

# Individual variation in the relation between body temperature and energy expenditure in response to elevated ambient temperature.

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# Individual variation in the relation between body temperature and energy expenditure in response to elevated ambient temperature

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## Abstract

The question we address here is whether a mild increase in environmental temperature affects body temperature and energy expenditure, focusing on the individual variation in the relation between energy expenditure and body temperature. We studied eight normal weight healthy females, 48 h at an ambient temperature of 22°C, and 48 h at 27°C. Energy expenditure (EE) was measured in a respiration chamber. Subjects' skin temperature was measured continuously from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.: forehead, infraclavicular zone, thigh, hand, and foot. Core temperature was determined tympanically. Body composition was determined by under water weighing. Exposure to 27°C caused a significant increase in body temperature (both skin and core), a decrease in temperature gradients, and a decrease in energy expenditure. At 27°C 24 h EE, adjusted for body composition, was significantly related to body tympanic temperature. The decrease in 24 h EE, at 27°C ambient temperature, was significantly, negatively related to the increase in  $T_{\text{tym}}$ , indicating individual responses in adaptation to elevated ambient temperature. Changes in temperature gradient (comparing 27°C with 22°C) were negatively related to changes in EE. This shows that individuals differ in their response to an increase in environmental temperature regarding the relative contribution of insulative or metabolic adjustments. © 2001 Elsevier Science Inc. All rights reserved.

*Keywords:* Metabolic rate; Obesity; Respiration chamber

## 1. Introduction

Studies on the effect of ambient temperature on metabolism in humans often concentrate on either energy expenditure (EE) [1–3], or body temperature [4–6]. Few studies look at the interaction of energy metabolism and body temperature [7–9]. Looking at both EE and body temperature distribution may provide insight in individual differences in response to changes in environmental temperature. Different sites of the body have different temperatures and their response to a variation in environmental temperature is site-specific [10]. The body can be divided in two compartments: the thermal core and the thermal shell [11]. The thermal core consists of intracranial, intrathoracic, and intra-abdominal contents and its temperature is relatively constant [2,12,13]. The thermal shell, including the skin, subcutaneous tissue, and the limbs, has temperatures that fluctuate much more [14,15]. Most of the energy produced within the

core is dissipated into the environment via the body's surface. It follows that under thermal neutral conditions, the skin temperature is lower than the core temperature and that the skin temperature varies more with the ambient temperature. Indeed, mild cold has shown to increase the temperature gradient, i.e., a reduction of peripheral temperature at relatively constant core temperature [16].

With respect to EE, it has been shown that a decrease in energy metabolism parallels an increase of ambient temperature [17], and vice versa [1,18]. One study has shown a significant relationship between body size adjusted metabolic rate and body temperature [7]. They showed in their analyses of the data from the Minnesota Semi-Starvation Study [19] that body temperature and adjusted [for body fat, body fat free mass (FFM), age, and gender] metabolic rate were significantly related. Though throughout the starvation experiments and refeeding, the individual temperatures dropped and increased again, it was shown that the inter-individual differences in body temperature remained. These results indicate the existence of a possibly genetically determined interindividual difference in body temperature set(ting)-points.

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Table 1  
Physical characteristics of the eight female subjects

Location	Mean	Range
Age (year)	22.6	19.0–25.0
Height (m)	1.69	1.61–1.76
Weight (kg)	63.9	48.6–76.1
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	22.2	17.2–25.0
Body fat (%)	27.8	21.1–33.2
FFM	46.1	38.4–52.8

The questions we address here are whether an individual variation in EE is related to body temperature, and how a mild increase in environmental temperature affects both body temperature and EE.

## 2. Materials and methods

Eight healthy female volunteers participated in the study. The body mass, body mass index (BMI), body composition (% body fat) was within normal range for young females (Table 1).

The Medical Ethical Committee of Maastricht University approved the study.

