

Making with a Social Purpose

@jonfroehlich

Assistant Professor
Computer Science
University of Maryland

Symposium and Hackathon in
Social Media and Interaction
Emmanuel College, Cambridge University
March 24, 2015



My Group

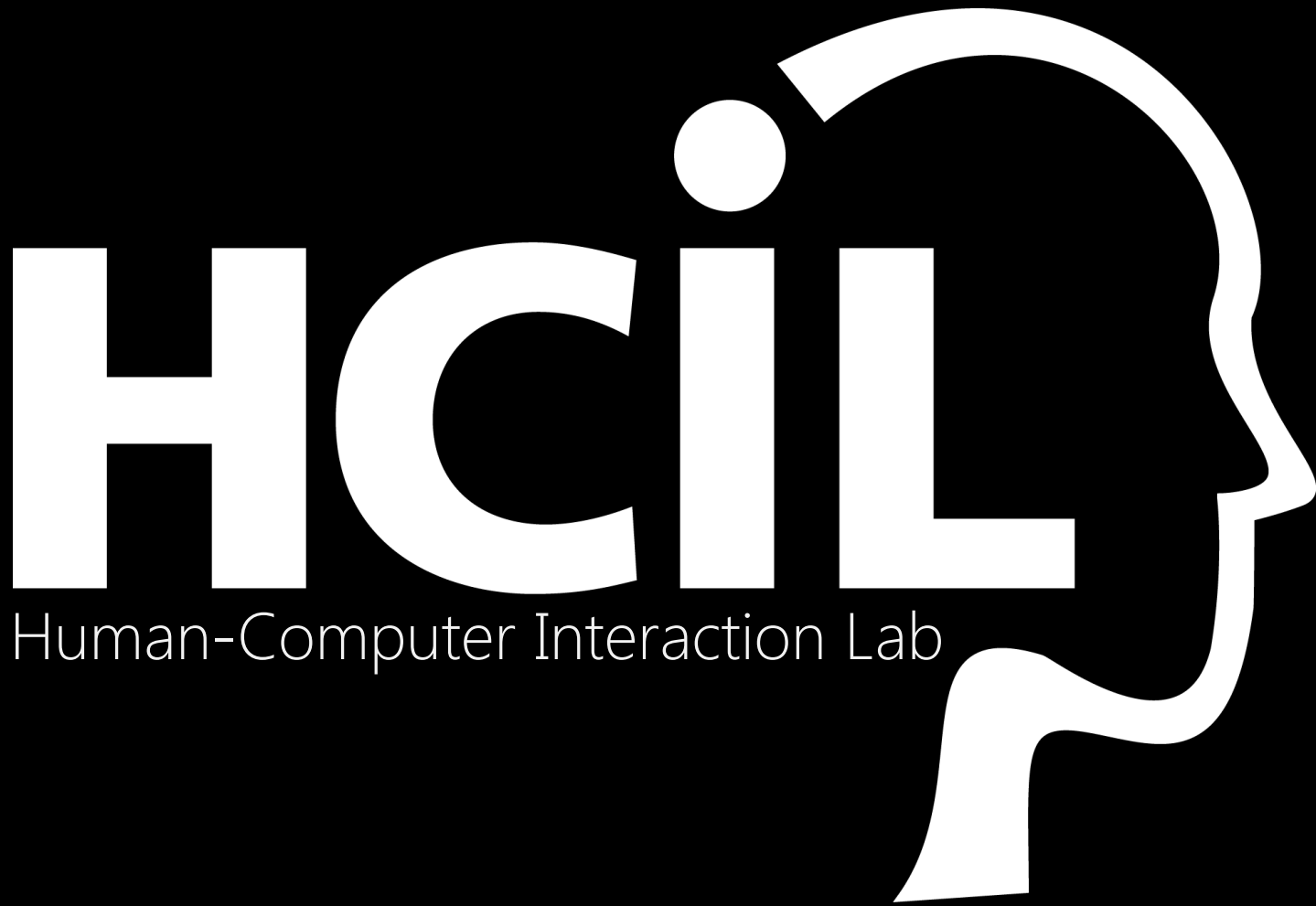
Started in 2012



makeability lab

*A lablet within
the HCIL*

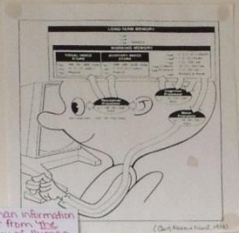




HCIL Begins

1983

Ben Shneiderman
Founding Director



The human information processor from the Psychology of Human-Computer Interaction



NOOBIE 1986
(A DUBOIN'S MASTERS THESIS AT MIT)



Lab in Comp. & Space Sciences Bldg pre-1982



Ben Shneiderman Trading Card
Appears in 1982 MIT Yearbook



PROF. ARZIBEL ROSENFELD (1931-2004)
Small Office: University of Maryland campus circa 1980s - at the time looking for space for Interactive Systems Center, which eventually became the Human-Computer Interaction Lab.
Photo by Ben Shneiderman

Ben Shneiderman

Circa 1983



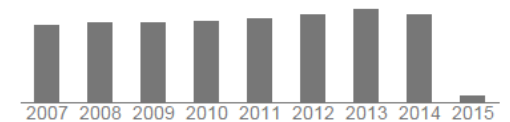


Ben Shneiderman

Professor of Computer Science, University of Maryland
[human-computer interaction](#), [information visualization](#), [social media](#)
Verified email at [cs.umd.edu](#) - [Homepage](#)



Citation indices	All	Since 2010
Citations	61318	20393
h-index	98	65
i10-index	396	221



Title	1-20	Cited by	Year
Designing the user interface-strategies for effective human-computer interaction	B Shneiderman Pearson Education India	10442	1986
Readings in information visualization: using vision to think	Morgan Kaufmann	3894	1999
The eyes have it: A task by data type taxonomy for information visualizations	B Shneiderman Visual Languages, 1996. Proceedings., IEEE Symposium on, 336-343	3052	1996
Designing the user interface: strategies for effective human-computer interaction	B Shneiderman Addison-Wesley	2113	1992
1.1 direct manipulation: a step beyond programming languages	B Shneiderman Sparks of innovation in human-computer interaction 17, 1993	2044	1993
Tree-maps: A space-filling approach to the visualization of hierarchical information structures	B Johnson, B Shneiderman Visualization, 1991. Visualization'91, Proceedings., IEEE Conference on, 284-291	1430	1991
Tree visualization with tree-maps: 2-d space-filling approach	B Shneiderman ACM Transactions on graphics (TOG) 11 (1), 92-99	1395	1992
Software psychology	B Shneiderman Winthrop	1218	1980
Visual information seeking: tight coupling of dynamic query filters with starfield displays	C Ahlberg, B Shneiderman	1154	1994

Co-authors [View all...](#)

- Catherine Plaisant
- Phillip B Gibbons



Leah Findlater



Jen Golbeck



Ben Shneiderman



Ben Bederson



Jon Froehlich



Anne Rose



Michelle Mazurek



Catherine Plaisant



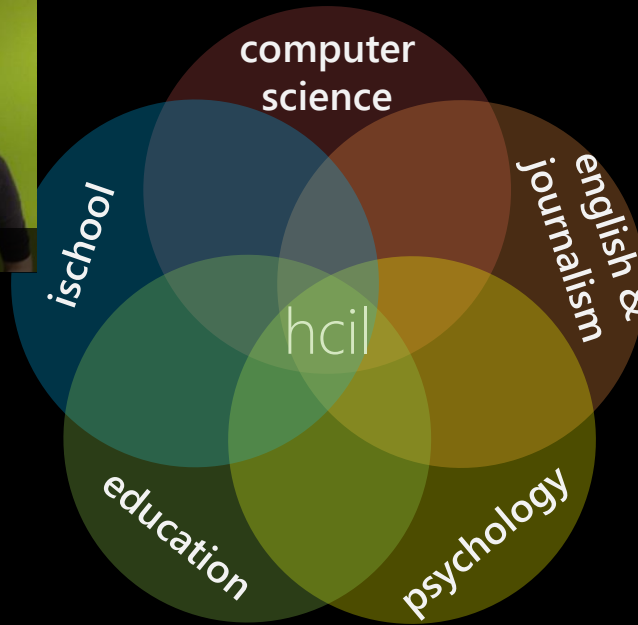
Marshini Chetty



Niklas Elmqvist



Yla Tausczik



Nicholas Diakopoulos



Jenny Preece



Jessica Vitak



Kari Kraus



Allison Druin



Mona Leigh Guha



Tammy Clegg



June Ahn



Evan Golub



Tim Clausner



Kent Norman



Ira Chinoy

Main Lab

From Front



Main Lab

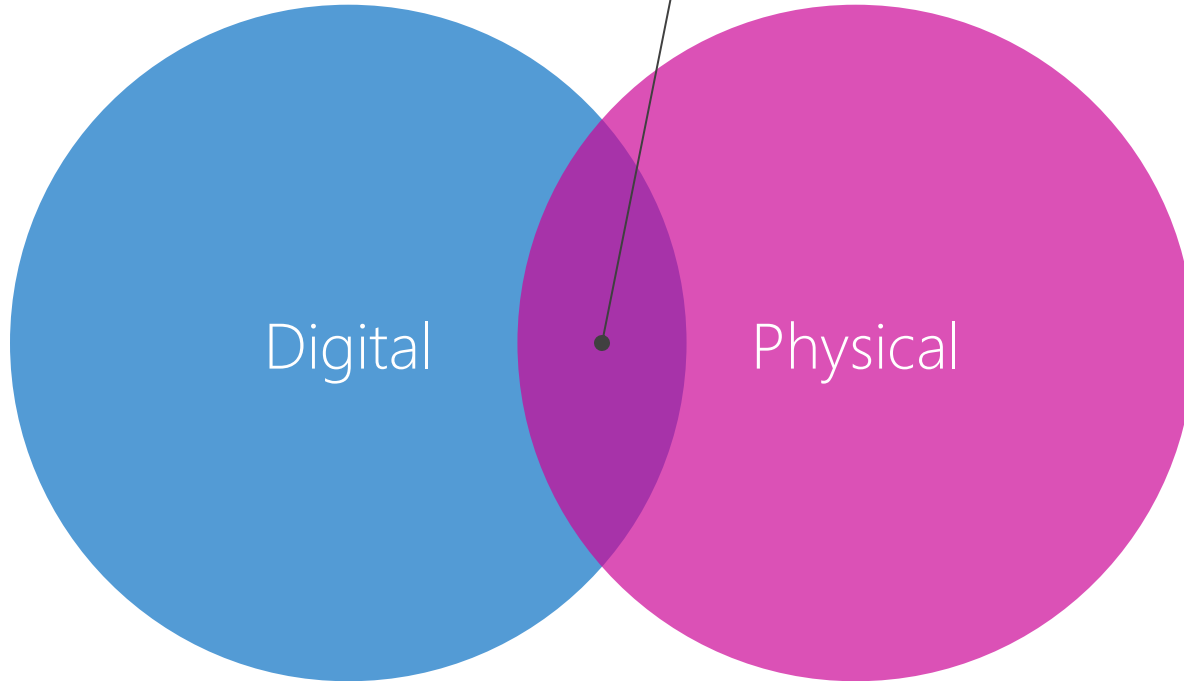
From Back



HCIL Usability Lab

With Two-Way Mirror





Digital

Physical

HCIL Hackerspace

Front Entrance



HCIL hackerspace

HACKER SPACE

Schedule

	M	T	W	T	F	
Nov						✓ Present
Dec						✓ Afternoon
Jan						
Feb						
Mar						
Apr						
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						

kammert@vmj.edu

Software-started

document-loaded numbers 2

document numbers 1

audio-on

video-on

tech-down

today's word index

...

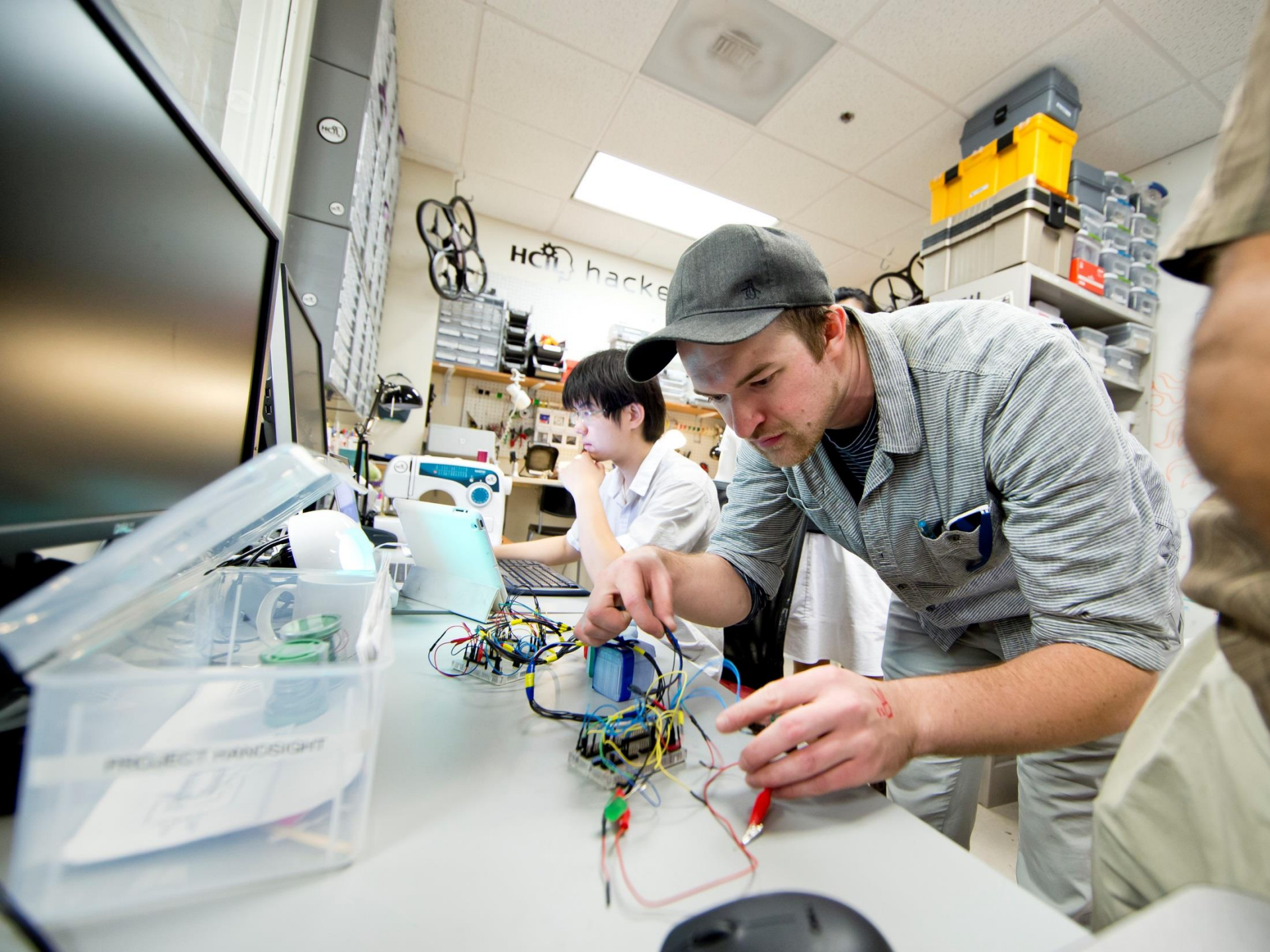
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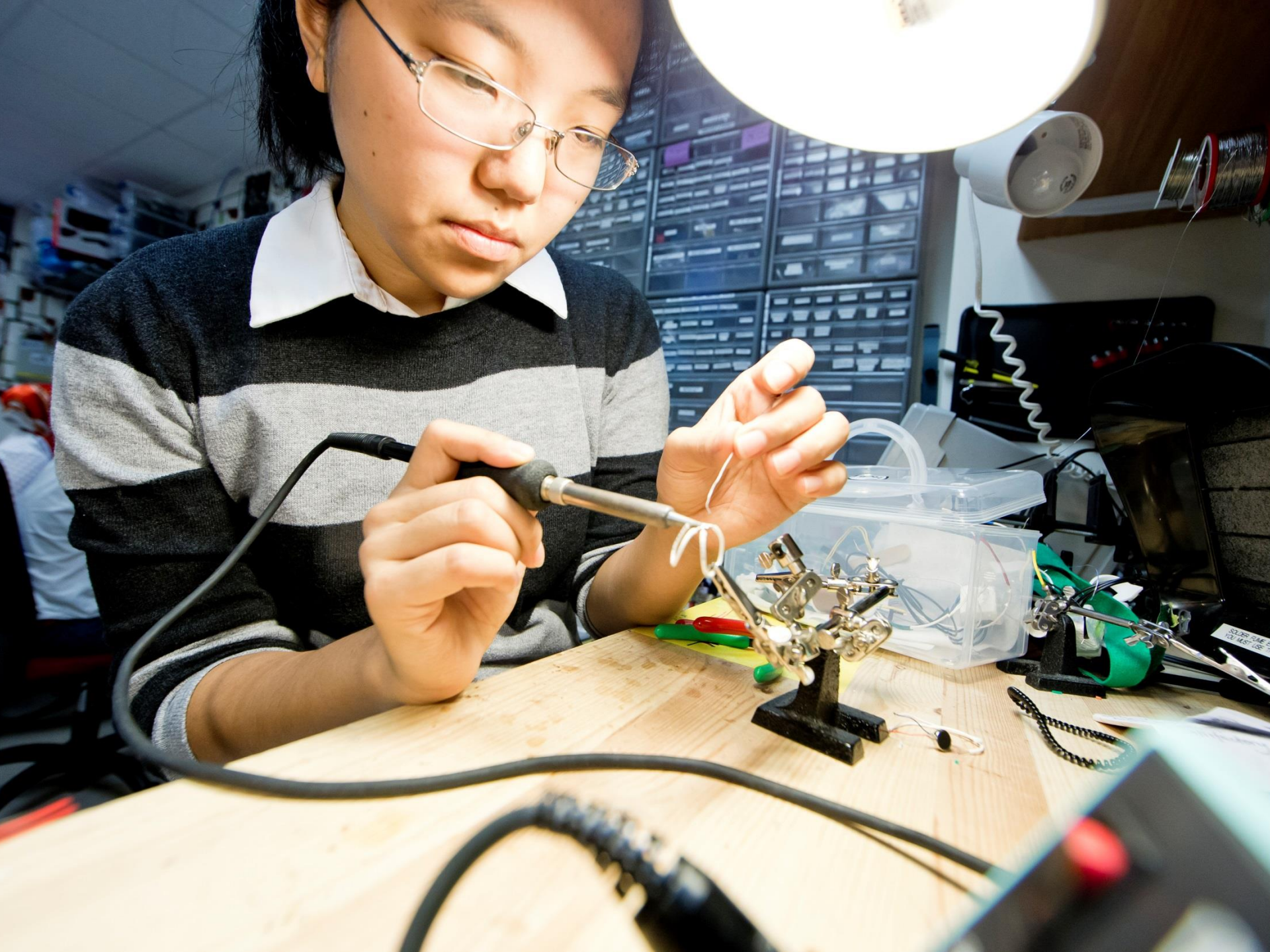
...


...

space









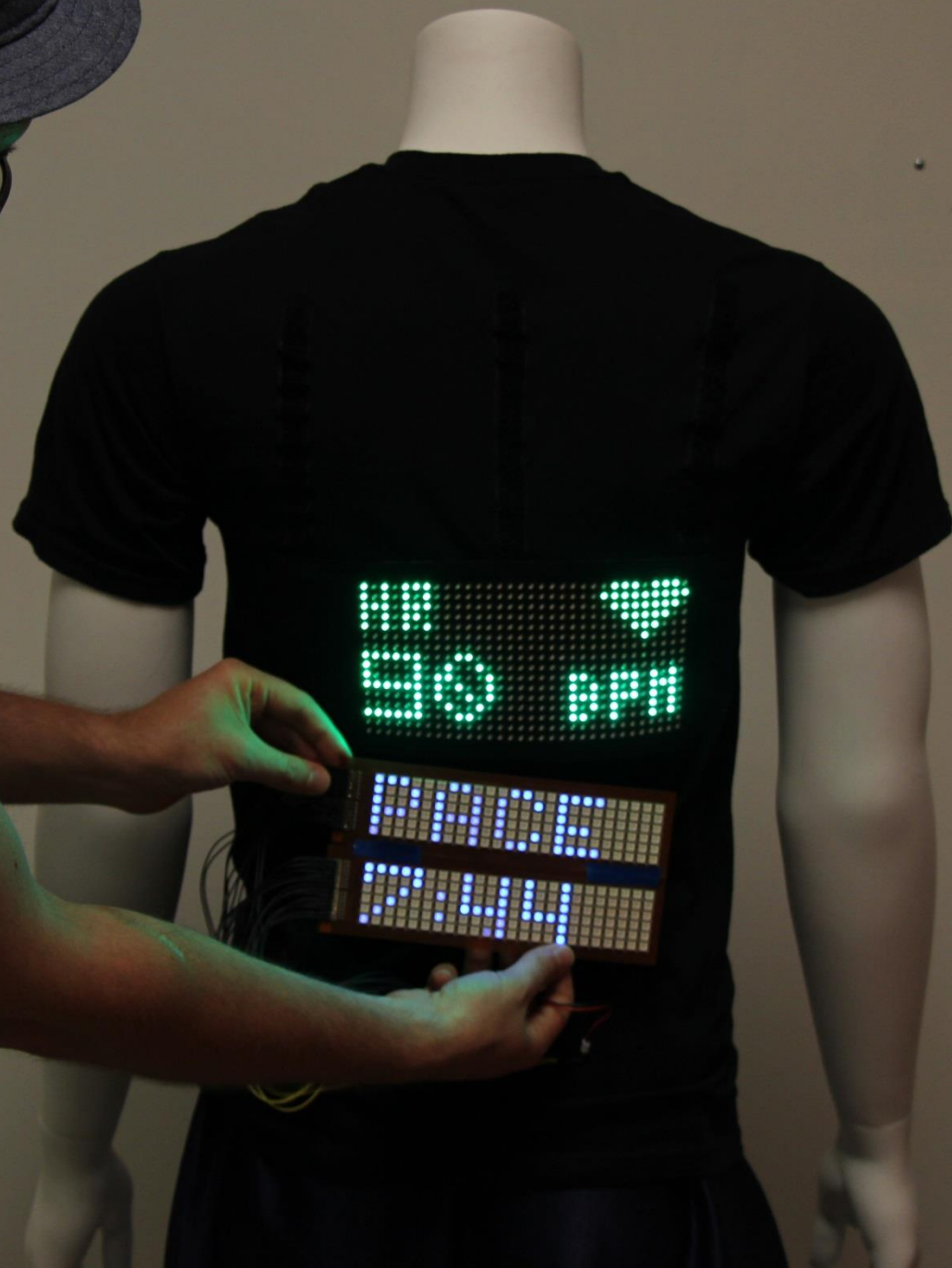
TEXTILES, CRAFTS, AND CLAY – OH MY





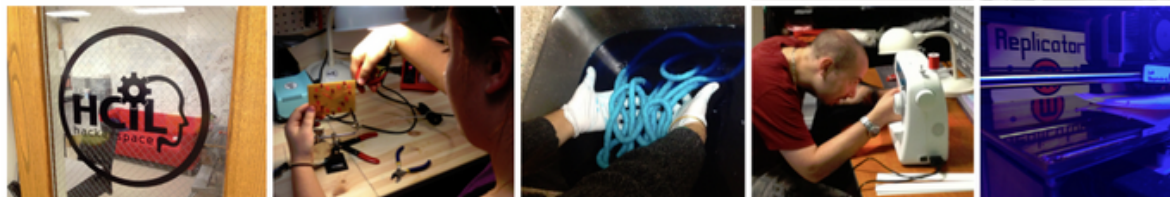
HCIL hackerspace





CMSC838f

Tangible Interactive Computing



"Joy is a well-made object, equaled only to the joy of making it."

-a Canadian Native American tribe saying, as quoted by [Mark Freunfelder](#) (author, co-founder of [BoingBoing](#), & editor of [MAKE Magazine](#))

Preamble

This class is about making, being creative, taking risks. We will make to learn and learn to make. We will use materials to help us think and to push our own boundaries of what interactive computing is and could be. I taught this class once before: <http://cm838f-f12.wikispaces.com>. It was, by most accounts, a success (I think!). I learned a lot. The class learned a lot. Most importantly, along the way, we had *fun* together, we *made* interesting things, and we *helped* each other (peer learning ftw).

As another indicator of success, the aforementioned [Fall2012](#) class generated one MS thesis topic, one PhD thesis topic, and two publications (with more to come!). In addition, the instructables posted for the final project have garnered over 74,265 views and have been favorited 317 times (as of Jan, 2014) including [HandSight](#) (9,330 views, 58 favorites), [indoor/outdoor tracker](#) (33,642 views, 88 favorites), [x-track music visualizer](#) (7,150 views, 63 favorites), and the [HCIL Hackerspace interactive living wall](#) (22,613 views, 98 favorites). I hope for a similar diversity of compelling ideas and successes this year!

I will state up front: in this class, I do not have all the answers (note: I never do but particularly not in this class). I am learning with you. I am pushing myself to learn new things. You should too. So, it's likely that we'll experience some failures along the way. A mini-project might fail. My lectures might fail. But that's OK. Failures can often lead to accidental innovation and they most certainly help you learn. If you don't fail sometimes, you're not trying hard enough. :)

Course Pages

[Home](#)
[Schedule](#)
[Resources](#)
[HCIL Hackerspace](#)

Individual Assignments

[IA01 Background Survey - 1/29](#)
[IA02 Arduino Graph - 2/13](#)
[IA03 Partner Eval for MPA01 - 3/10](#)
[IA04 Partner Eval for MPA02 - 4/02](#)
[IA05 Partner Eval for MPA03 - 4/21](#)

Mini-Project Assignments

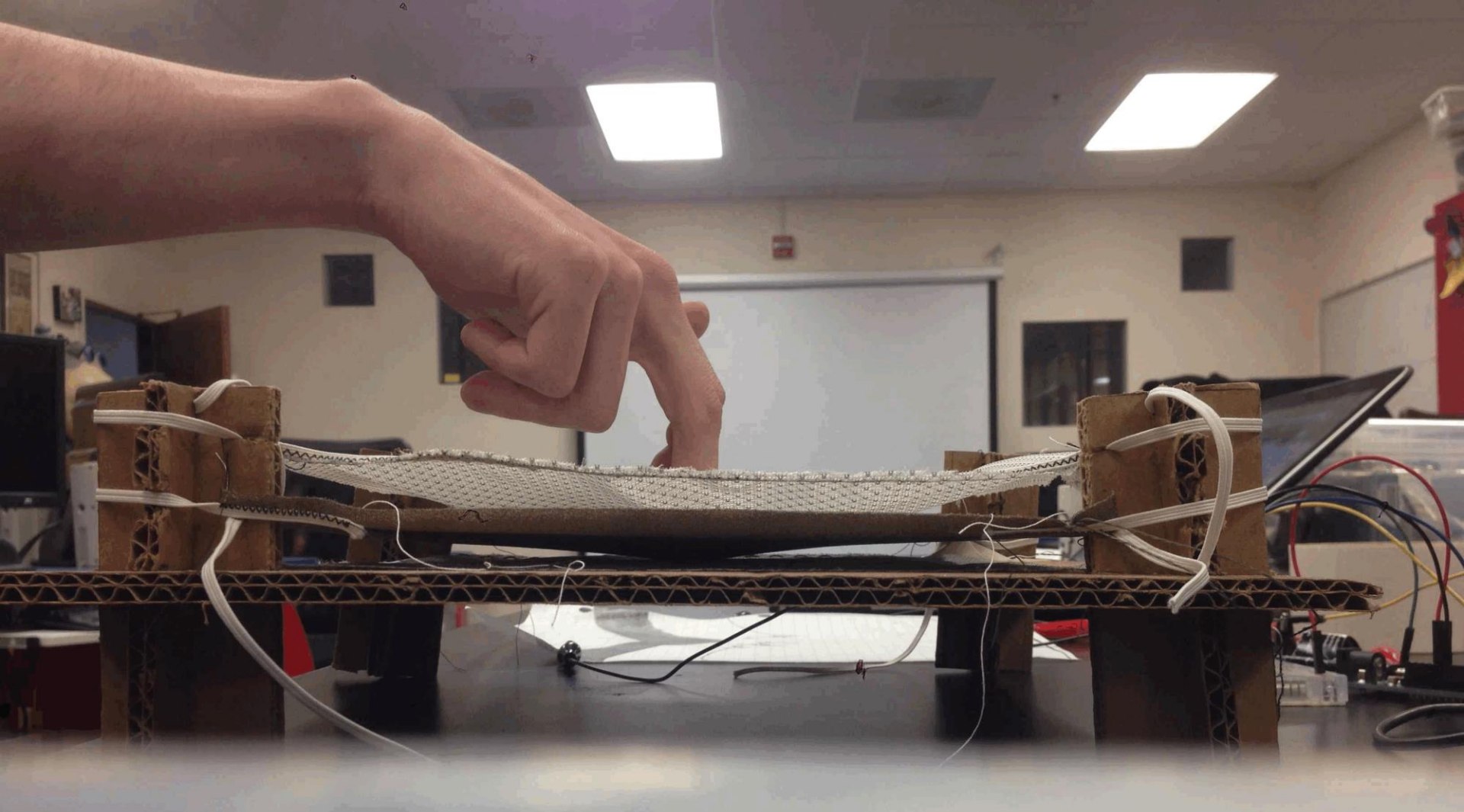
[MPA01 Input Inventions - 3/3](#)
[MPA02 High-Low Tech - 3/26](#)
[MPA03 Kinects & Motors - 4/16](#)

Semester Project Assignments

[SPA01 Project Pitch](#)
[SPA02 Project Presentation](#)
[SPA03 Project Instructable](#)
[SPA04 Project Video](#)
[SPA05 Project Artifact](#)

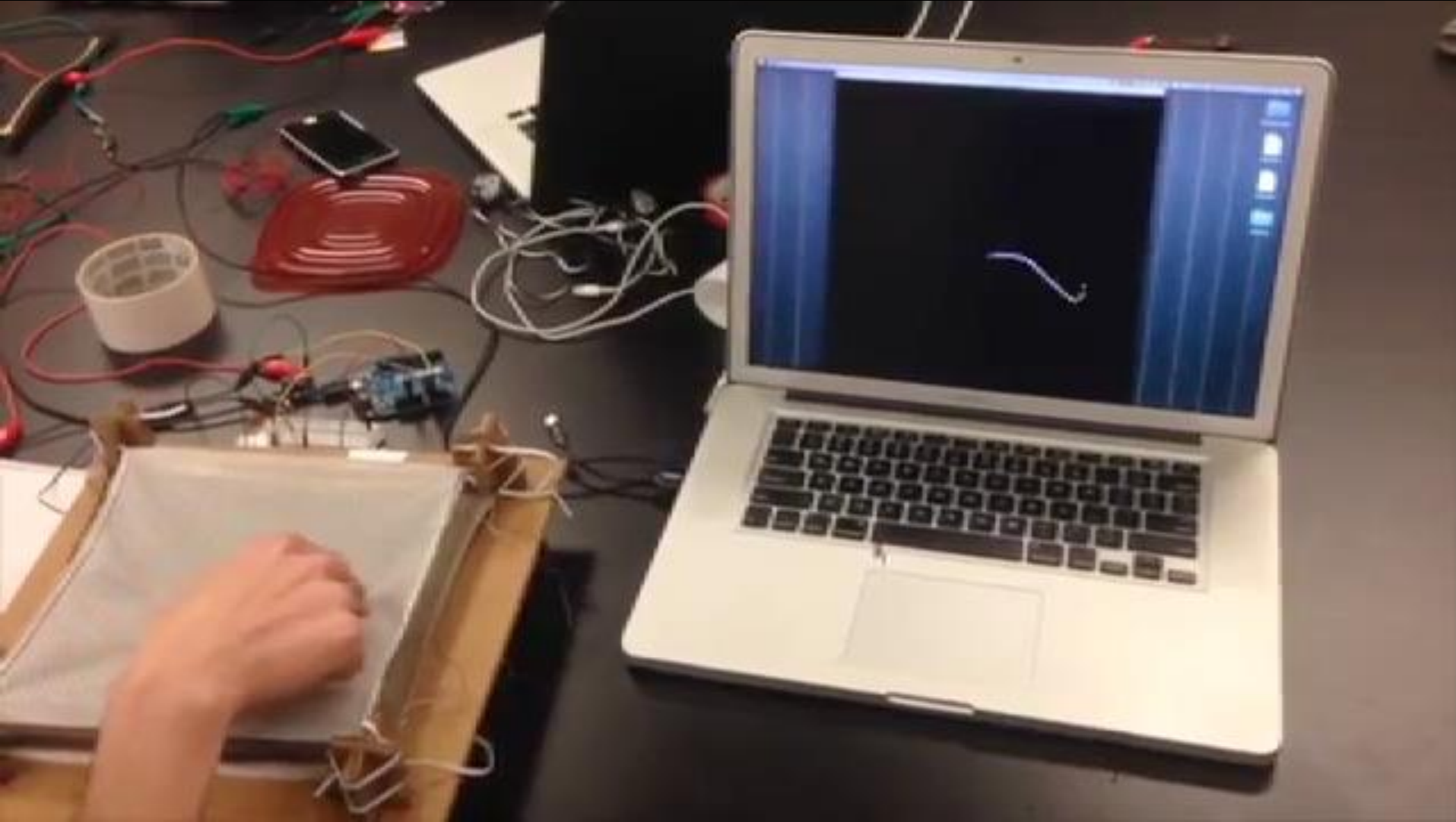
Reading Assignments

[RA01 Tangible Bits - 1/29](#)
[RA02 Arduino Intro - 2/3](#)
[RA03 Electricity Intro - 2/13](#)
[RA04 Switches \(p 39-59\) - 2/19](#)
[RA05 Input Technology - 2/26](#)
[RA05 Sensor-Based Input - 2/26](#)
[RA06 Prototyping 3/5](#)



FABRIC MOUSE TOUCHPAD

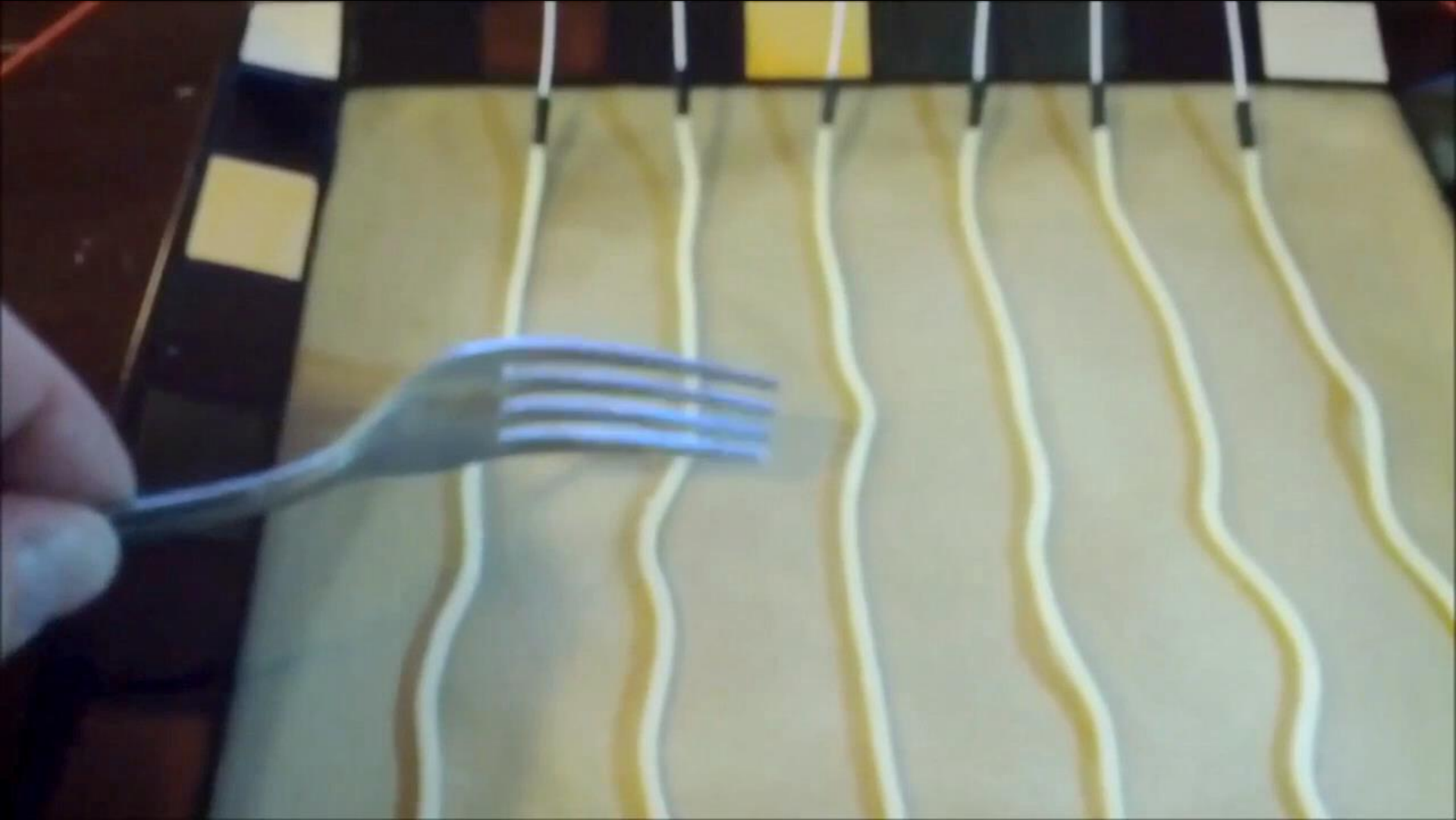
By Peter Enns & Chris Imbriano, Spring 2014

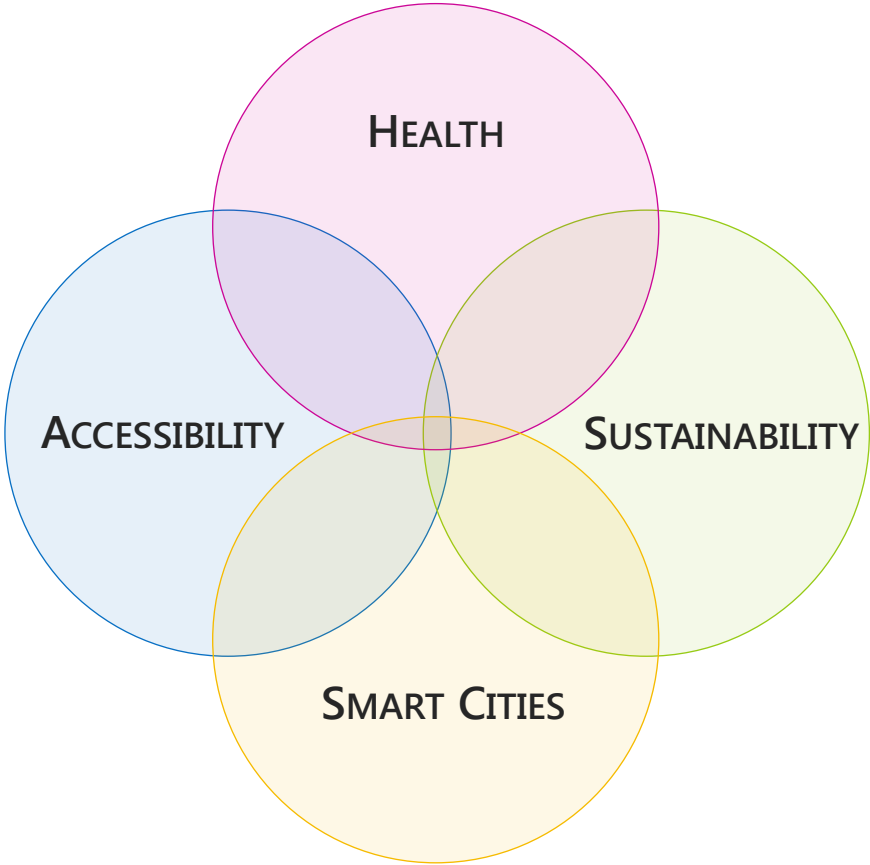


MUSICAL SPAGHETTI MADNESS

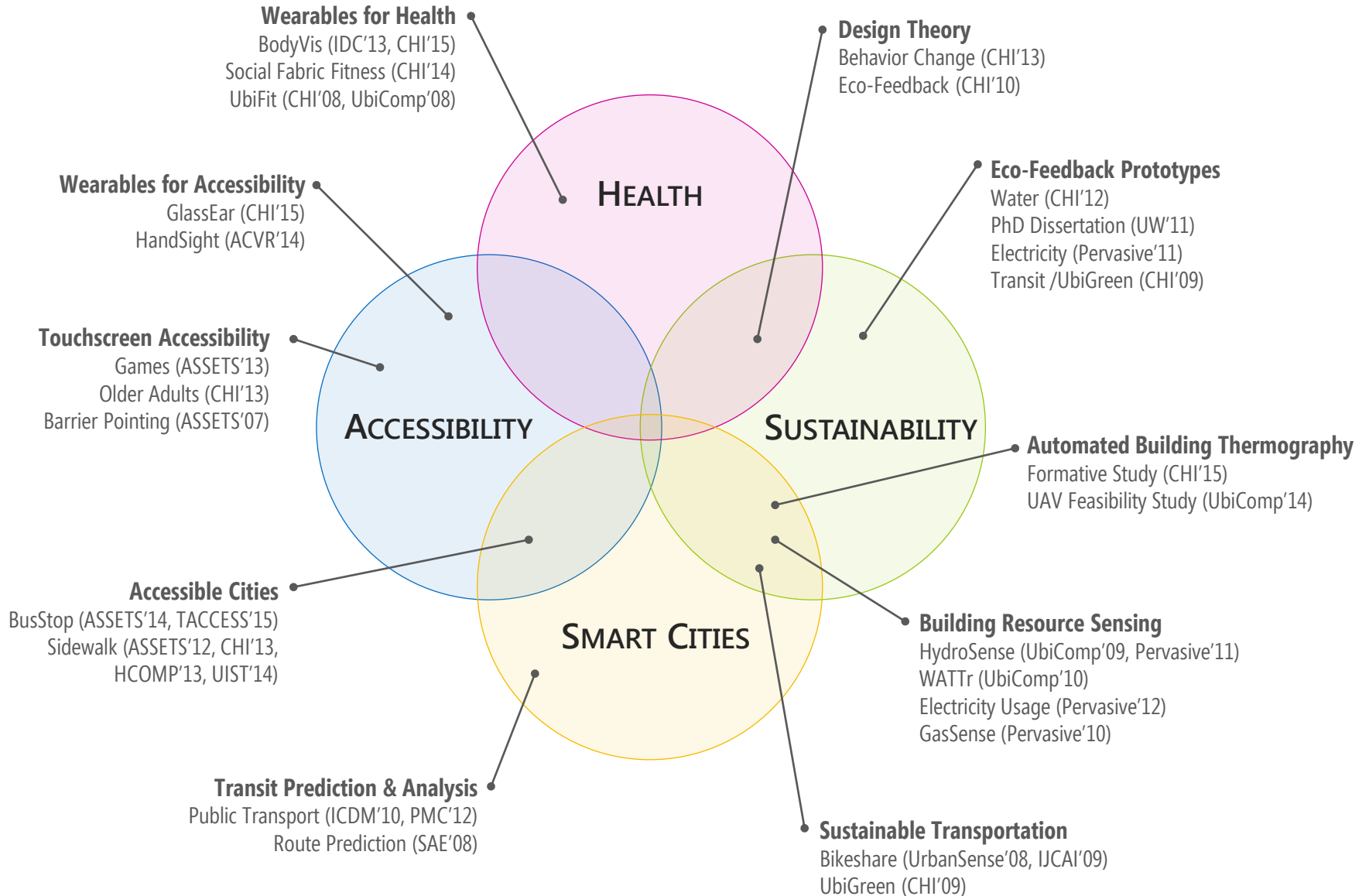
By Richard Johnson, Spring 2014



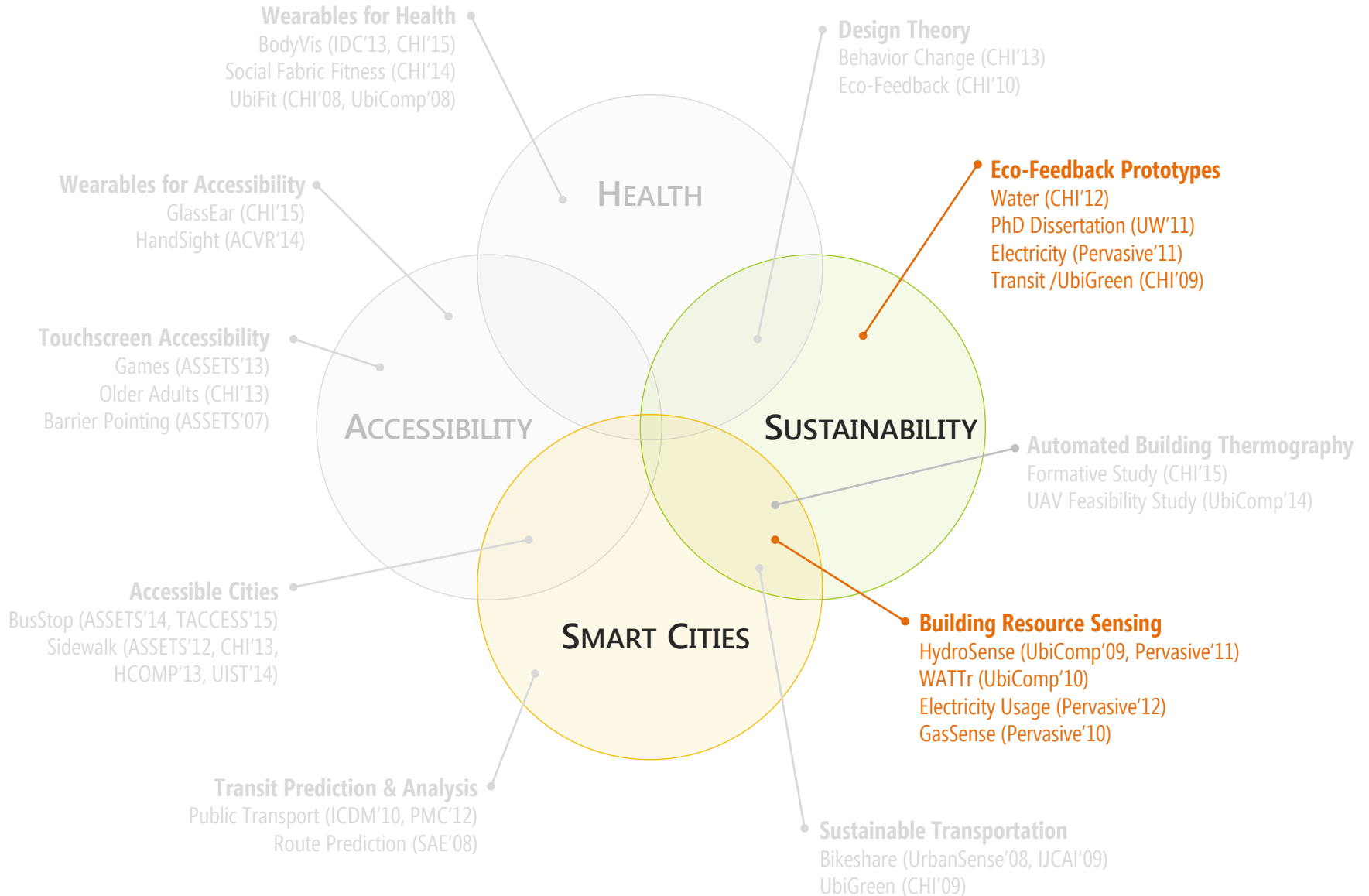




MY RESEARCH



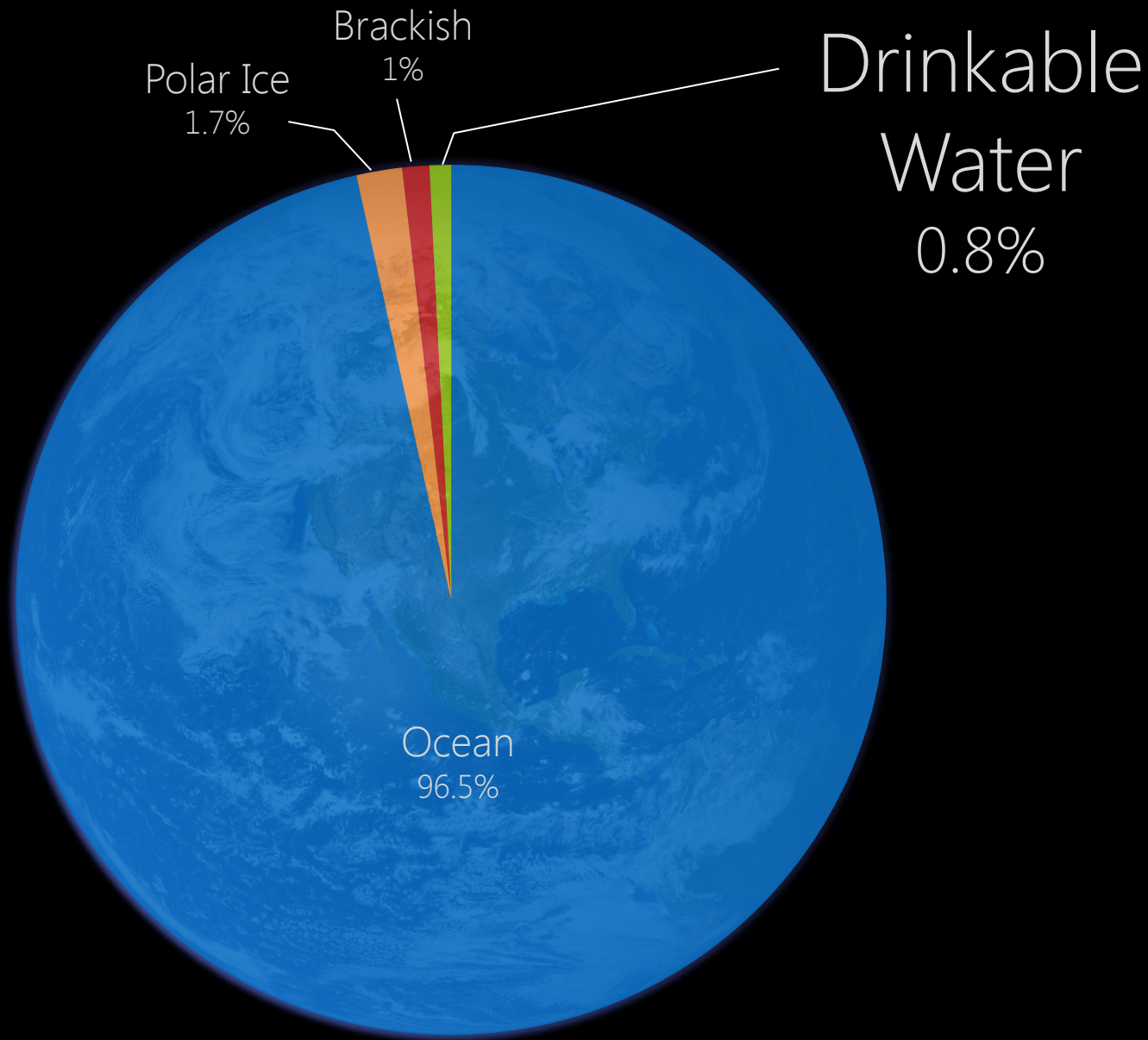
MY RESEARCH



two-thirds

of the earth's surface is covered by water





A large crowd of people, likely at a stadium or event, with text overlaid. The crowd is dense and fills the entire frame. The text is white and centered.

