

ESIG Webinar  
16<sup>th</sup> February 2022

# EV Smart Charging Trial

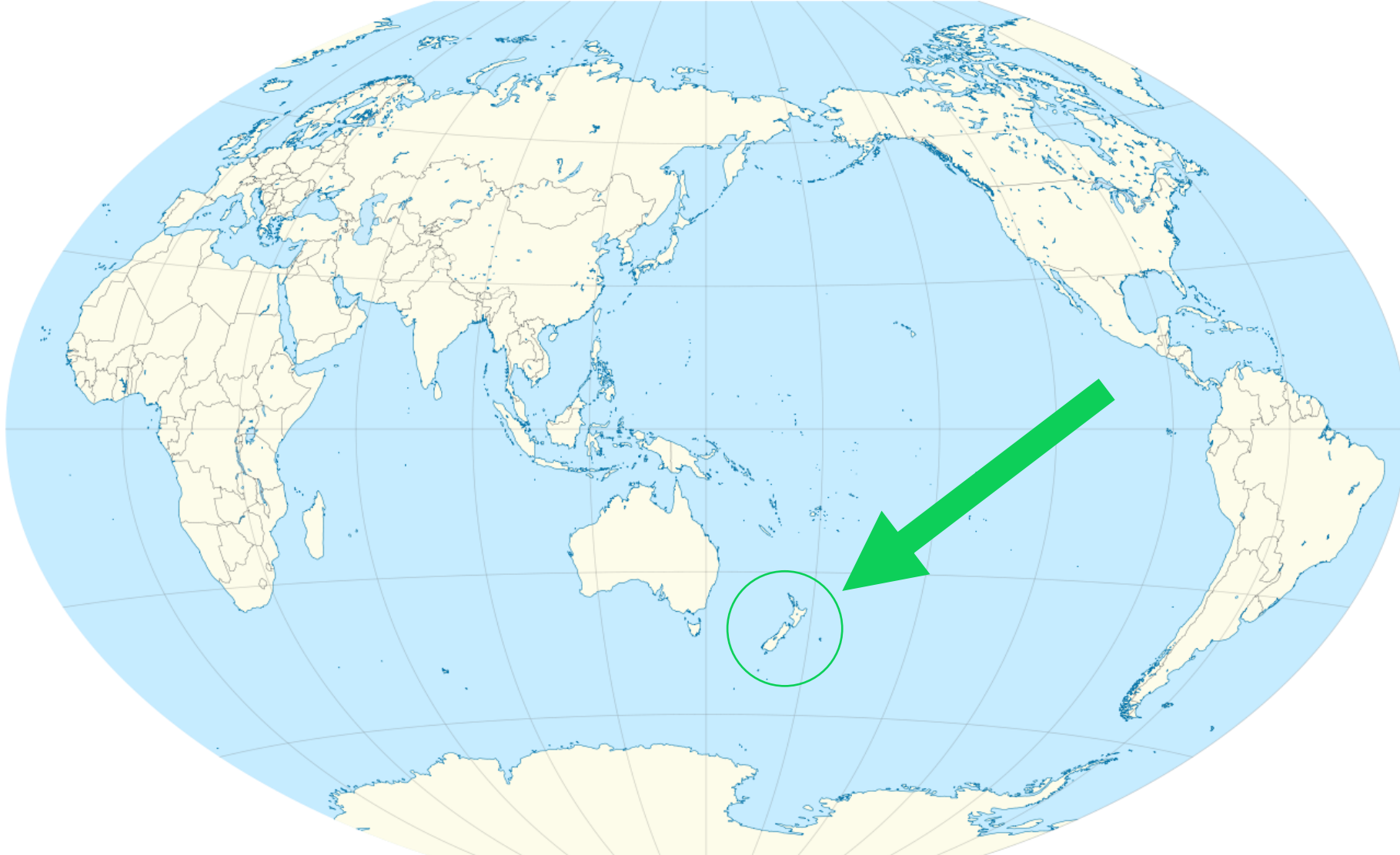
Duncan Head  
GM Insights

Steve Heinen  
Future Network & Planning Manager

On behalf of project team including Andre Botha, Julia Li, Leon Hayward, Louise Murphy, Rafferty Parker, Tabitha Samuel, and many other Vector colleagues



New Zealand is 'down under' in the Pacific and a long way from most places



# Vector is New Zealand's largest energy portfolio business

- Operates in NZ, Australia and the Pacific
- Listed on the New Zealand stock exchange, with a market capitalisation of \$4.4b NZD



