



# Using Smart Devices to Achieve Intelligent Efficiency February 6, 2013

Nick Lange  
Ethan Goldman  
Jeff Hullstrung  
Efficiency Vermont

# Learning Objectives

- Learn what new technologies are available to measure and manage energy performance in residential and commercial buildings.
- Learn how data from internet-connected devices can be used to identify and quantify efficiency opportunities.
- Learn about the services available from Efficiency Vermont to assist in selecting, purchasing, and analyzing data from internet-connected building monitoring and control devices.
- Learn about industry trends in building automation and data analytics.



# Next Generation Thermostats:

What we know, What we're learning, What's Next  
(and why it matters)

Nick Lange  
Emerging Savings Opportunities

# What's a next generation thermostat?



## Expensive

- \$200+ – (Recurring Service Fees?)



## Internet Connection

- Remote Control – (Website, Phone, Service)
- Sophisticated controls – (automaticity, sensors, “smarts”)



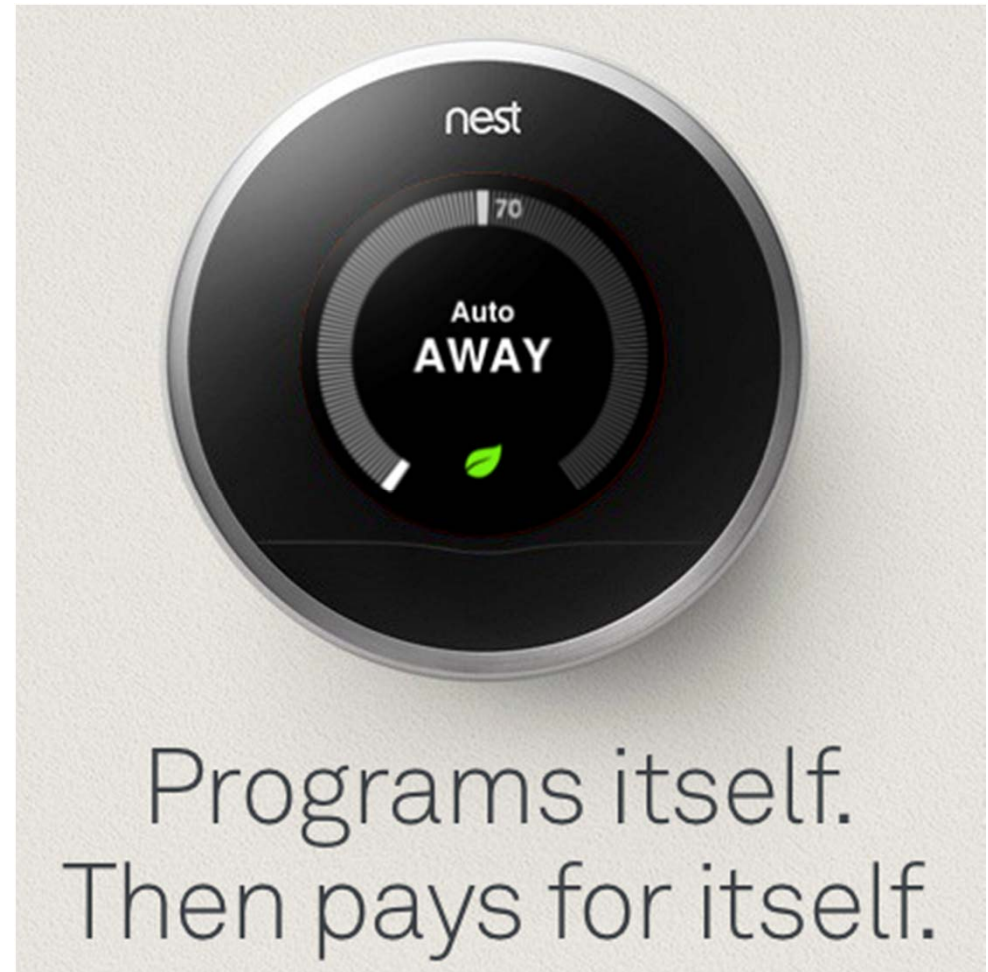
## Savings Potential

- 5% to 25% Heating & Cooling – (\$50 to \$250+/yr)

# Worth it?

nest \$249

- Auto-Schedule!
  - 10-12% heating savings
  - 15% cooling savings
  - Average of \$131-\$145/yr
- Seasonal Savings™
  - *Even More Savings*



nest

Google

# Worth it?

Lyric                    \$279 \$249

- Geofencing!
  - Phone GPS integration
- Fine Tune™  
& Smart Cues™
  - Avg \$186/yr savings



**Honeywell**

# Worth it?

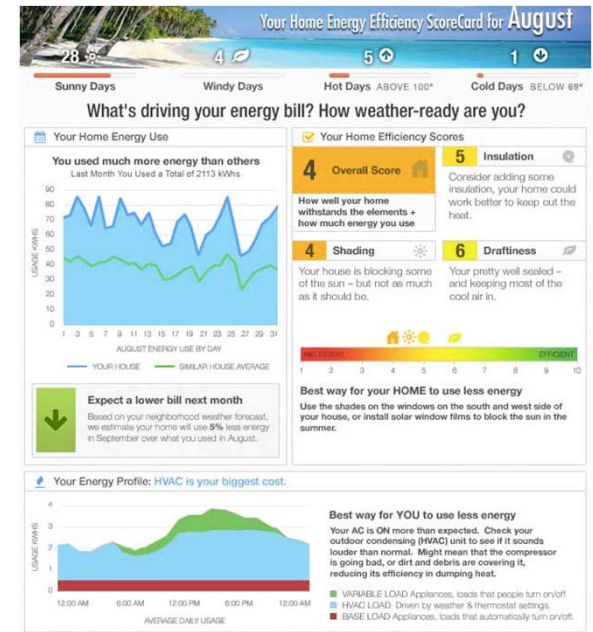
ecobee3      \$249

- Remote sensors
  - For homes with more than one room
- “Smart, really smart”
  - Average 23% savings!



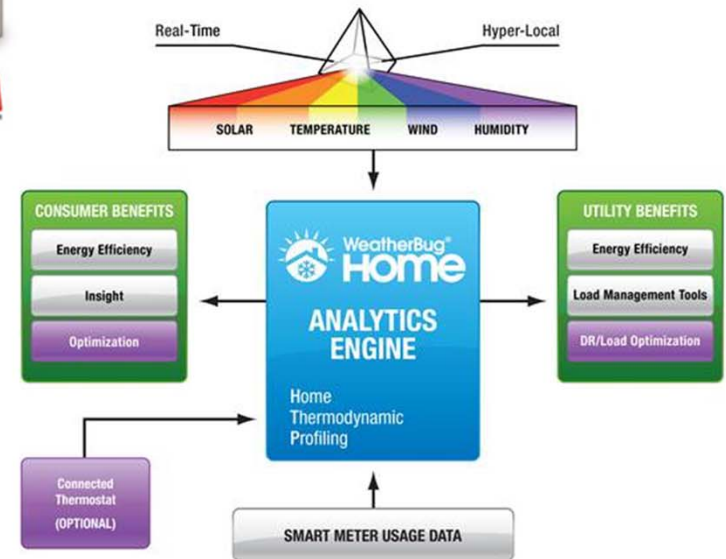
# Worth it?

Wi-Fi only \$100



## 3rd Party Services (Free\*)

- Comverge
- Ecofactor (xfinity)
- Weatherbug
- Opower







The big question:

Can a \$250 product bring GEICO\* results to 50% of Vermonter's home energy usage?

\*save up to 15% or more?



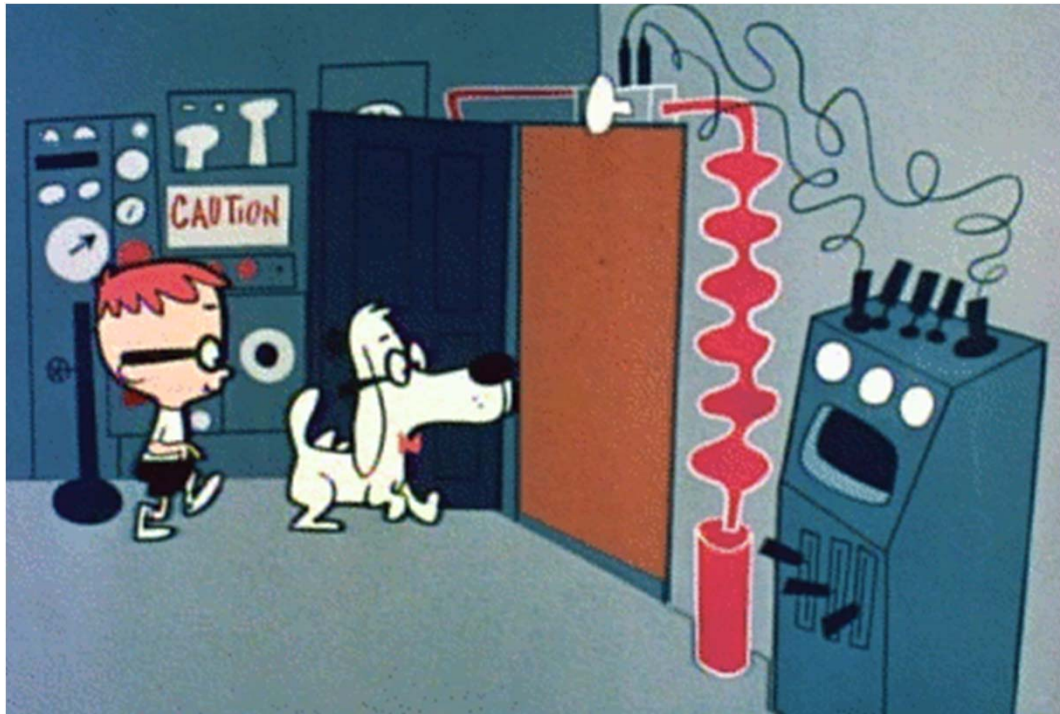
The easy answer:

It depends\*

\*on housing types and heating systems compatibility, sensor accuracy, heat load, multiple zones, measure life, baselines, ventilation & electrical & behavioral savings, data-driven diagnostics, add-on services, demand response, heat pump aux loads, and so many many many many more?

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings

Mr. Peabody's Wayback Machine



Two Questions:

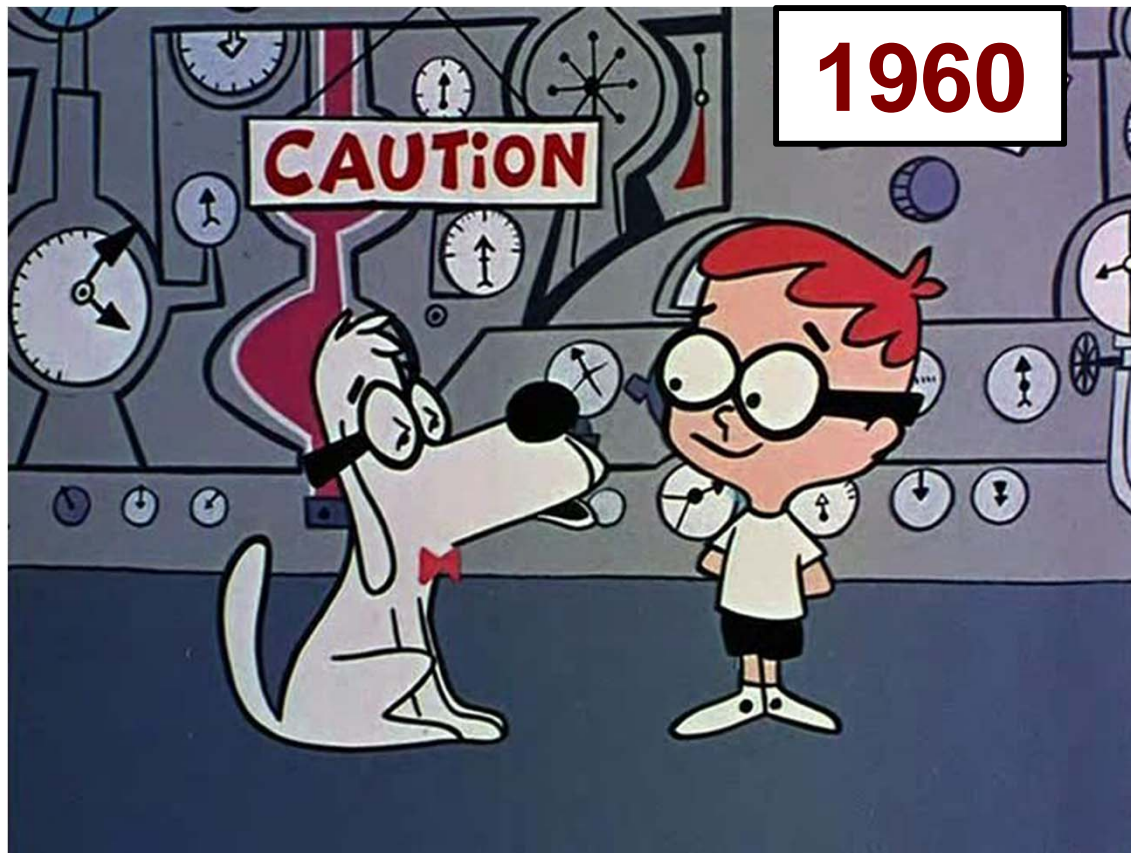
#1: Why Review The History of Thermostats?

#2: Why Rocky & Bullwinkle?

The Rocky & Bullwinkle Show (1959-1964)

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings

Mr. Peabody's Wayback Machine



The Rocky & Bullwinkle Show (1959-1964)

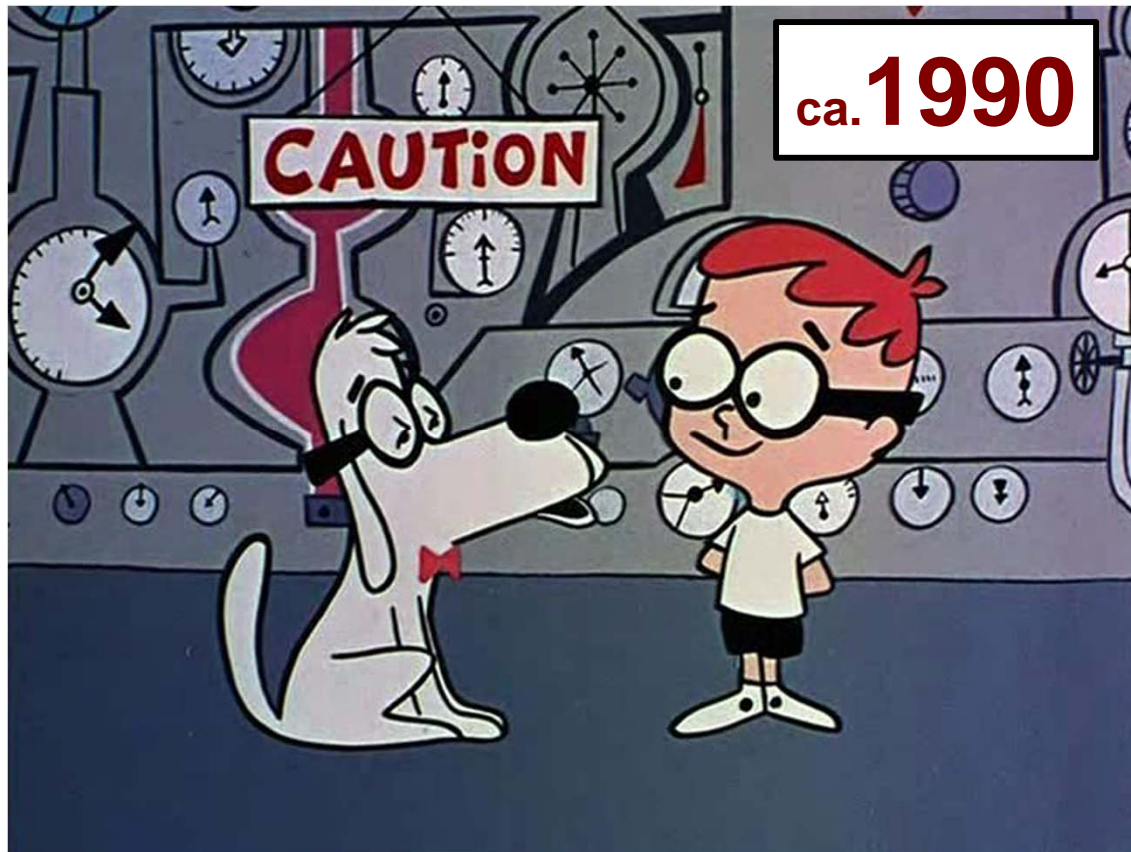
Honeywell  
"T87 Round"

- Semi-Automatic "wind-up" day/night setbacks



1960 – Present

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings



Digital Programmables!



