

# Correlative Monitoring for Detection of False Data Injection Attacks in Smart Grids

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# Agenda

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- ❖ Introduction - Problem Motivation

**False Data Injection: a malicious actor injects  
“bad data” into the payload of a smart meter**

# False Data Injection

- ❖ **Consequences**
  - ❖ Destabilize grid (deteriorates grid's estimation process)
  - ❖ Endanger demand response schemes
  - ❖ Compromise operation of intelligent buildings
  - ❖ Energy theft and price manipulation
- ❖ **Threat Model – Attack scenarios**
  - ❖ Malware coordinating instantaneous demand drop
  - ❖ Nodes programmed to reduce and suddenly increase power demand



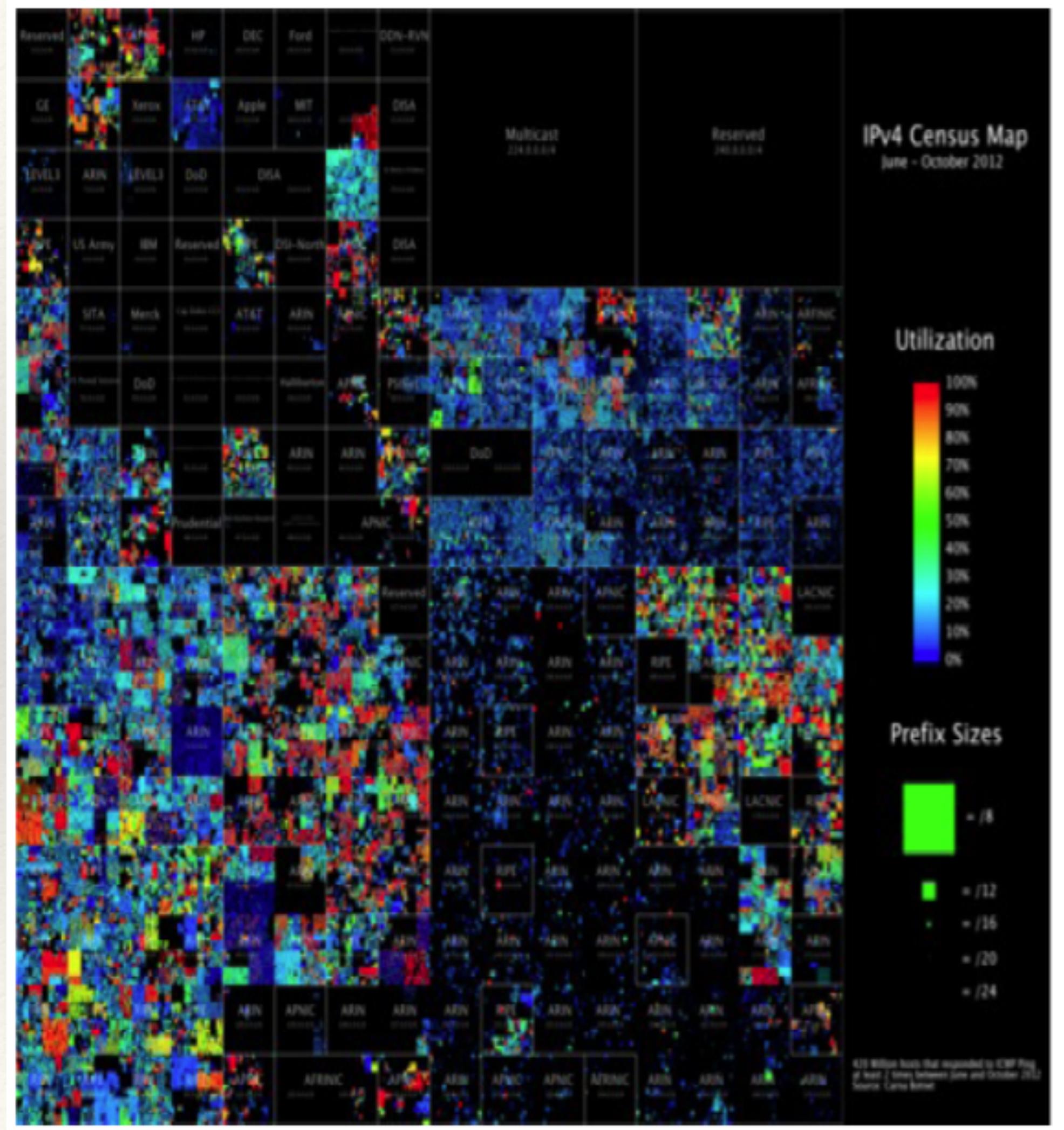
# Smart Meter Vulnerabilities

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- ❖ Rapid deployment of smart meters entails installing low-cost commodity embedded devices in physically insecure locations with a lengthy operational lifetime (several decades)

# Attacks on Embedded Systems

- ❖ Stuxnet worm: damaging physical infrastructure
- ❖ DDoS report from Arbor Networks: most attacks spawned by embedded systems (e.g., home routers)
- ❖ Carna botnet: Internet census from compromised home routers!



