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Theresa Beltramo, Garrick Blalock, Stephen Harrell,  
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# The Effects of Fuel-Efficient Cookstoves on Fuel Use, Particulate Matter, and Cooking Practices: Results from a Randomized Trial in Rural Uganda

By THERESA BELTRAMO, GARRICK BLALOCK, STEPHEN HARRELL, DAVID I. LEVINE, AND ANDREW M. SIMONS\*

*Smoky cookfires contribute to global climate change and kill approximately four million people annually. While many studies have examined the effects of fuel-efficient cookstoves, this study was the first to do so while selling stoves at market prices. After introducing a fuel-efficient cookstove, fuelwood use and household air particulates declined by 12% and by smaller percentages after adjusting for observer-induced bias, or the Hawthorne effect. These reductions were less than laboratory predictions and fell well short of World Health Organization pollution targets. Even when introducing a second stove, most households continued to use their traditional stoves for most cooking.*

\*Beltramo: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Rue de Montbrillant 92, Geneva 1201, Switzerland (e-mail: beltramo@unhcr.org); Blalock: Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 (e-mail: garrick.blalock@cornell.edu); Harrell: Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720 (email: stephenharrell@gmail.com); Levine: Walter A. Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley, 2220 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley, CA 94720 (e-mail: levine@haas.berkeley.edu); Simons: Department of Economics, Fordham University, 441 E. Fordham Rd., Bronx, NY 10458 (e-mail: asimons5@fordham.edu). The study was funded by the United States Agency for International Development under Translating Research into Action, Cooperative Agreement No. GHS-A-00-09-00015-00. The grant recipient was Impact Carbon, which co-funded and managed the project. This study received Institutional Review Board approval from the Committee for Protection of Human Subjects (approval number 2010-06-1665) at the University of California, Berkeley. This study is registered in the AEA RCT Registry, and the unique identifying number is: AEARCTR-0003778. We would like to thank the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future at Cornell University, the Institute for the Social Sciences at Cornell University, the Cornell Population Center, and the National Science Foundation INFEWS

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## I. Introduction

Almost 3 billion people cook with wood, charcoal, and dung using traditional cookstoves (Bonjour et al. 2013). These stoves cause environmental degradation (Bailis et al. 2015), global climate change (Ramanathan and Carmichael 2008), and an estimated four million deaths per year (Lim et al. 2012). Truly safe cooking requires clean fuels such as gas or electricity. Unfortunately, most people who cook with solid fuel lack an affordable and consistent supply of gas or electricity (Lewis and Pattanayak 2012; Rehfuess et al. 2010). In the short to medium term, fuel-efficient cookstoves that use less solid fuel than traditional stoves may reduce these environmental and health problems.

We experimentally examined the effects of fuel-efficient cookstoves on wood use, household air pollution, and cooking behaviors in rural Uganda. Our work builds on important antecedents and extends previous literature in three key ways: (1) households purchased the new stove at the market price; (2) we provided households with a second fuel-efficient stove to see if a second cooking surface would limit stove-stacking; and (3) we adjusted for observer-induced bias, or the Hawthorne effect.

The first studies to document the relationship of stove usage, household air pollution, and human health were conducted in Kenya (Ezzati and Kammen 2001, 2002; Ezzati, Saleh, and Kammen 2000) and Guatemala (Smith et al. 2006; Smith

et al. 2011; Smith-Sivertsen et al. 2009). More recently, Hanna, Duflo, and Greenstone (2016) examined the link between stove usage and household air pollution in India and found reductions in smoke inhalation in the first year, but no changes over longer periods. They suggested that the fade-out was due to a lack of stove maintenance by users. Bensch and Peters (2015) examined a stove designed to reduce fuelwood consumption in rural Senegal and found reductions in fuelwood use, smoke emissions, and smoke-related disease symptoms. Pillarisetti et al. (2014) examined stove usage in a sample of pregnant women in India and found that users experimented with the fuel-efficient stove at first, but that the use of the new stove declined over time. Moreover, by one year after introduction, the sampled households used traditional stoves for 75% of their cooking.

Similar to the studies of Hanna, Duflo, and Greenstone (2016) and Bensch and Peters (2015), we measured stove use in the short term (a year or less) and over the long term (a 3.5 year follow-up). These two previous studies measured health outcomes (documented by medical personnel or self-reported). In contrast, we measured household level particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations. Particulate matter concentrations have been directly linked to health problems in numerous studies (Chay and Greenstone 2003; Currie and Walker 2009; Smith-Sivertsen et al. 2009). Due to their small size (2.5  $\mu\text{g}$  or less), these particles can reach deep into the lungs and are the best single indicator of risk for many respiratory-related diseases (Chowdhury et al. 2007).<sup>1</sup> Similar to Pillarisetti et al. (2014), we used unobtrusive temperature sensors to measure detailed household stove use over

<sup>1</sup>According to Pope III et al. (2002), each 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  increase in long-term exposure to fine particulate matter is associated with approximately a 4%, 6%, and 8% increase in the risk of all-cause cardiopulmonary and lung cancer mortality, respectively.

time.<sup>2</sup> However, unlike Pillarisetti et al. (2014), we introduced random variation in the assignment of when the stoves were delivered to causally examine the effects of the introduction of a fuel-efficient stove.

Our study extends previous literature in three important ways. First, we examine cooking behaviors among households that were willing to purchase the new stove at market prices (and perhaps, therefore, value the stove more highly).<sup>3</sup> Because our results come from users who paid the market price for the fuel-efficient stove, our sample mimics those that would be most likely to purchase such a stove.<sup>4</sup>

A second innovation in our study was that, after measuring stove usage when households had one fuel-efficient stove, we provided all households with a second fuel-efficient stove. Common cooking practice in the study area involved cooking with two pots simultaneously (e.g., rice and beans, or steaming bananas and cooking gravy). Stove stacking (the simultaneous use of the fuel-efficient stove and the traditional cooking technology) has been mentioned as a challenge to completely switching to fuel-efficient stoves (Masera, Saatkamp, and Kammen 2000; Pillarisetti et al. 2014; Ruiz-Mercado et al. 2011). This non-experimental intervention allowed us to examine how important the lack of a second cooking surface was for continued use of the traditional stove.

<sup>2</sup>These stove usage monitors were pioneered by Ruiz-Mercado, Canuz, and Smith (2012).

<sup>3</sup>Among these previous studies, Hanna, Duflo, and Greenstone (2016) distributed highly subsidized stoves (users paid US\$0.75 for a US\$12.50 stove), while Bensch and Peters (2015) and Pillarisetti et al. (2014) distributed stoves for free.

<sup>4</sup>There is a long-standing debate whether developing countries should charge for health improving products (latrines, mosquito bed nets, deworming medications, chlorine tablets, etc.) or if they should be distributed for free (Ashraf, Berry, and Shapiro 2010; Cohen and Dupas 2010; Dupas 2014; Fischer et al. 2019). A key part of this debate is the question of how usage of the product varies depending on the price paid. Generally, cookstoves have been given for free or highly subsidized in previous cookstove usage studies. Our study added a first data point to quantify usage for users who paid market price for their cookstoves.

A third innovation of our study was that we adjusted for observer-induced bias, or the Hawthorne effect. The Hawthorne effect has been mentioned as a potential source of bias in numerous cookstove studies (Bensch and Peters 2015; Ezzati, Saleh, and Kammen 2000; Pillarisetti et al. 2014; Smith-Sivertsen et al. 2009). By collecting sensor data both when observers were and were not present, we were able to measure and remove the source of this bias.

During the weeks when wood use and particulate matter were measured, we found that the randomized early introduction of the first fuel-efficient stove reduced wood use by 11.6% and particulate matter by 12.0%. Once both fuel-efficient stoves were introduced, wood use declined by 26.7% and particulate matter by 10.0%. However, we also found that participants cooked more on the fuel-efficient stoves and less on three-stone fires when observers were present, and that participants reversed these changes once observers left (Simons et al. 2017). When adjusting for this observer-induced bias, we found that the randomized early introduction of the first fuel-efficient stove may have only reduced wood use by 1.7% and particulate matter by 0.3%. Once both fuel-efficient stoves were introduced, after adjusting for the Hawthorne effect, we found wood usage may have declined by 2.5% compared to the baseline; however, particulate matter may have increased<sup>5</sup> (an increase of 18.3% compared to the baseline).

Households used the new stoves more hours per day than the usage of the three-stone fires declined. The increase in total hours of stove usage blunted reductions in fuel use and household air pollution. At the same time, cooking on multiple surfaces most likely increased the utility of the cooks. Anecdotally, it appears that

<sup>5</sup>Note that the introduction of the second fuel-efficient stove was not experimentally identified, and the difference in changes in particulate matter and wood use could have been due to a variety of factors, such as weather changes (i.e., wet wood burns less efficiently).

cooks used each stove for the foods that fit it best. For example, low-heat simmering of rice, beans and unripe bananas was done on three-stone fires, and making sauces and boiling water for tea was done on the fuel-efficient stove. In the longer term (3.5 years), we found lower rates of disrepair than Hanna, Duflo, and Greenstone (2016).<sup>6</sup> Nevertheless, as in their study, we found low longer-term usage of the fuel-efficient stove.

At baseline, average particulate matter was more than 16 times the World Health Organization (WHO) standard of 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (World Health Organization 2006). Thus, even the reduction in particulate matter of 12% (upon introduction of the first fuel-efficient stove) left the air far more polluted than the WHO standard. If clean air is a high priority, our findings suggest it is important to help consumers shift to safe fuels such as gas or electricity and to find ways to encourage them to disable or move their smoky stoves outdoors.