REGULATED 60%



UNREGULATED 40%



# Auckland Electricity Network

1.7m people & 595k connections

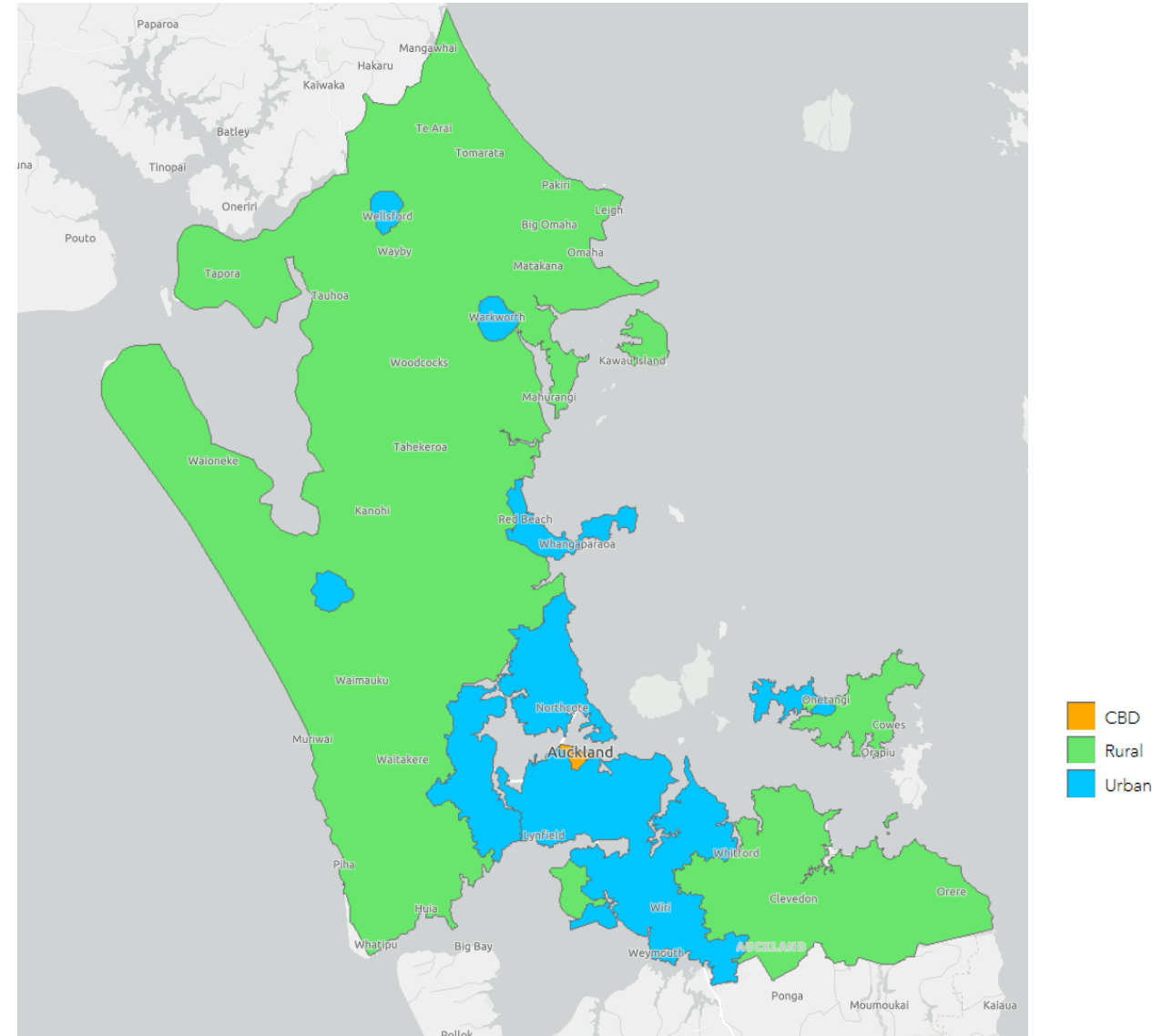
Growth 2% per annum since 2000

19,000 km of network

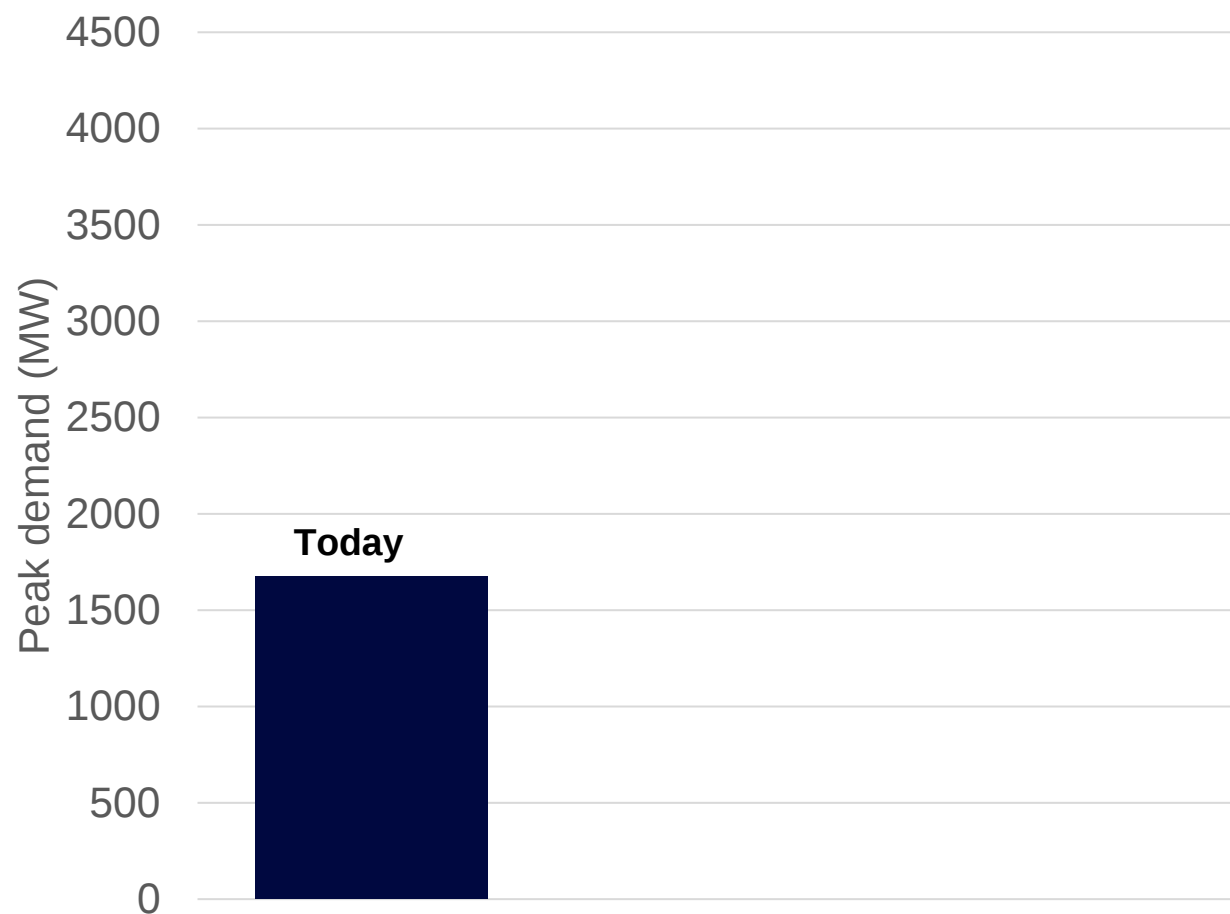
1,700MW peak load (winter)

1.3m light vehicles

81% homes on HWLC tariff

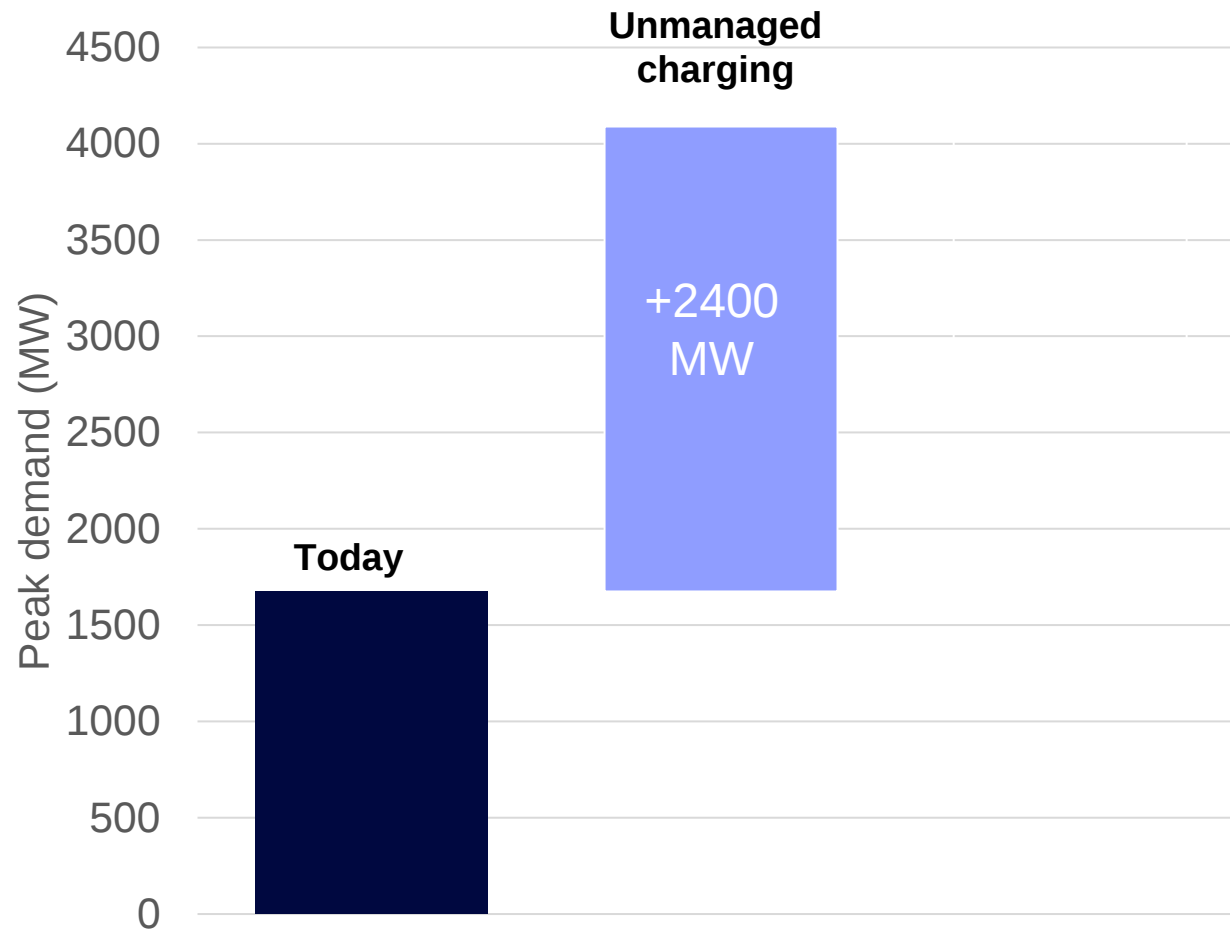


# Pre-trial modelling – starting point



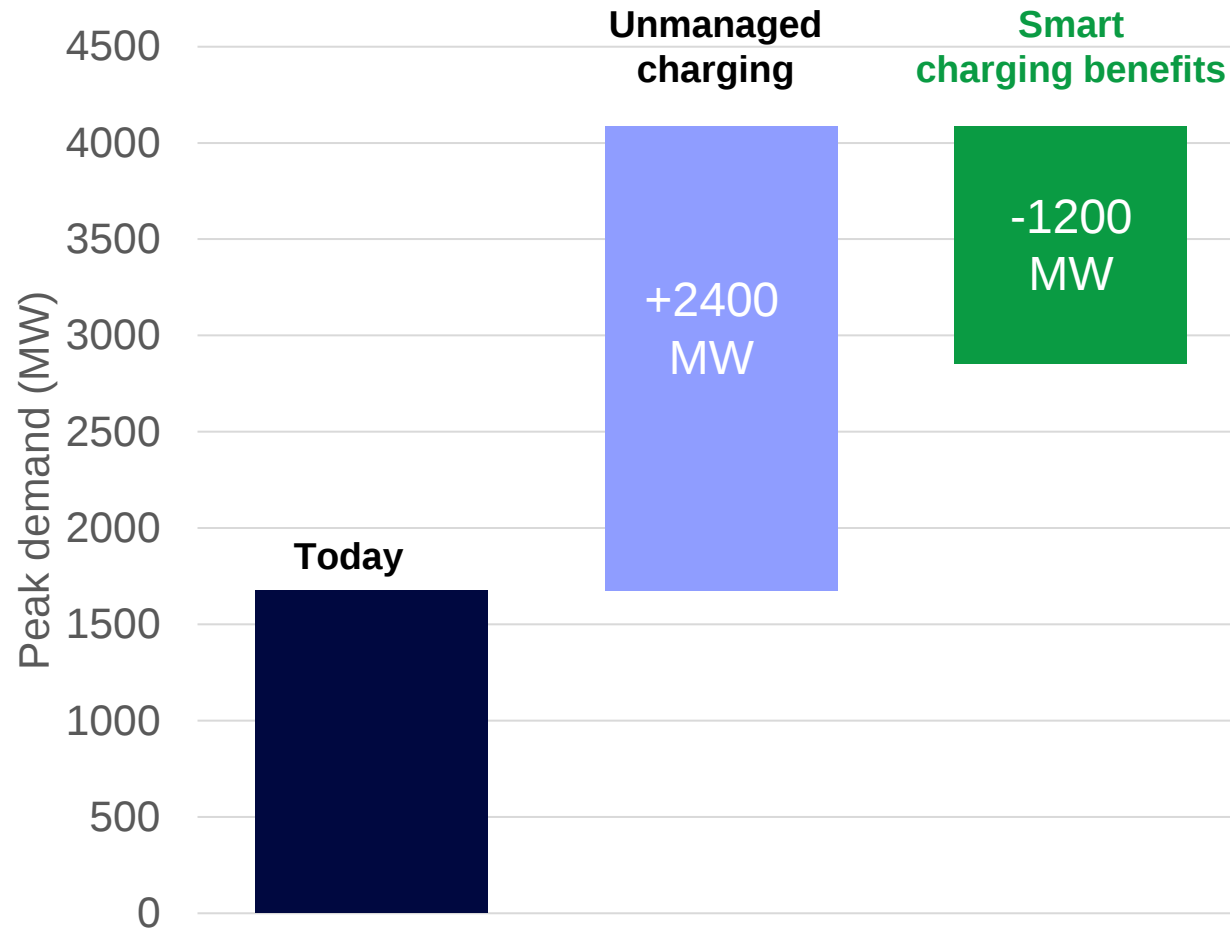
2050 peak demand forecast with 1.3M light-duty EVs in Auckland

