

Appendix 8. Model Archival Summary for Total Nitrogen Concentration at U.S. Geological Survey Site 06888990, Kansas River above Topeka Weir at Topeka, Kansas, during November 2018 through June 2021

This model archival summary summarizes the total nitrogen (TN; U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] parameter codes 49570+62854) concentration model developed to compute 15-minute TN concentrations from November 2018 onward. This model is specific to USGS site 06888990, the Kansas River above Topeka Weir at Topeka, Kansas, during this study period and cannot be applied to data collected from other sites on the Kansas River or data collected from other waterbodies.

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Site and Model Information

Site number: 06888990

Site name: Kansas River above Topeka Weir at Topeka, Kans.

Location: Lat 39°04'19", long 95°42'58" referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in NW 1/4 sec.23, T.11 S., R.15 E., Shawnee County, Kans., hydrologic unit 10270102.

Equipment: A Xylem YSI EXO2 water-quality monitor equipped with sensors for water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity (TBY), and chlorophyll and phycocyanin fluorescence was installed during November 2018 through June 2021. Readings from the water-quality monitor were recorded every 15 minutes and transmitted by way of satellite, hourly.

Date model was created: December 8, 2021

Model-calibration data period: November 28, 2018, through June 21, 2021

Model-application date: November 28, 2018, onward

Model-Calibration Dataset

All data were collected using USGS protocols (Wagner and others, 2006; U.S. Geological Survey, variously dated) and are stored in the USGS National Water Information System (U.S. Geological Survey, 2022) database and available to the public. Ordinary least squares analysis was used to develop regression models using R programming language (R Core Team, 2022). Potential explanatory variables that were evaluated individually and in combination included streamflow, water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, pH, TBY, and chlorophyll and phycocyanin fluorescence. These potential explanatory variables were interpolated within the 15-minute continuous record based on sample time. The maximum time span between two continuous data points used for interpolation was 2 hours (in order to preserve the sample dataset, field monitor averages obtained during sample collection were used for model development data if no continuous data were available or if gaps larger than 2 hours in the continuous data record resulted in missing interpolated data). Seasonal components (sine and cosine variables) also were evaluated as potential explanatory variables. Previously published explanatory variables (Rasmussen and others, 2005; Foster and Graham, 2016; Williams, 2021) at other Kansas River sites were strongly considered for continuity in model form.

The final selected regression model was based on 34 concurrent measurements of TN concentration and sensor-measured TBY during November 28, 2018, through June 21, 2021. Samples were collected throughout the range of continuously observed hydrologic conditions. Total nitrogen results were calculated by combining total particulate nitrogen (USGS parameter code 49570) and total dissolved nitrogen (USGS parameter code 62854). No samples had concentrations below laboratory minimum reporting limits.

Potential outliers initially were identified using scatterplots of the TN and TBY model-calibration data (Rasmussen and others, 2009). Studentized residuals from the model were inspected for values greater than three or less than negative three (Pardoe, 2020). Values outside of that range were considered potential outliers and were investigated. Additionally, computations of leverage, Cook's distance (Cook's D), and difference in fits (DFFITs) statistics were used to estimate potential outlier effect on the final selected regression model (Cook, 1977; Helsel and others, 2020). Outliers were investigated for potential removal from the model-calibration dataset by confirming correct database entry, evaluating laboratory analytical performance, and reviewing field notes associated with the sample in question (Rasmussen and others, 2009). All potential outliers were not determined to have errors associated with sample collection, processing, or analysis and were therefore considered valid.

Total Nitrogen Sampling Details

During November 2018 through February 2019, samples were collected using the equal-width increment collection method (U.S.

Geological Survey, variously dated). In March 2019, sample collection location changed to the southern bank of the Kansas River above Topeka Weir using the single-vertical collection method (U.S. Geological Survey, variously dated) to avoid safety risks caused by a nearby low-head dam. All samples were composited for analysis (U.S. Geological Survey, variously dated). During November 2018 through June 2020, samples were collected on a biweekly to monthly basis. During July 2020 through June 2021, samples were collected on a monthly to quarterly basis, depending on flow conditions. Samples occasionally were collected during targeted reservoir release and runoff events to get a more representative dataset. A FISP US DH-81, DH-95, D-95, or D-96a depth integrating sampler was used. Samples were analyzed for TN concentration at the USGS National Water Quality Laboratory in Lakewood, Colorado.

