



# BEYOND THE SMART METERS

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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
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Dipartimento di Ingegneria Industriale



# How use IoT

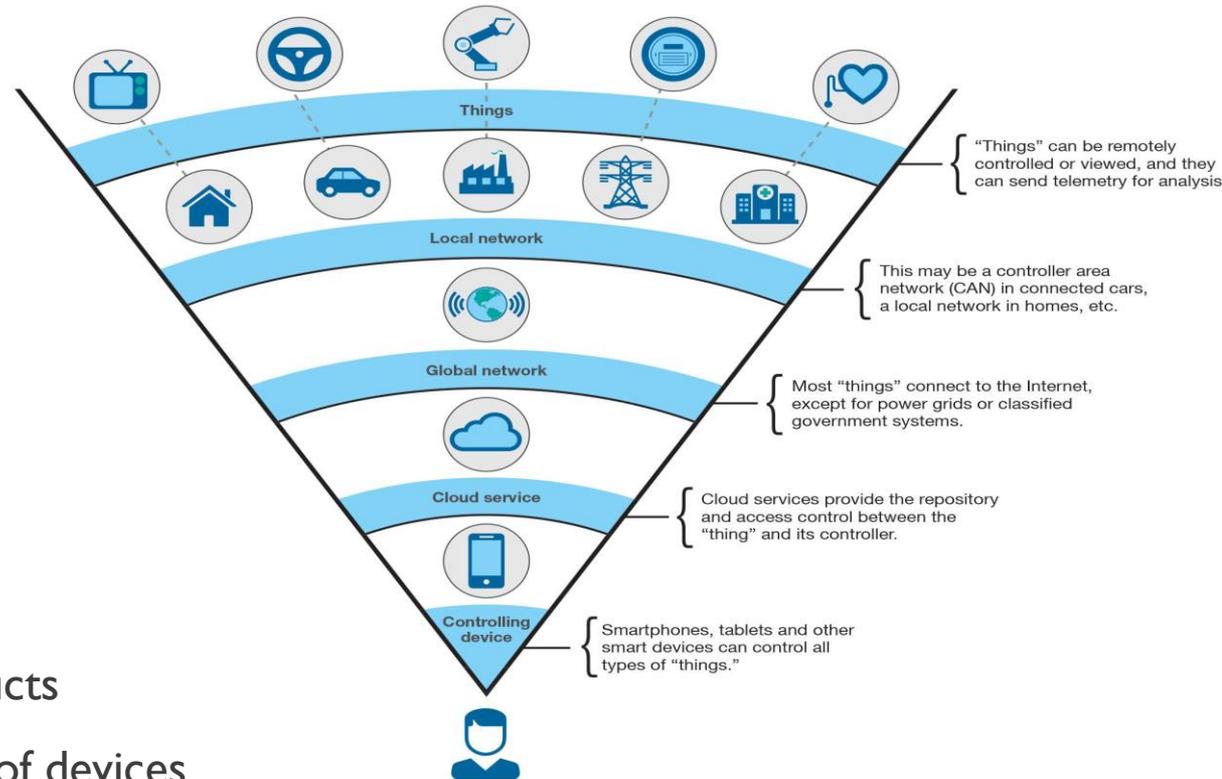
People in general for different purposes:

- Industry
- Production
- Body
- Home
- Environment
- City

## Why

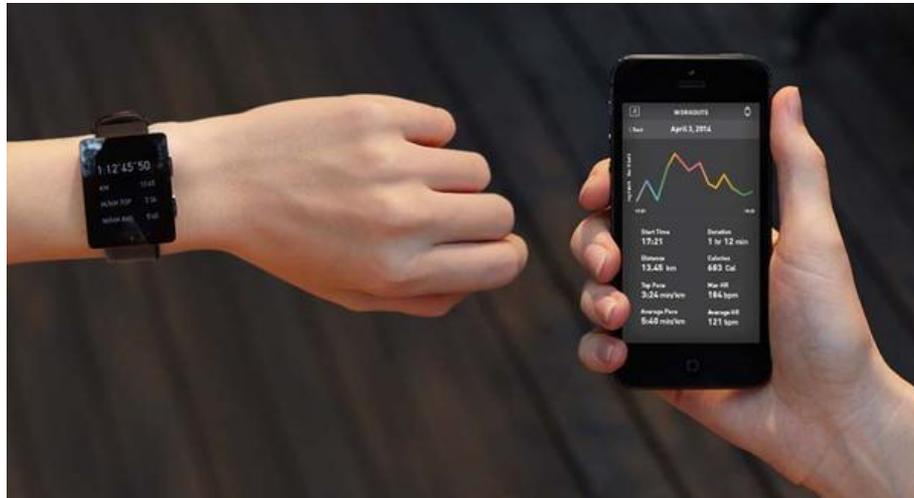
- Extends lifecycle for products
- Improve energy efficiency of devices
- Multiple connected products for improved customer experience
- Ability to remotely monitor and control devices

IBM model for the Internet of Things



Source: IBM X-Force® Research and Development

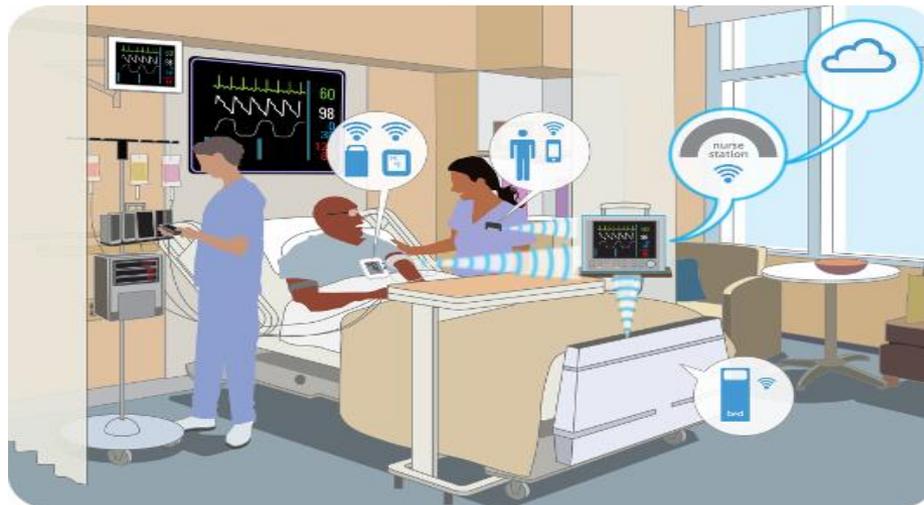
# How IoT looks like?



