

Sustainable ventilation strategies in buildings: CFD research

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Highlights

- Sustainable ventilation strategies are analysed for school buildings
- Air change rate can be enhanced 40% via stack ventilation.
- Stack ventilation also provides promising decrease in indoor air temperature.
- CO₂ concentration in sustainably ventilated dorms is 800 ppm at 6:30am.
- CO₂ concentration in ordinary dorms is 1800 ppm, which is undesired.

ABSTRACT

Developing technology and architectural design techniques have affected the field of architecture to a great extent. As a result, human comfort has become increasingly important in recent years. A natural ventilation cooling strategy which serves as the alternative to the air-conditioning system has been effectively employed in high-rise office buildings in western countries. This paper discusses the possibility of using natural ventilation strategy in school buildings. It evaluates some of the key issues associated with natural ventilation design and school buildings, including its the types, its working principles and limitations of passive ventilation, its effects and forms of natural ventilation when used in libraries, offices, auditoriums and dormitory buildings. This work also evaluates and how does the effects of architectural design on the passive ventilation such as orientation, depth of room, the atrium and solar chimney. Based on case studies on Queens building at De Montfort University, Liberty tower of Meiji University and simulation regarding ecological dormitory building in China. These three buildings have been selected to operate as simultaneously in different climatic and thermal comfort conditions. It is concluded that single-side ventilation and cross-ventilation can have good effect on cooling and improving air quality in school buildings with different functions as long as the height and

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26 depth of rooms are properly designed. Solar wall and solar chimney can also be employed to enhance
27 natural ventilation performance based on the principle of stack effect.

28

29 **Keywords:** Natural ventilation, school buildings, wind-driven ventilation, stack effect.

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31

32 **1. Introduction**

33 The achievements of environmental comfort are highly associated with the provision of fresh air and the
34 impact of harmful gases, heat and particles that scatter in every corner of the room [1]. Indoor
35 contaminants can be classified as follows: moisture, heat, chemical pollutions and other gaseous
36 substances. High relative humidity results from indoor human activities such as cooking and drying
37 [2,3]. Rooms get too warm due to the particular activities of occupants, the use of household appliances
38 and solar radiation. Besides, tobacco smoke has been considered as the most detrimental indoor chemical
39 contamination. Diverse volatile poisonous gases emitted from furniture, interior decoration, construction
40 materials and home appliances are also potential sources of pollution [4]. Apart from this, the existence
41 of carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO) and ozone (O₃) destruct the
42 indoor atmosphere as well. CO₂ is exhaled by users and accumulated in spaces with inadequate
43 ventilation, which leads to headache and reduction in work efficiency [5]. CO is basically generated by
44 smoking or incomplete combustion. The use of photocopying machines or laser printers inevitably leads
45 to the higher level of O₃ [6].

46

47 The annual utilization of fossil fuels occupies approximately 80% of global energy consumption [7] and
48 the building sector uses up to 40% of fossil fuel [8-12]. The environmental problems such as global
49 warming and urban heat island effect remind the significance of energy conservation and environment
50 protection [13,14]. Heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems constitute a significant
51 part of energy consumed in buildings [15]. Ventilation demand in dwellings has a remarkably rising
52 trend as a consequence of enhanced comfort conditions of residents [16]. Although mechanically
53 ventilated systems are widely used in buildings for achieving thermal comfort through a conventional
54 way, the overuse of these systems results in excessive energy consumption and air-conditioning
55 syndrome [17]. As for architects, some promising passive cooling strategies are developed and utilised
56 in contemporary constructions especially over the last two decades [18-22].

57

58 Nocturnal radiation cooling that uses the sky as a heat sink has convincing performance in controlling
59 the indoor environment in dry regions with obvious diurnal temperature range [23]. High emissive paints
60 help to reduce the indoor temperature below surrounding environment. When the surface temperature
61 of envelope is lower than the environment, the convective heat transfer effects are weakened. The
62 experimental research conducted by Lee et al. [24] reflects that building in Hong Kong (humid and hot

63 region) save 12% energy in cooling demand compared with 77% energy saving in Lanzhou and 62% in
64 Urumqi (semi-arid region). It is also pointed out that the floor of the building is required to be restricted
65 since the cooling demand dramatically rises with the increasing of occupants. Besides, the comparatively
66 large roof is needed for radiator installation and the working period of the whole system is constrained
67 within 11 hours per day. Geothermal cooling regards the earth as a heat sink. Bharadwaj and Bansal [25]
68 report that the earth temperature fluctuation reduces with depth and eventually disappears at the depth
69 of 4 metres, the earth temperature below 4 metres is stable for the annual variations. This technology
70 can be employed to achieve annual thermal comfort by using earth shelter or earth tunnel cooling. The
71 simulation on earth shelter cooling carried out by Anselm [26] reveals that the indoor air can be warmed
72 up by warmer soil in winter and chilled by cooler soil in summer.

73

74 Besides, earth-tube heat exchangers also play a key role in avoiding overheating in summer and
75 overcooling in winter, according to the experimental study by Sharan and Jadhav [27]. However,
76 potential limitations can also be easily identified when geothermal cooling strategies are used in school
77 buildings. In earth sheltering, a part or the whole building is buried underground, which causes problems
78 like moisture penetration, mould formation, poor ventilation and high external load. As for earth tunnel
79 cooling, in regions where cooling load is high, the earth temperature near pipes increases, and affects
80 the performance of the whole system. Other relevant parameters influencing the system performance
81 can be reported as depth, length and size of pipe, air inlet temperature, velocity and thermal conductivity
82 of soil. Apart from cooling by using a natural heat sink, thermal insulation achieves comfort by reducing
83 heat transfer. Despite the fact that thermally insulated materials have good performance in flame
84 retardation and efficiently decreasing the structural temperature fluctuation, noise and operation cost,
85 the volume of insulation material is large, and the emission from materials in fire accident is detrimental
86 [28].

