Daylighting Metrics: an Approach to Dynamic Cubic Illuminance

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Abstract

Advances in research work in the field of numerical analysis of daylight performance have generated in-depth knowledge on photometric measurements of daylight quality. Most dynamic metrics are based on illuminance, which is a two-dimensional concept insofar as it is concerned with the density of luminous flux incident at a point on a surface. In order to extend dynamic metrics into the third dimension and consider the distribution of illumination at a point in space, it is important to generate new advances in simulation environments and consider spatial illumination metrics. In this context, the main objective of the present work was to advance in the development of cubic dynamic daylight metrics, as a complement to the two dimensional analysis currently employed, promoting the use of Climate Based Daylight Modelling (CBDM). For this purpose, cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio is applied to dynamic simulation paradigm developing the concept of useful modeling indexs (UMIs). The research methodology applied in this work is divided into two main parts: (i) two dimensional concept: spatial daylight autonomy (sDA(300lx,50%) -horizontal-, sDA(175lx,50%) -vertical-) and uniformity, and (ii) three dimensional concept: useful cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio (uEcl/Ewp(0.3-0.6)). In order to assess this method, two spaces (RR1 and RR2) of the Lavalle Public Library, located in Mendoza-Argentina, were taken as a case study. Results show important differences in horizontal illuminance between RR1 and RR2 (ΔsDA(300lx,50%) > 80%). Similar values of uEcl/Ewp(0.3-0.6) -useful cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio- are detected in both rooms (RR1= 69.32 % and RR2= 72.24 %) in nodes near north opening. Yet there are significant differences (< 36%) of uEcl/Ewp(0.3-0.6) between nodes located near the south wall, this is due to the obstruction of a south opening in RR2. Furthermore, it is important to mention that 2D metrics display a more uniform behavior than 3D metrics. This shows itself clearly if we take into account that difference in sDA are much lower than difference in uEcl/Ewp(0.3-0.6), if we compare nodes closest to the north windows to does that are far from it, in both rooms (RR1 and RR2). This results from the fact that cubic metrics are more sensitive to the direction of light. This is of crucial importance for daylight studies in clear sky condition, due to the defined direction of direct solar radiation. Finally, a new approach to daylighting performance analysis based on the addition of cubic metrics to dynamic daylight paradigm is proposed: useful modelling indexs (UMIs). UMI makes it possible to quantify annual occurrence of proper light modelling conditions. As an initial approach, cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio (Ecl/Ewp(0.3-0.6)) has been considered, due to its current use in international standards.

1. Introduction

Currently the term quality of lighting does not present a consensus on what exactly it is, since it is a very broad and ambiguous concept [1] thus lighting quality is considered a construct; therefore, different lighting aspect that have an influence on it are included. The quality of lighting can be determined by measuring performance indicators independently. Several attempts have been developed to generate models of unique indicators capable of evaluating and describing this construct [1,2], including the visibility level model, lighting quality index, the comfort, satisfaction and performance index, interior lighting evaluation system, and the ergonomic lighting indicator; but all have significant limitations [3]. Therefore, the indirect measurement of light quality is explored as described by Kruijsselbrink et al. [3]: quantity of light (illuminance and luminance) [4], distribution of light (uniformity, luminance distribution) [5], glare (disability glare, discomfort glare, veiling reflections) [6], spectral power distribution of light (color appearance, light color quality) [7], daylight (daylight penetration, outside view), directionality of light (direction and modelling) [8,9], and dynamics (variability and rhythm) [10].
Today, advances in research work in the field of numerical analysis of daylight performance have enabled to gain in-depth knowledge on photometric measurements of daylight quality. Daylight coefficient (DC) concept, introduced by Tregenza, and Waters [11], introduces greater accuracy in lighting simulation tools. The proposed method builds a sky luminance distribution based on annual weather climate files that make it possible to predict lighting levels at a point in space for a wide variety of sky conditions. This contribution among others, such as climate based daylight modelling (CBDM) [12-14] and Perez All-Weather Sky Model [15], resulted in an important paradigm change in daylighting simulation: dynamic paradigm [16]. In this approach, the use of hourly or even hourly intervals to describe the relevant climatic variables allows us to understand the distribution of daylight in a space in different climates and times of the year [17-18]. This new perspective also incorporates a series of dynamic metrics (DA, UDI, aUDI, and sDA among others) [19-21] that substantially improve light quantification methods (illuminances and luminances) in simulation environments. However, illuminance is essentially a two-dimensional concept insofar as it is concerned with the density of luminous flux incident at a point on a surface [3]. New advances in simulation environments and spatial illumination metrics are necessary in order to add a third dimension and consider the distribution of illumination at a point in space. Various three-dimensional illumination metrics have been proposed over the past three decades to describe what Lynes et al. [3]: vector to scalar ratio [9]; cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio [27], vector to cylindrical illuminance ratio [28], and vertical to horizontal illuminance ratio [29]. In most cases, metrics developed have deepened in the field of artificial lighting.

