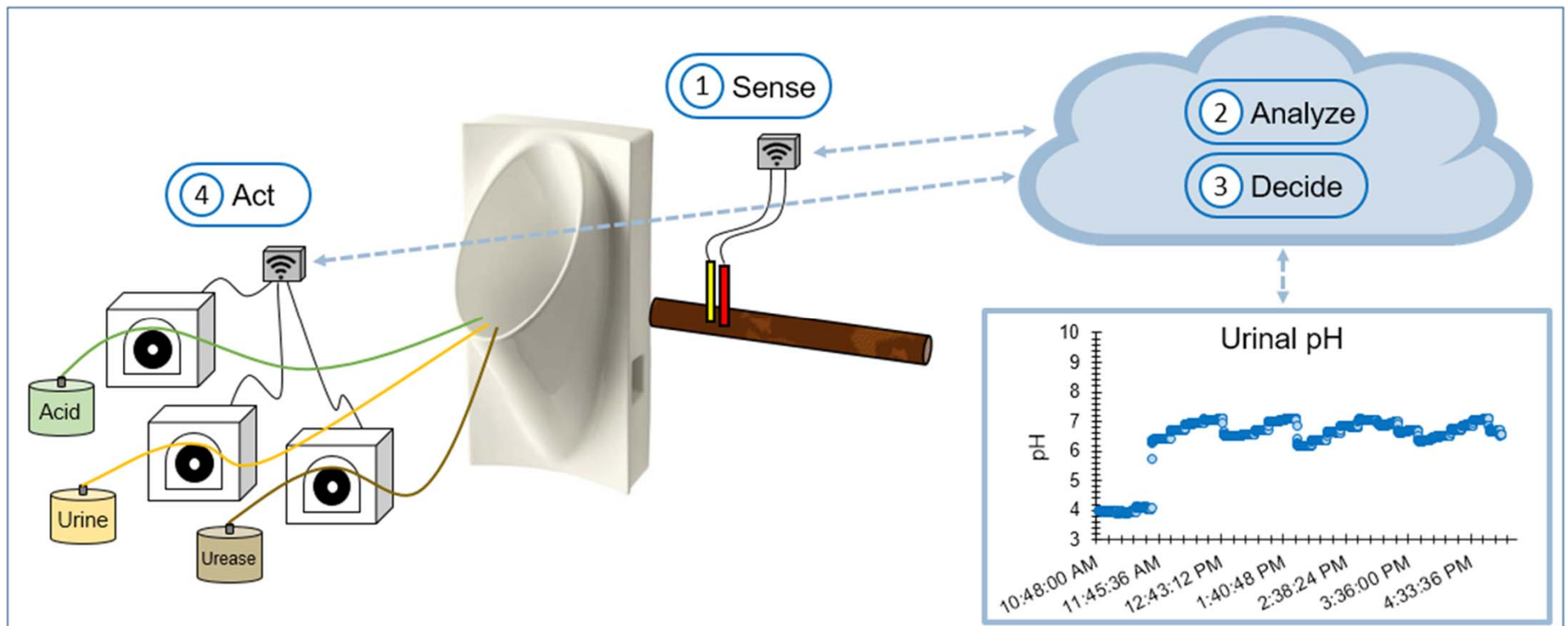


Sensor and Actuator System Transform Nonwater Urinal Into “Smart” Urinal

Treavor Boyer (thboyer@asu.edu) and Daniella Saetta

May 11, 2022



Acknowledgements



CAREER: Sustainable Urine Processes through integration of Education and Research (SUPER)



EPA Center for Reinventing Aging Infrastructure for Nutrient Management (RAINmgt)



Prevention of Pharmaceutical Water Pollution by Urine Source Separation and Treatment



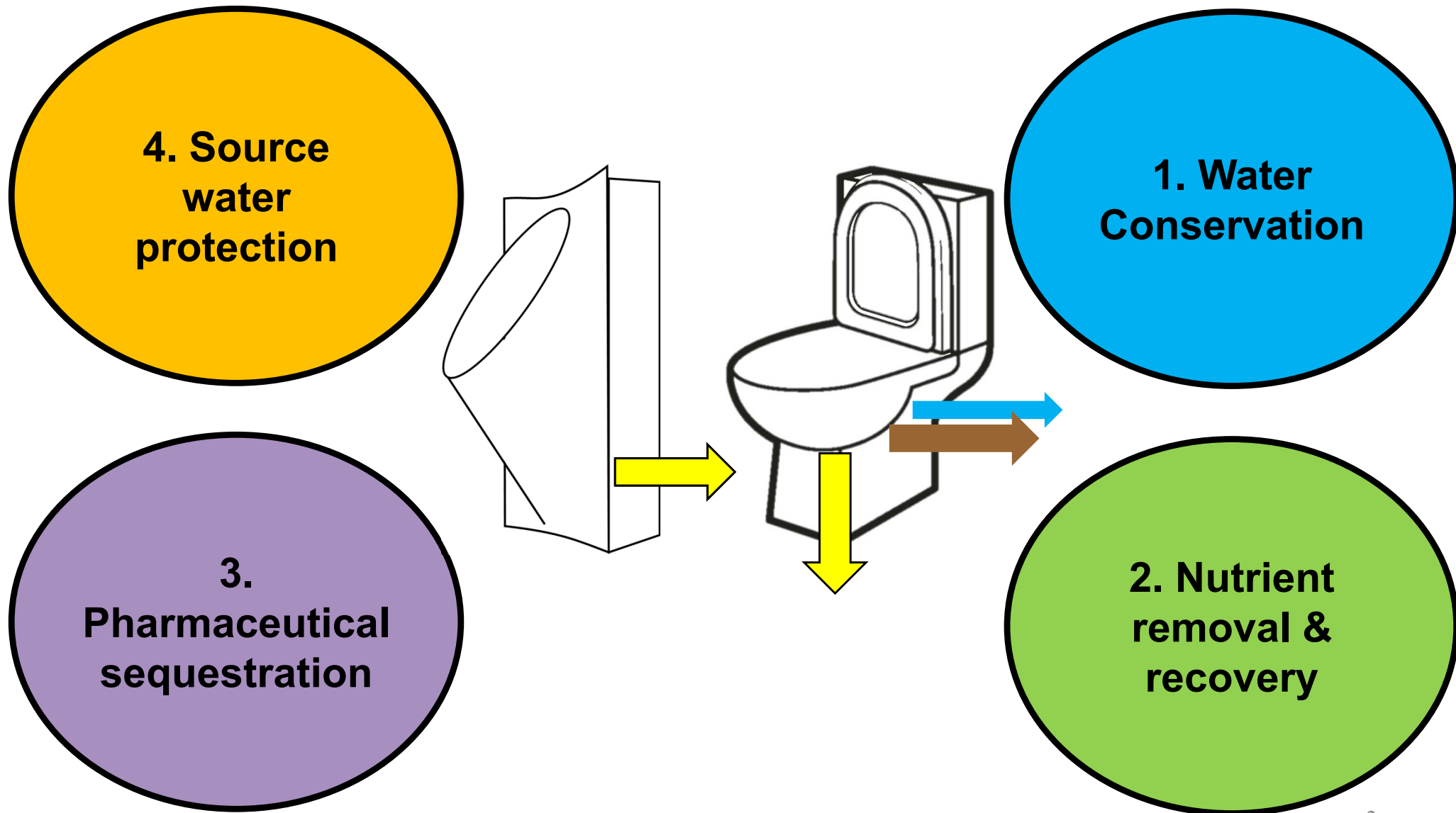
Urine Source Separation and Treatment: Nutrient Recovery using Low-Cost Materials



STEPS
Science and Technologies for Phosphorus Sustainability



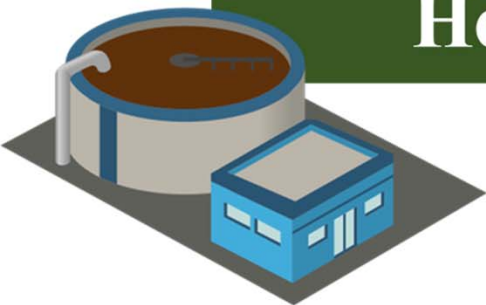
Opportunities for urine diversion



How do we achieve radical change?



How do we achieve radical change?



In incremental steps

Laboratory research

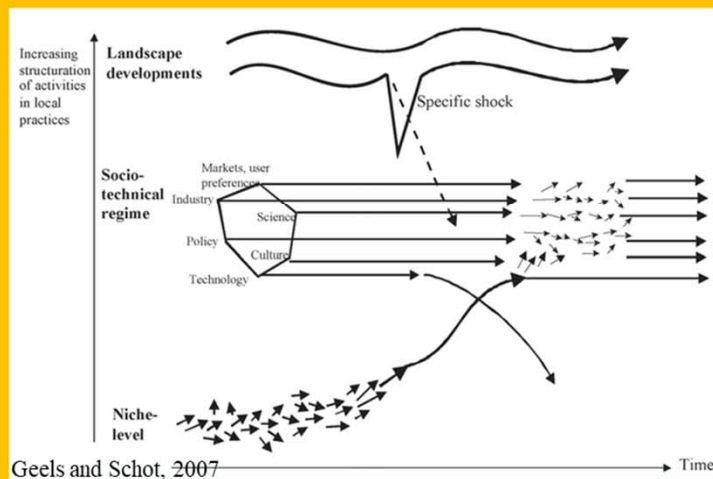
Community-scale urine collection

Research building implementation

★
Nonwater urinal implementation

Multiple CI building implementation

City-wide implementation



Our progress on urine diversion

1

Urine collection

Environmental Science & Technology

Mimicking and Inhibiting Urea Hydrolysis in Nonwater Urinals
Daniella Saetta^{1,2} and Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Real-Time Monitoring and Control of Urea Hydrolysis in Cyber-Enabled Nonwater Urinal System
Daniella Saetta^{1,2}, Arsh Padda¹, Xiushuang Li¹, Carlos Leyva¹, Pitu B. Mirchandani¹, Dragan Boskovic^{1,2} and Trevor H. Boyer¹

Water and Wastewater Building CPS: Creation of Cyber-Physical Wastewater Collection System Centered on Urine Diversion
DANIELLA SAETTA¹, (Member, IEEE), ARSH PADDA², XIUSHUANG LI², CARLOS LEYVA³, PITU B. MIRCHANDANI², (Life Fellow, IEEE), DRAGAN BOSKOVIĆ^{1,4}, AND TREVOR H. BOYER¹, (Member, IEEE)

2

Pharmaceutical Removal

Environmental Science & Technology

Ion-exchange selectivity of diclofenac, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, and naproxen in ureolyzed human urine
Kelly A. Landry^{1,2}, Peizhe Sun¹, Ching-Hua Huang¹, Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Pharmaceutical removal in synthetic human urine using biochar[†]
Avni Solanki^{1,2} and Trevor H. Boyer¹

