



## Building envelope design



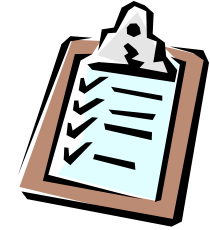
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# Contents



- Basic principles
- Design factors
- Response to local climate
- Ventilation strategy
- Building codes in HK





# Basic principles

- The building is not just a shelter, or a barrier against unwanted influences (rain, wind, cold)
- The **building envelope** should be considered a selective filter to exclude the unwanted influences, but admit the desirable & useful ones, such as daylight, solar radiation in winter or natural ventilation
  - Building envelope affects the interior/indoor environment & determines the building aesthetics

# Examples of building envelopes





# Basic principles

- A **building envelope** (or building enclosure) is the physical separator between the conditioned & unconditioned environment of a building
  - Respond to natural forces & human concerns
  - Provide protection by enclosure and by balancing internal and external environmental forces (including the resistance to air, water, heat, light, and noise transfer)
- Related terms: building façade, building skin

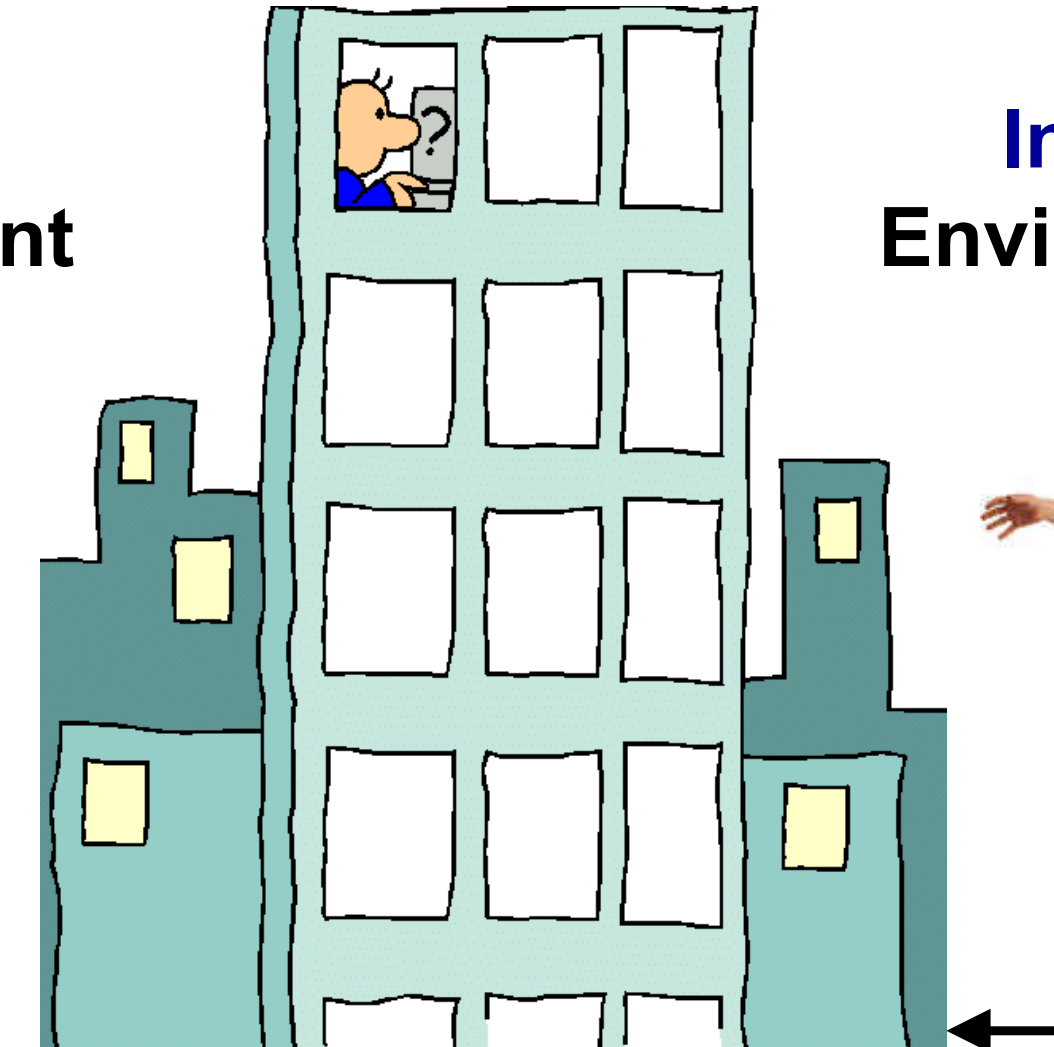
Building envelope as the “Shelter”:  
the primary thermal barrier between interior and exterior

## Shelter

**Outdoor  
Environment**



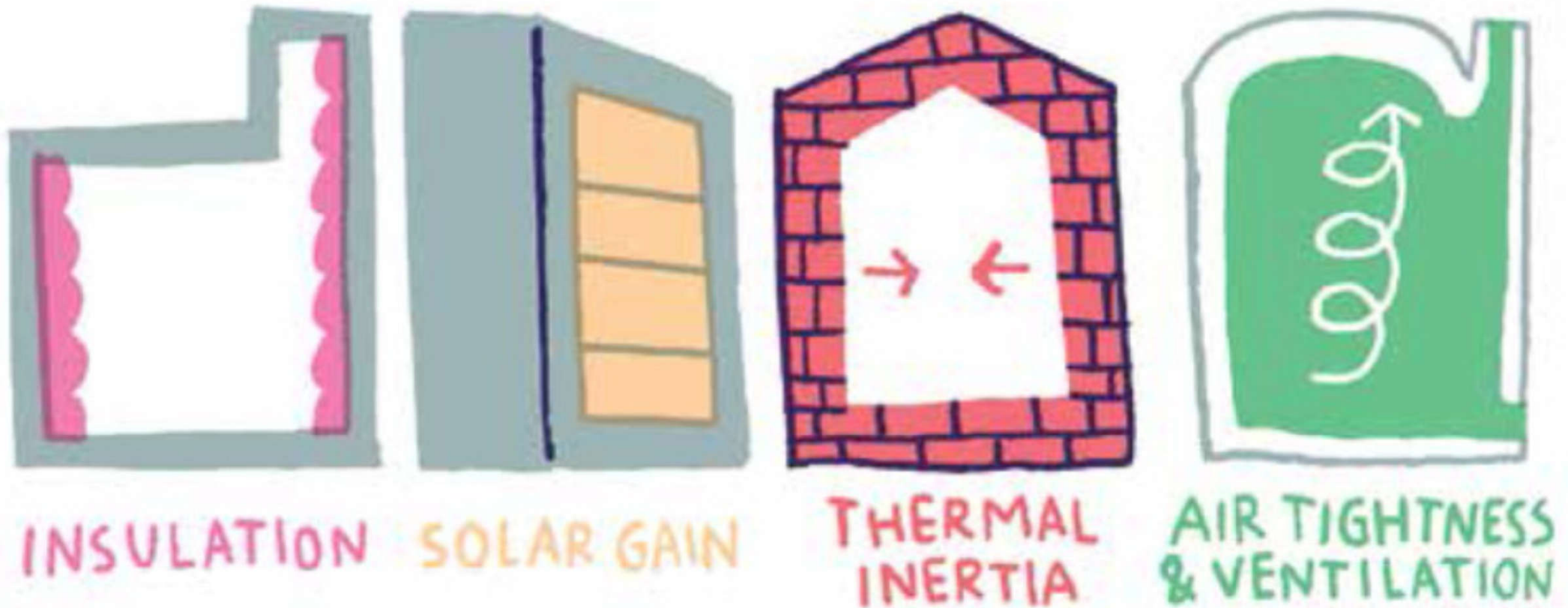
**Indoor  
Environment**



Energy demand and energy use by  
the building and its building systems

Energy supply  
to the building

# Building envelope and the interior thermal environment

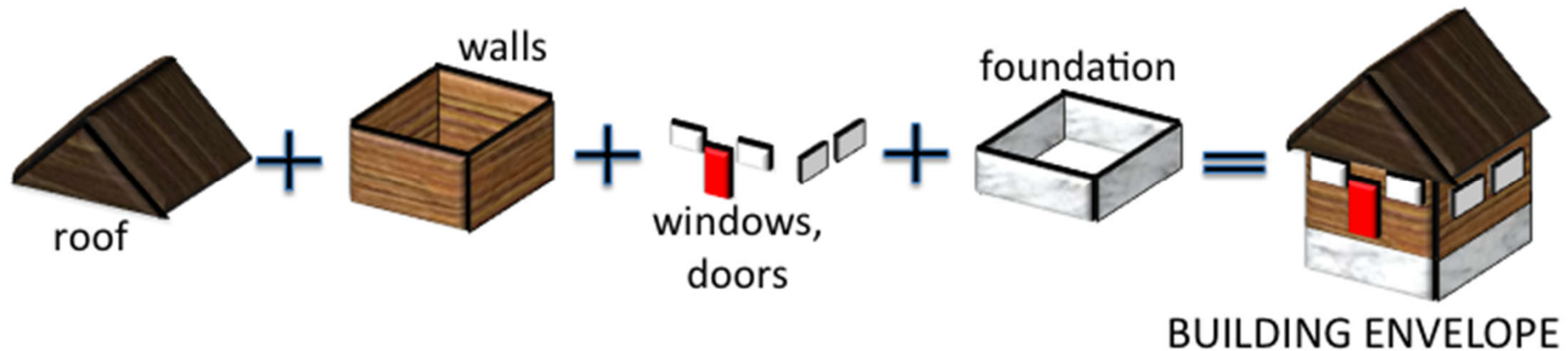


**THE BUILDING ENVELOPE CAN GREATLY AFFECT THE INTERIOR THERMAL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE MANAGEMENT OF THESE PARAMETERS.**



# Basic principles

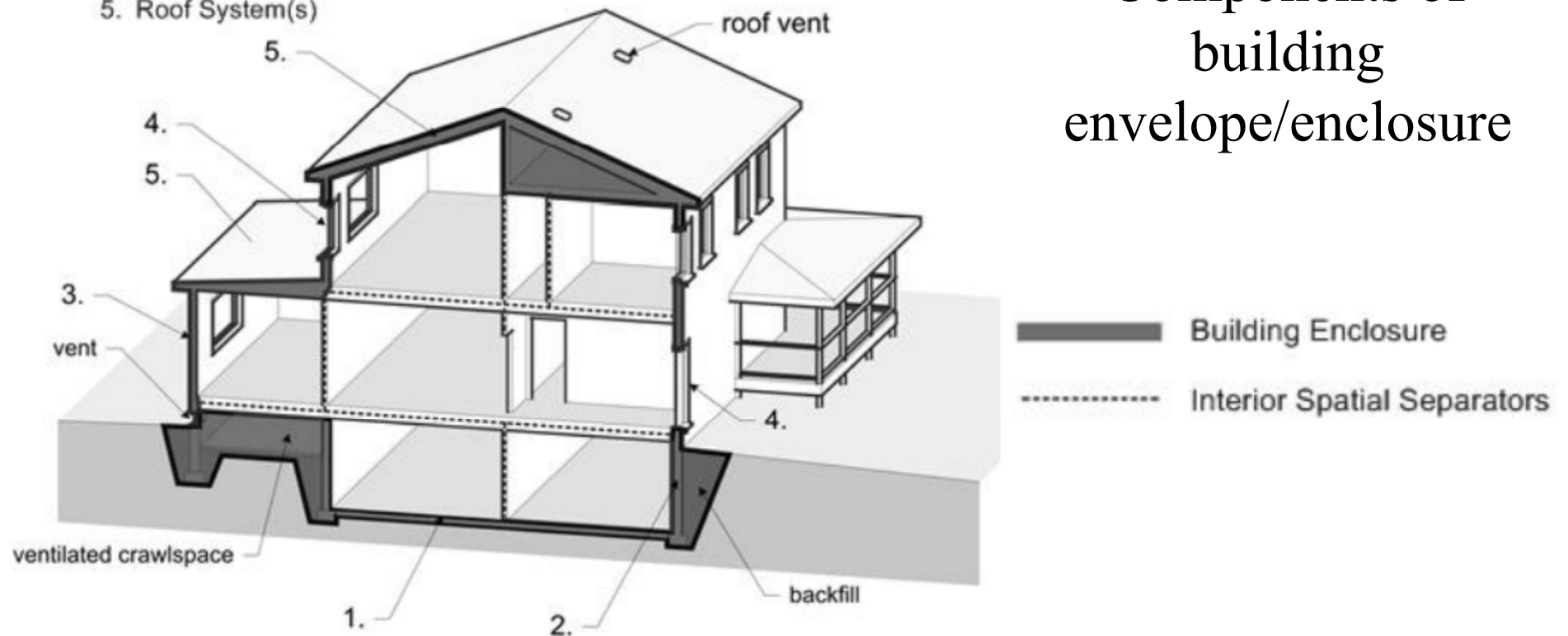
- Building envelope components
  - Roof, walls, windows, skylights, doors, floor, basement (below grade), foundation
  - Related issues: thermal insulation, air leakage, ventilation, material durability
  - Safety requirements: fire, floods, wind, seismic



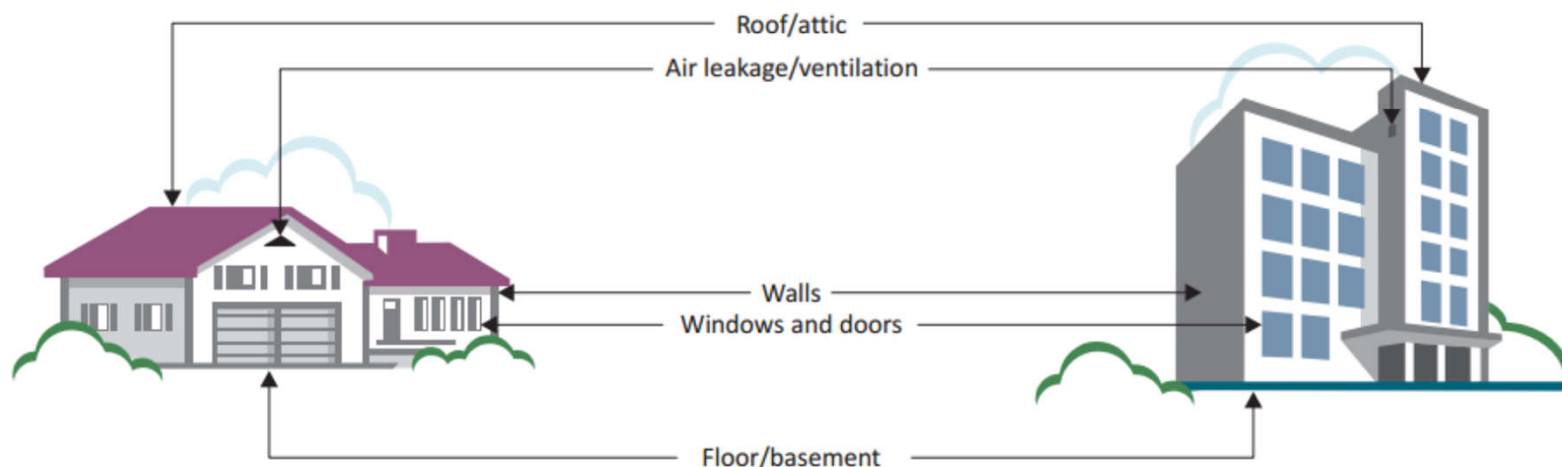


## Building Enclosure Components:

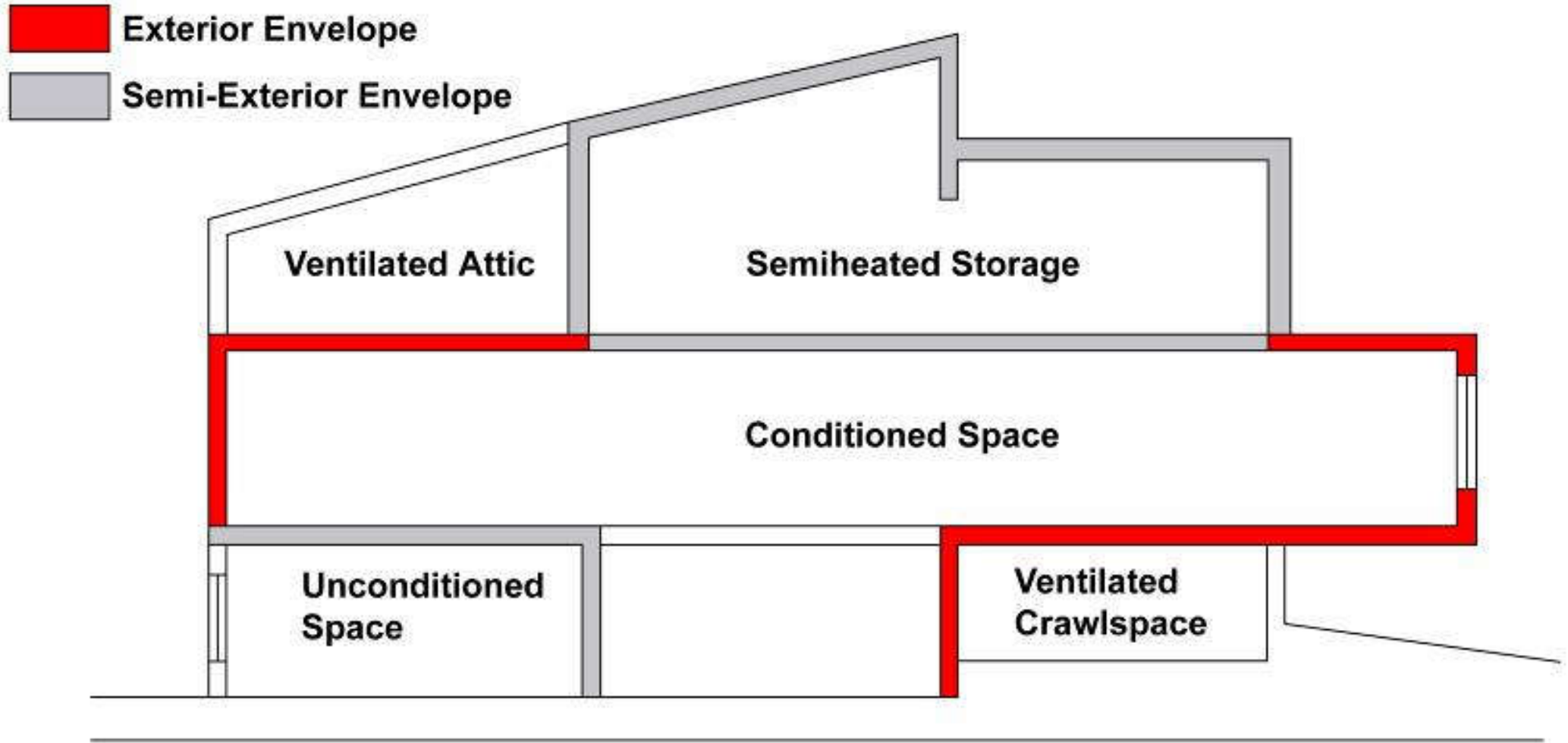
1. Base Floor System(s)
2. Foundation Wall System(s)
3. Above Grade Wall Systems(s)
4. Windows and Doors
5. Roof System(s)



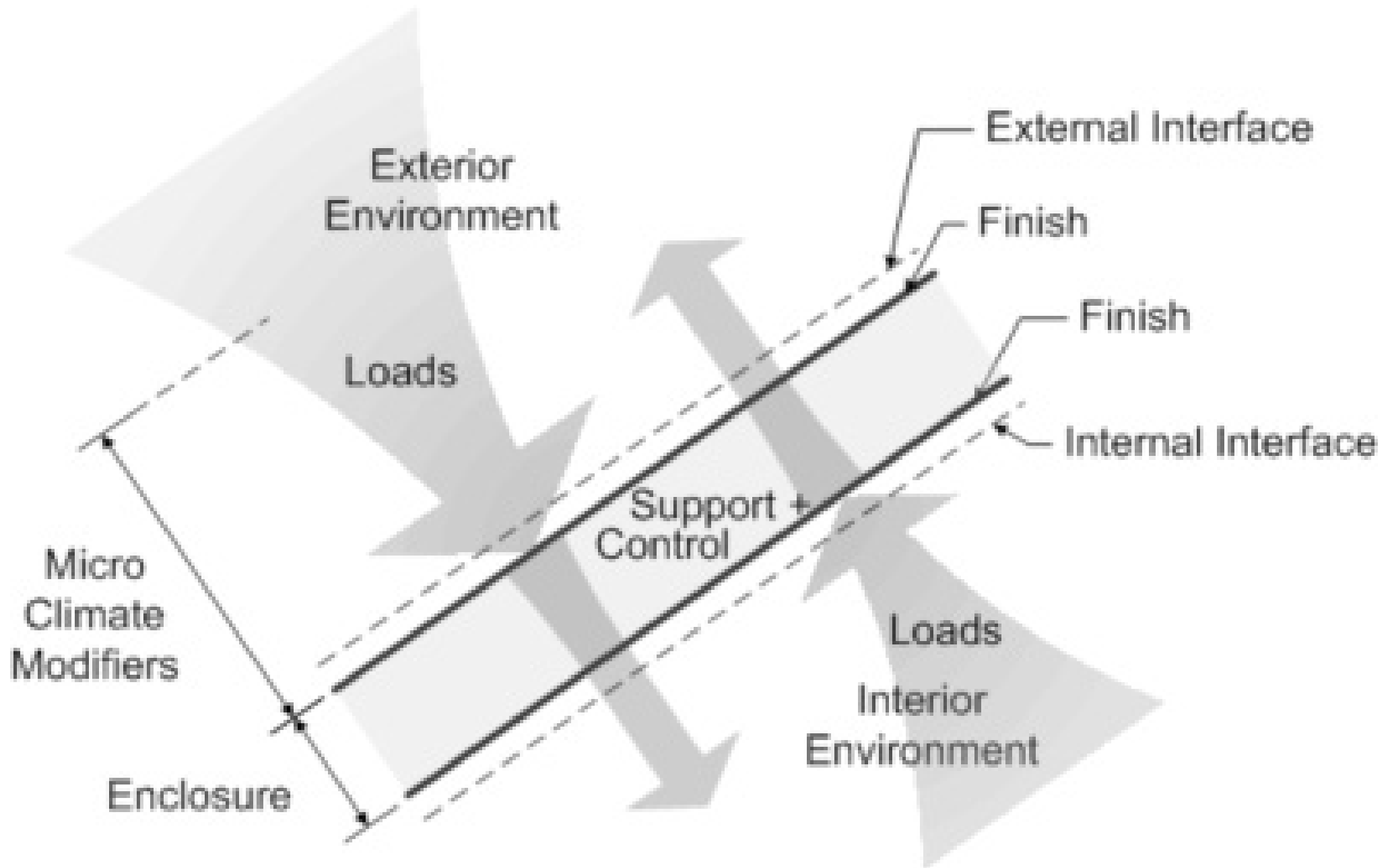
## Components of building envelope/enclosure



# Exterior envelope and semi-exterior envelope



# Building envelope/enclosure and its functions





# Basic principles

- Major functions of a building envelope
  - Structural Support: to ensure strength & rigidity; providing structural support against internal & external loads and forces
  - Climate Control: to control the exchange of water, air, condensation and heat between the interior & exterior of the building
  - Finish: for aesthetic purposes. To make the building look attractive while still performing support & control functions

