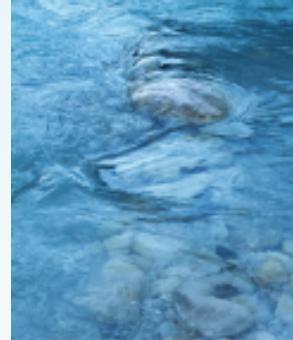


This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com





Building Better Water Rates for an Uncertain World: Probability Management for Laypeople

Thomas W. Chesnutt, Ph.D., CAP®

A & N Technical Services, Inc.

<http://www.antechsर्व.com>

839 Second Street, Suite 5

Encinitas CA, 92024

760.942.5149

tom@antechsर्व.com



David L. Mitchell

M.Cubed

5358 Miles Avenue

Oakland CA, 94618

510.547.4369

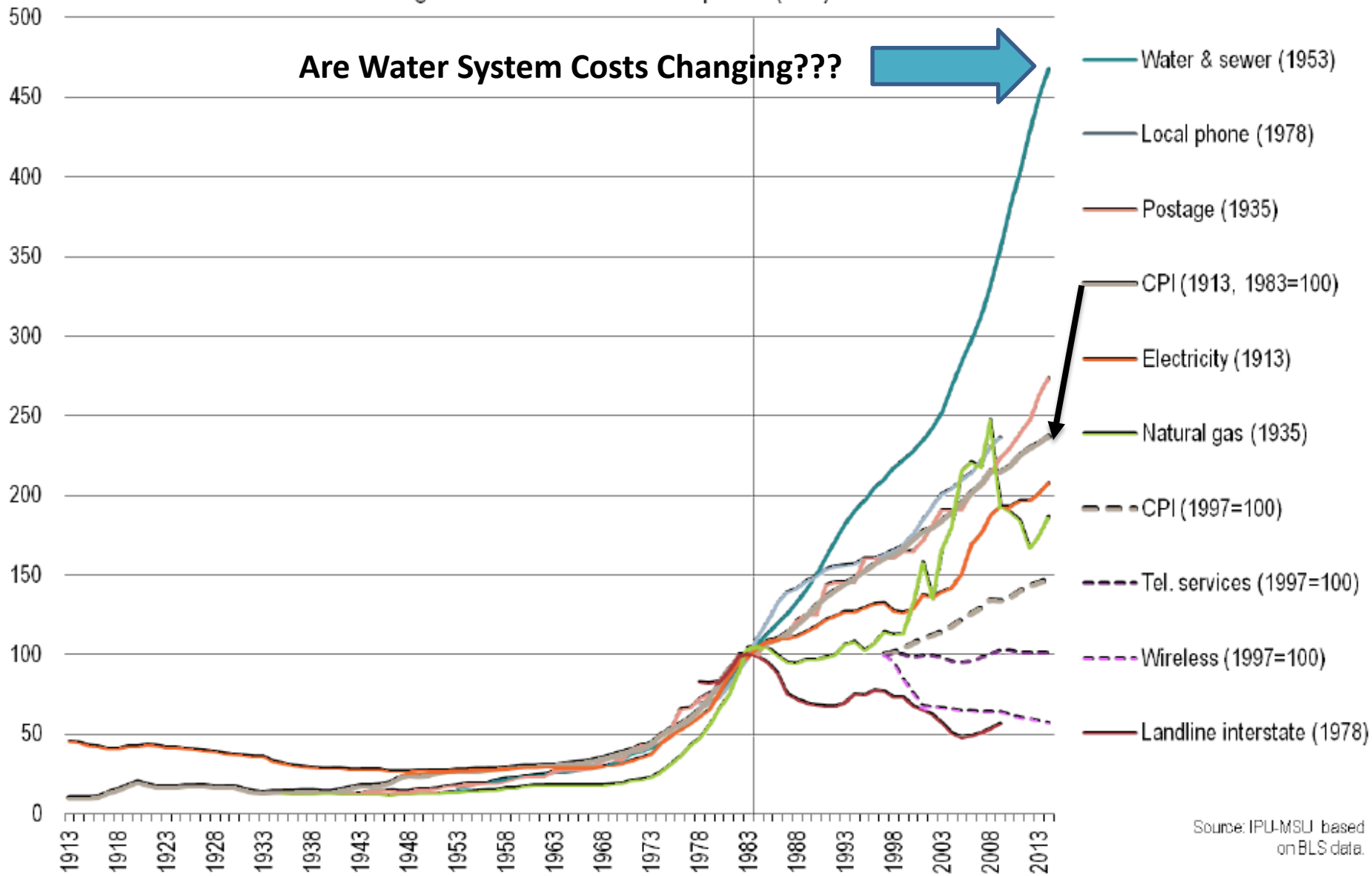
mitchell@mcubed-econ.com

The Heart of the Problem

- ▶ Water rates have traditionally been focused solely on historical cost-recovery
- ▶ When system costs change quickly, and perhaps unpredictably, historical rates do not reflect today's cost consequences
- ▶ Rates do not then give customers correct information to make consumptive decisions

Long-term trends in consumer prices (CPI) for utilities

Are Water System Costs Changing???



Source: IPU-MSU based on BLS data.

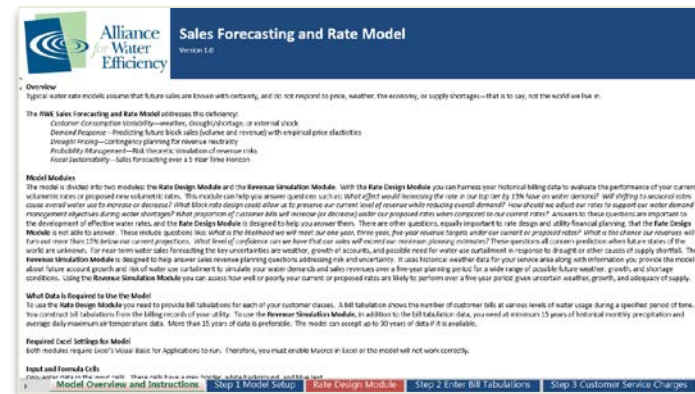
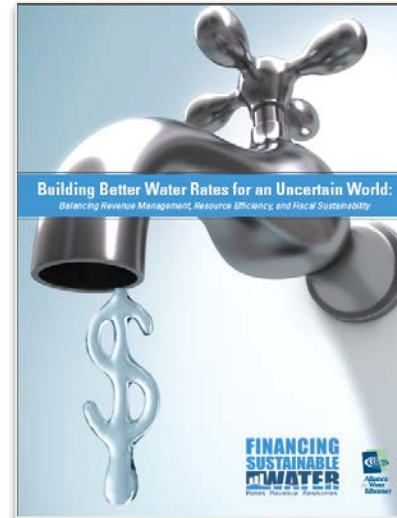
Exhibit 1. Long-term trends in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for utilities (1913-2014). The index is set to 100 for 1982-1984 except for telephone and wireless services, where the index is set to 100 for 1997. Year (*) indicates start of series.

Conservation is Part of the Solution

- ▶ It is a long-term cost reducer to the utility
- ▶ Revenue loss is often due to other drivers
- ▶ Every gallon saved is water that does not have to be pumped, treated and delivered
- ▶ Conservation is an investment and short-term effects must be planned for
- ▶ Reduced utility costs generally mean reduced customer rates in the long-term due to avoided infrastructure capacity increases

Financing Sustainable Water

- ▶ **Building Better Rates in an Uncertain World: A Handbook to explain key concepts, provide case studies and implementation advice**
- ▶ **AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model: An innovative, user-friendly tool to model scenarios, solve for flaws, and incorporate uncertainty into rate making**
- ▶ **FinancingSustainableWater.org: Web-based resources to convene the latest research and information in one location**



AWE Handbook

BUILDING BETTER WATER RATES FOR AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

BALANCING REVENUE MANAGEMENT, RESOURCE EFFICIENCY, AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

SECTION I: Introduction

SECTION II: Today's Imperative for Utility Financial Management

SECTION III: The Role of Ratemaking

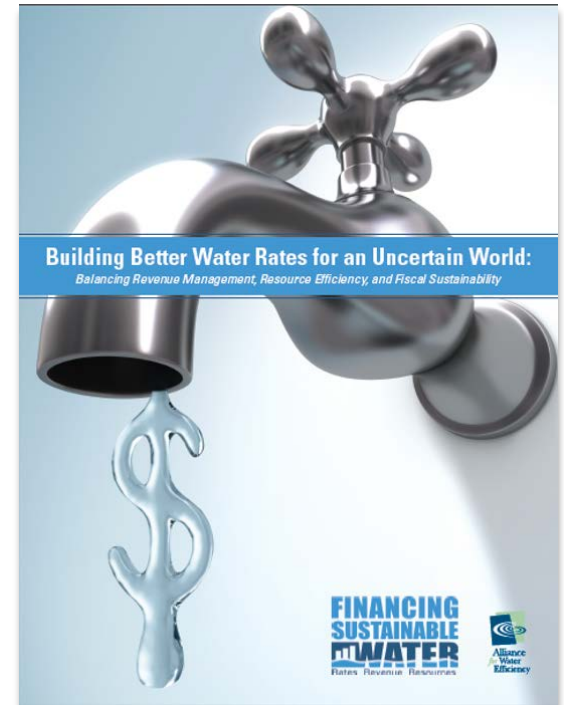
SECTION IV: Building a Better (Efficiency-Oriented) Rate Structure

