



American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

HOT WATER FORUM 2015

Monday, February 23  
Session 3C

Understanding Behavioral Waste  
In The Shower  
&  
It's Impact On  
Water & Energy Efficiency

presented by:

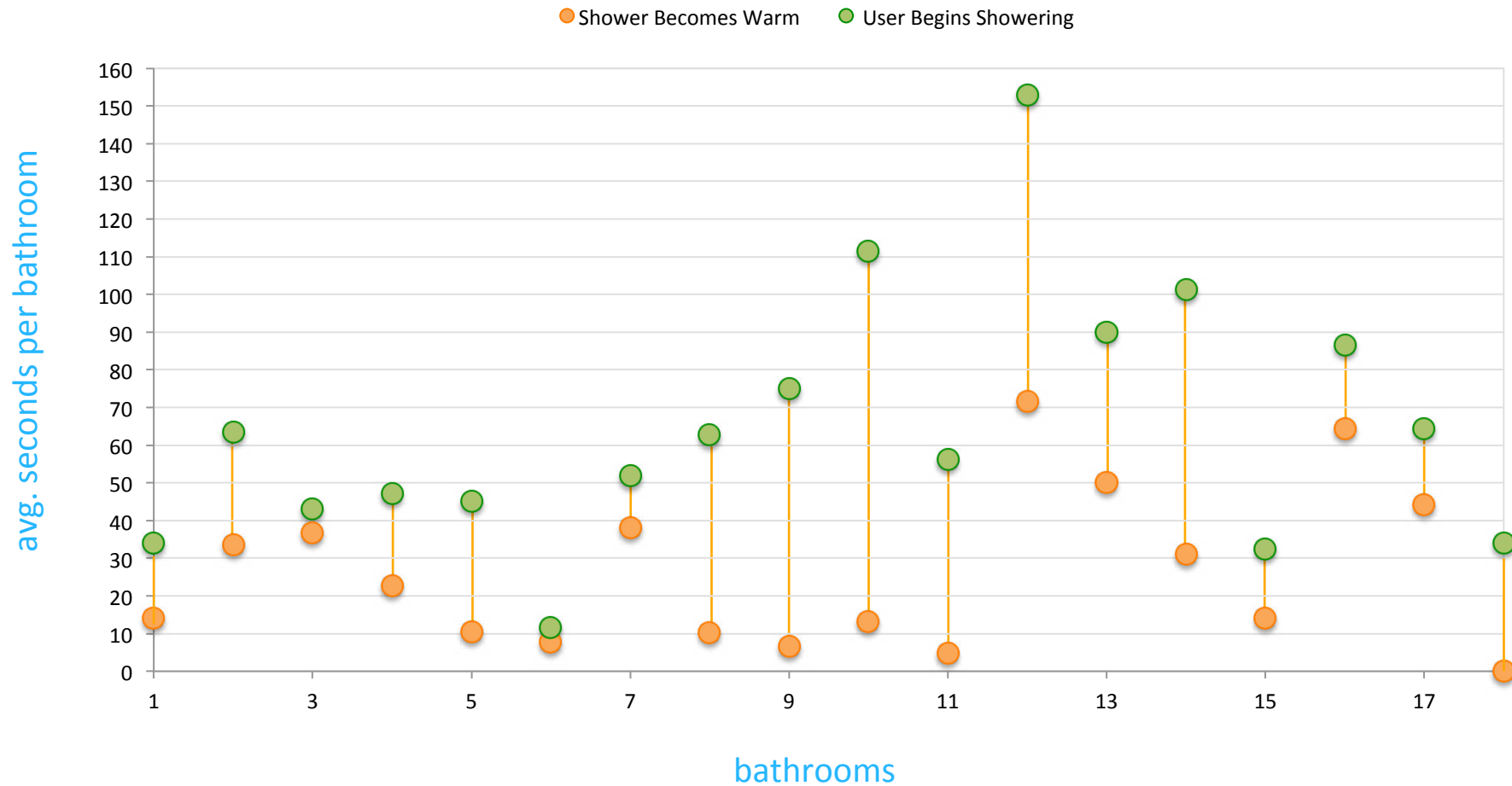


# Houston, We Have A Problem.

- Apollo 13 Space Mission

# Fast Hot Water Delivery Does Not Appear To Produce Behavior Change

50% of bathrooms average less than a 10 second wait for hot water, but exhibited above average behavioral waste @ 43 seconds.



SOURCE: 2014 Disaggregating Residential Shower Warm-Up Waste – An Understanding and Quantification of Behavioral Waste Based On Data From Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

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## Changing Behavior Is Hard – Really Hard

Consider how  
**hard it is to change yourself**  
and you'll understand what  
**little chance**  
you have in trying to  
**change others.**

- Benjamin Franklin

## Most People Do Stuff While Waiting For Shower– Behavioral Waste

Behavioral waste occurs when bathers use their time comfortably and efficiently while waiting for hot water to reach the shower. Activities include brushing teeth, using the washroom, picking out clothes, drinking coffee ...



71%

do other stuff  
while waiting for hot water to  
reach the shower

SOURCE: 2005 Shower Behavior Survey- 153 respondents

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**52%**

**do more than 1 thing**  
as part of their warm-up routine

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reach the shower

**52%**

**do more than 1 thing**  
as part of their warm-up routine

**60%**

**routine dictates return**  
not presence of hot water

SOURCE: 2005 Shower Behavior Survey- 153 respondents

# 2004 LBNL Total Waste For Shower Warm-Up – 95 Sec.

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab [Lutz (2004)] used the REUWS data for total volume and duration of water draws, along with the peak and mode flow rates during draws, to develop an equation for calculating wasted hot water during shower events. 26,000 events met the criteria - "Estimating Energy and Water Losses in Residential Hot Water Distribution Systems"

## SHOWER WARM-UP WASTE

WATER THAT GOS DOWN THE DRAIN BEFORE THE USER BEGINS SHOWERING

## BATHING USE

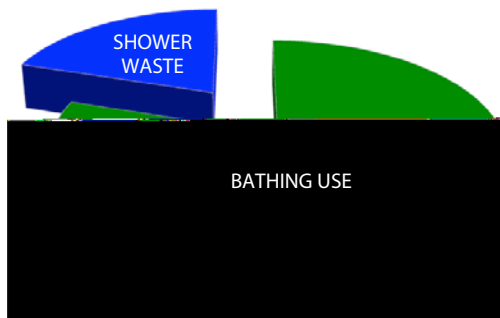
WATER THAT IS ACTUALLY USED FOR SHOWERING

$$A = PEAK \times \frac{(VOLUME - MODE \times DURATION)}{PEAK - MODE}$$

PEAK is the maximum flow rate recorded during the event, VOLUME is the total amount of water used by the event, MODE is the most commonly recorded flow rate during the event, and DURATION is the time duration of the event.

95<sub>sec</sub>

(3.48 gallons wasted / 2.2 gpm flow rate) x 60 seconds

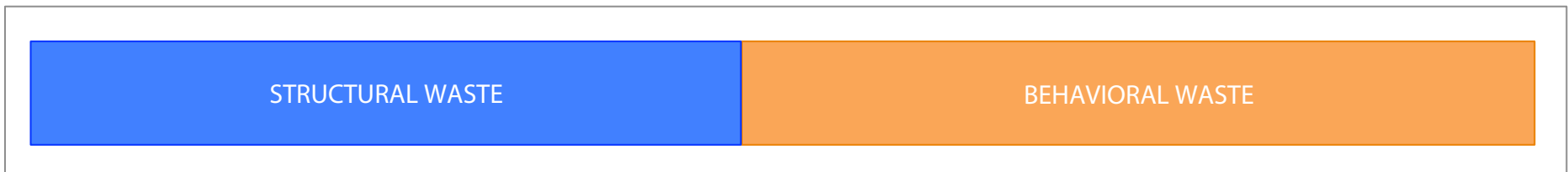




## 2011 LBNL Recognizes Shower Warm-Up Waste Has 2 Components

In a 2011 paper “Water and Energy Wasted During Residential Shower Events” Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (Lutz) recognizes that shower warm-up waste actually consists of two distinct components; structural waste and behavioral waste.

