# VENTILATIVE COOLING CASE: TEST LECTURE ROOMS KU LEUVEN GHENT TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS

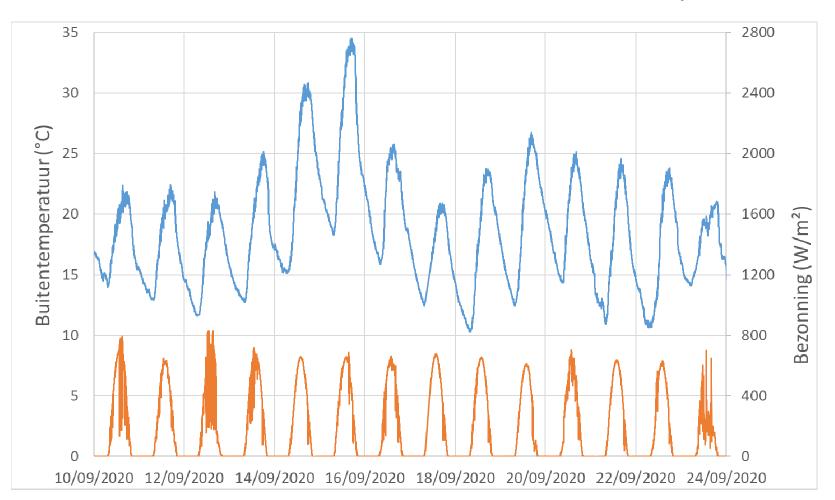
Webinar: Hoe kunnen we aanvaardbare comfortomstandigheden in tertiaire gebouwen in België garanderen 30/9/2021

Hilde Breesch, Abantika Sengupta
Building Physics & Sustainable Design, KU Leuven





 High temperatures & solar radiation also in spring and autumn in moderate climates (Ghent, sept 2020)





- Evolution to nZEB (nearly zero energy buildings)
  - Reduction of the heating demand
  - Airtight
  - Highly insulated

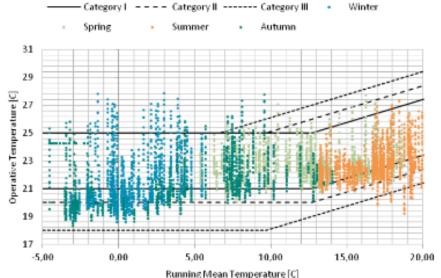


Passiefschool Ede (NL)
Source: BouwQuest



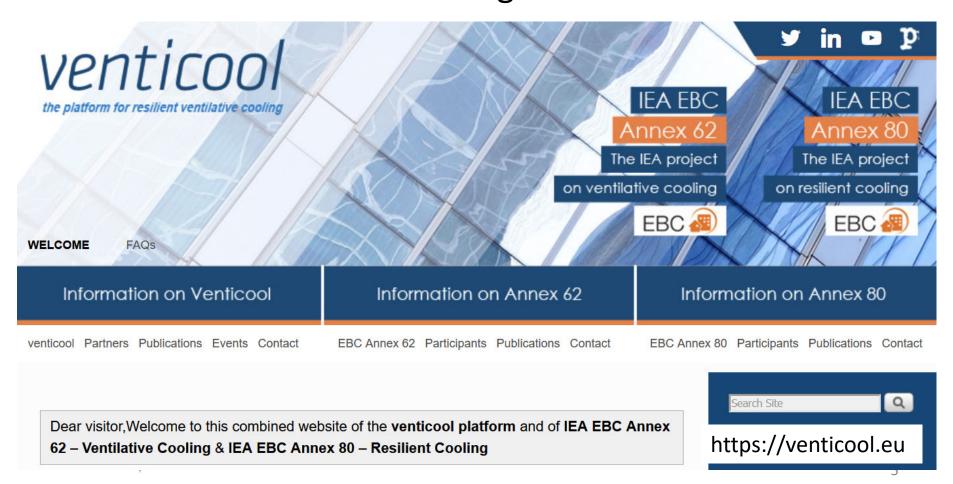
Passiefschool Nijvel
Source: A2M architects

