

# IEA-EBC Annex 78: Substituting Ventilation by Gas Phase Air Cleaning. An industry webinar

## Introduction to IEA-EBC Annex 78 and the concept of substituting Ventilation by Gas Phase Air Cleaning

Professor Bjarne W. Olesen Ph.D.

- International Centre for Indoor Environment and Energy, ICIEE
- Technical University of Denmark
  - [bwo@byg.dtu.dk](mailto:bwo@byg.dtu.dk)



1

## EBC-IEA ANNEX 78: Operating Agents

- Dr. Bjarne W. Olesen, Technical University of Denmark.
- Dr. Pawel Wargocki, Technical University of Denmark.

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • PREPARATION PHASE | 01-07-2018 TO 30-06-2019 |
| • WORKING PHASE     | 01-07-2019 TO 30-06-2023 |
| • REPORTING PHASE   | 01-07-2023 TO 30-06-2024 |

2

## ANNEX STRUCTURE

- Subtask A: Energy benefits using gas phase air cleaning
  - Subtask leader: Alireza Afshari, Denmark
  - Co-leader: *Sasan Sadrizadeh* , Sweden
- Subtask B: How to partly substitute ventilation by air cleaning
  - Subtask leader: Pawel Wargocki, Denmark
  - Co-leader: Shin-Ichi Tanabe , Japan
- Subtask C: Selection and testing standards for air cleaners
  - Subtask leader: Paolo Tronville, Italy
  - Co-leader: Jinhan Mo, China
- Subtask D: Performance modelling and long-term field validation of gas phase air cleaning technologies
  - Subtask leader: Karel Kabele, Czech
  - Co-leader: Jensen Chang , USA

3

## ANNEX MEMBERS

- Czech
- China
- Denmark
- Japan
- Singapore
- Sweden
- USA
- Turkey

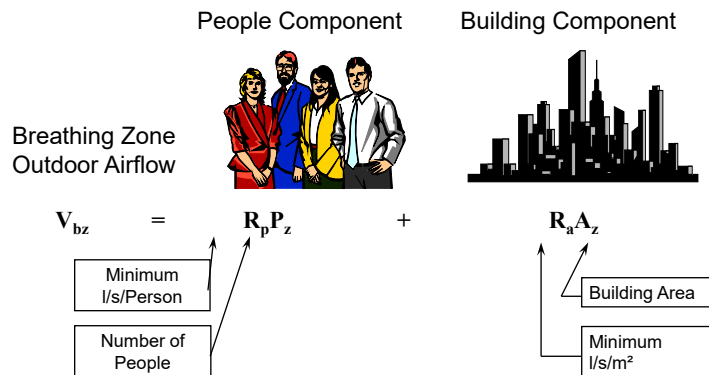
4

## Planned deliverables

- A. A method for predicting the energy performance of gas phase air cleaning technologies and the possible reduction of energy use for ventilation.
- B. A validated procedure for supplementing (partly substituting) required ventilation rates with gas phase air cleaning.
- C. A test method for air cleaning technologies that besides chemical measurements include perceived air quality as a measure of performance.
- D. A report on the long-term performance of gas phase air cleaning.
- E. Models for predicting the performance of gas phase air cleaning
- F. A report on Gas Phase Air Cleaning Technologies

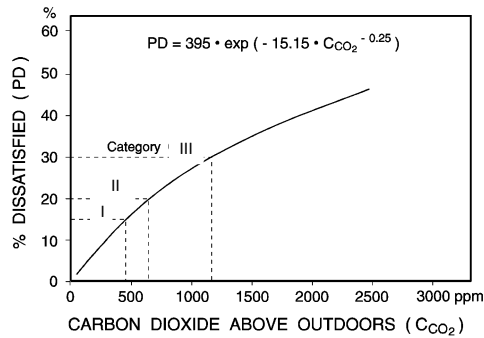
5

## Concept for calculation of design ventilation rate ISO CEN ASHRAE



6

# CO<sub>2</sub> as reference



$$Q_h = \frac{G_h}{C_{h,i} - C_{h,o}} \cdot \frac{1}{\varepsilon_v}$$

where

- $Q_h$  is the ventilation rate required for dilution, in m<sup>3</sup> per second;
- $G_h$  is the generation rate of the substance, in micrograms per second;
- $C_{h,i}$  is the guideline value of the substance, in micrograms per m<sup>3</sup>;
- $C_{h,o}$  is the concentration of the substance of the supply air, in micrograms per m<sup>3</sup>;
- $\varepsilon_v$  is the ventilation effectiveness.

7

## CONCEPT OF SUPPLEMENTING VENTILATION BY GAS PHASE AIR CLEANING.

### • Clean Air Delivery Rate (CADR)

- $CADR = \varepsilon_{PAQ} \cdot Q_{AP} \cdot (3,6/V)$
- where:
- $\varepsilon_{clean}$  or  $\varepsilon_{PAQ}$  is the air cleaning efficiency
- $Q_{AP}$  is the air flow through the air cleaner, l/s;
- $V$  is the volume of the room, m<sup>3</sup>.

### • Air Cleaning Efficiency

$$\varepsilon_{clean} = 100(C_U - C_D)/C_D$$

where:

- $\varepsilon_{clean}$  is the air cleaning efficiency
- $C_U$  is the gas concentration before air cleaner
- $C_D$  is the gas concentration after air cleaner.

$$\varepsilon_{PAQ} = Q_o / Q_{AP} \cdot (PAQ / PAQ_{AP} - 1) \cdot 100$$

- where:
- $\varepsilon_{PAQ}$  is the air cleaning efficiency for perceived air quality;
- $Q_o$  is the ventilation rate without air cleaner, l/s;
- $Q_{AP}$  is the ventilation rate with air cleaner, l/s;
- $PAQ$  is the perceived air quality without the air cleaner, decipol;
- $PAQ_{AP}$  is the perceived air quality without the air cleaner, decipol

### • Higher Air Quality Category

8

# CONCEPT OF SUPPLEMENTING VENTILATION BY GAS PHASE AIR CLEANING.

Ventilation  
Information  
Paper  
n° 42

April 2021

© INIVE EEIG  
Operating Agent  
and Management  
Boulevard Poincaré 79  
B-1060 Brussels – Belgium  
inive@bbri.be - www.inive.org

International Energy Agency's  
Energy in Buildings and Communities  
Programme



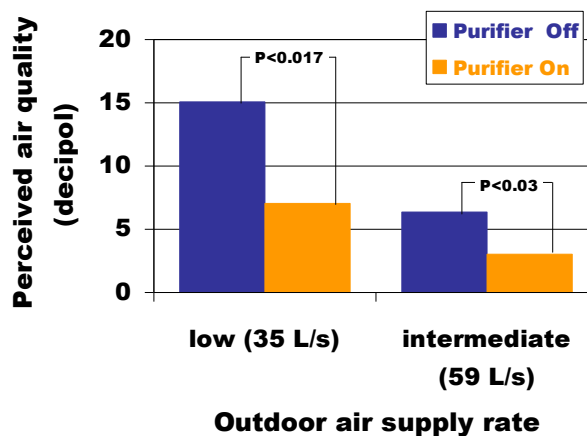
Air Infiltration and Ventilation Centre

## The Concept for Substituting Ventilation by Gas Phase Air Cleaning

Bjarne W. Olesen, DTU, Denmark  
Chandra Sekhar, National University of  
Singapore, Singapore  
Pawel Wargocki, DTU, Denmark

9

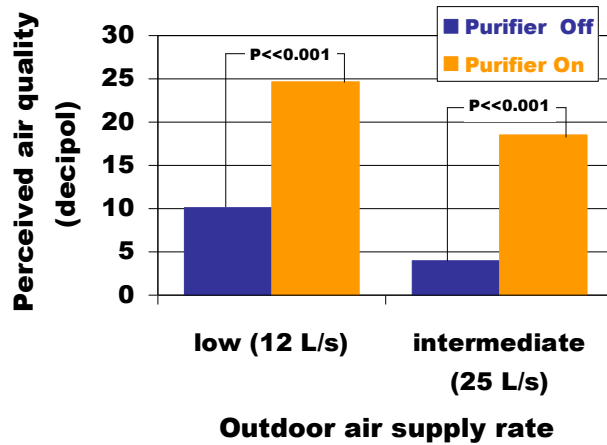
## Results: Building materials, PCs, filters



10

10

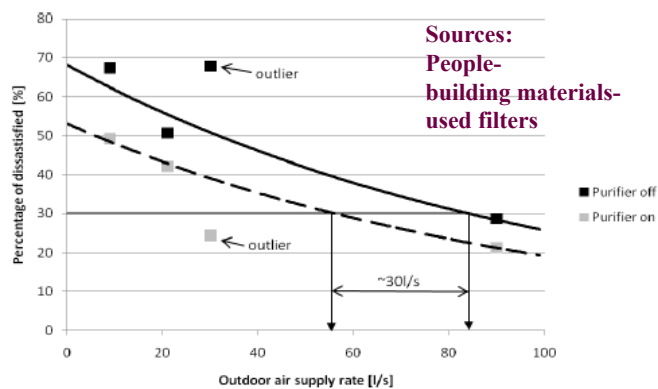
## Results: Human bioeffluents



11

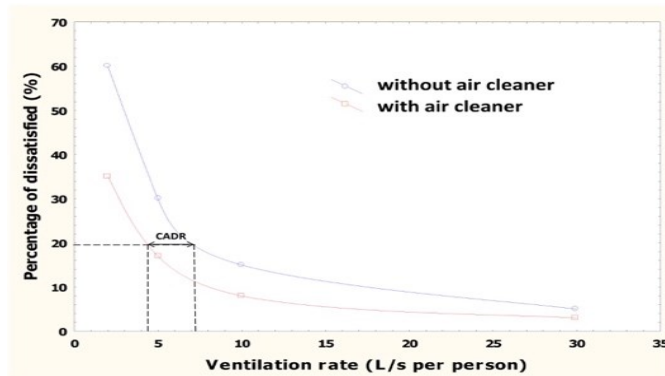
11

## Effect of air cleaning on perceived Air Quality



12

# Clean Air Delivery rate per person



13

## Conclusion

- A concept for substituting part of the required ventilation with gas phase air cleaning technology has been presented
- There is a need for new testing standards that considers perceived air quality and human emissions as a source.

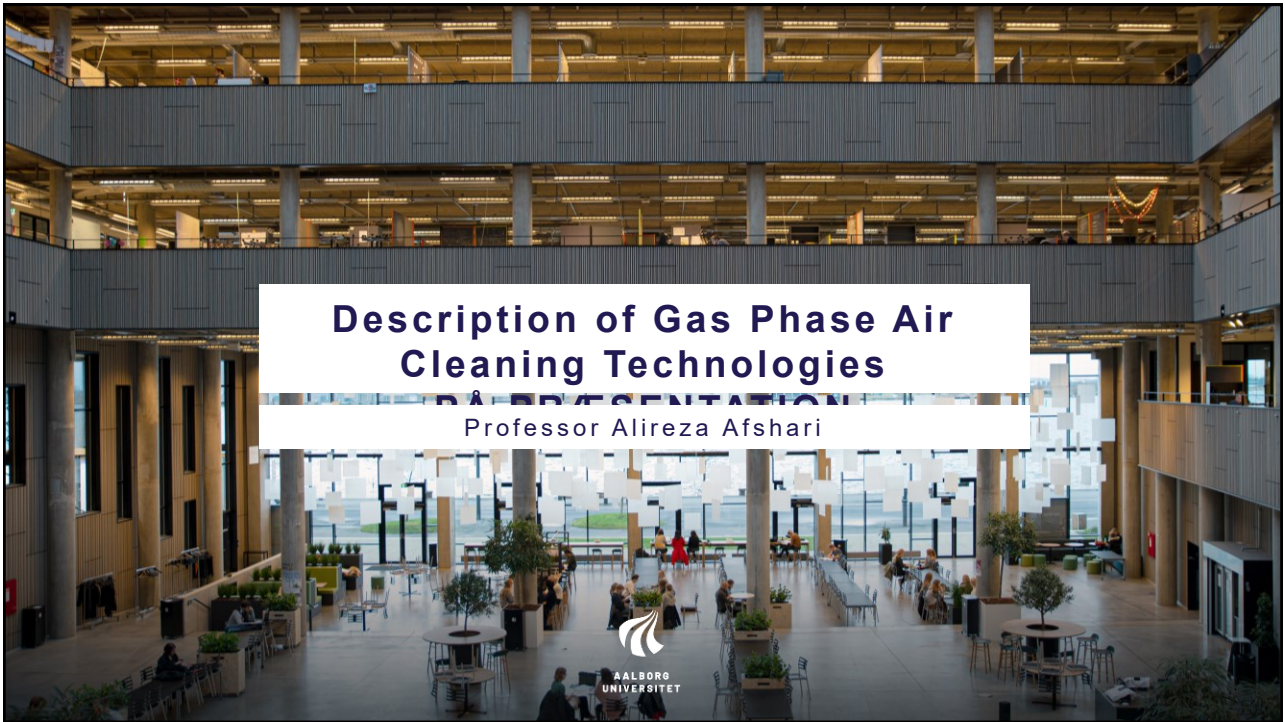
14

**Questions?**  
**Please put your questions in the chat.**

Bjarne W. Olesen  
bwol@dtu.dk







1

## Sources of gaseous pollutants

- Sources of **inorganic gases** include **gas stoves**, **tobacco smoke**, and **vehicles**.
- Sources of **organic gases** include **tobacco smoke**, **building materials**, **furnishings**, **animal metabolic processes**, etc.
- **Radon** can also be found in indoor air.

2

# Requirements

- ❶ Regardless of the type of technology, **three requirements must be fulfilled**.
  - **High filtration efficiency** must be provided for a broad range of chemical substances.
  - **Low airflow resistance** (small pressure drop) is required.
  - The release or **generation of harmful substances** must be **prevented**.

