



# ANALYSIS OF DAYLIGHTING PERFORMANCE AND ENERGY SAVINGS IN ROOF DAYLIGHTING SYSTEMS

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PH.D. IN DESIGN

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# 1. Introduction

## Analysis of Daylighting Performance and Energy Savings in Roof Daylighting Systems

- Toplighting has great potentials
  - Reduce 90% of electric lighting use in DL hours
  - Could be installed on 50% area of non-residential buildings (DOE/EIA 1983)
- Roofing systems has potentials for research
  - Architectural realities are ignored in simulation research





**North Carolina Art Museum,** Raleigh, NC (2010)  
*Architect:* Thomas Phifer and Partners (local architect: Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee)  
*Daylighting system:* 362 Horizontal apertures, called “elliptical oculi”, which are located in long, parallel, coffered vaults  
*Daylighting Control System:* Curved panels with blades on top of the roof  
*Climate:* Mixed hot and cold



**The Rensnick Pavilion** (LACMA Expansion), California (2006-2010)  
*Architect:* Renzo Piano  
*Daylighting system:* glazed sawtooth roof facing north and a horizontal layer of translucent glass underneath  
*Daylighting Control System:* large overhangs on the tilted edges of the sawtooth roof  
*Climate:* Moderate marine climate



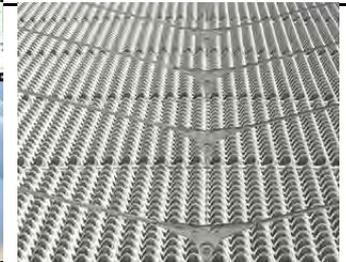
**Expansion of the High Museum of Art,** Atlanta, Georgia (1999-2005)  
*Architect:* Renzo Piano  
*Daylighting system:* numerous light scoops creating clear glass shadowed by lipstick shades facing north.  
*Daylighting Control System:* Fiberglass-reinforced molded gypsum shades  
*Climate:* Warm and humid



**The Menil Collection,** Houston, Texas (1982-1987)  
*Architect:* Renzo Piano  
*Daylighting system:* Multilayer roof composed of exterior tilted glazing connected two by two and giant louvers.  
*Daylighting Control System:* Exterior curved louvers; called “leaves”, control daylight from the roof. In the galleries, the curve of the “leaf” blocks direct sunlight and scatters the light reflected off the neighboring leaf.  
*Climate:* Hot and Humid climate



**Beyeler Foundation Museum,** Riehen, Switzerland (1992-1997)  
*Architect:* Renzo Piano  
*Daylighting system:* Sawtooth louvers facing north built on top of horizontal structural layer of glass  
*Daylighting Control System:* exterior tilted louvers made of translucent laminated glazing material and interior horizontal louvers made of metal mesh frames  
*Climate:* Temperate



**Nasher Sculpture Center,** Dallas, Texas (1999-2003)  
*Architect:* Renzo Piano  
*Daylighting system:* double-layer roof composed of slightly curved glass vaults with aluminum sunshade panels on top.  
*Daylighting Control System:* cast aluminum sun-shading panels with round holes facing towards north  
*Climate:* Warm and humid climate

		
<p><b>Harmony Library, Fort Collins, Colorado (1998)</b>  <i>Architect:</i> David partnership P.C., Architects  <i>Daylighting system:</i> linear clerestory windows facing north and south  <i>Daylighting Control System:</i> overhangs on south side  <i>Climate:</i> Cool and dry (Semi-arid climate)</p>	<p><b>Mt. Airy Public Library, Mount Airy, North Carolina (1984)</b>  <i>Architect:</i> Edward Mazria  <i>Daylighting system:</i> sawtooth roof facing south  <i>Daylighting Control System:</i> vertical baffles  <i>Climate:</i> mix hot and cold  <i>Average daily sunshine duration:</i> 7.3 hours  <i>Notes:</i> Due to evident care in calculation of sunshading at south facing windows and clerestories, there is no observable bright sun or contrast in the reading room. Field tests and occupant surveys confirmed that the daylighting is very well designed</p>	<p><b>The Academic Bookshop, Helsinki, Finland (1969)</b>  <i>Architect:</i> Alvar Aalto  <i>Daylighting system:</i> prism-shaped skylights  <i>Daylighting Control System:</i> Interior pyramidal diffusers  <i>Climate:</i> Cold semi continental climate</p>
		
<p><b>The Viipuri Library, Vyborg, Russia (1935)</b>  <i>Architect:</i> Alvar Aalto  <i>Daylighting system:</i> conical funnel-like horizontal apertures  <i>Daylighting Control System:</i> diffuse glazing  <i>Climate:</i> Cold semi continental climate</p>	<p><b>Smith Middle School, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (2001)</b>  <i>Architect:</i> Corley Redfoot Zack, Inc. (Daylighting design: Innovative Design)  <i>Daylighting system:</i> Sawtooth roofs  <i>Daylighting Control System:</i> translucent fabric baffles  <i>Climate:</i> Mixed hot and cold</p>	<p><b>McPherson Middle School, Clyde, Ohio (2010?)</b>  <i>Architect/engineer:</i> FHAI  <i>Designer:</i> John McCreery  <i>Daylighting system:</i> Sawtooth roof  <i>Daylighting Control System:</i> fabric baffles  <i>Climate:</i> Cool and humid</p>



**Arup Campus Office, Solihull, England**  
*Architect:* Arup Associates  
*Daylighting system:* lighting units designed to capture diffuse north light through an opening towards north and to control south direct light via louvers designed for the units' south surface.



**Heelis Office Building, Swindon, England (2007)**  
*Architect:* Feilden Clegg Bradley with Max Fordham as M&E consultant  
*Daylighting system:* A line of north-facing apertures on a side of a gable roof  
*Daylighting Control System:* none, diffuse light enters the space, ventilation ducts and PV panels cast shadow on some times in a year  
*Climate:* Mild and humid  
 Notes: Mounting PV panels on the south-facing side and windows on the north-facing side of the roof provides high level of energy efficiency in this building.



**IDEAs office Building, Santa Clara, California (2007)**  
*Architect:* EHDD Architecture  
*Daylighting system:* Skylights (tilted by low angles)  
*Daylighting Control System:* Diffuse glazing material of skylights  
*Climate:* Moderate marine climate  
 Notes: In a remodeling project, daylighting was added to the building, which was built in 1960s. Photovoltaic cells mounted on the roof eliminate provides the remaining power for the building.



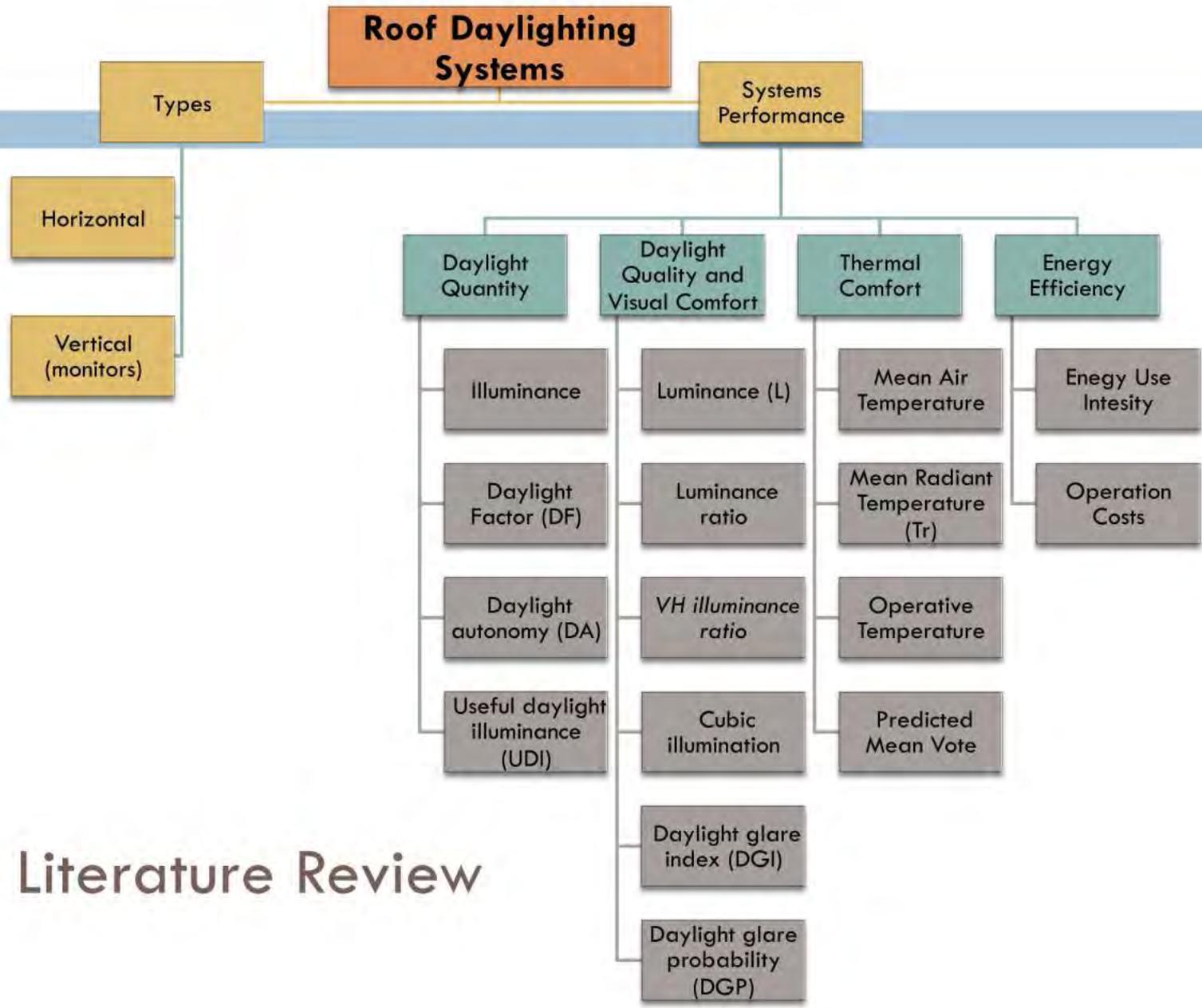
**Gothenburg Law Court Extension, Gothenburg, Sweden (1937)**  
*Architect:* Gunnar Asplund  
*Daylighting system:* one large linear sawtooth aperture facing south for brightening the central Great Hall  
*Daylighting Control System:*  
*Climate:* Mild climate  
 Note: large south facing windows and clerestories could lead to savings in heating energy if night insulation was employed. In addition, no automatic lighting controls exist to respond to natural light. Therefore, this building fails to save energy through its daylighting strategy.



**Spectrum 7 Building, Milton Keynes, England**  
*Architect:* ECD partnership, Engineer: Arup  
*Daylighting system:* 60 degrees tilted apertures in a saw-tooth roofs  
*Daylighting Control System:* Reflective horizontal surface underneath the aperture.

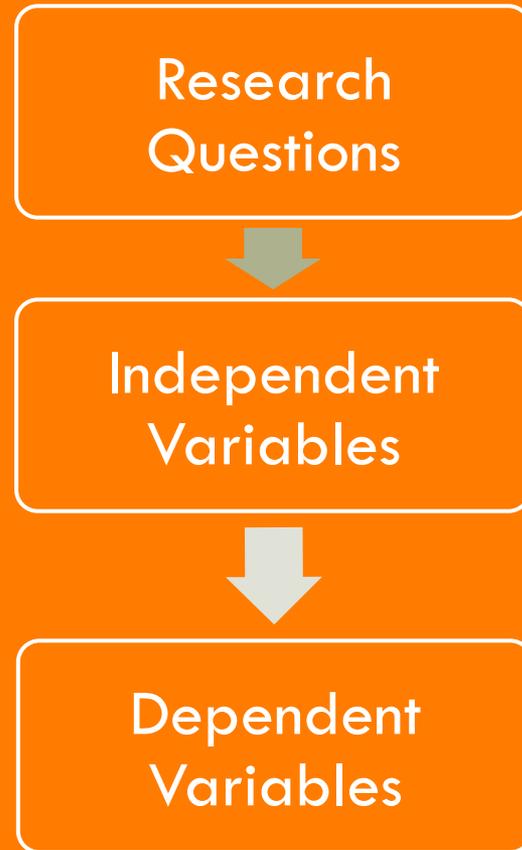


**Metropoli Foundation Building, Madrid, Spain**  
*Architect:* Angel de Diego Rica  
*Daylighting system:* Roof monitors



## 2. Literature Review

# 3. Research Design



## Research Questions

1. How can each roof daylighting system be optimized to reach the best results in terms of daylighting without creating visual discomfort?
2. How can each roof daylighting system be optimized in terms of energy consumption?
3. What are the potential savings in building operating energy and operating cost that can be achieved by implementing different designs for roof daylighting systems?

