Mean radiant temperature

$T_{mrt}$

Temperature of a standing man in radiative balance (short- and longwave) with his surrounding
The problem

Lindberg et al. 2008 (model and obs)

Mayer et al. 2008 (obs)

Kantor et al. 2014 (obs)

A local minimum around noon
Mr. Cylinder
But!! - “… the “standing man” reference shape is in fact a rectangular column and not a rotationally symmetric cylinder.” (Kantor et al. 2014)

Mr. Cylinder

Mr. Box
How to transform the standing man from a box to a cylinder – a modified methodology to calculate mean radiant temperature in field studies and models

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• The solution is connected to the area that is exposed to the direct short-wave radiation
Comparison of old and new calculation

Box man - the original formula by Höppe
Cylinder man - the new methodology

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on 10th of December 2007
Gothenburgh, Sweden on 11th of October, 2005
Comparison of old and new calculation

Box man - the original formula by Höppe

Cylinder man - the new methodology

Maximum around noon

More acute distribution
Six directional measurements
Recorded horizontal short-wave radiation
Direct and diffuse short-wave radiation
Horizontal diffuse and direct radiation

\[ K_{\text{min}} = K_{\text{diff}} \]

- \( K_{\text{dir},E} \)
- \( K_{\text{dir},S} \)
- \( K_{\text{dir},W} \)
Horizontal direct radiation

$K_{\text{dir},E}$

$K_{\text{dir},S}$

$K_{\text{dir},W}$
Resultant horizontal direct radiation

$K_{\text{dir,hor}}$

Reflected direct radiation
Direct radiation along the solar rays

\[ K_{\text{dir}} = K_{\text{dir, hor}} \cdot \cos(\beta) \]
Proportions of the standing man

\[ 0.06 = 4 \cdot 0.22 \]

0.88
Vertical sunlit area vs azimuth

Sunlit area

0.22

0.31

1.41
Vertical sunlit area vs azimuth

- For the cylinder, the vertical sunlit area is always 0.28.
Sunlit area vs solar height
The Hönööpe calculation (box man)

The mean radiant flux $S_{str,box}$:

$$S_{str,box} = (1 - \alpha) \cdot \Sigma w_i \cdot K_i + \varepsilon \cdot \Sigma w_i \cdot L_i$$

shortwave    longwave

$w_i$ — surface share in direction $i$

$\alpha$ — albedo

$\varepsilon$ — absorption coefficient

$$T_{mrt} = \left( \frac{S_{str,box}}{(\varepsilon \cdot \sigma)} \right)^{0.25} - 273.15$$

$\sigma$ — Stefan-Boltzmann’s constant.
The new methodology (cylinder man)

\[ S_{str,cyl} = (1 - \alpha) \cdot [0.28 \cdot \cos(\beta) \cdot K_{dir} + 0.06 \cdot (K^\uparrow + K^\downarrow) + 0.88 \cdot K_{diff}] + \varepsilon \cdot \Sigma w_i \cdot L_i \]

horizontal direct  vertical global  horizontal diff.  longwave

where \( K_{dir} = \cos(\beta) \cdot \sqrt{(K_{dir, left}^2 + K_{dir, right}^2)} \)
Implementation in models - the SOLWEIG model

- Gothenburg on the 11th of October 2005
- a/ $T_{mrt}$ at 1 p.m. according to the cylinder man
- b/ $T_{mrt}$ at 3 p.m. according to the cylinder man
- c/ differences at 1 p.m. in $T_{mrt}$ between the box man and the cylinder man
- d/ differences at 3 p.m. in $T_{mrt}$ between the box man and the cylinder man.
Some remarks

• Two data sets from two different latitudes, 11°N and 58°N, are studied.
• The new calculations show a maximum around noon and an acute distribution during clear skies.
• On overcast days $T_{mrt}$ probably differ little from the previous calculations since the direct radiation vanishes.
• At sites with much reflected radiation but the differences between the two methods will probably become smaller than for open sites.
Some remarks

• A major advantage of the new methodology is that the ambiguities that can be raised around the errors of the hitherto calculations can be put aside and the reliability of the interpretations will increase.
The globe thermometer

Figure 3. The 38 mm flat grey globe thermometer.
The globe

\[ S_{\text{str,globe}} = (1 - \alpha) \cdot [0.25 \cdot K_{\text{dir}} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \Sigma K_{\text{diff,i}}] + \varepsilon \cdot \Sigma w_i \cdot L_i \]

The surface exposed to the direct radiation is always 0.25
\( T_{mrt} \) calculated with a cylindrical standing man and with a globe.

\( T_{mrt} \) in Ouagadougou on the 10\(^{th}\) of December 2007. Maximum solar elevation 55°.

\( T_{mrt} \) in Gothenburg on the 11\(^{th}\) of October 2005. Maximum solar elevation 30°.
About the calculations

The calculations are performed in Excel. This sheet will be available at our homepage. The six directional data had to be complemented with data on solar azimuth and solar height. The sheet includes some steps that were not shown in the presentation, e.g. that the orientation of the radiation equipment is checked and adjusted automatically in the calculation.
Solweig

The implementation in Solweig is already available.

Get it on our homepage:
http://gvc.gu.se/english/research/climate/urban-climate/software/solweig
Thank you for listening