- Challenges in nZEB buildings
  - Increase in cooling demand all year round
  - Cooling demand depends more on
    - Solar radiation
    - Internal heat gains
  - Overheating most reported problem
  - Need for
    - conceptual and building technical measures
    - energy efficient cooling systems





Resilient ventilative cooling



#### Overview

- Context
- Ventilative cooling
- Test lecture rooms
- Future proof?
- Summary



### Ventilative cooling: design guide

International Energy Agency

#### **Ventilative Cooling Design Guide**

### Energy in Buildings and Communities Programme March 2018





download via: http://venticool.eu/annex-62-publications/deliverables/

### Ventilative cooling

- Attractive & energy efficient passive solution to cool buildings & avoid overheating
  - Ventilation already present in most buildings through mechanical and/or natural systems
  - Ventilative cooling: remove excess heat gains & increase air velocities -> widen thermal comfort range
  - cooling need not only in the summer period
     increased possibilities free cooling
     potential of low temperature outdoor air



iGent (Zwijnaarde)



### Ventilative cooling: strategies

Temperature Difference <sup>1</sup>	Ventilative Cooling	Supplementary cooling options
Cold (∆T more than 10°C)	Minimize air flow rate - draught free air supply	-
Temperate (2-10°C lower than comfort zone)	Increasing air flow rate from minimum to maximum	Strategies for enhancement of natural driving forces to increase air flow rates  Natural cooling strategies like evaporative cooling, earth to air heat exchange to reduce air intake temperature during daytime
Hot and dry (∆T between - 2°C and +2°C)	Minimum air flow rate during daytime Maximum air flow rate during night time	Natural cooling strategies like evaporative cooling, earth to air heat exchange, thermal mass and PCM storage to reduce air intake temperature during daytime.  Mechanical cooling strategies like ground source heat pump, mechanical cooling
Hot and humid	Natural or mechanical ventilation should provide minimum outdoor air supply	Mechanical cooling/ dehumidification

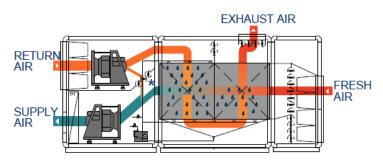
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Temperature difference between indoor comfort temperature and mean outdoor air temperature.

## Ventilative cooling: components

Functionality	Component				
Air Flow Guiding	Windows, Rooflights, Doors, Dampers, Flaps, Louvres, Special Effect Vents				
Air Flow Enhancing	Chimneys, Atria, Venturi Ventilators, Wind Towers, Wind Scoops				
Passive and Natural Cooling	Convective Cooling, Evaporative Cooling, Phase Change Cooling				
Control and Automation	Chain Actuators, Linear Actuators, Rotary Actuators, Sensors				







### Ventilative cooling: Case studies

International Energy Agency

#### **Ventilative Cooling Case Studies**



### Energy in Buildings and Communities Programme May 2018



download via: http://venticool.eu/annex-62-publications/deliverables/



### Ventilative cooling: Case studies

11 non-residential & 4 residential buildings





## Ventilative cooling: strategies

Ventilative cooling Concepts	Natural driven	Mech. Supply Driven	Mech. exhaust driven	Natural night ventilation	Mech. night ventilation	Air conditioning	Indirect Evap. Cooling	Earth to Air Heat Exch.	Phase Chang eMaterials
zero2020 (IE)	Χ			Χ					
Brunla Primary school (NO)	Χ			Χ					
Solstad barnehage (NO)	Χ		Χ	Χ	Χ				
UNI Innsbruck (AT)	Χ		Χ	Χ					
wk Simonsfeld (AT)	Χ		Χ						
Renson (BE)	Χ			Χ					
KU Leuven Ghent (BE)	Χ		Χ				Χ		
Nexus Hayama (JP)	Χ					Χ			
GFO Building (JP)	Χ	Χ	Χ			Χ			
CML Kindergarden (PT)	Χ			Χ					
Bristol University (UK)					Χ	Χ			Χ
Wanguo MOMA (CN)		Χ	Χ		Χ	Χ			
Maison Air et Lumiere (FR)	Χ								
Mascalucia ZEB (IT)	Χ			Χ				Χ	
Living Lab (NO)	Χ								

