



Intro: Wrap up "Towards Smart Ventilation in Mid-sized Buildings"

Hilde Breesch



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Industrial advisory board



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Starting point

- Smart ventilation system (AIVC)
 - Able to continually adjust itself to provide IAQ while minimizing energy use, discomfort, noise
 - Responsive to e.g. occupancy, outdoor thermal and air quality
 - Can provide info about e.g. IAQ, energy use, need for maintenance



- Current practice in design of ventilation systems
 - Driven by minimum requirements of individual indicators
 - In mid-sized buildings: very conservative and inefficient
 - Existing methods dependent on brainpower of engineer

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Research aim and goals

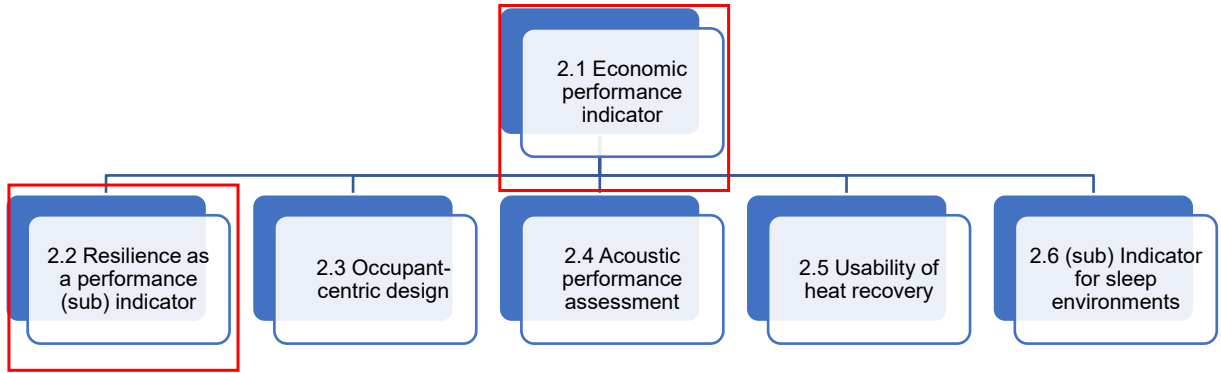
- **Aim** = determine performance-based method for smart ventilation design driven by optimization during whole life-cycle
- **Specific goals**
 - Define performance **sub-indicators** for **indirect metrics**
 - Aggregate all sub-indicators into **1 general economic performance indicator**
 - **Automate and optimize** aerologic **lay-out** ventilation design
 - **improve and optimize positioning of connections** to outdoor and indoor
- **Focus:** new + renovated mid-sized buildings ($Q > 1000 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$)
 - Schools
 - Offices
 - Care facilities (elderly homes)

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Research method

- WP2: Performance assessment

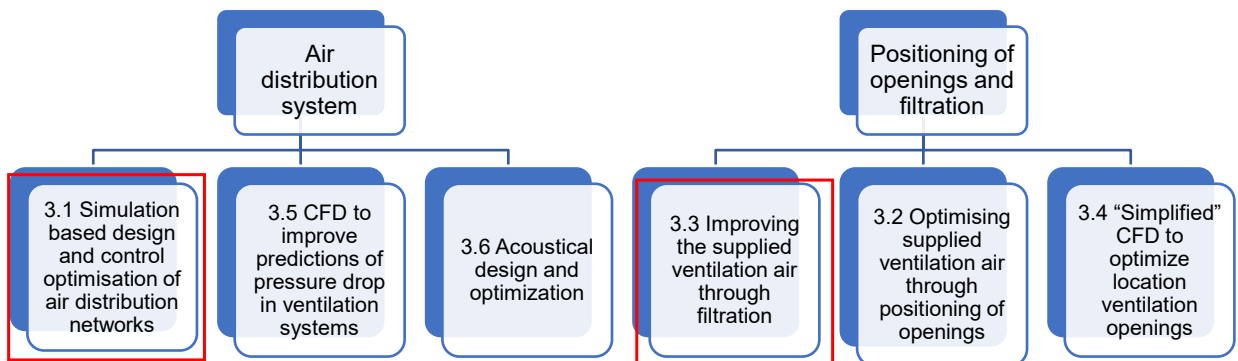


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Research method

- WP3: Optimization of system design



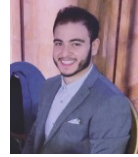
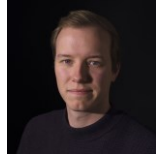
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webinar
2023.12.12

Smart ventilation in non-residential buildings. How to assess? How to design?



Agenda (CET)

- 15:00 | Welcome & Intro, Hilde Breesch (KU Leuven, Belgium)
- 15:10 | [An \(Economic\) Indicator for Assessment of Smart Ventilation Systems](#), Klaas De Jonge (Ghent University, Belgium)
- 15:25 | Quantitative Assessment Framework of IAQ Resilience in Buildings, Douaa Al-Assaad (KU Leuven, Belgium)
- 15:40 | Simulation Based Design of Smart Ventilation Systems, Zakarya Kabbara (University of Antwerp, Belgium)
- 15:55 | Improving the Supplied Ventilation Air Quality through Filtration, Joris Van Herreweghe (Buildwise, Belgium)
- 16:10 | Questions and answers
- 16:30 | End of the webinar



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AND ARCHITECTURE

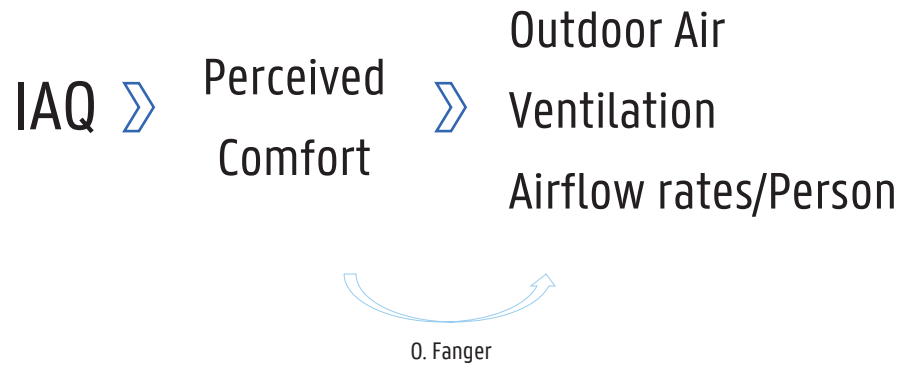
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING
BUILDING PHYSICS RESEARCH GROUP

AN (ECONOMIC) INDICATOR FOR ASSESSMENT OF SMART VENTILATION SYSTEMS

Klaas De Jonge, Dr. Ir-Arch [12/12/2023]


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A VERY BRIEF NON-EXHAUSTIVE HISTORY



A VERY BRIEF NON-EXHAUSTIVE HISTORY

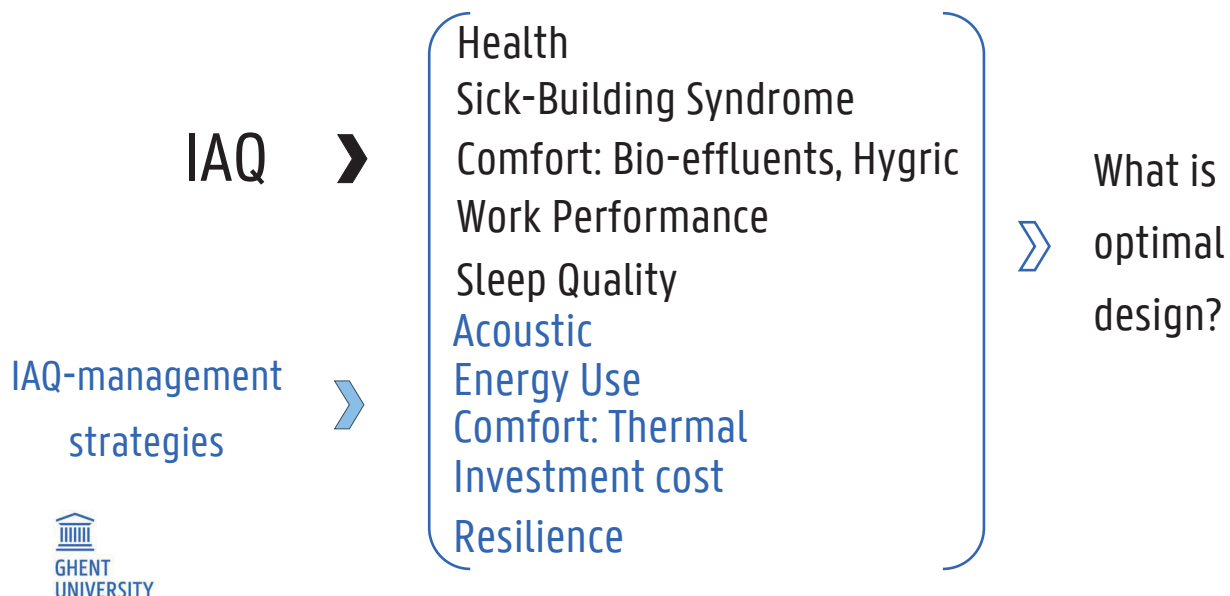
Ventilation rates obtained \neq ? Good IAQ

A VERY BRIEF NON-EXHAUSTIVE HISTORY

Ventilation rates obtained \equiv Ventilation system works as designed



INDOOR AIR QUALITY



Health

Sick-Building Syndrome

Comfort: Bio-effluents, Hygric

Work Performance

Sleep Quality

Acoustic

Energy Use

Comfort: Thermal

Investment cost

Resilience



What is
optimal
design?



