

# Invigorating Architecture with Technology

Forrest Meggers  
Assistant Professor  
Princeton University  
School of Architecture + Andlinger Center For Energy and Environment



Beautiful roofs



# Infuriating Architects with Technology

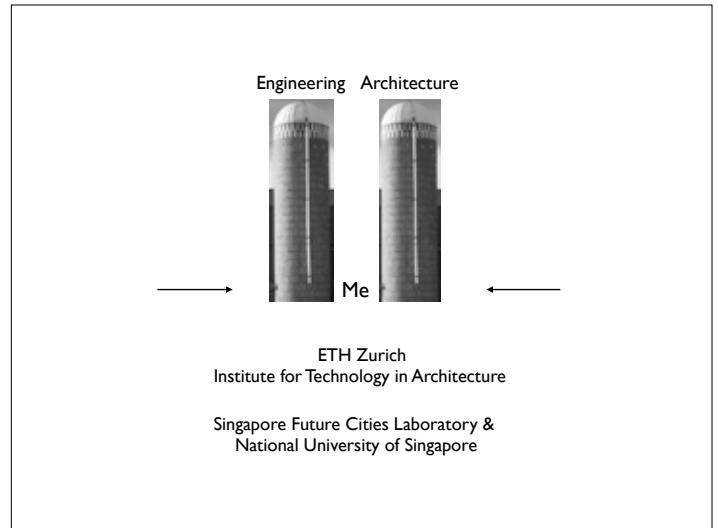
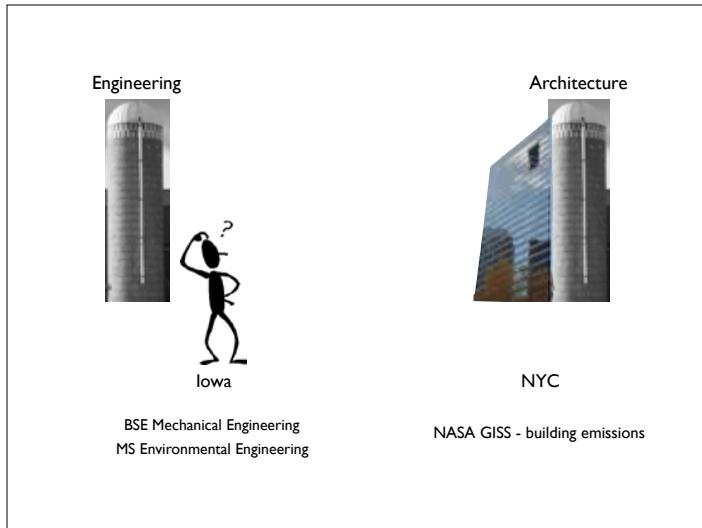
Collegiate Gothic Architecture



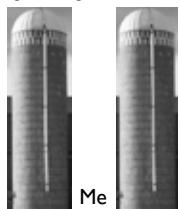
Architecture Infuriating Tour Guides



High performance buildings  
“Green Buildings”



Engineering Architecture



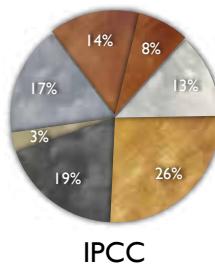
Princeton University

School of Architecture & Andlinger Center for Energy and Environment



## Why Buildings?

Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

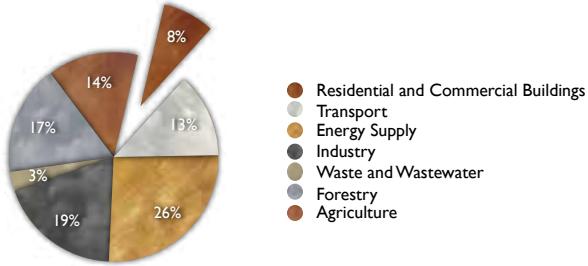


- Residential and Commercial Buildings
- Transport
- Energy Supply
- Industry
- Waste and Wastewater
- Forestry
- Agriculture

IPCC

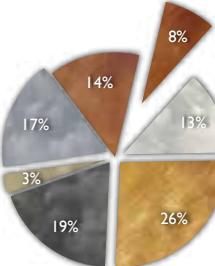
## Why Buildings?

Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



## Why Buildings?

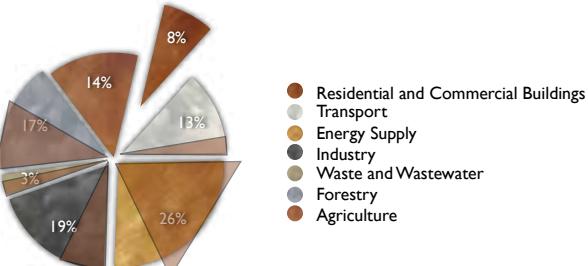
Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



- Residential and Commercial Buildings
- Transport
- Energy Supply
- Industry
- Waste and Wastewater
- Forestry
- Agriculture

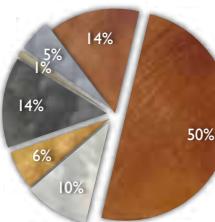
## Why Buildings?

Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



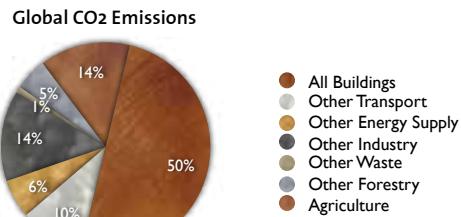
## Why Buildings?

Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



- All Buildings
- Other Transport
- Other Energy Supply
- Other Industry
- Other Waste
- Other Forestry
- Agriculture

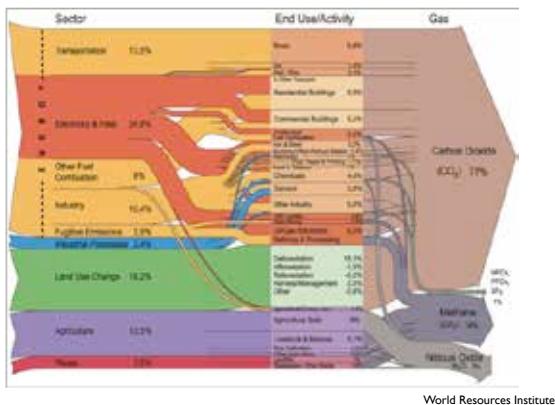
## Why Buildings?



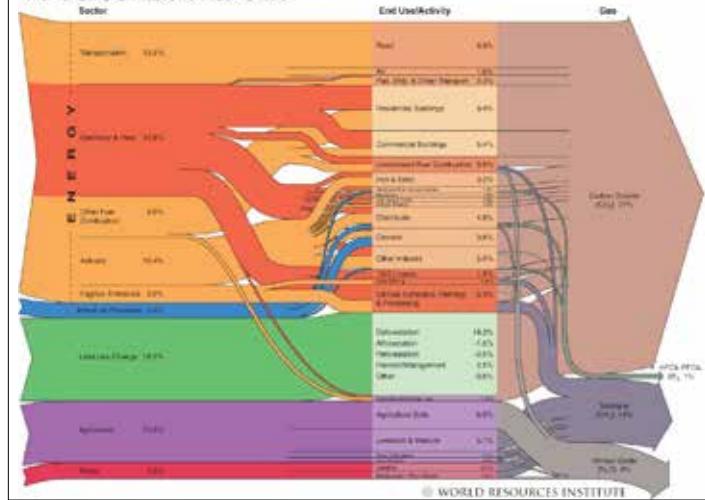
## Buildings need improvement

- ❖ Most significant single source of emissions
- ❖ 2/3 of global electricity consumed by buildings
- ❖ 1/3 of global waste produced by buildings
- ❖ 40% of USA GHG emissions
- ❖ **73% of USA electricity production**
- ❖ *Impact: now 2 °C of warming is almost guaranteed*
  - ❖ Mitigation + Adaptation