### 2.1. Body composition

Whole body density was determined by underwater weighing in the morning in fasted state. Body weight was measured with a digital balance with an accuracy of 0.01 kg (Sauter, type E1200). Lung volume was measured simultaneously with the helium dilution technique using a spirometer (Volugraph 2000, Mijnhardt). Percentage body fat was calculated using the equation of Siri [20]. FFM (kg) was calculated by subtracting fat mass from body mass.

### 2.2. Energy expenditure

Each out of two tests lasted 48 h. The test took place in a 14-m<sup>3</sup> respiration chamber, as described in detail by Schoffelen et al. [21]. The room is ventilated with fresh air. The ventilation rate was measured with a dry gas meter (G4 Schlumberger, The Netherlands) and amounted to 70–80 l/min. The relative humidity was set at 55% at both 22°C and 27°C. Physical activity was monitored by means of a radar

system, based on the Doppler principle [21]. The sensitivity of the radar system is described elsewhere [21,22].

Twenty-four hours EE was determined from the O<sub>2</sub> consumption and the CO<sub>2</sub> production according to Weir [23]. Sixteen hours EE (from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) was also calculated for comparison with body temperature measurements from the same time interval (see below). Sleeping metabolic rate (SMR) was calculated as the lowest mean EE over three consecutive hours between 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Twenty-four hours diet-induced thermogenesis (DIT) was determined as the increase in EE above SMR, corrected for activity-induced EE (AEE). This was achieved by plotting EE against radar output. The intercept of the regression line at the offset of the radar, thus at zero physical activity, represents the EE in the inactive state: resting energy expenditure (RMR), consisting of SMR plus DIT. DIT was calculated by subtracting SMR from RMR [24–26]. AEE was obtained by subtracting DIT and SMR from 24 h EE. All EE components are expressed in M/24 h.

### 2.3. Body temperature

Subjects' skin temperature was measured continuously from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. by means of thermistor surface contact probes (YSI Series 400 type: 409B, accuracy ±0.1°C) fixed on the skin with thin, air-permeable adhesive surgical tape. The probes were applied to the following standardized regions: forehead ( $T_{for}$ ), infraclavicular zone ( $T_{in}$ ), and on nondominant sides of thigh ( $T_{th}$ ), hand ( $T_{ha}$ ), and foot ( $T_{fo}$ ). Distal skin temperatures were calculated from means of  $T_{ha}$  and  $T_{fo}$ , while proximal skin temperatures were derived by averaging  $T_{for}$ ,  $T_{in}$ , and  $T_{th}$ . Skin temperature measurements were used to calculate average 16 h values. The thermometric probes were calibrated to within 0.05°C in a water bath against a reference mercury thermometer (accuracy: 0.02°C).

Tympanic temperature ( $T_{tym}$ ) was measured using an infrared thermometer (Genius, M3000A) with a built-in offset value of 1.44°C. Temperature measurements were thoroughly explained to the subjects before entering the respiration chambers.

### 2.4. Protocol

The study took place at the Department of Human Biology, Maastricht University, during the winter season

Table 2  
Mean temperature of proximal skin ( $T_{prox}$ ), distal skin ( $T_{dist}$ ), and tympanic ( $T_{tym}$ ) and results from ANOVA repeated measures test

Location	22°C (Day 1)	22°C (Day 2)	27°C (Day 1)	27°C (Day 2)	ANOVA <i>P</i> value	
					Between subjects	Between treatments
$T_{tym}$	37.04 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.32	36.95 <sup>34</sup> ± 0.30	37.39 <sup>13</sup> ± 0.28	37.31 <sup>24</sup> ± 0.35	.08	.005
$T_{prox}$	32.02 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.40	31.77 <sup>34</sup> ± 0.49	34.05 <sup>13</sup> ± 0.35	33.87 <sup>24</sup> ± 0.41	.96	.0001
$T_{dist}$	31.13 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.55	31.02 <sup>34</sup> ± 0.61	33.89 <sup>13</sup> ± 0.33	33.68 <sup>24</sup> ± 0.42	.98	.0001

Mean ± standard deviation. Significant differences of post hoc test between means indicated by identical superscript numbers.

