

# Right Sizing Tomorrow's Water Systems for Efficiency, Sustainability, & Public Health



Overview, status, and projected timeline

November 2020

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**PURDUE**  
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University

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**MEMPHIS**

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# Goal and Objectives

To better understand and predict water quality and health risks posed by declining water usage and low flows

1. Improve the public's understanding of decreased flow and establish a range of theoretical premise plumbing flow demands from the scientific literature and expert elicitation with our strategic partners
2. Elucidate the factors and their interactions that affect drinking water quality through fate and transport simulation models for residential and commercial buildings
3. Create a risk-based decision support tool to help guide decision makers through the identification of premise plumbing characteristics, operations and maintenance practices that minimize health risks to building inhabitants.

[illegible]

OBJECTIVE 1. Improve the public's understanding of decreased flow and establish a range of theoretical premise plumbing flow demands from the scientific literature and expert elicitation with our strategic partners

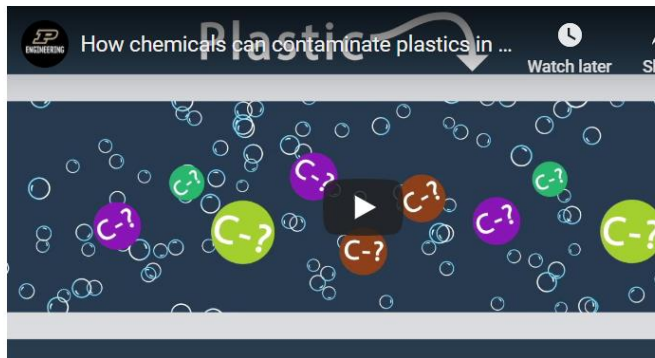


Activities	Year 1 (2017)				Year 2 (2018)				Year 3 (2019)				Year 4 (2020)				Year 5 (2021)			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Meetings, Presentations, Outreach</b>																				
EPA public webinar				WEB																
EPA internal meeting								WEB	DEN						Zm					
EPA Water Workshop																				
SRA Conf																				
IAPMO EWTS																				
ACS Conf																				
ACEE Hot Water Forum																				
NEHA AEC Conf / or Webinar																				
Indiana WEA Conf																				
PMI Conf																				
USGBC Conf																				
AWWA WQTC Conf																				
AWWA ACE Conf																				
AEESP Conf																				
AWWA – Kentucky Conf / or Webinar																				
Rural Water - Indiana																				
PCHPPros Webinar																				
Facility Managers Assoc - Indiana																				
Plumbing Industry Leadership Coalition																				
ASPE Webinar																				
IWA Webinar																				
Indiana State Dept. Health Webinar																				
Water Quality Assoc. Webinar																				
AWWA – Florida Webinar																				
EPA Drinking Water Workshop																				



TBD

*Download information here*  
**[www.PlumbingSafety.org](http://www.PlumbingSafety.org)**



#### News

['It's gone to the ground': Big Basin Water Co. struggles to recover from fire \(Santa Cruz Sentinel\)](#)

[Wildfires can spark widespread contamination of public water supplies \(NRDC\)](#)

[Biggest risk to surface water after a wildfire? It's complicated \(Eos\)](#)

[As wildfires ravage the West, contaminated water raises health concerns \(STAT\)](#)

[Unsafe to drink: Wildfires threaten rural towns with tainted water \(Cal Matters\)](#)

[How wildfires are contaminating the water supply with benzene, other hazardous chemicals \(WBUR\)](#)

### COVID-19 Response

Thank you for visiting. This website is designed to provide information to persons who drink water in buildings, as well as building construction, plumbing, water utility, education, and public health sectors. Together, we are working to understand how to make certain the water you use at home, at work, and at schools is safe. Please contact us if you have any questions at [awhelton@purdue.edu](mailto:awhelton@purdue.edu).

#### Partner Institutions:



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2017: 1,790 views  
2018: 3,327 views  
2019: 6,411 views  
2020: 27,830 views

OBJECTIVE 2. Elucidate the factors and their interactions that affect drinking water quality through fate and transport simulation models for residential and commercial buildings

# Published... so far

Initiative	Lead	Stage
Residential Building City Water Chemistry and Microbiology 4 month startup: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2017.11.070">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2017.11.070</a>	Purdue-MSU	Published
Residential Building City Water Chemistry 1 Year Study: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00334D">https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00334D</a>	Purdue-Memphis-MSU	Published
Residential Building City Water Microbiology 1 Year Study: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00334D">https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00334D</a>	Tulane-Purdue-MSU	Published
Residential Building Reverse QMRA for <i>P. aeruginosa</i> Exposure: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)EE.1943-7870.0001641">https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)EE.1943-7870.0001641</a>	MSU	Published
Residential Building Rainwater Chemical/Micro Transition Study: <a href="https://10.1021/acs.est.0c03641">https://10.1021/acs.est.0c03641</a>	Purdue-Tulane-MSU	Published
Dose Response <i>Naegleria fowleri</i> : <a href="https://doi.org/10.2166/wh.2018.181">https://doi.org/10.2166/wh.2018.181</a>	MSU	Published
LEED School Green Building Chemistry Study: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00520G">https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00520G</a>	Purdue-Tulane	Published
Dose Response <i>P. aeruginosa</i> : <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mran.2020.100115">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mran.2020.100115</a>	MSU	Published
Synthesis Study: Plumbing Research Needs: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/aws2.1177">https://doi.org/10.1002/aws2.1177</a>	MSU-Purdue-Manhattan	Published
Heavy Metal Accumulation on Plastic Plumbing, Field Study: <a href="https://doi.org/10.5942/jawwa.2017.109.0117">https://doi.org/10.5942/jawwa.2017.109.0117</a>	Purdue	Published
Water Quality in Mixed GIP-PEX Plumbing: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2019.121585">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2019.121585</a>	Purdue	Published
Heavy Metal Degradation of Downstream PEX Plumbing: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2019.07.060">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2019.07.060</a>	Purdue	Published
TTHM Generation and Fate in PEX Plumbing: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00262C">https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00262C</a>	Purdue	Published
Synthesis Study: Stagnation Water Quality Impact Review: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/aws2.1186">https://doi.org/10.1002/aws2.1186</a>	Purdue	Published
Dose Response <i>Acanthamoeba</i> : <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/risa.13603">https://doi.org/10.1111/risa.13603</a>	MSU	Accepted

# In review, undergoing data analysis, planning, and more...

Initiative	Lead	Stage
LEED Institutional Buildings Chemistry and Microbiology Study (Gim Aw et al.)	MSU	In peer-review
ID variables that influence legionella in building plumbing (Julien et al.)	MSU-Purdue	In peer-review
Enumeration and Characterization of Five pathogenic Legionella species from Large Research and Educational Buildings (Logan et al.)	MSU	In peer-review
The Occurrence of 5 Pathogenic Legionella species from Source (Groundwater) to Exposure (Taps and Cooling Towers) In a Complex Water System (Logan et al.)	MSU	In peer-review
Residential Building Upstream Fixture Water Use Prediction Study (Kropp et al.)	MSU-Manhattan-Purdue	In peer-review
Influence of thermal gradients on legionella in residential plumbing (Julien et al.)	MSU	Data analysis
Residential Building Water Age/HRT Modeling (Julien et al.)	MSU-Purdue	Data analysis
LEED Office Green Building Chemistry and Microbiology Study (Montagnino et al.)	Purdue-Tulane	Data analysis
Residential Building City Water Hydraulic Plumbing Study (Palmegiani et al.)	Manhattan-Purdue	Data analysis
Residential Building City Water Integrative Hydro-Water Quality Study (Lee et al.)	Manhattan-Purdue	Data analysis
LEED School Green Building Opportunistic Pathogen Study (Gim Aw et al.)	Tulane-Purdue	Data analysis
Legionella and amoeba in cooling towers and building water systems (Logan et al.)	MSU	Data analysis
Synthesis Study: Copper in Schools (Montagnino et al.)	Purdue-MSU	Data analysis
Risk Based Decision Support Tool (Nedjashimi et al.)	MSU-Manhattan-Purdue	Planning
Synthesis Study: Plumbing Safety of the Future	Purdue-MSU-UM-Manhattan-Tulane	Planning
And more....		



Thermocouples throughout piping, 1x /sec  
Indoor air temperature, 1x /sec  
Flowrates at every fixture, 1x /sec  
Energy use per device, 1x /sec

[www.ReNEWWHouse.com](http://www.ReNEWWHouse.com)

## The Most Monitored Home in America

West Lafayette, Indiana  
Less than 100 yards from Purdue  
3 Bedroom, 1.5 baths  
Water saving fixtures  
Trunk-and-Branch design  
PEX piping  
Renovated in 2014

October 2017-October 2018

**30,000+** individual water quality  
measurements completed - does not include flow  
monitoring, pressure monitoring, or qPCR

**2.64 billion** online plumbing related  
measurements

# Today, we'll share some emerging results

1:50 to 3:00 pm ... Please post questions in the chat box during the presentations.

Andrew Whelton will compile them and during his talk ask each speaker to explain and/or follow-up after the meeting.

Andrew Whelton/Purdue	Project overview, status, and timeline
Liz Montagnino/Purdue	Office building water safety: The role of weekend stagnation
Tiong Gim Aw/Tulane	Microbiology of a school during Summer and Fall seasons
Alshae Logan/MSU	Microbiology of large institutional buildings
Ryan Julien/MSU	Identifying variables that influence Legionella concentrations
Ian Kropp/MSU	Bootstrap Aggregated Decision Tree Classification of End-use Events Through Upstream Features
Maria Palmegiani/Manhattan-Purdue	Development of the integrative hydraulic and water quality model
Ryan Julien/MSU (w/ Drexel)	Comparing risks across building water use types with QMRA
Andrew Whelton/Purdue	Next steps

# **Extra Slides**



# This will be the integrative water quality-hydraulic model for a single-family home



*2014, building plumbing renovated with new PEX, trunk and branch design; low flow fixtures*

*Drinking water source:*

*Public water system: Groundwater, treated with free chlorine residual and a corrosion inhibitor, PVC and Iron water mains*

- October 2017-November 2018
- Continuous monitoring of water flow, air and water temperature at service line and all plumbing components  
**= 2.64 billion data points**
- Pressure monitoring continuous during water sampling, 2-3 week periods
- **More than 222,223 labor hours** for water sampling and analysis (**does not include data interpretation, reporting and other activities**)
  - 58 sampling events, 5 locations, hot and cold water, 7am, 12pm, 3pm

## OBJ. 2A: FIELD MEASUREMENTS

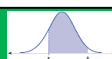
Pipe Network  
Design - pipe  
sizes, layout,  
fixtures

Temperature

Chemical and  
Microbial  
Contaminant  
Concentrations

## OBJ. 1: LITERATURE, PARTNERS, WORKSHOP

Water Demand,  
Flow and Use



Input

Water Quality  
Parameters

Water pH

Alkalinity

NOM

Disinfectant

Larson Index

Metal  
Content

**OBJ. 2B**  
**EPANET-MSX**  
*Integrative  
Hydraulic-  
Water Quality  
Models*

Water Age –  
Stagnation  
time/Residence  
Time

Water Quality at  
each fixture

Output



TOC/AOC

Disinfectant  
Residual

Metal  
Content

Pathogen  
Content

By-Products

## OBJ. 2C: WATER QUALITY MODELS

Which factors (inputs)  
significantly influence  
water quality?

## OBJ. 3A: RISK ASSESSMENT MODELS

What are the human  
health risk associated  
with the measured and  
predicted contaminant  
concentrations?

OBJ. 3B: DECISION SUPPORT TOOL

Model Calibration

Rate Constants

Pilot Study

Field Study

Bench  
Scale  
Experiment

Model Benchmark/ Validation

**OBJ. 2B SIMULATIONS – DIFFERENT WATER DEMAND, WATER  
QUALITY, HYDRAULIC PRESSURES**

Water  
Treatment  
Process

Well Water

Lake Water

River Water



# Office Building Water Safety:

## *The Role of Weekend Stagnation*

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**ELIZABETH MONTAGNINO**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

# Stagnation of water in office buildings

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Friday → Saturday → Sunday → Monday: Low to no water use

Stagnation can induce:

disinfectant decay<sup>1,2,3</sup>

metal leaching from plumbing and scales<sup>4,5,6</sup>

bacterial growth and emergence of pathogens into bulk water<sup>3,7,8</sup>

Flushing has been previously assumed to be adequate for remediating water quality problems.

- <sup>1</sup>Biswas, P., Lu, C., & Clark, R. M. (1993). A model for chlorine concentration decay in pipes. *Water Research*, 27(12), 1715-1724.
- <sup>2</sup>Hallam, N. B., West, J. R., Forster, C. F., & Simms, J. (2001). The potential for biofilm growth in water distribution systems. *Water Research*, 35(17), 4063-4071.
- <sup>3</sup>Nguyen, C., Elfland, C., & Edwards, M. (2012). Impact of advanced water conservation features and new copper pipe on rapid chloramine decay and microbial regrowth. *Water research*, 46(3), 611-621.
- <sup>4</sup>Lytle, D. A., & Schock, M. R. (2000). Impact of stagnation time on metal dissolution from plumbing materials in drinking water. *Journal of Water Supply: Research and Technology—AQUA*, 49(5), 243-257.
- <sup>5</sup>Ra, K., Odimayomi, T., Ley, C., Aw, T. G., Rose, J. B., & Whelton, A. J. (2020). Finding building water quality challenges in a 7 year old green school: implications for building design, sampling, and remediation. *Environmental Science: Water Research & Technology*.
- <sup>6</sup>Richard, R., Hamilton, K. A., & Boyer, T. (2020). Tracking copper, chlorine, and occupancy in a multi-story, new, institutional green building. *Environmental Science: Water Research & Technology*.
- <sup>7</sup>Lautenschlager, K., Boon, N., Wang, Y., Egli, T., & Hammes, F. (2010). Overnight stagnation of drinking water in household taps induces microbial growth and changes in community composition. *Water research*, 44(17), 4868-4877.
- <sup>8</sup>Lipphaus, P., Hammes, F., Kötzsch, S., Green, J., Gillespie, S., & Nocker, A. (2014). Microbiological tap water profile of a medium-sized building and effect of water stagnation. *Environmental Technology*, 35(5), 620-628.

# Technical approach: Fixture use, water sampling, and analysis

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*3 weekends in Winter 2020*

Friday @ 5:30 pm

Monday @ 6:30 am

Daily fixture use recorded by building inhabitants

Collected water samples at the point-at-entry and worked our way from the basement to the top floor

On-Site

pH

Temperature

Total chlorine

Lab Analysis

Alkalinity

ICP-OES

Ion chromatography (IC)

Flow cytometry for TCC

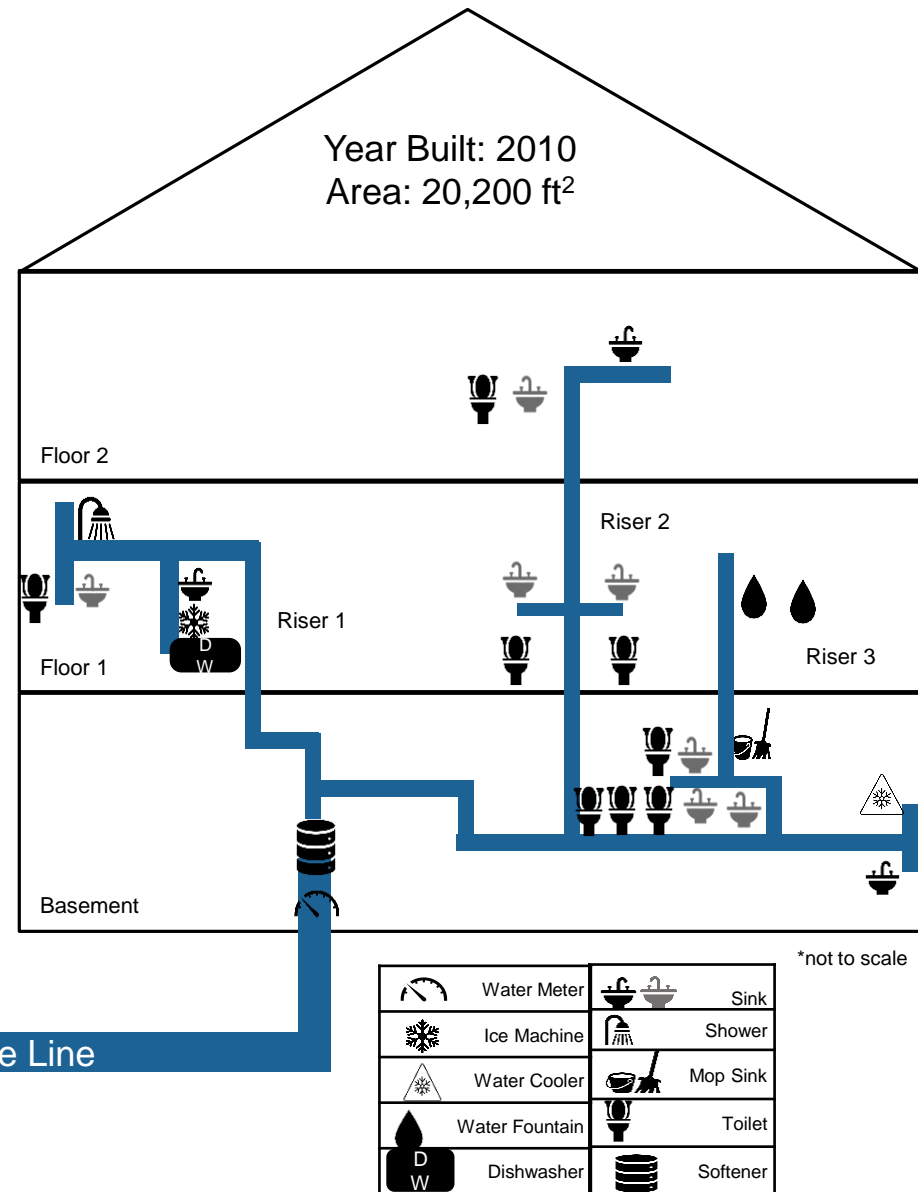
Organic carbon: TOC and DOC

qPCR at Tulane

# Service Line and Building Distribution

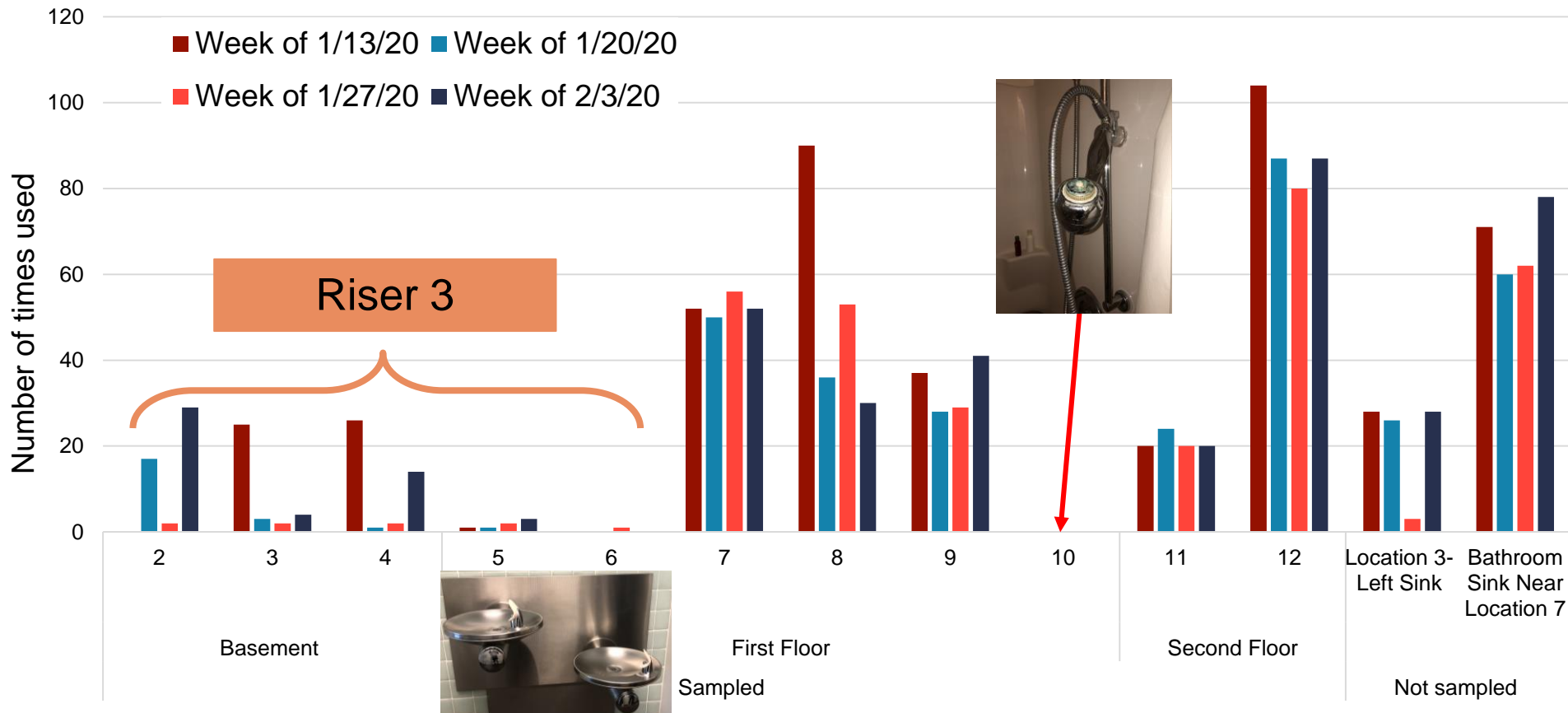
Year Built: 2010  
Area: 20,200 ft<sup>2</sup>

