

DOCKETED

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Ventilation, Occupant Activities and Indoor Air Quality in New California Homes



Healthy Efficient New Gas Home (HENGH) Project

New California homes built to post-2008 Title 24 standards

Target 70 homes, 47 tested so far

- **Occupant Survey** – what do occupants think
 - Large scale – more than 2500 homes (online survey)
- **Diagnostic Testing**
 - Measure building envelope leakage and duct leakage
 - Measure mechanical air flows: whole building + exhaust fans
- **IAQ Monitoring**
 - Time-resolved PM_{2.5} indoors & outdoors, time-resolved CO₂ in several rooms, time resolved & integrated NO₂, time-resolved formaldehyde and integrated formaldehyde and acetaldehyde
 - Monitor mechanical ventilation usage and related activities (e.g., cooking) for one-week

<https://hengh.lbl.gov/>

Home Characteristics

- HENGH online survey

2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers

- HENGH field study homes

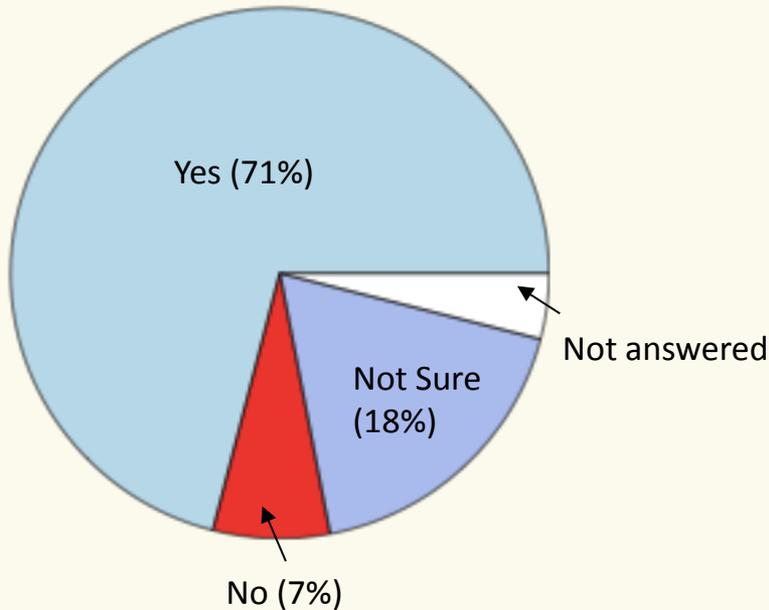
43 responses, mostly by PG&E Company Customers

	Mean	Range (Min-Max)
Size (m²)	242	140 – 372
# of Bedrooms	3.7	2 – 6
# of Full Bathrooms	2.6	2 - 9
Year Built	2005	2002-2015
Number of Occupants	3.13	2 - 6

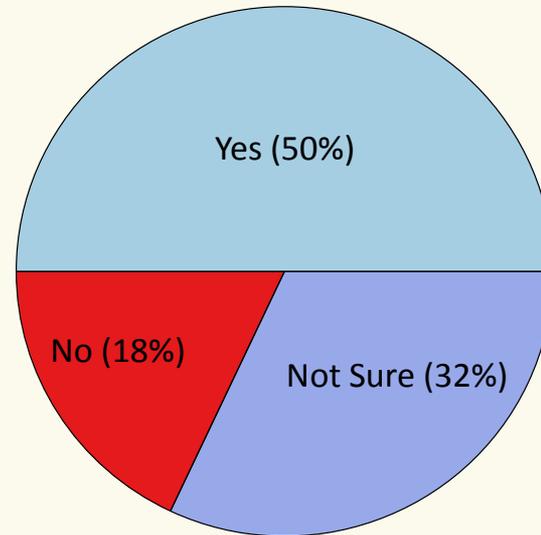
	Mean	Range (Min-Max)
Size (m²)	254	153 – 390
# of Bedrooms	3.8	3 - 5
# of Full Bathrooms	3	2 - 5
Year Built	2013	2011- 2015
Number of Occupants	3.0	1 - 8

Do you feel you understand your mechanical ventilation system properly? ?

Results from HENGH survey (2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers)

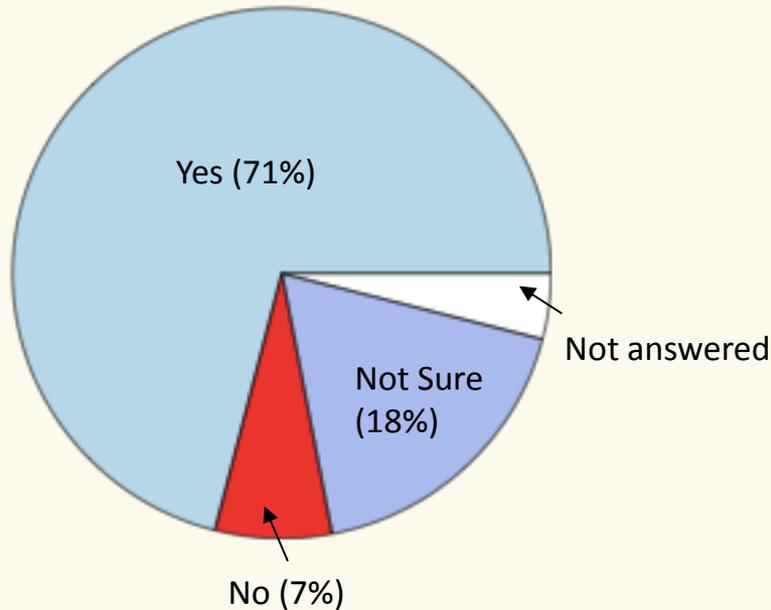


Results from HENGH homes (43 homes)

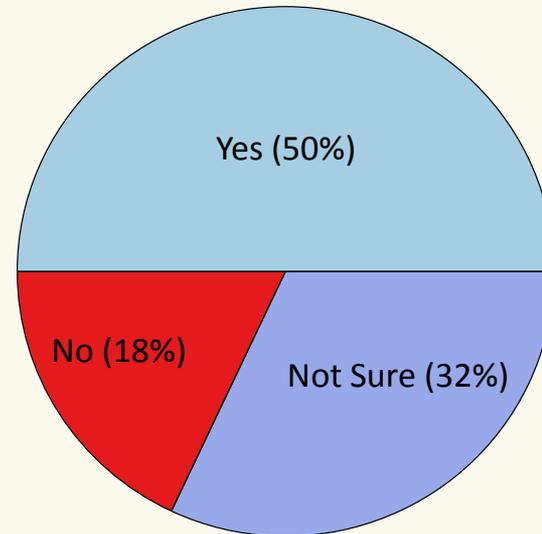


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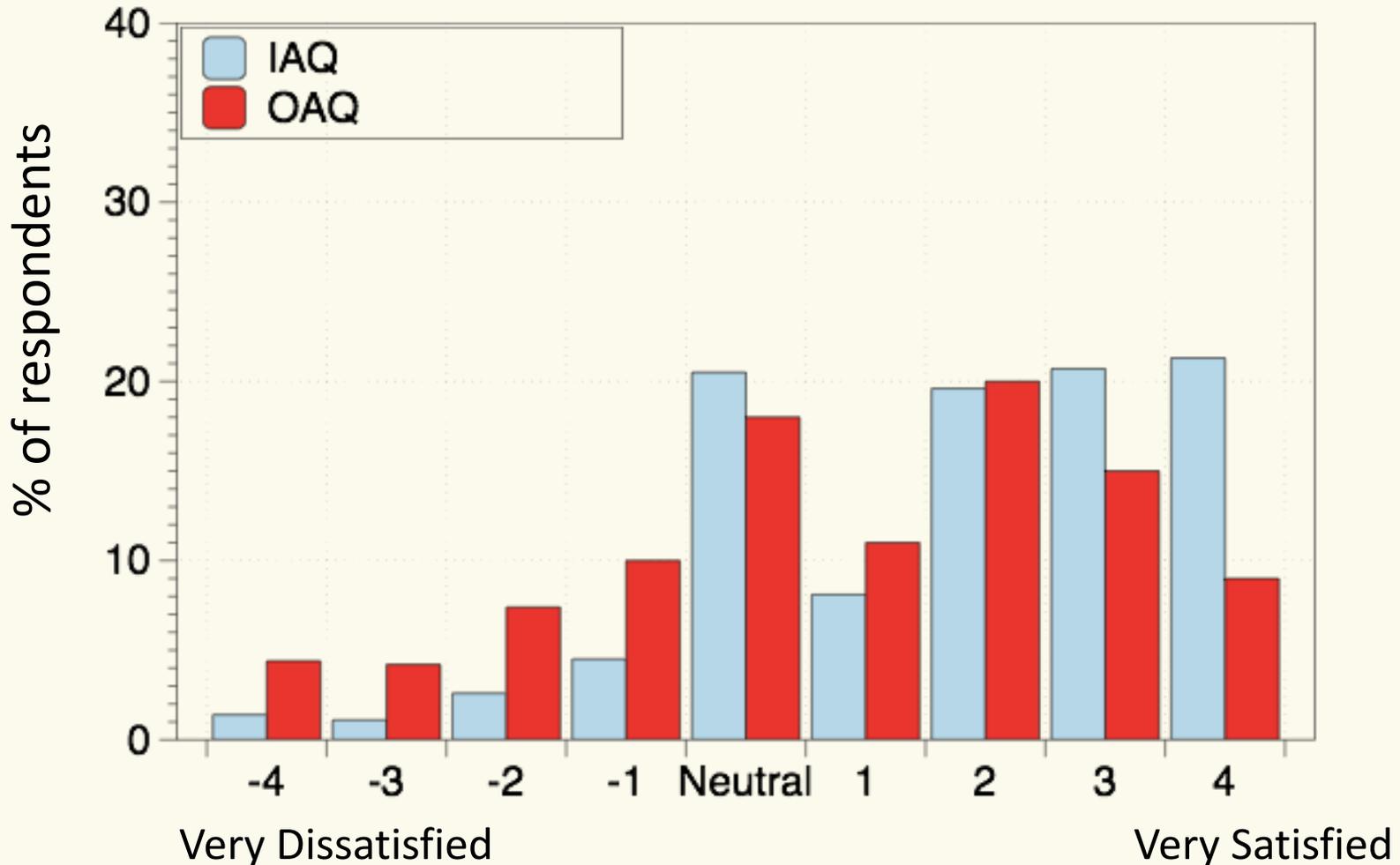
Results from 43 monitored homes