Table 3

Temperature gradient of core temperature (tympenic —  $T_{\text{tym}}$ ) and skin temperature (proximal —  $T_{\text{prox}}$  and distal —  $T_{\text{dist}}$ ), and results from ANOVA repeated measures test

Difference	22°C (Day 1)	22°C (Day 2)	27°C (Day 1)	27°C (Day 2)	ANOVA <i>P</i> value	
					Between subjects	Between treatments
$T_{\text{tym}} - T_{\text{dist}}$	5.91 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.79	5.93 <sup>34</sup> ± 0.79	3.50 <sup>13</sup> ± 0.38	3.64 <sup>24</sup> ± 0.37	.94	.0001
$T_{\text{tym}} - T_{\text{prox}}$	5.02 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.67	5.18 <sup>34</sup> ± 0.64	3.34 <sup>13</sup> ± 0.31	3.45 <sup>24</sup> ± 0.32	.86	.0001
$T_{\text{prox}} - T_{\text{dist}}$	0.89 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.36	0.75 <sup>34</sup> ± 0.36	0.16 <sup>13</sup> ± 0.17	0.19 <sup>24</sup> ± 0.15	.37	.0001

Mean ± standard deviation. Significant differences of post hoc test between means indicated by identical superscript numbers.

from November 1998 to March 1999. Subjects stayed two times for 48 h (9:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.) in the respiration chamber, once at 22°C, and once at 27°C, in random order. Measurements were performed during the second week of the menstrual cycle, which is before ovulation. The temporal interval between two tests was 4 weeks. Food composition and regimens at 22°C and 27°C were identical (breakfast: whole wheat bread, apricot jam, and blueberry jam, sweet spicy biscuit, coffee, tea, or water; snacks: chocowafer cookies or wheat cookies or cake, unsweetened orange juice; lunch: lasagne bolognaise or macaroni with cheese and ham or nasi goreng, water, vanilla ice cream, milk chocolate; snacks: chocowafer cookies or wheat cookies or cake, fruit (apple, banana, kiwi, mandarin, or orange), water; dinner: toast or sandwich with Gouda cheese 48+, ham, salad, tomato, full-fat fruit yogurt or vanilla dessert; snacks: paprika crisps and salt crisps, water). Subjects were fed in energy balance on the first day and ad libitum on the second day [27]. The clothing was identical during all experiments, was tested in advance, and was comfortable at both ambient temperatures. Daily activities were standardized by describing every hour and sometimes every 15 min what the subjects were supposed to do. It included household activities, standardized extensive aerobic exercise, sedentary activities such as reading and watching television (see Appendix A). Meal and snack times were also standardized.

### 2.5. Statistics

Body temperatures and EE of days 27°C (Day 1), 27°C (Day 2), 22°C (Day 1), and 22°C (Day 2) were compared

using analyses of variance (ANOVA) repeated measures with Scheffe's *F* test post hoc.

To assess the relationship between body temperature and 24 h EE, 16 h EE, SMR, and AEE, EE parameters were adjusted according to predictive equations determined by multiple regression of EE (in MJ/day) against FM and FFM (in kg) [28]. The adjusted metabolic rate, or residual, was calculated by subtracting the predicted value from the measured metabolic rate.

Statistical analyses was performed using STATVIEW SE+Graphics, ABACUS concepts, Berkeley, CA. Outcomes were regarded as statistically significantly different if  $P < .05$ .

### 3. Results

Body weight of the subjects did not change over each experimental period of 48 h, and between each experimental period.

Tympanic temperature and skin temperatures were significantly elevated at 27°C (both days) compared to 22°C (both days). This also holds for all measured skin temperatures, and for the derived proximal and distal temperatures (Table 2). Temperature gradients, i.e., differences between core temperatures and skin temperatures, and proximal skin and distal skin temperatures, decreased significantly comparing 27°C with 22°C (Table 3).