Cost-Function
for design optimization



COST-FUNCTION

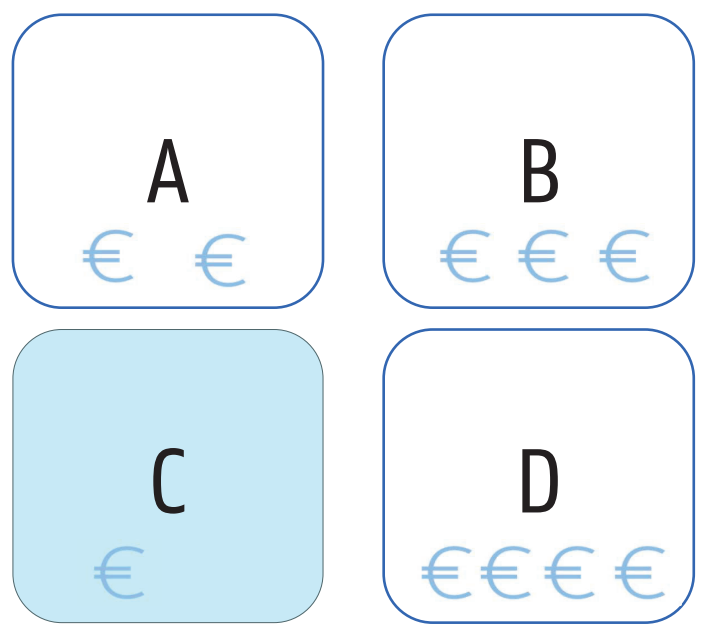
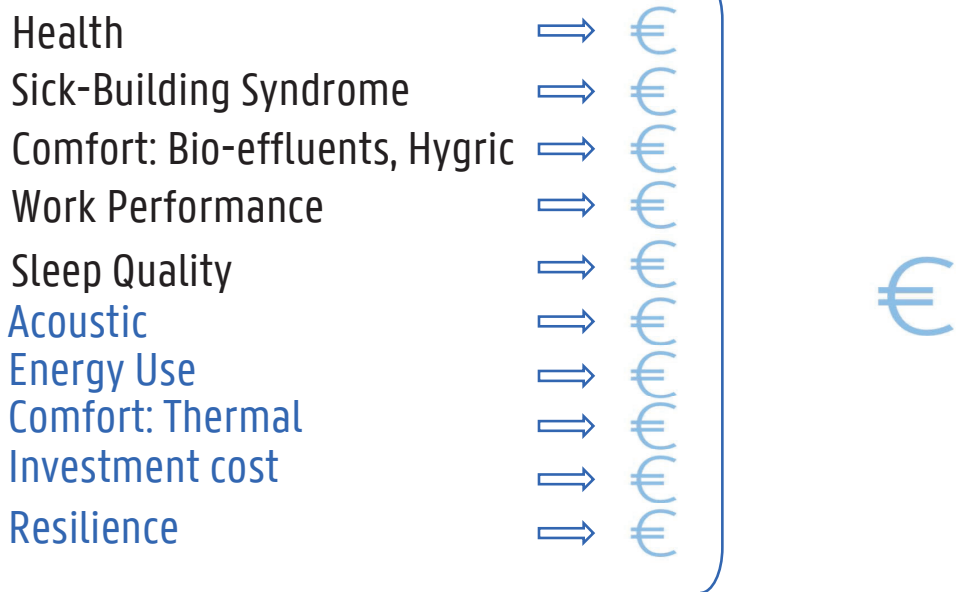
Dr. Louis Cony

Cony, Louis, and Jelle Laverge. "A Methodology to Assess Economical Impacts of Poor IAQ in Office Buildings from DALY and SBS Induced Costs." CLIMA 2022 Conference, May 20, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.34641/clima.2022.297>.



Cost-function?





OFFICE BUILDING

Health
Sick-Building Syndrome
Comfort: Bio-effluents, Hygric
Work Performance

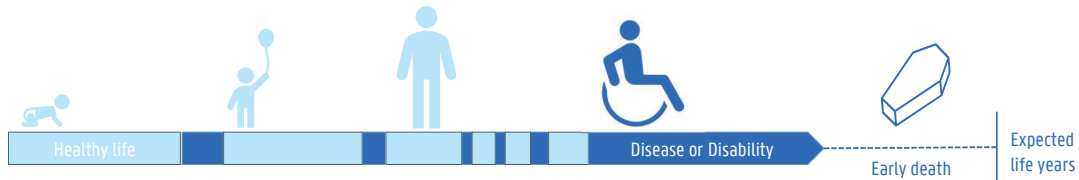


Sleep Quality
Acoustic
Energy Use
Comfort: Thermal 
Investment cost
Resilience

$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p Daly_i \times Daly_{cost_i} + SBS_{cost}$$

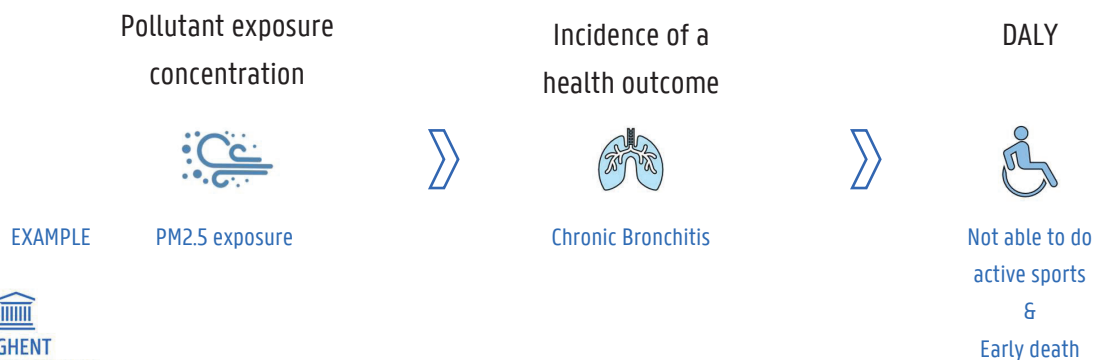
$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p \overset{HEALTH}{Daly_i} \times Daly_{cost_i} + SBS_{cost}$$

Disability-Adjusted Life years (lost) = Metric of harm



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Disability-Adjusted Life years (lost) = Metric of harm



$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p \overset{HEALTH}{Daly_i \times Daly\ cost_i} + SBS_{cost}$$

5 main categories:

- Mortality and life cost
- Medical costs
- Productivity cost
- ~~Research, prevention and regulation costs~~
- ~~Willingness to pay~~



$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p \overset{HEALTH}{Daly_i \times Daly\ cost_i} + SBS_{cost}$$

$$= LY_{cost} + H_{cost_i} + P_{cost}$$

5 main categories:

- **Mortality and life cost (LY_{cost})**
- Medical costs
- Productivity cost
- ~~Research, prevention and regulation costs~~
- ~~Willingness to pay~~

In a previous socio-economical study, life year (LY) cost was estimated around **€ 115 000** per year per person.



$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p \overset{\text{HEALTH}}{Daly_i \times Daly_{cost_i}} + SBS_{cost}$$

$$= LY_{cost} + H_{cost_i} + P_{cost}$$

5 main categories:

- Mortality and life cost
- **Medical costs (H_{cost_i})**
- Productivity cost
- ~~- Research, prevention and regulation costs~~
- ~~- Willingness to pay~~

Medical costs vary from one pollutant to another as the diseases induced are also different.

Pollutant	Medical cost (€)
Benzene	46 000
Trichloroethylene	70 971
Radon	25 526
PM	10 402
CO	1 085
Others (if unknown)	40 000

$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p \overset{\text{HEALTH}}{Daly_i \times Daly_{cost_i}} + SBS_{cost}$$

$$= LY_{cost} + H_{cost_i} + P_{cost}$$

5 main categories:

- Mortality and life cost
- Medical costs
- **Productivity cost (P_{cost})**
- ~~- Research, prevention and regulation costs~~
- ~~- Willingness to pay~~

Average national productivity is estimated around **€ 145 000 per year per person** but can be recalculated for each building, based on the average productivity of the concerned company.