for HVAC professionals

#### Overview

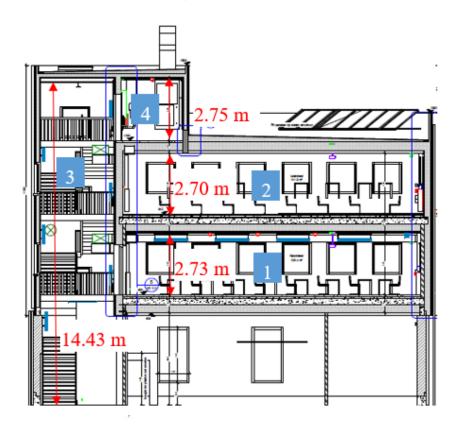
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#### Test lecture rooms

#### **KU Leuven Ghent Technology Campus (BE)**

- Zone 1 and 2: Floor area = 140 m<sup>2</sup>
- varying occupancy





### Building envelope

- PassiveHouse standard
  - U-values < 0.15 W/m<sup>2</sup>K
  - Air tightness  $n_{50} < 0.6 h^{-1}$
- Thermal mass: light/medium
- Solar shading
  - External: moveable screens (SW)
  - internal

	U (W/m²K)
Ground floor	0.15
roof	0.14
façade	0.15
window (U <sub>g</sub> /U <sub>f</sub> )	0.6/0.75

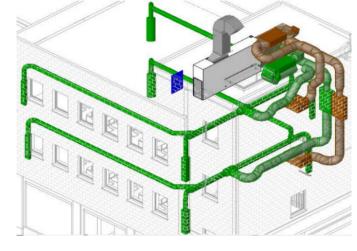




All-air system

#### Ventilation

- Airflow = 4400 m $^3$ /h
- Heat recovery:  $\eta = 78\%$
- CO<sub>2</sub>-controlled
- displacement ventilation









### All-air system

- Heating
  - Production
    - Pellet boiler:  $\eta = 1.06$ , 8 kW, storage = 600l
  - Distribution and emission
    - Heating coils ventilation supply (2 x 7.9 kW)