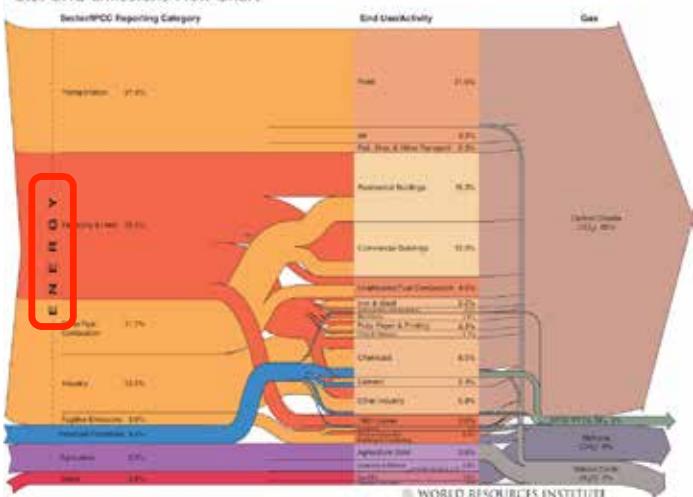
... but it's complicated



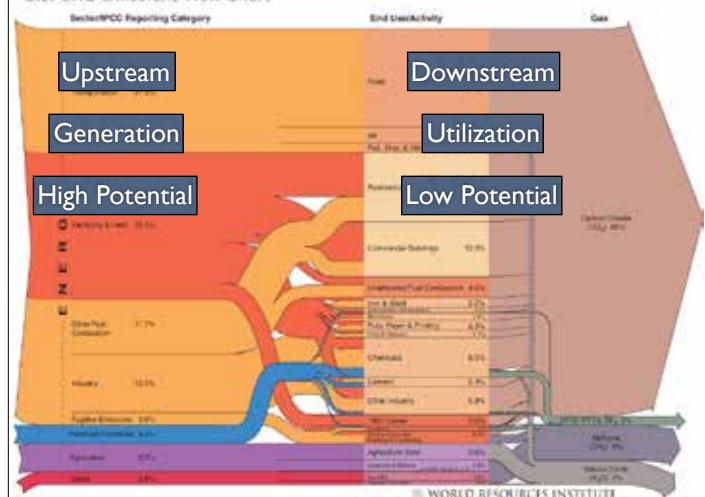
World GHG Emissions Flow Chart

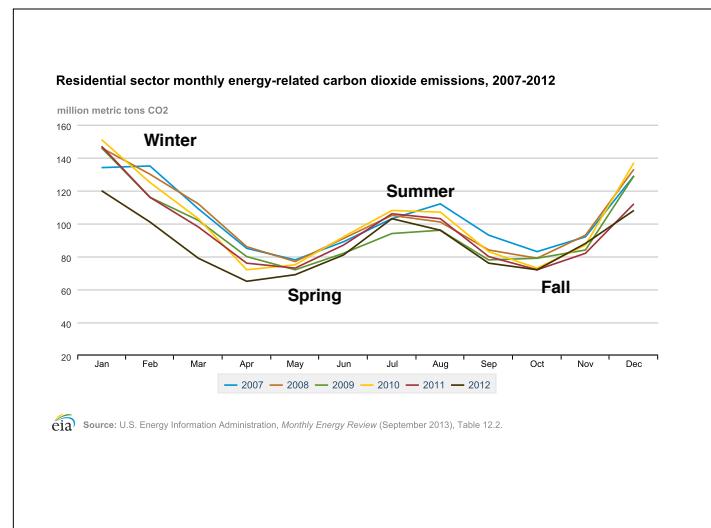
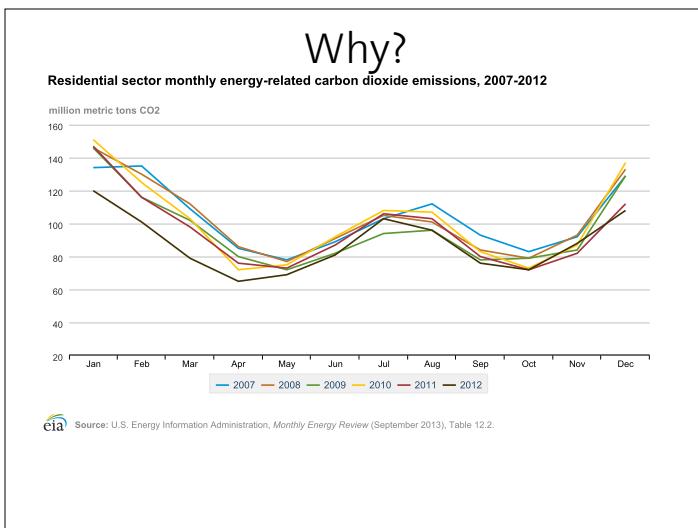
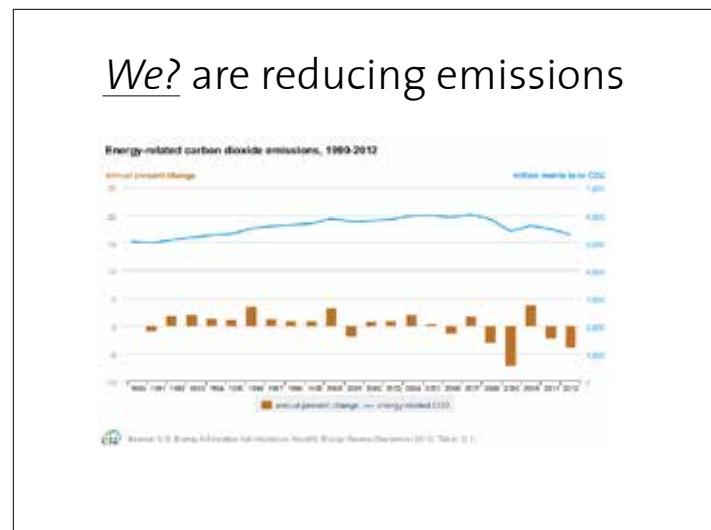
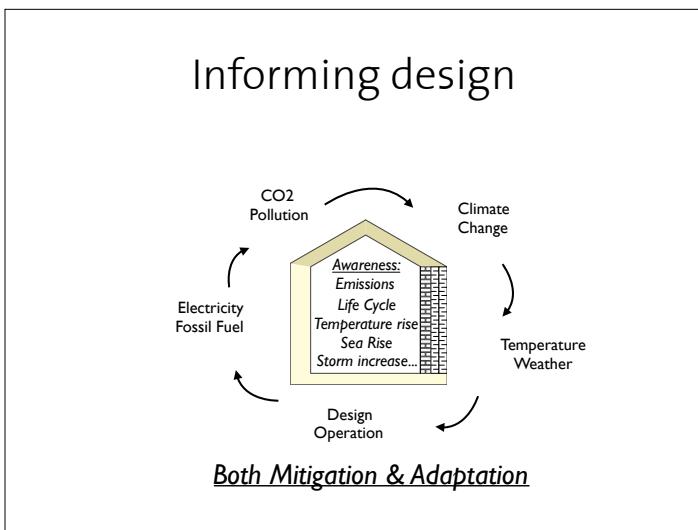
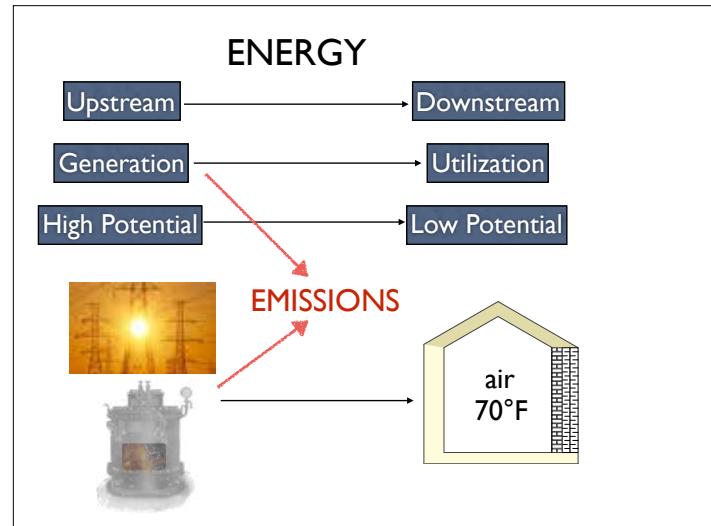
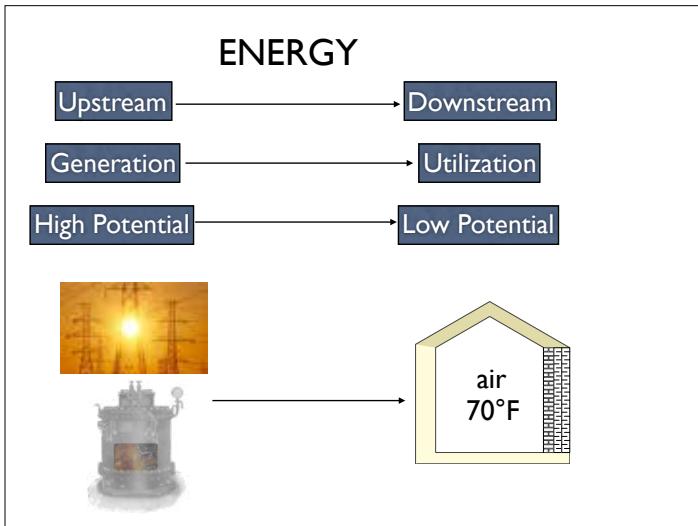