87

88 Based on the literature review, a number of problems are identified as possibly being associated with
89 those passive cooling strategies if they are used in school buildings. Firstly, the performance of these
90 systems fluctuates dynamically in different times and seasons. Secondly, despite the fact that they are
91 environmentally friendly and have cooling effects, moisture and gaseous contaminants removal abilities
92 of these systems are not good enough. Thirdly, the strategies maintained above would be highly
93 dependent on the environmental conditions, site characteristics and building types. Under these
94 circumstances, natural ventilation design would be a better choice for school buildings than systems
95 above, which successfully mitigates noise and provides a healthier and comfortable environment for
96 staffs and students, therefore enhancing their productivity. Research conducted by Loftness et al. [29]
97 on naturally ventilated buildings reports an annual productivity improvement of 3-18% in office
98 buildings. Besides, the employment of natural ventilation reduces energy consumption, maintenance
99 and working costs of mechanical equipment and spaces for equipment installation. Apart from this,

100 particular airflow can be provided by natural ventilation design to keep the pollution level below
101 maximum permitted concentration level as shown in Figure 1 [30]. This paper aims to evaluate of using
102 natural ventilation in school buildings with regard to its working principles and limitations of passive
103 ventilation, its effects and forms of natural ventilation. For this purpose, computational fluid dynamics
104 (CFD) method is preferred as analysis strategy to investigate examine whether the ventilation vents help
105 to induce effective cross ventilation. The architectural methodology section includes the effectiveness
106 and forms of natural ventilation strategies used in Queens building at De Montfort University, Liberty
107 Tower of Meiji University, and discuss how the architectural components such as solar chimney and
108 ventilation ducts affect the effectiveness of passive ventilation based on simulation about sustainable
109 dormitory building in Jinan, China. The conclusion section analyses the types, working principles and
110 limitations of natural ventilation strategies being possibly used in school buildings.

111

112 As can be seen in Figure 2 [31], the amount of energy used in space cooling constitutes an important
113 part of the total energy consumed in both residential and commercial buildings. As an innovative aspect
114 of our study, we can say that the amount of energy used for space cooling can be decreased by using
115 natural ventilation instead of mechanical ventilation in buildings.

116

117 **2. Research methodology**

118 Comfort describes the degree to which occupants can more concentrate and avoid being disturbed or
119 influenced by noise, odour, overheating and overcooling indoor atmosphere. There are several necessary
120 characteristics and requirements for sustainable school buildings in terms of optimum comfort level.
121 The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standard
122 55-2004 points out that comfort is the condition of spaces in school buildings which can be accepted by
123 80% of users. People with different ages have different tolerances, under this circumstance, the condition
124 of spaces needs to be generally understood by students, maintenance and operation staff [1]. Potential
125 factors affecting the comfort in school buildings are considered as relative humidity, temperature,
126 airflow velocity, noise, odour and CO₂. Considering the fact that majority passive systems merely
127 emphasize on cooling effect, but neglect the consequences generated by indoor stale air to a great extent,
128 natural ventilation strategies might serve as a more reliable and promising solution to achieve thermal
129 comfort in school buildings.

130

131 **3. Case studies**

132 **3.1. Liberty Tower of Meiji University**

133 **3.1.1. Climatic conditions**

134 Liberty Tower of Meiji University is located in Tokyo, Japan, with the climates being characterised by
135 hot, humid summers and mild winters with the rare snowy weather. The daytime temperature typically
136 reaches 30 °C during the summer seasons which reduce to 23 °C at night. Winters are a lack of snow

137 and generally warm, fluctuating around 10 °C at daytime with a night-time low of 3 °C. January is
138 depicted as the coolest month while June and September are characterised as rainy and typhoon seasons
139 respectively with excessive humidity [32]. Detailed climatic features of Tokyo are illustrated in [Figure](#)
140 [3](#) [33].

141

142

143 [3.1.2. General background and design details](#)

144 The tower is generally rectangular in plan, with four identical semi-circular structures at each corner of
145 the building which contain stairwells and service rooms. The wind floor (18th floor) with openings on
146 four sides effectively remove hot, waste air coming from escalator voids that located in the middle of
147 each floor and serve as vertical ‘wind core’ through the stack effect. Liberty tower and the working
148 principle of wind voids are illustrated in [Figure 4](#).

149

150 [3.1.3. Natural ventilation strategies considered in Liberty Tower](#)

151 Wind pressure and stack effect are all employed in natural ventilation strategy to drive air in and out of
152 the Liberty Tower. The typical plan showing stack ventilation and the wind floor plan with cross
153 ventilation are shown in [Figure 5](#). The automatically controllable vent is installed on the base of each
154 single glazing unit that used in all the lecture rooms that located on the southeast facade and classrooms
155 on both sides. In this situation, this ventilation design does not have the necessity of opening windows
156 so as to minimize the noise disturbance from surrounding environments and simultaneously guarantee
157 the entry of fresh air even when the blinds are closed and multimedia projectors are used.

158

159 The fresh air that enters through openings of single-glazing, passes through lecture and classroom spaces
160 and eventually be exhausted from dust returns on the ceiling to wind voids where the central escalator
161 is. Space for escalator functions as a vertical path for waste, hot air in lecture rooms according to the
162 principle of buoyancy effect. The air ascends and eventually extracted from wind floor (18th floor)
163 owing to the fact that the hot currents flow upwards. The wind floor supplies the uplift for air that
164 exhausted from wind voids and horizontally induces the entry of fresh air through the vents of windows
165 on perimeters. The wind floor opens to external environments in four directions, which provides four
166 wind paths and guarantees the stable airflow of wind floor in different seasons with the changeable
167 prevailing wind. In the wind floor, three V-shaped glass screens that considered as wind fences surround
168 the wind cores and effectively prevent the waste air coming from wind void from being interrupted by
169 new air. A graduate school that is located between floors 19-23 are connected by an atrium near
170 elevators. The air coming from each floor is induced and exhausted from vents in the upper section.
171 Ventilation vents and the typical classroom with exhausting vents mounted on ceiling are depicted in
172 [Figure 6](#). The effects and working principles are similar to those of wind voids mentioned.

173

174 3.1.4. Secondary data description

175 The CFD simulation is conducted to examine the effectiveness of natural ventilation affected by diverse
176 architectural components. The simulation about airflow in wind floor reveals that fresh air entering
177 through openings flows at a steady rate everywhere without significant reduction except for the location
178 of obstacles as ‘wind fence’. The simulation also reflects that air change rate in lecture and classroom
179 spaces increases by approximately 40%, which demonstrates that wind floor and wind voids play
180 essential roles in inducing air from windows on the perimeters. Apart from simulation, an experimental
181 analysis is also employed in Liberty Tower to check the actual ventilation conditions when the building
182 is occupied. Indoor and outdoor temperature, humidity, airflow rate and energy consumption of
183 equipment are measured by 2000 sensors automatically for every 10 minutes.

184

185 The results reveal that the wind floor promotes the natural ventilation in occupied spaces, and is
186 generally in line with the results of CFD simulation. For instance, as it is shown in an experiment carried
187 out by Chang et al. [34], the air change rate in a north-facing room in 6th floor is enhanced from 0.5-0.7
188 per hour when the wind floor is closed to 4.6-5.5 per hour when it is occupied. However, rare exceptions
189 do exist in the tower, the rate of north-facing rooms in 11th floor decreases from 3.2 to 2.1-2.4 per hour,
190 which do not impact the overall performance of the whole building. Apart from the promotion of
191 ventilation, these strategies effectively reduce cooling energy consumption by 40% in April, 62% in
192 November and 55% in July. The sustainable building annually saves 55% cooling and heating energy
193 compared with typical Japanese buildings that mechanically ventilated by air-conditioning systems. The
194 view of the exhaust openings at the top of the escalator void on the wind floor is given in Figure 7. One
195 of the three wind fences in the foreground protects the openings from cross winds in the wind floor [35].

