



**MINIMAL RENOVATION
STRATEGIES FOR LOW-
TEMPERATURE HEATING**
with optimal comfort

presentation **P5**

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Master thesis **Building Technology**
Delft University of Technology

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 **TU Delft**
BK Bouwkunde



Content

research framework

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Research Framework

research framework

methodology

research

conclusions



Research Framework

background

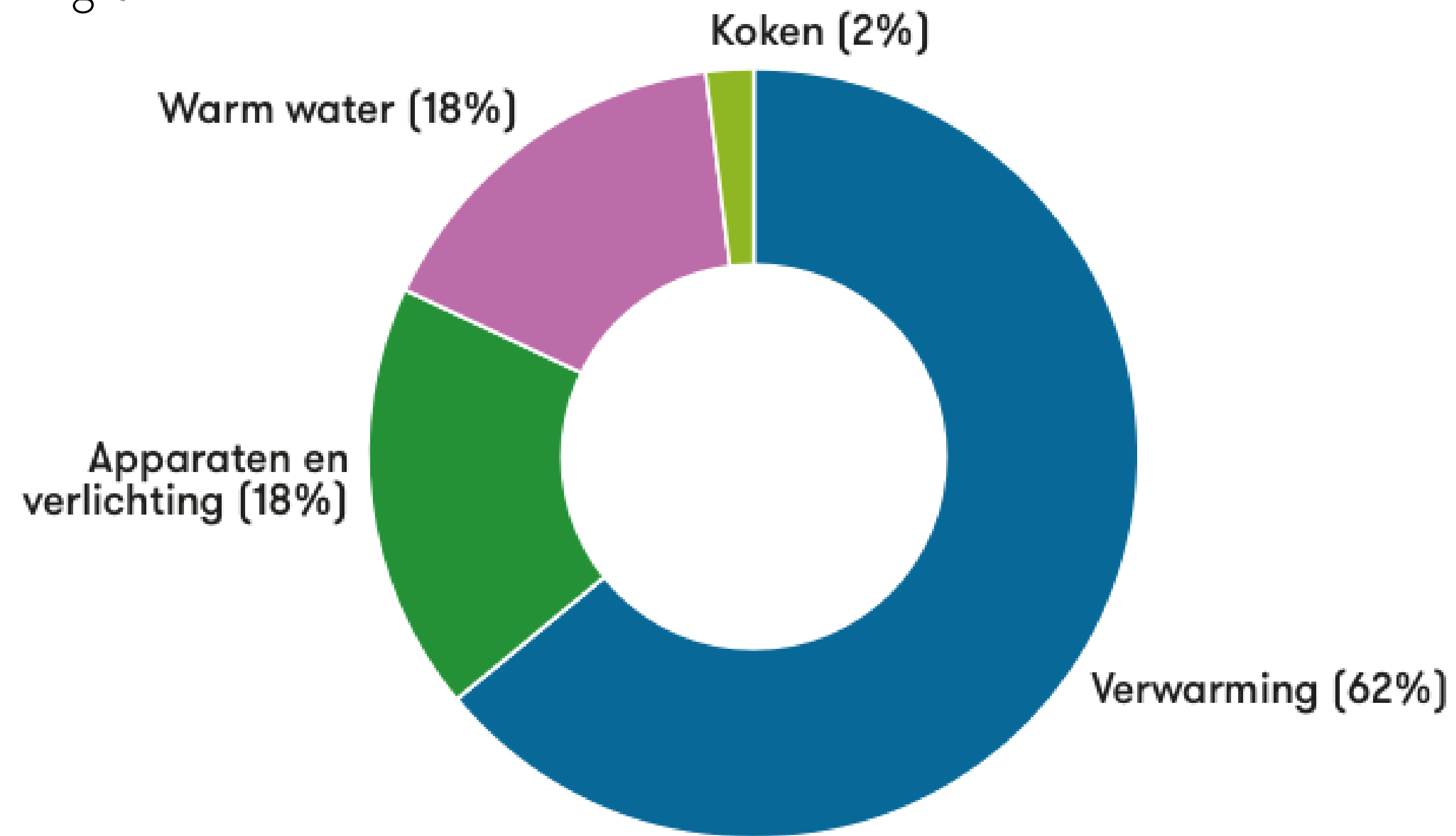
1. Climate Agreement (Rijksoverheid, 2019):

Goal for the built environment is to be (almost) CO₂ neutral by 2050

Research Framework

background

the average household in the Netherlands spends 62% of the total energy usage on space heating (Milieu Centraal, 2020)



Share of applications in the energy consumption of an average household in the Netherlands in 2019
Milieu Centraal, 2020



Research Framework

background

1. Climate Agreement (Rijksoverheid, 2019):

Goal for the built environment is to be (almost) CO₂ neutral by 2050

2. Phased out gas extraction in Groningen (Wiebes, 2019):

The natural gas extraction in Groningen will be phased out, as it has led to earthquakes in the region

78% of the total heating requirement is covered by natural gas (CBS & ECN, 2017)



Research Framework

background

1. Climate Agreement (Rijksoverheid, 2019)

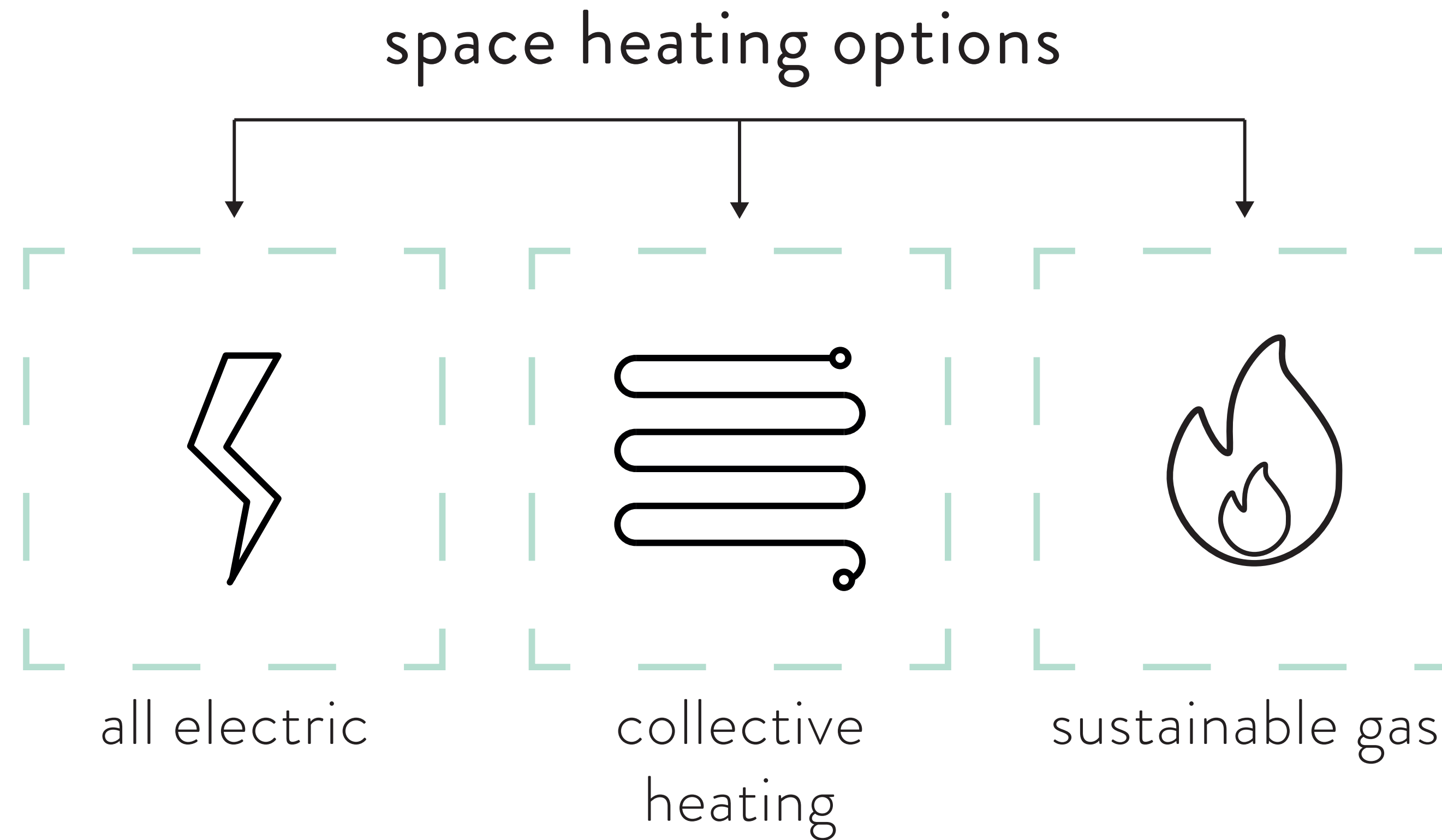
2. Phased out gas extraction in Groningen (Wiebes, 2019)



Other sustainable solutions for space heating needed

Research Framework

background

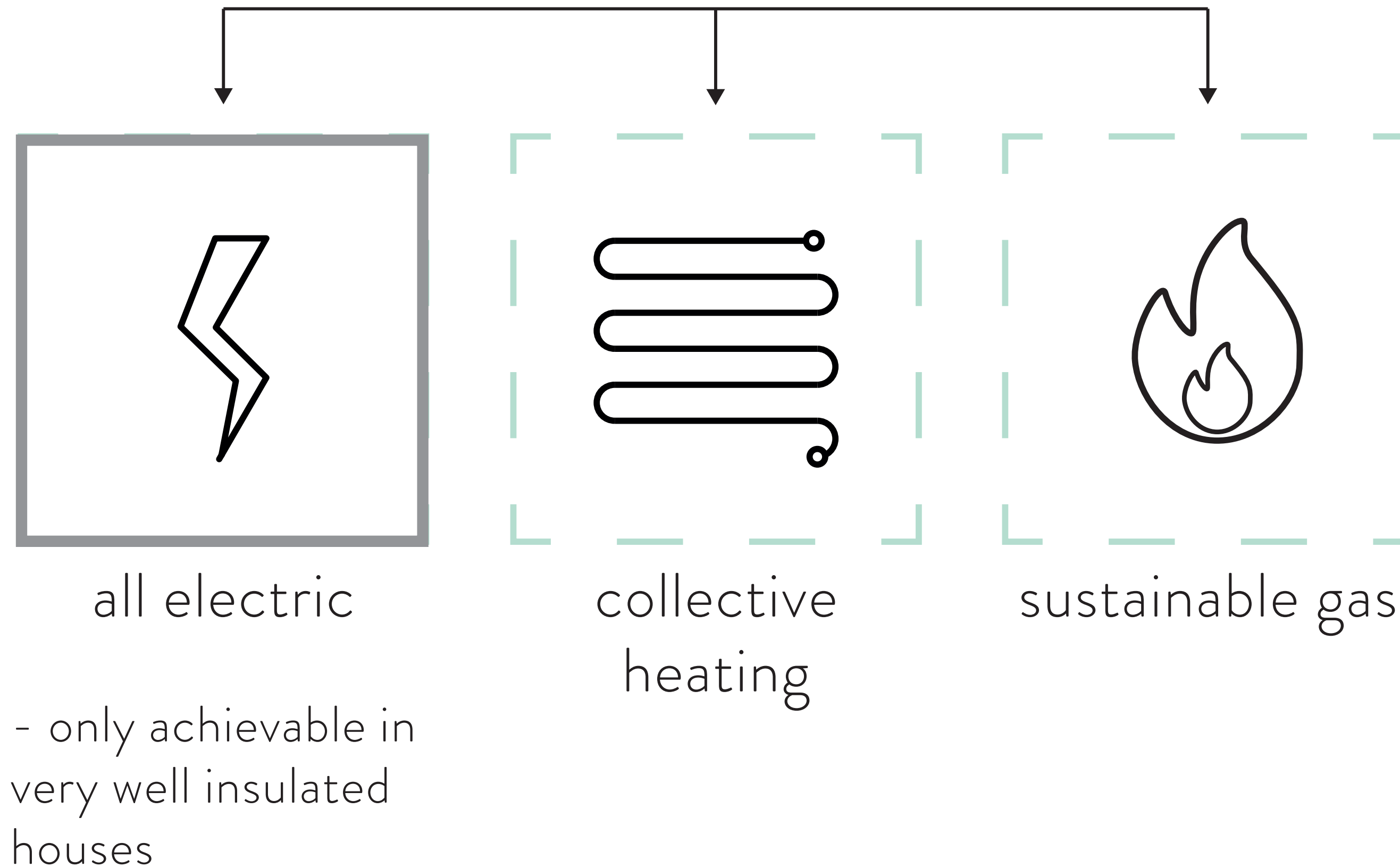


(Based on Ecofys and Greenvis, 2016)