## Smart Appliances



## Wearable Tech



## Healthcare



# IoT Device



Amazon dash



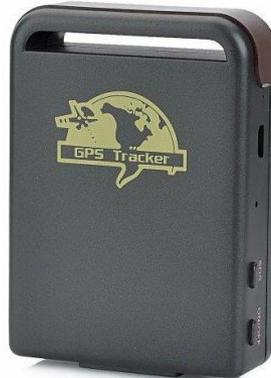
Google NEST



Philips HUE



fitbit



GPS gsm tracker

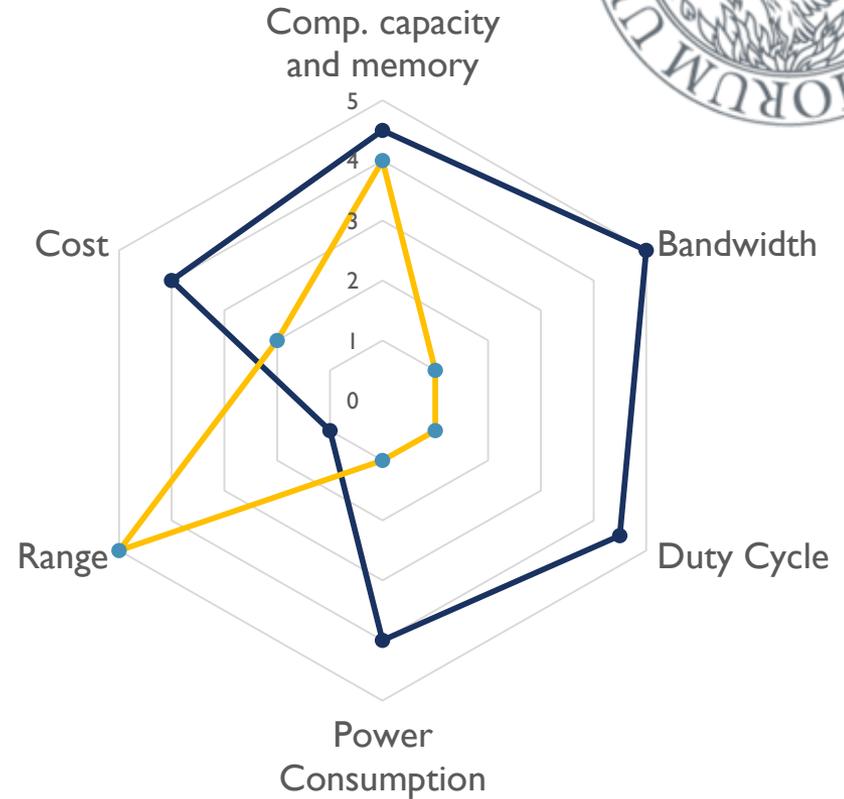


NETGEAR Arlo



# IoT Device

- Computational capacity and memory
- Bandwidth (bit-rate)
- Communication duty cycle
- Communication range
- Power consumption
- Cost



## Motion tracking



- Accelerometer 3-axis 100Hz
- STM32F405 - Cortex M4
- WiFi (MQTT) - 50mt
- Power supply

## Smart agriculture / smart city



- Large set of sensors
- STM32L4 Low-power
- LoRa - 5/10Km
- Battery - Harvesting

## Data

- Different from traditional computing
- Small in size
- Frequent in transmission
- Huge number of connected devices



## Communication

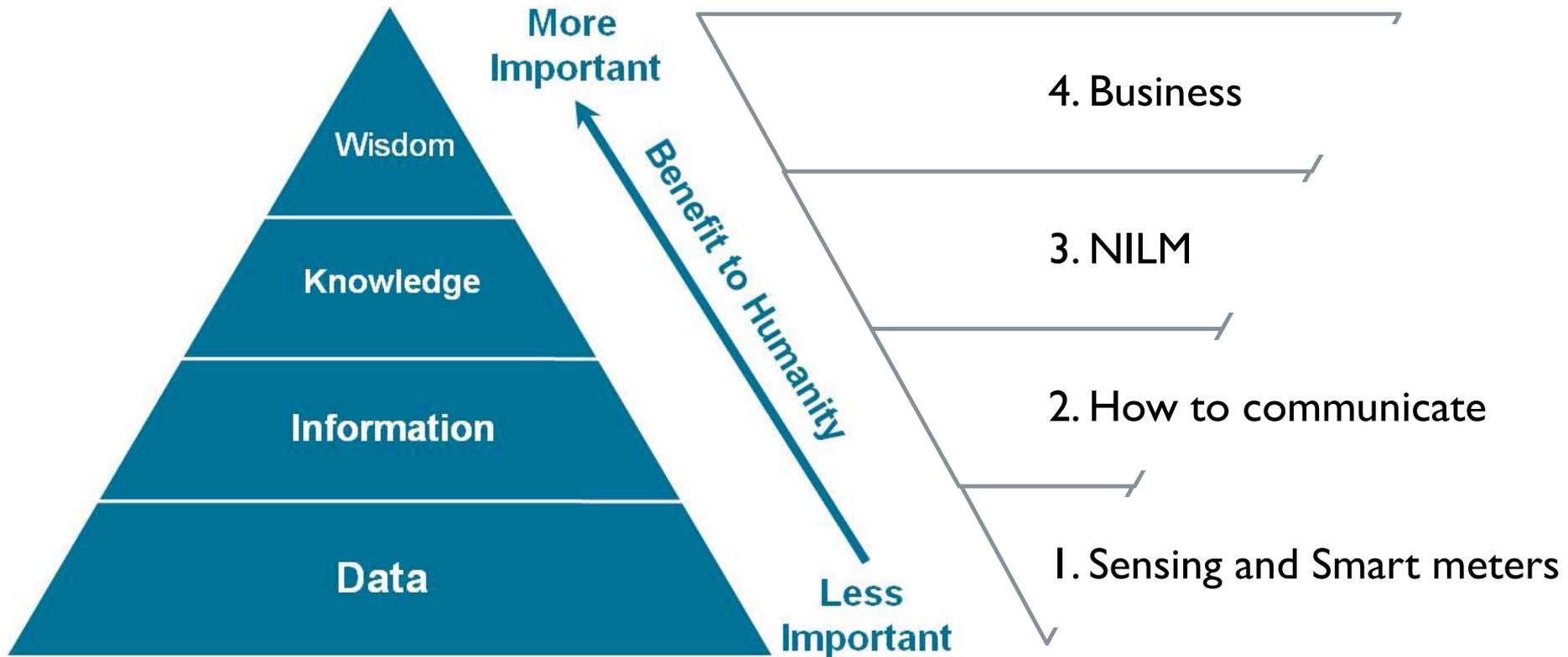
- Share info to people and system
- New different type of data
- Collected frequently
- Visibility into a device's condition

## Cost saving

- Performance data
- Equipment health
- Minimizing equipment failure
- Perform planning maintenance