1990 – Present

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings

Dudley Do-Right



Programmable  
Thermostat  
Specifications

Table 1: Programmable Thermostat Setpoint Temperatures

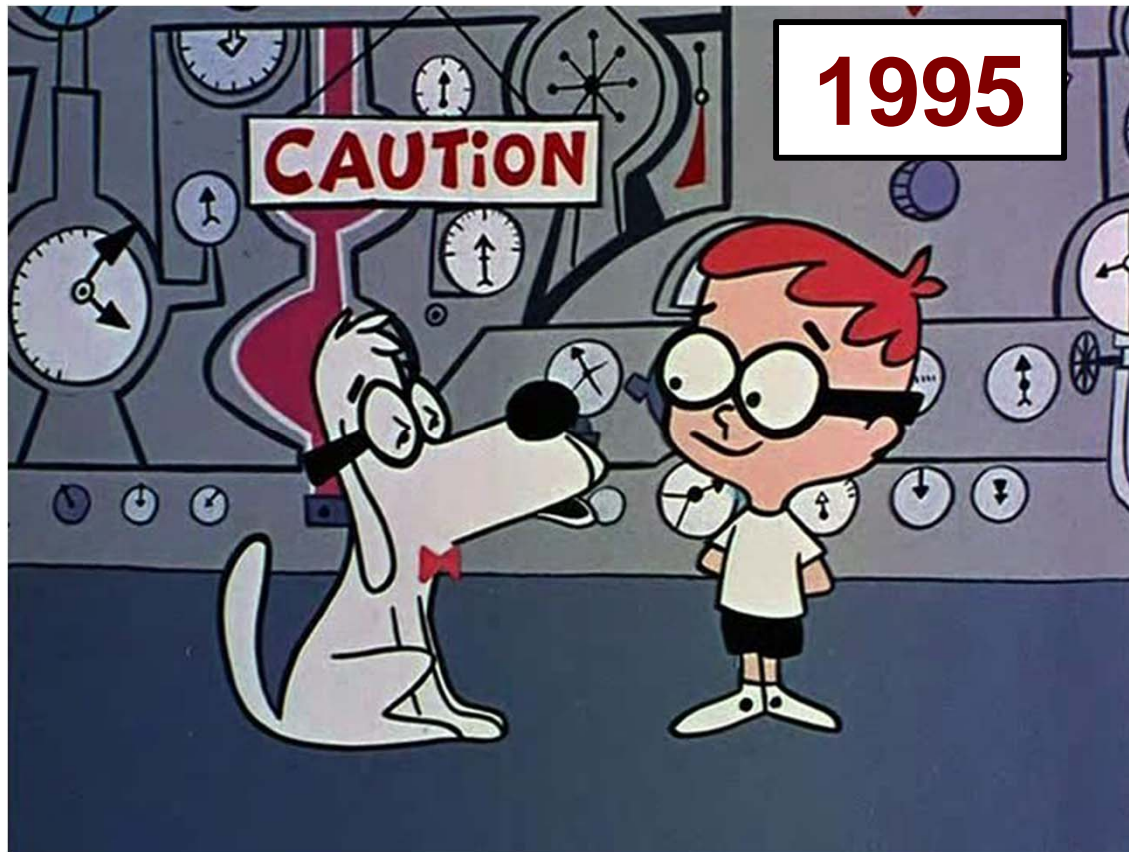
Setting	Setpoint Temperature (Heat)	Setpoint Temperature (Cool)
Wake	≤70°F	≥78°F
Day	setback at least 8°F	setup at least 7°F
Evening	≤70°F	≥78°F
Sleep	setback at least 8°F	setup at least 4°F

Table 2: Acceptable Setpoint Times and Temperature Settings

Setting	Time	Setpoint Temperature (Heat)	Setpoint Temperature (Cool)
Wake	6 a.m.	70°F	78°F
Day	8 a.m.	62°F	85°F
Evening	6 p.m.	70°F	78°F
Sleep	10 p.m.	62°F	82°F

The Rocky & Bullwinkle Show (1959-1964)

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings



## ENERGY STAR Programmables

- 10-30% Savings
- Default Program
- HOLD Button



# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings

Dudley Do-Right? Not so much...

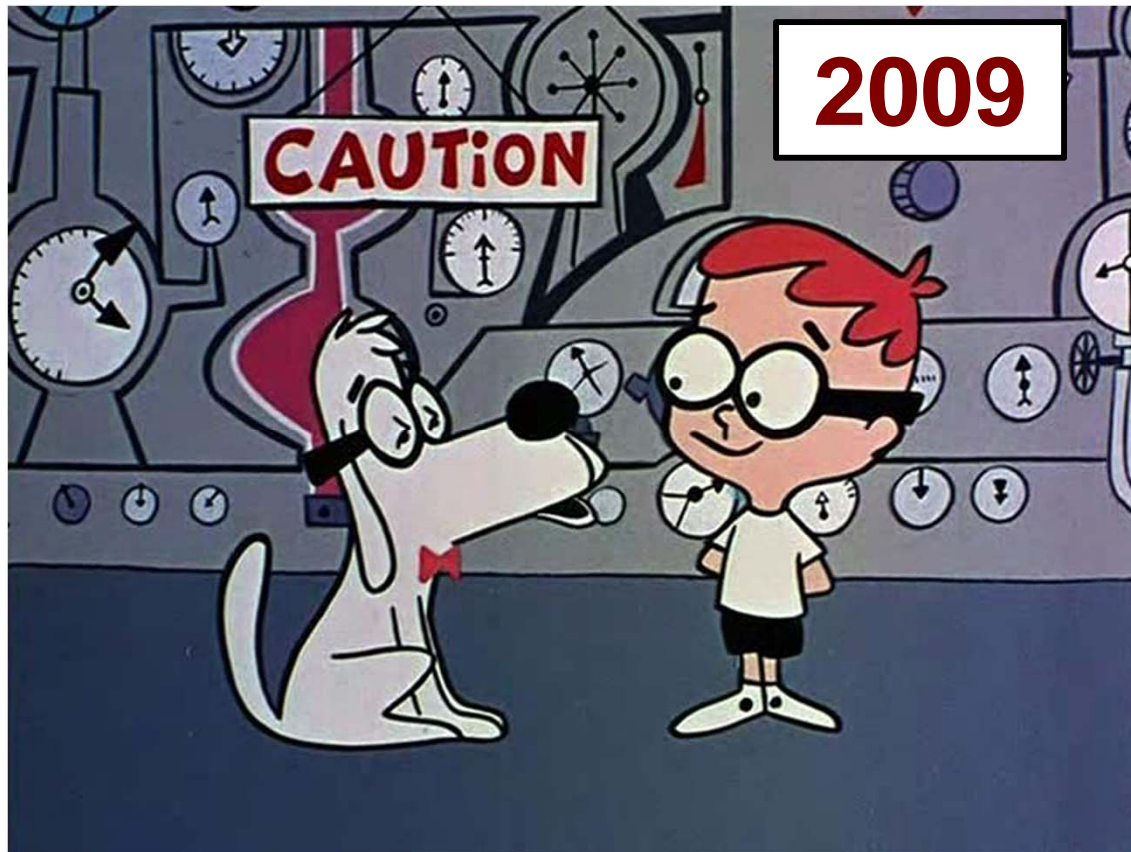


Heating Savings: ~3% to 7%

Cooling Savings: -1% to 1%



# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings

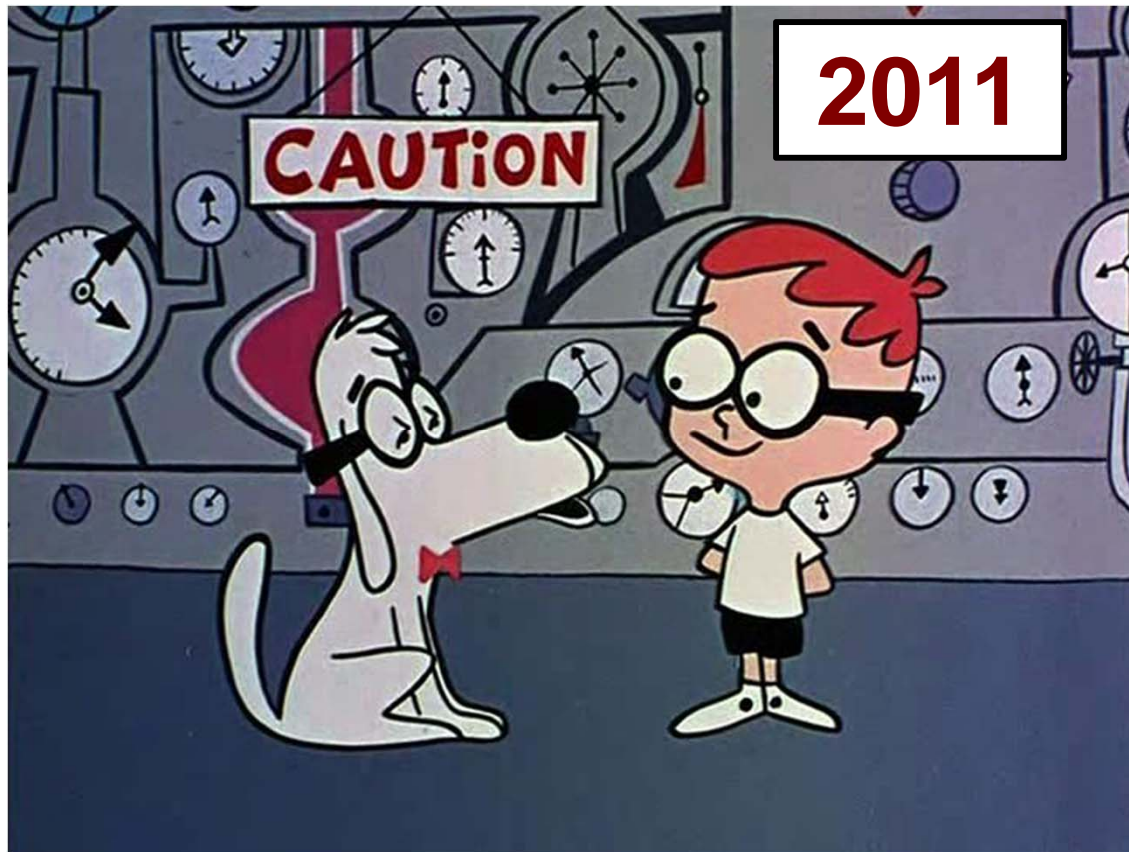


Programmable  
ENERGY STAR



1995 – 2009  
Rest in Peace

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings



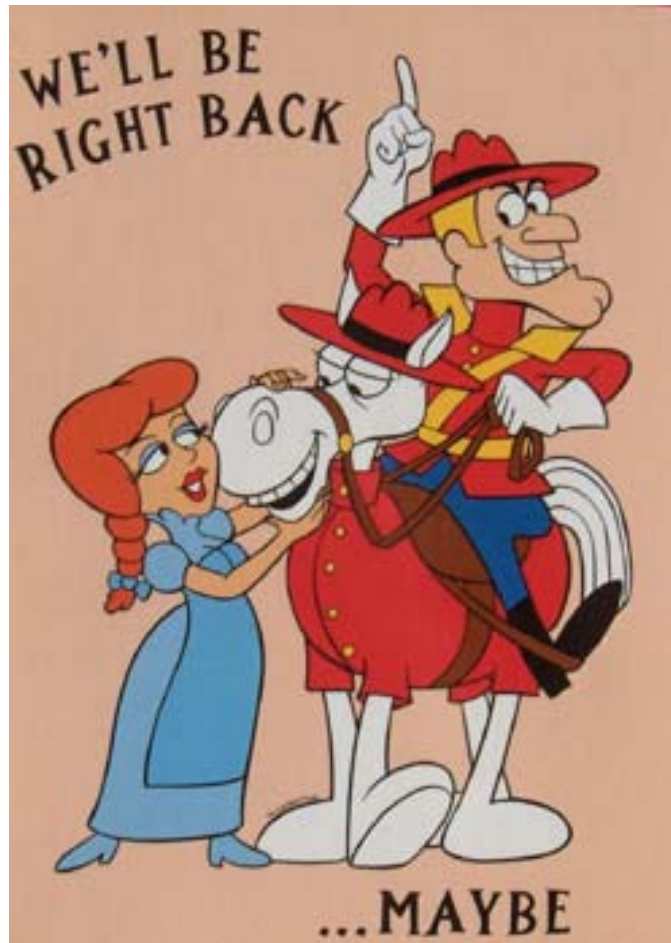
Nest

- The iPod of Tstats
- “Easy-to use”
- “Learning”
- “Attractive”



**#1 Selling “Smart”  
Thermostat**

# A Brief History of Time Thermostat Savings



Currently “under” revision...

- Usability
- Demand Response-ability
- Auditability:

- **REAL WORLD DATA**
- **ANALYTICS**

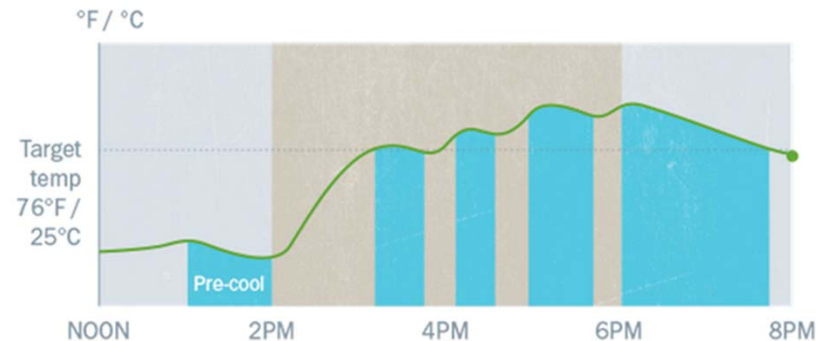
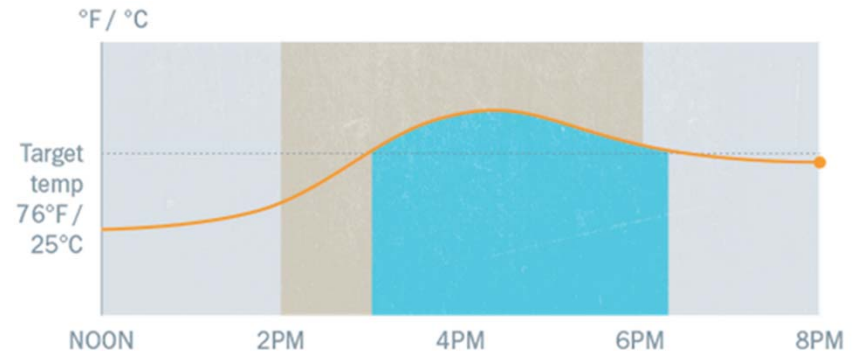
# How Much Smarter?