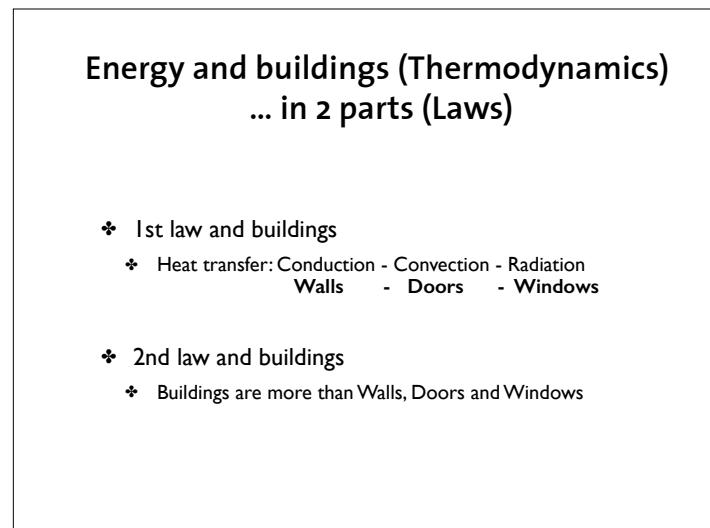
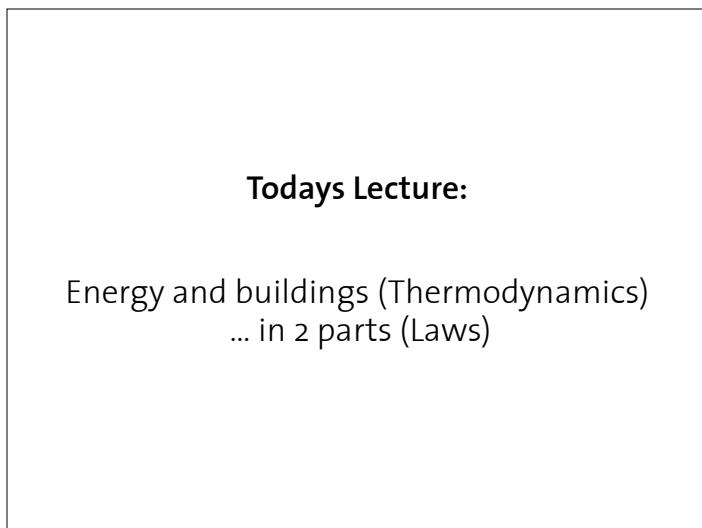
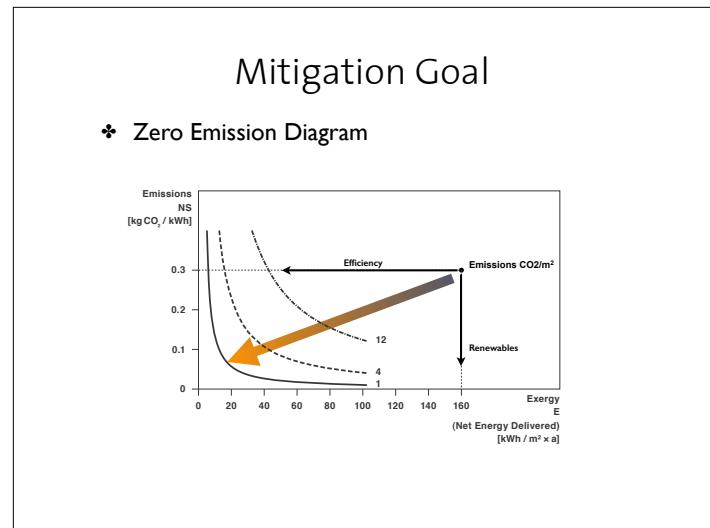
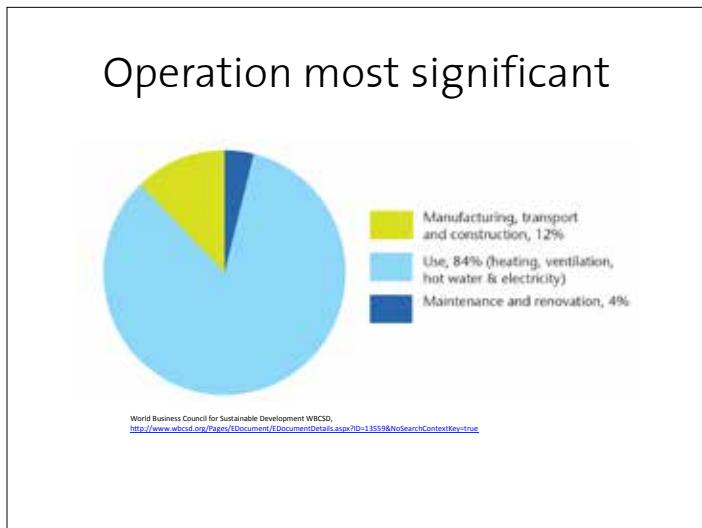
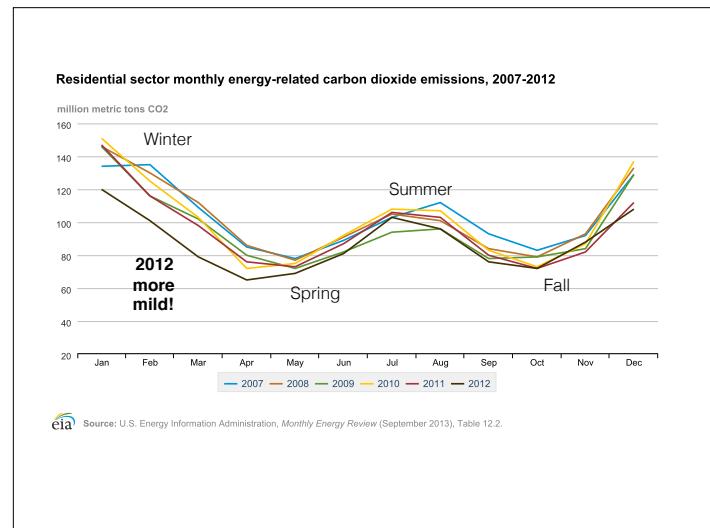
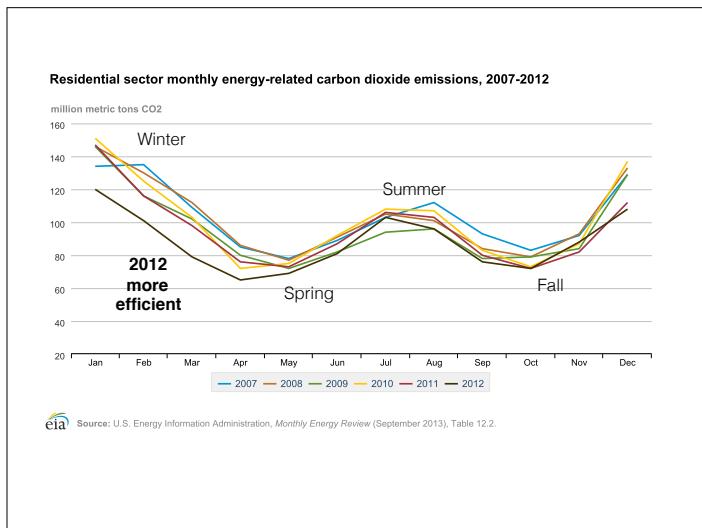
U.S. GHG Emissions Flow Chart