### 1.1. Illumination distribution

At a theoretical level, the directionality of a point within a room is “determined based on an infinitesimal sphere that is met by an infinite number of luminance rays from all directions” [8,30]; consequently, these rays can be described as three dimensional bound vectors. In the case that the light source is not located on one of the main axes, the received illuminance at a reference point can be thought of as a vector projected on the main axes X, Y, Z [31]. In this case, cubic illuminances $E_{x}, E_{-x}, E_{y}, E_{-y}, E_{z}$ and $E_{-z}$ can be reported always with positive values. The illuminance vector $'E$ on each of the cubic axes therefore reads

$$ 'E_{x} = E_{x} - E_{-x} $$

$$ 'E_{y} = E_{y} - E_{-y} $$

$$ 'E_{z} = E_{z} - E_{-z} $$

The vector sum is also a vector $(E_{x,y,z})$ with the illuminance as magnitude ($|E|$), "hence the terms vector illuminance or illumination vector" [8]. The direction of the illumination vector is the altitude angle generated between the maximum and minimum luminance rays [8,9].

$$ |E_{x,y,z}| = \sqrt{E_{x}^{2} + E_{y}^{2} + E_{z}^{2}} $$

This intensity of luminous flux is described by the magnitude of the illumination vector with respect to the total amount of incident light in this infinitesimal sphere, and also called scalar illumination $(E_s)$ [22]. To reach this value, it is necessary to calculate previously symmetric components on the x, y and z axes (Eq. (5)); and symmetric illuminance (Eq. (6)).

$$ E_s = \frac{E_{x} + E_{-x} + E_{y} + E_{-y} + E_{z} + E_{-z}}{6} $$

$$ E_s = \frac{E_{x} + E_{-x} + E_{y} + E_{-y} + E_{z} + E_{-z}}{2} $$

$$ E_s = \frac{E_{x} + E_{-x} + E_{y} + E_{-y} + E_{z} + E_{-z}}{3} $$

$$ E_{s} = \frac{E + |E|}{4} $$

### Nomenclature

- $E^*$: Illuminance due to the illumination vector on a plane normal to the x axis (lx)
- $|E|$: Illumination vector magnitude (lx). Note that this is a scalar, not a vector. Suffixes are as for E.
- $E^\sim$: Symmetric illuminance (lx)
- $E_{sc}$: Cylindrical illuminance (lx)
- $E_{wp}$: Horizontal working plane illuminance (lx)
- $e$: Illumination unit vector, defining the direction of the illumination vector and specified by components on the x, y and z axes. Suffixes are as for E.
- $E_{min}$: Minimum illuminance (lx)
- $E_{average}$: Average illuminance (lx)
- $sDA$: Spatial daylight autonomy
- $Uo$: Illuminance uniformity
- $uE_{c}/E_{wp}$: Useful cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio

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In practice, this theoretical concept is difficult to apply, and simplifications are required to assess directionality. The indicators of the direction of the light are limited to the direction of the illumination vector. In addition, for the strength of light flow, or modeling, several indicators have been developed. Of these indicators, the vector/scale ratio is the most commonly used. These indicators are determined based on the cubic illumination measured by means of single photocell methods to measure successively six faces of a cube, or of a cubic six-cell photometer. "Subsequently, the scalar, cylindrical, horizontal and vertical illuminance are calculated by adding the relevant sensor pairs" [9].

