

# 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





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# Smart Meter Vulnerabilities

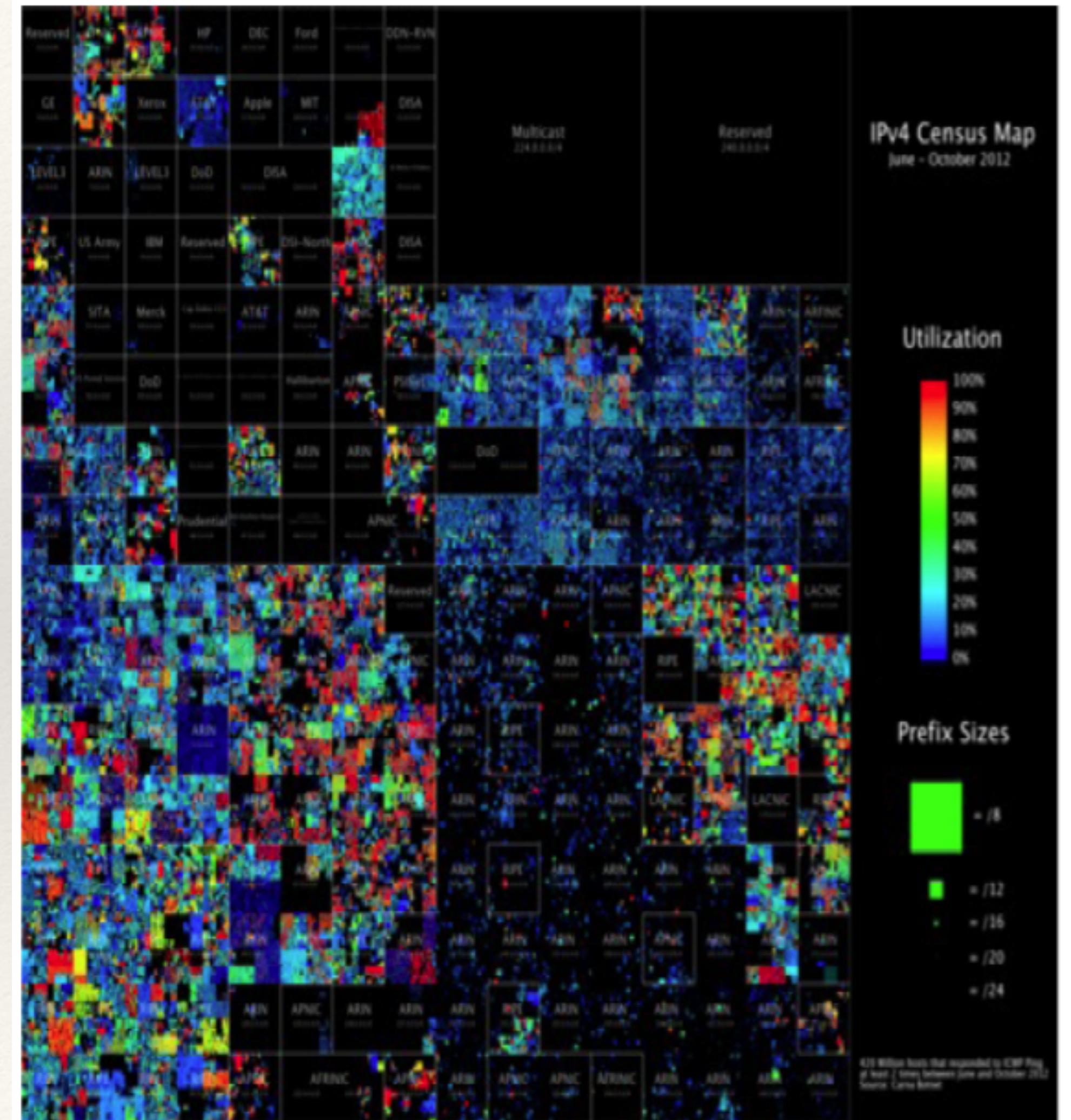
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- ❖ **Rapid deployment of smart meters entails installing low-cost commodity embedded devices in physically insecure locations with a lengthy operational lifetime (several decades)**



# 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!**





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# Related Work in Smart Grid Anomaly Detection