### SHOWER WARM-UP WASTE



“In the case of showers, waiting for cooled-off hot water to clear from the pipe that connects the water heater to the shower represents structural waste.”

“Water that is hot enough, but runs down the drain before the user makes use of the shower, represents behavioral waste.”

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### SHOWER WARM-UP WASTE



STRUCTURAL WASTE

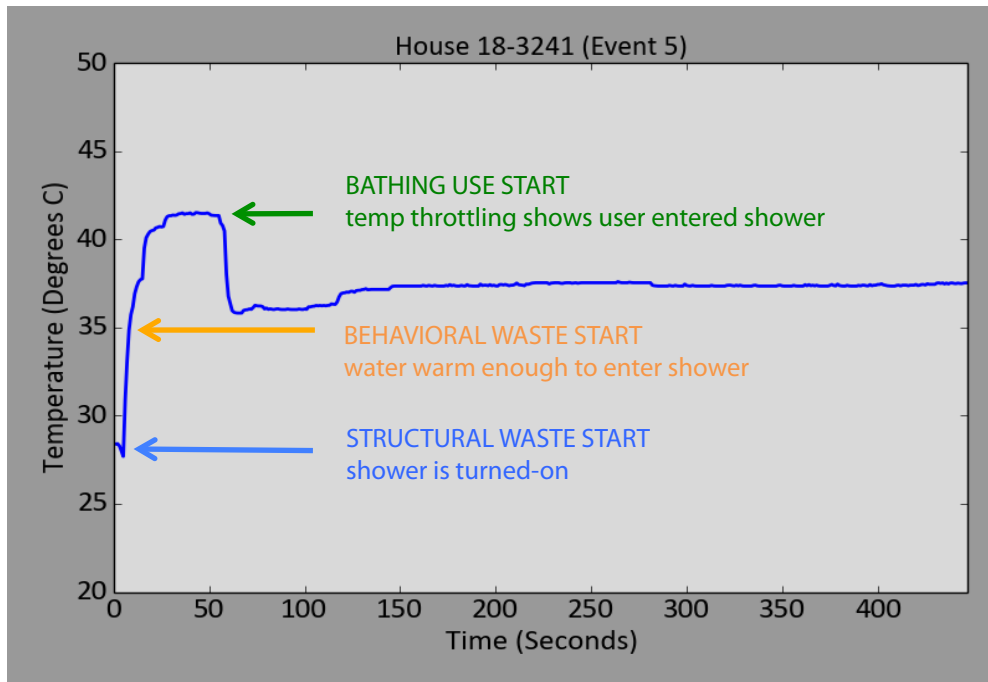
BEHAVIORAL WASTE

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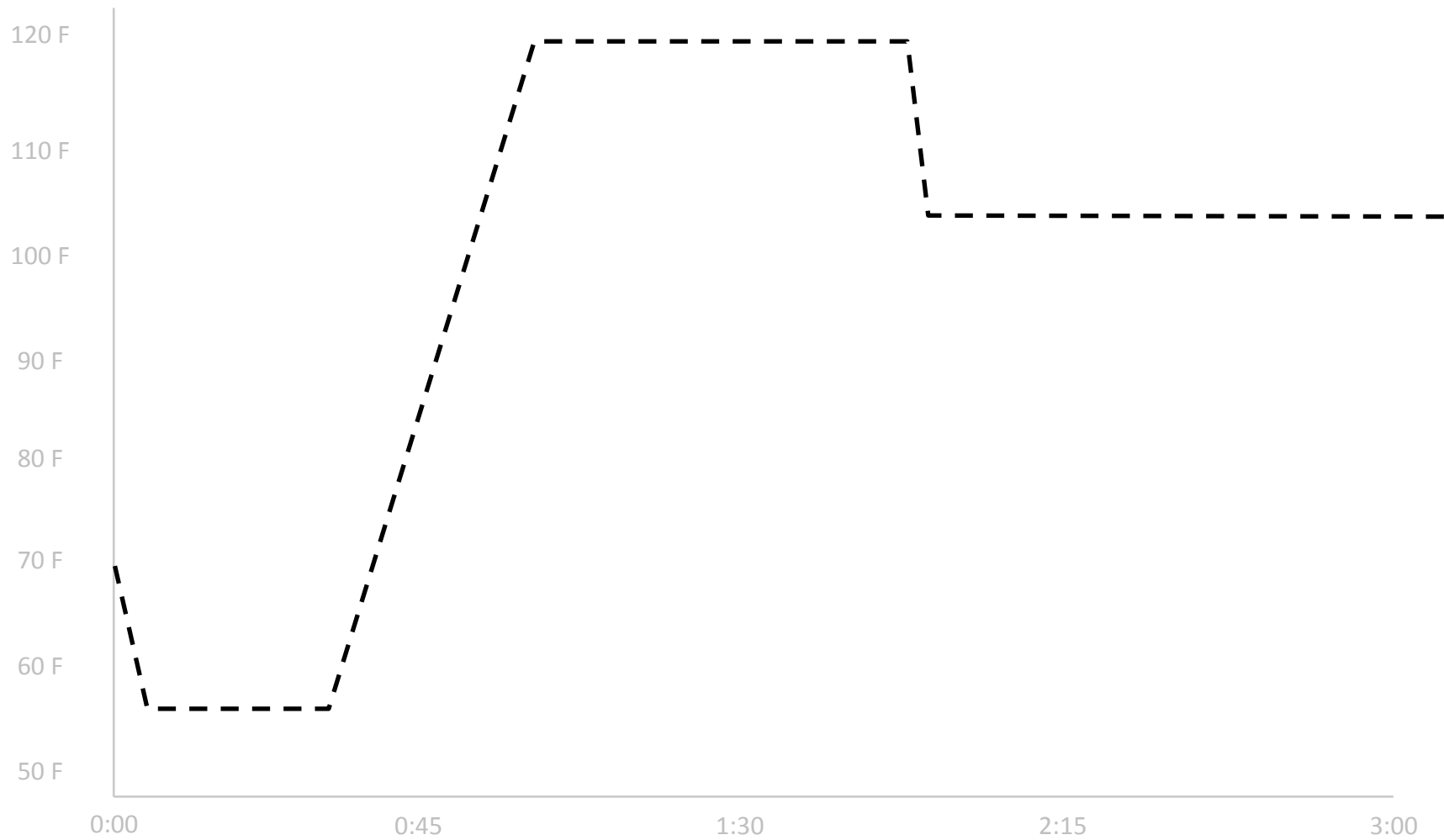
# Quantifying Components – The Lutz (LBNL) Shower Curve

Identified and described by LBNL (Lutz 2011) – “Water & Energy Wasted During Residential Shower Events”. Signature collected via time, temp and flow sensors placed at showerhead.