- Service line: 31.5 G ( 118.5 L )
  - 3 pipe segments: 25 ft galvanized pipe + two copper pipes, 19.5 ft and 72.5 ft
- A 3- story copper pipe distribution system with 3 risers
- Water softener: 16 G (59.7 L)
- 1 Point of Entry (POE) + 17 Water use locations total
  - 11 sample locations + 1 sample at POE
  - 5 potable cold ( C ) water sample locations
  - 6 thermal mixing valve (TMV) fixtures
- Appliances
  - On demand water heaters
  - Dishwasher, ice machine, refrigerator
  - Water cooler

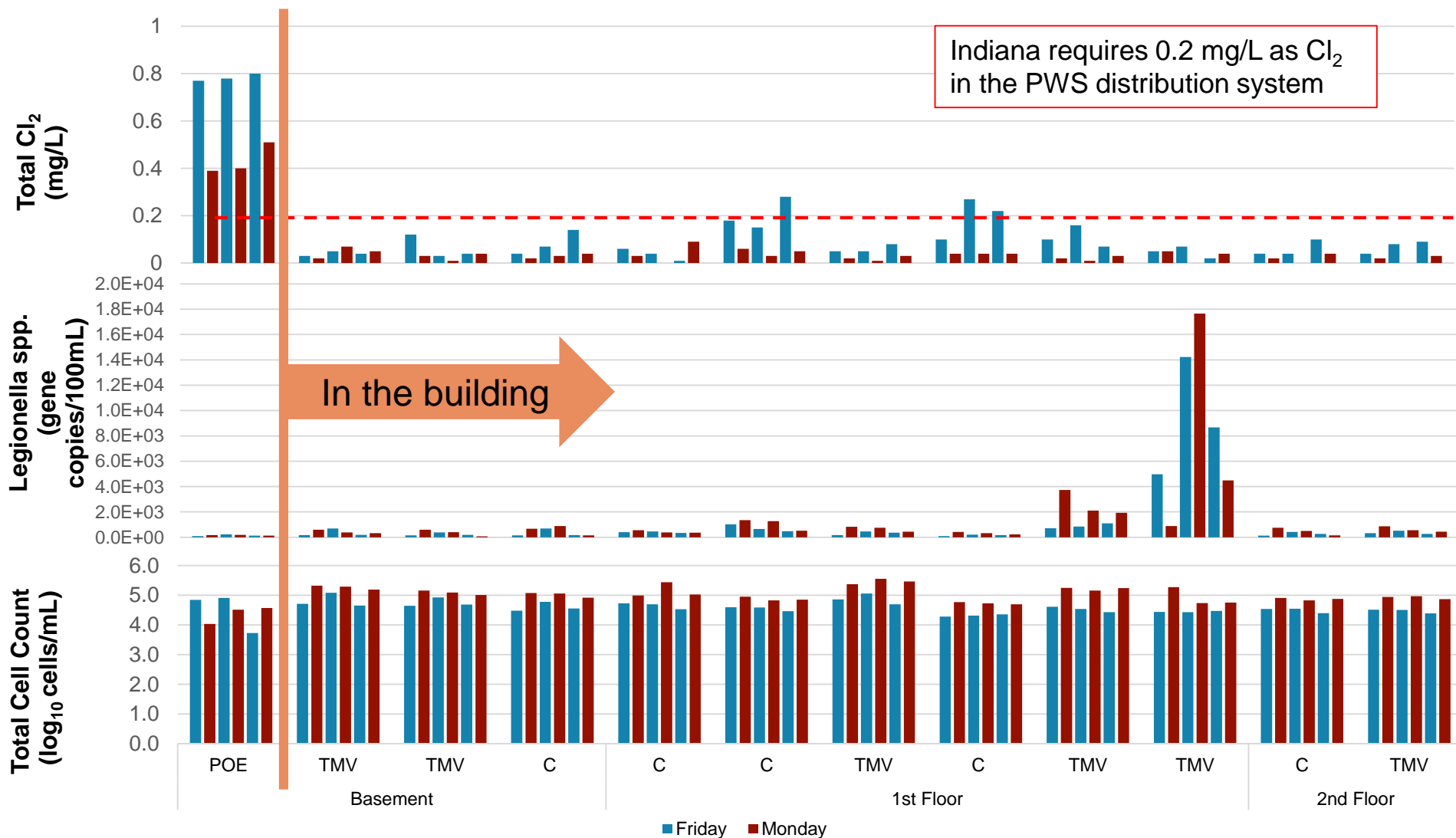


Public Water System (PWS) water main with chloramines residual

# Results: Fixture use



# Disinfectant levels were always lower on Monday; bacteria levels always higher





# Copper consistently exceeded the health-based 1.3 mg/L limit at select locations

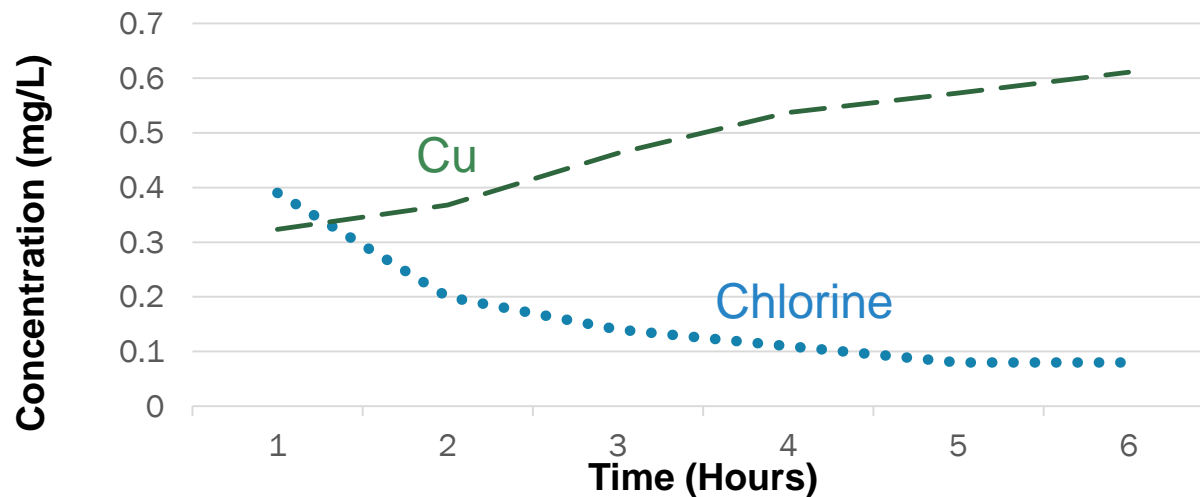
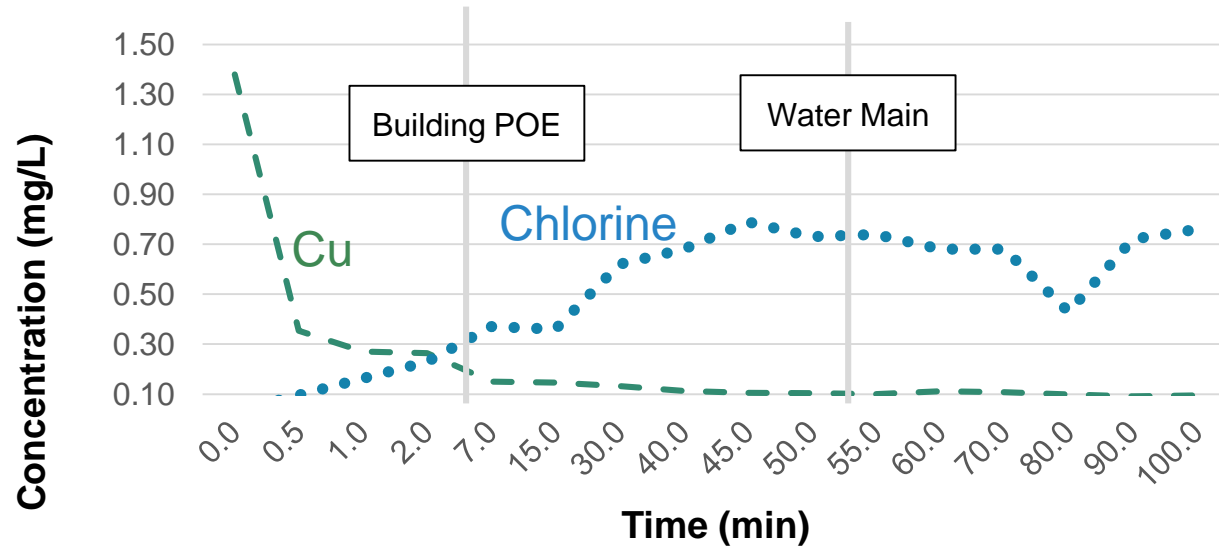
Location Description		Cu, mg/L		Pb, µg/L	
		Friday	Monday	Friday	Monday
POE	1	0.05 - 0.96	0.19 - 0.29	2.4 - 4.4	3.1 - 4.1
Basement	2	0.87 - 1.5	1.1 - 1.4	3.6 - 6.8	4.1 - 5.0
	3	0.80 - 1.6	1.1 - 1.3	3.8 - 5.8	3.4 - 5.0
	4	0.74 - 1.9	1.4 - 1.7	3.1 - 5.4	3.1 - 4.5
First Floor	5	0.39 - 0.87	0.68 - 0.78	2.5 - 4.2	3.2 - 4.9
	6	0.49 - 0.69	1.3 - 1.4	2.3 - 5.2	3.4 - 4.0
	7	0.37 - 0.96	0.86 - 1.0	2.7 - 5.5	4.6 - 5.6
	8	0.26 - 0.49	0.38 - 0.47	3.6 - 5.4	2.8 - 3.0
	9	0.43 - 0.47	0.41 - 0.44	4.5 - 6.7	4.0 - 4.6
	10	0.33 - 0.55	0.43 - 0.49	3.7 - 7.6	3.2 - 4.3
Second Floor	11	0.53 - 0.93	0.74 - 0.92	3.3 - 4.3	3.4 - 3.9
	12	0.04 - 0.87	0.68 - 0.77	1.8 - 4.2	3.7 - 3.8

Exceedances found every week at Riser 3

Overall, greater amounts of Cu and Pb were found on Monday morning ( $p < 0.05$ )

Pb always >1

# Flushing reduced copper levels and increased disinfectant levels, BUT rebounded quickly



Location 4-  
Basement Kitchen (Riser 3)

Flushing Time:

9 min. to reach the point-of-entry  
(POE),  $Q = 2.18$  L/min

54 min. to reach the water main

Copper rebounded at

0.06 mg/L-hr

Time for copper to exceed 1.3 mg/L:  
initial conc. 0.09 mg/L... 19 hours

Chlorine decayed at

0.31 mg/L-hr

Time for chlorine to be  $<0.2$  mg/L:  
initial conc. 0.4 mg/L... 1 hour

Time for chlorine to be  $<0.01$  mg/L:  
initial conc. 0.4 mg/L... 31 hours

# Discussion and Recommendations

PWS water met federal and state drinking water standards

10 years after the green building was placed into service, Cu problems were consistently found at 1 of 3 risers due to weekend stagnation

Monday AM had higher TCC, Cu, and Pb levels compared to Friday PM

Cu levels rebounded quickly after fixture flushing. Est. within 21 hours, >1.3 mg/L

Total Cl<sub>2</sub> residual decays to below state regulated levels (0.2 mg/L) within Est. 1 hour

## **Recommendations**

### **As part of a new building's certificate of occupancy attainment....**

Water safety testing for copper, lead, and chlorine should be required to identify conditions where unsafe water may exist in buildings. Weekend stagnation is recommended before sampling.

A plumbing flushing plan and as-built plumbing drawing should be present. This can help the health department, building officials, and building owners understand how the system is designed and may operate.

Thank you.

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# Contributions by

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Ross Graduate Fellowship  
Andrews Graduate Fellowship  
Lilian Gilbreth Postdoctoral Fellowship

# **Water microbiology of a school building during Summer and Fall seasons**

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**Tulane University**

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Kathryn Jordan, Laura Scott (Tulane University), Kyungyeon Ra,  
Christian Ley (Purdue University), Rebecca Ives, Matthew Flood (MSU)

# Study objectives

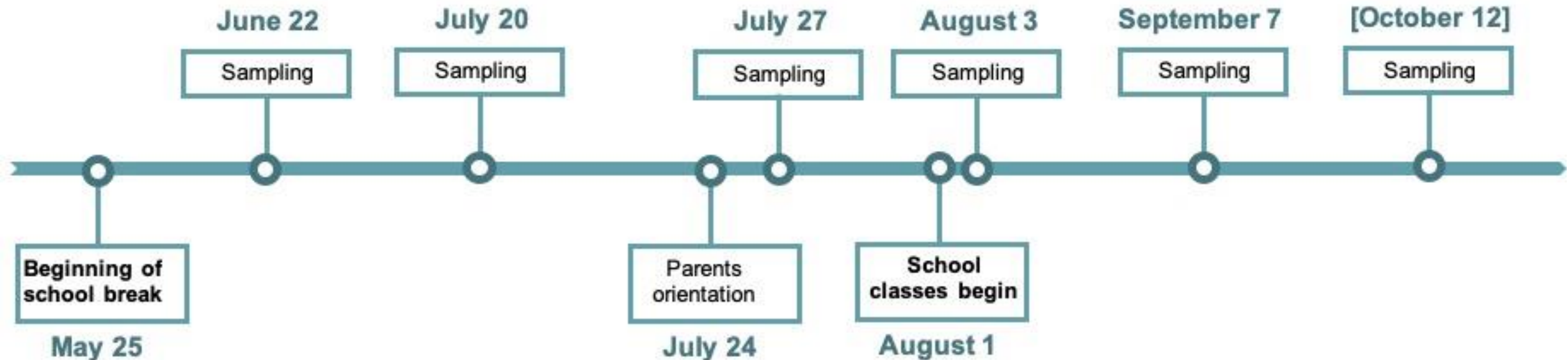
- This study was conducted to better understand microbial water quality changes in a LEED-certified school building (Green building) during low water use (Summer) and normal water use (Autumn).

## Objectives:

- Determine chemical and microbiological water quality at 20 cold and hot water locations in a building;
- Examine occurrence and density of four opportunistic pathogens (*Legionella*, *Mycobacterium*, *Naegleria fowleri*, *Acanthamoeba*) in plumbing of a green school building; and
- Determine if water quality differed between low water use and normal water use conditions.

# Field Study: LEED Middle School

- LEED middle school receives chloraminated water from a public water system; Copper plumbing, water softener, hot water recirculation system.
- School water source: blending waters that originate from two different treatment plants (on average, 75% of groundwater source and 25% of surface water source)
- Water samples were collected from 20 different locations. Water sampling schedule:







# Methods for the pathogen detection

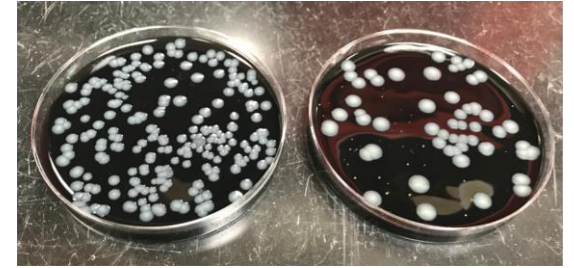
1 liter of tap water was collected (first-draw)



Membrane filtration

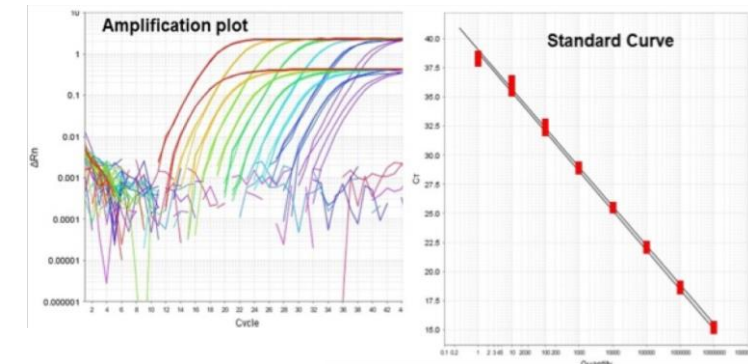


**Culture** (ISO 11731-2. Water quality – Detection and enumeration of *Legionella* – Part 2: Direct membrane filtration method for waters with low bacterial counts)



**Quantitative PCR –**

- *Legionella* spp. (23S rRNA)
- *Legionella pneumophila* (*mip* gene)
- *Mycobacterium* spp. (the internal transcribed spacer sequence)
- *Mycobacterium avium* (16S rRNA)
- *Naegleria fowleri*
- *Acanthamoeba* spp.



# Water quality measurement of first draw samples

		Summer									Fall								
		After meter ( <i>n</i> = 3)			Cold lines ( <i>n</i> = 27)			Hot lines ( <i>n</i> = 27)			After meter ( <i>n</i> = 3)			Cold lines ( <i>n</i> = 27)			Hot lines ( <i>n</i> = 27)		
Parameter		Min	$\bar{x}$	Max	Min	$\bar{x}$	Max	Min	$\bar{x}$	Max	Min	$\bar{x}$	Max	Min	$\bar{x}$	Max	Min	$\bar{x}$	Max
General	Temp, °C	25.2	26.1	27.3	15.8	21.9	26.4	21.5	29.3	47.3	20.4	24.2	27.1	14.5	21.8	30.2	19.7	29.8	46.3
	pH	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.2	7.8	8.5	7.7	8	8.2	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.6	7.9	8.2	7.7	8	8.2
	DO, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	8.9	9	9.1	2.6	6.9	10.2	3.1	5.6	8.9	7.4	8.4	9.2	4.4	7.4	9.2	3.2	6.6	9
	Total Cl <sub>2</sub> , mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1	0.2	0.2	0	0.1	1.4	0	0.1	1	0	0.2	0.2	0	0.03	0.3	0.01	0.03	0.13
	NH <sub>2</sub> Cl, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1	0.2	0.3	0	0.08	0.5	0	0.04	0.1	0.07	0.5	0.94	0	0.07	0.41	0	0.1	0.7
	Free NH <sub>3</sub> , mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0	0.2	0.48	0	0.1	0.41	0.01	0.2	0.84	0	0.06	0.13	0	0.08	0.21	0.01	0.06	0.16
Organics	TOC, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1.7	1.9	2	1.5	2.2	6.7	2.9	3.4	3.8	1.8	2	2.2	1.5	1.9	2.3	1.6	2.3	3.4
	DOC, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1.7	1.9	2	1	2.1	6.5	2.6	3.3	3.6	1.8	2	2.1	1.4	1.9	2.2	1.7	2.2	3.3
Microbiology	HPC, CFU/100 mL	11	148	400	13	12 614	214 000	0	1284	12 667	18	114	245	0.667	7489	117 670	0	720 894	19 430 000
	TCC, cell per mL × 10 <sup>4</sup>	3.02	20.9	35.6	4.79	23.8	62.8	54.8	81.6	116.1	5.89	80.5	43.4	6.86	19.9	32.8	15.4	34.2	79.8
Nitrogen	NH <sub>4</sub> -N, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0.4	0.7	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.4	3.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
	NO <sub>2</sub> -N, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	NO <sub>3</sub> -N, mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0.8	1.5	2.8	0.8	1.9	3.0	0.9	1.3	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.5	2.6	1.0	1.3	2.2
Metal	Cu, µg L <sup>-1</sup>	347	415	503	55	1356	2440	196	689	1320	57	68	81	0	980	2290	0	693	1320
	Pb, µg L <sup>-1</sup>	0	0	0	18.5	2.2	40.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	35.1	0	0	0

$\bar{x}$  = mean; lead was only detected in shower cold water, also detected for second draw (7.79 µg L<sup>-1</sup>) but not for third draw on the last sampling event.

Ra K., Odimayomi T., Ley C.J., Aw T.G., Rose J.B., Whelton A.J. Finding building water quality challenges in a 7-year old LEED school: implications for building design, sampling and remediation. Environmental Science: Water Research and Technology. 6: 2691-2703.