# We Evolve Because We Communicate





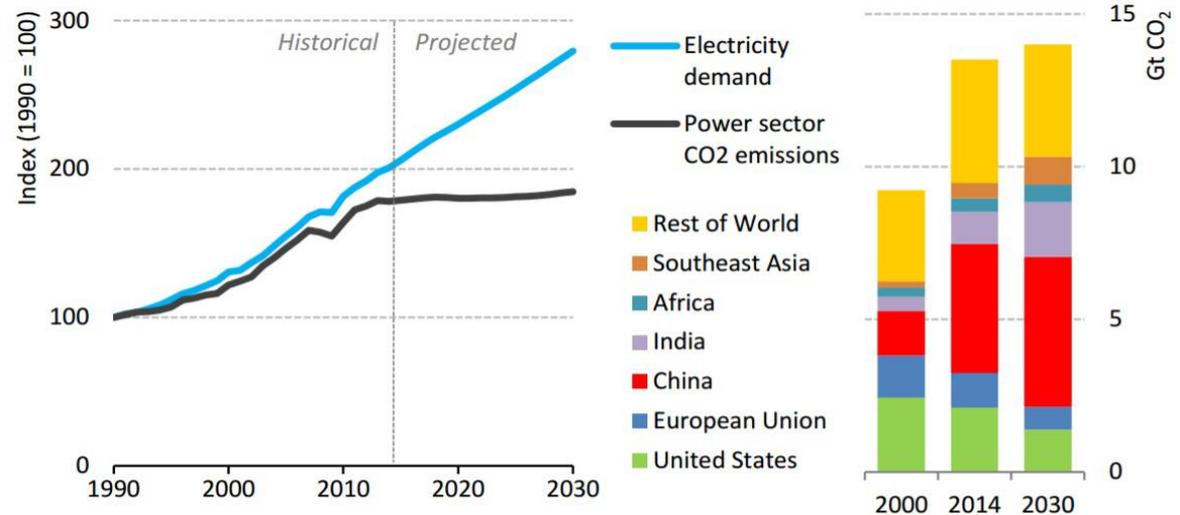
## Case Study

# IoT as enabling technology for Electrical Energy efficiency in Buildings



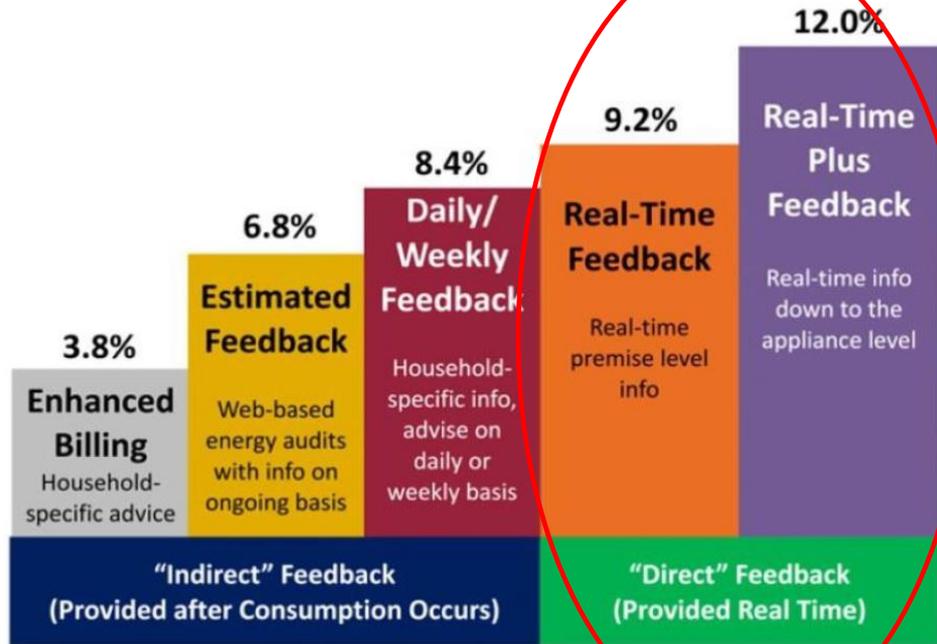
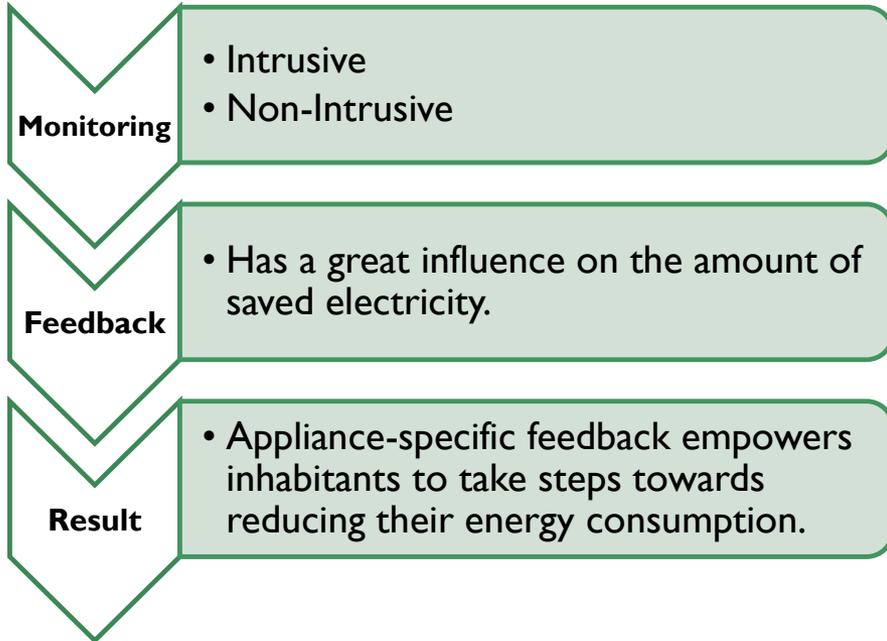
# Energy efficiency

- ❑ One of the main challenge of Smart Cities, is the **reduction of energy consumption.**
- ❑ In Italy, domestic energy usage accounted for approximately **20% of overall energy consumption in 2016.**
- ❑ **Efficiency of energy usage is essential.**
- ❑ In households is achieved by **eliminating wasted energy or getting people to match their usage with the availability of renewable energy.**