# Basic performance requirements of the building envelope

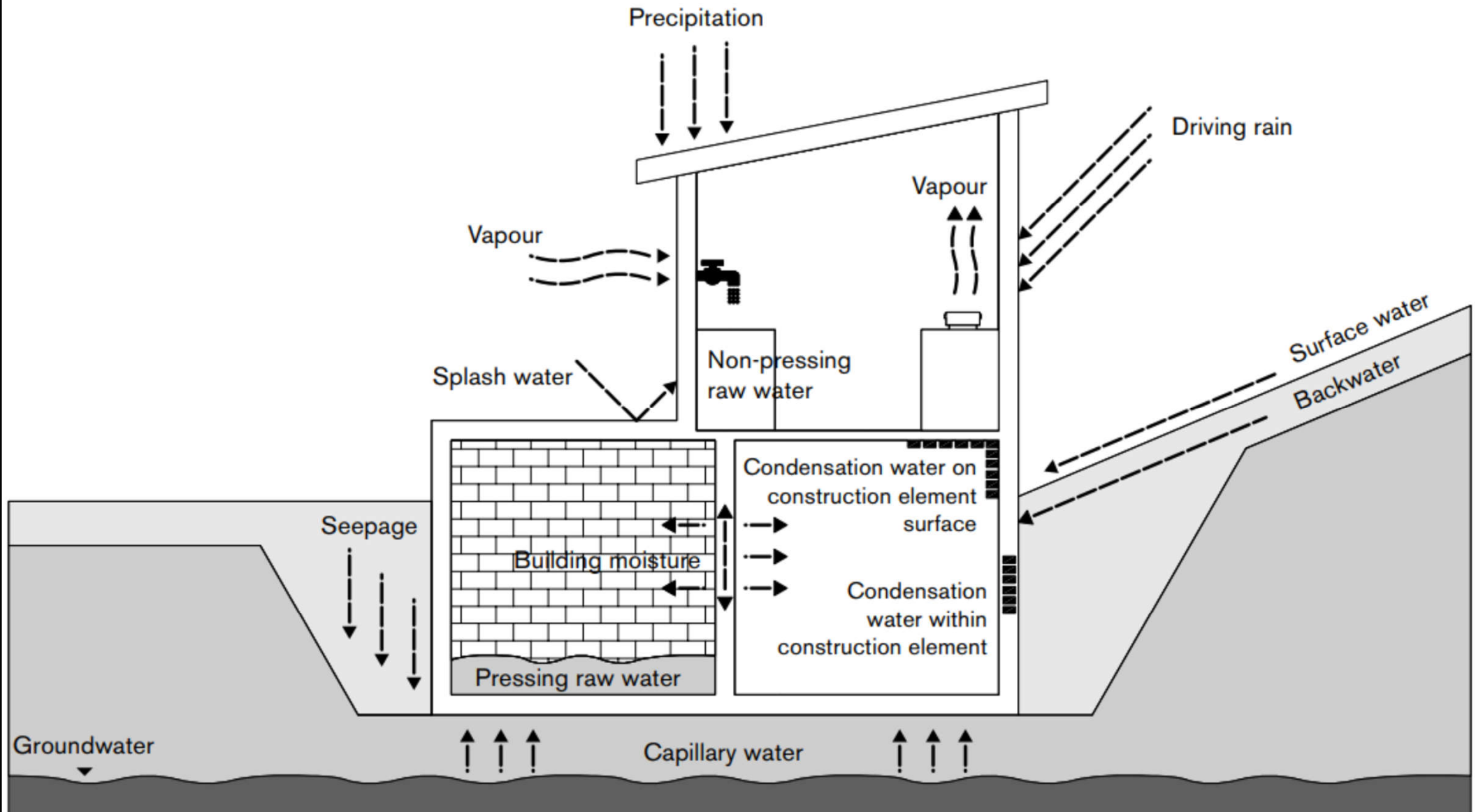
	Walls	Glazing	Roof	Below grade
Thermal	X	X	X	
Moisture protection	X	X	X	X
Acoustics	X	(X)		
Light transmission		X	(X)	
Indoor air quality	(X)	(X)		
Mold protection	(X)	(X)		
HVAC integration	X	X	(X)	
Natural ventilation		X		
Durability	X	X	X	X
Sustainability	X	X	X	(X)

Key: X = Major determinant or influence

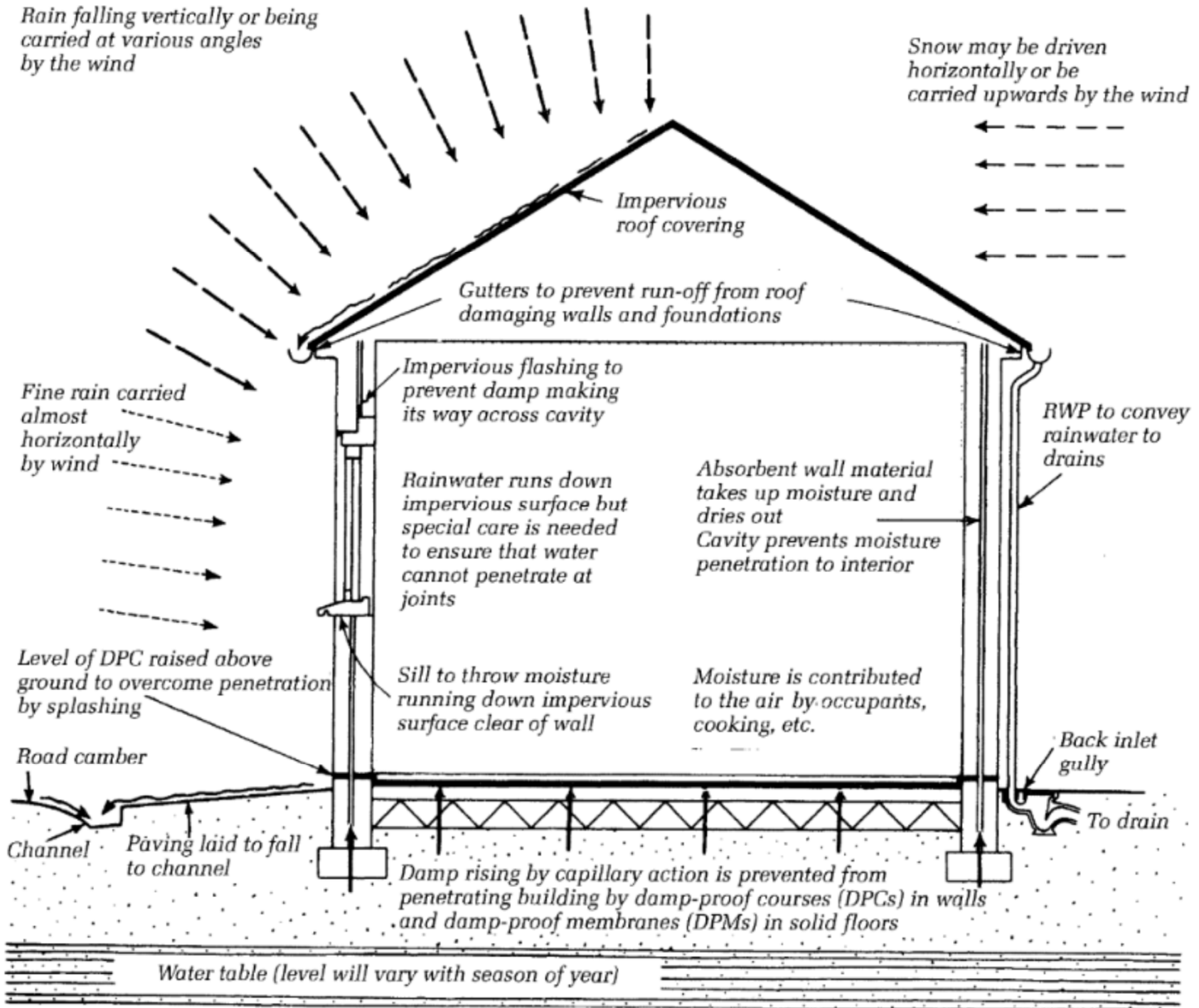
(X) = Minor determinant or influence

# Building-relevant types of water

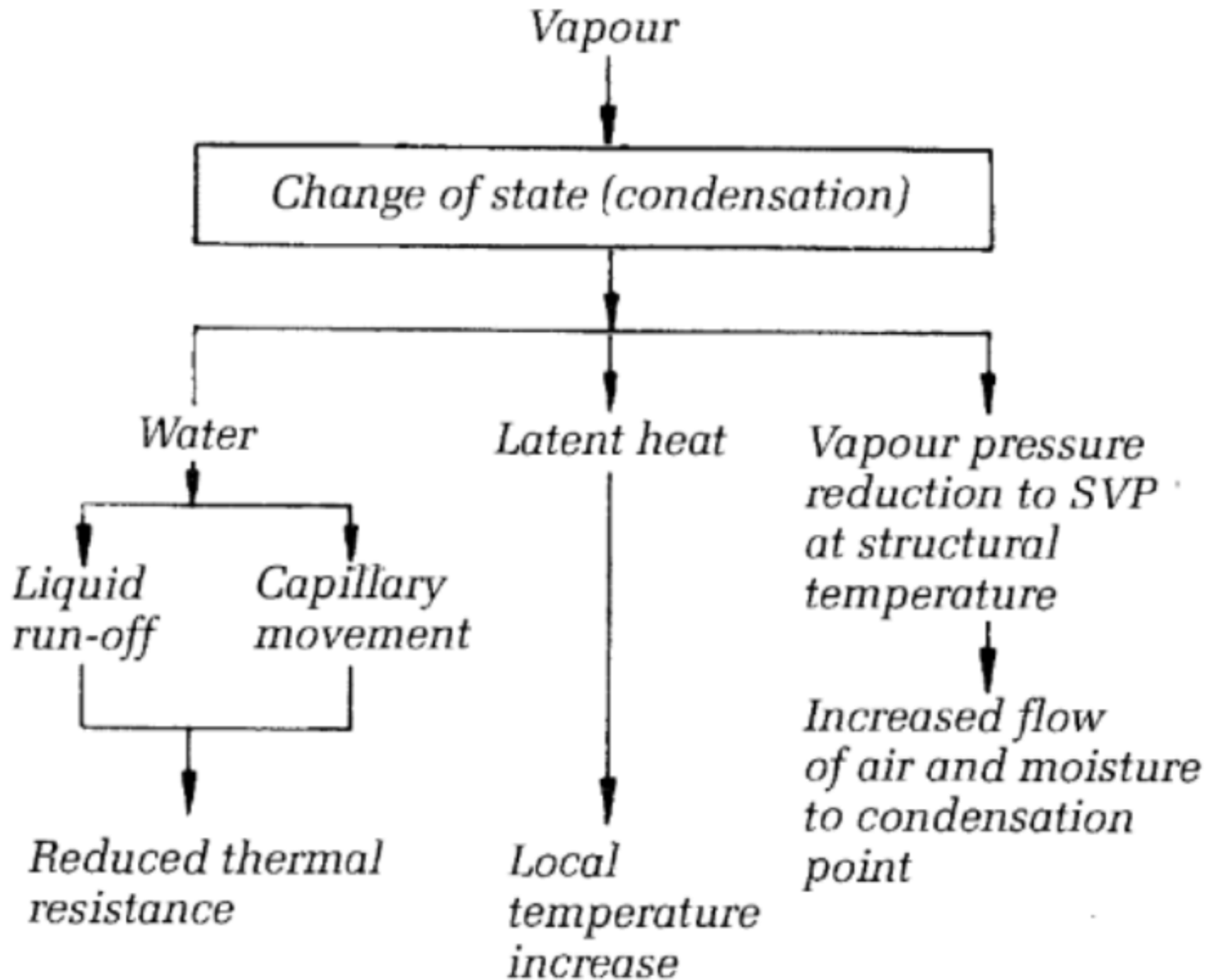
(throughout the years, a building is exposed to various types of water loads that need to be considered during planning)



# How to control moisture penetration in buildings



# Condensation phenomena





# Environmental conditions that affect thermal, visual & acoustic comfort

Environmental conditions	Thermal comfort	Visual comfort	Acoustic comfort
Outdoor design criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun &amp; wind obstructions</li> <li>• Building dimensions</li> <li>• Air temperature range</li> <li>• Relative humidity range</li> <li>• Wind velocity</li> <li>• Solar radiation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• View &amp; daylight obstructions</li> <li>• Building dimensions</li> <li>• Latitude &amp; location</li> <li>• Time of day</li> <li>• External horizontal illuminance</li> <li>• Ground reflectivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise obstructions</li> <li>• Building dimensions</li> <li>• Exterior noise level</li> <li>• Exterior noise source</li> </ul>
Indoor design criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space dimensions</li> <li>• User's activity level</li> <li>• User's clothing insulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space dimensions</li> <li>• Colours of surfaces</li> <li>• Working plane location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space dimensions</li> <li>• Absorption coefficients of interior surfaces</li> </ul>
Indoor comfort criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air temperature</li> <li>• Relative humidity</li> <li>• Air velocity</li> <li>• Mean radiant temperature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illuminance level &amp; distribution</li> <li>• Glare index</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptable interior noise levels</li> </ul>

# Facade elements properties that affect thermal, visual & acoustic comfort

Environmental conditions	Thermal comfort	Visual comfort	Acoustic comfort
Opaque facades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material properties of cladding</li> <li>• Amount of insulation</li> <li>• Effective heat resistance properties (R-value)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Window-to-wall ratio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material selection &amp; properties</li> </ul>
Glazing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orientation</li> <li>• Number of glass layers</li> <li>• Layer thicknesses</li> <li>• Heat transfer coefficient (U-value)</li> <li>• Visual transmittance</li> <li>• Solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orientation</li> <li>• Window properties, size, location, &amp; shape</li> <li>• Glass thickness &amp; colour</li> <li>• Visual transmittance</li> <li>• Reflectance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of layers</li> <li>• Layer thicknesses</li> <li>• Layer density</li> </ul>
Frames & supporting structure for glazed facades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thermal properties of the frames</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material types</li> </ul>

# Design factors



- Building envelope (or skin)
  - Walls, roofs, windows, skylights, etc.
    - Area, thermal properties, mass, shading
- Good design
  - Consider & respond to local climate
  - Good thermal performance
  - Appropriate window areas
  - Proper solar control
- Need to balance with other requirements e.g. aesthetics & view (connect to outside)





\* Face House, Kyoto, Japan

Look at me.  
Is my face (building  
envelope) energy  
efficient?

Main criteria:

- wall area
- window area
- thermal properties
- orientations
- thermal mass
- shading device

# Design factors



- Major factors determining envelope heat flow:

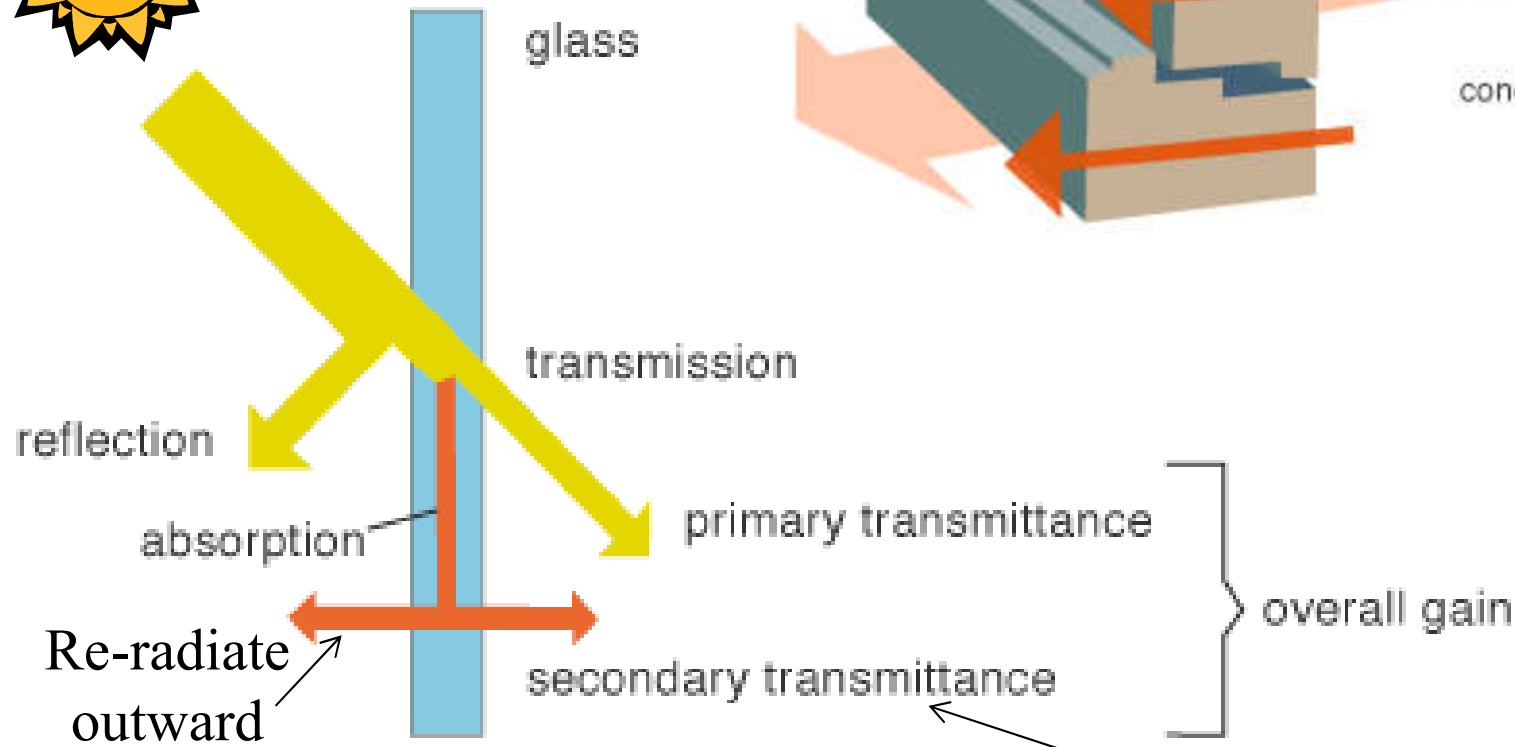
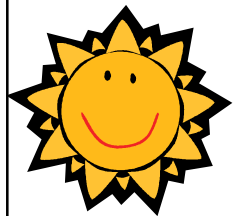
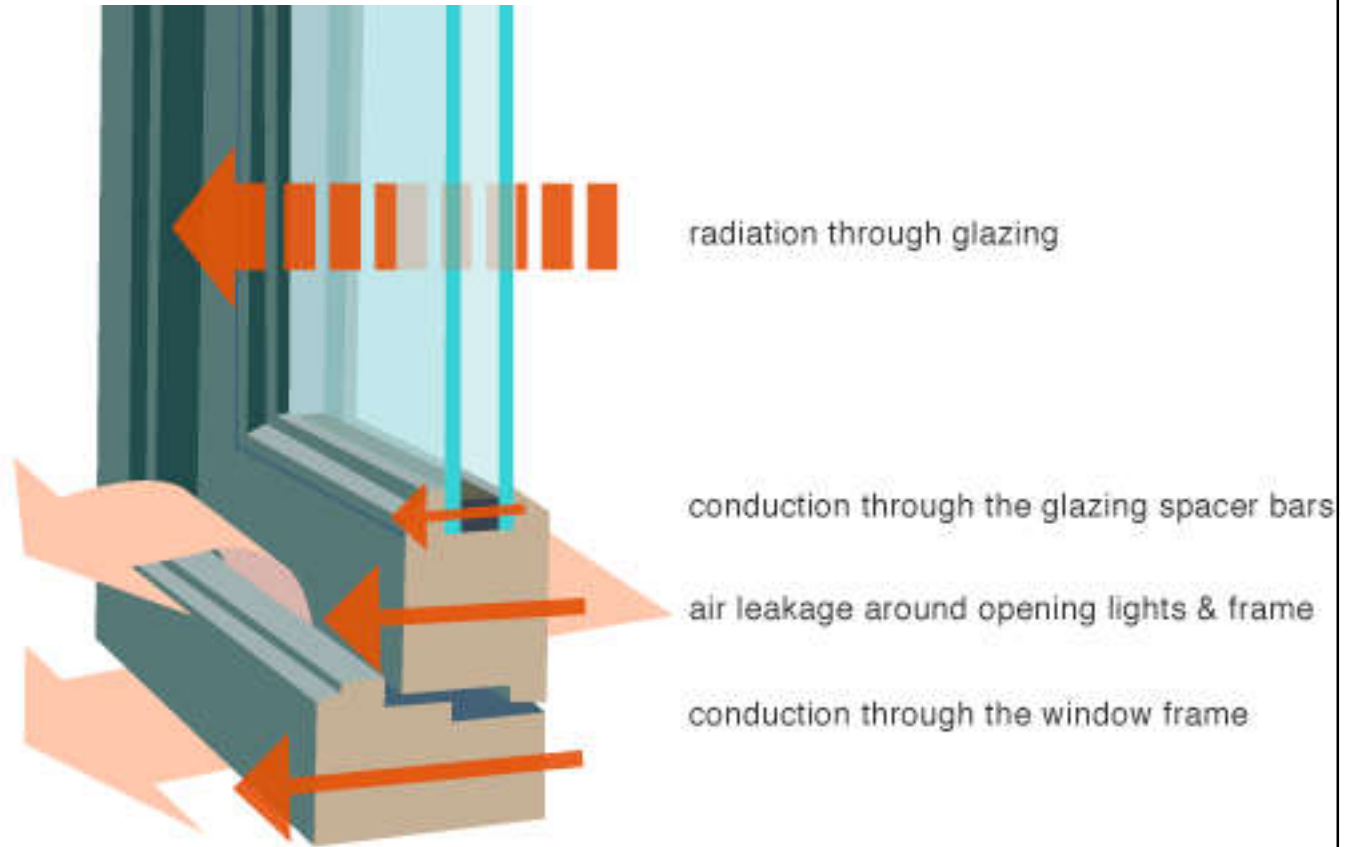
- Temperature differential,  $\Delta T$
- Area of exposed building surfaces,  $A$
- Heat transmission properties, like  $U$ -value
- Thermal storage capacity
- Window-to-wall ratio (WWR)

$$Q = U A \Delta T$$

- Effect of thermal mass

- Delay heat transfer or act as a cooling source
- Important for intermittently cooled spaces

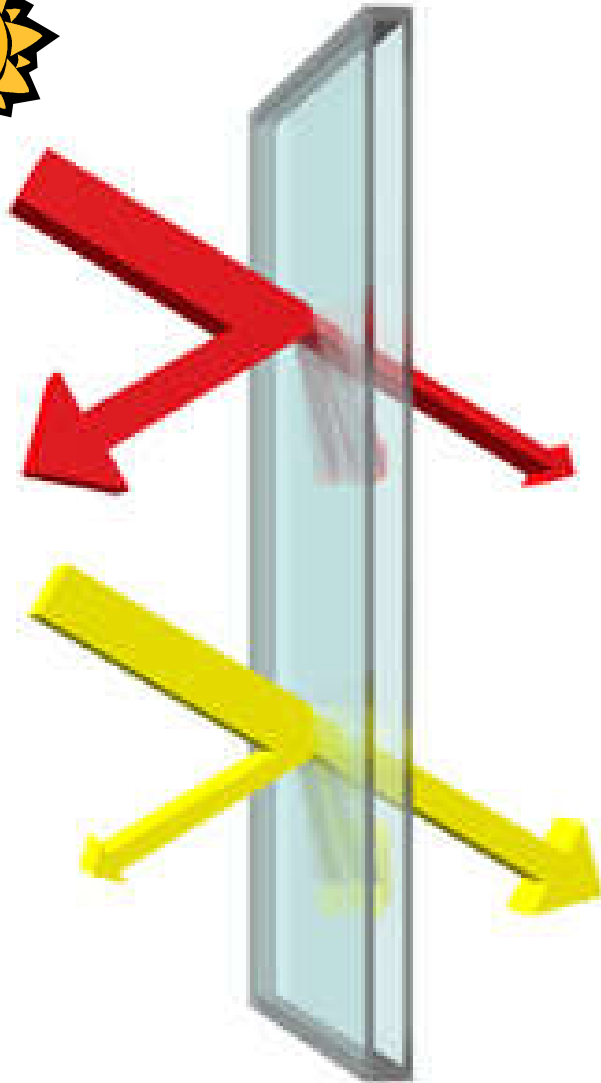
# Solar heat gain and heat loss through window glass



