

# Thermally Responsive Building Materials and Technologies

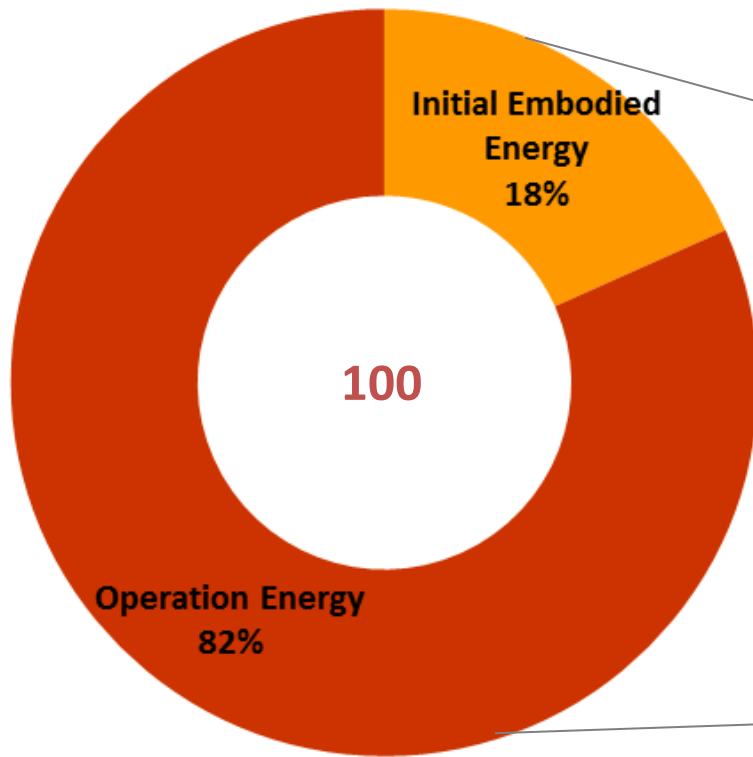
D E V S Kiran Kumar

6<sup>th</sup> GRIHA Regional Conference

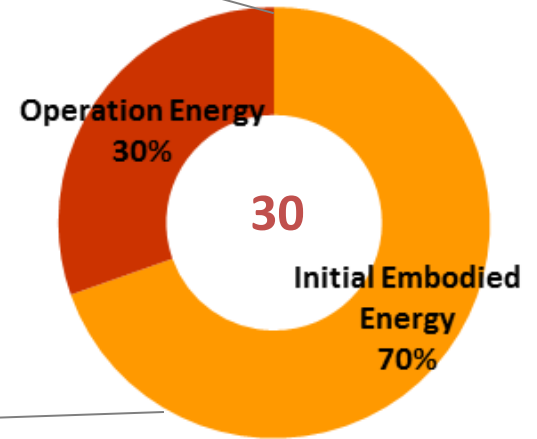
3-4 February 2015

TERI, Bangalore

# Energy Efficiency in Buildings



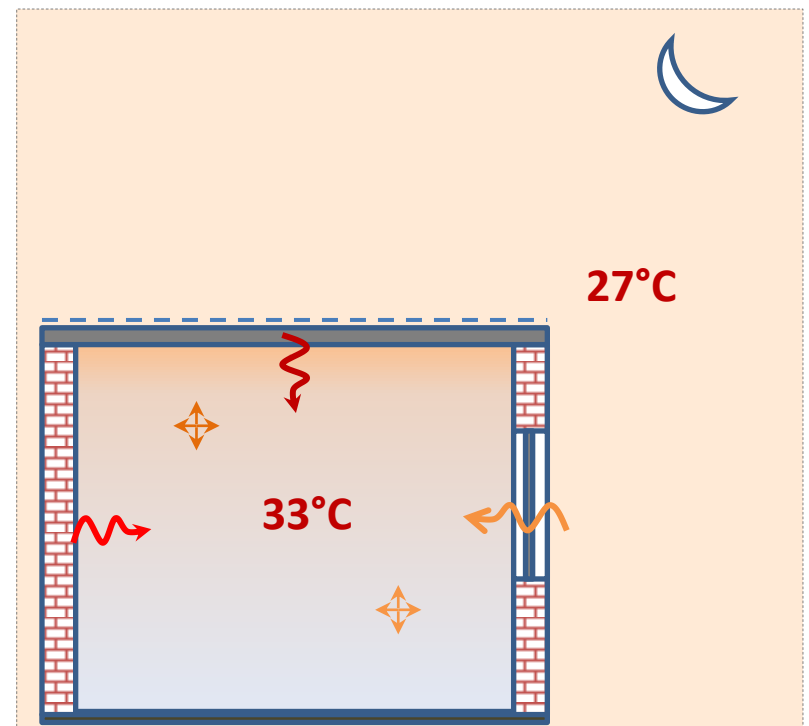
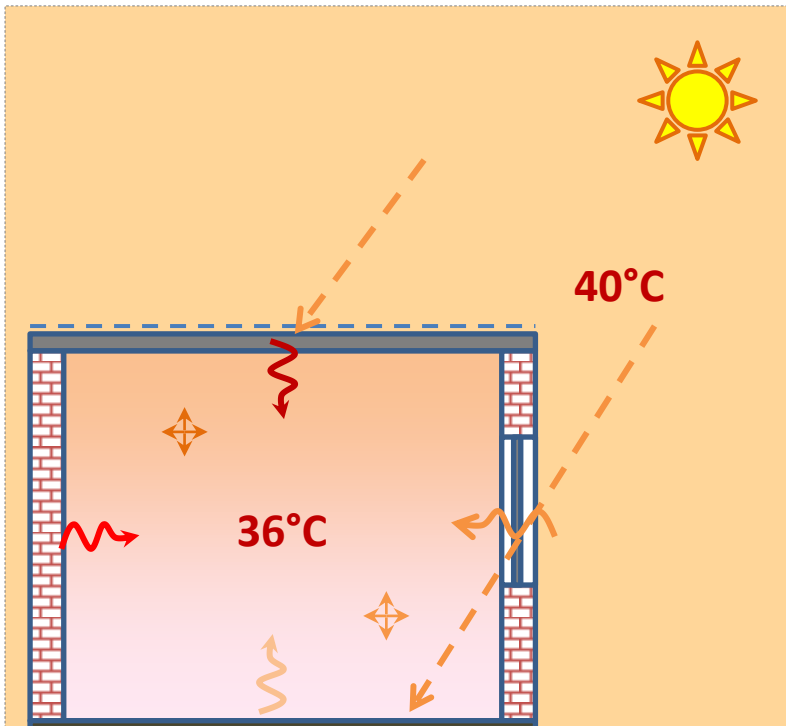
Conventional Building



