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**CVR/VVO M&V**



# Measurement and Verification (M&V) for Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR)

Prepared by The CVR M&V Task Force of Volt VAR Working Group



## TASK FORCE ON

### Measurement and Verification for Conservation Voltage Reduction

This report results from a collaborative effort among the CVR M&V TF members.

#### ***Task Force Committee:***

Shakawat (Shakil) Hossan, ComEd (Chair)  
Amin Khodaei, University of Denver (Vice-Chair)  
Wen Fan, ComEd (Secretary)

#### ***Task Force Members & Co-Authors:***

Ahmed Saber	Operation Technology, Inc.
Andrew Wilson	Xcel Energy
Mesut Baran	North Carolina State University
Eric Gupta	Xcel Energy
Sepideh Fard	ComEd
Mike Simms	Duke Energy
Victor (Shengyang) He	BGE
Eric Wedemeyer	BGE
Hamid Abdurrahim	BGE
Yuan Liao	University of Kentucky
Zhaoyu Wang	Iowa State University
Zinn Morton	PEPCO
Damien Tholomier	Varentec
Dongbo Zhao	Argonne National Laboratory
Tu Anh Tran	Reinhausen Manufacturing Inc.
Farnoosh Rahmatian	NuGrid Power
Fei Ding	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Alfredo Contreras	Southern California Edison

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**KEYWORDS:** Conservation voltage reduction, data quality, measurement and verification, volt-var optimization

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	American Electric Power
AIC	Ameren Illinois Company
AMI	Advanced Metering
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
API	Application Programming
BCR	Benefit-to-Cost Ratio
CDH	Cooling Degree Hours
ComEd	Commonwealth Edison Company
CVR	Conservation Voltage Reduction
CVRf	Conservation Voltage Reduction Factor
DA	Distribution Automation
DER	Distributed Energy Resources
EKPC	East Kentucky Power
GWP	Glendale Water & Power
HDH	Heating Degree Hours
I&M	Indiana Michigan Power
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IPC	Idaho Power Company
IPL	Indianapolis Power & Light
JTCM	Joint Technical Committee
KCP&L	Kansas City Power and Light
LTC	Load Tap Changers

<del>M&amp;V</del>	<del>Measurement and Verification</del>
MW	megawatt(s)
NEEA	Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
NRECA	Rural Electric Cooperative
PECO	Philadelphia Electric Company
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PES	Power and Energy Society
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
PGE	Portland General Electric Company
PSE	Puget Sound Energy
PSE&G	Public Service Electric and Gas
RCI	Residential Commercial Industrial
RMSE	Root Mean Square Error
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data
SCE	Southern California Edison
SMUD	Sacramento Municipal Utility District
TF	Task Force
VVO	Volt Var Optimization
VVWG	Volt Var Working Group
WG	Working Group

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The electric power grid is undergoing an unprecedented transformation into a more efficient, reliable, resilient, and clean infrastructure. This transformation is primarily supported by more comprehensive grid monitoring and control, enabled by advanced metering infrastructure, distribution automation, and phasor measurement units, among other sensing and measurement technologies. This enhanced monitoring and control facilitates multiple viable practices, most notably Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR) and Volt-Var Optimization (VVO). CVR, which has gained renewed interest in recent years, is a cost-effective way to deliver energy efficiency benefits to customers. However, one of the most significant challenges in CVR application is the measurement and verification (M&V) of its effects. Once CVR is applied, there is no benchmark load consumption measurement, which complicates assessing the CVR's real impact. This issue is complicated by the difficulty of distinguishing between changes in load and energy consumption caused by variations in temperature and customer usage patterns over time and those energy changes caused by the activity of regulating devices with and without CVR.

The IEEE CVR M&V Standard Taskforce was tasked by the IEEE Volt-Var Working Group in October 2020 to study the need for an industry-accepted standard for CVR M&V data collection and management. This standard aims to complement the group's existing work, including the IEEE P1885 Draft Guide for Assessing, Measuring, and Verifying Volt-Var Control Optimization on Distribution Systems; IEEE P1889 Guide for Evaluating and Testing the Electrical Performance of Energy Savings Devices; and IEEE P1459 IEEE Standard Definitions for the Measurement of Electric Power Quantities Under Sinusoidal, Nonsinusoidal, Balanced, or Unbalanced Conditions. The taskforce conducted a comprehensive survey and performed thorough studies using collected data from four electric utilities. This report provides an in-depth review of the survey results and simulations.

The major outcomes of this report are summarized below:

1. Most surveyed utility participants mention multiple data issues in their CVR programs;
2. The discrepancy in data management causes significant divergence in calculating CVR impacts. In other words, data issues significantly impact CVR calculations. Most notably, inadequate and tainted data can jeopardize the analysis regardless of the methodology used to derive the savings or CVR factor;
3. Utilities identify a lack of defined guidelines on selecting the methodology as a major challenge in CVR M&V;
4. Over 70% of all surveyed participants believe that established M&V procedures will be helpful in developing a CVR business case, maintaining the expected benefits, meeting regulatory requirements, and streamlining the data cleaning process for benefit estimation. Also, over 80% of all surveyed participants believe that an established M&V procedure will be helpful in selecting the methodology based on data availability.

Based on the survey and studies, this report concludes that the industry needs a standardized data management practice (including cleaning, reconstruction, and analysis) that includes at a minimum:

- Identification of cycling schedule disruption impact on benefit evaluation;
- Standardize compression rates to achieve true values;
- Detection of accurate CVR status;
- Detecting the outliers;
- Identification of load shifts;
- Identification of discrepancies on data reconstruction;
- Identification of true CVR factor range and system-level CVR factor;
- Identification of data adequacy based on accurate CVR status and good numerical power and voltage data;



- Methodology selection and assumption validation based on data availability.

The current state of the grid in CVR deployment, in which many utilities have rolled out CVR programs on hundreds of their feeders, further justifies that electric utilities are ready to adopt an industry-accepted standard to support their efforts. This is extensively elaborated on in this report.

## Section 1 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Overview of CVR M&V

Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR) is commonly known as a subset of Volt-Var Optimization (VVO) and is considered a cost-effective measure for energy savings and peak demand reduction without the need of opting in by customers, unlike any other energy efficiency program. To activate CVR, the voltage across a distribution feeder operates toward the lower regulated voltages by coordinating the utility equipment, including the substation transformer load tap changers (LTC), voltage regulators, and capacitor banks. According to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard C84.1, the voltage boundary across the distribution feeder should be between 114V to 126 V during normal operation [1]. Therefore, CVR operates effectively if the voltage band can be maintained at the lower half (114V-120V) of the C84.1 recommended voltage without causing any harm to the utility assets and customer appliances [2]. As the voltage operates at the lower end, the voltage-sensitive loads at the customer terminal consume less than the normal operation, and achieve energy savings. A recent benchmarking paper has discussed CVR efforts of 37 U.S. utilities [3].

To report energy savings to the public utility commissions or study cost-benefit-ratio to decide on further CVR deployment, the energy savings benefits of CVR need to be quantified through measurement and verification (M&V). Quantification of benefits is a challenging task since the CVR ON and OFF measurements cannot be obtained simultaneously. As the changes in other confounding factors (e.g., temperature, season, and time of the day) profoundly impact load consumption, estimating the load deviation becomes an extremely complicated effort between CVR ON and OFF instants. On top of that, the quality of data being utilized in the analysis and their inherent noise can further complicate the process.

Performance of CVR is measured by an index called CVR factor (CVRf), which is defined as the ratio of the percentage change in energy consumption to the percentage change in voltage reduction. In the past, various M&V methodologies have been developed to estimate the CVR performance. In general, they can be categorized as comparison-based, regression-based, and simulation-based [2],[3]. Some descriptions of these methodologies are provided in the data analysis section.

### 1.2 Utility Practices on M&V

CVR has been deployed in many utilities, either in pilot testing or as a large-scale program. Utilities employed various M&V methodologies to evaluate the CVRf and energy savings. Table 1.1 presents a summary of the methodology utilization based on the publicly available information [3].

*Table 1.1. A summary of Utility practices on CVR M&V Methodologies*

<b>CVR M&amp;V Methodologies</b>	<b>Utilities</b>
Comparison-based	Central Lincoln People's Utility District, Choptank Electric Cooperative, Dominion Energy, GWP, IPC, IPL, KCP&L, NEEA, NRECA, PGE, SMUD, BG&E
Regression-based	AEP, AIC, Avista Utilities, ComEd, EKPC, I&M, PECO, PEPCO, PG&E, PSE, PSE&G, SCE, West Penn Power Company
Simulation-based	Avista Utilities, XCEL Energy

Table 1.1, conveys that the comparison and regression-based methods are most popular among utilities. The comparison-based method is straightforward for design and implementation, and the regression-based method has physical meanings embedded in the model for easier understanding and analysis. These reasons might explain the popularity of comparison and regression methodologies.

### 1.3 Motivation of This Task Force

This task force (TF) was approved by the Volt-Var Working Group (VWVG) and formed to investigate the need for

having an established procedure for CVR M&V. To that effect, the TF has created a study team, including complementary expertise from electric utilities, technology developers, and academia. The primary motivation of this TF is to find out the gaps in conducting M&V analysis across the industry, identifying the anomalies in data and their sensitivities to different types of methodologies, and recommending a path forward to work toward filling out the gaps. A proper process will help the utilities evaluate CVR implementation in a precise manner.

To fulfill the mission, since its formation in October 2020, the TF has met three times to discuss data requirements from multiple utilities for the purpose of this study. The team has also conducted an industry-wide survey on the current practices, problems, and need for having an established procedure. In the 2021 Power and Energy Society (PES) joint technical committee meeting (JTCM), the survey results were presented, and different data scenarios were discussed to design the study. In the next subsection, the highlights of the survey and study conducted will be discussed. The details of the survey responses and study results will be discussed in a following section of this report.

#### 1.4 Focus of the Survey and Study Conducted

To investigate the need for an established procedure, the TF conducted a survey where a questionnaire was developed on different topics, including data sources and variables utilized in M&V; data quality issues and their root causes; implementation issues that can create data anomalies; type of M&V methodologies utilized by the industry and their comparative output; reporting to public utility commissions; and ultimately, the need for an established procedure to conduct appropriate evaluations and receive the proper benefits. The survey questionnaire was comprehensive enough to extract the inherent anomalies on the data and operational barriers, which add additional complexities.

Based on the participants' feedback, the TF utilized the data received from four utilities to validate the concerns. The TF created different data scenarios to check the data sensitivity of different methodologies and their impacts on the evaluation. In addition, the TF investigated different issues related to incorrect CVR activation (ON/OFF) status detection and the interruption on activation schedules that impacts the M&V analysis. The impact of load shift on M&V analysis was also studied.

The TF also conducted a literature review of CVR factor values claimed by different utilities through pilot and/or program level studies and found no comprehensive analysis is currently available to define a boundary for true CVR factor. Details about the survey and study analysis are discussed in Sections 3 and 4.

#### 1.5 Intended Outcome of the Task Force

The cyber threat continues to evolve, with malicious actors increasing their attempts to manipulate physical assets across the system. Physical attacks, including the use of electromagnetic pulses, are also of concern.

The intended outcome of the TF is to prove the need for having an established procedure. To demonstrate the need, the TF performed the following tasks:

- a. Completed a literature review of current practices across the industry, cited in different places in this report depending on their relevancy;
- b. Conducted a comprehensive survey to help with gap analysis;
- c. Conducted thorough studies using the actual utility data.

At the end of this report, the TF will provide concluding remarks on the need with proper justification and provide a recommendation for the next endeavor.

## Section 2 SURVEY ANALYSIS

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The TF conducted a survey within the VVWG. The survey was also circulated through Power Globe, an internet email forum for persons having an interest in electric power engineering [4]. Survey topics included the overview of the CVR programs run by different utilities; major drivers; data quality issues; utilization of data points for benefit evaluation; utilization of different methodologies; the requirement for utilities to report on their benefits to the commission; challenges faced on M&V analysis; and the opinion on having an established procedure. In this section, all these topics will be discussed based on the responses received from the participants.

### 2.1 Overview of Survey Participants

A total of 30 individuals participated in the survey. Table 2.1 shows the percentage and the affiliation of the participants.

Table 2.2. Survey Participants

Affiliation	Percentage (%)
Utilities	33
Consulting	23
Academia	20
Manufacturer/Vendor	17
National Labs	3
Other- Research	3

Based on the program magnitude provided by the participant utilities, the study group created the three categories listed below:

- More than 1000 feeders (4 utilities)
- Between 100 to 500 feeders (3 utilities)
- Less than 100 feeders (2 utilities)
- One utility responded that they had disabled CVR from their circuits

Utilities also provided the major drivers behind their CVR efforts:

- Increase energy savings
- Reduce peak demand
- Improve operational efficiency (i.e., better controllability with the combination of hardware and software)
- Regulatory requirements
- Increase line capacity

### 2.2 Type of Operation and Data Quality

It was derived from the survey that different utilities run various CVR operations. Out of ten utilities, six run their CVR operations on a 24x7 basis, two run CVR through on/off testing, and one utility has just started preparing one substation to activate CVR. Out of the six utilities conducting 24x7 operations, four of them initially conducted some on/off cycling tests. The utilities conducting on/off testing are on two and four days on/off cycling.