(Source: [www.greenspec.co.uk/windows.php](http://www.greenspec.co.uk/windows.php))

Absorbed & re-radiate inward

# Understanding window performance



**U-factor = 0.25**

U-factor (or U-value) = overall thermal transmittance ( $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ )

**SHGC = 0.39**  
39% of solar heat transmitted

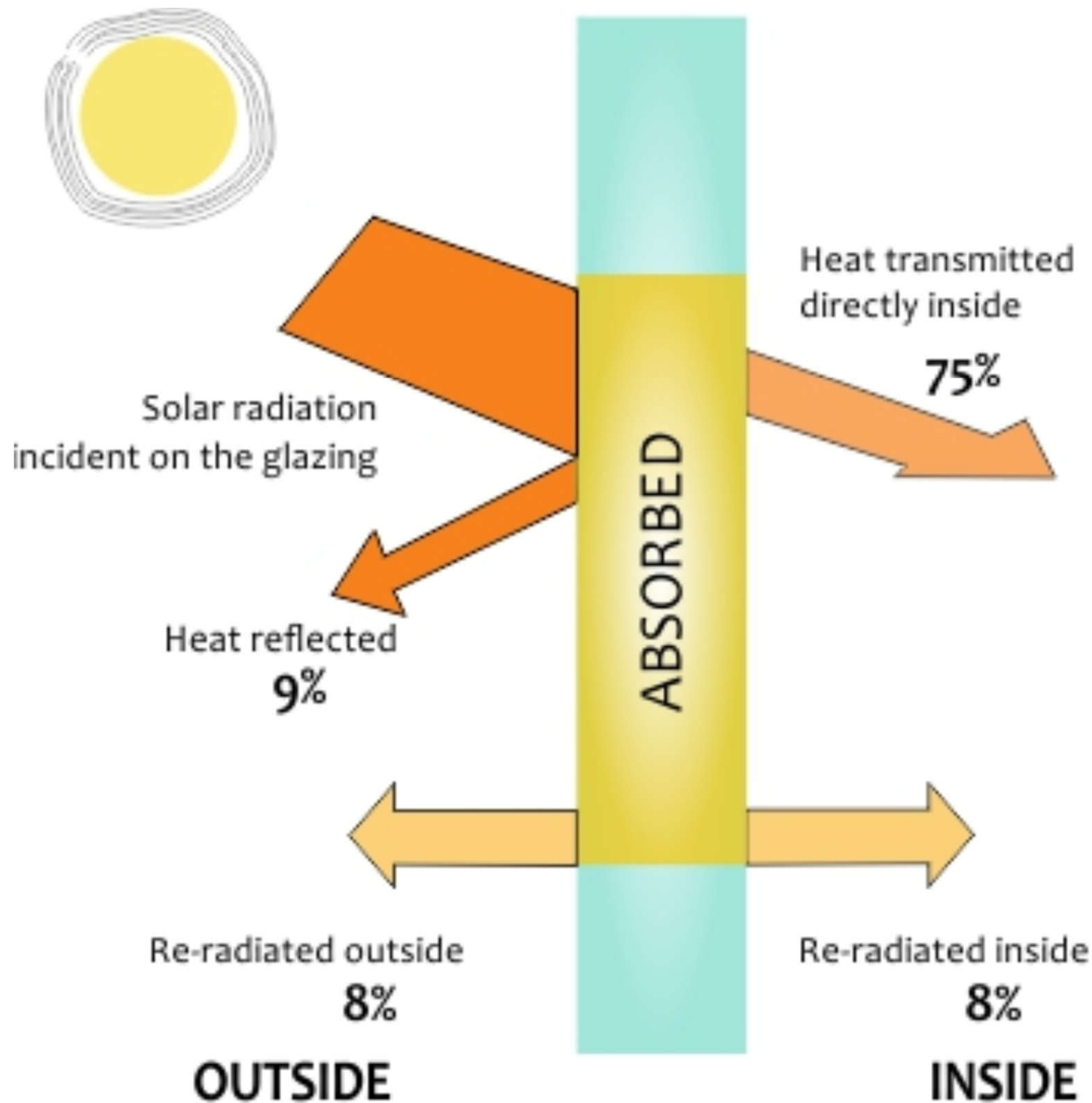
SHGC = solar heat gain coefficient

**VT = 0.70**  
70% of visible light transmitted

VT = visible transmittance

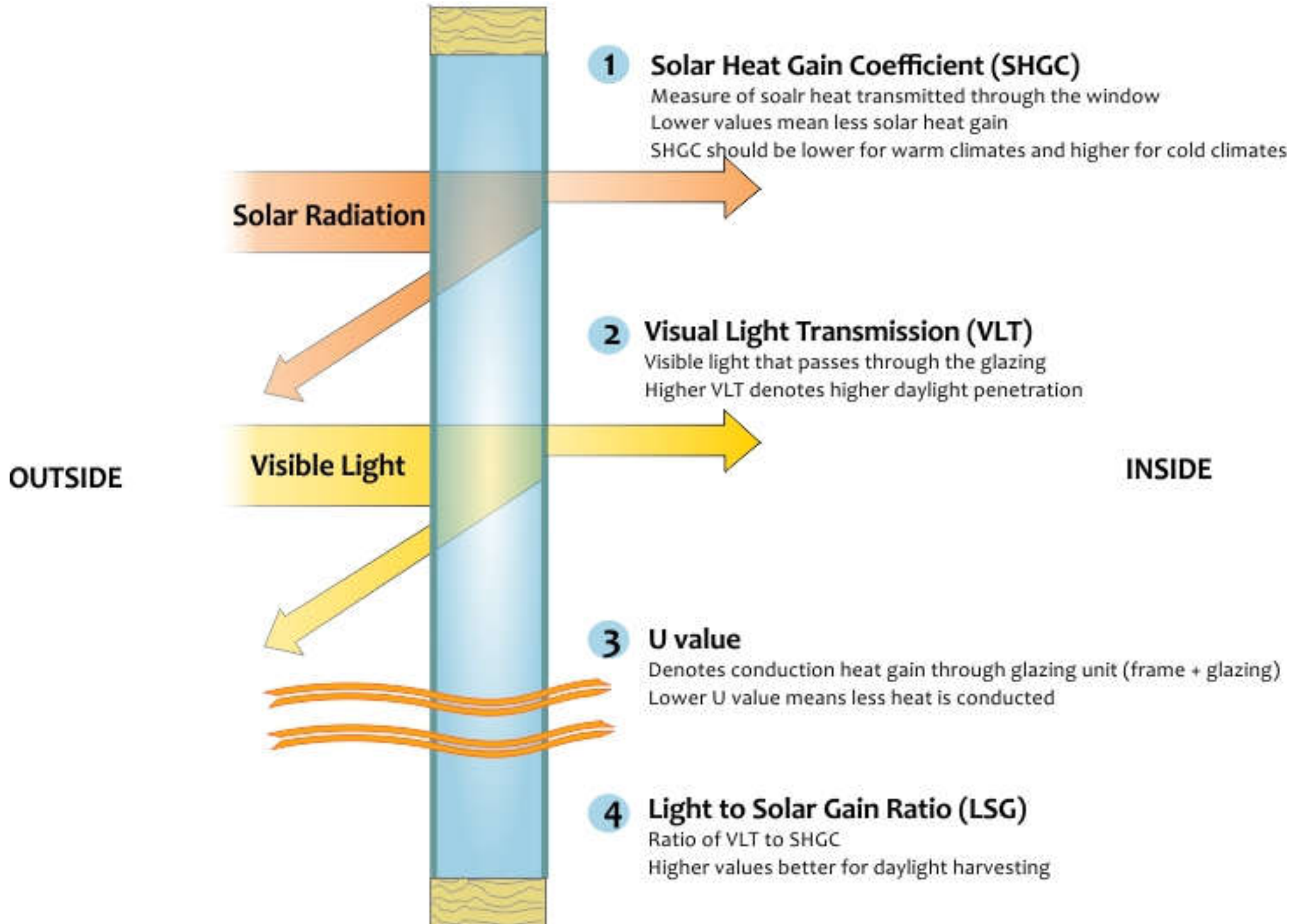
$$\text{Shading Coefficient (SC)} = \frac{\text{Solar heat gain of the window glazing}}{\text{Solar heat gain of unshaded 3 mm clear float glass}}$$

# Heat transmission in a single glazing clear glass

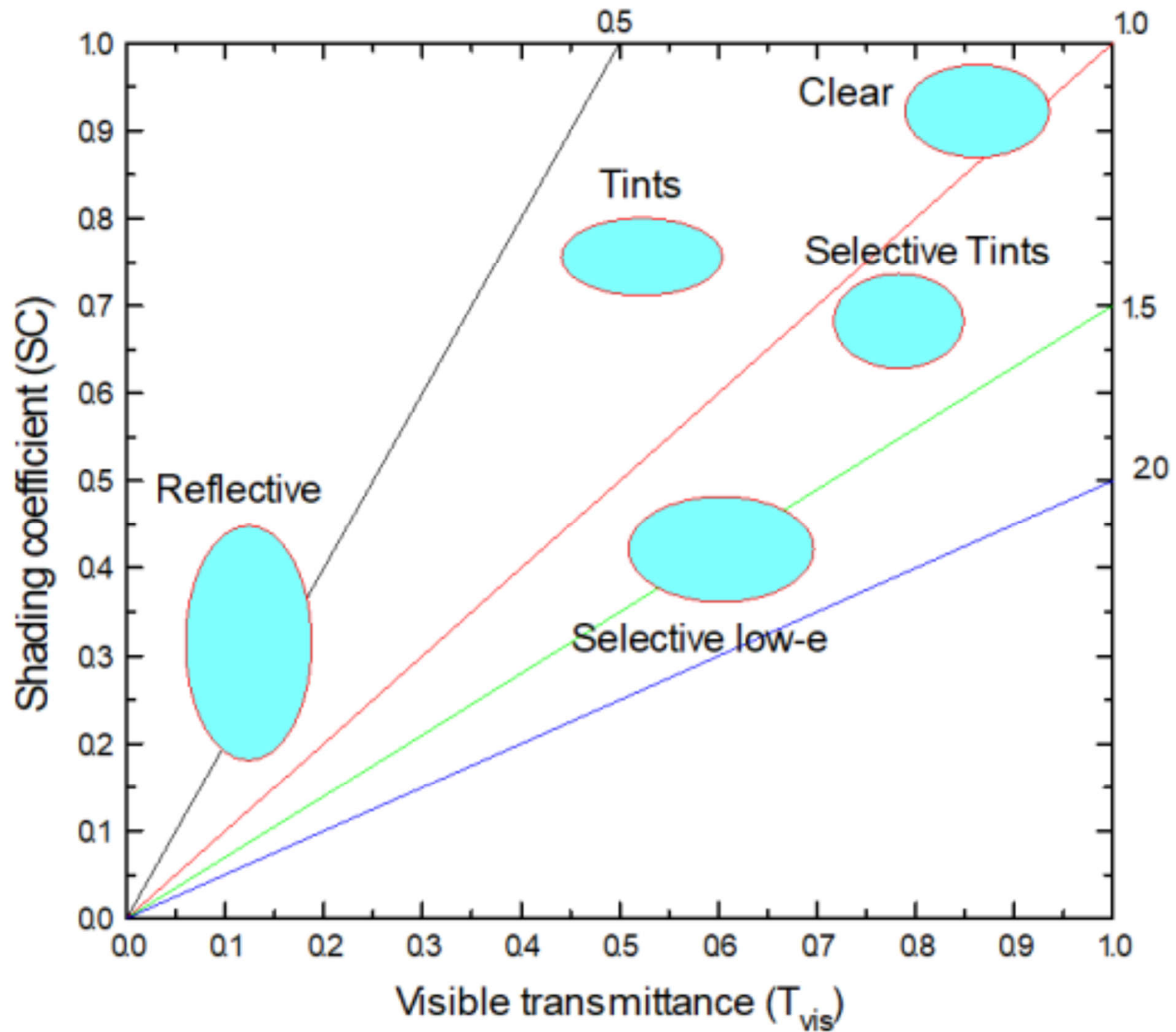




# Major properties of fenestration



# Properties and selection of window glasses



# Design factors

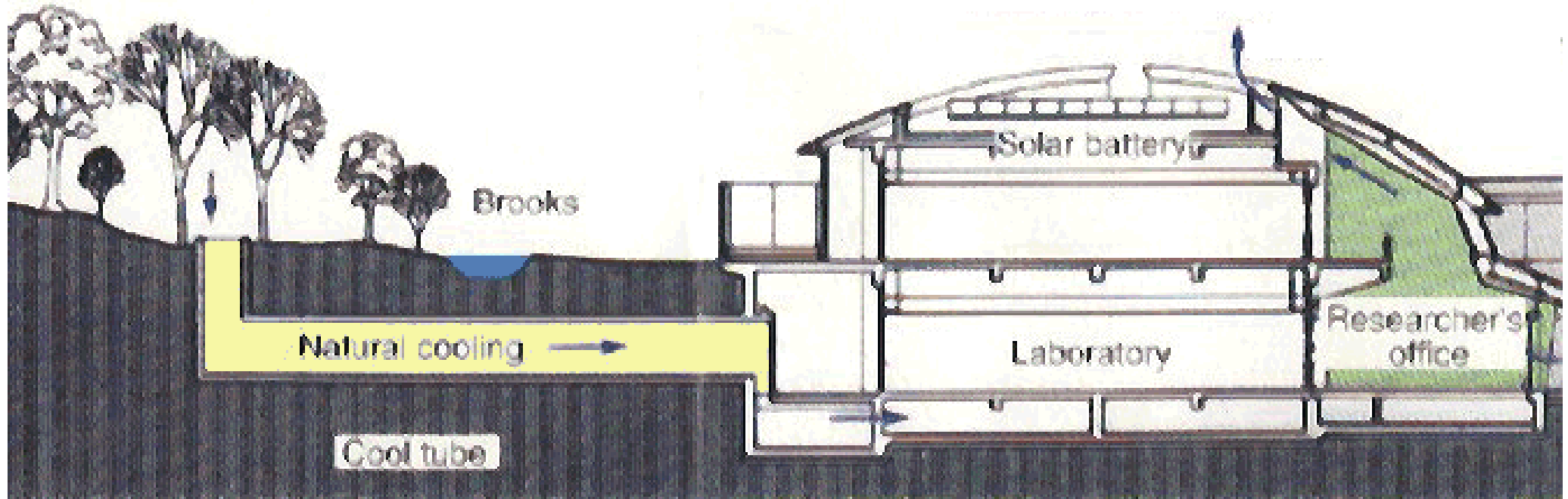


- Building envelopes today
  - Old techniques: local materials for local climate
  - Passive design & natural ventilation
  - Insulation
  - Air sealing
  - Windows
  - Reflective surfaces
- Promote energy-efficient building materials & innovative designs

New buildings: advanced design & codes  
Existing buildings: How to upgrade the building envelopes?

Examples of passive cooling designs – earth tube cooling  
(outdoor fresh air cooled by the earth before entering the building)

### Cool tube (for earth cooling)



Earth tube cooling (Japan)

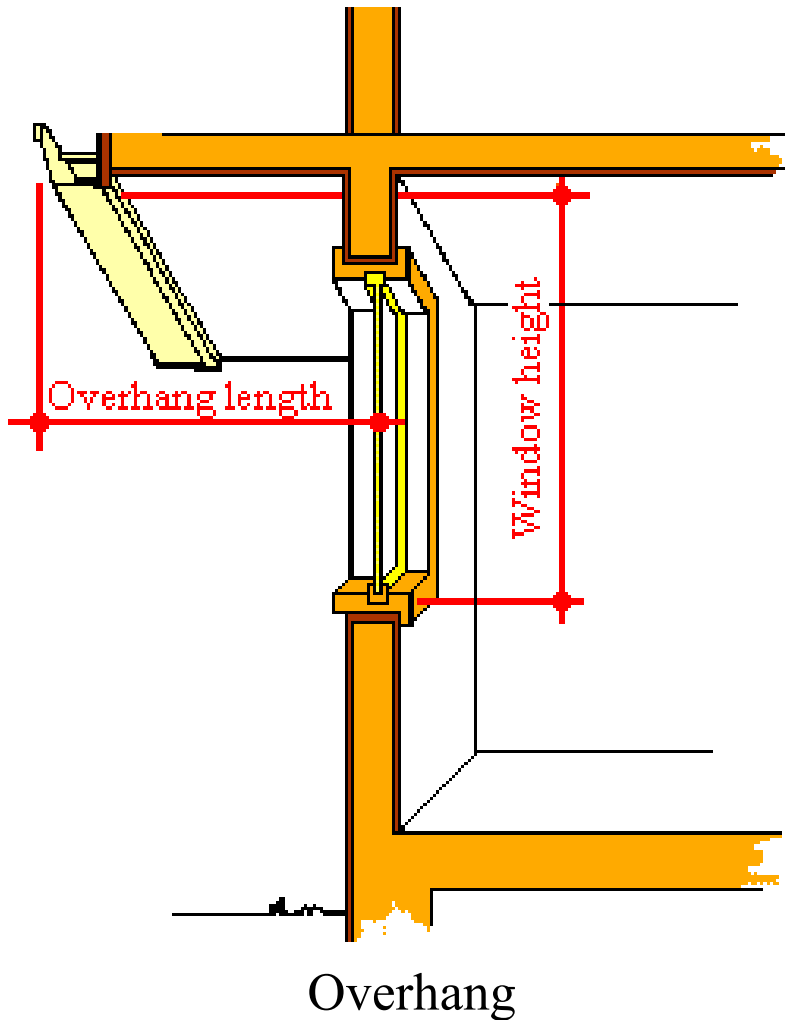
# Design factors



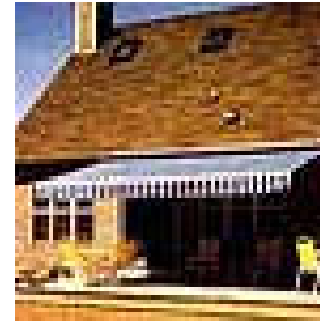
- Examples of current envelope technologies:
  - Double-glazed low-e (emissivity) glass
  - Window films (solar control)
  - Window attachments (e.g. shutters, shades)
  - Highly insulating windows (e.g. triple-glazed)
  - Typical insulation & exterior insulation
  - Advanced insulation (e.g. aerogel)
  - Air sealing
  - Cool roofs, advanced roofs, green roofs

# Shading devices (external and internal) for sun control

(reduce direct sun light => reduce cooling energy & glare)



Louvers



Awnings



Shutters



Drapes and  
curtains



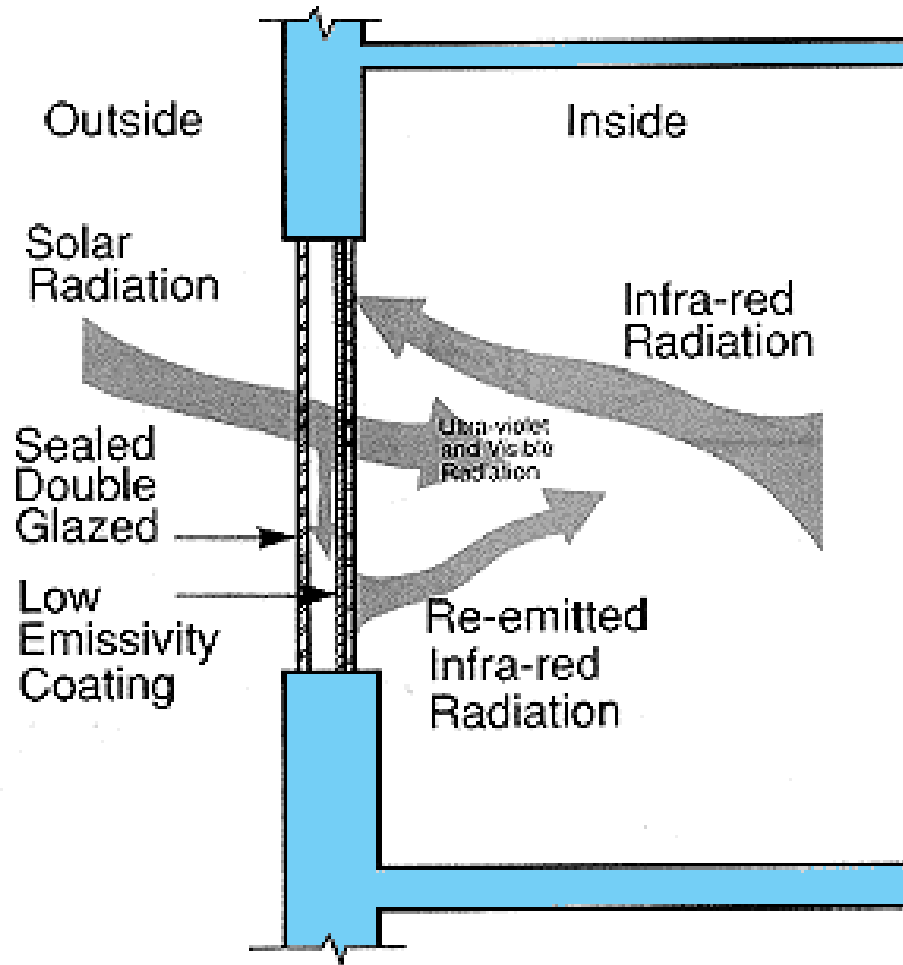
Venetian  
blinds



Roller  
shades

# Advanced window and insulation technology

(reduce solar heat gain => reduce cooling energy)



Low-e (emissivity)  
glazing

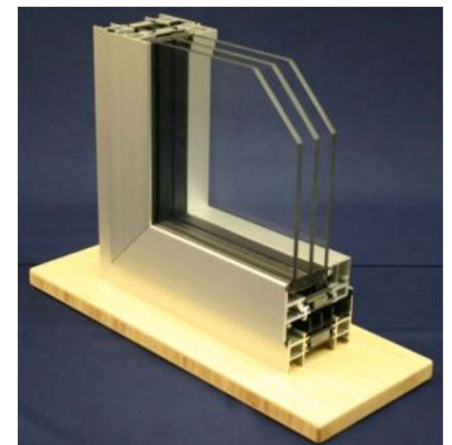
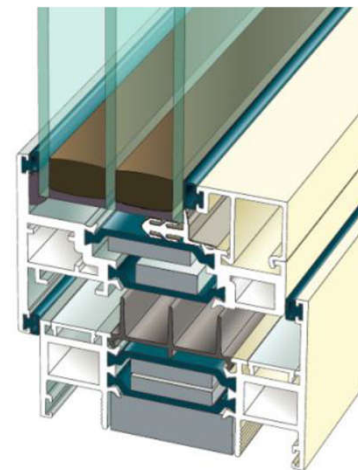
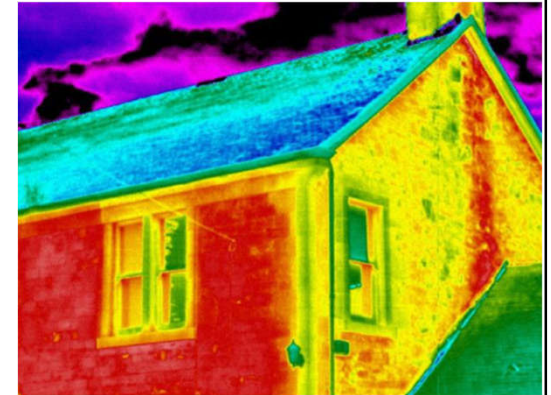


