



Carbon footprint of implementing rainwater harvesting system in different building types

Jay Devkota, Robert Phillips, Kelley Davis, David Martin and Defne Apul



The University of Manchester



Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

Outline

Urban Water Management Practice and Issues

Alternatives and Research Needs

Methodology

Results and Discussions

Conclusion

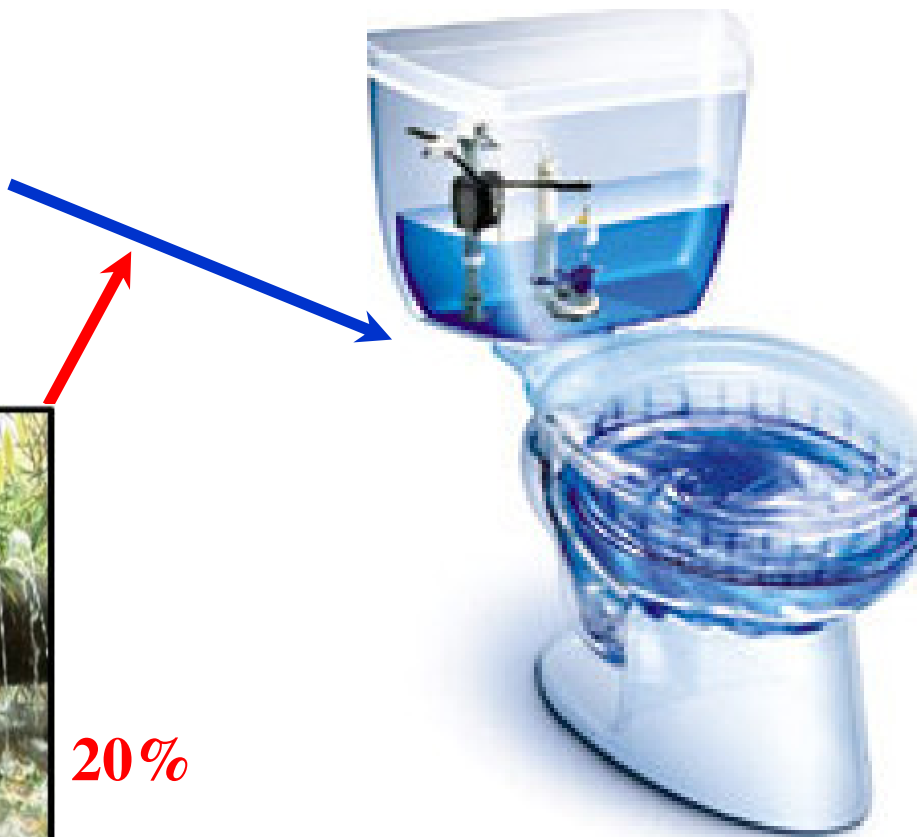
Urban Water Management Practice

Is This Sustainable?