<https://doi.org/10.1039/D0EW00520G>



# The detection of *Legionella* using cell culture

- Water samples collected on July 20 and Oct 12 were also analyzed for *Legionella* using culture-based method.
- **July 20** - Colonies of *Legionella* species, as confirmed by qPCR, were recovered from **5 of 20** water samples (**25%**). The *Legionella pneumophila* specific test for these colonies showed negative. This means that other cultivable *Legionella* species were present in the water systems.
- All isolates were identified as most closely related to *Legionella donaldsonii*.
- **Oct 12** – Cultivable *Legionella* were not detected in water samples.



The detection of *Legionella* species in water samples using cell culture. Left, water sample AS (After softener); right, water sample HWRa (Hot water recirculation).

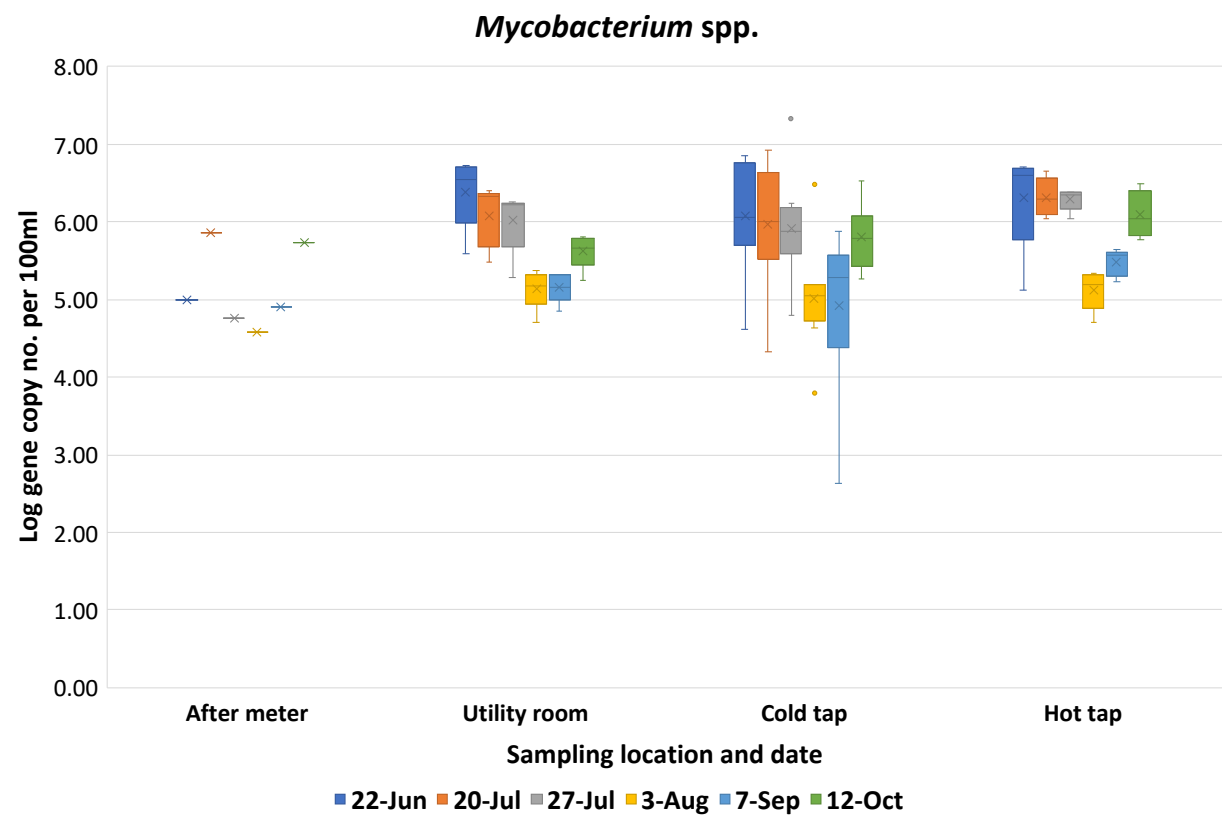
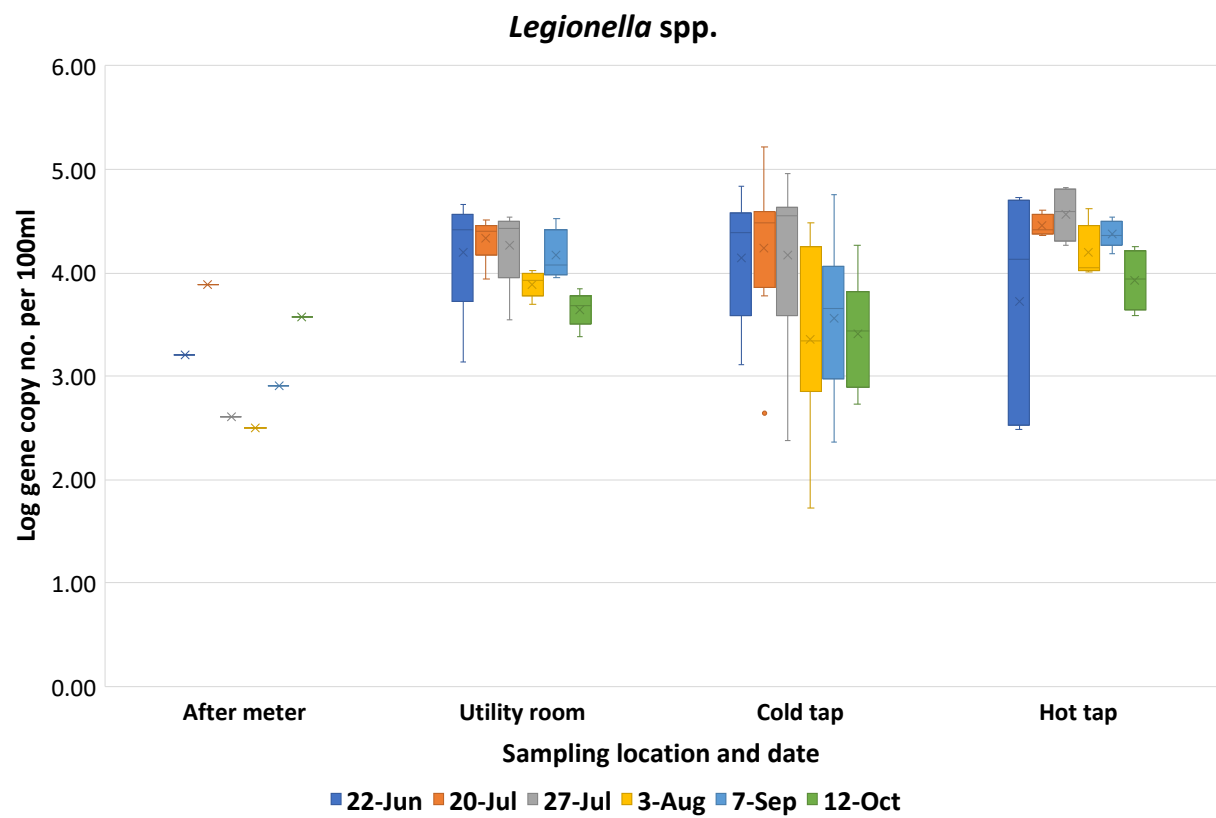
Concentration of *Legionella* species by cell culture  
(Sampling: July 20)

Sampling site	Site ID	<i>Legionella</i> species concentration by culture (CFU/100ml)
After softener	AS	5,720
Before water heater	BWH	4,810
Hot water recirculation	HWRa	970
Bathroom hot water	B1H	1,040
		<i>Legionella</i> species concentration by culture (CFU/swab)
Bathroom shower	SH2 (swab)	7

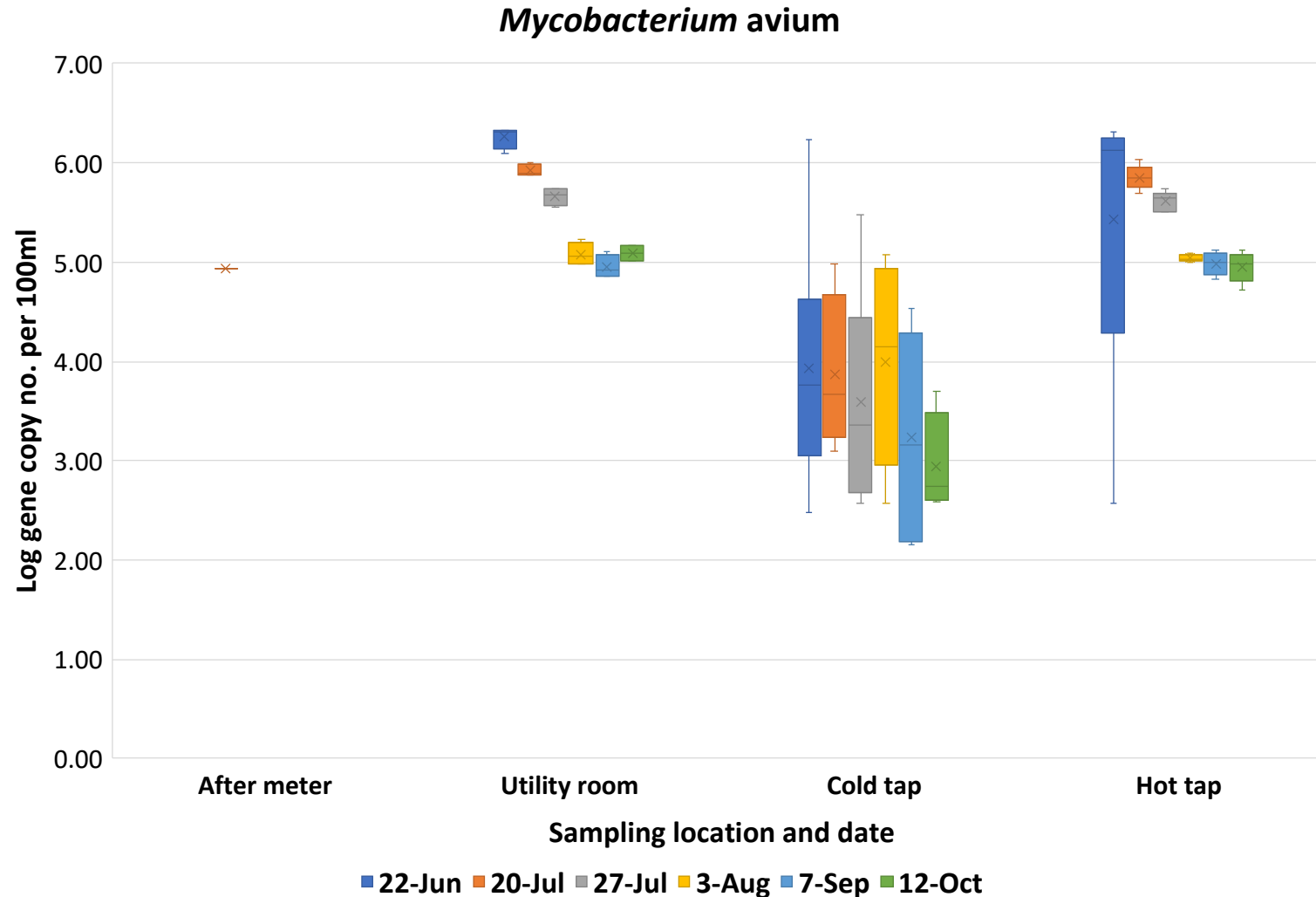
# Opportunistic pathogen survey of school water systems using qPCR

Target organism	Occurrence rate (%)		Concentration (gene copy no. per 100ml)	
	Sites (n = 20)	Water samples (n = 120)	Highest	Average for positive samples
<i>Legionella</i> spp.	100	100	$1.7 \times 10^5$	$9.0 \times 10^3$
<i>Legionella pneumophila</i>	0	0	N/A	N/A
<i>Mycobacterium</i> spp.	100	100	$2.2 \times 10^7$	$5.0 \times 10^5$
<i>Mycobacterium avium</i>	95	75	$2.1 \times 10^6$	$4.9 \times 10^4$
<i>Naegleria fowleri</i>	0	0	N/A	N/A
<i>Acanthamoeba</i> spp.	70	17.5	$6.0 \times 10^5$	$6.3 \times 10^2$

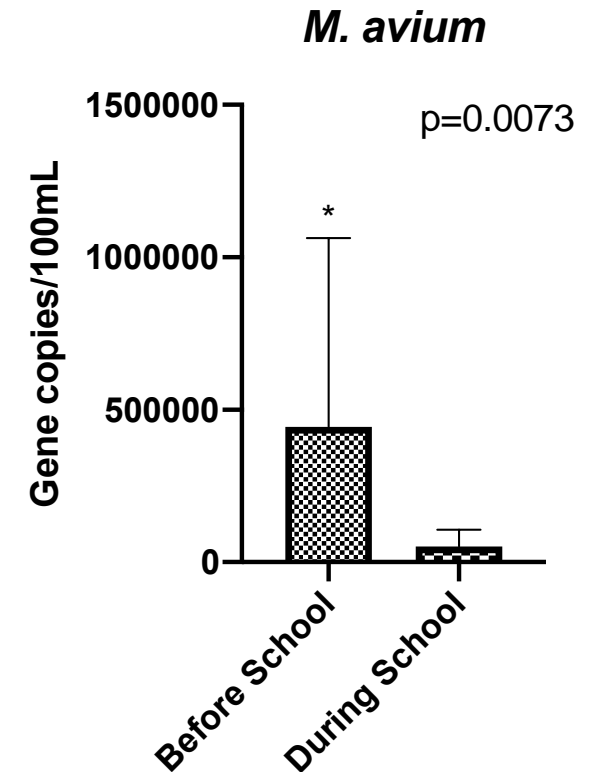
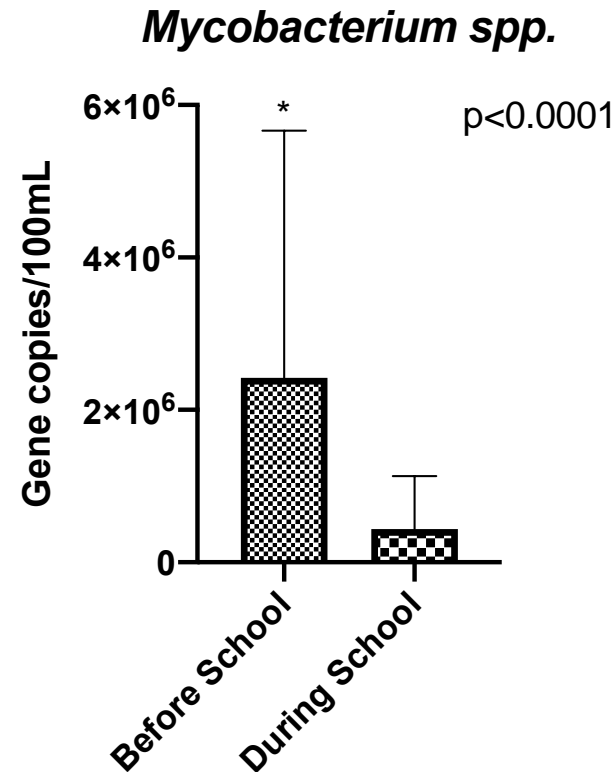
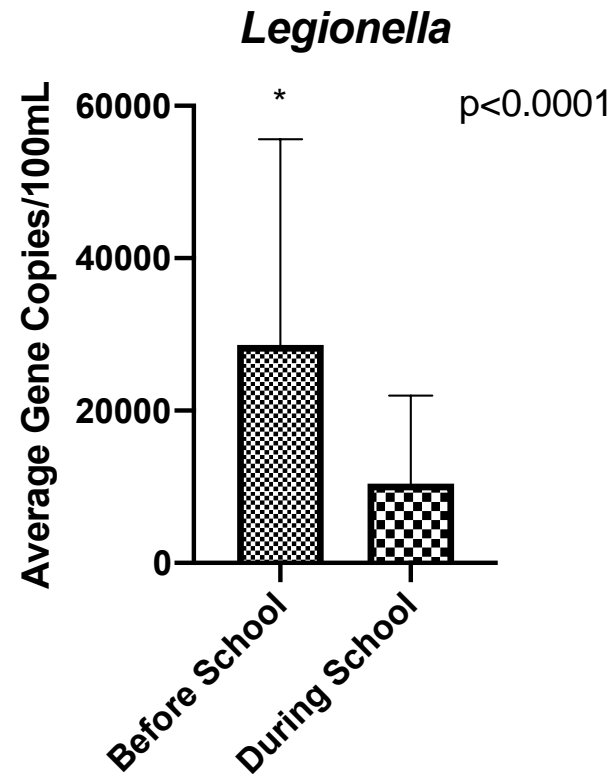
# Spatial and temporal distribution of *Legionella* spp., *Mycobacterium* spp. in plumbing of a green school building as determined by qPCR



# Spatial and temporal distribution of *Mycobacterium avium* in plumbing of a green school building as determined by qPCR



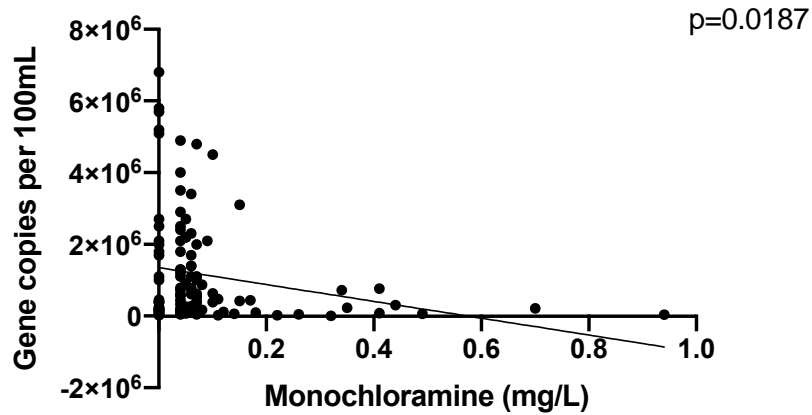
# Comparison of average concentrations of pathogen genetic markers in water systems under low vs. normal water use conditions



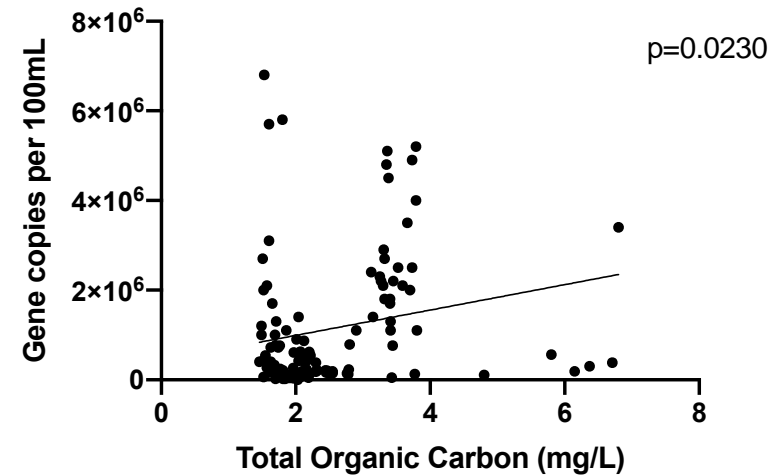


# Significant association between physiochemical properties and opportunistic pathogen genetic markers

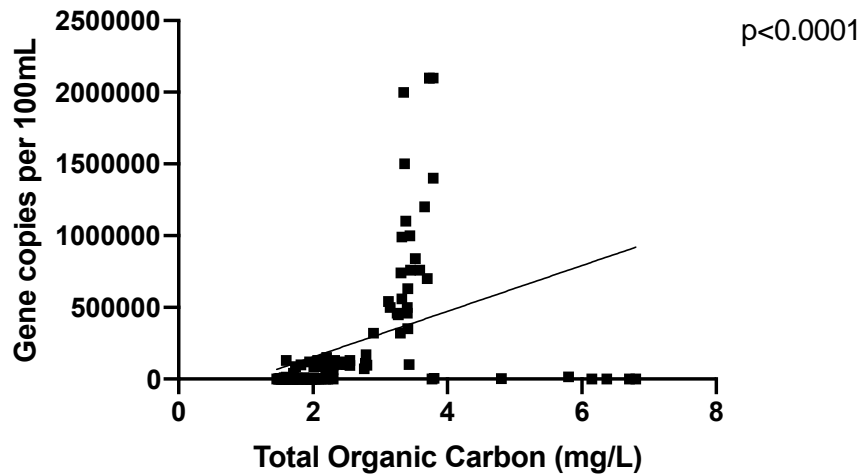
Monochloramine and *Mycobacterium spp.*



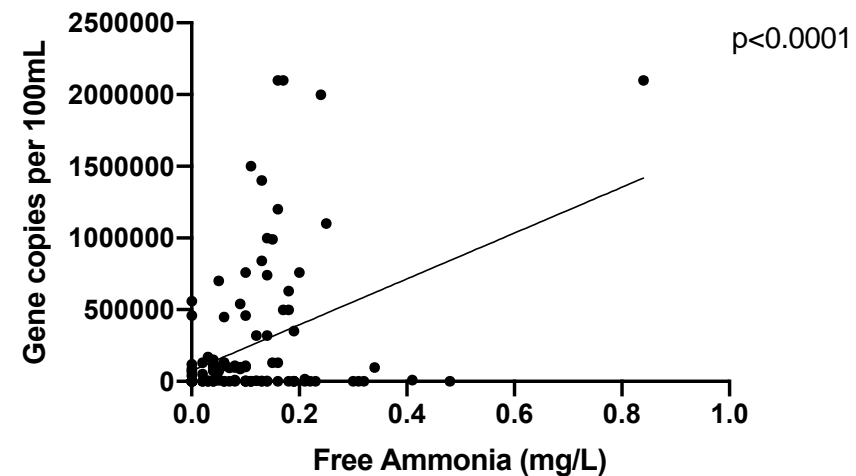
Total Organic Carbon and *Mycobacterium spp.*



Total Organic Carbon and *Mycobacterium avium*



Free Ammonia and *Mycobacterium avium*



# Conclusions

- The presence of opportunistic pathogens in premise plumbing can be affected by the frequency of water use in a building.
- The rapid rate of disinfectant loss in green buildings due to high water stagnation needs to be better understood and addressed.
- This study demonstrates the importance of considering potential public health impacts in the design of sustainable water systems in green buildings.

