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**NISTIR 89-4219**

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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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## ABSTRACT

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST, formerly the National Bureau of Standards) is conducting a long-term study of ventilation and air quality in the Madison Building of the Library of Congress. This investigation, which is being sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, began in late 1988 and will continue into 1990. NIST is conducting continuous measurements of whole building air exchange rates, as well as periodic measurements of local ventilation characteristics and indoor levels of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, respirable particulates, radon and radon progeny, and volatile organic compounds. During the first phase of the study, NIST has measured whole building air exchange rates, local air exchange characteristics, and indoor concentrations of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide. This report presents the techniques used to make these measurements and the results that have been obtained as of September 1989. These results indicate that the whole building air exchange rate is relatively constant over time and that the ventilation air is well distributed throughout the building. The measured air exchange rates are slightly above the minimum recommended levels contained in ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 and slightly below the mechanical ventilation system's design value for the outdoor air intake rate. The measured levels of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide are low relative to the recommended values contained in this same ventilation standard.

Key Words: air exchange, carbon dioxide, indoor air quality, mechanical ventilation, office building, tracer gas, ventilation, ventilation effectiveness



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The James Madison Memorial Building of the Library of Congress, located in downtown Washington DC, has had a history of indoor air quality complaints by the building occupants. These have included complaints about stale, "dead" and uncomfortable air, poor air circulation, warm temperatures, and physical discomfort such as headaches, drowsiness, nausea, and sinus irritation. In an attempt to determine how these complaints may be related to the ventilation system performance and contaminant concentrations in the building, the Center for Building Technology of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is conducting an evaluation of the building's ventilation and air quality characteristics. This evaluation consists of the measurement of building ventilation rates, other ventilation system performance characteristics, and the concentrations of selected indoor air pollutants, followed by the comparison of these measured values to appropriate standards. In addition, the study is designed to investigate how these pollutant levels are related to the building ventilation system operation and performance and the activities occurring in or near the building.

Indoor air quality complaints have become more common, or at least more well publicized, in recent years. Whether or not air quality within office buildings has actually worsened is not known, but the awareness of building occupants and managers with respect to these problems has certainly increased. Although there has been insufficient research to establish the physical causes of many indoor air quality complaints, several reasons have been suggested including the use of materials in buildings that release irritating, if not hazardous, substances and the reduction of building ventilation rates in order to save energy. In fact, the actual ventilation rates that exist in mechanically ventilated office buildings have not been well characterized, and therefore general statements about ventilation rates in existing buildings and trends over time in building ventilation rates can not be supported [Persily 1989].

In fact, indoor air quality problems can and do exist in buildings with adequate ventilation rates for reasons such as poor intake air quality and the existence of interzone airflows that transport contaminants to occupied spaces from areas such as underground garages [Dols and Persily 1989, Grot et al. 1989, Persily et al. 1989]. It is true, however, that inadequate ventilation can not be ruled out as a cause for an indoor air quality problem without making measurements. Ventilation rate measurement and ventilation system performance evaluation are important for determining if a building's mechanical ventilation system is being operated as designed and if the ventilation rates are sufficient according to appropriate standards and guidelines. Despite the obvious importance of ventilation rates in determining indoor contaminant levels, many indoor air quality investigations have not included measurements of ventilation rates and other aspects of building air exchange performance. The investigation of the Madison Building being conducted by NIST includes a ventilation evaluation and contaminant concentration measurement.

During the NIST investigation, the Madison Building was also the subject of a cooperative study involving EPA, NIOSH, and the Pierce Foundation of Yale University. This cooperative effort involved surveys of occupant perception of the environment and short-term measurements of contaminant concentrations at selected locations within the building. These measurements were made during the week of 27 February 1989. During this week NIST measured whole building air exchange rates and carbon dioxide concentrations, as well as local ventilation characteristics and local carbon dioxide concentrations at selected locations within the occupied space.

## **2. BUILDING AND VENTILATION SYSTEM DESCRIPTION**

The Madison Building, the newest of the three Library of Congress buildings, was constructed during the 1970s and first occupied in 1979. It is a nine-story building with two basement levels and a ground level that is partially below grade. The building contains primarily office space, along with several other facilities including meeting rooms, auditoriums, library material storage areas, a cafeteria and dining rooms on the sixth floor, a snack bar on the ground level, a print shop and preservation laboratory on the ground level, a loading dock on the ground level, and an underground garage that comprises about one-half of the subbasement level. There is a tunnel on the ground floor that connects the Madison Building to the other buildings of the Library of Congress. The total floor area of the building is about 1,770,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.

The mechanical ventilation system of the Madison Building consists of 44 air handlers in the penthouse mechanical room (located above the sixth floor) and ten additional air handlers in four subbasement mechanical rooms. The penthouse air handlers provide ventilation air predominantly to the upper eight floors of the building, while the air handlers in the subbasement serve only the lower three floors. The portion of the building served by the penthouse air handlers constitutes the bulk of the building volume, while the subbasement air handlers serve only a small fraction of the building volume, most of which is unoccupied.

The Madison Building and the air handling systems are divided into eight zones, as shown in the floor plan schematic in Figure 1. The figure also contains the building column designations. The eight building zones are designated as A, B, C, D, EE, EW, FE, and FW. Each zone is associated with a bank of air handlers in the penthouse mechanical room and has its own return and supply air shaft. These zones are not isolated from each other in terms of airflow, with interior air being able to flow between these zones through hallways, from room to room, and within open office space that is in more than one zone.

Figure 2 is a schematic of the air handling system for one of the eight building zones. Each zone's system is associated with an outdoor air intake plenum in the penthouse that provides outdoor air to the air handlers serving that zone. Each



plenum is connected to an outdoor air intake grille located on the roof of the building. There are four to eight air handlers associated with each zone (only three are shown in the figure), with any given air handler serving from one to nine of the building floors. These air handlers all have variable air volume (VAV) supply fans and maintain constant outdoor air intake rates through the control of dampers in the outdoor air intake ducts of each fan. The control of these dampers is based on airflow monitors in the outdoor air intake ducts. The ventilation air from the air handlers is delivered to the occupied space through a network of supply air ducts that run down the building's supply air shafts and through the suspended ceiling plenum on each floor. The return air from the occupied space flows into a plenum above the suspended ceiling system on each floor via return air openings in the suspended ceiling. This return air then flows through the ceiling plenum and into the vertical return air shafts. Each zone's return shaft is connected to a return air plenum in the penthouse (shown in Figure 2) that serves the air handlers for that zone, enabling the recirculation of return air. There are no return fans in the building and no provisions for spilling excess return air, therefore all of the return air is recirculated and the return airflow rate is equal to the supply airflow rate minus the outdoor air intake rate. Any excess of supply airflow over the return airflow leaves the building by exfiltration through leaks in the building envelope and airflow into the ground floor tunnel and local exhaust systems. The air handling systems in the Madison Building operate 24 hours a day, every day of the year. There is a nighttime setback in the supply air static pressure setpoint, but the outdoor air intake rate is constant.

The air handling systems in the Madison Building are somewhat unusual for a modern office building in that the controls are designed to maintain a constant outdoor air intake rate. In addition, outdoor air intake rates are not usually monitored in office building ventilation systems as they are in the Madison Building. The ventilation systems in most office buildings are designed to bring in minimum levels of outdoor air during very cold and very hot weather to reduce the space conditioning load. Large amounts of outdoor air are brought in during mild weather for cooling, employing a so-called economizer cycle. Therefore, in typical office buildings the ventilation rate can vary by a factor of 5 or more depending on the outdoor weather, time of day and season of the year.

Table 1 described the air handlers in the Madison Building. The first column in the table is the air handler designation, and the second column is the supply airflow rate capacity for each handler in cubic feet per minute (cfm). The design value of the outdoor air intake rate for each air handler is also given in units of cfm and as a percentage of the supply airflow rate. The supply airflow rates are the total capacities of the air handlers, and the actual supply rates will generally be lower in these VAV systems. The percent of outdoor air intake for almost all of the air handlers is 20% of the supply air capacity.

The total supply airflow rate capacity for the building's air handlers is about 1.8 million cfm, and the total minimum outdoor air intake rate is 362,000 cfm. These

airflow rates can be converted to air changes per hour (ach) by dividing them by the building volume. The gross building volume is equal to the gross floor area of the building multiplied by the ceiling height, including the height of the return air plenum. Using this building volume the supply airflow rate capacity corresponds to about 5 ach, and the design outdoor air intake rate corresponds to 1.05 ach. The actual interior volume of the building is less than this gross volume due to the volume associated with interior partitions, furniture and other items. These airflow rates should therefore be divided by this lower volume, which will increase the corresponding air change rates. An appropriate factor by which to reduce the gross volume is not available, but the correction to the air change rates is probably no more than 10 or 20%.

ASHRAE Standard 62 [ASHRAE 1989] recommends a minimum ventilation rate in office space of 20 cfm per person. This value can be converted to air changes per hour by dividing by the volume associated with a single person. Assuming an occupant density in office space of 7 people per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> (the default value contained in ASHRAE Standard 62), 20 cfm per person converts to about 0.72 ach. This conversion should also be corrected to account for the volume occupied by interior furnishings, but as stated above the correction is probably not large. The outdoor air intake rate specified in the mechanical ventilation system design for this building is almost 50% above the ASHRAE recommendation.

### **3. MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES**

There are many factors related to building ventilation and indoor air quality performance, but standardized measurement techniques and procedures are not yet available to study all of them. A standard test method does exist to measure whole building ventilation rates, but not to quantify the uniformity of air distribution or to measure interzone airflow rates in large, mechanically ventilated office buildings. A wide range of indoor contaminants can be measured using equipment and techniques of varying degrees of complexity, but standard protocols do not exist for most contaminants and measurement procedures. Therefore, ventilation and air quality investigations are presently limited in what can be reliably evaluated using accepted measurement procedures.

The first phase of the Madison Building investigation has involved the measurement of whole building air exchange rates, local ventilation characteristics, and indoor pollutant concentrations. The air exchange and local ventilation measurements employed tracer gas techniques, and the concentrations of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide were measured using infrared absorption monitors.

#### **3.1 Ventilation Measurements**

Assessing the ventilation characteristics of a building are obviously important in evaluating indoor air quality, but standardized techniques and procedures are available to evaluate only limited aspects of ventilation performance in mechanically ventilated office buildings. As mentioned above, there is a standard test method for measuring whole building air exchange rates, but techniques are still under development to quantify ventilation air distribution and to measure interzone airflow rates. The ventilation assessment of the Madison Building included the measurement of whole building air exchange rates using the tracer gas decay technique and the evaluation of air distribution effectiveness using two proposed methods.