3

N, P, & K Recovery

Environmental Science & Technology

Integrated, multi-process approach to total nutrient recovery from stored urine[†]
Neha Jagtap^{1,2} and Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Phosphorus recovery from urine and anaerobic digester filtrate: comparison of adsorption-precipitation with direct precipitation[†]
Jeremy A. O'Neal and Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Desalination

Phosphate removal from urine using hybrid anion exchange resin
Alicia Sendrowski, Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Urea recovery from fresh human urine by forward osmosis and membrane distillation (FO-MD)[†]
Hannah Ray¹, François Perreault and Trevor H. Boyer

Environmental Science & Technology

Ammonia Recovery from Hydrolyzed Human Urine by Forward Osmosis with Acidified Draw Solution
Hannah Ray¹, François Perreault, and Trevor H. Boyer

AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY

Human Urine as a Fertilizer in the Cultivation of Snap Beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) and Turnips (*Brassica rapa*)
Madelyn Pandorf^{1,2}, George Hochmuth¹ and Trevor H. Boyer¹

4

Life Cycle Impacts

Environmental Science & Technology

Life cycle comparison of centralized wastewater treatment and urine source separation with struvite precipitation: Focus on urine nutrient management
Stephanie K.L. Ishii¹, Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Life cycle assessment and costing of urine source separation: Focus on nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug removal
Kelly A. Landry^{1,2}, Trevor H. Boyer¹

Environmental Science & Technology

Fixed Bed Modeling of Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug Removal by Ion-Exchange in Synthetic Urine: Mass Removal or Toxicity Reduction?
Kelly A. Landry^{1,2} and Trevor H. Boyer^{1,2}

Urine collection in a multi-story building and opportunities for onsite recovery of nutrients and non-potable water
Neha S. Jagtap^{1,2}, Trevor H. Boyer¹

5

User Opinions

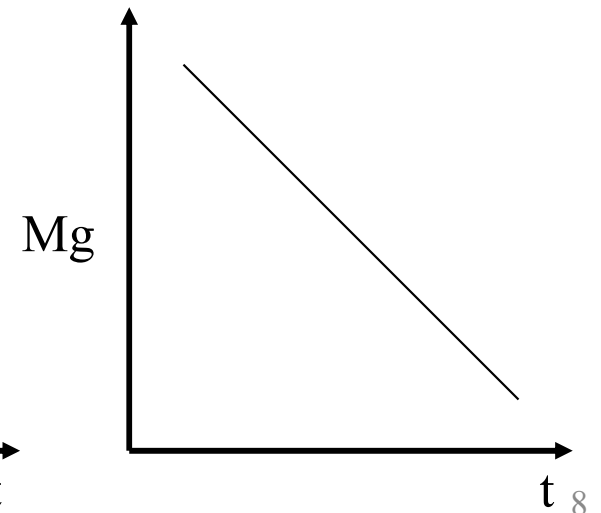
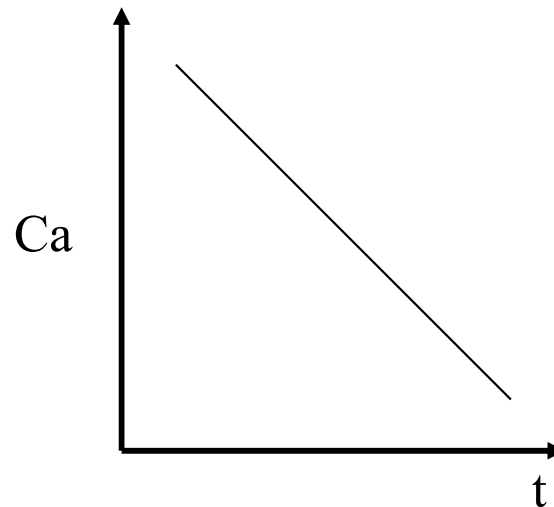
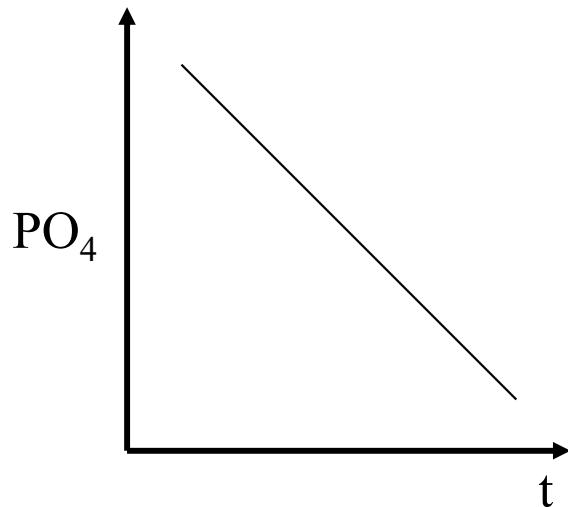
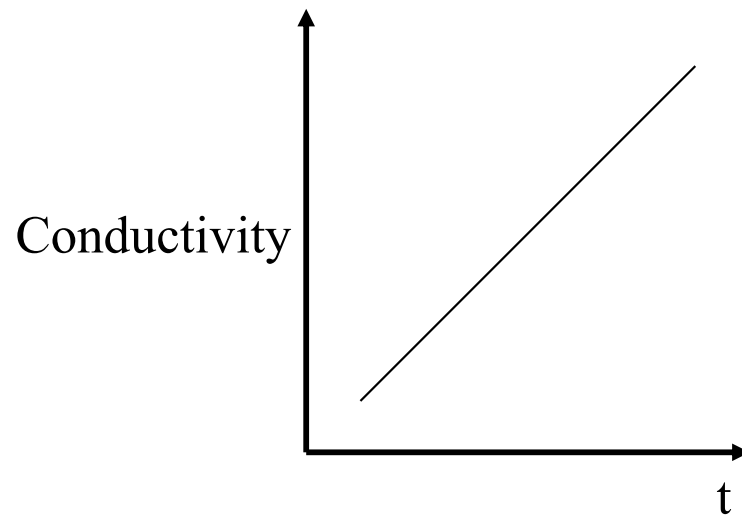
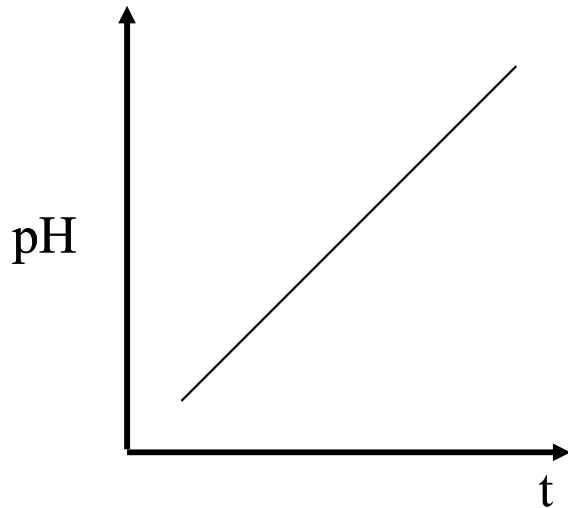
Environmental Science & Technology

Student support and perceptions of urine source separation in a university community
Stephanie K.L. Ishii¹, Trevor H. Boyer¹

Objectives for today

1. Describe the process of urea hydrolysis, its impact on nonwater urinals and urine collection, and its inhibition by chemical addition.
2. Describe the use of sensors and actuators to monitor and manipulate urine chemistry.
3. Highlight results from innovative urinal testbeds that integrate sensors and actuators for urine collection.

Urea hydrolysis and precipitation

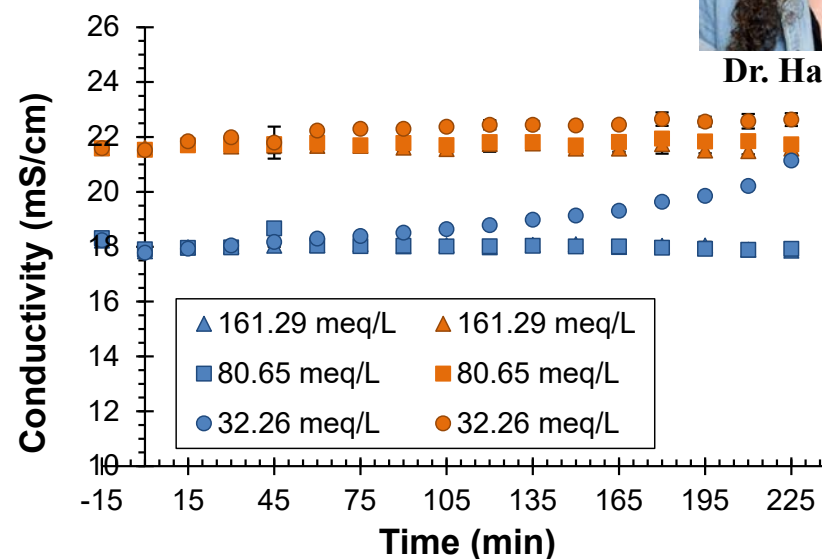
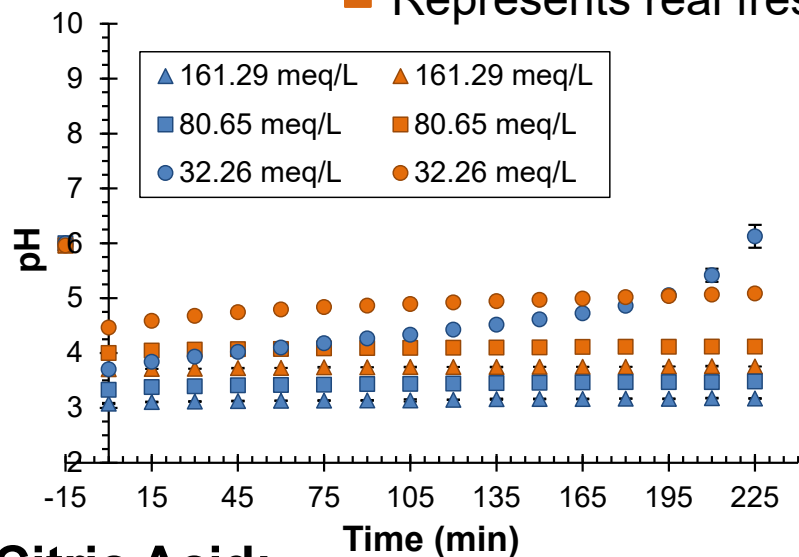