# Independent Variables

- **Toplighting Configurations and Design**
  - Horizontal Apertures in Flat Roof (Square and Linear Skylights)
  - Vertical Roof Apertures Facing Two Opposite Directions (Roof Monitors)
- **Buildings Location**
  - Boston
  - Miami
- **The Aperture to Floor Area Ratio (AFR)**
  - Skylights: 2% , 3.5%, 5.5%, 7.5%, 10%
  - Roof Monitors: 15%, 20%, 25%

## Dependent Variables

### □ **Lighting Assessment**

- Quantity of Available Daylight (illuminance)
  - Single-time Spatial Distribution
  - Annual Daylight
- Monthly Electric Lighting Consumption (kWh)
- Daylight Glare Probability (DGP)

### □ **Whole- building Energy Assessment**

- Monthly Heating and Cooling Energy Consumption (kBtu)
- EUI (Energy Use Intensity) (kBtu/sqft/yr)

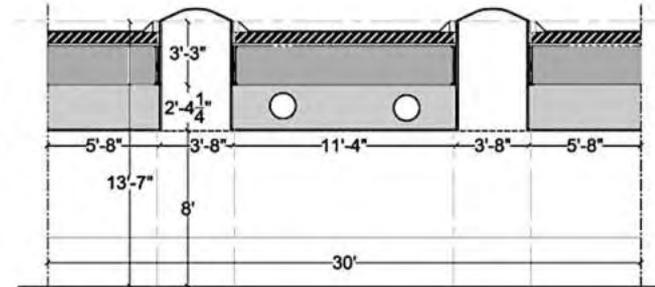
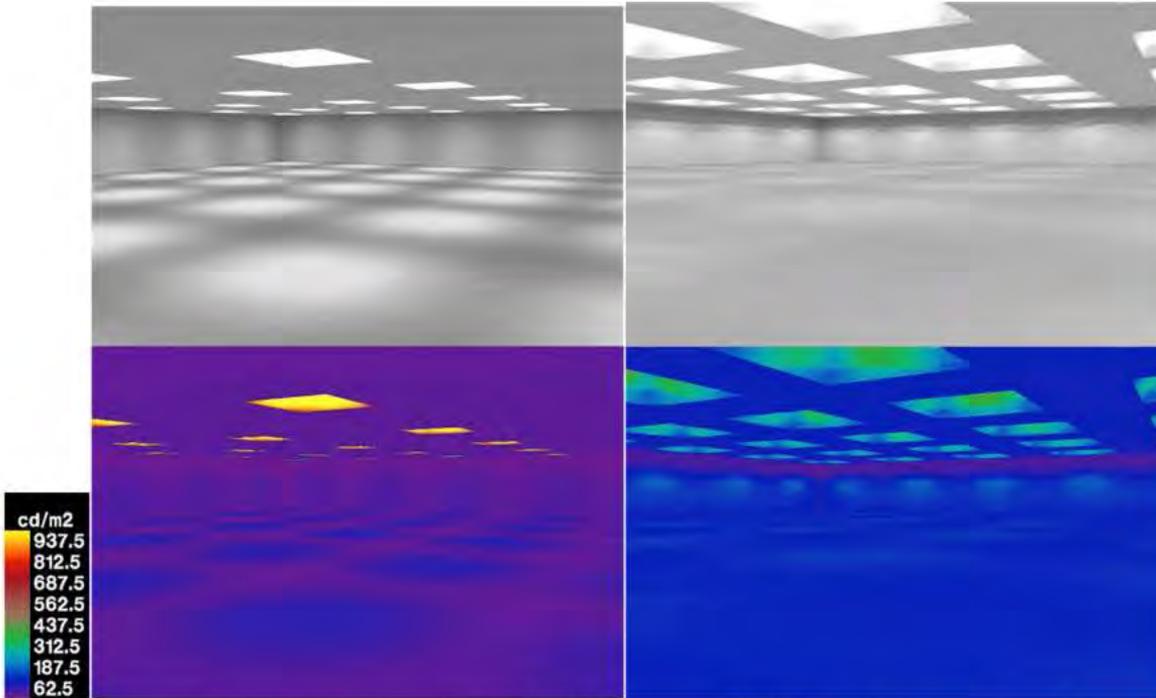
### □ **Total Operation Costs**

- Annual Costs (\$/yr)
- Savings (\$/yr)

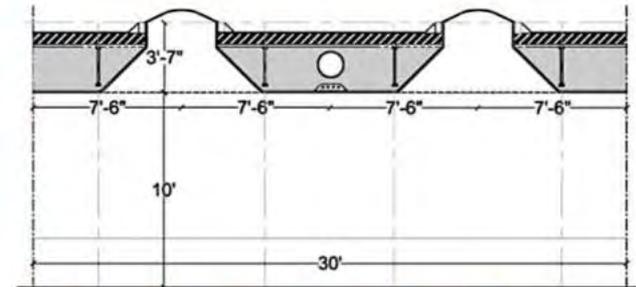
# 4. Methodology



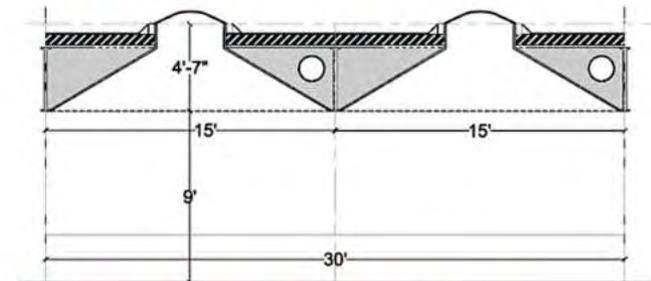
# Skylights



1. Un-integrated Systems, Square Light Well



2. Integrated Systems, Beveled Light Well



3. Integrated Systems, Extended Splayed Light Well

# Skylights' Properties

Skylights: Two Lexan plastic sheets

- Thermal Properties

- ▣ U-value: Clear Part:  $2.59 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ K}$

- (Skylight Assembly's U-value is changing)

- Opaque Part:  $0.187 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ K}$  (R-30)

- Visual Properties

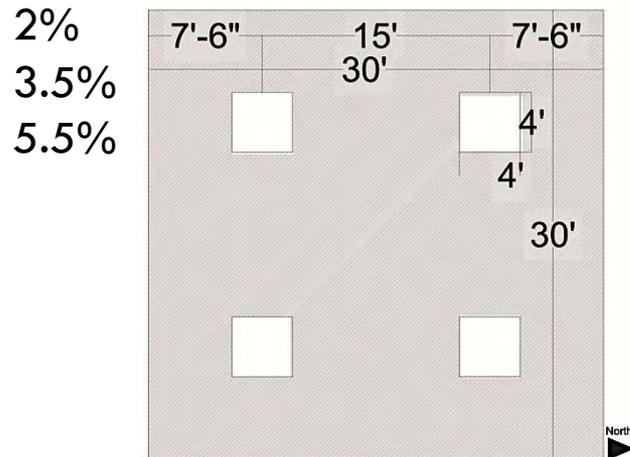
- ▣ Skylight  $V_t = 42\%$

# Skylights Glazing Area

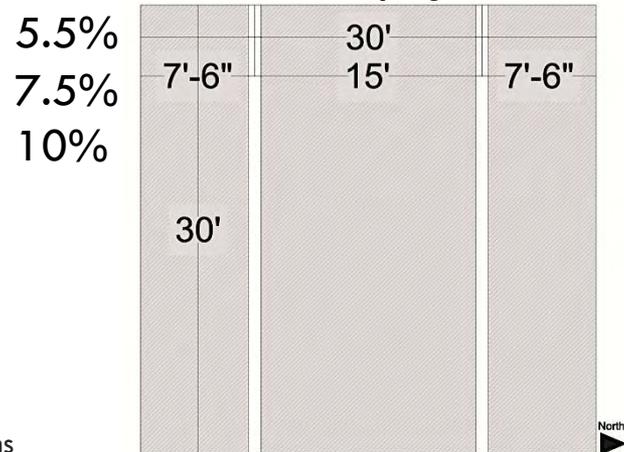
## Aperture Area to Floor Area Ratio (AFR)

	Floor Area Illuminated		AFR	Number of Apertures	Clear Glazing Length		Clear Glazing Width	
	ft <sup>2</sup>	m <sup>2</sup>			ft	m	ft	m
Units	ft <sup>2</sup>	m <sup>2</sup>	%		ft	m	ft	m
Square Apertures	900	83.6	2	4	2.08	0.63	2.08	0.63
			3.5		2.83	0.86	2.83	0.86
			5.5		3.50	1.07	3.50	1.07
Linear Apertures	900	83.6	5.5	2	30	9.14	0.83	0.25
			7.5		30	9.14	1.13	0.34
			10		30	9.14	1.50	0.46

Square skylights

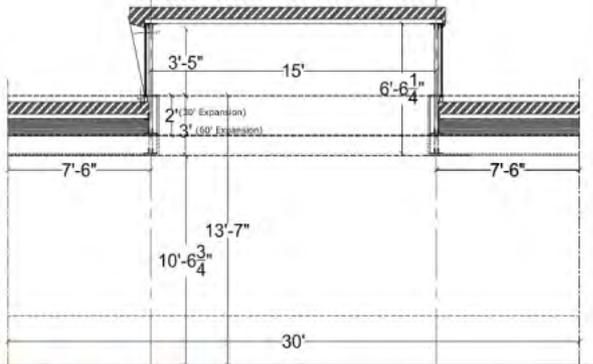
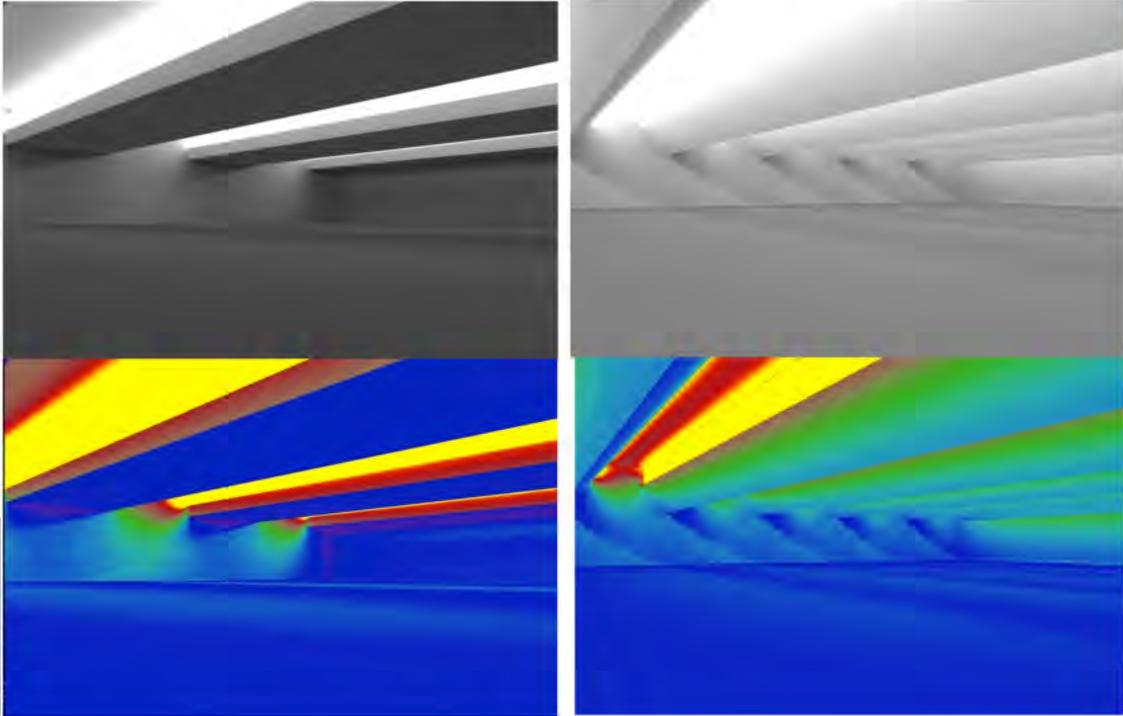


