

High Performance Buildings meet PassivHaus

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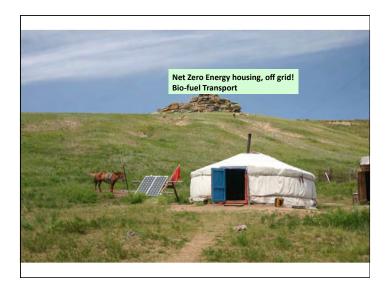


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- Low-energy homes / small buildings
 - -Cold to Mixed-Cold Climates
- PassivHaus as one approach
- Passive House US
 - -How is it the same/ different than PH?
- Other approaches and metrics
 - -Effinergie, Minenergie
- Then ... Building, Enclosure, Mechanicals.



Major Energy Use Categories

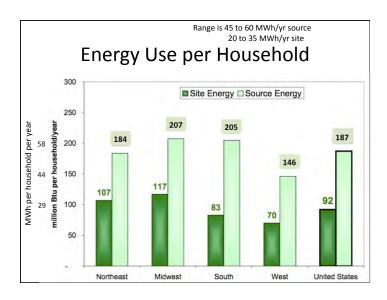
kWh/yr for a typical US 2200 sf 3 BDR home

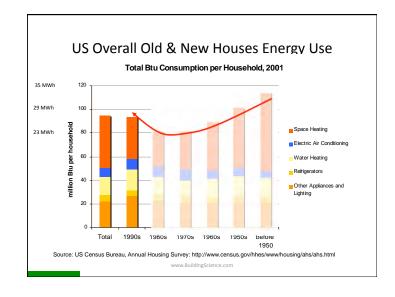
- Space Heating (cold climate
 - 10000 30 000 very climate dependent 35 to 100 MMBTU
- Space Cooling
 - 0 10 000 very climate dependent
- Domestic Hot Water
 - 4000-6000 small climate dependency
- Appliances
 - 1000 3000 (dryer, 900, fridge 500)
- Misc Electrical Loads + plug
 - **-** 1000-3000
- Lighting
 - **-** 750- 2000
- Total: Typical Household: 15 000 to 35 000 kWh

50 MMBTU to 120 MMBTU

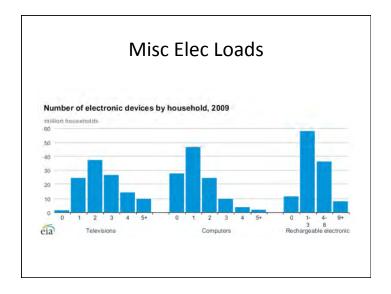
How much do US houses use?

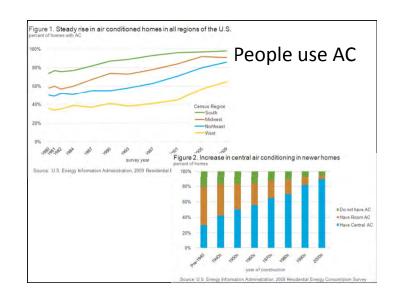
- RECS2005 is great data. RECS2009 soon.
- Avg new US home uses 50 kWh/yr/m² gas
 Gas usually means heat + DHW
- North-east homes use avg \$808 of gas/yr!
- North-east home use avg 72 kWh/yr/m² gas









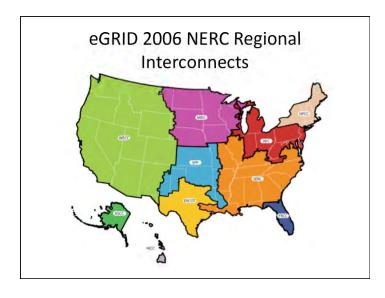


Site Source Aside

Source-to-Site Conversion

- January 2009, NREL figures for Building America
- Of course, varies with source of electricity supply
 - Most coal plants are 35% efficient, new NG plants 60%+
 - 5% transmission loss

Energy Source	Source Energy Factor
Electricity	3.365
Natural Gas	1.092
Anthracite Coal	1.029
Bituminous Coal	1.048
Subbitumious Coal	1.066
Lignite Coal	1.102
Residual Fuel Oil	1.191
Distillate Fuel Oil	1.158
Gasoline	1.187
LPG	1.151
Kerosene	1.205



Electrical GHG Emissions

• April 2007, EPA eGRID files

		Output emission rate				
NERC region acronym	NERC region name	CO ₂	SO ₂	NO _x	Ozone season NO _x (lb/MWh)	Hg (lb/GWh)
ASCC	Alaska Systems Coordinating Council	1,106	1.203	3.679	3.980	0.0014
ERCOT	Electric Reliability Council of Texas	1,421	3.174	0.981	0.950	0.0291
FRCC	Florida Reliability Coordinating Council	1,328	3.620	2.269	2.240	0.0091
HICC	Hawaiian Islands Coordinating Council	1,655	4.190	3.757	3.829	0.0117
MRO	Midwest Reliability Organization	1,820	6.107	3.734	3.578	0.0415
NPCC	Northeast Power Coordinating Council	908	2.924	1.019	0.915	0.0099
RFC	Reliability First Corporation	1,434	9.252	2.481	1.667	0.0419
SERC	SERC Reliability Corporation	1,387	6.369	2.114	1.537	0.0264
SPP	Southwest Power Pool	1,830	4.636	3.017	2.850	0.0350
WECC	Western Electricity Coordinating Council	1,107	1.170	1.622	1.560	0.0112
U.S.		1,363	5.436	2.103	1.704	0.0269

National 1.36 lb CO₂/kWh (0.91 to 1.83)

