

# Evolution of Control Centers for the Future Grid

Anjan Bose  
Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington, USA

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# THE INTERCONNECTED GRID

- **Economics**

- § **Transfer electric energy from areas where it is cheap to where it is expensive. Electricity trading dates back to the beginning**

- **Reliability**

- § **Neighbors can back up each other. The cost of redundancy is shared.**



# The Control Center (since 1960s)

- The digital control center (SCADA-AGC)
- The RTU to gather digital data at substation
- Comm. channel from sub to control center (CC)
- The SCADA
  - § The Data Acquisition from RTU to CC
  - § The Supervisory Control signal from CC to RTU
- The screen based operator display
- Automatic Generation Control (AGC)
  - § The digital algorithm for ED
  - § The digital version of LFC



# The Control Center (since 1970s) - EMS

- **The Energy Management System (EMS)**
- **State Estimation (SE)**
- **Static Security Analysis (n-1)**
- **Dynamic Security Analysis (stability)**
  - § **Transient, Oscillatory, Voltage**
- **Optimal Power Flow based analysis**
  - § **Preventive Action calculation**
  - § **Corrective Action calculation**

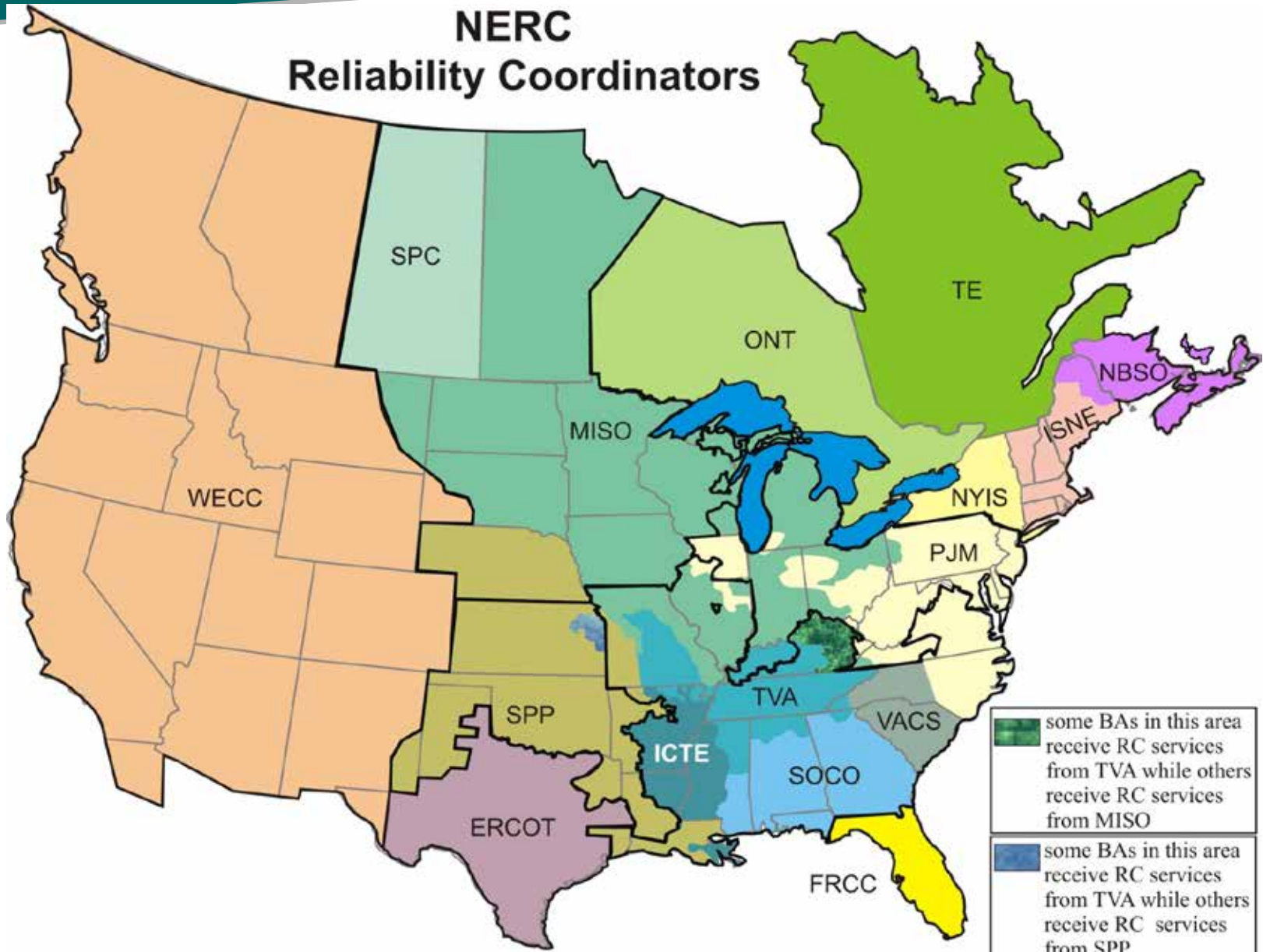


# Evolution of Control Center Architecture

- **Special real time computers for SCADA-AGC**
- **Mainframe computer back ends for EMS**
- **Redundant hardware configuration with checkpoint and failover**
- **Multiple workstation configuration**
  - § **Back-up is more flexible**
- **Open architecture initiated**
- **CIM (Common Information Model) standard**

