



An overview of Ventilation and IAQ Standards for sleeping environments



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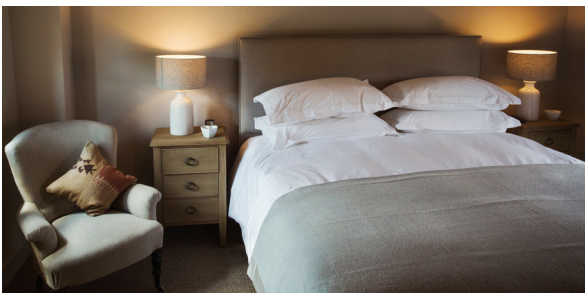
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*Elements of NATURAL & BUILT Environments - affecting our HOMES
..... our BEDROOMS*





We sleep over 30 years during our life-time. Where would you rather like your bedroom to be?

Impact on Bedroom Environmental Conditions



Traffic Noise
OA Pollution



Outdoor Light



Outdoor Thermal
Light
OA Pollution



Thermal comfort
Visual Comfort
IAQ acceptability
Aural Comfort

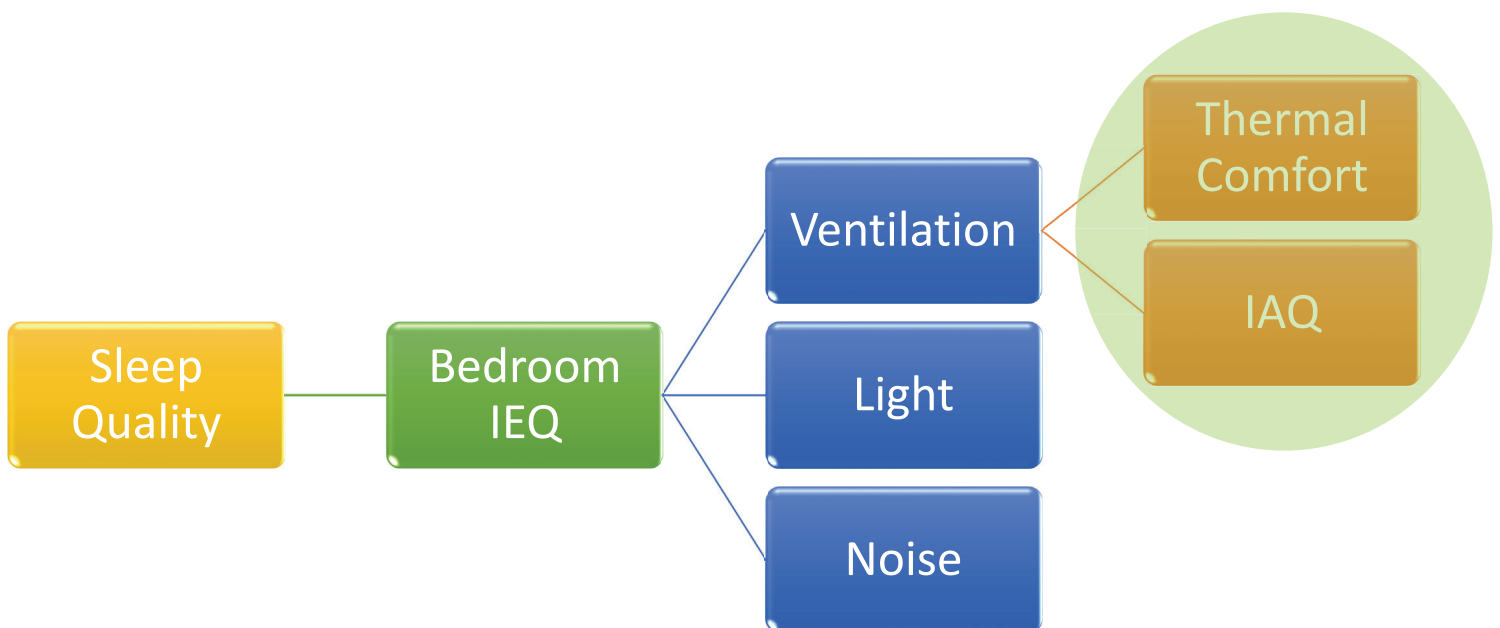
Systematic literature review by Ohayon et al., 2018:

The National Sleep Foundation expert panel, whilst noting that there were no tools or measures of sleep satisfaction applied to the general population and directly associated with good health, made some significant determinations concerning sleep quality -

- *Appropriate sleep satisfaction elements include how an individual feels about their sleep, immediately after their sleep, and during the subsequent day;*
- *Sleep environmental factors include bedding comfort, bedroom temperature, noise and light;*
- *Sleep initiation entails the time taken to fall asleep;*
- *Maintenance parameters include the ease with which one falls back to sleep after awakening during a sleep period, amount of sleep on all days, and undisturbed sleep.*

A quality sleep for rejuvenation, good health and well-being to each of us is much more than just finding a bed and a place to sleep. Increasingly, in a fast-paced urbanised world, this is not easy to come by.

Ohayon, Maurice M., Michael C. Chen, Edward Bixler, Yves Dauvilliers, David Gozal, Giuseppe Plazzi, Michael V. Vitiello, Michael Paskow, Anita Roach, Max Hirshkowitz, A provisional tool for the measurement of sleep satisfaction, *Sleep Health*, Volume 4, Issue 1, 2018, Pages 6-12, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sleh.2017.11.002>



Bedroom Ventilation & IAQ Standards

Bedroom IAQ and Sleep Quality Research



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Bedroom ventilation: Review of existing evidence and current standards

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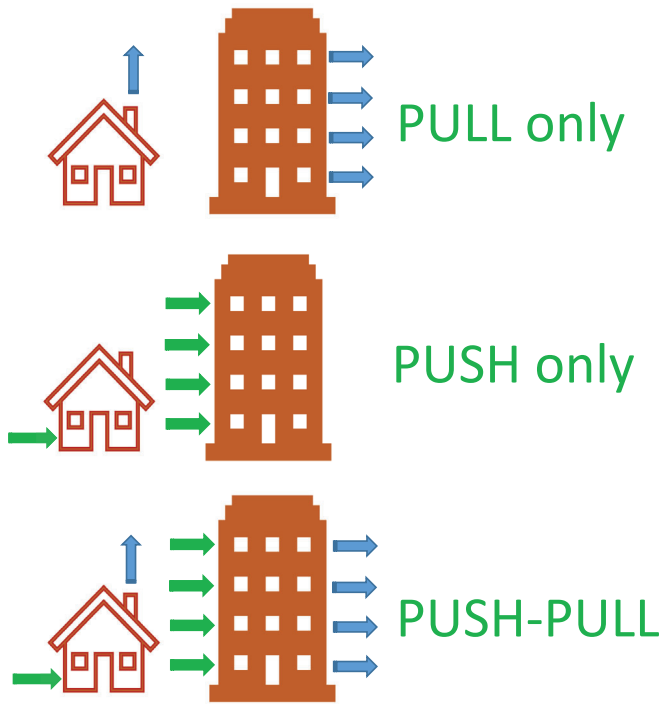
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Ventilation in Residential Buildings



Balanced MV	Unbalanced MV	NV	NV + Extraction
			✓
	✓		
✓			

Objectives

An understanding of what is available as sound scientific knowledge concerning bedroom ventilation characteristics across different climate zones. This knowledge was then connected to the potential effects on sleep quality

An insight into the selected major standards for bedroom ventilation and IAQ across different parts of the world

To see if the thermal environment's interaction effect with CO₂ on sleep quality was reported or bedroom ventilation had an effect on the thermal environment

Methods

Web of Science search – IRJ papers in this millennium

Keywords - Residential buildings, bedrooms, sleep quality, ventilation, IAQ, thermal comfort, CO₂, field studies, heating, and cooling

More than 200 papers collected – 46 shortlisted

Papers classified in 6 categories:

- 1) Ventilation in bedrooms showing CO₂ levels
- 2) Ventilation in bedrooms showing air change rates (ACR)
- 3) Ventilation in bedrooms showing ACR and CO₂ levels
- 4) Ventilation and sleep quality
- 5) Personal ventilation and sleep quality
- 6) Ventilation in the whole house/dwelling

ASHRAE, CEN and 15 country-specific standards reviewed

			Mechanical Ventilation ¹												Natural Ventilation		CO ₂ level	
Ref Number	Country/Region	Standard	SUPPLY - Air Flow Quantity/Air Change Rate								EXHAUST - Air Flow Quantity/Air Change Rate				Minimum openable area to outdoor (% of floor area being ventilated)		CO ₂ level above ambient (ppm)	
			L/s		(L/s.m ²)		(L/s.person)		(h ⁻¹)		L/s	L/s	h ⁻¹	L/s	h ⁻¹		Whole dwelling	Bedroom
			Whole dwelling	Bedroom	Whole dwelling	Bedroom	Whole dwelling	Bedroom	Whole dwelling	Bedroom	Whole dwelling	Enclosed Kitchen		Bathroom			Whole dwelling	Bedroom
[22]	ASHRAE	ASHRAE Std 62.2, 2019	-	-	(0.17-0.74) ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 ³	10 ³	-	-	-	-
[23]	CEN	EN 16798-1:2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Supply ⁶ 60 cm ² /room; Extract ⁷ 100 cm ² /room	550	380
		Category I	-	-	0.49	-	10	-	0.7	2.9 ⁴	-	28-56	-	14-21 ⁵	-		800	550
		Category II	-	-	0.42	-	7	-	0.6	2.0 ⁴	-	20-40	-	10-15 ⁵	-		1350	950
		Category III	-	-	0.35	-	4	-	0.5	1.2 ⁴	-	14-28	-	7-10 ⁵	-		1350	950
			-	-	0.23	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	10-20	-	5-7 ⁵	-	-	-	
[24]	Belgium	NBN D-50-001 (1991)	20.8-41.7	7-20	1 ⁹	-	-	-	-	-	-	20.8	-	13.9 - 20.8	-	-	-	-
[25]	Norway	TEK17 (2017)	-	-	0.33 (min 0.19) ⁹	-	-	7.2	-	-	-	10 - 30	-	15-30	-	-	-	-
[26]	Denmark	BR18 (2019)	-	-	0.3	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	10-15	-	-	-	-
[27]	Austria	ONORM H 6038 (2014)	-	-	-	-	4.17-8.33	5.56	min ¹⁰ 0.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[28]	Sweden	Boverket, BFS2014:13-BBR21	-	-	0.35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[29]	France	Arrete 24.03.82 (1983)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.7-37.5 ¹⁰	5.6-12.5 ¹⁰	-	-	-	-	-	-
[30]	Germany	DIN 1946-6 (2019)	4.17-79.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.5	-	12.5	-	-	-	-
[31]	Netherlands	NNI (2006)	7	7	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	14	-	-	-	-
[32]	UK	HM Government (2010)	21.1	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
[33]	China	GB 50736-2012	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.45-0.70 ¹¹	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-
[34]		GB/T 18883-2002	-	-	-	-	8.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	< 580	-
[35]		Design manual for heating and air conditioning, 2008. Lu Yaoping	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-
[37]	Japan	Japan Building Standard Law (1950, 2003)	-	-	-	-	5.56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5%	-	-
[39]	South Korea	KMOCT 2006-11-512	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[40]	Indian	IS 3362-1977	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1 - Mechanical ventilation consists of the provision of ventilation rate in terms of SUPPLY Ventilation [air flow quantity (L/s.m², L/s.person), Air Change Rate (h⁻¹)] or EXHAUST Ventilation [airflow quantity (L/s), Air Change Rate (h⁻¹)].

2 - This is the total range of ventilation rate provided in ASHRAE Standard 62.2, obtained from the LOWEST to the HIGHEST across all dwellings. There are sub categories based on dwelling size and number of bedrooms in each size that would result in different numbers. Total dwelling ventilation rates are specified for different sizes and number of bedrooms on the assumptions of minimum 2 persons in the smallest sized dwelling (studio or 1-bedroom dwelling) and an additional person for each additional bedroom. For higher occupant densities, an additional 3.5 L/s per person is required.

3 - These are continuous local exhaust airflow rates. Kitchen extract is based on kitchen volume. ASHRAE 62.2-2019 also provides a separate demand-controlled local ventilation exhaust airflow rates.

4 - Corresponding ACH for a 10 m² room (ht=2.5 m, Volume=25 m³) with two persons, and ventilation airflow rates of 4, 7 and 10 L/s/person.