Water
Infrastructure



20%

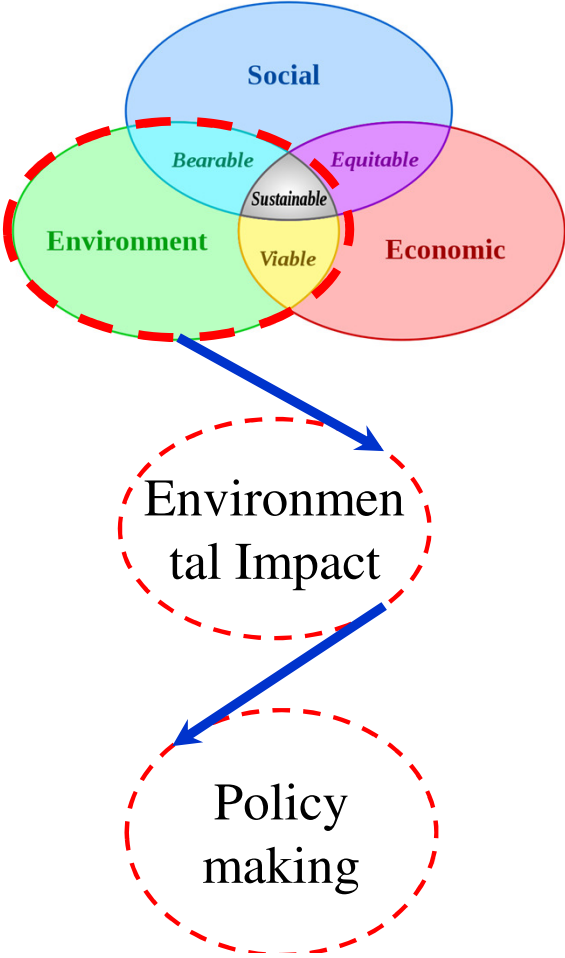
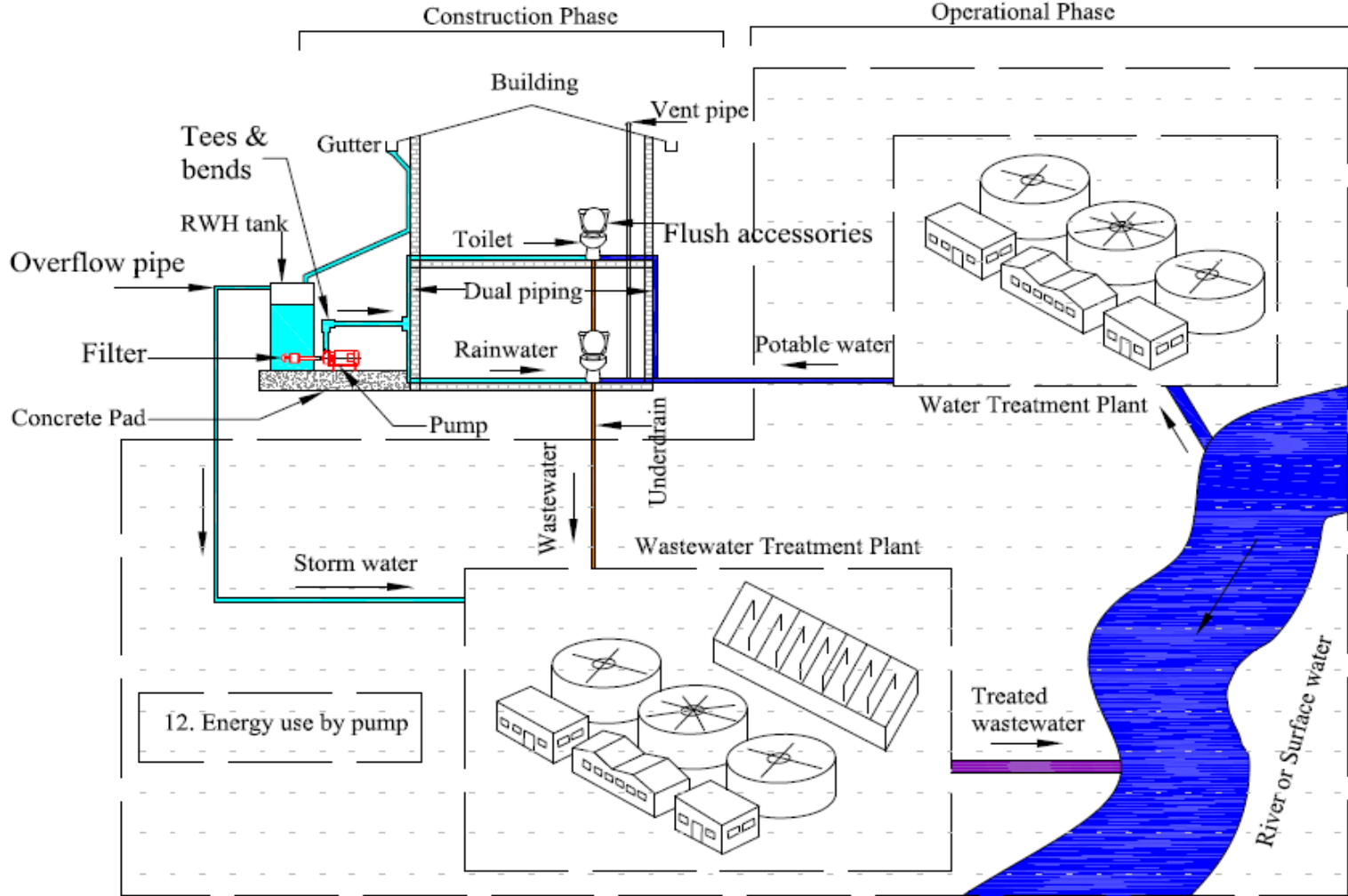


