

How can we solve our urban climate and energy problems?

An integrated approach from material to city scale

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Zurich, Switzerland



Climate with no excessive heat, cold nor humidity

Winter smog due to inversion in Zurich valley

View on city of Zurich from Uetliberg, 23.02.03 15h.

Warm air



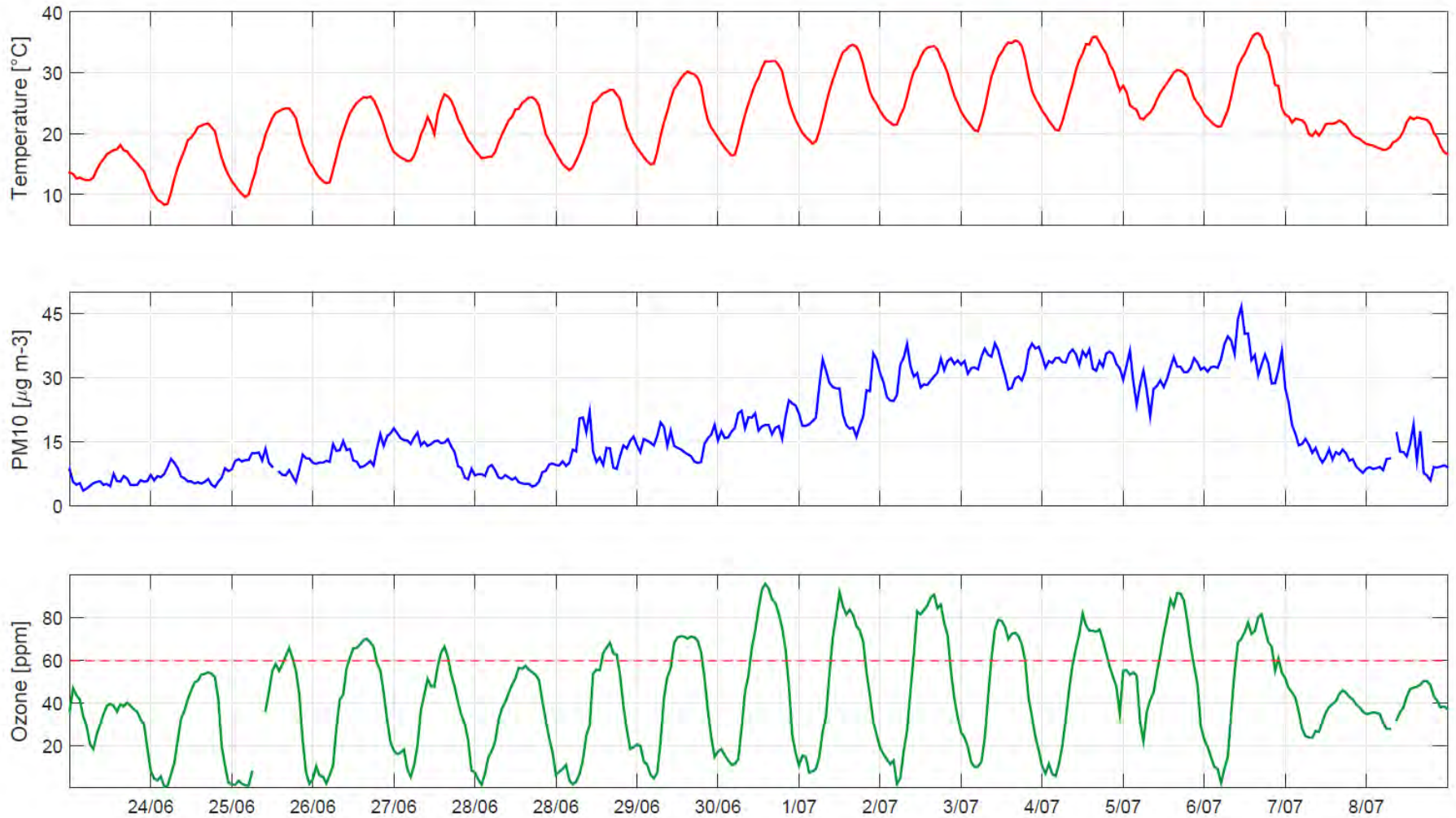
Cold air

High concentrations of
primary pollutants

PM₁₀: 116 μ g/m³

NO₂: 91 μ g/m³

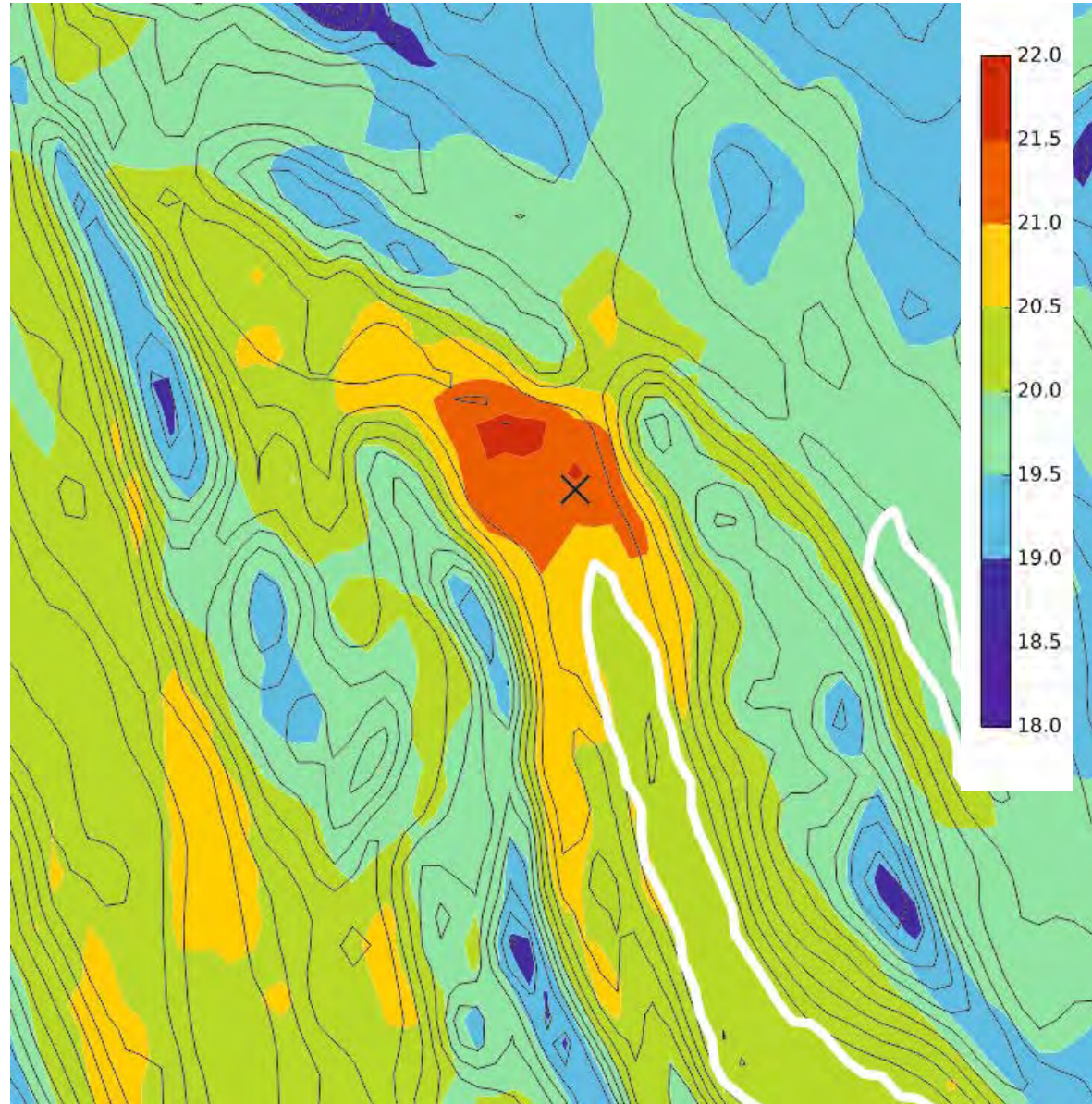
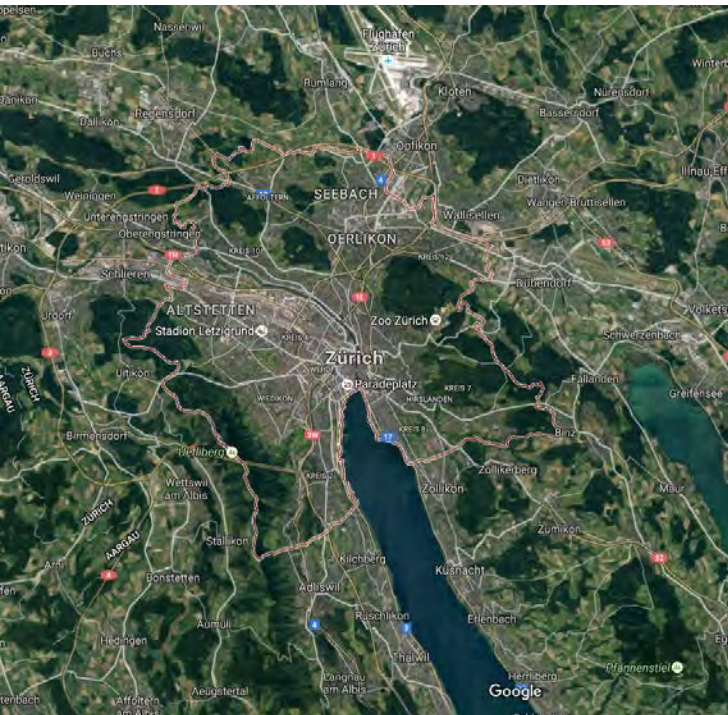
Heat wave June - July 2015: Zurich area



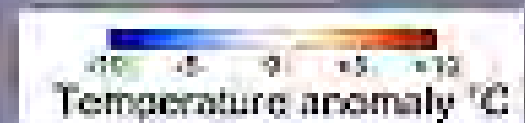
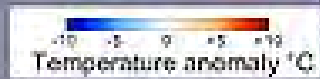
NABEL Station – Empa, Dübendorf (Zurich area)

Urban heat island in Zurich during heat wave June – July 2015

Air temperature at 2m, 12 pm, period averaged



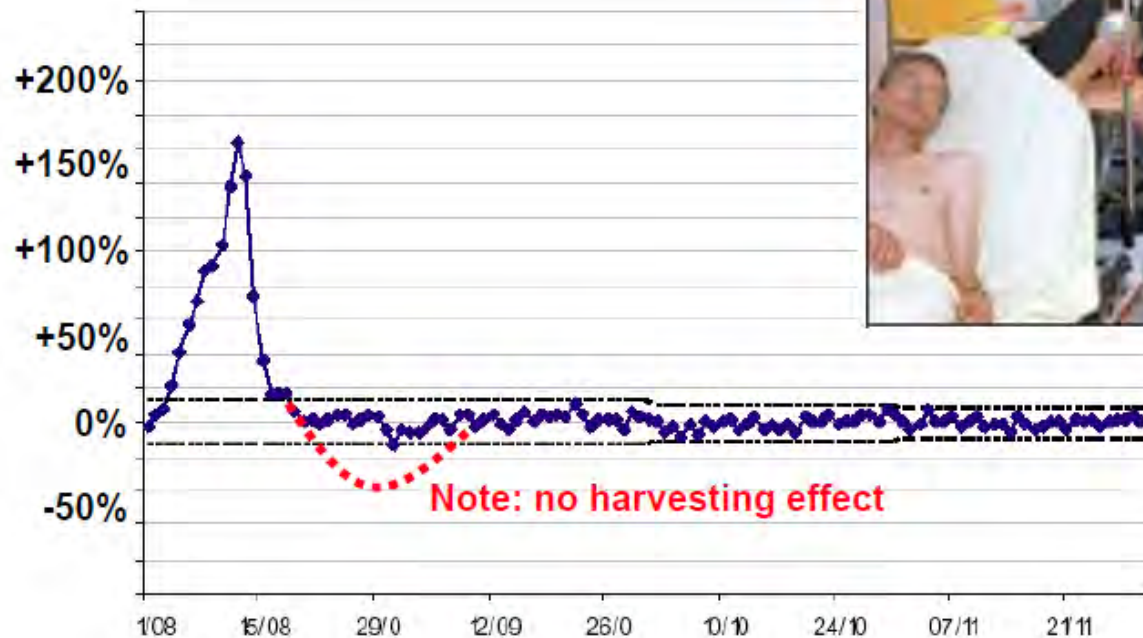
Europe 2003 summer heatwave



Heat waves have a dramatic impact on quality of life and health

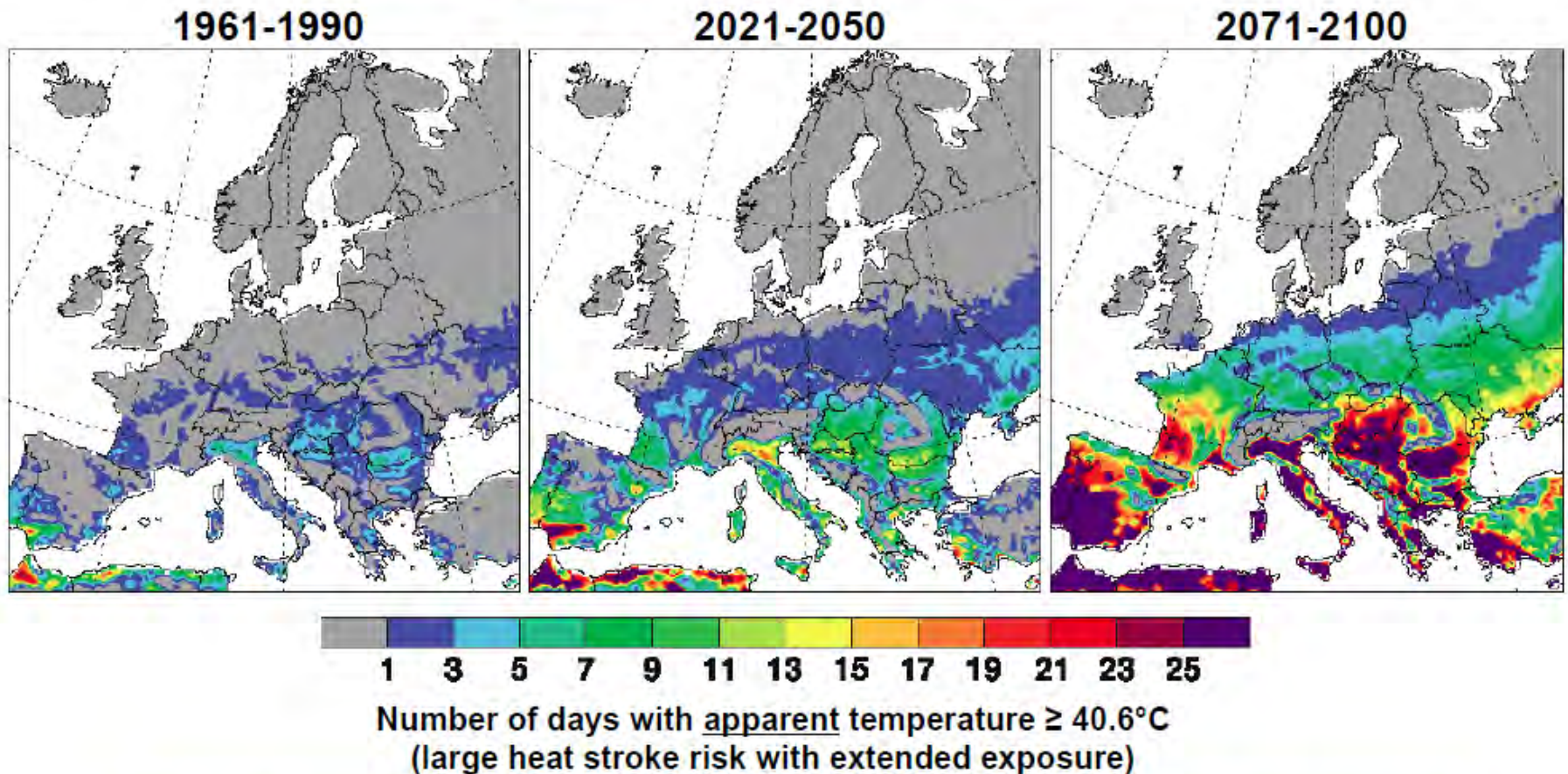
Excess mortality in France

Excess mortality = mortality beyond longterm mean



Date: August 1 - November 30, 2003

Heat wave occurrence will increase due to climate change



Dramatic increases in low-altitude Mediterranean (river basins and coasts)

Fischer and Schär 2010, *Nature Geoscience*, ENSEMBLES, mean of 6 models, scenario A1B

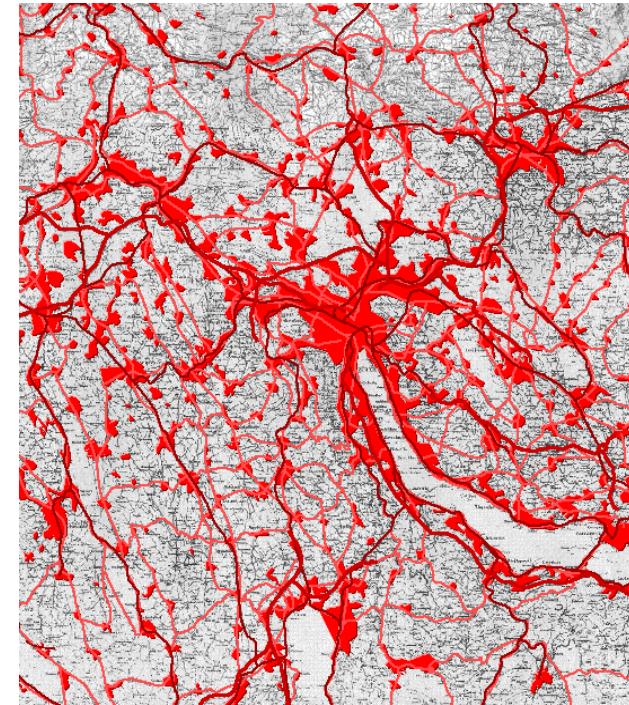
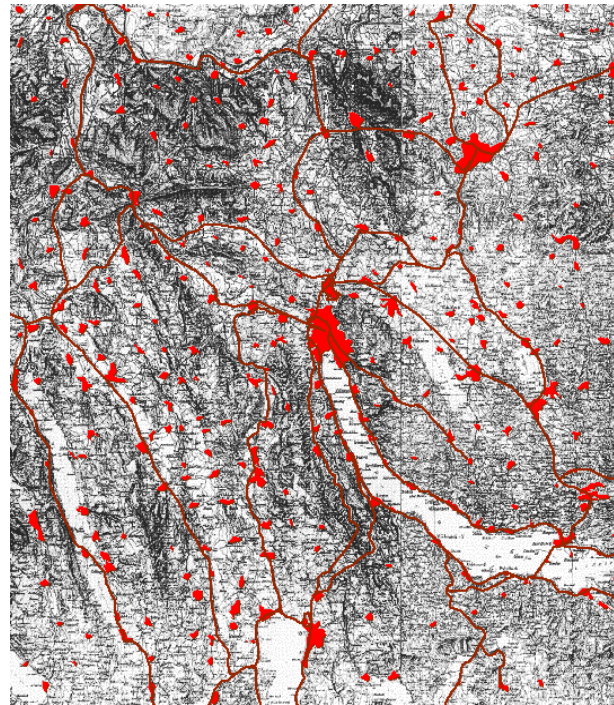
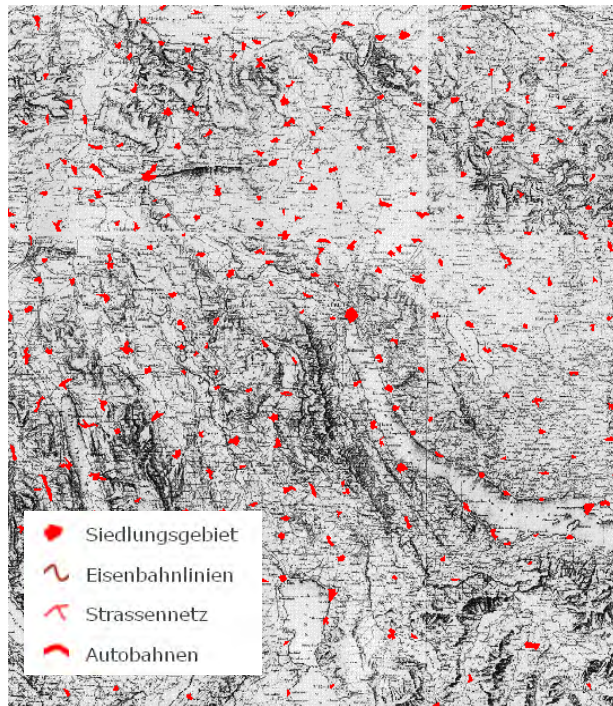
There is a growing trend to urbanization in the Zurich area

1847

1912

1990

10 km



Densification of the Zürich area

- 70% of people living in urban environment by 2050 (UN 2009)
- 83 % of people living in cities in Switzerland by 2050
- Energy consumption in cities is likely to follow urbanization trend

Trend to urbanization in Tokyo area

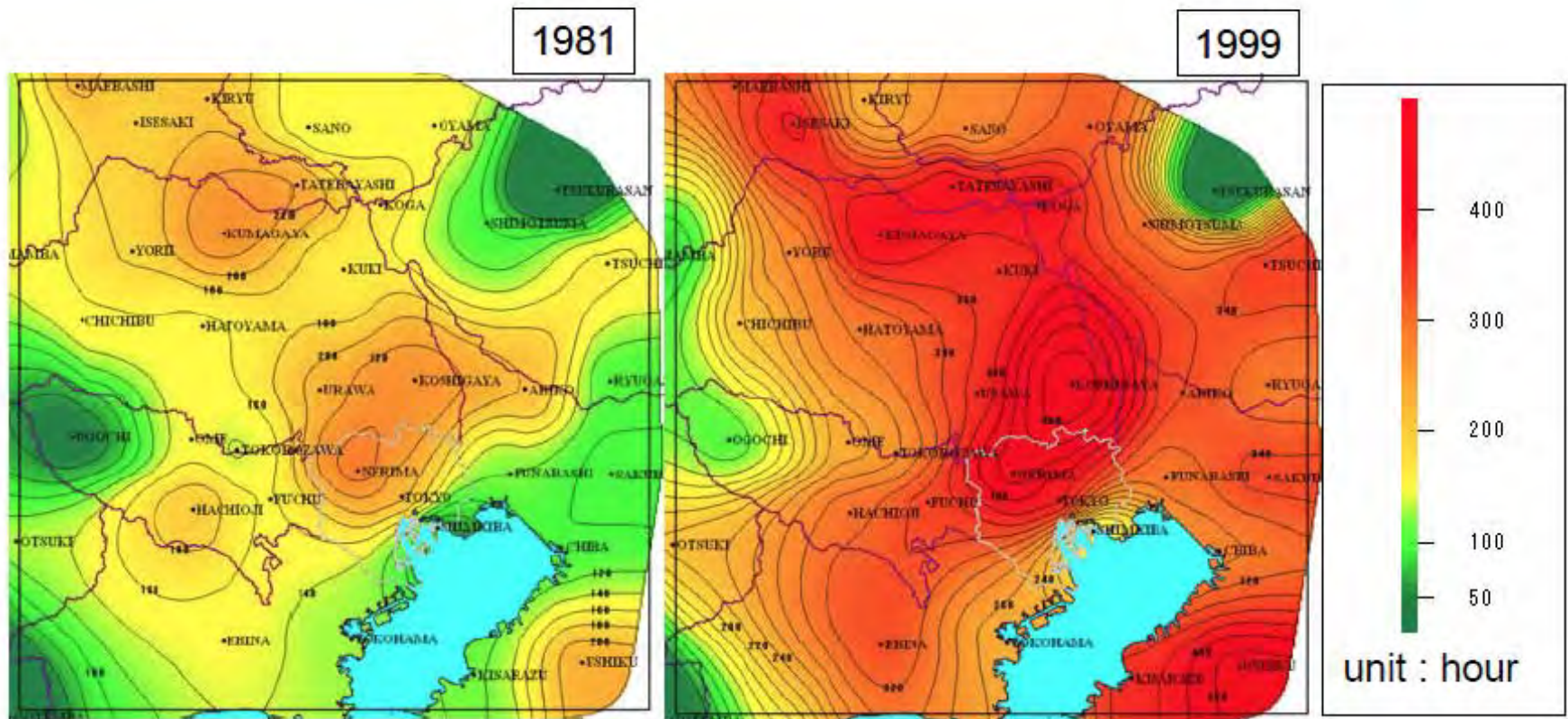


Tokyo 1960



Tokyo 2010

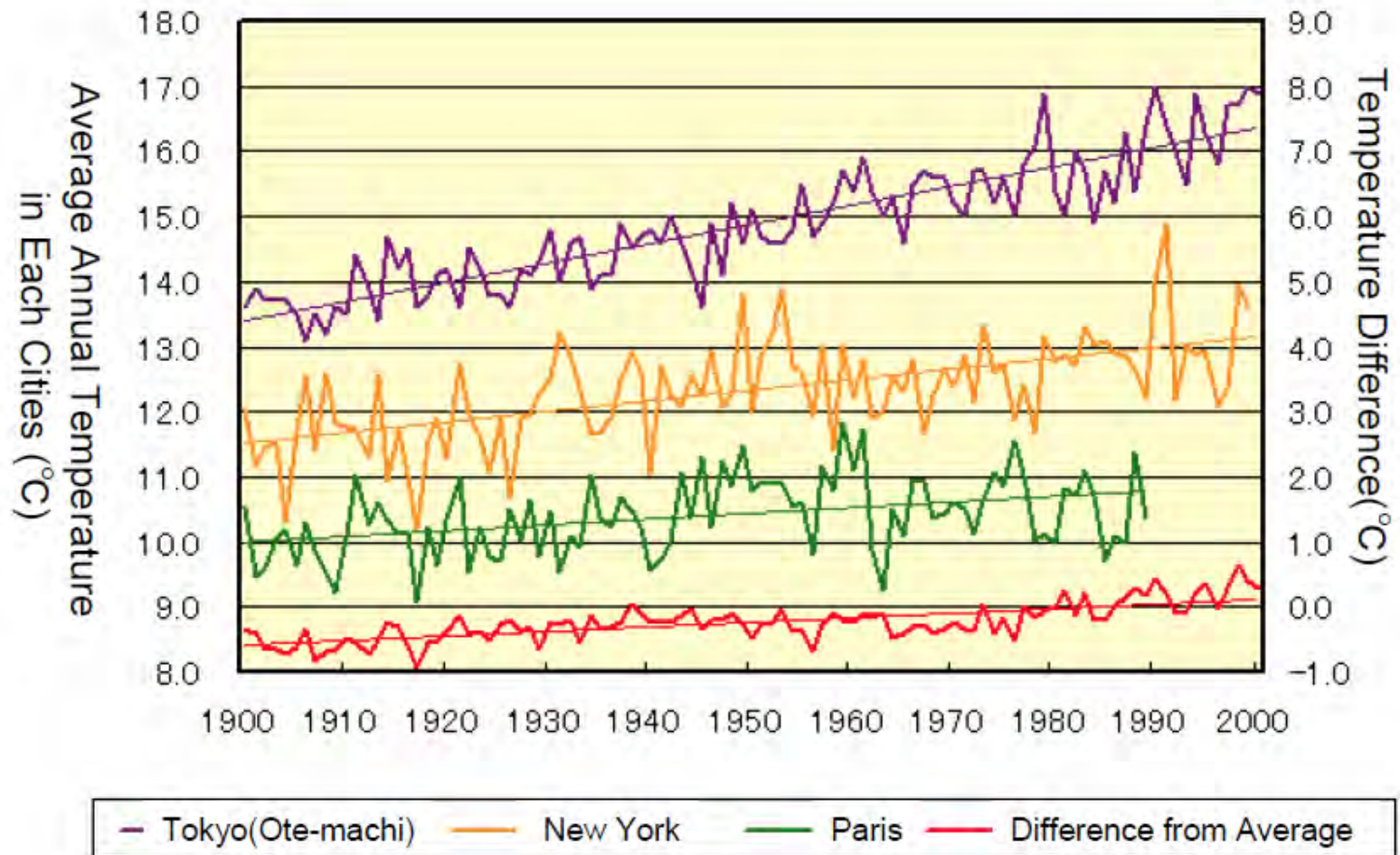
There is an important urban heat island in Tokyo area



