

# Software-based planning of E-Bus Projects

TUMIVolt Charging Station webinar

06/05/2021

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## Competencies

- Planning expertise in the field of battery and fuel cell buses for over 11 years
- Technical expertise
- Cutting edge in simulation and optimisation methods
- Tailor-made concepts for technology and operations

## Portfolio

-  Feasibility Studies
-  Infrastructure Design
-  Funding acquisition
-  Specifications (tenders)
-  Expert advice



...and many more.



# From Service Design to Implementation

Service Design

**Needs assessment and local transport plan**

Itinerary design, Frequencies, ...

**Development of timetables**

Timetables  
Interconnections  
Journeys

Planning

**Duty scheduling**

**Vehicle scheduling**

Duties / Shifts

Blocks / Vehicle workings

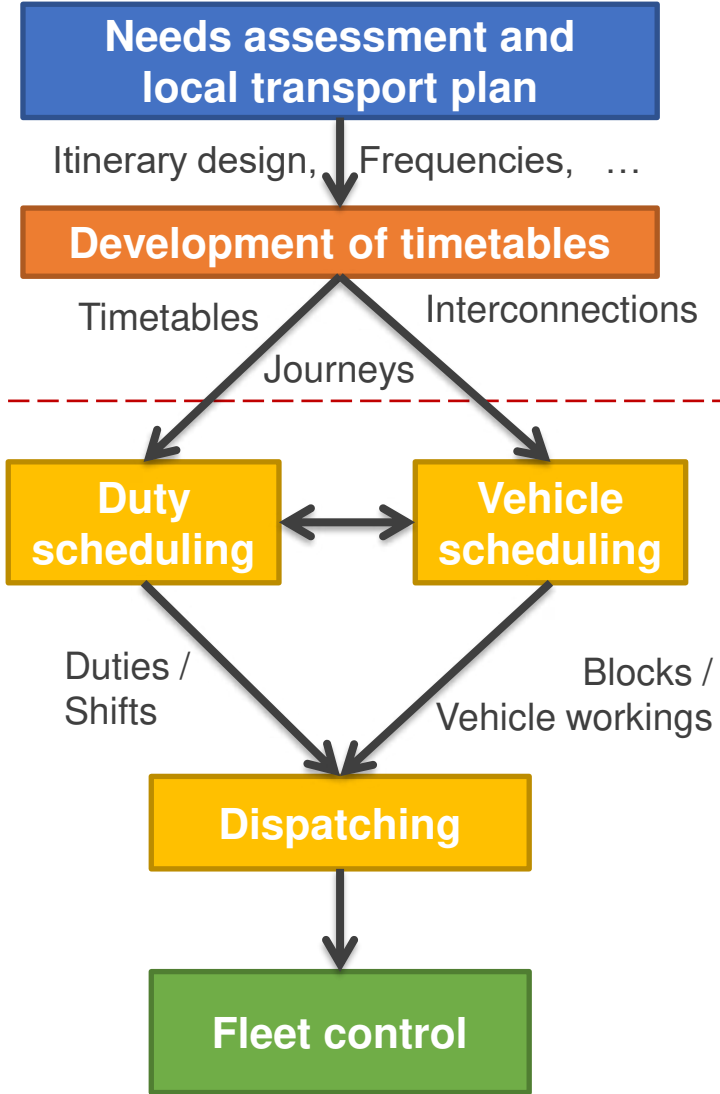
**Less affected by e-buses**

**Strongly affected by e-buses**

Operations

**Dispatching**

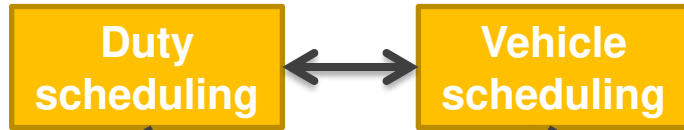
**Fleet control**



# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning



Operations



# From Service Design to Implementation

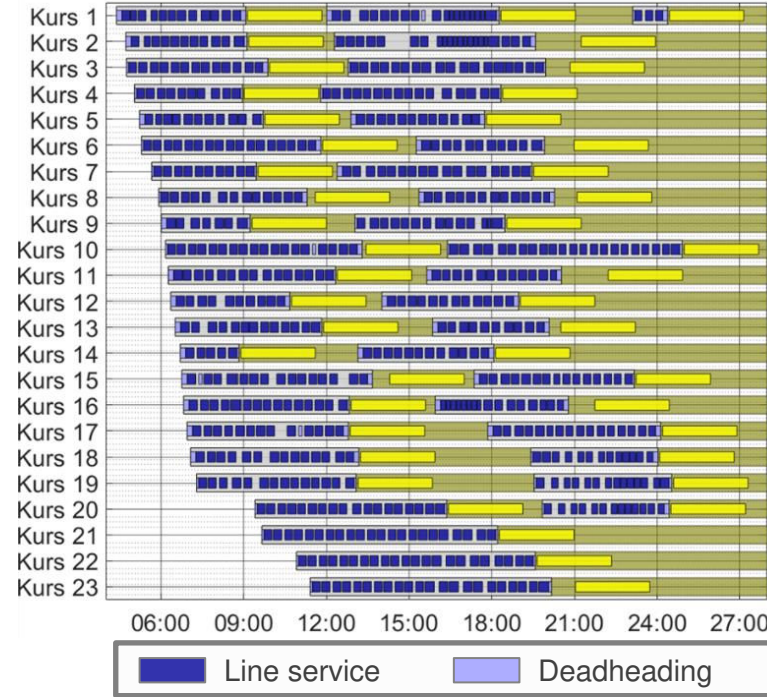
## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning

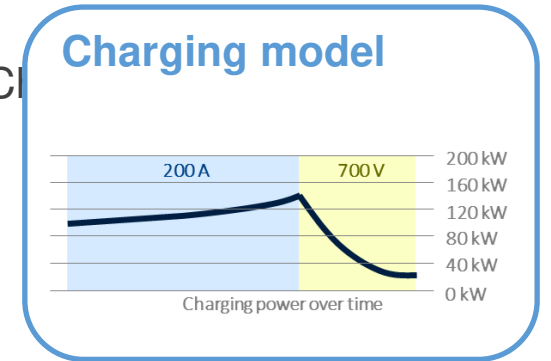
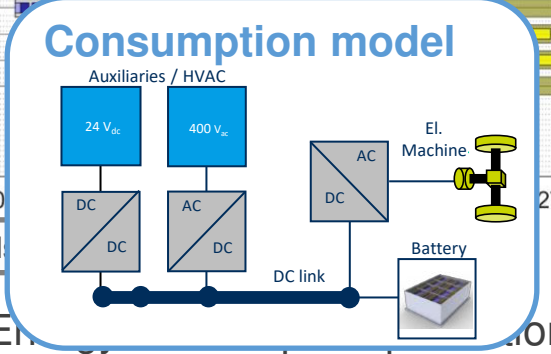
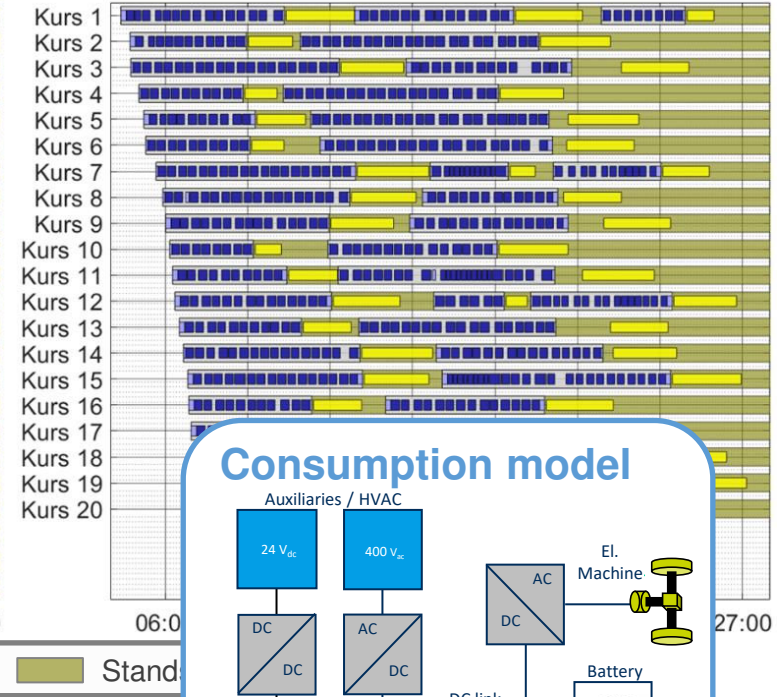
### Vehicle scheduling

- Planning the deployment of buses by sequencing trips, minimizing
  - PVR
  - deadheading
  - driver costs

Simple vehicle scheduling



Energy-based scheduling

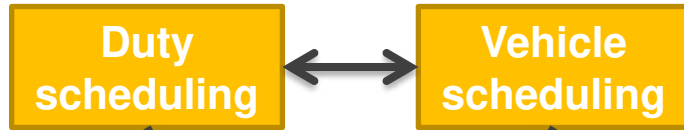


- Limitation to x kilometers
  - Blocks shorter than necessary
- Charging time assumed to y minutes
  - Reserved charging time often longer than necessary

# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning



Operations

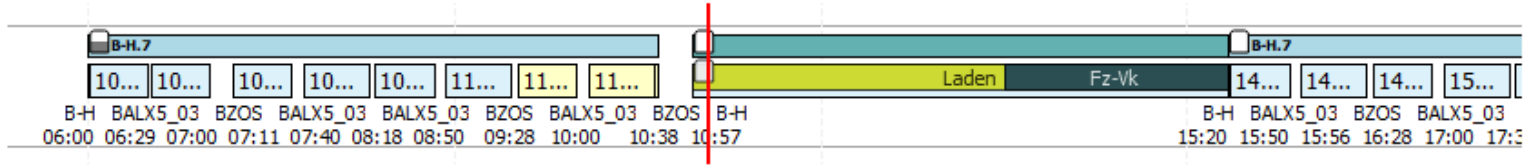




# From Service Design to Implementation

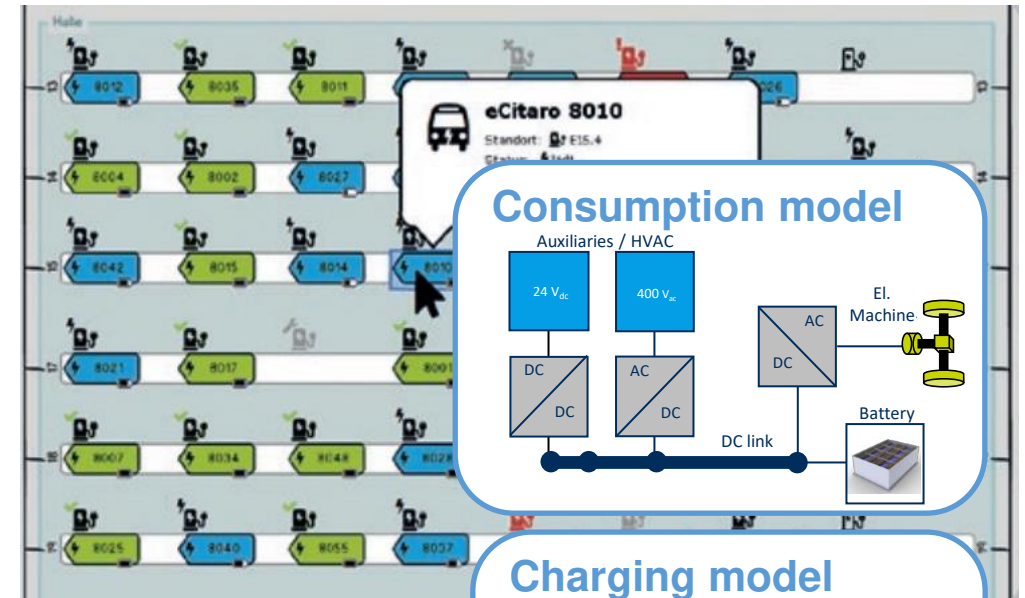
## Challenges posed using electric buses

### Dispatching

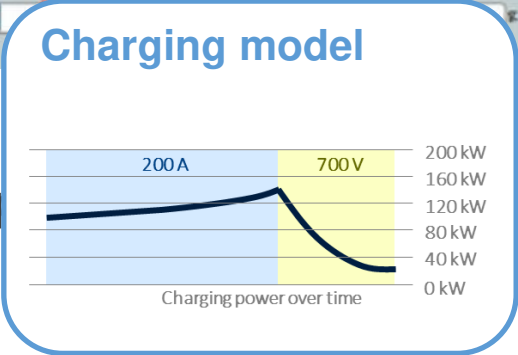


- Day-ahead:
  - Assign the specific vehicles to
    - Specific parking positions
    - Specific blocks
- Intra-day:
  - Monitor and readjust the assignment

- Charging station?
- Sufficient SOC for the next block?
- Sufficient time to recharge?