5 - Includes bathroom or shower (with or without toilets), toilets and other wet areas.

6 - Supply - Bedrooms and living rooms.

7 - Extract - Kitchen, bathrooms, toilets.

8 - Specific minimum rates for room type provided.

9 - During non-occupancy.

10 - Range is for the number of main rooms upto 7.

11 - Includes a range of floor areas (< 10 m² and > m 50 m²).

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Chandra Sekhar, Mizuho Akimoto, Xiaojun Fan, Mariya Bivolarova, Chenxi Liao, Li Lan, Pawel Wargocki, 2021. Corrigendum to "Bedroom ventilation: Review of existing evidence and current standards" [*J. Build. Environ.* 184 (2020) 107229](S0360132320306004)(10.1016/j.buildenv.2020.107229) [1016/j.buildenv.2021.107983](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2021.107983)

So, what are the standards telling us?

MV			
Whole dwelling	Supply airflow	4.2–80 L/s 0.2–1.0 L/s.m ²	4–10 L/s.person 0.15–3 h ⁻¹ (ACH)
	Exhaust ventilation	9.7–35 L/s	
Bedroom	Supply airflow	7–20 L/s 0.3 L/s.m ²	5.6–7.2 L/s.person 1–3 h ⁻¹ (ACH)
Enclosed kitchen	Exhaust ventilation	5.6–56 L/s 3–5 h ⁻¹ (ACH)	
Bathroom	Exhaust ventilation	5.6–30 L/s 3 h ⁻¹ (ACH)	
NV			
Room	Supply	Min. operable area: 60 cm ² /room Min. wall opening of "floor area": 5%	
	Extract	Min. operable area: 100 cm ² /room	

Review Findings

Summary of CO₂ levels and ventilation conditions in studies examining the effect of bedroom ventilation and IAQ on sleep quality.

Ref Number	Author(s)	Year	Lower ventilation condition	Higher ventilation condition	Observed significant effects on parameters describing sleep quality at lower ventilation condition measured objectively or rated by occupants			
					Sleep quality parameters measured objectively	Sleep quality rated subjectively		
[15]	Mishra et al.	2018	average CO ₂	1150 ppm	average CO ₂	717 ppm	Lower sleep efficiency Increased number of awakenings	Lower depth of sleep
[16]	Strøm-Tejse et al.	2016	average CO ₂ ACH average CO ₂ ACH	2585 ppm (1730 to 3900 ppm) 0.17 h ⁻¹ 2395 ppm (1620 to 3300 ppm) 0.24 h ⁻¹	average CO ₂ ACH average CO ₂ ACH	660 ppm (525–840 ppm) 1.8 h ⁻¹ 835 ppm (795–935 ppm) 1.1 h ⁻¹	Shorter sleep onset latency Lower sleep efficiency Reduced next-day performance of a logical thinking task	More sleepy and less able to concentrate on the next day
[17]	Xiong et al.	2020	average CO ₂	1327 ppm (shared occupancy) 1004 ppm (single occupancy)	average CO ₂	around 500 ppm	Lower % of deep sleep	Reduced self-reported sleep quality
[18]	Laverge and Janssens	2011	Peak CO ₂	3000 to 4500 ppm	Peak CO ₂	1000 to 2500 ppm	Higher sleep efficiency Increased number of awakenings	Less rested Lighter sleep Increased number of awakenings
[19]	Liao et al.	2020	average CO ₂ median CO ₂	1654 ppm 1550 ppm	average CO ₂ median CO ₂	601 ppm 585 ppm	Increased snoring Increased number of awakenings	N/A
[68]	Lan et al.	2019	–	–	average CO ₂	around 1400 ppm	N/A	N/A
[69]	Zhang et al.	2018	–	–	steady state CO ₂	around 1750 ppm	N/A	N/A
[70]	Irshad et al.	2018	average CO ₂	750 ppm	average CO ₂	620 ppm	Shorter sleep onset latency Reduction in the shifting between sleep stages, from NREM to REM, and to wake stage	N/A
[71]	Xia et al.	2020	–	–	average CO ₂	around 700 ppm	N/A	N/A
[72]	Kim et al.	2010	average CO ₂	1258 ppm (winter) 1276 ppm (spring)	average CO ₂	428 ppm (summer)	N/A	N/A

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Conclusions

- 1) Most existing ventilation standards do not prescribe specific ventilation requirements for bedrooms - ventilation in bedrooms is merely the result of ventilation requirements for the entire dwelling.
- 2) Wide range of ventilation rates measured in bedrooms using different methods; mostly carbon dioxide concentration and air change rates were measured.
- 3) Reported mean CO₂ concentrations ranged from 428 to 2585 ppm, and the mean air change rates from 0.2 to 4.9 h⁻¹.
- 4) Ventilation rates (indicated by the measured carbon dioxide concentration) are lower during heating seasons, especially in naturally ventilated, as well as in bedrooms when the air conditioning is in operation.
- 5) Bedroom temperatures were lower during heating seasons.
- 6) Scanty information on whether the reported ventilation rates would disturb sleep quality. Few studies that have been performed to date suggest that sleep quality will not be negatively affected when ventilation rates are such that CO₂ levels remain below 750 ppm, while CO₂ levels above 2600 ppm would disturb sleep quality and have a negative effect on the next-day cognitive performance. These results require validation.

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Two new Residential Issue Briefs published by ASHRAE

June
2021



Residential Buildings Committee (RBC) Residential Issue Brief:

Wildfire Smoke Hazards for Dwelling Occupants

The Issue

Wildland fires are occurring with increased frequency and intensity throughout many areas of the world. This is due to accumulated fuels from forest management practices that suppressed fires over many decades, combined with extended periods of hot and dry conditions associated with climate change (Abatzoglou et al. 2016; Boer et al. 2009; Dennison et al. 2014; Rasker 2015; Schoennagel et al. 2017; Westerling et al. 2006).

The smoke from wildland fires contains fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) – as much as 90 percent of the particle mass emitted from a wildfire is made up of PM_{2.5} or smaller particles (Groß et al. 2013; Vicente et al. 2013). PM_{2.5} consists of ultrafine particles, toxic particle-phase constituents, and many irritant gases including acrolein, formaldehyde, organic acids (O'Dell et al. 2020) and carbon monoxide. When fires reach and burn buildings, the human-produced materials add toxic constituents to the smoke, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs). Burning of buildings during wildfires is increasing due to many factors, including larger fires and the larger footprint of development at or near the wildland-urban interface (Radeloff et al. 2018; Schoennagel et al. 2017).

June
2021



Residential Buildings Committee (RBC) Residential Issue Brief:

Ventilation, IEQ and Sleep Quality in Bedrooms

The Issue

Sleep is essential for health and well-being. We spend a major part of our life at home, about a third in bedrooms, which gets much higher for vulnerable populations like babies and the elderly. This holds even greater significance in lockdowns, as evidenced during the unprecedented COVID-19 global pandemic. As a general principle, sleep hygiene recommendations tend towards maintaining a cool, dark and quiet sleeping environment. A 2018 review attempted to define environmental conditions in sleeping environments for optimal sleep quality and proposed temperature and humidity ranging generally between 17–28 °C and 40–60% RH, all forms of noise being less than 35 dB, complete darkness and avoidance of blue light immediately before and during sleep, ventilation using sea-level air quality, and passive design using architectural features to incorporate the above elements into bedroom design (Caddick et al., 2018).

Residential Building—Temperate Climate



Science and Technology for the Built Environment

ISSN (Print) (Online) journal homepage: <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/uhvc21>

Detailed characterization of bedroom ventilation during heating season in a naturally ventilated semi-detached house and a mechanically ventilated apartment

Chandra Sekhar, Mariya Bivolarova, Mizuho Akimoto & Pawel Wargocki

To cite this article: Chandra Sekhar, Mariya Bivolarova, Mizuho Akimoto & Pawel Wargocki (2020). Detailed characterization of bedroom ventilation during heating season in a naturally ventilated semi-detached house and a mechanically ventilated apartment, *Science and Technology for the Built Environment*, DOI: [10.1080/23744731.2020.1845019](https://doi.org/10.1080/23744731.2020.1845019)

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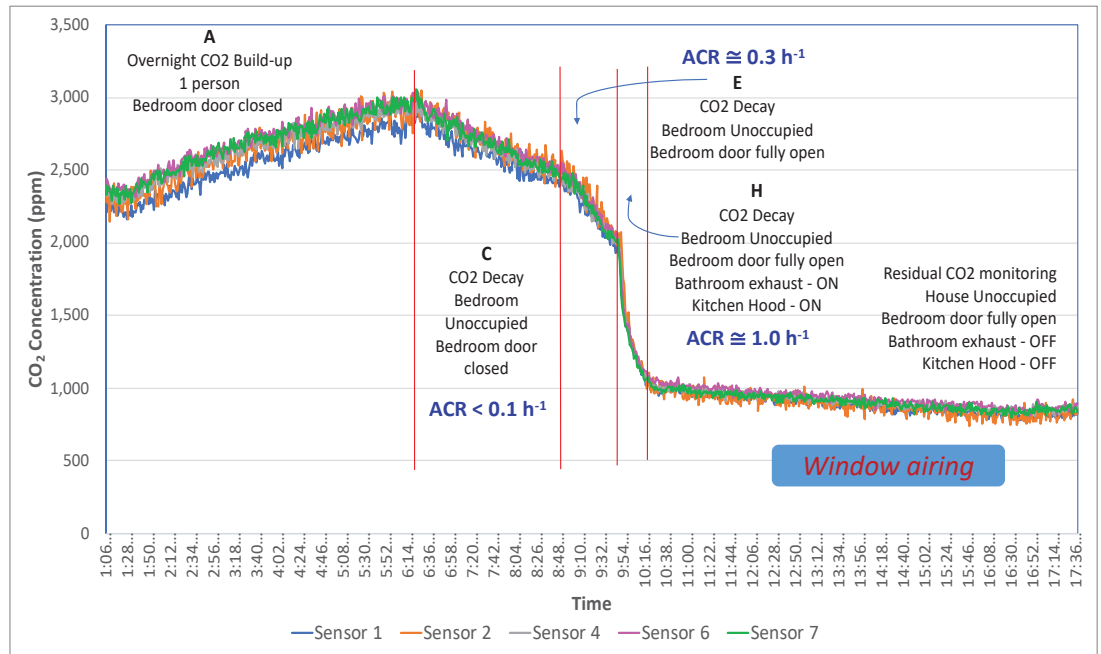
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Bedroom ventilation is crucial for providing good indoor air quality, which may contribute to achieving undisturbed sleep. This study presents a detailed characterization of bedroom carbon dioxide (CO₂) profiles and ventilation during the heating season in Denmark. The measurements were made in a naturally ventilated (NV) semi-detached house, equipped with trickle vents on the windows and doors (augmented if needed with exhaust fans), and a mechanically ventilated (MV) apartment. The location of sensors in and around the immediate breathing zone of a sleeping person had measurable effect on the absolute level of CO₂ only in the NV bedroom and not in the MV bedroom. Using the decay of occupant-generated CO₂, the estimated breathing zone air change rate (ACR) was around 0.4 h⁻¹ and 0.6 h⁻¹ for the NV and MV bedrooms respectively. This was adequate for an average breathing zone CO₂ level of 1000 ppm for the MV bedroom but not for the NV bedroom. The CO₂ emission rate of 7.9–10.9 L/h/person during sleep, obtained from bedroom CO₂ measurements, was lower than the estimated values of 12.8–13.9 L/h/person, using currently proposed methods in standards. Thermal comfort parameters during all the experimental sessions in both bedrooms were well within recommended levels.