Only one home had operating mechanical ventilation system on our 1st visit

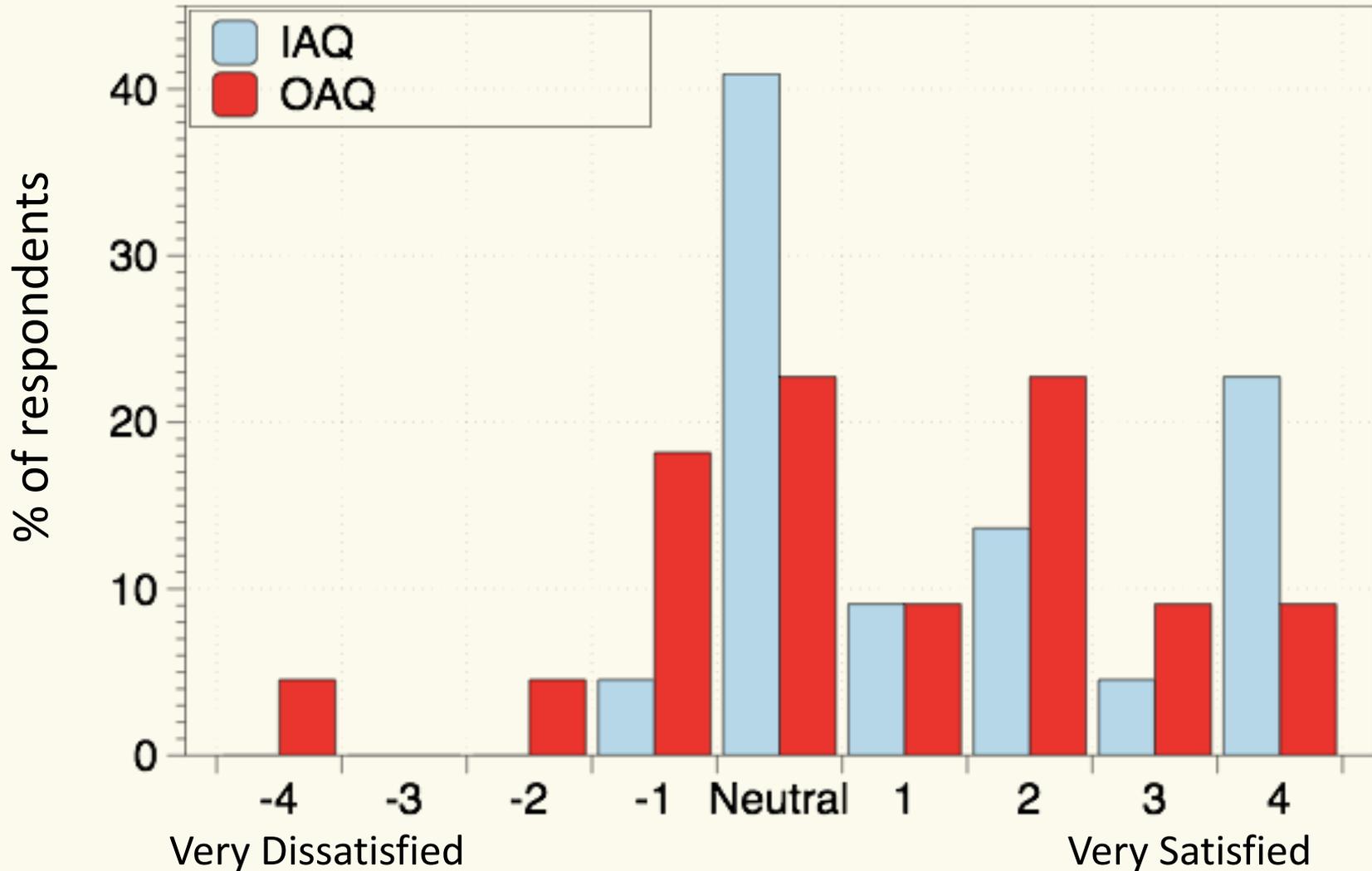
How would you rate the air quality at your home?

Results from HENGH survey (2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers)



How would you rate the air quality at your home?

Results from 43 monitored homes

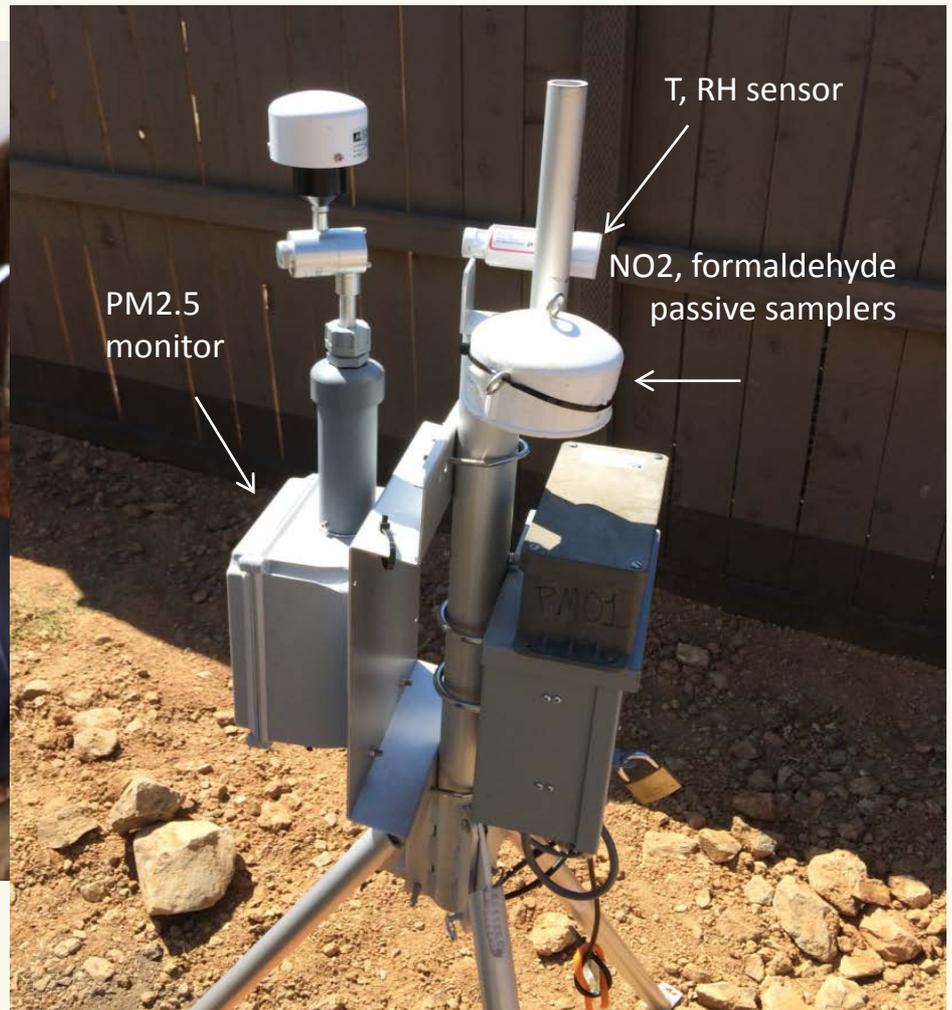


IAQ Monitoring

Contaminant	Instrument	Sampling Locations	Sampling Resolution
PM2.5	MetOne BT-642	Outdoor	1-minute
	MetOne BT-645	Indoor (main room*)	1-minute
CO ₂ , T/RH	Extech SD-800	Indoor (main room, master & other bedrooms)	1-minute
NO ₂	Aeroqual NO ₂ Monitor	Indoor (main room)	1-minute
	Passive Ogawa Samplers	Outdoor Indoor (main room)	1-week
Formaldehyde	Shinyei Formaldehyde Monitor	Indoor (main room, master bedroom)	30-minute
	Passive SKC UMEx-100	Outdoor Indoor (main room, master bedroom)	1-week

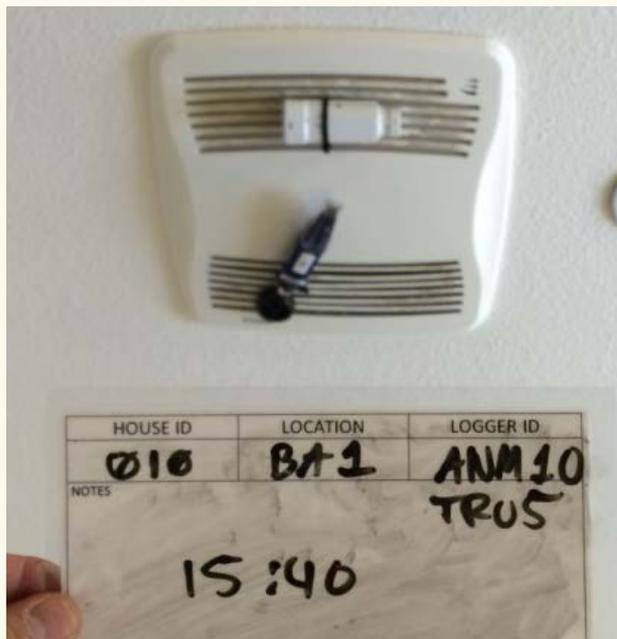
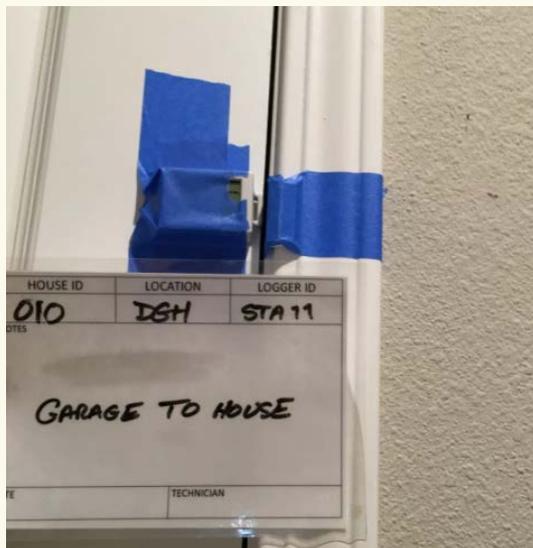
* Main living space, typically in living / dinning room.