Model Development

Ordinary least squares regression analysis was done using the *stats* (v4.3.0) package in R programming language (R Core Team, 2022) to relate discretely collected TN concentration to sensor-measured TBY. The distribution of residuals (the difference between the measured and computed values) was examined for normality, and the plots of residuals were examined for homoscedasticity (departures from zero did not change substantially over the range of computed values).

TBY was selected as a good surrogate for TN based on residual plots, coefficient of determination (R^2), and model standard percentage error. Values for all the aforementioned statistics, all relevant sample data, and additional statistical information are included in the Model Statistics, Data, and Plots section of this appendix.

Model Summary

The following is a summary of the final regression analysis for TN concentration at USGS site 06888990:

TN concentration-based model:

$$\log TN = 0.373(\log TBY) - 0.387$$

where

\log = logarithm base 10,

TN = total nitrogen concentration (USGS parameter codes 49570+62854), in milligrams per liter, and

TBY = turbidity, in formazin nephelometric units.

TBY makes physical and statistical sense as an explanatory variable for TN because increases in TN can be associated with precipitation runoff events which can cause increases in TBY (Rasmussen and others, 2005; Graham and others, 2018).

The logarithmically (\log) transformed model may be retransformed to the original units so that TN can be calculated directly. The retransformation introduces a bias in the calculated constituent. This bias may be corrected using Duan's bias correction factor (BCF; Duan, 1983). For this model, the calculated BCF is 1.05. The retransformed model, accounting for BCF is as follows:

$$TN = 1.05 \times (TBY^{0.373} \times 10^{-0.387})$$

This model was developed using continuous and discrete water-quality data collected during November 2018 through June 2021. These data were collected throughout the observed range of streamflow conditions during this time. However, a limitation in model accuracy during conditions outside of those observed during November 2018 through June 2021 should be considered when interpreting model computations beyond June 2021.

Previous Models

There are no previously published models at this site. However, similar models have been published at other Kansas River sites, as documented by Rasmussen and others (2005), Foster and Graham (2016), and Williams (2021).

Model Statistics, Data, and Plots

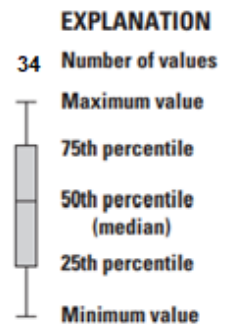
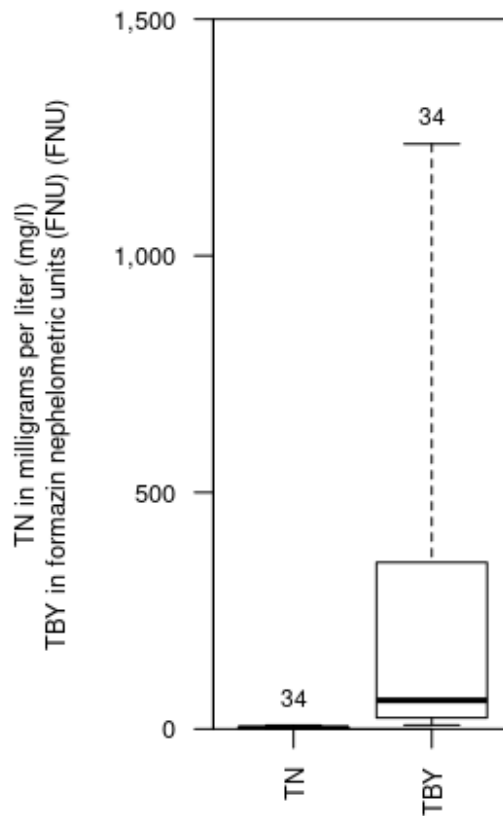
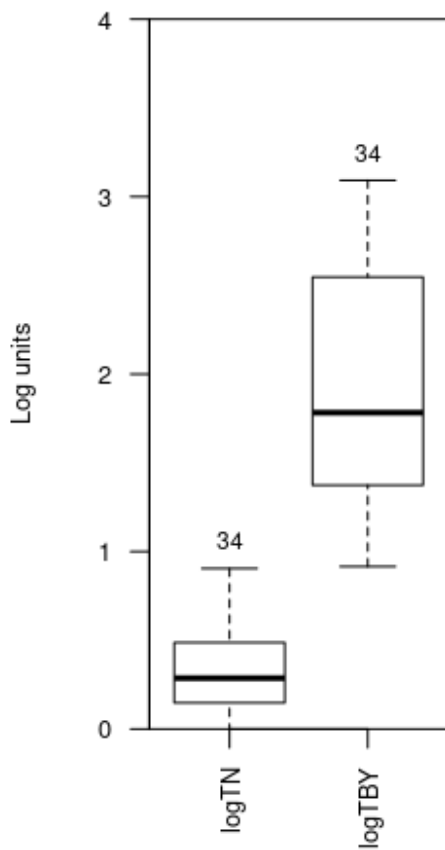
Model