# Pre-trial modelling - significant network investment required if EV unmanaged



2050 peak demand forecast with 1.3M light-duty EVs in Auckland

# Pre-trial modelling – Optimising EV charging can materially reduce network capacity requirements



2050 peak demand forecast with 1.3M light-duty EVs in Auckland



# Recruitment & profiling of trialists



**~200  
trialists**



**60%**

Drive more than 200 kms per week



**95%**

Charge at home at least weekly



**65%**

Live close to a public charging station



**94%**

Mostly use or exclusively use their EV



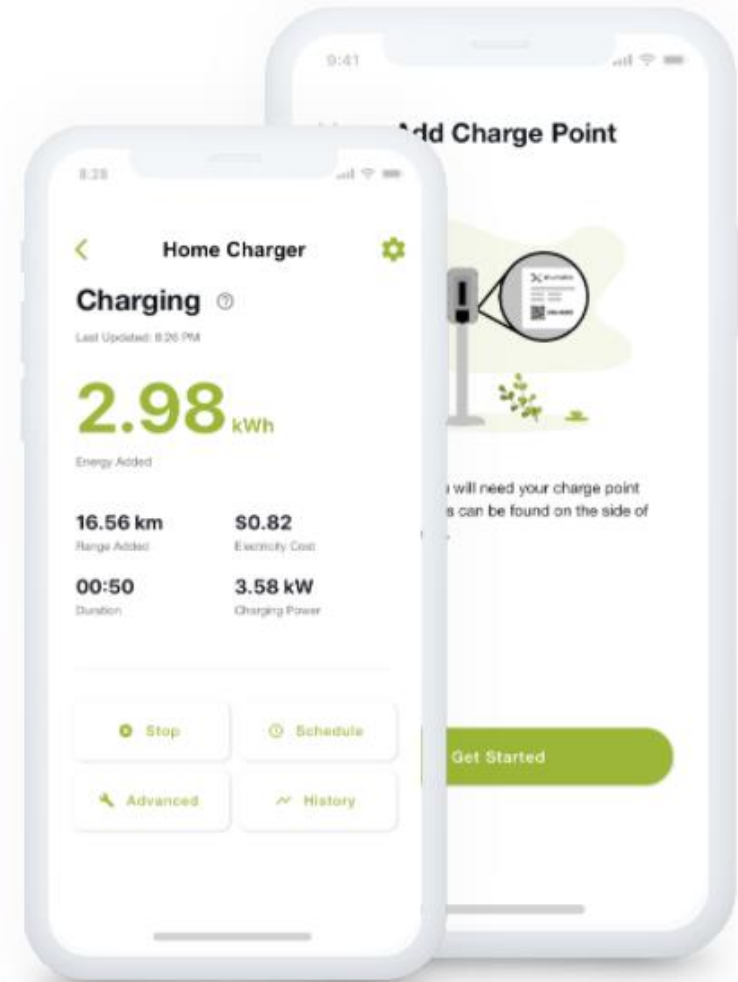
**40%**

Are on a TOU retail tariff

# What does the equipment look like?

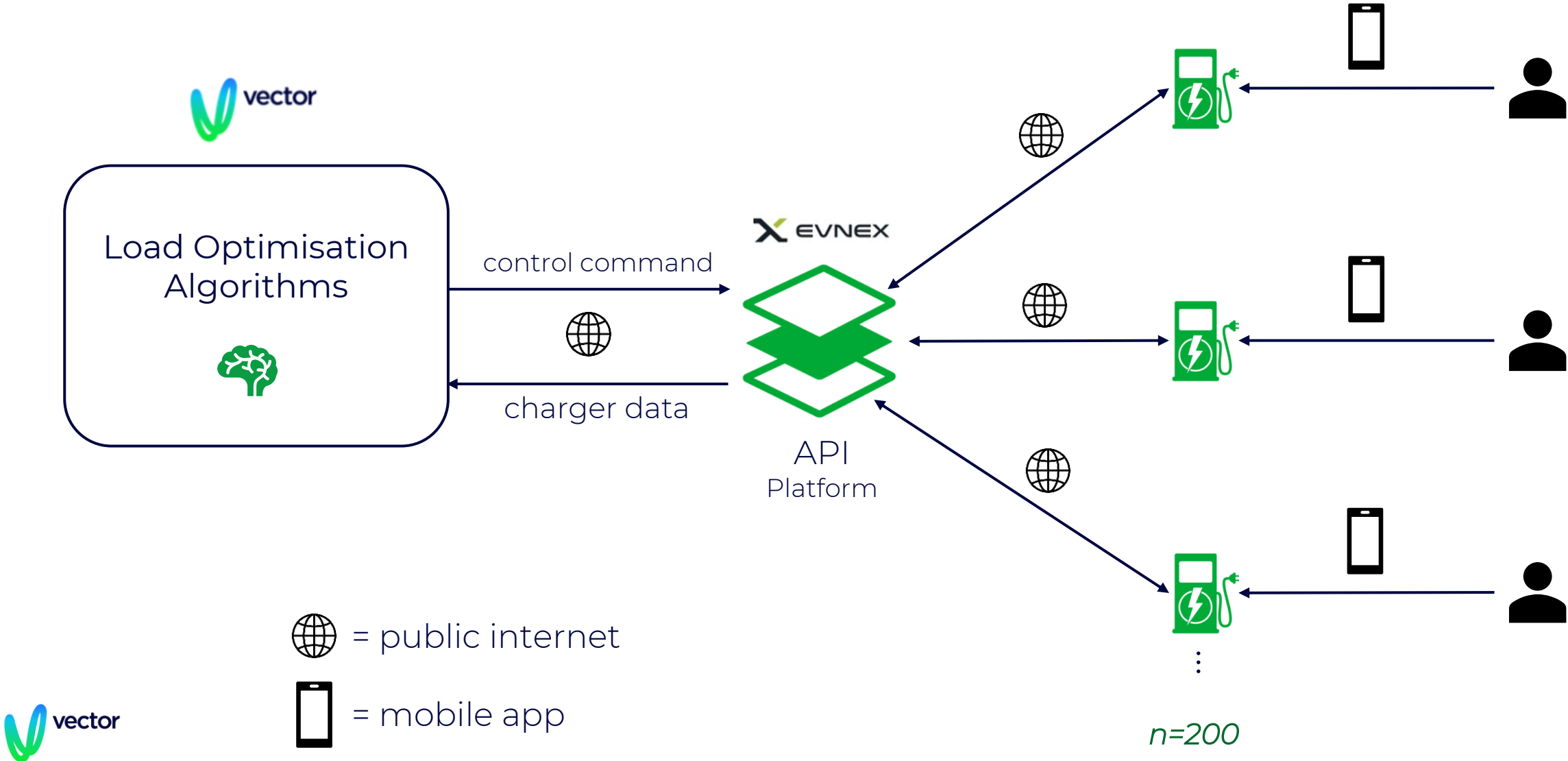


 **vector** *Charger Installations at trialist premises*



*EVNEX Mobile App*

# Overview of the setup





# Real customer feedback drives design

1. Establish reference charging behaviour

OBSERVE

2. Identify managed charging levels affecting customer acceptability with fixed charging limits

TEST

5pm-9pm  
Mon – Thu

20% or 35%  
of max capacity

Always limited  
during  
managed  
period

3. maintain customer satisfaction & optimise network outcomes with smart charging

