

The Human-Dimension of Net-Zero Energy

Research at the SDE4 NZEB

Dr. Clayton Miller



NUS
National University
of Singapore

NUS

Department of
**The
BUILT
ENVIRONMENT**
**WORLD RANKING
2022**

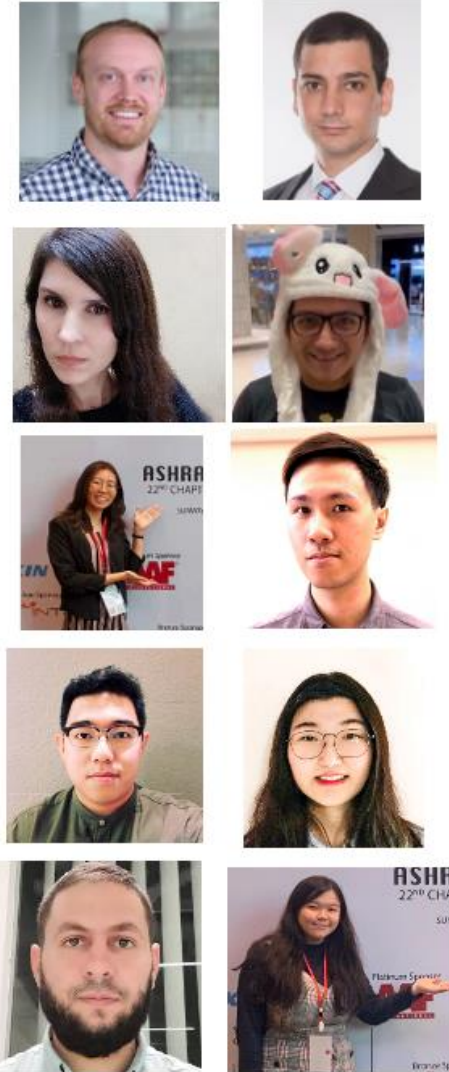


Official QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022

buds lab

building and urban data science

BUDS Lab is a scientific research group that leverages data sources from the built and urban environments to improve the energy efficiency and conservation, comfort, safety and satisfaction of humans.



Shameless Plug: edX Data Science for Construction, Architecture and Engineering



Data Science for Construction, Architecture and Engineering

This course introduces data science skills targeting applications in the design, construction, and operations of buildings. You will learn practical coding within this context with an emphasis on basic Python programming and the Pandas library.



Estimated 7 weeks

4–6 hours per week



Self-paced


Progress at your own speed



Free

Optional upgrade available

There is one session available:

24,358 already enrolled! After a course session ends, it will be [archived](#) .



<https://www.edx.org/course/Data-Science-for-Construction-Architecture-and-Engineering>



Net Zero by Design

Comfortable and Energy Efficient, Building Performance by Design



VISION

high-comfort
net-zero
energy building

Net Zero by Design

Comfortable and Energy Efficient, Building Performance by Design

conventional approach



operative Temperature 24°C

adaptive comfort approach



operative Temperature 29°C
tempered air + elevated air speed

Net Zero by Design

Comfortable and Energy Efficient, Building Performance by Design

Photovoltaic
renewable energy

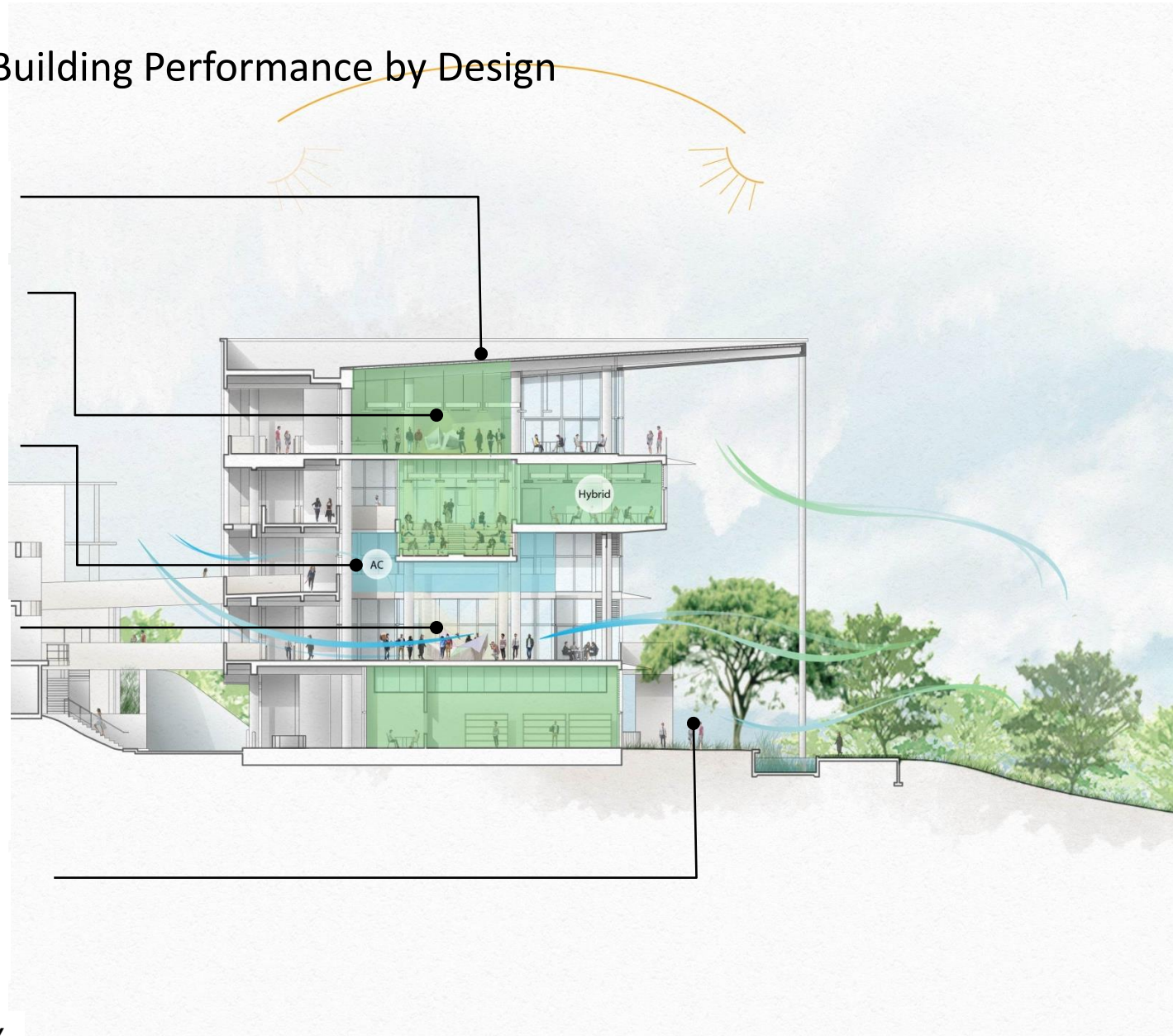
Hybrid Tempered, 26%
library, design studios
Theatrette, offices

Full AC, 17%
green building technology lab
energy lab, computer lab

Natural Cross Ventilated, 46%
with elevated air speed
social Plaza and social
interaction spaces
modeling areas, work shops
smart green home

Circulation
micro climate, wind
vegetation, green and blue

Mech and aux rooms 10%



Thermal Comfort without elevated air speed

CBE Thermal Comfort Tool

Select method: PMV method

Air temperature: 29 °C

Mean radiant temperature: 29 °C

Air speed: 0.15 m/s

Humidity: 50 %

Metabolic rate: 1.2 met

Clothing level: 0.5 clo

Create custom ensemble

Dynamic predictive clothing

LEED documentation

Globe temp SolarCal Specify pressure SI IP Local discomfort ? Help

ASHRAE-55

EN-15251

Compare

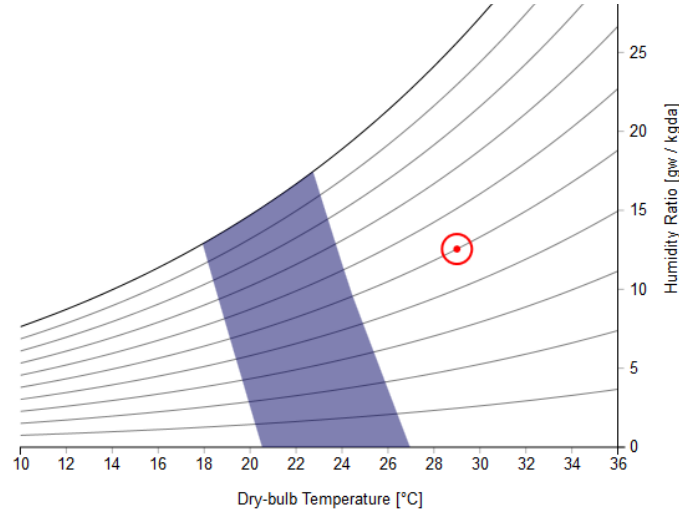
Ranges

Upload

✗ Does not comply with ASHRAE Standard 55-2013

PMV 1.23
PPD 37%
Sensation Slightly Warm
SET 29.3°C

Psychrometric chart (air temperature)