##### **3.1.1 Whole Building Air Exchange Rates**

Whole building air exchange rates were measured in the Madison Building using the tracer gas decay technique. This procedure has been used in thousands of residential buildings and many office buildings [Persily and Grot 1985a, Persily 1989], and is the subject of an ASTM Standard Test Method [ASTM 1983]. The tracer gas decay technique determines the rate at which outdoor air enters a building, including both intentional outdoor air intake through the air handling systems and unintentional infiltration through leaks in the building envelope. Regardless of common design expectations of minimal infiltration rates in mechanically ventilated office buildings, these two components of air exchange can be comparable in magnitude [Persily and Grot 1985b, Persily and Norford 1987]. The air exchange rate of a building depends on a variety of factors including the design, installation and operation of the

mechanical ventilation system, the airtightness of the building envelope, the interior configuration of the building, outdoor weather conditions, and the ventilation system controls. Due to the complexity of air exchange in mechanically ventilated buildings, many air exchange rate measurements are required to understand the air exchange characteristics of a building.

In the tracer gas decay technique, a harmless and nonreactive tracer gas is released into a building and mixed thoroughly with the interior air. Once the tracer gas concentration within the building is spatially uniform, the decay in concentration is monitored over time. The rate of decay of the logarithm of concentration is equal to the air exchange rate of the building during the test period, in units of building volumes per unit time (generally air changes per hour, ach). It is crucial that the tracer gas concentration be uniform throughout the building interior during the measurement, such that the concentration within the building can be characterized by a single value. If this condition of uniform concentration is not achieved, then the measurement results are not valid. A uniform tracer gas concentration can be facilitated through tracer gas injection strategies that distribute the tracer throughout the building volume. The mixing of the interior air by the building air handling systems also assists in achieving a uniform tracer gas concentration. The uniformity in concentration must be verified by sampling the concentration at several locations within the building.

The tracer gas measurements of air exchange in the Madison Building employed an automated measuring system that enables the collection of large amounts of data under a range of outdoor weather and building operation conditions. The automated measuring system has been used previously to provide continuous measurements of building air exchange rates [Persily and Grot 1985a] and employs sulfur hexafluoride ( $\text{SF}_6$ ) as the tracer gas. The microcomputer-based system controls the tracer gas injection and air sampling, records the  $\text{SF}_6$  concentrations, and monitors and records the outdoor weather, indoor temperature and fan operation status. The  $\text{SF}_6$  concentrations were measured with a gas chromatograph equipped with an electron capture detector that determines  $\text{SF}_6$  concentrations in a range of about 5 to 300 parts per billion (ppb) with an accuracy of roughly 1%. Figure 3 is a photograph of the tracer gas measurement system installed in the penthouse mechanical room of the Madison Building.

In tracer gas tests, the manner in which the tracer gas is injected into the building and the locations at which the tracer gas concentrations are measured are necessarily based on the layout of the building and its air handling systems. In the Madison Building both the tracer gas injection and the air sampling strategy are based on the division of the building into the eight zones shown in Figure 1. Tracer gas is injected into the eight outdoor air intake plenums associated with the eight building zones as described below. The  $\text{SF}_6$  concentration is monitored in each of the eight return air shafts and at an outdoor location. Figure 2 depicts the injection and sampling scheme for an individual air handling zone. A tracer gas injection tube carries a metered amount of tracer gas from the automated system to each of the eight

outdoor air intake plenums, where the injection tube is connected to an injection manifold containing a flowmeter for each air handler in that zone. A separate injection line runs from the outlet of each flowmeter to each air handler in that zone. Thus, when tracer gas is injected into one of the eight zones, it is released into all the air handlers of that zone for the same length of time, at flow rates that are based on the volume served by each individual air handler. The automated tracer gas decay system injects SF<sub>6</sub> into 39 of the 44 penthouse air handlers.

Figure 4 shows a schematic of the SF<sub>6</sub> measurement system, along with the CO/CO<sub>2</sub> system discussed later. Air sample tubes of 3/8 in. outside diameter (OD) polyethylene are connected to a series of air sample pumps which pull air from the air sample locations described above. The output of these pumps is connected to the 10-channel SF<sub>6</sub> analyzer, which is controlled by the microcomputer-based data acquisition and control system. This system also controls the tracer gas injection system which releases SF<sub>6</sub> into the building air handlers through 1/8 in. OD nylon tubing.

During the whole building air exchange measurements, tracer gas is injected into the building air handlers every three hours. The tracer is injected at a rate that is based on achieving an initial concentration of about 150 ppb in the building. After the injection, the tracer gas concentration is monitored at the nine air sample locations, with each location being sampled once every ten minutes. During the measurement period the system monitors and records the outdoor air temperature, the air temperatures in the eight return air shafts, and the fan operation status. In this building, the fans operate 24 hours a day, except during servicing, and the tracer gas testing is conducted continuously with eight decays each day. The tracer gas concentration data is analyzed to determine the decay rate for each of the eight returns, and these eight decay rates are averaged to determine an estimate of the whole building air exchange rate. The accuracy of this air exchange rate determination is a function of the uniformity of tracer gas concentration within the building and is estimated to be about 10%.

Measurements of whole building air exchange rates started during January of 1989 and have continued almost continuously since then. The results as of September 1989 constitute a dataset of about 650 measured air exchange rates along with the corresponding weather and fan operation conditions. Analysis of the measurement results enables the determination of how the building air exchange rates compare to the design ventilation rates and how they are affected by weather, time of day, and season of the year.

### 3.1.2 Local Ventilation Characteristics

Measured values of whole building air exchange rates can be compared to design rates and ventilation standards, but they do not provide any information on the distribution of this ventilation air to individual locations within a building. Although the ventilation rate may be adequate on a whole building scale, if this air is not well distributed there may be areas within the building with inadequate outdoor air supply. Nonuniformities in air distribution, i.e., rooms or locations within rooms that are less well ventilated than other portions of the building, have been suspected as being responsible for some air quality complaints. There are no accepted measurement techniques for quantifying the uniformity of air distribution or ventilation effectiveness in mechanically ventilated office buildings, and therefore the air quality impacts of nonuniformities in air distribution have not been demonstrated. However, based on the potential importance of air distribution, ventilation effectiveness measurement techniques for field application are being developed and studied [Sandberg 1983, Persily 1985, Persily 1986, Seppanen 1986, Fisk et al. 1988].

Measurements of local air exchange characteristics were performed at 56 locations within the occupied space of the Madison Building during the week of cooperative testing. These local evaluations consisted of measurements of local tracer gas decay rates and mean local ages of air. Although these techniques provide a qualitative indication of ventilation effectiveness, they have not yet been demonstrated to yield reliable measurements of ventilation effectiveness in the field. Their application in the Madison building must be considered in part an investigation of their potential usefulness for studying ventilation effectiveness. These procedures address the distribution of outdoor air within the building but do not deal with other air distribution issues such as thermal comfort and ventilation system airflow rates.

To measure the local tracer gas decay rate at some location in the building, a series of air samples was collected at that location during a whole building tracer gas decay test. After waiting one hour to allow the tracer gas injection to mix with the interior air, five air samples were collected at roughly 30 minute intervals. The tracer gas concentrations of the air samples were then fit to an equation of the form

$$C_i(t) = C_{oi}e^{-\lambda_i t} \quad (1)$$

$C_i(t)$  is the concentration at location  $i$  measured at time  $t$ , and  $C_{oi}$  and  $\lambda_i$  are determined from the curve fit.  $C_{oi}$  corresponds to the tracer gas concentration at the  $i$ th location at  $t = 0$ , and  $\lambda_i$  is the tracer gas decay rate at the location in units of air changes per hour. Although  $\lambda_i$  has the units of an air exchange rate, it is not generally equal to the air exchange rate at the location being tested. Based on multi-zone building airflow theory, the tracer gas concentration at all locations in the building will decay according to Equation (1) after a sufficient length of time, assuming that none of the locations are

totally isolated from the rest of the building. The values of  $\lambda_i$  will be the same throughout the building, regardless of the degree of mixing within the building [Sinden 1978]. This value of the decay rate  $\lambda_i$  is not the ventilation rate at any specific location or for the whole building unless the tracer gas concentration is uniform throughout the building being tested, i.e., the distribution of ventilation air is perfect. Each location is therefore characterized by its value of  $C_{oi}$ . The value of  $C_{oi}$  will be higher at locations that are less well ventilated and can be considered an indicator of ventilation effectiveness. There are no straightforward relationships between the values of  $C_{oi}$  and the airflow rates within the building except in very simple situations [Sandberg 1981]. In real buildings, these values of  $C_{oi}$  can only be used as a qualitative indicator, with higher values corresponding to poorer ventilation effectiveness. There are some practical considerations regarding the use of  $C_{oi}$  as a measure of ventilation effectiveness. If one does not wait long enough before fitting the data to Equation (1) the values of  $\lambda_i$  will vary among locations and  $C_{oi}$  may not be a valid indicator of ventilation effectiveness. Also, variation in the values of  $C_{oi}$  can exist due to a nonuniform distribution of the initial tracer gas injection.

Measurements of the mean local age of air were also made in the building as a measure of local ventilation characteristics. Mean local age has been proposed for quantifying ventilation effectiveness and has provided useful results in both laboratory and field tests [Sandberg 1983, Seppanen 1986]. However, complications exist when applying the measurement procedures in large, mechanically ventilated office buildings [Persily 1986], and research is needed to examine the applicability of this approach to this building type. Mean local ages were measured at the same 56 locations at which local decay rates were monitored.

The mean local age of air is defined as the average amount of time that has elapsed since the air at some location has entered the building. If the air within a building is perfectly mixed, then the local age will be the same throughout the building and equal to the inverse of the building air exchange rate. If there is nonuniform air distribution within a building, then those locations with poor air distribution will have local ages that are higher than the building average. To measure the mean local age of air, one establishes uniform tracer gas concentration within the building. The local mean age of air at location  $i$  is then defined as:

$$\tau_i = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} C_i(t) dt}{C_{oi}} \quad (2)$$

The integral in the numerator is evaluated from  $t = 0$  until the tracer gas concentration is essentially equal to zero. In the Madison Building, the integral was based on an average concentration determined by slowly filling an air sample bag at a constant rate for approximately two hours. The integral was also determined numerically from

the tracer gas concentrations at each location measured every one-half hour during the local decay rate measurements. The measured values of  $\tau_i$  at the various locations within the building can be compared to one another in order to evaluate the uniformity of distribution of ventilation air. The inverse of  $\tau_i$ , while not equal to a local ventilation rate, can be compared to the whole building air exchange rate.