OPTIMISE

5pm-12am  
Mon – Thu

20-100%  
of max capacity

**Static:** Control schedule is set a day ahead  
**Dynamic:** RT feedback to optimise every 20 min

# OBSERVE

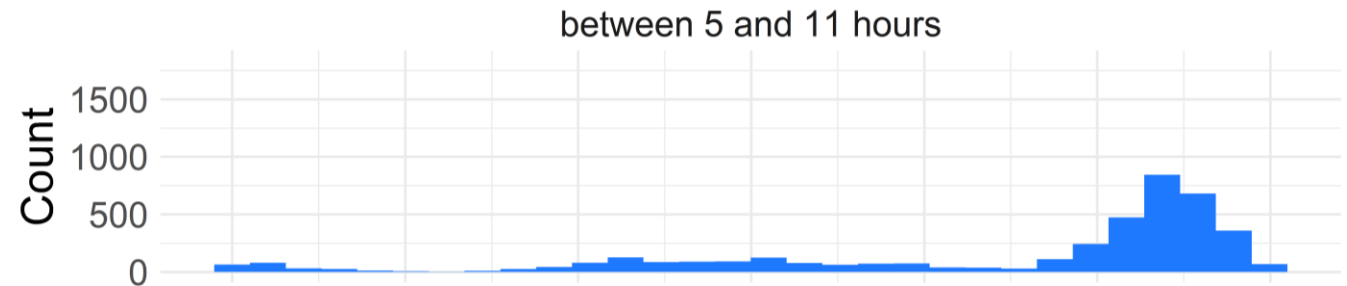


# Three dominant charging behaviours

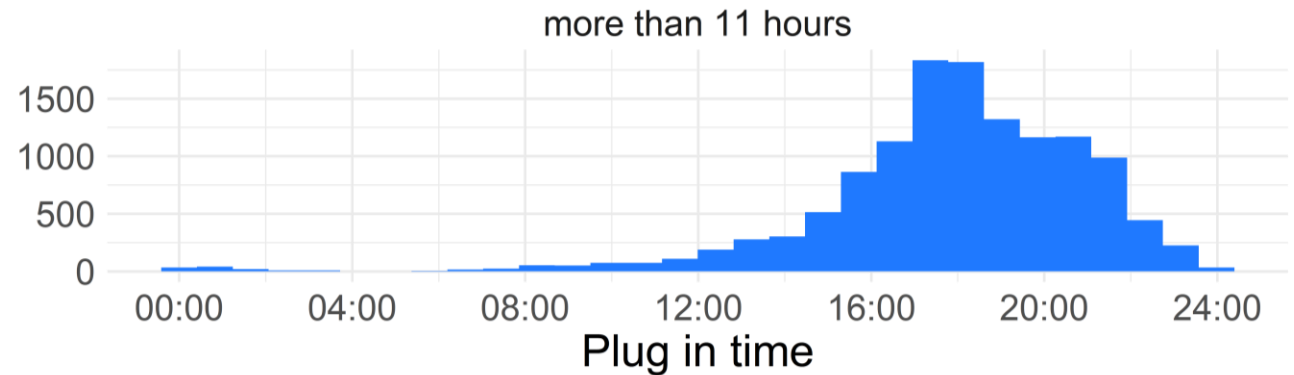
Day-time chargers



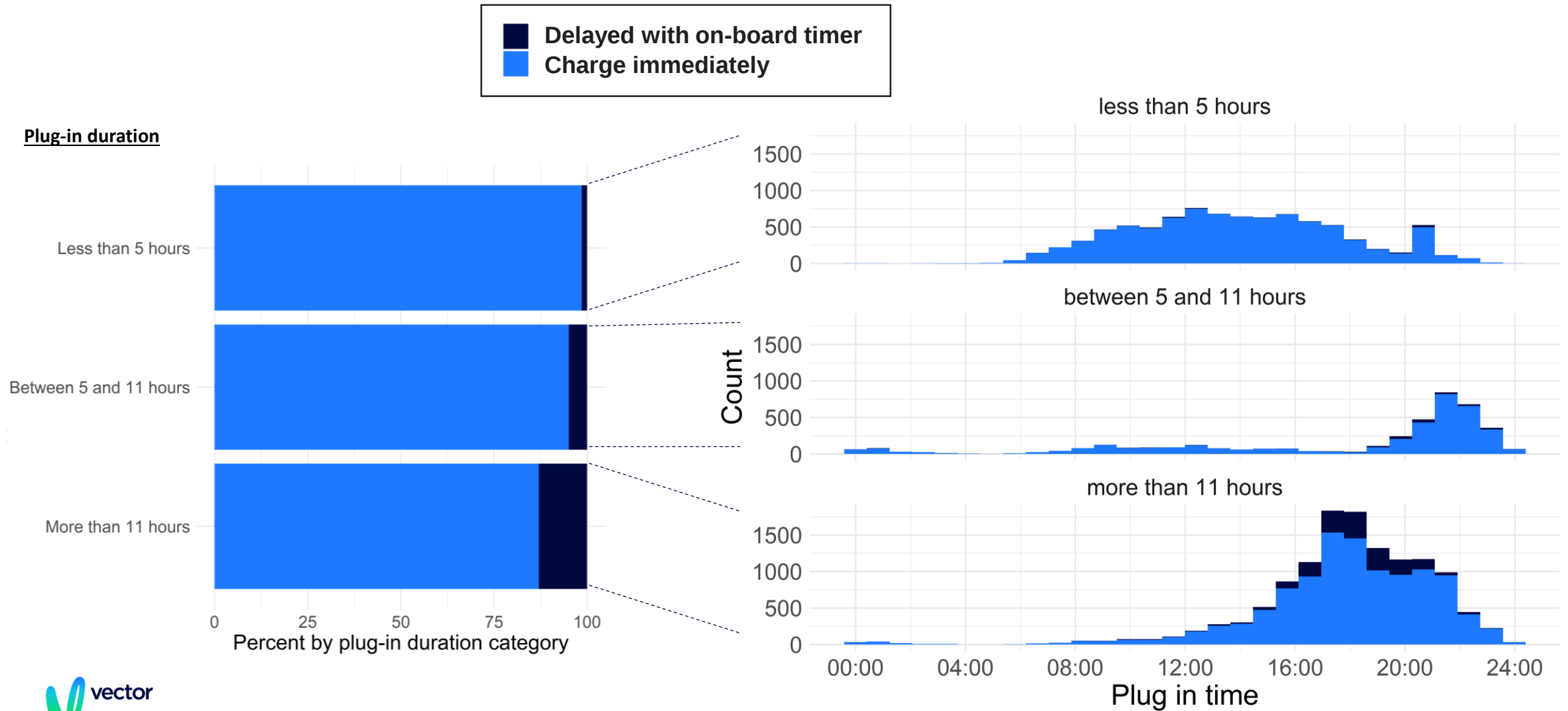
Before-bed chargers



After-work chargers

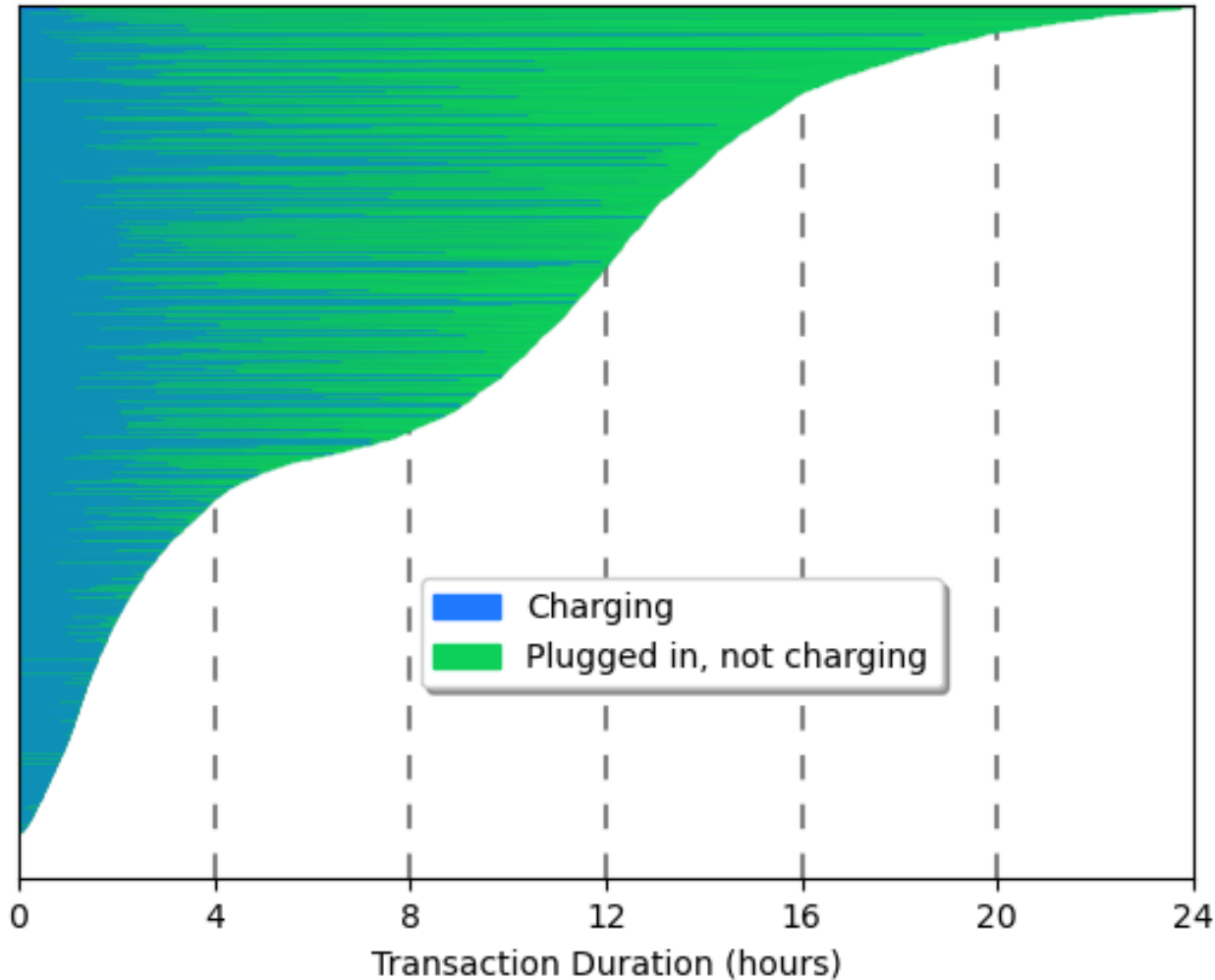


# Three dominant charging behaviours



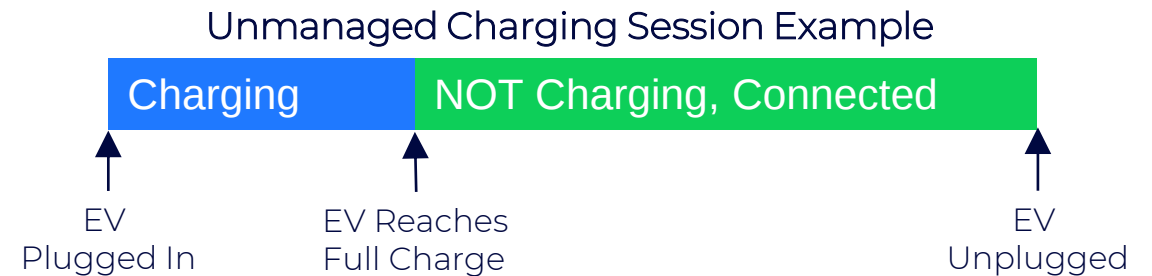
# Potential for charging flexibility is large

OBSERVE