## II. Experimental Setting and Data

### *A. Background and Site Selection*

We selected the Mbarara region of Uganda because it is rural, almost all families cooked on a traditional three-stone fire, it was less than a day's travel from Kampala, and the local government was supportive of our work. In pre-experimental discussion groups, we confirmed that there was no active fuel-efficient cookstove intervention in the region, and that families spent a lot of time gathering wood (approximately 10–20 hours per week).

<sup>6</sup>This pattern makes sense as Hanna, Duflo, and Greenstone (2016) examined local artisan-built mud stoves, while the stoves used in our study were commercially manufactured from metal. The manufacturer (Envirofit Inc.) stated its stoves would last up to ten years. See <https://envirofit.org/>.

Most participants farm *matooke* (starchy cooking banana), potatoes, and millet and raise livestock. Prior to our experiment, almost all families cooked on a traditional three-stone fire (97%), usually located within a separate cooking hut. Most (62%) households had totally enclosed kitchens with no windows, while 38% had semi-enclosed kitchens with at least one window. Almost all cooking occurred in the detached cooking hut.

We implemented a series of companion studies in rural areas of the Mbarara District in southwestern Uganda from February to September 2012, focusing on the adoption of fuel-efficient stoves. These studies analyzed the household purchase decision, and they found that relieving liquidity constraints by allowing additional time for payments (Beltramo et al. 2015b) and providing a free trial with time payments allowed users to learn about the stoves' fuel savings properties (Levine et al. 2018) and greatly increased purchase rates (for example, from 5% to 57% in our setting in rural Uganda). We also examined how social networks affected purchasing (Beltramo et al. 2015a).

We marketed the Envirofit G3300 wood-burning stove, made by Envirofit International Inc. (Ft. Collins, CO, USA) (see Figure 1 for images of a traditional three-stone fire and the Envirofit G3300). This stove achieves relatively efficient fuel combustion by channeling airflow into the fire and directing heat upward through an insulated cylinder to the cooking surface. These design innovations allow fuel to burn at a controlled rate and enable more complete combustion than a three-stone fire. Emissions testing of the Envirofit G3300 in a controlled laboratory setting found average reductions in carbon monoxide (CO) of 65%, particulate matter reductions of 51%, and a reduction in fuel wood use of 50% compared with a three-stone fire (see Figure 2 for a copy of the emissions and performance report).



## *B. Selection of Study Participants*

In the first stage of the experiment, we randomly selected 12 parishes (units of government administration covering about 4,000–6,000 people), to receive a traditional cash-and-carry sales offer and 14 parishes to receive a sales offer of a one-week free trial followed by four equal weekly time payments (see Levine et al. 2018). Within each parish, we recruited a local point person with the help of local government officials. We asked each focal point person to gather roughly 60 people together for a public sales meeting on a specified day. We did not tell the point person which sales offer his or her parish would receive.

At the sales meeting, participants completed a questionnaire that focused on household cooking and basic socioeconomic indicators. After this, the study team presented the Envirofit G3300, discussed the stove’s features such as fuel savings and reduced pollution relative to traditional three-stone fires, gave a cooking demonstration, and presented the terms of the randomly selected sales offer. While the Envirofit was not commercially available in this region prior to our experiment, we sold it for the same retail price (40,000 Ugandan shillings [~US\$16]) that it was selling for in parts of the country where it was available. We used the randomized assignment of the sales offer by parish as the identifying assumption, as used by Levine et al. (2018), to examine the barriers to purchase. In the current paper, to examine how often people used their stoves, our identification strategy was based on randomly assigning the timing of when purchasers received their Envirofit (we call them early buyers and late buyers). We selected 12 participants from each of the 14 parishes who purchased the Envirofit at the retail price with a free trial plus time payment sales offer. Therefore, all participants who had their stove usage tracked received the same sales offer at the extensive margin, and all participants fully paid for the stove

according to the terms of the sales offer (one-week free trial, followed by four equal payments totaling 40,000 shillings).

Households were eligible to have their stove usage tracked if they mainly used wood as a fuel source, regularly cooked for eight or fewer persons, someone was generally home every day, and cooking was largely done in an enclosed kitchen. In each parish, more than 12 households met these criteria and agreed to join the study; therefore, among those that agreed, we randomly selected 12 households per parish to track with the stove use monitors (SUMs). We asked both early and late buyers if they would agree to have SUMs immediately placed on their traditional three-stone fires (all agreed). We used the randomly assigned time of Envirofit delivery (early buyers vs. late buyers) as the identifying assumption for the causal claims made in this paper.

After participants consented to participate in the usage study, all existing three-stone fires were affixed with SUMs. Then, approximately four weeks after the SUM data collection began, the early buyers' group received their first Envirofit stove. Approximately four weeks after that, the late buyers received their first Envirofit stove.

Based on earlier studies (e.g., Pillarisetti et al. 2014; Ruiz-Mercado et al. 2011, 2013), we anticipated that many households would use both their three-stone fire and their Envirofit. One motivation for this is that common cooking practices in the area require two simultaneous cooking pots (for example, for rice and beans, or for *matooke* and a sauce), and the Envirofit heats only one pot. We were interested in whether having a second fuel-efficient stove would substantially end stove stacking. Thus, approximately four weeks after late buyers received their first Envirofit, we surprised both groups with the gift of a second Envirofit stove.

In short, during the first study wave, both early and late buyers had only three-stone fires; in the second study wave, early buyers had one Envirofit, along with their three-stone fires, but late buyers only had three-stone fires; in the third study

wave, both groups of buyers had one Envirofit; and in the fourth wave, both early buyers and late buyers had two Envirofits. See Table 1 for the steps of the experimental rollout. We tracked stove temperatures for approximately 18 weeks (May–September 2012). Each household had as many as two three-stone fires and two Envirofit stoves monitored with SUMs. By the end of the study, numerous SUMs had been lost or burned up; therefore, after we delivered the second Envirofit stove, we encountered a shortage of SUMs, so we focused measurement on both Envirofits and the primary three-stone fire.

### C. SUMs

We installed small, inexpensive, and unobtrusive SUMs to record stove temperatures.<sup>7</sup> Ruiz-Mercado et al. (2008) initially suggested using SUMs to log stove temperatures, and various studies have used that method (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2012; Pillarisetti et al. 2014; Ruiz-Mercado et al. 2013). We installed SUMs on two Envirofits and two three-stone fires in each household when possible (recall that by the end of the study, numerous SUMs had been lost or burned up; therefore, only a few secondary three-stone fires were measured when all users had two Envirofits).

Throughout the study, field staff recorded about 2,400 visual observations of whether a stove was in use (on/off) when they visited homes. Also, we examined the temperature data immediately before and after the 2,400 visual observations of stove use. After understanding how temperature patterns changed at times of

<sup>7</sup>The SUMs used for our project, iButtons™ manufactured by Maxim Integrated Products, Inc., are small stainless steel temperature sensors about the size of a small coin and the thickness of a watch battery. Our SUMs recorded temperatures up to 85°C with an accuracy of  $\pm 1.3^\circ\text{C}$ . For additional details see: <http://berkeleyair.com/services/stove-use-monitoring-system-sums/>. The SUMs cost approximately US\$16 each. They recorded a temperature data point every 30 minutes for 6 weeks in a household before needing minimal servicing from a technician to download the data and reset the device.

observed stove use, we developed an algorithm to predict cooking behaviors for the wider dataset of 1.7 million temperature readings during which we did not have visual observations. By “cooking,” we mean that the algorithm predicts stove use, not necessarily that a cook is standing above the fire and actively working on a meal. Our algorithm would likely detect “cooking” in cases of banking hot coals for the next meal, and while this is not a formal act of cooking, it does burn wood and increase particulate matter in the kitchen. This process, detailed in Simons et al. (2014a), allowed us to unobtrusively and inexpensively track daily stove usage on a large sample of households throughout the study. In Appendix A, Harrell et al. (2016) and Simons et al. (2018) provide additional details on placing SUMs and the process of converting temperature readings to measures of predicted cooking.

#### *D. Kitchen Performance Tests and Particulate Matter Monitoring*

We performed standard kitchen performance tests (KPTs) (Bailis, Smith, and Edwards 2007) in each household to measure the quantity of fuel wood used, record detailed food diaries of what households cooked, and measure household air pollution before any Envirofits were distributed, that is, when early buyers had one Envirofit and when both groups of buyers had two Envirofits. A KPT lasts approximately 72 hours and involves daily visits by a small team of researchers who weigh wood, monitor household air particulate monitors, and collect food diaries, which record cooking and stove usage over the previous 24 hours.

During household visits, we also monitored household air pollution. Residential combustion of solid fuels in developing countries is a significant source of pollutants that harms both the climate and health (Bond et al., 2004; Smith et al., 2004). Roughly 10%–38% of the carbon contained in fuels is not completely combusted when used in simple cooking technologies (Zhang et al., 2000). The

carbon that is not converted into CO<sub>2</sub> is instead emitted as products of incomplete combustion (PICs) that contain potent health-damaging pollutants. We measured household level particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations over the same 72 hours of the KPT. To measure PM<sub>2.5</sub>, we used the University of California, Berkeley (UCB) Particle and Temperature Sensor, which is a small, portable data logging device (a modified commercial smoke detector) that uses an optical scattering sensor to measure real-time PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations.<sup>8</sup>

### *E. Long-Term Stove Usage*

We revisited households approximately 3.5 years after they initially received their Envirofit stoves. The survey team made quick, unannounced, observation visits in November 2015 to see whether Envirofit stoves were still in use. The purpose of the visits was to observe which stoves were in use at the time of the visit, examine Envirofits and three-stone fire locations for obvious signs of use (smoke stains, black soot, etc.), and ask a series of short qualitative consumer satisfaction questions about the different stove types. We observed 82% (137 of 168) of the households.