### 3.2 Pollutant Concentration Measurements

The NIST study of the Madison Building involves the measurement of several indoor contaminants, but only the carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide measurement results are available at this time. While indoor levels of CO<sub>2</sub> rarely reach levels of concern within buildings, they are thought to provide an indication of the adequacy of outdoor air ventilation levels [Salisbury 1986]. ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 [ASHRAE 1989] recommends that indoor CO<sub>2</sub> levels be maintained below 1000 parts per million (ppm). Carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations were measured to determine whether the air within the building was being contaminated by motor vehicle exhaust from the loading dock, the underground garage, or the outdoor air. ASHRAE Standard 62-1981 based its recommendation for maximum indoor CO concentrations on the outdoor air requirements in the National Ambient Air Quality Standards [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency], i.e., a maximum average CO concentration of 35 ppm for one hour and 9 ppm for 8 hours. The 1989 revision of Standard 62 contains no recommendation for indoor CO concentrations but reports that concentrations above about 26 ppm have been suggested as being of limited concern.

Whole building measurements of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide concentrations were made using the system depicted in Figure 4. This system was used to determine whole building average concentrations based on air samples from the building's eight return air shafts. Concentrations were also measured at an outdoor location. These measurements employed the same air sample tubes and pumps used in the SF<sub>6</sub> decay tests, with a portion of the pump output directed to the CO/CO<sub>2</sub> measurement system. This system employs two infrared absorption analyzers for determining CO and CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and a microcomputer to control the air sampling and to record the data. CO and CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are determined at each of the sampling locations once every ten minutes. The CO<sub>2</sub> monitor has a range of 0 to 2500 parts per million (ppm) and is accurate to within +/- 0.5% of full scale. The CO monitor has a range of 0 to 50 ppm and is accurate to within +/- 1% of full scale.

Local measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were made during the week of cooperative testing at the same test sites at which local ventilation characteristics were monitored. These evaluations involved measuring the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of the two-hour average air sample collected during the measurement of the mean local age of air. These measurement results provide an indication of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration within the occupied space as opposed to the readings in the return shafts.



## 4. RESULTS

This section presents the results of the Madison Building measurements that have been made to date including whole building air exchange rates, local ventilation evaluations and indoor concentrations of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide.

### 4.1 Whole Building Air Exchange Rates

Whole building air exchange rates were measured in the Madison Building from the end of January through August 1989, with a total of about 650 individual measurements. Figures 5 and 6 are plots of the building air exchange rate versus the indoor-outdoor air temperature difference, measured during the day and night respectively. These data indicate that the building air exchange rates are essentially constant over a wide range of temperature differences. The mean daytime air exchange rate is 0.85 air changes per hour (ach) with a standard deviation of 0.05 ach. The nighttime mean is 0.79 ach with the same standard deviation. These standard deviations are similar in magnitude to the measurement uncertainty. Therefore, the outdoor air intake controls are performing as intended, i.e., the building air exchange rate is constant. There are small variations in the air exchange rate over the year as discussed below. There are also slight variations over the day that may be related to the supply airflow rate. The VAV air handling systems in this building increase the supply airflow rate as the occupied space requires more cooling. As the cooling load and the supply airflow rate build up during the day, the air exchange rate also increases slightly. This effect may be due to a slight static pressure dependence of the outdoor air intake control system. The difference between the day and night air exchange rates may then be due to the difference in the day and night supply airflow rates caused by the nighttime setback in the supply air static pressure setpoint.

Figure 7 shows the daytime air exchange rates plotted against Julian day, showing slight variations in the ventilation rate over the year. The amount of variation is small relative to the measurement uncertainty of roughly 10%. This figure contains two horizontal lines, one associated with the minimum ventilation recommendation in ASHRAE Standard 62-1989, i.e., 20 cfm per person, which corresponds to an air exchange rate of roughly 0.72 ach. The other horizontal line corresponds to the minimum outdoor air intake rate in the building's ventilation system design, which is about 1.05 ach. Both the higher and lower limits may be somewhat low since they are based on gross volumes, uncorrected for the volume occupied by interior furnishings and other items. All of the measured air exchange rates are below the design value and above the ASHRAE recommendation. These air exchange rates are similar in magnitude to those measured in other U.S. office buildings [Persily 1989].

## 4.2 Local Tracer Gas Decay Rates

During the week of cooperative testing, NIST made measurements of local tracer gas decay rates and local mean ages of air in the Madison Building. The results of the local decay rate measurements are presented in Table 2. Ten tests were conducted, one in the morning and one in the afternoon on five consecutive days. Each test was done in conjunction with a measurement of the whole building air exchange rate, the results of which are summarized in the first column of the table. These results include the whole building air exchange rate and the initial tracer gas concentration  $C_o$  for the building, calculated from a curve fit to the whole building tracer gas concentrations. The second column gives the location at which the local tracer gas decay rates were measured, with the building column designations referring to the floor plan in Figure 1. The third column in the table gives the air handler(s) serving each location. Some of the locations are served by a single air handler, while others are in areas served by more than one air handler. One location, 454/P8, was tested eight times to provide an indication of the repeatability of the test results.

The fourth column in Table 2 contains the initial tracer gas concentration  $C_{oi}$  calculated from a curve fit to the local tracer gas concentrations and the ratio of this local value of  $C_{oi}$  to the whole building value of  $C_o$  for that test. The last column in Table 2 contains the tracer gas decay rate at each location and the ratio of this decay rate to the whole building air exchange rate. According to multi-zone building airflow theory, these tracer gas decay rates should be the same at all locations in the building [Sinden 1978]. The average of the ratio of the local decay rates to the whole building decay rates is 0.99 with a standard deviation of 5%, indicating that the tracer gas decay rate is uniform throughout the building. The variation among the local tracer gas decay rates is similar in magnitude to the uncertainty of these measurements. Given that the local decay rates are essentially uniform throughout the building, a value of the ratio of the local  $C_{oi}$  to the whole building  $C_o$  that is close to 1.0 indicates that there is good ventilation air distribution at this location. The average value of this ratio for all the tests is 0.94 with a standard deviation equal to 9% of the mean, indicating that outdoor air is well distributed at these particular locations. According to multi-zone building airflow theory, those locations for which the air distribution is poor should have a value of  $C_{oi}$  that is above the building average. Very few of the locations have values of  $C_{oi}$  that are above the building average. The significance of the predominance of values below the building value for  $C_o$  is not clear, but it and the variation in  $C_{oi}$  throughout the building is probably due in part to nonuniformities in the initial tracer gas injection.

The eight tests conducted at location 454/P8 provide an indication of the repeatability of the test results. The standard deviation of the values of  $C_{oi}$  at this location is about 7% of its mean value and the standard deviation of the ratios of  $C_{oi}$  to the building  $C_o$  is 5%. The standard deviation of the local tracer gas decay rates is about 5% of its mean value.

### 4.3 Local Mean Age of Air

Table 3 presents the results of the measurements of local mean age of air at the same locations at which the local tracer gas decay rates were measured. The local mean age of air was determined at each location using two different procedures, and the results are shown in the third and fourth columns of the table. The values in the third column are based on the average tracer gas concentration at each test location determined by filling an air bag at a constant rate during the test. The results in the fourth column were determined from a curve fit to the tracer gas concentrations measured every 30 minutes during the test. The local mean age of air  $\tau_i$  has units of hours, and its inverse  $1/\tau_i$  is in units of air changes per hour. Although  $1/\tau_i$  has the same units as an air exchange rate, it is not equal to the air exchange rate at the test location. The last column in the table is the local tracer gas decay rate at each test location from Table 2. The values of  $1/\tau_i$  calculated from the integral of the curve fit to the data are closer to the local decay rates than the values of  $1/\tau_i$  determined from the average tracer gas concentrations. If the distribution of the ventilation air in this building were perfectly uniform and the measurement results had no errors, then the local mean age of air would be the same throughout the building and its inverse would be equal to the whole building air exchange rate. Any deviations are either indications of nonuniform ventilation air distribution or measurement error. Table 4 lists the average values of  $\tau_i$ ,  $1/\tau_i$  and the local tracer gas decay rates for each of the ten tests and for all the tests together. In all of the tests the variation of the individual measurements of  $\tau_i$  are only 1 to 8% of their mean values. The small variation in the values of  $\tau_i$  indicates that the distribution of outdoor air to these locations is good, but because there is little experience with this measurement technique the magnitude of these deviations can not be reliably related to the uniformity of air distribution.

The eight tests conducted at location 454/P8 provide an indication of the repeatability of the test results. The standard deviation of  $\tau_i$  at this location is 7% of its mean value when determined from the average concentrations and 6% when determined numerically. Therefore, the variation in  $\tau_i$  at this location is similar in magnitude to the variation among the different locations in the building.

## 4.4 Contaminant Measurements

As of the end of Phase I of the Madison Building study by NIST, the indoor levels of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide have been measured. This section presents the results of the automated measurements of whole building carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide concentrations and the short term measurements of local carbon dioxide concentrations.

### 4.4.1 Carbon Dioxide

Whole-building carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) concentrations were measured from the end of February through September 1989 using the automated system described earlier. This measuring system monitored and recorded the CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the eight building return air shafts and at an outdoor sampling location 24 hours a day, with each location being sampled once every ten minutes. During these measurements the building air exchange rate was monitored with the tracer gas system. An example of the CO<sub>2</sub> data are shown in Figure 8 in which the building average and the outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are plotted against time for five days, the last two days being the weekend. During the week, the indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration increases when the building occupants arrive, reaching a peak in the late morning. There is a slight decrease in the middle of the day, due to decreased occupancy during lunch, followed by a second peak in the afternoon. When the occupants leave at the end of the working day, the concentration decreases to the outdoor level. During the weekend, when building occupancy is very low, the indoor concentration tracks the outdoor concentration. The variation in outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> levels is driven by the photosynthetic activity of plants. During the day, the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is at a minimum because plants are using the available CO<sub>2</sub> for photosynthesis. When the sun sets, the plant activity decreases and the outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> level increases as the air in the building's vicinity is mixed with air at a higher CO<sub>2</sub> concentration from elsewhere in the atmosphere. When the sun rises the next morning, the plants resume their photosynthetic activity and the outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> level decreases. Variation in the outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> level among individual days is due in part to weather differences affecting the activity of the plants. Outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration data collected during the winter exhibit a relatively flat concentration profile due to the inactivity of plants. The variation in indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in Figure 8 is typical of a building occupied during the day.

The daily maxima of the whole building CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were determined for each working day in the Madison Building. The average value of the daily peak concentration was 501 ppm, the standard deviation was 20 ppm, and the largest value for a daily peak was 545 ppm. ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 recommends that the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration be maintained below 1000 ppm, and therefore the whole building average CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the Madison Building are well below the ASHRAE

maximum.

