



New Mexico's approach to continuous data management and quality control using Excel Macros

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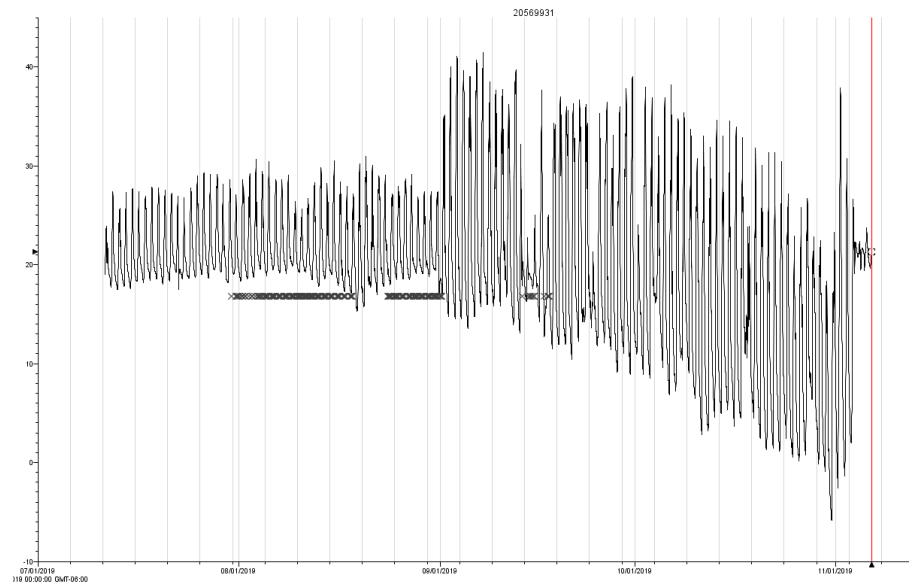
June 4, 2025





Continuous (LTD) temperature data

- Loggers used: Hobo WTP or Tidbit (where stream drying and logger exposure suspected)
- A typical two-year watershed survey will result in 80-140 temperature logger deployments
- Lots of data – efficient processing, QA/QC and upload method needed





Processing temperature data

- Main challenges:
 - Time intensive “processing” data for upload and assessment– including cleaning up, cropping, QA process
 - Determining whether logger data is representative of ambient conditions (and thus assessable):
 - Submerged in area with adequate flow for duration of data recording period
 - Not buried in sediment, covered with debris, or exposed
 - Data with these characteristics, or otherwise not indicative of ambient conditions are not used for assessment





Continuous monitoring data management

Solution: Macro-enabled template spreadsheet with VBA scripts for importing time series, QA/QC, drift correction, calculating statistics for assessment, formatting for database upload

Site: 50PecosR763.6 Pecos_R blw_Glorieta_Cr 20May2020 10498708 temp.csv
LTD Type/# WTP/10498708 Dataset
Lat/Long: 35.5258971, -105 Comments:

Parameter	T (C°)	SC (µS/cm)	DO Sat (%)	DO Conc (mg/L)	pH (su)	Turb (NTU)
Assessability	Both					
Average	16.32					
Maximum	25.55					
Minimum	6.84					

Comments: Should Reflect Qualifiers (if used)
Codes: Both=either FS or NS, Non=NS only, Neither=Not Assessable
Note: Summary statistics do not include Rejected Data
Rejected: Based on instrument verification beyond Maximum Allowable Limits, exposure/burial, or malfunction

Parameter	Corrected Qualifier	Rejected Qualifier
Temp, °C	CT	RT
SC µS/cm	CSC	RSC
DO, %	C%	R%
DO, mg/L	CDO	RDO
pH	CPH	RPH
Turb, NTU	CY	RY

Linear Drift Correction	
Parameter:	Temperature C
Start Date+Time:	8/6/21 12:30
Stop Date+Time:	8/17/21 13:15
Interval:	0:15:00
Correction Amount:	-0.74

Import and format data

Summary statistics exclude rejected data

MACROS

Import Thermograph	QC LTD Data
Import DOlog.csv File	Run 4T3/6T3/MWAT
Import Sonde File	Calculate Delta DO
Import Previous UL	Run Turbidity Results
	Save/Create Upload

Temp Stats Results (C°)	
4T3	
6T3	
MWAT	
Max 24hr ΔDO (mg/L)	
Result	
Turbidity Min (NTU)	
3 Day	
4 Day	
5 Day	
6 Day	
7 Day	
14 Day	
30 Day	

QC data, calculate parameter specific statistics, and create database upload file

If you cannot find the saved file, check the My Documents folder on your PC

Tabs with charts for data visualization, calculations, QA tracking, and references

DATA Charts CALCS Statistical Outliers DO-CALCS MAX 4T3_6T3 MWAT Turb-Duration Temp Rate R-C_DATA Tracking ...