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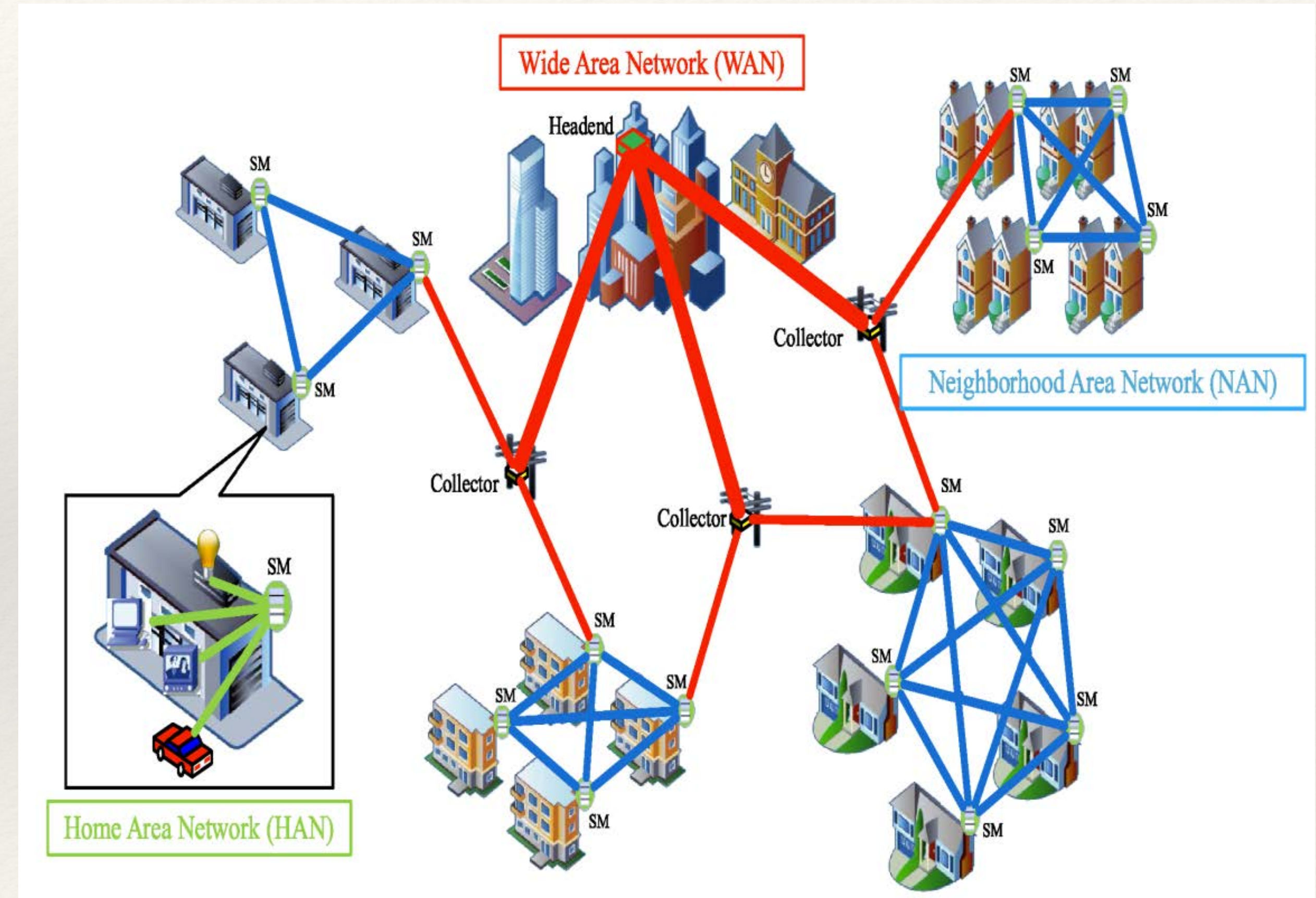
- ❖ **Signature-based Methods (e.g., Snort, Bro)**
  - ❖ Needs signatures, could miss polymorphic malware
- ❖ **Specification-based Detection**
  - ❖ Data validation, range checks: can be cumbersome to fine-tune
- ❖ **Behavioral-based Techniques**
  - ❖ Statistical based: classification/clustering
  - ❖ 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**



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# HAN Monitoring - Modular Approach