$$\log TN = 0.373(\log TBY) - 0.387$$

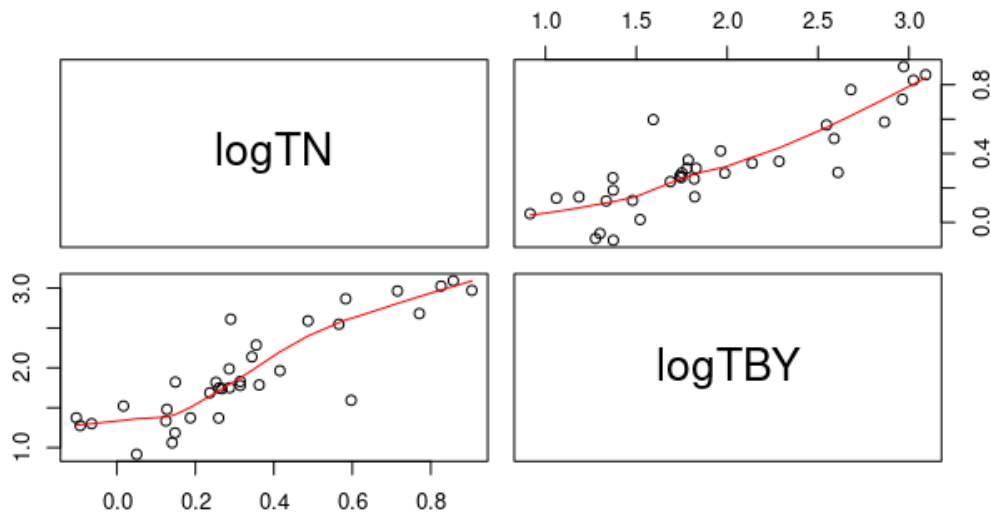
Variable Summary Statistics

	logTN	TN	logTBY	TBY
Minimum	-0.103	0.788	0.916	8.23
1st Quartile	0.148	1.41	1.370	23.6
Median	0.287	1.94	1.780	60.6
Mean	0.330	2.62	1.930	230
3rd Quartile	0.487	3.07	2.550	352
Maximum	0.905	8.03	3.090	1,240

Box Plots



Exploratory Plots



Red line shows the locally weighted scatterplot smoothing (LOWESS).

The x- and y-axis labels for a given bivariate plot are defined by the intersecting row and column labels.