Research Framework

background

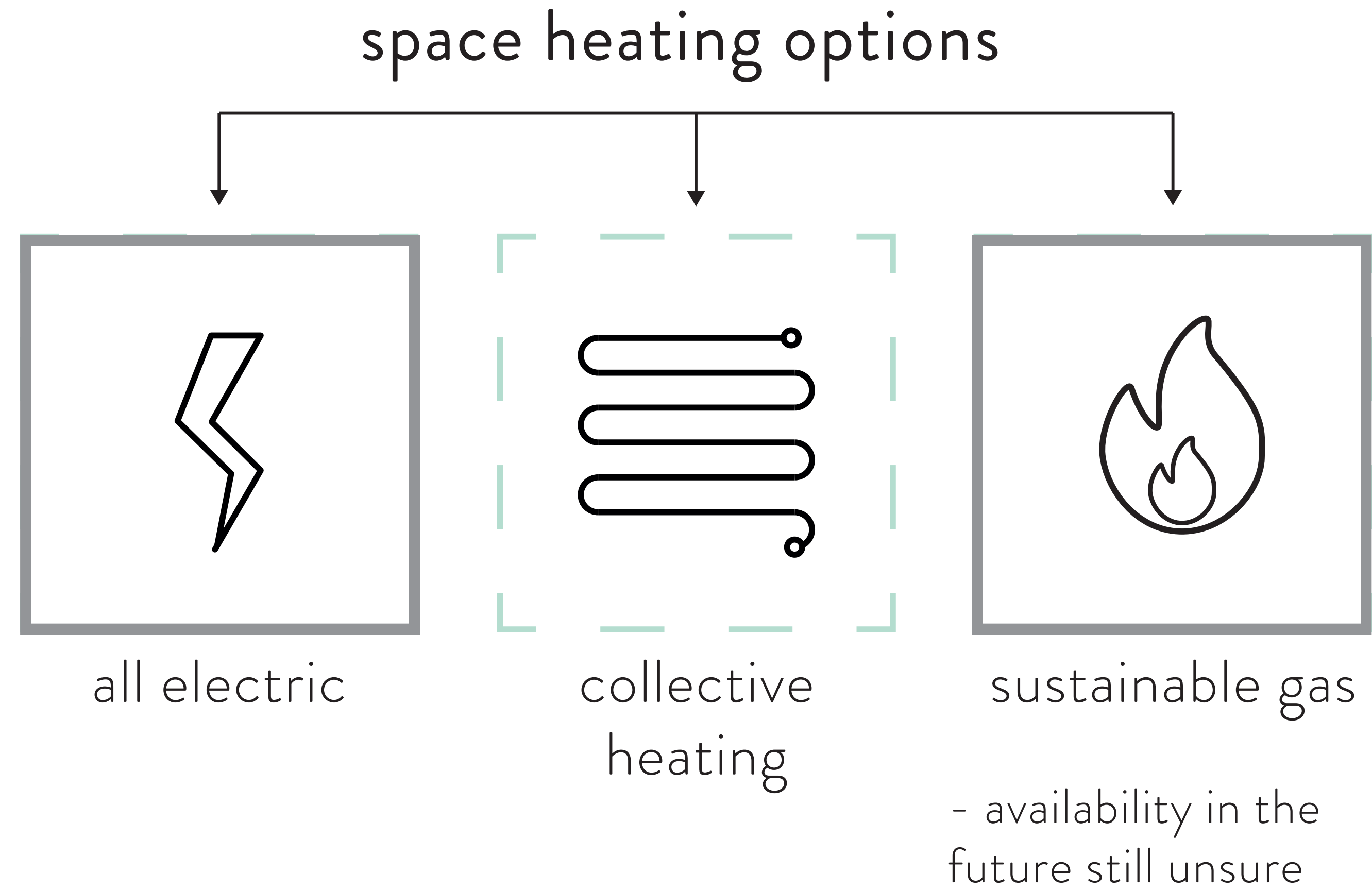
space heating options



(Based on Ecofys and Greenvis, 2016)

Research Framework

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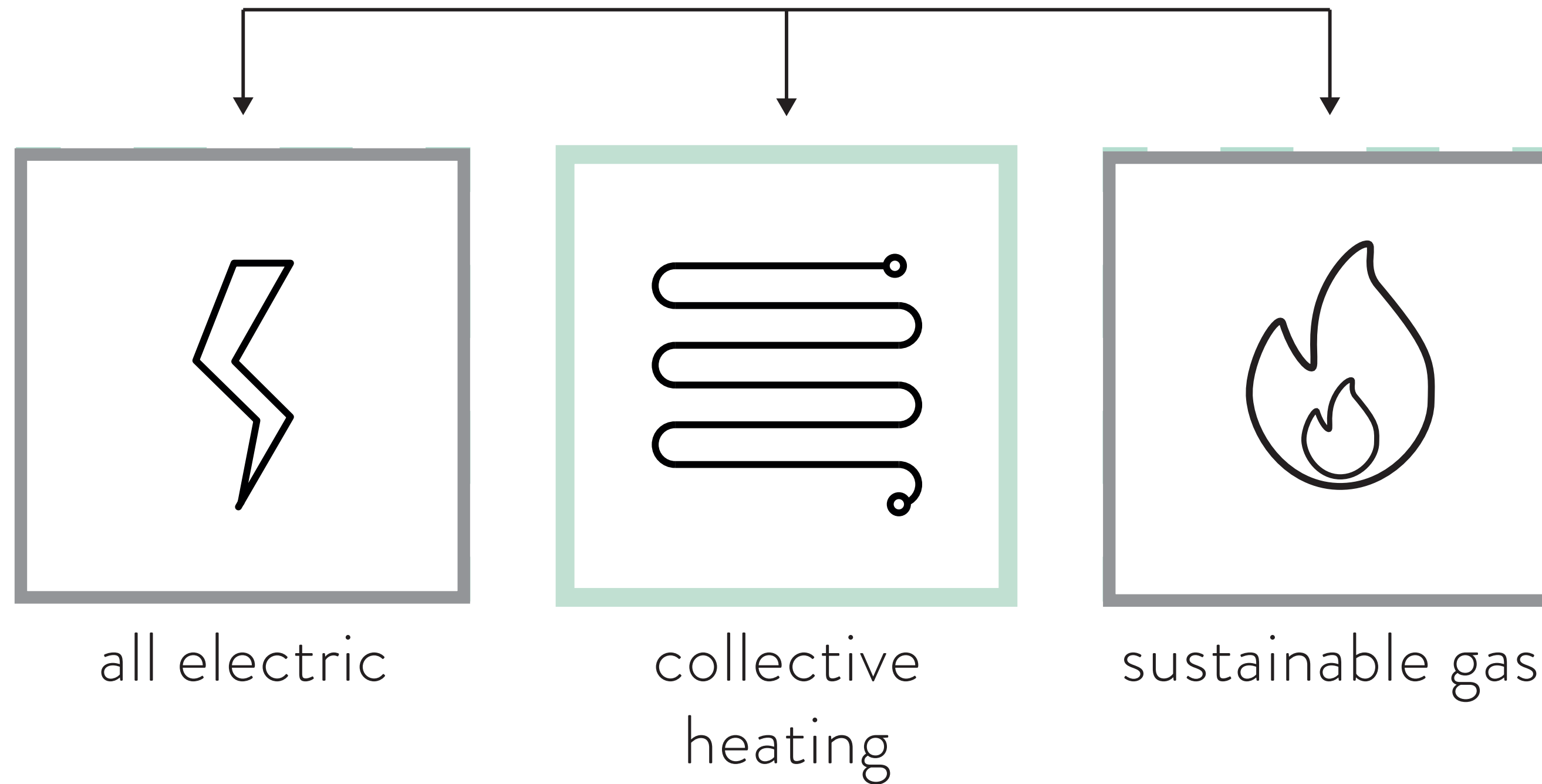


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Research Framework

background

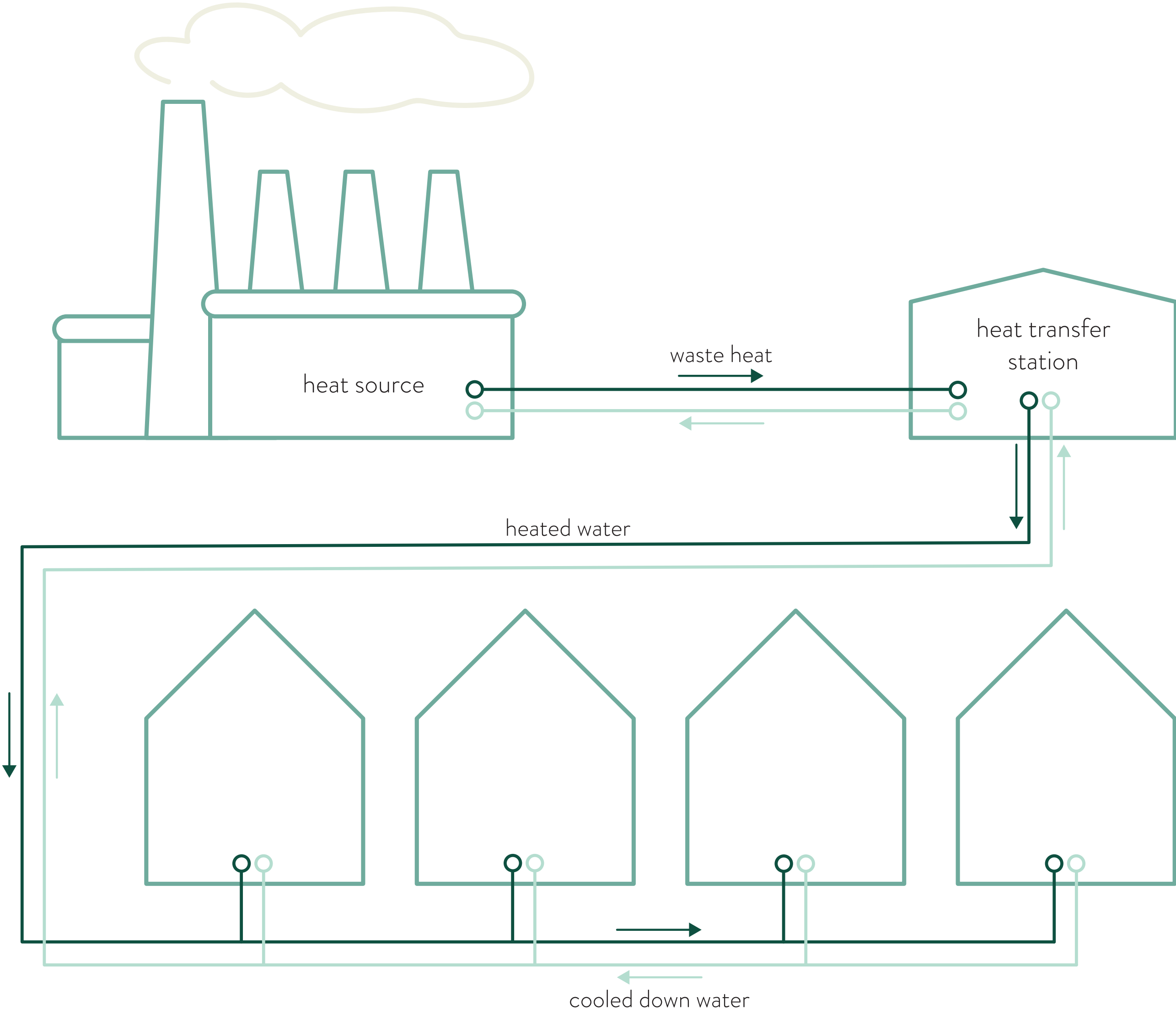
space heating options



(Based on Ecofys and Greenvis, 2016)

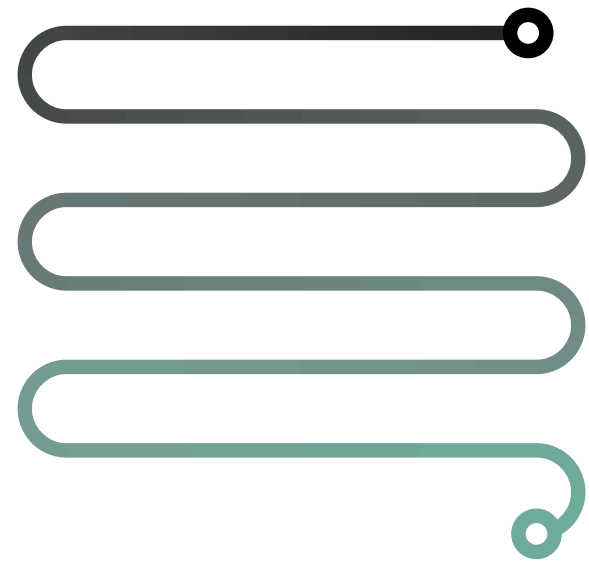
Research Framework

background

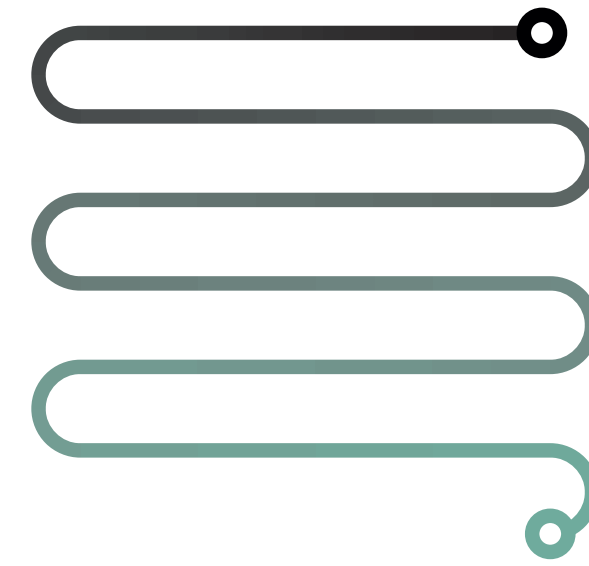


Research Framework

background



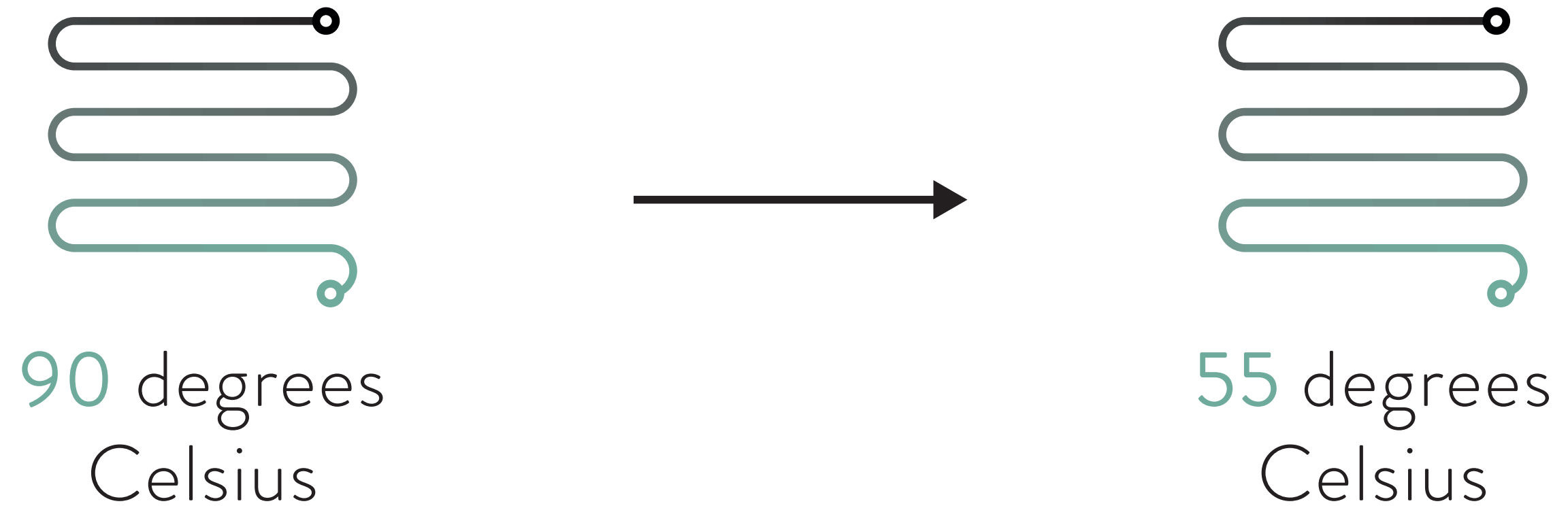
90 degrees
Celsius



55 degrees
Celsius

Research Framework

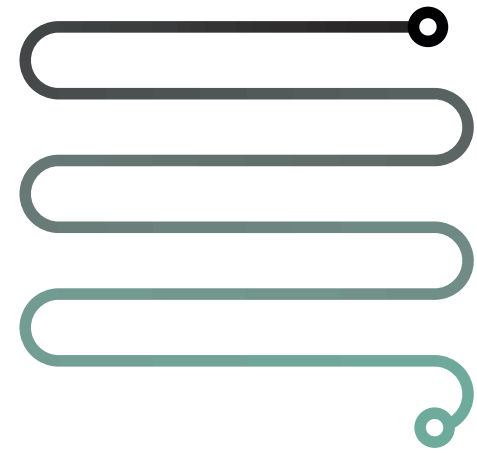
background



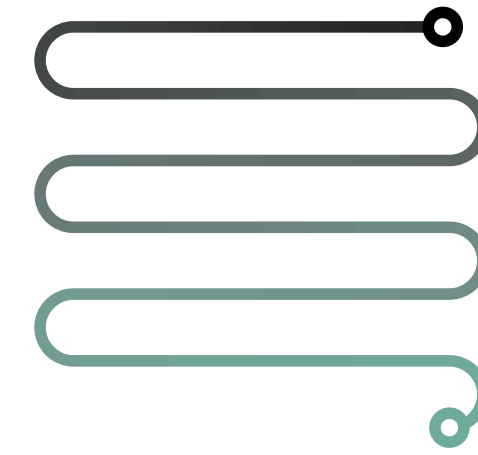
1. Conventional heat sources that supply high-temperature heat will be phased out in the future

