

**CIVIL - 450:**  
**THERMODYNAMICS of**  
**COMFORT**  
**in BUILDINGS**

**Assist. Professor**  
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Lecture 04:  
Human-Environment Heat Exchange:  
measured parameters and instrumentation



Classroom GC D0 386 is on the Lausanne campus

| WEEK | DATE       | CONTENT  | LOCATION      |
|------|------------|--|---------------|
| 1    | 21.02.2025 | Intro to thermal comfort and human thermoregulation  | GC D0 386     |
| 2    | 28.02.2025 | Human body energy balance  | GC D0 386     |
| 3    | 07.03.2025 | Exergy analysis in the built environment ( <i>guest lecture</i> )  | GC D0 386     |
| 4    | 14.03.2025 | Lab #1 in Fribourg (climatic chamber).<br>Measurements and instrumentation.  | EPFL-Fribourg |
| 5    | 21.03.2025 | Group work on Lab #1   | GC D0 386     |
| 6    | 28.03.2025 | Group work on Lab #1   | GC D0 386     |
| 7    | 04.04.2025 | Invisible radiant heat: transparent & translucent building elements and their effect on comfort ( <i>guest lecture</i> ) | GC D0 386     |
| 8    | 11.04.2025 | Lab #1 presentations, reports submission   | GC D0 386     |
| 9    | 18.04.2025 | Good Friday (holiday)  | No class      |
| 10   | 25.04.2025 | Easter break   | No class      |
| 11   | 02.05.2025 | Lab #2 in Fribourg (building prototype)  | EPFL-Fribourg |
| 12   | 09.05.2025 | Building-environment interaction and energy balance  | GC D0 386     |
|      |            | Group work on Lab #2   |               |
| 13   | 16.05.2025 | Group work on Lab #2   | GC D0 386     |
| 14   | 23.05.2025 | Group work on Lab #2   | GC D0 386     |
| 15   | 30.05.2025 | Lab #2 presentations, reports submission.<br>Course summary and course evaluation.                                       | GC D0 386     |



# CONTENT:

- **Overview of environmental parameters**
- **Measurements of environmental parameters:**
  - **Temperature, heat flux sensing**
  - **Air temperature, velocity/speed, humidity**
  - **Operative / Globe / Mean radiant temperature**
  - **Plane radiant temperature / Radiant asymmetry**
- **Measurements of personalized parameters**
  - **Thermal parameters (temperature, heat flux)**
  - **Metabolic rate**
  - **Clothing insulation**

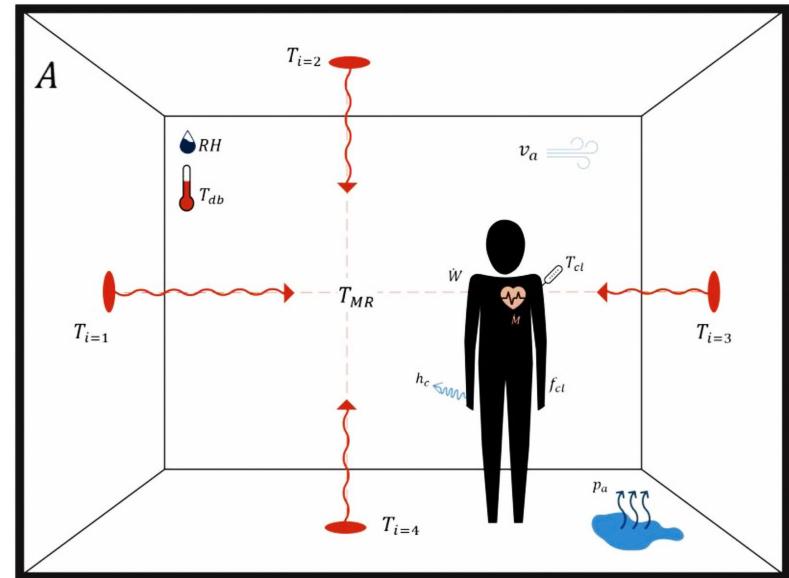
- The energy exchange between the human and the ambient environment occurs:

**A. across the outer surface of the body**

1. via radiation  $Q_R$
2. via convection  $Q_{conv,sk}$
3. via conduction  $Q_{cond}$
4. via evaporation  $Q_{E,sk}$

**B. through respiration**

1. via convection  $Q_{conv,res}$
2. via evaporation  $Q_{E,resp}$



Source: Ma et al. (2021)

$$Q_M = Q_R + Q_{conv,sk} + Q_{conv,res} + Q_{cond} + Q_{E,sk} + Q_{E,resp} + \Delta Q_S \quad (2-1)$$

Sensible heat

Latent heat

Table 1 — Main independent quantities involved in the analysis of the thermal balance between man and the thermal environment

| Elements in the thermal balance   | Quantities      |                          |              |   |                        |                                    |            |               |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|---|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
|   | $T_a$           | $T_{mrt}$                | $v_a$        | $p_a$   | $I_{cl}$               | $R_{cl}$                           | $M$        | $W$           |
| Air temperature   | Air temperature | Mean radiant temperature | Air velocity | Absolute humidity of the air (partial pressure of water vapour) | Insulation of clothing | Evaporative resistance of clothing | Metabolism | External work |
| Internal heat production, $M - W$   |                 |                          |              |   |                        |                                    | x          | x             |
| Heat transfer by radiation, $R$   |                 | x                        |              |   | x                      |                                    |            |               |
| Heat transfer by convection, $C$ <sup>1)</sup>  | x               |                          | x            |   | x                      |                                    |            |               |
| Heat losses through evaporation:<br>— evaporation from the skin, $E$<br>— evaporation by respiration, $E_{res}$ |                 |                          | x            | x   |                        | x                                  | x          |               |
| Convection by respiration $C_{res}$   | x               |                          |              |   |                        |                                    | x          |               |

1) Heat transfer by convection is also influenced by body movements. The resultant air velocity at skin level is called relative air velocity ( $v_{ar}$ ). Heat conduction (surface temperature) has only a limited influence on the total heat balance.

Table 2 — Characteristics of measuring instruments

| Quantity                 | Symbol    | Class C (comfort) |  |   | Class S (thermal stress) |  |   | Comments  |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|---|--------------------------|--|---|---|
|                          |           | Measuring range   | Accuracy   | Response time (90%)   | Measuring range          | Accuracy   | Response time (90 %)  |   |
| Air temperature          | $t_a$     | 10 °C to 40 °C    | Required: $\pm 0,5$ °C<br>Desirable: $\pm 0,2$ °C<br><br>These levels shall be guaranteed at least for a deviation $ t_f - t_a $ equal to 10 °C.   | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | – 40 °C to + 120 °C      | Required:<br>– 40 °C to 0 °C: $\pm (0,5 + 0,01  t_a )$ °C<br>> 0 °C to 50 °C: $\pm 0,5$ °C<br>> 50 °C to 120 °C:<br>$\pm [0,5 + 0,04 (t_a - 50)]$ °C<br><br>Desirable: $\frac{\text{required accuracy}}{2}$<br><br>These levels shall be guaranteed at least for a deviation $ t_f - t_a $ equal to 20 °C. | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | The air temperature sensor shall be effectively protected from any effects of the thermal radiation coming from hot or cold walls. An indication of the mean value over a period of 1 min is also desirable.  |
| Mean radiant temperature | $t_{mrt}$ | 10 °C to 40 °C    | Required: $\pm 2$ °C<br>Desirable: $\pm 0,2$ °C<br><br>These levels are difficult or even impossible to achieve in certain cases with the equipment normally available. When they cannot be achieved, indicate the actual measuring precision. | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | – 40 °C to + 150 °C      | Required:<br>– 40 °C to 0 °C: $\pm (5 + 0,02  t_a )$ °C<br>> 0 °C to 50 °C: $\pm 5$ °C<br>> 50 °C to 150 °C:<br>$\pm [5 + 0,08 (t_r - 50)]$ °C<br><br>Desirable:<br>– 40 °C to 0 °C: $\pm (0,5 + 0,01  t_f )$ °C<br>> 0 °C to 50 °C: $\pm 5$ °C<br>> 50 °C to 150 °C:<br>$\pm [0,5 + 0,04 (t_r - 50)]$ °C  | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | When the measurement is carried out with a black sphere, the inaccuracy relating to the mean radiant temperature can be as high as $\pm 5$ °C for class C and $\pm 20$ °C for class S according to the environment and the inaccuracy for $v_a$ , $t_a$ and $t_g$ . |

Table 2 — Characteristics of measuring instruments (continued)

| Quantity                  | Symbol   | Class C (comfort) |   |   | Class S (thermal stress) |   |  | Comments  |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|---|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|
|                           |          | Measuring range   | Accuracy  | Response time (90%)   | Measuring range          | Accuracy  | Response time (90 %)   |   |
| Plane radiant temperature | $t_{pr}$ | 0 °C to 50 °C     | Required: $\pm 0,5$ °C<br>Desirable: $\pm 0,2$ °C<br>These levels shall be guaranteed at least for a deviation $ t_{pr} - t_a  < 10$ °C   | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | 0 °C to 200 °C           | Required:<br>– 60 °C to 0 °C: $\pm (1 + 0,1  t_{pr} )$ °C<br>0 °C to 50 °C: $\pm 1$ °C<br>50 °C to 200 °C:<br>$\pm [1 + 0,1 (t_{pr} - 50)]$ °C<br>Desirable: $\frac{\text{required accuracy}}{2}$<br>These levels shall be guaranteed at least for a deviation $ t_{pr} - t_a  < 20$ °C | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument.  |   |
| Air velocity              | $v_a$    | 0,05 m/s to 1 m/s | Required: $\pm (0,05 + 0,05 v_a)$ m/s<br>Desirable: $\pm (0,02 + 0,07 v_a)$ m/s<br>These levels shall be guaranteed whatever the direction of flow within a solid angle<br>$(:) = 3 \pi \text{ sr}$ | Required: 0,5 s<br>Desirable: 0,2 s   | 0,2 m/s to 20 m/s        | Required: $\pm (0,1 + 0,05 v_a)$ m/s<br>Desirable: $\pm (0,05 + 0,05 v_a)$ m/s<br>These levels shall be guaranteed whatever the direction of flow within a solid angle<br>$(:) = 3 \pi \text{ sr}$  | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument.<br>For measuring the degree of turbulence a small response time is needed. | Except in the case of a unidirectional air current, the air velocity sensor shall measure the velocity whatever the direction of the air. An indication of the mean value and standard deviation for a period of 3 min is also desirable. |