# **Occurrence of Pathogenic *Legionella* and Amoebae spp. from Source (Groundwater) to Exposure Sites (Taps And Cooling Towers) In a Complex Water System**

**Alshae' Logan-Jackson**

**Advisor: Joan B. Rose**

**Departments of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; Fisheries and Wildlife**

**Michigan State University**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

# The Research Project Has 3 Main Objectives

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- Objective 1: Examine pathogenic *Legionella* species in different types of buildings in two different seasons
- Objective 2: Examine pathogenic *Legionella* species on MSU campus groundwater source to distributed water to cooling towers, a wholistic view of the water system
- Objective 3: Examine the co-occurrence between *Naegleria fowleri*, *Acanthamoeba* spp. and *Legionella* spp.

# Sampling Sites and Dates for Objective 1

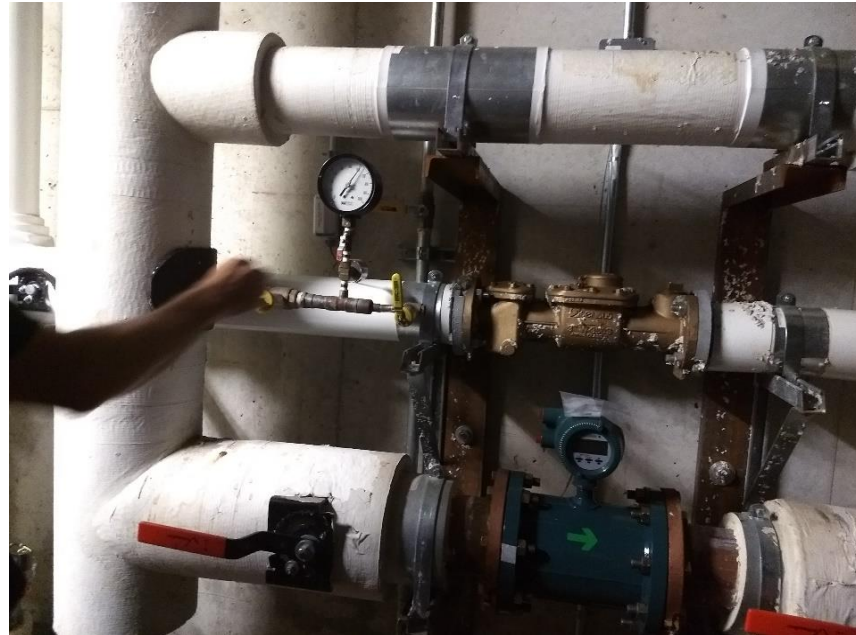
F August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
and January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019



BPS: August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
and January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019



M August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
and January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019





# Sampling Sites and Dates for Objective 1

FH: September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
and January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019



ERC: August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
and January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019



# Sampling sites and Dates for Objectives 2 & 3: Variability from Source to Tap, and Cooling Towers

Reservoir  
Influent: N= 6  
Effluent: N= 6

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 23, & 29<sup>th</sup>  
and August 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, & 20<sup>th</sup>



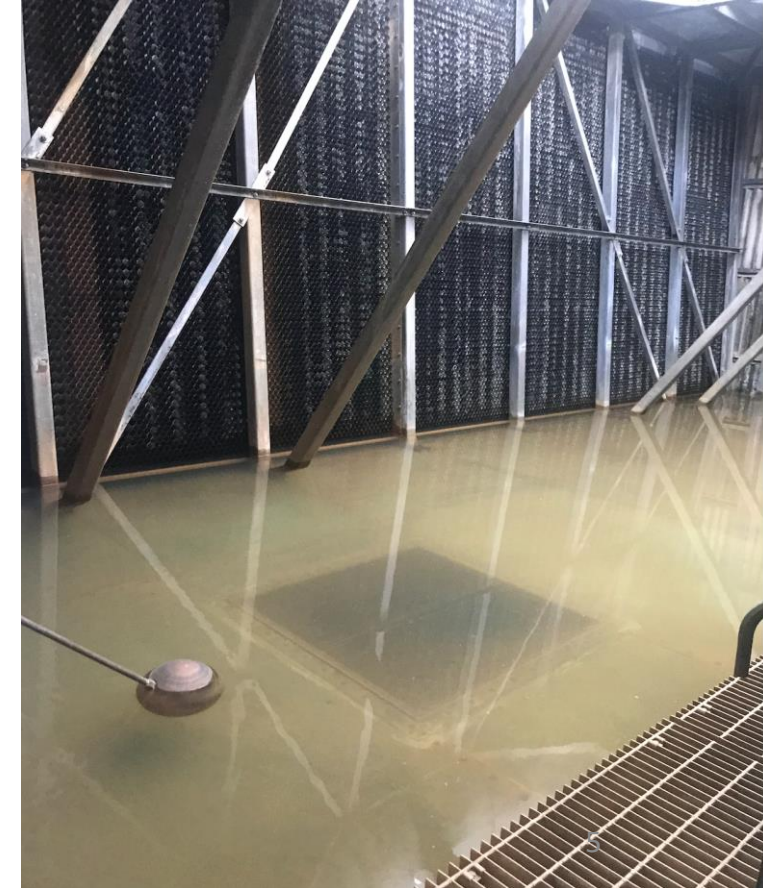
F: N= 15  
ERC: N= 9

August 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
and September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>



Cooling tower: N = 6

July 25<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>  
and August 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>





# Monitoring: Water Diagnostics using Droplet Digital Polymerase Chain Reaction (ddPCR)

Bacteria species

Target Species	Primer/Probe name	Primer/Probe Sequence	Reference
<i>Legionella</i> species	23SF	5'-CCCATGAAGCCCGTTGAA-3'	Nazarian et al., 2008
	23SR	5'-ACAATCAGCCAATTAGTACGAGTTAGC-3'	
	23SP probe	5'-HEX-TCCACACCTCGCCTATCAACGTCGTAGT-BHQ1-3'	
<i>L. pneumophila</i> (mip gene)	mipF mipR LmipP	5'-AAAGGCATGCAAGACGCTATG-3' 5'-GAAACTTGTTAAGAACGTCCTTCATTTG-3' 5'-FAM-TGGCGCTCAATTGGCTTTAACCGA-BHQ1-3'	
<i>L. micdadei</i> <i>L. anisa</i> <i>L. bozemanii</i> <i>L. longbeachae</i>	Pan- <i>Legionella</i> F Pan- <i>Legionella</i> R LmicdadeiP LanisaP LbozemaniiP LlongbeachaeP	5'-GTACTAATTGGCTGATTGTCTTG-3' 5'-TTCACCTCTGAGTTCGAGATGG-3' 5'-FAM-AGCTGATTGGTTAATAGCCCAATCGG-BHQ1-3' 5'-HEX-CTCAACCTACGCAGAACTACTTGAGG-BHQ1-3' 5'-FAM-TACGCCCATTCATCATGCAAACCAGnT-BHQ1-3' 5'-HEX-CTGAGTATCATGCCAATAATGCGCGC-BHQ1-3'	Cross et al., 2016

Amoebae species

<i>Acanthamoeba</i> spp.	18S rRNAF 18S rRNAR 18S rRNAP	5'-CGACCAGCGATTAGGAGACG-3' 5'-CCGACGCCAAGGACGAC-3' 5'-FAM-TGAATACAAAACACCACCATCGGCGC-BHQ1-3'	Riviere et al., 2006;
<i>Naegleri fowleri</i>	ITSF ITSR ITSP	5'-GTGAAAACCTTTTTTCCATTTACA-3' 5'-AAATAAAAAGATTGACCATTTGAAA-3' 5'-HEX-GTG GCC CAC GAC AGC TTT-BHQ1-3'	Pélandakis et al., 2000



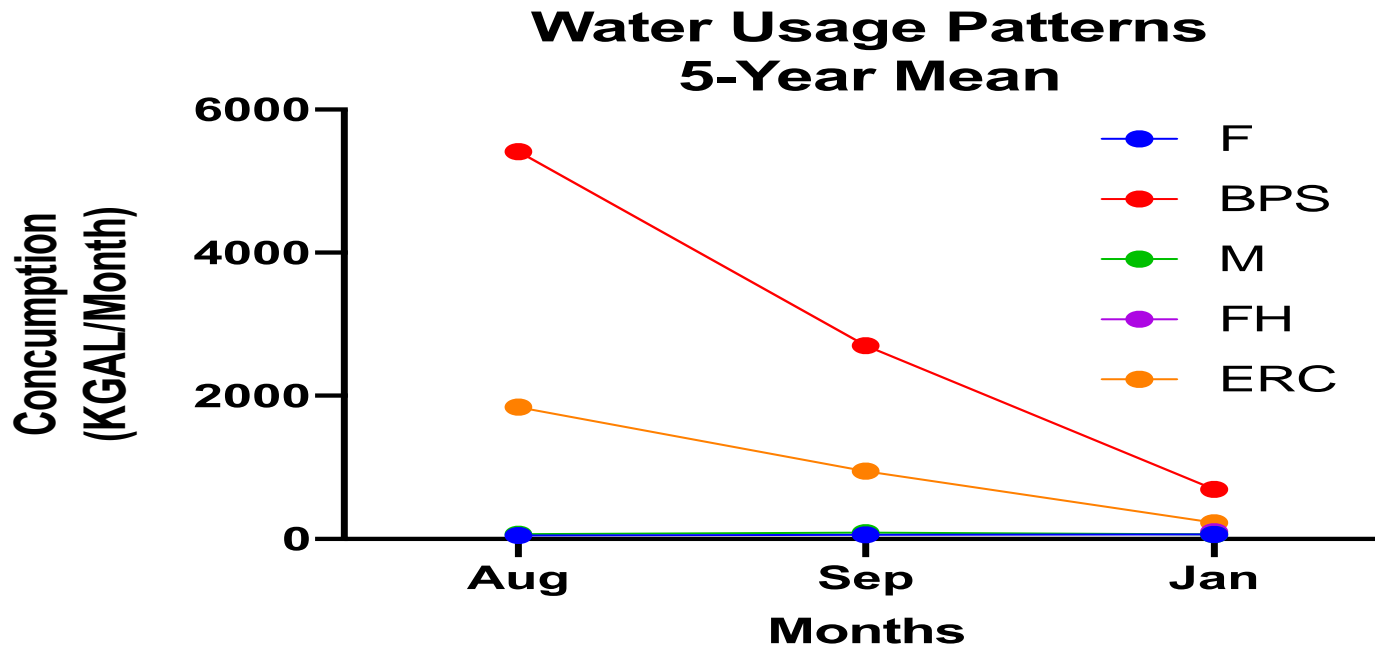
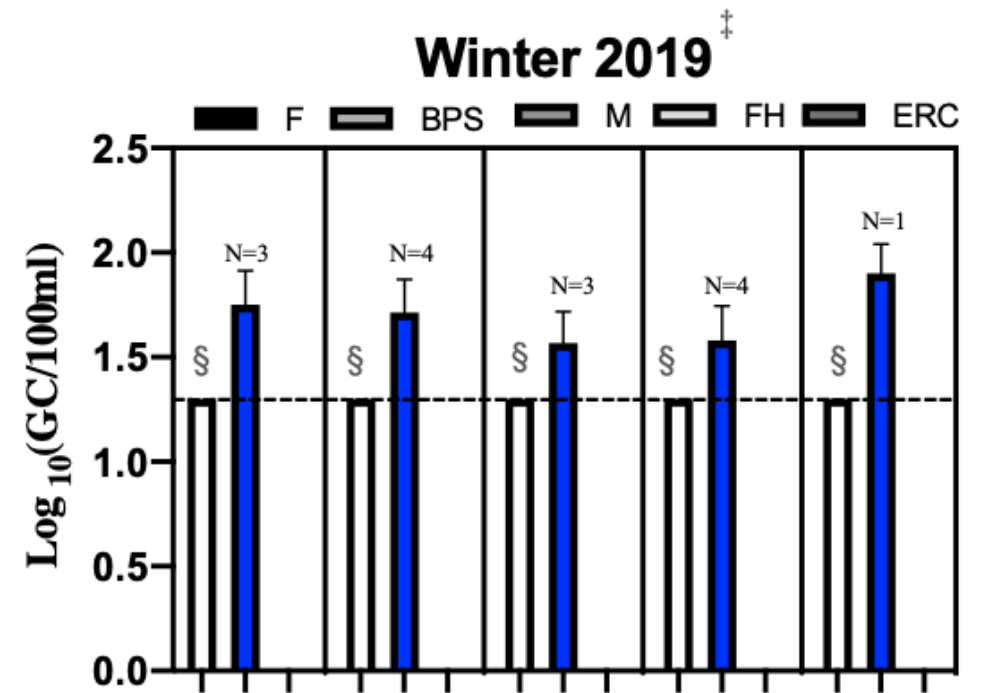
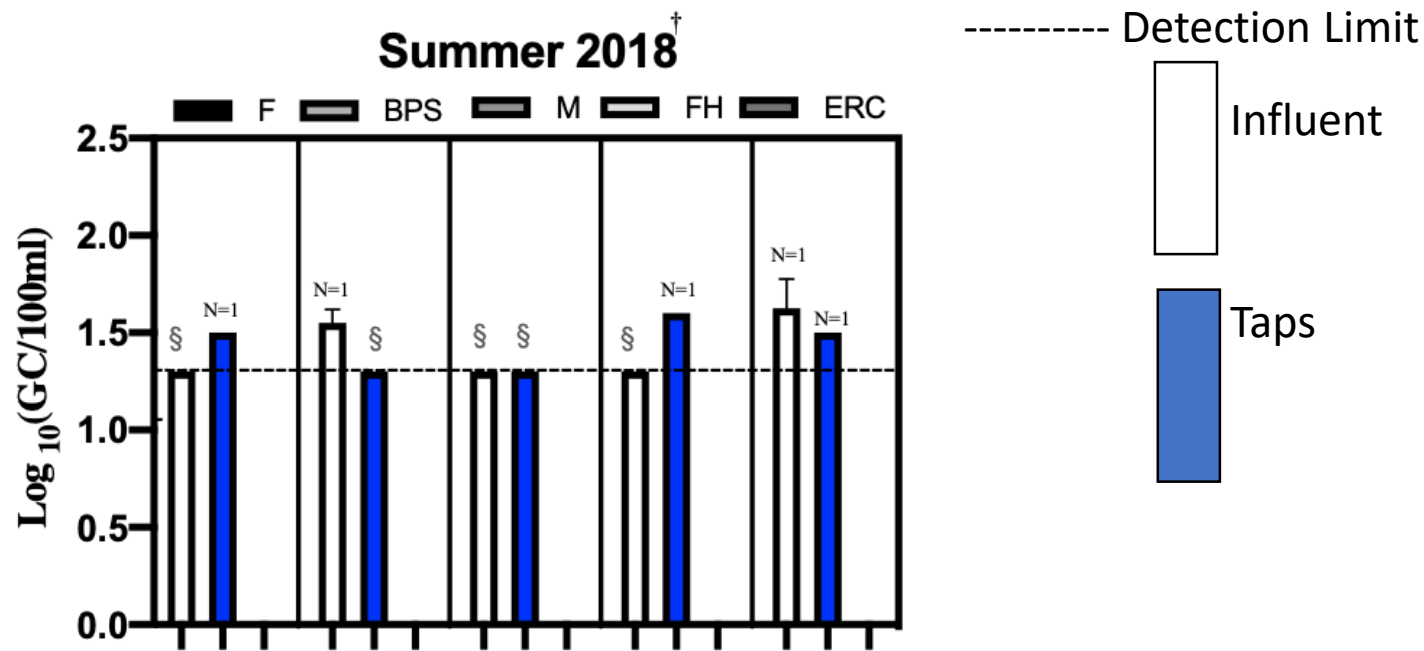
Source: BioRAD



## *Legionella* spp.

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- Total samples collected: 37
- *Legionella* species (23S rRNA) in all water samples was 100% positive
  - 2 out of 5 buildings potentially amplified at the points of use
    - 1.8 to 3.5 Log<sub>10</sub> GC/100 mL on influent vs points of use (Winter 2019)



**Presence of pathogenic  
*Legionella* species at the  
taps & water usage  
patterns**

\*Water usage for FH was only available for January<sup>8</sup>

# Legionella species (23S rRNA) in the Cooling Towers, Buildings (ERC & F), and the Reservoir (In. & Ef.)

One-Way ANOVA

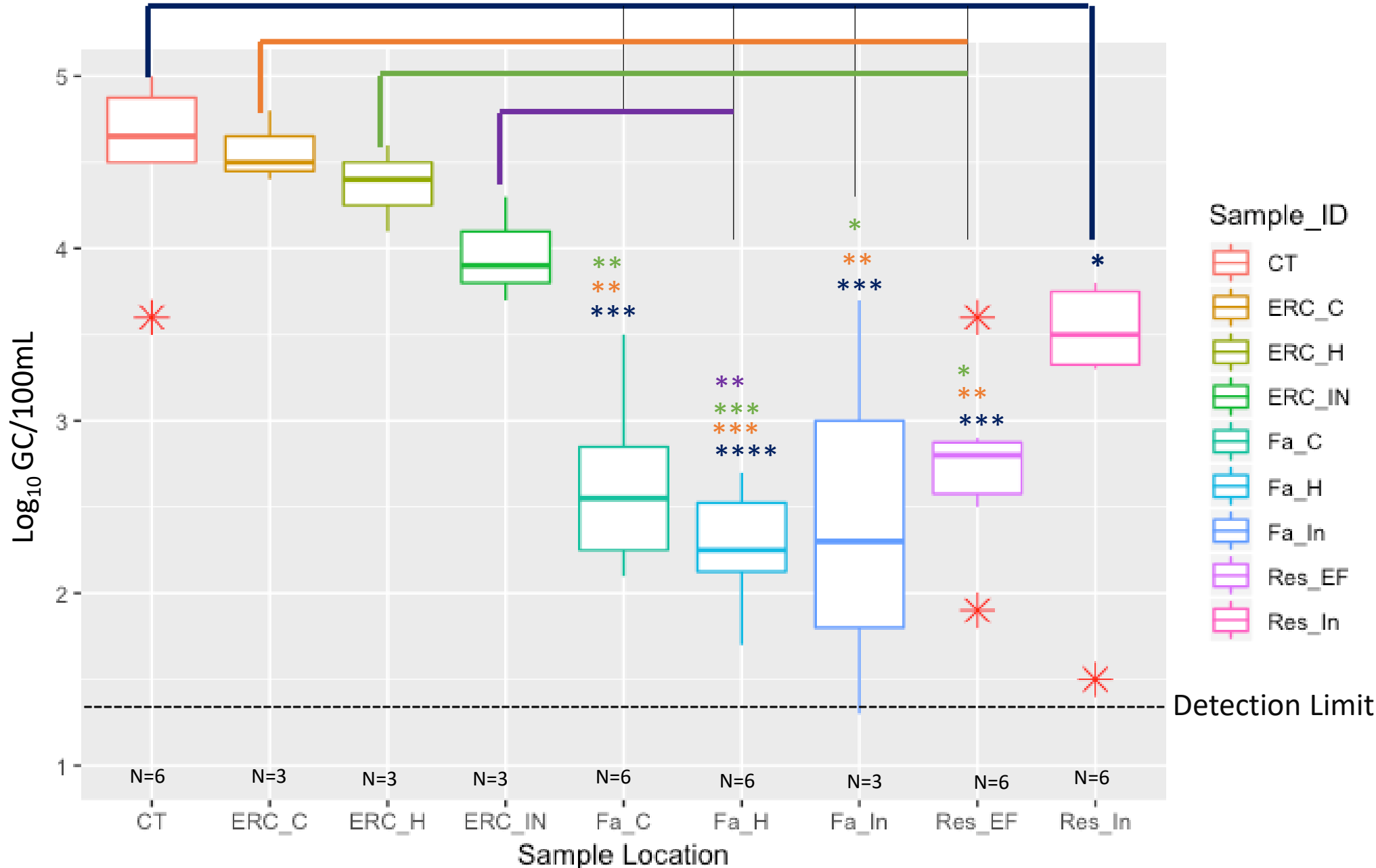
CT vs Res\_In, Res\_EF, Fa\_In, Fa\_H, Fa\_C (p= 0.0156, 0.0003, 0.0006, <0.0001, 0.0001)