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Data Collection

Forecasting

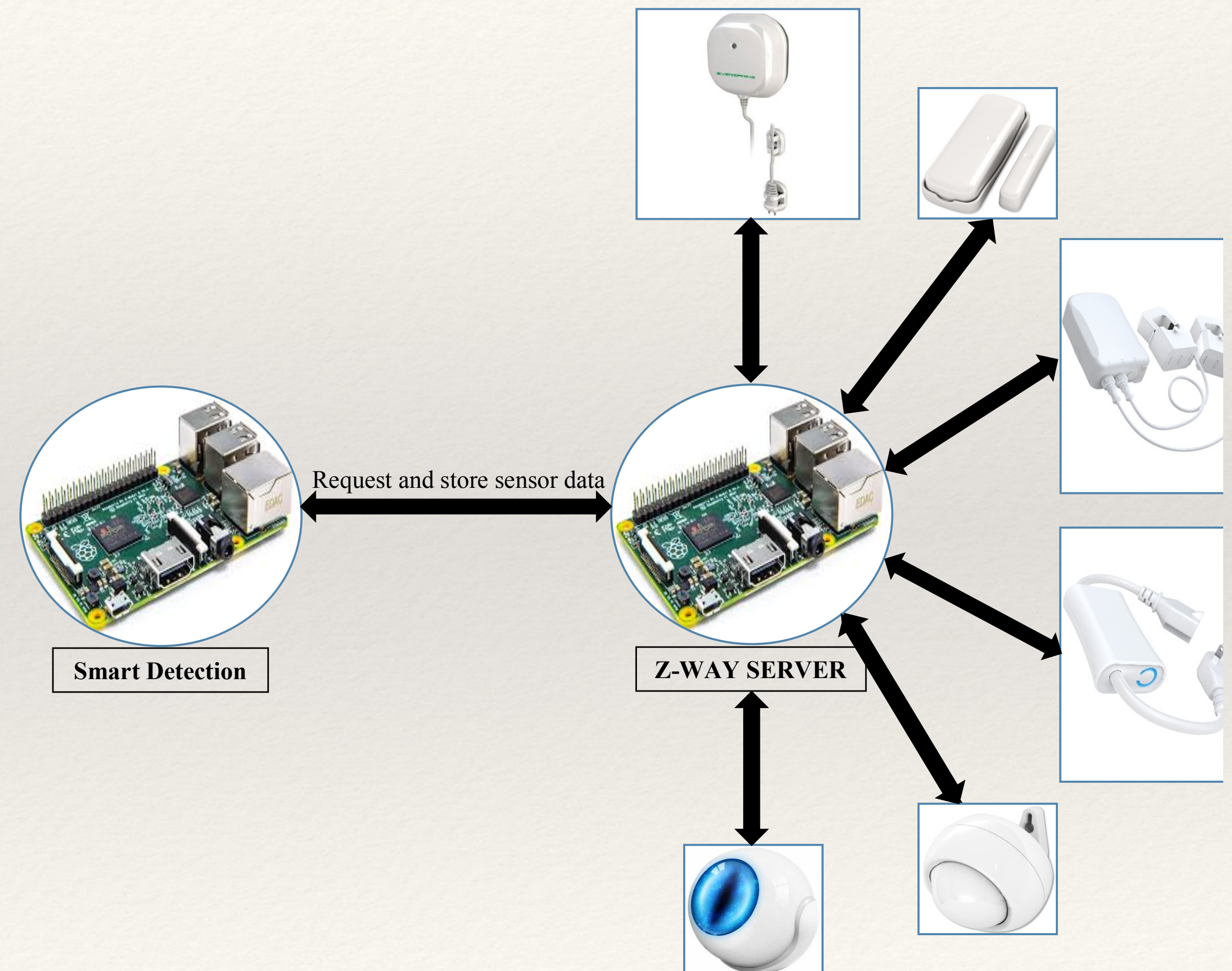
Hypothesis Testing

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





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# HAN Monitoring - Modular Approach

