

Residential Shell Retrofits, *biggest* savings potential

BEFORE



AFTER



Typical Home Improvements:

- | | |
|--|---|
| A Sealing air leaks and adding insulation | D Replacing windows |
| B Improving heating and cooling systems | E Upgrading lighting, appliances & water heating equipment |
| C Sealing ductwork | F Installing renewable energy systems |

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR

The Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program is a national program administered by the U.S. Department of Energy in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Since 2002, over 330,000 homeowners improved their homes' efficiency with whole house solutions to improve comfort and indoor air quality while reducing energy bills. Their homes are warmer in the winter, cooler in the summer, and more affordable to operate all year.

Join the more than 330,000 homeowners, 50 local Sponsors, and nearly 2,100 participating contractors who have made a commitment to protect the environment and our nation's security by using less energy to heat and cool their homes. With lower utility bills and a more comfortable home, there is no reason to wait!

About 50% of homes need it.

Building shell improvements.

Clear benefits: Positive NPV. ($SIR > 1.0$) Better comfort.

Let's be honest: Residential retrofits are not easy: retrofits scare consumers and people aren't buying

- “None of my friends have had a retrofit”. (1-5% adoption, out of 50%)
- Spend \$10,000, nothing guaranteed.
 - Deemed savings/billing analysis solves the regulator problem, but not the contractor/individual's risk problem.
- Skeptical: 4-hour “audit” seen as a sales tool.
- ***DIRTY SECRET: RISK!***

In billing analysis,
1 in 6 homes save
LESS THAN ZERO.

STORY: CA state
Assemblymember
Nancy Skinner saved zero:

At LBNL she said
“We gotta make sure this works!”



Figure 3.1. Histogram of Percentage Consumption Differences for Sample A

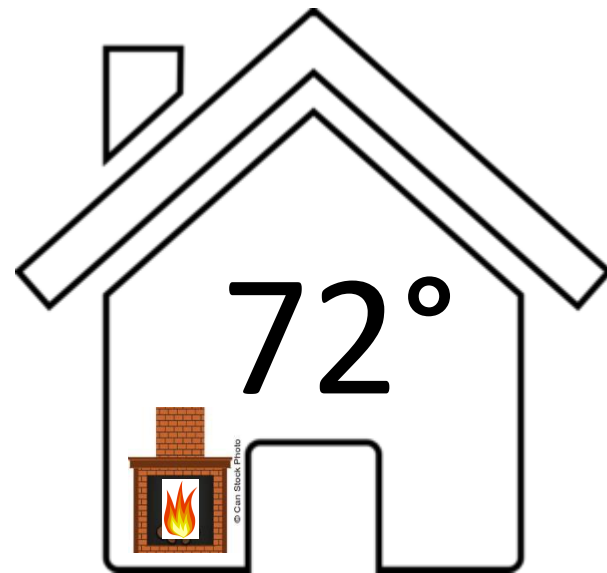
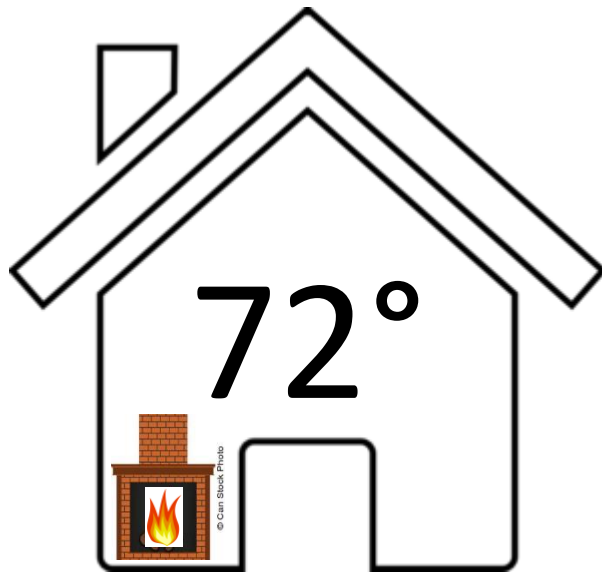
At Cornell, we asked: can we do better?