U.S. GHG Emissions Flow Chart

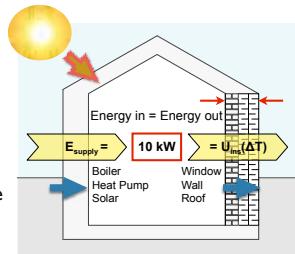






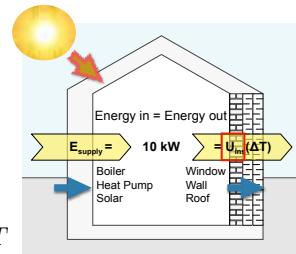
## Heating and 1st part (law)

- ❖ Energy balance defines building operation  
 $E_{out} = E_{in}$
- ❖ Performance defined by envelope
- ❖ Determines energy demand



## Heating and 1st Law

- ❖ Insulation (Conduction)  
 $Q_{loss} = U * A * \Delta T$
- ❖ Ventilation (Convection)  
 $Q_{loss} = \dot{m} * c_{p,air} * \Delta T$
- ❖ Insolation (Radiation)  
 $Q_{gain} = I_{sun} * A * SHT$



## Insulation

$$Q_{loss} = U * A * \Delta T$$



Insulation...  
Why Glass!?!?

$$Q_{loss} = U * A * \Delta T$$



$$Q = heat$$



$$U = \frac{1}{R} = insulation$$



$A = \text{area}$



$\Delta T = \text{temperature change}$

## Insulation = R or U-Value

$Q_e$  = heat transfer rate through envelope, Watts

$U$  = overall heat transfer coefficient,  $\text{W}/\text{m}^2\text{-K}$

$A$  = wall area,  $\text{m}^2$

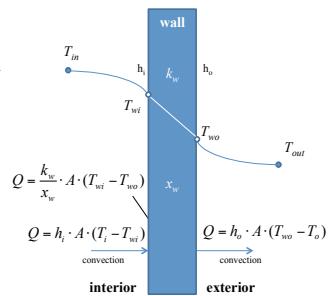
$\Delta T$  = temperature difference (in to out),  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $^{\circ}\text{K}$

$k_w$  = wall thermal conductivity,  $\text{W}/\text{m}\cdot\text{K}$

$h$  = convection coefficient,  $\text{W}/\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}$

$x_w$  = wall thickness, m

$$Q_e = \frac{A \cdot (T_i - T_o)}{\left( \frac{1}{h_i} + \frac{x_w}{k_w} + \frac{1}{h_o} \right)}$$



$$U = \left( \frac{1}{h_i} + \frac{x_w}{k_w} + \frac{1}{h_o} \right)^{-1}$$

$$Q = \frac{k_w \cdot A \cdot (T_{wi} - T_{wo})}{x_w}$$

convection

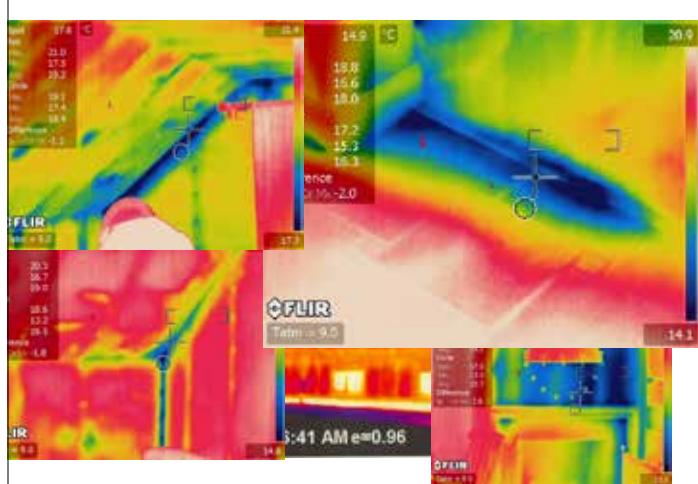
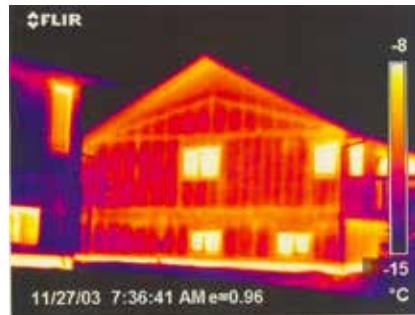
interior

exterior

convection

exterior

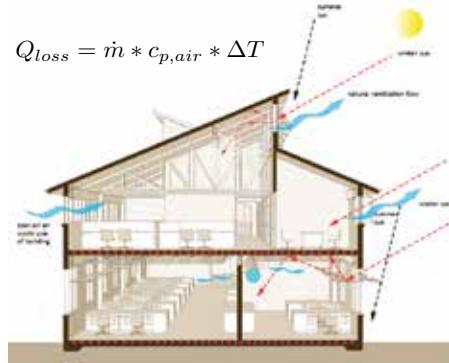
## Thermal Bridging



The air and error in Buildings

## Building Ventilation

$$Q_{loss} = \dot{m} * c_{p,air} * \Delta T$$



## Ventilation energy relationship

• <http://afv.com/tale-fireplace-fairy/>

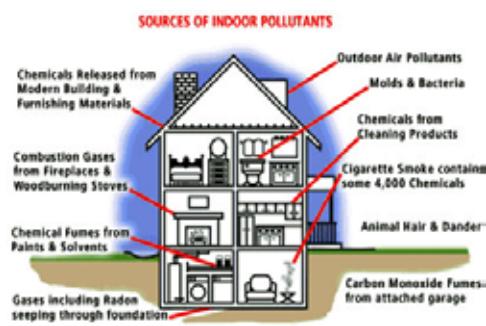
## Indoor Air Quality



## Where does weight go when you lose weight



## Indoor Air Quality

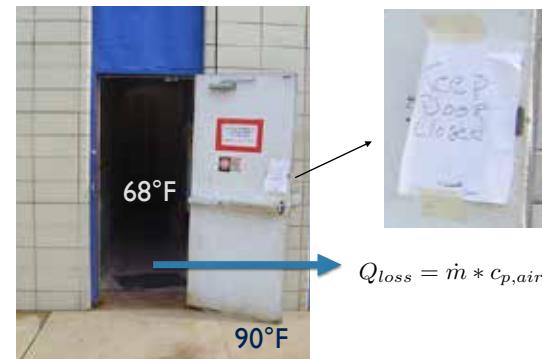


## Building Ventilation

- ❖ Regulations require
  - ❖ 10-30 m<sup>3</sup>/hr per person or 5-15 cfm per person
  - ❖ 1-5 m<sup>3</sup>/hr or m<sup>2</sup> of building
- ❖ Quantify ventilation losses also by number of people or area times ventilation rate