Linear skylights

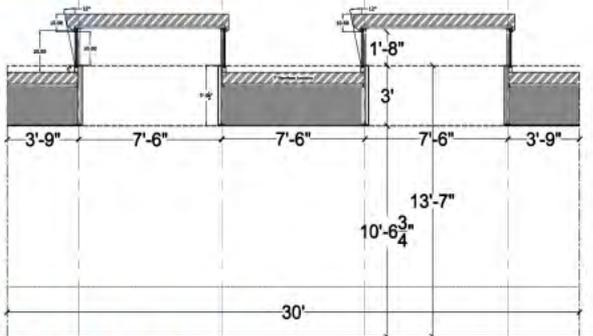


Floor Plans

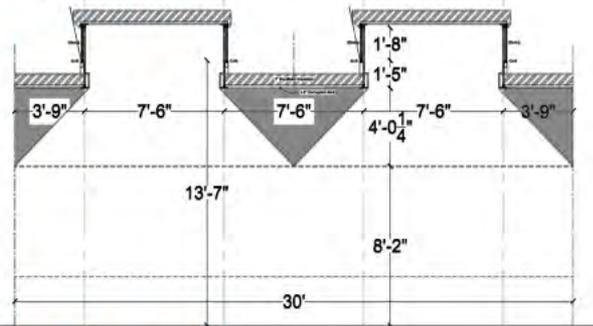
# Roof Monitors



1. Single Monitors



2. Double Monitors

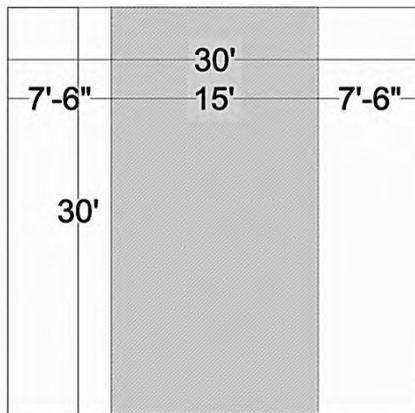


3. Double Monitors  
Minimum Light Well

# Roof Monitors Glazing Area Aperture Area to Floor Area Ratio (AFR)

	AFR	Length Of Module		Reduction Factor On The Horizontal Glazing	Effective Horizontal Glazing Dimension		Glass Area In One Panel		Height Of The Glass	
		ft	m		ft	m	ft <sup>2</sup>	m <sup>2</sup>	ft	m
Single Monitors (900 ft <sup>2</sup> / 83.6 m <sup>2</sup> )	0.15	30	9.14	0.9	27	8.1	67.5	6.27	2.5	0.76
	0.20	30	9.14	0.9	27	8.1	90	8.36	3.3	1.00
	0.25	30	9.14	0.9	27	8.1	112.5	10.45	4.2	1.28
Double Monitors (900 ft <sup>2</sup> / 83.6 m <sup>2</sup> )	0.15	30	9.14	0.9	27	8.1	33.75	3.13	1.3	0.39
	0.20	30	9.14	0.9	27	8.1	45	4.18	1.7	0.52
	0.25	30	9.14	0.9	27	8.1	56.25	5.23	2.1	0.64

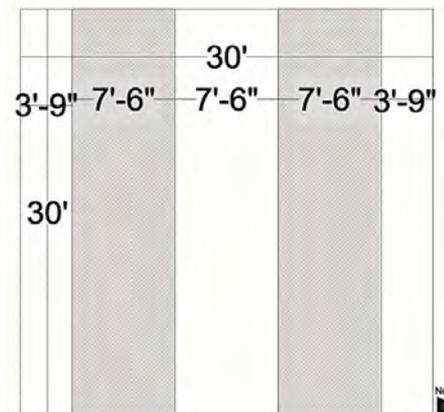
Single Monitors



AFRs  
15%  
20%  
25%

Floor Plans

Double Monitors



# Roof Monitors' Properties

North-facing Glass: Clear, double layers of glass

- ▣ Vt: 65% (accounting for structural members' obstruction)
- ▣ U-value (center): 1.42 W/m<sup>2</sup>K
- ▣ SHGC: 0.312

South-facing Glass: Diffuse, double layers:

1. Velux laminated glass with LoE coating
2. Clear glass

- ▣ Vt: 50% (accounting for structural members' obstruction)
- ▣ U-value (center): 1.42 W/m<sup>2</sup>K
- ▣ SHGC: 0.386

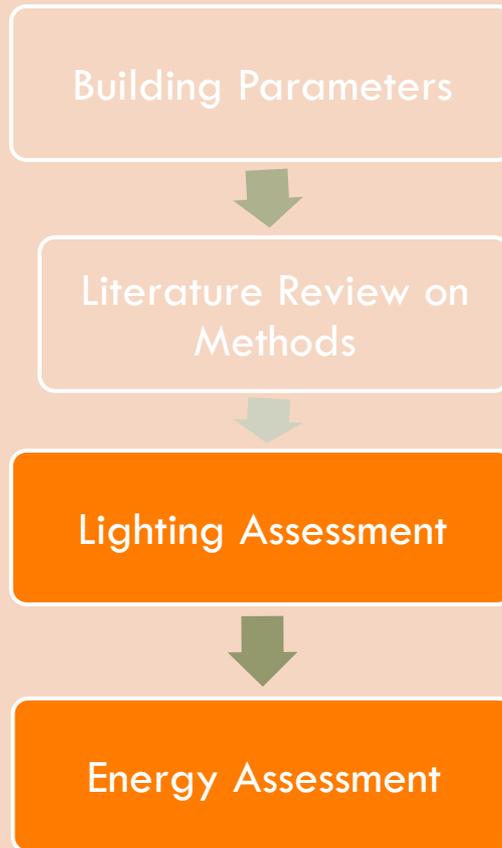
# Thermal Properties of Glazing Assemblies

## Effect of frames and curbs on overall U-values of the glazing

	AFR	Glazing Dimension		U Average of Glazing		Glazing UA Btu/hr. F	Curb Height		Curb UA Btu/hr. F	Overall UA (Curb UA+Glass UA)		Average U-value for Assembly	
		m x m	inch x inch	W/m2K	Btu/hr.Ft2.K		m	inch		Btu/hr. F	Btu/hr. F	W/m2K	Btu/hr.Ft2.K
Square Apertures	2	0.64 x 0.64	25" x 25"	3.41	0.60	2.61	0.17	6.50	0.90	3.51	4.59	0.81	
	3.5	0.86 x 0.86	34" x 34"	3.20	0.56	4.52	0.17	6.50	1.18	5.71	4.04	0.71	
	5.5	1.07 x 1.07	42" x 42"	3.09	0.54	6.66	0.17	6.50	1.43	8.10	3.75	0.66	
Linear Apertures	5.5	2.29 x 0.25	90" x 9.9"	3.74	0.66	4.07	0.17	6.50	1.44	5.51	5.06	0.89	
	7.5	2.29 x 0.34	90" x 13.5"	3.47	0.61	5.15	0.17	6.50	1.45	6.60	4.45	0.78	
	10	2.29 x 0.46	90" x 18"	3.28	0.58	6.50	0.17	6.50	1.47	7.97	4.03	0.71	

	AFR	Glass Horizontal x Vertical Dimension		U Average of Glazing		Glazing UA Btu/hr. F	Curb Height (Curb is composed of)		Curb UA Btu/hr. F	Overall UA for Skylights (Curb)		Average U-value for Assembly	
		m x m	ft x ft	W/m2K	Btu/hr.Ft2.K		m	inch		Btu/hr. F	Btu/hr. F	W/m2K	Btu/hr.Ft2.K
Single Monitors (Length 30'/ 9.14m)	15	2.25 x 0.76	7.5 x 2.5	1.86	0.33	6.13	0.25	9.75	2.57	8.70	2.64	0.46	
	20	2.25 x 1.00	7.5 x 3.3	1.78	0.31	7.82	0.25	9.75	2.57	10.38	2.36	0.42	
	25	2.25 x 1.28	7.5 x 4.2	1.73	0.30	9.50	0.25	9.75	2.57	12.07	2.19	0.39	
Double Monitors (Length 30'/ 9.14m)	15	2.25 x 0.39	7.5 x 1.3	2.19	0.38	3.61	0.25	9.75	2.57	6.17	3.74	0.66	
	20	2.25 x 0.52	7.5 x 1.7	2.02	0.36	4.45	0.25	9.75	2.57	7.02	3.19	0.56	
	25	2.25 x 0.64	7.5 x 2.1	1.92	0.34	5.29	0.25	9.75	2.57	7.86	2.86	0.50	

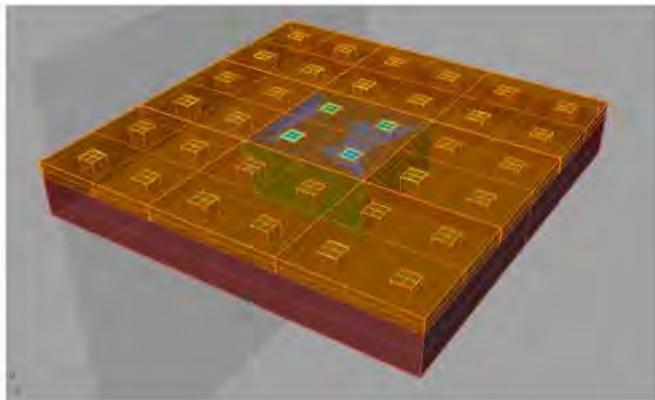
# 4. Methodology



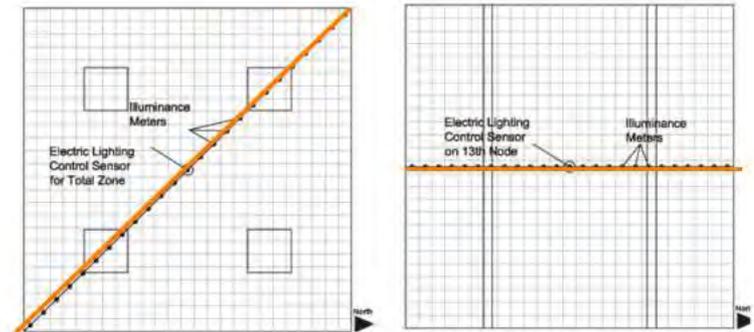
# 1. Lighting Assessment

## 1. 1. Single-time Spatial Distribution of Daylighting

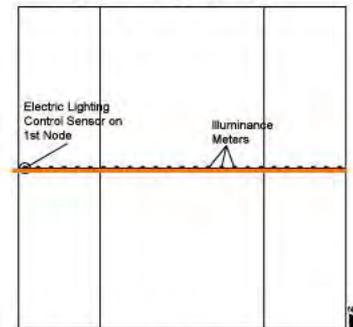
- Tool: RADIANCE, DIVA-for-Rhino plug-in
- Daylight Model: 90'x90' floor are composed of 9 identical modules
- Simulation Time: 12 pm, 21 Sept
- Sky Condition: Sunny



DIVA Daylight Model

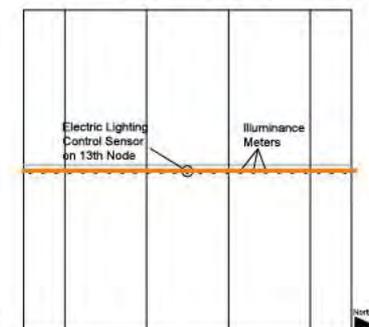


Square Skylights

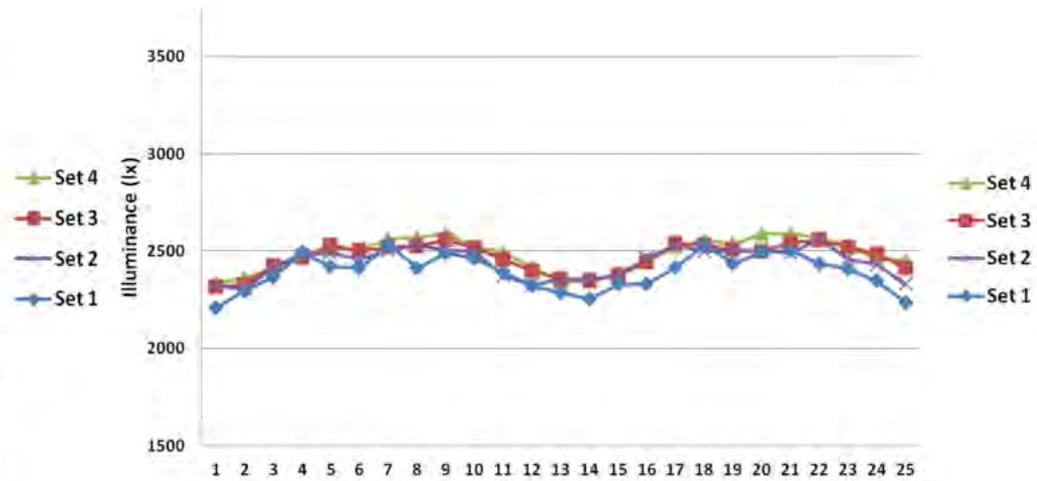
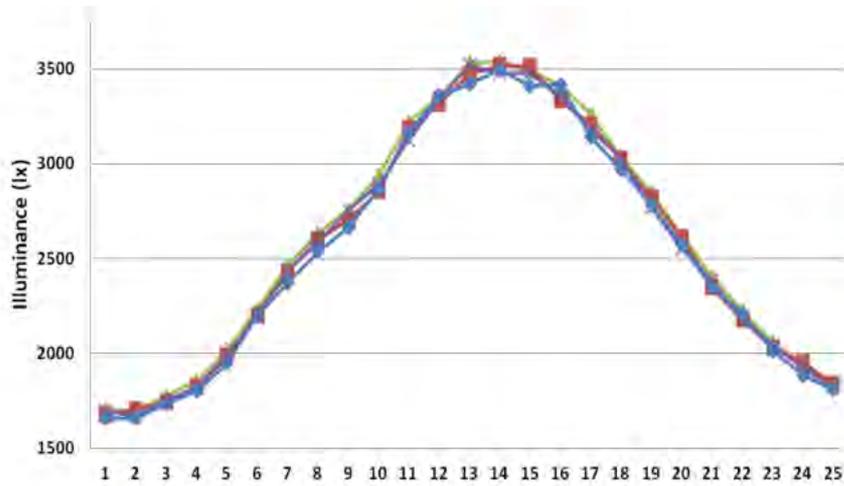