196

197 3.2. Queens building at De Montfort University

198 3.2.1. Climatic conditions

199 In Leicester, the summers are short, partly cloudy and comfortable, and the winters are long, windy,
200 very cold and mostly cloudy. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 1.7 to
201 21.1 °C and is rarely below -3.3 °C or above 26.7 °C. The cool season usually lasts four months, from
202 November to March, with an average daily high temperature below 9.4 °C. The coldest day of the year
203 is seen in February, with an average low of 1.7 °C and high of 6.7 °C [36].

204

205 3.2.2. General background and design details

206 The east part of Queens Building is an electrical laboratory, which is composed of main entrance atrium
207 surrounded by two four-storey buildings that house the computer laboratories of electrical engineering
208 department with high heat gain emission. The floor plan is narrow as approximately 6 metres, which
209 suggests that the building can achieve cross-ventilation if openings of both windward and leeward
210 facades are large enough. The west part of Queens Building is a mechanical laboratory. The major part

211 of the building is a double-height mechanical hall with controlling rooms on both sides. Some smaller-
212 sized rooms situated on the ground and first floor adjacent to the mechanical hall is employed for
213 particular mechanically engineering use. Two air-handling units are installed to promote ventilation
214 because of the special properties of the rooms. The central part is the most significant space of the
215 building reflecting the effectiveness of natural ventilation strategies. In the north part, two lecture rooms
216 are situated below double-height 150 seated auditoriums on the first floor, the second-floor functions as
217 drawing room mainly for utilizing top and northern light. Classrooms are located on the ground floor of
218 the south part below the double-height comprehensive laboratory in the first and second floor, staff-
219 rooms are settled on the third floor. The two parts are separated by full height and top lighting atrium
220 with an air corridor connecting the north-facing drawing room and the south-facing staff-rooms. The
221 external view of the Queens Building and the section perspective of the central building are shown in
222 [Figure 8](#).

223

224 [3.2.3. Natural ventilation strategies considered in Queens Building](#)

225 Owing to their narrow plan, the electrical laboratories can achieve the effective cross ventilation by
226 manually opening windows on windward and leeward side. The classrooms on the ground floor and the
227 comprehensive laboratory on the first floor of the central building which opens to the external
228 environment on one facade are all cross-ventilated. The fresh air enters through external windows and
229 exhausts through stacks or skylights. As for the natural ventilation design of auditorium, the central
230 problem lies in the fact that occupants need to be prepared for the most natural environment with the
231 apparent increase of temperature in summer and noise interference generated by traffic. In this situation,
232 it is difficult to meet the thermal and acoustic environment standards in those rooms supported by air-
233 conditioning.

234

235 The section shows how natural ventilation operates in Queens Building. Fresh air enters through
236 openings on the street facade, passing through motorized volume control dampers and an acoustically
237 lined plenum, eventually being distributed by voids suspending under the seats. Coming out from finned
238 heating tubes under seats, the air passes through a grille made of aluminium mesh. Importantly, there
239 are no air filters along the air path not to cause disturbance and interruption for fresh air. After being
240 heated by occupants, lighting and equipment in the auditorium, the hot, waste air is ultimately exhausted
241 from automatic windows at the top of stacks with a slight overhanging at the top that prevents rainwater
242 from entering.

243

244 [3.2.4. Secondary data description](#)

245 Indoor thermal testing involves salt water modelling and computer modelling. In saltwater modelling,
246 when the organic glass model of the auditorium is constructed and submerged into water, dyed salt
247 solution injected into the model and the resultant water flow patterns are recorded and analysed. The

248 density of salt solution represents the heat gain of interior spaces. However, the major shortcoming lies
249 in the fact that organic glass modelling fails to consider the thermal inertia of building materials. Besides,
250 De Montfort University also employs computer simulation for performance assessment. In the
251 simulation, 10 litres fresh air per person per second is prepared within the scope of odour control for a
252 particular external day with a temperature of 25 °C maximum, 13 °C minimum and 19 °C average. The
253 result of the simulation is comparatively conservative as it merely takes temperature difference into
254 consideration without wind pressure, which reflects that the indoor temperature will not exceed the
255 outdoor environment by 4-5 °C.

256

257 Building management system (BMS) records the temperature data by sensors. The results reflect that
258 the indoor temperature enhances slowly with increasing of external temperature and is approximately 8
259 °C less during the external peak, which is significantly better than the results of simulation and
260 calculation. Besides, when the dampers are open, the internal environment is warmed by less than 1°C
261 in three hours and remains comparatively cool during the external peak [37].

262

263 3.3. Sustainable dormitory building

264 3.3.1. Climatic conditions

265

266 The sustainable dormitory building is located in Jinan, Shandong province, China. It is a place where
267 has a temperate and monsoonal climate with four clearly distinct seasons. The temperature in Jinan
268 reaches minus 5-10 °C in winter and 35-39 °C in summer.

269

270 3.3.2. General background and design details

271 The plan of ecological dormitory building with east-west orientation is similar with that of common
272 dormitory buildings in university, which makes it easier to analyse and compare the technical parameters
273 and ventilation performance between different buildings so as to show the strength of natural ventilation.
274 All toilets of north-facing and south-facing dorms in common dormitory buildings attach to external
275 walls and exchange the air by opening windows in closed balconies, however, the layout obviously
276 decreases the size of external windows and affects the effectiveness of daylighting and natural
277 ventilation. The sustainable dormitory building with 3D view is illustrated in [Figure 9](#).

278

279 In the ecological building, firstly, the bathrooms of south-facing rooms are moved to the north and
280 adjacent to the central corridor in order to promote the ventilation and daylighting. In this situation,
281 bedrooms and study areas receive more natural light and wind when the sizes of external windows
282 become larger. Secondly, 0.9×0.9 m ventilation vents are installed above the doors of all dorm units,
283 which provide the cross ventilation and natural cooling effects in spring, summer and autumn. Thirdly,
284 the solar chimney, which is made of dark-coloured metal construction material and connects with a

285 central corridor, is employed to promote ventilation based on buoyancy effect. The air in the chimney
286 is heated and eventually extracted through vents at the top when the metal material is exposed to the
287 sun. When the external windows of south-facing and north-facing dorms are open, air passes through
288 vents and central corridor, enters and exhausts through the solar chimney. In the daytime, the fixed
289 windows on the western wall of solar chimney help to guarantee the daylighting of the corridor. In the
290 evening, fresh air coming from the external environment enters and cools the main structure when the
291 windows are open. The layouts of ordinary and sustainable dormitory are shown in [Figure 10](#) whereas
292 the section views are given in [Figure 11](#). The solar chimney considered with the working principle is
293 illustrated in [Figure 12](#).