# Different technologies for removing gaseous pollutants.

- ❶ There are **six principal types of gas-phase air cleaners**.
  - Adsorbent media air filters, such as activated carbon (AC)
  - Chemisorbent media air filters
  - Photocatalytic oxidation (PCO)
  - Plasma
  - O<sub>3</sub> generators
  - Plants

## Filtration – Gaseous Materials Adsorbent Media

- ❶ The **adsorption process** can be divided into two main groups:
  - **Physical adsorption** (e.g. the adsorption of AC for gas).
  - **Chemical adsorption** (e.g. activated alumina or AC impregnated with potassium or sodium permanganate, which reacts with formaldehyde and several other compounds).

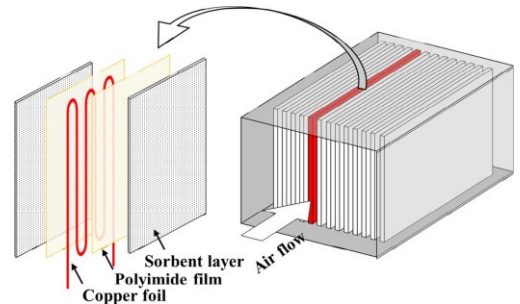
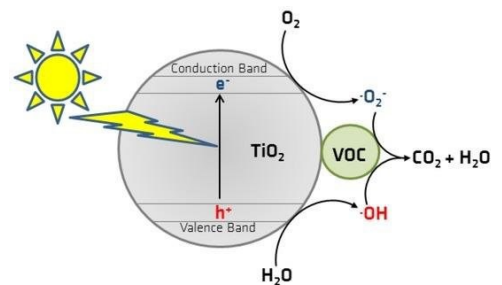


Illustration of the surface temperature adjustable laminated plate structure (left) and the air purifier module comprising multiple parallel plates (right). (Chen et al., 2019).

## Filtration – Gaseous Materials Photocatalytic Oxidation (PCO)

- ❶ The PCO process is where, upon adsorption of a photon, a semiconductor acts as a catalyst in producing reactive radicals, primarily hydroxyl radicals, which can oxidise organic compounds and mineralise them.
- ❷ Common photocatalysts in PCO are titanium dioxide ( $\text{TiO}_2$ ), zinc oxide ( $\text{ZnO}$ ), tungsten trioxide, zinc sulphide, and cadmium sulphide.

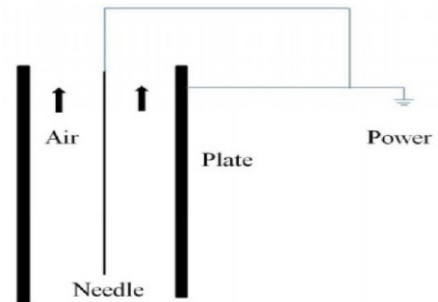


Schematic representation of photocatalytic oxidation of a volatile organic compound (VOC) (Mull et al., 2017).

## Filtration – Gaseous Materials

### Air Ion Generators

- ❶ Air ions are electrically charged molecules or atoms in the atmosphere.
- ❷ An air ion is formed when a gaseous molecule or atom receives sufficiently high energy to eject an electron.
- ❸ Negative air ion (NAI) generators gain electrons, whereas positive air ion generators lose electrons.
- ❹ Several types of negative air ion generators are based on corona discharges, thermionic electron emission, photoexcitation, and the Lenard effect for creating NAIs.



Schematic view of the corona discharge ioniser technology (Rahimi, 2013).

## Filtration – Gaseous Materials

### Ozone Generators

- ❶ An  $O_3$  generator is a device that produces  $O_3$  by adding energy to oxygen molecules ( $O_2$ ), which causes the oxygen atoms to separate and temporarily recombine with other oxygen molecules.
- ❷ The process can be accomplished in the following methods: corona discharge and UV radiation.



Visualisation of how a corona discharge ozone generator operates (Ozone solutions. 2021).

# Filtration – Gaseous Materials Plant

- ❶ Several articles have described air-cleaning plants used by NASA .
- ❷ Wolverton et al. (1989) found that indoor plants can scrub the air of cancer-causing VOCs, such as formaldehyde and benzene.
- ❸ Orwell et al. (2004) found that soil microorganisms in potted plants also play a part in cleaning indoor air.
- ❹ Kim et al. (2010) examined 86 species of houseplants from five general classes for their ability to remove formaldehyde.

9

## Effect of Portable Gas-Phase Air Cleaners on Indoor Air Quality

Alireza Afshari, Olli Seppänen, Bjarne W. Olesen, Jinshan Mo

Pages 26 - 35




DOWNLOAD CHAPTER

This chapter is part of REHVA Journal:

05/2021

DOWNLOAD THE COMPLETE JOURNAL

VIEW ALL CHAPTERS

			
<b>Alireza Afshari</b>	<b>Olli Seppänen</b>	<b>Bjarne W. Olesen</b>	<b>Jinshan Mo</b>
Department of the Built Environment, Aalborg University København SV, Denmark aaf@build.aau.dk	Nordic Ventilation Group & FINVAC Helsinki, Finland	Department of Civil Engineering Lyngby, Denmark	PhD, Associate Professor Beijing Key Laboratory of Indoor Air Quality Evaluation and Control, Department of Building Science, Tsinghua University, Beijing, P. R. China

<https://www.rehva.eu/rehva-journal/chapter/effect-of-portable-gas-phase-air-cleaners-on-indoor-air-quality>

10

## Summary of the technologies

Technology	Advantage	Disadvantage	Application
Adsorbent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gaseous pollutants adsorb on porous granular media or on activated carbon</li><li>Many types of adsorbents with activated carbon used currently used</li><li>Relatively available technology</li><li>Can remove broad range of gaseous pollutants with moderate to high efficiency</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pollutants can be released from adsorbent into indoor air</li><li>Low effectiveness for low molecular weight pollutants including formaldehyde</li><li>Must periodically replace adsorbent</li><li>Lowest efficiency for indoor air applications not well understood</li><li>Large amount of adsorbent needed for long lifetime</li><li>High replacement cost</li><li>Often high air-flow resistance increasing fan energy use</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Installed in heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems or in stand-alone portable air cleaners</li></ul>
Chemisorbent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gaseous pollutants adsorb on and chemically react with porous granular media</li><li>Relatively available technology</li><li>Can remove broad range of gaseous pollutants with moderate to high efficiency</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>High replacement cost</li><li>Often high air-flow resistance increasing fan energy use</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Installed in heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems or in stand-alone portable air cleaners</li></ul>
Photocatalytic Oxidation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gaseous pollutants adsorb on a surface coated with a photocatalyst that is irradiated with a light source, usually a source of ultraviolet light, where adsorbed pollutants are oxidized</li><li>Can remove a range of gaseous pollutants</li><li>Usually lower air-flow resistance than adsorbents and chemisorbents, thus, lower fan energy use</li><li>Can destroy some bioaerosols</li><li>Many systems have low pollutant removal efficiency</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Large energy use</li><li>Cost of periodically replacing lamps</li><li>Photocatalysts become inactive with unknown photocatalyst life</li><li>Incomplete breakdown of some pollutants can result in formation of new pollutants potentially harmful to health</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Installed in heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems or in stand-alone portable air cleaners</li></ul>
Air Ion Generator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Releases small reaction molecules (usually hydroxyl radicals) into indoor air and decompose volatile organic compounds and odors</li><li>Quiet and energy efficient</li><li>May improve particle removal performance of some particle air cleaners</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Very limited data available on pollutant removal performance in buildings</li><li>Can produce ozone, some comments on ozone air cleaners</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Usual application is a stand-alone portable air cleaner</li></ul>
Ozone Generator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ozone generated and released into indoor air and oxidizes volatile organic compounds and odors</li><li>Generally ineffective to significantly reduce air-borne particle concentrations unless ozone concentrations are very high</li><li>Reactions of ozone with airborne volatile organic compounds can lead to production of formaldehyde and other particles that pose health risks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Releases ozone into indoor air and ozone is harmful pollutant</li><li>Generally ineffective to significantly reduce air-borne particle concentrations unless ozone concentrations are very high</li><li>Reactions of ozone with airborne volatile organic compounds can lead to production of formaldehyde and other particles that pose health risks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Usual application is a stand-alone portable air cleaner</li></ul>
Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Plants in buildings can remove some volatile organic compounds</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Not proven to significantly reduce indoor pollutant levels with practical number of plants</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Plants placed throughout building or in attached greenhouse</li></ul>

# Effect of Portable Air Cleaners on Indoor Air Quality: Particle Removal from Indoor Air



**ALIREZA AFSHARI**

Department of the Built Environment,  
Aalborg University  
A.C. Meyers Vænge 15, A, 6224,  
2450 København SV, Denmark  
\* Corresponding Author email:  
aaf@build.aau.dk



**OLLI SEPPÄNEN**

Nordic Ventilation Group & FINVAC  
Sitatori 5, 00420 Helsinki, Finland  
olli.seppanen@finvac.org

The purpose of this literature review was to examine the studies, published in the last decades that analysed possibilities, applications and limitations of using portable air cleaners in order to improve indoor air quality. The article discusses the strengths and weaknesses of different air cleaning technologies by considering factors such as air quality improvement, filtering performance and energy aspect.

**Keywords:** particle, removal, indoor air, air cleaner, ventilation

11

13:44



## Testing Portable Air Cleaning Units –Test Methods and Standards: A Critical Review



**Alireza Afshari**



**Jinhan Mo**



**Enze Tian**



**Olli Seppänen**



12

# Thank you for your attention

IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC Webinar

**Substituting Ventilation by Gas Phase Air Cleaning**  
**7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 [15:00-16:45 CET] - 15:20-15:30**

## **"Existing standards for testing gas phase air cleaners"**

P. Tronville

Politecnico di Torino, Turin, Italy



**Politecnico  
di Torino**

Department of Energy  
"G.Ferraris"



1

## **Gas-phase air-cleaning performance metrics**

Why are we interested in a standardized test method for such equipment?

1. Removal efficiency of gaseous pollutants: 1 minus penetration, i.e., the ratio of downstream to upstream pollutant concentration; for supplementing ventilation, typically, the pollutants are VOCs
2. Airflow resistance through the gas-phase air cleaning system; it is linked not obviously to fan energy use or airflow reduction
3. Service life of device or media: time elapsed between installation and replacement or maintenance
4. Total cost of gas-phase air cleaning per unit delivery of VOC-free air (no standard currently available for this purpose)

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

2

2



## EN ISO standards for building applications

- EN ISO 10121-2:2013 “Test methods for assessing the performance of gas-phase air cleaning media and devices for general ventilation - Part 2: Gas-phase air cleaning devices (GPACD)” (confirmed in 2018)
- EN ISO 10121-1:2014 “Test method for assessing the performance of gas-phase air cleaning media and devices for general ventilation - Part 1: Gas-phase air cleaning media” (confirmed in 2019)
- EN ISO 10121-3:2022 “Test methods for assessing the performance of gas-phase air cleaning media and devices for general ventilation - Part 3: Classification system for GPACDs applied to treatment of outdoor air”

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

3

3

## ASHRAE standards for building applications

- ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 145.2-2016 "Laboratory Test Method for Assessing the Performance of Gas-Phase Air-Cleaning Systems: Air-Cleaning Devices" (first edition in 2011)
- ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 145.1-2015 "Laboratory Test Method for Assessing the Performance of Gas-Phase Air-Cleaning Systems: Loose Granular Media" (first edition in 2008)
- ASHRAE Standard 145.4P - Proposed Standard authorized June 2022 to be developed by SSPC 145 “Method of Test for Assessing the Gas-Phase Performance of Air Cleaning Devices and Systems in a Duct-Chamber Apparatus”

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

4

4

## Particulate vs. gas removal equipment assessment

- Particulate filter with fibrous media
  - Pressure drop gradually increases
  - Filter efficiency may increase or decrease
  - Filter is visibly working
  - Standards and test procedures to rate filters well established and being improved (new aging procedure needed for general ventilation applications)
- Gas-phase air cleaner
  - Pressure drop remains the same
  - Filter efficiency decreases
  - Usually, the filter is not visibly working
  - Standards and test procedures to rate filters are still being developed and are not commonly used

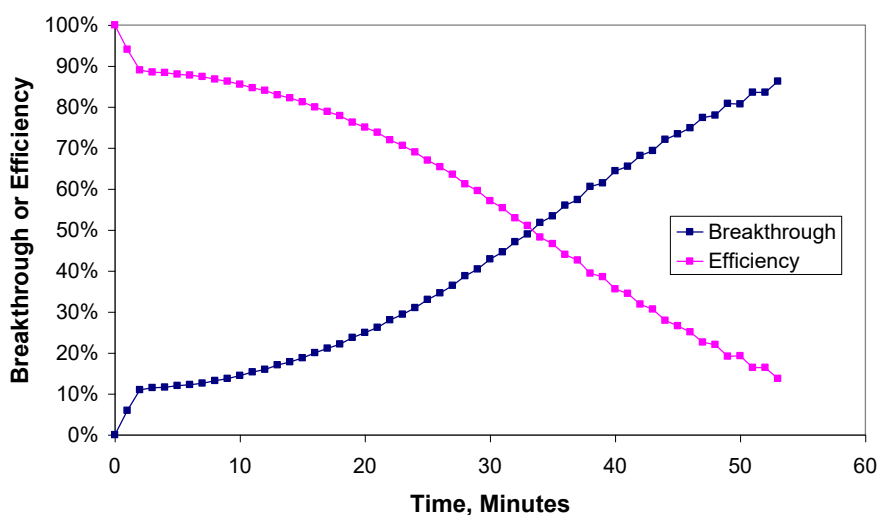
7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

5

5

## Dynamic breakthrough/Efficiency curve



7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

6

6

## Performance vs. features

### Features

- Amount of sorbent media
- Residence time (airflow rate)