For M&V, utilities generally extract power (MW/Amps) and voltage data, with some also extracting temperature and CVR status. Only one utility extracts Distribution Automation recloser status data. Out of the ten utilities that participated, all of them extracted SCADA data, while three mentioned that they had extracted AMI data, as well as for voltage, or power, or both.

Several data quality issues were listed in the survey related to the power, voltage, and CVR status, including outliers, non-numeric/missing data, repetitive data, interpolated data (i.e., estimated data), and irregular cycling. Based on the survey feedback, almost all participant utilities have multiple data quality issues. The responses from other participants were also aligned with the utilities. Figs. 2.1(a) and (b) below show the response on data quality issues. Utility participants have also experienced communication failures, power outages, incorrect meter/feeder to transformer mapping, and permanent/temporary load switching resulting in data anomalies.



Fig. 2.1. Data quality issues faced by; a) Utilities, b) All participants

Due to the impact of these data quality issues on M&V, they need to be eliminated and backfilled through reconstruction for proper benefit evaluation.

In response to whether utilities reconstruct their anomalous data, out of 30 participants, only 22 responses were received. Seven of them mentioned that they went through a reconstruction process, and six mentioned that they did not, whereas the other nine did not leave any comment. Fig. 2.2 summarizes the responses on reconstruction.

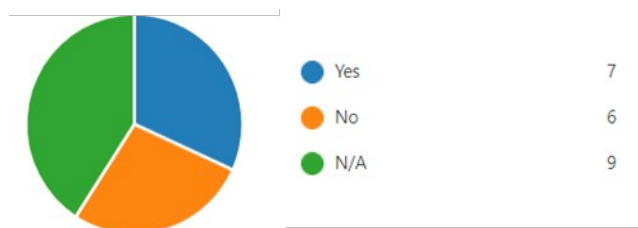


Fig. 2.2. Data Reconstruction (All participants)

### 2.3 Utilization of Data Points for M&V study

Questions on data resolution and their usage and impact on M&V analysis were also included in the survey. Below are responses from all participants who have responded to the questions about the utilization of data points on M&V analysis. Fig. 2.3 represents the resolutions used by different participants. It is evident that a wide variety of resolutions were utilized in the analysis, starting from five minutes to an hourly interval. In Fig. 2.4.(a), it shows that different individuals have experimented multiple resolution and majority of them have mentioned that they haven't observed any discrepancies while using multiple resolutions as depicted in Fig.2.4. (b).



Fig. 2.3. Different data resolutions used by participants



Fig. 2.4. a) If participants utilized multiple resolutions; b) If participants observed discrepancies while using multiple resolutions.

## 2.4 Utilization of Methodologies for M&V analysis

In the survey, questions related to the utilization of the M&V methodologies were asked and Table 2.2 segments the responses for the utilities and all participants.

Table 2.3. M&V methodologies used by the participants

Methodologies	Type	Utilities Only	All Participants
Comparison between a circuit running on CVR and a similar circuit without CVR	Comparison Based	2	9
Comparing the same circuit with on and off days considering impacts of different factors such as season, temperature, time of the day, on/off status, etc.	Comparison Based	7	14
Establishing the analytical relationship among	Regression	2	7

load, voltage, temperature, season, type of the day, time of the day, etc. through statistical formulation (i.e., linear regression)	Based		
Deemed CVR factor (i.e., a constant CVR factor estimated from a sample set of circuits and applied to the entire circuit population to calculate the savings)	Deemed CVR Factor	5	11
Simulation (i.e., simulating the same circuit with and without CVR to estimate the benefits)	Simulation Based	0	9
N/A	N/A	0	9

Two additional comments were also received regarding the type of methodologies to be used which are listed below and can be categorized under comparison and regression-based analysis:

1. Analytical relationship using machine learning techniques
2. Sensitivity analysis (correlation between feeder's power changes vs. voltage changes)

Participants also provided their opinions on whether any discrepancies were observed while using multiple methodologies, which is depicted in Fig. 2.5.

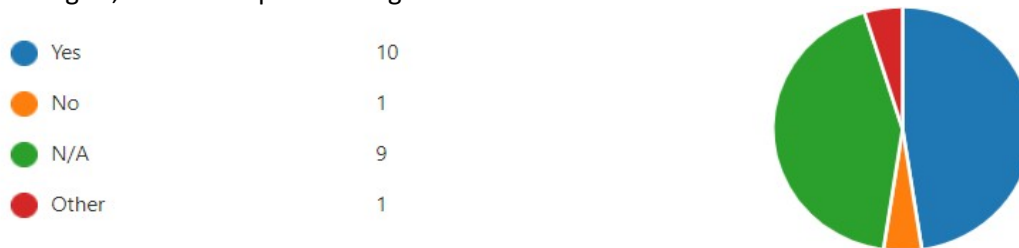


Fig. 2.5. Discrepancies while using multiple methodologies

Out of all the utility responses, only two utilities reflected that they do not consider line loss and savings at the customer end. Instead, they consider the savings at the feeder-head.

## 2.5 Commission Requirement

Several questions on how different utilities report on their benefit claims to the commission were included in the survey. Below are the responses listed:

1. Only three utilities are not reporting their analysis to the commission; the rest are reporting their savings to the commission,
2. Only one utility was using a penalty factor if CVR did not follow the schedules properly,
3. Several utilities are required to update their CVR factors. Table 2.3 lists the comments received from different utilities.

Table 2.4. Utility Comments on updating CVR factor

Utility	Comments
Utility 1	Updating CVR factor every 1 year
Utility 2	Planning to update CVR factor every several years.
Utility 3	Runs 24x7 so the only opportunity to evaluate CVRf is when the system goes down
Utility 4	Updating CVR factor every year if it changes by a large enough amount
Utility 5	Updating CVR factor every 2 years
Utility 6	No update on CVR factor
Utility 7	Planning to update the CVR factor soon (irregular update)

## 2.6 Challenges in CVR Implementation and Conducting M&V

The TF also listed the questions regarding the challenges faced by different utilities on implementing CVR and conducting M&V. In Fig. 2.6 the challenges faced by different utilities are provided:

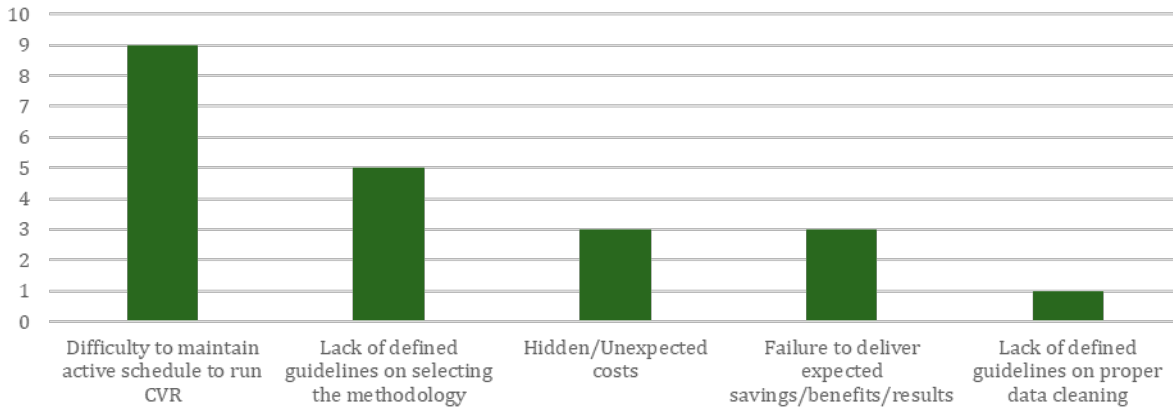


Fig. 2.6. Challenges faced by different utilities

Additional relevant comments received by the utilities are:

- The amount of data to clean and analyze is a considerable challenge
- Choose a simplified M&V approach to avoid all the mentioned challenges
- Resource availability to support consistent operation and triage of issues
- Unexpected or prolonged transmission-related outages
- Running into conflicts with actively operating the system; Also conflicts with DA switching
- Maintaining power flow models

## 2.7 Requirement of a Standard Procedure (Response from the Participants)

Finally, the TF asked the participants' input on whether they support creating established procedures. Below are the responses from all participants:

1. **73%** of responders believe established procedures will be helpful in developing a business case on estimating the benefit-to-cost ratio (BCR) (Yes, a standard/Recommended Practice=22, No=1, Blank=7)
2. **73%** of responders believe established procedures will be helpful in maintaining the expected BCR and regulatory requirement (Yes, a standard/Recommended Practice=22, No=1, Blank=7)
3. **73%** of responders believe established procedures will be helpful in streamlining the data cleaning process for benefit estimation (Yes, a standard/Recommended Practice=22, No=2, Blank=6)
4. **83%** of responders believe established procedures will be helpful in selecting the methodology based on data availability (Yes, a standard/Recommended Practice=25, No=1, Blank=4)

## 2.8 Key Takeaways of the Survey

1. All participants have highlighted that there are issues with data quality. Data quality issues include non-numeric/missing data, interpolated, repetitive, and outliers. In addition, issues related to active CVR schedule and on/off testing have been pointed out. Due to not maintaining an active CVR schedule while running 24x7 operations and/or irregular cycling (deviation from regular on/off testing), data becomes uncorrelated which makes the analysis erratic.
2. After conducting a cleaning process, a gap is created based on the number of missing points. To fill those gaps, data needs to be reconstructed. Based on the responses received, significant discrepancies have been observed about whether the reconstruction process took place or not while conducting M&V. Without doing



any reconstruction or having any proper reconstruction processes in place, the accurate benefit cannot be realized since the missing data points are not accounted for.

3. Survey participants have utilized various methodologies, and discrepancies have been observed while utilizing different methodologies on the same dataset.
4. The majority of the participants believe that there should be an established procedure to conduct M&V in order to receive a correct BCR, maintain regulatory requirements, streamline the data treatment approaches, and select the CVRf calculation methodology.
5. Different utilities have various levels of oversight from the commission, including but not limited to, periodic updates on the CVR factor, penalty factor on the savings based on CVR schedule, whether, and how a loss factor should be utilized to estimate customer savings. These make the evaluation process inconsistent.

## 2.9 Feedback for Study Design

In the next section, the comprehensive analysis results based on the data received from four major U.S. utilities are provided. Further feedback from the survey was considered and utilized while the study was performed, listed below:

1. Different data scenarios will be created to see the impact of 24x7 CVR operation and on/off testing. The scenarios will be created based on randomly created anomalous data and disruption in the CVR schedule.
2. The study will experiment with the impacts of inaccurate CVR on/off status data in M&V analysis.
3. The study will experiment on how the reconstruction process makes any difference.
4. The study will explore the impact of load shift either permanently or temporarily based on the data availability. It will also analyze the change in customer behavior pattern if data is available.
5. The study will measure the methodologies' sensitivity if adequate data is not available due to not maintaining an active CVR schedule while running 24x7 CVR operations.
6. The study will also provide a literature review to understand the basis of CVR factor boundary.
7. The study will experiment the impact of data resolution in M&V analysis.

## Section 3 DATA ANALYSIS

### 3.1 Overview of the Data Received from the Utilities

This subsection provides an overview of the utility data that was utilized in this TF study. The TF requested the participant utilities to share the time-series power, voltage, and CVR status data for at least three feeders with the following characteristics:

- 2 years of raw data (power, voltage)
  - One-year pre-CVR
  - One year with CVR ON/OFF testing
- Data with the maximum available resolution
- List the source of data
  - AMI
  - SCADA
- Time-series CVR status data
- Pre-CVR peak load for the feeders
- Temperature Data / Location of the feeders (i.e., ZIP code)
- Nominal Operating Voltage

The data was requested for heavily residential feeders since the implementation of CVR is largely realized in these feeders due to their mostly resistive load characteristics. In addition, the TF requested to be provided with data from feeders with either insignificant or no DER penetration to limit the complexity that DER brings to the study. The framing of the initial study without DER was agreed upon during the WG and TF discussions. Table 3.1 describes the feeders and their associated data.

Different utilities provided SCADA data with various resolutions as they were available and ZIP codes to retrieve the temperature data based on the location. Temperature data were collected through an application programming interface (API) for the specific ZIP code. All the provided data reflect 24x7 CVR operation, except for feeder E1, as shown in Table 3.1 below. For privacy purposes, utilities and their associated feeder names are not listed.