Inhibiting urea hydrolysis

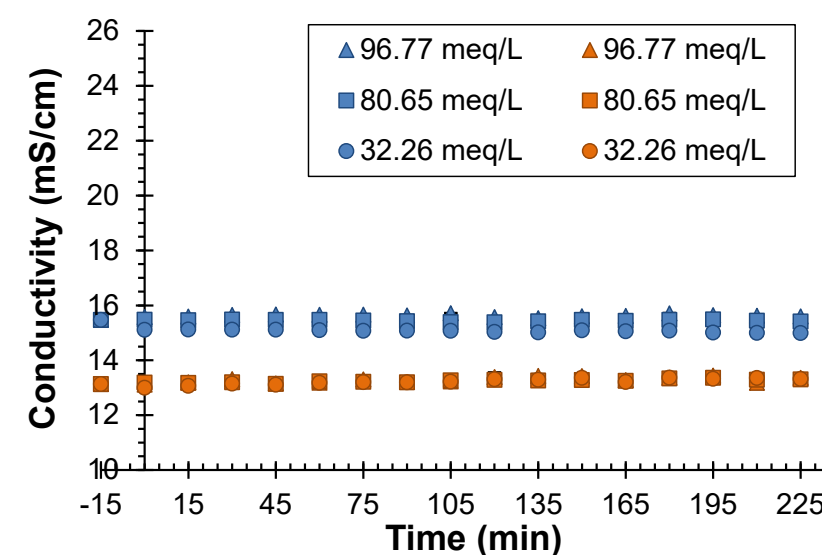
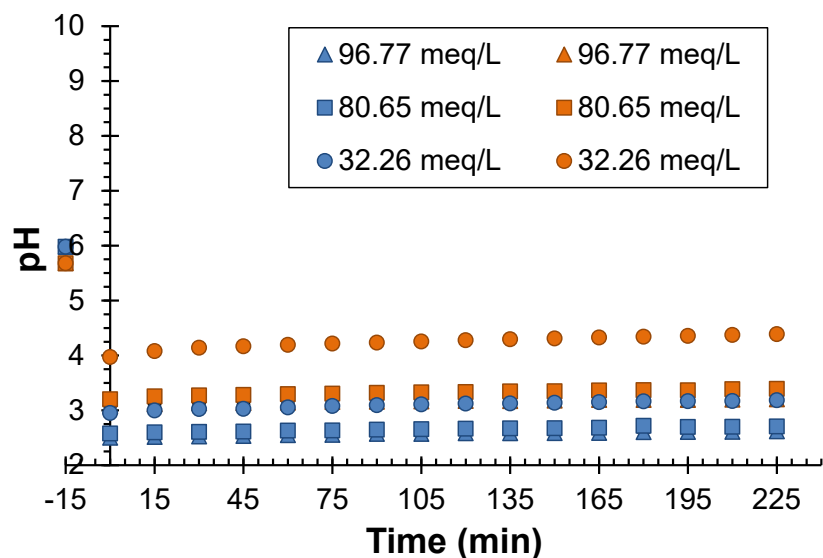


Dr. Hannah Ray

Acetic Acid: ■ Represent synthetic fresh urine
 ■ Represents real fresh urine



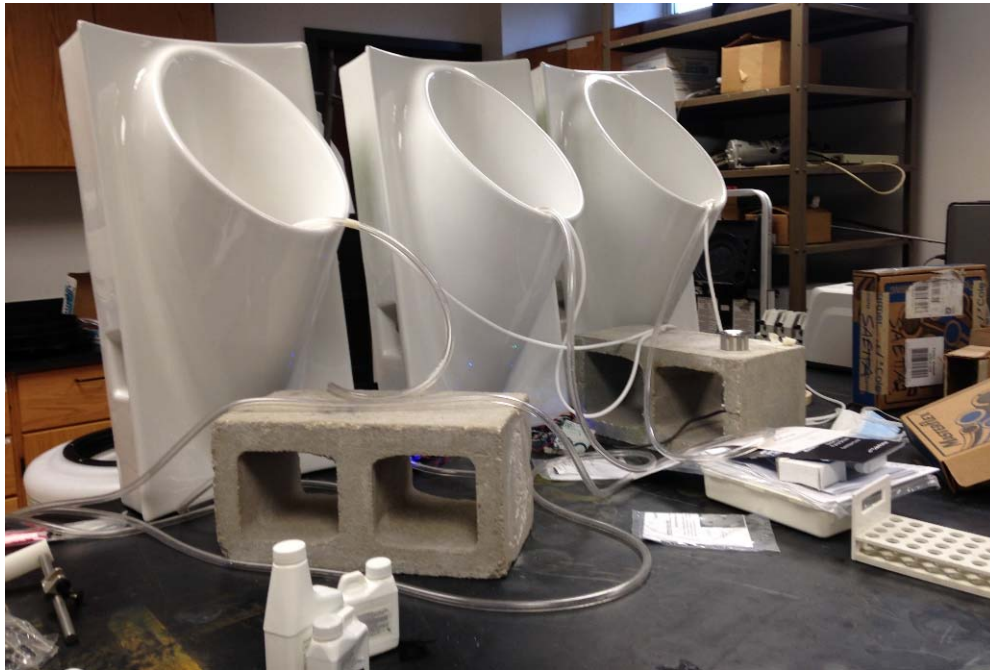
Citric Acid:



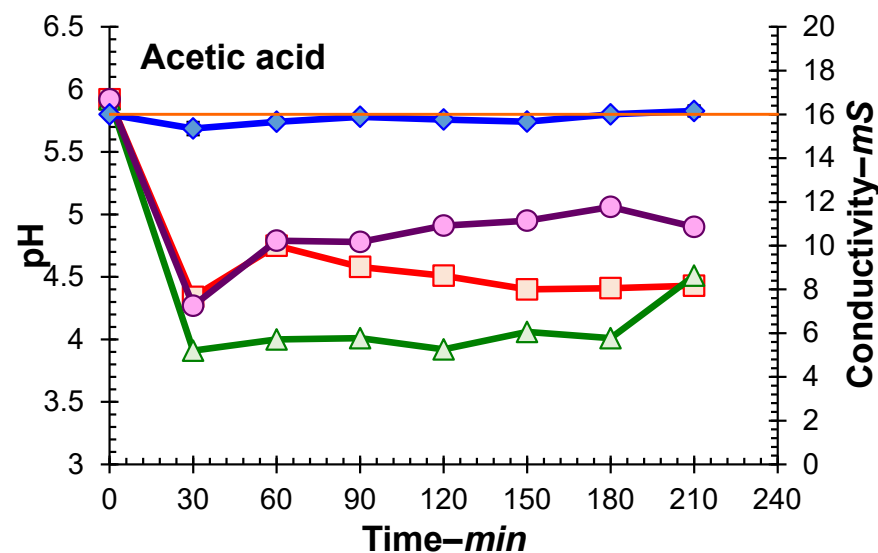
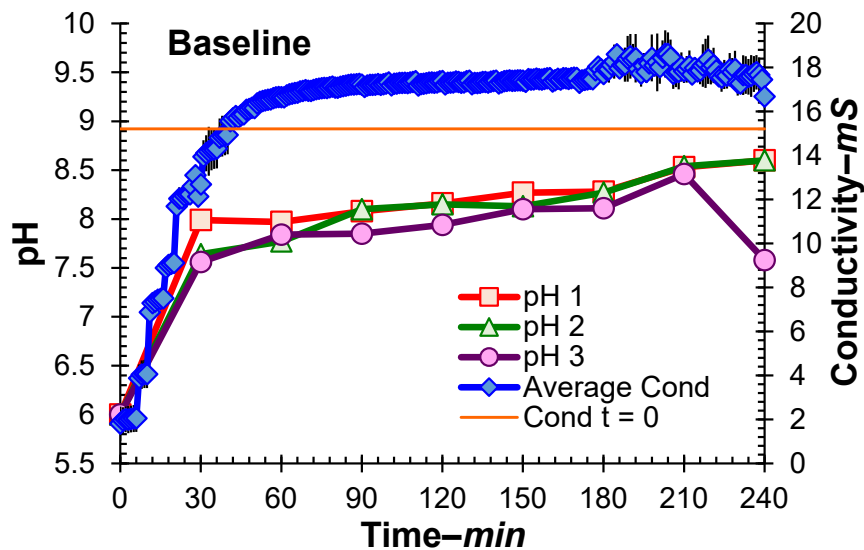
Urine diversion testbed @ UF