24 h EE and 16 h EE were significantly decreased at 27°C compared to 22°C at both days, as did DIT and AEE (Table 4) [27]. SMR did not differ significantly comparing days with different ambient temperatures. During all days both 24 h EE and 16 h EE were significantly related to

Table 4

SMR, 24 h EE, and AEE in MJ/24 h, and results from ANOVA repeated measures test

	22°C (Day 1)	22°C (Day 2)	27°C (Day 1)	27°C (Day 2)	ANOVA <i>P</i> value	
					Between subjects	Between treatments
SMR	5.59 <sup>12</sup> ± 0.66	5.92 <sup>2</sup> ± 0.67	5.73 ± 0.79	5.83 <sup>1</sup> ± 0.50	.0001	.01
24 h EE	9.90 <sup>12</sup> ± 1.47	9.76 <sup>34</sup> ± 1.67	9.10 <sup>13</sup> ± 1.17	9.01 <sup>24</sup> ± 1.08	.0001	.0001
16 h EE	11.64 <sup>12</sup> ± 1.88	11.28 <sup>34</sup> ± 2.09	10.50 <sup>13</sup> ± 1.34	10.25 <sup>24</sup> ± 1.31	.0001	.0001
AEE	3.31 <sup>1</sup> ± 1.05	3.10 <sup>2</sup> ± 1.12	2.71 <sup>1</sup> ± 0.39	2.42 <sup>2</sup> ± 0.48	.001	.01
DIT	1.01 <sup>1</sup> ± 0.18	0.74 ± 0.11	0.66 <sup>1</sup> ± 0.22	0.76 ± 0.26	NS	.01

Mean ± standard deviation. Significant differences of post hoc test between means indicated by identical superscript numbers.

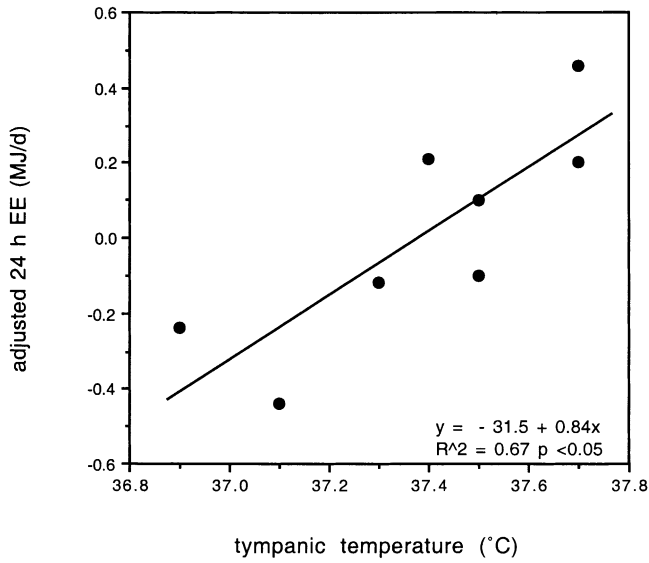


Fig. 1. 24 h EE, adjusted for FFM and fat mass, in relation to tympanic temperature at 27°C ambient temperature, Day 1.

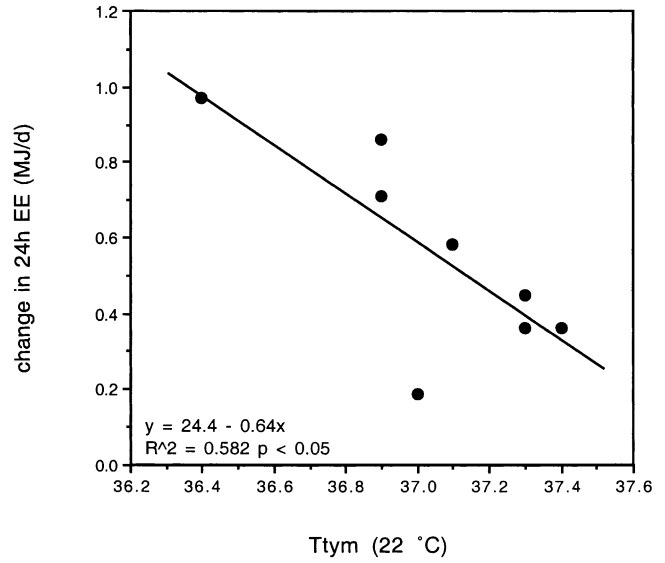


Fig. 3. Change in 24 h EE, from 27°C (day 1) to 22°C (day 1), in relation to the tympanic temperature at 22°C ambient temperature.