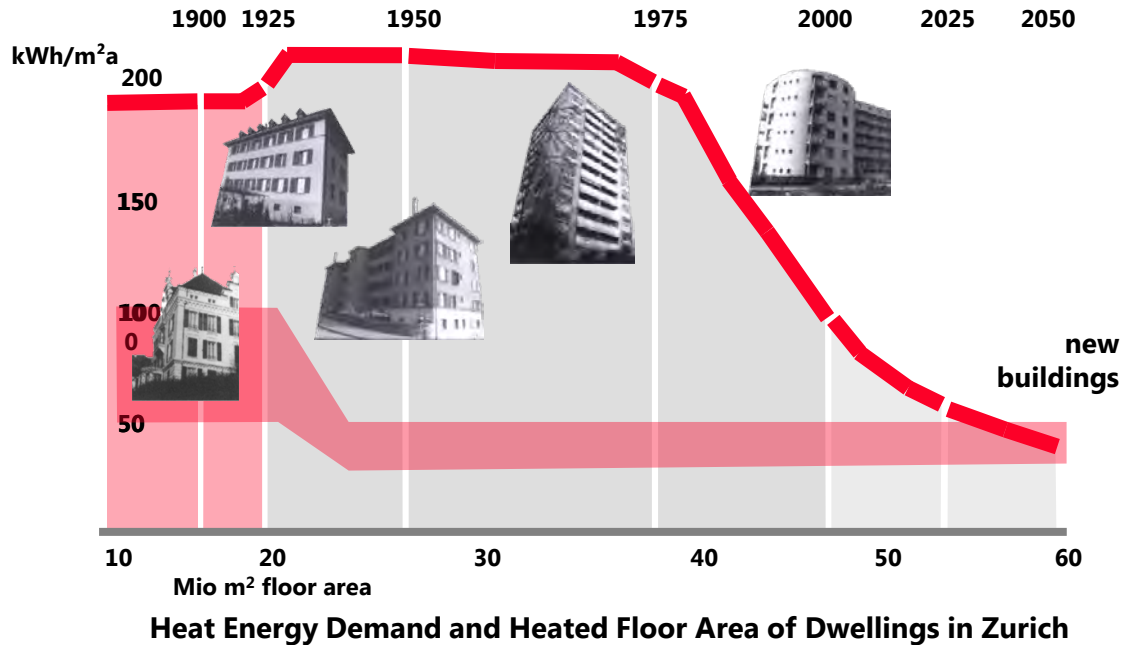
Distribution of cumulative hours temperature exceeding 30°C

Urban heat island in Tokyo more important than in New York

Temperature difference in world cities (meteorological agency)



Buildings are responsible for a large part of energy consumption



Buildings are responsible for

- 40% of total EU energy consumption
- 48 % in Switzerland, 68% fossil fuel based
- 36% of the EU's total CO₂ emissions (COM 2008)

by 2050 existing buildings will be responsible for 80% of the total energy consumption (no interaction scenario)

The energy use by buildings in Japan is growing

Final energy consumption of the buildings sector (2010)

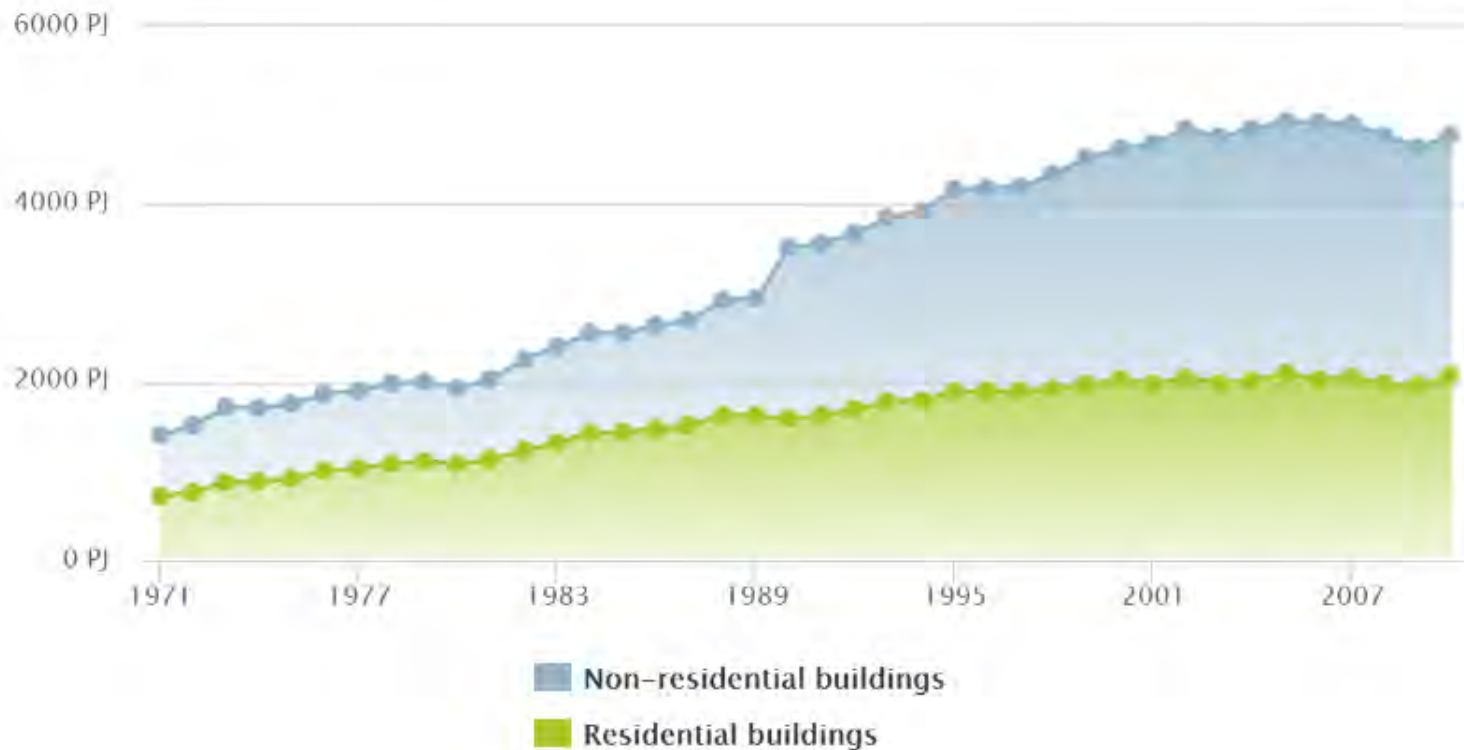
4,767 PJ

Residential buildings

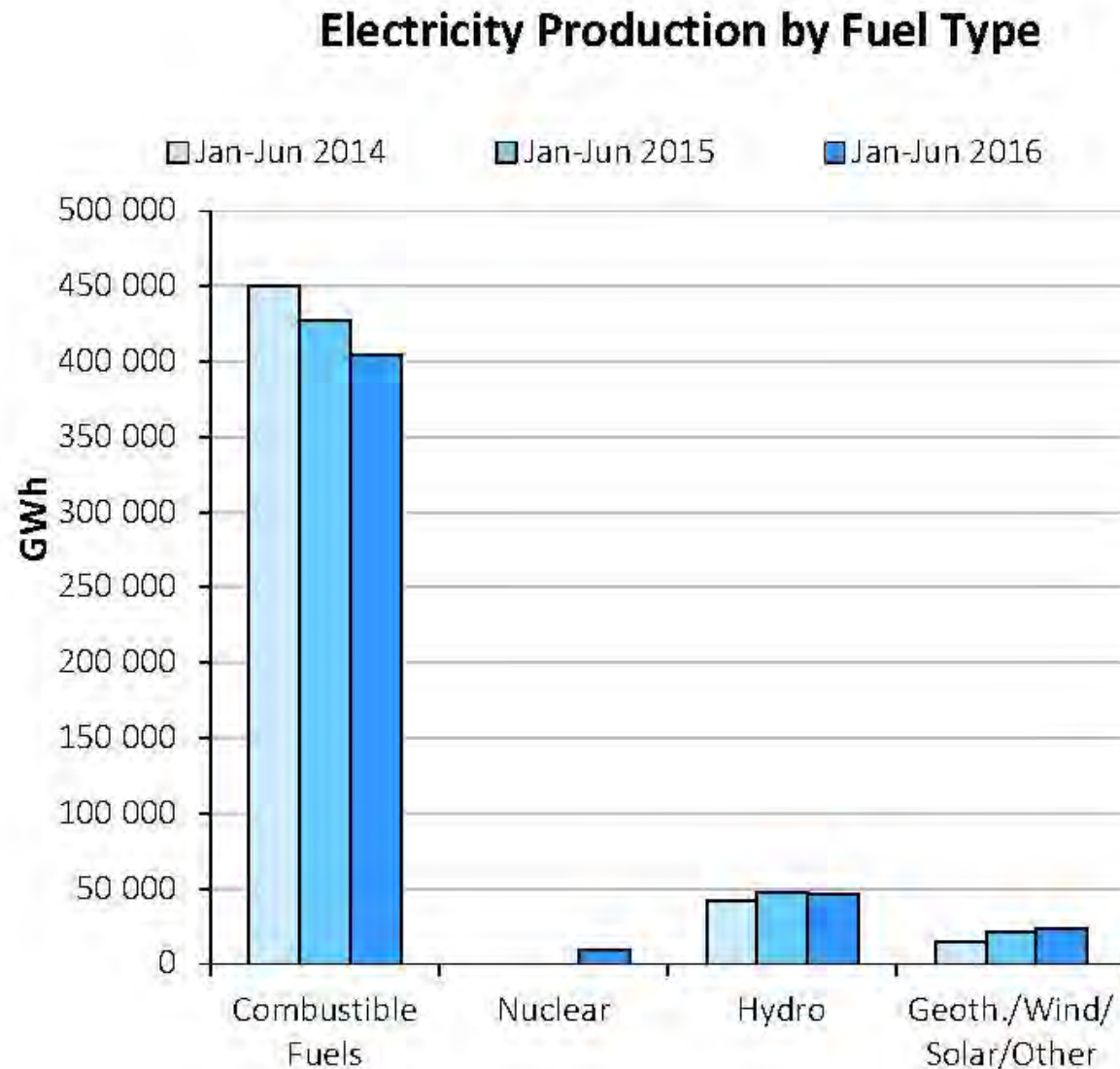
2,080 PJ

Non-residential buildings

2,687 PJ



Electricity production in Japan is still highly fossil-based



Observations

1. Urban heat island effect is growing
2. Urban densification is growing
3. Energy use in cities is growing
4. Energy use is still highly fossil fuel based

Question

How can we reduce CO₂ emissions related to the energy use by buildings and as well mitigate the urban heat island effect and its impact on health ?

Which new materials are needed ?

Kaya identity



The image shows the Kaya identity equation, $CO_2 = P \times S \times E \times C$, overlaid on a background of a sunset over the Earth's horizon. The CO_2 is in large yellow letters, while the other terms are in white. Below each variable is its definition in white capital letters.

$$CO_2 = P \times S \times E \times C$$

PEOPLE SERVICES PER PERSON ENERGY PER SERVICE CO_2 PER UNIT ENERGY

Decomposition of CO_2 emissions into driving forces
to enable
carbon emissions reduction strategies

Kaya identity applied to buildings

$$CO_2 = \frac{CO_2}{E} \times \frac{E}{A} \times A$$

E Energy consumption building

A floor area building

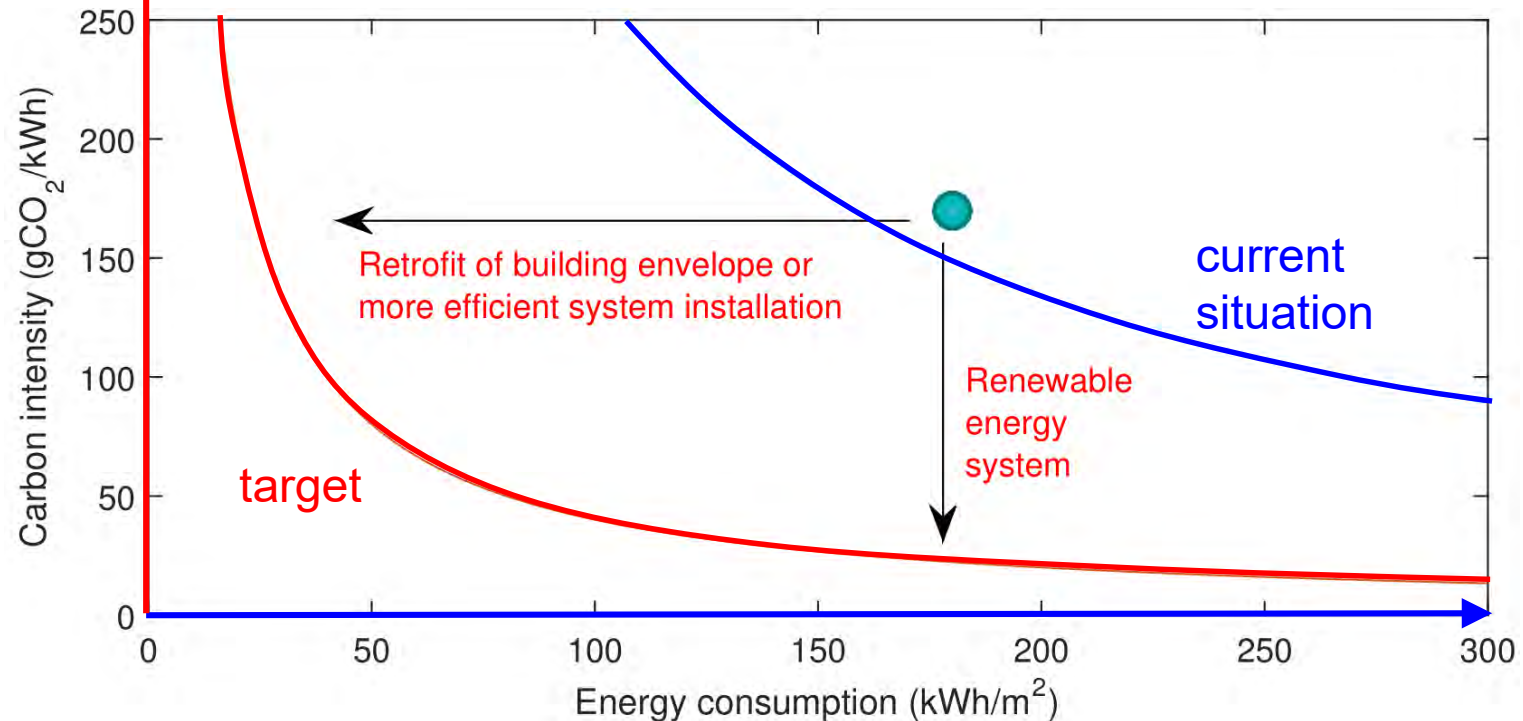
CO_2/E Carbon intensity of the energy system [kgCO₂/J]

E/A Energy intensity: energy consumption per area [kWh/m²]

Strategy from Kaya identity for buildings

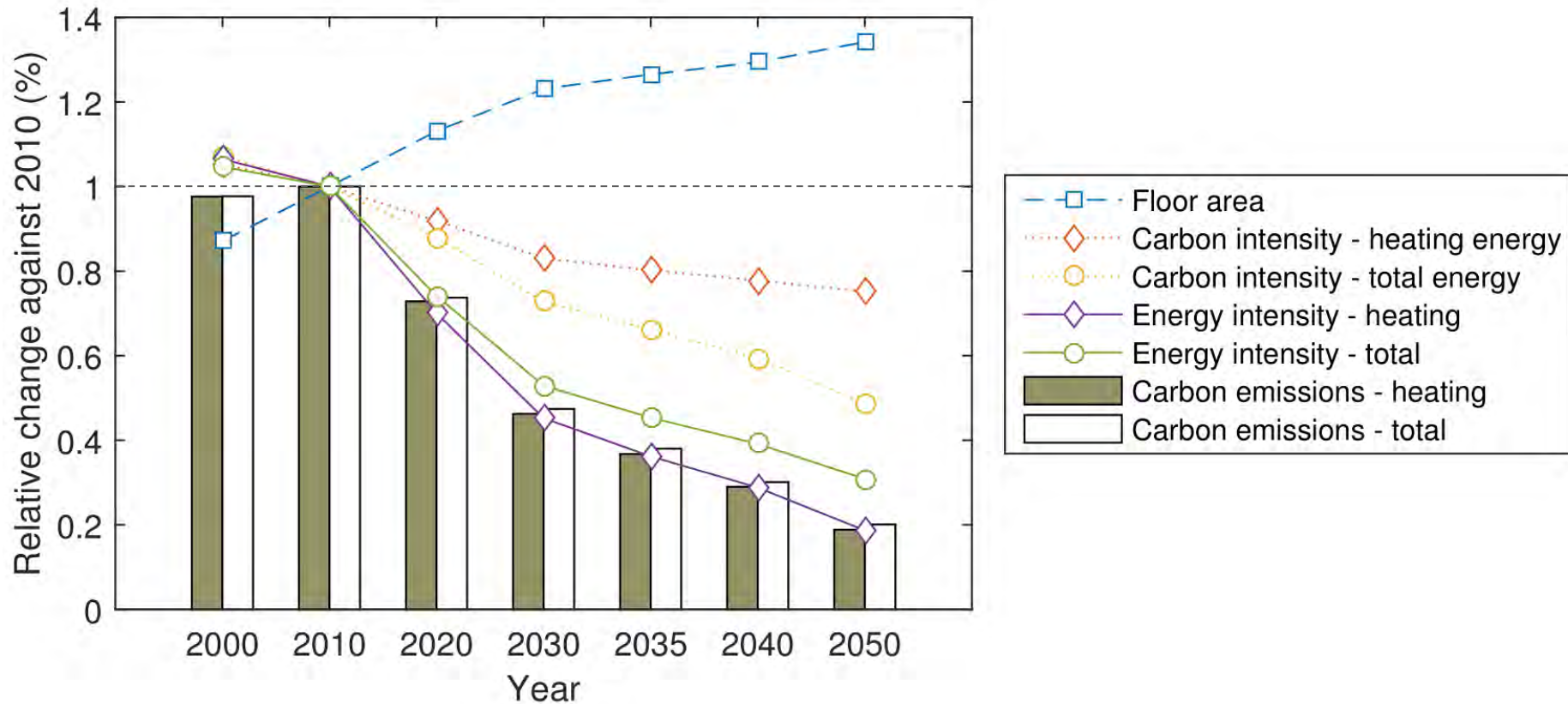
$$CO_2 = \frac{CO_2}{E} \times \frac{E}{A} \times A$$

$\frac{CO_2}{E}$

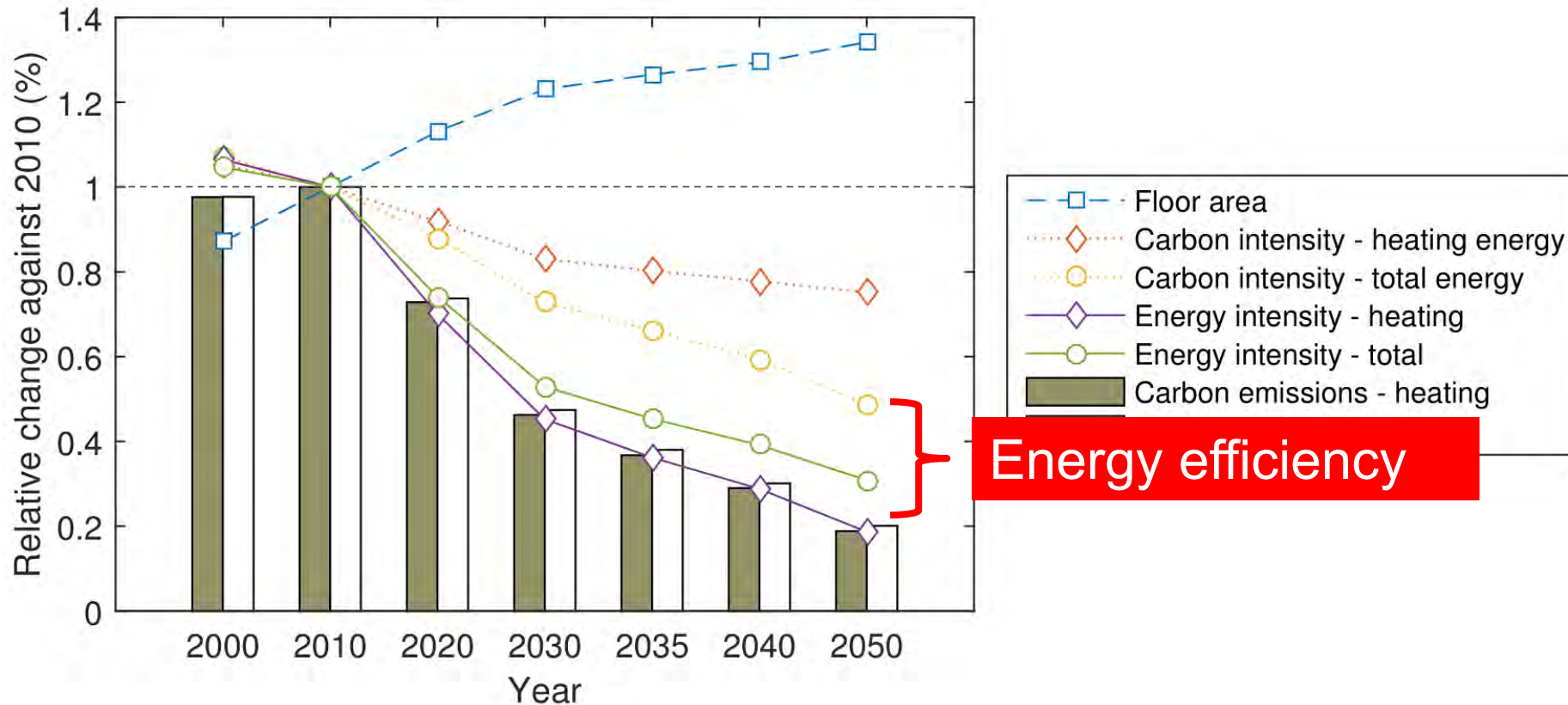


$\frac{E}{A}$

Buildings heating & total energy supply: trend drivers CO₂ emissions



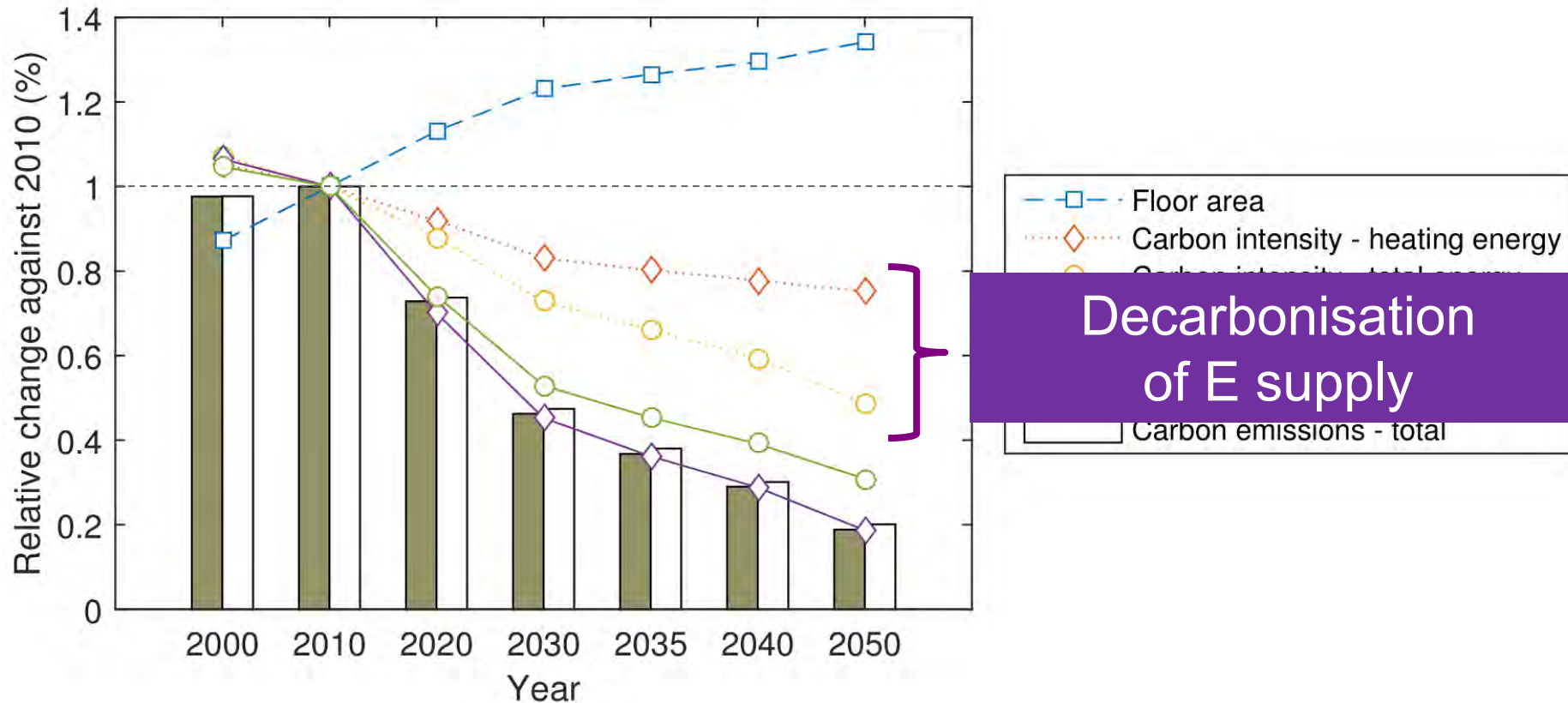
Buildings heating & total energy supply: trend drivers CO2 emissions



