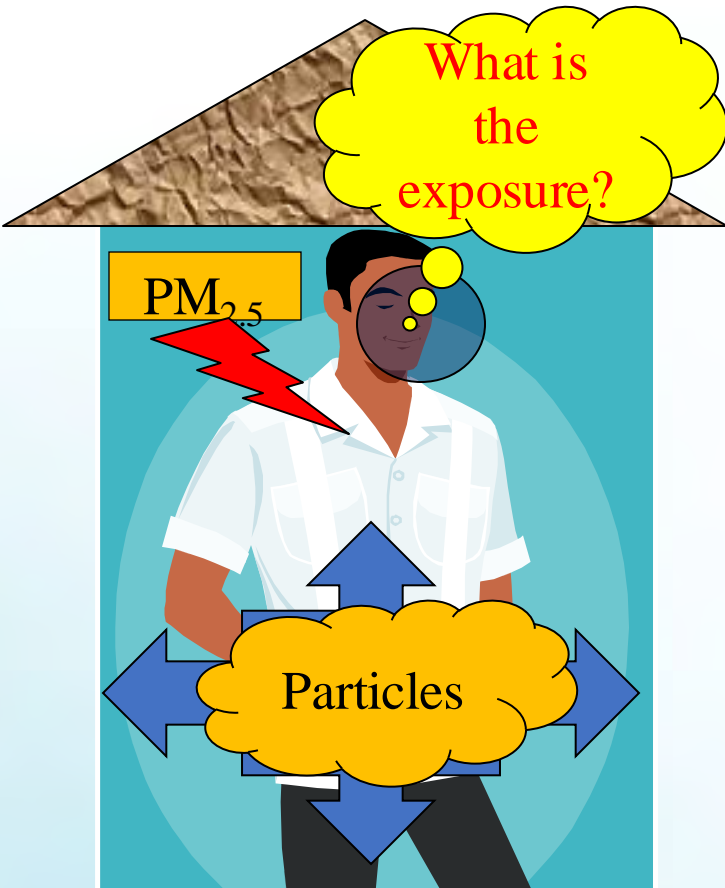


# Assessment of Indoor Air Quality in Small Commercial Buildings: A Case Study of Delhi NCR



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Principal Research Associate  
Alliance for an Energy Efficient  
Economy (AEEEE)

# Importance of IAQ

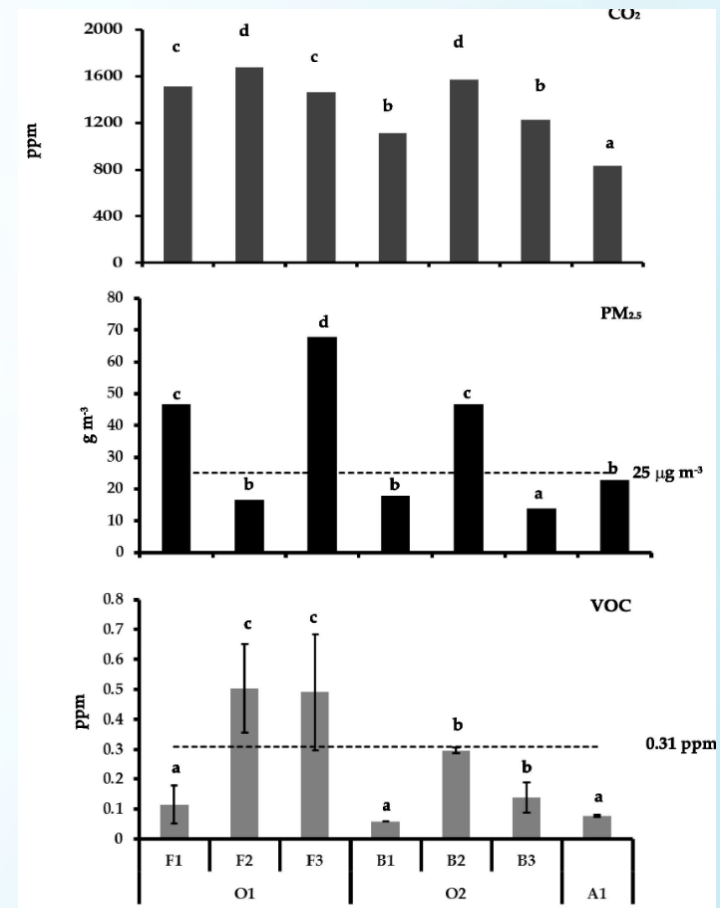


Personal Exposure

- On average, **27% more pieces** compared to workers in firms without air purifiers
- **27% treatment effect**, the average firm-level gains in **productivity amount to \$5,710**
- A **10-unit increase** in AQI leads to a **0.35% decline** in the number of calls handled by service center workers
- Workers are **5%-6% more productive** when air pollution levels are rated as 'good' (AQI 0-50) versus 'unhealthy' (AQI 150-200)

(Source: [World Bank](#))

(Source: [Infosys](#))



Data Monitored in Office Buildings in Delhi

(Source: [Datta et al.](#))<sup>2</sup>

# Current IAQ Adoption and Trends

## Employees and occupants are most concerned about IAQ

Who is most concerned with indoor air quality within your company?



61%

Employees / occupants



56%

Building and facility teams



45%

Sustainability teams or leaders



32%

Workplace experience teams or leaders



26%

C-suite and/or board members



6%

Other

Source: [Kaiterra Market Research](#)

## Biggest motivation for improving IAQ is to improve workplace experience

What are your motivations for improving indoor air quality?



81%

Provide a better workplace experience



65%

Improve building operation efficiency and reduce energy cost



43%

Contribute to decarbonization and ESG initiatives



41%

Meet certain requirements (e.g. building certifications, legislation, etc.)