## Less Heating or Cooling

- Optimize setpoints
  - Coarse Adjustments
  - Micro-Adjustments

## Lower Costs

- Optimize Loads
  - Pre-cooling/heating
  - Staggered runtimes



Data Sources:

People\*

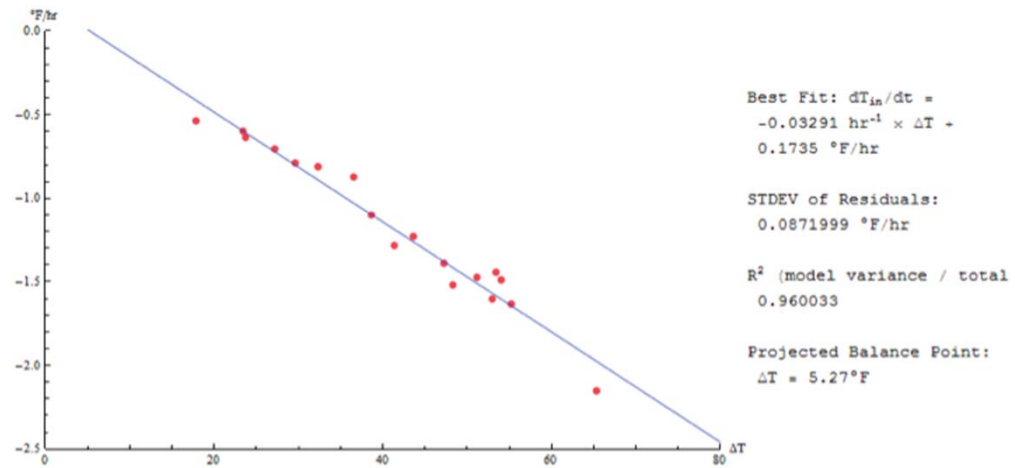
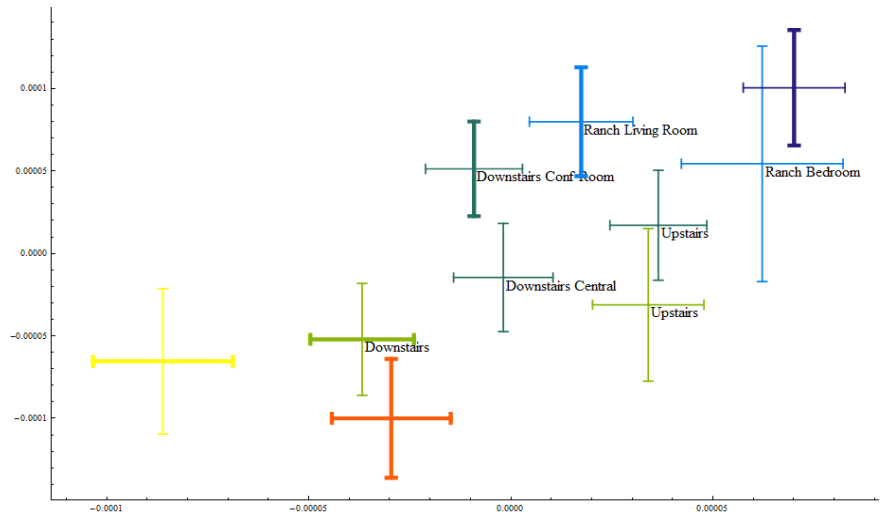
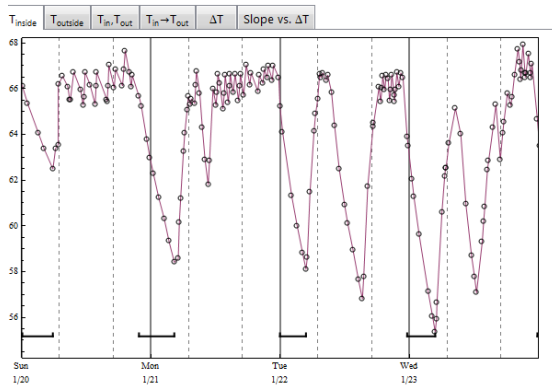
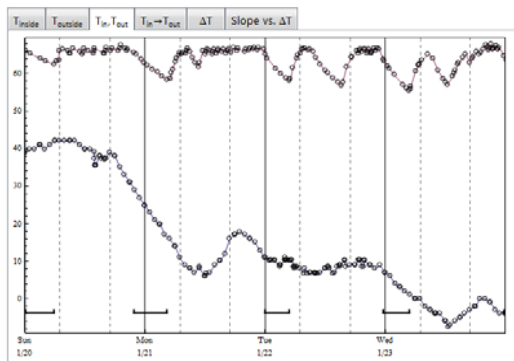
Building\*

Weather\*

System\*

# 2012 R&D Study

Data → Indirect Savings potential



# (2014) Thermostat Study Goals

**Build on R&D Success:**  
Thermostat-based performance metric proof-of-concept

**Scale study:**  
Bring robust understanding to program benefits

## Direct Savings

Characterization for  
Residential Market  
*Single and LI Multi-Family*

Primary Goal

## Indirect Savings

Program Design  
*Analytics and Tools*

Secondary Goals

## Industry Impact

Promote Savings  
*Demonstrate &  
Coordinate*

# 2014 Thermostat Study Design

Direct Savings



End of Summer 2014 → 2015

Nest 2<sup>nd</sup> Gen w/ Seasonal Savings

Customer pays (installation)

>500  
Single-Family  
Homes

~500  
units in Multi-  
Family Buildings

EVT pays

Fuel Dealer Installers

Housing Authority

Detailed Site Characteristics  
Fuel Consumption (Pre /Post 2 yrs)

Primary Goal

Matched Control & Treatment Groups

Secondary Goals

Indirect Savings



Analytics on  
1000+ Units/Homes

Calibrated Metric  
& Benchmarking

Industry Impact



Data  
Specification

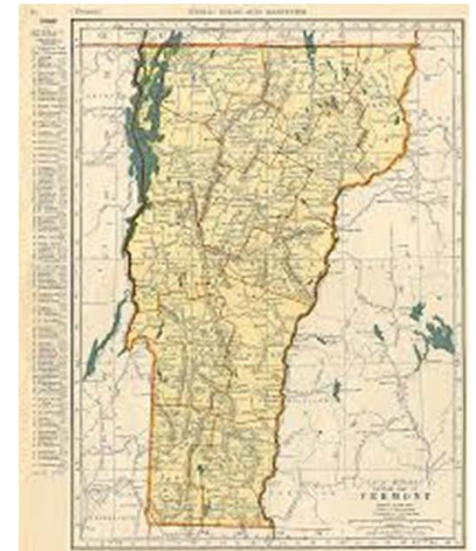
Promote Savings  
Potential

Team &  
Partner

# Participant Screening & Recruitment



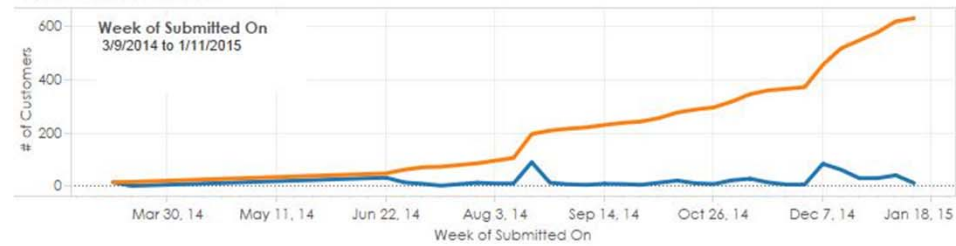
- Housing Vermont:
  - Property Managers across the state
- Fuel Dealer Partners:
  - Bourne's Energy
  - Cota & Cota Inc.
  - Energy Coop of Vermont
  - Vermont Gas Systems





# Study Dashboard (small data)

Recruitment Timeline



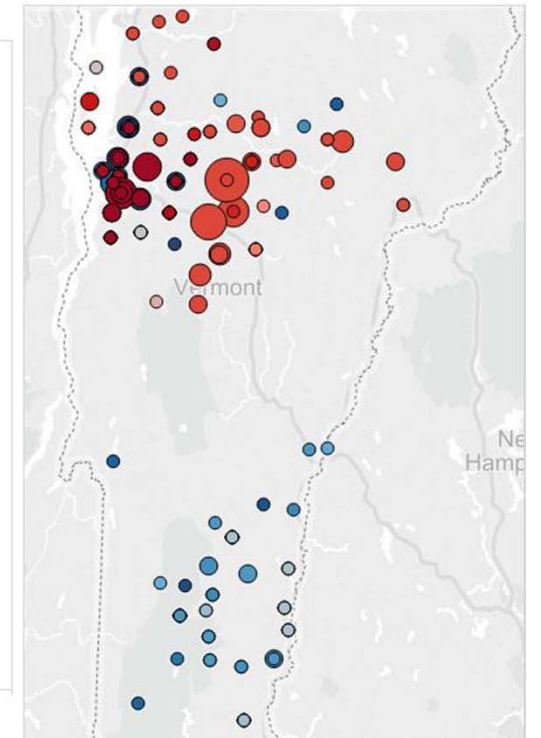
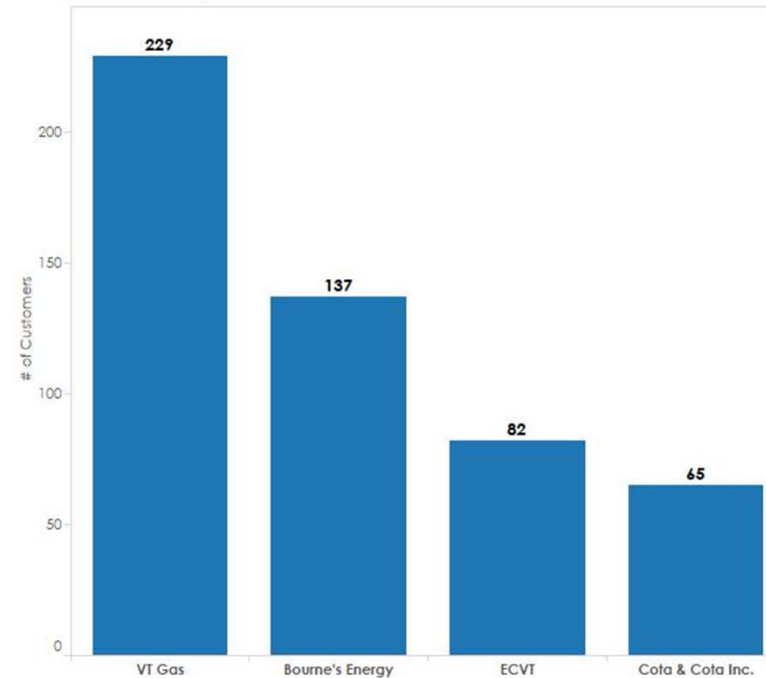
Total Approved Customers

531
Total Unapproved Customers
105

- Recruitment

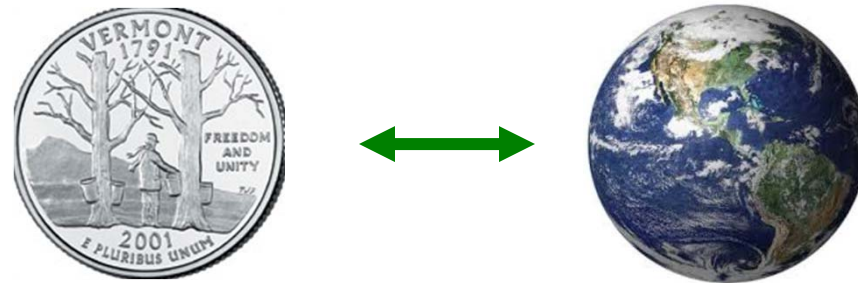
- Marketing/ Outreach
- Geo-Location
- Installing Partner

Customer Count by Fuel Dealer



# Who Cares?

## Ratepayers & “Customers”



## Industry Partners



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

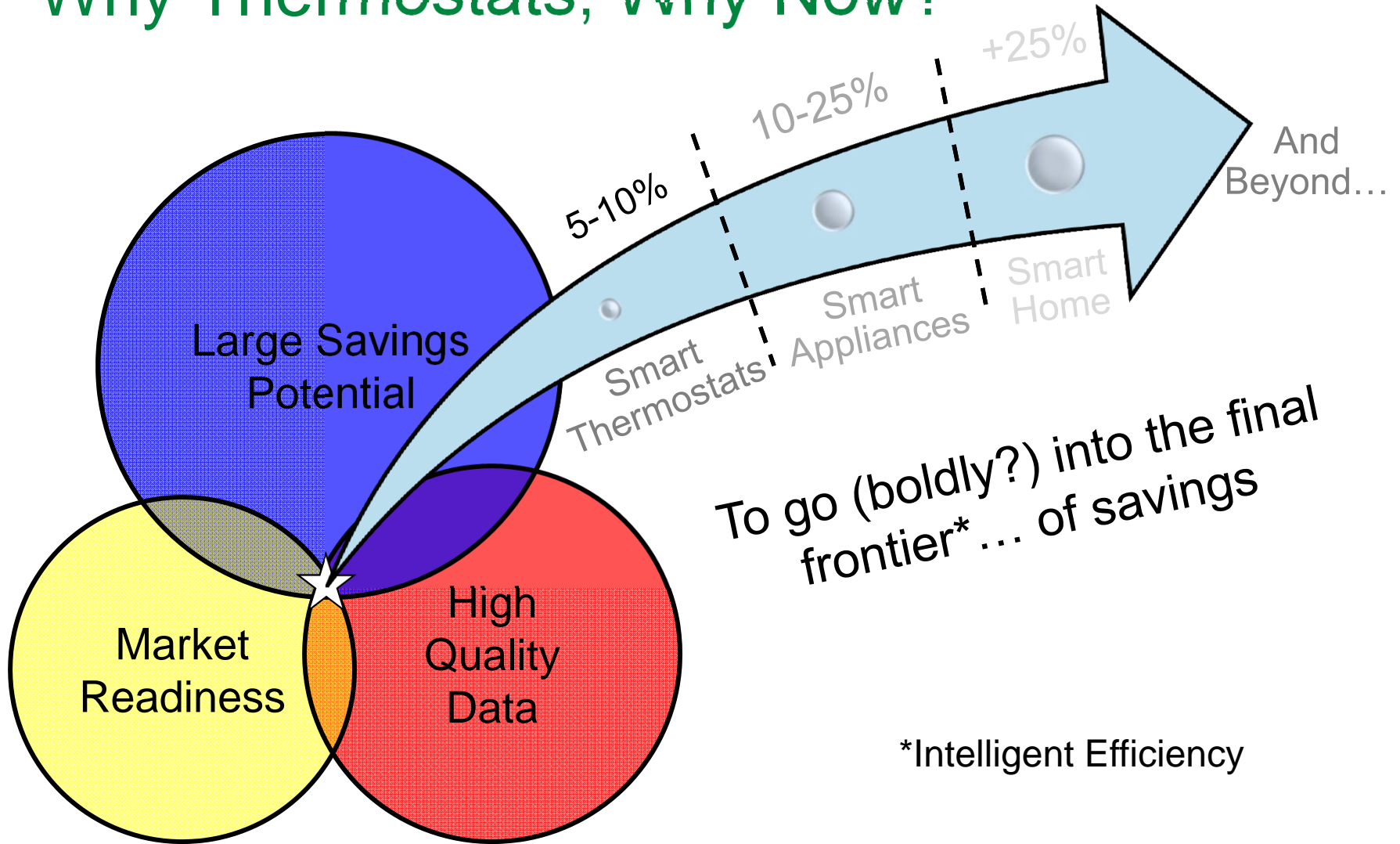


ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

\*800lb Gorilla... May wag the dog



# Why Thermostats, Why Now?



\*Intelligent Efficiency

# A glimpse of what's to come...

**“And Nest Thermostats get better over time.** Thanks to automatic software updates, the Nest Thermostat you buy actually gets better at saving energy the longer you own it.