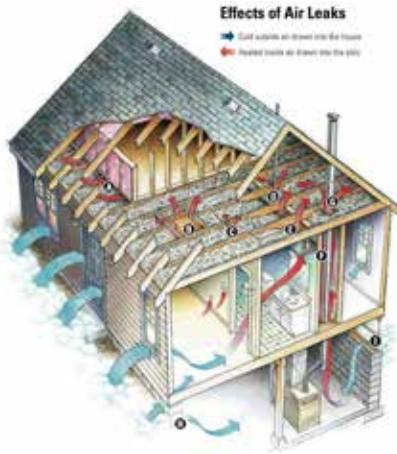
$$Q_{loss} = \dot{m} * c_{p,air} * \Delta T$$

How leaky is this building?

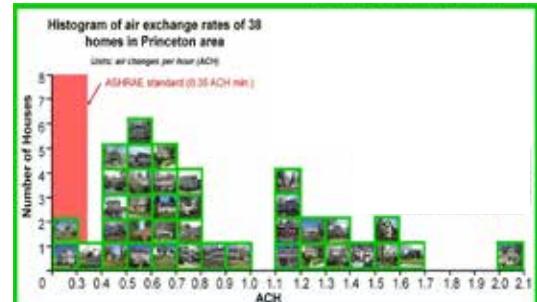


**Common Household Air Leaks**

- A** Behind Kneewalls
- B** Attic Hatch
- C** Wiring Holes
- D** Plumbing Vent
- E** Open Soffit (the box that hides recessed lights)
- F** Recessed Light
- G** Furnace Flue or Duct Chaseways (the hollow box or wall feature that hides ducts)
- H** Basement Rim Joists (where the foundation meets the wood framing)
- I** Windows and Doors



## Leaky buildings

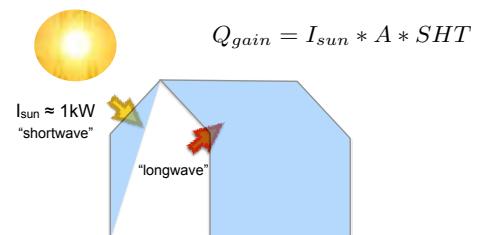


Courtesy of Bob Harris, CEE Department

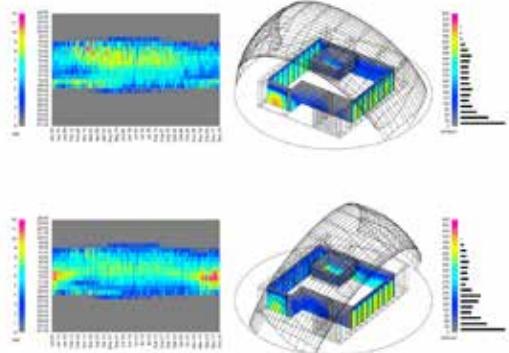
## Understanding error

- ❖ Air leakiness may change by a factor of 2-3!
- ❖ Can you approximate the size of this room?

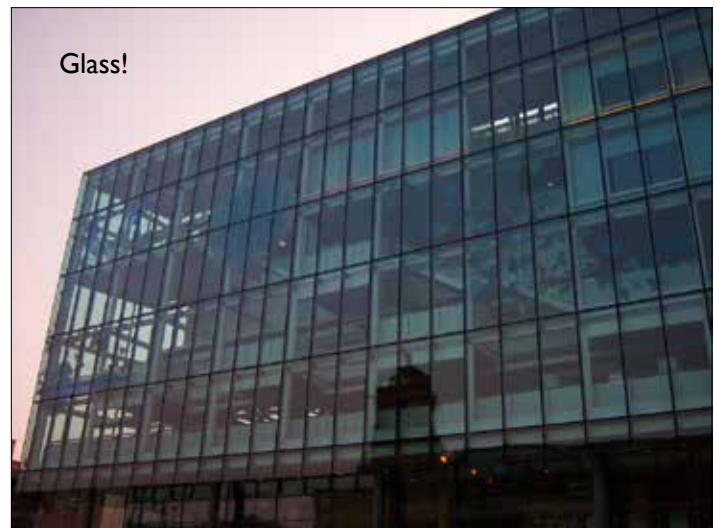
## InSOLation



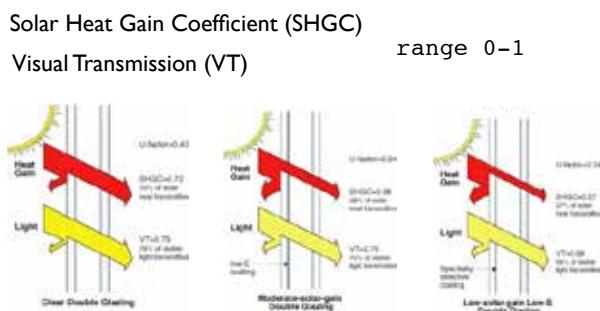
## Solar



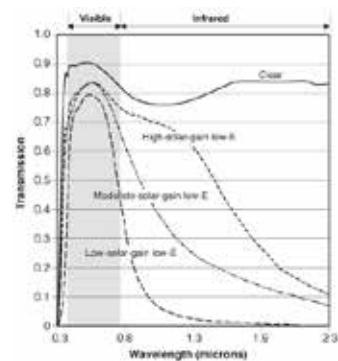
Glass!



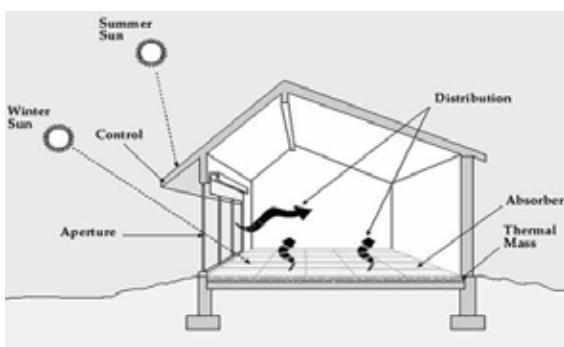
## Glass performance



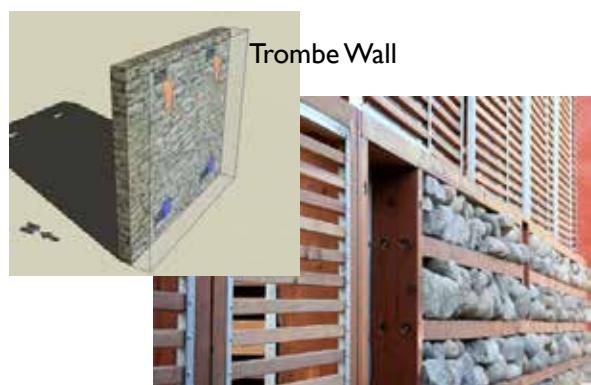
## Low Emissivity Coatings



## Passive Solar



## Thermal Mass



## Review = Energy Balance

- ❖ Insulation (Conduction)