5%

Financial incentives (e.g. tax credits)



7%

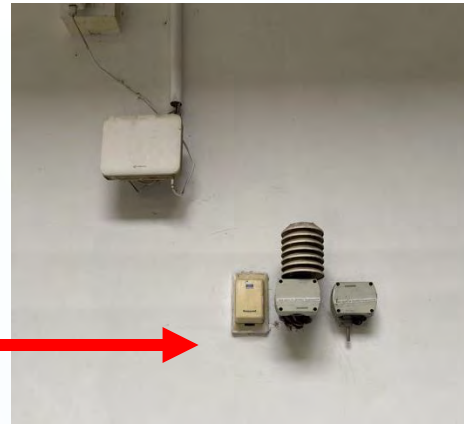
Other



# Indoor Thermal Comfort and Air Quality Instruments



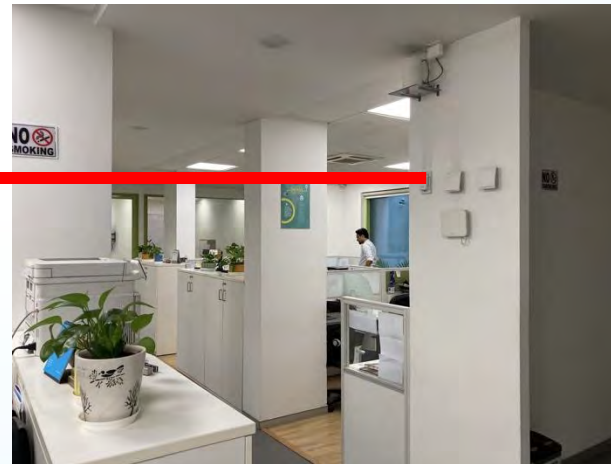
Outdoor measuring device



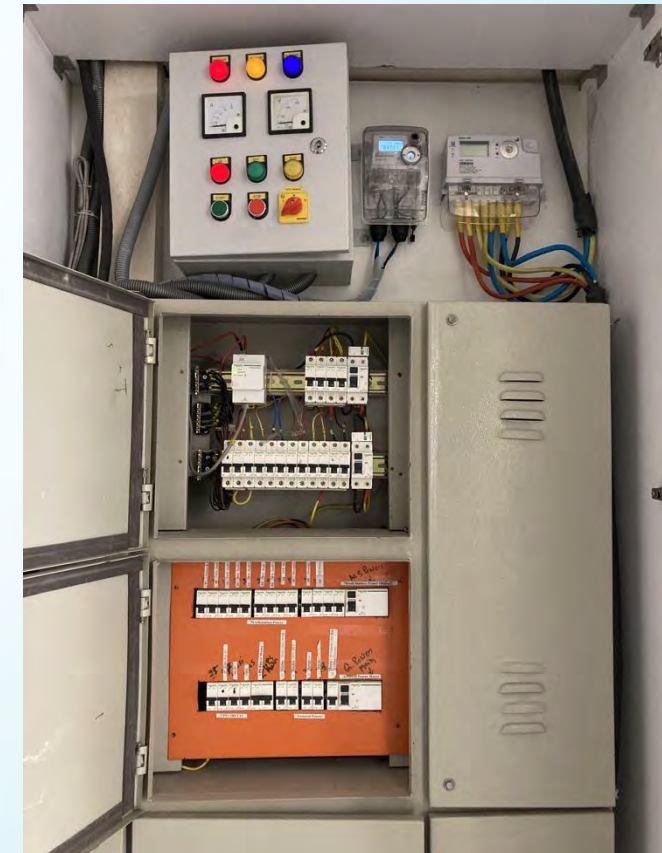
## Monitoring Parameters

1. Air temperature
2. Relative humidity
3. Carbon dioxide