FFM and FM ( $R^2$  varied from .81 to .95). These relations were used to calculate residuals for adjustment for FFM and FM.

At 22°C, there were no correlations between 24 h EE, 16 h EE, or SMR (all adjusted for FFM and FM) and body temperature ( $T_{\text{tymp}}$ ,  $T_{\text{skin}}$ ). However, at 27°C, adjusted 24 h EE and 16 h EE were significantly positively related to tympanic temperature on both days [24 h EE: 27°C (Day 1),  $P < .05$ ,  $R = .82$ ; 27°C (Day 2):  $P < .05$ ,  $R = .78$ ; see example in Fig. 1; 16 h EE: 27°C (Day 1),  $P < .05$ ,  $R = .73$ ; 27°C (Day

2):  $P < .05$ ,  $R = .71$ ]. No relations were found between 24 h EE or 16 h EE and skin temperature. There was also no significant relation with adjusted SMR and body temperatures at 27°C. The adjusted AEE was significantly related to  $T_{\text{tymp}}$  at 27°C on Day 2 ( $P < .05$ ;  $R^2 = .81$ ).

The relative magnitude of the 24 h EE (and 16 h EE) was individual-specific as indicated by the significant correlation between adjusted 24 h EE of different days (ANOVA repeated measures: between subjects  $P < .0001$ ; between days:  $P > .98$ ; see example in Fig. 2).

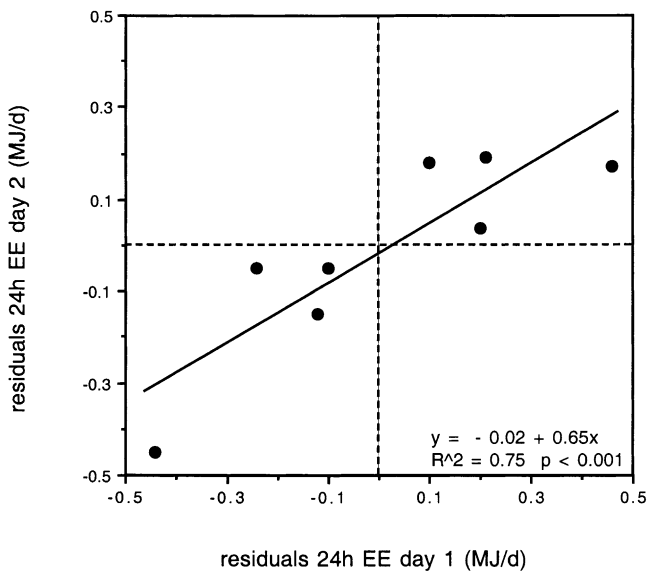


Fig. 2. Residuals of 24 EE of Day 2 in relation to residuals of 24 EE of Day 1, at 27°C ambient temperature.

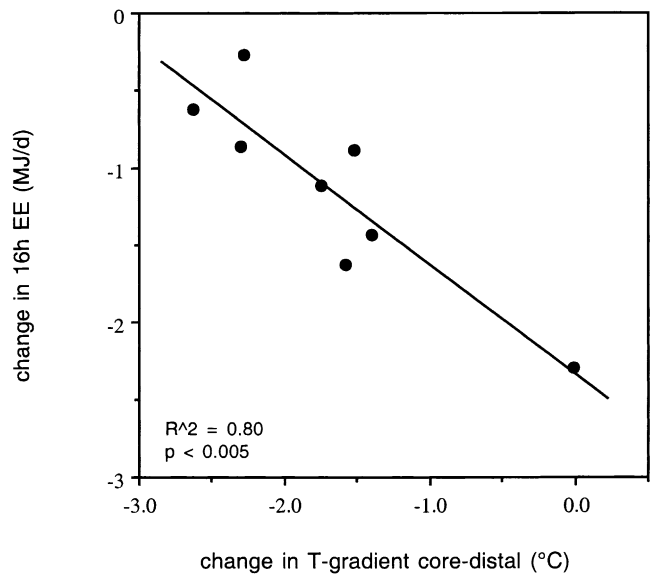


Fig. 4. Change in 16 h EE, from 27°C (day 1) to 22°C (day 1), in relation to the change in temperature gradient ( $T_{\text{tymp}} - T_{\text{dis}}$ ) from 27°C (day 1) to 22°C (day 1).