All the methods described for direction and modeling use absolute and instantaneous values [3], according to static methods, except the one proposed by Howlett et al. [32] based in luminance maps. This approach reduces the dynamic of daylight and its interaction with the environment into a single prediction value, limiting the predictive potential of simulation environments in daylight assessment. Advanced simulation environments enable annual dynamic analysis of daylight on an hourly basis. In the scientific and technical field’s dynamic paradigm is well established and validated. In the last few years it has been applied in many international standards and recommendations (EN 12464-122, IES LM-83-12 y LEED IEQ, among others). Nevertheless, the search for an improved description of daylight performance, leads to further deepen the study of simulation tools and metrics. In this context, the main objective of the present work was to advance in the development of cubic dynamic daylight metrics (distribution of illumination at a point in space), as a complement to the two dimensional analysis currently employed (density of luminous flux incident at a point on a surface), promoting the use of Climate Based Daylight Modelling (CBDM). For this purpose, the following issues were considered:

1. Daylight analysis through modelling index, according to dynamic daylight paradigm, is assessed.

2. New dynamic daylight metric: "useful cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio (uEc/Eh(0.3-0.6))", is proposed.

3. Visualization and analysis of the obtained dynamic daylight results.

As a case study the Lavalle Public Library (Latitude - 32.721157; Longitude -68.602050), located in the Department of Lavalle, 36 km from the city of Mendoza-Argentina, was selected.

2. Method

2.1. Case study description

The Lavalle Public Library was opened in September 2014. The building has a compact layout which has a total area of 172 m². It’s main facade has a north facing exposure. In order to carry out this study, two rooms were selected: Reading Room 1 (RR1) (26.3 m²) and Reading Room 2 (RR2) 46.5 m² (Fig. 1). These two rooms are connected by a hall.

2.2. Validation

In this section we seek to validate the virtual model of the library from data (horizontal illuminance) measured in situ. The data used were those registered by the Research Group of Sustainable Daylighting of the Institute of Environment, Habitat and Energy National Scientific and Technical Research Council (INAHE CONICET-CCT Mendoza) in the instance of human resources training and direction of post-graduate thesis [33]. The statistic employed to perform the comparison of the data sets (measured and simulated) is root-mean-square error (RMSE). The RMSE allows determining the difference between the measured and the simulated horizontal illuminance values. The average 0.25 (RMSE (RR1) = 0.23 and RMSE (RR2) = 0.28) (Table 1).

2.3. Daylight modelling

2.3.1. Daylight simulation
Table 2. Methods used for optical characterization of shading and solar control systems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shading and solar control systems</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear glass (4 mm) + 3M™ CRYSTAL Glass Finishes 7725SE-314 Dusted CRYSTAL (Window)</td>
<td>Optics6 + Homogeneous Diffusing Shade: BSDF (WINDOW Matrix Calculator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear glass (4 mm) + Micro perforated vinyl film (Window)</td>
<td>Optics6 + WINDOW Perforated Screen: BSDF (WINDOW Matrix Calculator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminated glass (9 mm) + Micro perforated vinyl film (Door)</td>
<td>Optics6 + WINDOW Perforated Screen: BSDF (WINDOW Matrix Calculator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear glass (4 mm) + 3M™ CRYSTAL Glass Finishes 7725SE-314 Dusted CRYSTAL (Window)</td>
<td>Plastic model</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig. 2. Grids and individual points analyzed – Source: INAHE – CCT CONICET Mendoza.