EVs are actively charging between 3-4 hours per session on average.

Longer sessions support shifted charging for flexibility while still delivering a full vehicle charge.

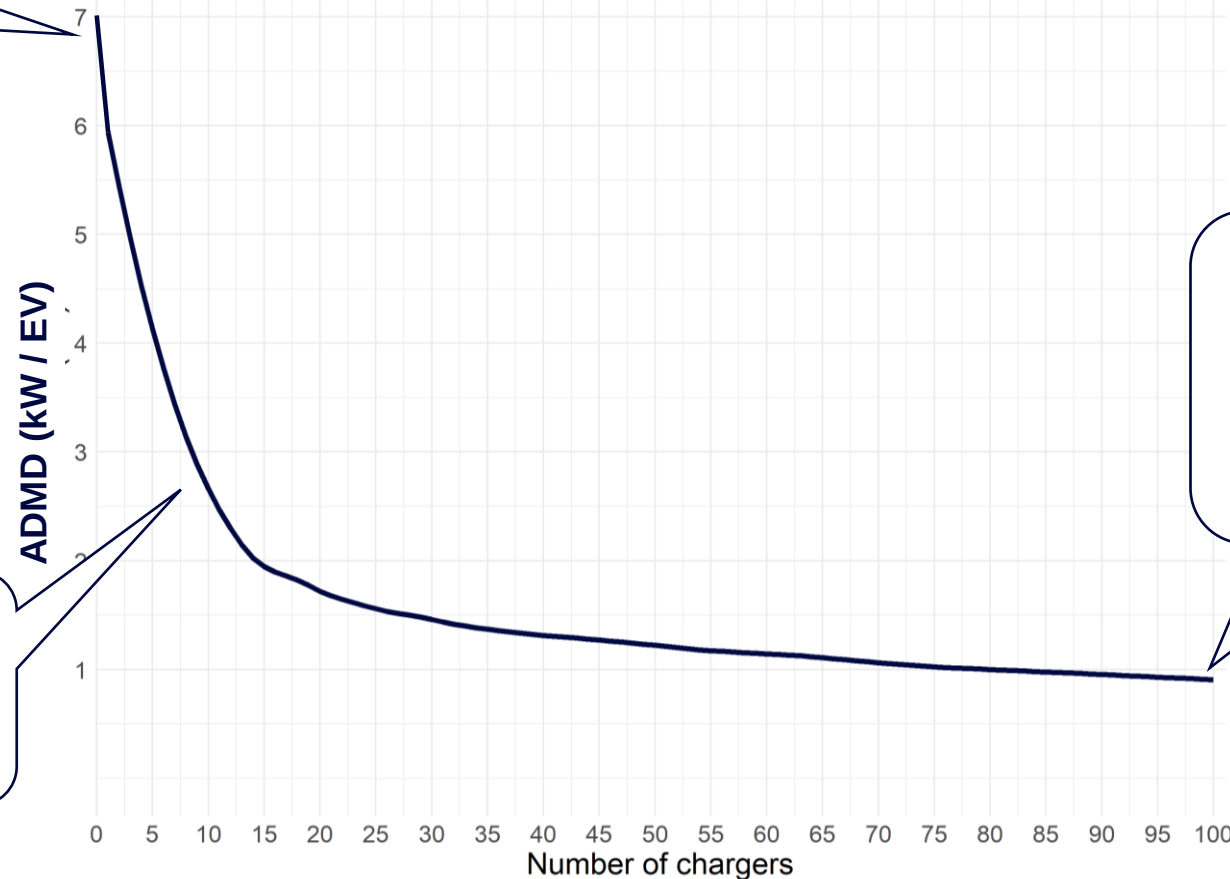


We have built a better understanding of the diversity that occurs with increasing volumes of EVs

### After Diversity Max. Demand per EV

LV network  
MV network

For a network with 1 EV charger of 7kW, we need a 7kW network

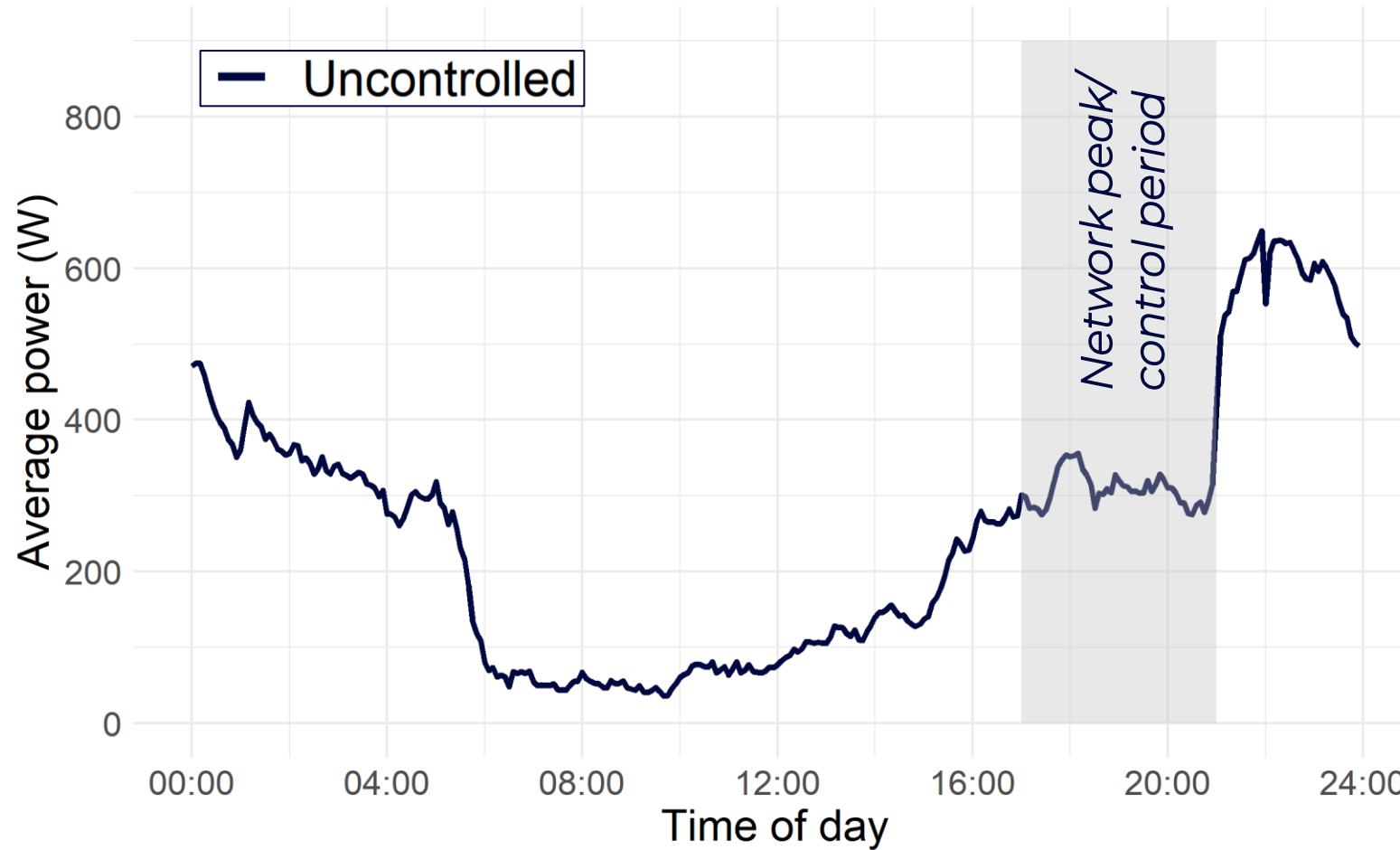


For a network with 100 EV chargers of 7kW, we only need 100kW capacity (1kW\*100)