SECTION V: Financial Policies & Planning for Improved Fiscal Health

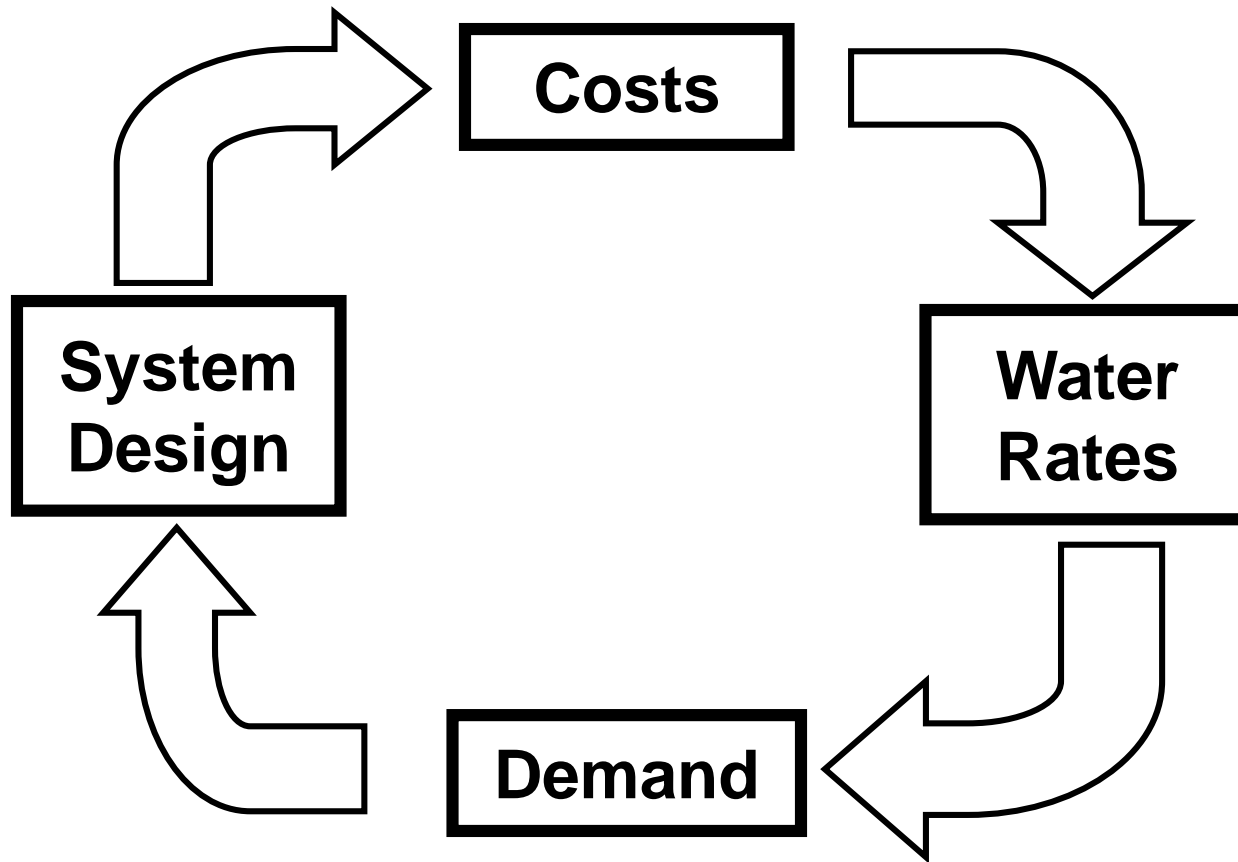
SECTION VI: Implementing an Efficiency-Oriented Rate Structure

Appendices

- Appendix A – Costing Methods
- Appendix B – Demand and Revenue Modeling
- Appendix C – AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model User Guide



Flow of Economic Logic



How Do Utilities Address This?


- ▶ **Ends** of Water Utilities: Water Services
 - *Reliable Delivery of Quality Water*
 - *Handling of Waste water, Storm water, Watershed management*
- ▶ By what financial **means** do utilities achieve these ends?
 - *Cost Recovery (Short term)*
 - *Resource Efficiency (Short and Long term)*
 - *Fiscal Sustainability (Long term)*

Why a New Rate Model?

Typical water rate models assume that future sales are known with certainty, and do not respond to price, weather, the economy, or supply shortages—that is to say, not the world we live in.

▶ The AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model addresses this deficiency:

- *Customer Consumption Variability*—weather, drought/shortage, or external shock
- *Demand Response*—Predicting future block sales (volume and revenue) with empirical price elasticity's
- *Drought Pricing*—Contingency planning for revenue neutrality
- *Probability Management*—Risk theoretic simulation of revenue risks using SIPmath®
- *Fiscal Sustainability*—Sales forecasting over a 5 Year Time Horizon
- *Affordability*—Can customers afford water service?



Sales Forecasting and Rate Model

Version 1.0

Overview

Typical water rate models assume that future sales are known with certainty, and do not respond to price, weather, the economy, or supply shortages—that is to say, not the world we live in.

The **AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model** addresses this deficiency:

- Customer Consumption Variability*—weather, drought/shortage, or external shock
- Demand Response*—Predicting future block sales (volume and revenue) with empirical price elasticities
- Drought Pricing*—Contingency planning for revenue neutrality
- Probability Management*—Risk theoretic simulation of revenue risks
- Fiscal Sustainability*—Sales forecasting over a 5 Year Time Horizon

Model Modules

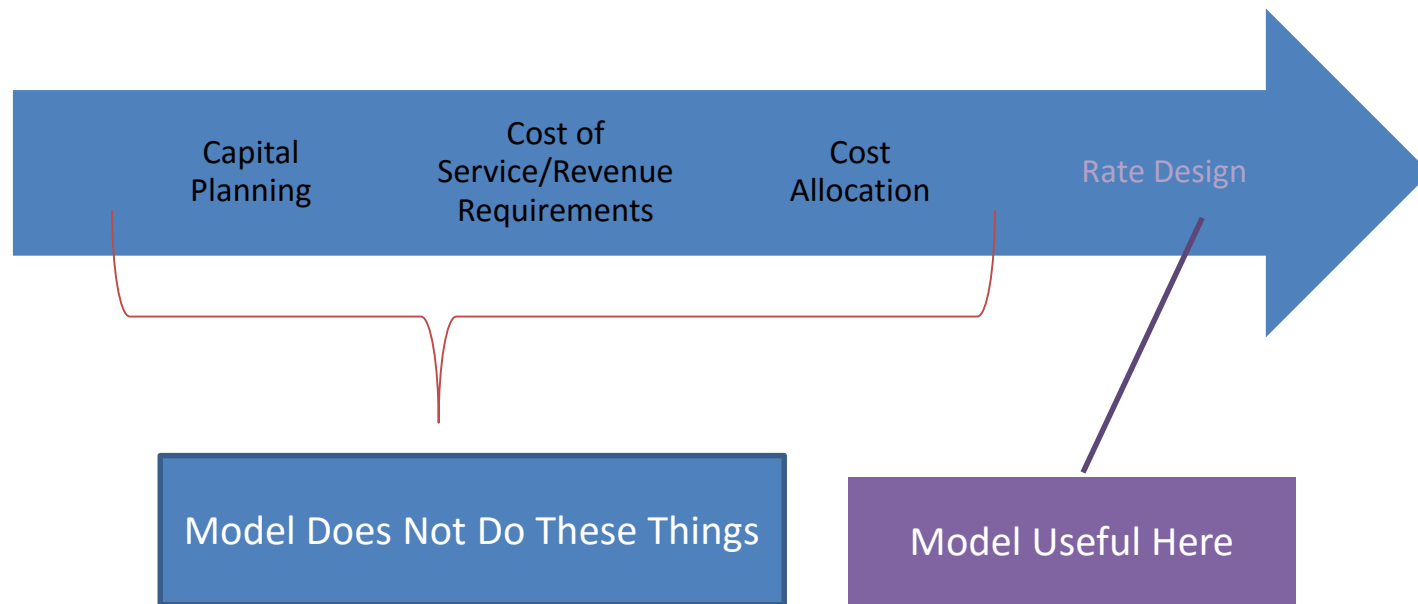
The model is divided into two modules: the **Rate Design Module** and the **Revenue Simulation Module**. With the **Rate Design Module** you can evaluate the impact of volumetric rates or proposed new volumetric rates. This module can help you answer questions such as: *What effect would increasing or decreasing volumetric rates have on overall water use to increase or decrease? What block rate design could allow us to preserve our current level of revenue management objectives during water shortages? What proportion of customer bills will increase (or decrease) under our proposed rates, and the development of effective water rates, and the **Rate Design Module** is designed to help you answer them. There are other questions that the **Rate Design Module** is not able to answer. These include questions like: *What is the likelihood we will meet our one-year, three-year, five-year revenue goals if we turn out more than 15% below our current projections. What level of confidence can we have that our sales will exceed our current projections?* For near-term water sales forecasting the key uncertainties are weather, growth of accounts, and possible changes in water use. The **Revenue Simulation Module** is designed to help answer sales revenue planning questions addressing risk and uncertainty. It allows you to simulate about future account growth and risk of water use curtailment to simulate your water demands and sales revenues over a five-year time horizon. Using the **Revenue Simulation Module** you can assess how well or poorly your current or proposed rates are likely to perform.*

What Data is Required to Use the Model

To use the **Rate Design Module** you need to provide bill tabulations for each of your customer classes. A bill tabulation shows the amount of water used and the amount of revenue generated for each customer class. You construct bill tabulations from the billing records of your utility. To use the **Revenue Simulation Module** in addition to the **Rate Design Module** you also need to provide customer class information.

Model Overview and Instructions | [Step 1 Model Setup](#) | [Rate Design Module](#) | [Step 2 Enter Bill Tabulations](#) | [Step 3 Custom](#)

WHERE MODEL FITS INTO RATE SETTING PROCESS



What Rate Designs Can Be Modeled?

▶ Rate Designs

- Uniform
- Seasonal
- Block
- Seasonal Block

▶ Up to 5 blocks

▶ Can vary rates and blocks by customer class

▶ Up to six customer classes

What Data is Needed to Use It?

- ▶ Bill Tabulations from Billing System Data
 - By Class
 - By Season (Off-Peak, Peak)
- ▶ Follows AWWA M1 Bill Tabulation Methodology
- ▶ Allocating Bills to Seasons
 - Easy when bills are rendered monthly
 - Bit harder when bills are rendered bi-monthly or quarterly

Bill Tabulation Screenshot

Step 2: Enter Customer Class Bill Tabulations

On this worksheet, you enter bill tabulations for your Bill Tabulation Year for the customer classes you set up in Step 1. A bill tabulation shows the number of bills may not fall neatly into the seasons you defined in Step 1, creating a seasonal bill tabulation is more challenging than creating an annual bill tabulation. It which this read date corresponds). It will always be the case that consumption will span the two seasons for some bills. In these cases, you will need to have are in the first season, then assign it to the first season). The User Guide provides additional guidance and examples for preparing your bill tabulations. In add using your meter read data.

