

**ENERGY PERFORMANCE AND THERMAL COMFORT EVALUATION OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARY  
BUILDING**

**MUHAMMAD ASYRAF BIN RAMLAN**

**UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA**

**ENERGY PERFORMANCE AND THERMAL COMFORT EVALUATION OF  
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY BUILDING**

**MUHAMMAD ASYRAF BIN RAMLAN**

**This report is submitted  
in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of  
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Thermal Fluid)**

**Faculty of Mechanical Engineering**

**UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA**

**2019**

## DECLARATION

I declare that this project report entitled “Energy Performance and Thermal Comfort Evaluation of University Library Building” is the result of my own work except as cited in the references

Signature : .....

Name : MUHAMMAD ASYRAF BIN RAMLAN

Date : .....

## APPROVAL

I hereby declare that I have read this project report and in my opinion this report is sufficient in terms of scope and quality for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Thermal Fluid).

Signature : .....

Name of Supervisor : PROFESOR MADYA DR TEE BOON TUAN

Date : .....

## **DEDICATION**

To my beloved mother and father

## ABSTRACT

This study seeks to analyse the thermal comfort level in the University Technical Malaysia Melaka library and compare it with the ASHRAE Standard 55 (2004) and Malaysia Standard MS 1525:2014. Thermal comfort is very crucial for human health as well as productivity especially when people working in big building. Thermal comfort is not only depends on the air temperature but it can be obtained only when there have the proper balance between air temperature, humidity and the movement of the air. The physical measurements were carried out without occupant and with occupant condition. The Predicted Mean Vote (PMV) and Predicted Percentage of Dissatisfied (PPD) for physical measurements and Thermal Sensation Vote (TSV) through subjective assessment were involved in this study's analysis. Most of the PMV value were between -0 and -2, so the environment temperature in library mostly slightly cool and cool. The Indoor Air Quality measurements for air temperature, relative humidity and air velocity, most of this IAQ were not comply with Malaysia Standard range in both zone for both day and session. The operative temperature for thermal comfort cooling in University Technical Malaysia Melaka library was in the range 19°C to 25°C. The Building Energy Index (BEI) for University Technical Malaysia Melaka library was in range of energy efficient performance and had achieved the best Building Energy Index practice that recommended by Malaysia Standard. The Building Energy Index of University Technical Malaysia Melaka library in year 2015, 2016 and 2017 were 169.27 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year, 141.92 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year and 148.74 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year respectively.

## ABSTRAK

*Kajian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis tahap keselesaan terma di perpustakaan Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka dan membandingkannya dengan ASHRAE Standard 55 (2004) dan Malaysia Standard MS 1525: 2014. Keselesaan terma sangat penting untuk kesihatan manusia serta produktiviti terutama ketika orang yang bekerja di bangunan besar. Keselesaan termal bukan hanya bergantung pada suhu udara tetapi ia hanya dapat diperolehi apabila terdapat keseimbangan yang tepat antara suhu udara, kelembapan dan pergerakan udara. Pengukuran fizikal dijalankan tanpa penghuni dan dengan keadaan penghuni. Pengiraan Undian Andaian Purata dan Peratusan Andaian Ketidakpuasan untuk pengukuran fizikal dan undian sensasi terma melalui penilaian subjektif terlibat dalam analisis kajian ini. Kebanyakan nilai PMV adalah antara -0 dan -2, jadi suhu persekitaran di perpustakaan kebanyakannya agak sejuk dan sejuk. Pengukuran Kualiti Udara Dalamam untuk suhu udara, kelembapan relatif dan halaju udara, kebanyakan IAQ ini tidak mematuhi julat Malaysia Standard dalam kedua-dua zon untuk kedua-dua hari dan sesi. Suhu pengendalian untuk penyejukan keselesaan terma di perpustakaan Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka berada dalam lingkungan 19°C hingga 25°C. Indeks Tenaga Bangunan (BEI) untuk perpustakaan Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka berada dalam julat prestasi cekap tenaga dan telah mencapai amalan Indeks Tenaga Bangunan yang terbaik yang disyorkan oleh Malaysia Standard. Indeks Bangunan Tenaga Perpustakaan Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka pada tahun 2015, 2016 dan 2017 masing-masing adalah 169.27 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/tahun, 141.92 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/tahun dan 148,74 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/ tahun.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praised to Allah Almighty, with His Grace I have strong motivation to finished this final year project report titled “Energy Performance and Thermal Comfort Evaluation of University Library” within one year period.

First of all, I would like to thank to my father, mother and my siblings because of their efforts in giving me a good advices, a good motivations and moral supports, I have finally complete this project. They have providing me a good financial supports.