RFC 1.43 lb CO₂ / kWh

Fossil Fuel GHG Emissions

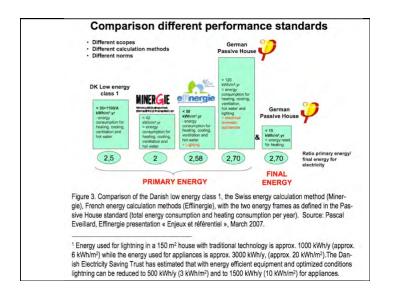
- Assuming combustion @ 100% efficiency
- Nat gas
 - $-117 \text{ pds CO}_2 / \text{MMBtu} = 0.40 / \text{kWh}$
 - -92% eff. = 0.435 lb/kWh
 - -Around 3 times less GHG emission vs electric
- Propane
 - $-139 \text{ pds CO}_2/\text{MMBtu} = 0.475 / \text{kWh}$
- Heating oil No. 2
 - $-161 \text{ pds CO}_2/\text{MMBtu} = 0.54 / \text{kWh}$

Source: DOE EIA Emissions Coefficients

Energy Performance Labels

- Plus Energy- Carbon neutral
- Off-grid
- Net Zero-energy
- "80% reduction"
- PassivHaus
- Architecture2030.org
- "50% reduction"
- Energy Star V3 (20%?) or LEED Platinum

Exhibit 1: ENERGY STAR Qualified Homes, Version 3 illustrative Cost & Savings Summary Exhibit 1: ENERGY STAR Qualified Homes, Version 3 illustrative Cost & Savings Summary Arread Libby 8th Cost & Sav





The Passive House - definition

From www.passipedia.org

The Passive House is not an energy standard but an integrated concept assuring the highest level of comfort. The exact definition is as follows:

"A Passive House is a building, for which thermal comfort (ISO 7730) can be achieved solely by post-heating or post-cooling of the fresh air mass, which is required to achieve sufficient indoor air quality conditions - without the need for additional recirculation of air."

This is a purely functional definition which doesn't contain any numerical values and is valid for all climates. This definition shows that the Passive House is a fundamental concept and not a random standard. Passive Houses have not been "invented" by anyone - in fact, the Passive House principle was discovered. It may be debatable whether the term "Passive House" accurately describes this concept - well, there is no other term better suited for it. Thermal comfort is achieved to a maximum extent through passive measures (insulation, heat recovery, passive use of solar energy and internal heat sources).

NZF Definitions

- NZE: A building that produces as much energy in a typical year as it consumes.
 - -Consumes grid power when it needs it
 - -Feed power to grid when it has extra
- ALL energy considered
 - -Electric is not special.
- NOT Zero Carbon, or Zero GHG
- NOT off-grid
 - -Much more difficult

PassivHaus

- Total heating & cooling demand
 - $-<15 \text{ kWh/m}^2/\text{yr} (4.75 \text{ kBtu/sf/yr})$
 - -3000 kWh/yr (10 MMBtu) for 2200 sf house
- Total primary (i.e., source) energy
 - $< 120 \text{ kWh/m}^2/\text{yr} (38 \text{ kBtu/sf/yr}) (1/5 \text{ US avg})$
 - -24 500 kWh/yr (84 MMBtu) for 2200 sf house
- Airtightness
 - -<0.6 ACH@50 Pa

Comparison

Passiv Haus

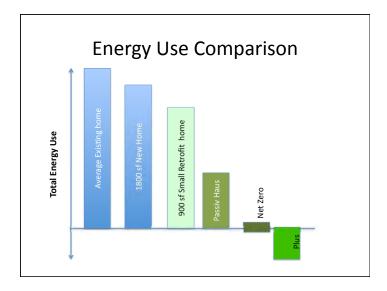
- · High-levels of insulation
- Limit thermal bridging
- · Airtight & tested
- Target energy use
- Target space heating use
- High-performance windows
- Heat recovery ventilation
- Solar DHW sometimes
- Rarely photovoltaic

"Low-Energy"

- Same
- Some do, some don't
- Mostly
- Net-zero does, not other
- R2000 does, but not usually
- Same
- · Usually, depends on need
- Sometimes
- Sometimes, usually NZE

Summary

- Passiv Haus is very similar to many low-energy programs for housing
- Differs in specific limits, analysis methods, and limits means of achieving more than level of performance or aspirations

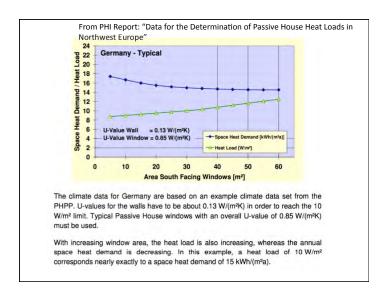


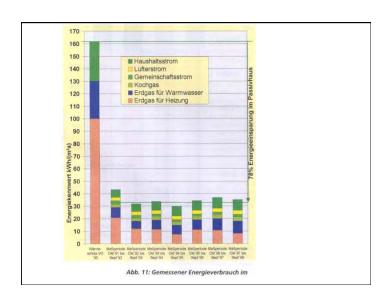
PH Challenges

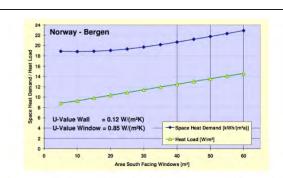
- 15 regardless of climate, size or occupancy
- area calculation methodology different than US (Canada, UK, France, etc)
- Recommendations can seem like requirements
- Different measurement techniques influence rating for HRV, insulation, Windows, etc

Space Heating vs Priorities

- PH: 15 kWh/m²/yr = 4.75 kBTU/ft²/yr
- Consider a 460 kWh/yr fridge
 - -With primary energy=3.3, this is 1518 kWh/yr
 - −For a house with Floor Area=100 m²
 - $-15.2 \text{ kWh/m}^2/\text{yr}$
- Is it more important to hit a heating target than any other form of energy use?