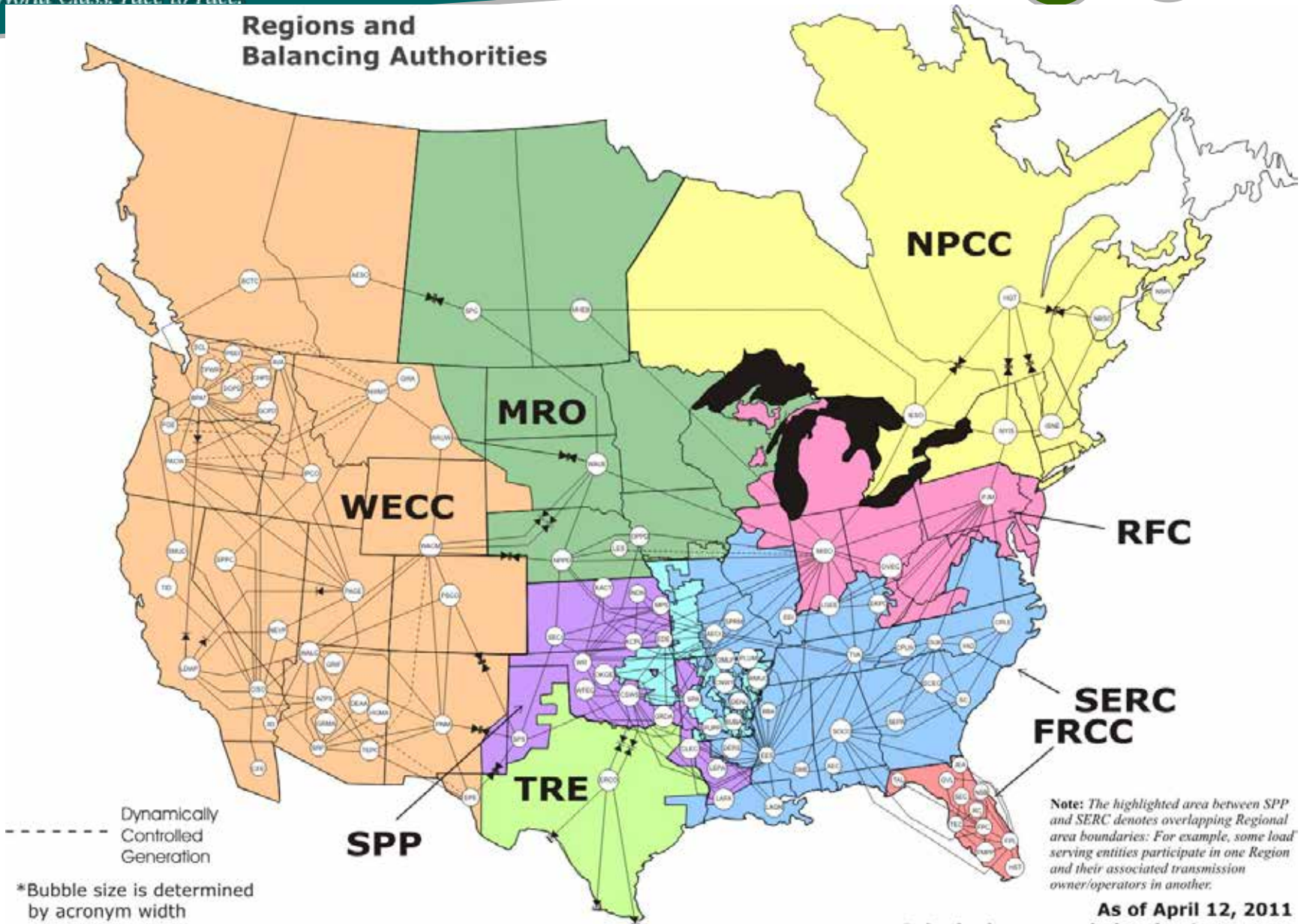


# NERC Reliability Coordinators





**Regions and Balancing Authorities**





# Phasor Measurement Units

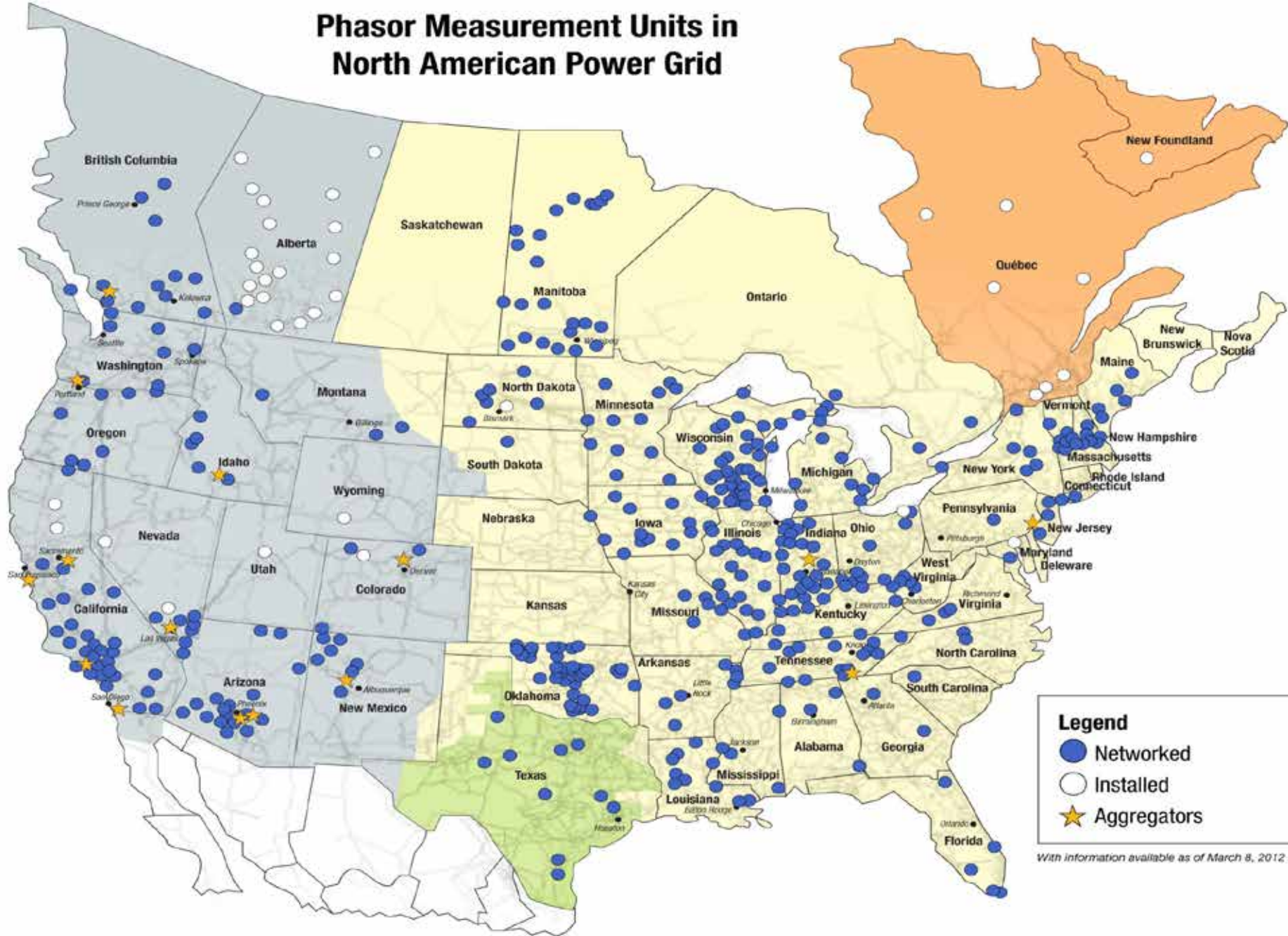
- Measurements at substations are now handled by microprocessors
- Measurements can be sampled at very high rates
- Measurements can be time-stamped by satellite