Temperate Climate: Heating Season, Natural Ventilation

Semi-detached house with two levels, trickle vents on windows and doors, bedrooms on upper level

Residential Building— Temperate Climate

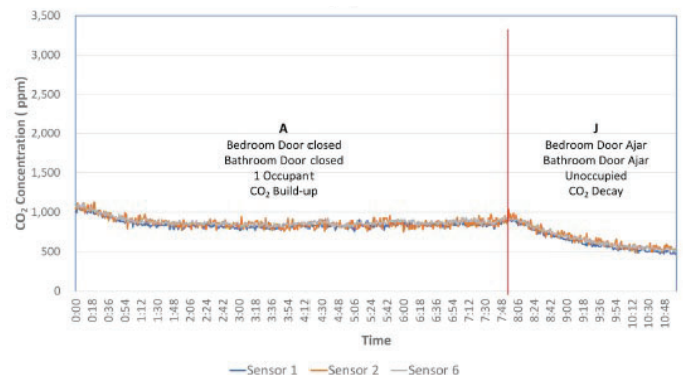
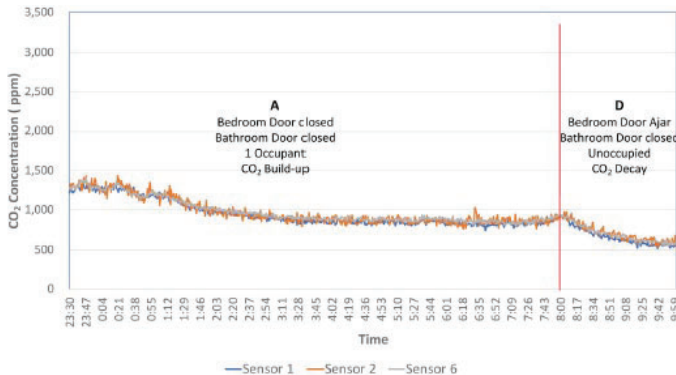
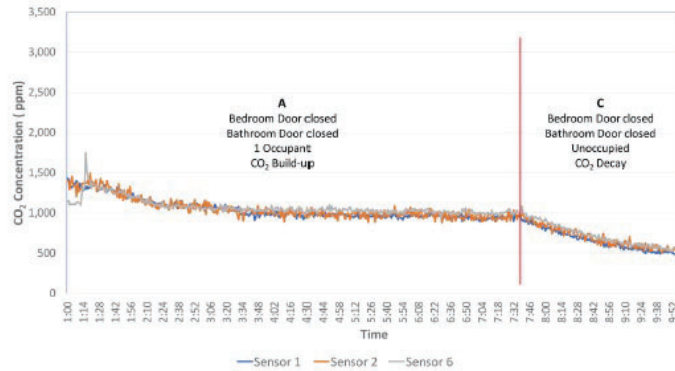


Bedroom CO₂ measurements

Temperate Climate: Heating Season, Mechanical Ventilation

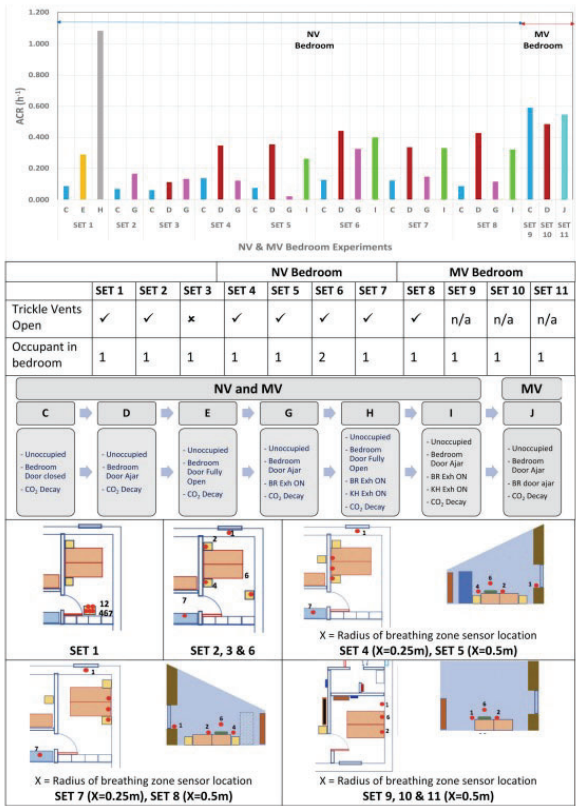
Mechanically ventilated bedroom in an apartment

Residential Building— Temperate Climate



Main results and conclusions

- An experimental protocol involving several interventions, was developed - degree of opening of bedroom door, position of the sensors in the bedroom and in the breathing zone of a sleeping person, position of the bed and the use of bathroom/kitchen hood exhaust fans.
- Clear benefit in keeping the NV bedroom door open in achieving better ventilation - bathroom and kitchen hood exhaust fans further enhance bedroom ventilation.
- Trickle vents offer an enhanced ventilation in the NV bedroom when coupled with some level of extraction but not much with bedroom door closed.
- Location of the sensors in both NV/MV bedrooms important in estimating local ventilation rates close to a sleeping person.
- Position of the bed in the bedroom has no significant impact on the absolute CO2 levels measured if the measurements are made only in the immediate vicinity of the breathing zone.
- In typical MV bedrooms [similar to the one studied: 3.2 m 2.7 m (23 m³)], an ACR of about 0.6 h⁻¹ is envisaged to be adequate to keep the average CO2 concentration close to the breathing zone of a sleeping person to be about 1000 ppm. However, in typical NV bedrooms equipped with trickle vents [similar to the one studied: 4.5 m 2.7 m (38 m³)], an ajar bedroom door coupled with bathroom and kitchen hood exhaust fans that results in a practically achievable ACR of 0.4 h⁻¹, still does not keep breathing zone CO2 level to be around 1000 ppm.
- The CO2 emission rate during sleep was obtained from CO2 measurements in bedrooms with NV and trickle vents and with balanced MV and found to be 7.9–10.9 L/ h.person, which was lower than the estimated values, 12.8–13.9 L/h.person, using methods that are currently proposed in standards/guidelines.



Residential Building—Tropical Climate



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



Energy and Buildings 36 (2004) 273–279

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Enhancement of ventilation performance of a residential split-system air-conditioning unit

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Abstract

The design of ventilation performance of air-conditioning systems in large commercial and office buildings is quite established. However, it is not the same with the designs of air-conditioning systems in most residential buildings. Split system air-conditioning units are commonly employed in residential buildings in the tropics due to their convenience in terms of energy conservation, aesthetics, flexibility, acoustic performance and ease of operation. Such units are also popular among small offices, shopping complex and even as supplementary air-conditioning units beyond normal office-hours in large commercial and office buildings. This paper presents findings from a recent study of the ventilation performance and indoor air quality (IAQ) in a master bed room of a condominium unit in Singapore, employed with a split system air-conditioning unit. The attached bathroom is equipped with an exhaust fan, whose operation and its impact on the resulting ventilation characteristics was also studied. Four adults occupied the room throughout the course of the experiments. It was observed that the carbon dioxide level in the bed room can exceed 2000 ppm without the exhaust fan in about 2 h. The operation of the exhaust fan quickly lowered the level of carbon dioxide to about 1000 ppm. The findings suggest the need to design for ventilation provision in split system air-conditioning units.

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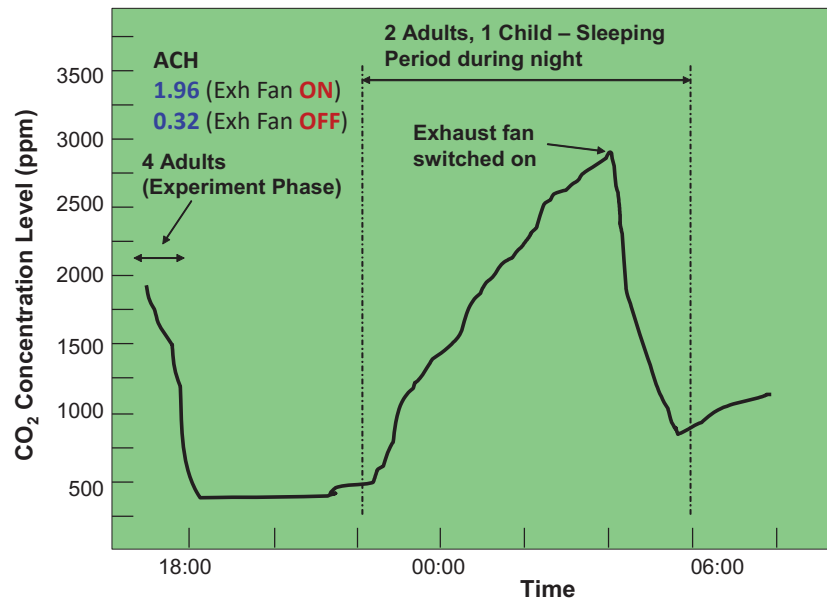
Keywords: Ventilation; Residential buildings; Air change rate; Carbon dioxide; Tropics

Residential Building - Tropical Climate

High-Rise Residential Apartment

Split-System AC Unit

Tropical Climate: Split-System AC Unit, High-Rise Residential Apartment

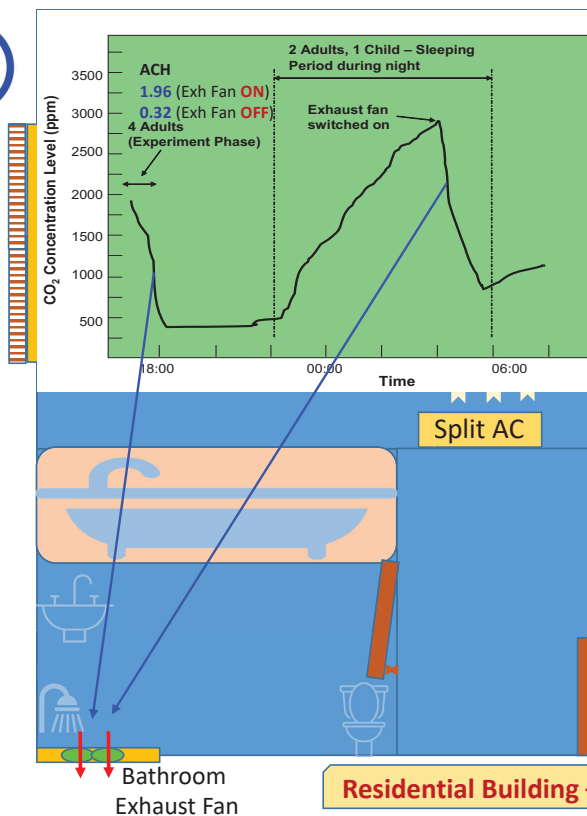


CO₂ concentration during measurement and night-time sleeping periods

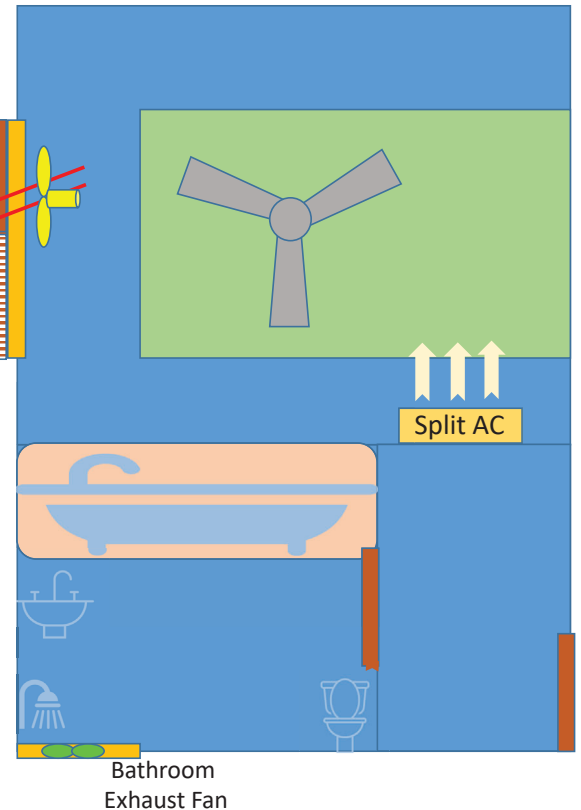
Sekhar SC. Enhancement of ventilation performance of a residential split-system air-conditioning unit. *Energy and Buildings*. 2004;36(3), 273-279.
doi: [10.1016/j.enbuild.2003.12.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2003.12.004)