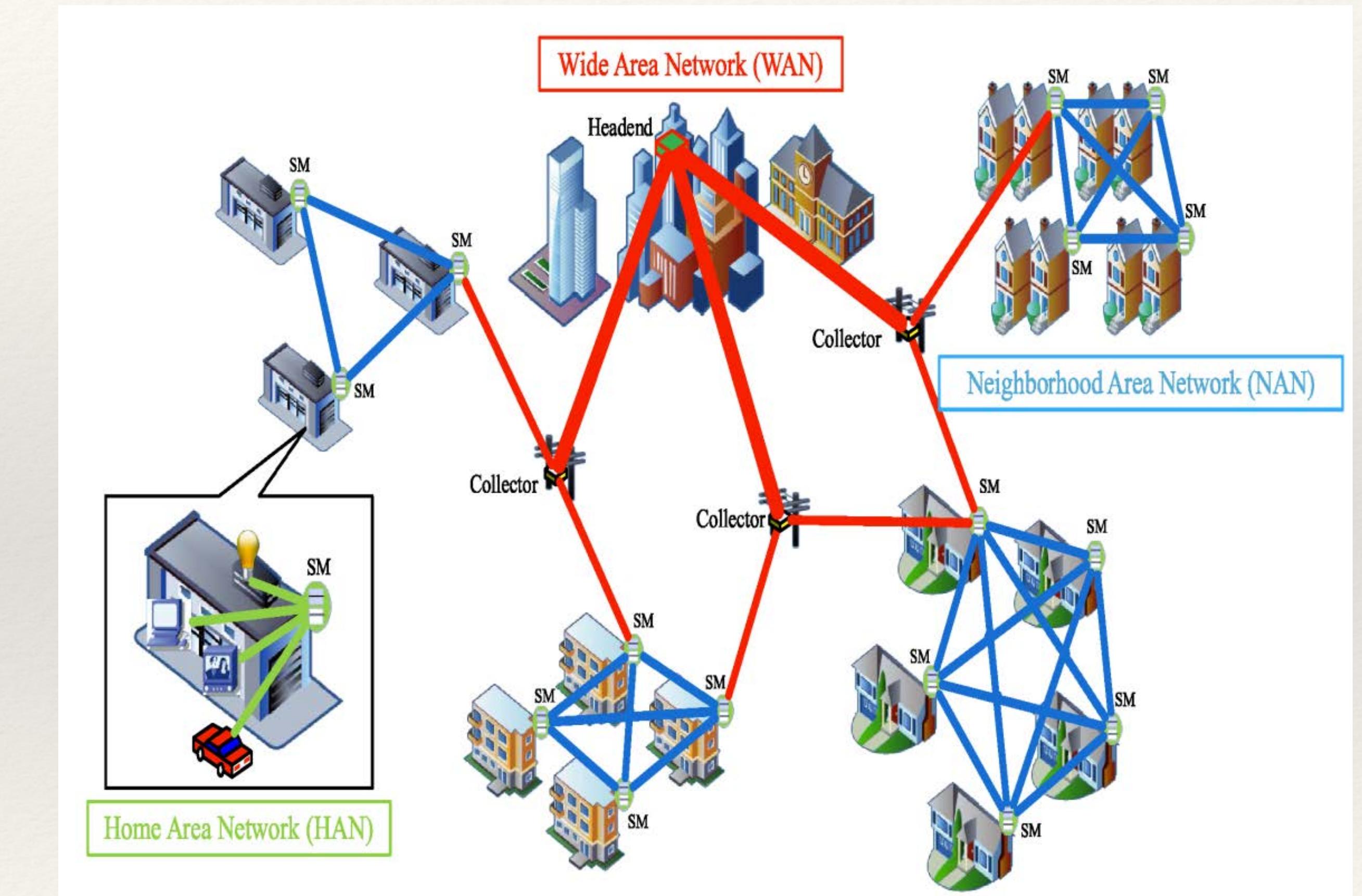
# Related Work in Smart Grid Anomaly Detection

- ❖ Signature-based Methods (e.g., Snort, Bro)
  - ❖ Needs signatures, could miss polymorphic malware
- ❖ Specification-based Detection
  - ❖ Data validation, range checks: can be cumbersome to fine-tune
- ❖ Behavioral-based Techniques
  - ❖ Statistical based: classification/clustering
  - ❖ State Space techniques
  - ❖ Graphical based
  - ❖ Game theory methods (price manipulation)

Network-view  
perspective

# AMI Architecture – Bottom-Up Approach

- ❖ **Home Area Network (HAN)**
  - ❖ Smart meter & appliances
  - ❖ Lightweight communication protocols (WiFi or ZWave)
- ❖ **Neighborhood Area Network (NAN)**
  - ❖ Aggregates data from HAN meters
  - ❖ Long-range wireless communications (e.g., cellular)
- ❖ **Wide Area Network (WAN)**
  - ❖ Connects the utility to NANs and data concentrators



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- ❖ **Introduction - Problem Motivation**
- ❖ **Correlative Monitoring Approach**

