

NEWS & UPDATES

Newsletter for the GRID DATA Repository
and BetterGrids Foundation, Inc.



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Resiliency, Grid Models, and More . . .

The organizational name BetterGrids has Grid in its name, but does that mean it is exclusively about grid models? Not at all.

Initially, that was the case, but we have been actively adding new data sets that include time series data to support research activities that need grid and associated time sequence data. We are currently adding and looking to add data sets that include load and associated renewable generation production time series data.

Last year, BetterGrids had a webinar about software that helps support societal resiliency, with support for specific utility scenarios such as hurricane and wildfire response and the electrical grid being critical elements of that software. Resiliency is a complicated subject; even the simple measurement of resiliency is difficult. Researching resiliency will not only need to study how the current grid behaves and supports different resiliency scenarios, but we are also making significant changes to the grid by introducing renewable resources, energy storage, microgrids, and new monitoring and control technologies.

BetterGrids was created to help bridge the gap between academia and the industry. Historically, grid researchers used the same small grid models repeatedly in their studies. Numerous new and improved grid optimization algorithms were developed in academic circles that were potentially promising but only tested and validated on a few commonly used, relatively simple and outdated grid models. We believe that to do meaningful research on resiliency, it is also essential to use relatively large and realistic grid models. Many of the large realistic models in the BetterGrids Repository initially added to support grid optimization algorithm development will also benefit new research topics related to reliability and resiliency.

Furthermore, it is also necessary to understand what could happen to societal and grid resiliency as our grid evolves with the changes to the resources, loads, storage, and associated technologies. This is one of the main reasons we felt it was necessary to expand the repository's scope to include more time series data related to grid models.