For Norway, two "Representative Design Years for Solar Energy Applications" from IEA-SHCP, Task 9, were available. The first location, Bergen, is renowned for its high amounts of annual precipitation. Being situated at the North Sea, the climate is a lot milder than at other locations at the same latitude. Insulation levels may therefore be chosen similar to Germany. Due to the low solar radiation, though, small windows are advantageous for minimizing the space heat demand.

Generation or Conservation?

- Big Question!
 - -Easy Economics when Net-Zero Energy
 - -Compare \$/kWh/yr for each choice
- PV costs \$5000+/kWp installed
 - -Produces 1100-1250 kWh/yr
 - -About >\$4/kWh/yr
- Wind costs vary a lot. Large are cheapest.
 - Small wind (<50 kW) is expensive because it does not produce as much as they say

PV versus demand reduction

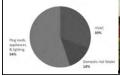
- Recall total site energy for normal 3 BDR 2200 sf house
 - 15-35 000 kWh/yr
- Requires 15-35 kWp of PV
 - \$75,000 to 140,000 +/- capital cost
 - Sloped south area of 1600 to 3500 sq ft
- Reducing energy is usually much cheaper!
 - —At least to start….

Net Zero

- Should we build NetZero Buildings?
 - Small-scale on-site renewables are not currently very cost effective
 - –Who will pay for the grid when we get a lot of NZE buildings?
- But, Fun to try!
 - -Reduce heating loads *first and foremost*
 - -Reduce DHW, appliance, lighting loads

Pill House, Vermont, 2800 ft²

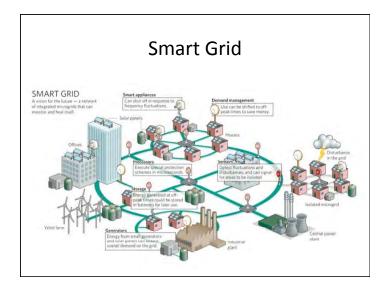
- 10 kW wind turbine-120 ft tower=6500 kWh
- R56 ceiling, R40 walls, triple-glazed window
- R20 basement, 2.0 ACH50
- South-facing
- GSHP,SHW
- NetZero

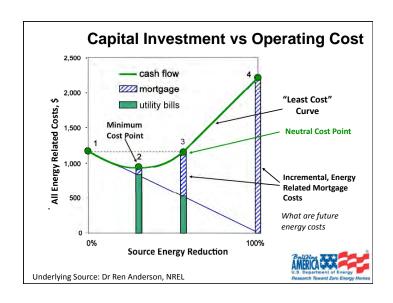




Long term Grid

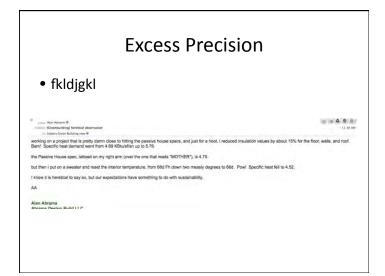
- Currently transmission and distribution is about 10% of cost
- If many homes use less and produce more, still need a grid and hence T&D costs rise
- Generator still needs to provide peaking power plants (eg expensive)
- Hence simple reverse metering cant go on for long, or purchased kWh needs to be very expensive

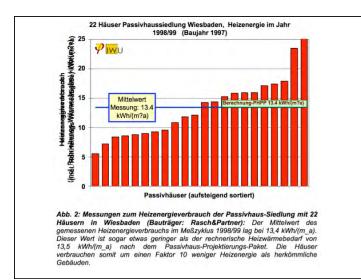




Decisions and Durability

- Mechanical equipment
 - -15 to 25 yrs for furnace, heat pump etc
- Photovoltaic
 - -25 35 yrs
- Wind turbines
 - -15-30 yrs
- Insulation
 - -50 to 100 yrs
- Appliances
 - -13-20 years





Getting high performance

How to get HP

- Durability
 - -Rain control
 - -airtight,
 - -vapor control
- Comfortable
 - -Surface temperatures,
 - -stable interior air temperature,
 - -avoid overheating / glare
- Plus Low-energy

How to get Low Energy

- Same for PH, NZE, etc. different degrees and emphasis
 - Compact form, oriented to south
 - Super-insulated
 - Air tight
 - -Good windows
 - Manage solar
 - Provide mechanical ventilation
 - Use efficient mechanicals / appliances
 - Use renewable energy when it makes sense

Strategies- Airtightness

- Airtightness critical for all climates
 - Humidity loads from air critical health comfort and durability issue in hot-humid
 - Control condensation and energy waste critical in cold climates
 - Natural ventilation useful in dry (night) and moderate climates (e.g., marine)

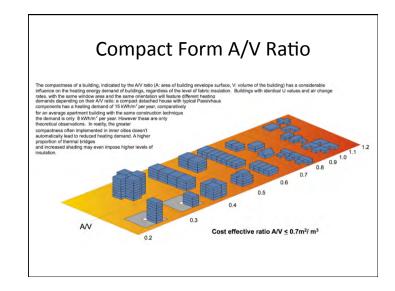
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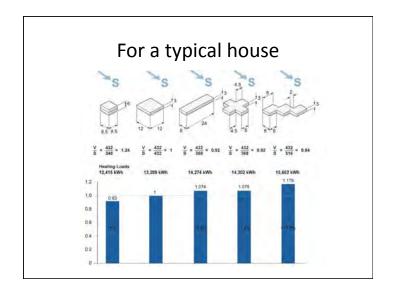


Strategies-Insulation

- Resists heat loss/gain = energy savings
 - Large temperature differences: cold and hot climates, roofs (hot)
 - -Less important in warm-humid and mixed climates
- Warms surfaces = durability
 - -Avoids condensation in hot and cold weather
 - —= durability and health strategy
 - -Keep structure warm and dry and stable