### Performance

- Dynamic breakthrough or efficiency
- Capacity
- Life
  - Minimum efficiency (vs. 100% Breakthrough)
  - Maximum concentration
  - Pressure drop (ensure proper pre-filtration)

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

7

7

## Traditional gas-phase air-cleaning technologies

- Traditional gas-phase removal equipment based on an adsorption process, e.g., activated carbon or permanganate alumina pellets
- Adsorption technologies have long been used in a wide range of applications, so the performances and the efficiencies under various conditions are well understood
- Some current standards have limitations in their scope, which make them not suitable for emerging gas-phase electronic air-cleaning technologies

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

8

8

## Emerging gas-phase electronic air-cleaning technologies

- Newer technologies are used in electronic air cleaners, such as UV, UV with photocatalysts (UV-PCO), plasmas, plasma with catalysts, etc.
- These may generate oxidizing agents like radicals and ozone that remove the gases and vapors through the oxidation process; upon complete oxidation, VOCs can be converted into carbon dioxide and water
- They can generate intermediates such as carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and acetic acid in cases of incomplete oxidation, as well as generate pollutants like ozone and nitrogen oxides inherently depending on the system

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

9

9

## Work in progress

- ISO/TC142/WG8 is drafting ISO/PWI 23743 “Testing of gas-phase air cleaners for improving perceived indoor air quality”
- It could be based on FDIS/ISO 16000-44 “Indoor air - Part 44: Test method for measuring perceived indoor air quality for use in testing the performance of gas phase air cleaners”
- Other experts are working on room air cleaners: IEC SC59N, JWG 2 Reduction of Chemical Gases
  - Sub Working Group 2.1 on Reduction of Ozone

7.11.2022

P. Tronville – IEA EBC Annex 78 & AIVC 2022

10

10

**Thanks for your attention!**

# Methods to evaluate gas phase air-cleaning technologies: Perceived Air Quality

Pawel Wargocki

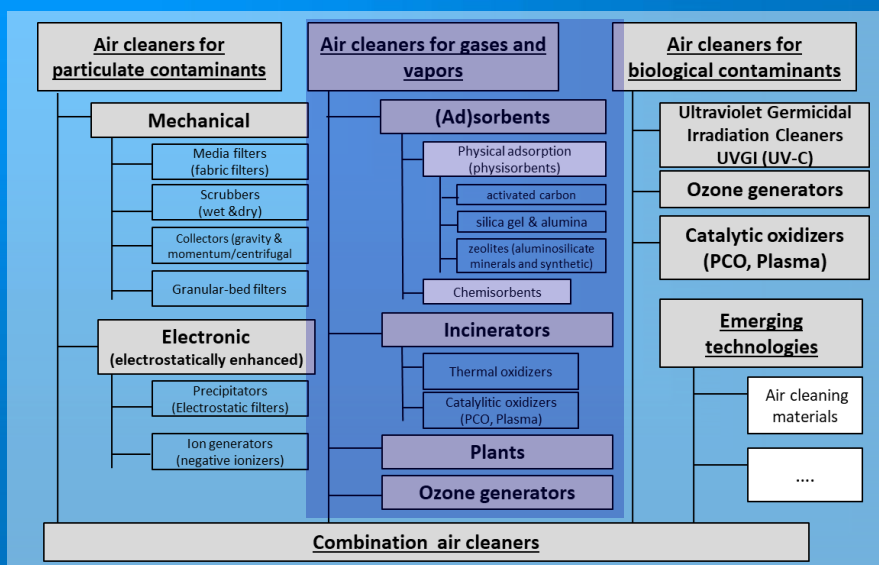


International Centre for Indoor Environment and Energy  
Department of Environmental and Resource  
Engineering  
Technical University of Denmark



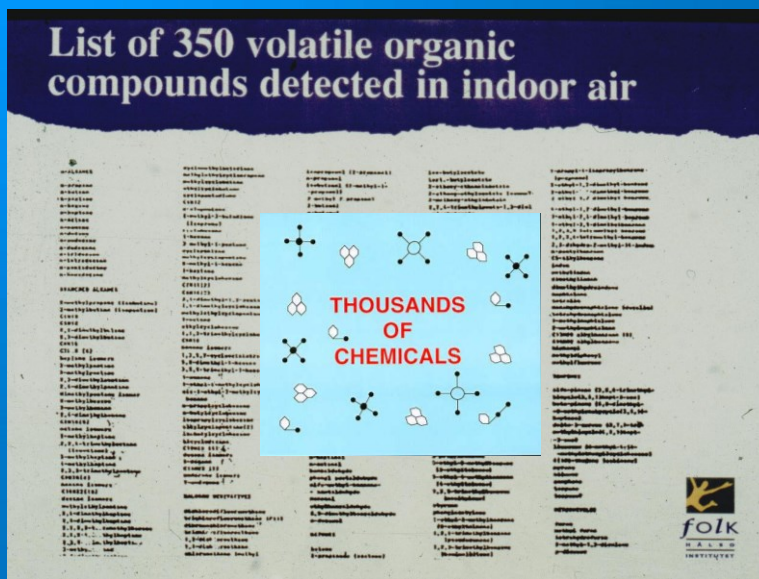
1

## Classifications of air cleaners



2

# Organic Chemicals in Indoor Air



3

# Chemical measurements



Gas Chromatography/Mass  
Spectrometry (GC/MS)

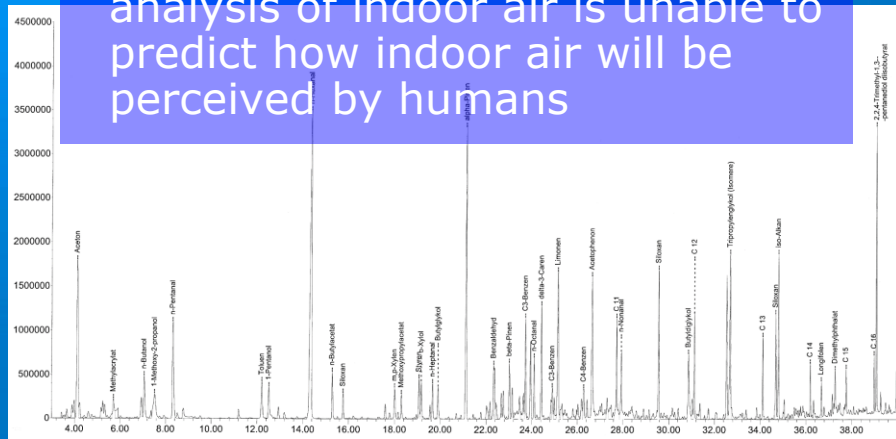


Proton-Transfer-  
Reaction Mass  
Spectrometry (PTR-MS)

4

## Chemical analysis of indoor air

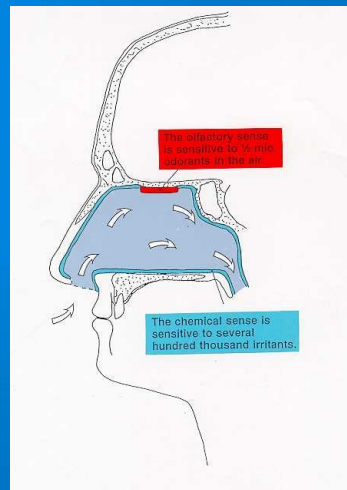
- Detailed compound-by-compound analysis of indoor air is unable to predict how indoor air will be perceived by humans



5

## Using man as a meter

- The air quality as rated by humans in subjective evaluations (Glossary of the Indoor Air Sciences, 2006)
- Quality: the extent to which human requirements are met

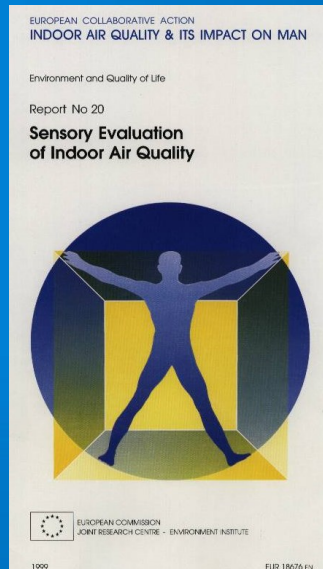


6



## Sensory evaluations of air quality

- Sensory evaluations of air quality have been used routinely in indoor air research for the past 25 years.
- Perceived air quality has been used to define ventilation rates prescribed in the majority of present standards (eg. 16798, ASHRAE 62.1)
- Perceived air quality has been used to examine emissions from building materials, it is included as a part of testing in few labelling schemes for building and furniture materials (Finnish M1 Label; Danish Indoor Climate Label, and German AgBB Scheme) and the standard describing sensory testing in connection with emission testing (ISO 16000-30)
- Perceived air quality has been used extensively in the past in field studies as a measure of air quality in rooms and buildings (eg. Wargocki et al., 2004)
- Can be considered as an exposure metric



7



8

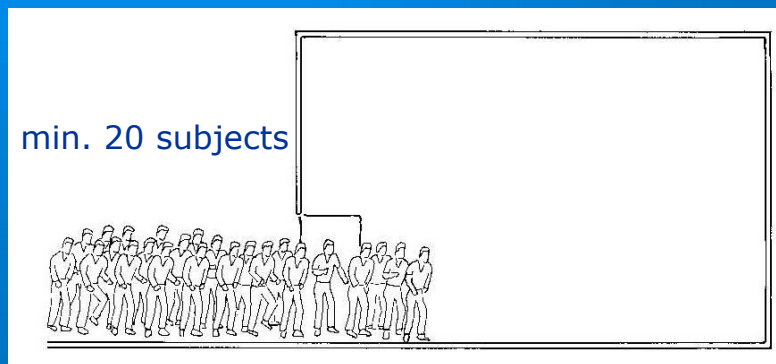
## Measurements of perceived air quality

- ❑ Subjective evaluations of air quality include ratings of intensity of odour, freshness (stuffiness), acceptability (dissatisfaction)
- ❑ Acceptable air quality: air in which there are no known contaminants at harmful concentrations as determined by cognizant authorities and with which a substantial majority of the people exposed do not express dissatisfaction
- ❑ Sensory panels of human subjects
  - ❑ Untrained panel
  - ❑ Trained panel
- ❑ Immediate response ("First impression")
- ❑ Impartial assessment

9

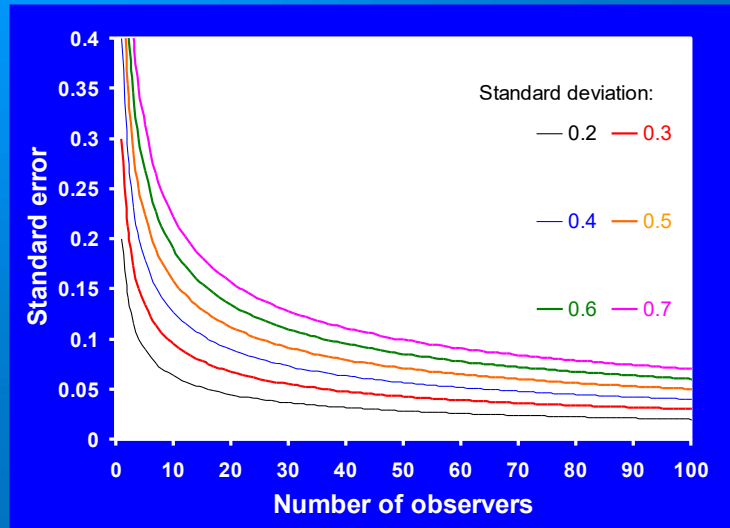
## Untrained panel

"... a panel of at least 20 untrained observers (...) who render a judgement of acceptability..."



10

## Panel size

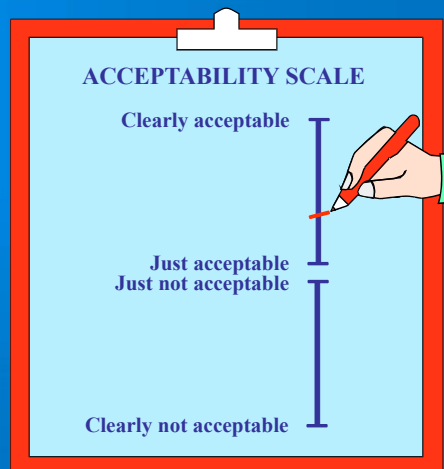


11

## Continuous acceptability scale

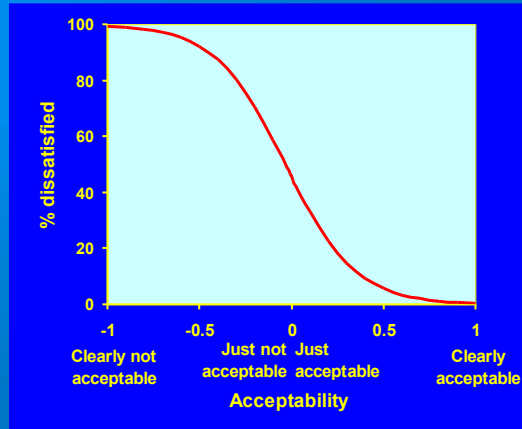
How do you assess the air quality?

Pay attention to the dichotomy between acceptable and not acceptable.