## **III. Specification**

We analyzed wood usage (kg/day), daily household air pollution (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations, and stove usage. Recall that there were four study waves with different levels of stove ownership: (1) households that had two three-stone fires; (2) early buyers who had received an Envirofit and late buyers who had only their three-stone fires; (3) both groups of buyers that had one Envirofit; (4) both groups

<sup>8</sup>The UCB Particle Monitor User Manual (Berkeley Air Monitoring Group and Indoor Air Pollution Team, School of Public Health, University of California 2010) details how to use these sensors.

of buyers that had received a second Envirofit. Due to budgetary constraints, we could only run KPTs at phases (1), (2), and (4). Thus, for outcomes measured in KPTs (wood usage, PM2.5), the regression specification using data from study waves (1), (2), and (4) was as follows:

$$(1) Y_{ipt} = \alpha_{ip} + b_0 * T_i + b_1 * \text{Early\_have\_Envirofit}_t + b_2 * \text{Both\_have\_two\_Envirofits}_t + \beta_1 (T_i * \text{Early\_have\_Envirofit}_t) + \beta_2 (T_i * \text{Both\_have\_two\_Envirofits}_t) + \epsilon_{ipt},$$

where  $Y_{ipt}$  is daily wood use or daily PM2.5 concentrations for household  $i$  for parish  $p$  in study wave  $t$ ,  $\alpha_{ip}$  are fixed effects for each household,  $\text{Early\_have\_Envirofit}_t$  and  $\text{Both\_have\_two\_Envirofits}_t$  are dummies for the study wave, and  $T_i$  is a dummy equal to one if, in the early treatment group,  $\epsilon_{ipt}$  is a residual that may be clustered by the parish \* study wave but is assumed to be independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) within a parish and study wave. The coefficients of interest are  $\beta_1$  (the effect of being in the early buyer group during the study wave [2], or the effect of owning an Envirofit while the comparison group has only three-stone fires), and  $\beta_2$  (the effect of being in the early buyer group during study wave [4], or the effect of owning your first Envirofit for approximately 4 weeks longer than the comparison group when both groups own two Envirofits).

We also ran this equation without household fixed effects, but our preferred specification included them. The household fixed effect controls for unobserved characteristics of the household, such as the talent and cooking style of the household cook, and structural features of the kitchen, such as windows or ventilation. Because particulate matter has extreme positive outliers, we analyzed the natural log of PM2.5 (as is typical in studies that examine PM2.5). We also

top and bottom coded PM2.5 at the 2nd and 98th percentiles, and top coded wood usage at the 98th percentile.

For stove usage, we had data for both during and between the three weekly periods when we measured wood usage and PM2.5. Thus, the regression specification for the SUM usage data was:

$$(2) Y_{ipt} = \alpha_{ip} + b_0 * T_i + b_1 * \text{Early\_have\_Envirofit}_t + b_2 * \text{Both\_have\_Envirofit}_t + b_3 * \text{Both\_have\_two\_Envirofits}_t + \beta_1 (T_i * \text{Early\_have\_Envirofit}_t) + \beta_2 (T_i * \text{Both\_have\_Envirofit}_t) + \beta_3 (T_i * \text{Both\_have\_two\_Envirofits}_t) + \epsilon_{ipt},$$

where  $Y_{ipt}$  is daily three-stone fire or Envirofit usage derived from SUM readings for household  $i$  for parish  $p$  in study wave  $t$ ,  $\alpha_{ip}$  are fixed effects for each household,  $\text{Early\_have\_Envirofit}_t$ ,  $\text{Both\_have\_Envirofit}_t$ , and  $\text{Both\_have\_two\_Envirofits}_t$  are dummies for the study wave, and  $T_i$  is a dummy equal to one if, in the early treatment group.  $\epsilon_{ipt}$  is a residual that may be clustered by the parish \* study wave but is assumed to be i.i.d. within a parish and study wave. The coefficients of interest are  $\beta_1$  (the effect of being in the early buyer group during study wave [2], or the effect of owning an Envirofit while the comparison group has only three-stone fires),  $\beta_2$  (the effect of being in the early buyer group during study wave [3], or the effect of owning your first Envirofit for approximately 4 weeks longer than the comparison group which also owns one Envirofit), and  $\beta_3$  (the effect of being in the early buyer group during study wave [4], or the effect of owning your first Envirofit for approximately 4 weeks longer than the comparison group when both groups own two Envirofits).

#### A. Accounting for the Hawthorne Effect

Wood usage and PM data are only from field technicians' visits during the approximately 72-hour KPT measurement week. In a companion paper (Simons

et al. 2017), we found that there was a significant Hawthorne effect during those weeks.<sup>9</sup> In an attempt to account for this effect, we calculated differences in stove usage between weeks when observers were present and weeks when they were not present and adjusted wood and PM2.5 measures as follows.

Let the subscript *group* = early or late buyer, and let the superscript *wave* = the experimental wave (i.e., [1] households with two three-stone fires; [2] early buyers with an Envirofit and late buyers only with three-stone fires; [3] both groups of buyers with one Envirofit; and [4] both groups of buyers with two Envirofits). Our estimate of wood usage adjusted for the Hawthorne effect was:

$$(3) \Delta Adj\_Wood_{group}^{wave} = \Delta TSF\_Hours_{group}^{wave} * \left( \frac{TSF\_Wood}{hour} \right) + \Delta ENV\_Hours_{group}^{wave} * \left( \frac{ENV\_Wood}{hour} \right).$$

$\Delta TSF\_Hours$  and  $\Delta ENV\_Hours$  are the differences in hours cooked due to the Hawthorne effect on the three-stone fire (Envirofit) among those that own Envirofits. *TSF\_Wood* per hour is wood consumption from the first KPT (when no one had an Envirofit) divided by cooking on the three-stone fires during those days. We did not have any periods when households only had Envirofits. Thus, we used the laboratory results (Figure 2) indicating that *ENV\_Wood* per hour is half that of a three-stone fire.

<sup>9</sup>We compared stove usage in KPT weeks when observers were present with stove usage in adjacent weeks with no observers and found that participants increased usage of Envirofits by about 3.0 hours per day and decreased usage of the primary three-stone fires by about 1.8 hours per day during the endline KPT (when households owned two Envirofits), but then reverted to previous usage patterns once the observers left (Simons et al. 2017). Also, see Garland, Gould, and Pennise (2018) for an additional example of observer-induced behavioral differences in stove use during kitchen monitoring periods.



For PM concentrations, we followed the same technique, and the Hawthorne-adjusted PM2.5 generated for each group of buyers was:

$$(4) \Delta Adj\_PM2.5_{group}^{wave} = \Delta TSF\_Hours_{group}^{wave} * \left( \frac{TSF\_PM2.5\_Generated}{hour} \right) + \Delta ENV\_Hours_{group}^{wave} * \left( \frac{ENV\_PM2.5\_Generated}{hour} \right).$$

*TSF\_PM2.5\_Generated* per hour is calculated by dividing PM2.5 concentrations by three-stone fire use from the first kitchen performance test (when no one had an Envirofit). *ENV\_PM2.5\_Generated* per hour is from laboratory results (Figure 2).

Because we had sensor-based usage metrics that covered all weeks of the experiment, the estimates for changes in cooking behaviors (hours cooked per day on three-stone fires and Envirofits) from Eq. (2) were not likely affected by the observer-induced behavioral response.<sup>10</sup> However, because technicians were in homes to measure wood usage and PM2.5, we adjusted for the Hawthorne effect by using Eqs. (3) and (4).

## IV. Results

### A. Summary Statistics and Randomization Tests

Table 2 shows baseline summary statistics and balance tests for covariates. Randomization between early buyers and late buyers was successful. Only one difference among the 20 covariates was (weakly) statistically significantly different than zero. Participants who randomly received their Envirofits early had

<sup>10</sup>Observers (technicians) were only present in households in three 72-hour periods over the 18 weeks that sensors measured stove usage.

a higher value of assets (US\$1,158 vs. US\$905) ( $p=0.08$ ). Control households used approximately 9.3 kg of daily wood, had an average PM<sub>2.5</sub> reading of 414.3  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in their kitchens, and cooked for about 6.2 people.

Households used their first Envirofit about 4.3 hours per day and their second Envirofit about 2.9 hours per day (Table 3).

### *B. Effects of Envirofits on Fuel Use and Pollution*

We began by analyzing the causal impact of the introduced Envirofit stove on wood usage (Table 4) during our experiment. In the pre-intervention period, the control group used about 9.3 kg of wood/day (Table 2, column 1); these usage rates fell when the early group had one Envirofit (-1.9 kg/day,  $p<0.01$ , Table 4, column 1) and when both groups had two Envirofits (-2.5 kg/day,  $p<0.01$ , Table 4, column 1), but there were no statistically significantly different rates of reduction for those that had received their Envirofit in the early group. In our preferred specification, with household fixed effects (column 2), the early receipt of an Envirofit was causally associated with a change of about -1.1 kg/day, ( $p<0.1$ ). This reduction in wood consumption was a modest reduction of about 12% from the pre-intervention control group wood usage level. When all owned two Envirofits, both groups reduced their wood usage by about 2.5 kg/day ( $p<0.01$ ) or 27%, relative to the pre-intervention control group, with no statistically significant difference between groups.