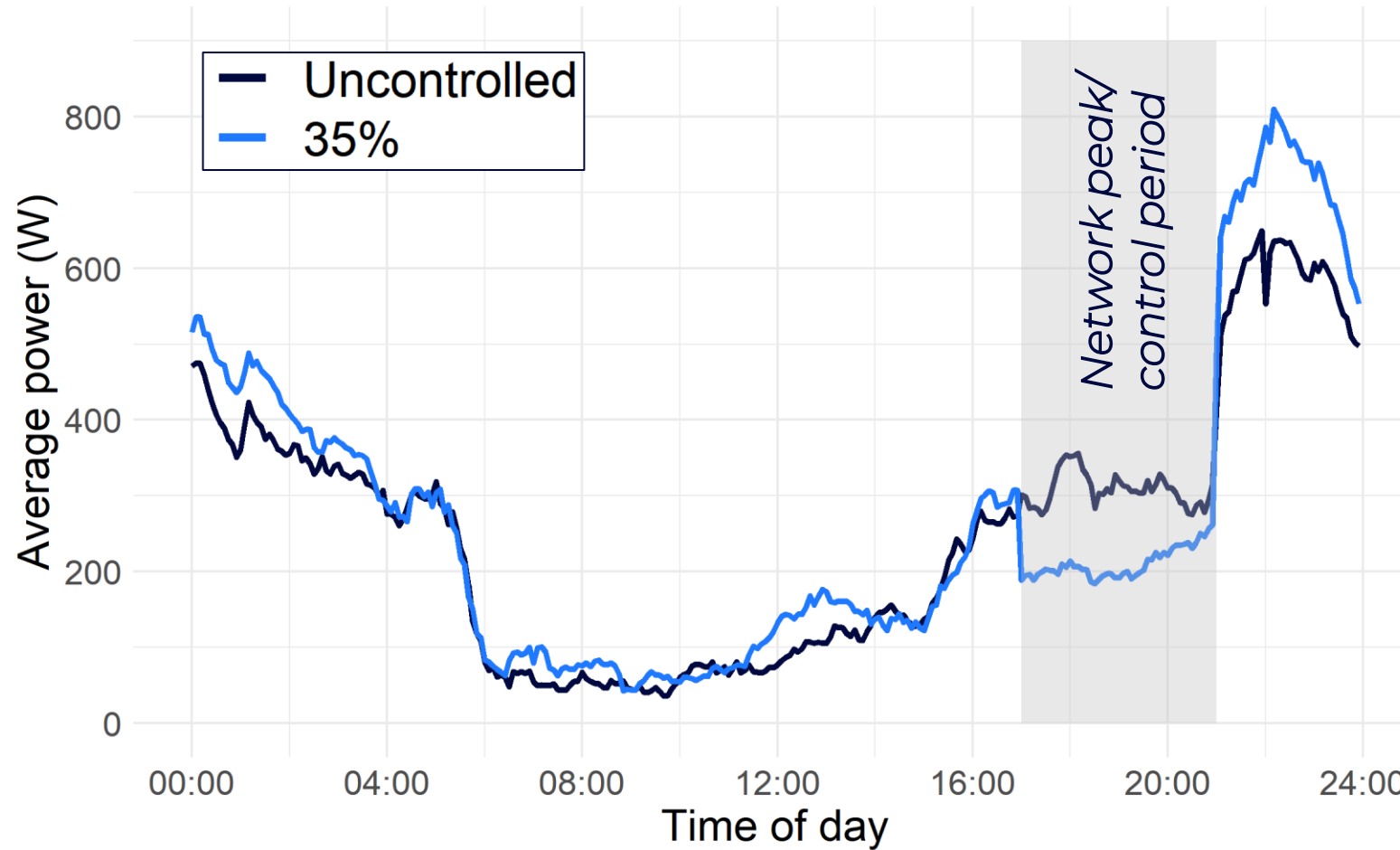
For a network with 10 EV chargers of 7kW, we need a  $10 \times 3\text{kW} = 30\text{kW}$  of network capacity

# TEST

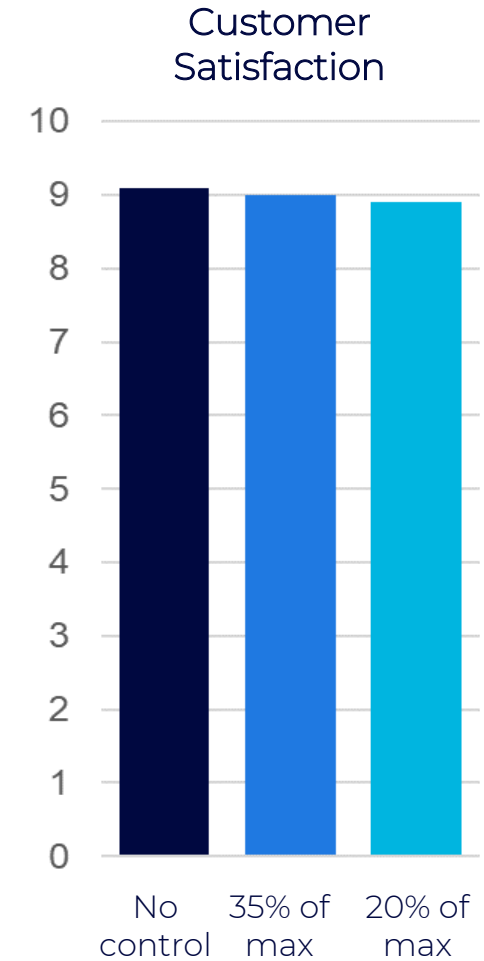
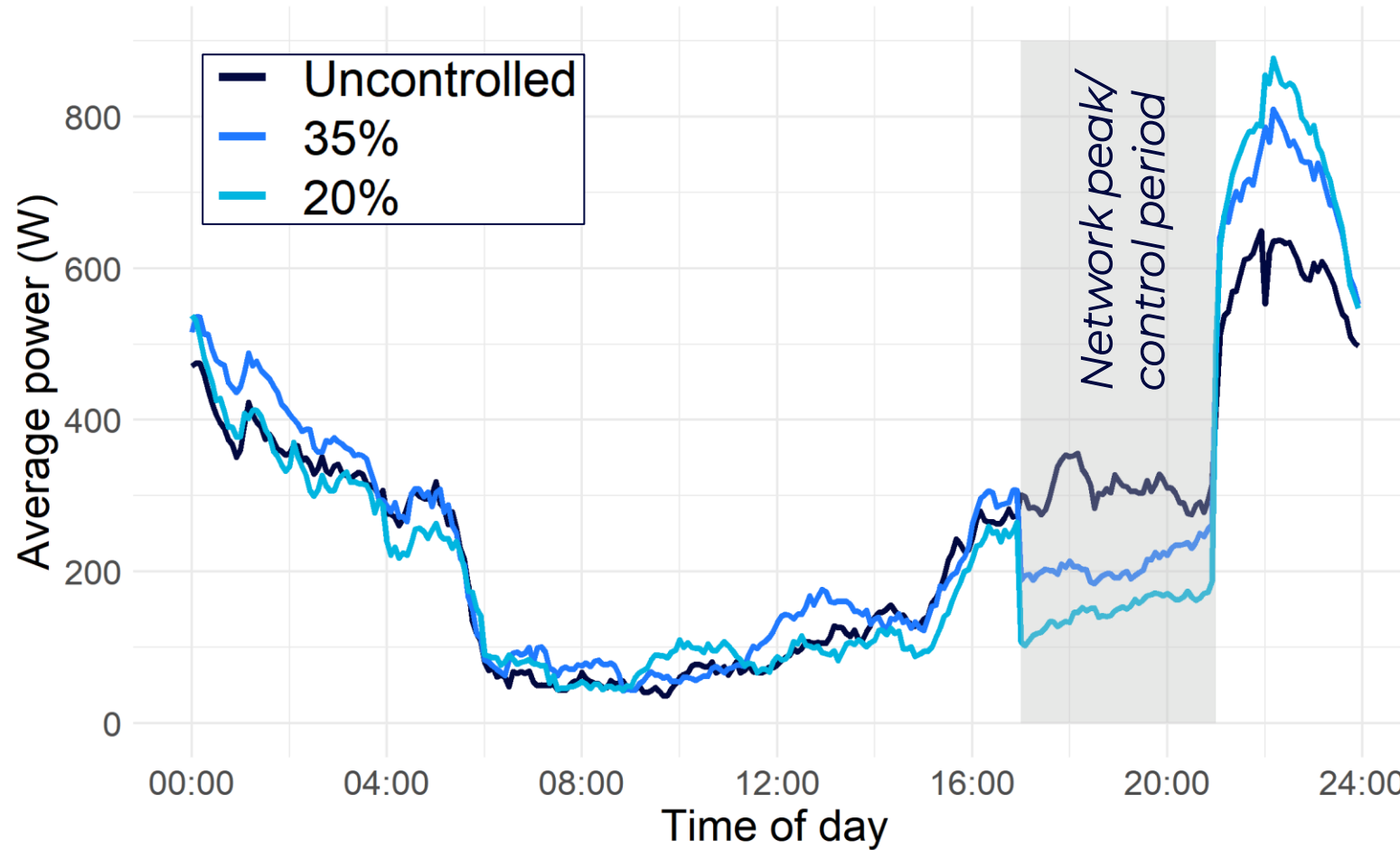
# How charging management affects customer satisfaction



