
A WEB-BASED SIMULATION PLATFORM FOR THE ENERGY, DAYLIGHT AND GLARE EVALUATION OF FENESTRATION SYSTEMS



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Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy
Systems ISE

www.ise.fraunhofer.de

Performance evaluation of fenestration systems: problem statement

- Fenestration systems have opposing effects on solar heat gains, daylight availability, glare control and view contact.
- The balance between these aspects depend on:
 - Building and surrounding geometry
 - Building operation (dynamic)
 - Size, position and orientation of fenestration systems
 - Optical and thermal properties of systems
 - Control of systems (dynamic)
 - Climate (dynamic)

Performance evaluation of fenestration systems: problem statement

- The performance evaluation of fenestration systems requires:
 - Definition of evaluation criteria.
 - Characterization of their optical and thermal properties.
 - Dynamic simulations to evaluate the performance under specific climate and boundary conditions.

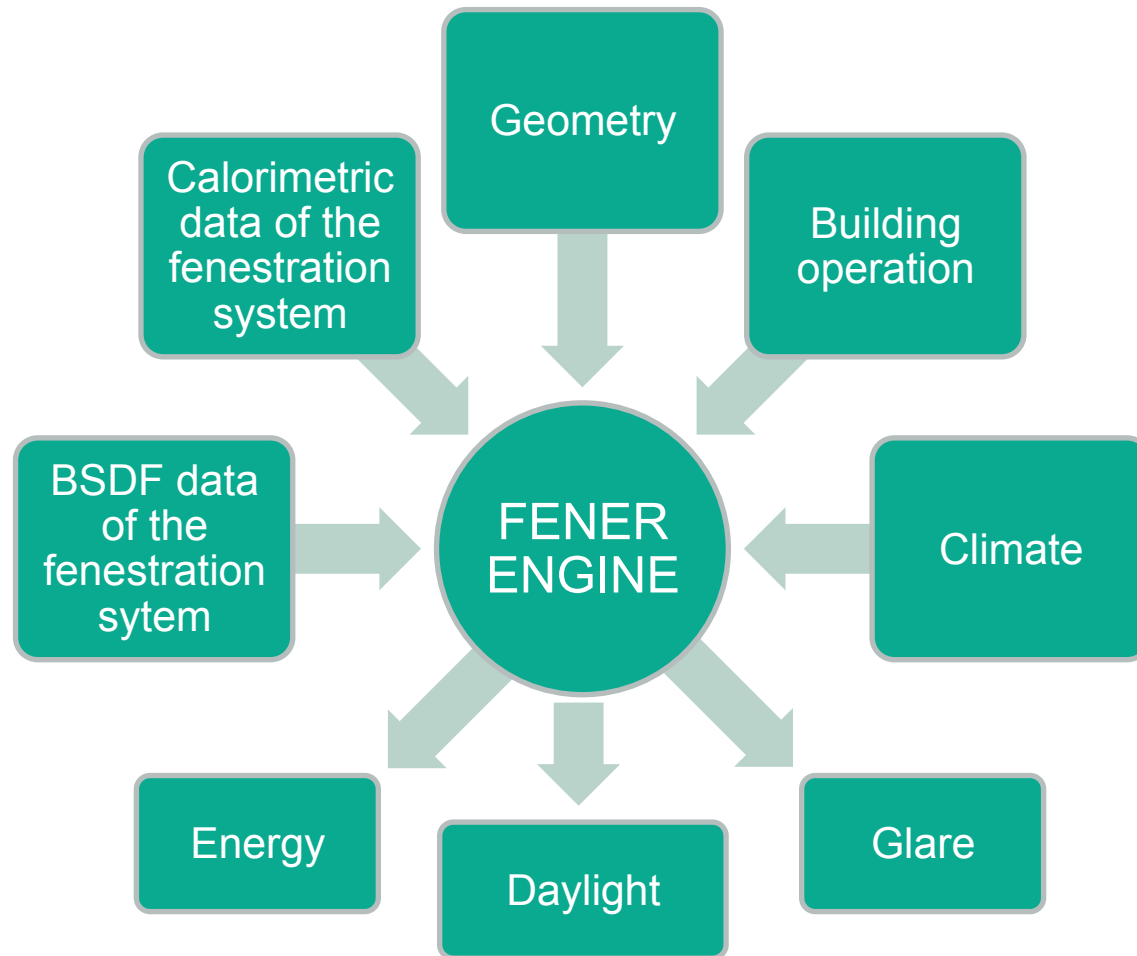
Characterization of optical and thermal properties

- Photogoniometer: bidirectional scattering distribution function (BSDF)
- Calorimeter: U-value and angle-dependent solar heat gain coefficient (g-value)