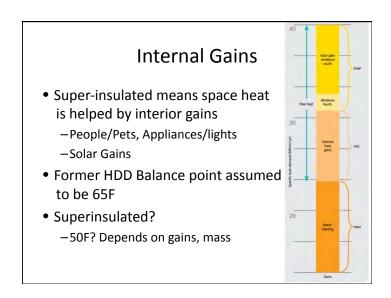
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Insulation

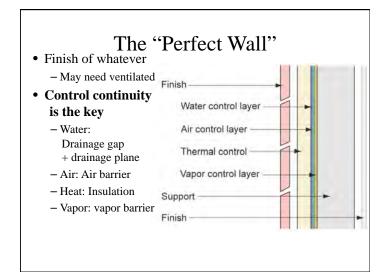
- What target should be used?
 - -Roof and wall same? Or different... why?
- Below slab R-value
 - -Why R40 or R60?
- Which R-value test should you use?
 - -R-value as per USA? (mean 75 F)
 - -R-value per Germany (mean 50 F)
 - -R-value in service? (mean 30? 40?90?)

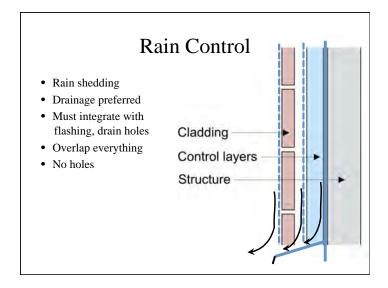
Environmental impact

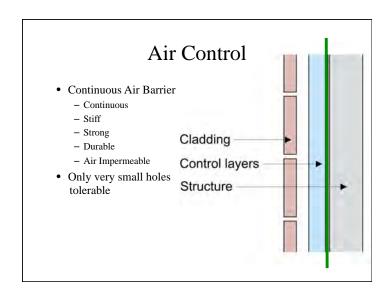
- Electric vs gas vs wood
- Materials
 - -Spray foam EPS/XPS polyiso
 - Ashpalt shingles

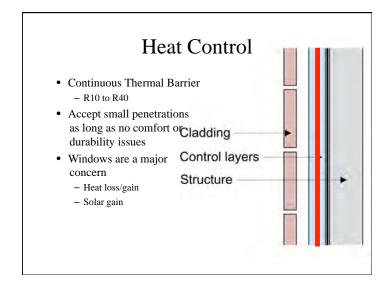
Surface Temperatures

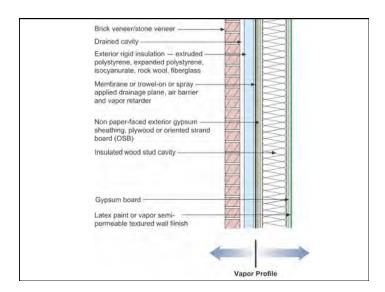
- Surface films
- R-values
- Calculate temperature drop





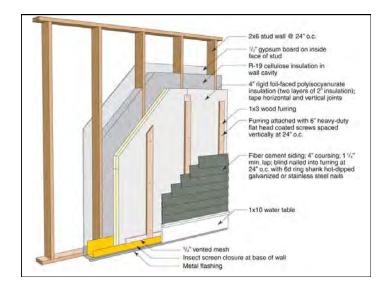


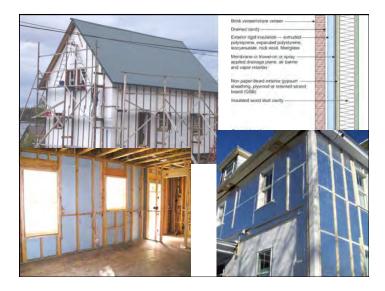




Thermal bridges

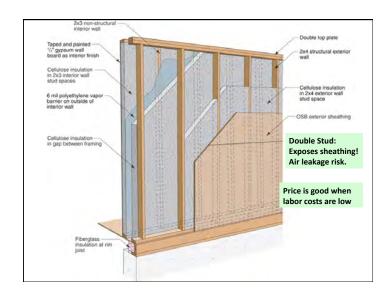


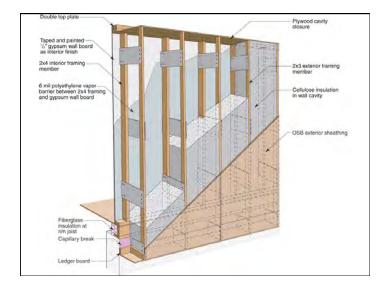




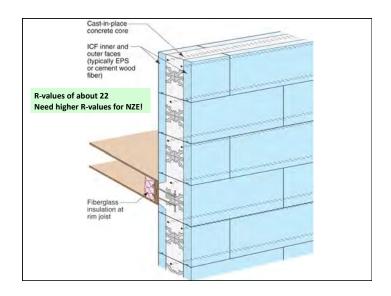




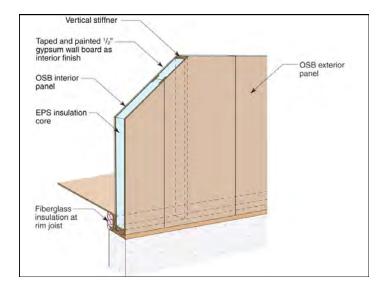










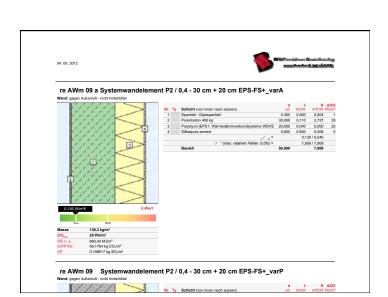


Structural Insulated Panels

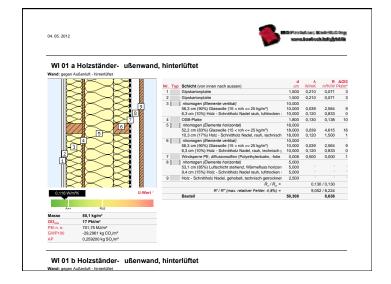
- Advantages
 - Superior blanket of insulation
 - if no voids then no convection or windwashing
 - May seal OSB joints for excellent air barrier system
- Therefore, done right = excellent
- Small air leaks at joints in roofs can cause problems
- Don't get them too wet from rain
 - Low perm layers means limited drying

