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# Predicting discomfort from glare with pedestrian-scale lighting: A comparison of candidate models using four independent datasets



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After dark, pedestrians may experience discomfort from glare caused by outdoor lighting. While several models for measuring discomfort have been proposed, there is no consensus as to which model should be used. The performances of different models were investigated using datasets from four independent studies, comparing the degree of association between model predictions and subjective ratings, and the ability of a model to distinguish between discomfort and non-discomfort situations. The models tested are those proposed by Petherbridge and Hopkinson in 1950, Schmidt-Clausen and Bindels in 1974, Bullough et al. in 2008 and Lin et al. in 2014 and 2015. They also include two quantities: direct illuminance at the eye from the glare source and average source luminance. Of the models tested, the best performance was found using either the model proposed by Bullough et al. in 2008 or by direct illuminance at the eye.

## **1. Introduction**

Glare arises when part of the visual field, a light source or a surface, is much brighter than the rest of the field. Two common visual impacts of glare are disability and discomfort, and these outcomes may persist individually or together. Disability from glare is a situation where the glare source impairs visibility or visual performance.<sup>1,2</sup> Discomfort from glare is a situation when the observer feels visual discomfort due to the glare source but does not necessarily experience a

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visual disability.1,2 The induced discomfort can be described as a sensation of annoyance or pain from a glare source located within the field of view. The magnitude of discomfort is usually described on a scale ranging from barely noticeable to unbearable.

One aim of a lighting design is to minimize discomfort for pedestrians (and other road users) and to do so designers might refer to the quantitative recommendations of lighting guidance documents. For interior lighting, glare limits such as the Unified Glare Rating (UGR) are calculated based on the luminances of light sources and their background, the size subtended by each light source at the observer's eye and its position in the visual field: a UGR of 22 is the threshold

for unacceptable glare in office and classroom spaces, and hence, the design targets a UGR of less than  $22^{3,4}$ 

Several models for predicting discomfort from road lighting have been proposed. CIE 243:2021 reviews various models,<sup>5</sup> but some models may not apply to pedestrians because they include terms related to drivers. Examples include the number of luminaires per kilometre in the Glare Control Mark model,<sup>6</sup> the considered road area in Vos's Glare Index, $\frac{7}{3}$  and duration of light pulse in Lehnert's model.<sup>8</sup> Other models described in CIE 243:2021 might be relevant to pedestrian applications but are not discussed in this article because either we did not have access to their underlying studies or the underlying study was not published in English. The remaining models that did not include terms specific to drivers might be applicable to pedestrians, given that the eye does not discriminate between purposes of lighting. $9-13$ 

While multiple models can be relevant for pedestrian applications, it remains unclear which model performs better and can be used in practice. The objective of this article is to evaluate candidate models including luminance-contrastbased models by Petherbridge and Hopkinson and Lin *et al.*,<sup>9,10</sup> a model by Schmidt-Clausen and Bindels that uses both luminance and illuminance quantities, $<sup>11</sup>$  illuminance-based models by</sup> Bullough *et al*. and Lin *et al*., 12,13 as well as two single-term models: direct illuminance from the source and average luminance. These models vary in complexity due to differences in the number of variables considered and the type of quantities used (luminance and/or illuminance).

The first model is that proposed by Petherbridge and Hopkinson.<sup>9</sup> In a laboratory experiment, they varied average source luminance ( $L_{avg}$ ), source size in solid angle  $(\omega)$ , source eccentricity  $(\theta)$  and source shape, and evaluated discomfort by asking subjects to adjust background luminance  $(L_b)$  to meet four discomfort criteria: just intolerable, just uncomfortable, just acceptable and just imperceptible. Eccentricity in this context refers to the

angular displacement of the source from the point of fixation. Their model (see Equation (1)), referred to as Pet50, is based on the contrast between the luminances of the source and its background, with account also taken of the size subtended by the source at the observer's eyes.

$$
Pet50 = \frac{L_{\text{avg}}^{1.6} \times \omega^{0.8}}{L_{\text{b}}} \tag{1}
$$

Consider next the model proposed by Schmidt-Clausen and Bindels for assessing discomfort glare from vehicle head lights.<sup>11</sup> Their data were obtained in a laboratory experiment that varied  $L_{\rm b}$ , direct illuminance from source (*E*<sub>d</sub>) and θ. Discomfort evaluations were given using a 9-point category rating scale, where subjects fixated on a test object and evaluated discomfort glare from a source that subtended 0.13° at the observer's eye and was positioned at eccentricities ranging from 0.17° to 90° from central vision. The Schmidt-Clausen and Bindels' model (Equation (2)), referred to as Sch74, uses the ratio of direct illuminance from the source and its background luminance. This model did not include a term for source size instead included a term for eccentricity from the point of visual fixation.

$$
Sch74 = 5 - 2\log_{10}\frac{E_{\rm d}}{0.003 \times \left(1 + \sqrt{\frac{L_{\rm b}}{0.04}}\right) \times \theta^{0.46}}(2)
$$

Petherbridge and Hopkinson<sup>9</sup> examined the effect of source eccentricity and suggested that when visual tasks do not involve a fixed direction of view, it is preferable to neglect the effect of eccentricity up to 50°. They showed that for the same level of discomfort, source luminance was exponentially related to source eccentricity. This means that source luminance was proportionally related to  $10^{\theta}$ . Although modifications of source eccentricity up to 50° can affect the degree of perceived discomfort, such modifications were

considered relatively insignificant, compared to modifications beyond 50°. For example, for the same source and background luminance, uncomfortable discomfort glare from a source at 5° eccentricity will only be reduced to 'just acceptable' at 50°, but discomfort will drop to 'just imperceptible' at 60° eccentricity. Petherbridge and Hopkinson's model would be advantageous if the model is able to predict discomfort from glare in practical situations because a pedestrian's gaze scans the whole environment and does not seem to fixate in a specific direction. This model does not require information about glare source position within the field of view, potentially making it easier to implement the design.

The Schmidt-Clausen and Bindels model, on the other hand, does not accommodate conditions with direct viewing of the source  $(\theta = 0^{\circ})$ , even though an approximation can be established by adopting a very small eccentricity in Equation (2).

Equations (1) and (2) both include background luminance. For pedestrians, it is unclear whether the luminance of a single surface, such as road surface, can be assumed to represent background luminance. In laboratory settings, it is possible to construct the visual field so that the background to the glare source is uniform and therefore relatively simple to characterize. In practical situations, such simplicities are unlikely: causes of non-uniformity include variations in background surfaces (such as traffic signs, trees and pavement materials) and luminance distribution is unlikely to be uniform. Such complexity makes it difficult to measure and characterize background luminance with one value. An alternative approach is to measure instead illuminance at the eye due to background.