As populations
grow

per-capita water availability is **declining**

A large, dense crowd of people walking on a city street, illustrating an urban environment. The image is dark and serves as a background for the text.

water availability disproportionately felt in
urban environments

This places an enormous strain on
drinkable **water** supplies

growing demand

in 2010, water consumption rose
to 938 billion gallons in beijing
water supply = 576 billion gallons



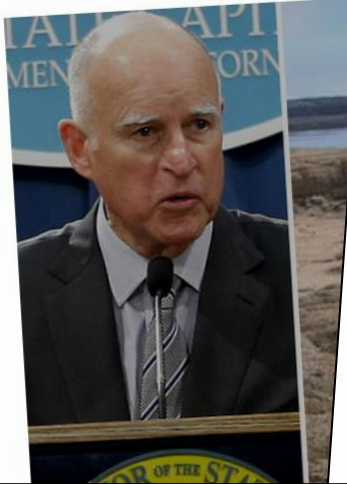
“china melting snow to meet
freshwater demand”

barcelona, spain
importing water by ship for \$35m a month



[Bloomberg News, Feb 2009]

Op-Ed California has about one year of water stored. Will you ration now



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- LIFESTYLE
- TRAVEL
- AUTOS
- REAL EST
- JOBS
- PHOTOS
- CLASSIF
- SHOP
- ADVER
- CORRE
- PRIVA
- TERM
- SITE

If You Think the Water Crisis Can't Get Worse, Wait Until the Aquifers Are Drained

We're pumping irreplaceable groundwater to counter the drought. When it's gone...

Los Angeles Willing to Pay Its Highest Price Ever for Water

Daniel Potter, KQED Science | March 16, 2015 | 1 Comment

Share: t f + p s e

Print



Drought Watch 2015




Tips on saving water and the latest news on drought in California.

About KQED Science

An aerial photograph of a large, dark blue reservoir with a light-colored earthen embankment. The reservoir is situated in a rural landscape with green fields and scattered trees. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a hazy sky. The text "new sources of water more costly to extract" is overlaid on the reservoir in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**new sources of water
more costly to extract**



SHIFTING FOCUS

from finding new supplies to **using existing supplies** more **efficiently**



eco-feedback

sensing and visualizing behavior to reduce environmental impact

toyota prius



CLIMATE

AUDIO

DISP

INFO

6:22

H
M



ODO
TRIP

km/h
MPH

toyota prius

The Washington Post

washingtonpost.com > Nation > Green

More news on: [Environment](#) | [Climate](#) | [Science](#)

For Hybrid Drivers, Every Trip Is a Race for Fuel Efficiency

By Michael S. Rosenwald
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, May 26, 2008

Katie Sebastian accuses her friend Evan Hirsche of getting better mileage than she does because he lives in Bethesda and has flatter everyday trips than she encounters in hilly Takoma Park. She suspects the Hirsche family of taking frequent long drives out of town, which also helps them.



Evan Hirsche averages 43 mpg with his Prius, while Katie Sebastian, shown with her son, Cole, averages 41 mpg. The drivers have friendly rivalry over their mpg scores, fueled by the Prius hybrid's real-time mileage readings. (By Kevin Clark -- The Washington Post)

"They claim they haven't been out of town in a while," she said, "but I know they have."

Hirsche retorts: "It is well known that Katie is a lead-footer."

Their friendly rivalry stems from the Prius effect. Both drive a Prius, the Toyota hybrid with an elaborate dashboard monitor that constantly informs drivers how many miles per gallon they are getting and whether the engine is running on battery or gasoline power. That can change driving in startling ways, making drivers aware of their driving habits, then adjusting them. Sebastian has 41 mpg.

OUTSIDE TEMP 61°F

USA TODAY

Home News Travel Money Sports Life Tech

Money » Cars • Drive On community • Test Drive: James R. Healey • Video Reviews • Buy a Car

100 mpg? For 'hypermilers,' that sounds about right

Updated 6/27/2008 2:08 PM | Comments 446 | Recommend 103 E-mail | Save | Print | Reprints & Permissions | RSS



By Michael Chow for USA TODAY

By Chris Woodyard, USA TODAY

GILBERT, Ariz. — After a 29-mile jaunt from his Phoenix office to his home here, Louis Hudgin proclaimed his gas mileage "pitiful." He averaged just 88.3 miles per gallon.

MAXIMIZING MPG: What experts think of hypermiler techniques
TELL US: How do you squeeze the most miles out of every gallon?
ACROSS THE USA: Drivers slow down as costs accelerate

Most drivers would take a victory lap if they managed to squeeze that kind of mileage out of increasingly precious gasoline. Even on this, a bad day, Hudgin coaxed 28 mpg more out of his 2000 Honda Insight hybrid than its federal highway mpg rating.

Hudgin's disappointment — he usually averages about 100 mpg this time of year — stems from his pride in being no ordinary driver.

He's a hypermiler, part of a loose-knit legion of commuters who've made racking up seemingly unattainable mpg an art. And a sport.

Hypermilers practice such unorthodox techniques as coasting for blocks with their car's engine turned off, driving far below speed limits on the freeway, pumping up tire pressure far beyond car and tire makers' recommendations, and manipulating the car's computerized mpg display.

TOOLBOX

Resize Print E-mail

Buy Photo

COMMENT

222 Comments | View All »

COMMENTS ARE CLOSED

WHO'S BLOGGING powered by sphere

Links to this article

THE DISCUSSION

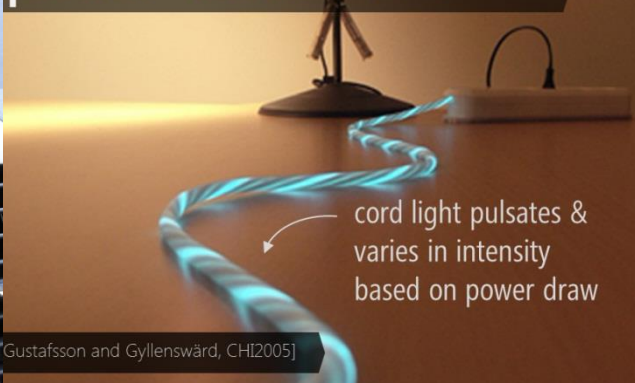
price of a gallon of gasoline has led you? stories & tips & tips.



toyota prius



power-aware cord



Gustafsson and Gyllenswård, CHI2005

jetsam



[Paulos and Jenkins, CHI2005]

microsoft hohm



the energy detective



wattson



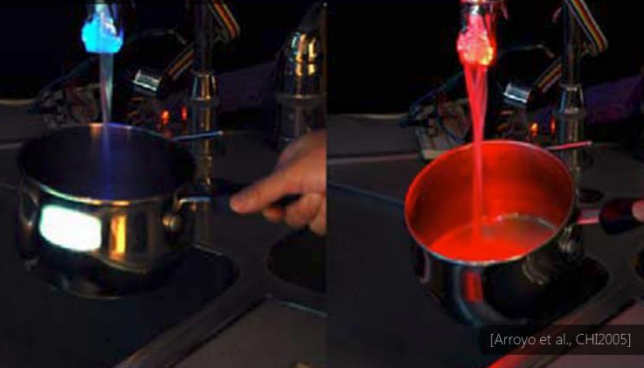
control4 dashboard



google powermeter



heat sink



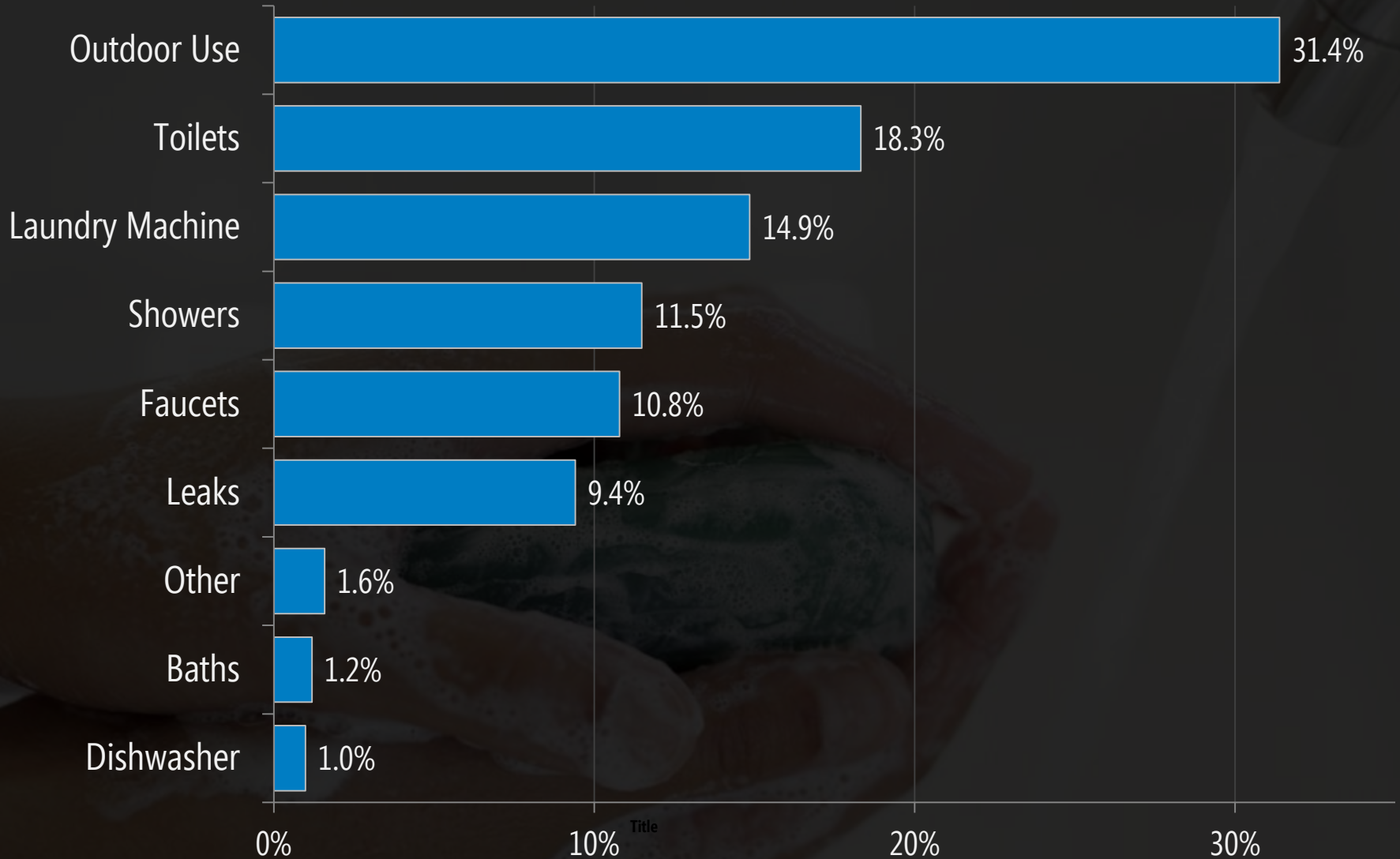
[Arroyo et al., CHI2005]

A hand holding a pen, with the word 'what' written in large white letters.

what

are the most **water** consuming activities in the average North American home?

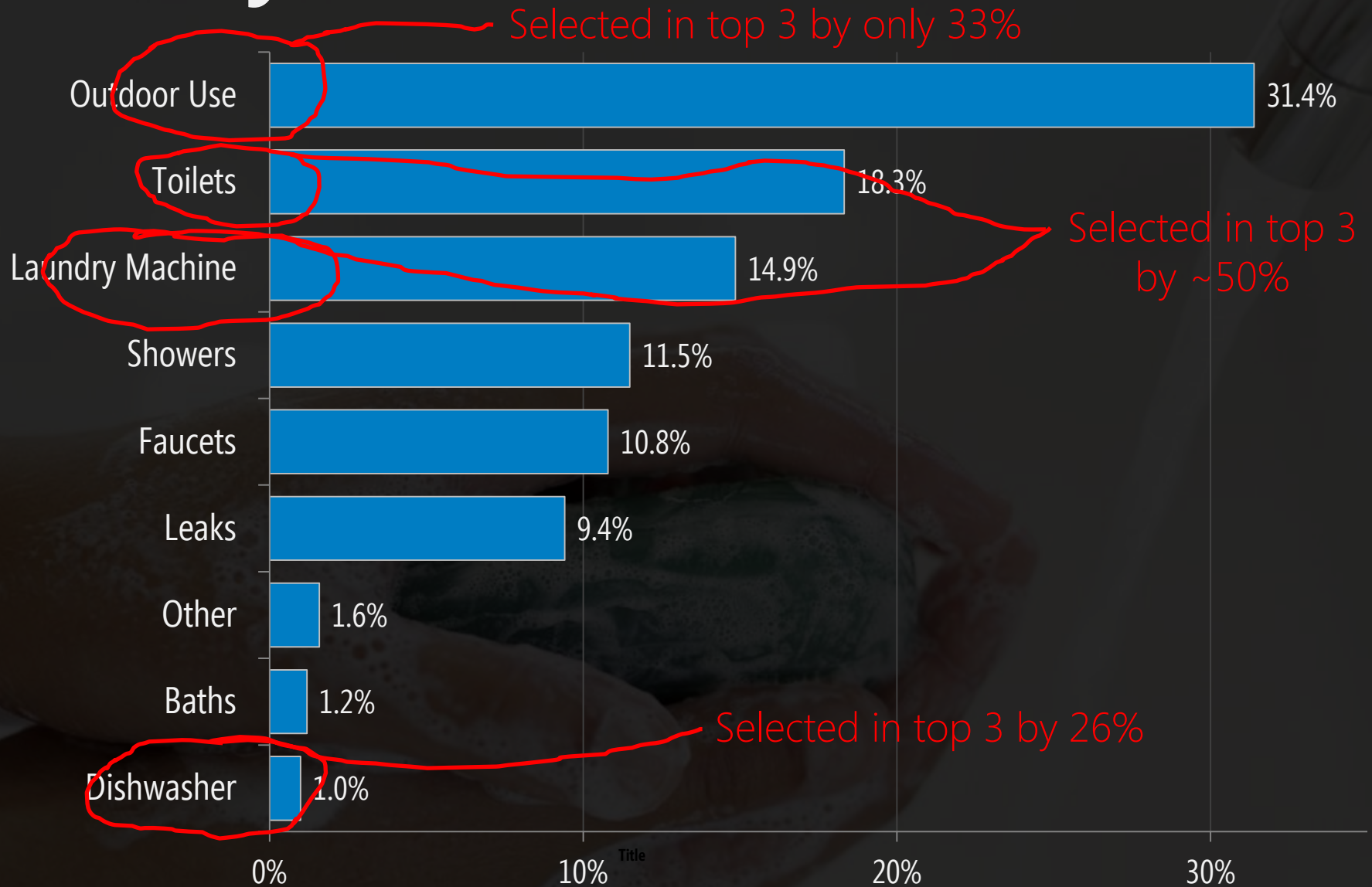
top water usage activities



[Vickers, Handbook of Water Use and Conservation, 2001]

We asked **656 people** the same thing

survey results



[Vickers, Handbook of Water Use and Conservation, 2001]

Why **don't** we know this?



water feedback

Municipal Services Statement



City of Tempe
P.O. Box 29617
Phoenix, AZ 85038-9617
480-350-8361
480-350-8400 (TDD)

0000127520000000000100687001547118
Account Number: 100687-00154711

Utility Amount Due: 127.52

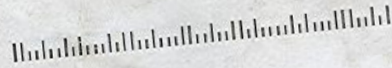
Voluntary Donation: 1.00

Total + Voluntary Donation: 128.52

Date Due: 1/8/2007

Enter Amount Paid:

Make checks payable to the City of Tempe.



LINDER HOLLINQUEST
7450 S KENWOOD DR
TEMPE AZ 85283-4921

Mark if address change requested on reverse side



Return the top portion of this statement with your payment.
Keep the bottom portion of this statement for your records.

Account Number: 100687-00154711
Current meter reading: 16507

Billing period: 12/2006
Previous meter reading: 16305

Service Address: 7450 S KENWOOD LN
Gallons delivered: 20,200
meter read date: 11/20/2006

Days of service: 27

Account Activity

Date	Description	Amount
	Payments Received Thank You	100.00
12/12	Water Quality Fee	0.13
12/12	Tempe City Tax	0.61
12/12	State Tax	2.15
12/12	Sewer Service Charge	7.28

Amount

Date Description

12/12	Water Consumption	20.11
12/12	Water Service Charge	13.99
12/12	1% Delinquent Fee	0.40
12/12	Sewer Charge	11.48
12/12	Residential Refuse	17.41

Amount

Previous Balance	Payments Received	Payments Made	Current Due	Previous Due	Current Due	Voluntary Donation	Total Including Voluntary Donation
153.96	100.00	0.00	53.96	73.55	0.00	127.52	128.52
						1.00	128.52
							0.00



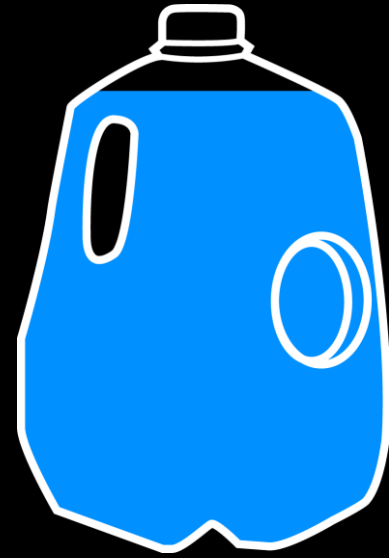
Help to Others voluntary donation program makes it easier to help neighbors in need. Help to Others supports essential human service programs for children, families and seniors. If you do not wish to contribute to this program, simply pay only the "Utility Amount Due."

water feedback

PLEASE FOLD BEFORE TEARING

See reverse side for important information.

10,230
gallons



SAFEWAY

SAVE MORE AT SAFEWAY

GROCERY

SFWY PRZLE STICK	1.50 B
RegPrice 1.79	CardSav .29
BLKBERRY PRES	3.79 B
SFY CANOLA OIL	
CEREAL PNT BUTTER	
CHILI SAUCE SWT	
CHF-B PIZZA	
LK GRCL SCE	

REFRIG/FROZEN

LUC CHEESE	
RegPrice 6.79	CardSav 1.00
SPINACH ARTICHOKE	
RegPrice 3.79	CardSav 1.00
3S CRWN VEG RSTD	
RegPrice 3.79	CardSav 1.00
202.50 SFWY SEL MEDALL FC	
RegPrice 7.58	CardSav 1.00
MARGARINE	

GEN MERCHANDIS

#SFY BENEHIST TAB

BAKED GOODS

LD COSMIC BROWNIES	1.29 B
DROWEAT RYE	3.14 B
CUSTARD PIE 9IN	4.99 B
RegPrice 5.99	CardSav 1.00
CHOC CREAM PIE	4.99 B
RegPrice 5.99	CardSav 1.00

**** TAX	6.26	BAL	144.25
VF MC XXXXXXXXX			144.25

CHANGE .00
TOTAL SAVINGS 16.97
NUMBER OF ITEMS = 35

12/27/06 12:00 1877 02 0150 5145

SAFEWAY

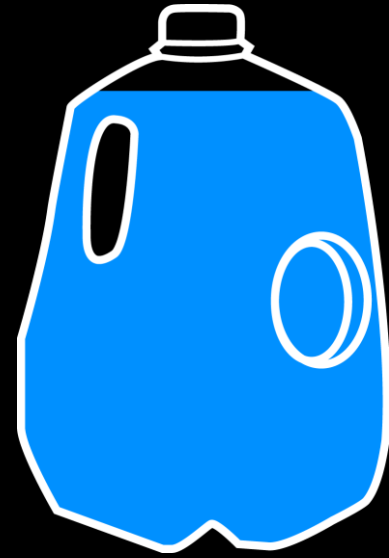
SAVE MORE AT SAFEWAY

Month: April 2006

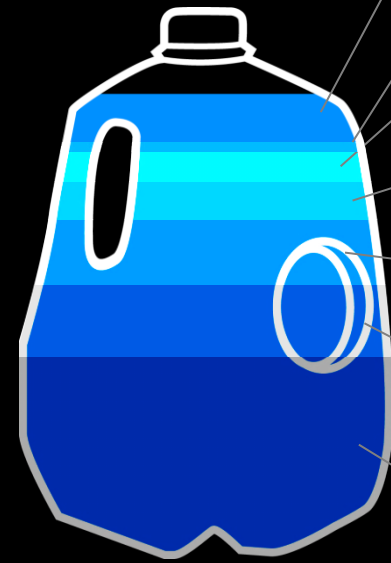
Total Food Units: 1527

Total Price: \$642

10,230
gallons



10,230
gallons



Other
1248 gals

Dishwasher
102 gals

Faucets
1105 gals

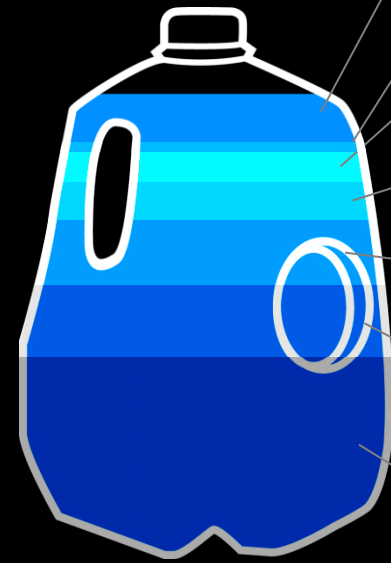
Showers
1176 gals

Laundry
1,524 gals

Toilets
1,872 gals

Outdoor
3,212 gals

10,230
gallons



Other
1248 gals

Dishwasher
102 gals

Faucets
1105 gals

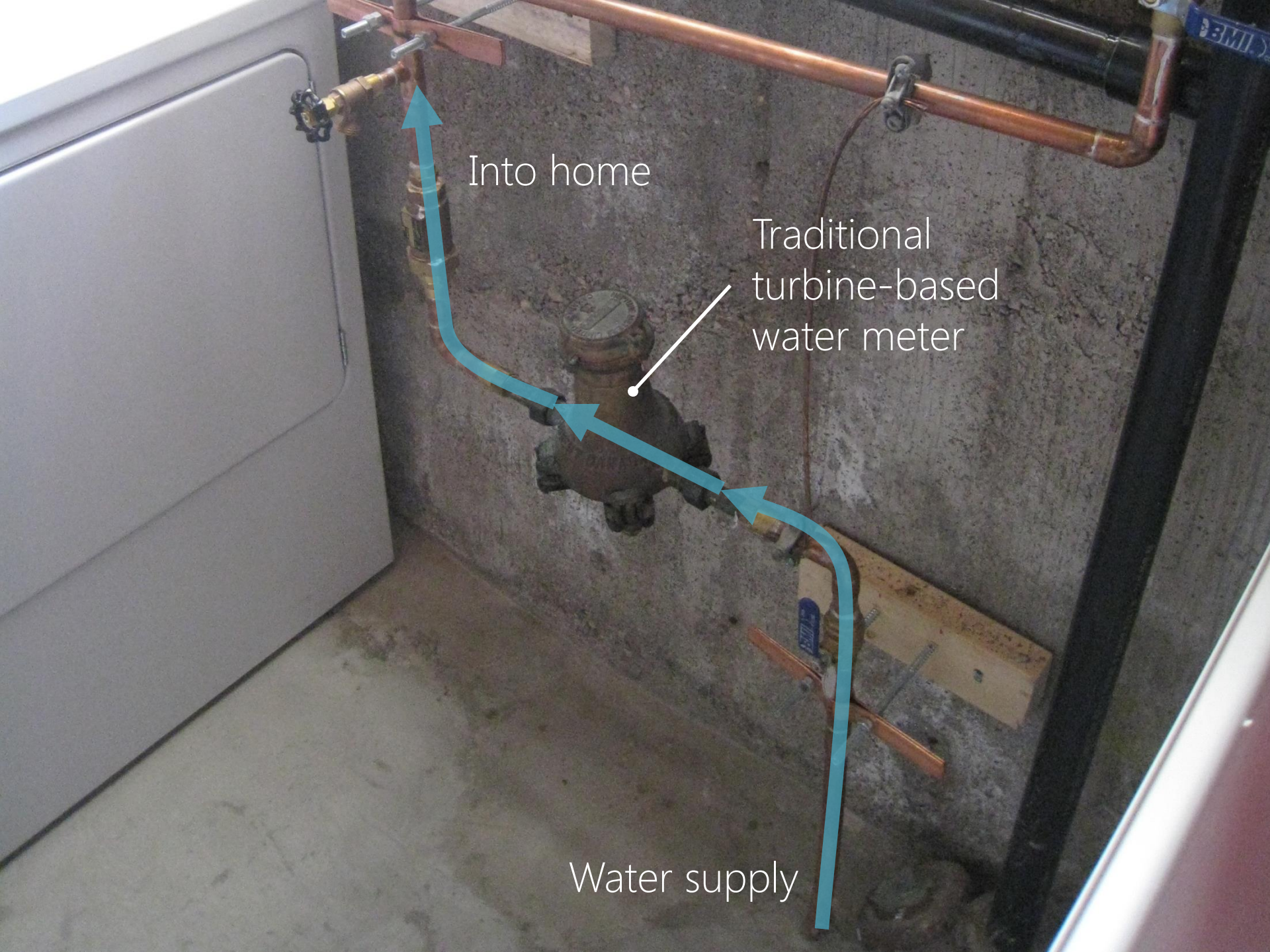
Showers
1176 gals

Laundry
1,524 gals

Toilets
1,872 gals

Outdoor
3,212 gals

How could we measure this
“disaggregated” level of consumption?



Into home

Traditional turbine-based water meter

Water supply



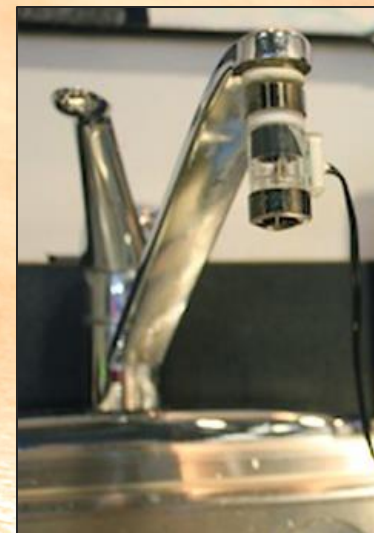
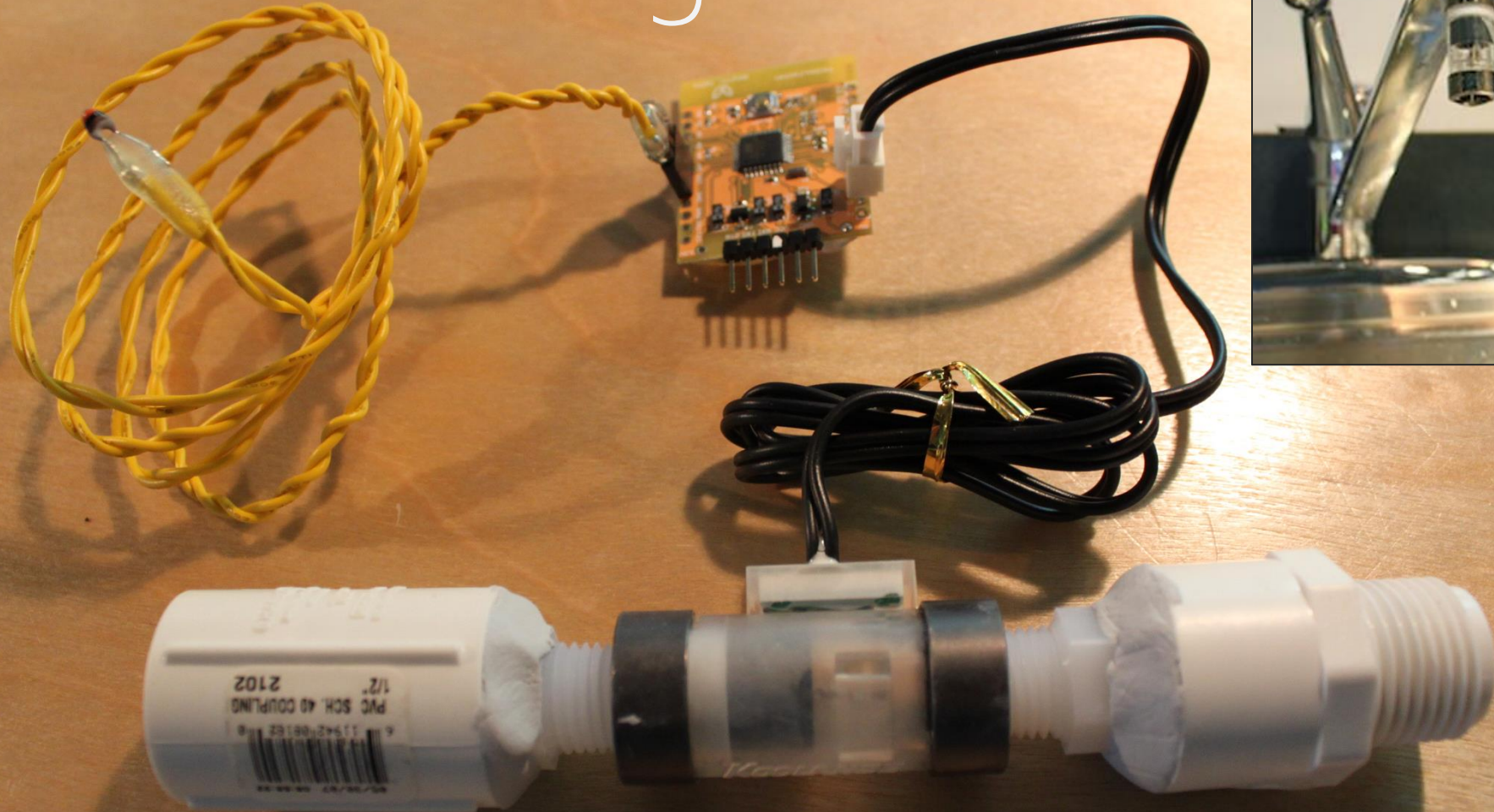
Into home

Traditional turbine-based water meter

Requires inline installation. Only measures aggregate consumption.