Energy intensity reduction by

- renovation building stock, more efficient buildings
- more efficient technologies

Buildings heating & total energy supply: trend drivers CO₂ emissions



Example: Swiss mountain village Zerne

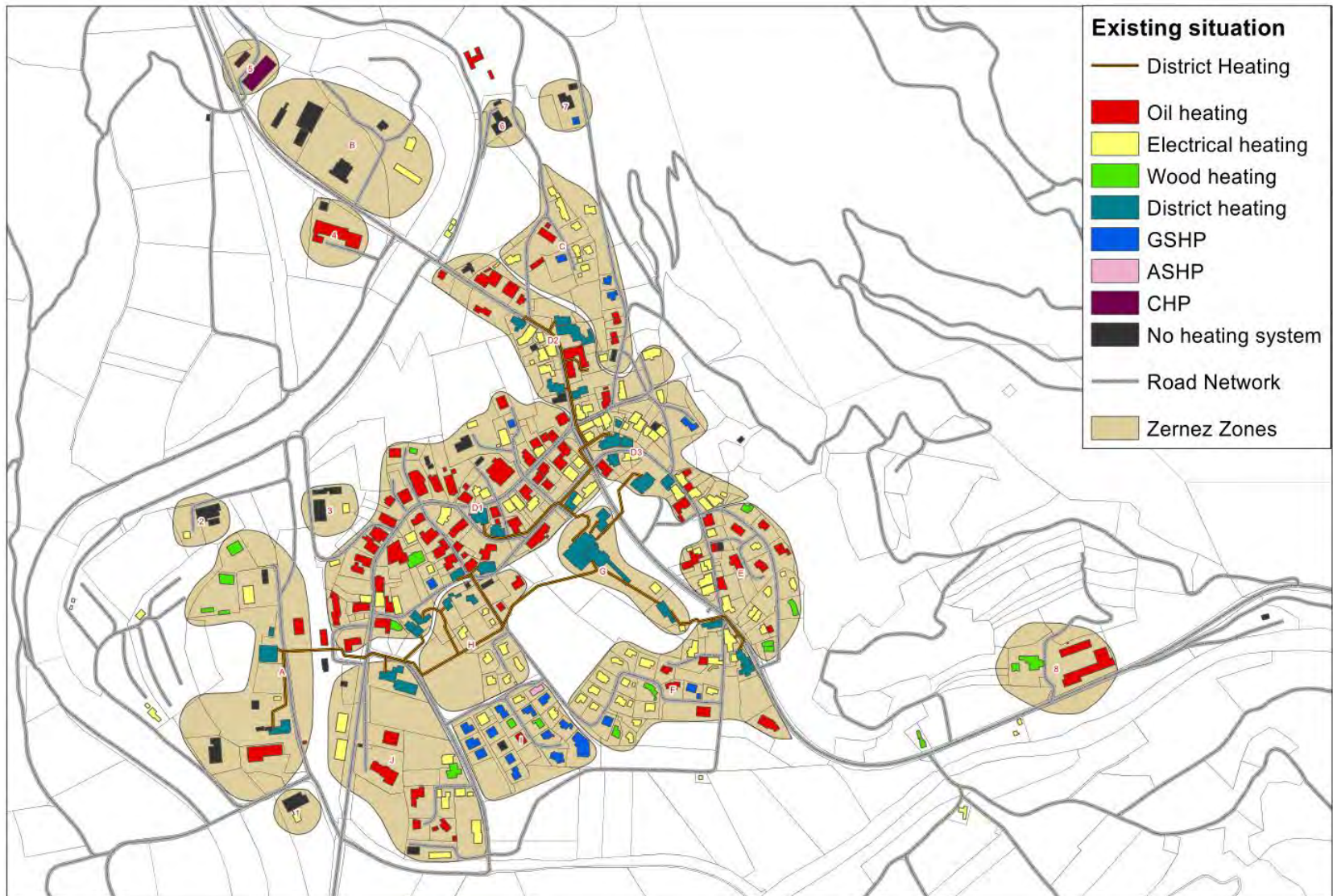


Transformation of buildings and sites/districts to decarbonized energy efficient systems

Capture present status

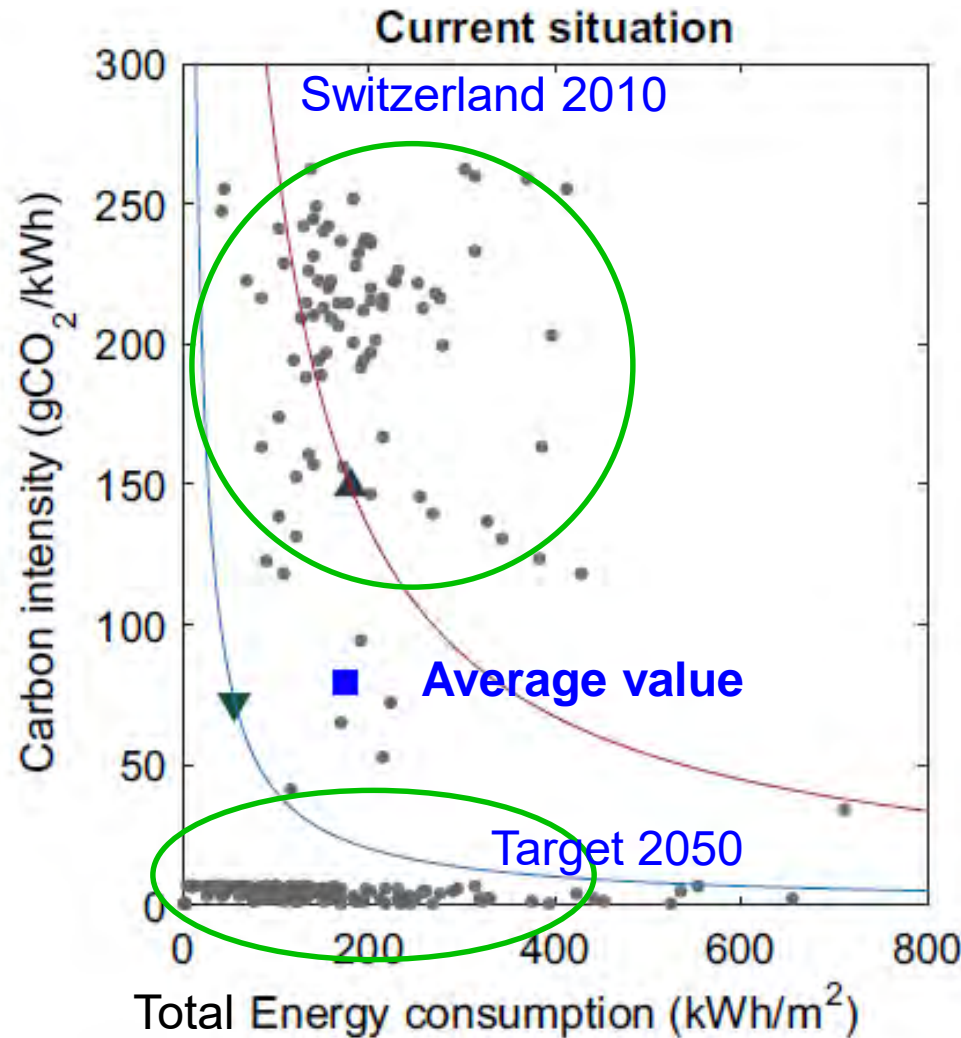


Present status of building heating systems in Zernez



GSHP: ground source heat pump, ASHP: air source heat pump, CHP: Combined Heat and Power

Present status: carbon intensity versus energy use



Two main groups

- Oil-based non retrofitted buildings with high carbon intensity
- New renewables based buildings with low carbon intensity

Transformation of buildings and sites/districts to decarbonized energy efficient systems

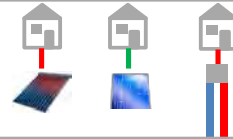
Capture present status



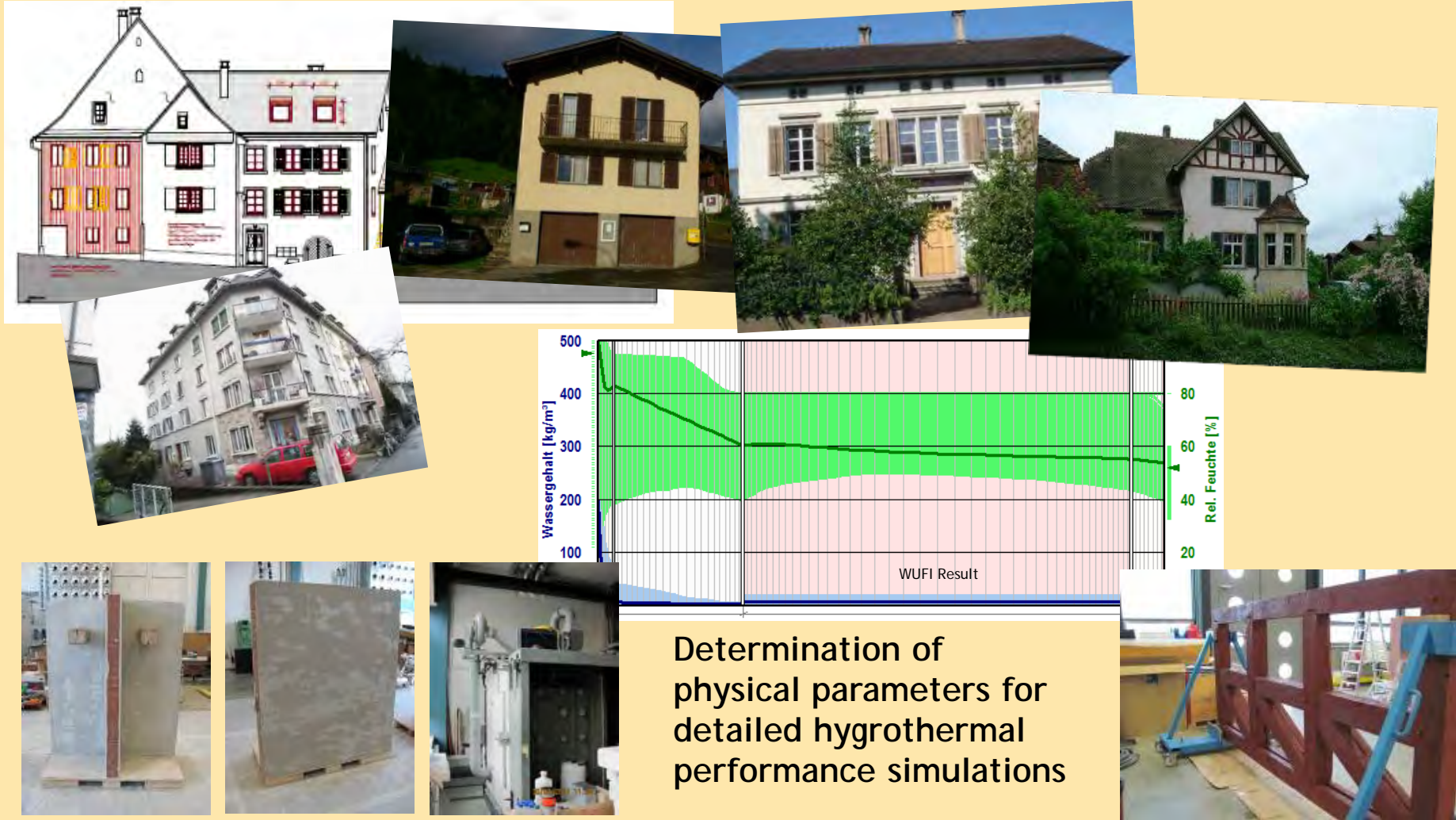
Retrofit building envelope
HVAC/control technologies



Local renewable energies

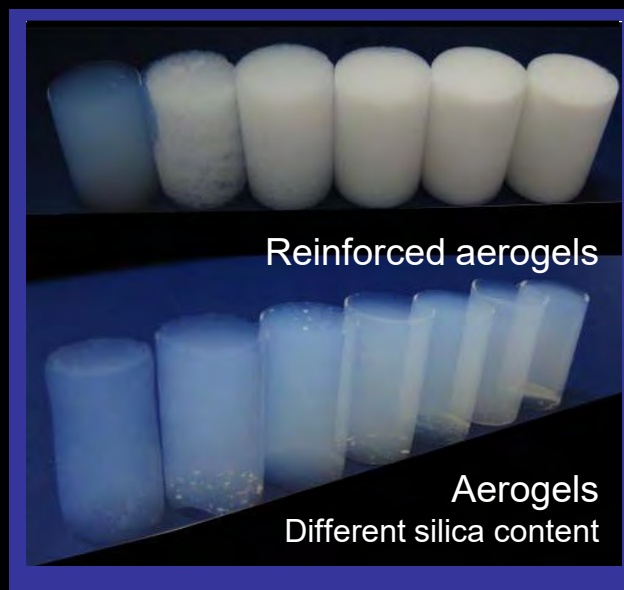


CCEM – SuRHIB : wall insulation concepts



Weathering tests at Empa's climate chamber

Timber framework for natural weathering



Aerogel rendering



New window types

EuFP7 – WinSmart: concept

«Smart» Vacuum glazing

- VG Technology

Production technologies

Liquid metal injection / anodic bonding

Scalability aspects of VG

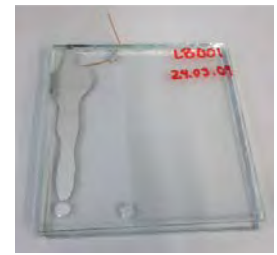
Sash and frame redesign

- Smart properties (coatings)

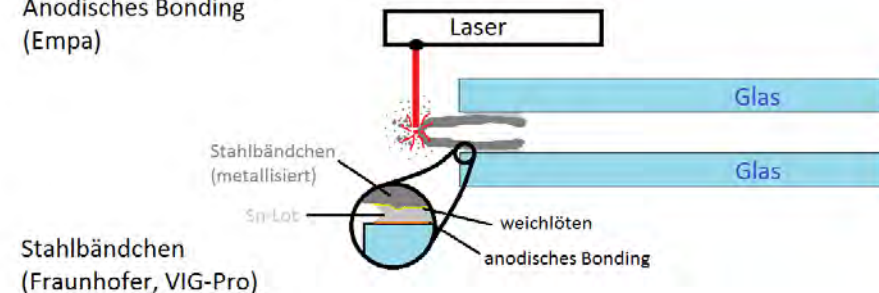
«Switchable»

Photoelectrochromic

Electrochromic state of the art comparison

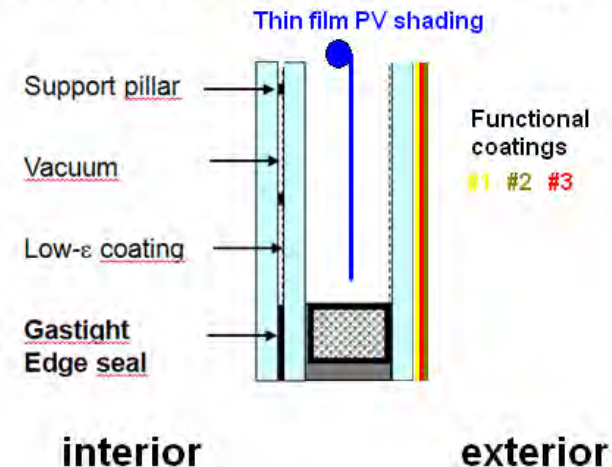


Anodisches Bonding
(Empa)



Stahlbändchen
(Fraunhofer, VIG-Pro)

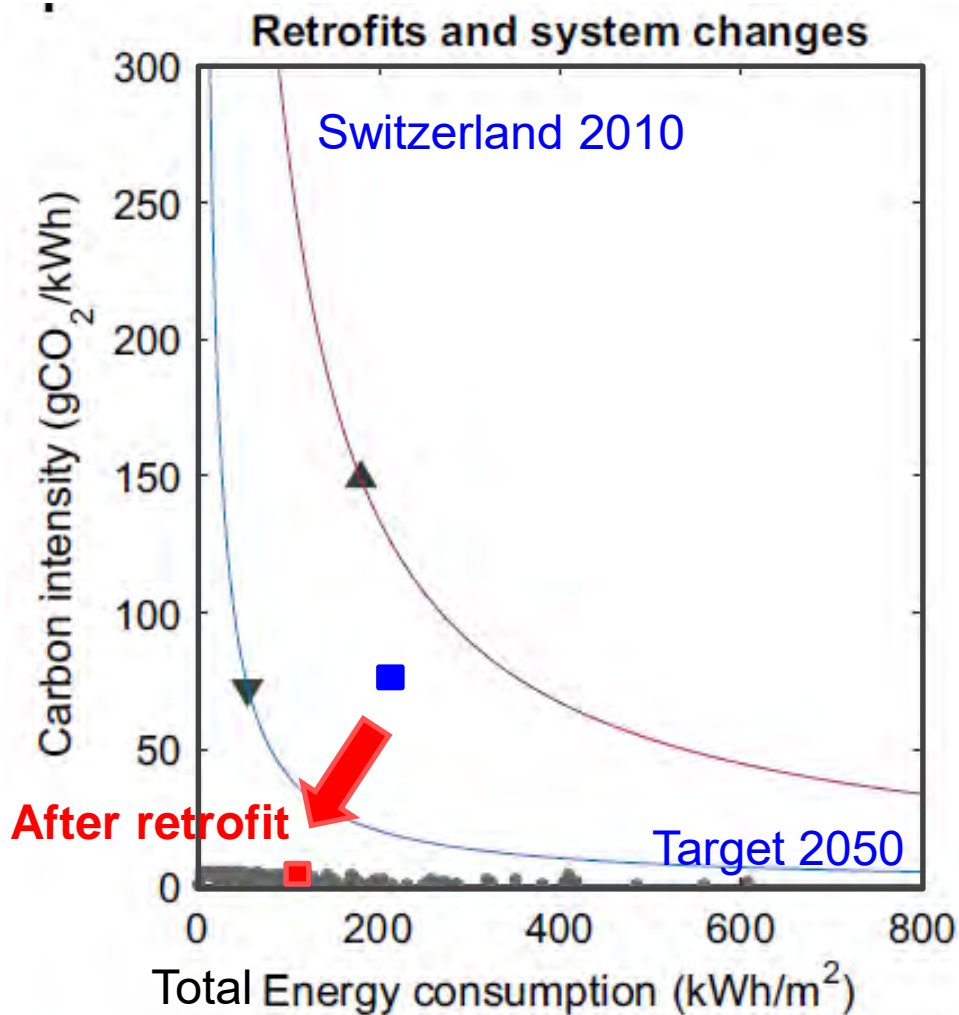
Vacuum glazing with functional pane



Needs for material development

1. New highly insulation materials at low cost
2. Multi-functional 'smart' windows / new coatings
→ from niche to larger market penetration

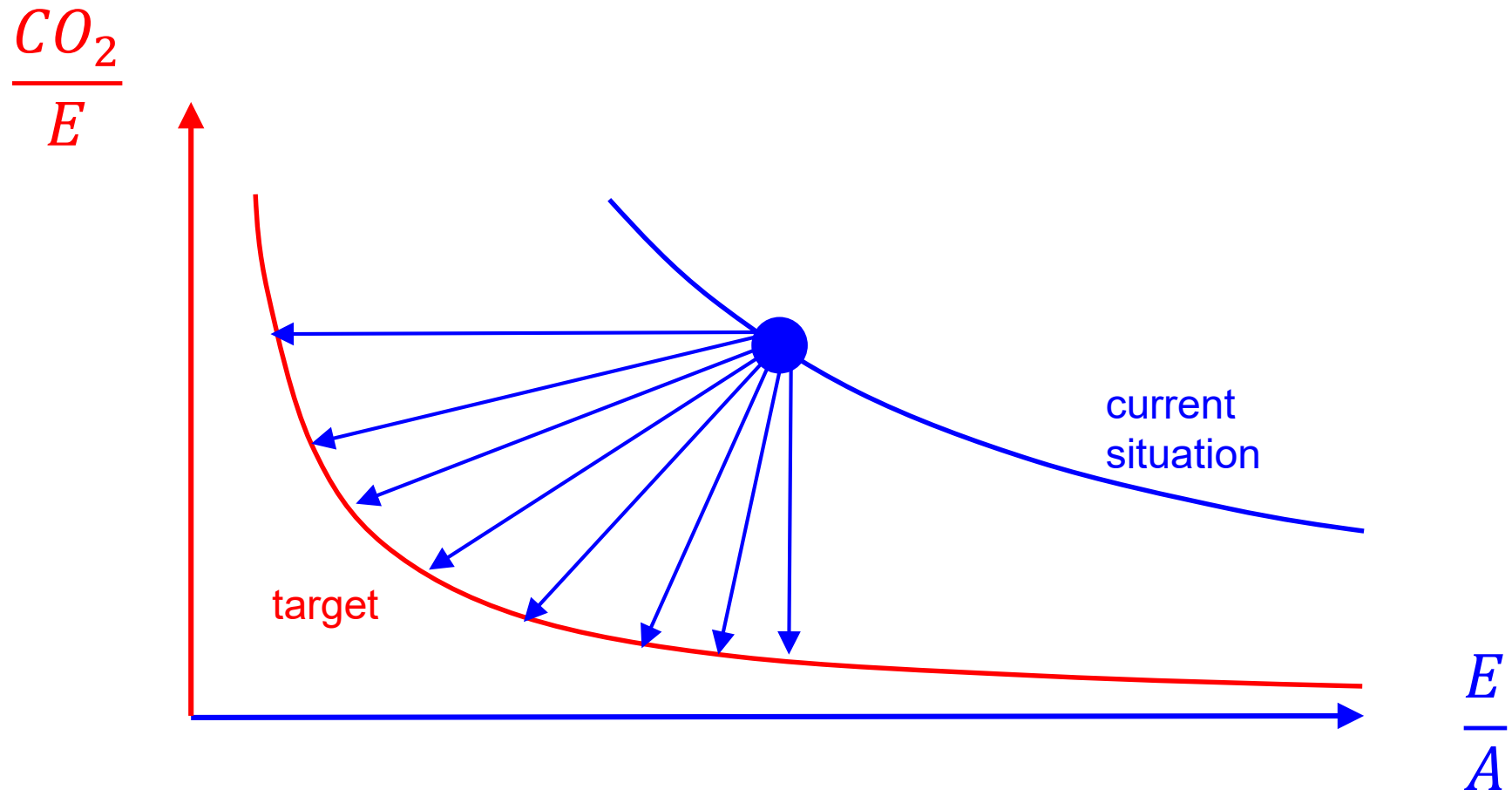
Retrofit of buildings & heating systems in Zernez



- Building retrofit
- Update building systems
 - Bio-energy sources
 - Efficient heat pumps

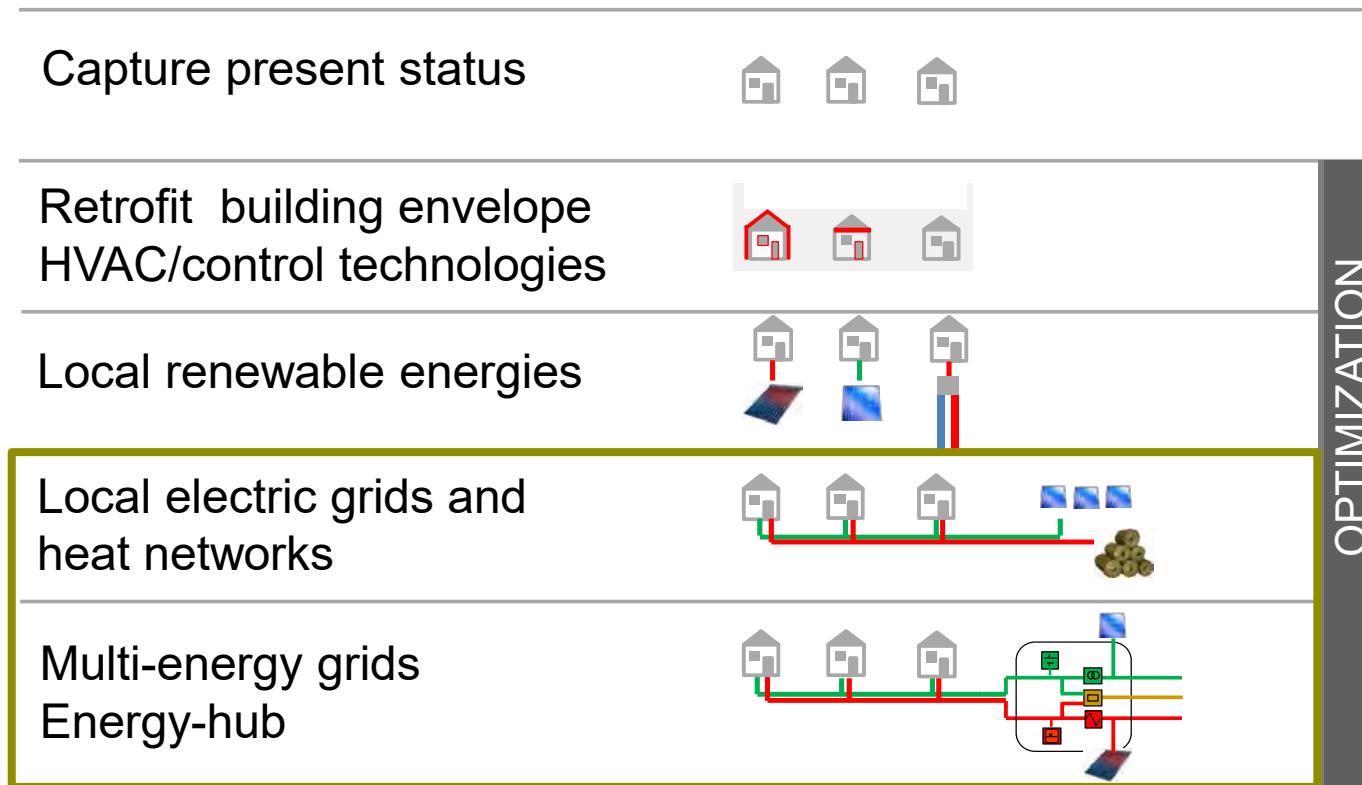


How to achieve decarbonisation targets ?