The CAD model of the library was generated with *Trimble SketchUp Make v. 2015*. This software has *ruby* code language, an interpreted, reflexive and object-oriented programming language, which makes it easier for users to generate program segments to modify its functionality. Within this code language, we worked with *Warehouse Groundhog* extension [34] Open Source v.3 (GPLv3), in order to export 3D models to the RADIANCE environment. RADIANCE [35,36] is a highly accurate raytracing software, considered one of the most powerful and popular forms of lighting simulation software, it has been extensively validated in the last 20 years [37].

Table 2 shows the methods used for optical characterization of the materials that make up the shading and solar control systems used in the studied rooms.

Surface reflectances are the following: walls (\(\rho = 0.77\)); ceiling (\(\rho = 0.80\)); floor (\(\rho = 0.45\)); outside ground (\(\rho = 0.13\)).

Simulations were performed using weather data file *ARG_MendozaCCT* (landbased station data), which corresponds to the city of Mendoza. This database was generated from information provided by measuring stations of daylight at the Institute of Environment, Housing and Energy (INAHE), located in the Science and Technology Center Mendoza (32° 52' S and 68°51' W) [18]. The simulation parameters used in RADIANCE correspond to Jacobs’s accurate scene [38] (ab) 5; (ad) 2048; (as) 512; (aa) 0.08; (ar) 512; (dt) 0; (ds) 0.

2.3.2. Dynamic daylight performance metrics

In order to analyze the luminous behavior inside the selected rooms, two dynamic daylighting metrics were used. Spatial Daylight Autonomy (sDA) is expressed as a percentage of area. As proposed by the IES LM-82-12 [21] sDA, gives a clear vision of the area percentage that meets illuminance requirements (at least 300 lx) for a specified fraction of the operating hours per year (50% of the hours) (sDA \(300\text{lx, 50%}\)). To measure horizontal illuminance values, two grids of sensors were arranged at the height of 0.8 m in a homogenous distribution -the distance between the sensors was 0.5 m-: Reading Room 1 (16 sensor grid) and Reading Room 2 (24 sensor grid). As a complementary analysis, the annual uniformity of the surfaces (\(U_o = E_{\text{min}}/E_{\text{average}}\)) will be calculated looking for the annual percentage of \(U_o \geq 0.4\) in the different surfaces throughout the year.

Daylight performance on vertical surfaces (walls) in both rooms is analyzed based on sDA and a new reference value of illuminance (175 lx), established in the international standard guide [39]. This analysis gives a clear vision of the percentage of area that meets illuminance requirements within the established range (175 lx) for a specified fraction of the operating hours per year (50% of the hours) (sDA \(175\text{lx, 50%}\)). In order to be able to measure vertical illuminance values, three grids of sensors in each space were arranged on the walls with a distance between the sensors of 0.5 m: Reading Room 1 (60 sensor, divided in three surface grids E, W and S with 20 sensors each); and Reading Room 2 (70 sensor, divided in three surface grids E, W -20 sensor per grid- and S -30 sensor grid-).

The underlying principle of cubic illumination was proposed by Cuttle [9]. “Six measured or predicted illuminance values on the facets of a cube enable estimation of a range of spatial illumination metrics” [40]. The benefit of using vector algebra is that it provides a framework for lighting calculations that deals concisely and consistently with both dimensions and illuminances, and this opens up opportunities to really explore illumination as a three-dimensional concept [40]. For this purpose, *cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio* was used as proposed by EN12464-1 [26].
Cylindrical illuminance ($E_{cl}$) (Eq. 8) has been previously proposed as an index of the perceived adequacy of ambient illumination [27] (a). It also serves as a measure of average vertical illuminance. Its relation with horizontal illuminance, cylindrical illuminance to horizontal ratio ($E_{cl}/E_{wp}$), has been proposed as a modelling index. Standard proposes modelling calculation within a space to reveal form and texture with respect to structural features, people and objects within the space [26].

