



IEA SHC Task 66: Solar Energy Buildings

Integrated solar energy supply concepts for climate-neutral buildings and communities for the "City of the Future"

Design, construction and operation of a solar thermal family home

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Exergenion // Engineering Consultant (Prien am Chiemsee)
2015 Self-employed consultant

Alstom Switzerland AG (Baden)

2013 – 2015 R&D Program Manager – Combined cycle gas turbine power plants
2007 – 2013 Team Leader – Heavy duty gas turbine development
2006 – 2007 R&D Project Manager – Heavy duty gas turbine development
2005 – 2006 Product Manager – Heavy duty gas turbines
2002 – 2005 Performance Test Engineer

Bertrandt AG (Munich)

2000 – 2002 BMW engine application and Performance Test Engineer

Technical University Munich TUM

1994 – 2000 Mechanical Engineering Dipl.-Ing.



Summary



- Energy storage is key for Solar Energy Buildings
- Storage also means being flexible to buy external energy when it is available and less costly
- For heating purposes, the energy should be stored as sensible heat, not electricity
 - When the sun is shining, heat is stored for later
 - But in future heat will also be stored when electricity tariffs are low
- Heat storage tanks are most profitable if sized for anything between 12 and 48 hours of wintertime storage without the need of external heat input
- Currently electric mobility with small commuter cars generates the highest savings to finance a Solar Energy Building (at least for Germany)
- Vertical thermal collectors are a perfect match with roof top PV
 - Ø Low stagnation temperatures in summer ($<90^{\circ}\text{C}$), easy to integrate, high performance in winter, low-cost technology

Overview

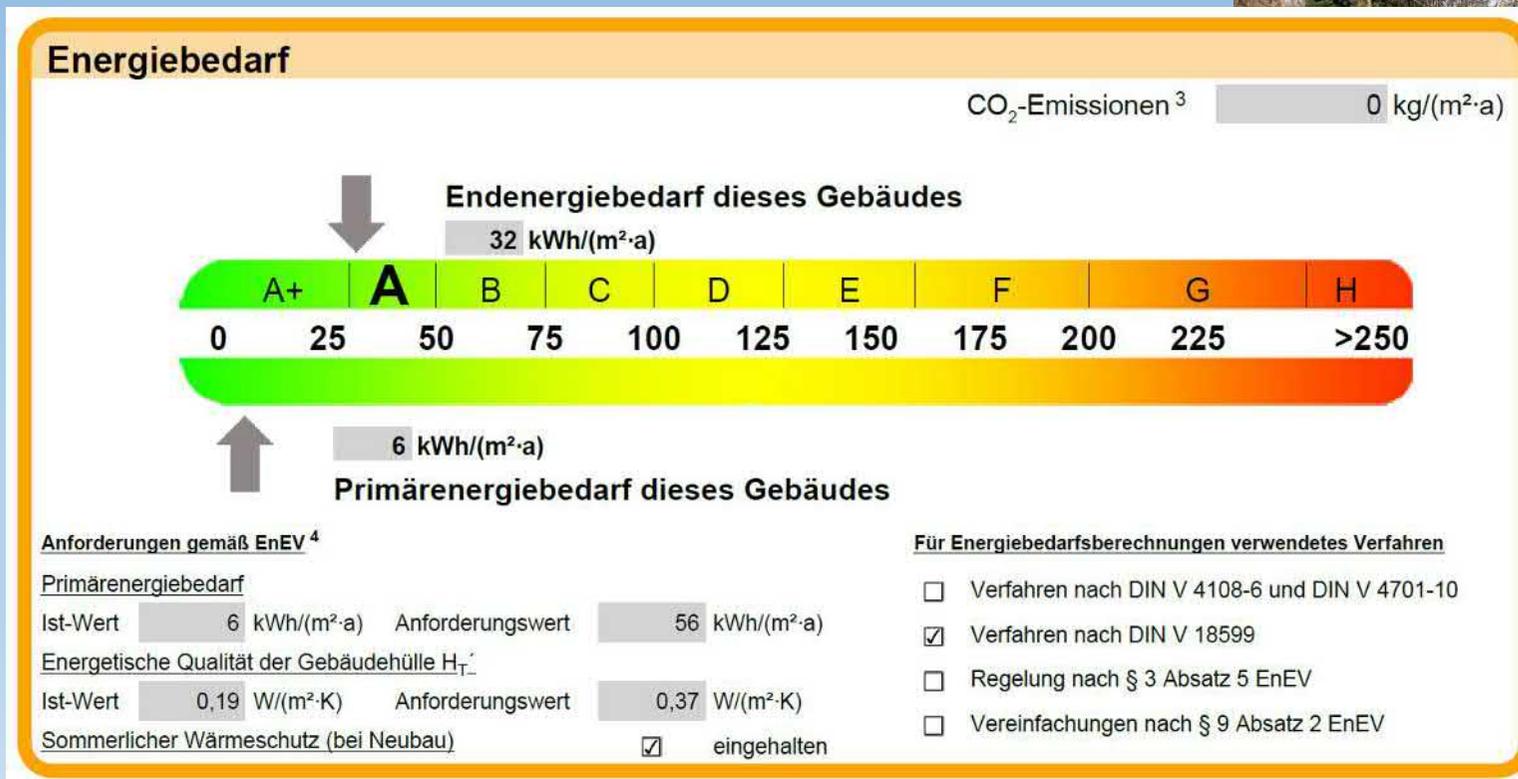
- 5 years in a highly self-sufficient solar home
- Design and construction
- Energy storage
- Construction
- Economics and conclusions

