

Utilisation of Machine Learning in Control Systems Based on the Preference of Office Users

Thayane L. Bilésimo * and Enedir Ghisi

Laboratory of Energy Efficiency in Buildings, Research Group on Management of Sustainable Environments, Department of Civil Engineering, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianópolis 88040-900, Brazil;
enedir.ghisi@ufsc.br

* Correspondence: thayane.bilesimo@ufsc.br

List of symbols

↓	Decrease
↑	Increase
ANN	Artificial neural network
C-SVC	C-support vector classifier
DT	Decision Tree
KF	Kalman filter
GNB	Gaussian naive Bayes
KNN	k-Nearest neighbours
LR	Linear regression
LogR	Logistic regression
MLP	Multilayer perceptron
RF	Random forest

RH _{in}	Inside relative humidity
RH _{out}	Outside relative humidity
T _{in}	Inside temperature
T _{out}	Outside temperature
T _s	Skin temperature

Table S1. Synthesis of the main characteristics of occupant-centred systems based on users' preference.

Reference	Scope	Duration of the study	Identification of preferences	Algorithm(s) ¹	Variables	System assessment	Algorithm assessment (best case)	Comfort assessment	Energy savings
[1]	Control of lighting and shading systems through simulation	1 year	User-system interaction	KF	Attendance, illuminance, tin, time, feedback on light and shading	Number of interactions and energy savings	-	Interactions ↓ 80.0–85.0%	13.6– 35.0%
[2]	Control of the lighting system	6 weeks	User-system interaction	Dynamic statistical analysis	Attendance, illuminance, switch position, time	Energy savings		-	23.2– 73.2%
[3]	Control of the lighting system	12 weeks	User-system interaction	Dynamic statistical analysis	Attendance, illuminance, switch position, time	Number of interactions and users' satisfaction	-	18.1% of contested actions, in average + qualitative assessment	-

¹ For those papers that compared the algorithms' performance, the best result is in bold.

[4]	Control of the lighting system	10 days	Vote	Q-Learning	Illuminance, feedback on light	Users' satisfaction and energy savings	-	92.0% of acceptability	10%
[5]	Control of HVAC and lighting systems	1 year	Vote	Clustering	Tin, illuminance, attendance, feedback on light and temperature	Users' satisfaction and energy savings potential	-	78.0% of satisfaction	27–39.0%
[6]	Control of lighting and shading systems	1 year	User-system interaction	LogR	Switch position, shading position, attendance, illuminance, irradiance	Number of interactions	-	6.0% - 8.0% of contested actions	-
[7]	Control of the HVAC system	3 weeks	Vote	LogR, KNN, RF, SVM	Heart rate, Ts, tin, tout, RHin, RHout, CO2, openings status, illuminance, noise, feedback on set point temperature and preference	Accuracy	80.0%	-	-
[8]	Control of the HVAC system	1 year	User-system interaction	LogR	tin, tout, RHin, RHout, attendance, thermostat interaction	Number of interactions	-	Interactions ↓ ~87.0%	-

[9]	Control of the HVAC system	~ 3 months (summer)	Vote	ANN	Tin, CO2, RHin, light, air pressure and feedback on temperature	Energy savings and comfort	-	No change	20–40.0%
[10]	Control of the HVAC system through simulation	1 month (winter)	Vote	k-means	Attendance, feedback on temperature	Energy savings and comfort	-	70.8–73.6%	8.4–26.8%
[11]	Control of the HVAC system	5 months	User-system interaction	GNB, DT, C-SVC, MLP	Time, tin, tout, attendance, setpoint temperature	Accuracy and number of interactions	97.3%	Interactions ↓ aabout75%	4.0–25.0%
[12]	Control of the lighting system	2 months	User-system interaction	Q-Learning	Illuminance, switch position, attendance, time	LUR, UNC, LCR ² , user satisfaction	-	Qualitative assessment	-
[13]	Control of the HVAC system	6 days	Vote	LR	Tin, tout, RHin, RHout, Ts, heart rate, feedback on thermal satisfaction	Users' satisfaction and energy savings	-	Rate: 5.56/7.0	13.8%
[14]	Control of the HVAC system through simulation	3 weeks	Vote	ANN	Tin, RHin, pulse temperature, heart rate and feedback on thermal sensation	R ² , users' satisfaction and energy savings	0.89	↑ 85.0–100.0% of thermal sensation votes for comfort	↓ thermal load: 90.0% heating 30.0% cooling