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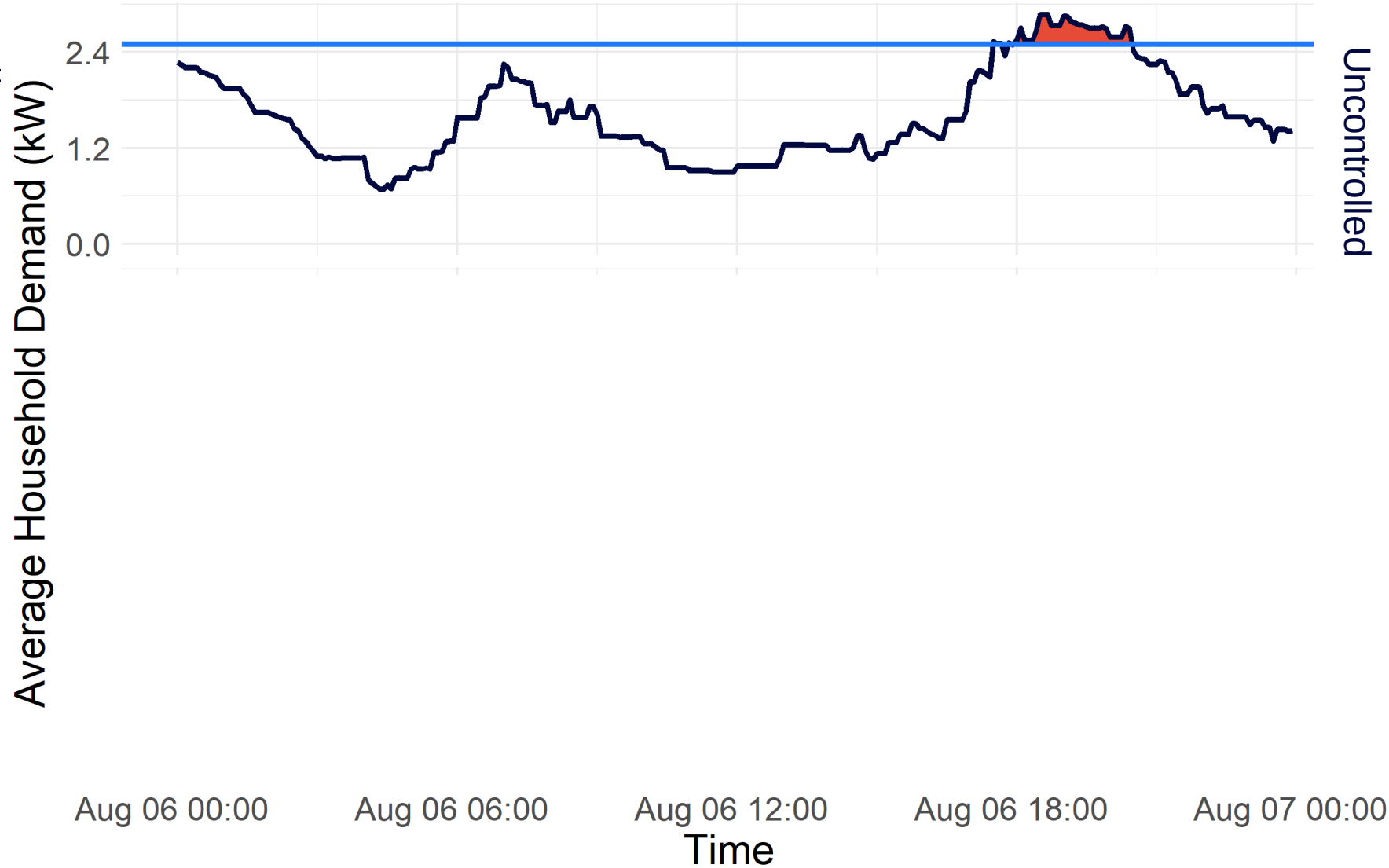


# OPTIMISE



# Smart charging algorithms in action

OPTIMISE



Distribution  
Feeder Design  
Limit (per  
connection)