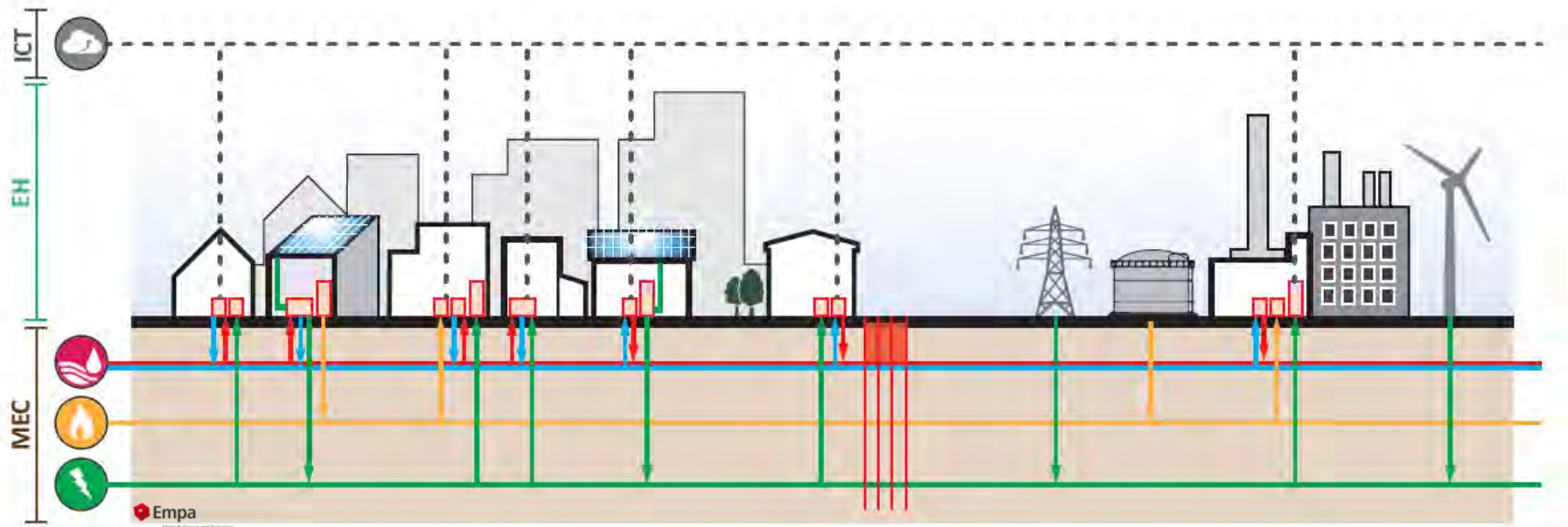


- Lots of freedom in finding new solutions to achieve the same target
- Heterogeneity of buildings complicates general solutions
- Solutions to be found on the scale of communities → urban scale

Transformation of buildings and sites/districts to decarbonized energy efficient systems



Buildings connected by multi-energy grids

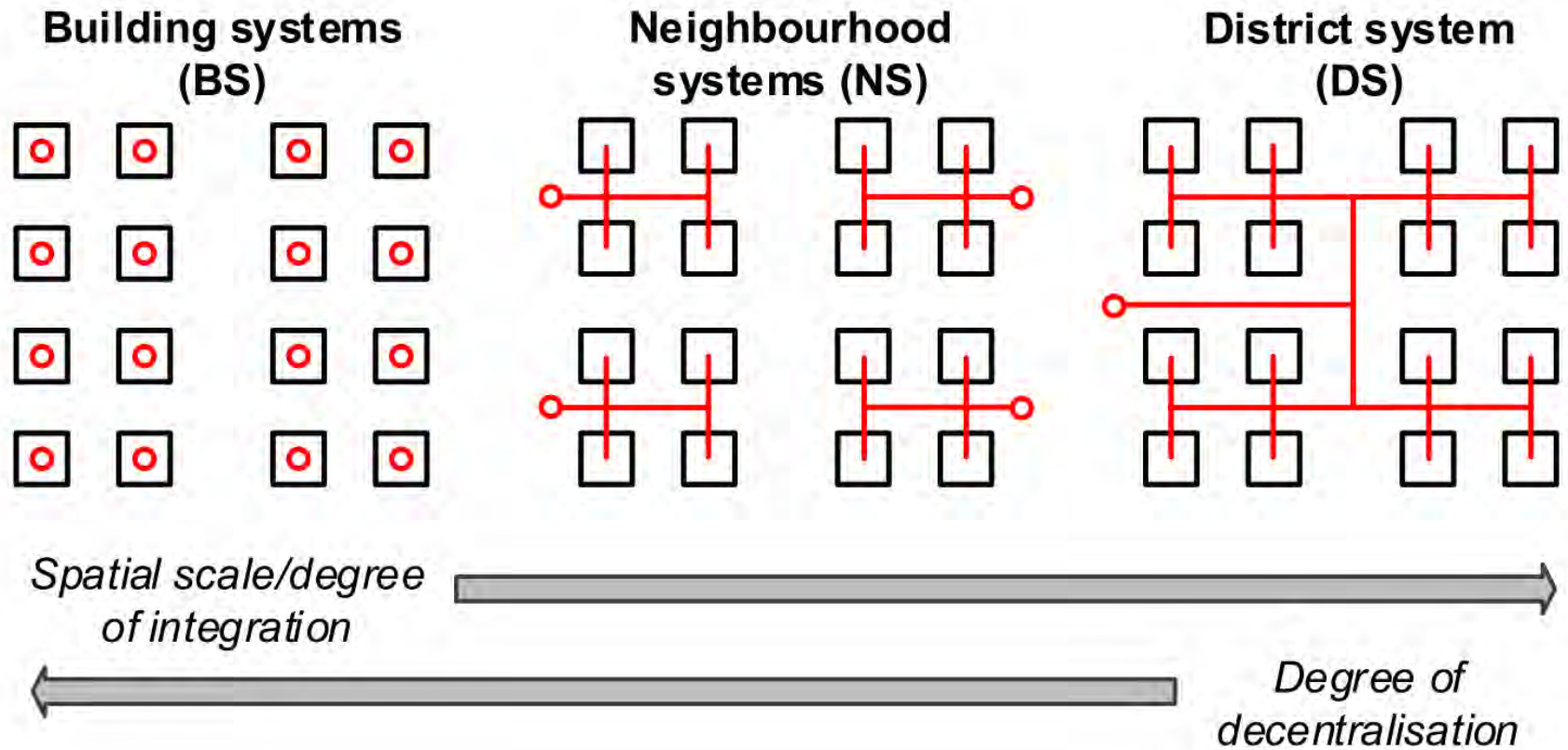


- Buildings become prosumers (production and consumption)
- Renewables and waste energy is integrated
- Connection between gas, heat and electricity & storage & conversions
- Connection with ICT grid

Example: district of residential buildings, offices, shops,



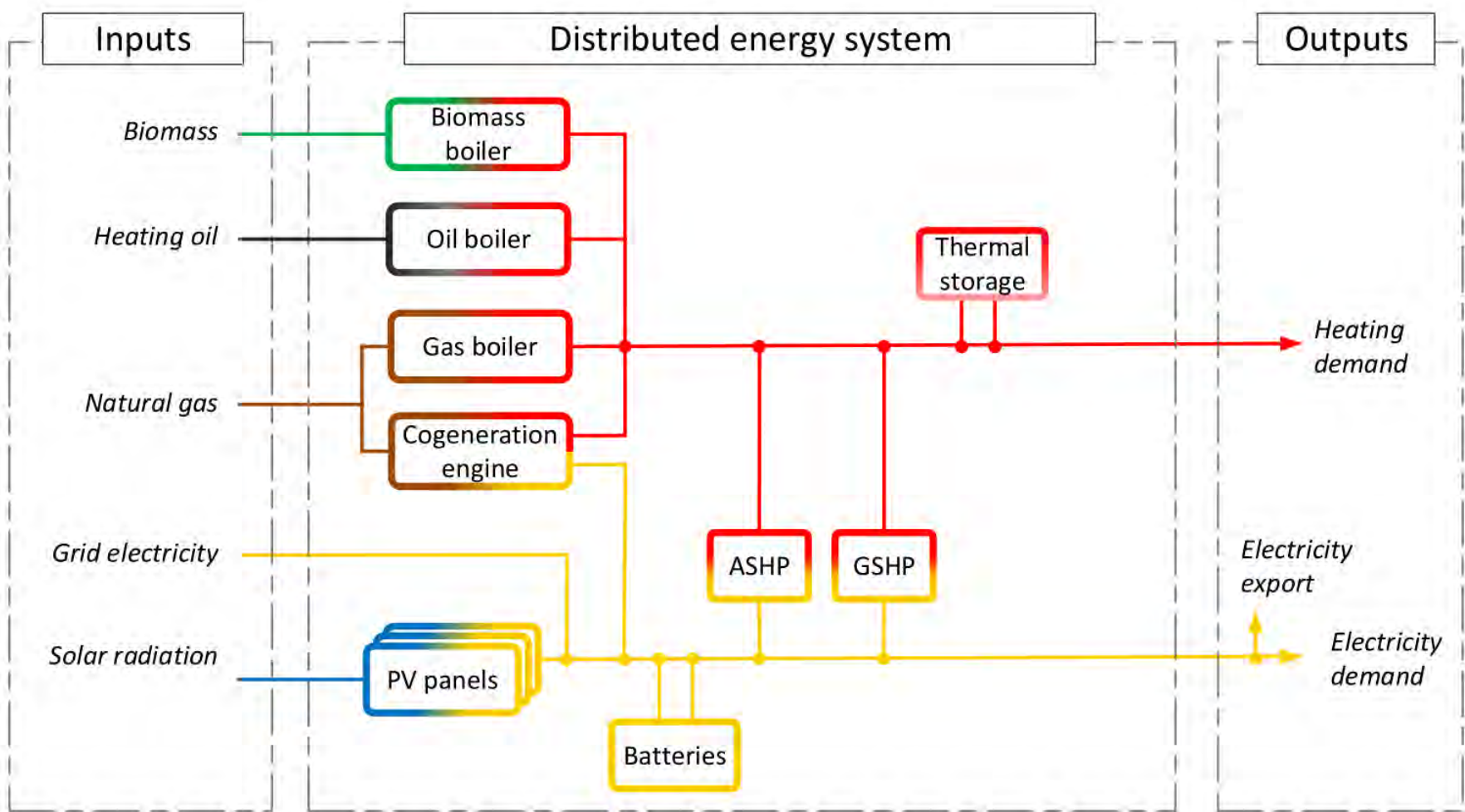
Candidate configurations for connecting building from building to district scale



Neighbourhood systems



Energy hubs are essential elements of the future energy system



Input → production + conversion + storage → output : demands

ASHP : air source heat pump, GSHP: ground source heat pump

Cogeneration systems



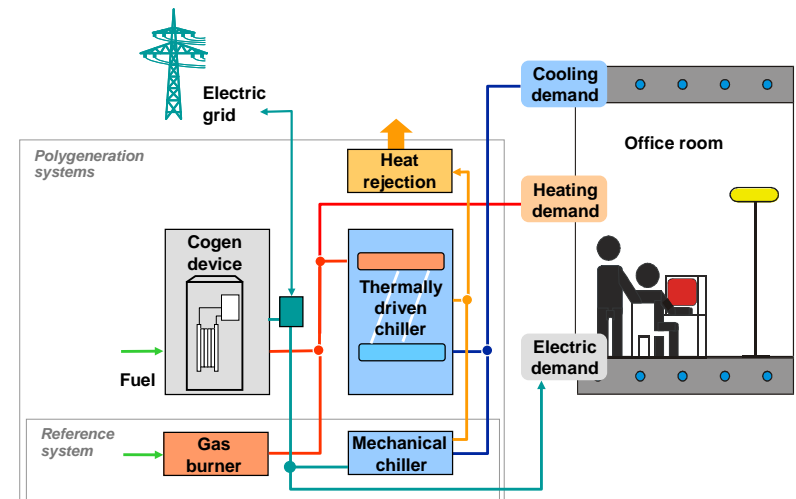
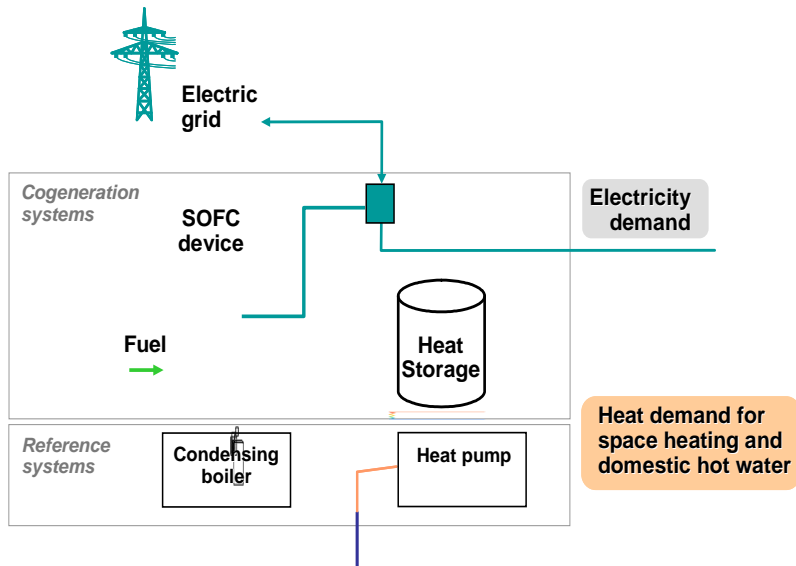
- Fuel Cell Modelling
- Fuel Cell and Cogeneration System Modelling
- Polygeneration with advanced thermal cooling
- Micro-Polygen / Kraftwerk Haus

(EU GenFC)

(BFE / IEA Annex 42)

(EU PolySMART)

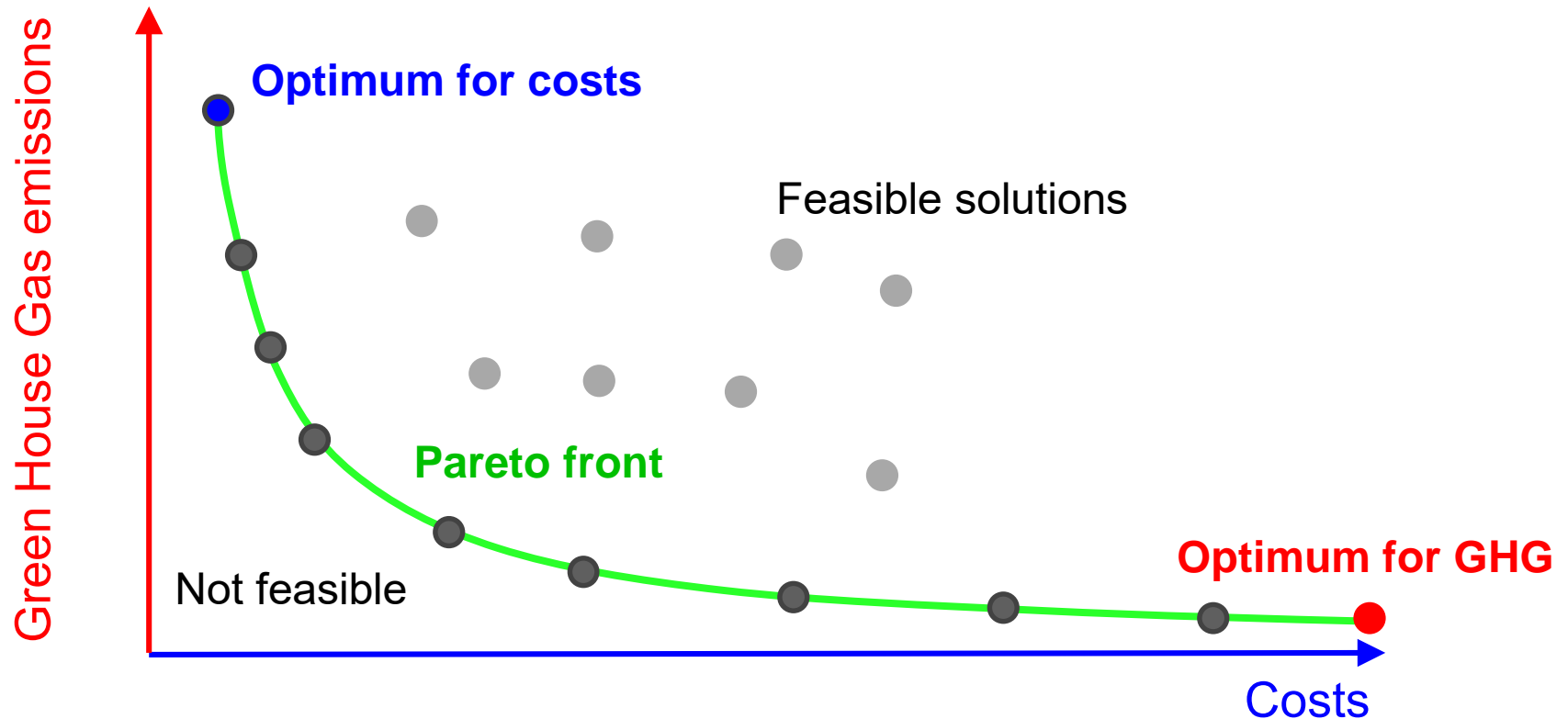
(BFE, brenet)



District system: one energy hub / district

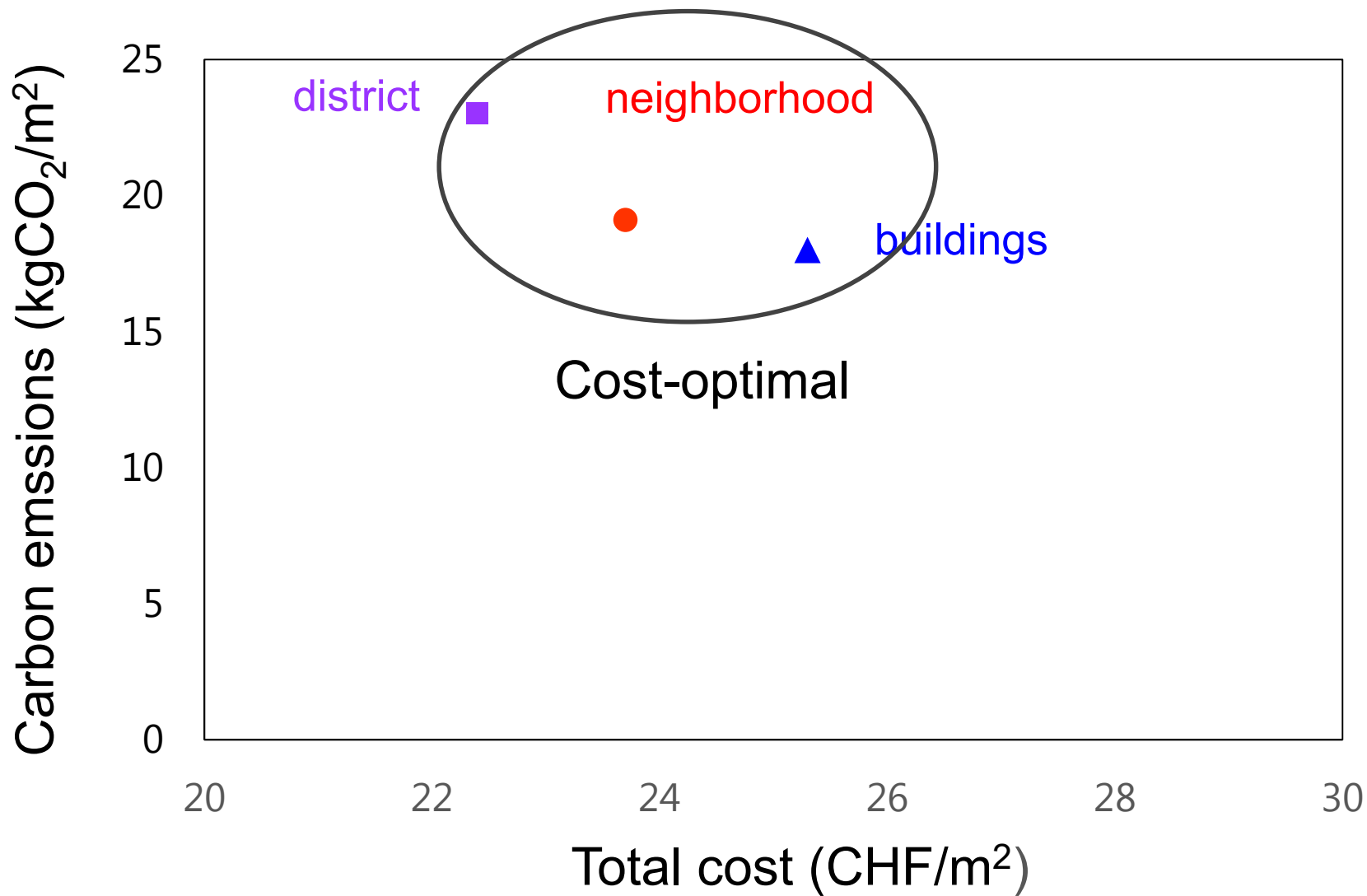


Scenarios are evaluated based on decarbonisation and costs

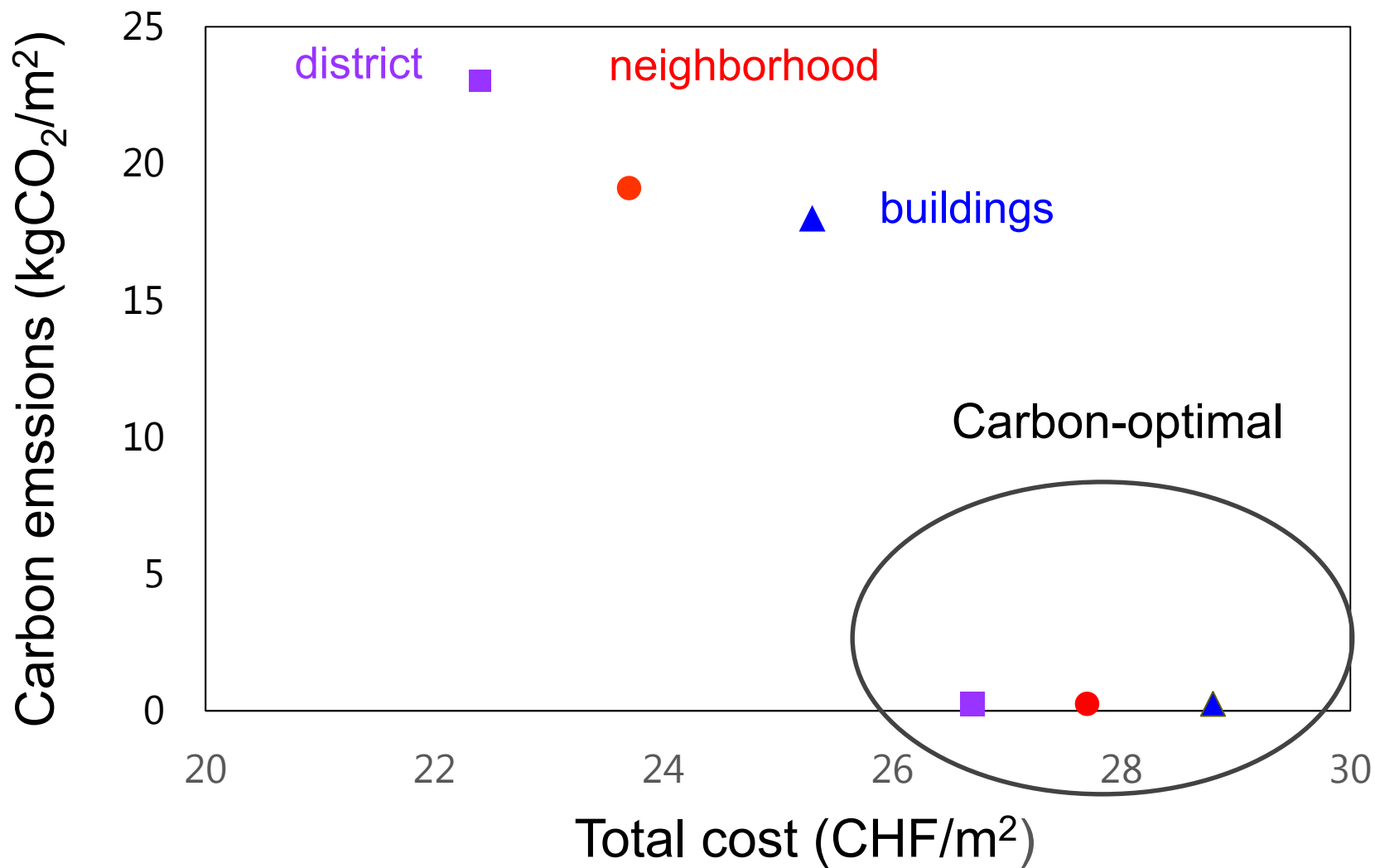


Optimal solutions for cost and GHG are on the Pareto front

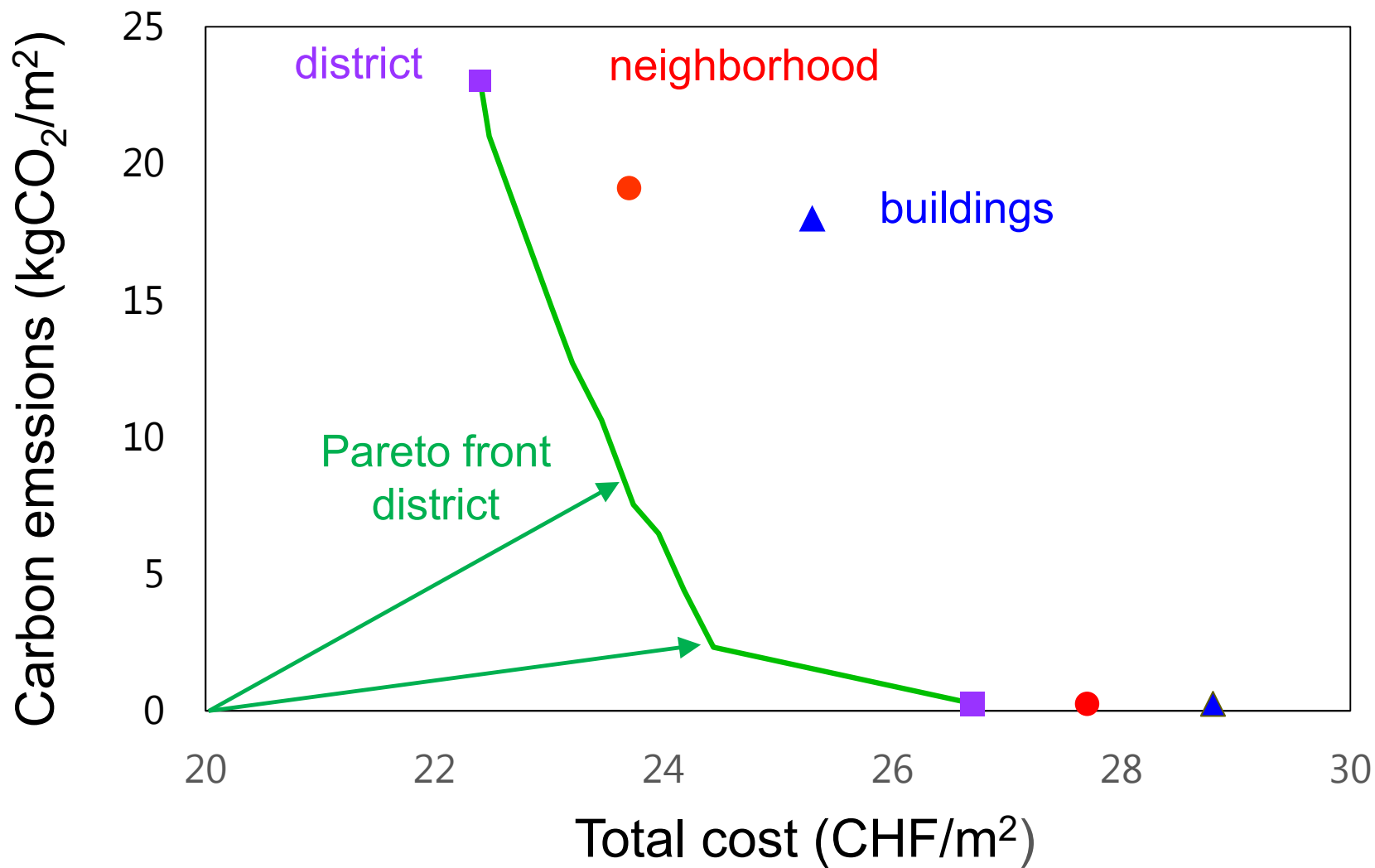
Optimal solutions



Optimal solutions



Optimal solutions

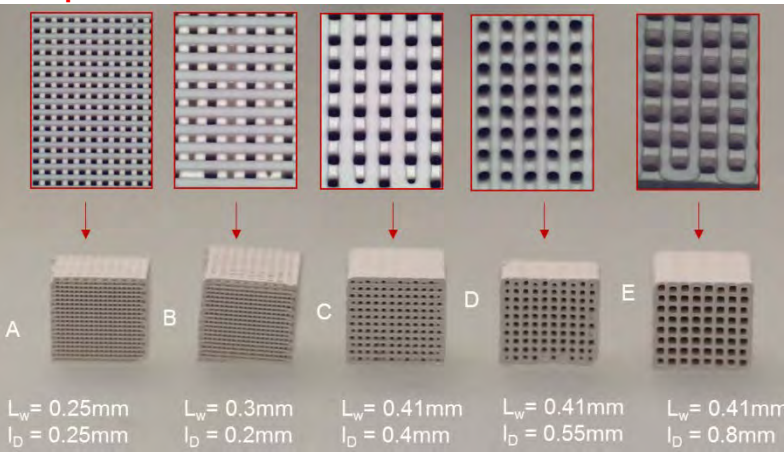


SNF project with IBM

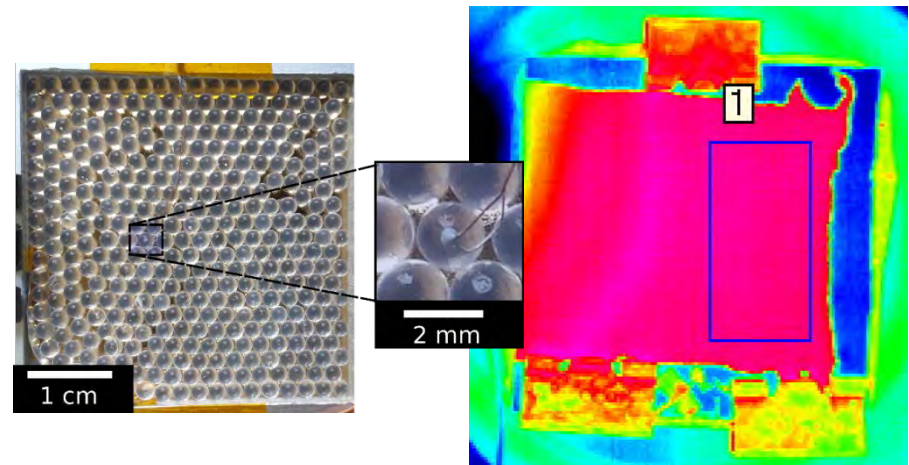
NFP Project THRIVE
Sorption-driven heat pump
Lead IBM: Bruno Michel, Patrick Ruch