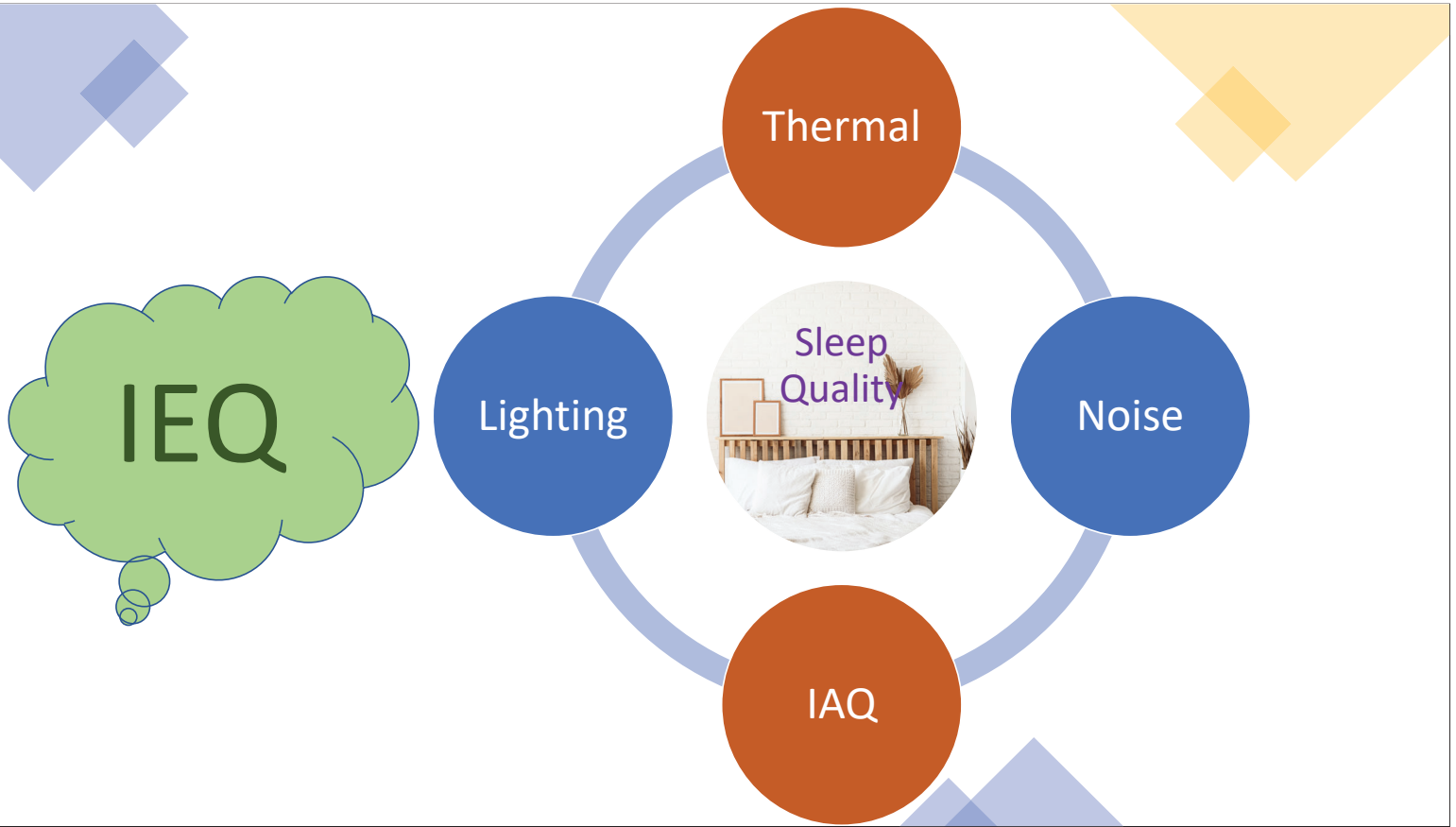


Split AC with Bathroom Exhaust



Split AC with Window crack-opening and Pedestal Fan





• Thank You for your Attention

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Thermal environment and sleep quality

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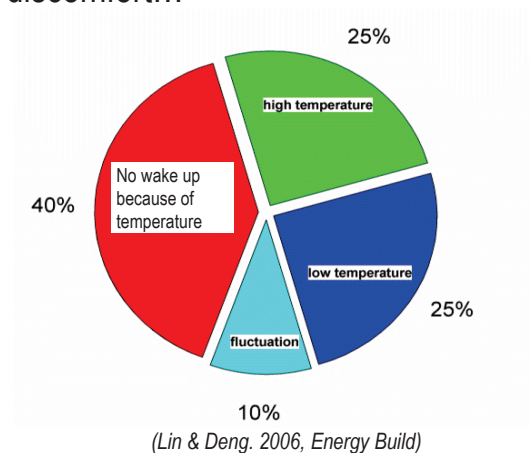
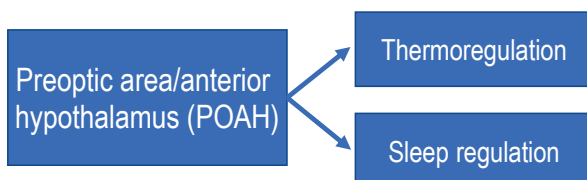
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Jan 12, 2023

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1. Why thermal environment

- **Sleep quality should be affected by thermal environment**
 - ✓ POAH regulate both heat loss and sleep activity
- **Many problems were found in bedrooms**
 - ✓ Stuffy air, high CO₂ concentration, thermal discomfort...



2. Indoor temperature and sleep

- Air temperature was the dominant factor influencing sleep quality in summer Shanghai



Association of bedroom environment with the sleep quality of elderly subjects in summer: A field measurement in Shanghai, China

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Sleep quality

ABSTRACT

Sleep is essential for the health of elderly people, but few studies have made connection between their sleep quality and their bedroom environment. This study performed field measurements in Shanghai, China, to investigate the bedroom thermal environment and ventilation and their associations with the sleep quality of elderly subjects in summer. Forty-five elderly subjects participated in this study for six consecutive days. Their bedroom air temperature, relative humidity and CO₂ concentration were measured continuously and their sleep quality was objectively measured using a wrist-worn sleep tracker. Wrist air temperature was measured continuously at night. Each morning after waking up the subjects assessed their sleep quality, recorded their thermal sensation, and recorded their bed covering, deepening and cooling/ventilation arrangements during that night. The results show that higher air temperature and CO₂ concentration were both negatively correlated with objective sleep quality. Air temperature was the key factor influencing objective sleep quality. When air temperature increased by 1 °C, sleep efficiency (SE) decreased by 0.7%, duration of Rapid Eye Movement (REM) sleep decreased by 2.1 min, and time awake increased by 2.3 min. The sleep quality of elderly subjects was more negatively affected by heat exposure than has been previously reported for younger subjects. As CO₂ concentration increased by 100 ppm, the Total Sleep Time (TST) decreased by 11 min. The combined effects of air temperature, relative humidity and CO₂ concentration were analyzed: TST and duration of REM sleep were reduced at higher air temperature, relative humidity and CO₂ concentration.

1. Introduction

People spend about one-third of their lives asleep. Sleep is an important physiological process that enables the body to recover from physical and psychological fatigue [1]. Sleep consists of Non-Rapid Eye Movement (NREM) sleep and Rapid Eye Movement (REM) sleep. In general, NREM sleep comprises the three stages N1, N2 and N3. Sleep begins in NREM (usually stage N1) and progresses through deeper NREM stages (stages N2 and N3) before the first episode of REM sleep occurs in mature humans [1]. Deep sleep (stage N3) in NREM sleep can facilitate physical recovery, e.g., the removal of cellular debris from the brain [1]. REM sleep enables the memory to process and learn from daily experiences [1]. Metabolic rate and sensitivity to ambient temperature conditions all decrease during sleep, while air temperature and core temperature change between sleep stages during each cycle [1]. When the thermoregulatory responses of the human body during sleep fail to

compensate for warm and hot conditions, sleep disturbance may occur [1]. The thermal environment is therefore one of the more important factors affecting sleep quality [1]. Previous studies indicated that air temperatures higher than the neutral temperature for whole-body heat balance impair the sleep quality of young people, resulting in increased awakening, decreased total sleep time (TST), duration of deep sleep and REM sleep [7,8]. High humidity was reported to increase the negative effects of high temperatures on sleep quality [1]. Poor ventilation, as indicated by a high CO₂ concentration in the bedroom, was shown to result in poorer sleep quality and cause sleep disturbance [10–17]. However, most of these studies were conducted in laboratories and the subjects were young adults.

Aging populations are a world-wide concern. The recent Chinese demographic statistics announced in March 2021 show that the percentage of the population 60 years old or more was 18.7% (260 million). A high incidence of sleep disturbance has been observed in 50% of the

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(26–32°C)

(36–88%)

(400–2400ppm)

Objective sleep parameters	B(Ta) ^P	B(RH) ^P	B(CO ₂) ^P
Time in bed (min)	−92.35 ^{0.12}	−38.07 ^{0.87}	−2.71 ^{0.49}
Total sleep time (min)	−86.59 ^{0.02*}	−23.63 ^{0.56}	−1.65 ^{0.05*}
Sleep efficiency (%)	−7.96 ^{0.01**}	−2.55 ^{0.08}	−0.21 ^{0.10}
Wake time (min)	15.37 ^{0.04*}	5.23 ^{0.13}	0.44 ^{0.23}
REM sleep (min)	−32.97 ^{0.04*}	−14.40 ^{0.56}	−1.52 ^{0.21}
Light sleep (min)	−38.90 ^{0.02*}	−11.85 ^{0.04*}	−0.33 ^{0.03*}
Deep sleep (min)	−27.34 ^{0.27}	−9.90 ^{0.44}	−1.01 ^{0.14}

*P < 0.05; **P ≤ 0.01.

3. Sleeping micro-environment

- Conductive cooling on back and head maintained sleep quality at 32°C

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY

Local body cooling to improve sleep quality and thermal comfort in a hot environment

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Abstract

The effects of local body cooling on thermal comfort and sleep quality in a hot environment were investigated in an experiment with 16 male subjects. Sleep quality was evaluated subjectively, using questionnaires completed in the morning, and objectively by analysis of electroencephalogram (EEG) signals that were continuously monitored during the sleeping period. Compared with no cooling, the largest improvement in thermal comfort and sleep quality was observed when the back and head (neck) were both cooled at a room temperature of 32°C. Back cooling alone also improved thermal comfort and sleep quality, although the effects were less than when cooling both back and head (neck). Mean sleep efficiency was improved from 84.4% in the cooling condition to 95.3% and 92.8%, respectively, in these conditions, indicating good sleep quality. Head (neck) cooling alone slightly improved thermal comfort and subjective sleep quality and increased Stage N3 sleep, but did not otherwise improve sleep quality. The results show that local cooling applied to large body sections (back and head) could effectively maintain good sleep and improve thermal comfort in a hot environment.

KEYWORDS

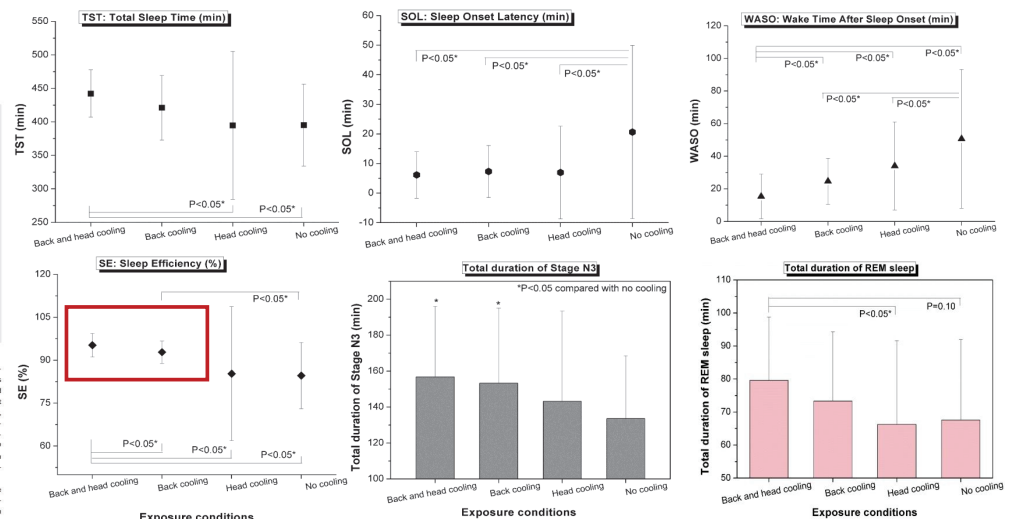
bedroom, local body cooling, physiological parameters, sleep, sleep quality, thermal comfort