# HAN Monitoring - Modular Approach

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Data Collection

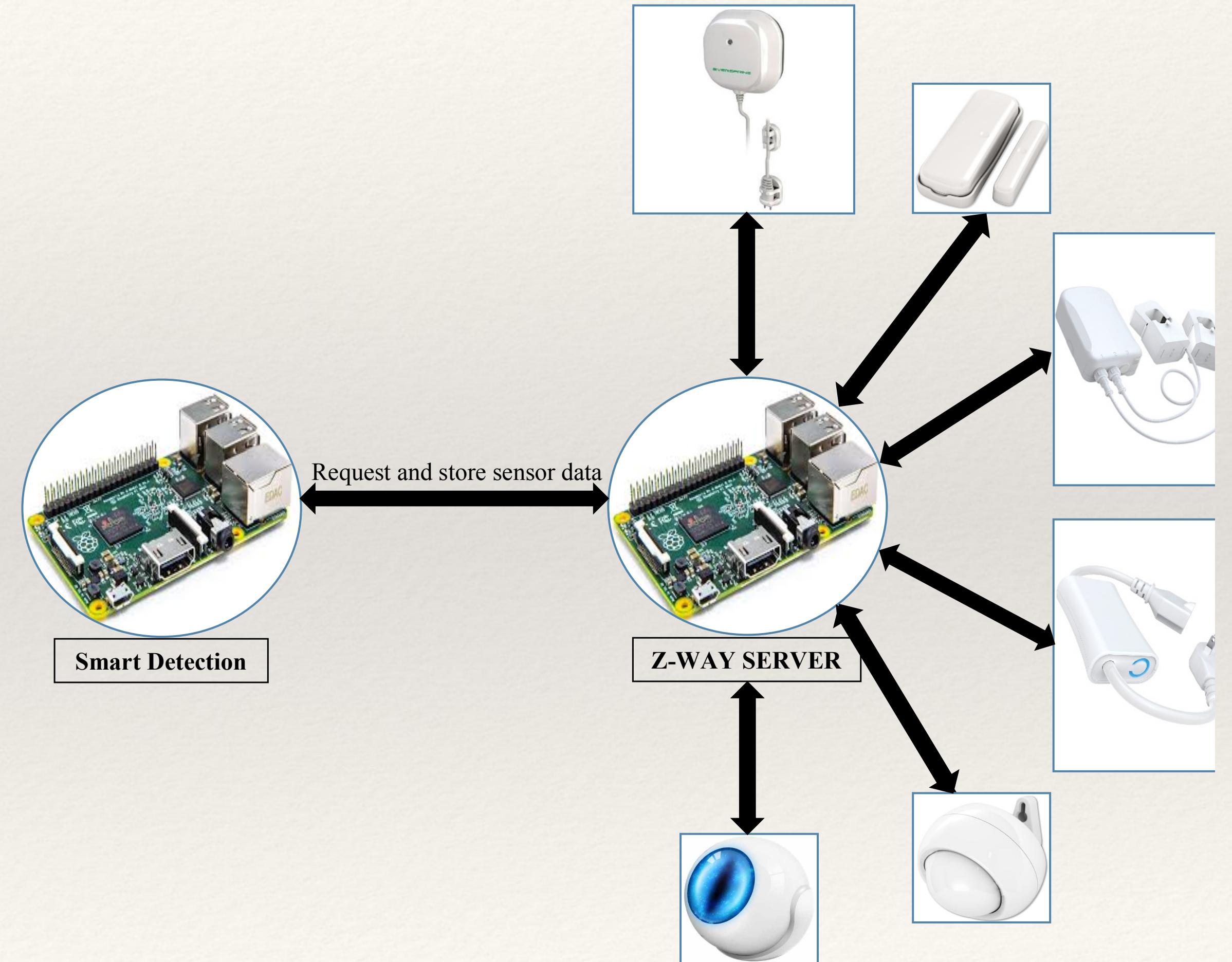
Forecasting

Hypothesis Testing

Dashboard / App

# Correlative Monitoring Approach - Data Collection

- ❖ **Data-driven methodology**
- ❖ **Associate AMI energy consumption with data from sensors**
- ❖ **Examples: motion, temperature, circuit information, characteristics of home appliances**
- ❖ **Off-the-shelf sensors for home automation**



