Ann Arbor’s Dilemma: Assigning Responsibility for Environmental Problems
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“The Huron River is believed to be capable of furnishing more power than any other river in the state…. It is extremely probable that within a short period it will be used more than now for the development of electric power, which it is planned to develop by the building of immense dams."

*Past and Present of Washtenaw County* (1906)
Objectives for this Talk

- Introduce the types of data
- Give examples of data analysis
- Raise some questions
- Invite focused discussion

Role of theory

- Empirical Theory
- Explanatory Theory
Fig. 2. Relation between the growing season mean proportion of blue-green algae by volume and epilimnetic total nitrogen (TN) to total phosphorus (TP) ratios in 17 lakes worldwide. The lakes are: S, Sammammish; L, Loch Leven; Mo, Moses; N, Norvik; O, Ontario; T, Trummen; H, Hjalmaren; V, Vattern; Vn, Vänern; M, Mälaren (11 bays); Hu, Huron; St, Stone; B, Bysson; He, Heart; Mi, Michigan; G, George; and K, Kinneret. See (14) for data sources. Each symbol represents data from one growing season. Boundary for TN:TP = 29 is shown by the dashed line.

Fig. 2. Time trends in water column TN:TP mass ratios.

Huron River: MDEQ data

Huron Bridge Park
Michigan Ave

Total N: Total P

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Historical references


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