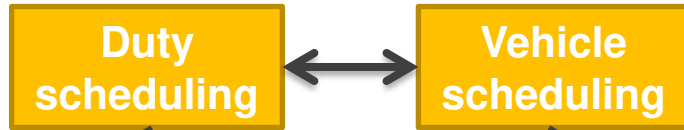
- Energy consumption
- Charging time per



# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning



Operations





# From Service Design to Implementation

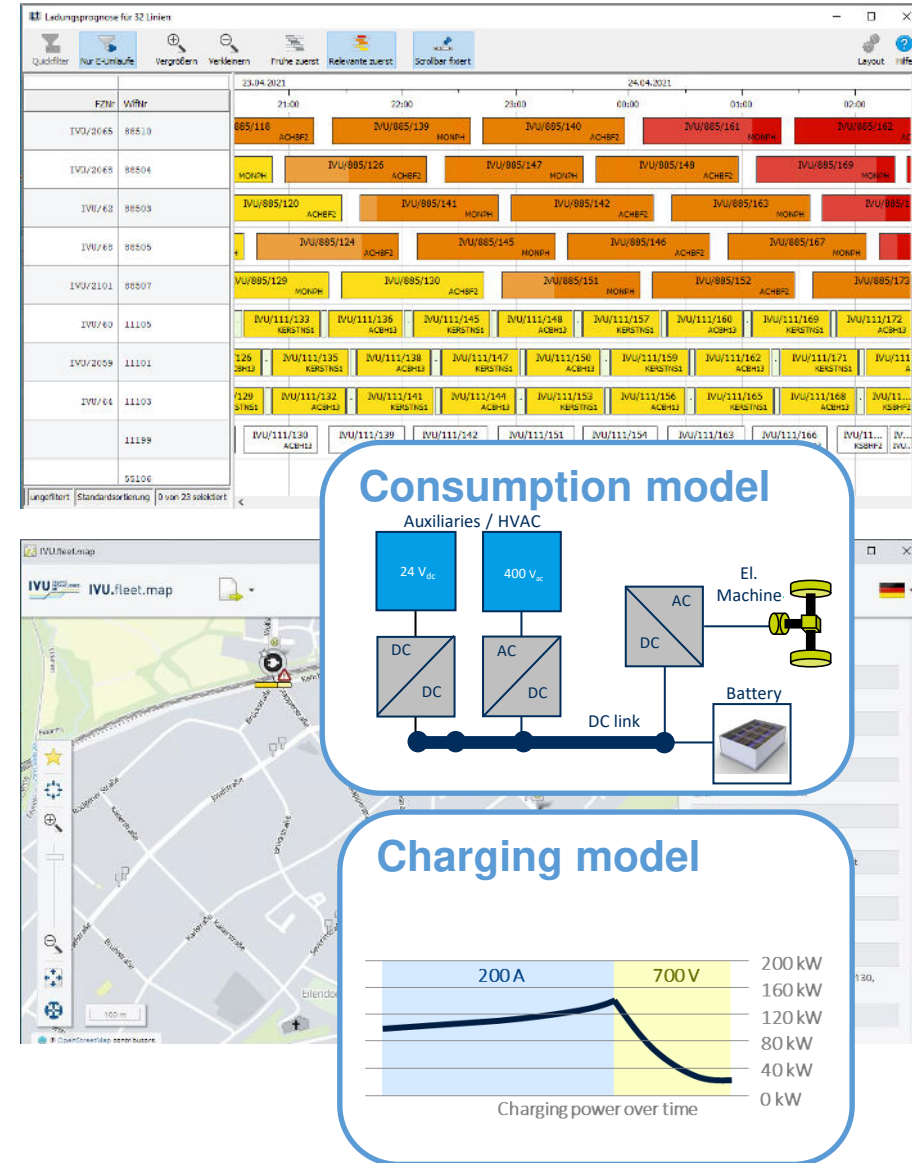
## Challenges posed using electric buses

Operations

### Fleet control

- Monitor operations
- Take certain measures to compensate for disruptions

- Monitor range
- Assess the consequences of dispositive measures
- Energy consumption prediction
- Charging time prediction (e.g. at terminal stops)



The screenshot displays the 'eBusplan' software interface. The top window, titled 'Leitungsprognose für 32 Linien', shows a detailed bus schedule for 32 lines on 24.04.2021. The schedule is presented as a grid with columns for time intervals (21:00, 22:00, 23:00, 01:00, 02:00) and rows for individual bus units (e.g., IVU/2065, IVU/2068, IVU/62, IVU/68, IVU/2101, IVU/60, IVU/2059, IVU/64, 11199, 05106). Each cell in the grid contains a colored bar representing a bus unit's status or location during that time interval.

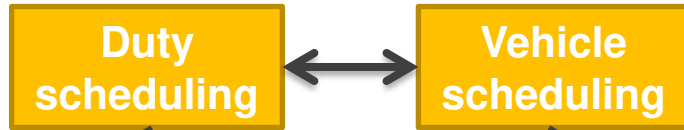
Below the schedule, there is a map view titled 'IVU.fleet.map' showing the geographical location of the buses. Overlaid on the map are two technical diagrams:

- Consumption model:** A block diagram showing the power flow between various components. It includes 'Auxiliaries / HVAC' (24 V<sub>dc</sub> and 400 V<sub>ac</sub>), 'DC' and 'AC' converters, a 'DC link', 'El. Machine', and a 'Battery'.
- Charging model:** A graph showing 'Charging power over time'. The power starts at 200 kW (at 200 A) and then drops to 700 V (at 160 kW), eventually reaching 0 kW.

# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning



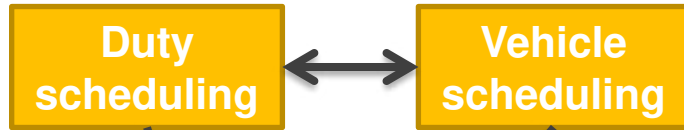
Operations



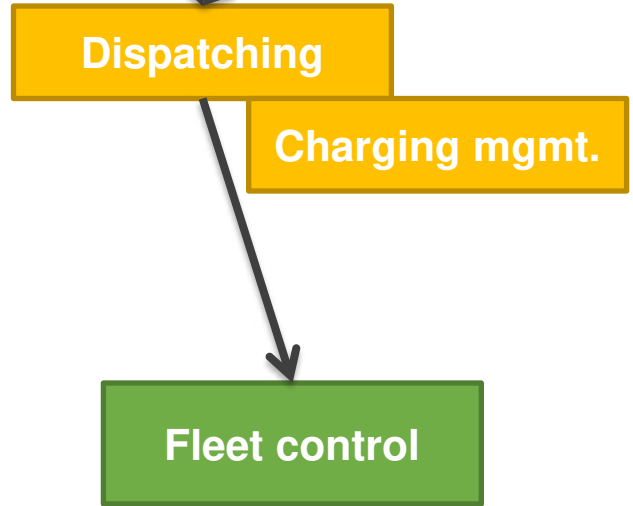
# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning



Operations

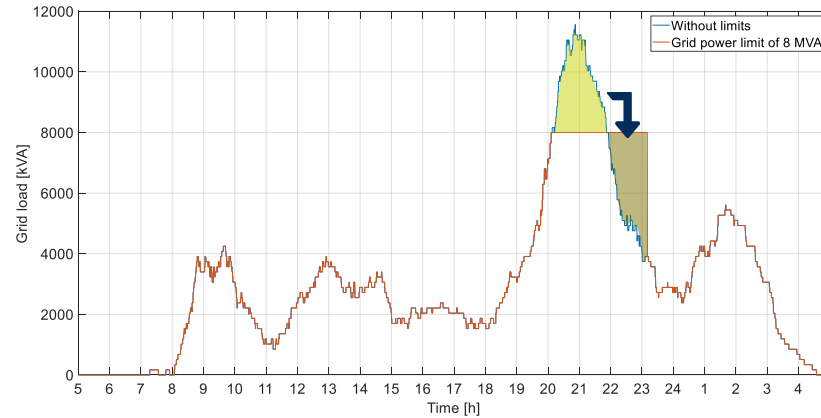


# From Service Design to Implementation

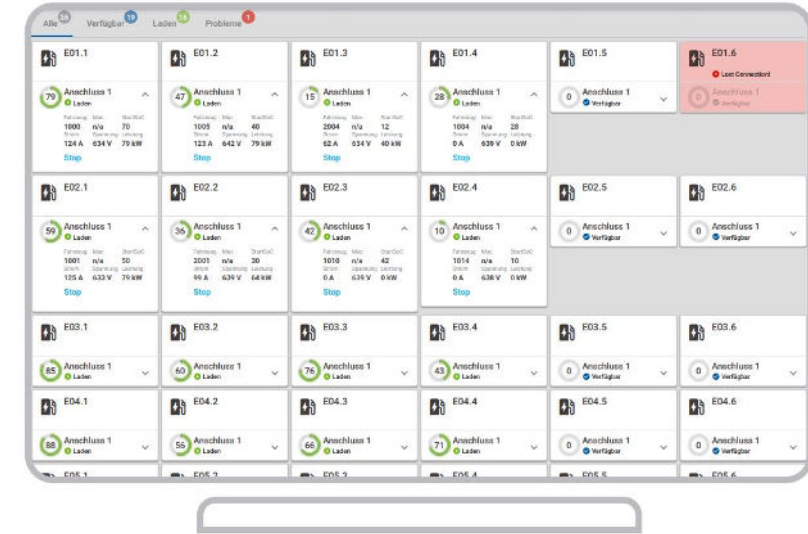
## Challenges posed using electric buses

### Charging mgmt.

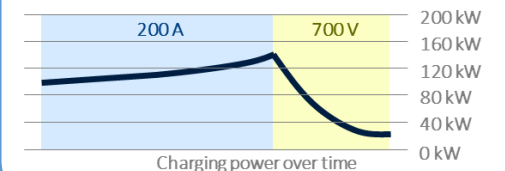
- Convert charging requests...
  - Vehicle x at charging station y to SOC z until departure time
- ...into concrete power profiles for the charging stations
- Communicate with charging stations via OCPP
- Monitor charging progress and infrastructure availability



