

# Integrating fault detection methods in monitoring wastewater quality

Romain Philippe, Cyril Garneau, Elena Torfs  
and Peter A. Vanrolleghem

*32<sup>nd</sup> Easter Canadian Symposium of Water Quality  
Research, Sherbrooke, QC, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018*



## Summary

- Introduction
- Objectives
- Materials and methods
- Results
- Discussions
- Conclusions and future work

## Introduction

- Monitoring water quality:
  - Application of sensors in WRRFs or other systems (rivers, sewers).



River Dommel in Eindhoven



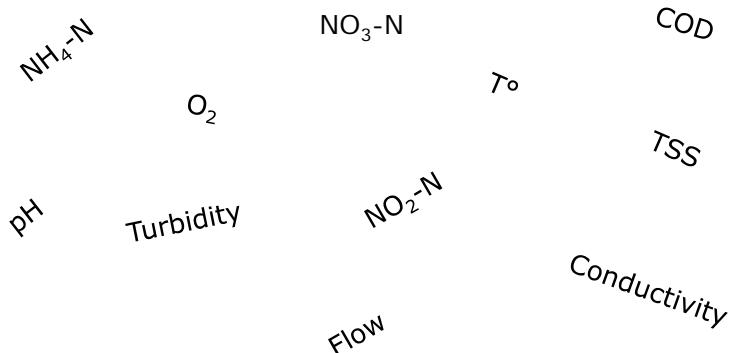
Station pilEAUte at Université Laval

© Philippe et al., 2018

3

## Introduction

- Monitoring water quality:
  - Application of sensors in WRRFs or other systems (rivers, sewers).
  - Measurement of several parameters.



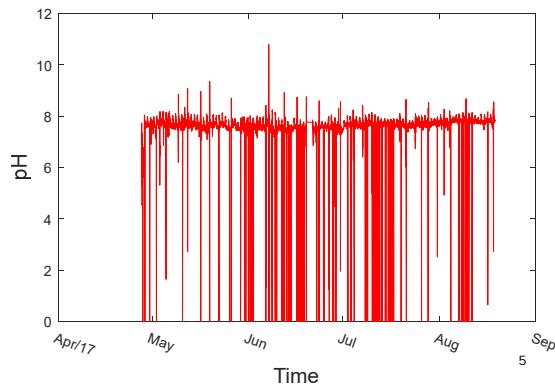
© Philippe et al., 2018

4

## Introduction

- Monitoring water quality:
  - Application of sensors in WRRFs or other systems (rivers, sewers).
  - Measurement of several parameters.
  - Collection of long time series.
    - Typical loss of data due to problems: 5 – 60 % (Alferes et al., 2013)

# datapoints	1 923 054
Sampling frequency	2 seconds

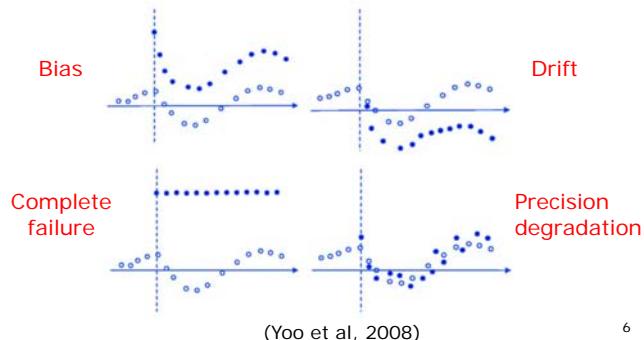


© Philippe et al., 2018

## Introduction

- Monitoring water quality:
  - Application of sensors in WRRFs or other systems (rivers, sewers).
  - Measurement of several parameters.
  - Collection of long time series
    - Typical loss of data due to problems: 5 – 60 % (Alferes et al., 2013).

