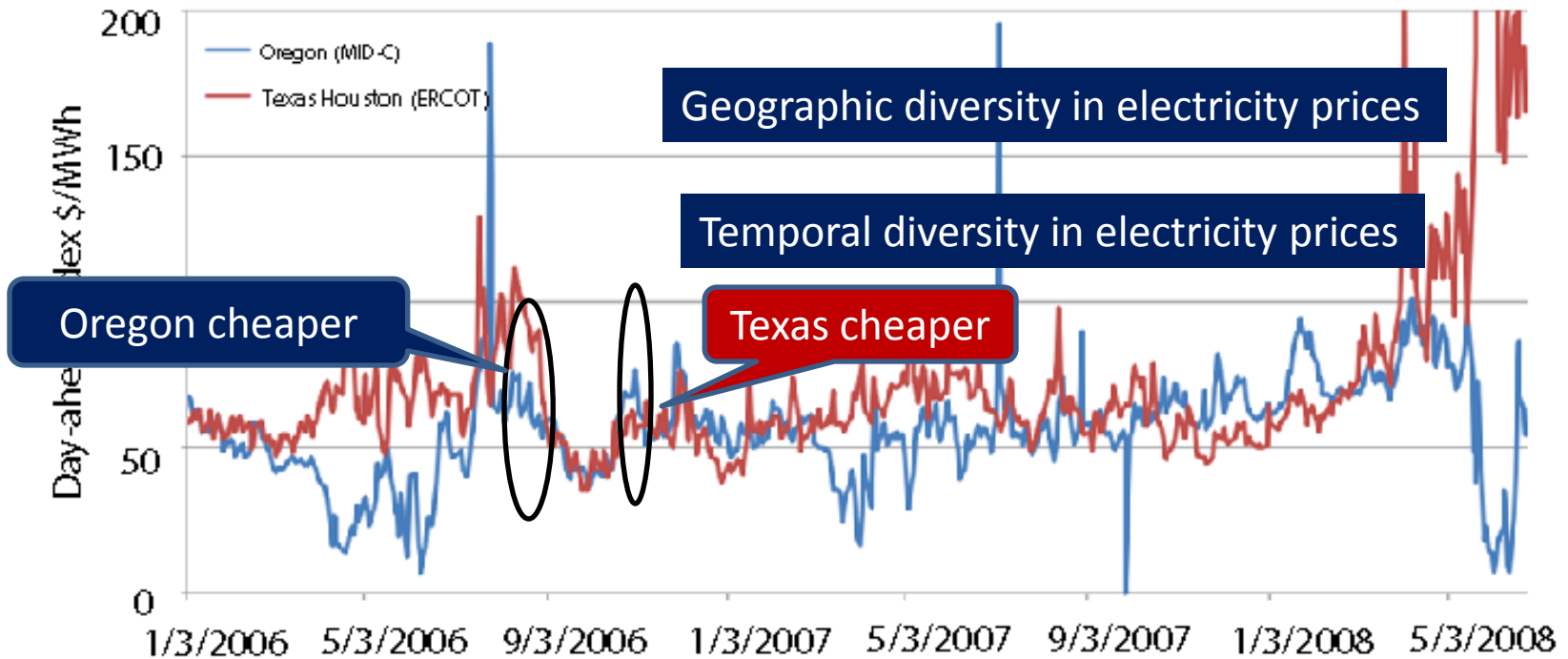
# An Observation



# An Observation

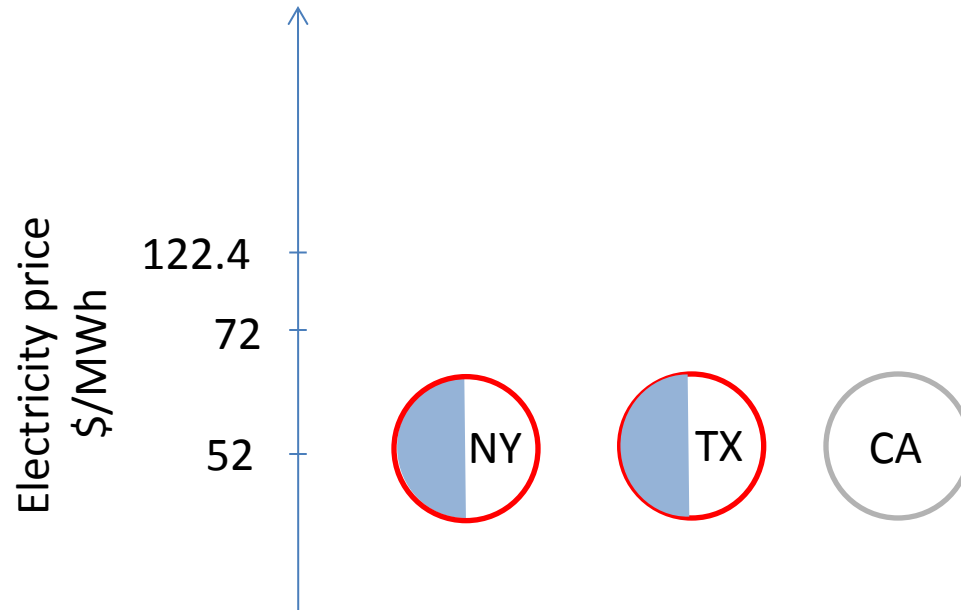


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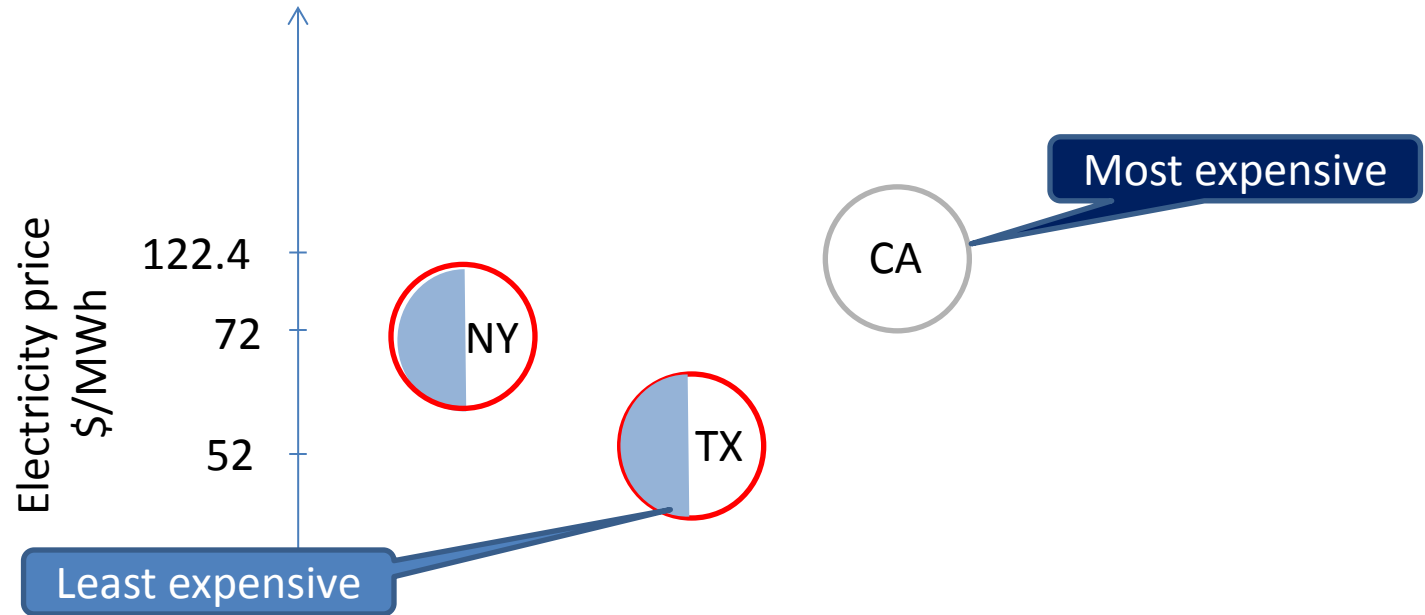
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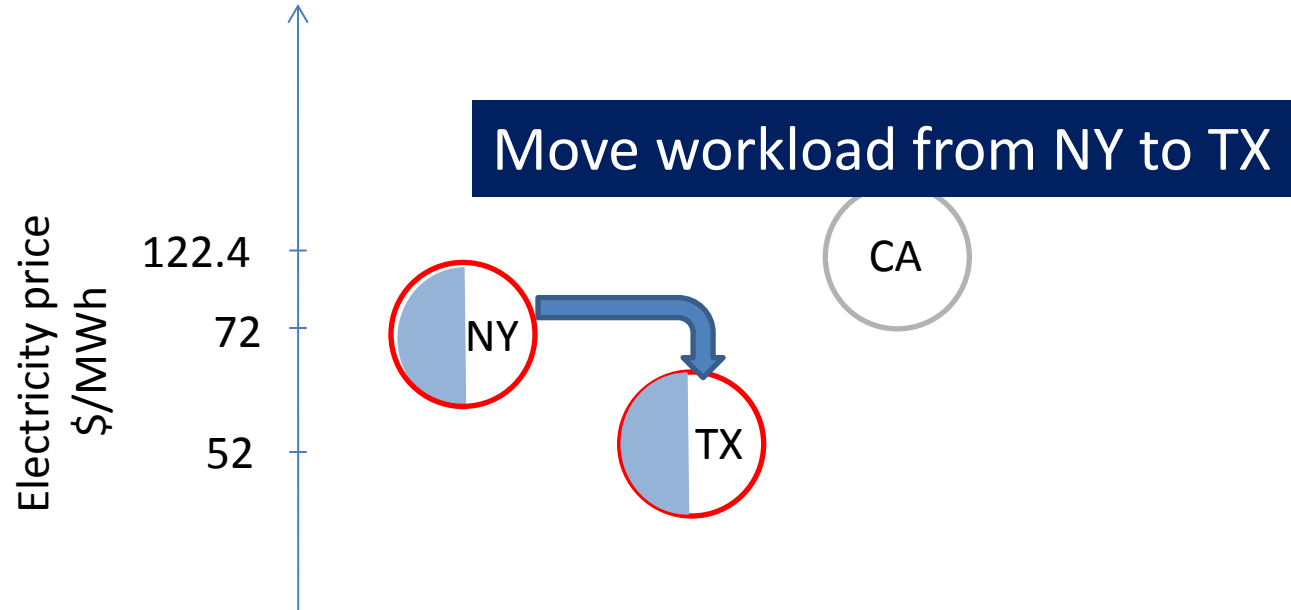
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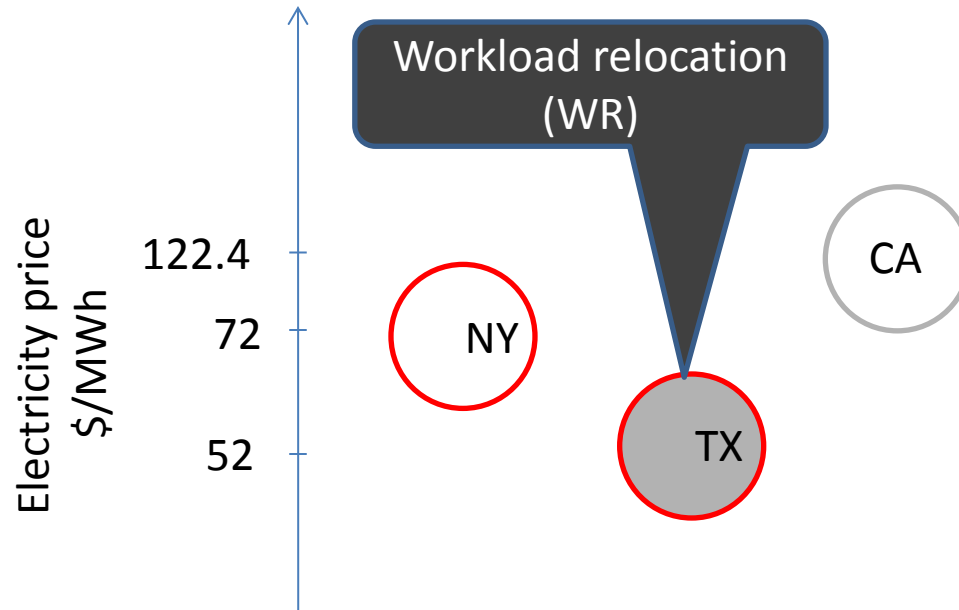
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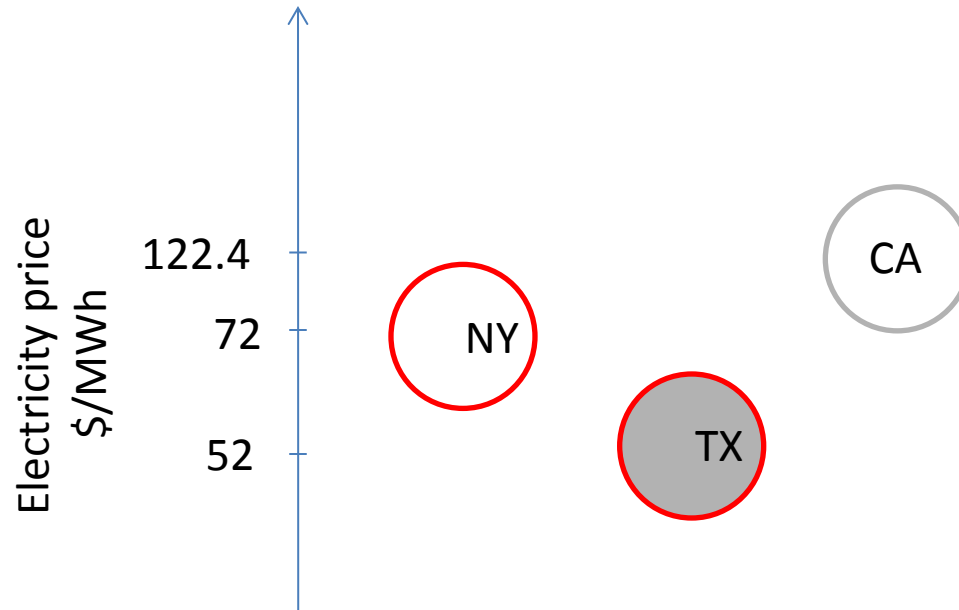
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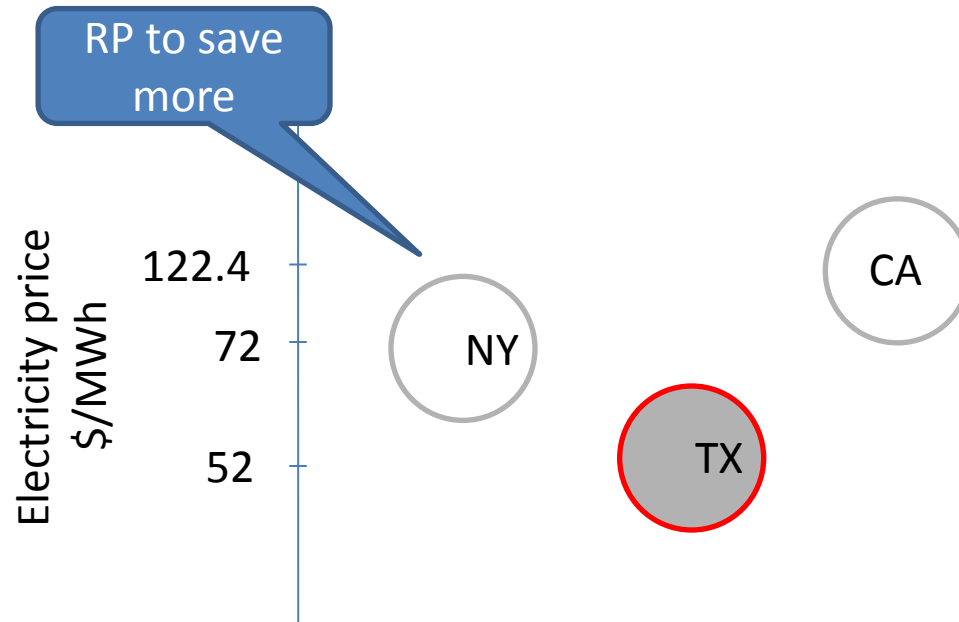
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Workload relocation cuts electricity cost *further*

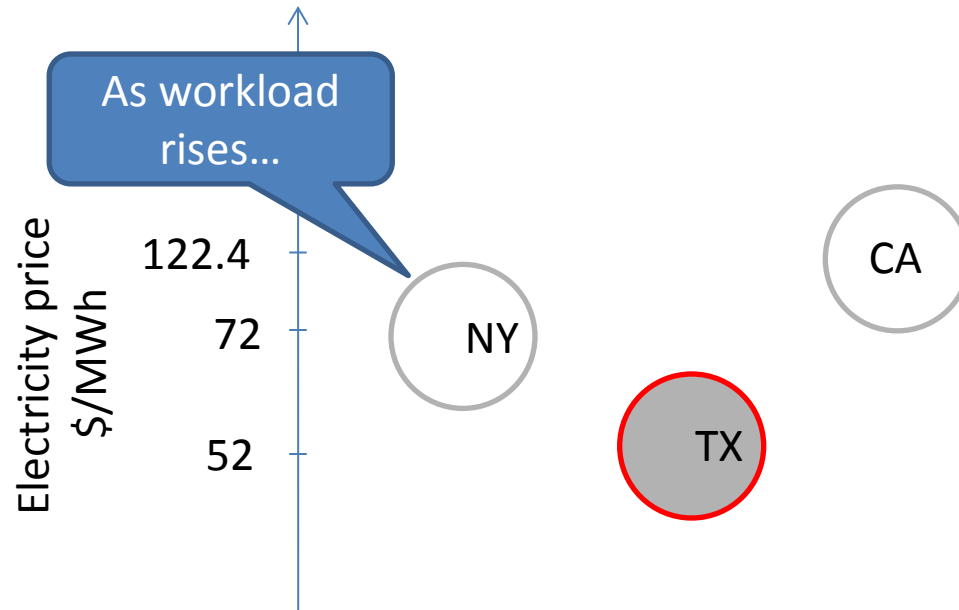
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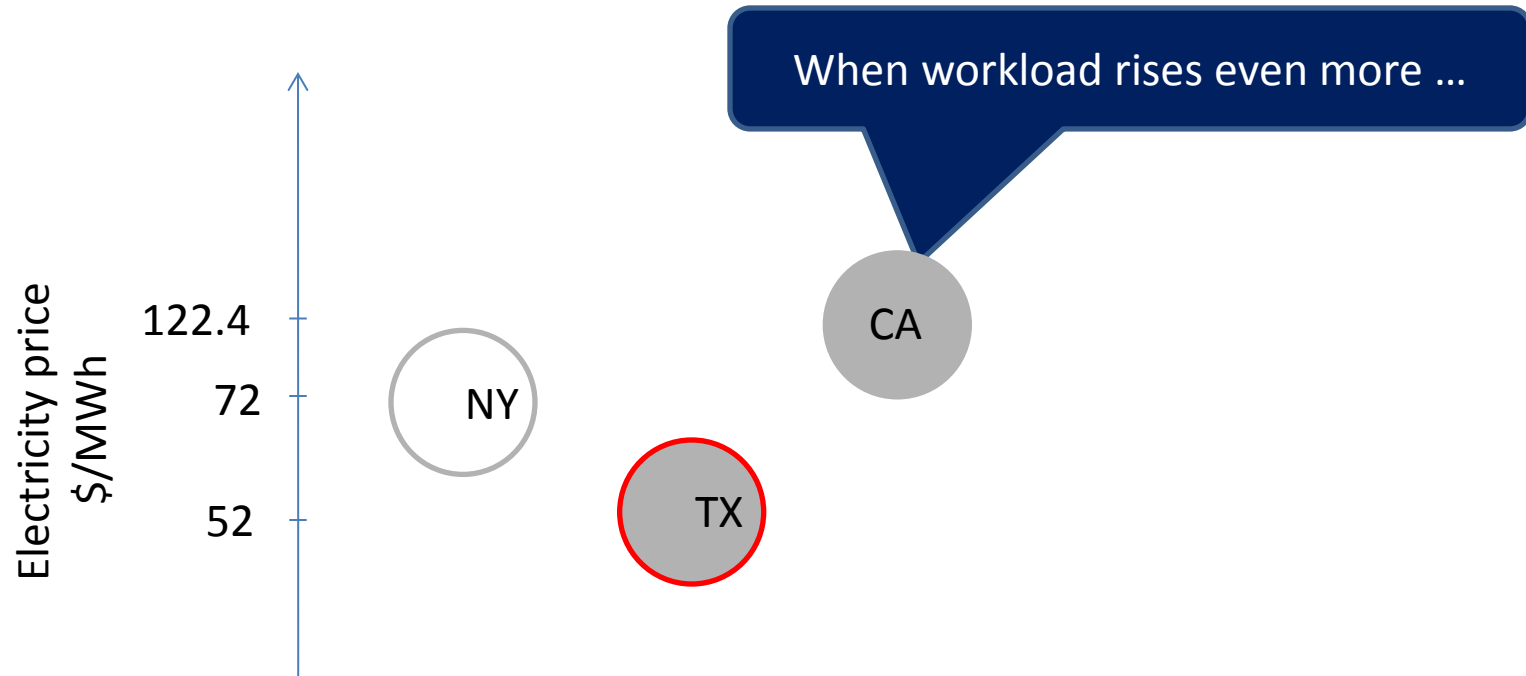
# Key Idea

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# Key Idea

CA: California  
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# Key Idea

RP and WR can cut electricity costs



# Key Idea

RP and WR can cut electricity costs

Ain't no such thing as a free lunch

# Transition Costs

- Transition costs may be present
  - Examples:
    - Expensive inter data-center traffic

# Transition Costs

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  - Examples:
    - Expensive inter data-center traffic
    - Energy spent while resuming and sleeping

# Transition Costs

- Transition costs may be present
  - Examples:
    - Expensive inter data-center traffic
    - Energy spent while resuming and sleeping
- Relocate Energy Demand to Better Locations (RED-BL)

# This Thesis

Towards systematic **minimization** of network electricity cost  
using **Workload Relocation (WR)** and **Resource Pruning (RP)**  
while considering **transition costs**

# Contributions

## Data centers

### INFOCOM Mini-Conference 2012

- Optimization framework
- Simulation based evaluation

### Computer Networks, 2014

- Finer granularity
- NP-Completeness

## Cellular Networks

### GLOBECOM 2013

- Adaptation of optimization framework
- Simulation based evaluation

### Submitted

- NP-Hardness proof \*
- Additional evaluations

# Agenda

- Background and motivation
- Opportunity and key idea
- Case studies:
  - **Data centers**
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- Conclusions and future work

# Case Study – I : Background



Source: <http://bit.ly/1mrli7o>



# Case Study – I : Background

- Data center operator
  - Geographically distributed data centers

# Case Study – I : Background

- Data center operator
  - Geographically distributed data centers
- Data center equipment

IT Load	Non-IT Load
Servers	Lighting
Storage	Cooling
Network	Power distribution

# Case Study – I : Background

- Data center operator
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IT Load	Non-IT Load
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- Power consumed is affine function of workload

# Case Study – I : Background

- Data center operator
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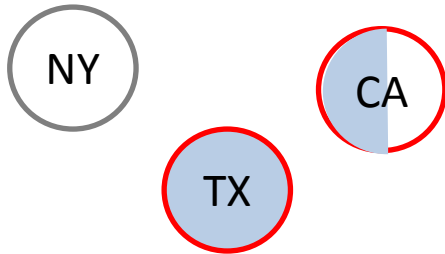
IT Load	Non-IT Load
Servers	Lighting
Storage	Cooling
Network	Power distribution