- (Energy consumption prediction)
- Charging time prediction



### Charging model

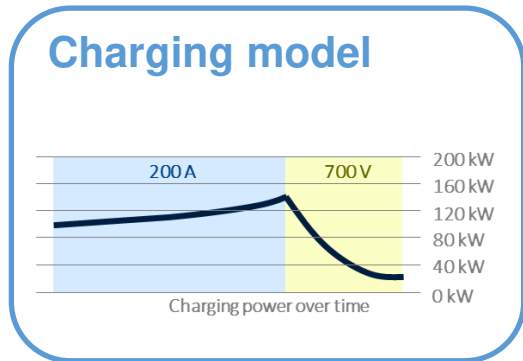
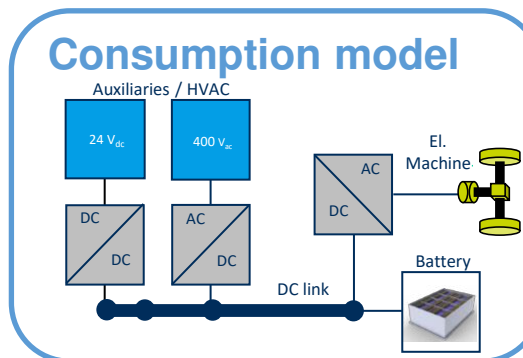
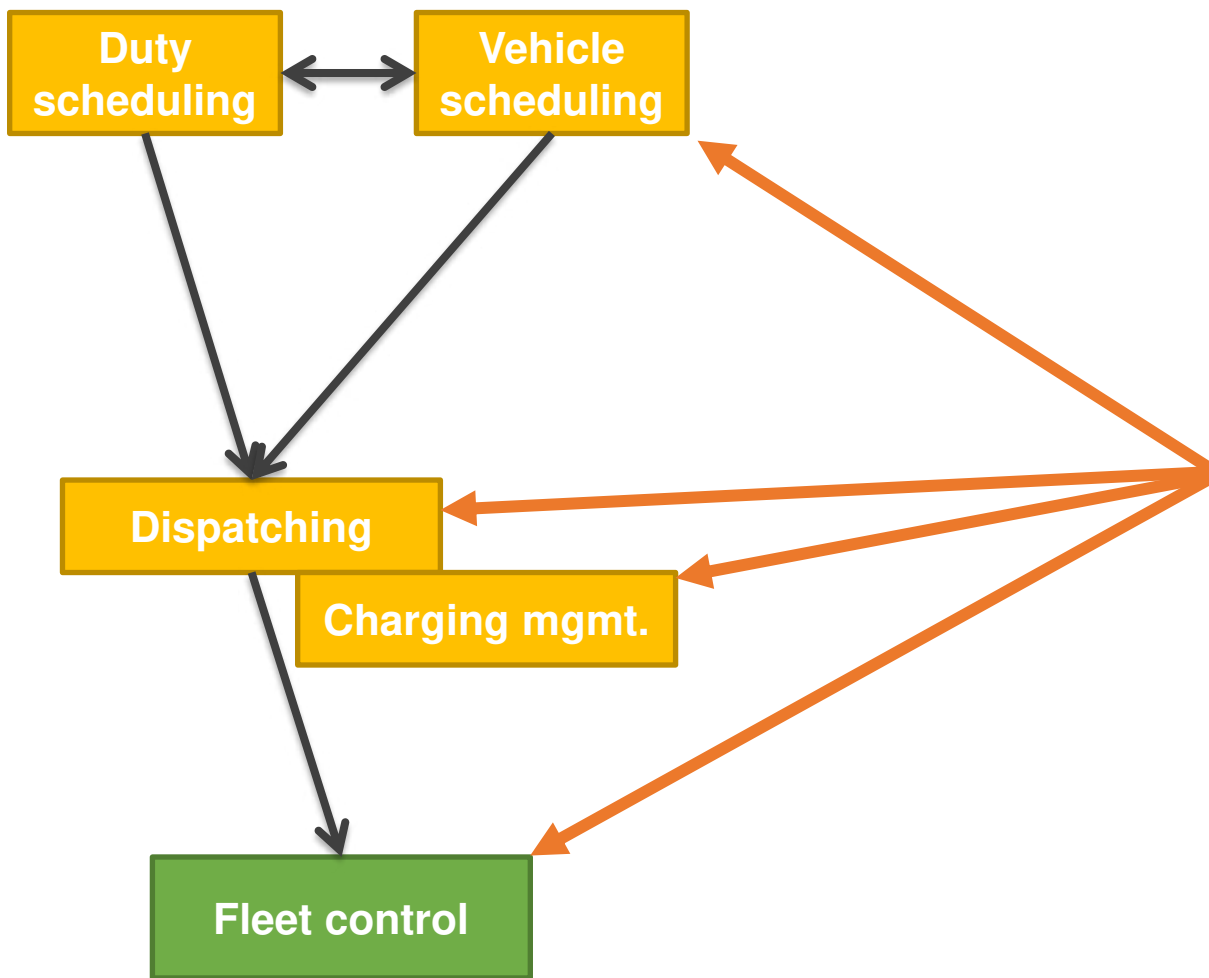


# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

Planning

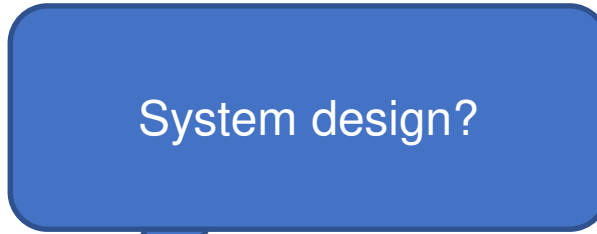
Operations



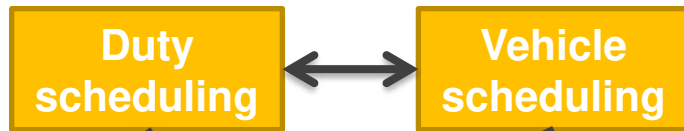
# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

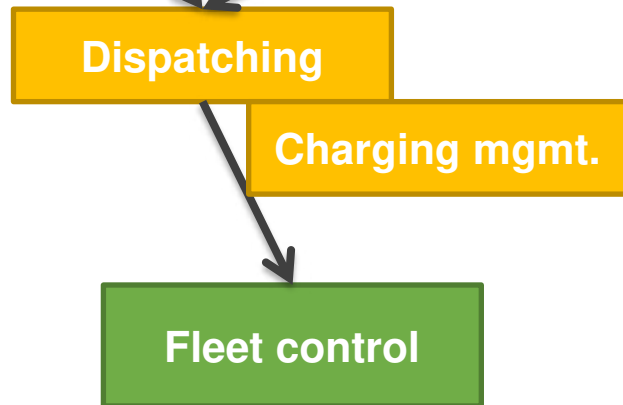
Conversion  
Strategy



Planning



Operations



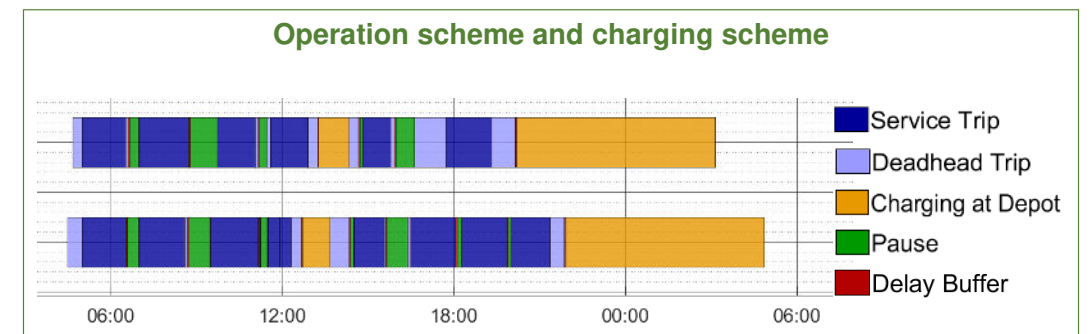
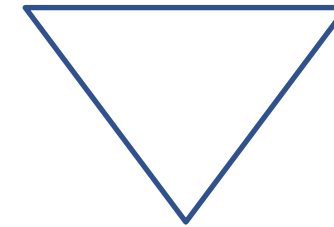
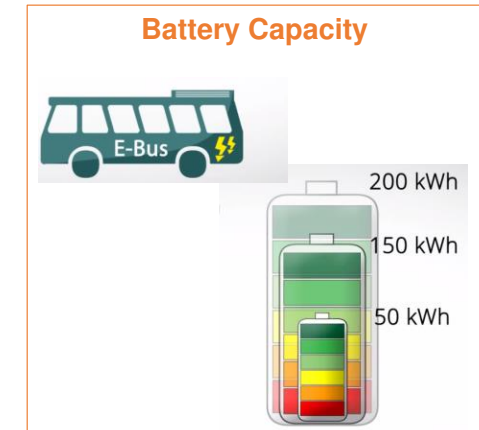
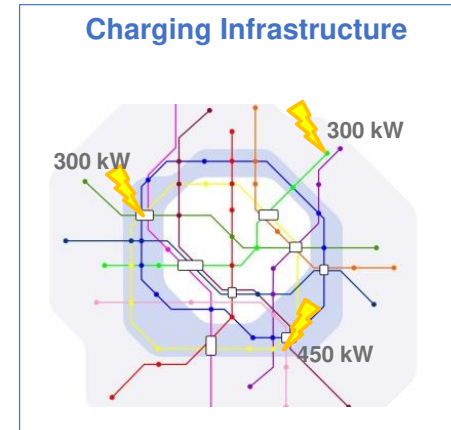


# From Service Design to Implementation

## Challenges posed using electric buses

System design?

- What battery capacities do we need?
  - Technology? Capacity, weight, costs?
- Where do we need to recharge?
  - Depot charging? Charging at terminals? Charging hubs?
- What charging infrastructure do we need?
  - Charging power? Number of chargers?
- Efficiency of operations  $\leftrightarrow$  charging strategy?