Research Framework

background



90 degrees
Celsius

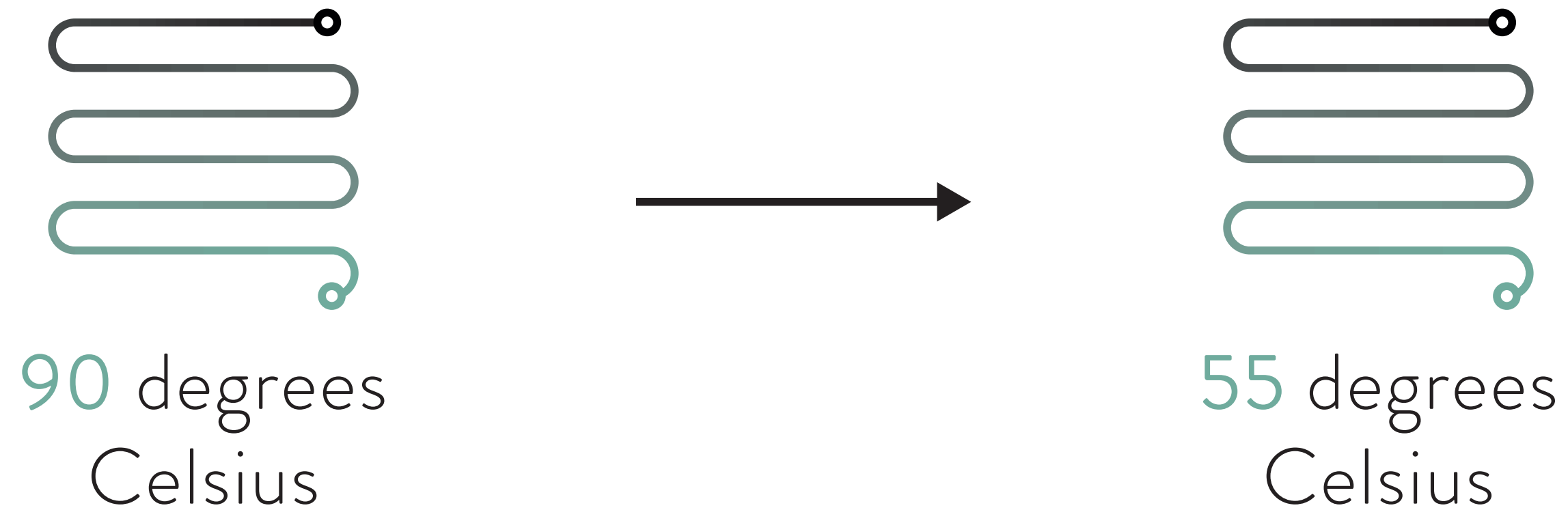


55 degrees
Celsius

1. Conventional heat sources that supply high-temperature heat will be phased out in the future
2. Increasing **efficiency** of industrial processes

Research Framework

background



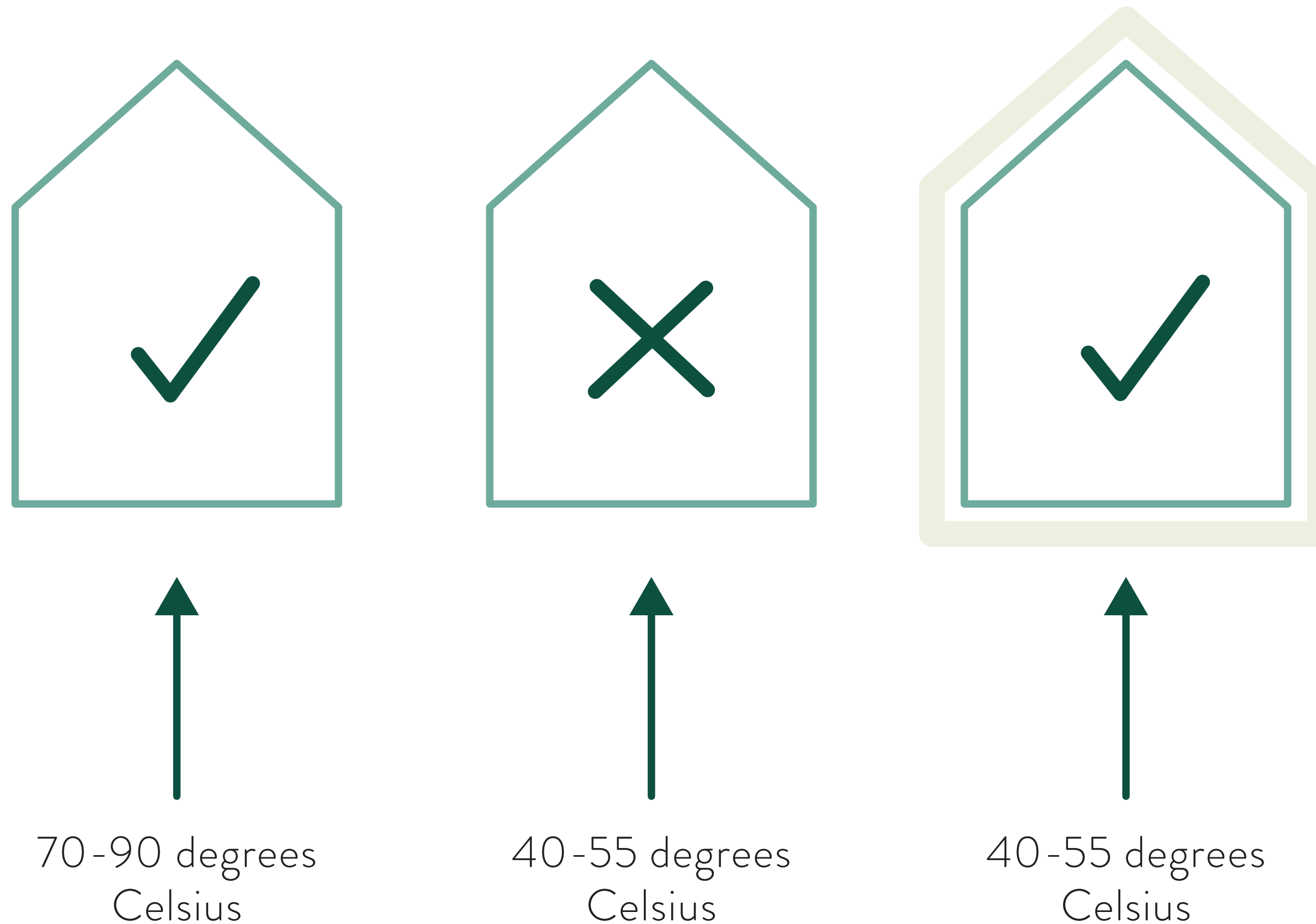
1. Conventional heat sources that supply high-temperature heat will be phased out in the future
2. Increasing efficiency of industrial processes
3. A reduction in waste streams available from waste incineration plants

(CE Delft, 2019, Ecofys and Greenvis, 2016, Interreg North-West Europe, 2018)

Research Framework

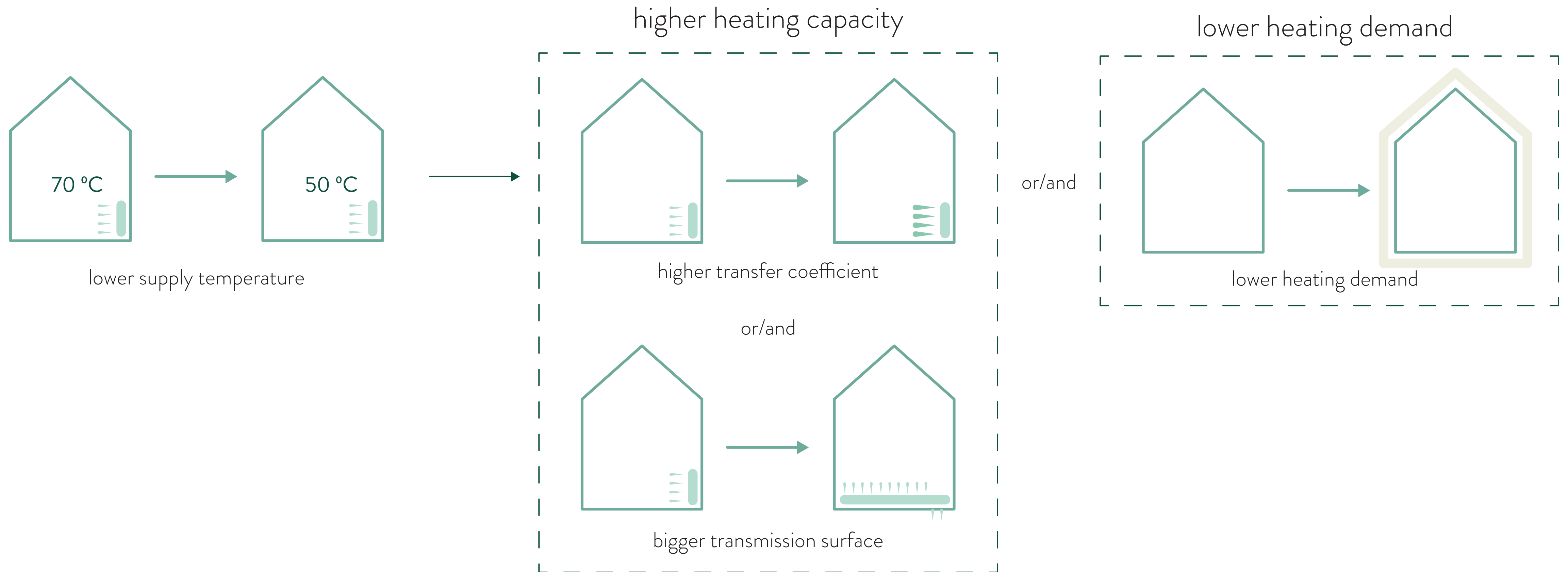
background

...A large part of the existing Dutch housing stock is **not ready** for the transition to **low-temperature** heating.