- Power consumed is affine function of workload

Let's recap how we can use WR and RP

# Problem Model

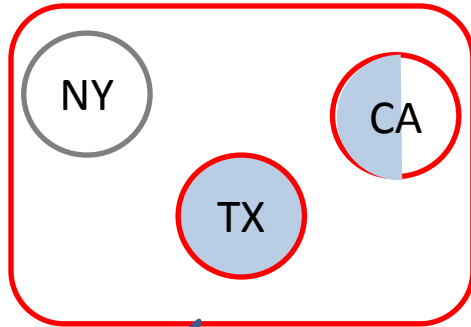
Interval - 1



Electricity price driven workload assignment

# Problem Model

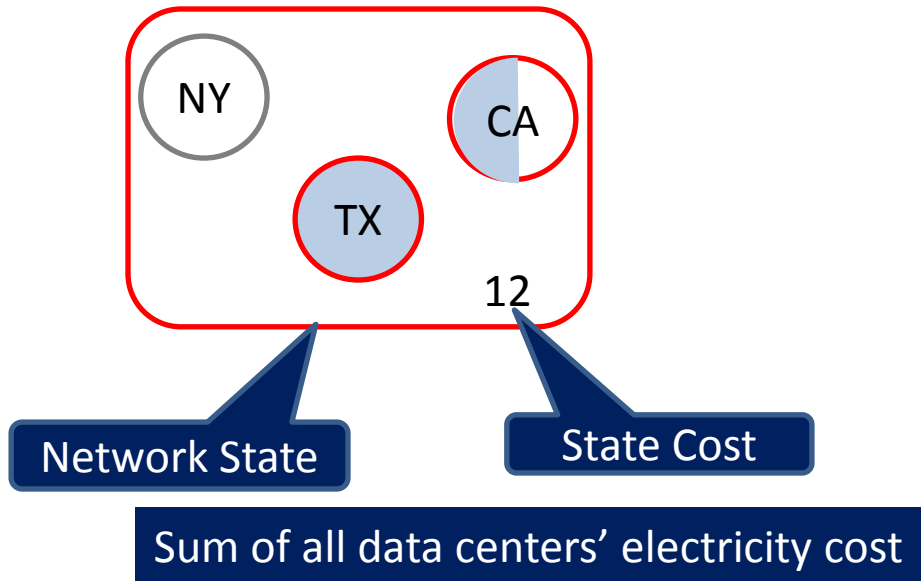
Interval - 1



Network State

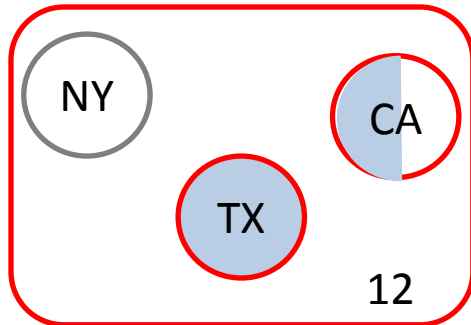
# Problem Model

Interval - 1

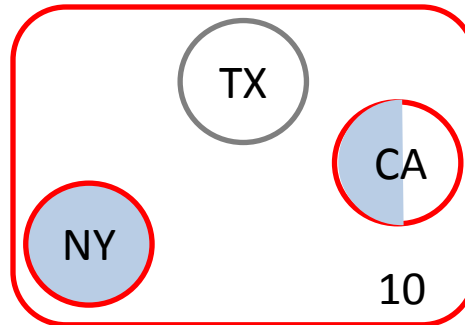


# Problem Model

Interval - 1



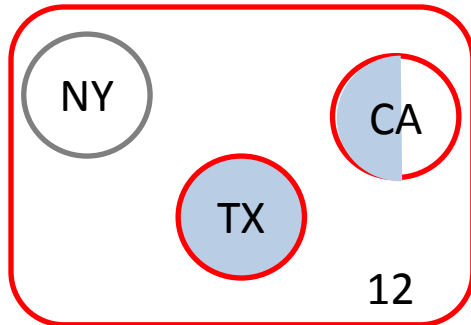
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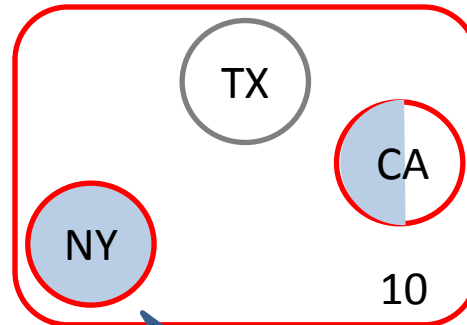


# Problem Model

Interval - 1

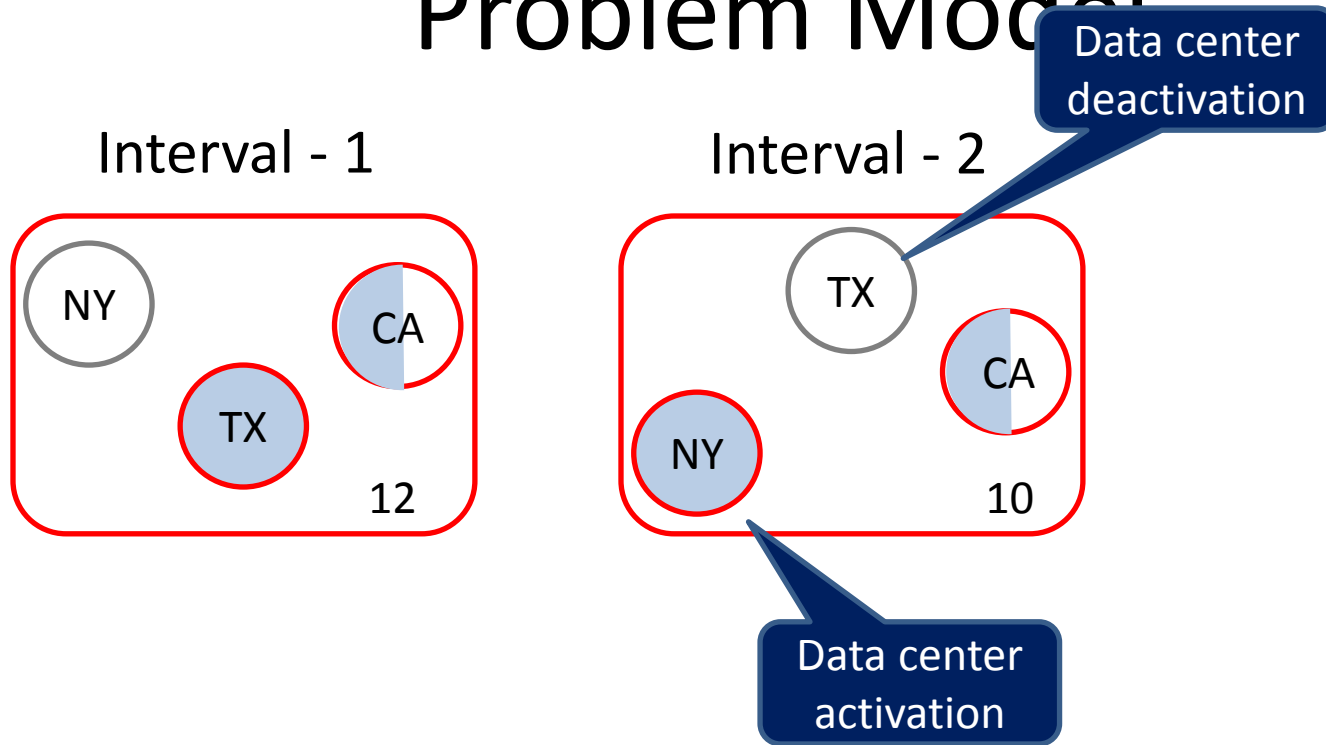


Interval - 2

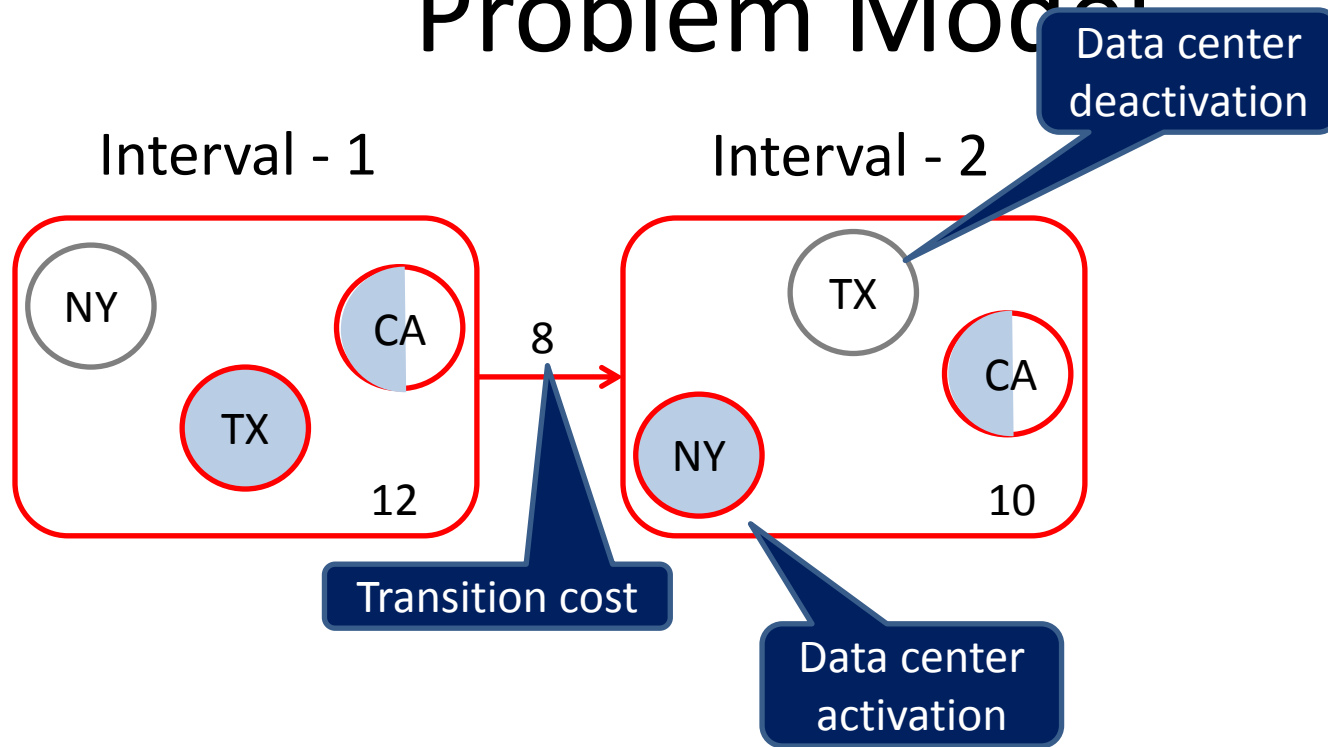


Data center  
activation

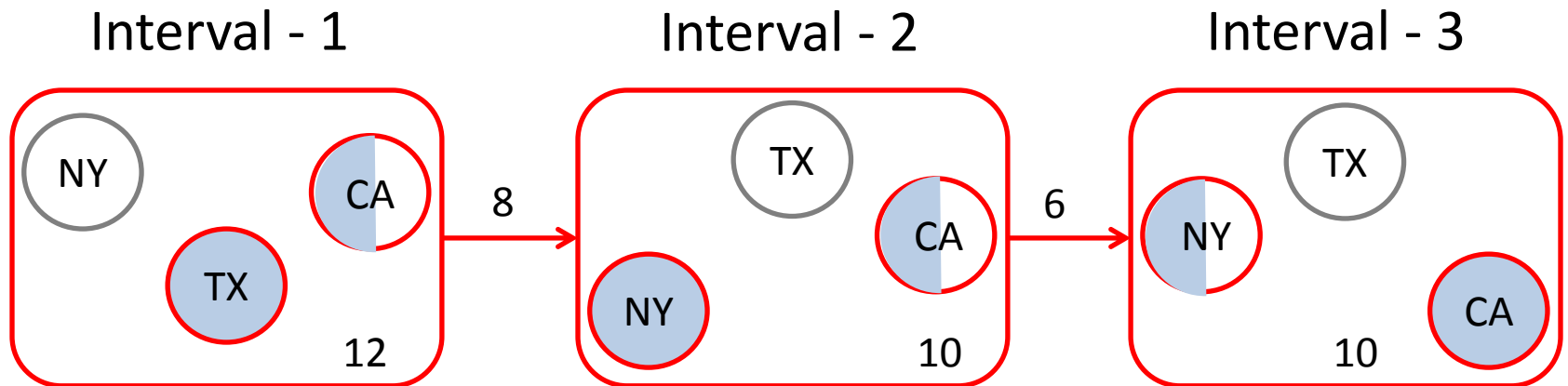
# Problem Model



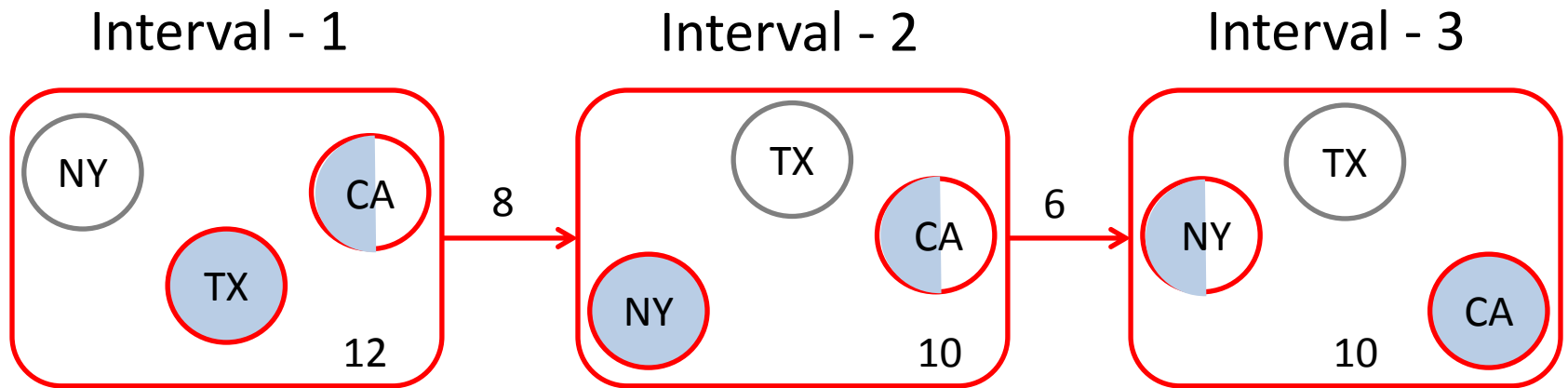
# Problem Model



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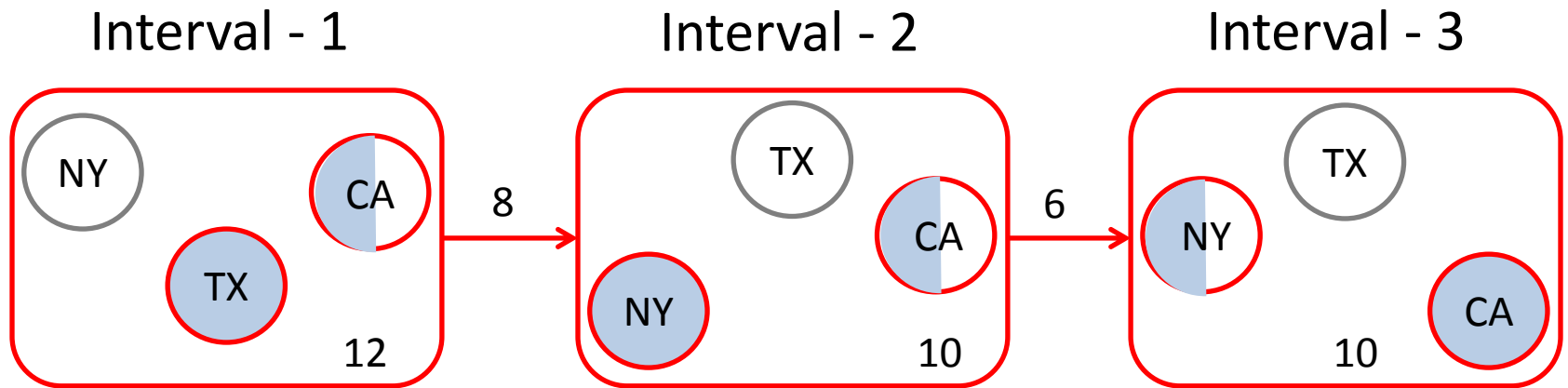


# Problem Model



Locally optimal

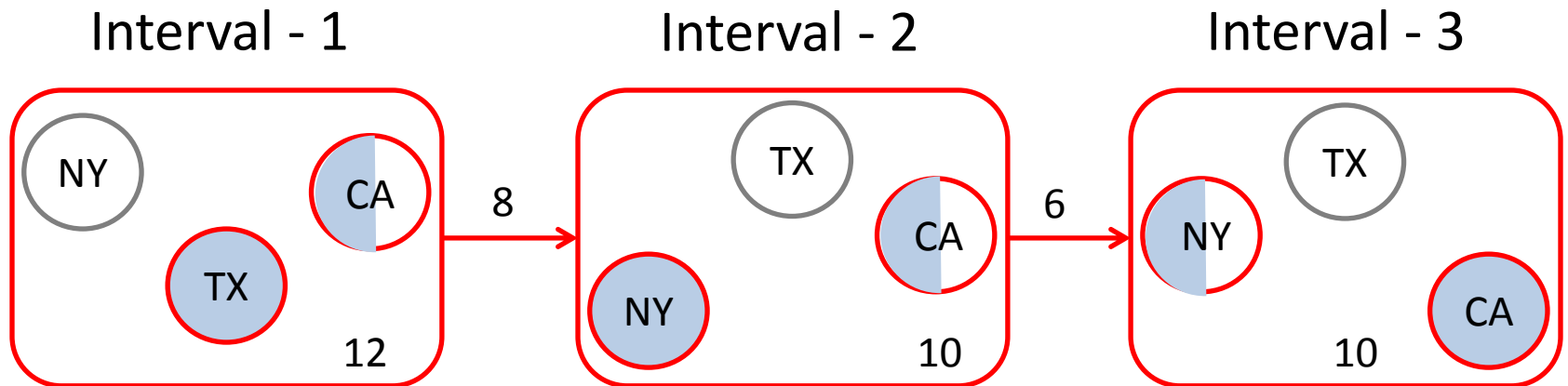
# Problem Model



Locally optimal

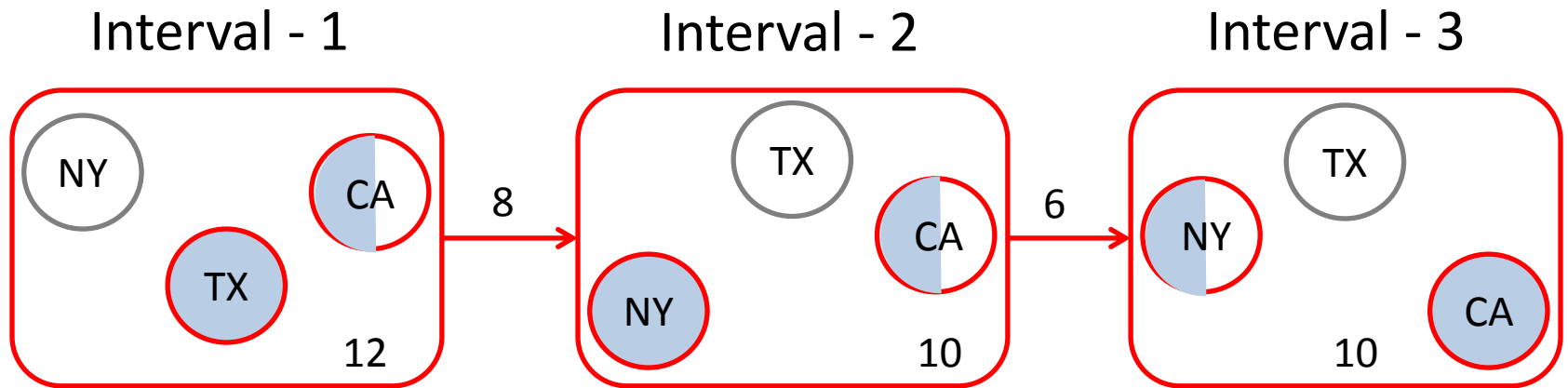
Might not be globally optimal

# Problem Model

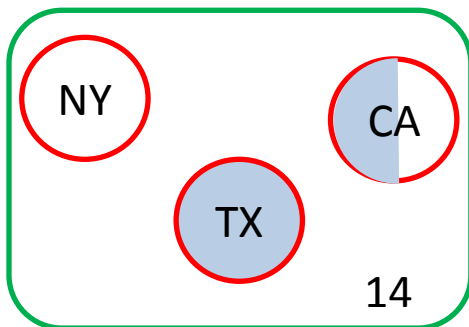


An alternative workload mapping

# Problem Model

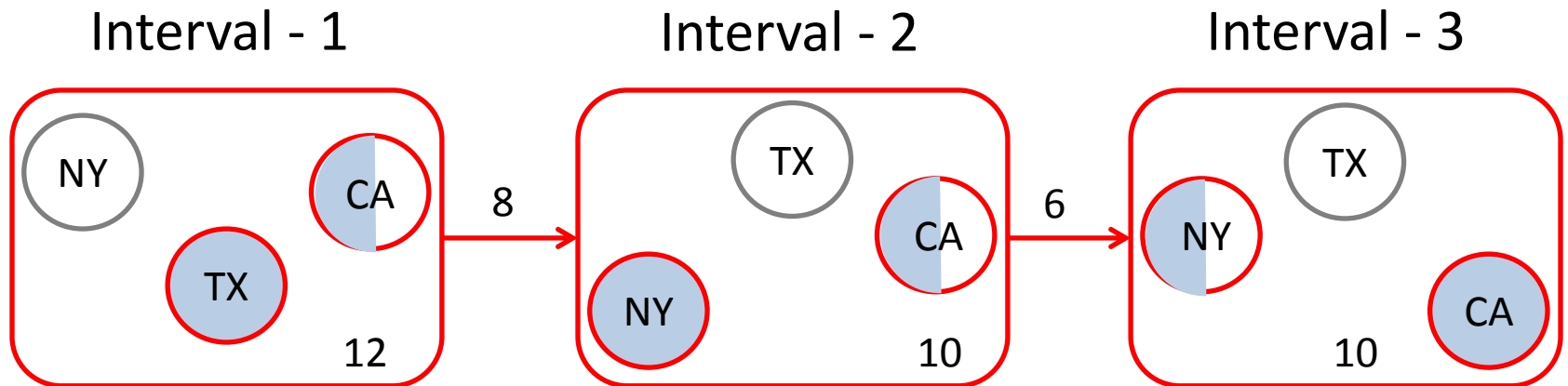


An alternative workload mapping



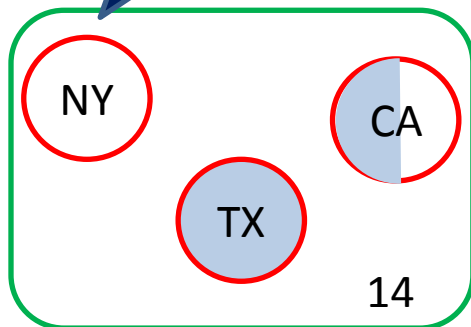


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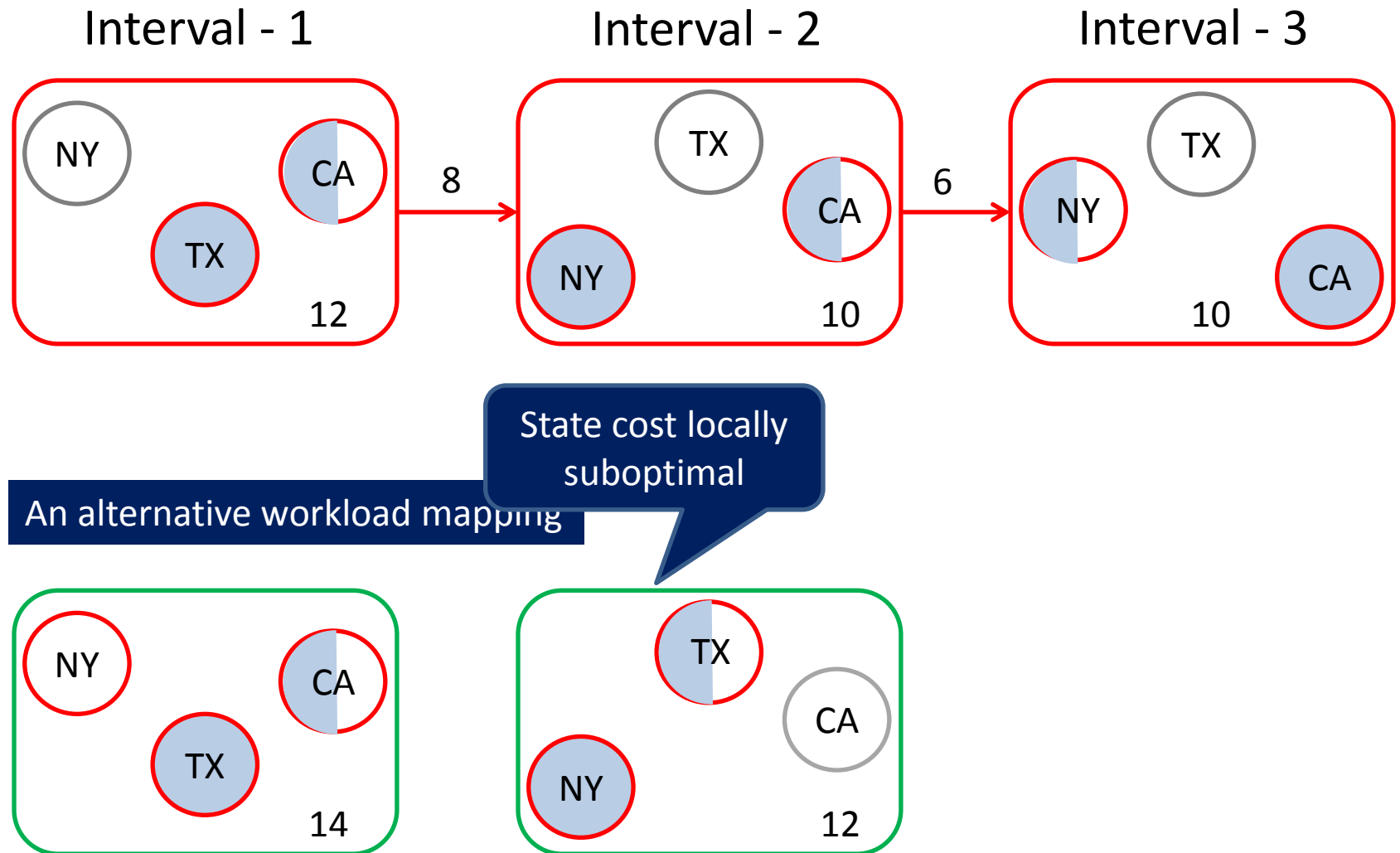