Indoor/Outdoor Air Quality Measurements

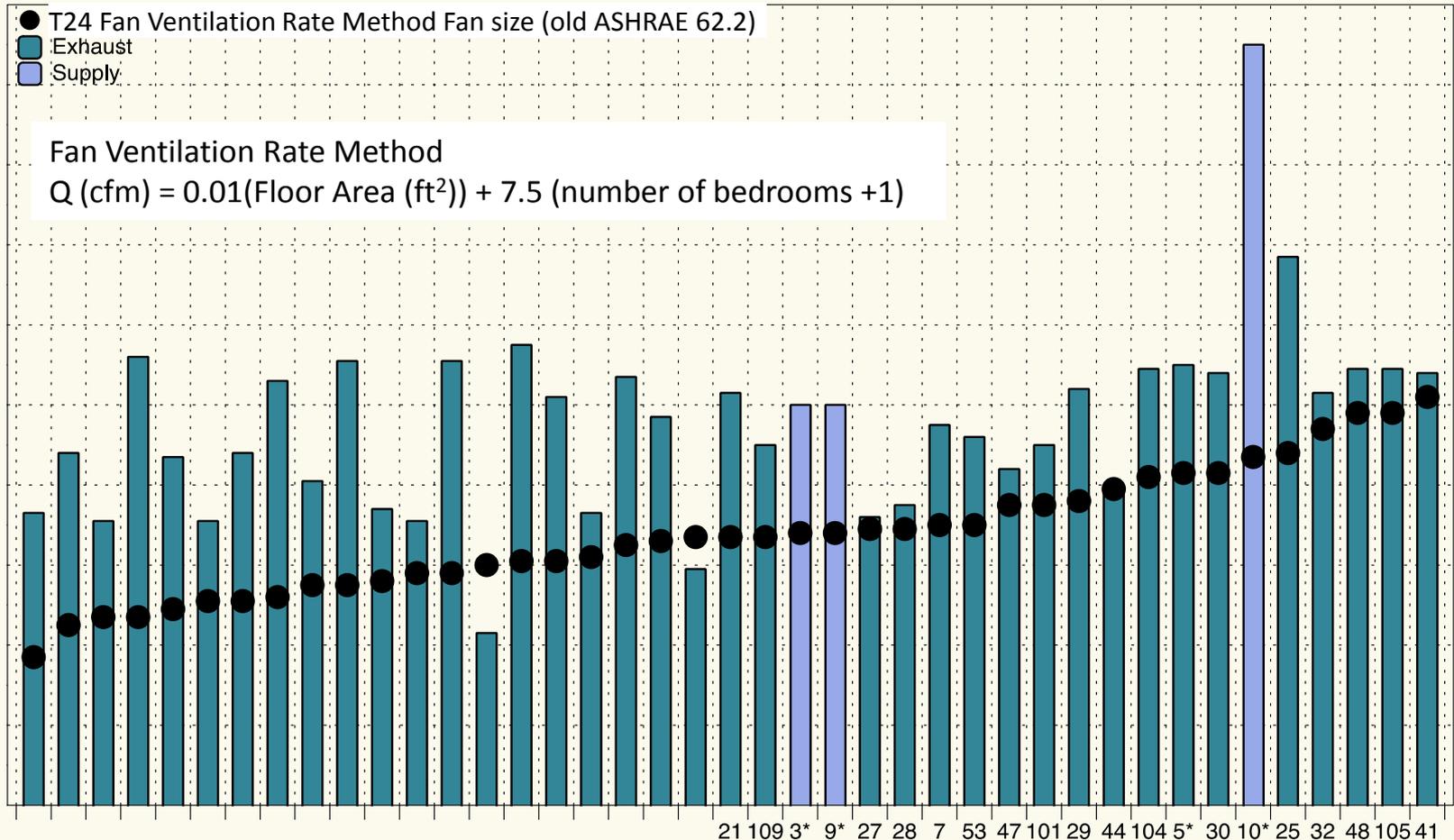


Indoor monitoring of PM_{2.5}, CO₂, NO₂, and formaldehyde

Activity Monitoring

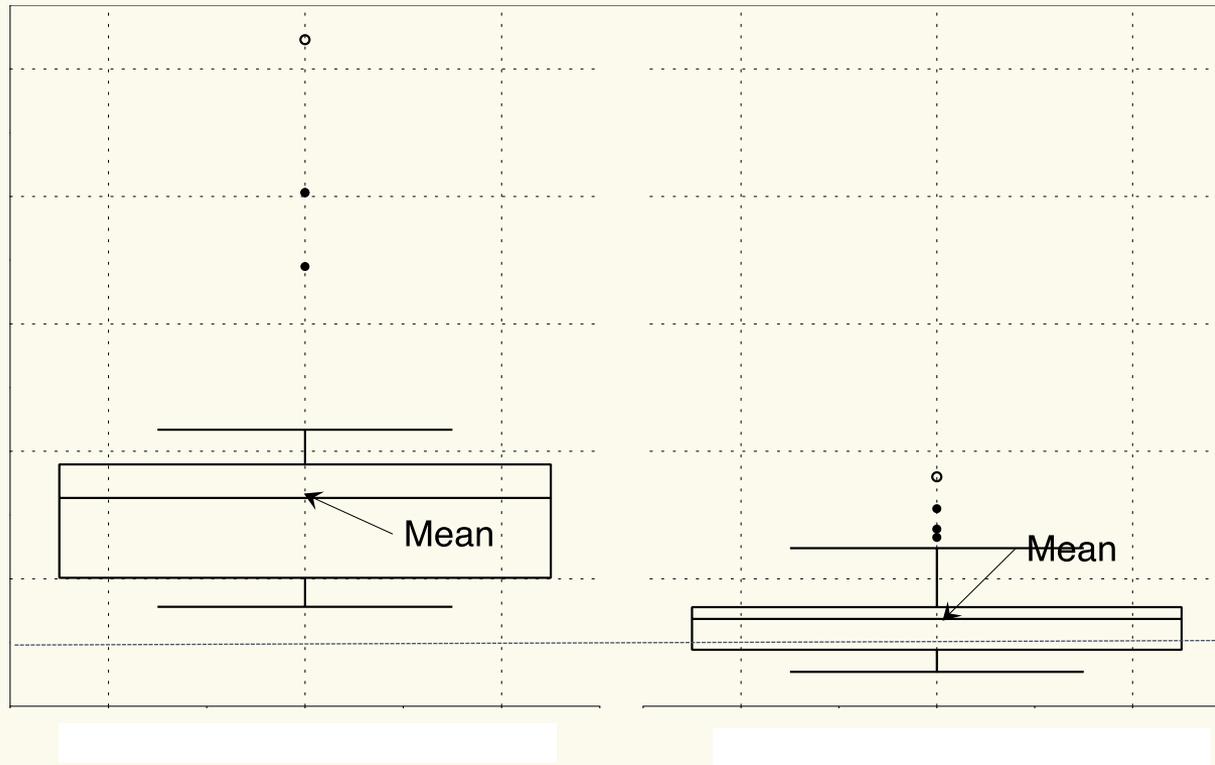


Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation Measured Airflow



- Supplies are rated airflow rate: not measured
- Two homes did not meet T24 required air flow
- The mechanical systems are oversized by about 50% on average
- 2016 62.2 would require 20% bigger unbalanced fan or 25% smaller balanced fan if infiltration credit taken for a 5 ACH50 home

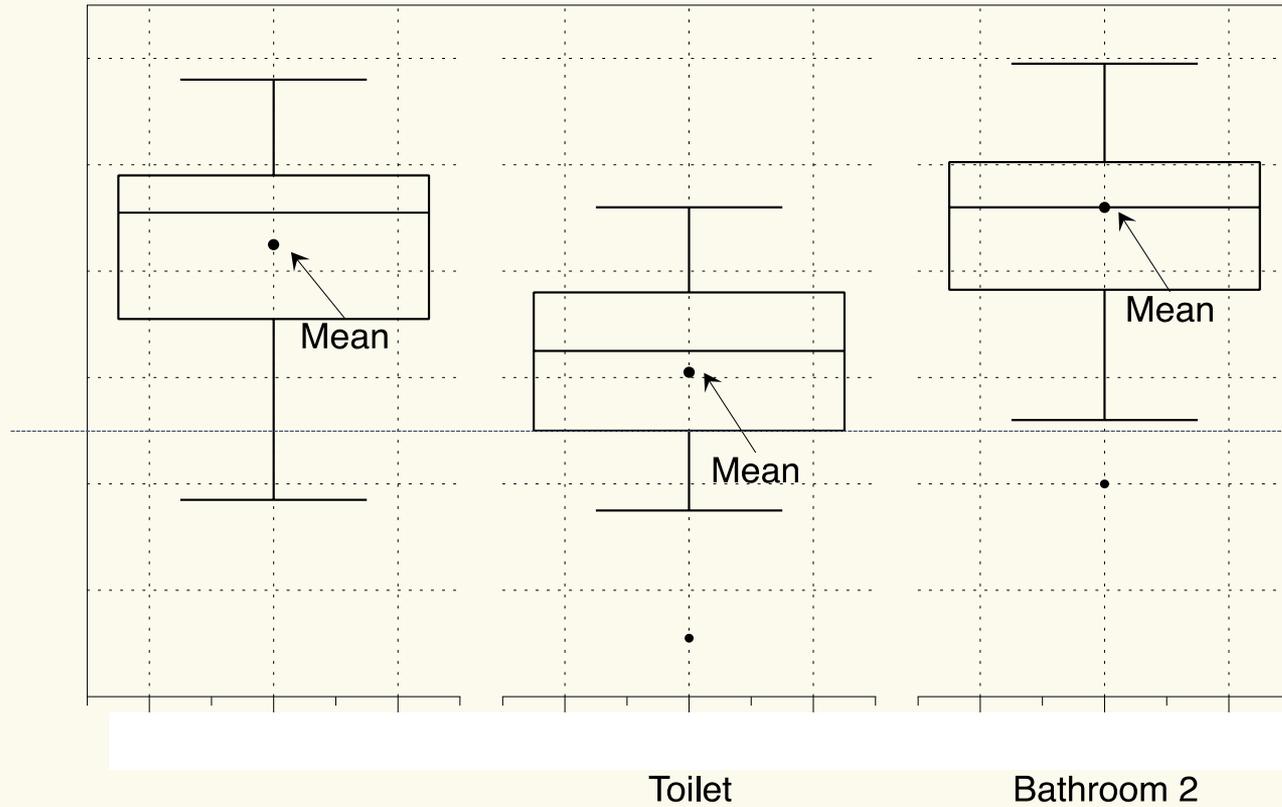
Range Hood Exhaust Flows



- 41/42 homes met 100 cfm on high. 20/42 homes met it on low setting.
- All of the houses used range hoods vented to outside
- Overall, Microwave range hoods have lower exhaust flows: average was 75 cfm on high and 45 cfm on low