Bullough *et al.* developed a model for predicting discomfort using direct illuminance at the eye from source  $(E_d)$ , indirect illuminance from source  $(E_i)$  and ambient illuminance  $(E_a)$ .<sup>12</sup> Ambient illuminance is the illuminance at the eye from sources of light other than the glare source, as might be measured with the glare source switched off. The sum of these three

illuminances is the total illuminance at the eye  $(E_t)$ . In their work,  $E_d$  was measured using a baffle that blocked light surrounding the source, and *E*a was measured when the source was switched off: to calculate  $E_i$ , the terms  $E_d$  and  $E_a$  were subtracted from  $E_t$ , as shown in Figure 1. To develop this model, Bullough *et al*. conducted a series of experiments in outdoor and indoor settings: they varied  $E_d$ ,  $E_i$  and  $E_a$  and asked participants to look directly at the source and rate discomfort glare using a 9-point scale. Their proposed model shown in Equation (3) is used for calculating discomfort glare (DG), and Equation (4) is then used for transforming DG to a value on a 9-point De Boer-type scale (Bul08). This model did not include any measure of luminance nor the size nor position of the glare source, since observers were looking directly at the source.

In subsequent work, Bullough *et al.*14 concluded that maximum source luminance  $(L_{\text{max}})$ was important for sources of size larger than 0.3° and hence added an additional term to their model (Equation (5)), referred to as Bul11, which transforms DG to a 9-point De Boer scale.

$$
DG = \log\left(E_{\rm d} + E_{\rm i}\right) + 0.6 \log\left(\frac{E_{\rm d}}{E_{\rm i}}\right) - 0.5 \log\left(E_{\rm a}\right) (3)
$$

$$
Bul08 = 6.6 - 6.4 \log DG \tag{4}
$$

$$
Bulk1 = 6.6 - 6.4 \log DG + 1.4 \log \left( \frac{50,000}{L_{\text{max}}} \right) (5)
$$

It is possible, however, that the results from the underlying study were confounded by effects of source size and luminance uniformity. Bullough<sup>15</sup> used three sources that were generally larger than 0.3°: a bare LED array with maximum luminance  $(L_{\text{max}})$  of 1 000 000 cd/m<sup>2</sup>, the LED array covered with a plastic diffuser that produced  $L_{\text{max}}$  of 50 000 cd/m<sup>2</sup> , and the same LED array but with the diffuser placed farther away from the LED array, producing  $L_{\text{max}}$  of  $15000 \text{ cd/m}^2$ . For the



**Figure 1** The three illuminance components used in Bul08 model (right) and the four steps needed to measure them (left)

same illuminance at the eye, a comparison between these three sources showed an effect of  $L_{\rm max}$  on DG.

The term  $E_a$  in Equation (3) represents illuminance at the eye from sources of light other than the glare source, measured while the glare source is turned off. Precise measurement of this is not possible in the field, and instead,  $E_a$  must be defined by an assumed value: Bullough *et al.*<sup>12</sup> suggested values of 0.02 lx, 0.2 lx and 2 lx for very dark, suburban and urban districts, respectively.

Lin and colleagues $10,13$  proposed two models based on laboratory studies, one model being luminance based and one being illuminance based. Their first model (Lin14 shown in Equation (6)) is based on the contrast between  $L_{\text{avg}}$  and  $L_{\text{b}}$ . The study underlying this model found that  $E_d$  (as represented by the term  $L_{avg} \times \omega$ ) was the most influential factor followed by  $L_{\rm b}$ , then source eccentricity  $\theta$ .<sup>10</sup> Their second model (Lin15) includes illuminance from the source, ambient illuminance, as well as source eccentricity.<sup>13</sup> In this later model, it is unclear whether their measurements of illuminance from source included only the direct component or both direct and indirect components. Because their use of

illuminance from source was meant to replace the  $(L_{avg} \times \omega)$  term from Lin14, we assumed here that the Lin15 model refers to  $E_d$  (Equation (7)). Note that Lin14 and Lin15 have terms with similar exponents.

Lin15 was developed based on an experiment with varied  $E_d$ ,  $E_a$  and  $\theta$  and source-correlated colour temperature (CCT). Using a category rating procedure with a 9-point response scale, they found effects of illuminance from the source,  $E_a$ , and  $\theta$  on DG ratings, but no effects of CCT.

Equation (7) was developed using a source that subtended 10° at the observer's eye, but did not include a term for maximum source luminance as previously suggested by Bullough *et al.* for sources larger than 0.3°.<sup>14</sup> Similar to the model of Schmidt-Clausen and Bindels (Equation (2)), Equation (7) uses eccentricity in the denominator, hence it yields an infinite value when directly looking at the source (i.e. when  $\theta = 0^{\circ}$ ).

$$
Lin14 = 3.45 - \log_{10}\left(\frac{\left(L_{\text{avg}} \times \omega\right)^{2.21}}{L_{\text{b}}^{1.02} \times \theta^{1.62}}\right) \tag{6}
$$

$$
Lin15 = 7.09 - \log_{10}\left(\frac{E_{d}^{2.21}}{E_{a}^{1.02} \times \theta^{1.62}}\right) \tag{7}
$$

The presented models result in predictions that are mapped to different scales, hence not all model predictions are comparable with each other. For example, low and high DG descriptors were mapped to Pet50 predictions in the range from 8 to 600, and to Sch74 predictions in the range from 3–7.9,11 On the other hand, Bul08, Bul11, Lin14 and Lin15 provide predictions on a 1–9 De Boer scale.

Each of the models described above uses multiple variables to predict discomfort from glare – the luminance or illuminance from the source and its background, the size and/or location of the glare source relative to the observation point. However, they do not use the same variables: for example, Bullough *et al.* did not include any terms for source position because their experiments used on-axis viewing. In an experiment, the researcher's decision to vary a certain parameter may lead to variation in the outcome measure, and hence to a conclusion that that parameter is important for discomfort from glare. Such a conclusion may not be correct: it depends on what other parameters were varied in the experiment and their relative degrees of prominence. This raises the question of which variables are essential for pedestrian application and considering practical constraints.

In outdoor environments after dark, pedestrians may experience discomfort from glare caused by street, path or public space lighting. The mounting height varies depending on lighting purpose; luminaires installed to illuminate paths and public spaces for pedestrians are mounted at shorter heights, for example, 3.7 m, and they are more closely spaced compared to street lighting.16,17 Pedestrians scan the general environment to perform different tasks such as detecting trip hazards and identifying the intention and/or identity of an oncoming person.<sup>18,19</sup> This wide distribution in gaze directions means that a source of glare may appear at a wide range of locations in the visual field and at a wide range of distances and hence subtended sizes; the background field and the adaptation level will also vary.

While there is a broad range of possible scenes in which discomfort from glare is experienced, experimental work tends to consider only one or a small number of specific variations. This raises the question about the degree to which any such derived model, fitted precisely to those conditions, fits other situations: does precision in one context prevent sufficiency in broader contexts? In other words, is it possible to establish a simple model for discomfort which is satisfactory in most outdoor nighttime situations? One simple approach would be to characterize discomfort using  $E_d$ . This was considered in four studies<sup>12,20–22</sup> that generally found large  $(r > 0.5)$  correlations between  $E<sub>d</sub>$  and subjective ratings of discomfort.<sup>23</sup> Similarly, it would be interesting to consider whether characterization of discomfort using only glare source luminance (e.g.  $L_{avg}$  or  $L_{max}$ ) would be sufficient without the inclusion of a background luminance term to help define the contrast between light source and the background.