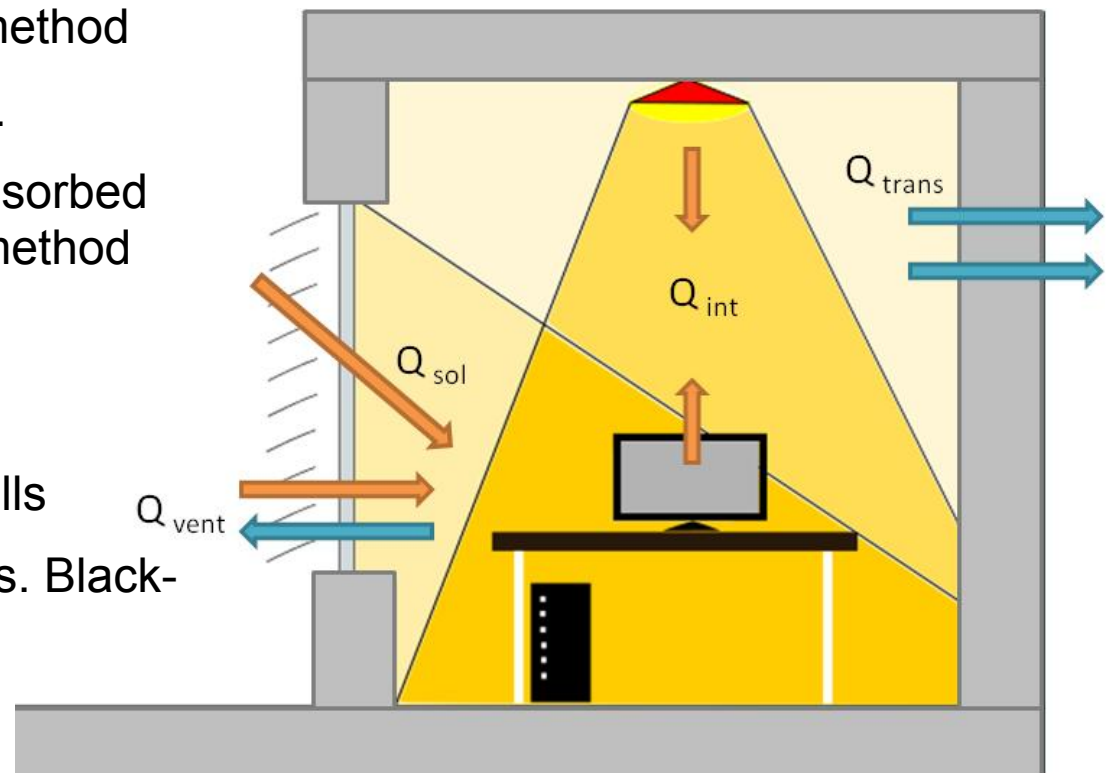
(left) Photogoniometry laboratory; (right) Colometric Outdoor test Facility for Real-size building Envelope Elements. Fraunhofer ISE

Performance evaluation based on dynamic simulations



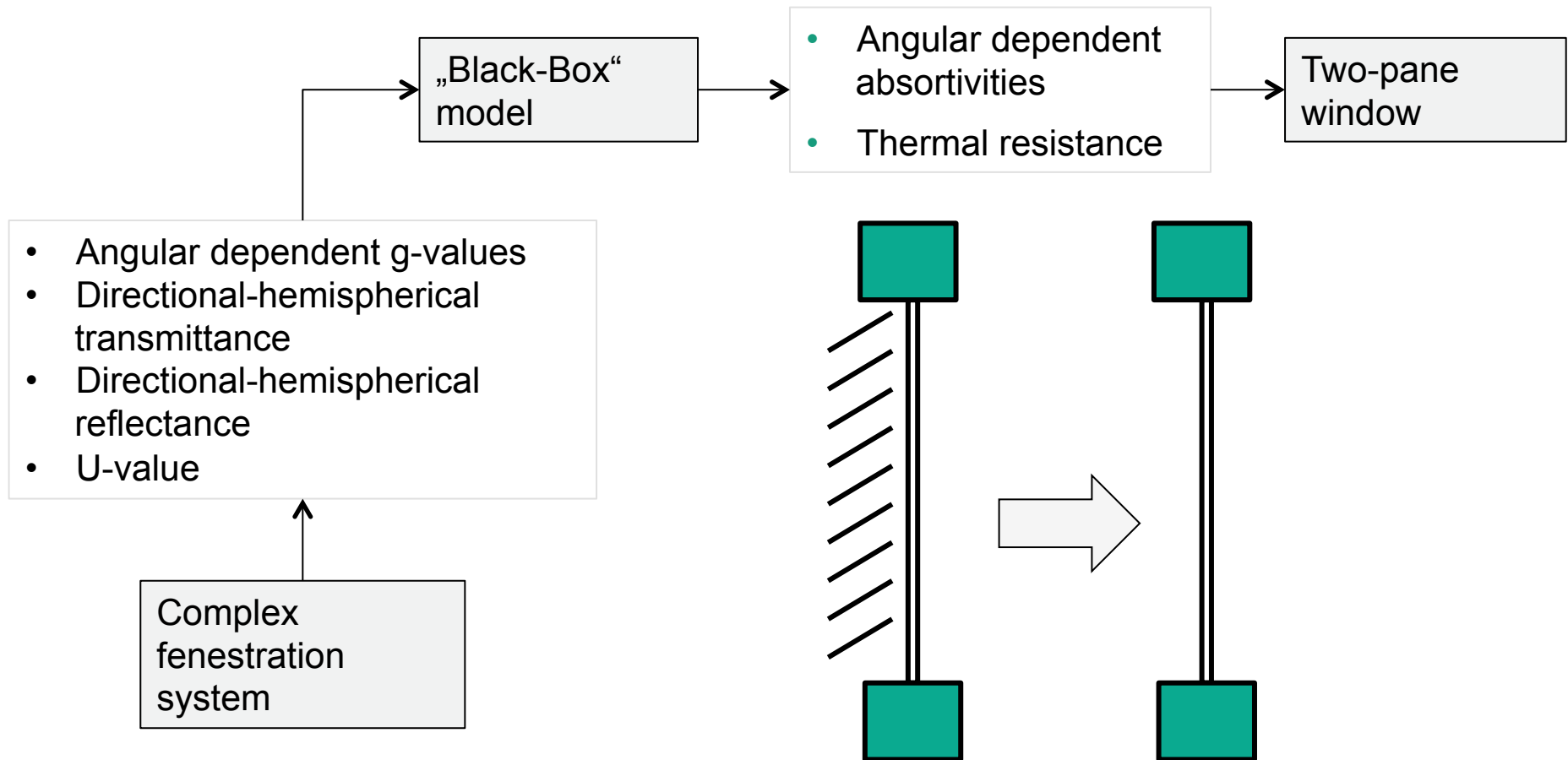
Performance evaluation based on dynamic simulations