Table 2 — Characteristics of measuring instruments (concluded)

| Quantity  | Symbol | Class C (comfort)                                   |  |   | Class S (thermal stress)  |  |   | Comments |
|---|--------|---|--|---|---|--|---|----------|
|   |        | Measuring range                                     | Accuracy   | Response time (90%)   | Measuring range   | Accuracy   | Response time (90 %)  |          |
| Absolute humidity expressed as partial pressure of water vapour | $p_a$  | 0,5 kPa to 3,0 kPa                                  | $\pm 0,15$ kPa<br>This level shall be guaranteed for a difference $ t_r - t_a $ of at least 10 °C. | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | 0,5 kPa to 6,0 kPa  | $\pm 0,15$ kPa<br>This level shall be guaranteed for a difference $ t_r - t_a $ of at least 20 °C.   | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. |          |
| Surface temperature   | $t_s$  | 0 °C to 50 °C                                       | Required: $\pm 1$ °C<br>Desirable: $\pm 0,5$ °C  | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. | - 40 °C to + 120 °C   | Required:<br>$< -10$ °C: $\pm [1 + 0,05 (-t_s - 10)]$<br>$- 10$ °C to 50 °C: $\pm 1$ °C<br>$> 50$ °C: $\pm [1 + 0,05 (t_s - 50)]$<br>Desirable: $\frac{\text{required accuracy}}{2}$ | The shortest possible. Value to be specified as characteristic of the measuring instrument. |          |
| Radiation directional   | $I_d$  | From - 35 W/m <sup>2</sup> to + 35 W/m <sup>2</sup> | $\pm 5$ W/m <sup>2</sup>   | Required: 1,0 s<br>Desirable: 0,5 s   | From - 300 to + 100 °C<br><br>From 100 °C to 1000 °C<br><br>From 1000 W/m <sup>2</sup> to 2500 W/m <sup>2</sup> | $\pm 5$ W/m <sup>2</sup><br>$\pm 10$ W/m <sup>2</sup><br>$\pm 15$ W/m <sup>2</sup>   | Required: 1,0 s<br>Desirable: 0,5 s   |          |

NOTE — At some work places in hot environments (steel, coal, glass industries) there may be a need to measure plane radiant and surface temperatures at higher levels than the range in this table. The manufacturers of instruments are required to state the accuracy for an extended range.

# EPFL Homogeneous vs. Heterogeneous Environment

- **Homogeneous environment** – air temperature, radiation, air velocity, and humidity can be considered to be **practically uniform around the person at a given time**.
- **Heterogeneous environment** – the physical parameters are **not uniform around the person at a given time**.

The physical parameters shall be measured *at several locations around the person and weighting factor of local measurements* should be considered to determine **the mean value**.

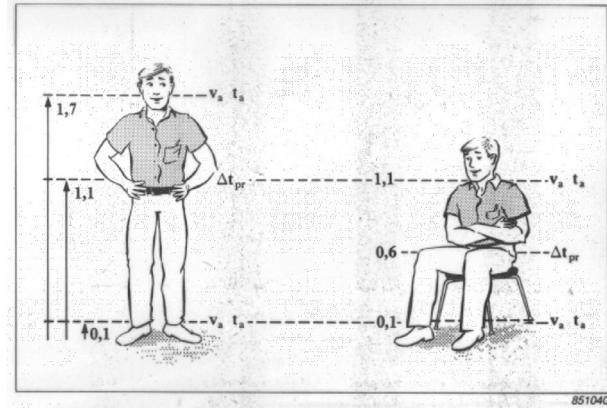


Table 5 — Measuring heights for the physical quantities of an environment

| Locations of the sensors | Weighting coefficients for measurements for calculation mean values |         |                           |         | Recommended heights (for guidance only) |          |
|--------------------------|---|---------|---------------------------|---------|---|----------|
|                          | Homogeneous environment   |         | Heterogeneous environment |         | Sitting                                 | Standing |
|                          | Class C   | Class S | Class C                   | Class S |   |          |
| Head level               |   |         | 1                         | 1       | 1,1 m                                   | 1,7 m    |
| Abdomen level            | 1   | 1       | 1                         | 2       | 0,6 m                                   | 1,1 m    |
| Ankle level              |   |         | 1                         | 1       | 0,1 m                                   | 0,1 m    |

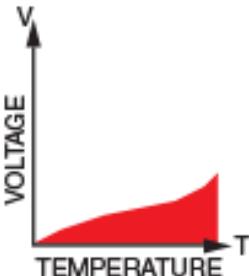
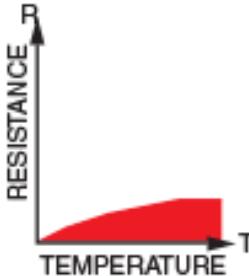
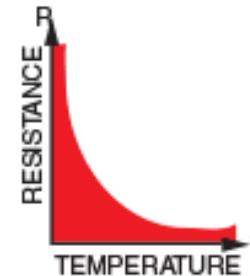
Class **C** - comfort, Class **S** – heat stress

Source: ISO 7726:1998



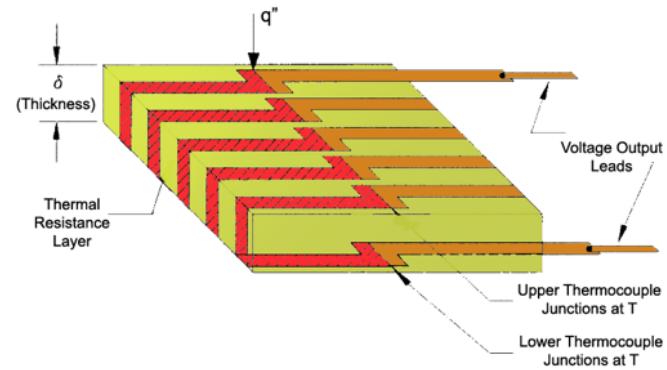
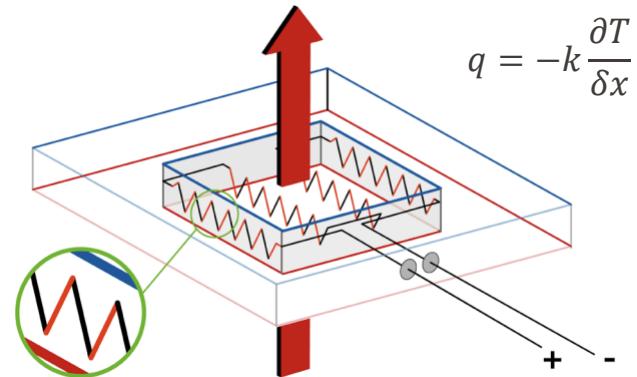
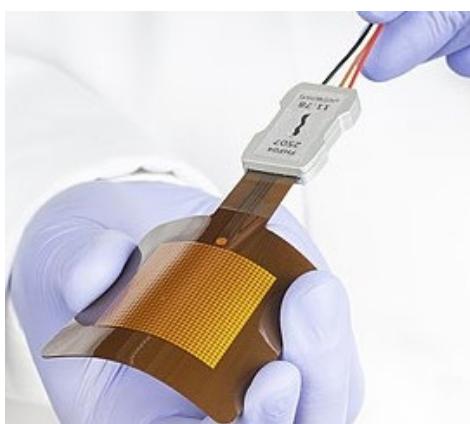
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|  <b>Thermocouple</b>   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
|  <b>RTD</b>  |  |   |  |
|    |   |   |   |
| <b>Advantages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Self-powered</li> <li>☐ Simple</li> <li>☐ Rugged</li> <li>☐ Inexpensive</li> <li>☐ Wide variety</li> <li>☐ Wide temperature range</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Most stable</li> <li>☐ Most accurate</li> <li>☐ More linear than thermocouple</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ High output</li> <li>☐ Fast</li> <li>☐ Two-wire ohms measurement</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Most linear</li> <li>☐ Highest output</li> <li>☐ Inexpensive</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Disadvantages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Non-linear</li> <li>☐ Low voltage</li> <li>☐ Reference required</li> <li>☐ Least stable</li> <li>☐ Least sensitive</li> </ul>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Expensive</li> <li>☐ Current source required</li> <li>☐ Small <math>\Delta R</math></li> <li>☐ Low absolute resistance</li> <li>☐ Self-heating</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Non-linear</li> <li>☐ Limited temperature range</li> <li>☐ Fragile</li> <li>☐ Current source required</li> <li>☐ Self-heating</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ <math>T &lt; 200^\circ\text{C}</math></li> <li>☐ Power supply required</li> <li>☐ Slow</li> <li>☐ Self-heating</li> <li>☐ Limited configurations</li> </ul> |



- Heat flux sensing - measurements of a temperature difference across a thin layer of material.
- Thermopiles are created by **alternating pattern** of **two dissimilar conductors** (metal alloys).
- Sensors can be **rigid or flexible**.