Authors will suggest their model to be useful if it successfully predicts the outcomes of the experiments from which it was developed. Success, usually indicated by an apparently high value of Pearson's r or goodness of fit  $(R^2)$ , is not entirely surprising given the authors' ability to adjust the constants and coefficients in their model to ensure that it gives a good fit. For a model to be generalizable to a broader range of applications, a better evaluation of success is the degree to which it predicts the outcomes of experiments carried out under a similar context but conducted by others. This was the approach taken in studies by Villa et al.<sup>20</sup> and Tyukhova and Waters.<sup>24</sup>

Table 1 shows the reported correlations and goodness of fit for model predictions against DG ratings from their original data and also from independent data. This illustrates the importance of testing a model using independent data; for example, while Lin *et al.*<sup>10</sup> reported  $r \ge 0.87$  for their

**Table 1** Summary of reported Pearson's r and Spearman's rho correlation coefficients, and goodness of fit (R<sup>2</sup>) for pedestrian context models



\*\*Denotes significance at 1% level  $(p < 0.01)$ .

<sup>†</sup>The values reported for Villa et al.<sup>20</sup> are for conditions with one glare source, using the 'static' procedure, with the area surrounding target as background area ('disk zone').

§Denotes that the  $p$ -value was not reported.

A correlation coefficient Pearson's r or Spearman's rho of 0.3–0.5 is moderate, and a coefficient  $>$ 0.5 is large.<sup>23</sup>

The goodness of fit  $R^2 \ge 0.26$  is a large effect.<sup>23</sup>

A dash (–) denotes that model performance was not studied.

n refers to the number of observations in each study, this being the combination of participant sample and number of scenes evaluated.

model, when that model was tested by Villa *et al.*<sup>20</sup> by using independent data, they reported a lower degree of association (Spearman's  $rho = 0.38$ ). The Villa *et al.* data suggest a better fit for other models. Table 2 shows correlations and goodness of fit for  $E_d$  and  $L_{avg}$  that were extended for pedestrian application. Several studies reported high correlations and goodness of fit for  $E_d$  and  $L_{avg}$ .

It can be problematic to draw conclusions about model performance using only the results of one study. A certain dataset may have inadvertently favoured one model due to the context or the range of lighting conditions used in that experiment. To provide a more exhaustive analysis, we follow the comparison of models for predicting discomfort from daylight as reported by Wienold *et al.*<sup>25</sup> In that study they compared the predictions of 22 models using seven datasets, comparing the performance of different models using diagnostic tests based on receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve characteristics such as true positive rate, true negative rate, area under the curve and squared distance.

The current work investigated the performance of seven models for predicting discomfort from glare in an outdoor context using four independent datasets. These were five previously proposed multi-term models (Equations (1), (2), (4), (6) and (7)) and two one-term models (the quantities  $E_d$  and  $L_{avg}$ ).

## **2. Method**

#### **2.1 Evaluated models**

The evaluated models include Pet50, Sch74, Bul08, Lin14, Lin 15,  $E_d$  and  $L_{avg}$ . The intent was also to include the Bul11 model, but as discussed below in Section 'Included studies and datasets', not all datasets reported maximum luminance as needed in that model, and hence it was not possible to include it.

#### **2.2 Study and data inclusion criteria**

A search was conducted to identify experimental studies of discomfort from glare having relevance to lighting conditions experienced by

Model	Villa et al. <sup>20†</sup> $(n=1056)$	Kohko <i>et al.</i> <sup>21</sup> ( <i>n</i> = 1617)	Sivak et al. <sup>22</sup> $(n=400)$	Bullough <i>et al.</i> <sup>12</sup> ( $n = 796$ ) <sup>‡</sup>
$E_{\rm d}$	$rho = 0.72$ <sup>§</sup>	$R^2 = 0.70^{\frac{6}{5}}$ for central; $R^2 = 0.53^{\frac{6}{5}}$ for peripheral viewing	$R^2$ = 0.99 <sup>**</sup>	$R^2$ = 0.93 <sup>§</sup> (exp 2), 0.73 <sup>§</sup> (exp 5), and $0.45^{\S}$ (in/out exp)
$L_{\text{avg}}$	$rho = 0.74$	$R^2 = 0.80^{\frac{6}{3}}$ , 0.81 <sup>§</sup> for central and peripheral viewing		$R^2 = 0.02$ <sup>§</sup> (exp 2)

**Table 2** Summary of reported Spearman's rho and goodness of fit ( $R^2$ ) for simple models that may be extended for pedestrian application

\*\*Denotes significance at 1% level ( $p < 0.01$ ). § denotes that the p-value was not reported.

<sup>†</sup>The values reported for Villa et al.<sup>20</sup> are for conditions with one glare source, using the 'static' procedure, and L<sub>avg</sub> being measured luminance of the LED.

<sup>‡</sup>exp refers to the experiment number in Bullough et al. study.<sup>12</sup>

A Spearman rho correlation coefficient  $>0.5$  is large.<sup>23</sup>

The goodness of fit  $R^2 \ge 0.26$  is a large effect.<sup>23</sup>

A dash (–) denotes that model performance was not studied.

n refers to the number of observations in each study.

pedestrians. These conditions include low levels of luminance adaptation, a wide range of source eccentricities and a wide range of source sizes that can result from combinations of different eccentricities and distances from source. The search was conducted using common keywords: 'discomfort glare', 'nighttime' and 'pedestrians' and only peer-reviewed journal articles written in English were retained. These articles were reviewed, and study parameters were evaluated according to inclusion criteria:

- Lighting conditions should include a dark background representative of nighttime environments.
- Only one light source. This criterion was used to isolate and omit effects related to multiple light sources and the different approaches that may be used.<sup>26</sup>
- Only data related to white sources. Coloured sources were not included.
- Where relevant, viewing distance or mounting height low enough to mimic pedestrians viewing conditions.
- Test participants were stationary (standing still or sitting) whilst observing and evaluating the scene. Dynamic viewing protocols, where subjects walked on a specified path then provided a rating, were not considered.
- Details of the visual scene including average luminance of source, background luminance, direct, indirect, and ambient illuminances, source size, and eccentricity were reported.
- During trials, presentation order of lighting conditions was randomized to offset order bias.
- Experimental data were independent of the models evaluated in the current work.
- The authors responded to our request to provide experimental data.

We do not consider the impacts of multiple sources and dynamic viewing to be unimportant. They were excluded here to simplify the analysis because it is unclear how the seven models can be used with more than one glare source. For ratings collected using a dynamic viewing procedure, it is unclear which viewing position parameters, for example, eccentricity, to use in the models: that again suggests an advantage of predicting discomfort using a simplified measure such as  $E_d$ .

## **2.3 Included studies and datasets**

The search identified eleven relevant studies. Four studies were not included because they did not report required quantities such as  $L_{\text{avg}}^{22,27,28}$  or did not randomize the presentation order of lighting conditions.<sup>21</sup> Other studies were not included

either because our attempts to contact those authors were unsuccessful or those data were not independent of the current analysis, having been used to develop a model assessed in the current analysis.10,12,13 Four studies met the inclusion criteria: in all four cases, those authors responded to our requests to provide study data.<sup>20,24,29,30</sup> Not all four studies measured and reported maximum luminance, hence Bul11 (Equation (5)) was not evaluated.