Criteria

- Identify the leakiest 50%
- Easy
- Inexpensive
- **Useful** (Not perfect/precise)
Enough Signal-to-Noise to find the worst 50%

Answer: Mix 1970's Twin Rivers project with 21st century analytics. Mix of old & new.

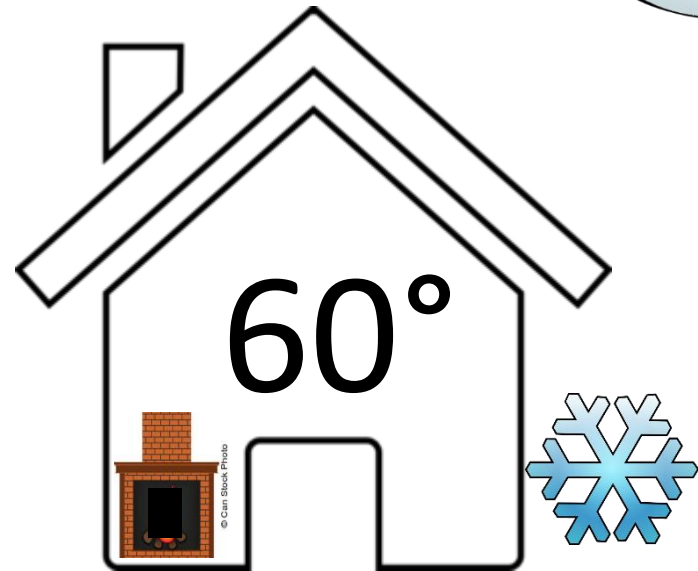
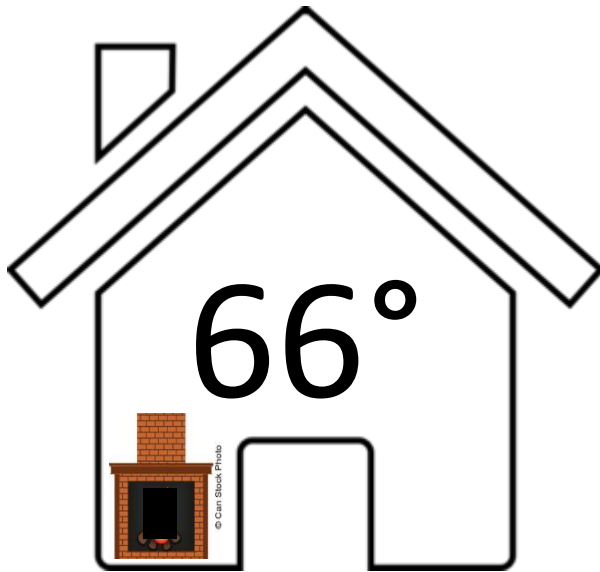
Two similar looking houses. One is leaky. How can we tell?



Two similar looking houses. One is leaky. How can we tell?



1970's answer: When everything is off, the leaky house drops temperature faster.



3 hours later

Physics never goes out of fashion:
Still true today. What's different is that
now we have uber-cheap analytics.