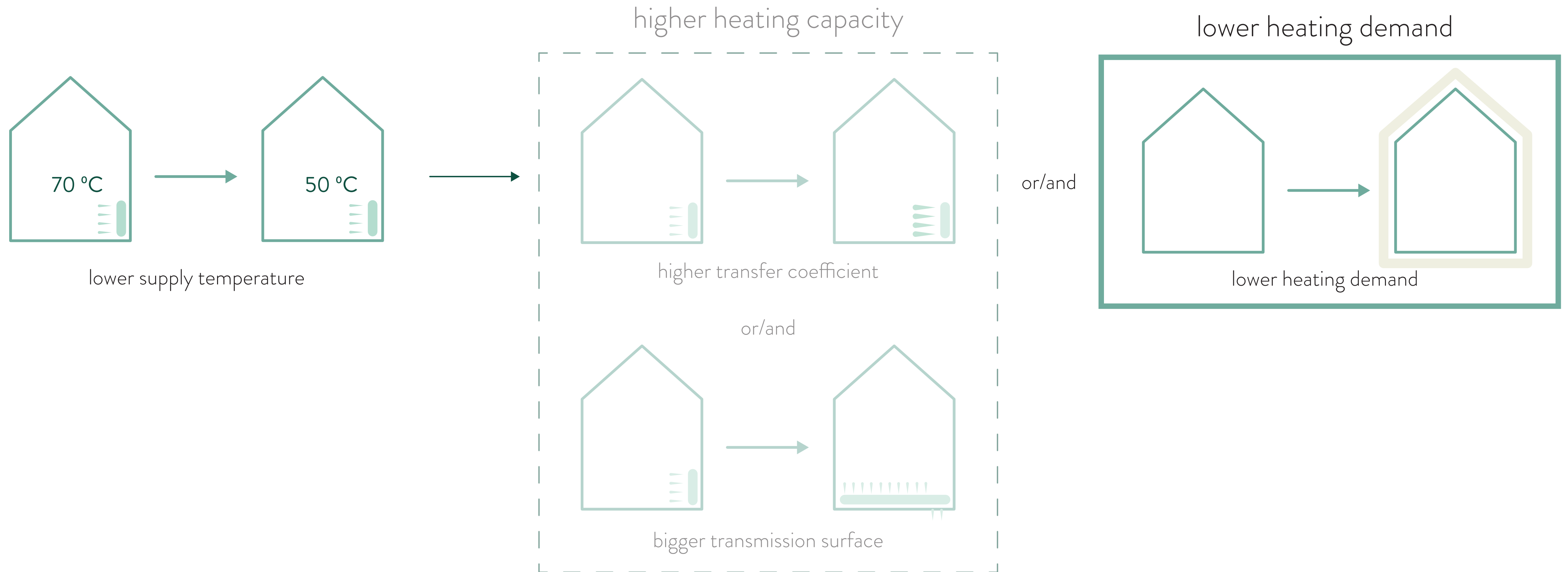
Research Framework

background



Research Framework

background





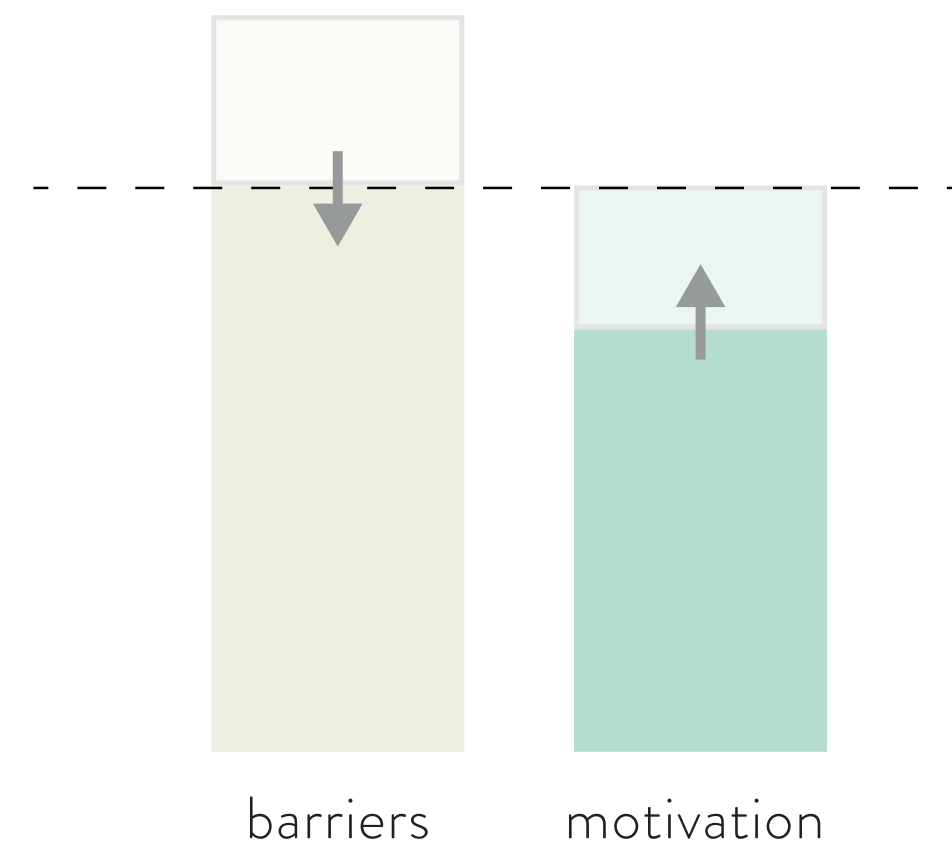
Research Framework

general problem statement

... The renovation rates of preparing housing for the integration of low-temperature heating are too low, which restricts the progress of the energy transition.

Research Framework

problem statement



... An improvement of the **thermal comfort** and indoor climate is one of the **top motivators** of homeowners to perform **renovation** measures (Bjørneboe et al., 2018).

... However, **research** is lacking on the use of energy renovation to **optimise thermal comfort**.



Research Framework

specific problem statement

... Switching the **selling point** of energy renovation to the improvement of **thermal comfort** could potentially increase **renovation rates**, but research on **optimising thermal comfort** in this field is lacking.



Research Framework

research question

... Which minimal renovation strategies are needed to prepare different single-family housing typologies for the integration of low-temperature heating and optimize the thermal comfort of the residence?



Research Framework

sub-questions

... Which sensitive parameters for renovation can be recognized in the single-family housing stock?

... Which renovation measures can be applied to prepare a building for low-temperature heating?

... How can the thermal comfort of a house be optimized through the implementation of renovation measures?