**Over the past three years, we’ve updated the thermostat more than 30 times, and added new features to help people save even more.”**

**10x**  
per year  
because data

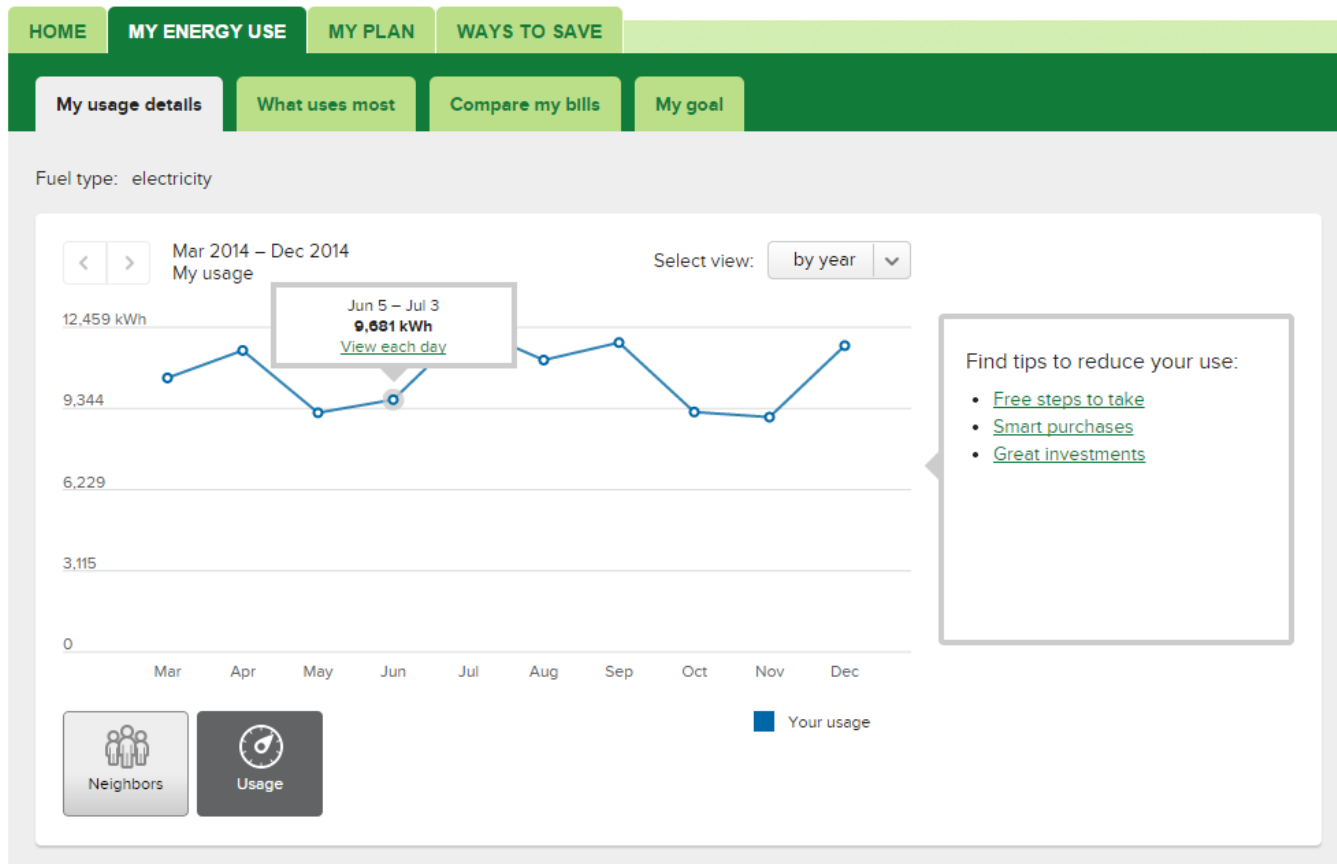




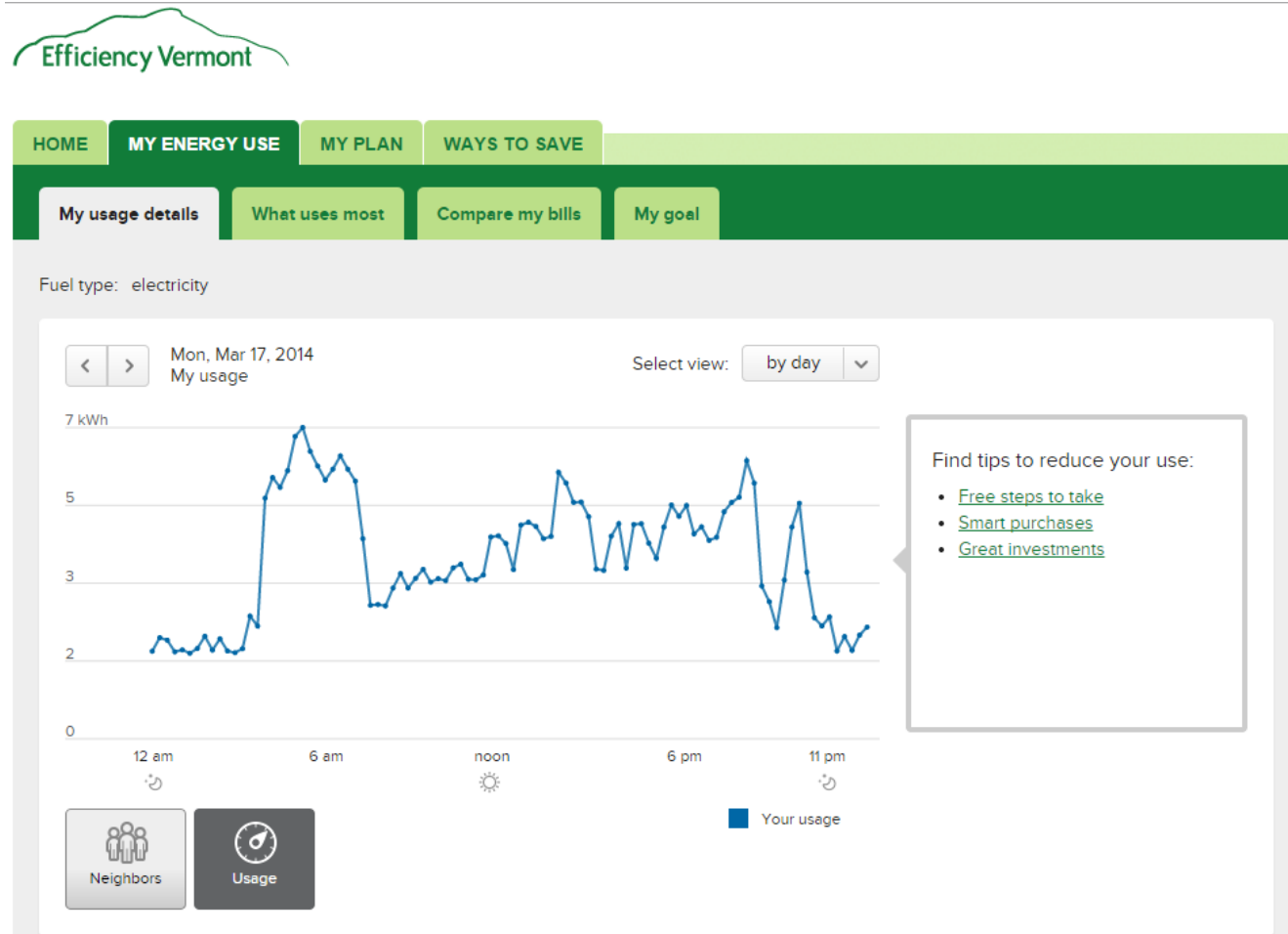
# Finding the Information Hiding In Your Data

Ethan Goldman  
Efficiency Vermont

# Once, there was darkness



# Then, came data



# And it is (pretty) good



HOME MY ENERGY USE MY PLAN WAYS TO SAVE

## Welcome


How you're doing: Jan 1—Jan 30  
You used 34% less than your efficient neighbors

You	294 kWh
Efficient neighbors	447 kWh
All neighbors	1,346 kWh


> Great 😊 😊  
Good 😊  
More than average

[Who are my neighbors?](#) [Explore my usage](#)


### Steps you can take right now




[Wash clothes with cold water](#)  
👤 250 people do this



[Use computer power-saving modes](#)  
👤 249 people do this



[Use computer power-saving modes](#)



[Use computer power-saving modes](#)





# Bring your own data



HOME MY ENERGY USE MY PLAN WAYS TO SAVE

My usage details What uses most Compare my bills My goal

**41%**  
Appliances

The percentages shown here are estimates.

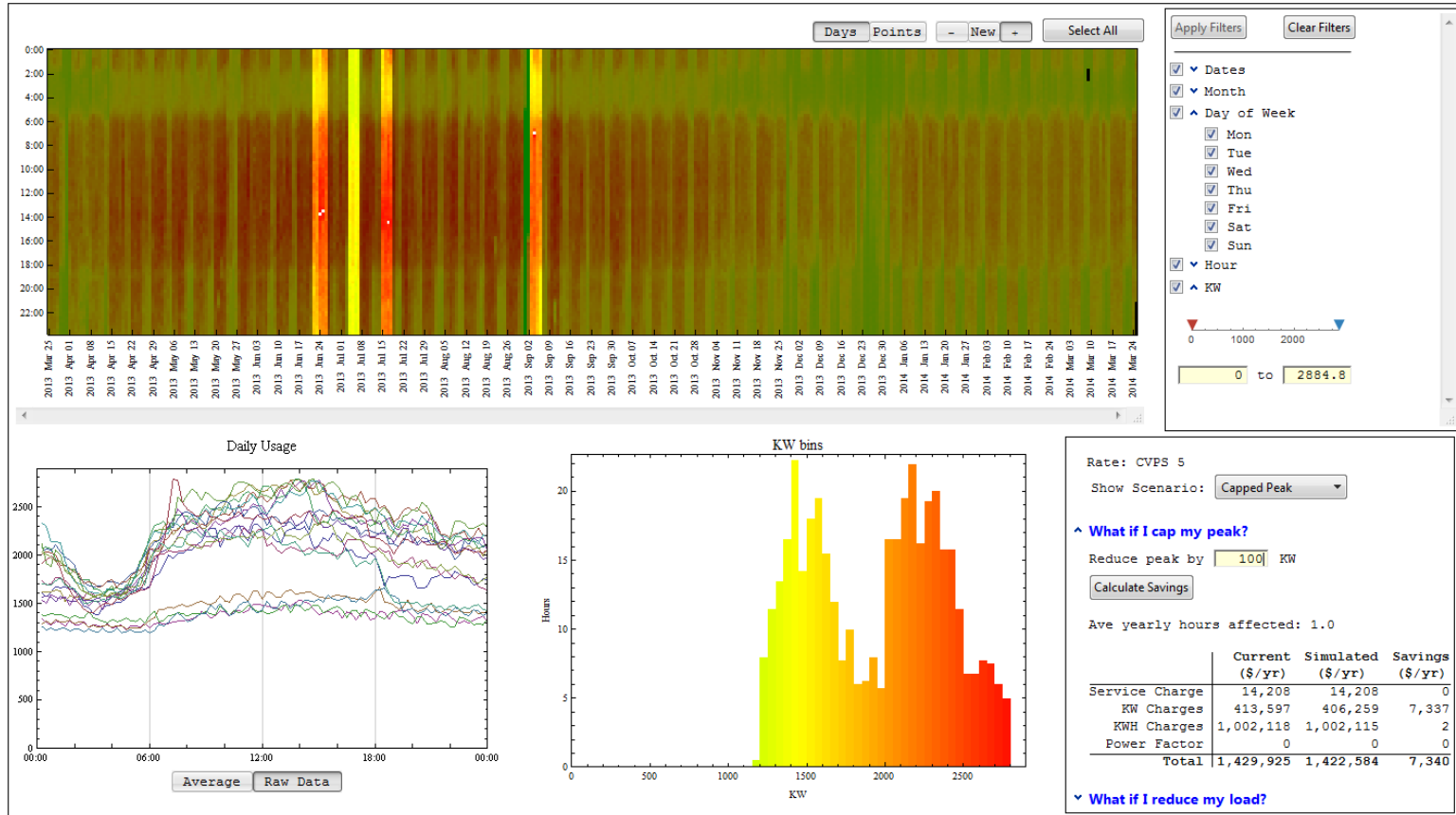
● Appliances 1 of 1

Do you have any of the following appliances?

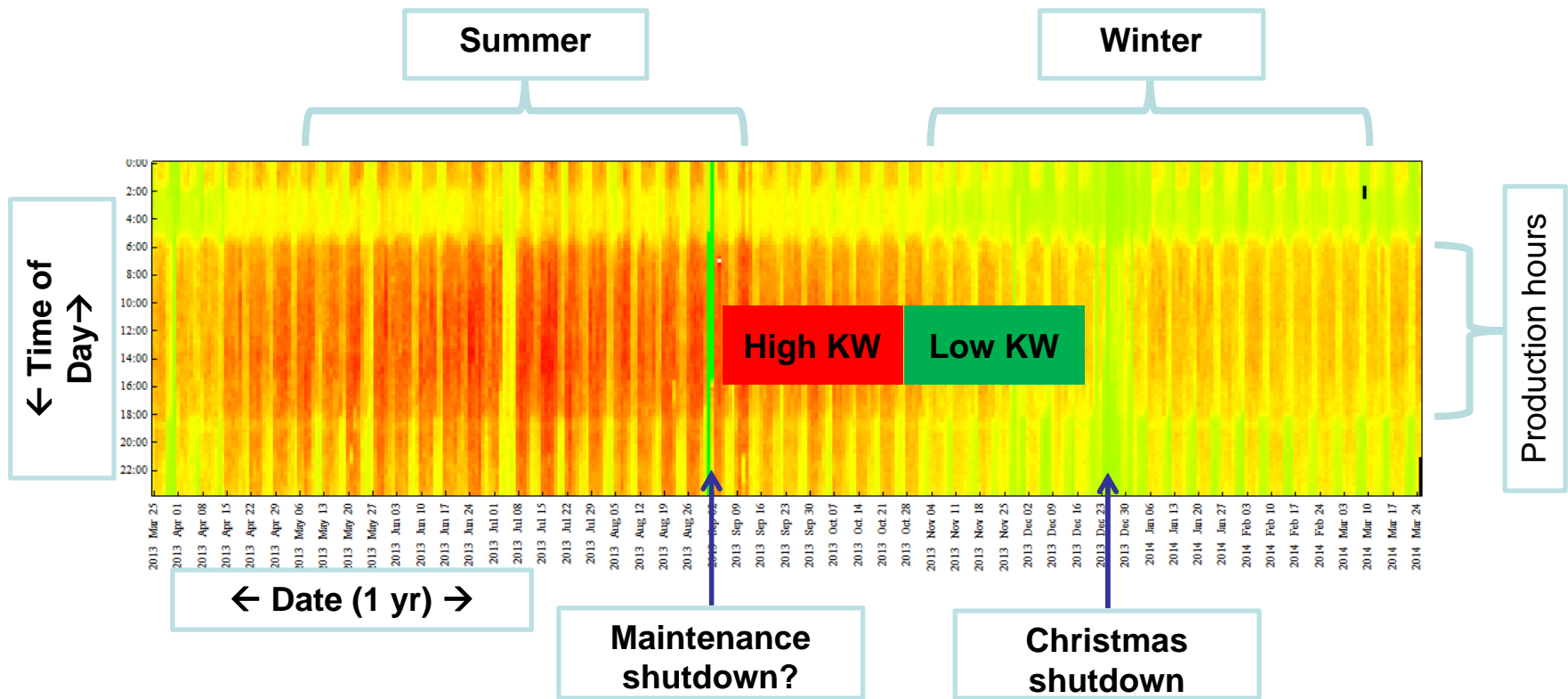
 <input type="checkbox"/> Washing machine	 <input type="checkbox"/> Dryer	 <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd refrigerator
 <input type="checkbox"/> Mini-fridge	 <input type="checkbox"/> Standalone freezer	