Next, I would like to deliver my gratitude to my supervisor which is Professor Madya Dr Tee Boon Tuan for his patient giving me good guidance and knowledge to complete all of the experiment from the beginning until the end of my progress report and experiment. Once again, I also like to express my thanks to him because shared many experiences with me until today.

At the same situation, I must give a credit to Mr. As Jufri, the technician in Air Conditioning Laboratory for lent me the apparatus in order to complete my experiment. He has helped me a lot about the tools and device information that need to use in my experiment, without his helper hand difficult for me to finish this project within one year study. I also had tons of valuable experience while working under him.

I would also like to send my gratefulness to my fellow members and whoever involve assisting me completing this project neither direct nor indirectly. In a word, it is great having beneficial experience and memories while completing this project with all of the people I met that cannot be forgotten.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>DECLARATION</b>	ii
<b>APPROVAL</b>	iii
<b>DEDICATION</b>	iv
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	v
<b>ABSTRAK</b>	vi
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	vii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	viii
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	xi
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	xiii
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</b>	xviii
<b>LIST OF SYMBOLS</b>	xix
<b>CHAPTER</b>	
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.3 Objectives	3
1.4 Scope	3
<b>2. LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Theory of Thermal Comfort	4
2.1.1 Factors affecting thermal indoor environment	4
2.1.2 Factors affecting thermal comfort	5
2.2 Standards	6
2.2.1 ASHRAE Standard 55-2004	6
2.2.2 Malaysia Standard MS 1525:2014	6
2.3 Thermal comfort study of Hospital workers in Malaysia by Yau and Chew (2009)	7
2.3.1 Methodology	7

2.3.2 Results	8
2.4 Adaptive Thermal comfort in university classrooms in Malaysia and Japan by Zaki (2017)	10
2.4.1 Methodology	10
2.4.2 Results	12
2.5 Field experiments on thermal comfort in campus classrooms in Taiwan by Hwang (2005)	12
2.5.1 Methodology	12
2.5.2 Results	13
2.6 Field experiments on Thermal Comfort requirements for campus dormitories in Taiwan by Cheng (2008)	14
2.6.1 Methodology	14
2.6.2 Results	15
2.7 Thermal comfort assessment of large-scale hospitals in tropical climates: A case study of University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre (UKMMC) by Azizpour (2013)	18
2.7.1 Methodology	18
2.7.2 Results	19
2.8 Overall comparison of previous work	19
<b>3. METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>21</b>
3.1 Introduction	21
3.1.1 Flow chart of the methodology	22
3.2 UTeM's Main Campus library	23
3.2.1 UTeM's library ground floor	23
3.2.2 UTeM's library first floor	25
3.3 Air-conditioning system	26
3.4 Experimental Method	29
3.4.1 Methods study	31
3.5 Survey Occupants	32
3.5.1 Respondents	32
3.6 Building Energy Index (BEI) Calculation of UTeM's library	32
3.6.1 Gross floor area	33

3.6.2	Net Floor area	33
3.6.3	Air conditioning area	33
3.6.4	Building energy index (BEI) formula	34
<b>4.</b>	<b>RESULT AND DISCUSSION</b>	<b>35</b>
4.1	Experimental results	35
4.2	Experimental result comparison between data collection and Malaysia Standard	37
4.2.1	Zone 1 Ground Floor of UTeM's Library (Without Occupants) for morning and afternoon session	38
4.2.2	Zone 2 Ground Floor of UTeM's Library (Without Occupants) for morning and afternoon session	45
4.2.3	Zone 1 Ground Floor of UTeM's Library (With Occupants) for morning and afternoon session	52
4.2.4	Zone 2 Ground Floor of UTeM's Library (With Occupants) for morning and afternoon session	59
4.3	Overall Results	66
4.4	Subjective Assessment	71
4.4.1	Sample Calculation Based on Surveys	72
4.4.2	Predicted Mean Vote (PMV) in Zone 1	72
4.4.3	Predicted Mean Vote (PMV) in Zone 2	73
4.5	Analysis of Operative Temperature	73
4.5.1	Ground Floor Zone 1	74
4.5.2	Ground floor Zone 2	76
4.6	Energy Performance Analysis	78
4.7	Energy Saving Measures (ESM)	83
<b>5.</b>	<b>CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>85</b>
5.1	Conclusion	85
5.2	Recommendation	86
	<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>88</b>
	<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>91</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