Methodology

research framework

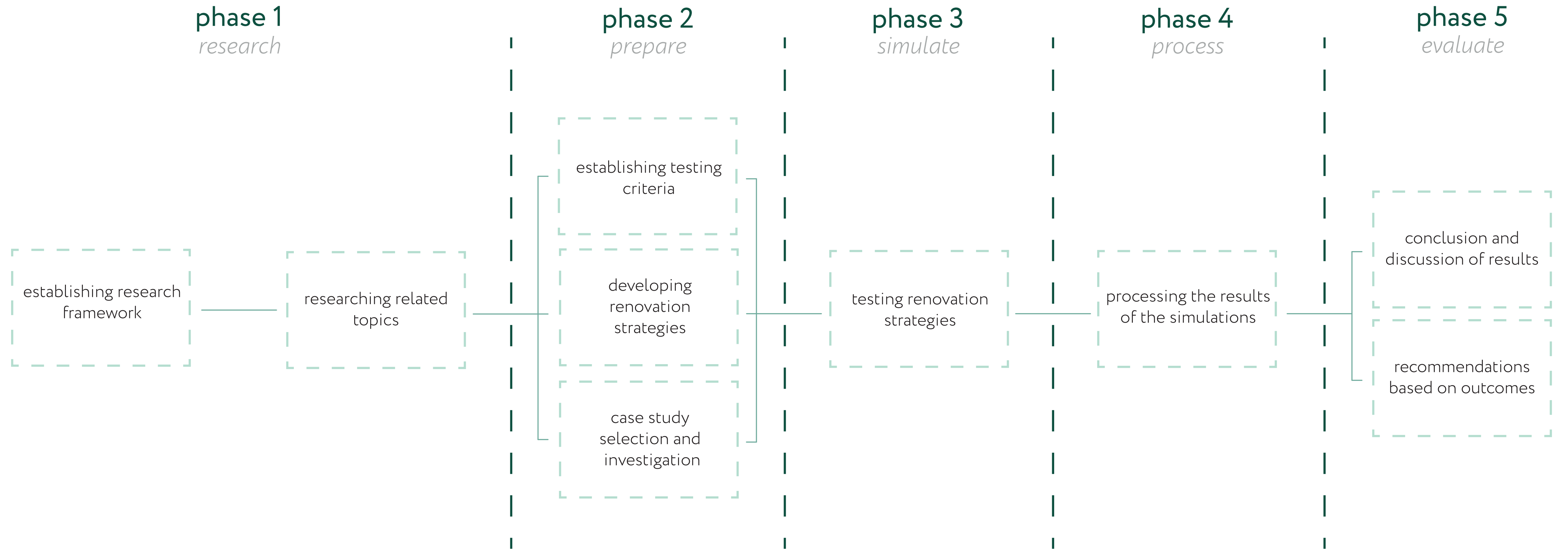
methodology

research

conclusions

Methodology

flowchart



Research

research framework

methodology

research

conclusions

Research

boundary conditions: housing typologies

single-family housing types*

terraced housing



semi-detached housing



freestanding housing



till 1964



1965 - 1974



1975 - 1991



1992 - 2006



construction periods*

*based on Agentschap NL, 2011

all images are derived from Funda, 2022

Research

boundary conditions: housing typologies

single-family housing types*

terraced housing



semi-detached housing



freestanding housing



till 1964



1965 - 1974



1975 - 1991



1992 - 2006



construction periods*

*based on Agentschap NL, 2011

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Research

boundary conditions: housing typologies

single-family housing types*

terraced housing



semi-detached housing



freestanding housing



till 1964



1965 - 1974



1975 - 1991



1992 - 2006



construction periods*

split in two sections
1975 - 1987
1988 - 1991

not considered within research

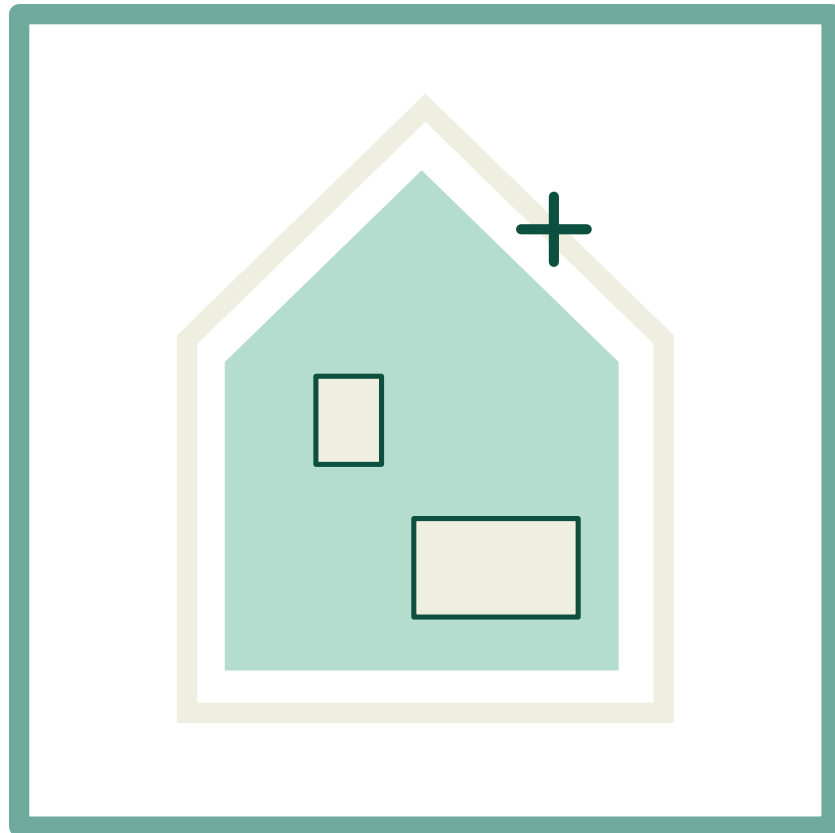
*based on Agentschap NL, 2011

all images are derived from Funda, 2022

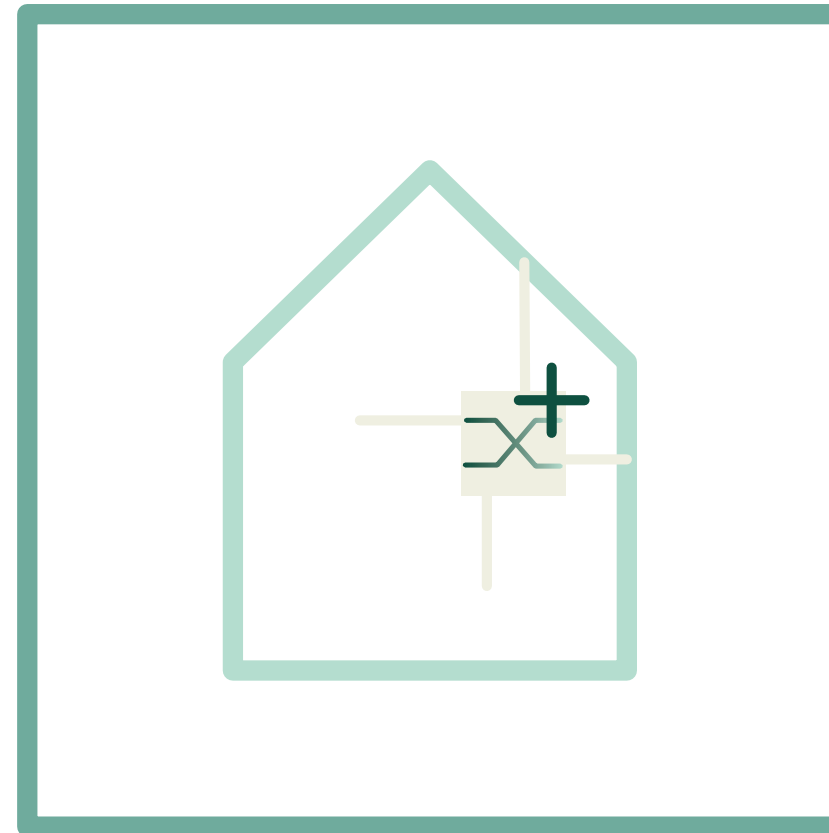
Research

boundary conditions: renovation measures

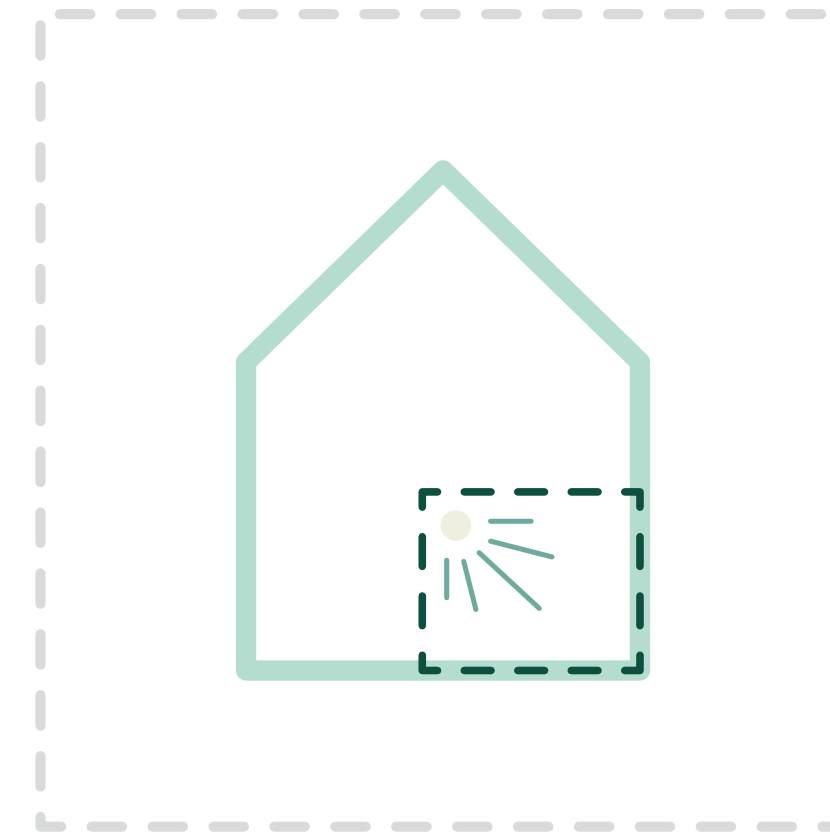
building scale



installation scale



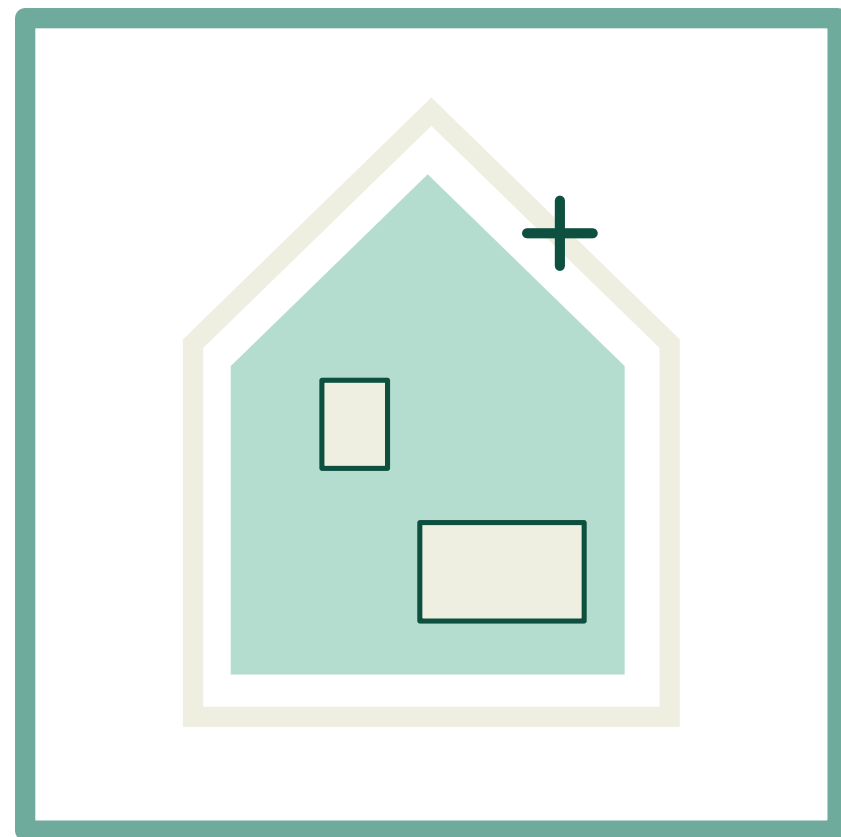
room-scale



Research

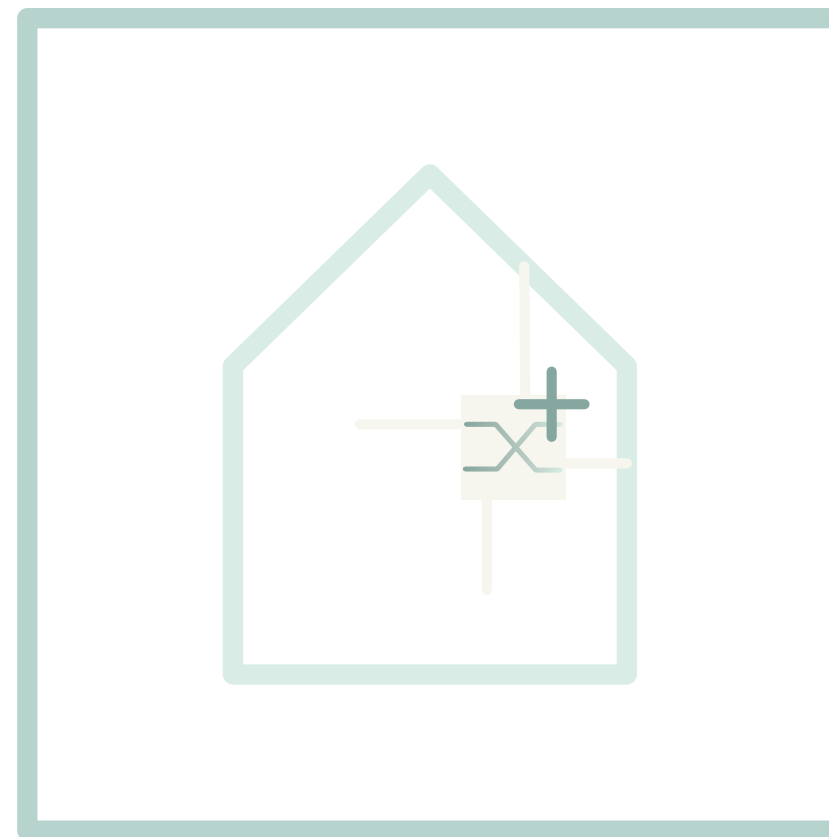
boundary conditions: renovation measures

building scale

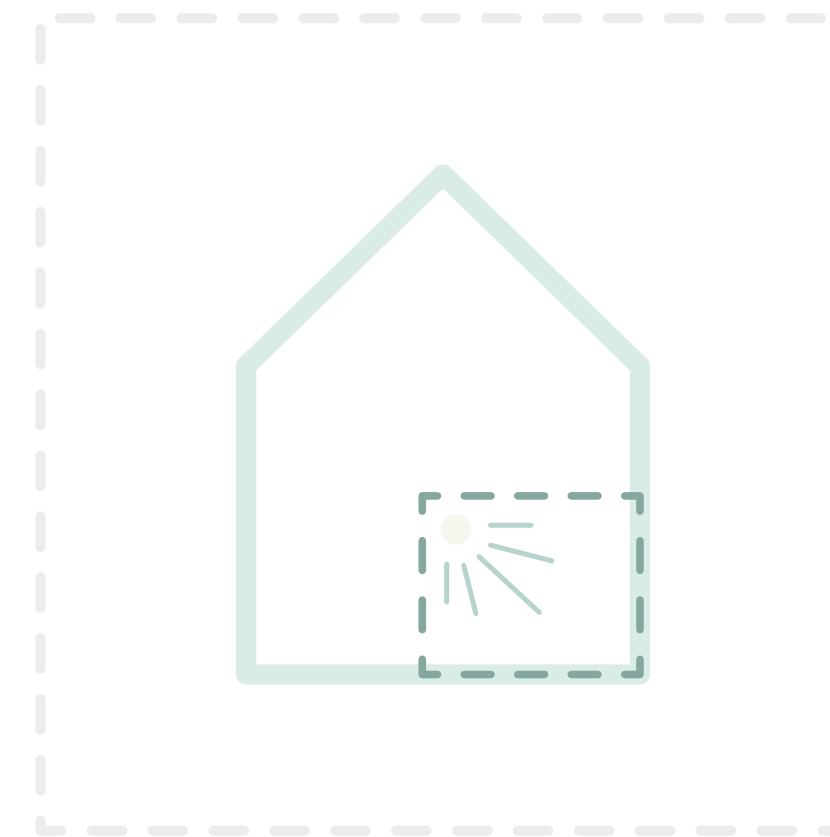


- wall insulation
- floor insulation
- roof insulation
- glazing type

installation scale



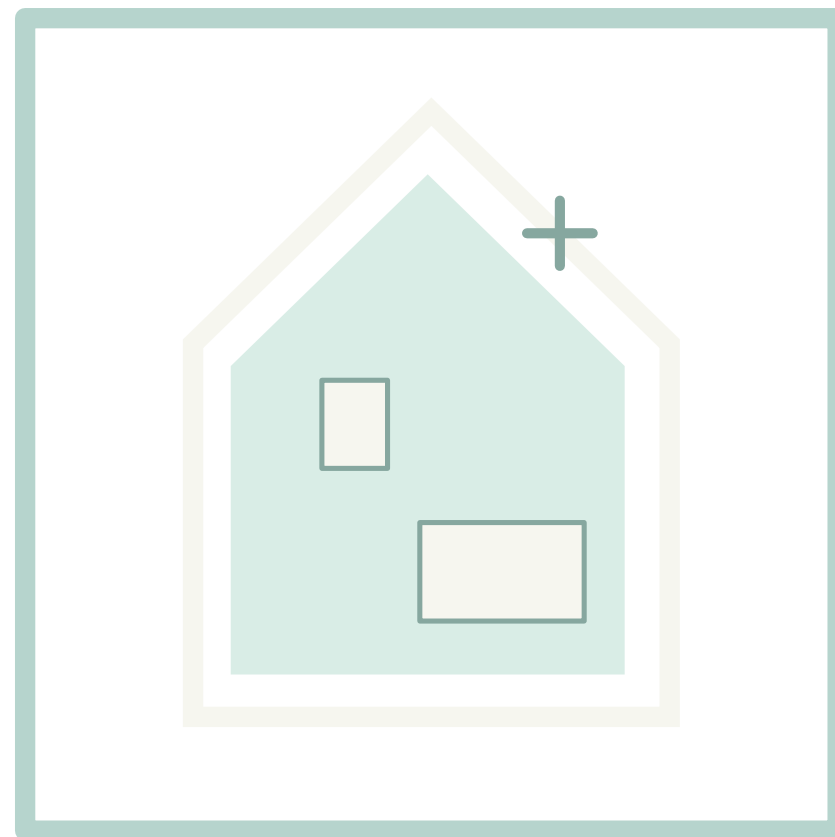
room-scale



Research

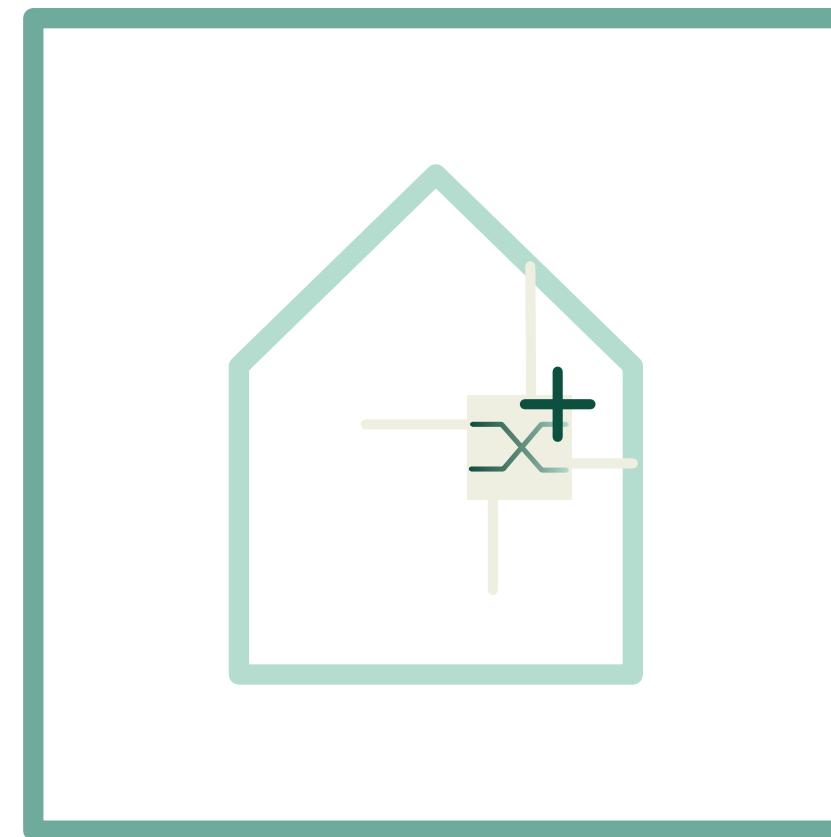
boundary conditions: renovation measures

building scale



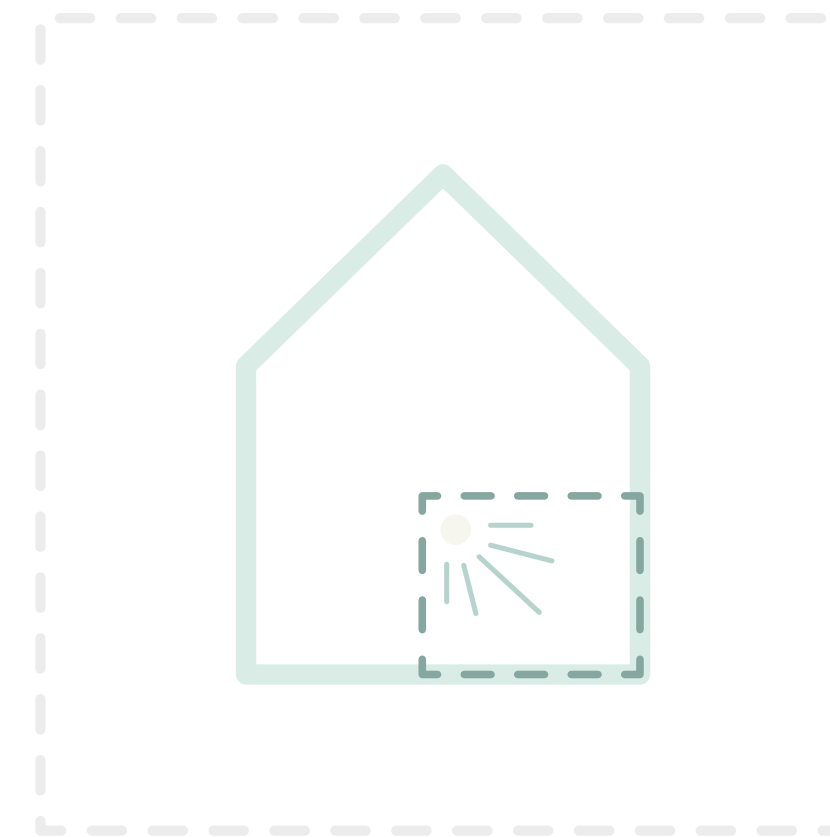
- wall insulation
- floor insulation
- roof insulation
- glazing type