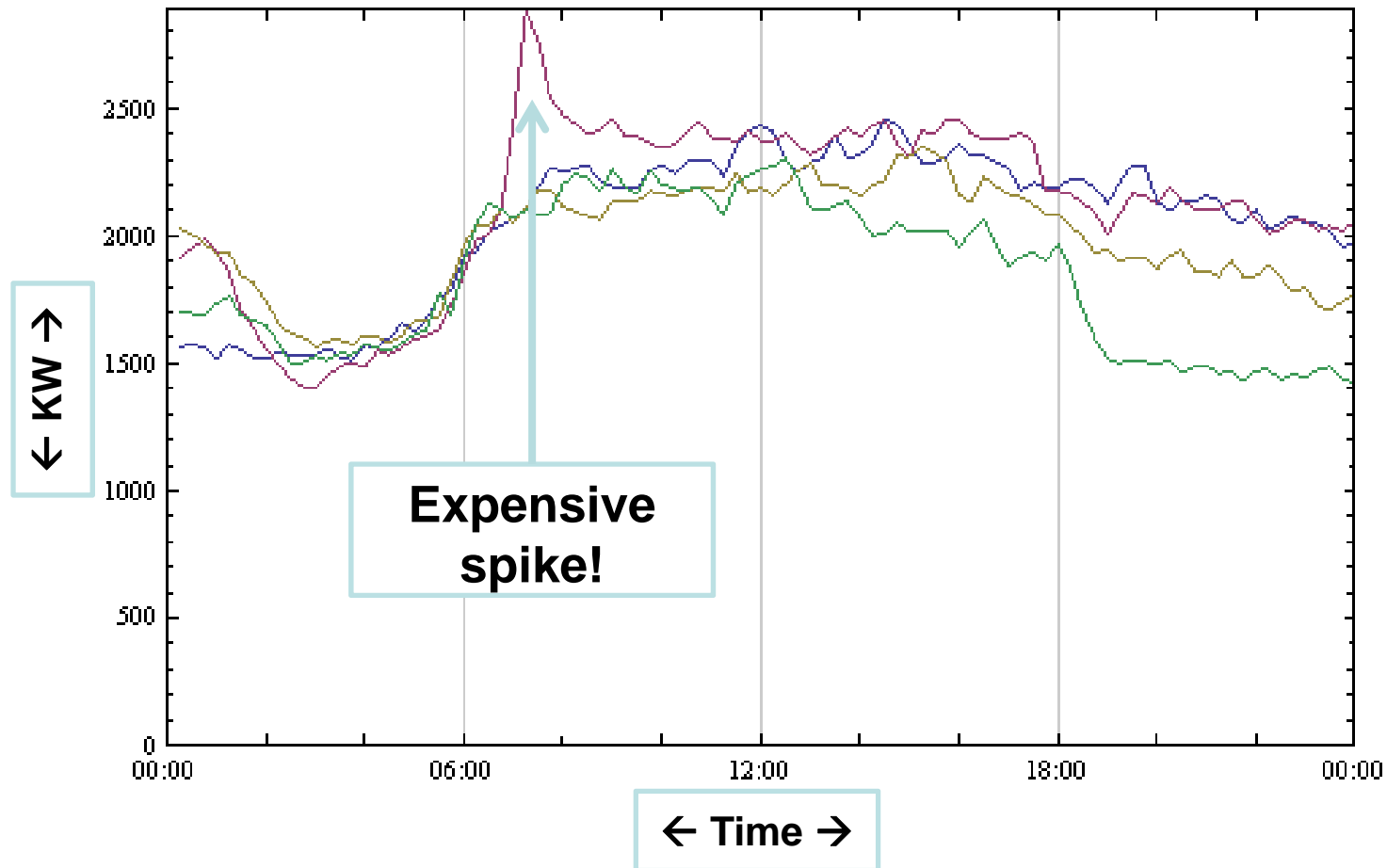
# VIPER Tool (AMI data)



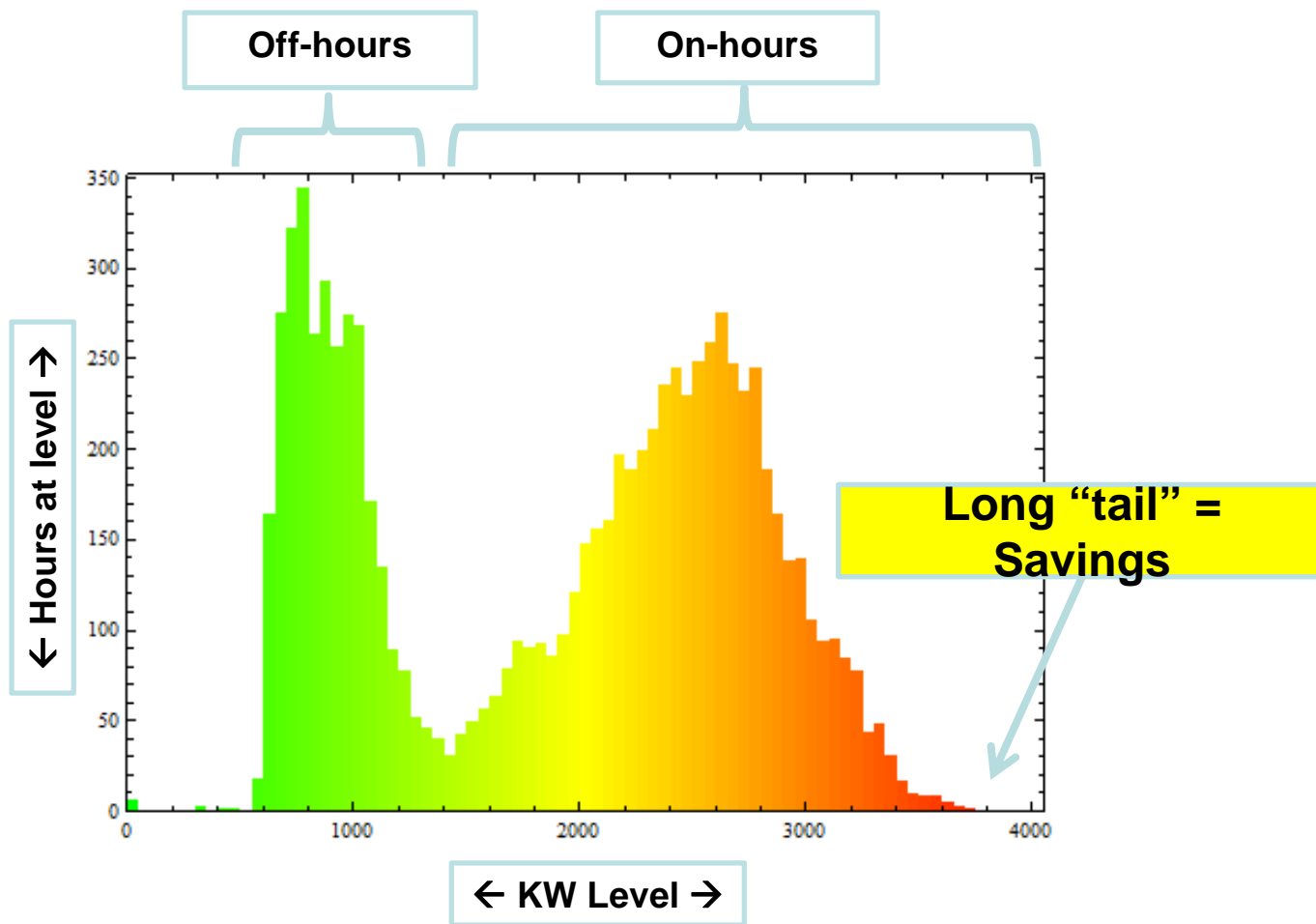
# Look for patterns



# Look for events



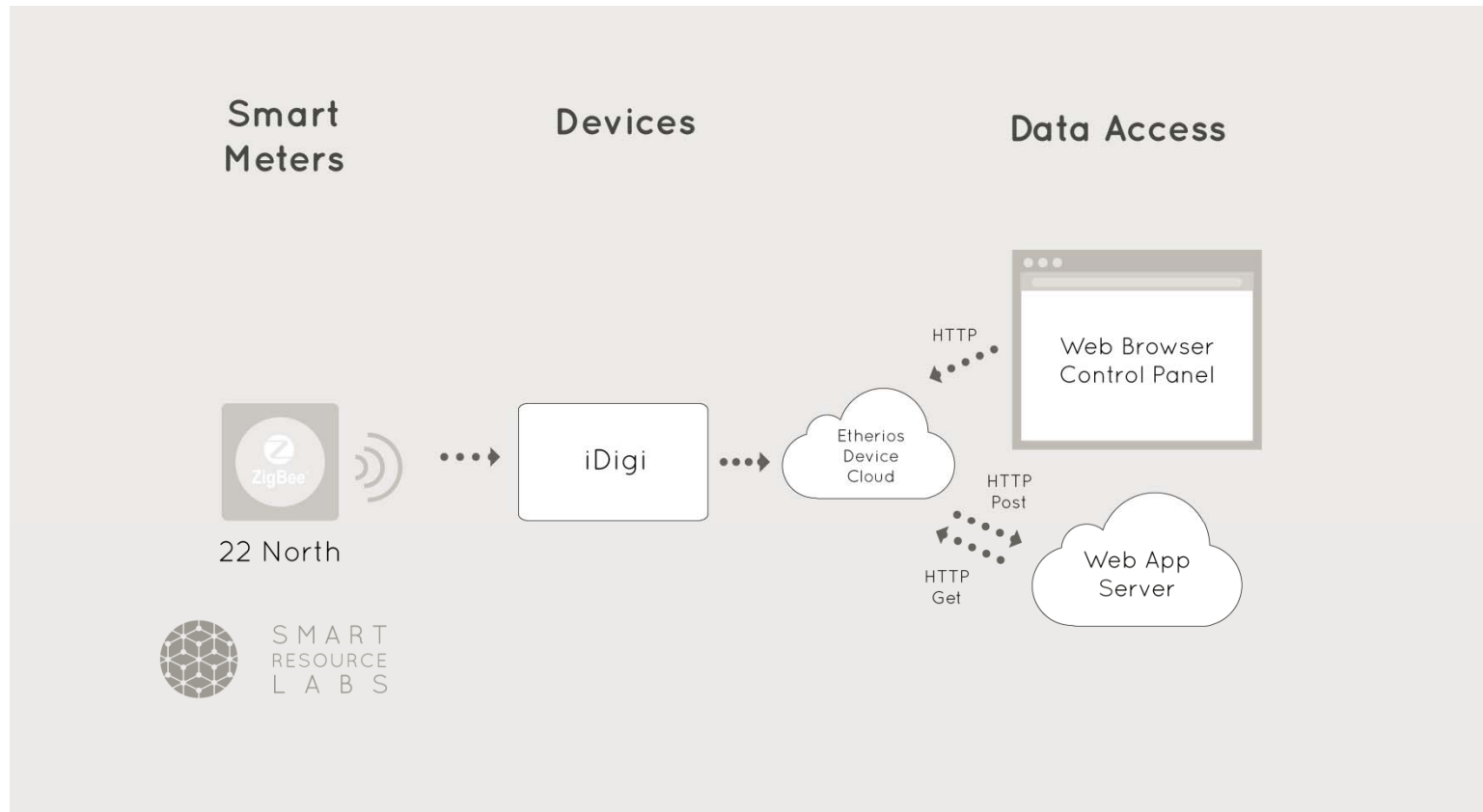
# Look for trends



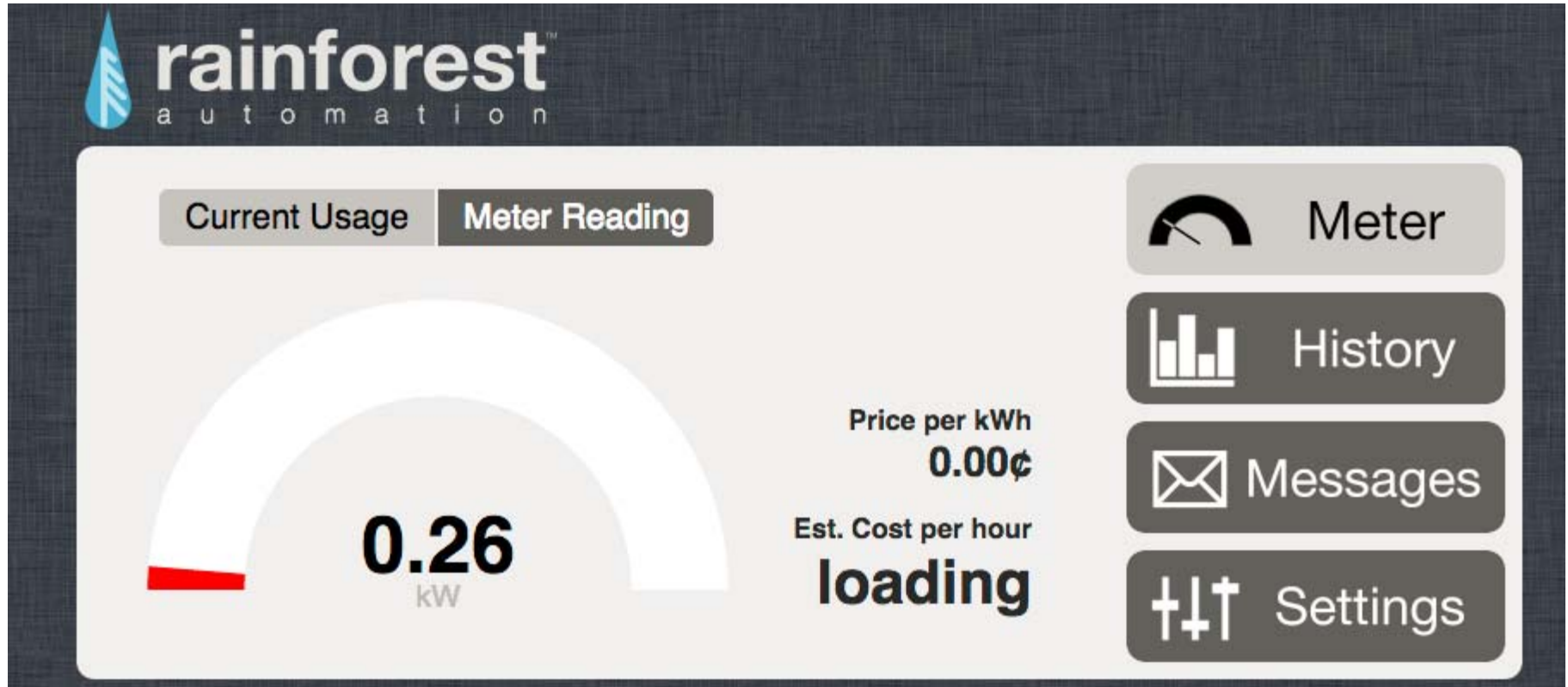
# Live demo!