Two hour averages of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration were measured at the same 56 locations which were evaluated in the local ventilation characterizations. The results of these measurements are shown in Table 5. The first column identifies the test day, the averaging time, and the average CO<sub>2</sub> concentration for the whole building obtained from the automated measuring system. The third column of the table lists the average CO<sub>2</sub> concentration at each of the locations listed in the second column. The last column lists the ratio of the local concentrations to the building concentration. The average of the local CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations is 521 ppm, well below the ASHRAE maximum. The maximum value of the local concentration is 593 ppm. On average, the local concentrations are 6% above the whole building average concentrations, presumably due to the fact that the whole building concentrations are influenced by lightly occupied spaces such as hallways.

Both the whole building and the local measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration are well below the maximum concentration recommendation in ASHRAE Standard 62, indicating that the ventilation of this building is adequate relative to the number of occupants. This conclusion is in agreement with the results of the measurements of the building's air exchange rates. In any building with a constant level of occupancy, the daily maximum in the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration will be related to the building air exchange rate. This relation between CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and air exchange rates has been discussed previously [Persily et al. 1990]. This reference contains a plot of daily maximum CO<sub>2</sub> concentration versus daily average air exchange rate for three mechanically ventilated office buildings. This plot is reproduced in Figure 9 with the addition of the Madison Building data. The solid line in the figure is the equilibrium CO<sub>2</sub> concentration as a function of air exchange rate based on the following assumptions: an occupant density of seven people per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> of floor area, a ceiling height of about 12 ft (including the return air plenum), an outdoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 300 ppm, and a CO<sub>2</sub> generation rate of 0.011 cfm per person. The data in the figure deviate from the equilibrium curve because the CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in these buildings do not attain equilibrium. Equilibrium conditions are not attained because the CO<sub>2</sub> generation rates (occupancy levels) are not constant for long enough periods of time. The deviations between the measured peak CO<sub>2</sub> levels and the calculated equilibrium levels are greater at lower air exchange rates because it takes longer to reach equilibrium at lower air exchange rates. These data indicate the inappropriateness of using CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations to determine building air exchange rates. The Madison Building data are clustered together in this plot and are consistent with the data from the other buildings, indicating that the relation between CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and air exchange rates in the Madison Building is similar to that observed in other office buildings.

#### 4.4.2 Carbon Monoxide

Whole building average carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations have been monitored in the Madison Building with the automated system. These measurements took place during July, August and September of 1989, and as in the case of CO<sub>2</sub> were based on the average of the concentrations in the eight return shafts. The measured CO concentrations in the Madison Building are very low, at the most 1 or 2 ppm. The indoor CO concentrations appear to track the outdoor levels, which increase in the early morning presumably due to motor vehicle exhaust and decrease late in the day. The increase in outdoor concentration is also on the order of 1 or 2 ppm during the work week. On Saturday and Sunday, no increase in outdoor or indoor CO concentration was observed. The National Ambient Air Quality Standards contain a maximum for an eight-hour average CO concentration of 9 ppm. ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 contains no recommendation for maximum CO levels, but reports that concentrations of 26 ppm have been suggested as a level of concern. Therefore, the whole building average CO concentrations that have been measured by NIST are low compared with the values in these standards.

## 5. REPRESENTATIVENESS OF TEST WEEK

The long term measurements of whole building air exchange rates and CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the Madison Building enable the determination of whether the building ventilation rates measured during the week of cooperative testing (27 February through 3 March 1989) were typical for the building. The air exchange rates in Figure 7 exhibit variations over the year, but as discussed earlier the variations are not very large relative to the 10% measurement uncertainty. Table 6 lists weekly average air exchange rates over the Phase I testing of the Madison Building. These averages are based on the air exchange rates measured during the occupied hours of each week, from Monday through Friday. Based on the 10% measurement uncertainty in the individual air exchange rates, these weekly averages have an uncertainty of about +/- 0.03 air changes per hour. Therefore, the weekly average air exchange rate during the test week is only slightly higher than the average of the weeks preceding the test week and no different from the following weeks. The table also lists averages of daily peak CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations for the working days of each week, and no significant differences exist between the test week average and the other weeks in the table. Therefore, the whole building air exchange rates and the building average CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations during the test week were not significantly different from the conditions in the building during other weeks of the Phase I testing.

## 6. SUMMARY

Phase I of the Madison Building study has included the measurement of whole building air exchange rates over a period of about eight months, the application of two techniques to evaluate the uniformity of air distribution or ventilation effectiveness, the measurement of building average concentrations of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide, and the determination of local carbon dioxide concentrations. The whole building air exchange rates measured during the day had an average value of 0.85 air changes per hour (ach) with very little variation over the day or over the eight months of measurement. The air exchange rates measured at night were slightly lower. The daytime value is above the ventilation recommendation in ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 (about 0.72 ach) and below the the design air exchange rate for the building (about 1.05 ach). The results of the measurements of local ventilation characteristics, local tracer gas decay rate and mean local age of air, are consistent with good distribution of the outdoor air by the ventilation system. The applicability of these measurement techniques in mechanically ventilated office buildings is not yet well established, and therefore these results must be considered preliminary.

The measurements of whole building average CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations yielded an average value of the daily peak concentration of 501 ppm on working days, well below the recommended maximum in ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 of 1000 ppm. The local CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were slightly higher than the whole building averages. The whole

building measurements of carbon monoxide were at most 1 or 2 ppm during working days, and appeared to be driven by the outdoor concentration. The indoor CO levels were well below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and the level of concern reported in ASHRAE Standard 62-1989.

The measurement results from the Phase I testing of the Madison Building indicate that the building ventilation rates are adequate and the measured contaminant levels are low, and therefore do not serve to identify the sources of the indoor air quality complaints within the building. It must be pointed out that indoor air quality is a complex issue with many factors to consider and that the Phase I measurements address only a limited number of these factors. There are other aspects of ventilation and air quality that could be related to the occupant complaints in the building but were not evaluated in these measurements. Additional measurements of indoor contaminant levels and other aspects of ventilation system performance are being conducted in the Madison Building by NIST in order to more thoroughly assess the indoor air quality of the building.



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**Table 1 Mechanical Ventilation System Design Airflow Rates**

Air Handlers	Supply Airflow Capacity (cfm)	Outdoor Air Intake Rate (cfm)	Percent Outdoor Air Intake	Airflow Rates by Floor (cfm)								
				SB	B	G	1	2	3	4	5	6
Penthouse												
A-1	55730	11145	20			4605	11060	19765	20300			
A-2	47220	9445	20							19205	19235	8780
A-3	31940	6390	20		10985		20950					
A-4	52790	10560	20		8220	6205	5370	8665	8510	9965	9255	2805
E1W	37680	7525	20						7961	11551	10171	9080
E2W	22715	4545	20		9295	5960	4755		2550			
E3W	47785	9555	20		11280	11885	14400	10220				
E4W	42565	8515	20		830	830	1580	11380	1580	4205	1580	19980
NZW	7500	1500	20				1200	1200	1700	1700	1700	
SZWI	3345	1000	30									3345
WZ	14105	2820	20			930	2635	2635	2635	2635	2635	
WZI	5490	1465	27									5490
D-1	55410	11080	20				4590	11530	11415	11470	12010	4395
D-2	38150	7630	20		17635	10185	8655					
D-3	60665	12135	20			16435	9880	9120	8730	8605	7895	
D-4	38375	7680	20	400	1990		6795	6005	5910	5955	6135	5205
F1W	54980	10995	20		17440	4975		18815	13750			
F2W	45910	8780	19		12070	7020	18995		5825			
F3W	49405	9881	20							22530	22500	4375
ASSY	6970	1395	20									6970
CAW	35020	7020	20									35020
KIT	17800	3560	20									17800
FIE	61165	12235	20		26360	4035	3560	21290	5920			
F2E	52935	10585	20							23950	23800	5025
F3E	53045	10610	20		9980	11210	19050		12805			
SZ	15600	3120	20			600	3000	3000	3000	3000	3000	
NZI	4580	1850	40									4580
CAE	24490	5025	21									24490
C-1	64885	12980	20				15640	11060	4390	11260	11275	11260
C-2	61815	12365	20		29755	3965	7625		18825			
C-3	47990	9600	20			9185	11045	6250	5670	6690	6030	3120
C-4	43695	8740	20	400	6080	9535		8710		8835	9795	
E1E	48740	9750	20						11815	14175	13875	8835
E2E	57765	11555	20		15430	9005	8850	22370	2130			
E3E	41210	8240	20		10070	14295	13420	6615				
E4E	26550	5310	20					4275	2095	3800	2000	13698
NZE	6000	1200	20				1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	
SZEI	3195	985	31									3195
B-1	51685	10335	20		3150	7860	9170	22005	9500			
B-2	54130	10830	20							19450	19580	15100
B-3	57800	11576	20		20745	12955	13395		10785			
B-4	39255	7847	20			8891	2490	3990	6490	9025	9030	
EZ	13175	2635	20				2635	2635	2635	2635	2635	
EZI	3650	1460	40									3650
Basement												
W-1	18405	3680	20			10730	7675					
W-2	25515	5105	20	16530			8985					
NW-1	24075	4815	20	24075								
NW-2	14085	2815	20			14085						
NW-3	15935	3190	20		15935							
NE-1	22310	4460	20	22310								
NE-2	15465	3130	20		15465							
NE-3	11465	2295	20			11465						
E-1	11815	2365	20			11815						
E-2	34175	6835	20	15185		18990						
Totals	1798150	362144	20									