# HAN Monitoring - Modular Approach

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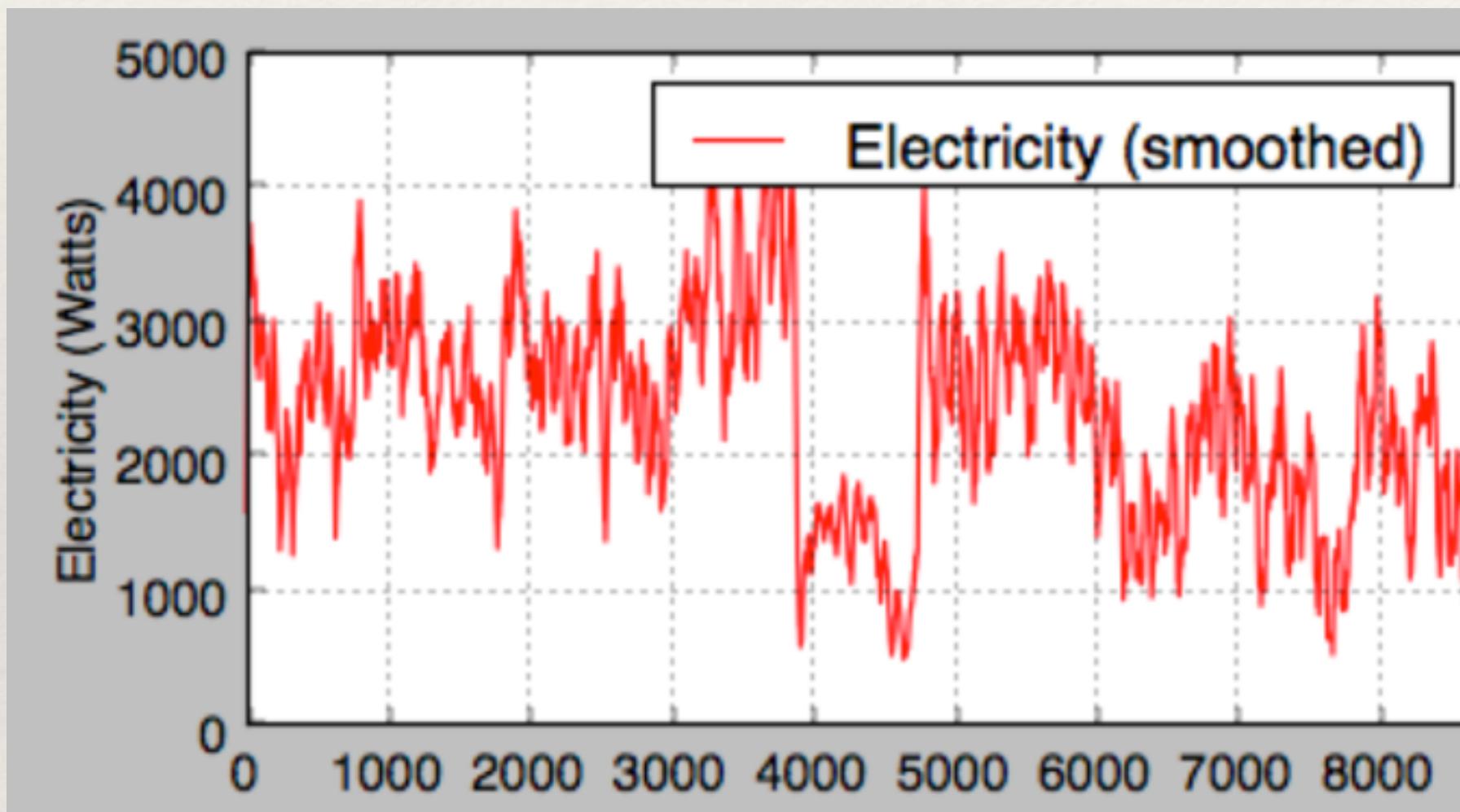
Data Collection

Forecasting

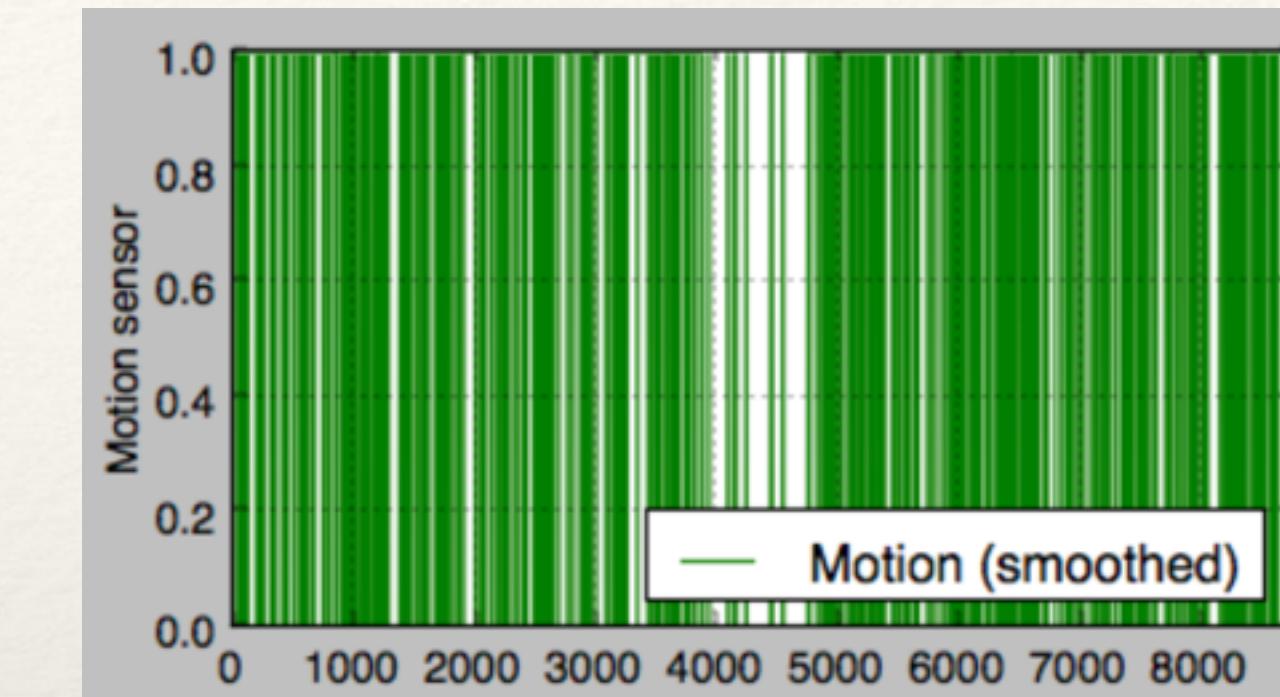
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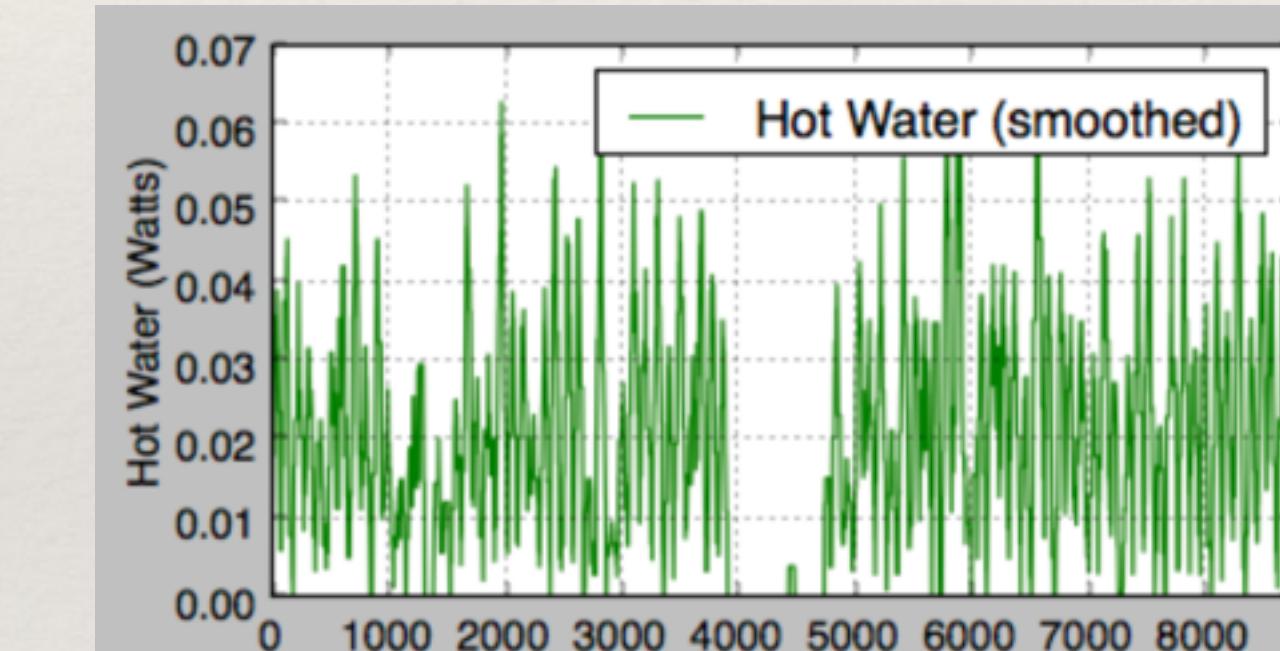
# Correlative Monitoring - Forecasting Module