*Table 3.5. Feeder and associated data characteristics*

Utility	Transformer	Bus	Feeder	Nominal kilovolts	Phase	Pre CVR-Peak Load	Operation Type	Resolution	Data Source
U1	230	6	A1	13.2	3	3.728	24x7	15m	SCADA
U1	230	6	A2	13.2	3	5.891	24x7	15m	SCADA
U1	230	6	A3	13.2	3	6.788	24x7	15m	SCADA
U1	33	3	B1	13.2	3	7.170	24x7	15m	SCADA
U1	33	3	B2	13.2	3	6.785	24x7	15m	SCADA
U1	33	3	B3	13.2	3	6.827	24x7	15m	SCADA
U1	33	3	B4	13.2	3	3.836	24x7	15m	SCADA
U2	1	1	C1	16	3	12.346	24x7	60m	SCADA
U2	1	1	C2	16	3	10.341	24x7	60m	SCADA
U2	1	1	C3	16	3	10.042	24x7	60m	SCADA

U3	1	1	D1	12.47	3	9.625	24x7	10m	SCADA
U3	2	2	D2	12.47	3	12.541	24x7	10m	SCADA
U3	3	3	D3	12.47	3	9.525	24x7	10m	SCADA
U4	51	51	E1	12.5	1	5.398	ON/OFF cycling	30m	SCADA

### 3.2 Data Cleaning Approaches

In general, the raw data includes a variety of anomalies. The following data anomaly matrices are captured and eliminated from the analysis:

- Negative values
- Non-numeric/Missing values
- Zero values
- Repetitive values
- Interpolated values
- Outlier values

While the detection of negative, non-numeric/missing, and zero values is straightforward, a process needs to be put in place for the outlier, repetitive, and interpolated values.

- Outlier detection:
  - A simple threshold-based rule is applied to detect the outliers
  - MW Outliers
    - Feeders w/o DER: eliminate data if above 110% of the peak or below 10% of the peak demand
      - The peak demand of a feeder is determined as the maximum summer MW value that was not a result of switching
- Voltage Outliers
  - Eliminate data above 1.10 p.u. or below 0.90 p.u. of the nominal voltage level. Nominal voltage was provided by the utilities.

Detection of repetitive values:

- If three subsequent values in a column are equal up to six decimal places, the first value is flagged as repetitive
  - Take the column of MW or voltage values under consideration
  - Compare the first-row value with the second-row value (up to six decimal places) and the second-row value with third-row value (up to six decimal places) and so on till the end of the datapoints available
  - If all three subsequent values match, flag the first value as repetitive
  - Repeat the first three steps for each column or a new set of data per feeder

Detection of interpolated values:

- If three subsequent values have the same slope (up to three decimal places), the first value is flagged as interpolated
  - Take the column of MW or voltage values under consideration
  - Calculate difference of second and first row as (second-row value) – (first-row value), and third and second row (third-row value) – (second-row value), and so on till the end of the data

points available; Assume,  $a = (\text{second-row value}) - (\text{first-row value})$ ,  $b = (\text{third-row value}) - (\text{second-row value})$ , and so on

- If  $a$  equals  $b$  (up to 3 decimal places), flag the first-row value. Similarly, if  $b$  equals  $c$ , flag second-row value and so on
- Repeat the first three steps for each column or a new set of data per feeder

### 3.3 Data Quality Statistics

#### 3.3.1 Feeder Level

This subsection presents the data quality statistics at the feeder level for the received utility data that fall within the studied data years of M&V. In Table 3.2, the percentage of power and voltage data that have data anomaly issues are listed in the last column. It shows that all the feeders have experienced data anomaly issues, especially issues with repetition and interpolations. It is worth pointing out that feeders attached to the same transformer can have different data quality statistics since their power data is specific to the individual feeders.

Table 3.6. Feeder and associated data quality statistics for certain studied years

Utility	Transformer	Bus	Feeder	Nominal kilovolts	Data Source	Studied Data Year	Data Quality of Power and Voltage (%)					
							Negative	Non-numeric/ Missing	Zero	Repetitive	Interpolated	Outlier
U1	230	6	A1	13.2	SCADA	[2014, 2015, 2016]	0.38	0.00	0.15	0.76	5.78	0.60
U1	230	6	A2	13.2	SCADA	[2014, 2015, 2016]	0.38	0.00	0.15	0.76	3.10	0.57
U1	230	6	A3	13.2	SCADA	[2014, 2015, 2016]	0.38	0.00	0.15	0.76	3.13	0.59
U1	33	3	B1	13.2	SCADA	[2017, 2018]	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.32	2.03	0.20
U1	33	3	B2	13.2	SCADA	[2017, 2018]	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.32	2.57	0.20
U1	33	3	B3	13.2	SCADA	[2017, 2018]	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.32	2.69	0.20
U1	33	3	B4	13.2	SCADA	[2017, 2018]	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.32	2.72	0.32
U2	1	1	C1	16	SCADA	[2015, 2017]	0.00	0.00	2.38	1.36	4.83	2.68
U2	1	1	C2	16	SCADA	[2015, 2017]	0.00	0.00	2.92	4.75	5.20	3.20
U2	1	1	C3	16	SCADA	[2015, 2017]	0.00	0.00	2.08	4.45	4.92	2.66
U3	1	1	D1	12.47	SCADA	[2013, 2014, 2015]	0.12	0.00	0.00	4.18	5.33	0.42
U3	2	2	D2	12.47	SCADA	[2013, 2014, 2015]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.78	2.17	0.17
U3	3	3	D3	12.47	SCADA	[2013, 2014, 2015]	0.12	0.00	0.00	2.76	3.88	0.12
U4	51	51	E1	12.5	SCADA	[2020]	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.00	1.22	0.06

### 3.3.2 Station Level

The data quality statistics at the station level for each studied data year are presented in the plots below from Fig. 3.1 to Fig. 3.5. Each station will have two plots to demonstrate the statistics of power and voltage data, separately. U1 has provided two substations, each consisting of three feeders. U2, U3, and U4 consist of three, three, and one feeder, respectively.

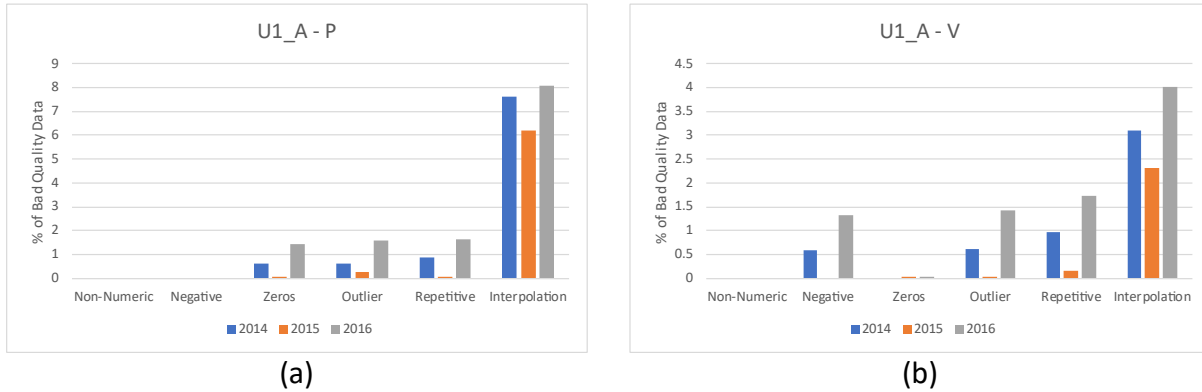


Fig. 3.7. Data quality statistics of feeders attached to the transformer 230 at U1 for the studied years of 2014, 2015, and 2016. (a) power (b) voltage

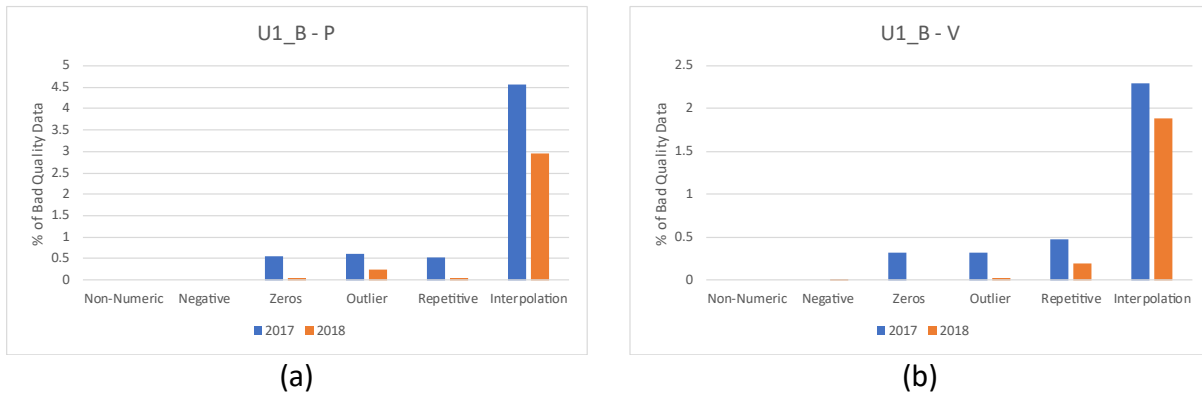


Fig. 3.8. Data quality statistics of feeders attached to the transformer 33 at U1 for the studied years of 2017 and 2018. (a) power (b) voltage

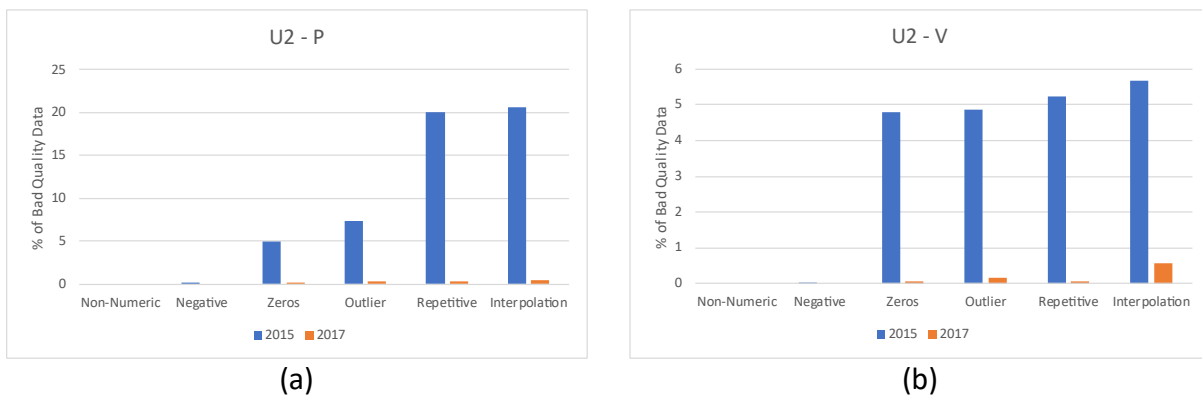


Fig. 3.9. Data quality statistics of U2 for the studied years of 2015 and 2017. (a) power (b) voltage

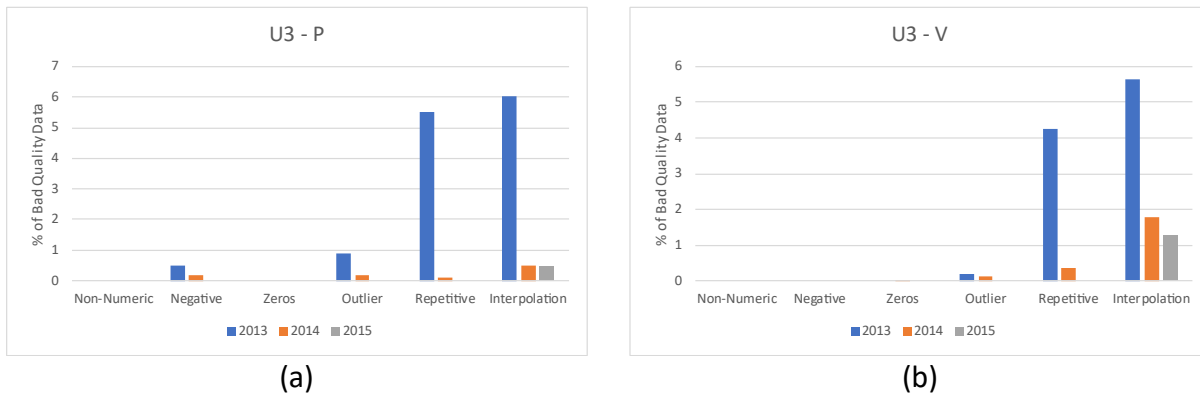


Fig. 3.10. Data quality statistics of U3 for the studied years 2013, 2014, and 2015. (a) power (b) voltage

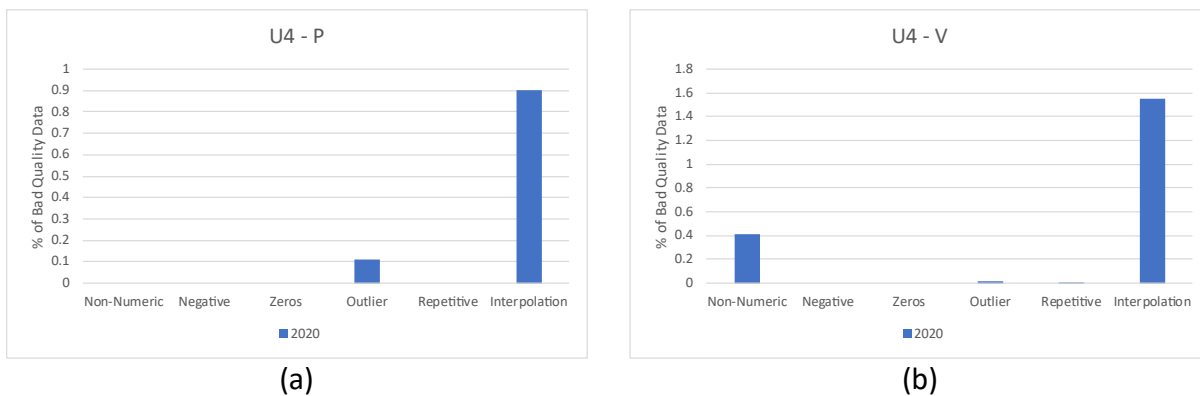


Fig. 3.11. Data quality statistics of U4 for the studied year 2020. (a) power (b) voltage

### 3.4 Sample Methodologies Utilized in the Study

In this study, the TF utilizes the comparison and regression-based methodologies discussed earlier in this report. These methodologies have been widely used by different utilities in pilot and program level studies [1], [2]. Moreover, these are the methodologies which have been mostly cited in the survey conducted by this TF as shown in Section 3. Some descriptions of these methodologies are provided below and the details of the methodologies utilized in this study are discussed thereafter. However, it should be noted that this exercise is not to study which methodology is superior to others. Instead, the purpose of the study is to show how the data scenarios can impact the analysis regardless of the methodologies.