In Table 5, we present the causal effects of the introduction of Envirofit stoves on household air pollution concentrations. Pre-intervention, the control group had a daily concentration of PM of about 414  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (Table 2, column 1). In our preferred specification with household fixed effects (Table 5, column 2), the introduction of the first Envirofit reduced PM concentrations by 12% ( $p<.01$ ) compared to the control group. When both groups had two Envirofits, both groups

reduced PM by about 10% ( $p < 0.1$ ) with no difference between groups. That is, having the first Envirofit longer did not result in detectably different pollution levels once both groups had received two Envirofits.

### *C. Effects of Envirofits on Cooking Behaviors*

Next, we examined the effects of the introduction of Envirofits on daily time spent cooking on the existing three-stone fires. We had stove usage data for much longer periods than the three kitchen measurement periods. We estimated how the daily hours cooked on each stove varied over the entire 18 weeks of the study period (Table 6, based on Eq. 2). Figure 3 summarizes stove usage by study phase. A weekly time series of stove usage is shown Figures 4 and 5.<sup>11</sup>

Total usage on both three-stone fires was 12.7 hours per day by the control group in the sample of all weeks prior to Envirofit introduction. In our preferred specification (Table 6, column 2), the causal estimates were that the introduction of the first Envirofit reduced cooking on three-stone fires by about 3.7 hours per day ( $p < 0.01$ ). This was a reduction of about 30% from the control group prior to the introduction of the first Envirofit.

When late buyers received their first Envirofit (Table 6, column 2), we saw a reduction in use of the three-stone fires among late buyers by 3.1 hours per day ( $p < 0.01$ ) (about 25%); however, at the same time, we saw an increase in three-stone fire use of about 2.9 hours per day ( $p < 0.01$ ) (about 23%) in the early buyers (who had owned their Envirofits about 4 weeks longer than the late buyers). It is unclear why these differed in direction, though one possibility is that, after initial experimentation with the Envirofit, the early group had decided to use their three-stone fires more, while the late group continued to experiment with the new

<sup>11</sup>See Appendix Figures A1 and A2 for the daily time series of stove use by early and late buyers, respectively.

Envirofit. This difference appears to have resolved itself once both groups received their second Envirofit (Table 6, column 2), as combined use of the three-stone fires declined by about 5.2 hours per day ( $p < 0.01$ , with no statistically significant difference if households received their first Envirofit earlier or later). This was a reduction of about 41% in three-stone fire use once both Envirofits were introduced. In short, even with two Envirofit stoves, most households continued to use their three-stone fires regularly.

#### *D. Adjusting for the Hawthorne Effect*

To adjust for this effect, we calculated the change in three-stone fire and Envirofit hours cooked in the measurement week compared to all weeks.<sup>12</sup> To do this for three-stone fires, we ran the regression for the effect of the Envirofit on hours cooked on three-stone fires, but restricted the sample to only observations during the measurement week (Table 7). The difference of the coefficients between Table 6 (all weeks) and Table 7 (only measurement weeks) was the delta three-stone fire hours used in Eqs. (3) and (4). To calculate the change in hours cooked on Envirofits, we ran similar regressions, but instead used hours cooked on the Envirofit as the dependent variable (Table 8 [all weeks] and Table 9 [measurement weeks]).

Use of three-stone fires fell by 6.4 hours per day when the first Envirofit was delivered, when only looking at the week when the KPTs were performed (Table 7, column 2), versus 3.7 hours per day over the entire period with sensors (Table 6, column 2). Usage of the Envirofit was roughly 3.8 hours per day when the first

<sup>12</sup>Note that this is one option for addressing the Hawthorne effect. As this is not a methodological paper, we only show this option, but we realize that other options are reasonable (e.g., only use one week before/after observers are present to adjust estimated use). Thus, we add the caveat that this method is only a rough estimation of the Hawthorne effect on differences in wood use and particulate matter.

Envirofit was delivered, when only looking at the kitchen measurement week (Table 9, column 3), versus 1.5 hours per day over the entire period with sensors (Table 8, column 3). This reduction in three-stone fire use and increase in Envirofit use was anticipated because the measurement weeks had the Hawthorne effect resulting from the daily visits of our enumerators (Simons et al. 2017).

Thus, we adjusted for the 2.6 hours per day increased use of three-stone fires and 2.4 hours per day (Table 10) decreased use of one Envirofit outside of the measurement week using Eqs. (3) and (4). This adjustment yielded a smaller estimated reduction in wood use: 1.7% (Table 11, first panel) as opposed to the unadjusted reduction of 11.6% (Table, 4, column 2). We also found a smaller reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub>: 0.3% (Table 11, second panel) instead of the unadjusted reduction of 12.0% (Table 5, column 2).

Next, we calculated the Hawthorne adjustment for the periods when participants had two Envirofits. Use of three-stone fires fell 10.2 hours per day when participants had two Envirofits during the measurement week (Table 7, column 2), versus 5.2 hours per day during the entire period with sensors (Table 6, column 2). Use of the Envirofits was 6.8 hours per day during the measurement week (Table 9, columns 3 and 5), versus 3.7 hours per day during the entire period with sensors (Table 8, columns 3 and 5).<sup>13</sup> Therefore, we adjusted for the 5.1 hours per day increased use of the three-stone fires and 3.1 hours per day (Table 10) decreased use of two Envirofits outside of the measurement week using Eqs. (3) and (4). The estimate of daily wood use changed from an unadjusted reduction of 26.7% to a reduction of 2.5% after the adjustment (Table 11, panel one). The estimate of daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations changed from an

<sup>13</sup>We calculated total Envirofit cooking as the sum of cooking on the first Envirofit plus the cooking on the second Envirofit individually, because only about 60% of the households had any combined readings from both SUM devices during the final measurement week.

unadjusted reduction of 10.0% to an increase of 18.3% after the adjustment (Table 11, panel two).

### *E. Long-term Usage*

We made unannounced visits to measure stove usage approximately 3.5 years after the initial Envirofit stoves were distributed. Approximately 82% of the original households were home when we visited.

At the exact moment our enumerators arrived, about 48% (66 out of 137) of the households were actively cooking (Table 10). Among those, only 9% (6 out of 66) were cooking with an Envirofit stove. Enumerators asked the 131 households that were not cooking on the Envirofit when enumerators arrived if they could inspect their Envirofit to see obvious signs of use, such as black soot or fresh ashes in the stove (Figure 6 shows an example of a stove with obvious signs of use). Among those households, 65% had an Envirofit with obvious signs of use, 17% had Envirofits stored that were clearly not being used, 2% had Envirofits that were still in perfect condition (essentially never used), 8% said their Envirofit was damaged and disposed of, and a final 8% said they had given the stove away. Next, enumerators asked households to see their second Envirofit to determine if it had signs of use. Among this sample, 25% had a second Envirofit with obvious signs of use, 11% had their second Envirofit stored with limited signs of use, 9% had a second Envirofit that had never been used, 38% reported they had given the second Envirofit away as a gift, and 16% said the second Envirofit was damaged and they disposed of it.

Among all households visited (N=137), 23% reported that they still used both Envirofits, 50% said they used only one Envirofit, and 27% said they had stopped using Envirofits completely. Given that the share of participants who stated that they continued to use one or both Envirofits was so much higher than the share

we actually observed using an Envirofit, we suspected these self-reports were biased.

Enumerators also asked all households if they had to purchase a stove today, would they purchase an Envirofit. Among respondents, 79% said they would purchase an Envirofit, and 15% said they would not purchase an Envirofit, with the remaining households unsure. Given that the share that stated a willingness to repurchase was greater than the share using the Envirofit, we suspected this self-report was biased.

Enumerators then asked open-ended response questions as to the reasons for those hypothetical purchase decisions. The most popular responses among those that would buy another Envirofit were that the stove saved fuel and reduced household time collecting fuel, the stove cooked fast, the stove was easily portable, and the stove produced less smoke than a three-stone fire. Among those that said they would not purchase another Envirofit, the most popular responses were that the preparation of firewood was difficult for Envirofits (needed smaller pieces of wood than a three-stone fire), the stove did not simmer food, the stove was too small for the household's cooking needs, it was hard to prepare some traditional meals on the stove, and the stove was hard to light.

#### *F. Rebound Effects*

Rebound effects occur when improvements in energy efficiency make consuming energy less expensive and therefore encourage increased consumption of energy (see review in Sorrell, Dimitropoulos, and Sommerville [2009]). While we did not have fuel cost data to formally estimate a rebound effect, we examined stove use graphically, as shown in Figure 3, which suggested the presence of a rebound effect. When households first received an Envirofit, they reduced three-stone fire usage. However, by the end of our tracking period, Envirofit usage had

increased more than three-stone fire use had decreased. The aggregate time all stoves were in use increased by about 20% throughout the period that we tracked stove temperatures.

## V. Discussion and Conclusion

This study was the first randomized trial that collected detailed stove usage metrics among households that paid market prices for their stoves. We found a slight reduction in wood use (-11.6%) and PM2.5 concentrations (-12.0%) after the introduction of one Envirofit, but this reduction mostly vanished if we adjusted for the Hawthorne effect.