European building energy certificate

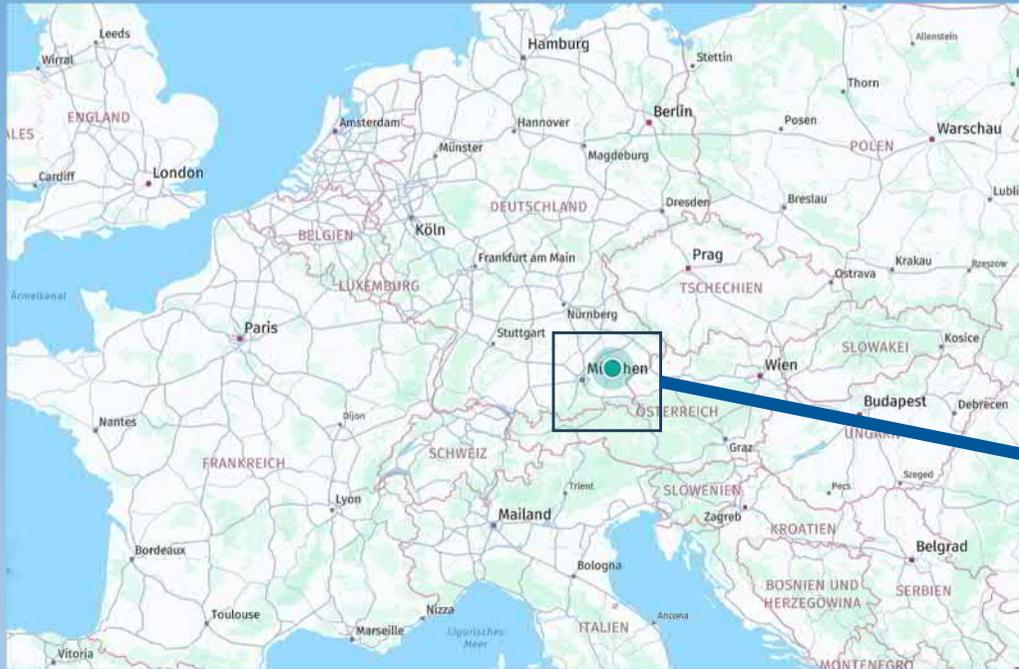


Not a passive house, but efficient

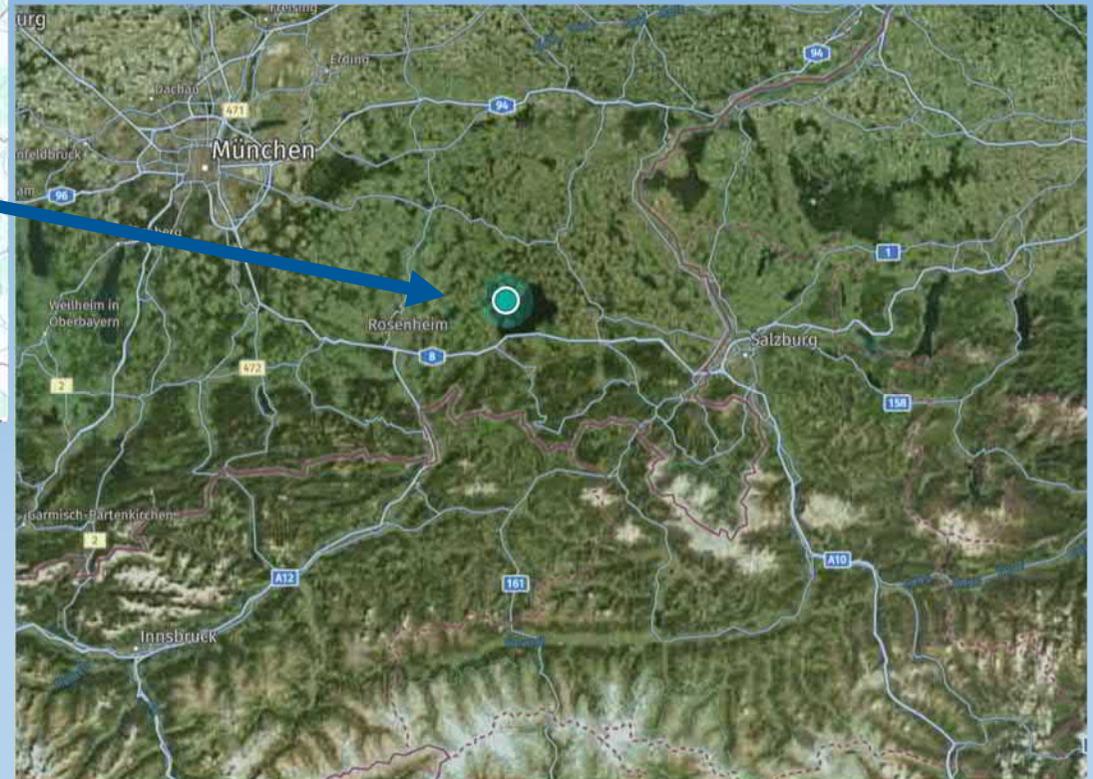
Building dimensions 11,3 m x 9 m