Water supply

direct sensing



direct sensing

shower
62.4 gallons

bath
6.5 gallons

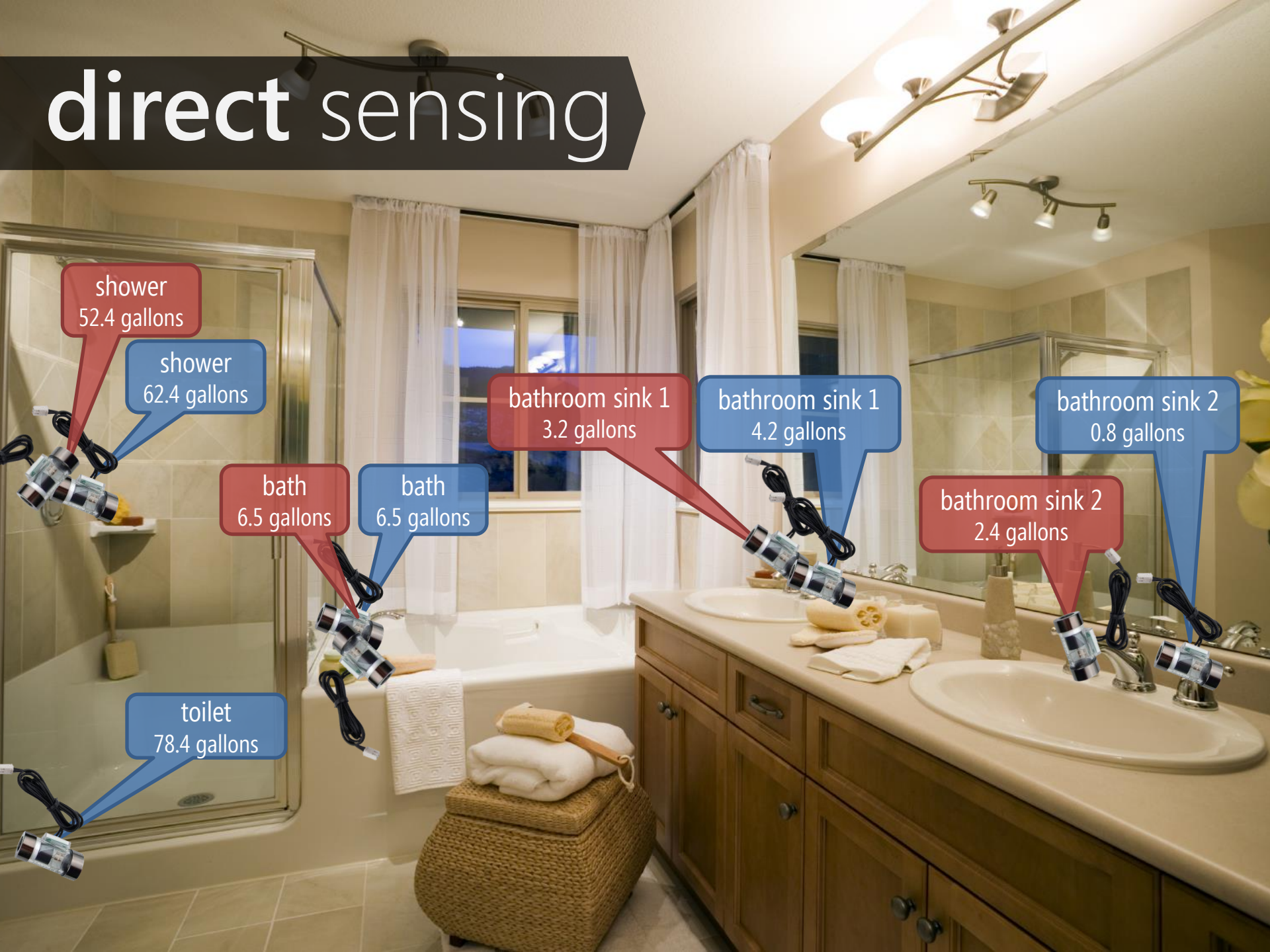
toilet
78.4 gallons

bathroom sink 1
4.2 gallons

bathroom sink 2
0.8 gallons



direct sensing



shower
52.4 gallons

shower
62.4 gallons

bath
6.5 gallons

bath
6.5 gallons

toilet
78.4 gallons

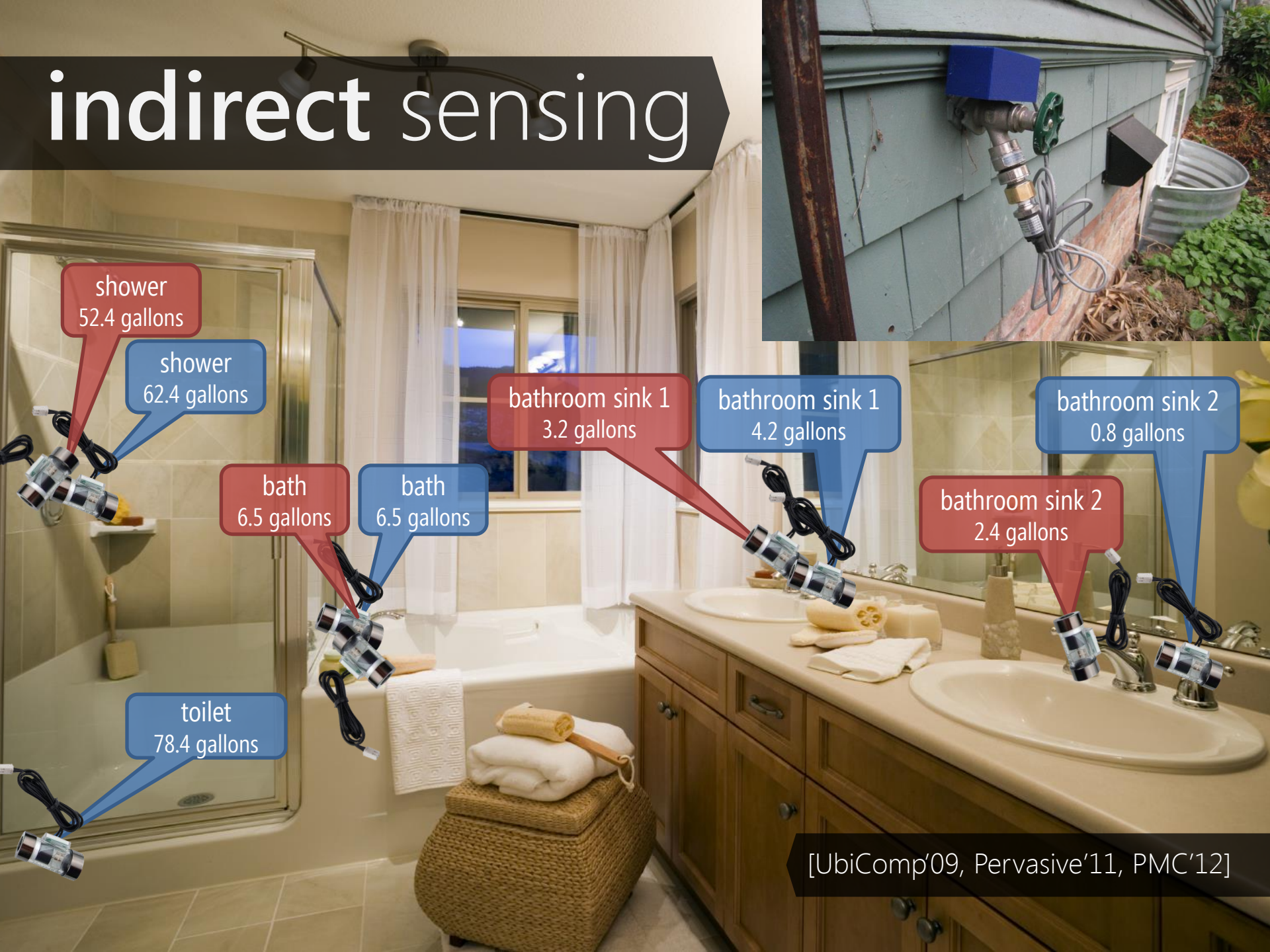
bathroom sink 1
3.2 gallons

bathroom sink 1
4.2 gallons

bathroom sink 2
2.4 gallons

bathroom sink 2
0.8 gallons

indirect sensing



shower
52.4 gallons

shower
62.4 gallons

bath
6.5 gallons

bath
6.5 gallons

toilet
78.4 gallons

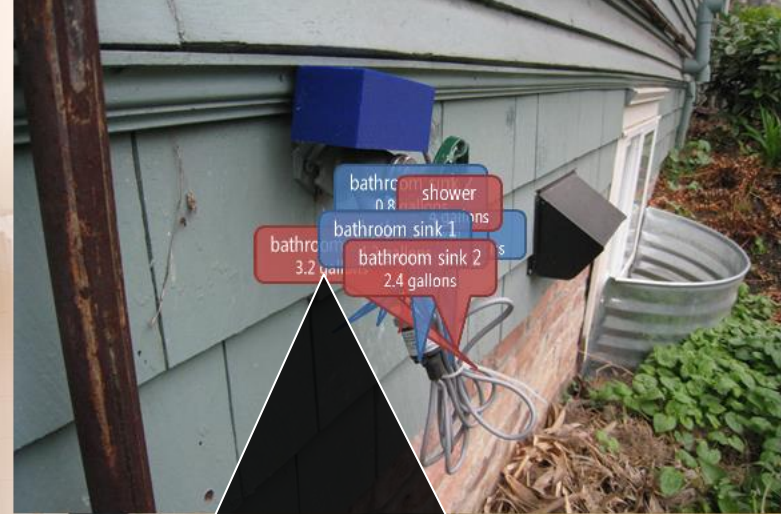
bathroom sink 1
3.2 gallons

bathroom sink 1
4.2 gallons

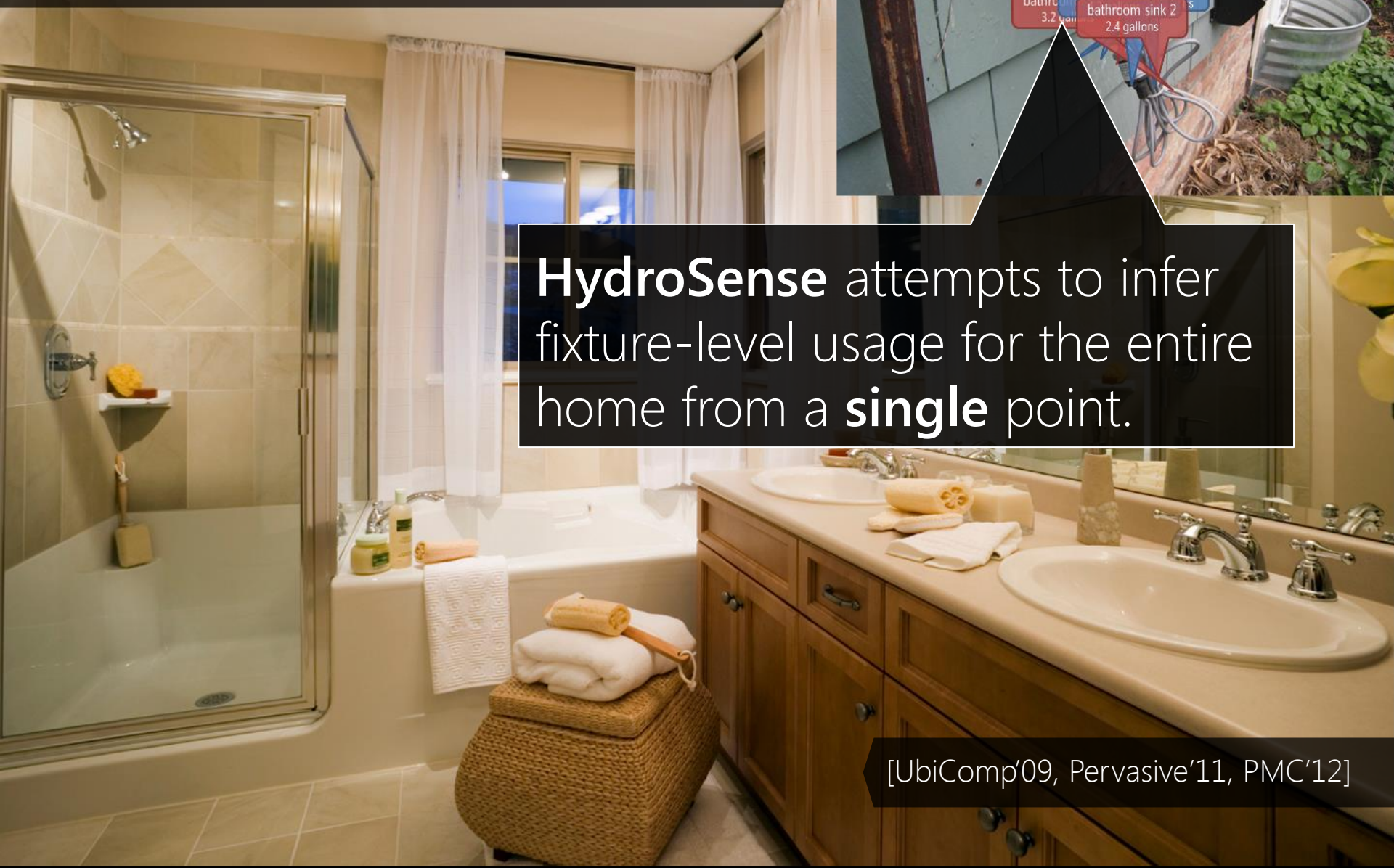
bathroom sink 2
0.8 gallons

bathroom sink 2
2.4 gallons

indirect sensing

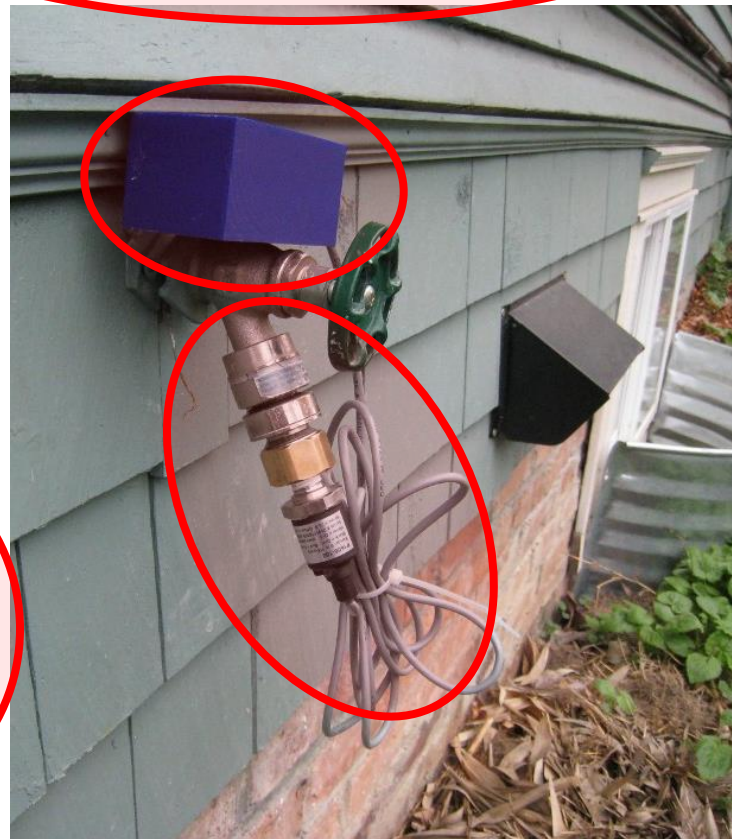
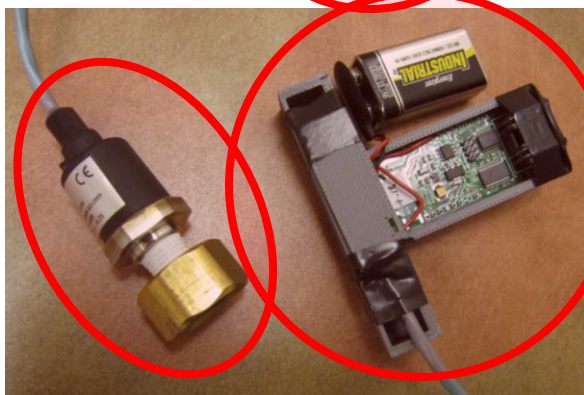
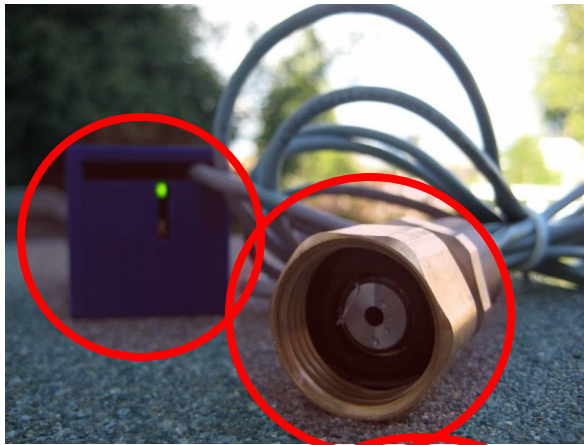
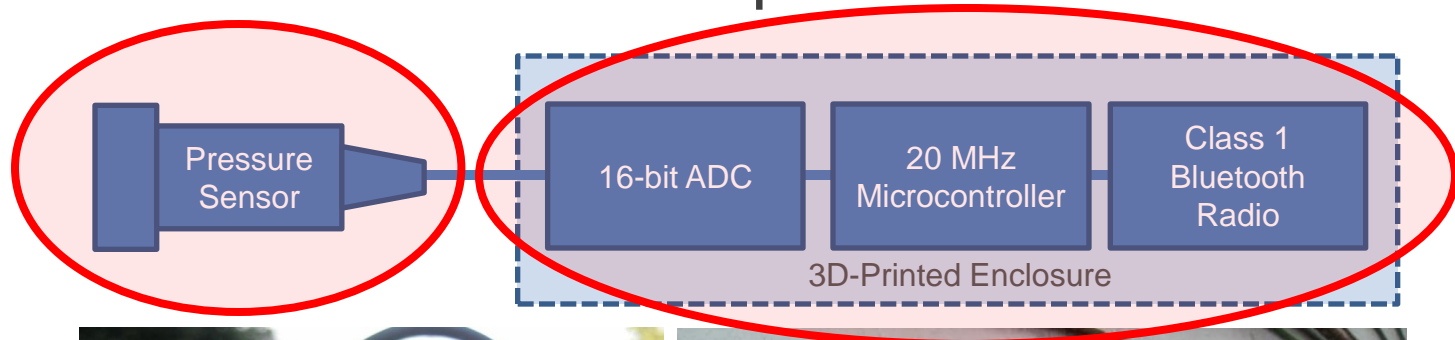


HydroSense attempts to infer fixture-level usage for the entire home from a **single** point.



[UbiComp'09, Pervasive'11, PMC'12]

hydrosense implementation

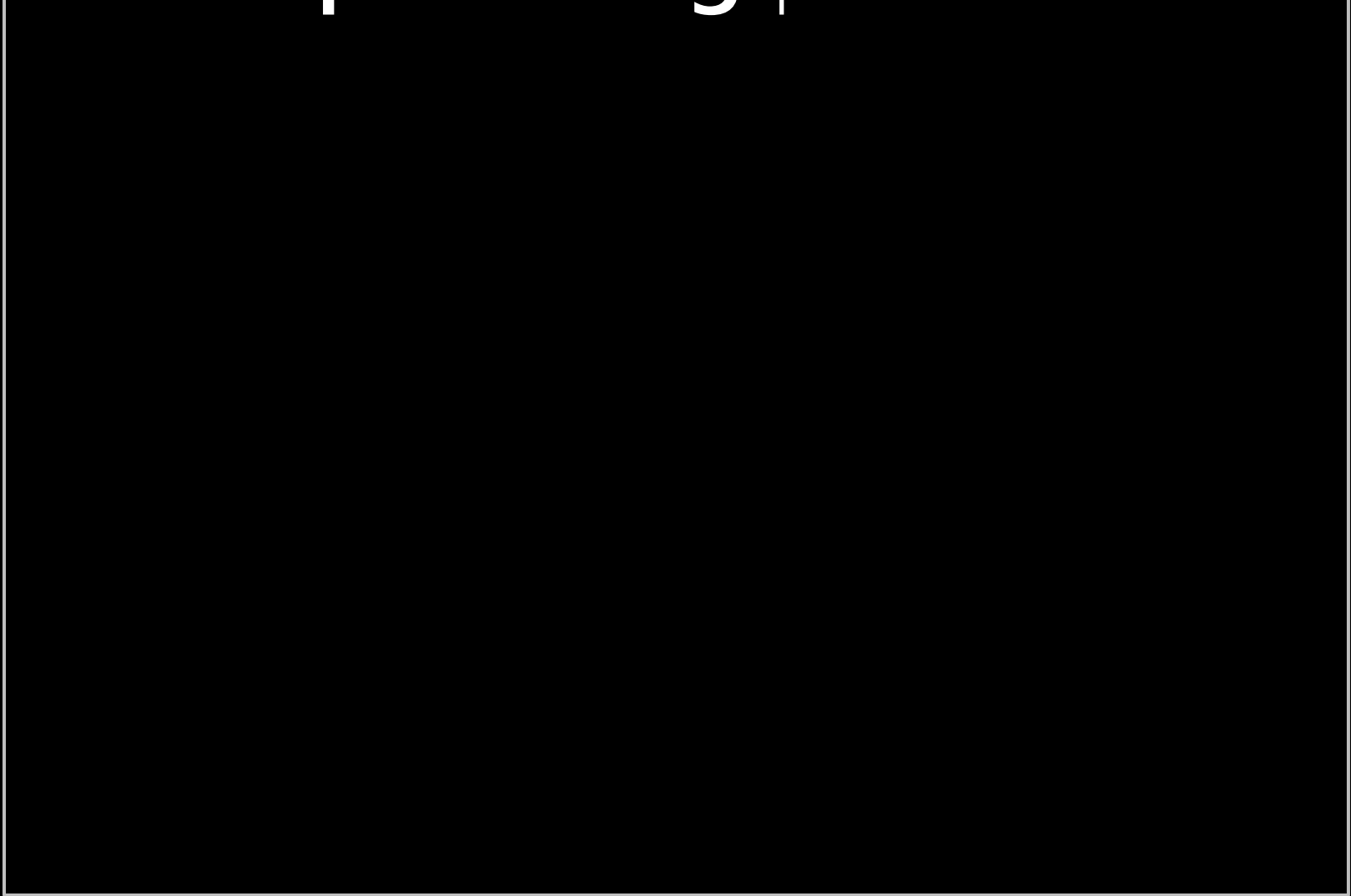


brief plumbing primer





plumbing primer





water tower

plumbing primer

incoming cold
water from
supply line



utility water
meter



water tower

pressure regulator

incoming cold
water from
supply line



utility water
meter



pressure
regulator



water tower

plumbing layout

incoming cold
water from
supply line



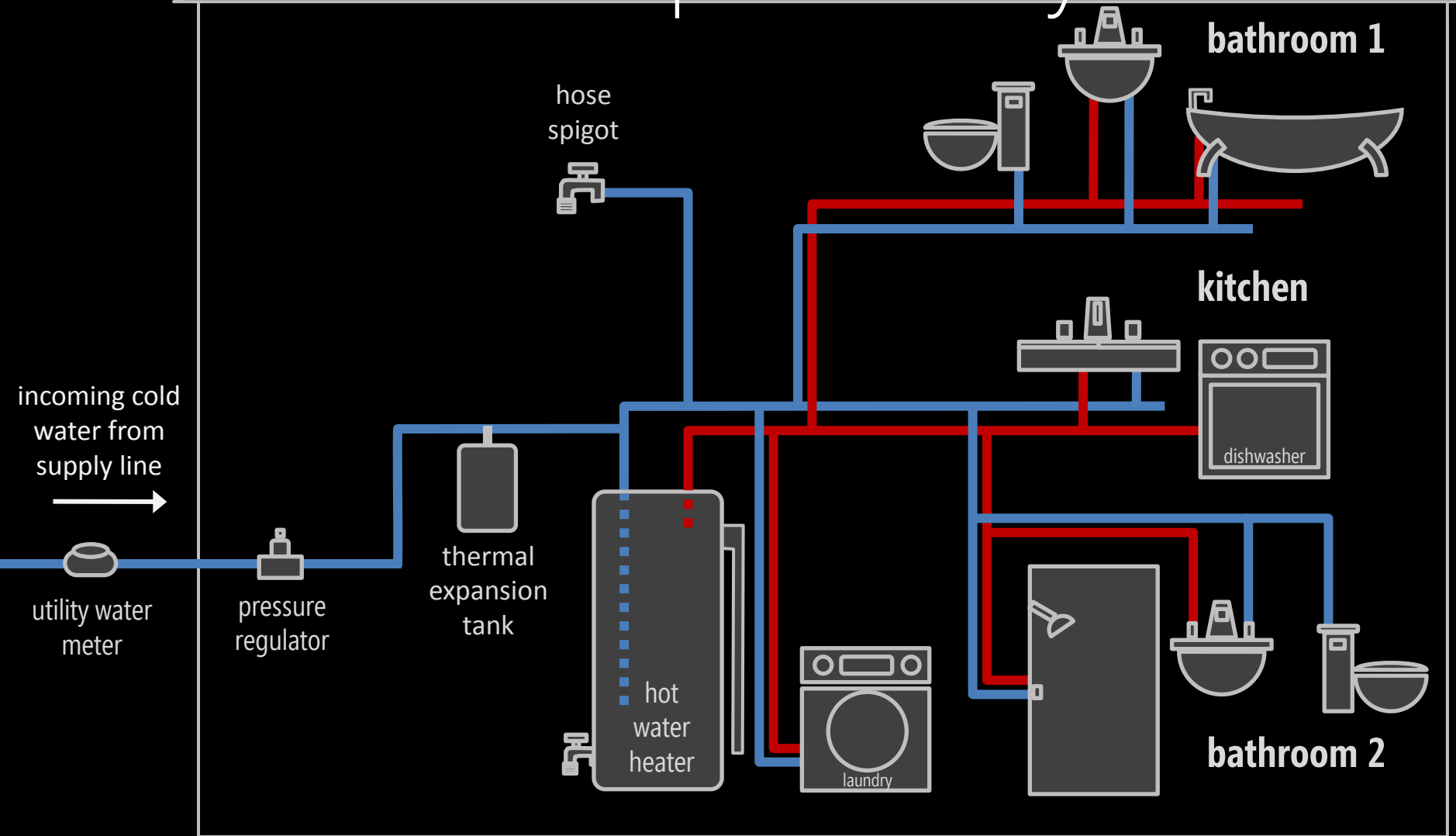
utility water
meter



pressure
regulator

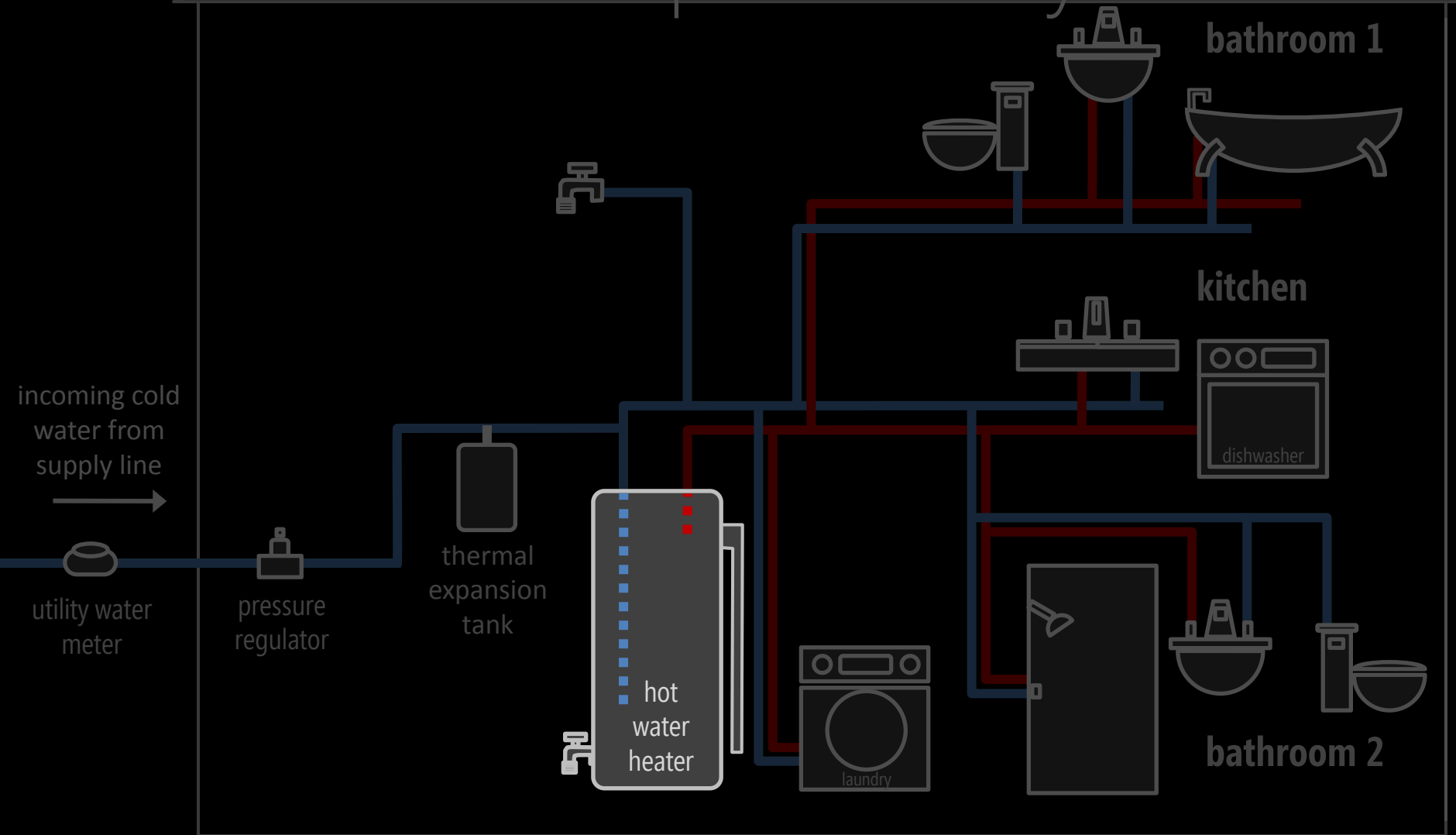


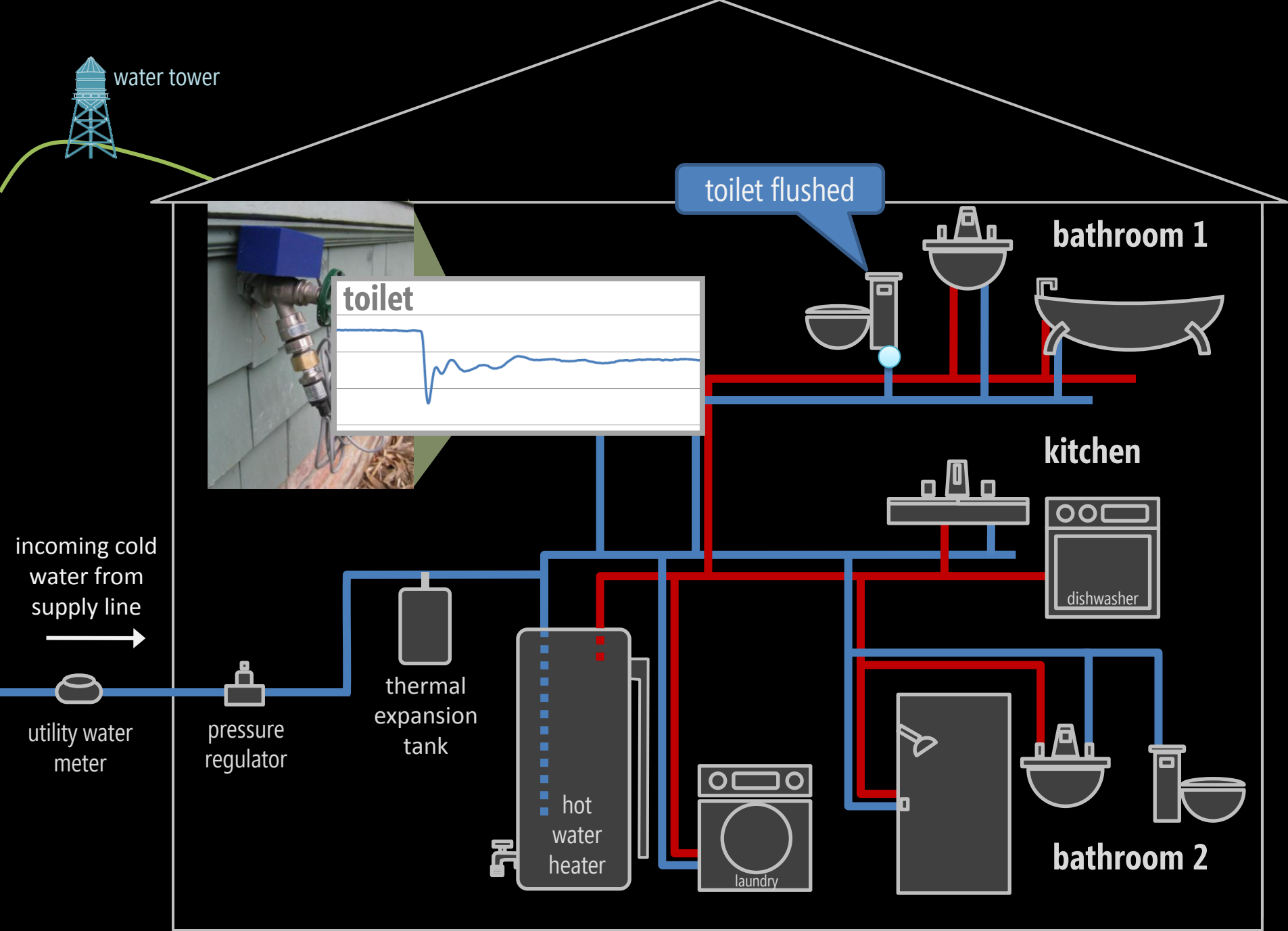
closed pressure system

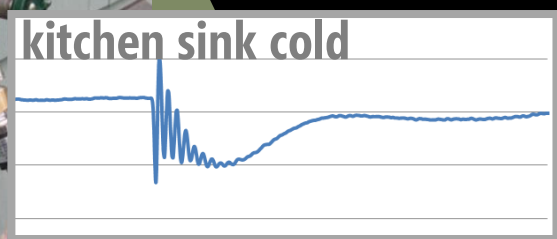
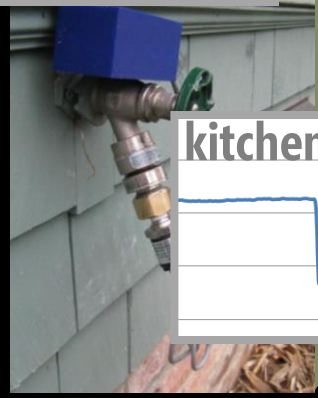
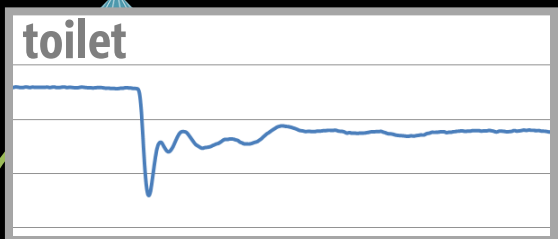




closed pressure system







incoming cold water from supply line

→

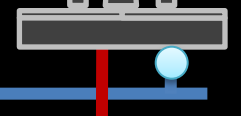
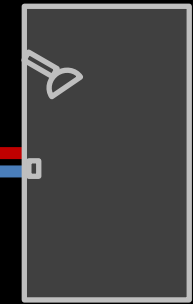
utility water meter

pressure regulator

thermal expansion tank

hot water heater

laundry



dishwasher

kitchen sink cold open

kitchen

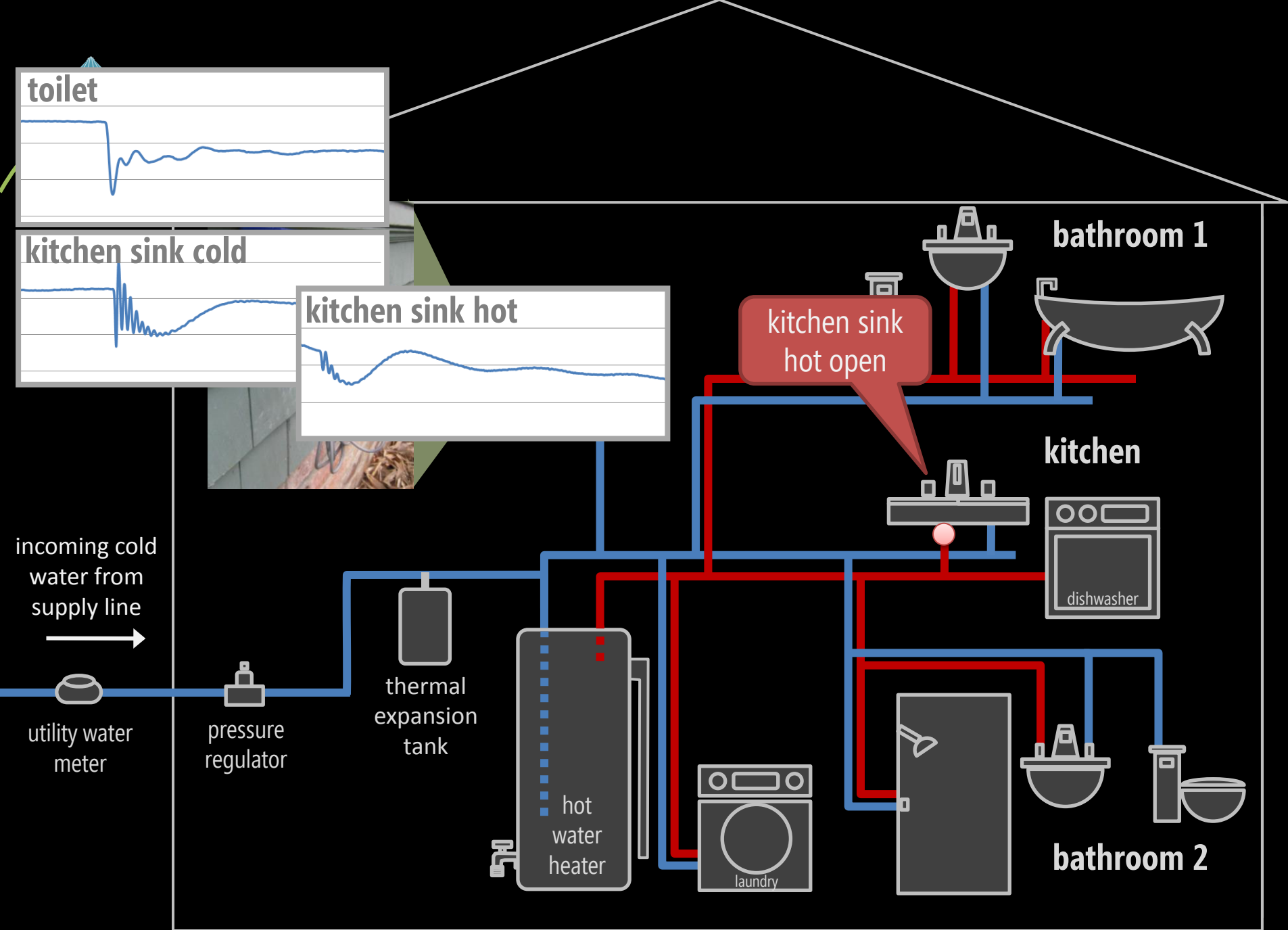


bathroom 1



bathroom 2





toilet

kitchen sink cold

kitchen sink hot

bathroom 1

kitchen sink hot open

kitchen

dishwasher

incoming cold water from supply line

utility water meter

pressure regulator

thermal expansion tank

hot water heater

laundry

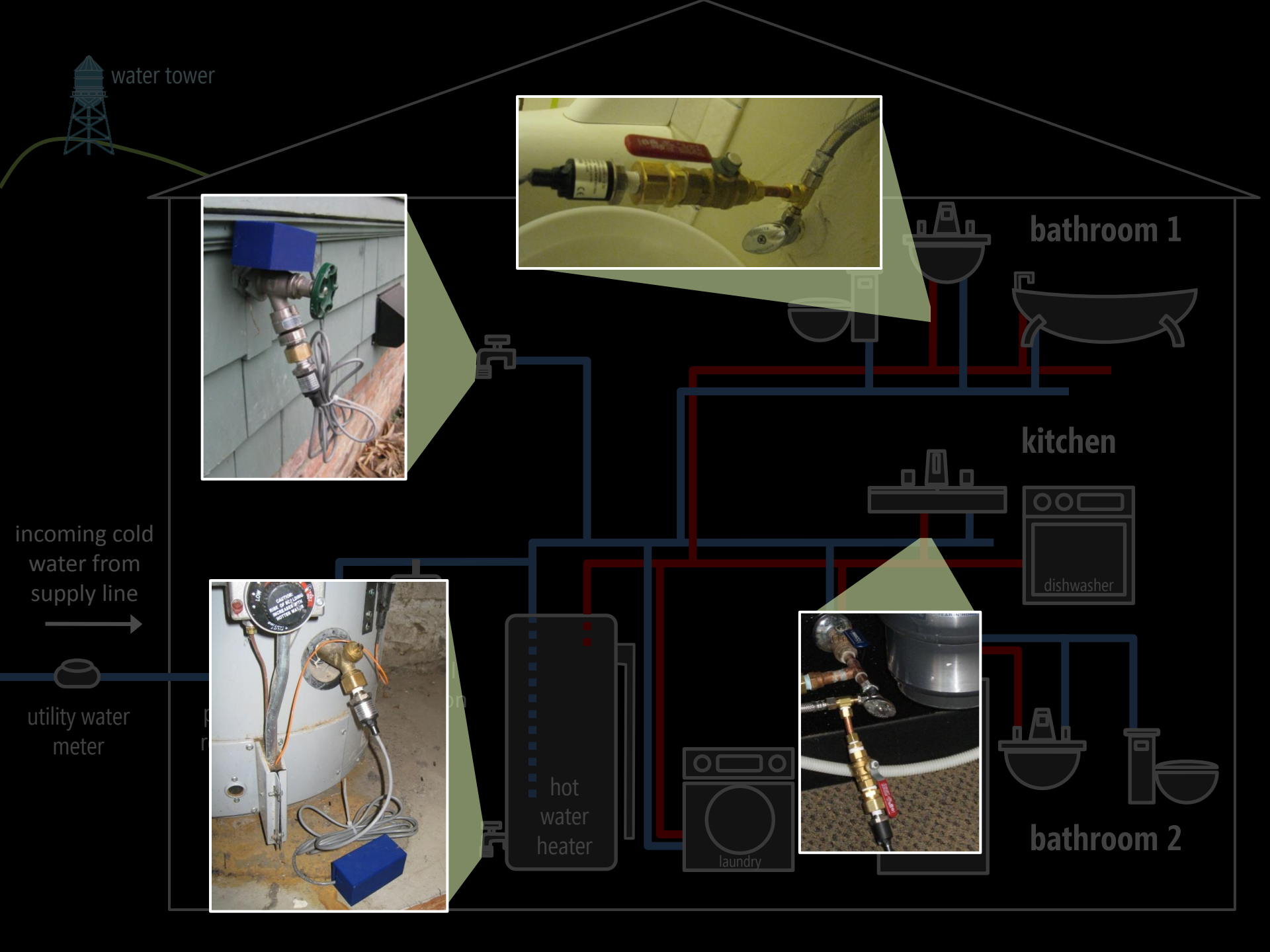
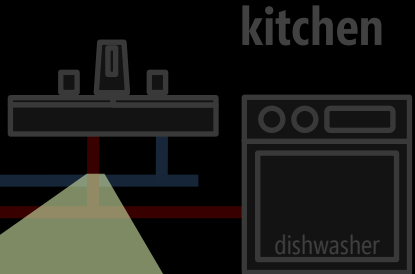
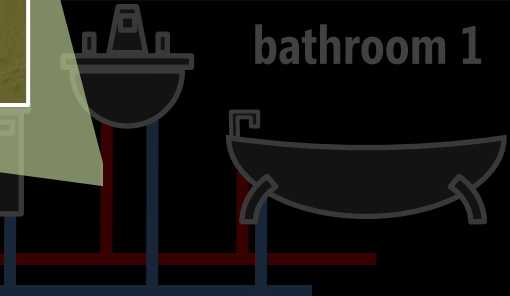
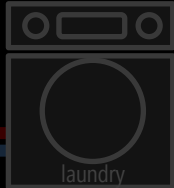
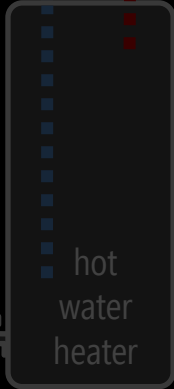
bathroom 2



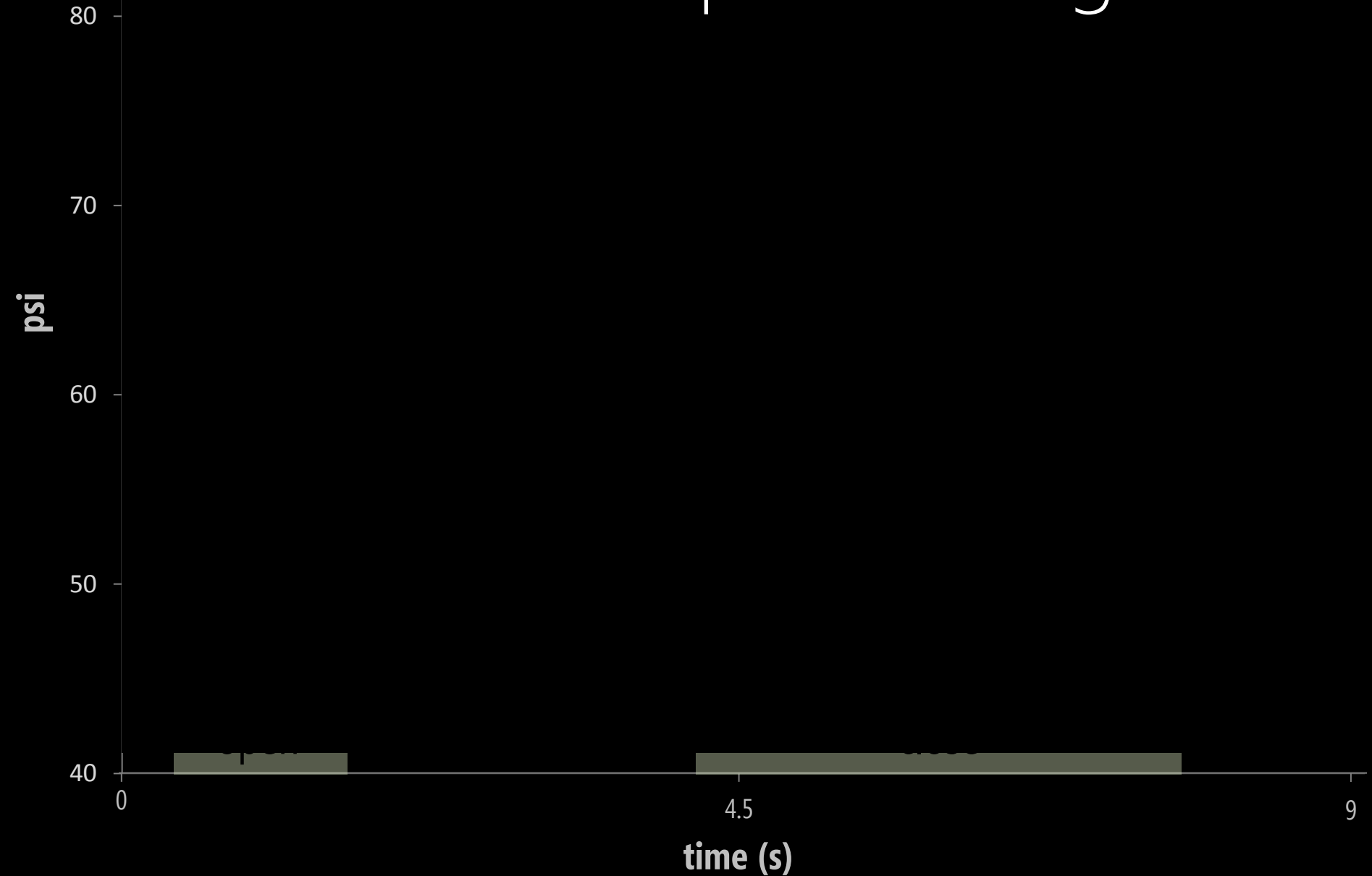
incoming cold water from supply line



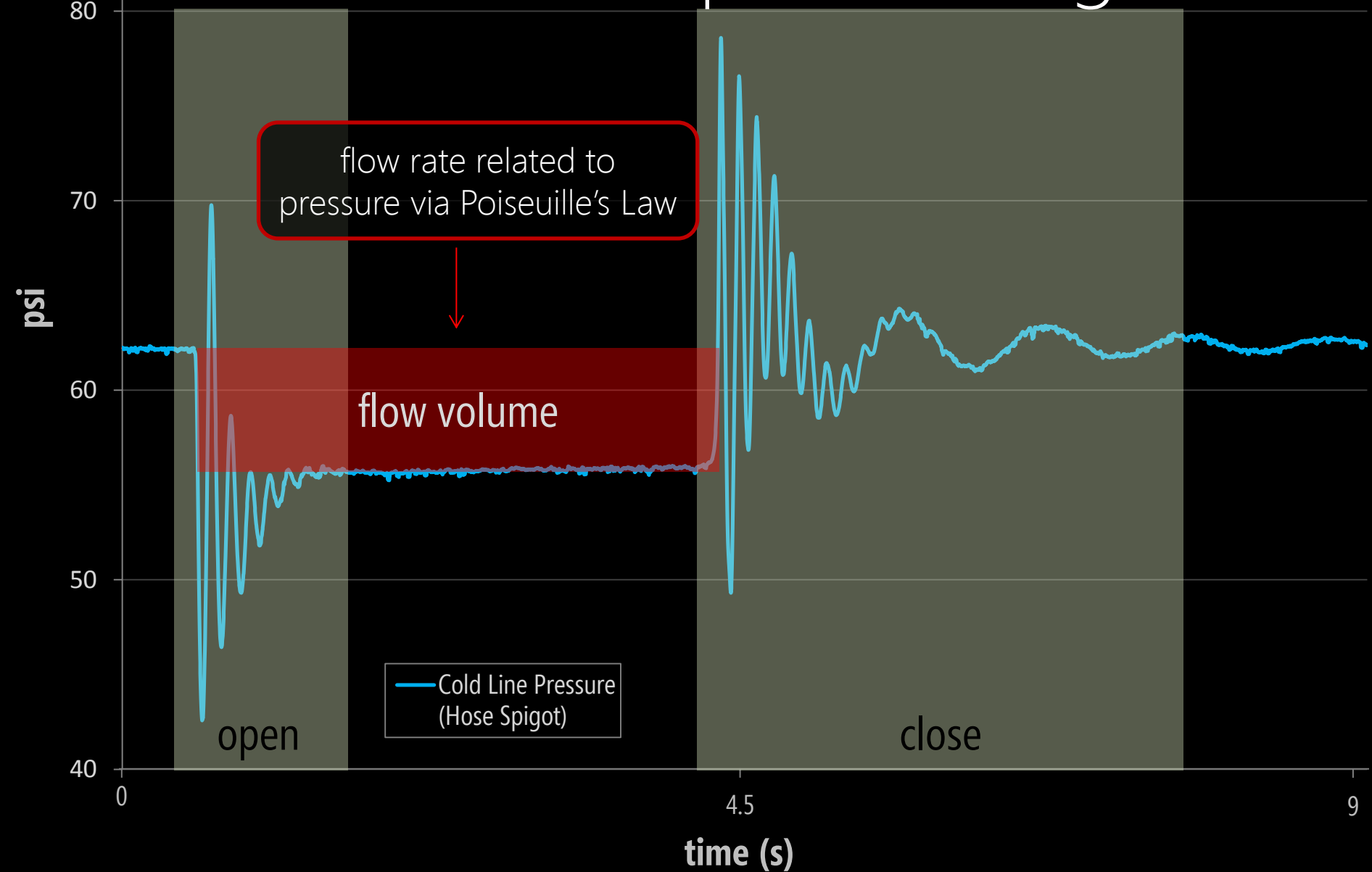
utility water meter



bathroom sink pressure signal



bathroom sink pressure signal

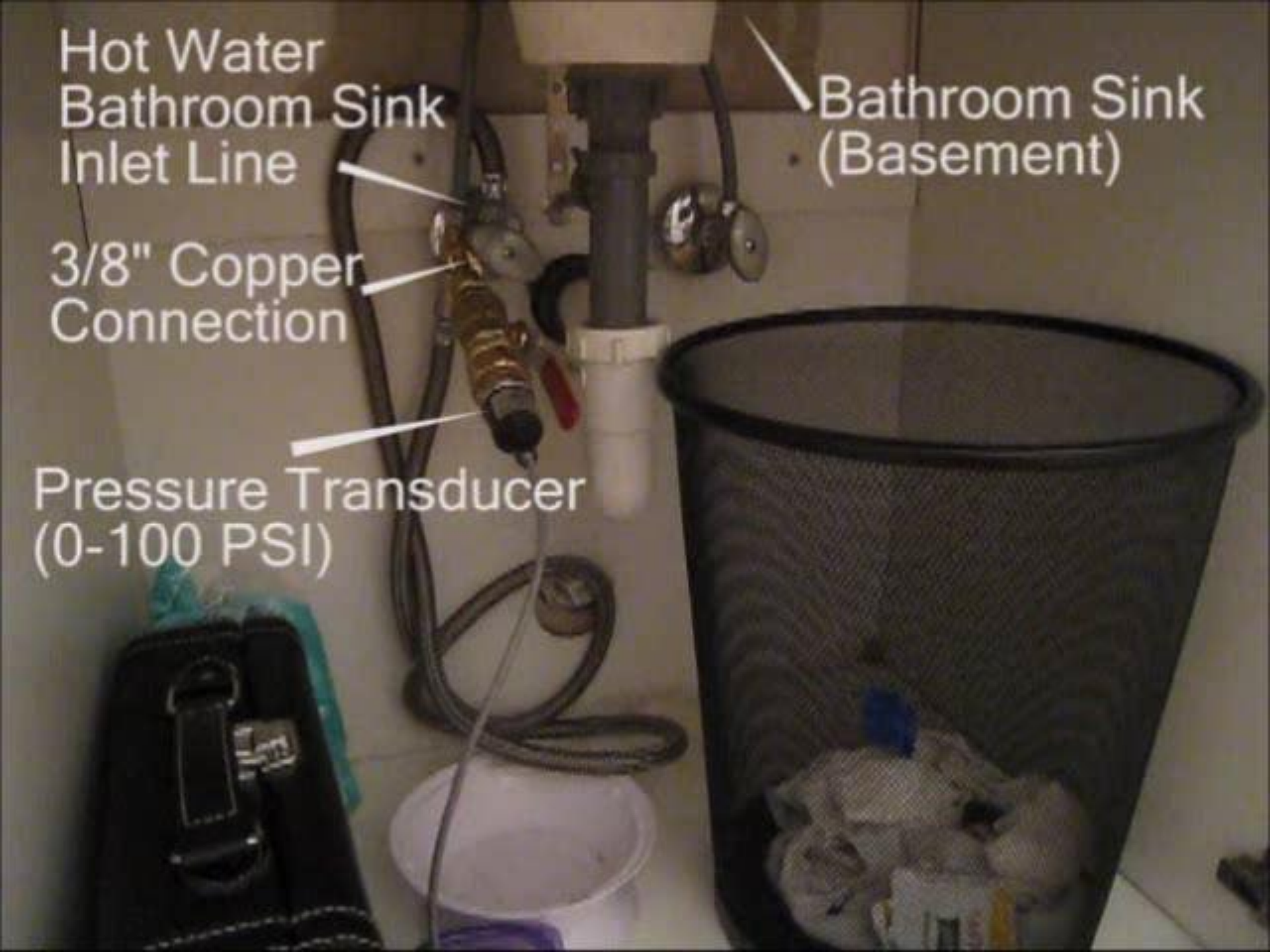


Hot Water
Bathroom Sink
Inlet Line

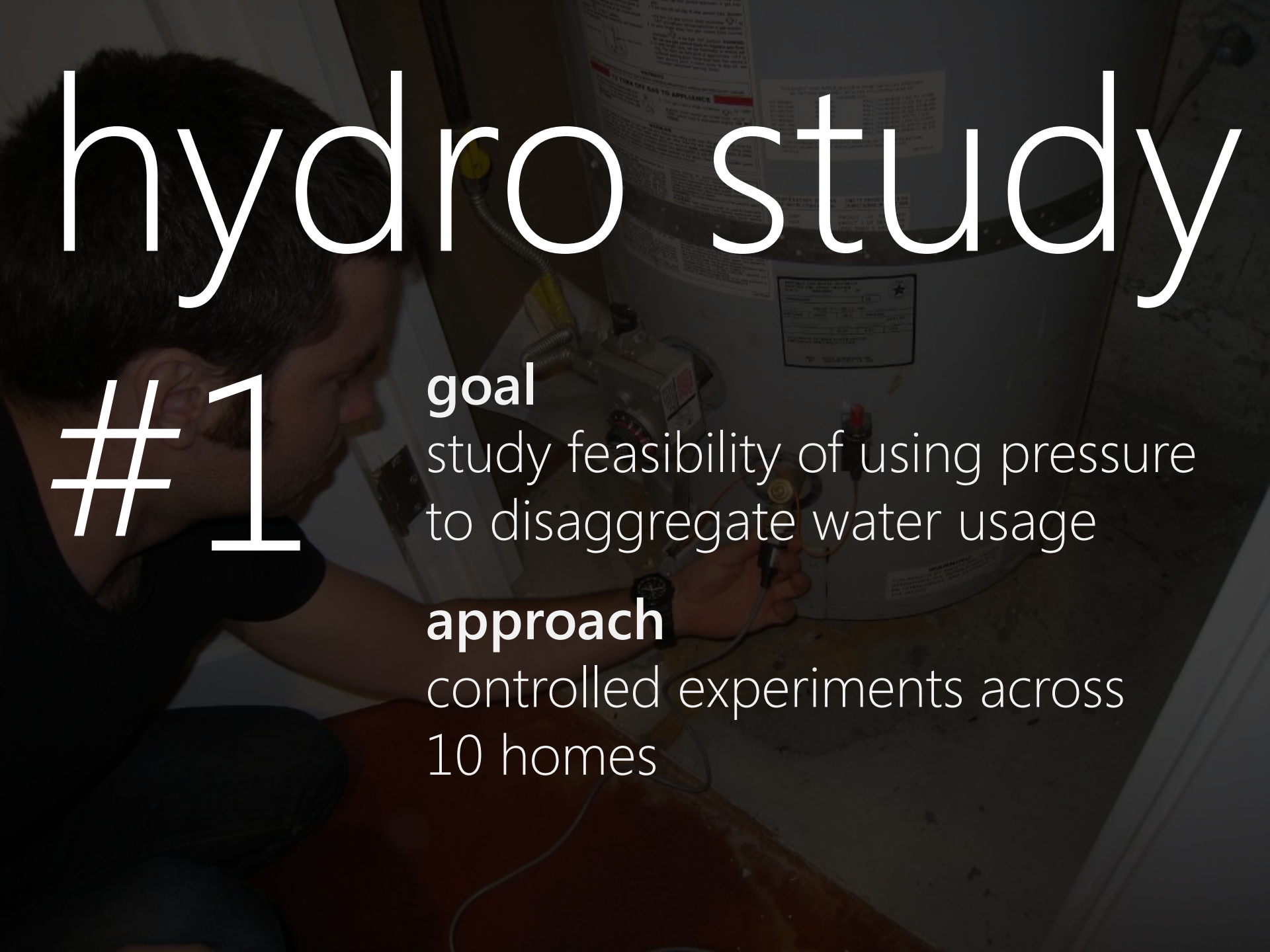
Bathroom Sink
(Basement)

3/8" Copper
Connection

Pressure Transducer
(0-100 PSI)



hydro study

A person is shown from the side, focused on working on a water meter. The meter is mounted on a large white pipe. The person is wearing a dark shirt and a watch. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the pipe and some labels. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the person's face and hands being the primary light sources.