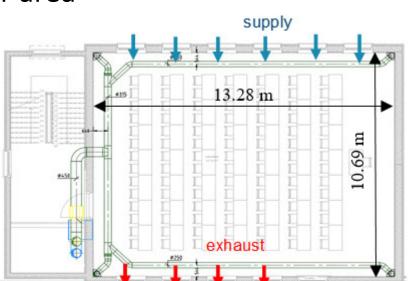


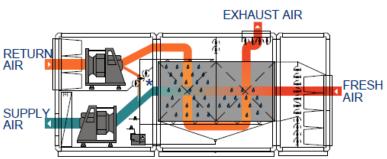


### Ventilative cooling

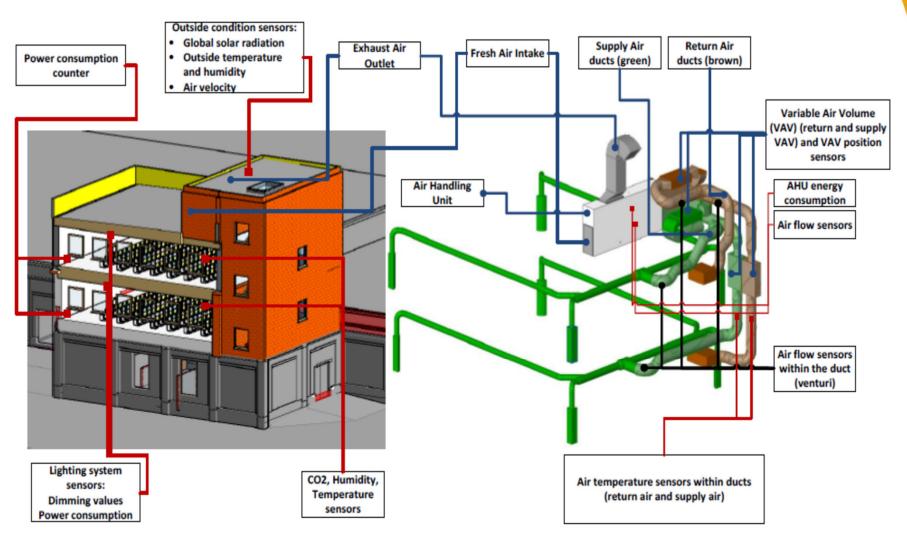
- Indirect evaporative cooling in AHU
  - Max cooling capacity 13.1 kW
  - Activated:  $T_i > 26$ °C or  $T_e > 22$ °C
- Natural night ventilation
  - Motorized bottom-hung windows
  - Effective opening area = 4% floor area
  - Cross ventilation