4. Particulate Matters 2.5, and 10

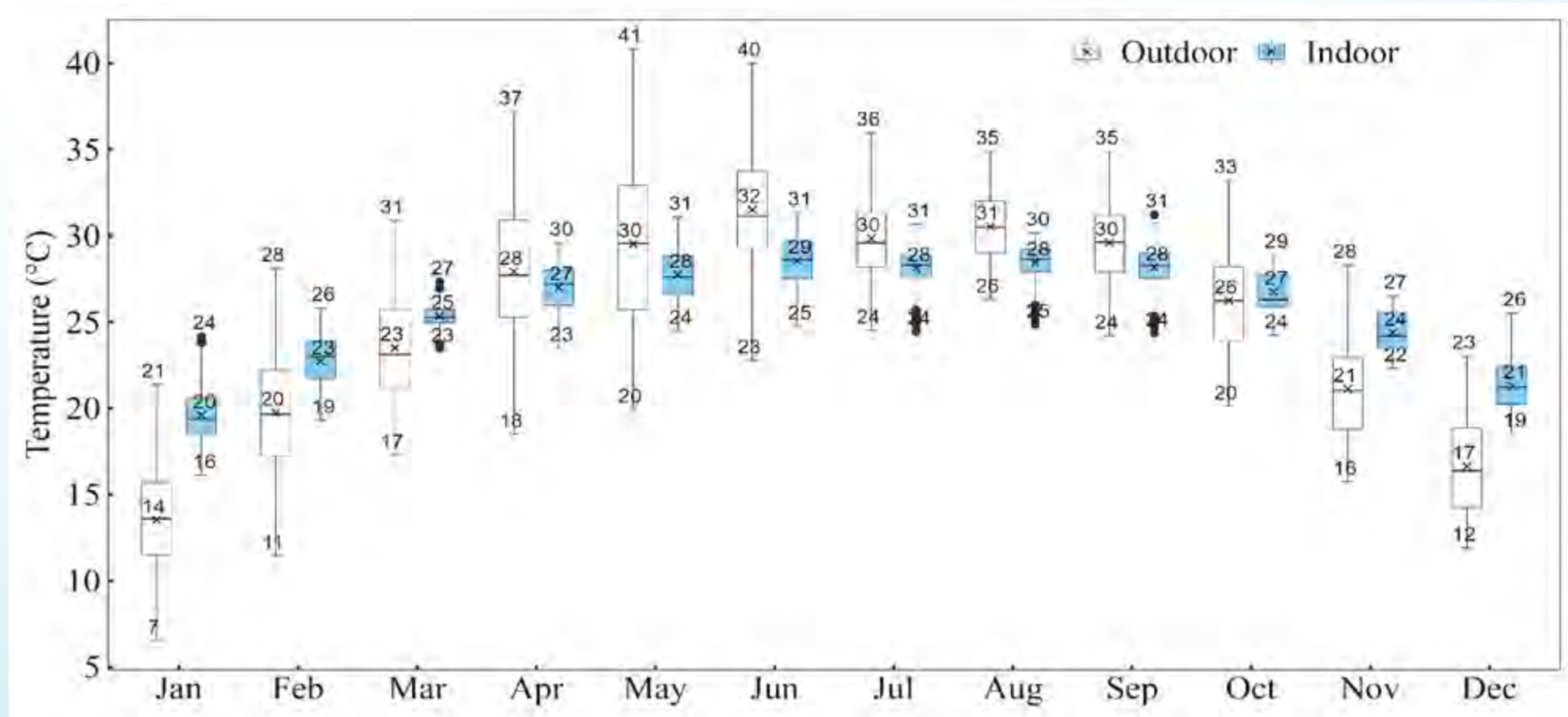
## Indoor measuring device



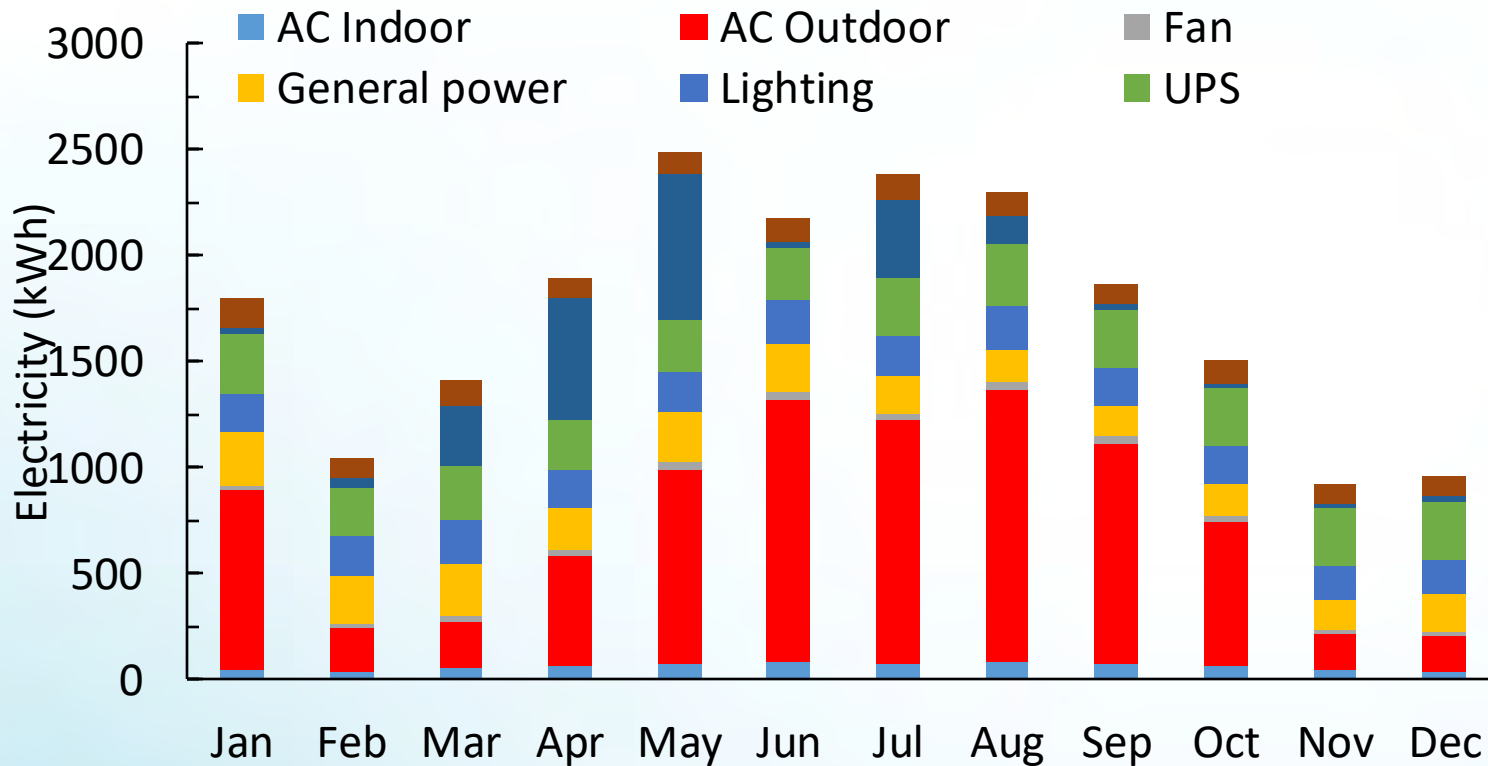
## Energy measuring device



# Outdoor and Indoor Temperature (Year 2023)



# Electricity Consumption (Year 2023)



**Monthly electricity consumption of AEEE office for year 2023**

Energy Performance Index (EPI)