*We consider that the proportion of productivity loss is equal to the life quality loss (e.g, a person suffering a disease that induces a 20% life quality lost, would have a 20% productivity loss).

$$IAQ_{Cost} = \sum_i^p Daly_i \times Daly\ cost_i + SBS_{cost}$$

Sick-Building Syndrome

= Mild, temporary acute effects of (bad) IAQ that cause concentration disturbance and productivity loss while at work.

≠ Severe health effects

Combining concepts of:

"Percentage of Occupants Presenting 1 or 2 SBS symptoms – **POP1 & POP2**"

"Indoor Air Pollution Index - **IAP1**" & "Indoor Discomfort Index - **IDI**"



$$= P_{cost} \times P_{loss}(0.83 + 2.83IAP1 + 0.83IDI) \times \frac{2}{5}$$

Subjective data of employees
(questionnaires)



CAN BE MODELLED

CO, CO2, Acetaldehyde, Acrolein, Benzene, Formaldehyde, Styrene, Tetrachloroethylene, Toluene, Trichloroethylene, xylene, and Particulate Matters (PMs).

Temperature and Relative Humidity (RH)

Main reference:

Cony, Louis, and Jelle Laverge. "A Methodology to Assess Economical Impacts of Poor IAQ in Office Buildings from DALY and SBS Induced Costs." *CLIMA 2022 Conference*, May 20, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.34641/clima.2022.297>.

Acknowledgements

Dr. Louis Cony



Klaas De Jonge, Dr. Ir.-Arch
Postdoctoral researcher

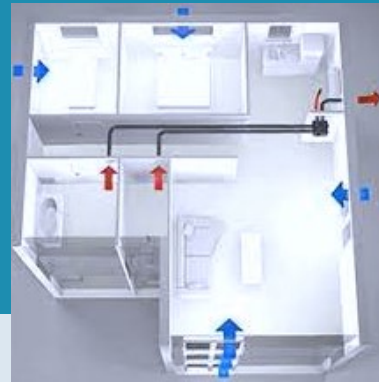
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Indoor air Quality (IAQ) resilience performance of Smart ventilation: Quantitative assessment framework



Douaa Al Assaad, douaa.al-assaad@kuleuven.be
Building Physics and Sustainable design group
Campus Gent
KU Leuven, Belgium

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Introduction

Resilience
score

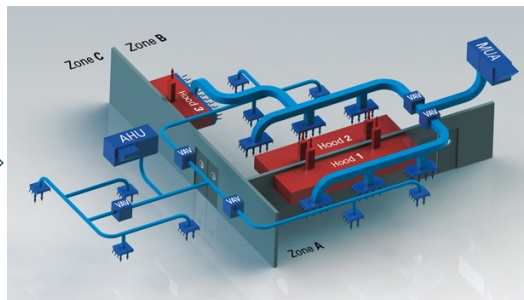
Case study

Conclusions

What is resilience performance?

*Expected indoor/outdoor
conditions*

Good breathable air quality
Energy efficient



*Unexpected disturbance
Or "shock"*

Reduced system
performance: Indoor
space shifts drastically
from its IAQ design
conditions

System needs to be resilient

- (-) Accumulation of contaminants
- (-) Acute exposure during short duration

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Disruptive Events

Mechanical disruptions



Partial or complete disruption in the operation of the ventilation system (e.g., fan failure, power outages, fouling filters)

Internal disruptions



Occurs inside the space due to excessive indoor pollution event (e.g., excess occupants beyond capacity of AHU)

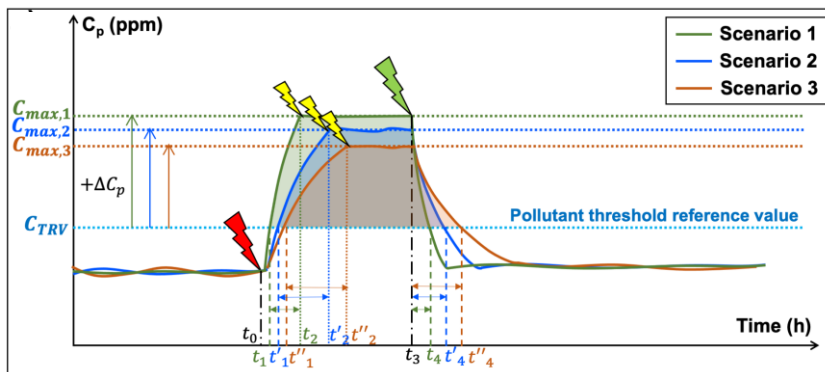
External disruptions



Occurs outside the building envelope due to excessive outdoor pollution (e.g., outdoor fire, traffic jams)

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Resilience performance aspects



Absorptivity

Recovery

Degree of impact

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Quantification of disruptive events: the degree of shock

Mechanical disruptions



$$doMS = \frac{\dot{Q}_{a,r} - \dot{Q}_a}{\underbrace{\dot{Q}_{a,r}}_{Severity}} \times \frac{t_s}{\underbrace{t_{occ}}_{Duration}}$$

degree of mechanical shock
(doMS)

Internal disruptions



$$doIS_s = \frac{ER_s - ER_{s,exp}}{\underbrace{ER_{s,exp}}_{Severity}} \times \frac{t_s}{\underbrace{t_{occ}}_{Duration}}$$

degree of internal shock
(doIS)

External disruptions



$$doOS_s = \frac{C_{s,oa} - C_{s,oa,exp}}{\underbrace{C_{s,oa,exp}}_{Severity}} \times \frac{t_s}{\underbrace{t_{occ}}_{Duration}}$$

degree of outdoor shock
(doOS)

Quantification of resilience aspects

Absorptivity

$$\varepsilon_{abs} = \frac{\Delta t_{abs}}{t_{occ}}$$

Slower absorptivity time is desired

Recovery

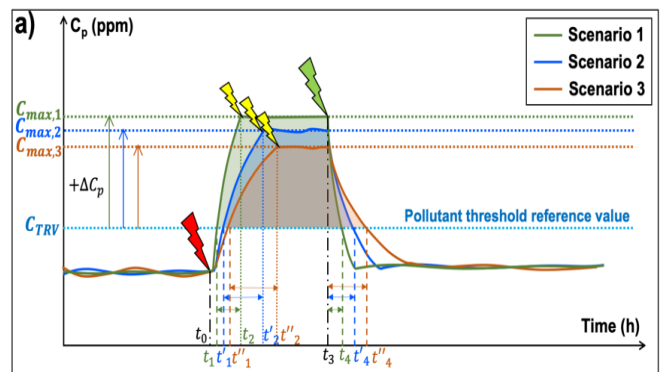
$$\varepsilon_{rec} = 1 - \frac{\Delta t_{rec}}{t_{occ}}$$

Faster recovery time is desired

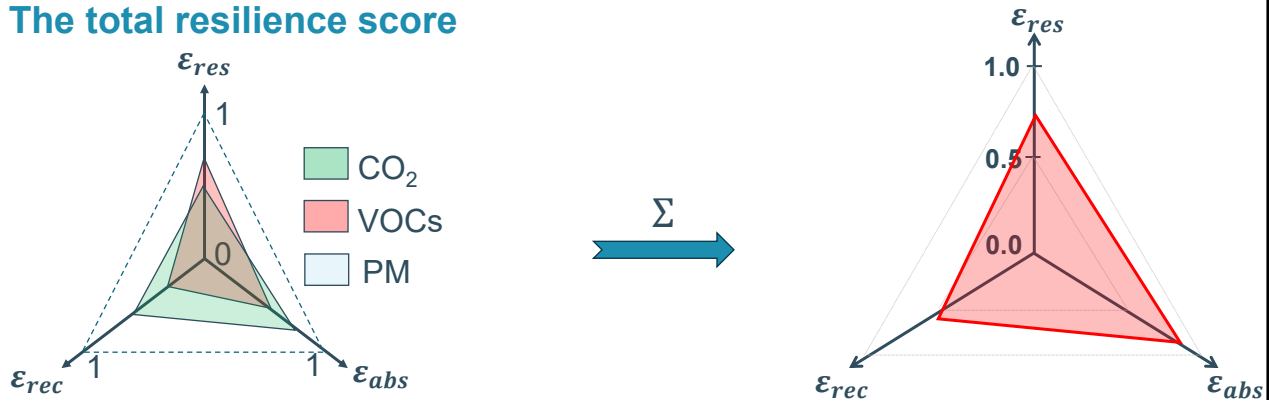
Resilience effectiveness

$$\varepsilon_{res} = \frac{ppm. hours_{ref} - ppm. hours_{system \text{ under shock}}}{ppm. hours_{ref} - ppm. hours_{system \text{ normal operation}}}$$

Higher effectiveness desired



The total resilience score



$$RS_{zone} = \frac{5}{13} (RS_{CO_2} + \sum \omega_i RS_i) \quad i = 1 \text{ to } N \text{ (number of Hazardous air pollutants)} \quad 0 < RS < 1$$