Basic Model Statistics

Number of observations	34
Standard error (RMSE)	0.135
Mean model standard percentage error (MSPE)	31.7
Coefficient of determination (R^2)	0.751
Adjusted coefficient of determination (Adj. R^2)	0.743
Bias correction factor (BCF)	1.05

Explanatory Variables

	Coefficients	Standard Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-0.387	0.0766	-5.05	1.70e-05
logTBY	0.373	0.0379	9.83	3.44e-11

Correlation Matrix

	Intercept	E.vars
Intercept	1.000	-0.953
E.vars	-0.953	1.000

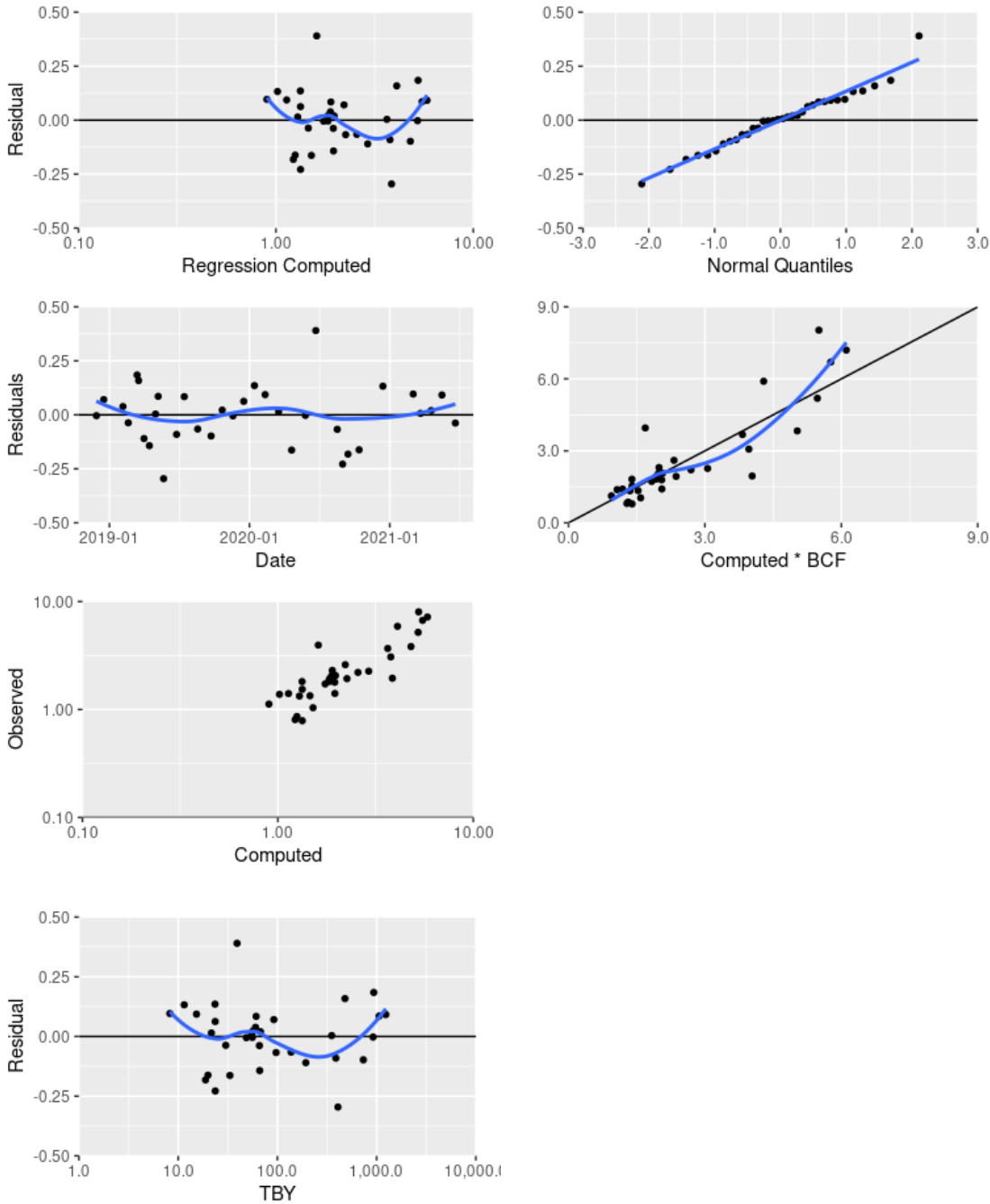
Outlier Test Criteria

Leverage	Cook's D	DFFITS
0.176	0.194	0.485

Flagged Observations

	logTN Estimate	Residual	Standard Residual	Studentized Residual	Leverage	Cook's D	DFFITS	
201903141040	0.905	0.720	0.184	1.45	1.47	0.1150	0.136	0.531
201905220950	0.290	0.586	-0.296	-2.26	-2.42	0.0661	0.181	-0.645
202006220740	0.597	0.207	0.390	2.94	3.38	0.0380	0.171	0.673