**Table 2 Local Tracer Gas Decay Rates**

TEST	Room Number/ Column Location	Air Handler	Coi		Local Tracer Gas Decay Rate (ach)	Local ach Building ach
			Coi	Building Co		
Monday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.93 ach Building Co = 164 ppb	554/M8	E1W/E1E	178	1.09	0.96	1.03
	616/F12	D4/D1	175	1.07	0.98	1.05
	630/V14	C1	155	0.95	0.93	1.00
	630/V16	C1	154	0.94	0.91	0.98
	642/U4	B2	141	0.86	0.90	0.97
Monday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.91 ach Building Co = 161 ppb	301/M5	E1W	138	0.86	0.77	0.85
	311/D8	A1/WZ	129	0.80	0.87	0.96
	313/D10	A1/WZ	139	0.86	0.89	0.98
	320/D14	D3/WZ	156	0.97	0.93	1.02
	325/L17	F1W	153	0.95	0.97	1.07
	329/T16	C2	155	0.96	0.95	1.04
	454/P8	E1E	169	1.05	0.92	1.01
Tuesday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.94 ach Building Co = 162 ppb	301/M5	E1W	165	1.02	0.95	1.01
	454/P8	E1E	173	1.07	0.97	1.03
	503/K4	E1W	157	0.97	0.90	0.96
	509/D4	A2	139	0.86	0.89	0.95
	509/D6	A2	143	0.92	0.88	0.94
	548/S4	B4	151	0.87	0.94	1.00
	548/U4	B2/B4	138	0.95	0.93	0.99
Tuesday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.94 ach Building Co = 156 ppb	454/P8	E1E	170	1.09	0.96	1.02
	502/K8	E1W	155	0.99	0.93	0.99
	524/K12	F3W	130	0.83	0.98	1.04
	532/R13	F2E	157	1.01	0.99	1.05
	537/V14	C4	140	0.90	0.93	0.99
	554/M8	E1W/E1E	156	1.00	0.95	1.01
	557/Q10	F2E/E1E	156	1.00	0.97	1.03
Wednesday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.91 ach Building Co = 152 ppb	413/D10	A2/D4	144	0.95	0.96	1.05
	442/512	F2E/C1	155	1.02	0.97	1.07
	444/R10	E1E/B1/F2E	146	0.96	0.92	1.01
	454/P8	E1E	153	1.01	0.87	0.96
	454/R8	B1/E1E	147	0.97	0.84	0.92
	462/P10	E1E/F2E	152	1.00	0.92	1.01
	464/P12	F2E	146	0.96	0.92	1.01
Wednesday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.94 ach Building Co = 159 ppb	401/M5	E1W/E1E	159	1.00	0.91	0.97
	405/J4	A4/E1W	141	0.89	0.87	0.93
	443/W11	C3/EZ	140	0.88	0.90	0.96
	447/W8	B2/EZ	120	0.75	0.88	0.94
	449/W4	B2	136	0.86	0.90	0.96
	449/W5	B2	133	0.84	0.91	0.97
	454/P8	E1E	169	1.06	0.93	0.99
Thursday-AM Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.90 ach Building Co = 150 ppb	119/H17	D2/F2W	155	1.03	0.92	1.02
	135/W8	B1/EZ	127	0.85	0.86	0.96
	138/X5	B3	126	0.84	0.86	0.96
	454/P8	E1E	153	1.02	0.88	0.98
Thursday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.90 ach Building Co = 160 ppb	309/G5	A4	143	0.89	0.84	0.93
	311/E9	A1	125	0.78	0.86	0.96
	320/G17	D1	165	1.03	0.95	1.06
	324/G11	D1	149	0.93	0.93	1.03
	331/T17	C2	150	0.94	0.91	1.01
	409/E7	A2	145	0.91	0.89	0.99
	454/P8	E1E	158	0.99	0.83	0.92
Friday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.92 ach Building Co = 147 ppb	105/K4	E3W	160	1.09	0.91	0.99
	209/E7	A1	116	0.79	0.85	0.92
	209/D4	A1	116	0.79	0.82	0.89
	235/V10	B1/C3	130	0.88	0.92	1.00
	454/P8	E1E	143	0.97	0.90	0.98
Friday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.93 ach Building Co = 156 ppb	215/E12	D4	154	0.99	0.98	1.05
	219/C16	D3	148	0.95	0.98	1.05
	219/E18	D3/D1	153	0.98	0.97	1.04
	221/G16	D1	154	0.99	0.95	1.02
	222/K14	F1W	164	1.05	1.03	1.11
	227/P16	F1E	121	0.78	0.99	1.06
	227/S16	F1E/C2	137	0.88	0.94	1.01
		Average		0.94		0.99
	Standard Deviaton		0.09		0.05	

**Table 3 Mean Local Ages of Air**

TEST	Room Number/ Column Location	Mean Local Age of Air, $\tau$				Local Tracer Gas Decay Rate from Table 2
		From Average Concentration		From Integral		
		$\tau$	1/ $\tau$	$\tau$	1/ $\tau$	
Monday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.93 ach	554/M8	1.14	0.88	1.00	1.00	0.96
	616/F12	1.05	0.95	1.03	0.97	0.98
	630/V14	1.10	0.91	1.06	0.94	0.93
	630/V16	1.12	0.89	1.08	0.92	0.91
	642/U4	1.09	0.92	1.14	0.88	0.90
Monday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.91 ach	301/M5	1.26	0.80	1.23	0.81	0.77
	311/D8	1.20	0.83	1.16	0.86	0.87
	313/D10	1.18	0.85	1.14	0.88	0.89
	320/D14	1.12	0.89	1.08	0.93	0.93
	325/L17	1.04	0.97	0.99	1.01	0.97
	329/T16	1.19	0.84	1.10	0.91	0.95
	454/P8	1.06	0.94	1.05	0.95	0.92
Tuesday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.94 ach	301/M5	1.02	0.98	1.05	0.95	0.95
	454/P8	1.01	0.99	1.03	0.97	0.97
	503/K4	1.12	0.89	1.11	0.90	0.90
	509/D4	1.22	0.82	1.14	0.88	0.89
	509/D6	1.15	0.87	1.14	0.88	0.88
	548/S4	1.07	0.93	1.06	0.94	0.94
	548/U4	1.08	0.92	1.07	0.94	0.93
Tuesday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.94 ach	454/P8	1.07	0.93	1.03	0.97	0.96
	502/K8	1.11	0.90	1.09	0.92	0.93
	524/K12	1.03	0.97	1.01	0.99	0.98
	532/R13	1.03	0.97	1.00	1.00	0.99
	537/V14	1.13	0.89	1.10	0.91	0.93
	554/M8	1.12	0.89	1.06	0.95	0.95
	557/Q10	1.03	0.97	1.01	0.99	0.97
Wednesday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.91 ach	413/D10	1.07	0.94	1.08	0.93	0.96
	442/S12	1.05	0.96	1.04	0.96	0.97
	444/R10	1.10	0.91	1.11	0.90	0.92
	454/P8	1.20	0.83	1.16	0.86	0.87
	454/R8	1.20	0.84	1.18	0.85	0.84
	462/P10	1.13	0.89	1.07	0.93	0.92
	464/P12	1.13	0.88	1.13	0.89	0.92
Wednesday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.94 ach	401/M5	1.11	0.90	1.13	0.89	0.91
	405/J4	1.16	0.86	1.14	0.88	0.87
	443/W11	1.11	0.90	1.11	0.90	0.90
	447/W8	1.12	0.89	1.11	0.90	0.88
	449/W4	1.06	0.94	1.08	0.93	0.90
	449/W5	1.13	0.89	1.08	0.92	0.91
	454/P8	1.09	0.92	1.07	0.94	0.93
Thursday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.90 ach	119/H17	1.14	0.87	1.13	0.89	0.92
	135/W8	1.12	0.89	1.15	0.87	0.86
	138/X5	1.15	0.87	1.16	0.86	0.86
	454/P8	1.12	0.89	1.12	0.90	0.88
Thursday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.90 ach	309/G5	1.26	0.80	1.19	0.84	0.84
	311/E9	1.23	0.81	1.19	0.84	0.86
	320/G17	1.11	0.90	1.07	0.93	0.95
	324/G11	1.12	0.89	1.09	0.92	0.93
	331/T17	1.12	0.90	1.13	0.88	0.91
	409/E7	1.14	0.88	1.13	0.88	0.89
	454/P8	1.25	0.80	1.19	0.84	0.83
Friday-AM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.92 ach	105/K4	1.13	0.88	1.12	0.89	0.91
	209/E7	1.21	0.82	1.18	0.84	0.84
	209/D4	1.28	0.78	1.22	0.82	0.82
	235/V10	1.12	0.89	1.10	0.91	0.92
	454/P8	1.20	0.83	1.12	0.90	0.90
Friday-PM  Building Air Exchange Rate = 0.93 ach	215/E12	1.06	0.95	1.03	0.97	0.98
	219/C16	1.07	0.94	1.04	0.96	0.98
	219/E18	1.06	0.94	1.03	0.97	0.97
	221/G16	1.11	0.90	1.07	0.94	0.95
	222/K14	0.99	1.01	0.94	1.07	1.03
	227/P16	1.05	0.96	1.01	0.99	0.99
	227/S16	1.17	0.85	1.11	0.90	0.94

**Table 4 Summary of Local Ages of Air**

TEST		Mean Local Age of Air, $\tau$				Local Tracer Gas Decay Rate from Table 2
		From Average Concentration		From Integral		
		$\tau$	$1/\tau$	$\tau$	$1/\tau$	
Monday-AM	Average	1.10	0.91	1.06	0.94	0.94
	Standard Deviation	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.03
Monday-PM	Average	1.15	0.87	1.11	0.91	0.90
	Standard Deviation	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.06	0.07
Tuesday-AM	Average	1.10	0.92	1.09	0.92	0.92
	Standard Deviation	0.07	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.03
Tuesday-PM	Average	1.07	0.93	1.04	0.96	0.96
	Standard Deviation	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.02
Wednesday-AM	Average	1.12	0.89	1.11	0.90	0.91
	Standard Deviation	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04
Wednesday-PM	Average	1.11	0.90	1.10	0.91	0.90
	Standard Deviation	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02
Thursday-AM	Average	1.13	0.88	1.14	0.88	0.88
	Standard Deviation	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03
Thursday-PM	Average	1.17	0.85	1.14	0.88	0.89
	Standard Deviation	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.05
Friday-AM	Average	1.19	0.84	1.15	0.87	0.88
	Standard Deviation	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04
Friday-PM	Average	1.07	0.94	1.03	0.97	0.98
	Standard Deviation	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03
All Tests	Average	1.12	0.90	1.09	0.92	0.92
	Standard Deviation	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05