Operative Temperature 29°C
Air speed 0.15 m/s

PMV 1.2



Comfort tool of Center for the Built Environment, University of California Berkeley

Slide Credit: Thomas Auer – Transsolar <https://transsolar.com/>

Thermal Comfort with elevated air speed

CBE Thermal Comfort Tool

ASHRAE-55

EN-15251

Compare

Ranges

Upload

Select method:

PMV method

Air temperature

29

°C

Use operative temperature

Mean radiant temperature

29

°C

Air speed

0.7

m/s

Local air speed control

Humidity

50

%

Relative humidity

Metabolic rate

1.2

met

Typing: 1.1

Clothing level

0.5

clo

Typical summer indoor

Create custom ensemble

Dynamic predictive clothing

LEED documentation

Globe temp

SolarCal

Specify pressure

SI IP

Local discomfort

? Help

✓ Complies with ASHRAE Standard 55-2013

PMV with elevated air speed

0.28

PPD with elevated air speed

7%

Sensation

Neutral

SET

26.0°C

Drybulb temperature at still air

25.6°C

Cooling effect

3.4°C

Psychrometric chart (air temperature)

tab 0.0 °C

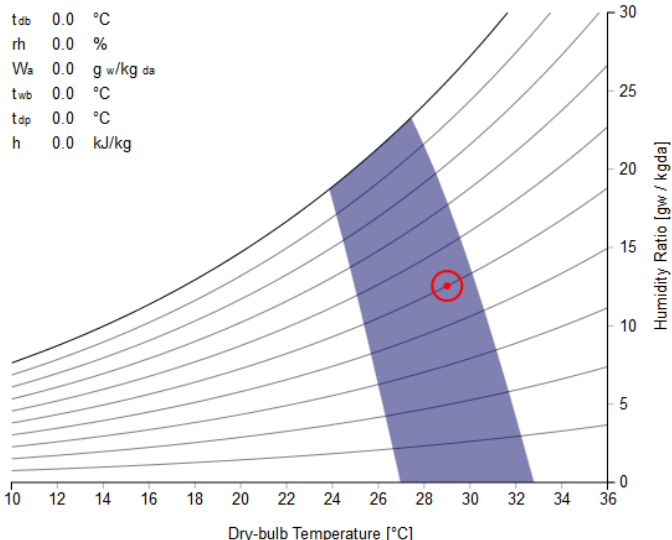
rh 0.0 %

Wa 0.0 g w/kg da

twb 0.0 °C

tdp 0.0 °C

h 0.0 kJ/kg



Operative Temperature


29°C

Air speed


0.7 m/s

PMV_{eas}

0.3



Comfort tool of Center for the Built Environment, University of California Berkeley

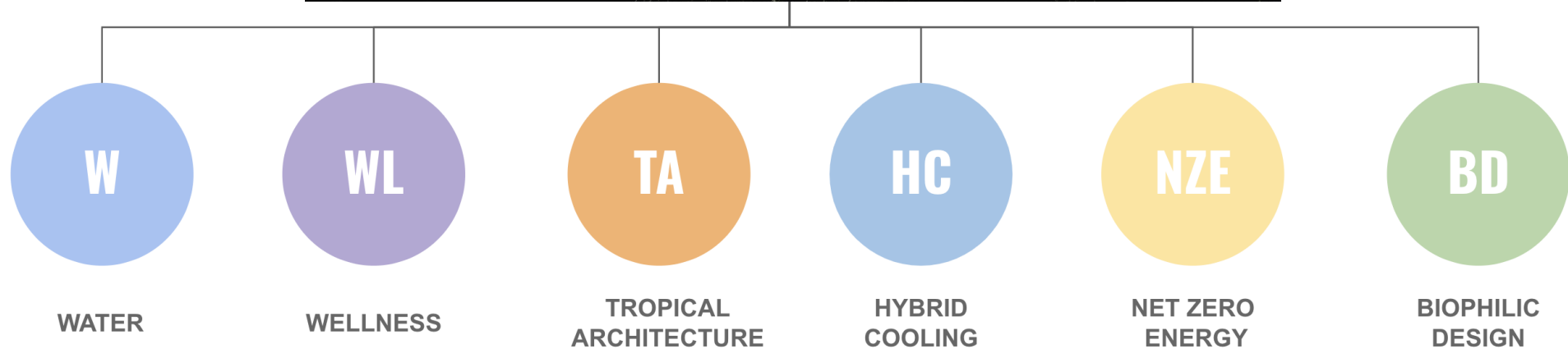


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Slide Credit: Thomas Auer – Transsolar <https://transsolar.com/>

Key Wellness and Sustainability Categories of SDE4



The Age-Old Question in the Built Environment

What do occupants want?

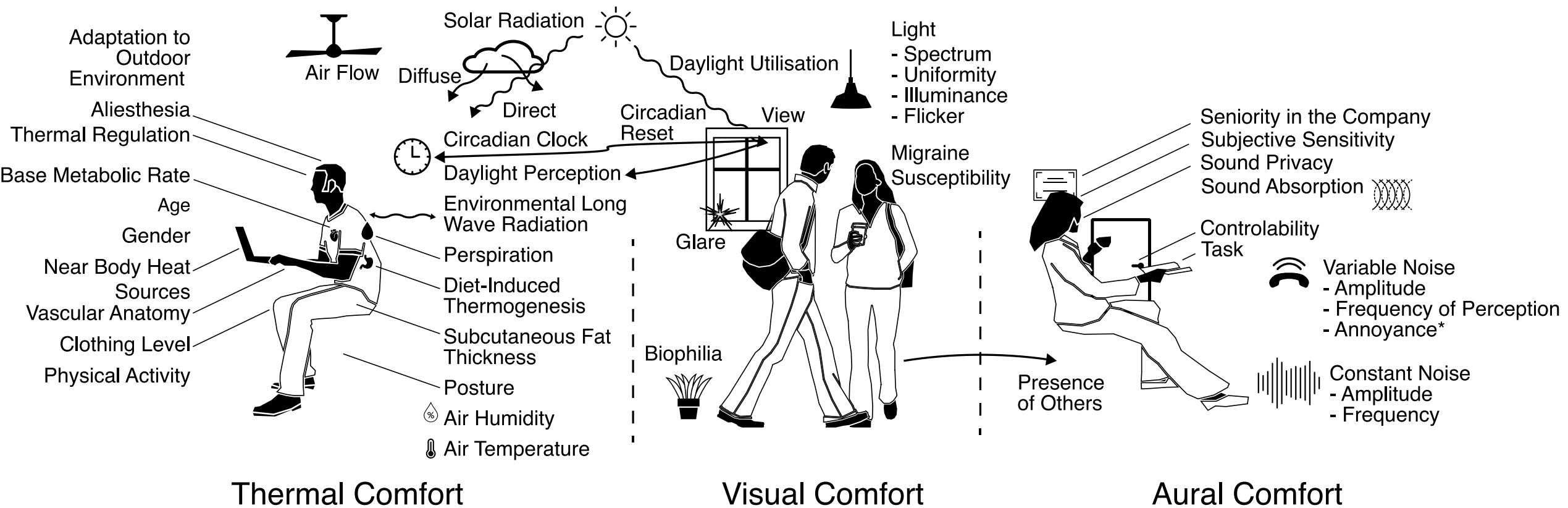
How do we understand what makes them feel satisfied/be productive in their indoor environment?

How does this impact the Net-Zero Energy Paradigm?