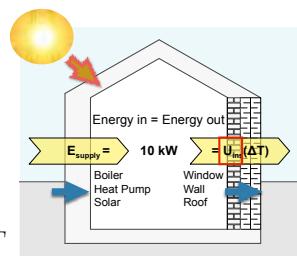
$$Q_{loss} = U * A * \Delta T$$

- ❖ Ventilation (Convection)

$$Q_{loss} = \dot{m} * c_{p,air} * \Delta T$$

- ❖ Insolation (Radiation)

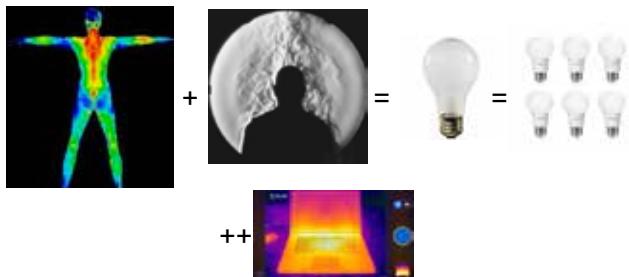
$$Q_{gain} = I_{sun} * A * SHT$$



## What are we forgetting?

### What are we forgetting?

- YOU! ... and your stuff

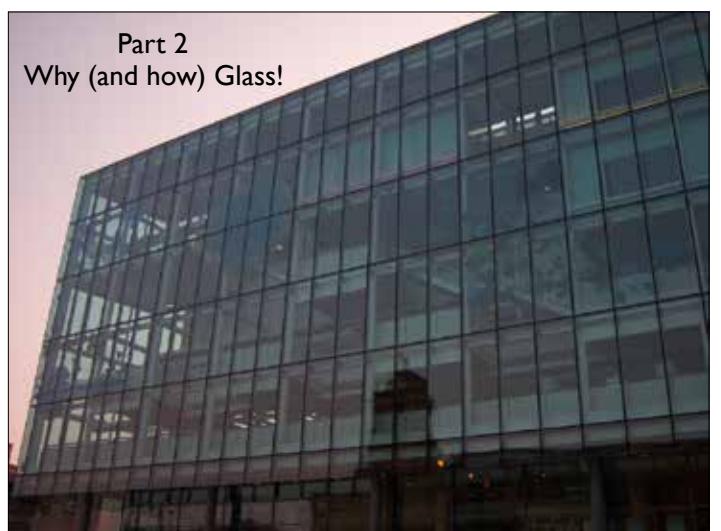


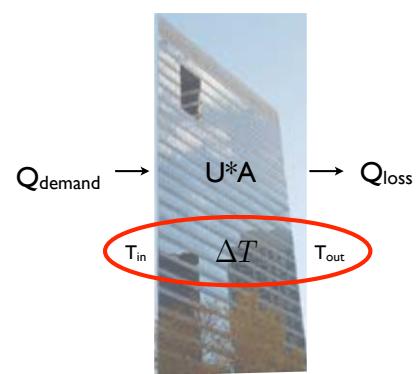
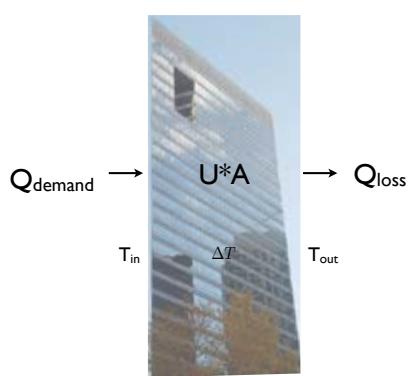
### Example

- Your room performance...

We need a full view of performance part 2 (2nd Law)

### Part 2 Why (and how) Glass!





Requires a better understanding of value

It's all about the Benjamins (or Grant? or Ishak?)



50 dollars



50 dollars

Both amount and value matter



50 dollars US  $\neq$  50 dollars Sing

What about energy?



50 kWh



50 kWh

Must consider amount and value



50 kWh heat



50 kWh elec

energy systems are designed with the  
*wrong exchange rate*

... thermodynamics can help

EXERGY

1st law + 2nd law

EXERGY

energy + entropy

*for architects?  
... and you!*

Low Exergy

# LowEx

## Exergy fundamentals

- ❖ 1st and 2nd Laws of Thermodynamics
- ❖ Combination of Energy and Entropy Balances

$$Energy\ Out = Energy\ In$$

$$E_{out} = E_{in}$$

$$Entropy\ Out = Entropy\ In + Entropy\ Generated$$

$$S_{out} = S_{in} + S_{gen}$$

## Exergy of Electricity

Exergy in an isothermal reversible system has 100% potential

Heat  $\neq$  100% Exergy

Electricity  $\sim$  100% Exergy

## Exergy equation

$$Exergy = Energy - Anergy \ OR \ Energy = Exergy + Anergy$$

$$Ex = [E - T_0 S]$$

$$Ex = [E - An]$$

$$\underline{E = Ex + An}$$



## Exergy of heat

- ❖ Constant heat,  $Q$ , and Temperature,  $T$
- ❖ Anergy is the required heat dissipation of a cycle

$$Anergy = Entropy \cdot \text{Reference Temperature, } T_0$$

$$Ex = Q - T_0 S = Q - T_0 \int \frac{\delta Q}{T}$$

$$Ex = Q - T_0 \frac{Q}{T} = Q - Q \frac{T_0}{T} \} Anergy$$

$$Ex = Q \left( 1 - \frac{T_0}{T} \right) = Q \left( \frac{T - T_0}{T} \right)$$

equations are the detailed way of saying  
temperature matters

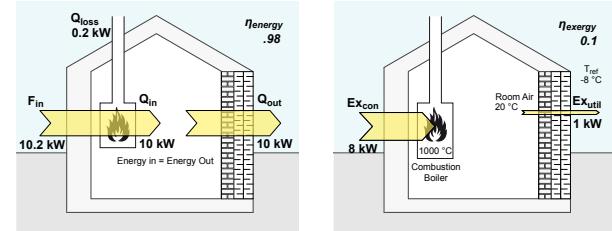
## No combustion in buildings!



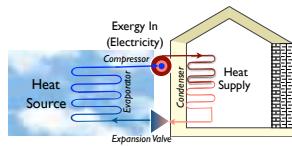
- ❖ 1000 °C or higher to heat a 20 °C room
- ❖ 90% exergy loss

## Exergy and Buildings

- ❖ Exergy reveals the potential of the supply and the real value of the demand



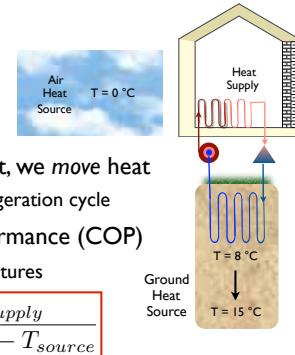
## Heat pumps, not fire



- ❖ Instead creating heat, we move heat
- ❖ thermodynamic refrigeration cycle
- ❖ Coefficient of Performance (COP)
- ❖ Ratio of heat output to electricity (Work/Exergy) input

$$COP = \frac{Q_{supply}}{W_{input}}$$

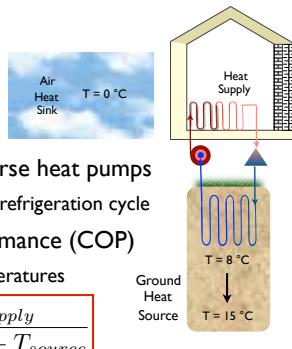
## Heat pumps, not fire



- ❖ Instead creating heat, we move heat
- ❖ thermodynamic refrigeration cycle
- ❖ Coefficient of Performance (COP)
- ❖ Depends on temperatures