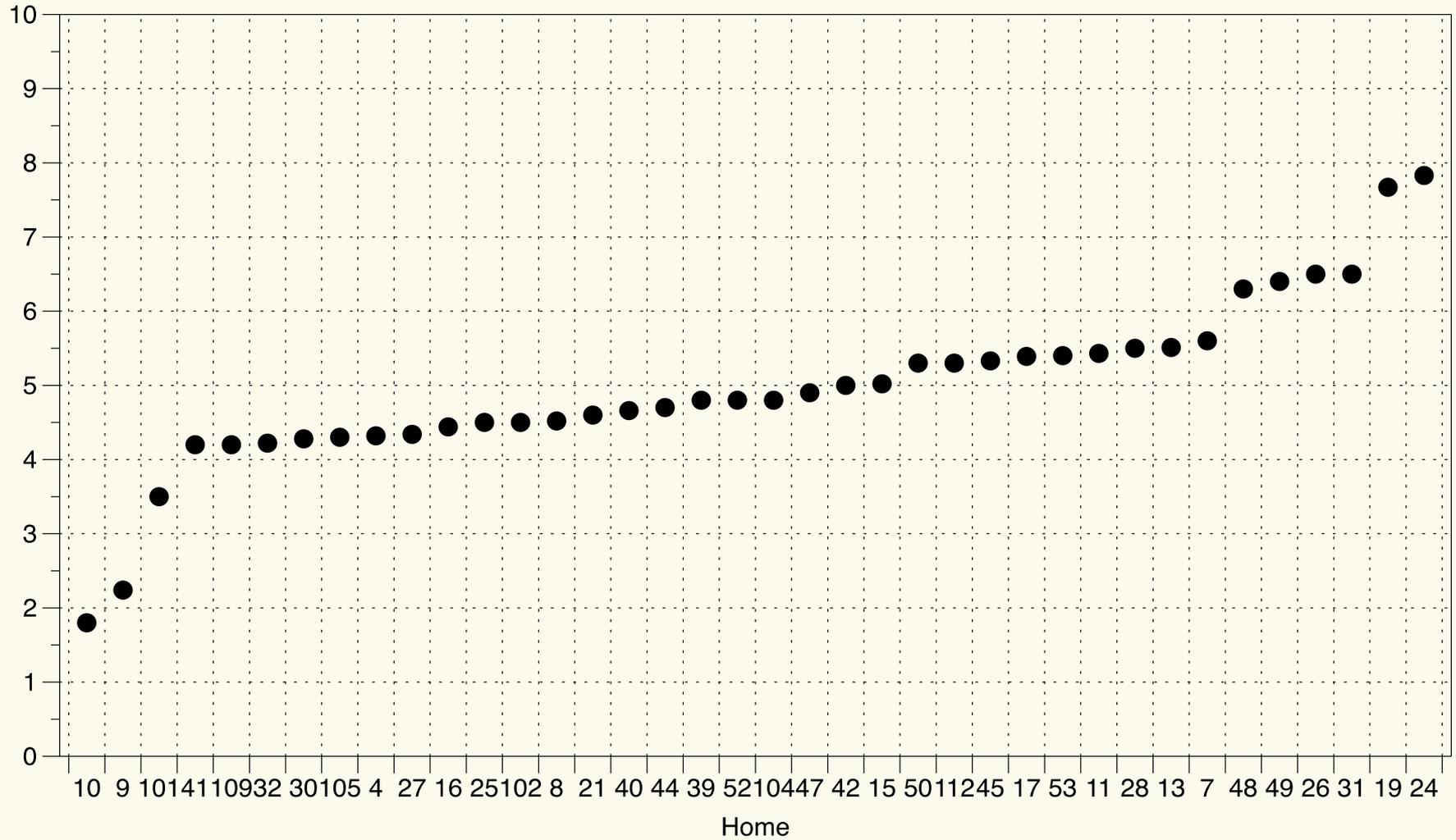
Bathroom Ventilation

Bathroom Fan Exhaust Flows

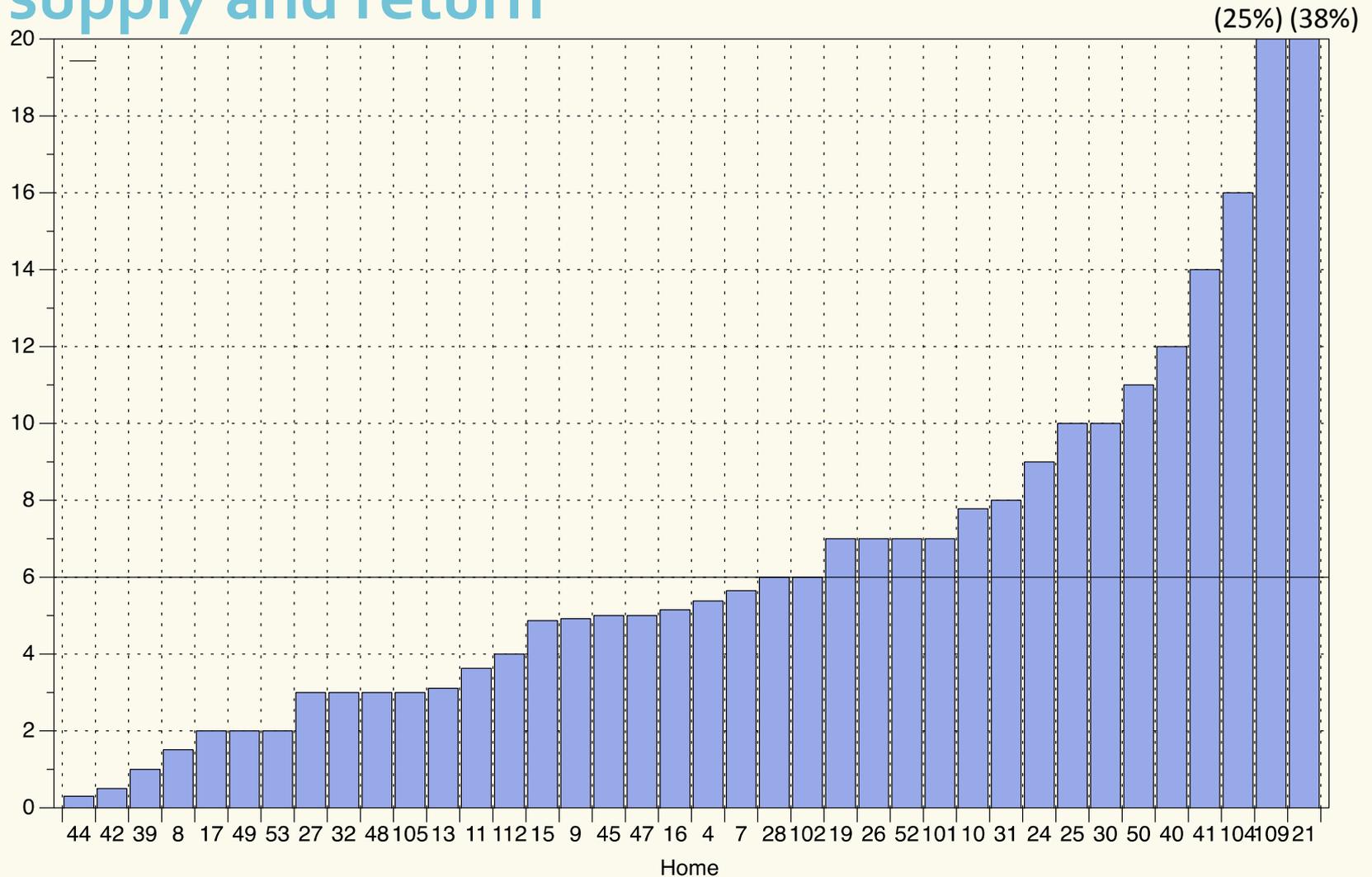


- 38/41 homes met the minimum requirement of 50 cfm

Building Envelope Airtightness

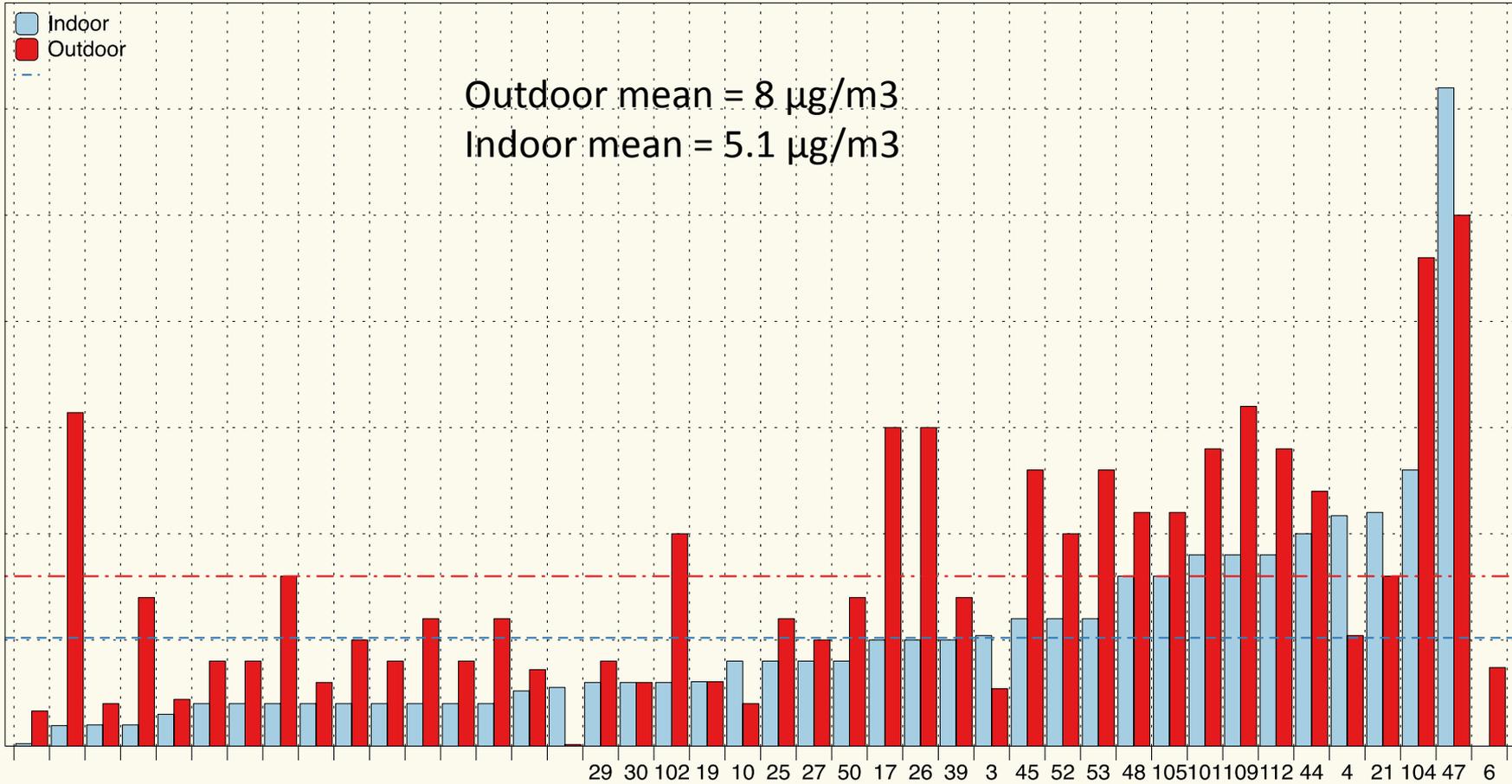


Duct system leakage – combined supply and return

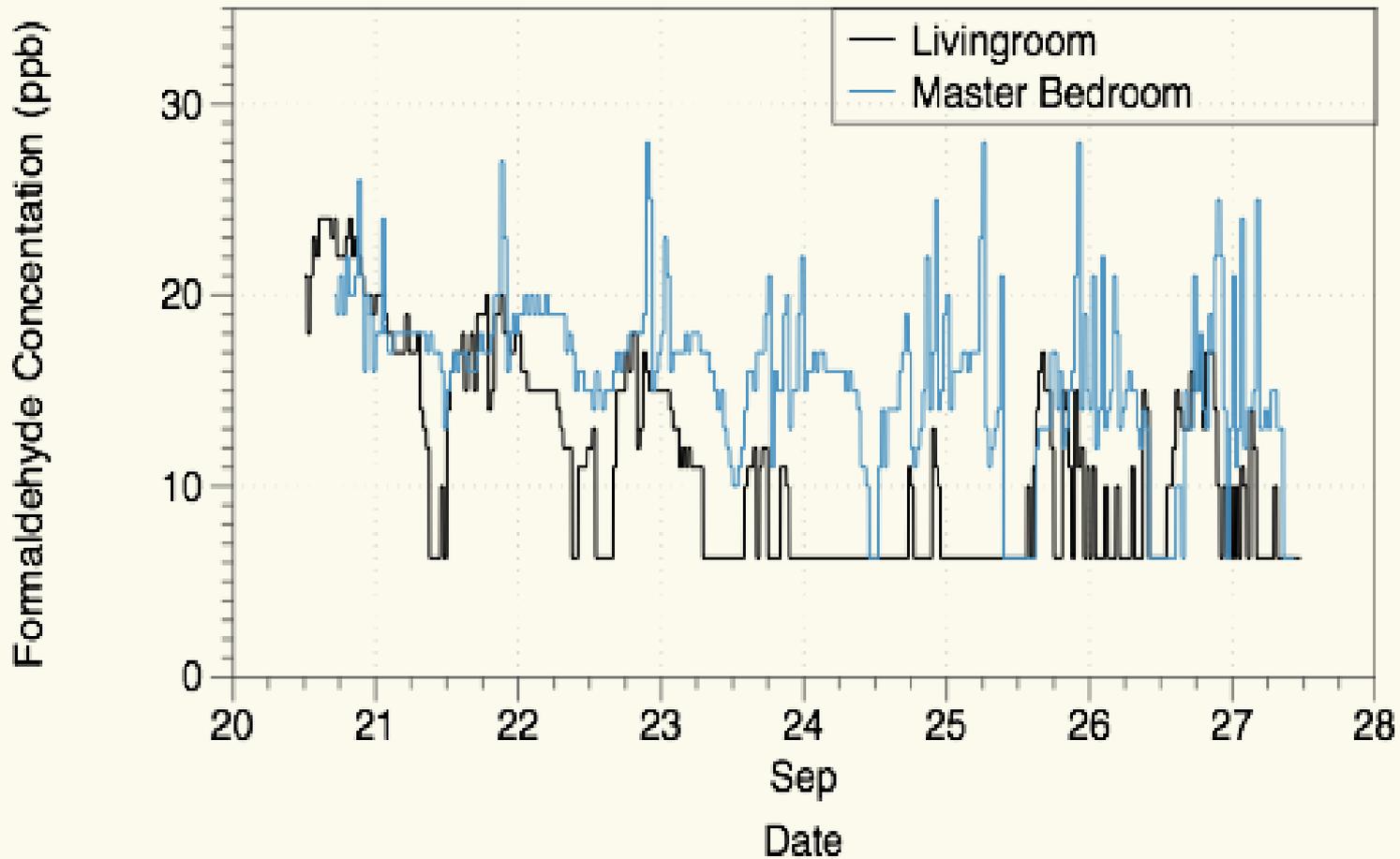