Statistical Plots



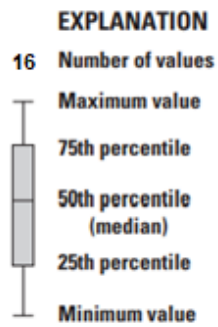
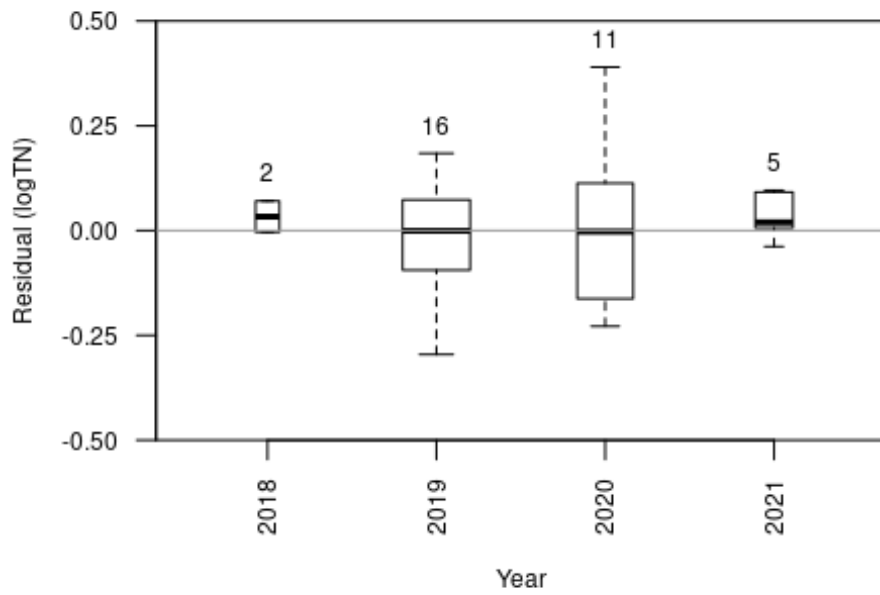
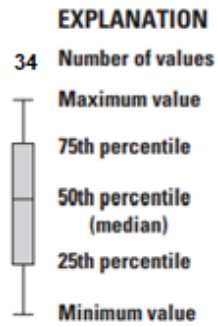
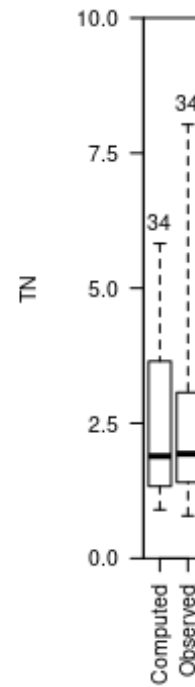
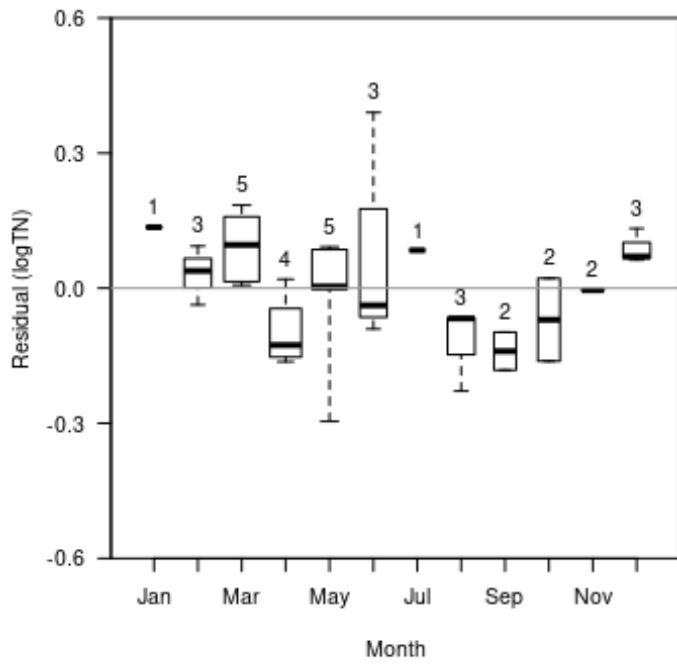
First row (left): Residual TN related to regression computed TN with local polynomial regression fitting, or locally estimated scatterplot smoothing (LOESS), indicated by the blue line.