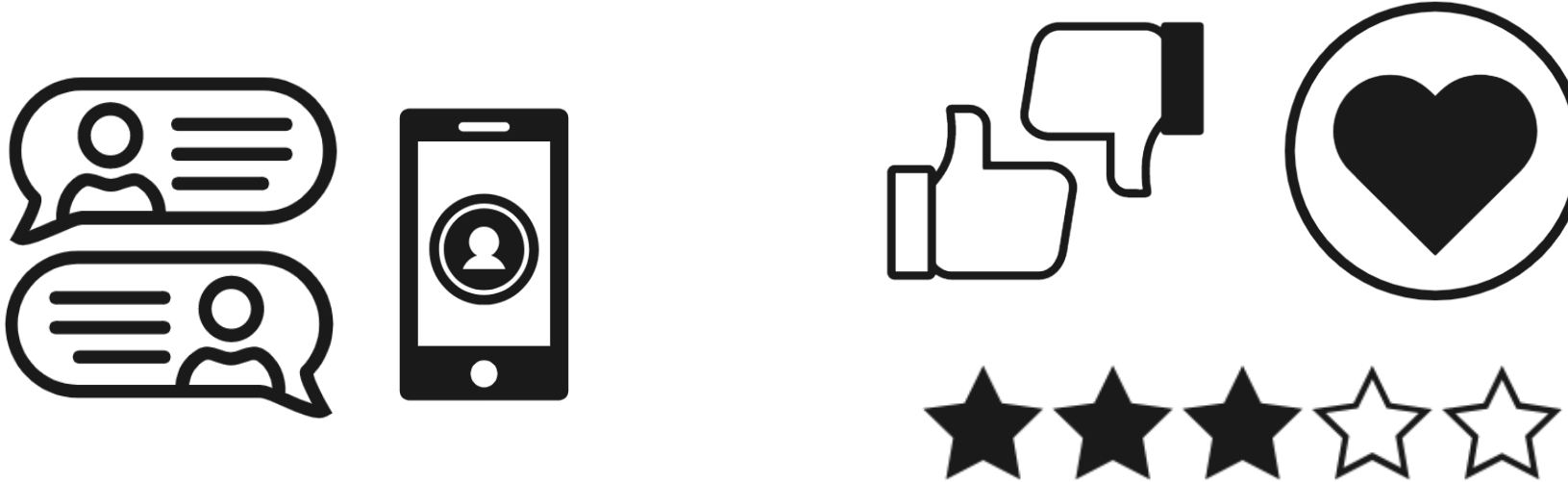
There are so many factors to consider...

Can we create effective ways to measure or infer all of these environment, physiological, psychological, and behavioral attributes?



Digitization of human perception in a scalable way!

Social media companies capture human perception using innovation in the way they collect information:



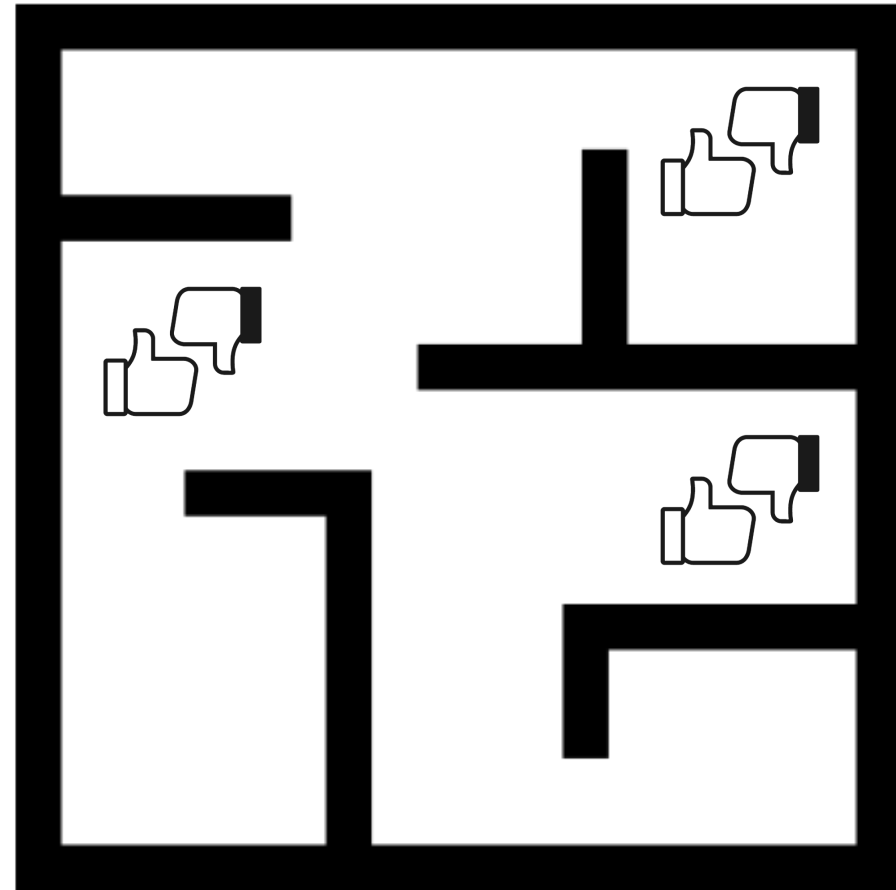
They create digital platforms
that provide value to users

And capture specific
preference feedback in that
context

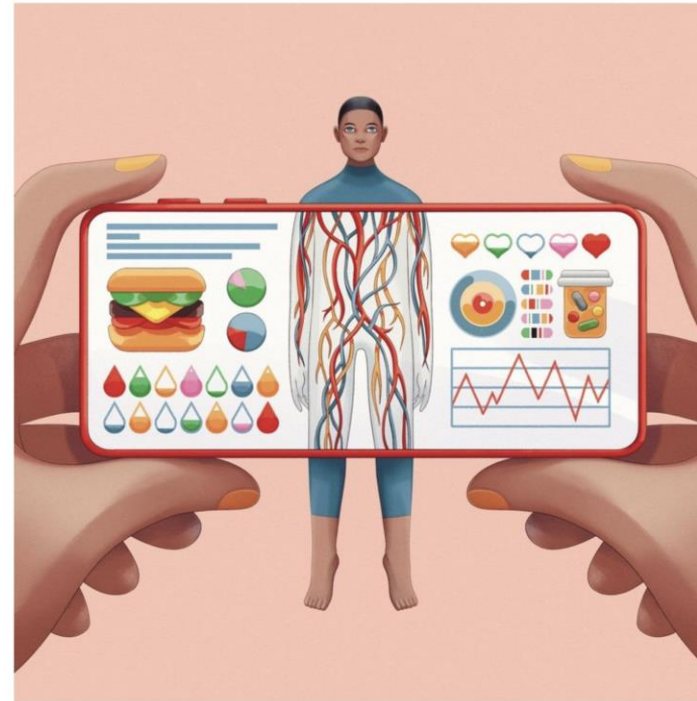
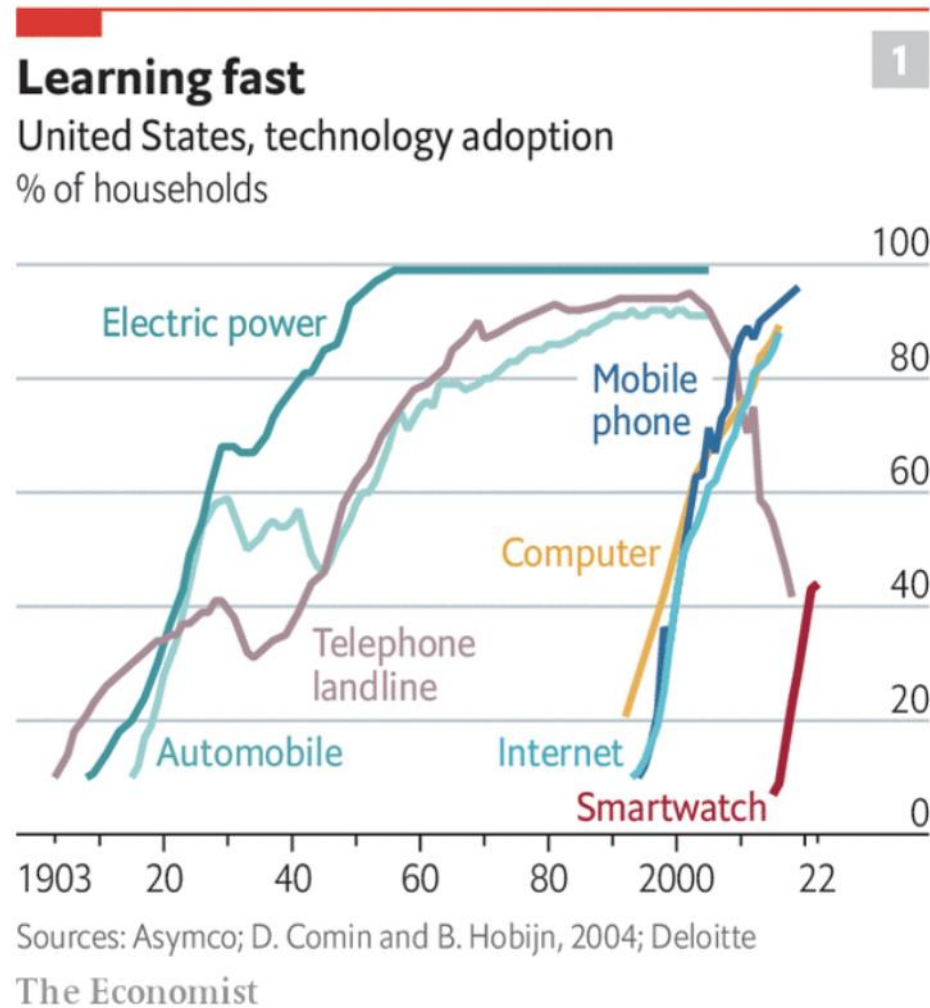
How do we make a *like button* for spaces and cities?