ERC\_C vs Res\_EF, Fa\_In, Fa\_H, Fa\_C (p= 0.0043, 0.0036, 0.0002, 0.0020)

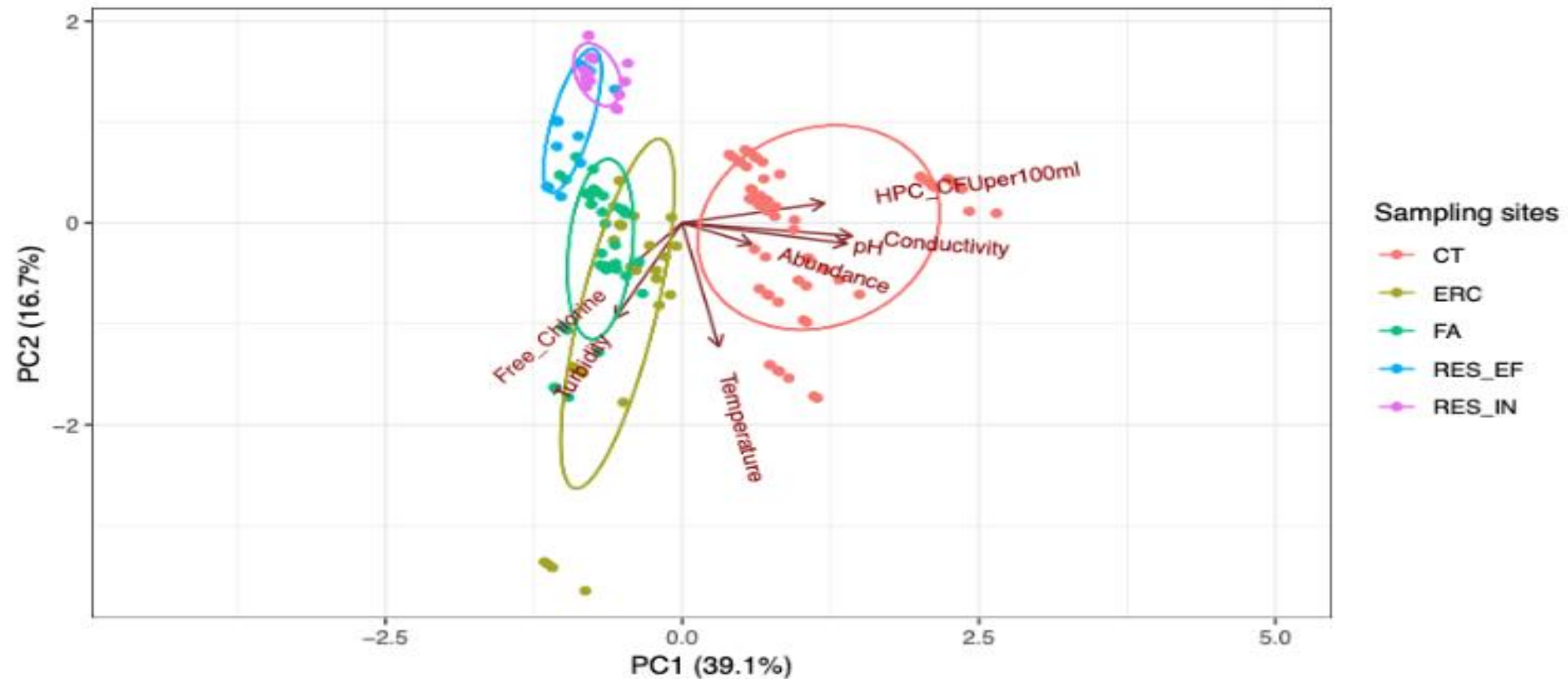
ERC\_H vs Res\_EF, Fa\_In, Fa\_H, Fa\_C (p= 0.0152, 0.0107, 0.0007, 0.0074)

ERC\_In vs Fa\_H (p = 0.0091)

**\* (Outliers)**



# Principal Component Analysis biplot showing the clustering of the data according to the water sampling sites



<sup>a</sup>Abundance represents free-living amoebae and *Legionella* species

# *Legionella* spp.

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- Total samples collected: 42
- *Acanthamoeba* spp. (%+)
  - 8/42 (19%)
- *Naegleria fowleri* (%+)
  - 17/42 (40%)
- *Naegleria fowleri* correlates with *L. micdadei*, and *L. bozemanii* ( $p = 0.002^{**}$ ,  $0.002^{**}$ ) in the BWS

# Conclusion

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- *Legionella* spp. (23S) and pathogenic *Legionella* related to water usage patterns
- Water age may play a role on the occurrence and concentration of *Legionella* spp. (23S) in the distribution system, premise plumbing, and the cooling towers
- A separation was between water samples collected from the cooling towers (CT) and those collected from the drinking water system (Fa, ERC, and RES\_IN, and RES\_EF)
- *Legionella micdadei* and *L. bozemanii* were more often related to *Naegleria* than *Acanthamoeba* spp.

# Discussion

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- Large volume composite sampling was successful in the study of *Legionella* specific species in a complex water system.
- Should compare pathogenic *Legionella* species in the influent vs the points of use.
- More studies are needed to understand the microbial ecology and water chemistry that affects the amplification of *Legionella* and amoebae species.

# Building Water Quality Relationships

Ryan Julien\*, Jade Mitchell,  
Pouyan Nejadhashemi, Babak Saravi, Ian Kropp  
November 12, 2020



# Introduction

- Water quality in premise plumbing is highly variable
- Goal: Reduce the number of input variables required to identify elevated Legionella risks



# Data Utilized – Analytical Data

- Analytical results
  - 59 sampling events from 8/17/17 through 10/9/2018
  - Seven fixtures
  - 12 variables including pH, residual chlorine, HPC, and qPCR for Legionella

Variable Name	Variable Description	Units	Percentile		
			2.5%	50.0%	97.5%
pH	pH	NA	7.36	8.00	9.04
Temp	Temperature	C	15.63	22.90	26.30
DO	Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	4.30	8.40	10.56
Total.Cl	Total Chlorine	mg/L	BDL	0.10	1.00
Free.Cl	Free Chlorine	mg/L	BDL	0.01	0.75
TOC	Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	0.42	0.81	15.36
DOC	Dissolved Organic Carbon	mg/L	0.42	0.73	18.97
Alka	Alkalinity	mg/L as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	264.15	287.25	332.65
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	mg/L	0.05	15.57	31.55
TCC	Total Cell Count	#cells/mL	1.54E+03	3.77E+04	1.56E+06
HPC	Heterotrophic Plate Count (by culture)	CFU/100mL	4.03E+00	1.01E+04	3.60E+07
Leg.sp	Legionella spp. (by qPCR)	# gene copies /100mL	2.29E+01	4.02E+03	1.78E+05

## Data Utilized – Water Use Metrics

- Water use records (two-week span prior to sample collection)
  - Mean time since last event (meanTSL)
  - Maximum time since last event (maxTSL)
  - Number of events (num.events)
  - Event volume (vol.events)

Fixture Name	ID tag	Design Flowrate (LPM)	Total Volume Consumed (m <sup>3</sup> )	Percent of Cumulative Total
Service Line	SL	NA	130.7	100%
Kitchen Sink - Cold	CKS	6.8	5.9	4%
Bathroom Sink - Cold	CBS	4.5	2.0	2%
Water Heater	WH	NA	40.6	31%
Kitchen Sink - Hot	HKS	6.8	5.2	4%
Bathroom Sink - Hot	HBS	4.5	16.2	12%
Bathroom Shower - Mixed	MBS	7.6	36.6	28%

# Analyses Conducted

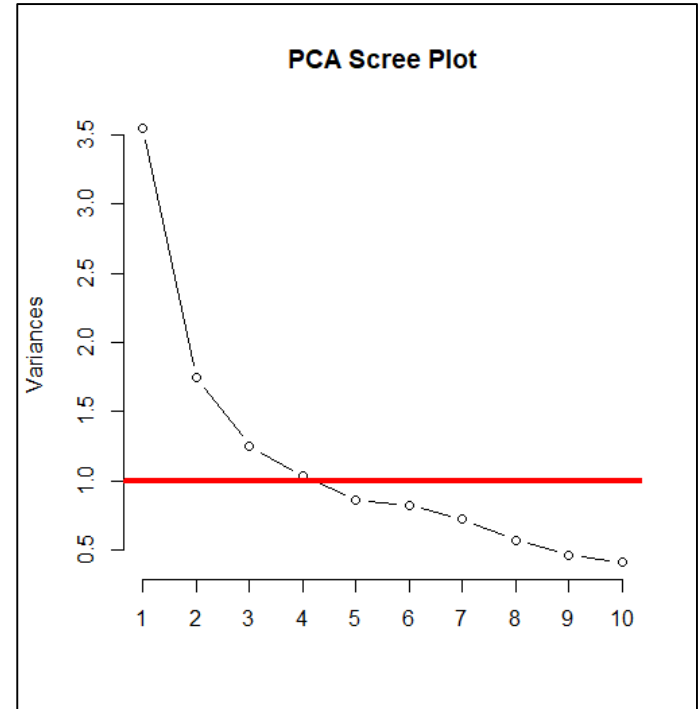
- Correlation Analysis
  - Spearman correlation coefficients (non-parametric)
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Generalized Linear Model (GLM)
  - Linear modeling to predict Legionella concentrations
  - Multiple iterations considered to account for missing observations
- Bayesian Variable Selection

# Spearman Correlation Coefficients

	pH	Temp	DO	Total.Cl	Free.Cl	TOC	DOC	Alka	TTHM	TCC	HPC	Leg.sp	vol.events	num.events	meanTSL	maxTSL
pH	1.00															
Temp	0.09	1.00														
DO	-0.30	-0.40	1.00													
Total.Cl	-0.20	-0.51	0.27	1.00												
Free.Cl	-0.19	-0.41	0.22	0.79	1.00											
TOC	0.19	0.49	-0.42	-0.35	-0.25	1.00										
DOC	0.17	0.53	-0.45	-0.42	-0.27	0.97	1.00									
Alka	0.07	0.31	-0.14	-0.21	-0.12	0.36	0.36	1.00								
TTHM	0.24	0.20	-0.34	-0.29	-0.33	0.65	0.62	0.32	1.00							
TCC	-0.06	0.48	-0.23	-0.28	-0.14	0.53	0.56	0.56	0.26	1.00						
HPC	0.19	0.46	-0.35	-0.30	-0.16	0.61	0.60	0.50	0.37	0.70	1.00					
Leg.sp	0.15	0.35	0.08	-0.48	-0.32	0.53	0.52	0.54	0.33	0.54	0.62	1.00				
vol.events	-0.11	-0.27	0.34	0.19	0.15	-0.57	-0.57	-0.17	-0.47	-0.16	-0.24	-0.22	1.00			
num.events	-0.19	-0.29	0.38	0.16	0.04	-0.53	-0.53	-0.12	-0.31	-0.19	-0.40	-0.35	0.75	1.00		
meanTSL	0.18	0.34	-0.39	-0.21	-0.07	0.53	0.54	0.14	0.30	0.23	0.42	0.39	-0.74	-0.99	1.00	
maxTSL	0.14	0.47	-0.50	-0.26	-0.12	0.61	0.63	0.29	0.38	0.38	0.49	0.22	-0.72	-0.79	0.79	1.00

# Principal Component Analysis

- Twelve variables
  - Free.Cl and DOC not considered due to strong correlations with other variables
- Principal Components
  - PC1 – Water age
    - 39% of variance
  - PC2 – Biofilm detachment
    - 14% of variance
  - PC3 – Biofilm development/age
    - 9 % of variance



# Generalized Linear Model

- Preliminary GLM
    - Eliminated alkalinity, allowed more data to be considered
  - GLM with all variables
    - All combinations of main-effects evaluated with  $AIC_C$
  - Two models evaluated
    - `m.top` <- top performing model
    - `m.comp` <- Uses all variables found in models with  $< 2.0 \Delta AIC_C$
    - Random effect included for sample location
- `m.top`
    - DO, HPC, maxTSL, meanTSL, num.events, pH, TCC, TOC, Total.Cl, and Location
  - `m.comp`
    - DO, HPC, maxTSL, meanTSL, num.events, pH, TCC, TOC, Total.Cl, Location, and **TTHM**

# GLM Results

Variable	m.top			m.comp		
	Estimate	Std. Error	Signif.	Estimate	Std. Error	Signif.
Intercept	-5.14E+00	1.46E+00	***	-5.34E+00	1.49E+00	***
DO	3.03E-01	4.99E-02	***	3.05E-01	5.00E-02	***
HPC	2.64E-01	5.39E-02	***	2.70E-01	5.44E-02	***
maxTSL	-1.21E-06	7.09E-07		-1.15E-06	7.13E-07	
meanTSL	6.76E-06	2.93E-06	*	6.66E-06	2.94E-06	*
num.events	3.37E-07	7.92E-05		7.02E-08	7.90E-05	
pH	3.34E-01	1.53E-01	*	3.47E-01	1.55E-01	*
TCC	3.26E-01	1.04E-01	***	3.18E-01	1.04E-01	***
TOC	7.17E-01	2.14E-01	***	6.52E-01	2.34E-01	**
Total.Cl	-3.12E-01	1.26E-01	*	-2.95E-01	1.28E-01	*
TTHM	NA			6.49E-03	9.53E-03	

Significance:

\*\*\* < 0.005

\*\* < 0.01

\* < 0.05

- Models exhibited similar performance
  - Only difference is TTHM
- Variable significance
  - DO, HPC, TCC (\*\*\*) in both
  - TOC (\*\*\*) in m.top, (\*\*) in m.comp
- Water age metrics
  - Only meanTSL significant (\*)
  - Demonstrates need for accurate water age measurement



# Bayesian Generalized Linear Model

- Employed BGLR library in R
  - Relies on Gibbs sampling with scalar updates
  - Assumes priors based on Gaussian “point and slab” mixtures
  - BGLR used for variable selection in high-dimensional data sets
- Results
  - High probability (98%-100%) of non-zero parameter estimate for meanTSL (stagnation)
  - Low probability (14%-38%) of non-zero maxTSL parameter
  - All others 52%-57%
- Data appear too correlated to overcome point mass in prior
  - However, water age/stagnation highlighted as important

# Conclusions

- Results agree with published literature
  - Confirms these phenomena occur at full-scale
  - Legionella more prevalent with elevated DO, HPC, TCC, TOC, and water age
- Additional research is needed
  - Developing water age model for premise plumbing

# Thank You & Questions

Contact us:

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# BOOTSTRAP AGGREGATED DECISION TREE CLASSIFICATION OF END-USE EVENTS THROUGH UPSTREAM FEATURES

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<sup>c</sup> D'Leys School of Civil Engineering, Department of Environmental and Ecological Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States

## BACKGROUND

- Understanding water end-use is critical to:
  - designing premise plumbing guidelines
  - forecasting water demand
  - projecting the impacts of water saving practices and devices
  - determining water age
- However, end-use sensor systems are costly (on the order of \$100K) to install for a single home.

# JUSTIFICATION

- Reducing the cost of analyzing house end-use events would open end-use research to a wider group of practitioners
- Machine learning is an effective way to classify end-use events with an affordable number of sensors

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Can end-use events be categorized by a few upstream sensors in a system?
- What upstream sensors and preprocessing methods are optimal for use in a machine learning system?

## Hypotheses

We hypothesized that an affordably small number sensors will be sufficient to predicting end-use events via a machine learning model

# METHODOLOGY

We exhaustively trained and tested a machine learning algorithm (bootstrap aggregated decision trees) to classify...

- sink, shower, dishwasher, and washing machine events

... for all combinations of ...

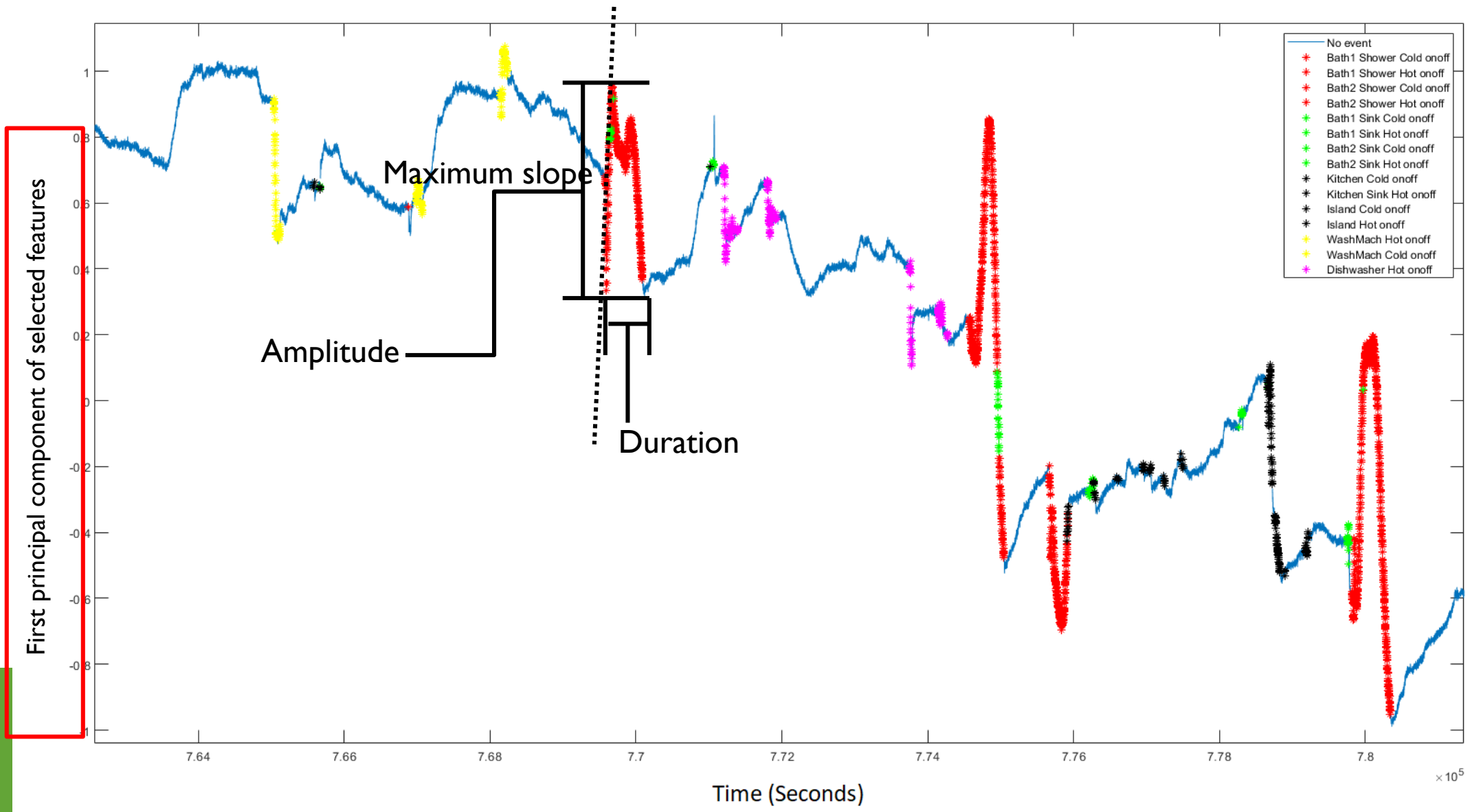
- upstream sensors
- preprocessing methods

... using real world data from the ReNEWV house.