Single Roof Monitors

Linear Skylights



Double Roof Monitors



Vertical Aperture	Daylighting Parameters					Minimum Illuminance in Middle Axis at Task Level ( lux)		Max Relative Error Compared to the 4th Set (%)	
	ab	ad	as	ar	aa	Single Monitor (Minimum occurs at 1st sensor on middle NS axis)	Double Monitor (Minimum occurs at center/13th sensor on middle NS Axis)	Single Monitor	Double Monitor
Set 1	7	2500	625	300	0.05	1660	2284	-3.64	-8.67
Set 2	8	3600	900	600	0.05	1669	2354	-2.98	-4.97
Set 3	8	4624	1156	900	0.05	1673	2359	-2.79	-3.49
Set 4	8	5184	1296	1200	0.03	1703	2342	0	0

Radiance Parameters	ab	ad	as	ar	aa
	8	5184	1296	1200	0.03

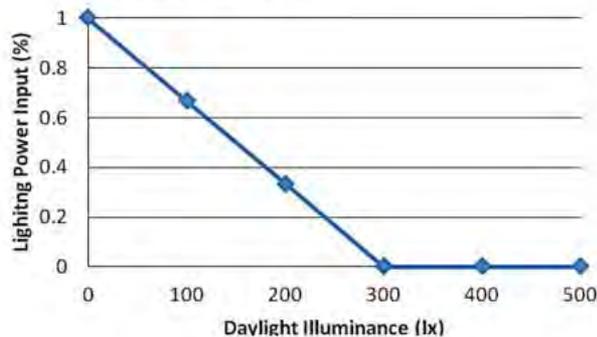
# 1. Lighting Assessment

## 1.2. Dynamic Daylighting

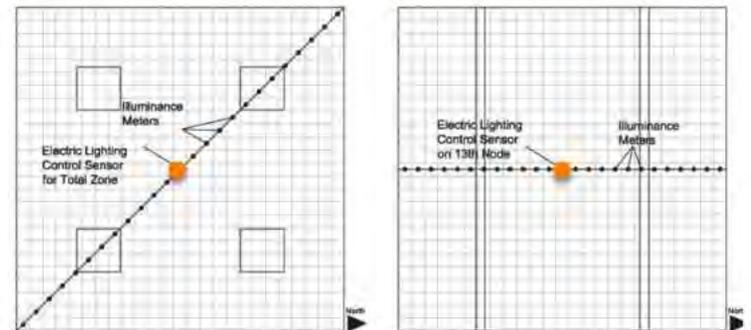
- Tool: DAYSIM, DIVA-for-Rhino plug-in
- Simulation Time: Annual Simulation
- Sky Condition: Weather Data File
- Sensors Location

## 1.3. Electric Lighting Estimation

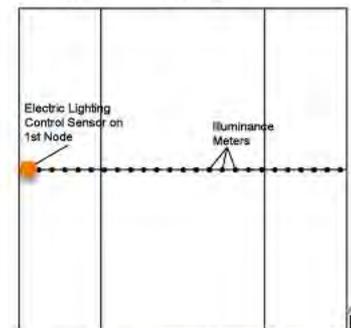
- Tool: EnergyPlus
- Electric power input: DAYSIM (CSV files)
- Daylighting Control: Dimming System
- Occupancy Schedule: 9am-5pm weekdays
- Illuminance Target: 300 lx
- LPD: 0.9 W/ft<sup>2</sup>



DIVA Daylight Model

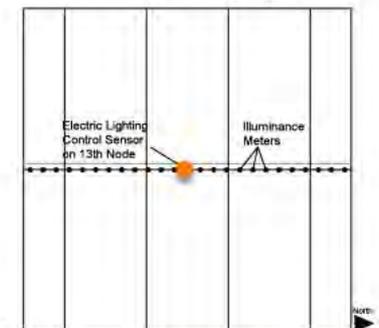


Square Skylights



Single Roof Monitors

Linear Skylights



Double Roof Monitors

Radiance Parameters	ab	ad	as	ar	aa
	7	2500	625	300	0.05

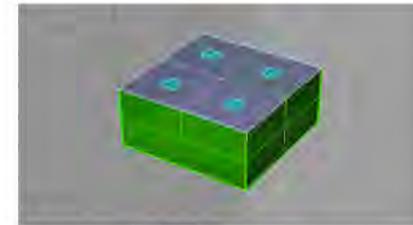
## 2. Energy Assessment

Tool: EnergyPlus

Energy Model: One thermal Zone

30'x30' module with adiabatic walls

Adiabatic ground



DIVA Thermal Model (Skylights)

### 2.1. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

### 2.2. INTERNAL LOADS

### 2.3. AIR CIRCULATION

### 2.4. HVAC SYSTEM

Cooling System: AC unit (COP 3)

Heating System: Gas Furnace (COP 0.8)