$$E_{cl} = \frac{|E|\left(\frac{e_x^2 + e_y^2}{\pi}\right)}{\pi} + \sim E$$  \hspace{1cm} (8)

$$E_{wp} = |E| \cdot e_z + \sim E$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)

if $e_z < 0$ then $E_{wp} = \sim E$  \hspace{1cm} (10)

In order to assess cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio ($E_{cl}/E_{wp}$), in the studied rooms two nodes were selected in each space. Occurrence of $E_{cl}/E_{wp}$ between $0.30 \sim 0.60$ at 1.2 m above floor was analyzed. A node selection and location criterion was proximity to the source of daylight (window). In RR1 node 14, is located in front of the north window and node 7 is located in the opposite corner, away from the window. In RR2 node 20 is closest to the north window and node 9 is in the opposite corner (Fig. 2).

The nomenclature of the nodes is in accordance with their designation on the grids.

The importance of modelling lies in its relation with the recognition of three-dimensional objects and the feeling of pleasure and acceptance of an installation that may be judged by natural appearance of people, along with object detection [41]. “The lighting should not be too directional or it will produce harsh shadows, neither should it be too diffuse or the modelling effect will be lost entirely, resulting in a very dull luminous environment” [32].

Table 3. Results of sDA(100lx, 50%), sDA(175lx, 50%) and U_o in Reading Room 1 and Reading Room 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horizental Illuminances – sDA (300lx, 50%)</th>
<th>Vertical Illuminances - sDA(175lx, 50%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Room 1 100 % (U_o 67.63%)</td>
<td>East wall 100 % (U_o 74.10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(U_o 76.99%)</td>
<td>West wall 100 % (U_o 74.04%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.67 % (U_o 57.20%)</td>
<td>South wall 90 % (U_o 67.29%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Room 2</td>
<td>0 % (U_o 31.80%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95% (DS 8.66)</td>
<td>Average of vertical sDA(175lx, 50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30% (DS 51.96)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In accordance with what has been previously exposed, a new concept for dynamic daylight analysis is proposed: useful modelling indexes (UMIs). This approach seeks to quantify the annual occurrence of desired daylighting conditions using modelling performance indicators, such as useful cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio ($uE_{cl}/E_{hp}(0.3-0.6)$). This method estimates the annual occurrence (%) of $uE_{cl}/E_{wp}$ between 0.3-0.6 in the selected node. Furthermore, this procedure can be linked to dynamic daylight analysis with traditional metrics (density of
In Fig. 3 and Table 3, results show two differing lighting situations (sDA).

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Two Dimensional Concept: Spatial Daylight Autonomy (sDA)

In Fig. 3 and Table 3, results show two differing lighting situations in adjacent spaces. In RR1 the sDA$_{300\text{lx}, 50\%}$ is 100%, this means that all the nodes of the tested grid have values of illuminance above 300 lx over 50% of the operating hours per year. When analyzing the obtained values of uniformity (Uo) in it can be seen that the horizontal illuminances have annual Uo = 67.63% in RR1 and Uo = 57.20% in RR2.

Likewise, when considering vertical illuminance we can emphasize that the sDA$_{300\text{lx}, 50\%}$ is over 85% in all the analyzed surfaces in RR1 (average 95% (SD 8.66)). In RR2 results indicate that annual sDA$_{300\text{lx}, 50\%}$ is 16.67%. This value is far below the observed in RR1; there is a difference between both rooms above 80%. The results obtained in RR2 with respect to vertical surfaces (sDA$_{175\text{lx}, 50\%}$) range from 0% -east wall and west wall- to 90% -south wall-. Average sDA on these surfaces is 30% (DS 51.96), presenting a difference of sDA$_{175\text{lx}, 50\%}$ with space RR1 of 65%. When analyzing the annual Uo on vertical surfaces, we can see that in RR1 in the west, east and north walls the annual Uo exceeds 75% ($\Delta$Uo $<$ 3%).