State cost locally  
suboptimal

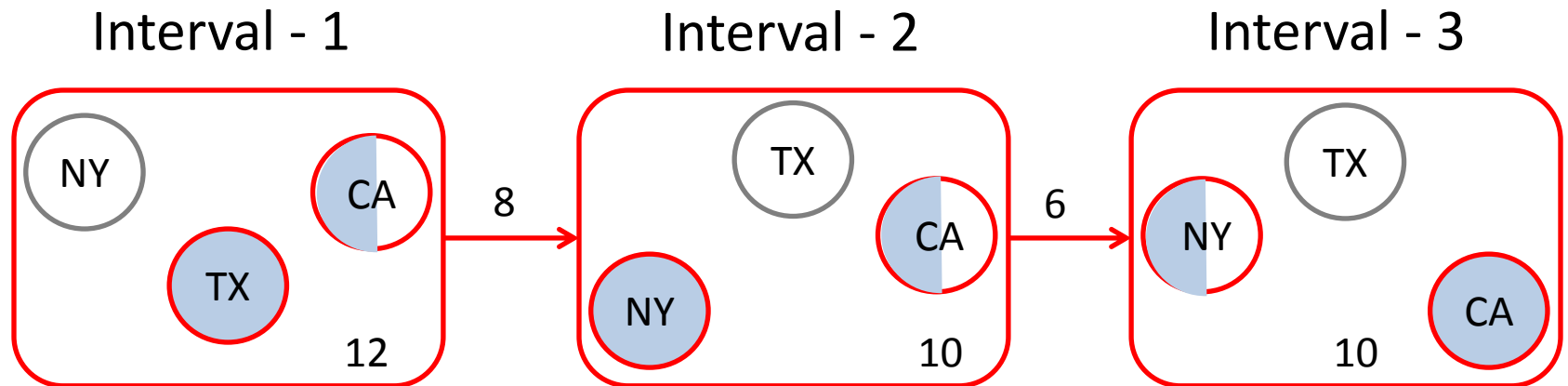
workload mapping



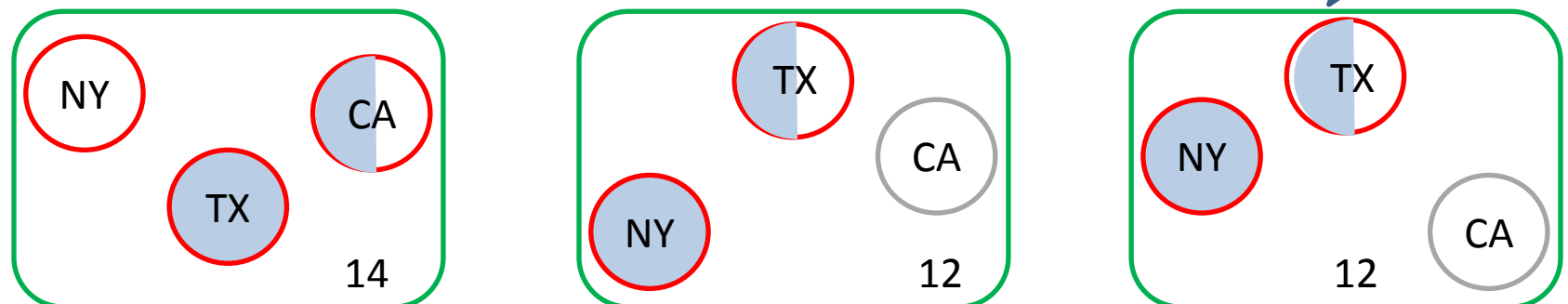
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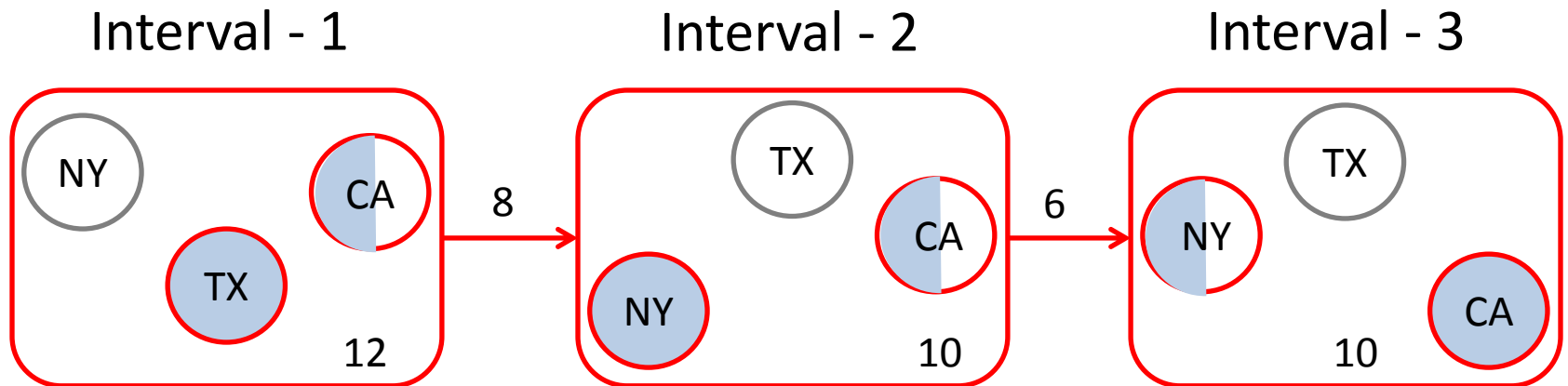
# Problem Model



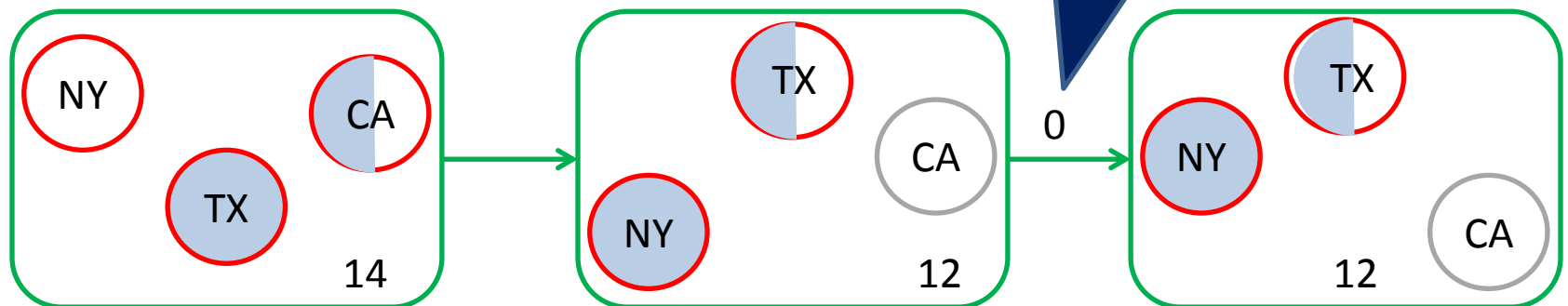
An alternative workload mapping



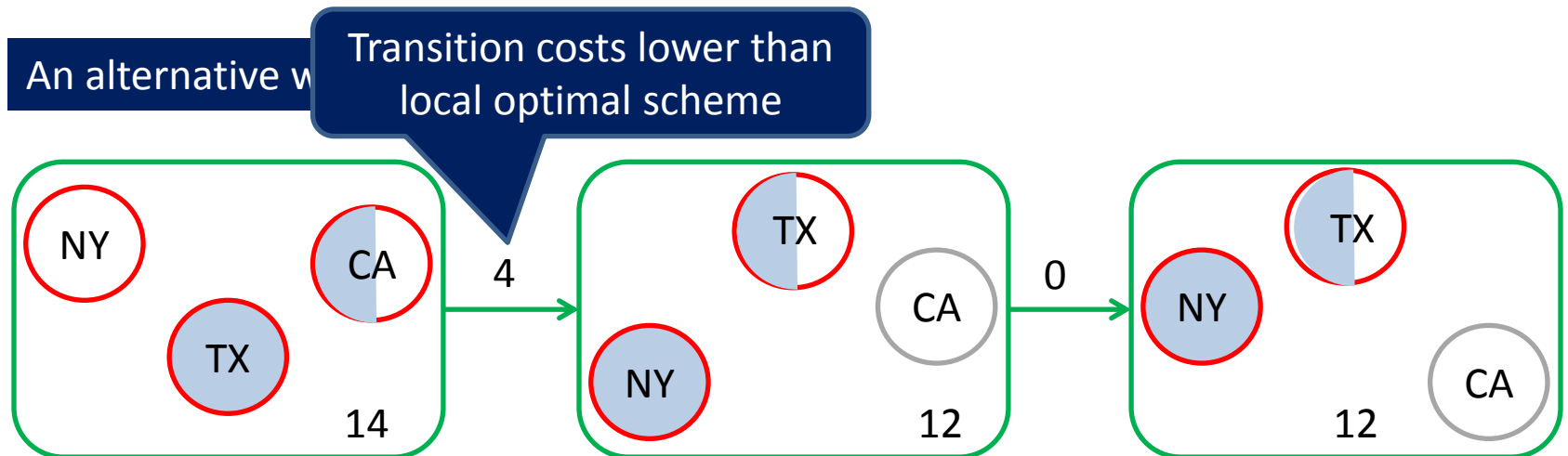
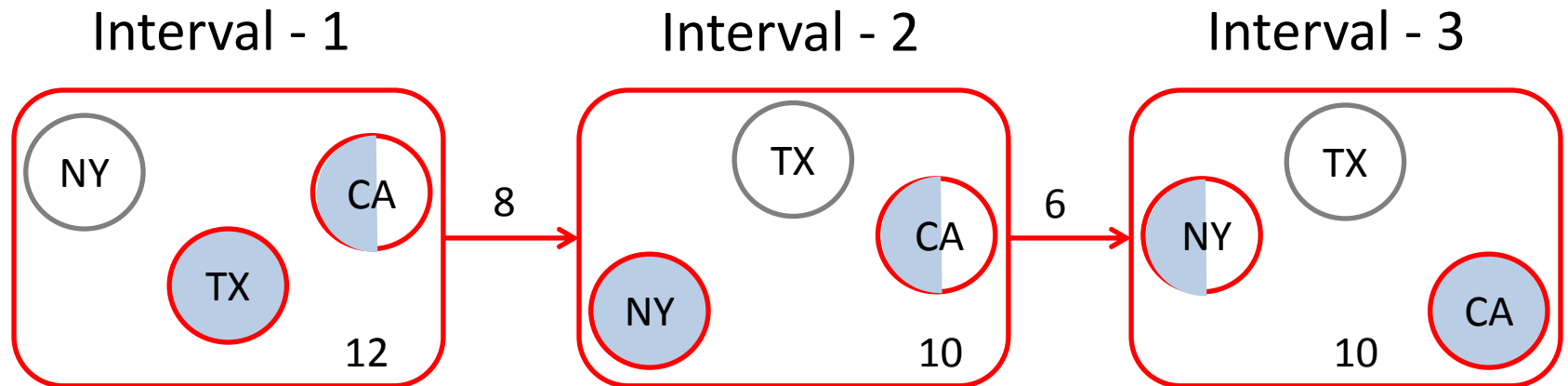
# Problem Model



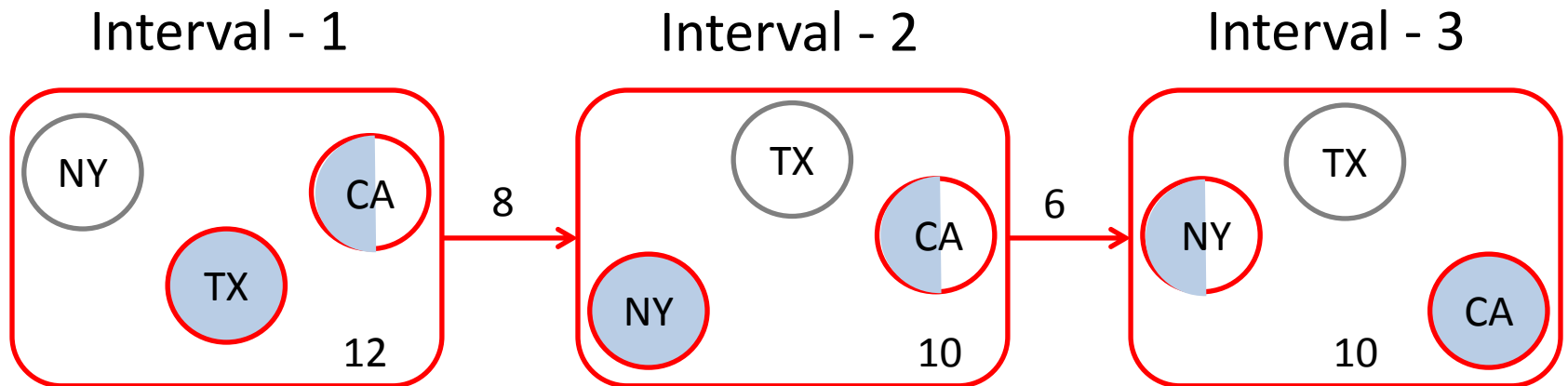
An alternative workload mapping



# Problem Model

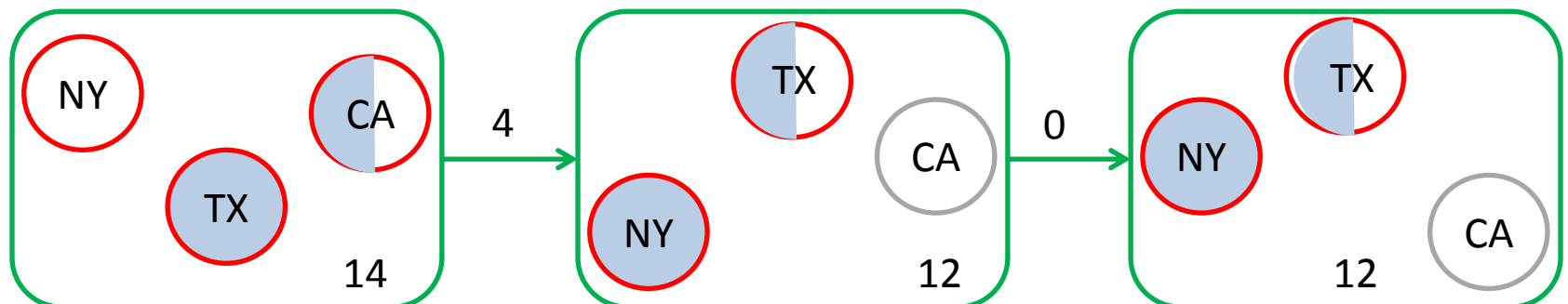


# Problem Model

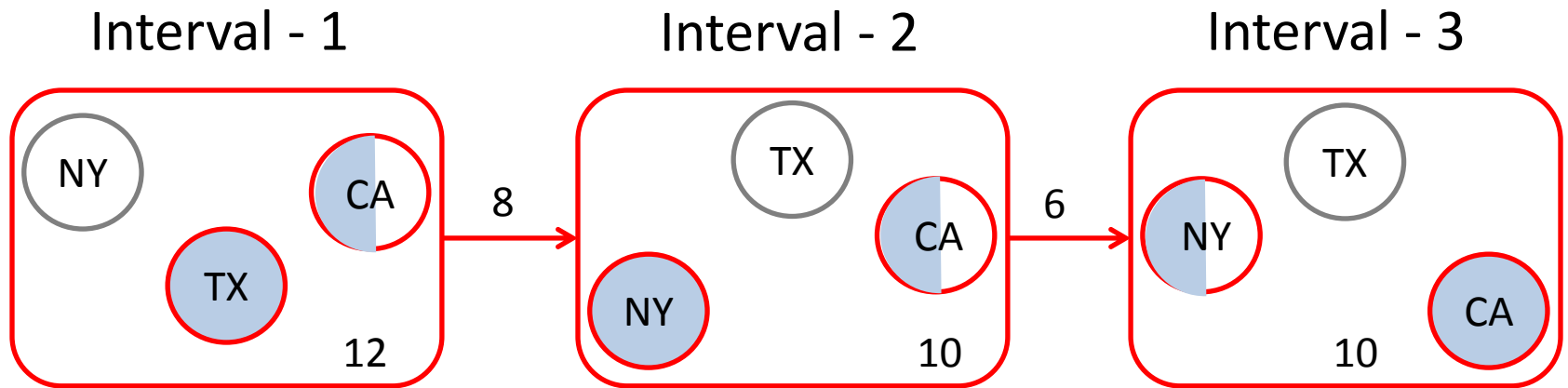


An alternative workload mapping

Total cost: 42

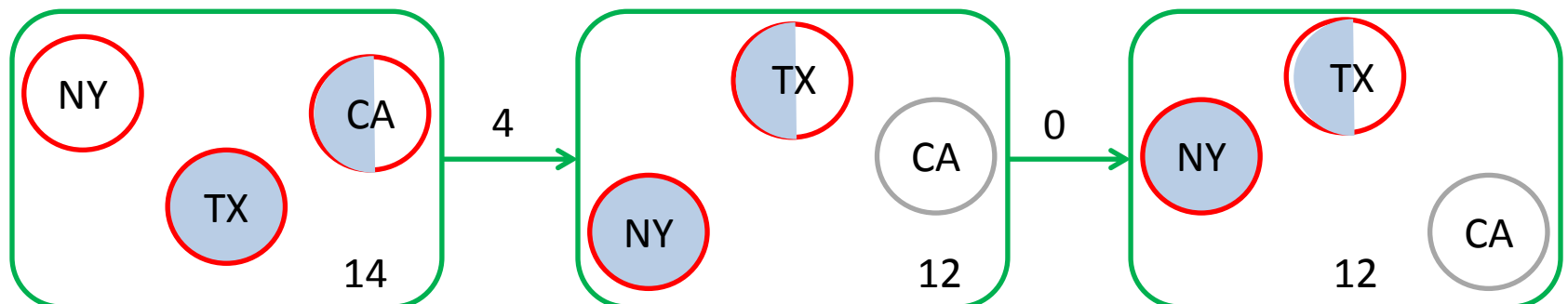


# Problem Model



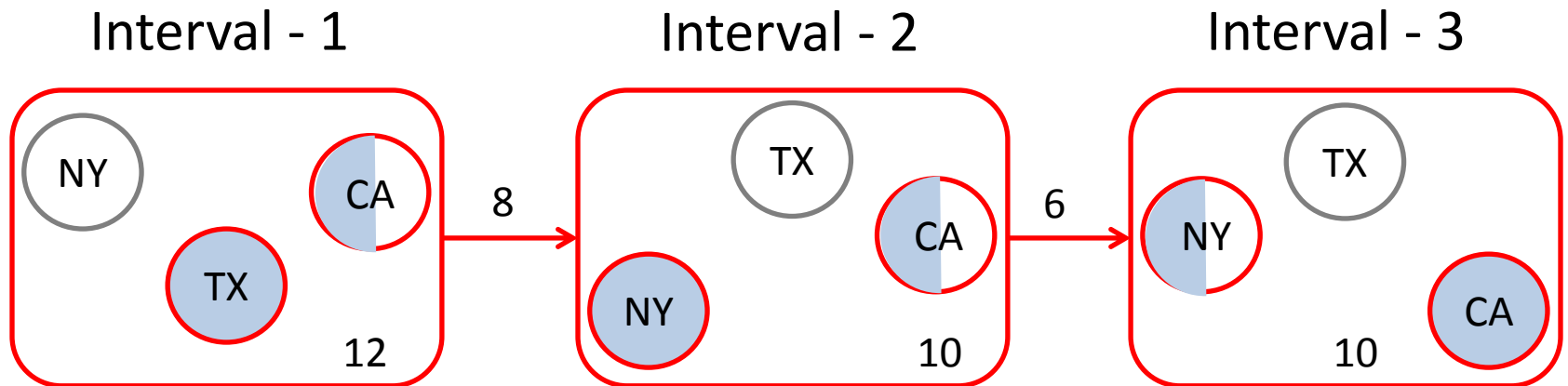
Total cost: 46

An alternative workload mapping

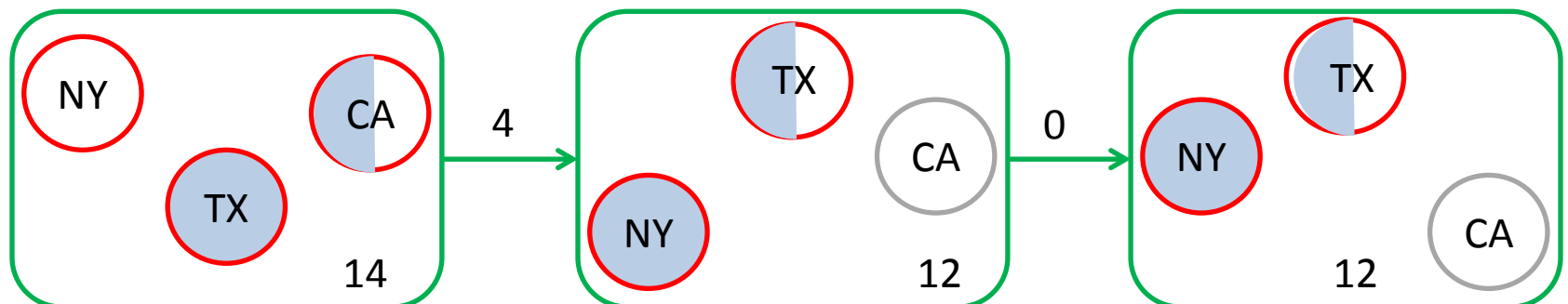


Total cost: 42

# Problem Model

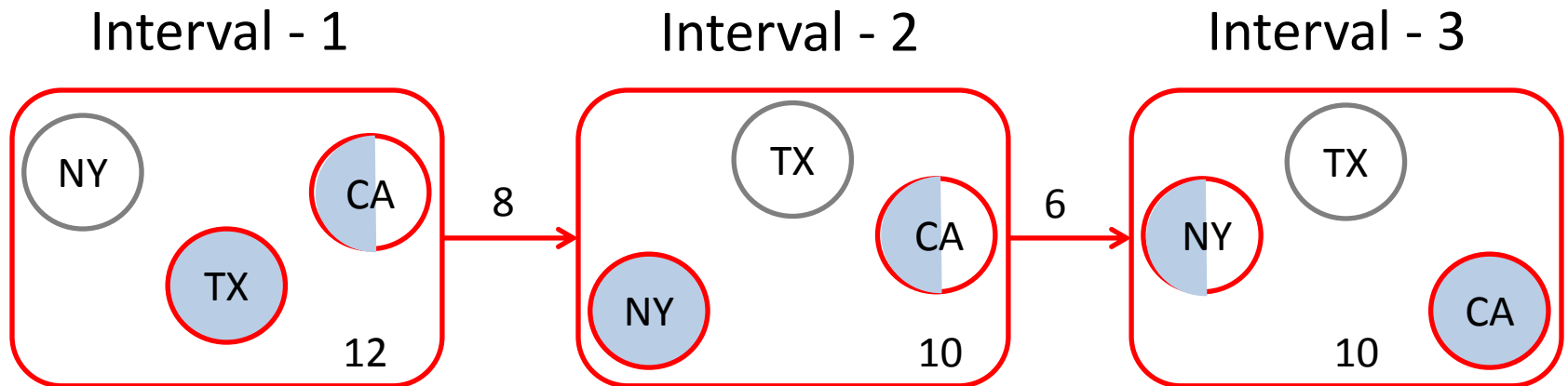


Optimal State Trajectory Problem



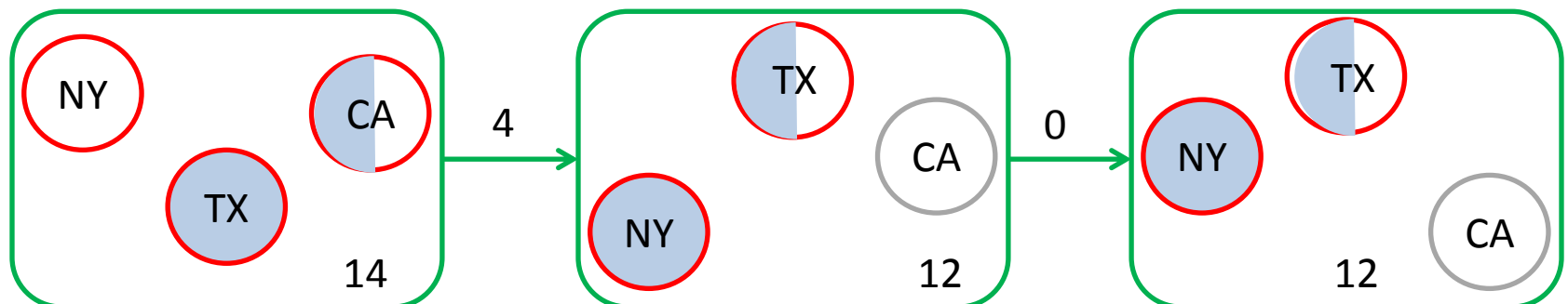


# Problem Model



Optimal State Trajectory Problem

Relocate Energy Demand to **Better** Locations (RED-BL)




# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda(f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}) + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}})$$

Transition energy

# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \underbrace{\left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right)}_{\text{State energy}} + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}}$$


The diagram illustrates the optimization formulation. The objective function is a sum of two terms. The first term,  $\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda (f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}))$ , is annotated with a bracket and a callout box labeled "State energy". The second term,  $b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$ , is annotated with a bracket and a callout box labeled "Transition energy".