Data QA/QC

MACROS

Import Thermograph	QC LTD Data
Import Dolog.csv File	Run 4T3/6T3/MWAT
Import Sonde File	Calculate Delta DO
Import Previous UL	Run Turbidity Results

Temp Stats Results (C°)

4T3	23.28
6T3	22.44
MWAT	19.89

Microsoft Excel

Potential outlier(s) detected in temperature data. Review highlighted values and censor unrepresentative data.

OK

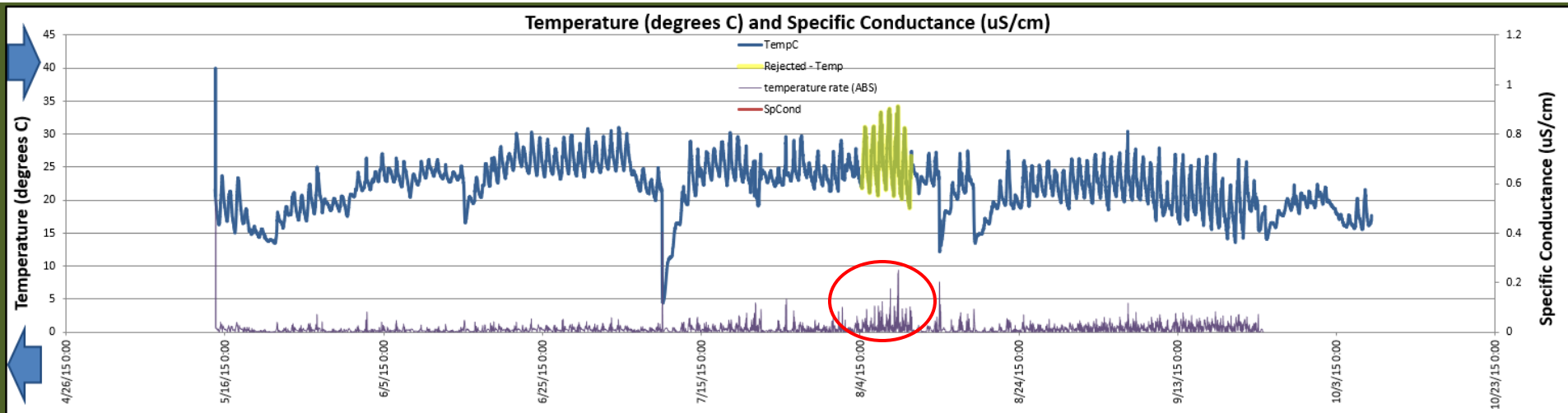
Average	21.95		
Maximum	40.00		
Minimum	4.43		
DATE	DATE+TIME	Temp	SpCond
5/14/2015	18:00:00	21.58	
5/14/2015	18:15:00	21.44	
5/14/2015	18:30:00	21.25	
5/14/2015	18:45:00	20.98	
5/14/2015	19:00:00	20.79	
5/14/2015	19:15:00	20.63	
5/14/2015	19:30:00	40	
5/14/2015	19:45:00	20.37	

- “QC LTD data” – creates graphs with QC features and scans for statistical outliers
- Outliers (temps >75th %tile of measured daily maximum temps +3x IQR)
 - ▣ Highlighted, manually reviewed/censored as needed
 - ▣ Intended to:
 - reduce influence from autocorrelation of continuous data (independence)
 - demonstrate repeatability of an observation
 - consider potential anomalies in dataset due to extreme air temperatures deviating from seasonal norms/other anomalous events such as runoff from catastrophic fire areas, or instrument errors
- ▣ Data not representative of ambient conditions and non-assessable data are omitted from calculations to generate final assessment dataset



Data QA/QC (continued)