Gas filled panel (high  
performance insulation)

# Design factors



- Advanced/emerging technologies
  - Highly insulating windows
  - Building envelope material
  - Air-sealing technologies (systems-level approach)
  - Dynamic windows and window films
  - Visible light redirection
  - Highly insulating roofs
  - Double-skin/active façades
- More R&D are needed

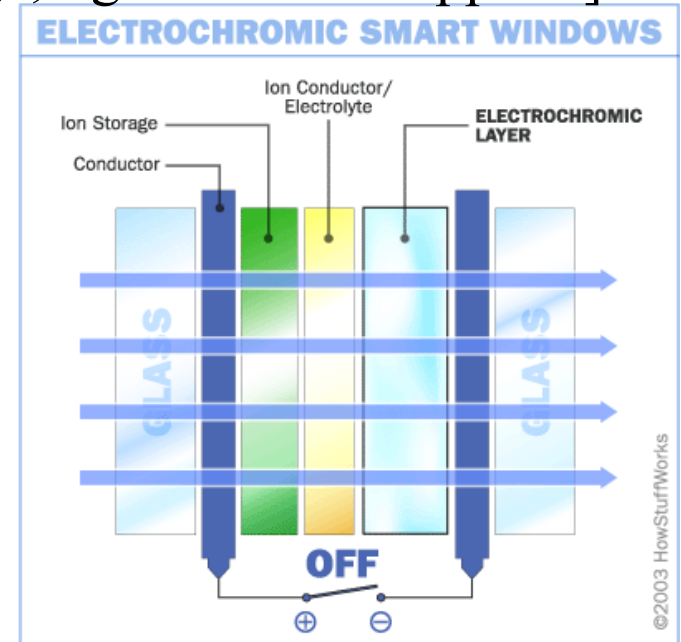




# Smart windows or switchable windows

[Changes light transmission properties when voltage, light or heat is applied]

Smart glass technologies include electrochromic, photochromic, thermochromic, suspended particle, micro-blind and liquid crystal devices  
([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smart\\_glass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smart_glass))



Large-scale demonstration of electrochromic glazing at Chabot College, California:



(Source: Source: Sage (Sage Electrochromics) (2013), "Portfolio - Chabot College, Hayward, California")

<http://sageglass.com/portfolio/chabot-college/>

# Facade design strategies for different climate zones

Climate type	Design strategies for sustainable facades
Heating-dominated climates Zones 5, 6, 7, 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Solar collection &amp; passive heating</i>: collect solar heat through envelope</li> <li>• <i>Heat storage</i>: storage of heat in the mass of the walls</li> <li>• <i>Heat conservation</i>: preserve heat through improved insulation</li> <li>• <i>Daylight</i>: use of natural light sources &amp; increased glazed areas of the facade, use of high-performance glass, and use of light shelves to redirect light into interior spaces</li> </ul>
Cooling-dominated climates Zones 1, 2, 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Solar control</i>: protect the facade from direct solar radiation through self-shading methods (building form) or shading devices</li> <li>• <i>Reduction of external heat gains</i>: protect from solar heat gain by infiltration (by using well-insulated opaque facade elements) or conduction (by using shading devices)</li> <li>• <i>Cooling</i>: use of natural ventilation where environmental characteristics &amp; building function permit</li> <li>• <i>Daylight</i>: use of natural light sources while minimizing solar heat gain through use of shading devices and light shelves</li> </ul>
Mixed climates Zone 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Solar control</i>: protect facade from direct solar radiation (shading) during warm seasons</li> <li>• <i>Solar collection and passive heating</i>: solar collection during cold seasons</li> <li>• <i>Daylight</i>: use of natural light sources &amp; increased glazed areas of the facade with shading devices</li> </ul>

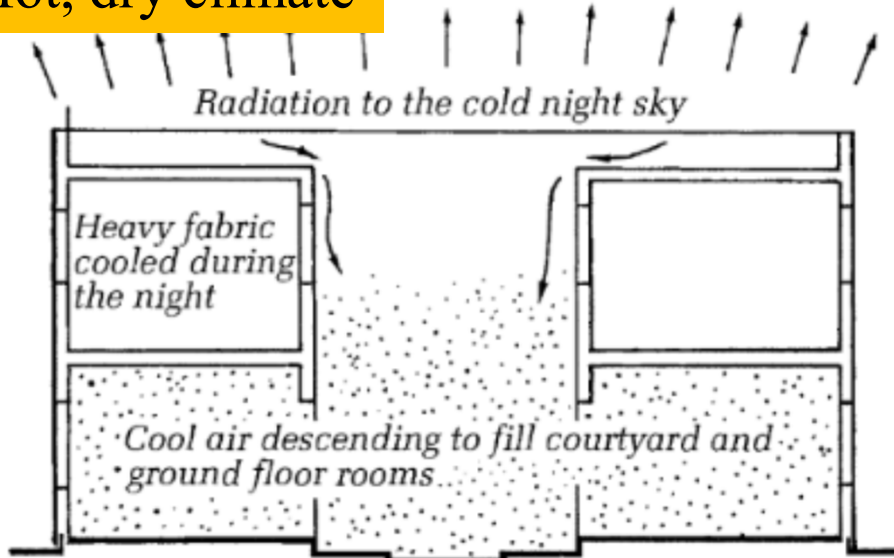
# Response to local climate



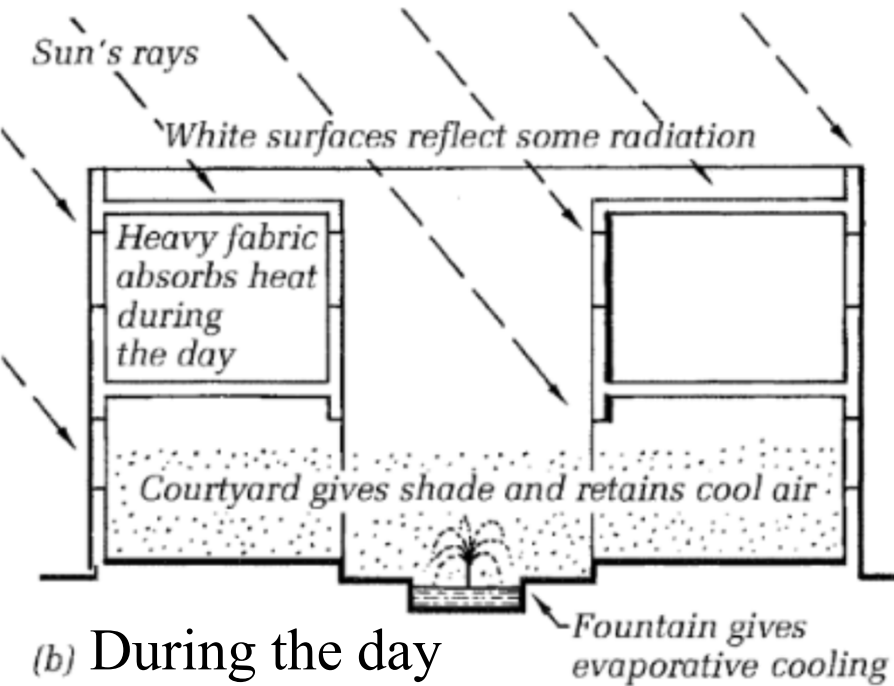
- Building envelope design: response to climate
  - Hot, dry climate with clear skies
    - At night, the building radiates to the clear sky & cool air accumulates in the courtyard & the ground floor
      - The fabric is cooled by both convection & radiation
    - During the day, the sun shines on the building, where the white surfaces reflect some of the radiation
      - The courtyard & the ground floor remain shaded from the sun
      - A fountain can be used to give evaporative cooling

# Control of environment through construction

## Hot, dry climate

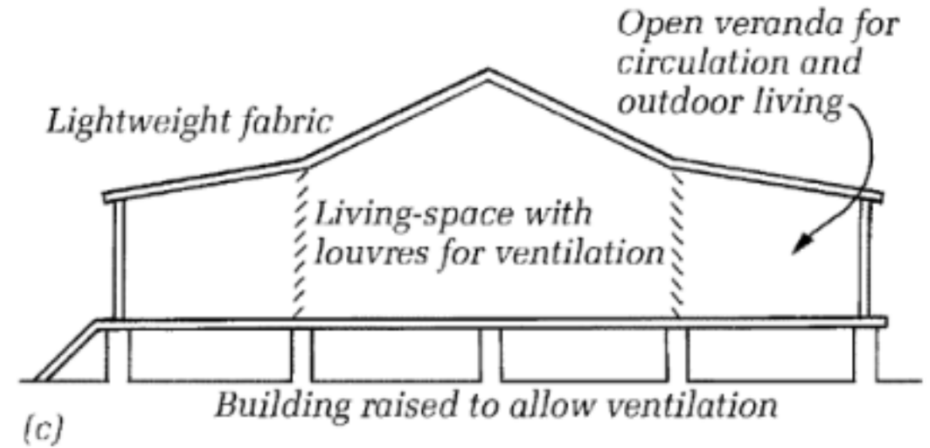


(a) Night-time



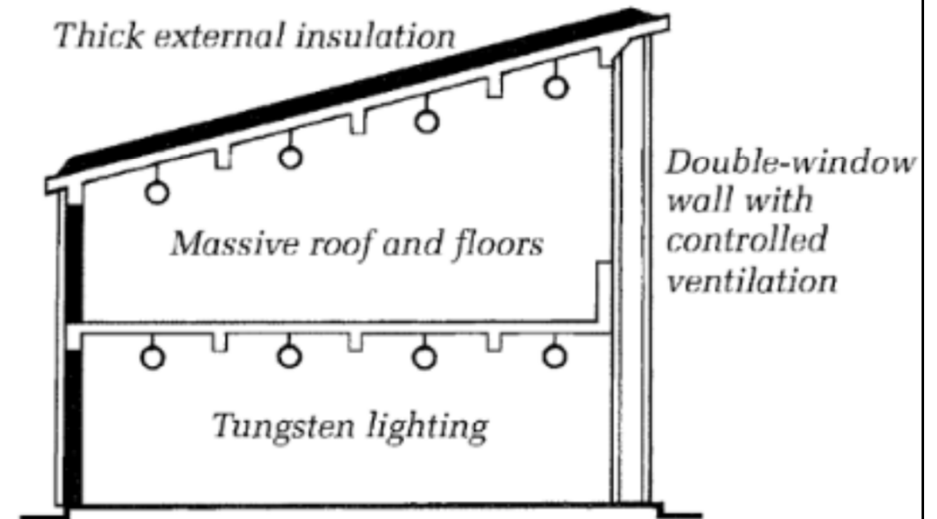
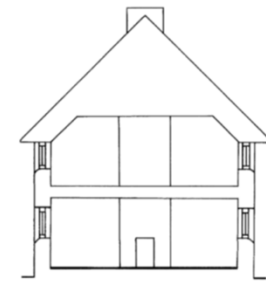
(b) During the day

## Hot and humid climate



(c)

## Cold/mild climate



(e)



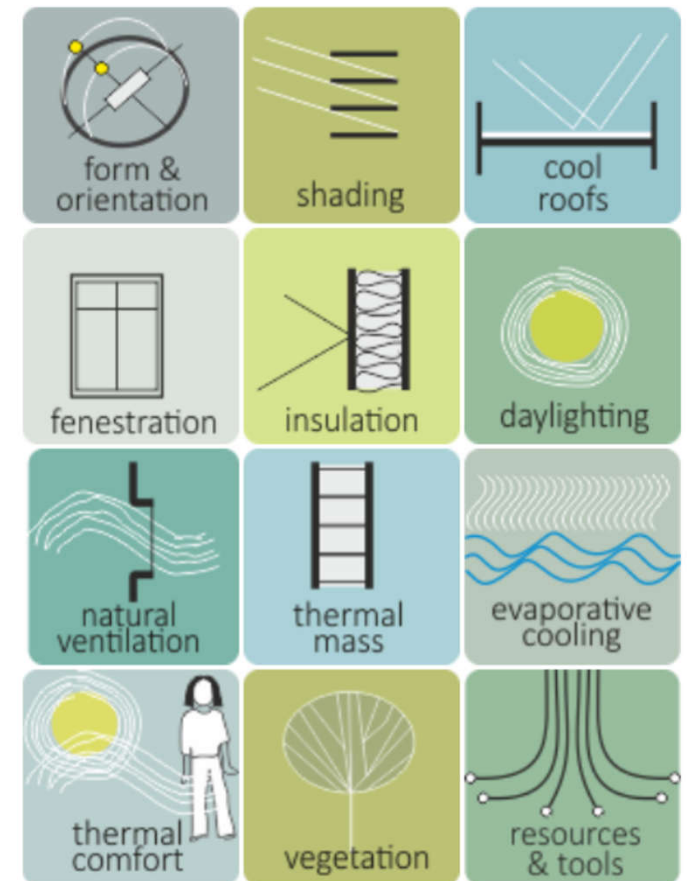
# Response to local climate

- Building envelope design: response to climate
  - Hot and humid climate
    - Opportunities to improve comfort are very limited due to high air temperature & relative humidity
    - Encourage air movement (ventilation) as much as possible to help the evaporative cooling of perspiration
    - Use open verandas as living spaces & provide privacy with louvred walls which restrict air flow less
  - Cold/mild climate
    - Thick walls & the roof with massive insulation
    - The windows are small, with controlled ventilation

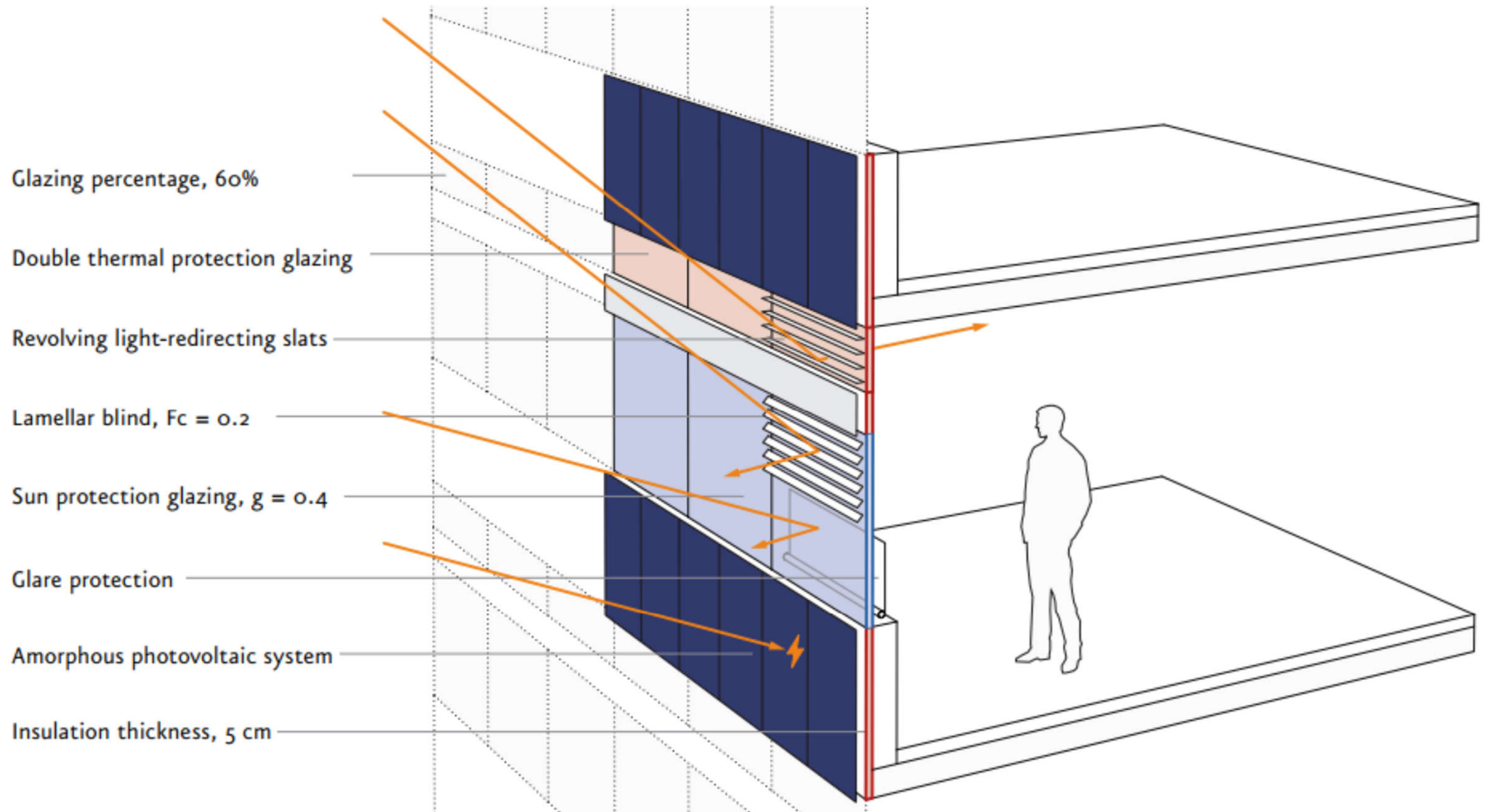


# Response to local climate

- Passive building design strategies
  - Form & orientation
  - Sun shading & cool roofs
  - Fenestration & thermal insulation
  - Daylighting
  - Natural ventilation
  - Thermal mass
  - Evaporative cooling
  - Vegetation



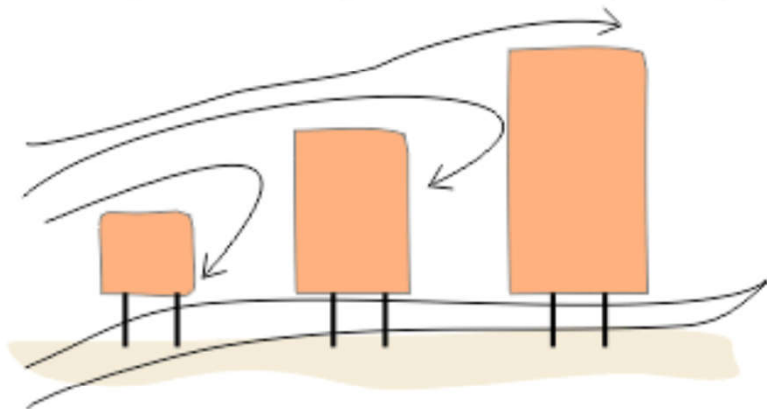
# Facade concept for the subtropics (strategies for a south facade optimised in terms of energy, room climate & daylight)



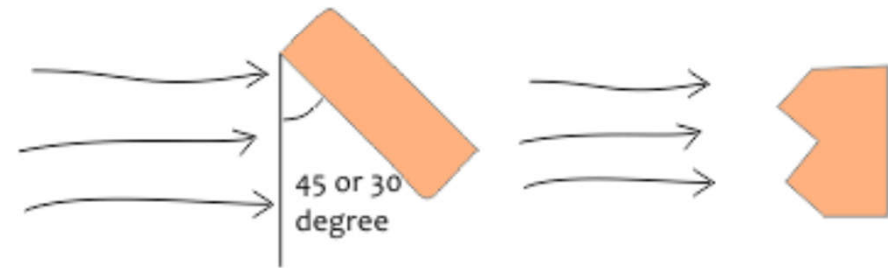
# Building form and orientation



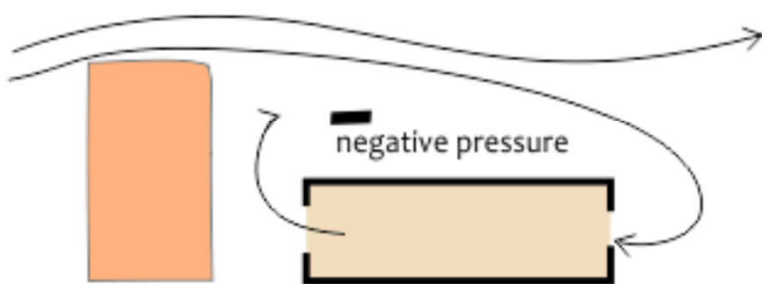
Orient longer facades along the north. This will provide glare free light in summer from north without shading and winter sun penetration from the south.



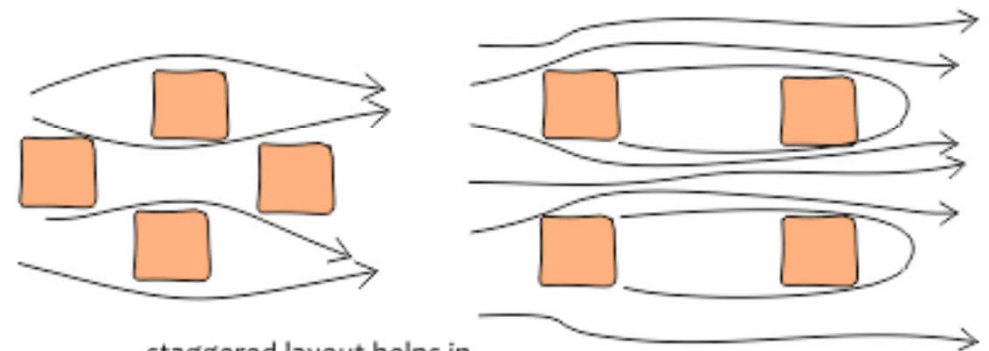
if a site has multiple buildings, they should be arranged in ascending order of their heights and be built on stilts to allow ventilation



Place buildings at a 30 or 45 degree angle to the direction of wind for enhanced ventilation. Form can be staggered in the wind facing direction also to achieve the same result.