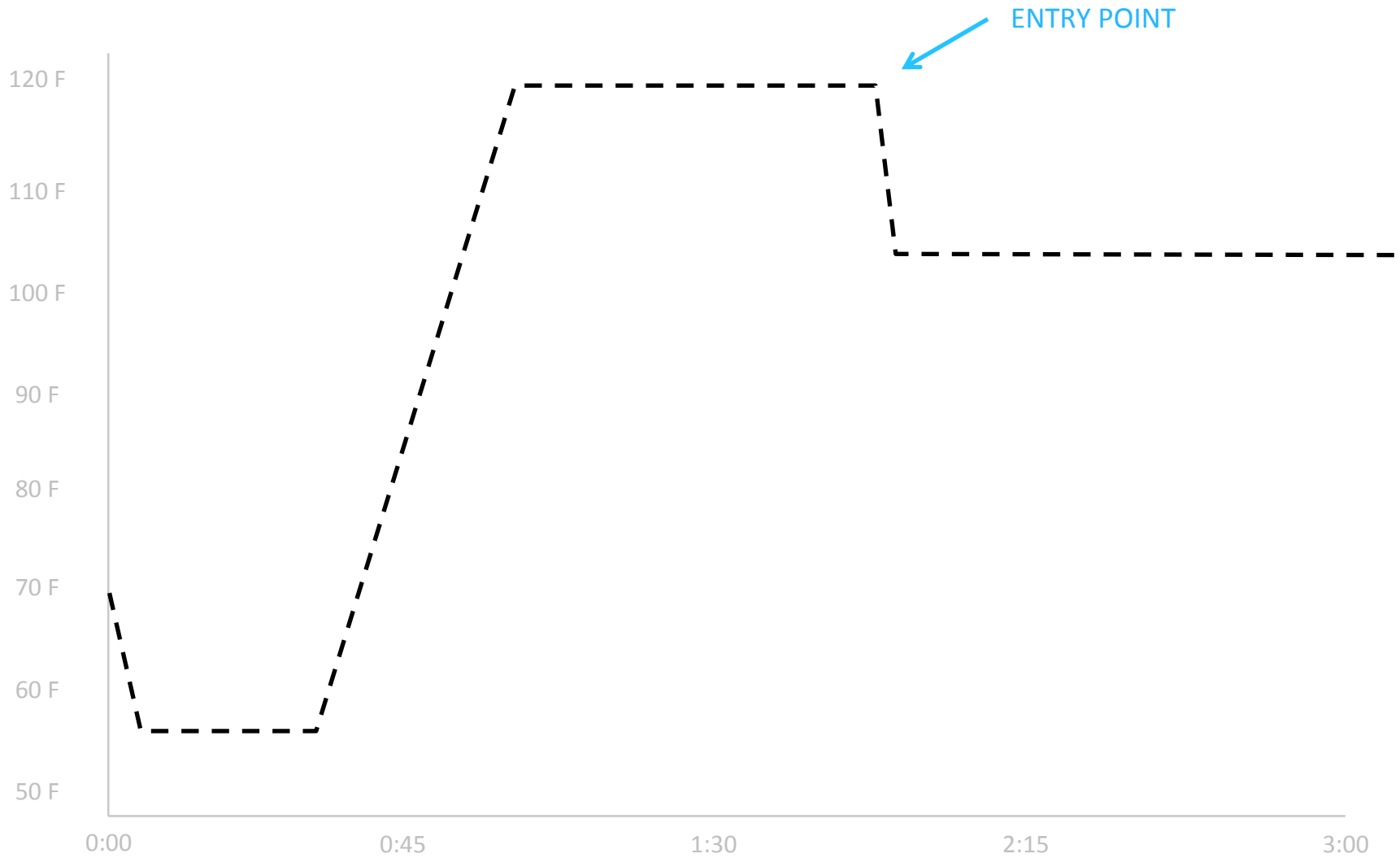


LBNL system captures time, temp and flow at shower and transmits data wirelessly to server database