# Energy efficiency

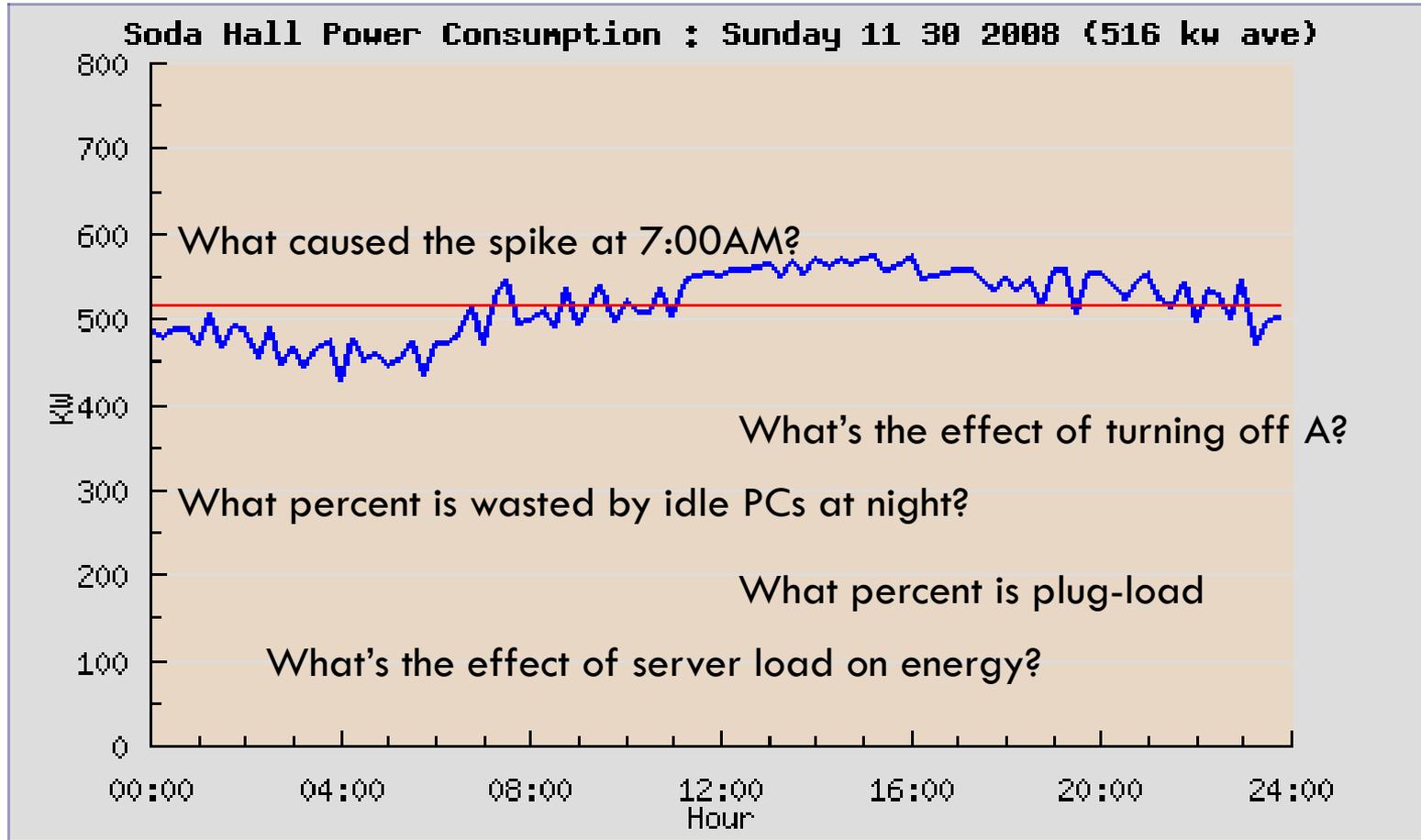


Ehrhardt-Martinez et al. Advanced Metering Initiatives and Residential Feedback Programs : A Meta-Review for Household Electricity-Saving Opportunities.

***“The current energy systems are like a store without prices on individual items, which presents only one total bill at the cash register.”***



# Aggregate is Not Enough

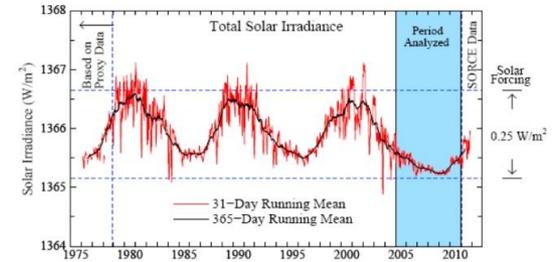
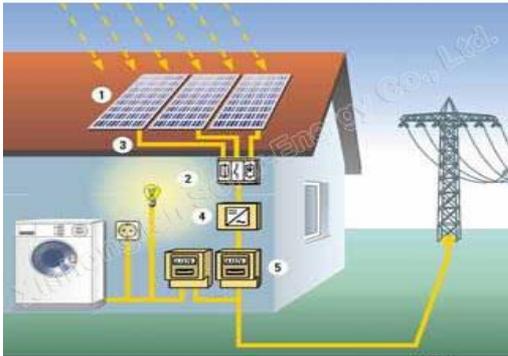


An information-centric energy infrastructure: The Berkeley view  
Randy H. Katz et al.

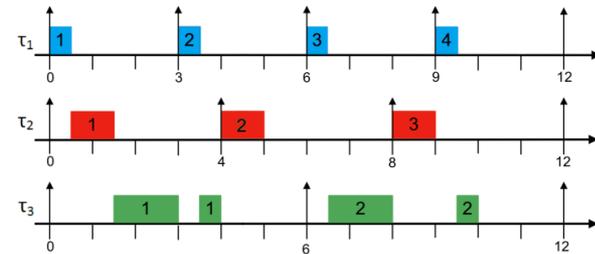


# Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring - NILM

## The Big Picture



**Aggregated Load monitoring**



**Identification of the appliances  
Signal Disaggregation**

# Market Objectives

- Meter manufacturers are currently going on the **market** with a differentiated offer:
  - **low-cost** meters solutions for large scale distributed monitoring;
  - **High-end** instruments for accurate and scientific measurements to assess the quality of the energy provided.



- Smart Meters will be used in residential and commercial buildings for:
  - Peak **Load Management** for utility companies
  - Non-intrusive single-Appliance **Load Monitoring**.
  - **Non-intrusive Load Monitoring** from the household's total electricity consumption.

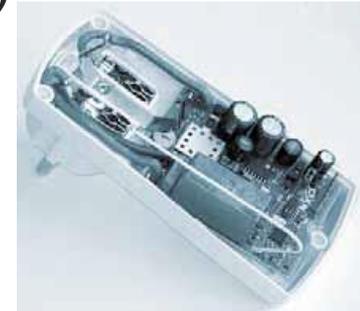




# Availability on Market

Commercial ICs with accurate analog front-end (AFE)

- **Microchip MCP3905** supports real power measurement using two ADC channels optimized to perform both current and voltage measurement.
- **Analog Devices ADE7953** measures voltage and current, and calculates active, reactive, and apparent power, as well as instantaneous RMS values.
- **NXP EM773 energy metering IC** is a 32-bit microcontroller (an ARM Cortex-M0 core) solution designed specifically for electricity metering applications.
- **MCP3903 AFE** provides six synchronously ADCs for the three-phase energy measurement.