- Measurements of the temperature of a *given surface* is useful to evaluate **radiant heat exchange** between the human body by means of  $T_{mrt}$  and/or  $T_{pr}$  and evaluate the effect of **direct contact** between the body and a given surface
- Types of measurements:
  - using a sensor *in contact with the surface*
  - *contactless* using infrared sensors

## ▪ Contact thermometers:

- Important to have a *very good contact* between the sensor and the surface to assure higher heat exchange between **sensor-surface** rather than surface-environment.
- Increase contact through large contact surface pressure, heat conductive paste, and insulating the sensor towards the environment
- The contact influences the heat exchange surface-environment and then the measured surface temperature

## ▪ Infrared radiometers (point and scanning):

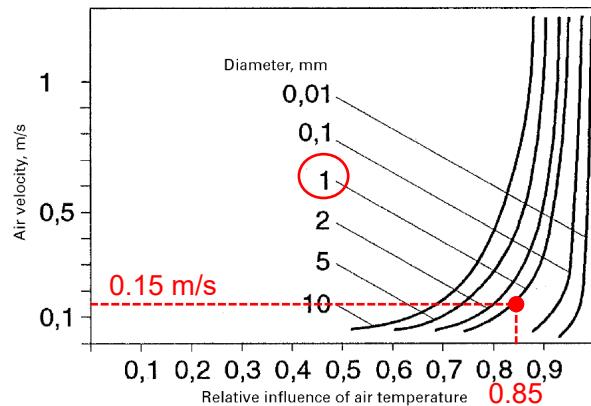
- Measure the energy level of the *radiation incident on the detector* (radiation emitted by the object + radiation reflected from the surface of the object)
- Accurate measurements require knowledge of *long-wave emissivity* of the object and *radiant field surrounding the object*
- Temperature resolution decreases as an object temperature decreases



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- It is important to measure **actual air temperature** by *reducing the effect of radiation* from *neighboring heat sources* (otherwise, the measured temperature will be *between air and mean radiant temperature*):
  - By reducing of the emission factor of the sensor** (use polished sensors, made of metal or covered with a reflective paint)
  - By using “reflective screens”** made from thin sheets of *reflective material* (i.e., aluminum). The inner screen shall be *separated from the sensor* by an air space large enough to allow air to circulate inside by natural convection
  - By increasing the coefficient of heat transfer by convection**, by an increase in the air velocity around the sensor by forced ventilation and *by reduction of the sensor size* (i.e., use a thermistor/thermocouple)



# Measurements of Air Velocity/Speed

- Air currents can occur *near cold/hot* surfaces, near **ventilation inlets**; **convective air** current occur *naturally around the human body*
- Air velocity should be considered when determining **heat transfer** by **convection** and **evaporation** *at the position of a person*
- Air Velocity** ( $v_x$ ,  $v_y$ ,  $v_z$ ): a **vector quantity** (directional), **the distance that air flows per unit time**; it fluctuates randomly for turbulent flow, often changes direction in a relatively small spatial angle.
- Air Speed**: a **scalar quantity**, the **magnitude** of the **velocity vector** of the flow *at the measuring point*
- Turbulence Intensity (%)**: fluctuations in air velocity

$$(4-2) \quad Tu = v_{RMS} / v_{a,mean} \quad \text{where} \quad v_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} (\sum_{t=1}^{t=N} v_i^2)} \quad (4-3)$$

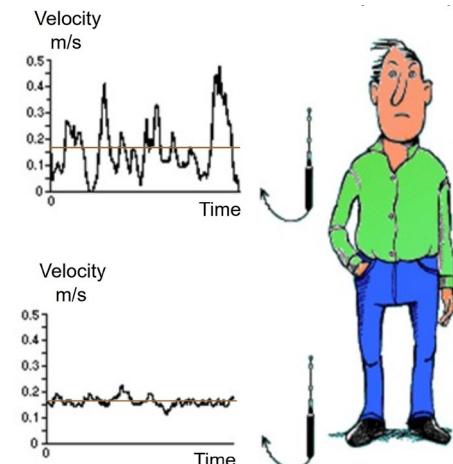
- Draught Rate (%)**: local cooling of the body due to air movement

$$DR = (34 - t_{op}) (v_{a,mean} - 0.05)^{0.62} (0.37 \cdot v_{a,mean} \cdot Tu + 3.14) \quad (4-4)$$

Standardized acceptable draught rating (ISO 7730): **10%** (cat. I), **20%** (Cat. II), **30%** (Cat. III)

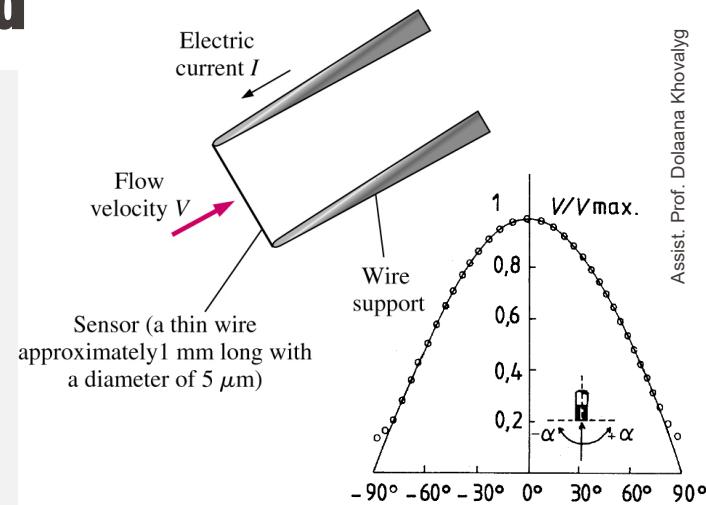


Schlieren image of the thermal boundary layer and plume of a person (by Gary S. Settles)



# Measurements of Air Velocity/Speed

- **Characteristics of instruments to consider:**
  - sensitivity to the *direction* of airflow,
  - sensitivity to the *velocity fluctuations*;
  - possibility to obtain *mean* and *STD* over a measuring period
- **Measurements of air speed:**
  - Using **omnidirectional anemometers** (*sensitive to the magnitude of the velocity whatever its direction*);
  - using **3 unidirectional sensor** that can measure **3 components of the air velocity in 3 perpendicular axis** (in practice, it is hard to measure accurately in one direction)



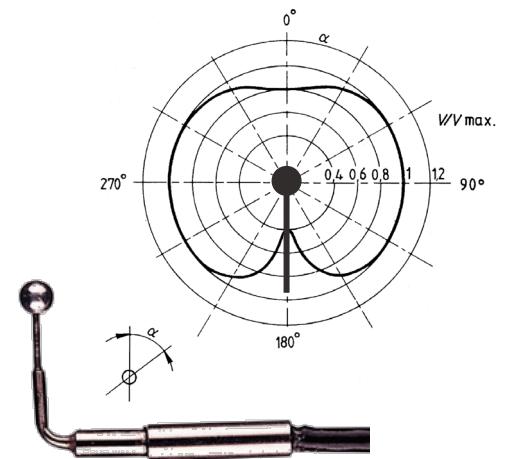
## Examples of anemometers:

### ▪ Hot-wire anemometers (directional)

When an electrically heated wire is placed in a flowing air stream, heat is transferred from the wire to the air and, hence, the temperature of the wire reduces, and due to this, the resistance of the wire also changes. This change in resistance of the wire becomes a measure of the flow rate.

### ▪ Hot-sphere anemometers (insensitive to flow direction):

Based on the measurements of the heat transfer between a hot solid sphere and the ambient air, electrically heated sphere at temperature higher than the air temperature loses heat to its surrounding mainly by convection. The sensor has 2 temperature sensors (air temperature and a hot element temperature)



- **Absolute humidity** is determined by **specific humidity** and the **partial pressure of water vapor**

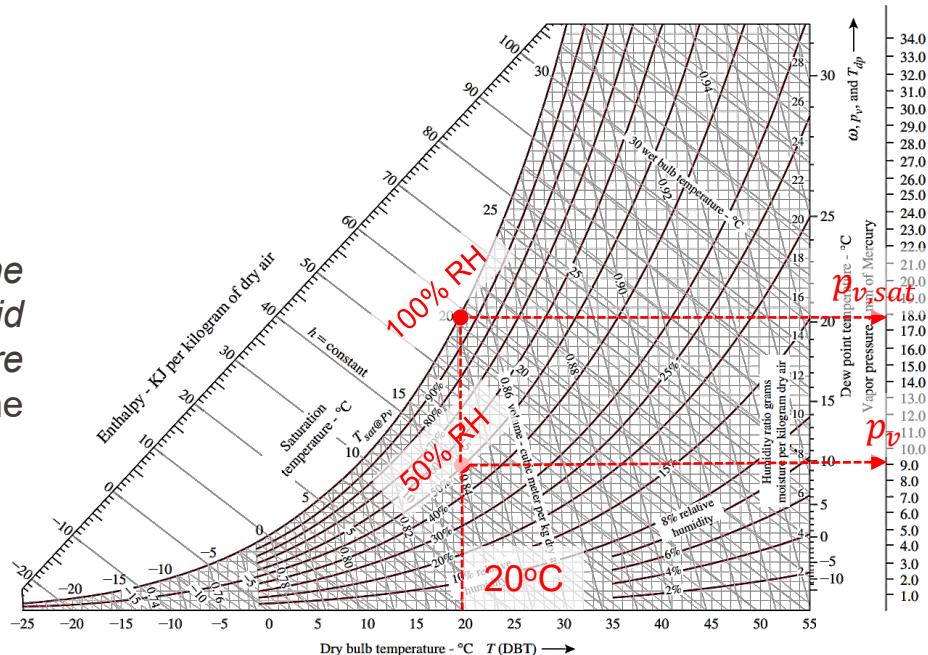
- **Specific humidity  $q$**  is the ratio of the *mass of water vapour (kg)* on the sample to the *mass of dry air (kg)* in the sample (see Lect. 2, slide 19)
- **Partial pressure of water vapor  $p_v$**  of the humid air is the pressure which the water vapor would exert *if it alone occupied the volume* occupied by the humid air at the same temperature

$$q = \frac{m_v}{m_a} = 0.622 \frac{p_v}{p_a - 0.378 \cdot p_v}$$

- $p_v$  - partial pressure of water vapor (Pa or kPa)
- $p_a$  - total atmospheric pressure (Pa or kPa)

- **Relative humidity** is the ratio between *the partial pressure  $p_v$  of water vapor in humid air and the water vapor saturation pressure  $p_{sat}$*  at the same temperature and the same total pressure:

$$RH(\%) = \frac{p_v}{p_{v,sat}} \cdot 100\%$$



# Humidity Measurements

- Humidity sensors work by *detecting changes that alter electrical currents or temperature* in the air.
- There are *three basic types* of humidity sensors: **capacitive** and **resistive** for *relative humidity (RH) measurements*, and **thermal** for *absolute humidity (AH) measurements*.