Dr. Daniella Saetta

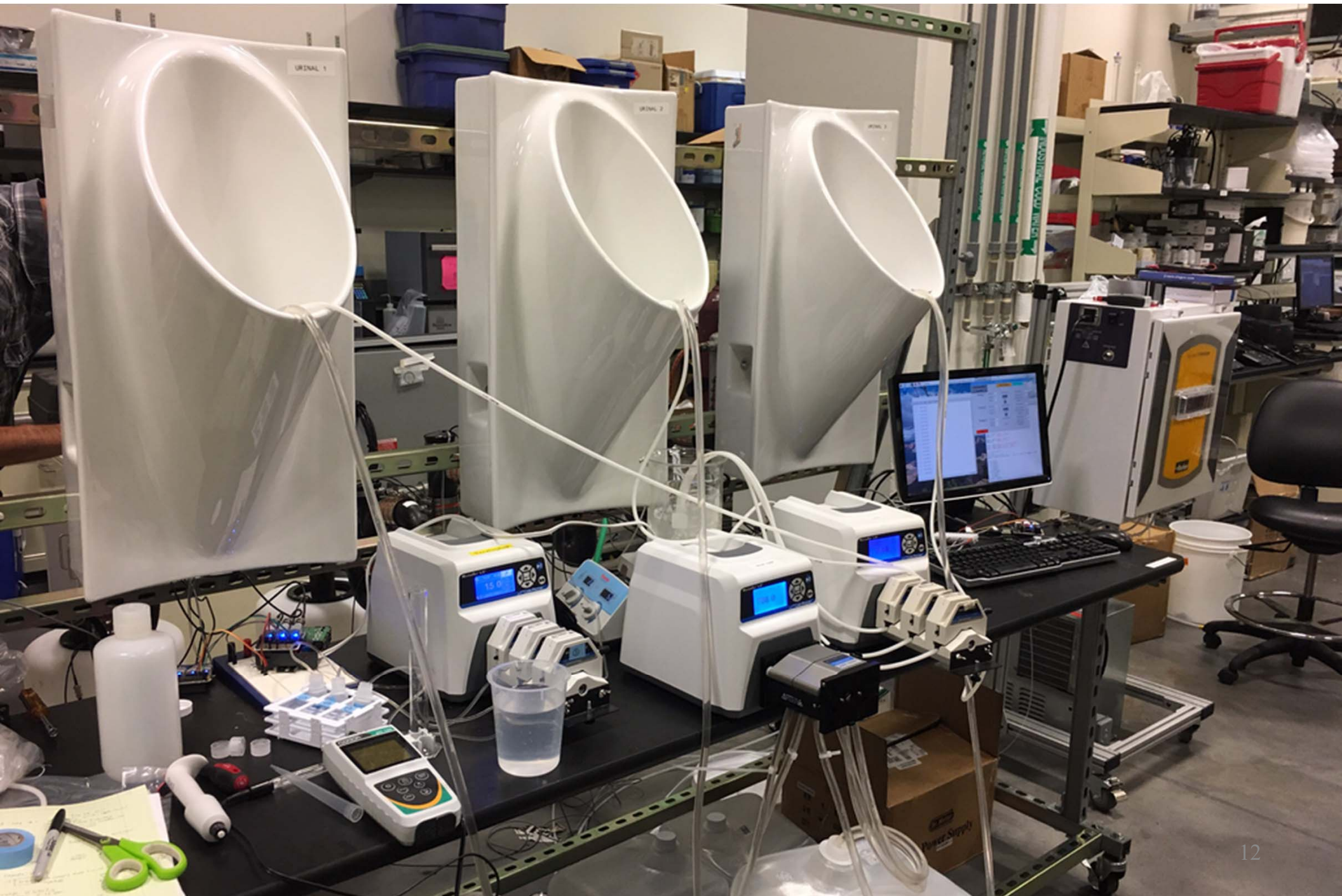


Mimicking and inhibiting urea hydrolysis in nonwater urinals



Test	Percent PO ₄ recovered
Baseline	31
Acetic Acid Addition	74

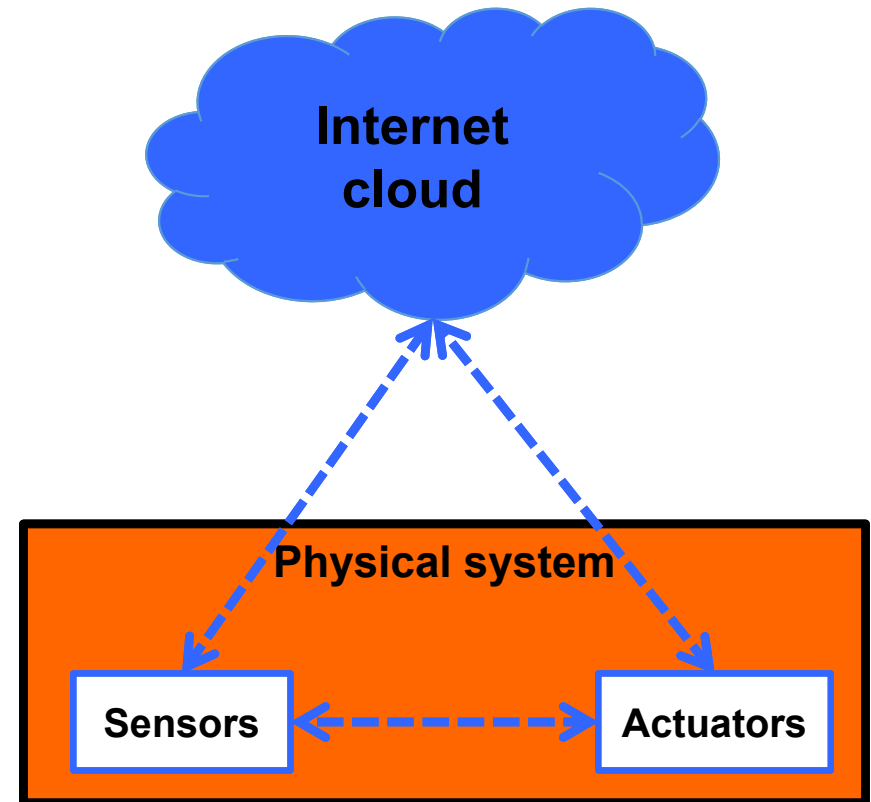
Urine diversion testbed @ ASU



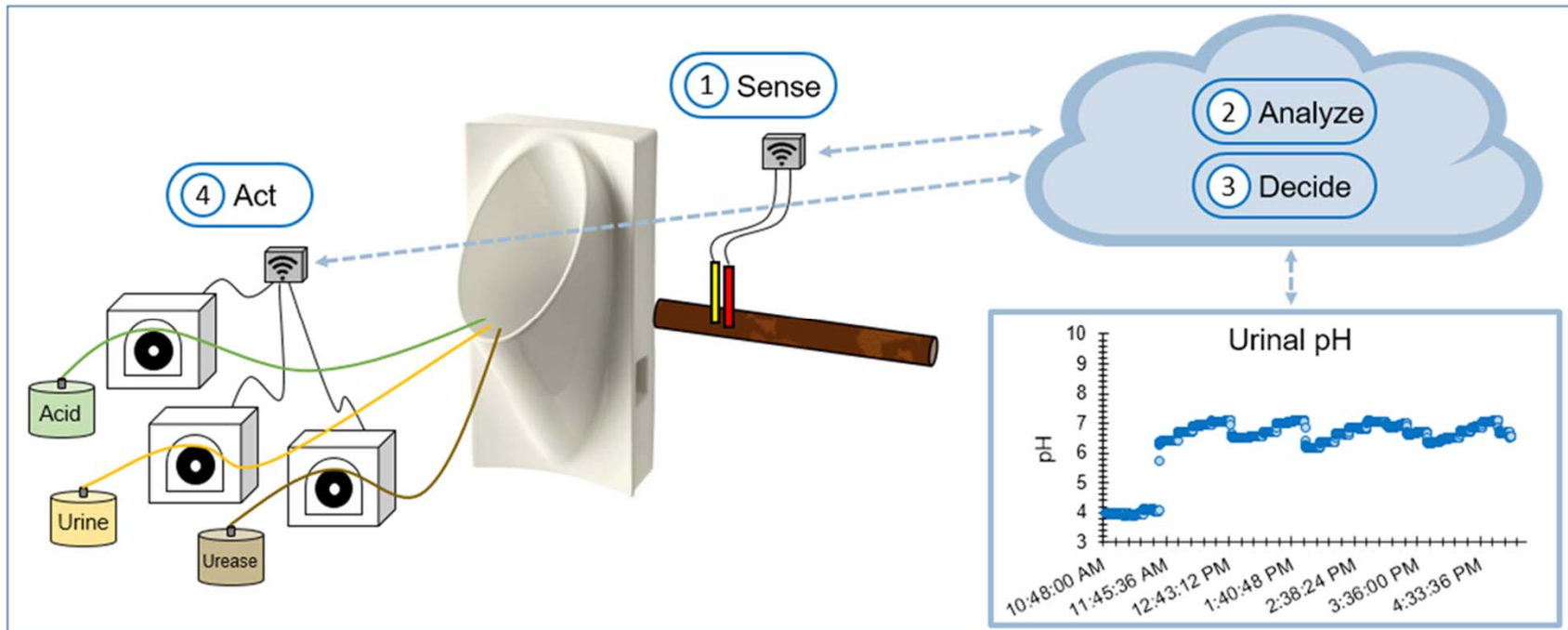


Cyber-physical system (CPS)

- A CPS represents the integration of physical and embedded systems with communication and information technology systems
- Applications in energy, security, and transportation systems
- Limited previous research on CPS applications to water or wastewater systems

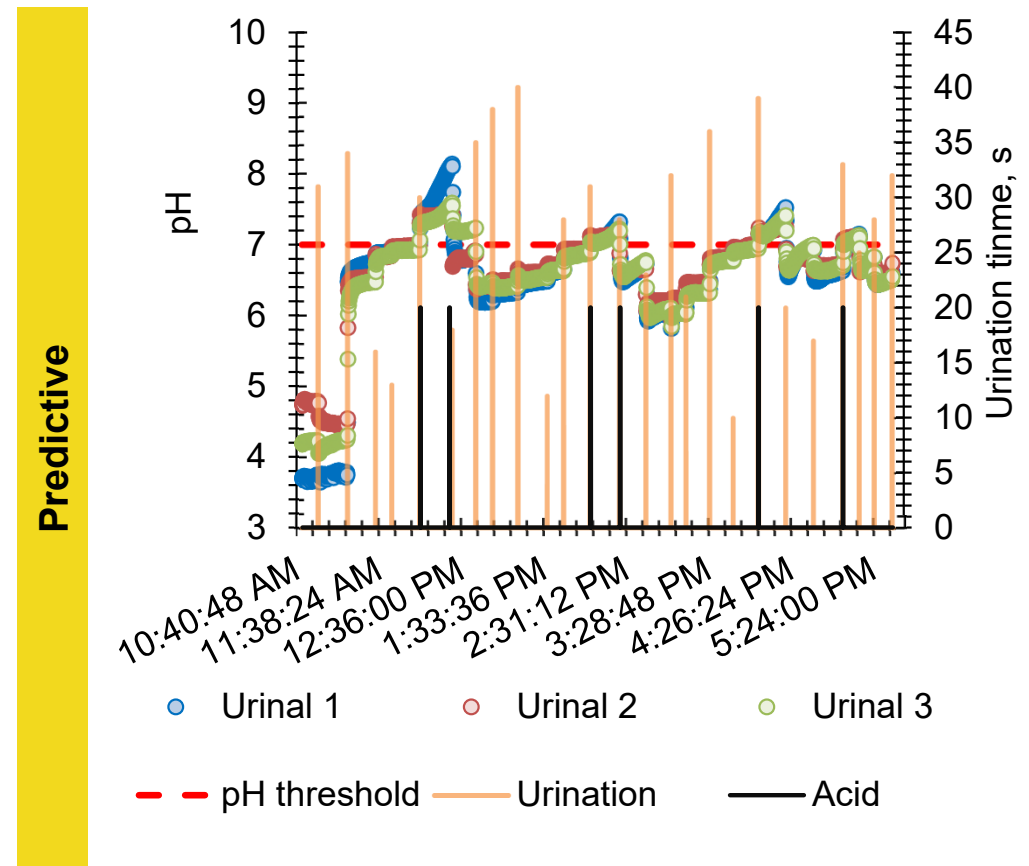
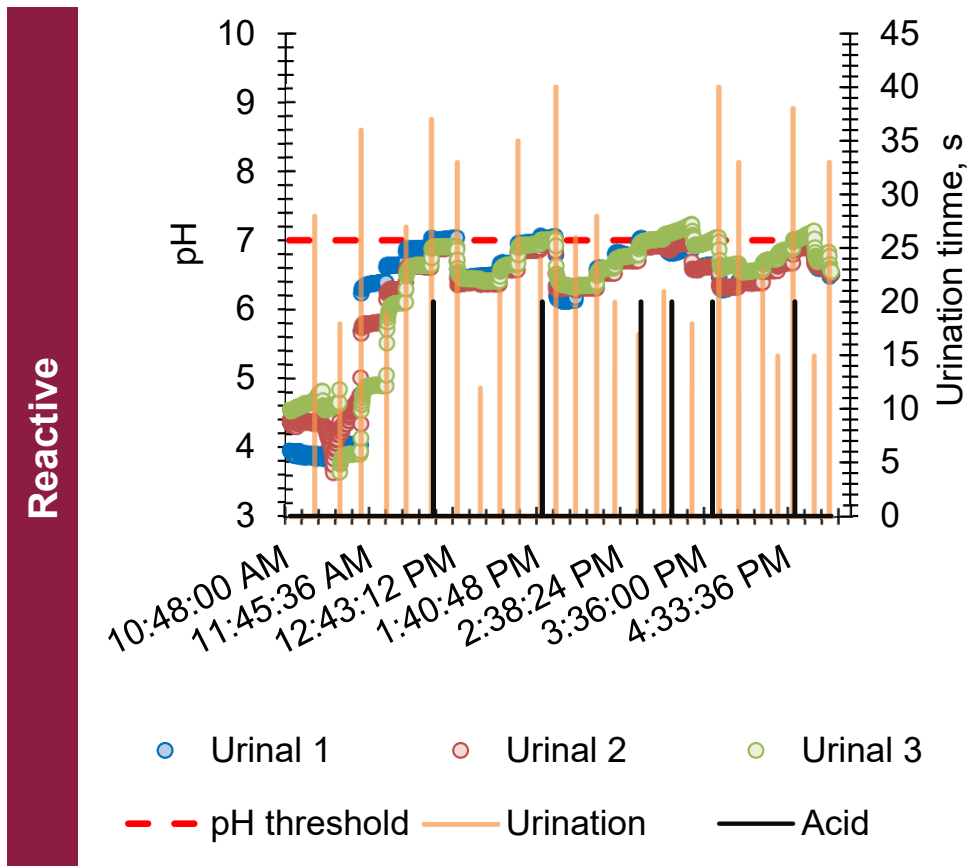