**NXP EM77**



**MCP3905**

Devices designed for measuring  
and not open to the IoT opportunities



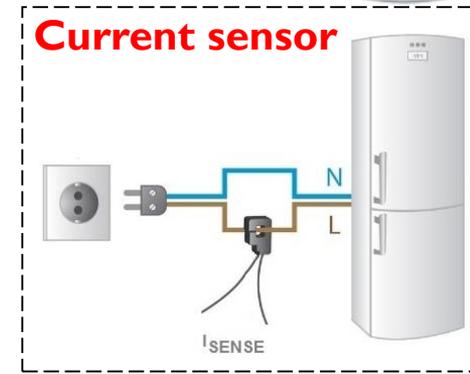
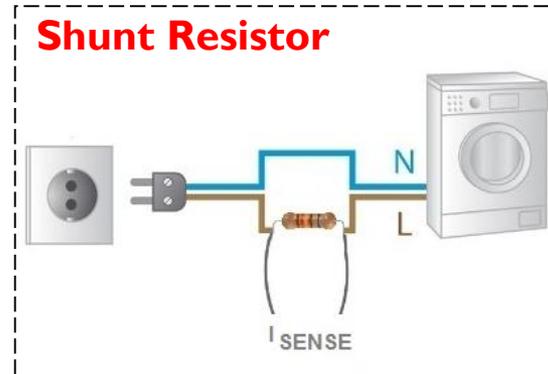
**MCP3903 AFE**



# Smart Meter general description

## ■ Metrology

- Precision resistor is typically used in series with the AC load
- Current sensor



## ■ Network Connection

### ■ Wireless Solution

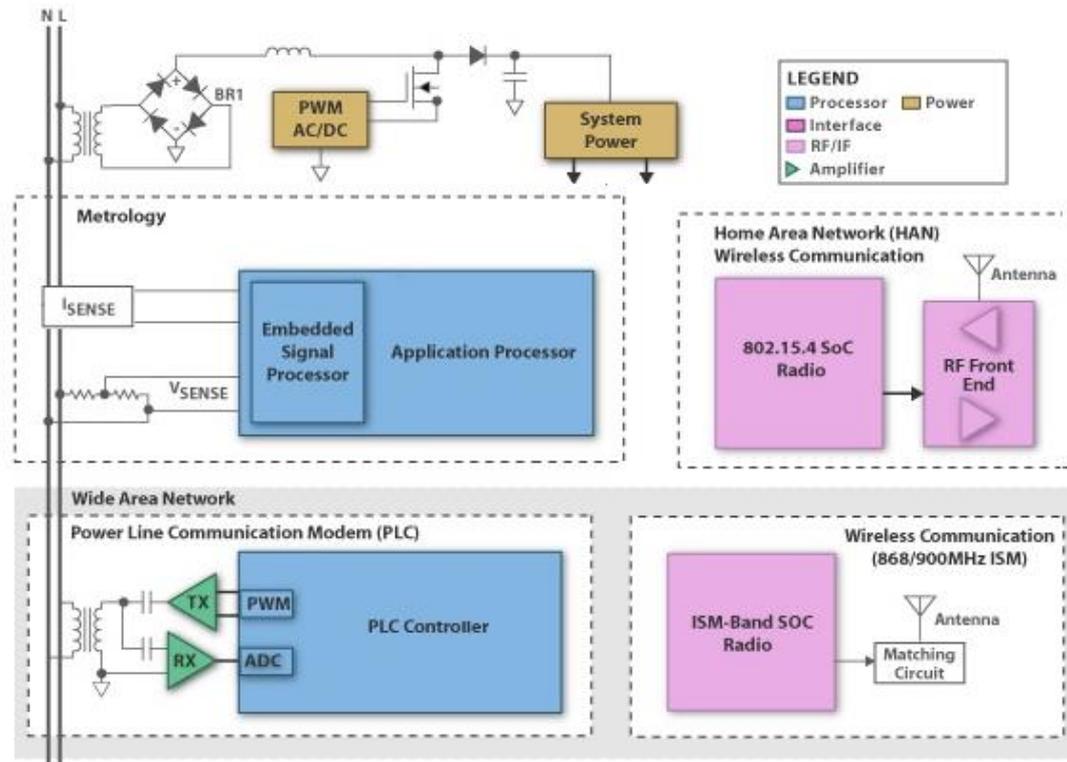
- Sub-GHz
- 2.4GHz

### ■ Power line solution

- M2M 3G connection

## ■ Power Supply

- Rectifying an AC signal



# Contactless Self-Powered Meter Designed for IoT

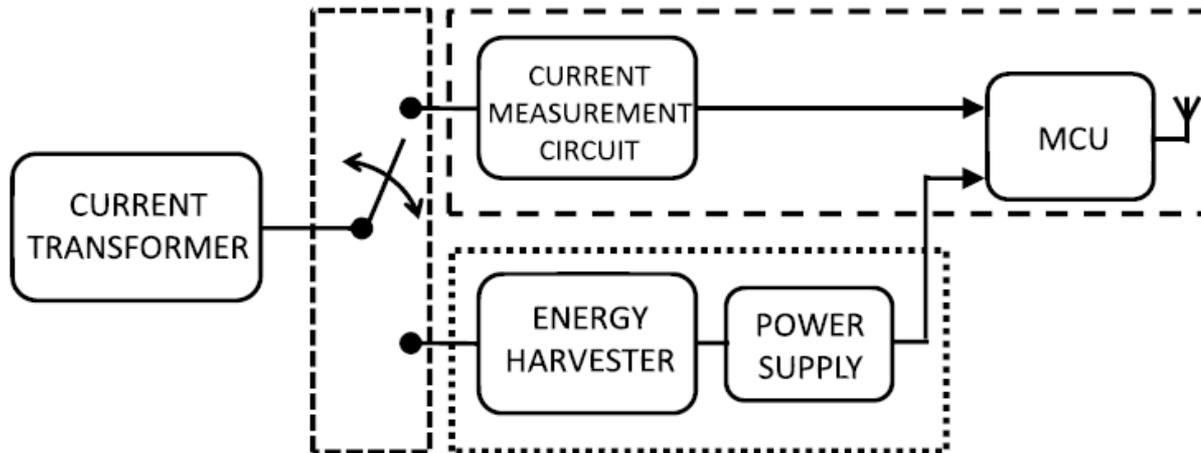
- The Energy Meter exploits a **clamp-on current transformers** for
  - non-intrusive current measurement;
  - **Energy Harvesting**;
- **Contact-less voltage** measurement;
- Power consumption and environmental measurement;
- **RMS, FIR** and **DFT** analysis;
- Low-power, 32-bit microcontroller and LORAWAN wireless standard;
- A primary batteries for start-up and backup operation;





# Energy Harvesting Section

- The energy harvesting circuit uses the same current transformer for the current measurement as power transducer.
- Moreover, it is able to guarantee the start-up reliably without using any external energy source (e.g. batteries).