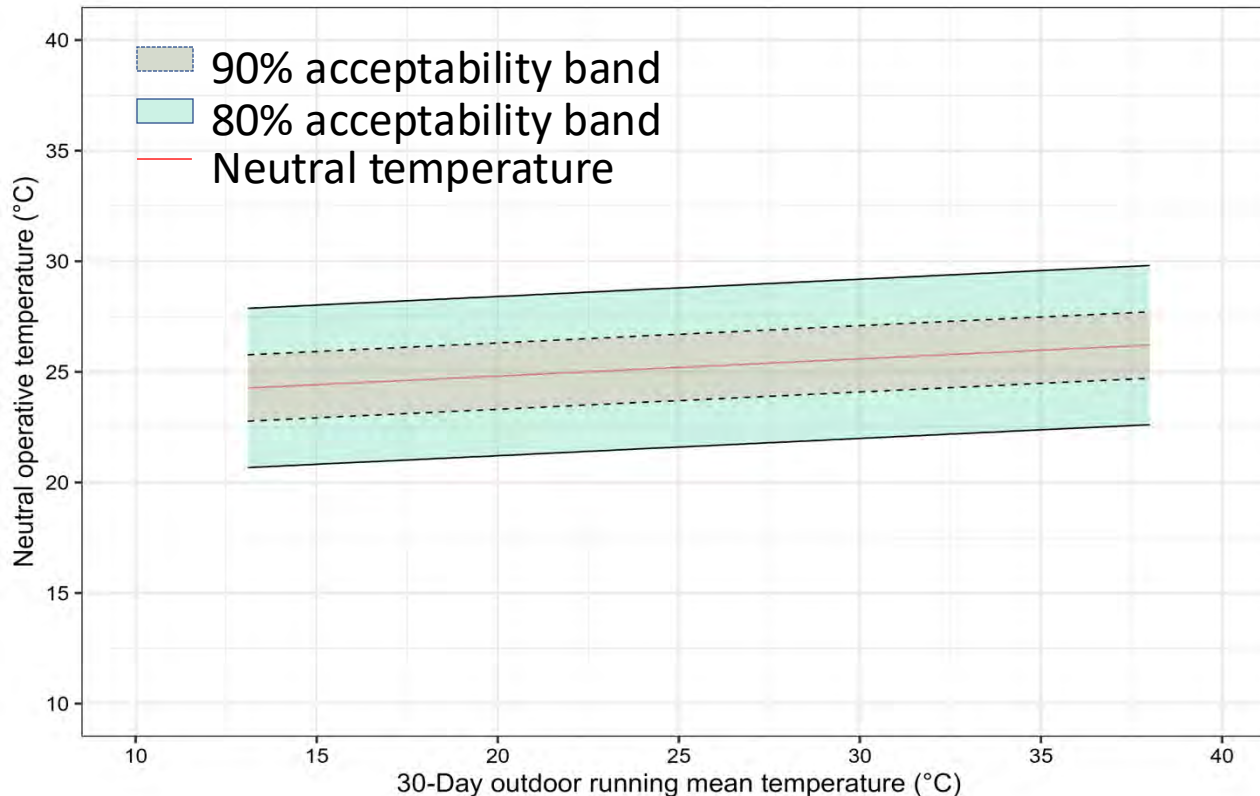
$$EPI = \frac{\text{annual energy consumption (kWh)}}{\text{building area (m}^2\text{)}}$$

AEEE office EPI for the year 2023  
(measured)

$$EPI = 62 \text{ kWh/m}^2$$



# Indian Model for the Adaptive Comfort



**IMAC model for Air conditioned buildings**

## Neutral temperature for AC Buildings ( $T_{nut}$ )

$$T_{nut} = 0.078 \times T_{30dormt} + 23.25 \text{ (°C)}$$

where,

$T_{30dormt}$  = 30-day outdoor running mean temperature (°C)

## IMAC 80% acceptability band

$$\text{Upper limit} = T_{nut} + 3.6 \text{ (°C)}$$

$$\text{Lower limit} = T_{nut} - 3.6 \text{ (°C)}$$

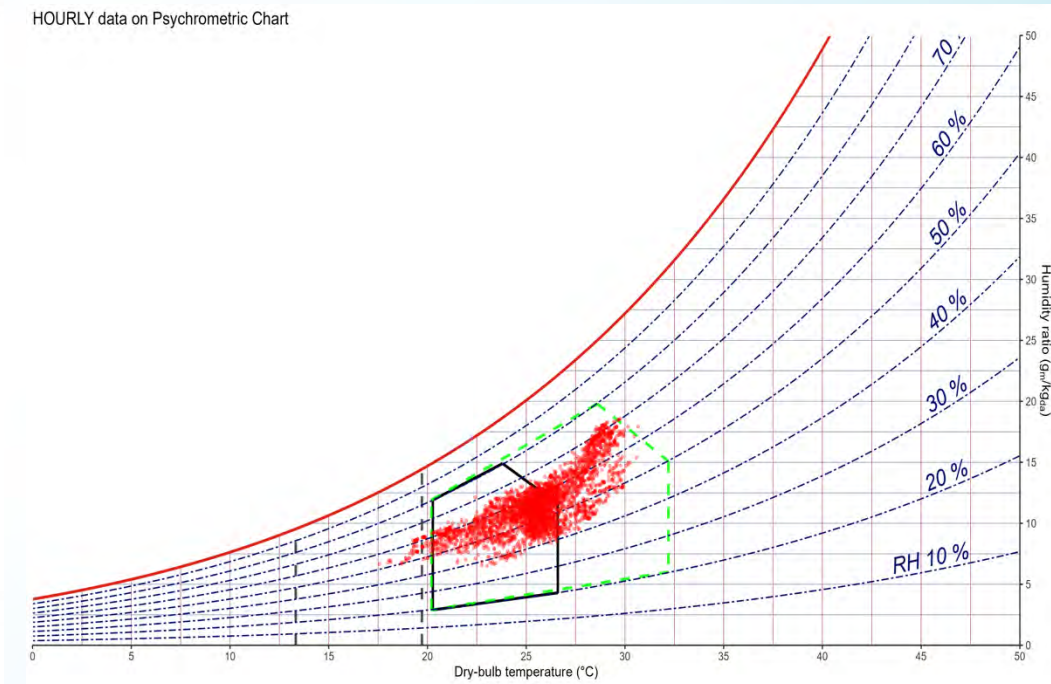
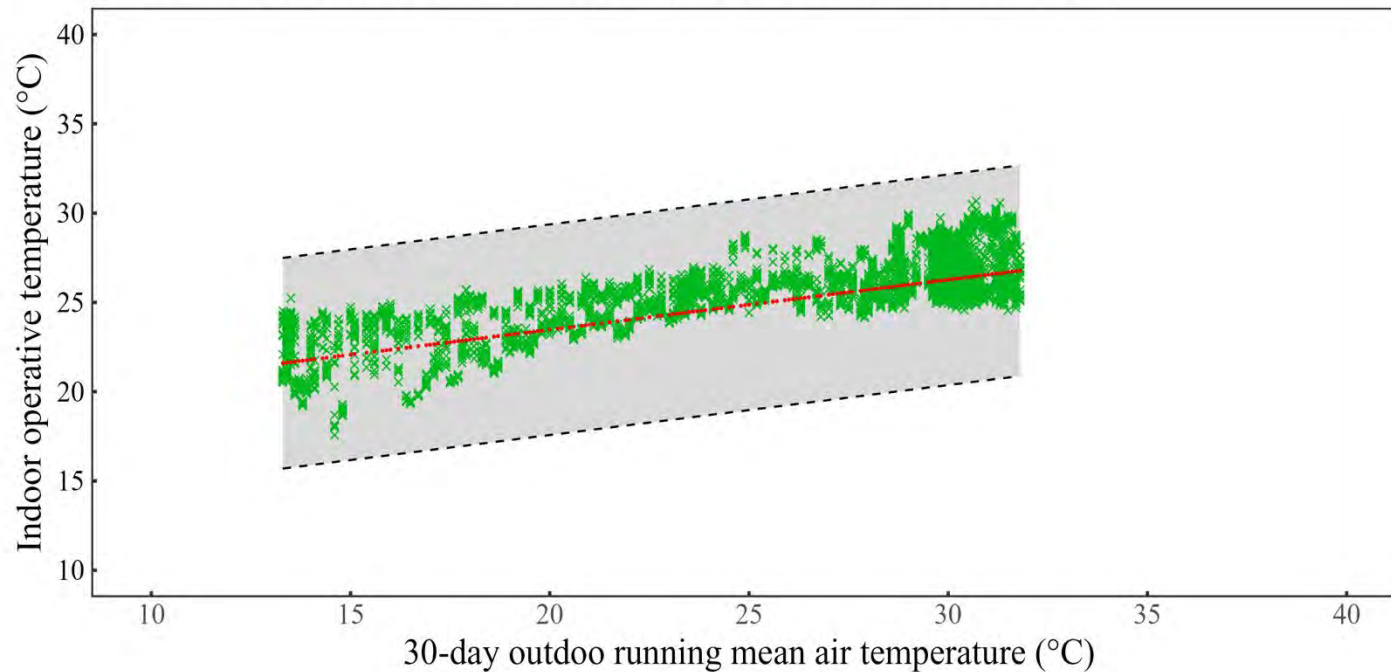
## IMAC 90% acceptability band