- Shading operation according to a control algorithm.
- Indoor illuminance. 3-phase method
- Artificial lighting requirements.
- Transmitted solar radiation absorbed by indoor surfaces. 3-phase method
- Outdoor energy balance.
- Indoor energy balance.
- Heat transmission through walls
- Heat transfer through windows. Black-Box model

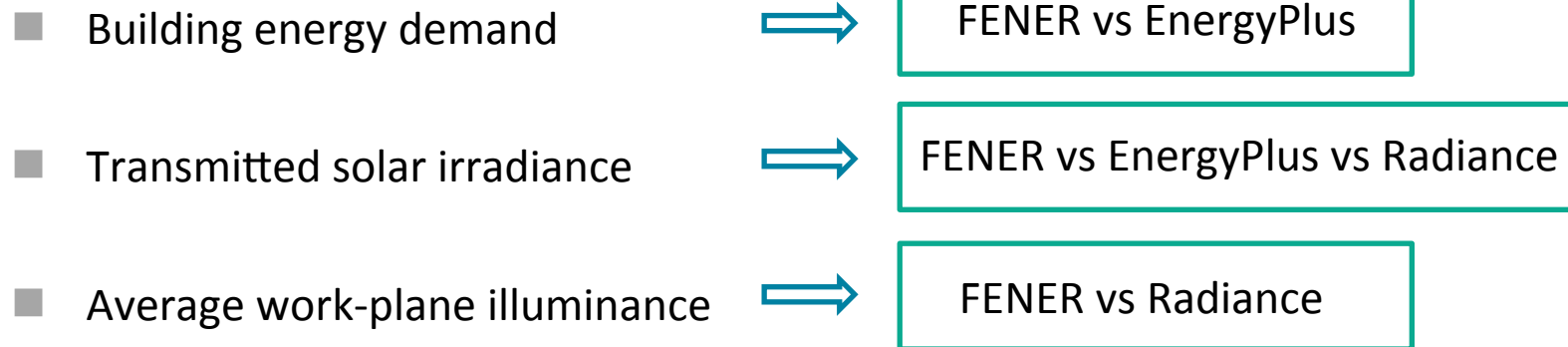


Performance evaluation based on dynamic simulations

Black-Box model (Kuhn et al 2011)

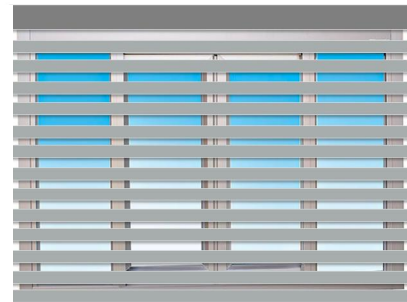


Model evaluation



Simulations are carried out for:

✓ 2 different Fenestration systems



✓ 2 different days of the year

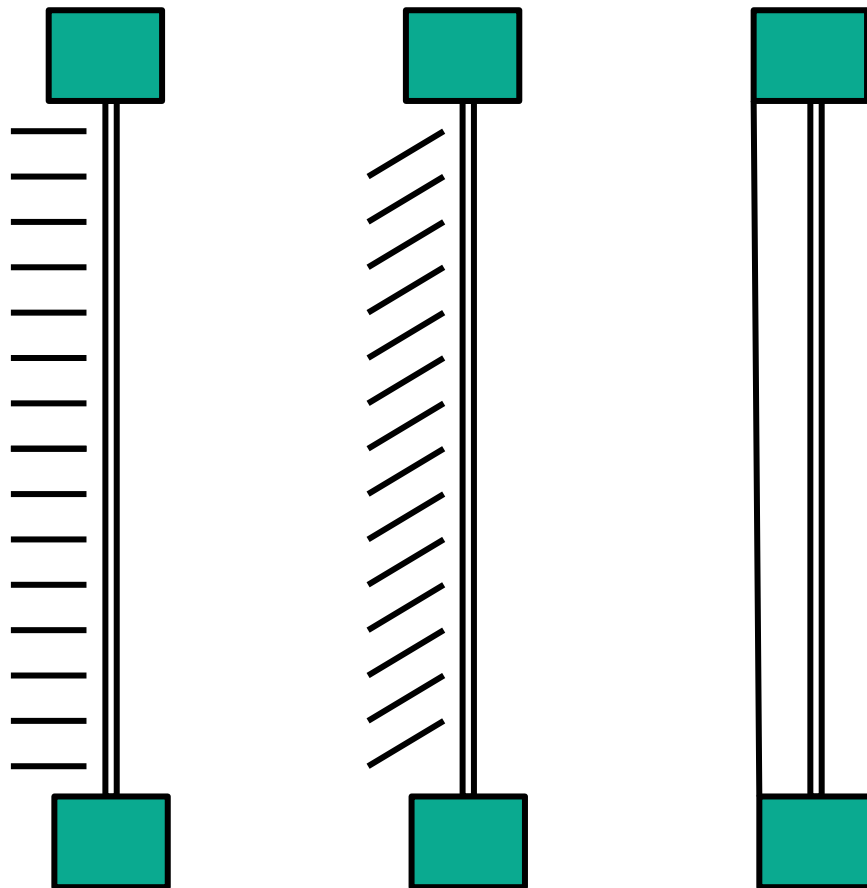


FENER-WEBPORT

<https://fener-webport.ise.fraunhofer.de>

FENER-WEBPORT

WORKOUT EXAMPLE: CONTROL STRATEGY



Tilt	0°	45°	90°
U	1.2	1.2	1.1
g_0	0.60	0.13	0.02
τ_{v0}	0.74	0.13	0.00


1. Scenario


2. Simulation setup


3. Review

Overview

User guide

 Daylight simulation

 Glare simulation

 Thermal simulation

Name










Compare

Fenestration system

▼

+ Add

- Remove

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Comparison
	Reference	Choose what you want to compare
<input type="checkbox"/>	radiation	  
<input type="checkbox"/>	daylight	  
<input type="checkbox"/>	temp	  

Setup

1. Scenario

2. Simulation setup

3. Review

Climate

Geometry

Fenestration system

Inputs

User guide

Reference

Simulation period

From

01/01

to

31/12

Climate

Lyon(France) [admin] x

Upload .epw file



Latitude

45.72

Longitude

4.95



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Next ▶

Reference

Configuration

Reference office (W 3.9m x D 8.5m x H 3.1m)

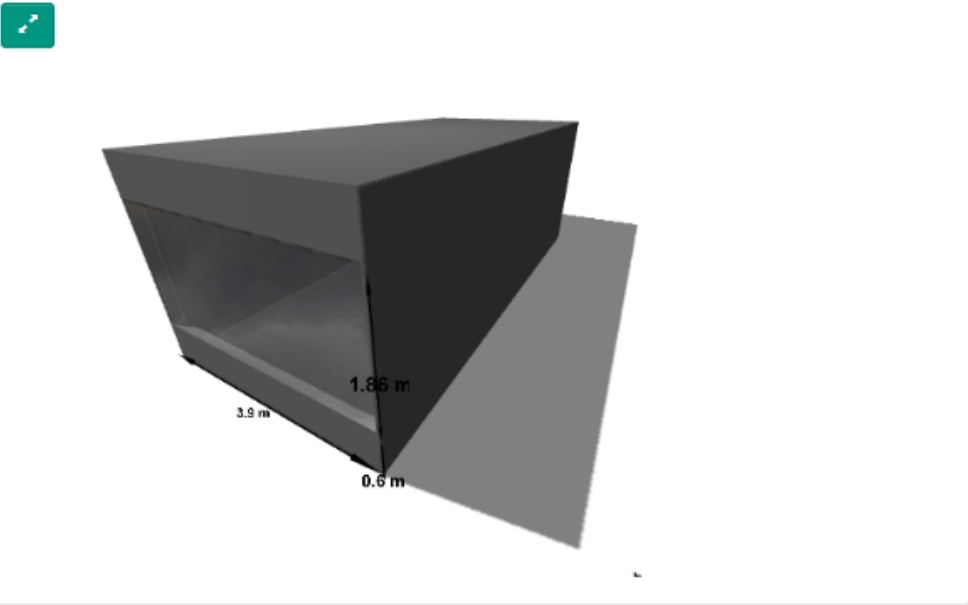
Orientation

South

Glazing-to-facade ratio

60%

3D model



1. Scenario

2. Simulation setup

3. Review

Climate

Geometry

Fenestration system

Inputs

User guide

Reference

radiation

daylight

temp

Upload a light scattering system

Upload a non-scattering system

Introduce control states

☐ Fixed system

☒ Control state matrix

Solar control glazing unit and exterior perforated screen

VBA - Based on energy, daylight and glare

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Next ▶

Introduce control states



Name:

VBA - Based on exterior irradiance on building facade

Default:

VBA-0


Number of variables:

2

Number of condition lines:

1

Create matrix

 Explanation

Based on exterior ir

Load matrix

Variables:

Occupation

Exterior irra

Setpoint (more or equal):

1

150

Fill the control state matrix under the following conditions:



VBA-45

Save

Close

Introduce control states



Control matrix has been loaded.