Despite our selection of a sample that paid market price for their fuel-efficient stove, it did not appear that usage rates of the new stove were markedly different than studies that offered highly subsidized stoves. For example, in Pillarisetti et al. (2014), which also used temperature sensors to track detailed stove level usage, households received fuel-efficient stoves for free and ended up using their traditional stoves about 75% of the time and the introduced fuel-efficient stove about 25% of the time. Our results were very similar, with roughly 67% of cooking done on the three-stone fires and 33% on fuel-efficient surfaces by the end of our study. Hanna, Duflo, and Greenstone (2016) did not gather stove use monitor data; however, their conclusion was that fuel-efficient stove use was enough to reduce indoor air pollution in the initial phase of their experiment, but that in the longer term, poor maintenance of the stoves led to an elimination of the air pollution benefits. Our results were similar, except that, in our follow-up, it did not appear that a lack of stove durability was the cause of limited stove use.

A second innovation in our study was to see if households would fully switch from the traditional smoky cookstove, if given a second Envirofit. Despite the second fuel-efficient cooking surface, households continued to mostly use the



traditional cookstove. Almost all households used both three-stone fires and fuel-efficient stoves in daily cooking. It appeared that households used the fuel-efficient stove to heat things that cook relatively quickly, such as boiling water to make tea and sauces. They preferred three-stone fires for low-heat cooking, such as simmering dishes like beans and cooking bananas. It appeared that the ability to modulate the stove's temperature would be a valued feature for cooks.

Our third contribution was measuring the bias caused by observer-induced bias, or the Hawthorne effect. By collecting stove temperature data when technicians were in the home and comparing it to times they were not in the home, we found that households cooked about 2.5 hours per day more on the Envirofit and 2.5 hours less per day on three-stone fires when observers were present and then switched back to previous patterns once the observers had left. We found reductions in wood use (-11.6%) and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (-12.0%) after the introduction of one Envirofit, but once we adjusted for the different behavior when observers were present, this reduction was almost zero.

In regard to desired health impacts, particulate matter would need to have declined by more than 90% from pre-intervention levels to reach WHO targets for household air pollution. Throughout the study period, three-stone fire use fell by about 2.5 hours a day, but this was more than offset by about 5 hours a day of new cooking on the introduced stoves. This increase in total cooking time diminishes the environmental and household air pollution benefits compared to those shown in the laboratory results. While any reduction in particulate matter was likely beneficial for households,<sup>14</sup> fuel-efficient wood stoves such as these will not be adequate to reach safe levels of household air pollution. Thus, policies that assist

<sup>14</sup>Emerging evidence shows that small reductions in PM<sub>2.5</sub> can have benefits in especially vulnerable subpopulations. For example, even a small reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> can reduce adverse pregnancy outcomes (Alexander et al. 2018) and improve growth in children under the age of two years (Lafave et al. 2018).

consumers to shift to safe fuels such as gas or electricity—particularly when coupled with policies to disable smoky indoor stoves—should take on increased importance.

## APPENDIX A

The details presented here summarize our previous research on how we converted temperature readings into stove usage metrics (Harrell et al. 2016; Simons et al. 2014, 2018).

### *A. Placement of SUMs*

SUMs must be close enough to the heat source to capture changes in temperatures, but not so close that they exceed 85°C, the maximum temperature the SUMs used in this study can record before they overheat and malfunction. We do not need to recover the exact temperature of the hottest part of the fire to learn about cooking behaviors. Even with SUMs that are reading temperatures 20–30 cm from the center of the fire, as long as the temperature readings for times when stoves are in use are largely different than times when stoves are not used, the logistic regression will be able to predict a probability of usage.

SUMs for three-stone fires were placed in a SUM holder (Figure A3) and then placed under one of the stones in the three-stone fire (left panel, Figure A4). The SUMs for Envirofits were attached using duct tape and wire and placed at the base of the stove behind the intake location for the firewood (right panel, Figure A4). Figure A5 shows an example of SUM temperature data for a household over about three weeks. The left panel shows the temperatures registered in a three-stone fire versus the ambient temperature also recorded with SUMs in this household, while the right panel compares the temperature of the Envirofit to the ambient temperature reading.

### *B. Visual Observations of Use*

Each time data collection personnel visited a household; they observed which stoves were in use (whether the stove was “on” or “off,” along with the date and timestamp recorded digitally via a handheld device). Enumerators visited each household several times during a “measurement week,” when they also enumerated a survey and weighed wood for the KPT. Another enumerator visited once every 4 to 6 weeks to download data and reset the SUM devices.

### *C. Generating an Algorithm*

We matched the observations of stove use to SUM temperature data by time- and date stamps. At the core of our method was a logistic regression using the lags and leads of the SUM temperature data to predict visual observations of stove usage. We tested 10 specifications of differing combinations of current, lagged, and leading temperature readings (Simons et al. 2014).

In order to determine which of the models was most appropriate, we tested the 10 specifications with the Akaike information criterion (AIC) (Akaike 1981). The AIC trades off goodness of fit of the model with the complexity of the model to guard against over-fitting.

The preferred specification included the temperature reading closest to the time of the observation, the readings 60 and 30 minutes prior, and 60 and 30 minutes after the observation of use, and a control for hour of the day. This regression specification correctly predicted 89.3% of three-stone fire observations and 93.8% of Envirofit observations of stove usage. We then compared our algorithm to other previously published algorithms (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2012; Ruiz-Mercado, Canuz, and Smith 2012). Those algorithms focused on defining

“discrete” cooking events based on rapid temperature slope increases and elevated stove temperatures, followed by a cooling off period. We applied those algorithms to the temperature data we had collected and found our logistic regression correctly classified more observations, with a higher pseudo R-squared, than any other algorithm for both three-stone fires and the Envirofits.

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**Figure 1**

Comparison of wood burning stoves: three stone fire versus Envirofit G-3300



(a) Three Stone Fire



(b) Envirofit G-3300

**Figure 2**  
 Certified Emissions and Performance Report for Envirofit G3300

April 27, 2011



DEPARTMENT OF  
 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

1374 CAMPUS DELIVERY  
 FORT COLLINS, CO  
 80523-1374  
 970.491.4796  
 970.491.4799 (F)  
 WWW.EECL.COLOSTATE.EDU

**Emissions and Performance Report**

The stove listed below has been tested in accordance with the “*Emissions and Performance Test Protocol*”, with emissions measurements based on the biomass stove testing protocol developed by Colorado State University (available at [www.eecl.colostate.edu](http://www.eecl.colostate.edu)). Percent improvements are calculated from three-stone fire performance data collected at Colorado State University.

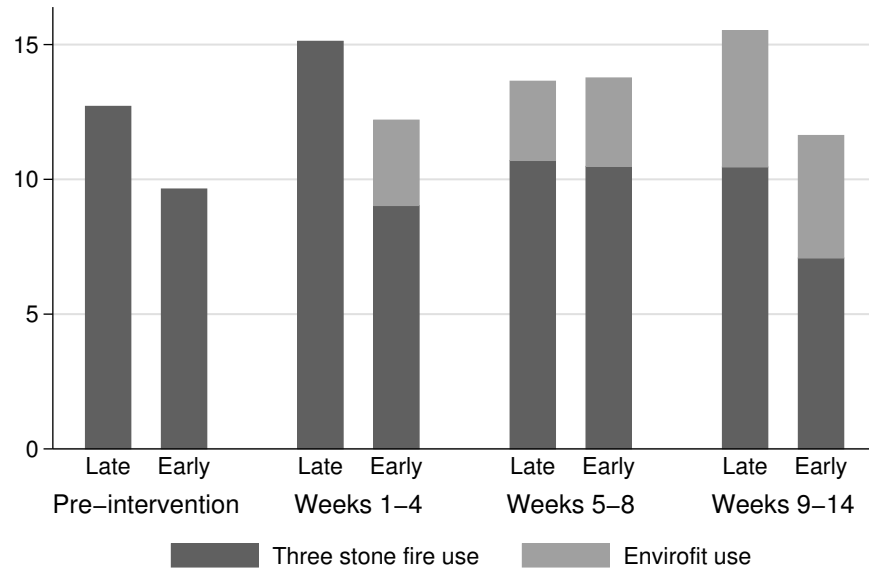
<b>Stove Manufacturer:</b>	<b>Envirofit International</b>
<b>Stove Model:</b>	<b>G-3300</b>
<b>Test Dates:</b>	<b>4/4/2011-4/22/2011</b>
<b>Average CO emissions (grams):</b>	<b>18.7</b>
<b>80% Confidence Interval:</b>	<b>17.7-19.7</b>
<b>Percent Improvement:</b>	<b>65.30%</b>
<b>Average PM emissions (milligrams):</b>	<b>995</b>
<b>80% Confidence Interval:</b>	<b>944-1046</b>
<b>Percent Improvement:</b>	<b>51.20%</b>
<b>Average Fuel use (grams):</b>	<b>596.7</b>
<b>80% Confidence Interval:</b>	<b>591.6-601.7</b>
<b>Percent Improvement:</b>	<b>50.10%</b>
<b>Average Thermal efficiency:</b>	<b>32.6</b>
<b>80% Confidence Interval:</b>	<b>32.3-32.8</b>
<b>Percent Improvement:</b>	<b>105.20%</b>
<b>High Power (kW):</b>	<b>3.3</b>
<b>80% Confidence Interval:</b>	<b>3.3-3.4</b>
<b>Low Power (kW):</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>80% Confidence Interval:</b>	<b>1.8-1.9</b>

The above results are certified by the Engines and Energy Conversion Laboratory at Colorado State University. All claims beyond the above data are the responsibility of the manufacturer.