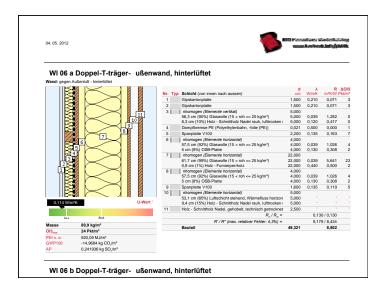
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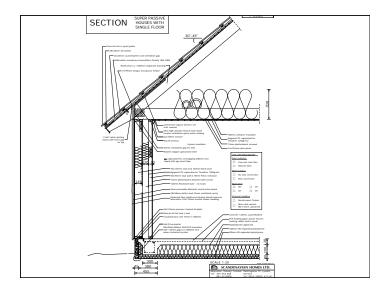
sulation and Thermal Bridges No. 75/65

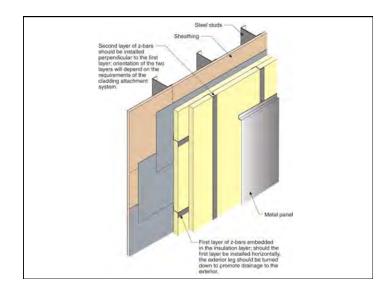


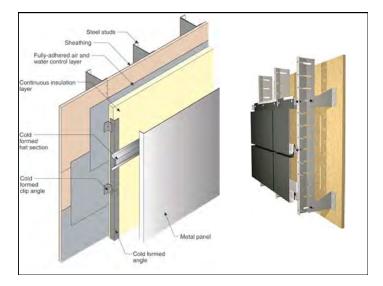


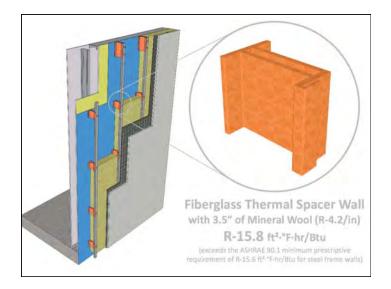


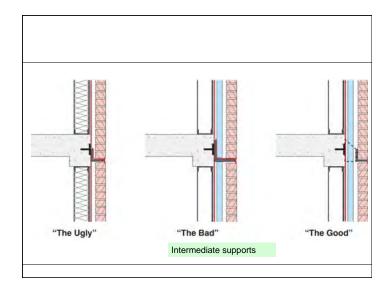


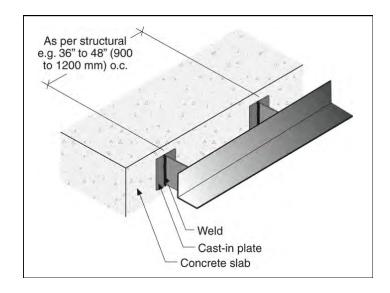


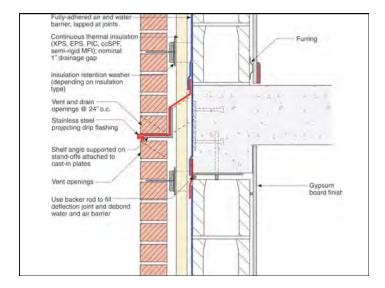




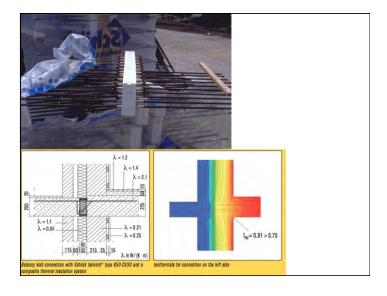


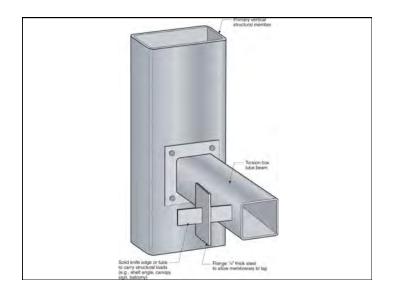


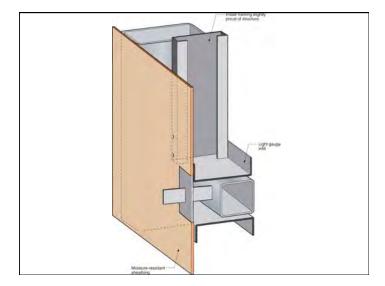


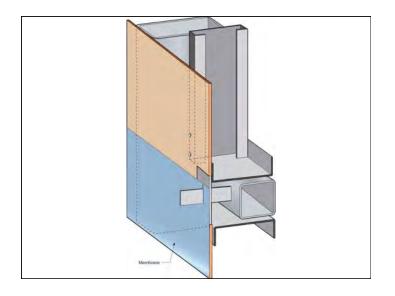


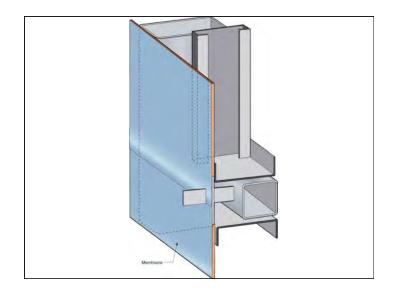








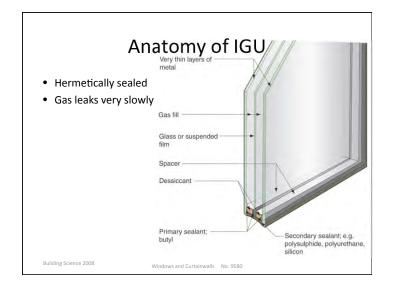


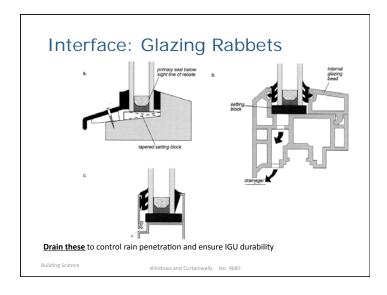


Windows

- Same functions as rest of enclosure
 - -Support, control, finish
- Critical design element
 - -Image, comfort, energy, durability, daylight
- New windows are often poorly insulated and air leaky
 - -Must specify frames, spacers, fills, coatings