How do we get in-context preference data collection that is specific to objectives related to satisfaction with spaces?

The built environment has increased complexity due to the relevance of **temporal and spatial dimensions**



Growth of Quantified Self and Wearable Devices



Measuring up

The quantified self


TECHNOLOGY QUARTERLY - MAY 7TH 2022

Wearable fitness trackers and smartwatches are connecting health care to daily life, says Slavea Chankova

- The quantified self: Wearable devices are connecting health care to daily life
- One ring to rule them all: Wearable devices measure a growing array of health indicators
- Killer apps, saving lives: Apps interpreting data from wearable devices are helping people to live better
- Digital therapeutics: Some health apps are able not just to diagnose diseases, but also to treat them
- The pulse of the people: Data from wearable devices are changing disease surveillance and medical research
- Sources and acknowledgments

“In America smartwatches are catching on as fast as did early mobile phones. In 2021 about one in four Americans was estimated to own a smartwatch or fitness tracker.”

Cozie Platform: Collecting Occupant Data at Scale in the Built Environment



Cozie An iOS application for IEQ and physiological data collection


Allows building occupants to provide feedback in real time

[Coming soon!](#) [Contact us](#) [Become a tester](#)

Introducing cozie

A Fitbit platform for human comfort data collection

[Fitbit Gallery](#) [Source Code](#) [Documentation](#) [Cozie for iOS](#)



<https://cozie-apple.app/>

<https://cozie.app/>

- Leverage smart watch and phone occupant interaction quickly and easily to characterize built environments
- ***Open-source***, scalable and available for FitBit and Apple Watch
- **Collaboration with UC Berkeley SinBerBest2/CBE**

Micro-survey (EMA) Watch-based Question Flows



Jayathissa P, Quintana M, Abdelrahman M, Miller C. Humans-as-a-Sensor for Buildings—Intensive Longitudinal Indoor Comfort Models. *Buildings*. 2020;10: 174. <https://doi.org/10.3390/buildings10100174>

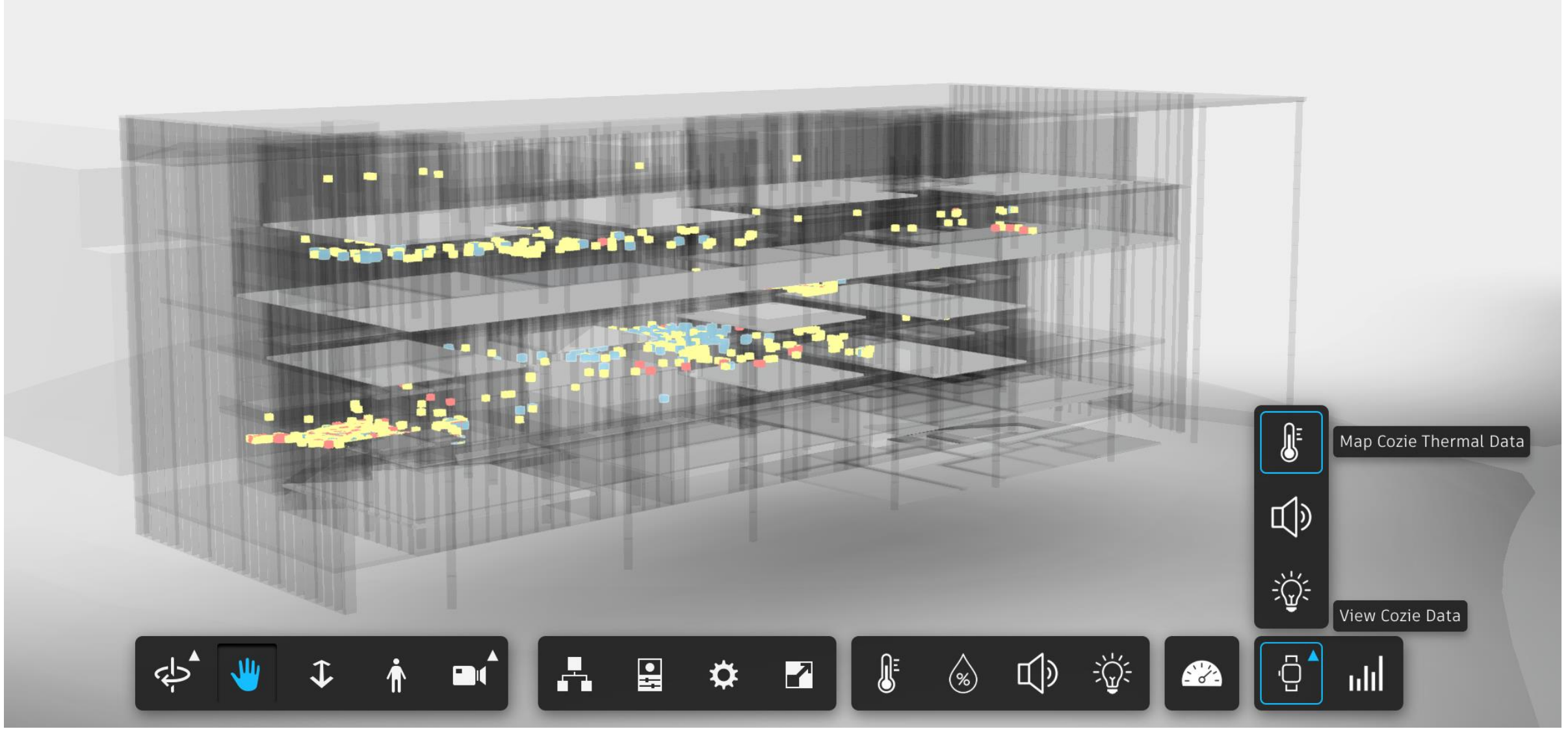
Jayathissa, P., Quintana, M., Sood, T., Nazarian, N., & Miller, C. (2019). Is your clock-face cozie? A smartwatch methodology for the in-situ collection of occupant comfort data. *Journal of Physics. Conference Series*, 1343(1), 012145.