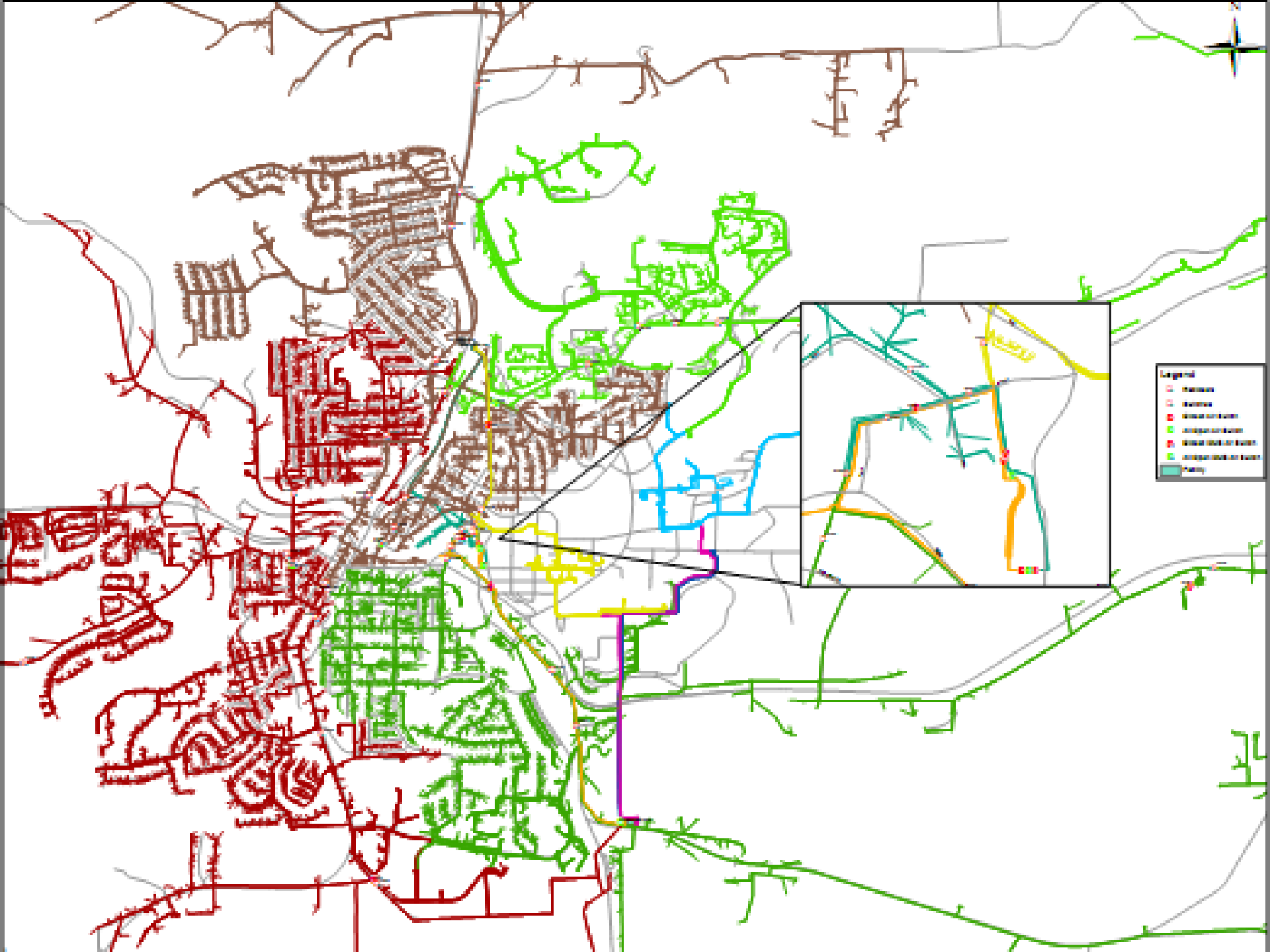
## Measure magnitude and phase angle (PMU)