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Performance Issues and Metrics

- Glazing alone or Complete Window Product
- Primary Metrics
 - Heat Loss / Gain (R,U)
 - Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)
 - Visual Transmittance (VT)
- Other Important
 - Condensation resistance (CRI)
 - Air Leakage (AL)
 - Water penetration

Building Science Windows and Curtainwalls No. 9780

Controlling Heat (U/R)

- Windows usually have the lowest thermal performance of all parts of the enclosure
- Must control heat for
 - -Comfort
 - Energy
 - -Health
 - Durability

Prevent Condensation

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Window vs Wall Performance

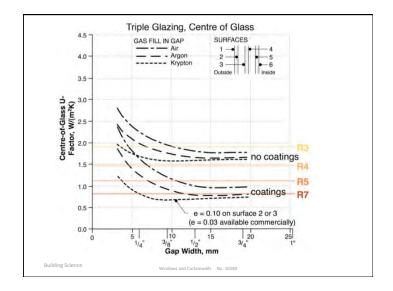
	Window	Wall	Ratio
Conduction: Q _c =U ΔT	U=0.33 / R3	U=0.05 / R20	
T _{in} =70 F T _{out} =10 F	Q _c = 20 Btu/sf/hr	Q _c = 3 Btu/sf/hr	6.6
Solar: Q _s = SHGC I	SHGC=0.60	SHGC=0.015	
I_s = 250 Btu/sf/hr (bright sun)	Q _s = 150 Btu/sf/hr	Q _s = 3.5 Btu/sf/hr	42
Alternate: solar control glazing	SHGC=0.3 Q _s = 75 Btu/sf/hr	U=0.125 / R8 Q _c = 7.5	10

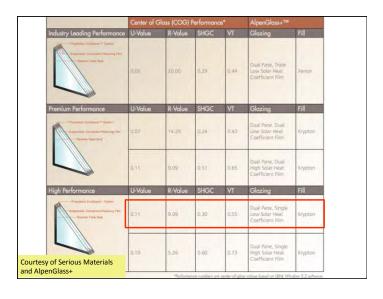
Double Glazing, Centre of Glass 4.5 GAS FILL IN GAP Argon Argon 1 Outside 1 Outside

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Window Testing

- How to measure?
- NRFC? DIN?
- Temperature of test matters
 - Colder temps results in narrower gaps to control convection looping





Window Frames

- Influences thermal, structural performance
- Different modes of operation
 - fixed, awning, casement
 - Operable windows leak more rain, heat & air
- Different materials
 - Aluminum strong, durable
 - Wood insulating, attractive
 - Vinyl cheap
 - Fibreglass strong
 - wood-plastic composites

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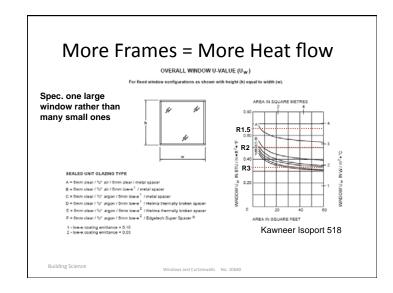
Windows and Curtainwalls No. 10480

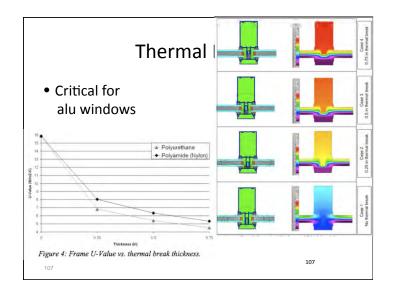
Frames

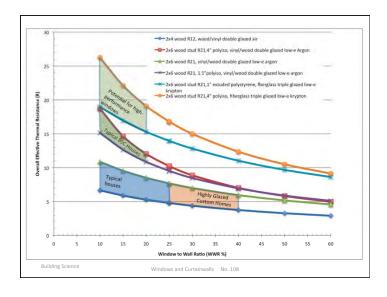
- A large amount of heat can also be conducted through the frame
 - –Conductivity of the material (lower = better)
 - -Geometry of the frame

ined y or the frame						
Frame Material	Conductivity W/mk	Conductivity R/inch				
Wood	0.10 to 0.18	0.8 to 1.4				
PVC	0.17	0.8				
Fiberglass	0.30	0.5				
Bronze	93	0.002				
Aluminum	221	0.001				

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Solar Heat Gain Coefficient

- SHGC = Solar Heat Gain Coefficient
 - = % of solar heat that enters
- Typical clear, dbl-glazed window SHGC = 0.72
- Higher SHGC?
 - Maybe small residential buildings in heating climate
- Low SHGC? (<0.4)
 - Commercial buildings (less than 0.30 even better)
 - Houses with large glazing ratios (big window area)
 - Buildings in cooling or mixed climate

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Windows and Curtainwalls No. 1098