294

295 3.3.3. CFD simulation results

296 CFD simulation is used to respectively check the effectiveness of solar chimney in the promotion of
297 stack ventilation, and examine whether the ventilation vents help to induce effective cross ventilation.
298 Permanent opening vents of the windows in external walls with the heights of 0.5 metre are situated 0.5
299 metres above the floors from the ground floor to the fifth floor, while the same-sized openings in internal
300 walls are situated 0.5 metres below the ceilings. Besides, the ceilings and glazings of each floor are 0.3
301 m and 0.1 m thick, respectively. The solar chimney extends the roof for 5.5 metres with a slightly
302 overhanging that used to prevent the rainwater entering. The external temperature in CFD simulation is
303 considered to be 23 °C during the daytime. Equivalent internal heat gains for convective heat transfer
304 on the floors of the dorms are 40 W//m² and solar heat gain on the inside surface of the solar chimney is
305 44 W/m², respectively. Considering the restriction of computer software (CFD simulation) and computer
306 laboratory, a three-storey model with stacks is developed in CFD to represent the dormitory building
307 although the ecological dormitory is a six-storey building.

308

309 The contours of static temperature and the velocity vectors in stack ventilation from the CFD analysis
310 are illustrated in [Figure 13](#). The static temperature of interior spaces for dorms decreases from 36 °C in
311 floors to 22 °C in ceilings, which is comparatively cooler than space in the solar chimney since the direct
312 sunlight heats its dark-coloured metal external wall. The temperature of the air near openings in both
313 external and internal walls is determined to be 25 °C, which is slightly warmer than average temperature
314 of air (23 °C). Besides, when the surrounding environment is involved, the air temperature in solar
315 chimney increases significantly from bottom to the top. The velocity distributions show that cool air that
316 enters the openings at a lower position of external walls is heated, rises and eventually goes back or
317 enter the solar chimney with the velocity of 0.489 m/s through the vents at a higher position. The heated
318 air in solar chimney rises and is exhausted through the openings at the top with the velocity 0.415 m/s
319 through the stack or buoyancy effect. It is reported in literature that the solar chimney operates as passive
320 cooling by promoting natural ventilation when the outdoor temperature is comparatively lower. In
321 tropical regions where the outdoor temperature is competitively higher, the solar chimney functions as

322 thermal insulation by decreasing heat absorption. However, when the wind-driven ventilation is taken
323 into consideration, the contradiction happens that the sinking wind with high velocity (0.707 m/s)
324 entering through the vents at the top of the solar chimney might disturb the extraction of climbing hot
325 air. Apart from this, conduction and radiation heat transfer are neglected in the simulation. In that case,
326 it is difficult to directly evaluate whether or not the effectiveness of buoyancy-driven ventilation
327 overweighs that of wind-driven ventilation in the solar chimney.

328 3.3.4. The effectiveness of wind-driven ventilation

329 According to the climate data, the velocity of the wind that 10 metres above the ground is 2.492 m/s.
330 and the exterior environment temperature is 23 °C. The result of simulation shows that the 0.9×0.9 m
331 ventilation vents installed on the internal walls are effective to induce cross ventilation. The wind
332 velocity of windows from ground floor to the second floor is 1.090 m/s, 1.011 m/s and 0.951 m/s
333 respectively, which can be altered changing the sizes of external windows or ventilation vents. By
334 employing this simple strategy, the dorms and central corridor are better ventilated as long as the
335 windows on external walls of windward side and leeward side are open, even though without the help
336 of stack effect generated by the solar chimney. The contours of static temperature and the velocity
337 vectors in cross ventilation from the CFD analysis are illustrated in Figure 14. The contours of static
338 temperature reflect that the cross ventilation also helps to effectively reduce indoor temperature,
339 especially the areas that adjacent to internal walls.

340
341 The concentrations of carbon dioxide in the normal dorm and ecological dorm are also investigated for
342 every three hours during the test period as shown in Figure 15. The recording of raw data reflects that
343 the concentration in ecological dorms is approximately one-third of that in normal dorms despite that
344 the changing patterns are essentially similar. Besides, the maximum concentration in ecological dorms
345 reaches 800 ppm at 6:30am, which is obviously lower than normal dorms (just over 1800 ppm). Under
346 this circumstance, the conclusion can be drawn that natural ventilation strategies used in ecological
347 dormitory building involving the new layout of rooms, ventilation vents, solar chimney have a good
348 effect in cooling, improving indoor air quality and eliminating harmful indoor gases.

349 350 4. Conclusions

351 Considering the fact that most of the passive cooling systems in current construction merely concentrate
352 on cooling effects, more strategies that reduce the indoor temperature and simultaneously enhance the
353 indoor air quality need to be identified and employed in buildings, especially in school buildings where
354 the air quality is a basic prerequisite.

355
356 In this study, the influence of solar chimney in the promotion of stack ventilation and whether the
357 ventilation vents can enhance effective cross ventilation are examined via CFD simulation. The
358 simulation results showed that the static temperature of interior spaces for dorms decreases from 36 °C

359 in floors to 22 °C in ceilings. The temperature of the air near openings in both external and internal walls
360 is determined to be 25 °C, which is slightly warmer than average temperature of air (23 °C).

361

362 Although it is an indisputable fact that the use of natural ventilation strategies helps to improve indoor
363 environment, there are also limitations in the architectural simulation. The combining effectiveness of
364 stack-ventilation and wind-driven ventilation cannot be simulated in CFD, conduction and radiation heat
365 transfer are not involved in the simulation. Under this circumstance, the differences do exist between
366 the actual performance of sustainable strategy and that of computer models. Overall, it appears that the
367 application of natural ventilation strategies in school buildings can play an effective role in indoor
368 environment cooling and air purification, but this is by no means the perfect approach without any
369 shortcomings. Firstly, social constraints, traffic noise and security problems may restrict the use of
370 natural ventilation. Secondly, the adjacent building or other forms of obstacles constructed surrounding
371 selecting locations have an effect on the design of passive ventilation. Thirdly, site characteristics and
372 climate conditions might set a restriction on the prospect of those buildings simply depending on natural
373 ventilation cooling strategy. For example, this passive ventilation cooling strategy does not appropriate
374 for school buildings in extremely cold or hot climates and regions with serious atmospheric or sound
375 pollution. To tackle with the problems, hybrid ventilation would be a feasible sustainable strategy, which
376 employs a combination of natural ventilation that achieved by controllable vents or atriums and
377 mechanically ventilated systems which provide partial cooling and air distribution.