Design of hierarchical porous structure of absorbent
IBM affiliated PhD Jens Ammann, ETHZ PhD Clara Minas
Post-docs at Empa Andrea Radu

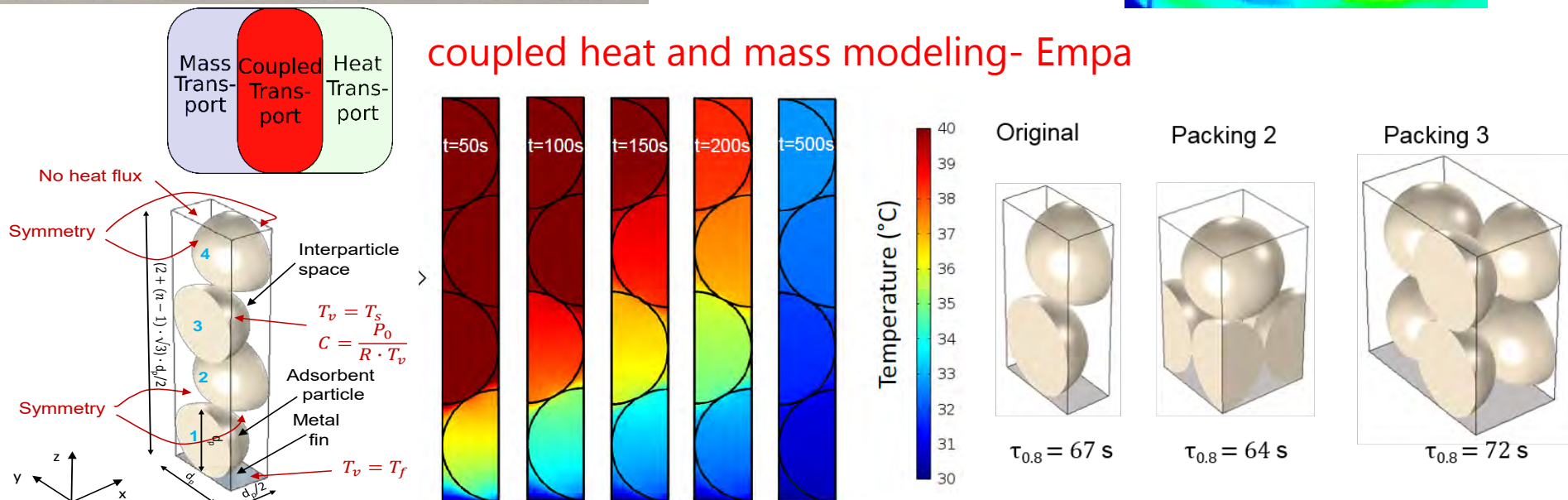
printed absorbants - ETHZ



advanced characterization - IBM

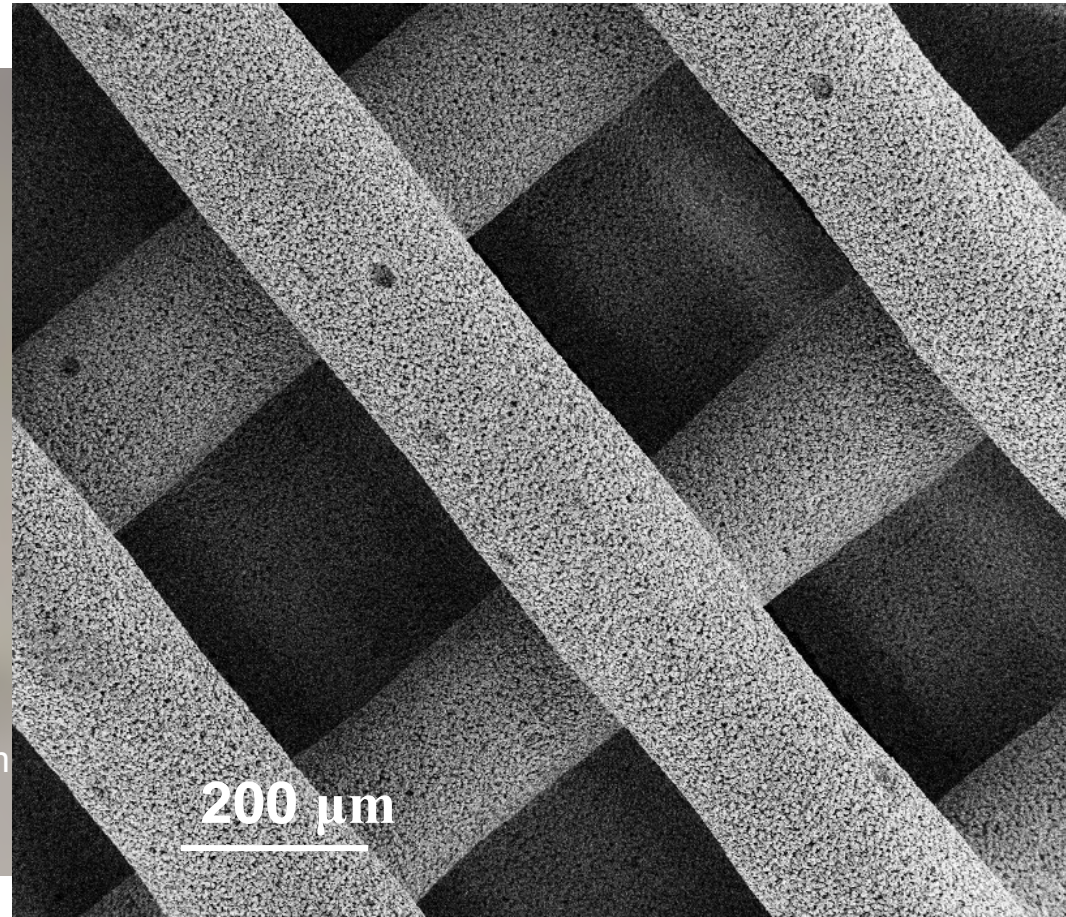
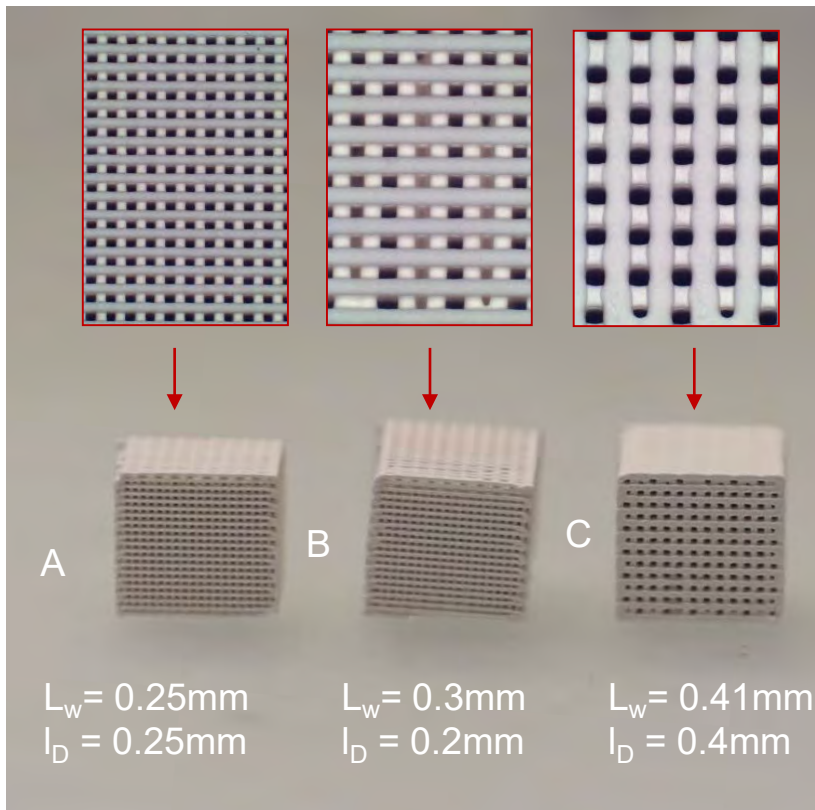


coupled heat and mass modeling- Empa

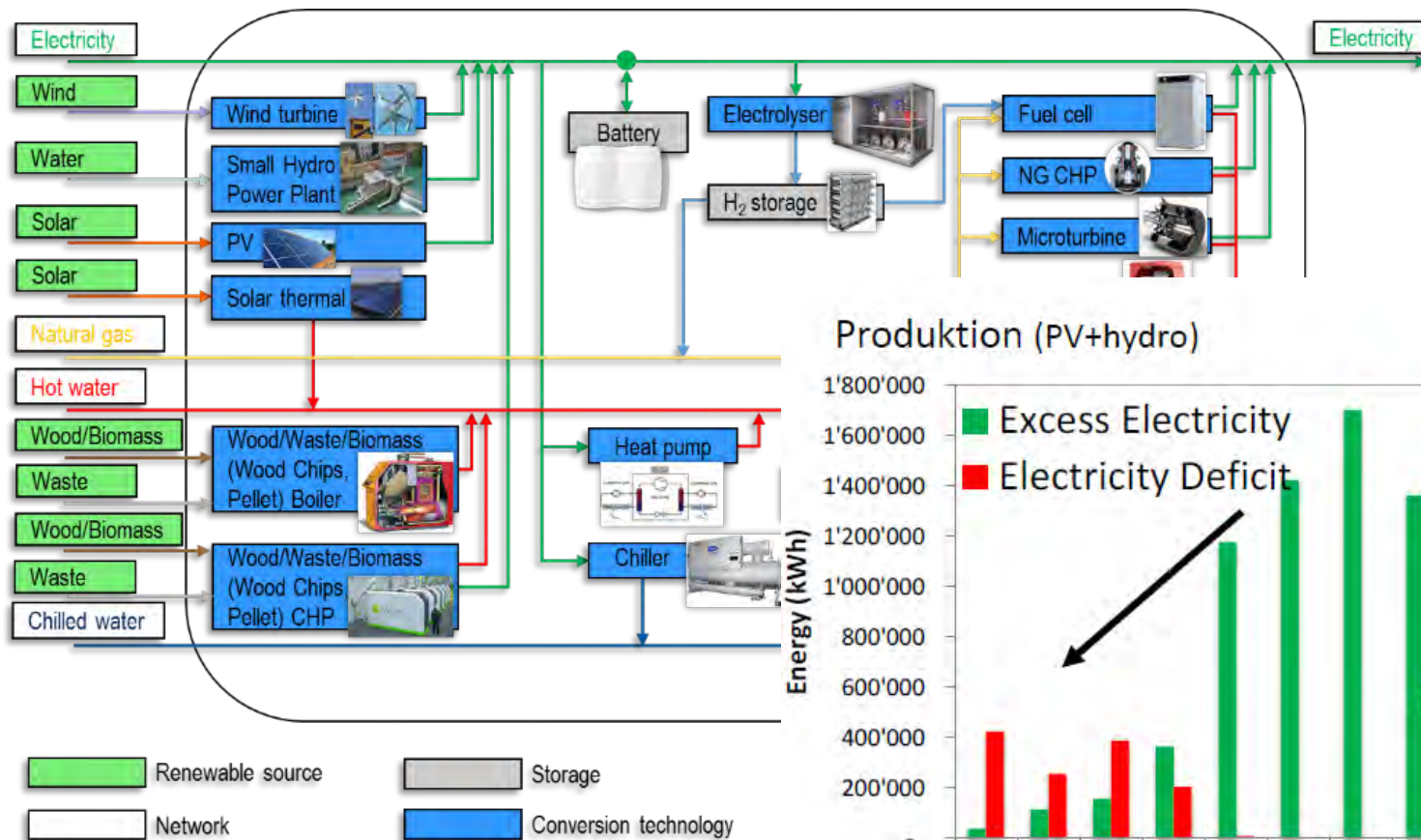


3D printed model adsorber structures

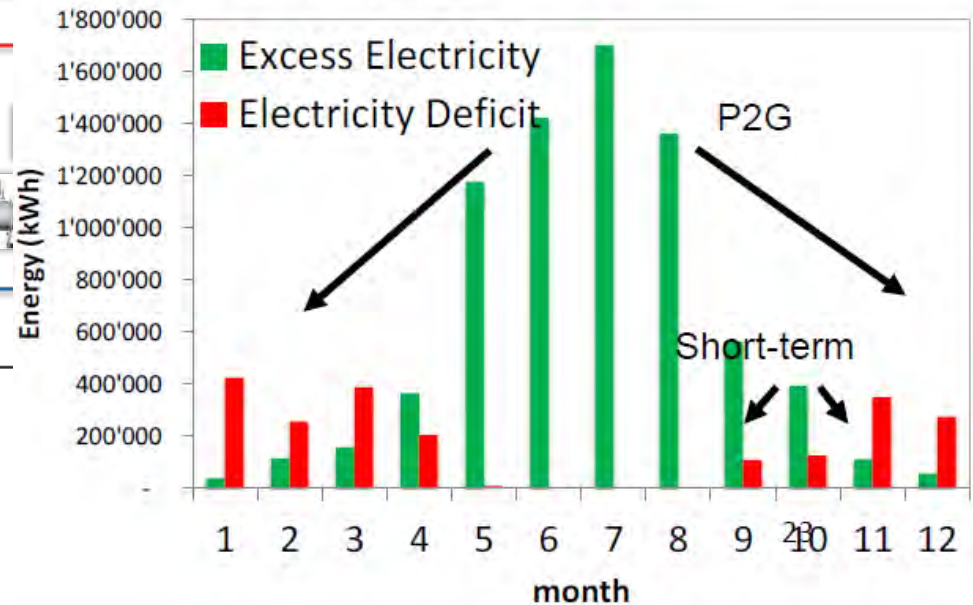
Investigation of sorption properties in respect to sample geometry
(pore size, wall thickness, interconnectivity)



Power-to-gas systems



Produktion (PV+hydro)



FOUNDATION
amme NRP 70
ct

Needs for material development

1. New highly insulation materials at low cost
2. Multi-functional 'smart' windows / new coatings
→ from niche to larger market penetration
3. Materials for Renewable energy generation at lower cost
4. Materials for higher energy efficiency and lower cost of integrated energy systems at urban scale

Approach of Urban Optimisation

Components
to be
Optimised

building fabric

materials
form
glazing



lighting

ventilation

heating &
cooling

building systems

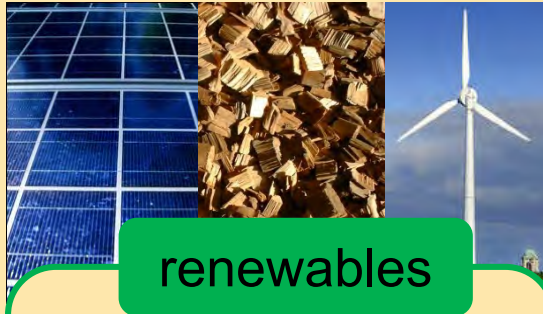


renewables

PV

wind

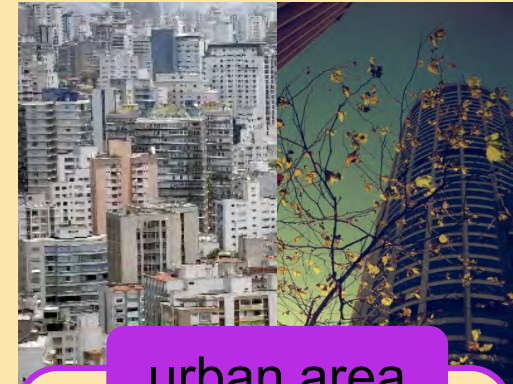
biomass



urban area

arrangement

environment



district networks

co-generation

ground storage

energy systems



@ Empa NEST – a research facility



Backbone
Energy-hub



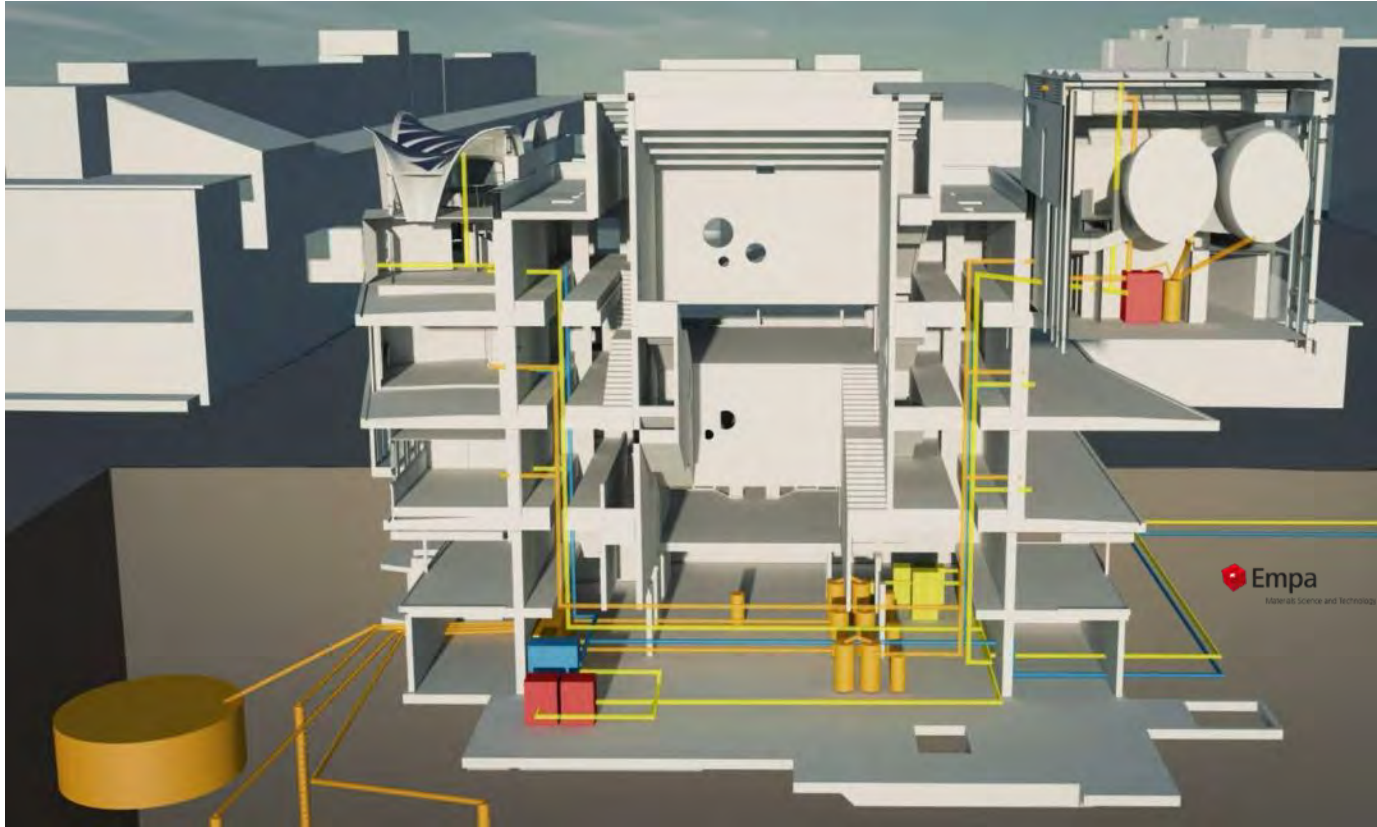
- Thermal networks and storage
- Gas grid