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1742-6596/1343/1/012145>

Design and Environment

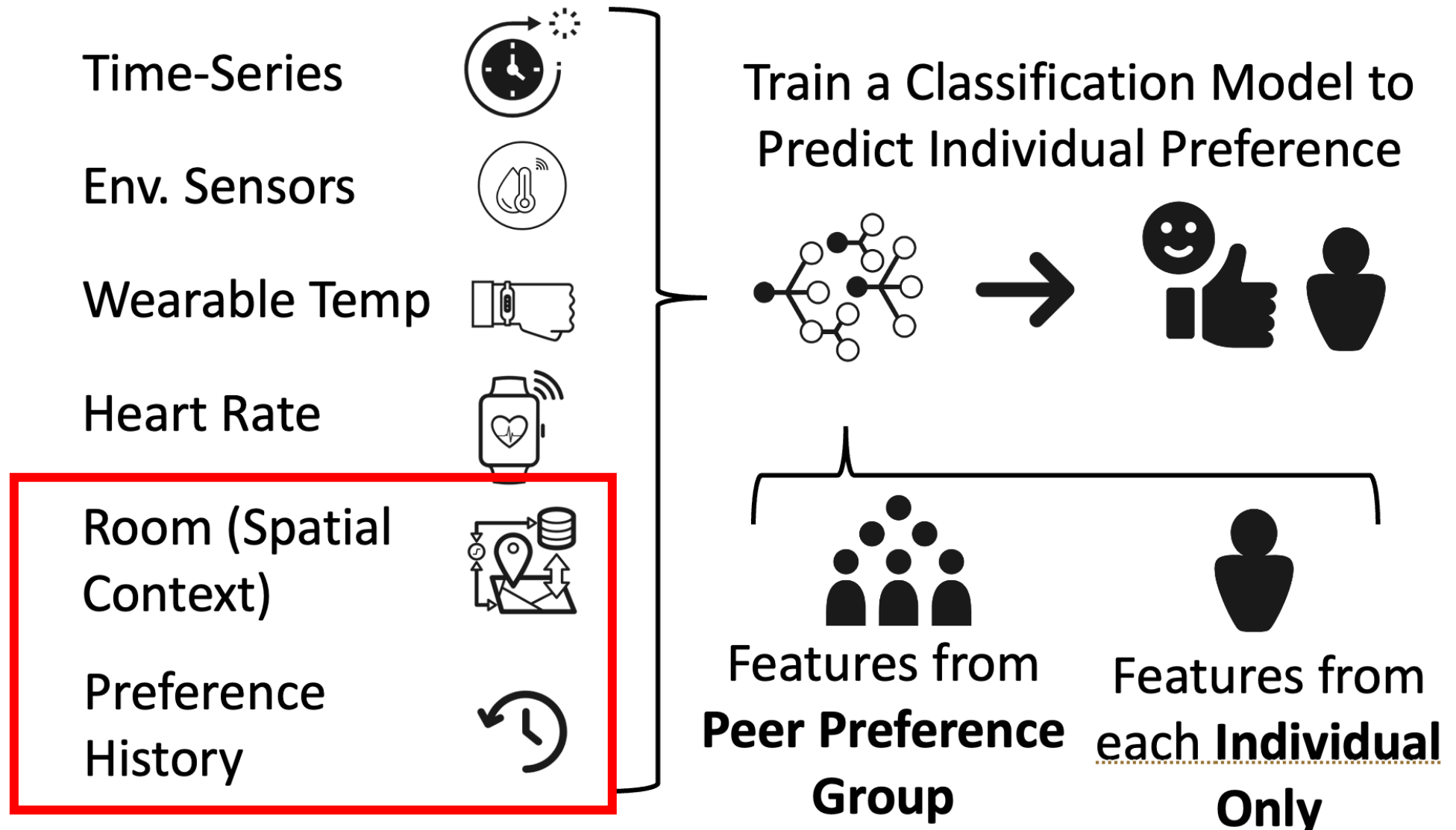


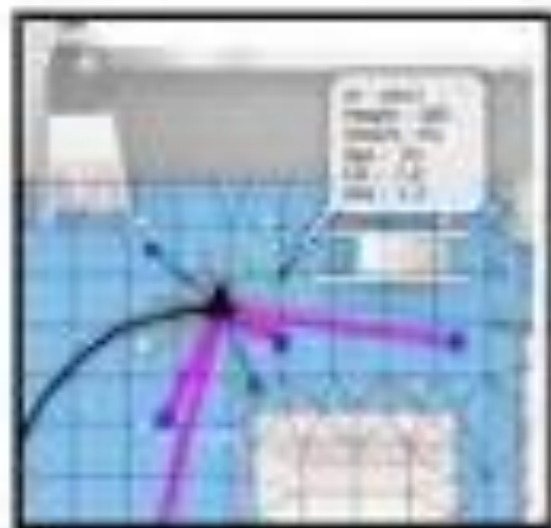
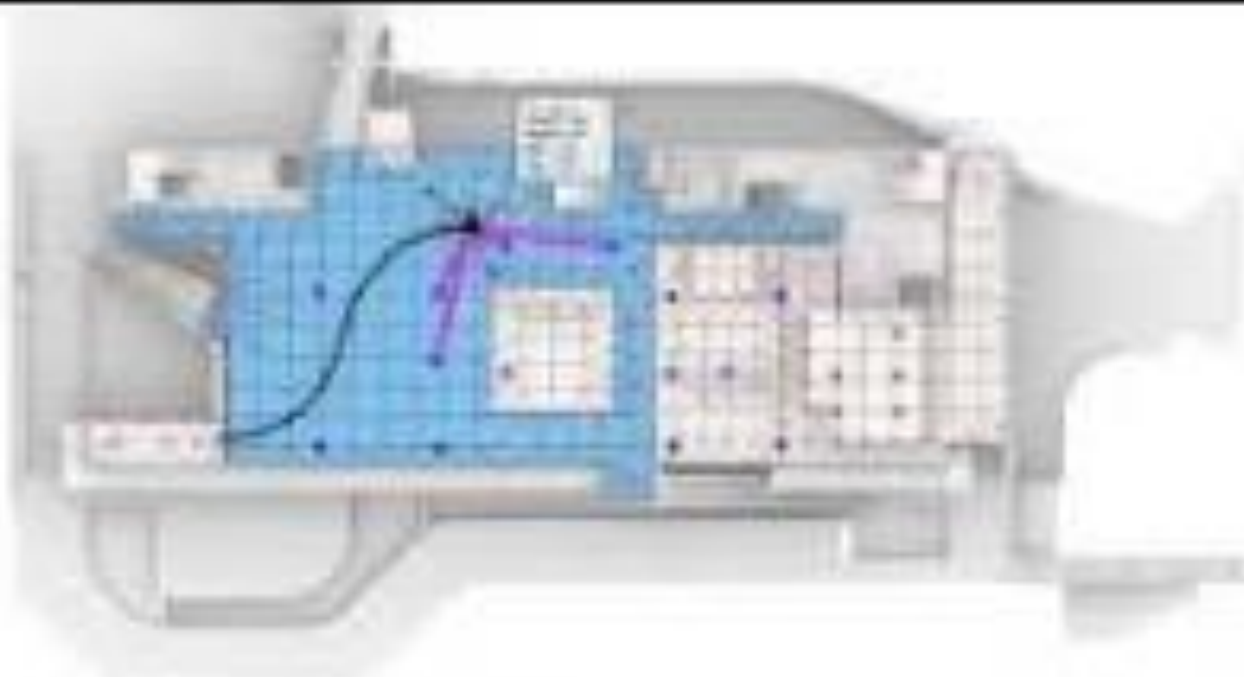
Scalable Field-based Data Collection