- “Charts” tab displays thermograph (top, blue) along with the absolute 1 hr. temperature difference (bottom, purple)
- Often, exposure indicated by >3 degree C change in temperature within an hour or less
- Data qualifier of “RT” (rejected temperature) added, graph displays rejected data in yellow, data not included in any assessment statistics





Data QA/QC (continued)

Drift Correction Tool

Linear Drift Correction	
Parameter:	SpCond uS
Start Date+Time:	9/11/18 13:28
Stop Date+Time:	9/25/18 11:28
Interval:	0:15:00
Correction Amount:	10

pH4 =	3.50
pH7 =	7.00
pH10 =	10.20
mmHg:	650
Count:	1337.00
Slope:	0.00748

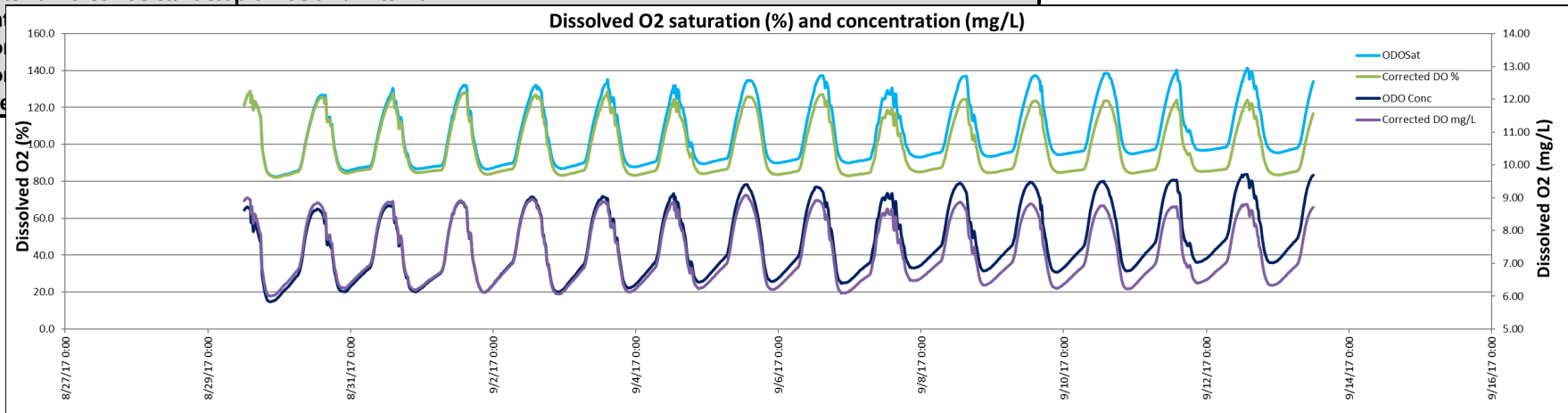
Turbidity Standard	Turbidity Reading
0	0.44
126	
1000	1230.2

Correct!

Drift Correction Instructions

1. Copy and paste data into the data fields to the left.
2. Select parameter from drop down list (Cell S2).
3. Enter time series start/stop times and interval.
4. Enter
5. For
6. For
7. Pre

Example drift corrected DO dataset





Data management and assessment

- ❑ LTD template “save/create upload” macro creates upload file in .csv file format with QA/QC’ed dataset, summary statistics and information needed for assessment
- ❑ Archive raw and processed files on server
- ❑ “Processed” upload file uploaded into database
- ❑ Database can generate “LTD Assessment Report” spreadsheet using summary stats from Excel

The screenshot shows the web interface of the New Mexico Environment Department. At the top is a blue header with the department's logo and name. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Data Management", "Adhoc Report", "Administration", and "Projects". The "Data Management" link is active. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Import Sampling Event Data". On the right side of this section is a link that says "Upload CSV, XLS or XLSX File". Below this link are two input fields: "Project" with a dropdown menu showing "Not set", and "Filename" with a "Choose File" button and the text "No file chosen". At the bottom right of the form is an "Upload File" button.

- ❑ Future improvements: program spreadsheet functions into the database, or switch to R if summary statistic calculations are developed.



Resources

- Long Term Data Management Spreadsheet-
Hourly Data
Long Term Data Management
Spreadsheet- 15-Minute Data
- QA Examples



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