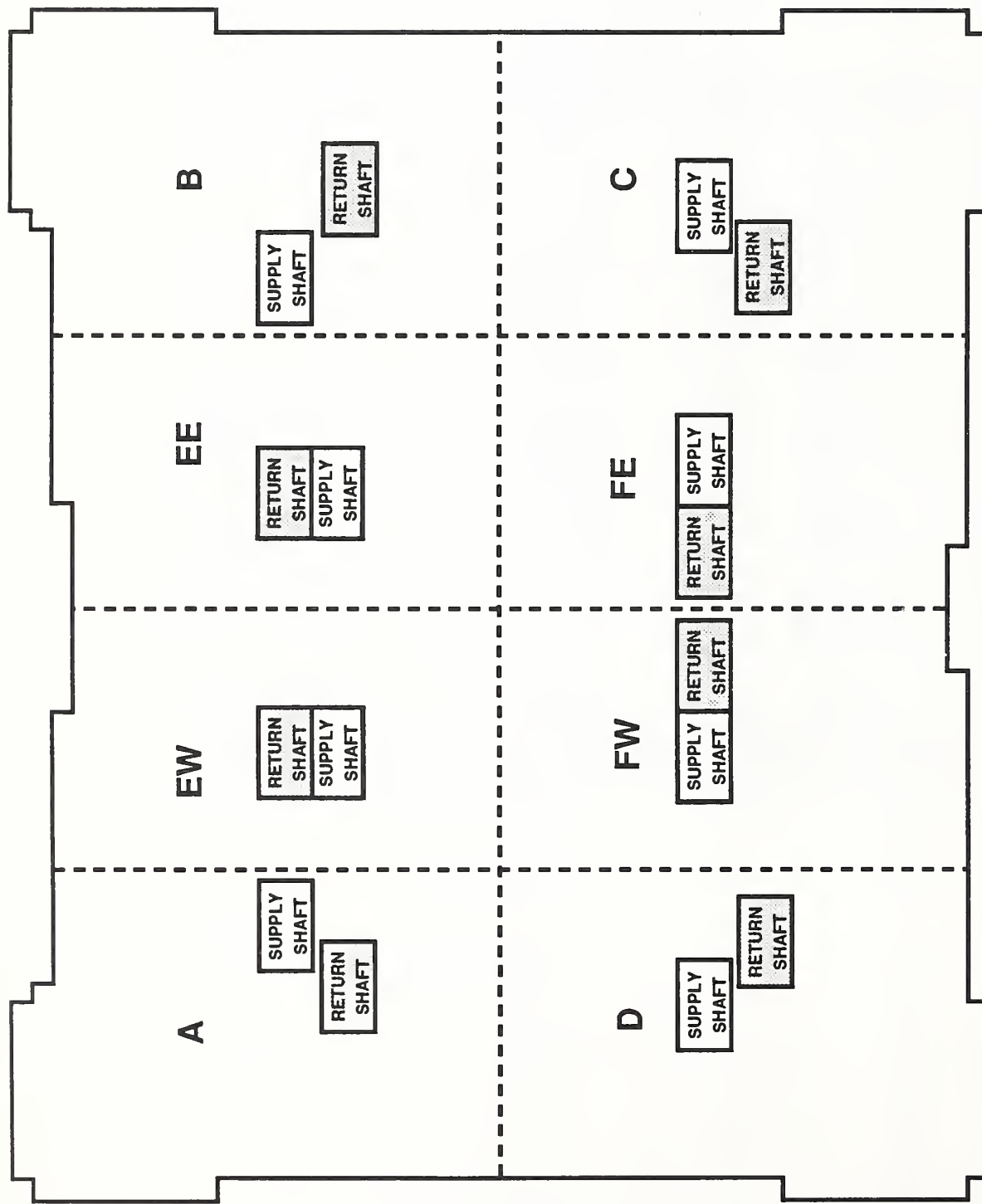
### Table 5 Local Carbon Dioxide Concentrations

TEST	Room Number/ Column Location	Local Concentration	<u>Local Concentration</u> Building Concentration
Monday-AM 8:30 - 10:30  Building Average Concentration = 442 ppm	554/M8	494	1.12
	616/F12	528	1.19
	630/V14	489	1.11
	630/V16	495	1.12
	642/U4	476	1.08
Monday-PM 13:30 - 15:30  Building Average Concentration = 477 ppm	301/M5	527	1.10
	311/D8	516	1.08
	313/D10	497	1.04
	320/D14	498	1.04
	325/L17	497	1.04
	329/T16	514	1.08
	454/P8	549	1.15
Tuesday-AM 8:30 - 10:30  Building Average Concentration = 468 ppm	301/M5	473	1.01
	454/P8	548	1.17
	503/K4	520	1.11
	509/D4	486	1.04
	509/D6	486	1.04
	548/S4	512	1.09
	548/U4	490	1.05
Tuesday-PM 13:30 - 15:30  Building Average Concentration = 503 ppm	454/P8	593	1.18
	502/K8	544	1.08
	524/K12	518	1.03
	532/R13	519	1.03
	537/V14	563	1.12
	554/M8	559	1.11
	557/Q10	554	1.10
Wednesday-AM 8:30 - 10:30  Building Average Concentration = 502 ppm	413/D10	513	1.02
	442/512	536	1.07
	444/R10	523	1.04
	454/P8	549	1.09
	454/R8	553	1.10
	462/P10	504	1.00
	464/P12	519	1.03
Wednesday-PM 13:30 - 15:30  Building Average Concentration = 507 ppm	401/M5	545	1.07
	405/J4	536	1.06
	443/W11	539	1.06
	447/W8	545	1.07
	449/W4	567	1.12
	449/W5	542	1.07
	454/P8	511	1.01
Thursday-AM 8:30 - 10:30  Building Average Concentration = 477 ppm	119/H17	462	0.97
	135/W8	473	0.99
	138/X5	491	1.03
	454/P8	513	1.08
Thursday-PM 13:30 - 15:30  Building Average Concentration = 521 ppm	309/G5	493	0.95
	311/E9	515	0.99
	320/G17	546	1.05
	324/G11	556	1.07
	331/T17	512	0.98
	409/E7	561	1.08
	454/P8	603	1.16
Friday-AM 8:30 - 10:30  Building Average Concentration = 488 ppm	105/K4	493	1.01
	209/E7	512	1.05
	209/D4	499	1.02
	235/V10	483	0.99
	454/P8	518	1.06
Friday-PM 13:30 - 15:30  Building Average Concentration = 522 ppm	215/E12	524	1.00
	219/C16	537	1.03
	219/E18	527	1.01
	221/G16	533	1.02
	222/K14	535	1.02
	227/P16	510	0.98
	227/S16	524	1.00
	Average	521	1.06
	Standard Deviation	29	0.05

**Table 6 Weekly Air Exchange Rates  
and Carbon Dioxide Concentrations**

Week Starting	Average Air Exchange Rate (ach)	Average Peak Carbon Dioxide Concentration (ppm)
30-Jan-89	0.86	**
6-Feb-89	0.85	**
13-Feb-89	0.85	**
20-Feb-89	0.87	**
<b>27-Feb-89*</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>516</b>
6-Mar-89	**	505
13-Mar-89	0.88	517
20-Mar-89	0.86	520
27-Mar-89	0.89	**
3-Apr-89	0.90	**
17-Apr-89	0.94	**
22-May-89	0.87	**
29-May-89	0.82	507
12-Jun-89	0.87	510
19-Jun-89	**	516
26-Jun-89	**	504
26-Jul-89	0.82	**
31-Jul-89	0.84	**
* Week of cooperative testing.		
** Insufficient data to calculate weekly average.		

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Figure 1 Schematic of Madison Building Floor Plan