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Data Collection

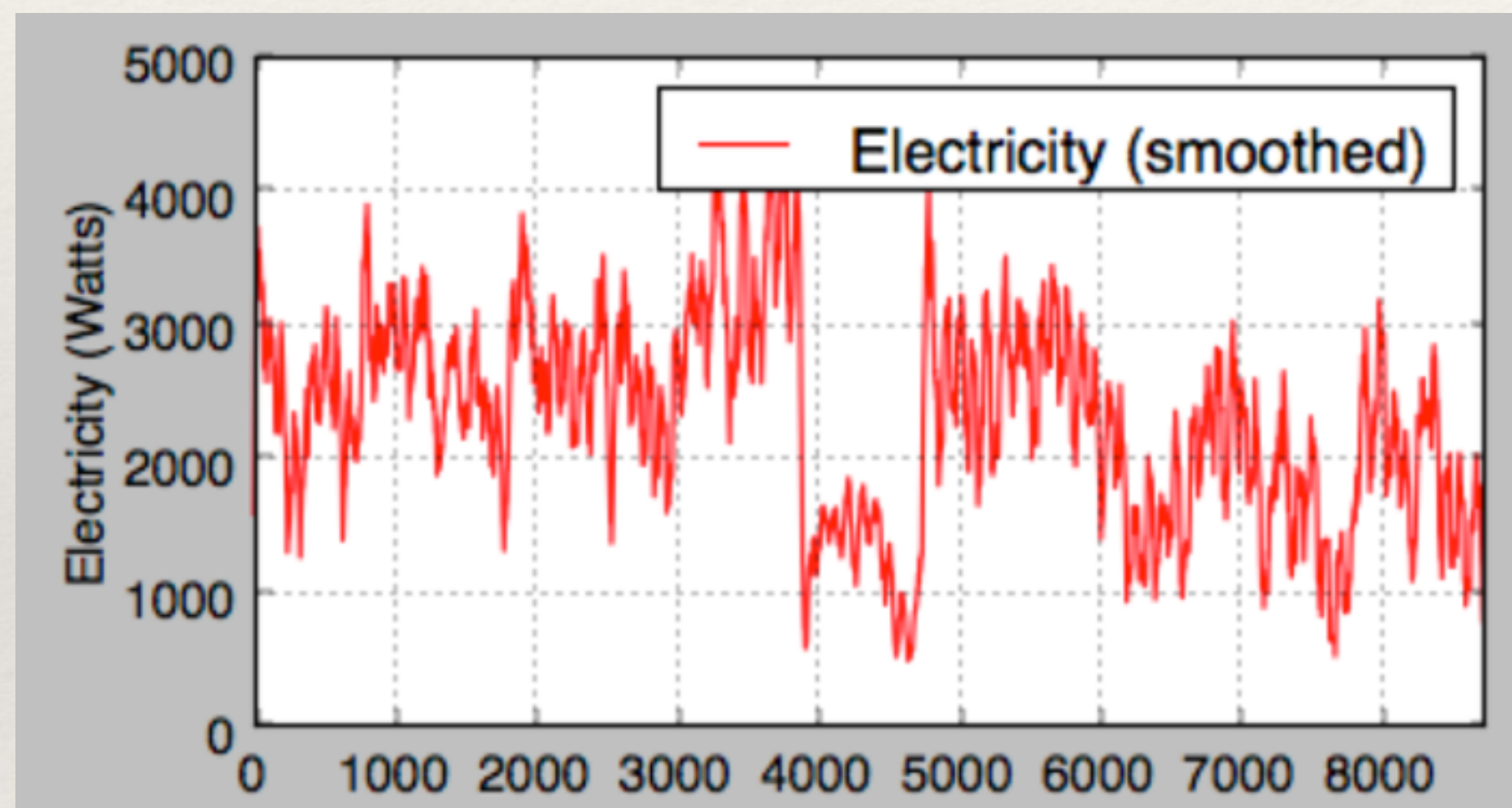
**Forecasting**

Hypothesis Testing