The mean differences of tympanic temperatures between 27°C and 22°C and the mean differences of EE between 27°C and 22°C were significantly negatively related (24 h EE:  $R^2 = -.67$ ,  $P < .01$ ; 16 h EE:  $R^2 = -.72$ ,  $P < .01$ ). The magnitude of these changes were related to the  $T_{\text{tym}}$  at 22°C on Day 1 (change in 24 h EE and  $T_{\text{tym}}$  22°C:  $R^2 = .58$ ,  $P < .05$ , Fig. 3; change in 16 h EE and  $T_{\text{tym}}$  22°C:  $R^2 = .61$ ,  $P < .05$ ; change in  $T_{\text{tym}}$  and  $T_{\text{tym}}$  22°C:  $R^2 = .59$ ,  $P < .05$ ). The change in AEE was also related to  $T_{\text{tym}}$  ( $R^2 = .78$ ,  $P < .005$ ). To find out about the contribution of changes in activity, we tested whether radar counts differed between test days. There were no significant differences in radar counts ( $P > .05$ ), indicating that our activity protocol worked out well.

Finally, the change in EE, from 27°C to 22°C, was negatively related to the change in temperature gradient (16 h EE and gradient “core-proximal” Day 1:  $R^2 = .77$ ,  $P < .005$ ; Day 2:  $R^2 = .62$ ,  $P < .05$ ; 16 h EE and gradient “core-distal” Day 1:  $R^2 = .80$ ,  $P < .005$ , see Fig. 4; Day 2:  $R^2 = .54$ ,  $P < .05$ ). These relations were also significant for 24 h EE values.

#### 4. Discussion

Short-term exposure (24 h) to 27°C of normal-weight women who were used to an ambient temperature of 22°C (normal temperature in the building and in most rooms in the Netherlands) caused a significant increase in body temperature (both skin and core), a decrease in temperature gradients, and a decrease in EE. At 27°C adjusted 24 h EE and 16 h EE were significantly related to body core temperature (tympanic temperature). The decrease in 24 h EE and 16 h EE, at 27°C ambient temperature, were significantly negatively related to the increase in  $T_{\text{tym}}$ . The change in EE was negatively related to the change in temperature gradient, indicating that individuals differ in their response to an increase in environmental temperature.

Tympanic temperature is regarded as a very sensitive measurement of core temperature. Using infrared thermometers is disputable [29–31], because apart from the eardrum, some of the ear canal is measured. The relative importance of the ear canal is determined by intraindividual differences. However, these differences were compensated for in this study, because the subjects served as their own control. Problems with the IR thermometer are especially evident in very hot environments, intensive exercise, and during fever. For comparative studies under less extreme situations, like in this study, IR tympanic measurements correlate well with the body core temperature (e.g., Refs. [29,32]). Notwithstanding these facts, absolute uncorrected values are most probably lower than the actual tympanic temperatures.

The small but significant increase in core body temperature at 27°C compared to 22°C ambient temper-

ature is comparable to earlier studies that found slight but not statistically significant increases of rectal temperature at increasing ambient temperature [16,17]. This increase went hand in hand with a larger increase in skin temperature and a significant drop in metabolic rate, which is consistent with studies on BMR [16,17]. The reduction of 24 h EE at 27°C is also consistent with a more recent study by Dauncey [1]. This reduction can be due to a reduction in RMR, DIT, and/or AEE. We found no reduction in RMR, but indeed, DIT and AEE were significantly reduced at 27°C, and thus contribute to the reduction in 24 h EE. To find out if despite a standardized activity protocol activities were affected by environmental temperature, we tested whether radar counts between days differed. This was not the case, underlining that our activity protocol suited our purpose. How then could AEE be affected? Differences in AEE can be explained by differences in muscle tone, ranging from energy expended on maintaining different postures, change in posture, and small movements including fidgeting. This has been described as nonexercise activity thermogenesis or NEAT [33].