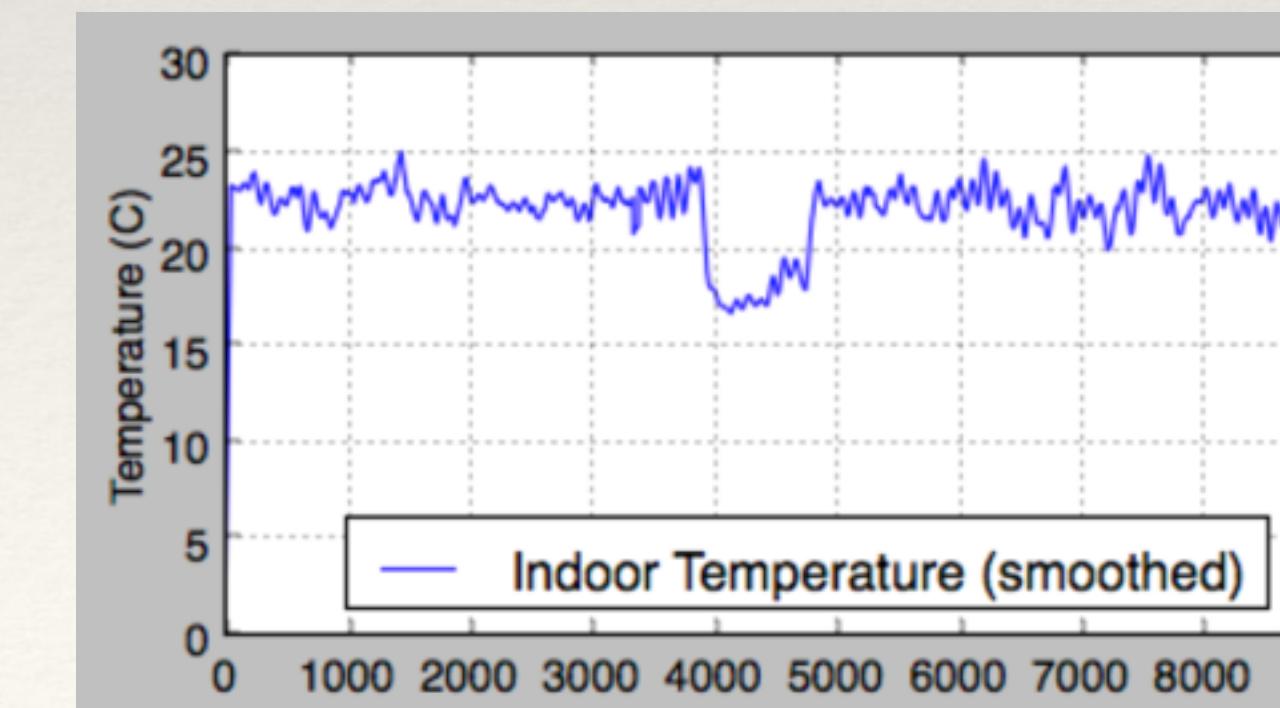
target variable (t)  
Total Electricity



Motion



Hot Water



Indoor  
Temperature

# Main steps of the detection algorithm

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- ❖ **Build predictive model** that forecasts energy consumption in the next time period(s) based on past consumption (over a trailing window) and other sensor readings
  - ❖ Various choices: linear, kernel, GP regression, support vector regression