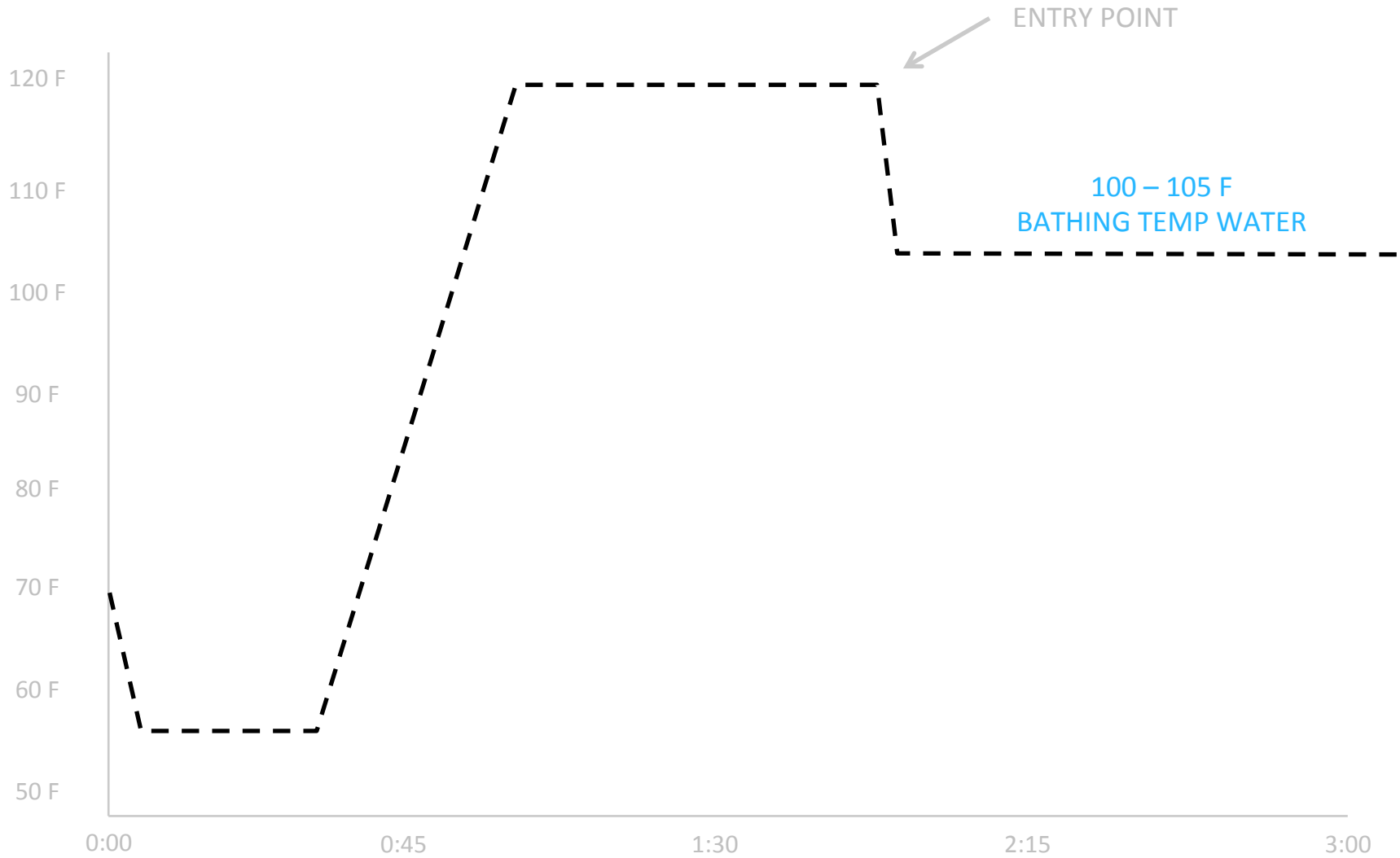
# The Lutz (LBNL) Shower Curve



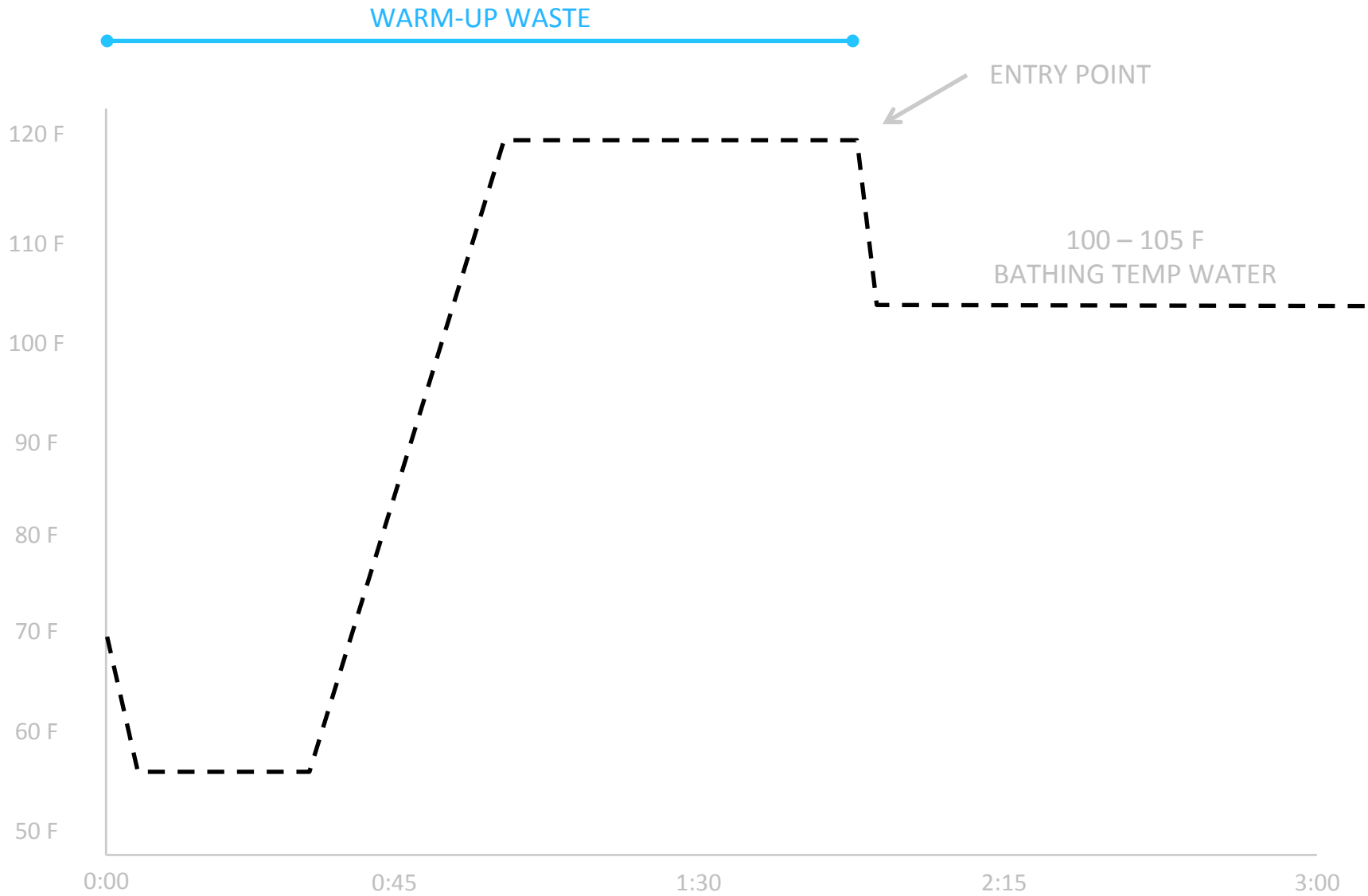
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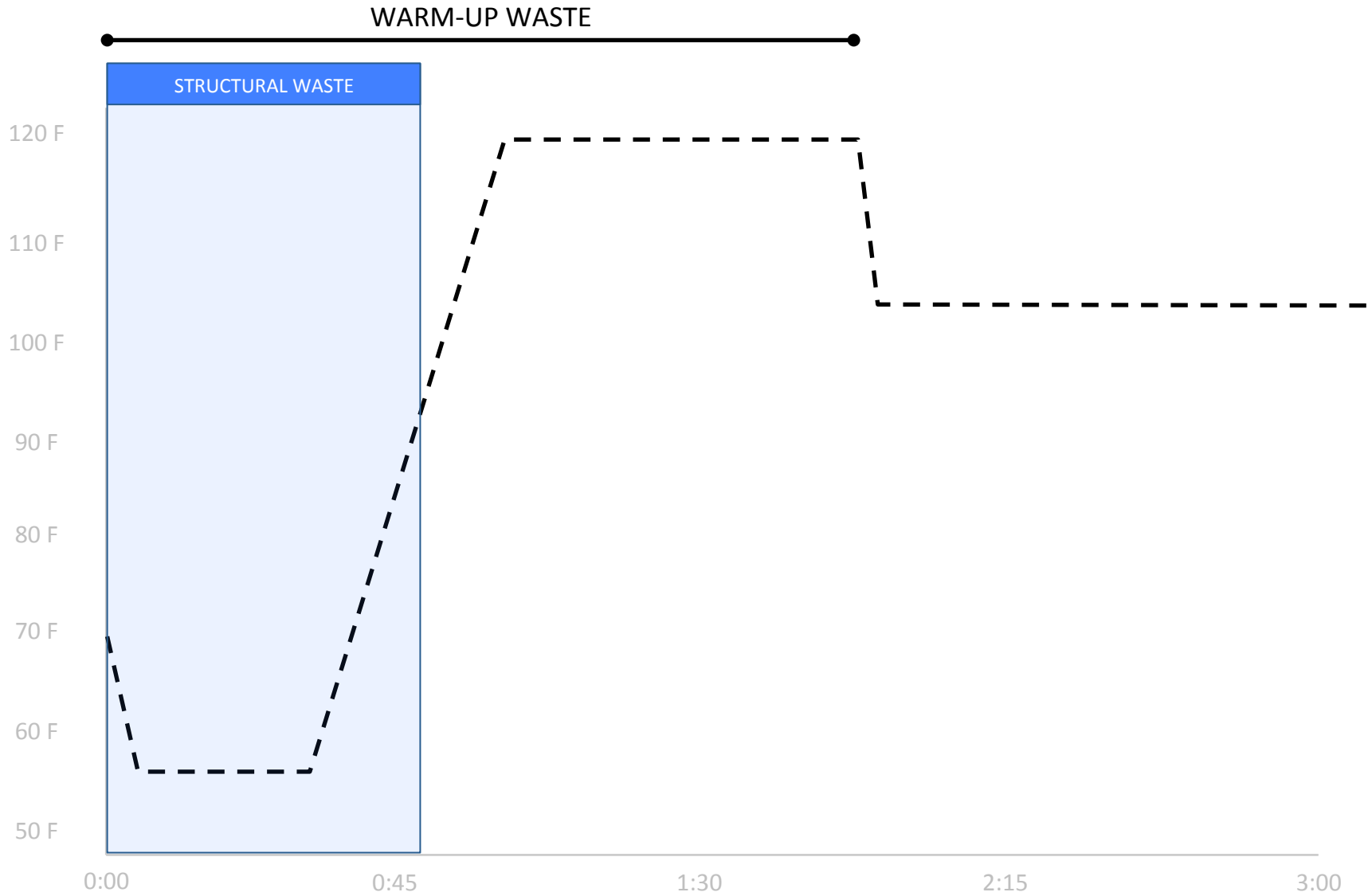
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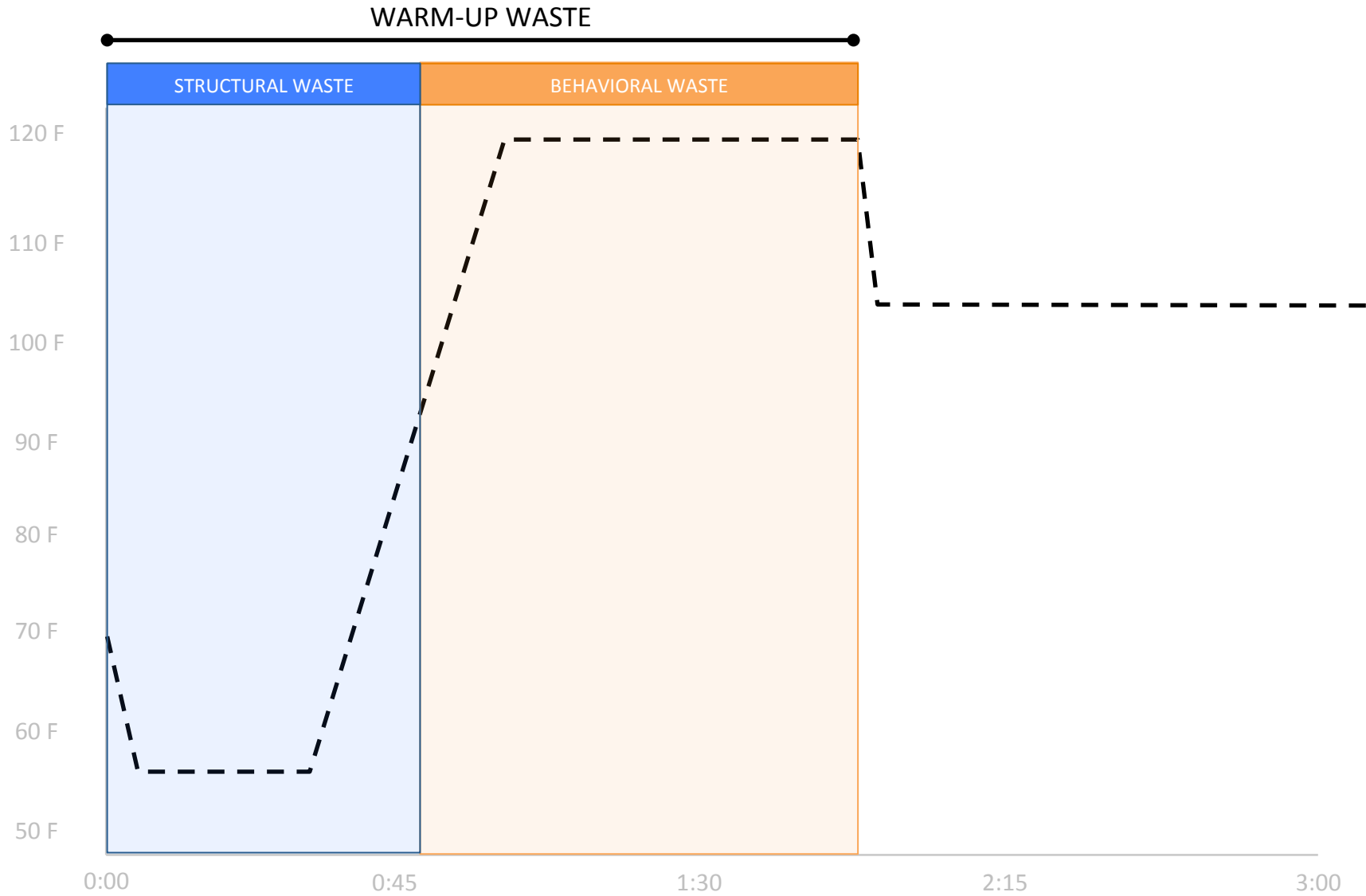