378

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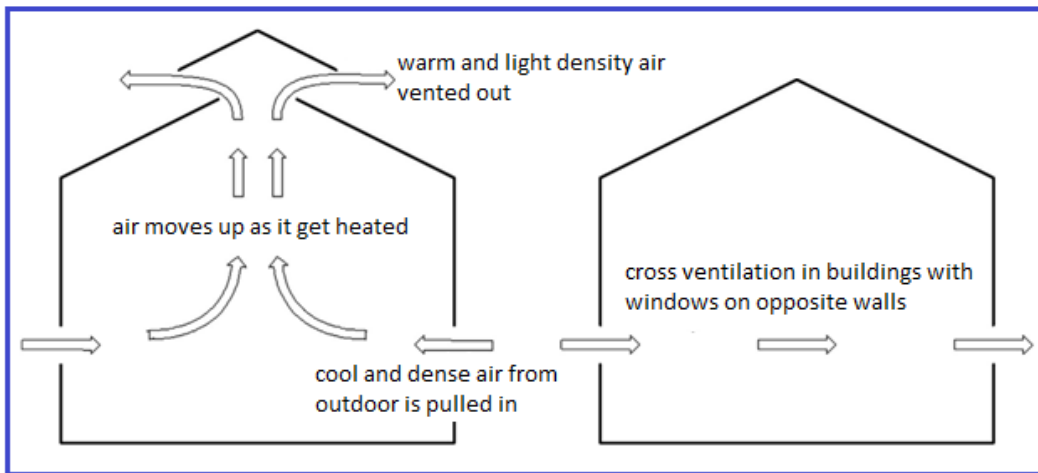
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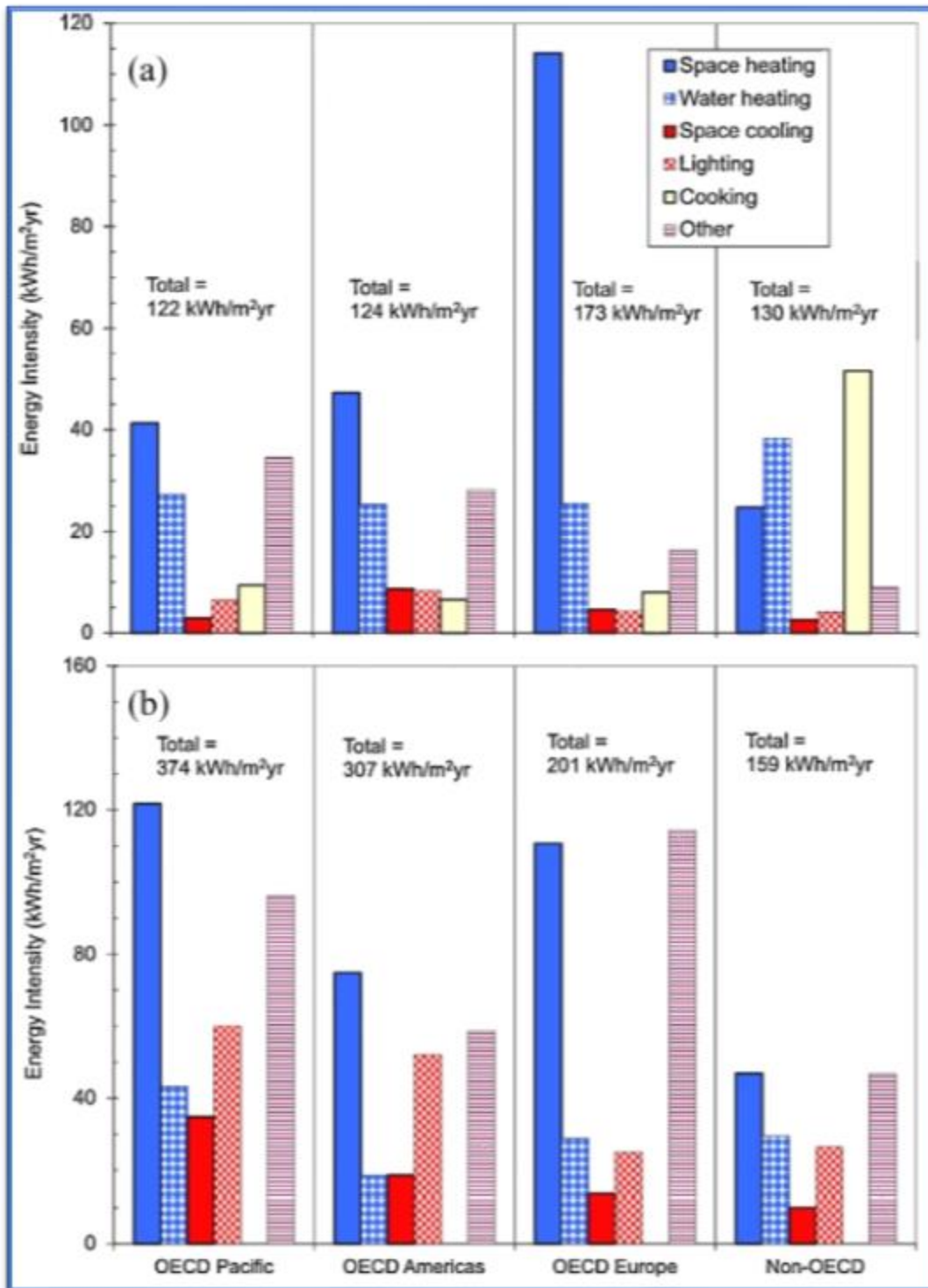
List of Figures



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Figure 1. Natural ventilation design [30].