**Morgan DeFoort**  
 EECL Co-Director  
 Technical Lead, Biomass Stoves Testing Program

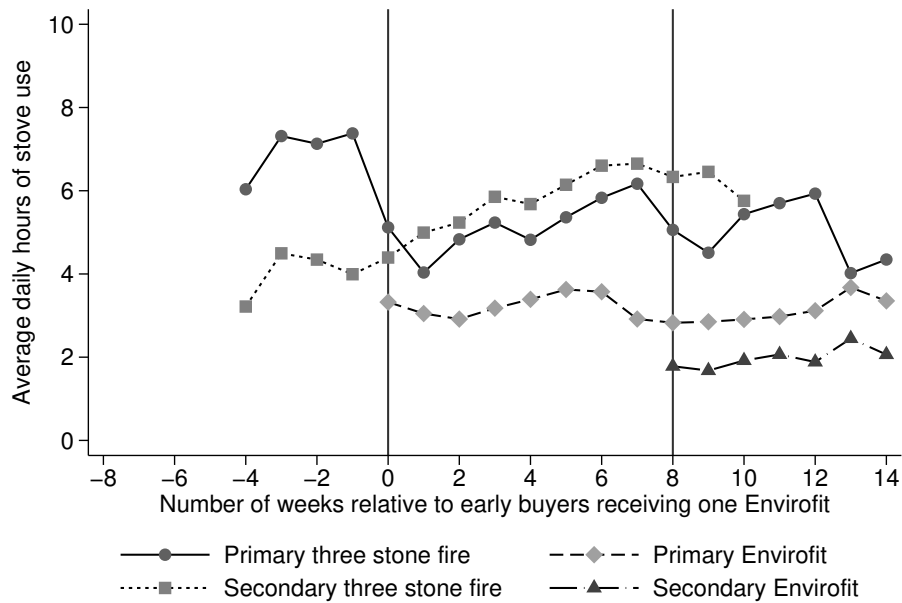
*Note:* The report can be downloaded at <http://www.envirofit.org/images/products/pdf/g3300/G3300Cert.pdf>

**Figure 3**  
Average Daily Stove Use



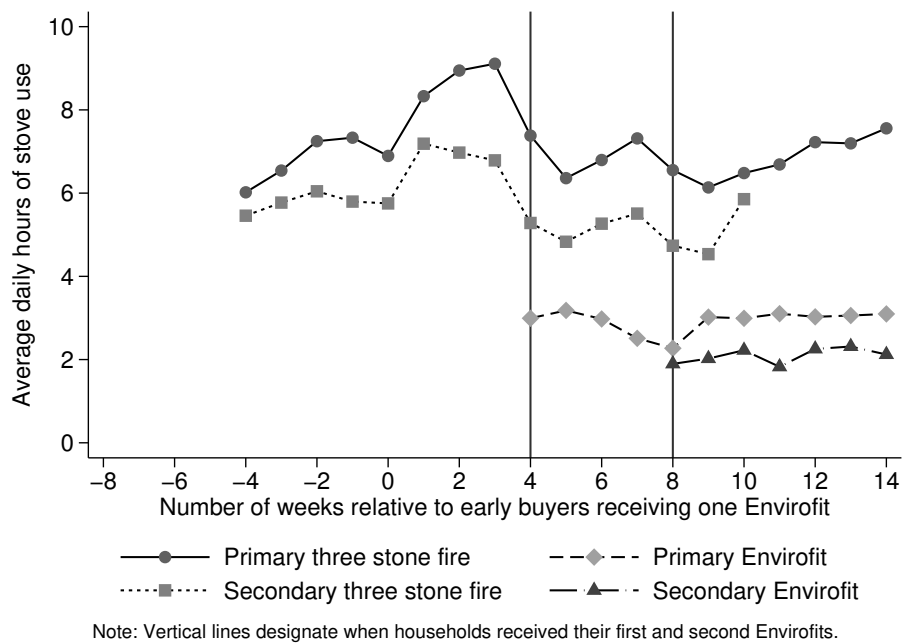
Note: Pre-intervention (4 weeks) no Envirofits; Weeks 1-4 early buyers have one Envirofit; Weeks 5-8 all have one Envirofit; Weeks 9-14 all have two Envirofits.

**Figure 4**  
Weekly Stove Use of Early Buyers



Note: Vertical lines designate when households received their first and second Envirofits.

**Figure 5**  
Weekly Stove Use of Late Buyers



**Figure 6**  
Envirofit Stove with Obvious Signs of Use (from Long Term Usage Study in Nov. 2015)



**Table 1**  
Timeline of Experimental Rollout

<b>Approximate Timing</b>	<b>Event</b>
Weeks -4 to week 0	Stove use monitoring (SUMs) begins on two three stone fires
Week 0	Baseline kitchen performance tests (wood weighting) and particulate matter (PM2.5) monitoring*
End of week 0	Deliver first Envirofit to early buyers
Weeks 1-4	SUMs monitoring continues
Week 4	Midline kitchen performance test and PM2.5 monitoring*
End of week 4	Deliver first Envirofit to late buyers (now all participants have one Envirofit)
Weeks 4-8	SUMs monitoring continues
Week 8	Deliver second Envirofit to both early and late buyers
Weeks 8-14	SUMS monitoring continues**
Week 14	Endline kitchen performance test and PM2.5 monitoring*
3.5 years later	Long-term usage follow up

**Note:** Measurement dates and timing are approximate as roll-out was staggered across the 14 parishes. Stove usage monitors (SUMs) were on all Envirofit stoves and usually on two three stone fires per household.

\*Each measurement week (weeks 0, 4, 8) involved three 24-hour periods with wood weighing and particulate matter (PM2.5) monitors.

\*\*After we delivered the second Envirofit stove in week 8 we had a shortage of SUMs, so some homes only had a SUM on one three stone fire.

**Table 2**  
Baseline summary statistics and balance of covariates

	Control Mean	Control SD	Treatment Mean	Treatment SD	Difference	p-value	N
<i>Household demographics</i>							
Female respondent (share)	0.68	0.47	0.73	0.45	0.05	0.38	164
Age of respondent	44.06	13.46	40.38	12.29	-3.68	0.14	163
Married (share)	0.78	0.42	0.77	0.43	-0.01	0.85	164
Wife is primary cook (share)	0.94	0.24	0.92	0.28	-0.02	0.60	164
Spouses make decisions jointly (share)	0.57	0.50	0.52	0.50	-0.05	0.52	164
<i>Socioeconomic status</i>							
Earns income (share)	0.92	0.28	0.88	0.33	-0.04	0.56	163
Self employed (share)	0.73	0.45	0.73	0.45	0.00	1.00	164
Year round employment (share)	0.52	0.50	0.49	0.50	-0.04	0.62	164
Identify as subsistence farmers (share)	0.85	0.36	0.85	0.36	0.00	1.00	164
Value of assets (USD)	905.10	1240.82	1158.37	1650.68	253.27	0.08	164
<i>Stove use and fuels</i>							
Number at largest daily meal	6.16	1.95	6.51	2.25	0.35	0.23	163
Always boils drinking water (share)	0.74	0.44	0.72	0.45	-0.02	0.69	164
Firewood primary fuel source (share)	0.94	0.24	0.95	0.22	0.01	0.81	164
Purchased firewood last month (share)	0.34	0.48	0.43	0.50	0.08	0.24	162
Gathered firewood last month (share)	0.82	0.39	0.81	0.39	-0.01	0.97	163
<i>Baseline cooking measurements</i>							
Daily hours cooked on primary three stone fire	7.30	6.75	8.14	7.21	0.84	0.47	118
Daily hours cooked on secondary three stone fire	5.91	6.41	4.51	5.68	-1.41	0.28	99
Daily hours cooked on all three stone fires	12.43	9.71	10.34	8.99	-2.10	0.34	91
Net wood used daily (weight in kg)	9.30	4.10	10.02	4.70	0.73	0.38	153
Average PM2.5 reading, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	414.30	240.84	372.66	228.91	-41.64	0.33	150
Number of households receiving offer	82		82				164

**Note:** Household data collected at parish wide sales meetings. We adjust standard errors for clustering at the parish level. To minimize the effect of outliers the value of assets and PM2.5 readings are top and bottom coded at 98% and 2% of the distribution while wood use is top coded at 98%. Daily hours cooked on all three stone fires is only calculated if non missing values exist for both the primary and secondary three stone fire. The prices used to calculate asset values are taken from the 2011-12 round of the Uganda Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS) published by the World Bank. Values presented are rounded to two decimal places, the value in the difference column is calculated prior to rounding.

**Table 3**  
Envirofit stove use

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.	N
<b><i>Early buyers have one Envirofit</i></b>					
Daily hours cooked on primary Envirofit	4.35	3.89	0.02	16.75	188
<b><i>All buyers have two Envirofits</i></b>					
Daily hours cooked on primary Envirofit	4.25	3.68	0	16.23	198
Daily hours cooked on secondary Envirofit	2.91	3.5	0	16.93	198
Daily hours cooked on all Envirofits	7.17	4.79	0.26	24.59	198

Note: This table only includes data from weeks with a kitchen performance test when households had one or two Envirofits.