- Fraction Estimated using Title 24 system airflow(cfm), based on heating/cooling capacity.
- 27 of 39 homes met the duct air tightness requirement for Title 24

Particulate Matter Concentrations



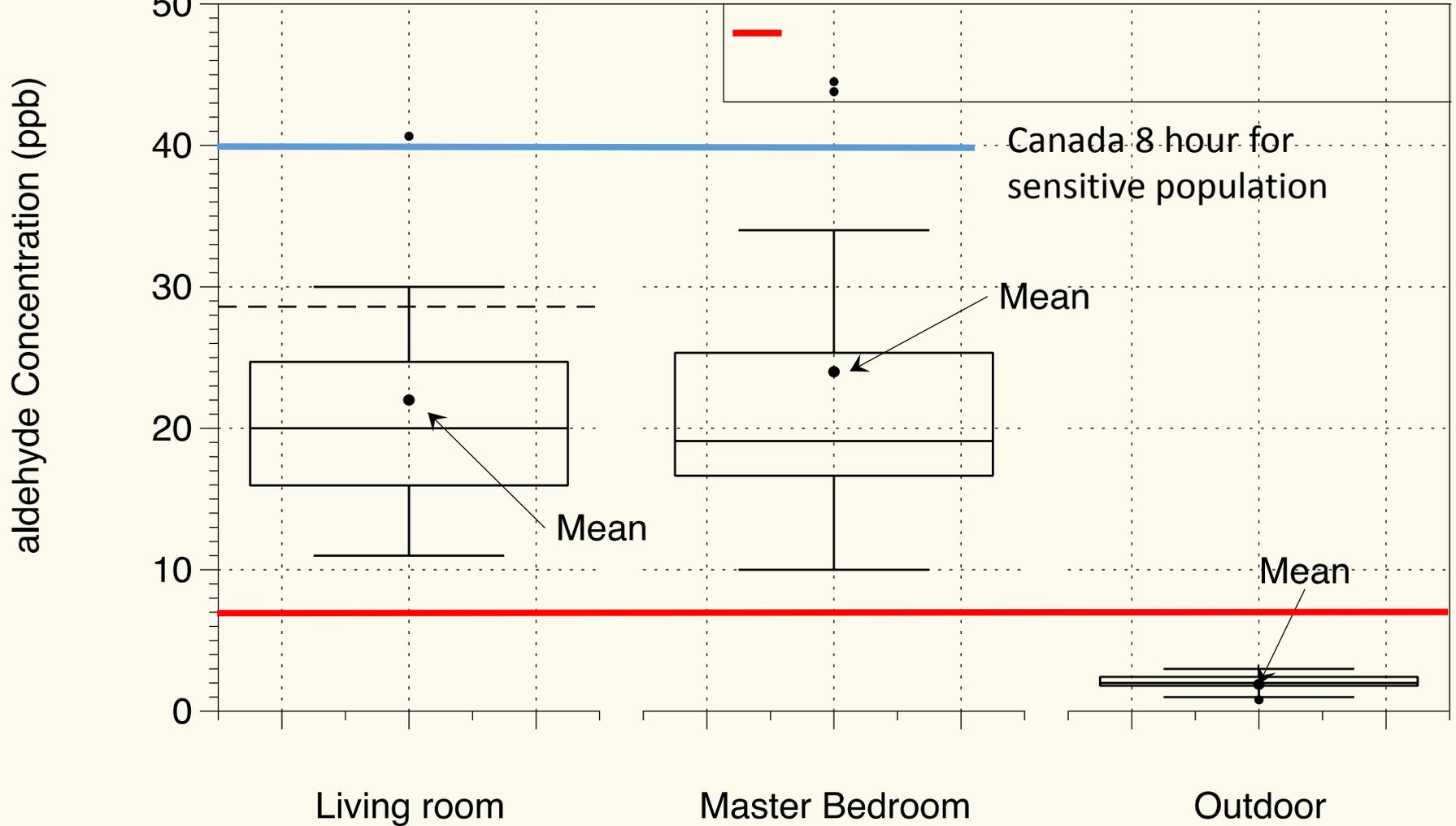
Real-Time Formaldehyde



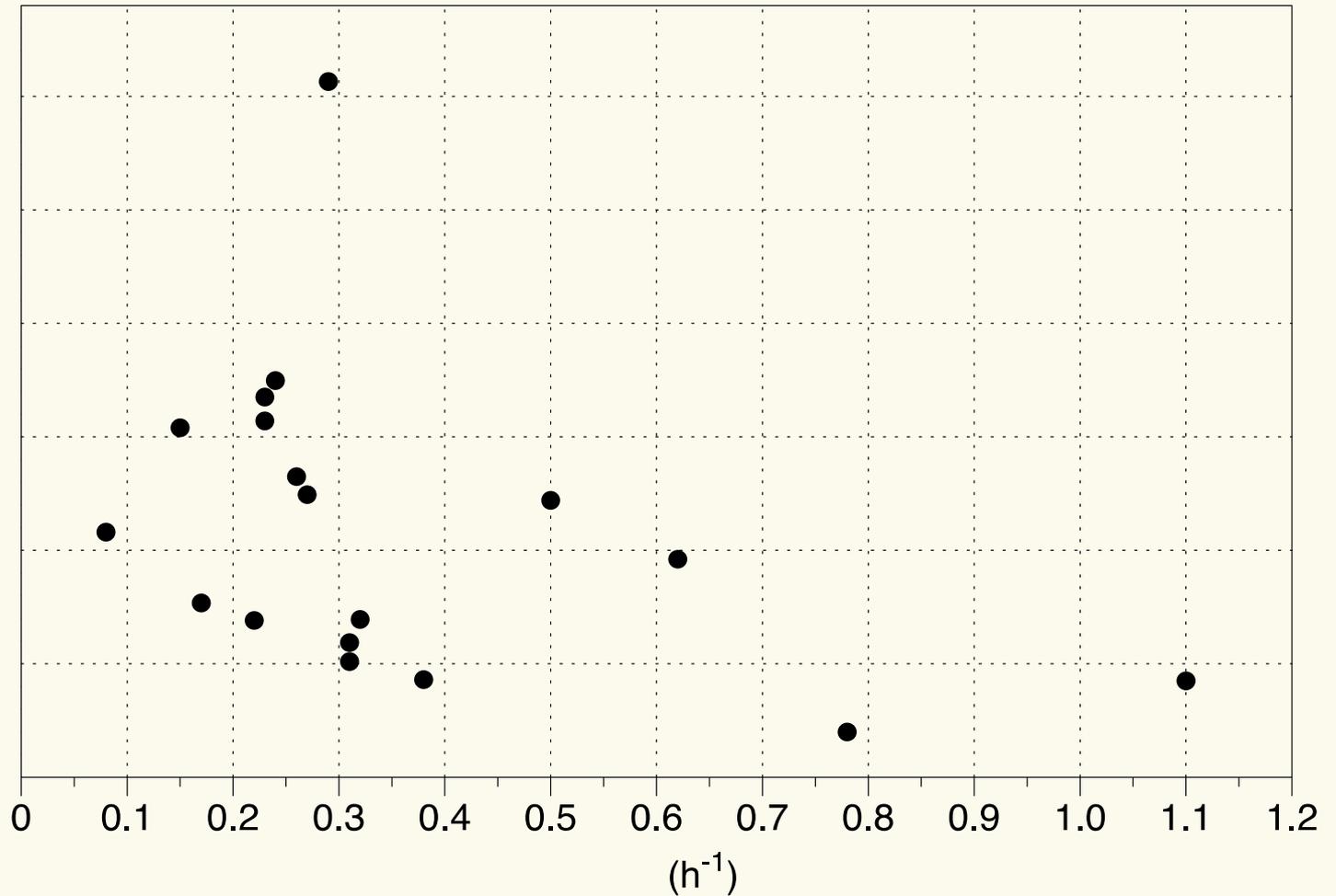
Diurnal cycle – temperature changes emission rates