² Light utilisation ratio, unmet comfort ratio, lights to comfort ratio

[15]	Control of the lighting system	1 day	Vote	ANN	Illuminance, attendance	Accuracy and users' satisfaction	88.5%	86.4% satisfaction	-
[16]	Control of the HVAC system through simulation	1 year	User-system interaction	Q-Learning	Attendance, tin, feedback on thermal sensation	Number of interactions	-	"too hot" feedback ↓ 40.0%	-
[17]	Control of HVAC, lighting and shading systems through simulation	3 years	User-system interaction	Dynamic statistical analysis, LogR	Attendance, illuminance, tin	Number of interactions and energy savings	-	Many scenarios	
[18]	Control of the HVAC system through simulation	10 days	User-system interaction	ANN	Tin, RHin, set point temperature	MAE ³ , RMSE	0.5°C 0.6°C	-	-
[19]	Control of the HVAC system	9 days	Vote	LR	Tin, tout, RHin, RHout, CO2, Ts, heart rate, set point temperature, feedback on thermal sensation, satisfaction and RH	Users' satisfaction and energy saving	-	Rates: 5.2/7.0 and 5.3/7.0	10.0–20.0%

³ Mean absolute error

[20]	Control of the HVAC system	4 months	User-system interaction	MLP	Tin, tout, RHin,, RHout, set point temperature	MSE ⁴	0.28	-	
[21]	Control of the HVAC system	2 weeks	Vote	Branching dueling Q-network	Tin, tout, RHout, solar radiation, attendance, time, HVAC energy consumption, feedback on comfort	Users' satisfaction and energy savings	-	Acceptability ↑ 11.0%	13.9%
[22]	Control of the HVAC system	16 days	Vote	RF, SVM, DT, gradient boosting, ANN	Time, tin, RHin, heart rate, feedback on thermal sensation vote	Accuracy, users' satisfaction and energy savings	88.2%	Discomfort ↓ 33.0%	27.0%
[23]	Control of the HVAC system	21 days	Vote	Reinforcement learning-based	Tin, RHin, heart rate, Ts, feedback on thermal sensation	Users' satisfaction and energy savings	Optimisation	Discomfort ↓ 10.9%	No change
[24]	Control of the HVAC system	8 days	Vote	Multinomial LogR	Tin, tout, RHin,, irradiance, feedback on thermal preference	Users' satisfaction and energy savings	-	No change	28.0–35.0%

⁴ Mean square error

[25]	Control of the HVAC system	90 minutes	Vote	RF	Tin, RHin, Ts, metabolism, feedback on thermal acceptability, comfort and sensation	Accuracy and users' satisfaction	84.0%	80% of acceptability	-
[26]	Simulation of the HVAC system	1 year	Vote	Extreme gradient boosting	Tin, tout, RHin,,	Users' satisfaction and energy savings	-	98.3–99.5% of acceptability	4.6–3.5%

References

1. Gunay, H.B.; O'Brien, W.; Beausoleil-Morrison, I.; Huchuk, B. On Adaptive Occupant-Learning Window Blind and Lighting Controls. *Build. Res. Inf.* **2014**, *42*, 739–756. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09613218.2014.895248>.
2. Nagy, Z.; Yong, F.Y.; Frei, M.; Schlueter, A. Occupant Centered Lighting Control for Comfort and Energy Efficient Building Operation. *Energy Build.* **2015**, *94*, 100–108. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.ENBUILD.2015.02.053>.
3. Nagy, Z.; Yong, F.Y.; Schlueter, A. Occupant Centered Lighting Control: A User Study on Balancing Comfort, Acceptance, and Energy Consumption. *Energy Build.* **2016**, *126*, 310–322. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.ENBUILD.2016.05.075>.
4. Cheng, Z.; Zhao, Q.; Wang, F.; Jiang, Y.; Xia, L.; Ding, J. Satisfaction Based Q-Learning for Integrated Lighting and Blind Control. *Energy Build.* **2016**, *127*, 43–55. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2016.05.067>.
5. Sarkar, C.; Nambi, A.U.; Prasad, V. ILTC: Achieving Individual Comfort in Shared Spaces. In Proceedings of the 2016 International Conference on Embedded Wireless Systems and Networks, Graz, Austria, 15–17 February 2016; pp. 65–76.
6. Gunay, H.B.; O'Brien, W.; Beausoleil-Morrison, I.; Gilani, S. Development and Implementation of an Adaptive Lighting and Blinds Control Algorithm. *Build. Environ.* **2017**, *113*, 185–199. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2016.08.027>.
7. Li, D.; Menassa, C.C.; Kamat, V.R. Personalized Human Comfort in Indoor Building Environments under Diverse Conditioning Modes. *Build. Environ.* **2017**, *126*, 304–317. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.BUILDENV.2017.10.004>.
8. Gunay, H.B.; O'Brien, W.; Beausoleil-Morrison, I.; Bursill, J. Development and Implementation of a Thermostat Learning Algorithm. *Sci. Technol. Built Environ.* **2018**, *24*, 43–56. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23744731.2017.1328956>.
9. Rajith, A.; Soki, S.; Hiroshi, M. Real-Time Optimized HVAC Control System on Top of an IoT Framework. In Proceedings of the 2018 Third International Conference on Fog and Mobile Edge Computing (FMEC), IEEE, Barcelona, Spain, 23–26 April 2018; pp. 181–186.