The first dataset was from a study conducted by Villa *et al.*<sup>20</sup> in an outdoor test track. Here we use the data from their 32 conditions (4 luminaire types  $\times$  4 distances from luminaire  $\times$  2 view directions) with one source of glare observed from a stationary location and ignore data from their trials with either two sources of glare and/or dynamic viewing. This dataset is referred as V17. The 33 test participants were asked to rate each lighting condition using a 9-point scale. Villa *et al.* used high dynamic range images to establish two background luminance measurements: the first measurement was based on a circle with 30° diameter surrounding the visual target (named by the authors as 'disk zone'); whereas the second measurement was based on a rectangular area that included the two viewing targets and the road surface. In the current analysis, we used the disk zone measurement, given that both measurements yielded similar results in their analysis. To calculate  $E_i$ ,  $L_b$  of the disk zone area was converted using Equation (8) assuming a Lambertian distribution.

$$
E_{\rm i} = L_{\rm b\, disk\, zone} \times \pi \tag{8}
$$

The second dataset from Sweater-Hickcox *et al.*, <sup>29</sup> named as S13, included data from their three experiments that were conducted in a laboratory room. Conditions related to the white LED array with a white surround were included (13 lighting conditions). Conditions where the LED array had yellow or blue surround were not included because these conditions were ineligible according to the criteria in 'Study and data

inclusion criteria'. Conditions with a dark surround were not included because information about the LED source size was not available. In the first experiment, ten participants sat 3 m away from the LED array and rated DG at four levels of  $E_d$ , whereas in the second experiment eight participants repeated this procedure while being seated 6 m away from the LED array. In the third experiment, the source size was decreased, and the procedure was repeated with six participants seated 3 m away. Each participant rated the same lighting condition three times using a 9-point scale, and the mean of these three ratings was used in the current analysis as was done in the published study.

The third dataset, from Tyukhova and Waters,<sup>24,31</sup> named here as T18, examined small bright sources (subtending 0.0001 sr and 0.00001 sr at the observer's eyes) and included 36 lighting conditions (3 levels of  $L_{\text{avg}} \times 2$  eccentricities  $\times 2$ source sizes  $\times$  3 levels of  $L_b^{\text{reg}}$  which were rated by 47 test participants. This was a laboratory experiment with participants seated in a spherical apparatus. Evaluations of discomfort were given using a 7-point scale: for the current analysis, these were transformed to a 9-point scale by mapping the end points of the original scale from 0 (No discomfort glare) and 6 (Glare intolerable) to 9 (Unnoticeable) and 1 (Unbearable), $32$  respectively, with equal incremental steps. The transformation between scales, shown in Table 3, was necessary for the analysis of a combined dataset described in Section 2.4. This conversion assumed that participants linearly map their responses to the range of the scale presented. This scale transformation meant that ratings in the three studies were along similar response scales.

The fourth dataset from Tashiro *et al.*, <sup>30</sup> named here as T15, examined sources with different LED arrangements, intensity levels and background luminances (17 sources  $\times$  7 intensity levels  $\times$  3 background luminances) that were rated by 8, 12, 19 and 11 participants in four experiments conducted in a laboratory room. This dataset (labelled here as T15) initially included ratings on a 9-point

Table 3 The rating scales used in the four studies (V17, S13, T18 and T15).<sup>20,24,29,30</sup> Also shown is the scale from Tyukhova and Waters (T18) converted to a common 9-point scale. The scale from Tashiro et al. (T15) is shown here with the magnitude direction reversed to match the other scales

V17	S <sub>13</sub>	T18-original scale	T18-converted scale	T15-converted scale
9 (Unnoticeable) 8 7 (Satisfactory) 6 5 (Just admissible) 4 3 (Disturbing) 2 1 (Unbearable)	9 (Unnoticeable) 7 (Satisfactory) 5 (Just acceptable) 3 (Disturbing) 1 (Unbearable)	0 (No discomfort glare) 1 (Glare between non-existent and noticeable) 2 (Glare noticeable) 3 (Glare between noticeable and disagreeable) 4 (Glare disagreeable) 5 (Glare between disagreeable and intolerable) 6 (Glare intolerable)	9 (Unnoticeable) 7.7 6.3 5 3.7 2.3 (Unbearable)	9 (Unnoticeable) 5 (Beginning to feel unbearable) 1 (Unbearable)

scale where points 1, 5 and 9 corresponded to unnoticeable, beginning to feel unbearable and unbearable levels of discomfort, respectively. This scale was reversed to align with the magnitude direction used in the other datasets. Tashiro *et al.* study did not measure  $E_d$ ,  $E_i$  and  $E_a$ , but because the experiment apparatus was surrounded by a black curtain of low reflectance ( $\sim$ 3%), we assumed that  $E_i$  is negligible = 0.0001 lx. At the lowest background luminance level of  $0.1 \text{ cd/m}^2$ , we also assumed that  $E_a$  is negligible = 0.0001 lx. At the other two background luminance levels  $(1 \text{ cd/m}^2 \text{ and } 10 \text{ cd/m}^2)$ ,  $E_a$ was calculated for each source by subtracting total illuminance at the lowest source intensity under  $0.1$  cd/m<sup>2</sup> from corresponding total illuminance under  $1 \text{ cd/m}^2$  and  $10 \text{ cd/m}^2$ . This yielded an ambient illuminance value for each source that was used for all intensities.

The four datasets included a wide range of  $E_d$ as shown in Table 4. Indirect illuminance and illuminance from other light sources were small  $(<$ 4 lx) representing a dark background. Given that Bul08 model was suggested for sources  $\leq 0.3^{\circ}$ , we also show in Table 4 source sizes in plane degrees for each dataset. The conversion from steradians to degrees was done using Equation  $(9)$  assuming a conical solid angle.<sup>33</sup>

Plane angle (°) = 
$$
2 \times \arccos\left(1 - \frac{\omega}{2\pi}\right) \times \frac{180}{\pi}
$$
 (9)

#### **2.4 Model performance evaluation**

Models of discomfort from glare were tested by using them to predict the outcome of previous work (the datasets defined in Section 'Included studies and datasets') and comparing those predictions with the results of each experiment. The relative performance of each model was established using a range of statistical tests following the example of Wienold *et al.*<sup>25</sup>

In order for a DG model to be useful for pedestrian applications, model performance can be judged based on two criteria: (1) the degree of correlation between model predictions and evaluation responses from test participants; and (2) the ability to distinguish between discomfort and nondiscomfort situations. The models were expected to provide a relative – not absolute – indication of glare. Hence, evaluations based on absolute model values such as root mean square error and the consistency of borderline between comfort and discomfort (BCD) were not considered.