Taller forms in the wind direction of prevailing wind can alter the wind movement pattern for low lying buildings behind them

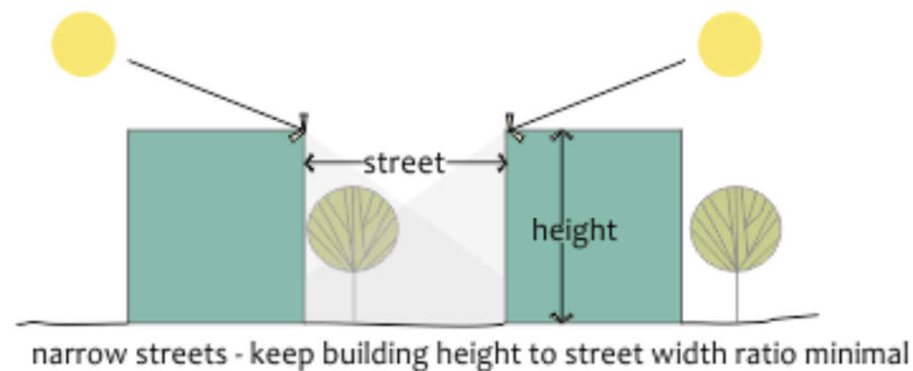
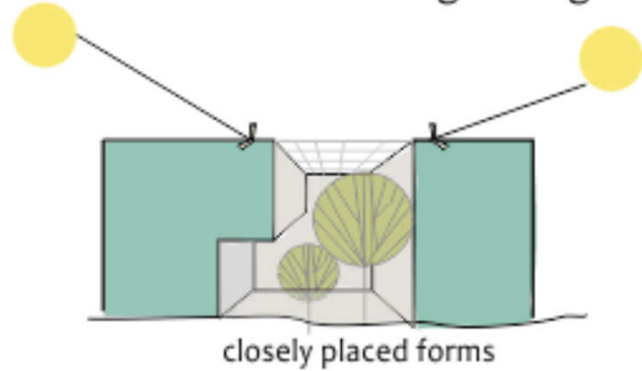


staggered layout helps in accentuating wind movement

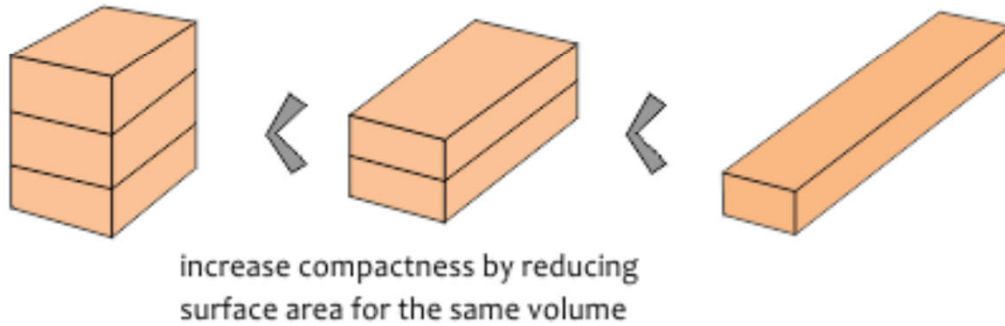


# Building envelope design for hot region and extreme climates

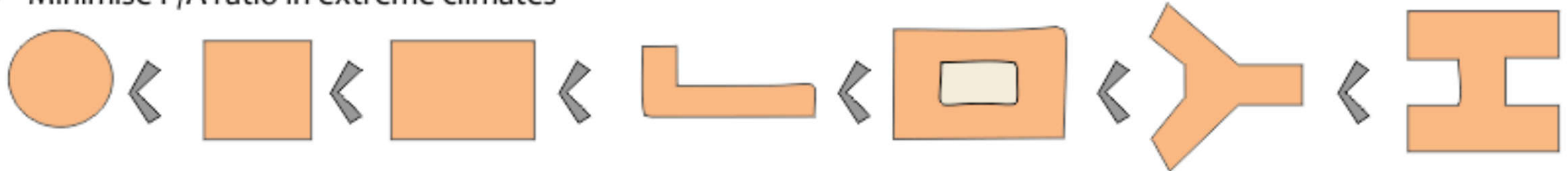
## 1 Maximise mutual shading through built forms



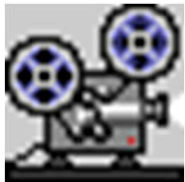
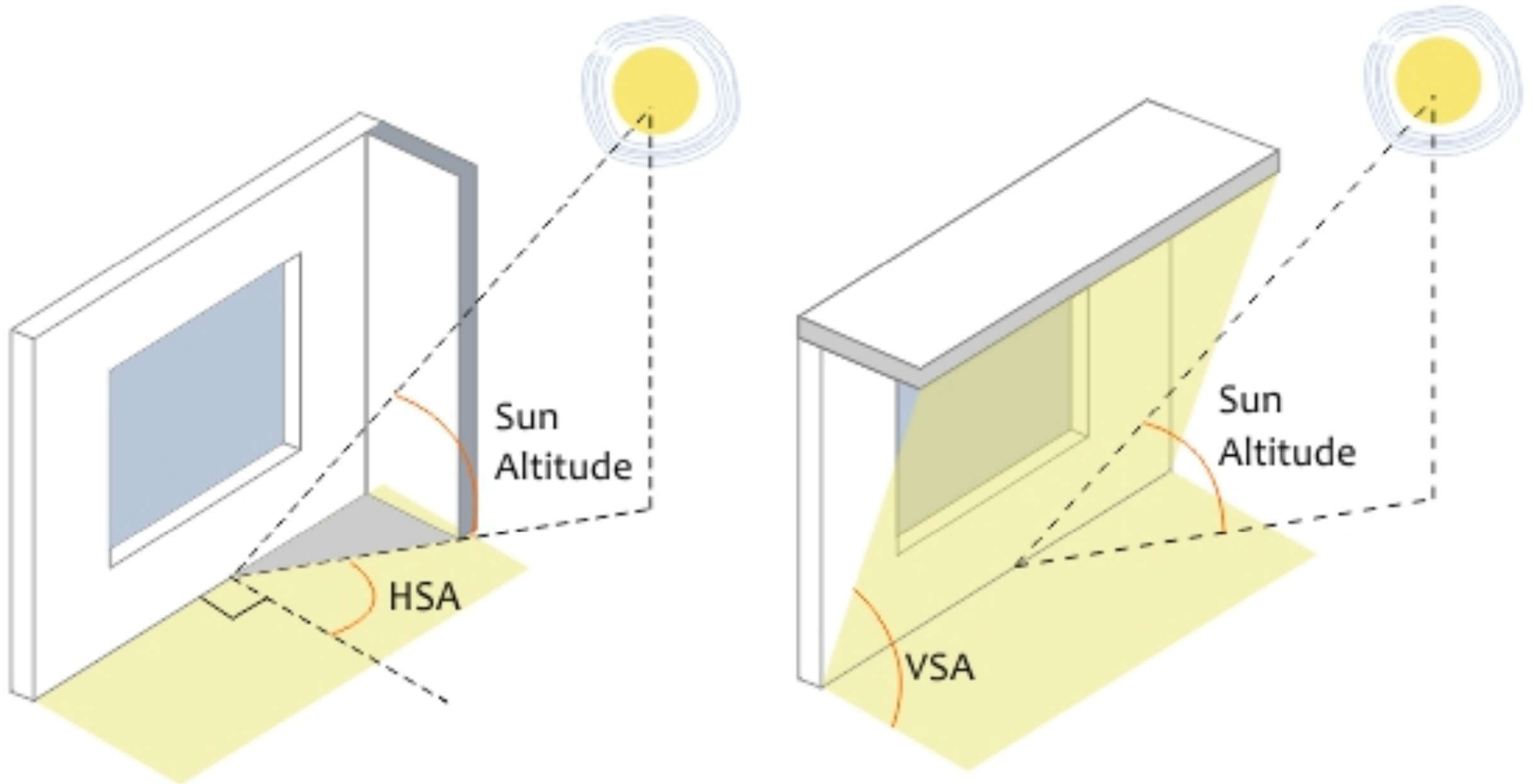
## 2 Minimise S/V ratio in extreme climates



## 3 Minimise P/A ratio in extreme climates



# Design of side fin and overhang for solar shading



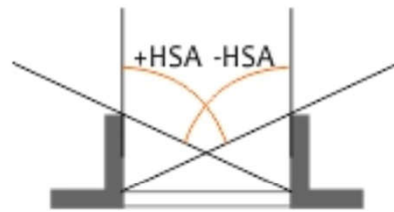
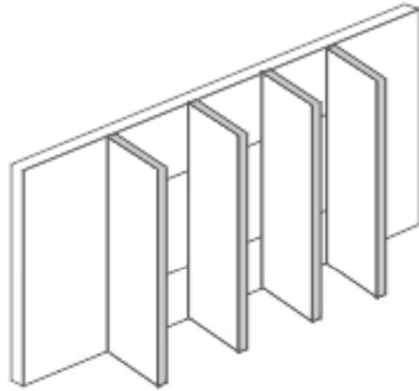
Video: Process for Designing Climate Specific Solar Shading Devices (16:59)

<https://youtu.be/9girn6Y1BOE>

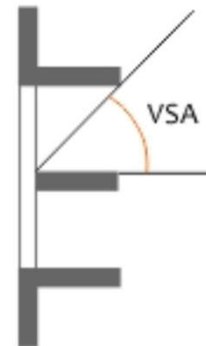
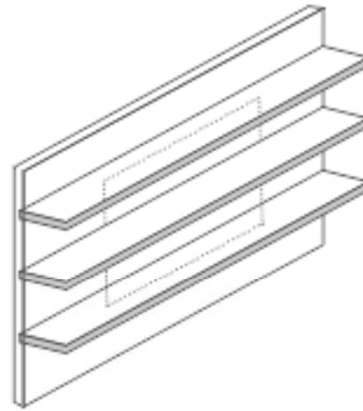
(Source: <https://nzeb.in/knowledge-centre/passive-design/shading/>)

# Design and analysis of shading devices

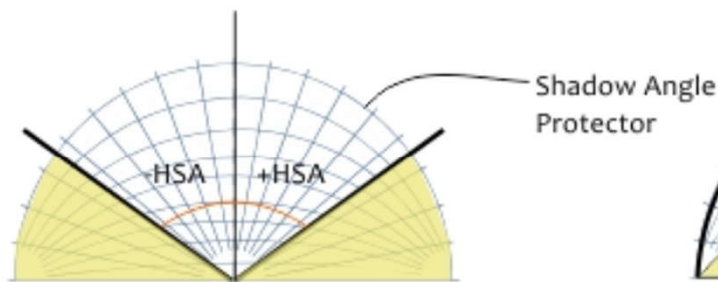
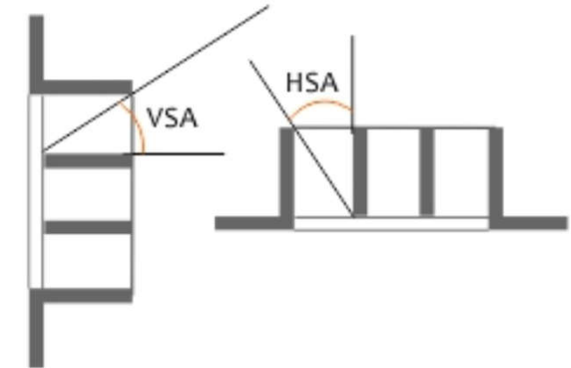
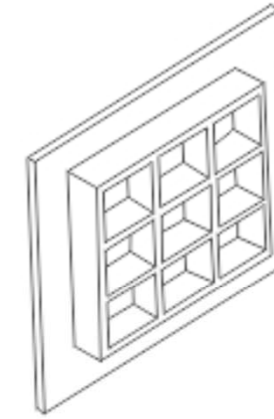
Vertical Shading



Horizontal Shading

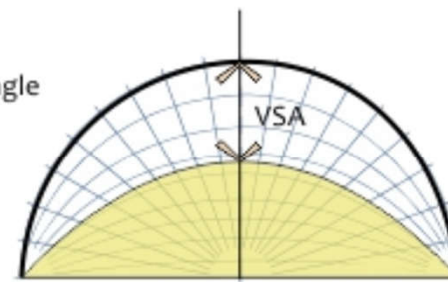


Horizontal & Vertical Shading



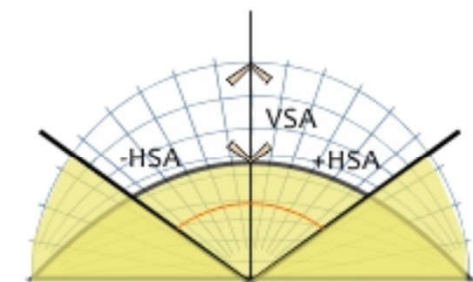
Shading mask of vertical shading device

vertical shading devices protect from sun at sides of the elevation such as east and west side



Shading mask of horizontal shading device

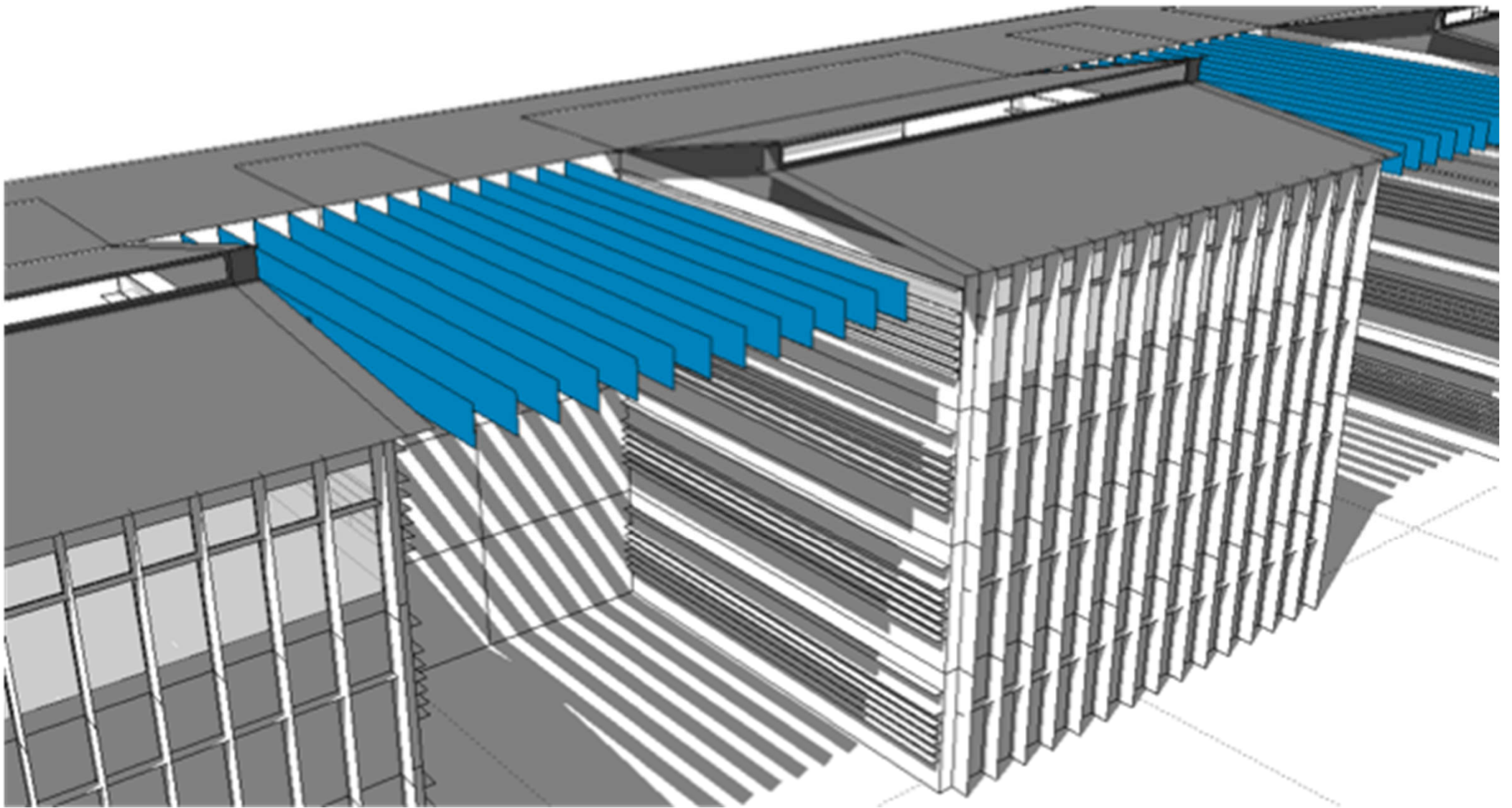
horizontal shading devices protect from sun at high angles and opposite to the wall to be shaded such as north and south sides



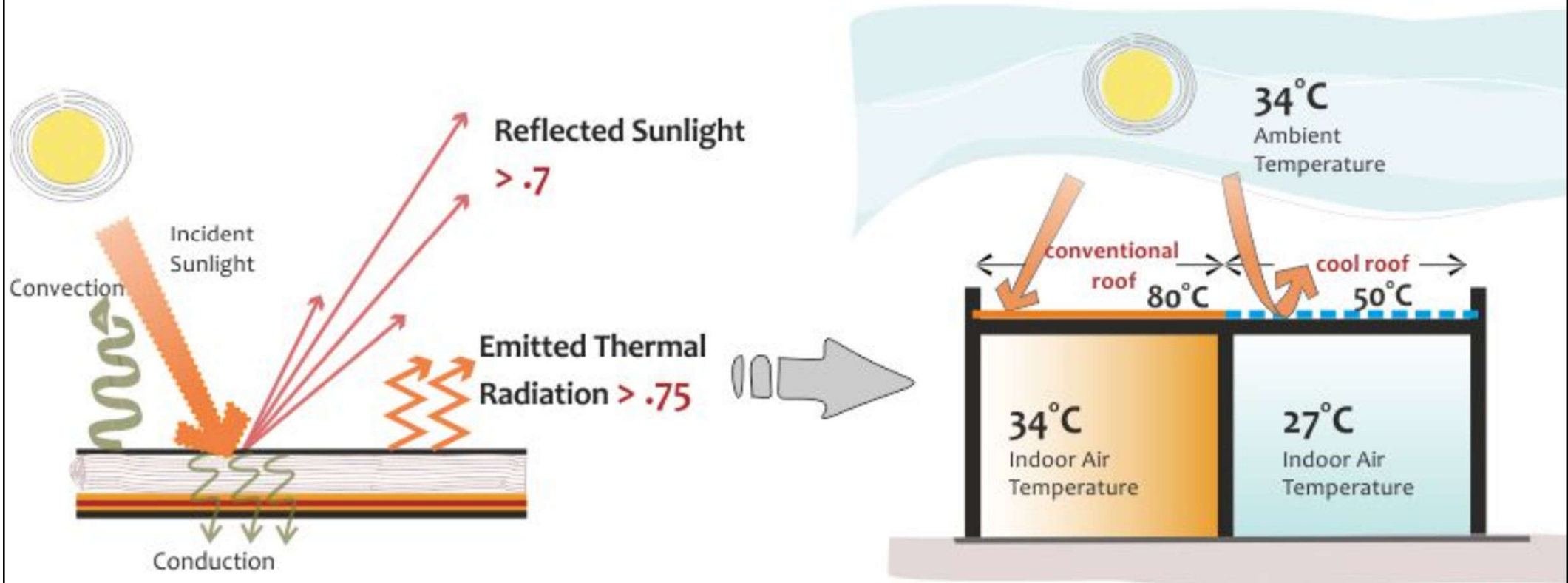
Shading mask of egg crate shading device

combination of horizontal and vertical shading devices protect from sun in all orientations

# Example of external shading devices



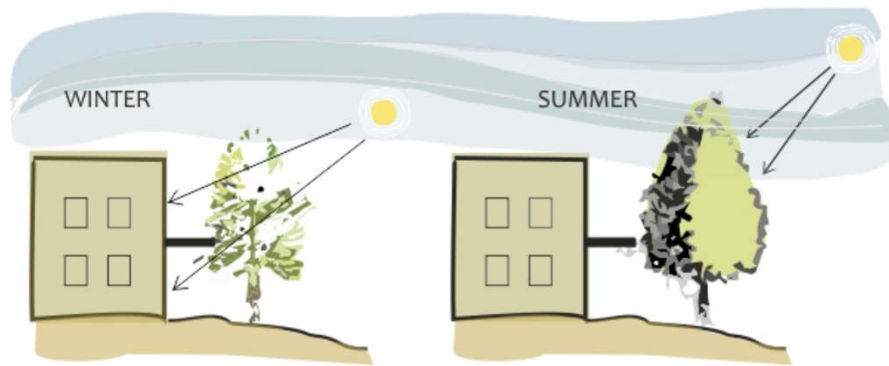
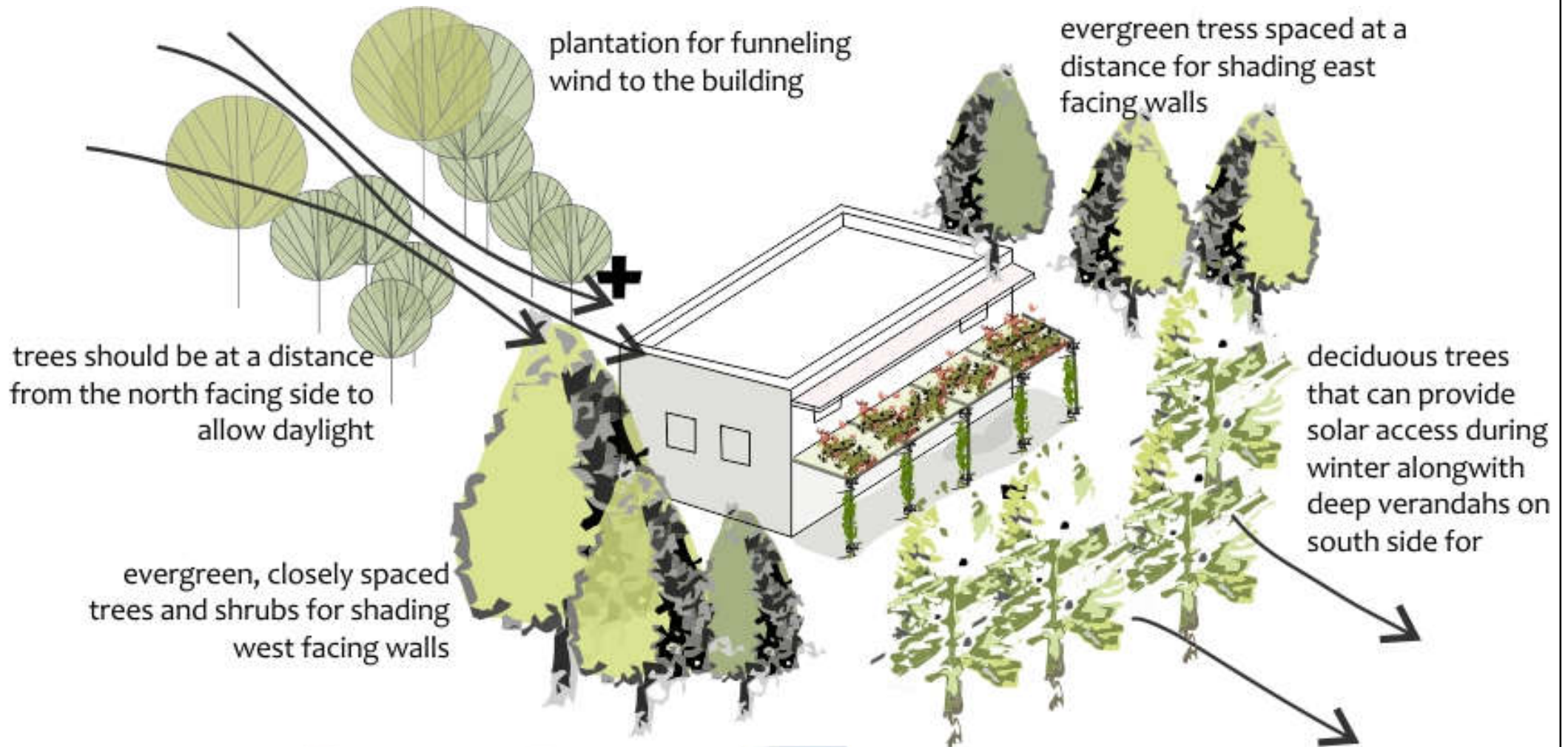
# Cool roof properties and performance



Performance of cool roofs can be assessed in terms of thermal emittance, solar reflectance or Solar Reflectance Index (SRI), which is a measure of both emittance and reflectance.

Cool roofs are able to maintain a temperature differential of 6-8 deg celcius between ambient and indoor air temperature due to high thermal emittance and solar reflectance.