$$\text{Upper limit} = T_{nut} + 1.5 \text{ (°C)}$$

$$\text{Lower limit} = T_{nut} - 1.5 \text{ (°C)}$$

# Thermal Comfort (during office hours 08:00 to 18:00)

Acceptable (h): 4015 ; Unacceptably hot (h): 0 ; Unacceptably cold (h): 0

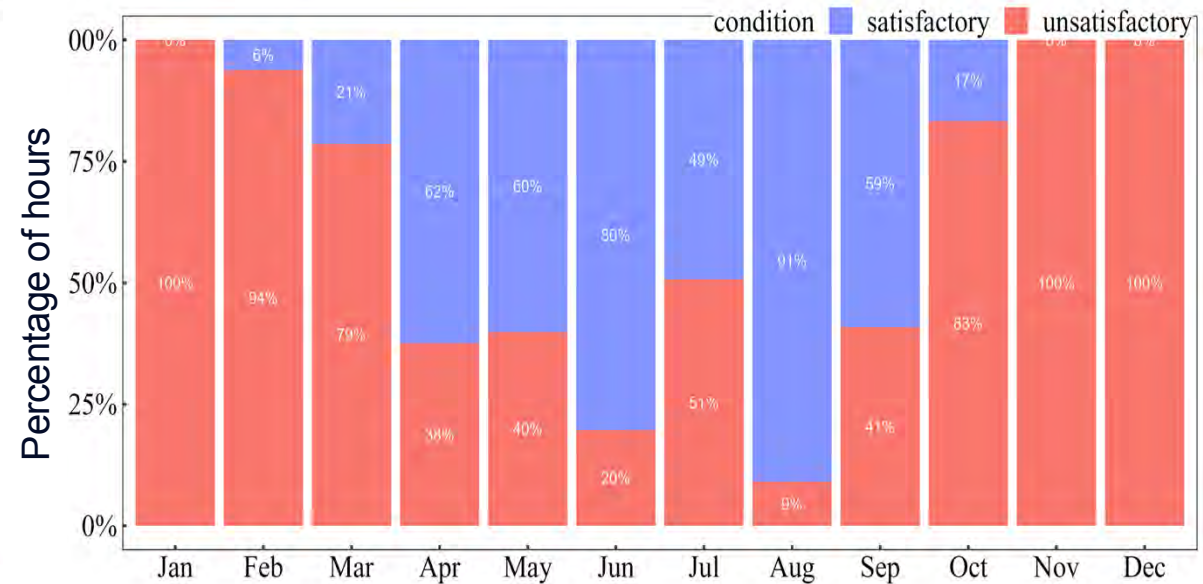
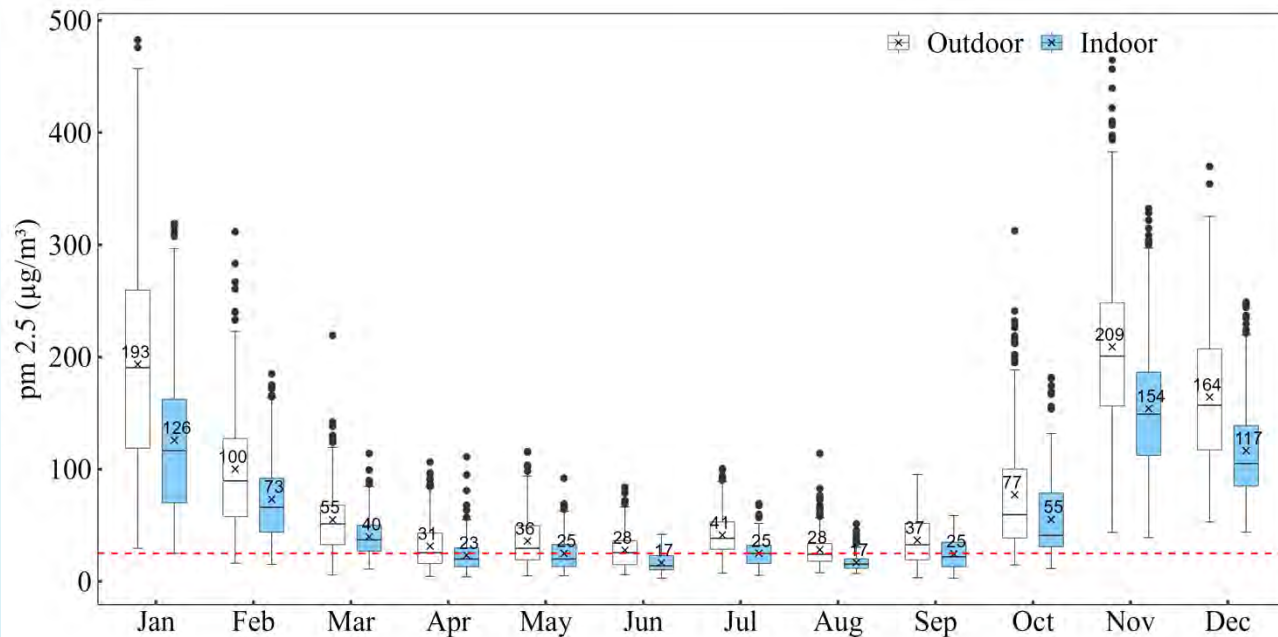