[Go back to Rate Design Module Worksheet](#)

Usage Bin (Thou. Gal.) From To		Customer Class: Single Family				Customer Class: Multi Family			
		Off Peak Season Oct - Apr		Peak Season May - Sep		Off Peak Season Oct - Apr		Peak Season May - Sep	
		Bills in Bin	Total Use of Bills in Bin (Thou. Gal.)	Bills in Bin	Total Use of Bills in Bin (Thou. Gal.)	Bills in Bin	Total Use of Bills in Bin (Thou. Gal.)	Bills in Bin	Total Use of Bills in Bin (Thou. Gal.)
0	0	1,854	0	700	0	36	0	17	0
1	1	1,781	1,781	601	601	11	11	4	4
2	2	2,073	4,146	631	1,262	12	24	3	6
3	3	3,122	9,366	787	2,361	8	24	5	15
4	4	4,084	16,336	917	3,668	22	88	4	16
5	5	4,974	24,870	1,122	5,610	22	110	9	45
6	6	5,751	34,506	1,150	6,900	20	120	7	42
7	7	6,548	45,836	1,322	9,254	29	203	10	70
8	8	7,080	56,640	1,354	10,832	41	328	6	48
9	9	7,883	70,947	1,385	12,465	49	441	10	90
10	10	8,173	81,730	1,531	15,310	54	540	9	90
11	11	8,333	91,663	1,554	17,094	55	605	10	110
12	12	8,439	101,268	1,588	19,056	45	540	15	180
13	13	8,309	108,017	1,565	20,345	66	858	18	234
14	14	8,377	117,278	1,552	21,728	80	1,120	21	294
15	15	8,082	121,230	1,611	24,165	81	1,215	17	255

Rate Design Table

Block #	Block Switch Point	Rate for Block
Block 1	10	\$2.50
Block 2	20	\$3.00
Block 3		\$3.75
Block 4		\$3.75
Block 5		\$3.75

Rate for first 10 units

Rate for next 10 units

Rate for units in excess of 20

Copy rate in last block to unused blocks

Rate Design Screenshot

Rate Design Tables

Rate Performance Indicators

2. Specify rates for each Customer Class in the tables below.

Use the tables below to specify the Current and Proposed rates for each Customer Class. You can specify uniform, block, seasonal, and seasonal block rates.

Uniform and Uniform Seasonal Designs: Enter the same rate for all five blocks. If you want the uniform rate to vary by season, set a different uniform rate for each season.

Block and Seasonal Block Designs: Enter the blocks and rates for each block level. You can specify up to 5 blocks. If you want fewer blocks than 5 -- say 3 -- then enter the same rate and block information for Block 4 and Block 5 that you did for Block 3. If you want seasonal block rates, you can specify different blocks and/or rates for each season.

Mixed Designs: You can vary the rate design by Customer Class and season. For example, you can specify a block rate for the single family residential class and uniform rates for all other classes. Or you can specify a uniform rate for one season and a block rate for the other.

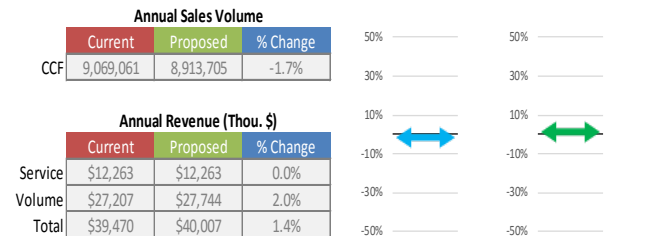
Single Family

	Off Peak Season				Peak Season			
	Current Rates		Proposed Rates		Current Rates		Proposed Rates	
	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)
Block 1	5	\$3.00	5	\$2.50	5	\$3.00	5	\$3.75
Block 2	10	\$3.00	10	\$2.50	10	\$3.00	10	\$3.75
Block 3	15	\$3.00	15	\$2.50	15	\$3.00	15	\$3.75
Block 4	15	\$3.00	15	\$2.50	15	\$3.00	15	\$3.75
Block 5	15	\$3.00	15	\$2.50	15	\$3.00	15	\$3.75

Save/Load Rates button

Save/Load Rates

Rate Performance by Customer Class



Bill Impacts Screenshot

Avg and median bill impacts

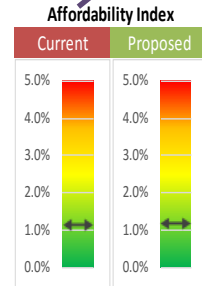
Affordability Indicator

3. Bill impacts of Proposed rates

Under your Proposed rates, the volume charge may go up for some customers and down or stay the same for others. The Bill Impacts Table shows the percentage of bills that will go down, stay the same, or go up -- and by how much. Charts showing the distribution of bill impacts for each customer class are provided on the Bill Impacts worksheet.

% Change in Average and Median Annual Water Service Cost by Customer Class

Customer Class	Average Annual Water Service Cost			Median Annual Water Service Cost		
	Current	Proposed	% Change	Current	Proposed	% Change
Single Family	\$777	\$804	3.4%	\$650	\$672	3.3%
Multi Family	\$4,254	\$4,294	0.9%	\$1,930	\$1,942	0.6%
CII	\$3,323	\$3,382	1.8%	\$1,481	\$1,504	1.5%
Landscape	\$5,599	\$6,007	7.3%	\$2,503	\$2,720	8.7%
Not in use						
Not in use						

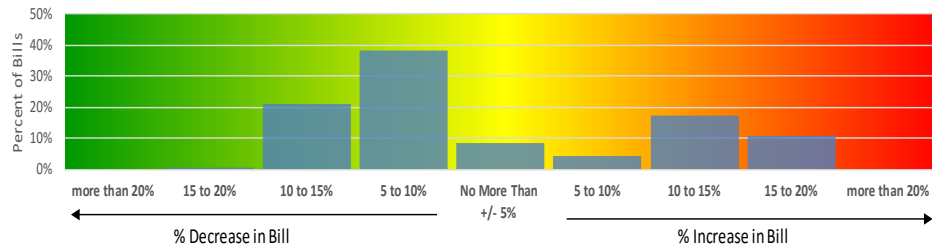


Affordability index equals the median annual water cost for the primary residential customer class divided by median household income.

Bill Impacts Table

Customer Class	% of bills decreasing by				No More Than +/- 5%	% of bills increasing by			
	more than 20%	15 to 20%	10 to 15%	5 to 10%		5 to 10%	10 to 15%	15 to 20%	more than 20%
Single Family	0%	0%	21%	38%	9%	4%	17%	11%	0%
Multi Family	0%	1%	38%	25%	4%	4%	18%	12%	0%
CII	0%	0%	25%	20%	28%	7%	9%	10%	0%
Landscape	0%	0%	26%	12%	33%	2%	6%	20%	0%
Not in use									
Not in use									

Single Family Customer Class Bill Impact Histogram



Bill Impact Histograms

Drought Rates

- ▶ Evaluate rate performance under water use curtailment
- ▶ Up to 4 drought stages can be specified
- ▶ Curtailment levels can vary by customer class
- ▶ User can design rates “by hand”, OR
- ▶ Use built-in calculator to find revenue-neutral rates by drought stage

Specifying Curtailment Levels

Requested curtailment level by stage

1. Specify Curtailment Levels for Drought/Shortage Stages

1. Enter the Customer Class curtailment levels for each stage. If you have fewer than 4 stages, enter the last curtailment level in the unused stages. Stage 0 is the default No Shortage condition. Do not modify the settings for this stage.
2. For each stage, enter the expected compliance rate. The compliance rate can vary by stage. For example, stages with voluntary curtailment may have lower compliance than stages where curtailment is mandatory and enforced. The expected curtailment level for each stage is the product of the stage's curtailment level and the expected compliance rate.

Customer Class	Drought/Shortage Stage Customer Class Curtailment Levels Table					Expected Curtailment				
	Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
Single Family	0%	10%	15%	20%	25%	0%	8%	12%	17%	21%
Multi Family	0%	10%	15%	20%	25%	0%	8%	12%	17%	21%
CII	0%	0%	10%	20%	25%	0%	0%	8%	17%	21%
Landscape	0%	0%	10%	20%	25%	0%	0%	8%	17%	21%
Not in use	0%					0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Not in use	0%					0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Enter Expected Compliance %

100%	80%	80%	85%	85%
------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Expected compliance rate

Expected curtailment

Designing Drought Rates

Rate Design Tables

Rate Performance Indicators

Drought Stage Selector

2. Rate Performance by Drought/Shortage Stage

The tables in this section hold two sets of rates. Your proposed rates are carried over from Step 3. These rates are used on this worksheet. They are used for calculating the revenue impacts of drought stages. The Stage rates are the rates that would apply for a given drought shortage stage. To see how your rates would change for a drought stage, click the Reset Drought Stage Rates to Proposed Rates. This will copy your Proposed rates to the Stage Rates. You can then use the Select Drought Stage drop-down list to cycle through the drought stages and see how your sales revenue would be impacted by each drought stage. Impacts to annual sales volume and revenue for each Customer Class are summarized to the right of the rate tables. You can adjust the Stage Rates to see how your annual sales volume and revenue would respond. You can adjust the size or number of blocks as well as the rates for each block. You can use trial and error to find rates appropriate to each drought/shortage stage, or you can use Excel's goal-seek or solver functionality to do this. Section 3 provides a calculator that can quickly identify rates for a given drought/shortage stage that are revenue neutral.