installation scale



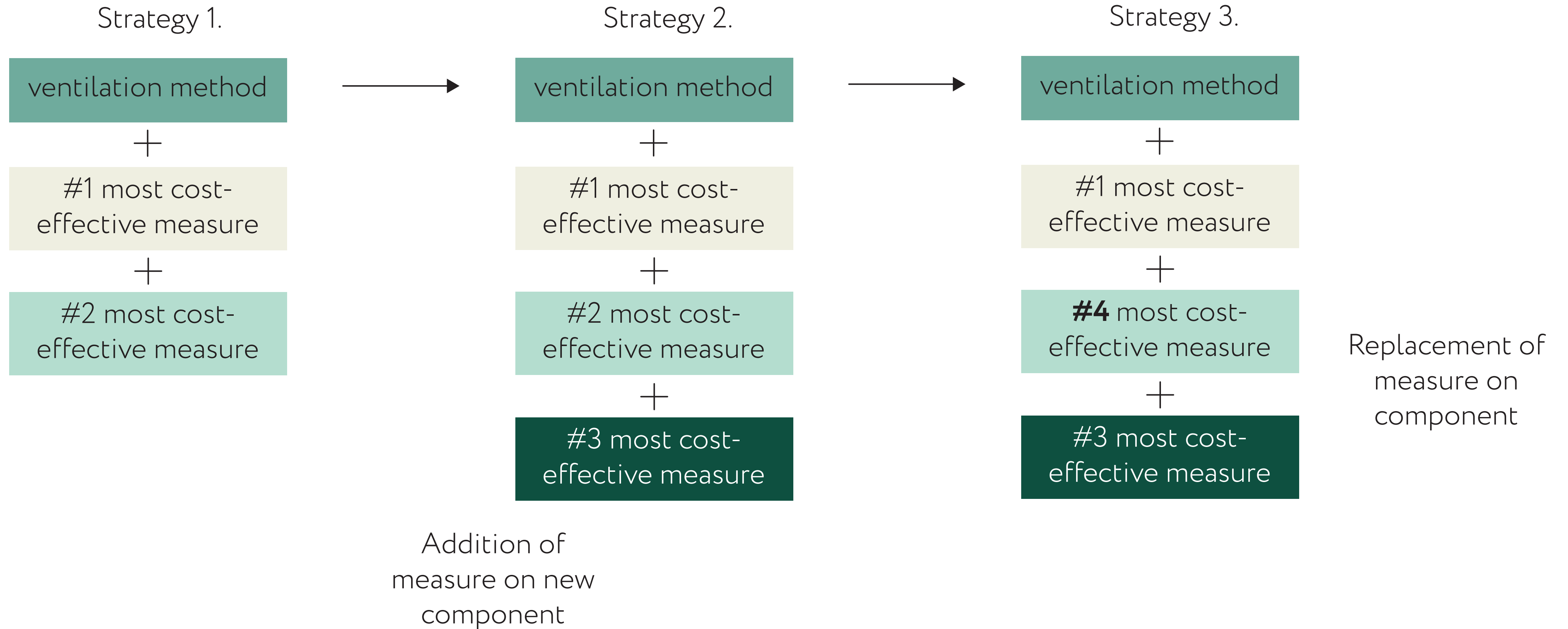
- ventilation system

room-scale



Research

boundary conditions: renovation strategies



Research

case study



facade of the case study
LTRReady project

building type: terraced dwelling

constructed year: 1979

location: Utrecht, the Netherlands

Research

testing criteria

1. low-temperature ready

heating demand

air temperature

2. optimize thermal comfort

MRT

draught rate

radiant asymmetry

Research

testing criteria

1. low-temperature ready

heating demand

air temperature

2. optimize thermal comfort

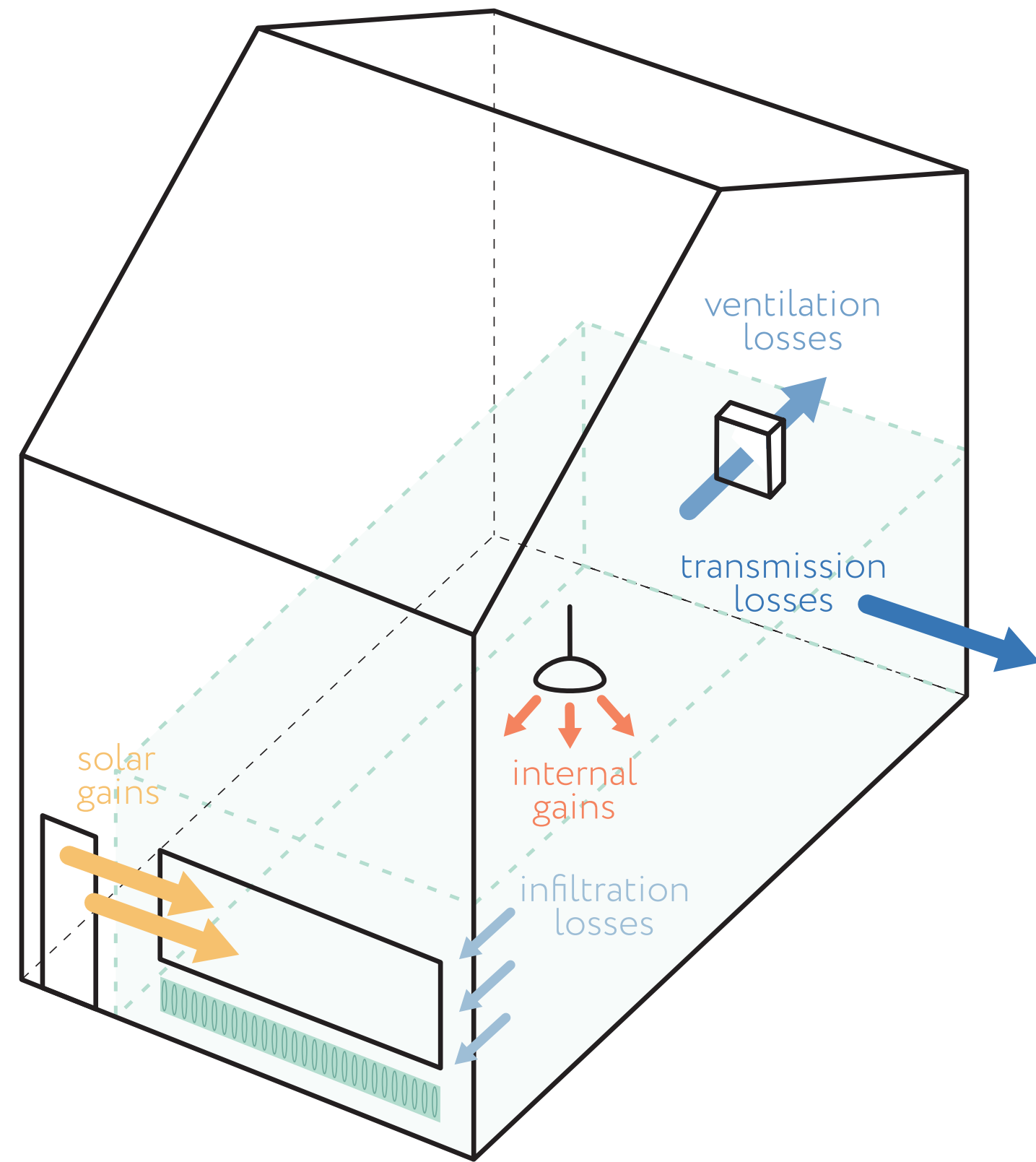
MRT

draught rate

radiant asymmetry

Research

testing criteria

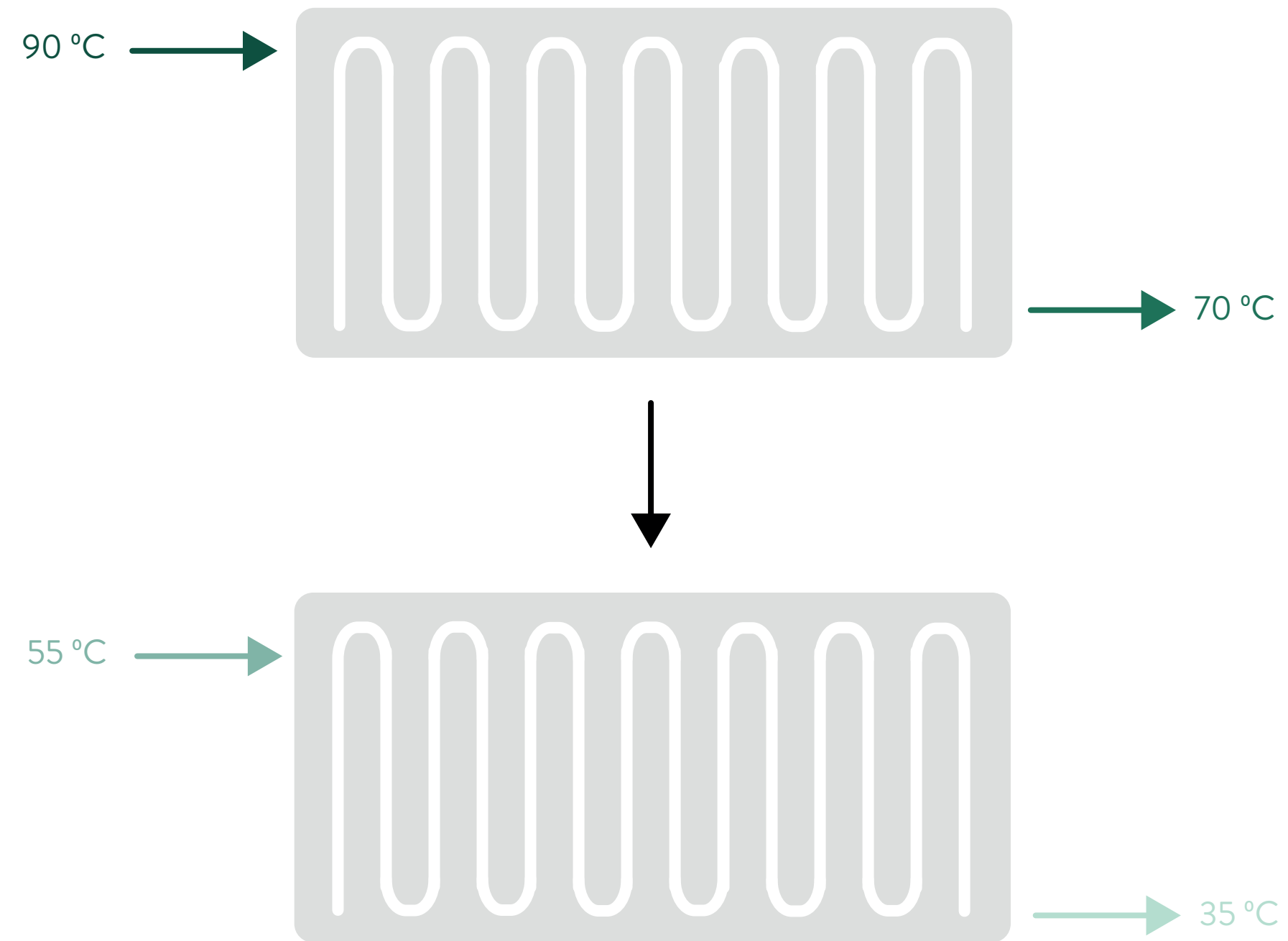


$$\dot{Q}_{demand} = \dot{Q}_{trans} + \dot{Q}_{vent} + \dot{Q}_{inf} + \dot{Q}_{int} + \dot{Q}_{sun}$$

$$\dot{Q}_{demand} \leq \dot{Q}_{output}$$

Research

testing criteria



± 70% lower capacity
with low-temperature
heating

$$\dot{Q}_{demand} \leq \dot{Q}_{output}$$

Research

testing criteria

low-temperature
ready, when:

heating demand

- capacity of the heating system is able to cover 125% of the heating demand during the winter design week

AND

air temperature

- during the winter design week, the underreporting cannot be bigger than 1 °C for more than 10% of the time

Research

outcomes

Pre 1964

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
no change in ventilation system	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
HR++ glazing	
6	
7	
8	
triple glazing	
9	
10	
ventilation system C3	
11	
12	
13	
roof insulation +10 cm	
14	
15	
16	
HR++ glazing	
17	
18	
19	
20	
ventilation system D2	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
HR++ glazing	
27	
28	
29	
30	

1965 - 1974

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
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9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
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16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

1975 - 1987

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
1	
2	
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reference: case study, 1979

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
1	
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9	
10	
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27	
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29	
30	

not low-temperature ready
 according to heating demand calculation low-temperature ready
 according to heating demand calculation AND air temperature measurements low-temperature ready

Research

outcomes

reference: case study, terraced

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
no change in ventilation system	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
HR++ glazing →	
6	
7	
8	
triple glazing →	
9	
10	
ventilation system C3	
11	
12	
roof insulation +10 cm →	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
ventilation system D2	
21	
22	
roof insulation +10 cm →	
23	
24	
25	
HR++ glazing →	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

semi-detached housing

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
1	
2	
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9	
10	
11	
12	
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freestanding housing

Strategy	Low Temperature Ready
basis	N.A.
basis low-temp	
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- not low-temperature ready
- according to heating demand calculation low-temperature ready
- according to heating demand calculation AND air temperature measurements low-temperature ready

Research

outcomes

... Only case study dwelling can be made low-temperature ready, due to relative oversizing of the heating capacity

Typology	pre 1964	1965 - 1974	1975 - 1987	reference: case study	semi-detached	freestanding
Relative oversizing of the heating system*	108%	125%	179%	255%	225%	194%

*the ratio between the heating capacity and the heating demand of a winter design week

Research

outcomes

... Only case study dwelling can be made low-temperature ready, due to relative oversizing of the heating capacity

.... High effectiveness* of insulation measures for early construction periods

Typology	pre 1964	1965 - 1974	1975 - 1987	reference: case study	semi-detached	freestanding
Effectiveness wall insulation (cavity)	-58%	-59%	-42%	-25%	-31%	-31%
Effectiveness roof insulation (10 cm)	-84%	-67%	-63%	-39%	-38%	-37%
Effectiveness floor insulation (10 cm below)	-82%	-82%	-69%	-33%	-35%	-32%

*Effectiveness of measure indicated by the reduction of heat loss through the specific component in %

Research

outcomes

... Only case study dwelling can be made low-temperature ready, due to relative oversizing of the heating capacity

.... High effectiveness of insulation measures for early construction periods

.... Differences in contribution of **heat losses of components per typology**

Typology	pre 1964	1965 - 1974	1975 - 1987	reference: case study	semi-detached	freestanding
Heat loss glazing	9%	10%	14%	11%	9%	8%
Heat loss wall	16%	17%	12%	15%	26%	38%
Heat loss ground floor	9%	10%	7%	3%	3%	3%
Heat loss roof	28%	17%	18%	10%	9%	8%
Heat loss infiltration	28%	39%	39%	38%	33%	28%
Heat loss ventilation	9%	12%	16%	22%	19%	16%