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The total resilience score: Determining the weighting factors

Qualitative approach

Carcinogenic

Mutagenic

Reprotoxic effects

Endocrine disruptions

1 (High evidence)
to
5 (No evidence)

VOCs (Formaldehydes, acrolein, aldehydes usually found in classrooms) rank as CMRE2/ PM fine and coarse rank as CMRE1

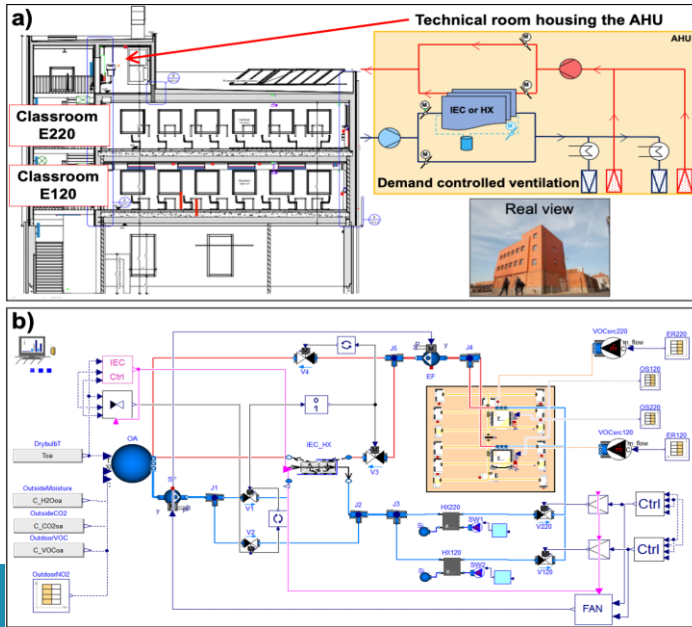
Quantitative approach: HQ: Hazard Quotient

$$HQ = \frac{\text{Mean exposure concentration}}{\text{TRV (threshold values)}}$$

$$HQ_{\text{mean}} \text{ or } HQ_{P95} > 1$$

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Case study



Model in
Modelica,
Dymola

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Scenarios

Demand controlled balanced mechanical ventilation (DCV)

Constant air volume system (CAV)

DCV without filters

Mechanical shock (doMS: 0 to 1)

Internal shock (doIS: 0 to 1)

Outdoor shock (doOS: 0 to 1)

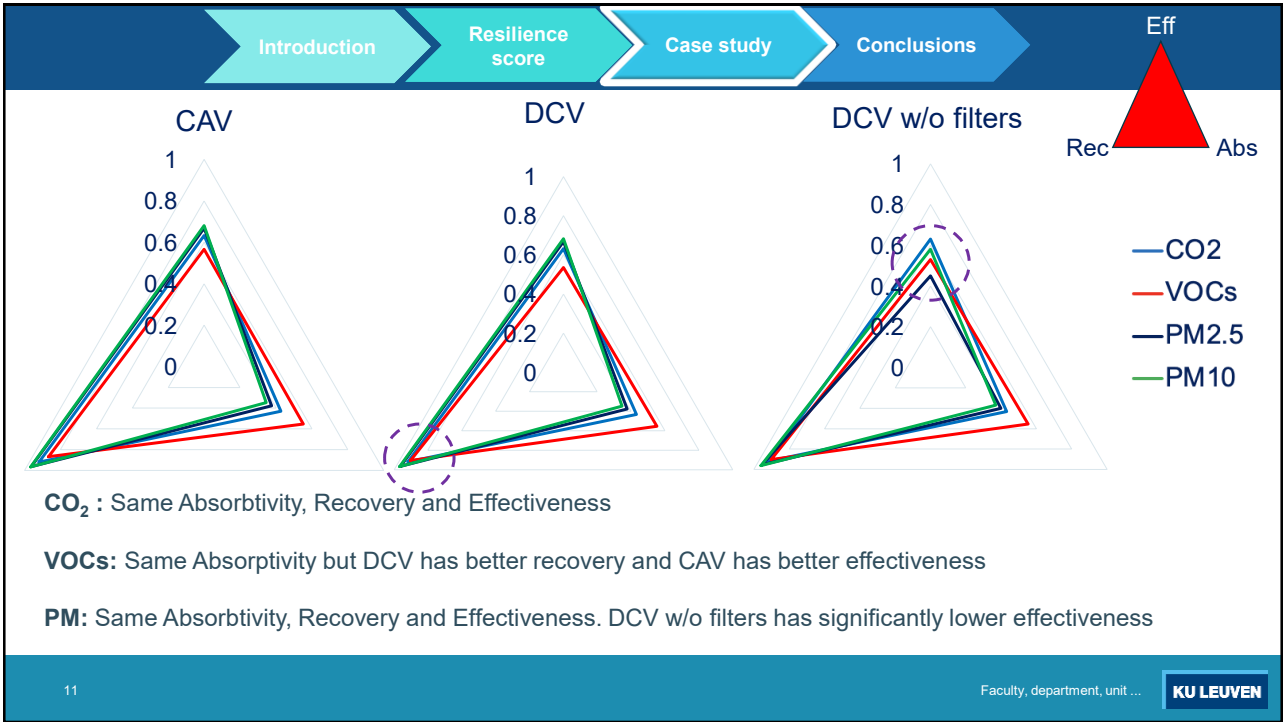
Contaminants: CO₂, VOCs, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀

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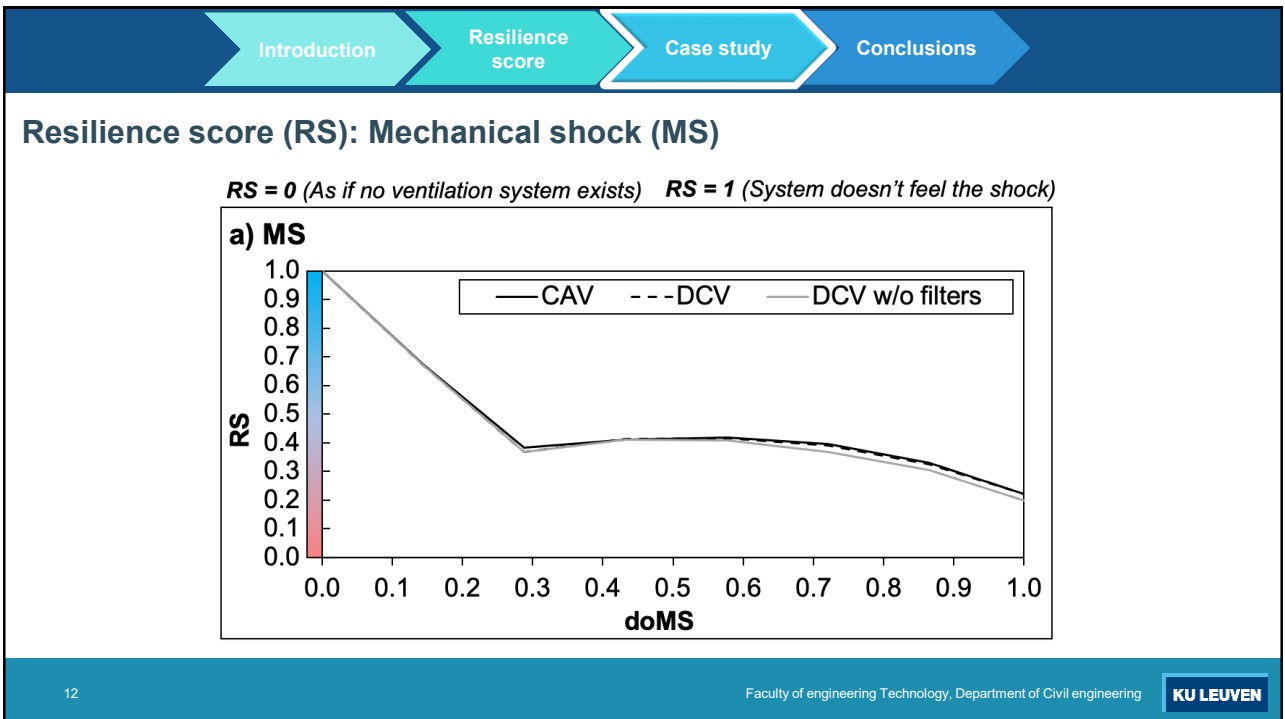
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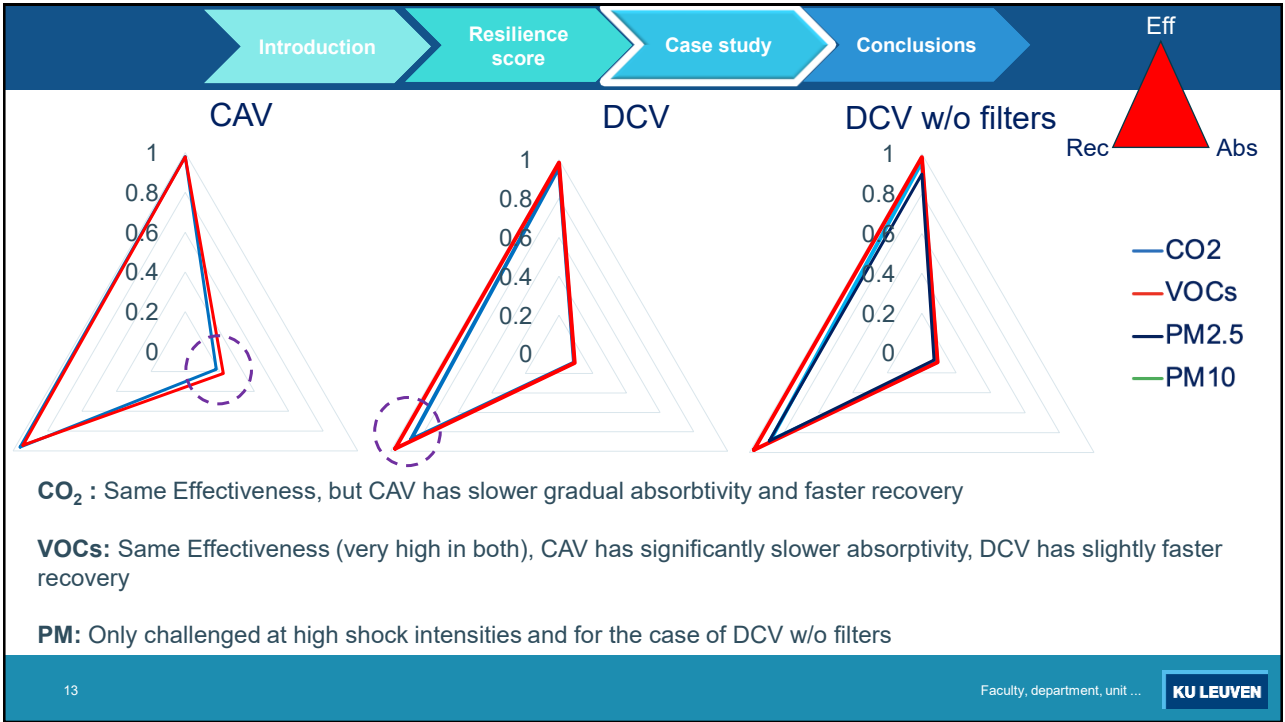
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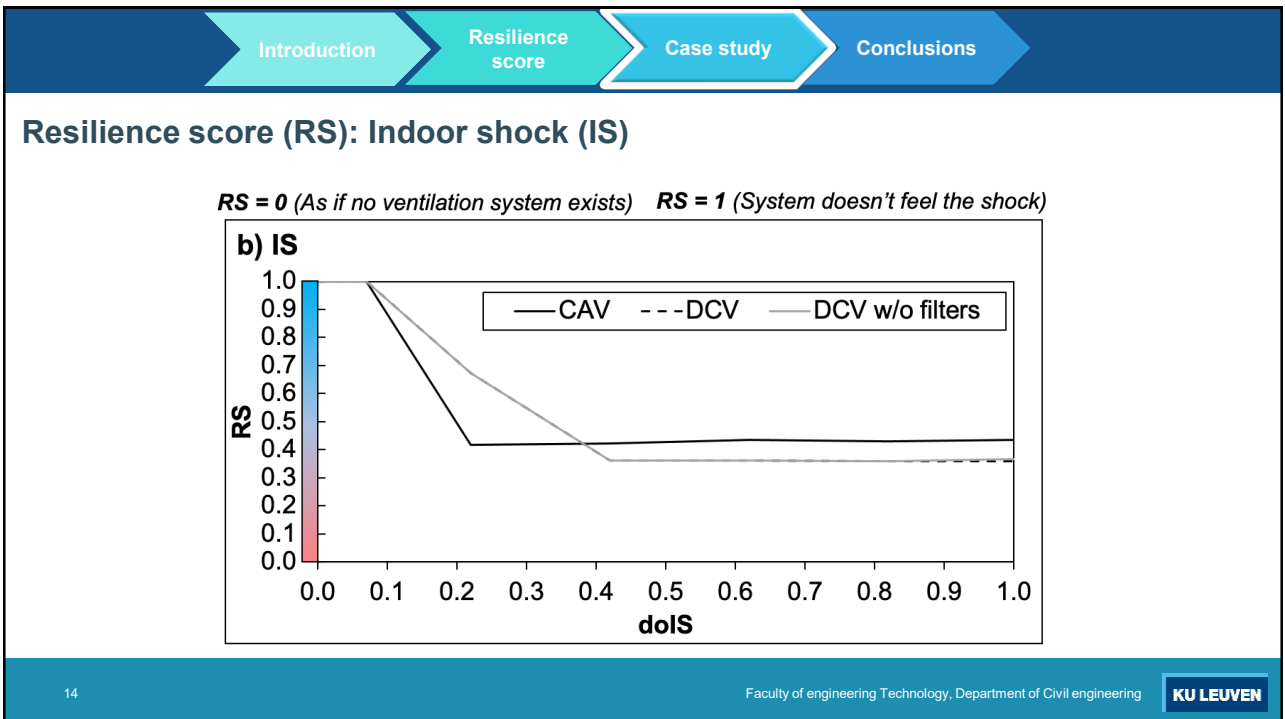
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Conclusions

- **Resilience score** for **IAQ resilience** assessment was developed
- **Smart vs Conventional** ventilation **IAQ resilience** during **disruptive events**:
 - Mechanical shocks: Smart = Conventional
 - Internal shocks: Smart < Conventional
 - Outdoor shocks: Smart > Conventional
- **Filters**: No pronounced effect in the case of Mechanical and Internal shocks but more so in Outdoor shocks
- Framework should be tested for more case studies (residential, offices) and more systems (mechanical extract, natural ventilation, personalized systems, other smart control strategies, etc.)

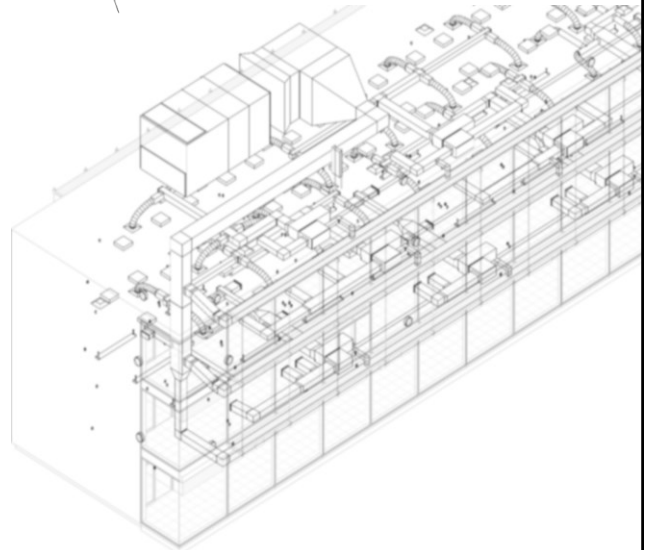
Thank you for listening

Next speaker:

Zakarya Kabbara
Antwerp University, Belgium

Simulation-based design of smart centralized ventilation systems

*Easing design engineers' challenges and
generating optimized designs*



Zakarya Kabbara (EMIB-research group, University of Antwerp)

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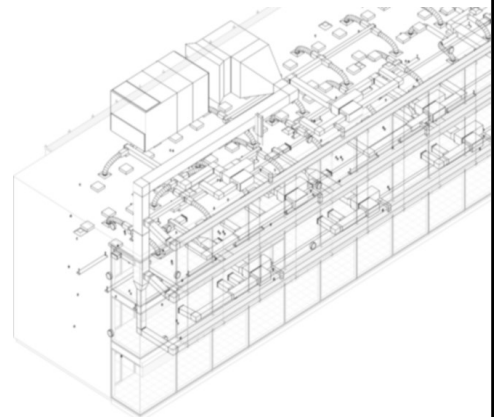
Design challenges of centralized air distribution systems

- Cost efficiency
- Energy-efficiency
- Acoustical comfort
- Hygrothermal comfort
- Healthy IAQ
- Aesthetic - Architecture limitations
- ...