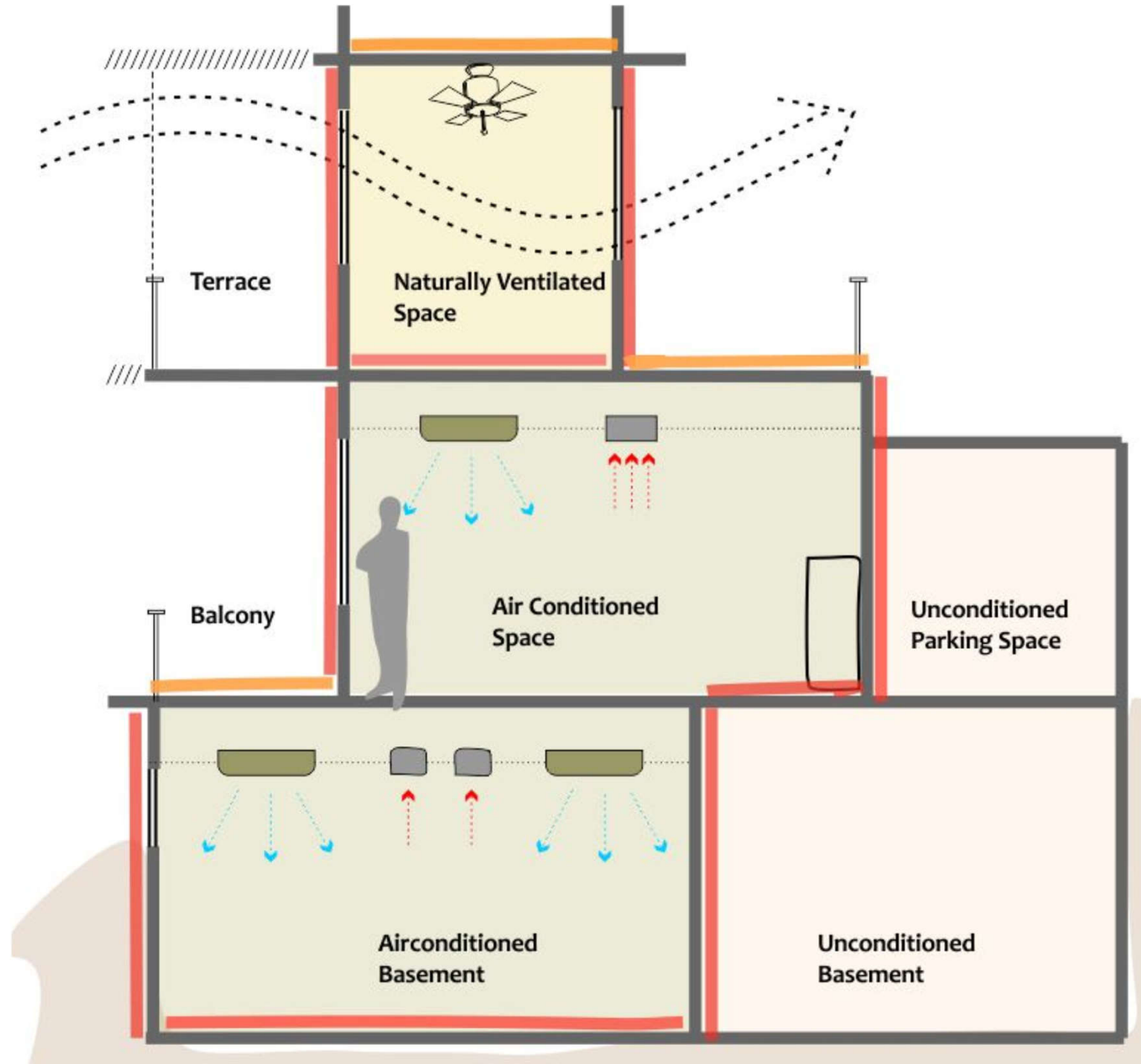
# Vegetation for shading and modifying microclimate and wind



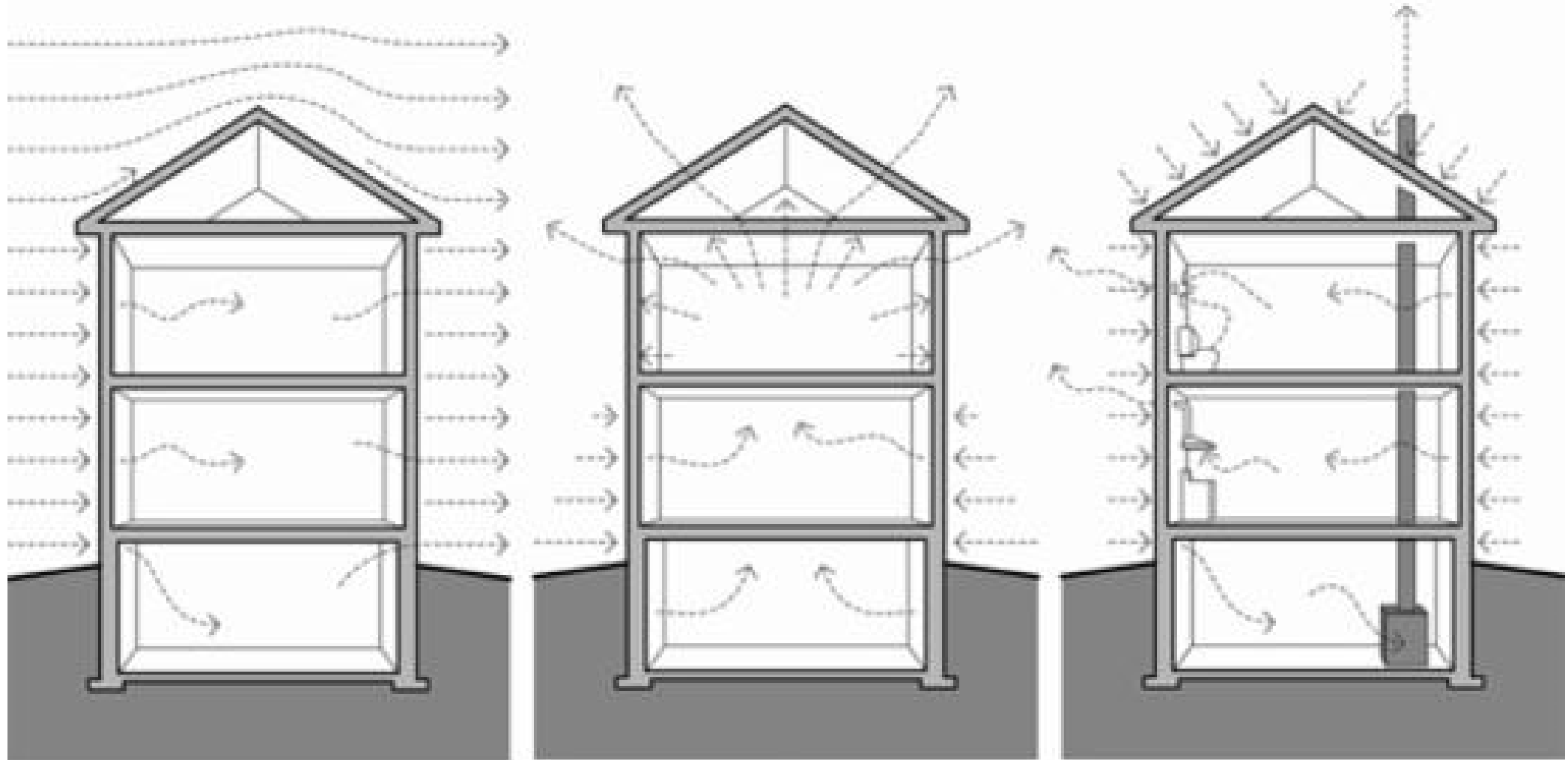
deciduous trees allow sun penetration in winter and block sun access during summer

(Source: <https://nzeb.in/knowledge-centre/passive-design/vegetation/>)

# Thermal insulation in walls and roofs to reduce heat transfer



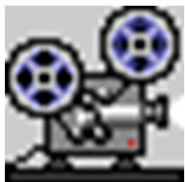
# Forces driving air flow through building envelopes/enclosures



Wind Effect

Stack Effect

Combustion and Ventilation



Video: Natural Ventilation - Passive Cross Wind System Explained (1:40)

<https://youtu.be/PsQNvTIBiLk>



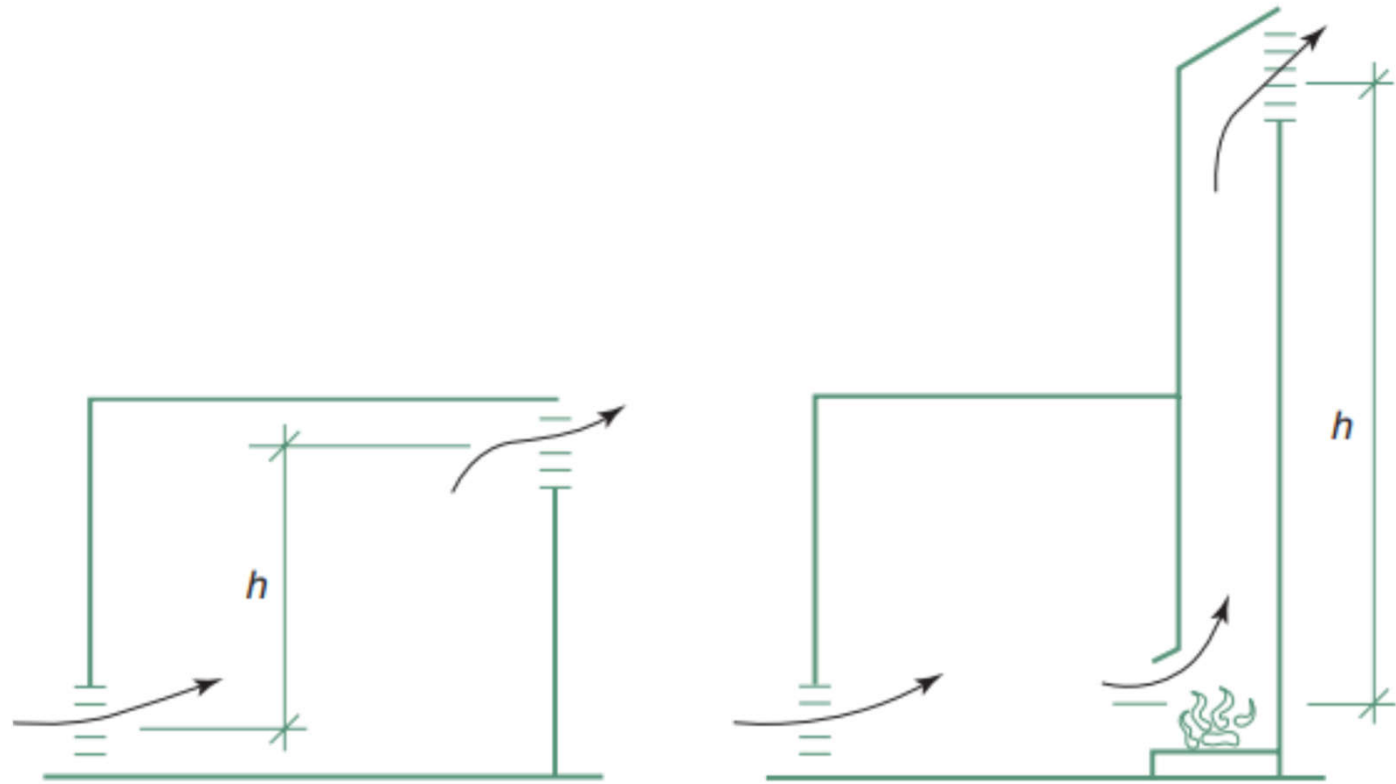
# Ventilation strategy



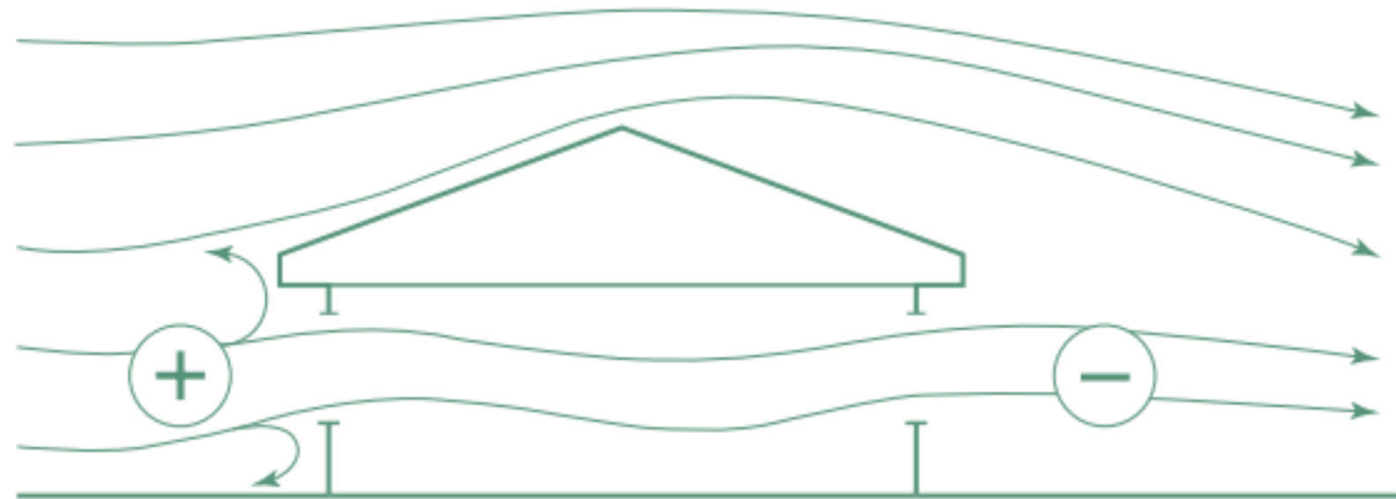
- Maximise natural & wind-induced ventilation
- Allow for adequate internal airflow
- Consider the use of fan-assisted cooling strategies & mechanical cooling
- Air flow & ventilation
  - Stack effect: occurs when the air inside a vertical stack is warmer than the outside air
  - Wind effects: windward side > positive pressure, leeward side > negative pressure

# Stack effect and wind effect

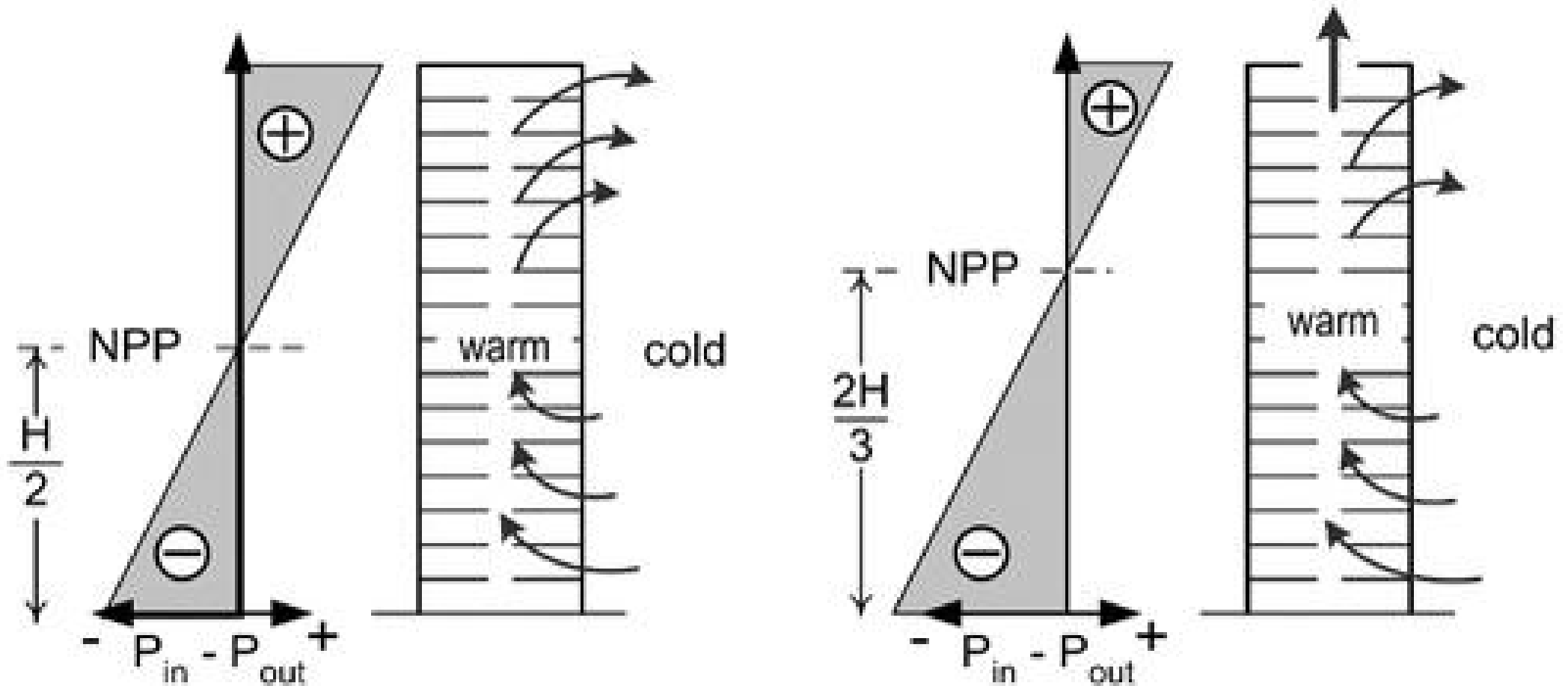
Stack effect in a room and in a chimney



Wind effect:  
cross-ventilation



# Stack effect in real buildings



NPP = Neutral Pressure Plane

(Left) Floors leakier than walls: building acts like a perforated tub

(Right) Top leakier than bottom: NPP rise

# Stack Ventilation Analysis

Stack ventilation rate  $q_B$  through two openings is:

$$q_B = c_d A^* \sqrt{2 \left( \frac{T_i - T_o}{T_o} \right) g H}$$

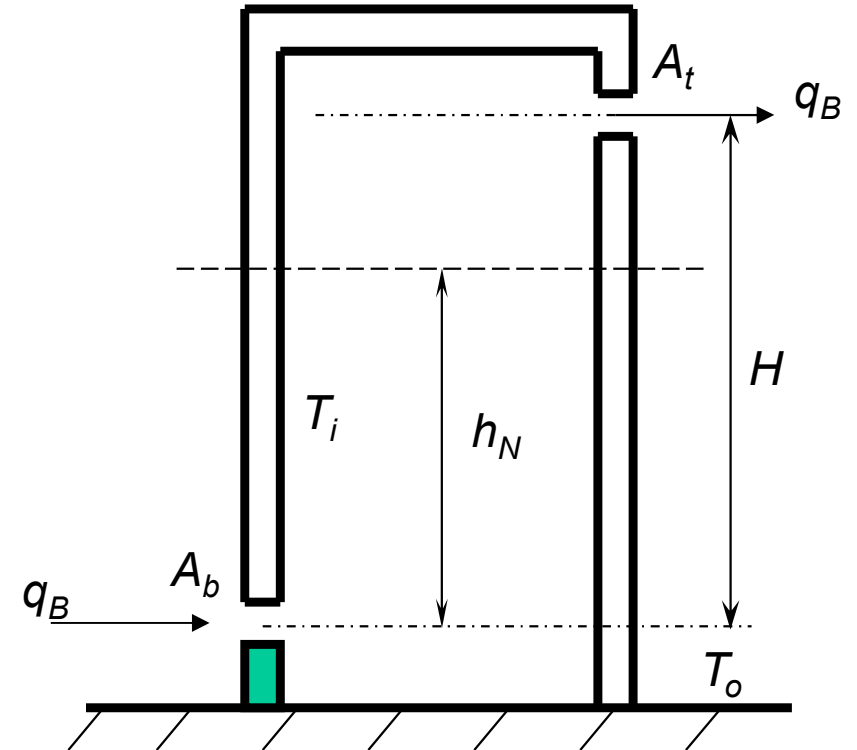
where

$$1/A^{*2} = 1/A_b^2 + 1/A_t^2$$

the Neutral Plane Level  $h_N$  is:

$$h_N = \frac{A_t^2}{A_b^2 + A_t^2} H$$

and  $C_d$  = discharge coefficient for opening,  $C_d = 0.61$  for sharp-edge orifice.

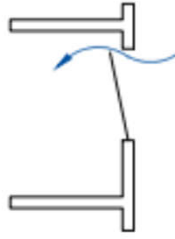
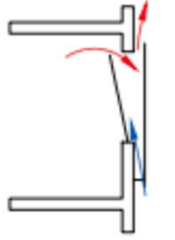
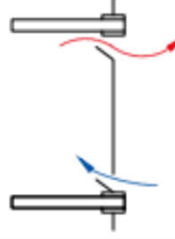
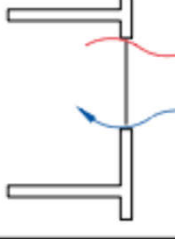
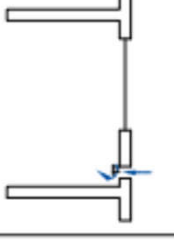


# Ventilation strategy

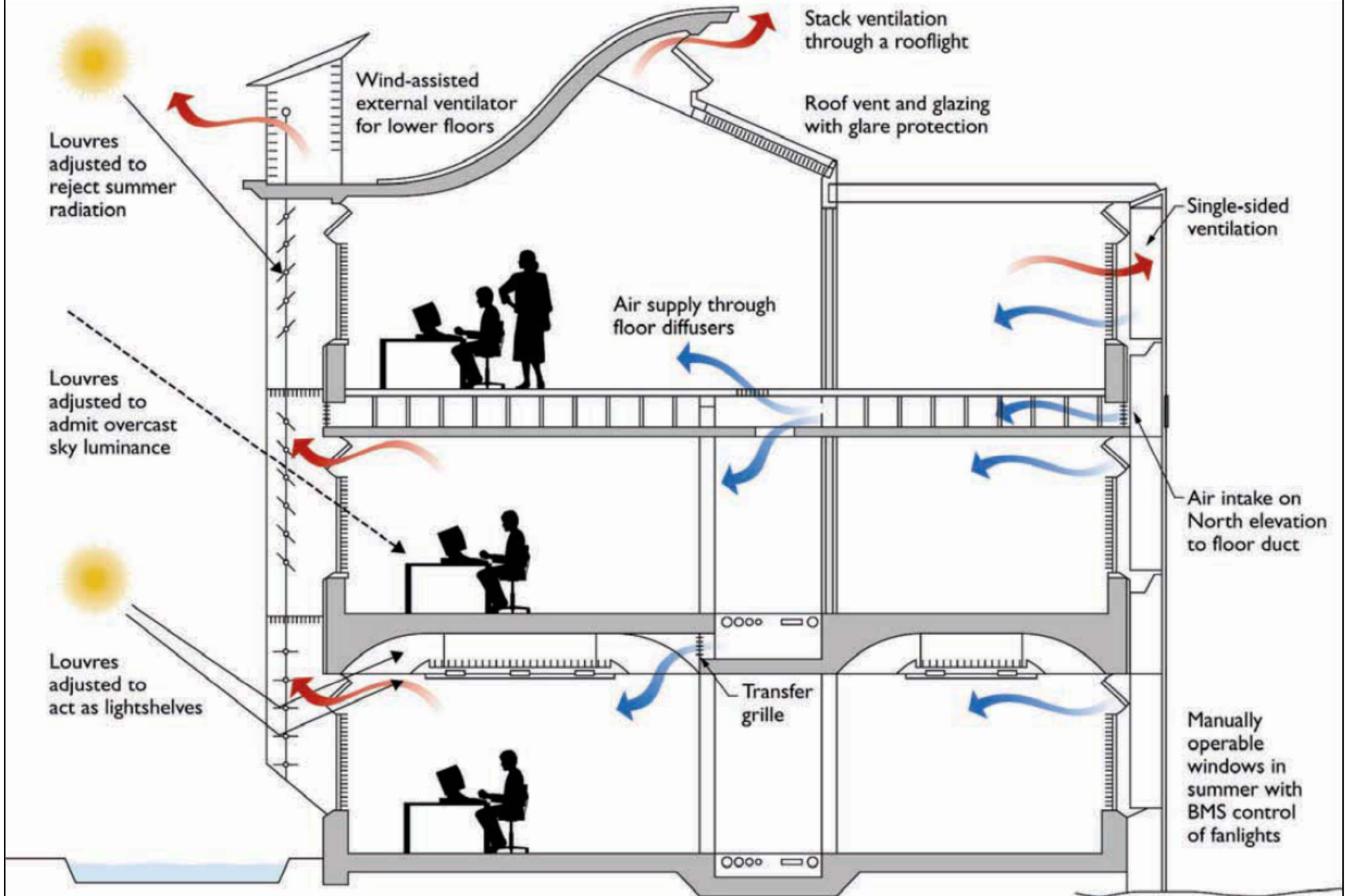


- Key factors affecting natural ventilation:
  - Depth of space related to ventilation openings
  - Ceiling height
  - Thermal mass exposed to the air
  - Location of building & possible air pollutants
  - Climate, e.g. outdoor temperature or wind velocity
- Can achieve passive cooling effect
  - Technologies or design features used to cool buildings without power consumption