Upon observing  $(t_n, \mathbf{x}_n)$ , compute  $y(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w})$

# Main steps of the detection algorithm

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- ❖ Build predictive model that forecasts energy consumption in the next time period(s) based on past consumption (over a trailing window) and other sensor readings
  - ❖ Various choices: linear, kernel, GP regression, support vector regression
- ❖ Obtain forecasting error: (prediction - actual reading)

Compute error  $e_n = t_n - y(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w})$

# HAN Monitoring - Modular Approach

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Data Collection

Forecasting

Hypothesis Testing

Dashboard / App

# Main steps of the detection algorithm

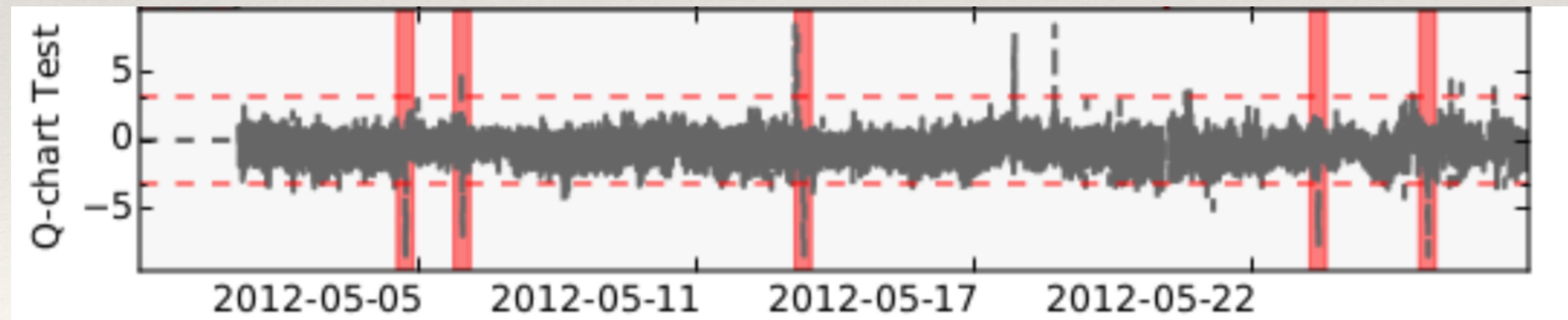
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  - ❖ Various choices: linear, kernel, GP regression, support vector regression
- ❖ Obtain forecasting error: (prediction - actual reading)
- ❖ Use predictive distribution to calculate the tail (p-value) of the error

$$p(e_n | \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) = \mathcal{N}(e_n | 0, \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}_n))$$

# Main steps of the detection algorithm

- ❖ Build predictive model that forecasts energy consumption in the next time period(s) based on past consumption (over a trailing window) and other sensor readings
  - ❖ Various choices: linear, kernel, GP regression, support vector regression
- ❖ Obtain forecasting error: (prediction - actual reading)
- ❖ Use Exponentially Weighted Moving Average charts to identify out-of-control



# Main steps of the detection algorithm

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- ❖ Build predictive model that forecasts energy consumption in the next time period(s) based on past consumption (over a trailing window) and other sensor readings
  - ❖ Various choices: linear, kernel, GP regression, support vector regression
- ❖ Obtain forecasting error: (prediction - actual reading)
- ❖ Use Exponentially Weighted Moving Average charts to identify out-of-control:
  - ❖ forecasting errors
  - ❖ Or their p-values, if reference distribution exists for normal operations (see Lambert and Liu, JASA, 2006)
  - ❖ Extensive literature on selecting adaptive thresholds and memory parameters for the EWMA chart (book by Qiu, 2014)
  - ❖ Employ the two-in-a-row rule to robustly the out-of-control calls (Lucas and Santucci, Technometrics, 1993)

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# Agenda

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- ❖ Introduction - Problem Motivation
- ❖ Correlative Monitoring Approach
- ❖ Performance Evaluation

# Evaluation: Smart\* dataset

- ❖ Measurement period: May - July 2012
- ❖ Granularity of 1-minute
- ❖ Training window size: 24 hours
- ❖ Forecasting period: 30, 60 minutes
- ❖ Inject random data attacks