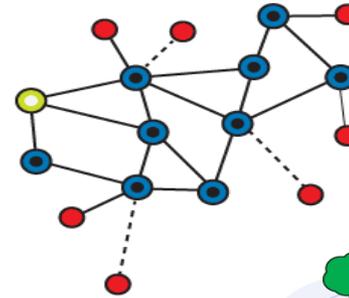
# IoT communication

## Three main approaches



### Short-range multihop

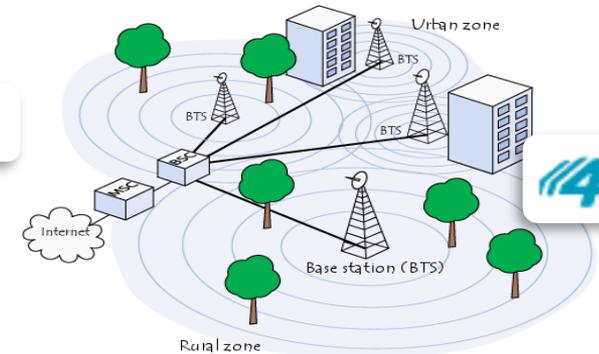
- ZigBee
- WiFi low energy
- RFID



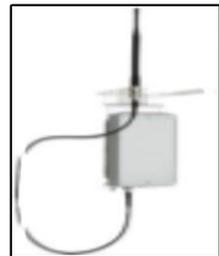
### Mobile phone operators

- GSM
- LTE-A
- 5G

3G+ / H+

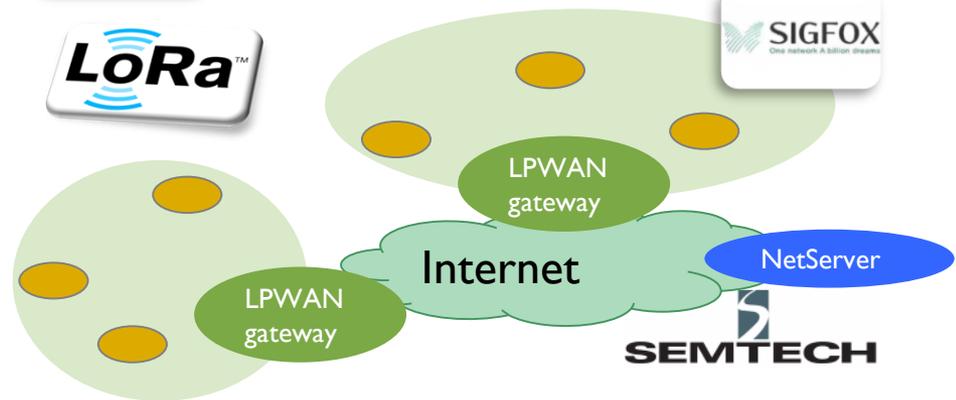


4G



### Low Power Wide Area Networks (LPWAN)

- SIGFOX
- Neul
- LoRa

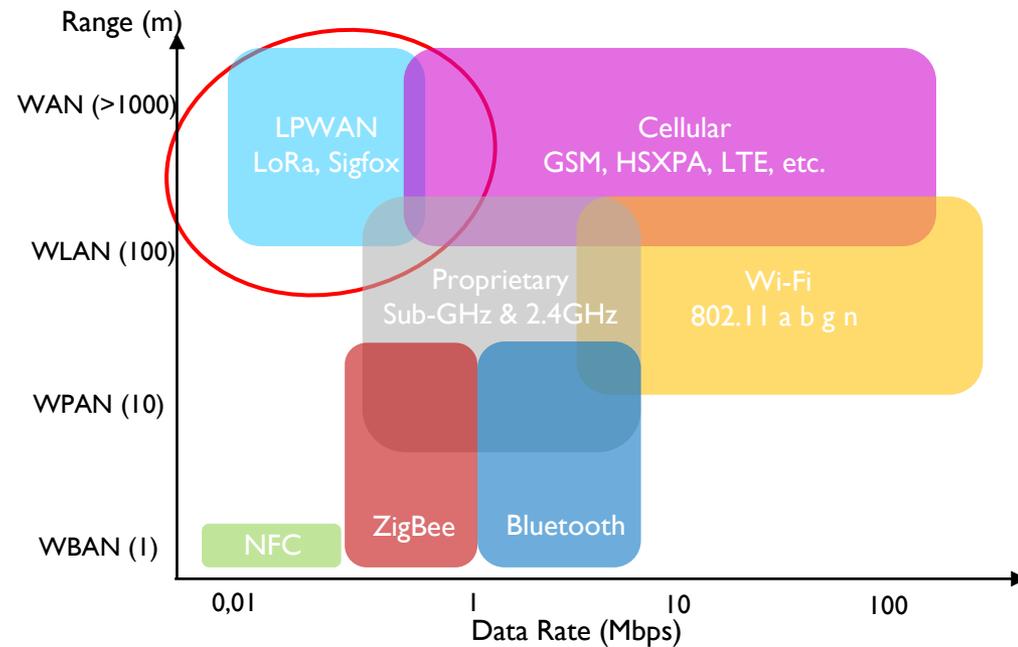
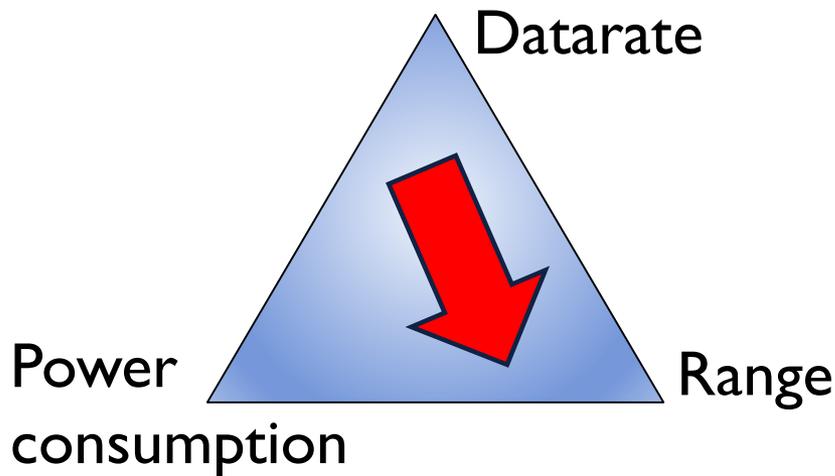


SEMTECH



# LoRa Long Range transmission

- LPWAN Low Power Wide Area Network
- Low cost: end-node and infrastructure
- ISM Sub-GHz 868MHz
- Hight range: 5/10Km
- Flexible bitrate: 11bs to 37.5Kbs