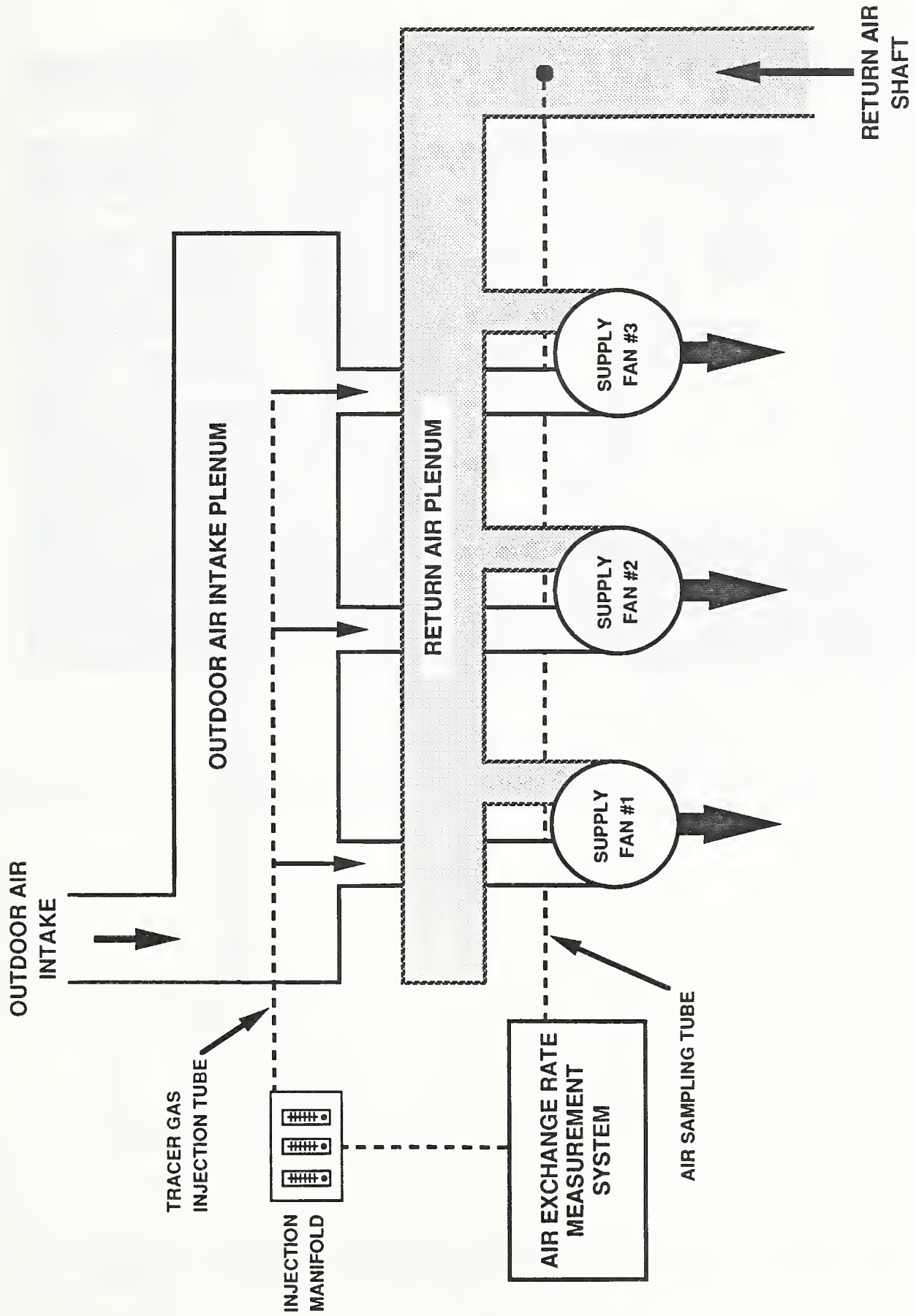


Figure 2 Schematic of Air Handling System



**Figure 3 Photograph of Tracer Gas and Contaminant Measurement System**

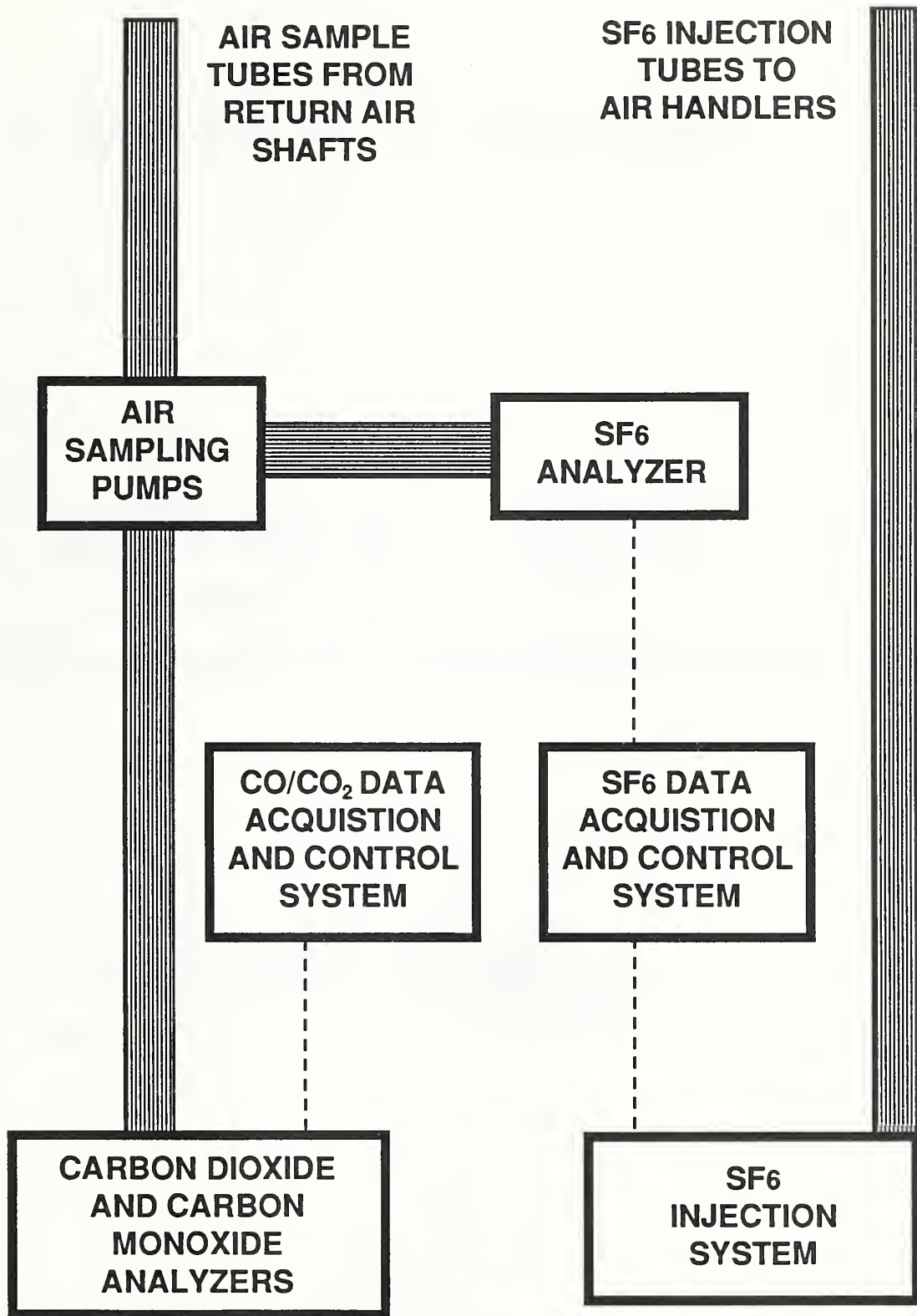
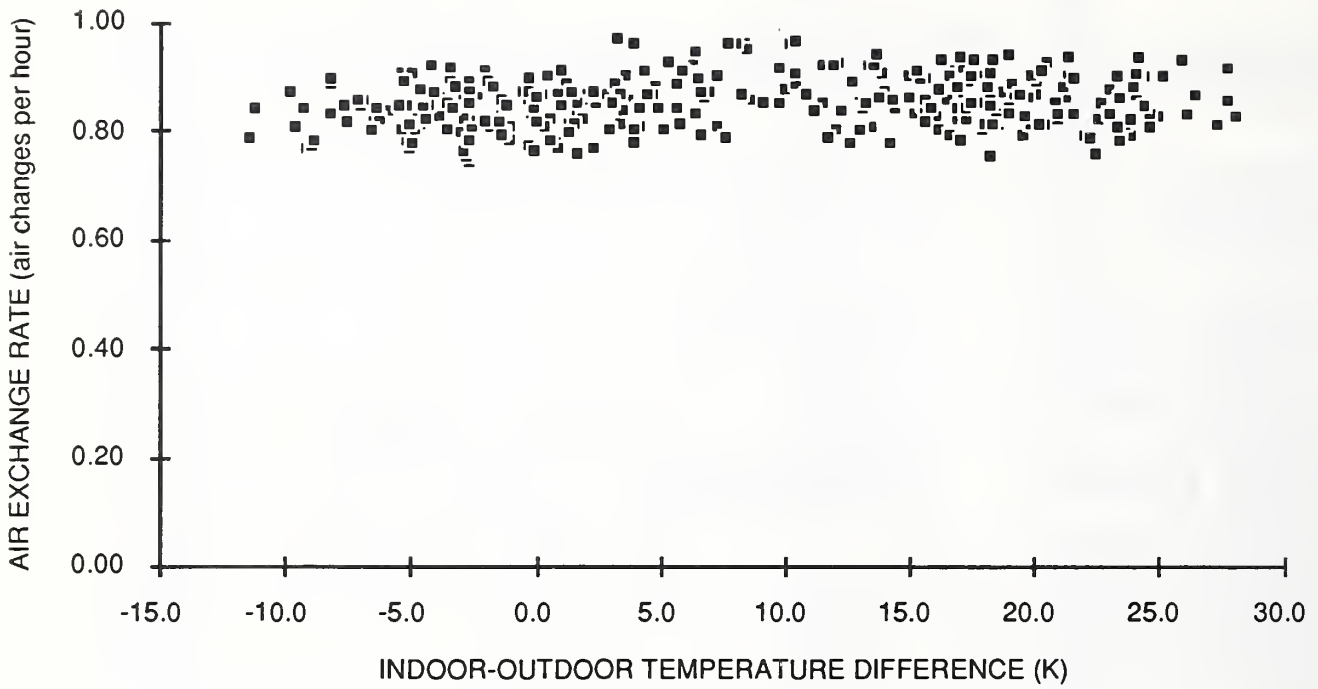
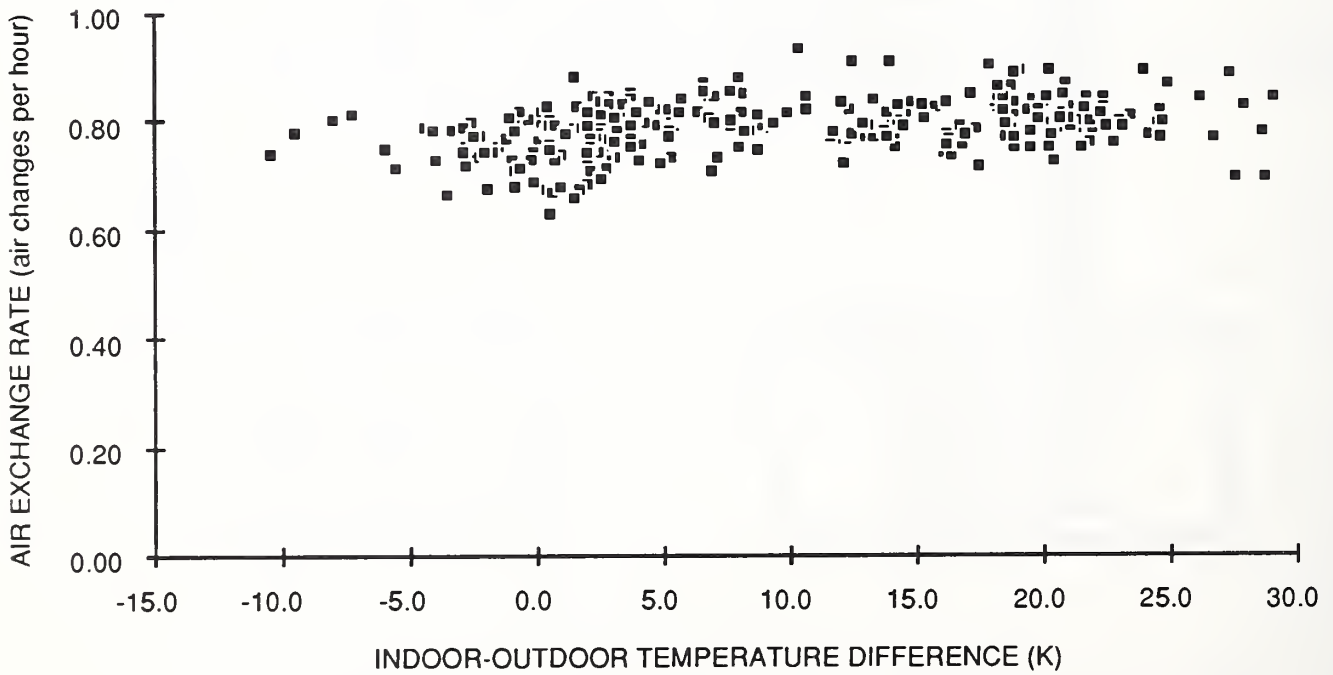