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488
489 **Figure 2.** Average energy intensities for space heating, water heating, space cooling, lighting, cooking
490 and other for the four regions in the ETP2012-2 dataset, computed from the ETP2012-2 energy amounts
491 and floor areas. (a) Residential, and (b) commercial buildings. ‘Other’ for commercial buildings includes
492 cooking. [31].
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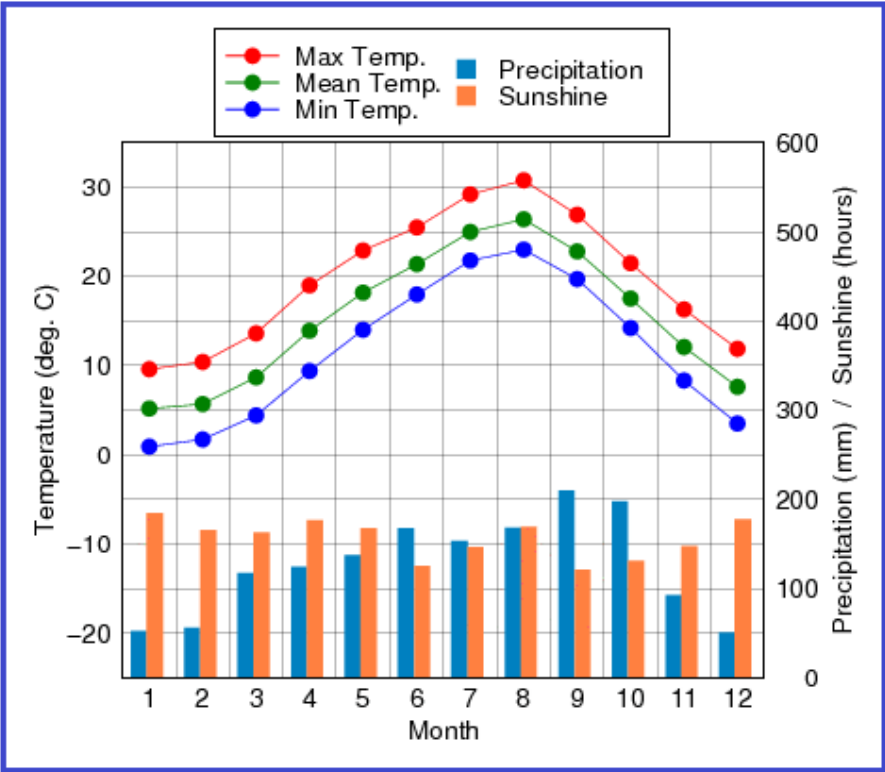
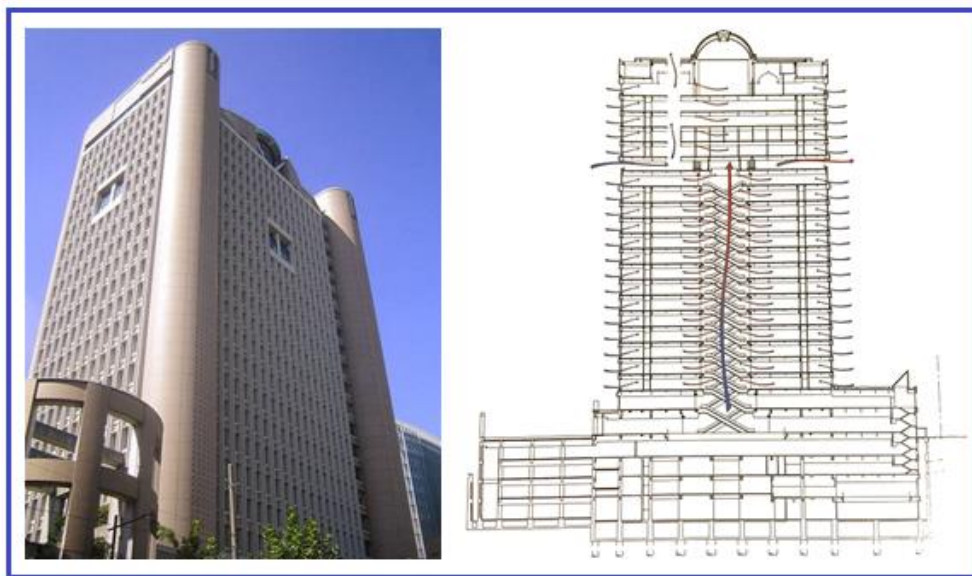


Figure 3. Wind and climate map of Tokyo, Japan [32].

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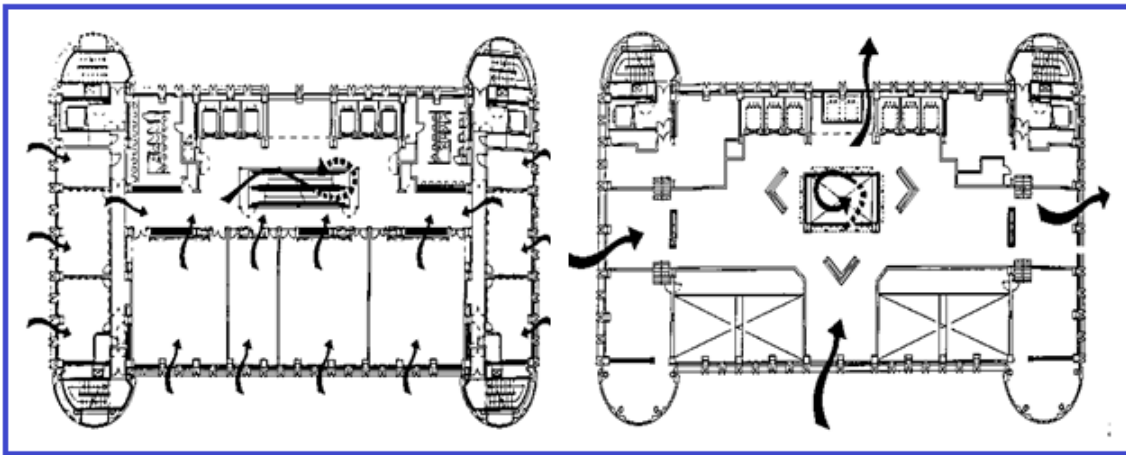
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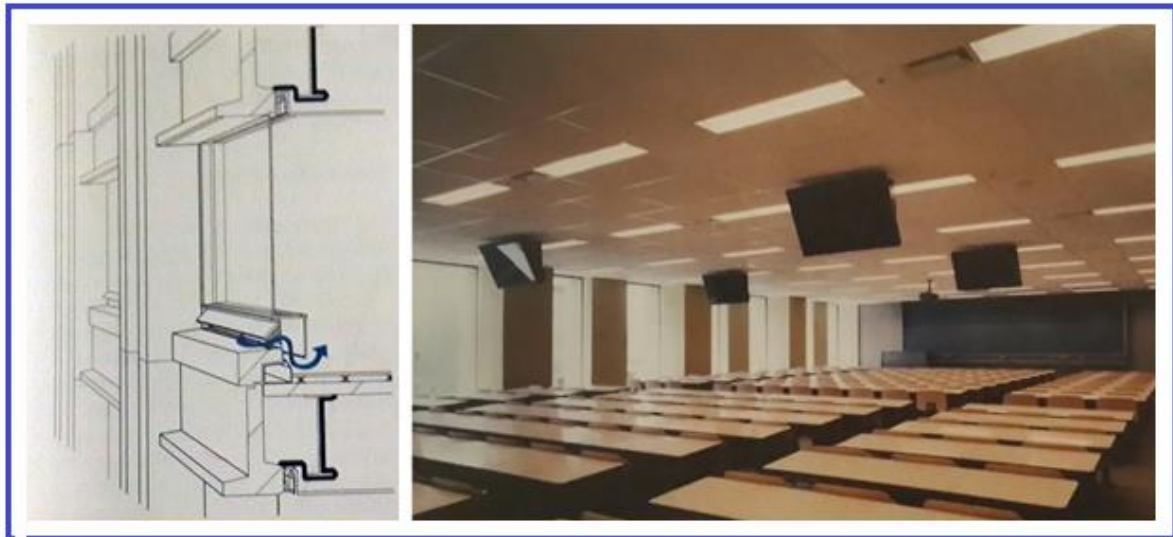
Figure 4. Liberty tower (on the left) and the working principles of wind voids (on the right).