12

## Measuring metric



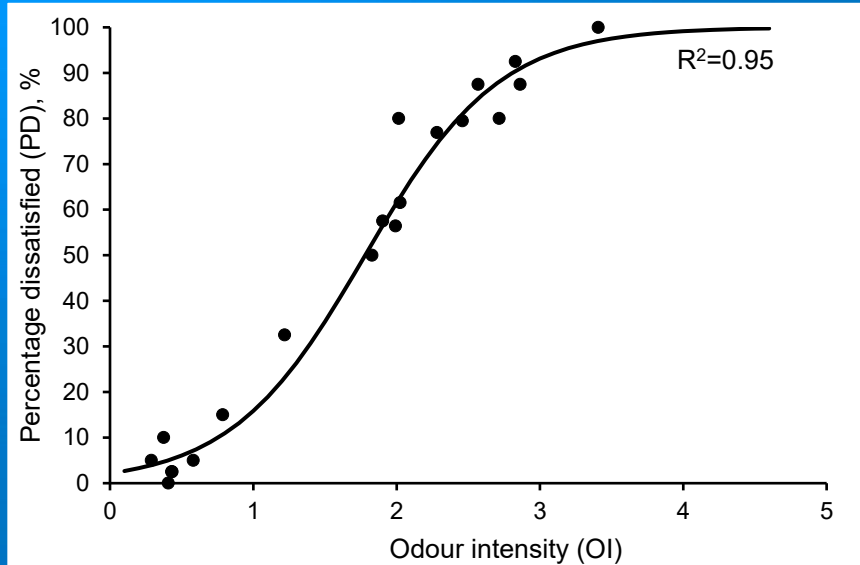
13

## Odour intensity: category scale (Yaglou et al. 1936)

- No odour
- Slight odour
- Moderate odour
- Strong odour
- Very strong odour
- Overpowering odour

14

## Odour intensity vs % dissatisfied



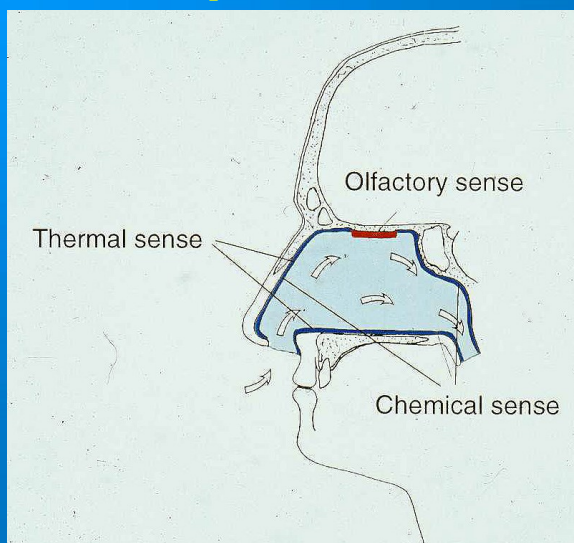
15

## Main factors influencing sensory measurements

- Temperature and relative humidity
- Adaptation – sensory fatigue

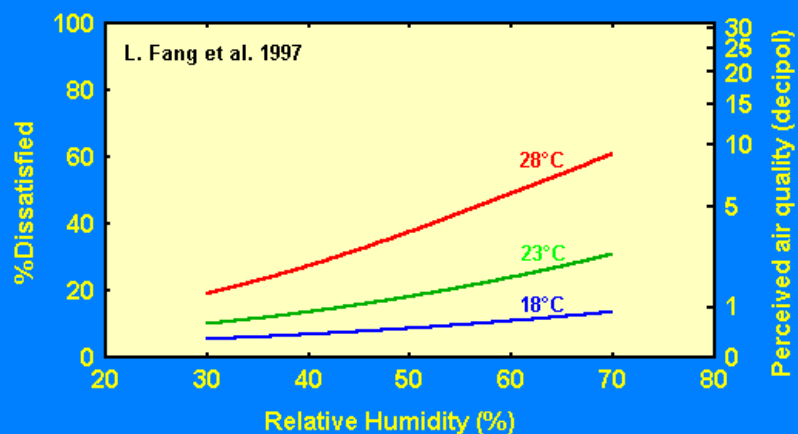
16

## Impact of temperature and humidity on sensory measurements



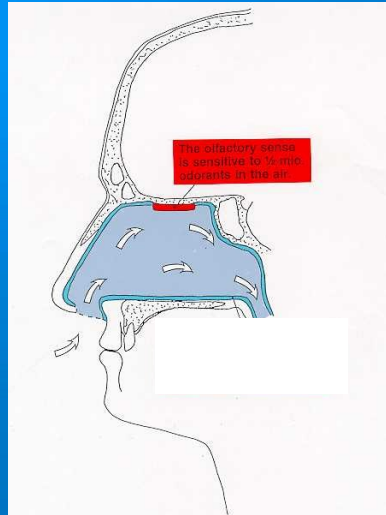
17

## Impact of temperature and humidity on perceived air quality



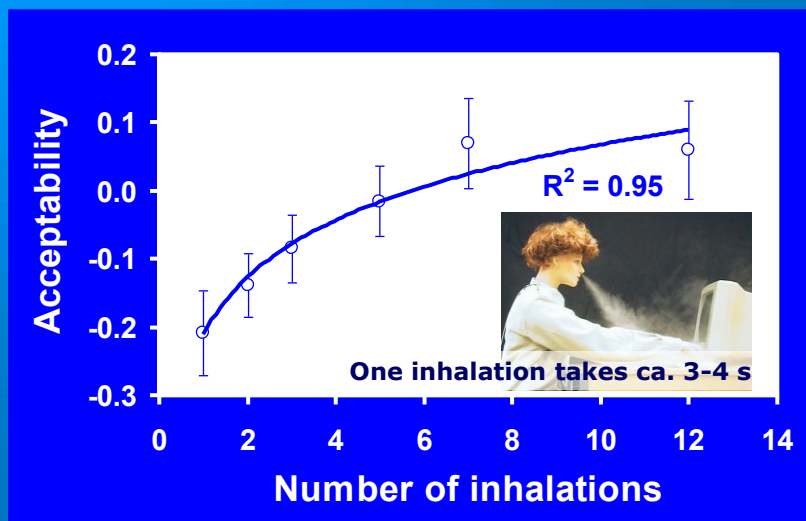
18

## Impact of adaptation: sensory fatigue



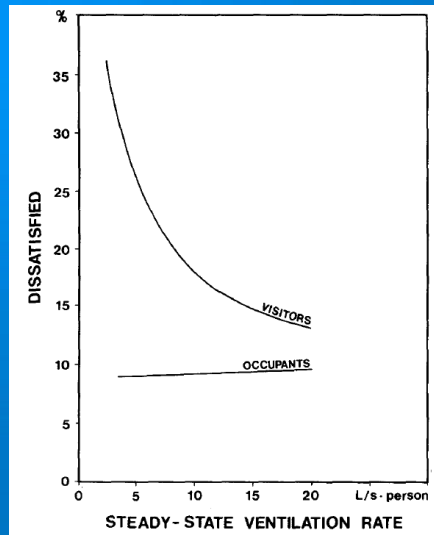
19

## Sensory fatigue



20

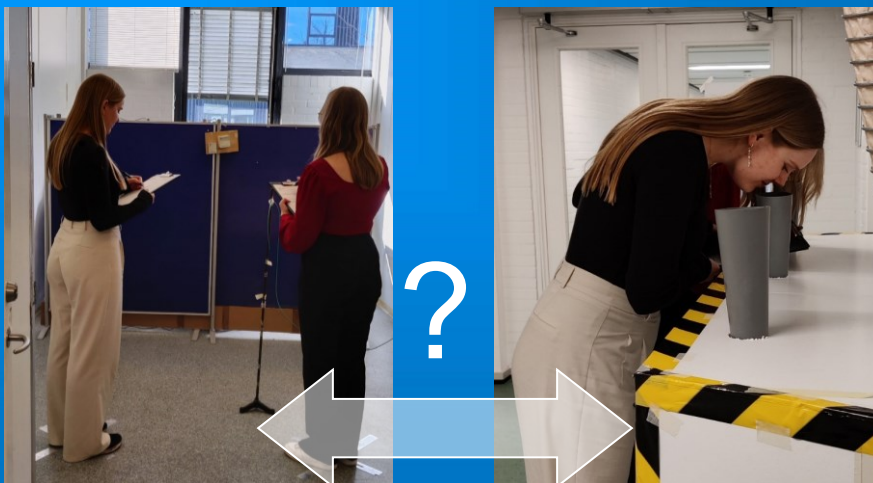
## Sensory fatigue



Source: Berg-Munch et al. (1986)

21

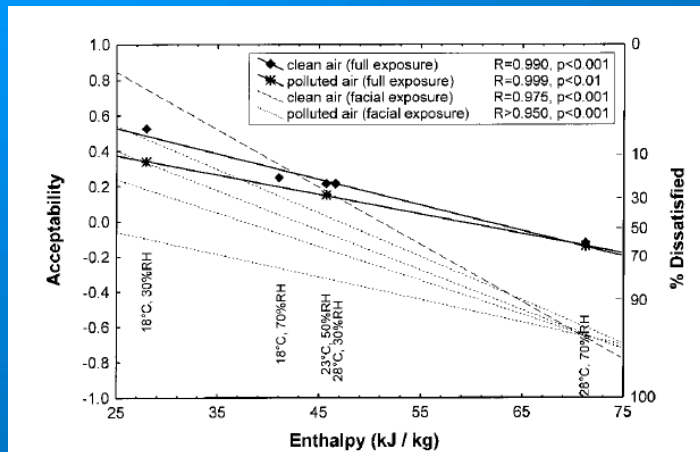
## Methodological aspects



22

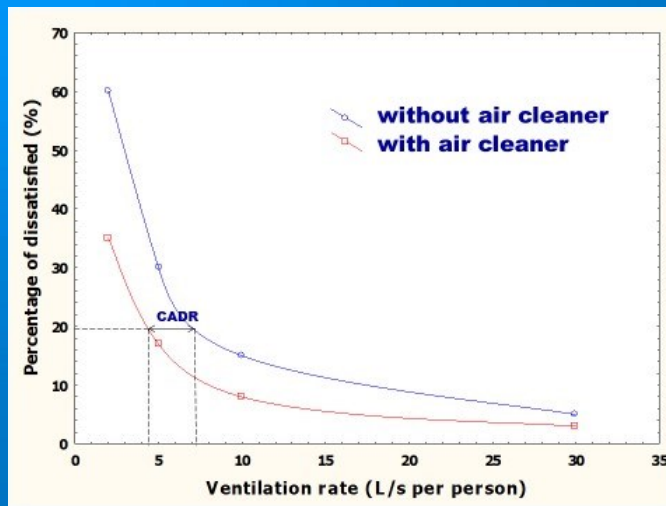


## Face vs. whole body exposure



23

## Applications Clean air delivery rate



24

## Designed ventilation rate can be reduced by CADR

People Component

Building Component

Breathing Zone  
Outdoor Airflow



$$V_{bz} = R_p P_z + R_a A_z$$

Minimum l/s/Person

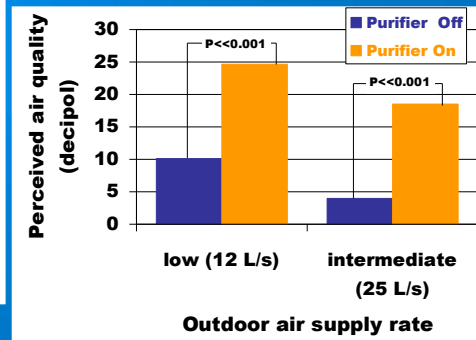
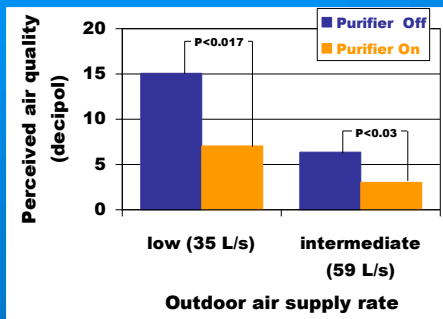
Number of People

Building Area

Minimum l/s/m<sup>2</sup>

25

## Applications detection of by-products



26



**Thank you  
(pawar@dtu.dk)**

# **Test of air cleaners for evaluating the method of perceived air quality assessment**

Lei Fang and Pawel Wargocki

International Centre for Indoor Environment and Energy, Technical University of Denmark

1

1

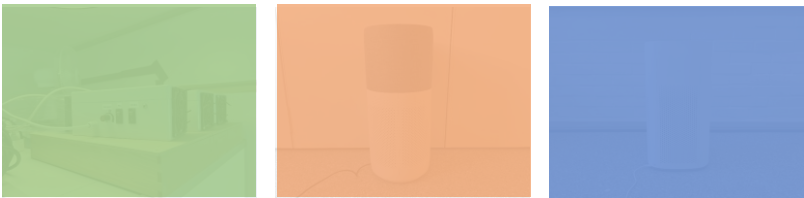
Stage 1: selection of air cleaners for testing

2

# Test conditions

Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s (0.54 1/h)

Air Cleaners (AC)