First row (right): Residual TN related to the corresponding normal quantile of the residual with simple linear regression, indicated by the blue line.

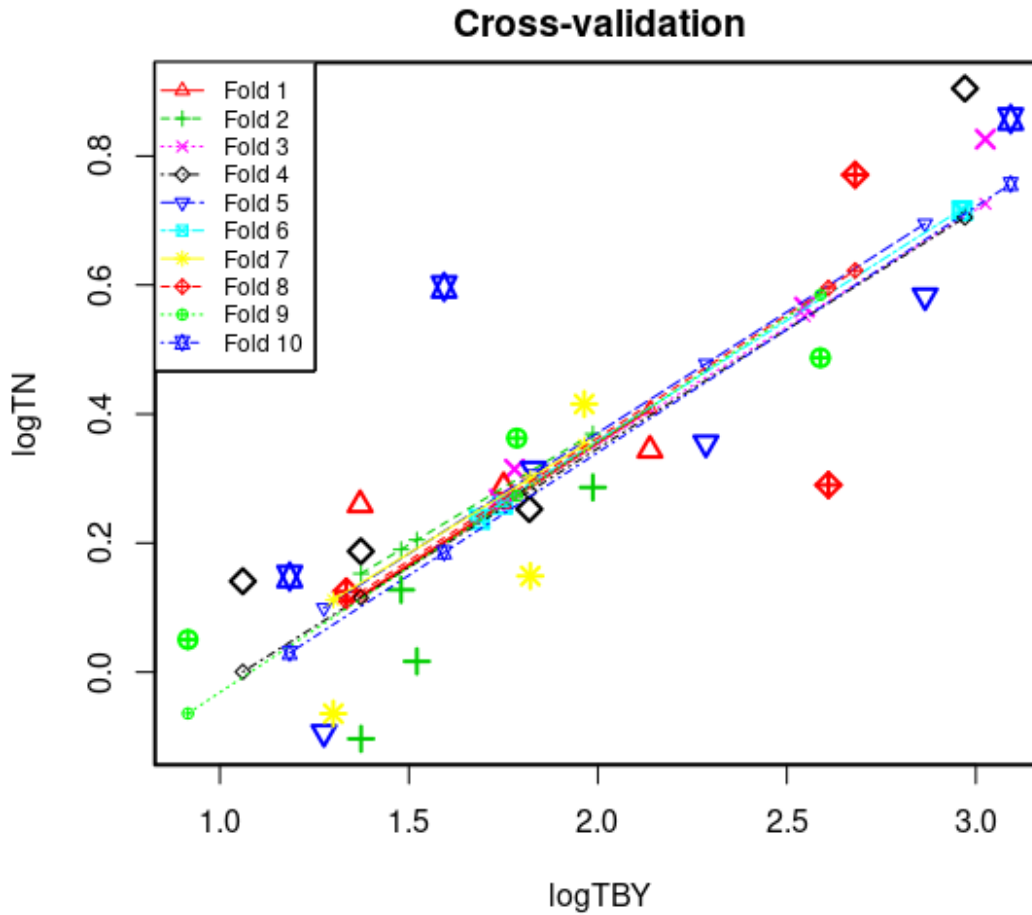
Second row: Residual TN related to date (left) and regression computed TN multiplied by the BCF (right) with LOESS, indicated by the blue line.