The degree of association was assessed using Spearman rank correlation rho, a nonparametric test that determines the degree to which a monotonic relationship exists between two sets of ranks.<sup>34</sup> A rho value  $0-0.1$  is considered very small,  $0.1-0.3$  is small,  $0.3-0.5$  is moderate,  $\geq 0.5$  is large.<sup>23</sup>

The *p*-values of these Spearman correlations were compared to the Holm's sequential Bonferroni thresholds, which provides protection

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Parameter	Dataset						
	V17	S <sub>13</sub>	T18	T15			
Number of participants	33	10; 8; 6	47	8; 12; 19; 11			
Number of experimental conditions	32	5; 5; 3	36	63; 168; 63; 63			
Number of observations	1056	108	1692	4410			
Number of observations with ratings $<$ 5	99	74	846	1836			
Number of observations with ratings $\geq 5$	957	34	846	2574			
$E_{\rm d}$ (lx)	$4.2 - 25.2$	$4.7 - 15.0$	$0.2 - 81.5$	$0.02 - 92.3$			
$E_i$ (lx)	$0.11 - 0.74$	0	$0.02 - 0.06$	0			
$E_{\rm a}$ (lx)	$0.05 - 0.09$	0.2	$0.11 - 3.58$	$0 - 0.95$			
$L_{avg}$ (cd/m <sup>2</sup> )	11000-152000	$401 - 1041^+$	20477-766440	1.56-177617			
$L_{h}$ (cd/m <sup>2</sup> )	$0.034 - 0.237$	0	0.037-1.156	0.1; 1; 10			
Eccentricity $(°)$	$23 - 62$	0	0:10	8.5			
Source size (sr)	0.00044-0.00823	0.00096; 0.00383	0.00001; 0.0001	$0.0001 - 0.0081$			
Source size (°)	1.36-5.87	2; 4	0.2; 0.65	$0.65 - 5.82$			

**Table 4** Summary of the experimental conditions in the four datasets

†Values represent the area-weighted average of LEDs and areas in between. In experiments 1 and 2, LEDs occupied 6% of the luminous area whereas in experiment 3, LEDs occupied 23% of luminous area.

against type I error.<sup>35</sup> This method orders the *p*-values from smallest to largest and uses progressively less stringent significance thresholds based on the number of remaining tests ( $\alpha/k$ ,  $\alpha/(k-1)$ ,  $\alpha/(k-2)$ , etc. where *k* is the number of tests and  $\alpha$  is the significance level).

To determine how well each model was able to distinguish between discomfort and non-discomfort situations, four tests were employed as shown in Figure 2.

- True negative rate (TNR), also known as specificity, describes the ability of a model to accurately detect non-DG (subjective rating  $\geq 5$ ).
- True positive rate (TPR), also known as sensitivity. TPR describes the ability of a model to accurately detect the presence of discomfort (subjective rating  $\leq$ 5).
- Area under the curve (AUC) describes the diagnostic accuracy of a model: suggested thresholds for describing diagnostic accuracy are AUC  $0.5$  to  $0.6 = \text{fail}, 0.6 - 0.7 = \text{poor}$ .  $0.7-0.8 = \text{fair}$ ,  $0.8-0.9 = \text{good}$  and  $0.9-1 =$ excellent<sup>36</sup>

– Squared distance (SqD) is the square of the distance between the point of ideal performance (TPR = 1, TNR = 1) and any point on the ROC curve. The point on the curve closest to the upper left corner (smallest SqD) is considered an optimal cut-off point for balancing TPR and TNR.37,38 In this analysis, we use 1-SqD instead of SqD so that a larger value is better, matching interpretation of TNR, TPR and AUC.

The mean of TNR, TPR, AUC and 1-SqD was calculated to provide an indication of overall performance. This mean value is between 0 and 1 where a higher value indicates a better performance. We used the mean performance, rather than rank orders based on individual performance scores as was used in a previous work $^{25}$ because this preserves the magnitude of differences between model performances. A difference in rank order of 1.0 would be given to two models regardless of whether the difference in their performance scores was large or small.

The data used for evaluation of the seven models were at the subject level, that is, lighting



**Figure 2** An example ROC plot showing the point with smallest squared distance to the point (1, 1) and corresponding TNR and TPR. The darker shaded area represents AUC

conditions and responses for each test participant were used as opposed to using grouped data such as mean ratings from a group of test participants for a certain lighting condition. This was done to uncover the uncertainty inherent in DG studies.<sup>39</sup>

The analyses used here (except for Spearman correlations) required that ratings were converted from a 9-point scale to binary evaluations of whether or not there was discomfort. This was done by assuming that ratings of less than 5 (just acceptable/admissible, the centre of the 9-point scale) were considered to cause discomfort, while ratings of 5 or greater were considered indicating no discomfort. Our assumption of using the centre of the scale is similar to the assumption made by Wienold *et al.*<sup>25</sup> where a 4-point scale was split in half and converted into a binary variable. Lin and others also found when 50% of participants were comfortable, the borderline between comfort and discomfort corresponded to 4.7 on the 9-point rating scale.<sup>10</sup> This

aligns with the definition of borderline BCD at point 5 on a 9-point scale.<sup>40</sup>

Analyses were conducted using R Studio (version 3.6.3) and the ROCR package.<sup>41</sup> Model performances were analysed for the four datasets combined and then for each dataset individually.

#### **2.5 Assumptions**

A few assumptions were required to calculate the seven models. First, Pet50 was applied to all eccentricities including two eccentricities above 50° in V17 dataset. Although this model was suggested for eccentricities up to 50°, we implemented the model using all datasets including two eccentricities (out of eight eccentricities tested) higher than 50° in the V17 dataset. The reason it was implemented even for cases higher than 50° in our analysis is because we were interested in evaluating the model relative to other models. If it performs well, it would be helpful for pedestrian applications, given that a specific eccentricity cannot be assumed.



**Figure 3** Mean of the diagnostic tests (TNR, TPR, AUC and 1-SqD) for the seven models using the combined dataset. A higher mean value indicates a better performance

Second, to avoid infinite values resulting from zeros in the denominator or in logarithms, these zeros were replaced with a very small value (e.g. 0.0001 lx). This occurred in three cases: (1) because  $E_i$  and  $E_a$  were assumed to be negligible in T15 dataset as described in Section 'Included studies and datasets', which would result in a zero in the denominator in Bul08; (2) when calculating Lin14 and Lin15 for viewing conditions with an eccentricity of zero as in S13 and T18 datasets; and (3) when calculating Pet50 or Lin14 for conditions with negligible  $L<sub>b</sub>$ as in S13 dataset.

Third, in Lin15, it is unclear whether their measured illuminance from the glare source includes both direct and indirect components or only the direct component. In this analysis, we assumed that their illuminance measurements from glare source are represented with  $E_d$  as shown in Equation (7).

#### **3. Results**

Figure 3 shows the mean of four diagnostic tests (TNR, TPR, AUC and 1-SqD) using the combined dataset: results for the individual tests are shown in Figure 4. Table 5 shows results for each test using combined and individual datasets.

For the combined data set, the highest mean performance was found for Bul08, followed by  $E_d$ and Lin15, and the lowest scores were for  $L_{avg}$  and Pet50. The differences were, however, small, and in all cases the mean test performance was above 0.7. AUC values suggested an excellent performance for Bul08 and a good performance for  $E_d$ and Lin15. On the other hand, *L* avg and Pet50 had lowest mean performance, and AUC values suggested only a fair performance (Table 5). Spearman's rho ranged from 0.45 to 0.78 and these values were suggested to be statistically significant for all models.