Single Family

	Off Peak Season				Peak Season			
	Proposed Rates		Stage 2 Rates		Proposed Rates		Stage 2 Rates	
	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)	Block (CCF)	Rate (\$/CCF)
Block 1	5	\$2.50	5	\$2.50	5	\$3.75	5	\$3.75
Block 2	10	\$2.50	10	\$2.50	10	\$3.75	10	\$3.75
Block 3	15	\$2.50	15	\$2.50	15	\$3.75	15	\$3.75
Block 4	15	\$2.50	15	\$2.50	15	\$3.75	15	\$3.75
Block 5	15	\$2.50	15	\$2.50	15	\$3.75	15	\$3.75

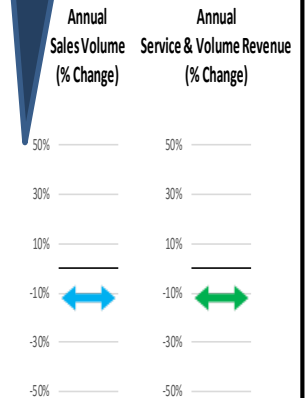
Select Drought Stage Stage 2

Rate Performance by Customer Class

	Annual Sales Volume		
	Proposed	Stage 2	% Change
CCF	8,913,705	7,844,060	-12.0%

	Annual Sales Revenue (Thou. \$)		
	Proposed	Stage 2	% Change
Service	\$12,263	\$12,263	0.0%
Volume	\$27,744	\$24,415	-12.0%
Total	\$40,007	\$36,678	-8.3%

Impact of Drought Stage Rates Relative to Proposed Rates



Drought Rate Calculator

3. Calculate Revenue Neutral Rates by Drought Stage

The revenue neutral rates calculator will quickly find a set of rates for a given drought/shortage stage that will generate the same revenue as your Proposed rates under a no shortage condition. There are four steps to using the calculator:

1. Choose the drought/shortage stage you want to calculate rates for.
2. Choose the method for calculating the rates. There are two choices. The first choice is to adjust your Proposed rates so that each customer class generates the same revenue it would have generated under your Proposed rates assuming no use curtailment. This may result in significant differences across classes in the amount by which rates are adjusted. The second choice is to adjust your Proposed rates so that all classes when grouped together are revenue neutral. Rates across classes will be adjusted by the same proportionate amount. Revenue neutrality may not hold for individual classes, but overall revenue will be neutral to the Proposed rates assuming no use curtailment.
3. Complete the Leave or Adjust Rate in Block table below. Choose Leave if you want the rate in the block to be the same as it is for your Proposed rates. Choose Adjust if you want the calculator to adjust this rate. For example, if you only want to adjust the upper block rates, choose Leave for lower blocks and Adjust for upper blocks. If you have fewer than 5 blocks, set the unused blocks to the same setting used for your last block.
4. Make desired adjustments to the block widths for the Stage Rates in the Stage Rates tables above.
5. Click the Find Revenue Neutral Rates button.

Note: The calculator will overwrite the rates that are in the Stage Rates tables above. If you want to preserve these rates, save them as a rate scenario by clicking the Save/Load Rates button before using the calculator.

Choose Drought Stage to Evaluate:

Stage 2 ▼

Choose Method for Calculating Revenue Neutral Rates:

1. Scale rates so that each customer class is revenue neutral ▼

Find Revenue Neutral Rates

Reset Drought Stage Rates to Proposed Rates

Save/Load Rates

Leave or Adjust Rate in Block?

Class	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4	Block 5
Single Family	Leave	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust
Multi Family	Leave	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust
CII	Leave	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust
Landscape	Leave	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust	Adjust
Not in use	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave
Not in use	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave

Limitations of the Rate Design Module

Plans based on average assumptions are wrong on average --
Sam Savage, The Flaw of Averages

- ▶ Results only as good as the **bill tabulation** data
- ▶ Can only evaluate how rates will perform **ON AVERAGE**
- ▶ Does not provide insight into **VARIABILITY** of performance
- ▶ That's where the **Revenue Simulation Module** steps in

Revenue Simulation Module

Questions the Simulation Module Can Address

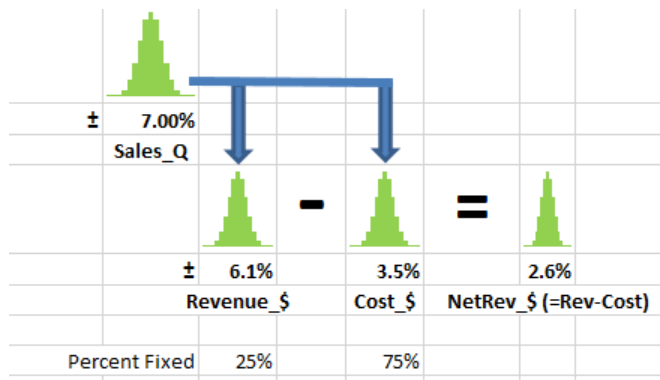
- ▶ *What is the likelihood we will meet our one-year, three-year, five-year revenue targets under our current or proposed rates?*
- ▶ *What is the chance our revenues will turn out more than 15% below our current projections?*
- ▶ *What level of confidence can we have that our sales will exceed our minimum planning estimates?*

What is Net Revenue Volatility?

- ▶ Empirical view of Volatility: Definition in Finance
 - One year change
- ▶ Big *Scary* Question: How does sales variation affect **Net Revenues** (Revenues minus Costs)
- ▶ Typically the more revenues collected on variable/commodity charges the more potential for revenue volatility (up and down)
 - Exception: Seasonal Rates (Peak season demand can be less variable)

Short Term: The Shape of Uncertainty and Revenue Risk

Annual Sales Volatility,
standard deviation of $\approx 7\%$



$$\text{Revenue} = \text{Fixed Revenue} + \text{Variable Revenue}$$

or

$$\text{Revenue} = \text{Fixed Revenue} + \text{Volumetric Rate} * \text{Sales Volume}$$

-

$$\text{Cost} = \text{Fixed Cost} + \text{Variable Cost}$$

$$\text{Cost} = \text{Fixed Cost} + \text{Unit Cost}_i * \text{SupplyVolume}_i$$

=

$$\text{Net Revenue} = \text{Revenue} - \text{Costs}$$

$\pm 2.6\%$

Monte Carlo
Simulation
Results

Short Term
Uncertainty looks
manageable;
Don't Celebrate Yet.

ProbabilityManagement.org

Sam Savage on Curing the *Flaw of Averages*

Probability
Management

Average Outcome vs. Likely Outcomes

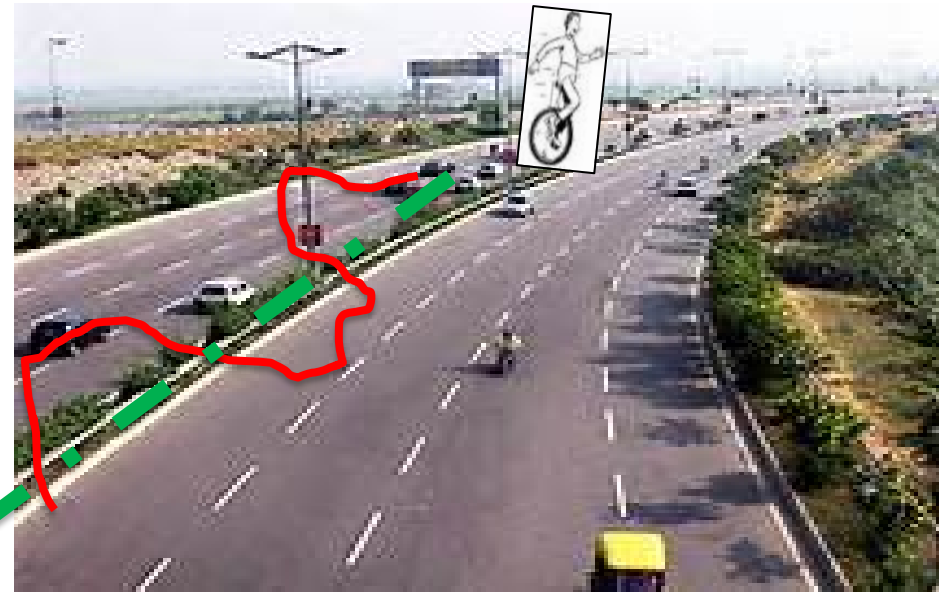
Flaw of Averages

- ▶ **Fact 1** – Planning for the future is rife with uncertainties.
- ▶ **Fact 2** - Most people are not happy with Fact 1 and prefer to think of the future in terms of average outcomes.
- ▶ **Fact 3** - The “flaw of averages” states that plans based on average assumptions are, on average, wrong.

-adapted from Savage (2012) Flaw of Averages

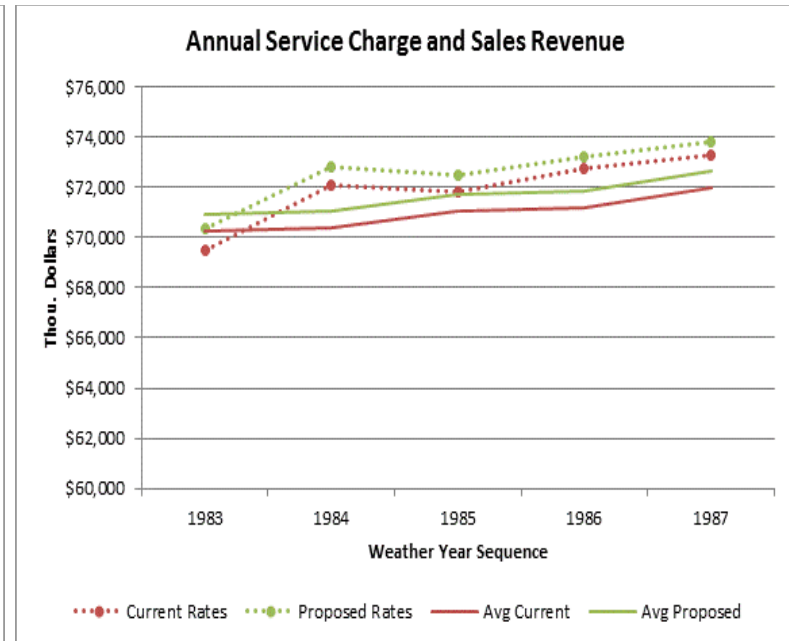
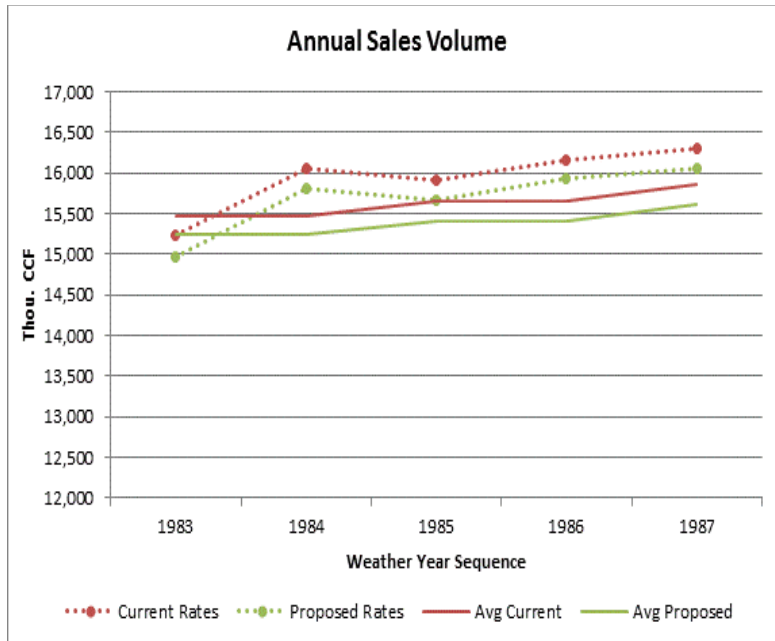
www.probabilitymanagement.org

The cyclist is **safe**
on the average path



On average, the
cyclist is **dead**.