1 | INTRODUCTION

People spend about one-third of their lives sleeping, and good sleep is important for their health and daytime activities. Poor sleep quality impairs cognitive performance in older adults and impacts brain function related to reward processing, risk-taking, and cognition in adolescents.^{1,2} Disturbed nocturnal sleep also has consequential effects on health, increasing the risk of obesity, Type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular disease.^{3,4} The thermoregulatory system and the sleep regulating mechanisms have been shown to be strongly linked in humans,^{5,6} and this was later confirmed by many studies that show high or low air temperatures, even moderately different from the neutral temperature, could significantly decrease sleep quality.^{7,8} However, in many areas with long and hot summers, indoor air temperatures are very high. For example, in southern China, the indoor air temperature was found to be higher than 34°C in natural ventilated buildings during the summer season.⁹ A survey in Indonesia found that the indoor

air temperatures were higher than 32°C in naturally ventilated residential buildings.¹⁰ Global warming that leads to higher temperatures will create still hotter indoor conditions. Attention is now being paid to how climate change may degrade the indoor thermal environment in buildings.¹¹ It has been reported that heat-related deaths correlate, not just with daytime temperatures, but also with nighttime temperatures. The highest risk factor for heat-related death is a bedroom located on the second floor without air-conditioning.¹² A study in 79 households in Greenland showed that in summer 19% of all bedroom temperatures were above 24°C, although the outside temperatures averaged no more than 9.5°C.¹³

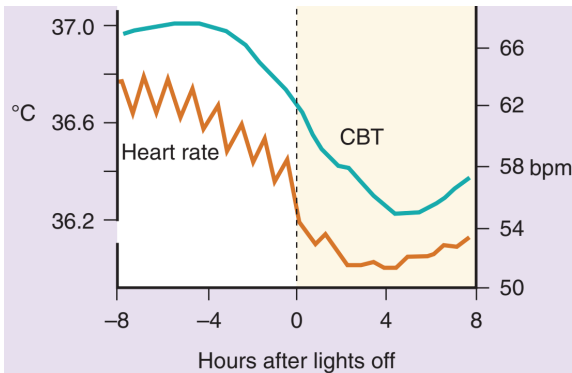
Full air-conditioning may be one of the easiest ways to improve thermal environment. However, large amounts of energy when mechanically cooled room air, for residential buildings must be supplied to maintain indoor temperatures at acceptable levels in the entire building (including unoccupied areas), leading to increased energy consumption.¹⁴ Thus, especially in areas with hot summers, the long summer period



- **Covering heating and mattress heating improved sleep quality at 7°C**



- **Mean skin temperature increases with air temperature and fluctuates during the entire sleep period**



4. The importance of skin temperature

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Mean skin temperature estimated from 3 measuring points can predict sleeping thermal sensation

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ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Keywords:

Skin temperature

Mean skin temperature

MST

Thermal comfort

Thermal sensation

Sleep

Sensory input from the skin appears to be of crucial importance in the regulation of sleep but there has been limited research on human skin temperature during sleep. The present study was undertaken to validate calculation of the mean skin temperature (MST) of sleeping subjects from measurements at only three locations: forehead, chest, and foot, by means of an analysis of skin temperature data obtained from four human experiments that investigated the effects of thermal environment on the sleep quality and thermal comfort of a total of 64 sleeping subjects. The results show that skin temperatures were more evenly distributed across the body surface of sleeping subjects than they are when subjects are awake. The skin temperature of the forehead was highly correlated with thermal sensation in long term measurements. MST values calculated using the three-point method were found to predict thermal sensation while sleeping better than those calculated using the normally accepted Hardy and Dubois's seven-point method. The validity, convenience and reliability of this approach, which also causes less sleep disturbance, makes it a suitable choice for obtaining estimates of mean skin temperature in sleep studies.

1. Introduction

Sleep is essential for the body to recover from both physical and psychological fatigue suffered throughout the day and is important for human health [1]. The thermal environment is one of the primary causes of sleep disturbance [2,3], which can also be caused by such factors as health, emotional state and bedding. Exposure to moderate heat or cold results in increased sleep onset latency and decreased slow wave sleep (SWS) [3]. Even mild heat exposure leads to significantly decreased sleep quality in older people [4]. Creating a thermally comfortable sleeping environment is thus an important research topic.

Input from the skin appears to be of crucial importance in the regulation of sleep [5]. Since the human skin forms the interface between the human body and the thermal environment, skin temperature provides essential information on heat loss from the human body. Moreover, when we feel warm or cold, we do not actually sense the air temperature, but rather the temperature of the thermoreceptors, most of which are located in the periphery of the body and in or around the great veins in the upper abdomen and thorax, as they send signals to the

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Comparison of wrist skin temperature with mean skin temperature calculated with Hardy and Dubois's seven-point method while sleeping

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ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Keywords:

Wrist skin temperature

Mean skin temperature

Sleep

Thermal environment

Control

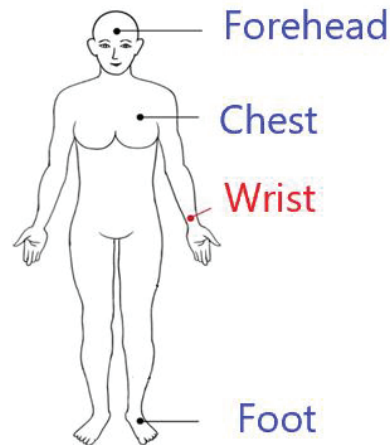
Wrist skin temperature has been validated to be sensitive to the thermal state of awake people, but its correlation with thermal state of sleeping people has not been investigated. In the present study four human subject experiments were performed on both young and elderly subjects in different seasons (winter, transition, summer). Their skin temperatures were continuously measured during the whole night sleep at wrist (WST) and at the normally accepted seven-points (forehead, chest, posterior forearm, hand, anterior thigh, anterior calf, and foot) proposed by Hardy & Dubois. The WST was compared with the mean skin temperature (MST) calculated with Hardy & Dubois's seven-point method. The results show that the WST was moderately and positively correlated with MST, with the Pearson's r value ranged from 0.44 to 0.63. When comparing the variation of WST and MST throughout the whole-night sleep, the averaged maximum crossing correlation coefficient was 0.56 ($Q = 0.6$, $Q3 = 0.7$) and the lag time was on average -10.4 min ($Q1 = -11.0$, $Q3 = 0.0$ min), indicating that the WST was synchronically correlated with MST. Similar to MST, the WST could differentiate sleeping micro thermal environments which were created by different combinations of indoor temperature and bedding thermal insulation. These results suggest that the WST was linearly and synchronically correlated with the MST calculated using Hardy & Dubois's seven-point method. Thus, the skin temperature at wrist could provide information on thermal state of human body when people asleep, making it possible to measure skin temperature in field studies and to personally and energy efficiently control the thermal environment for sleep.

1. Introduction

Sleep is a vital physiological process of the human body, and has a substantial impact on human health [1]. More and more studies have linked bedroom environment, especially thermal environment with sleep quality [2,3]. Exposure to moderate cold or heat resulted in increased sleep onset latency and decreased slow-wave sleep [3,4]. Mild heat exposure significantly contributed to increased wakefulness during sleep and reduced rapid eye movement sleep (REM) in older men [5]. Providing a thermally comfortable environment is thus essential to maintain sleep.

Different thermal mitigation facilities, such as air-conditioners and fans, are widely used while sleeping to maintain thermal comfort [6–8] by consuming a certain amount of energy [9]. The survey in Hong Kong showed that 68% of the respondents would leave their air conditioners on throughout their sleep and only 6.1% used

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Summary

- Human sleep quality was sensitive to change of air temperature; temperatures moderately deviated from thermal neutral impaired sleep quality, while the neutral temperature is closely related to thermal insulation
- Sleep quality could be improved while energy saving was achieved when the air temperature cycled properly; more studies are needed to identify the optimum cycle
- Control bed micro-environment energy efficiently by using of local heating, cooling and/or ventilation system
- Skin temperature is a good index for predicting the thermal state of human body while sleeping

Thank you



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Ventilation and IAQ in bedrooms

CONTENT

- What is the IAQ in bedrooms?
- Does ventilation work to control IAQ?
- What are the relevant metrics for bedroom ventilation?
- What is still unknown?

IAQ IN BEDROOMS

Statistical description of mean CO₂ and air change rate (ACR) during sleep.

	Mean	Std.	min	Percentile			max
				25th	50th	75th	
Mean CO ₂ (ppm)	1305.3	942.4	427.5	638.0	981.8	1547.6	4803.7
ACR (h ⁻¹)	1.1	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	1.5	4.9

CO₂: 1000 ppm (Cat. II, Central European Standard)
ACR: 2.0 h⁻¹ (Cat. II, Central European Standard)

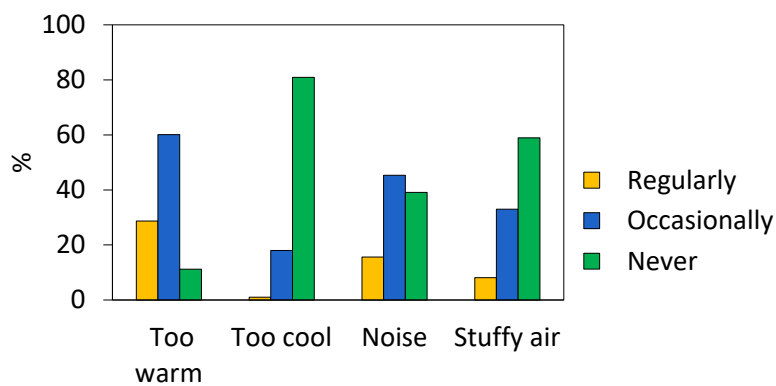
Statistical description of bedroom pollutants during sleep.

	Mean	Std. Dev.	min	Percentile			max
				25th	50th	75th	
NO ₂ (ppb)	5.7	5.9	0.2	1.7	3.4	7.1	30.2
VOCs (ppb)	187.7	80.9	84.1	146.7	166.2	204.0	445.9
PM ₁₀ (µg·m ⁻³)	24.5	26.0	3.9	7.1	11.0	36.4	99.4
PM _{2.5} (µg·m ⁻³)	5.0	4.0	2.0	2.3	2.8	7.1	19.5

NO₂: 10 ppb (WHO standard)
VOCs: 600 ppb (Portuguese standard)
PM₁₀: 15 µg·m⁻³ (WHO standard)
PM_{2.5}: 5 µg·m⁻³ (WHO standard)



A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY



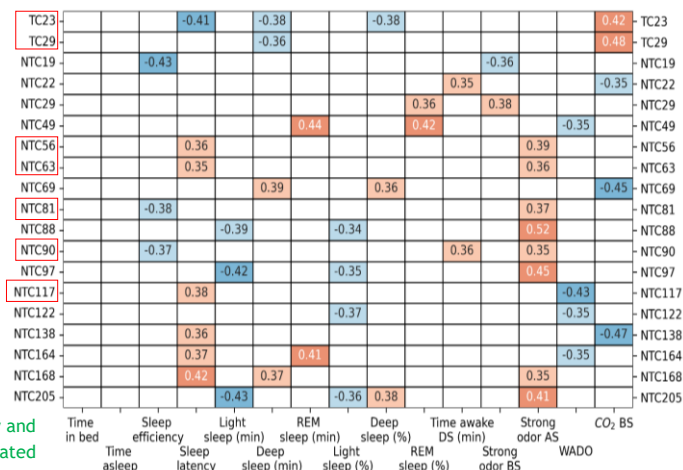
Sleep disturbance

Incidence of sleep disturbance caused by noise, stuffy air, and thermal discomfort experienced in bedrooms.