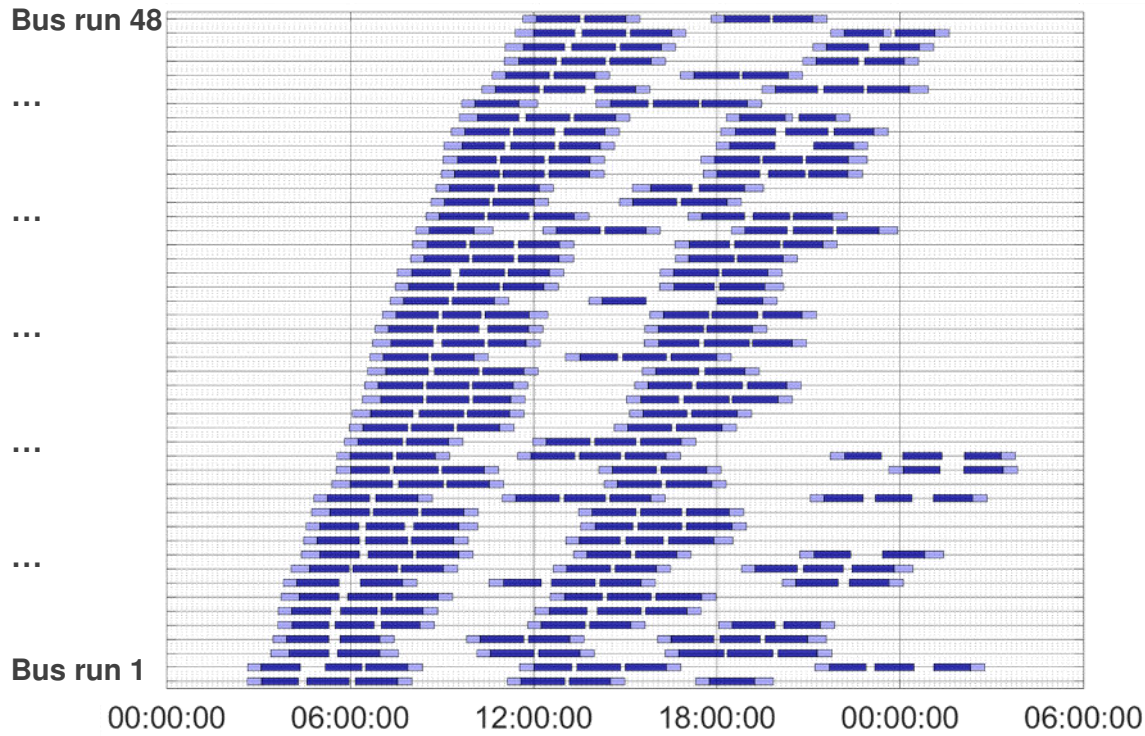


# Effects of Technology Choice on Operations

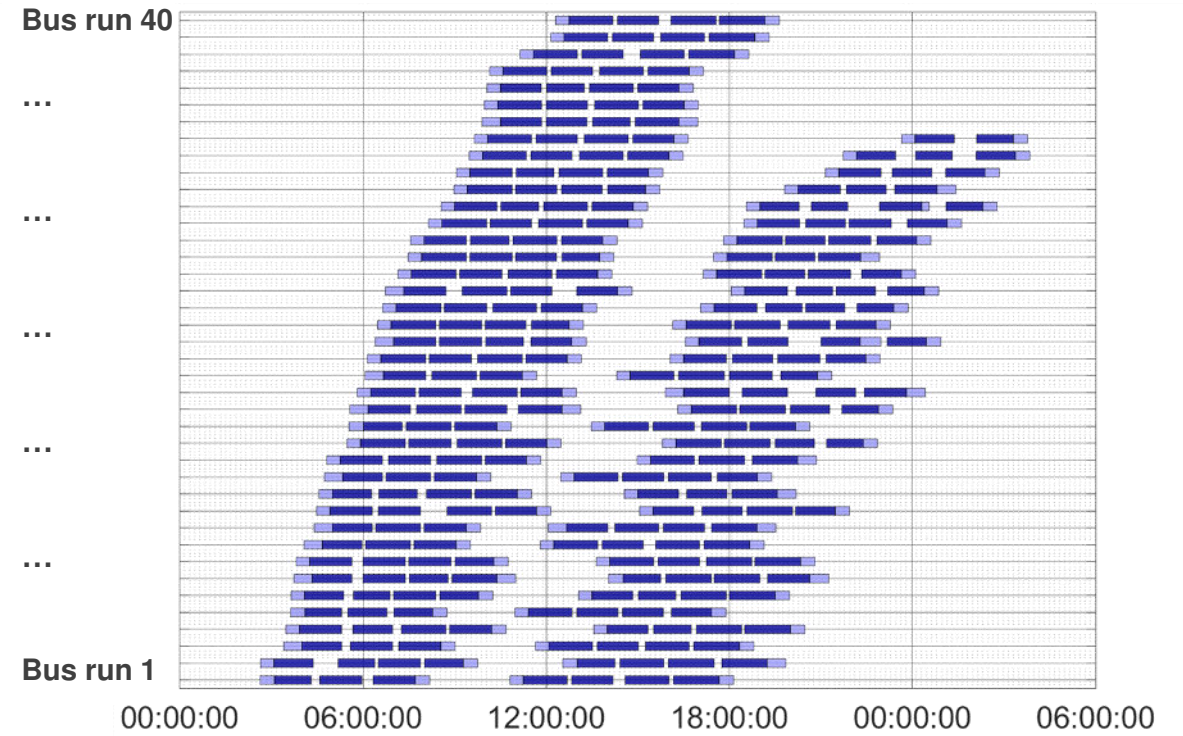
## Battery Size

■ Line service  
■ Deadheading

### Smaller battery



### Larger battery



**Larger battery → Longer bus runs → Fewer vehicles required**



# Effects of Technology Choice on Operations

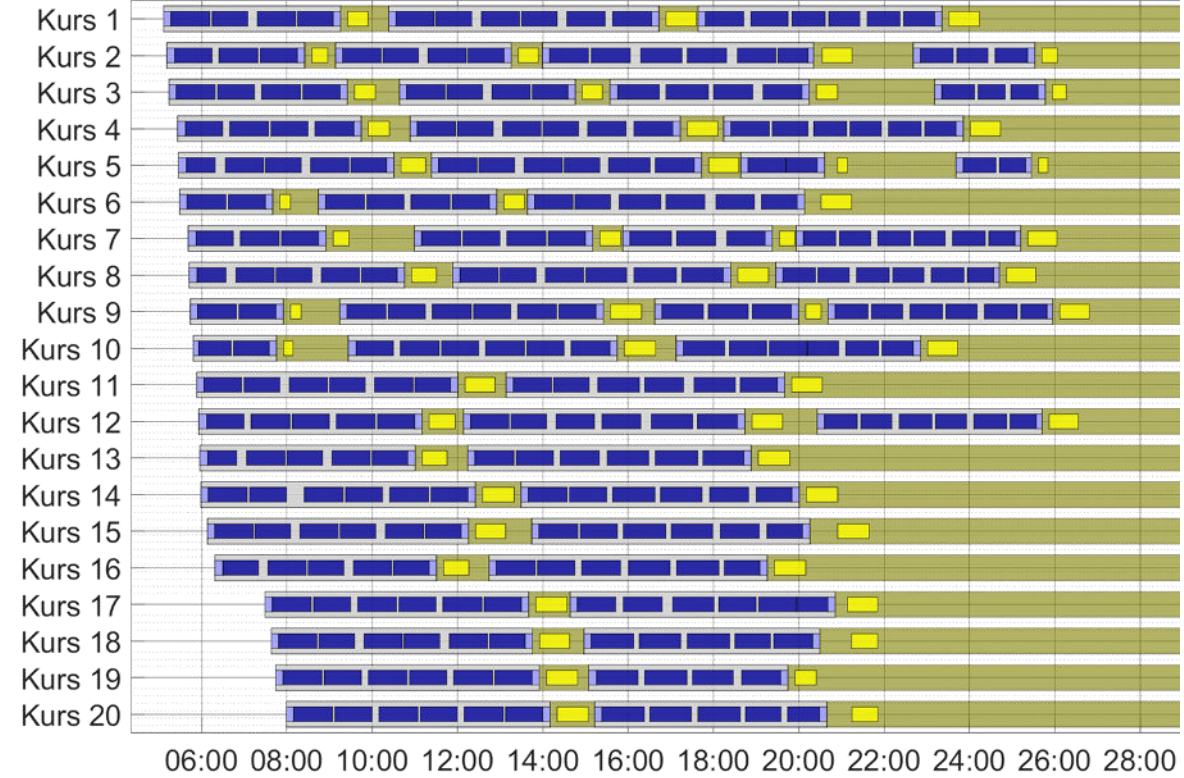
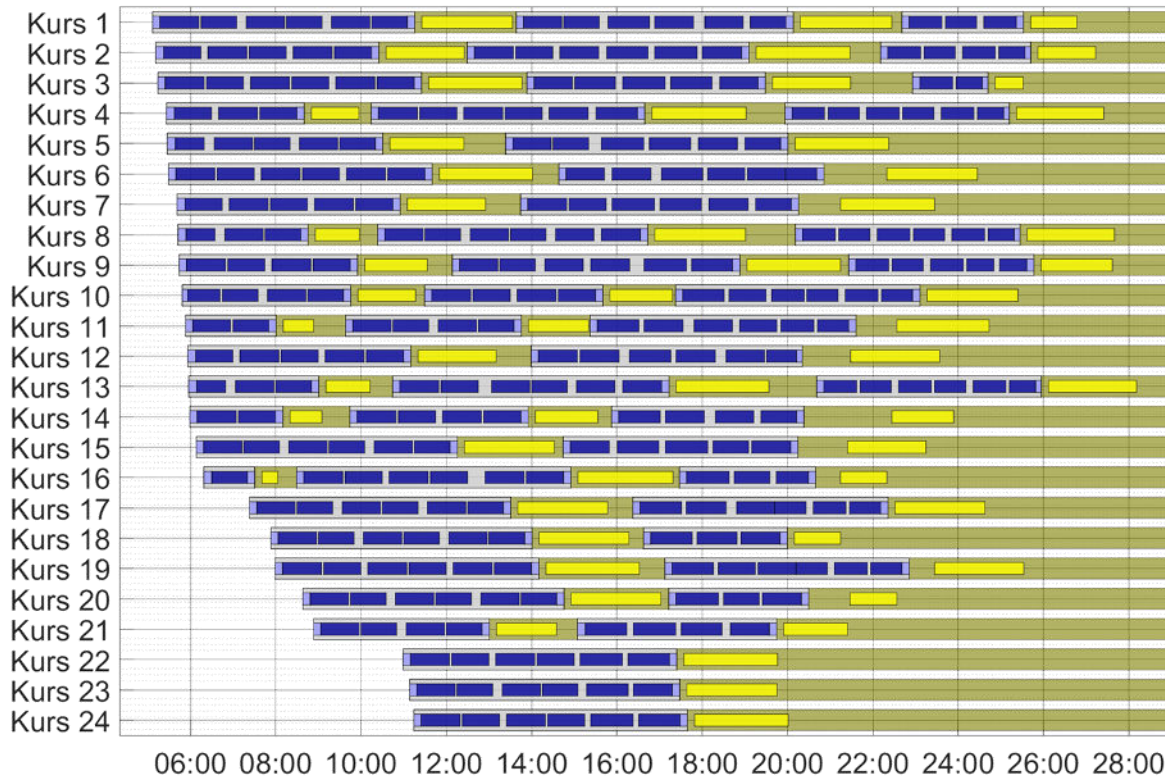
## Charging Power in the Depot

■ Same battery capacities but **different charging power** at depot:

■ Line service      ■ Standstill  
 ■ Deadheading      ■ Charging phase

□ 150 kW

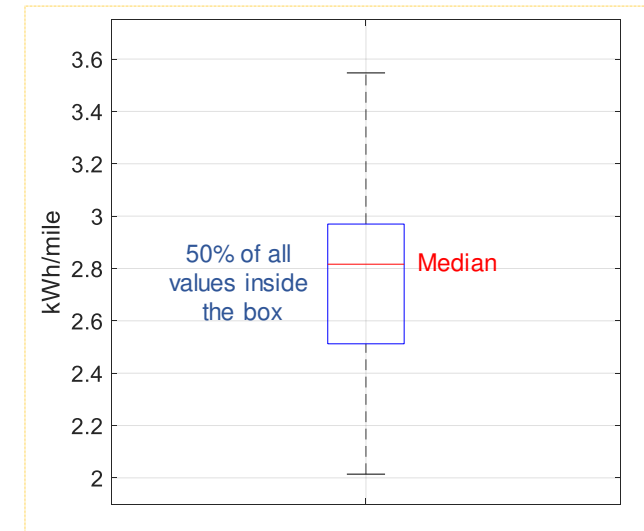
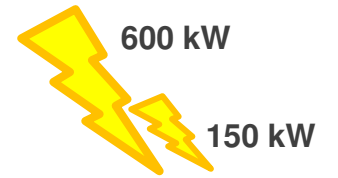
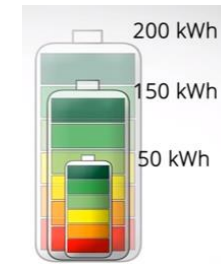
□ 450 kW



**Higher charging power results in shorter charging times at depot → Fewer vehicles required**

# Effects of Technology Choice on Operations

- There are a variety of different configurations
  - Charging power (150 - 600 kW)
  - Battery concepts (in some cases over 800 kWh)
  - Heating / HVAC concepts (fossil heating, electric heating, heat pump, ...)
- To be answered differently for each configuration:
  - Energy demand?
  - Need for charging infrastructure? In the Depot? At terminal stops?
  - Required no. of vehicles?
  - Additional operating costs / efficiency of vehicle schedules?
  - Investment and follow-up costs? TCO?
- Experience shows that answers vary greatly from company to company.