# Ventilation openings in the façade

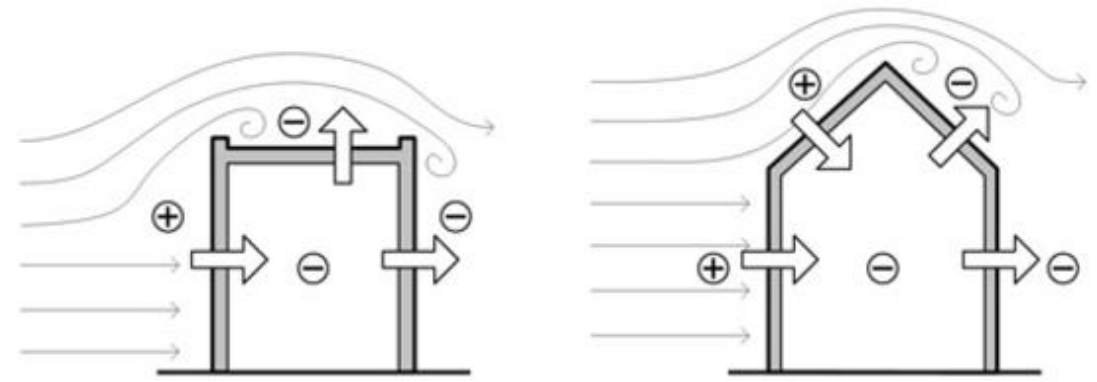
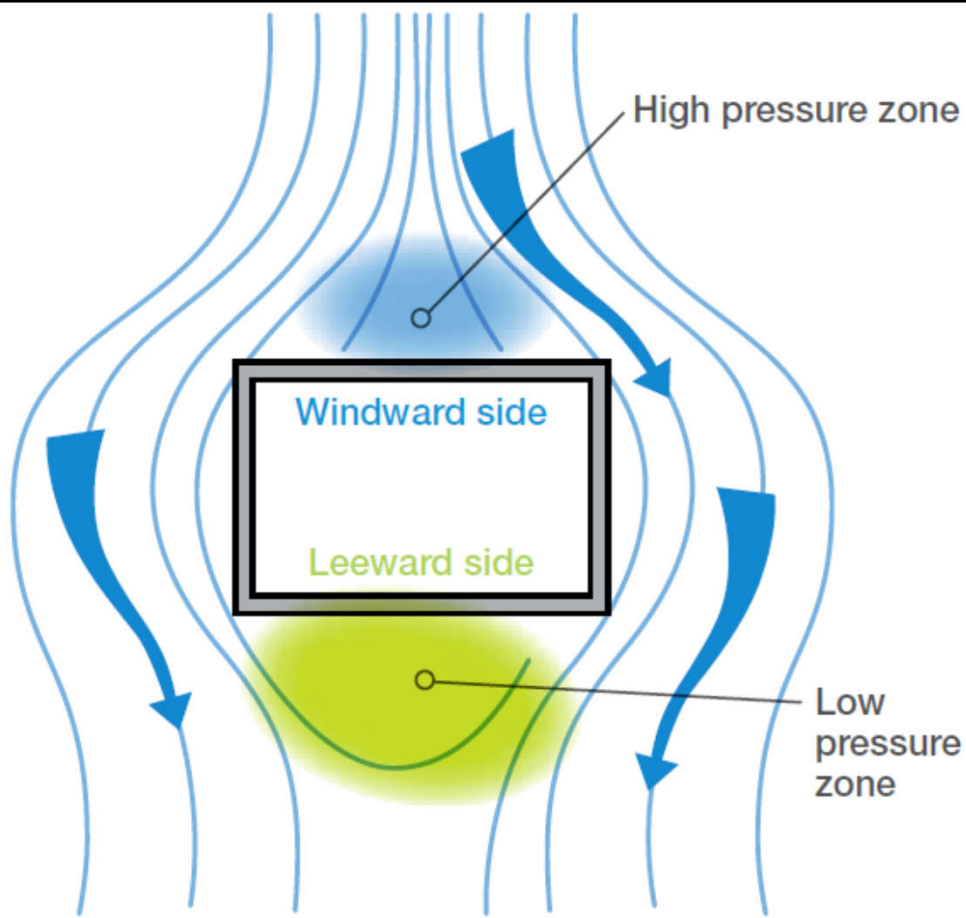
	Air exchange rate [1/h]	Adjustability	Acoustic protection	
Ventilation through window	0.5–20	medium	low	
Ventilation through window with exterior impact pane	0.5–5	low	high	
Ventilation flaps	1–3	low	low	
Gap ventilation	0.5–2	high	high	
Ventilation opening (sensor- or pressure-controlled)	0.5–2	low–medium	very high	

# Design strategies of natural ventilation

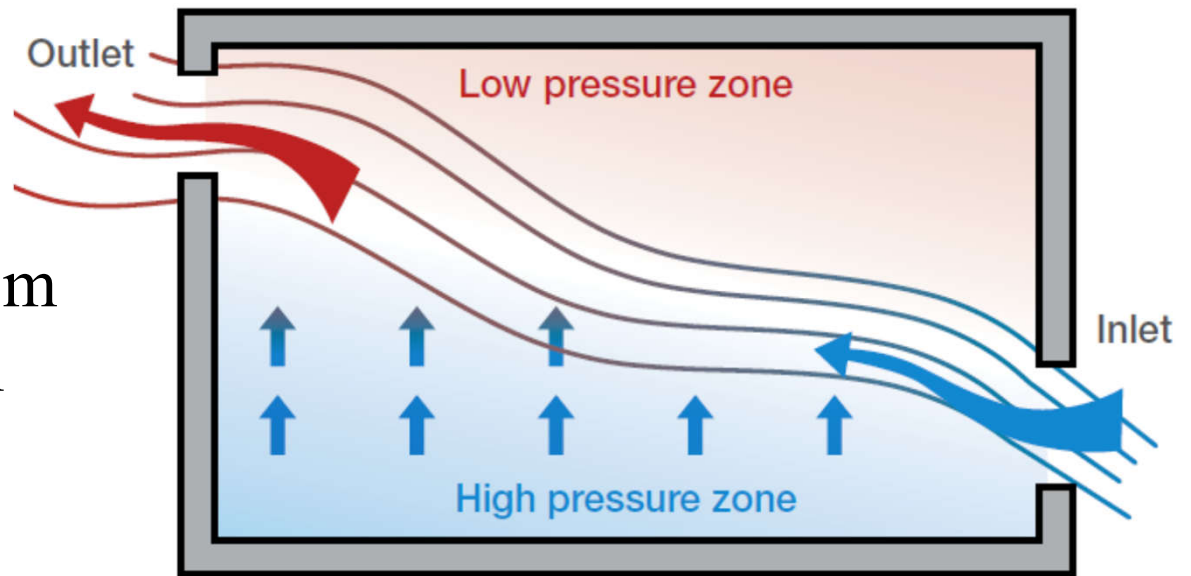


(Source: Pennycook, K., 2009. *The Illustrated Guide to Ventilation*)

## Pressure effect from wind



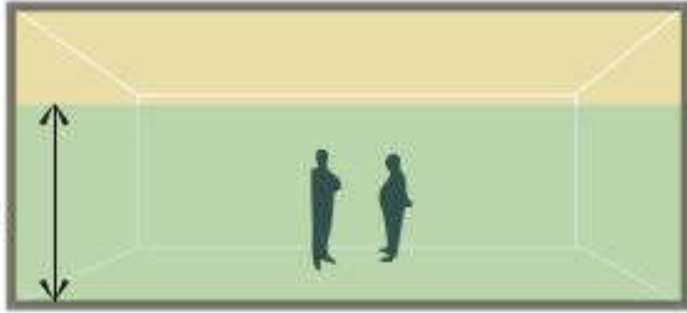
## Pressure effect from stack ventilation



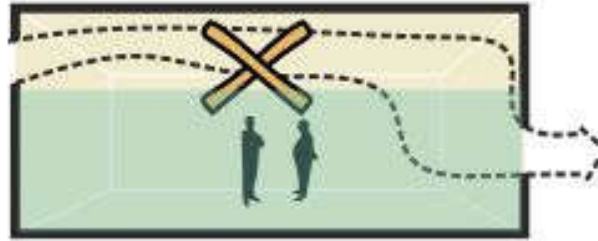


# Design of building openings for good natural ventilation

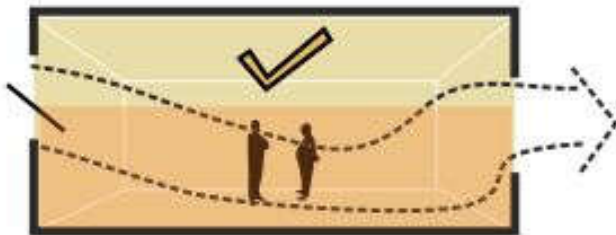
2 meter high  
"Living zone"



Living zone is the space commonly used by occupants. Air movement should be directed through this space.



inlet openings placed at high level deviate air flow away from the living zone irrespective of outlet position



Sashes

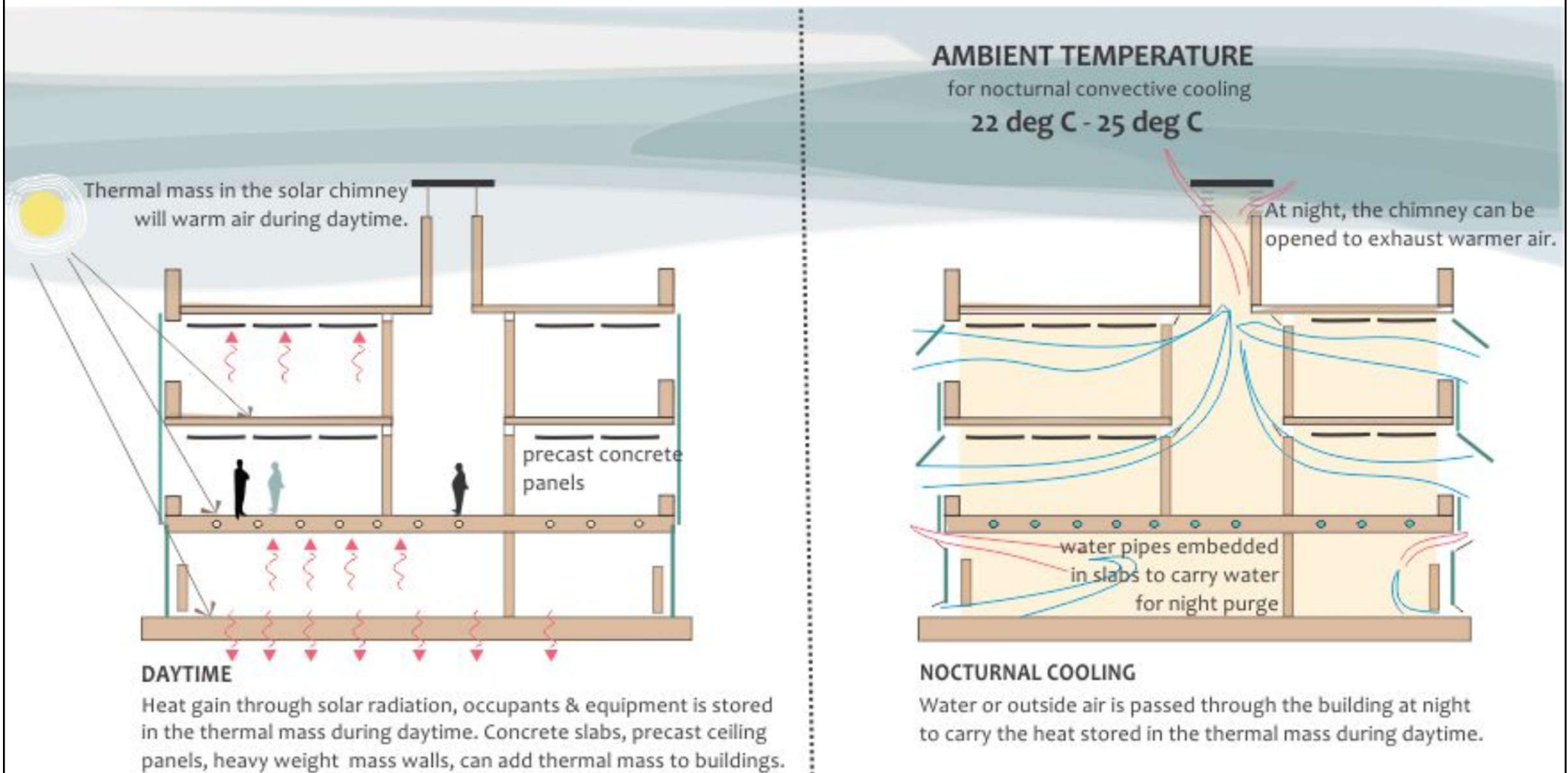


Louvres

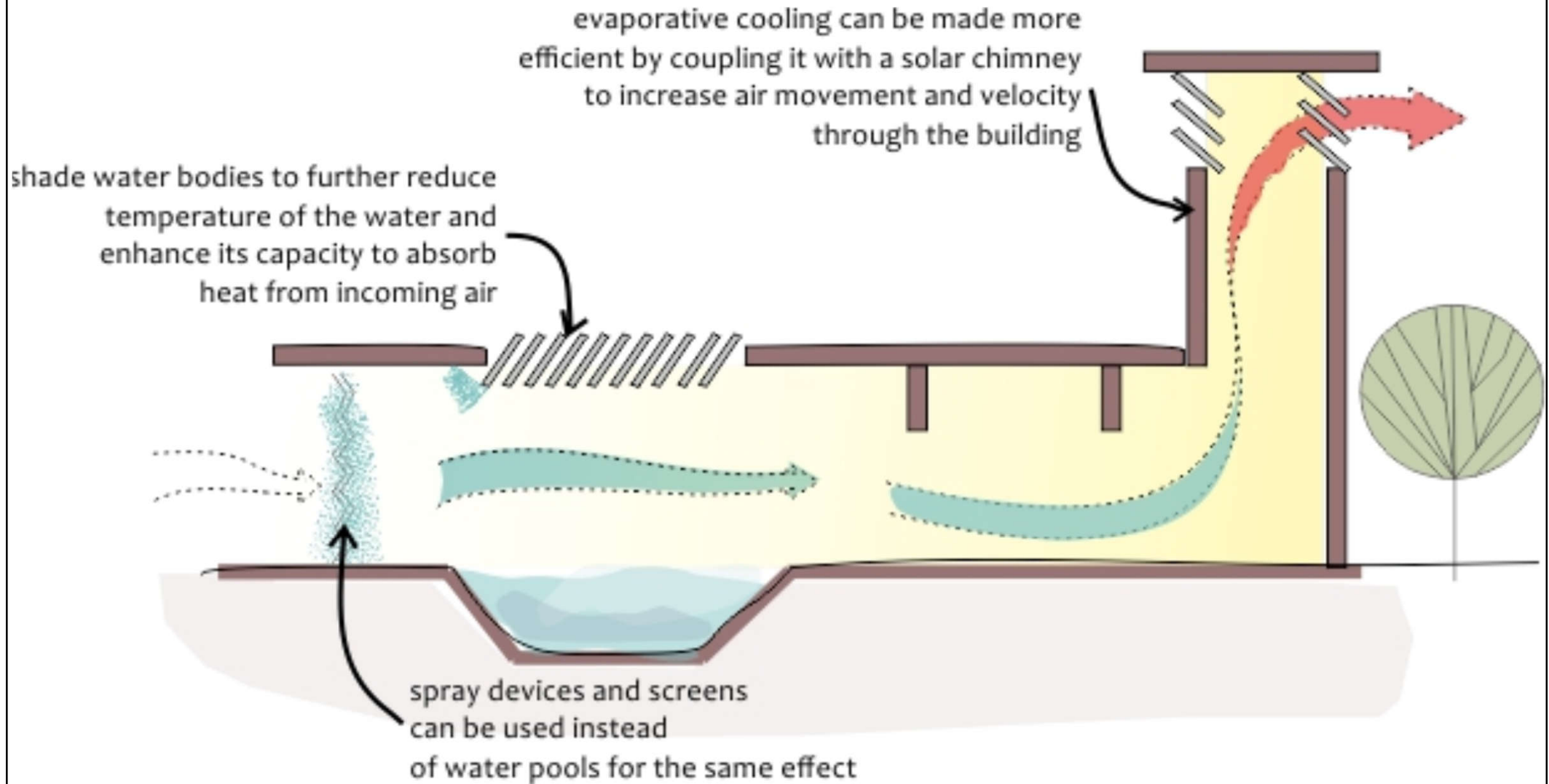


Canopies

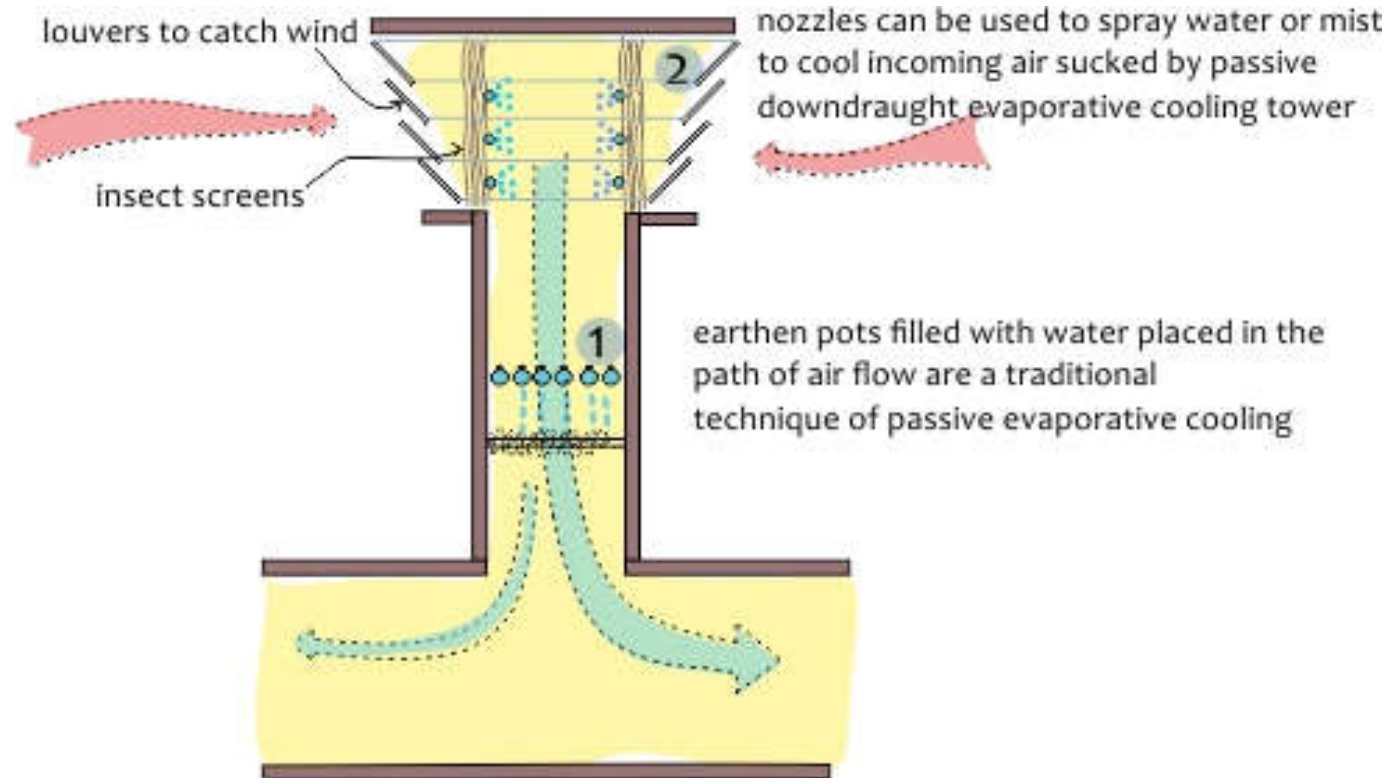
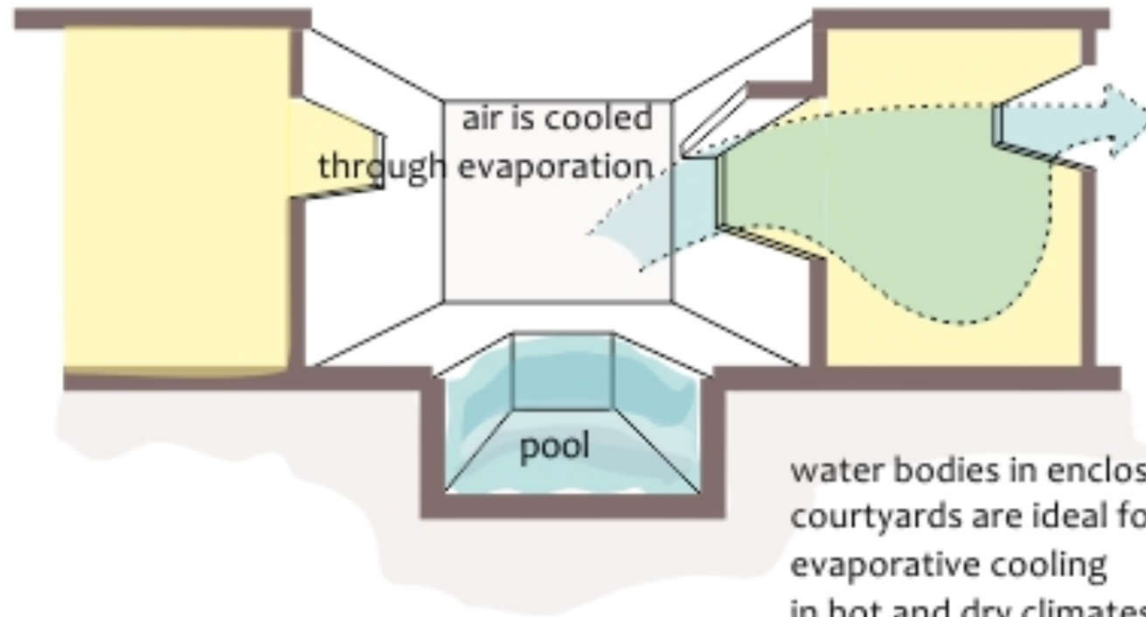
# Thermal mass and nocturnal (night-time) cooling