<b>TABLE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
2.1	Summary of the statistical results of field studies in hospitals	8
2.2	Specification of measurement instruments	11
2.3	Monthly mean temperatures and humidity in Central Taiwan	15
2.4	Specifications of experimental equipment	15
2.5	Experimental results in dormitory and classrooms	17
2.6	Overall Comparison of Previous Works	19
3.1	Chiller basic information	27
3.2	List of Chiller	28
3.3	List of Cooling Tower	28
3.4	List of Condenser Water Pump	28
3.5	List of Chiller Water Pump	29
3.6	Probe and functions	30
3.7	Physical measurements collected for this study	31
4.1	Thermal comfort parameters data (without occupants) at ground floor	36
4.2	Thermal comfort parameters data (with occupants) at ground floor	37
4.3	The average results for ground floor (Zone 1) of UTeM's library in morning session	66
4.4	The average results for ground floor (Zone 1) of UTeM's library in afternoon session	67

4.5	The average results for ground floor (Zone 2) of UTeM's library in morning session	67
4.6	The average results for ground floor (Zone 2) of UTeM's library in afternoon session	68
4.7	Graph of PPD as a function of PMV for both conditions and Zones in the morning session	68
4.8	Graph of PPD as a function of PMV for both conditions and Zones in the afternoon session	70
4.9	The sample seven-point thermal sensation vote in Zone 1 (morning)	71
4.10	Comparison between PMV Software and PMV Surveys	72
4.11	Comparison between PMV Software and PMV Surveys	73
4.12	The electrical energy consumption in year 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018	79
4.13	The Building Energy Index (BEI) for three consecutive years	82
4.14	Performance summary for energy and cost saving	83

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>FIGURE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
2.1	Various methods of acceptability	13
2.2	Comparison of results obtained through different thermal satisfaction survey methods	16
2.3	Correlation between percentage of samples expressing discomfort with the thermal condition and thermal sensation votes	16
2.4	Thermal adaption behaviour	17
2.5	“Thermal Comfort” equipment	18
3.1	Flow Chart	22
3.2	Main Campus UTeM’s Library	23
3.3	Computer area in ground floor	24
3.4	Individual room in ground floor	24
3.5	Study area in ground floor	24
3.6	Reading corner in ground floor	25
3.7	Arrangement of tables, chairs and racks in first and second floor	25
3.8	Individual rooms in first and second floor	26
3.9	Reading corner in first and second floor	26
3.10	Schematics of a Chiller-based cooling system at Library UTeM	27
3.11	Thermal Microclimate HD32.1 by Delta Ohm Srl	30

4.1	Apparatus set up at Zone 1 (Ground Floor)	39
4.2	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 1	39
4.3	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 1	39
4.4	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 1	40
4.5	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 1	41
4.6	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 1	41
4.7	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 1	41
4.8	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	42
4.9	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	42
4.10	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	43
4.11	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	43
4.12	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	44
4.13	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	44
4.14	Apparatus set up at Zone 2 (Ground Floor)	45
4.15	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day	46
4.16	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day	46
4.17	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day	47
4.18	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day	47

4.19	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day	48
4.20	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day	48
4.21	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	49
4.22	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	49
4.23	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	50
4.24	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	50
4.25	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	51
4.26	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	51
4.27	Apparatus set up at Zone 1 (Ground Floor)	52
4.28	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 1 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	52
4.29	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 1 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	53
4.30	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 1 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	53
4.31	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 1 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	54
4.32	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 1 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	55
4.33	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 1 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	55
4.34	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	56
4.35	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	56



4.36	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	57
4.37	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	57
4.38	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	58
4.39	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	58
4.40	Apparatus set up at Zone 2 (Ground Floor)	59
4.41	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	59
4.42	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	60
4.43	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	61
4.44	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	61
4.45	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	62
4.46	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 2 1 <sup>st</sup> day (with occupants)	62
4.47	Data measurement of the air temperature (morning) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	63
4.48	Data measurement of the air temperature (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	63
4.49	Data measurement of the air velocity (morning) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	64
4.50	Data measurement of the air velocity (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	64
4.51	Data measurement of the relative humidity (morning) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	65
4.52	Data measurement of the relative humidity (afternoon) Zone 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> day (with occupants)	65

4.53	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 1 (morning) 1 <sup>st</sup> day	74
4.54	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 1 (afternoon) 1 <sup>st</sup> day	74
4.55	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 1 (morning) 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	75
4.56	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 1 (afternoon) 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	75
4.57	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 2 (morning) 1 <sup>st</sup> day	76
4.58	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 2 (afternoon) 1 <sup>st</sup> day	77
4.59	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 2 (morning) 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	77
4.60	Graph of PMV against Operative Temperature in Zone 2 (afternoon) 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	78
4.61	Sample calculation for the total electric bills in year 2016	79
4.62	Sample calculation for the total electric bills in year 2017	80
4.63	Bar Chart for energy usage in UTeM's library in four consecutive years	80
4.64	The percentage of buildings in Malaysia with the various levels of BEI (Pusat Tenaga Malaysia)	81
4.65	Sample calculation for the Building Energy Index (BEI)	82