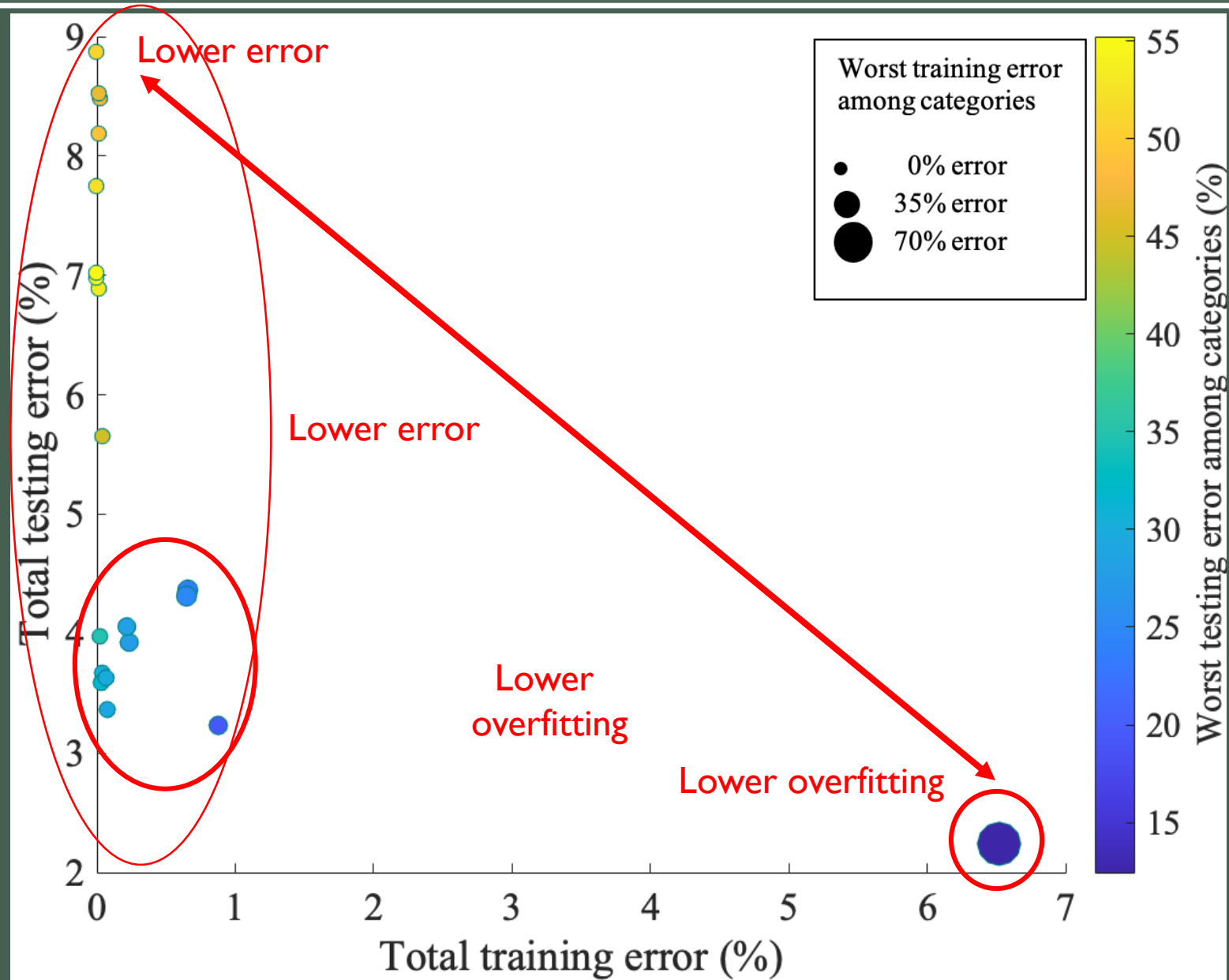
We then analyzed the best of these above configurations, and analyzed the best sensors and preprocessing methods with respects to:

- accuracy
- overfitting

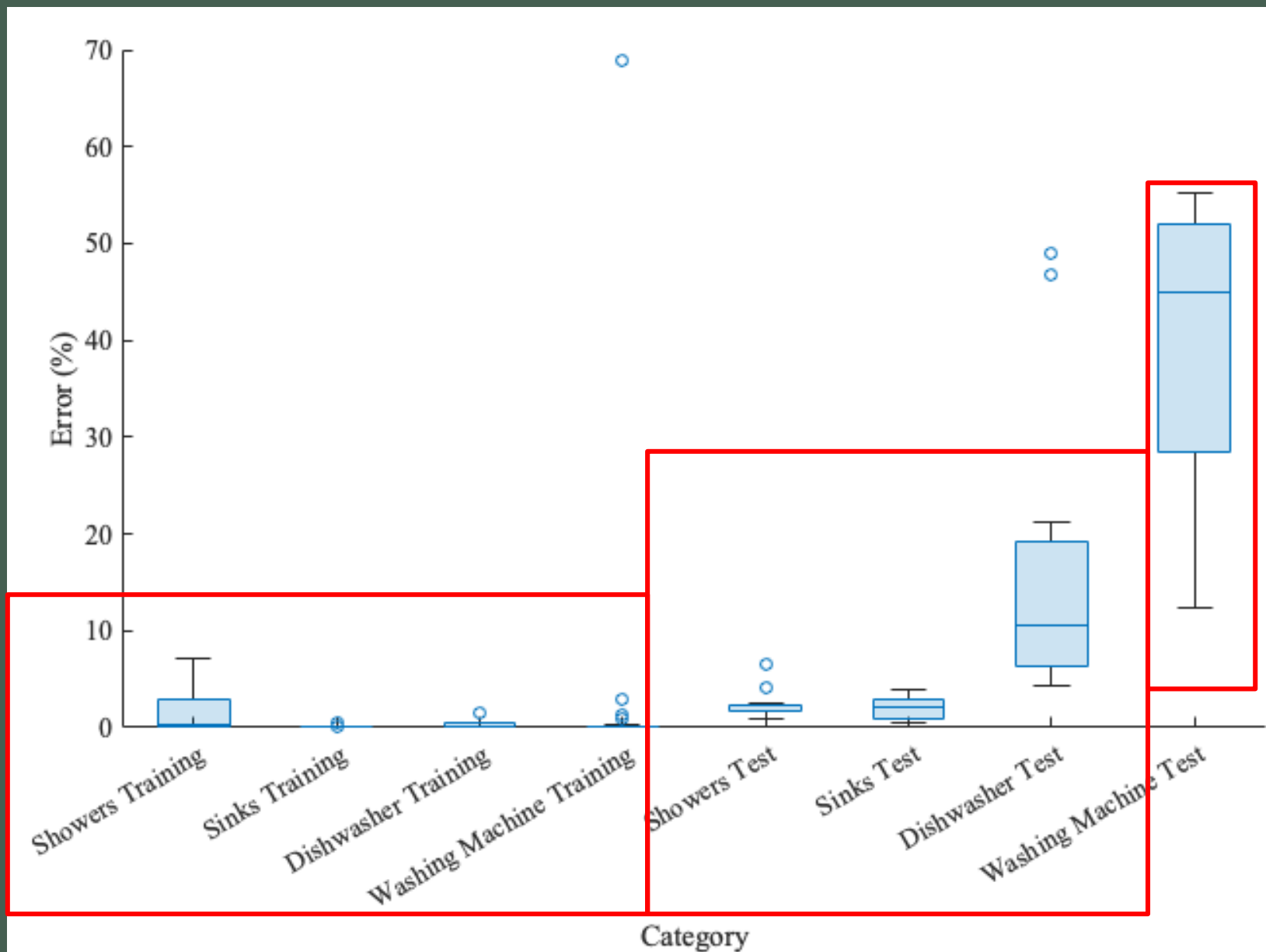




# MAIN FINDINGS



# MAIN FINDINGS: PERFORMANCE AMONG CATEGORIES



## DISCUSSION

- Our algorithm was able to accurately predict all categories, though washing machine was moderately overfitted
- Best sensors for machine learning:
  - The city main volumetric flow sensor
  - The city hot water inlet volumetric flow sensor
- The best preprocessing methods for machine learning were:
  - Event duration
  - Maximum slope of event hydrograph

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Two to four sensors were optimal for minimizing error and overfitting
- The methodology is expandable to other:
  - premise plumbing systems
  - available sensors
  - preprocess methods
  - machine learning algorithm

QUESTIONS

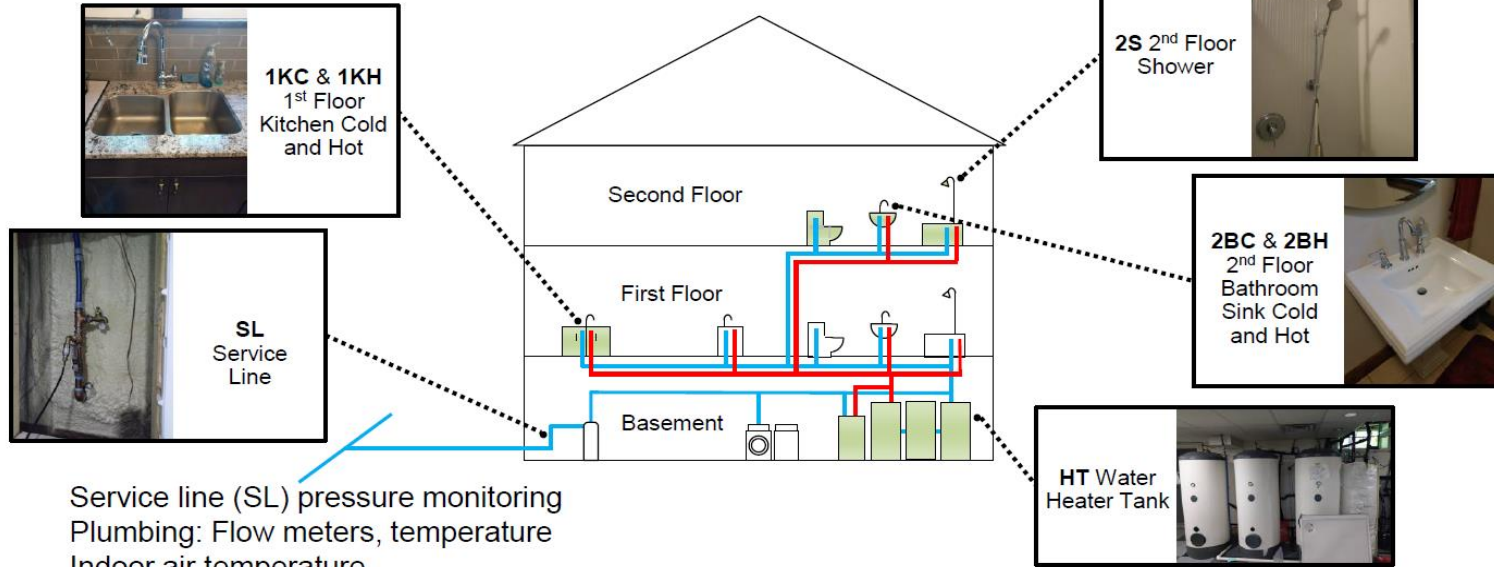
# Development of Integrated Hydraulic Water Quality Models

Maria Palmegiani, Juneseok Lee,  
Jade Mitchell, Amirpouyan Nejadhashemi,  
Andrew J. Whelton



# Retrofitted *Net-Zero Energy*, *Water* and *Waste* House

<http://www.ReNEWWhouse.com>

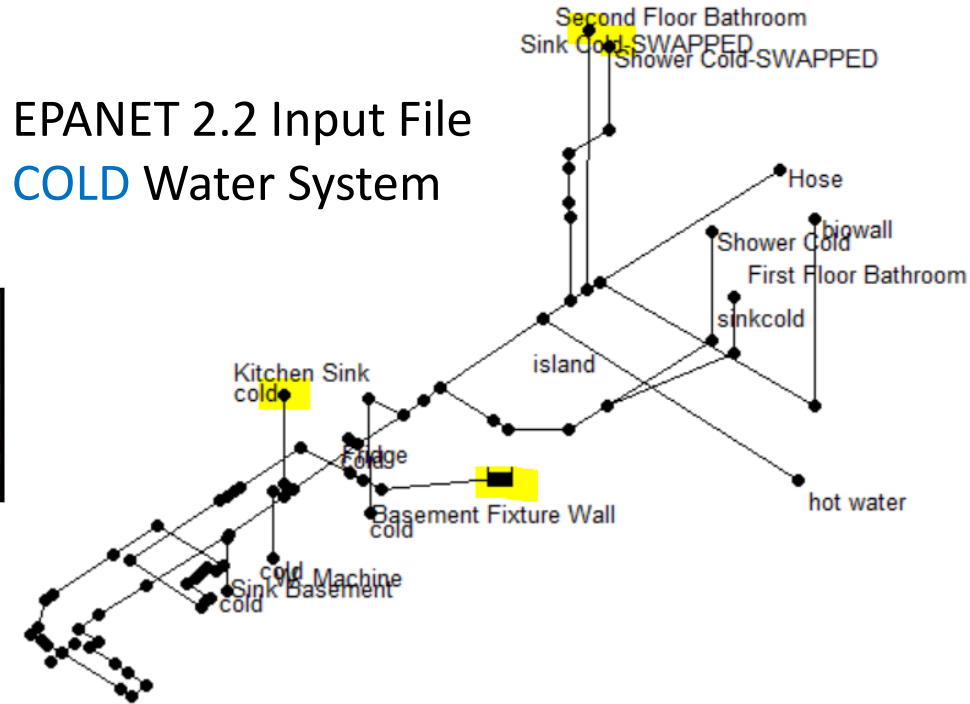


Area: 266 m<sup>2</sup>, 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths  
Study Period: Oct. 2017-Oct. 2018  
30, 000+ water quality measurements  
2.64 billion online plumbing measurements

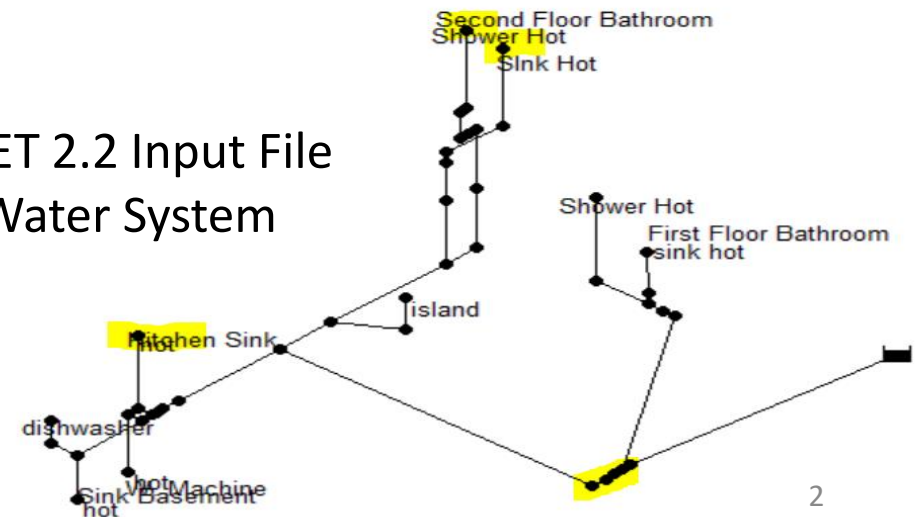
Thermocouples  
Indoor air temperature  
Flowrates/ fixture  
Energy use/ device

1x/second

EPANET 2.2 Input File  
**COLD** Water System

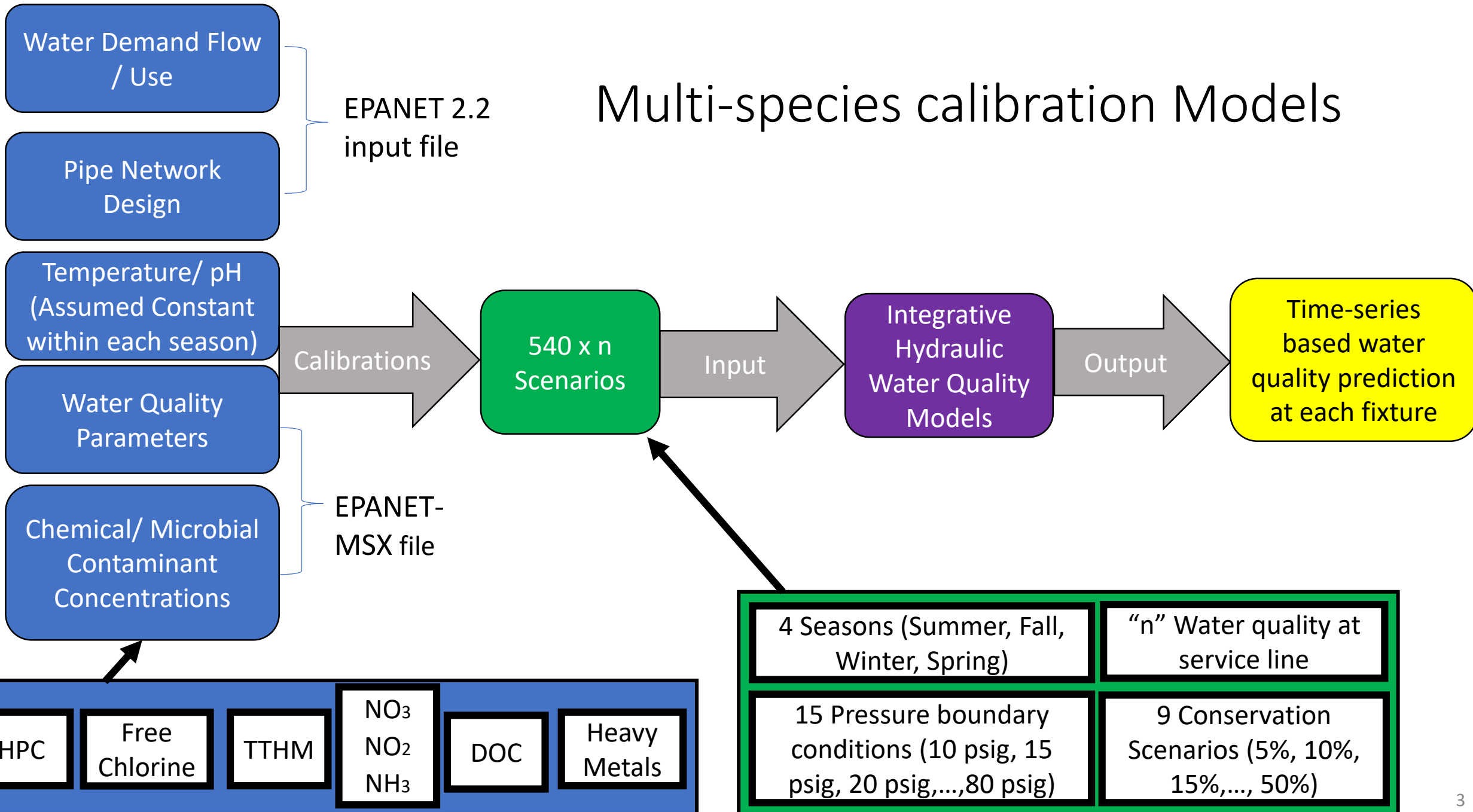


EPANET 2.2 Input File  
**HOT** Water System

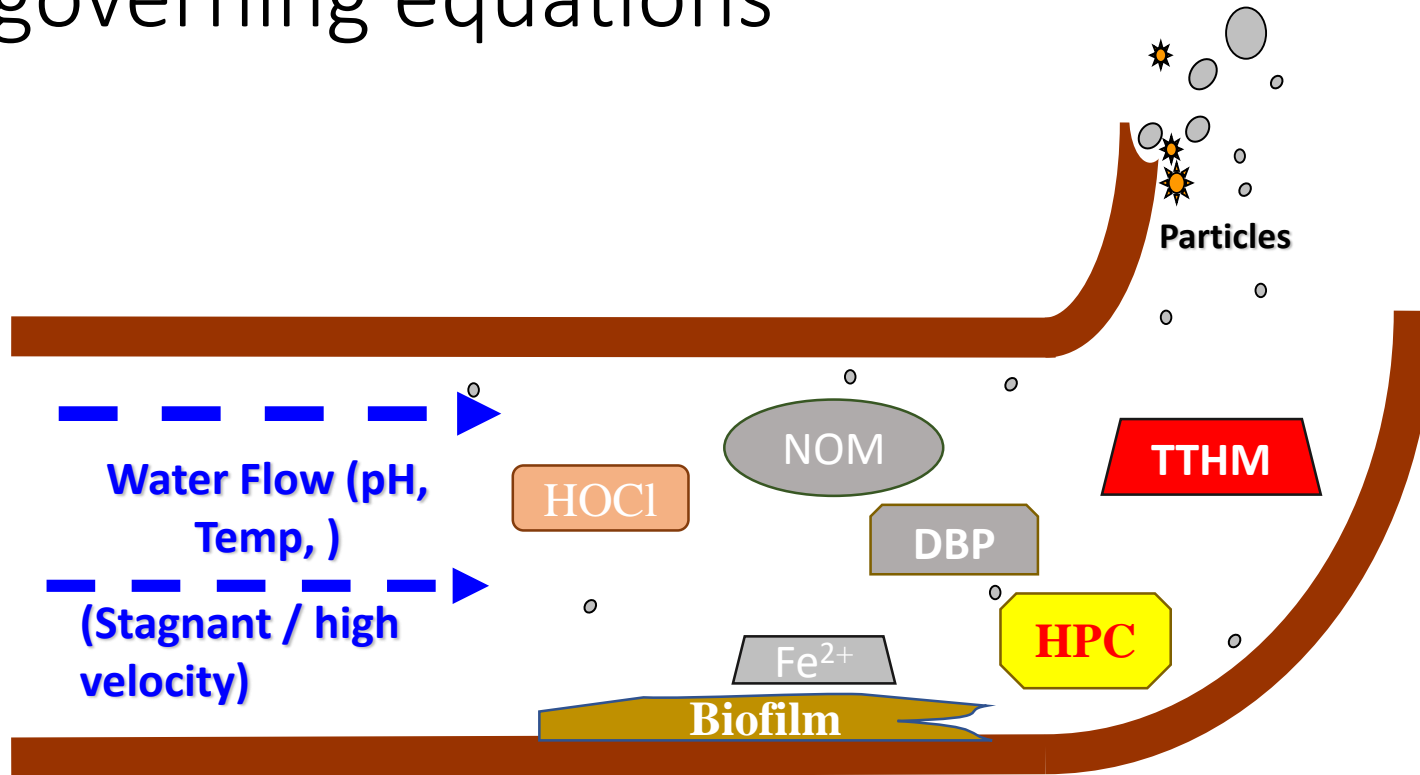




# Multi-species calibration Models



# Multi-species calibration models- governing equations



$$\frac{dC}{dt} = -KC$$

Where,

k= Free Chlorine reaction rate constant

C=Chlorine concentration

HOCl

$$\frac{\partial C_{TTHM}}{\partial t} = k(C_{TTHMMAX} - C_{TTHM})$$

Where,

k= TTHM reaction rate constant

C<sub>TTHMMAX</sub>=Maximum TTHM concentration

C<sub>TTHM</sub>=TTHM concentration

TTHM

$$\frac{dX_h}{dt} = Y_h \left( q_m \left[ \frac{BOM}{k_s + BOM} \right] \right) X_h - k_d[HOCL]$$