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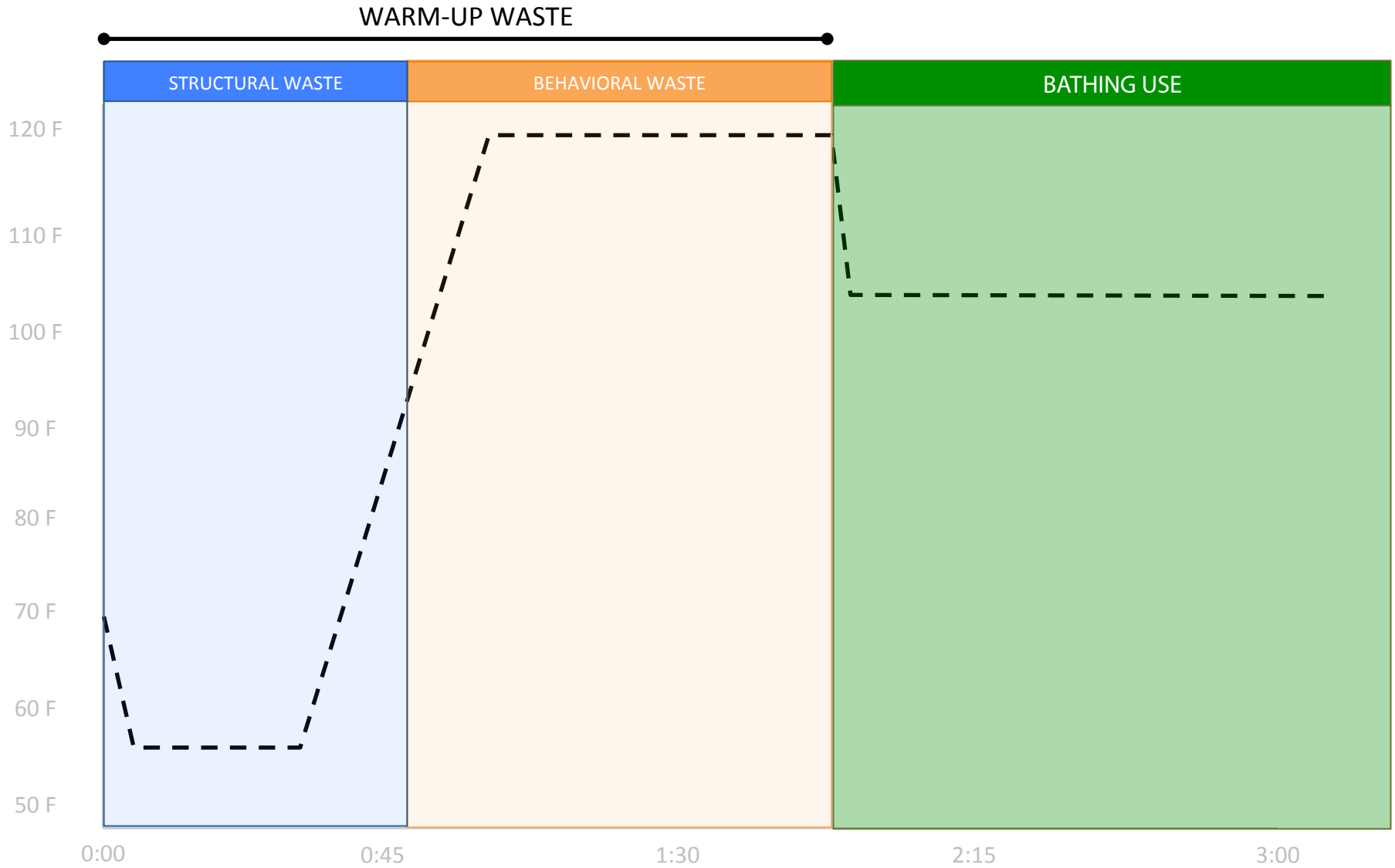




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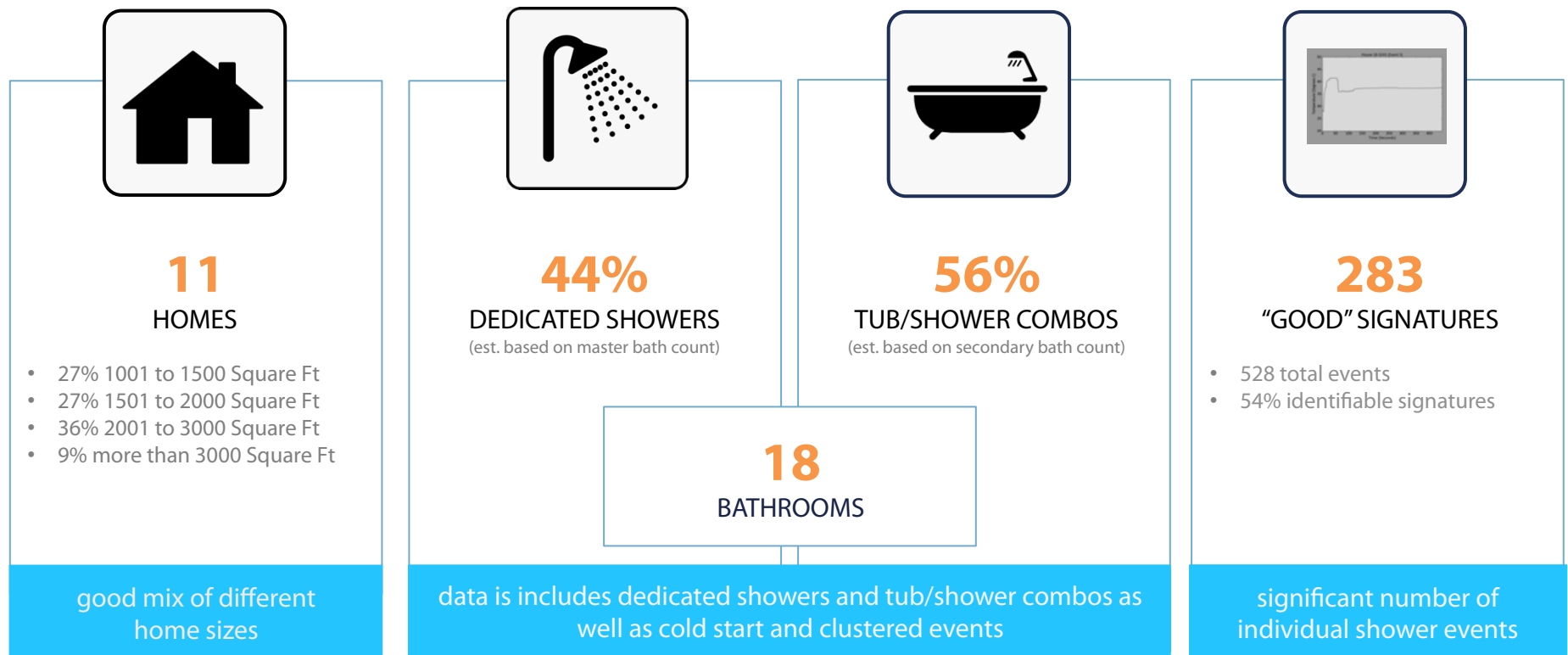


# The Lutz (LBNL) Shower Curve



## 2013 LBNL Field Study – Domestic Hot Water Use

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (Jim Lutz) conducted a field study of domestic hot water usage in N. California homes. Evolve Technologies identified the following data points regarding shower usage in homes with usable data for the period Dec 1-31, 2013.