There are two comparison-based M&V methodologies available: one is correlated-weather and the other is correlated-feeder. The correlated-weather method conducts CVR ON (treatment group) and OFF (control group) testing on a single feeder to collect the power and voltage measurements for comparison. To find out the CVR effects resulted from CVR operation (i.e., different voltage levels), the treatment and control group should share similar characteristics such as temperatures, time of a day, day of a week, etc.

The correlated-feeder method conducts CVR ON testing on one feeder (treatment group), and at the same time, compares its operation with another feeder (control group) where CVR is OFF. The feeders in the treatment and control group should be geographically adjacent to each other so that the temperatures are close. In addition, these feeders should have the same characteristics such as customer (RCI) mix, load behaviors, circuit miles, and feeder topologies.

Both comparison-based methods are straightforward to implement. Ideally, the correlated-weather method

requires the treatment and control group to have the same temperature data. However, the temperature difference always exists during different testing periods while the control group required by the correlated-feeder method may not always exist, and it is a challenge to find the most appropriate ones. Besides, the feeders need to restrain themselves from load shifting during the test periods in both methods.

Regression-based method models the load and/or voltage as a function of the different predictors or explanatory variables using a multivariable linear regression. These characteristics can include, but are not limited to, temperature, season, type of a day, hour of a day, and the CVR status. Based on the captured power and/or voltage measurements and predictors, the coefficients of the corresponding power and voltage functions can be determined. Next, the counterfactual power and voltage can be estimated based on these coefficients and contrary explanatory variables (i.e., CVR status). Then, using the difference in energy consumption and voltage level, CVR effects are revealed.

The multivariable linear regression has an advantage considering the physical meanings are embedded in the regression model itself, making the model and analysis results easier to interpret and understand. However, the regression model can have estimation errors due to inaccurate CVR effects estimation. In addition, the nonlinear effect of load consumption may not be captured precisely in linear regression.

In the simulation-based method, a feeder is run through time-series simulation with and without voltage reduction. Next, both sets of data are extracted and compared to retrieve the energy savings and voltage reduction. The keys to the simulation-based method are to model the loads in a certain way to ensure the load to voltage sensitivity and assign the specific time-series load factor.

In practice, it might be inefficient to build every component of a feeder in the model, and thus aggregated load modeling becomes attractive as an alternative approach. However, it is a challenge to develop an aggregated model with the time dependency factors to account for the dynamic load behaviors.

### 3.4.1 Temperature Correlated Comparison-based Methodology

The procedures to conduct a comparison-based approach for CVR factor/Savings analysis are listed step by step below:

1. The analysis is framed around available CVR ON data, specifically around CVR ON temperature mean. To avoid potential skewing of CVR ON/OFF data points, all data points (during CVR ON and CVR OFF conditions) outside +/-1 standard deviations of the CVR ON temperature mean were eliminated. Therefore, keeping 67% of CVR ON temperature range and a similar percentage of CVR ON and OFF data will balance the dataset. If the utilities are running 24x7 operations, the pre-CVR and post-CVR data are applied for about two years. Otherwise, if the utility is conducting on/off testing, a year's worth of data is sufficient as the entire year observes the cycling.
2. Segment the voltage and power data for each hour to calculate hourly mean voltage reduction percentage  $\Delta V\%$  and power reduction percentage  $\Delta P\%$ .  $\Delta V$  is calculated as (CVR OFF voltage - CVR ON voltage)/ CVR OFF voltage.  $\Delta V\% = \Delta V * 100$ .  $\Delta P\%$  and  $\Delta P$  are calculated similarly.
3. Calculate hourly CVR factors using hourly  $\Delta V\%$  and  $\Delta P\%$  values

$$CVRf_{i,hr} = \frac{\Delta P \%_{i,hr}}{\Delta V \%_{i,hr}} \quad (1)$$

4. Repeat steps two and three with 1000 iterations. This step will ensure an equal sample size of CVR ON and OFF hourly dataset since during the hourly data segmentation, the CVR OFF dataset may contain more datapoints than the CVR ON dataset and vice versa. The balance in sample size is processed randomly so that all datapoints can be part of the sample size. This process also helps to draw a

conclusion based on fundamentals of large trial size of central limit theorem. Final CVR factor and voltage reduction will be the mean of these iterations.

5. After the final CVR factor is calculated, the total savings are calculated as below:

$$E_{savings} = E_{baseline} \times \Delta V \times CVRf \quad (2)$$

### 3.4.2 Linear Regression-Based Methodology

The following two functions are defined to represent power and voltage:

$$MWh_{it} = \alpha_1 VO_{it} + \alpha_2 Hour_t + \alpha_3 Daytype_t + \alpha_4 Season_t + \alpha_5 CDH_t + \alpha_6 HDH_t \quad (3)$$

$$V_{it} = \beta_1 VO_{it} + \beta_2 Hour_t + \beta_3 Daytype_t + \beta_4 Season_t + \beta_5 CDH_t + \beta_6 HDH_t \quad (4)$$

where,  $VO$  represents the CVR status;  $Hour$ ,  $Daytype$ , and  $Season$  denote the associated indices of time of the day, type of the day (i.e., Weekday/Weekend), and season of the year (i.e., Summer, Spring, Fall, and Winter); and  $CDH$  and  $HDH$  correspond to the absolute value of degrees F above and below 65 degrees F, respectively;  $MW_{it}$  and  $V_{it}$  designate the feeder-specific power and voltage data;  $i$  and  $t$  represent the feeder and time index, respectively.

The CVR factor and savings can be calculated following the steps below:

1. Utilize (3) and (4) to estimate the coefficients
2. Using  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  along with the mean CVR OFF energy ( $MWh_{CVRoff}$ ) and voltage data ( $V_{CVRoff}$ ), voltage reduction ( $\Delta V\%$ ) and power reduction ( $\Delta P\%$ ) are calculated, respectively, using the following equations (5) and (6)

$$\Delta P \% = \frac{\alpha_1}{MWh_{CVRoff}} * 100 \quad (5)$$

$$\Delta V \% = \frac{\beta_1}{V_{CVRoff}} * 100 \quad (6)$$

3. Estimate the CVR factor using calculated  $\Delta V\%$  and  $\Delta P\%$  as below:

$$CVRf = \frac{\Delta P \%}{\Delta V \%} \quad (7)$$

Estimate the savings using the CVR factor and voltage reduction calculated above using equation (2). The procedure to calculate the energy baseline is listed in the next subsection.

### 3.4.3 Calculation of energy baselines consumption

In this study, energy baselines ( $E_{baseline}$ ) are calculated in two different ways. Below are the assumptions listed:



1. If the actual dataset is utilized without any reconstruction, only actual CVR OFF data are used to calculate the energy baseline for the duration of one year. If there are any missing CVR off data within the year, they will be filled with the average of the available CVR OFF data. For any CVR ON data, the counterfactual will be filled up using the same average value. Then, the data for the entire year will be summed up together to estimate the energy baseline of the year.
2. If the reconstructed dataset is utilized, there should not be any missing data present. However, there will still be existing CVR ON data. In order to calculate the baseline, CVR ON data are converted to CVR OFF using the following eq (8):

$$E_{baseline,t} = \frac{E_{CVRON,t}}{1 - (CVRf * \Delta V)} \quad (8)$$

where

$E_{baseline,t}$	Calculated CVR Off energy when CVR is ON (activated)
$E_{CVRON,t}$	Measured energy when CVR is ON
$\Delta V$	Average voltage reduction ratio
CVRf	CVR factor

### 3.5 Scenarios

Several different data scenarios were studied to investigate the impact of data anomalies and sensitivities of the solutions on M&V methodologies, and several different data scenarios were studied. These are categorized in Table 3.3 below.

Table 3.7. Data scenarios used in this study

Scenarios #	Operation Type	Scenario Descriptions	Data Type
Scenario 1	24x7	Original dataset	Clean
			Reconstructed
Scenario 2	ON/OFF cycling	Original dataset	Clean
			Reconstructed
Scenario 3	ON/OFF cycling	Modified dataset	Clean
			Reconstructed
Scenario 4	24x7	Modified dataset	Clean
			Reconstructed

Scenarios 1 and 2 are base scenarios for 24x7 and cycling datasets, respectively. Scenario 3 is the modified scenario of Scenario 2, and Scenario 4 is the modified scenario of scenario 1. Elaborately, a certain percentage of power and voltage data in Scenario 1 is randomly selected and treated as bad quality to create the dataset for scenario 4. Furthermore, based on the regular ON/OFF cycling data in Scenario 2, some randomly selected CVR ON status is manipulated to OFF to emulate the irregular cycling. The power and voltage data associated with the manipulated CVR status are treated as bad quality and the resulted dataset is utilized as Scenario 3.

For all the scenarios, cleaning will take place on the actual/manipulated datasets using the aforementioned approaches to eliminate the negative values, non-numeric/missing values, zeros, outliers, etc. The resulted dataset is called a cleaned dataset and the M&V analyses will be conducted based on it.

A second dataset is created by reconstructing the cleaned data. A reconstruction process is needed to recover the cleansed datapoints and make a complete dataset. This process uses a lookup table (shown in Table 3.4) and a priority chart (shown in Table 3.5). This reconstruction process is described in [5].

The lookup table is created based on the following information:

- Season (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter)
- Temperature (binned to the ceiling of nearest 5°F interval)
- Day type (Weekday, Weekend)
- Hour (hrs. are binned in 1-hr range)
- CVR Status (CVR ON and CVR OFF)

For the seasons motioned above, they are defined within the months as below:

- Spring (March through May)
- Summer (June through August)
- Fall (September through November)
- Winter (December through February)

An example lookup table is presented in Table 3.4 below,

*Table 3.8. An illustration of the lookup table*

Season	Temperature	Day Type	Hour	CVR status	Voltage (p.u)	Power (MW)
Summer	90	1	1	1	0.99	2.30
-----	-----	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	-----
Winter	30	2	24	0	1.04	1.93

In the lookup table, single flags are considered for each day type. For example, any day from Monday to Friday can be considered flag one, Saturday and Sunday can be considered flag two.

If multiple values with the same characteristics are identified, then the average of those values will be placed into the lookup table. For instance, if five MW data points are found within the same season, temperature band, day type, hour, and CVR status, the average of these five values are used in the lookup table.

Once the lookup table is created, the cleansed datapoints are reconstructed from the lookup table based on a priority sequence. Such priority sequences are defined in Table 3.5.

*Table 3.9. The priority chart for data reconstruction*

Priority	Components and Commonalities of Table
1	Season, Temperature, Day Type, Hour, CVR Status
2	Temperature, Day Type, Hour, CVR Status
3	Temperature +/-5°F, Day Type, Hour, CVR Status
4	Season, Day Type, Hour, CVR Status
5	Temperature, Day Type, CVR Status
6	Season, Day Type, CVR Status
7	Temperature, CVR Status
8	Season, CVR Status
9	CVR Status, Day Type, Hour
10	CVR Status, Day Type
11	CVR Status

The data reconstruction process works based on the common factors of the missing data and lookup table as below:

- Missing data (either MW or V) will be obtained from the lookup table for the same season, temperature, day type, hour, and CVR status (Priority 1).
- If seasonal data is not located, then lookup for the same temperature, day type, hour and CVR status (Priority 2).
- If data is not found in the previous step, search within temperature +/- 5°F for the same day type, hour, and CVR status (Priority 3).
- The priority sequence continues in order as stated in the following table until the data is retrieved.

In this study, the reconstructed data will also be used to observe any variation in the evaluation results.

To illustrate the studied data scenarios, feeder A1 is being utilized as an example for Scenarios 1 and 4, and feeder E1 for Scenarios 3 and 4 as they correspond to 24x7 and on/off testing (cycling), respectively. Figs. 3.6 to 3.9 represent the power, voltage, and CVR status data in Scenarios 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively. The other feeders in Table 4.2 follow the same manipulation/cleaning/reconstruction process to A1 or E1, depending on their CVR operation types. In these figures, both cleaned and reconstructed data are plotted for the demonstration of different data scenarios. Specifically, the reconstructed power/voltage data are plotted against the cleaned data for better visual comparison.