For the study of the relation between BT and EE, only 24 h EE, 16 h EE, DIT, and AEE can be studied. RMR has not been measured separately and during sleep (night) the core BT was not measured. The relation between adjusted 24 h EE or 16 h EE and  $T_{\text{tym}}$  was significant at both days at 27°C. The significant correlation between adjusted 24 h EE of different days makes clear that this response was individual-specific.

Apart from possible differences in RMR, the relation between adjusted 24 h EE or 16 h EE and body temperature can be explained by differences in activity. Indeed, adjusted AEE was significantly related to  $T_{\text{tym}}$ , but on one day [27°C (Day 2)] only. From this study, the relative contribution of AEE or RMR to the relation between 24 h EE and body temperature cannot be deduced. Nevertheless, it can be concluded that similar to the interindividual variability of the human metabolic rate (in this study about 5–19%), there was significant interindividual variability in body temperature, and that persons with higher metabolic rates also had higher core (tympanic) temperature at an ambient temperature of 27°C.

Why there was a significant relationship between adjusted 24 h EE or 16 h EE and core temperature at 27°C and not at 22°C cannot be deduced from this study. One explanation can be that the lower the EE, the larger the (relative) effect is of the contribution of NEAT and thus of the individual differences in NEAT. The effect of the activity component can be larger at relatively high temperatures. On the other hand, part of the variation in 24 h EE can be due to variation in RMR. The reduction in RMR (ns) at 27°C may have resulted in larger individual variation in RMR. Finally, acclimatization may be involved.

Although we did not find differences between Day 1 and Day 2 at 27°C, it may well be possible that acclimatization (long-term adaptation) may show different results, and part of the individual differences may be caused by the individual differences in rapidity of acclimatization. Likewise, following acclimatization thermoregulatory function in dry heat did not differ between males and females, which existed before acclimatization [34].

The individual-specific response to a change in ambient temperature from 27°C to 22°C in 24 h EE or 16 h EE were negatively related to changes in tympanic temperatures between 27°C and 22°C. The change in 24 h EE (or 16 h EE) from 22°C to 27°C was significantly related to  $T_{\text{tym}}$  at 22°C on Day 1 (energy balance). The change in  $T_{\text{tym}}$  on Day 1 was also inversely related to  $T_{\text{tym}}$ . During Day 2 (ad libitum), energy intake was reduced [27], possibly reducing the increase in body temperature at 27°C, which may have affected the EE. The study thus shows that, when in energy balance, a relatively low body temperature at 22°C was associated with a relatively large increase in body temperature at rising ambient temperature. In order to find out what the contribution of  $\Delta\text{AEE}$  (or NEAT) was, partial correlation was performed with tympanic temperature and the changes in AEE or 16 h EE – AEE (i.e., EE minus the activity component). With both  $T_{\text{tym}}$  at 22°C and with the change in  $T_{\text{tym}}$ , partial correlation revealed a significant contribution of AEE ( $P < .05$ ), but not for 16 h EE – AEE ( $P > .05$ ). This emphasizes the dominant role of NEAT in the decrease in EE at elevated temperatures.

The fact that changing the environmental temperature from 22°C to 27°C, the body temperature gradient decrease was negatively related to the EE decrease indicates individual differences in response to changing environments. This means that those subjects with hardly any decrease in EE showed a relatively large change in body temperature gradient, while those with a large decrease in EE showed less change in temperature gradients. Responses or adaptations can be metabolic (by changing EE), insulative (by changing vasoconstriction/vasodilation), or by changing the body core temperature [35]. In this study all three adjustments occurred. The relation between changes in gradients and changes in EE (Fig. 4) indicates that individuals confronted with a relatively warm environment differ in the relative contribution of the metabolic response or an insulative response (no change in metabolic rate, change in gradient).