Basement, ground, 1st & 2nd floor



Location



5km north of the alps

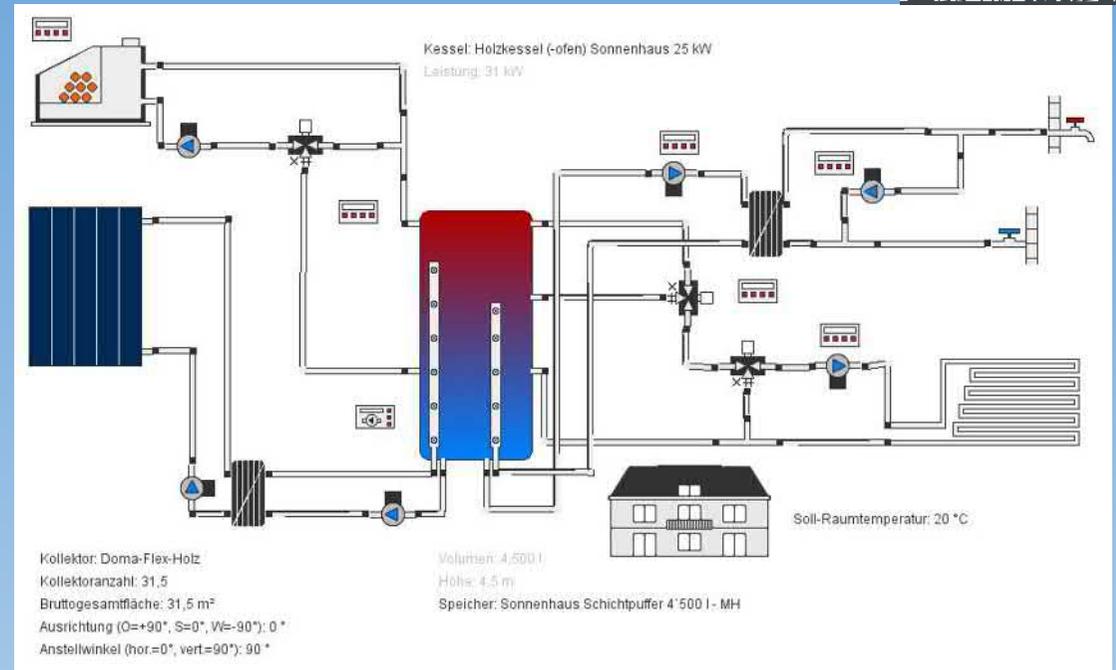


Common PV yield 1'200 kWh/kWp
Average ambient temperature 8,9°C

Building systems:

Heat

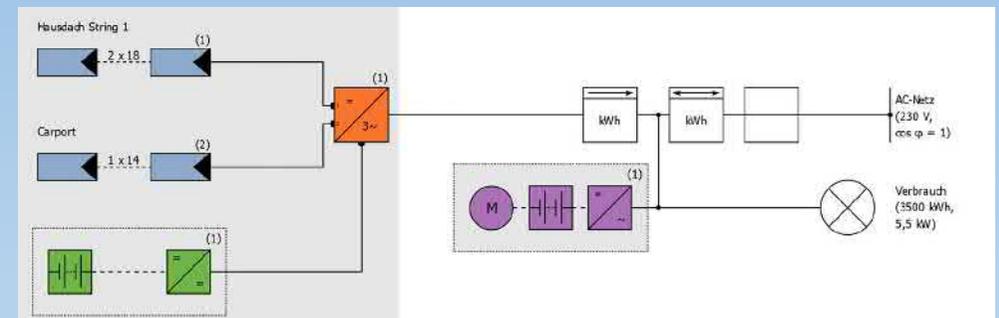
32 m² thermal collectors – south facade
 24 kW log boiler located in living room
 Stratified boiler tank 4'700 liters
 Floor heating



Electricity

PV roof south 10 kWp
 PV carport west 4 kWp

Battery storage 29 kWh
 Electric vehicle 32 kWh (non bidirectional)



Other:

Rainwater storage
 2 separate central ventilation systems

Energy demand 1



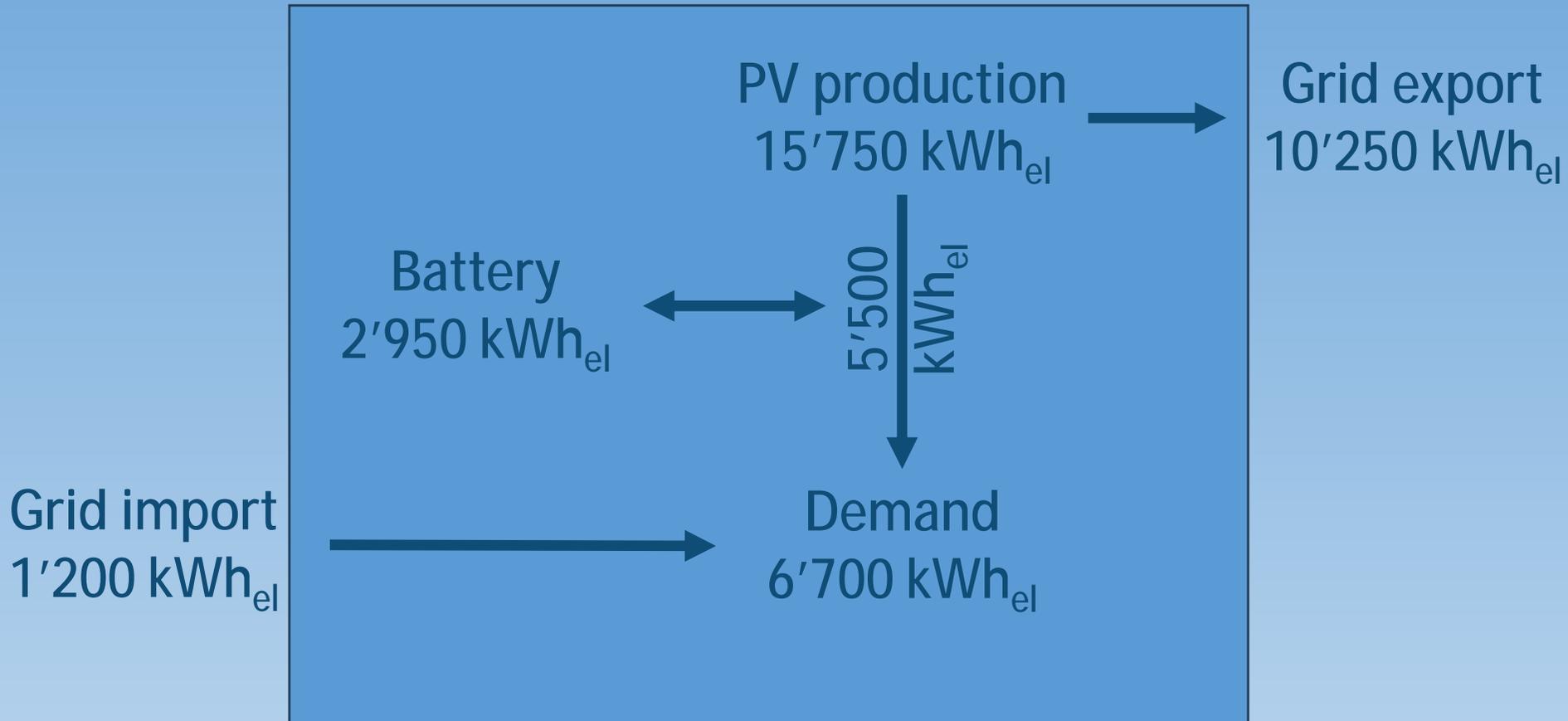
Electric energy

- Household (2 adults, 2 children):
 - 3'250 kWh_{el}
- Office - Exergenion (2nd floor)
 - 550 kWh_{el}
 - 5'000 km electric car – 16 kWh/100km – 800 kWh_{el}
- Commuting distance 2 x 35km – 5 days/w
 - 13'000 km electric car – 16 kWh/100km – 2'100 kWh_{el}