3.2 billion m³/year



Wastewater
Infrastructure

Alternative and Research Needs



Research Needs



UT Engineering Complex
Building type: Educational



UTCrossings Building
Building type: Dormitory



Consulting Firm
Building type: Office

Others

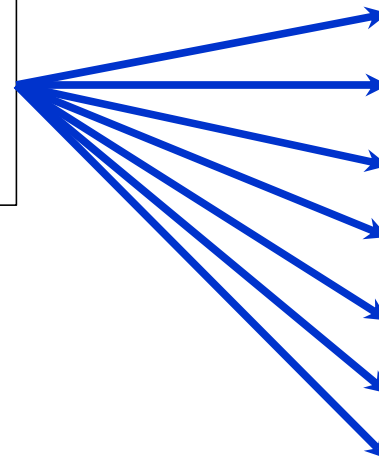
- 1 Office
- 9 Residential
- 1 Gas Station
- 2 Educational

Objective

Previous Results

Payback Periods: 3 to 75 years

% Savings: 34% to 78%



Life time

System Boundary

Functional Unit

Data Sources

Life Cycle Stages

Impact Categories

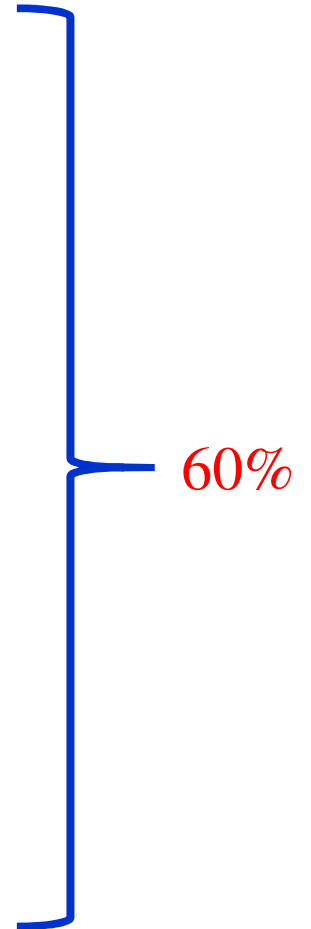
Sewer Network

Goal is to provide a comprehensive synthesis of benefits of implementing RWH system in **different building types** in terms of **water savings, energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission** using similar set of input parameters.

Methodology

Department of Energy National Building Stock Database

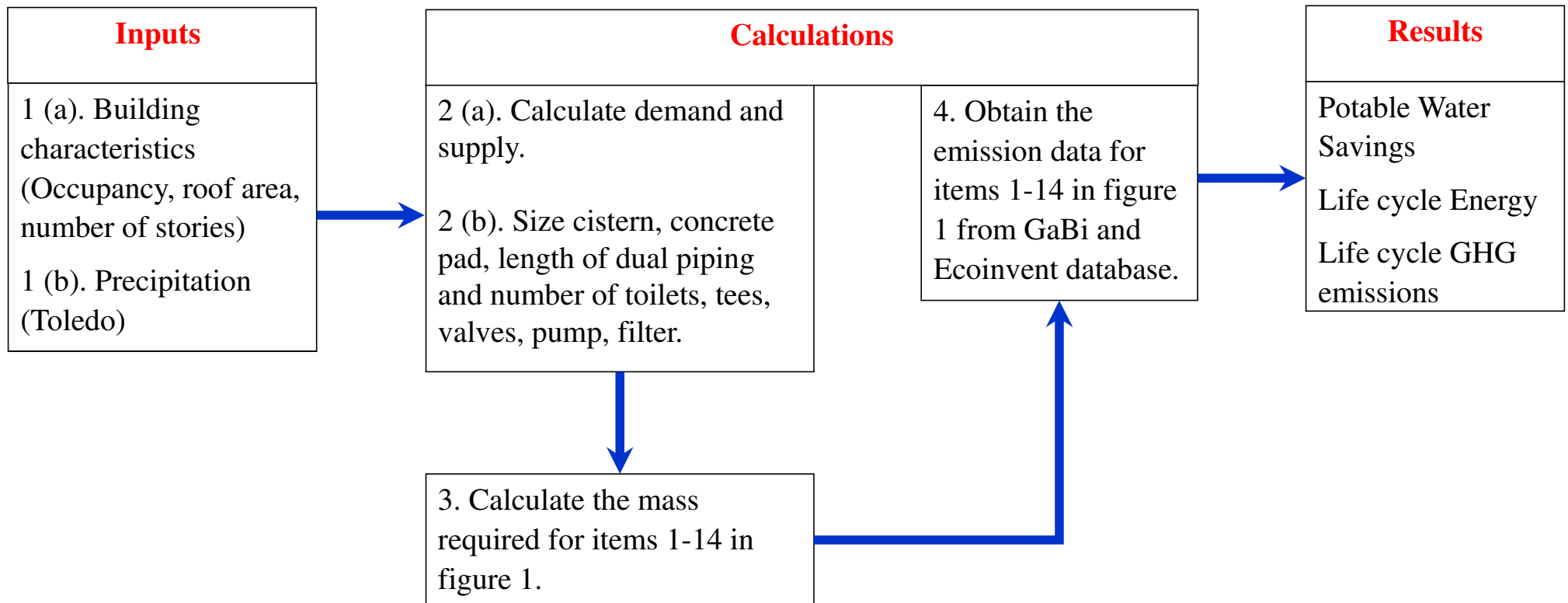
Classification	Buildings
Commercial I	Small Office
	Medium Office
	Large Office
Commercial II	Stand-Alone Retail
	Strip Mall
	Supermarket
Commercial III	Quick Service Restaurant
	Full Service Restaurant
Residential	Small Hotel
	Large Hotel
	Midrise Apartment
Institutional	Primary School
	Secondary School
	Hospital
	Outpatient Healthcare