**IMAC for the AEEE office workstation thermal comfort**



# Outdoor and Indoor pm 2.5 (during office hours)

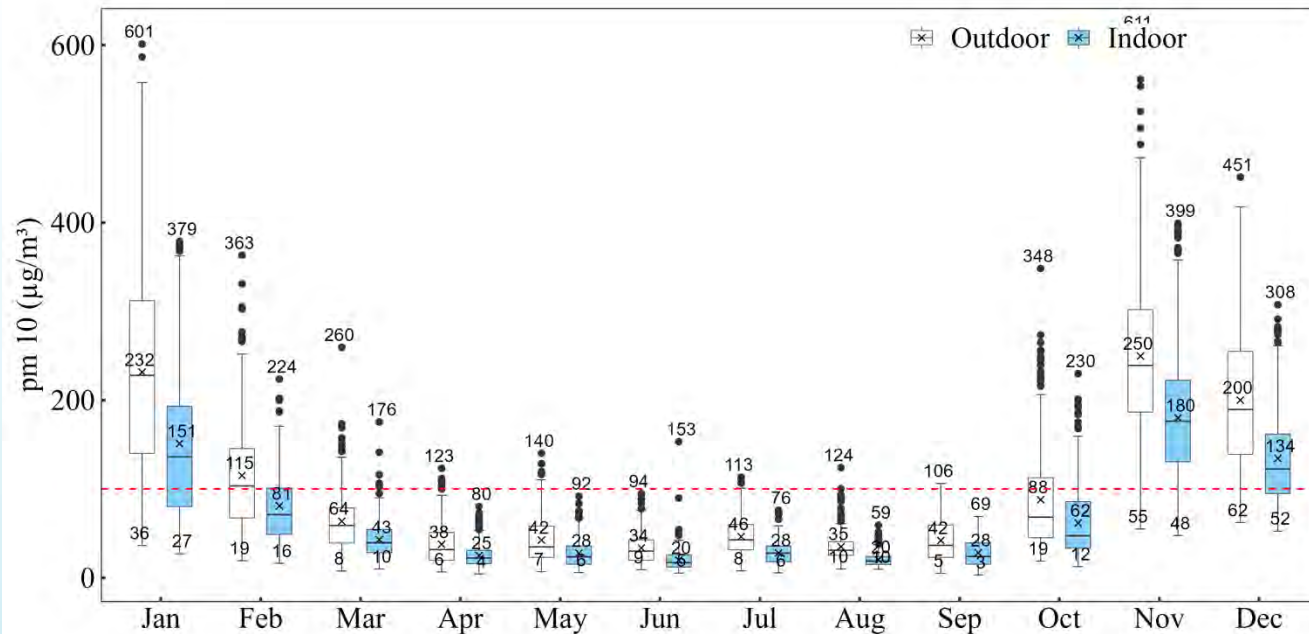
The recommended indoor threshold for pm 2.5 as per **ISHRAE IEQ Std. 2024** (for Class B Buildings) should be less than 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



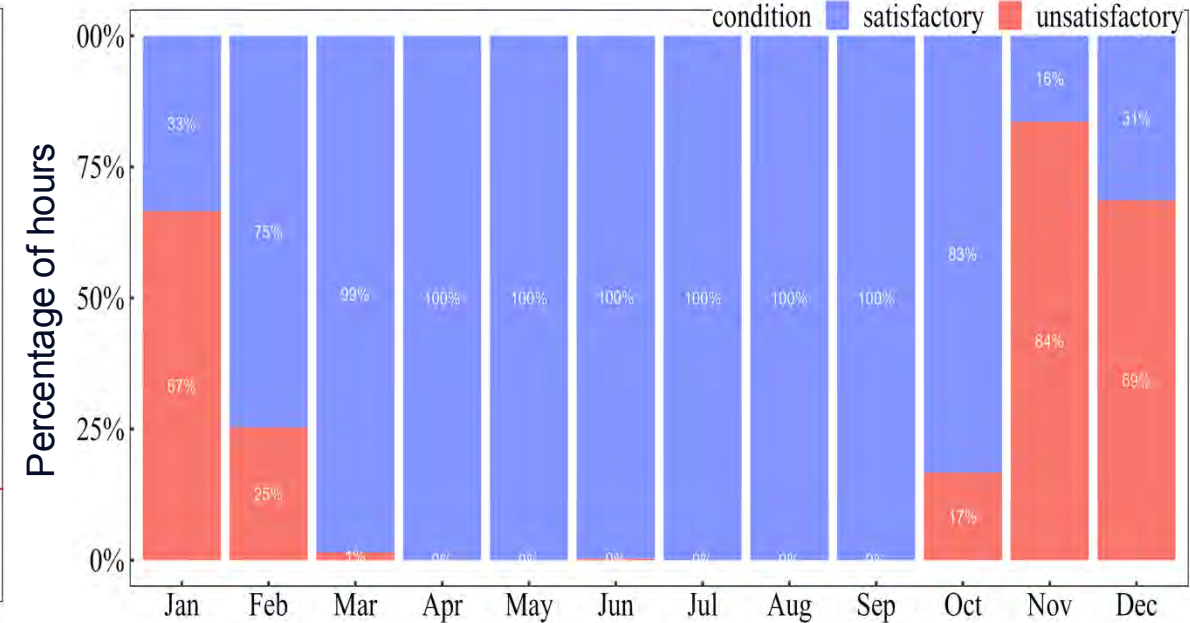
**Boxplots of the monthly variations of the outdoor and indoor pm 2.5 concentration. Assessment of satisfactory and unsatisfactory conditions in workstation areas based on pm 2.5 concentration levels**  
The mean pm 2.5 values are also shown using the cross ( x ) symbol