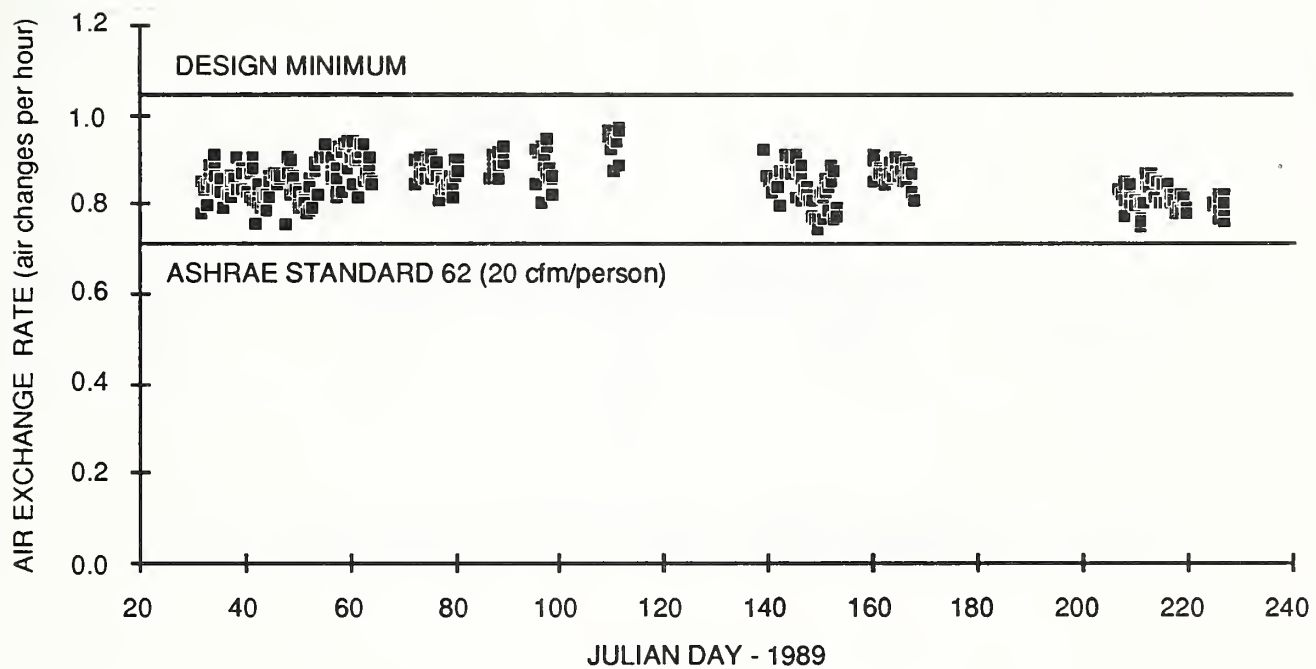
Figure 4 Schematic of SF<sub>6</sub> and CO/CO<sub>2</sub> Measurement System



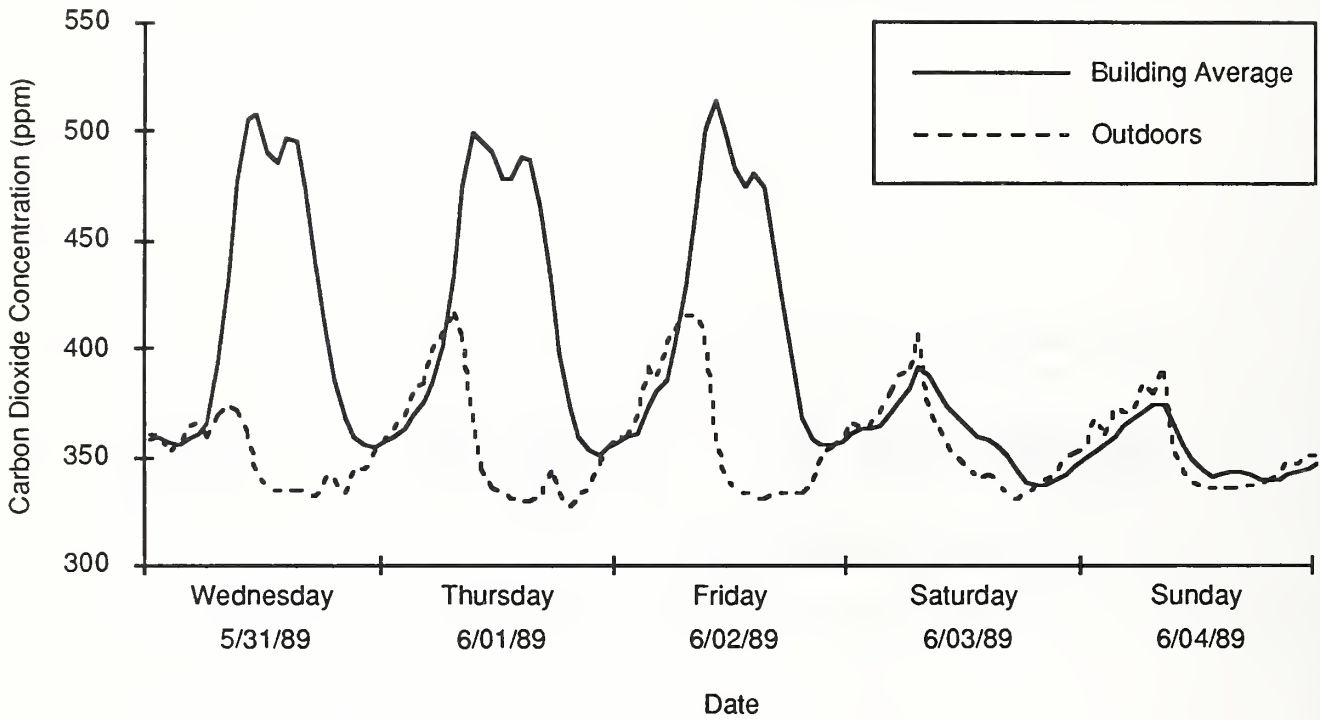
**Figure 5 Daytime Air Exchange Rates versus Temperature Difference**



**Figure 6 Nighttime Air Exchange Rates versus Temperature Difference**



**Figure 7 Daytime Air Exchange Rate versus Julian Day**



**Figure 8 Example of Carbon Dioxide Concentration Data**

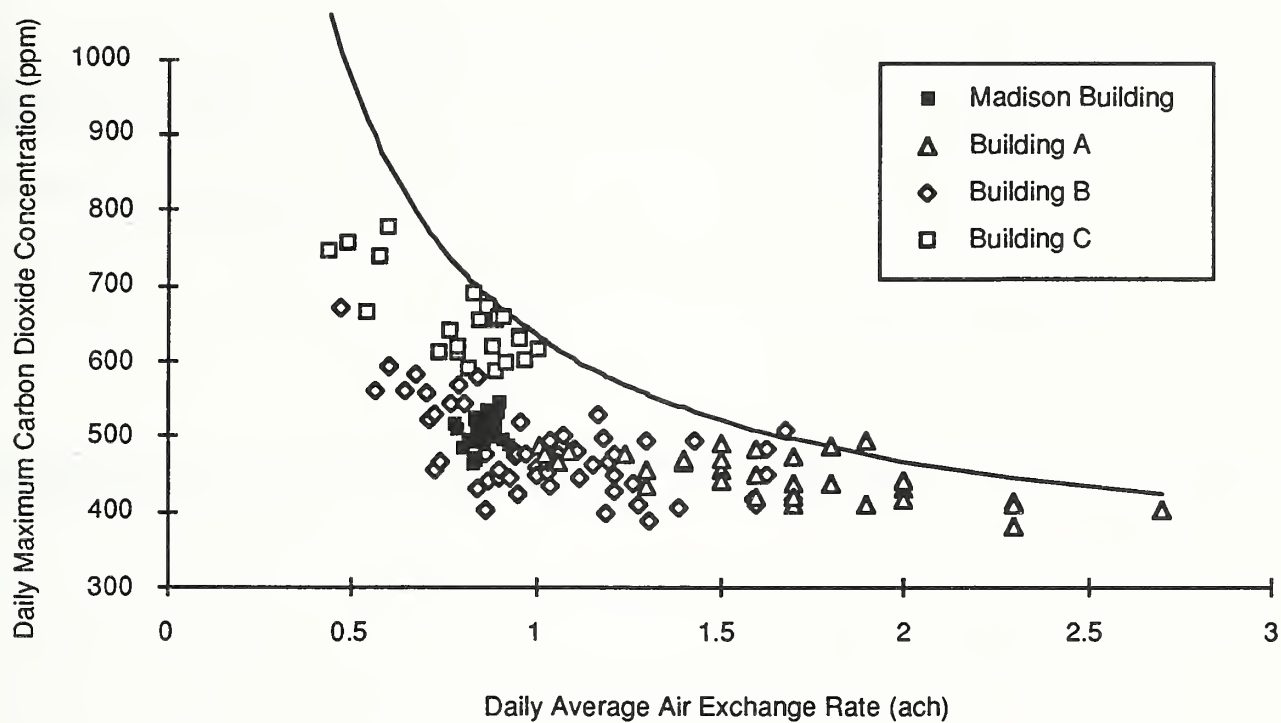


Figure 9 Maximum Carbon Dioxide Concentration versus Air Exchange Rate





NIST-114A  
(REV. 3-89)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

1. PUBLICATION OR REPORT NUMBER

NISTIR 89-4219

2. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER

3. PUBLICATION DATE

DECEMBER 1989

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA SHEET

4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE

Ventilation and Air Quality Investigation of the Madison Building Phase I Report

5. AUTHOR(S)

Andrew K. Persily, W. Stuart Dols

6. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION (IF JOINT OR OTHER THAN NIST, SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY  
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20899

7. CONTRACT/GRANT NUMBER

8. TYPE OF REPORT AND PERIOD COVERED

9. SPONSORING ORGANIZATION NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)

U.S. Department of Energy  
Washington, DC

10. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

DOCUMENT DESCRIBES A COMPUTER PROGRAM; SF-185, FIPS SOFTWARE SUMMARY, IS ATTACHED.

11. ABSTRACT (A 200-WORD OR LESS FACTUAL SUMMARY OF MOST SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION. IF DOCUMENT INCLUDES A SIGNIFICANT BIBLIOGRAPHY OR LITERATURE SURVEY, MENTION IT HERE.)

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST, formerly the National Bureau of Standards) is conducting a long-term study of ventilation and air quality in the Madison Building of the Library of Congress. This investigation, which is being sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, began in late 1988 and will continue into 1990. NIST is conducting continuous measurements of whole building air exchange rates, as well as periodic measurements of local ventilation characteristics and indoor levels of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, respirable particulates, radon and radon progeny, and volatile organic compounds. During the first phase of the study, NIST has measured whole building air exchange rates, local air exchange characteristics, and indoor concentrations of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide. This report presents the techniques used to make these measurements and the results that have been obtained as of September 1989. These results indicate that the whole building air exchange rate is relatively constant over time and that the ventilation air is well distributed throughout the building. The measured air exchange rates are slightly above the minimum recommended levels contained in ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 and slightly below the mechanical ventilation system's design value for the outdoor air intake rate. The measured levels of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide are low relative to the recommended values contained in this same ventilation standard.

12. KEY WORDS (6 TO 12 ENTRIES; ALPHABETICAL ORDER; CAPITALIZE ONLY PROPER NAMES; AND SEPARATE KEY WORDS BY SEMICOLONS)

Air exchange, carbon dioxide, indoor air quality, mechanical ventilation, office building, tracer gas, ventilation, ventilation effectiveness

13. AVAILABILITY

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14. NUMBER OF PRINTED PAGES

37

15. PRICE

\$12.95

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