60%

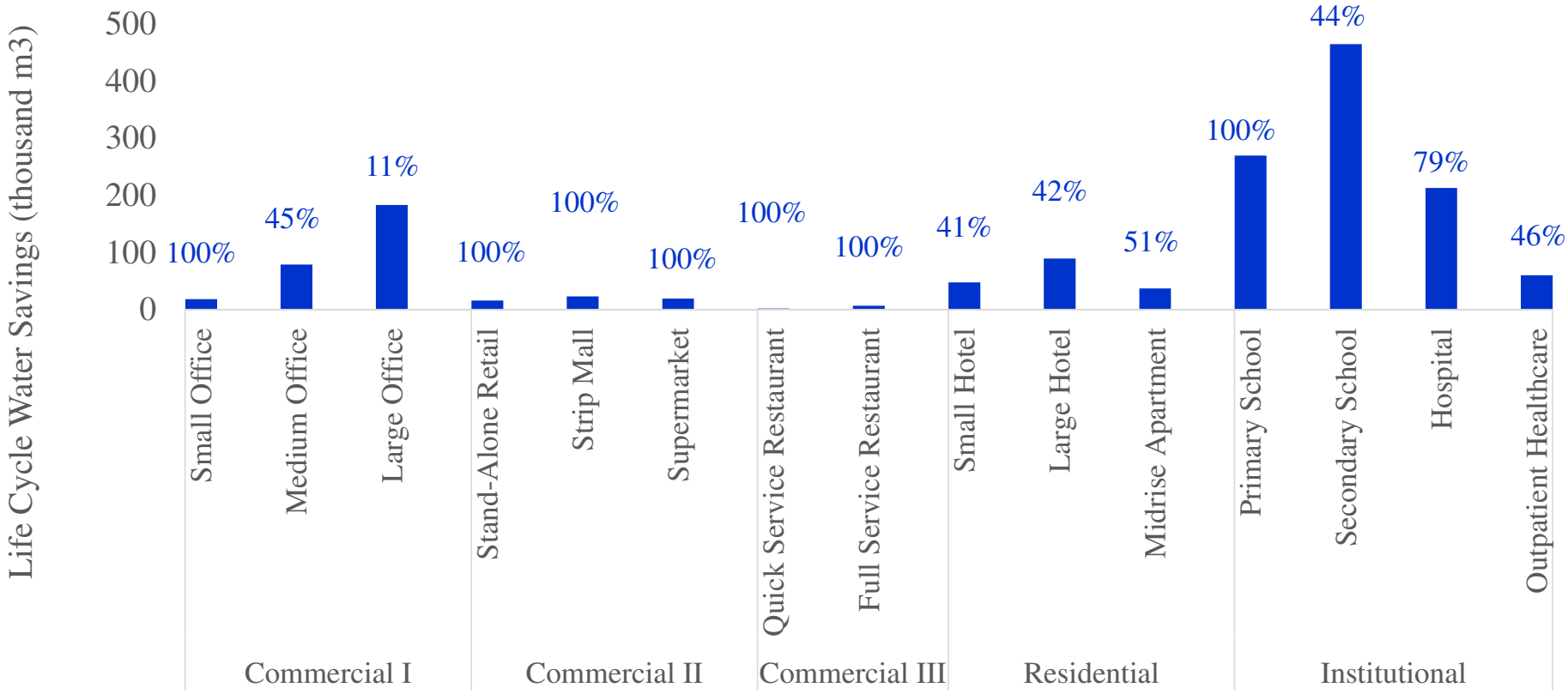
Methodology

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)