10. Peng, Y.; Nagy, Z.; Schlüter, A. Temperature-Preference Learning with Neural Networks for Occupant-Centric Building Indoor Climate Controls. *Build. Environ.* **2019**, *154*, 296–308. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.BUILDENV.2019.01.036>.
11. Peng, Y.; Nagy, Z.; Schlüter, A. Temperature-Preference Learning with Neural Networks for Occupant-Centric Building Indoor Climate Controls. *Build. Environ.* **2019**, *154*, 296–308. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.BUILDENV.2019.01.036>.
12. Park, J.Y.; Dougherty, T.; Fritz, H.; Nagy, Z. LightLearn: An Adaptive and Occupant Centered Controller for Lighting Based on Reinforcement Learning. *Build. Environ.* **2019**, *147*, 397–414. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.BUILDENV.2018.10.028>.
13. Li, W.; Zhang, J.; Zhao, T. Indoor Thermal Environment Optimal Control for Thermal Comfort and Energy Saving Based on Online Monitoring of Thermal Sensation. *Energy Build.* **2019**, *197*, 57–67. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2019.05.050>.
14. Deng, Z.; Chen, Q. Development and Validation of a Smart HVAC Control System for Multi-Occupant Offices by Using Occupants' Physiological Signals from Wristband. *Energy Build.* **2020**, *214*, 109872. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2020.109872>.
15. Mandaric, K.; Skocir, P.; Jezic, G. Context-Based System for User-Centric Smart Environment. In Proceedings of the 2020 International Conference on Software, Telecommunications and Computer Networks (SoftCOM), IEEE, Hvar, Croatia, 17–19 September 2020; pp. 1–5.
16. Park, J.Y.; Nagy, Z. HVACLearn: A Reinforcement Learning Based Occupant-Centric Control for Thermostat Set-Points. In Proceedings of the e-Energy 2020: 11th ACM International Conference on Future Energy Systems, Virtual Event Australia, 22–26 June 2020; Association for Computing Machinery, Inc.: New York, NY, USA, 2020; pp. iii–iv.
17. Ouf, M.M.; Park, J.Y.; Gunay, H.B. A Simulation-Based Method to Investigate Occupant-Centric Controls. *Build. Simul.* **2020**, *14*, 1017–1030. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12273-020-0726-y>.
18. Laftchiev, E.; Romeres, D.; Nikovski, D. Personalizing Individual Comfort in the Group Setting. *Proc. AAAI Conf. Artif. Intell.* **2021**, *35*, 15339–15346. <https://doi.org/10.1609/AAAI.V35I17.17801>.
19. Li, W.; Zhang, J.; Zhao, T.; Ren, J. Experimental Study of an Indoor Temperature Fuzzy Control Method for Thermal Comfort and Energy Saving Using Wristband Device. *Build. Environ.* **2021**, *187*, 107432. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2020.107432>.
20. Zhu, M.; Pan, Y.; Wu, Z.; Xie, J.; Huang, Z.; Kosonen, R. An Occupant-Centric Air-Conditioning System for Occupant Thermal Preference Recognition Control in Personal Micro-Environment. *Build. Environ.* **2021**, *196*, 107749. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.BUILDENV.2021.107749>.
21. Lei, Y.; Zhan, S.; Ono, E.; Peng, Y.; Zhang, Z.; Hasama, T.; Chong, A. A Practical Deep Reinforcement Learning Framework for Multivariate Occupant-Centric Control in Buildings. *Appl. Energy* **2022**, *324*, 119742. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2022.119742>.
22. Jeoung, J.; Jung, S.; Hong, T.; Choi, J.-K. Blockchain-Based IoT System for Personalized Indoor Temperature Control. *Autom. Constr.* **2022**, *140*, 104339. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.autcon.2022.104339>.
23. Jung, S.; Jeoung, J.; Hong, T. Occupant-Centered Real-Time Control of Indoor Temperature Using Deep Learning Algorithms. *Build. Environ.* **2022**, *208*, 108633. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.BUILDENV.2021.108633>.
24. Zhang, H.; Tzempelikos, A.; Liu, X.; Lee, S.; Cappelletti, F.; Gasparella, A. The Impact of Personal Preference-Based Thermal Control on Energy Use and Thermal Comfort: Field Implementation. *Energy Build.* **2023**, *284*, 112848. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2023.112848>.
25. Wu, Y.; Cao, B.; Hu, M.; Lv, G.; Meng, J.; Zhang, H. Development of Personal Comfort Model and Its Use in the Control of Air Conditioner. *Energy Build.* **2023**, *285*, 112900. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2023.112900>.
26. Tekler, Z.D.; Lei, Y.; Dai, X.; Chong, A. Enhancing Personalised Thermal Comfort Models with Active Learning for Improved HVAC Controls. *J. Phys. Conf. Ser.* **2023**, *2600*, 132004. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1742-6596/2600/13/132004>.