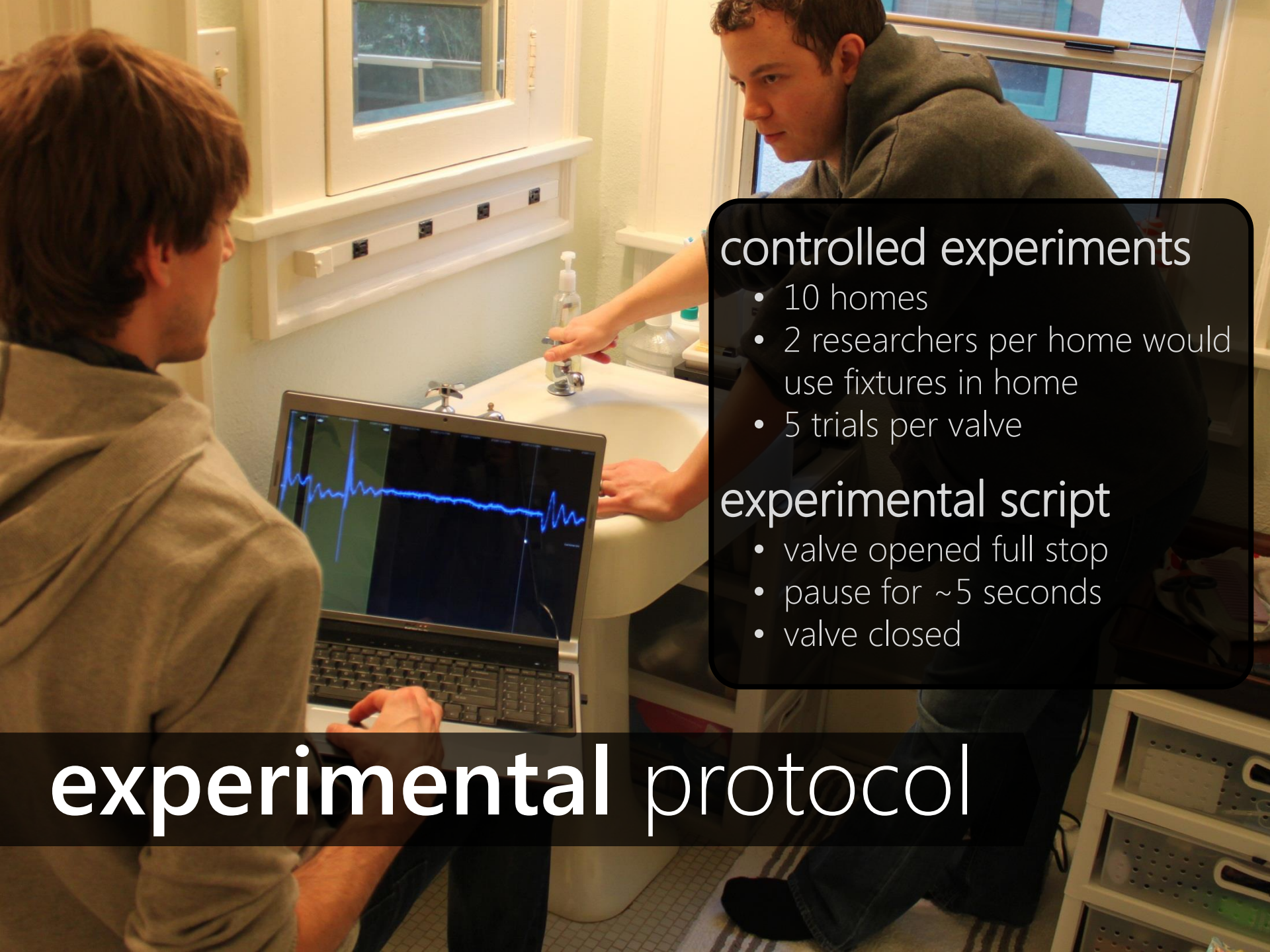
#1

goal

study feasibility of using pressure to disaggregate water usage

approach

controlled experiments across 10 homes



controlled experiments

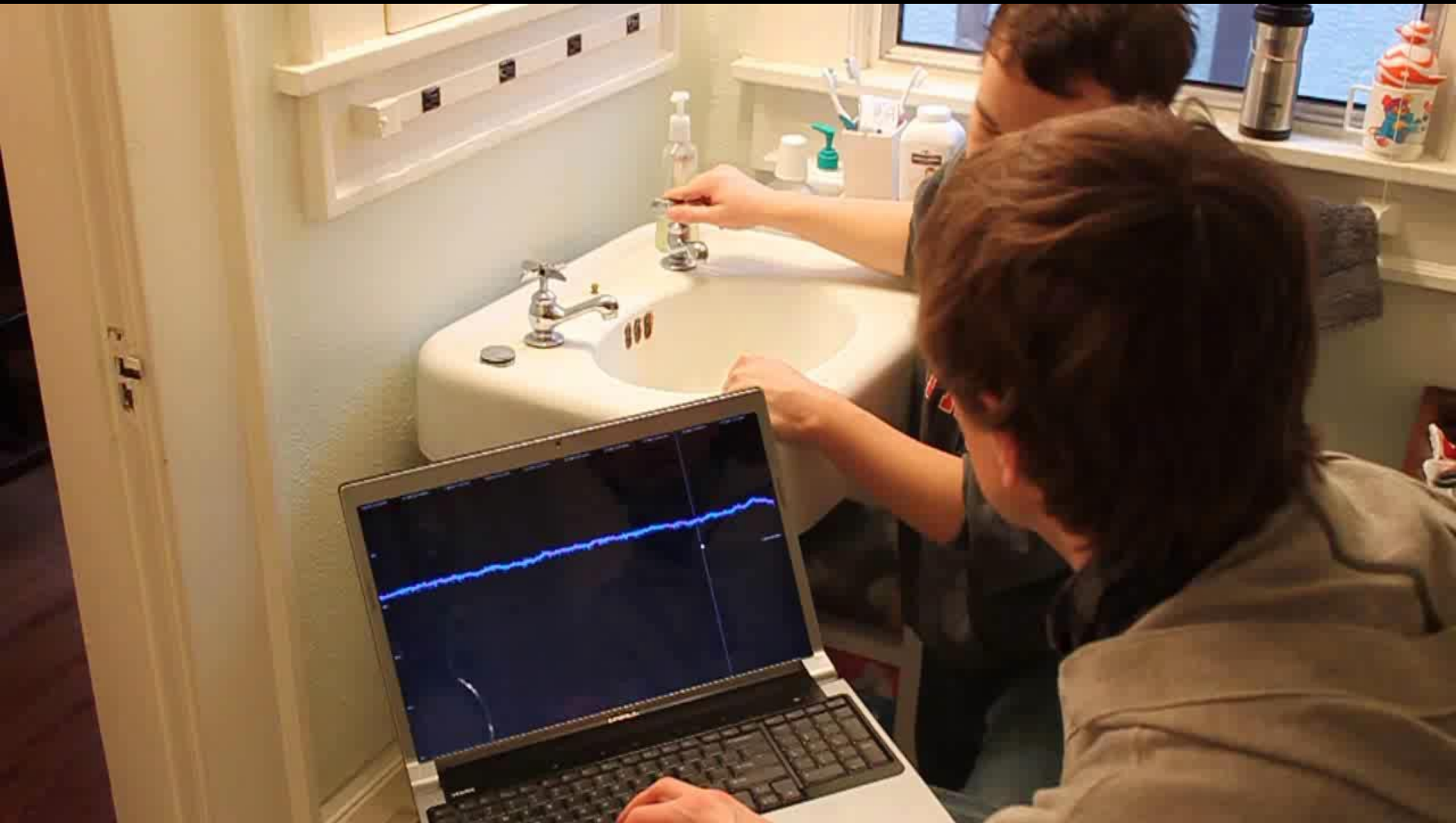
- 10 homes
- 2 researchers per home would use fixtures in home
- 5 trials per valve

experimental script

- valve opened full stop
- pause for ~5 seconds
- valve closed

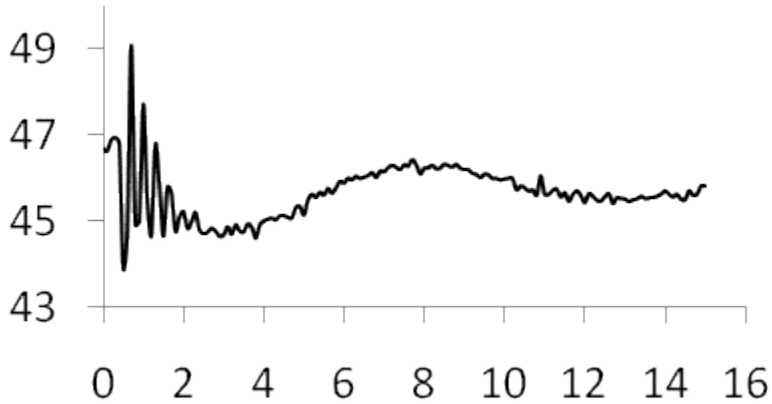
experimental protocol

controlled data collection

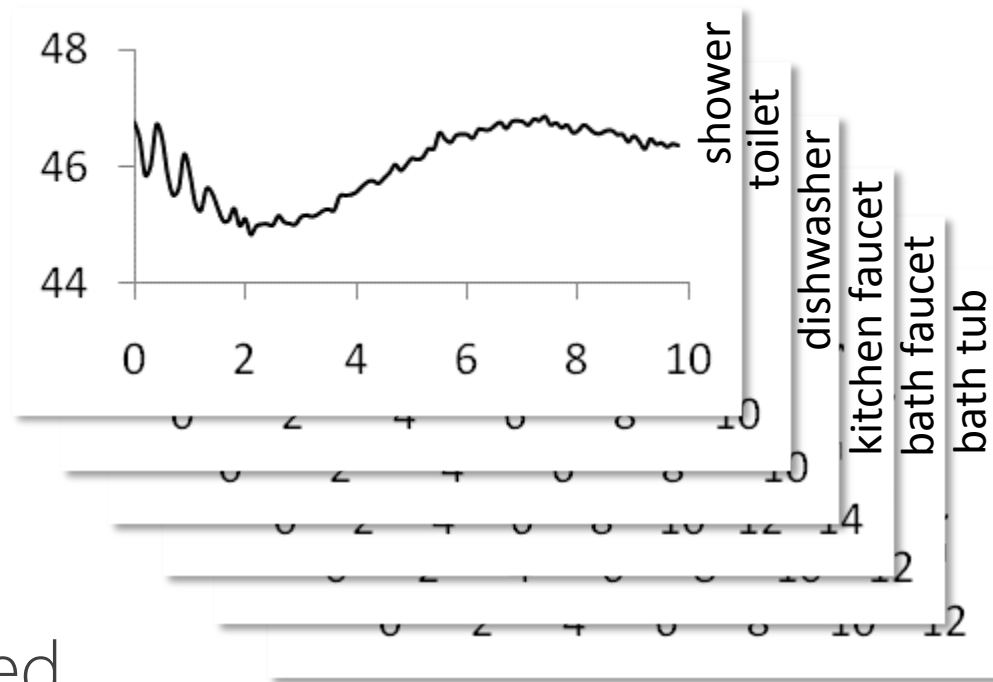


fixture classification

unclassified open event



open event library

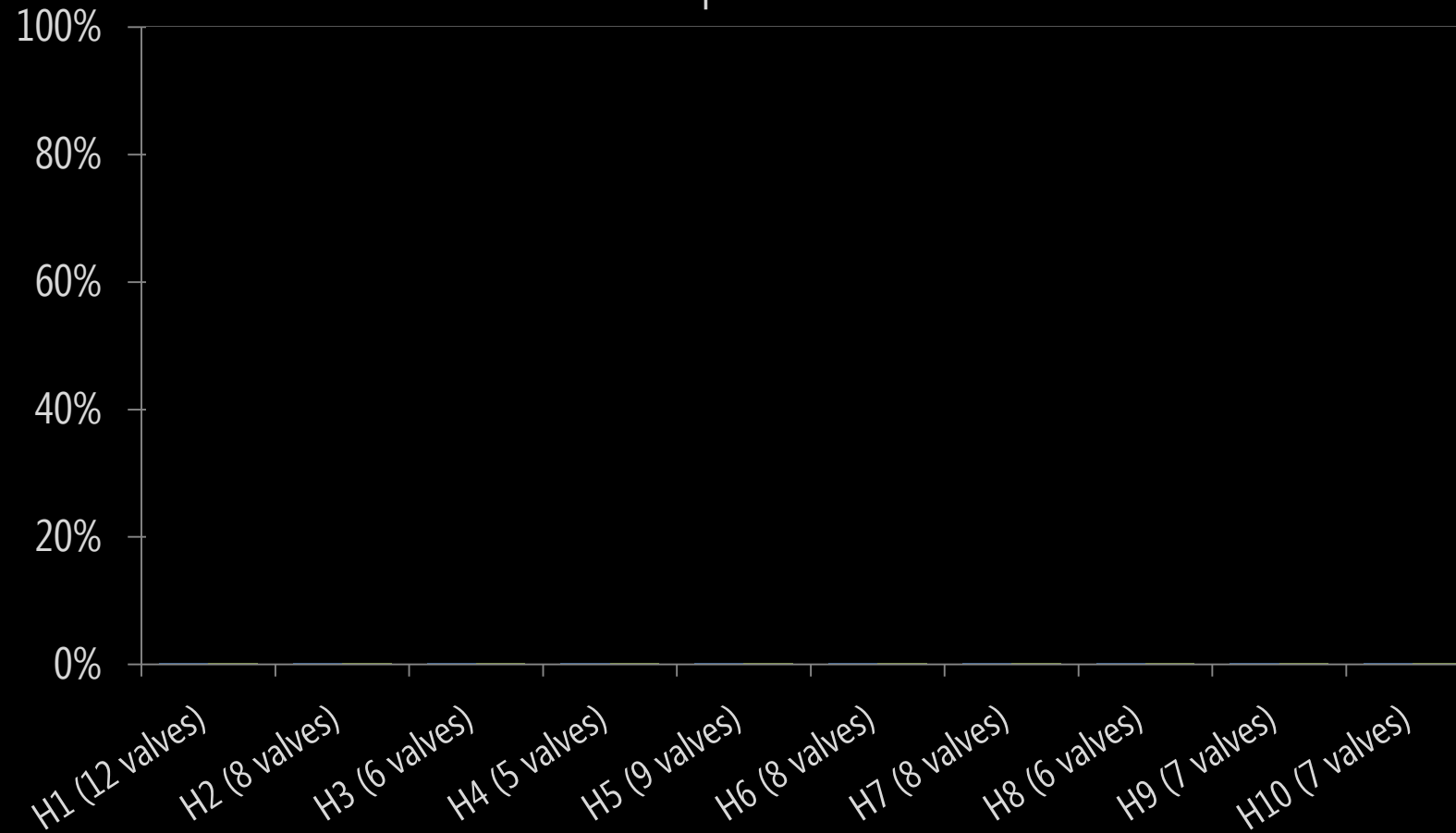


compare via matched
filtering across multiple signal
transformations

How **accurately** does HydroSense work?

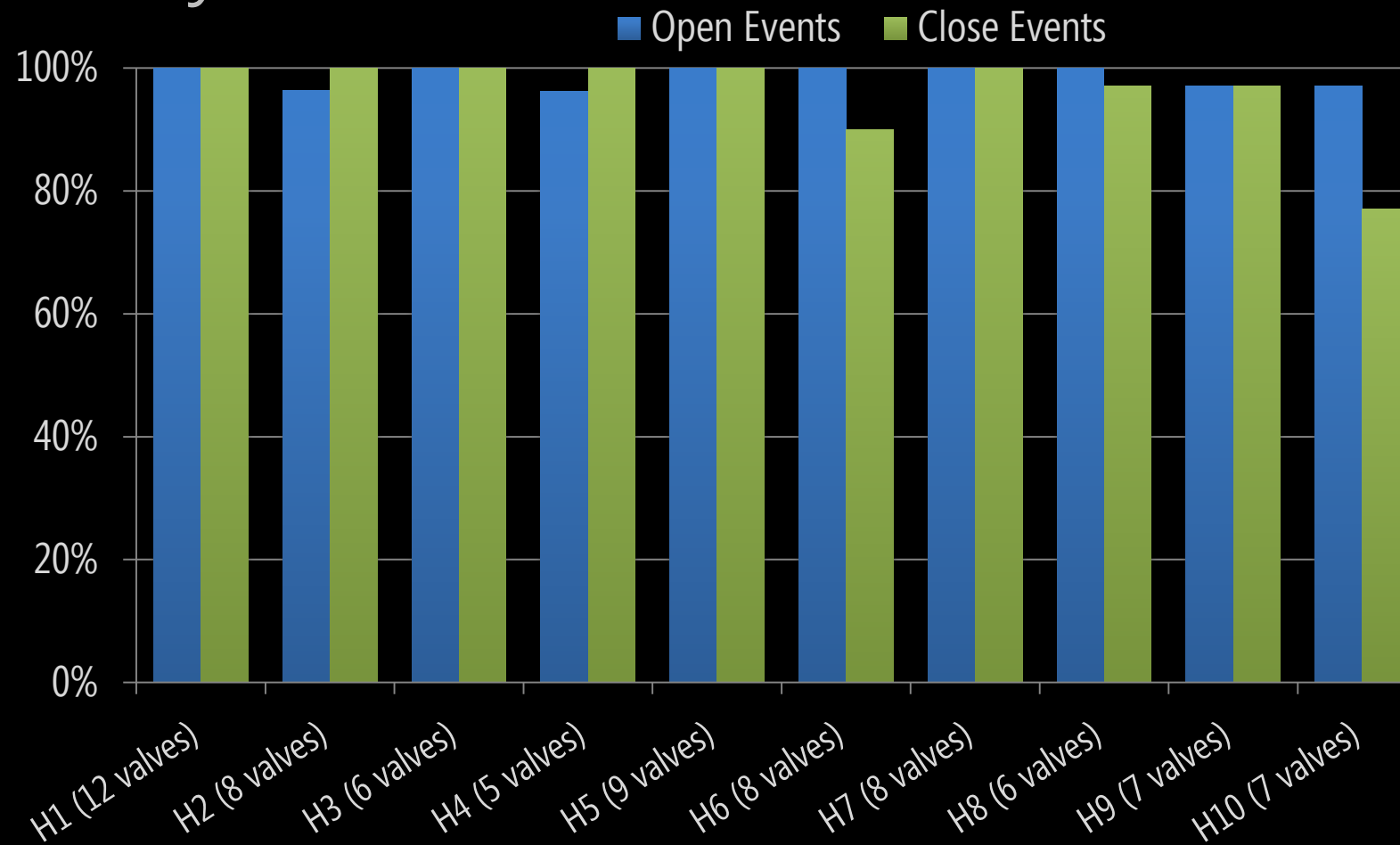
fixture classification results by home

■ Open Events ■ Close Events



10-fold cross validation

fixture classification results by home

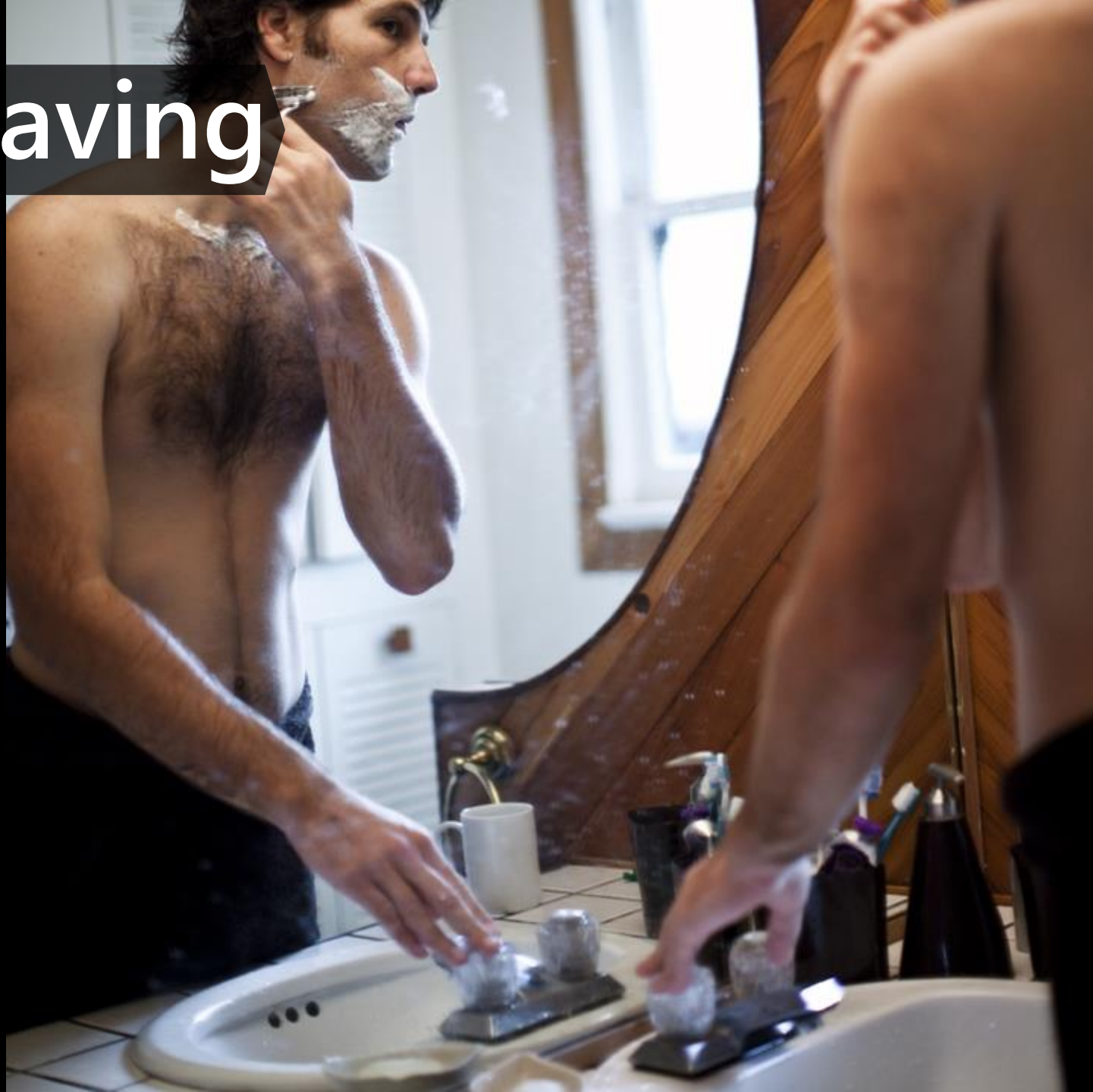


10-fold cross validation

brushing teeth



shaving



bathing



paw washing





compound events



room 1



bathroom 2

incoming cold water from supply line



utility water meter

pressure regulator

thermal expansion tank

hot water heater

laundry

hydro study


#2

goal

study how well hydrosense can classify real world water usage

approach

5 week deployment in 5 homes

A photograph of a kitchen counter. On the left, a silver Dell laptop is open, displaying a software interface with multiple data plots. The plots show red lines with peaks and valleys, and a color-coded area plot at the bottom right. The laptop is on a light-colored countertop. To the right of the laptop is a stainless steel sink containing a white cup with a red, white, and blue American flag pattern, a white bowl, and a white plate with a spoon. In the background, there is a wooden cabinet and a window with yellow curtains. A black callout box with white text is overlaid on the right side of the image, pointing towards the laptop screen.

in the first study, pressure waves were **manually** annotated with "ground truth labels" describing:

- the fixture used
- the water temperature



I'm about to
flush the
toilet!

Awesome!
Marked it. Thanks
Mr. Johnson

how

can we record **real-**
world **water** usage?

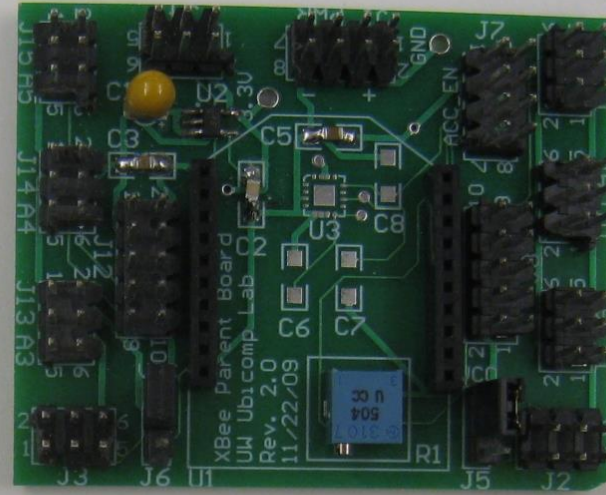
many failed solutions



custom ground truth data collection system



xbec wireless modem



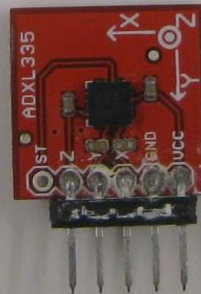
fixture usage sensor board



hall effect



reed switch



3-axis accelerometer



unidirectional ball switch



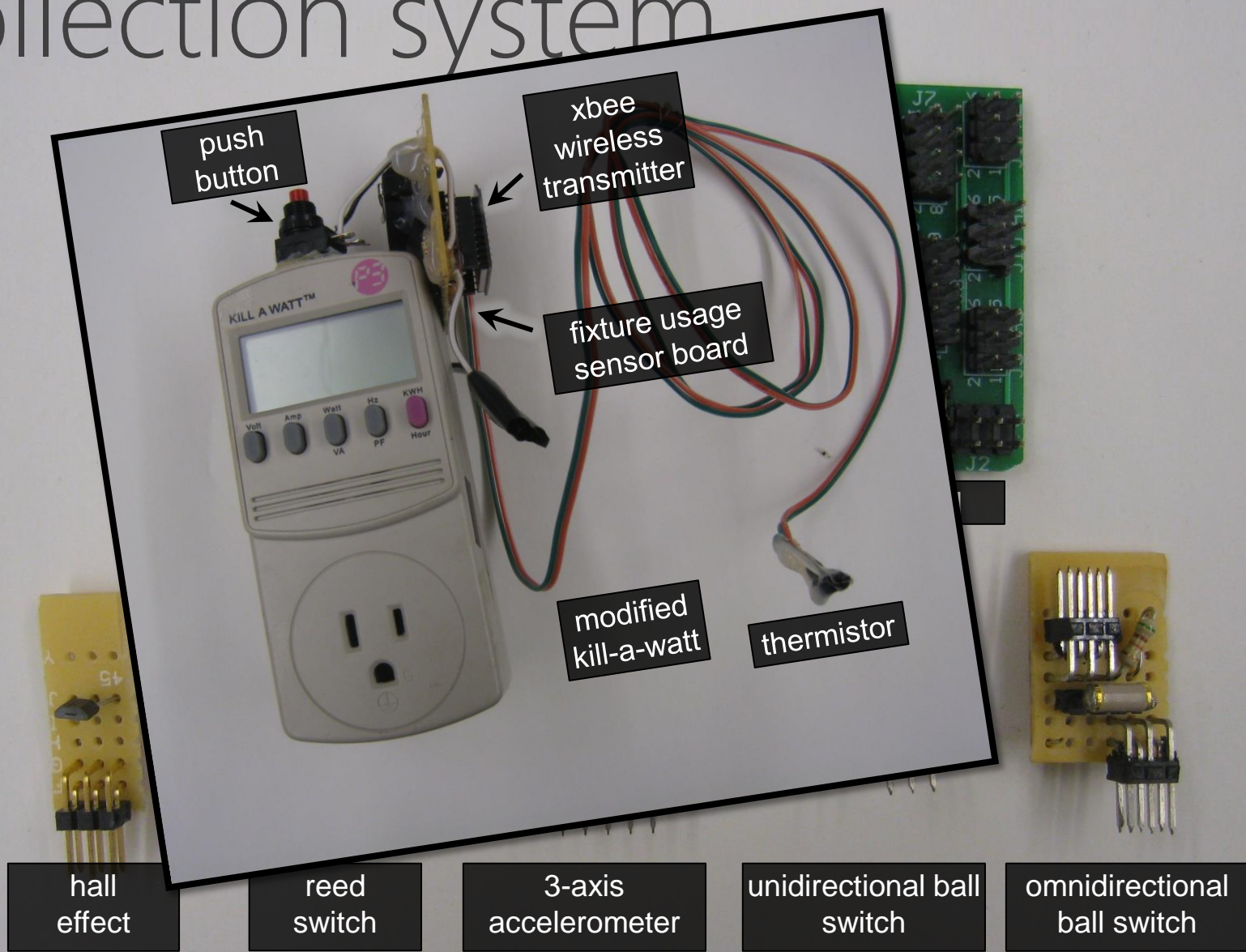
omnidirectional ball switch

accelerometer



Accelerometer & Ball Switch Taped on

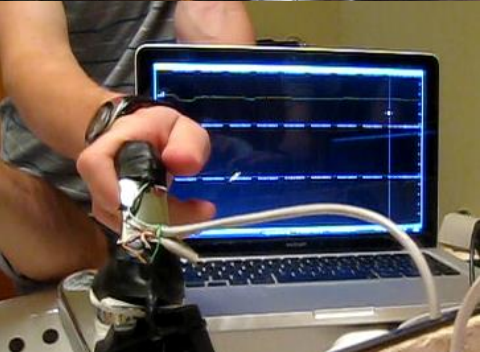
custom ground truth data collection system



deployment sites

					
residents	2	2	4	2	2
size	3000 sqft	750 sqft	1200 sqft	700 sqft	750 sqft
floors	3	2	2	3 rd flr	6 th flr
fixtures	17	8	13	8	8
valves	28	13	21	13	13

In total, we instrumented almost 90 individual water valves









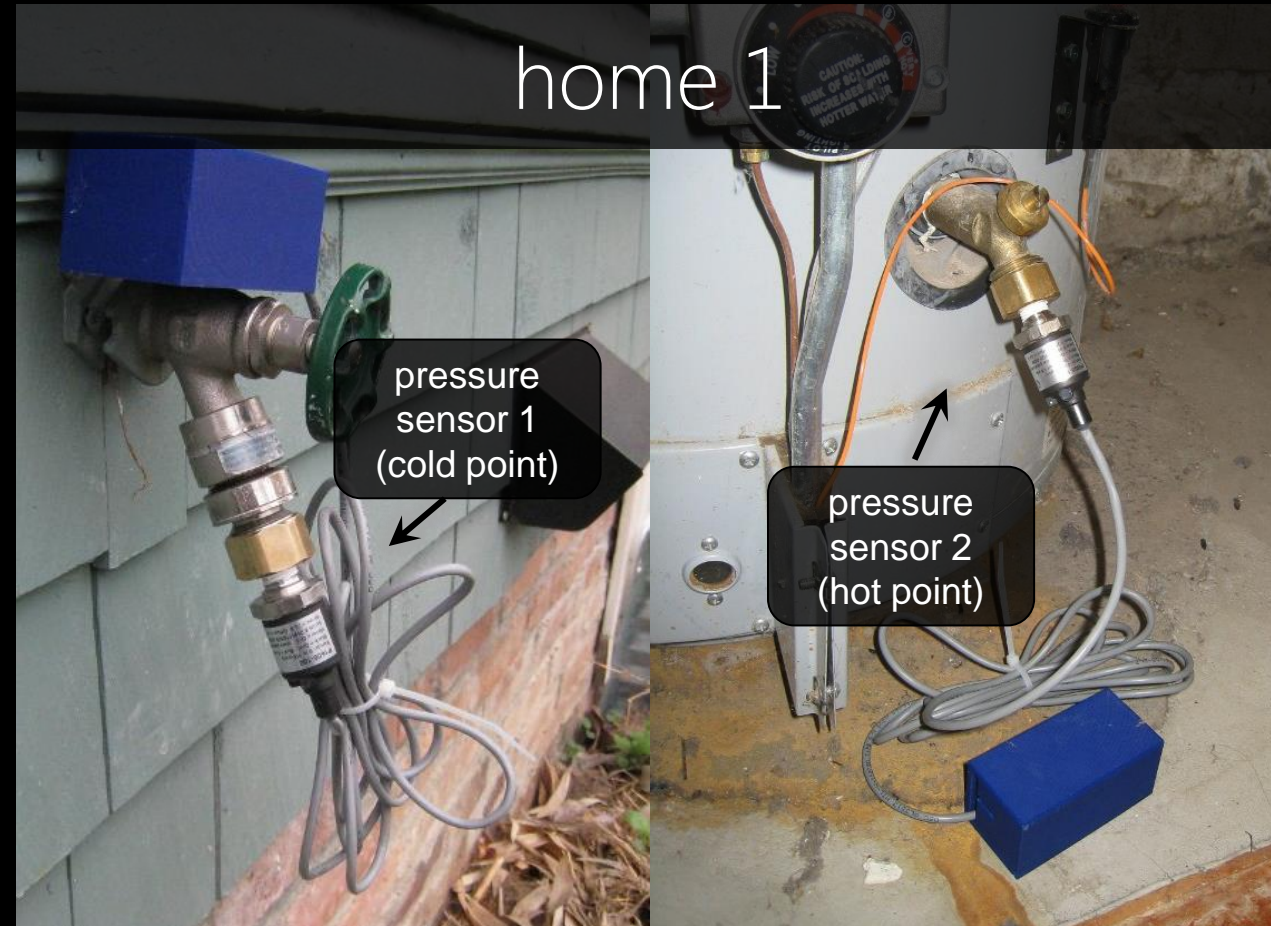


two pressure sensors per home

home 1

pressure sensor 1
(cold point)

pressure sensor 2
(hot point)



5-week dataset

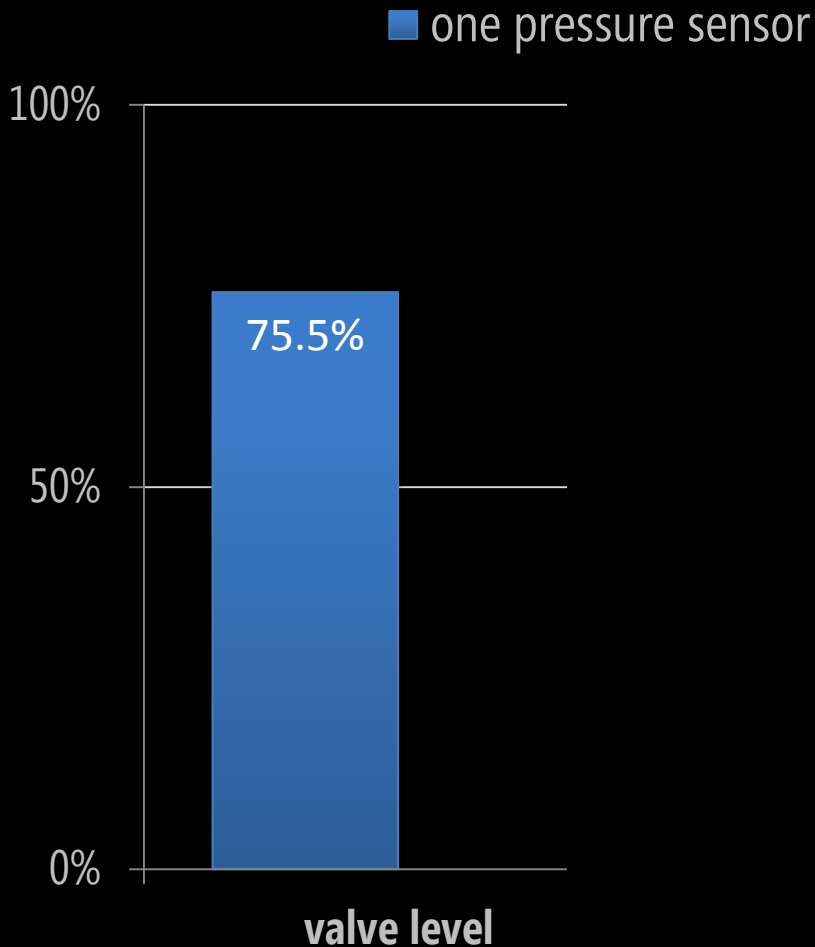


						totals
days	33	33	30	27	33	156
events	2374	3075	4754	2499	2578	14,960
events/day	71.9	93.2	158.5	92.6	78.1	95.9

How **accurately** does HydroSense work on real-world water usage activities?