Results of analyses using individual datasets varied and did not fully match results from the combined dataset (Figure 4, Table 5). Bul08 had the highest mean performance only for one dataset (T18) and was tied with other models using S13 dataset. In another dataset (V17),  $L_{avg}$  and Lin15 had a higher mean performance than Bul08. Lin15 had lowest mean performance using T15 dataset. Differences between models varied by dataset. With the V17 and T15 datasets, each model gives a similar mean performance; with S13 and T18 there is a wider range of mean performance scores.

AUC was found to be greater than 0.6 for all models using the individual data sets, indicating that no models failed. There was, however, a difference in AUC ranges between data sets; all models had a poor performance (AUC 0.6 to 0.7) using V17 but an excellent performance  $(AUC > 0.9)$  using T15. Using S13, AUC values suggested a poor performance for Lin14 and



**Figure 4** Mean of five diagnostic tests (TNR, TPR, AUC and 1-SqD) for the seven models using individual datasets. A higher mean value indicates a better performance

Pet50. For T18, Bul08,  $E_d$  and Sch74 had an excellent performance.

For all models, Spearman's correlations were small and statistically significant using V17, mostly moderate and significant using S13, and large and significant using T18 and T15. Detailed graphs of diagnostic test results and Spearman correlations for each model are included in Appendix A.

## **4. Discussion**

#### **4.1 Combined dataset**

Consider first the performance of models using the combined data set, this being the wider range of lighting conditions and thus a better analysis of applicability in practice. The best performance was obtained with Bul08, this model having the highest mean test score, including an AUC of 0.91, and the highest Spearman rho. The next best performance was given by  $E_d$ , this having the second highest mean test score, AUC and Spearman's rho. The improved performance of Bul08 over  $E_d$  might be due to the contrast term  $(E_d/E_i)$  which helps differentiate between situations that had the same influence of saturation, as is characterized by  $E_d$ , but with different indirect illuminances and hence different source to background contrast.

Lin15 performed only slightly less well than did  $E_d$ , having the third highest mean test score and Spearman's rho. One feature of these three models (Bul08,  $E_d$  and Lin15) is that they characterize source brightness using illuminance rather than luminance. *L* avg , on the other hand, provided the lowest mean test score and Spearman's rho of all models, although the AUC being 0.7 indicates that *L* avg still had a fair performance. This is in line with Bullough *et al*. who reported that  $L_{avg}$ had lower association with DG ratings than did  $E<sub>d</sub>$  as shown in Table 2.<sup>12</sup>

The use of Bul08 or Lin15 would be challenging in field evaluations where the source cannot be switched off to measure  $E_a$ . For Bul08, Bullough *et al.*<sup>12</sup> suggested using typical values (0.02 lx, 0.2 lx and 2 lx for very dark, suburban and urban districts, respectively) but these may not match actual conditions: error within these assumptions may contribute to increased variance in the model performance. Compared to Bul08, another complication for using Lin15 in field evaluation is the need to make an assumption of eccentricity.

 $E_d$ , a single measurement of illuminance, gives a similar performance to Bul08 and Lin15, despite those being more complex models which include multiple factors. This result holds even if one of the datasets is removed (see further

**Table 5** Diagnostic test results based on each dataset as well as the combined dataset

Dataset	Model	<b>TNR</b>	<b>TPR</b>	<b>AUC</b>	1-SqD	Mean <sup>§</sup>	Spearman rho
V17	$E_{\rm d}$	0.66	0.64	0.67	0.75	0.68	$-0.27**$
	$L_{\mathsf{avg}}$	0.67	0.66	0.67	0.77	0.69	$-0.25**$
	Lin14	0.59	0.65	0.62	0.71	0.64	$0.21***$
	Lin15	0.61	0.69	0.69	0.75	0.69	$0.29**$
	Bul08	0.63	0.58	0.63	0.69	0.63	$0.22***$
	Pet50	0.62	0.65	0.63	0.73	0.66	$-0.22**$
	Sch74	0.58	0.68	0.66	0.72	0.66	$-0.25**$
S <sub>13</sub>	$E_{\rm d}$	0.80	0.67	0.78	0.85	0.78	$-0.49**$
	$L_{\mathrm{avg}}$	0.82	0.63	0.75	0.83	0.75	$-0.51**$
	Lin14	0.73	0.48	0.64	0.66	0.63	0.21 <sup>NS</sup>
	Lin15	0.67	0.80	0.78	0.85	0.78	$0.49**$
	Bul08	0.67	0.80	0.78	0.85	0.78	$0.49**$
	Pet <sub>50</sub>	0.75	0.55	0.68	0.73	0.68	$-0.28*$
	Sch74	0.67	0.80	0.78	0.85	0.78	$-0.49**$
T <sub>18</sub>	$E_{\rm d}$	0.81	0.86	0.91	0.94	0.88	$-0.8**$
	$L_{\mathrm{avg}}$	0.68	0.71	0.78	0.82	0.75	$-0.54**$
	Lin14	0.76	0.78	0.86	0.89	0.82	$0.7**$
	Lin15	0.69	0.81	0.85	0.87	0.80	$0.69**$
	Bul08	0.82	0.88	0.93	0.95	0.89	$0.82**$
	Pet50	0.75	0.91	0.88	0.93	0.87	$-0.74**$
	Sch74	0.83	0.83	0.91	0.94	0.88	$-0.8**$
T <sub>15</sub>	$E_{\rm d}$	0.86	0.89	0.95	0.97	0.92	$-0.86**$
	$L_{\text{avg}}$	0.83	0.88	0.92	0.95	0.89	$-0.81**$
	Lin14	0.89	0.89	0.95	0.97	0.93	$0.88**$
	Lin15	0.81	0.86	0.90	0.94	0.88	$0.78**$
	Bul08	0.89	0.85	0.94	0.97	0.91	$0.84***$
	Pet50	0.86	0.86	0.93	0.96	0.90	$-0.84**$
	Sch74	0.88	0.81	0.91	0.95	0.89	$-0.79**$
Combined	$E_{d}$	0.78	0.79	0.86	0.91	0.83	$-0.69**$
data set	$L_{\text{avg}}$	0.55	0.82	0.70	0.76	0.71	$-0.45**$
	Lin14	0.84	0.63	0.75	0.84	0.76	$0.54***$
	Lin15	0.81	0.73	0.84	0.89	0.82	$0.68**$
	Bul08	0.84	0.84	0.91	0.95	0.88	$0.78**$
	Pet50	0.58	0.79	0.71	0.78	0.72	$-0.47**$
	Sch74	0.74	0.66	0.78	0.82	0.75	$-0.58**$

Shaded cells denote the model with best performance for each test within each dataset.

\*Denotes significance at the Holm's-corrected 5% level.

\*\*Denotes significance at the Holm's-corrected 1% level.

NSDenotes non-significance.

§The mean of the four diagnostic tests (TNR, TPR, AUC and 1-SqD).

analysis in Appendix B). Log $(E_d)$  returns the same diagnostic test results as  $E_d$  and might be preferred over  $E_d$  due to its linear relationship with DG responses.  $E_d$ , on the other hand, exhibits a decreasing exponential relationship with DG ratings.