Name:

VBA - Based on daylight

Default:

VBA-0


Number of variables:

2

Number of condition
lines:

1

Create matrix

 Explanation

Based on glare [adi]

Load matrix

Variables:

Occupation

Average wc

Setpoint (more or equal):

1

2500

Fill the control state matrix under the following conditions:



VBA-45

Save

Close

Introduce control states



Name:

VBA - Based on indoor temperature

Default:

VBA-0

Number of variables:

2

Number of condition
lines:

2

Create matrix

 Explanation

Based on indoor te

Load matrix

Variables:

Occupation

Indoor air te

Setpoint (more or equal):

1

26

Fill the control state matrix under the following conditions:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-90
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-45

Save

Close

Introduce control states



Name:

VBA - Based on energy, daylight and glare

Default:

VBA-0

Number of variables:

4

Number of condition lines:

7

Create matrix

Explanation

Based on energy, i

Load matrix

Variables:

Occupation

Average wt

Exterior irr

Indoor air t

Setpoint (more or equal):

1

1000

150

26

Fill the control state matrix under the following conditions:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-90
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-90
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-90
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-90
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VBA-45
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VBA-45
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VBA-45

Save

Close

Working hours

6

18

Light control

Illuminance setpoint (lux)

500.0

Control type

ON/OFF

Thermal

Equipment watts per zone floor area (W/m2)

5.0

People watts per zone floor area (W/m2)

10|0

Lights watts per zone floor area (W/m2)

10.0

Infiltration/ventilation (ACH)

During working hours

2.0

Outside working hours

0.5

Heating thermal setpoint (°C)

During working hours

21

Outside working hours

17

Cooling thermal setpoint (°C)

During working hours

27

Outside working hours

30

Construction type

Heavy

Name of the simulation: Radiance_workshop_2016

Notify me about progress via e-mail ☐

Save

	Reference	radiation	daylight	temp
Simulation period	From 01/01 till 31/12			
Climate	Lyon(France) [admin]	Lyon(France) [admin]	Lyon(France) [admin]	Lyon(France) [admin]
Room orientation	South	South	South	South
Room type	Reference office	Reference office	Reference office	Reference office
Room dimensions (width x depth x height) (m)	3.9 x 8.5 x 3.1	3.9 x 8.5 x 3.1	3.9 x 8.5 x 3.1	3.9 x 8.5 x 3.1
Glazing-to-facade ratio	60%	60%	60%	60%
Glazing area dimensions (width x height) (m)	3.8 x 1.86	3.8 x 1.86	3.8 x 1.86	3.8 x 1.86
Fenestration system	VBA - Based on energy, daylight and glare	VBA - Based on exterior irradiance on building facade	VBA - Based on daylight	VBA - Based on indoor temperature
Fenestration control	Control state matrix	Control state matrix	Control state matrix	Control state matrix
Working hours	6-18 LT			
Illuminance setpoint (lux)	500.0			
Lighting control	ON/OFF			
Equipment watts per zone floor area (W/m2)	Inside working hours: 5.0 Outside working hours: 0.0			
People watts per zone floor area (W/m2)	Inside working hours: 10.0 Outside working hours: 0.0			
Lights watts per zone floor area (W/m2)	Inside working hours: 10.0 Outside working hours: 0.0			
Infiltration/ventilation (ACH)	Inside working hours: 2.0 Outside working hours: 0.5			
Heating thermal setpoint (°C)	Inside working hours: 21 Outside working hours: 17			
Cooling thermal setpoint (°C)	Inside working hours: 27 Outside working hours: 30			
View position from the window (m) (view direction parallel to the window)	1.5			
View height (m)	1.65			

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Run simulation ⏸

Results of the simulation: Radiance_workshop_2016

Your simulation is running...

Finished: 0 / 4



Results

[Review](#)

Daylight

[Horizontal illuminance distribution](#)

[Daylight autonomy](#)

[Daylight factor](#)

[Average horizontal illuminance \(lux\)](#)

Glare

[Temporal map of daylight glare probability](#)

[Daylight glare probability](#)

[Vertical illuminance](#)

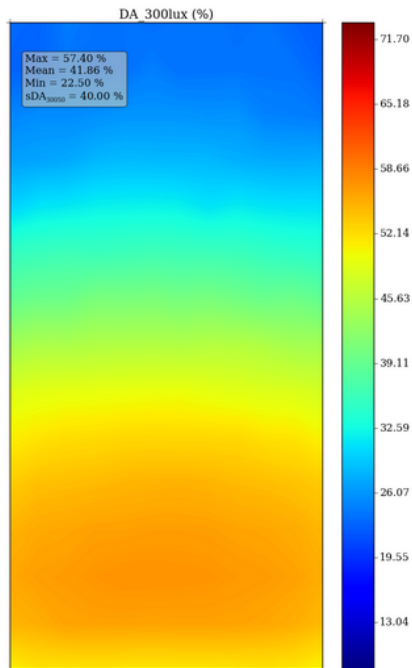
Thermal

[Heating/cooling energy load](#)