➤ **Analysis and comparison of many scenarios necessary**



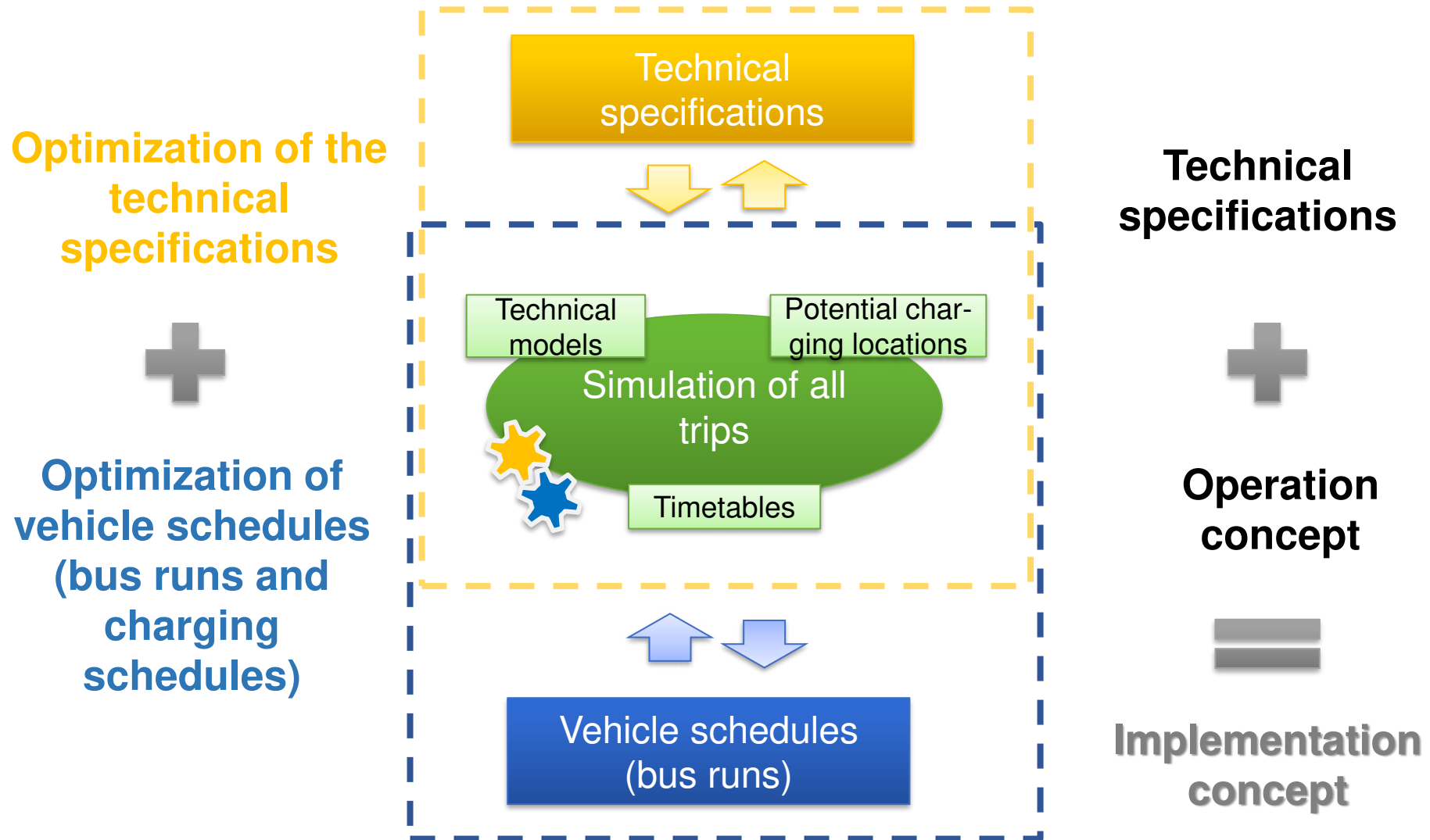
Required  
no. of  
vehicles



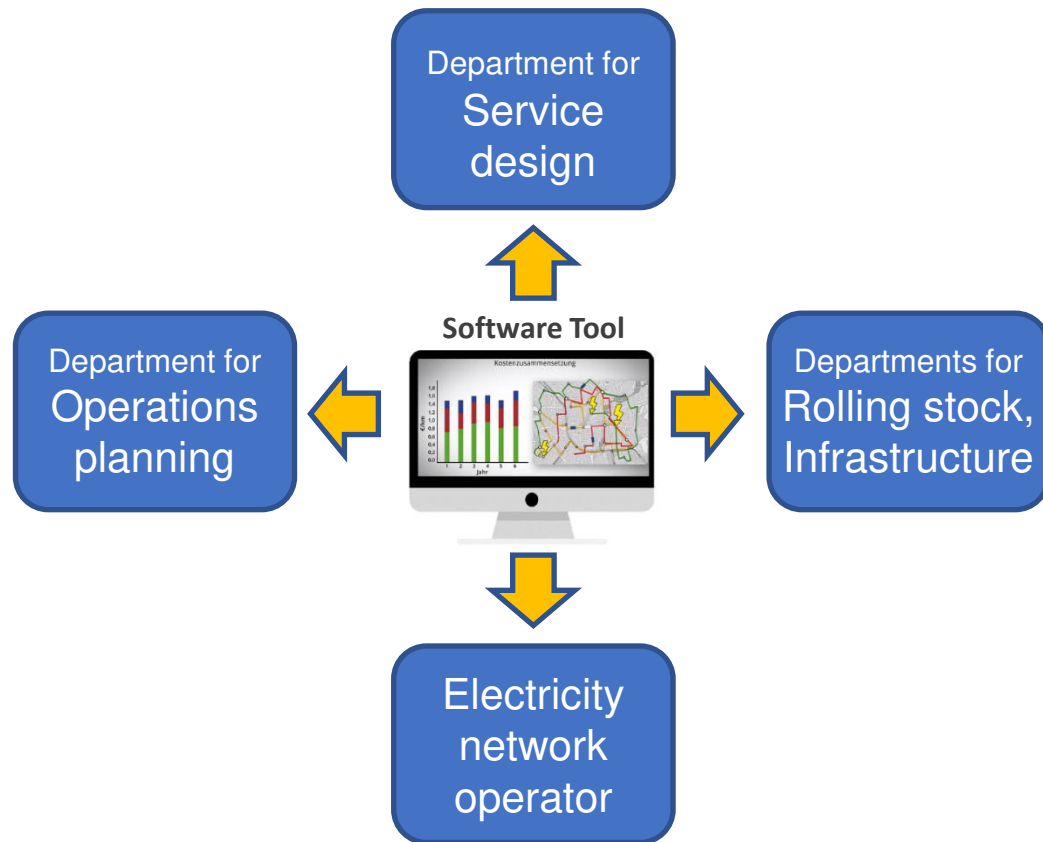
Driver  
time



Dead-  
heading

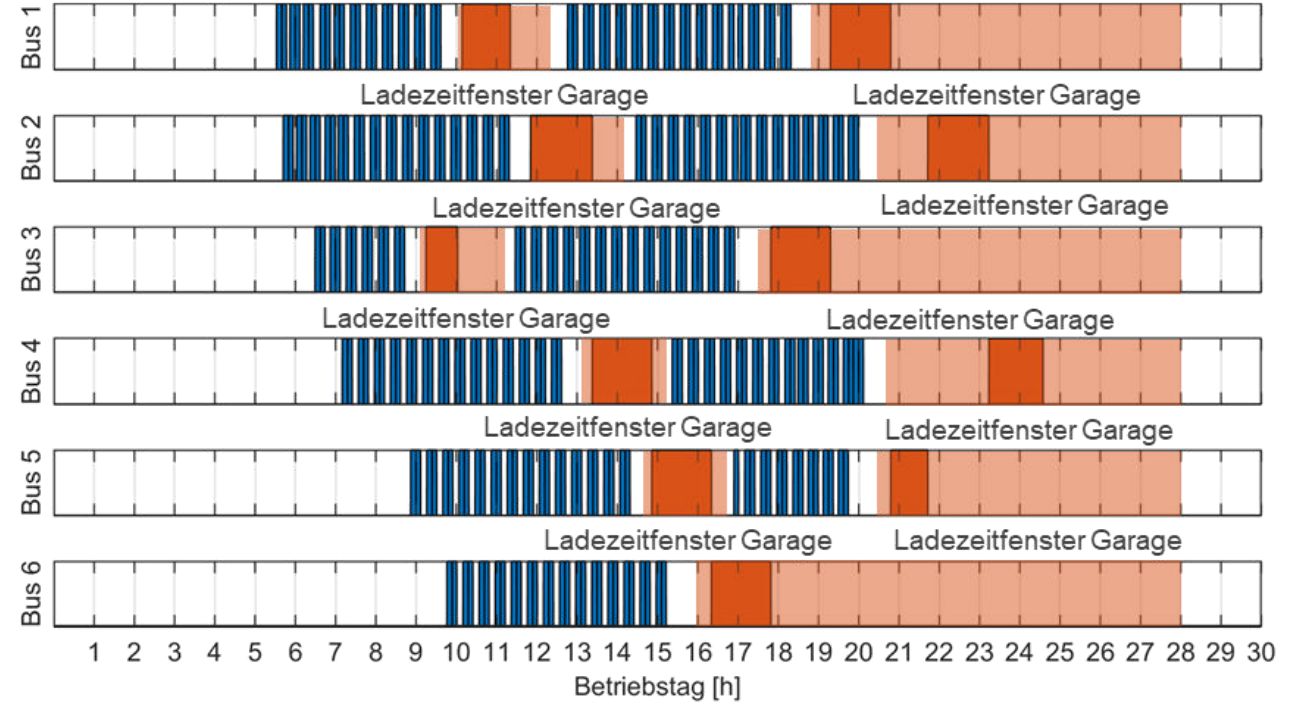
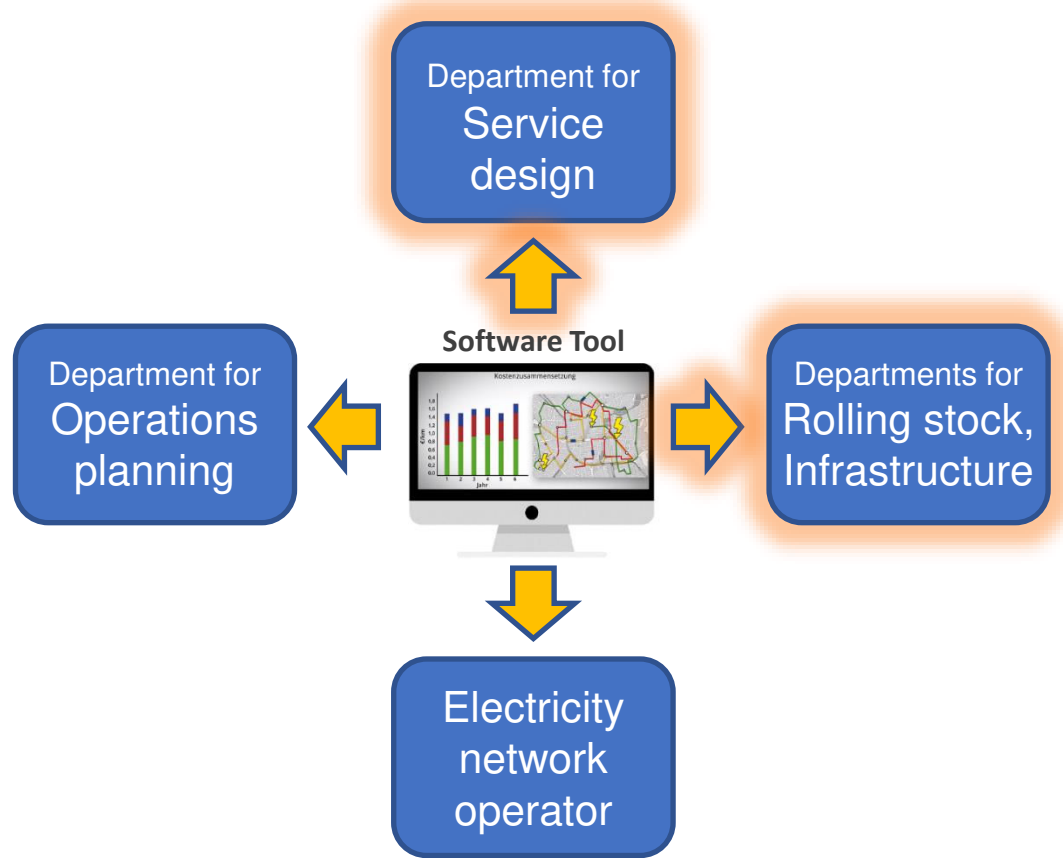