Micro-
Grid

Building as a vertical city quarter with different living units

@ Empa The Nest Energy-hub - a research facility



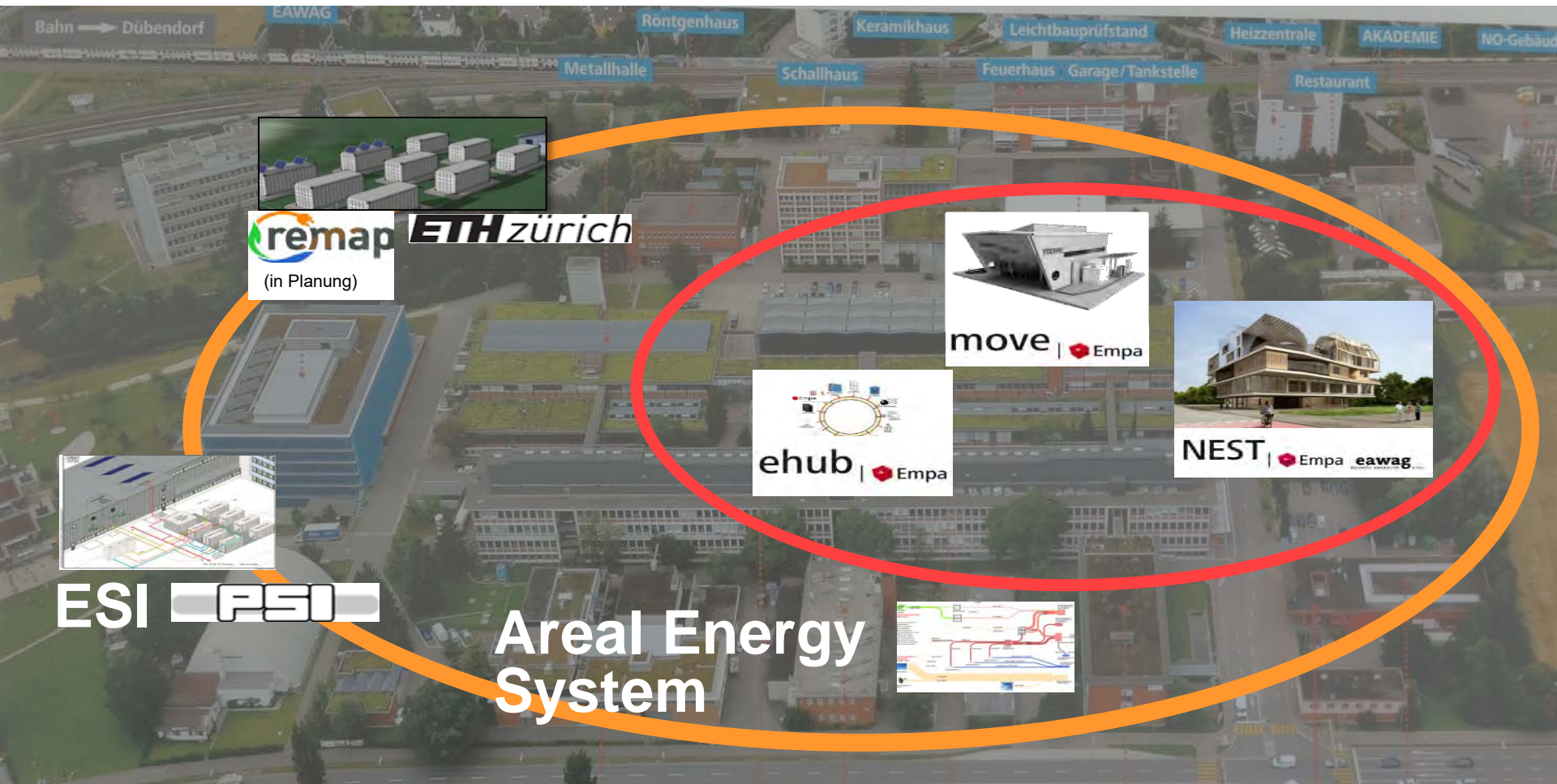
Move

NEST

Video see <http://www.empa.ch/web/empa/energy-hub/>

Integration of energy systems of different living units

@ Empa The District Energy system

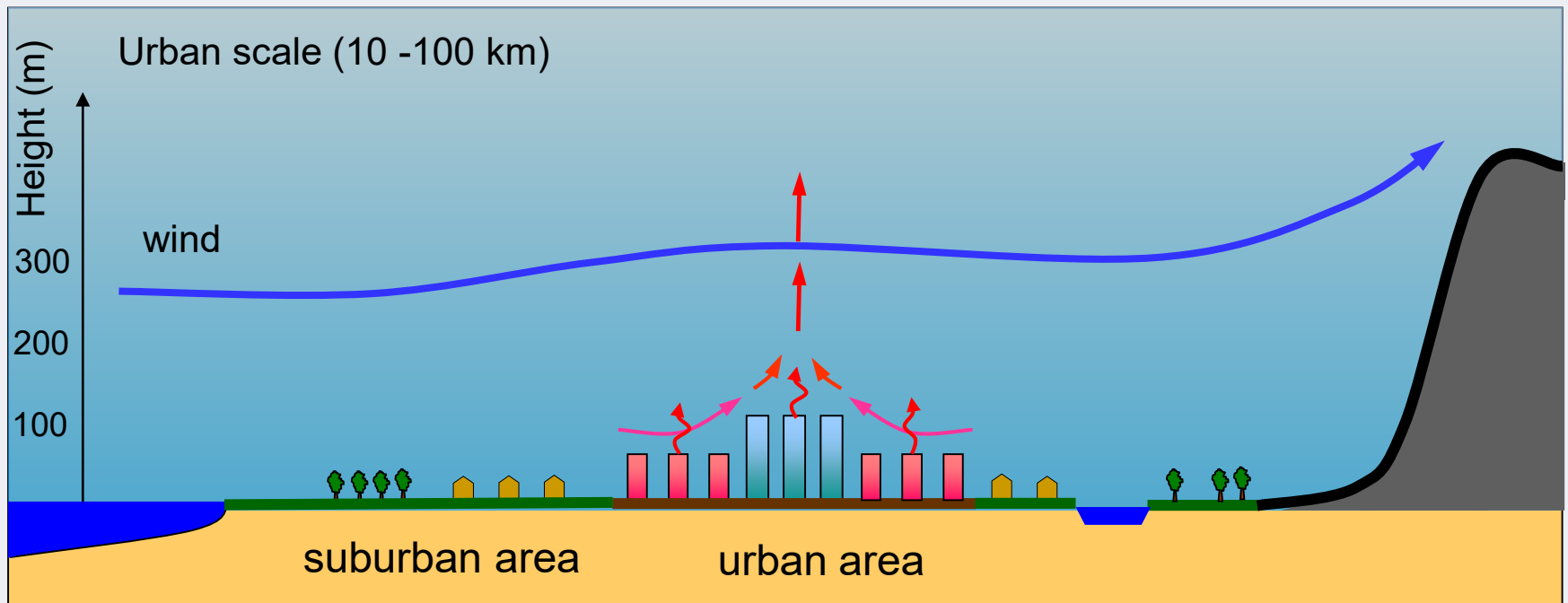


Integration of energy systems on different scales

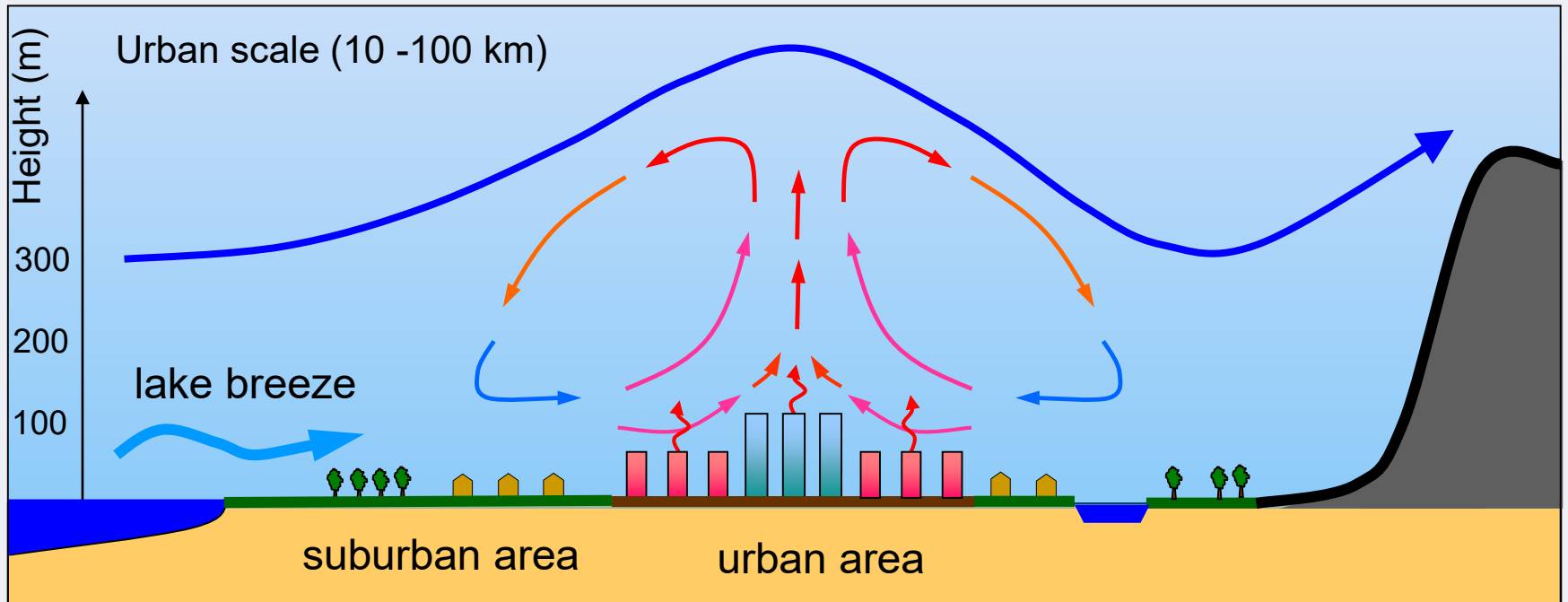
The urban heat island effect and its mitigation



Physics of the Built Environment



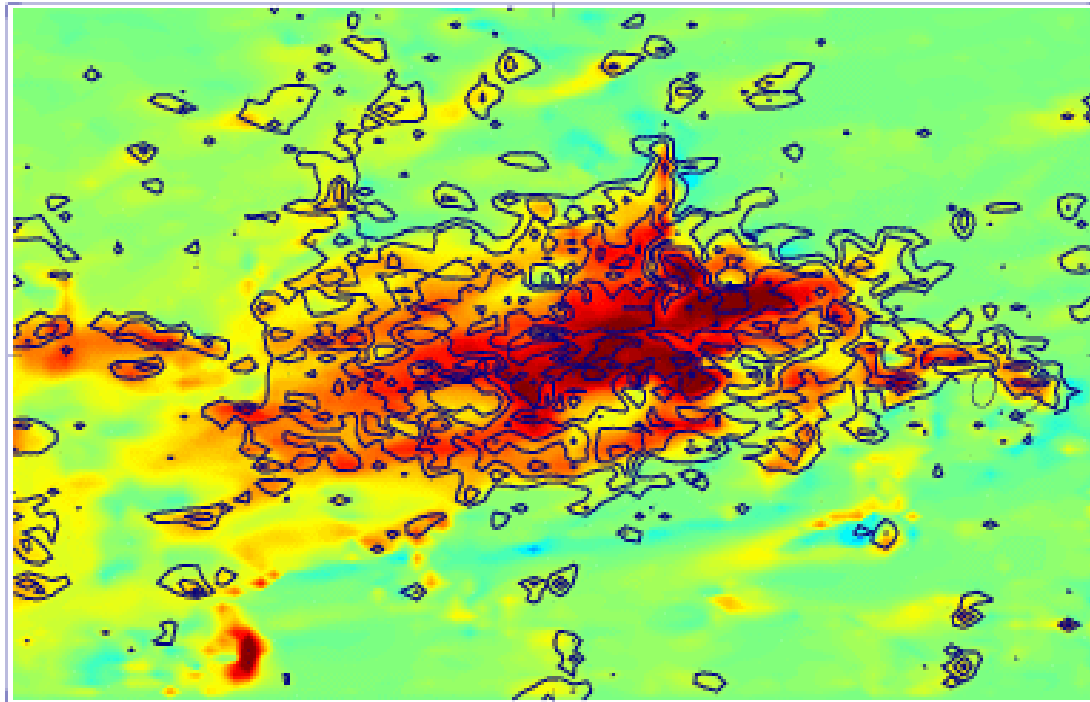
Physics of the Built Environment



Simulating Urban Heat Island - London

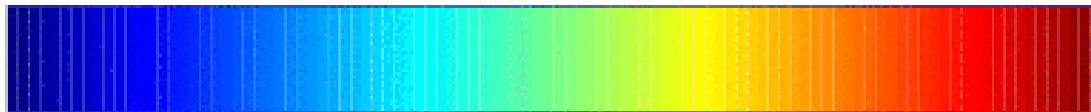
At 00Z on 7/ 5/2008,

Temperature difference at 1.5m
"city" minus "no city"



Dr Sylvia Bohnenstengel

LUCID project

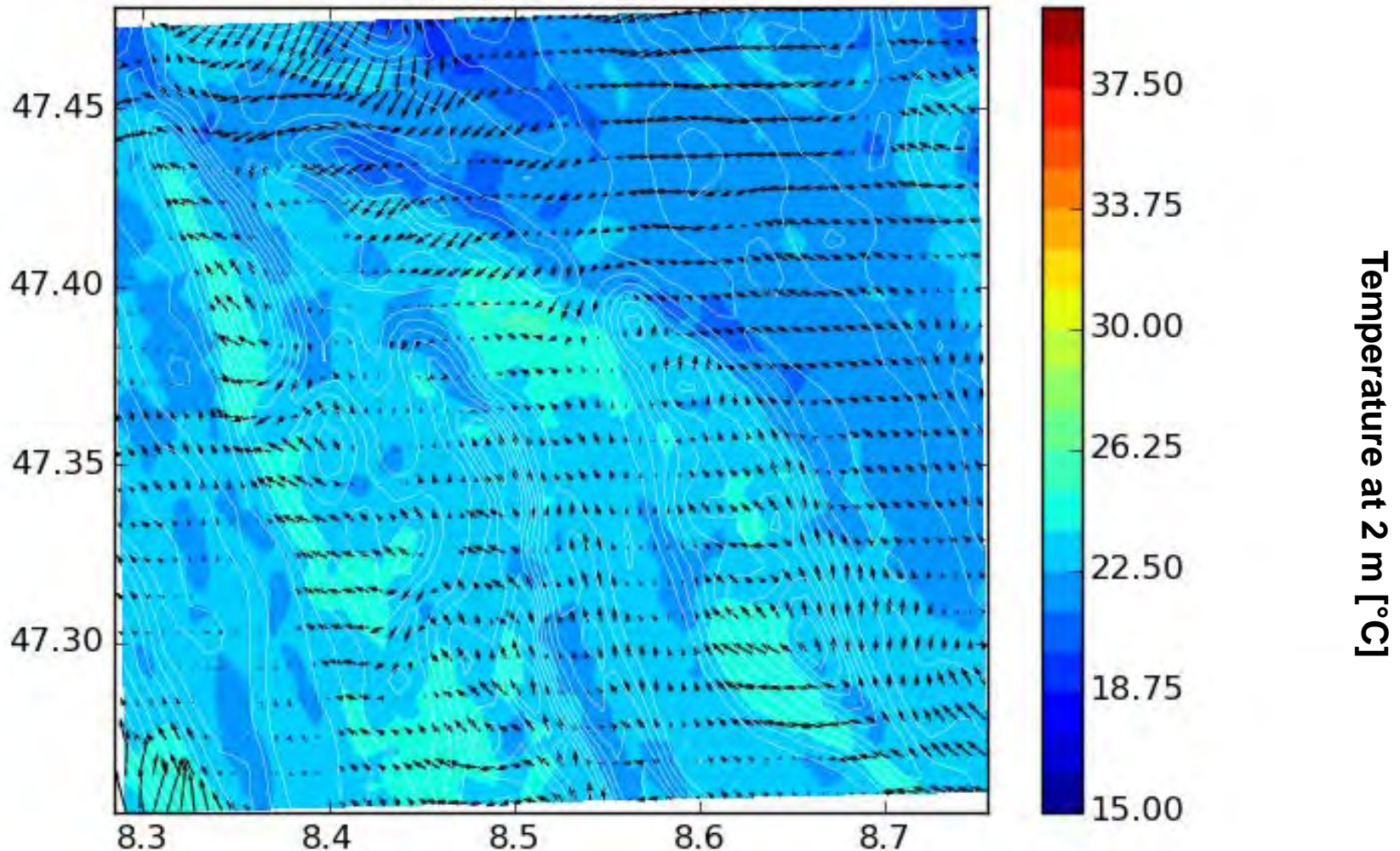


-5 -3 -1 1 3 5

Modelling of urban climate on city scale: Zurich

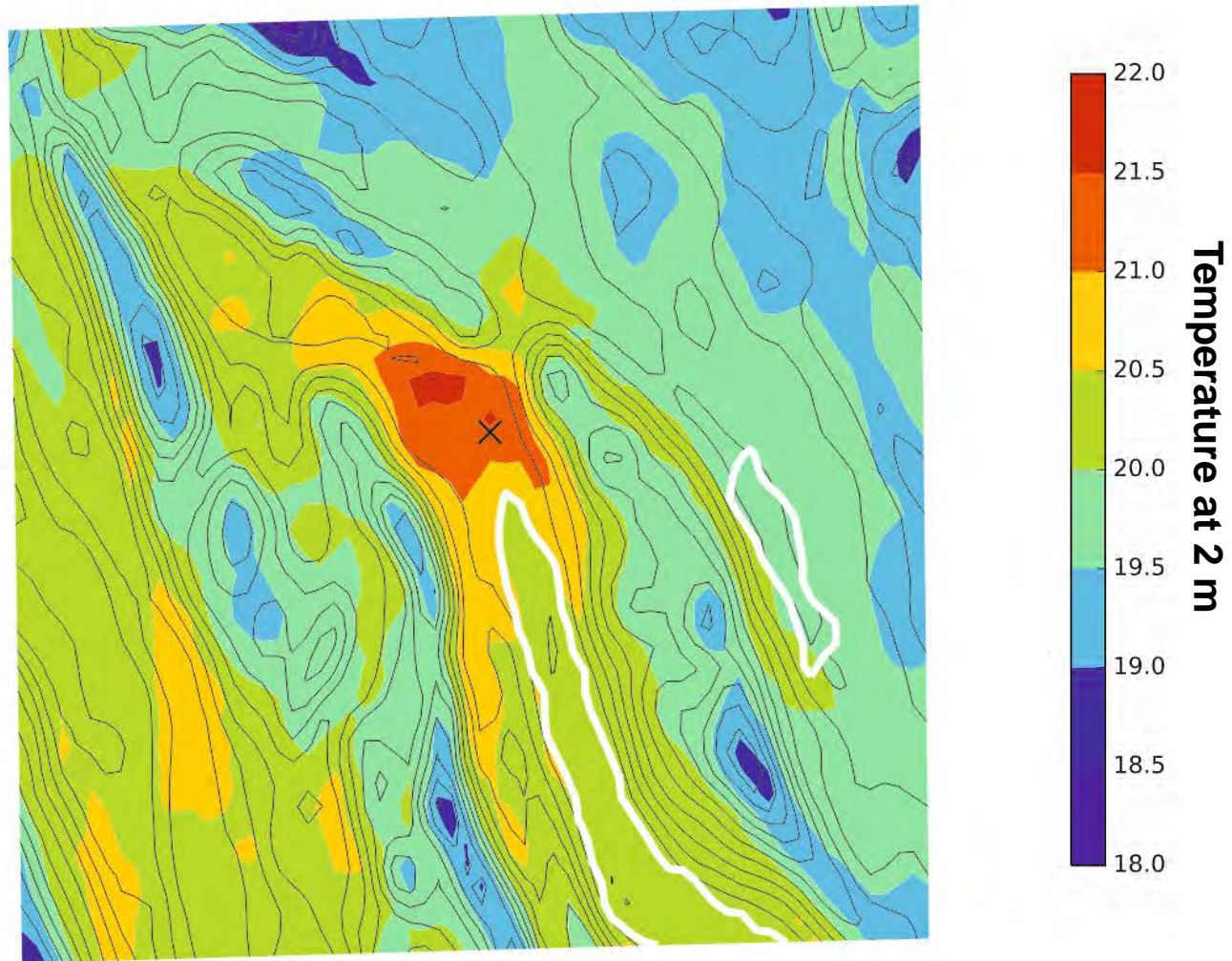
Air temperature at 2m

02/07/2015 00:00



Modelling of urban climate on city scale: Zurich

Air temperature at 2m



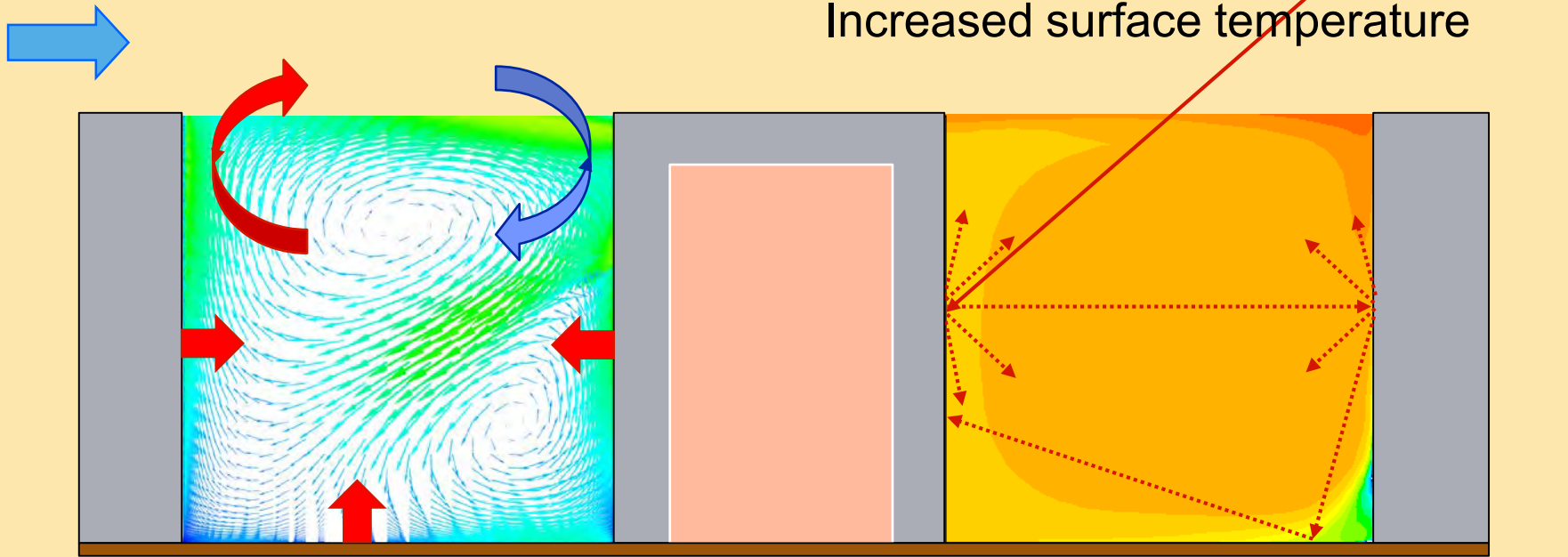
Time = 00 UTC, period averaged

Physics at street canyon scale

Wind speed: reduced

Less ventilation potential
and heat removal

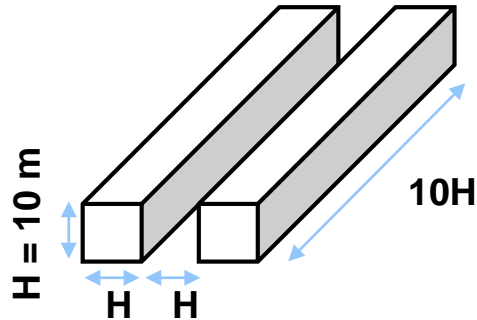
Radiation encapture
Increased surface temperature



Lower convective heat
transfer coefficients

Increased air temperatures
Buoyancy driven ventilation

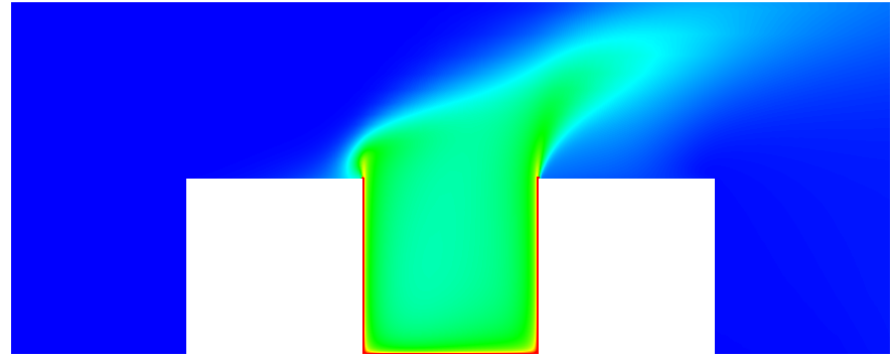
Buoyancy is an important heat removal mechanism at low wind speed



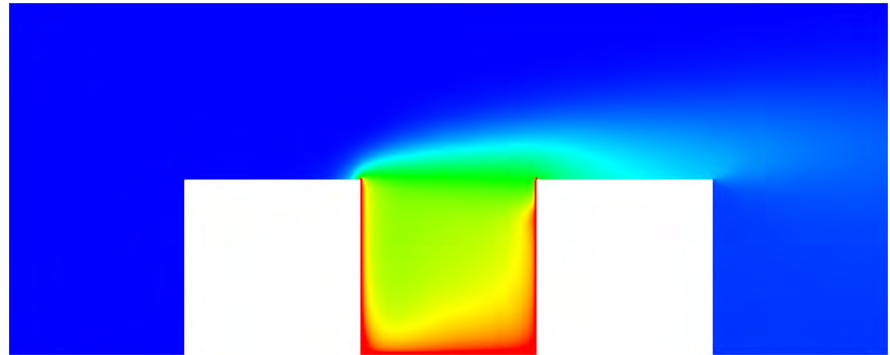
Richardson number:

$$Ri = \frac{g\beta(T_w - T_0)h}{U^2}$$

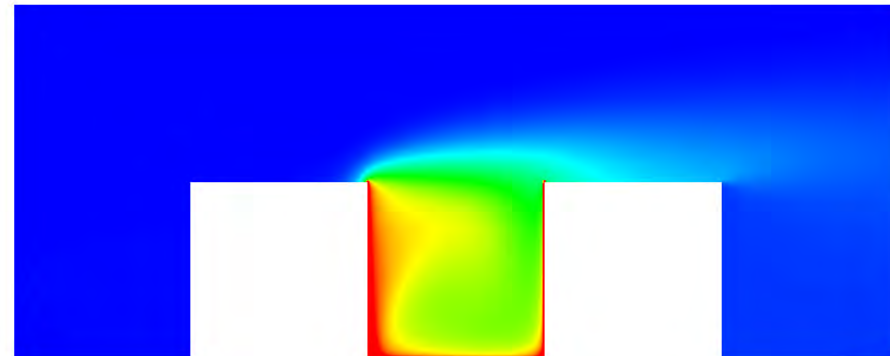
$U_{\text{ref}} = 1\text{ m/s}$
 $Ri = 4.9$
→ wind



$U_{\text{ref}} = 5\text{ m/s}$
 $Ri = 0.2$
→ wind



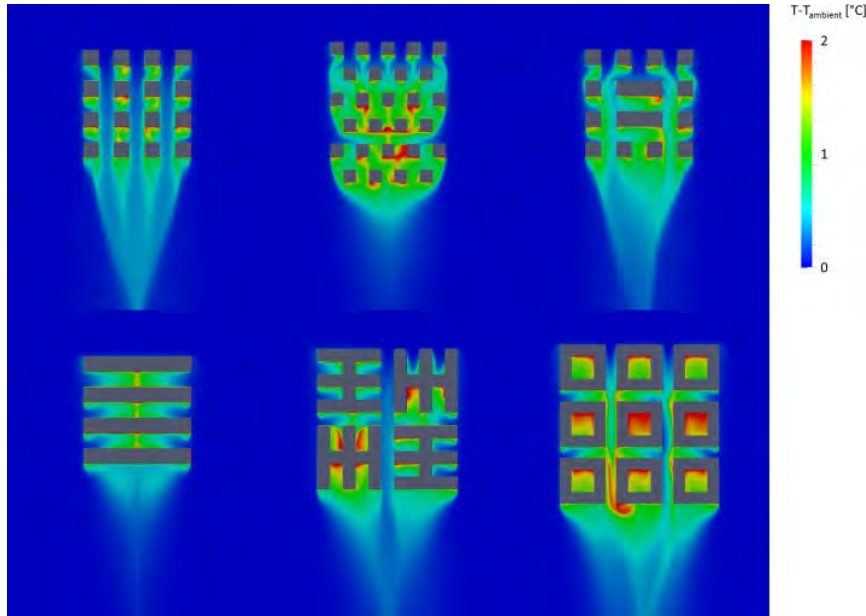
$U_{\text{ref}} = 10\text{ m/s}$
 $Ri = 0.05$
→ wind



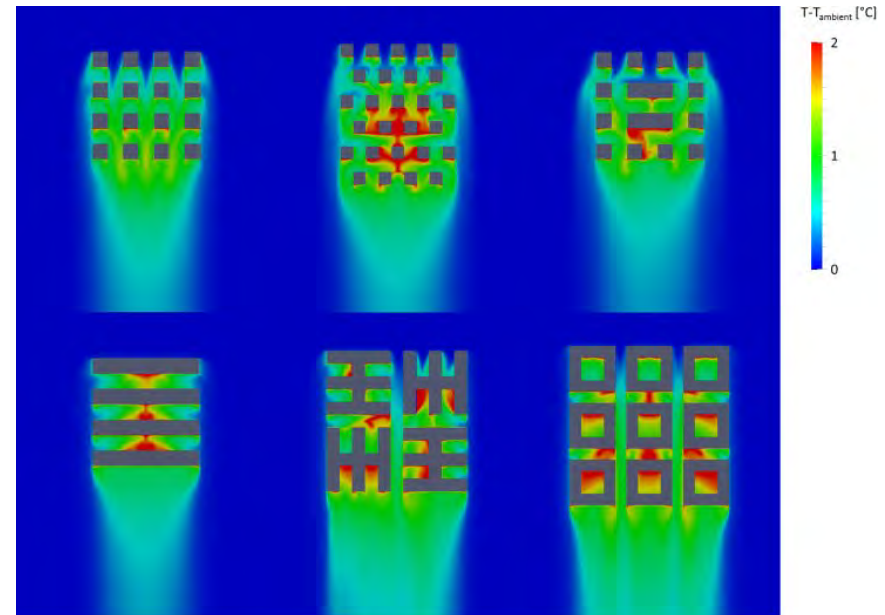
Local heat island (hot spots) appears at street canyon scale

temperature difference between the local air temperature and the ambient air temperature at 1.75m height

$U_{10}=1$ m/s



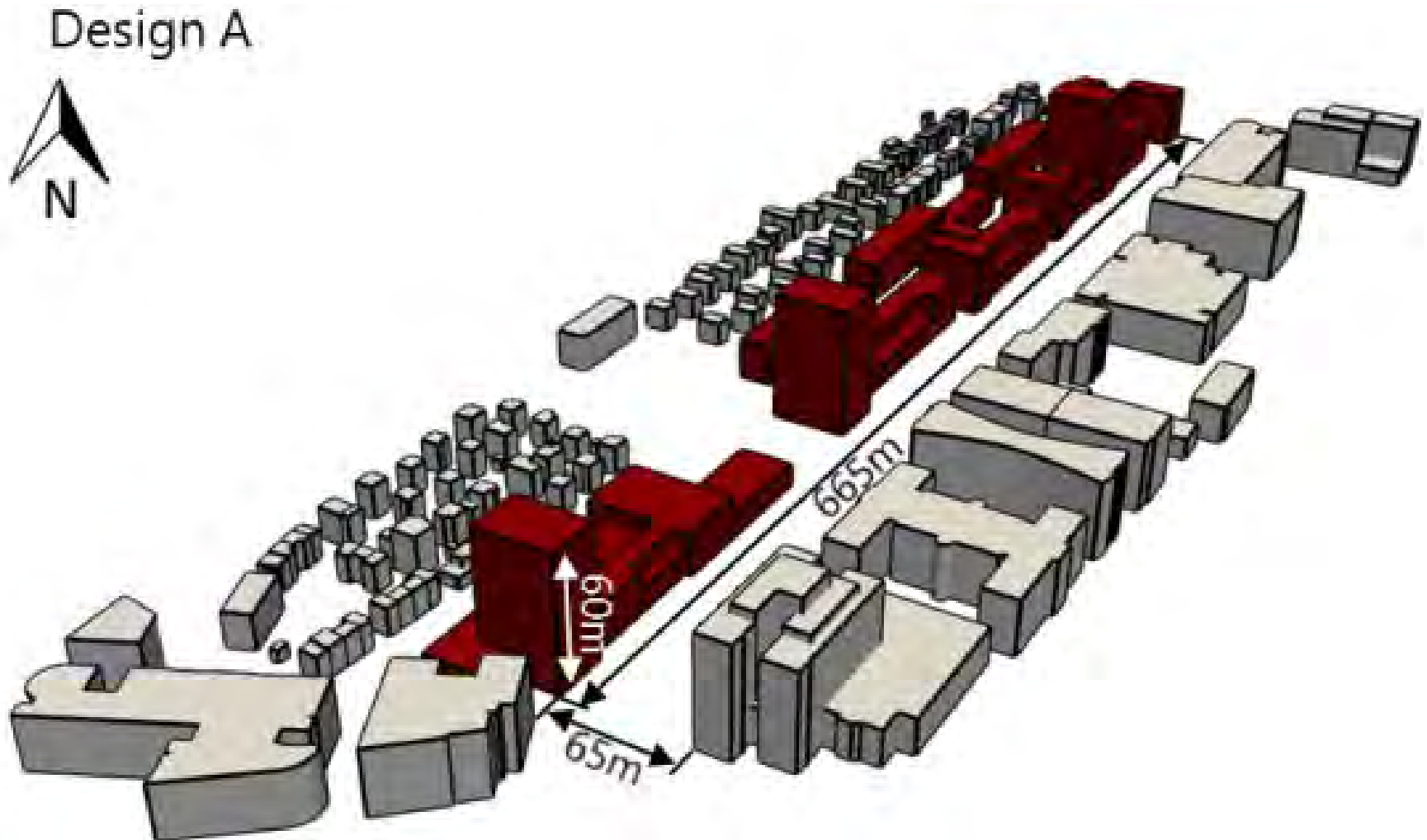
$U_{10}=5.5$ m/s



For low wind speeds, more hot air can leave the street canyons through the shear layer due to stronger buoyancy effects.