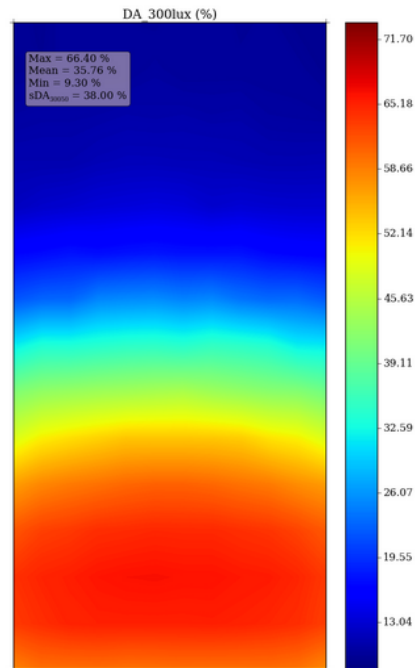
[Lighting energy load](#)

[Transmitted solar irradiance](#)

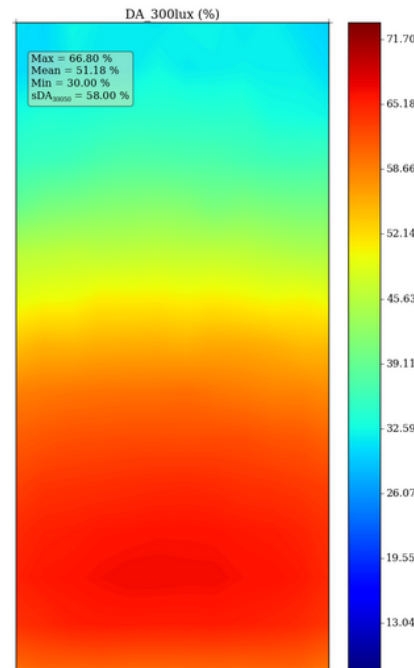
[Bar plot: lighting, heating and cooling energy demand](#)