The differences in daylight performance of RR1 and RR2 are mainly due to the fact that RR1 gains diffuse visible solar radiation thanks to the opening located on the southern wall. RR2 has an almost completely blind wall that separates the reading room from the hall which blocks the daylight coming in through the south windows (Fig. 4).

#### 3.2. Three dimensional concept: Cubic Illuminance

Cubic illuminance illustrates how the light field surrounding the point will interact with a three-dimensional object that is placed at the point. The following tables (Tables 4-7) show average annual values of cubic illuminance, vector components, symmetric components, uEcl/Ewp(0.3-0.6) and DA$_{300\text{lx}}$.

### Table 4. Output of the annual average cubic illumination measurement in point 7 - RR1 – Source: Author.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cubic illuminance</th>
<th>Vector components</th>
<th>Symmetric components</th>
<th>Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 565.868</td>
<td>$E_{(x)}$ 312.196</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 215.133</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 276.956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 1024.222</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 623.841</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 549.234</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 496.765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 600.686</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 267.031</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 300.822</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 140.411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\parallel E \parallel$ 971.598</td>
<td>$E$ 304.711</td>
<td>DA$_{300\text{lx}}$ 67.63%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5. Output of the annual average cubic illumination measurement in point 14 - RR1 – Source: Author.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cubic illuminance</th>
<th>Vector components</th>
<th>Symmetric components</th>
<th>Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 527.389</td>
<td>$E_{(x)}$ 632.773</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 344.476</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 385.342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 1713.252</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 455.730</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 1609.901</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 320.891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 762.807</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 209.315</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 913.871</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 247.496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\parallel E \parallel$ 2348.128</td>
<td>$E$ 317.91</td>
<td>DA$_{300\text{lx}}$ 74.14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 6. Output of the annual average cubic illumination measurement in point 9 - RR2 – Source: Author.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cubic illuminance</th>
<th>Vector components</th>
<th>Symmetric components</th>
<th>Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 186.689</td>
<td>$E_{(x)}$ 233.191</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 29.652</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 158.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 910.301</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 187.043</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 672.724</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 239.069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 259.975</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 336.832</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 100.034</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 122.425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\parallel E \parallel$ 818.902</td>
<td>$E$ 173.268</td>
<td>DA$_{300\text{lx}}$ 12.37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 7. Output of the annual average cubic illumination measurement in point 20 - RR2 – Source: Author.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cubic illuminance</th>
<th>Vector components</th>
<th>Symmetric components</th>
<th>Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 808.204</td>
<td>$E_{(x)}$ 352.670</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 444.643</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 358.755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 1447.837</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 327.788</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 1656.852</td>
<td>$E_{(y)}$ 166.286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 559.771</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 71.414</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 402.109</td>
<td>$E_{(z)}$ 106.584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\parallel E \parallel$ 2090.471</td>
<td>$E$ 210.542</td>
<td>DA$_{300\text{lx}}$ 49.23%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When analyzing $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ in RR1, one can observe that the highest percentage of annual useful modelling situations (0.30-0.60) is achieved in node 14 (69.32%). This point is located close to the north window. Point 7, located away from windows, shows a lower percentage of $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ (46.05%). The difference between the two nodes located in RR1 is < 24%. Similar results between both nodes were observed for $DA_{(300lx)}$. Node 14, closest to the window, has a higher annual percentage of $DA_{(300lx)}$ (74.14%), whereas $DA_{(300lx)}$ in node 7 is 67.63%. The difference in this metric is lower than the observed for $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$.