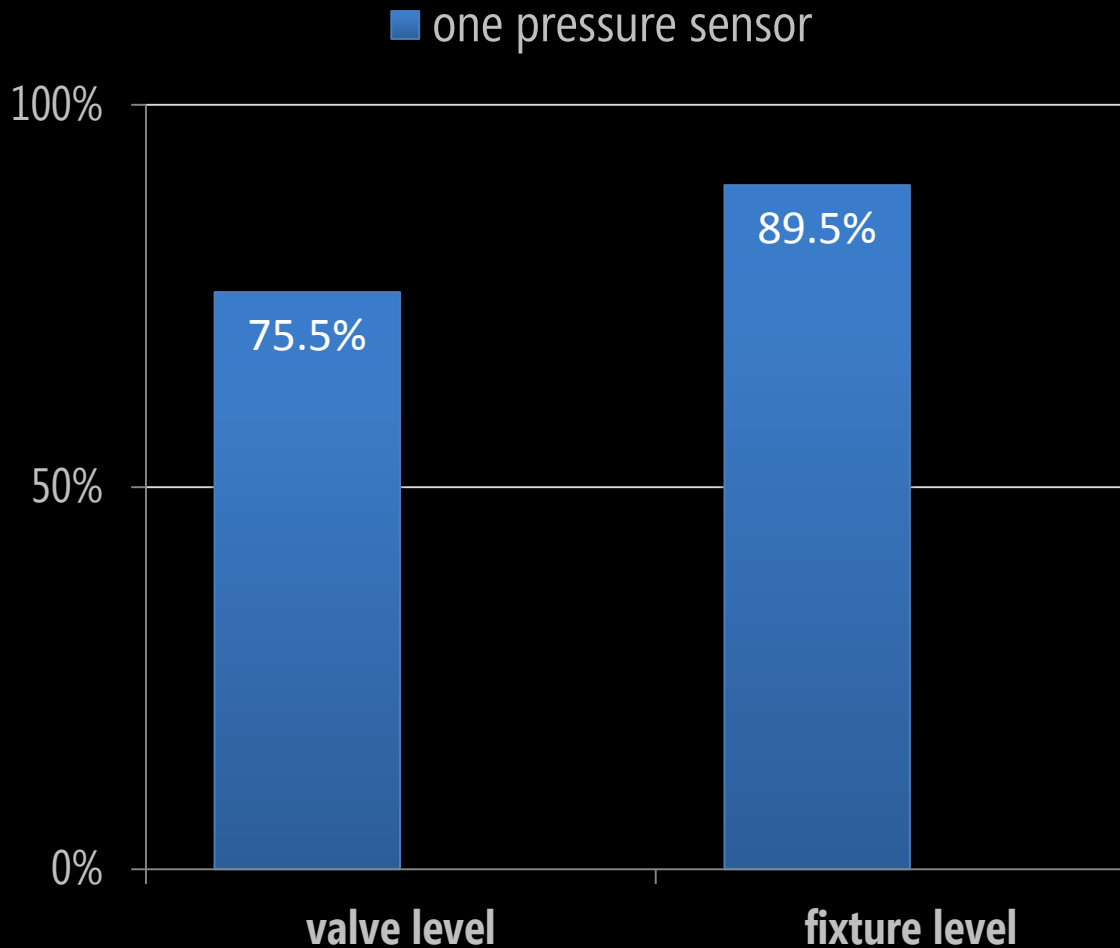
hydrosense classification results

real-world water usage data



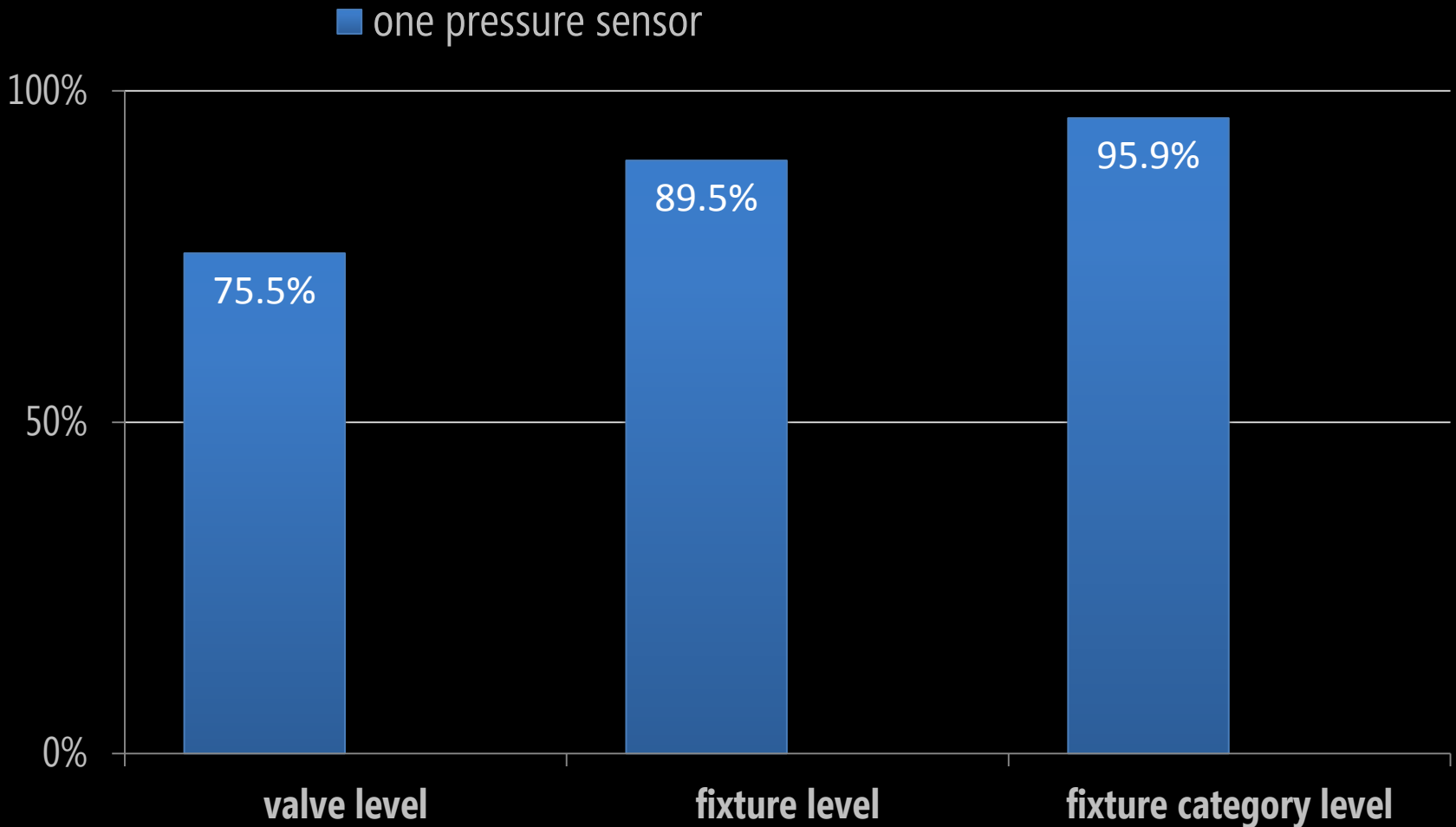
hydrosense classification results

real-world water usage data



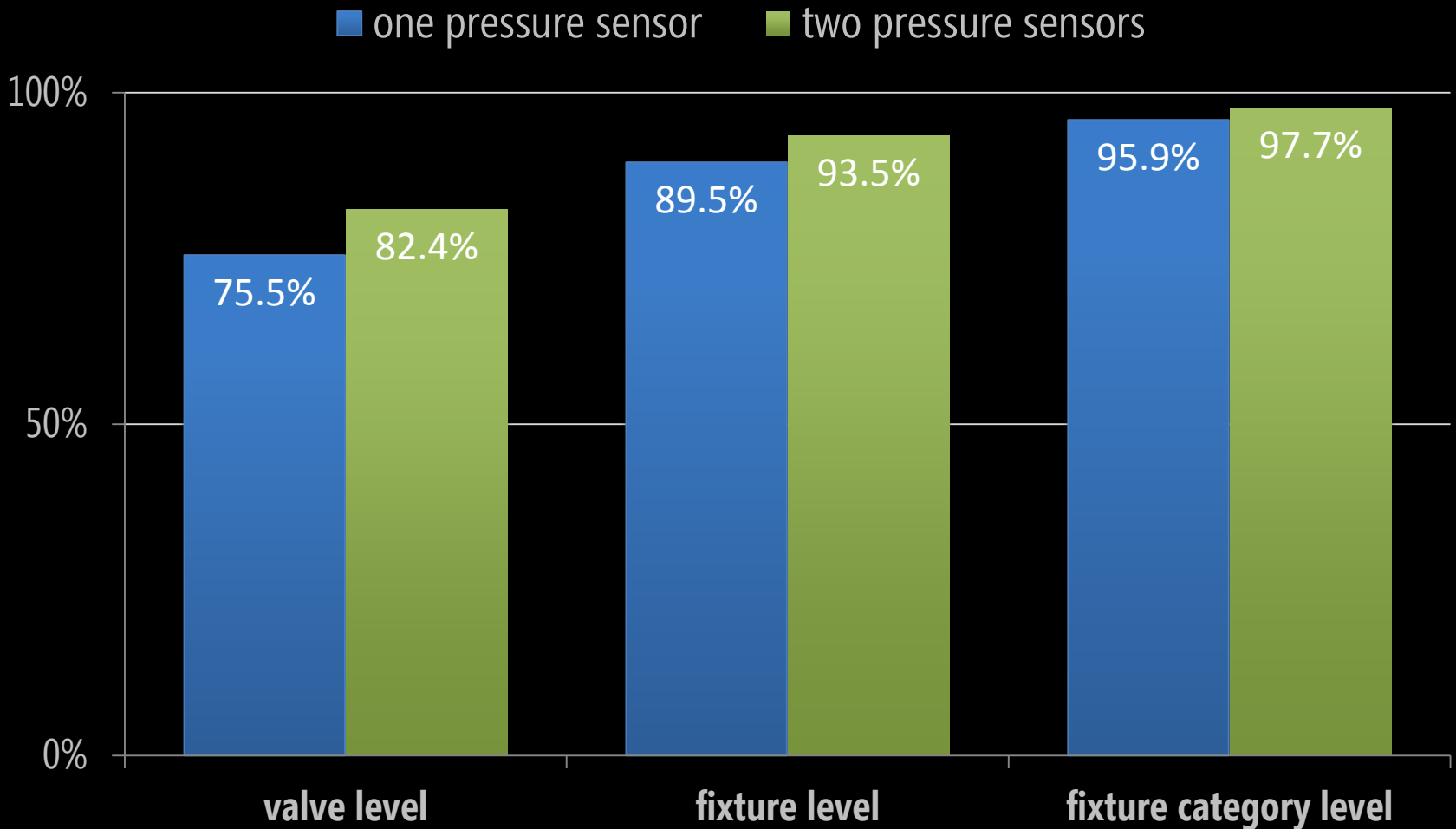
hydrosense classification results

real-world water usage data



hydrosense classification results

real-world water usage data





compound events



room 1



bathroom 2

incoming cold water from supply line



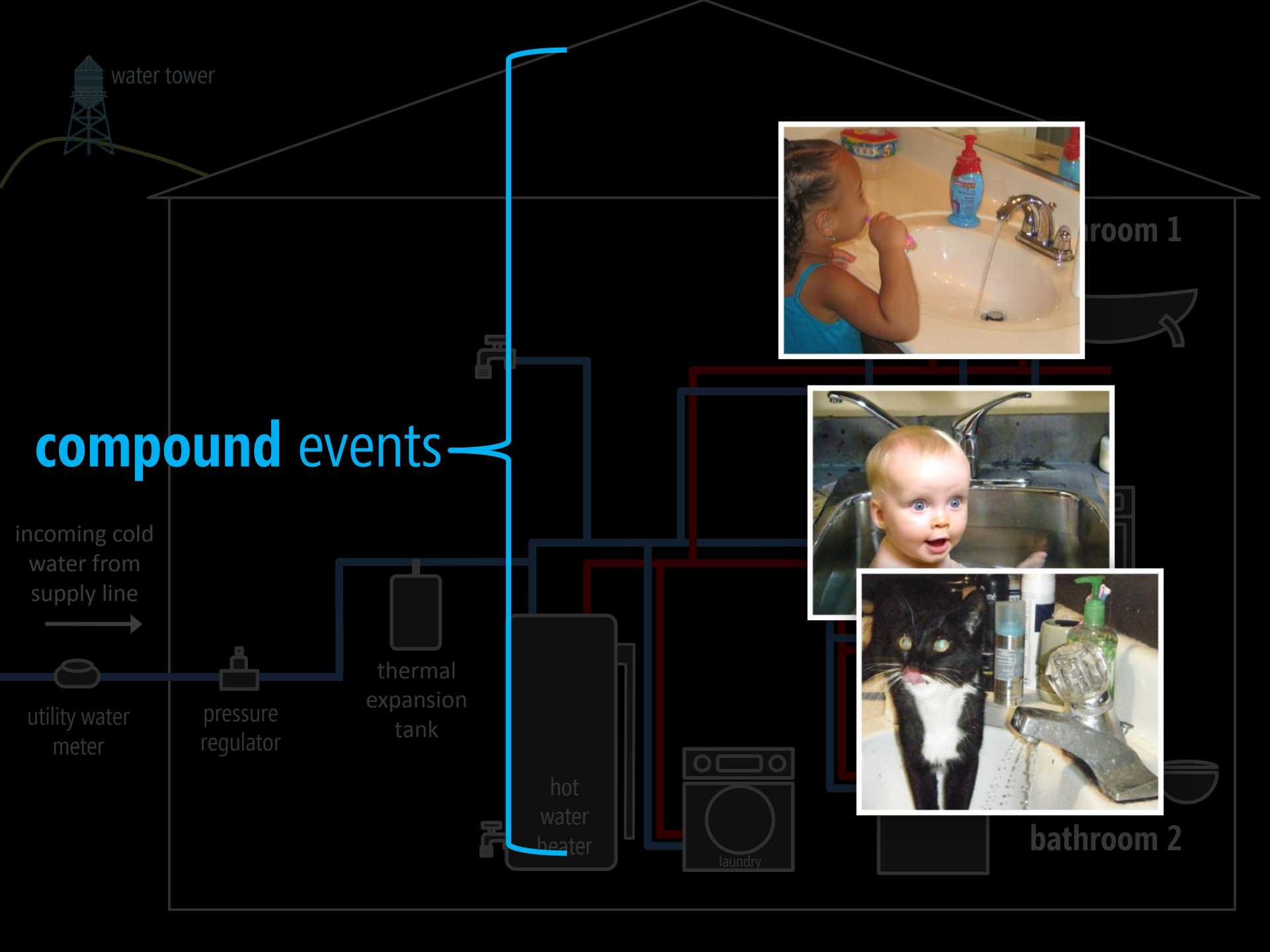
utility water meter

pressure regulator

thermal expansion tank

hot water heater

laundry



22%

of all **water** events were compound

41.8%

of all **bathroom sink** events were compound

Technology **patented and licensed** to Belkin Inc.



PRODUCTS

SOLUTIONS

ABOUT US

SUPPORT & RESOURCES

FIND PRODUCT

ECHO WATER

Belkin Echo Water technology identifies waste and leaks indoors and out, all from under the kitchen sink.

LIVES UNDER YOUR KITCHEN SINK. SEES ALL YOUR WATER USE.

Belkin Echo Water is a simple, single sensor that can be installed by anyone under a kitchen sink. Simply turn off the cold water line, attach the Echo sensor and plug it into the spare power outlet next to your waste disposal. Once installed, Echo water senses vibrations that occur throughout your plumbing system every time you use water. Belkin Echo's advanced machine learning-based algorithms analyze these vibrations and accurately identify every fixture in your home—from shower to toilet to irrigation—and log when each is used, for how long, and accurately calculate how much water each consumes. This information helps you use water more efficiently, and can even identify leaks and other potential problems - before they become serious. It's an ideal solution for homeowners, residential building managers, and vacation homes. Echo Water is moving into large-scale pilots in 2013, and should be more generally available in the United States during 2014.



Also explored **disaggregated energy** and **gas sensing**

Disaggregated End-Use Energy Sensing for the Smart Grid

This article surveys existing and emerging disaggregation techniques for energy-consumption data and highlights signal features that might be used to sense disaggregated data in an easily installed and cost-effective manner.

Jon Froehlich, Eric Larson,
Sidhant Gupta, and Gabe Cohn
University of Washington

Matthew S. Reynolds
Duke University

Shwetak N. Patel
University of Washington

Imagine an energy feedback system that displays not only total power consumption and cost, but also suggests specific cost-effective measures to improve energy efficiency. Such a system could report, for example, "Based on your energy consumption patterns, you could save US\$360 per year by upgrading to a more efficient refrigerator, which would pay for itself after 21 months." The challenge in this scenario is how to sense end uses of energy to provide feedback at the individual device or appliance level. Emerging smart meters promise a tighter temporal coupling between energy usage and feedback (down to 15-minute sampling intervals). However, the focus still is on aggregate consumption, making it difficult for consumers to ascertain which devices or appliances are responsible for their energy usage. Disaggregated end-use energy data promises to transform the way residents, utilities, and policy makers think about and understand how energy is consumed in the home.

Our research team and many others worldwide are working toward a new generation of electricity, water, and natural gas measurement systems that are low cost, easy to install, and

most im-
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point. C
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GasSense: Appliance-Level, Single-Point Sensing of Gas Activity in the Home

Gabe Cohn¹, Sidhant Gupta², Jon Froehlich², Eric Larson¹, Shwetak N. Patel^{1,2}

¹Electrical Engineering, ²Computer Science & Engineering
UbiComp Lab, DUB Group, University of Washington
Seattle, WA, 98195
{gabecohn, sidhant, jfroehli, eclarson, shwetak } @ uw.edu

Abstract. This paper presents GasSense, a low-cost, single-point sensing solution for automatically identifying gas use down to its source (e.g., water heater, furnace, fireplace). This work adds a complementary sensing solution to the growing body of work in infrastructure-mediated sensing. GasSense analyzes the acoustic response of a home's government mandated gas regulator, which provides the unique capability of sensing both the individual appliance at which gas is currently being consumed as well as an estimate of the amount of gas flow. Our approach provides a number of appealing features including the ability to be easily and safely installed without the need of a professional. We deployed our solution in nine different homes and initial results show that GasSense has an average accuracy of 95.2% in identifying individual appliance usage.

Keywords: Ubiquitous Computing, Sustainability, Sensing, Gas

1 Introduction and Motivation

Natural gas is the most widely consumed energy source in American homes [19]. It is used for furnaces, water heaters, stoves, fireplaces and, in some cases, clothes dryers. In the US, natural gas prices have quadrupled over the past decade due to growing demand and limited pipeline capacity [3]. As a result, government agencies and gas utilities have scrambled to implement conservation programs to reduce demand and better help customers manage energy costs (e.g., [7, 17]). Although recent work in the UbiComp and Pervasive research communities has focused on sensing electricity and water usage in the home [10, 12, 15, 16, 18], little attention has been directed towards sensing natural or propane gas usage. Unlike electricity and water usage, which are often the result of direct human actions such as watching TV, doing laundry, or taking a shower, gas usage is dominated by automated systems like the furnace or hot water heater. This disconnect between activity and consumption leads to a lack of consumer understanding about how gas is used in the home and, in particular, which appliances are most responsible for this usage [14]. Most people simply have no means of judging their household gas consumption other than a monthly bill, which, even then, does not provide itemized details about *what* accounts for this consumption.



eco-feedback

sensing and visualizing behavior to reduce environmental impact

Water Usage Eco-Feedback





Two sets of designs:

1 Design Dimensions

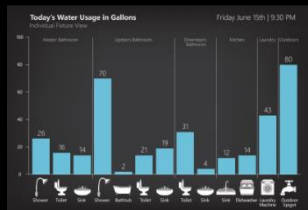
Isolate eco-feedback design dimensions in the context of water usage

2 Design Probes

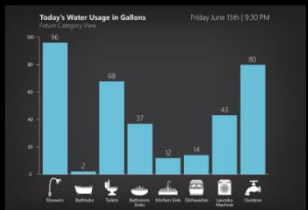
Meant to elicit reactions about how displays would fit within a household and investigate issues such as privacy, competition, family dynamics.

Design Dimensions Explored

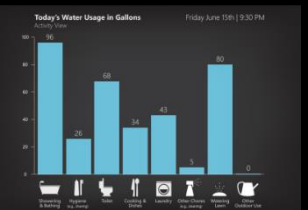
Data Granularity



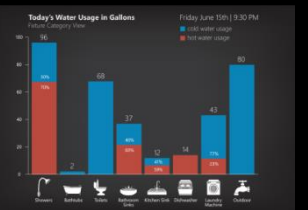
Individual Fixture



Fixture Category

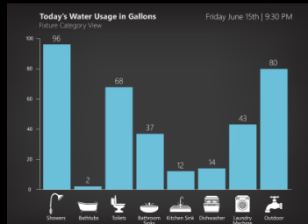


Activity

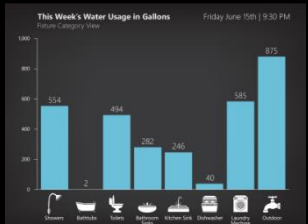


Hot and Cold

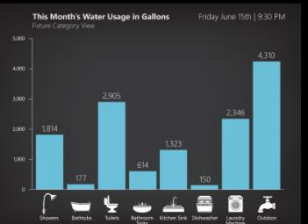
Time Granularity



So Far Today

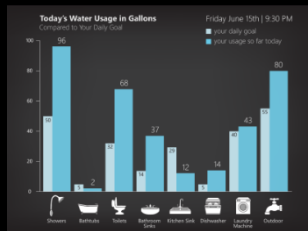


So Far This Week

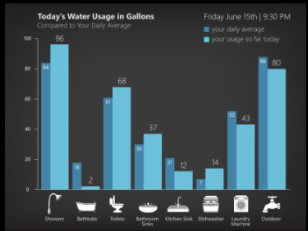


So Far This Month

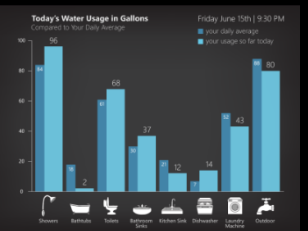
Comparison



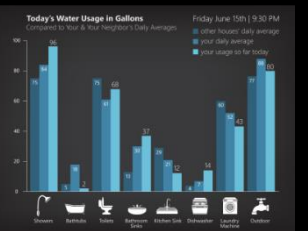
Self Comparison



To Others

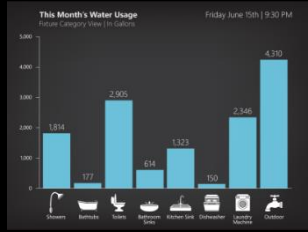


To A Goal

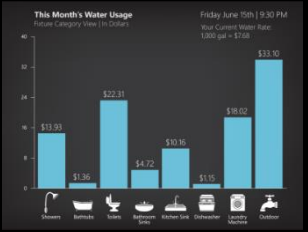


Social/Self

Measurement Unit



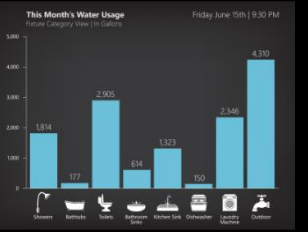
In Gallons



In Dollars



Dollars / Gallons



Including Sewage

Design Probes Explored

Time-Series

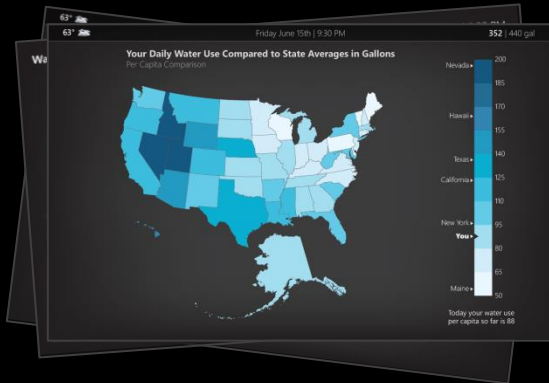
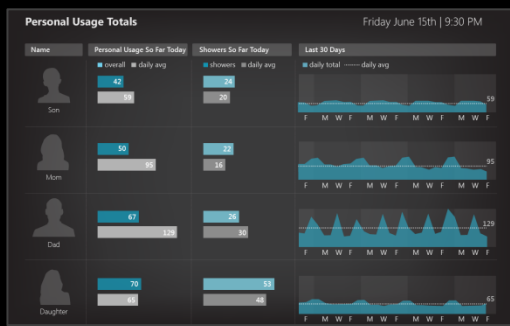
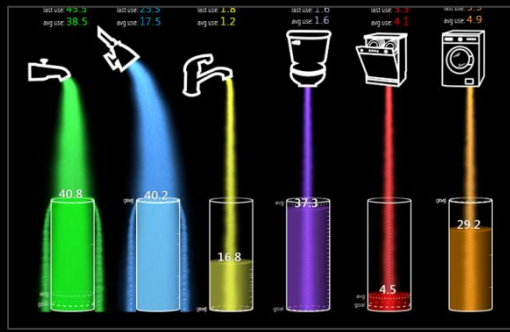
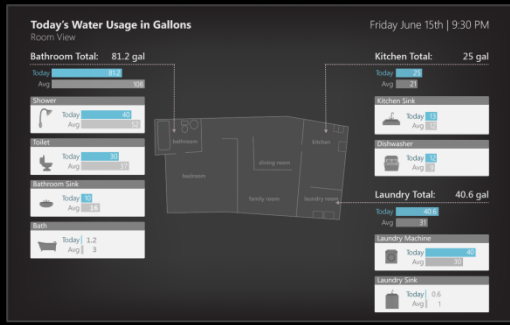
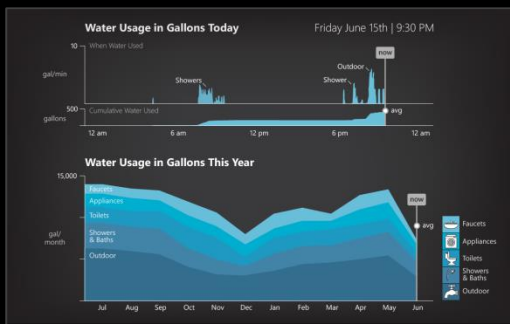
Spatial

Per-Occupant

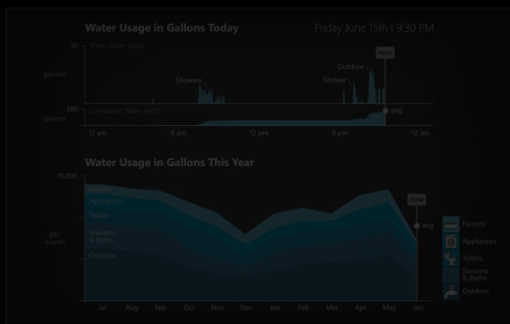
Aquatic Eco-system

Rainflow

Other



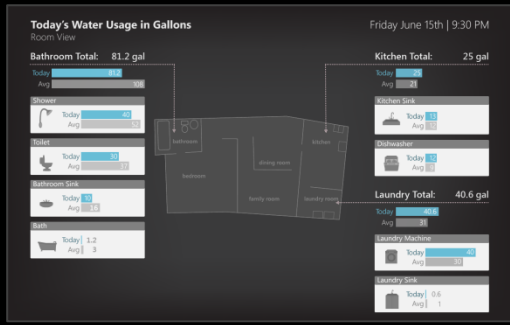
Design Probes Explored



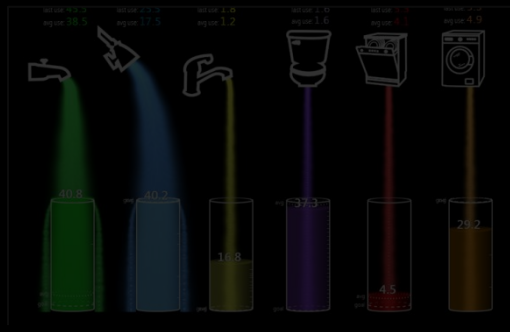
Time-Series



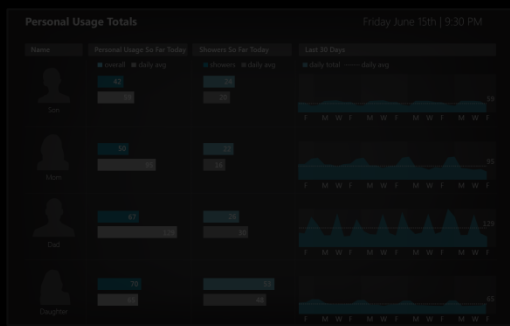
Aquatic Eco-system



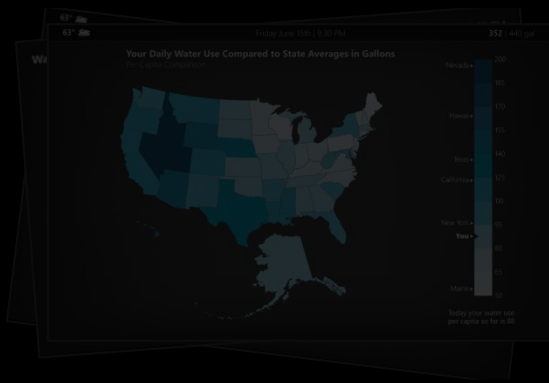
Spatial



Rainflow



Per-Occupant



Other

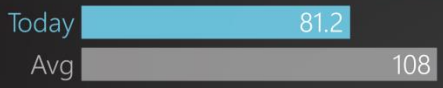
Spatial View

Today's Water Usage in Gallons

Room View

Friday June 15th | 9:30 PM

Bathroom Total: 81.2 gal



Shower



Toilet



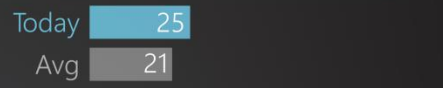
Bathroom Sink



Bath



Kitchen Total: 25 gal



Kitchen Sink



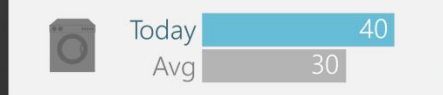
Dishwasher



Laundry Total: 40.6 gal



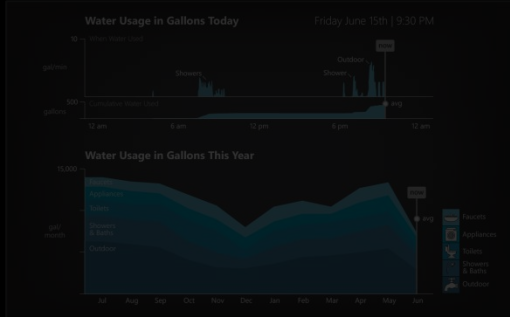
Laundry Machine



Laundry Sink



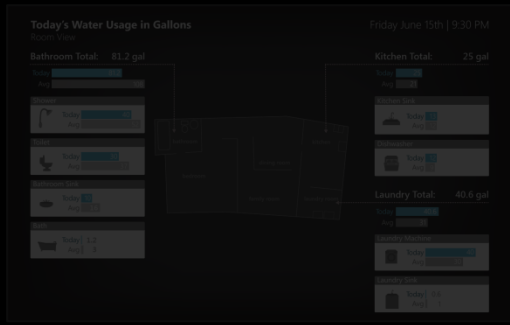
Design Probes Explored



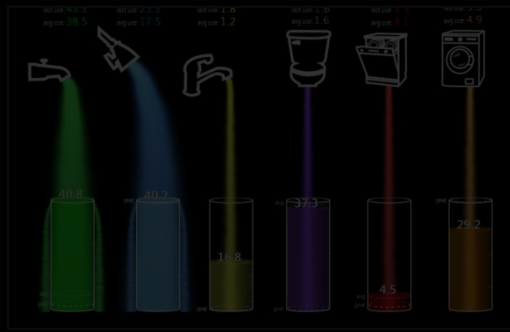
Time-Series



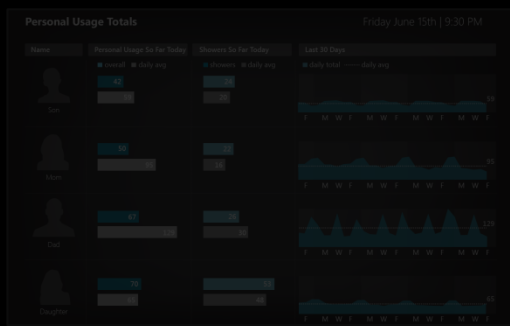
Aquatic Eco-system



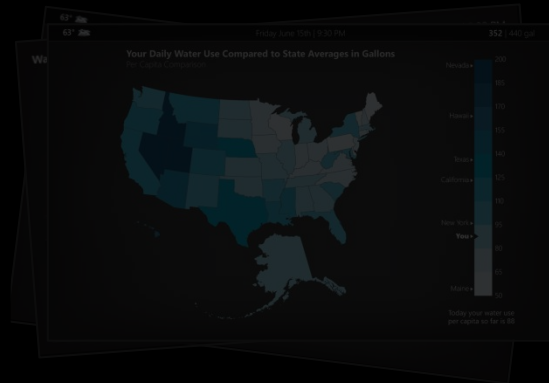
Spatial



Rainflow



Per-Occupant



Other

Aquatic Ecosystem Design Influences



ubifit

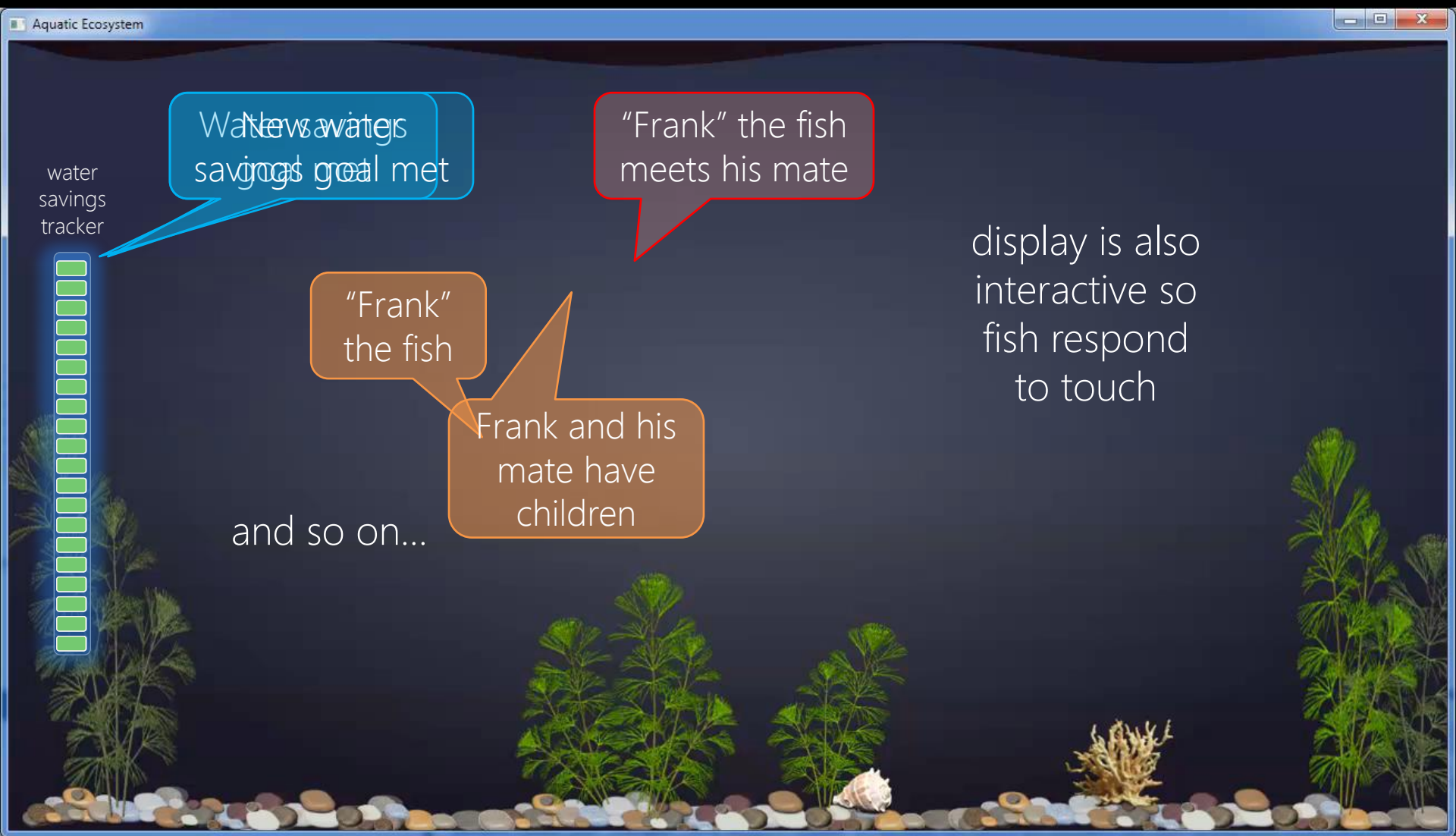
Consolvo *et al.*, CHI2008
Consolvo *et al.*, UbiComp2008



ubigreen

Froehlich *et al.*, CHI 2009

Aquatic Ecosystem View



New water savings goal met

"Frank" the fish meets his mate

"Frank" the fish

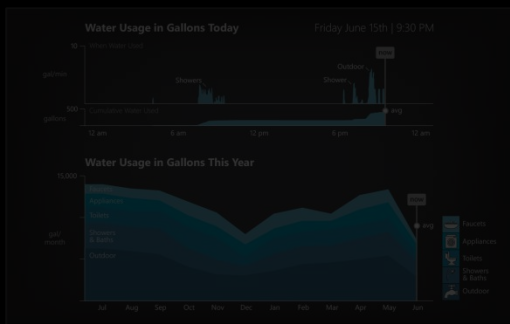
Frank and his mate have children

and so on...

display is also interactive so fish respond to touch

water savings tracker

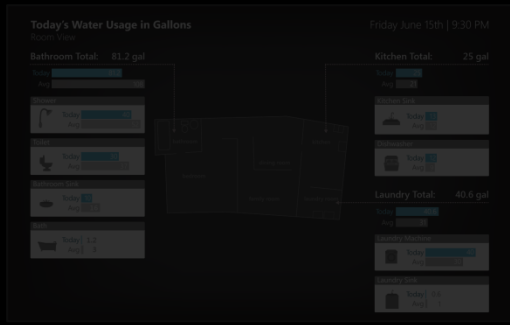
Design Probes Explored



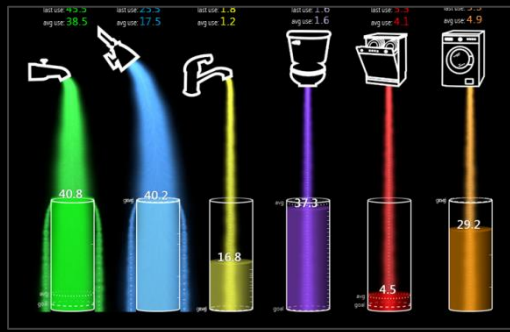
Time-Series



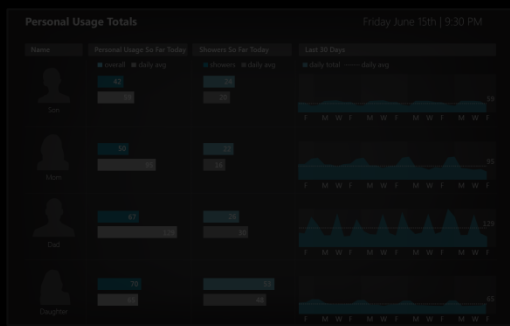
Aquatic Eco-system



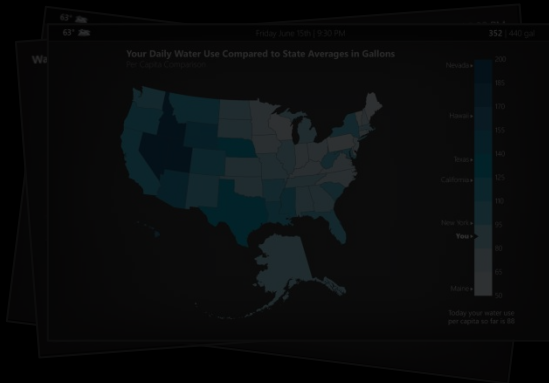
Spatial



Rainflow



Per-Occupant



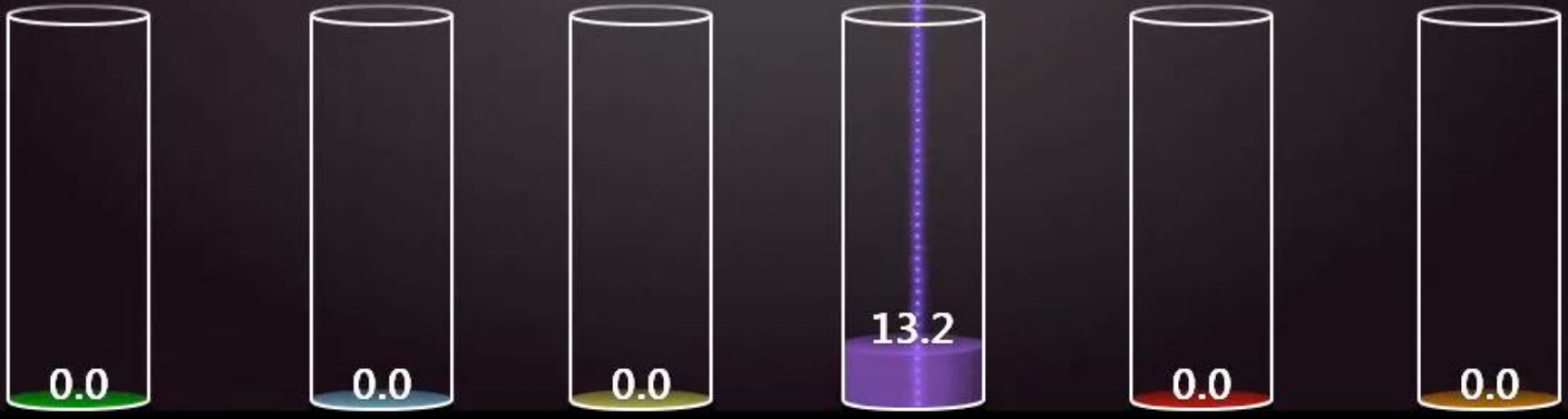
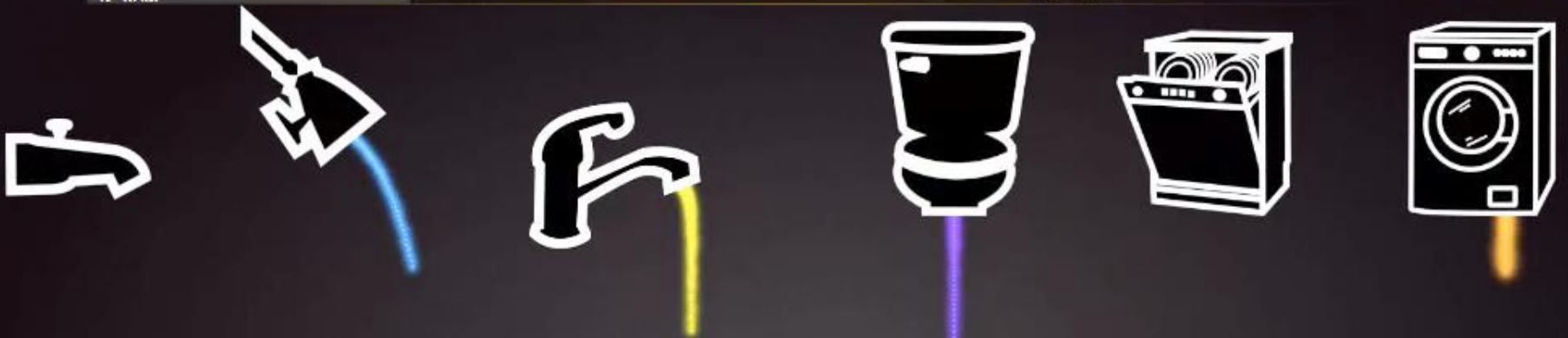
Other

Rainflow View

rainflow
pressure_graph
to flow

NH Republican says Sarah Palin's window is closed
-5608000.6 secs | 1091 related articles | Los Angeles Times

73° clear
54° - 77° F
thursday august 21
10:28 AM



The Design and Evaluation of Prototype Eco-Feedback Displays for Fixture-Level Water Usage Data

Jon Froehlich^{1,7}, Leah Findlater^{6,8}, Marilyn Ostergren⁶, Solai Ramanathan³, Josh Peterson⁵,
Inness Wragg⁴, Eric Larson², Fabia Fu³, Mazhengmin Bai³, Shwetak N. Patel^{1,2}, James A. Landay¹

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ABSTRACT

Few means currently exist for home occupants to learn about their water consumption: *e.g.*, where water use occurs, whether such use is excessive and what steps can be taken to conserve. Emerging water sensing systems, however, can provide detailed usage data at the level of individual water fixtures (*i.e.*, *disaggregated* usage data). In this paper, we perform formative evaluations of two sets of novel eco-feedback displays that take advantage of this disaggregated data. The first display set isolates and examines specific elements of an eco-feedback design space such as *data* and *time granularity*. Displays in the second set act as *design probes* to elicit reactions about competition, privacy, and integration into domestic space. The displays were evaluated via an online survey of 651 North American respondents and in-home, semi-structured interviews with 10 families (20 adults). Our findings are relevant not only to the design of future water eco-feedback systems but also for other types of consumption (*e.g.*, electricity and gas).

Author Keywords

Eco-feedback, water, sustainability, iterative design

ACM Classification Keywords

H5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (*e.g.*, HCI).

INTRODUCTION

Cities across the world are facing an escalating demand for potable water due to growing populations, higher population densities and warmer climates [12,13]. As new sources of water become more environmentally and economically costly to extract, water suppliers and governments are shifting their focus from finding new



Figure 1: In our in-home interviews, participants selected preferred locations in their home to place our prototype water usage display.

Eco-feedback has been offered as one strategy to encourage conservation and help build the connection between home activities and resource use (see [4,6,9] for a review). However, most past work has focused on energy, with water-based eco-feedback largely limited to sensing and feedback at the *point-of-consumption* and to simple ambient and/or LED-based displays [2,19,21,22,30]. Although this type of feedback can potentially reduce usage at the installed fixture [30], it is limited in its ability to convey broader patterns of use or to compare across fixtures. These systems have also disproportionately focused on faucet and shower usage, which account for only 22% of water use in the average North American home [29].