# Use Cases of the Software Tool

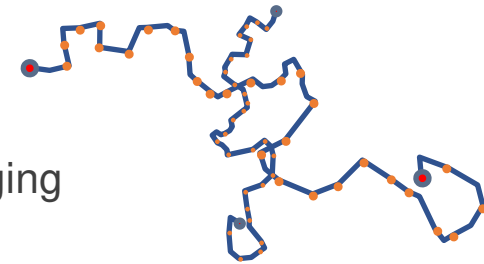




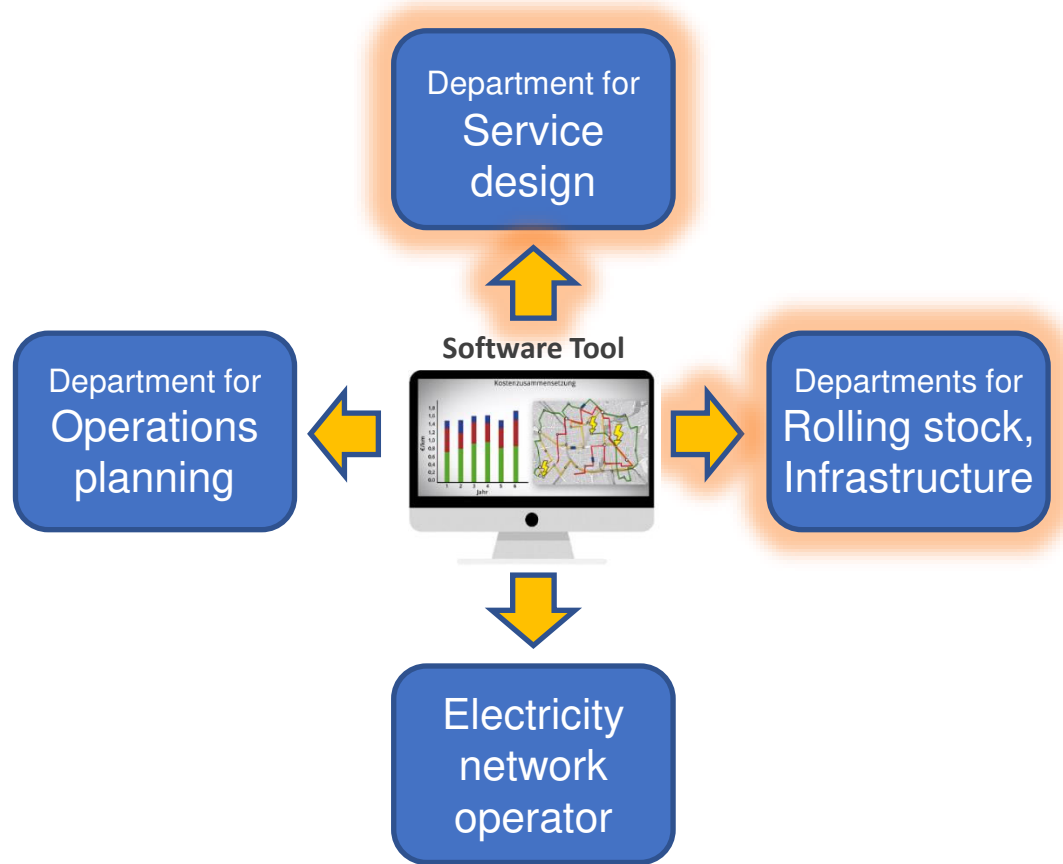
- Selection of bus lines / line bundles to be electrified



- For each line / line bundle
  - Required number of vehicles
  - Required number of chargers and charging locations

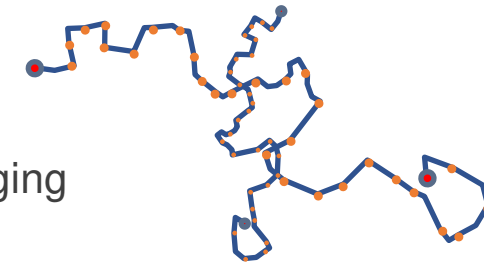


- Selection of bus lines / line bundles to be electrified

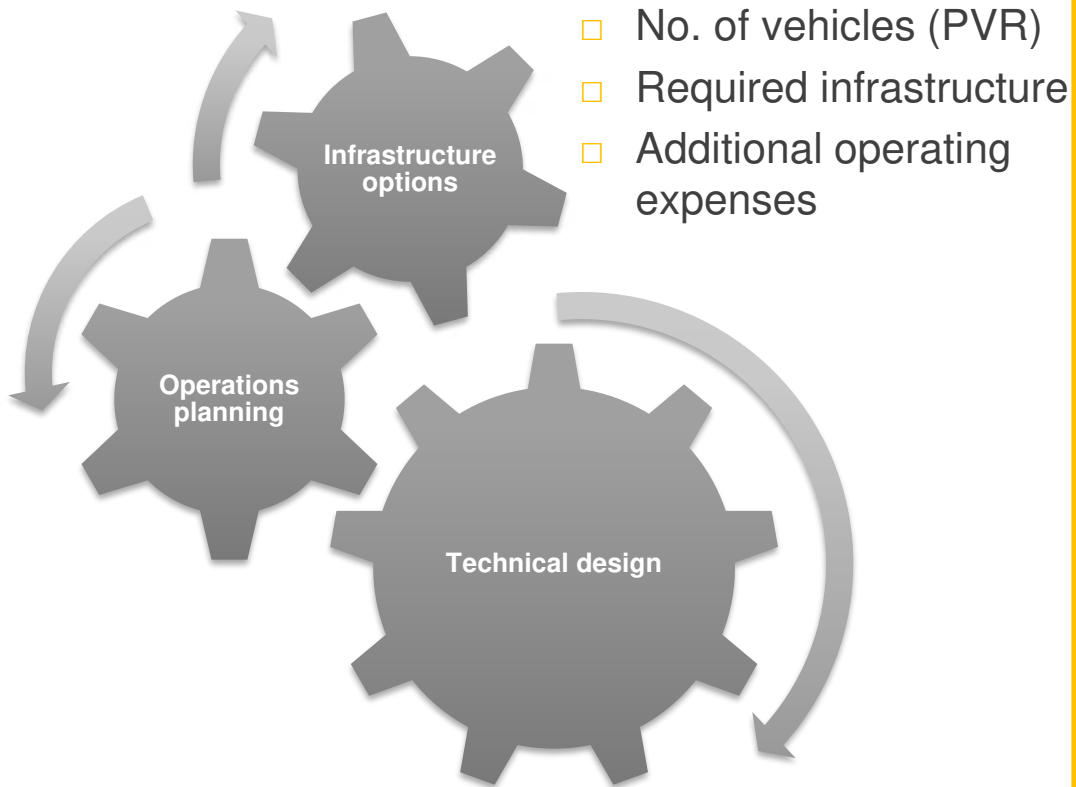


Bus route	Bus type	No. of buses	Required no. of additional vehicles (scenario today)									
			Conventional bus		Depot charger type 1		Depot charger type 2		Opportunity charger type 1		Opportunity charger type 2	
			A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B		
***	Solo	7	2	0	1	0	3	2	3	2		
***	Articulated	7	4	2	3	0	-	3	-	3		
***	Solo	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0		
***	Solo	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0		
***	Solo	6	3	2	3	2	0	0	0	0		
***	Solo	5	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-		
***	Articulated	6	5	3	4	2	-	-	-	-		
***	Articulated	7	4	4	4	3	-	0	-	0		
***	Articulated	7	4	4	4	3	-	0	-	0		
***	Articulated	13	9	7	9	7	-	1	-	1		
***	Articulated	3	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-		
***	Articulated	4	3	2	3	2	-	-	-	-		
***	Articulated	7	6	4	5	3	-	-	-	-		
***	Articulated	9	8	5	6	4	-	2	3	2		
***	Articulated	9	8	5	6	4	-	1	-	1		
***	Solo	5	3	2	3	2	-	-	-	-		

- For each line / line bundle
  - Required number of vehicles
  - Required number of chargers and charging locations



Analyse **technical** feasibility  
including evaluation of **operational adjustments**



Total cost of  
ownership (TCO)