Where,

X<sub>h</sub>= heterotrophic biomass concentration

BOM= biodegradable organic matter

K<sub>s</sub>= half maximum rate concentration

y<sub>h</sub>= synthesis yield

q<sub>m</sub>= max specific rate of utilization

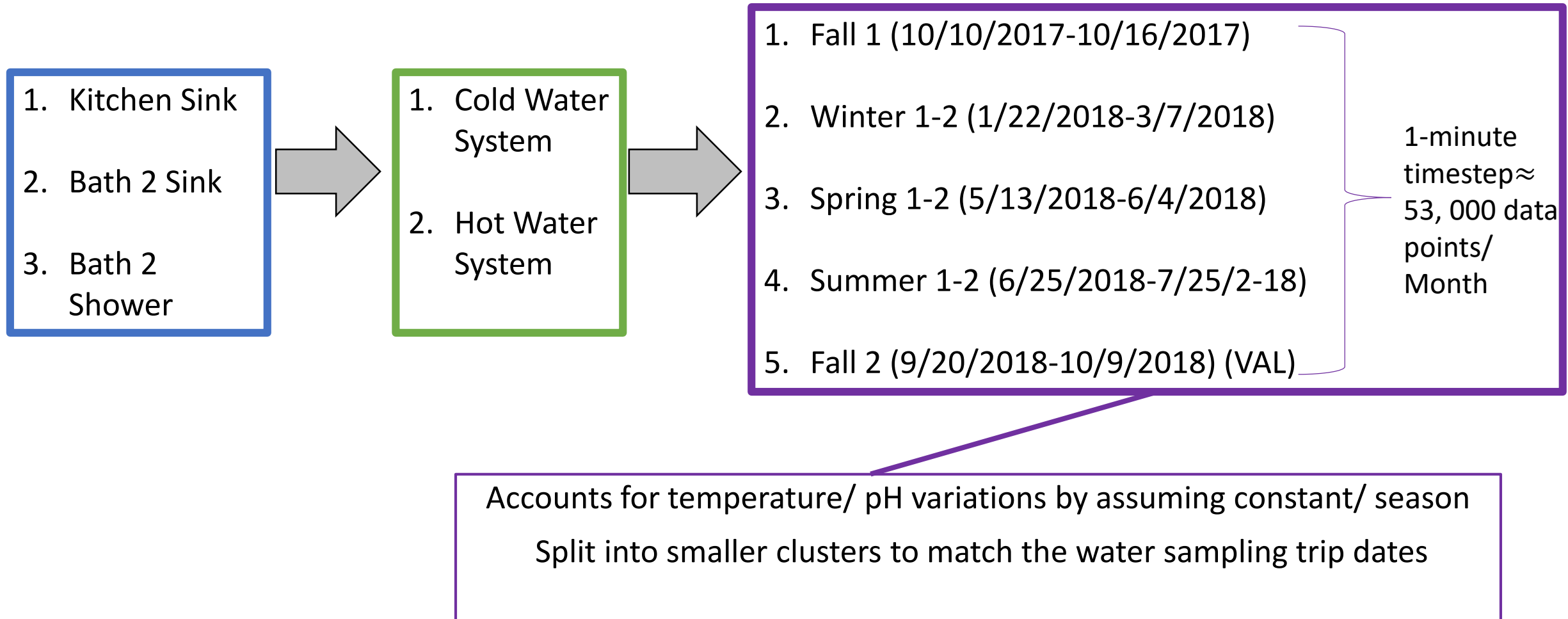
HPC

Woolschlager et al., 2007

Seyoum & Tanyimboh, 2017

Tiruneh et al., 2016

# Multi-species calibration models



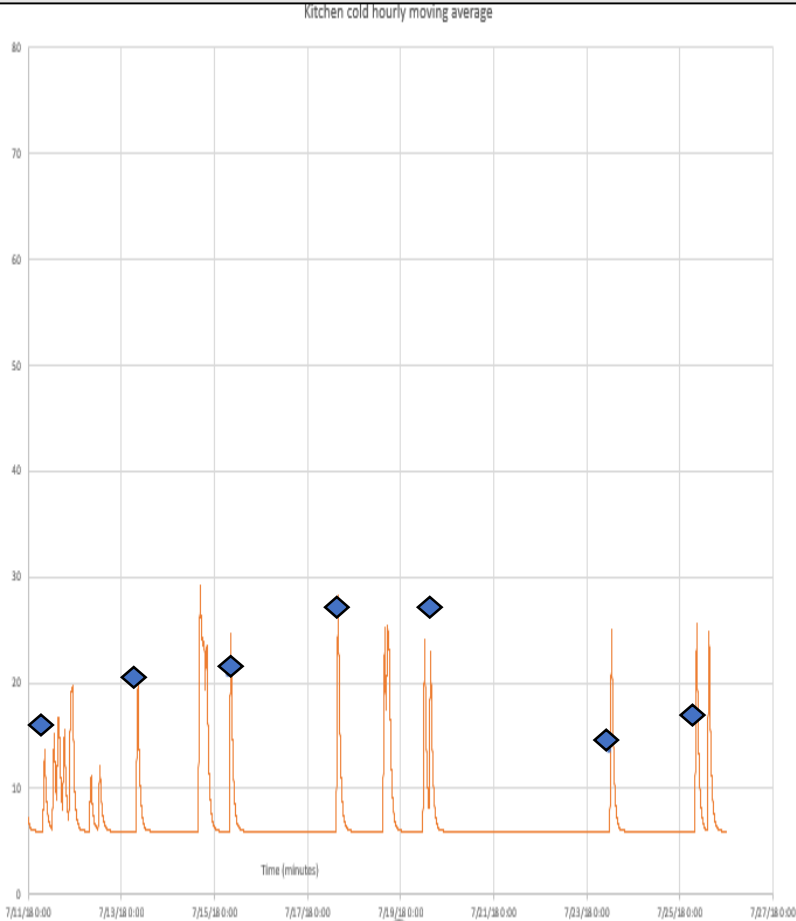
# TTHM (ug/L)

TTHM

$$\frac{\partial C_{TTHM}}{\partial t} = K_{TTHM1} - K_{TTHM2} \cdot TTHM$$

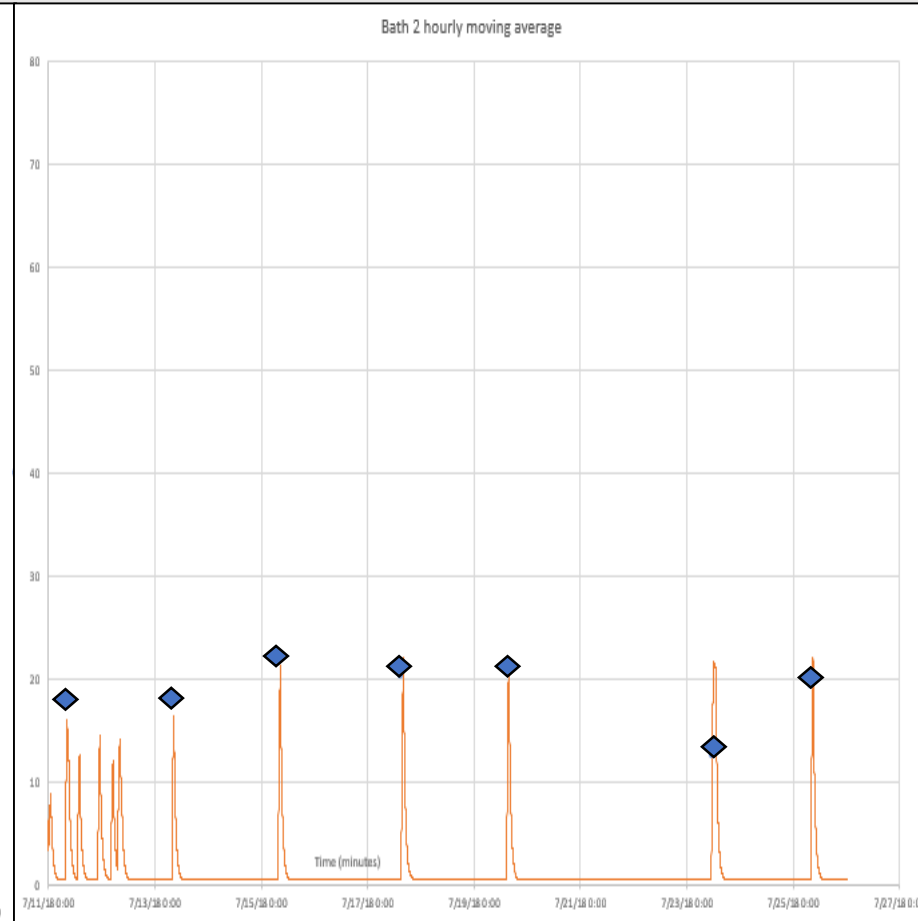
$$K_{Universal1} = 1.5$$

$$K_{Universal2} = 0.04$$



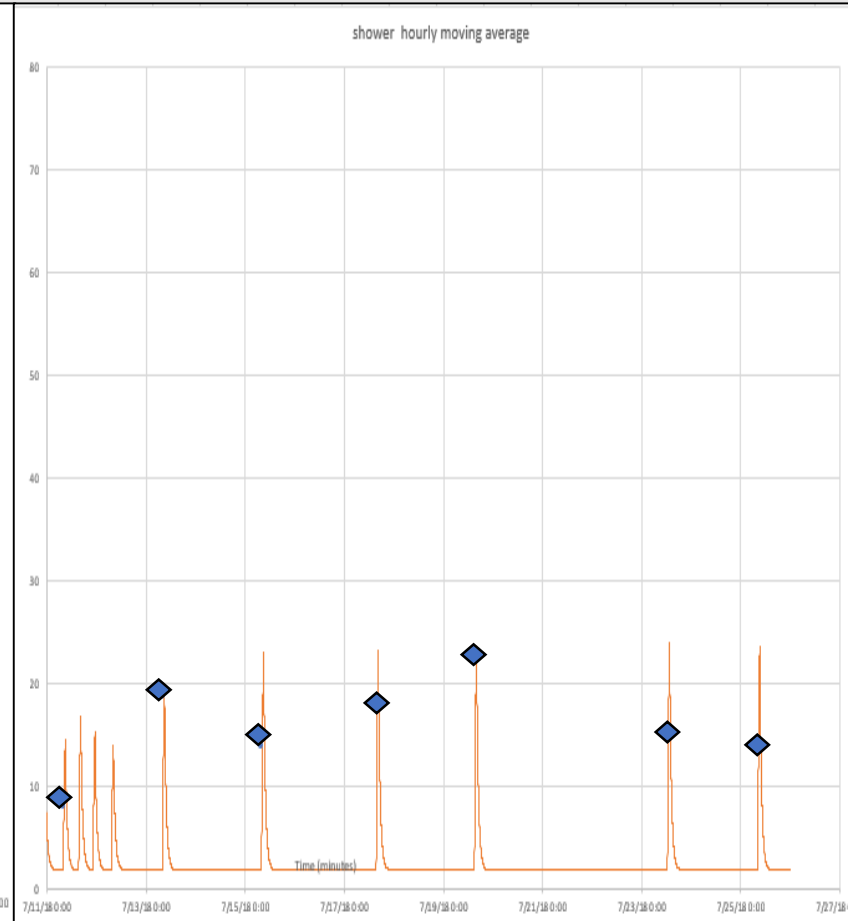
Kitchen Sink

$$K_1 = 6.0$$
$$K_2 = 1.0$$



Bath 2 Sink

$$K_1 = 0.6$$
$$K_2 = 1.2$$



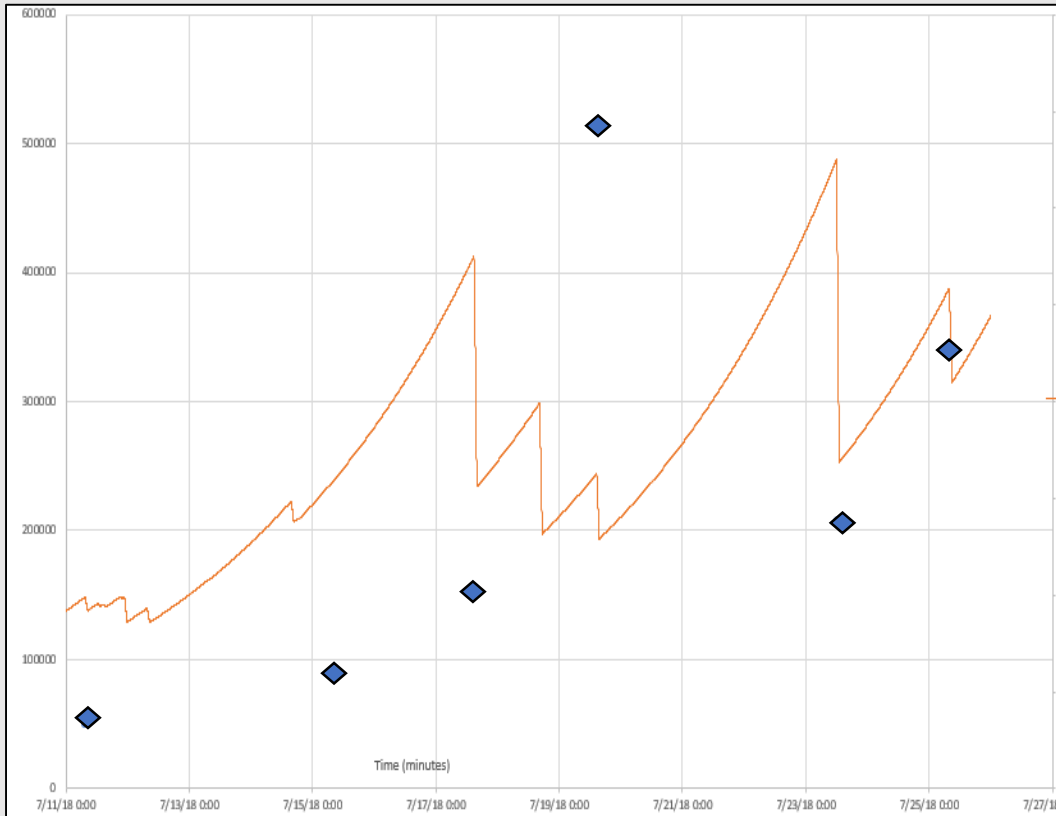
Bath 2 Shower

$$K_1 = 2.0$$
$$K_2 = 1.1$$

# HPC (CFU/L)

HPC

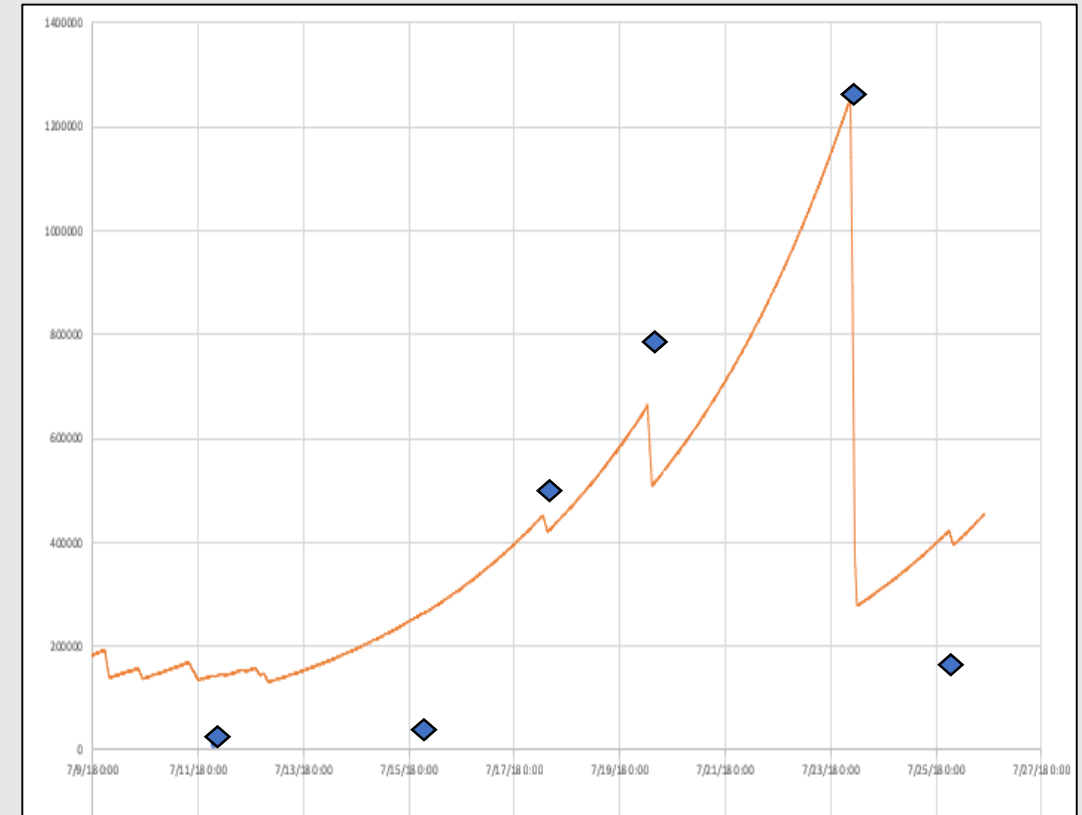
$$\frac{dHPC}{dt} = K_{HPC1} \cdot HPC - K_{HPC2} \cdot FCL \quad K_{Universal1} = 0.01 \quad K_{Universal2} = 0.01$$



Kitchen Sink

$K_1 = 0.01$

$K_2 = 0.01$



Bath 2 Sink

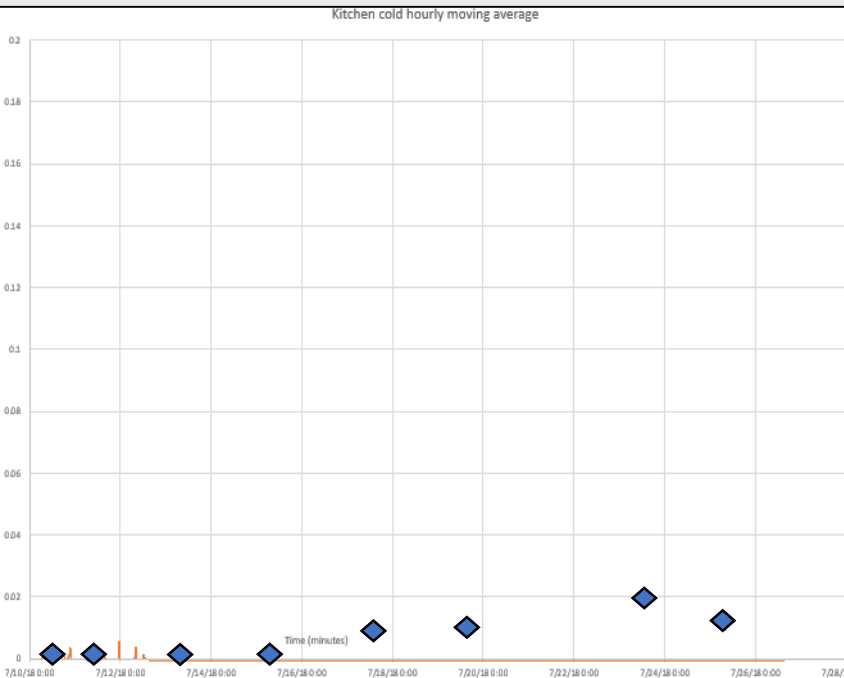
$K_1 = 0.001$

$K_2 = 0.09$

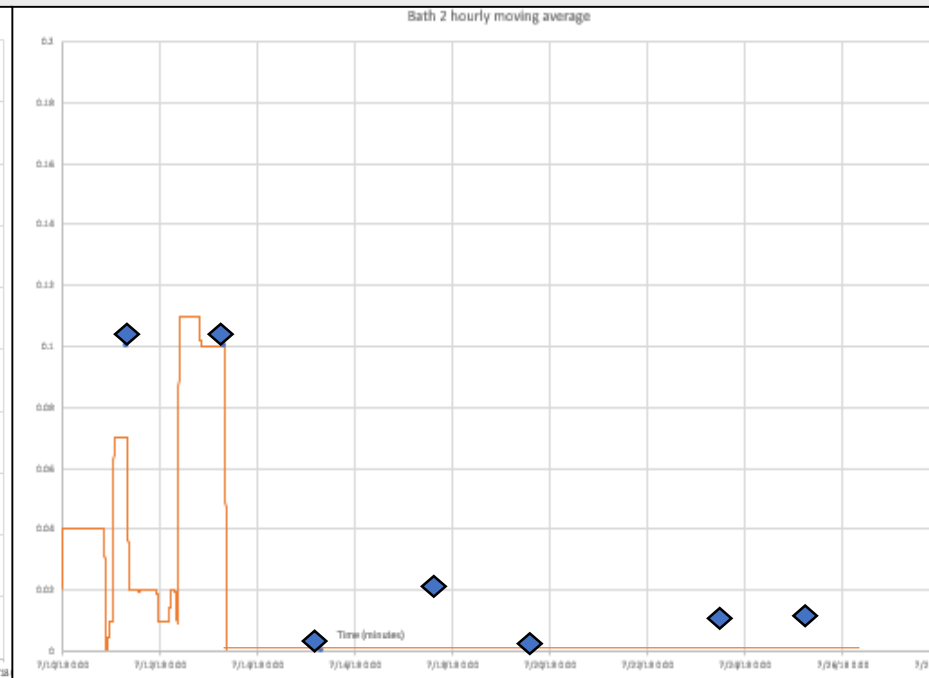
# Free Chlorine (mg/L)