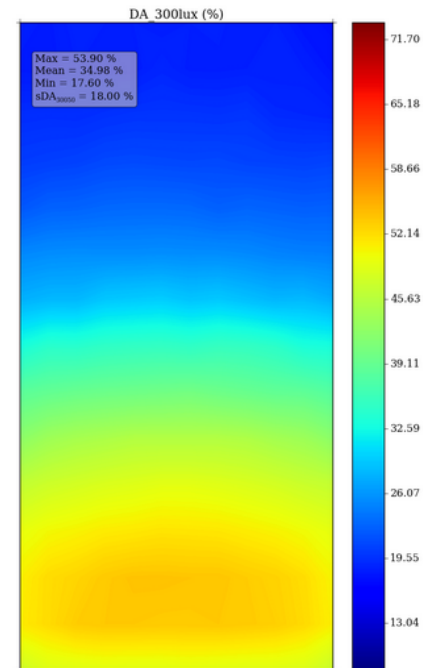
Reference



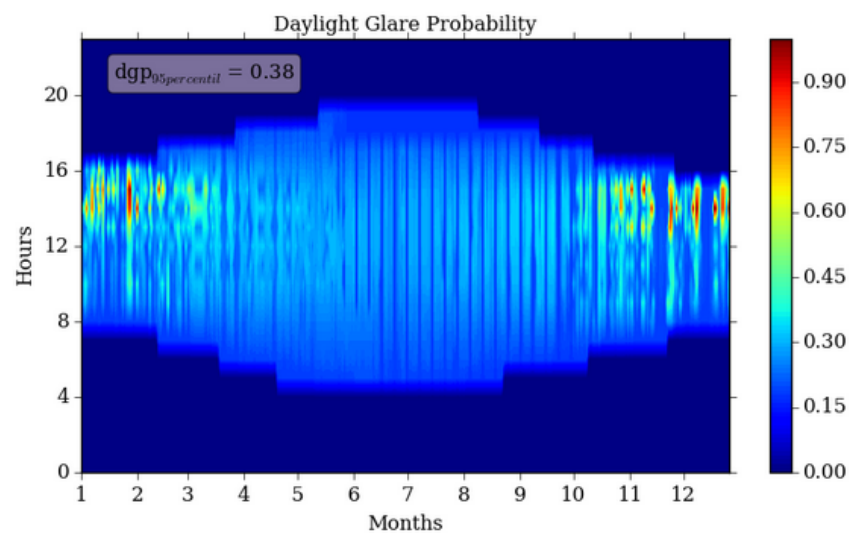
radiation



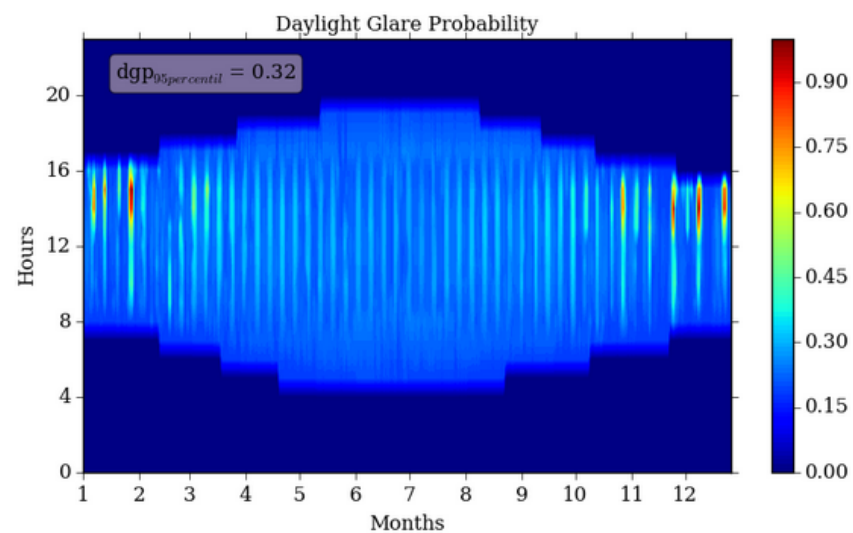
daylight



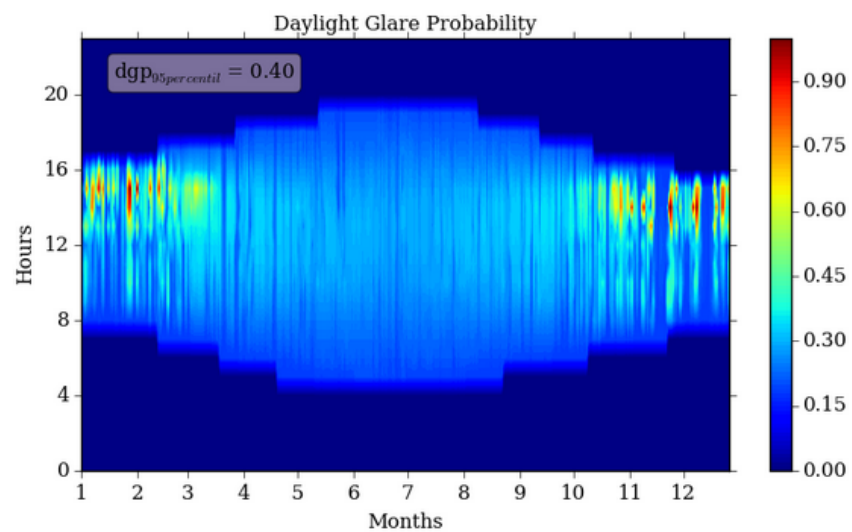
temp



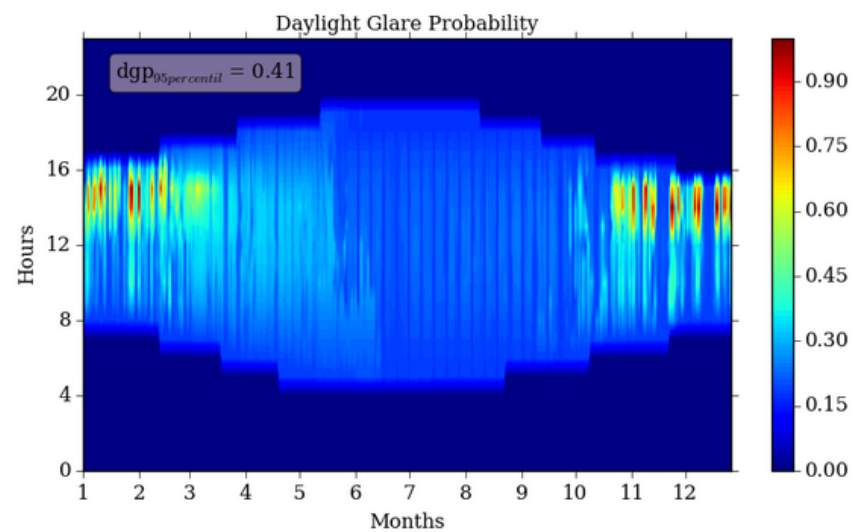
Reference



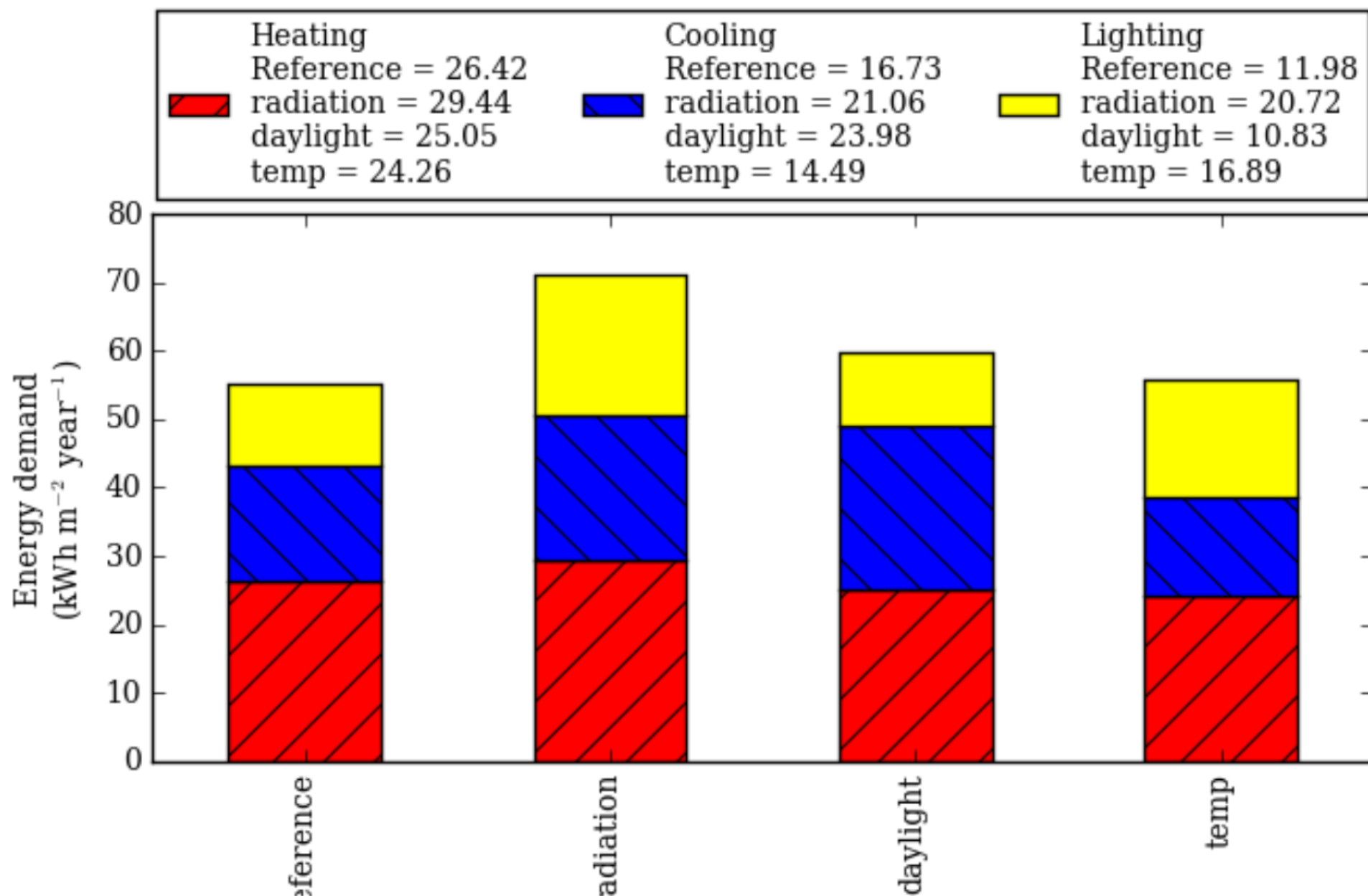
radiation



daylight



temp



FENER-WEBPORT: Highlights

- Specific for the evaluation of fenestration systems and their control
- Allows the assessment of advanced shading control strategies
- Allows the evaluation of a broad variety of fenestration systems
- Allows a permanent communication between numerical models and measurements

FENER-WEBPORT: Highlights