# Outdoor and Indoor pm 10 (during office hours)

The recommended indoor threshold for pm 10 as per **ISHRAE IEQ Std. 2024** (for Class B Buildings) should be less than  $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



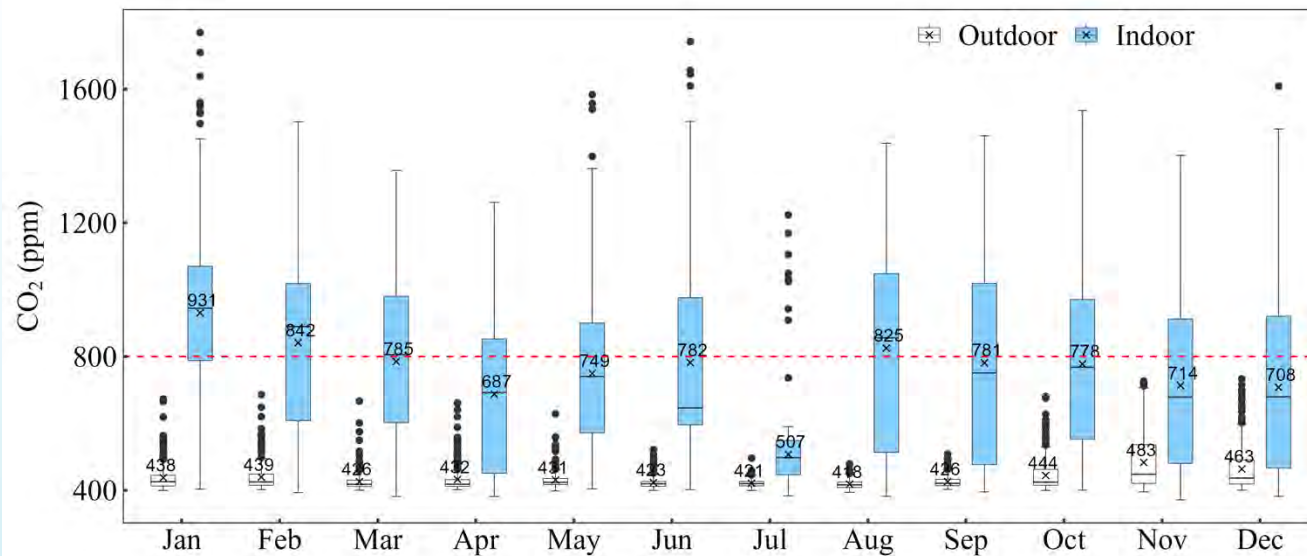
**Boxplots of the monthly variations of the outdoor and indoor pm 10 concentration. The mean pm 10 values are also shown using the cross ( × ) symbol**



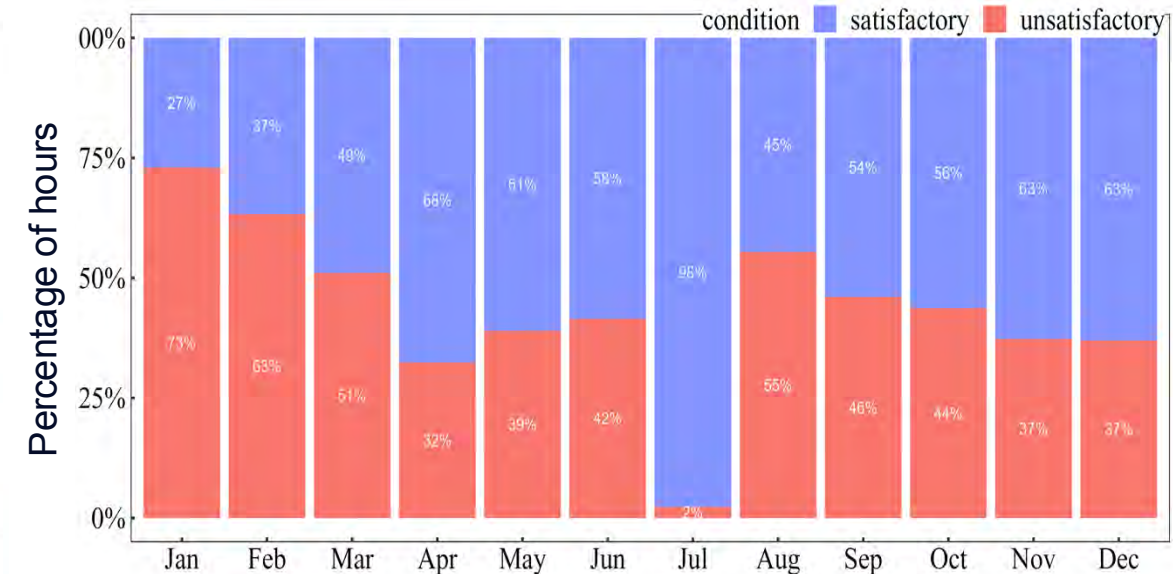
**Assessment of satisfactory and unsatisfactory conditions in workstation areas based on pm 10 concentration levels**

# Outdoor and indoor pm 10 (during office hours)

The recommended indoor threshold for CO<sub>2</sub> as per **ISHRAE IEQ Std. 2024** (for Class B Buildings) should be less than ambient + 500 ppm