SOURCE: 2014 Disaggregating Residential Shower Warm-Up Waste – An Understanding and Quantification of Behavioral Waste Based On Data From Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

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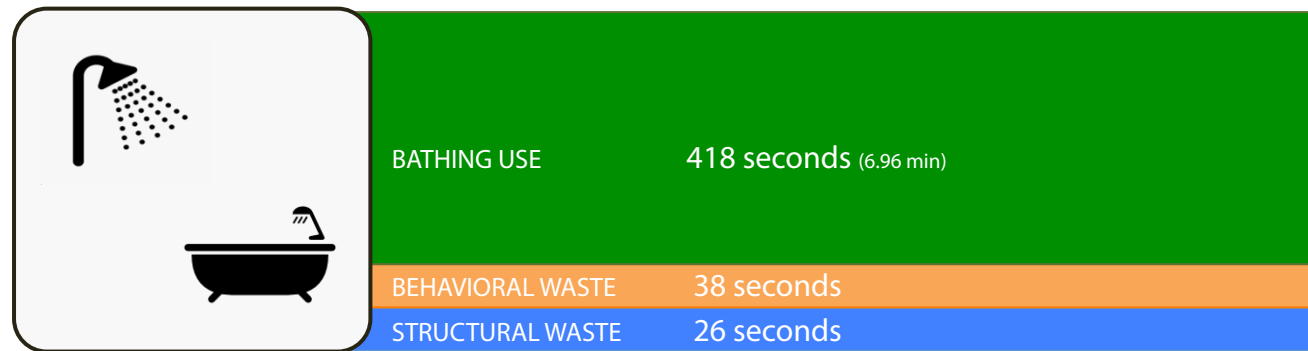
## The Dataset Is Small, But Looks A Lot Like REUWS – It's Pretty Good

In addition to capturing a representative cross section of home sizes and bathroom types, the Dec 2013 LBNL data also aligns with REUWS (residential end use of water survey) statistics for showers.

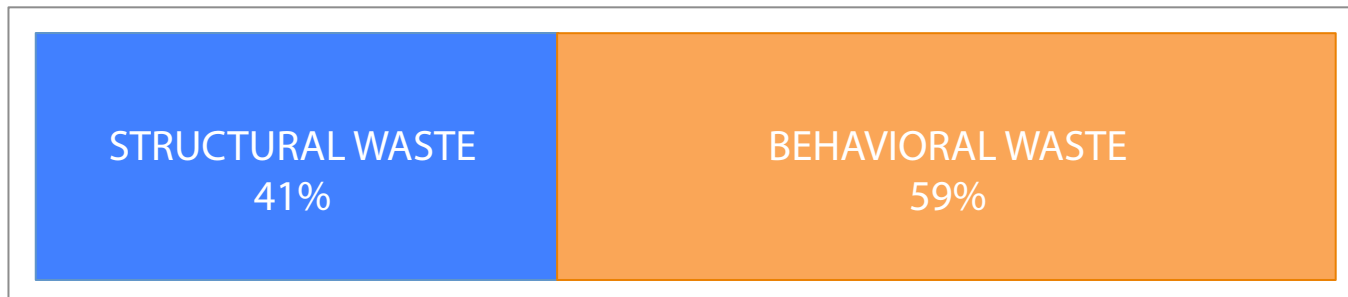
	LBNL 2013	REUWS 2 2014	REUWS 1 1999
Houses Logged	11	762	1187
Total Number of Recorded Showers	283	17,066	50,286
Average Shower Volume	14.2 gallons	15.8 gallons (+/- .5 gal)	16.7 gallons (+/- .3 gal)
Average Shower Duration	8 minutes	7.8 minutes (+/- .02 min)	7.8 min (+/- .14 min)
Aver Flow Rate For Showers	1.8 gpm	2.1 gpm (+/- .04 gpm)	2.2 gpm (+/- .04 gpm)

# 2013 LBNL Field Study Analysis – Behavioral Waste Is Largest Component

Raw LBNL data was analyzed for the period: December 1-31, 2013. Individual bathrooms were evenly weighted.



## SHOWER WARM-UP WASTE

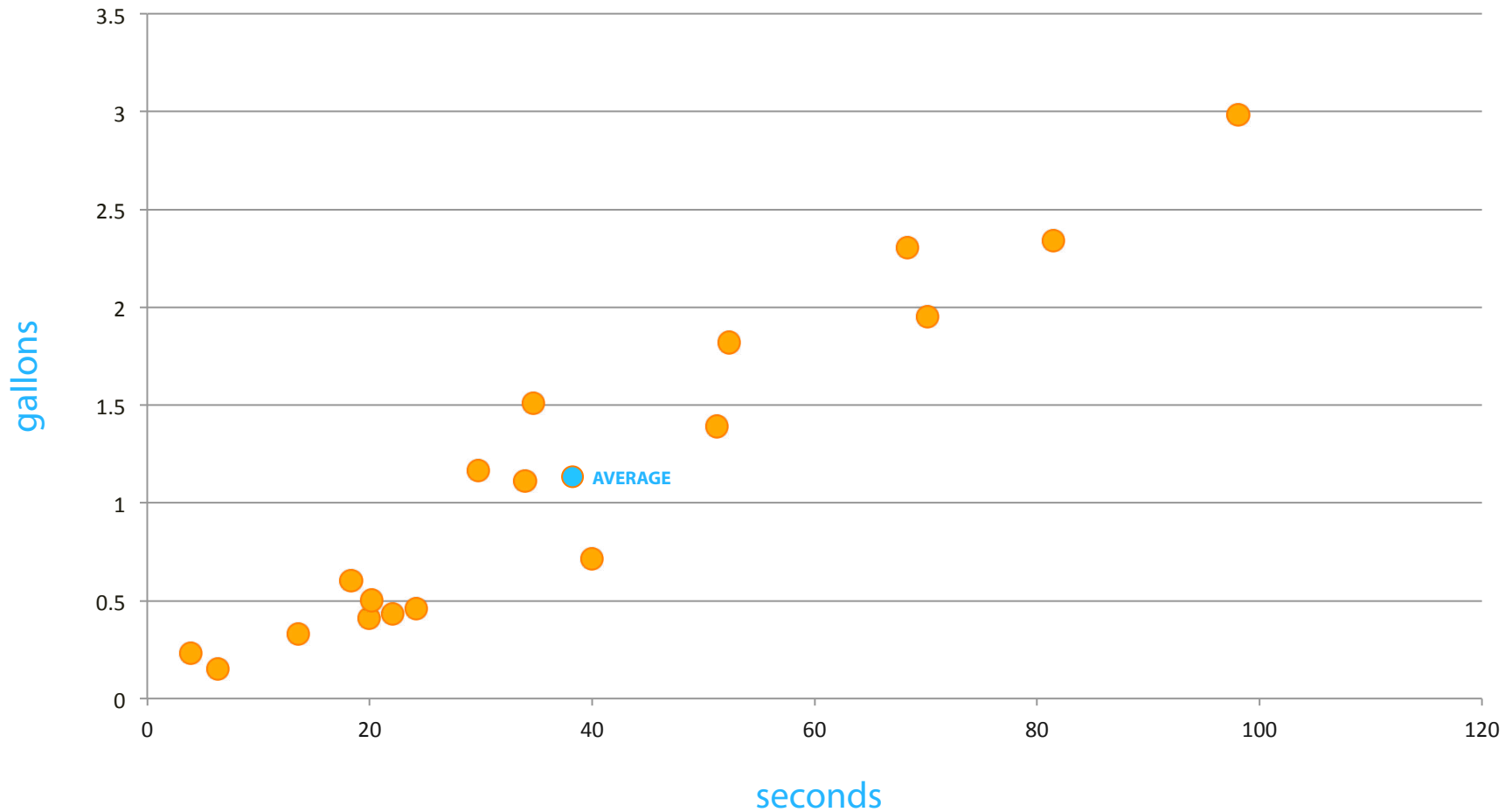


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# Some Waste A Little – Others Waste A Lot