In this paper, we explore a range of eco-feedback designs enabled by *disaggregated* (*i.e.*, fixture-level) water usage data. Our work is inspired by emerging technologies that can sense water usage at *individual fixtures* with only one



Sensing and Feedback of Everyday Activities to Promote Environmental Behaviors

Jon E. Froehlich

A dissertation
submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

University of Washington

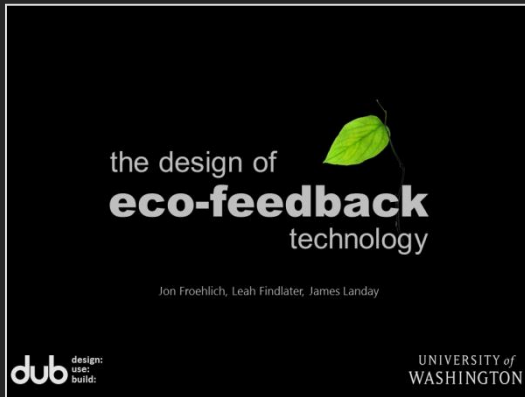
2011

Program Authorized to Offer Degree:
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

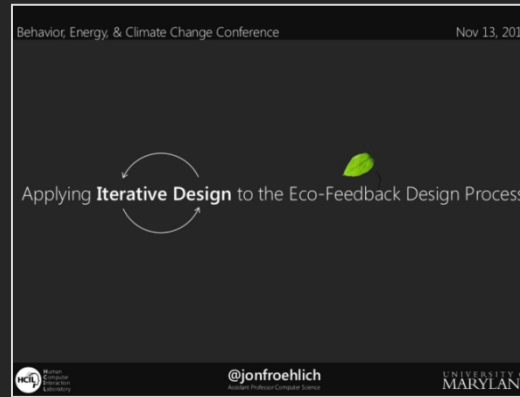
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Program Authorized to Offer Degree:

OTHER TALKS ON ECO-FEEDBACK VISUALIZATION

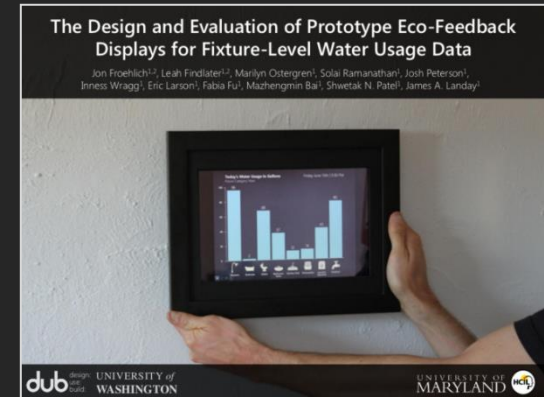
If you want to learn more about the visualization side of my work, check out the following on slideshare:



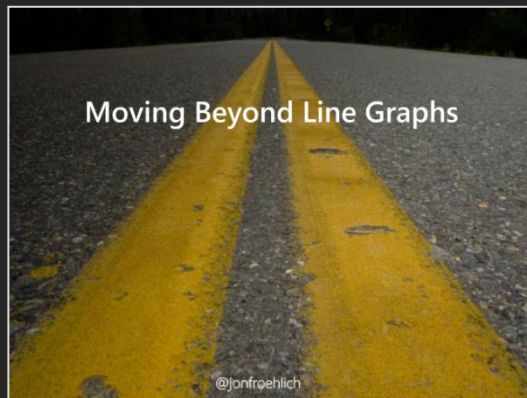
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<http://goo.gl/DouwNL>



<http://goo.gl/jrgxK>



<http://goo.gl/aV3B3F>



<http://goo.gl/vpwNIY>

ENVIRONMENTAL BEHAVIOR SENSING AND FEEDBACK WORK

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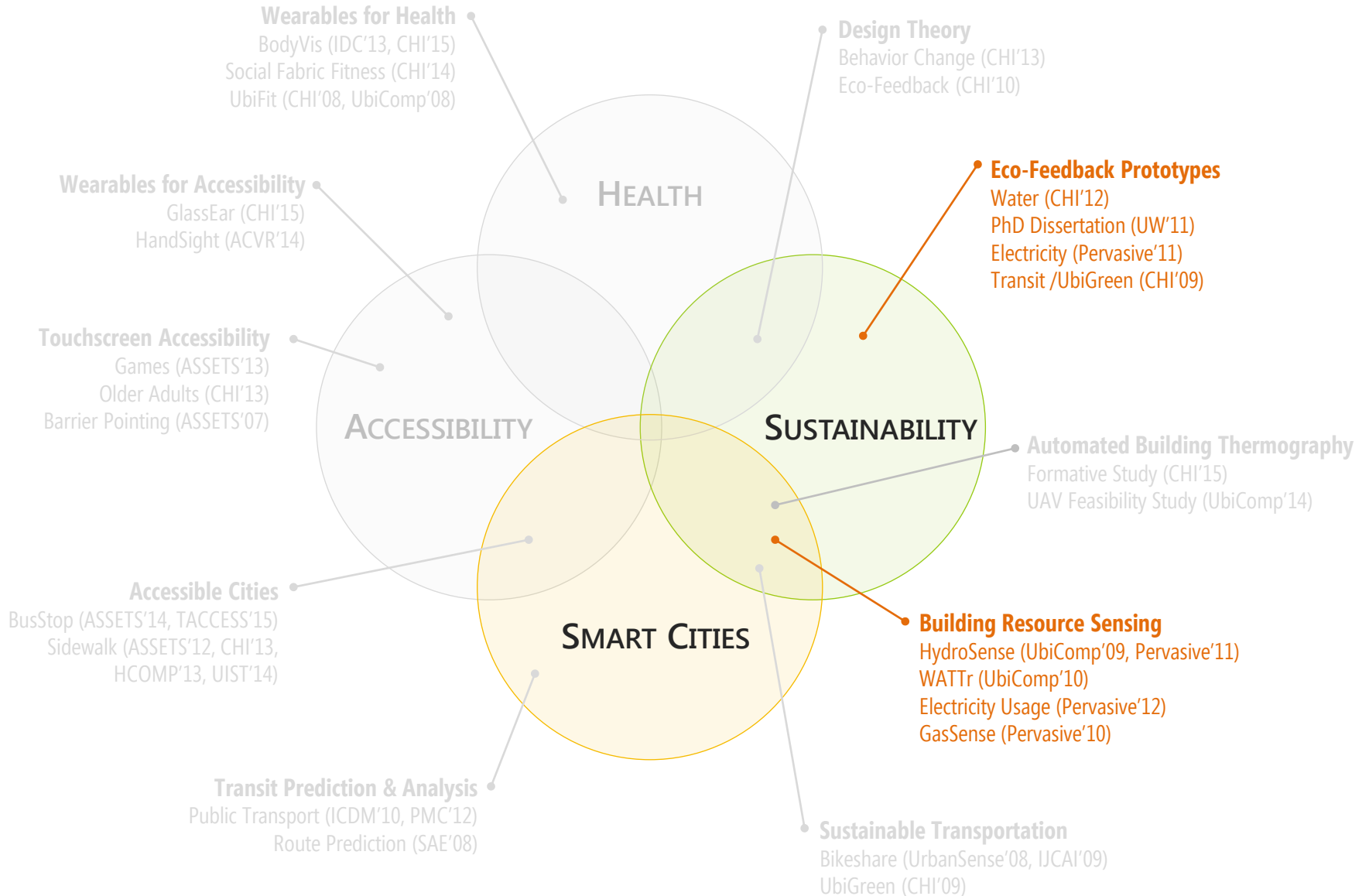
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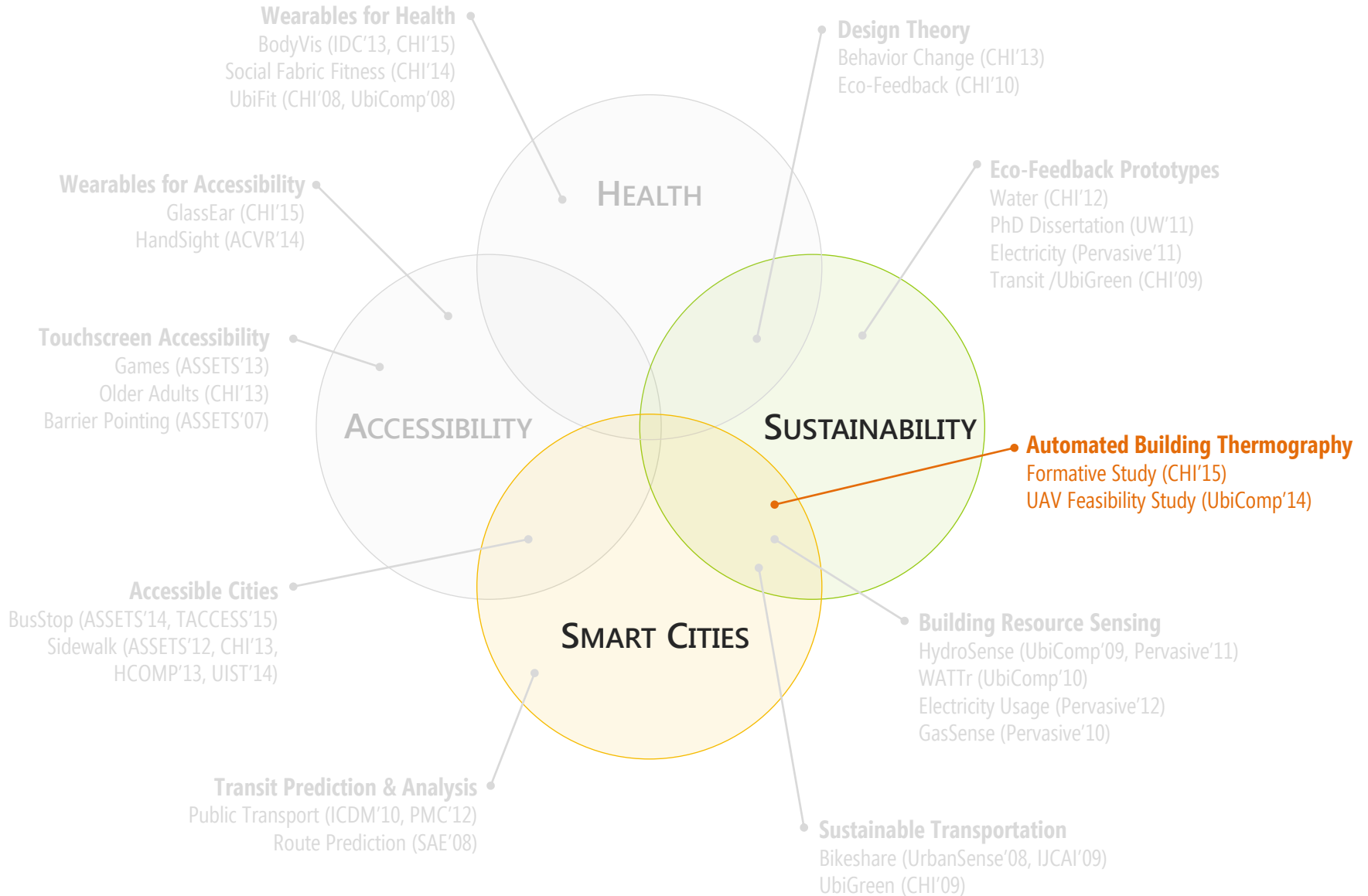
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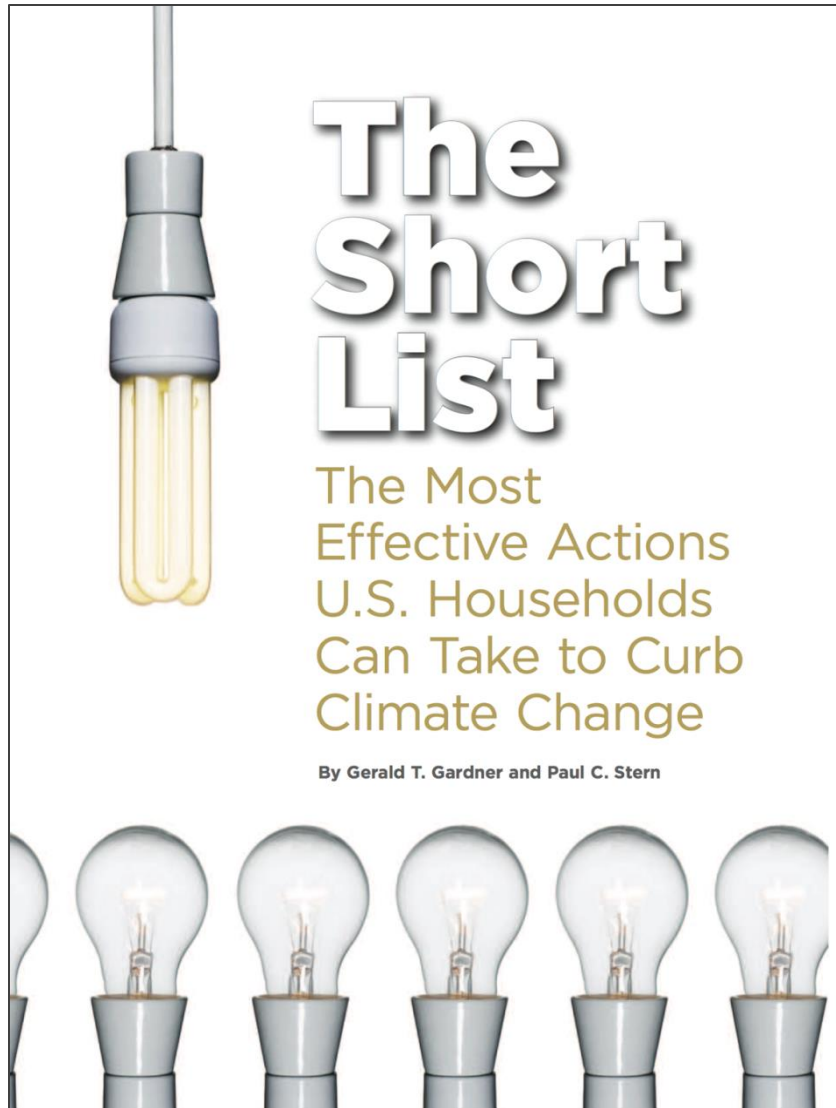
MY RESEARCH



MY RESEARCH



ENCOURAGING EFFECTIVE SUSTAINABLE ACTION



1. CURTAILMENT BEHAVIORS

Involve forming new routines to reduce environmental impact (*e.g.*, taking a shorter shower, biking to work)

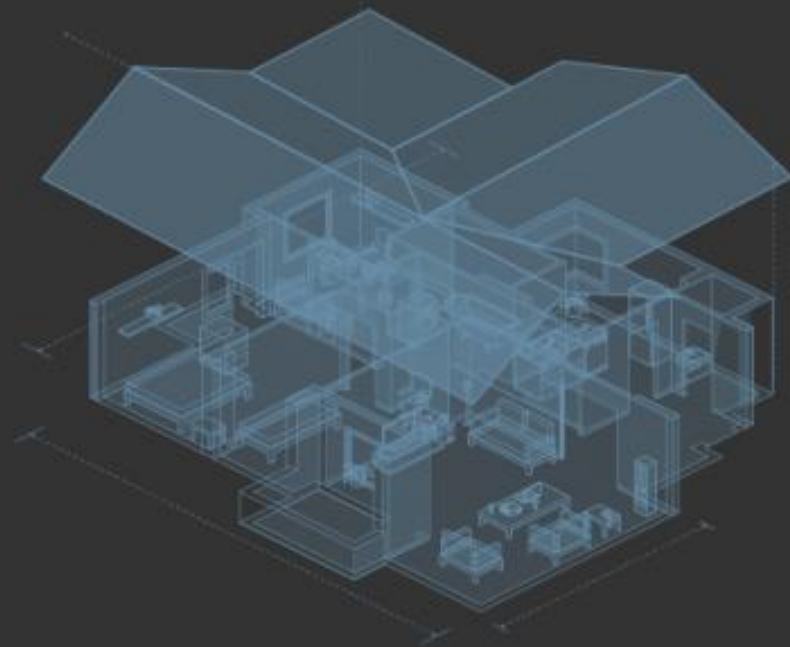
2. EFFICIENCY BEHAVIORS

One-time actions that provide a lasting impact such as replacing windows with energy-efficient counterparts or reinsulating your home

ENERGY
SAVER

Energy Saver 101: Home Energy Audits

Take the first step to improving your home's energy efficiency: get a home energy audit.



What is a home energy audit?

A home energy audit helps you pinpoint where your house is losing energy and **what you can do to save money**. A home energy auditor will also assess health and safety issues that might exist in your home.

The audit involves two parts: the **home assessment** and **analysis** using computer software.



You could **save 5 to 30 percent** on your energy bill by making efficiency upgrades identified in your home energy audit.

Home » Thermographic Inspections

Thermographic Inspections

June 25, 2012 - 3:27pm



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

- You can save 5%-30% on your energy bill by making upgrades following a home energy assessment.
- A professional energy auditor may conduct a thermographic inspection to detect where your

Energy auditors may use thermography -- or infrared scanning -- to detect thermal defects and [air leakage](#) in building envelopes.

HOW THERMOGRAPHIC INSPECTIONS WORK

Thermography measures surface temperatures by using infrared video and still cameras. These tools see light that is in the heat spectrum. Images on the video or film record the temperature variations of the building's skin, ranging from white for warm regions to black for cooler areas. The resulting images help the auditor determine whether insulation is needed. They also serve

RELATED ARTICLES



[Professional Home Energy Audits](#)

Energy Audits



[Home Energy Audits Can Help You Keep That New Year's Resolution](#)

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THERMAL CAMERAS

Thermal cameras (or infrared cameras) **detect electromagnetic radiation** with lower frequencies than visible light (*i.e.*, infrared frequencies)

All objects above absolute zero emit infrared radiation, so **thermal cameras can 'see' in the dark** without external illumination.

The amount of radiation emitted by an object increases with temperature, **so thermal cameras can** also measure heat.

There must be a **minimum 10° C temperature differential** between a building's interior and exterior to properly detect thermal leakage. Here, the 2nd floor appears to be leaking hot air perhaps **due to poor insulation**.



Lots of Emerging Thermal Camera Applications

Surveillance



Search & Rescue



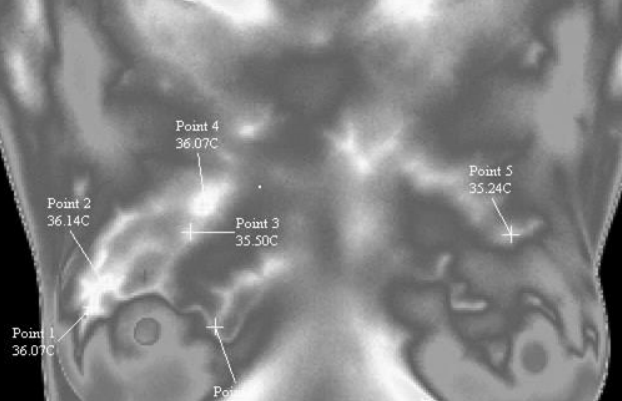
Law Enforcement



Firefighting



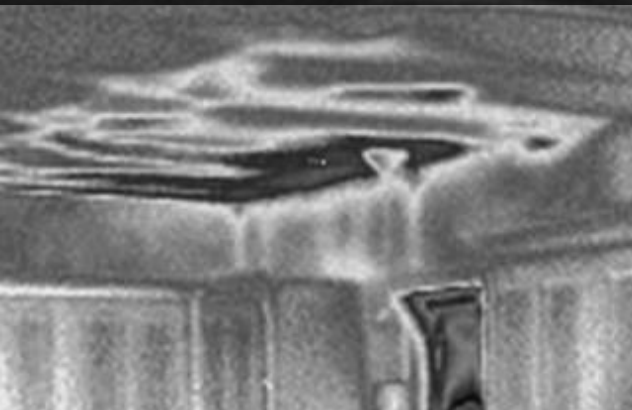
Medical Applications



Non-intrusive Equipment Monitoring



Moisture Detection



Non-Intrusive Pipe Inspection



Home Energy Audits



Surveillance



Search & Rescue



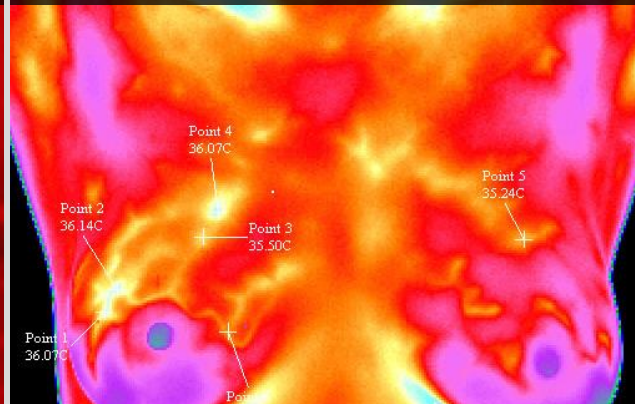
Law Enforcement



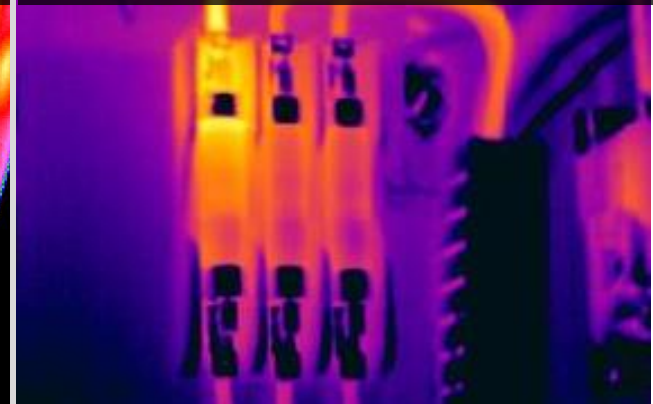
Firefighting



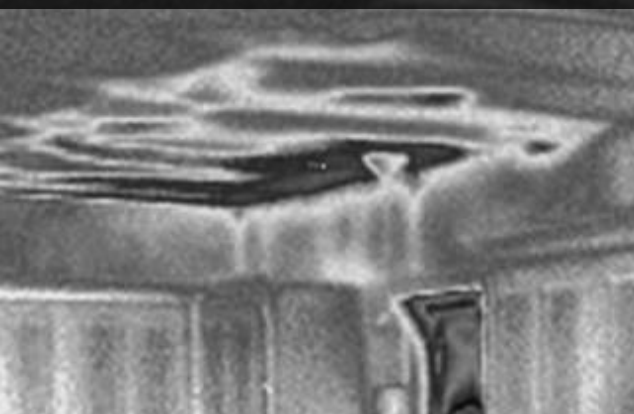
Medical Applications



Non-intrusive Equipment Monitoring



Moisture Detection



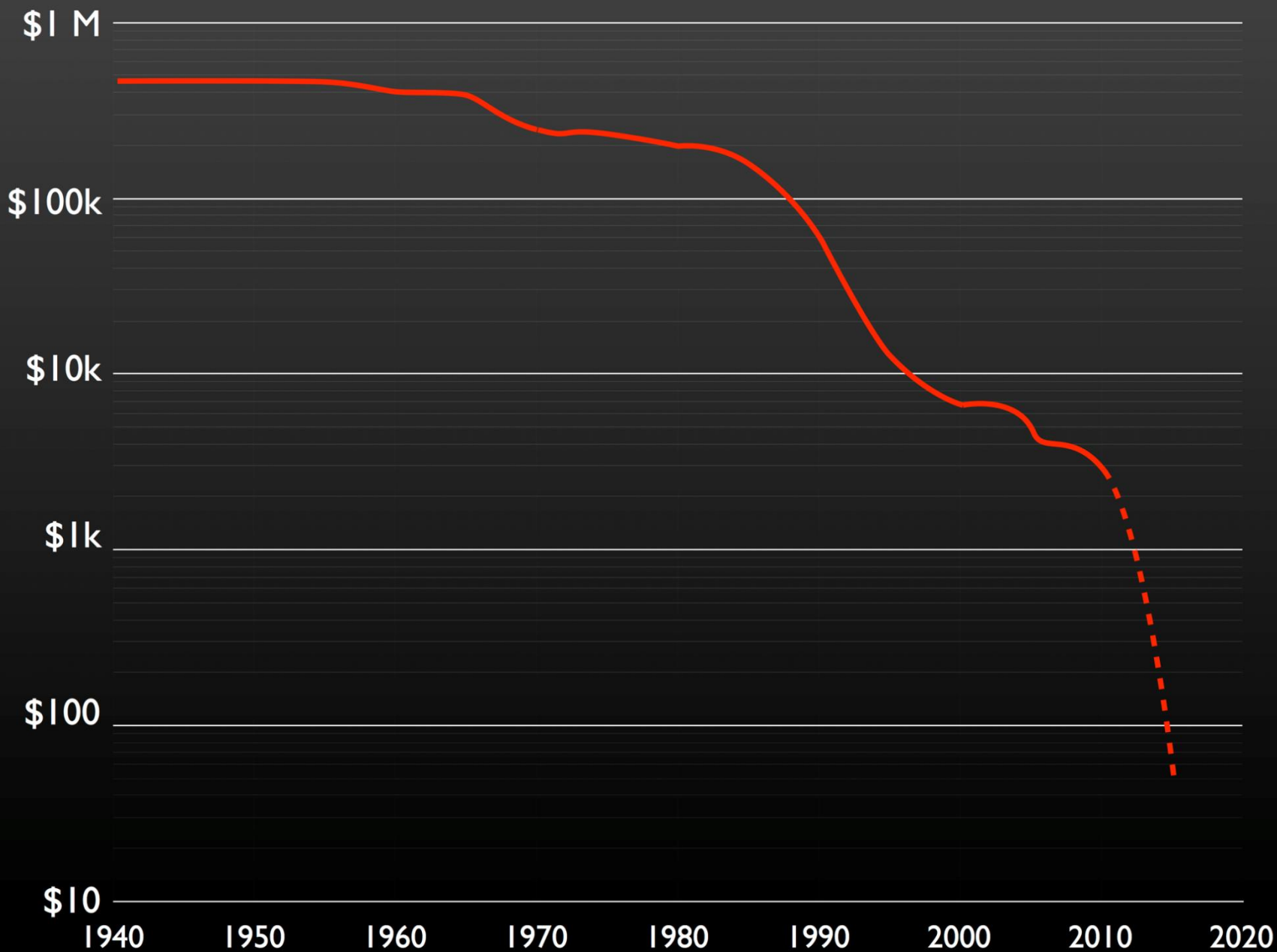
Non-Intrusive Pipe Inspection



Home Energy Audits



COST OF INFRARED SENSING TECHNOLOGY



- New Products
- Top Sellers
- Open Hardware
- SparkFun Originals
- Actobotics
- Sale
- Gift Certificates
- Arduino +
- Audio
- Books
- Breakout Boards
- Cables +
- Cellular +
- Components +
- Development Tools +
- Dings and Dents
- Educators
- GPS +
- Intel® Edison
- Kits**
- LCDs +
- Programmers +
- Prototyping +
- Raspberry Pi
- Retail +
- Robotics +
- Sensors +
- Swag
- Tools +
- Wearables +
- Widgets
- Wireless +
- Retired +

[HOME](#) / [PRODUCT CATEGORIES](#) / [KITS](#) / FLIR DEV KIT



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FLiR Dev Kit

KIT-13233 ROHS ✓

★★★★☆ 5

Description: The FLiR Dev Kit includes a breakout as well as a Lepton® longwave infrared (LWIR) imager. With this kit you will be able to bring FLiR's thermal imaging reliability and power to your Arduino, Raspberry Pi, or any ARM based development tool all in an easy to access breadboard friendly package. All you need to do to get this kit set up, simply attach the Lepton® imager module into the provided breakout, connect the headers, and you will be seeing in full darkness in no time!

The Lepton® LWIR module included in each FLiR Dev Kit packs a resolution of 80 x 60 pixels into a camera body that is smaller than a dime and captures infrared radiation input in its nominal response wavelength band (from 8 to 14 microns) and outputs a uniform thermal image. Meanwhile, each breakout board in these kits provides the socket for the Lepton®, power supply's, 25Mhz Crystal Oscillator, 100 mil header for use in a breadboard or wiring to any host system. A few things to consider about this kit: the breakout board will accept a 3-5V input and regulate it to what the Lepton® wants, to read an image from the lepton module all you need is an SPI port, and to configure the camera settings you also need an I²C port, although this is not required.

Note: This kit comes in two separate parts and will need to be assembled once received. The Lepton® module is extremely sensitive to electrostatic discharge (ESD). When inserting it into the breakout board be sure to use proper personal grounding, such as a grounding wrist strap, to prevent damage the module.



Includes:

- 1x FLiR Lepton® - Thermal Imaging Module
- 1x FLiR Lepton® - Breakout Board

Features:

\$349.95

ADD TO CART

1 quantity

38 in stock

\$349.95 1+ units

[SHARE](#)

FAVORITE 6

WISH LIST

Questions?

Chat with one of our gurus!

Skills

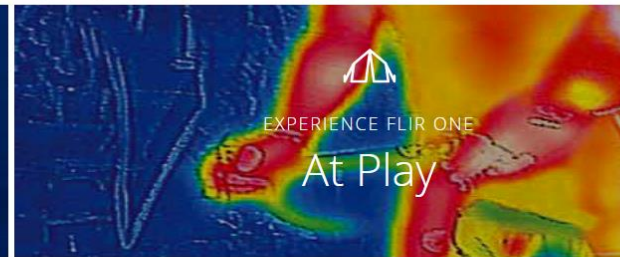


FLIR ONE

Thermal imaging device for your iPhone 5/5s.

\$249.99

- WATCH THE VIDEO
- LAUNCH SIMULATOR
- BUY NOW



Win a second FLIR ONE. The perfect gift for a friend.

Earn bragging rights and be featured on FLIR ONE's social channels. Show us how you see your world differently with FLIR ONE. Each week, we will be awarding the best visual content.

1. Connect with FLIR ONE on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
2. Capture your most creative photo or video with the FLIR ONE
3. Submit a photo or video using #FLIRONEcontest
4. Tag @FLIRONE on Instagram or @FLIR_ONE on Twitter

WATCH VIDEO



RESEARCH/DESIGN PROVOCATION

What if **everyone had a thermal camera** built into their smartphones?

Could ordinary people become **amateur thermographers** (*i.e.*, citizen scientists) contributing thermal data about built infrastructure in their cities?



Energy audits and thermographic surveying are time and labor intensive

How can we **automate** thermographic assessments?

1. Data collection
2. Model generation
3. Analysis
4. Report generation

How can we **automate** thermographic assessments?

What might this **automation enable**? For example, more frequent scanning may enable new types of temporal analyses.

Could we **automate** the thermographic inspection process using **robotics**?



Towards Automated Thermal Profiling of Buildings at Scale Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and 3D-Reconstruction

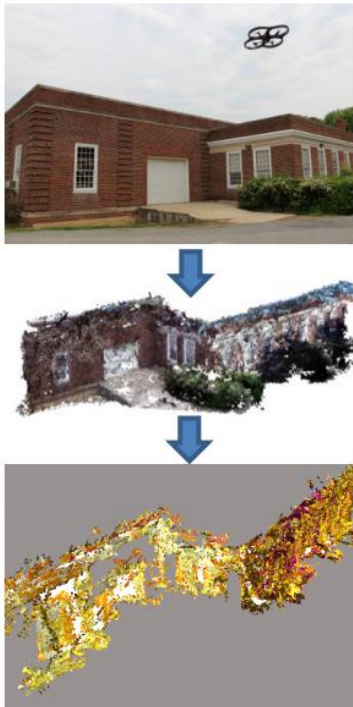


Figure 1: Example of partial 3D reconstruction using UAV and data from our thermal camera.

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Abstract

With increases in energy demand and problems due to climate change, governments are increasingly focused on building efficiency retrofits and renovations. To help inform these improvements, energy audits are often performed with thermal cameras that can detect poor insulation and air leakage; however, the data collection process is labor intensive and does not offer a comprehensive view of the buildings. We introduce our vision for a new, more scalable approach: automated 3D thermal profiling of buildings using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and 3D-reconstruction. To demonstrate feasibility, we used an unmodified Parrot AR.Drone 2.0 and a FLIR thermal camera to collect RGB and thermal images of a building and generate 3D reconstructions.

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/2638728.2638731>

Author Keywords

3D thermography; Aerial robotics; Automated energy auditing; Building assessment; Sustainability

ACM Classification Keywords

H.5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (e.g., HCI): Miscellaneous.

Introduction

The building sector accounts for 41% of primary energy consumption in the US, far more than any other sector, and contributes an increasing portion of total carbon dioxide emissions—40% in 2009 compared to 33% in 1980 [9]. One reason for these high emissions is building age. Residential buildings, for example, constitute 95% of all buildings in the US and are on average over 50 years old [11]. Most were constructed with energy inefficient designs and their materials suffer from degradation effects due to weather and wear, further impacting efficiency. To address these issues, renovations and retrofits of existing building stock has become a national priority. The US Department of Energy has set a goal of reducing housing energy use by up to 70% [6].



created by 3DTK
<http://threedtk.de>

Source: Automation Group, Jacobs University Bremen, <http://goo.gl/ZTN4Re>, <https://youtu.be/TPoCebERysc>



Irma3D Ground Robot

Equipped with Reigl VZ-400 laser scanner & Optris Imager PI thermal camera



UbiComp'14: Reviewer 3

...There are actually many factors that need to be taken into account when doing exterior thermal scans...

It's not as simple as just taking thermal images. Temperature, sunlight, wind are some of the factors that need to be accounted for. It'd be great to do a formative study with energy auditors before proceeding too far with the research so that what is built improves upon the current/existing practices.

UbiComp'14: Reviewer 3

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It's not as simple as just taking thermal images. Temperature, sunlight, wind are some of the factors that need to be accounted for. It'd be great to do a **formative study with energy auditors** before proceeding too far with the research so that what is built improves upon the current/existing practices.

Interpreting Thermal 3D Models of Indoor Environments for Energy Efficiency

Girum G. Demisse, Dorit Borrmann, and Andreas Nüchter

Abstract—In recent years, 3D models of buildings are used in maintenance and inspection, preservation, and other building related applications. However, the usage of these models is limited, because most models are pure representations with no or little associated semantics. In this paper, we present a pipeline of techniques used for interior interpretation, object detection, and adding energy related semantics to windows of a 3D thermal model. A sequence of algorithms is presented for building the fundamental semantics of a 3D model. Furthermore, a *Markov Random Field* is used to model the temperature distribution of detected windows to further label the windows as either *open*, *closed* or *damaged*.

Key words: Energy efficiency, 3D thermal model, Boltzmann distribution, energy function, window detection

I. INTRODUCTION

Efficiency in energy usage is a fundamental step in adopting Green energy and conservation of natural resources: the European Commission estimates the largest and cost-effective energy saving potential lies in residential ($\approx 27\%$) and commercial ($\approx 30\%$) buildings [5]. Among other factors, uncontrolled air leakage, known as air infiltration, plays a significant role in energy consumption, both during heating seasons, but also in geographical locations where air conditioning is a necessity. Infrared thermometers are mainly used to detect faulty insulation in a labor intensive and time taking manner [8], [13]. Consequently, automating the process of detecting air infiltration has a significant impact on efficiency, cost and effectiveness of the leakage detection and proofing process. A high rate of air infiltration is also caused by opened windows or doors. This can easily be resolved by human intervention once detected.

Motivated by the economic and environmental impact we contribute to the efforts of fully automating the energy leakage

A. Nüchter and D. Borrmann are with the Robotics and Telematics group at University of Würzburg, Germany, andreas@nuecti.de. The work was performed while the authors were at Jacobs University Bremen GmbH, Germany.

detection process. Building on results obtained in [5], where a method for acquiring a 3D thermal model of a building is presented, we present a sequential pipeline of algorithms for 3D scene understanding and temperature distribution modeling as given in Fig. 1. Particularly, the temperature distribution is used to model the state of a window, as either opened, closed, or damaged, i.e., not properly insulated. After describing our autonomous robot and reviewing related work, we define and formalize the problem mathematically in section II. Our solution pipeline uses probabilistic modeling and pre-processing of a 3D point cloud and is presented in section III and IV. Finally, experimental results are presented in Section V. Section VI concludes the paper.

A. Automatic Acquisition of Thermal 3D Models

Thermal imaging is state of the art in recording energy related issues, while terrestrial laser scanning has been used for years to create 3D models. The combination of these two yield a 3D model that contains precise temperature information including the dimensions of heat and air leaks.

The setup for simultaneous acquisition of 3D laser scan data and thermal images is the robot Irma3D (cf. Fig. 2). Irma3D is built of a Volksbot RT-3 chassis. Its main sensor is a Riegl VZ-400 laser scanner from terrestrial laser scanning. The optiris PI160 thermal camera has an image resolution of 160×120 pixels and a thermal resolution of 0.1°C . It acquires images at a frame rate of 120 Hz and with an accuracy of 2°C . The laser scanner acquires data with a field of view of $360^\circ \times 100^\circ$. To achieve the full horizontal field of view the scanner head rotates around the vertical scanner axis when acquiring the data. We take advantage of this feature when acquiring image data. Since the thermal camera is mounted on top of the scanner, it is also rotated. We acquire 9 images with the camera during one scanning process to cover the full 360° .

To acquire thermal 3D point clouds of indoor environments, we have performed the intrinsic and extrinsic calibration using a special pattern. The color mapping procedure regards the

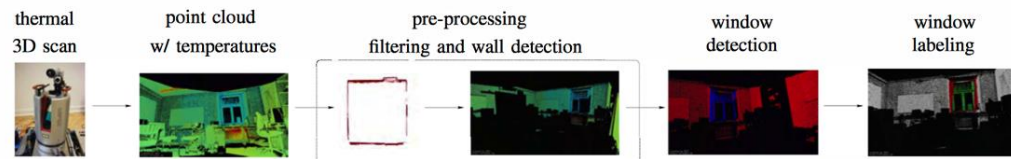
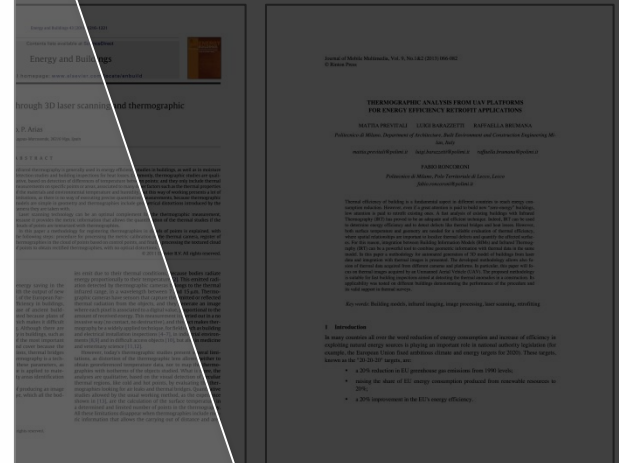


Fig. 1: Overview of window Detection and labeling pipeline.

MOGRAPHY LITERATURE

Investigations of how professional
interior design, etc.



Energy and Buildings'14

Previtali et al., J. Mobile Multimedia'14

Thermal Tomography-Based Method for Analysis of Energy Efficiency Building Envelope Retrofits

G. Demisse, D. Borrmann, and A. Nüchter

Abstract—In recent years, 3D models of buildings are used in maintenance and inspection, preservation, and other building related applications. However, the usage of these models is limited, because most models are pure representations with no or little associated semantics. In this paper, we present a pipeline of techniques used for interior interpretation, object detection, and adding energy related semantics to windows of a 3D thermal model. A sequence of algorithms is presented for building the fundamental semantics of a 3D model. Furthermore, a Markov Random Field is used to model the temperature distribution of detected windows to further label the windows as either open, closed or damaged.

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Demisse et al., Intl. Conf. Adv. Robotics'13

Understanding the Role of Thermography in Energy Auditing: Current Practices and the Potential for Automated Solutions

Matthew Louis Mauriello¹, Leyla Norooz², Jon E. Froehlich¹

Makeability Lab | Human-Computer Interaction Lab (HCIL)
Department of Computer Science¹, College of Information Studies²
University of Maryland, College Park
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ABSTRACT

The building sector accounts for 41% of primary energy consumption in the US, contributing an increasing portion of the country's carbon dioxide emissions. With recent sensor improvements and falling costs, auditors are increasingly using thermography—infrared (IR) cameras—to detect thermal defects and analyze building efficiency. Research in *automated* thermography has grown commensurately, aimed at reducing manual labor and improving thermal models. Though promising, we could find no prior work exploring the professional auditor's perspectives of thermography or reactions to emerging automation. To address this gap, we present results from two studies: a semi-structured interview with 10 professional energy auditors, which includes design probes of five automated thermography scenarios, and an observational case study of a residential audit. We report on common perspectives, concerns, and benefits related to thermography and summarize reactions to our automated scenarios. Our findings have implications for thermography tool designers as well as researchers working on automated solutions in robotics, computer science, and engineering.

Author Keywords

Energy audits; thermography; robotics; formative inquiry; design probes; Sustainable HCI; human-robotic interaction

ACM Classification Keywords

H.5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (*e.g.*, HCI)

INTRODUCTION

The building sector accounts for 41% of primary energy consumption in the US, far more than any other sector, and contributes an increasing portion of total carbon dioxide emissions—40% in 2009 compared to 33% in 1980 [46]. One reason for these high emissions is building age.

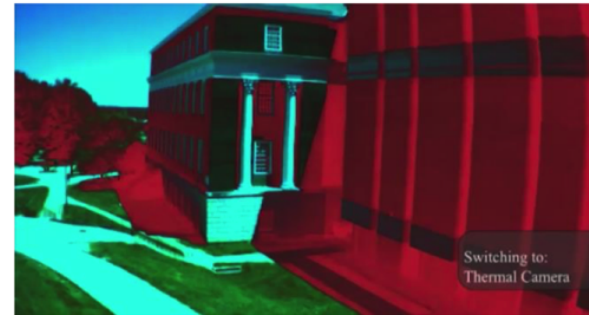


Figure 1: We developed five automated thermography scenarios inspired by the research literature (*e.g.*, [6,10,35,41]) to help elicit reactions to envisioned automated solutions. Above, a screen capture from our unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) design probe. See supplementary video.

designs and their materials have degraded over time. To address these issues, renovations and retrofits of existing building stock has become a pressing need. The US Department of Energy (DOE), for example, has set a goal of reducing housing energy use by up to 70% [37]

As a response, professional energy auditing has seen a resurgence of interest [25,39]. Audits help identify building inefficiencies through walk-through inspections, on-site measurements, and computer simulations [45]. The DOE recommends home energy audits because of their impact on reducing energy usage (*e.g.*, 5-30% reductions in monthly utility bills) and increasing structural safety [49]. With recent improvements in handheld sensor technology and falling costs, auditors are increasingly using thermography—infrared (IR) scanning with thermal cameras—to detect thermal defects and air leakage [2,8,28,47].

Work in *automated* thermography has also grown markedly in the past three years, encompassing disciplines from

AUTOMATED THERMOGRAPHY

9 of 10 energy auditors agreed that there was **value in automated data collection**, especially related to:

- saving time and money
- assessing otherwise inaccessible parts of buildings (*e.g.*, rooftops)
- scaling up what can be surveyed (*e.g.*, entire neighborhoods)
- enabling new types of analyses (*e.g.*, track building over time)
- automatic anomaly detection
- higher fidelity model generation (*e.g.*, 3D reconstructions)

CONCERNS

The most common concerns:

- **data quality:** automated approaches lack control of environment
- **data overload:** how to manage orders of magnitude more data?
- **social process:** energy auditing is a socio-technical process
- **fear and privacy:** who owns data? how can you opt-out?

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FULL SCREEN

A heat map of a home captured by one of Essess' thermal-imaging cars.

Courtesy of Essess



Drive-by heat mapping

Startup's thermal-imaging cars can quickly track energy leaks in thousands of homes and buildings.

Rob Matheson | MIT News Office
January 5, 2015

In 2007, Google unleashed a fleet of cars with roof-mounted cameras to provide street-level images of roads around the world. Now MIT spinout Essess is bringing similar "drive-by" innovations to energy efficiency in homes and businesses.

RELATED

Essess



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THERMAL ANALYSIS PROGRAM

Helping to make your home stronger.

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0001



Congratulations, you have been selected to participate in <Client's> Thermal Analysis Program to help make your home stronger.



Get Started Here

Thermal imaging is a new technology that helps you identify energy leaks in your home that result in loss of comfort and wasted energy. Review the sample home to the left and the information below to learn how to spot and fix common energy leaks.

Next month you will receive a thermal image of your own home in the mail. Please save this report to use as a reference guide when reviewing your home. This will help you identify and fix leaks that will make your home stronger and more comfortable while lowering your energy bills.

1



INSULATE YOUR BASEMENT WALLS. The area of the basement that is above ground is often poorly insulated, and is a major source of escaped heat from your home. Sealing leaks and adding a bit of insulation can help cut down your energy bill.

2



SEAL EDGES AROUND YOUR CHIMNEY. The area where the chimney meets the house can be a major source of leaks. Using caulk or insulated plates can be a relatively low-cost way to seal it up.

3



MAKE SURE YOUR WINDOW FRAMES DON'T LEAK. Bright areas around the edges of windows means that they are leaking air out of the house. A bit of caulk can easily seal them up.

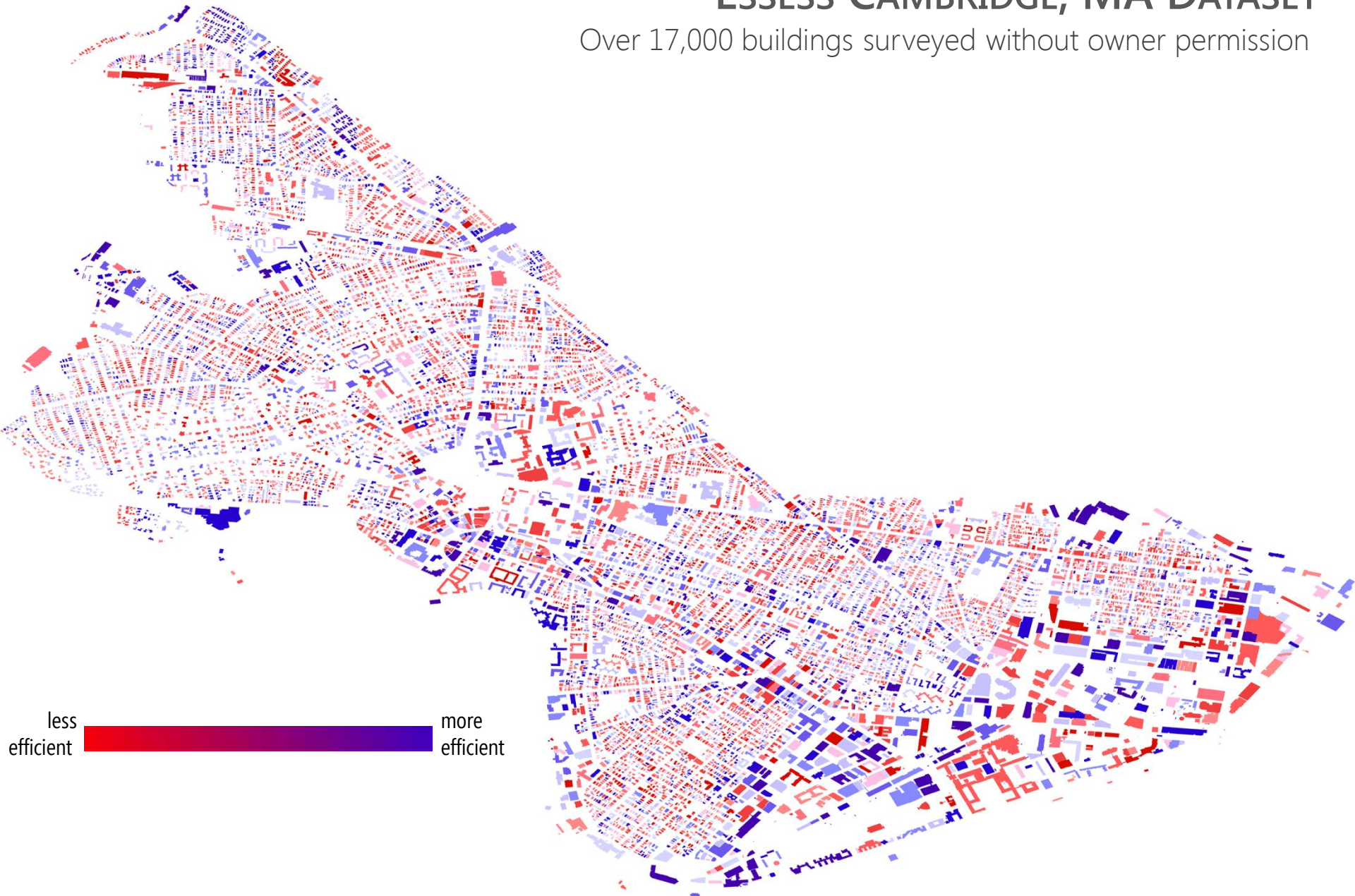
4



IMPROVE YOUR ATTIC INSULATION. Heat rises, and a lot of it escapes through poorly insulated attics. Adding attic insulation is easy to do and can save you big on your heating bills.