(Drum roll, please...)

# Getting live data from smart meters



# Getting live data from smart meters





# Getting live data from smart meters



# Remote energy analysis



11/14/2014 12:00am - 12/15/2014 12:00am

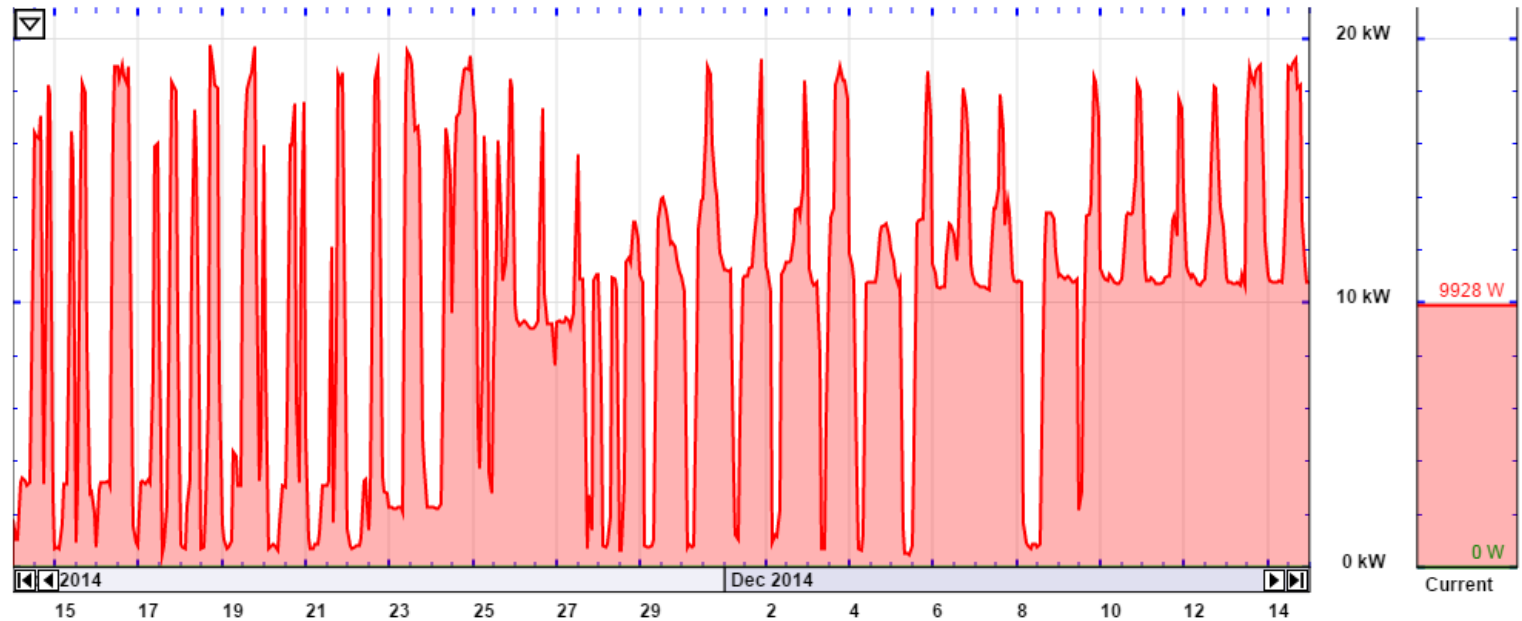
**Summary for time-period shown in graph**

Energy Used	7.36 MWh	(approx. \$956.69 used)
Energy Generated	0.00 Wh	(approx. \$0.00 saved)
Net	7.36 MWh bought	(approx. \$956.69 spent)

**Summary over last 30 days**

Energy Used	8.62 MWh	(approx. \$1,120.06 used)
Energy Generated	0.00 Wh	(approx. \$0.00 saved)
Net	8.62 MWh bought	(approx. \$1,120.06 spent)

- All
- 1y
- 6M
- 3M
- 1M
- 3w
- 1w
- 3d
- 1d
- 12h
- 6h
- 3h
- 1h
- 10m
- Auto
- 500kW
- 100kW
- 50kW
- 10kW
- 5kW
- 1kW
- 500W
- 100W
- 50W



# Remote energy analysis

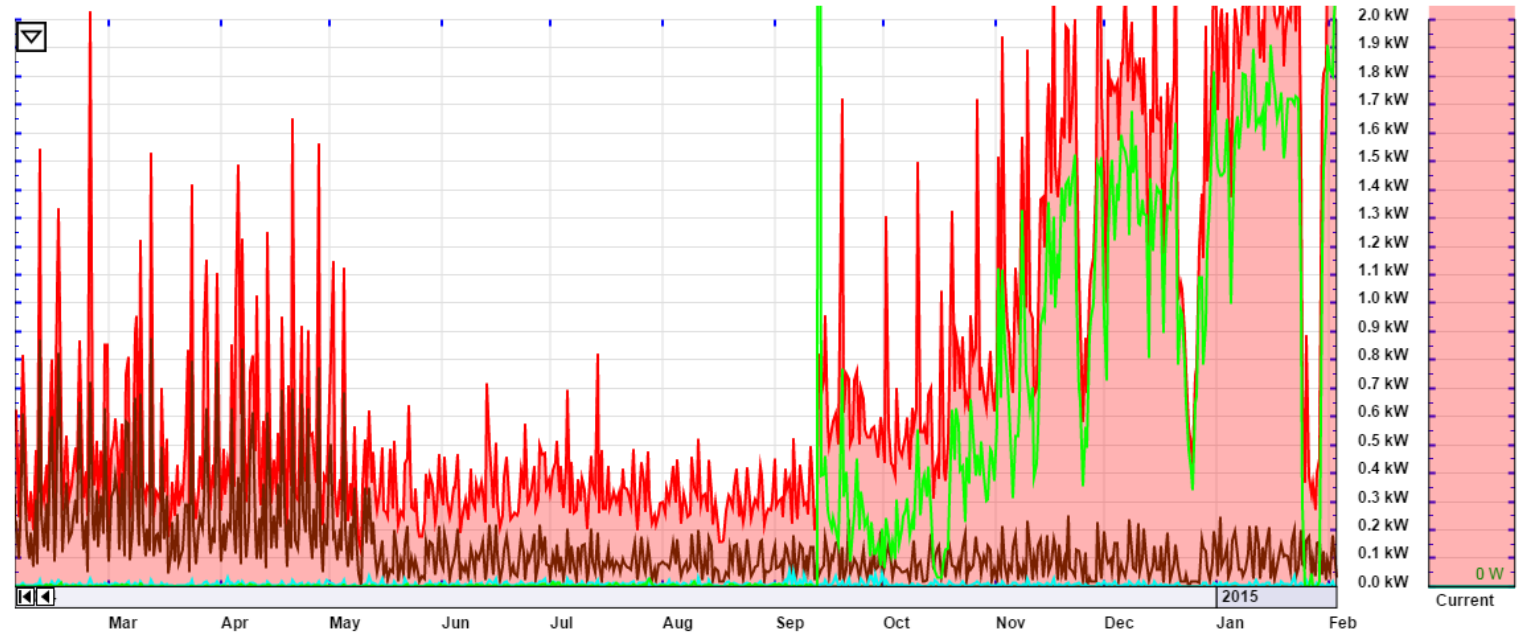


2/3/2014 11:15am - 2/3/2015 1:15am

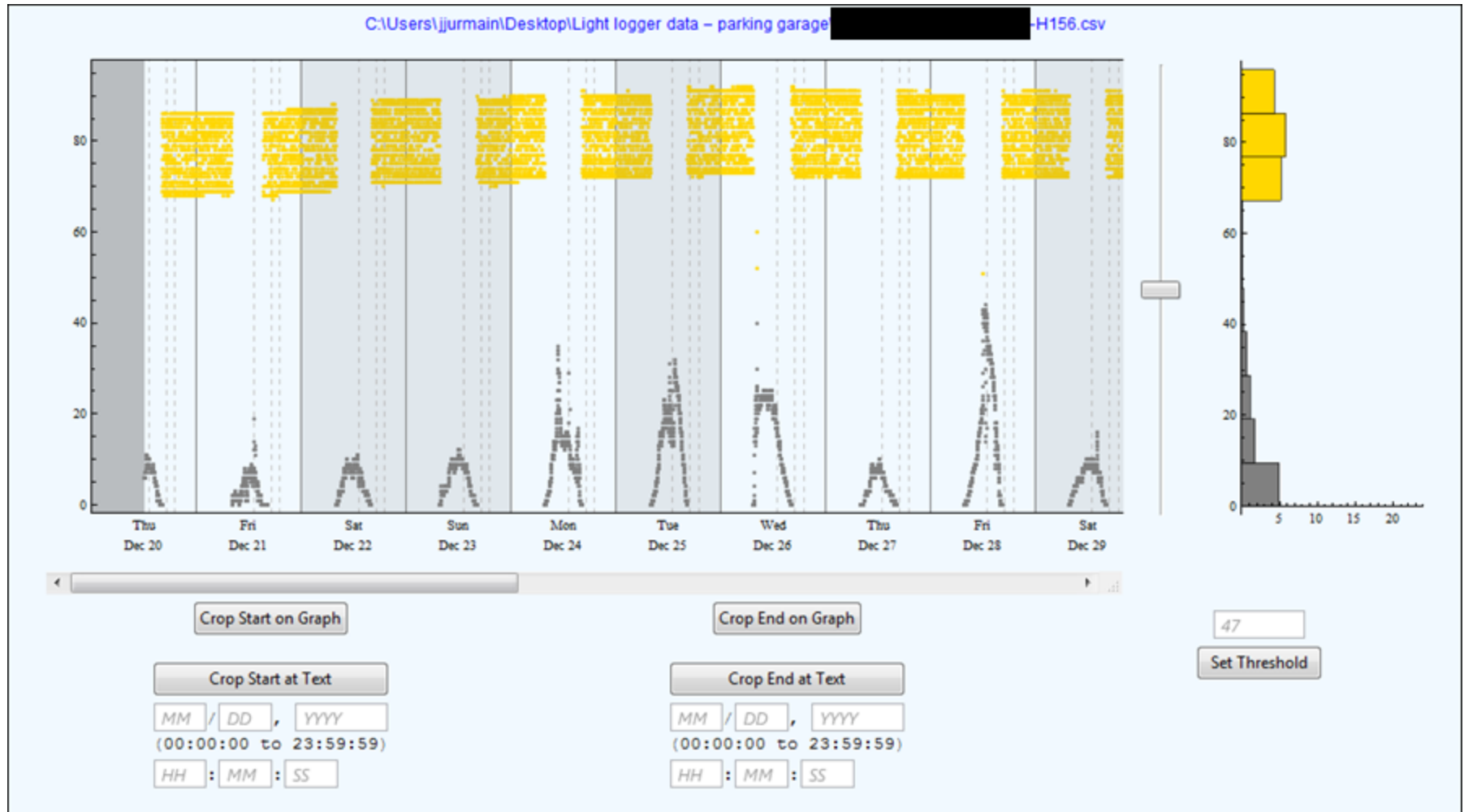
Summary for time-period shown in graph		
Energy Used	6.53 MWh	(approx. \$-43.79 used)
Energy Generated	0.00 Wh	(approx. \$0.00 saved)
Net	6.53 MWh bought	(approx. \$43.79 earned)

Summary over last 30 days		
Energy Used	1.27 MWh	(approx. \$-8.50 used)
Energy Generated	0.00 Wh	(approx. \$0.00 saved)
Net	1.27 MWh bought	(approx. \$8.50 earned)

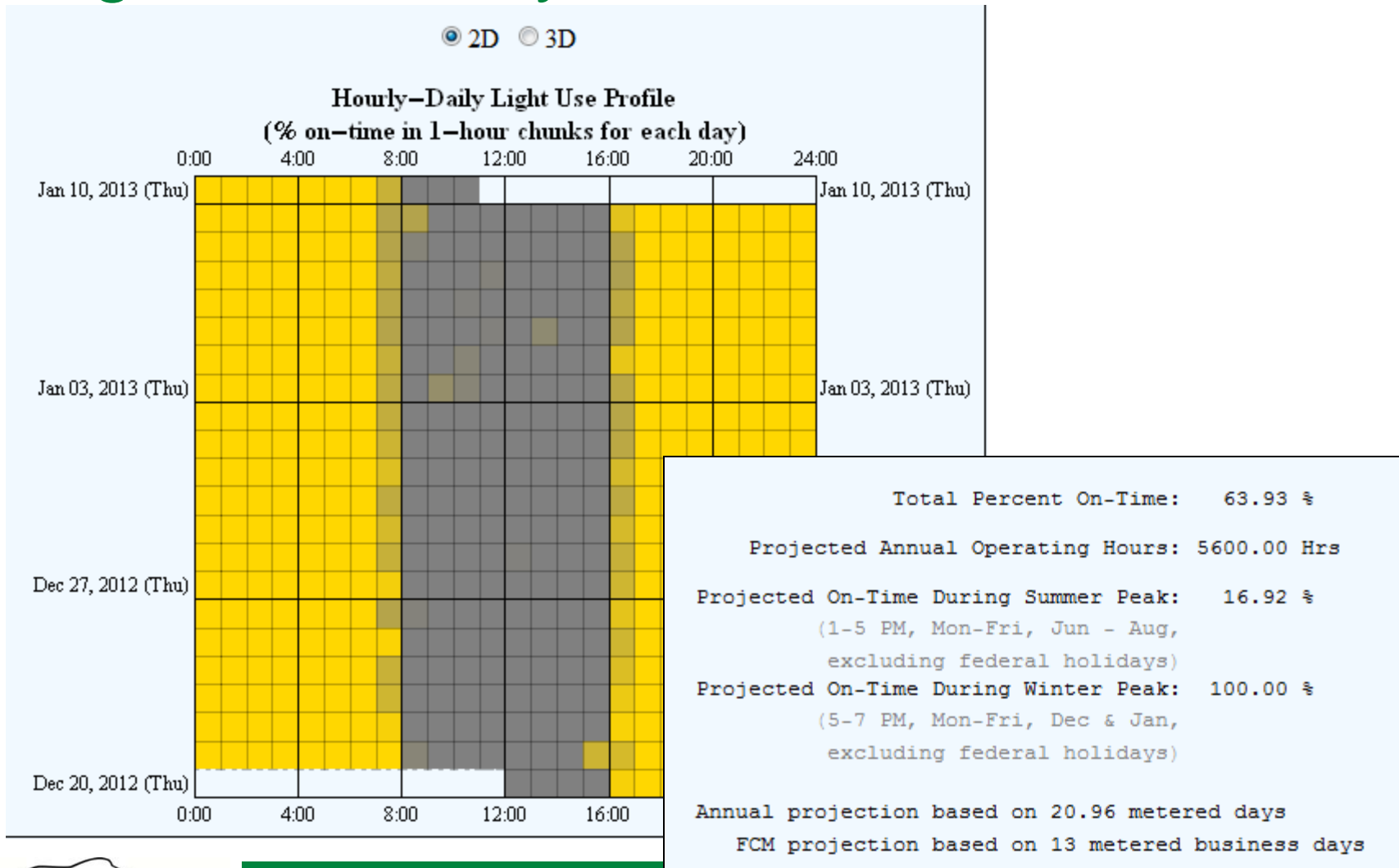
- All
- 1y
- 6M
- 3M
- 1M
- 3w
- 1w
- 3d
- 1d
- 12h
- 6h
- 3h
- 1h
- 10m
- Auto
- 500kW
- 100kW
- 50kW
- 10kW
- 5kW
- 1kW
- 500W
- 100W
- 50W



# Light-level analysis



# Light-level analysis



Now we will measure everything! (Yeah, right!)