WHO Limit = 80

1-week integrated Formaldehyde

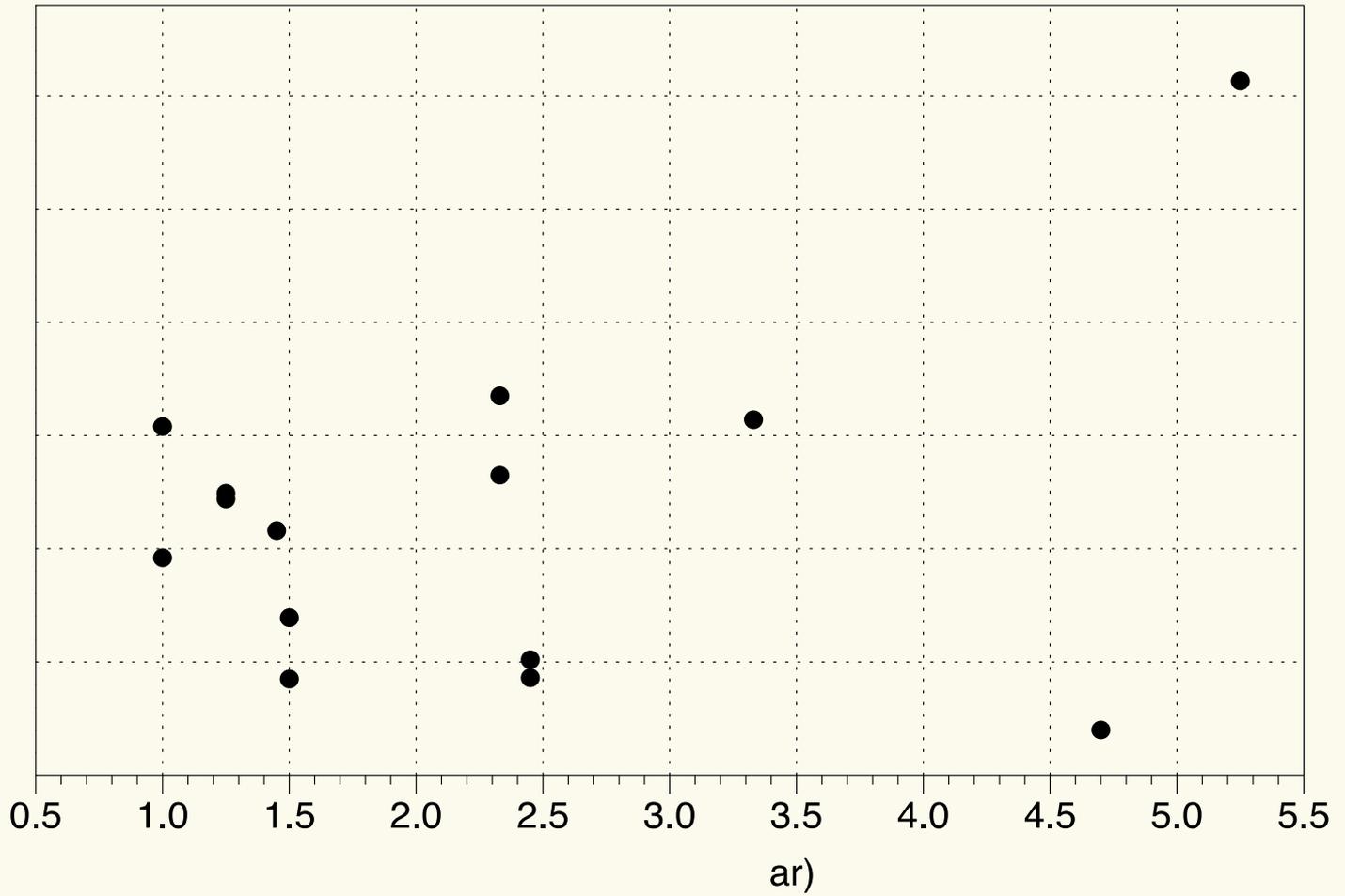


Formaldehyde & Ventilation

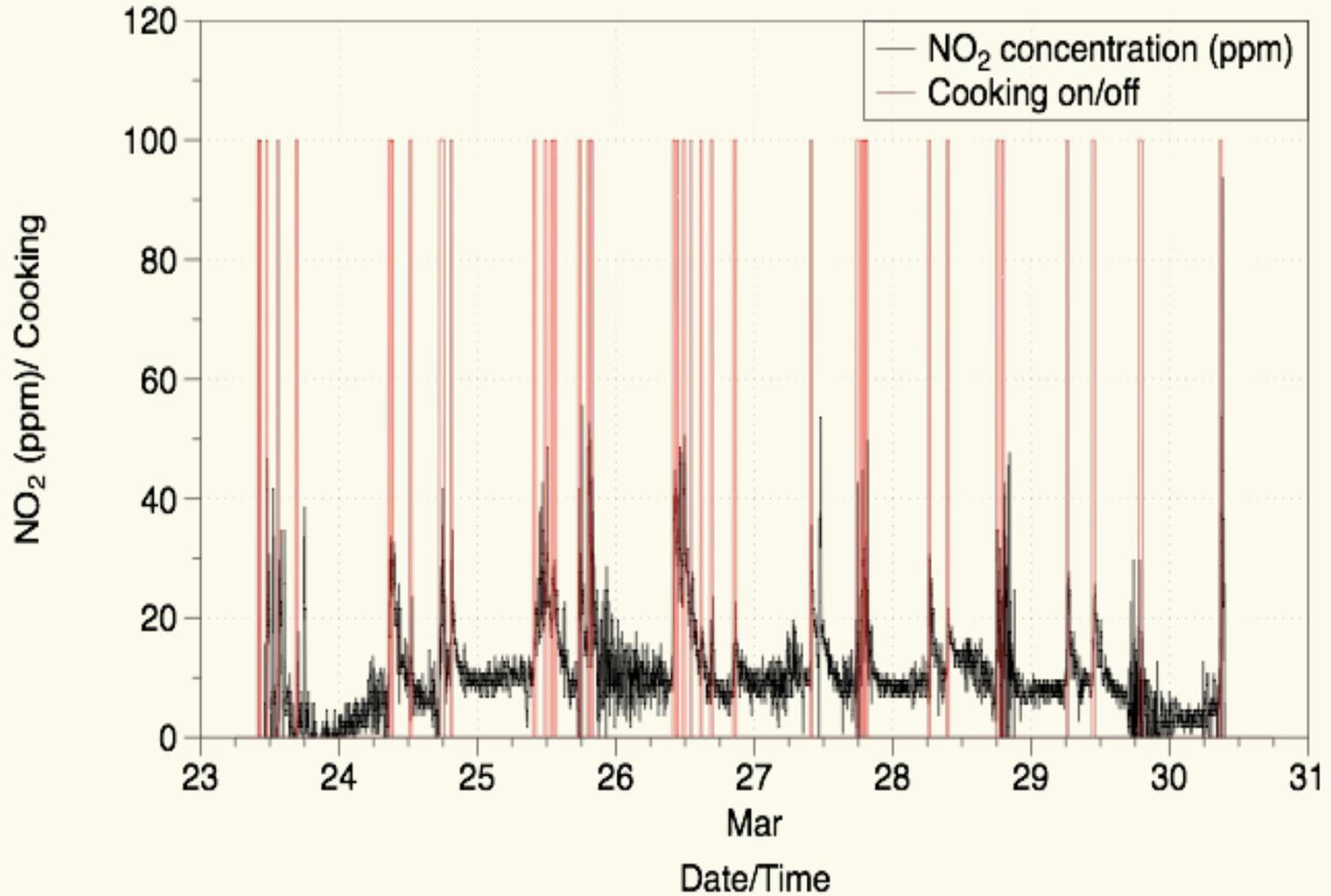


Air change rate based on measured mechanical system air flows and modeled natural infiltration