In RR2 the values of $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ for nodes 9 and 20 show a significant difference (> 60%). $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ below 10% for node 9 and above 70% for node 20 (Table 4). Likewise, $DA_{(300lx)}$ on nodes 9 and 20 show a significant difference (above 35%). With respect to RR1 similar values of $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ are detected in both rooms (RR1 and RR2) in nodes 14 and 20 (near north opening). Yet there are significant differences of $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ between nodes 7 and 9 (< 36%), this is due to the obstruction of a south opening in RR2. In order to display results in a visual manner the following graphs present results obtained for modeling index: $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$, in the four nodes analyzed. In a similar way as annual daylighting availability, occupancy schedules and annual glare are plotted, this graphs show $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ according to dynamic paradigm: 24 hours (y axis); 365 days of the year (x axis). They can easily be used to visualize the occurrence of a daylight condition (e.g. $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$) throughout the year (Tables 4-7) and detect effectively situations with strong criticisms. For instance, nodes 14 and 20 (percentages of $u_{E_{cl}/E_{wp}(0.3-0.6)}$ > 69%) present deficient modelling conditions (by excess or defect) during the winter period, specifically between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. This situation reverts from 6:00 p.m. until the end of the day. This information is very useful to identify daylighting conditions and implement actions that can improve it.

4. Discussion

Dynamic paradigm in simulation has resulted in new indexes and significant progress in daylight performance analysis, mainly on horizontal surfaces through daylighting metrics based on horizontal illuminance (DF, UDI, DA, DAcen, sDA, among others). However, the use of new technologies (e.g. projectors) and the complexity of indoor spaces have spawned the need to add vertical surface to dynamic daylight analysis. This paper assesses daylight performance on vertical and horizontal surfaces. This information makes it possible to analyze daylight performance in a detailed manner in the studied rooms. On the one hand, important differences in horizontal illuminance between RR1 and RR2 were detected ($\Delta sDA_{(300lx, 50\%)} > 80\%$); on the other hand, the study shows that RR1 achieves a homogeneous distribution of daylight in its walls, while RR2 has a substantial disparity between vertical illuminance incident on its walls: east and west: $\Delta sDA_{(175lx, 50\%)} = 0\%$; south: $\Delta sDA_{(175lx, 50\%)} = 90\%$. It was also detected that east and west vertical surfaces also differ markedly in the two studied rooms ($\Delta sDA_{(175lx, 50\%)} > 85\%$), while south vertical surfaces facing the window) in both rooms have similar daylight performance ($\Delta sDA_{(175lx, 50\%)} = 10\%$).

Previously analyzed data does not only show the daylight performance of the studied spaces it can also guide the use of daylighting strategies. In current case study the helpful effect of south and north openings in RR1 can be observed: north opening with a correct shading strategy and diffuse daylight provided by the south window. RR1 and RR2 have 6 lighting devices (without diffusing screen) with 2 T8 (36 W) fluorescent tubes each, resulting in an installed power of 432 W. If we consider the number of hours that artificial lighting system should remain on the in each room, an increase of 36.98% can be detected in RR2 compared to RR1. This increase is equivalent to 7580 kWh/year. This type of assessments enables us to recognize the importance of the proper use of daylighting strategies and systems as an influencing factor on energy consumption and visual comfort.
Furthermore, it is important to mention that 2D metrics (density of luminous flux incident at a point on a surface) display a more uniform behavior than 3D metrics (distribution of illumination at a point in space). This shows itself clearly if we take into account that difference in sDA are much lower than difference in $uE_{cl}/E_{wp(0.3-0.6)}$, if we compare nodes closest to the north windows to does that are far from it, in both rooms (RR1 and RR2). This results from the fact that cubic metrics are more sensitive to the direction of light. This is quite clearly seen if we consider that nodes which are furthest from the north opening have $uE_{cl}/E_{wp(0.3-0.6)}$ substantially lower than those closest to the north window. This is of crucial importance for daylight studies in clear sky condition, due to the defined direction of direct solar radiation.