# Example of evaporative cooling using a water pond and solar chimney



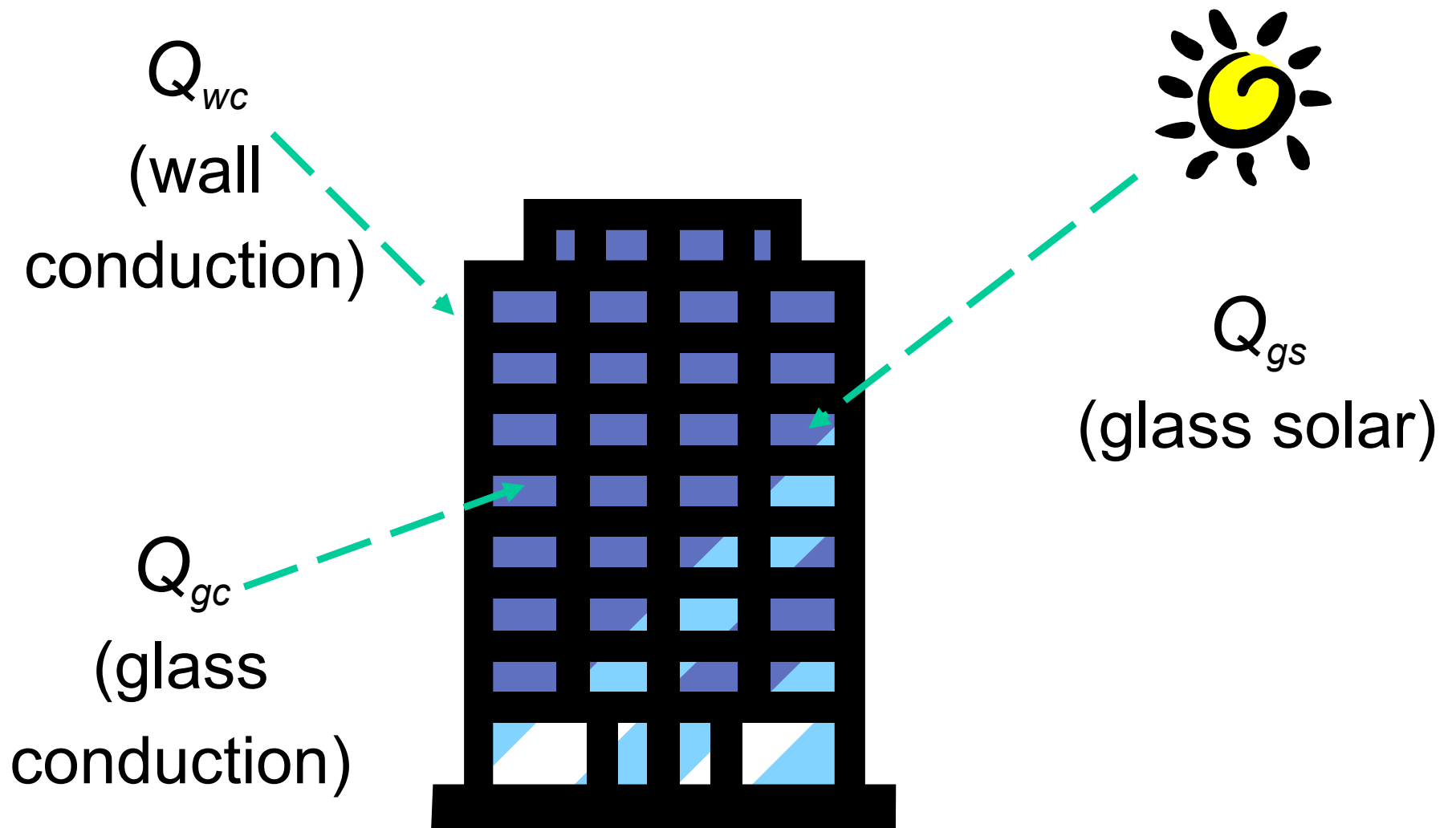
# Techniques of passive evaporative cooling



# Building codes in HK



- First energy efficiency regulation in HK
  - Building (Energy Efficiency) Regulation, Cap. 123 sub. Leg. M [implemented in July 1995]
  - Using **Overall Thermal Transfer Value (OTTV)** method for building envelope design control
  - Applied mainly to commercial buildings and hotels; requirements revised in 2000, 2011, 2016
    - OTTV for Tower must not exceed  $21 \text{ W/m}^2$ , and OTTV for Podium must not exceed  $50 \text{ W/m}^2$



$$\begin{aligned}
 OTTV_i &= \frac{Q_{wc} + Q_{gc} + Q_{gs}}{A_i} \\
 &= \frac{(A_w \cdot U_w \cdot TD_{eq}) + (A_f \cdot U_f \cdot DT) + (A_f \cdot SC \cdot SF)}{A_i}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Building codes in HK



- OTTV equation for Hong Kong:

$$OTTV_i = \frac{(A_w \cdot U_w \cdot \alpha \cdot TD_{eq}) + (A_f \cdot SC \cdot ESM \cdot SF)}{A_i}$$

- Two major differences from the general form:
  - Glass conduction term was omitted
  - Solar absorptivity and external shading multiplier were introduced

# Overall Thermal Transfer Value (OTTV)

## OTTV requirement in Hong Kong

- The OTTV code was subsequently amended (for all buildings except residential buildings) in 1995 as follows: (revised 2010)
  - In the case of a **building tower**, the OTTV should not exceed  **$24\text{W/m}^2$**
  - In the case of a **podium**, the OTTV should not exceed  **$56\text{W/m}^2$**
  - open-front shops or the like on ground level may be exempted from the OTTV calculations upon applications



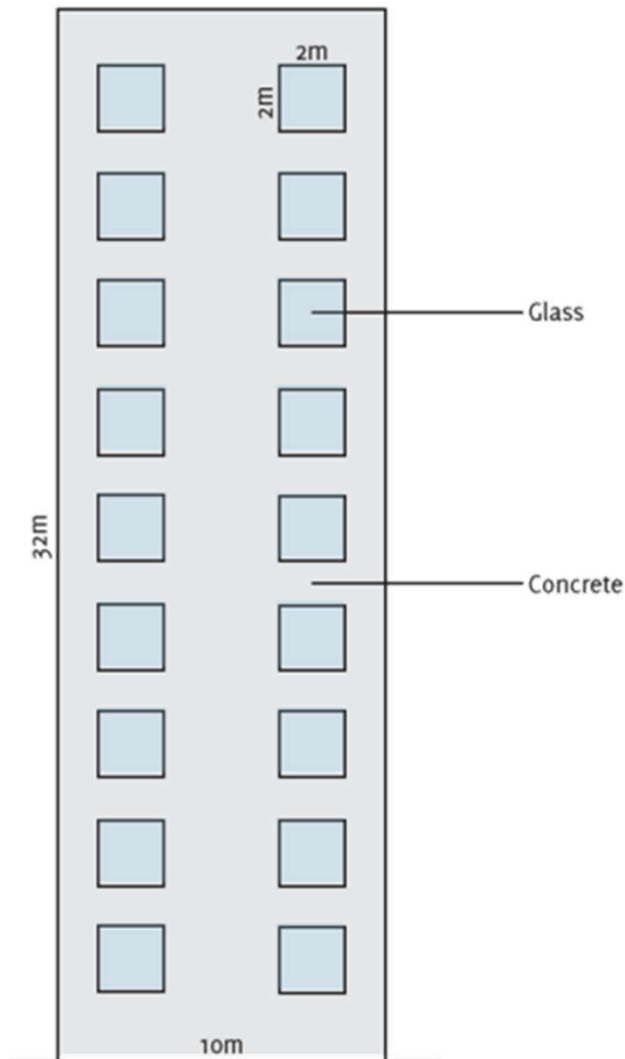


# Overall Thermal Transfer Value (OTTV)

## Exercise 1

Study the drawing and figures below and calculate the OTTV of this building.

Assume that the four elevations of the building are identical. Calculate the OTTV of the building. Determine if this building follows the OTTV code in Hong Kong ( $24\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ ).



U-value of a wall  $U_w = 1.9 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$

Outdoor temperature =  $28.4^\circ\text{C}$

Indoor temperature =  $27^\circ\text{C}$

Solar absorptivity of wall  $\alpha = 0.58$

External shading multiplier  $\text{ESM} = 1$

Shading coefficient of window glass  $\text{SC} = 0.4$

Solar factor  $\text{SF} = 191 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2$

# Overall Thermal Transfer Value (OTTV)

## Reference answer

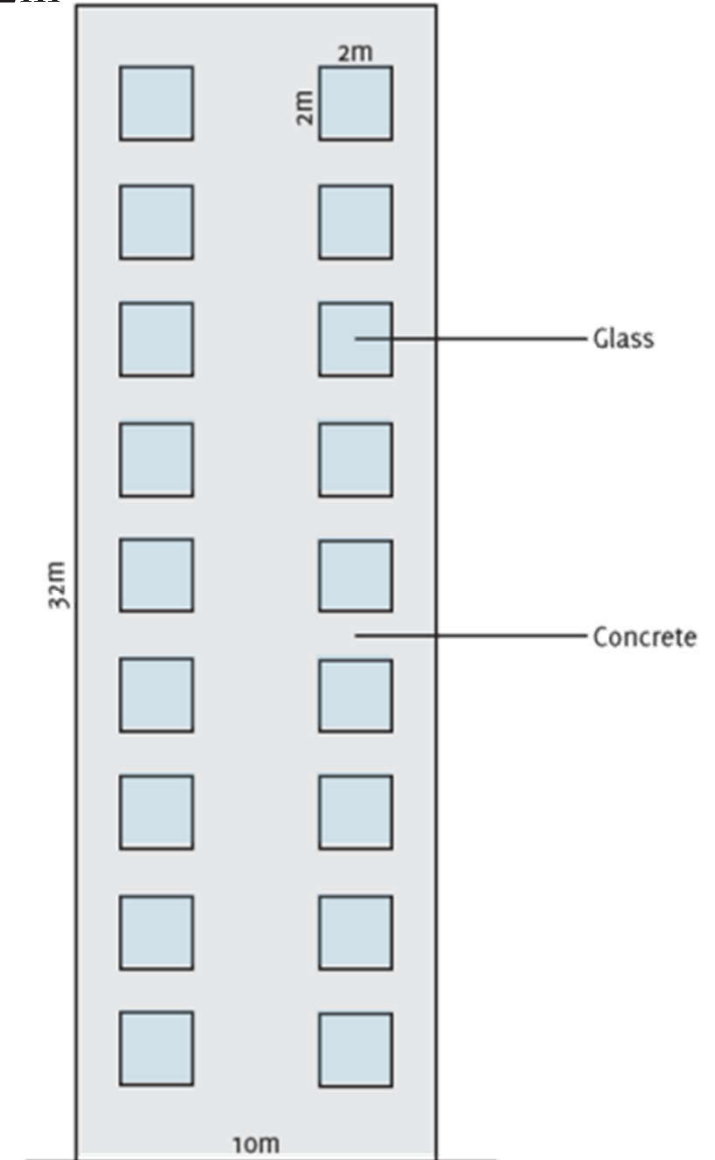
Considering the tower part of the building:

Total area of all windows on one façade  $A_f = 2\text{m} \times 2\text{m} \times 18 = 72\text{m}^2$

Area of the wall  $A_w = (32\text{m} \times 10\text{m}) - 72\text{m}^2 = 248\text{m}^2$

Equivalent temperature difference  $TD_{eq} = 28.4^\circ\text{C} - 27^\circ\text{C} = 1.4^\circ\text{C}$

$$\begin{aligned} OTTV &= \frac{Q_{wc} + Q_{gs}}{\Sigma A} \\ &= \frac{(A_w \times U_w \times \alpha \times TD_{eq}) + (A_f \times SC \times ESM \times SF)}{A_w + A_f} \\ &= \frac{(248 \times 1.9 \times 0.58 \times 1.4) + (72 \times 0.4 \times 1 \times 191)}{248 + 72} \\ &= \frac{382.6 + 5500}{320} \\ &= 18.39 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ (} < 24 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{)} \end{aligned}$$



# Building codes in HK



- Residential Thermal Transfer Value (RTTV)
  - To promote energy efficiency of residential buildings in Hong Kong
  - The overall RTTV of external walls and roof should not exceed  $12.5 \text{ W/m}^2$  and  $3.5 \text{ W/m}^2$  respectively (revised in 2022)
  - Also, promote natural ventilation in window design for maintaining thermal comfort

## RTTV<sub>wall</sub> Calculation Formula

$$= [41.75 \text{ WWR} \times \text{SC} \times \text{ESC} \times G_w] + [3.57(1-\text{WWR}) \times U_w \times \alpha \times G_w] + [0.64 \text{ WWR} \times U_f \times G_w]$$

<b>Radiation Through Glazing</b>	<b>Conduction Through Opaque Wall</b>	<b>Conduction Through Glazing</b>
--	---	---

**WWR:** Window to Wall Ratio  
**G<sub>w</sub>:** Wall Orientation Factor

**SC :** Shading Coefficient  
**ESC:** Shading Coeff. of External Shades

**U<sub>w</sub>:** U-value of the opaque wall  
**α :** Absorptivity of the wall

**U<sub>f</sub>:** U-value of the glazing

## RTTV<sub>roof</sub> Calculation Formula

$$= [41.10(\text{SRR})(\text{SC}_r)(G_s)] + [3.47(1-\text{SRR}) U_r \alpha_r G_s] + [0.40(\text{SRR})U_{sl}G_s]$$

<b>Radiation Through Skylight</b>	<b>Conduction Through Roof</b>	<b>Conduction Through Skylight</b>
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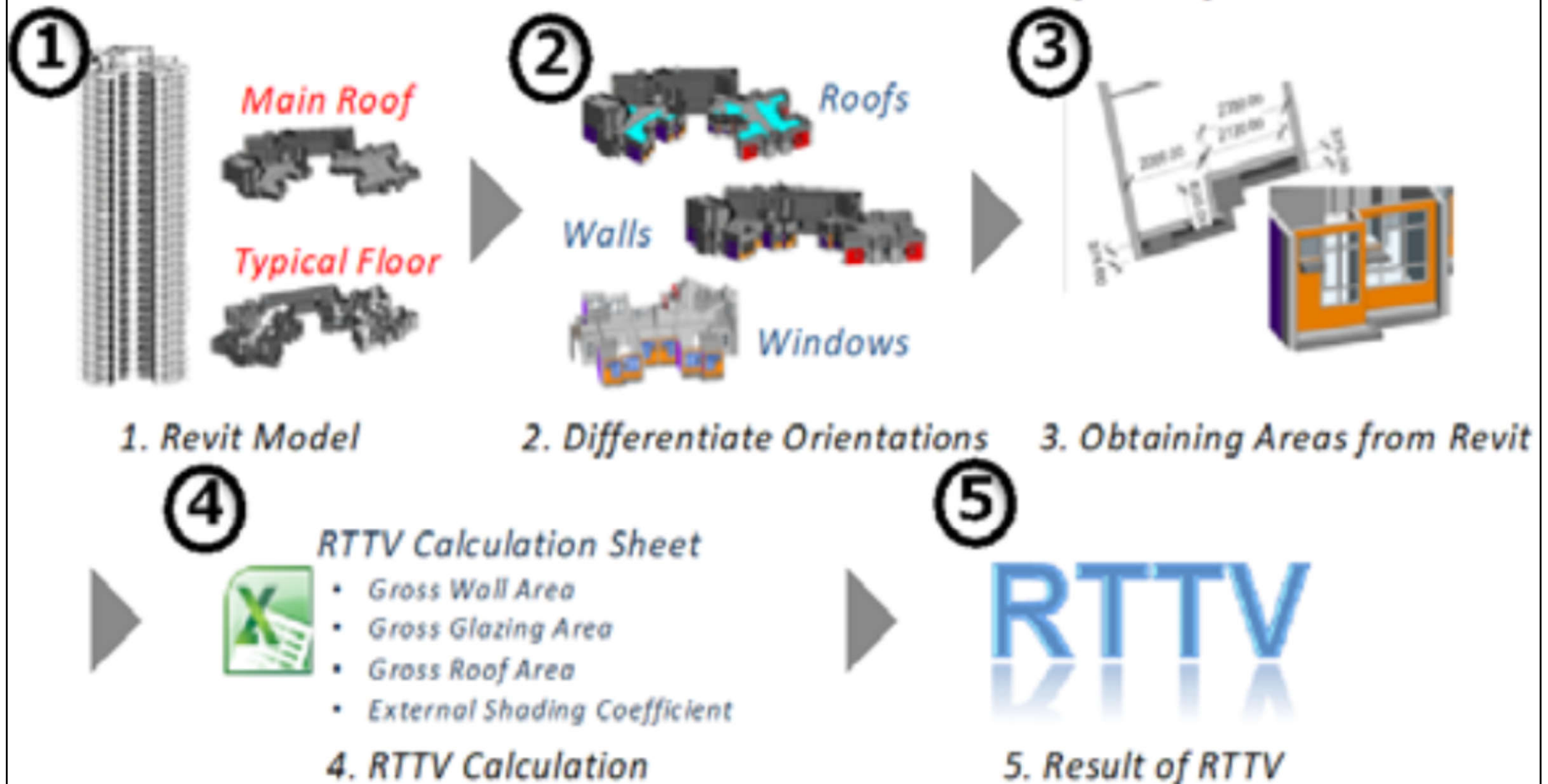
**SRR :** Skylight to Roof Ratio  
**G<sub>s</sub>:** Roof Orientation Factor

**SC<sub>r</sub>:** Shading Coeff. of Skylight Glazing

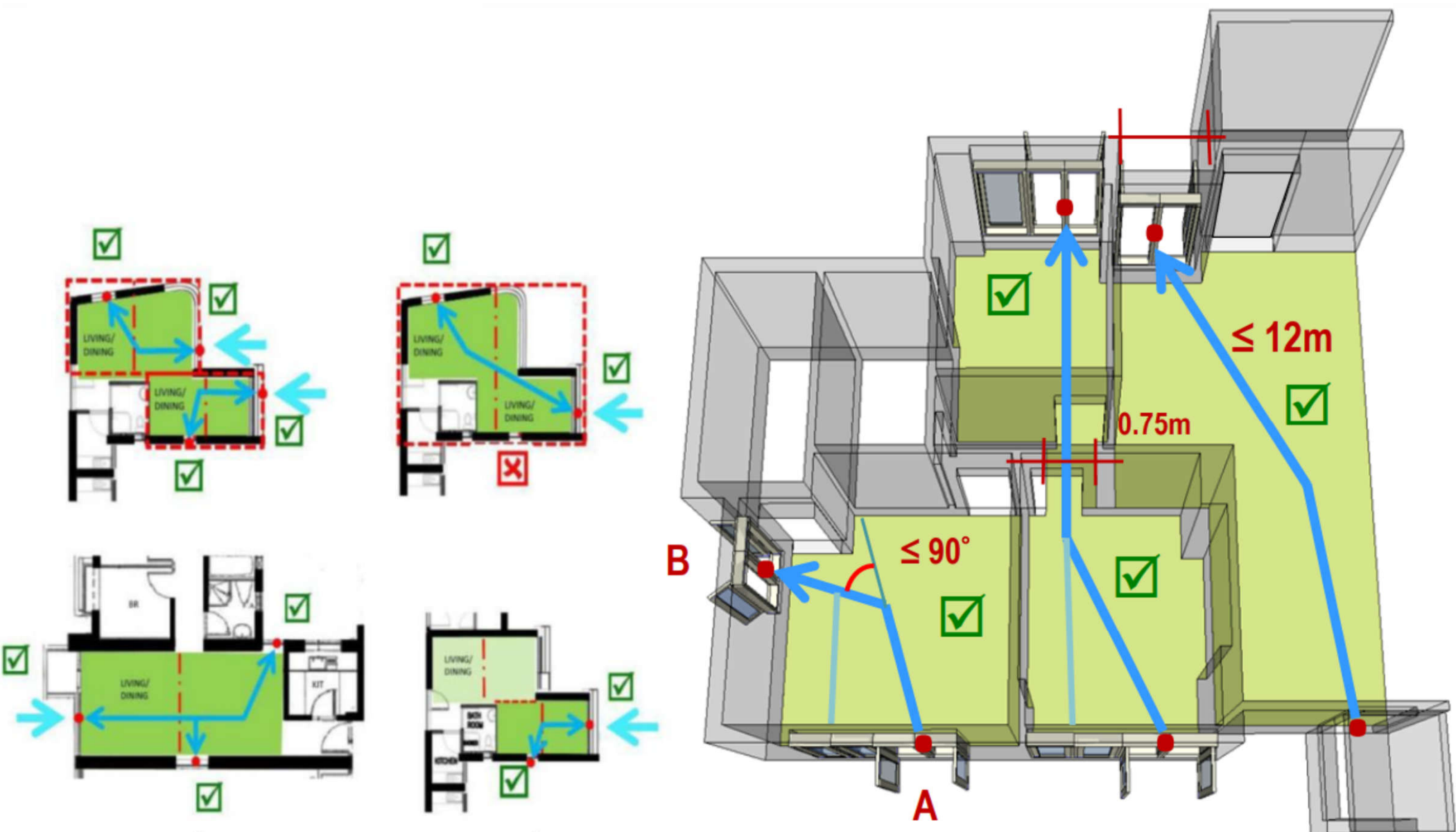
**U<sub>r</sub>:** U-value of the roof  
**α<sub>r</sub>:** Absorptivity of the roof

**U<sub>sl</sub>:** U-value of the skylight glazing

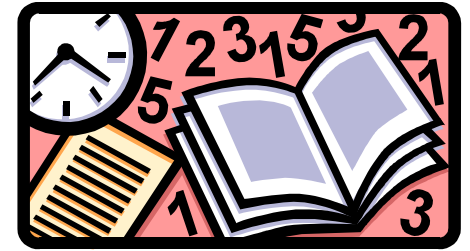
# Calculation of Residential Thermal Transfer Value (RTTV) for submission of General Building Plans in Hong Kong



# Promote cross ventilation in window design for residential buildings

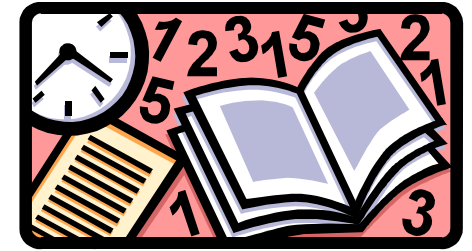


(Source: [https://www.beamsociety.org.hk/files/BEC/20161123\\_BEAM%20Plus%20EU\\_Session3\\_MKL.pdf](https://www.beamsociety.org.hk/files/BEC/20161123_BEAM%20Plus%20EU_Session3_MKL.pdf))



# Further Reading

- Building Envelope Design Guide  
<https://www.wbdg.org/guides-specifications/building-envelope-design-guide>
- BSD-018: The Building Enclosure  
[https://www.buildingscience.com/documents/digests/bsd-018-the-building-enclosure\\_revised](https://www.buildingscience.com/documents/digests/bsd-018-the-building-enclosure_revised)
- BSD-014: Air Flow Control in Buildings  
<https://www.buildingscience.com/documents/digests/bsd-014-air-flow-control-in-buildings>



# Further Reading

- Back to Basics: Natural Ventilation and its Use in Different Contexts
  - <https://www.archdaily.com/963706/back-to-basics-natural-ventilation-and-its-use-in-different-contexts>
- Hui S. C. M., 1997. Overall thermal transfer value (OTTV): how to improve its control in Hong Kong, In *Proceedings of the One-day Symposium on Building, Energy and Environment*, 16 October 1997, Shangri-la Hotel, Kowloon, Hong Kong, HKIE BS Division/CIBSE/ASHRAE/PolyU, p. 12-1 to 12-11.  
<http://ibse.hk/cmhui/bse97a.pdf>