Do Water Sales stay on the average path? Then why do water sales forecasts?



Answer: They don't have to.

AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model: Open Source Drought Rates

<http://www.financingsustainablewater.org/tools/awe-sales-forecasting-and-rate-model>



Towards an Alternative Decision-Making Framework

- ▶ **Information** can reduce uncertainty. Information that cannot effect a decision has no strategic value.
- ▶ **Interactive simulation** is a strategy for explicitly displaying the effects of a decision on uncertain outcomes.
- ▶ **Diversification**—spreading risk over a variety of outcomes—helps minimize the likelihood of extreme outcomes.

SIPs and SLURPs of Water

- ▶ Interactive simulation and visualization better communicate decision uncertainties
- ▶ SIP – Stochastic Information Packets
 - *In the SIPmath™ 2.0 Standard, uncertainties are communicated as data arrays called SIPs (Stochastic Information Packets). Thus random draws from uncertain possibilities are stored as a column of realizations.*
- ▶ SLURP – Stochastic Library Unit Relations Preserved
 - *A **coherent** set of SIPs that preserve statistical relationships between uncertainties is known as a Stochastic Library Unit with Relationships Preserved (SLURP).*

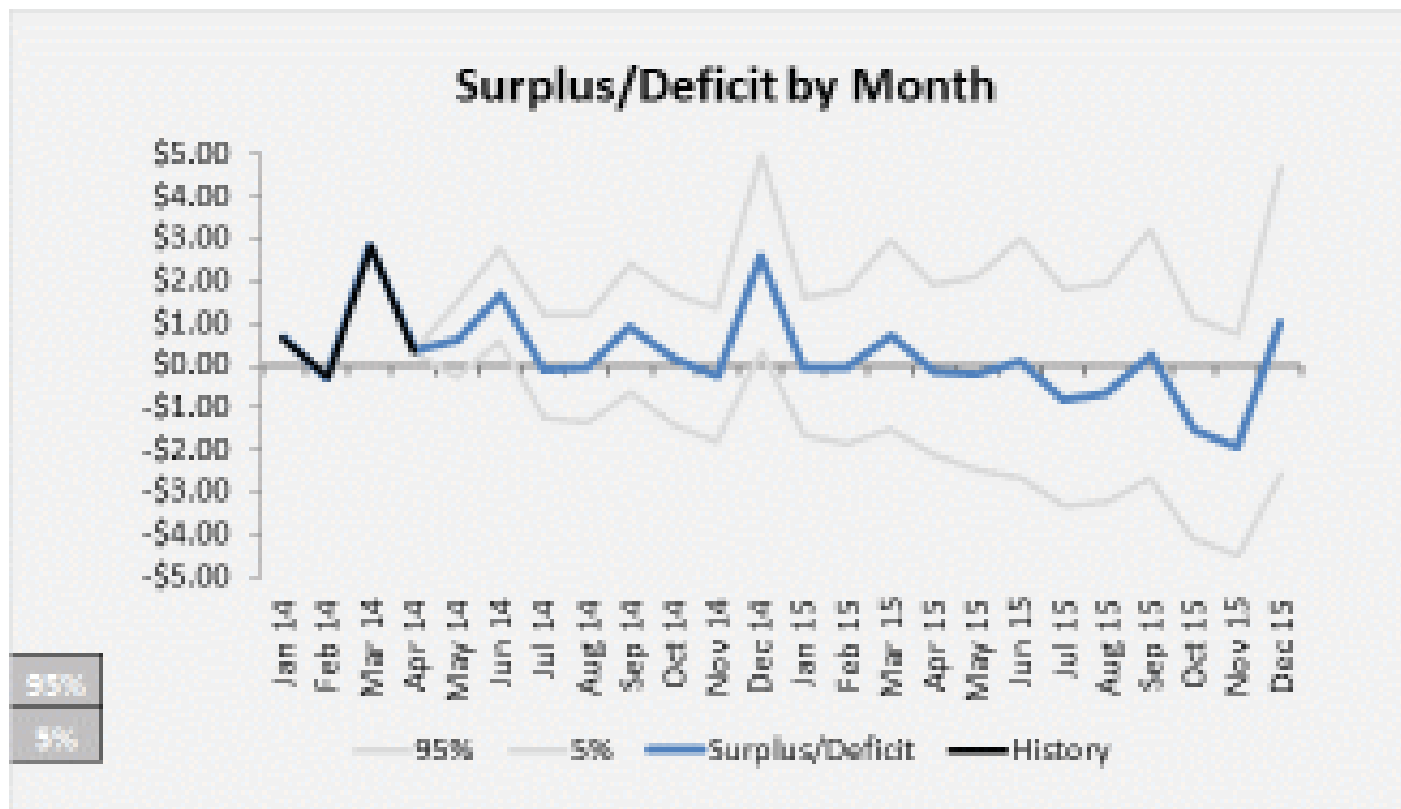
Stochastic Information Packets (SIPs)

- SIPs advance the modeling of uncertainty.
- SIPs are:
 - Actionable
 - Additive
 - Auditable



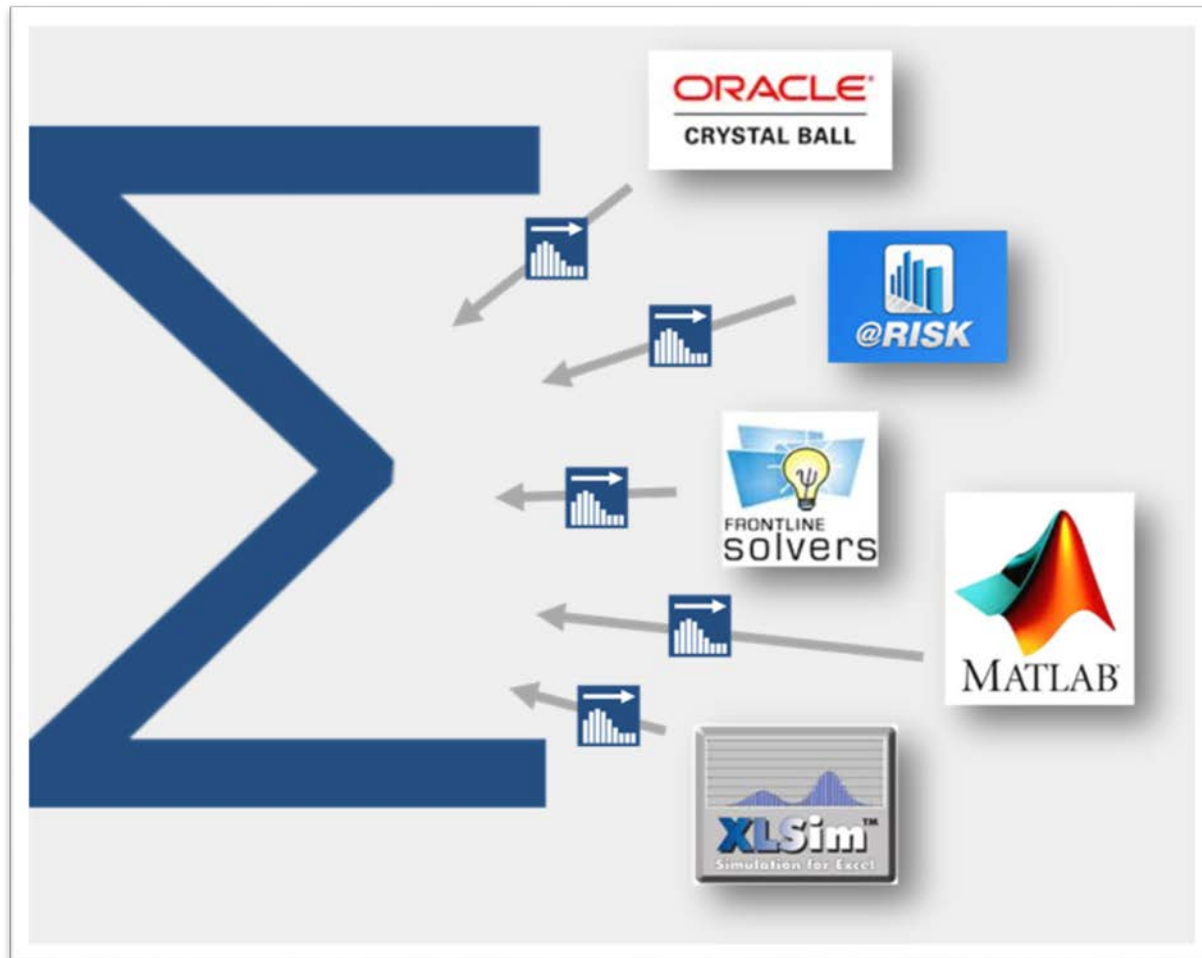
SIPMath™ is Actionable

Sips can be used directly in calculations of uncertainty.
Cells in Excel can refer to SIPs instead of a single number.
No macros or add-ins need remain in the spreadsheet.



SIPMath™ is Additive

Uncertainties can be summed, enabling enterprise risk management



SIPMath™ is Auditable

The SIPMath™ standard requires provenance.
Saved SIPs can be replicated using same seed=auditability.