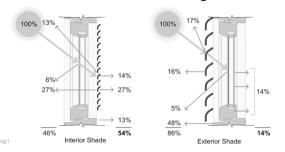
Visible Transmittance

- VT = Visible Transmittance
 - = Ratio of daylight that hits a window that enters the room
- Typical clear, dbl-glazed window VT = 0.70-0.75
- Windows with VT > 0.50 are perceived to be clear
- Tinting changes the color of light that passes
- Low-e coating does not change color
- Spectrally selective
 - Control solar heat gain (SHGC<<0.50)
 - Allow plenty of daylight (VT >0.50)

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Interior or Exterior Shade

- Exterior Shades always beat low SHGC
 - But the cost capital and maintenance
- Interior shades don't work well with good windows







Spectrally Selective

- Allows low SHGC and high VT
- Coolness Factor (LSG)
 - -VT / SHGC
 - -Look of 1.7-2.0
 - -E.g. VT=0.60, SHGC=0.30, LSG=2

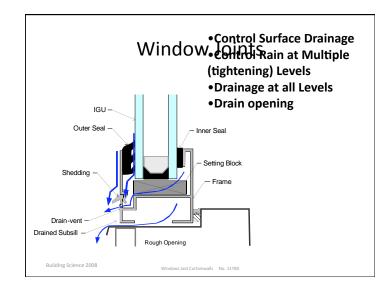
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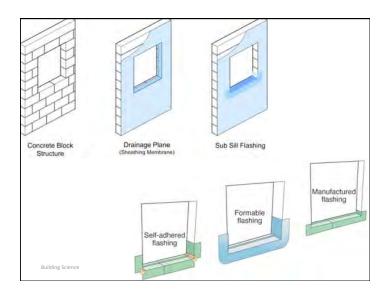
Windows: More than U-value

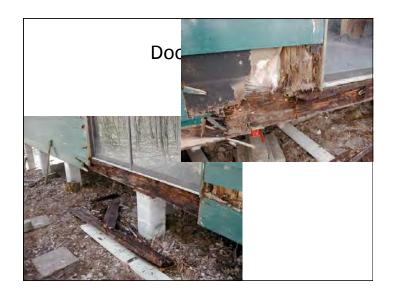
- Finding the air-water-thermal layer can be challenging
- Usually, best air and water seal is inner edge
 - -few chances for water leaks at corners
- Alu windows have thermal line at TB
 - -Line up with thermal control in wall

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Leaky windows • Windows and RO leak rain water