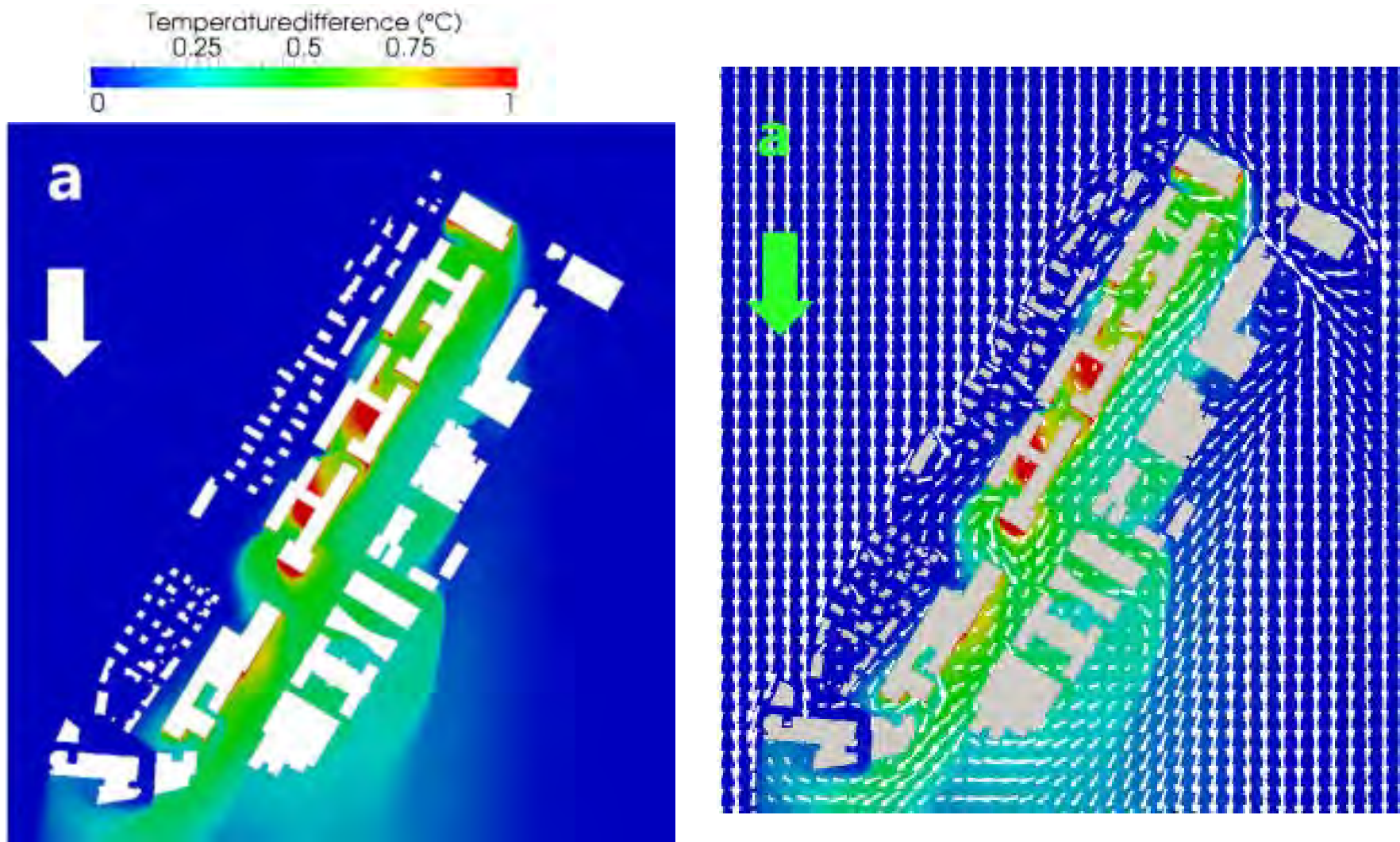
Local heat island (hot spots) appears at street canyon scale

Case study of densification in Zurich



Local heat island (hot spots) appears at street canyon scale

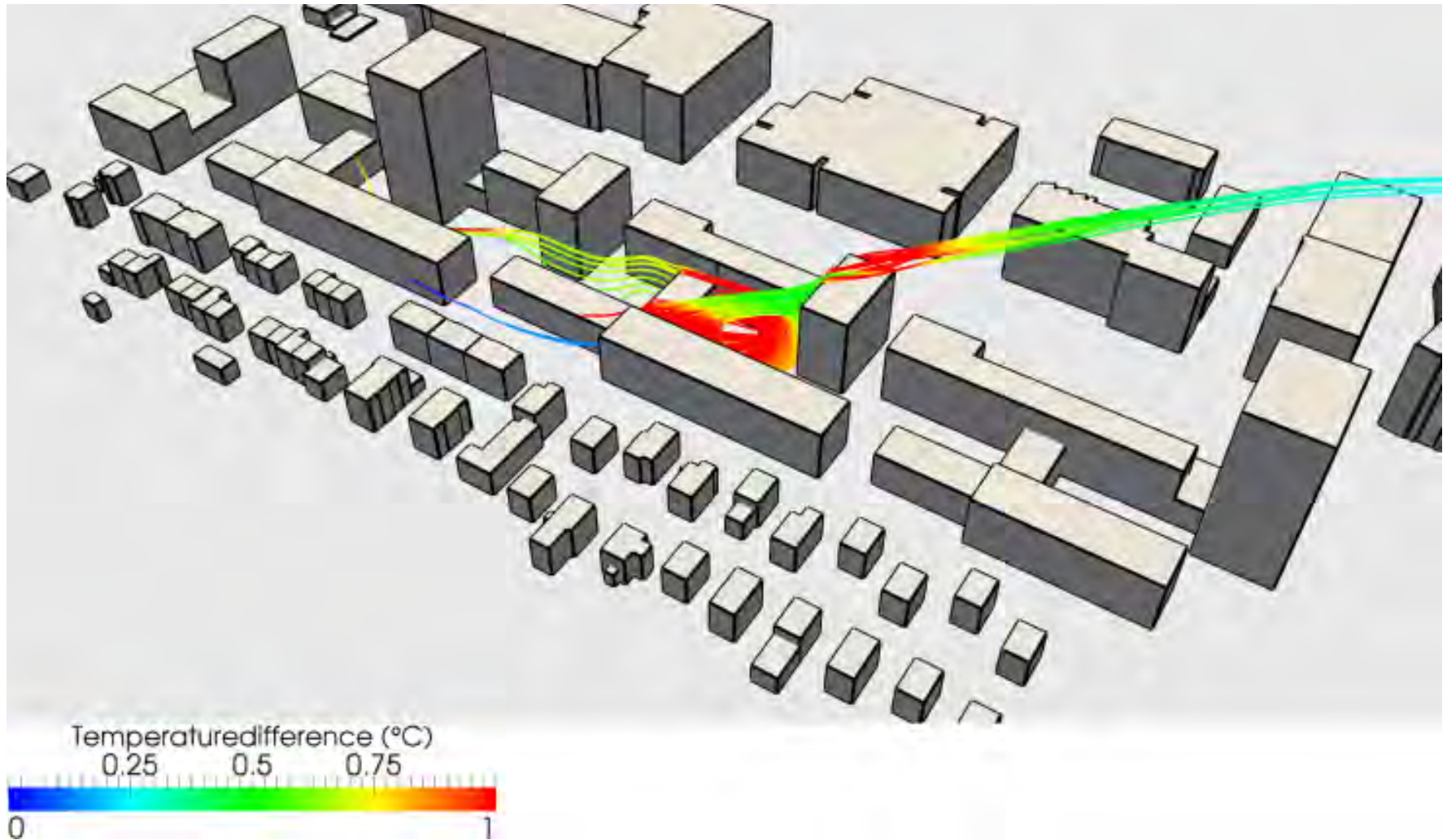
Case study of densification in Zurich



temperature difference between the local and ambient air temperature

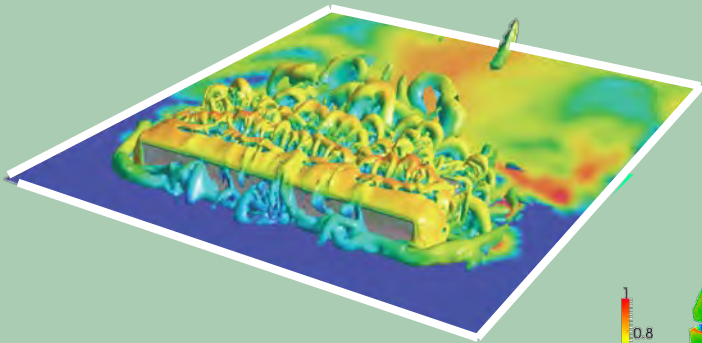
Local heat island (hot spots) appears at street canyon scale

Case study of densification in Zurich



Streamlines for westerly wind direction
Temperature difference between the local and ambient air temperature

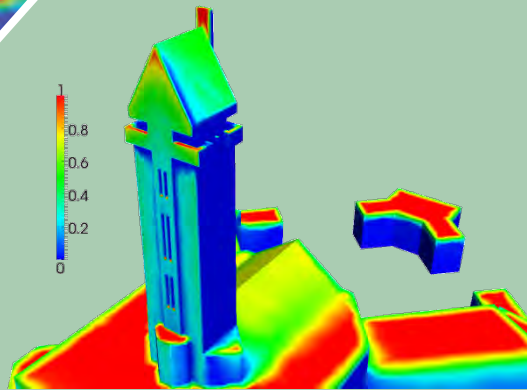
Urban flow modeling



Turbulent flow in street canyon



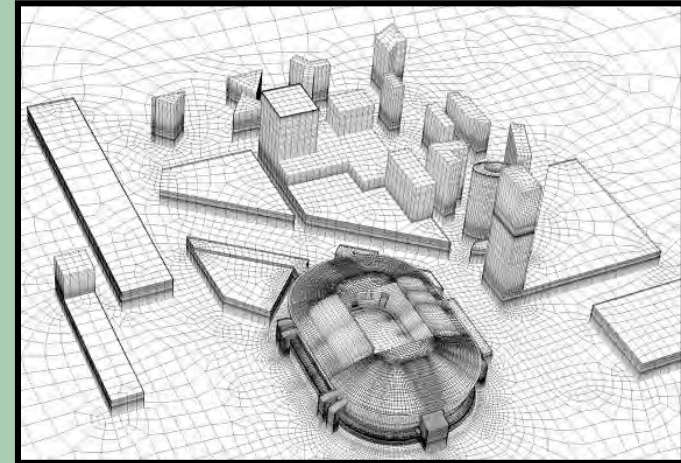
Urban Wind
tunnel
ETHZ/EMPA



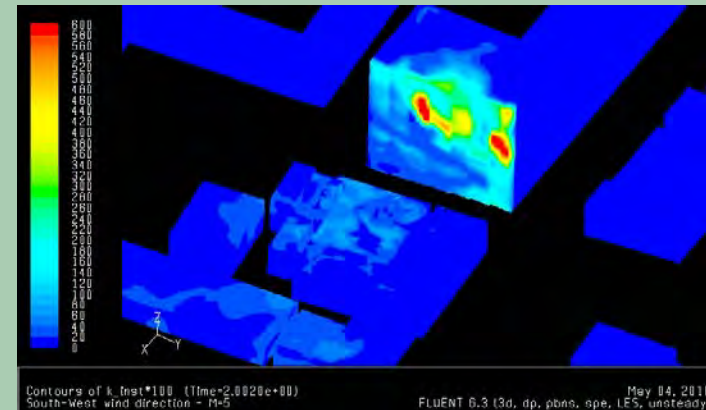
Driving rain on historical building



*HIGRAD (collaboration
Los Alamos National Laboratory)*



CFD grid of Amsterdam Arena extension



Pollutant gas dispersion in downtown Montreal

Study of urban flow in ETHZ / Empa wind tunnel



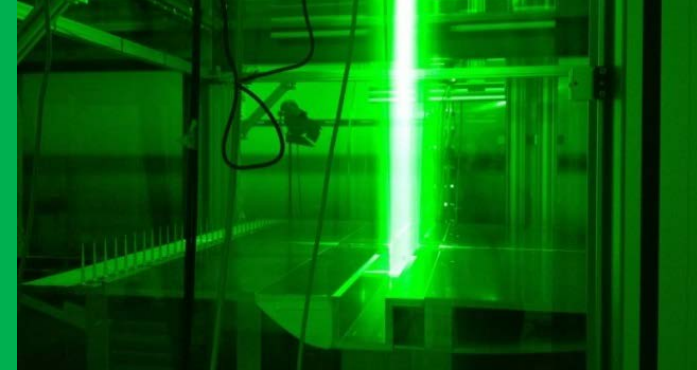
ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



Materials Science & Technology

Time Resolved Stereo-Particle
Image Velocimetry System



Processing Cluster (40 cores)

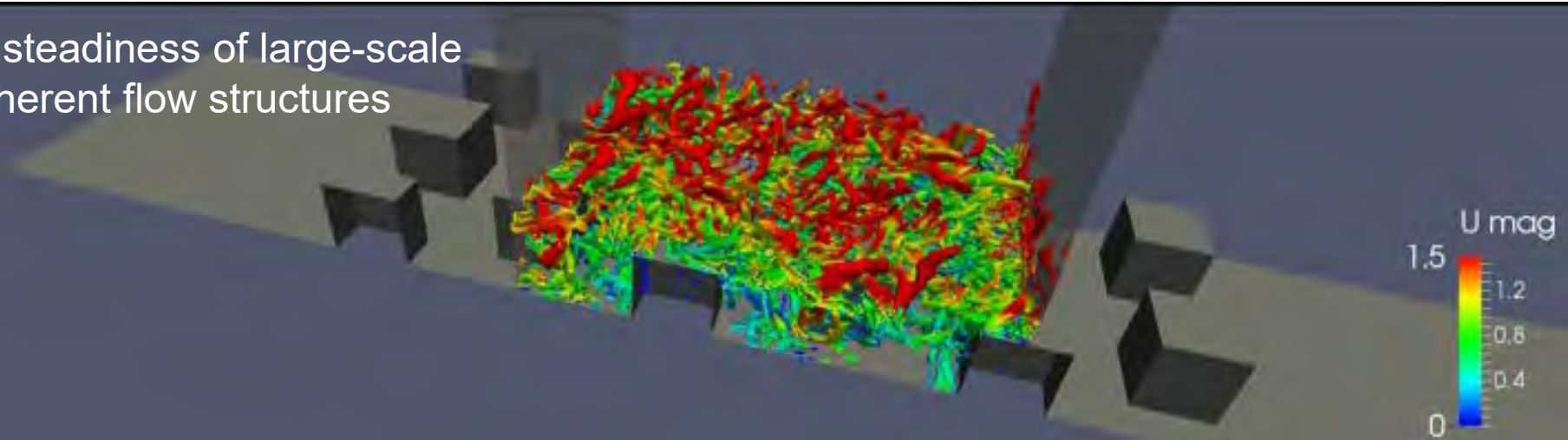


Wind tunnel experiment (ETHZ /Empa):
shear layer and vortex shedding, street canyon vortex

0.000000

LES simulation

Unsteadiness of large-scale
coherent flow structures



The urban heat island effect

Mitigation measures for heat waves

Evaluation of urban thermal comfort

Universal Thermal Climate Index (UTCI)

Equivalent ambient temperature of a reference environment providing the same physiological responses of a reference environment

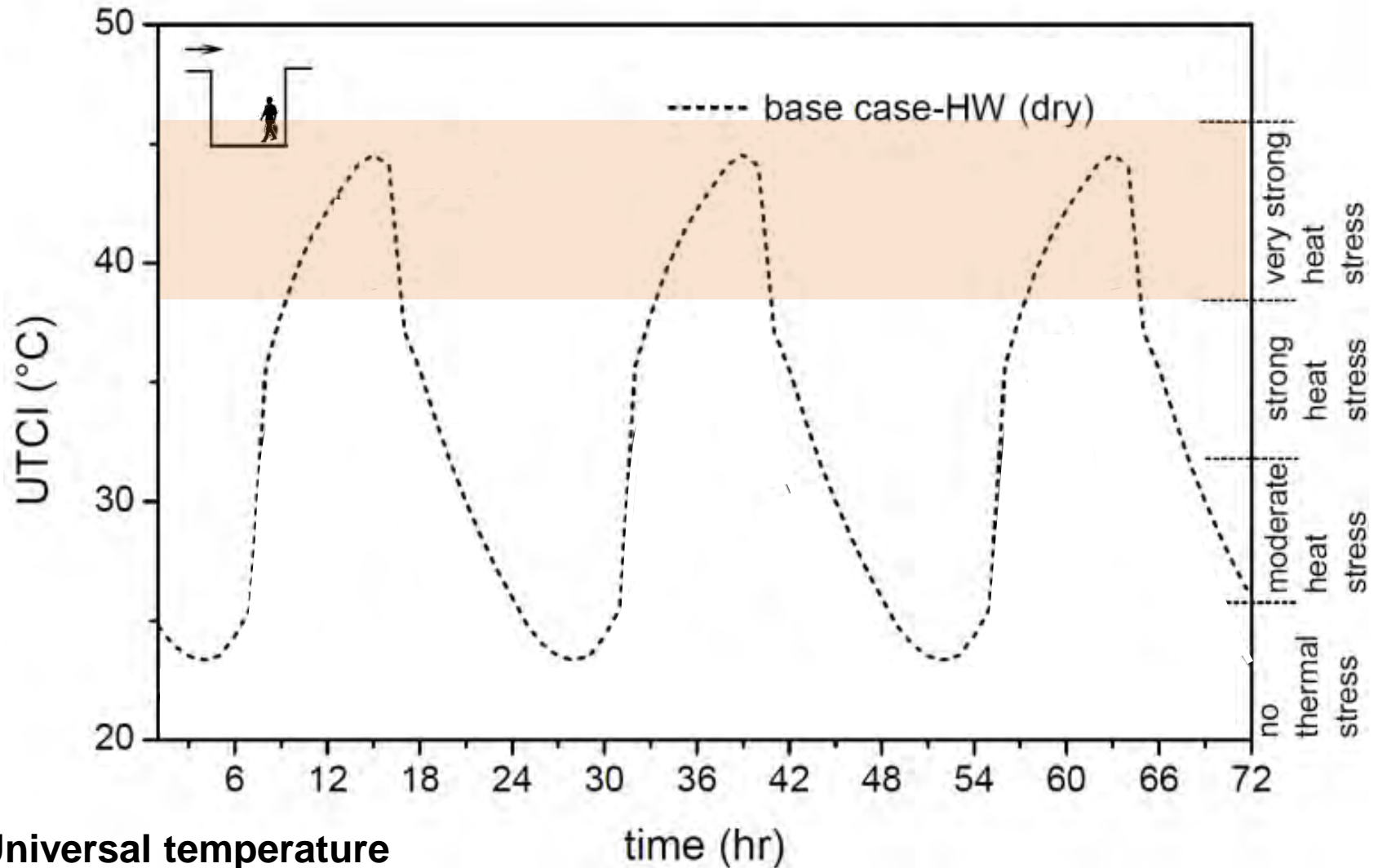
- ☐ air temperature
- ☒ mean radiant temperature
- ☐ relative humidity
- ☐ wind speed
- ☐ clothing
- ☐ activity

$$T_{mrt} = \left[T_{umrt}^4 + \frac{f_p \alpha_p I_{dir}}{\varepsilon_p \sigma} \right]^{0.25}$$

Surface temperatures
of environment
radiating to the
person

Direct solar
radiation
on person

Heat wave (Zurich 2003)

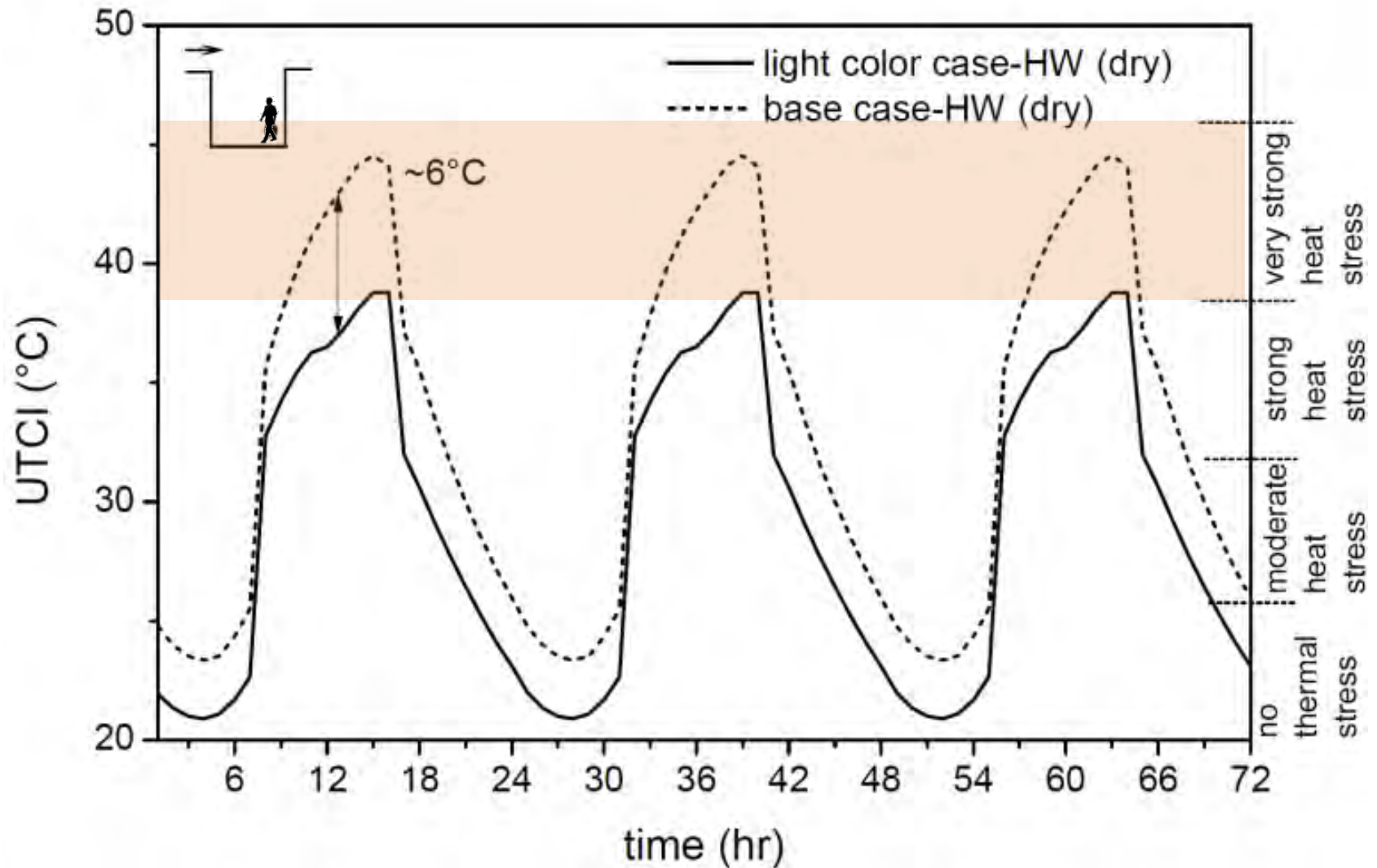


Universal temperature
comfort index

Materials with high albedo value

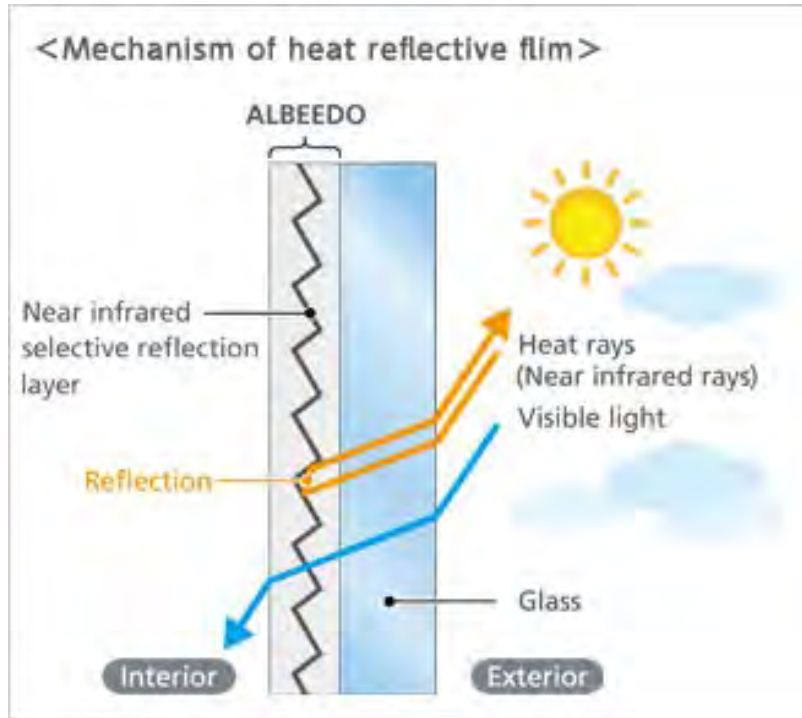


Heat wave : white colors

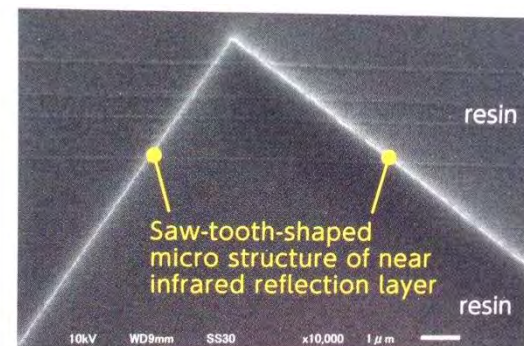
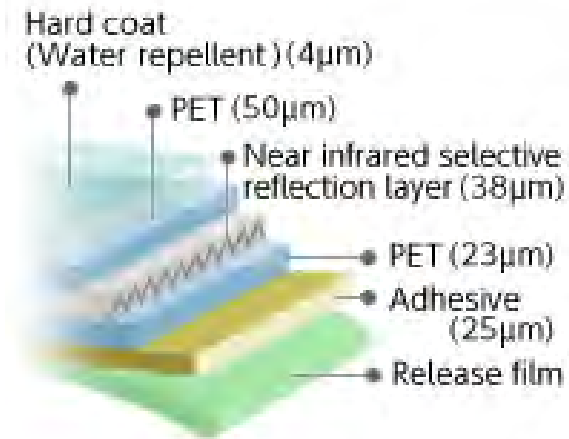


Heat reflective film

Heat reflective film improving thermal environment of both inside the building and the street by reflecting heat rays upward (ALBEEDOTM)



Films interposed between glass layers of the facades to increase the heat-shielding efficiency and decreasing transmissivity in the NIR range. These films generate a retro reflection of the solar radiation back to the sky, instead to the street level, decreasing the overheating effect on the surroundings.