# Optimization Formulation

Unit price of  
electricity

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \underbrace{\left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right)}_{\text{State energy}} + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}}$$

# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \left( \underbrace{p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right)}_{\text{State energy}} + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}} \right)$$

Workload

State energy

Transition energy

# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right) + b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$$

The diagram illustrates the optimization formulation with the following components:

- Workload:** Points to the term  $x_i^j$  in the fraction  $\frac{x_i^j}{c_i}$ .
- Data center capacity:** Points to the term  $c_i$  in the denominator of the fraction  $\frac{x_i^j}{c_i}$ .
- State energy:** Points to the term  $c_i e_i^j \left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right)$ .
- Transition energy:** Points to the terms  $b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$ .

# Optimization Formulation


The diagram illustrates the optimization formulation with the following components and callouts:

- Fraction of data center that is active**: Points to the variable  $f$  in the equation.
- Workload**: Points to the variable  $x_i^j$  in the equation.
- Data center capacity**: Points to the variable  $c_i$  in the equation.
- State energy**: Points to the term  $c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda (f + (1 - f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}))$ .
- Transition energy**: Points to the term  $b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$ .

The optimization problem is formulated as:

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda (f + (1 - f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i})) + b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$$

# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \underbrace{\left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right)}_{\text{State energy}} + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}}$$


The diagram illustrates the optimization formulation. The objective function is a sum of two terms. The first term,  $\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda (f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}))$ , is annotated with a bracket and a callout box labeled "State energy". The second term,  $b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$ , is annotated with a bracket and a callout box labeled "Transition energy".



# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \underbrace{\left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right)}_{\text{State energy}} + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}}$$

Sum over all data centers

State energy

Transition energy

# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j \underbrace{\left( p_i^j \lambda \left( f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} \right) \right)}_{\text{State energy}} + \underbrace{b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta}_{\text{Transition energy}}$$

Sum over all  
intervals

Sum over all  
data centers

State energy

Transition energy

Subject to several constraints (please see the thesis)

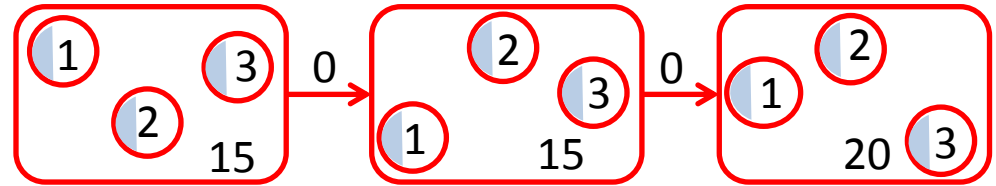
# Experimental Setup

- Workload from 3 popular Facebook apps
- Electricity prices from 33 US locations
- Simulated a week-long deployment plan
- Compared RED-BL against various schemes