Cornell research project is

low-tech

+

high-tech

dataloggers

algorithms



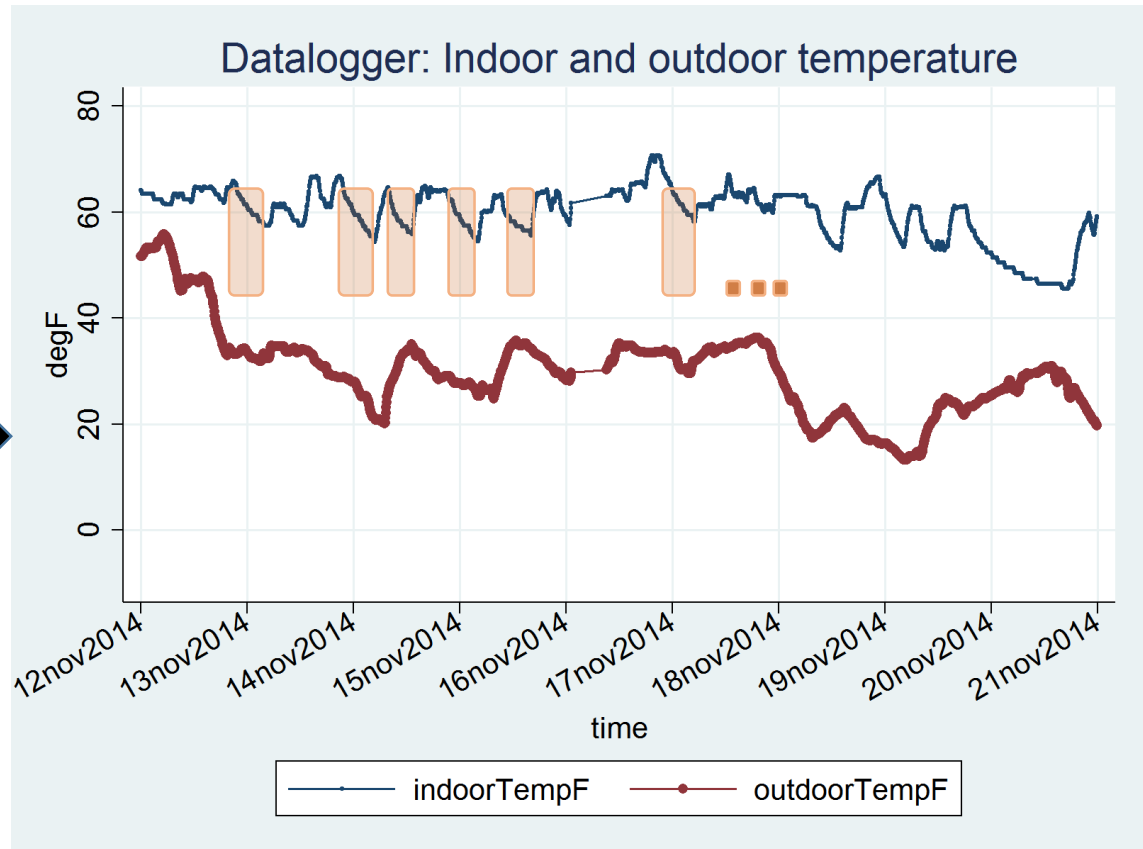
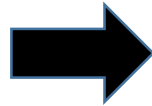
12/14/2015

Prof Howard Chong | hc757@cornell.edu

How it works. Easy!

Put in the house for 15 days during the winter & push 1 button.

Easy: Nobody needs to enter your house. No scheduling 4 hours walkthrough.