- Typical sensors faults:



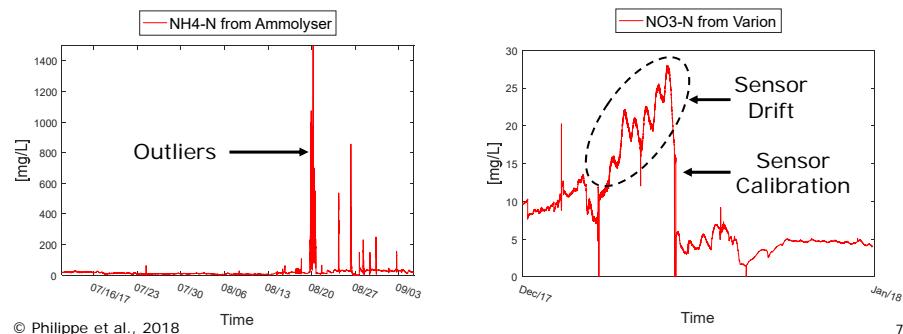
© Philippe et al., 2018

(Yoo et al., 2008)

6

## Introduction

- Monitoring water quality:
  - Application of sensors in WRRFs or other systems (rivers, sewers).
  - Measurement of several parameters.
  - Collection of long time series.
    - Typical loss of data due to problems: 5 – 60 % (Alferes et al., 2013).
- Typical sensors faults:



© Philippe et al., 2018

7

## Introduction

- Data management complexity:
  - Many sensors and many variables measured.
  - Collection of long time series.
    - Typical loss of data due to problems: 5 – 60 % (Alferes et al., 2013).
  - Difficulties to identify sensor faults.

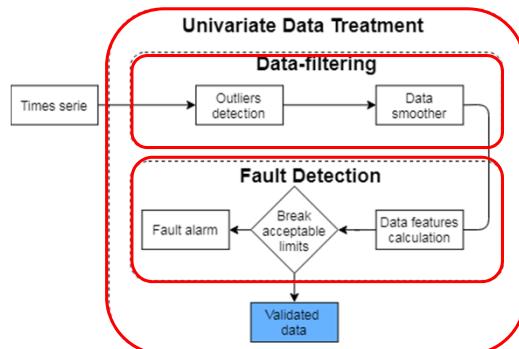
Our solution: A framework to detect outliers and isolate faults to improve data quality.

© Philippe et al., 2018

8

## Materials and Methods

- General and modular Framework.
- Two main steps: Data-filtering and Fault detection.



© Philippe et al., 2018

9

## Materials and Methods

- Data-filtering: Outlier detection and Data smoother

- 11 parameters (4 - 5 parameters to tune).

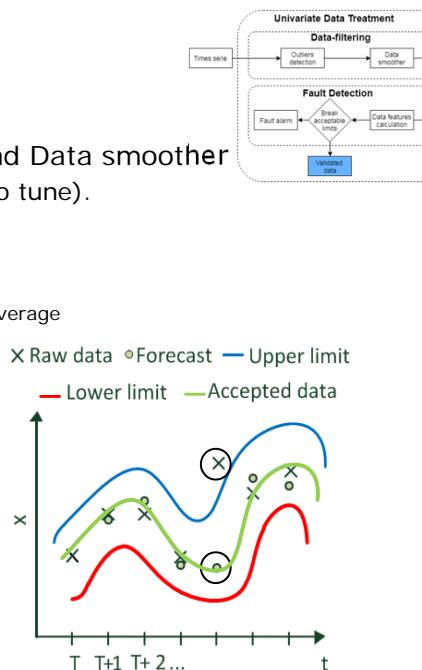
- Outlier detection:

- For each data point:

- Estimate the average of the signal
- Compare the observed value to the average
- Decide whether or not to keep it

- Data smoother:

- Moving Average over n points



© Philippe et al., 2018

10

## Materials and Methods

- Fault detection:

- Scores
  - Sign run-test: Check randomness of error  
 $\text{sign}(\text{accepted data} - \text{smoothed data})$
  - Slope: Change realistic.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} \cong \frac{(x_{i+1} - x_i)}{dt}$$

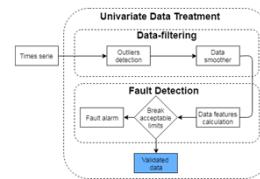
- Standard deviation: Noise of data.  
 $\text{std} = \text{accepted data} - \text{smoothed data}$
- Range [Min – Max]: Realistic values.  
 $x_i > \text{Max or } x_i < \text{Min} \rightarrow x_i \text{ is a fault}$

- Data validation

- 8 parameters to tune.