In the results subsection, examples illustrate how these scenarios are utilized per utility, based on their operation type.

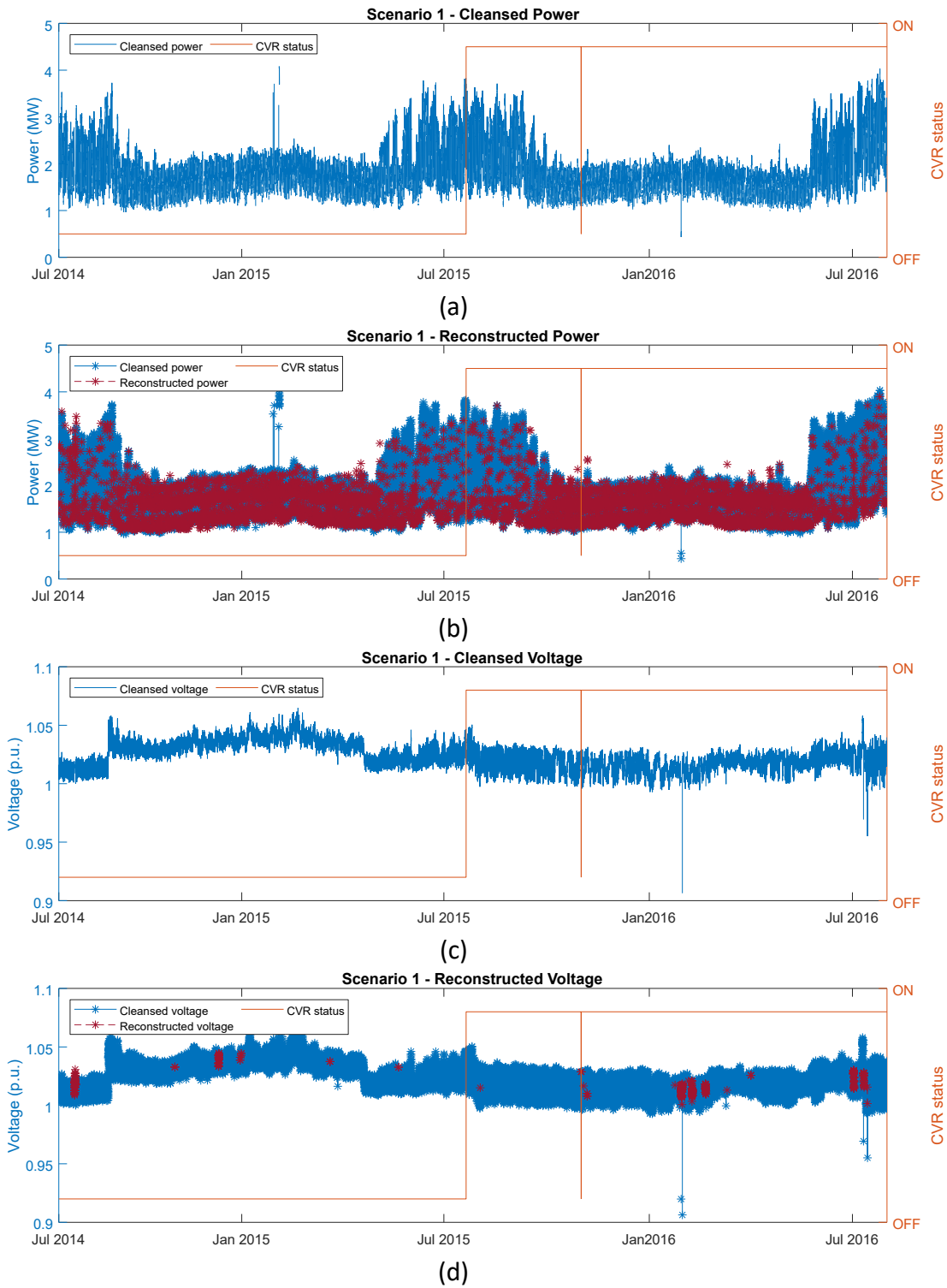


Fig. 3.12. An example of clean and reconstructed power and voltage data against CVR status for feeder A1 in scenario 1 – 24x7 CVR operation, original dataset

(a) cleansed power against CVR status (b) reconstructed power against CVR status

(c) cleansed voltage against CVR status (d) reconstructed voltage against CVR status

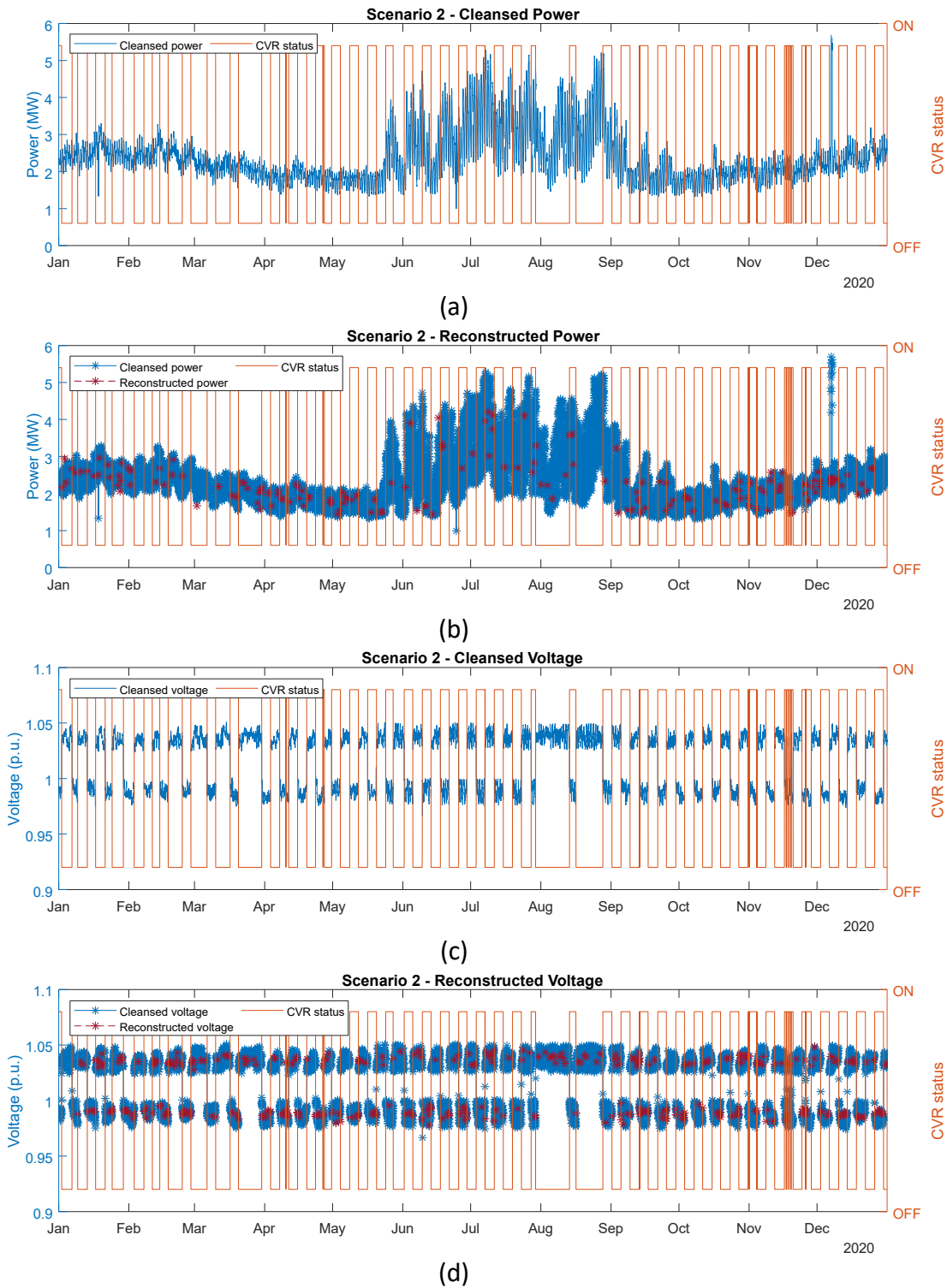


Fig. 3.13. An example of clean and reconstructed power and voltage data against CVR status for feeder E1 in scenario 2 – CVR ON/OFF cycling, original dataset

(a) cleansed power against CVR status (b) reconstructed power against CVR status

(c) cleansed voltage against CVR status (d) reconstructed voltage against CVR status

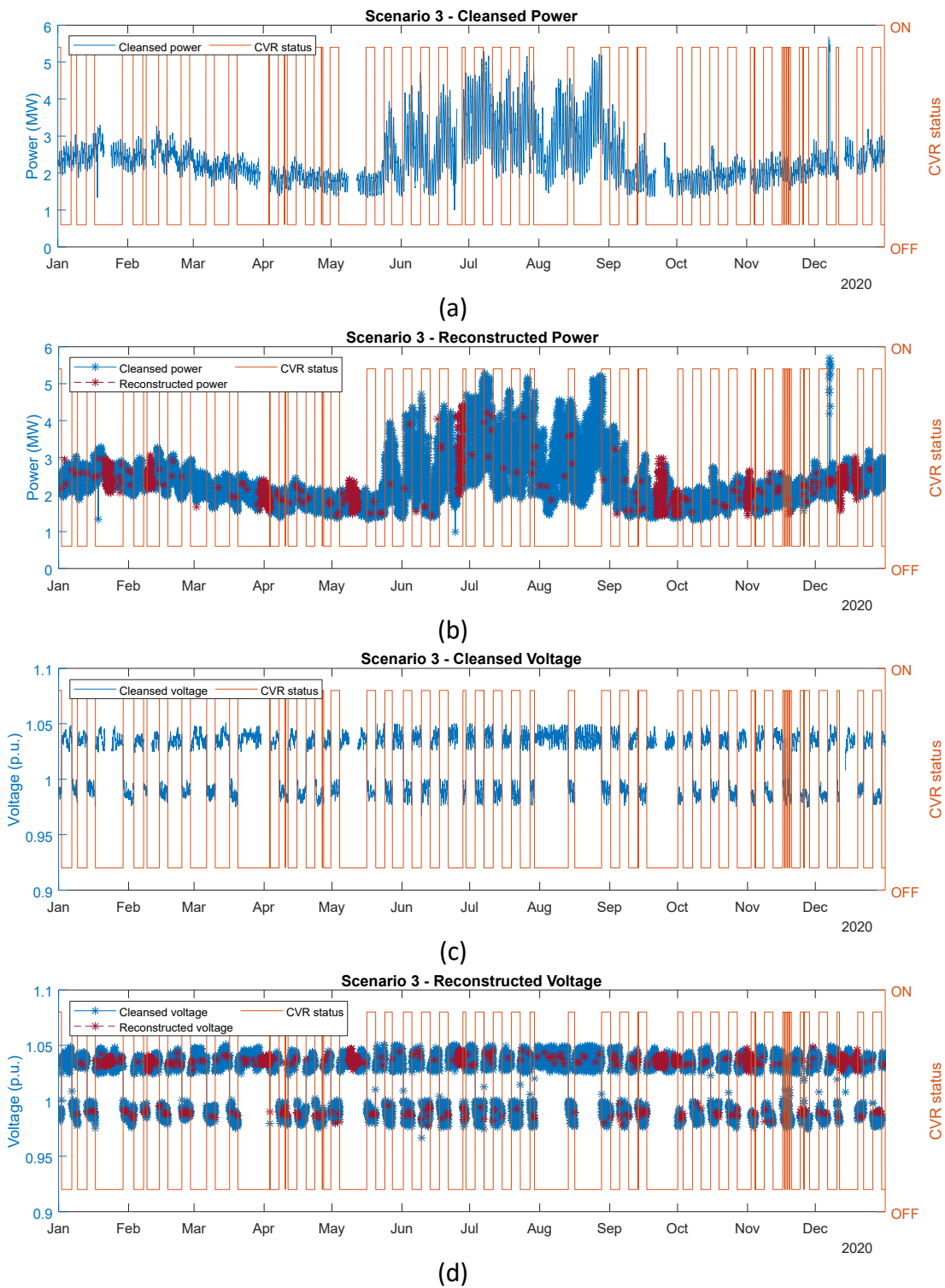


Fig. 3.14. An example of clean and reconstructed power and voltage data against CVR status for feeder E1 in scenario 3 – CVR ON/OFF cycling, modified dataset

(a) cleansed power against CVR status (b) reconstructed power against CVR status

(c) cleansed voltage against CVR status (d) reconstructed voltage against CVR status