Urine diversion CPS



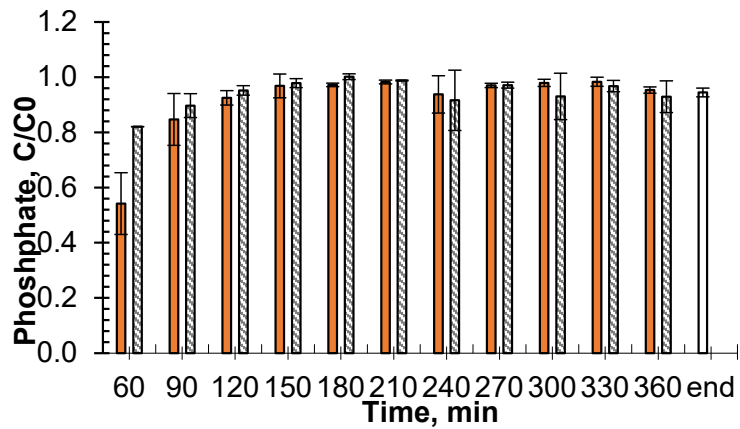
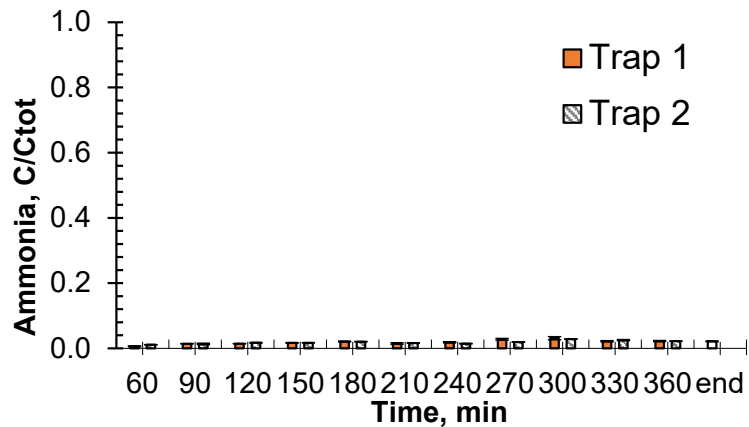
Compare control logic: pH

- Low urination frequency: 10–20 min
- Reactive control: pH threshold
- Predictive control: Regression model

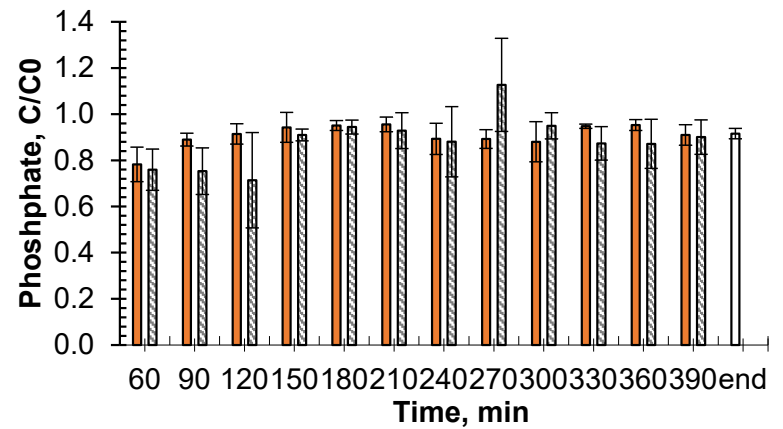
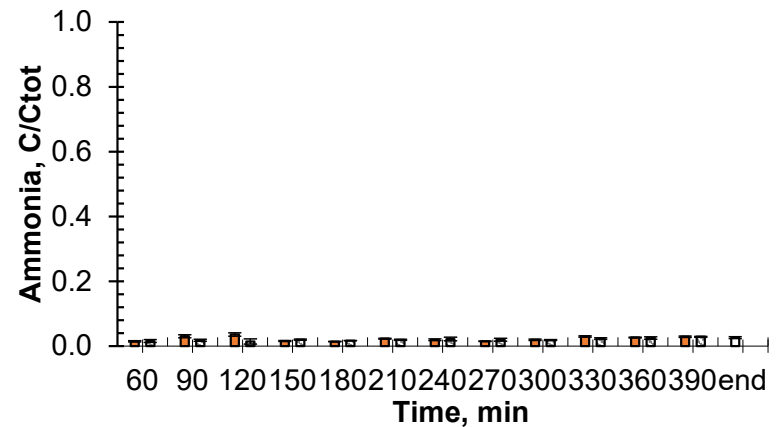


Compare control logic: Ammonia & phosphate

Reactive

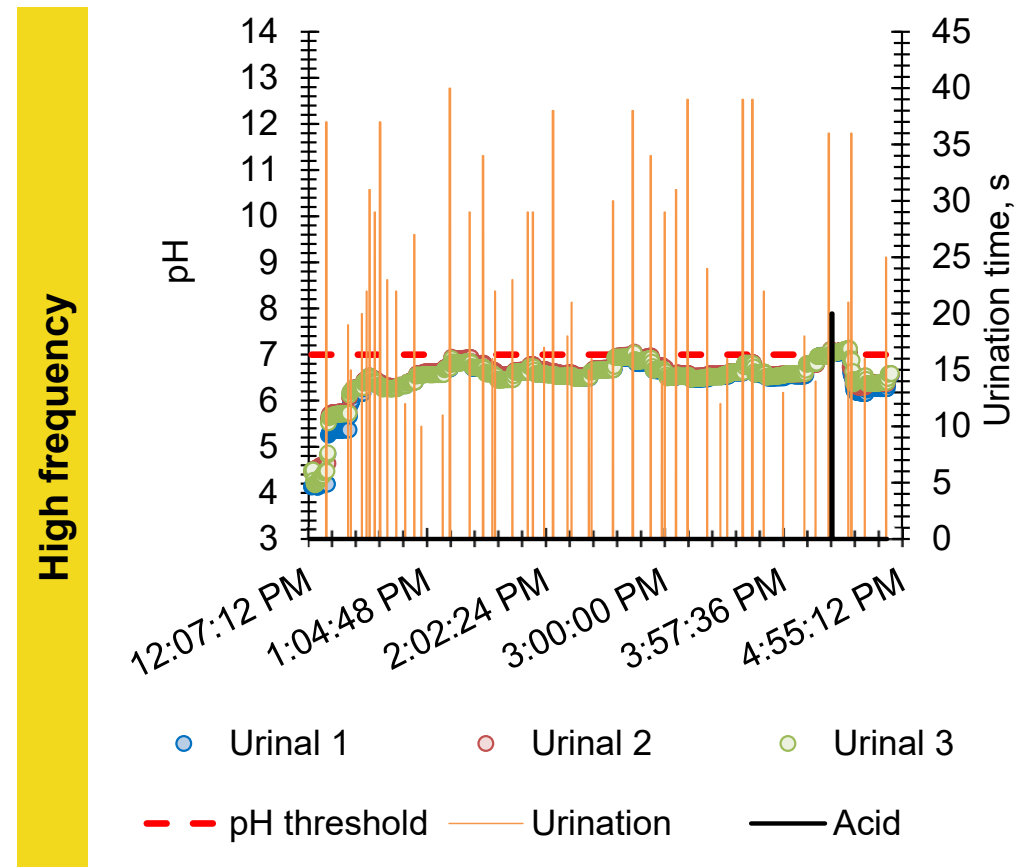
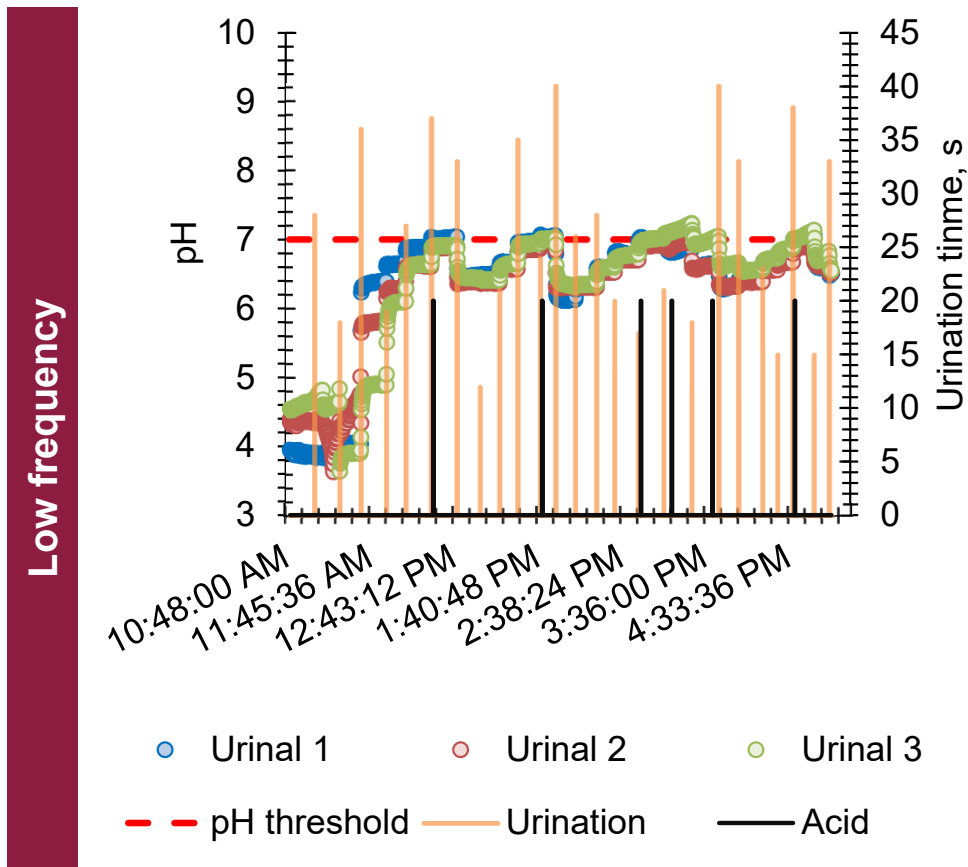