- **Capacitive humidity sensor (parameter-RH):**

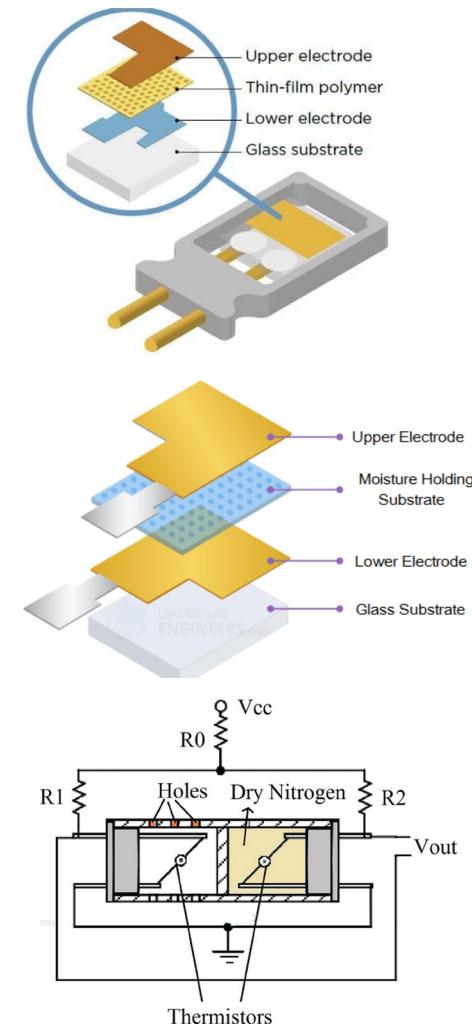
These are the only types of **full-range relative humidity** measuring devices from 0% to 100% relative humidity. Electrical capacity of a *thin strip of metal oxide* between two electrodes changes with the atmosphere's relative humidity.

- **Resistive humidity sensor (parameter-RH):**

Uses ions in salts to measure the electrical impedance of atoms, the **resistance of the electrodes** on either side of the salt medium changes as humidity changes.

- **Thermal humidity sensors (parameter-AH):**

Use two probes (thermistors); one thermistor is hermetically sealed in a chamber filled with *dry nitrogen* while the other is *exposed to open environment* through small venting holes. When the circuit is powered on, the **resistance** of the two thermistors are calculated and the **difference between those two values** is directly proportional to **absolute humidity**.





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# Operative Temperature ( $T_{op}$ )

Reminder from L2

- $T_{op}$  is the **uniform temperature of an enclosure** in which *an occupant* would exchange *the same amount of heat* by **radiation** plus **convection** as *in the actual non-uniform environment*

$$T_{op} = \frac{h_c}{h_c + h_r} \cdot T_a + \frac{h_r}{h_c + h_r} \cdot T_{mrt} \quad (2-8a)$$

$$T_{op} = A \cdot T_a + (1 - A) \cdot T_{mrt} \quad (2-8b)$$

where a coefficient  $A$  is

$$A = \frac{h_c}{h_c + h_r} = \frac{1}{1 + h_r/h_c} \quad (2-9)$$

**Simplified consideration of  $A$  values:**

|       |                       |                                   |                                    |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| $V_a$ | <0.2 m/s<br>(<40 fpm) | 0.2 to 0.6 m/s<br>(40 to 120 fpm) | 0.6 to 1.0 m/s<br>(120 to 200 fpm) |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|

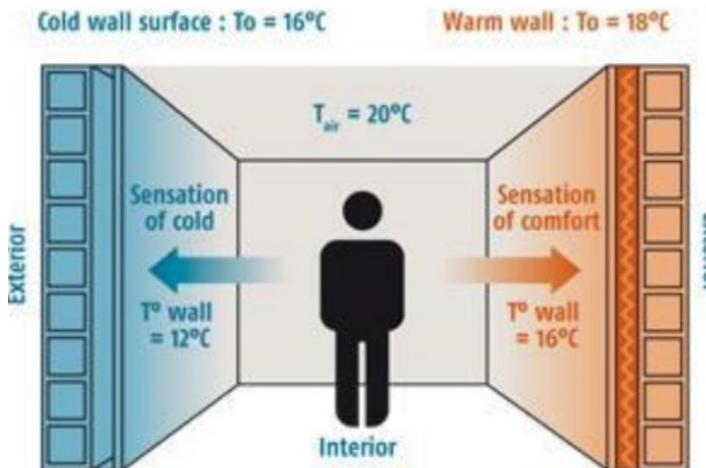
|     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $A$ | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Special case:**

**if  $v_a < 0.2 \text{ m/s} \rightarrow A=0.5$ :**

$$T_{op} = \frac{T_a + T_{mrt}}{2} \quad (2-10)$$

Source: ISO 7726, ASHRAE 55-2017



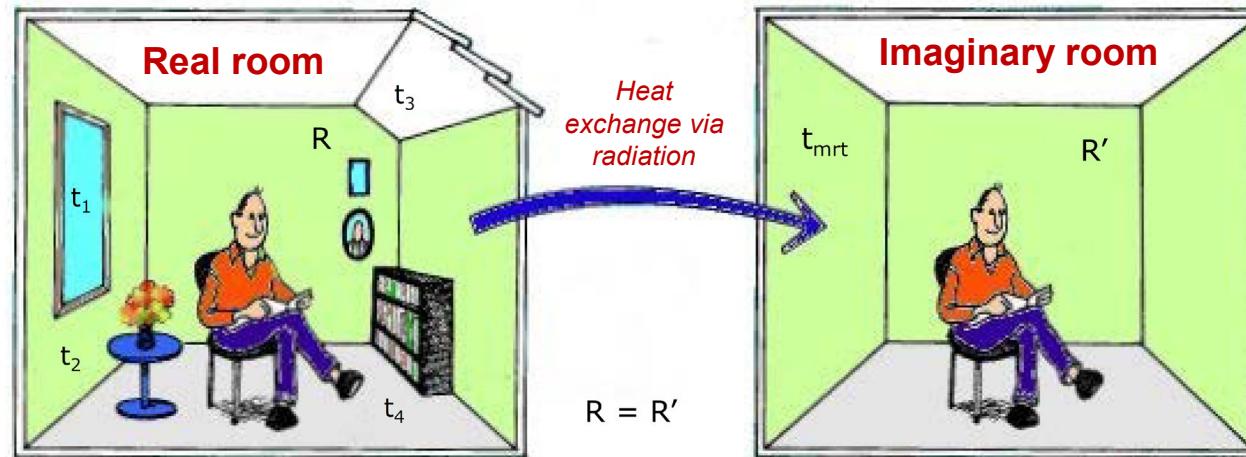
The thermal comfort temperature depends on air temperature and wall temperatures.

# Mean Radiant Temperature: Definition

Reminder from L2

- Almost **half** of **thermal comfort** is driven by **radiant heat exchange** between *the human* and *the surrounding environment*
- MRT** or  $T_{mrt}$  is the uniform **surface temperature** of an **imaginary black enclosure** in which an occupant would **exchange *the same amount of radiant heat*** as in the **actual non-uniform space**.
- MRT is an abstract parameter introduced in 1931 (by Barker) *to facilitate radiant heat transfer calculations*.

Source: ASHRAE 55-2017

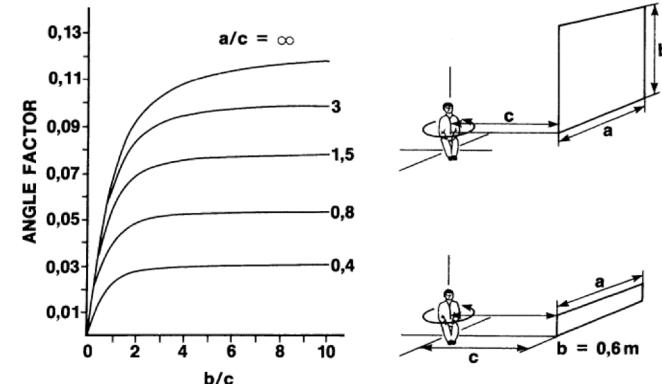
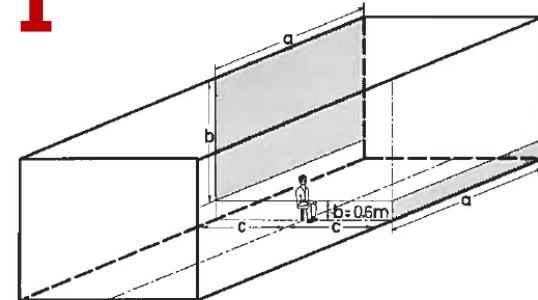


$$Q_{rad,i} = \sigma \cdot F_{p \rightarrow i} \cdot (T_p^4 - T_i^4)$$

$$Q_{rad} = \sigma \cdot (T_p^4 - T_{mrt}^4)$$

## 1. Calculation using geometrical shape factors (Fanger-Rizzo method):

- The *main method* for indoor environment with **orthogonal geometries**
- MRT can be calculated from measured values of the **temperature of surrounding walls**, the **size** of these **walls** and their **position in relation to a person** (considering weighted view factors for radiant heat transfer)
- Surfaces are categorized into **vertical** and **horizontal** ones. For every single vertical/horizontal surface, it is then divided into *4 different surfaces* to be analyzed using geometric relationship between a person and a surface in a Cartesian coordinate system
- **Angle/view factor** is a *function of dimensionless ratios a/c and b/c* (**a** – dimension in x-direction, **b** – dimension in y-direction, **c** – distance from the location of the person to the surface of interest)