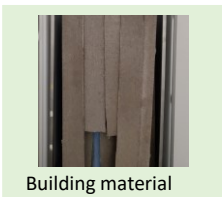


AC1

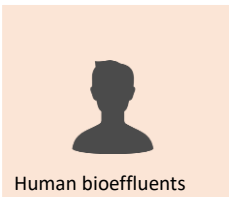
AC2

AC3

Pollution source



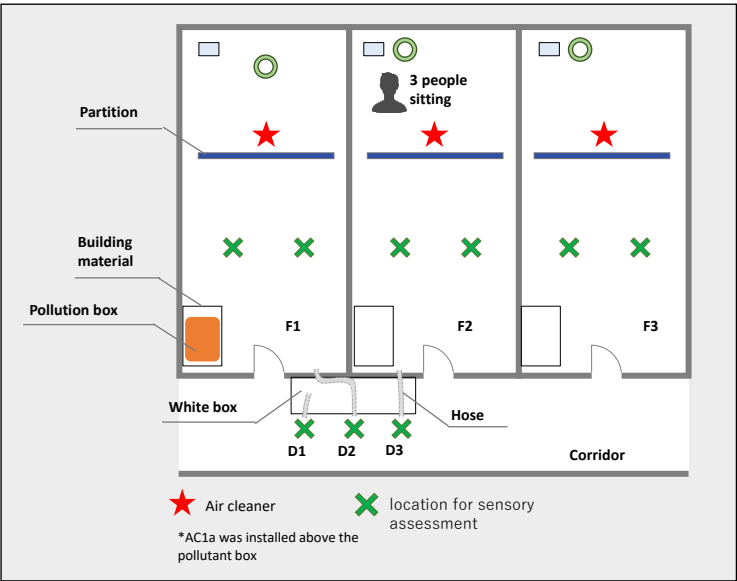
Building material



Human bioeffluents

3

# Setup



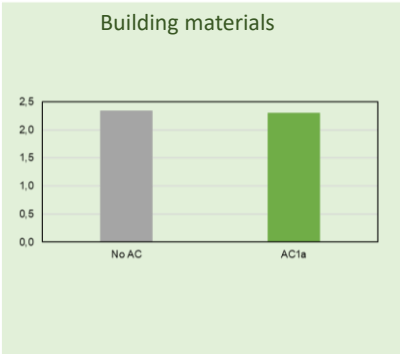
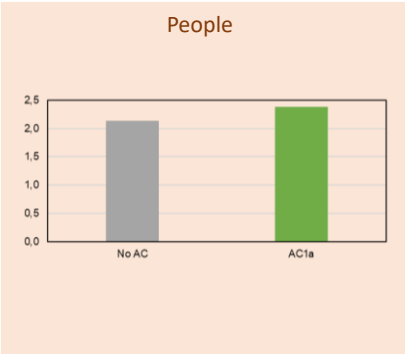
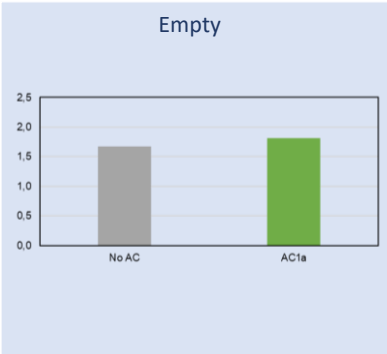
4

# Whole body vs Facial exposure



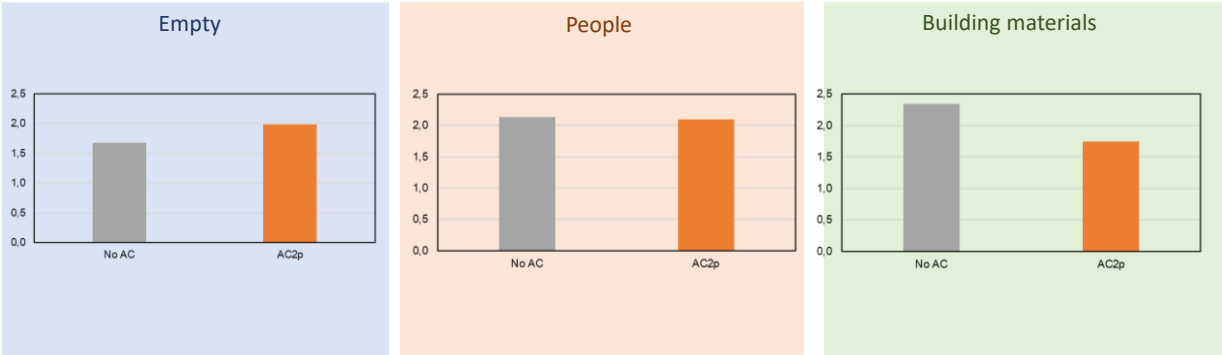
5

# Assessment of odor intensity (AC1)



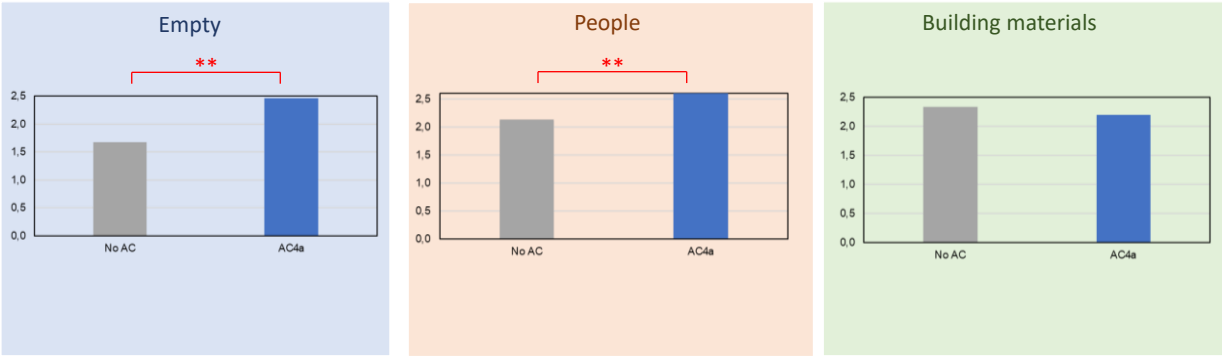
6

# Assessment of odor intensity (AC2)



7

# Assessment of odor intensity (AC3)



8

## Stage 2: test of air cleaners

9

## Test conditions

Ventilation rate [L/s]      7.5 / 12.0 / 21.0 / 30.0  
[1/h]                      0.5 / 0.9 / 1.5 / 2.2

Air Cleaners (AC)



AC1

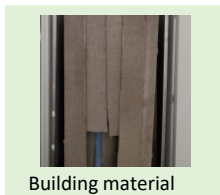


AC2

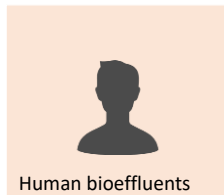


AC4

Pollution



Building material



Human bioeffluents

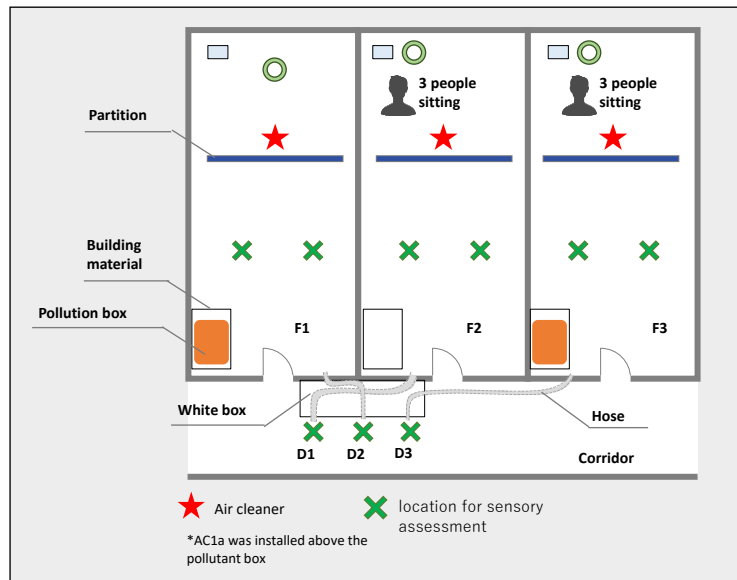


Both

10



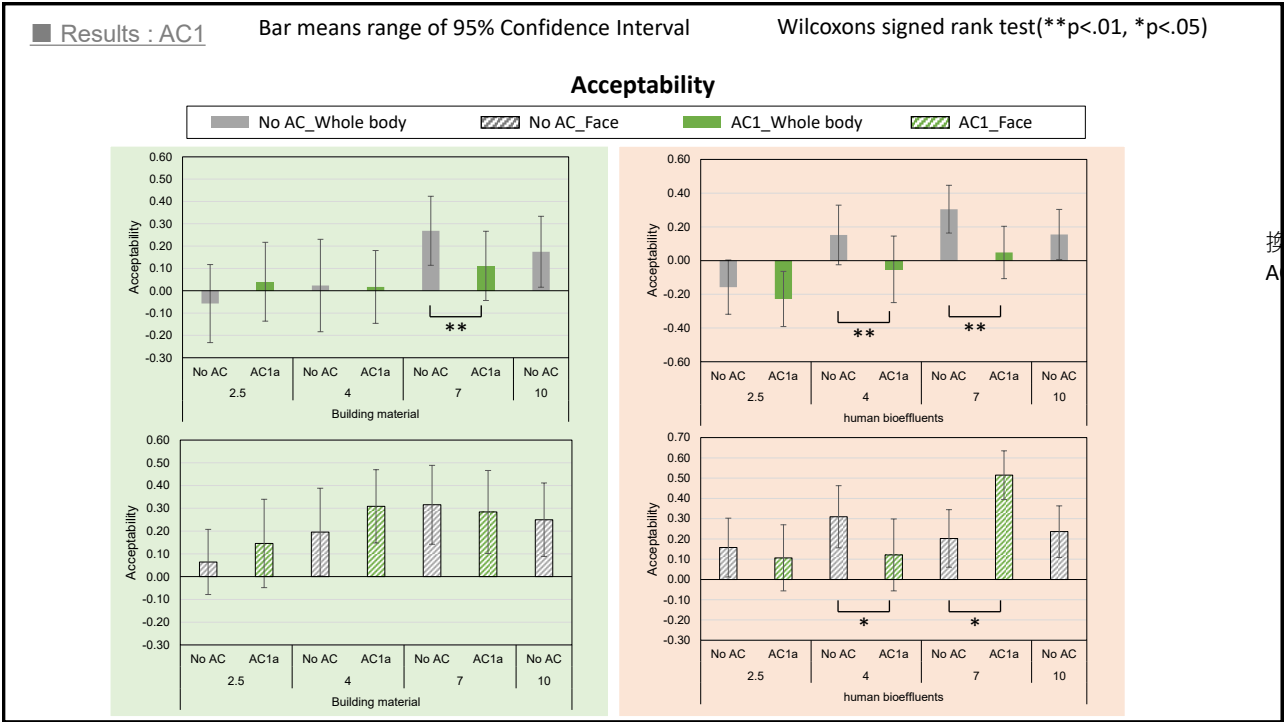
# Setup



11

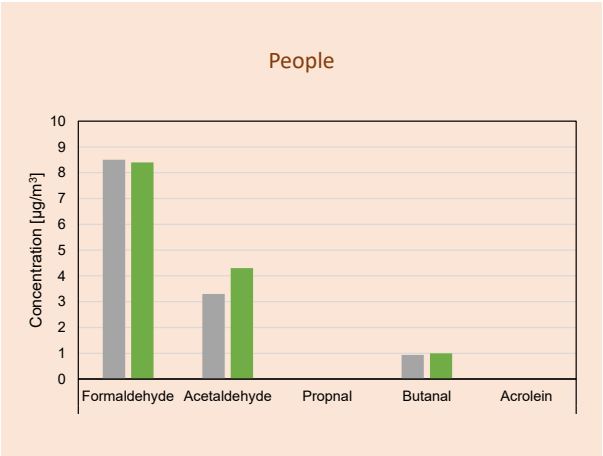
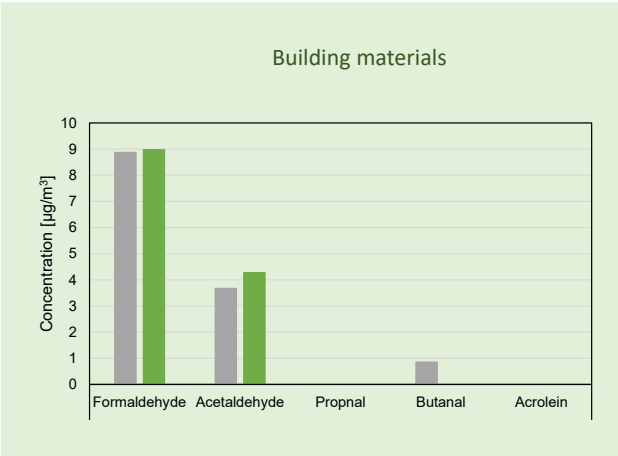
# Results of AC1

12



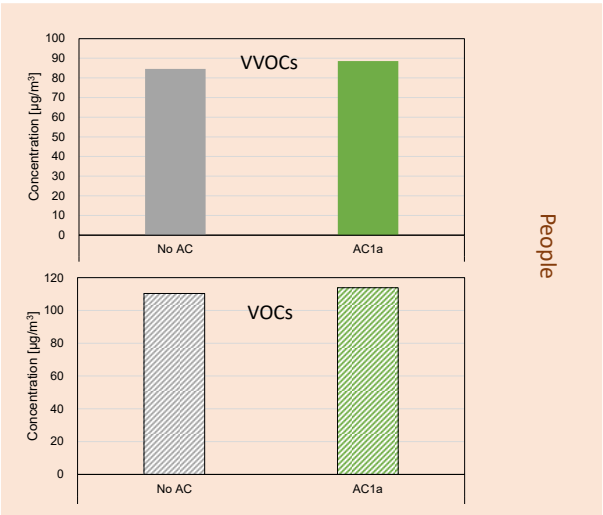
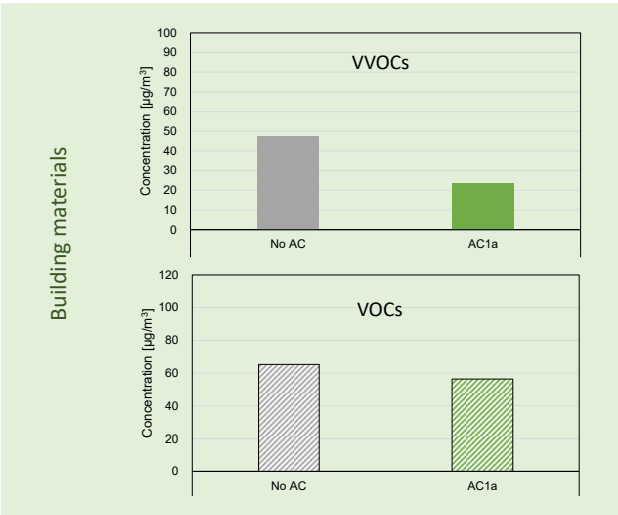
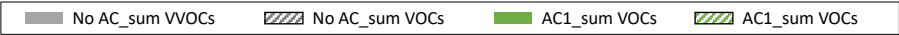
Chemical compounds - Aldehydes

Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s

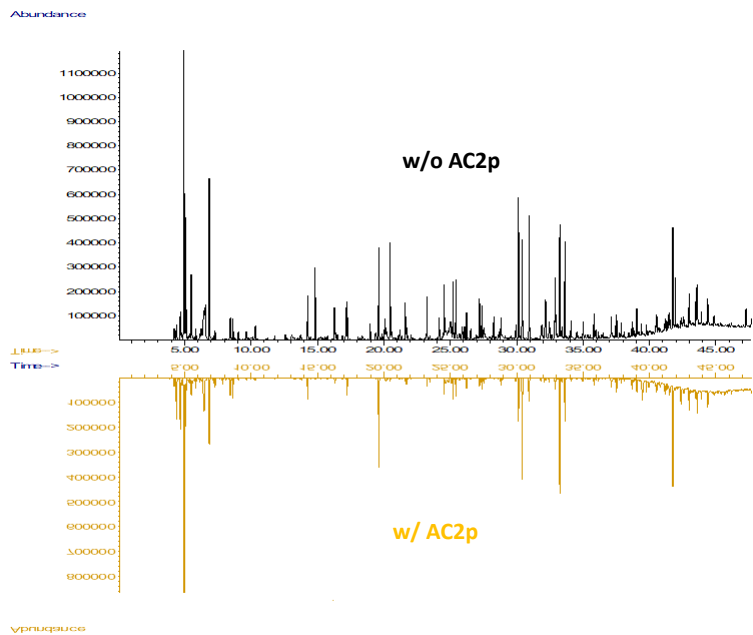


Chemical compounds – VVOCs, VOCs – total sum

Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s



Gas chromatograms

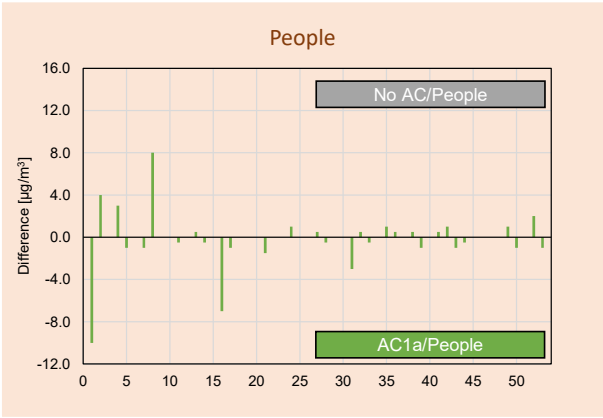
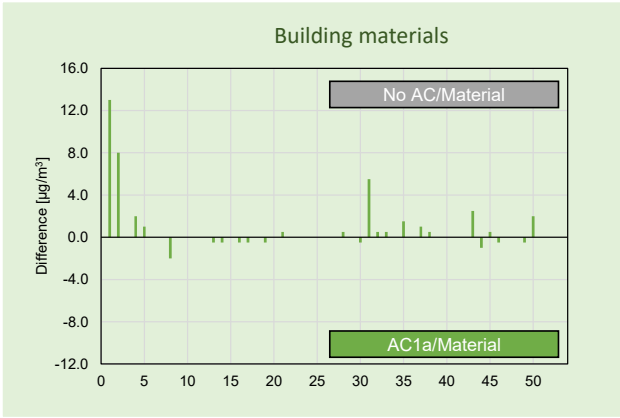


17

Results : AC1

Chemical compounds – each chemicals

Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s

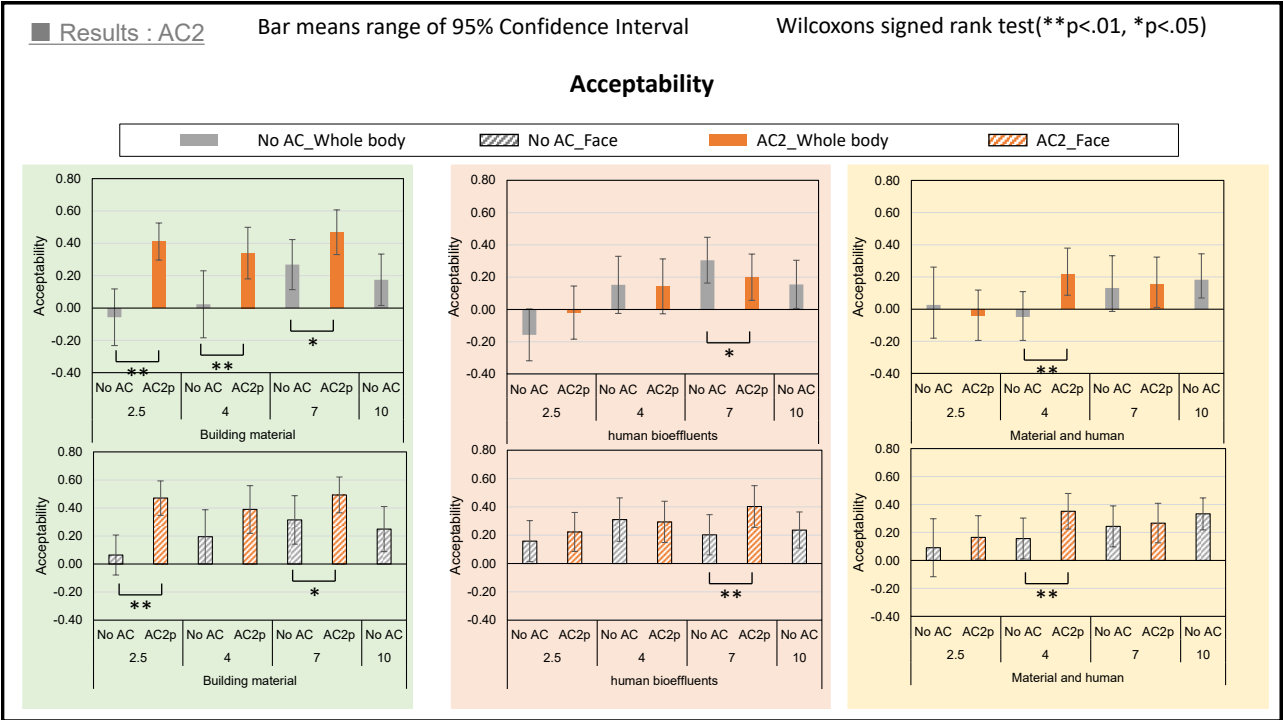


1	Ethanol	11	n-Butanol	21	n-Hexanal	31	Glycerol	41	Acetophenone	51	Nonanoic acid
2	Acetone	12	2-Pentanone	22	n-Butyl acetate	32	Hexanoic acid	42	C11 (Undecane)	52	Dodecamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D6)
3	n-Pentane	13	Propanoic acid	23	Hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane (D3)	33	Phenol	43	n-Nonanal	53	Texanol
4	Isoprene	14	Pentanal	24	m,p-Xylene (m-Xylene)	34	Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D4)	44	Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane (D5)	54	1-Dodecanol
5	3-Butene-2-one	15	C7 (Heptane)	25	iso-Propyl acetate	35	2-Methyl-5-heptene-2-one	45	Benzoic acid		
6	2,3-Butanedione	16	1,2-Propanediol	26	Pentanoic acid	36	2,2,4,6,6-Pentamethylheptane	46	Octanoic acid		
7	2-Butanone (MEK)	17	Toluene	27	C9 (Nonane)	37	Octanal	47	Menthone		
8	Acetic acid	18	n-Butylacetate	28	n-Heptanal	38	DPGME (mixture of isomers)	48	Menthol		
9	Ethyl acetate	19	Butanoic acid	29	alpha-Pinene	39	2-Ethyl-1-hexanol	49	Butyldiglycol		
10	Benzene	20	C8 (Octane)	30	Benzaldehyde	40	Limonene	50	n-Decanal		

18

# Results of AC2

19



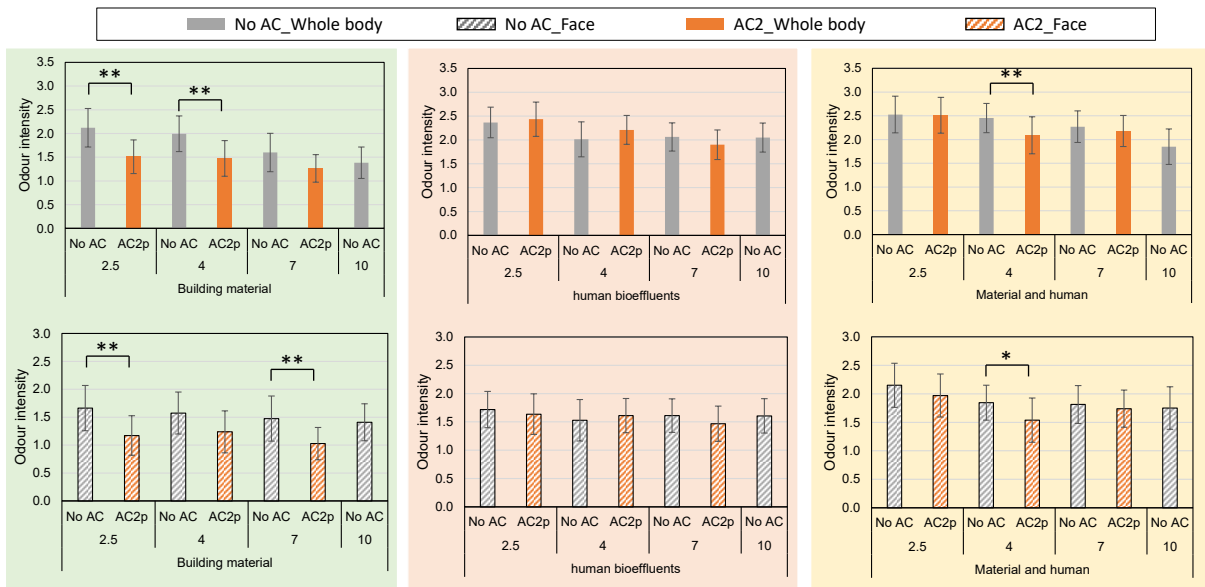
20

## Results : AC2

Bar means range of 95% Confidence Interval

Wilcoxon signed rank test(\*\*p<.01, \*p<.05)

### Odour intensity

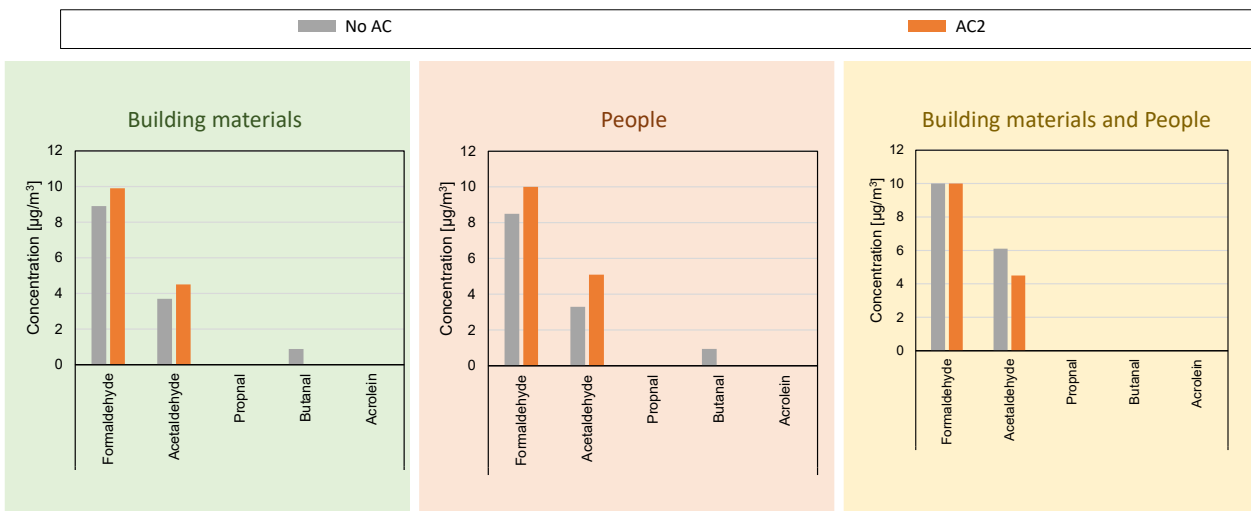


21

## Results : AC2

### Chemical compounds - Aldehydes

(Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s)

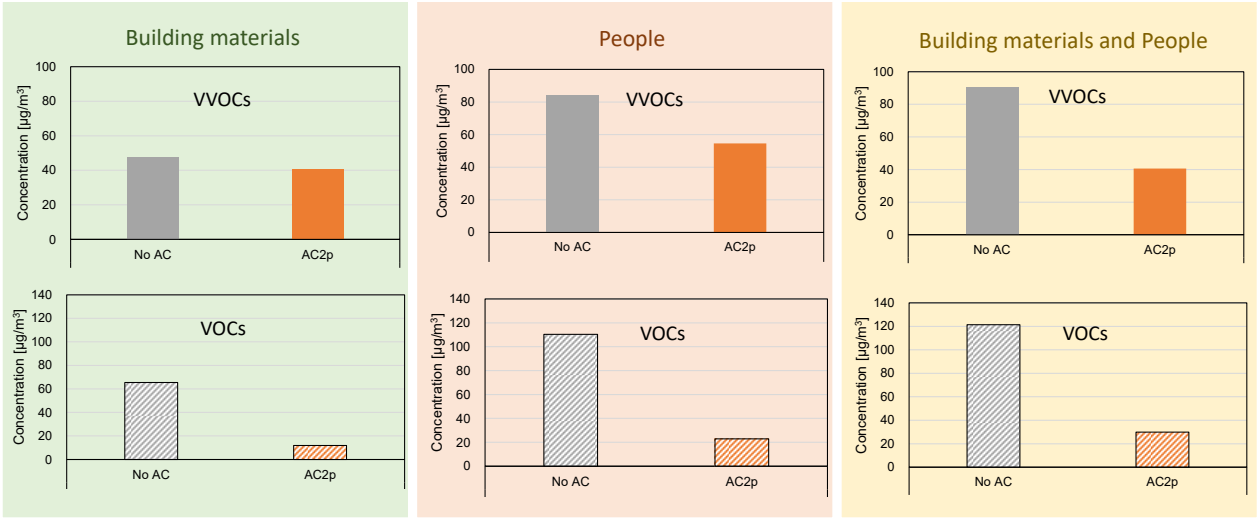


22

■ Results : AC

Chemical compounds – VVOCs, VOCs – total sum

(Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s)