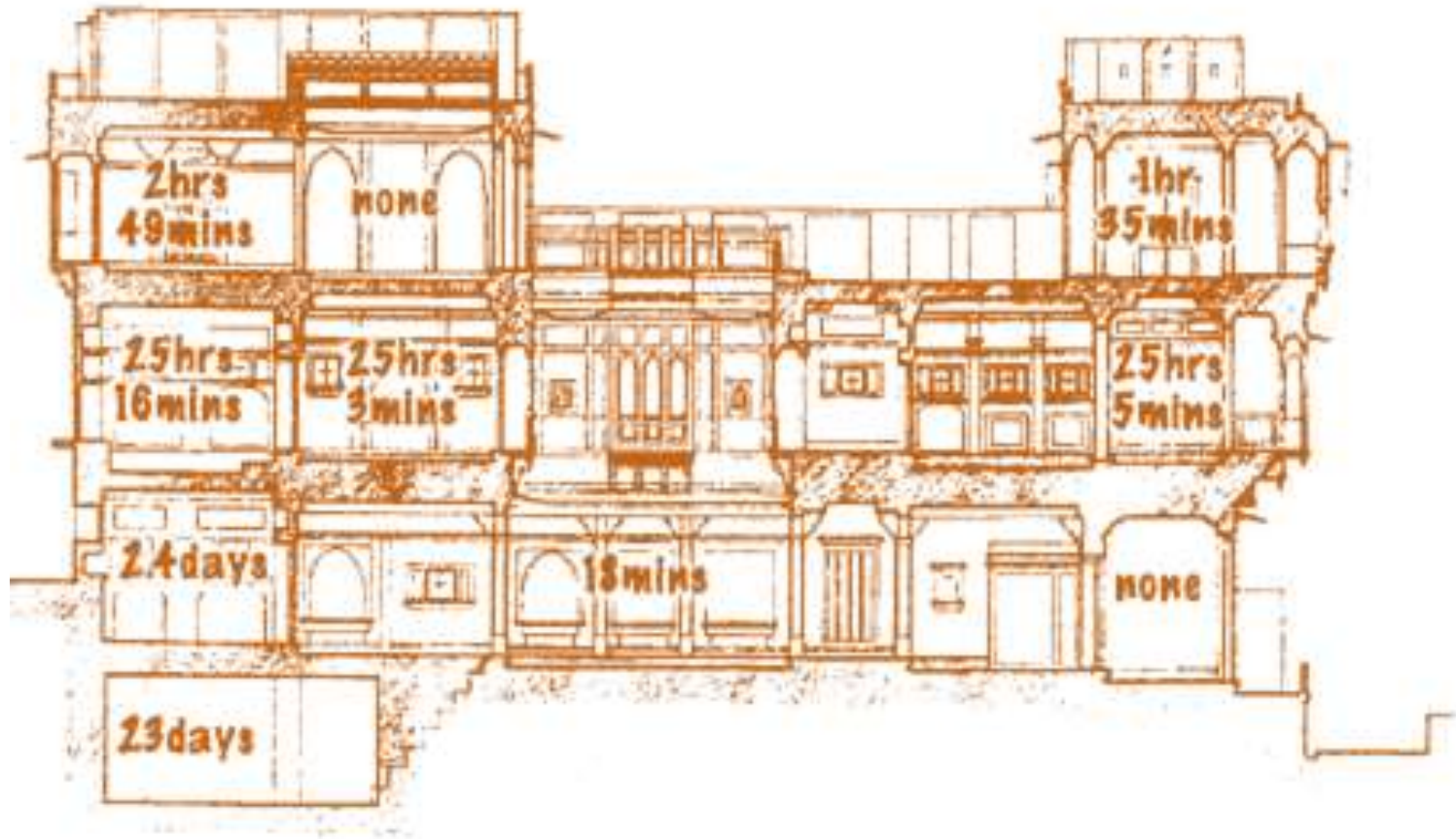
Low Energy Building

# Thermal Performance of Building Materials

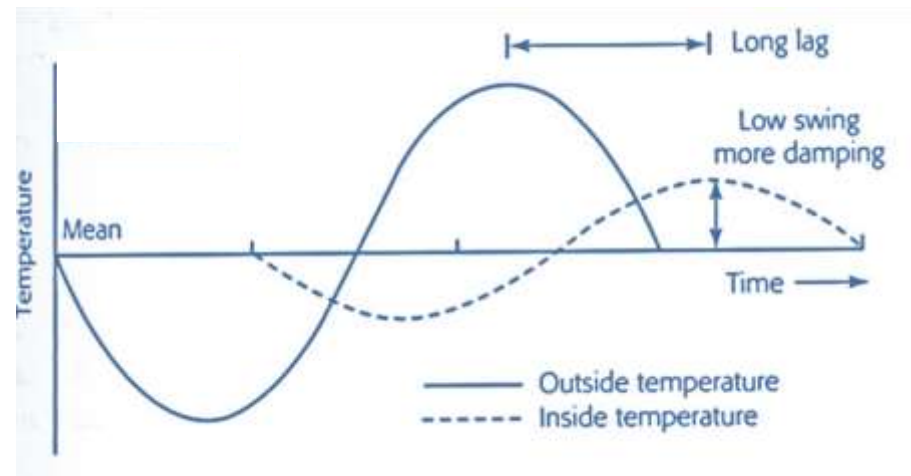
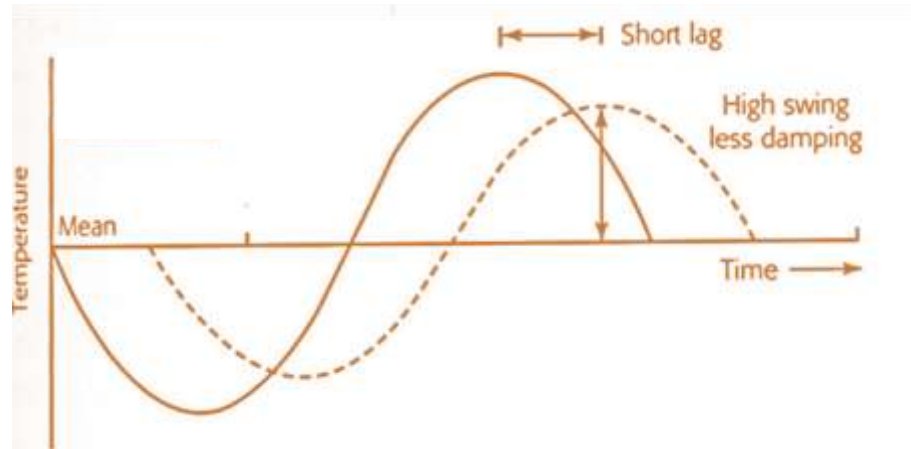
- Indigenous materials
- Thermally appropriate materials