Built-in sensors

**Standards?**

Calibrated and documented

**Mystery data!**

Communicating continuously

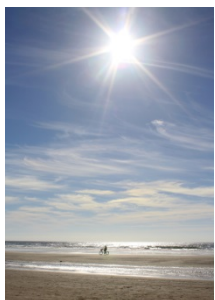
**Networks?**

Calculating automatically

**Subjectivity!**

# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- Efficiency Vermont has been working with customers at large industrial and commercial facilities to develop energy models
  - Enables prediction of energy usage in future periods
  - Takes into account external and internal variables



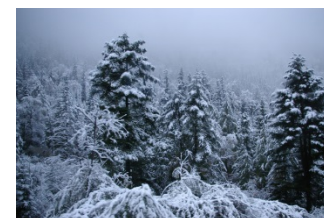
- Weather normalization is the most basic (external)

- Dry bulb or wet bulb temperature

- Internal variables are numerous

- Production levels – can be multiple products

- Occupancy or schedule



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- Linear models typically used
  - Energy usage is modeled as a function of multiple variables

slope=4 (0,6)  
 $y = mx + b$   
 $y = 4x + 6$   
 $4x + 6 = y$   
 $y = 6 + 4x$   
y-axis  
given site

Energy = f(baseload, heating load, cooling load, schedule, production<sub>n</sub>)

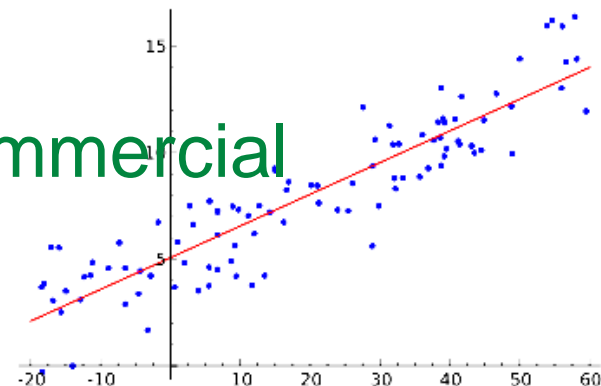
$$E = B + C_1 * HDD + C_2 * CDD + C_3 * S + C_4 * P_1 + C_5 * P_2 + \dots + C_N * P_N$$

- Linear models are easiest to understand

**Caution:  
Math Ahead**



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial



- Example linear model

- A simple model for a facility with one main product and a process-related cooling load, no production on holidays

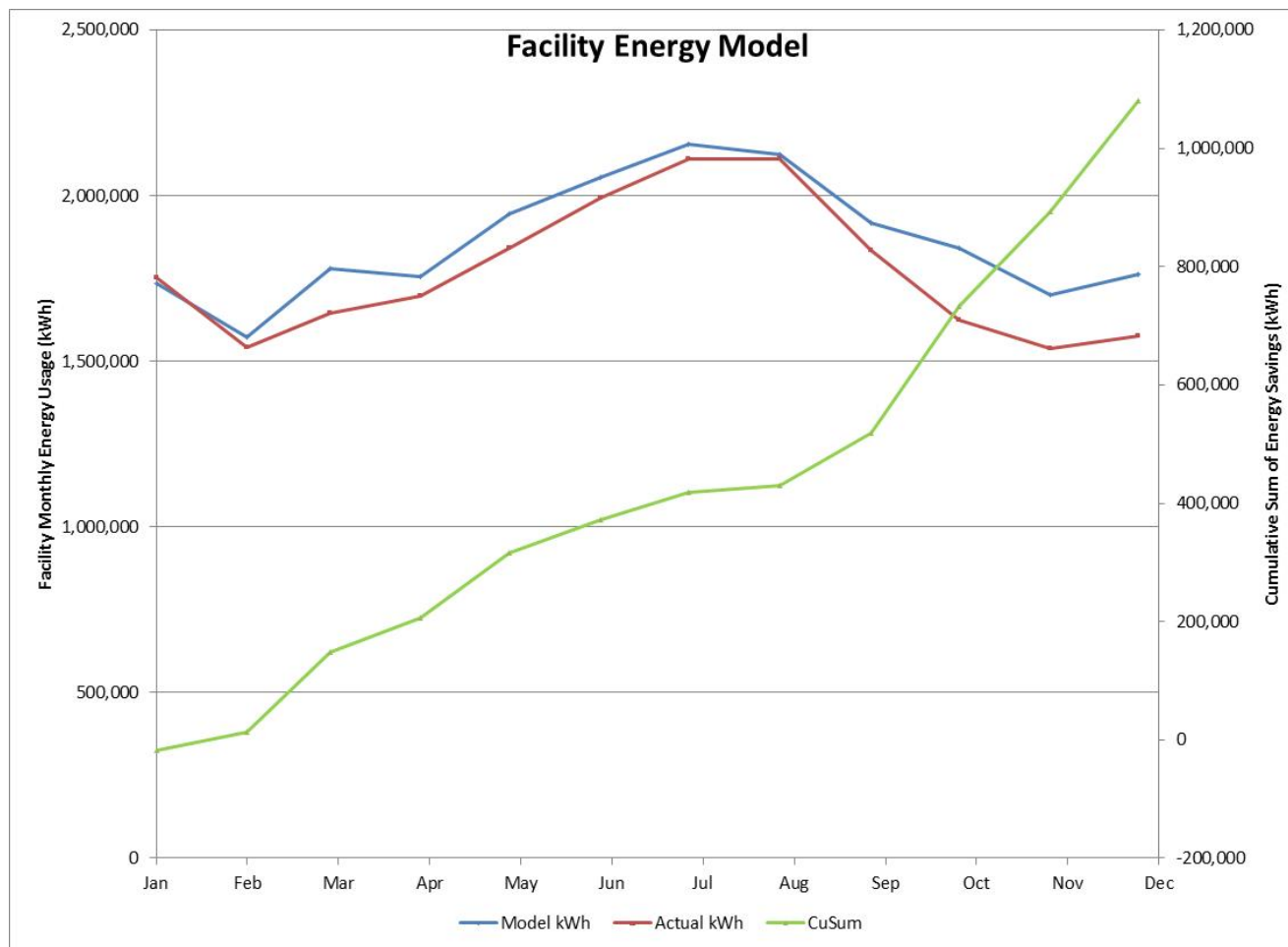
$$\text{Energy} = 50,000 + 600 * \text{CDD} - 20,000 * \text{Holiday} + 50 * \text{Widgets}$$

- The baseload is 50,000 kWh per day
- 600 kWh are required for each cooling degree day
- Facility energy usage drops by 20,000 kWh on holidays
- 50 kWh are required for each widget that the facility produces

(Total annual usage 22 million kWh)



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

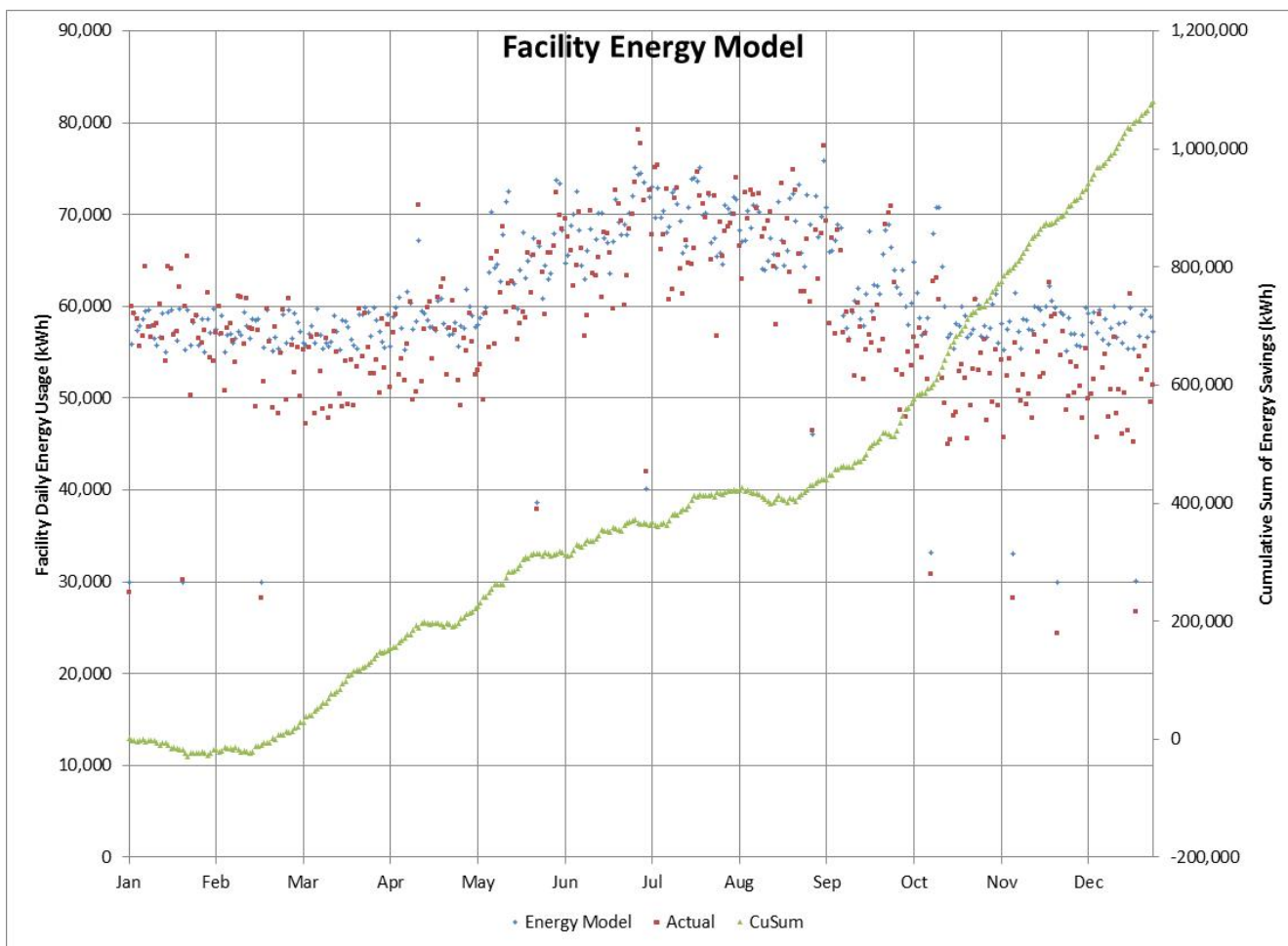


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- Initial models based on monthly data
  - Production data were available with monthly resolution
- Showed general trends
  - Large time delay lacked usefulness as a diagnostic tool
- Daily data provides faster feedback
  - Ability to dispatch team to investigate changes
    - Good: What are we doing better?
    - Bad: What slipped out of control?



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

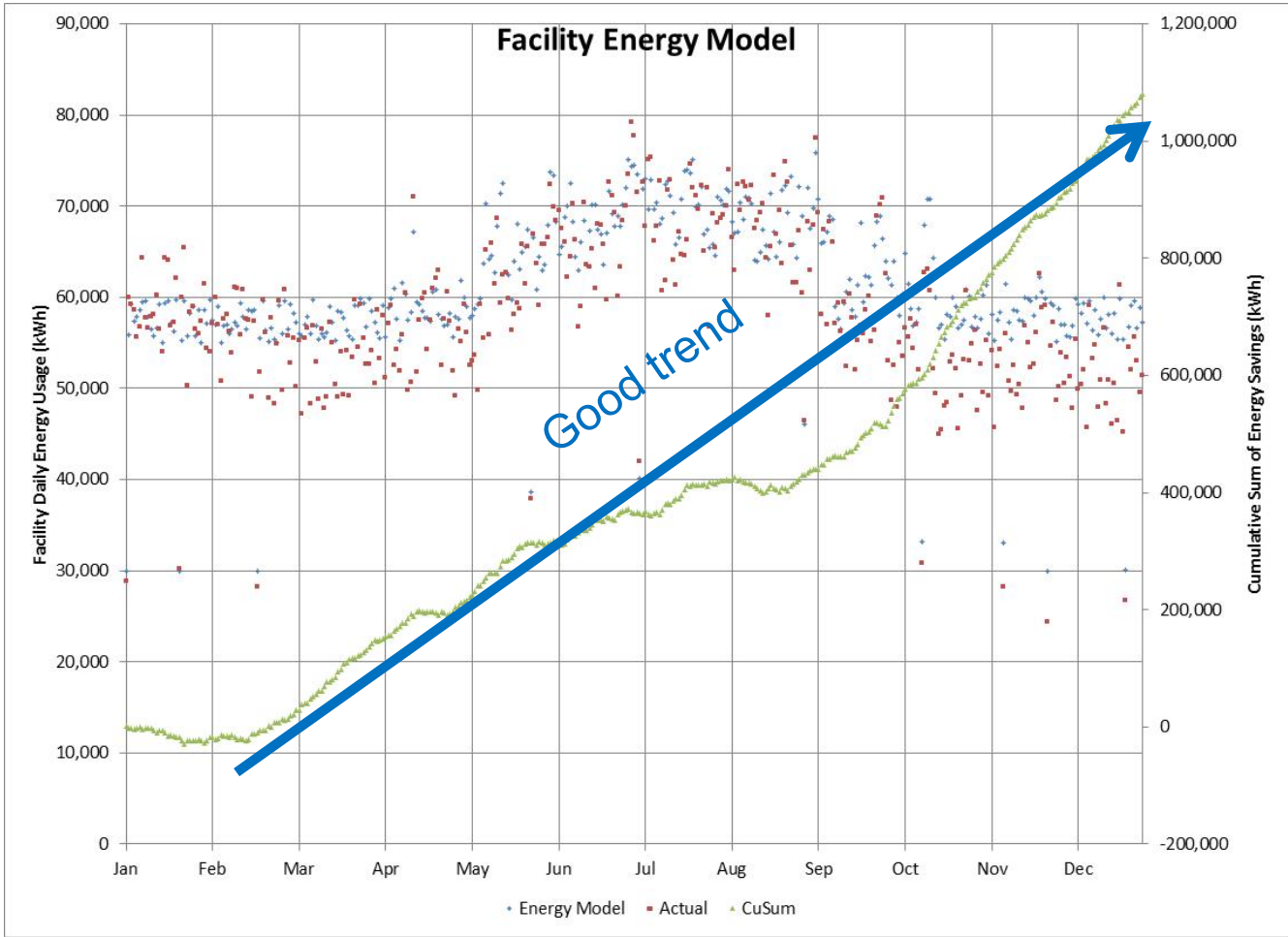


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- What does it tell us?
  - Are we making long-term progress?
  - Is the overall trend in the right direction?