All these have to be achieved
within a limited budget and time



Simulation-based design method for
informed decision making



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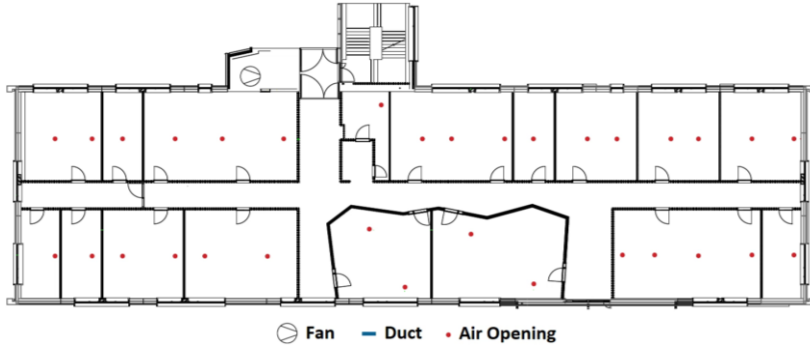
Aimed simulation-based design method:

For a random floor plan:

Automatically generate optimized ductwork configuration (= layout + sizing)



Min. LCC: Ductwork material and installation costs and fan energy costs



3



Aimed simulation-based design method:

For a random floor plan:

Generate ductwork configuration (= layout + sizing) with minimum life cycle cost

Design inputs:

- Nom. Flows + Demand profiles (smart systems)



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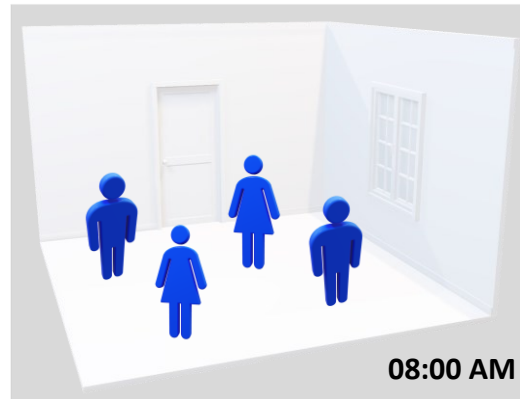
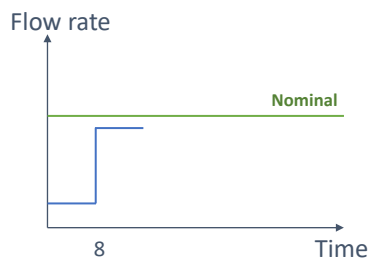
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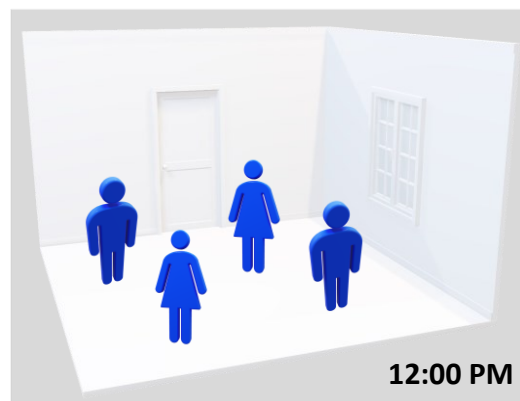
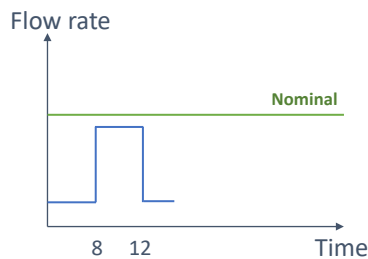
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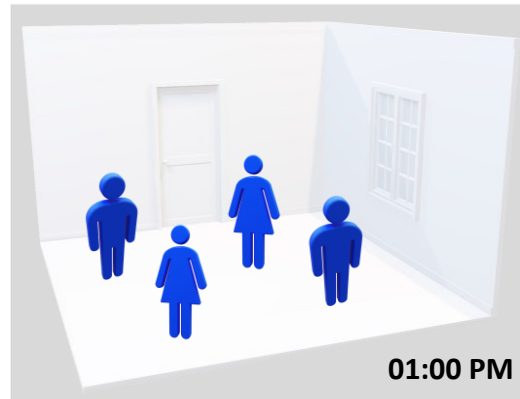
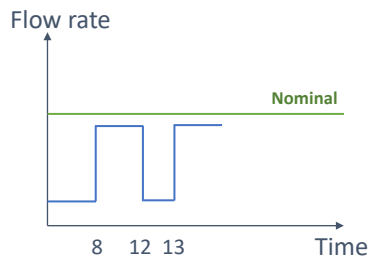
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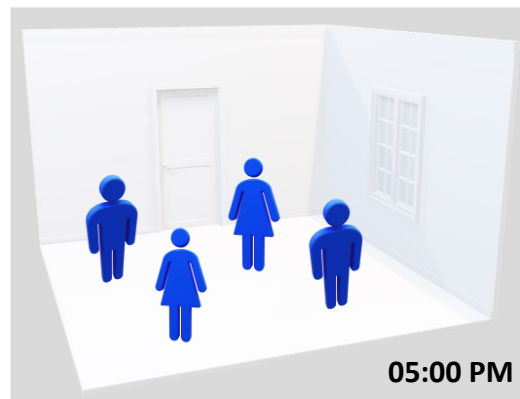
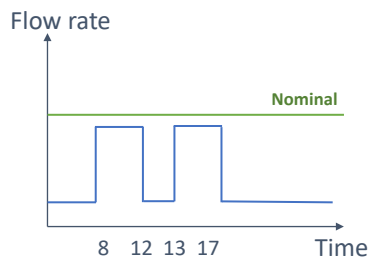
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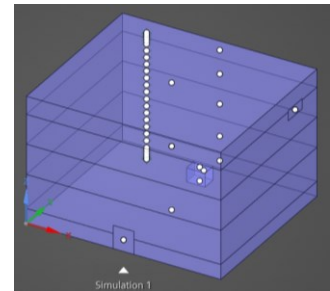
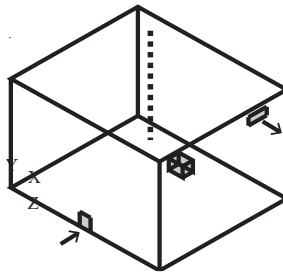
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Generate ductwork configuration (= layout + sizing) with minimum life cycle cost

Design inputs:

- Nom. Flows + Demand profiles
- **Location of air openings**



Aimed simulation-based design method:

For a random floor plan:

Generate ductwork configuration (= layout + sizing) with minimum life cycle costs

Design inputs:

- Nom. Flows + Demand profiles
- Location of air openings

Boundary conditions:

Hard boundary conditions

- Maximum velocity
- Maximum duct dimensions

Soft boundary condition

- Pressure-balancing

Aimed simulation-based design method:

For a random floor plan:

Generate ductwork configuration (= layout + sizing) with minimum life cycle costs

Design inputs:

- Nom. Flows + Demand profiles
- Location of air openings

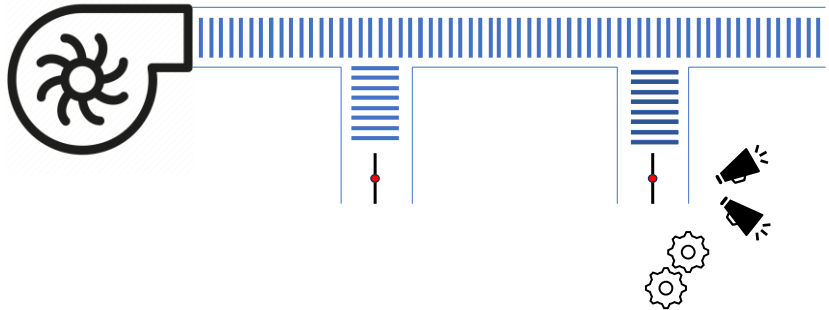
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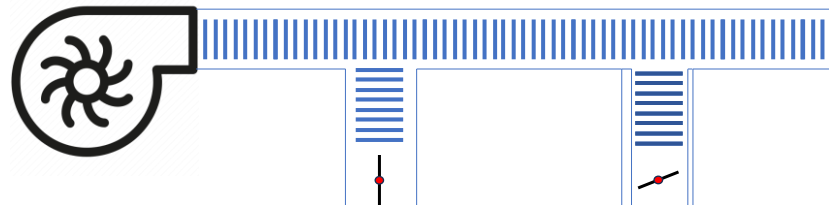
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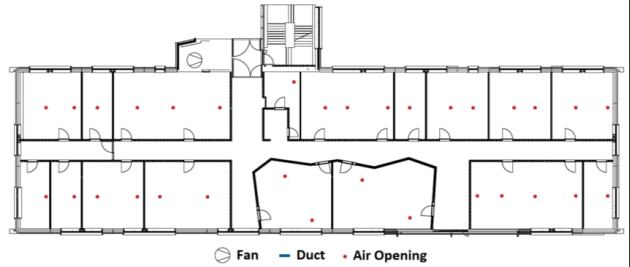
- Pressure-balancing



Design method outputs



Existing design



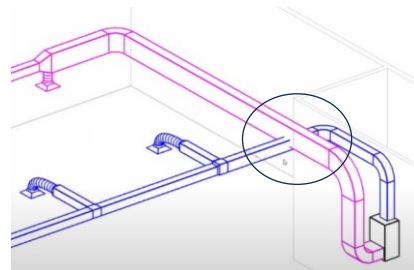
Optimized design

- 18.5 % reduction in material & installation costs
- 10% reduction in fan energy costs
- 15% reduction in LCC
- 25% more balanced designs

Zakarya Kabbara, Sandy Jorens, Houssam Matbouli, Jitse Van Thillo, Ivan Verhaert,
Heuristic optimization for designing centralized air distribution systems in non-residential buildings,
Energy and Buildings, Volume 292, 2023, 113161, ISSN 0378-7788, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2023.113161>.