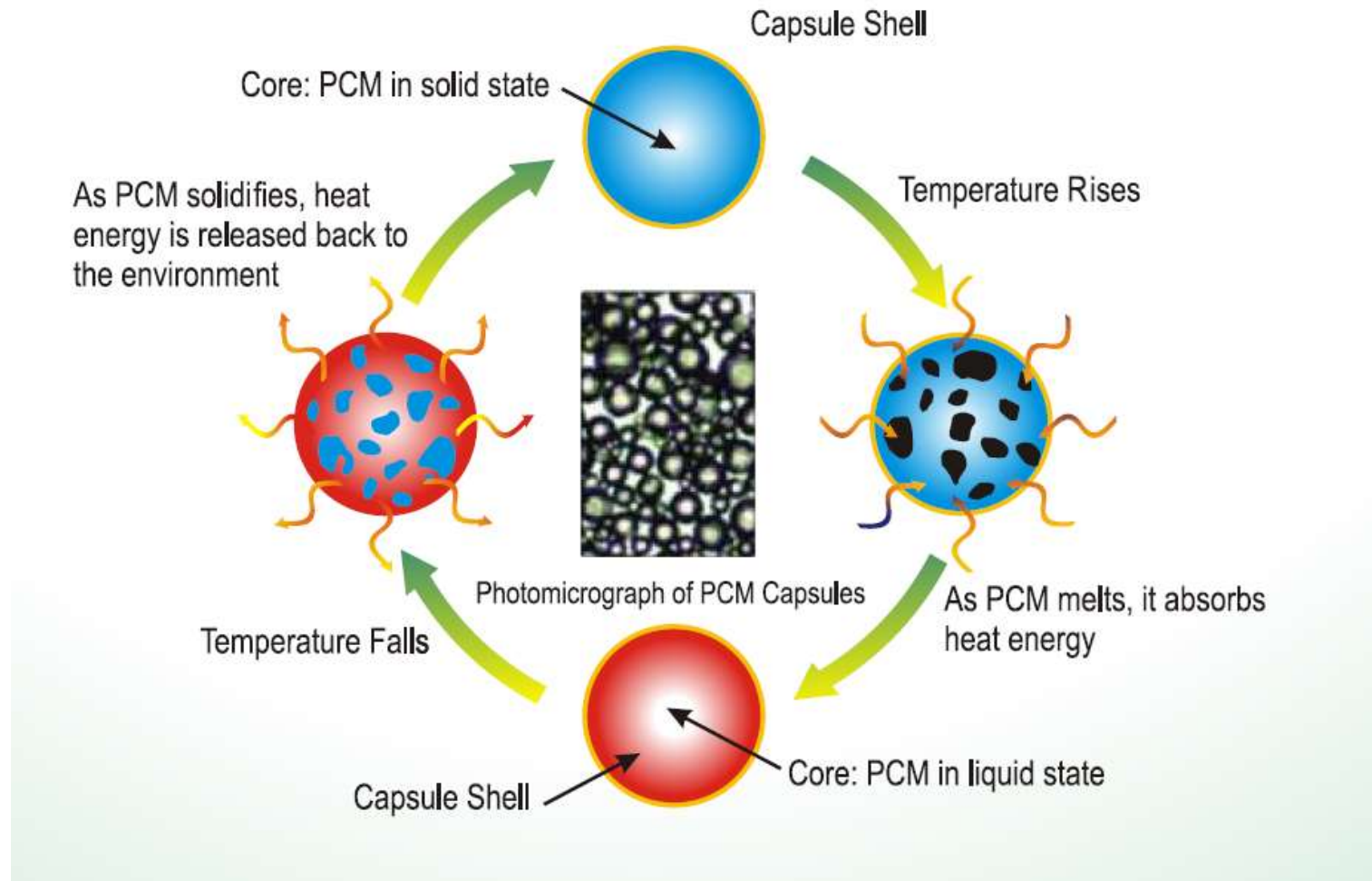
# Thermal Performance of Building Materials



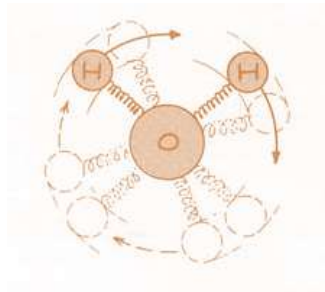
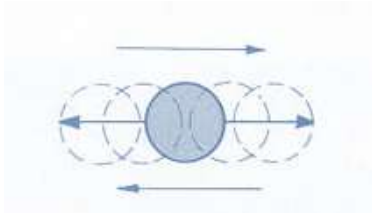
# Thermal Performance of Building Materials



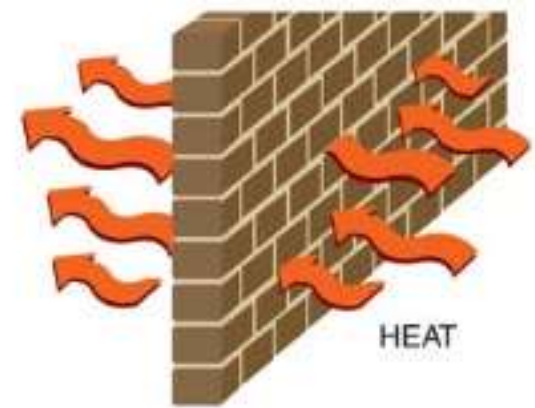
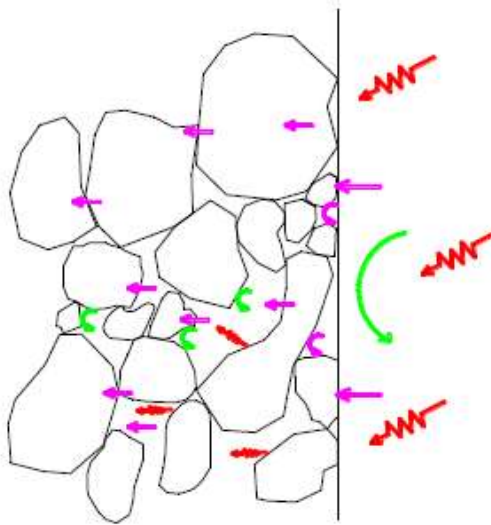
# Phase Change Materials



# Thermal Performance of Building Materials



- ↖ Conduction
- ↻ Convection
- ↗ Radiation

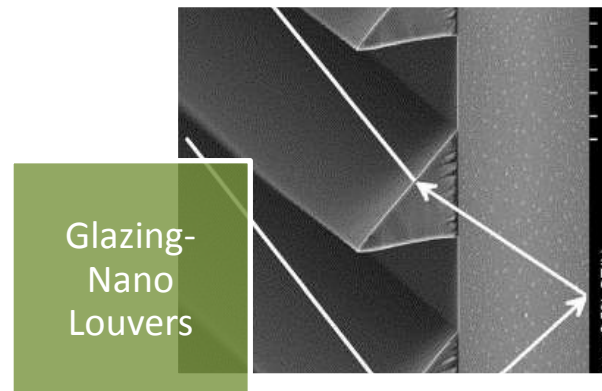
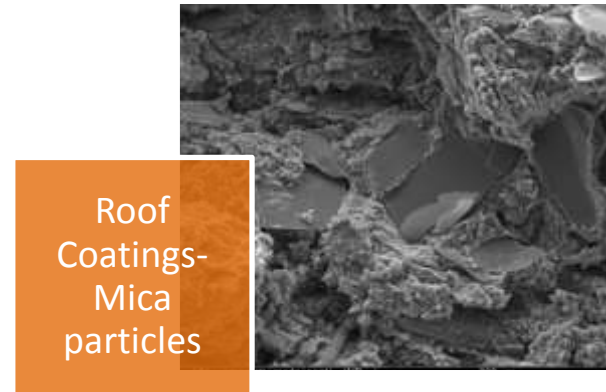


- Mineral Characteristics
- Heat capacity and thermal conductivity

- Density/Porosity
- Thickness

- Surface Texture
- Reflectivity

# Thermal Performance of Building Materials





# The Issue and Solution

Major source of heat gain by the roof is absorbed solar radiation

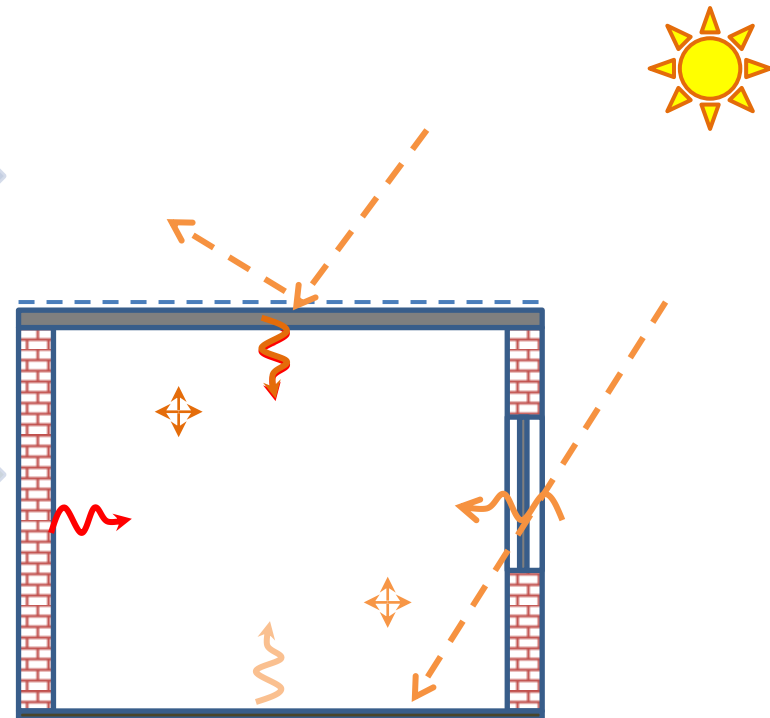
Reflect incident solar radiation using high albedo surface