Σ 6'700 kWh_{el}

Annual Electric - Energy Balance



PV

- internal consumption 35%
- solar savings fraction 82%

Energy demand 2



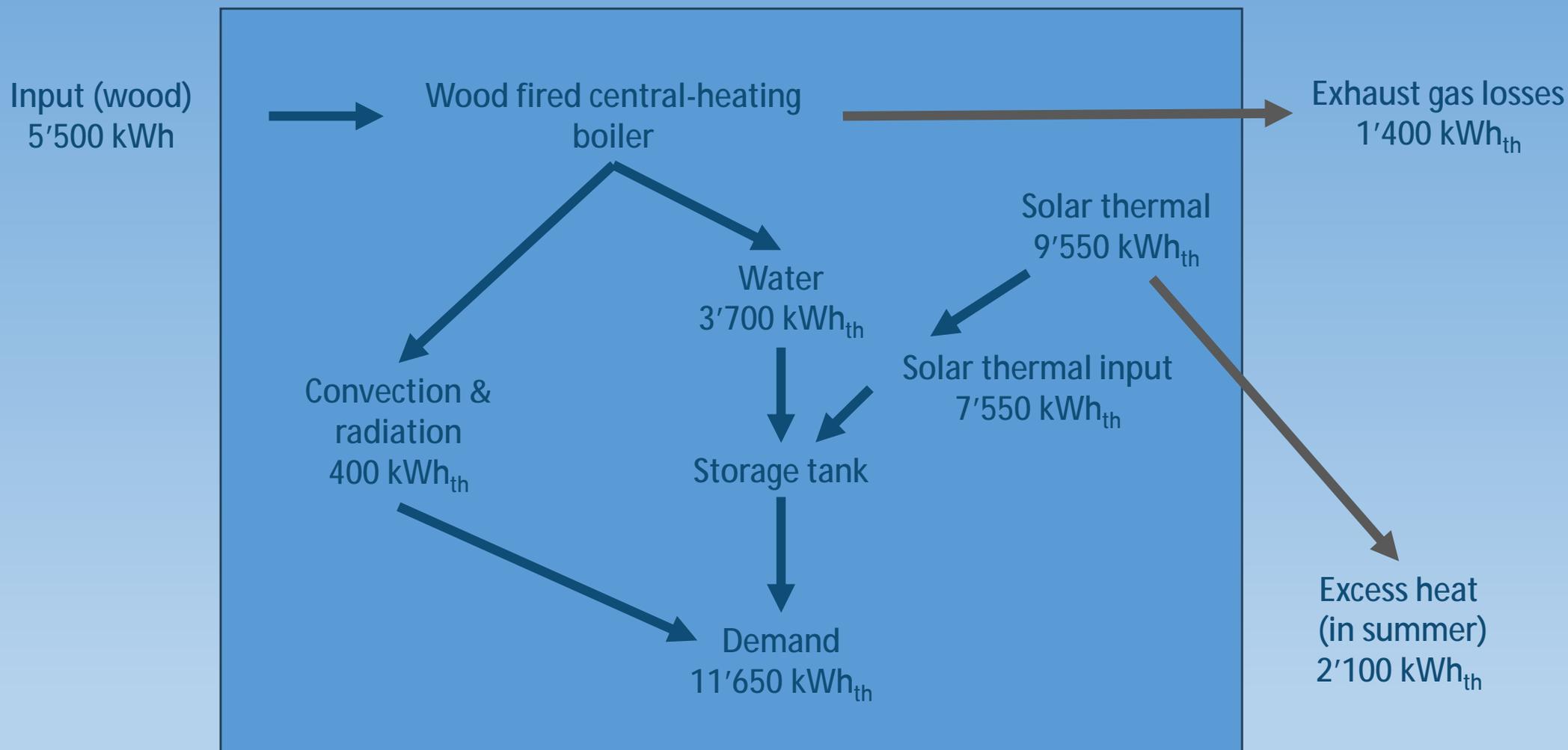
Heating and hot water



- Direct heating – floor heating
 - 7'400 kWh_{th}
- Indirect heating – usable heat losses from storage tank (in winter)
 - 1'900 kWh_{th}
- Indirect heating – convection and radiation from log boiler
 - 400 kWh_{th}
- Hot water
 - 1'950 kWh_{th}

Σ 11'650 kWh_{th}

Annual Heating - Energy Balance



Solar thermal

- solar savings fraction 65%

CO₂ Balance



Biomass 5'500 kWh (0,027 kg CO₂/kWh)

- 75 % wood logs as by-product from local forest management
- 25 % wood briquettes from a local sawmill

Biomass

150 kg (fossil) CO₂ emissions

Electricity (0,434 kg CO₂/kWh)

- 1'200 kWh grid import
- 10'250 kWh grid export

Electricity

Import 520 kg CO₂ emissions
Export -4'450 kg avoided CO₂

Total CO₂ emissions from building operation and electric mobility

minus 3,8 tons CO₂



Overview

- 5 years in a highly self-sufficient solar home
- Design of solar systems
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Design tools

Input creation for solar simulations

- Solar site assessment with shade measurement tools
- Proper evaluation of energy demand
 - Hot water demand
 - Electric consumers
 - E-Mobility and charging behavior (day/night)
- Building simulation

Solar simulations

- PV simulations (here pV*Sol)
- Energy system simulation (here Polysun)

A properly calibrated toolset and experience is needed for reliable results.