The diagram illustrates the XML structure for SLURP and SIP elements. It includes two callouts: one pointing to the 'provenance' attribute of the SLURP element, and another pointing to the 'provenance' attribute of the SIP elements.

```
<SLURP name="exampleSLURP" count="1" coherent="true"
provenance="example SLURP provenance" >
  <SIP name="Domestic" count="1" type="CSV" csvr="1"
ver="1.0.0" provenance="Data from XYZ Co."
average="4.2" median="4.5">
    3.5,7.4,4.4,4.6,0.7,4.3,4.8,4.7,4.7,2.9
  </SIP>
  <SIP name="Foreign" count="10" type="CSV" csvr="1"
ver="1.0.0" provenance="Data from XYZ Co."
average="5.0" median="4.9">
    6.2,1.1,4.8,5.0,6.0,7.8,7.0,4.5,4.6,3.0
  </SIP>
</SLURP>
```

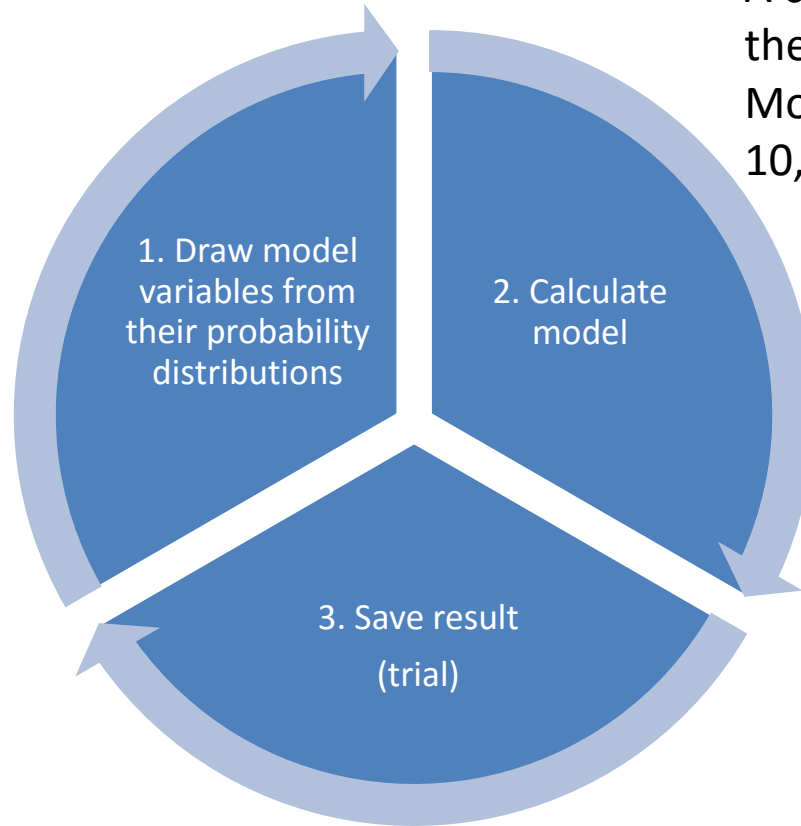
Provenance at the SIP and SLURP level

May be audited trial by trial

How Does Probability Management Work in The AWE Rate Model?

- ▶ The model focuses on three variables that are key to short-run revenue performance:
 - Weather (historical or synthetic)
 - Growth (projected)
 - Supply disruption/use curtailment (correlated to weather)
- ▶ Two rate designs are simultaneously evaluated:
 - Current rate (reference condition)
 - Proposed rate
- ▶ Simulation enacted with SIPmath[®]

Simulation Process

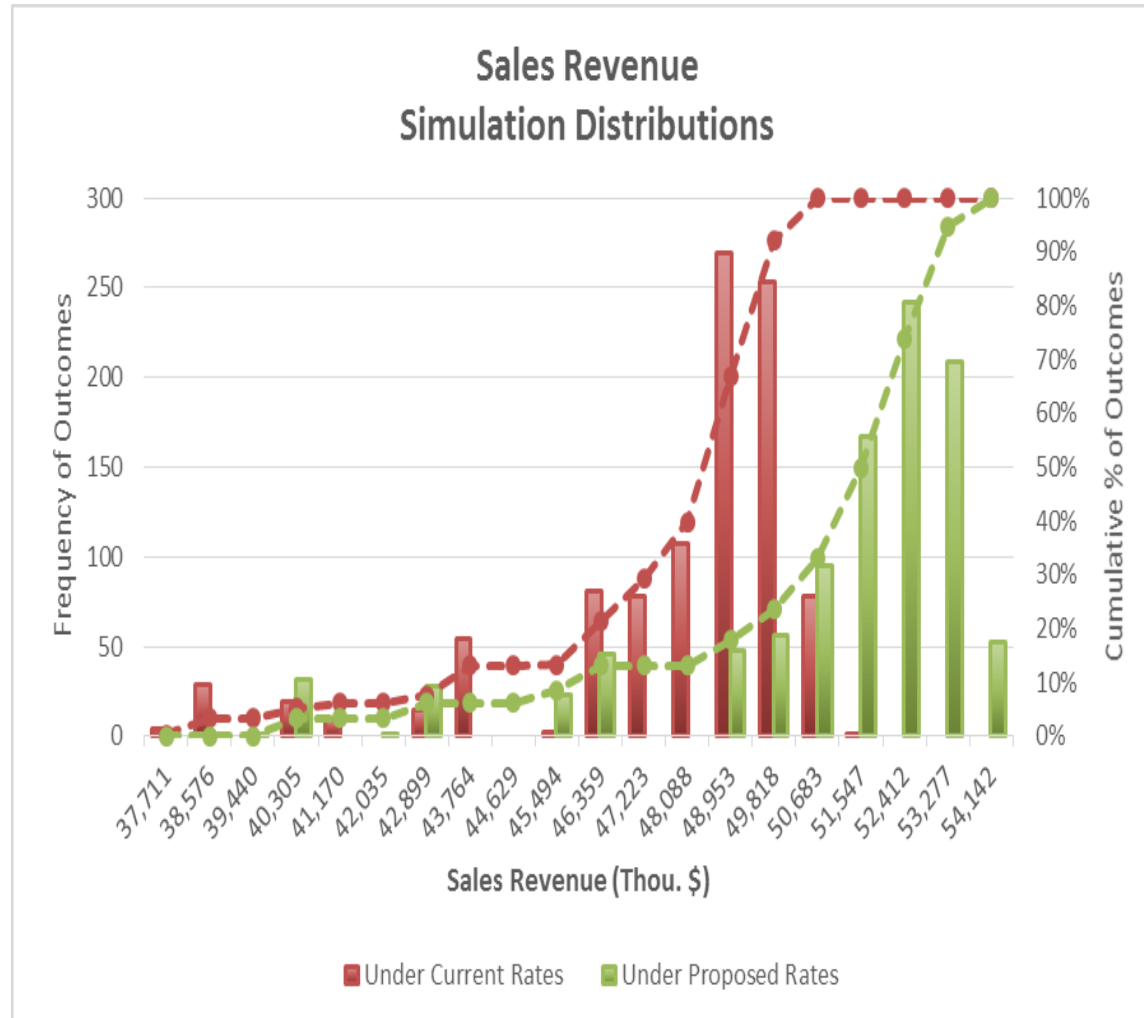


A cycle constitutes 1 trial. In the Revenue Simulation Module, User can simulate 10, 100, 500, or 1000 trials.

Why Simulate?

- ▶ Alternatives to simulation are:
 - Ignore uncertainty (a common strategy)
 - Construct scenarios (also common)
 - Both are problematic
- ▶ Simulation offers:
 - More complete enumeration of possible outcomes
 - Likelihood of particular outcomes

Simulation of Sales Revenue Distribution



Additional Data Needed for Module

▶ Weather

- Monthly Precipitation and Temperature data for Service Area
 - *Historical (up to 90 years), OR*
 - *Synthetic (for example, to simulate impact of climate change)*
- Easy to get historical weather data for service areas – Guidebook recommends several sources for weather data

▶ Customer Class Account Growth

- User specifies Low, Medium, High Account Growth Rates, by Class

Weather Data Screenshot: Two SIPs make a SLURP

Step 6: Enter Weather Data to be Used

On this worksheet you enter historical monthly weather data for your service area. You can enter up to a maximum of 90 years of data. It is not required that you provide data for every year. Consult the user guide for information on weather data sources.

[Go back to Revenue Simulation Module Worksheet](#)

1. Set most recent year in your weather data

Enter the most recent year for which you are providing weather data.

Most recent year:

2. Enter Monthly Precipitation Totals (in)

Enter total monthly precipitation in inches for each year of weather data you have for your service area.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2012	2.91	1.18	4.17	2.56	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.87	4.09	5.83
2011	1.18	4.06	6.26	0.28	0.79	1.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.91	1.22	0.08
2010	5.71	2.80	1.93	3.82	1.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.83	1.85	5.71
2009	1.02	6.34	2.36	1.22	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	3.74	0.59	2.40
2008	7.13	1.85	0.12	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	2.36	1.81
2007	0.43	3.70	0.24	0.59	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	1.22	0.75	2.40
2006	2.24	1.97	6.26	4.25	1.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	1.42	2.95
2005	4.33	3.31	2.60	1.46	1.26	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.94	10.04
2004	2.48	5.04	0.91	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	2.64	2.17	3.90
2003	1.14	0.98	1.46	3.58	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.65	5.94
2002	0.75	1.54	1.89	0.16	1.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.40	8.66
2001	1.89	5.51	1.10	1.14	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.28	3.58	7.01
2000	5.79	8.11	2.01	0.79	1.14	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.34	0.75	0.39
1999	2.76	5.12	2.48	1.69	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	2.05	0.51
1998	8.03	12.20	2.09	1.26	2.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.79	3.07	0.67
1997	8.19	0.20	0.24	0.24	0.28	0.20	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.79	5.47	2.56
1996	5.28	5.94	2.44	1.81	1.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.91	2.72	6.89
1995	9.84	0.20	8.62	1.06	1.22	1.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.77
1994	1.77	3.94	0.20	0.87	1.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	5.91	2.48
1993	8.46	4.25	2.13	0.59	0.55	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	2.52	2.36
1992	1.38	5.94	3.11	0.31	0.00	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.38	0.16	6.02

Can enter up to 90 yrs. Need at least 15. More is better than less.

How your demands may vary in response to weather conditions over the next 15 years. It also must be complete across all months of the year. Enter data in separate rows of the tables. To get reliable

Can modify historical weather for future climate change if desired.