### 2.5. SCHEDULES

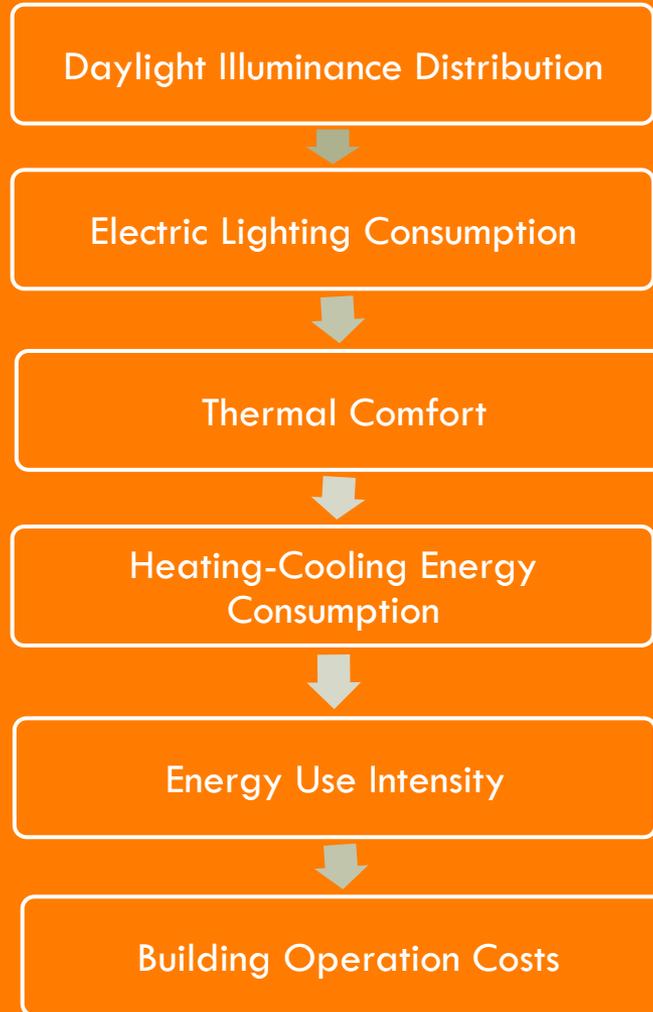
Heating Setpoint: 22 C

Heating Setback: 17 C

Cooling Setpoint: 24.5 C

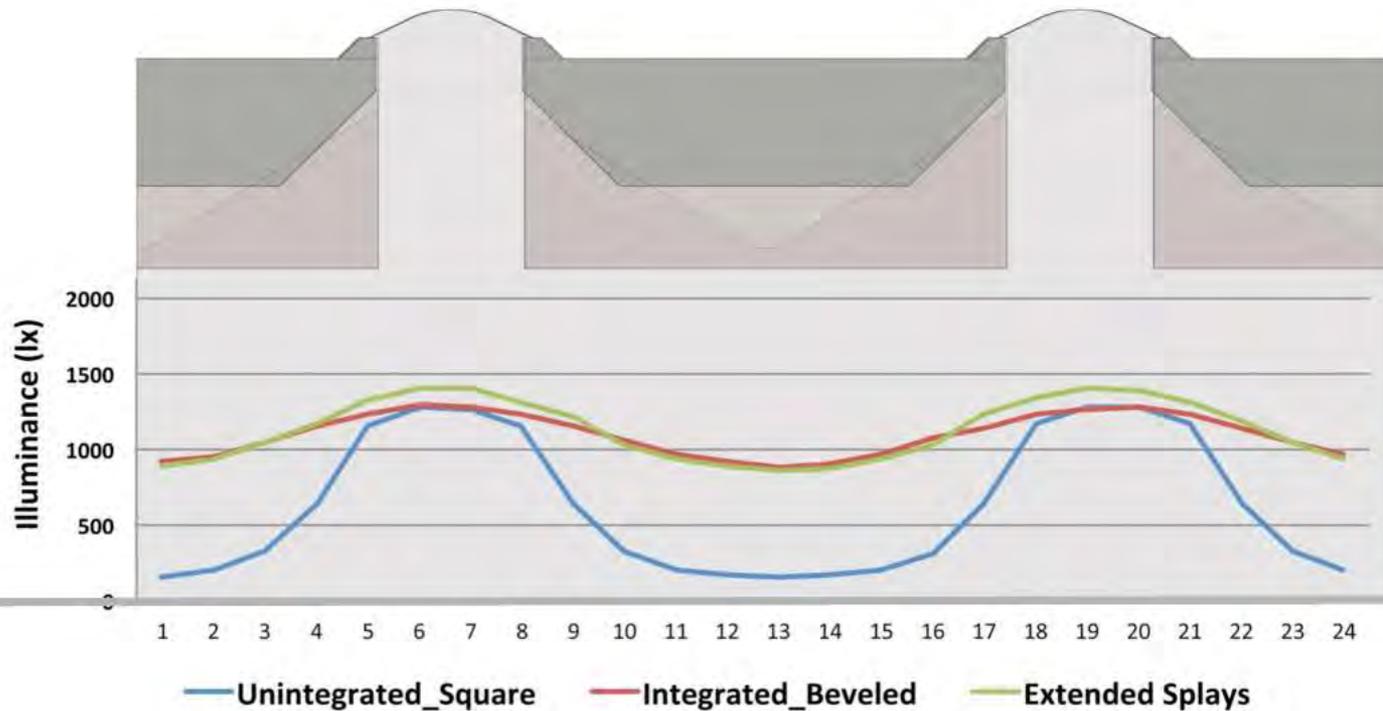
Cooling Setback: 32 C

# 5. Results Analysis



# Daylight Illuminance Distribution

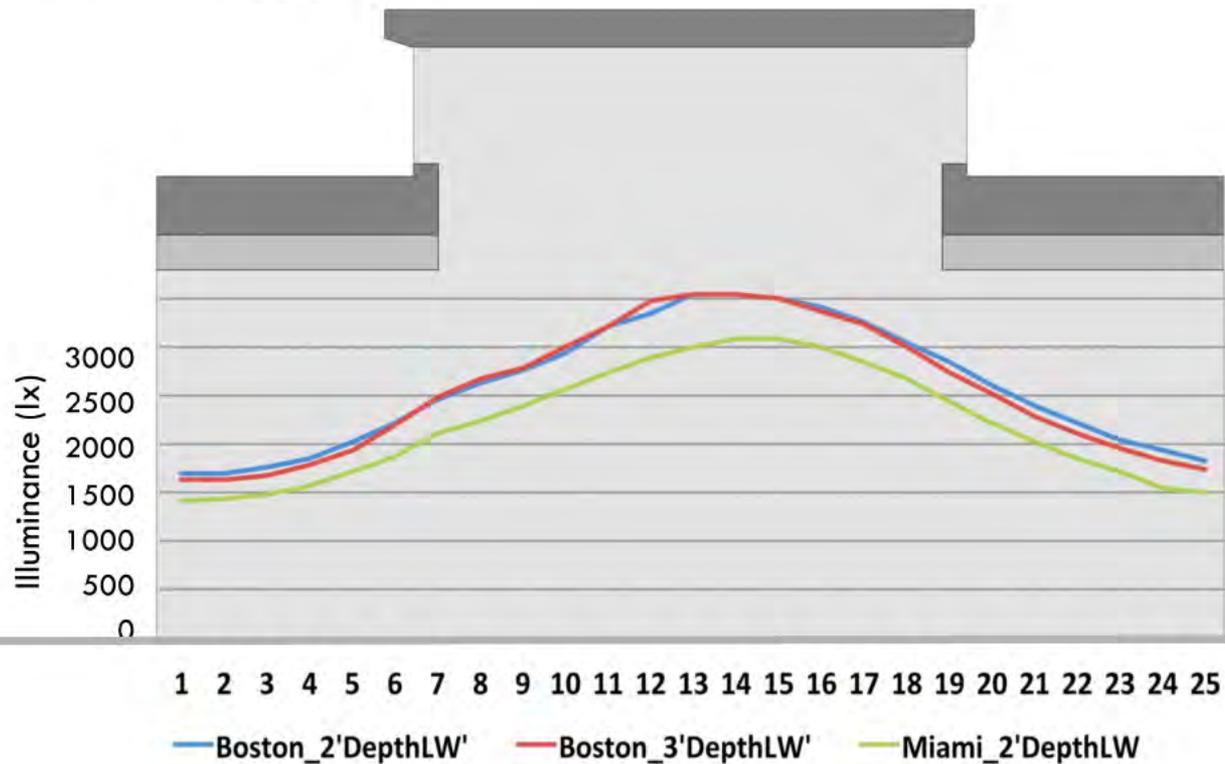
Skylights 5.5% AFR



**Boston**

# Daylight Illuminance Distribution

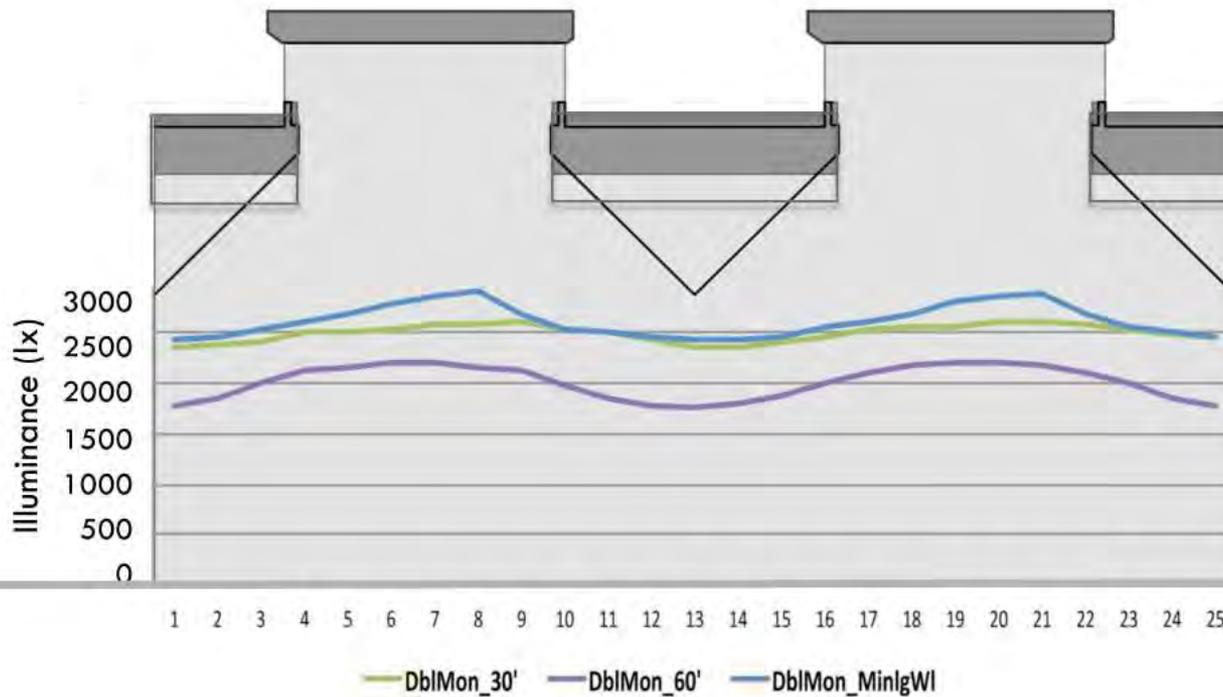
## Roof Monitors 20% AFR



**Single Monitors**  
Boston & Miami

# Daylight Illuminance Distribution

## Roof Monitors 20% AFR



**Double Monitors**  
Boston

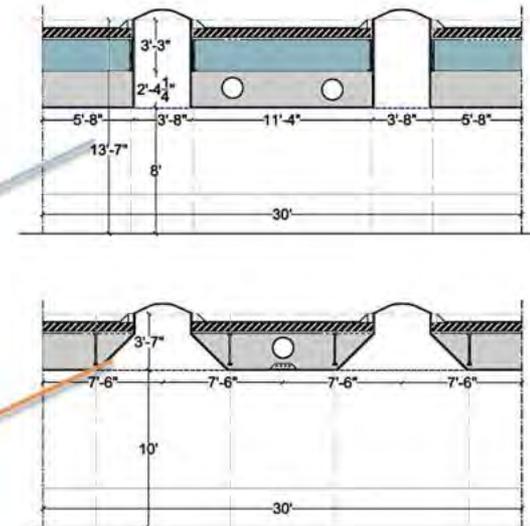
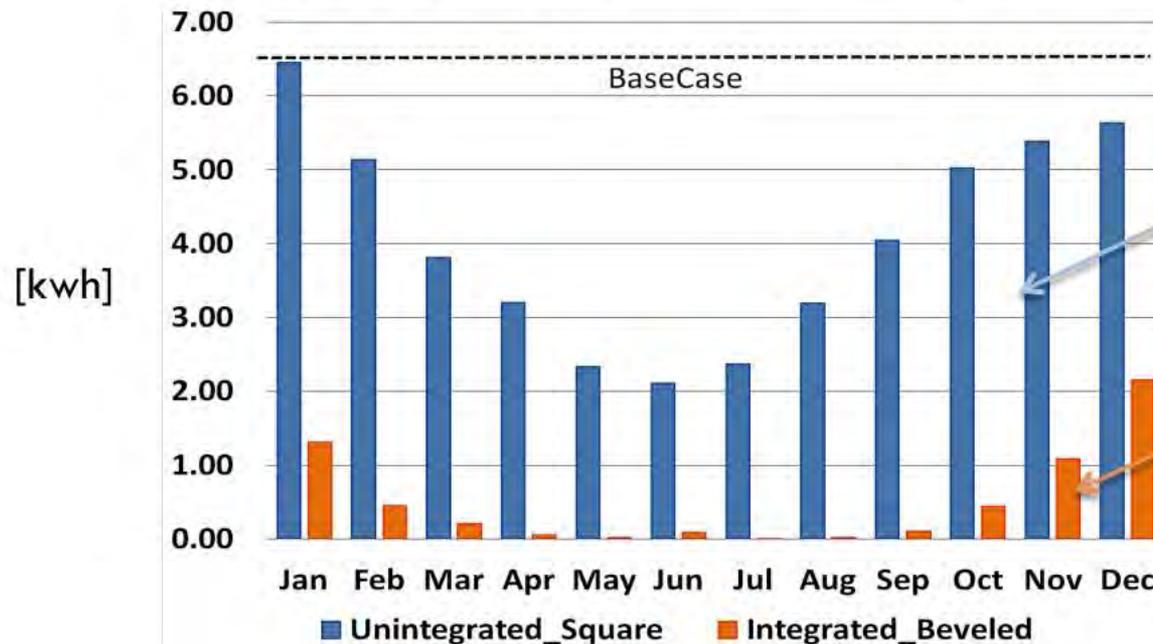
# 5. Results Analysis



# Electric Lighting Consumption

## Square Skylights 5.5% AFR

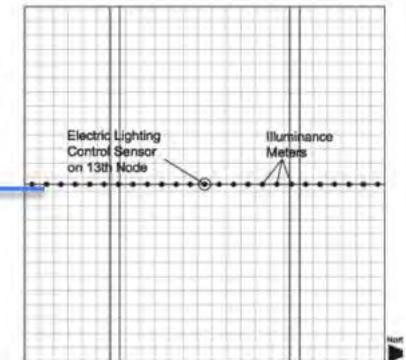
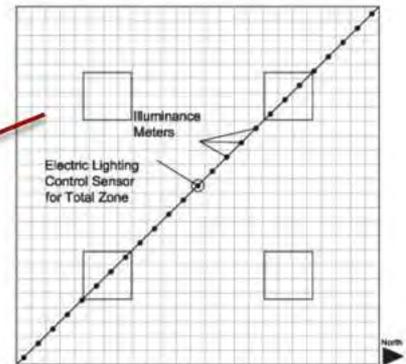
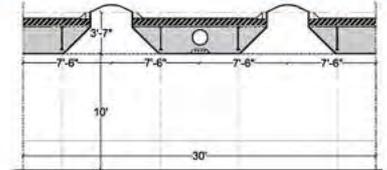
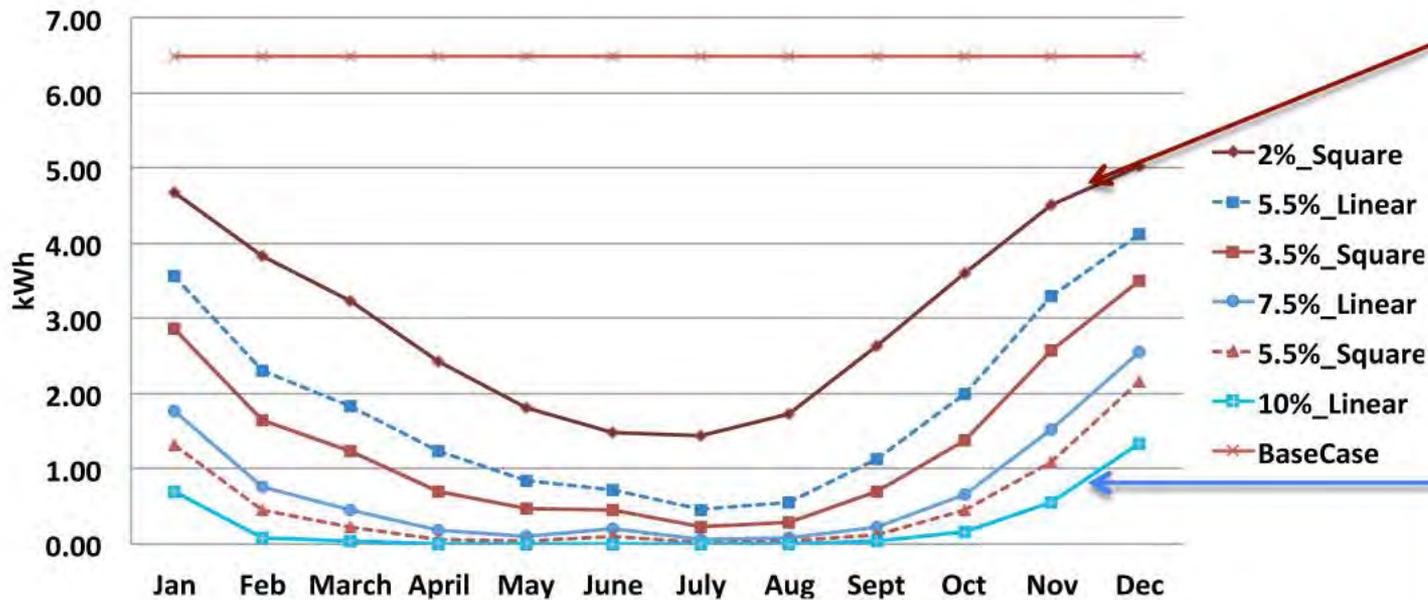
Daily average lighting electric use [kwh] in Boston