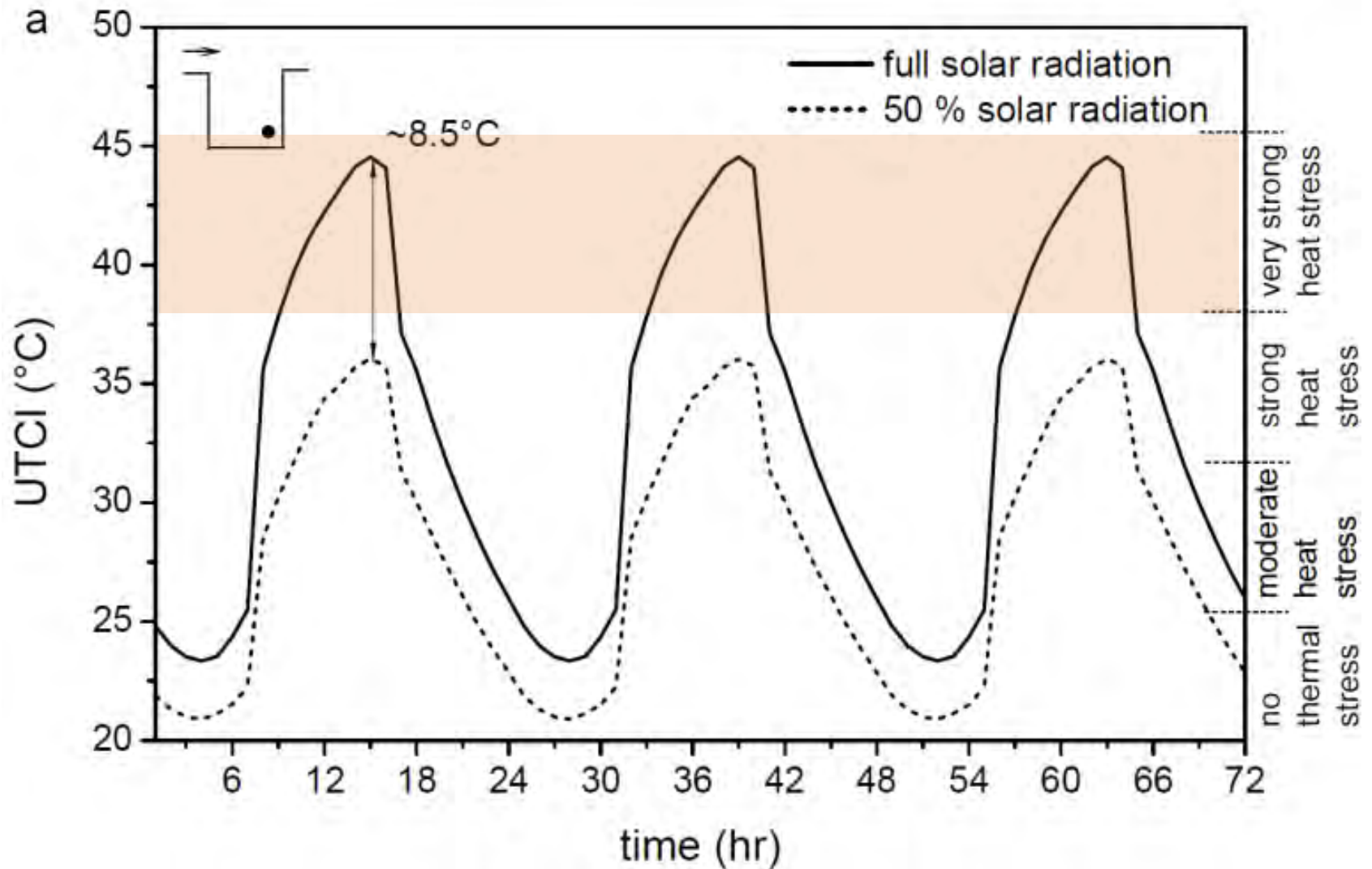


Cross sectional image of saw-tooth-shaped edge (SEM)
The corner radius is about R0.2 μ m.

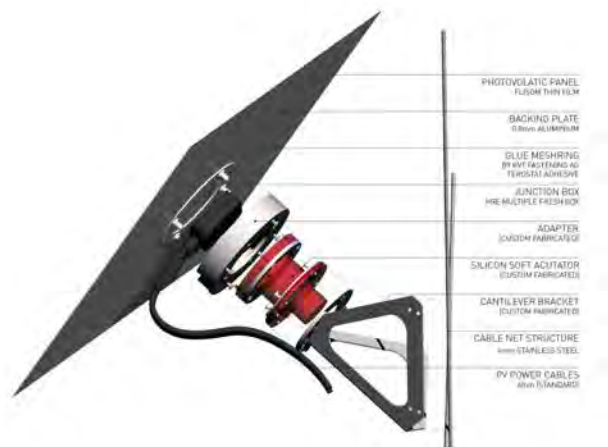
Shadowing



Heat wave : 50 % shadowing



Adaptive solar facades (A. Schlueter, ETHZ)

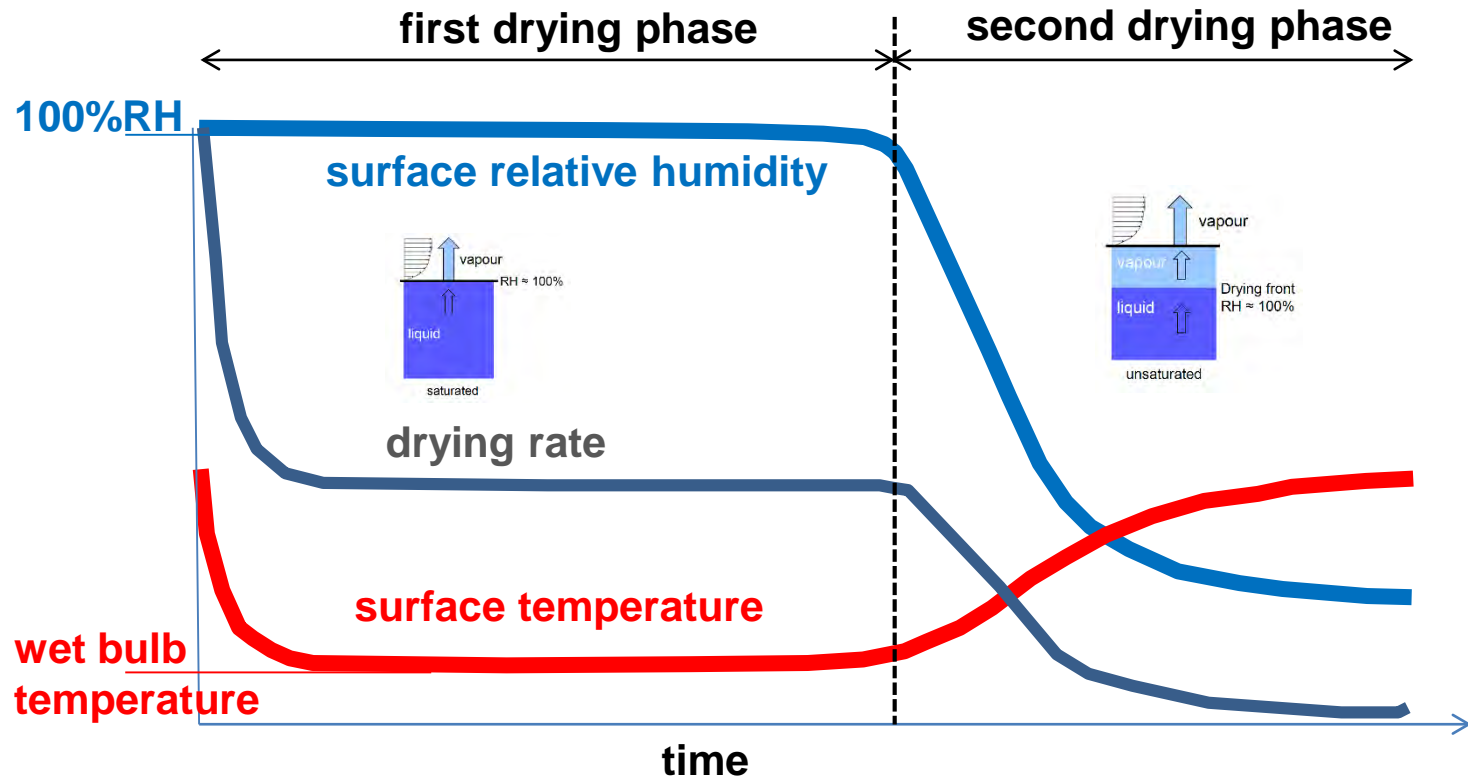


Heat wave : evaporative cooling

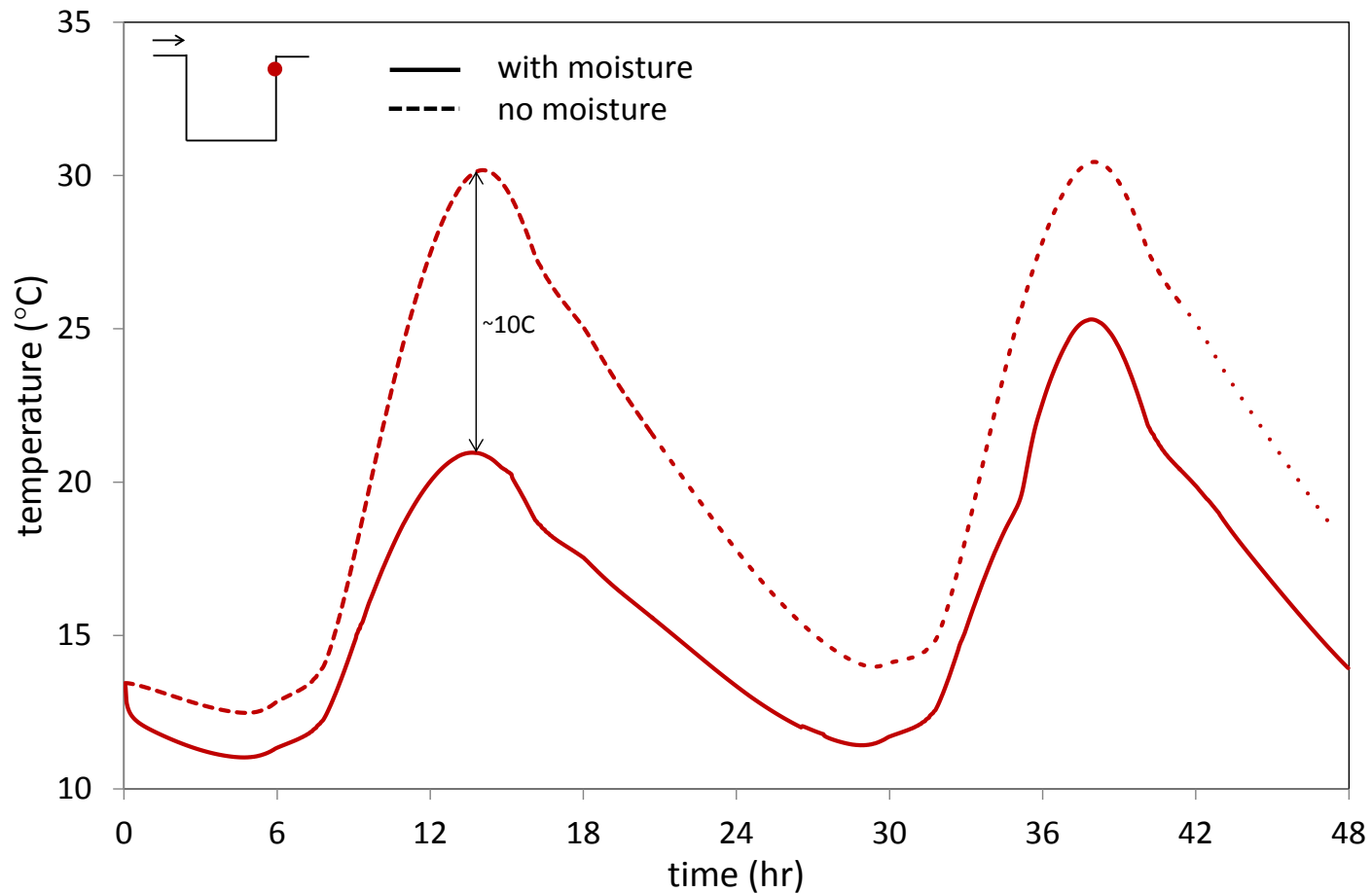


Evaporative cooling – drying of materials

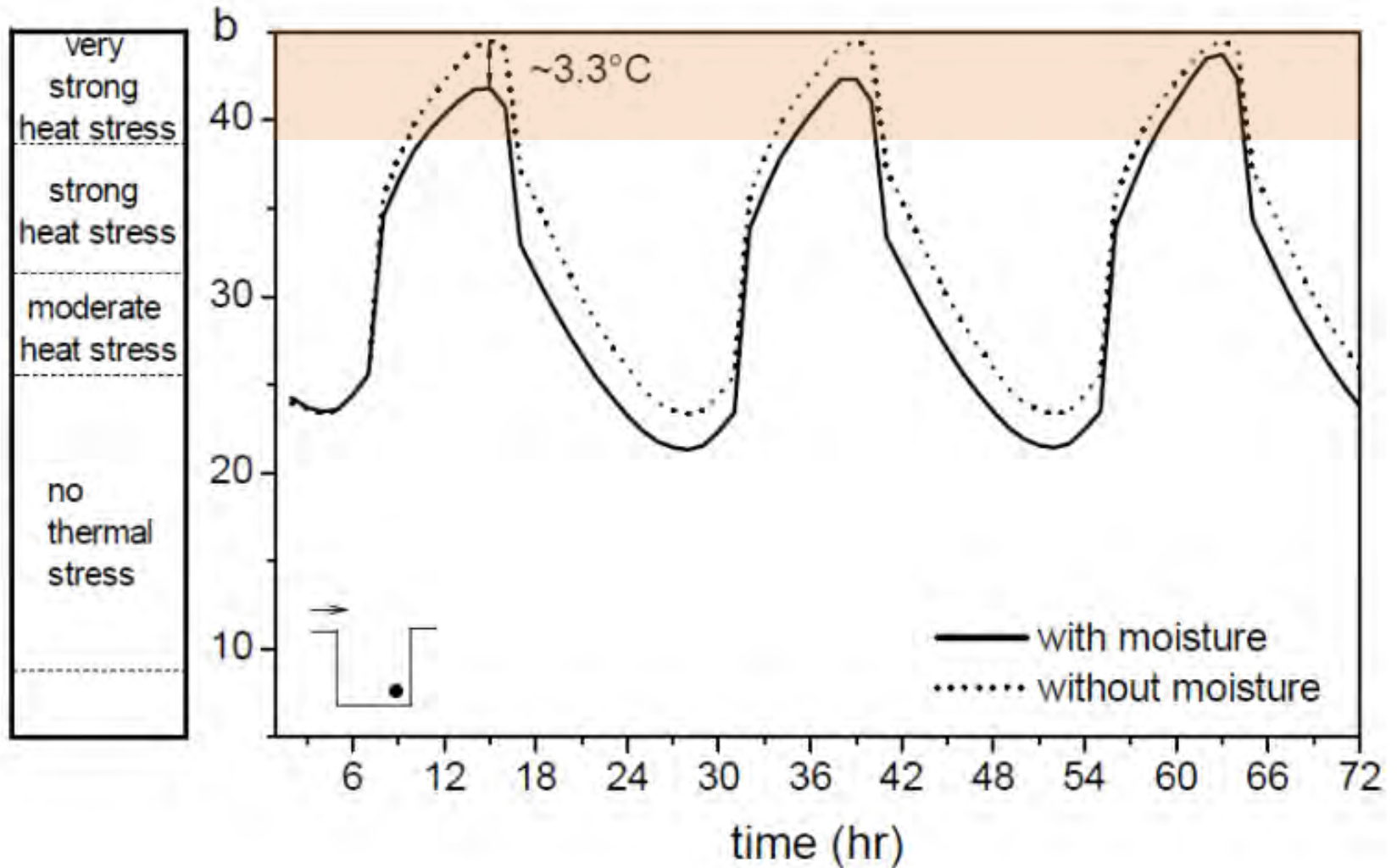
$$L_v = 2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg}$$



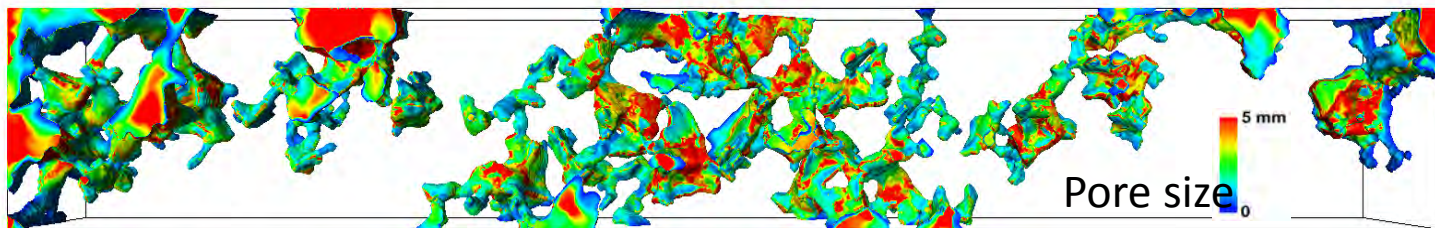
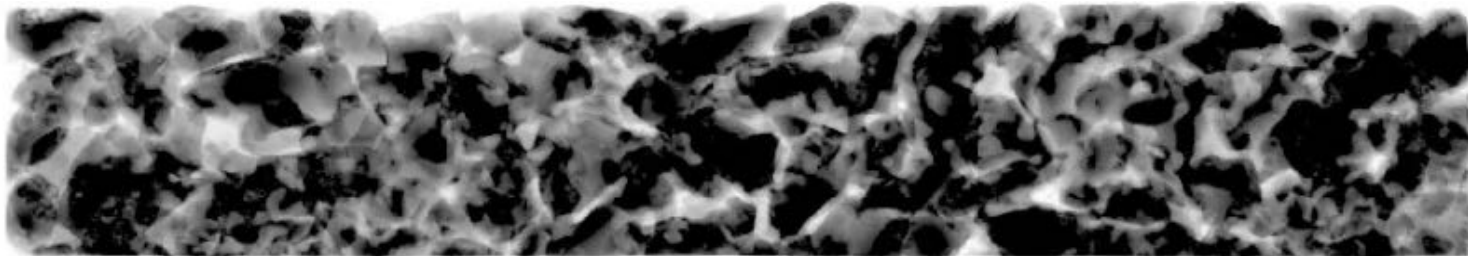
Surface temperature: cooling of evaporating wall



Heat wave : evaporative cooling

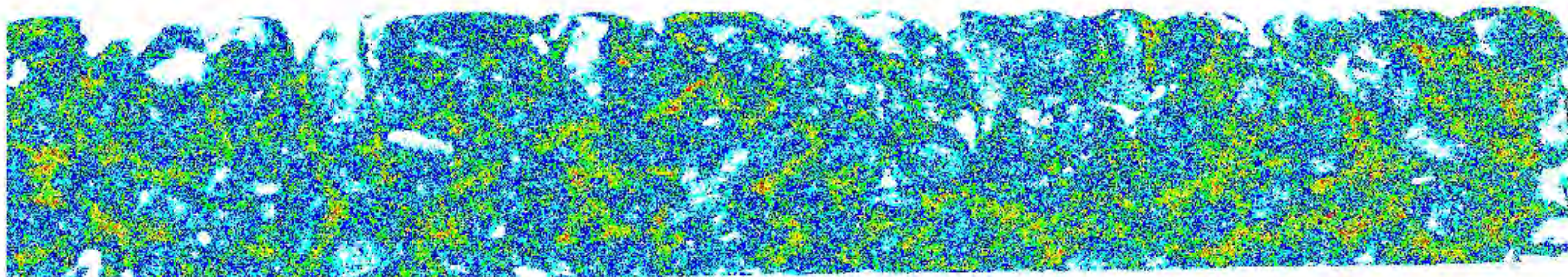


Evaporative cooling of porous asphalt (Improved water drainage and noise absorption)



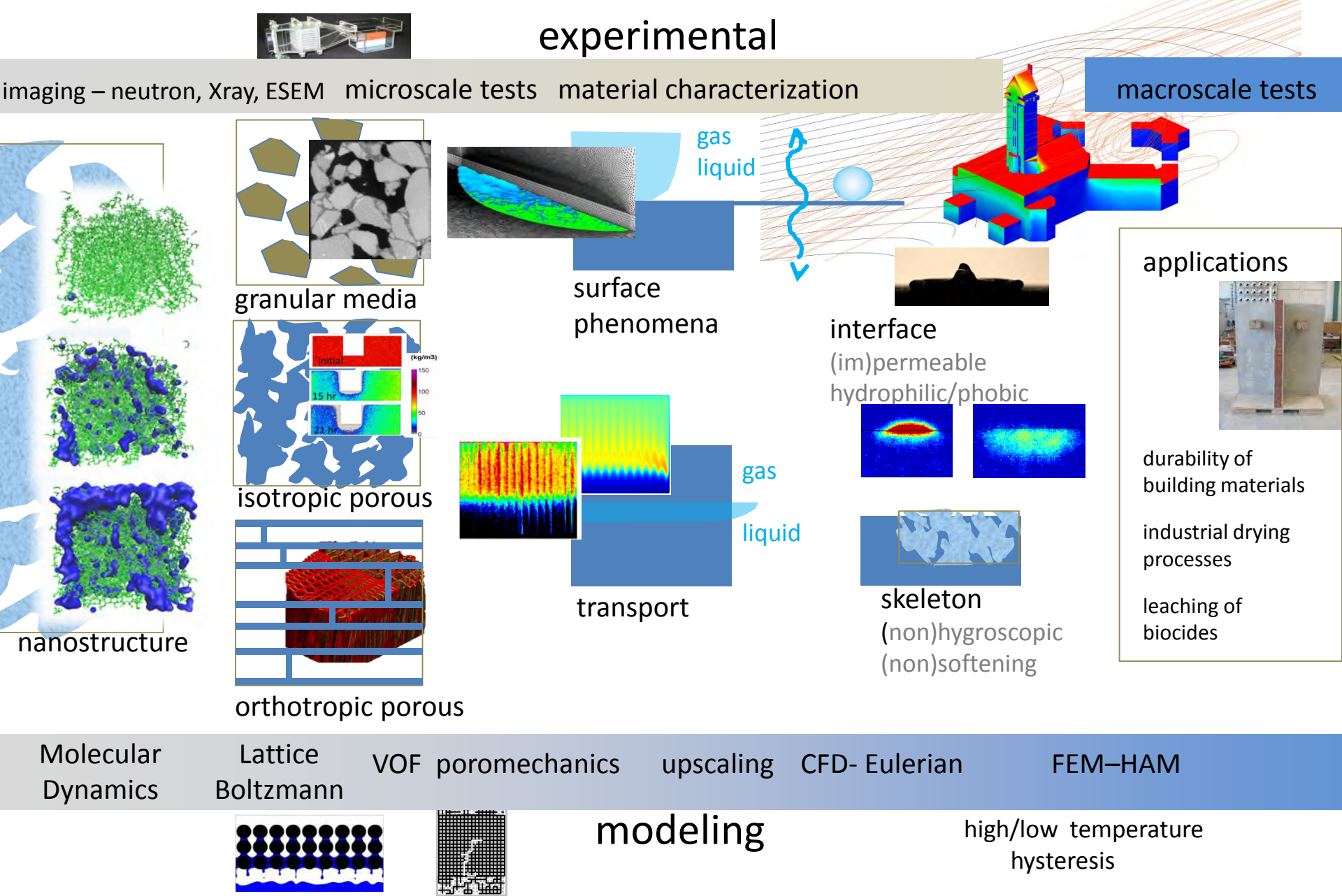
Droplet wetting for 5 minutes – followed by drying until 69 minutes

t = 1.0 mins



Fluids/porous media interactions:

from **nano- to macroscale** and from **very short to long time scales**.




Needs for material development

1. New highly insulation materials at low cost
2. Multi-functional 'smart' windows / new coatings from niche to larger market penetration
3. Renewable energy generation at lower cost
4. Materials for higher energy efficiency and lower cost of integrated energy systems at urban scale
5. Reflective coatings for glass
6. Multifunctional shading devices
7. New porous materials for evaporative cooling

Thank for your attention

Questions?

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