Heat gain through roof elevates ceiling surface temperature and causes radiant heat load inside the building

Store absorbed radiant heat for longer time by using heavier materials

When hot ambient air touches these surfaces, the inside air might become hotter than outside

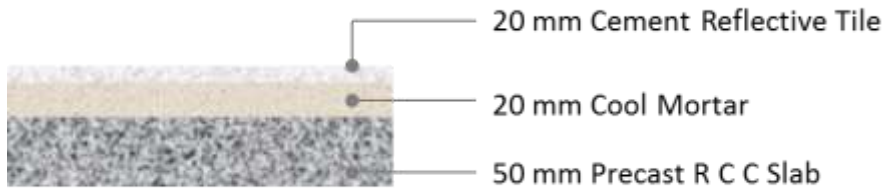
Make indoor surface temperatures near to air temperatures, reduce heat load



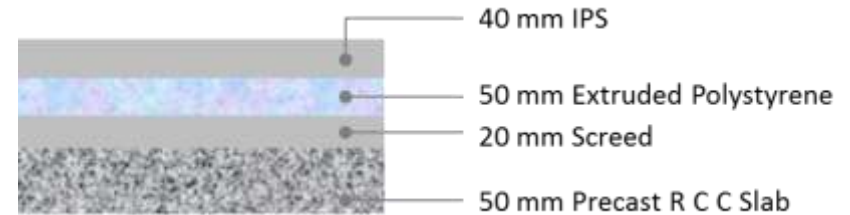
# Hypothesis

- Maintaining the surface temperature equal to or lower than the air temperature by reflecting back the solar radiation and further using minimal heat insulation performs better than a highly insulated surface.
- Light and highly resistive materials (low heat capacity) have a minor impact in un- conditioned buildings located in hot dry climates when surfaces are either reflective or shaded