Formaldehyde & House Age

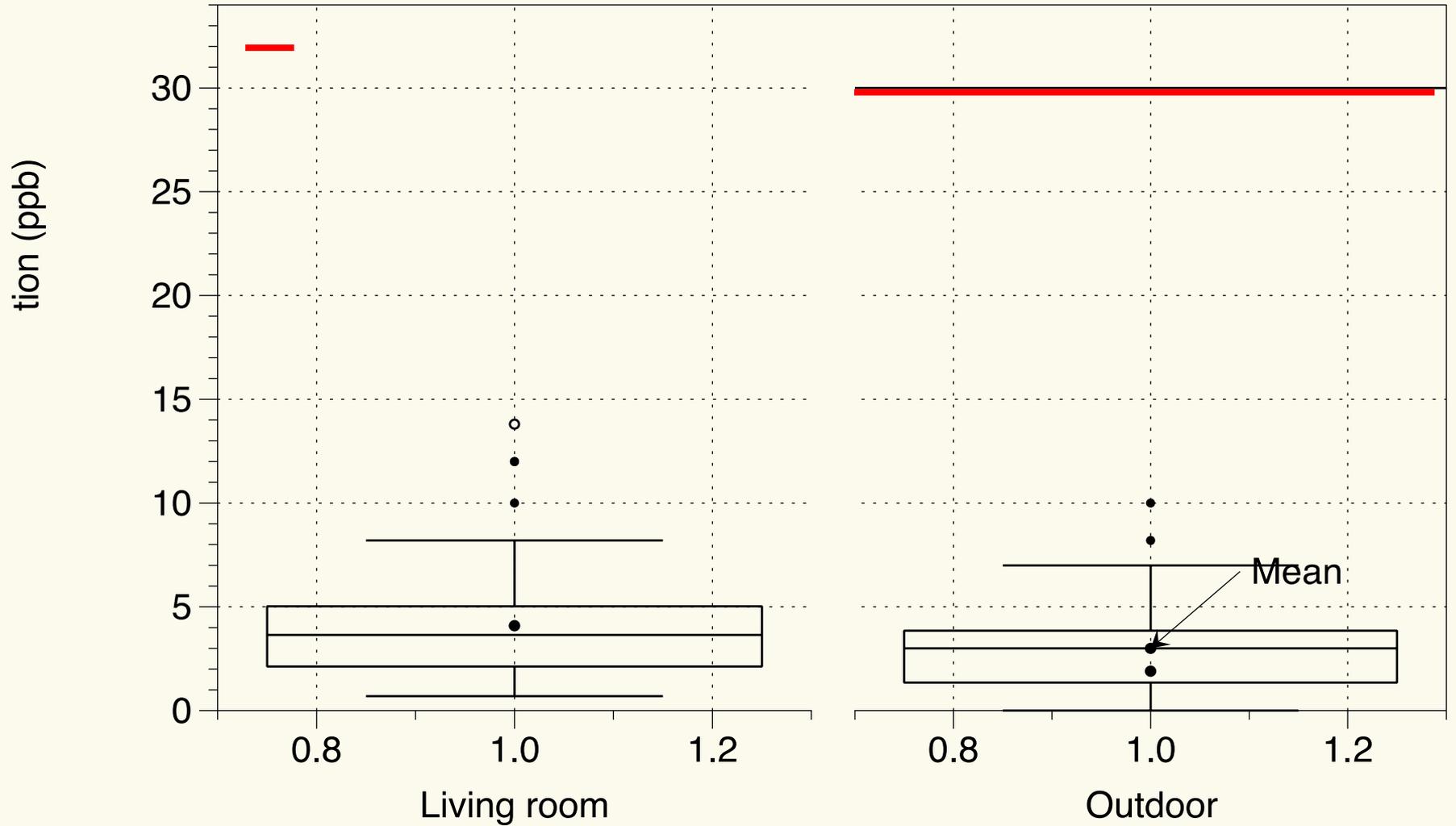


Real Time NO₂



Sharp peaks – cooking events

1-week Integrated NO₂



Summary

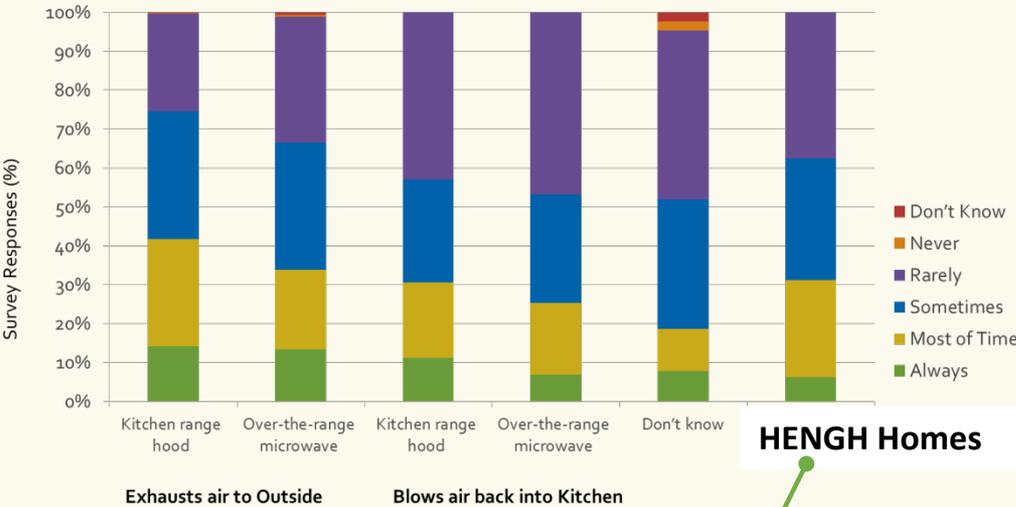
- Mechanical Ventilation installed to meet T24 requirements
- Whole house systems not operating (despite occupants perceptions)
- Homes typically 5 ACH50
- Ducts - still work to be done
- Particles, Formaldehyde and NO₂ – better than previous study – generally OK
- Formaldehyde – strong temperature dependence
- NO₂ & particles – even driven – mainly cooking

When mechanical ventilation operates IAQ is better in new CA homes

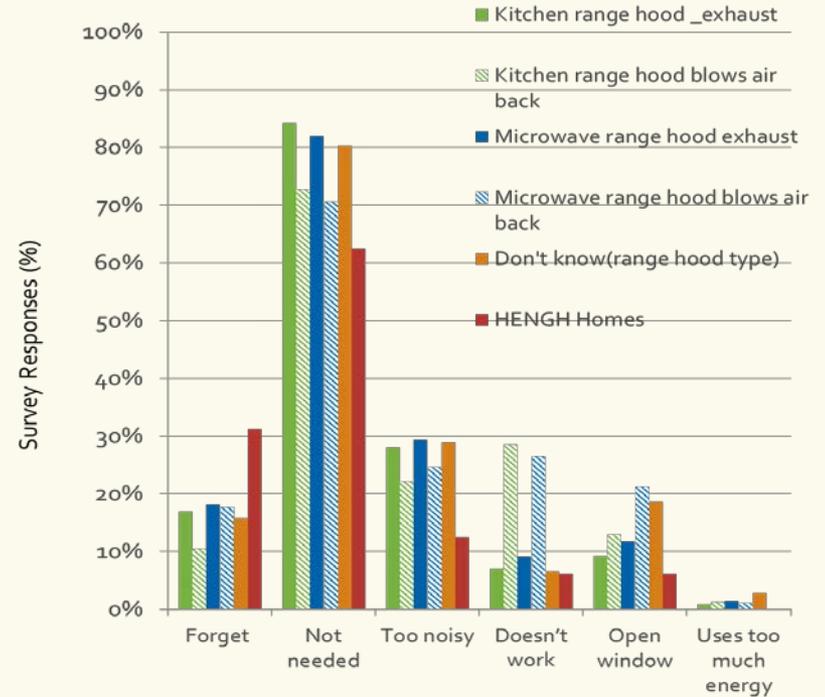
Kitchen Ventilation

How often do they use the range hood?

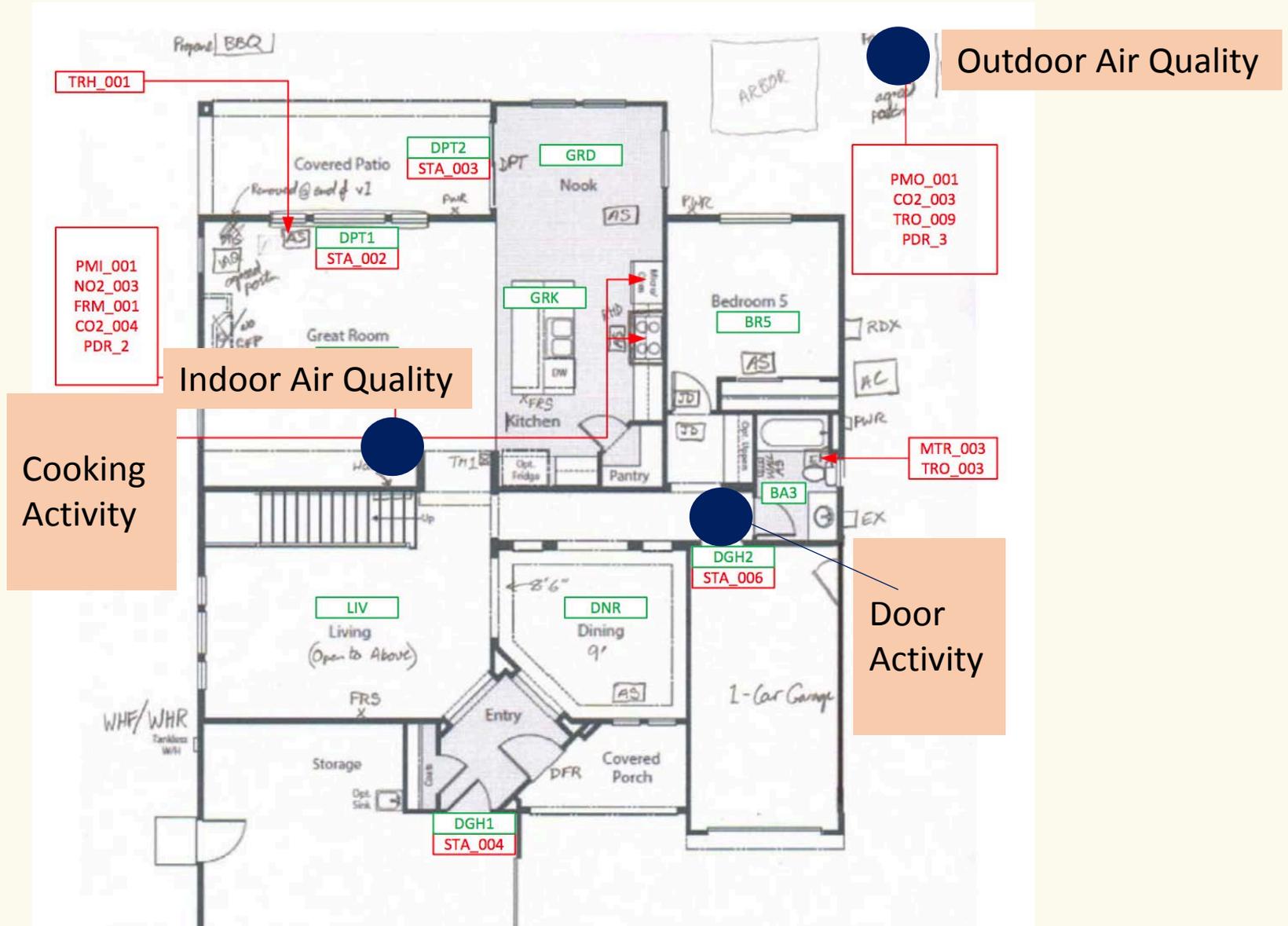
What are the reasons for not using the range hood?