Third row: Observed TN related to regression computed TN.

Fourth row: Residual TN related to TBY with LOESS, indicated by the blue line.



Cross Validation



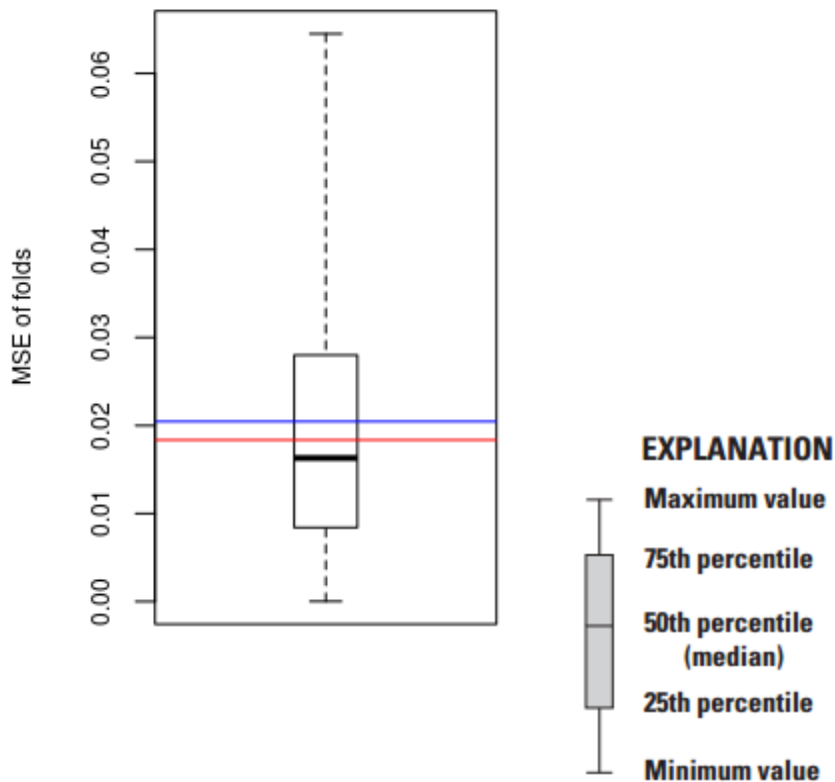
Fold - equal partition of the data (10 percent of the data).

Large symbols - observed value of a data point removed in a fold.

Small symbols - recomputed value of a data point removed in a fold.

Recomputed regression lines - adjusted regression line with one fold removed.

Minimum MSE of folds: 1.82e-05
Mean MSE of folds: 2.05e-02
Median MSE of folds: 1.63e-02
Maximum MSE of folds: 6.45e-02
(Mean MSE of folds) / (Model MSE): 1.11e+00