# Electric Lighting Consumption

## Square and Linear Skylights\_ Various AFRs

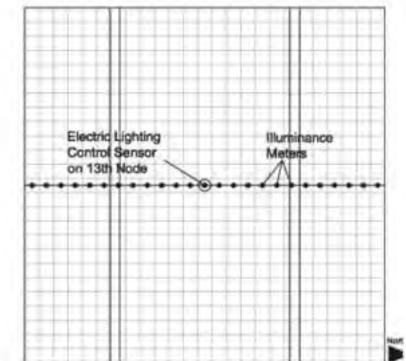
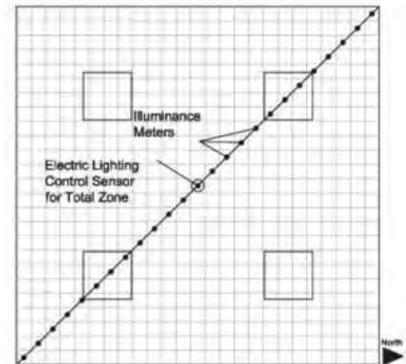
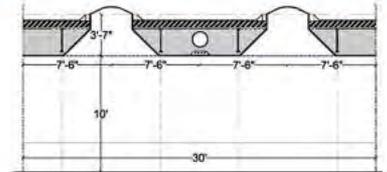
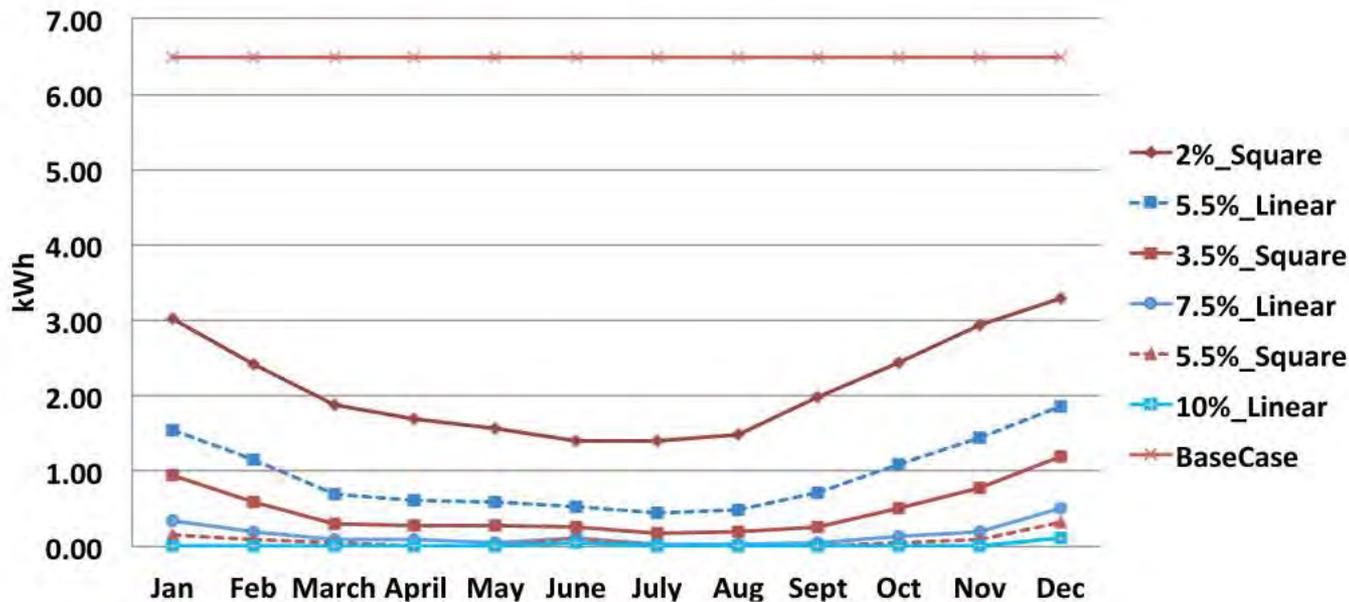
Daily Average Lighting Electric Use  
**Boston**



# Electric Lighting Consumption

## Square and Linear Skylights\_ Various AFRs

Daily Average Lighting Electric Use  
**Miami**



# Glare Analysis

## 1. Single Monitors\_25%\_Diffuse Glazing for South (Laminated 52% Vt)



Annual glare

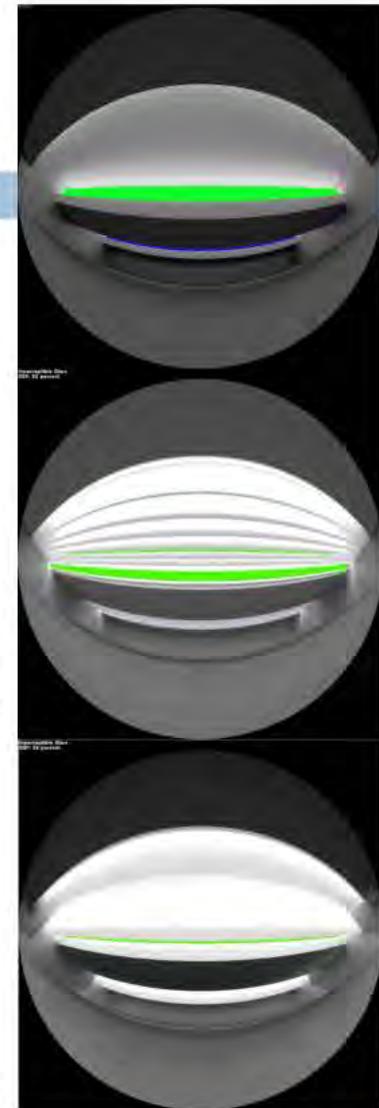
## 2. Single Monitors with Baffles\_25% clear glass with LoE, 90% reflectance in baffles

## 3. Single Monitor with Banner\_25% Diffuse Glazing for South (Laminated 52% Vt) with a Banner (white fabric 50% transmittance, 50% reflectance)

1. DGP 49%  
Intolerable glare

2. DGP 33%  
Imperceptible glare

3. DGP 32%,  
Imperceptible glare

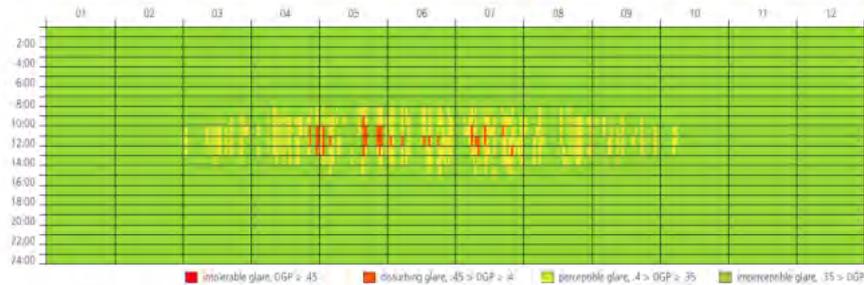


dp	ar	dt	dj	dr	lr	lw	st	ps	pj	ab	aa	ad	as
512	128	0	0	2	4	0.000001	0.15	0	0	3	0.1	2048	512

# Glare Analysis

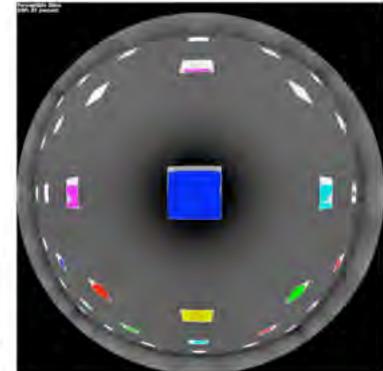
## 1. Skylights\_Integrated Systems with Squared Lightwells