- PMU output rates: 30-120 per second
- Data rates for control centers will increase by 2-3 magnitudes



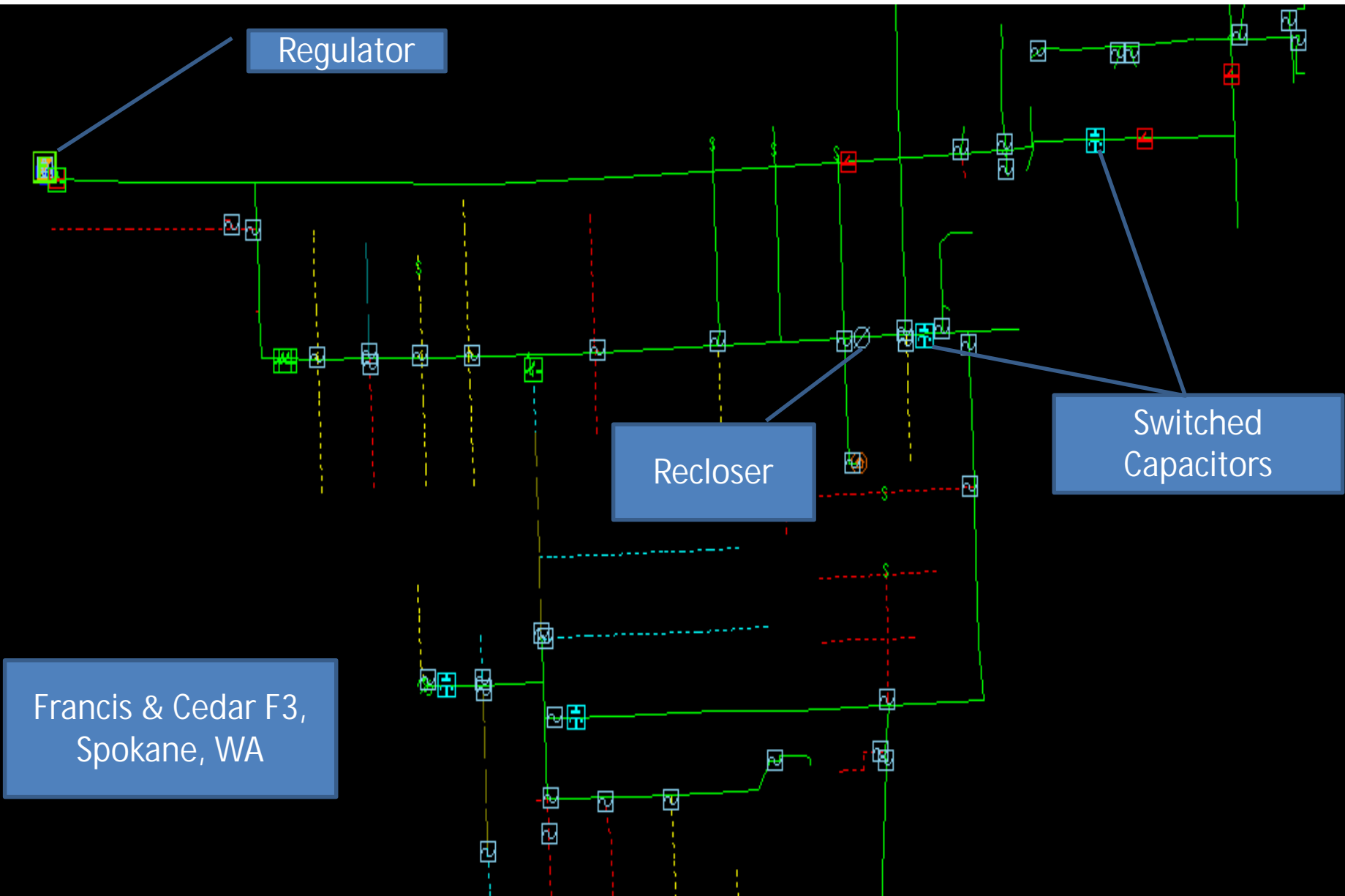
# Phasor Measurement Units in North American Power Grid