Research

testing criteria

1. low-temperature ready

heating demand

air temperature

2. optimize thermal comfort

MRT

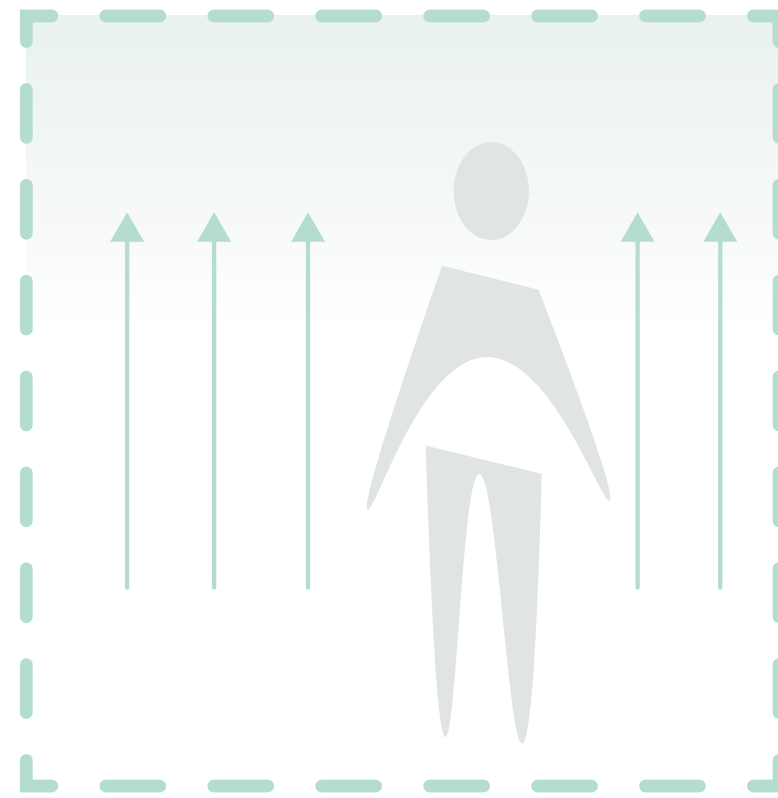
draught rate

radiant asymmetry

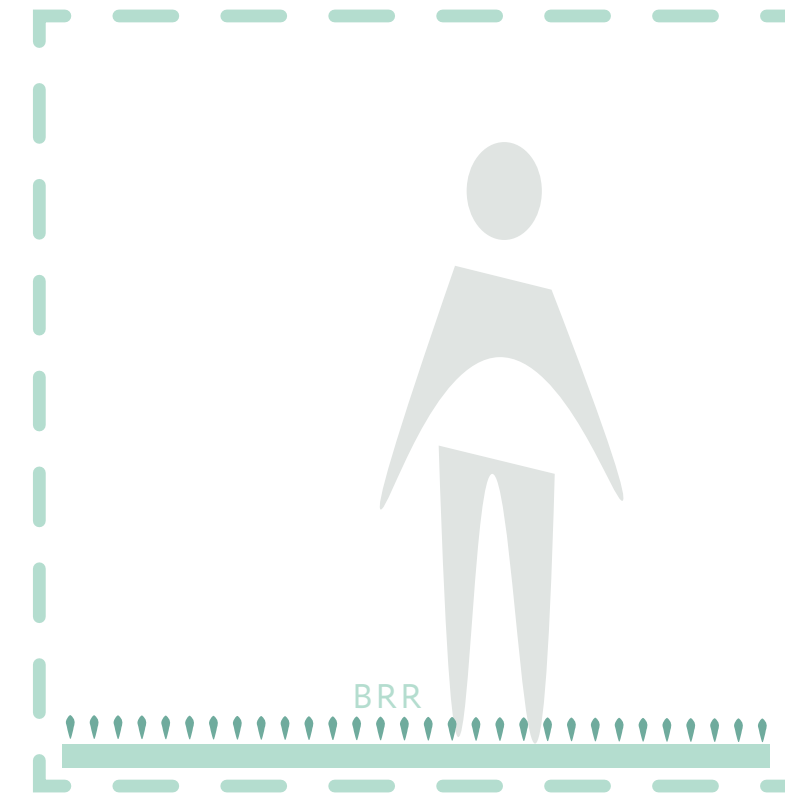
Research

testing criteria

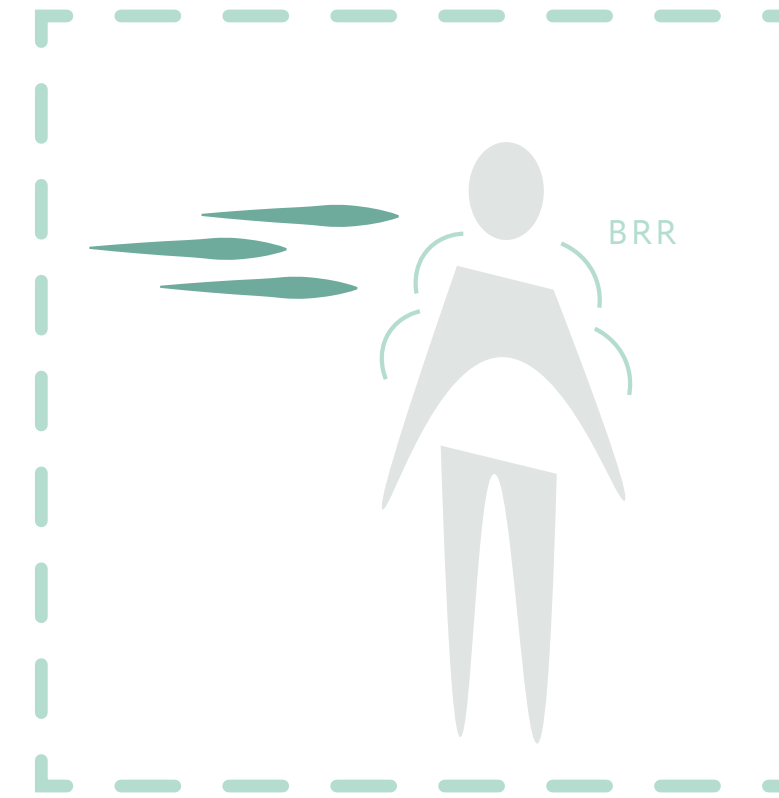
local thermal discomfort



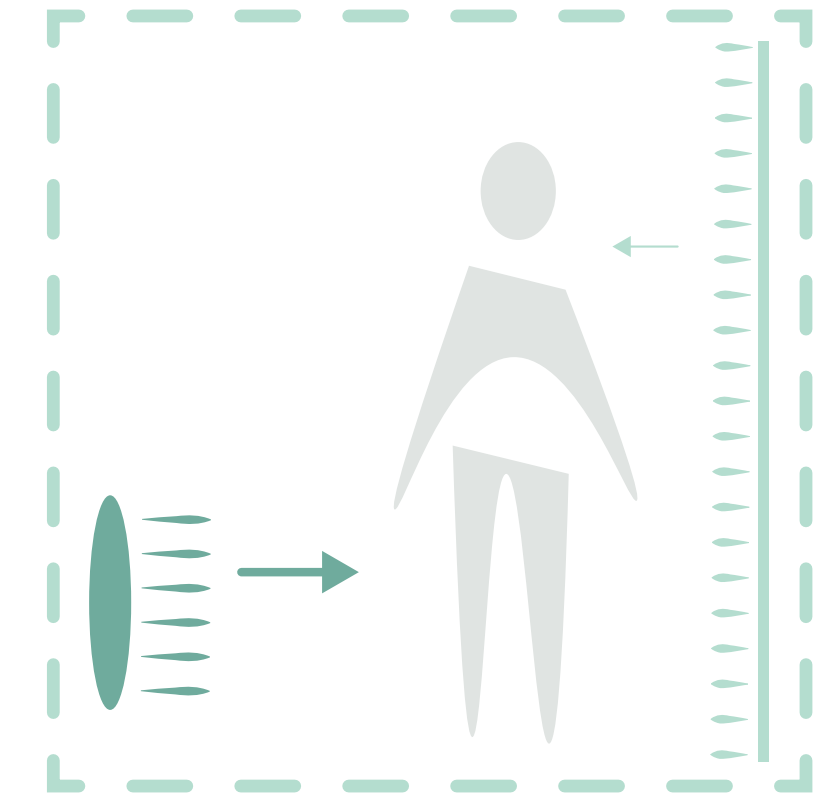
vertical temperature gradient



floor surface temperature



draught



radiant asymmetry

Research

testing criteria

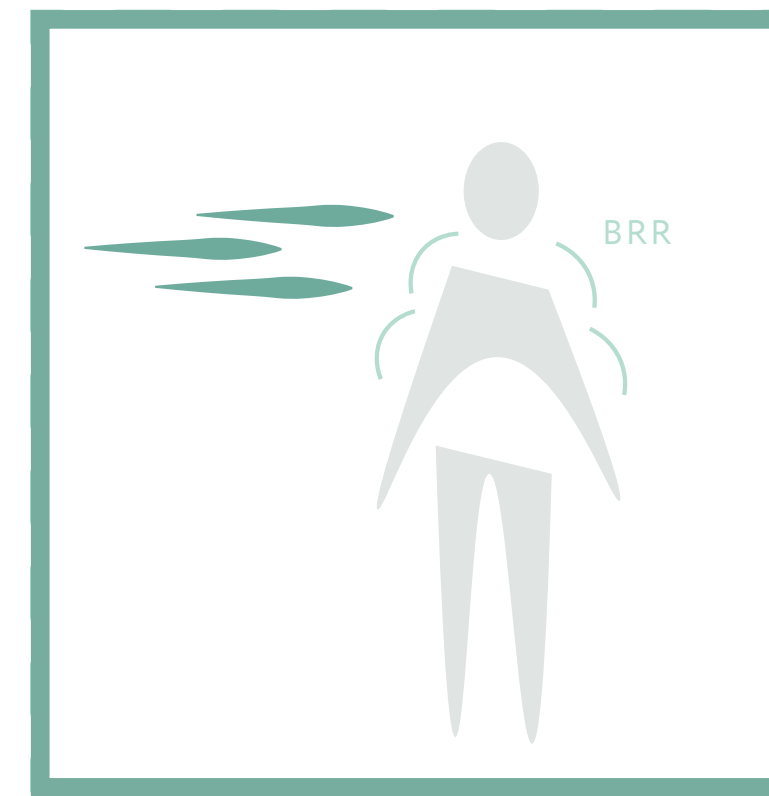
local thermal discomfort



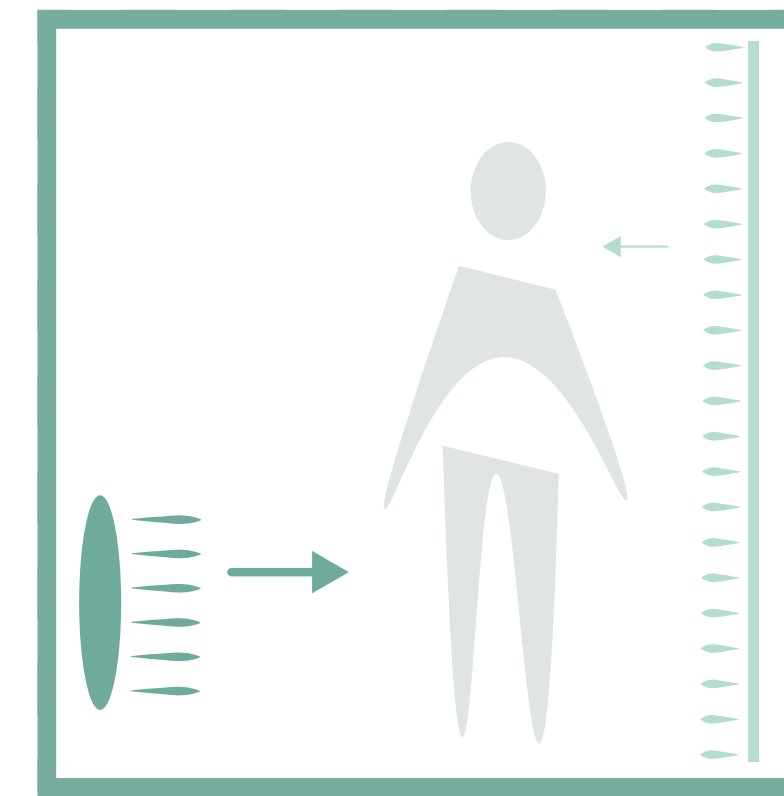
vertical temperature gradient



floor surface temperature



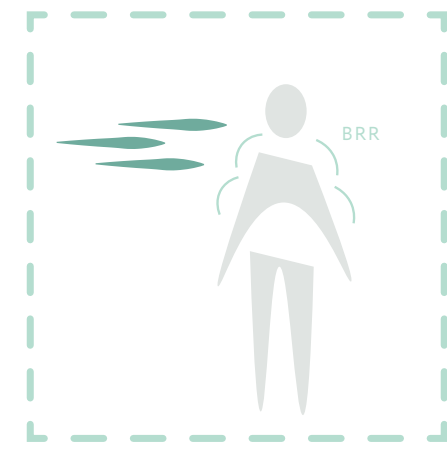
draught



radiant asymmetry

Research

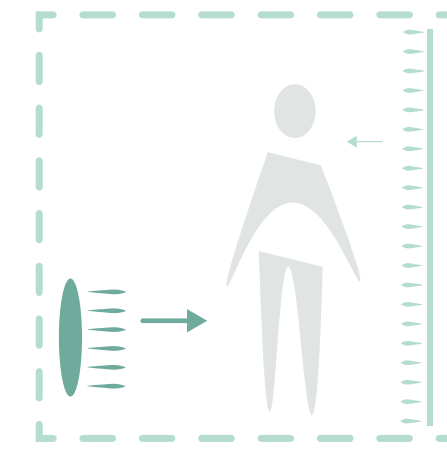
testing criteria



draught

High temp: 90/70

Low temp: 55/35



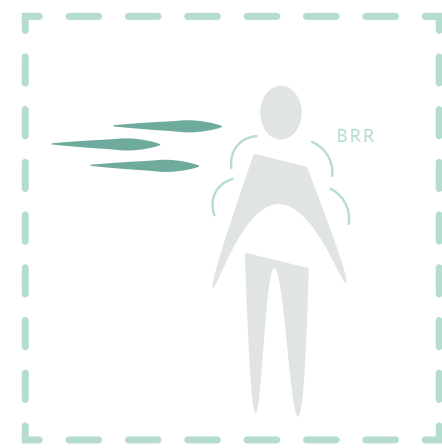
radiant asymmetry

High temp: 90/70

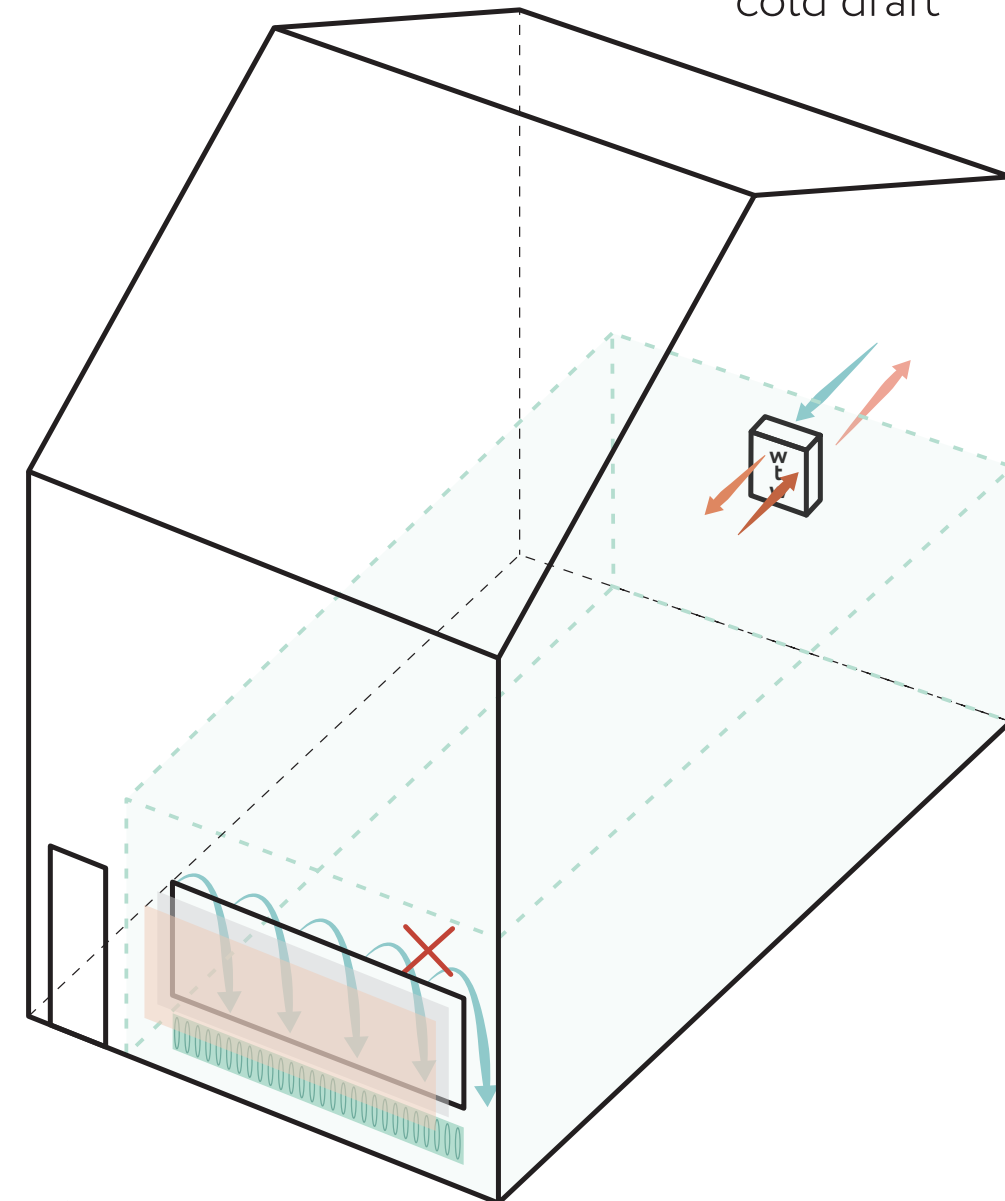
Low temp: 55/35

Research

testing criteria