## Average Behavioral Waste By Bathroom

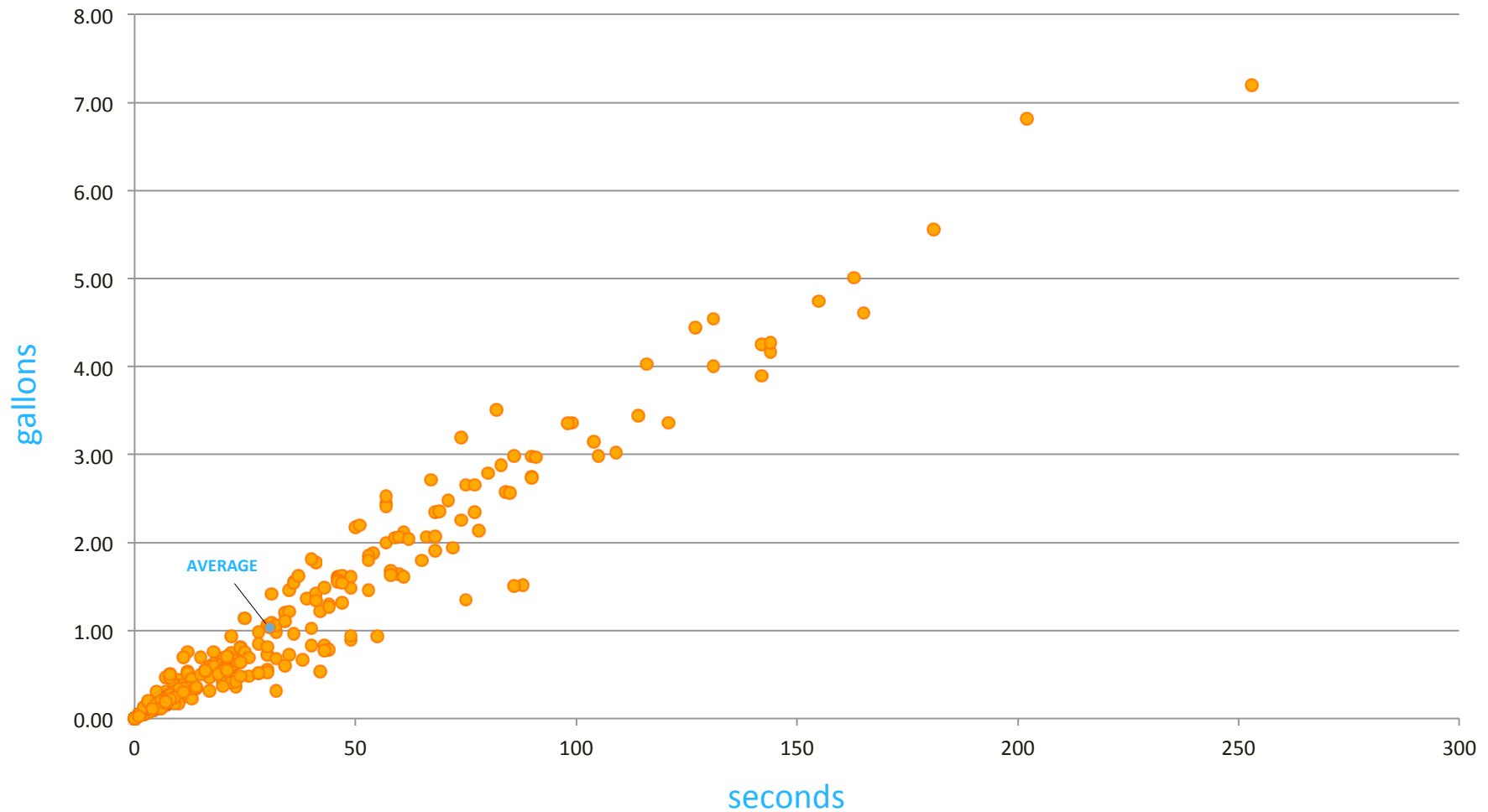


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# Some Waste A Little – Others Waste A Lot

## Behavioral Waste By Individual Shower Event

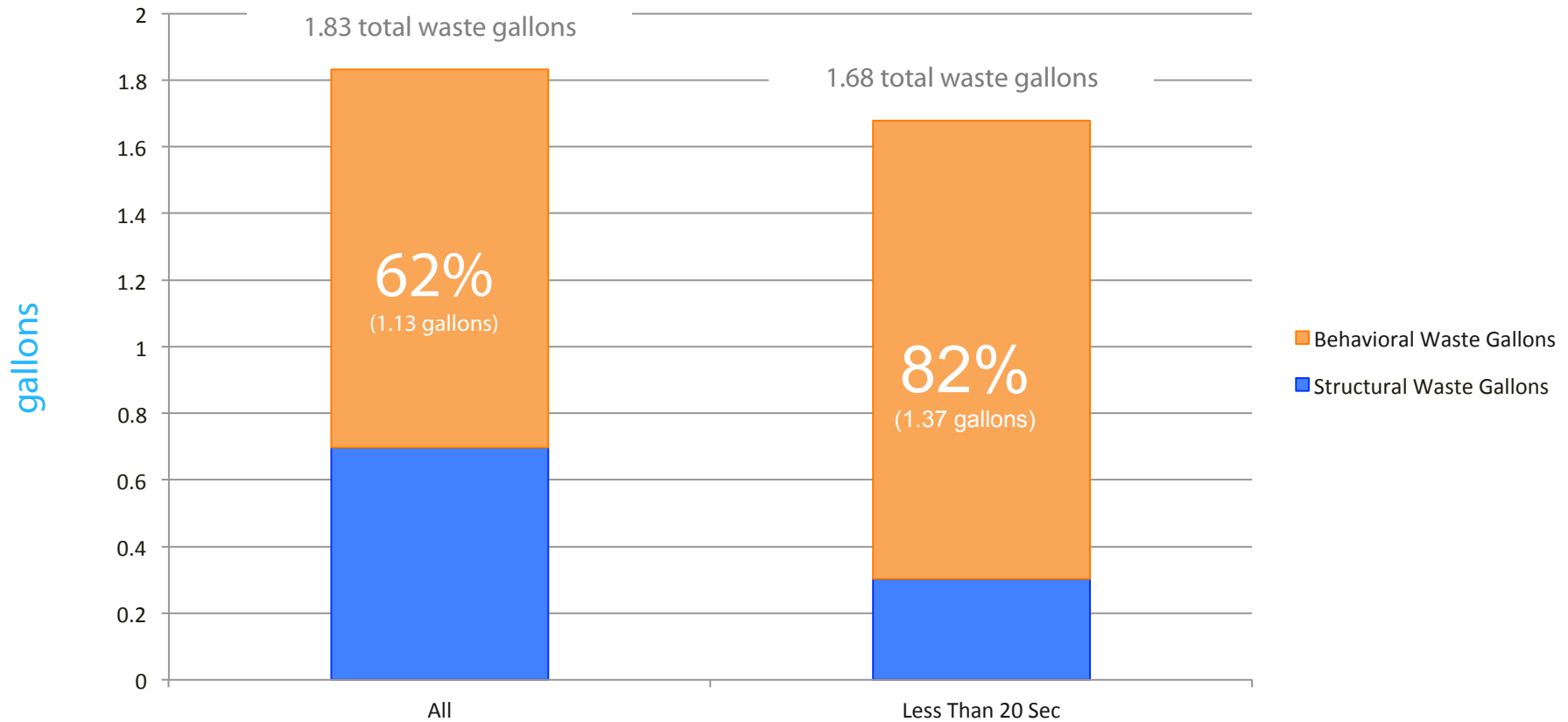


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# Fast Hot Water Delivery Shifts Waste To Behavioral – Behavior Is Persistent