A glimpse into our future work

- Method's valorization
- Implementation of the method in BIM software (i.e., Revit)
- Method's expansion:
 - Simultaneous supply and extraction
 - Retrofitting/renovating applications





FLANDERS
INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

flux50

Thank you for your attention!

*Zakarya Kabbara, Sandy Jorens, Houssam Matbouli, Jitse Van Thillo, Ivan Verhaert,
Heuristic optimization for designing centralized air distribution systems in non-residential buildings,
Energy and Buildings, Volume 292, 2023, 113161, ISSN 0378-7788,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2023.113161>.*

*Zakarya Kabbara, Sandy Jorens, Ehsan Ahmadian, Ivan Verhaert,
Improving HVAC ductwork designs while considering fittings at an early stage,
Building and Environment, Volume 237, 2023, 110272, ISSN 0360-1323,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2023.110272>.*

*Zakarya Kabbara, Arne Dijkmans, Sandy Jorens, Jitse Van Thillo, Ivan Verhaert,
A performance-based acoustical design strategy for centralized air distribution networks,
IBPSA, Building Simulation, 2023, Shanghai, China*

Zakarya Kabbara (EMIB-research group, University of Antwerp) – zakarya.kabbara@uantwerpen.be



TOWARDS
SMART
VENTILATION



FLANDERS
INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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Improving the supplied ventilation air through filtration

Joris Van Herreweghe
Laboratory for Microbiology and Microparticles

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TOWARDS
SMART
VENTILATION



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INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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Overview

1. Why air filtration?
2. Brief overview of air filter classification
3. Research findings on filters for small residential systems
4. Translational research to mid-sized systems (cSBO)

2

Overview

1. Why air filtration?

2. Brief overview of air filter classification

3. Research findings on filters for small residential systems

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3

Road to a good Indoor Air Quality...

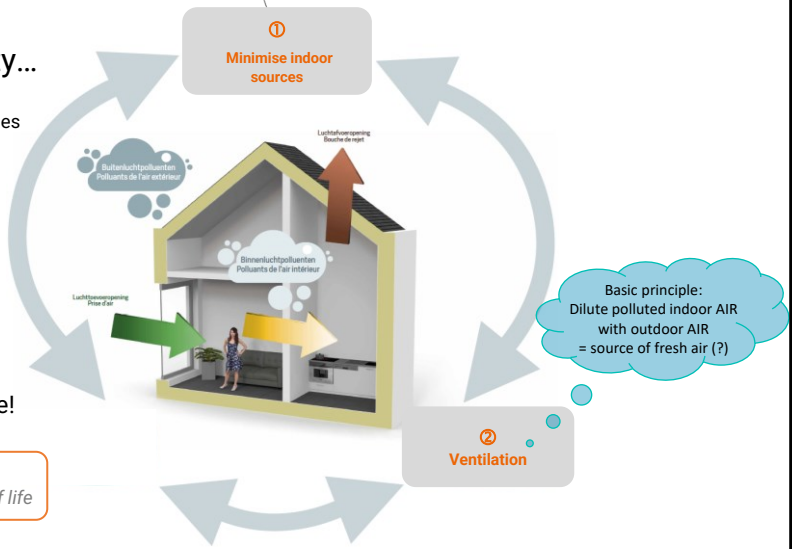
- **Outdoor Air Quality** improved in last decades
- ! Some pollutants **remain problematic** (PM_{2.5}, ozone, NO₂)



Of EU urban population are exposed to [PM_{2.5}] > WHO guidelines

- **Health impact** of poor Air Quality is huge!

Belgium: 8340 deaths = 86.000 years of life
 ↔ Traffic in Belgium: 597 deaths = 40.800 years of life



General Context: Indoor Air Quality

4

Road to a good Indoor Air Quality...

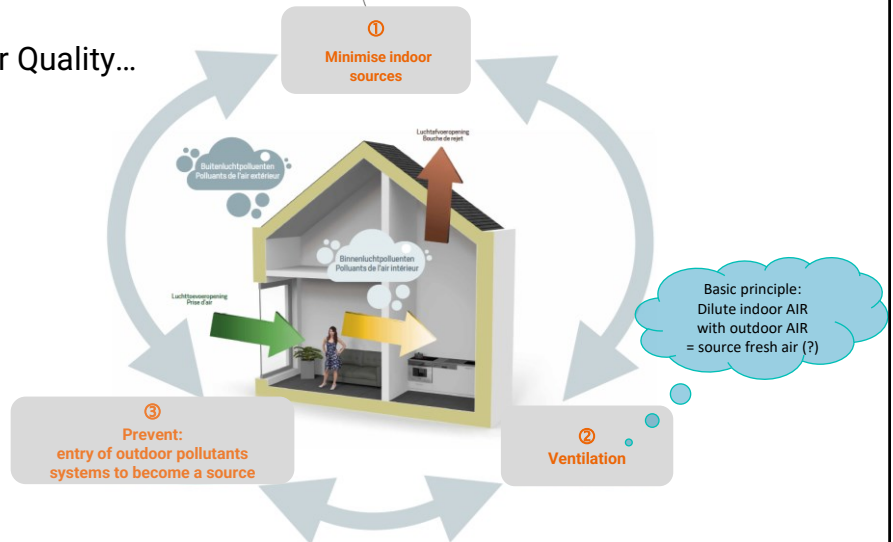
Out2In (residential)

!Pollutants do enter

! Improvement possible:

- F7-ePM_{2.5} bag filter
- ESP

? Applicable in AHU (cSBO)



General Context: Filtration

5

Overview

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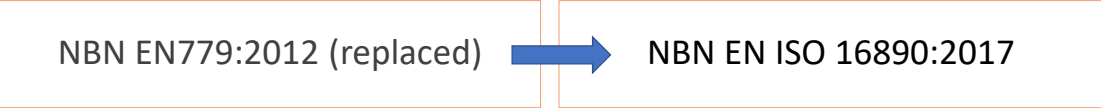
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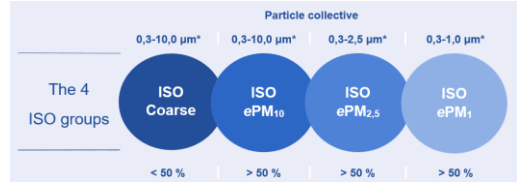
6

General air filters: classification



- Classes = Eff. for particules of **0.4µm**
- Classification
 - G = Coarse (Grossier) G1, G2, **G3, G4**
 - M = Medium M5, M6
 - F = Fine F7, F8, F9
- 9 classes of filters (**5 often used**)
- Still indicated on datasheets

- Classification in 4 groups (**0.3-10µm**)



- Classification within a group (/5%)
49 classes of filters! (coarse 5-95%, others 50-95%)
- Labelling according to ISO standard mandatory since **July 2018**



☞ Fundamental differences (test procedure & classification)
 = no 1:1 relation between EN 779 and ISO 16890 classification
 ☞ The same EN779 filter can be classified differently: F7 = ePM2.5 (65-95%) or ePM1 (50-65%)


Same class, different type...


Iso Coarse 60% (G4)


 Folded panel


 Bag

ePM1 55%/ ePM2.7 70% (F7)

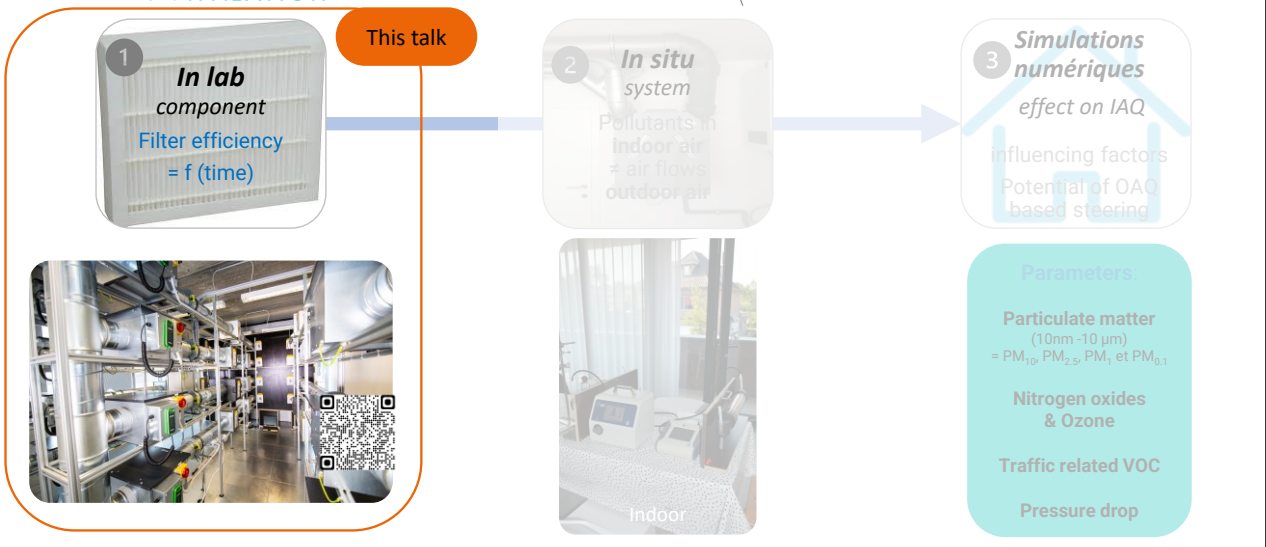

 Folded panel


 Bag

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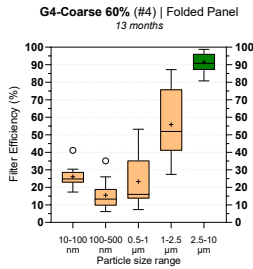