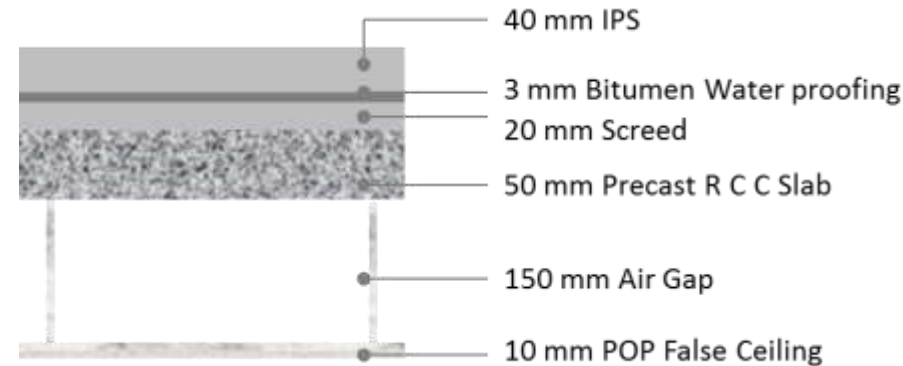
# Experimental Setup



Roof 1\_ Cement Tile

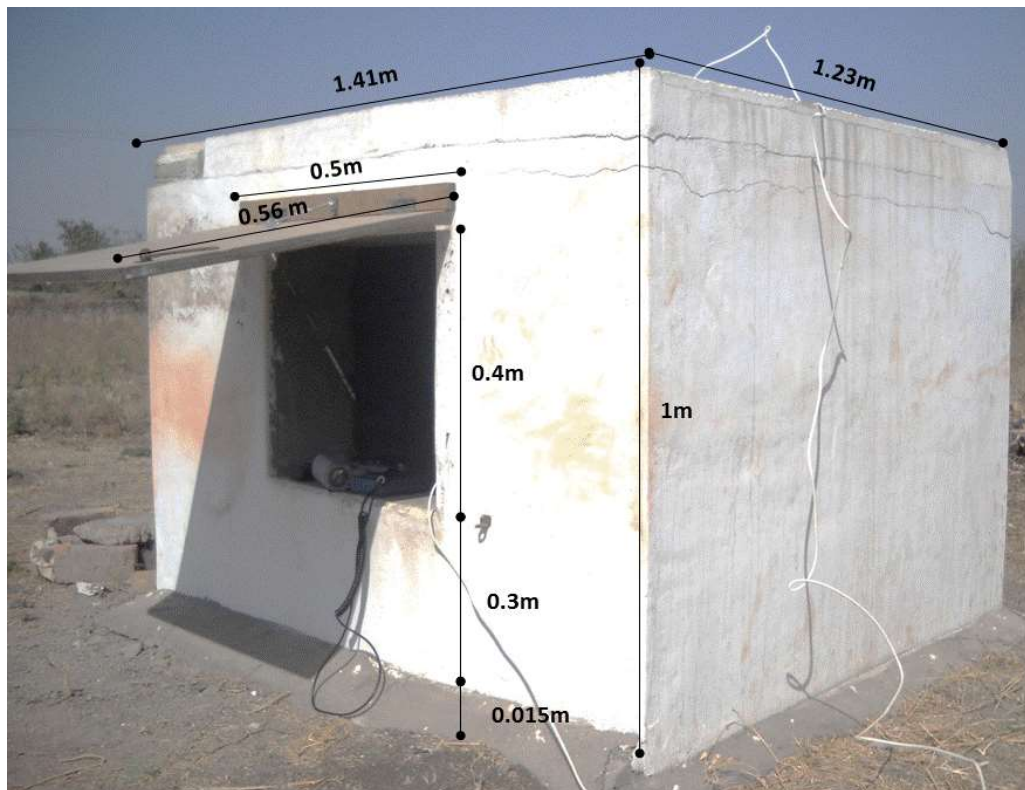


Roof 2\_ XPS



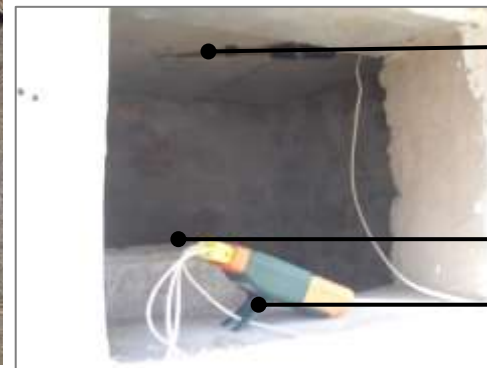
Roof 3\_ POP False Ceiling

# Experimental Setup



Ambient Air Sensor

Overdeck surface probe



Underdeck surface probe

Indoor air sensor

Datalogger

# Performance Indices

## Theoretical

U-Value

Admittance

## Experimental

Time lag

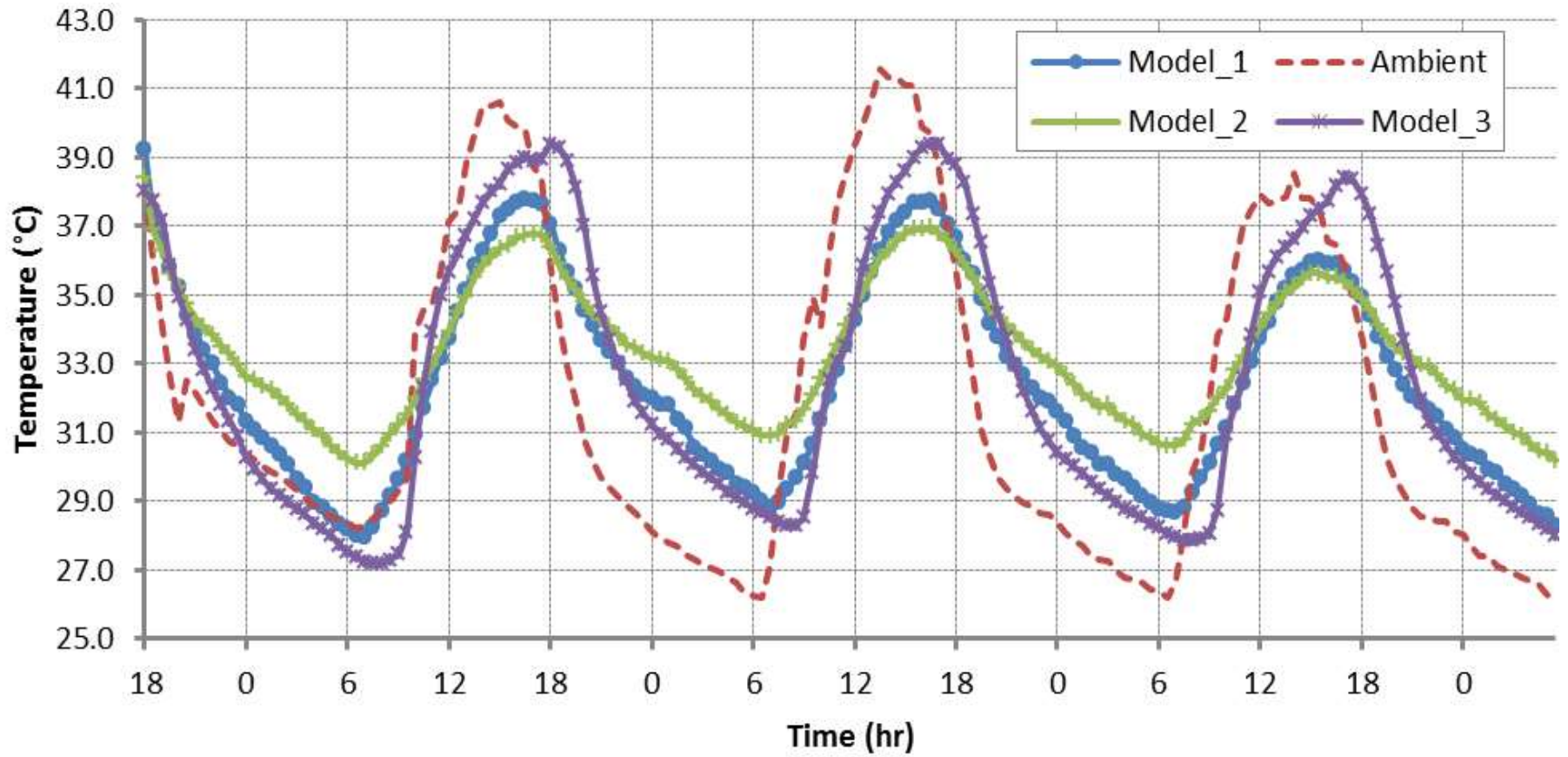
Decrement  
Factor