Fast hot water delivery increases average behavioral waste volume by 32%, while only reducing total average shower warm-up waste by 9%



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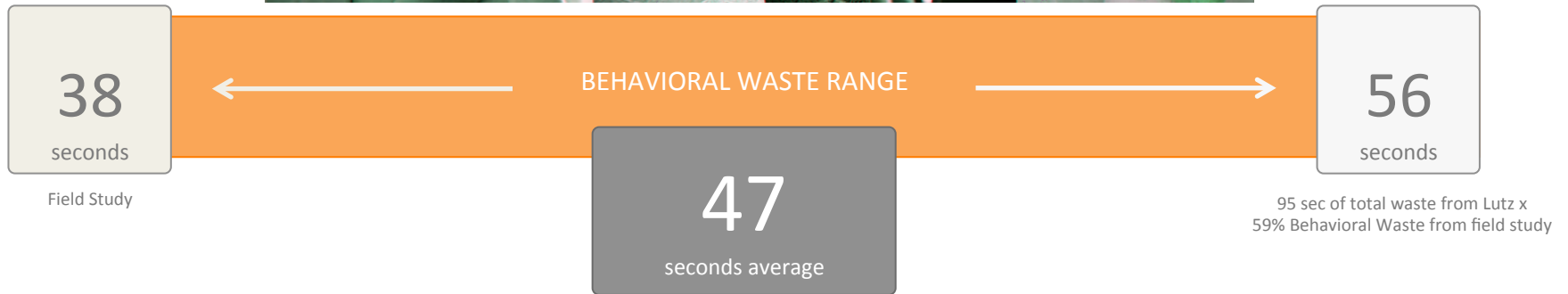


# Cal Behavioral Waste Estimate Based On LBNL Body of Work

Estimate range is inclusive of cold starts and clustered events.

Estimate range is based on LBNL work from 2004 – 2013.

Estimate is likely conservative as data was collected in one of the “greenest” regions of the country (SF Bay area).



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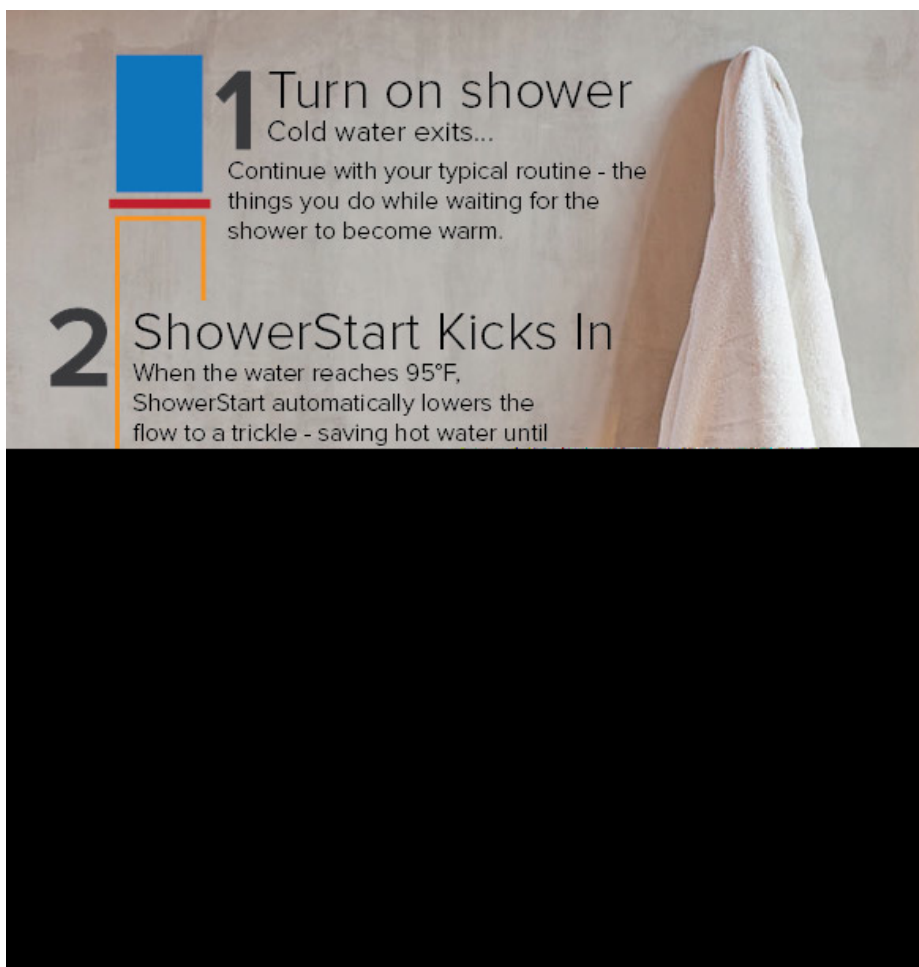
## Behavioral Waste Matrix Based On LBNL Body of Work – 2 to 5 gallons

Calculations for Behavioral Waste based on showerhead flow rate, time spent away from the shower and an incremental adjustment for tub spout warm ups. “Greener” regions of the country will likely skew towards towards the lower end of the scale, while other regions will likely fall in the middle to higher end.



		BEHAVIORAL WASTE			
		45 seconds	60 seconds	75 seconds	90 seconds
FLOW RATE	2.5 gpm	2.5 gal	3.3 gal	4.1 gal	4.9 gal
	2.25 gpm	2.3 gal	3.0 gal	3.8 gal	4.6 gal
	2.0 gpm	2.1 gal	2.8 gal	3.5 gal	4.2 gal
	1.75 gpm	1.9 gal	2.5 gal	3.2 gal	3.8 gal
	1.5 gpm	1.7 gal	2.3 gal	2.9 gal	3.4 gal

# Thermostatic Shut-Off Valve (TSV) Eliminates Behavioral Waste Without Behavior Change



**1** Turn on shower  
Cold water exits...  
Continue with your typical routine - the things you do while waiting for the shower to become warm.

**2** ShowerStart Kicks In  
When the water reaches 95°F, ShowerStart automatically lowers the flow to a trickle - saving hot water until

## Keep Your Routine, Save Your Hot Water



2-12 Therms\*  
Saved Per Year

A small thermostatic shut-off valve (TSV) is all that's needed to save the resources most bathers don't even realize they're wasting.

Better still, conservation occurs without changing shower flow, feel or even your morning routine.

\* Current savings range based on deemed savings calculations by U.S. IOUs using the TSV in their EE and Weatherization programs.

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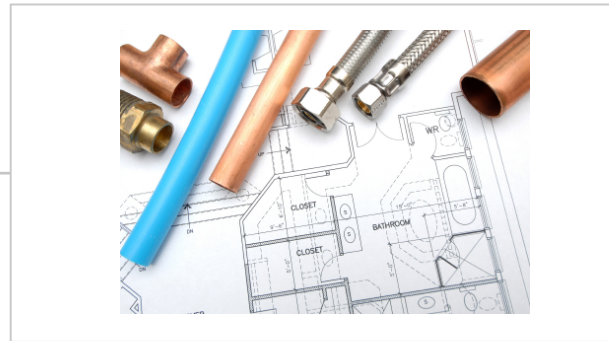
# Implications For Our Industry

Behavior is persistent and a Thermostatic Shut-Off Valve is necessary to guarantee the assumed effectiveness and deemed savings associated with Structured Plumbing Designs and Hot Water Recirculation Loops/Systems.



thermostatic shut-off valve

**GUARANTEE**



structured plumbing designs (efficient)



recirculation loops

Without a TSV these systems may actually increase water and energy consumption.

# Technology Adoption & Behavioral Waste Consideration

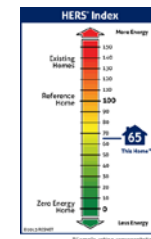
- + 750K units installed in single family and multifamily homes via the largest IOU EE & weatherization programs in the country.



- Inclusion in Build It GREEN's updated Green Point energy and water calculator.



- Inclusion in RESNET's updated HERS scoring method for energy efficiency.



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