

#### HKSYC&IA WTSMC

An Investigation on the Effects of Water Flow on Stream Animal Abundance

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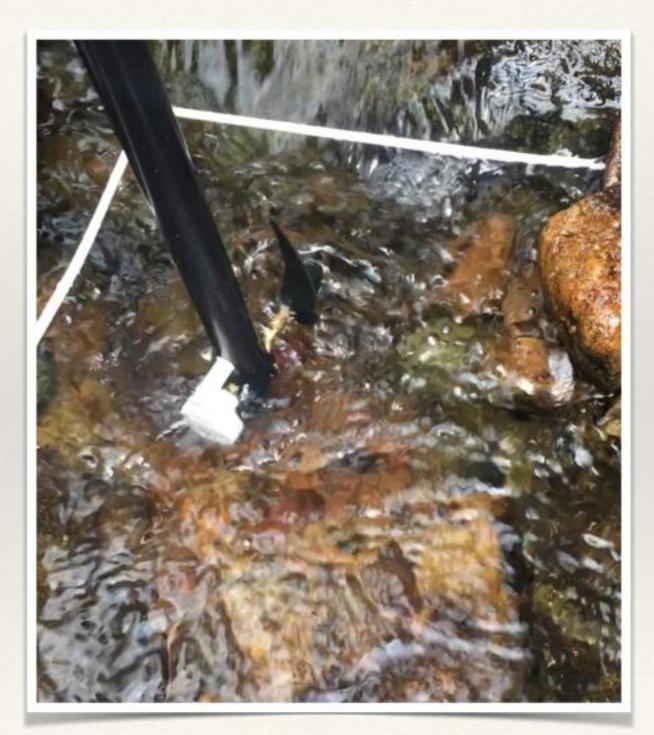
# Hypothesis

\* Abundance of species and stream animals decreases with increasing water flow rate.

## Independent variable

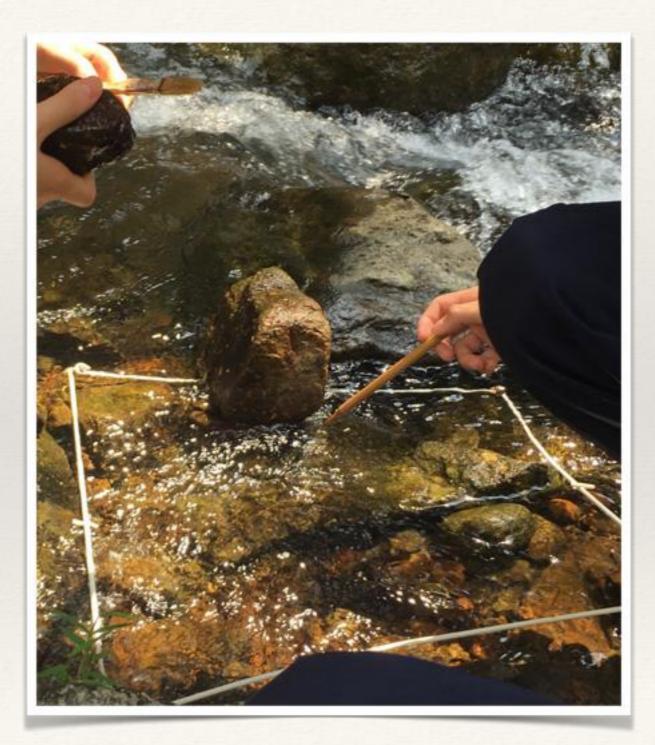
#### \* Water Flow Rate

- \* measured by Water Flow Meter
- Immerse the blades of the Water Flow Meter into the river.
- \* 2. Record the water flow rate at 10 seconds interval in one minute.
- \* 3. Take an average value of the results.