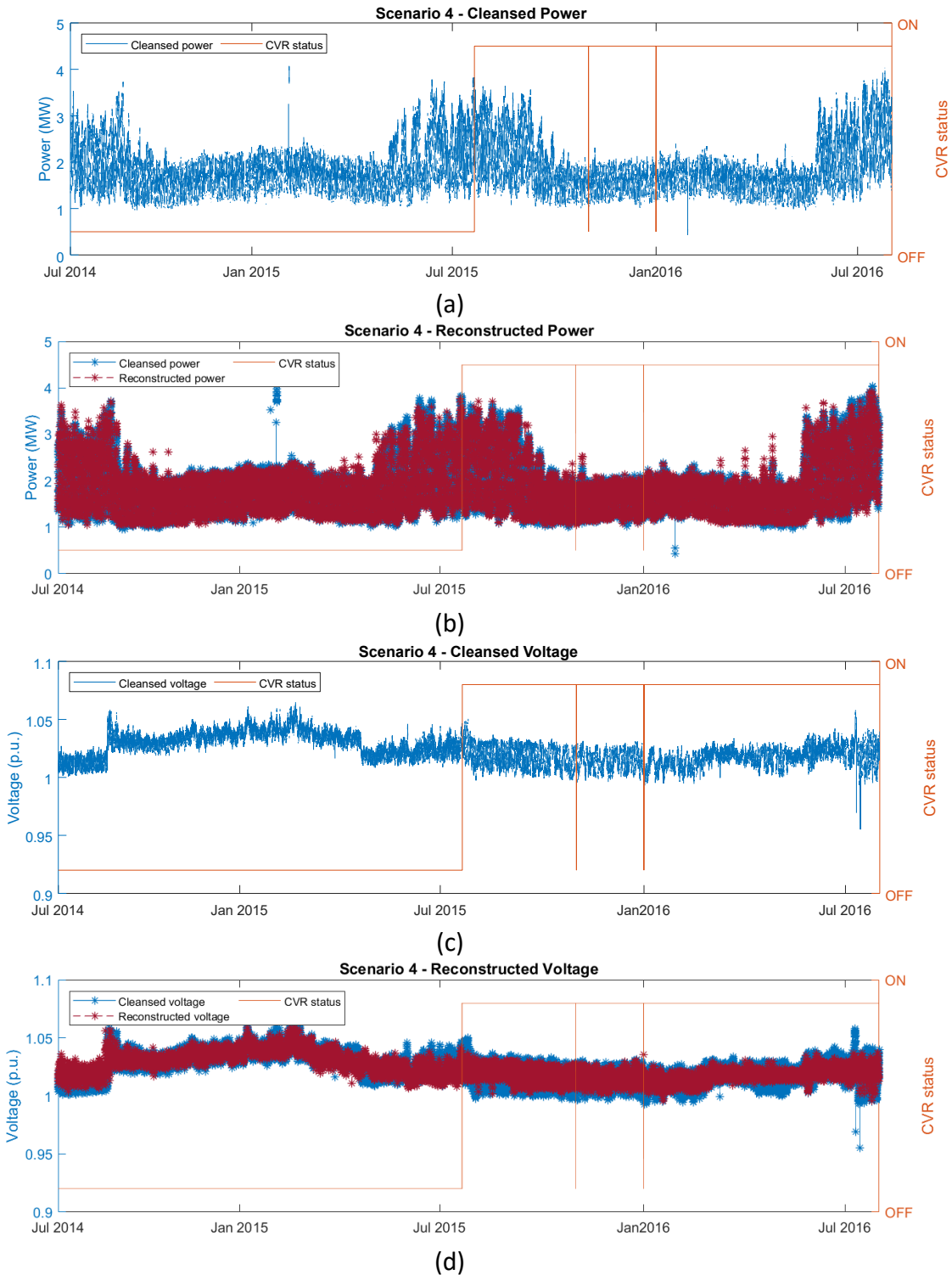


Fig. 3.15. An example of clean and reconstructed power and voltage data against CVR status for feeder A1 in scenario 4 – 24x7 CVR operation, modified dataset

- (a) cleansed power against CVR status
- (b) reconstructed power against CVR status
- (c) cleansed voltage against CVR status
- (d) reconstructed voltage against CVR status

### 3.6 Results

In this section, specific results and associated data anomalies are discussed with the example feeders from each utility. The results of the study are presented in multiple findings for further illustration.

#### 3.6.1 Finding 1: Difference in Evaluation with Different Scenarios

In this finding, we will discuss how the evaluation results vary with different data scenarios. As presented earlier, four different scenarios are prepared to study the changes in evaluation results. Scenarios 1 and 2 are the base scenarios where no manipulation is conducted, and the data is used as it is after the proper cleaning. Scenarios 3 and 4 resemble the irregular cycling and additional bad data quality scenarios, respectively.

Table 3.6 presents three feeders in stations U1, U2, and U3 to demonstrate the differences between the base (Scenario 1) and manipulated bad data scenario (Scenario 4). Scenarios 1 and 4 are applied to U1, U2, and U3 as the data resembles 24x7 CVR operations.

Table 3.10. Data scenarios with different data quality

Utility	Feeder	CVR ON/OFF data ratio	Percentage of bad power data	Percentage of bad voltage data	Scenario
U1	A1	1.03	14.41	0.73	1
U1	A1	1.03	31.41	25.49	4
U2	C1	0.72	10.18	2.80	1
U2	C1	0.72	30.14	27.07	4
U3	D3	0.90	4.47	0.35	1
U3	D3	0.90	27.02	25.09	4

It appears from Table 3.6 that Scenarios 1 and 4 are well defined to have visible changes on % of bad quality in both voltage (%vbad) and power(%pbad). After eliminating these anomalous data points, all these cleaned datasets are reconstructed. The reconstructed data following the algorithm discussed previously in the **Scenarios** subsection will not have any bad quality data compared to the cleaned data.

Tables 3.7 and 3.8 present the evaluation results for the cleaned and reconstructed datasets, respectively for U1, U2, and U3 using their 24x7 operation data.

Table 3.11. CVR factor evaluation for cleaned data (24x7 operation)

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	Scenario	Methodology
U1	A1	0.85	16926.843	169.304	1.18	1	Regression
U1	A1	0.77	16758.661	153.242	1.18	4	Regression
U1	A1	1.85	16926.843	337.36	1.08	1	Comparison
U1	A1	1.66	16758.661	301.72	1.08	4	Comparison
U2	C1	2.82	37448.340	993.383	0.94	1	Regression
U2	C1	3.07	37455.885	1081.183	0.94	4	Regression
U2	C1	3.72	37448.340	1406.21	1.01	1	Comparison
U2	C1	3.17	37455.885	1193.63	1.00	4	Comparison



U3	D3	1.45	37874.49	1269.33	2.30	1	Regression
U3	D3	2.02	37810.11	1752.22	2.29	4	Regression
U3	D3	1.06	37874.49	1000.826	2.48	1	Comparison
U3	D3	1.28	37810.11	1204.424	2.47	4	Comparison

Table 3.12. CVR factor evaluation for reconstructed data (24x7 operation)

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	Scenario	Methodology
U1	A1	0.91	16469.630	177.699	1.18	1	Regression
U1	A1	0.82	16449.136	160.213	1.19	4	Regression
U1	A1	1.94	16545.36	345.13	1.07	1	Comparison
U1	A1	1.68	16512.39	300.14	1.08	4	Comparison
U2	C1	2.75	41287.348	1061.294	0.93	1	Regression
U2	C1	3.08	41253.539	1052.246	0.83	4	Regression
U2	C1	2.92	41404.93	1199.09	1.00	1	Comparison
U2	C1	3.42	41423.38	1249.62	0.88	4	Comparison
U3	D3	1.43	38735.73	1271.60	2.30	1	Regression
U3	D3	2.13	38681.16	1885.05	2.29	4	Regression
U3	D3	0.79	38322.75	757.75	2.48	1	Comparison
U3	D3	1.16	38049.30	1101.46	2.48	4	Comparison

In both tables, baselines are quite close within the cleaned and reconstructed datasets, separately. However, the baselines may have some differences between clean and reconstructed analysis. For instance, feeder C1 has baselines of 37448.34 MWh and 41287.348MWh using cleaned and reconstructed dataset, respectively in the regression based approach for scenario 1. This is due to their own different assumptions of filling up the data using average CVR OFF power data or calculating the counterfactuals (CVR OFF power when CVR is ON) using measured CVR ON power data, estimated CVR factor, and voltage reduction as mentioned in the **calculation of energy baselines consumption** subsection. In addition, the savings vary along with the CVR factors as the dataset changes, which demonstrates that the data quality impacts the analysis regardless of the methodologies.

Then, similar to 24x7 operational data, cycling data are studied. Only utility U4 has provided cycling data which goes through 4 days of ON/OFF testing. Therefore, Scenarios 2 (regular cycling) and 3 (irregular cycling) apply only to this utility's dataset. Below is the summary of the scenarios in Table 3.9 for this utility.

Table 3.13. Data scenarios with different data quality

Utility	Feeder	CVR ON/OFF data ratio	%pbad	%vbad	Scenario
U4	E1	0.76	1.01	1.98	2
U4	E1	0.56	8.24	9.10	3

In the base dataset (Scenario 2), utility had 1.01% and 1.98% of anomalous power and voltage data, respectively with 76% of time as the ratio of CVR ON and OFF data during the 4 days ON/OFF cycling. The data is manipulated to create irregular cycling (Scenario 3) pattern, which has made this down to 56% and corresponding CVR ON data are eliminated. Tables 3.10 and 3.11 show the differences in evaluation results for the four scenarios using cleaned and reconstructed data, respectively.

Table 3.14. CVR factor evaluation for cleaned data (cycling dataset)

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	Scenario	Methodology
U4	E1	0.723	21098.41	710.69	4.65	2	Regression
U4	E1	0.293	21098.41	291.72	4.71	2	Comparison
U4	E1	0.625	21098.41	615.01	4.65	3	Regression
U4	E1	0.05	21098.41	49.19	4.71	3	Comparison

Table 3.15. CVR factor evaluation for reconstructed data (cycling dataset)

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	Scenario	Methodology
U4	E1	0.723	21034.17	708.619	4.656	2	Regression
U4	E1	0.300	20855.22	294.891	4.709	2	Comparison
U4	E1	0.609	21021.66	596.686	4.654	3	Regression
U4	E1	0.060	20826.76	56.80	4.697	3	Comparison

Based on the results in Table 3.10 and Table 3.11, the same conclusion can be derived as previously observed for 24x7 datasets. The CVR factor and savings vary as the cycling pattern becomes irregular and the CVR ON/OFF data ratio changes. These variations are observed across different methodologies and within the same methodology using different scenarios.

### 3.6.2 Finding 2: Overlapping of Voltage Data in Different CVR Modes

In both U1 and U2 original datasets, voltage data is found highly overlapped, which may jeopardize the analysis of CVR factor/savings evaluation and the data reconstruction process as well. Fig. 3.10. (a) and (b) show the histogram of CVR ON and OFF for U1 and U2. The figures also depict that a large number of data points (highlighted in the green circle) reside within CVR OFF and ON region, simultaneously. CVR generally does not operate as OFF and ON with the same voltage level.

When CVR is OFF, it maintains a constant voltage level with a defined bandwidth. For example, suppose CVR OFF operating voltage is 124V; in that case, it can reside within  $\pm 1.5V$  of 124 V. However, to operate effectively when CVR is ON, it needs to go below the bandwidth of the CVR OFF operating voltage, or at least remain close to that. Fig. 3.10. (a) and (b) below portray the actual voltage data overlapping scenarios to a large extent for U1 and U2. At this point, it should be noted that overlapping of voltage may occur due to I) inaccurate CVR status detection and/or II) while the CVR is not running, the transformer is left in manual mode operating at lower operating voltage. Fig. 3.10 refers to such cases as some CVR OFF voltage data points are very low and vice versa.

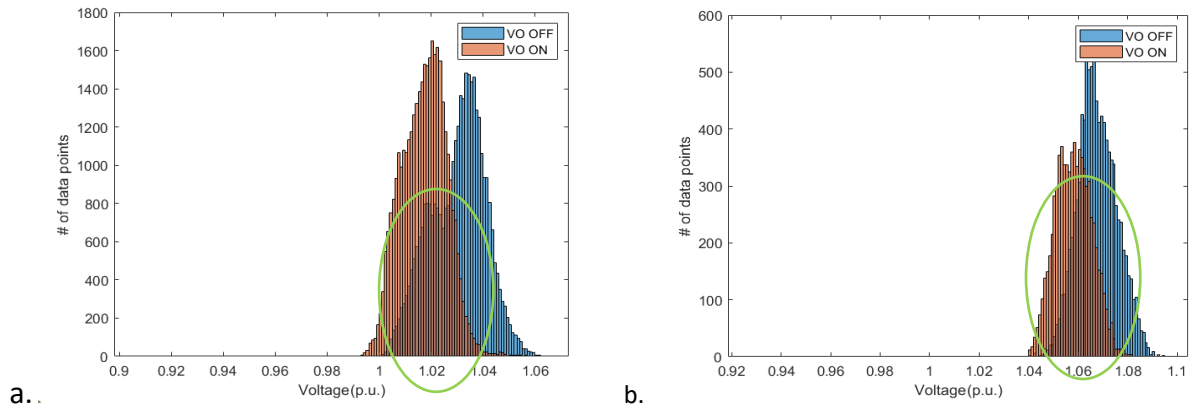


Fig. 3.16. Voltage histogram with overlaps; a. U1; b. U2.