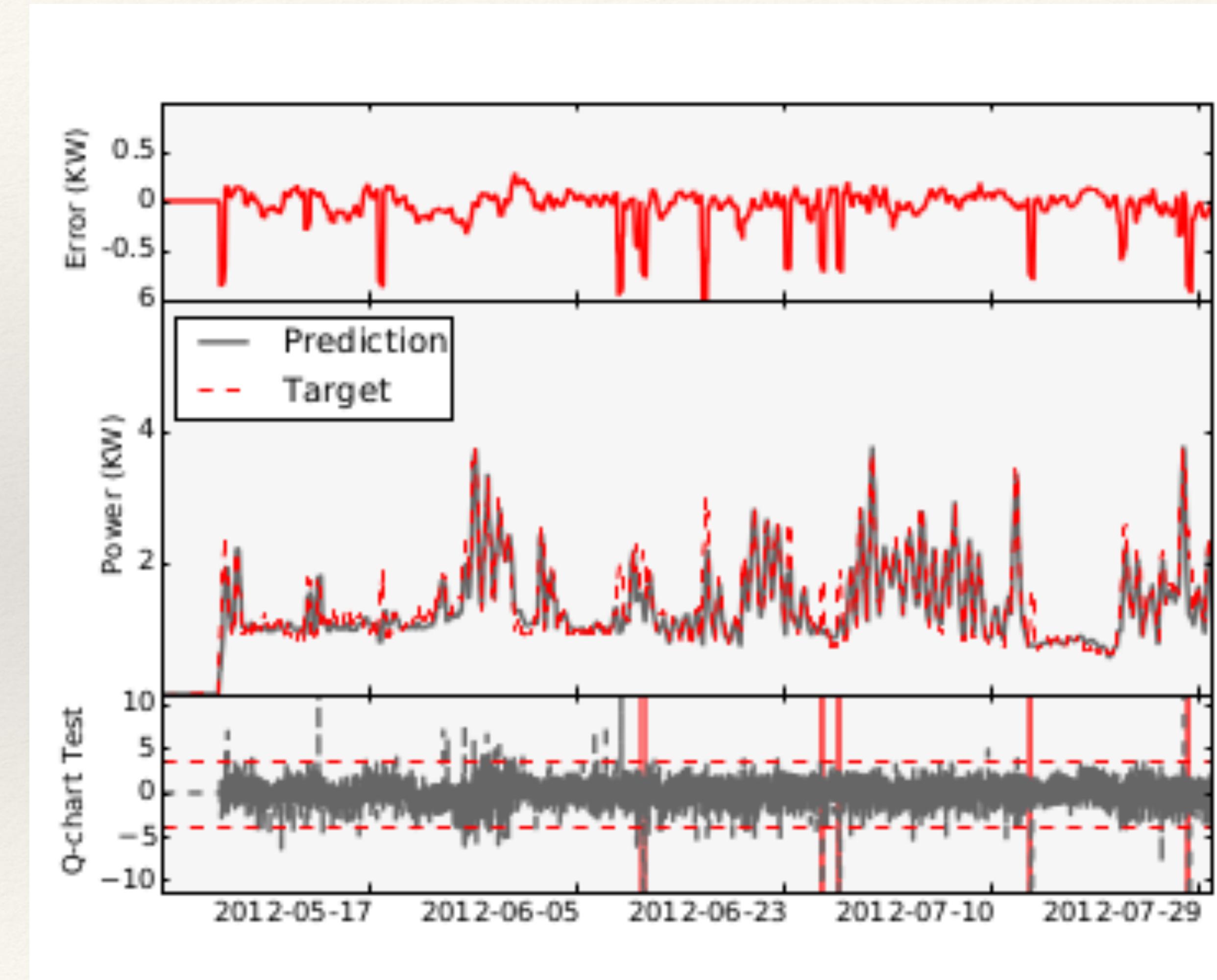


TABLE I: Evaluation of detection performance on the Smart\* dataset. Values in parenthesis signify standard deviations.

| <b>Shift<br/>(KW)</b> | <b>Weight<br/><math>\lambda</math></b> | <b>Delay<br/>(in mins)</b> | <b>Precision</b>     | <b>Recall</b>         | <b>F1-score</b> |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| -1                    | 1                                      | 9.7 <sub>(7.2)</sub>       | .29 <sub>(.45)</sub> | .07 <sub>(.11)</sub>  | .11             |
|                       | .53                                    | 8.1 <sub>(4.6)</sub>       | .76 <sub>(.41)</sub> | .29 <sub>(.21)</sub>  | .42             |
|                       | .84                                    | 10.4 <sub>(5.5)</sub>      | .48 <sub>(.50)</sub> | .12 <sub>(.14)</sub>  | .19             |
| 1                     | 1                                      | 8.0 <sub>(4.5)</sub>       | .75 <sub>(.43)</sub> | .26 <sub>(.19)</sub>  | .38             |
|                       | .53                                    | 3.4 <sub>(1.7)</sub>       | .95 <sub>(.17)</sub> | .50 <sub>(.22)</sub>  | .66             |
|                       | .84                                    | 6.6 <sub>(3.4)</sub>       | .86 <sub>(.31)</sub> | .31 <sub>(.19)</sub>  | .46             |
| 3                     | 1                                      | 1.1 <sub>(.5)</sub>        | .98 <sub>(.05)</sub> | 1.00 <sub>(.03)</sub> | .99             |
|                       | .53                                    | 1.0 <sub>(.0)</sub>        | .98 <sub>(.06)</sub> | 1.00 <sub>(.03)</sub> | .99             |
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| 6                     | 1                                      | 1.2 <sub>(.9)</sub>        | .96 <sub>(.11)</sub> | .99 <sub>(.05)</sub>  | .97             |
|                       | .53                                    | 1.0 <sub>(.0)</sub>        | .97 <sub>(.08)</sub> | 1.00 <sub>(.05)</sub> | .98             |
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# Summary & Future Directions

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- ❖ Correlative monitoring in HANs, bottom-up approach
- ❖ Proof-of-concept implementation with Raspberry Pi's and Z-Wave sensors - partnership with NextEnergy!
- ❖ Incorporate energy harvesting sensing!
- ❖ Acknowledgements: Joe Adams, Yeabsera Kebede, Max Morgan, Davis Vorva (UM/Merit), Atman Fozdar (EMU), Wayne Snyder (NextEnergy)
- ❖ Supported by NSF SATC CNS-1422078

**“If we have data, let’s look at data.  
If all we have are opinions, let’s go with mine.”**

*—Jim Barksdale, former Netscape CEO*

# Supplementary Material

# Bayesian Linear Regression

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- ❖ Avoid the need for cross-validation and model selection
- ❖ Provides a predictive distribution
- ❖ Linear: good choice when data from HAN circuits are available. In addition, with appropriate basis functions non-linearity may not be an issue

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# Framework 1 Measurement-based False Data Detection

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**Require:** For each forecasting period: new training set  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{t}$ .