$$COP = g \cdot \frac{T_{supply}}{T_{supply} - T_{source}}$$

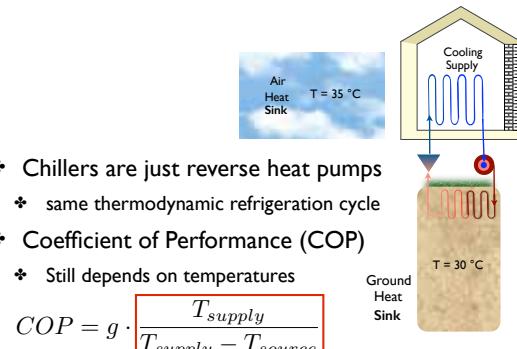
## Heat pumps = AC



- ❖ Chillers are just reverse heat pumps
- ❖ same thermodynamic refrigeration cycle
- ❖ Coefficient of Performance (COP)
- ❖ Still depends on temperatures

$$COP = g \cdot \frac{T_{supply}}{T_{supply} - T_{source}}$$

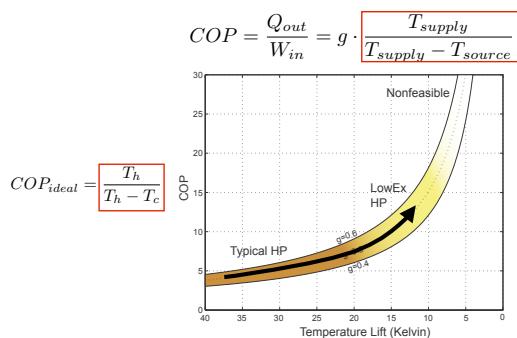
## Heat pumps = AC



- ❖ Chillers are just reverse heat pumps
- ❖ same thermodynamic refrigeration cycle
- ❖ Coefficient of Performance (COP)
- ❖ Still depends on temperatures

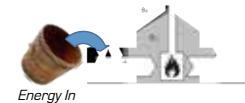
$$COP = g \cdot \frac{T_{supply}}{T_{supply} - T_{source}}$$

## Performance and temp



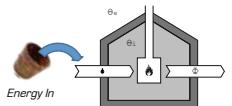
## Traditional paradigm

- ❖ Increase efficiency by reducing demand



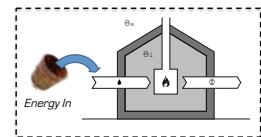
## Traditional paradigm

- ❖ Better insulation reduces energy demand



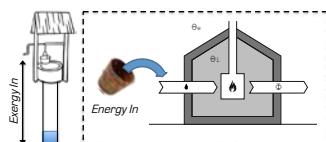
## Think outside the box

- ❖ Consider the potential of the energy consumed



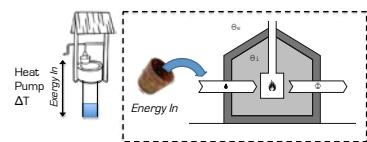
## Think outside the box

- ❖ The exergy represents that potential



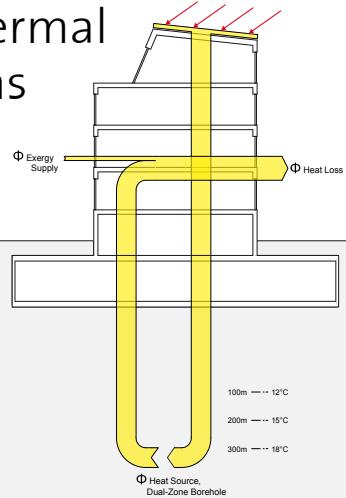
## Think outside the box

- ❖ Temperature has influences on performance that should not be ignored

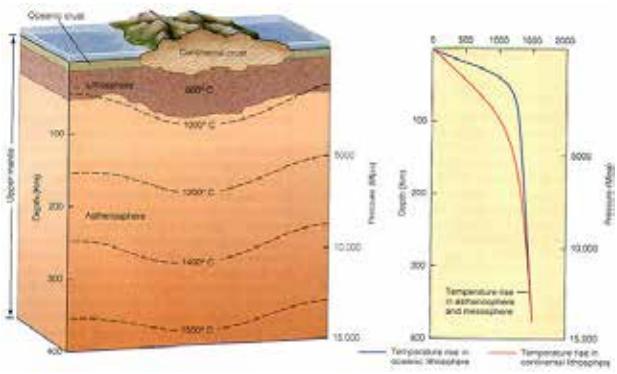


a new paradigm of **appropriate temperatures** will uncover higher potential

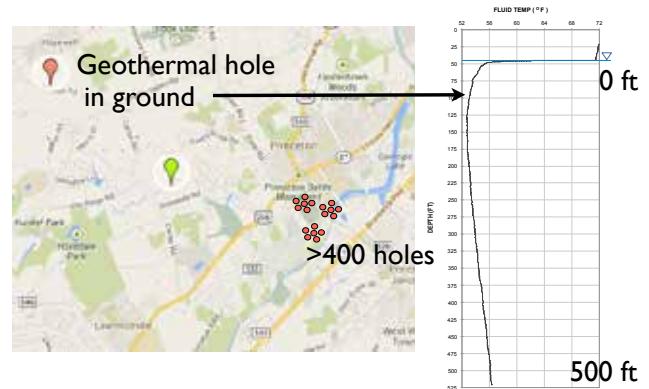
## Geothermal Systems



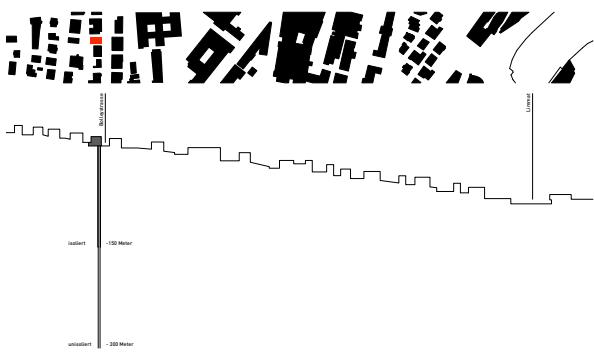
## Geothermal gradient



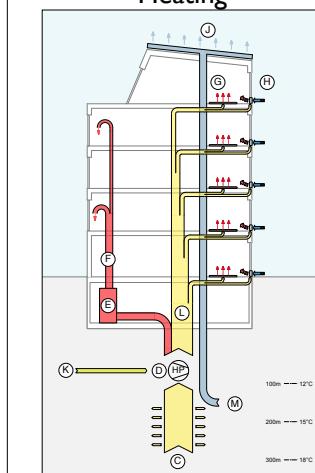
## Relevance in Princeton



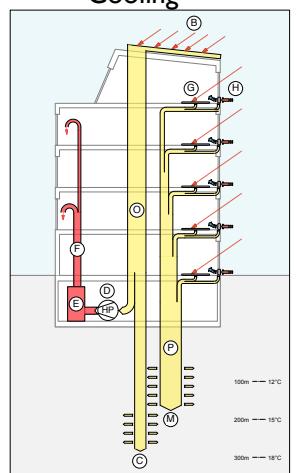
## Swiss example deep borehole



### Heating



### Cooling



## Technology adaption

### Hybrid PV thermal

Inexpensive low temperature extraction

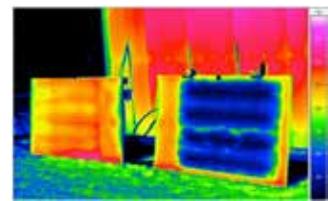


## Technology adaption

### Hybrid solar (CHP) experimental validation

12-14% electrical efficiency and 40-50% thermal

30 °C heat valuable for LowEx systems

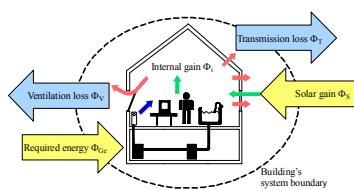


## Technology integration

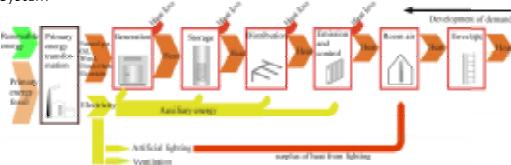


What does this mean for designing buildings?