**Table 4**  
Effect of the Envirofit on daily wood used for cooking

Dependent variable = kg. of wood used daily		
VARIABLES	(1) OLS	(2) FE
Treatment	0.72 (0.72)	
Early buyers have one Envirofit	-1.86*** (0.60)	-1.73*** (0.56)
All buyers have two Envirofits	-2.48*** (0.68)	-2.48*** (0.66)
Treatment x Early buyers have one Envirofit	-0.95 (0.85)	-1.08* (0.56)
Treatment x All buyers have two Envirofits	-0.46 (0.88)	-0.55 (0.59)
Constant	12.40*** (0.46)	
Observations	1,116	1,116
R-squared	0.15	0.42
Number of household fixed effects		163

Standard errors clustered at parish-wave level in parentheses

\*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

Note: Wood weights are top coded at 98%. OLS regressions include parish fixed effects.

**Table 5**  
Effect of the Envirofit on daily PM concentrations

Dependent variable = natural log daily PM concentrations

VARIABLES	(1) OLS	(2) FE
Treatment	-0.02 (0.03)	
Early buyers have one Envirofit	0.12** (0.05)	0.12** (0.05)
All buyers have two Envirofits	-0.10** (0.04)	-0.10* (0.05)
Treatment x Early buyers have one Envirofit	-0.13* (0.07)	-0.12** (0.06)
Treatment x All buyers have two Envirofits	-0.02 (0.06)	-0.02 (0.06)
Constant	6.57*** (0.07)	
Observations	1,242	1,242
R-squared	0.87	0.92
Number of household fixed effects		164

Standard errors clustered at parish-wave level in parentheses

\*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

Note: OLS regression includes parish fixed effects and all regressions include PM monitor fixed effects. PM2.5 readings are top and bottom coded at 98% and 2% of the distribution prior to taking the natural log.



**Table 6**

Effect of the Envirofit on daily hours cooked on three stone fires - all weeks

Dependent variable = daily hours cooked on all (cols. 1 and 2),  
primary (cols. 3 and 4), or secondary (cols. 5 and 6) three stone fire(s)

VARIABLES	(1) OLS	(2) FE	(3) OLS	(4) FE	(5) OLS	(6) FE
Treatment	-2.58 (2.47)		0.26 (1.36)		-1.86 (1.22)	
Weeks 1-4 (Early buyers have one Envirofit)	1.80 (1.79)	1.96** (0.83)	1.28 (1.00)	1.49* (0.84)	0.82 (0.82)	1.22*** (0.32)
Weeks 5-8 (All buyers have one Envirofit)	-2.72 (1.82)	-3.09*** (0.95)	0.34 (1.19)	0.42 (0.88)	-0.73 (0.90)	-1.04** (0.42)
Weeks 9-14 (All buyers have two Envirofits)	-3.61* (2.08)	-5.15*** (1.53)	-0.45 (1.15)	-0.38 (0.91)	-0.13 (0.94)	-0.85 (0.62)
Treatment x Early buyers have one Envirofit	-3.16 (2.67)	-3.73*** (0.74)	-3.33** (1.60)	-3.68*** (1.12)	0.15 (1.37)	-0.58 (0.48)
Treatment x All buyers have one Envirofit	1.83 (2.78)	2.89*** (1.05)	-1.91 (1.86)	-1.77 (1.09)	2.96** (1.35)	3.07*** (0.78)
Treatment x All buyers have two Envirofits	-0.29 (3.18)	0.73 (1.75)	-1.47 (1.96)	-1.03 (1.25)	2.66 (1.68)	1.19 (1.07)
Constant	14.39*** (1.76)		5.63*** (0.92)		6.27*** (0.92)	
Observations	8,595	8,595	13,890	13,890	8,056	8,056
R-squared	0.13	0.58	0.10	0.45	0.08	0.52
Number of household fixed effects		144		160		146

Standard errors clustered at parish-wave level in parentheses

\*\*\* p&lt;0.01, \*\* p&lt;0.05, \* p&lt;0.1

Note: Data includes all weeks that temperature sensors were on stoves. OLS regressions include parish fixed effects.

**Table 7**

Effect of the Envirofit on daily hours cooked on three stone fires - measurement weeks

Dependent variable = daily hours cooked on all (cols. 1 and 2),  
primary (cols. 3 and 4), or secondary (cols. 5 and 6) three stone fire(s)

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	OLS	FE	OLS	FE	OLS	FE
Treatment	-1.93 (2.00)		0.78 (1.01)		-0.91 (1.14)	
Early buyers have one Envirofit	4.35** (1.93)	2.75 (1.95)	2.56** (1.16)	3.77*** (1.01)	2.17** (0.86)	1.55 (0.94)
All buyers have two Envirofits	-3.56 (2.85)	-10.20** (3.81)	-1.49 (1.19)	-0.86 (1.34)	1.06 (1.62)	0.94 (2.40)
Treatment x Early buyers have one Envirofit	-7.41*** (2.52)	-6.36*** (1.63)	-6.56*** (1.57)	-7.79*** (1.17)	-1.09 (1.49)	-1.07 (0.99)
Treatment x All buyers have two Envirofits	-3.16 (3.71)	3.38 (4.71)	-2.42 (1.83)	-2.53 (1.74)	1.71 (3.38)	0.30 (3.75)
Constant	12.36*** (1.62)		5.06*** (0.94)		6.73*** (0.79)	
Observations	571	571	941	941	555	555
R-squared	0.24	0.73	0.18	0.60	0.13	0.73
Number of household fixed effects		129		155		133

Standard errors clustered at parish-wave level in parentheses

\*\*\* p&lt;0.01, \*\* p&lt;0.05, \* p&lt;0.1

Note: This table only includes data from weeks with a kitchen performance test. OLS regressions include parish fixed effects.

**Table 8**

Effect of the Envirofit on daily hours cooked on Envirofit(s) - all weeks

Dependent variable = daily hours cooked on all (cols. 1 and 2),  
primary (cols. 3 and 4), or secondary (col. 5) Envirofit(s)

VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	OLS	FE	OLS	FE	OLS
Treatment	0.44 (0.35)		0.44 (0.55)		0.07 (0.35)
Weeks 5-8 (All buyers have one Envirofit)	-0.17 (0.27)	0.05 (0.26)	-0.09 (0.25)	-0.02 (0.21)	
Weeks 9-14 (All buyers have two Envirofits)	1.90*** (0.56)	2.24*** (0.54)	0.08 (0.50)	0.04 (0.33)	
Treatment x All buyers have two Envirofits	-0.76 (0.72)	-0.90 (0.56)	-0.22 (0.51)	-0.22 (0.29)	
Constant	1.59*** (0.43)		1.53** (0.64)		2.16*** (0.10)
Observations	6,853	6,853	8,923	8,923	2,957
R-squared	0.12	0.47	0.09	0.41	0.10
Number of household fixed effects		130		152	

Standard errors clustered at parish-wave level in parentheses

\*\*\* p&lt;0.01, \*\* p&lt;0.05, \* p&lt;0.1

Note: Data includes all weeks that temperature sensors were on stoves. OLS regressions include parish fixed effects. The constant in column (1) corresponds to the period when early buyers owned one Envirofit.

**Table 9**

Effect of the Envirofit on daily hours cooked on Envirofit(s) - measurement weeks

Dependent variable = daily hours cooked on all (cols. 1 and 2),  
primary (cols. 3 and 4), or secondary (col. 5) Envirofit(s)

VARIABLES	(1) OLS	(2) FE	(3) OLS	(4) FE	(5) OLS
Treatment	-0.01 (0.77)		0.21 (0.66)		0.65 (0.48)
All buyers have two Envirofits	2.71*** (0.65)	3.08*** (0.81)	0.10 (0.54)	-0.36 (0.57)	
Constant	3.97*** (0.77)		3.75*** (0.66)		3.00*** (0.14)
Observations	390	390	482	482	256
R-squared	0.16	0.66	0.05	0.57	0.12
Number of household fixed effects		105		129	

Standard errors clustered at parish-wave level in parentheses

\*\*\* p&lt;0.01, \*\* p&lt;0.05, \* p&lt;0.1

Note: This table only includes data from weeks with a kitchen performance tests. At midline treatment households owned one Envirofit and at endline all households owned two Envirofits. OLS regressions include parish fixed effects. The constant in column (1) corresponds to the period when early buyers owned one Envirofit.

**Table 10**

Adjustments for Hawthorne effect

	Change in TSF Hours (hr/day)	TSF wood usage (kg/hr)	Change in ENV Hours (hr/day)	ENV wood usage (kg/hr)	Adjustment for Wood (kg/day)
Midline (Early Buyers)	2.63	0.64	-2.38	0.32	0.92
Endline (All Buyers)	5.05	0.64	-3.06	0.32	2.25

	Change in TSF Hours (hr/day)	TSF PM2.5 ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per hr)	Change in ENV Hours (hr/day)	ENV PM2.5 ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per hr)	Adjustment for PM2.5 ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per day)
Midline (Early Buyers)	2.63	32.95	-2.38	16.08	48.39
Endline (All Buyers)	5.05	32.95	-3.06	16.08	117.19

**Note:** Stove users used three stone fires less and Envirofit stoves more when observers were present, when observers departed they reversed these changes (Simons et al. (2017)). Therefore, to adjust for this observer induced behavior, we calculate the change in TSF hours per day as the difference in the coefficients when estimating the effect of the introduction of Envirofit(s) on TSF use only in the measurement week compared to all weeks (difference of coefficients between Table 6 and 7). The change in ENV hours per day is calculated as the difference in the coefficients when estimating the effect of the introduction of Envirofit(s) on ENV use only in the measurement week compared to all week (difference of coefficients between Table 8 and 9). Three stone fire wood (PM2.5) usage per hour calculated during first kitchen performance test when no one owned an Envirofit. Envirofit wood (PM2.5) usage per hour calculated using the laboratory results shown in the Emission and Performance Report (Figure 2) because we do not have any periods in our experimental setting when households only had Envirofits.