In such cases, there is no provision on how to clean the data accurately. For the purpose of the study, intuitive guesses were made to set up a threshold for CVR ON and OFF for both U1 and U2, respectively, 1.02 and 1.06 p.u. to experiment with the impact and sensitivity. CVR ON and OFF data will be considered if the voltage is below and above these thresholds, respectively. Based on this additional cleaning, the histograms are shown in Fig. 3.11:

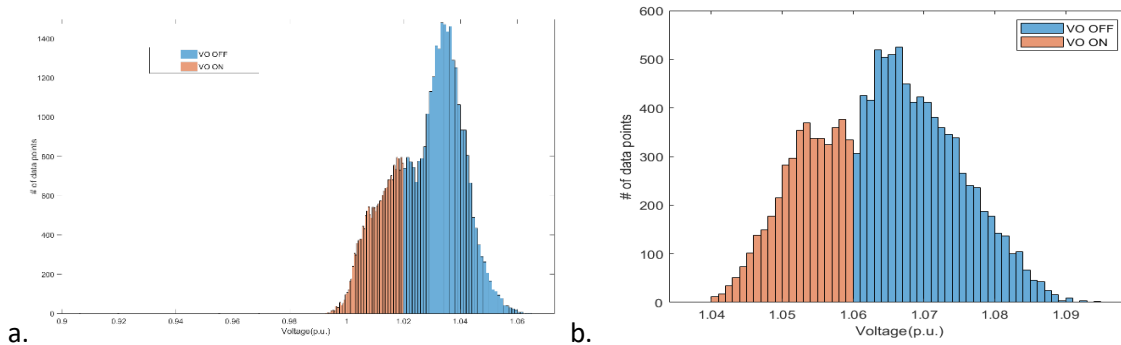


Fig. 3.17. Voltage histogram after cleaning overlap; a. U1; b. U2.

Table 3.12 below shows the differences with and without the overlap cleaning explained above using just the regression analysis:

Table 3.16. CVR factor differences with the cleaning of overlapped voltage.

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	MW RMSE	V RMSE	Overlap	MW aR2	V aR2
U1	A1	0.85	16926.84	169.30	1.18	0.1744	0.0091	Yes	0.899	0.391
U2	C1	2.82	37448.34	993.38	0.94	0.6750	0.0065	Yes	0.82	0.48
U1	A1	1.50	16926.84	536.80	2.12	0.1691	0.0061	No	0.901	0.781
U2	C1	2.76	37448.34	1490.54	1.44	0.6644	0.0051	No	0.80	0.73

Based on the comparison in Table 3.12, it appears I) adjusted R2(aR2) for voltage increases significantly, which shows that the explanatory variables can explain the prediction better after cleaning the overlap; II) root mean square error (RMSE) for both power and voltage decreases slightly which reflects the increment in model accuracy with this adjustment; III) Voltage reduction increases as expected, which drives the savings higher.

A noteworthy point for this exercise is that this additional cleaning can cause a large amount of voltage and corresponding power data loss based on the intuitive threshold which may not generate the adequate CVR ON/OFF data ratio as shown in Fig. 3.11 (a) and (b). In addition, removing those data points can create an

imbalance in the analysis for any particular methodology or model depending on its sensitivity as the other confounding factors (i.e., temperature, CDH, HDH, time of the day) are also being eliminated from the analysis for the same indices.

### 3.6.3 Finding 3: Impact of Load Shift

The TF also analyzed some abnormal CVR factors due to a highly visible load shift. Load shift in this study refers to load change over time that is caused by factors other than CVR operation. This was found in U1 feeder A3. The analysis using the actual data for the base scenario is listed in Table 3.13.

Table 3.17. Demonstration of load shift impact on analyses results

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	Methodology
U1	A3	-17.972	32018.290	-6808.615	1.18	Regression
U1	A3	-37.256	32018.290	-13632.70	1.14	Comparison

These two unreasonable CVR factors can be explained due to a load shift shown in Fig. 3.12. CVR deployment started later in the year 2015, as indicated by the status. However, comparing the post CVR power data with the pre CVR period, it appears the load has been shifted significantly up during the CVR ON period. This could be due to feeder reconfiguration or natural load increase. Therefore, although the voltage reduction is observed, power reduction is not observed or may not be rightfully comparable with the pre CVR data, resulting in a very low CVR factor.

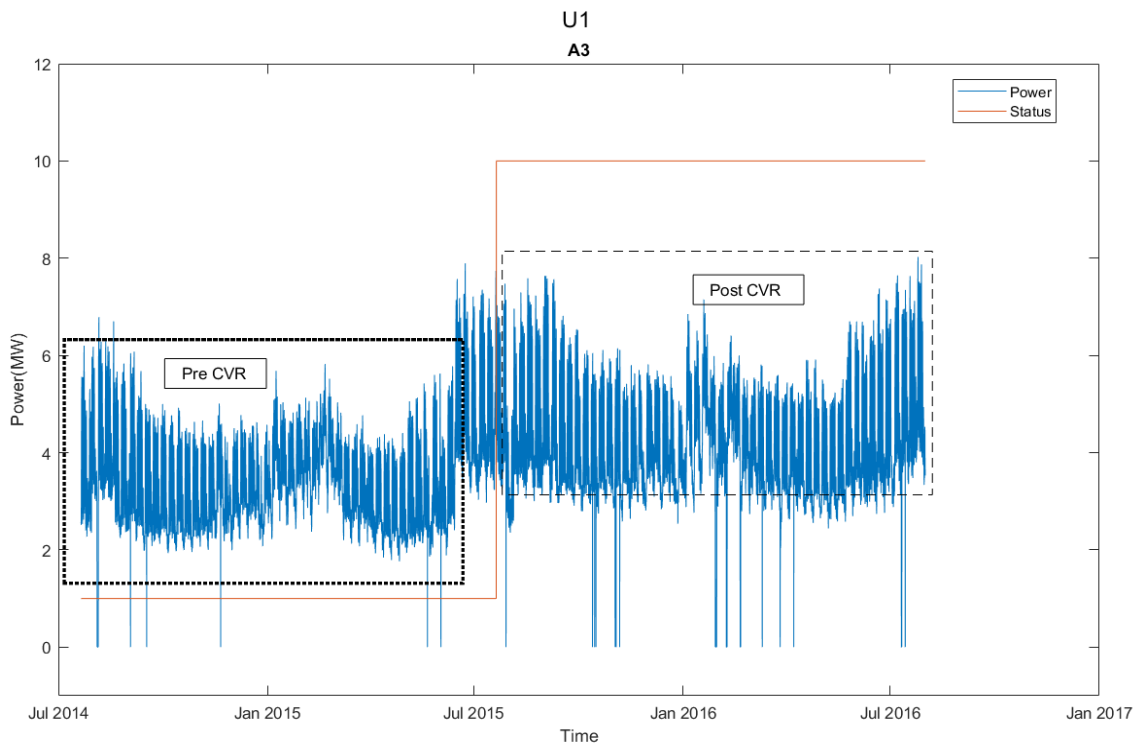


Fig. 3.18. Power consumption with load shift.

### 3.6.4 Finding 4: Basis of Relatively High CVR Factor

In Tables 3.7 and 3.8, some of the CVR factors were relatively higher (i.e., greater than two). The TF investigated the feeder C1 for utility U2 and found that the mean power consumption difference was higher whereas the mean voltage was not reduced for the same temperature bin (ceiled temperature to the nearest 5-degree F). Fig.

3.13 (a) and (b) demonstrate the difference in consumption and voltage reduction.

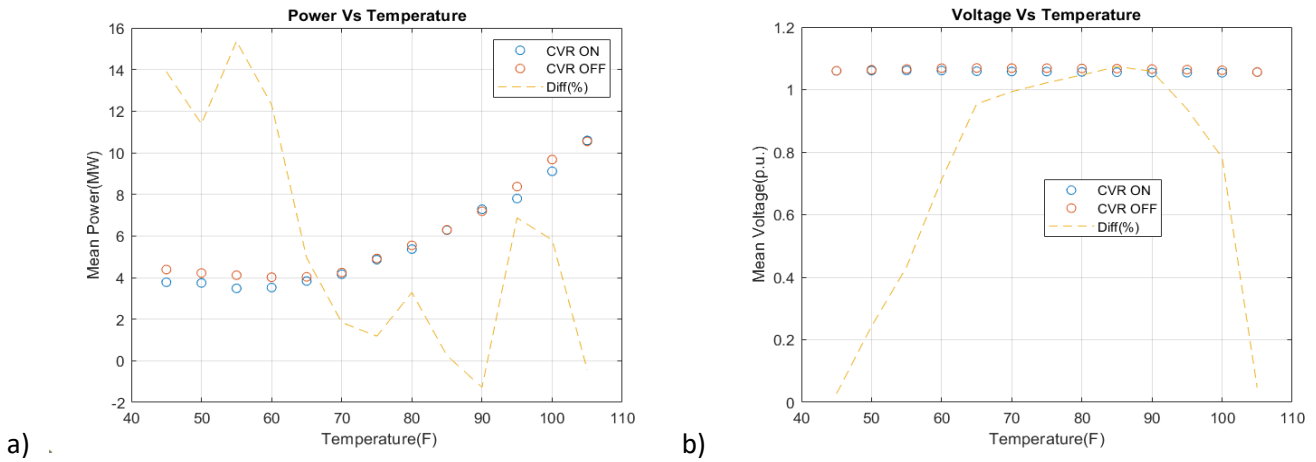
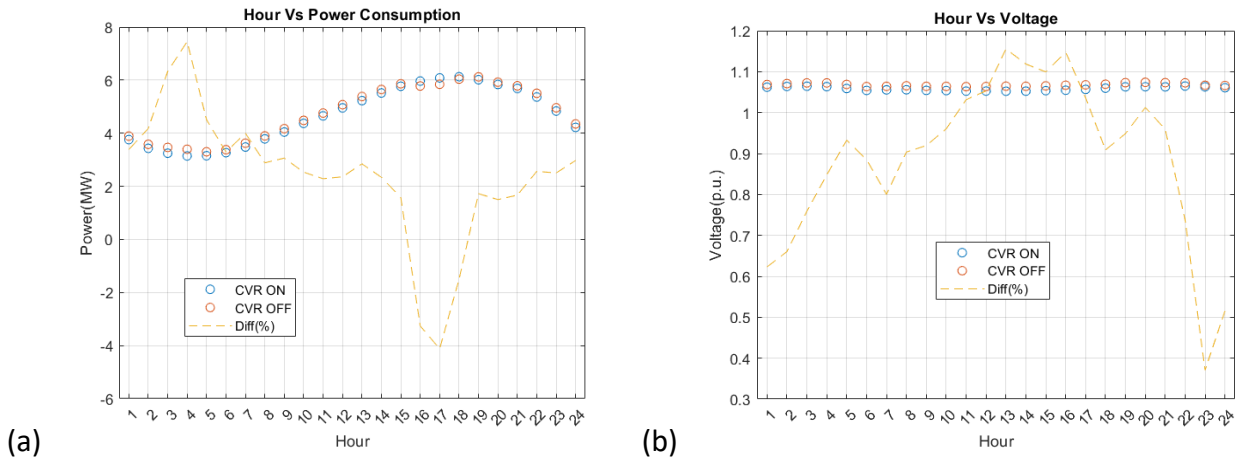
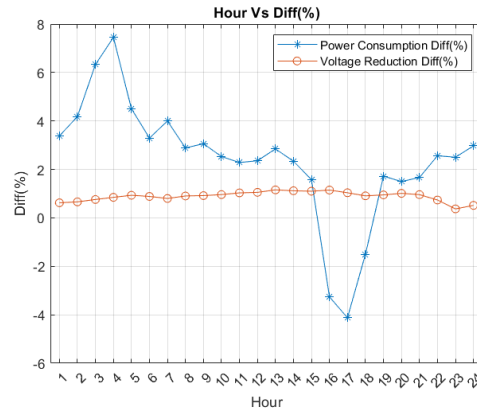


Fig. 3.19. Comparison between Temperature Vs a) mean power; b) mean voltage.

The voltage difference may have been impacted by voltage overlap or incorrect CVR status detection as discussed in finding two. Furthermore, both power and voltage are coupled with CVR status data. Therefore, power consumption may have been impacted as well due to incorrect CVR status detection. In the temperature level variation, the high variation in power consumption is observed compared to voltage variation. Specifically, the power consumption difference during the low-temperature period was much higher than a relatively higher temperature. For example, at 45 degrees F, the difference in mean power consumption between CVR OFF and ON is approximately 14% which directs that there was higher variability in power usage from the customer side or some temporary load transfer during the low temperature (winter) period. At this temperature, the difference between mean CVR ON and OFF voltage is 0.02%, which can lead to extremely large CVR factors for particular periods. The same data is visualized in the time domain as well as portrayed in Fig. 3.14. (a), (b), and (c).





(c)

Fig. 3.20. (a) CVR OFF and ON Power Consumption; (b) CVR OFF and ON Operating Voltage; (c) Hourly difference in Power and Voltage reduction.

