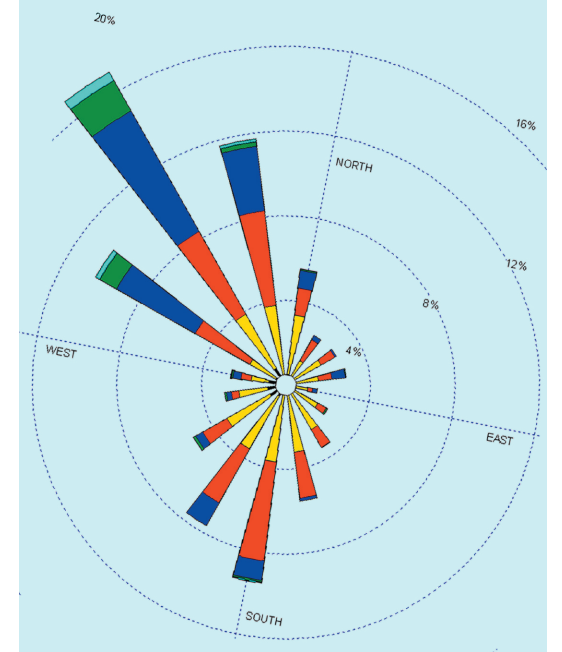
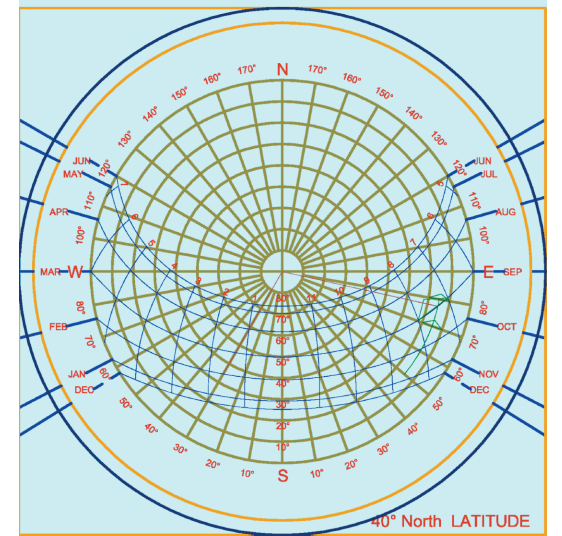
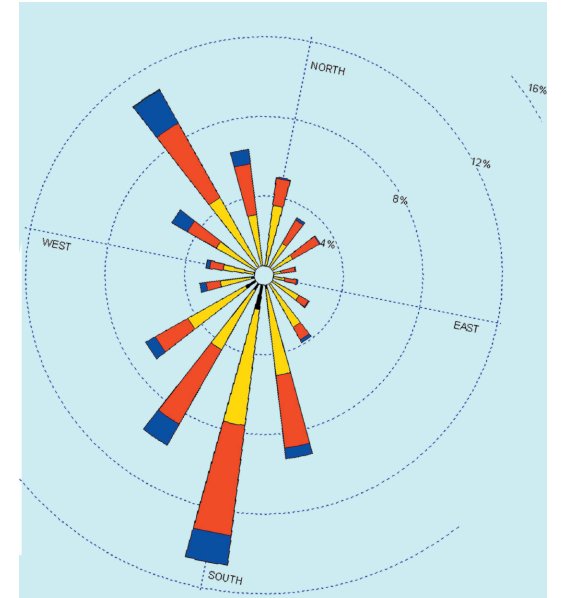


Microclimate Factors





Agora: Concept of City

The concept of a city resides in the dwellings and gatherings of its people. A collection of urban gatherings and dwellings is an agora – where all city life takes place. An agora and its immediate surrounds comprise a fundamental urban unit, a cell that combines several basic elements. The presence of any one element necessitates the presence and accommodation of all other elements as well. A preliminary enumeration of the elements will follow in another section.

Crucial to the cell concept is that each one must be designed as if it were independent from all others and accommodate all needs of its own residents. In other words, each cell must form an independent city in its own right. If each cell can function on its own, then together they will also be able to function as a whole. Transportation systems will network cells together so that access to one agora cell means access to all.

The cell differs from a neighborhood in one important respect. A neighborhood is primarily a social structure. People define and redefine their neighborhoods according to their changing needs and desires. Fluidity of social change renders it impossible for physical design of cities to follow neighborhood redesign. The agora is a physical construction that remains constant while the social structures change within. A good example is the university campus.