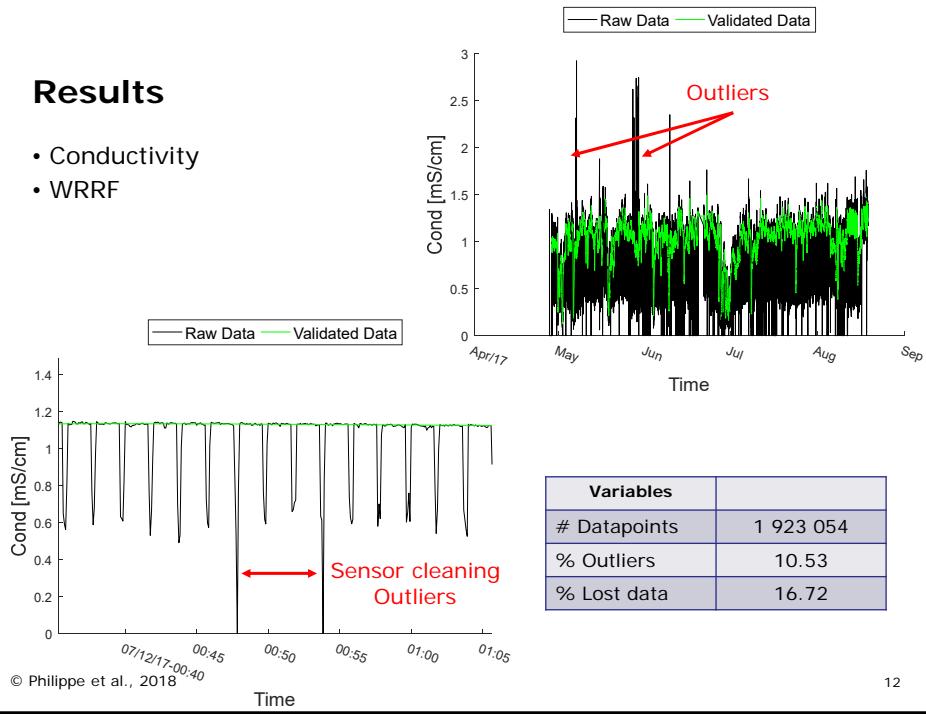
© Philippe et al., 2018

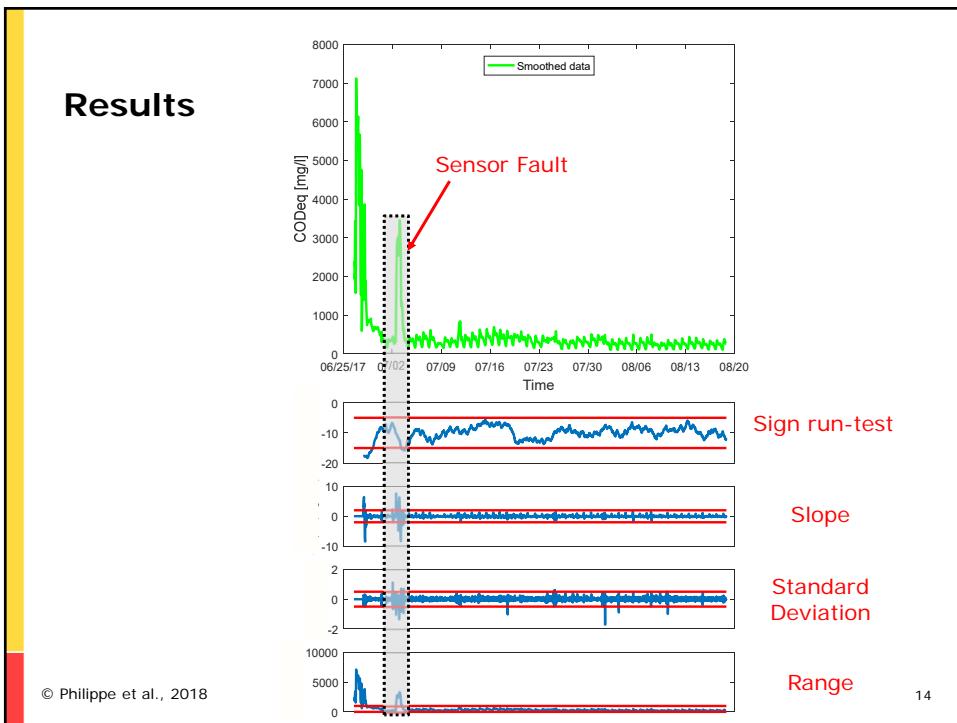
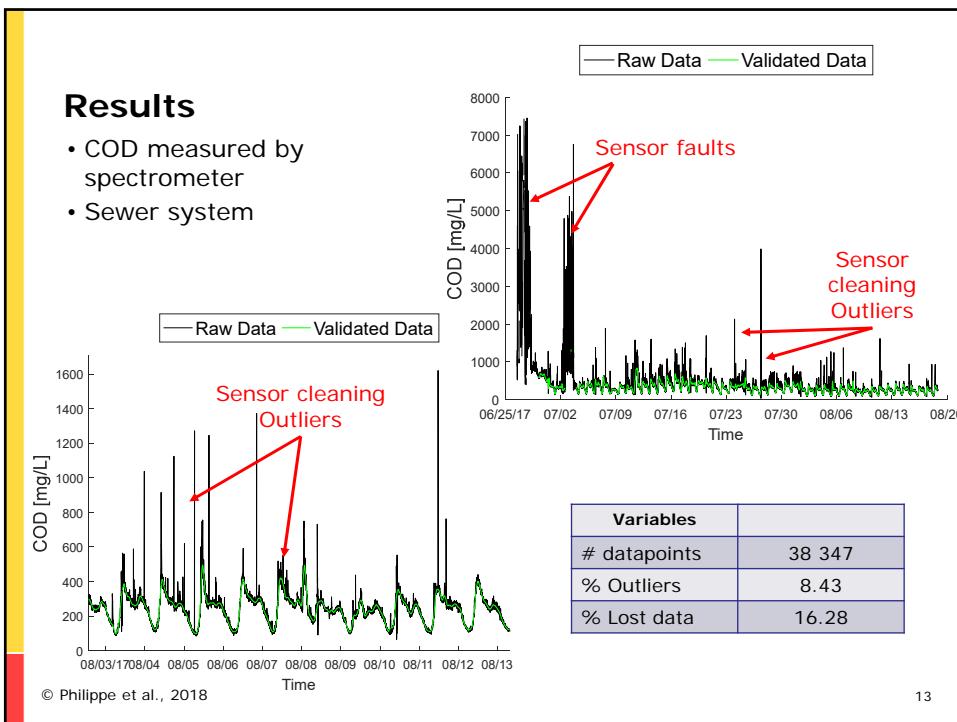
11



## Results

- Conductivity
- WRRF





## Discussion

- Method: **Modular** and **automated** data filtration and validation.
  - Outlier detection: EWMA, Neural network, Custum-made method.
  - Data smoother: Moving average, Custum-made method.
  - Fault detection: Slope, range, standard deviation, sign run-test, Custum-made test.
- **Good data :**
  - Improve the maintenance (Sensor cleaning): Pro-active maintenance
    - Indicate when the sensor have to be cleaned

© Philippe et al., 2018

15

## Conclusions and future work

- Method: **Modular** and **automated** data filtration and validation
- Parameters to be tuned:
  - Outliers: 11 parameters (4-5 important parameters).
  - Data validation : 8 parameters.
- **Good data** for next stage:
  - Modelling,
  - Control,
  - Pro-active maintenance,
  - Etc.
- Future work:
  - Multivariate data validation (i.e. PCA),
  - Gap filling in time series.

© Philippe et al., 2018

16

Thank you for your attention

Questions ?



© Philippe et al., 2018

17

## References

- Alferes, J., Tik, S., Copp, J., & Vanrolleghem, P. A. (2013). Advanced monitoring of water systems using in situ measurement stations: data validation and fault detection. *Water Science and Technology*, 68(5), 1022–1030.
- Yoo, C. K., Villez, K., Van Hulle, S. W. H., & Vanrolleghem, P. A. (2008). Enhanced process monitoring for wastewater treatment systems. *Environmetrics*, 19(6), 602–617.

© Philippe et al., 2018

18