ESSESS CAMBRIDGE, MA DATASET

Over 17,000 buildings surveyed without owner permission



Venture Capital Dispatch

An inside look from VentureWire at high-tech startups and their investors.



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DATA
Venture Investors Seeded Fewer Companies in 2014

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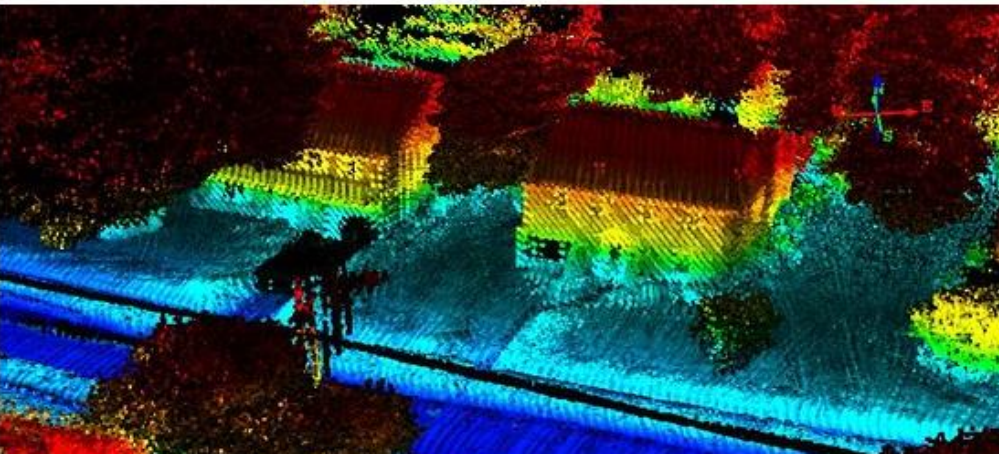
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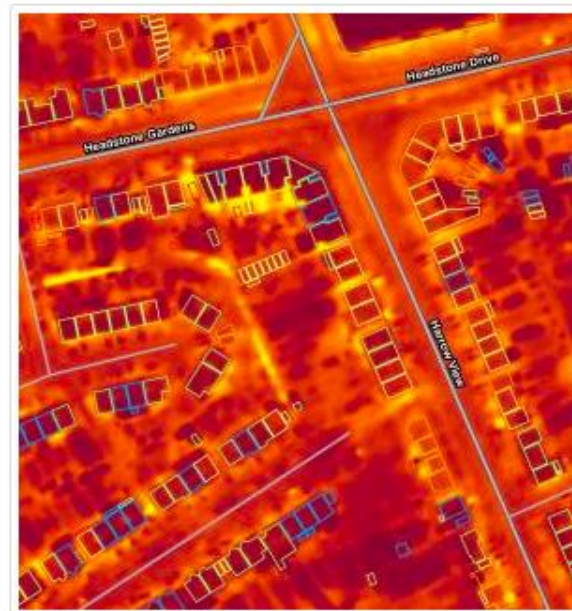


By YULIYA CHERNOVA **CONNECT**



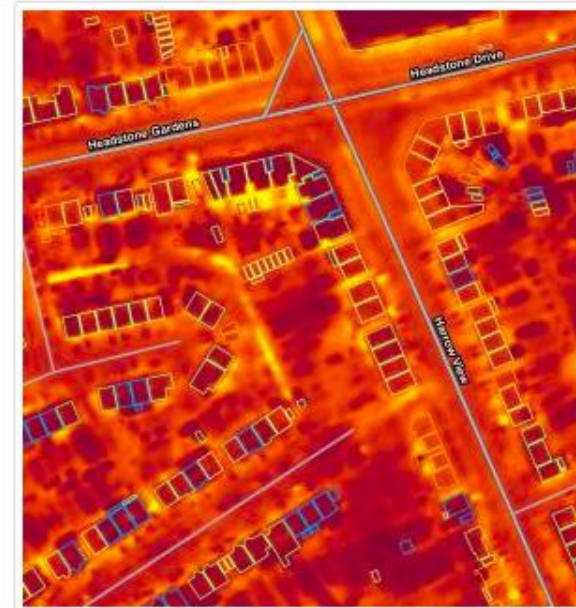
Bluesky Aerial Survey Data Helps London's Harrow Council Identify Illegal Dwellings

Thermal imaging and laser scan data collected by aircraft is helping London's Harrow Council tackle the growing problem of unscrupulous landlords renting out sheds and outbuildings as dwellings. Supplied by aerial mapping company Bluesky, the map accurate thermal images are combined with detailed LiDAR measurements to give staff at Harrow Council a much better understanding of where unpermitted developments may have been erected and their potential occupation evidenced as "hot spots" in the data.



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FUTURE WORK

Engage in participatory design with auditors and continue ethnographic fieldwork

Investigate computer vision to automatically infer building structures such as windows & doors (*e.g.*, to calculate window-to-wall ratios)

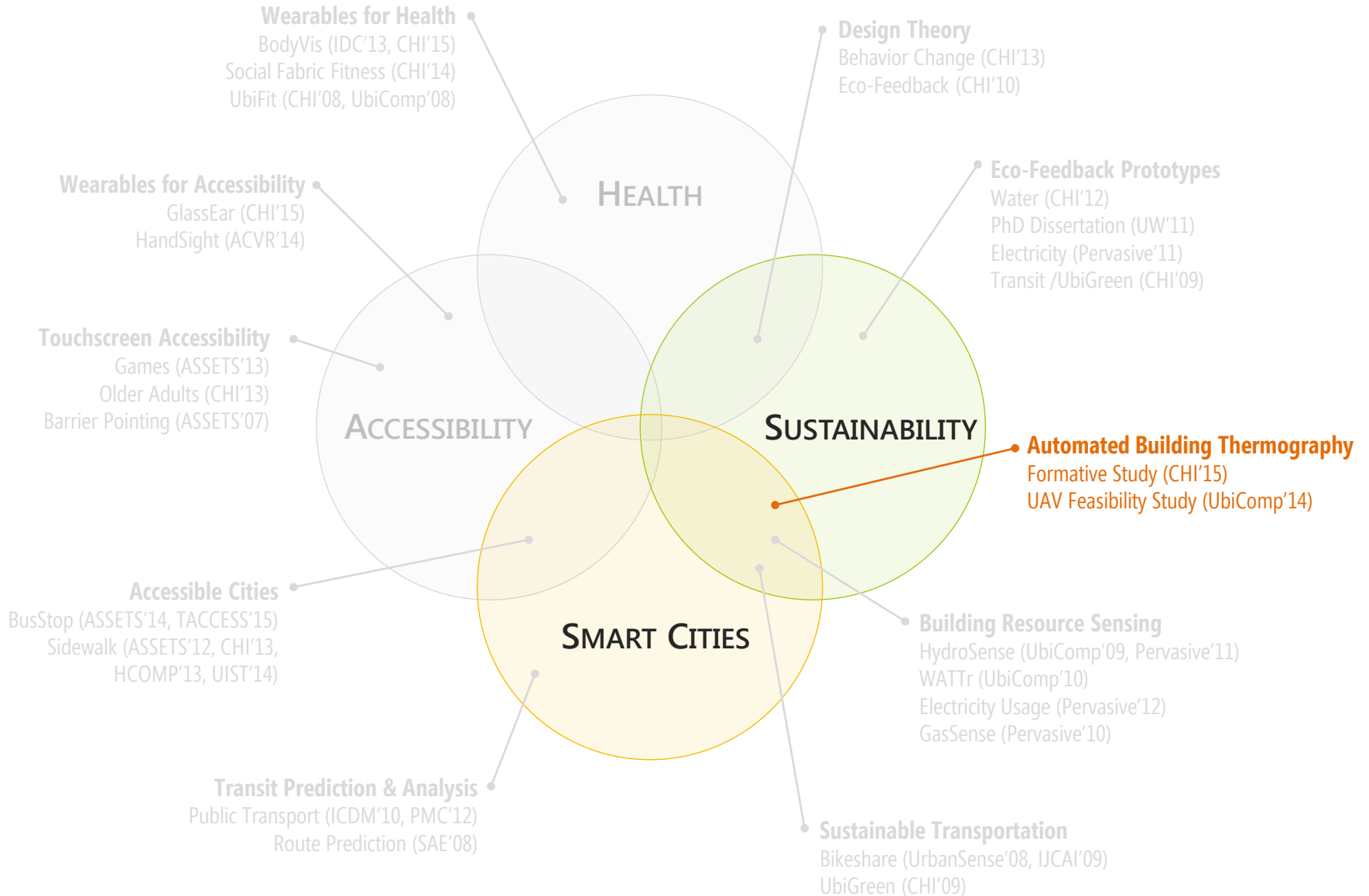
Explore benefits of temporal analyses, anomaly detection, and 3D reconstruction

Examine opportunities for automating indoor thermographic inspections

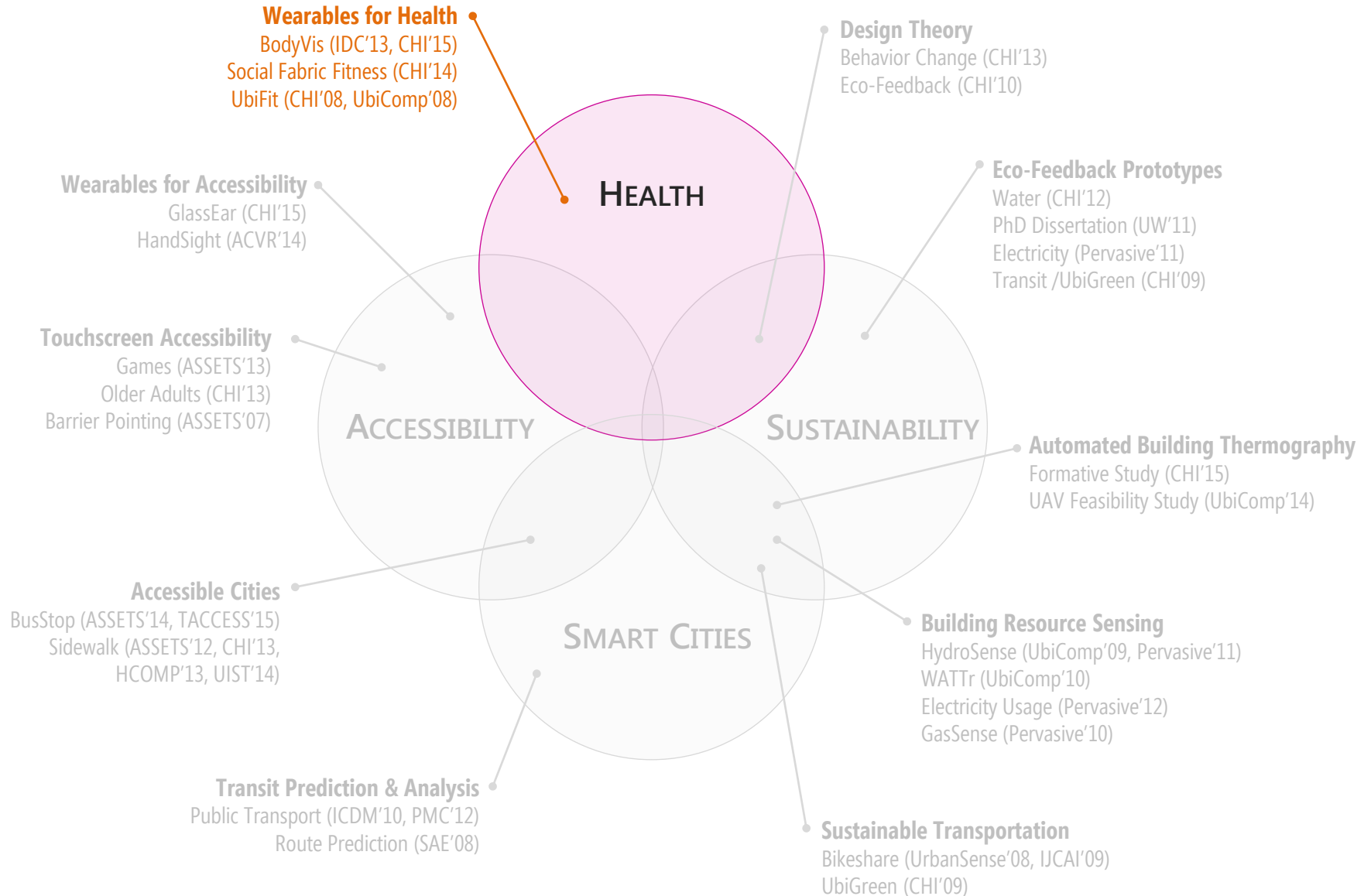
Explore privacy and policy implications



MY RESEARCH



MY RESEARCH



Most of my recent work in this space has been with **e-textiles**



WHAT ARE? **ELECTRONIC TEXTILES**

E-textiles are **textiles** with **embedded electronics**/digital components (including small computers)

WRECKING CREW ORCHESTRA



Source: <http://youtu.be/6ydeY0tTtF4>

WRECKING CREW ORCHESTRA



The Printing Dress

Asta Roseway

Microsoft Research



CARRIE UNDERWOOD'S DRESS

2013 GRAMMY AWARDS

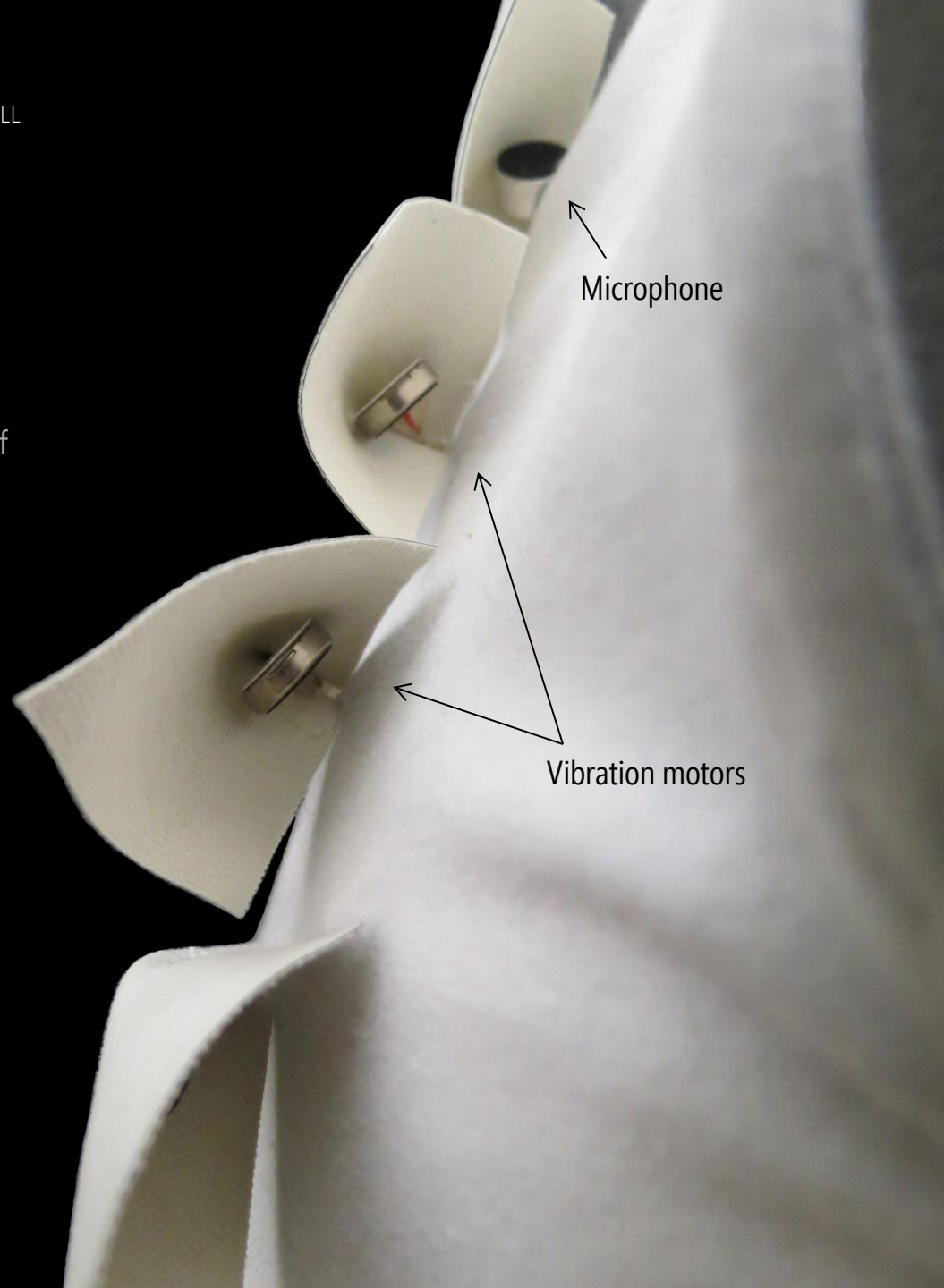


FLUTTER

DESIGNERS: HALLEY PROFITA, NICHOLAS FARROW,,NIKOLAUS CORRELL



Flutters in
direction of
sound



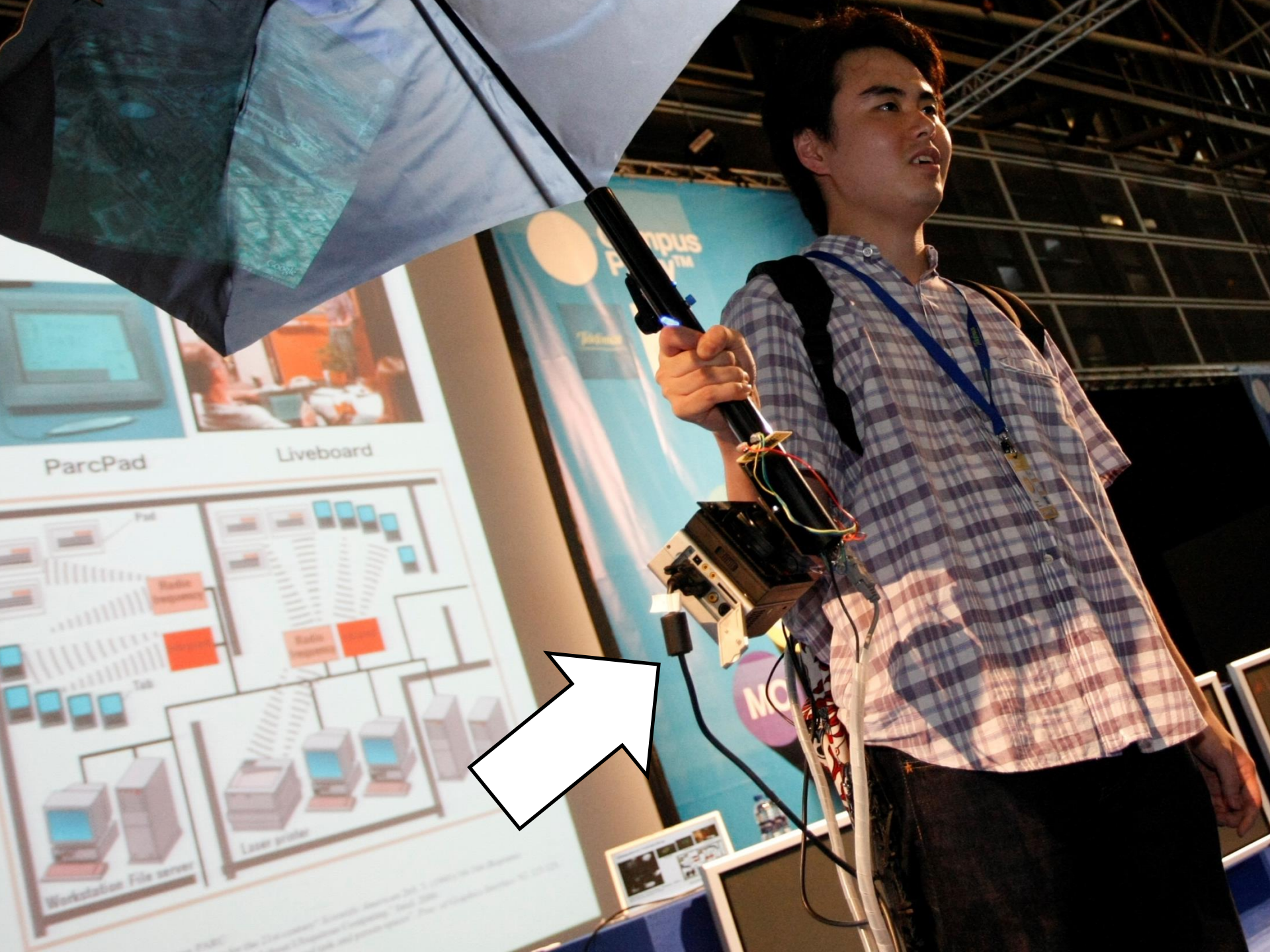
Microphone

Vibration motors

PILEUS: THE INTERNET UMBRELLA

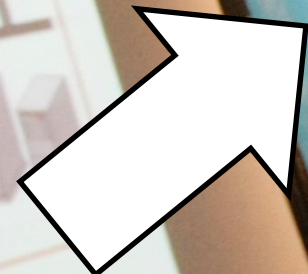
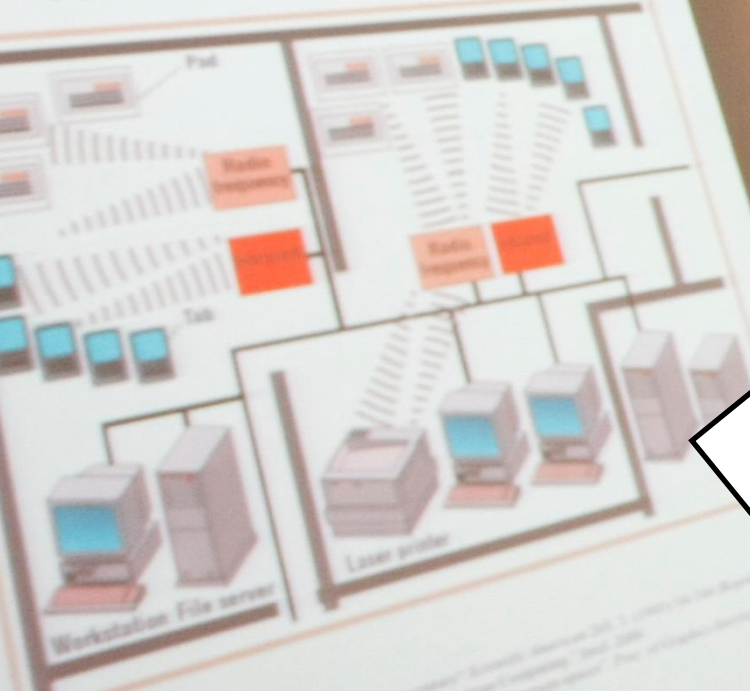
DESIGNERS: SHO HASHIMOTO & TAKASHI MATSUMOTO





ParcPad

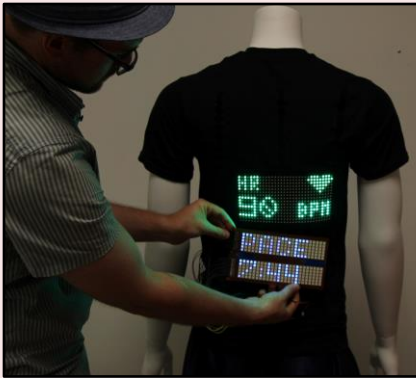
Liveboard



HOW CAN E-TEXTILES BE USED TO SUPPORT:

- **LEARNING**
- **SOCIAL INTERACTIONS**
- **HEALTH & WELLNESS**
- **INTROSPECTION**
- **PLAY**
- **PERSONAL EXPRESSION**

2 BRIEF EXAMPLES



**SOCIAL FABRIC
FITNESS**



BODYVIS

2 BRIEF EXAMPLES



**SOCIAL FABRIC
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BODYVIS



ORIGINAL FITBIT

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5.89 MI



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- #6** Margaret McKenna 7
Active: 1 day ago

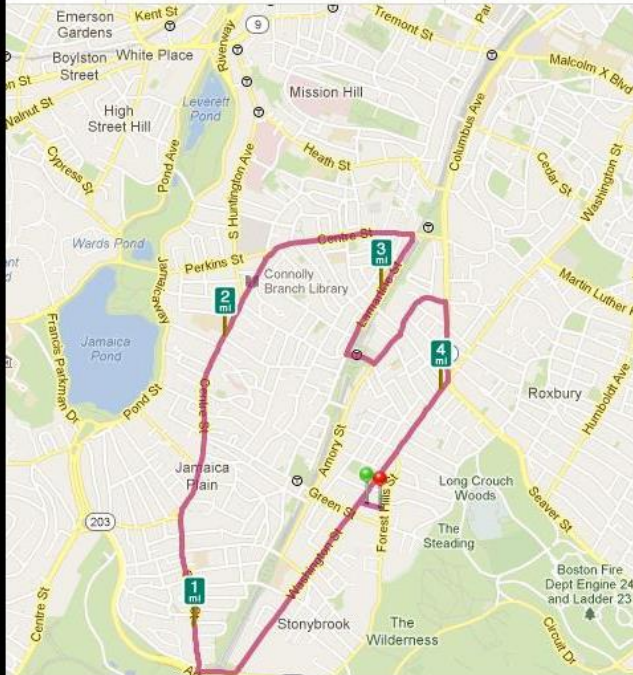


TIME
52:43

GOOD

8:31
AVG MIN/MI

469
CALORIES



Stop

Pause



START ME FRIENDS ACTIVITIES

MON

DEC 30, 2012

Completed 3 mi
28m 14s

TUE

JAN 1, 2013

Skipped 3.23 mi
29m 45s

WED

JAN 2, 2013

Completed 4 mi
40m 21s

FRI

JAN 4, 2013

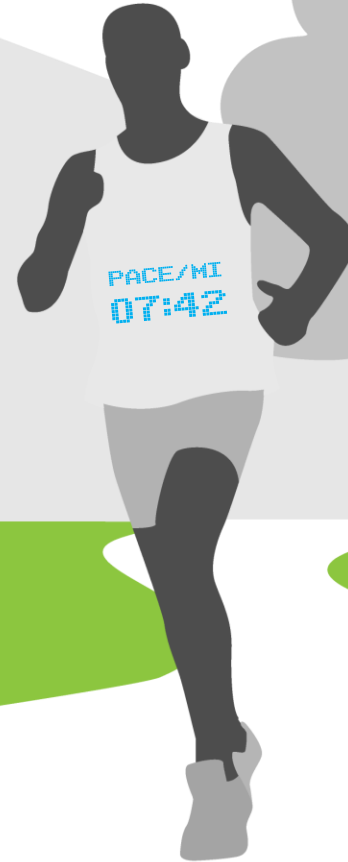
To-Do 5 mi
Workout 45/60

SUN

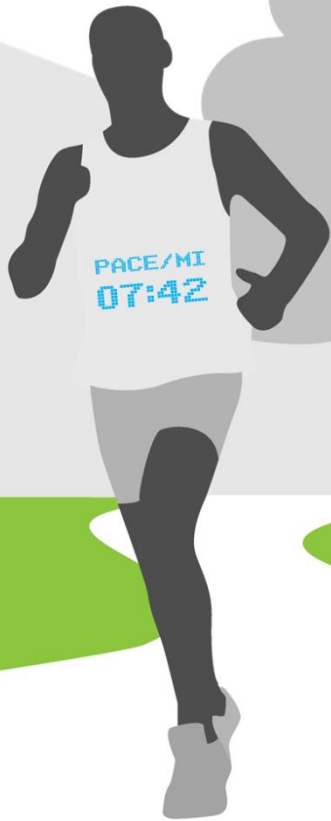
JAN 6, 2013

6.5 mi

WHAT IF OUR CLOTHES COULD SHOW HOW FAST WE RUN?



Social Fabric Fitness

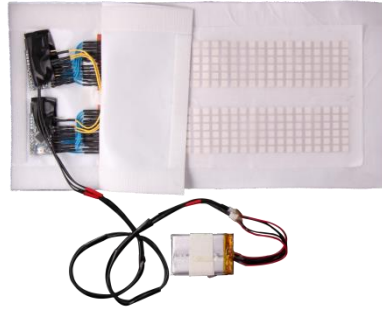


HOW WOULD A SEMI-PUBLIC DISPLAY CHANGE THE **EXPERIENCE OF RUNNING?**

WOULD RUNNERS FEEL **STRESS OR ADDITIONAL **MOTIVATION**?**

COULD THE DISPLAYS BE USED TO SUPPORT **RACES OR IN **RUNNING GROUPS**?**

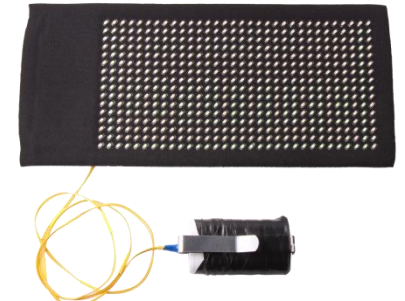
SFF: THREE INTERACTIVE PROTOTYPES



Prototype #1



Prototype #2



Prototype #3

Manufacturer	Our Team	Plastic Logic	Erogear
Display Weight	66.9 g	25.4 g	46.8 g
Total Weight	152.9 g	411.7 g	161.2 g
Pixels	24 x 12	320 x 240	32 x 16
Refresh Rate	5 Hz	1.1 Hz	38 Hz
Dimensions*	21.3 x 12.2 cm	18.4 x 14 cm	20.3 x 15.2 cm
Display Thickness*	13.5 mm	4.9 mm	4.8 mm

* With enclosure

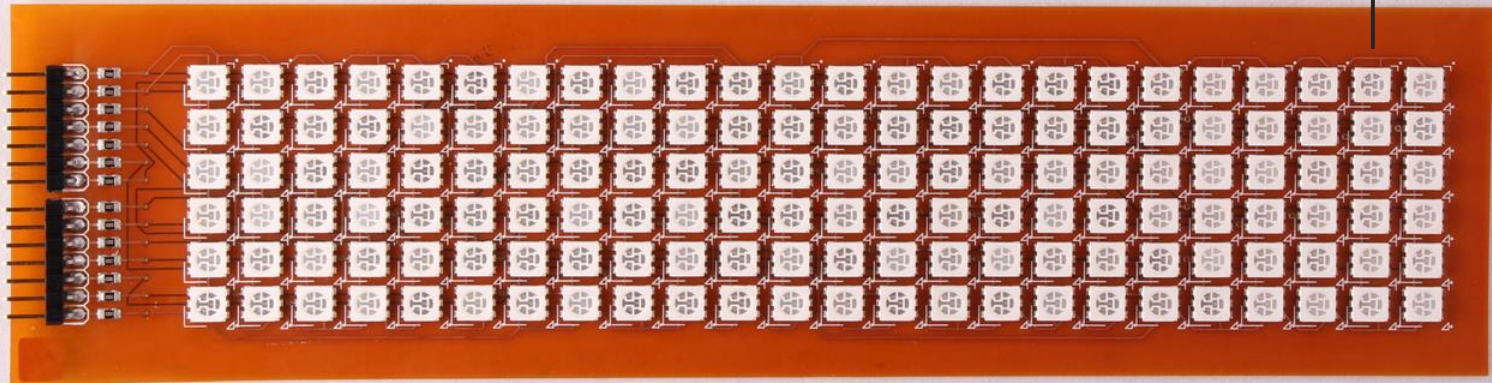
Prototype #1

Manufactured Flexible PCB

Flexible PCB

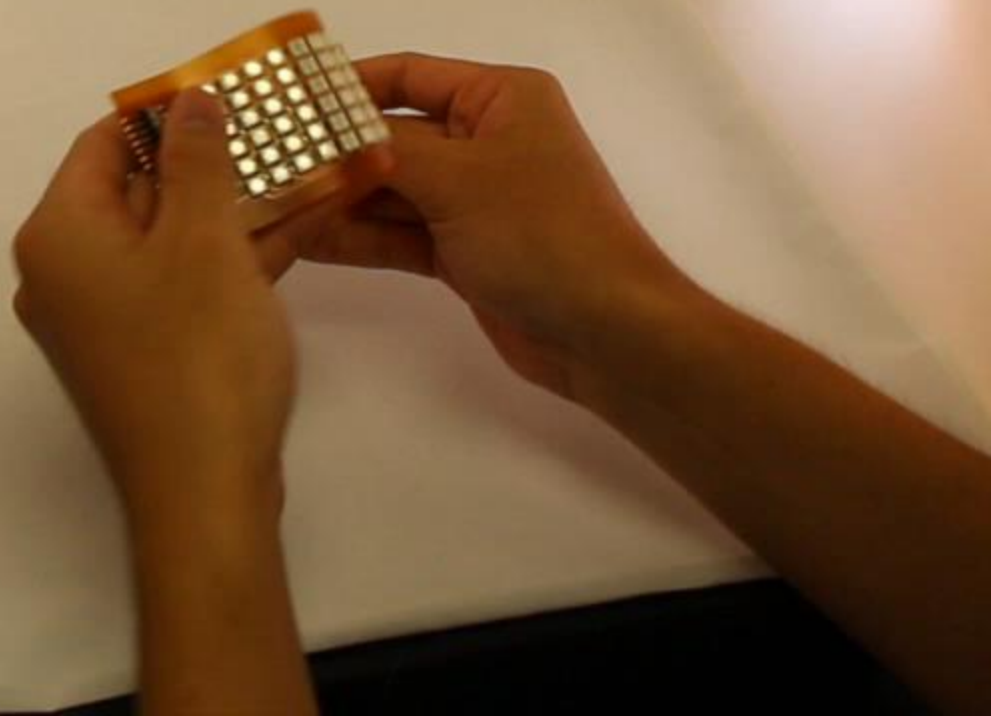
24 x 6 Matrix

Green or Blue LEDs



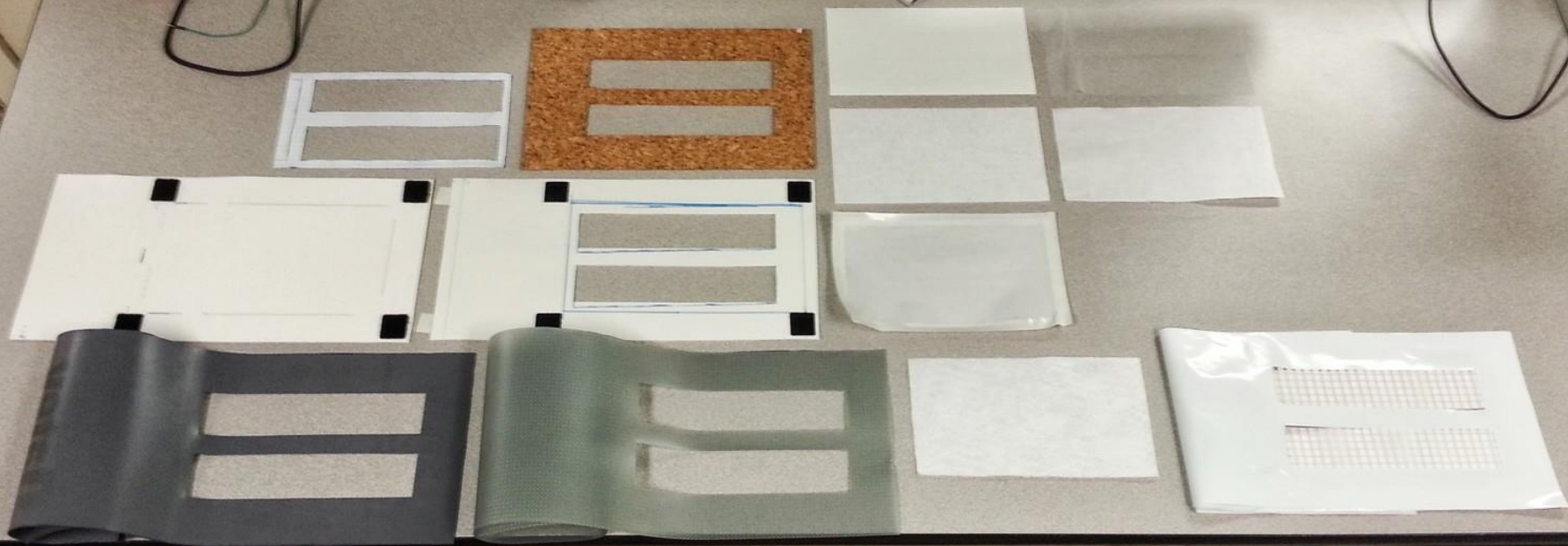
Prototype #1

Flexible PCB



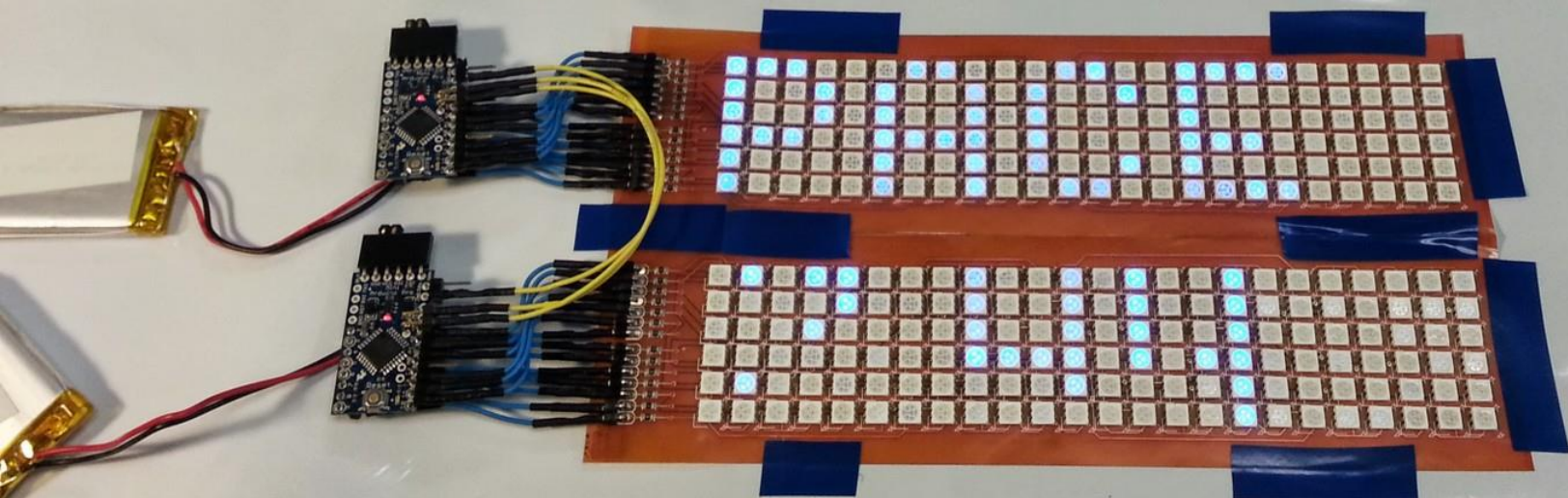
Prototype #1

Experimenting with Enclosures



Prototype #1

Experimenting with Enclosures



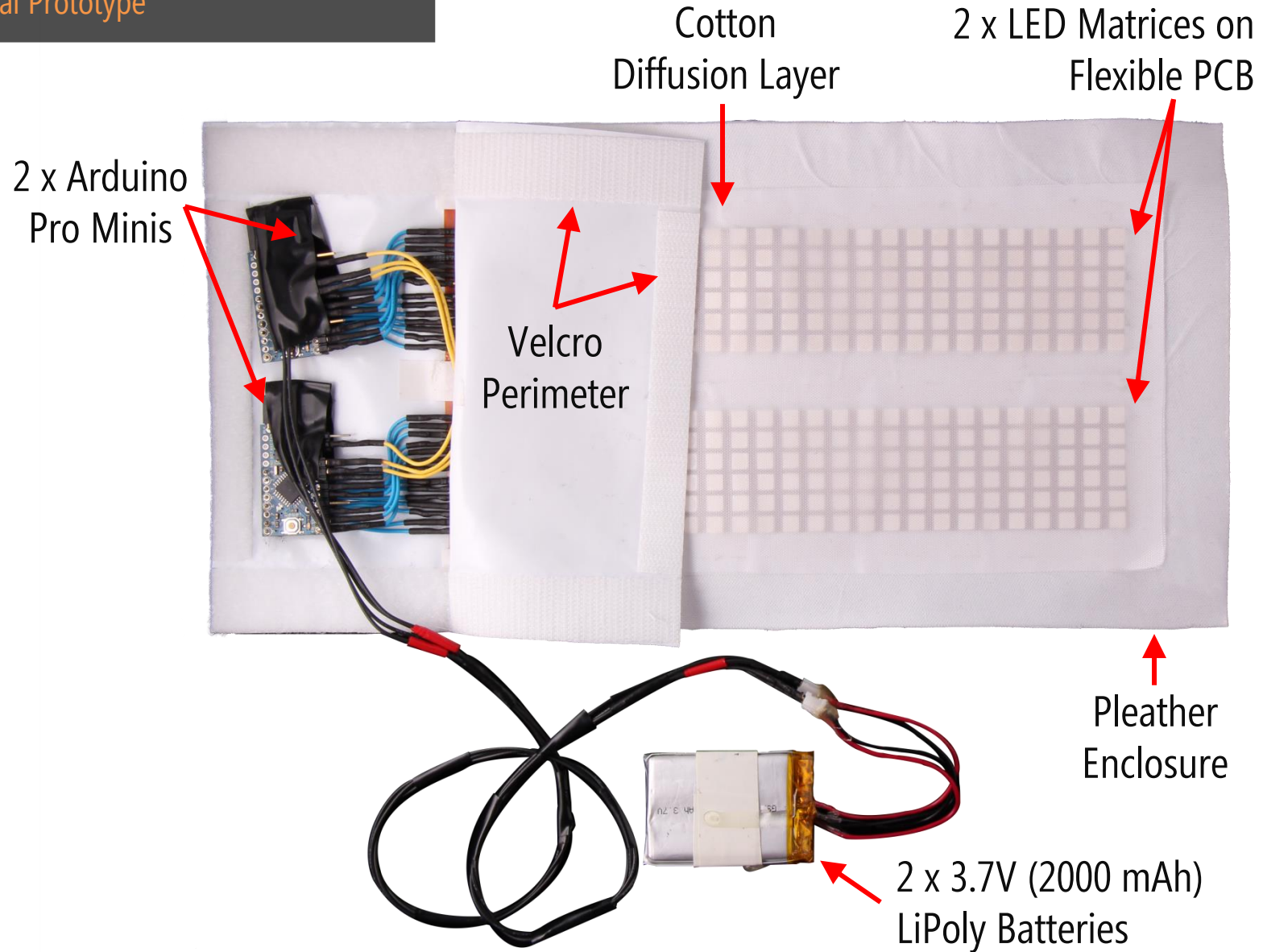
Prototype #1

Experimenting with Enclosures



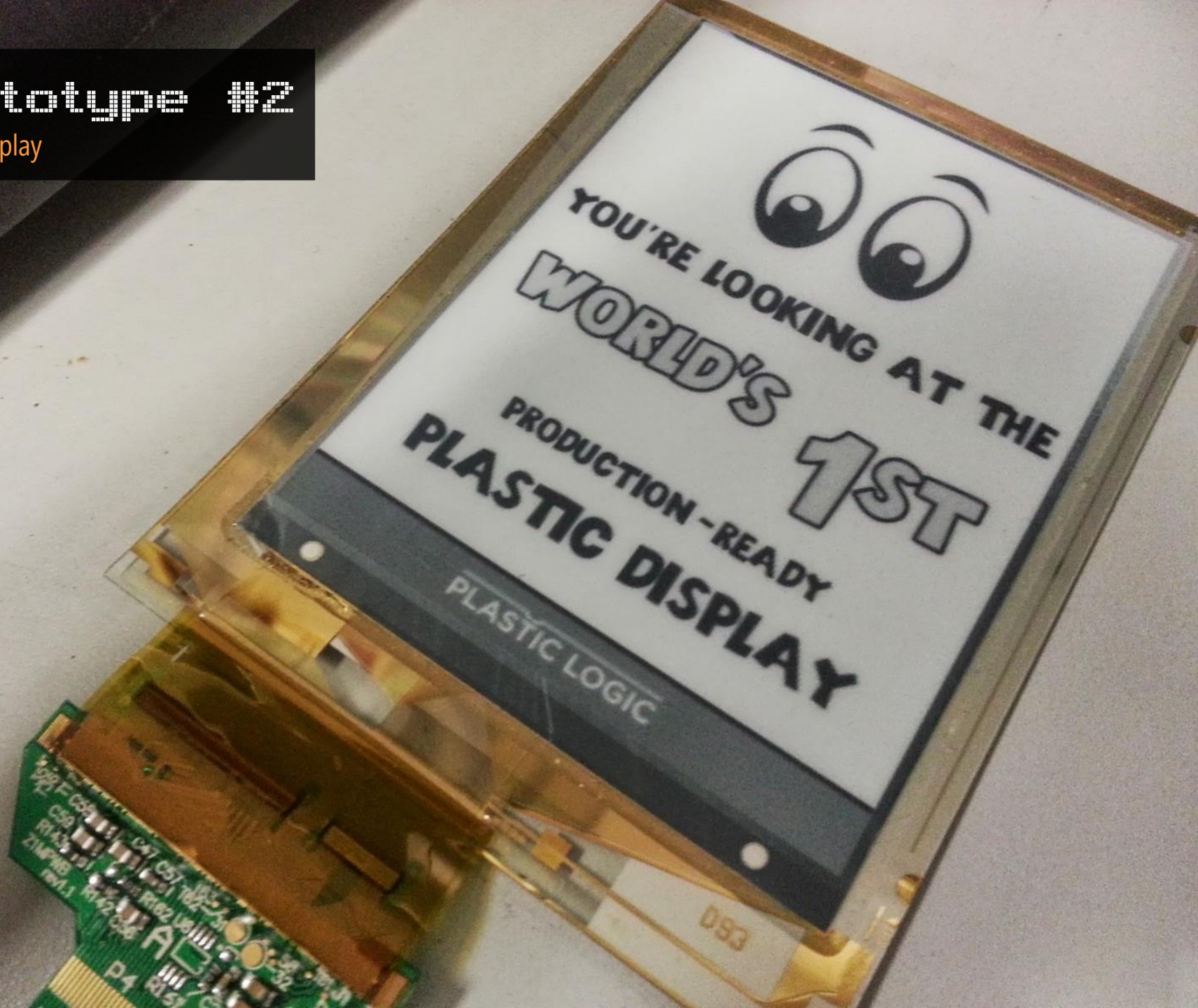
Prototype #1

Final Prototype



Prototype #2

e-Ink Display



Prototype #2

e-Ink Display

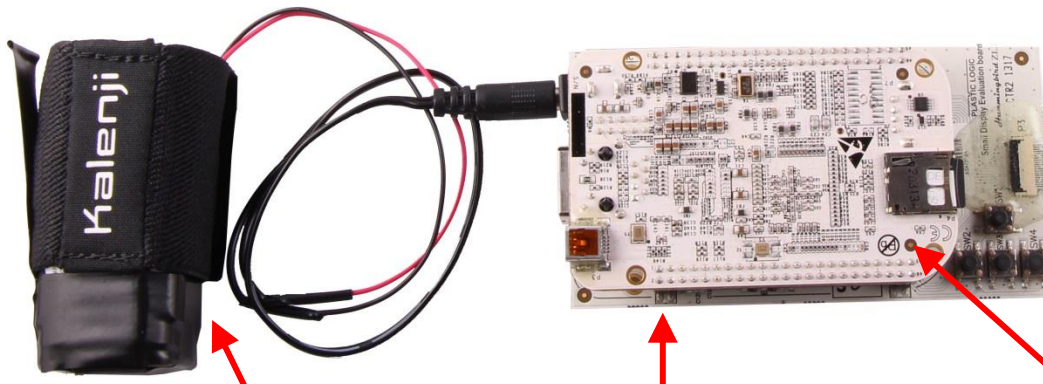


Prototype #2

Final e-Ink Prototype

Plastic Logic Flexible e-Ink Display 4.7" (320 x240)