Source: ASHRAE HOF, 2017; Guo H. et al (2020) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2019.06.014>

More details are available in file “Angle Factor Algebra.pdf”

$$T_{mrt}^4 = \sum F_{p,i} \cdot T_{s,i}^4$$

Angle/View factor from a person to *i*-th surface

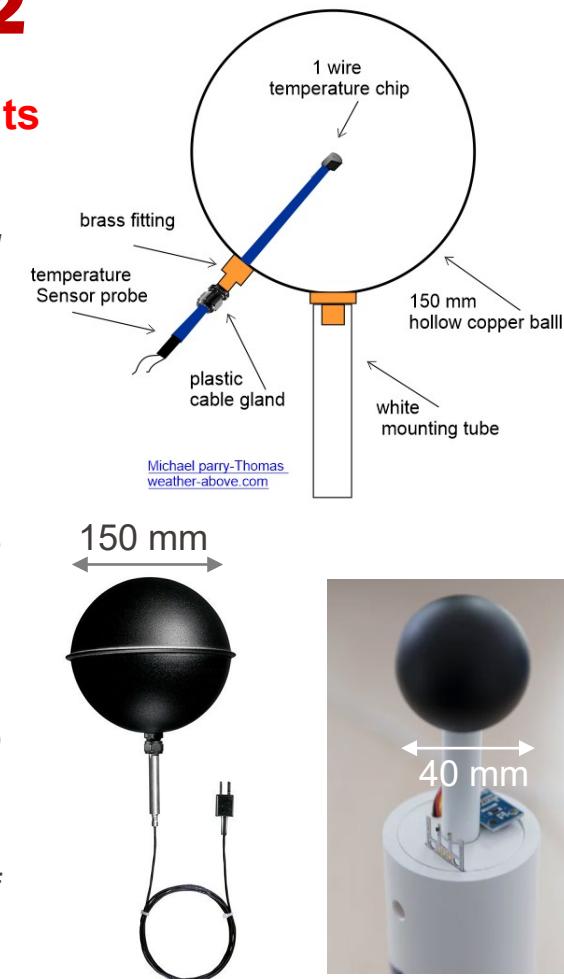
$$\sum F_{p,i} = 1$$

*i*-th surface temperature

# Mean Radiant Temperature: Method 2

## 2. Estimated from the globe temperature measurements

- The globe thermometer was introduced in 1932 (by Vernon) as a device to measure the radiation from the surrounding environment to a human body
- It is a **thermometer** with a *thermally sensitive element* located at the center of a **blacked hollow sphere** (the surface darkened using electro-chemical coating or matt black paint).
- Assuming the globe thermometer is in equilibrium, its reading from internal thermometer will reflect the **convective** and **radiative heat exchange** around the globe thermometer.
- The globe can have any diameter, but *the standard diameter is 6 inch (0.15 m)*. A large globe has a greater response to incident radiation.
- The black globe thermometer, because of its high inertia, **can not be used** to determine the radiant temperature of environments **which vary rapidly**.

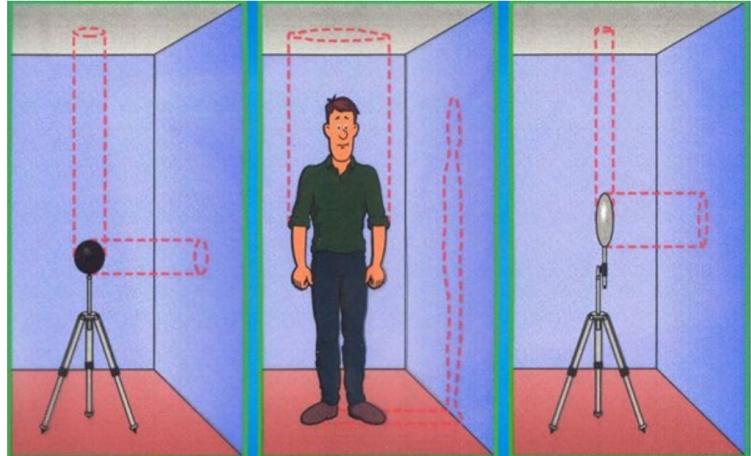


- As a person's angle factor to their surroundings changes as they change position
- The globe temperature sensor should also be able to consider *different positions* in order for it to properly sense in different workplaces.

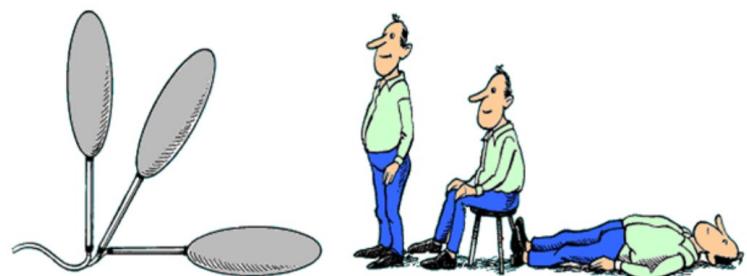
### Shape consideration:

- **Spherical sensor** gives only *approximation* of the shape of the body for a seated person (better if positioned in the centre of a room)
- **An ellipsoid-shaped sensor** provides approximation to the human shape both for seated and upright position (can over evaluate the influence of the wall if positioned **close** to heated or cooled wall)

- In case of **heterogeneous radiation**, it is necessary to use **3 globes**. The measurement from a *single globe sensor* is *not representative* of the *overall radiative field* received by the person.

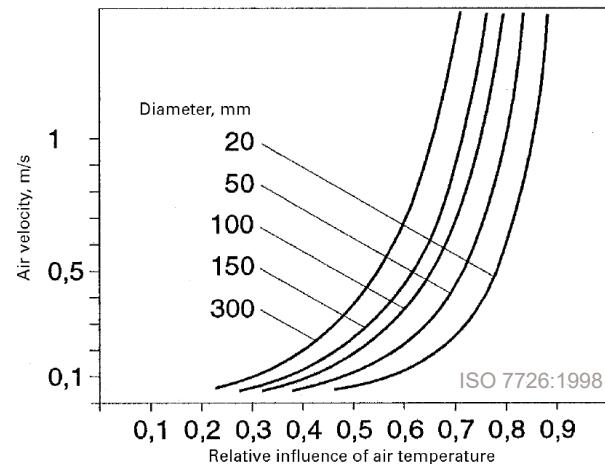
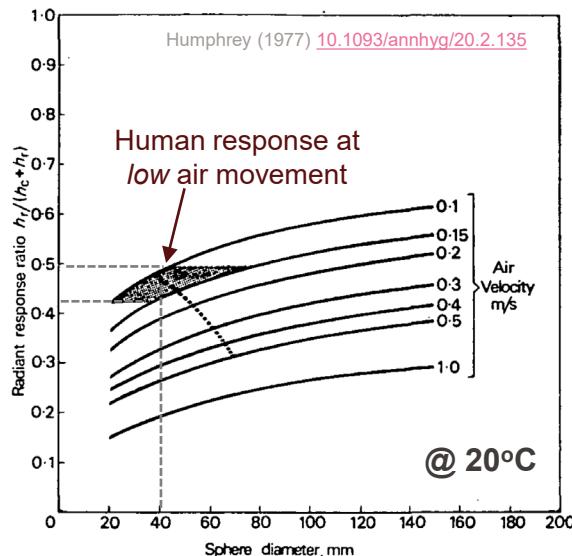


Adopted from Dr. Sam C.M. Hui



# EPFL Globe Temperature Sensor: Size

- The globe should have a **size** which **responds** to **radiation** and **convection** in *proportions similar* to those in **the human body**.
- Human response to radiation and convection when air flow is **0.1-0.15 m/s**:
  - 0.54 for air and 0.46 for mean radiant temperature
  - Radiant response ratio = 0.42 - 0.50 (95% prob.)
- The surface of the clothed human body *is not entirely convex*, the **effective area for radiation** is, therefore, considerably less than that for convection. As a result, the same ratio of convection to radiation can be obtained from the much smaller convex object.
- The *smaller* the diameter of the globe, *the greater* the effect of the *air temperature* and *air velocity* causing a *reduction in accuracy* of  $T_{mrt}$  measurement.
- For **regular and uniform indoor conditions** (22-25°C), a globe of **40 mm** would give *sufficient relative weight* to  $T_a$  and  $T_{mrt}$ .