Predictive

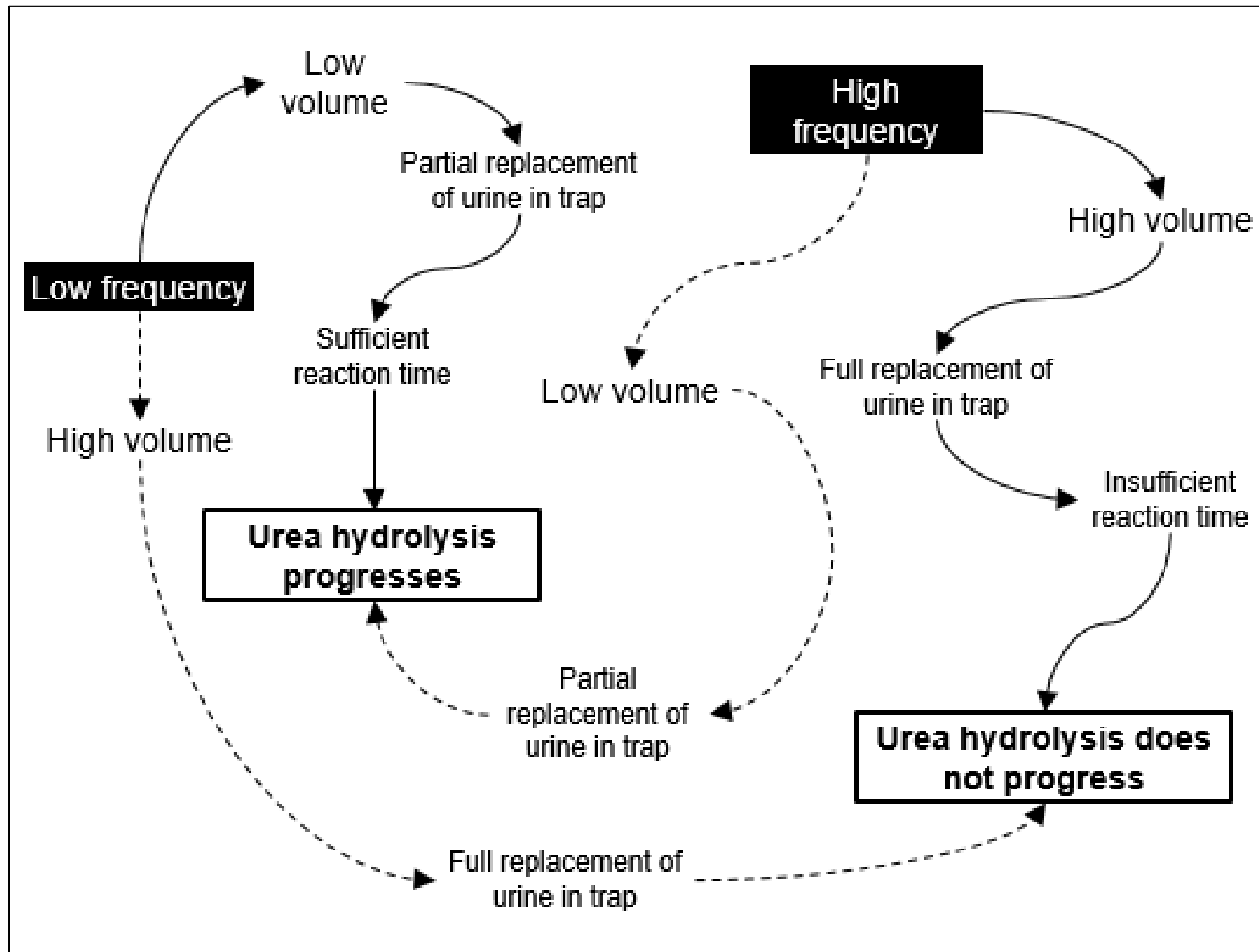


Compare urination frequency: pH

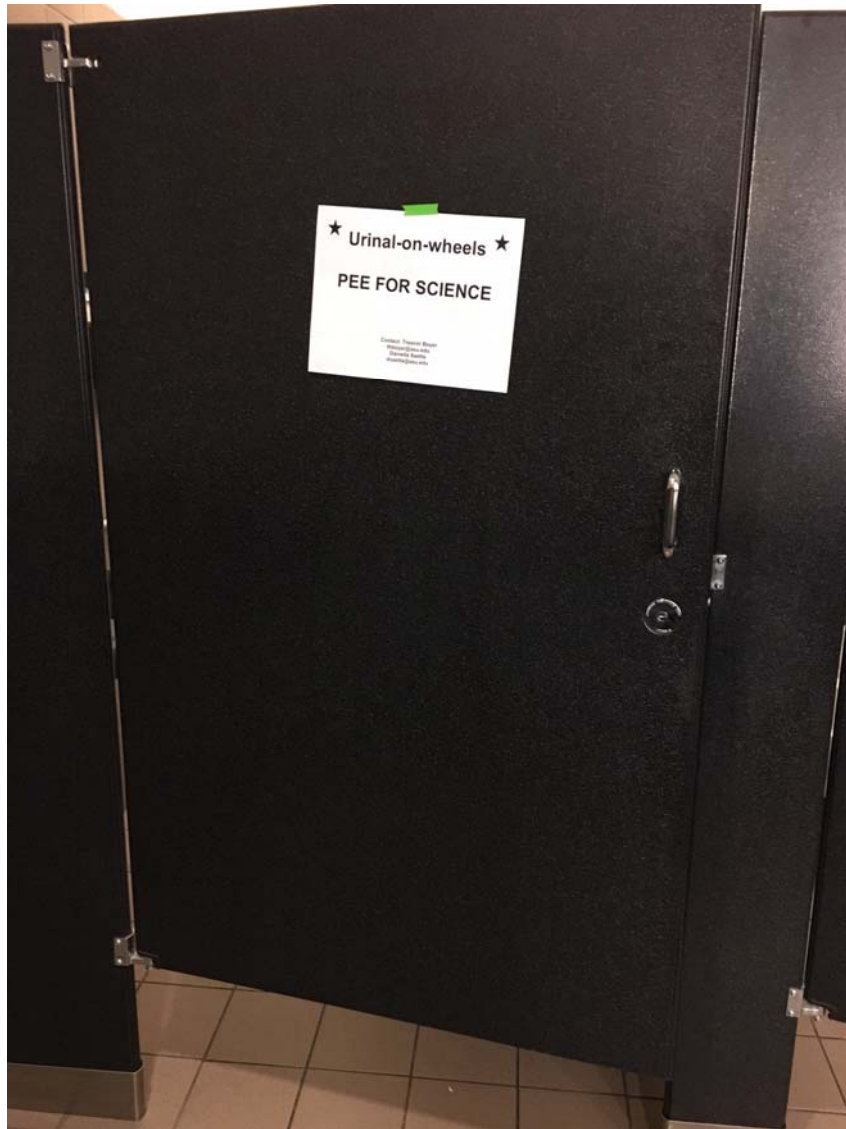
- Low urination frequency: 10–20 min
- High urination frequency: 1–10 min
- Predictive control: Regression model