HOCl

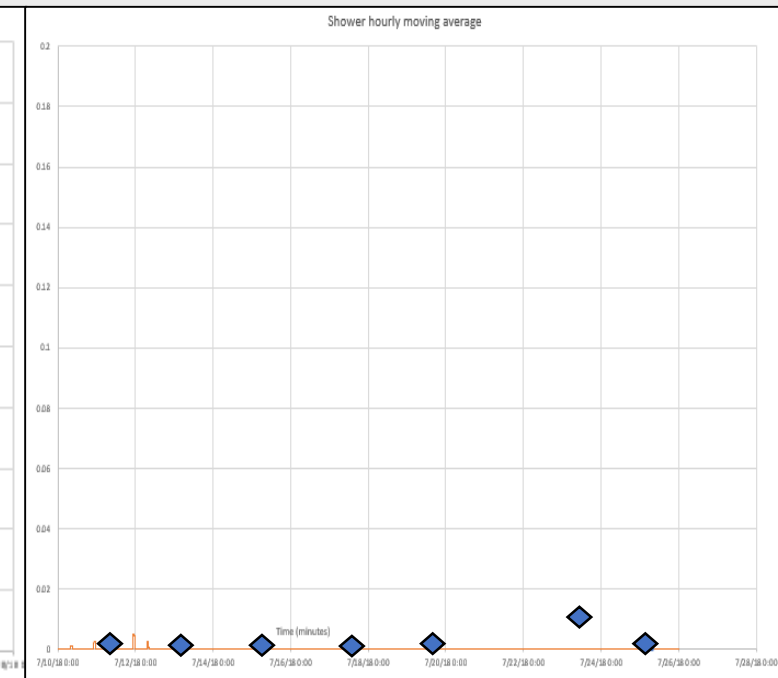
$$\frac{dC}{dt} = K_{FCL} \cdot FCL \quad K_{Universal} = 0.2$$



Kitchen Sink  
 $K=35$



Bath 2 Sink  
 $K=0.008$



Bath 2 Shower  
 $K=18$

# Limitations

Better sensors needed  
Availability of governing equations  
Grab vs. online sensors

## Thank you & Questions?

- Maria Palmegiani, [mpalmegi@purdue.edu](mailto:mpalmegi@purdue.edu)
- Juneseok Lee, [Juneseok.Lee@manhattan.edu](mailto:Juneseok.Lee@manhattan.edu)

# Comparing Risks Across Building Water Use Types with QMRA

Ryan Julien\*, Jade Mitchell,  
Md. Rasheduzzaman, Wanyu Huang, Yolanda Brooks,  
Patrick Gurian, & Mark Weir  
November 12, 2020



# Outline

- Introduction
- Model
- Results
- Conclusions



Hazard  
Identification



Dose  
Response



Exposure  
Assessment



Risk  
Characterization



Risk  
Management

Image: QMRA Wiki ([qmrawiki.canr.msu.edu/](http://qmrawiki.canr.msu.edu/))

# Introduction

- Goal: Assess differences in pathogen health risk across common water use types
- Pathogens
  - Mycobacterium Avium complex (MAC)
  - Legionella spp.
- Hospital/group home setting
  - Higher-risk population
  - Pathogen concentrations from studies in these homes
- QMRA Framework
- Water uses considered:
  - Showering
    - Conventional (13 LPM)
    - Low-flow (7 LPM)
  - Toilet Flushing
    - Flushometer (FOM)
    - Pressure-assisted (PAT)
    - High-efficiency (HET)

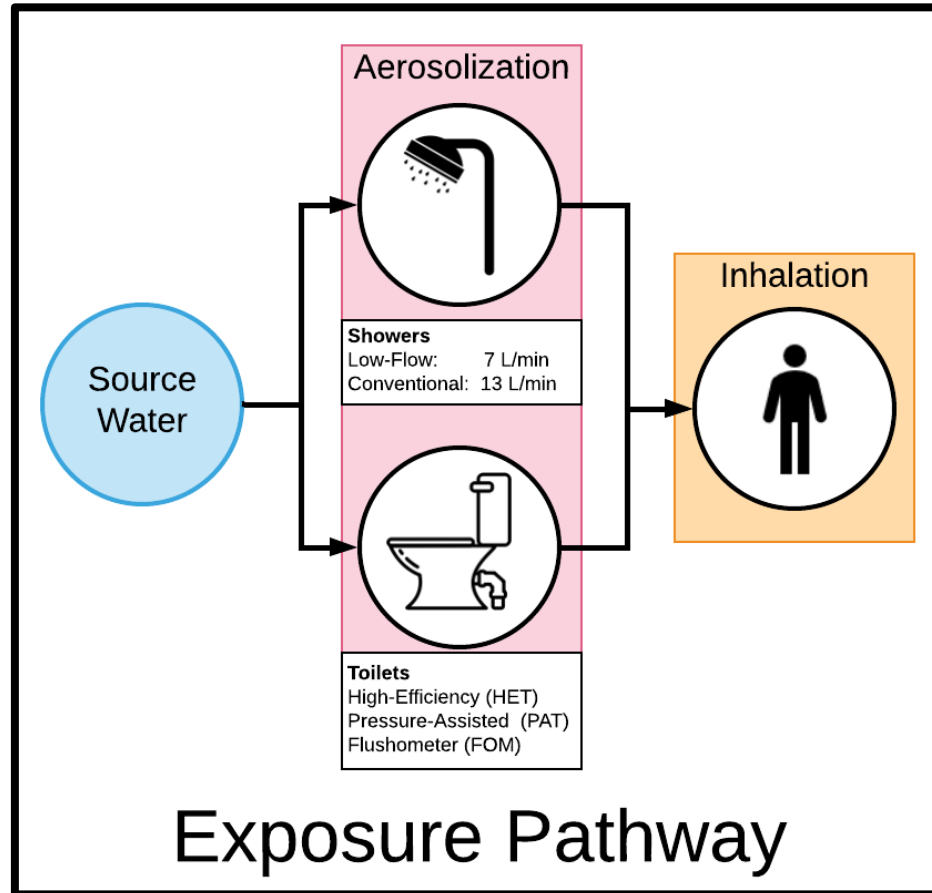
# Model Form

- $D_P$  – Exposure dose of each pathogen, P
- $R$  – Recovery efficiency
  - 0.84 (Hamilton, 2019)
- $C_P$  – Concentration of pathogen P
  - MAC - Triangular dist. (de Moulin 1988)
  - Legionella - Lognormal dist. (Fillipis 2018)
- $R_B$  – Breathing rate
  - Normal dist. (USEPA, 2011)
- $t$  – Exposure duration
  - Shower = 15 min
  - Toilet = 30 min (reflects sampling methods)
- $C_{aer,d}$  – Concentration of aerosolized droplets of diameter  $d$  (in microns)
- $V_d$  – Volume of each aerosol of diameter  $d$
- $\eta_{D,d}$  - Deposition efficiency for aerosols of diameter  $d$

$$D_P = \frac{1}{R} C_P R_B t \sum_d C_{aer,d} V_d \eta_{D,d}$$

$$R_P = 1 - e^{-k_P D_P / C}$$

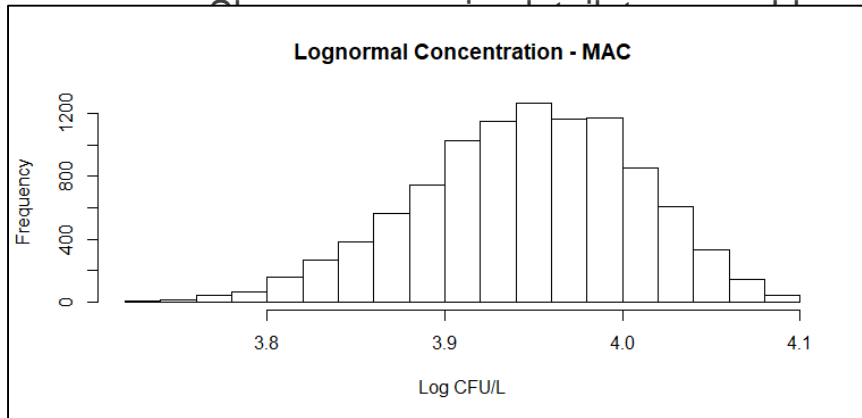
- $R_P$  – Risk of infection for each pathogen, P
- $k_P$  – Dose-Response parameter
  - (Hamilton et al. 2017)
- $C$  – Exposure route conversion factor
  - (Hamilton et al. 2017)



# Pathogen Input Concentrations

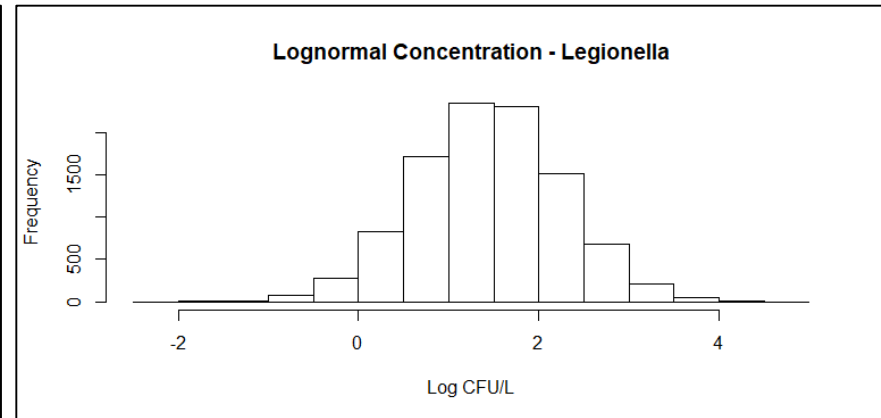
- MAC

- Data: de Moulin et al. 1988
- Triangular distribution based on minimum, median, maximum
- Hot/cold water simulated separately

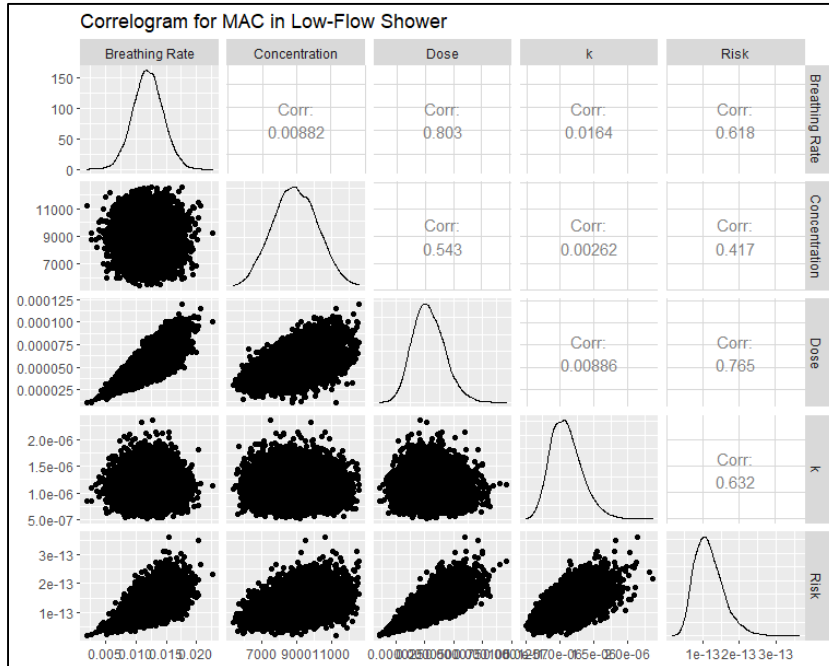


- Legionella

- Data: Filipis et al. 2018
- Fit a log-normal distribution
  - Raw data available
- Hot and cold water assumed to contain same concentration



# Common Correlations within Model

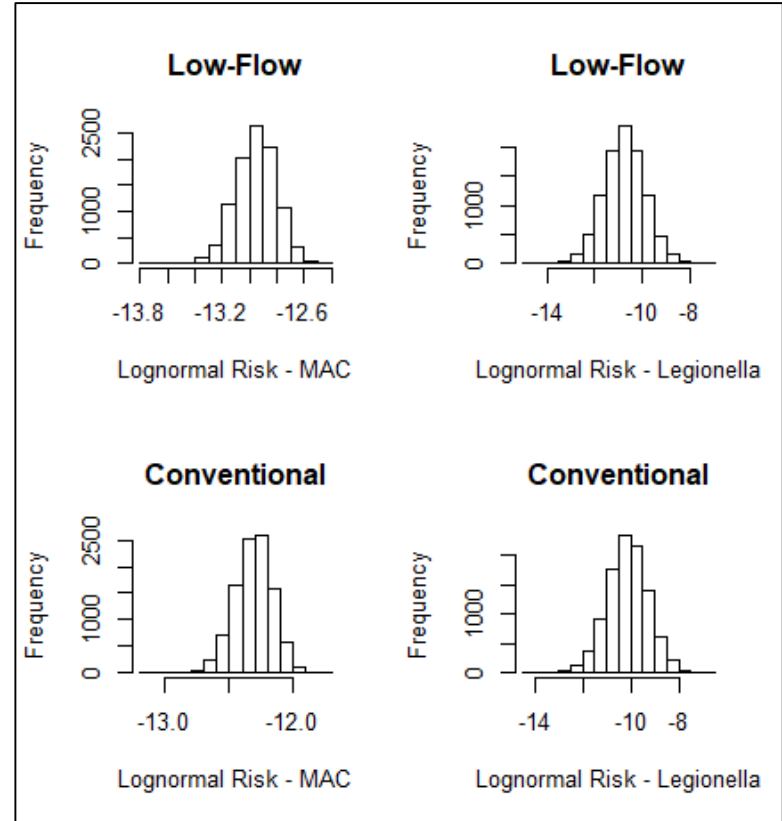


## MAC in Low-Flow Shower

- Breathing Rate
  - Correlated with dose (0.80) and risk (0.62)
- Concentration
  - With dose (0.54) and risk (0.42)
- Risk
  - With dose (0.77) and k (0.63)

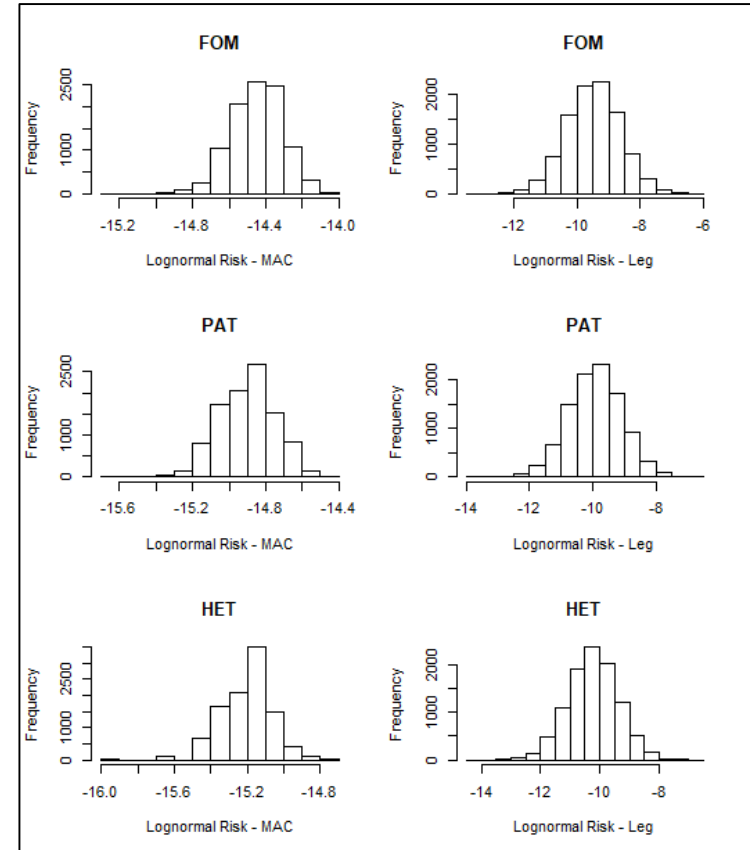
## Results – Showering

- Low-flow showers exhibited slightly lower risk
  - True for both MAC and Legionella
    - Higher flowrate  $\Rightarrow$  more aerosols
  - This analysis does not consider the effects of stagnation



# Results – Toilet Flushing

- Risks for toilets
  - $FOM > PAT > HET$
  - True for both pathogens
  - Differences more pronounced for MAC





# Conclusions

- Risks across all water use are low
    - Used dose-response factor for general population
  - Additional water use appears to increase risk
    - Effect of stagnation not considered
  - Pathogen concentrations highly variable
- Potential improvements
    - Additional data for pathogen concentration estimates
    - Consider water age/stagnation
    - Incorporate dose-response for vulnerable populations

# Thank You & Questions

Contact us:

Jade Mitchell, PhD [jade@msu.edu](mailto:jade@msu.edu)

Ryan Julien, PE [julienry@msu.edu](mailto:julienry@msu.edu)

# Right Sizing Tomorrow's Water Systems for Efficiency, Sustainability, & Public Health



## *NEXT STEPS*

**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

**SJSU** SAN JOSÉ STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**MANHATTAN**  
COLLEGE

**Tulane**  
University

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**

[awhelton@purdue.edu](mailto:awhelton@purdue.edu)

[illegible]

## Remaining Efforts

**Integrative Hydraulic Water  
Quality Model for the Residential  
Home (EPANET)**



**Conduct Water Quality Modeling  
and Risk Analysis**



**Develop Decision Support Tool  
(DST)**

## Finish Studies

Pathogens in Schools  
Office Building Water Quality  
Copper in Schools  
Institutional Building Microbiology  
Downstream fixture prediction

**Inform and Receive Feedback from Partners**

**Consider Feedback in DST and  
Deploy**



**Deliver**

# The Pending Decision Support Tool

Development of Decision Support Tool (DST) will be performed by the Decision Support and Informatics (DSI) Unit at Michigan State University.

We draw from multiple data sources including:

- Water distribution (**Partners-Whelton**)
- Premise plumbing modeling (**Obj. 2b-Lee**)
- Water quality modeling (**Obj. 2c- Mitchell**)
- Risk assessment (**Obj. 3a-Micthell**)

To address different issues such as:

- Right-sizing (**Lee/Palmegiani**)
- The effect of plumbing designs (**Lee/Palmegiani**)
- Stagnation times (**Mitchell/Julien**)

on water quality and human health risks within a robust information platform

# **Status on the Decision Support Tool**

- A private and secure data repository is established for all collaborators
- Created wireframes for a future decision support tool
- A SQL database was established which hosts the results from different sources, including:
  - Modeling exercises
  - Partner inputs
- We have designed and implemented a powerful API to interface between the database and the decision support tool

## **Initial Plan for Disseminating the Results to Public after the Grants End**

The DST website will be published in the Decision Support and Informatics website ([dsiweb.cse.msu.edu](http://dsiweb.cse.msu.edu)) and advertised through different means such as:

- University newsletters
- Conference presentations
- The Whirlpool ReNEWW house website
- Trade conferences and associations
- Standard and trade organizations (e.g., NIST, IAPMO, ASPE)

# Right Sizing Tomorrow's Water Systems for Efficiency, Sustainability, & Public Health



Next Steps

November 2020

Andrew Whelton, Jade Mitchell, Joan Rose, Juneseok Lee, Pouyan Nejadhashemi, Erin Dreelin,  
Tiong Gim Aw, Amisha Shah, Matt Syal, Maryam Salehi

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**SJSU** SAN JOSÉ STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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1853  
MANHATTAN  
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**MEMPHIS**

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