# Comparison Benchmarks

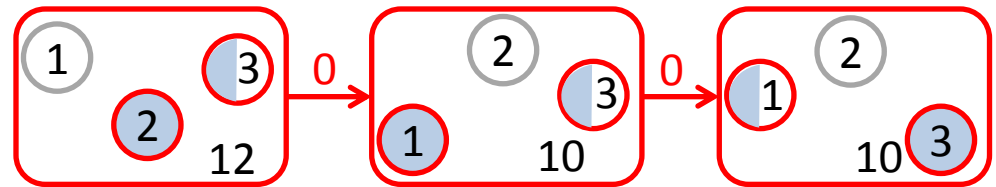
# Comparison Benchmarks

UNIFORM: Equally distribute workload



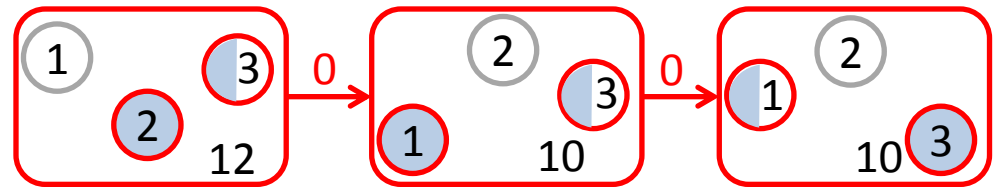
# Comparison Benchmarks

LO: Local Optimal Ignoring Transition Costs

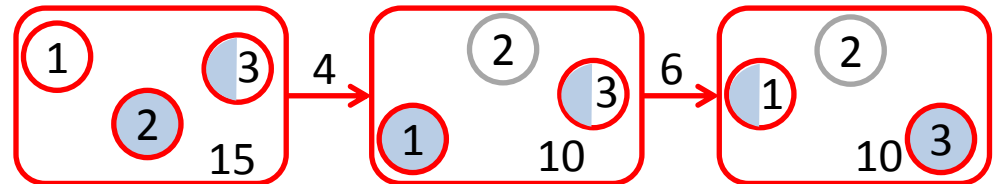


# Comparison Benchmarks

LO: Local Optimal Ignoring Transition Costs

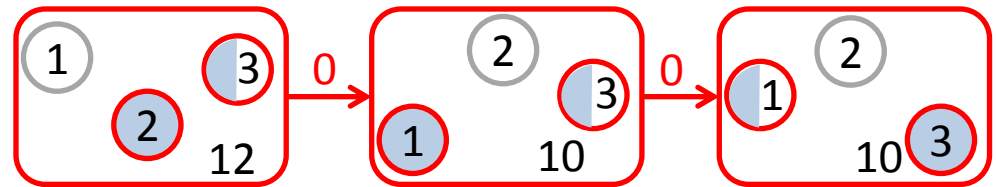


LS: Local Optimal with Selection



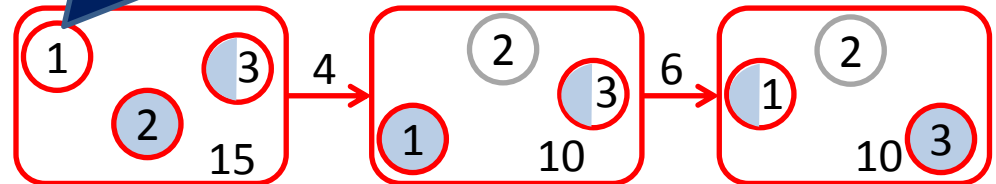
# Comparison Benchmarks

LO: Local Optimal Ignoring Transition Costs



Sometimes idling is better

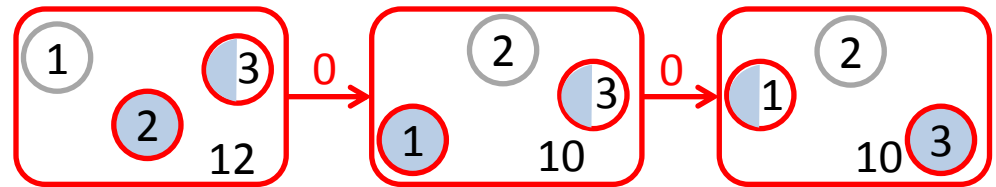
LS: Local Optimal with Selection





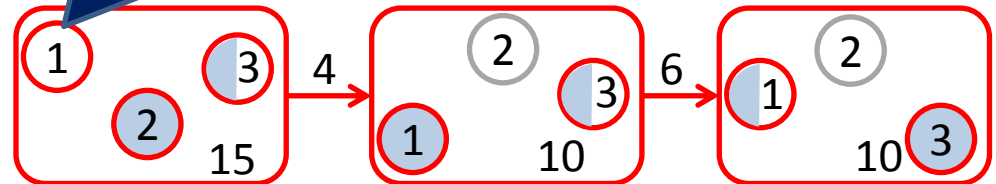
# Comparison Benchmarks

LO: Local Optimal Ignoring Transition Costs



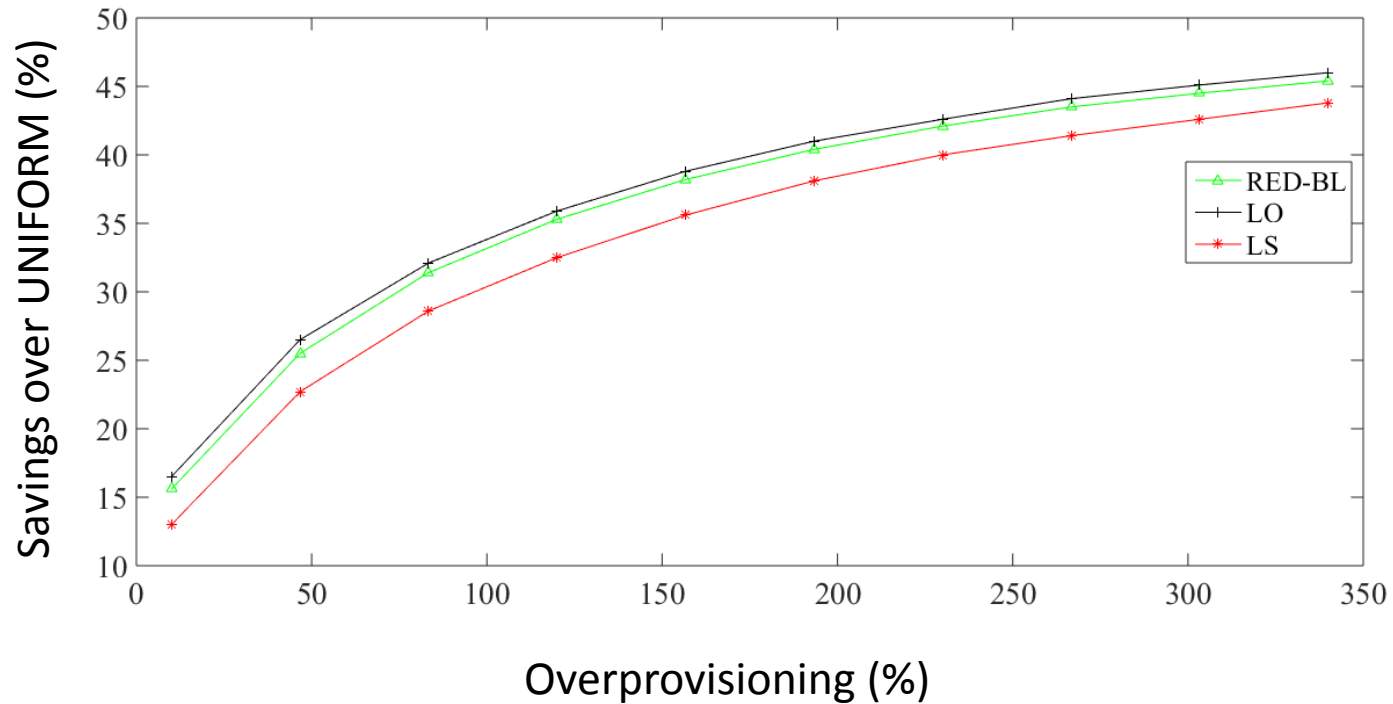
Sometimes idling is better

LS: Local Optimal with Selection

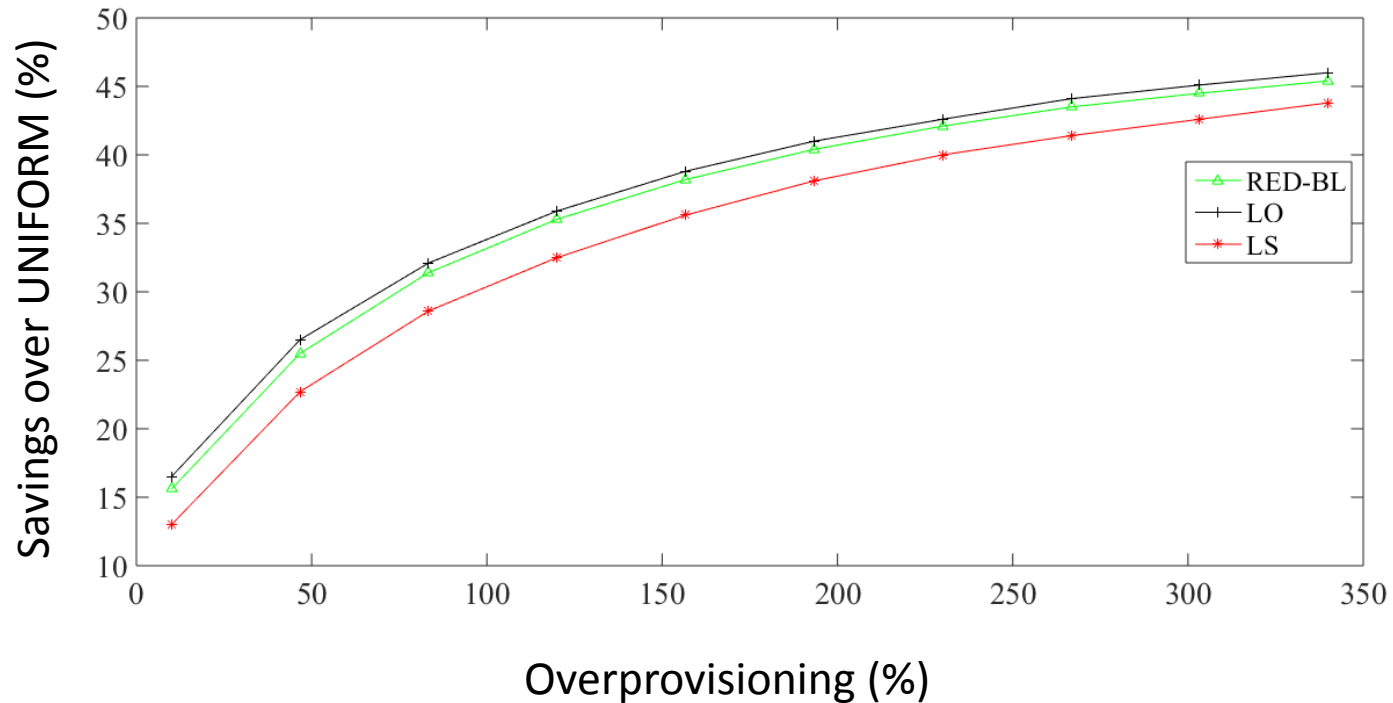


Best practical variant of local optimal

# Cost Savings vs Over-provisioning



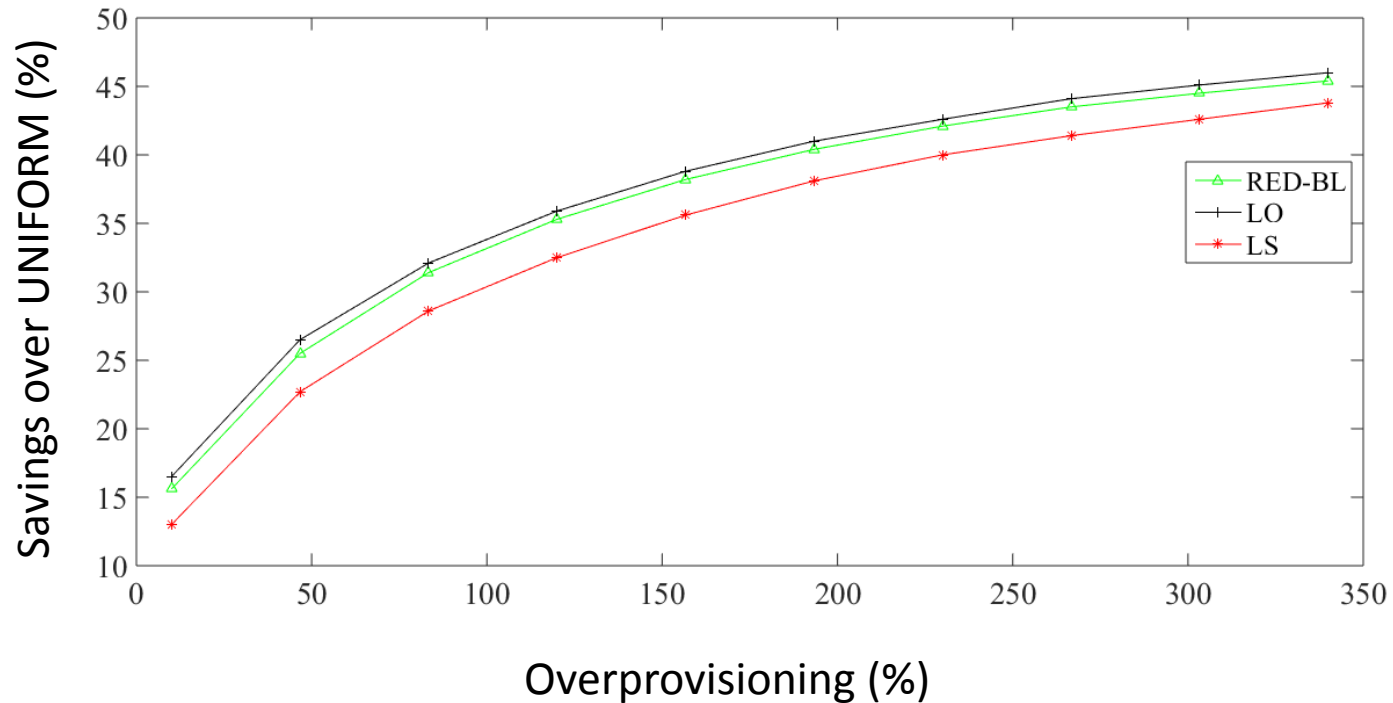
# Cost Savings vs Over-provisioning



Increased over provisioning



# Cost Savings vs Over-provisioning

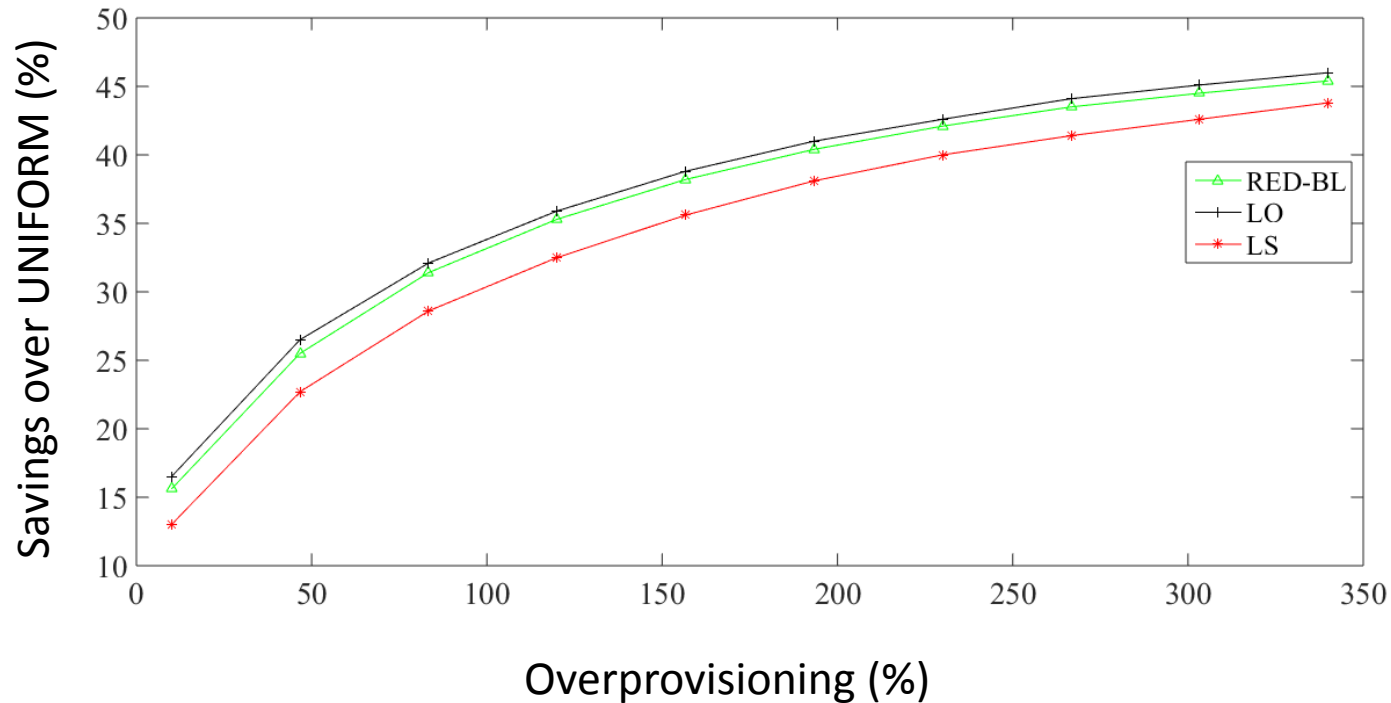


Increased over provisioning



More capacity at cheaper locations

# Cost Savings vs Over-provisioning



Increased over provisioning

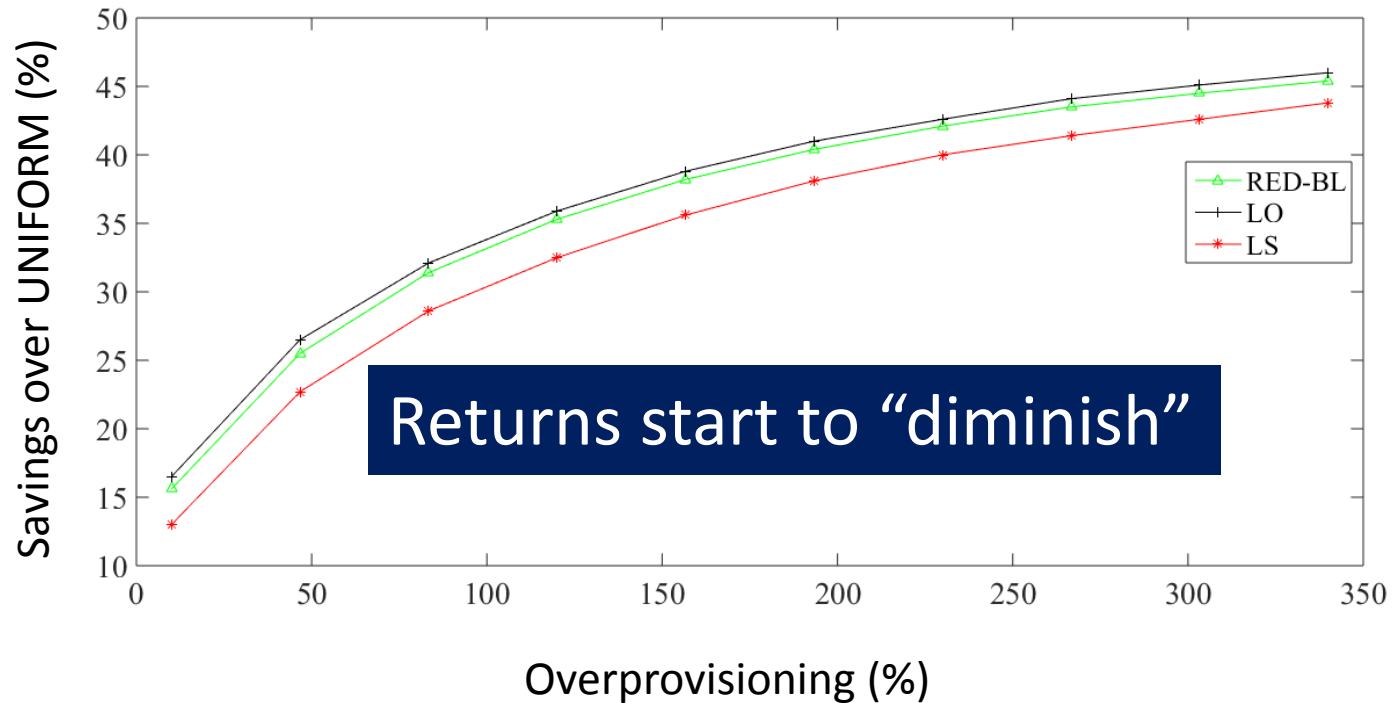


More capacity at cheaper locations

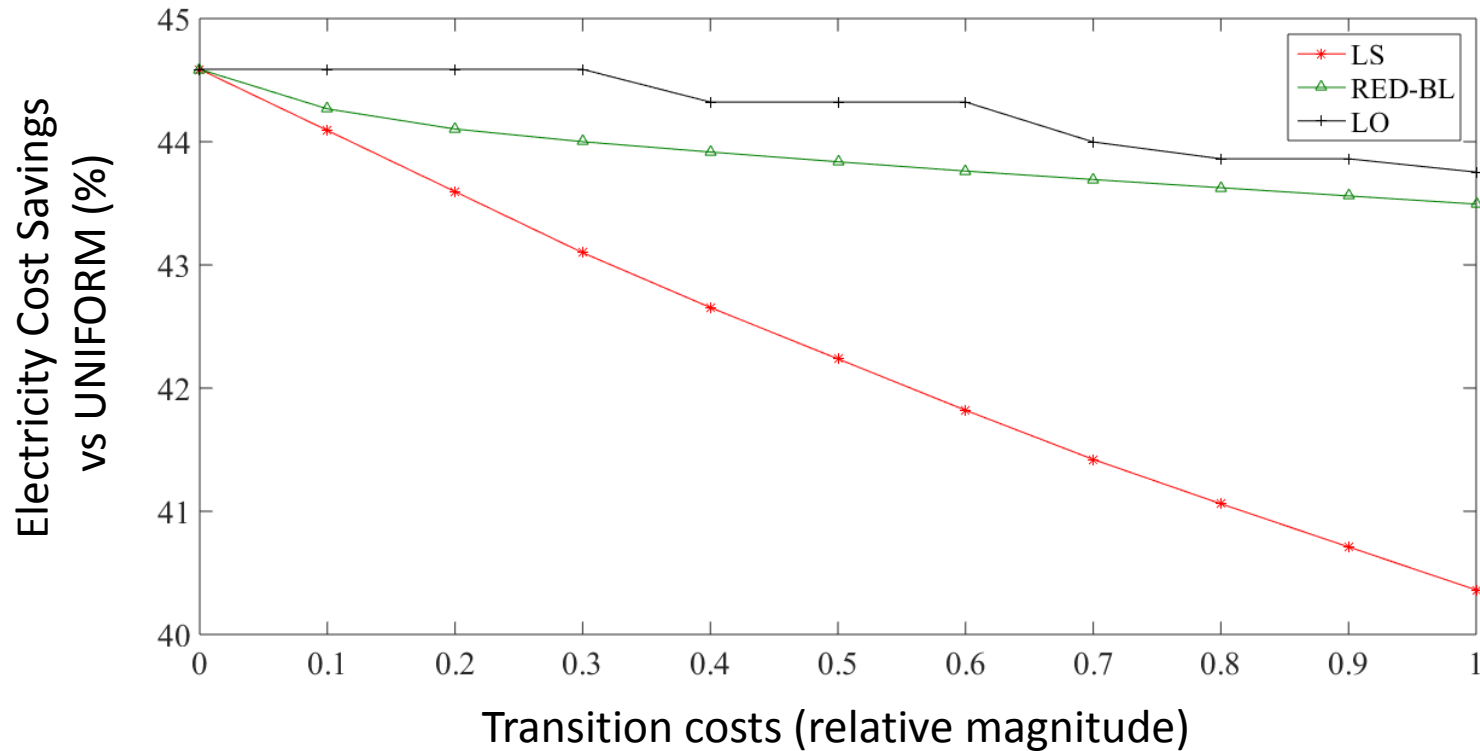


Greater savings

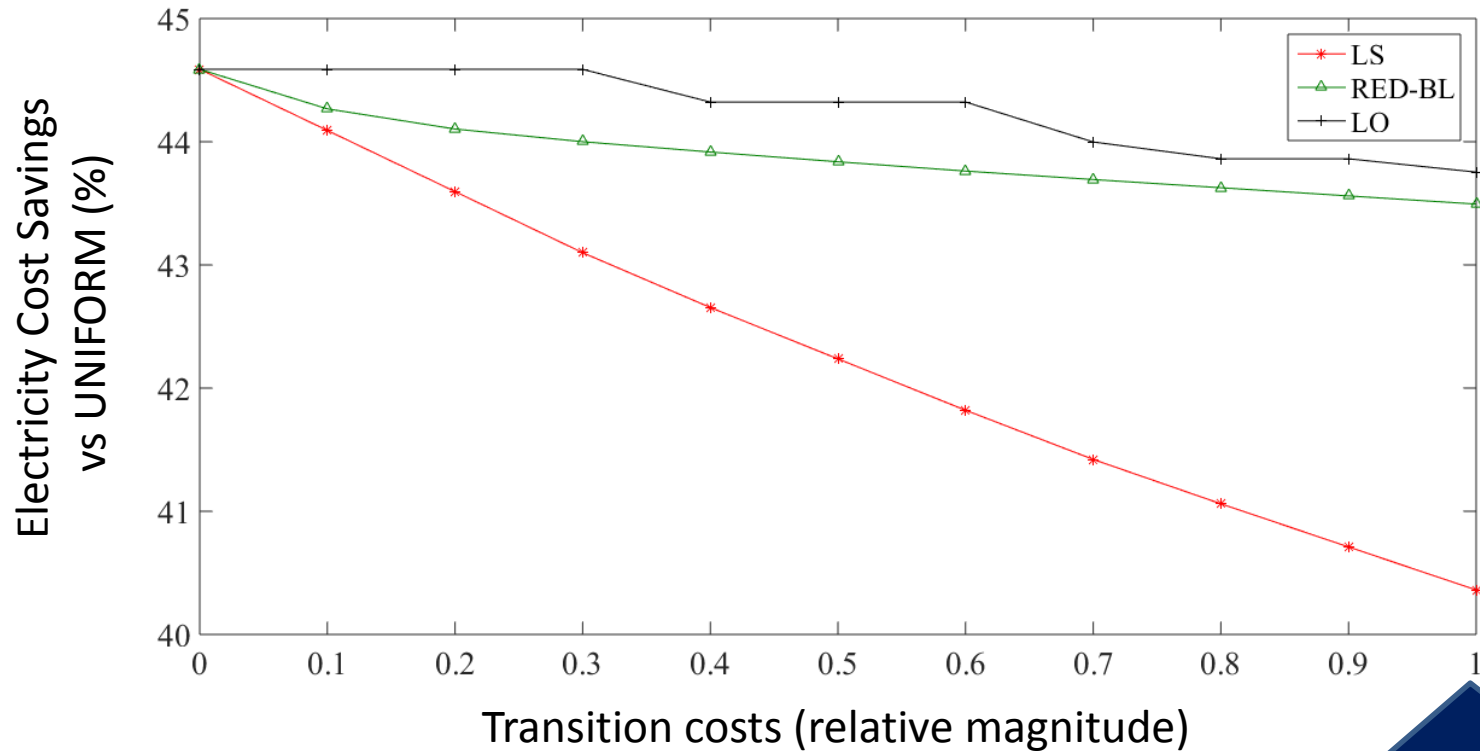
# Cost Savings vs Over-provisioning



# Electricity Cost vs Transition Cost



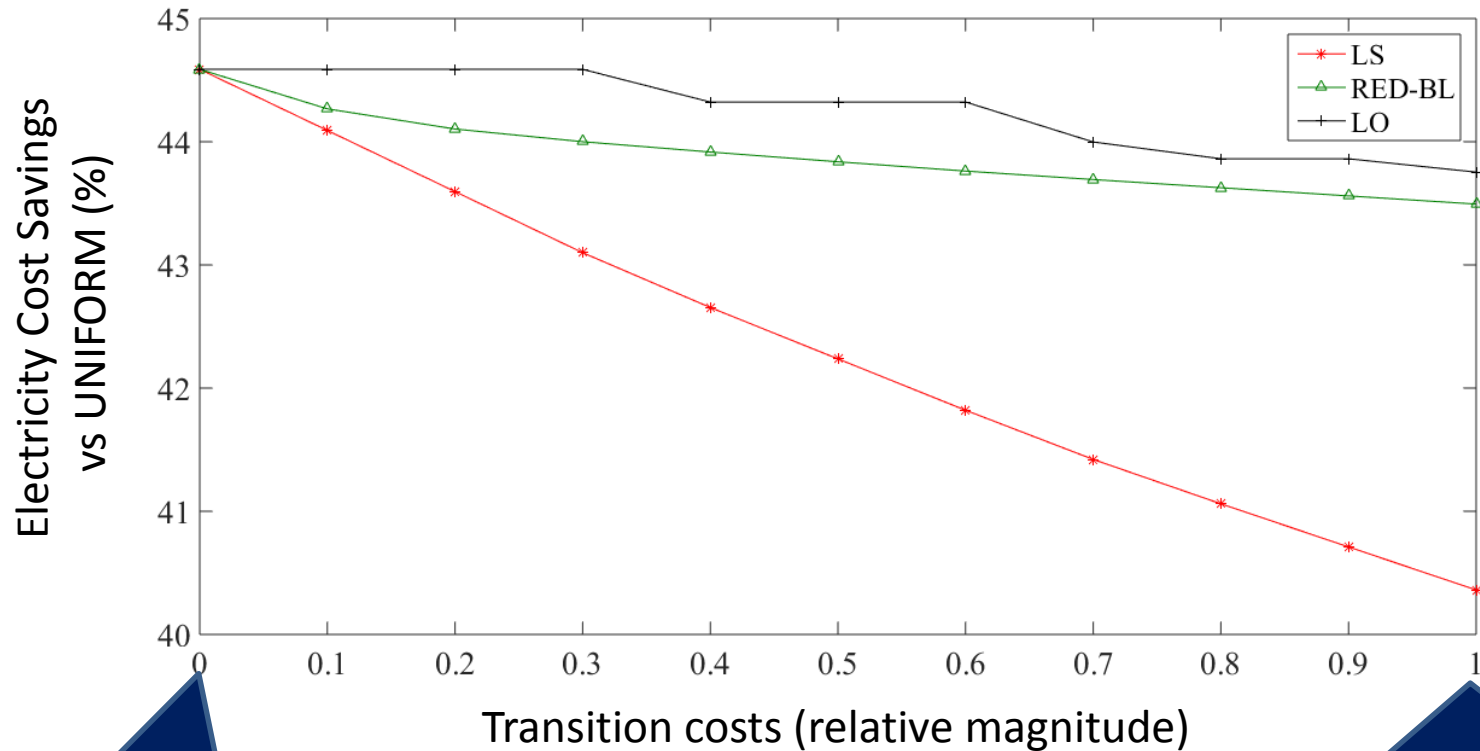
# Electricity Cost vs Transition Cost



(De)activation overhead = energy cost



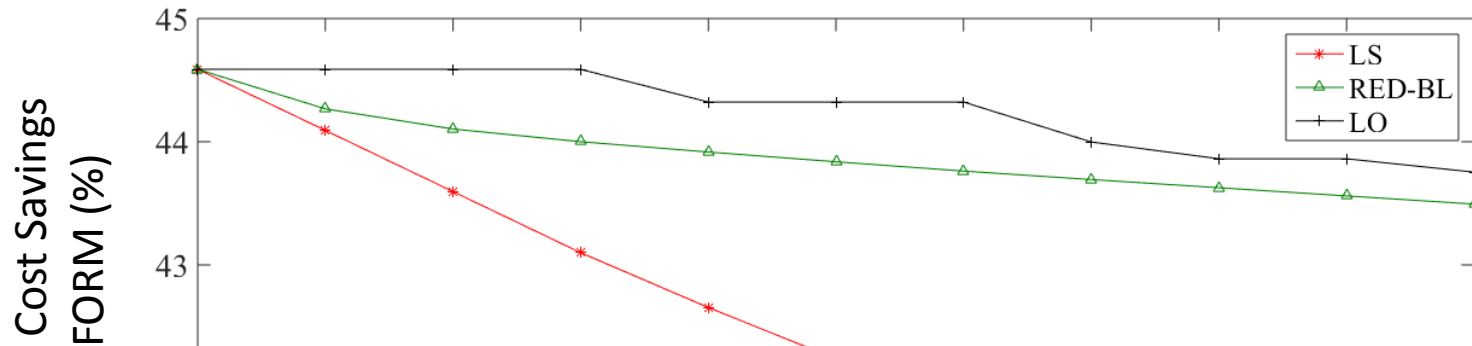
# Electricity Cost vs Transition Cost



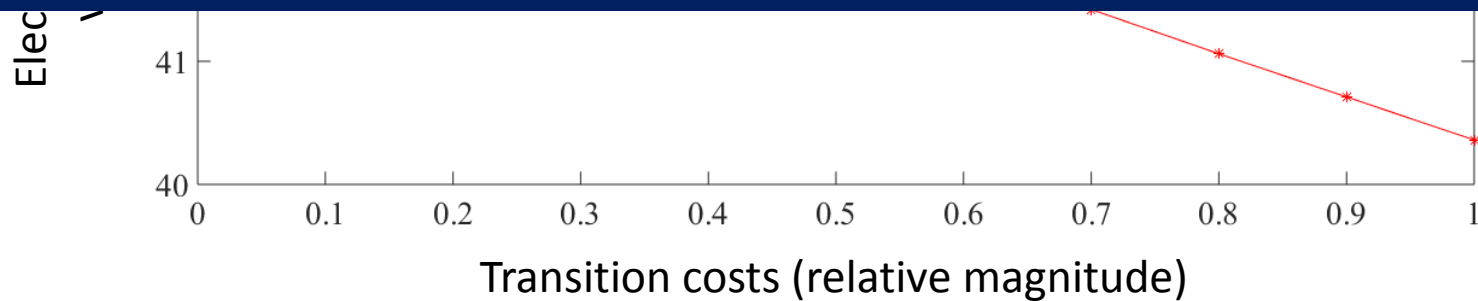
No transition costs

(De)activation overhead = energy cost

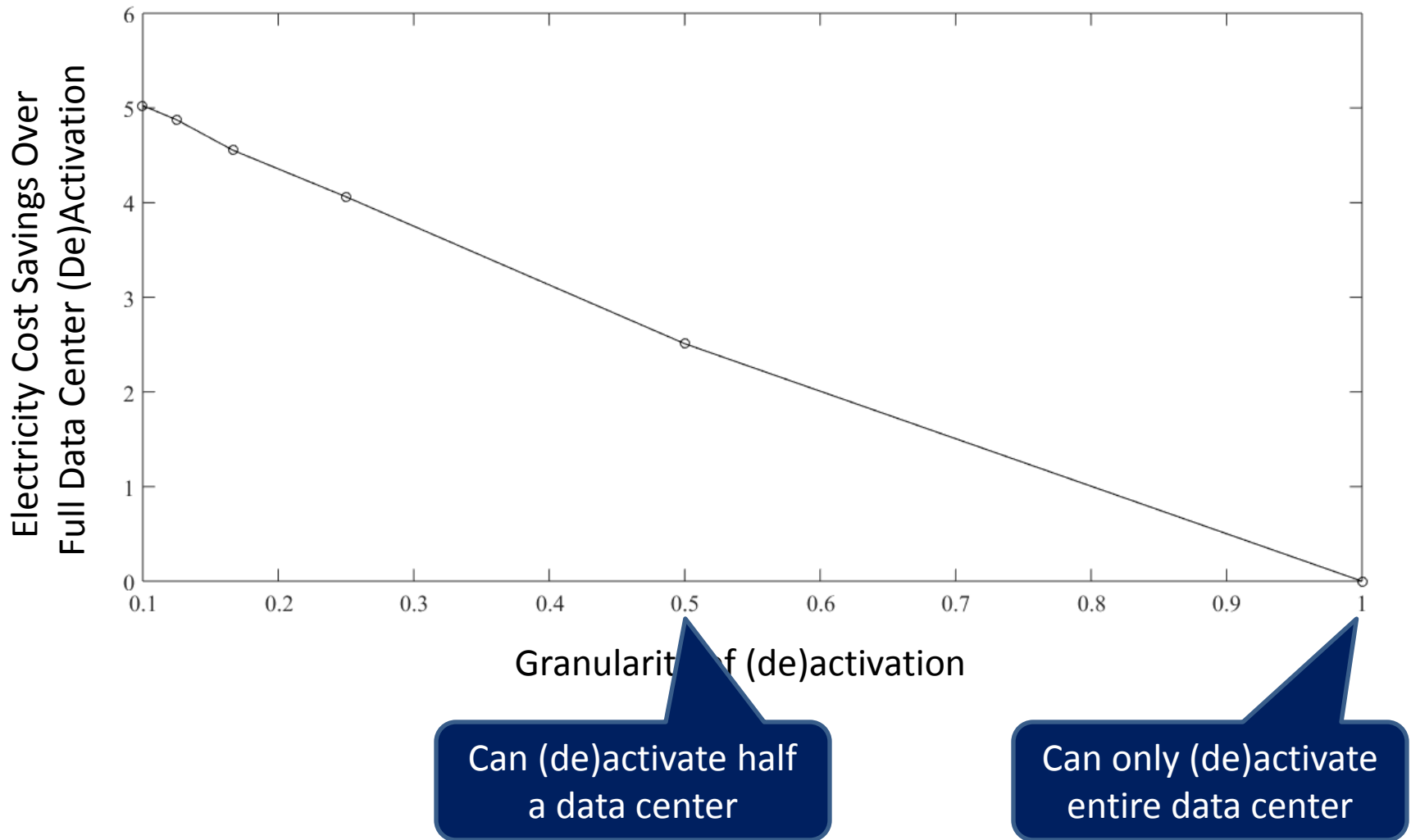
# Electricity Cost vs Transition Cost



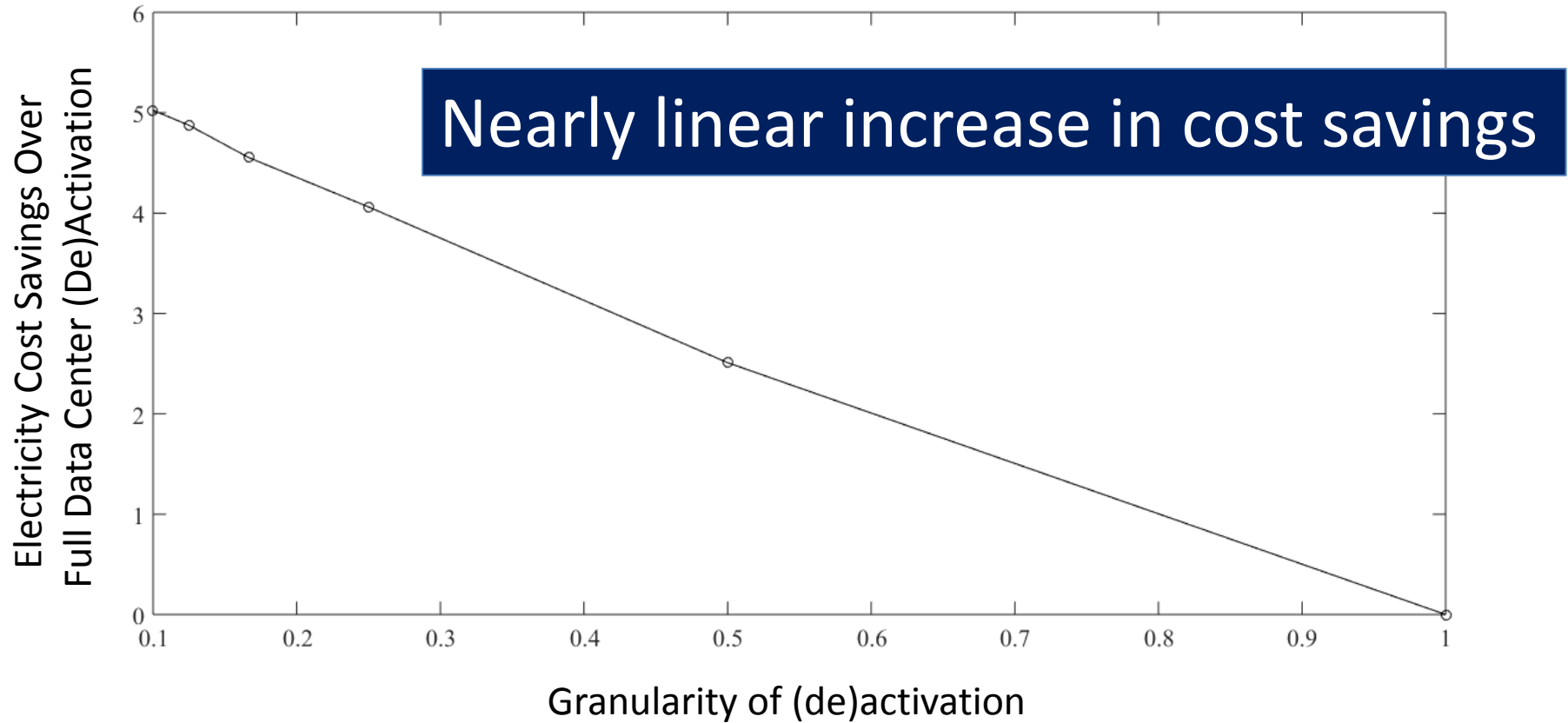
Optimal energy savings scale well with transition costs



# Granular (De)activation



# Granular (De)activation



# Summary – Case Study I

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- Electricity cost savings can be achieved
  - Overprovisioning
  - Diversity

# Summary – Case Study I

- Electricity cost savings can be achieved
  - Overprovisioning
  - Diversity
- It is important to consider transition costs

# Summary – Case Study I

- Electricity cost savings can be achieved
  - Overprovisioning
  - Diversity
- It is important to consider transition costs
- RED-BL has wider applicability



# Agenda

- Background and motivation
- Opportunity and key idea
- Case studies:
  - Data centers
  - **Cellular networks**
- Conclusions and future work

# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks



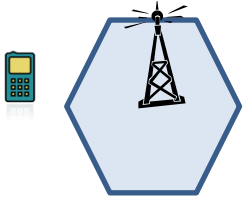
# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks



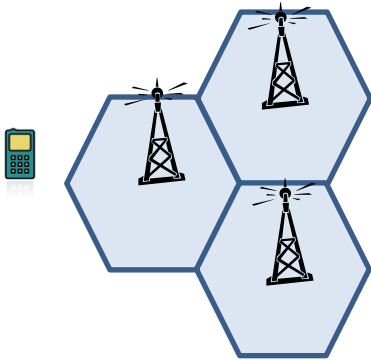
# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks



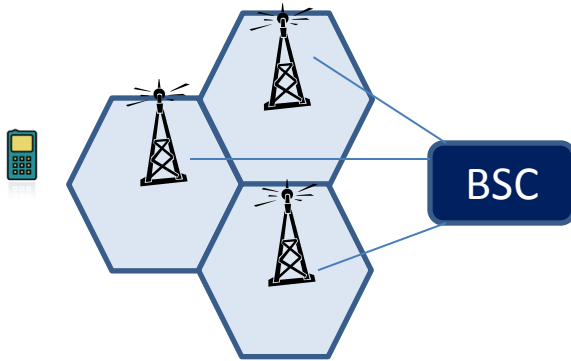
# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks



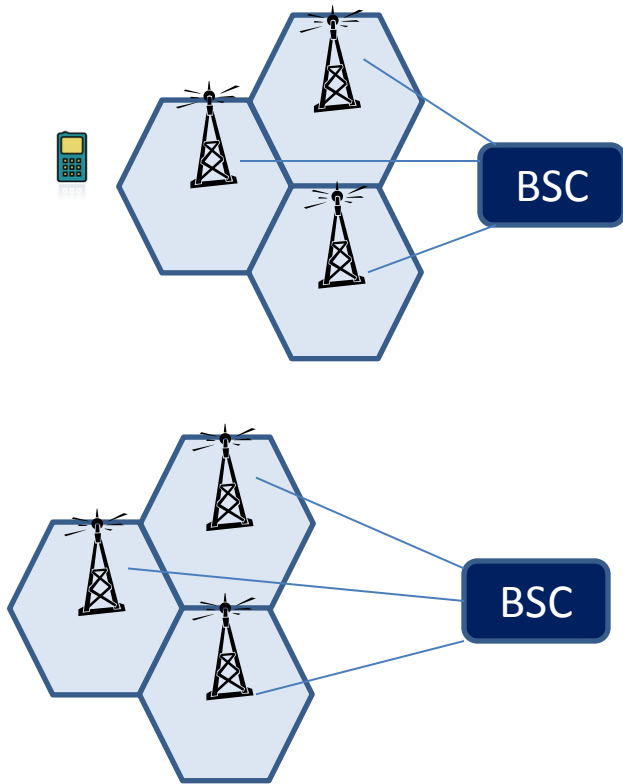
# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks



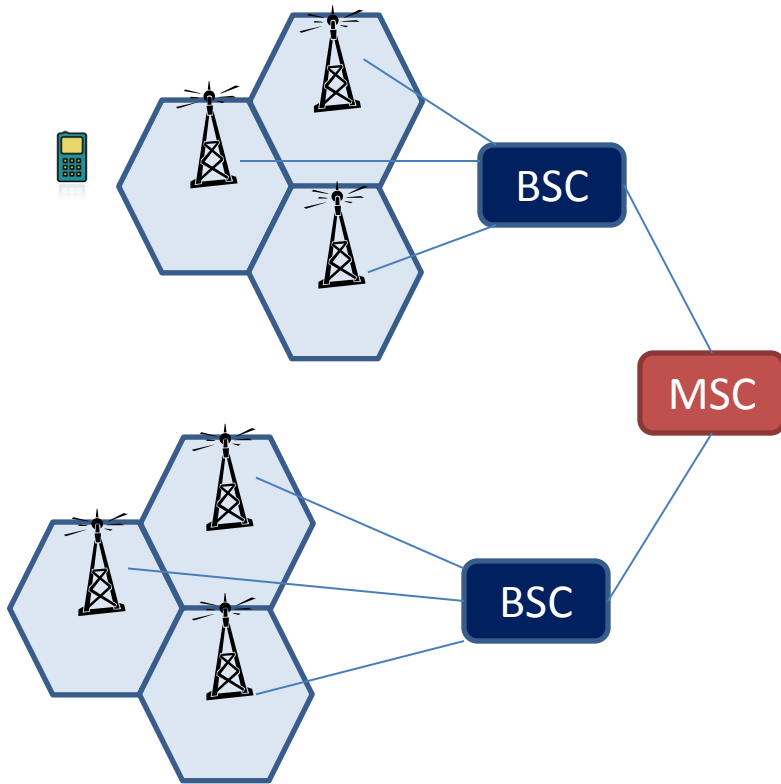
# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks



# Case Study II

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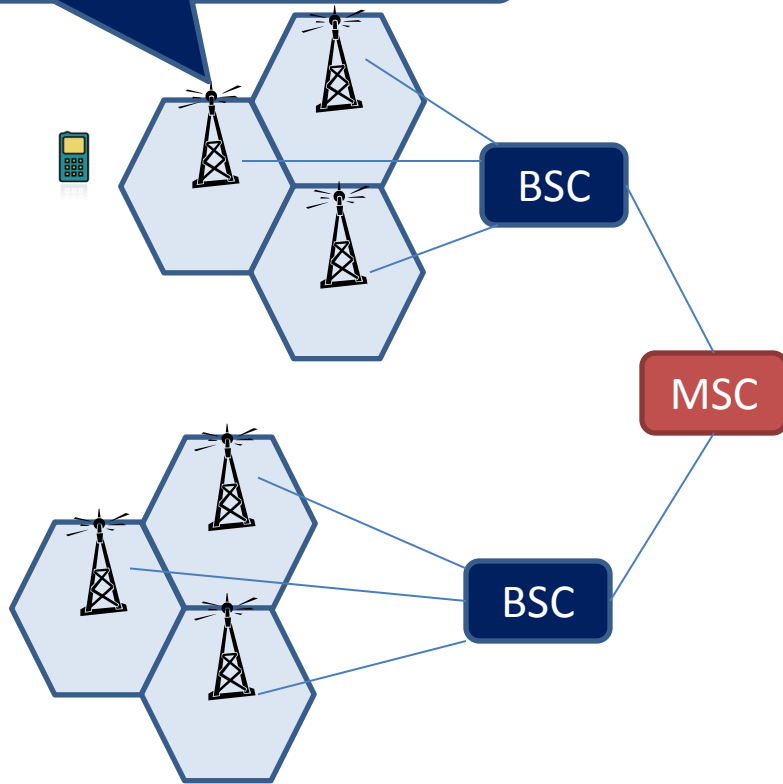




# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks

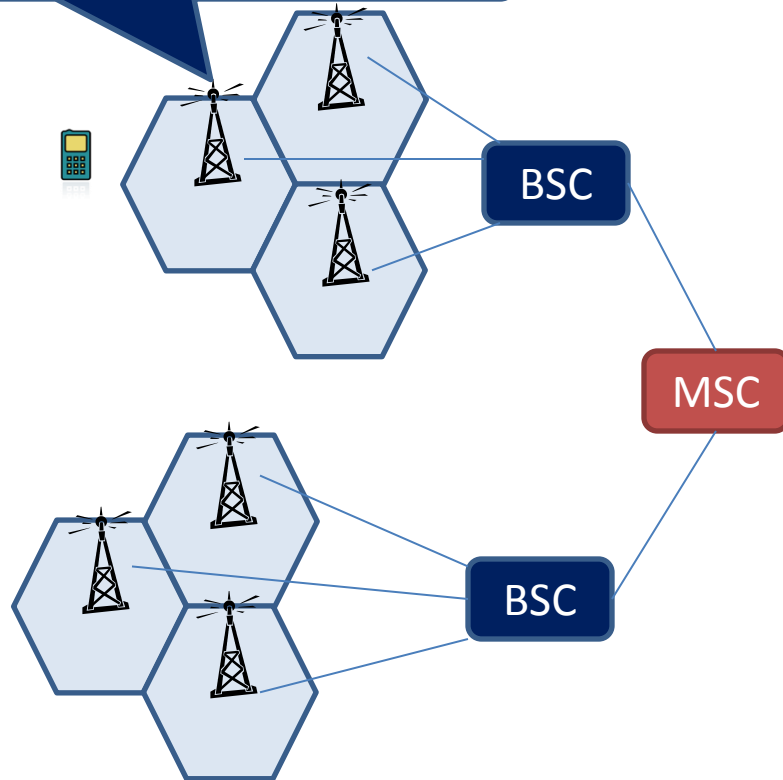
Major power consumers



# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks

Major power consumers



Source: GREENNETS Report, 2008

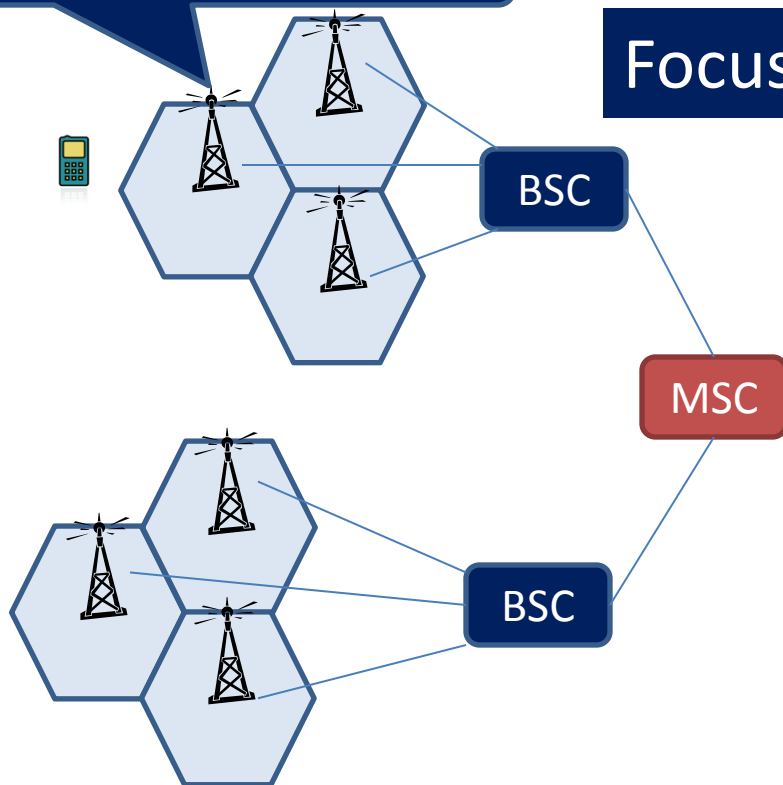
Marsan et. al, "Optimal Energy Savings in Cellular Access Networks", ICC 2009

# Case Study II

## Cellular Networks

Major power consumers

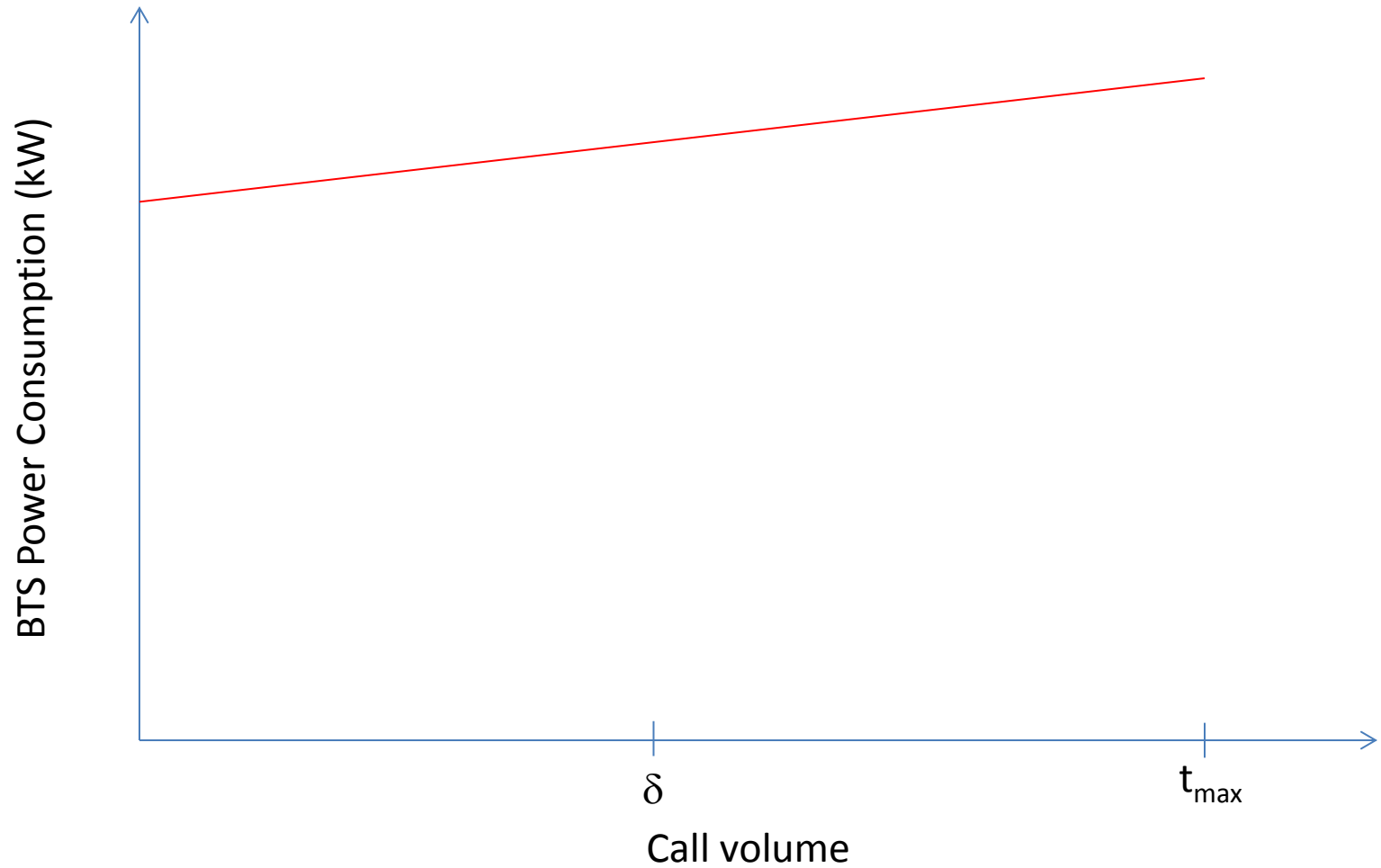
Focus on BTSs to cut electricity cost



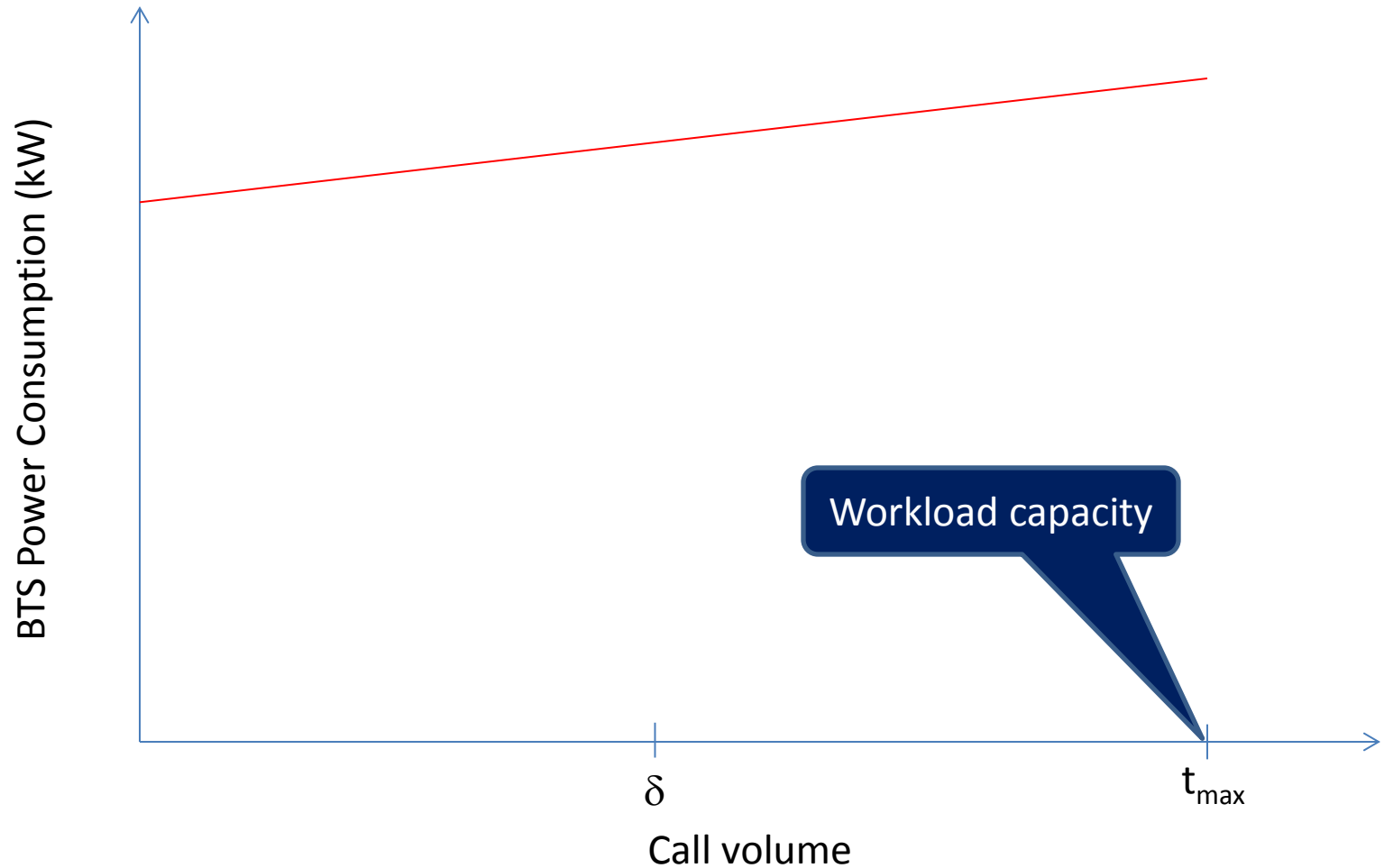
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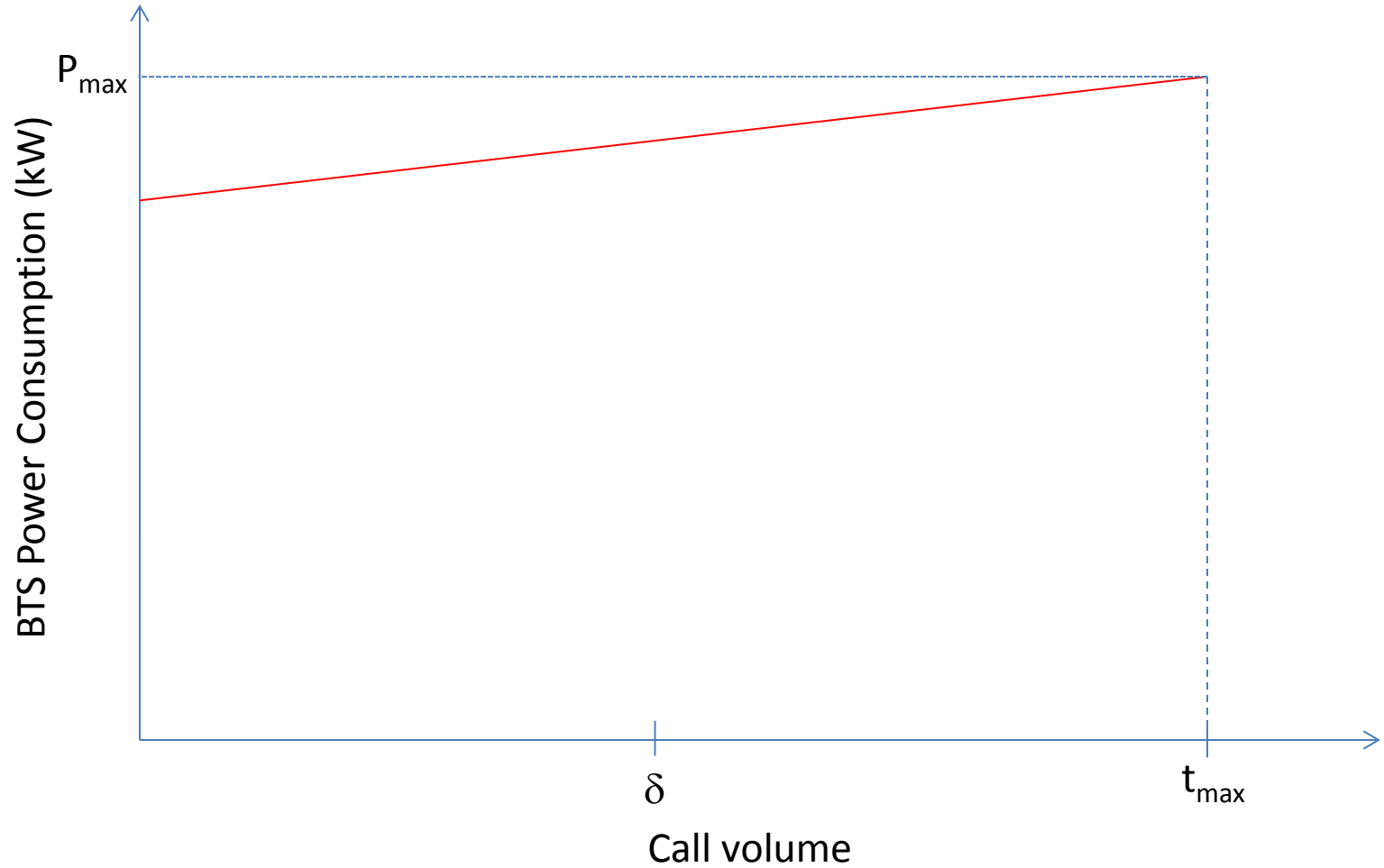
# Resource Pruning