[Go forward to Step 7: Enter Monthly Average Maximum Air Temperature](#)

3. Enter Monthly Average Maximum Air Temperature (degrees F)

Enter the monthly average daily maximum air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit for each year of weather data you have for your service area. Be sure you are entering average daily **maximum** air temperature and not average daily air temperature.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2012	61.0	63.0	63.0	70.6	78.6	82.9	85.9	87.3	83.4	75.7	65.8	56.9
2011	56.2	60.5	62.7	69.0	72.4	79.2	84.3	84.5	86.4	76.5	62.8	60.0
2010	55.1	60.8	65.3	66.1	72.5	82.6	84.1	83.3	85.2	74.9	64.7	57.2
2009	60.4	59.1	65.4	70.6	78.6	80.4	86.6	87.1	88.0	73.3	65.7	54.6
2008	53.7	60.8	66.5	71.6	77.7	85.3	86.7	88.5	85.1	78.1	66.9	54.7
2007	58.2	60.8	70.5	72.2	77.7	83.9	86.1	87.0	80.8	72.9	67.4	55.9
2006	58.5	63.2	59.3	66.0	77.8	84.9	91.8	83.9	83.0	74.0	64.2	57.9
2005	52.7	61.3	67.0	68.8	74.9	78.7	89.7	87.2	80.1	75.6	67.8	58.8
2004	55.1	59.7	74.0	75.0	77.9	83.2	85.9	87.0	86.7	73.1	62.2	56.8
2003	59.2	61.5	67.6	64.9	76.6	83.3	91.1	86.3	86.6	81.5	61.7	56.6
2002	55.0	63.0	64.6	69.5	76.1	84.0	87.5	86.1	86.1	76.2	66.9	58.1
2001	57.0	59.2	69.1	67.9	85.9	87.2	84.0	86.4	82.1	78.7	65.9	55.7
2000	58.8	60.0	66.5	72.9	76.9	84.5	82.5	86.1	84.3	73.1	61.0	59.3
1999	55.3	58.5	60.8	69.1	73.0	80.7	83.2	83.3	82.8	79.3	66.4	61.2
1998	56.3	57.6	64.9	67.5	67.3	76.5	85.4	88.9	82.6	73.8	62.3	55.3
1997	56.0	63.4	69.9	73.1	82.6	83.0	86.5	84.6	86.1	75.2	65.5	56.5
1996	57.9	62.1	67.1	72.9	77.5	84.3	89.5	88.9	82.1	75.5	65.1	59.0
1995	57.1	61.3	62.2	68.3	71.7	79.9	86.2	87.7	83.8	79.2	71.2	59.9
1994	58.2	58.4	68.4	70.9	74.1	83.4	84.4	87.0	82.4	75.3	58.0	53.0
1993	54.8	58.7	67.2	69.9	75.8	84.6	85.7	86.6	84.1	76.8	65.3	55.0
1992	52.8	63.7	65.7	74.8	81.9	80.8	85.7	88.8	84.9	79.1	66.6	54.2

Calculation of Weather Effects

- ▶ Based on **CUWCC GPCD Weather Normalization Methodology and Empirical Model**
- ▶ Accounts for
 - Seasonal Shape of Demand
 - Relative Importance of (weather sensitive) Outdoor Use
- ▶ Monthly effects formed into weighted-average seasonal effect
- ▶ Weighting accounts for:
 - Monthly contribution to total seasonal use
 - Strength of monthly weather effect on total seasonal use
- ▶ Weather effect coefficients can be modified by user

Uncertain Account Growth

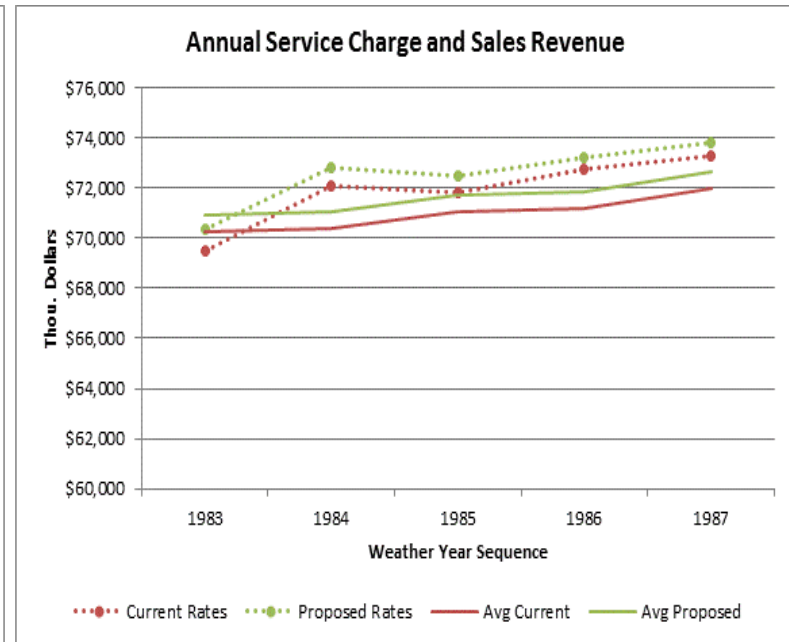
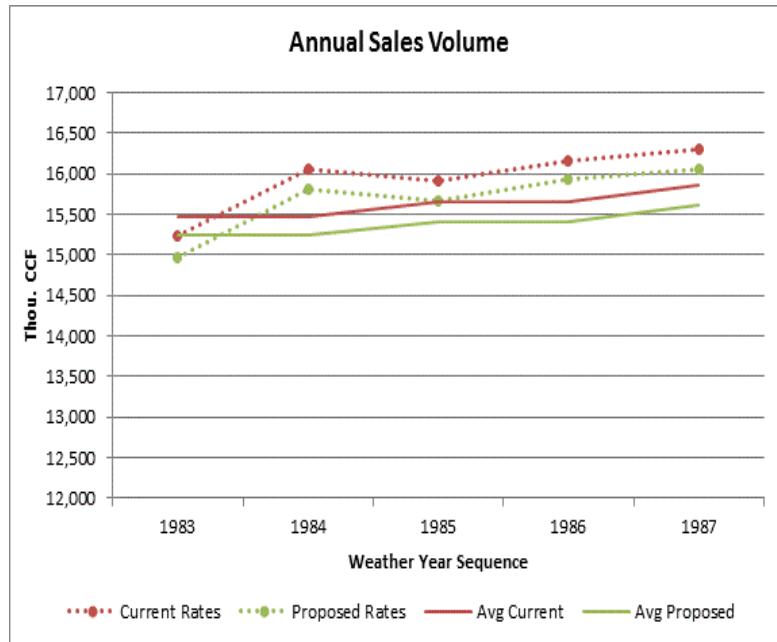
- ▶ Can simulate with or without growth uncertainty
 - No Growth
 - Certain Growth
 - Uncertain Growth
- ▶ If Uncertain Growth, then Low, Medium, High Growth Rates transformed into probability distribution
 - Normal
 - Triangular
 - Uniform
- ▶ User specifies which distribution to use

Water Use Curtailments

▶ Three Choices

- Exclude from simulation
- Associate with historical weather (preferred method)
- Specify likelihood

Are Future Sales and Revenue Uncertain?



Drought Pricing

- ▶ Shortages are when, not if.
- ▶ Imposing curtailments on customers affects revenues
- ▶ This can be planned for, communicated, and effectively implemented.

Drought Rates Missing from Most Local Drought Plans in California



Posted February 24, 2014 in [Living Sustainably](#), [U.S. Law and Policy](#)

[Print this page](#)

Tags: [AWWA](#), [California](#), [climatechange](#), [consumer](#), [drought](#), [waterbills](#), [waterconservation](#), [waterrates](#)

[Share](#) | [8+1](#) | [Like](#) < 2

Today they're short of water. Tomorrow they'll be short of cash. As water supplies dwindle in the face of the driest year in California's history, most of the state's urban water utilities face 2014 financially flatfooted.



CalTrans Highway Sign 2014 -- photo: Eric Beteille, pedestrianphotographer.com

Drought

- ▶ Let's talk probability and evidence
- ▶ What is the probability of a more than one decade-long drought? ...Where? When?
 - In the Southwest US
 - Within a 50 year period,
 - *1950 to 2000?*
 - *Or better 2050-2099?*

Odds and “P” Value

1 in 100 ≡ P01

1 in 10 ≡ 10 in 100 ≡ P10

1 in 5 ≡ 20 in 100 ≡ P20

Answer - P80

[I'm not making this up.]

This will be on the test...new vocabulary

- **Megadrought**
- **Semi-permanent drought**

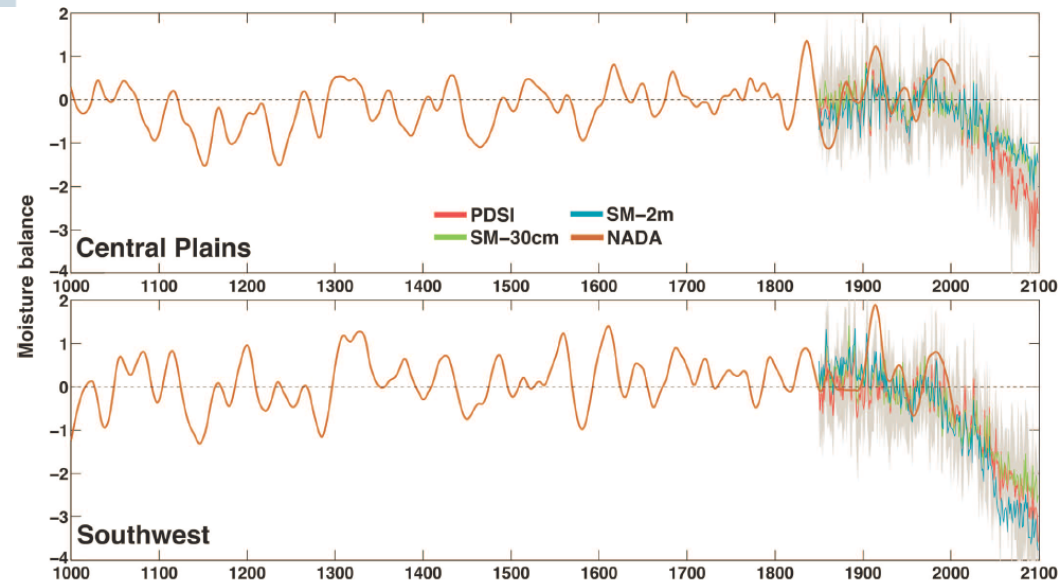


Fig. 1. Top: Multimodel mean summer (JJA) PDSI and standardized soil moisture (SM-30cm and SM-2m) over North America for 2050–2099 from 17 CMIP5 model projections using the RCP 8.5 emissions (125°W–105°W, 32°N–41°N). Bottom: Regional average time series of the summer season moisture balance metrics from the NADA and CMIP5 models. The observational NADA PDSI series (brown) is smoothed using a 50-year