## Dependent variable

- Number of Stream
  Animals in different sites
- \* 1. Place a quadrant into the river.
- Count the numbers of different species of stream animals with the use of brush pens, metal sieve and plastic sorting tray.
- Record the data and make comparison

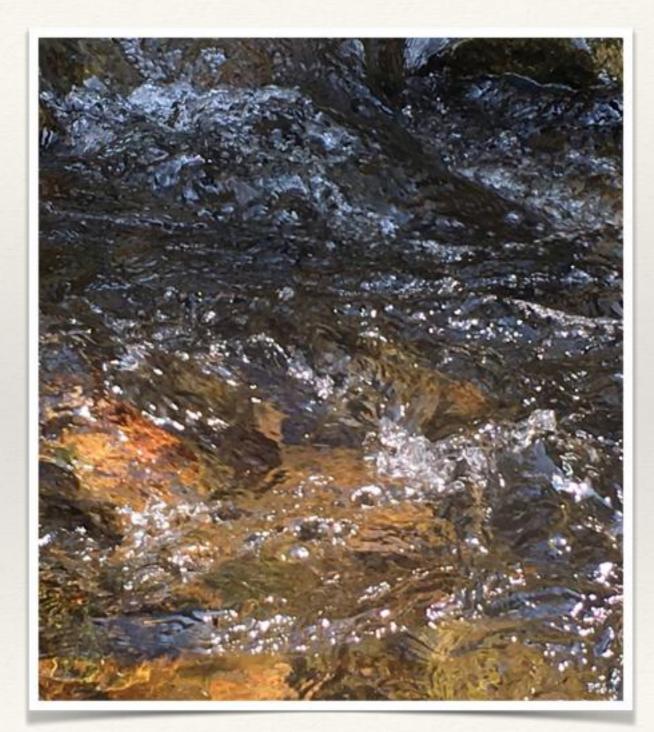


### **Controlled** variables

#### \* Light Intensity

- \* measured by Light Meter
- Water Temperature
- measured by Digital
  Thermometer

 Time spent on counting stream animals in each site



### Water Flow Rate

- \* Site 1:
- \* 0.249 m/s

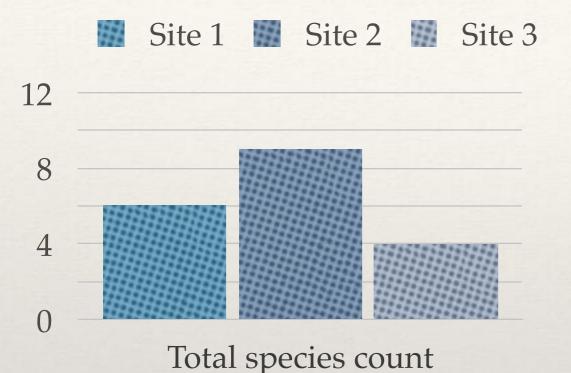
- \* Site 2:
- \* 0.133 m/s

- \* Site 3:
- \* 0 m/s



	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
Species Name \ Water Flow Rate(m/s)	0.249	0.133	0
Mayfly Nymph	1	14	6
Damselfly Nymph	1	1	0
Dragonfly Nymph	1	1	0
Caddisfly Larva	1	1	1
Caddisfly Larva (Net Spinning)	3	3	0
Large Stream Snail	6	3	7
Goby	0	3	1
Broken-band Hillstream Loach	0	1	0
Banded Folk-tailed Loach	0	1	0
Total species count	6	9	4
Total individual count	13	28	15

## Bar charts showing the results





- \* Site 2, which has medium water flow rate, has the highest number of stream animals and number of stream animal species
- The results in Site 1(highest rate) and 3(lowest rate) didn't show apparent differences.

#### Errors

- There is variation of the time spent on counting the numbers of stream animals, affecting the experimental results.
- \* 2. We cannot ensure the light intensity and water temperature can be kept constant, leading to variations of results.
- \* 3. When moving the rocks inside the river, the stream animals may be scared away from the site.

## Selected species

#### \* Caddisfly Larva

\* Collected-gatherer

- Caddisfly Larva (Net Spinning)
- \* Collected-filterer



### Conclusion

- Based on the results shown, the correlation between water flow rate and the number of stream animals is not established by this investigation.
- Further improvements of the procedures should be carried out.