Our data provide strong evidence that individuals regulate body temperatures at different set points, and that the rate of heat production is positively related to the temperature of the body. This has health implications as several studies have shown that a low metabolic

rate for a given body composition is a predisposing factor for weight gain [36–38]. It has also been suggested that skin temperature may play a role in the pathogenesis of obesity [39,40]. Twin studies indicate that the individual differences in EE are genetically determined [36,41,42].

Secondly, the data show that individuals differ in their response to a change in ambient temperature. The effect of ambient temperature on individual differences in metabolism and/or thermal adjustments is described in several studies (e.g., Refs. [43–46]). This kind of studies focuses on strong environmental changes, like heat (or cold) stress. However, to our knowledge, the aspect of individual response variability in body temperature and metabolism to mild changes in environmental temperatures, has not been described before. This aspect may have important health implications as individuals may differ in their response to seasonal variations in environmental temperature, but also to short-term changes as ambient temperatures in our society are highly variable (e.g., being inside or outside). A temporal relatively low core temperature, for instance, might have been an energy-conserving mechanism that had survival advantages in the past (see, e.g., relatively low body temperatures in Australian aborigines during cold nights [47]), but in modern society this may make some individual more prone to obesity than others. The same accounts for the contribution of insulative adjustments or metabolic adjustments. For instance, those subjects with mainly insulative adjustments may be more energy-efficient than those with mainly metabolic adjustments.

Finally, our data indicate that the body temperature at the ambient temperature at which one is acclimatized may have predictive value for the individual response to a change in that ambient temperature: a relatively low  $T_{\text{tym}}$  at 22°C resulted in a larger increase in  $T_{\text{tym}}$  and decrease in AEE at 27°C.

In conclusion, our data provide strong evidence that individuals regulate body temperatures at different set points, and that the rate of heat production is positively related to the temperature of the body. Our data also show that individuals differ in their temperature and EE response to a change in ambient temperature, and that these responses were related. The study indicates that the core temperature at baseline may be predictive for the temperature response.

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## Appendix A. Activity protocol

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### Evening Day 0

9:00 p.m.	Arrival in respiration chamber. Body weight measurement. Explanations
10:00 p.m.	Coffee or tea is served
10:00 p.m.–12:00 a.m.	Unpacking; reading and watching TV, while sitting
12:00 a.m.	Time to go to bed

### Day 1 and Day 2

8:00 a.m.	Wake up. Body weight measurement
8:00–8:30 a.m.	Washing and getting dressed
8:30–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00–9:30 a.m.	Lying down, reading; not allowed to fall asleep
9:30–9:45 a.m.	Dishwashing
9:45–10:00 a.m.	Making up the bed
10:00–10:30 a.m.	Stepping in standardized rhythm, while music is playing
10:30–11:00 a.m.	Refreshing; eating a snack
11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Calm activity: reading or TV watching while sitting
12:00–12:15 p.m.	Playing with a ball
12:15–1:00 p.m.	Calm activity: reading or TV watching while sitting
1:00–2:00 p.m.	Lunch while sitting
2:00–2:15 p.m.	Dishwashing
2:15–4:00 p.m.	Calm activity: reading or TV watching while sitting
4:00–4:30 p.m.	Stepping in standardized rhythm, while music is playing
4:30–5:15 p.m.	Refreshing; preparing and eating a snack
5:15–6:00 p.m.	Playing a board game with the neighbour
6:00–7:00 p.m.	Lying down, reading or watching TV
7:00–8:00 p.m.	Dinner, while sitting. Last 10 min are spent on dishwashing.
8:00–8:30 p.m.	Playing domino with the neighbour

### Day 1

8:30–9:30 p.m.	Lying down, reading or watching TV
9:30 p.m.–12:00 a.m.	Eating a snack; calm activity: reading or TV watching while sitting
12:00 a.m.	Time to go to bed

### Day 2

8:30–9:00 p.m.	Lying down, reading or watching TV
9:00 p.m.	Leaving the room; body weight measurement

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