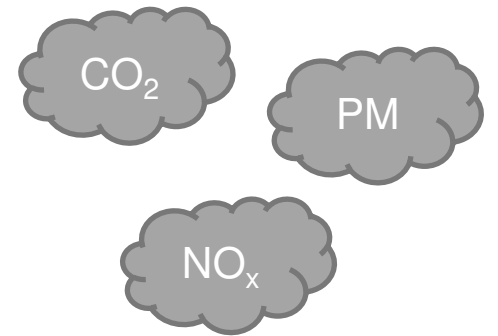
Vehicle procurement

Infrastructure costs

Operating costs

Personnel costs

Emissions reduction  
potential



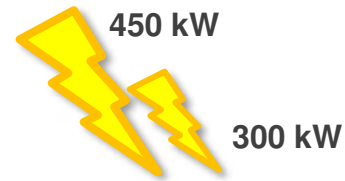
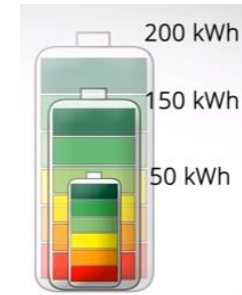
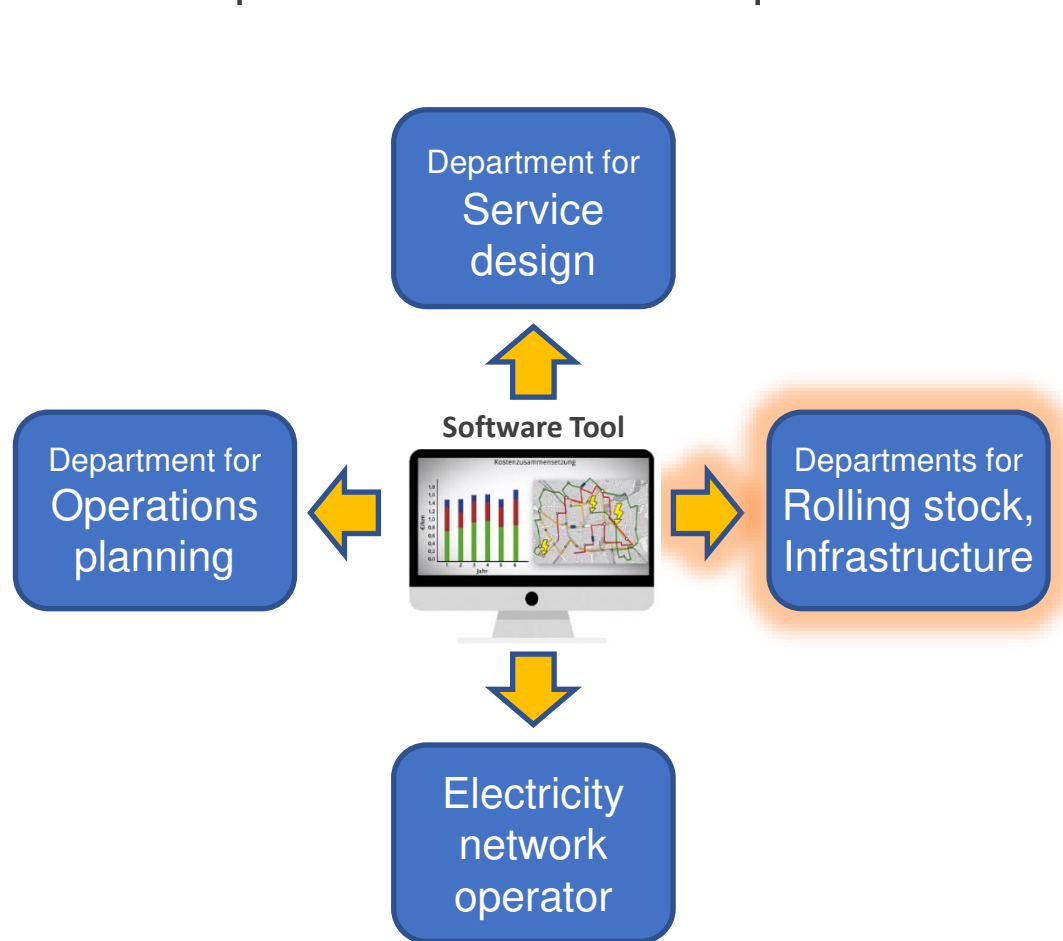
Cost / benefit evaluation of all config.s & options

Selection of technologies  
and definition of build-out target ✓

# Use Cases of the Software Tool

## Procurement of Buses and Charging Infrastructure

### ■ Preparation of technical specifications



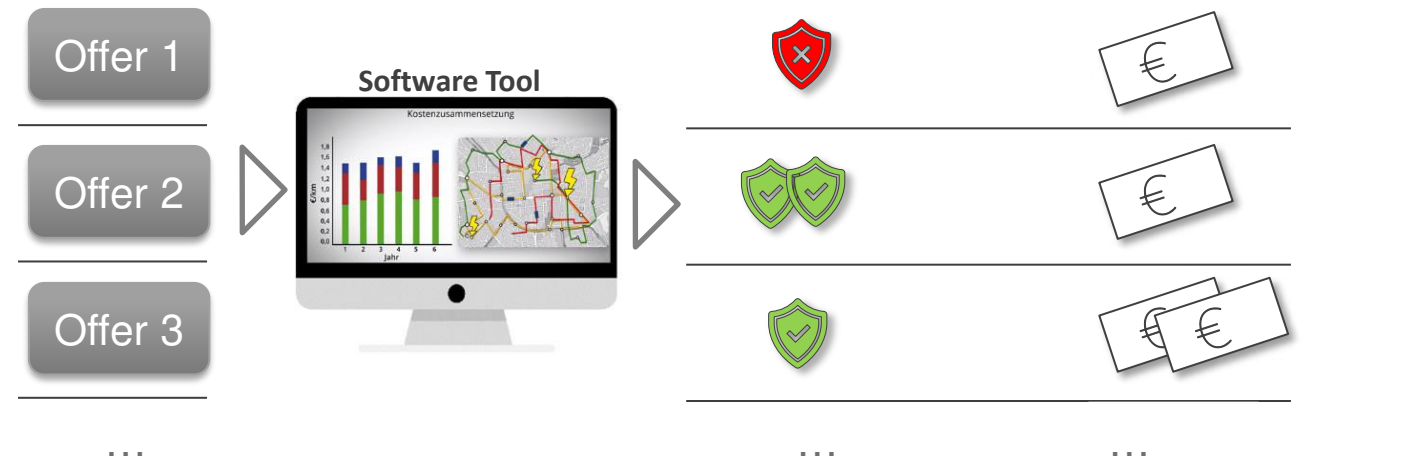
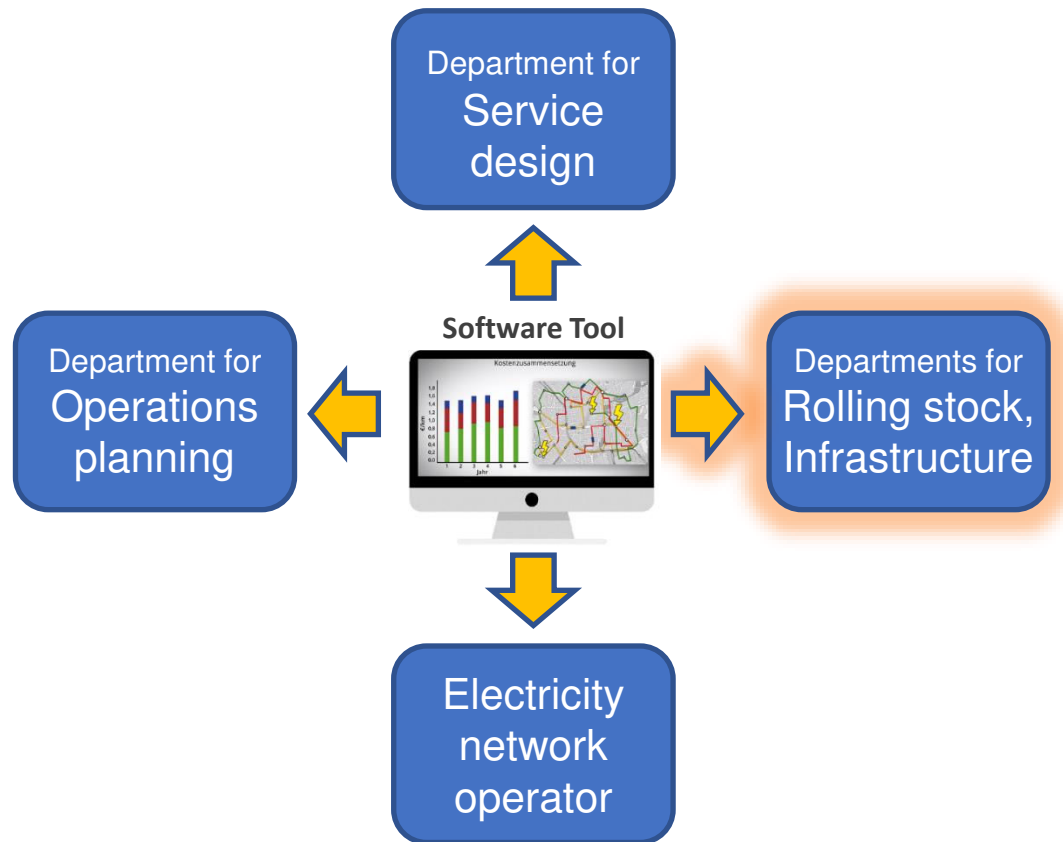
- Define concrete requirements for
  - Battery capacity in kWh
  - Charging power in kW

# Use Cases of the Software Tool

## Procurement of Buses and Charging Infrastructure

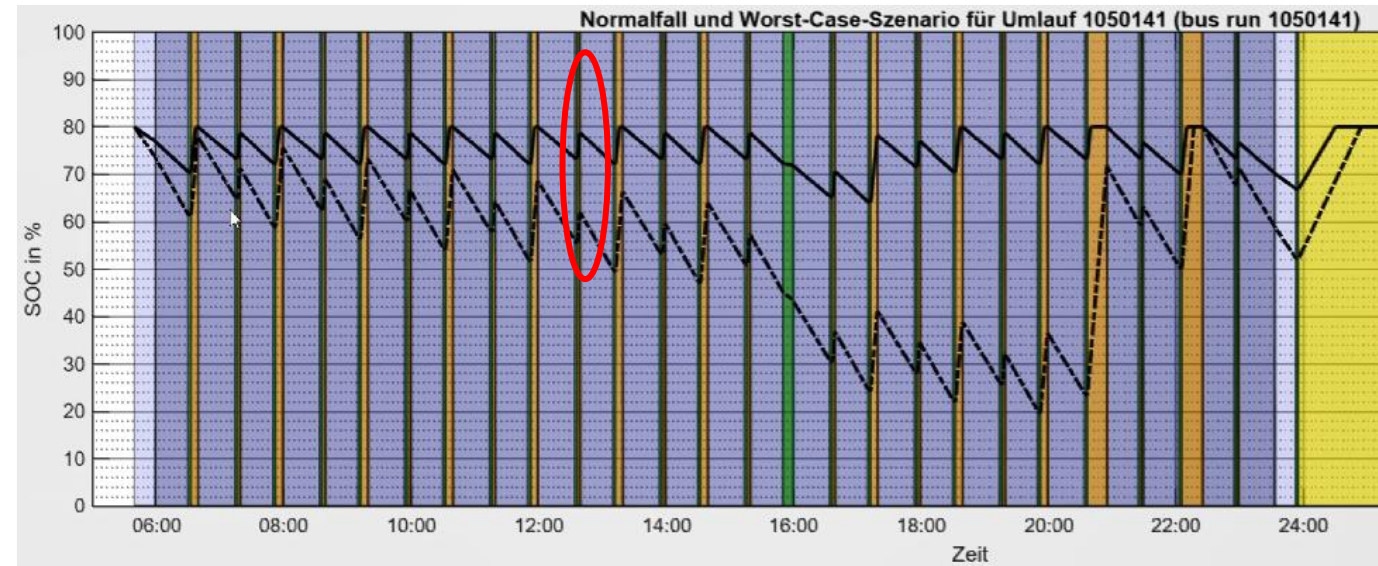
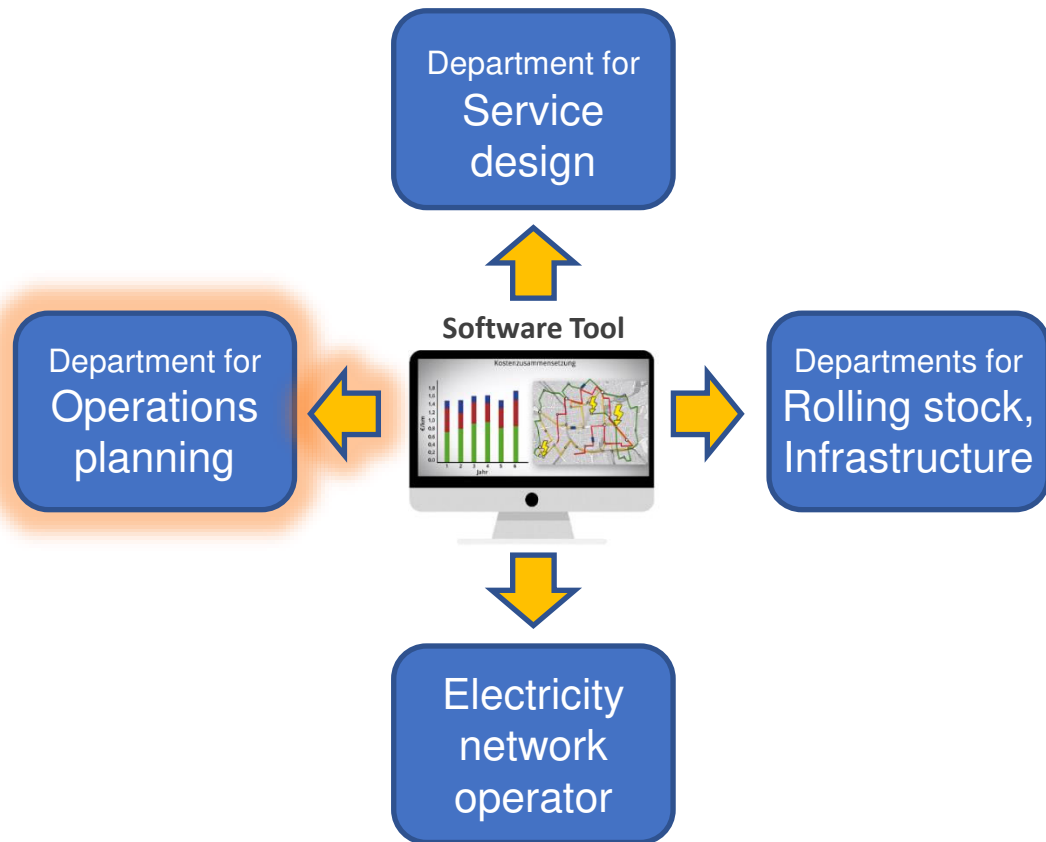
- Evaluating offers during tender call