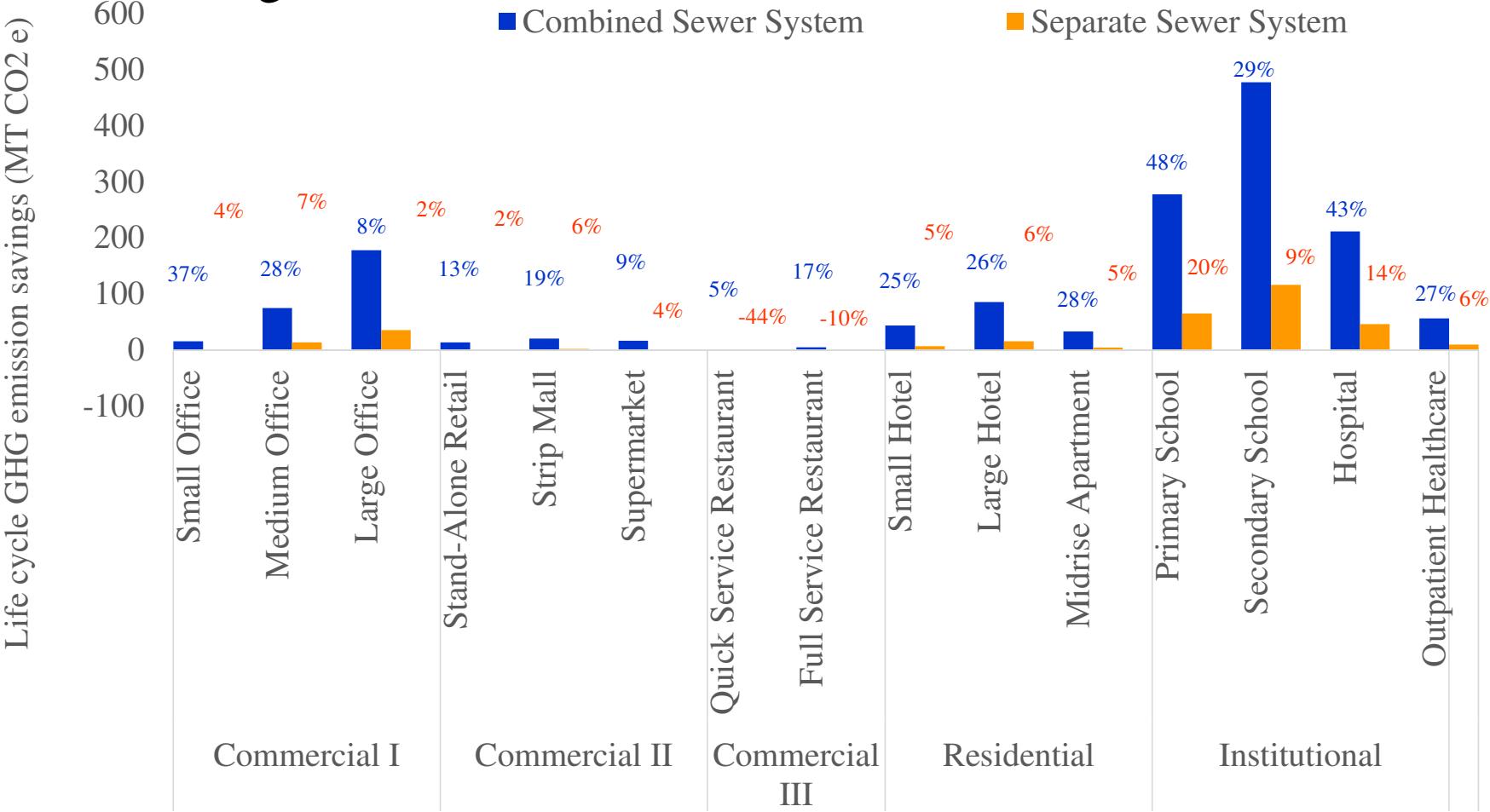
Results

Potable Water Savings



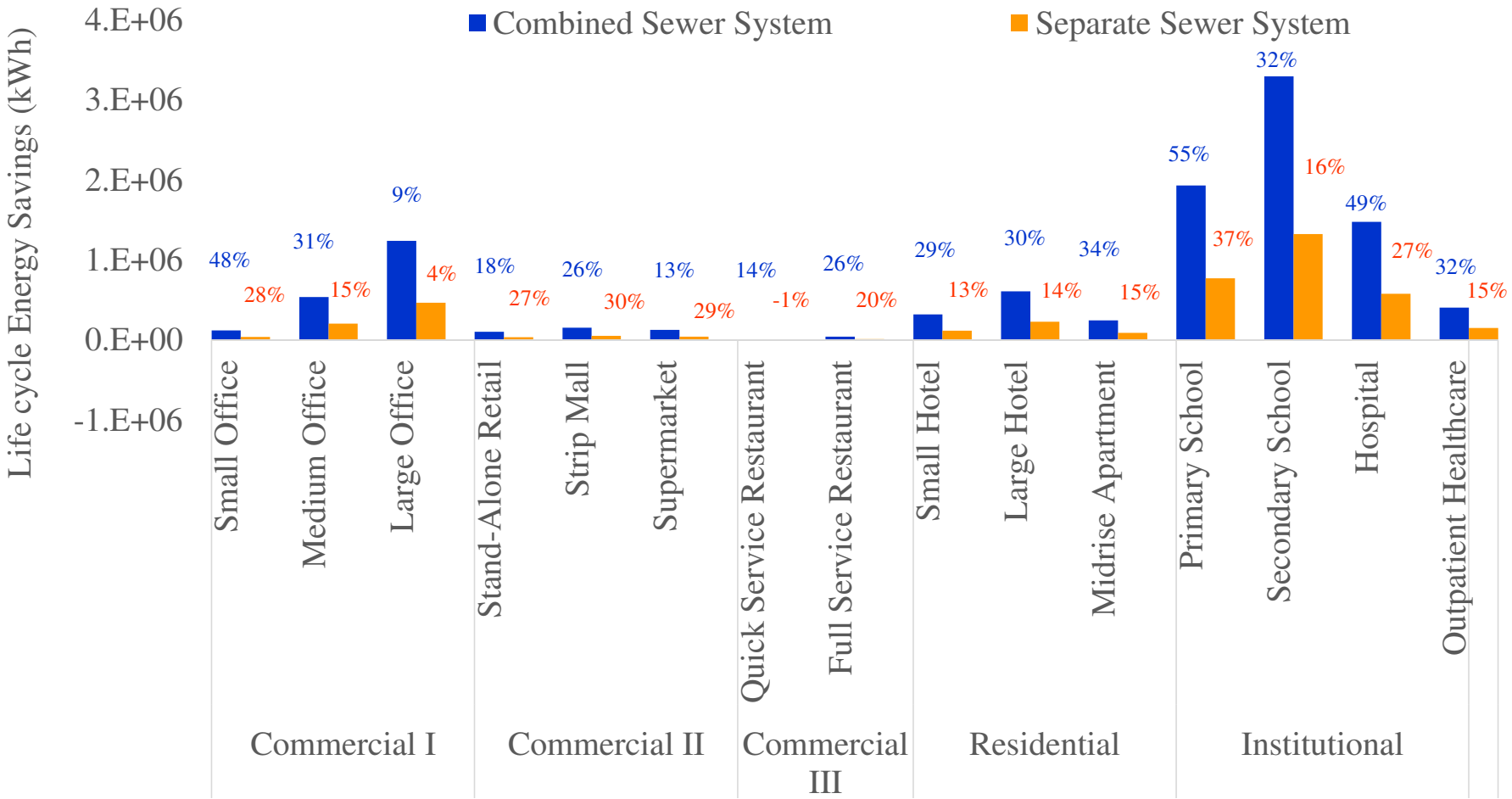
Results

GHG emission savings



Results

Energy savings



Conclusions

This is the first study to provide a synthesis of benefits of RWHS for wide range of buildings.

Though 100% water savings were achieved for commercial II and III types, highest water savings was achieved for institutional. (Similar to energy and GHG)

Building Connected to combined sewer networks are more environmentally attractive.

Secondary School, Primary School, Hospital and Large office are more attractive to implement RWHS (Commercial III types are not attractive).

jpdevkota@gmail.com