As described previously in this paper, the objective of this research is to make further progress in dynamic daylight paradigm by incorporating cubic metrics, while preserving accuracy and validation of dynamic simulation. In this context, it is important to point out that simulation and data processing were performed in freeware software’s and extensions (RADIANCE, SageMath and Groundhog). The proposed method is currently limited to experts in the field with programming skills; however, it can be adapted to user-friendly interfaces. With regard to the latter, another aspect worth highlighting is the use annual useful cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio ($uE_{cl}/E_{wp(0.3-0.6)}$) graphics to facilitate the comprehension of daylight performance, as frequently used for annual glare analysis. In future studies it is expected to work on modelling annual analysis by generating new ranges, which not only quantify the occurrence of desired or useful modelling, but also conditions by default (weak modelling ($uE_{cl}/E_{wp(0.3)}$)) and excess (strong modelling ($uE_{cl}/E_{wp(0.6)}$)).

5. Conclusions

This paper corresponds to a research area focused on the study of daylight performance in indoor spaces, promoting the use of Climate Based Daylight Modelling (CBDM). The authors of this work have produced several studies in this area previously [18-42,43]. The main findings of this research are:

i. New approach to daylighting performance analysis based on the addition of cubic metrics to dynamic daylight paradigm are studied. Useful modelling indexes (UMIs) seeks to integrate various different light modelling indexes to dynamic paradigm, in accordance with useful daylight illuminances (UDI). UMIs make it possible to quantify annual occurrence of proper light modelling conditions. As an initial approach of UMIs, cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio ($E_{cl}/E_{wp(0.3-0.6)}$) has been considered, due to its current use in standard [26]. It is important to consider that this dynamic methodology can be applied to other modelling indicators that arise from the information obtained from cubic illumination, such as: vector to scalar ratio [9], vector to cylindrical illuminance ratio [28], and vertical to horizontal illuminance ratio [29].

ii. Considering 2D metrics (density of luminous flux incident at a point on a surface) based on illuminance results show important differences in horizontal illuminance (RR1: sDA$_{(300lx, 50)}$ 100%; RR2: sDA$_{(300lx, 50)}$ 16.67%) and vertical illuminance (RR1: mean sDA$_{(175lx, 50)}$ 95%; RR2: mean sDA$_{(175lx, 50)}$ 30%). These data not only reveal the differences in the behavior of daylight between the two rooms but also, highlights the need to add vertical surface assessment to dynamic daylight analysis, according to the activities that are currently carried out in the learning spaces. With regard to 3D metrics (distribution of illumination at a point in space), as previously discussed, similar values of $uE_{cl}/E_{wp(0.3-0.6)}$ are detected in both rooms (RR1 node 14 = 69.32% and RR2 node 20 = 72.24%) in nodes near north opening. Yet there are significant differences between nodes located near the south wall (RR1 node 7 = 46.05% and RR2 node 9 = 9.79%). The analysis points out that 2D metrics (RR1: DA$_{(300lx, 50)}$ node 7: 67.63%; DA$_{(300lx, 50)}$ node 14: 74.14% / RR2: DA$_{(300lx, 50)}$ node 9: 12.37%; DA$_{(300lx, 50)}$ node 20: 49.23%) show a more uniform behavior than 3D metrics, if we compare nodes closest to the north windows (point 14 and point 20) to does that are far from it (point 07 and point 09), in both rooms (RR1 and RR2). For the current case study, results show that 3D metrics are more responsive to the direction of light. This is a fundamental issue in clear sky condition daylighting studies considering high direct solar radiation availability.

Finally, the aim of this research is to apply cubic metrics in dynamic daylight simulations. As we all know, there are different modeling indexes: vector to scalar ratio; cylindrical to horizontal illuminance ratio, vector to cylindrical illuminance ratio, and vertical to horizontal illuminance ratio. This gives rise to new questions: which of the modelling indexes will reach a more representative result in daylight analysis? If any, which one is more precise under clear sky conditions?

Acknowledgment

The authors disclosed receipt of the following financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article: This research was supported by National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET, Argentina) - PIP-0728-CONICET, and the National Agency for Scientific and Technological Promotion (ANPCyT, Argentina) - PICT-2013-2889 / PICT-2016-0872. The funding source had no involvement in this study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; or in the decision to submit the article for publication.

Contributions

All authors are contributed equally.

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