Building New Types of ML-driven Comfort Preference Prediction Models

Possible due to
Field-based
Longitudinal data





SDE4 - Level 3



11/11/2020 10:10



Thinking Beyond Thermal Comfort



Building's Impact
on Movement

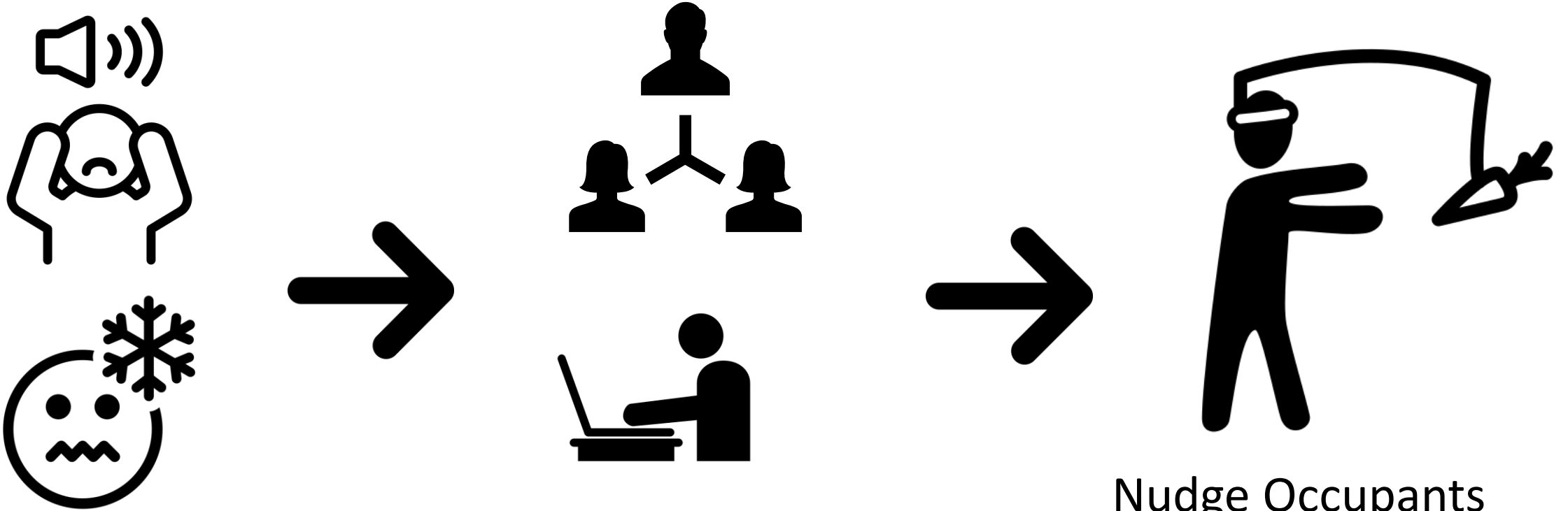


Noise, Distraction
and Privacy



Infection
Risk Perception

New Deployment on Noise Distraction and Thermal Comfort across Singapore

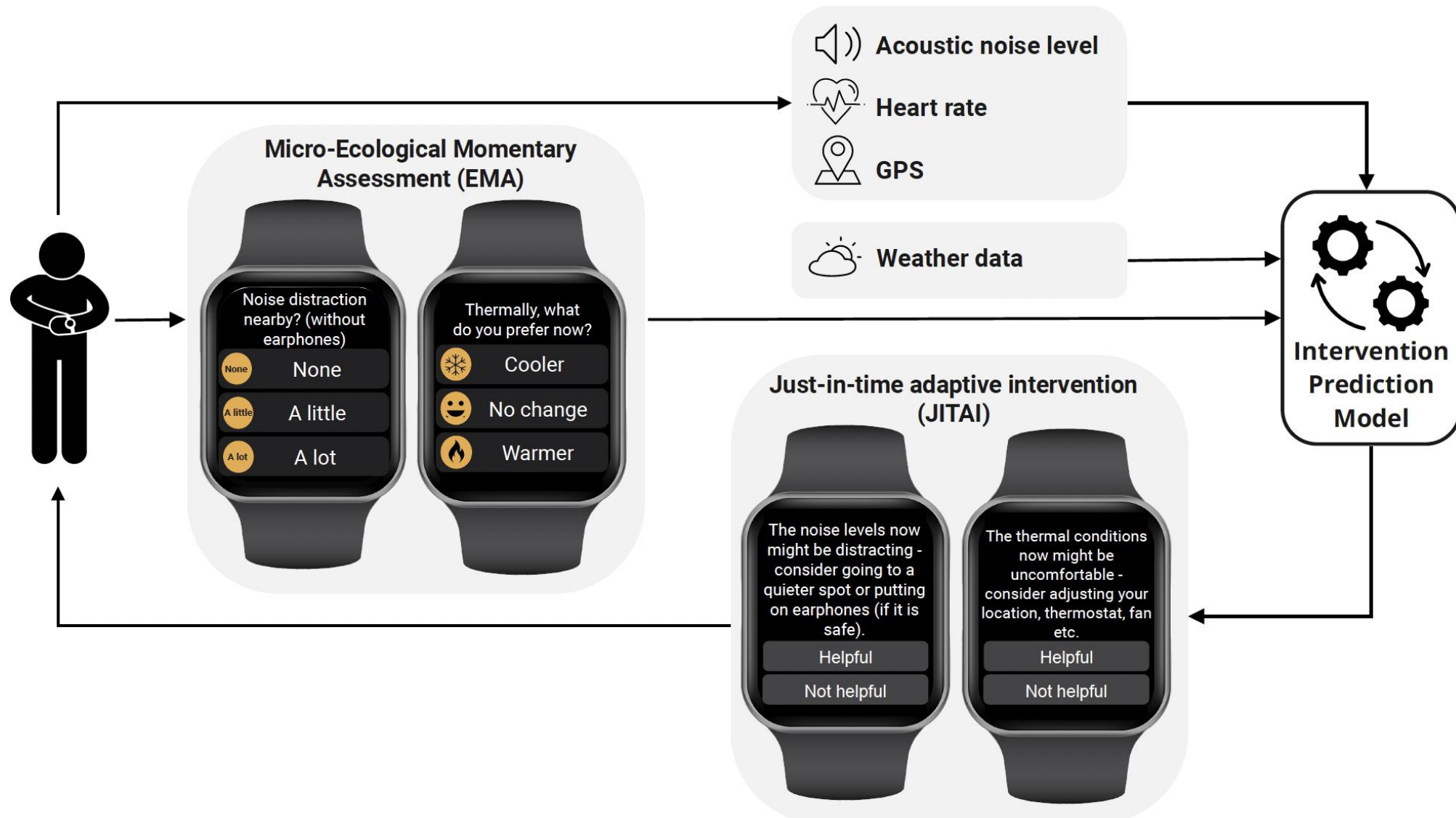


Detect and Learn
Occupants' Preferences

Understand
Context

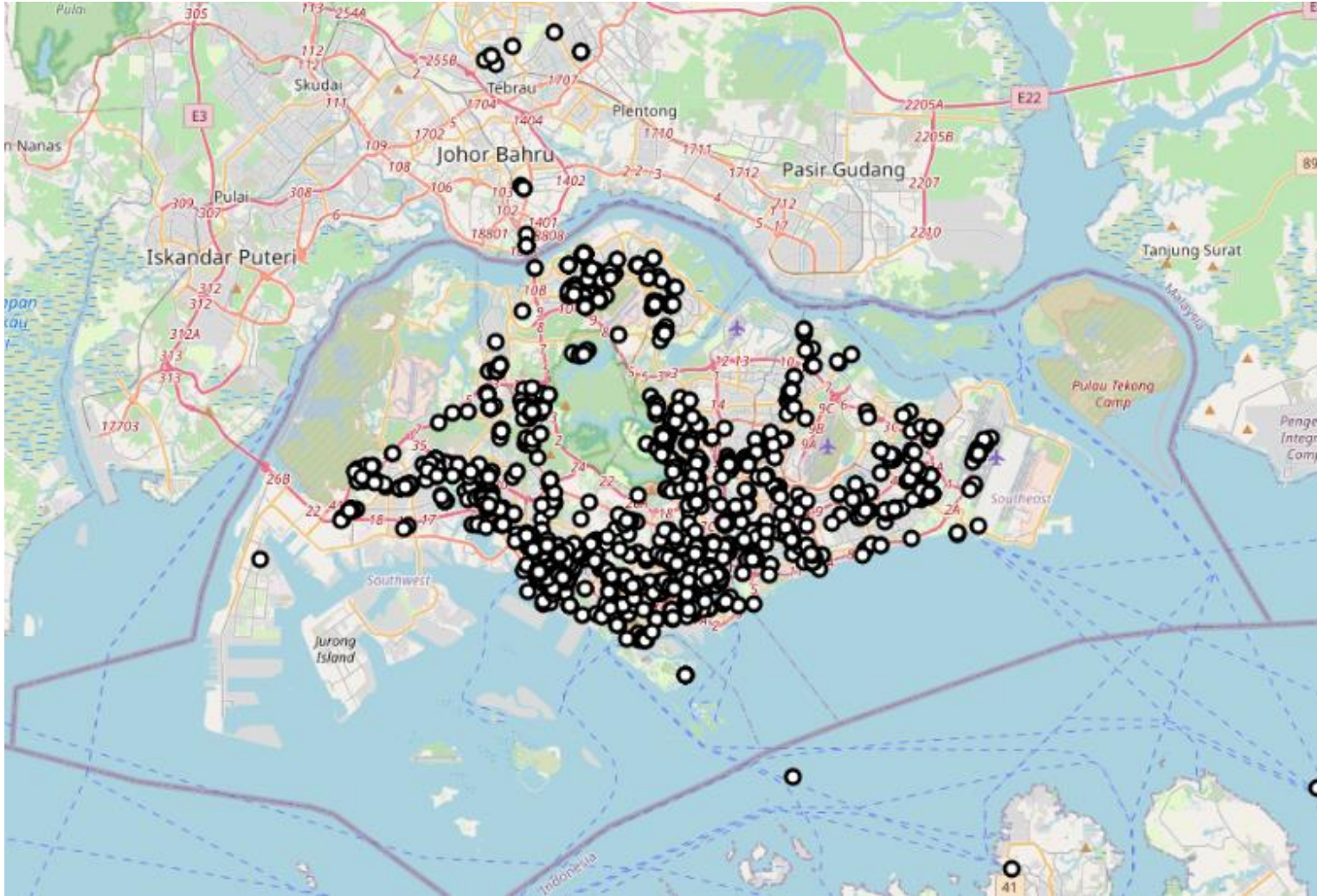
Nudge Occupants
to Improve their Situation
(Just-in-Time Adaptive
Interventions or JITAI)