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545 **Figure 5.** The typical plan showing stack ventilation (on the left) and the wind floor plan with cross
546 ventilation (on the right).
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564 **Figure 6.** Ventilation vents (on the left) and the typical classroom with exhausting vents mounted on
565 ceiling (on the right).
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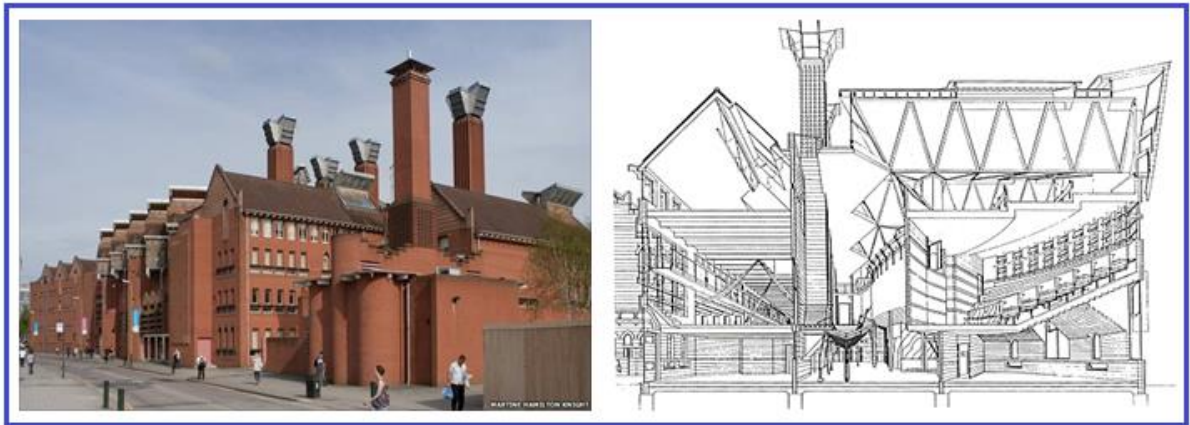
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Figure 7. Exhaust openings at the top of the escalator void on the wind floor [35].

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Figure 8. Photograph of Queens Building (on the left) and the section perspective of the central building (on the right)

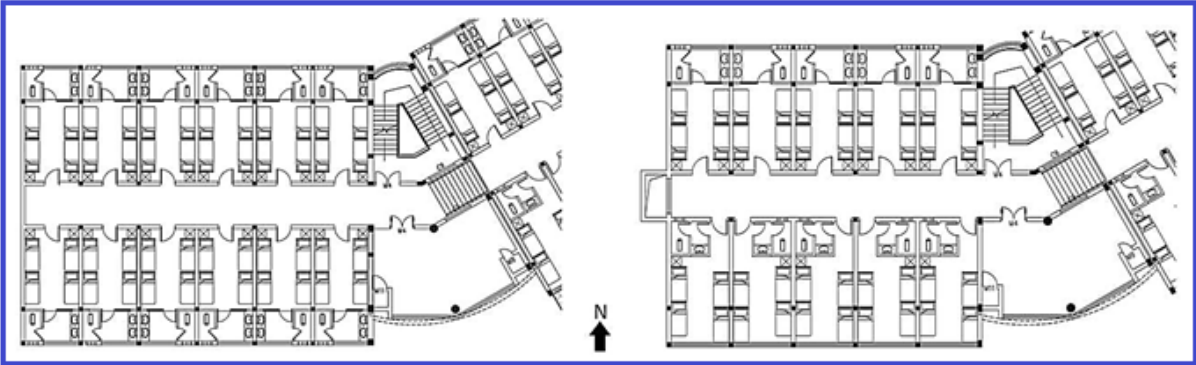
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Figure 9. Sustainable dormitory building and 3D sketch.

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Figure 10. The layouts of ordinary (on the left) and sustainable dormitory (on the right).

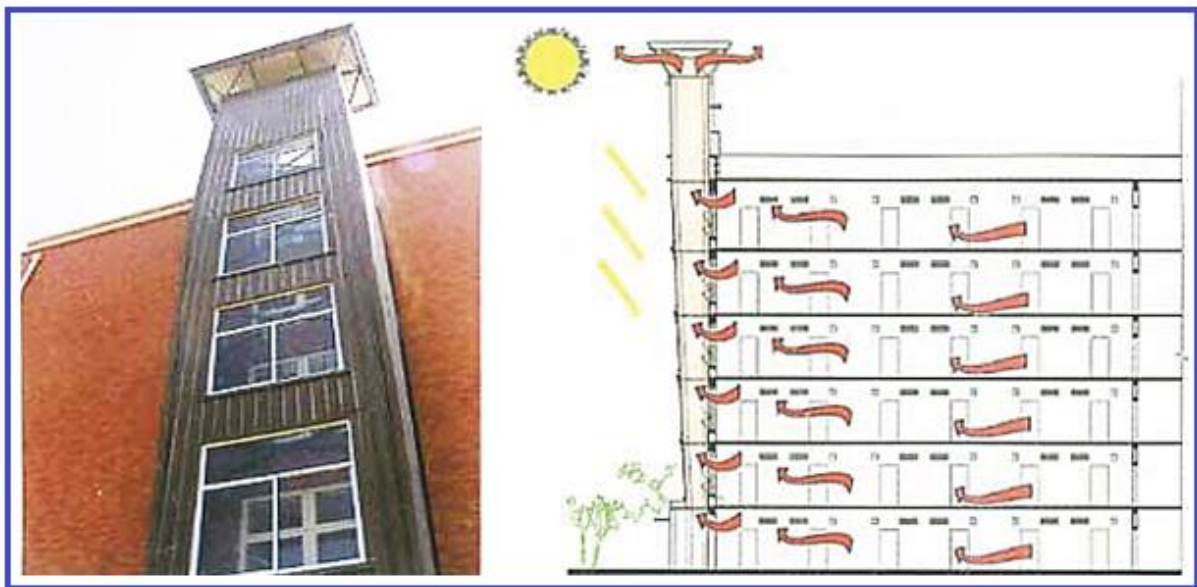
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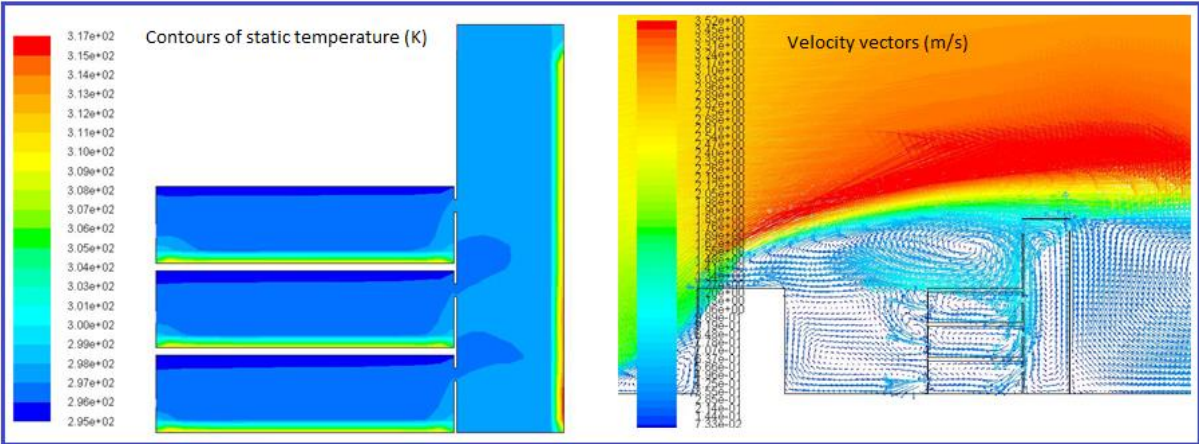
Figure 11. Section views of ordinary (on the left) and sustainable dormitory (on the right).