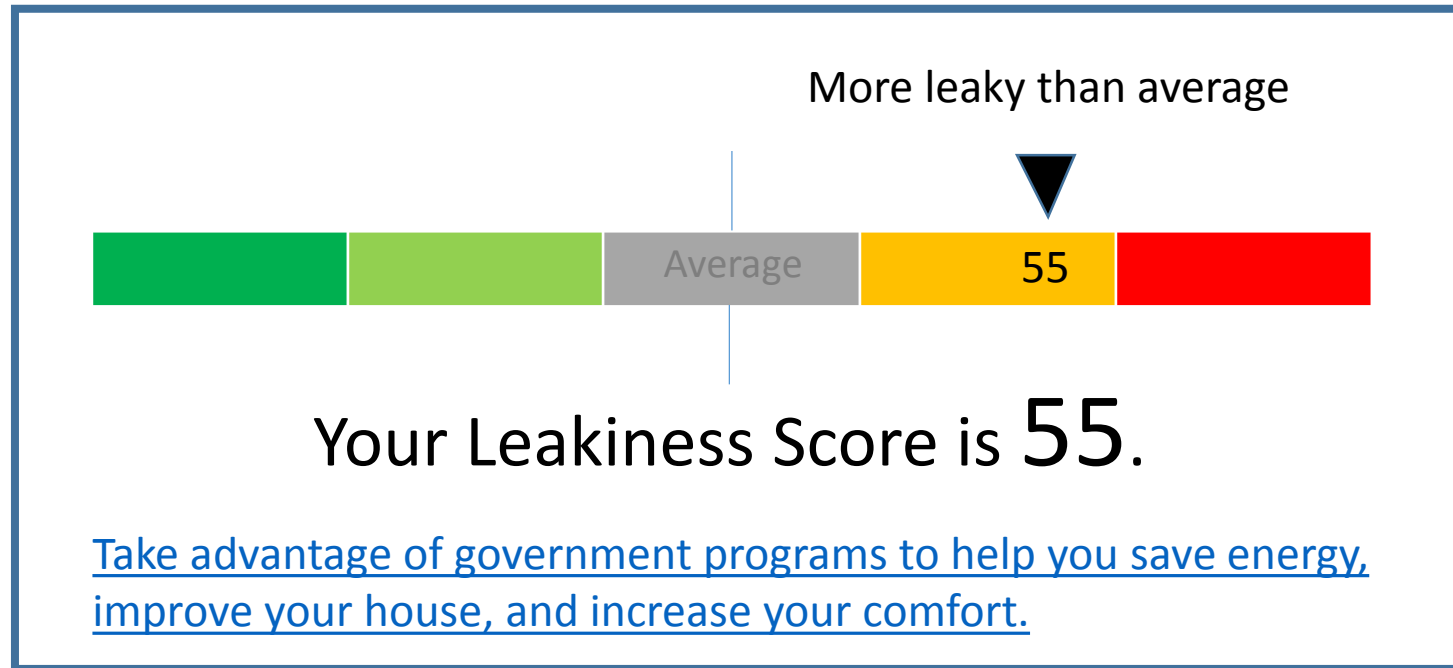


“Low tech” –
off-the-shelf

“High tech” – Building Physics – It works!
(LBNL, 1-hour talk)

Borrowing from O-Power

Easy Social Comparison drives action



Call to Action: Existing audit/retrofit process



Story #1: Leveraging existing civic institutions

Trust and Getting to **\$5** cost

Local champion owns the project. Data download, promotion



And bypass regulatory processes!

Story #2: Beyond targetting Good contractors will use it

My contractor loves the datalogger.

Q: What's the **biggest** problem
does this solves *for the contractor*?

A: Callbacks!

Immediate quality control.
(2 weeks pre, 2 weeks post; mailed datalogger)

- Enable acceptable pay-for-performance & guarantees (DIAN) makes sense to the contractor
- Differentiation for the **good** contractors (RICHARD KAUFMAN – ENABLE MARKETS)
- Feedback. (REGULATORS & CONTRACTOR)



And there's more....

100% Energy Code Compliance

(nudge nudge to Nest, Ecobee, Weatherbug)

Use Temperature Decay Curves for 10X better residential energy code compliance

Did you know... ?

Every energy code building simulation calculates Annual Consumption and Temperature Decay Curves.

Step 1: \$5 measurement of temperature building decay curves.

Before the drywall goes up (because that's when it's cheap to fix).

Ramp Test: Ramp to 75degF (or 60degF in Texas), datalogger.

Step 2: Done.

10X better energy code (shell) compliance.
Skip to variability of building inspectors.

Research is working *today!*

In the field now...

By February 2016:

- 500 homes
- Open source algorithm
- Open source 500 anonymized data sets

By 2018, all of Ithaca (50,000 population) scored.

- Enables targeting, physical baseline.
- Amazing community engagement



Lots of fun discussions with libraries,
boy scouts / girl scouts.

Next Steps

- Email me today and you will get the 500 traces of data, algorithm, and deployment lessons learned.
- If this solves an existing engagement problem for you, let's see if we can work something out. It's "shovel ready" today.

Dataloggers Enabling Sustainable Communities In Ithaca, NY & Surrounding Areas

90 second
overview

a community-based research project

Howard Chong (Caroline) & Al George (Trumansburg)
Cornell University



<http://DataloggerProject.com>

Thank you!