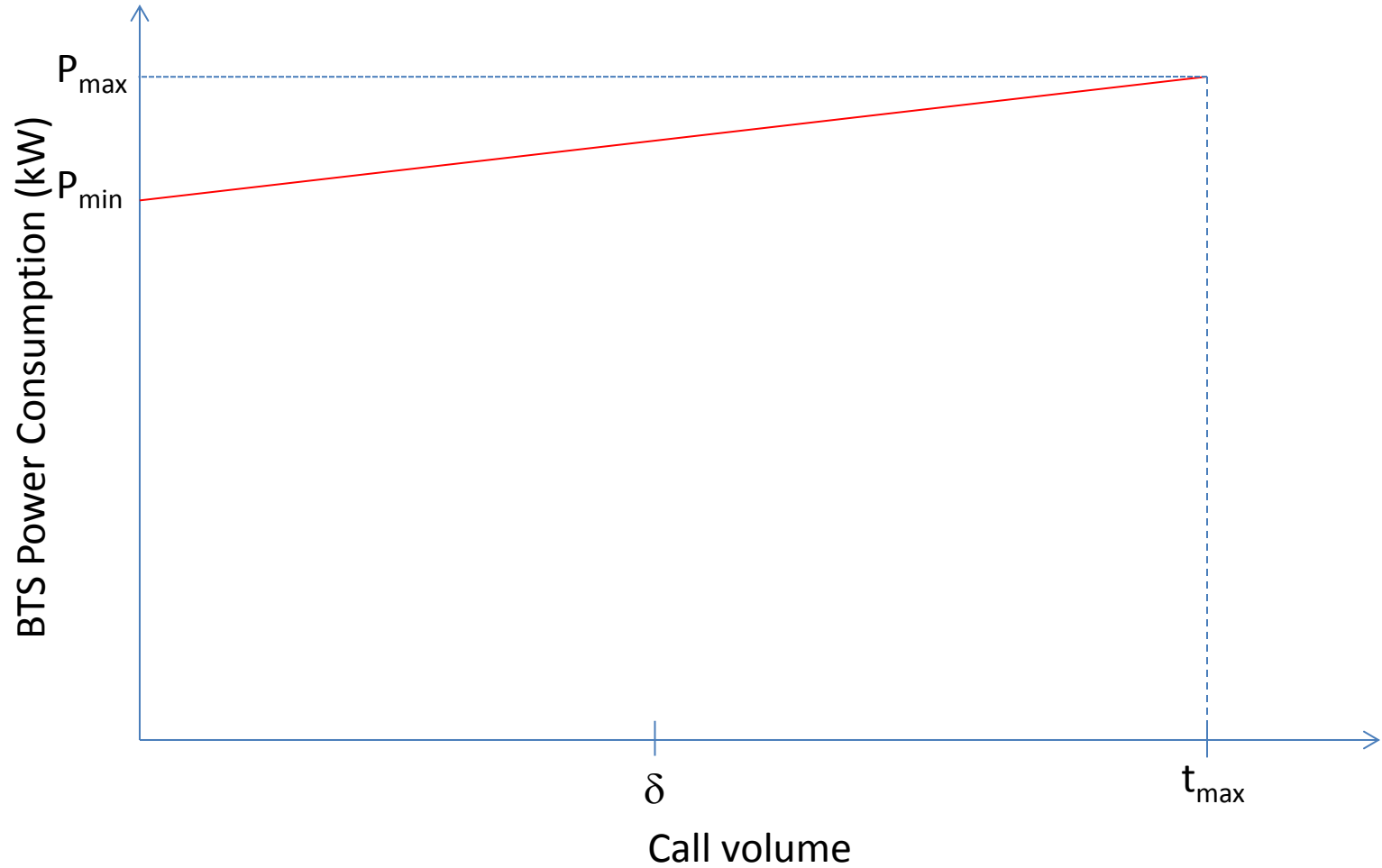
# Resource Pruning



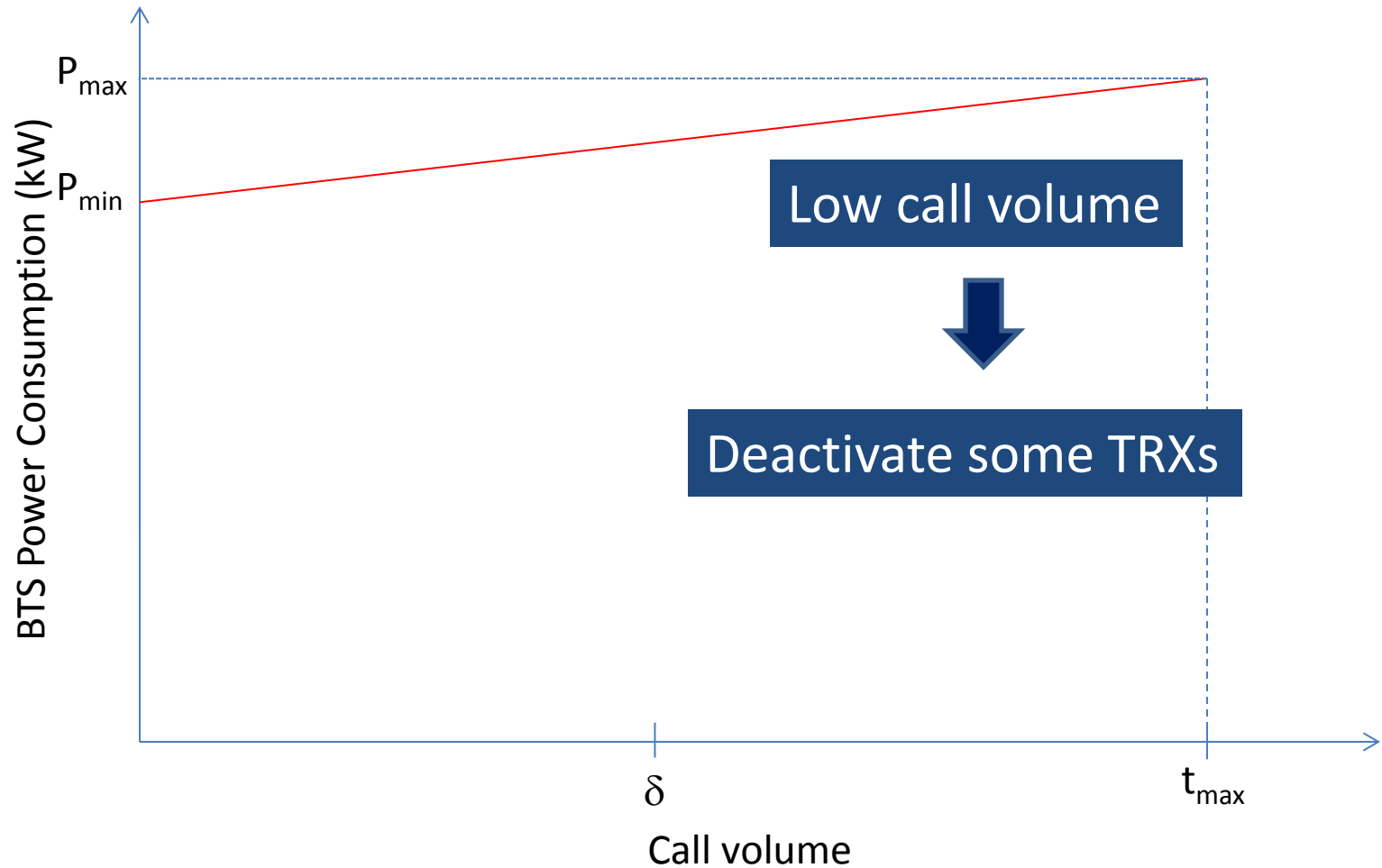
# Resource Pruning



# Resource Pruning

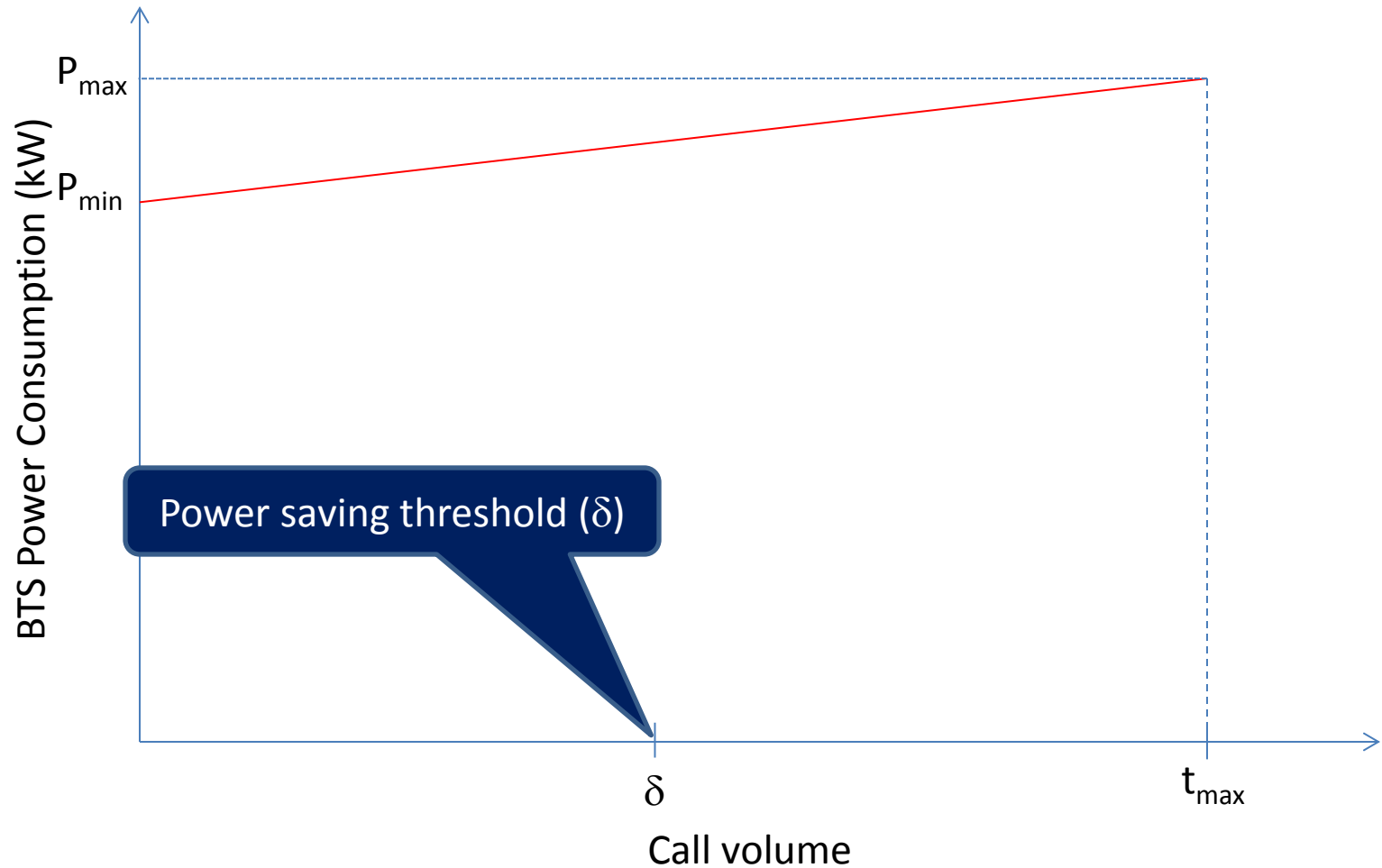


# Resource Pruning

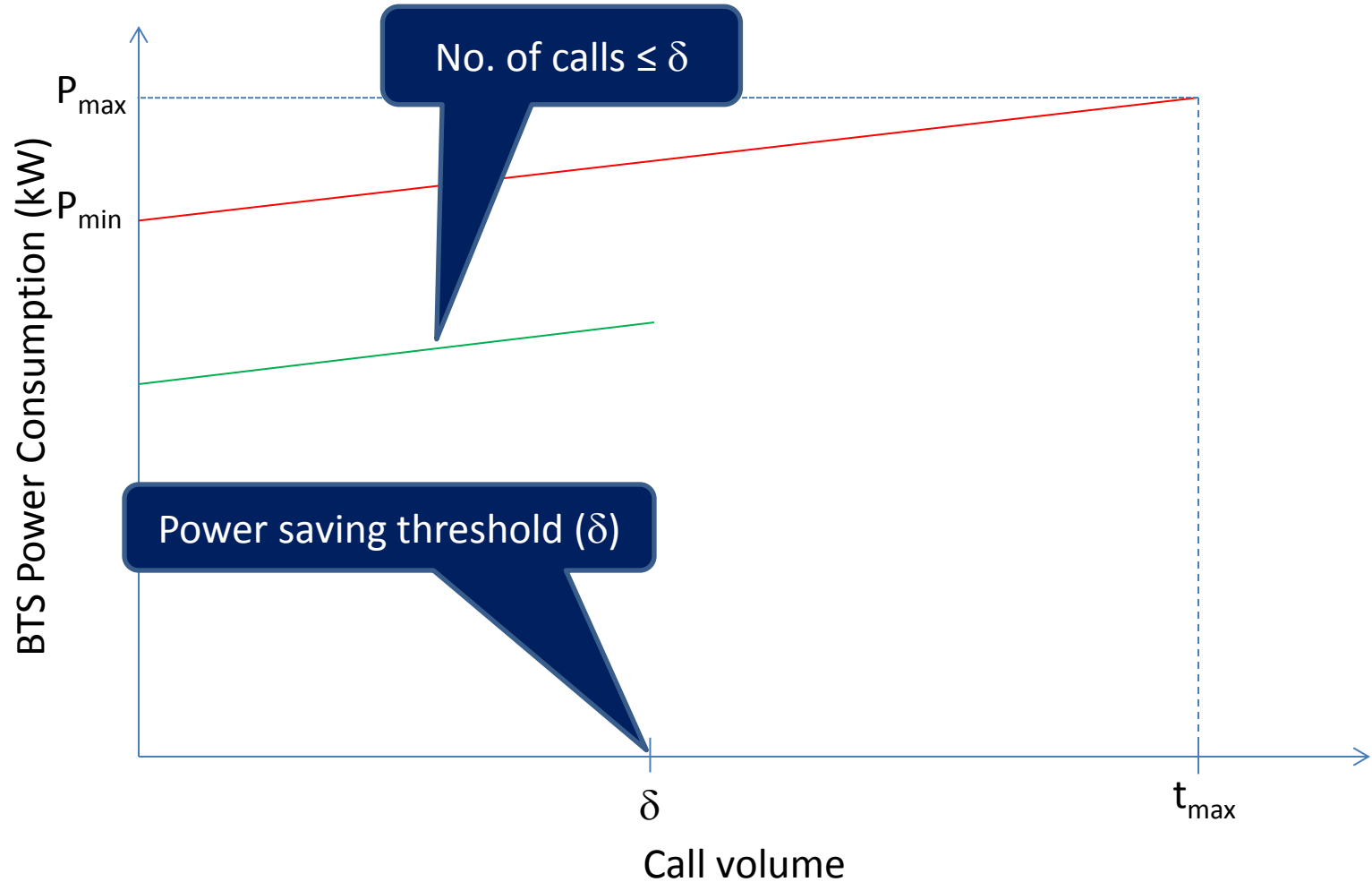




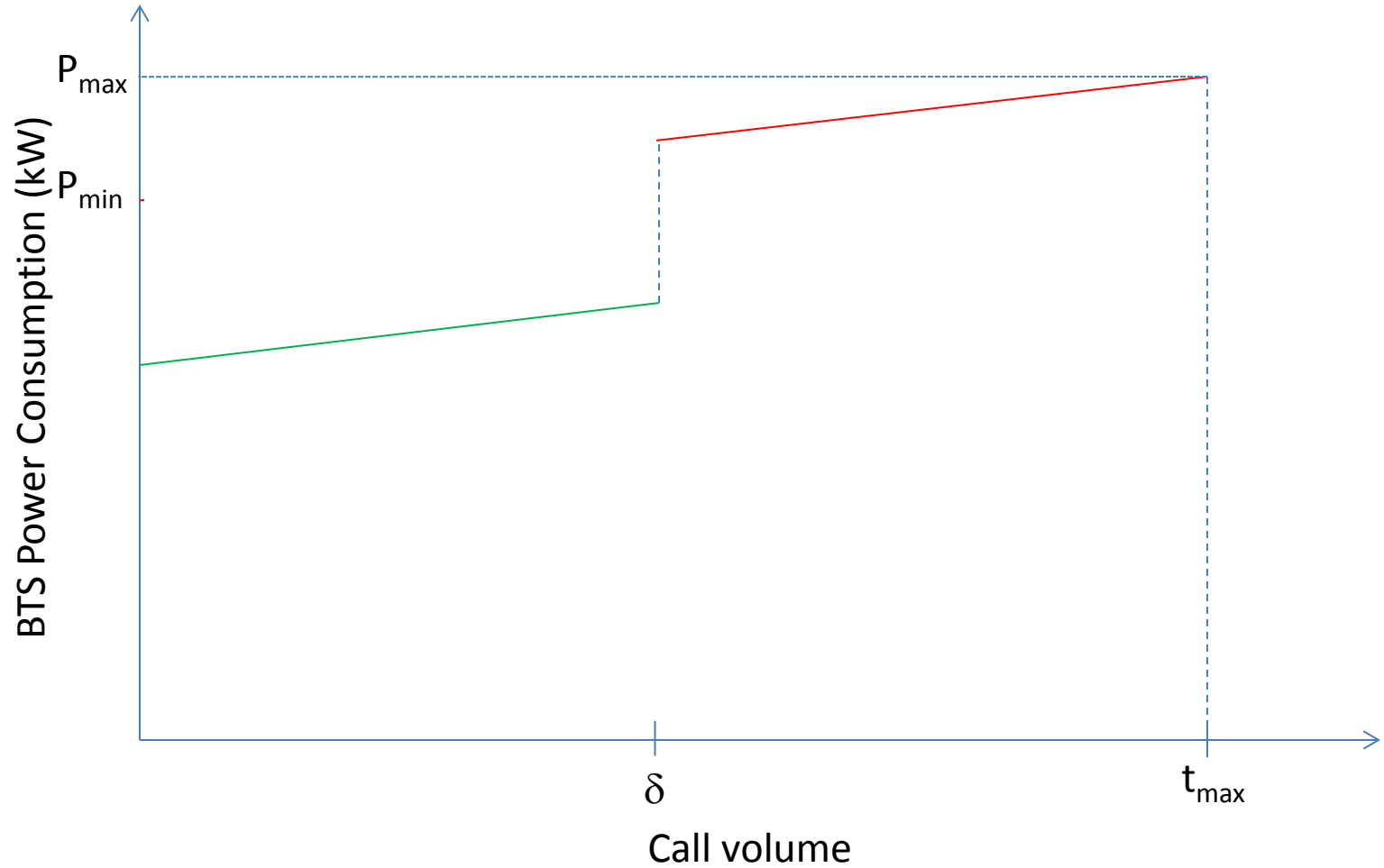
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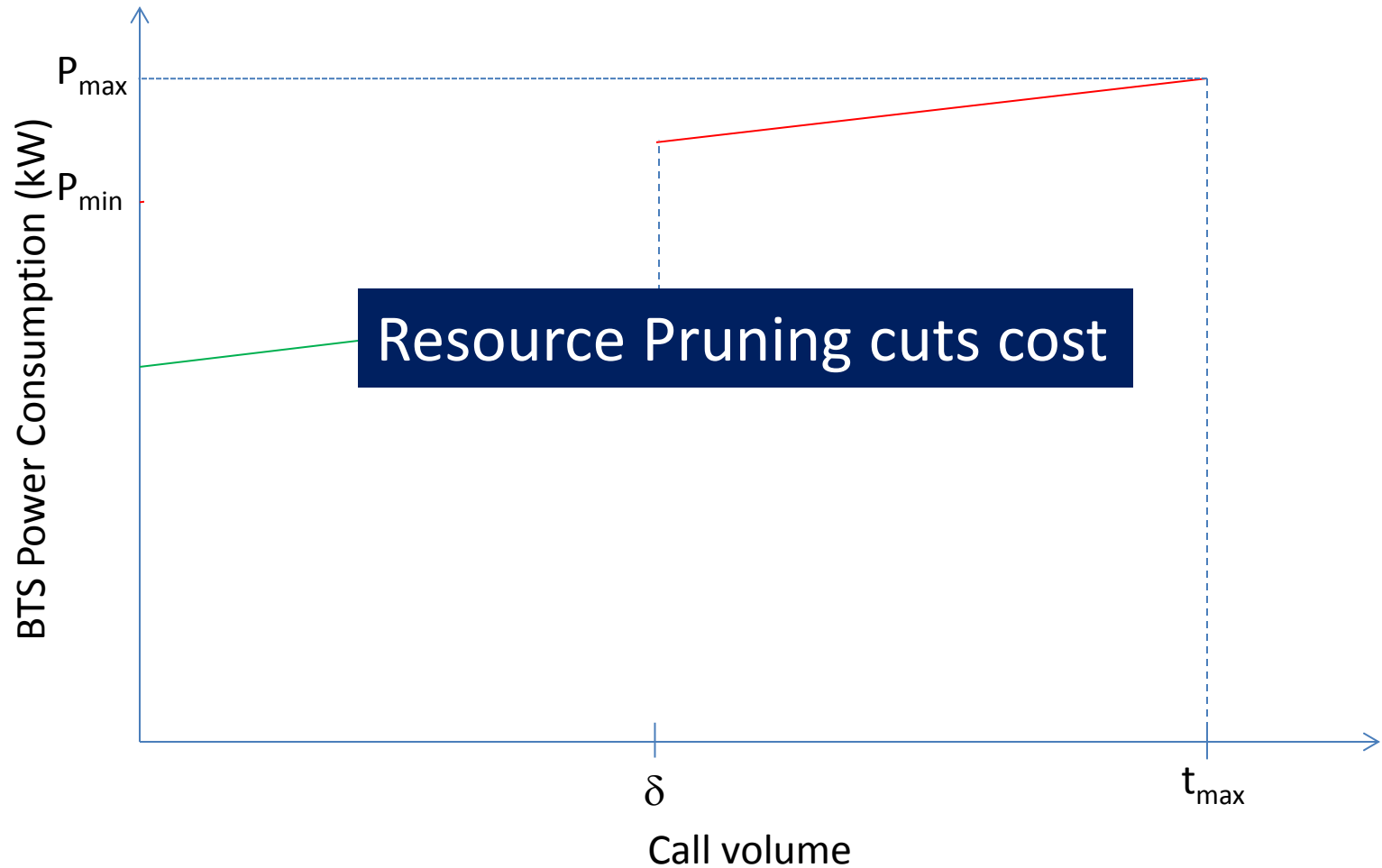
# Resource Pruning



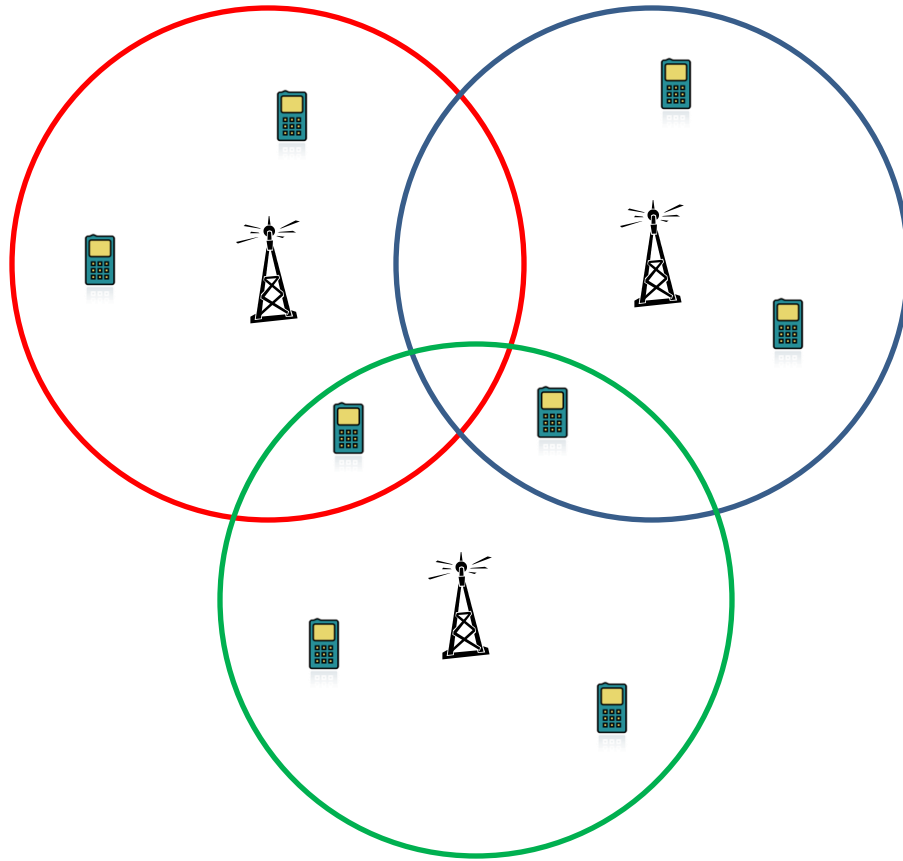
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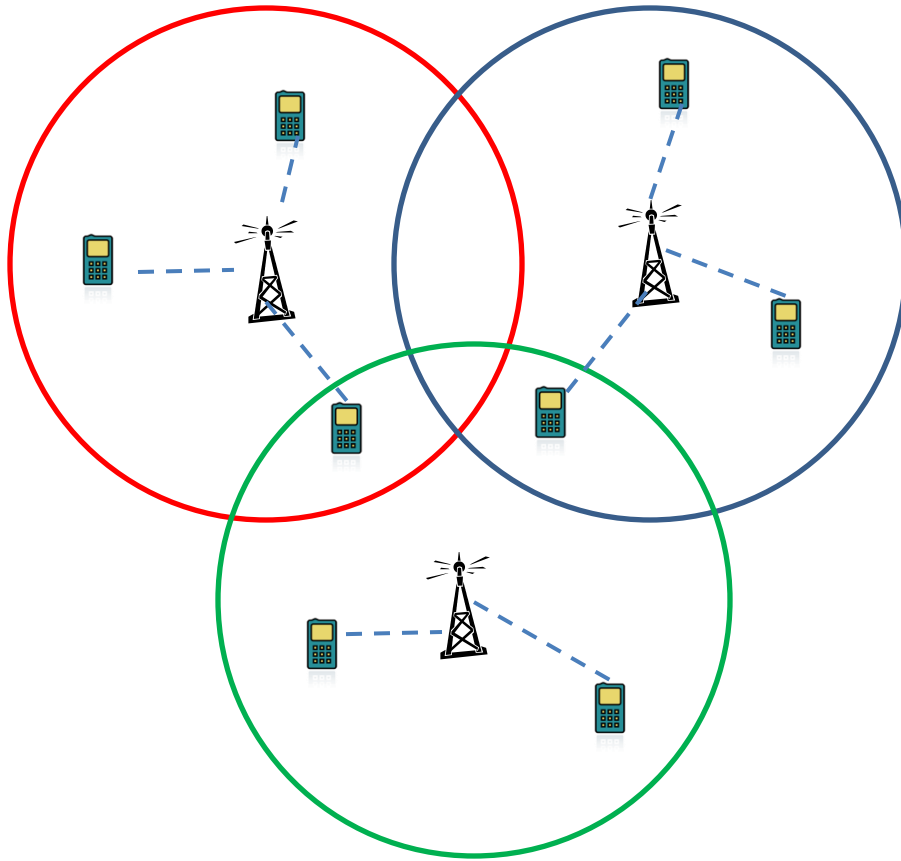
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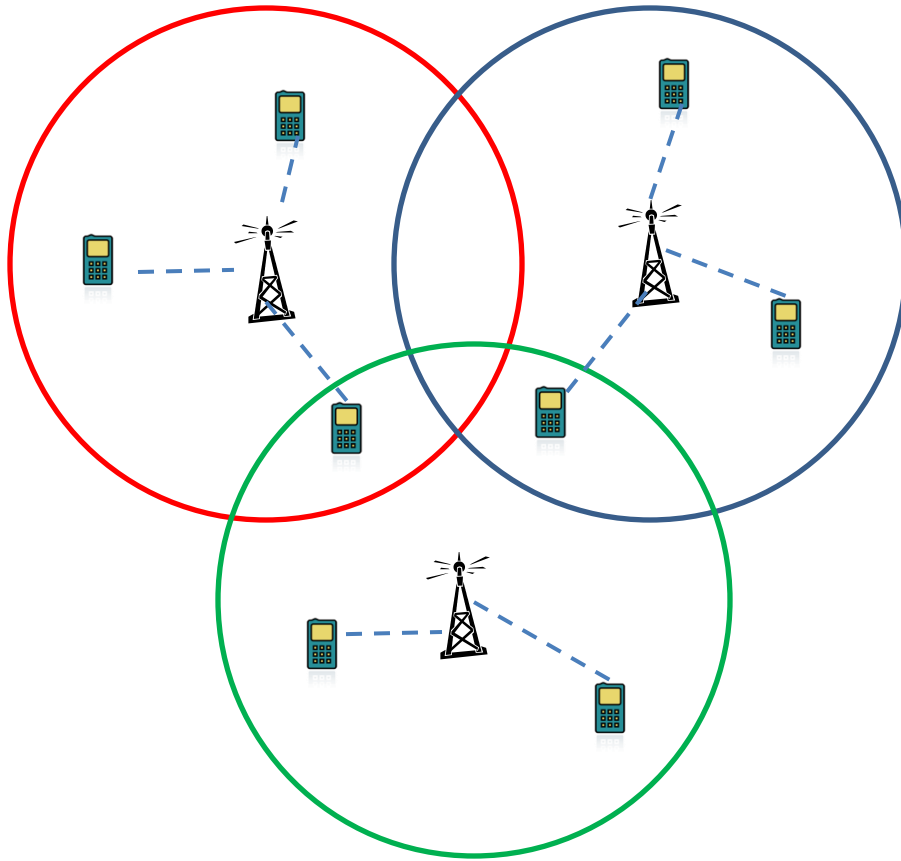
# Does workload relocation help?