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

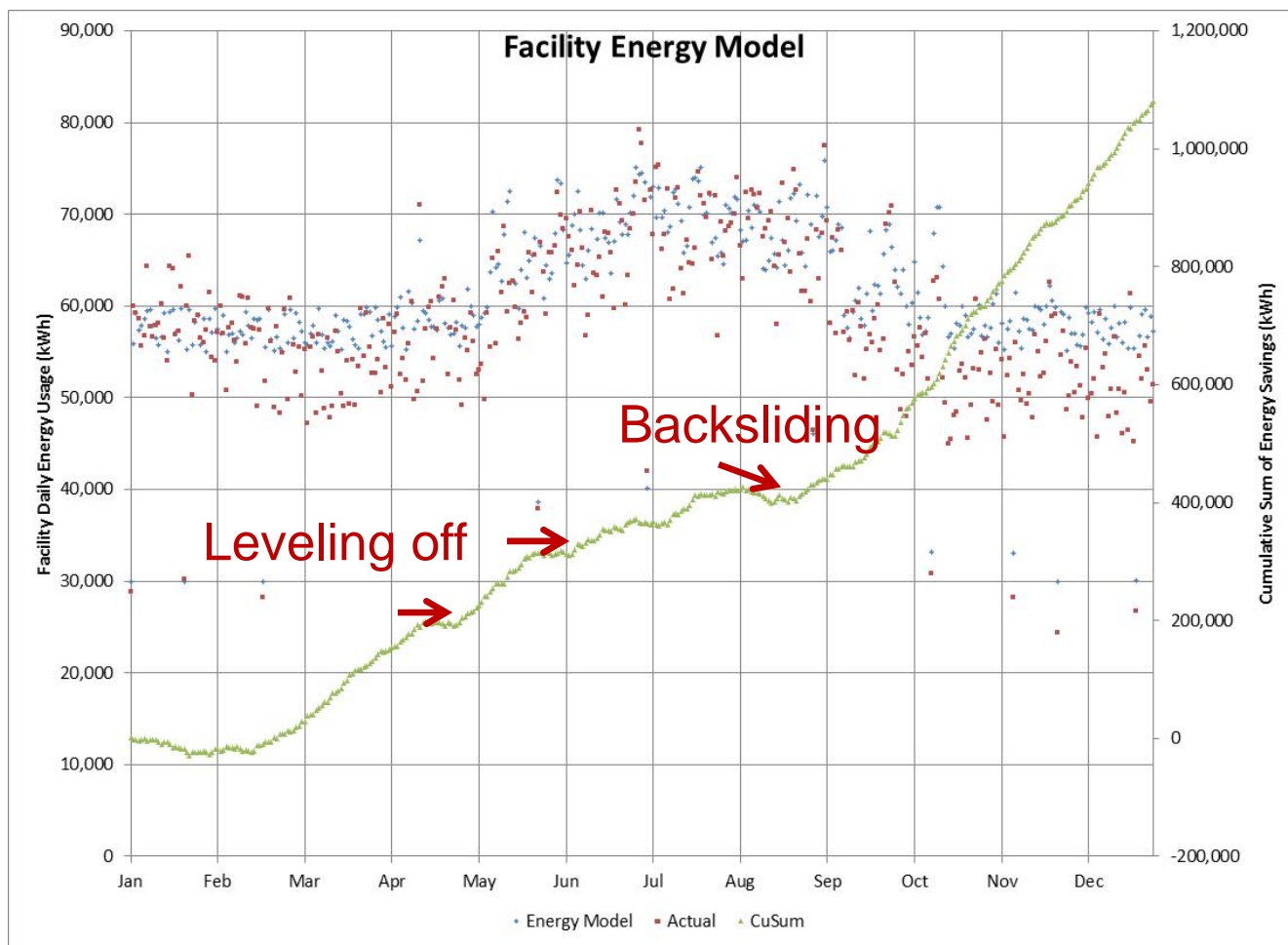


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- What does it tell us?
  - Are we experiencing short-term challenges?
  - Is backsliding evident?



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial



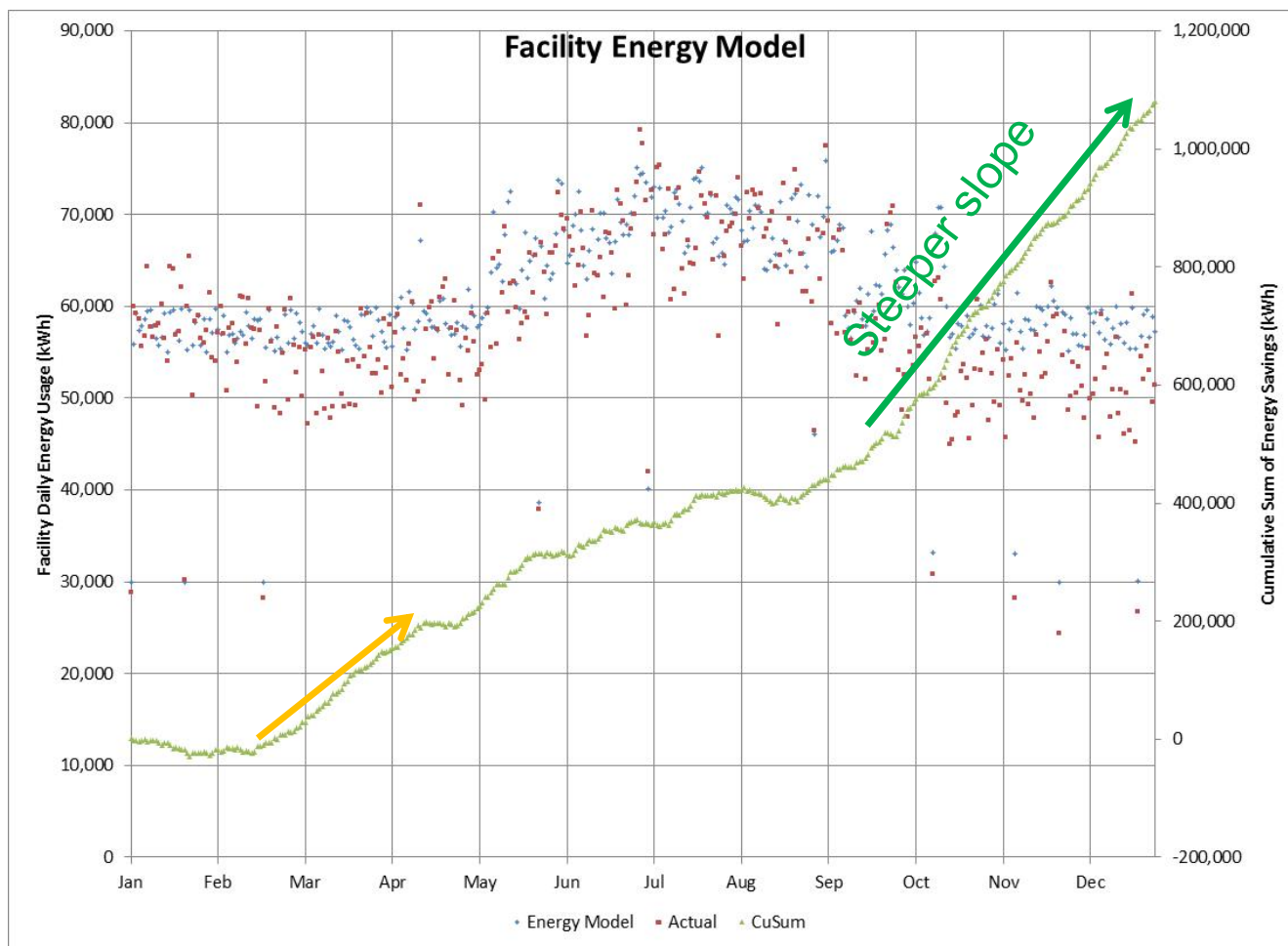


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- What does it tell us?
  - Do we see evidence of the specific energy efficiency efforts?
  - Is the slope changing?

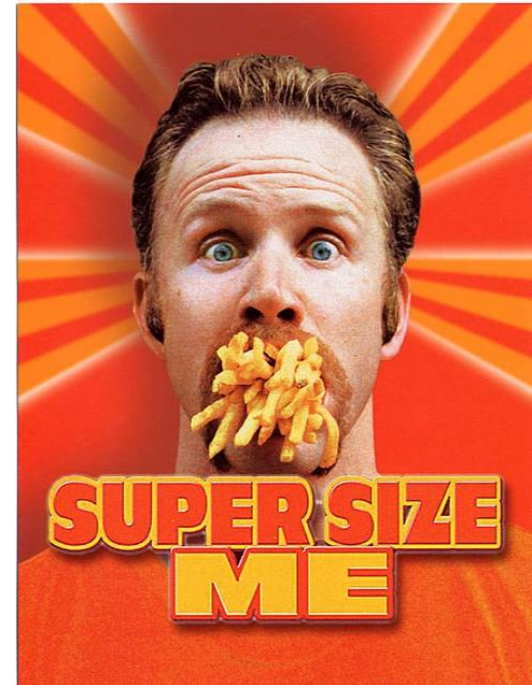


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

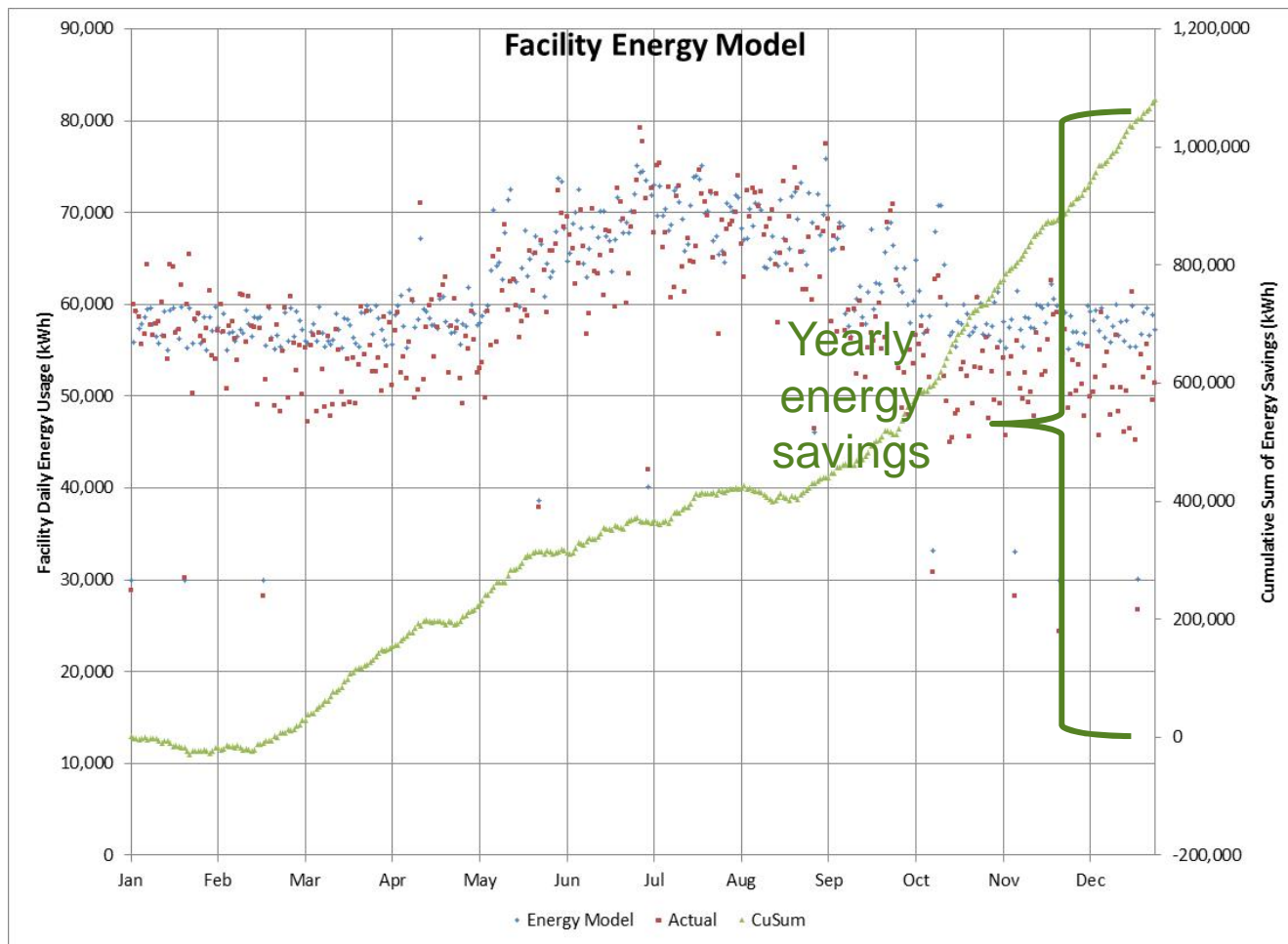


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

- What does it tell us?
  - What is the magnitude of energy savings?
  - Does it match our expectations?

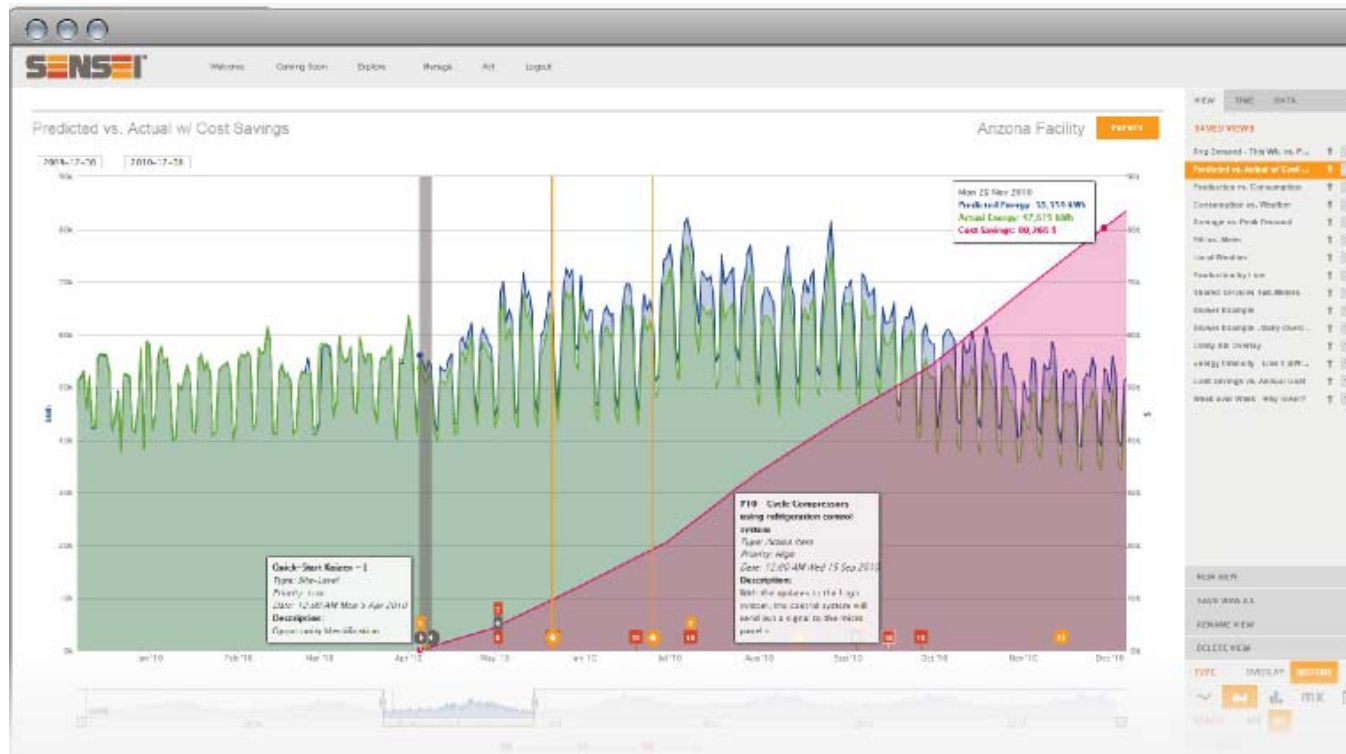


# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

Third-party tools are available



# Energy Models: Industrial and Commercial

What's next?

- Hourly models
  - Moving towards real-time data display
- Energy dashboards
  - Whole facility
  - Individual production line



Real-Time Efficiency-O-Meter

Thank you for staying until the bitter end!