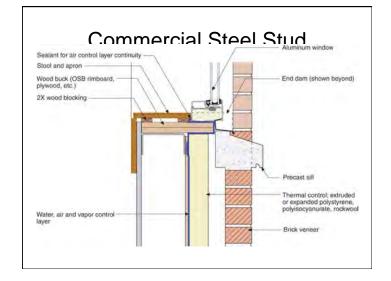


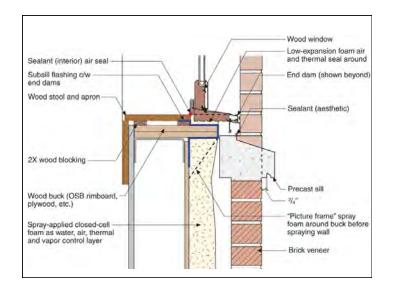


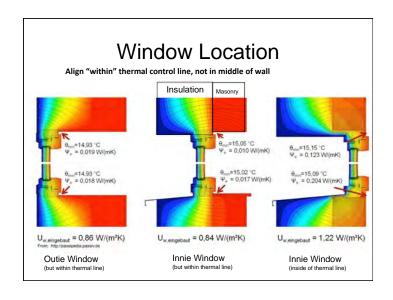














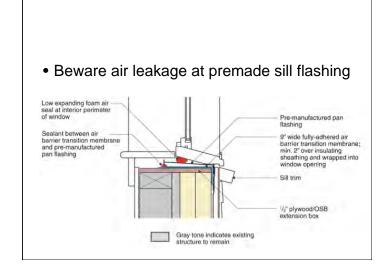






 Beware strap anchor air leakage

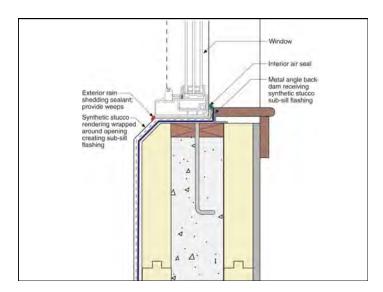


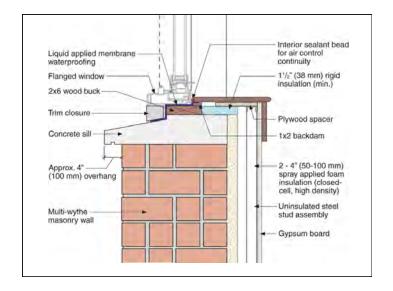




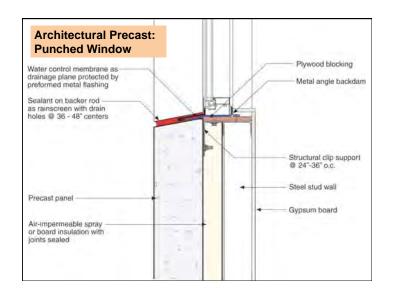


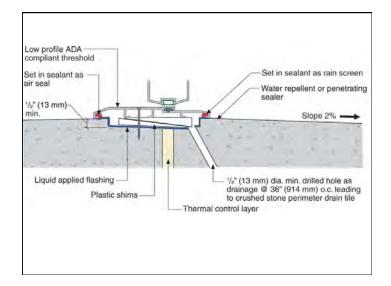








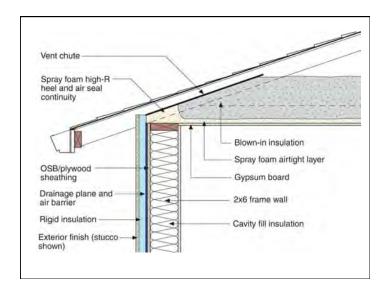


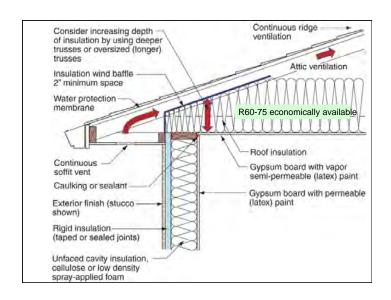


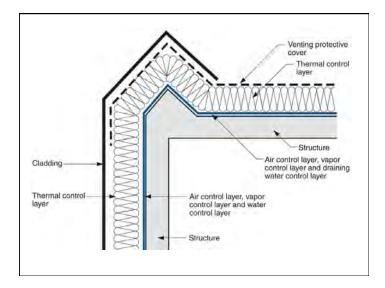
Roof-Wall

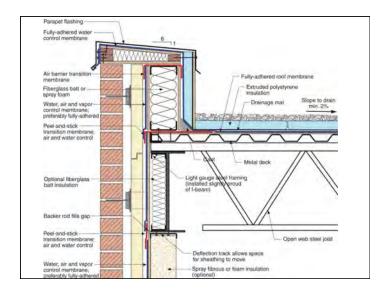
- Water control
 - -sometimes overhangs, sometimes continuous
- Air control
 - Sometimes roof membrane, sometimes ceiling plane

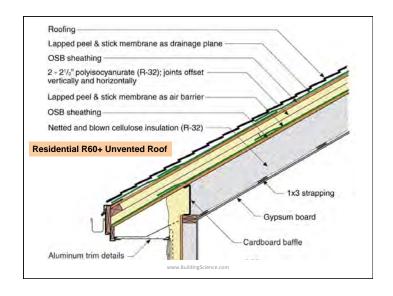
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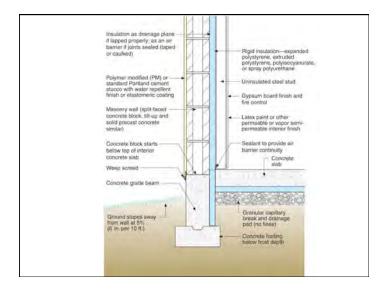


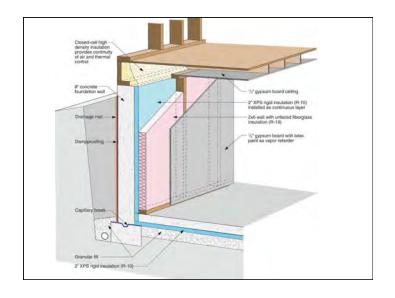


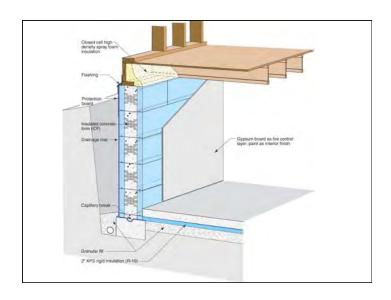


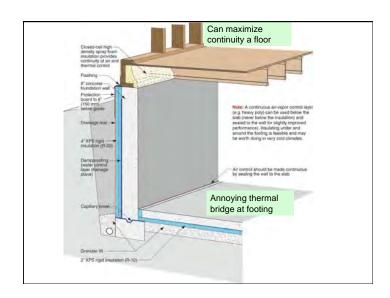
Basement Wall-Slab

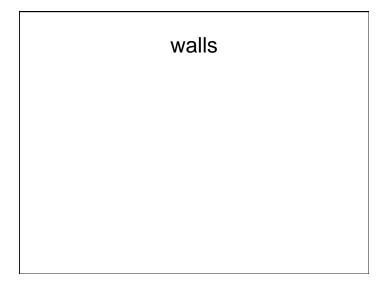
- Continuity of air-thermal barrier a challenge at slab
- Continuity at floor slab also!







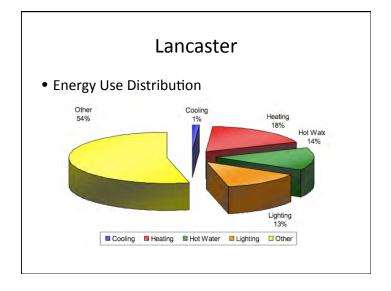


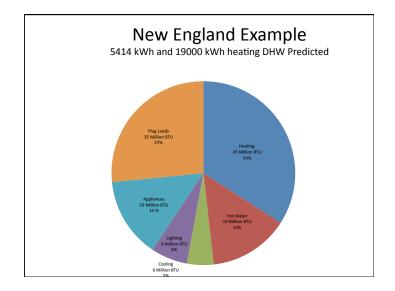


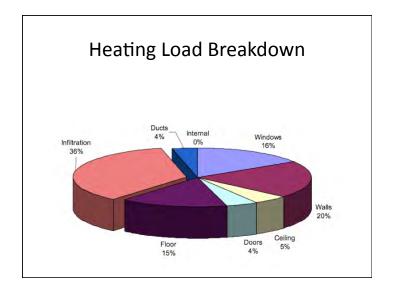


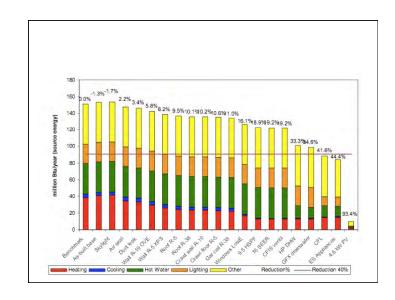
Lancaster V1

- Net Zero Energy Prototype
- Bay Area is very different climate: Goldilocks
 - -Not too hot
 - -Not too cold
- Solar is a good resource here
 - -Subsidies are great









HVAC for Low-load houses