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680 **Figure 12.** The solar chimney considered in the building (on the left) and the working principle (on the
681 right).
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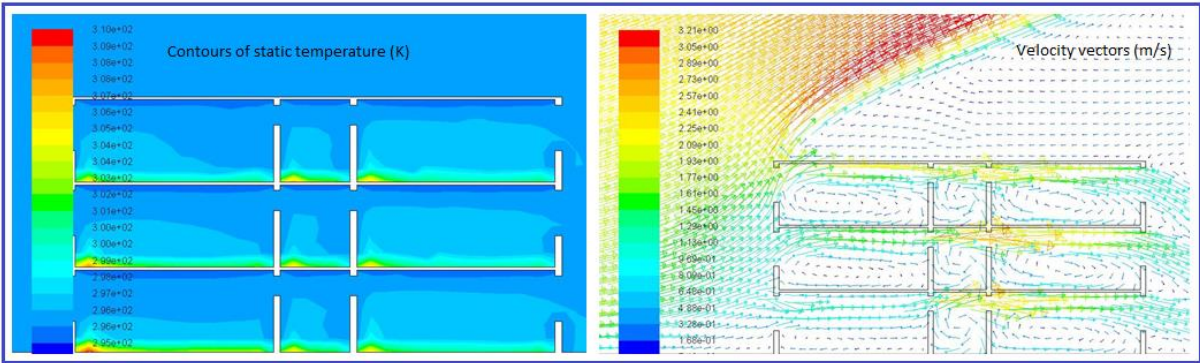
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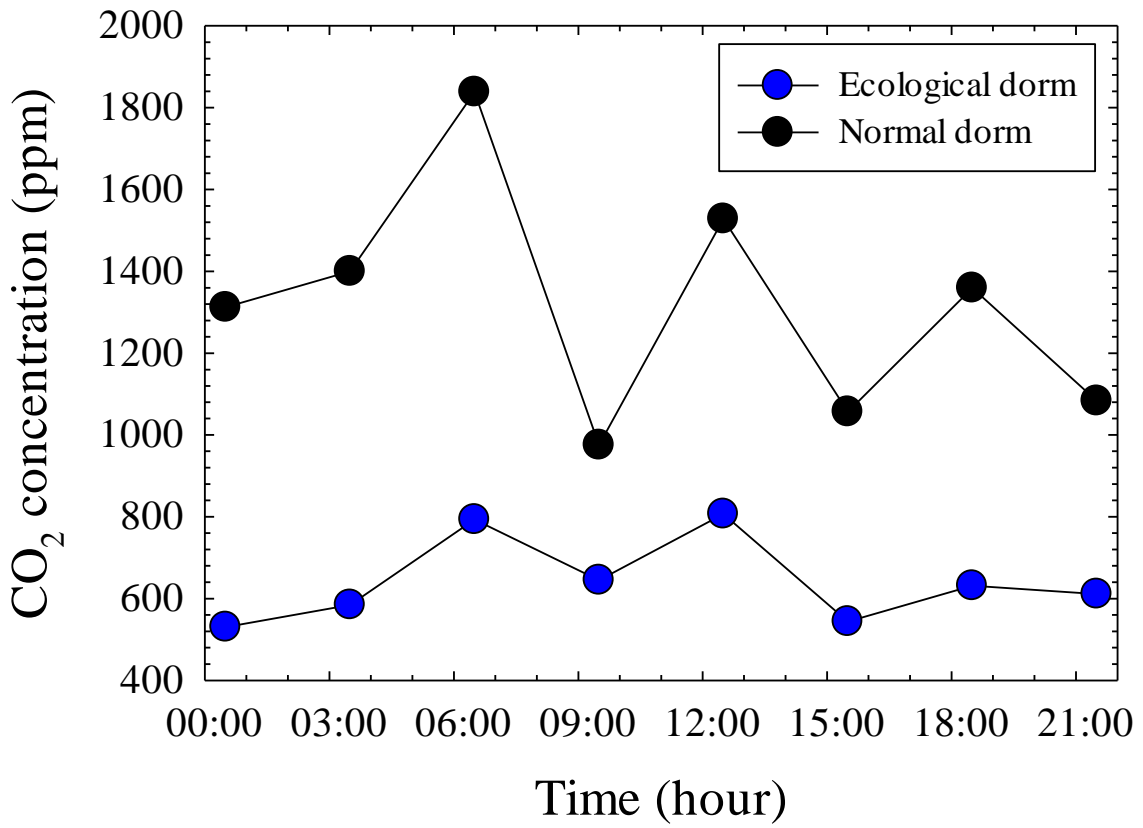
Figure 13. The contours of static temperature (on the left) and the velocity vectors (on the right) in stack ventilation from the CFD analysis.

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720 Figure 14. The contours of static temperature (on the left) and the velocity vectors (on the right) in cross
721 ventilation from the CFD analysis.
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Figure 15. CO₂ concentrations in dorms during a typical one-day test period.