## Comfort

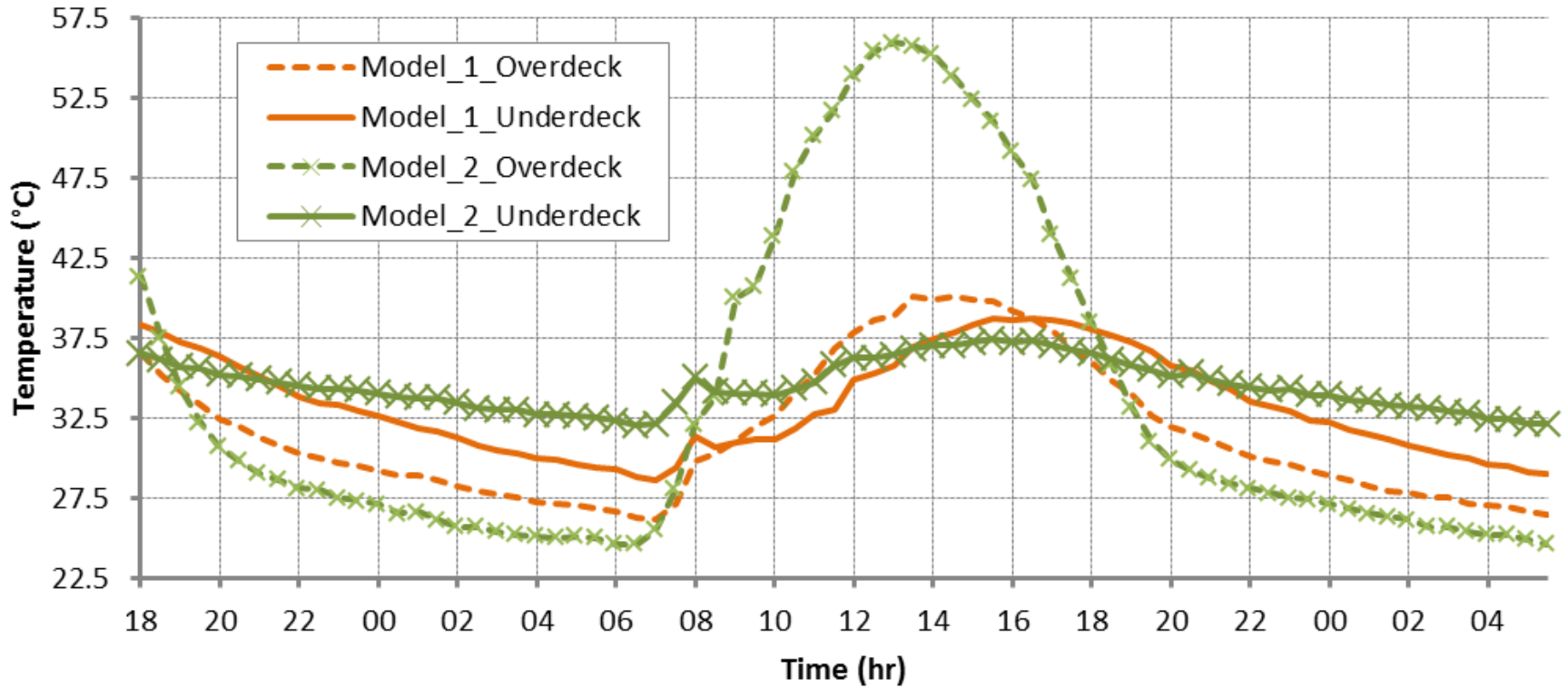
Building  
Index

Discomfort  
Degree  
Hour

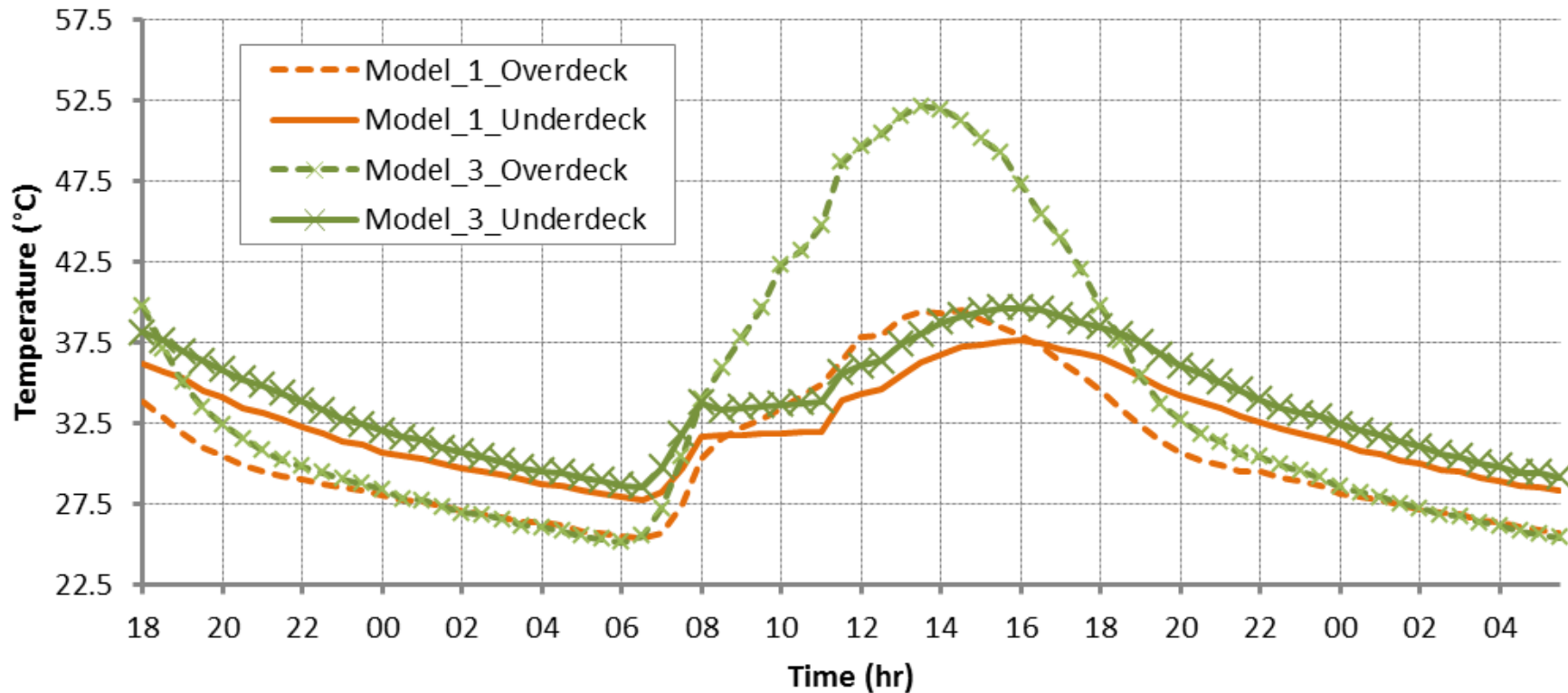
# Air Temperature



# Surface Temperature



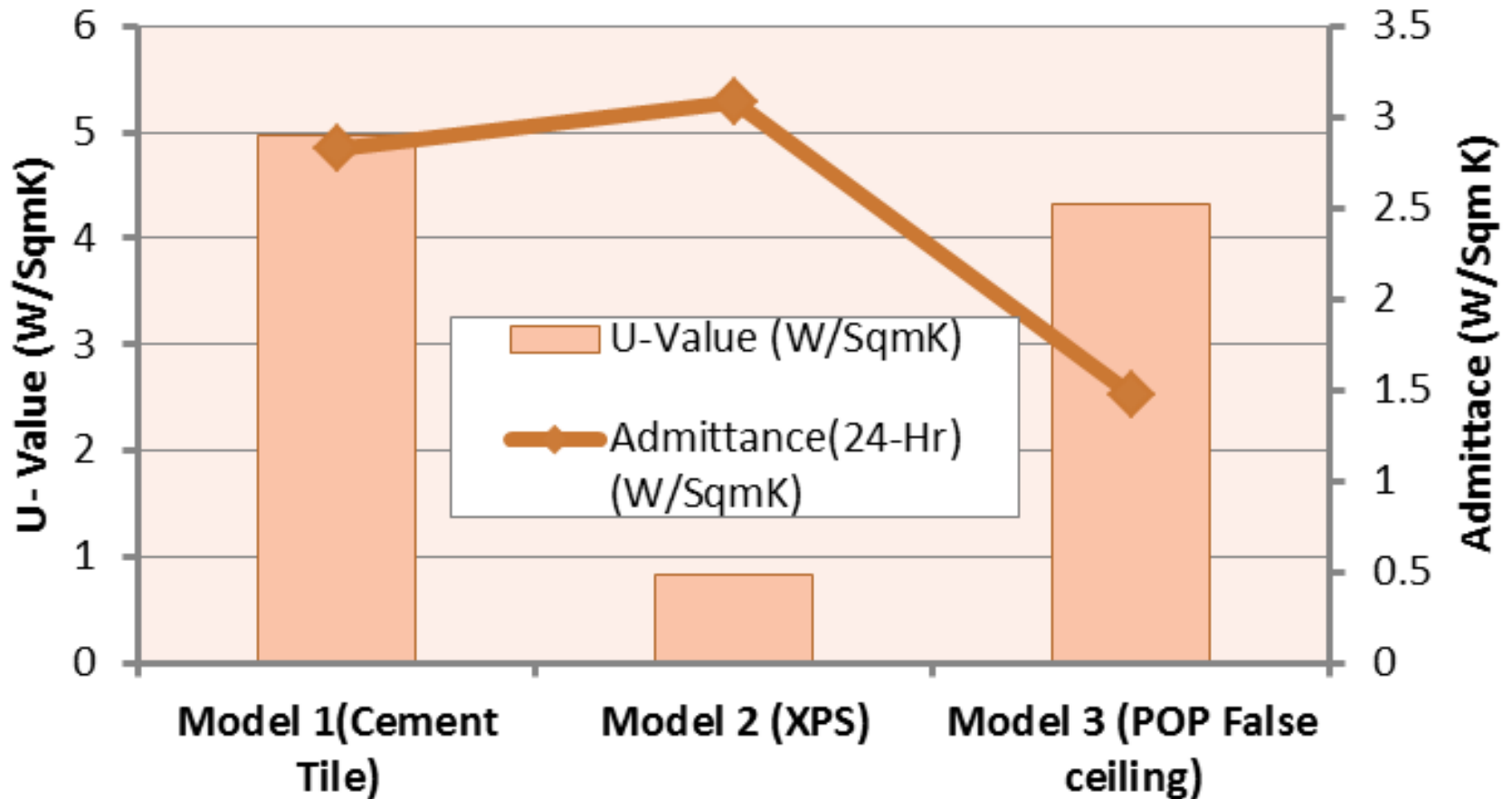
# Surface Temperature





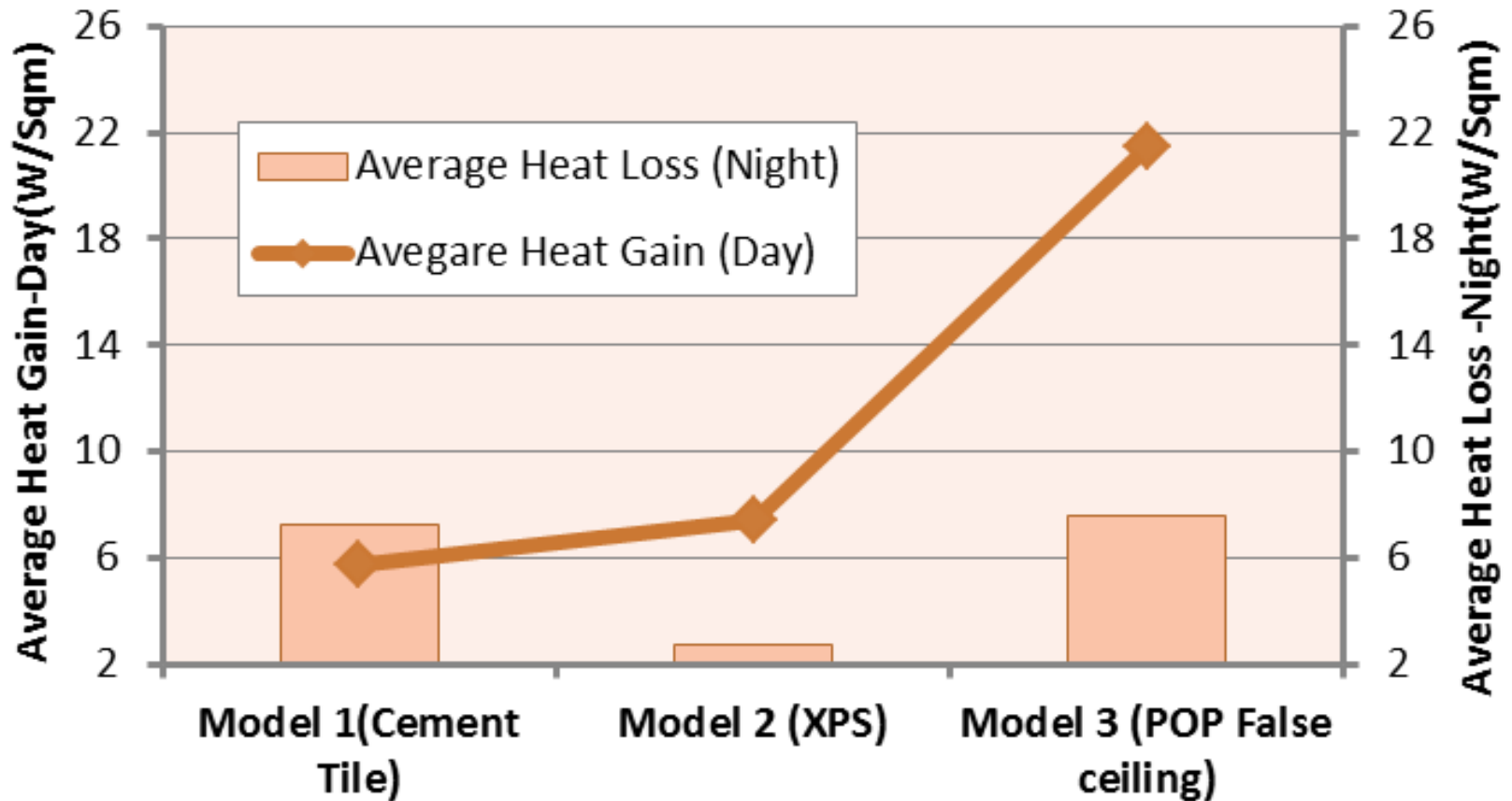
# Performance Indices

## U- Value & Admittance



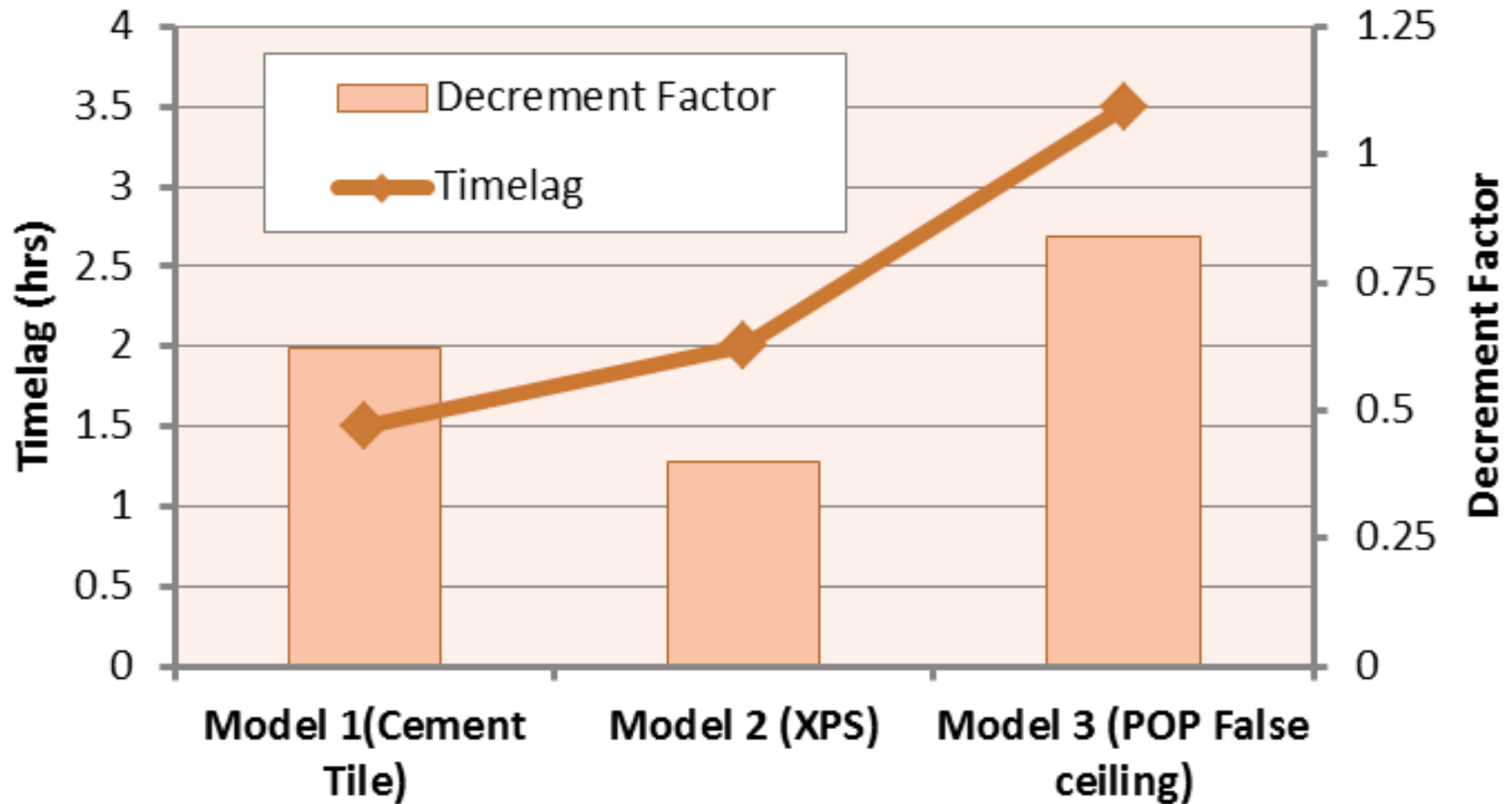
# Performance Indices

## Average Heat Flux (Day & Night)



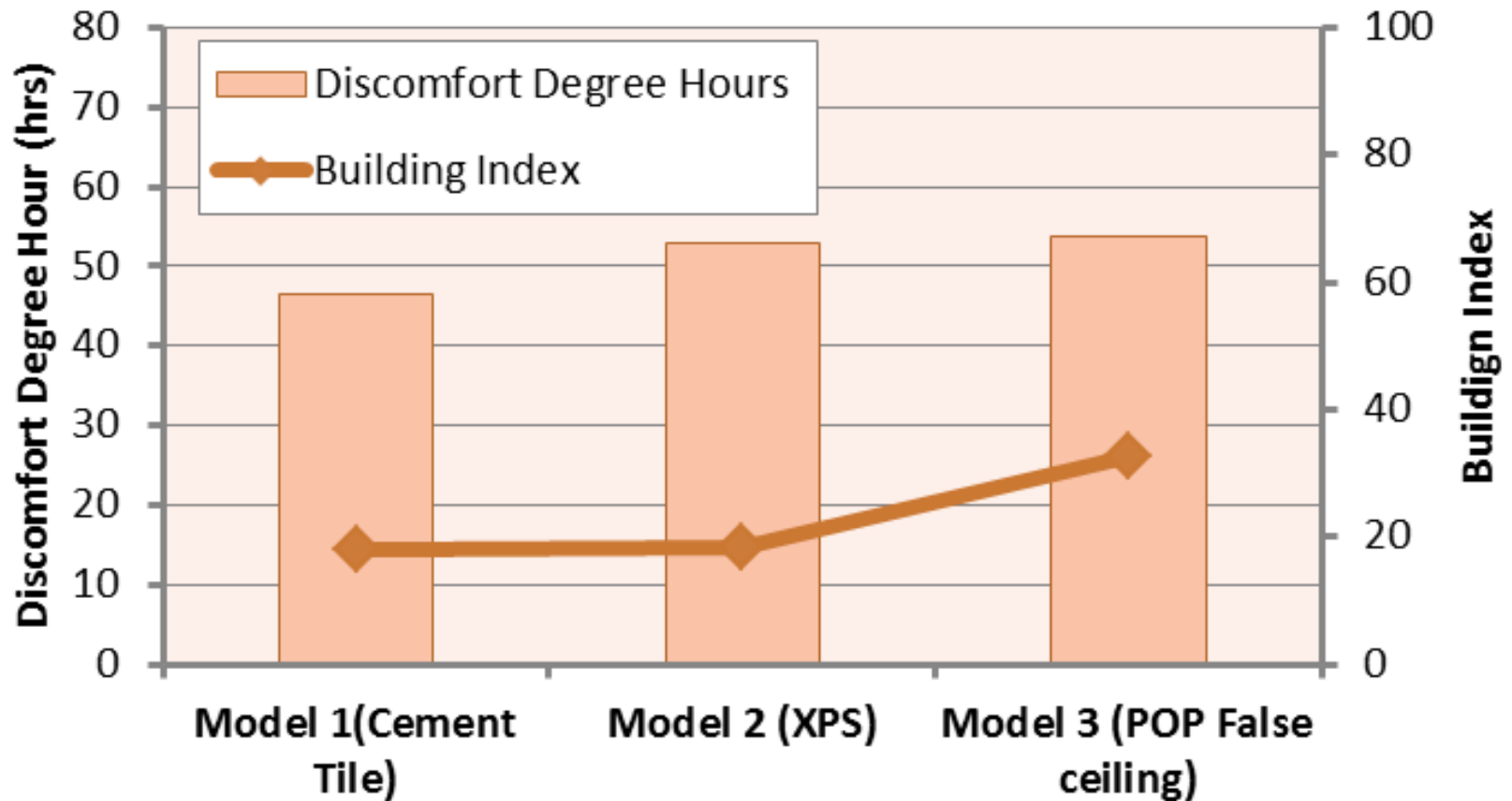
# Performance Indices

## Timelag & Decrement Factor

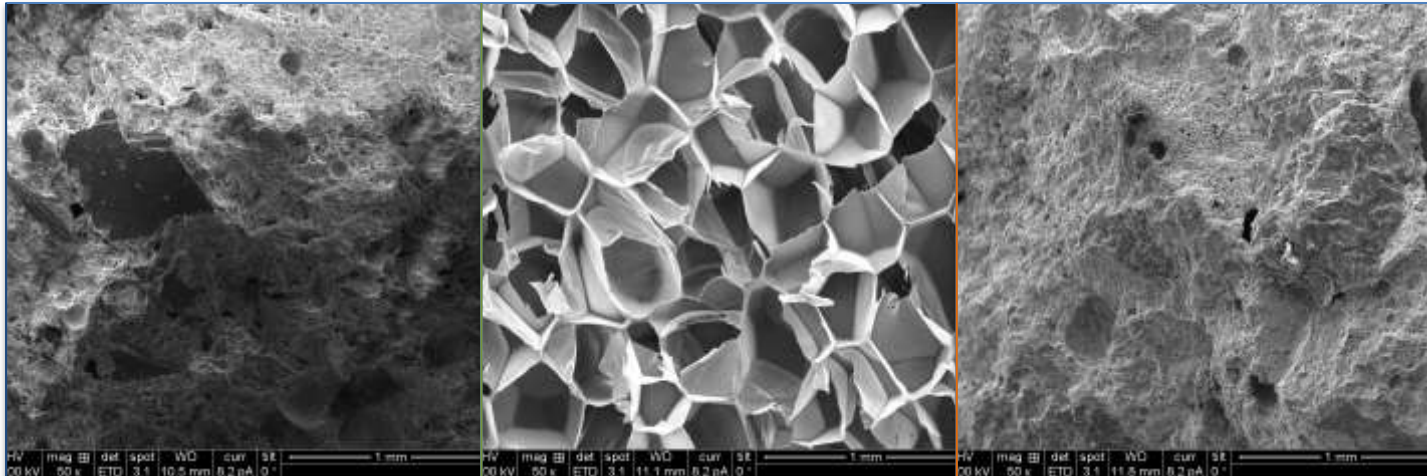


# Performance Indices

## Building Index & Discomfort Degree Hour



# Physical Structure



Cool mortar -Model 1

Conductivity 0.451

Specific heat 0.87

Density 1850

Volumetric Heat Capacity  
**1925**

Extruded Polystyrene- Model 2

Conductivity 0.028

Specific heat 1.25

Density 34

Volumetric Heat Capacity  
**1290**

POP false ceiling board- Model3

Conductivity 0.499

Specific heat 0.2

Density 1080

Volumetric Specific heat  
**764**

# Conclusions

- Innovative indigenous materials like cement tile performs better in 24-hour occupied residential buildings in hot and dry climates due to its high volumetric heat capacity.
- Indicators like Discomfort Degree Hour & heat flux clearly show better thermal performance by the cement tile
- There is a need for a more specific and climate wise thermal performance indices for the codes like Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) of India

# Thank You

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