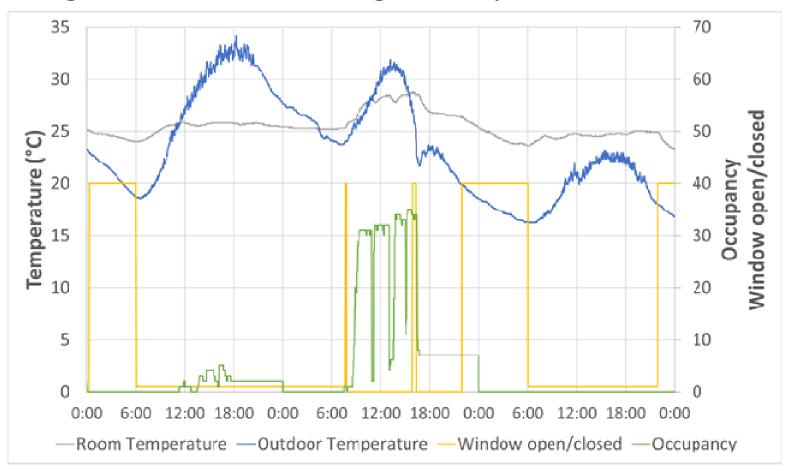


### Monitoring



### **Operation Ventilative Cooling**

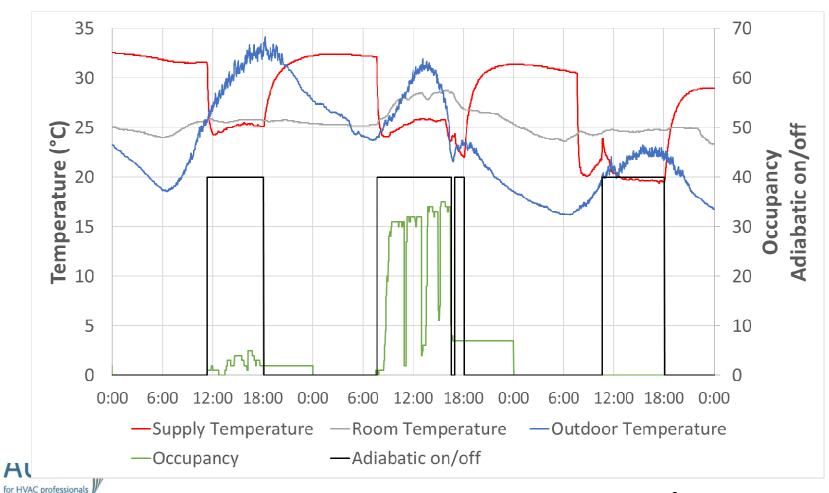
night ventilation during warm period





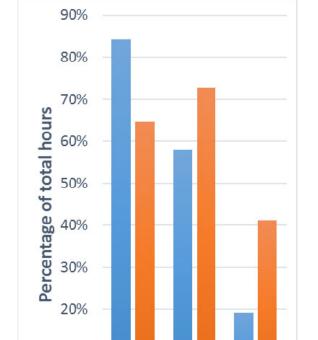
### **Operation Ventilative Cooling**

IEC during warm period



### Operation & performance night ventilation

Operation hours
 Airflow rate



june

■ windows ■ IEC

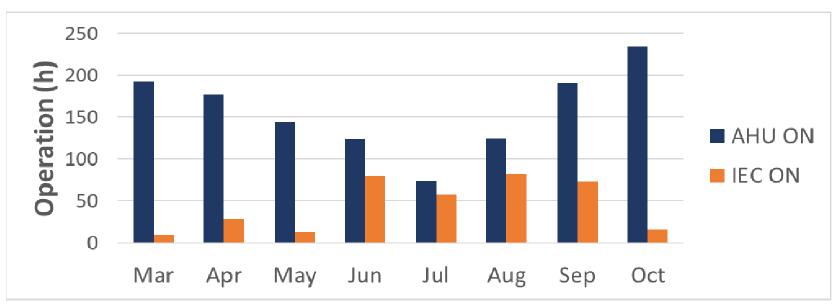
sept

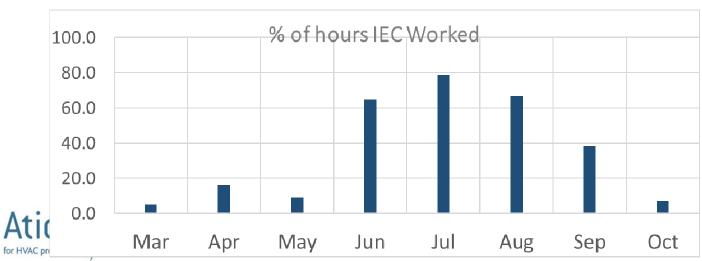
10%

0%

Ventilation mode	ACR (h <sup>-1</sup> )	Wind speed (m/s)	Wind directi on	ΔT (°C)
Cross ventilation	4,18 ± 0,42	1,9	WNW	4,3
Cross ventilation	3,76 ± 0,38	2,1	ESE	1,6
Cross ventilation	$3,04 \pm 0,30$	2,2	ESE	2,4
Single sided	2,05 ± 0,21	2,3	SSW	-
Single sided	2,00 ± 0,20	2,68	S	-
Single sided	1,17 ± 0,12	1,45	SSW	5,1
Single sided	1,56 ± 0,16	1,78	S	8,6