Similar to temperature level variation, time segmentation has also shown higher variability.

On the utilized methodologies, there were no imposed constraints on the level of power and voltage reduction to minimize discrepancies. This is due to not having any defined boundary on power reduction or CVR factor.

On the other hand, different CVR factors have been reported/claimed in the different studies/pilots/programs conducted by the utilities where some CVR factors were relatively higher [3]. Table 3.14 demonstrates a summary of claimed CVR factors by different utilities:

Table 3.18. Summary of studied cases

Utility/Project	Type	Year	CVR Factor Assessment Method	CVR Factor
AEP [6]-[11]	Program	2014/2016/2019	Regression-based	*
Central Lincoln People's Utility District [12]	Pilot	2013-2014	Comparison-based	0.43 (summer); 1.05 (winter)
EKPC [13]	Test case	2019	Regression-based	*
AIC [14]-[15]	Pilot/Program	2012-2013/2017-2018/2018-2025	Regression-based	0.148-1.48
ComEd [16]-[18]	Program	2018-2025	Regression-based/Constant CVR factor	0.8
IPC [19]-[21]	Program	2009-2016	Constant CVR factor/ Comparison-based	0.41-5.75 (residential); 0.19-2.89 (commercial)
PEPCO [22]-[23]	Pilot	2012-2014/2018	Regression-based	*
West Penn Power Company [22], [24]	Study	2012-2014	Regression-based	0.86
IPL [22], [25]	Program	2012-2013	Comparison-based	0.85 (2012); 0.75 (2013)
PECO [26]-[28]	Program	2009-2012/2013-2016	Regression-based	1.08
PGE [20], [29]	Pilot/Plan for program	2014/2018	Comparison-based	*
SMUD [30]-[31]	Test/Plan for program	2010-2014/2017	Comparison-based	*
Duke Energy Ohio [32]-[34]	Pilot	2008-2016	Constant CVR factor	0.50-0.79
Xcel Energy [35]-[37]	Pilot/Plan for program	2011-2012/2015-2020/2019	Simulation-based method/Statistical analysis	1.7 (2011); 2.7 (2012); 0.8(2019); 0.78 (2020); 0.77(2021)
Avista Utilities [38]-[39]	Program/Plan for program	2013-2014/2019	Regression-based/Simulation-based	0.833-0.881
PG&E [40]-[41]	Pilot/Plan for program	2013-2016	Regression-based	0.6-0.8
SCE [42]	Demonstration Project/Plan for program	2012-2015/2019	Regression-based	1.56
GWP [43]-[44]	Pilot/Program	2014-2015/2015-2018	Comparison-based	*
PSE [45]	Program	2015-2016	Regression-based	0.475
Dominion Energy [46]	Program	2009-2011	Comparison-based	0.92
I&M [47]-[49]	Program	2014-2015/2019	Regression-based	-1.13-11.38 (2014-2015); -0.43-4.48 (2018)
PSE&G [50]	Plan for pilot	2018-2025	Regression-based	*
KCP&L [51]-[52]	Demonstration Project	2015	Comparison-based	0.14-2.073 (overall 0.889)
Choptank Electric Cooperative [53]	Program	2018	Comparison-based	*

<b>NRECA [54]</b>	Test	2012-2014	Comparison-based	1.04-1.05
<b>NEEA [19]</b>	Pilot	2006-2007	Comparison-based	0.17-1.12

\* No CVR factor was found

Furthermore, in a recent large-scale evaluation on ComEd and Ameren systems, 246 feeders were studied to estimate the CVR factors [49]. In this report, the range of CVR factors was observed between -2 to 9, with most feeders lying between -1 to 3. Finally, a system-wide load weighted average CVR factor was reported to be utilized throughout the systems. However, to the best of this TF's knowledge, there is no report which has shown the boundary of definite CVR factors at feeder or system level with valid assumption.

### 3.6.5 Finding 5: Interruption in CVR Schedule

In U3 feeder D1, the CVR schedule has been mainly disrupted. This is highlighted in Fig. 3.15 (a). It contains 24% of CVR ON data compared to the CVR OFF data utilized in the analysis. The study also checked the voltage overlap for this feeder. However, the overlap was very minimal as opposed to the example feeders shown in finding two. Fig. 3.15(b) shows the histogram of CVR OFF and ON voltage to demonstrate the minimal overlap. Therefore, it is shown that the voltage data were isolated by default and CVR OFF and ON status was calculated quite accurately. However, the CVR OFF and ON data ratio was not adequate to account for the confounding factors throughout the year.

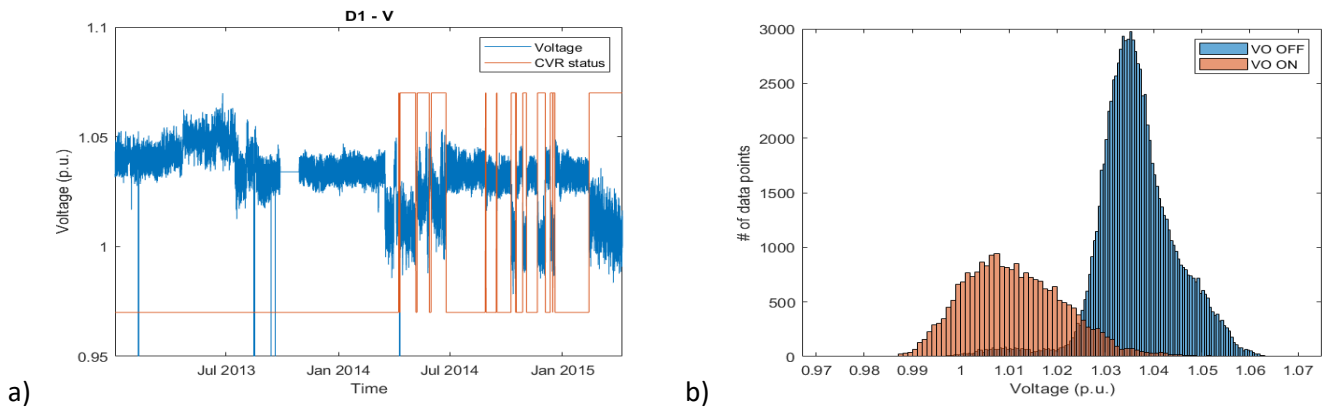


Fig. 3.21. a) Voltage and status for feeder D1; b) Histogram to check voltage overlap.

Since the characteristics of different methodologies are different, this interrupted CVR pattern can be sensitive to different methodologies and create divergent solutions due to the lack of adequate data. It is difficult to justify which methodology will provide better accuracy based on the sensitivity to the particular data situation due to inadequate data. Table 3.15 shows the CVR factor evaluation results for feeder D1. The original dataset is utilized to obtain these results.

Table 3.19. CVR factor evaluation with interrupted CVR schedule.

Utility	Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	Methodology
U3	D1	1.36	40195.31	1360.21	2.49	Regression
U3	D1	3.94	40195.31	4196.60	2.65	Comparison

Furthermore, the power and voltage adjusted  $R^2$  from the regression model are 0.64 and 0.62, respectively which is relatively low and indicates that predictors cannot explain the model precisely. On the other hand, the comparison-based approach does not have right values to compare and therefore resulted in relatively higher CVR factor.

### 3.6.6 Finding 6: Impact of Data Resolution in M&V

In the survey feedback, the majority of the participants mentioned that data resolution has no impact on M&V analysis. The study investigated this using the feeders from U3 since they provided the highest granular data with ten minutes resolution. The resampling was done for 30 minutes and 60 minutes resolution to observe any change. Table 3.16 shows the analysis results using the regression methodology.

Table 3.20. CVR factor evaluation with different data resolutions

Feeder	CVR Factor	Ebaseline (MWh)	Esavings (MWh)	Estimated Voltage Reduction (Percent)	VO ON/OFF ratio	MW aR2	V aR2	Resolution
D1	1.358	40195.312	1360.212	2.491	0.242	0.645	0.623	10m
D2	1.168	45573.646	1156.309	2.172	0.802	0.742	0.829	10m
D3	1.456	37874.491	1269.333	2.302	0.906	0.670	0.802	10m
D1	1.360	40180.766	1361.331	2.491	0.243	0.653	0.623	30m
D2	1.200	45665.069	1188.968	2.170	0.804	0.750	0.830	30m
D3	1.383	38378.951	1219.246	2.298	0.913	0.678	0.801	30m
D1	1.342	40160.490	1342.409	2.491	0.243	0.666	0.622	60m
D2	1.207	45616.307	1193.058	2.166	0.804	0.766	0.829	60m
D3	1.386	38346.525	1223.998	2.303	0.913	0.692	0.803	60m

Based on Table 3.16, a very high deviation was not observed using different data resolutions for the feeders in U3. Feeders D2 and D3 had some deviations in 30- and 60-minute resolution compared to ten minutes. This may have happened due to some data loss because of resampling. It should be noted that there are always chances to eliminate good data and retain anomalous data while resampling which may cause deviation in results if any feeder contains a large amount of anomalous data at different times.

### 3.7 Summary

In this section, we evaluated and verified the feedback we received from the survey. We analyzed the utility-provided datasets to evaluate the feedback. To summarize, observations are listed below:

1. Quality of datasets (i.e., anomalous voltage and/or power data, interruption in CVR operation, irregular cycling) impacts the analysis on CVR benefits evaluation (i.e., CVR factor, savings) regardless of the applied methodology.
2. Differences are observed in evaluation results using both cleaned and reconstructed datasets.
3. Detection of inaccurate CVR statuses can impact the CVR benefits analysis and any kind of data reconstruction process.
4. It is imperative to maintain the loading consistent to analyze the benefits accurately. Any temporary or permanent load shift can jeopardize the analysis.
5. There is no defined boundary on what would be considered an accurate CVR factor based on the pilot and program level study from different utilities.
6. Data resolution has minor impacts on M&V analysis as noted in the survey feedback.
7. There is no validated assumption on how to impose constraints on the data distribution to filter out extremely divergent data in any methodology.



## Section 4 CONCLUDING REMARKS

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### 4.1 Processes to be Streamlined

Through the survey and study using several utilities' data, it is clear that an established process would help the utilities evaluate and analyze the performance of CVR implementation properly. It can also be utilized as a one-stop detail documentation to serve as a reporting guideline to the commission on CVR M&V benefits. In the shed of this report, the following topics, at a minimum, should be discussed in the process of streamlining established documentation:

1. Approaches to archive true values should be discussed in order to avoid recording interpolated and repetitive values. In addition, if interpolated and repetitive values still exist in the utilized datasets, approaches need to be determined to eliminate these anomalous data points.
2. Process(es) need to be set on how the outliers should be detected and eliminated.
3. The distribution system often goes through network reconfiguration. Therefore, avoiding load shifting may not always be possible. This problem can be tackled in different ways. One way is to identify the time instants of temporary load shift and eliminate those data before conducting M&V analysis. Another way is to provide any constraints in the utilized methodologies to avoid any out of the boundary load deviation in both positive and negative directions. There is no defined range for power consumption reduction due to CVR deployment that can be utilized for filtering out irrelevant values, so it needs to be discussed thoroughly. Furthermore, in case of permanent load shift during data collection, alternative approaches need to be sought for measuring the benefits.
4. There is no defined approach for how the CVR status is detected. It is not guaranteed that sending a signal from any vendor software to the field devices will always activate CVR. There may be an equipment failure, communication issues, or any other field issues (e.g., network outages), which will restrict CVR activation or intermittently interrupt the CVR schedule. Approaches for defining time-series CVR status need to be established to create more correlated data.
5. Since different methodologies have various sensitivities on the data, how the methodologies should be selected based on data sensitivity needs to be discussed; In addition, the metrics which define the precision of the evaluation analysis need to be documented (e.g., data adequacy after anomalous data elimination, CVR ON/OFF data ratio, error matrices).
6. If the CVR schedule is interrupted or unable to activate when it is supposed to be activated, it needs to be highlighted whether a penalty factor should be considered or not, and if considered, the calculation process of such factors should be documented.
7. If the SCADA data is utilized from the feeder-head, it is required to have formal documentation on whether a loss factor should be considered, and if that is the case, how a loss factor should be calculated to account for the customer-level savings.
8. Feeder level CVR factors show large discrepancies, as portrayed in the study and literature survey, due to a variety of issues. A practical range of CVR factors should be developed in order to filter out the irrelevant values. Furthermore, due to deviation on feeder level CVR factors, it should be determined if utility-wide CVR factors for individual utilities can be developed for system-wide usage through any probabilistic function or weighted average.
9. As the loads are becoming energy efficient, a process should be in place on how often the CVR factors should be revised.

### 4.2 Recommendation

Based on the facts discussed throughout the report, it is evident that an industry-accepted guideline is required for evaluating the performance of CVR deployment through M&V either in the form of a recommended practice or a standard. The established document will help the utilities to evaluate the benefits consistently. In addition, it will be helpful for the public utility commissions to drive the CVR efforts smoothly. From the literature review and conducted survey, it is observed that utilities have carried out a considerable number of CVR efforts. This illustrates that the industry has matured and is ready for a standard.

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