#### **4.2 Individual datasets**

Analyses using the combined dataset reveal the order in which the models more accurately predict the discomfort data (Figure 3). When the datasets are considered individually, however, this order is not retained in any individual

dataset, although the differences between models in many cases are small. In other words, certain datasets favour certain models. Bul08, the model which performs best for the combined dataset, also performs well for S13, T15 and T18 but performs less well than other models for V17. Given that Bul08 was developed with direct viewing, the reduced performance of Bul08 using V17 might be due to the larger eccentricities used in V17 compared to those in S13, T18 and T15.

On the other hand,  $E_d$  tends to be one of the better performing models for each of the four datasets. While analyses using the combined dataset suggested that  $L_{\text{avg}}$  gave the weakest performance, Figure 4 shows that it performs similar to the other models for three datasets (V17, S13 and T15) and drops to the weakest performance only for T18.

The performance of  $L_{\text{avg}}$  using T18 might have been affected by experimental conditions because this dataset included two source sizes that had the same  $L_{avg}$  but the larger source, expectedly, caused higher discomfort. For instance, for all experimental conditions, the mean DG rating was 3.3 for the larger source compared to 5.9 for the smaller source. Lin14 and Pet50 had a better performance than *L* avg in T18 dataset as they both account for source size.

Bullough *et al.* suggested that the Bul08 model be used with sources subtending a size at the observer of smaller than 0.3°.<sup>14</sup> For sources larger than 0.3° they proposed Bul11, a model which also includes maximum luminance. To evaluate whether Bul08 performance in the current analyses might be further enhanced if only used with sources smaller than 0.3°, we used T18 dataset where half of the cases had a source size of 0.2° and the other half was 0.65°. Contrary to the proposal to use Bul08 for sources smaller than 0.3°, we found that Bul08 performed similarly well regardless of whether the source size was 0.2° or 0.65° (Table 6).

In contrast to T18 dataset, V17 works slightly better with  $L_{avg}$  than Bul08. In V17, variations in  $L_{\text{avg}}$  were affected by participant's position and luminaire type. This might have improved the performance of *L* avg in this dataset, compared to T18. Luminance-contrast-based models such as Pet50 and Lin14 models had lower mean model performance compared to  $L_{\text{avg}}$ , Sch74 or Lin15. The finding that Lin14 did not perform as well as Sch74 or Lin15 is consistent with results reported in Villa *et al*. for one glare source based on Spearman correlation and root mean square error. Our analysis using the V17 dataset and the analysis in Villa *et al.* – for one glare source – also agree that Lin15 performs better than Sch74.

The mean performance of models using V17 was lower than the other datasets, except Lin14. The outdoor field setting used by Villa *et al.*<sup>20</sup> might have affected overall performance of the models compared to S13 and T15 that were collected in a laboratory room or T18 that used a spherical apparatus. It might be that outdoor settings introduce some noise into the responses because of other elements in the environmentlike buildings, walkways and signs that are often abstracted in laboratory experiments. Nonetheless, field studies are important because they highlight that DG is one of many stimuli in outdoor environments.

Most models had a similar performance using S13, except for Lin14 and Pet50. The source used in this dataset consisted of a  $3 \times 3$  LED array with a luminance ranging from  $2044 \text{ cd/m}^2$ to  $6556 \text{ cd/m}^2$ , and surrounding areas between LEDs having a lower luminance of  $725 \text{ cd/m}^2$ . The area-weighted average luminance ranged from 401 cd/m<sup>2</sup> to 1041 cd/m<sup>2</sup>. The  $(L_{avg} \times \omega)$ term in Lin14 assumes that source area is uniform, which was not the case in S13. Pet50 uses the  $(L_{\text{avg}}^{1.6} \times \omega^{0.8})$  term and seems to have also been affected by the uniformity assumption, though to a less extent.

Using T15, the models  $Lin14$ ,  $E_d$  and Bul08 had highest mean performance, though the mean performance values for all seven models were within a small range between 0.86 and 0.92. The

Source size	<b>TNR</b>	TPR	AUC	1-SqD	Spearman Rho	Mean <sup>§</sup>
$0.2^\circ$	0.912	0.704	0.871	0.905	$0.705**$	0.85
$0.65^\circ$	0.903	0.846	0.924	0.9671	$0.762**$	0.91

**Table 6** Analysis results of Bul08 model using T18 dataset broken down by source size

§The mean of the four diagnostic tests (TNR, TPR, AUC and 1-SqD).

\*\*Denotes significance at the 1% level  $(p < 0.01)$ .

**Table 7** Diagnostic analysis of Bul08 and  $E_{\rm d}$  using Bullough *et al.*12 data from experiments that only included one source (excluding indoor experiment 6)

Model	TNR	TPR	AUC	SqD	1-SqD	Spearman Rho
Bul08	0.98	0.89	0.96	0.013	0.99	$0.72**$
F <u>_</u>	.00	0.90	0.98	0.010	0.99	$-0.78**$

Denotes significance at the 1% level ( $p < 0.01$ ).

Diagnostic test results using log( $E_{\mathrm{d}}$ ) produced same results as those for  $E_{\mathrm{d}}$ .

experimental booth in the experiment by Tashiro *et al.* was surrounded by a black curtain, which led us to assume that the contribution of  $E_i$  was negligible. Contributions from the fluorescent tubes that were used to illuminate the background area were also limited to  $0 \text{lx}-0.95 \text{lx}$ . This is likely the reason why models that used  $E_i$  and/or *E*a , such as Bul08 and Lin15, did not gain an advantage over other models.

## **4.3 The performance of**  $E_d$  **using Bul08 model development data**

 $E<sub>d</sub>$  performed well with each of the four datasets when considered individually and when combined into one dataset. This suggests that  $E<sub>d</sub>$ might be appropriate when  $E_i$  and  $E_a$  ranges are similar to those in those four datasets. In the combined dataset  $E_i$  ranged from 0 lx to 0.74 lx, being negligible in S13 and T15, limited to a small range from 0.02 lx to 0.06 lx in T18, and 0.11 lx to 0.74 lx in V17.

In Bullough *et al.*'s experiments that included one glare source,  $E_i$  ranged from 0.01 lx to 0.4 lx, which is within the range examined in the combined dataset. This raises the question of how  $E_d$ would compare to Bul08 using Bul08 development data. To address this question, we used published grouped mean data from Bullough

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*et al.*<sup>12</sup> for outdoor experiments 1, 2 and 3, indoor experiments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, as well as the indoor/ outdoor experiment. Data from indoor experiment 6 were not included because that experiment used two sources of glare.

The results, shown in Table 7, suggest very similar performance for Bul08 and  $E_d$ . In their experiments,  $E_i$  ranged from 0.01 lx to 0.4 lx and  $E_a$  ranged from 0.01 lx to 1.6 lx. The relatively small ranges of  $E_i$  and  $E_a$  across these experiments might have reduced the usefulness of these terms at improving the prediction of discomfort, hence  $E<sub>d</sub>$  performed similarly. For comparison, a linear regression model using  $log(E_d)$  instead of  $E_d$  had  $R^2$ =0.66, *F*(1,64)=123.6, *p* < 0.01, compared to  $R^2 = 0.69$ ,  $F(1,64) = 141.4$ ,  $p < 0.01$  for Bul08. Overall, these results support the use of  $E_d$ .