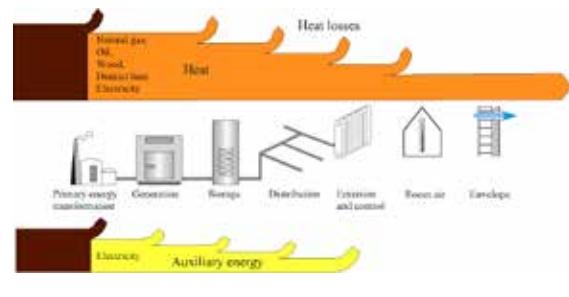
Part 1  
determine demand



Part 2  
Optimize System



## System Losses



What is missing from the chain?

Optimize System



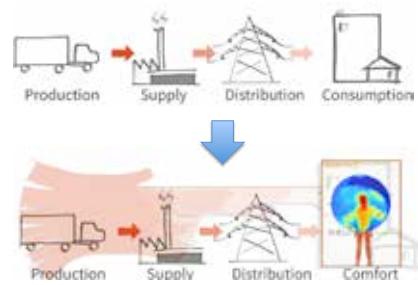
What is missing from the chain?

YOU!! ... again!

Optimize System



Occupant comfort, NOT room comfort



Controls need to smarter... better than NEST



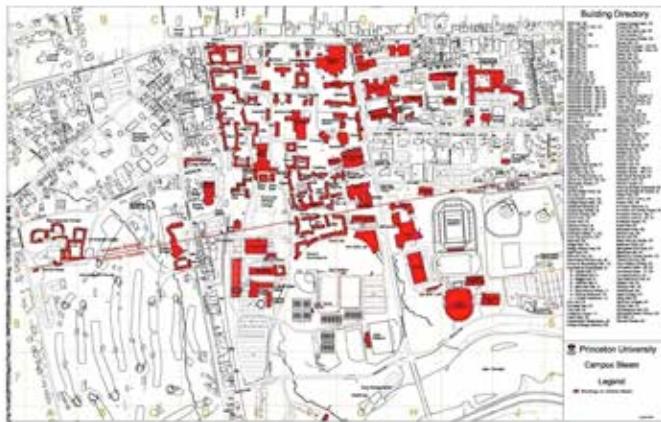
# Campus as a Lab!

We have a lot of buildings!

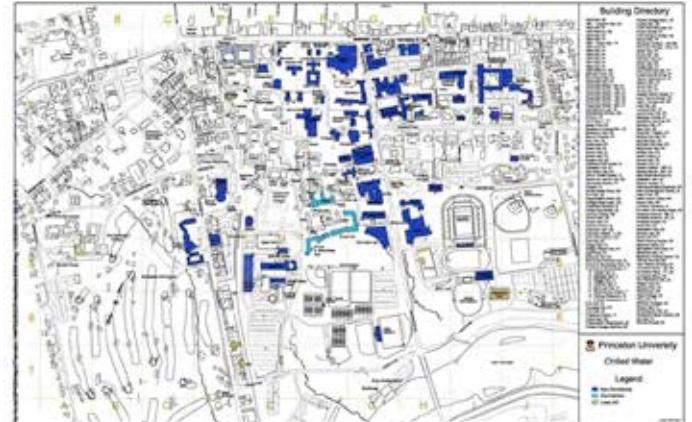
Princeton Energy ~15MW elec



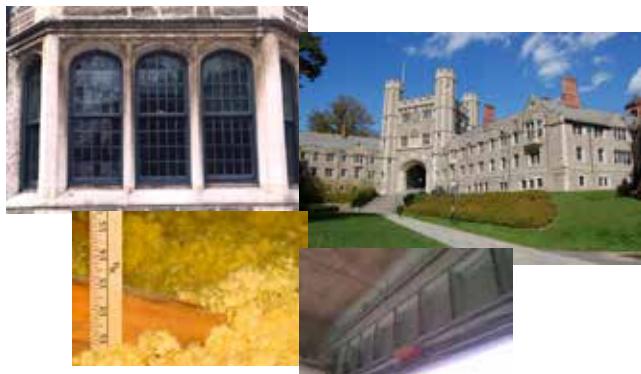
## Buildings Heated by CHP Plant



## Buildings Cooled with Chilled Water



## PU Improvements

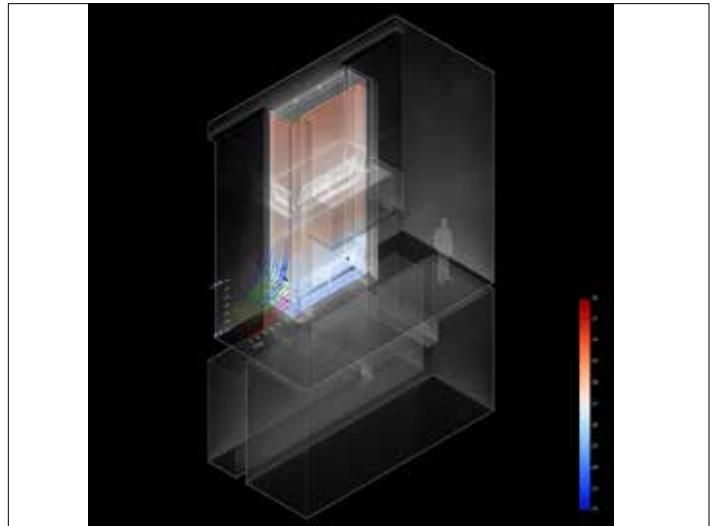
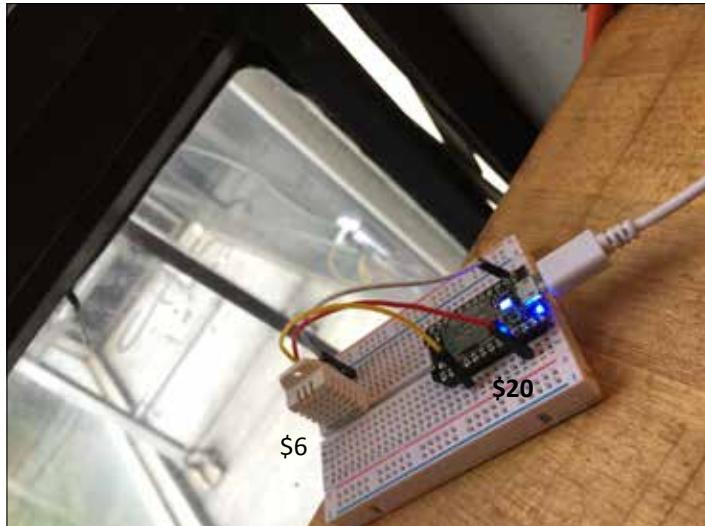


Where is the Campus as a lab?



Princeton  
School of Architecture  
1950's





## Example spaces



Andlinger Building [acee.princeton.edu](http://acee.princeton.edu)



3 for 2 – Singapore  
[beyondefficiency.blogspot.sg](http://beyondefficiency.blogspot.sg)



New Arch Lab at Princeton

## Questions



[chaos.princeton.edu](http://chaos.princeton.edu)  
[fmeggers@princeton.edu](mailto:fmeggers@princeton.edu)



Thanks:  
Eric Teitelbaum  
Hongshan Guo  
Jake Read