Conceptual model for urea hydrolysis



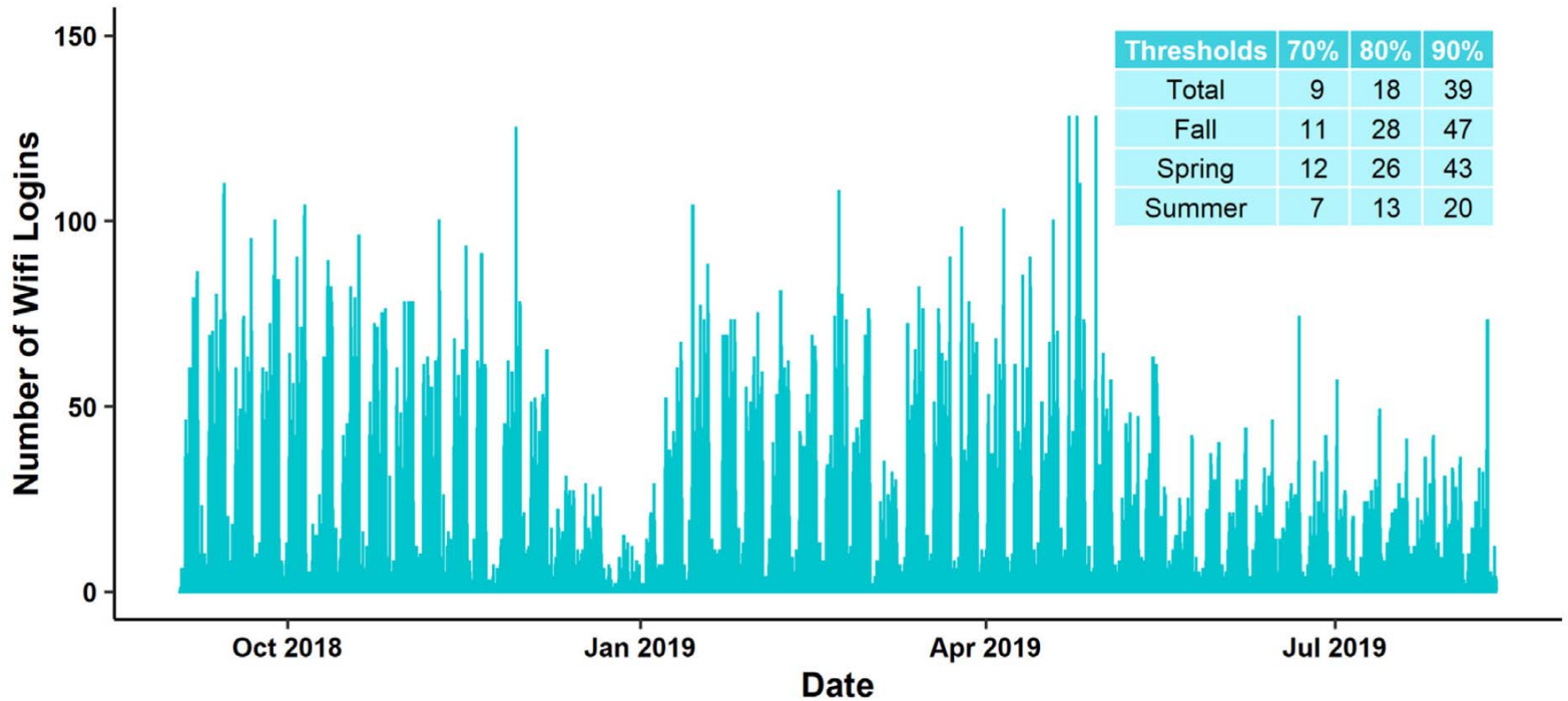
From laboratory to restroom testbed



Urinal-on-wheels



Control of urea hydrolysis considering building occupancy patterns



Impact of acetic acid on urine collection

Runs 1 & 2

No acid addition

Runs 3 & 4

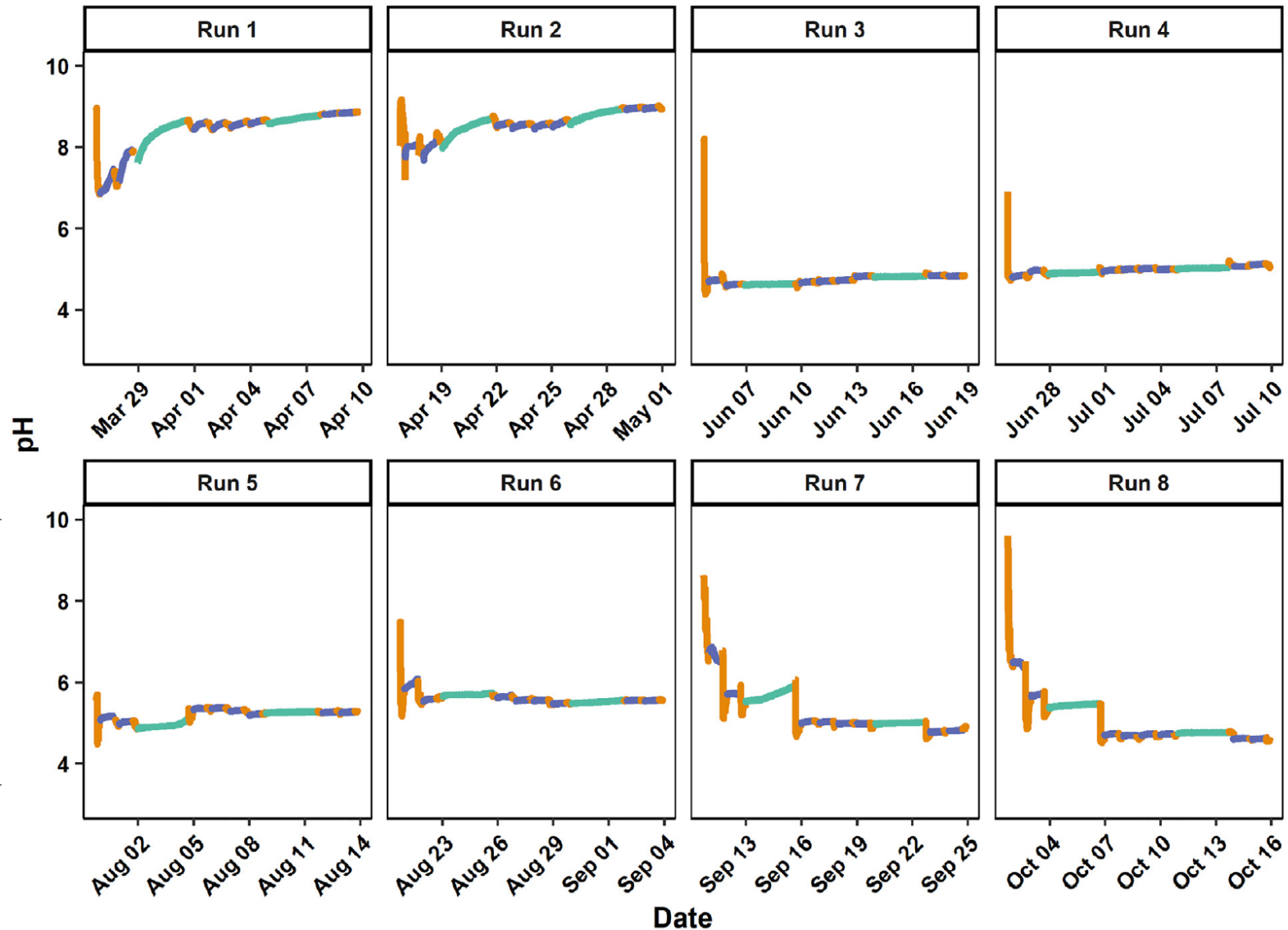
After every user

Runs 5 & 6

Hourly acid addition
(day)

Runs 7 & 8

Hourly acid addition
(night)



Impact of acetic acid on urine storage

Runs 3 & 4

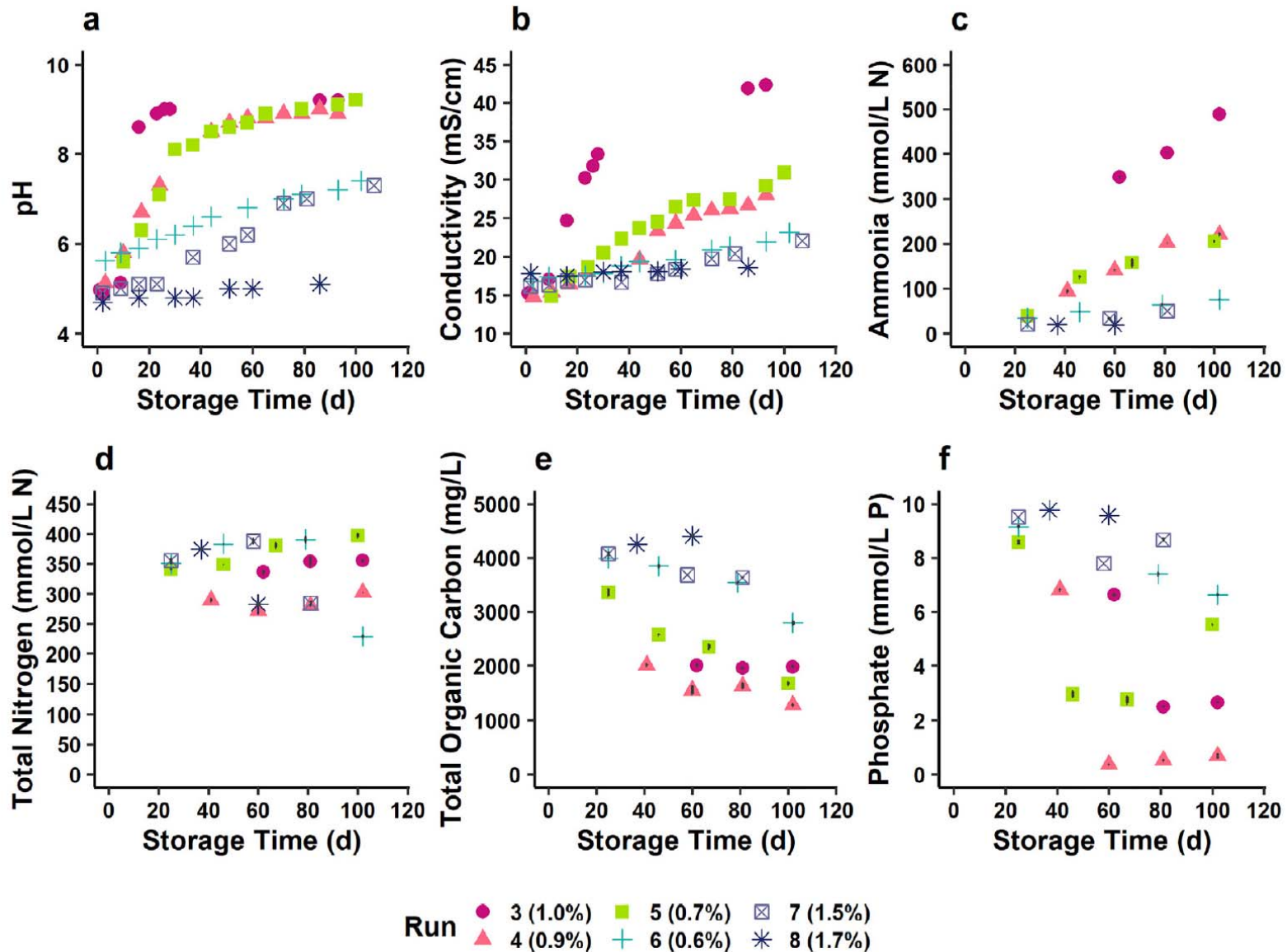
After every user

Runs 5 & 6

Hourly acid addition
(day)

Runs 7 & 8

Hourly acid addition
(night)