Just-in-time Adaptive Intervention (JITAI) Messages for Buildings



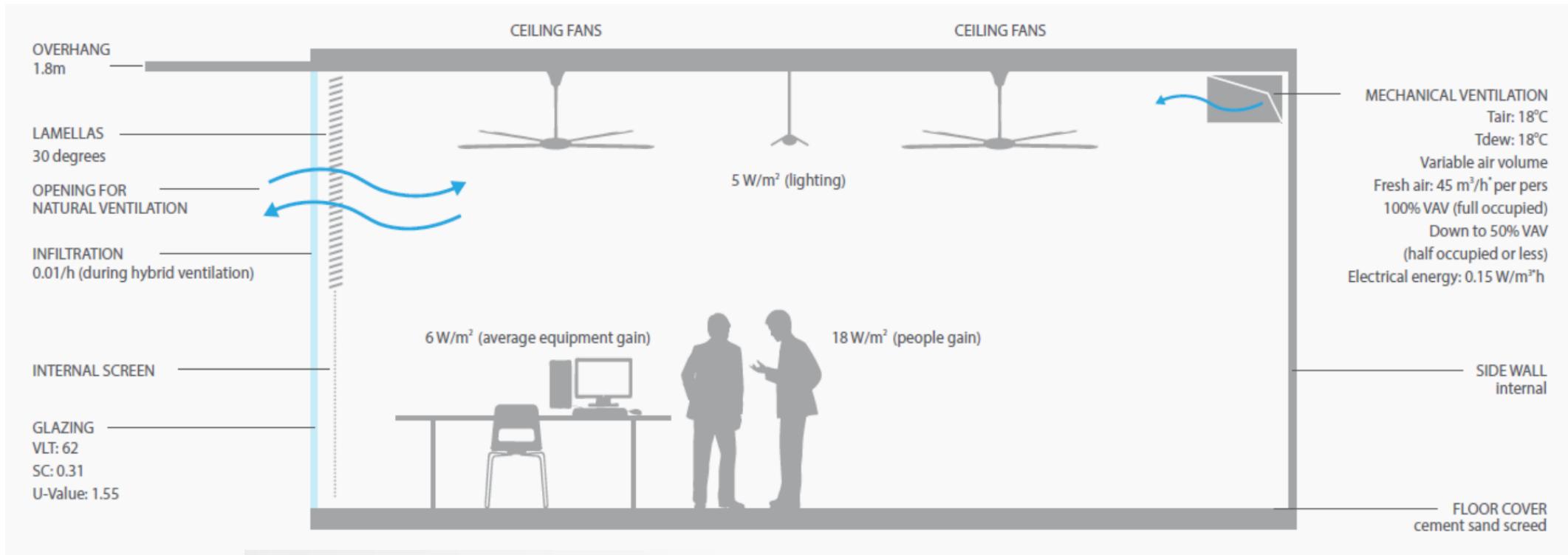
Miller, Clayton, et al. "Towards Smartwatch-Driven Just-in-Time Adaptive Interventions (JITAI) for Building Occupants." *The 9th ACM International Conference on Systems for Energy-Efficient Buildings, Cities, and Transportation*, November 9-10 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3563357.3566135>.

Scalability of Data Collection across Singapore



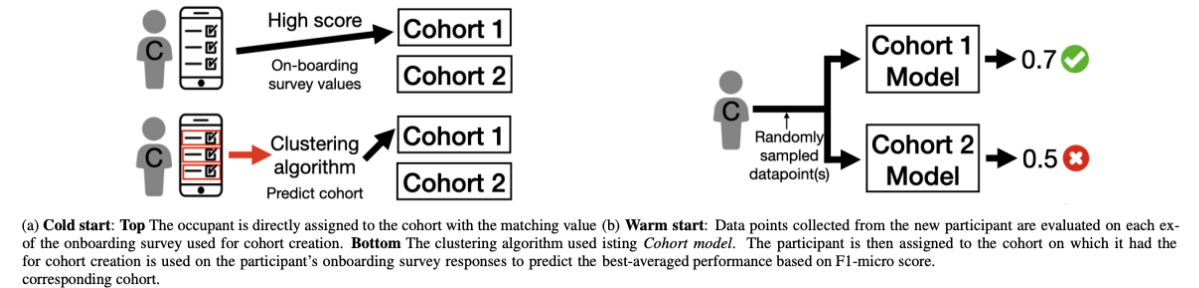
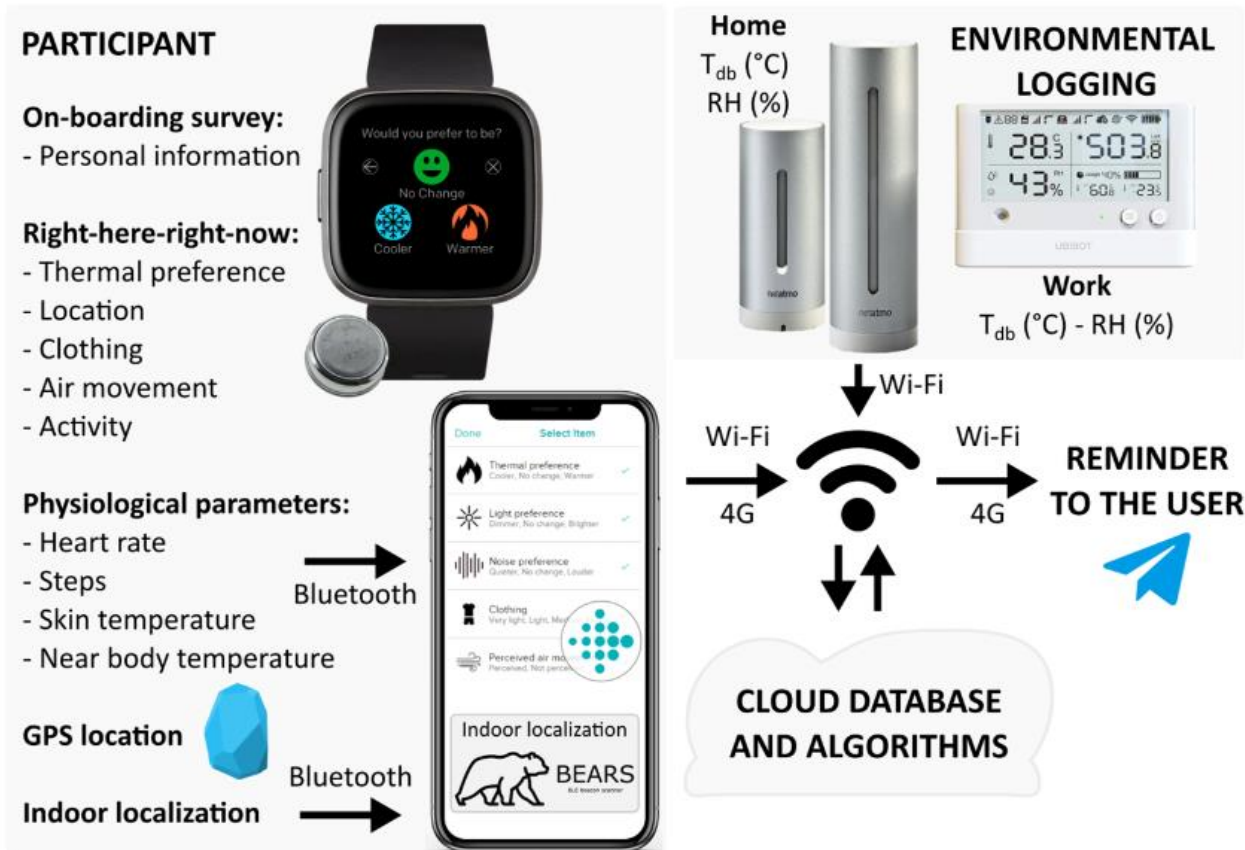
Miller, Clayton, et al. "Towards Smartwatch-Driven Just-in-Time Adaptive Interventions (JITAI) for Building Occupants." *The 9th ACM International Conference on Systems for Energy-Efficient Buildings, Cities, and Transportation*, November 9-10 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3563357.3566135>.