# Does workload relocation help?

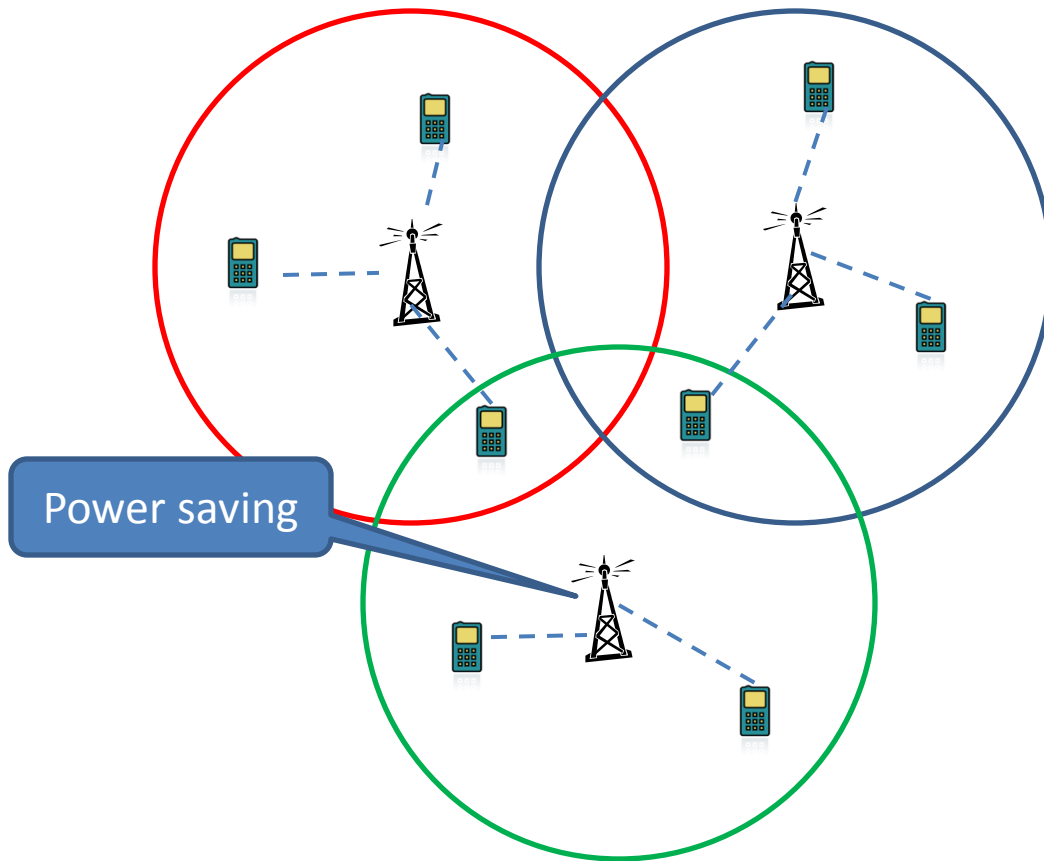


# Does workload relocation help?



Assume that power saving is enabled if upto two calls are being served

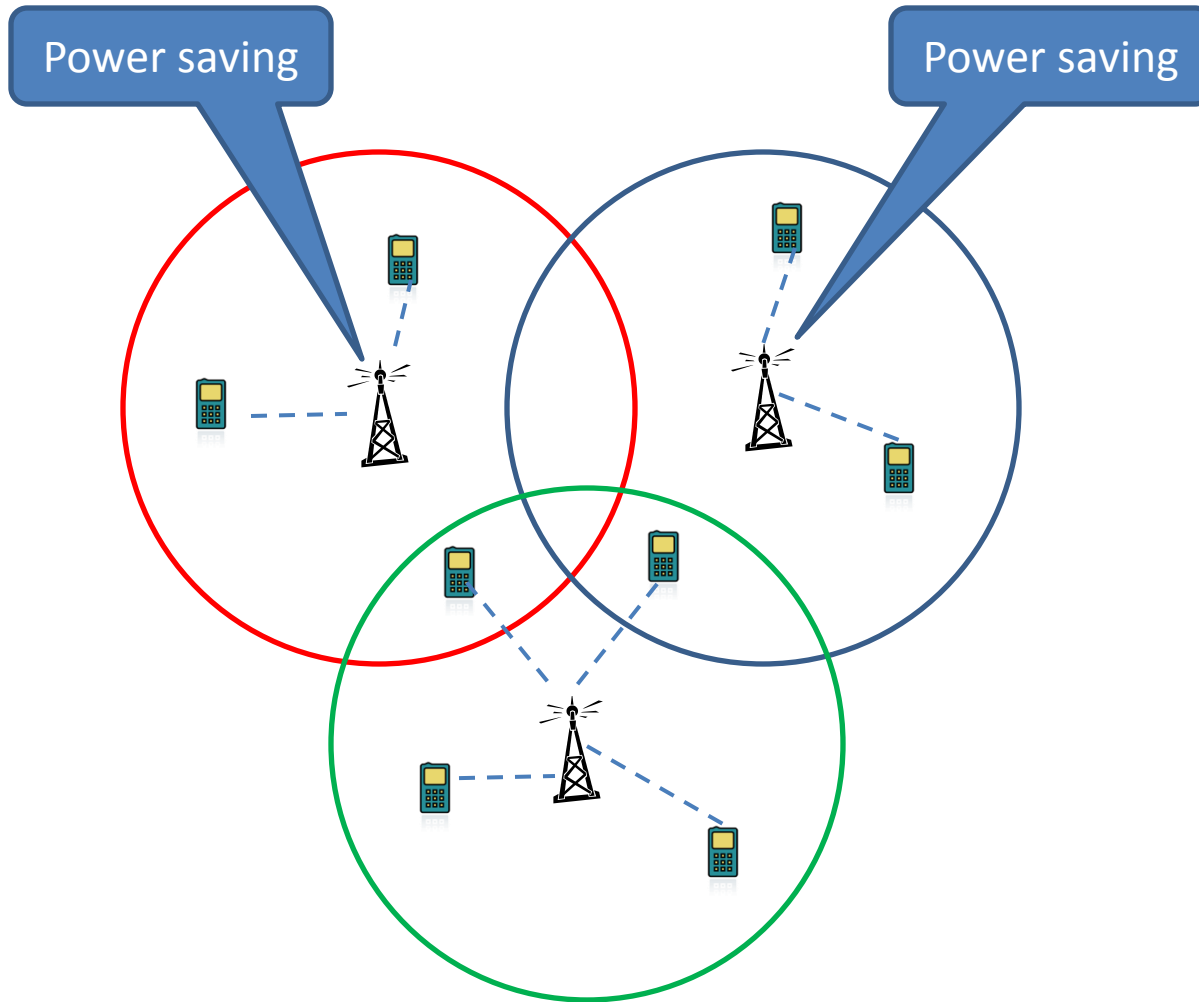
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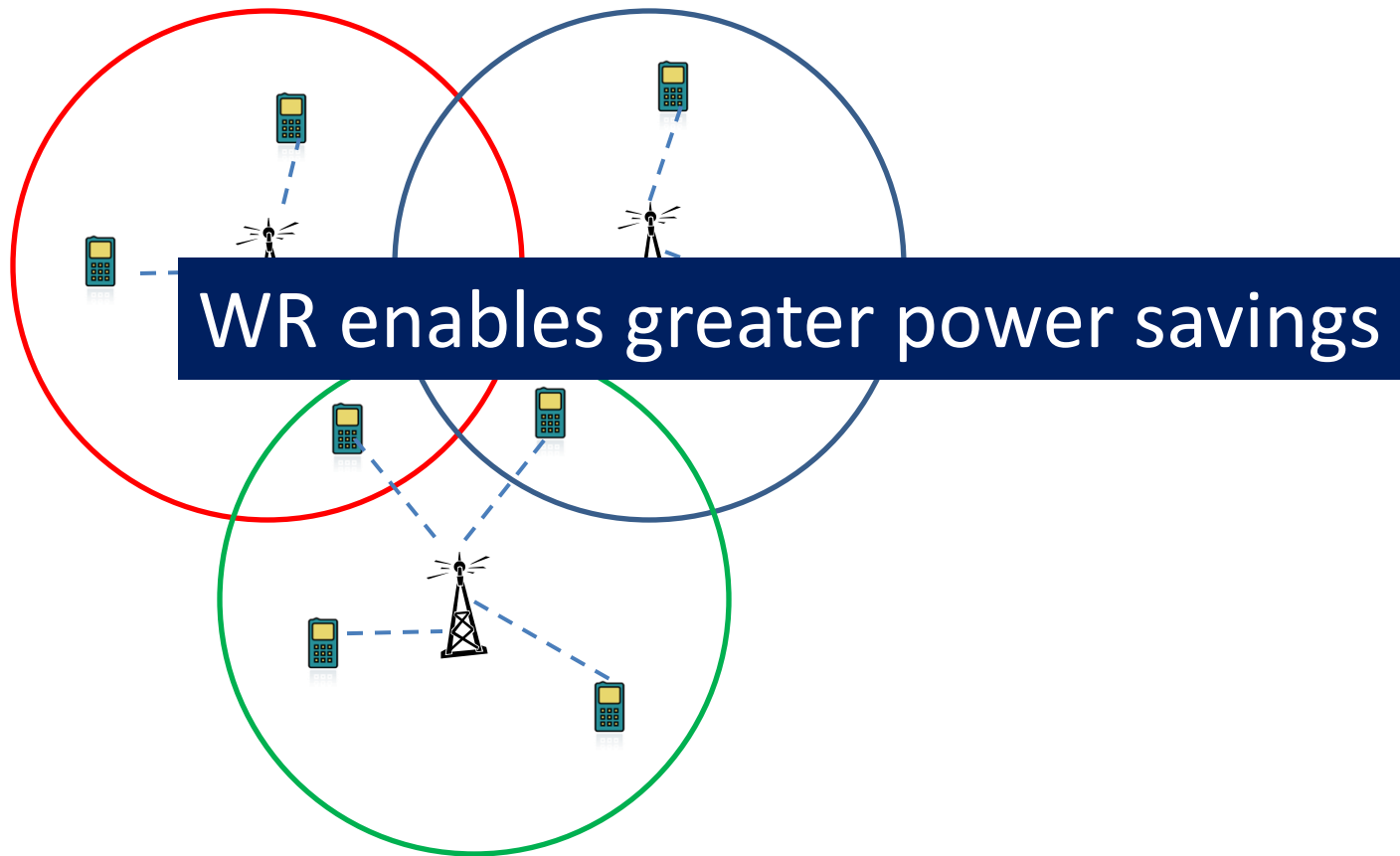


# Does workload relocation help?



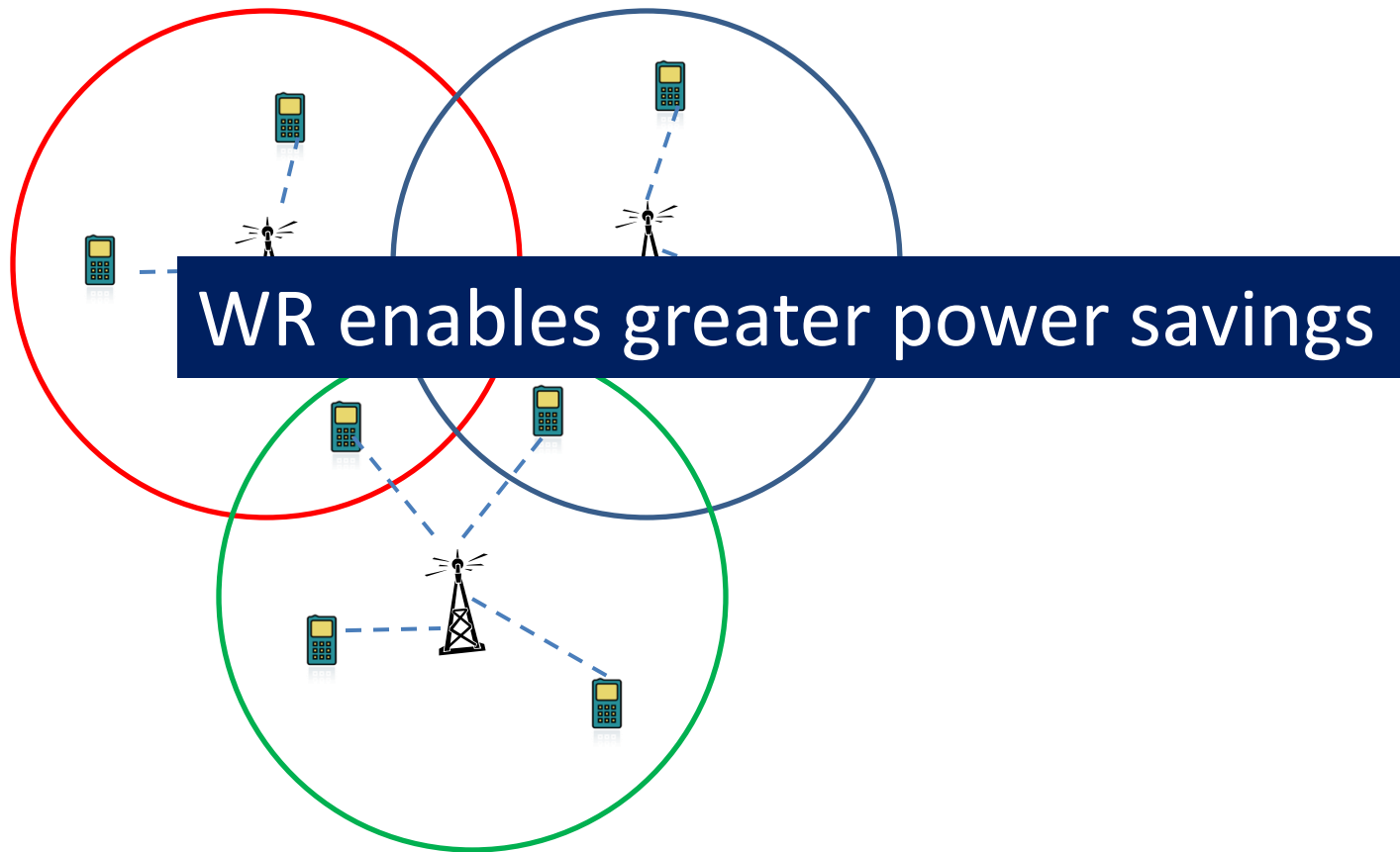
Assume that power saving is enabled if upto two calls are being served

# Does workload relocation help?

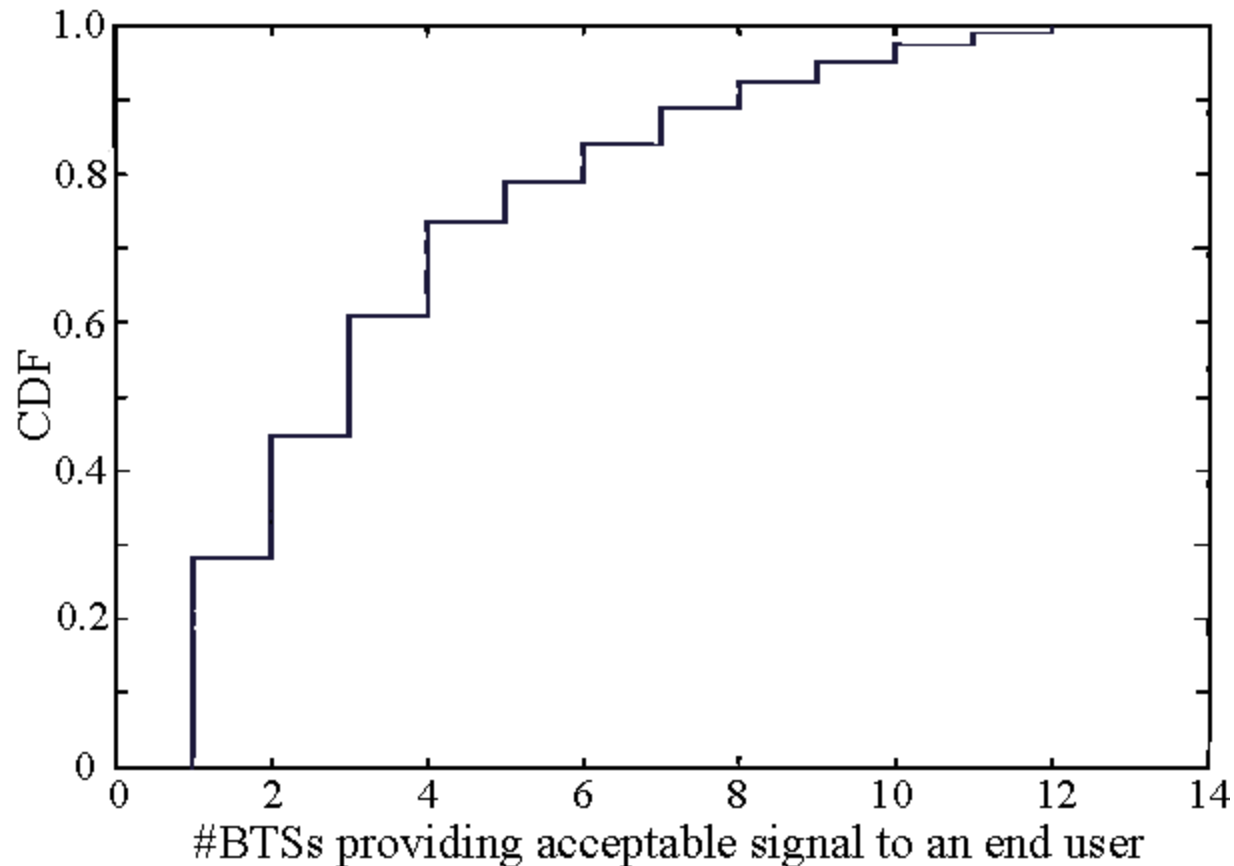


Assume that power saving is enabled if upto two calls are being served

# Does workload relocation help?



# Is Workload Relocation Possible?

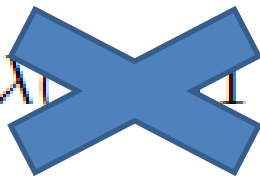


40% users receive signal from more than three BTSs

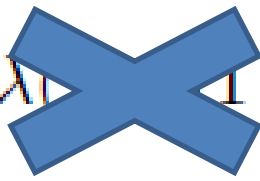
# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda(f + (1-f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}) + b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta)$$

# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda_i^j - (1 - f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}) + b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$$


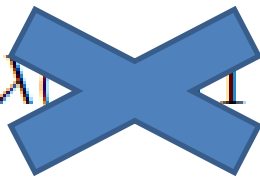
# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda_i^j (1 - f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i}) + b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta)$$


$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^m p_i^j$$

For every interval, minimize # TRXs

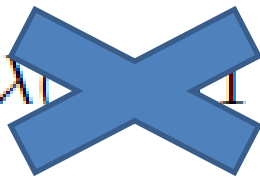
# Optimization Formulation

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m c_i e_i^j (p_i^j \lambda_i^j - 1 - f) \frac{x_i^j}{c_i} + b_i^j \sigma + s_i^j \delta$$


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# Experimental Setup

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- Call volume traces for 2 days at 26 urban BTSs

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- Call volume traces for 2 days at 26 urban BTSs
- Trace driven simulation:
  - Periodically obtain optimal call placement
  - Place BTSs with low-traffic in power-saving mode

# BTS Power Consumption Models

Parameter	Value		
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
Idle Power (W)	1425	2401.8	2341.5
Peak Power (W)	1500	3887.5	2973.9
Power Saving per TRX (W)	20	50	100

# Results: Power-Saving Feature Only

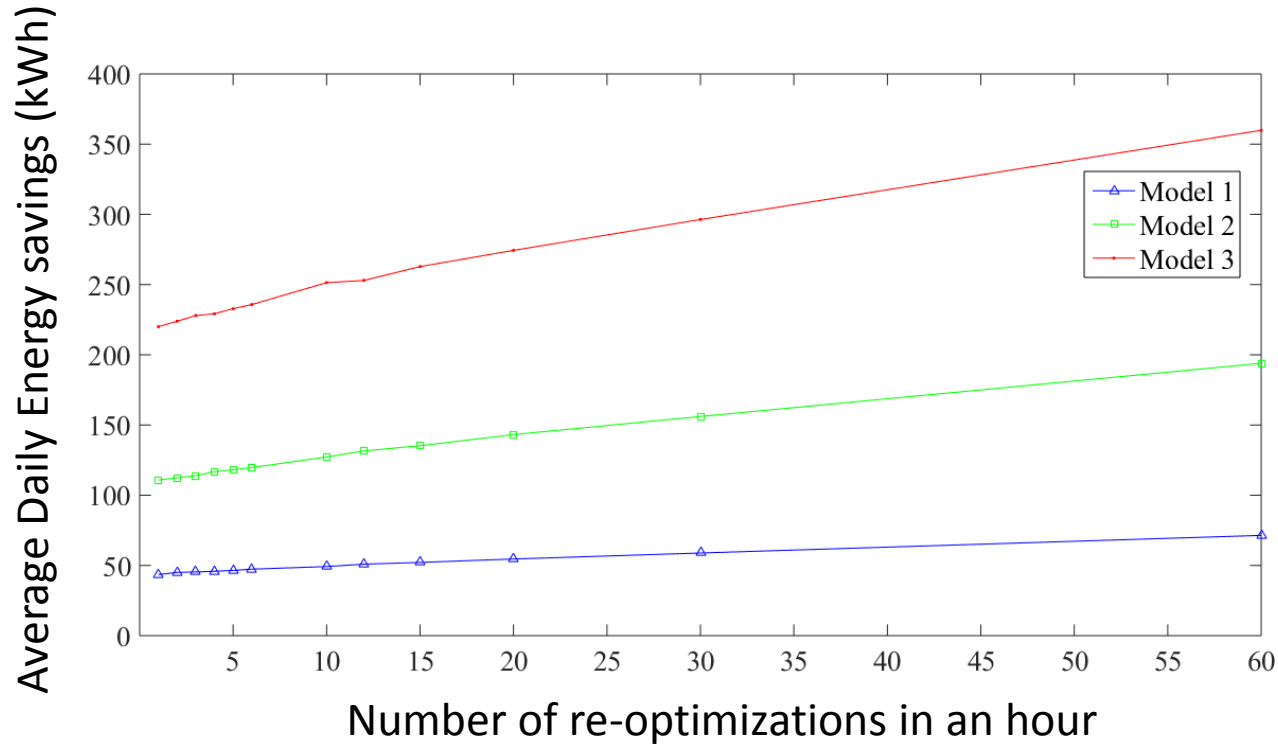
Energy savings	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
Percentage	4.73%	5.43%	12.89%
Daily energy savings (kWh)	43.28	109.68	217.12
Country-wide daily savings - 31000 sites (MWh)	51.6	130.77	258.87

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# Energy Savings (kWh)

## RP + WR



At least 9.8% lower power consumption



# Effect of Granular Deactivation

Granularity	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
2-state	5.38%	6.29%	14.94%
3-state	6.81%	7.73%	18.62%
6-state	8.70%	9.65%	23.37%

# Effect of Granular Deactivation

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Savings increase with finer granularity

# Case Study II - Summary

- Overlaps in signal coverage
  - Some geo-flexibility in workload
- Built-in power saving feature
- Significant cost reduction through WR + RP

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

**Parameter**

**Cellular network**

**Data centers**

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

**Parameter**

**Cellular network**

**Data centers**

Network resource

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

**Parameter**

**Cellular network**

**Data centers**

**Network resource**

**Servers**

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

**Parameter**

**Cellular network**

**Data centers**

**Network resource**

TRX

Servers

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

**Parameter**

**Cellular network**

**Data centers**

Network resource

TRX

Servers

Workload relocation



# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

**Parameter**

**Cellular network**

**Data centers**

Network resource

TRX

Servers

Workload relocation

Client redirect

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect
Resource pruning		

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect
Resource pruning		Server shutdown / idle / hibernate

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect
Resource pruning	BTS Power Saving	Server shutdown / idle / hibernate

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect
Resource pruning	BTS Power Saving	Server shutdown / idle / hibernate
Transition costs		

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect
Resource pruning	BTS Power Saving	Server shutdown / idle / hibernate
Transition costs		(De)activation overheads

# Drawing Parallels With Case Study I

Parameter	Cellular network	Data centers
Network resource	TRX	Servers
Workload relocation	Call hand off	Client redirect
Resource pruning	BTS Power Saving	Server shutdown / idle / hibernate
Transition costs	Negligible	(De)activation overheads



# Agenda

- Background and motivation
- Opportunity and key idea
- Case studies:
  - Data centers
  - Cellular networks
- **Conclusions and future work**

# Future Work

- Adaptation and application to 3G, 4G, 5G and beyond
- Factor in other forms of transition costs:
  - Cost of change in latency
  - Cost of increase in call blocking probability
- Experimentation on a real testbed
- Incorporation into an OA&M framework
- Interplay with energy markets

# Conclusions

- RED-BL: an electricity cost reduction framework
  - Systematic application of WR and RP
- Can significantly reduce electricity costs
  - Data centers
  - Cellular networks
- Reduction in power consumption
  - Positive ecological impact