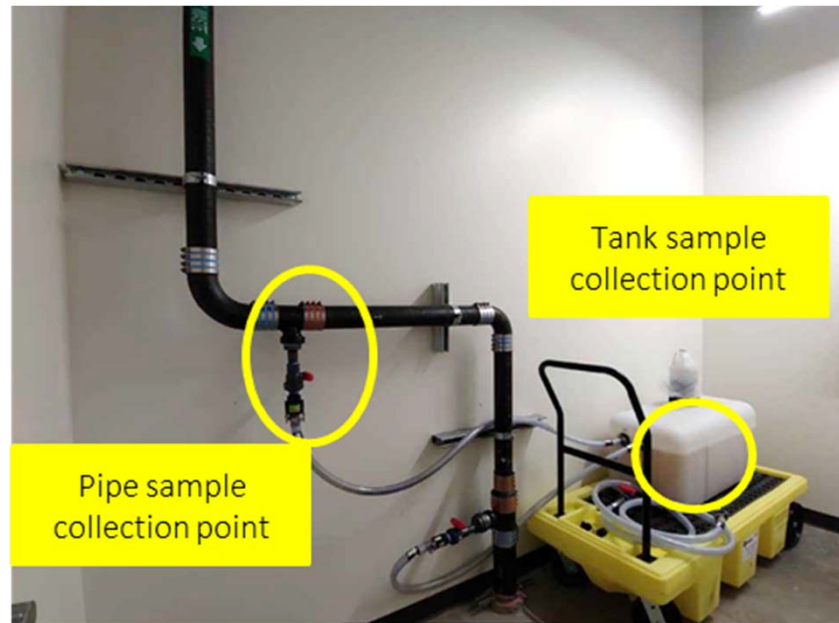
From restroom to building testbed



Urea hydrolysis in pipes and storage tank

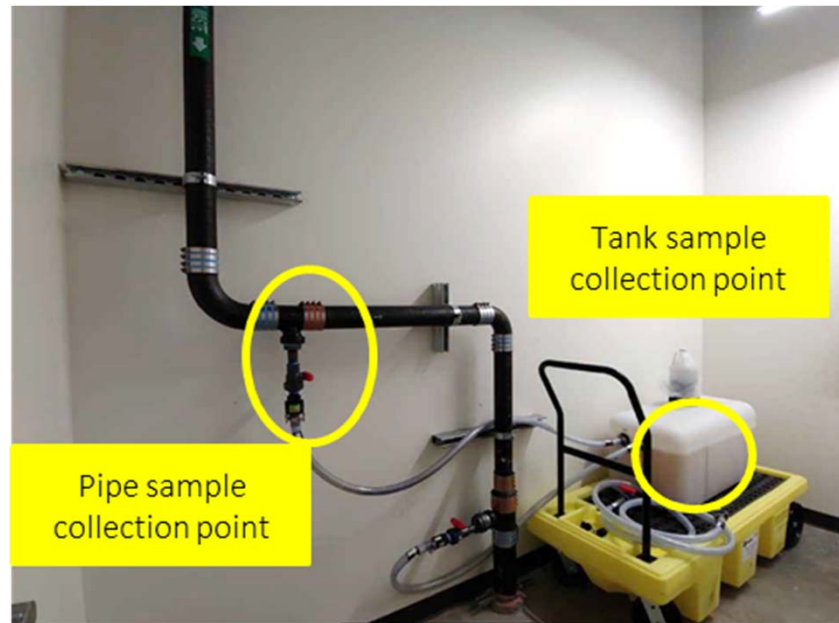


Dr. Neha Jagtap



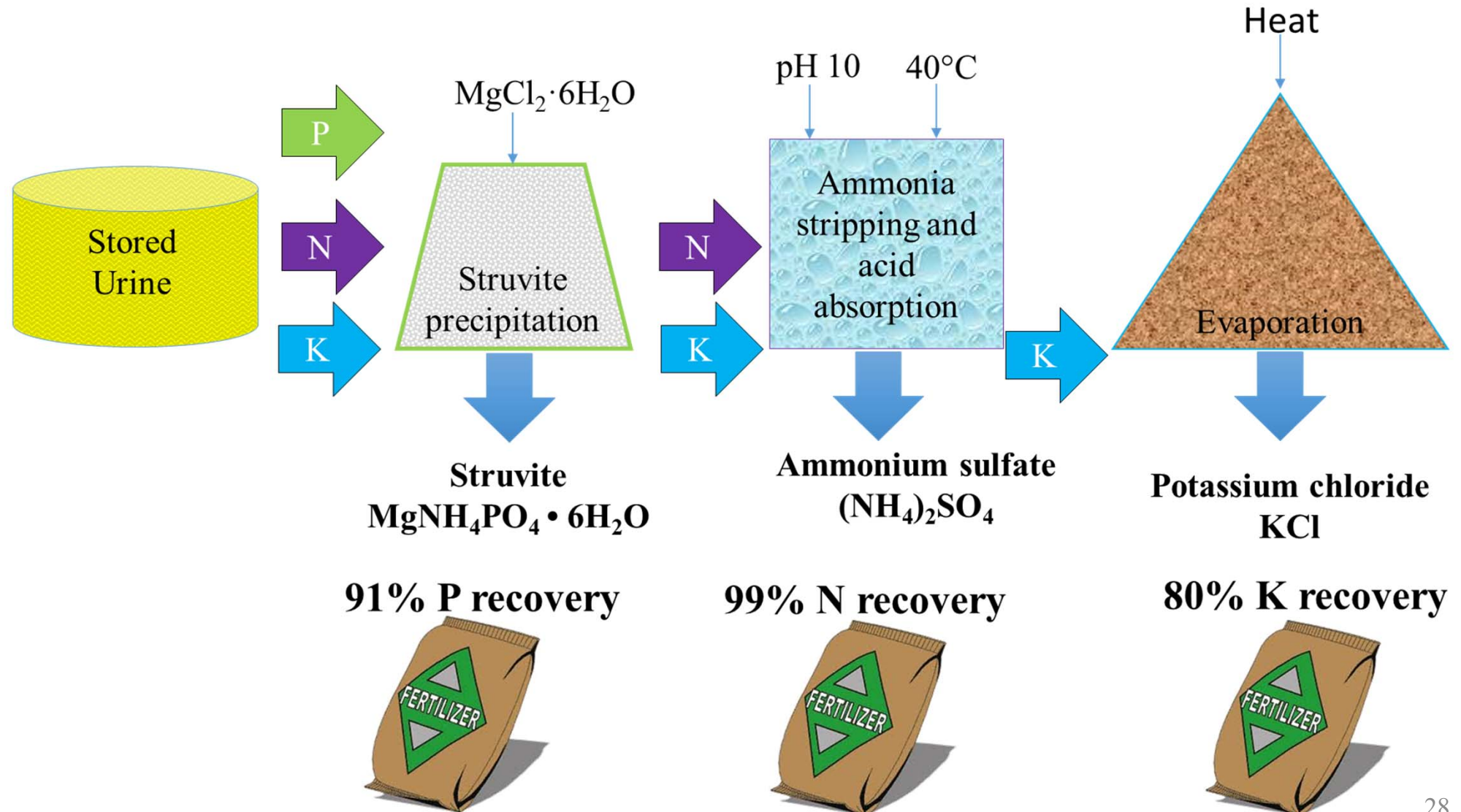
Location	Urine	pH	Conductivity (mS/cm)	TAN/TN
Tank	8 h collection	8.94	13.5	1.0
	16 h storage	8.87	13.7	1.2
	40 h storage	8.93	14.6	1.1
Pipe	Multiple urination	9.01	12.8	0.97

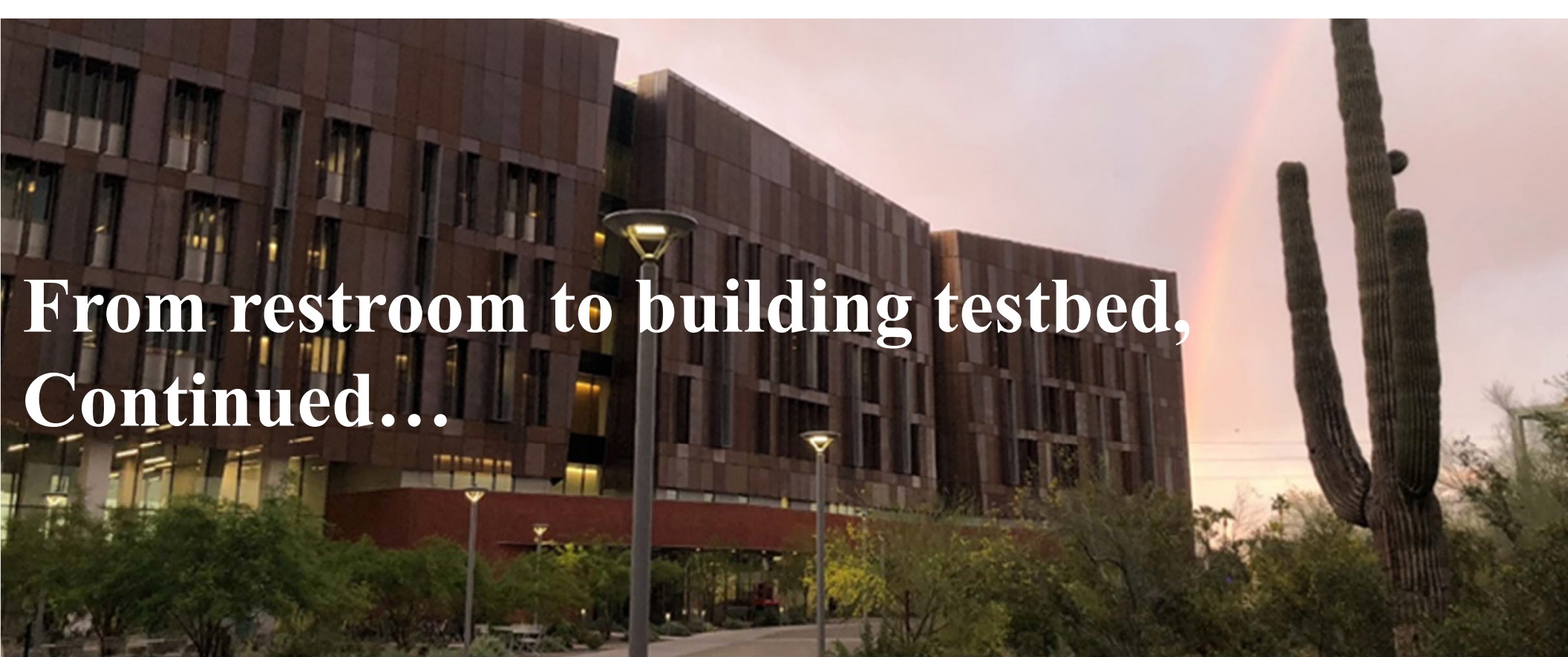
Urea hydrolysis in pipes and storage tank



Sample	Location	pH	Conductivity (mS/cm)	TAN(mg N/L)	TN (mg N/L)	TAN/TN
1	Before pipe	6.4	20	280	5730	0.05
	After pipe	9.0	12	1140	1500	0.8
2	Before pipe	7.0	24	246	9230	0.03
	After pipe	9.1	5.2	546	596	0.9
3	Before pipe	6.6	12	313	4880	0.06
	After pipe	8.9	5.3	509	488	1.0

Integrated, multi-process approach to total nutrient recovery from urine





**From restroom to building testbed,
Continued...**



Current thinking on urine diversion

- **Real opportunities** for urine diversion
 - Potable water savings
 - Nutrient removal and recovery
 - Pharmaceutical removal and toxicity reduction
- Urine diversion is a **process not a product**
- **Benefits derived from extension of system boundary** to include drinking water production, wastewater treatment, fertilizer production, and ecotoxicity reduction
- **Distributed urine diversion system** that includes decentralized treatment and centralized treatment with vacuum truck collection appears viable
- Need to consider **human behavior and interaction**

Questions thboyer@asu.edu