SFR 5.5%\_Diffuse 42%Vt



## 2. Skylights\_Integrated Systems with Beveled Lightwell

SFR 7%\_Diffuse 55% Vt

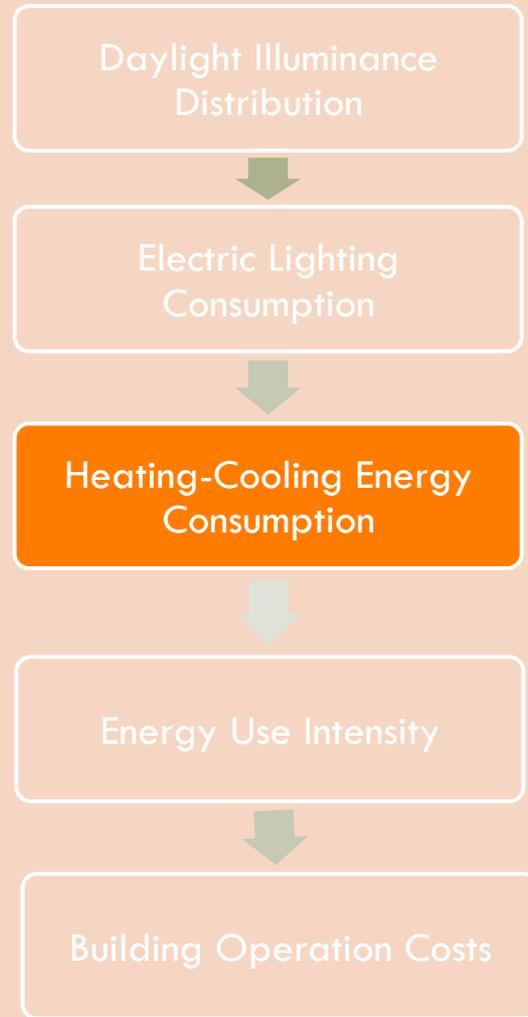


1. DGP=37%  
Perceptible glare



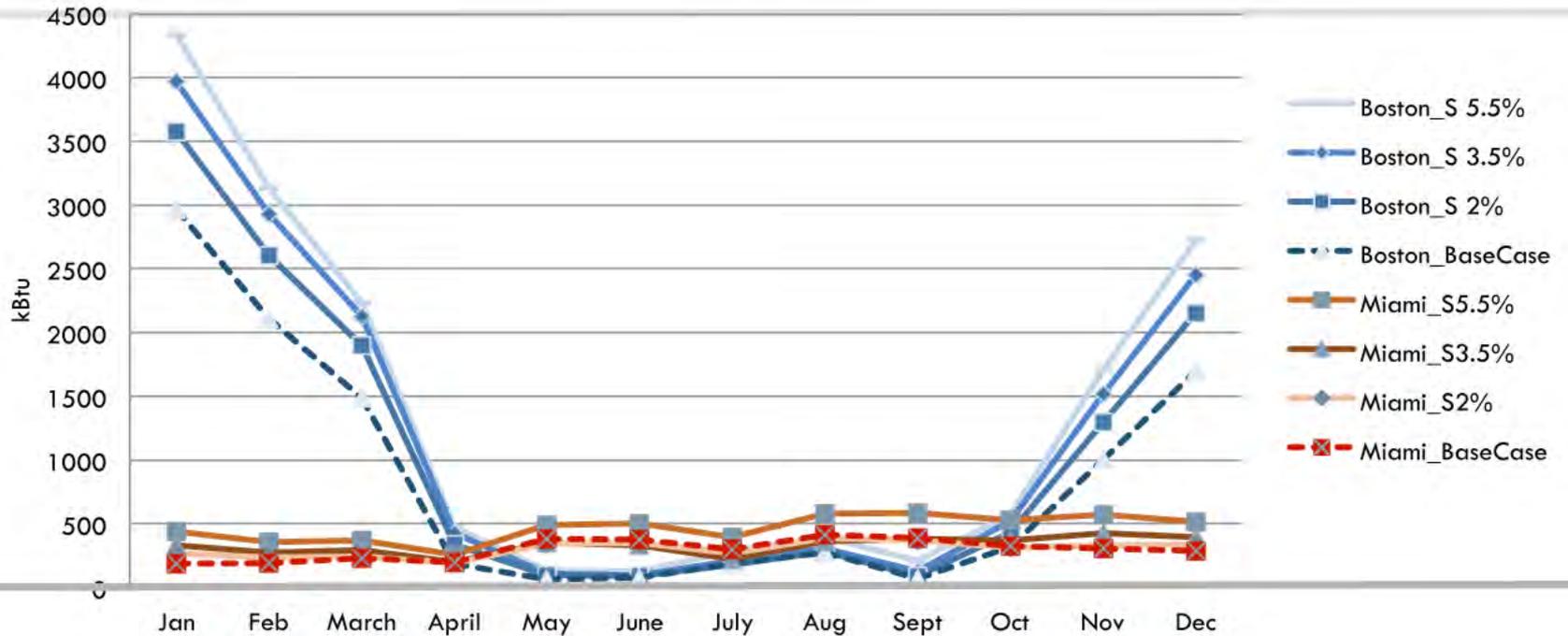
2. DGP=39%  
Perceptible glare

# 5. Results Analysis



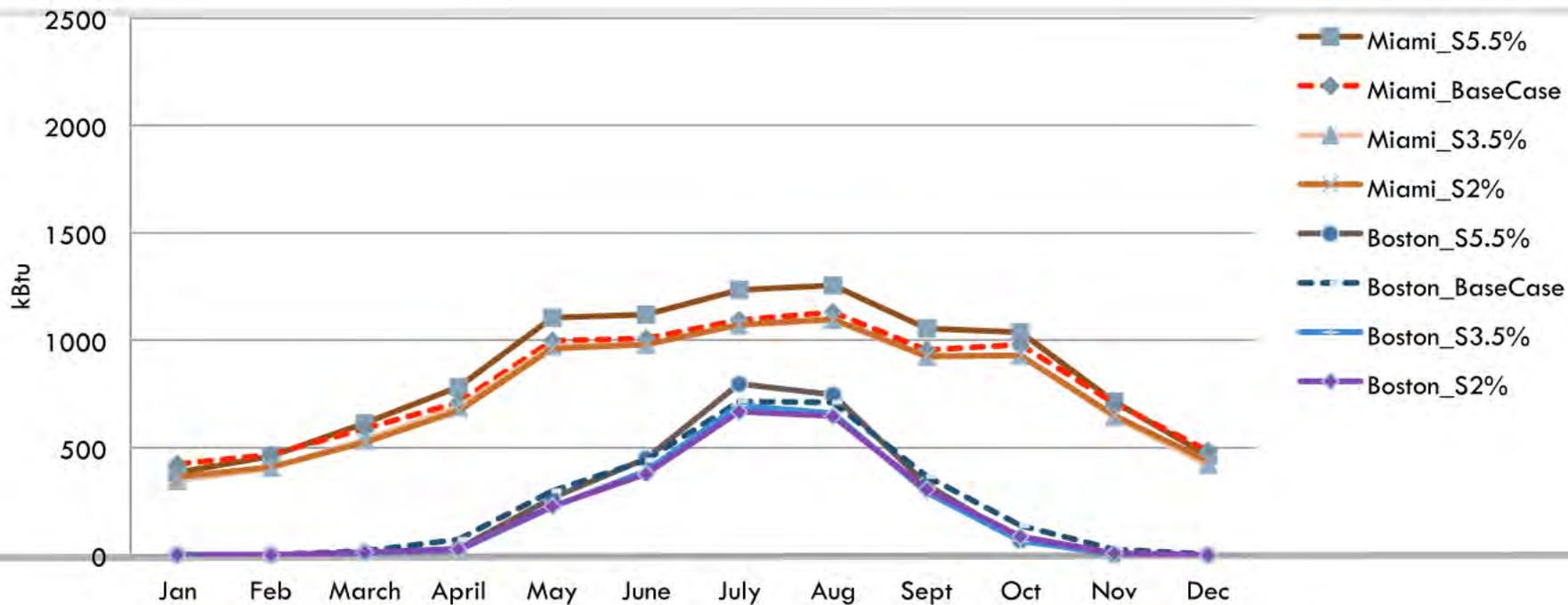
# Heating Gas Consumption [kBtu] Square Skylights

## Boston and Miami

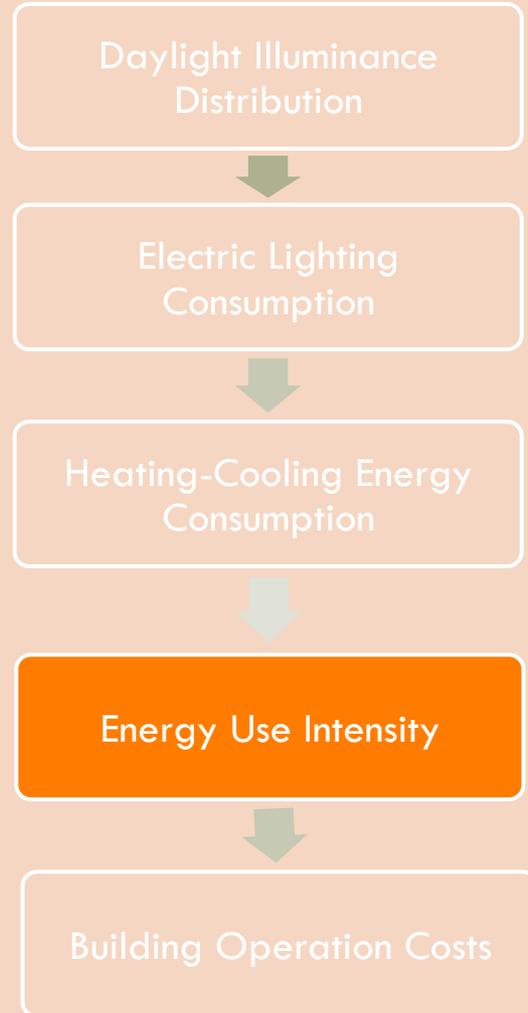


# Cooling Coil Electricity Consumption [kBtu] Square Skylights

## Boston and Miami



# 5. Results Analysis



# Energy Use Intensity EUI Square Skylights

[kBtu/sqft/yr]

Equipment Fan Lights Cooling Heating Humidifier

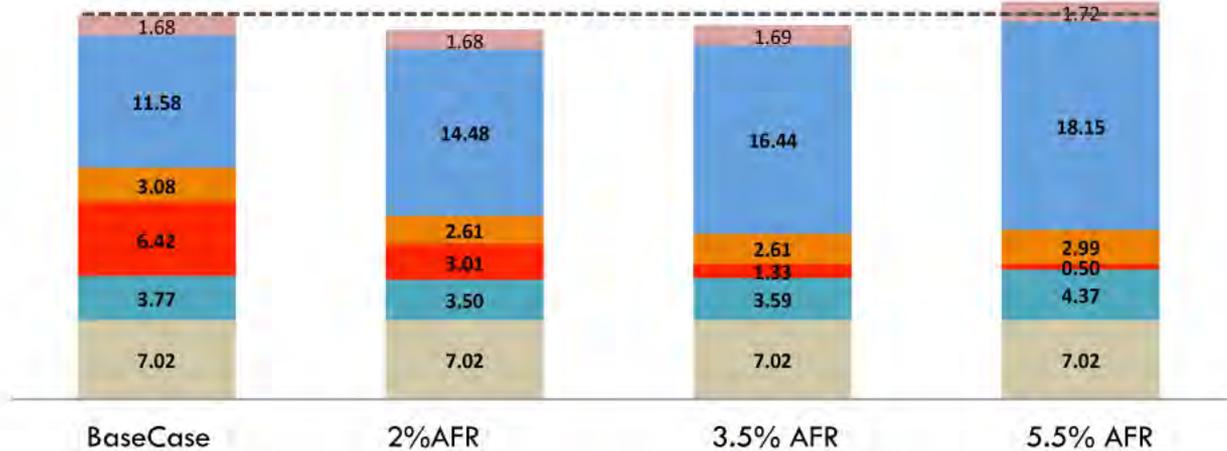
**Boston**

Total= 33.55

Total= 32.30

Total=32.68

Total= 34.75



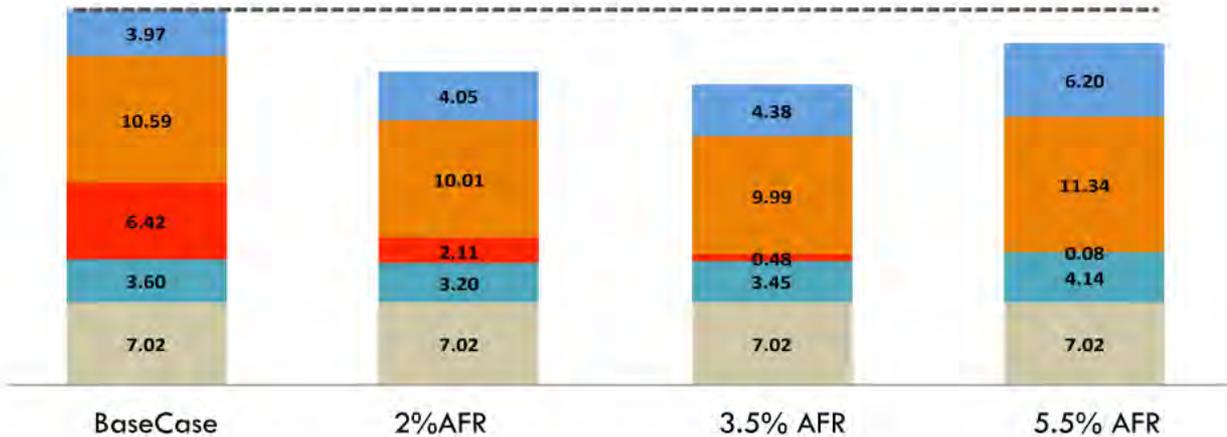
**Miami**

Total= 31.60

Total= 26.39

Total= 25.32

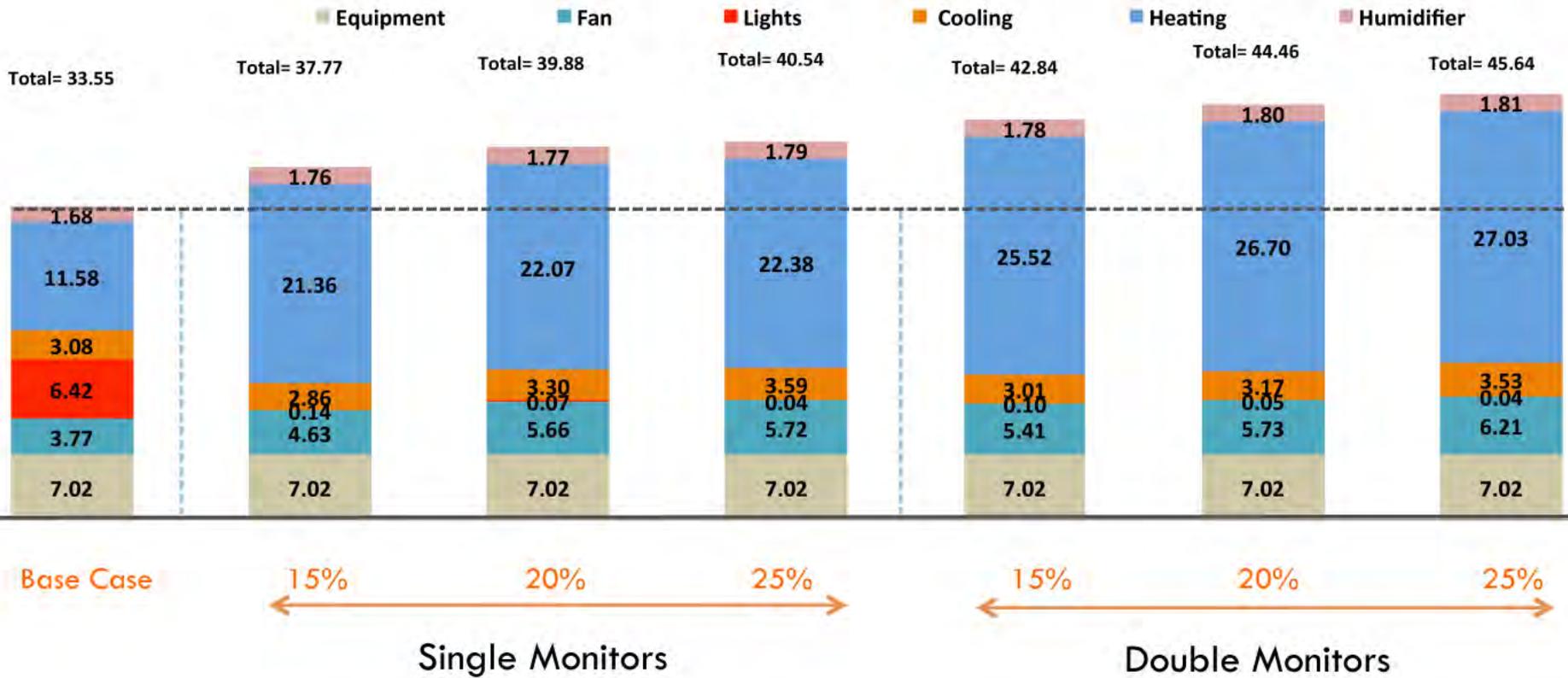
Total= 28.78



# Energy Use Intensity EUI Roof Monitors

## Boston

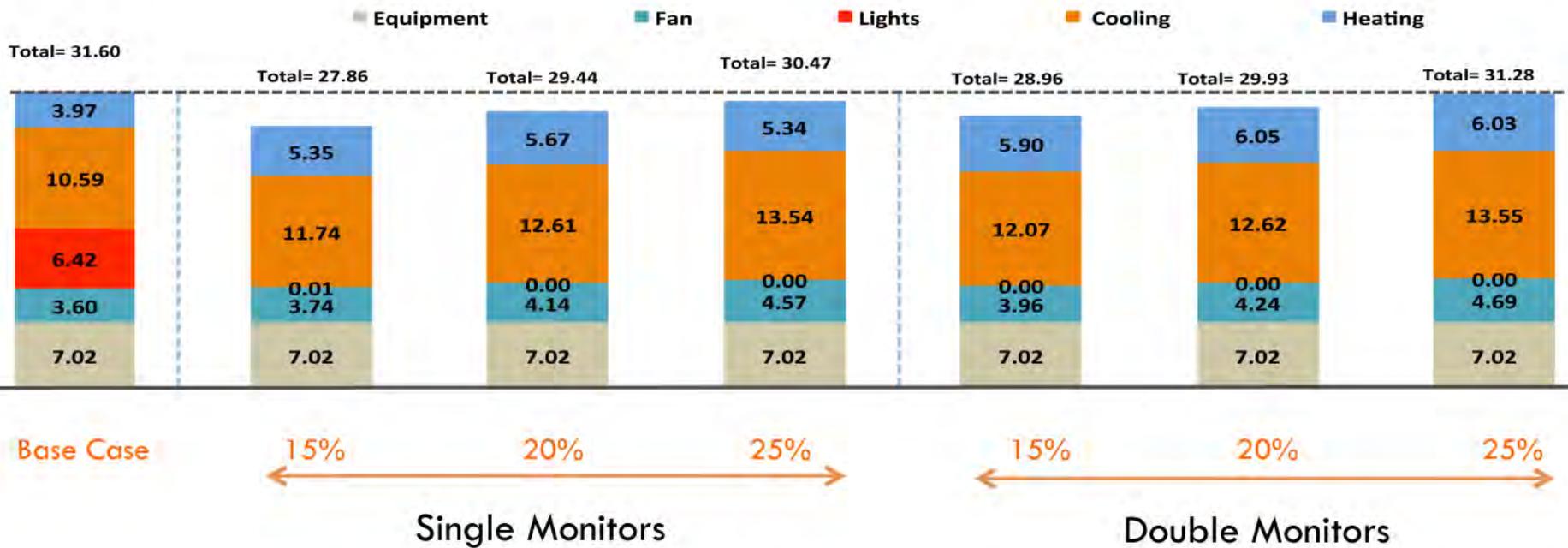
[kBtu/sqft/yr]