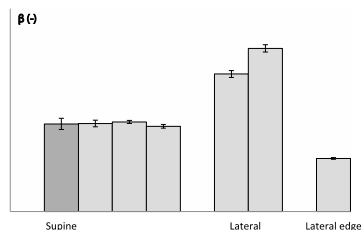
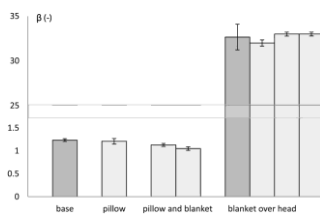
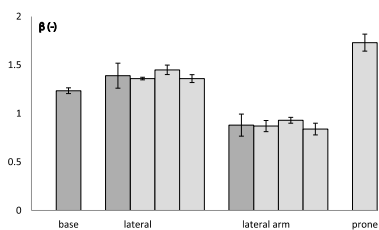


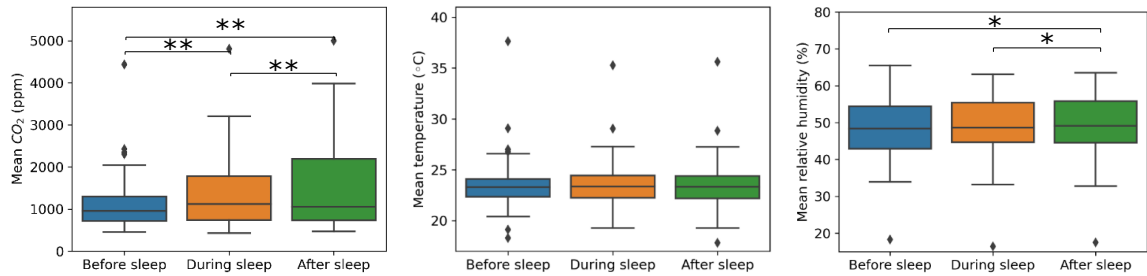
Targeted and non-
targeted compounds:

19 compounds: 2 TC + 17 NTC
[258 compounds: 43 TC + 215 NTC]

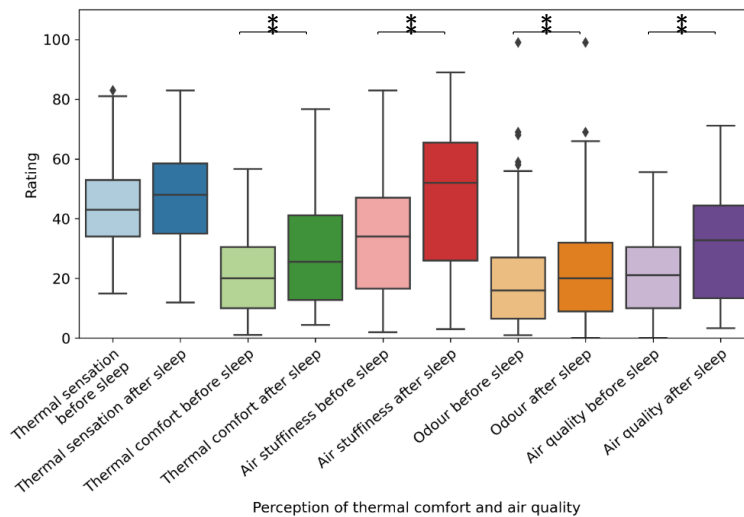


Sleep quality and
sleep-related
ventilation factors:

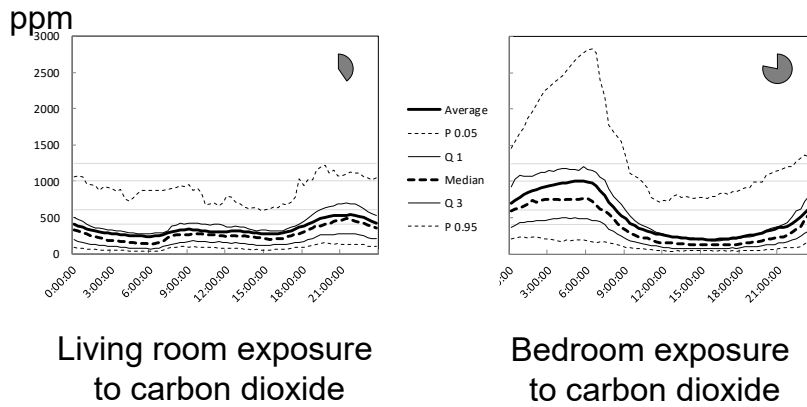




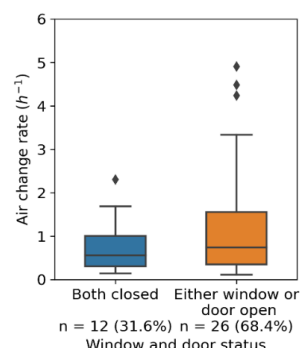
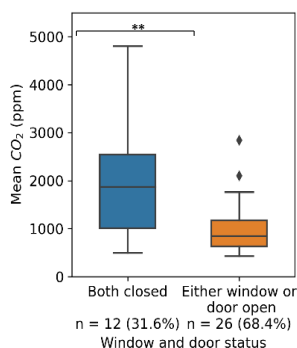
*Distribution of CO₂ level, mean temperature, and relative humidity before, during, and after sleep. The diamond indicates outliers. * p-value < 0.05, ** p-value < 0.01.*



*Distribution of the perception of thermal comfort and air quality before and after sleep. IEQ, indoor environmental quality. The diamond indicates outliers. ** p-value < 0.01.*



VENTILATION AS STRATEGY

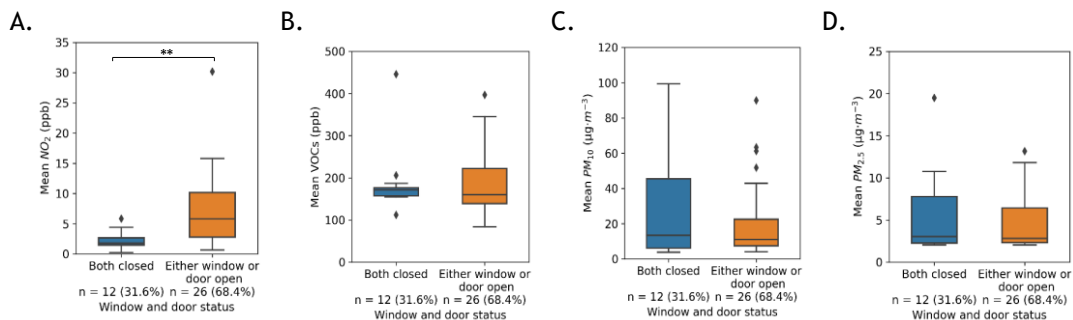


Mean CO₂ levels between two “window and door status” during sleep.

Air change rate between two “window and door status” during sleep.

** p -value < 0.01.

Results



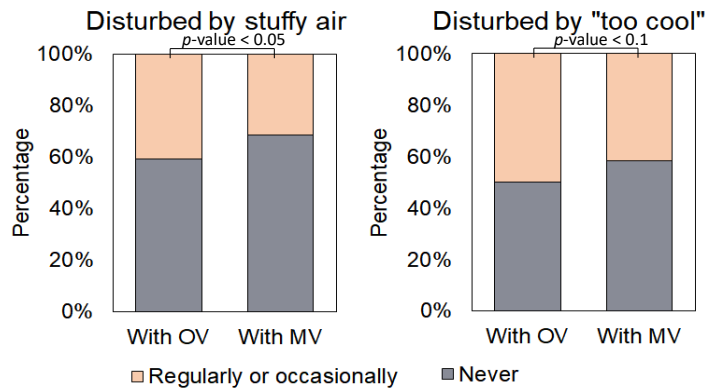
Mean levels of indoor pollutants during sleep between two “window and door status”.

A, NO₂; B, VOCs; C, PM₁₀; D, PM_{2.5}.

NO₂, nitrogen dioxide; VOCs, volatile organic compounds; PM, particulate matter.

** p -value < 0.01.

A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY



Mechanical ventilation in bedrooms reduced responses of being disturbed by stuffy air or "too cool" conditions during sleep.

MV, mechanical ventilation; OV, other ventilation including exhaust ventilation and natural ventilation.

RELEVANT METRICS

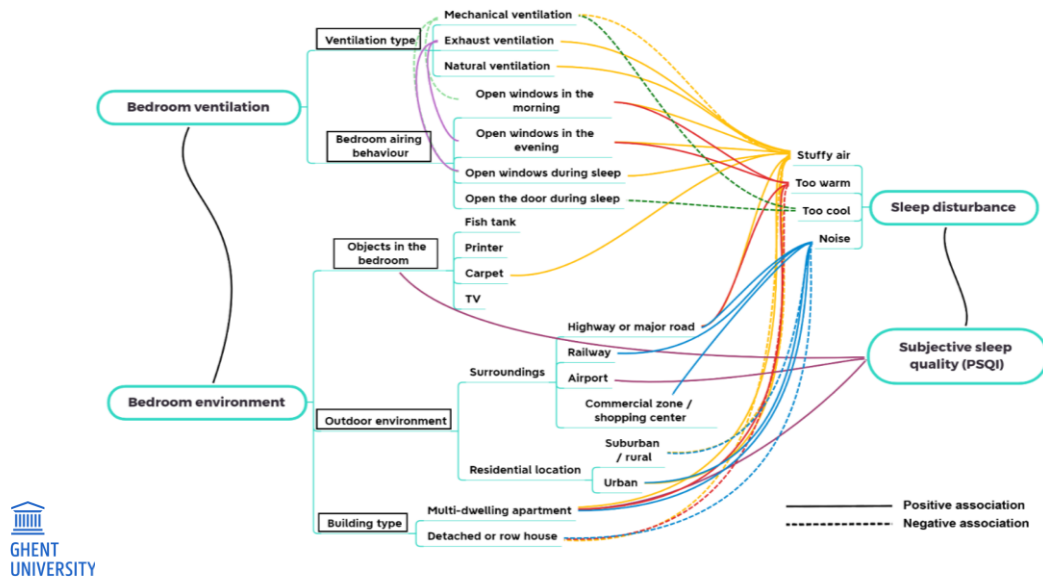
HEALTH

- Take into account the increased exposure compared to well mixed assumption

HEALTH & WELLBEING

- => Impact on sleep
 - Impact of perceived air quality?

A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY



19

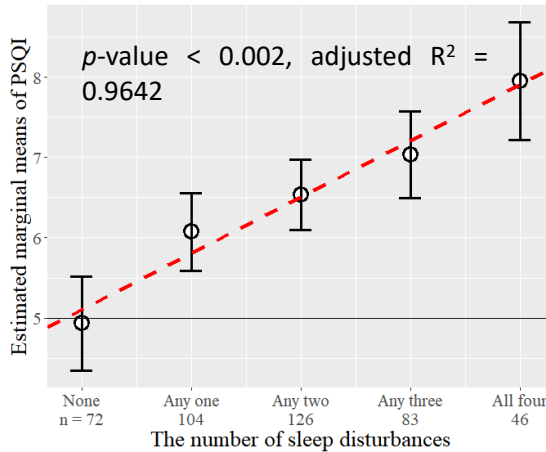
HEALTH & WELLBEING

=> Impact on sleep

- Impact of perceived air quality?
- Avoiding disturbances

20

A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY



PSQI increased with an increased number of sleep disturbances. Sleep disturbances include stuffy air, noise, too warm, and too cool (max four min zero). The results were adjusted by chronic disease, exercise, age of the youngest child living at home, sleep habits and BMI. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals of the estimated marginal means of the PSQI scores.



Sleep quality cost

Assumptions

- Many factors influence sleep quality
- Literature may have divergent opinions
- Sleep quality is hard to quantify from environmental parameters only
- Improving sleep quality only from ventilation related parameters is complex
- Detection of bad environment for sleep quality is possible
- all bad conditions gathered → probability of sleep disturbance is 1

$$\text{Sleep quality} = \sum_1^n \frac{k_i w_i}{n}$$

$Sq \leq 0 \rightarrow \text{good}$

$0 < Sq \leq 1 \rightarrow \text{probably bad}$

$Sq \geq 1 \rightarrow \text{bad for sure}$

Good/ Probably good		Neutral/ Uncertain		Bad/ Probably bad		Bad for sure
-1	0	1	2n-1			
	Coefficient	Good (-1)	Neutral (0)	Probably bad (1)	Bad (2n-1=3)	
T (°C)	0,0447		17-28	<17 or >28		
H* (%)	0,0447		40-60	<40 or >60		
CO2 (ppm)	0,0351		750-1150	1150-2600	2600	
Noise (dB)	0,0319			35		

From assessment to health cost

- Translation, from sleep disturbance issue to DALY
 - Equivalent of DALY lost per issue
 - Probability of issue with & without sleep disturbance
 - Cost induced/issue

HEALTH & WELLBEING

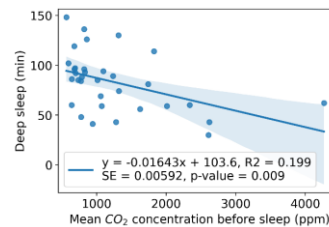
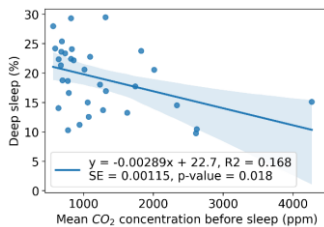
=> Impact on sleep

- Impact of perceived air quality?
- Avoiding disturbances
- Improving sleep quality in healthy subjects



FLANDERS
INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

flux50



The regression line between mean CO₂-bs concentration and deep sleep (% , min).