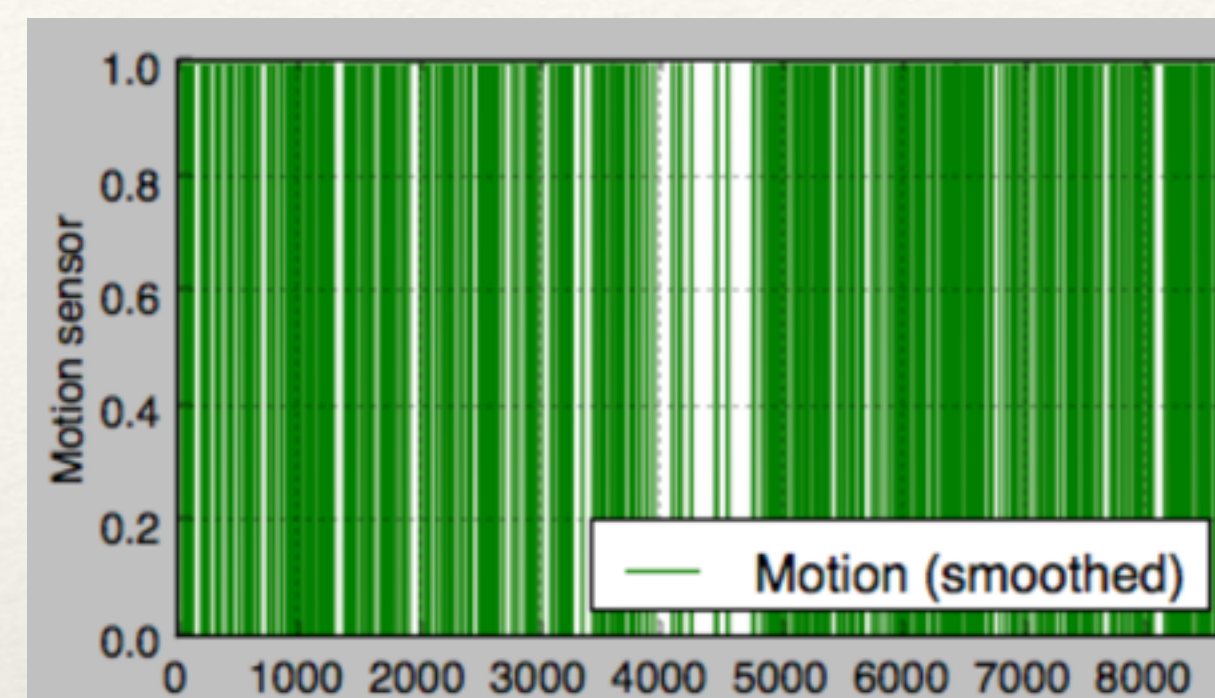
Dashboard / App



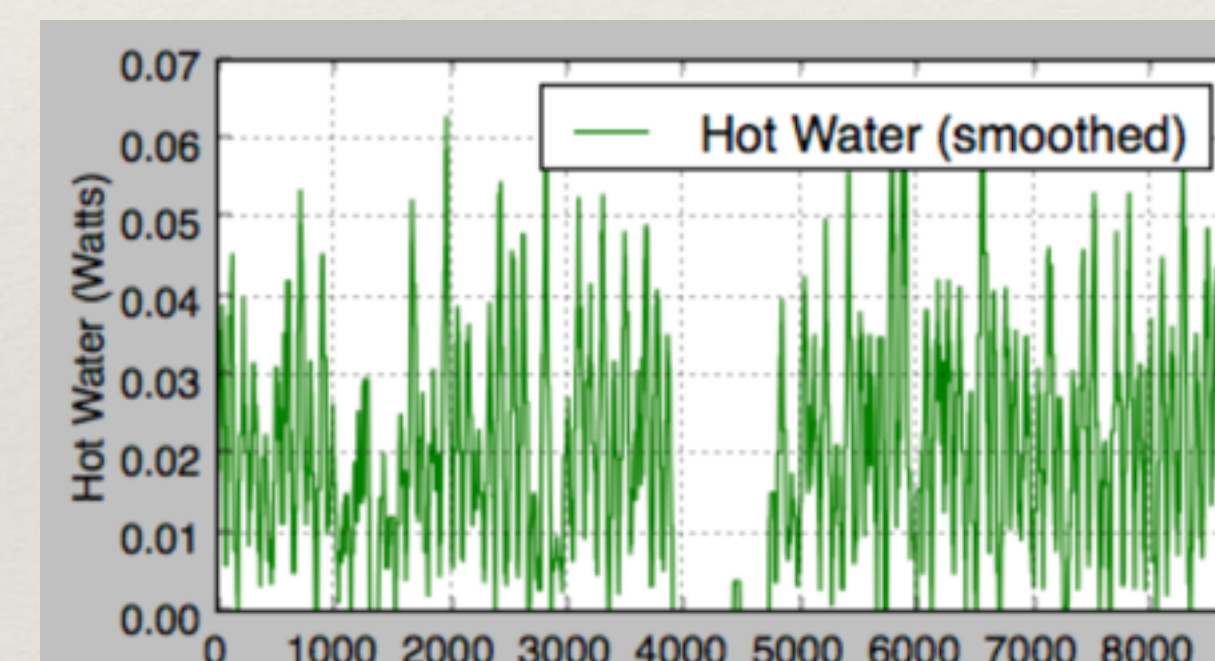
# Correlative Monitoring - Forecasting Module