### Operation IEC



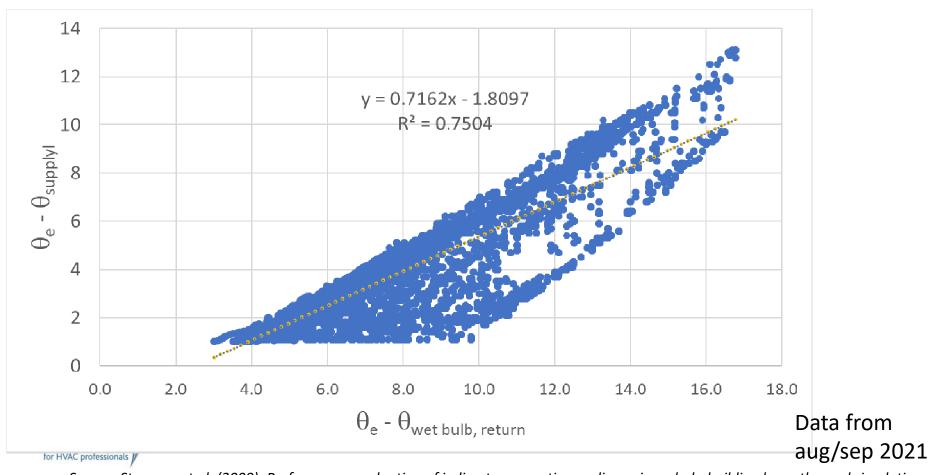


Data from 2019

#### Performance IEC

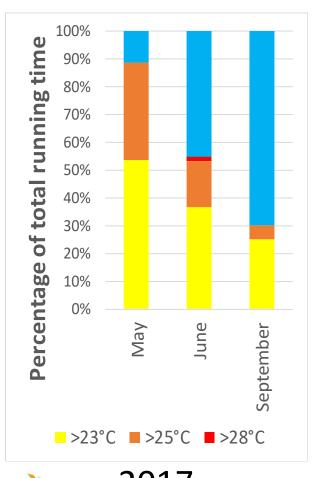
• Effectiveness

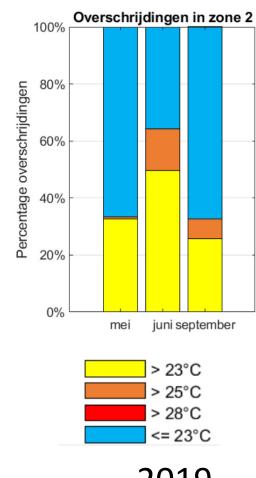
$$\varepsilon = \frac{\theta_e - \vartheta_{supply}}{\theta_e - \vartheta_{wet\ bulb,return}}$$



Source: Steeman et al. (2009), Performance evaluation of indirect evaporative cooling using whole-building hygrothermal simulations