**Require:** Control chart parameters  $\lambda$  and  $L$ .

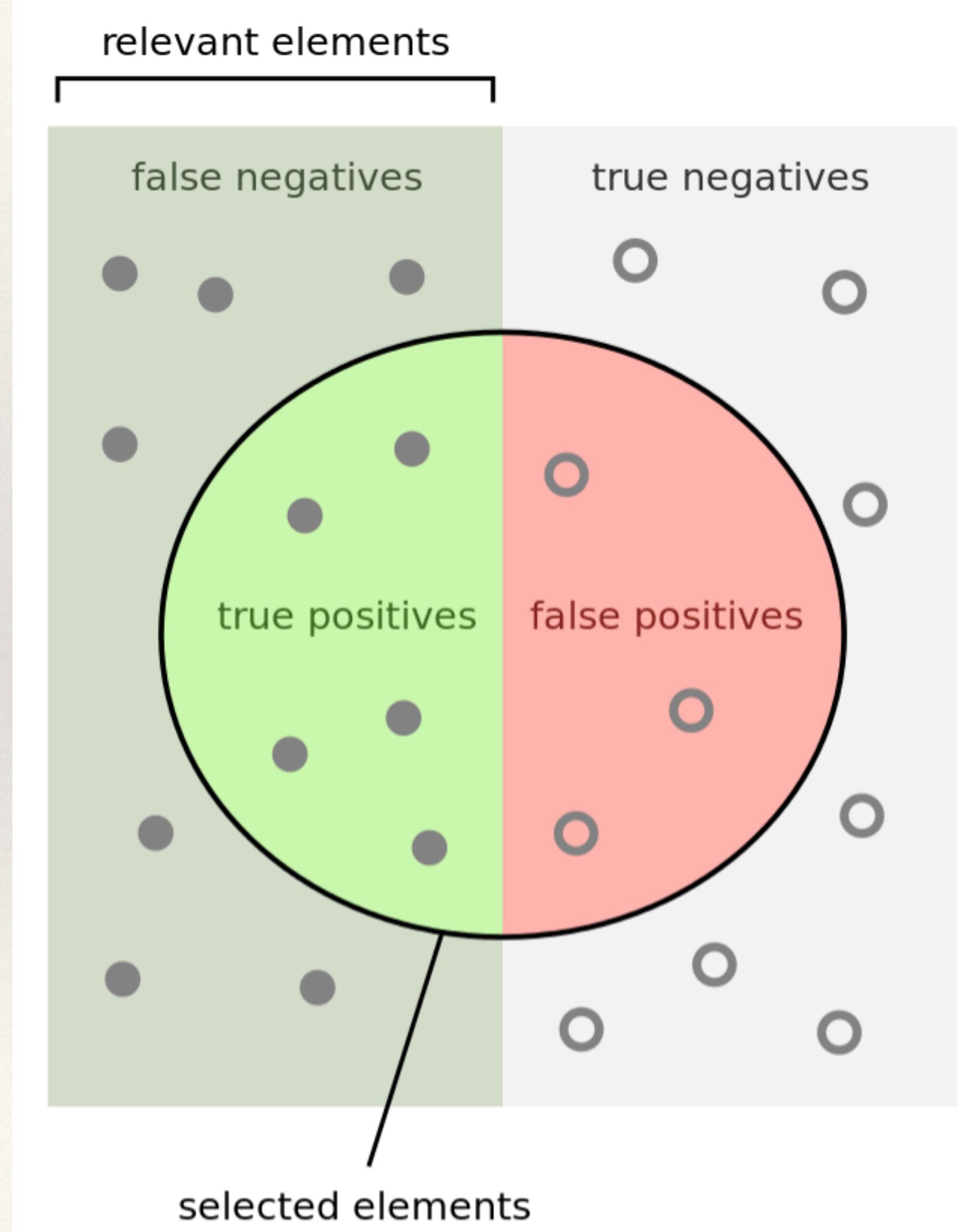
**Require:** Robust threshold  $\theta_r$  and period  $\nu$ .

- 1: [Start] Fit the model and begin data monitoring.
  - 2: [Forecast] Upon observing  $(t_n, \mathbf{x}_n)$ , compute  $y(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w})$ .
  - 3: [Update] Compute error  $e_n = t_n - y(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w})$ .
  - 4: [Control Chart] Compute  $S_n = f(\lambda, L, e_n)$ .
  - 5: [Robust EWMA] Apply two-in-a-row rule on  $S_n$  (see section III-B).
  - 6: [Robust Filter] Update  $A = \{k : |S_k| > L\sigma_\lambda, k = n - \nu, \dots, n\}$ .
  - 7: [Decision] Raise alarm if  $|A| > \theta_r$ , else system is in-control.
-

# DTE Energy Bridge - App access to meter



# Precision & Recall



How many selected items are relevant?

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\text{true positives}}{\text{true positives} + \text{false positives}}$$

How many relevant items are selected?

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{true positives}}{\text{true positives} + \text{false negatives}}$$