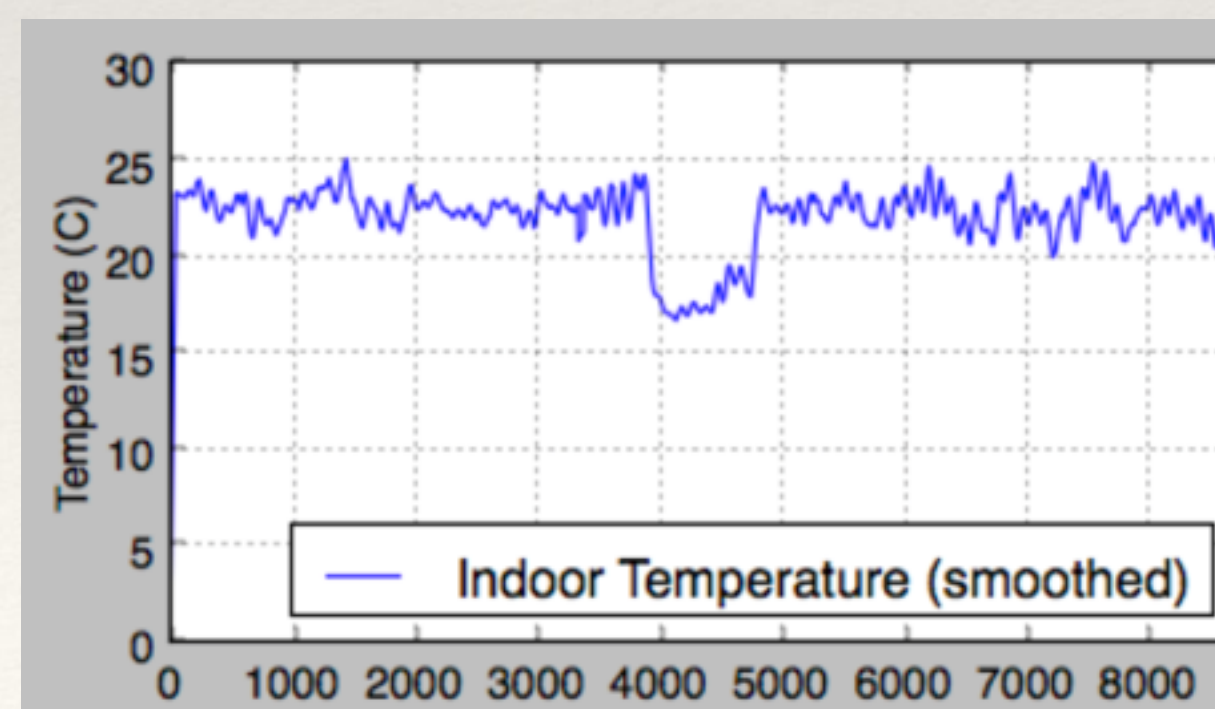
target variable (t)  
Total Electricity



Motion



Hot Water



Indoor  
Temperature



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# 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  $y(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w})$



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- ❖ **Obtain forecasting error:** (prediction - actual reading)

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



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# HAN Monitoring - Modular Approach

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Data Collection

Forecasting

**Hypothesis Testing**

Dashboard / App



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# Main steps of the detection algorithm

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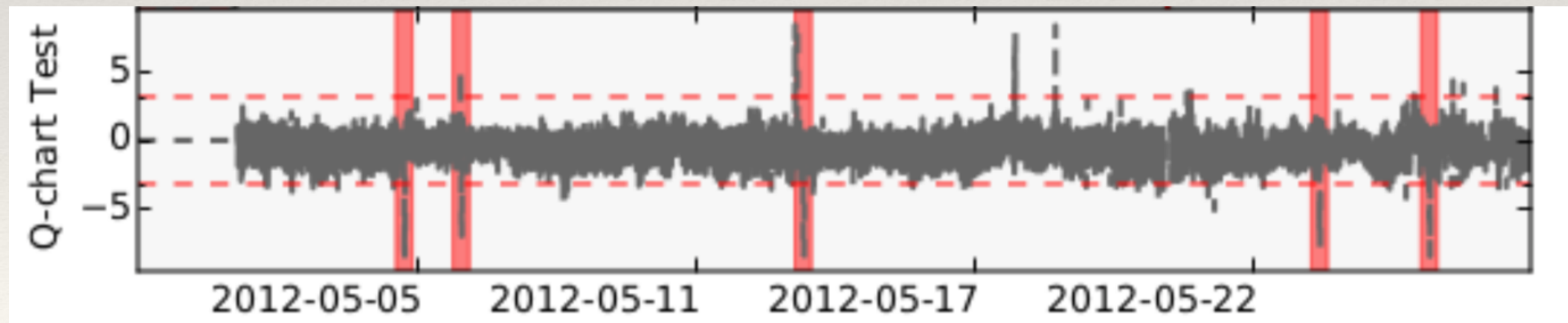
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- ❖ **Obtain forecasting error:** (prediction - actual reading)
- ❖ Use **predictive distribution** to calculate the **tail (p-value)** of the error