- Evaluate the different vehicles and charging infrastructure types offered by bidders





- Define operational requirements for day-to-day vehicle scheduling

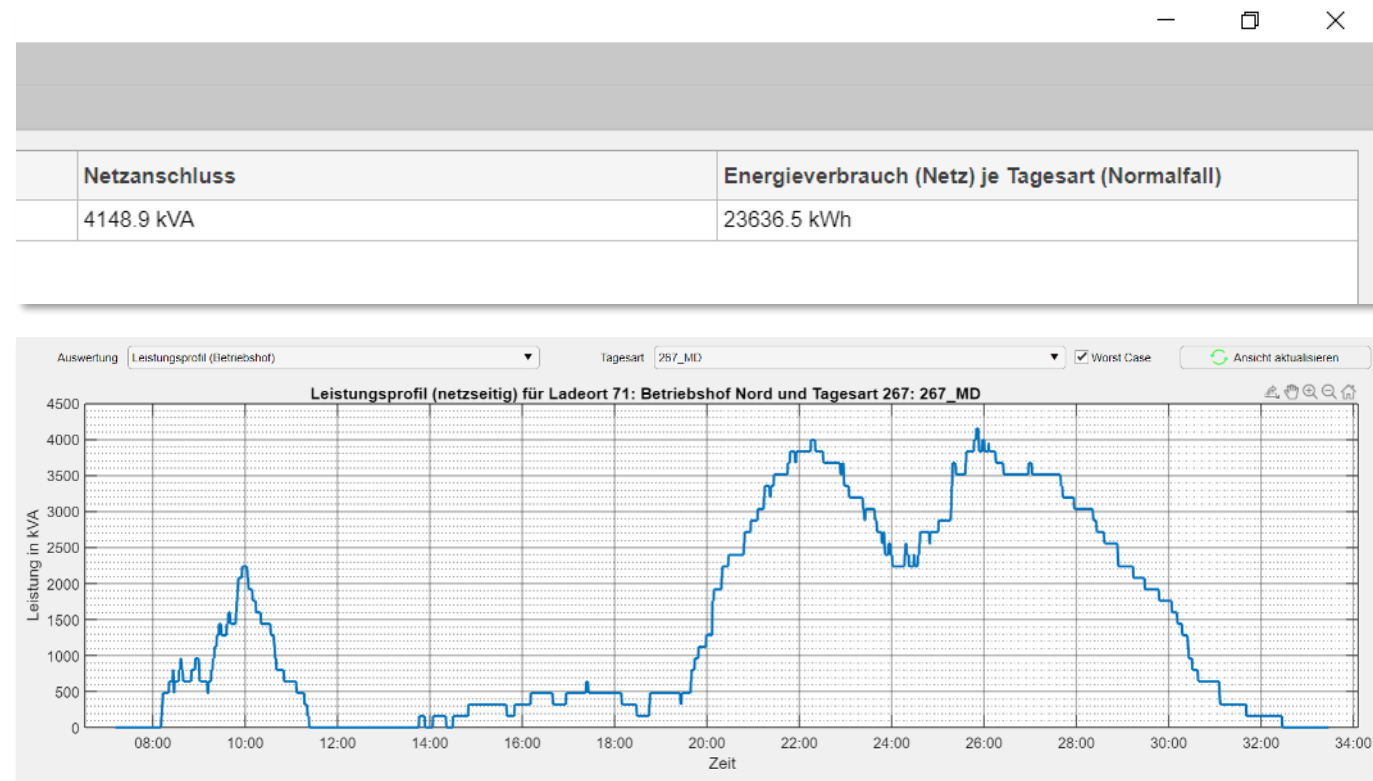
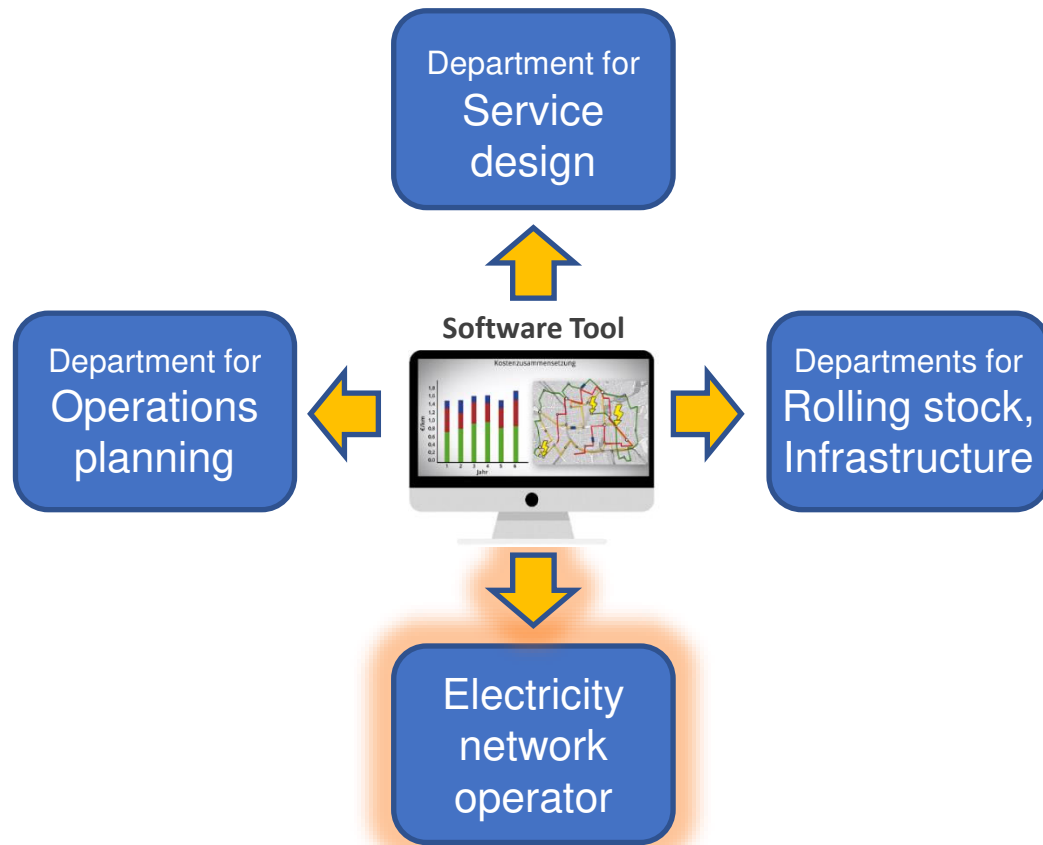


- Define parameterization of vehicle scheduling
  - Driving ranges
  - Charging duration
- Simulate failure scenarios and other special scenarios
- Dimensioning of buffers / redundancies
- Identify optimization potentials (“room for improvement”)



# Use Cases of the Software Tool

- Negotiations with el. network operator
- Planning of energy procurement



- Concrete load profiles and
- energy purchase quantities as a basis for planning and discussion

- Electric buses bring along additional complexity for planning and implementation of bus services
    - Technical constraints: battery behaviour, energy consumption, charging technology
    - Entire chain is affected
  - Software makes complexity manageable and optimizes efficiency (TCO reduction)
    - Models for energy consumption, battery behaviour and charging behaviour
  - Strategic system design for optimized efficiency and TCO using dedicated software tool
    - Analyse and model operations, determine energy consumption and load profiles (e.g. battery strain)
    - Optimize vehicle schedules (PVR) for each electric bus concept and for different infrastructure scenarios
    - Optimize charging schedules (no. of chargers)
    - Calculate many different scenarios to make transparent the different interdependencies
  - Expert advice
  - Software
- ➔ [www.ebusplan.com](http://www.ebusplan.com)

Project supported by:

# Software-based planning of E-Bus Projects

TUMIVolt Charging Station webinar

06/05/2021

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## FEASIBILITY STUDIES

Choosing the right concept and suitable lines

- Analysis of the electrification potential of your bus line network
- Assessment of all available electric bus technologies (fuel cell bus, battery bus, diesel hybrid bus, trolleybus) for your bus route network incl. cost comparison (TCO)
- Quantification of environmental benefits
- Planning of the gradual transition to electric buses



## TRANSITION PLANNING

Complete planning of the individual transition phases

- Definition of the transition phases for the step-by-step electrification of the bus fleet
- Fleet planning for the transition period
- Planning the number of chargers, charging power and space requirements
- Determining the investment costs for the individual transition phases
- Identification of funding opportunities



## INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

Cost-optimized concepts ready for tender

- Planning of infrastructure deployment in the depot and at other charging locations
- Concepts for the installation and connection of the chargers
- Determination of the load profile for negotiation with the network operator
- Analysis of the possibilities of Smart Charging



## REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION

Experienced support of tenders

- Identification of requirements and recording of the local situation
- Preparation of specifications for vehicles and infrastructure
- Advice on the tendering process
- Evaluation of offers and support in bidder discussions



## FUNDING ADVICE

Extensive support in the acquisition of public funding

- Identification of funding opportunities for the procurement of vehicles and charging infrastructure
- Editing of funding applications
- Organizational support of application procedures



## PROJECT SUPPORT

Competent support of the electric bus implementation

- Review of planning bases and cost calculations
- Presentation of the electric bus strategy to supervisory boards and politicians
- Facilitation of internal workshops to involve all departments
- Specialist workshops and seminars on the topics of vehicle, battery technology, infrastructure and software