# Trento Valley



Free and Open  
Communication HUB for  
citizens IoT applications

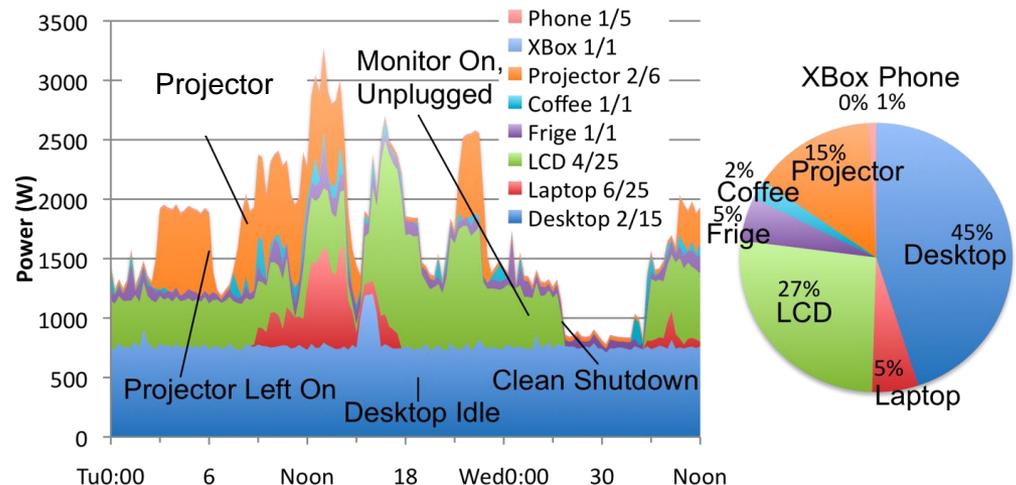
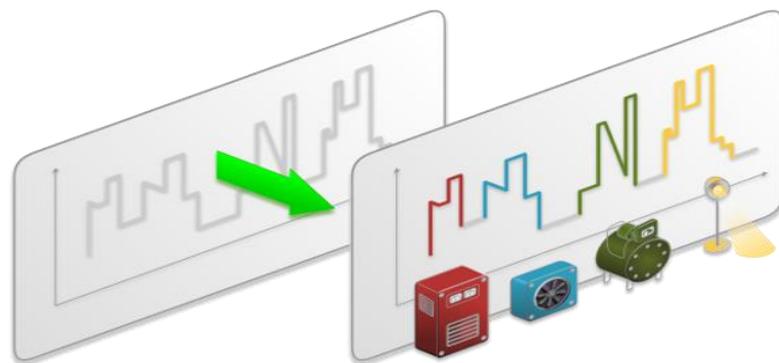
<http://front.dii.unitn.it/>

<http://www.thingsforest.com/>



# Non Intrusive Load Monitoring (NILM)

- **Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring (NILM)** is a method to perform detailed energy sensing and provide information on the consumption of energy spent with a single sensing point.
- Aggregated load data is used to extract and identify the loads of the individual devices. This is referred to as “disaggregation”.
- Appliance identification is highly dependent on load signatures, which are further characterized by the appliance category.





## NILM: techniques

**Consumer appliances can be categorized based on their operational states as follows:**

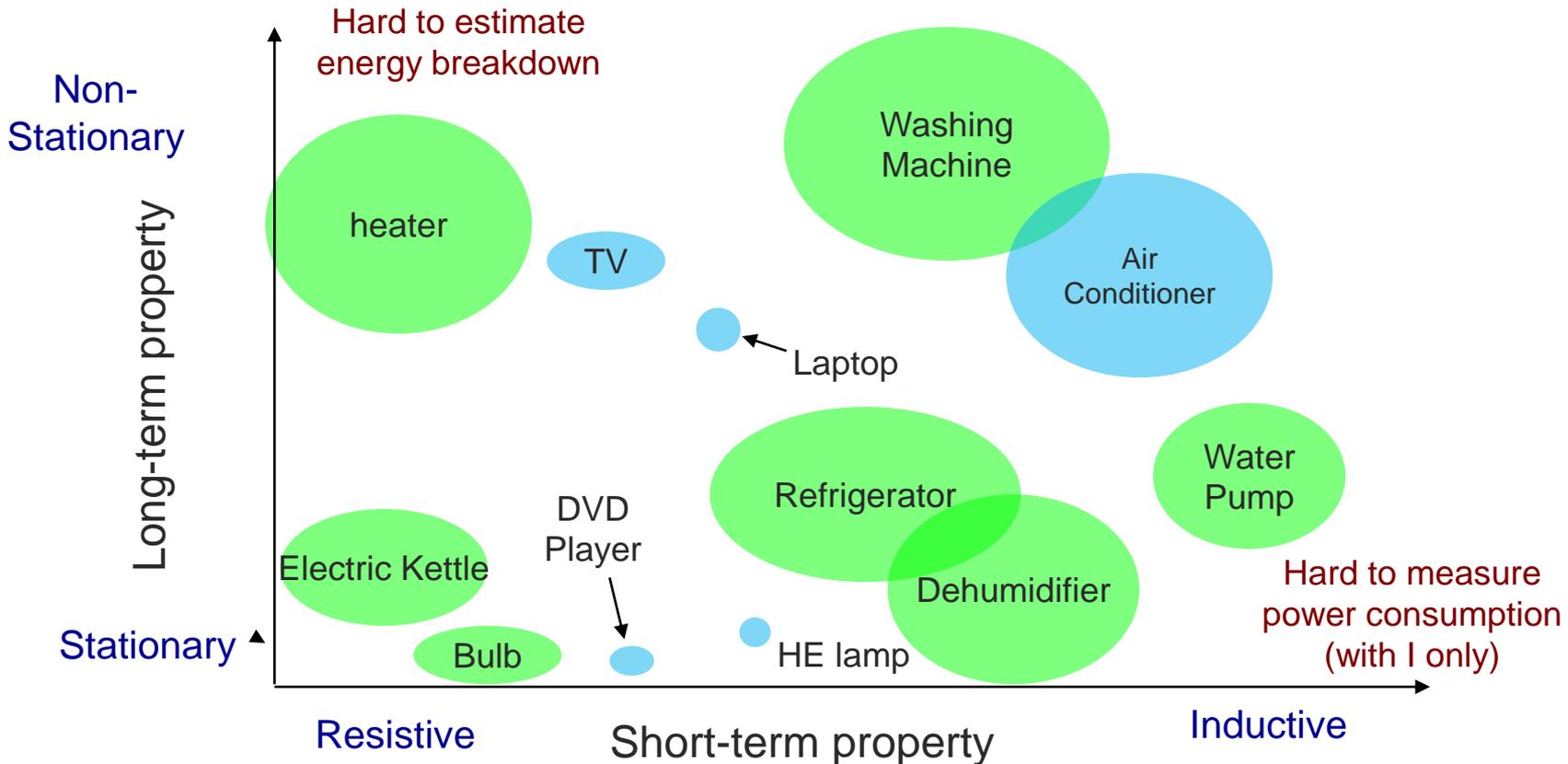
- **On/Off:** devices that are either turned on or off and draw constant power while they are on (e.g., table lamp, electric kettles, water pumps).
- **Finite State Machine (FSM):** devices which have a load, where the variance can be described by a finite set of states (e.g., washing machine, tumble dryer, heat pump, refrigerator).
- **Continuously Varying:** devices with a continuous, variable power draw (e.g., PCs, TV, dimmer lights, power tools).
- **Permanent consumer devices:** devices with a constant power draw, that are on for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (e.g., smoke alarm, telephone sets, cable TV receivers).