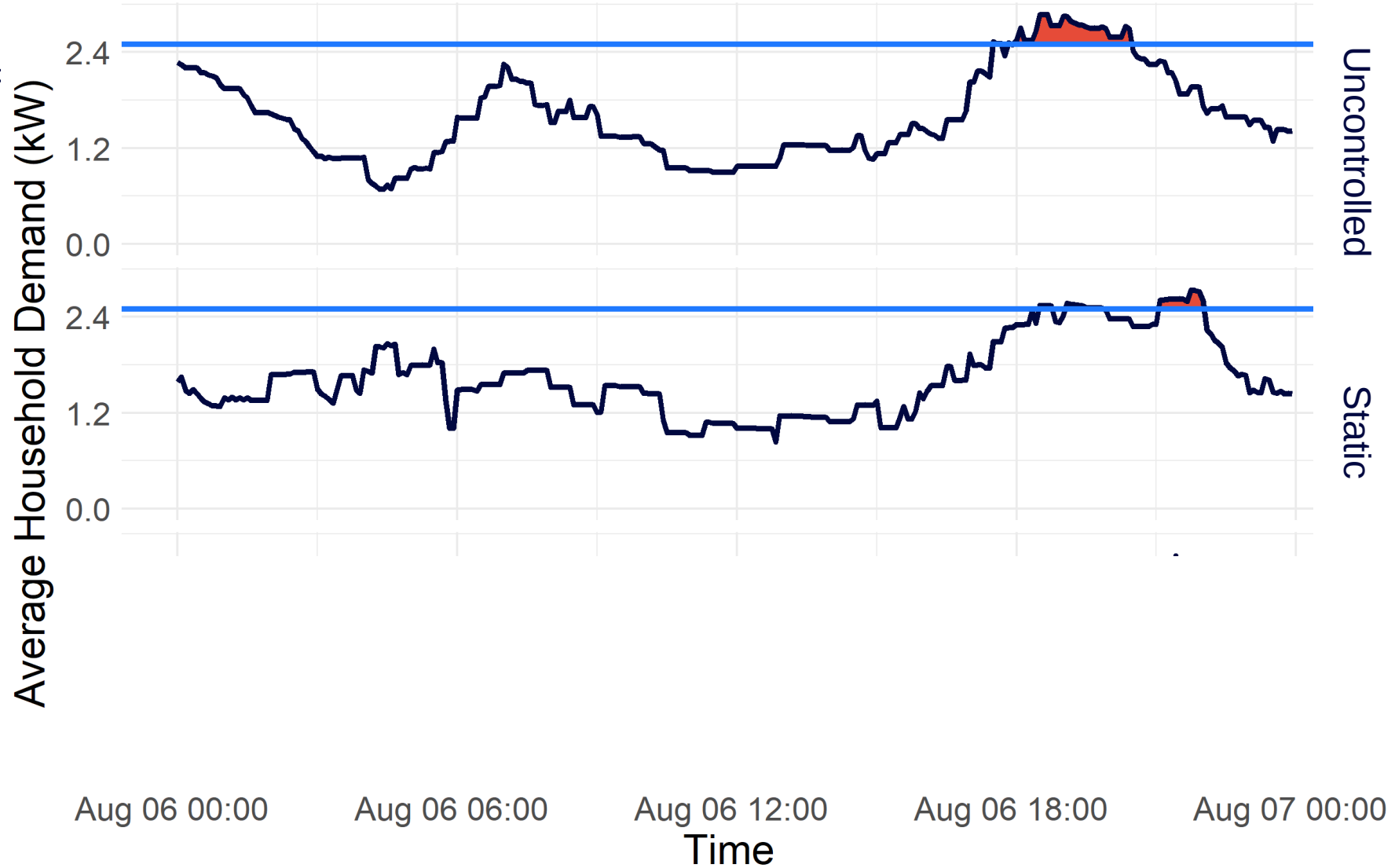


August =  
Winter in New  
Zealand



# Smart charging algorithms in action

OPTIMISE



Distribution  
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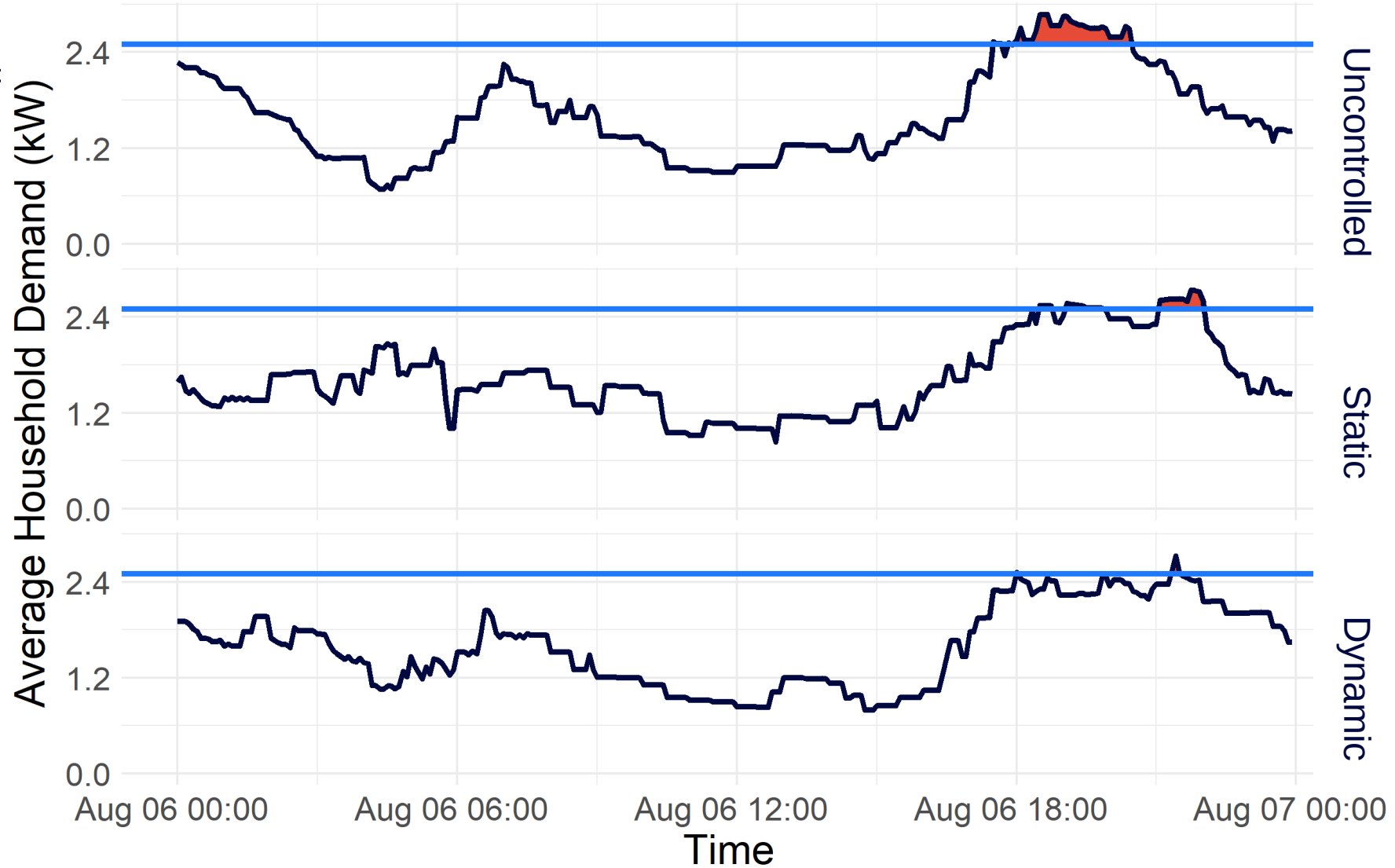


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# Smart charging algorithms in action

OPTIMISE



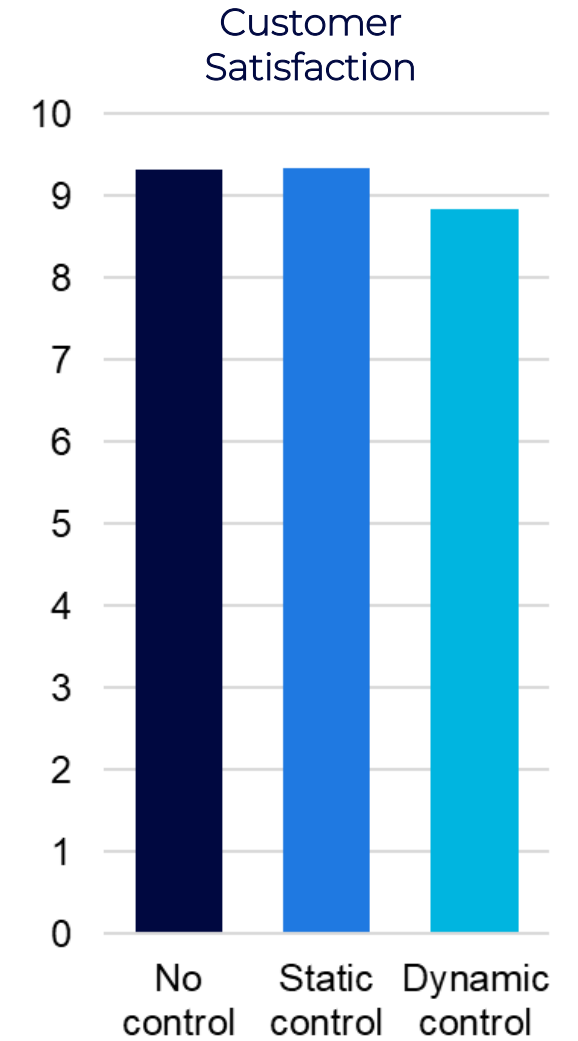
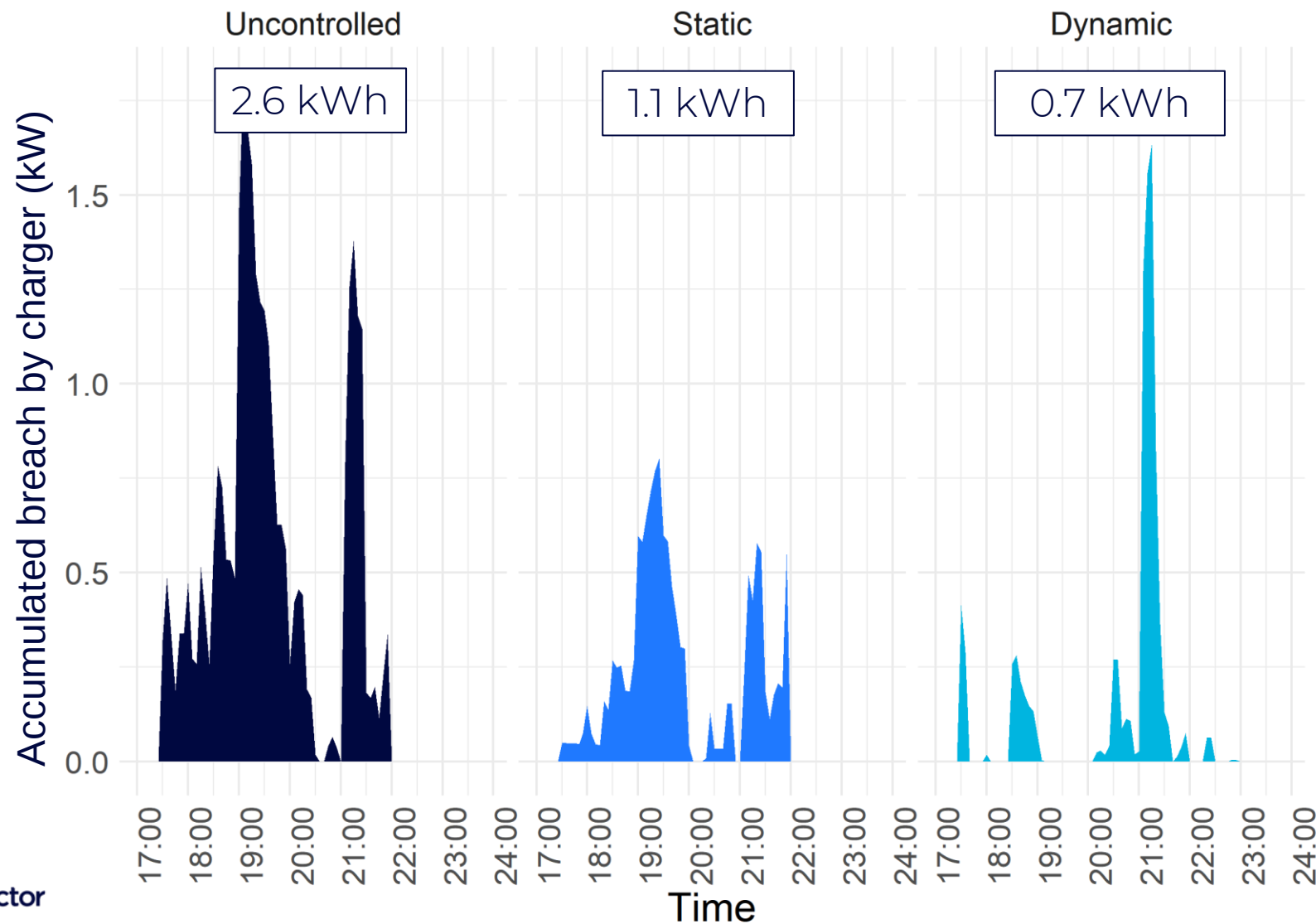
Distribution  
Feeder Design  
Limit (per  
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# Smart charging algorithms performance





# Summary of Key Findings



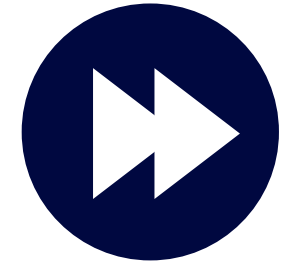
Customers are using EV on-board timers to delay the start of charging until 9pm. This risks creating secondary peaks



Access to smart meter data and EV registration data will help networks manage early adoption on the LV network



Flexibility to shift charging is available for charging sessions longer than 4 hours



Integrate learning into business processes



Network impacts are lower than expected on MV/HV. LV impact will be more pronounced as loads less diversified.



Smart charging can successfully reduce peak demand, while keeping customers very satisfied



Coordination with demand flexibility programmes will be needed (e.g. HWLC)