# Globe Temperature ( $T_g$ ) and MRT ( $T_{mrt}$ )

- Heat balance between **the globe** (sensor inside the globe) and **the surrounding environment**:

$$Q_{rad} + Q_{conv} = 0 \quad (4-5)$$

- Heat transfer by **radiation** between *the sensor* and *the walls of the enclosure (room)*:

$$Q_{rad} = \varepsilon_g \cdot \sigma \cdot (T_{mrt}^4 - T_g^4) \quad (4-6)$$

- Heat transfer by **convection** between *the sensor* and *enclosed air*:

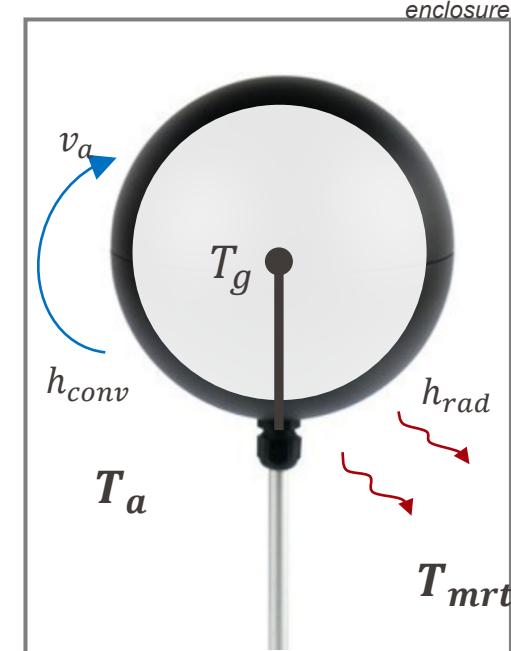
$$Q_{conv} = h_{conv} \cdot (T_a - T_g) \quad (4-7)$$

- Radiative heat transfer coefficient** for a sphere small compared with its surrounding enclosure of high emissivity:

$$(4-8) \quad h_{rad} = 4 \cdot \varepsilon_g \cdot \sigma \cdot T_{mrt}^3$$

Stefan-Boltzmann constant:  
 $\sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}^4$

- Convective heat transfer coefficient:** (see next slide)



# Globe Temperature ( $T_g$ ) and MRT ( $T_{mrt}$ )

- Convective heat transfer coefficient:

- Natural convection:  
(air speed  $v_a < 0.05$  m/s)

$$h_{conv} = 1.4 \cdot \left( \frac{T_g - T_a}{D} \right)^{1/4} \quad (4-9)$$

- Forced convection:  
(air speed  $v_a > 0.05$  m/s,  
considering air properties  
variation with temperature)

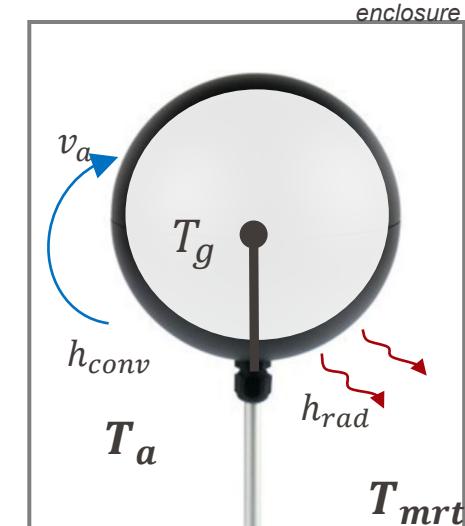
$$h_{conv} = 0.32 \cdot k_a \cdot \left( \frac{\rho_a}{\mu_a} \right)^{0.6} \cdot \frac{v_a^{0.6}}{D^{0.4}} \quad (4-10a)$$

- Forced convection:  
(for air properties at 20°C)

$$h_c = 6.3 \cdot \frac{v_a^{0.6}}{D^{0.4}} \quad (4-10b)$$

- Relationship between MRT ( $T_{mrt}$ ) and globe temperature ( $T_g$ ):

(combining Eqn. 4-6 & Eqn. 4-7 in Eqn. 4-5):



$D$  – globe diameter, in [m]

- Natural convection:

$$t_{mrt} = \left[ (t_g + 273)^4 + \frac{0.25 \cdot 10^8 \cdot (t_g - t_a)^{1/4}}{\varepsilon_g \cdot D} \cdot (t_g - t_a) \right]^{1/4} - 273 \quad (4-11)$$

- Forced convection:

(for air properties at 20°C)\*

$$t_{mrt} = \left[ (t_g + 273)^4 + \frac{1.1 \cdot 10^8 \cdot v_a^{0.6}}{\varepsilon_g \cdot D^{0.4}} \cdot (t_g - t_a) \right]^{1/4} - 273 \quad (4-12)$$

\* If actual air properties are not at 20°C, thermophysical properties of air corresponding to actual temperature should be used to calculate  $h_{conv}$

### 3. Estimated based on the plane radiant temperature ( $T_{pr}$ ) in six opposite directions weighted according to *the projected area factors for a person*

- MRT can be calculated by multiplying 6 measured  $T_{pr}$  values by the *relevant projection factors* *adding* the resultant data and *dividing* the result by *the sum of the projected area factors* for a specific position (when orientation is not fixed, the average of the Right/Left and Front/back projected area factors is used)

| Projected Area Factors: |           | UP/<br>DOWN | LEFT/<br>RIGHT | FRONT/<br>BACK |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| Standing                | Person    | 0.08        | 0.23           | 0.35           |
|                         | Ellipsoid | 0.08        | 0.28           | 0.28           |
|                         | Sphere    | 0.25        | 0.25           | 0.25           |
| Seated                  | Person    | 0.18        | 0.22           | 0.30           |
|                         | Ellipsoid | 0.18        | 0.22           | 0.28           |
|                         | Sphere    | 0.25        | 0.25           | 0.25           |

ISO 7726:1998

- Standing person:

$$t_{mrt} = \frac{0.08 \cdot [t_{pr,UP} + t_{pr,DOWN}] + 0.23 \cdot [t_{pr,R} + t_{pr,L}] + 0.35 \cdot [t_{pr,FRONT} + t_{pr,BACK}]}{2 \cdot (0.08 + 0.23 + 0.35)} \quad (4-13)$$

- Sitting person:

$$t_{mrt} = \frac{0.18 \cdot [t_{pr,UP} + t_{pr,DOWN}] + 0.22 \cdot [t_{pr,R} + t_{pr,L}] + 0.30 \cdot [t_{pr,FRONT} + t_{pr,BACK}]}{2 \cdot (0.18 + 0.22 + 0.30)} \quad (4-14)$$

# Plane Radiant Temperature ( $T_{pr}$ ): Method A

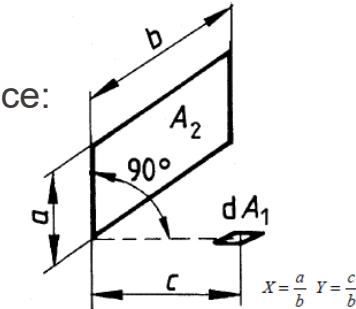
## Method A: Using surface temperatures and angle factors:

- Need to know temperature of surrounding surfaces ( $T_{s,N}$ )
- Angle factor between a small plane element and the surrounding surfaces ( $F_{p \rightarrow N}$ ), a function of the shape, the size, and the relative position of the surface in relation to a person

$$T_{pr}^4 = T_{s,1}^4 \cdot F_{p \rightarrow 1} + T_{s,2}^4 \cdot F_{p \rightarrow 2} + \dots + T_{s,N}^4 \cdot F_{p \rightarrow N} \quad (4-15)$$

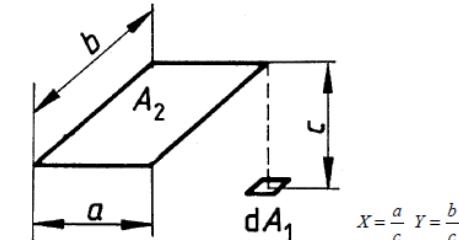
- Shape factor for a small plane element perpendicular ( $\perp$ ) to a rectangular surface:

$$(4-16) \quad F_{A1 \rightarrow A2} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi} \cdot \left( \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{Y} - \frac{Y}{\sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}} \cdot \tan^{-1} \frac{Y}{\sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}} \right)$$



- Shape factor for a small plane element parallel ( $\parallel$ ) to a rectangular surface:

$$(4-17) \quad F_{A1 \rightarrow A2} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi} \cdot \left( \frac{X}{\sqrt{1 + X^2}} \cdot \tan^{-1} \frac{Y}{\sqrt{1 + X^2}} - \frac{Y}{\sqrt{1 + Y^2}} \cdot \tan^{-1} \frac{X}{\sqrt{1 + Y^2}} \right)$$

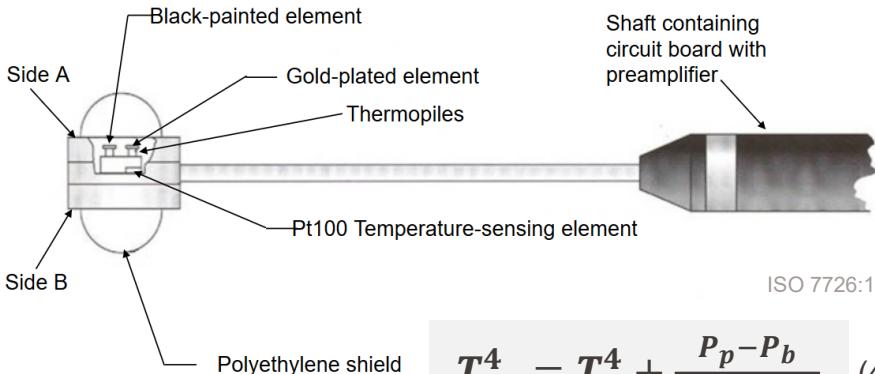


## Methods B: Using compensation approach

- B-1. Using a heated sensor with **reflective and absorbing discs**
- B-2. Using a **constant air temperature disk** (see details in ISO 7726)
- B-3. Using a **net radiometer**

### B-1: A heated sensor with reflective and absorbing discs:

- The *gold-plated disc (reflective)* loses heat *almost entirely by convection*
- The *black painted disc (absorbing)* loses heat *both by convection and radiation*.
- If both discs are heated to the same temperature, the *difference in heat supply to the two discs is equal to the heat transfer by radiation between the painted disc and the environment*



ISO 7726:1998

$$T_{pr}^4 = T_s^4 + \frac{P_p - P_b}{\sigma \cdot (\varepsilon_b - \varepsilon_p)} \quad (4-18)$$

$T_s$  [K] - disk temperature

$P_p$ ,  $P_b$  [ $W/m^2$ ] - heat supply to the polished (p) and black (b) disks