NUS Mixed Mode Ventilation – Using Fans in Commercial Buildings



Collab. with Dr.
Adrian Chong
(PI) at NUS

SinBerBEST2 Laboratory – NUS-Berkeley - Indoor Thermal Comfort ML

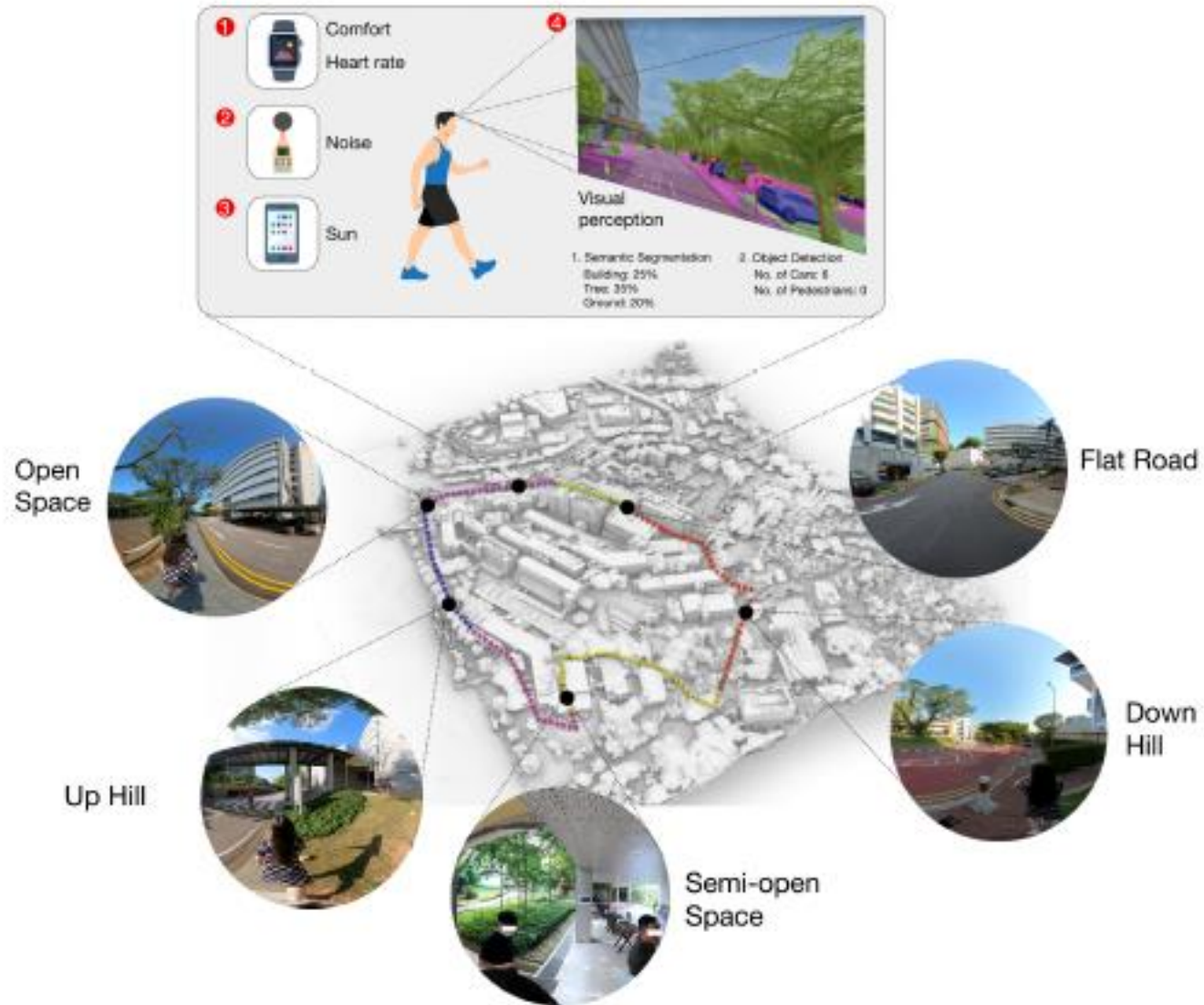


Collab. with Prof.
Stefano Schiavon
(PI) from UCB

Tartarini, Federico, et al. "Personal Comfort Models Based on a 6-Month Experiment Using Environmental Parameters and Data from Wearables." *Indoor Air*, vol. 32, no. 11, Nov. 2022, p. e13160, <https://doi.org/10.1111/ina.13160>.

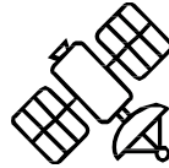
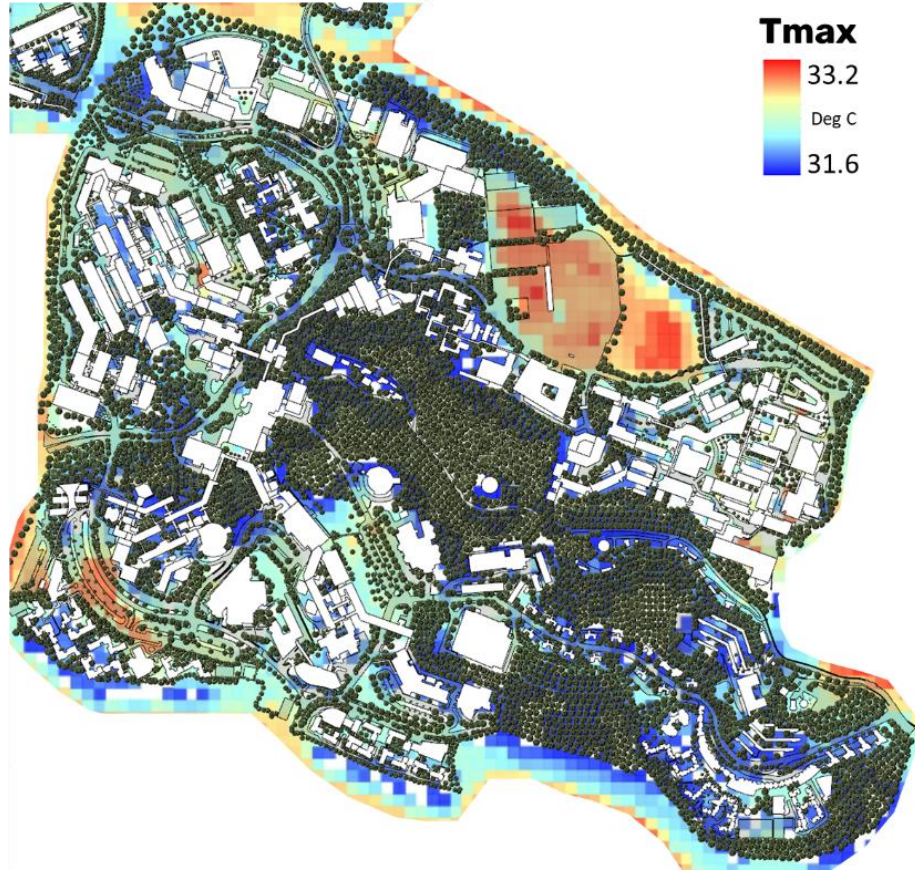
Quintana, Matias, et al. "Cohort Comfort Models — Using Occupant's Similarity to Predict Personal Thermal Preference with Less Data." *Building and Environment*, vol. 227, Jan. 2023, p. 109685, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2022.109685>.

NUS Digital Twin Project – Participatory Urban-Building-Human DT



Collab. with Dr. Filip Biljecki (PI) at NUS

NUS BEAM Project – Reducing Urban Heat Islands on Campus



Satellite imaging

- Surface temperature
- Vegetation
- Large scale coverage



Ground-based sensing

- Air Temperature
- Humidity
- Wind
- Rain
- Solar Radiation
- Pollution
- Ground based coverage



Infrared (IR) cameras

- Urban surface temperature
- Heat emitted by buildings
- Cooling effect of vegetation
- Bird's eye view coverage



Meteorological towers

- High resolution of ambient temperature and other weather parameters
- Building scale
- Façade heat exchange



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

- Capture the spatial complexities of urban land surfaces (sub-meter resolution)
- Air and surface temperature



Collab. with Prof. Wong Nyuk Hien (PI) at NUS

Future Resilient Systems Laboratory - NUS-ETH Zurich – Flex-based Working



Collab. with Prof.
Rudi Stouffs (PI)
from NUS

The Vision: Community-driven Scaled-up Data Collection and Sharing!



The dream is to collect **millions of data points** from *hundreds of thousands of people worldwide* to determine what makes people tick when it comes to satisfaction in buildings

Acknowledgements

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Download Slides:

<https://bit.ly/emak11-human-factors>