Out of 43 cooking events, only 30 % of them use the range hood during cooking

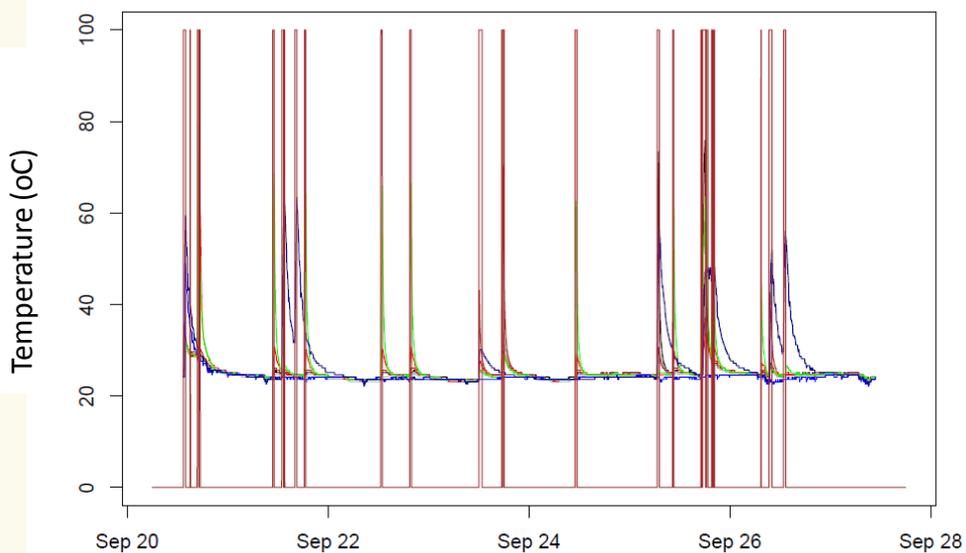


Monitoring Locations

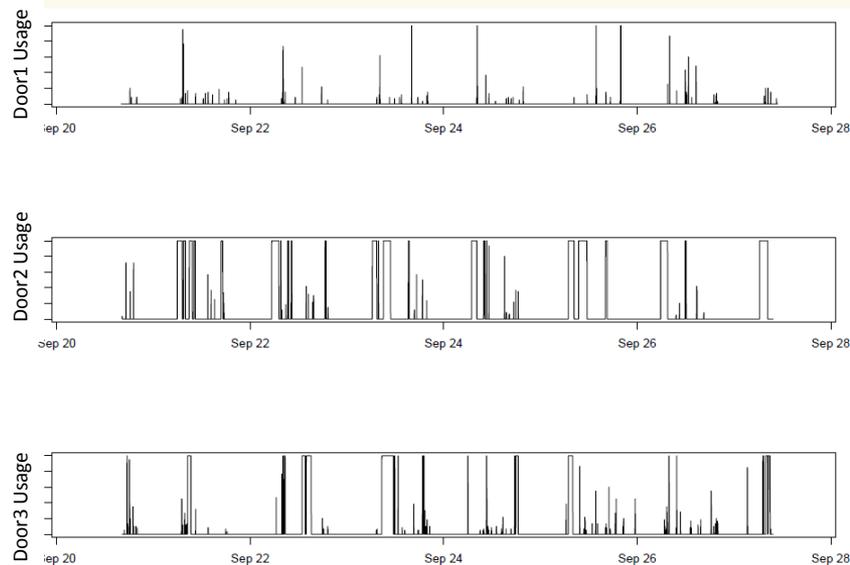
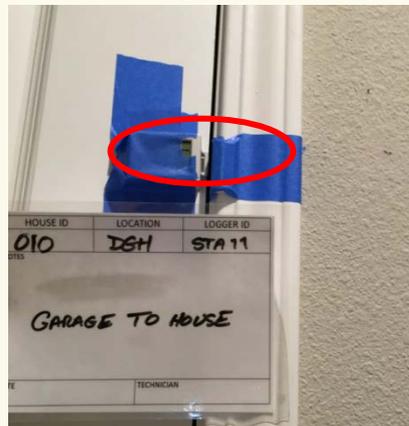


Activity Monitoring

Cooktop Usage



Door Usage

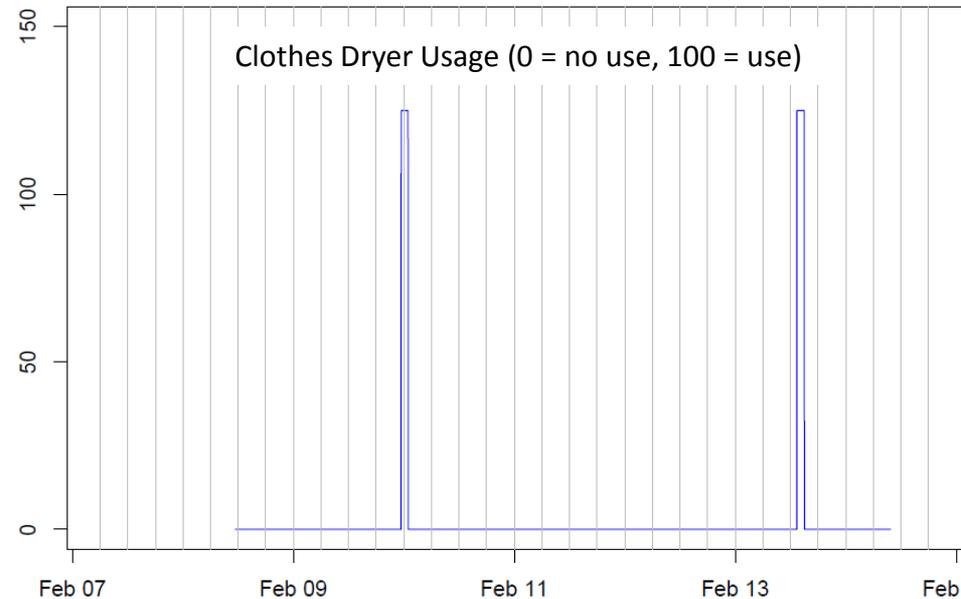
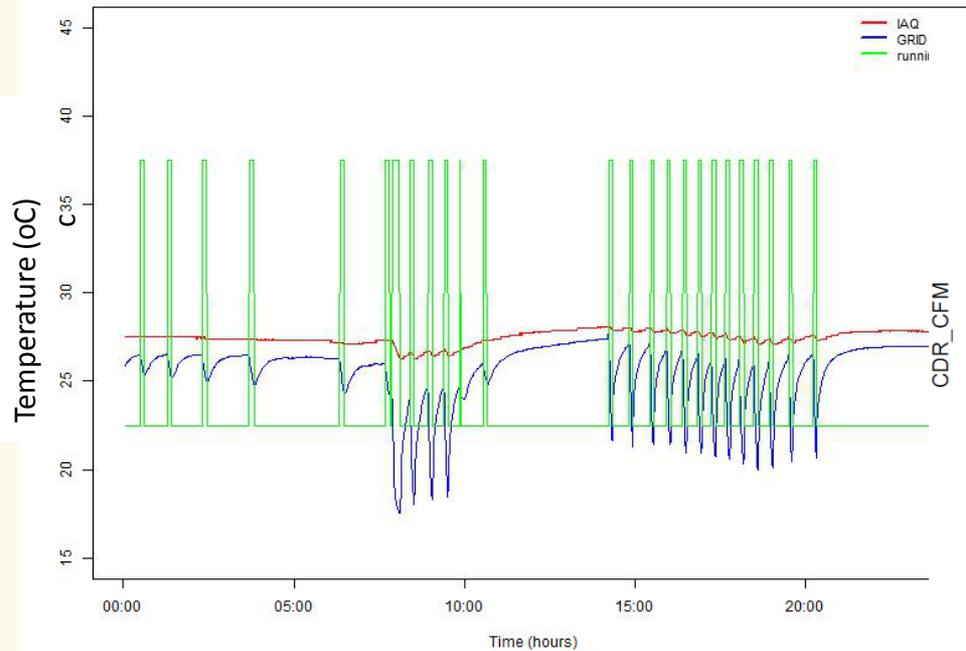


Activity Monitoring

Heating & Cooling Supply Air T/RH



Clothes Dryer Usage



Activity Monitoring

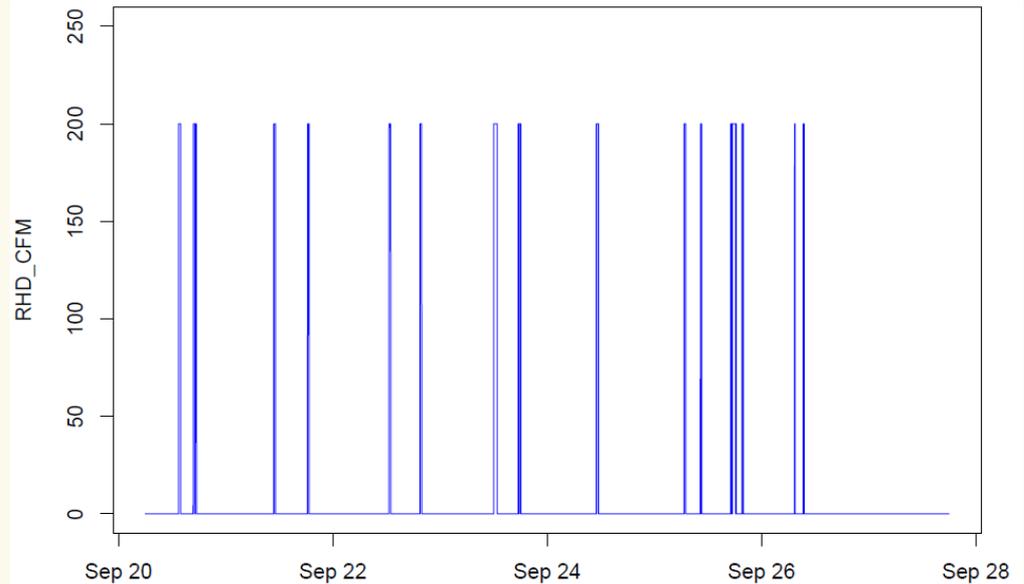
Range Hood



Range hood airflow measured using a capture hood and calibrated fan



Anemometer to monitor the range hood use



Activity Monitoring

Exhaust Fan