- Specific for the evaluation of fenestration systems and their control
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- Allows the evaluation of a broad variety of fenestration systems
- Allows a permanent communication between numerical models and measurements

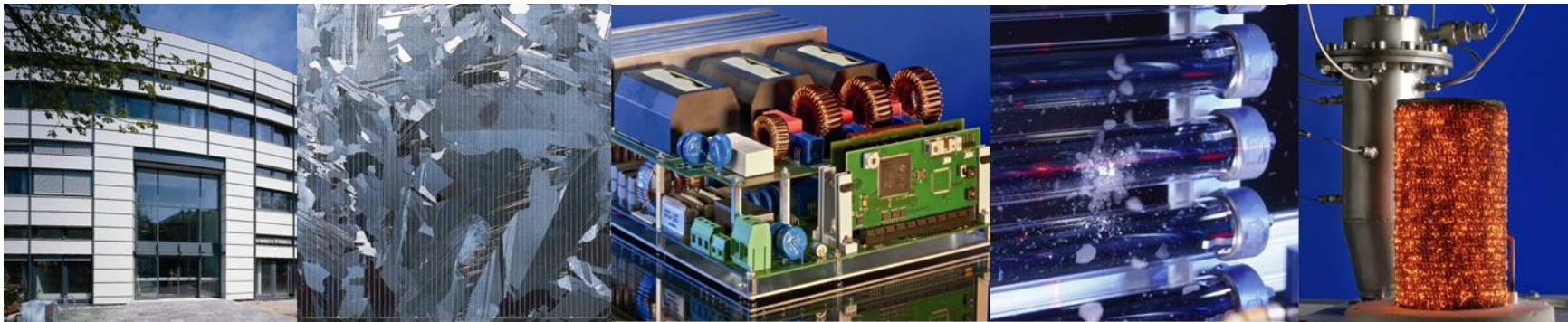
- Simplicity vs Flexibility

Essential for a correct interpretation of model results and to avoid human and numerical errors

FENER-WEBPORT: Next steps

- Import geometry in IFC format (Building-Information-Modeling compatible)
- Link with Complex Glazing and Shading Database CGDB

Thank you for your attention!



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