#### **4.4 Limitations**

There are several limitations to consider when interpreting the analyses presented in this article. Specifically, they are applicable under the range of lighting conditions in the considered datasets (see Table 4).

In the four datasets considered in this article,  $E<sub>d</sub>$  was measured facing (i.e. normal) to the light source (S13 and T18 datasets), and with the source off axis (V17 and T15 datasets). Future

studies are recommended to compare these two illuminance measurement approaches.

For the comparison between  $E_d$  and Bul08, accounting for indirect and ambient illuminance might become crucial when comparing environments with a higher variation in indirect or ambient illuminance such as a busy city centre compared to a rural area. It is currently unclear how limited  $E_i$  and  $E_a$  ranges need to be in order to safely ignore them and only use  $E_d$ . To address this issue, it might be possible to develop different  $E_d$  thresholds that pertain to outdoor environments with different common  $E_i$  and  $E_a$ . Future studies are warranted to explore this further.

As mentioned in the introduction, a previous study found differences in glare ratings when participants viewed three different sources that provided the same illuminance at the eye. $14,15$ However, the performance of Bul11, which includes a term for maximum luminance, was not reported,14,15 and it has not been clearly evaluated in subsequent studies. Villa *et al.* calculated Bul11 using average luminance of the fixture instead of maximum luminance,<sup>20</sup> and Tyukhova and Waters reported correlations between ratings and combined predictions from Bul08 and Bul11.<sup>24</sup> Further studies are needed to compare the performance of Bul11 (which uses a maximum luminance term) to Bul08. Furthermore, surveys of the level of optical diffusion used in street lighting fixtures would help determine the practical importance of accounting for maximum luminance and source luminance uniformity in DG models.

There are only a few studies of discomfort from glare in the pedestrian context. The number of studies available for subsequent analysis is further reduced due to inconsistency between studies in measured and reported quantities. The four combined datasets present a wider range of lighting conditions for pedestrian applications than any one individual study. Including additional datasets with larger variations in source sizes, eccentricity, indirect illuminance, ambient illuminance, and/or background luminance may change the conclusions drawn.

The analysis did not consider dynamic viewing or multiple glare sources because it is currently unclear how these two conditions can be accounted for using the evaluated seven models. For Lin14, Lin15 and Sch74, Villa *et al.* found a similar performance for these models with one or two glare sources.<sup>20</sup> They also found that ratings made using a dynamic viewing procedure were generally lower than ratings made with a static viewing procedure. A multi-dataset evaluation of the models using more than one glare source and using a dynamic viewing procedure is warranted.

In the presented analyses, it was assumed in this study that the comfort/ discomfort threshold in the 9-point scale was drawn just below 5. Further work is needed determine whether the conclusions are robust to changes in this assumption.

In two of the datasets, the sample sizes were quite small. While the sample sizes for V17 and T18 exceeded 30, those for the individual experiments within S13 and T15 ranged from 6 to 19. Small sample sizes can reduce a study's power and ability to detect certain effect sizes.  $42,43$ 

Further studies are needed to verify the presented results and evaluate other models, such as Bul11, the European model  $(R<sub>GI</sub>)$ ,<sup>44</sup> modified Daylight Glare Index (DGI),<sup>21</sup> and the CIE maximum luminous intensity; the threshold is recommended by CIE for controlling glare in pedestrian situations.<sup>45</sup> These models were omitted from the current analysis because  $L_{\text{max}}$ , which is needed to calculate Bul11 (see Equation 5), and maximum luminous intensity data were not available in all four datasets. The modified DGI was not included in the current analysis because it requires luminance distribution data which were not available. Lastly, luminous intensity and the projected luminous area are needed to calculate  $R<sub>GI</sub>$ , which were also not available. Future analysis of these models can be made possible if studies were to consistently report all needed quantities as proposed in a recent article.<sup>46</sup>

Finally, the four datasets used sources with different CCTs  $(4000K, 5700K,$  and  $6500K$  for V17, T18 and S13, respectively: T15 reported a CCT of 5000 K for only their first experiment). While there is some evidence that variations in glare source spectral power distribution affect discomfort evaluations this was not evaluated in the current analysis.<sup>29,47,48</sup>

## **5. Conclusion**

In this paper, we explored the predictions of discomfort from glare in the context of pedestrian lighting given by seven models tested using four independent datasets. For the range of experimental conditions used in these four datasets, we conclude that direct illuminance  $E_d$  is the most suitable model, as it tended to offer similar or better predictions than did the other models. The mean performance of  $E_d$  is slightly lower than Bul08, the model proposed by Bullough *et al.*<sup>12</sup> which exhibited the best performance, but Bul08 requires additional measurements that may not be straightforward to predict at design stage or to measure in the field. While the mean performance of  $E_d$  is slightly lower than Bul08, it offers a simpler approach for design and installation practice. For situations that deviate from the experimental conditions of the included datasets, the above conclusions should be considered tentative pending further research using more datasets and testing other metrics, such as Bul11.

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## **Appendix A**

Test results by dataset:

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A1: Test results for the seven models using V17 dataset



A2: Test results for the seven models using S13 dataset



A3: Test results for the seven models using T18 dataset



A4: Test results for the seven models using T15 dataset



A5: Test results for the seven models using the combined dataset

## **Appendix B**

To evaluate whether one study influenced the findings more than others (using the combined data set), we conducted additional analyses similar to those shown in Table 5 but each time removing a different study dataset from the combined dataset. The Table B1 shows the mean performance for each model under each dataset removal scenario.

Similar to the reported results using all four datasets, we found that Bul08 had the highest mean performance in all scenarios. In the

scenarios with T18 or S13 removed, Ed and Lin15 followed as having the second highest mean performance. In the scenario with V17 removed,  $E_d$  had the same mean performance as Bul08 whereas Lin15 had a slightly lower mean performance than Lin14. In the scenario with T15 removed, Sch74 had the same mean performance as Lin15, followed by  $E_d$  and  $L_{avg}$ . Although there were ties introduced when  $\tilde{T15}$ was removed, the additional analyses showed that the reported findings using the combined dataset with four datasets still hold.

**Table B1** Mean performance when each dataset was individually removed from the combined dataset, and using all datasets in the last column. Shaded cells denote the model with best performance

Model	T18 removed	S <sub>13</sub> removed	T <sub>15</sub> removed	V <sub>17</sub> removed	Combined datasets
$E_{\rm d}$	0.82	0.83	0.77	0.90	0.83
$L_{\text{avg}}$	0.77	0.71	0.77	0.78	0.71
Lin14	0.80	0.77	0.74	0.85	0.76
Lin15	0.83	0.82	0.81	0.83	0.82
Bul08	0.88	0.89	0.83	0.90	0.88
Pet <sub>50</sub>	0.78	0.72	0.70	0.80	0.72
Sch74	0.77	0.75	0.81	0.82	0.75