Deep sleep (min, %) in association with CO_{2-b5} concentration.

Item	Beta (95% credible interval) ^a	R ² (Q2.5 - Q97.5)
Deep sleep (%)		
CO _{2-b5} concentration (/1000 ppm)	-2.9 (-5.3 – -0.5)	0.176 (0.006 – 0.376)
Deep sleep (min)		
CO _{2-b5} concentration (/1000 ppm)	-16.3 (-32.3 – 0.3)	0.201 (0.003 – 0.438)



^a analyzed by the Bayesian linear regression with the prior distribution of N(0,10).






Sleep quality

American National Foundation (2017)

■ Inappropriate ■ Uncertain □ Appropriate

AGE CATEGORY		SLEEP EFFICIENCY				
		≥95%	85-94%	75-84%	65-74%	<64%
	ADULTS					

AGE CATEGORY		Deep sleep					
		<5%	6-10%	11-15%	16-20%	20-25%	>26%
	ADULTS				5 %		

AGE CATEGORY		REM ACTIVITY				
		<10%	11-20%	21-30%	31-40%	>41%
	ADULTS			10 %		

Statistical description of sleep parameters

Item	mean ± std.	min	25%	50%	75%	max
Sleep efficiency	88.2 ± 2.3	84.3	86.6	88.5	89.5	93.1
Deep sleep (%)	16.9 ± 4.8	6.0	13.7	17.2	20.9	24.8
REM sleep (%)	21.9 ± 5.3	12.6	17.5	23.1	25.3	32.5

Fraction of appropriate ranges

Item	below appropriate above
Sleep efficiency	6 (16%) 32 (84%) 0
Deep sleep (%)	16 (42%) 10 (26%) 12 (32%)
REM sleep (%)	14 (37%) 21 (55%) 3 (8%)

UNKNOWNS

WHAT WE DON'T HAVE (YET)

- Good, conclusive data that supports robust assumptions on correlations between environmental factors and sleep (both disturbances and quality)
- Good conclusive data on the longterm effect of moderately reduced/improved sleep quality for healthy people
- Mechanistic understanding of observed correlations

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ASHRAE Research Project 1837-TRP The Effects of Ventilation in Sleeping Environments



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1

Summary

- ASHRAE research project 1837-RP on "The effects of ventilation in sleeping environments"
- Launched on October 1, 2019
- Partners: Technical University of Denmark and JiaoTong University, China
- Duration: 36 months (extension granted)
- Completion: April 30, 2023 (new date)
- Funding: US\$ 230,541 (ASHRAE), US\$366,541 (total)

2

Promised activities (in a nutshell)

- Summary of standards defining bedroom conditions
- Summary of literature on ventilation and sleep quality
- Cross-sectional studies in bedrooms to characterize ventilation conditions
- Intervention studies in bedrooms

Specific aim

- Amendment to ASHRAE Standard 62.2 "Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Residential Buildings"

3

Additional studies (extensions)

- Survey of bedroom conditions (prior to and after the COVID-19 lockdown)
- Laboratory studies on the effects of ventilation, pure CO₂, temperature and ventilation noise on sleep quality
- Examining bedroom and door opening behavior
- Estimation of CO₂ generation rate for sleeping people (young adults and elderly)
- Estimation of emission rates of bioeffluents from sleeping people using PTR-MS-TOF
- Comparison of performance of different sleep trackers against polysomnograph (PSG)

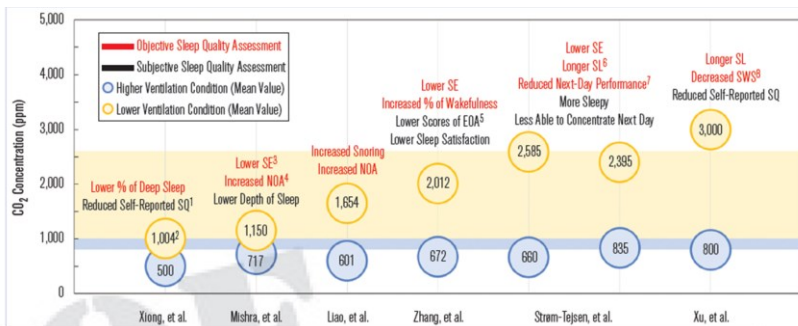


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Review of literature and standards

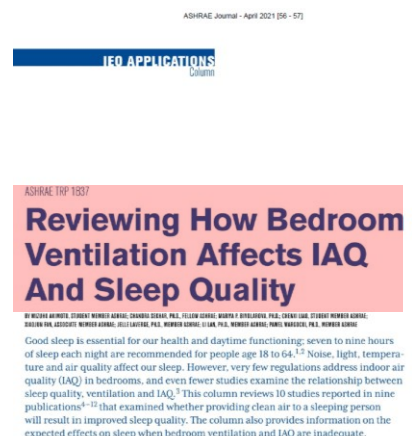
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Summary of studies examining the effects of ventilation on sleep quality



- Scanty information on whether the reported ventilation rates would disturb sleep quality
- <750 ppm bedroom CO₂ undisturbed sleep quality range
- >2600 ppm bedroom CO₂ disturbed sleep quality range with possible reduced next-day cognitive performance

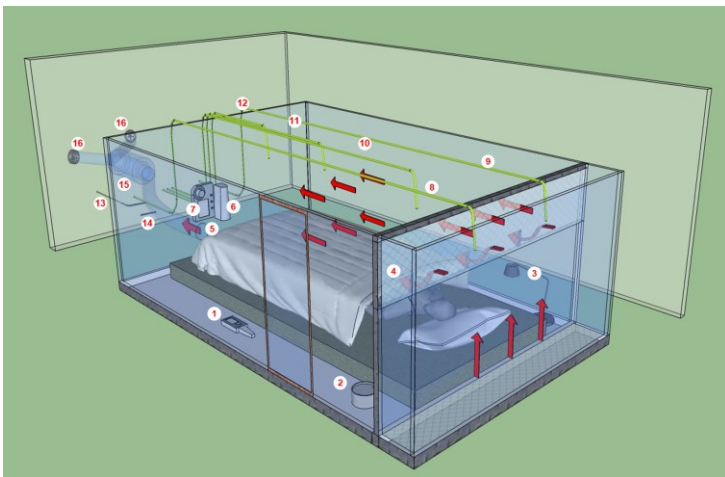
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Laboratory experiments

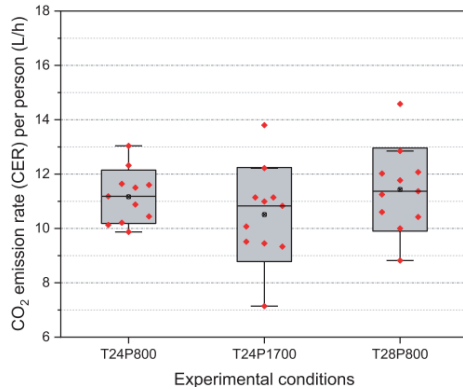
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Laboratory setup, the sleeping capsule



8

Estimating the emission rate of CO₂



- CO₂ emission rates of sleeping people is around 11 L/h, 40% lower than the emission rates when awake. Fairly constant across studies.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY

Emission rate of carbon dioxide while sleeping

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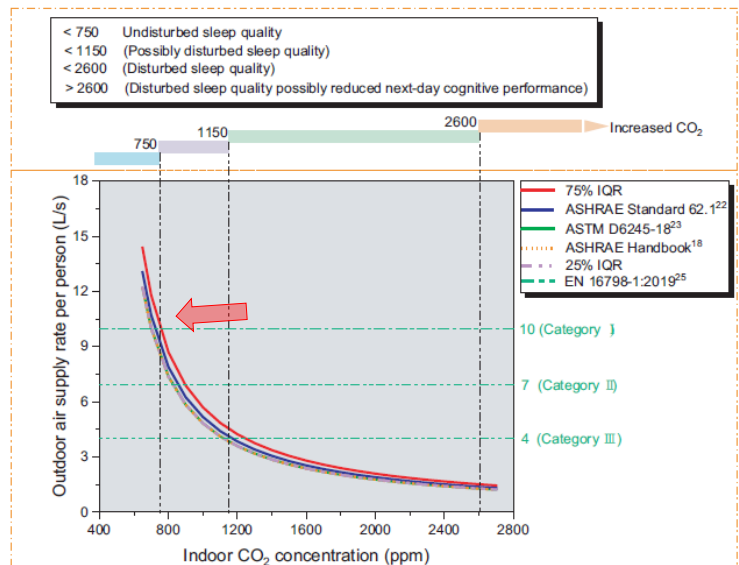
Abstract

Humans emit carbon dioxide (CO₂) as a product of their metabolism. Its concentration in buildings is used as a marker of ventilation rate (VR) and degree of mixing of supply air, and indoor air quality (IAQ). The CO₂ emission rate (CER) may be used to estimate the ventilation rate. Many studies have measured CERs from subjects who were awake but little data are available from sleeping subjects and the present publication was intended to reduce this gap in knowledge. Seven females (29 ± 5 years old; BMI: 22.2 ± 0.8 kg/m²) and four males (27 ± 1 years old; BMI: 20.5 ± 1.5 kg/m²) slept for four consecutive nights in a specially constructed capsule at two temperatures (24 and 28°C) and two VRs that maintained CO₂ levels at ca. 800 ppm and 1700 ppm simulating sleeping conditions reported in the literature. The order of exposure was balanced, and the first night was for adaptation. Their physiological responses, including heart rate, pN₂, core body temperature, and skin temperature, were measured as well as sleep quality, and subjective responses were collected each evening and morning. Measured steady-state CO₂ concentrations during sleep were used to estimate CERs with a mass balance equation. The average CER was 11.0 ± 1.4 L/h per person and was 8% higher for males than for females (*p* < 0.05). Increasing the temperature or decreasing IAQ by decreasing VR had no effects on measured CERs and caused no observable differences in physiological responses. We also calculated CERs for sleeping subjects using the published data on sleep energy expenditure (SEE) and Respiratory Quotient (RQ), and our measured CERs confirmed both these calculations and the CERs predicted using the equations provided by ASHRAE Standard 62.1, ASHRAE Handbook, and ASTM D6245-18. The present results provide a valuable and helpful reference for the design and control of bedroom ventilation but require confirmation and extension to other age groups and populations.

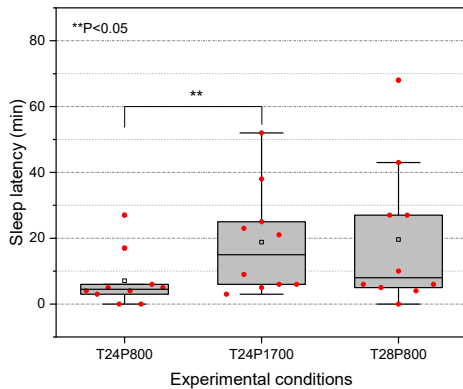
KEYWORDS
 human CO₂ emission rates, physiological responses, sleeping conditions, temperature, ventilation

Implications

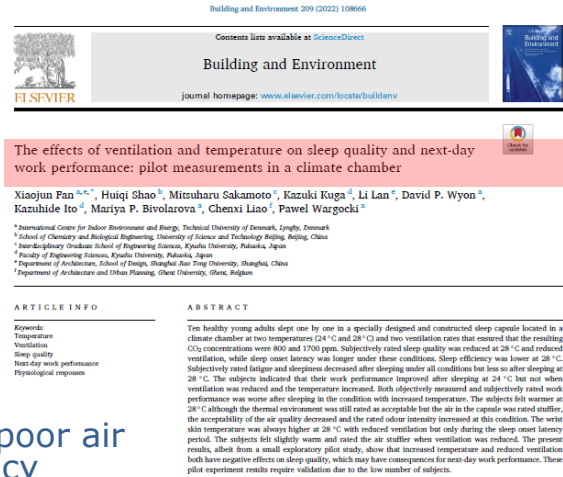
- Current evidence suggest the rates above 10 L/sp (CO₂ levels below 750 ppm) will ensure undisturbed sleep



The effects of ventilation and temperature on sleep quality



- Both elevated temperatures and poor air quality increase sleep onset latency (more time needed to fall asleep)