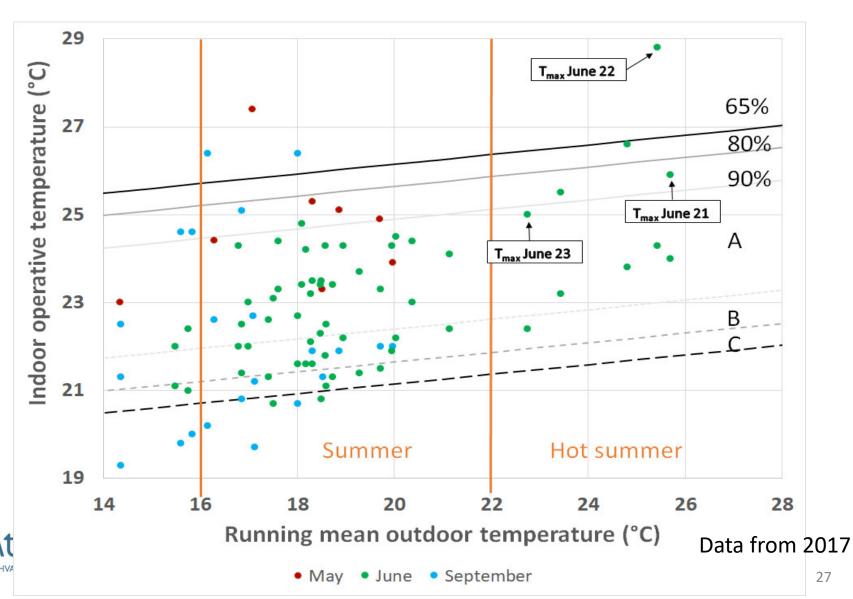
### Thermal summer comfort







### Thermal summer comfort



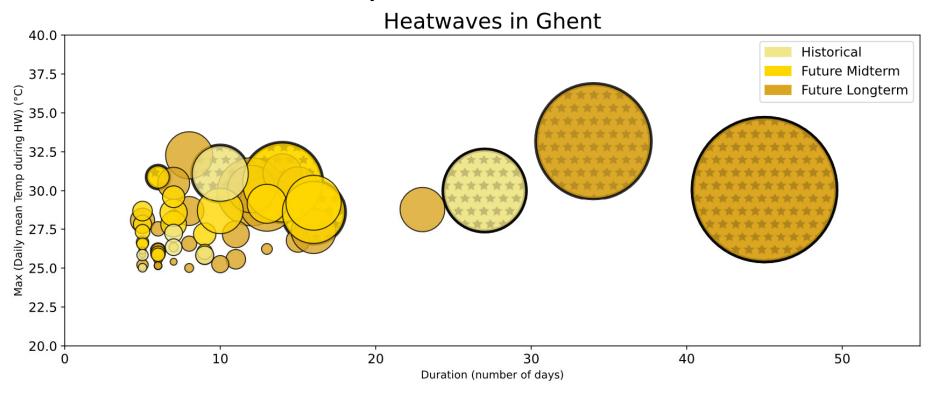
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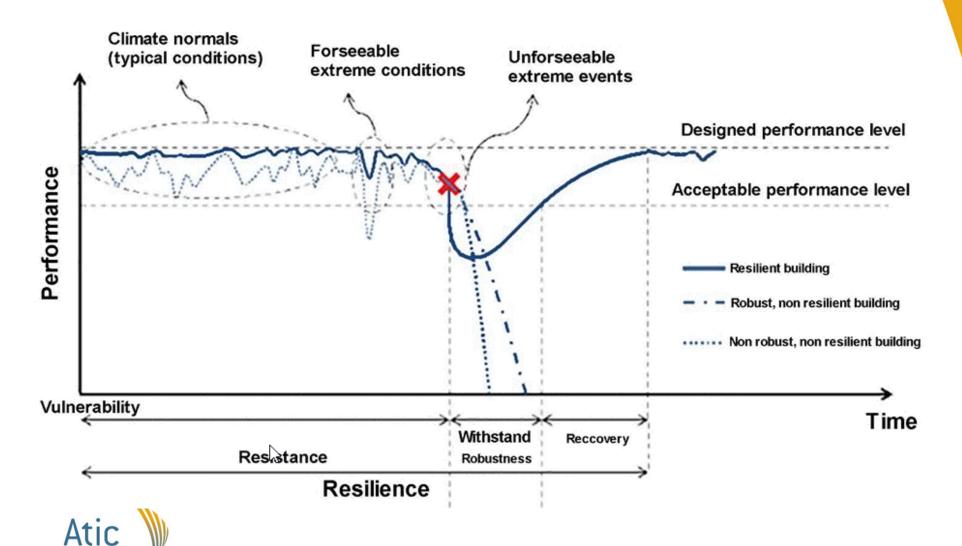
#### Heat waves

Increase in severity and duration





### Resilience



for HVAC professionals Source: Moazami et al. (2019), Robust and resilient buildings: A framework for defining the protection against climate uncertaint 80

### Resilient cooling

- When capacity of cooling system allows
  - to withstand or recover from disturbances (heat waves + power outages)
  - To adopt strategies after failure to mitigate degradation of building performance (recover)



IEA EBC Annex 80 - Resilient Cooling of Buildings

Atic
for HVAC professionals

The world is facing a rapid increase of air conditioning of buildings. This is driven by multiple factors, such as urbanisation and densification, climate change and elevated comfort expectations together with economic growth in hot and densely populated climate regions of the world. The trend towards cooling seems inexorable therefore it is mandatory to guide this development towards sustainable solutions.

ANNEX INFO & CONTACT
Status: Ongoing (2018 - 2023)
OPERATING AGENT
DI Dr Peter Holzer
Institute of Building Research &

Source: Shady et al. (2021), Resilient cooling of buildings to protect against heat waves and power outages: Key concepts and definition

### Assess resilience of cooling

Recovery speed

Time until reaching designed thermal conditions

natural VC: low - moderate

- IEC: moderate - high

- TABS: moderate - high

Absorptive capacity

Ability to absorb impact and minimize consequence

– natural VC: low

- IEC: moderate

- TABS: low - high





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### Summary

- ventilative cooling
- Test lecture rooms
  - Good thermal summer comfort except during heat waves/high occupancy
  - Night ventilation
  - IEC
    - Significantly lowers supply temperature
    - Effectiveness of about 72%
- Future proof?
  - -> resilience to overheating