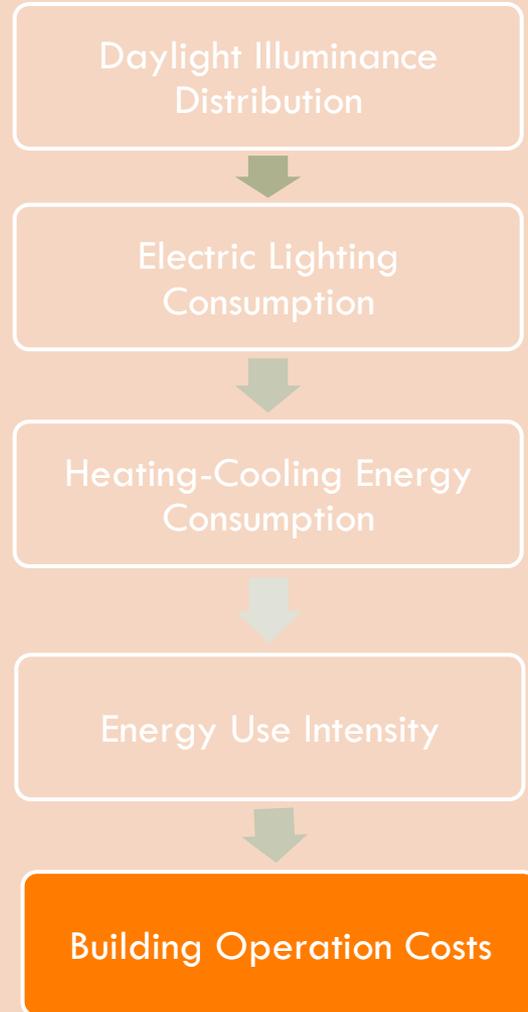
# Energy Use Intensity EUI Roof Monitors

## Miami

[kBtu/sqft/yr]

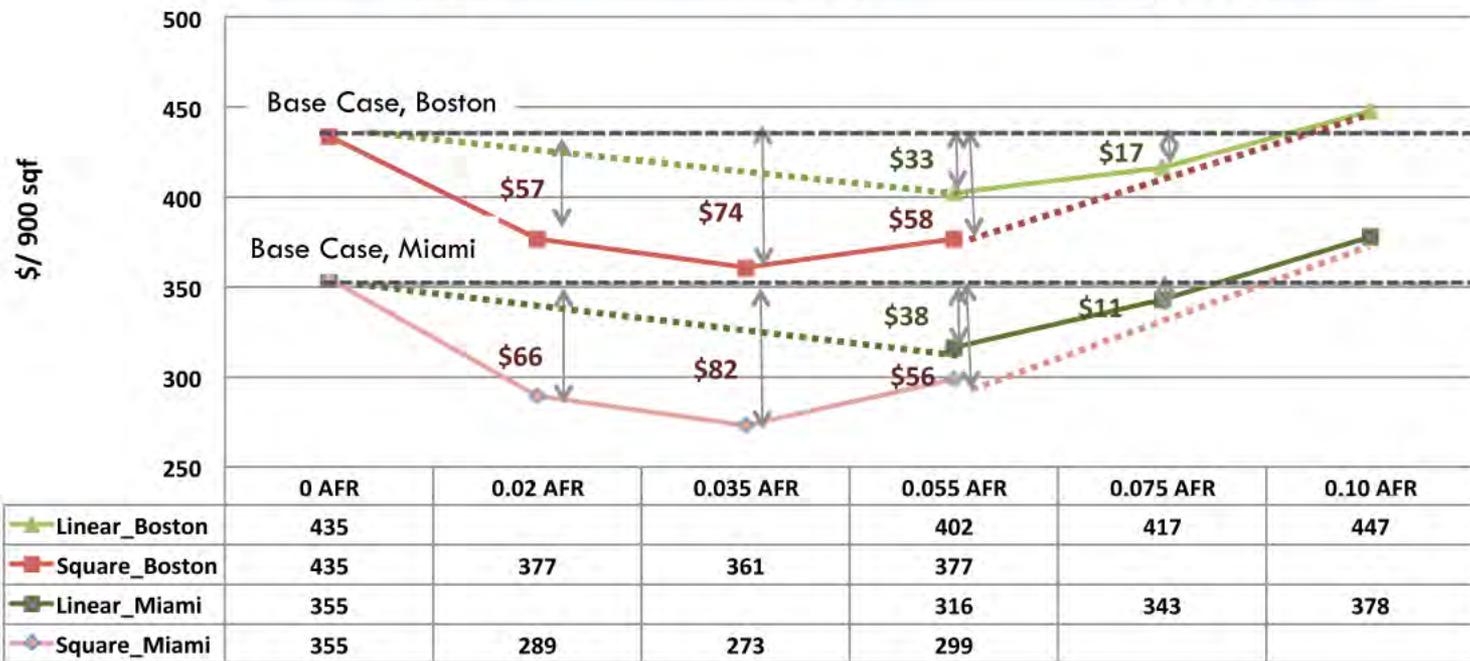


# 5. Results Analysis



# Building Operation Costs

	Electricity (cent per kWh)	Gas (Dollar per therm)
Boston	c5.48 (Oct-May) c8.28 (Jun-Sep)	\$0.5732
Miami	c4.69	\$0.3389

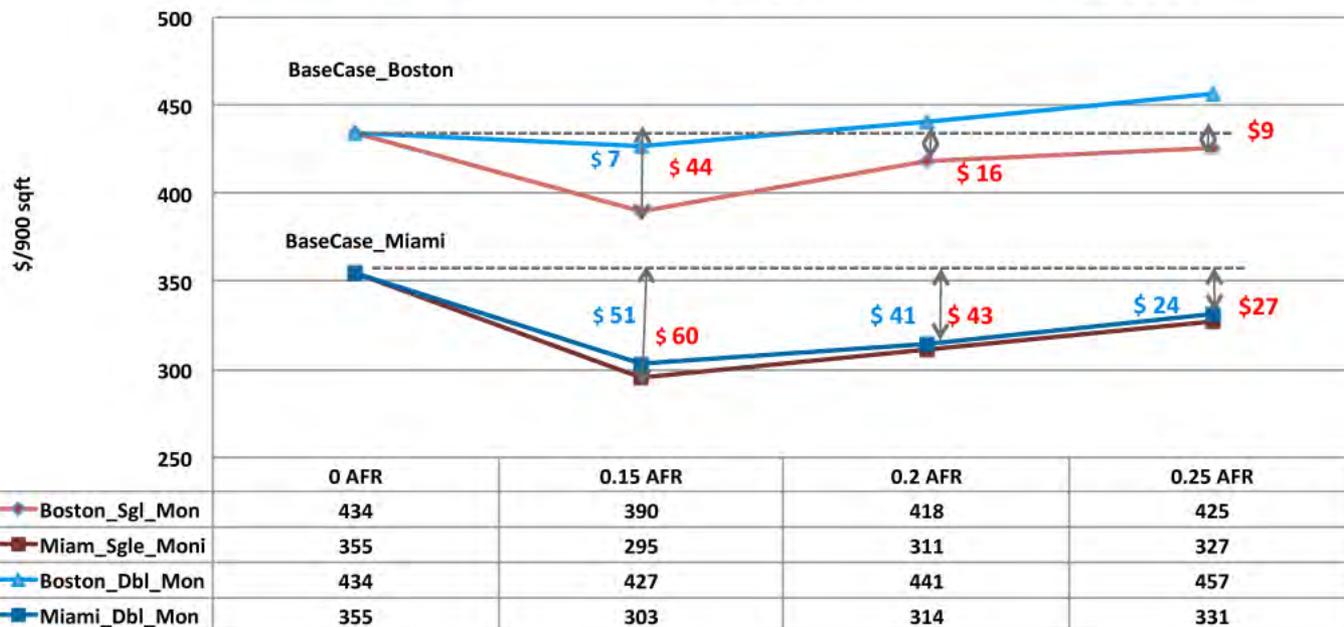


# Building Operation Costs in Roof Monitors

## Boston and Miami

[\$/yr per 900 ft<sup>2</sup> module]

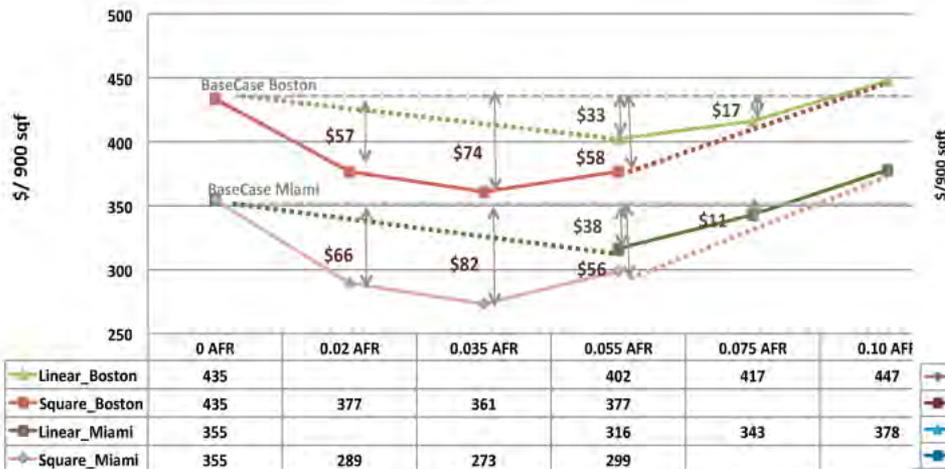
	Electricity (cent per kWh)	Gas (Dollar per therm)
Boston	c5.48 (Oct-May) c8.28 (Jun-Sep)	\$0.5732
Miami	c4.69	\$0.3389



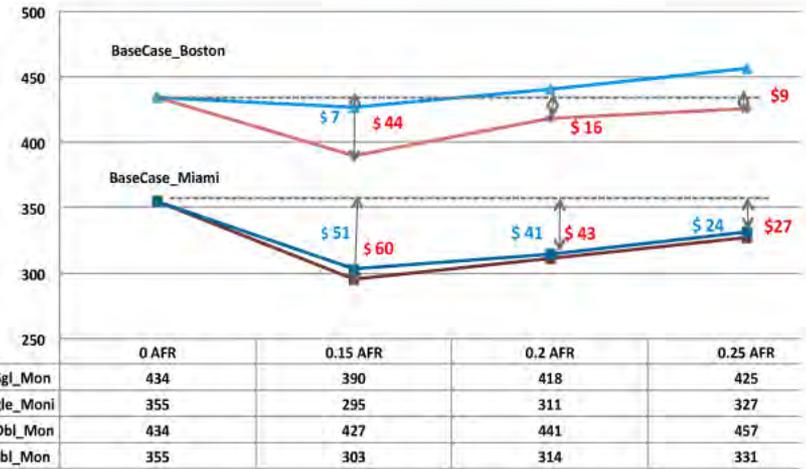
## 6. Conclusions

# Comparison and Conclusions

## Skylights



## Roof Monitors



- The maximum energy savings in skylights with 3-3.5% AFR
  - Higher incident illuminance on the skylights reduces the required area of glazing
  - Smaller apertures have thermal advantages

# Comparison and Conclusions

- Monitors provide the psychological benefit of less light in the summer when the light tends to be associated with the oppressive heat of the summertime and the psychological benefit of more light in the wintertime, when the lack of sunlight is often a source of depression to people
- Fluctuations in illuminance level in skylight systems can be extreme, causing adaptation issues

# Acknowledgement

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- Thanks to
  - My PhD committee
  - DIVA group
  - OpenStudio group
  - Jan Weinold

# Question and Answers

Thank you!