The effects of ventilation and ventilation noise on sleep quality

- Poor ventilation resulted in reduced sleep quality measured objectively by polysomnography.
- Ventilation noise was perceived as less acceptable and could be shown objectively to have disrupted sleep, effectively cancelling the positive effects of improving the ventilation
- Occupants are expected not to operate ventilation as intended in bedrooms if ventilation noise is too high
- Any potential sources of noise should be eliminated

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY

Pilot study of the effects of ventilation and ventilation noise on sleep quality in the young and elderly

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Abstract

Three conditions were established to investigate the effects of ventilation and related ventilation noise on sleep quality: No mechanical ventilation/low noise (A); Mechanical ventilation/low noise (B); Mechanical ventilation/high noise (C). The interventions were achieved by idling a mechanical ventilation system or operating it in two different modes. Nine young people and nine older people were all exposed to each of the three conditions for a whole night's sleep, but data from only 15 subjects were analyzed as three young subjects apparently slept with open windows in condition A. Sleep quality was measured objectively with polysomnography (PSG), which monitored signals of electroencephalogram (EEG), lateral electrooculogram (EOG), and chin electromyogram (EMG) continuously during the sleeping period. Saliva samples were collected before sleep at night and after waking in the morning, and the concentrations of cortisol and lysocyme in them were determined. Without mechanical ventilation, the indoor CO₂ level averaged about 1400 ppm during the night. Operating the mechanical ventilation decreased the indoor CO₂ to below 1000 ppm, which improved objectively measured sleep quality: wake time after sleep onset (WASO) decreased on average by 15 min ($p < 0.05$) and sleep efficiency (SE) increased on average by about 4% ($p < 0.05$). Increased ventilation noise level (50.8dBA vs. 34.7dBA; 54.9dBC vs. 48dBC) did not significantly change SE or WASO but did change the duration of sleep stages: It decreased the duration of deep sleep by 11 min ($p < 0.05$) and REM sleep by 17 min ($p < 0.01$) and increased the duration of light sleep by 17 min ($p < 0.05$). The ventilation noise significantly increased the concentration of lysocyme in the elderly ($p < 0.05$) although no significant effects on cortisol could be shown. These results confirm that a low ventilation rate has negative effects on sleep quality and that ventilation noise at or above 50dBA may disrupt sleep.

KEYWORDS

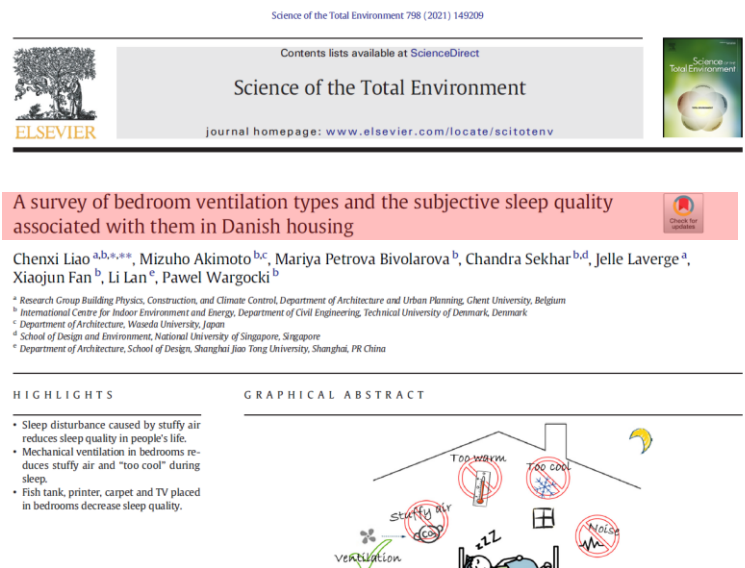
elderly, health, sleep quality, ventilation, ventilation noise

Field experiments: surveys, cross-sectional and interventions

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The survey in Danish bedrooms, contd

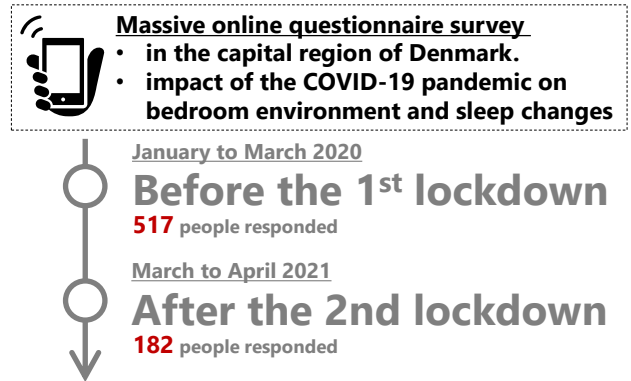
- Mechanical ventilation in bedrooms reduce disturbance to sleep caused by stuffy and too cool air; the more disturbances to sleep (and the more objects in bedrooms being potential sources of pollution) the poorer sleep quality



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The effects of the COVID-19 lockdown on bedroom use and sleep quality

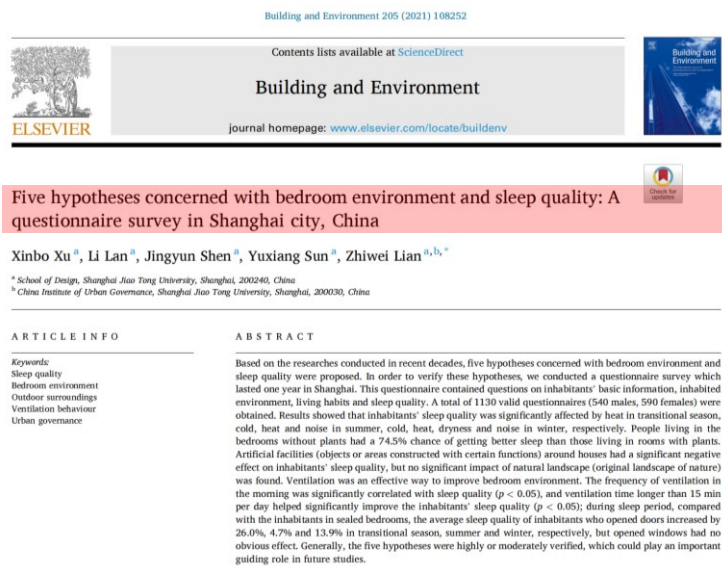
- More stress and new working style
- No changes to sleep patterns
- Bedroom converted to office
- Around 40% ventilated bedrooms more often
- Got up later and went to bed later
- Around 33% felt their sleep quality decreased



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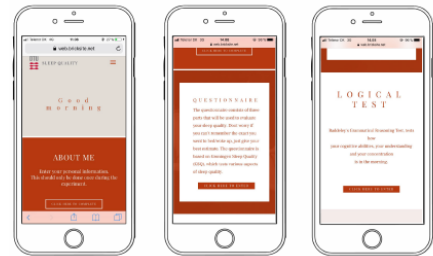
The survey in Chinese bedrooms

- Subjectively assessed sleep quality was significantly affected by heat in transitional season, cold, heat and noise in the summer, cold, heat, dryness and noise in winter
- Sleep quality was significantly correlated with decorations in the bedroom; presence of a plant increased the risk of poor subjectively rated sleep quality
- Outdoor surroundings including highway, railway track, active airport decreased subjectively assessed sleep quality
- The sleep quality of respondents with ventilation time longer than 15 min was significantly improved
- Sleeping with door opened was considered to improve sleep quality



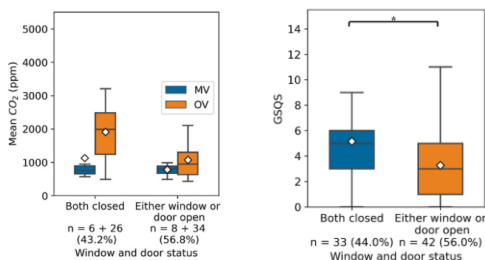
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Measurements during field studies



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A week-long cross-sectional study, DK



- Sleeping with either windows or doors open was associated with improved subjectively rated sleep quality
- Poor perceived air quality was associated with decreased subjectively rated sleep quality
- Higher mean CO₂ levels were associated with increased drop in skin temperature during sleep
- A higher drop in skin temperature was associated with increased fraction of deep sleep

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A cross-sectional field study of bedroom ventilation and sleep quality in Denmark during the heating season

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ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:
 CO₂
 Perceived air quality
 Air change rates
 GSQS
 Sleep tracker
 Wrist skin temperature

ABSTRACT

Parameters describing the bedroom environment and sleep quality were measured overnight for one week in 84 randomly selected actual bedrooms in Denmark from September to December 2020. The median age of participants was 26 years (interquartile range (IQR) [24–32] years); 41 were males. Carbon dioxide (CO₂), temperature, and relative humidity were measured continuously. Sleep quality was assessed by the Groningen Sleep Quality Scale (GSQS) on two mornings and was assessed using wrist-worn sleep trackers. Skin temperature was monitored continuously. Bedroom indoor air quality (IAQ) was rated by participants on two occasions just before sleep in the evening and upon waking up in the morning. Measurements from 75 bedrooms were complete. The median (IQR) of mean CO₂, air temperature and relative humidity measured during sleep were 1,120 [741–1,804] ppm, 23.4 [22.3–24.4] °C, and 48.6 [44.7–55.4]%. The median (IQR) of GSQS was 4.0 [1.0–6.0] suggesting medium to poor subjectively rated sleep quality; the objectively measured sleep efficiency, and percentage of light, deep and REM sleep were in normal ranges: 88.1 [86.1–89.5]%, 59.4 [54.9–64.5]%, 18.3 [15.0–21.7]%, and 23.0 [18.4–26.4]%. The subjectively-assessed sleep quality decreased when perceived IAQ was reduced. Opening the bedroom door or window, which is a proxy for enhanced ventilation, also improved subjectively-assessed sleep quality and IAQ. The cross-sectional nature of the study prompts the validation of the present results with protocols that include measurements of other pollutants besides CO₂, as well as the examination of underlying mechanisms. Nevertheless, they strongly suggest that keeping high bedroom IAQ is essential.

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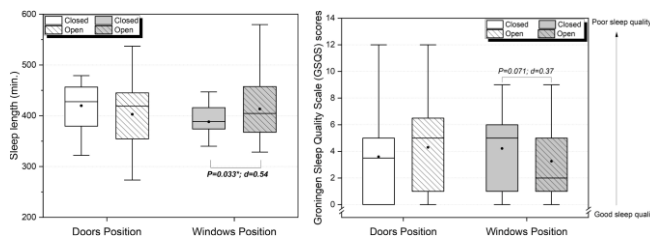
A week-long cross-sectional study, PRC

- The sleep quality of females in households was slightly better than that of males; females had a slightly higher slow-wave sleep and sleep efficiency
- Compared to males, air temperature and CO₂ concentration (ventilation) had a greater impact on the sleep quality of females, whereas noise level had a lower impact
- Slow-wave sleep was negatively correlated with air temperature and CO₂ concentration, and sleep efficiency was significantly negatively correlated with noise level
- During the sleep period, the most comfortable air temperature and relative humidity were estimated to be 24.8°C and 64%



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Window/door opening in bedrooms, intervention study, DK



- CO₂ decreased with both window and door open, but only open window improved perceived air quality.
- Objectively measured and subjectively rated sleep quality improved only when window was open



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Summary conclusions

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Take-home messages, tentative

- Ensure adequate bedroom ventilation; revise ventilation standards to bring the focus on bedroom ventilation
- Keep CO₂ below 700-800 ppm (best), 1100-1200 ppm (as a minimum)
- Use outdoor air (if not polluted and warm); door opening to bedroom brings little or no benefit for sleep quality
- Quiet mechanical ventilation systems are essential in bedrooms as otherwise the benefits for sleep quality are cancelled; recommended airflow rate is 10 L/s per person independently of age
- Avoid sources of pollution in bedrooms
- Avoid elevated temperatures; it is difficult to fall asleep and to stay asleep when the bedroom is too hot
- Sleep quality seems to be enhanced when bedroom temperatures are warm when falling asleep and when waking but cool in between
- There is no single temperature that is ideal at all stages of the night
- The quantitative effect on next-day performance still unknown

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Acknowledgments (WC team)



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Ph.D. candidate



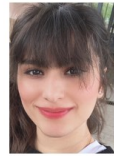
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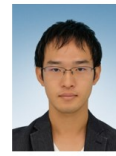
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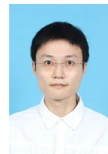
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QUESTIONS.....



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