$\varepsilon_p$ ,  $\varepsilon_b$  [ $W/m^2$ ] - emissivity of the polished (p) and black (b) disks

$\sigma$  [ $W/m^2 K^4$ ] - Stefan-Boltzmann constant ( $5.67 \cdot 10^{-8}$ )

# Plane Radiant Temperature ( $T_{pr}$ ): Method B-3

## B-3: Net radiometer:

- A sensor consisting of a small **black plane element** with a **heat flow meter** (thermopile) between *the two sides* of the element
- The **net heat** between two sides is equal to the *difference between the radiant heat transfer* at the level of the two sides of the element

- The net radiation  $NR$  ( $W/m^2$ ) measured:

$$(4-19) \quad NR = \sigma (T_{pr,1}^4 - T_{pr,2}^4)$$

- The plane radiant temperature  $T_{pr}$ (K):

$$(4-20) \quad T_{pr,1} = \sqrt[4]{0.95 \cdot T^4 + \frac{NR}{\sigma}}$$

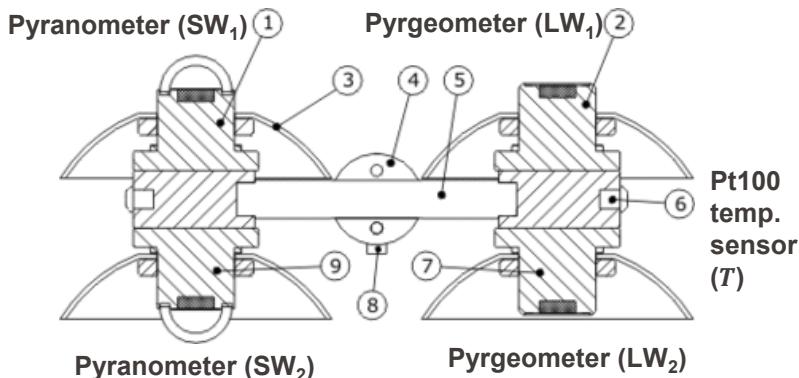
written  
for side 1

- Plane radiant temperature asymmetry:

$$(4-21) \quad \Delta T_{pr} = NR / (4 \cdot \sigma \cdot T^3)$$



Example of the **SW** and **LW** net radiometer NR01 by [Hukseflux](#)



Pyranometer (SW): 0.3-2.8  $\mu m$ , Pyrgeometer (LW): 4.5-100  $\mu m$

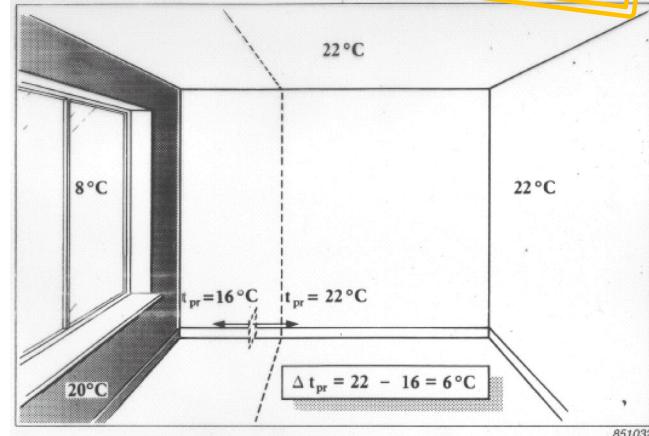
# Planar Radiant Temperature Asymmetry

Reminder from L1

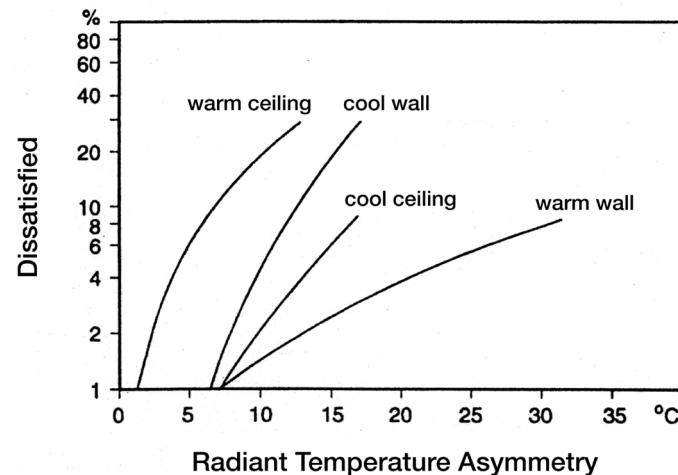
- **Radiant temperature asymmetry** is the *difference between plane radiant temperature* of the *two opposite sides* of a *small plane element*:

$$\Delta t_{pr} = t_{pr,1} - t_{pr,2} \quad (4-22)$$

- It is *measured* or *calculated* from the measured value of the **plane radiant temperature** in the **two opposing directions**
- The concept is used when the  $T_{mrt}$  does not completely describe the radiative environment (i.e., when the radiation is coming from opposite parts of the space varies substantially)
- The asymmetric radiant field is defined *in relation to the position of the plane element* used as a reference. It is necessary to specify the direction of the normal to this element.



851032



# Mean Radiant Temperature ( $T_{mrt}$ ): Method 4

## 4. Measurement method using thermopile IR sensors:

- Radiant heat flux (infrared IR) is measured directly **using IR thermopiles** [applicable only for indoor use as LW is measured]
- MRT measurement is more precise than using the globe sensors ( $\pm 0.3^\circ\text{C}$ )
- High frequency of measurements (4 Hz)
- Latest development: CUBE sensors (mini.RES) <https://www.chaosense.com/>





# CONTENT:

- Overview of environmental parameters
- Measurements of environmental parameters:
  - Temperature, heat flux sensing
  - Air temperature, velocity/speed, humidity
  - Operative / Globe / Mean radiant temperature
  - Plane radiant temperature / Radiant asymmetry
- Measurements of personalized parameters:
  - Thermal parameters (temperature, heat flux)
  - Metabolic rate
  - Clothing insulation

- **Parameters needed from the human:**

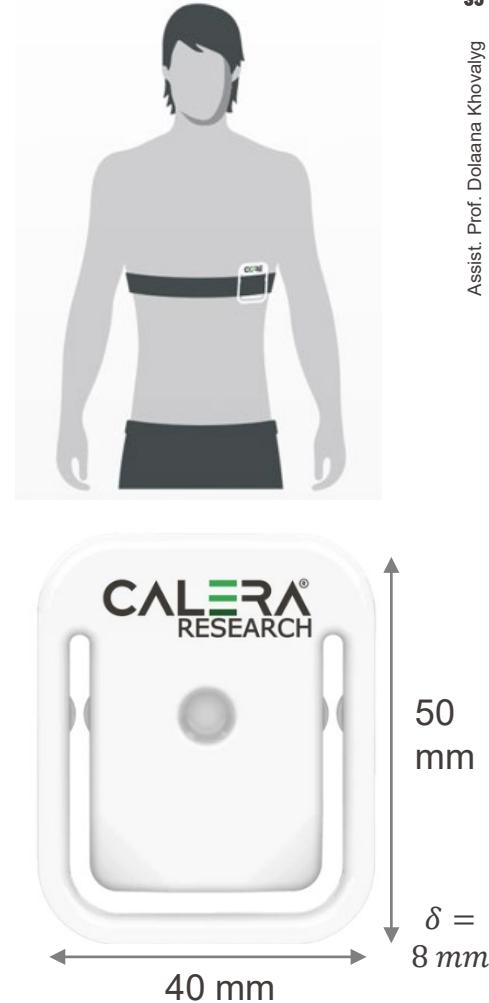
- Clothing temperature ( $t_{cl}$ )
  - Skin temperature ( $t_{skin}$ )
  - Heat loss from the human body ( $Q$ )

- **Practical sensing issues:**

- Needs to be wearable and wireless

- **Instruments used by the ICE lab:**

- **CALERA sensor** (research version) by *greenTEG* ([weblink](#))
  - Sensing based on a thermopile
  - **Temperature** ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and **heat flux** ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ ) measurements
  - Heat flux measured includes **convection + radiation**
  - High frequency (1 Hz)
  - Wearable, relatively small
  - If placed on the *clothing surface*, measures *clothing* parameters
  - If placed on the *naked skin*, measures *skin* parameters



# Human Metabolic Rate: Different Components

**Total Daily Energy Expenditure (TDEE)**

| Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR)*<br>in post-absorptive state        |  | Thermic Effect of Food (TEF)                                     |            |              |                             | Activity Thermogenesis (AT)** |                |  |
|--|--|--|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Sleep metabolic rate (SMR)                                     | Arousal (no physical activity)<br>≈5% of BMR | Digestion  | Absorption | Assimilation | Storage of nutrients        | Non-exercise (NEAT)           | Exercise (EAT) |  |
| Fat-free mass (3/4 of BMR), fat mass (obesity), genetic traits |  | Diet composition, physical activity, obesity, insulin resistance |            |              | Muscle tone, genetic traits |                               |                |  |
| Gender, age, <b>environmental stimuli*</b>                     |  |  |            |              |                             |                               |                |  |

**Subcategory Determinants**

\* The term “**BMR**” is used only for *neutral condition*, while the term “**RMR**” needs to be used *beyond neutrality*

\*\* **AT** is the *most variable component* of TDEE due to the *inter- and intra-personal variability*