# The Diverse Nature of Loads

Resistive vs. Inductive -> Short-term property

Stationary vs. Non-stationary -> Long-term property





# NILM techniques

Not only one solution

**NILM engines can be categorized by means of**

| Type of analysis   | Used features   | Learning requirements | Sampling Frequency   |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Event Based</b> | Steady state    | <b>Supervised</b>     | High Frequency       |
| Non-Event based    | Transient state | Un-Supervised         | <b>Low Frequency</b> |
|                    | Non traditional |                       |                      |



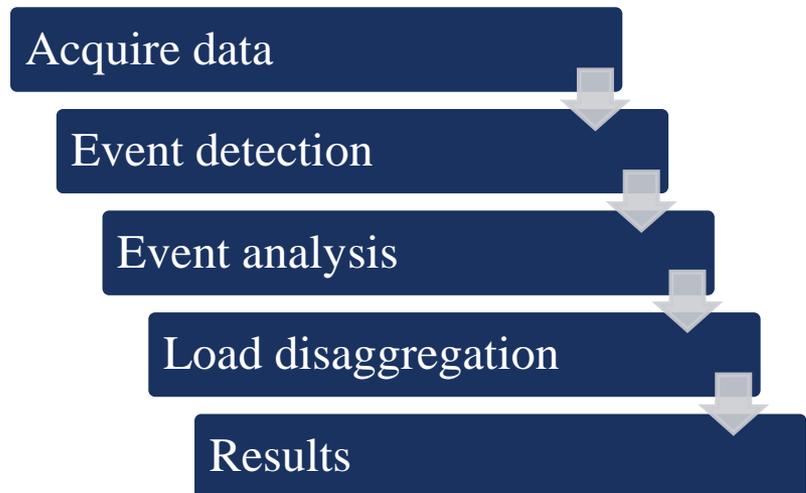
# An algorithm tailored for IoT devices

- ❑ The proposed algorithm formalizes a supervised learning event-based disaggregation technique
- ❑ The goal of the NILM is to perform decomposition of  $P(t)$  signal to achieve appliance-level power signals.
  - $P(t)$ : aggregated power consumption
  - $p_i(t)$ : single appliance contribution
  - $m$ : number of appliances within period  $t$
  - $t$ : analysis period
  - $e(t)$ : residual error

$$P(t) = p_1(t) + p_2(t) + \dots + p_m(t) + e(t)$$

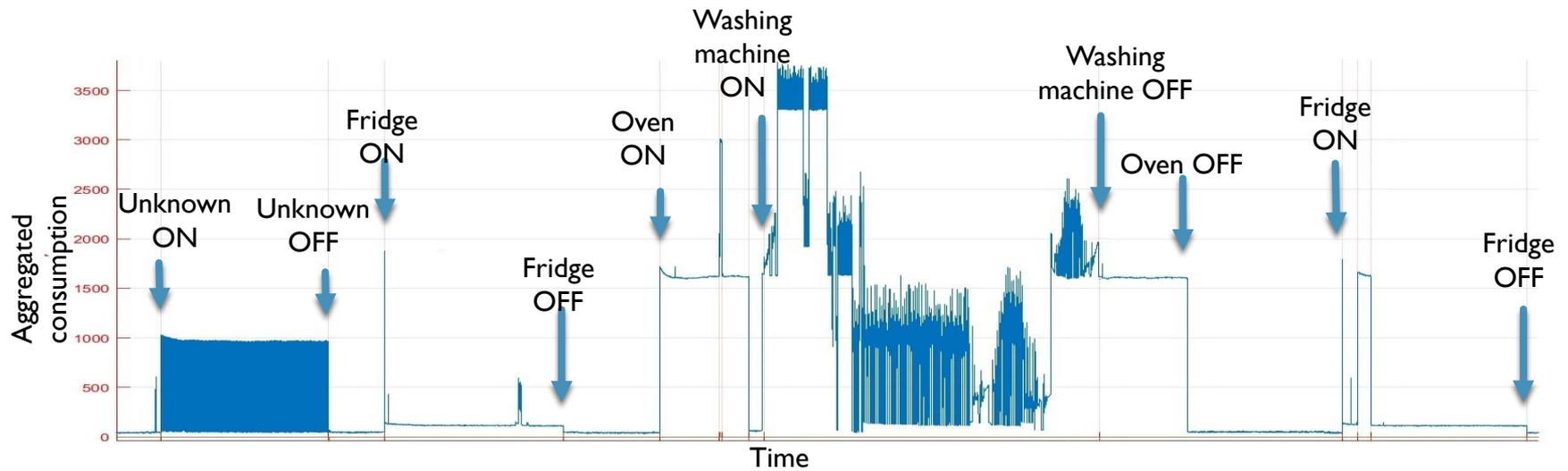
- ❑ The disaggregation process is based on pattern recognition techniques. For choosing the appliance associated with the event analyzed, the algorithm adopts a maximal probability approach

- ❑ Event detection and analysis tries to identify when a switch ON or a switch OFF occurs
  1. Background Consumption Zone (BCZ) computation
  2. Detecting events outside the BCZ
- ❑ Load disaggregation involves periodicity analysis
  - Spectral density estimation
  - Number of event
  - Number of signal edges





# Performance



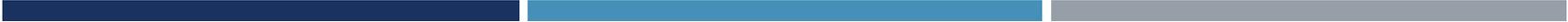
| Parameter                       | Value        |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Event interval                  | 4 [Sample]   |
| Event threshold                 | 65[W]        |
| Spike rejection threshold       | 20[W]        |
| Decision interval               | 1000[Sample] |
| Appliance state change interval | 6 [Sample]   |

| Appliance       | House #1 | House #2 |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Oven            | 96,4%    | 98,2%    |
| Electric heater | 99%      | 100%     |
| Coffee Machine  | 89,6%    | 91,8%    |
| Microwave       | 94,1%    | 92,2%    |
| Fridge          | 94,9%    | 96,9%    |
| Washing Machine | 69,3%    | 71,1%    |



# Conclusion

- Effective strategies for energy efficiency are easier with IoT
- There is **much more information** behind IoT data than supposed
- Business is on using such “hidden information“
- IoT devices are not just “wireless sensors”  
but can integrated **intensive and non-trivial intelligence** locally



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