- Legend**
- Red square: Roads
  - Blue square: Waterways
  - Green square: Water bodies
  - Light green square: Water bodies (shaded)
  - Darker green square: Water bodies (darker)
  - Cyan square: Water







# DISTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- **Measurements along the feeder**
- **Switches, transformer taps, shunt capacitor and inductor controls**
- **Communications: Radio, Power Line Carrier, Fiber backhaul**
- **Closer voltage control increases efficiency**
- **Greater switching ability increases reliability**
- **Better coordination with outage management**
- **Sets up for distributed generation, demand response, electric vehicles or local storage**



# Distribution Applications

- **Integrated Volt-Var Control (IVVC)**
  - § **Use remote control of transformer taps and capacitor banks**
  - § **Minimize losses**
- **Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR)**
  - § **Minimize voltage to reduce load**
- **Remote control of sectionalizers for reconfiguration around faults**
  - § **Minimize outage of customers**



# Distributed Energy Resource Management Systems

- **Relatively new function not very well defined**
- **Refers mainly to generation on the other side of the utility meter**
- **Mostly used today for demand response - Enables industrial customers to participate in that market**
- **Could enable aggregation of residential resources like solar (or other loads like water heaters)**



# Advanced Metering Infrastructure

- **Smart Meters**
  - § **Gateway between utility and customer**
  - § **Communication to utility and home appliances**
  - § **Time-of-day and real-time rates**
- **Applications**
  - § **Optimize energy efficiency and energy cost**
  - § **Demand response**
  - § **Can integrate generation (roof PV), storage (EV)**
- **Microgrids**





# Substation Automation

- **Many substations have**
  - § **Microprocessor based devices (IED)**
  - § **Data acquisition at faster rates (30-60 Hz)**
  - § **Digital protection and control systems**
  - § **Remote setting capabilities**
- **Data can be time-stamped by satellite**
  - § **Measure magnitude and phase angle (PMU)**
- **Local Area Network to control room (LAN)**
- **New substation applications**



# Geographic Information System

- **GIS is getting more integrated into all aspects of system operations, especially**
  - § **Distribution management**
  - § **Outage management**
- **This has been helpful in other applications like Crew Management, Distribution Planning, etc**



# Customer Applications

- **Large customers can play the market**
  - § **Demand response**
  - § **Optimize consumption by rescheduling heating-cooling-large equipment**
  - § **Optimize solar, electric vehicles, other storage**
- **Smaller customers have less opportunities**
  - § **Time-of-day or real-time pricing**
  - § **Neighborhood microgrid**



# Outage Management System

- **The computerization of Outage Management has made huge strides**
- **Requires less people to handle customer calls**
- **Requires less people to do crew dispatching**
- **Time savings are significant**



# Building Automation

- **Smart Meters**
  - § **Gateway between utility and customer**
  - § **Utility can send price signals or control signals**
  - § **Change rates (in real time?)**
  - § **Control appliances (especially heating/cooling)**
- **Customer Applications**
  - § **Optimize energy efficiency and energy cost**
  - § **Demand response**
  - § **Can integrate generation (roof PV), storage (EV)**
- **Microgrids**



## Some Observations

- **Smart grid is developing piecemeal – A holistic systems approach is needed for operating the grid**
- **The systems approach will have to be driven by utilities – and regulators of reliability/resiliency**
- **The technologies – sensors, computers, communications, controllers - are all available, the system vision is not there**
- **R&D is needed with a clear path towards implementation**
- **Institutional policies updated to encourage technological solutions to meet goals**