

Supplementary Table 1: Literature on effect of workplace sound levels on physiological wellbeing

Study	Input	Outcome(s)	Study design	Findings
Lusk et al., 2002 ¹	Areas with sound levels averaged across a 5 years interval	Blood pressure and heart rate	N=374; Correlating person-level noise exposure with physiological wellbeing; Method: Linear regression	Areas with high sound levels are predictive of increase in blood pressure
Lee et al., 2010 ²	Discrete sound levels	HRV (LF, LF/HF), Mean blood pressure, Mean heart rate	N=16; Treatment = Sound level exposure of No noise, 50 dBA, 60 dBA, 70 dBA and 80 dBA for 5 minutes with 2 minutes interval; Method: Repeated measures ANOVA; Spearman's Rho	HRV decreases with higher sound level exposures, but no change in blood pressure and mean heart rate
Jahncke et al., 2011 ³	Noisy background, river sounds, nature movie	Cortisol, Catecholamines, self-rating of tiredness, mood	N=47; Treatment = Completed tasks for 2 hours each in a low and high noise conditions; Repeated measures ANOVA	Though noisy background and river sounds have an effect on psychological outcomes, they had no significant effect on physiological outcomes
Kraus et al., 2013 ⁴	Sound levels	HRV (LF/HF, SDNN, RMSSD)	N=110; Prospective panel study with participants spending up to 7.5 hours in a room; Method = Additive mixed models	Sound levels have a positive effect below 65 dBA on SDNN, but is not significantly related to any of the other outcomes
Sim et al., 2015 ⁵	Sound types, sound levels	HRV (SDNN, HF, LF/HF)	N=40; Treatment: 45 dBA exposure for 5 minutes; Method: Linear regression	Increase in sound level negatively affects physiological wellbeing. Sound types do not have a significant effect on physiological outcomes
Walker et al., 2016 ⁶	Noise exposure at 75 dBA at low frequency and high-frequency	HRV (SDNN, LF, RMSSD), blood pressure, salivary cortisol, amylase	N=10; Treatment = 40 minutes noise exposure; Method=Multivariate multilevel regression	High sound levels at low-frequencies and high-frequencies have significant negative effect on HRV

Park & Lee, 2017 ⁷	Floor impact noises ranging from 31.5 dBA to 63 dBA	Noticeability, Annoyance, Heart rate, electrodermal activity, respiration rate	N=21; Treatment = 5 sessions of 15 minutes of different floor impact noises; Method=Repeated measures ANOVA	Annoyance, noticeability, electrodermal activity and respiration rate increases with sound level, but no significant change in heart rate. Physiological responses are not affected by noise source.
Cvijanović et al., 2017 ⁸	Sound levels	Mental effort, HRV (LF, LF/HF) and skin conductance	N=40; Treatment = 6 dBA background noise added while participants completed collaborative tasks; Method=Multilevel regression	Though mental effort required increases with sound levels, effect on physiological wellbeing was not significant
Srinivasan et al., 2017 ⁹	Sound levels, Temperature, CO ₂ , Humidity, Atmospheric pressure	HRV (SDNN, RMSSD, normalized HF, LF/HF)	N=231; Method = Mixed lasso for identify length of cumulative lagged effect of inputs on outcomes	Sound level has an instantaneous effect on HRV whereas other environment factors have a lagged effect of one hour
Abbasi et al., 2018 ¹⁰	Low-frequency noise at four different levels	Mental fatigue, LF/HF, working memory	N=35; Method = ANOVA for group comparison in a controlled experiment setup	Mental fatigue caused by low-frequency noise significantly impacted the employees' psycho-physiological and working memory responses

While multiple studies have analyzed the relationship between sound/noise levels in workspace and perceived stress or work performance, fewer studies have examined the physiological implications of workplace sound levels. Table 1 presents a list of studies that have analyzed the relationship between workplace sound levels and physiological wellbeing. The above list does not include studies focusing on psychosocial stress¹¹, work performance¹², mental wellbeing¹³, general workplace environment^{14,15}, but only studies which have considered

physiological wellbeing as one of their primary outcomes of interest and workplace sound as the input phenomenon.

Supplementary Table 2: Summary statistics of our data

Variable	Summary			
INTRAPERSONAL				
Numerical	Mean	SD	Units	% missing
<i>SDNN</i>	53.08	23.33	ms	-
<i>Normalized-HF</i>	19.81	12.70	%	-
<i>Sound level</i>	51.85	8.79	dBA	4.29
<i>Physical activity level</i>	0.1738	0.3164	G	0.07
Categorical	Category	Hours:Mins	Proportion	% missing
<i>Time of day</i>				0.00
	<i>Morning</i>	1224:10	45.76	
	<i>Afternoon</i>	1039:30	38.85	
	<i>Evening</i>	411:15	15.37	
<i>Day of week</i>				0.00
	<i>Monday</i>	449:25	16.80	
	<i>Tuesday</i>	860:50	32.18	
	<i>Wednesday</i>	916:55	34.28	
	<i>Thursday</i>	431:50	16.14	
	<i>Friday</i>	15:45	0.59	
INTERPERSONAL				
Numerical	Mean	SD	Units	% missing
<i>Neuroticism</i>	3.21	0.97	Scale 1-7	10.38
<i>Noise sensitivity</i>	4.05	1.17	Scale 1-7	9.52
<i>Average sound exposure</i>	51.99	4.89	dBA	4.33
Categorical	Category	No. of participants	Proportion	% missing
<i>Age</i>				9.95
	<i>Less than 30 years</i>	30	12.98	
	<i>30 - 39 years</i>	62	26.83	
	<i>40 - 49 years</i>	43	18.61	
	<i>50 - 59 years</i>	56	24.24	
	<i>60 years or above</i>	17	7.36	
<i>Gender</i>				12.12
	<i>Male</i>	88	38.09	

	<i>Female</i>	115	49.78	
<i>BMI</i>				10.39
	<i>18.5 - 25</i>	76	32.9	
	<i>25.1 - 30</i>	81	35.06	
	<i>30.1 - 35</i>	30	12.98	
	<i>Above 35.1</i>	20	8.66	
<i>Computer-dominant work</i>				8.66
	<i>Yes</i>	93	40.26	
	<i>No</i>	118	51.08	
<i>Management work</i>				8.66
	<i>Yes</i>	69	29.87	
	<i>No</i>	142	61.47	
<i>Technical work</i>				8.66
	<i>Yes</i>	90	38.96	
	<i>No</i>	121	52.38	
<i>Meeting heavy work</i>				8.66
	<i>Yes</i>	42	18.18	
	<i>No</i>	169	73.16	
<i>Sleep problems</i>				9.09
	<i>Yes</i>	42	18.18	
	<i>No</i>	168	72.73	
<i>High blood pressure</i>				9.09
	<i>Yes</i>	42	18.18	
	<i>No</i>	168	72.73	
<i>Anxiety</i>				9.09
	<i>Yes</i>	38	16.45	
	<i>No</i>	172	74.46	

Table 2 shows the summary statistics of relevant intrapersonal variables (i.e., wearable device based repeated measures and temporal information) and interpersonal variables (i.e., person-level information) in this study.

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