**Table 11**

Estimates of Wood Use and PM concentrations after Hawthorne Effect Adjustment

	Baseline Amount (kg/day)	Unadjusted Change (kg/day)	Unadjusted Change (%)	Adjustment (kg/day)	Adjusted Change (kg/day)	Adjusted Change (%)
Midline (Early Buyers)	9.30	-1.08	-11.6%	0.92	-0.16	-1.7%
Endline (All Buyers)	9.30	-2.48	-26.7%	2.25	0.48	-2.5%

	Baseline Amount ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per day)	Unadjusted Change ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per day)	Unadjusted Change (%)	Adjustment ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per day)	Adjusted Change ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ per day)	Adjusted Change (%)
Midline (Early Buyers)	414.30	-49.72	-12.0%	48.39	-1.33	-0.33%
Endline (All Buyers)	414.30	-41.43	-10.0%	117.19	75.76	18.3%

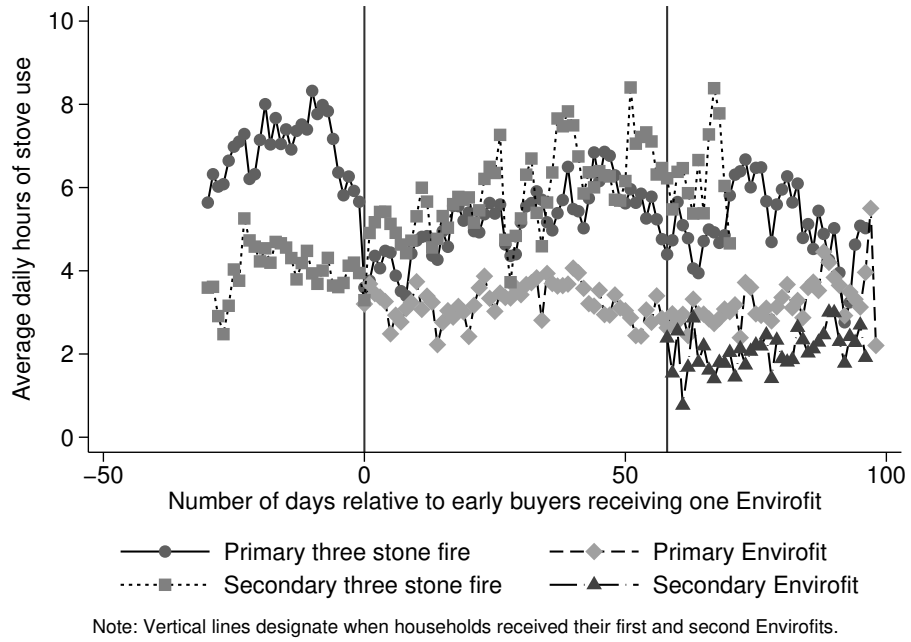
*Note:* Unadjusted estimates of the change in wood usage come from Table 4. Unadjusted estimates of the change in PM<sub>2.5</sub> come from Table 5. The adjustments are calculated in Table 10. Calculations for the adjusted changes are based on Equations 3 and 4. Baseline amounts come from Table 2.

**Table 12**

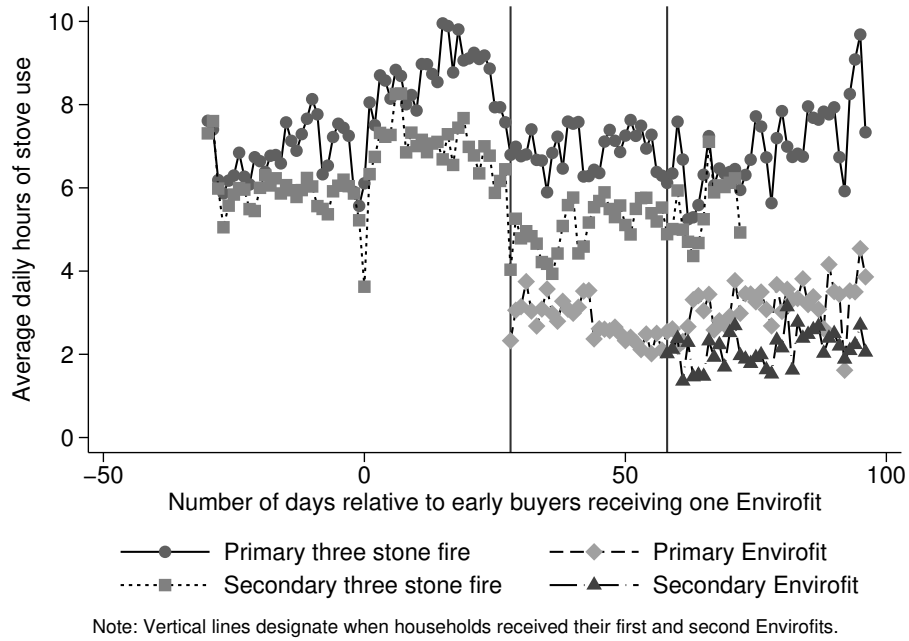
Long term usage study: unannounced home visit 3.5 years after initial Envirofits delivered

	N	%
Someone home for unannounced long term usage study	137	100.0%
Actively cooking in moment when enumerators arrived	66	100.0%
-among those, cooking on three stone fire only	52	78.8%
-among those, cooking on Envirofit only	6	9.1%
-among those, cooking on other (mud/charcoal) stove	8	12.1%
Among all households not using Envirofit when enumerators arrived, enumerators asked to see primary Envirofit stove for signs of use	131	100.0%
-primary Envirofit with obvious signs of use	85	64.9%
-primary Envirofit stored and clearly not being used	22	16.8%
-primary Envirofit stored and in perfect condition (basically never used)	3	2.3%
-primary Envirofit damaged and disposed of	11	8.4%
-primary Envirofit given away (condition unknown)	10	7.6%
Among all households that stated they received two Envirofits, enumerators asked to see secondary Envirofit stove for signs of use	129	100.0%
-secondary Envirofit with obvious signs of use	32	24.8%
-secondary Envirofit stored and clearly not being used	14	10.9%
-secondary Envirofit stored and in perfect condition (basically never used)	12	9.3%
-secondary Envirofit damaged and disposed of	21	16.3%
-secondary Envirofit given away (condition unknown)	49	38.0%
Asked: "Do you still use the Envirofit stove?"	137	100.0%
-"I still use both Envirofits"	31	22.6%
-"I still use only one Envirofit"	69	50.4%
-"I have stopped using Envirofits"	37	27.0%
Asked: "If you bought a new stove today, would you purchase an Envirofit?"	137	100.0%
-Yes	108	78.8%
-No	21	15.3%
-Unsure or no response	8	5.8%

**Figure A1**  
Daily stove use of early buyers



**Figure A2**  
Daily stove use of late buyers



**Figure A3**

SUM holder designed to encase the stove use monitor to protect it from malfunctions when exceeding temperatures of 85 degrees Celsius



**Figure A4**

Arrows mark the placement of SUMs on three stone fire and Envirofit



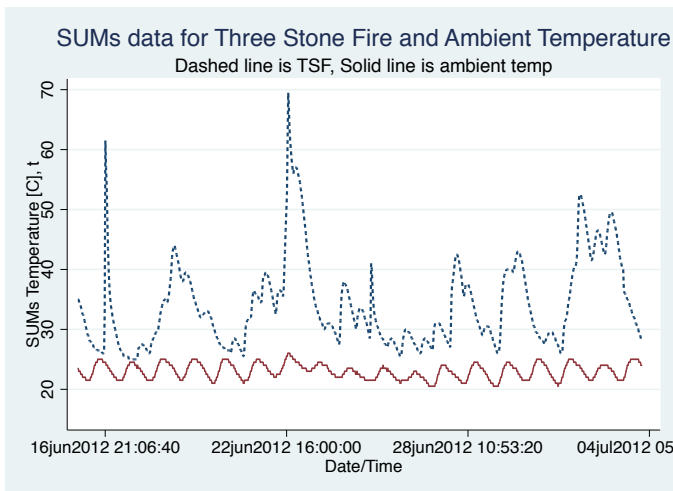
(a) Three Stone Fire



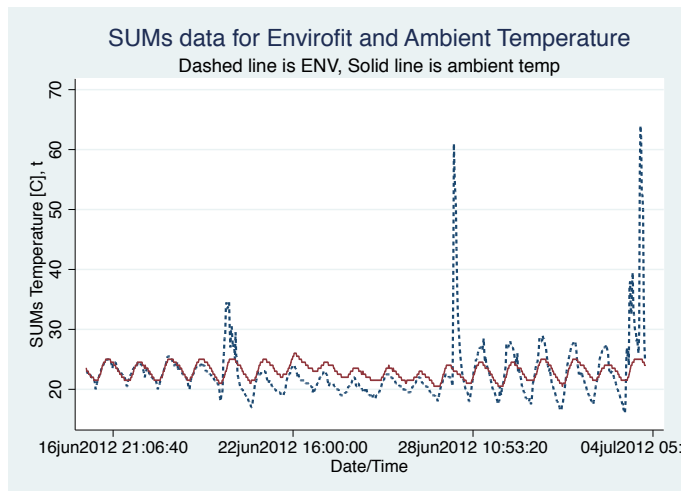
(b) Envirofit

**Figure A5**

Example of household level SUMs temperature data in same household at same times



(a) Three Stone Fire



(b) Envirofit