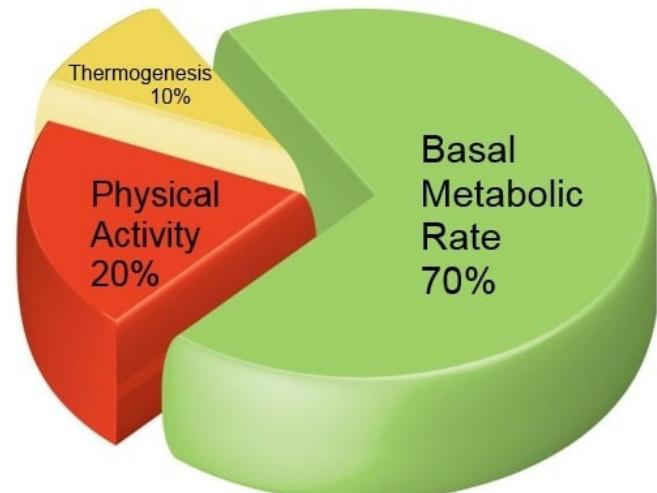
- **Harris-Benedict Equation (kcal/day):**

$$BMR = 88.362 + 13.397 * \text{Body Mass} + 4.799 * \text{Height} - 5.677 * \text{Age} \quad (4-23)$$

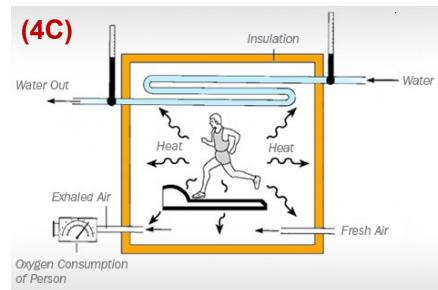
*Body Mass* – body mass (in kg), *Height* – body height in (cm), *Age* – age of the person



Image from COSMED <https://www.cosmed.com/en/products/indirect-calorimetry/quark-rmr>



- **LEVEL 1** - “*Screening*”: the simplest one to use in practice (the least accurate), provides a classification of metabolic rate values per:
  - Method (1A): occupation
  - Method (1B): kind of activity
- **LEVEL 2** - “*Observational*”: time-weighted average metabolic rates based on the noted transient activity types are calculated using the classification determined in Level 1
- **LEVEL 3** – “*Analysis*”: Metabolic rate is determined *indirectly* from heart rate (HR) recordings
- **LEVEL 4** - “*Expertise*”: the most precise, but the most *complex* and *expensive* ones, 3 methods for measuring metabolic rate in humans:
  - Method (4A): *indirect calorimetry* (based on the O<sub>2</sub> consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> production)
  - Method (4B): using *doubly labelled water* (applicable for 1-2 weeks of measurements)
  - Method (4C): *direct calorimetry*



$$HR = HR_0 + RM \times (M - M_0)$$

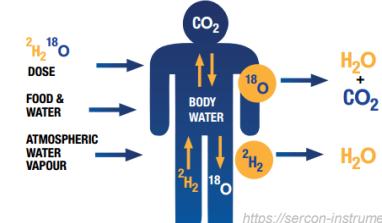
$$RM = (HR_{\max} - HR_0)/(MWC - M_0)$$

$$HR_{\max} = 205 - 0,624$$

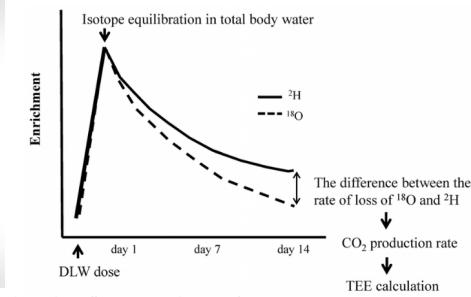
$$\text{Men: } MWC = (41,7 - 0,224)P^{0,666}$$

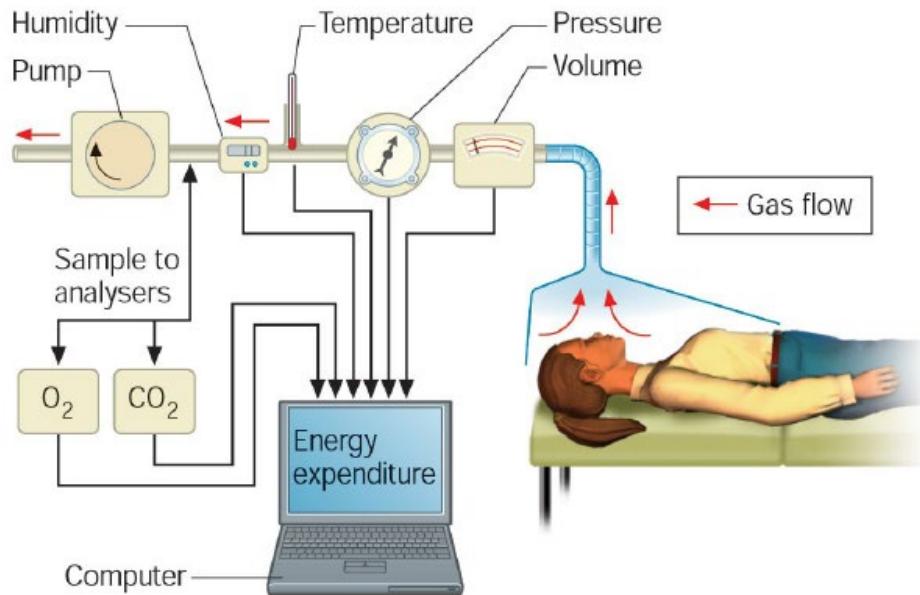
$$\text{Women: } MWC = (35,0 - 0,224)P^{0,666}$$

(4B)



$$^{18}\text{O} \text{ elimination } (\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2) - ^2\text{H} \text{ elimination } (\text{H}_2\text{O}) = \text{CO}_2 \text{ production}$$





- Weir's formula to estimate metabolic rate (kcal/min):

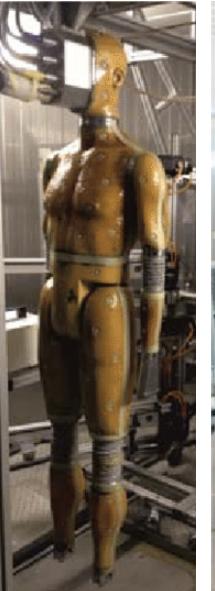
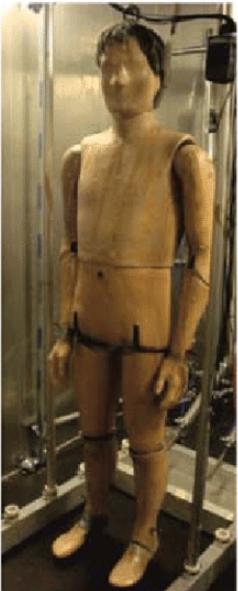
$$(4-24) \quad EE = 5.68 \cdot V_{O_2} + 1.59 \cdot V_{CO_2} - 2.17 \cdot N_u$$

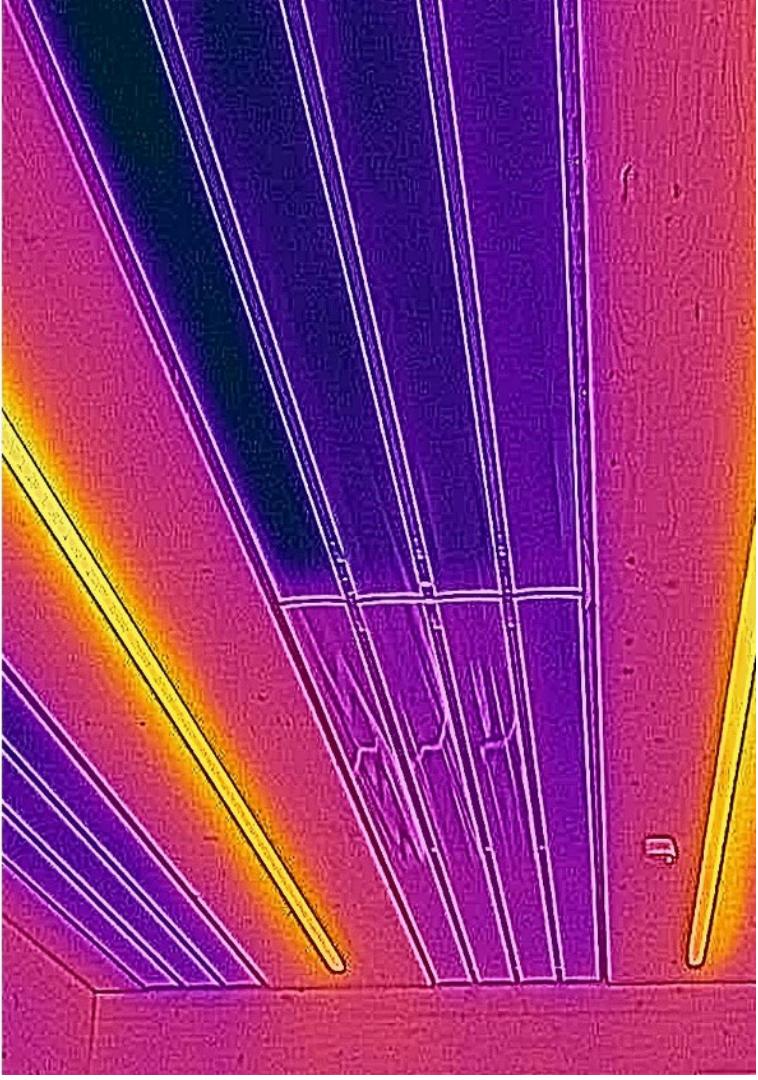
$V_{O_2}$  and  $V_{CO_2}$  - volume of oxygen inhaled and CO<sub>2</sub> exhaled (in ml/min),  
 $N_u$  - nitrogen urea (g/kg), default value is 12 g/kg



- **Primarily done with measurements using thermal manikins:**

- Sophisticated devices resembling human body (from simple to realistic configurations)
- They can vary **surface temperature** and the **amount of heat supplied** precisely
- Can be only **thermal** and **thermal + sweating** [suitable for vapor resistance testing]
- There are also manikins for only a specific body part (a head, a foot)





**Thank you  
for your attention**

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