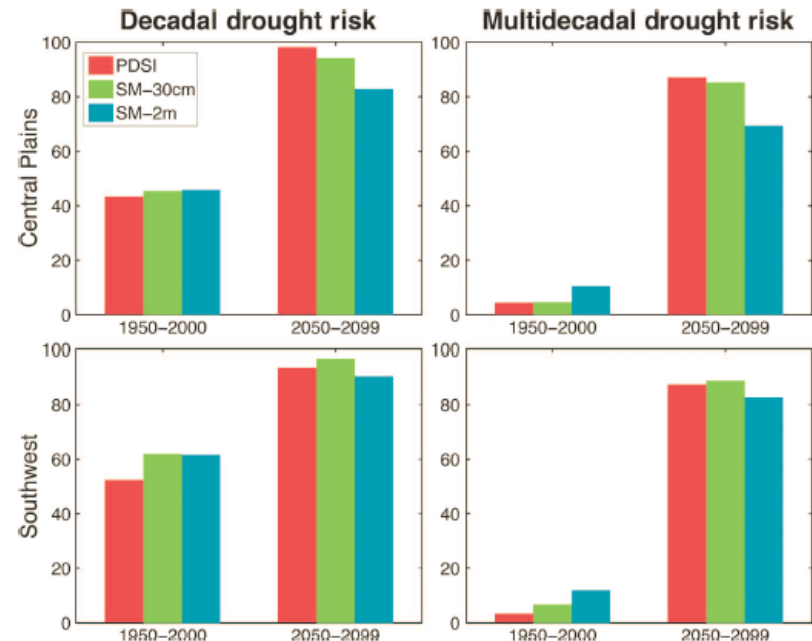


Fig. 5. Risk (percent chance of occurrence) of decadal (11-year) and multidecadal (35-year)

Citation: B. I. Cook, T. R. Ault, J. E. Smerdon, Unprecedented 21st century drought risk in the American Southwest and Central Plains. *Sci. Adv.* **1**, e1400082 (2015).

Associate Drought Stage with Historical Weather

Preferred Method

3. Enter Monthly Average Maximum Air Temperature (degrees F)

Enter the monthly average daily maximum air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit for each year of weather data you have for your service area. Be sure you are entering average daily **maximum** air temperature and not average daily air temperature.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2012	61.0	63.0	63.0	70.6	78.6	82.9	85.9	87.3	83.4	75.7	65.8	56.9
2011	56.2	60.5	62.7	69.0	72.4	79.2	84.3	84.5	86.4	76.5	62.8	60.0
2010	55.1	60.8	65.3	66.1	72.5	82.6	84.1	83.3	85.2	74.9	64.7	57.2
2009	60.4	59.1	65.4	70.6	78.6	80.4	86.6	87.1	88.0	73.3	65.7	54.6
2008	53.7	60.8	66.5	71.6	77.7	85.3	86.7	88.5	85.1	78.1	66.9	54.7
2007	58.2	60.8	70.5	72.2	77.7	83.9	86.1	87.0	80.8	72.9	67.4	55.9
2006	58.5	63.2	59.3	66.0	77.8	84.9	91.8	83.9	83.0	74.0	64.2	57.9
2005	52.7	61.3	67.0	68.8	74.9	78.7	89.7	87.2	80.1	75.6	67.8	58.8
2004	55.1	59.7	74.0	75.0	77.9	83.2	85.9	87.0	86.7	73.1	62.2	56.8
2003	59.2	61.5	67.6	64.9	76.6	83.3	91.1	86.3	86.6	81.5	61.7	56.6
2002	55.0	63.0	64.6	69.5	76.1	84.0	87.5	86.1	86.1	76.2	66.9	58.1
2001	57.0	59.2	69.1	67.9	85.9	87.2	84.0	86.4	82.1	78.7	65.9	55.7
2000	58.8	60.0	66.5	72.9	76.9	84.5	82.5	86.1	84.3	73.1	61.0	59.3
1999	55.3	58.5	60.8	69.1	73.0	80.7	83.2	83.3	82.8	79.3	66.4	61.2
1998	56.3	57.6	64.9	67.5	67.3	76.5	85.4	88.9	82.6	73.8	62.3	55.3
1997	56.0	63.4	69.9	73.1	82.6	83.0	86.5	84.6	86.1	75.2	65.5	56.5
1996	57.9	62.1	67.1	72.9	77.5	84.3	89.5	88.9	82.1	75.5	65.1	59.0
1995	57.1	61.3	62.2	68.3	71.7	79.9	86.2	87.7	83.8	79.2	71.2	59.9
1994	58.2	58.4	68.4	70.9	74.1	83.4	84.4	87.0	82.4	75.3	58.0	53.0
1993	54.8	58.7	67.2	69.9	75.8	84.6	85.7	86.6	84.1	76.8	65.3	55.0
1992	52.8	63.7	65.7	74.8	81.9	80.8	85.7	88.8	84.9	79.1	66.6	54.2
1991	57.8	65.3	59.6	68.5	72.7	77.9	85.1	82.0	84.4	80.6	67.6	57.1
1990	57.0	57.8	65.4	73.3	74.6	81.8	85.8	84.7	83.3	79.2	65.9	53.9
1989	55.6	56.8	63.4	73.5	75.6	80.5	86.4	83.1	79.0	74.5	67.2	57.0
1988	56.2	66.0	70.1	70.9	74.6	81.3	89.2	84.5	83.1	75.7	62.6	57.1
1987	55.2	62.1	64.8	76.2	78.8	81.5	80.9	83.9	82.6	77.7	63.6	55.2

4. Enter Drought Shortage Stage

(Optional) For each hydrologic year you can select what drought/shortage stage would have applied given your current system supplies and customer demands. You can then have the model use this information when it simulates water sales. This is explained further in Step 5 Setup Simulation.

Stage	Index
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 2	2
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 1	1
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 0	0
Stage 4	4
Stage 3	3
Stage 2	2
Stage 1	1
Stage 0	0

Drought Stage association table

Additional Resources

▶ www.waterrf.org

- WaterRF 4175 - A Balanced Approach to Water Conservation in Utility Planning, 2012.
- www.waterrf.org/ExecutiveSummaryLibrary/4175_ProjectSummary.pdf
- WaterRF 2935 – Water Efficiency Programs for Integrated Water Management, 2007.
- http://www.waterrf.org/ExecutiveSummaryLibrary/91149_2935_profile.pdf

▶ www.financingsustainablewater.org

- AWE Handbook-Building Better Water Rates for an Uncertain World
- <http://www.financingsustainablewater.org/tools/building-better-water-rates-uncertain-world>
- AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model: Open Source Drought Rates
- <http://www.financingsustainablewater.org/tools/awe-sales-forecasting-and-rate-model>

Free tools and examples at....

<http://probabilitymanagement.org/sip-math.html>

and

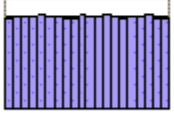
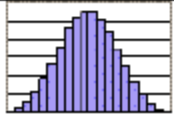

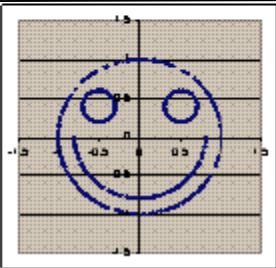
<http://probabilitymanagement.org/models.html>

The Free SIPmath™ Tools to facilitate the creation
of such models:

<http://probabilitymanagement.org/tools.html>

Mindle = A Handle for the Mind

Five Basic Mindles for Grasping Uncertainty

Green Words Things you know already	Mindles Things to improve your grasp	Things to Remember	Things to Forget
Uncertainty vs. Risk	Risk is in the eye of the beholder.	Risk Attitude	UTILITY THEORY
Uncertain Number	SHAPE 	Distribution, Histogram Cumulative Distribution Percentiles	RANDOM VARIABLE
Combinations of Uncertain Numbers	SH ^A PE 	Diversification Flaw of Averages (weak form)	VARIANCE, STANDARD DEVIATION, CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM
Plans Based on Uncertain Numbers		Flaw of Averages (strong form)	FUNCTIONS OF RANDOM VARIABLES, JENSEN'S INEQUALITY
Interrelated Uncertain Numbers		Scatter Plot	STATISTICAL DEPENDENCE, CORRELATION, COVARIANCE

S. Savage: *Flaw of Averages*, overview on p 47. One chapter on each mindle.

Save the date



- ▶ Click on hyperlink below
- ▶ <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eb2lk97u9fd05b26&llr=lr9yi7pab>

- ▶ Use the Super Secret code **ANTE246** for a discount on your registration fee.

Annual Conference A Common Risk Lexicon for Government and Industry January 26 - 27, 2016

Our economy is becoming increasingly regulated to protect us from financial, security and public safety risks. A common language for communicating and calculating uncertainties is needed to make such regulation effective.

Register Now!

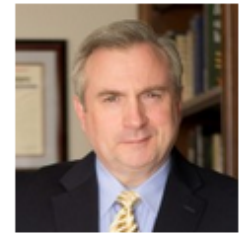
Featuring



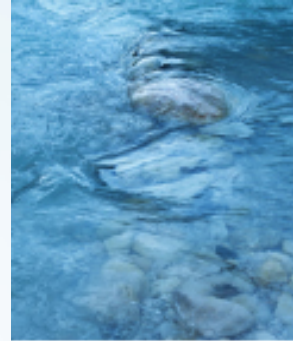
Harry Markowitz
Nobel Laureate and Probability
Management.org Board Member



Sam Savage
Executive Director, Probability
Management.org and author of
The Flaw of Averages



Doug Hubbard
President of Hubbard Decision
Research and author of *How to
Measure Anything*



Building Better Water Rates for an Uncertain World



Thomas W. Chesnutt, Ph.D., CAP®

A & N Technical Services, Inc.

<http://www.antechserv.com>

839 Second Street, Suite 5

Encinitas CA, 92024

760.942.5149

tom@antechserv.com