Nylon Enclosure



4 x 1.5V (2000 mAh)
AA Batteries

32-bit BeagleBone
(AM335x 720MHz ARM)

Plastic Logic Display
Controller (HummingBird)

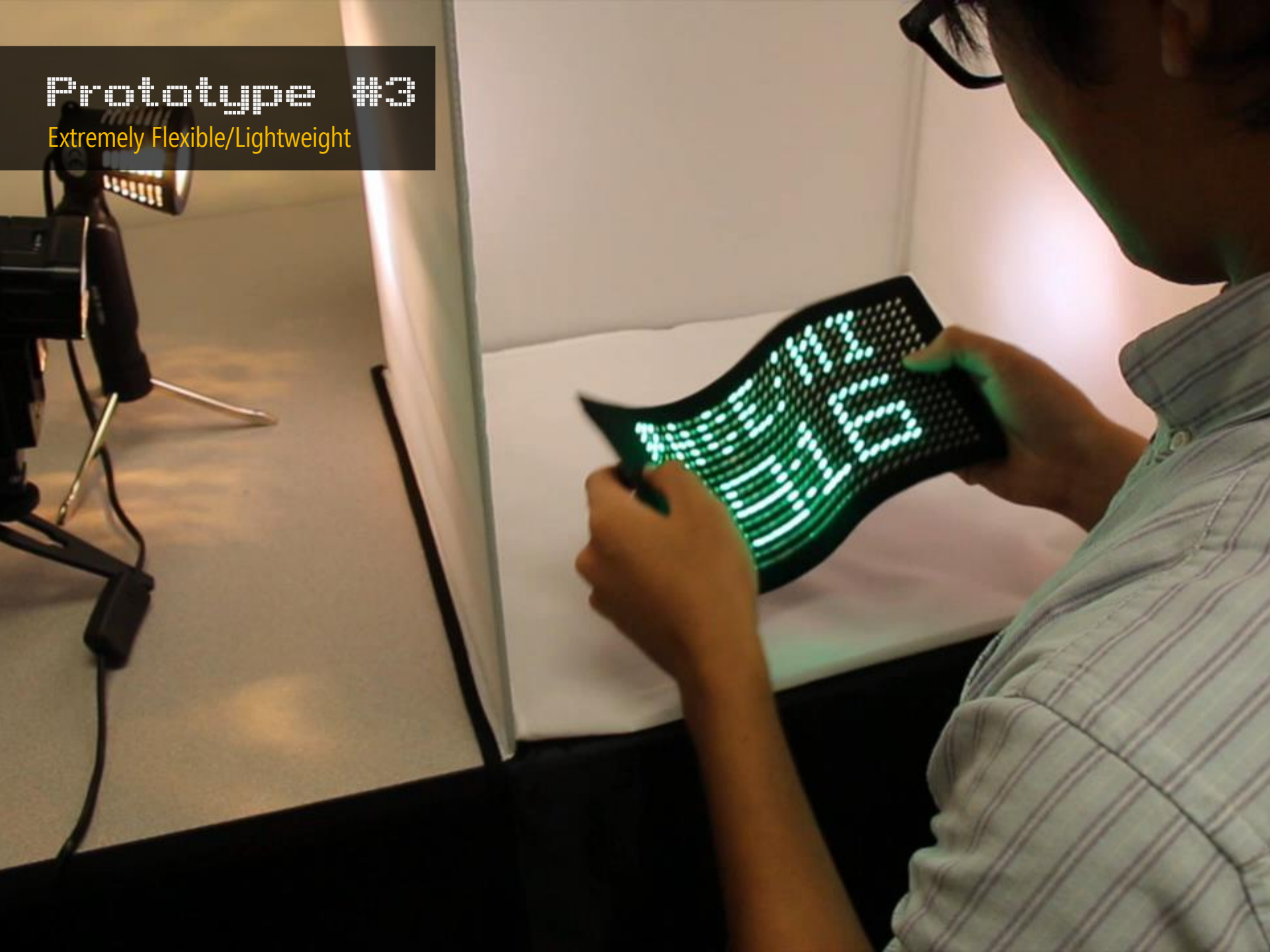
Prototype #3

Early Erogear Visualizations



Prototype #3

Extremely Flexible/Lightweight

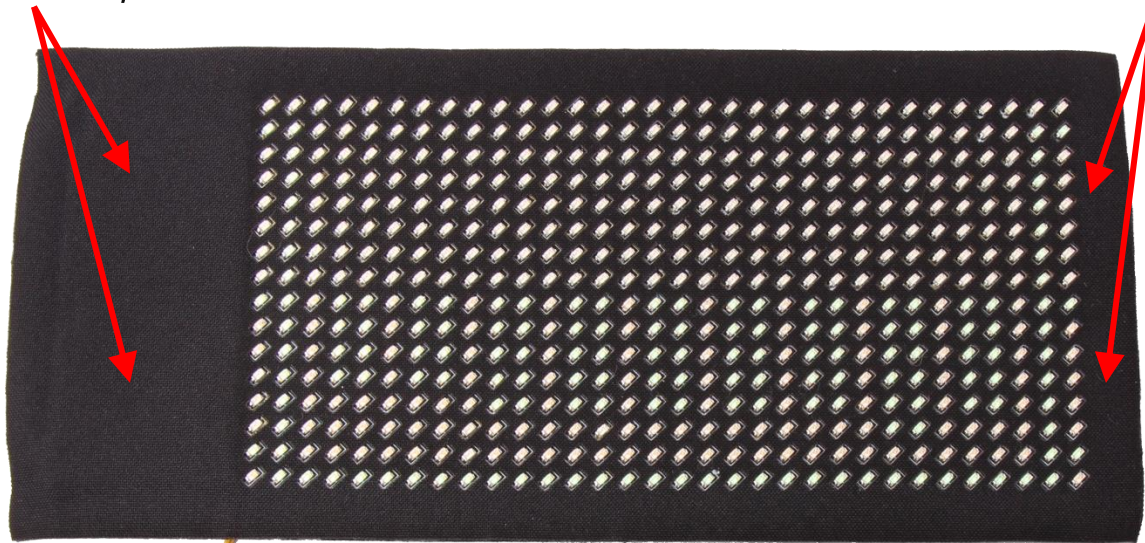


Prototype #3

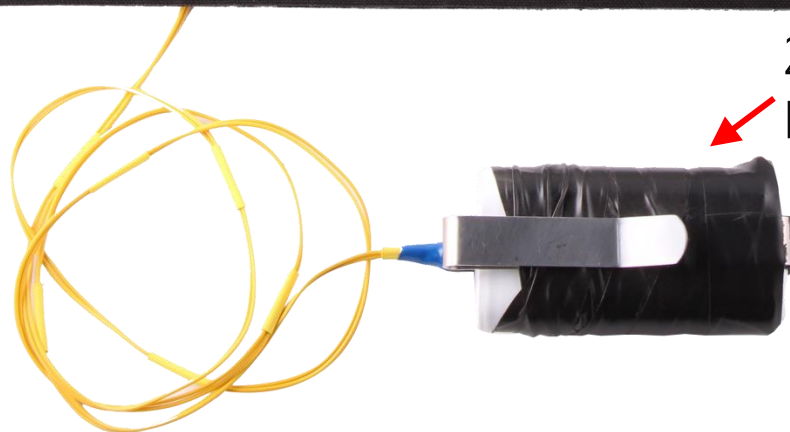
Final Erogear Prototype

2 x 32-bit MCU; 16-bit LED Matrix Driver; Bluetooth Modem

2 x 32x8 Erogear LED Matrices



2 x 3.7V (2200 mAh)
Li-Ion Batteries



Pilot Studies

In-situ observation



Prototype #1

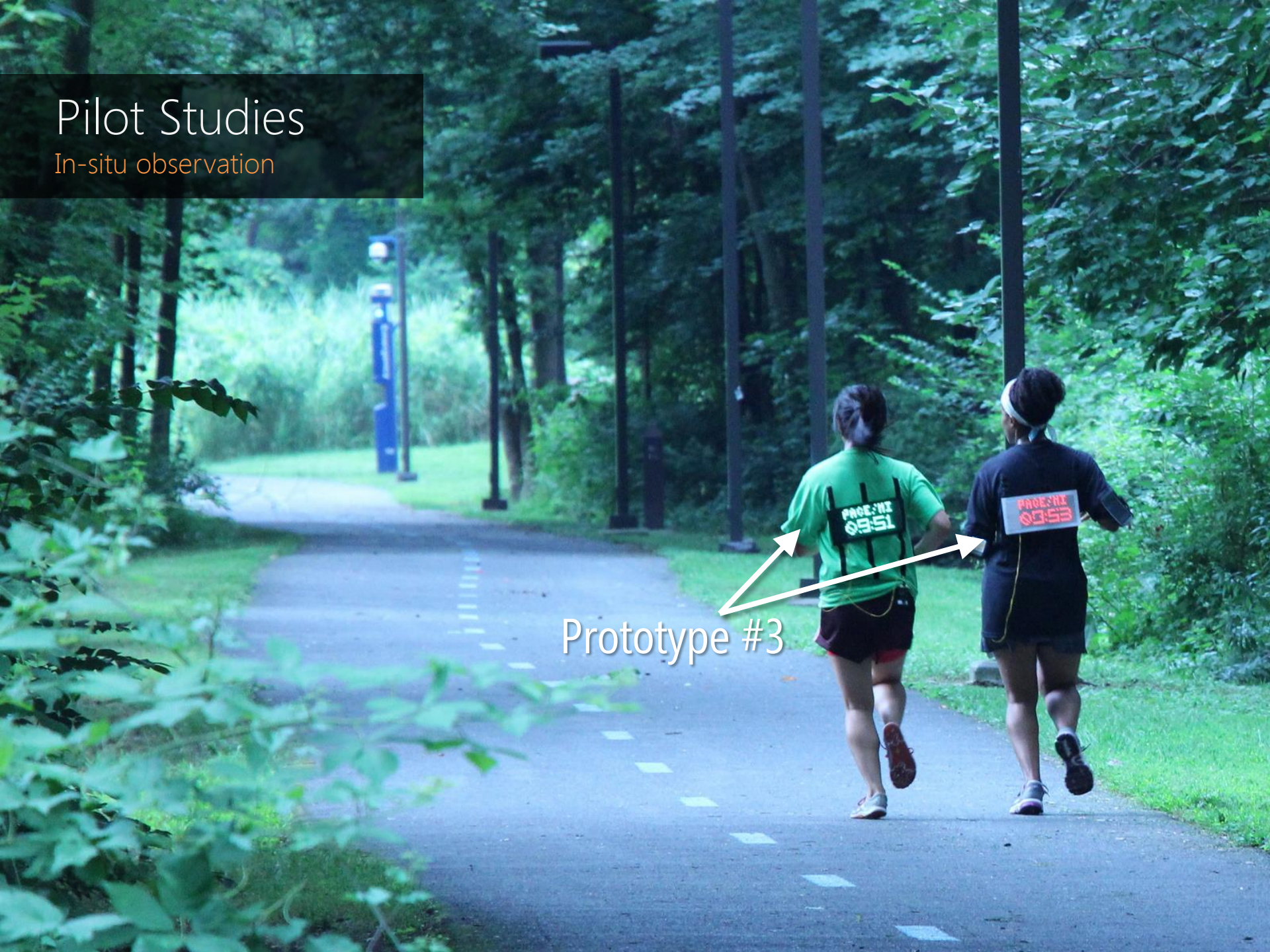


Prototype #2

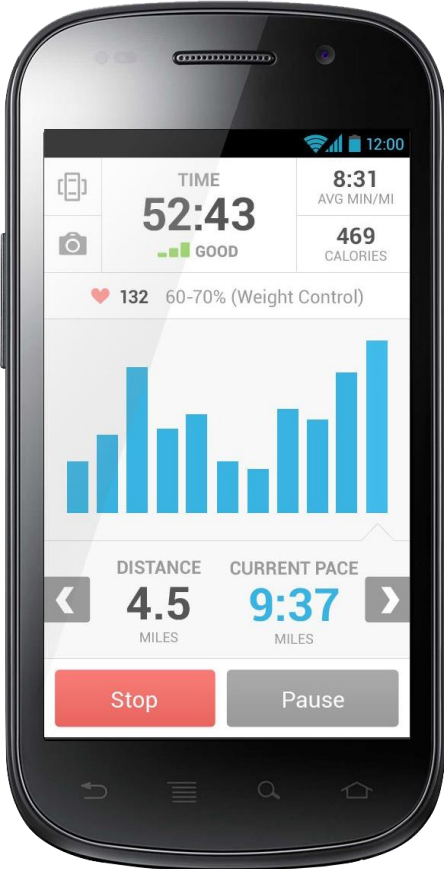
Pilot Studies

In-situ observation

Prototype #3

A photograph of two runners on a paved path in a park-like setting. The runner on the left is wearing a green t-shirt and black shorts, with a black prototype device on their back displaying 'PACE: 03:51' in green. The runner on the right is wearing a black t-shirt and black shorts, with a black prototype device on their back displaying 'PACE: 03:53' in red. Two white arrows point from the text 'Prototype #3' to the devices on both runners. The path is lined with trees and has a blue utility pole in the distance.

SFF: FINAL VISUALIZATIONS



Final Prototype

Social Goal Pace Tracking Visualization



FIELD STUDY PARTICIPANTS

10 GROUPS; 52 INDIVIDUALS (35 FEMALE)



Avg Group Size:

5

Avg Age:

40.7

Avg Target Pace:

10:14

Avg Distance:

3.5 mi

RACE STUDY PARTICIPANTS

4 INDIVIDUALS (1 FEMALE)



Male, 34
Target Pace: 6:10
County 8K



Female, 33
Target Pace: 8:20
County 8K



Male, 26
Target Pace: 7:45
Labor Day 10K



Male, 18
Target Pace: 8:30
Labor Day 10K

Race Deployment

Competitive Interactions



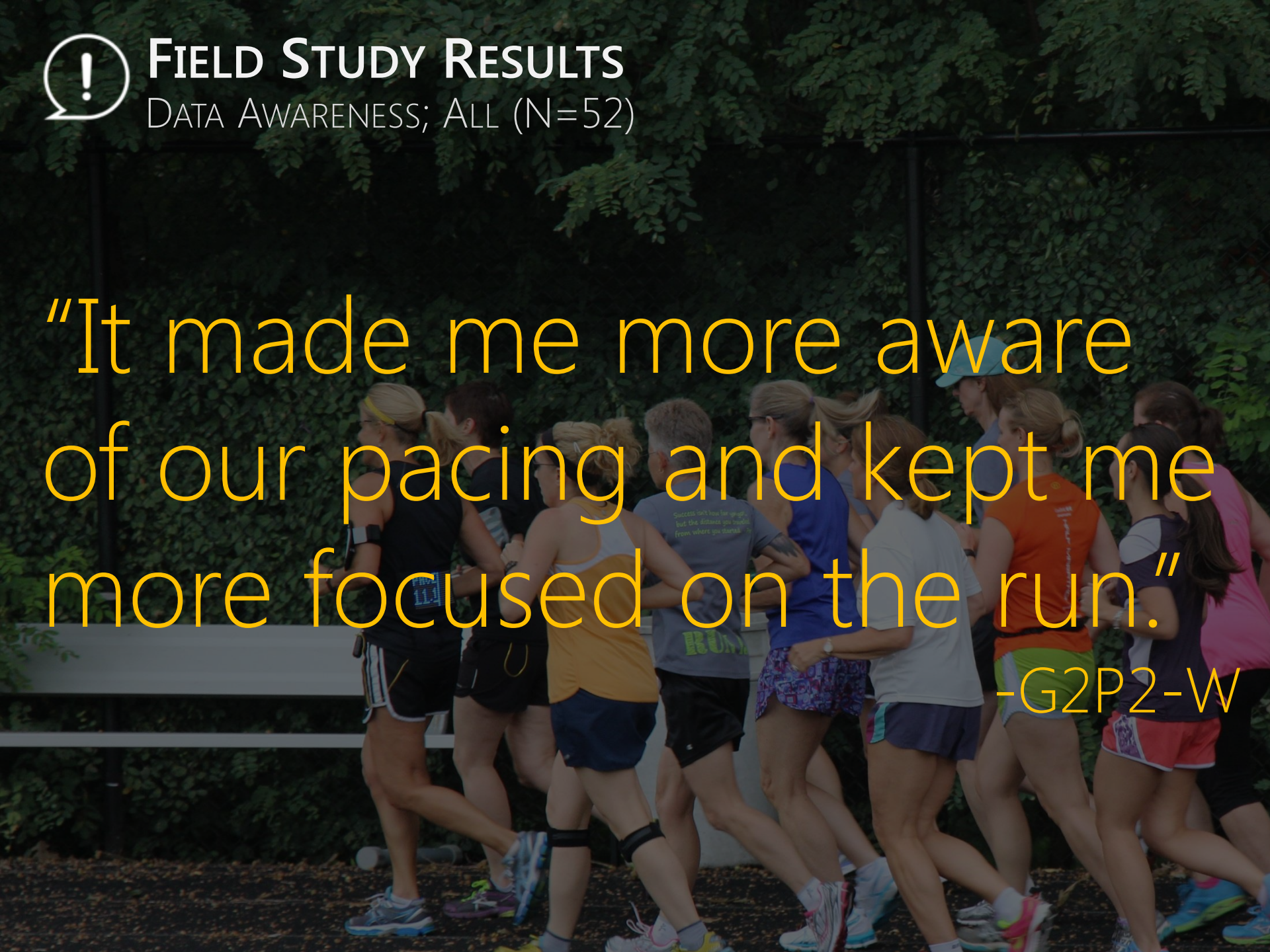


FIELD STUDY RESULTS

DATA AWARENESS; ALL (N=52)

"It made me more aware of our pacing and kept me more focused on the run."

-G2P2-W





FIELD STUDY RESULTS

MOTIVATION; ALL (N=52)

"Made me feel like I was pushing my efforts, which is good."

-G7P8

"Motivated me to go faster than the pace displayed."

-G7P7

Gold Medal



Step Away from Cancer
5K Run/Walk



prevent cancer
FOUNDATION



RACE STUDY RESULTS

MOTIVATION; WEARERS (N=4)



"It made me run faster because my performance was on display."

The man is wearing a white t-shirt with the text "Step Away from Cancer 5K Run/Walk" and "Prevent Cancer" visible. He is holding a medal with a ribbon that has red, white, and blue stripes.

-R2P1-W

Potential Dichotomy

Increased motivation
vs. increased anxiety

A photograph of four runners on a paved path surrounded by greenery. The runners are wearing athletic gear. Two runners in the foreground have their backs to the camera; their black t-shirts feature digital displays. White arrows point from the text 'SFF Externalizes Performance' to these displays. The runner on the right has a display showing 'PACE: 1:11' and '08:21'. The runner on the left has a display showing '33' and '08:30'.

SFF Externalizes
Performance

NEW EROGEAR FOS DISPLAY



2 BRIEF EXAMPLES



**SOCIAL FABRIC
FITNESS**



BODYVIS

2 BRIEF EXAMPLES



**SOCIAL FABRIC
FITNESS**



BODYVIS



**WHAT IF OUR CLOTHES
REVEALED HOW OUR
BODY'S **FUNCTIONED?****

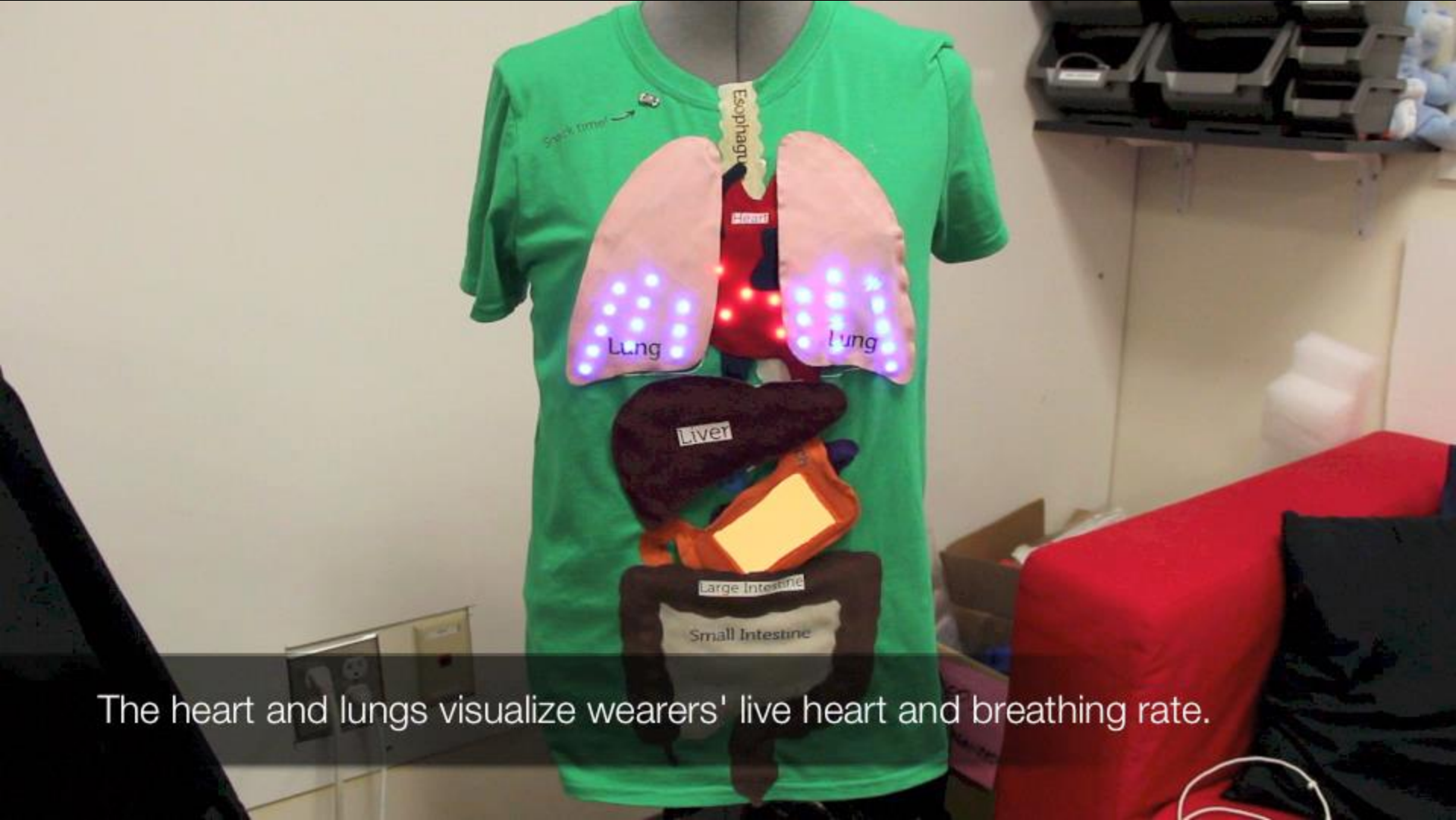
HOW COULD THIS **CHANGE
THE WAY **CHILDREN LEARN**
ABOUT AND UNDERSTAND
THEIR BODIES?**

**COULD A T-SHIRT BE A
PLATFORM FOR
EXPERIMENTATION AND
INQUIRY**

“Does my heart beat faster when running *vs.* reading a book? Why?”

“How does my breathing rate compare to my classmate’s and why may this be?”

“How does food travel through my body?”



The heart and lungs visualize wearers' live heart and breathing rate.

**E-TEXTILES ARE NOT JUST EMBEDDED
ELECTRONICS IN CLOTHING, THEY ARE
NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO AUGMENT AND
TRANSFORM THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE**

E-TEXTILES
GENERATION ONE

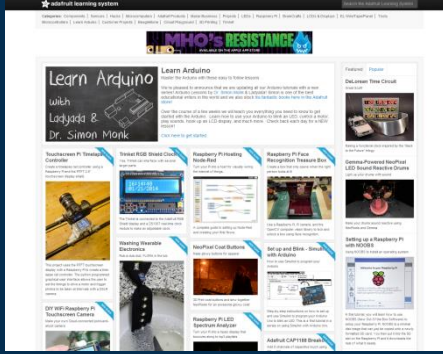
WHERE SHOULD
WE GO FROM HERE?



JOIN US! ONLINE RESOURCES



<http://learn.sparkfun.com>



<http://learn.adafruit.com/>



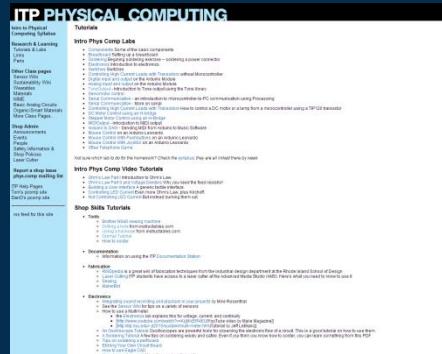
<http://www.instructables.com/>



proquest.safaribooksonline.com/



<http://highlowtech.org/>



itp.nyu.edu/physcomp/Tutorials

HYDROSENSE COLLABORATORS

Graduate Student

Undergraduate

Professor



Solai Ramanathan



Josh Peterson



Inness Wragg



Fabia Fu



Mazhengmin Bai



Conor Haggerty



Tim Campbell



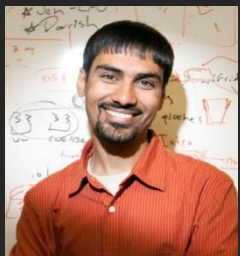
Elliot Saba



Marilyn Ostergren



Eric Larson



Shwetak Patel



James Landay



Leah Findlater



Les Atlas



James Fogarty

UMD COLLABORATORS

Graduate Student

Undergraduate

High School

Professor



Kotaro Hara



Matt Mauriello



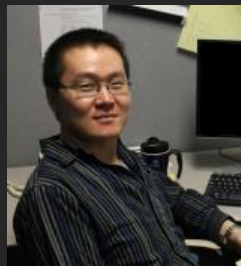
Leyla Norooz



Michael Gubbels



Brenna McNally



Jin Sun



David Jacobs



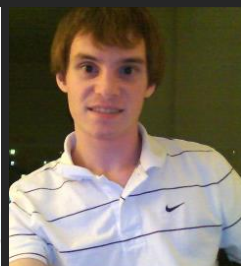
Zachary Lawrence



Victoria Le



Robert Moore



Sean Pannella



Anita Jorgensen



Jonah Chazan



Tamara Clegg

FUNDING

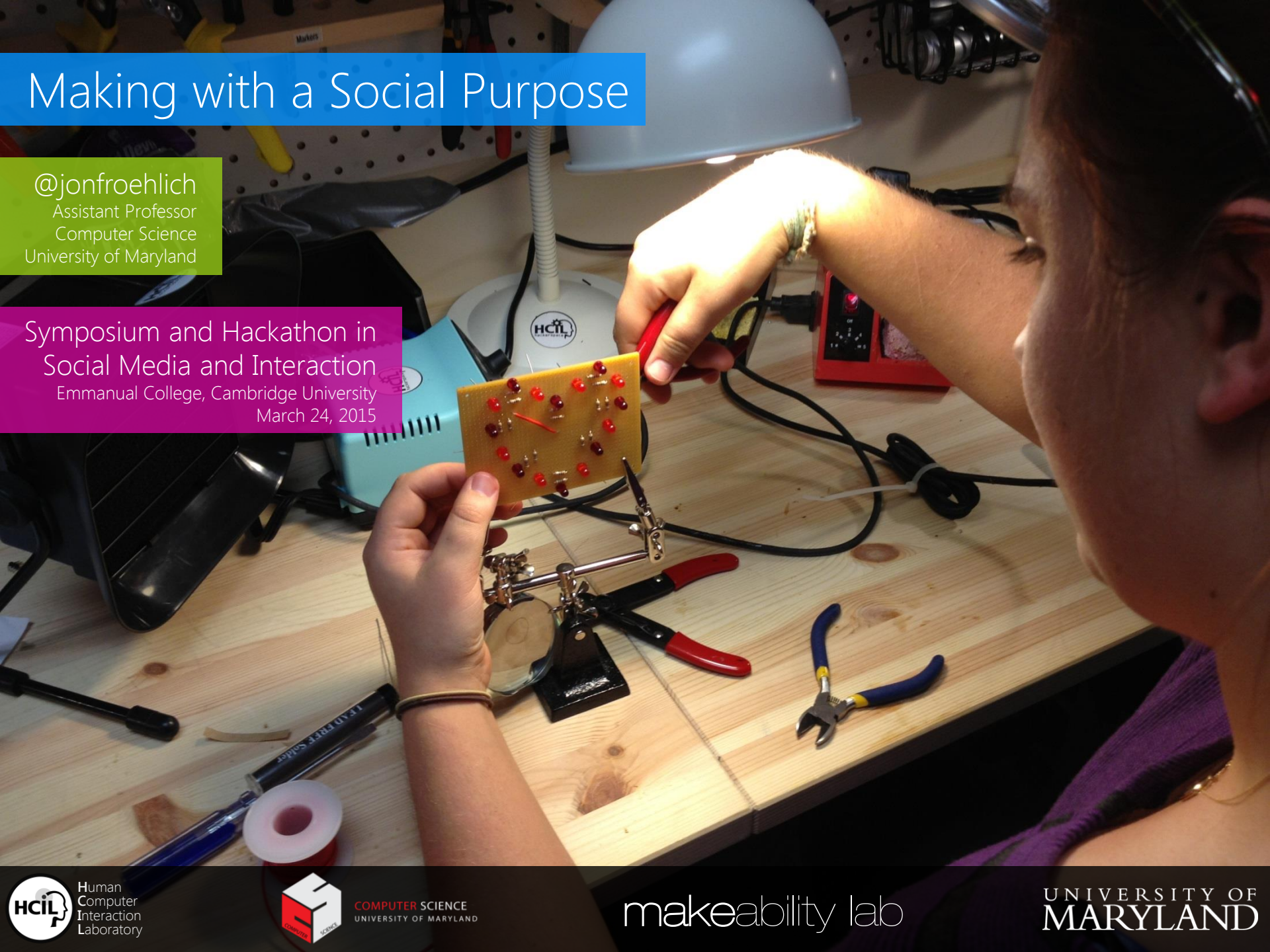


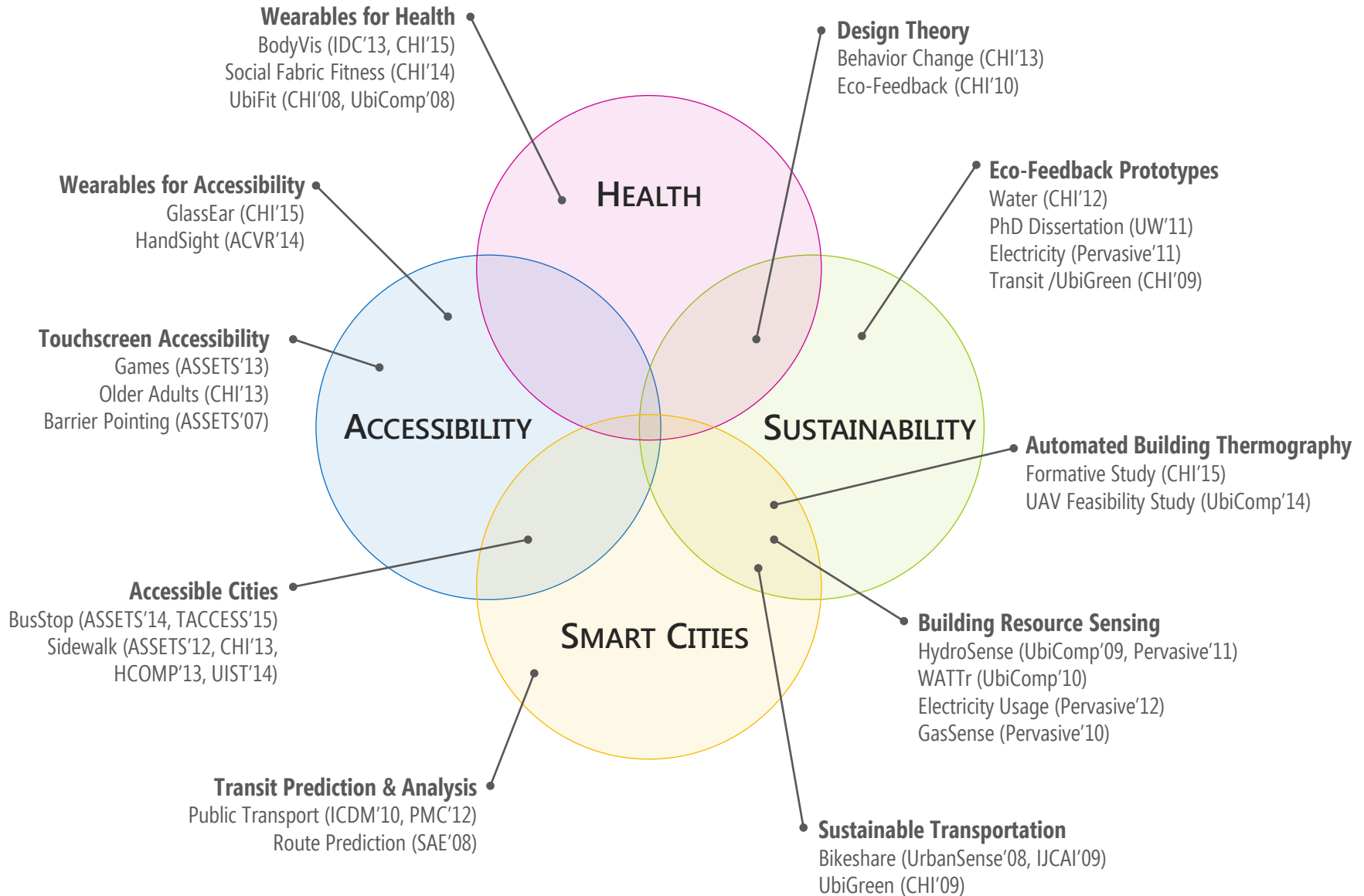
Making with a Social Purpose

@jonfroehlich

Assistant Professor
Computer Science
University of Maryland

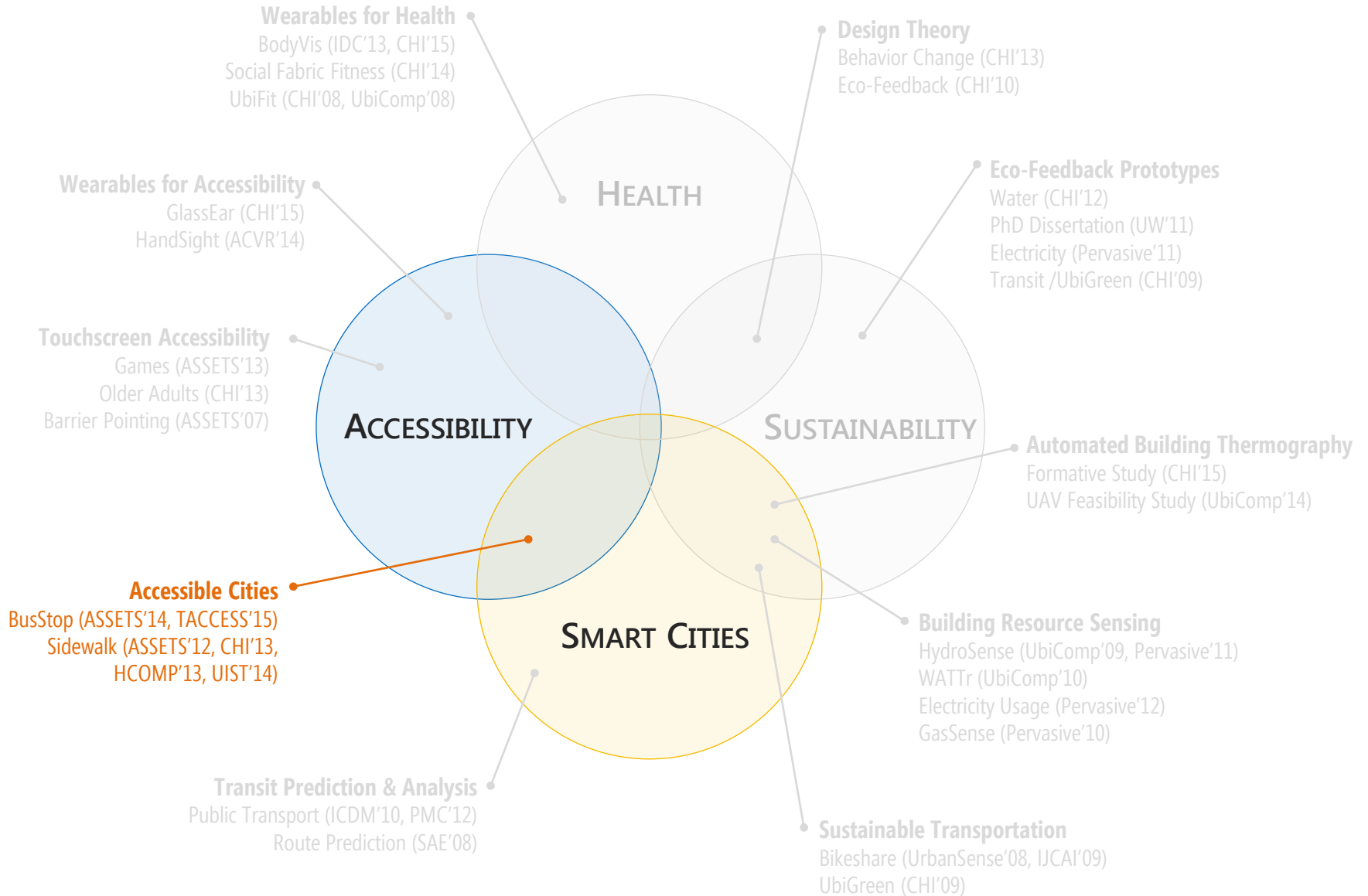
Symposium and Hackathon in
Social Media and Interaction
Emmanuel College, Cambridge University
March 24, 2015





Back-up slides: **crowd-powered streetview accessibility**

MY RESEARCH



The National Council on Disability noted that there is **no comprehensive information** on “the degree to which sidewalks are accessible” in cities.



National Council on Disability, 2007

The impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act: Assessing the progress toward achieving the goals of the ADA

Incomplete Sidewalks



Physical Obstacles



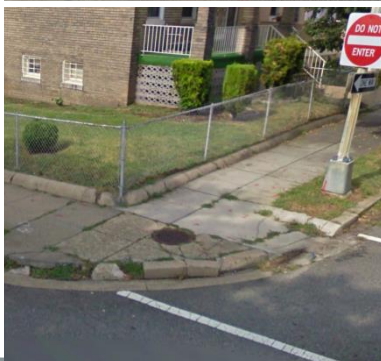
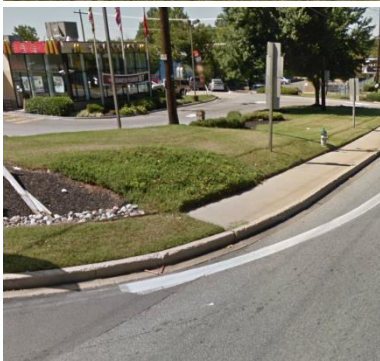
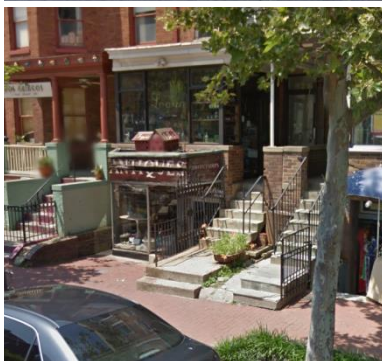
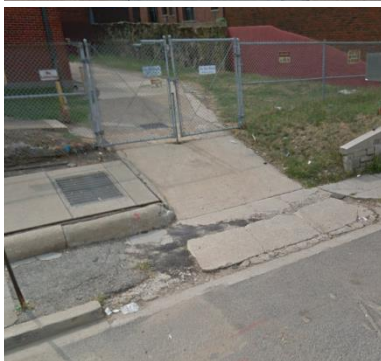
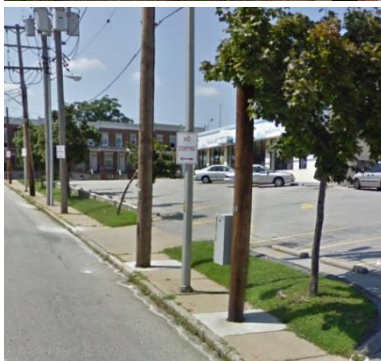
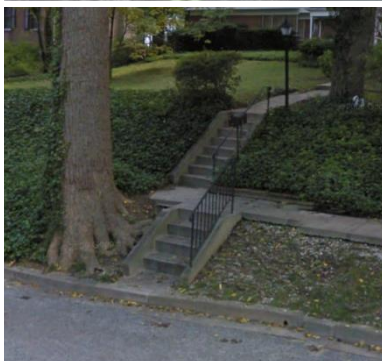
Surface Problems



No Curb Ramps



Stairs/Businesses



The lack of street-level accessibility information can have a significant impact on the **independence** and **mobility** of citizens



SITUATIONAL IMPAIRMENTS

Accessible cities can impact everyone: affecting health, sustainability, community



OUR VISION:

TRANSFORM THE WAY STREET-LEVEL
ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION IS
COLLECTED AND VISUALIZED



How might a tool like AccessScore:

Change the way people think about and understand their neighborhoods

Influence property values

Impact where people choose to live

Change how governments/citizens make decisions about infrastructural investments

Our Approach: Use **Google Street View (GSV)** as a massive data source for scalably finding and characterizing street-level accessibility



HIGH-LEVEL RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Can we use **Google Street View (GSV)** to find street-level accessibility problems?
2. Can we create **interactive systems** to allow minimally trained crowdworkers to quickly and accurately perform remote audit tasks?
3. Can we use **computer vision** and **machine learning** to scale our approach?