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



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- ❖ Use Exponentially Weighted Moving Average charts to identify **out-of-control**





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  - ❖ 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

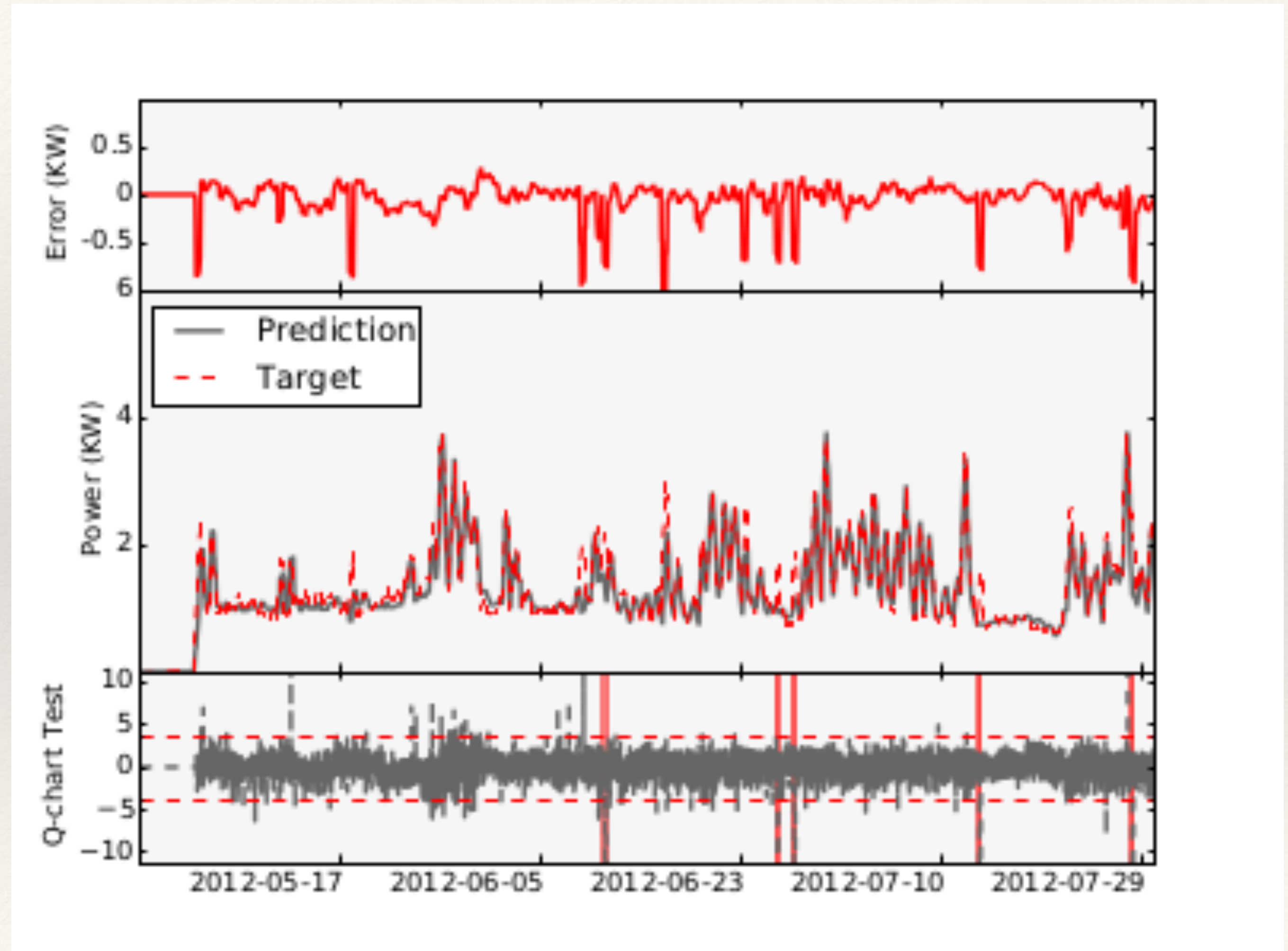




TABLE I: Evaluation of detection performance on the Smart\* dataset. Values in parenthesis signify standard deviations.