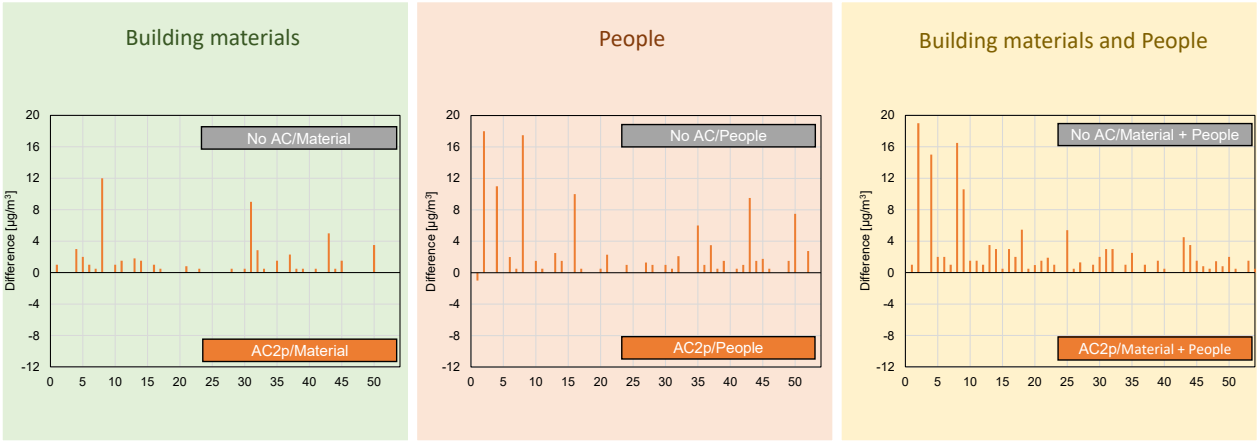


23

■ Results : AC2

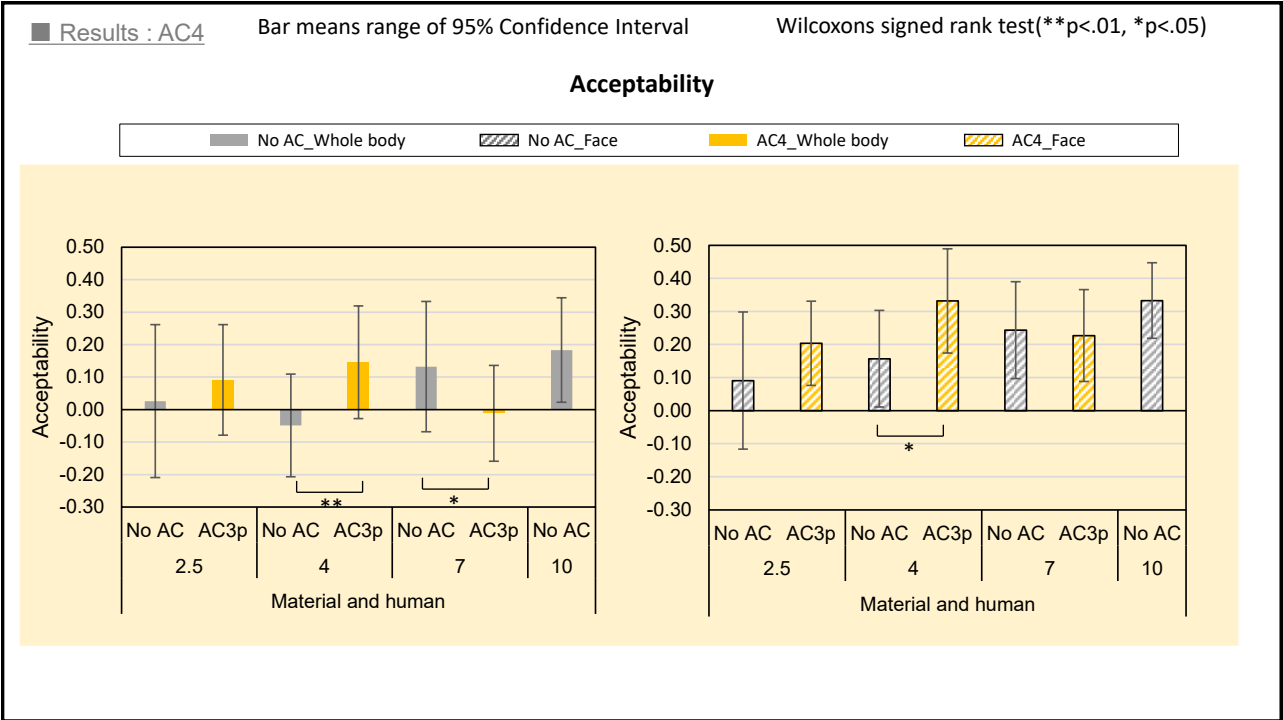
Chemical compounds – each chemicals

Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s

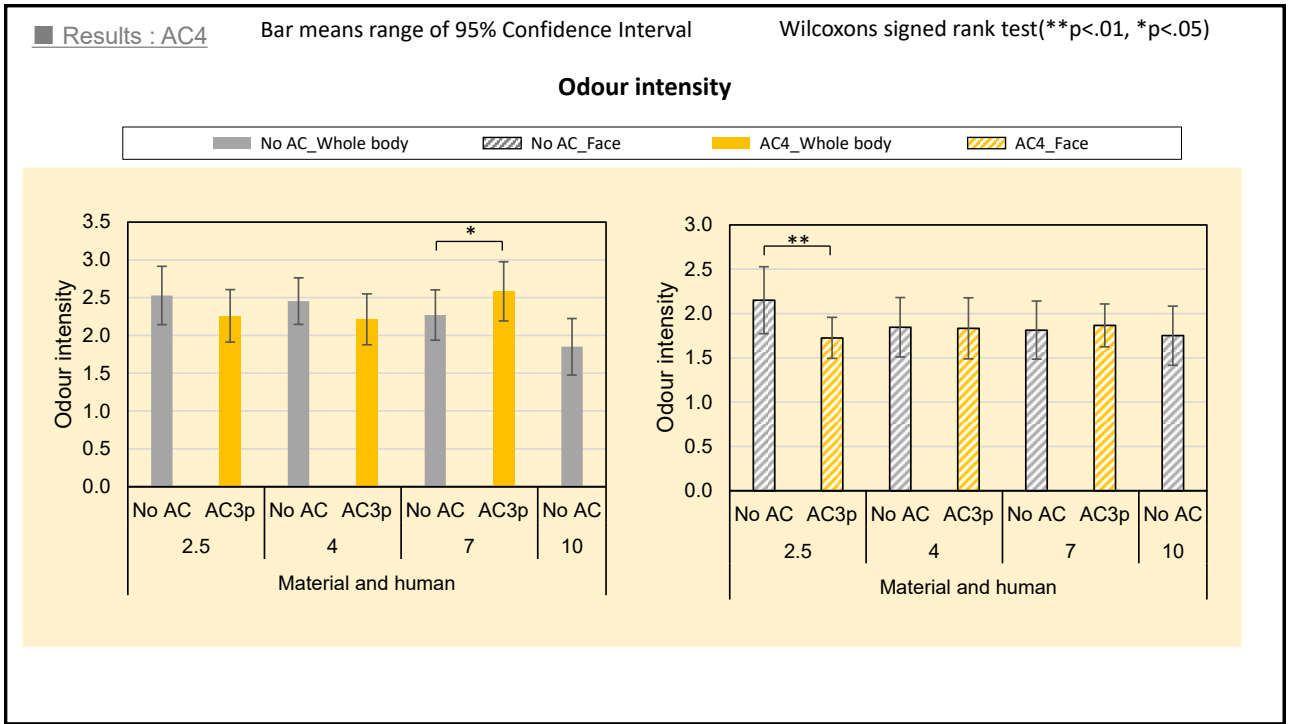


24

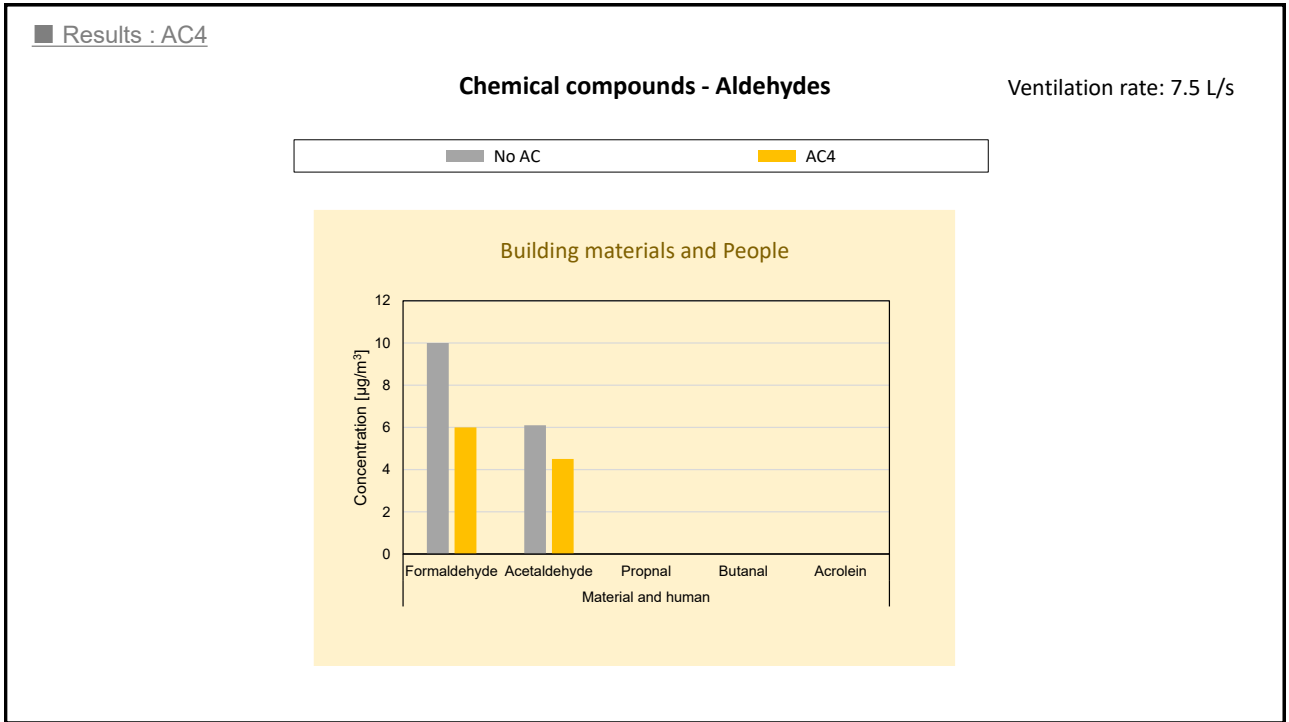
# Results of AC4







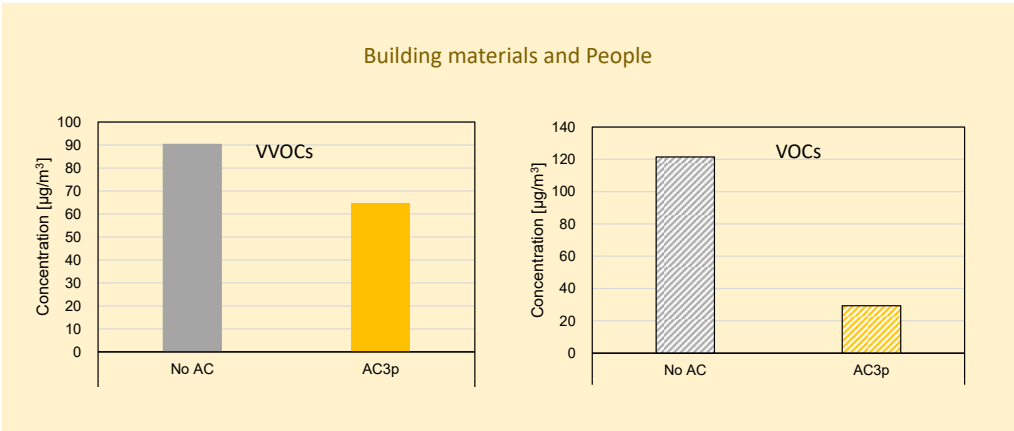
27



28

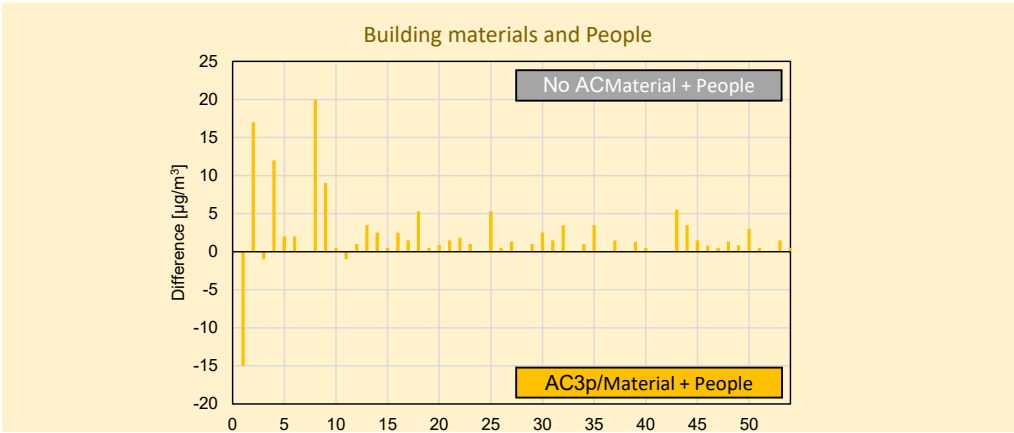
Chemical compounds – VVOCs, VOCs – total sum

Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s

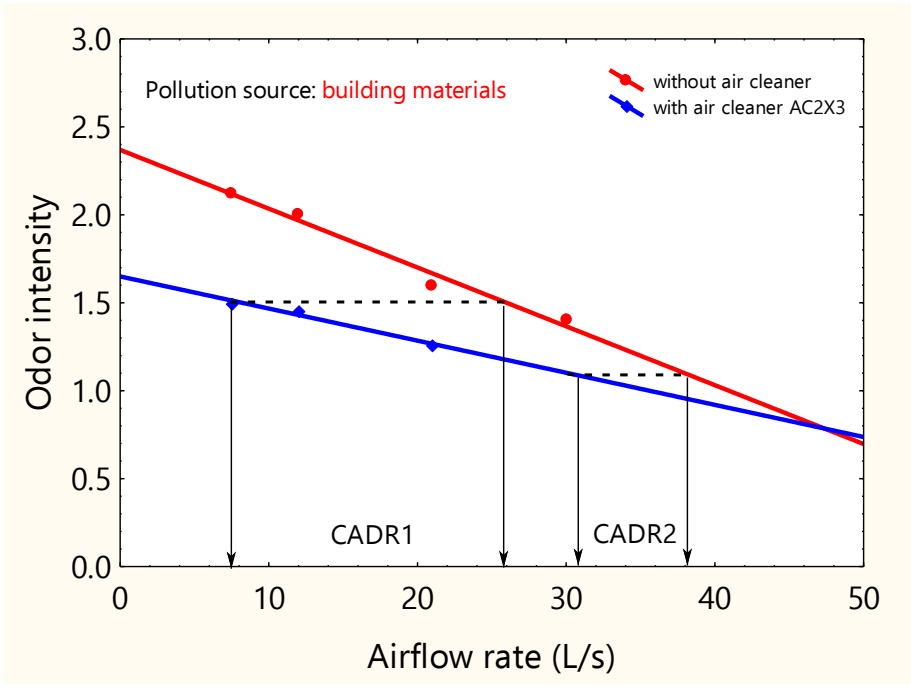


Chemical compounds – each chemicals

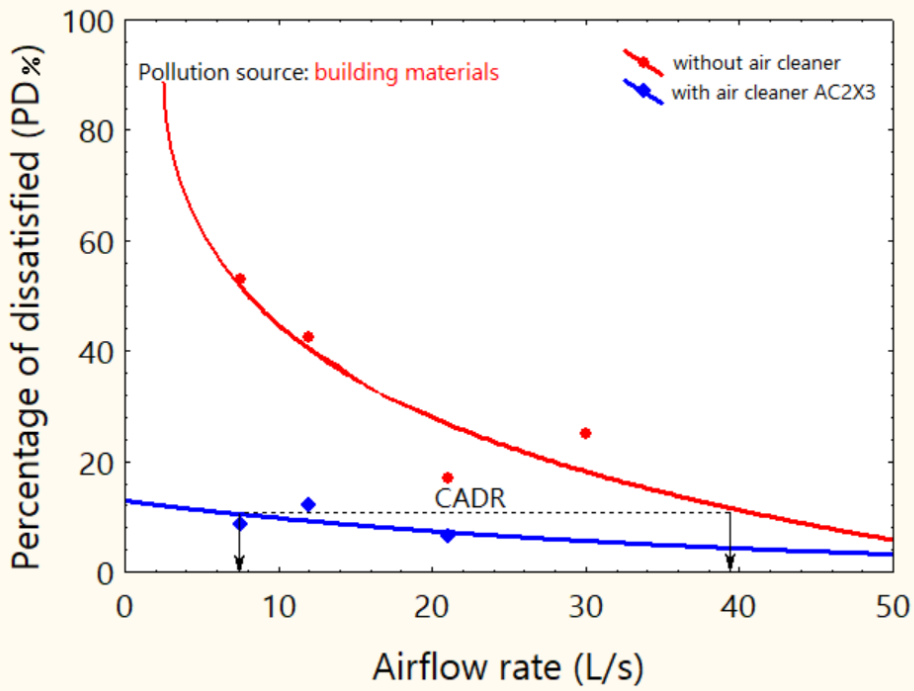
Ventilation rate: 7.5 L/s



1	Ethanol	11	n-Butanol	21	n-Hexanal	31	Glycerol	41	Acetophenone	51	Nonanoic acid
2	Acetone	12	2-Pentanone	22	n-Butyl acetate	32	Hexanoic acid	42	C11 (Undecane)	52	Dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane (D6)
3	n-Pentane	13	Propanoic acid	23	Hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane (D3)	33	Phenol	43	n-Nonanal	53	Texanol
4	Isoprene	14	Pinellanal	24	m,p-Xylene (m-Xylene)	34	Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D4)	44	Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane (D5)	54	1-Dodecanol
5	3-Butene-2-one	15	C7 (Heptane)	25	iso-Pentyl acetate	35	6-Methyl-5-heptene-2-one	45	Benzoic acid		
6	2,3-Butanedione	16	1,2-Propanediol	26	Pentanoic acid	36	2,2,4,6,6-Pentamethylheptane	46	Octanoic acid		
7	2-Butanone (MEK)	17	Toluene	27	C9 (Nonane)	37	Octanal	47	Menthone		
8	Acetic acid	18	n-Butylacetate	28	n-Heptanal	38	DPGME (mixture of isomers)	48	Menthol		
9	Ethyl acetate	19	Butanoic acid	29	alpha-Pinene	39	2-Ethyl-1-hexanol	49	Butyldiglycol		
10	Benzene	20	C8 (Octane)	30	Benzaldehyde	40	Limonene	50	n-Decanal		

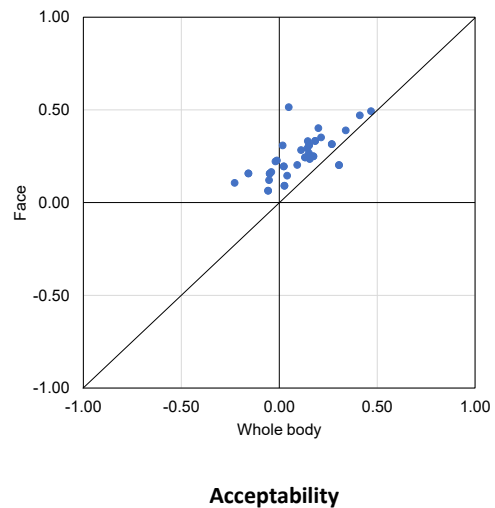
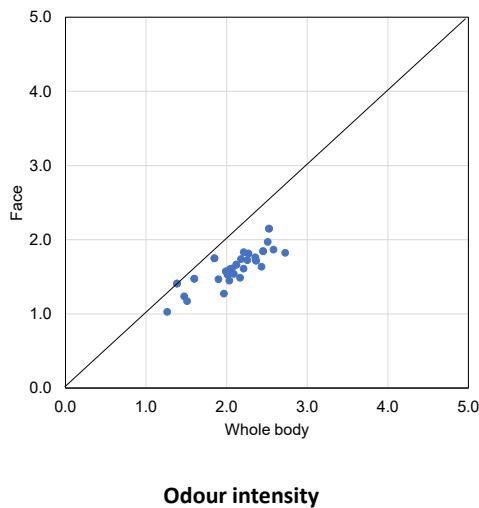


31



32

## Whole body vs Face Assessments



33

## Conclusions

- Facial exposure assessed lower odor intensity and better air quality compared to the assessment made by whole-body full exposure
- The air cleaners with activated charcoal filters were effective on removing VOCs, reduce odor intensity and improve perceived air quality
- Human bioeffluents are difficult to be controlled as a constant source of air pollution for testing indoor air cleaners

34

## IEA-EBC Annex 78: Substituting Ventilation by Gas Phase Air Cleaning. An industry webinar

### Proposed plan for developing a new testing standard

Professor Bjarne W. Olesen Ph.D.

- International Centre for Indoor Environment and Energy, ICIEE
- Technical University of Denmark
  - bwo@byg.dtu.dk



1

## ONGOING STANDARDISATION

- ISO TC146/SC6/WG25
  - ISO DIS 16000-44:2022: Test method for measuring perceived indoor air quality for use in testing the performance of gas phase air cleaners
- ISO TC142/WG8: Gas Phase Air Cleaning Devices and Media
  - ISO/PWI 23743 "Testing of gas phase air cleaners for improving perceived indoor air quality".

2

# PERCEIVED AIR QUALITY

INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD

ISO  
16000-28

First edition  
2012-03-15

Test Panel

- Trained
- Untrained

Odour

- Acceptance
- Intensity
- Hedonic tone

Examples of diffuser and mask used for odour evaluation

Indoor air —

Part 28:

**Determination of odour emissions from  
building products using test chambers**

*Air intérieur —*

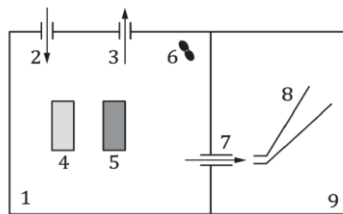
*Partie 28: Détermination des émissions d'odeurs des produits de  
construction au moyen de chambres d'essai*



Figure C.1 — Diffuser

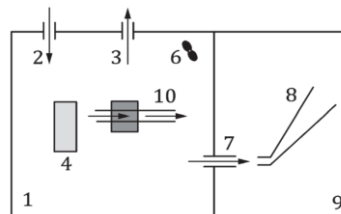
3

## ISO DIS 16000-44:2022: Test method for measuring perceived indoor air quality for use in testing the performance of gas phase air cleaners



A test room for a stand alone air cleaner

- 1 test chamber
- 2 clean air supply inlet
- 3 exhaust outlet
- 4 emission source
- 5 An air cleaner

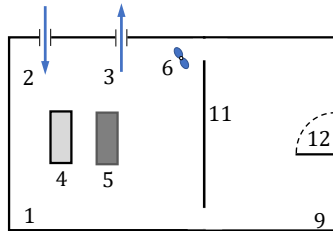


A test room for an in duct air cleaner

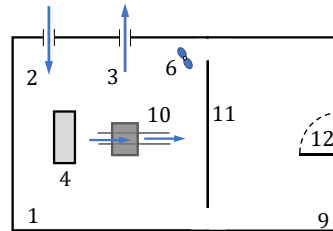
- 6 mixing fan
- 7 tube or duct
- 8 sniffing device,
- 9 front/anterior space in which human panel enters
- 10 in duct air cleaner

4

## ISO DIS 16000-44:2022: Test method for measuring perceived indoor air quality for use in testing the performance of gas phase air cleaners



A test room for a stand alone air cleaner



A test room for an in duct air cleaner

- 1 test chamber/room
- 2 clean air supply inlet
- 3 exhaust outlet
- 4 odour emission source
- 5 standalone air cleaners
- 6 mixing fan

- 7 tube or duct
- 8 sniffing device,
- 9 front/anterior space in which human panel enter
- 10 in duct air cleaner
- 11 partition
- 12 door for access

5

## PERCEPTION SCALES



- No odour
- Slight odour
- Moderate odour
- Strong odour
- Very strong odour
- Overpowering odour

6

## ISO/PWI 23743 “Testing of gas phase air cleaners for improving perceived indoor air quality”.

- An AdHoc/task force group under ISO TC142WG8 will based on the results from the testing at DTU start developing the concept for a standard.
- Activation of the PWI expected in September 2023
- The test method developed at DTU will be used at one or two other universities during 2023-24
- End report from Annex 78 on a test method to be available June, 2024

7

## Issues

- International Standards for Ventilation (Indoor Air Quality) like EN16798-1, ISO17772-1 and ASHRAE 62.1 are mainly based on criteria for the Perceived Air Quality (PAQ), sometimes expressed as levels of CO<sub>2</sub> as a tracer for emission from occupants.
- If air cleaning is used, an equivalent level of air quality will be reached at higher CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations.
- It is also assumed that when ventilation is used for PAQ, the required ventilation will also dilute other substances like Radon, VOCs.
- The decreased ventilation rate when using gas phase air cleaning may not be sufficient.

8



## $\Delta\text{CO}_2$ levels considering a 30 % reduced ventilation rate due to air cleaners

Space type Single office	Occupancy [m <sup>2</sup> per person]	Category	Derived from $q_{tot}$	
			Very low-polluting building	Low-polluting building
			Indoor CO <sub>2</sub> level above outdoor level $\Delta\text{CO}_2$ [ppm]	
Without air cleaner	10	IEQ <sub>I</sub>	370	278
		<b>IEQ<sub>II</sub></b>	<b>529</b>	<b>397</b>
		IEQ <sub>III</sub>	926	694
		IEQ <sub>IV</sub>	<b>1389</b> (1010)	<b>1010</b> (794)
With air cleaner	10	IEQ <sub>I</sub>	529	397
		<b>IEQ<sub>II</sub></b>	<b>756</b>	<b>567</b>
		IEQ <sub>III</sub>	<b>1323</b> (1029)	<b>992</b> (817)
		IEQ <sub>IV</sub>	<b>1984</b> (1100)	<b>1443</b> (911)

9

## Testing Issues

- If only a test with chemical measurements is done, should it be allowed to reduce the building component?
- How to standardise the building source?
- How to standardise the human bio effluent source?
- What if human source is Chinese persons and testing panel is Danish persons?
- It is a relative measurement, which makes some of the issues less important

10

**Questions?**  
**Please put your questions in the chat.**

Bjarne W. Olesen  
bwol@dtu.dk