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

HVAC	Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning
ACMV	Air conditioning and Mechanical ventilation
IAQ	Indoor Air Quality
SBS	Sick Building Syndrome
IEQ	Indoor Environment Quality
MRT	Mean Radiant Temperature
ASHRAE	American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers
MS	Malaysian Standard
PMV	Predicted Mean Vote
PPD	Predicted Percentage of Dissatisfied
FR	Free Running
CL	Cooling
BEI	Building Energy Index
CLO	Clothing insulation
MET	Metabolic rate

## LIST OF SYMBOL

%	Percentage
m	Meter
s	Second
°C	Degree celcius
Ta	Ambient temperature
Tg	Globe temperature
Va	Air velocity
Tr	Radiant temperature
Pr	Pressure



# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.0 Background

Air-conditioning (AC) and mechanical ventilation (ACMV) is the common systems that provide occupants with better thermal condition with sufficient inflow and outflow of air within buildings by channelling treated air into the building while extracting exhaust air out, controlling and maintaining the temperature and humidity of air within buildings. This ACMV systems are placed or installed inside a building or others space is used to control the air temperature and improve the indoor air quality (IAQ) (Ismail Abdul Rahman J. C., 2014). The buildings that have high quality design concept should take into account the thermal condition or thermal comfort because they are one of the important factors.

The definition of thermal comfort in the room or buildings means above three quarter of the occupants inside the building could accept the environment. Generally, thermal comfort provides a comfortable environment and better air that will never affect people's health inside the buildings. There are six major factors directly affect thermal comfort that can be classified in two categories, there are environmental factors and personal factors (Szokolay, 2007). The environmental factors are the conditions of the thermal environment, there are four important thermal environmental factors, air temperature, air speed, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity (Szokolay, 2007). Then, the personal factors are the characteristics of the occupants such as clothing insulation value and metabolic rate.

Even air-conditioning and mechanical ventilation (ACMV) systems give us better air quality and control air temperature inside space but it still have its own weakness and disadvantages. People in buildings will tends to get suffer conditions from headache, dizziness, stuffed nose, nose irritations, flu, coughing, fatigue and many more symptoms that related to breathing. These symptoms are basically called “Sick Building Syndrome” (SBS), which is a medical condition where occupants in a building suffer from symptoms of illness or feel unwell for no apparent reason.

The energy performance of a building can be defined as the total amount of energy consumed to meet the different needs based on a standard use of the building including heating or cooling system, lighting and electrical appliances (Tort-Ausina, 2016). The building sector is one of the massive energy usage region, it is also considered for larger percentage from the total energy consumption from both the industry and transportation in many countries (S.Moghimi, 2013). Buildings required about 40 percent of the global energy consumption such as coal, natural gas, hydro, solar, or biomass and provide more than 30 percent of the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions (Yang, 2014). A huge portion of this energy is used for thermal comfort in buildings through heating or cooling system (Zahra Sadat Zomorodian, 2016).

## **1.1 Problem Statement**

Thermal comfort of human in library needs to be evaluated to prevent thermal discomfort among occupants in library and to know how occupants reacts with current environment whether the current environment is too hot or too cold as well as the indoor air quality. Unacceptable thermal conditions can lead to occupant dissatisfaction which, in turn, ha a serious effect on their productivity, performance as long as their healthy (M.Budaiwi, 2007). The indoor air quality is important parameter need to be control at acceptable level to

improve the productivity of occupants. There are six main parameters that affects human thermal comfort, air temperature, relative humidity, air velocity, radiant temperature, clothing insulation and metabolic rate. By implementing this case study in UTeM's library, thermal discomfort can be restrain therefore students can perform their study and work at their best performance. Thermal comfort can be evaluate by using Predicted Mean Vote (PMV) and Predicted Percent of Dissatisfied (PPD) approaches as mention in ASHRAE Standard.

## **1.2 Objectives**

- i. To conduct a thermal comfort and indoor air quality (air temperature, air velocity, relative humidity and atmospheric pressure) analysis for university library building.
- ii. To compare the measurement data with ASHRAE Standard 55 and Malaysia Standard MS 1525
- iii. To conduct an energy analysis of the university library building.

## **1.3 Scope**

The scope of this study are as follows:

- i. The study will focus on energy consumption and thermal comfort in the university library building.
- ii. Evaluating the air-conditioning and mechanical ventilation system for energy consumption.
- iii. The thermal comfort parameters such as air temperature, air velocity and relative humidity will be measured by using thermal comfort meter.