Existing knowledge: Out2In with focus on single family residential systems Approach

10

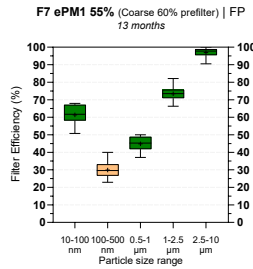
Coarse filters = system protection

- \geq Coarse 50-60% (G4)
- no improvement SUP Air Quality (except for pollen $> 10\mu\text{m}$)



Fine filters = PM_{2.5}

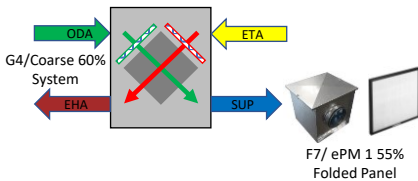
- \geq ePM1 55% (F7) folded panel + Coarse or ePM2.5 70% (F7) bag filter alone
- = [PM_{2.5}] in SUP $<$ WHO (5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) given [outdoor] @ BXL



Existing knowledge: Out2In with focus on single family residential systems Main conclusions

Fine filters: 2 options with equal efficiency

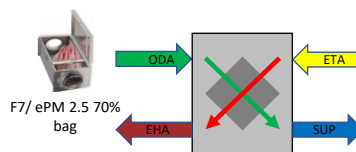
Option 1:
Coarse 60% (G4) + ePM1 55% (F7) folded panel



Coarse prefilter needed
 $\Delta P_{28} 51^{193} \text{ Pa}$

Interesting solution
Protection & Improvement in 1

Option 2:
ePM2.5 (F7) bag type alone in front of system

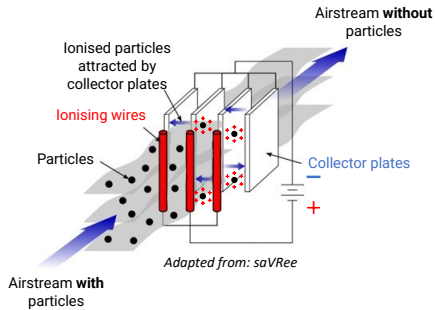


No prefilter needed
Lower pressure drop over 13mths runtime: $\Delta P_{25} 31^{38} \text{ Pa}$

Midsize system = x times tested filters in a frame
Equal performance?, Points of attention?

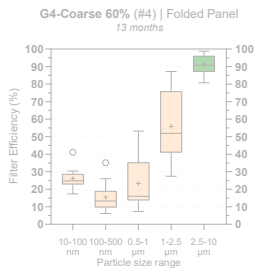
Existing knowledge: Out2In with focus on single family residential systems Main conclusions

Electrostatic precipitator = Ioniser + collector



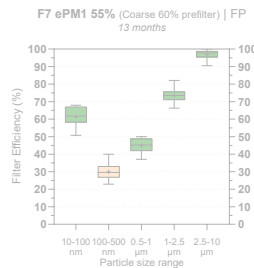
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- ≥ Coarse 50-60% (G4)
- no improvement SUP Air Quality (except for pollen > 10µm)



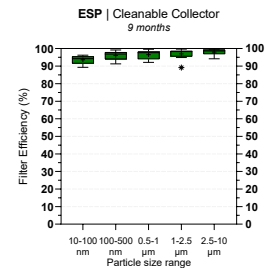
Fine filters = PM_{2.5}

- ≥ ePM1 55% (F7) folded panel + Coarse or ePM2.5 70% (F7) bag filter alone = [PM_{2.5}] in SUP < WHO (5µg/m³) given [outdoor] @ BXL
- [ePM1 80% (F9) & E10 (HEPA)] = much higher pressure drop



Electrostatic Precipitator = PM₁₀ + PM_{2.5} + UFP

- high consistent performance for all particle sizes (10nm-10µm) (when maintained)
- very low pressure drop << F7



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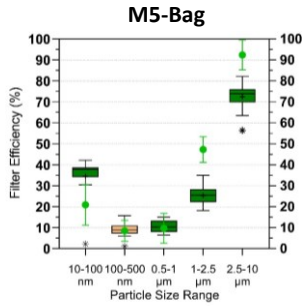
15

In situ test of different configurations

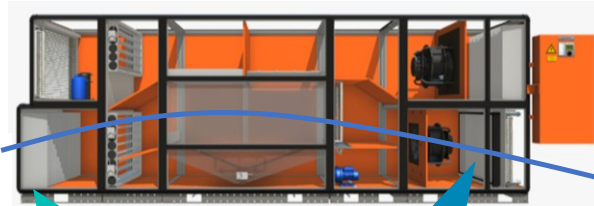
- 1 M5-coarse 80%-filtre bag + F7-ePM₁ 55% folded panel
@ nominal air flow: 4400 m³/h
- 2 F7-ePM_{2.5} 70% bag
@ nominal air flow: 4400 m³/h
- 3 F7 bag filter at different air flows
800 – 1600 - 2500 m³/h

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Setup 1



M5 Bag

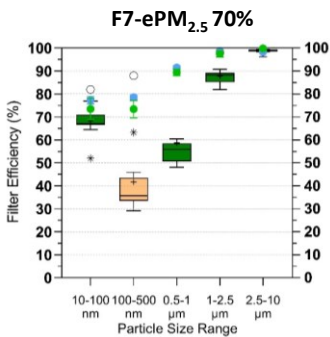


cSBO@3937 m³/h
M5 0.51 m/s
F7 0.098 m/s

Out2In@150m³/h
M5 0.052 m/s
F7 0.034 m/s

Translational research to mid-sized systems (cSBO)

Setup 2



Setup 2 SUP:
ePM2.5 70% (F7) Bag

Setup 1 SUP:
Coarse 80% (M5) Bag

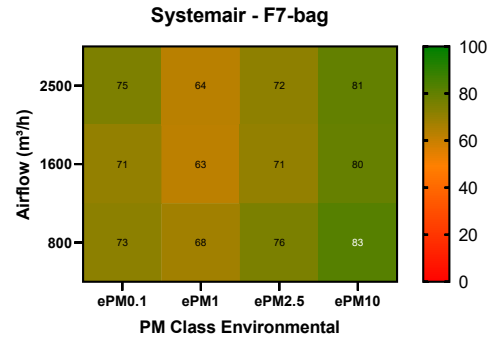
Setup 1 SUP:
ePM1 55% (F7) folded Panel



Filter	State	Pressure drop (Pa)	Airflow (m³/h)
M5-coarse 80% Bag + F7-ePM ₁ 55% Folded Panel	New	81.3 ± 2.5 Pa 27.9 ± 2.2 Pa Σ = 109.8 ± 3.3 Pa	3937 ± 26 m³/h
F7-ePM _{2.5} 70% Bag	New	95.5 Pa (new) 99.9 ± 1.7 Pa (2 months in use)	3937 ± 30 m³/h

Translational research to mid-sized systems (cSBO)

Setup 3



Test @ different air flows

- No significant difference in eff.

Translational research to mid-sized systems (cSBO)

Conclusion et recommandations

General: consistency between results of both projects
= recommandations Out2In, *based on long-term follow-up measurements,*
can be transposed to AHU

Filters

- Class, type, place: possible to install different setups in AHU itself
(coarse + fine FP or fine bag)
- Installation: ! Structural stability of the filter
! Connection between filter and its housing and between filters!
! Bag filters: bags in vertical position
+ be careful during installation
- Replacement: follow-up of ΔP by BMS = targeted filter replacement (\leftrightarrow residential)
- Potential of ESP: needed space is available within the AHU





TOWARDS SMART VENTILATION



FLANDERS
INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

flux50



Filters:

Van Herreweghe *et al.* (2022) Real-life ventilation filter performance: final results of an in-depth study