Simulations and reality



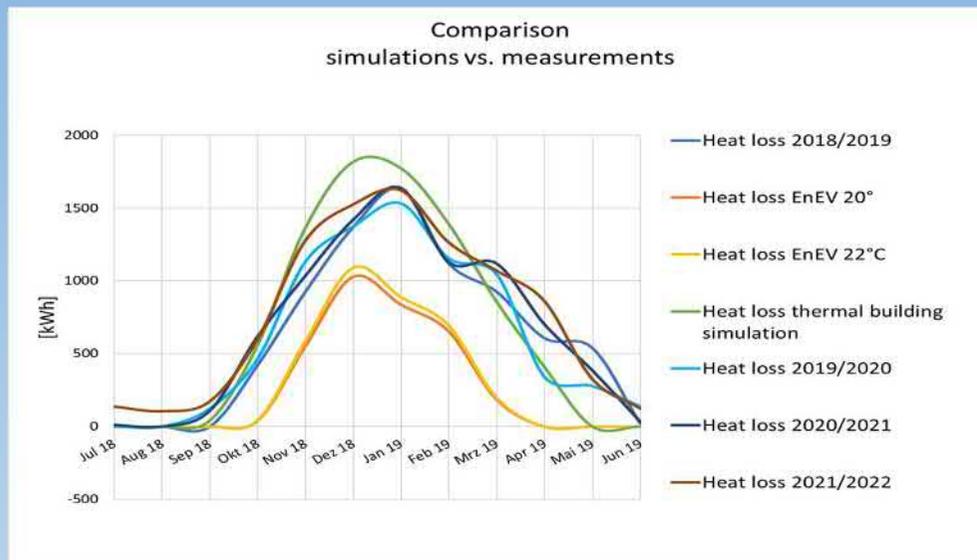
Heat – solar savings fraction

Building simulation

69%

Data recording

65%



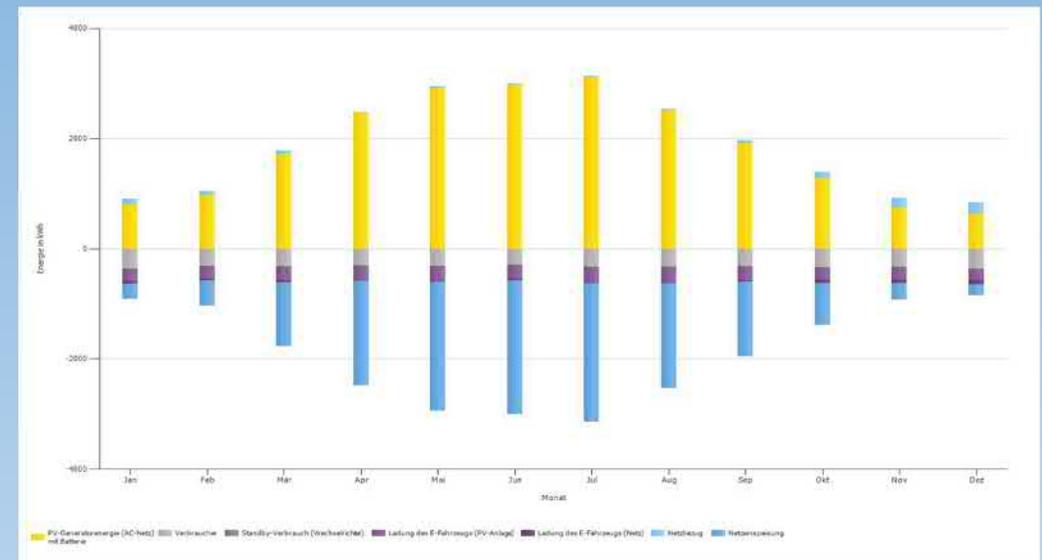
Electricity - solar savings fraction

PV simulation

87%

Data recording

82%



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Energy storage



Heat

Heat storage costs - $1 \text{ kWh}_{\text{th}}$ approx. 25 – 50€

For the house presented a maximum capacity of $350 \text{ kWh}_{\text{th}}$ of which $200 \text{ kWh}_{\text{th}}$ are usually used

Electricity

Electricity storage costs - $1 \text{ kWh}_{\text{el}}$ approx. 300 - 500 €

In the house presented
 $29 \text{ kWh}_{\text{el}}$ battery storage
 $32 \text{ kWh}_{\text{el}}$ electric car

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Construction



Mix of different construction methods:

- Basement – thermal insulated concrete
- Ground and 1st floor – solid construction filled with perlites
- South front - solid construction filled with perlites plus wood fiber ETICS
- 2nd floor and roof – timber frame construction



Construction



Building integrated solar technology

- Rooftop PV with in-roof look
- Built-in thermal collectors



Construction

Building integrated solar technology

- Stratified boiler tank from basement to top of ground floor to make use of convection heat losses



Construction



Stratified boiler tank

- 20cm efficient insulation
- The top ends in the kitchen



Highly modularized components



Nonintegrated design:

- Only components that fail must be individually replaced

Construction

Log boiler

- Low emissions – 2 stage combustion
- 90% heat transfer to water cycle
- Low convection
- Low heat radiation



Integration of solar systems



Completion



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Additional investments (2018)



Building extra costs compared to German standard in 2018

- Insulation + 5'000 €
- Engineering + 15'000 €

Extra costs for components compared to a natural gas boiler

- Hardware + 60'000 €
- Engineering + 10'000 €

Subsidies - 40'000 €

Total extra cost + 50'000 €

- Annual savings heating - 950 €
- Annual savings mobility - 1'850 €
- Annual savings electricity (w/o car) - 1'300 €

Actual annual savings - 3'750 €

Break-even at actual energy prices à 13 ..14 years

Conclusion



Advantages of a highly self-sufficient solar home concept

- Operation of the building is CO₂ negative
- Living and mobility are highly independent from energy prices
- Predictable investment and energy costs
- Local value creation:
 - § Building and energy components sourced entirely from Austria and Germany (with exception of Li-On batteries)
- Operation of the building in combination with e-mobility shows no resulting energy costs until 2039 (due to feed in tariffs)

Instant savings instead of risking high costs from burning fossil fuels

And the pleasure of living in a CO₂ negative building.



Thank you for your attention



Energietechnik
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