Red line - Model MSE

Blue line - Mean MSE of folds

Model-Calibration Dataset

	Date	logTN	logTBY	TN	TBY	Computed logTN	Computed TN	Residual	Normal Quantiles	Censored Values
0										
1	2018-11-28	0.26	1.75	1.82	55.9	0.264	1.93	-0.00386	-0.184	--
2	2018-12-17	0.415	1.96	2.6	92	0.345	2.32	0.0706	0.496	--
3	2019-02-05	0.314	1.78	2.06	60.2	0.276	1.98	0.0384	0.336	--
4	2019-02-19	0.127	1.48	1.34	30.2	0.164	1.53	-0.0369	-0.336	--
5	2019-03-14	0.905	2.97	8.03	935	0.72	5.51	0.184	1.68	--
6	2019-03-18	0.771	2.68	5.9	479	0.612	4.29	0.159	1.43	--
7	2019-04-01	0.355	2.29	2.26	193	0.465	3.06	-0.11	-0.867	--
8	2019-04-15	0.149	1.82	1.41	66.3	0.292	2.05	-0.143	-0.979	--
9	2019-05-01	0.566	2.55	3.68	352	0.562	3.83	0.00372	-0.0367	--
10	2019-05-08	0.826	3.03	6.7	1060	0.74	5.77	0.0857	0.67	--
11	2019-05-22	0.29	2.61	1.95	407	0.586	4.04	-0.296	-2.11	--
12	2019-06-25	0.487	2.59	3.07	388	0.578	3.97	-0.0906	-0.67	--
13	2019-07-15	0.363	1.79	2.31	61	0.278	1.99	0.0842	0.581	--
14	2019-08-19	0.344	2.14	2.21	137	0.41	2.69	-0.0657	-0.496	--
15	2019-09-23	0.583	2.87	3.83	734	0.681	5.03	-0.0978	-0.765	--
16	2019-10-22	0.287	1.75	1.94	56.3	0.265	1.93	0.0219	0.259	--
17	2019-11-19	0.237	1.69	1.72	48.7	0.242	1.83	-0.00498	-0.259	--
18	2019-12-17	0.187	1.37	1.54	23.6	0.125	1.4	0.0626	0.415	--
19	2020-01-14	0.259	1.37	1.82	23.5	0.124	1.39	0.135	1.25	--
20	2020-02-11	0.148	1.18	1.41	15.3	0.0545	1.19	0.0935	0.867	--

21	2020-03-17	0.125	1.33	1.33	21.6	0.11	1.35	0.0146	0.11	--
22	2020-04-20	0.0166	1.52	1.04	33.2	0.18	1.59	-0.163	-1.25	--
23	2020-05-26	0.715	2.96	5.19	920	0.718	5.47	-0.00248	-0.11	--
24	2020-06-22	0.597	1.59	3.95	39.2	0.207	1.69	0.39	2.11	--
25	2020-08-17	0.286	1.99	1.93	97	0.353	2.37	-0.0672	-0.581	--
26	2020-08-31	-0.103	1.37	0.788	23.6	0.125	1.4	-0.228	-1.68	--
27	2020-09-14	-0.0937	1.28	0.806	18.9	0.0883	1.28	-0.182	-1.43	--
28	2020-10-13	-0.0645	1.3	0.862	20	0.0975	1.31	-0.162	-1.11	--
29	2020-12-14	0.141	1.06	1.38	11.5	0.00824	1.07	0.133	1.11	--
30	2021-03-03	0.0504	0.916	1.12	8.23	-0.0458	0.943	0.0962	0.979	--
31	2021-03-22	0.268	1.74	1.85	54.8	0.261	1.91	0.00675	0.0367	--
32	2021-04-19	0.314	1.83	2.06	67.5	0.295	2.07	0.0199	0.184	--
33	2021-05-17	0.857	3.09	7.2	1240	0.765	6.11	0.0919	0.765	--
34	2021-06-21	0.253	1.82	1.79	65.9	0.291	2.05	-0.0381	-0.415	--

Definitions

Cook's D: Cook's distance (Helsel and others, 2020).

DIFFITS: Difference in fits statistic (Helsel and others, 2020).

E.vars: Explanatory variables.

Leverage: An outlier's measure in the x direction (Helsel and others, 2020).

LOESS: Local polynomial regression fitting, or locally estimated scatterplot smoothing (Helsel and others, 2020).

LOWESS: Locally weighted scatterplot smoothing (Cleveland, 1979; Helsel and others, 2020).

MSE: Mean square error (Helsel and others, 2020).

MSPE: Model standard percentage error (Helsel and others, 2020).

Probability(>|t|): The probability that the independent variable has no effect on the dependent variable (Helsel and others, 2020).

RMSE: Root mean square error (Helsel and others, 2020).

t value: Student's t value; the coefficient divided by its associated standard error (Helsel and others, 2020).

TBY: Turbidity, in formazin nephelometric units (USGS parameter code 63680).

TN: Total particulate nitrogen (USGS parameter code 49570) plus total dissolved nitrogen (USGS parameter code 62854), in milligrams per liter.

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