Shift (KW)	Weight $\lambda$	Delay (in mins)	Precision	Recall	F1-score
-1	1	9.7 <sub>(7.2)</sub>	.29 <sub>(.45)</sub>	.07 <sub>(.11)</sub>	.11
-1	.53	8.1 <sub>(4.6)</sub>	.76 <sub>(.41)</sub>	.29 <sub>(.21)</sub>	.42
-1	.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
1	.53	3.4 <sub>(1.7)</sub>	.95 <sub>(.17)</sub>	.50 <sub>(.22)</sub>	.66
1	.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
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6	1	1.2 <sub>(.9)</sub>	.96 <sub>(.11)</sub>	.99 <sub>(.05)</sub>	.97
6	.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



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# 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.
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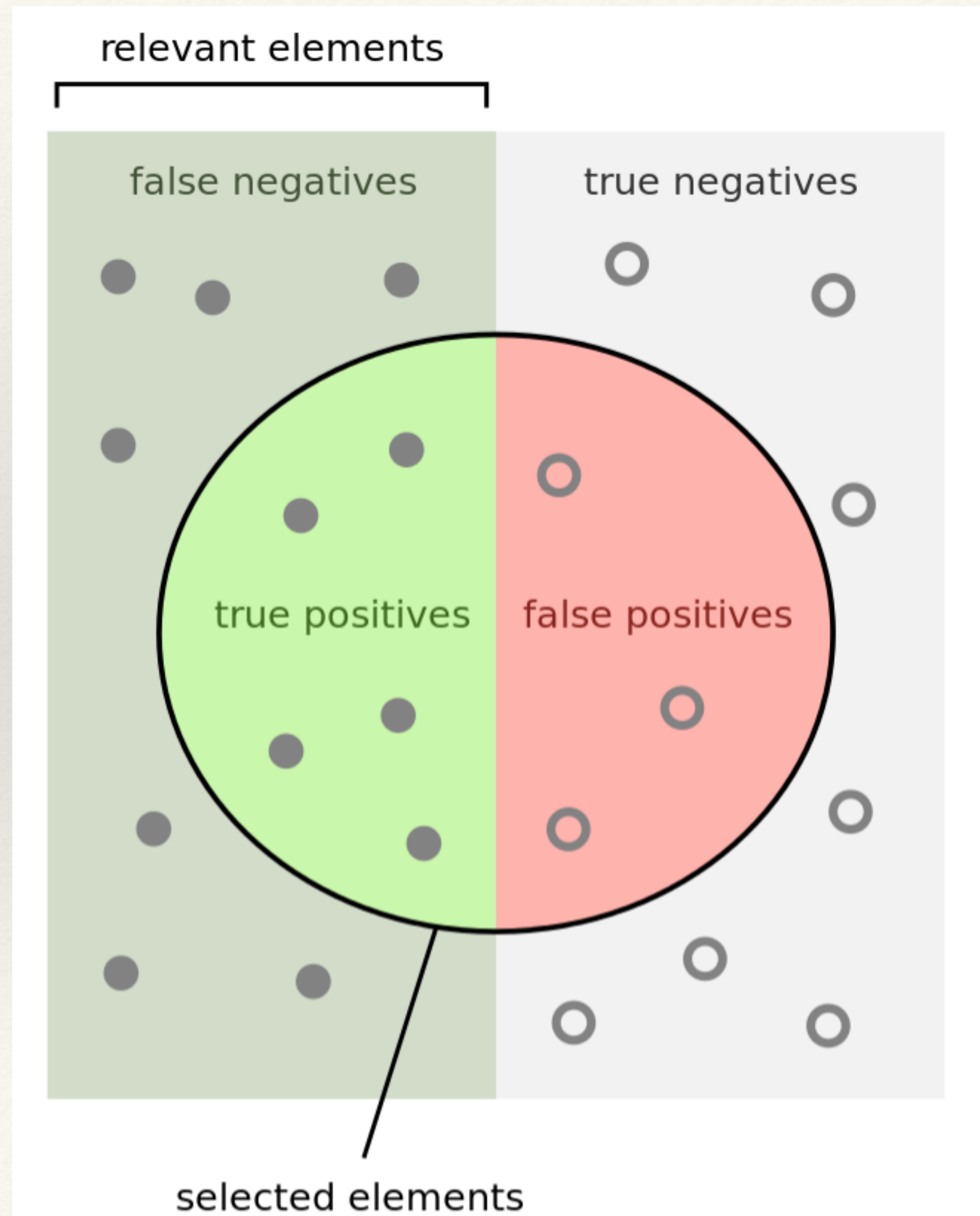


# DTE Energy Bridge - App access to meter





# 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?

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