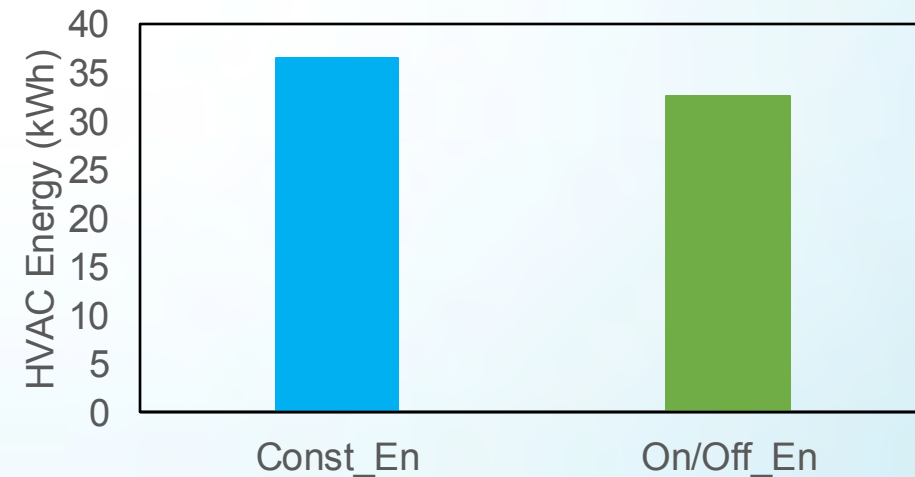
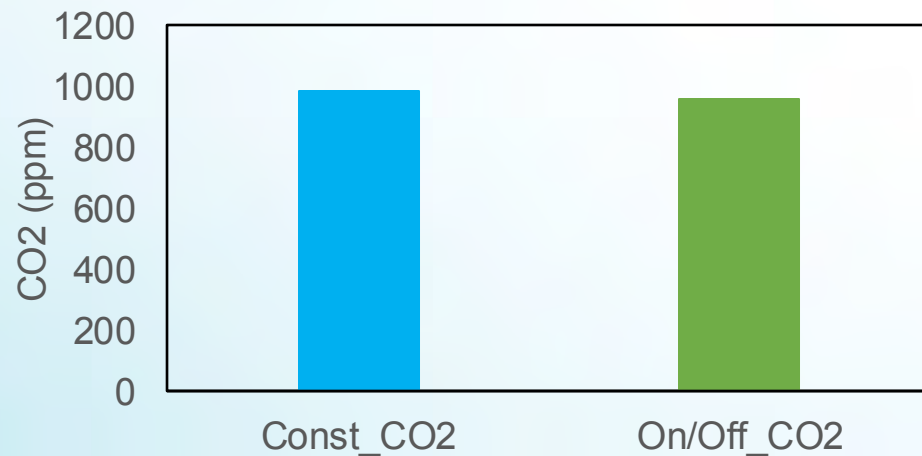
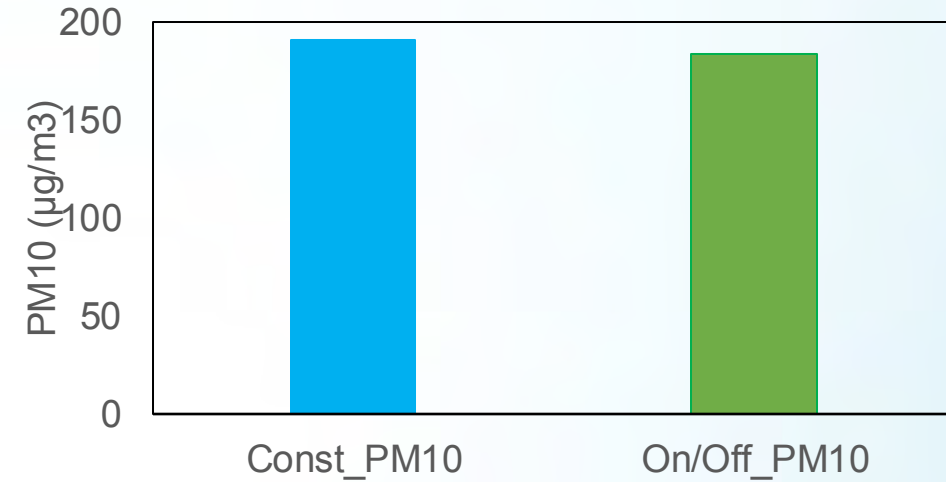
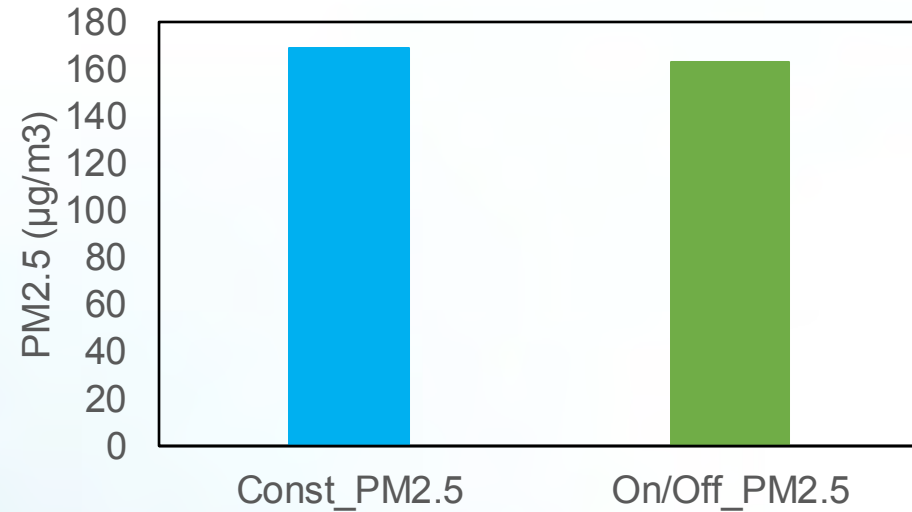
**Boxplots of the monthly variations of the outdoor and indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration. The mean CO<sub>2</sub> values are also shown using the cross ( × ) symbol**



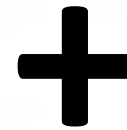
**Assessment of satisfactory and unsatisfactory conditions in workstation areas based on CO2 concentration levels**



# Food for thought?



## Initiative by



## Nexus between IAQ, Occupants' Health, and Air-Conditioning Energy Consumption

## Objectives

- Assess IAQ Parameters
- Productivity, health impact and IAQ
- Measure Energy Consumption
- Correlation Analysis
- Identify Opportunities for Improvement
- Influence Policy for IAQ

## Relevance to the Project Partners

- Facilitation of Buildings for monitoring
- Facilitation and development of low cost Monitoring equipment (IAQ sensors and monitoring dashboard)
- Facilitation of different types of filters to evaluate their impact on IAQ, Energy and Airborne Pathogens
- Evaluation of types of Air handling Units and their relation with IAQ and Energy
- Cost benefit analysis for different interventions to improve IAQ
- Total cost of ownership of running the systems



# Thank you!