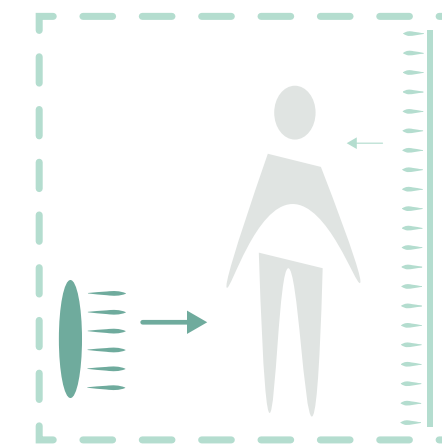


draught

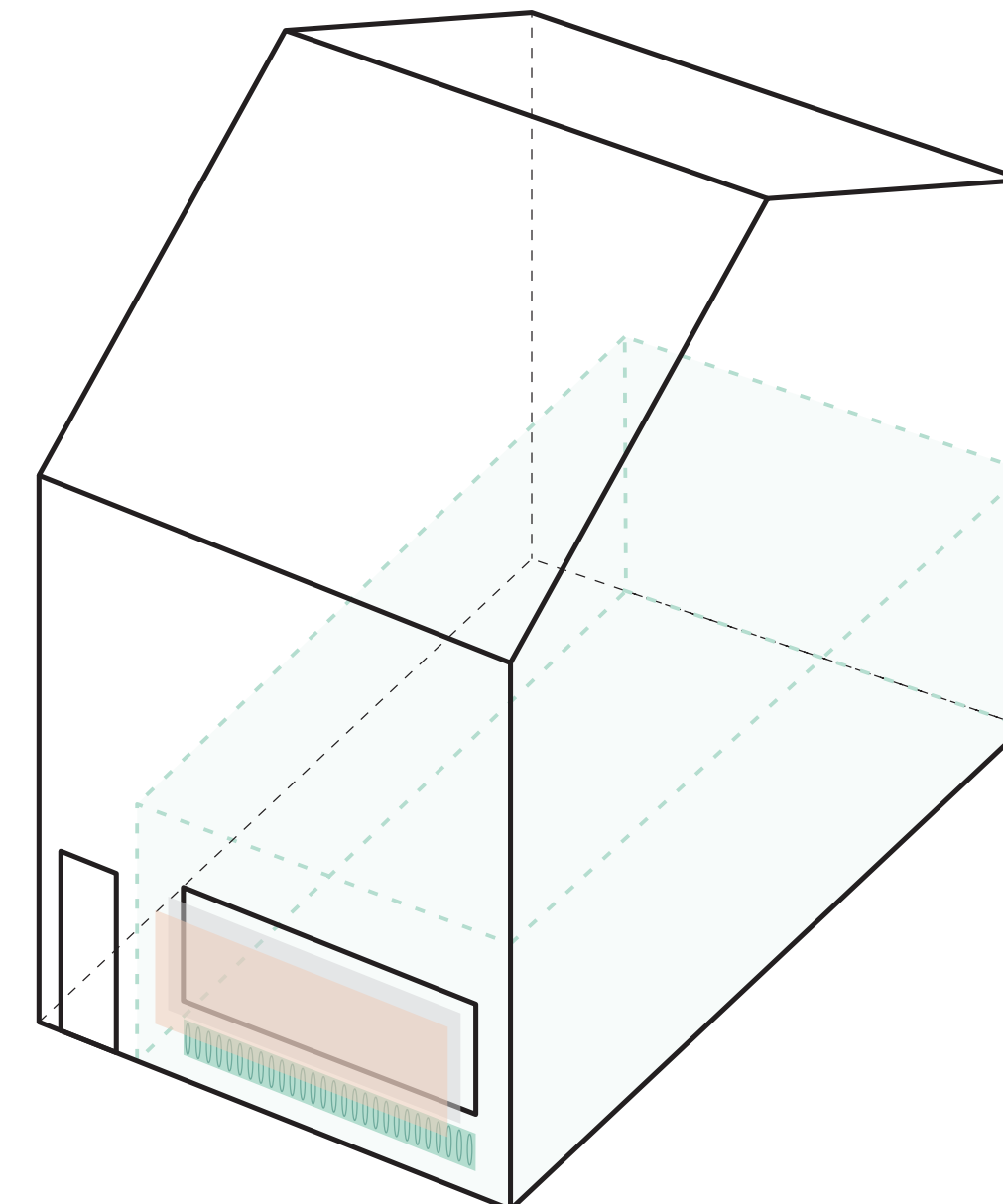


Window improvement:
positive effect
improved U-value leads
to less draught

Ventilation type D.2:
positive effect
air entering is pre-
heated, leading to less
cold draft



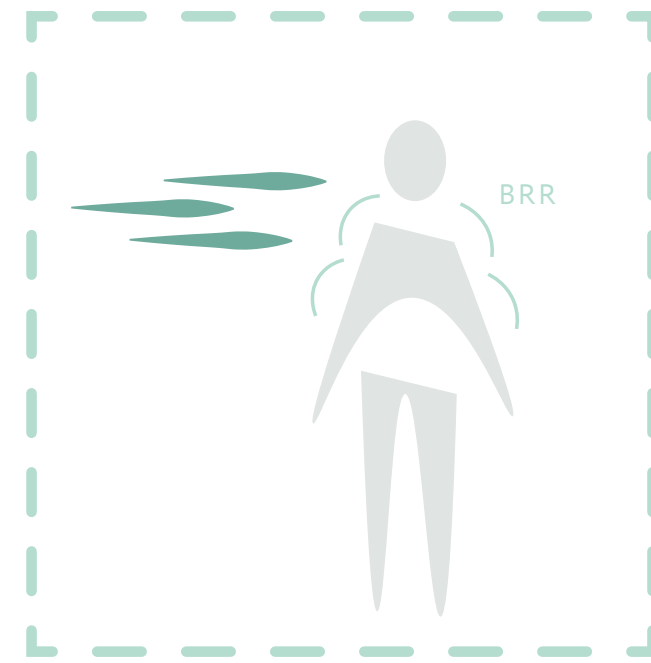
radiant
asymmetry



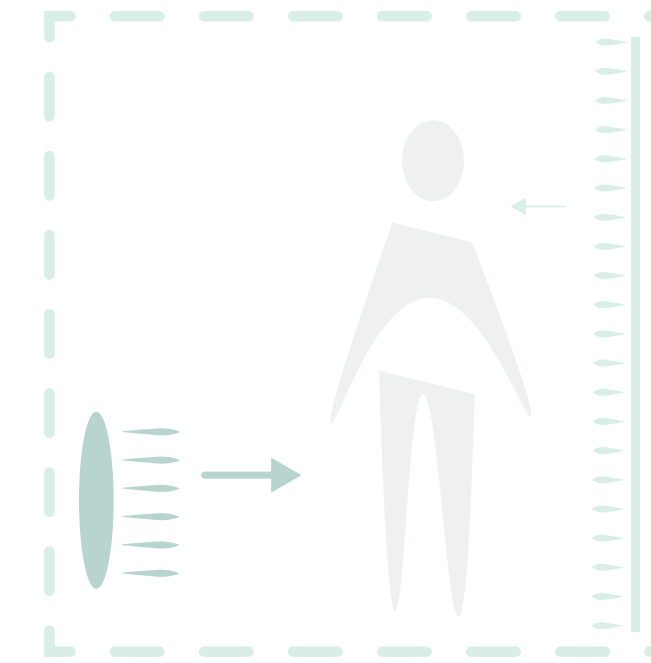
Window improvement:
positive effect
improved U-value leads
to less 'cold' radiation
from the window

Research

testing criteria



draught



radiant
asymmetry

$$DR = ([34 - t_a] \times [v - 0,05]^{0,62}) \times (0,37 \times v \times t_u + 3,14)$$

DR = predicted percentage of people dissatisfied due to draught in %

t_a = local air temperature in °C

v = local average airspeed in m/s

T_u = local turbulence intensity in %

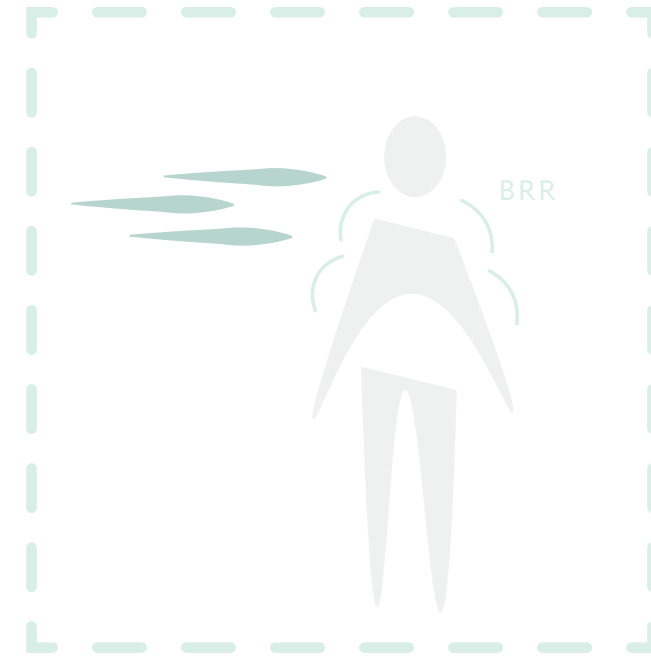
- DesignBuilder CFD

- DesignBuilder CFD

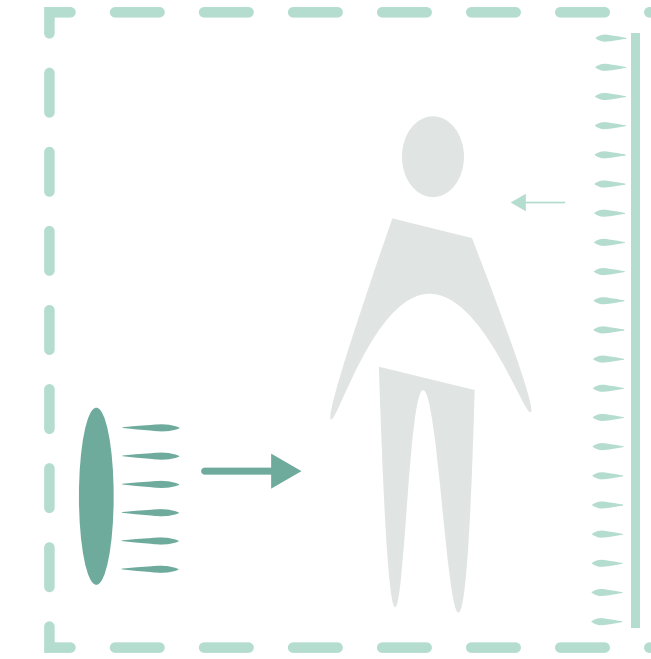
- estimation

Research

testing criteria



draught



radiant
asymmetry

MRT = mean radiant
temperature in °C

VF = viewfactor

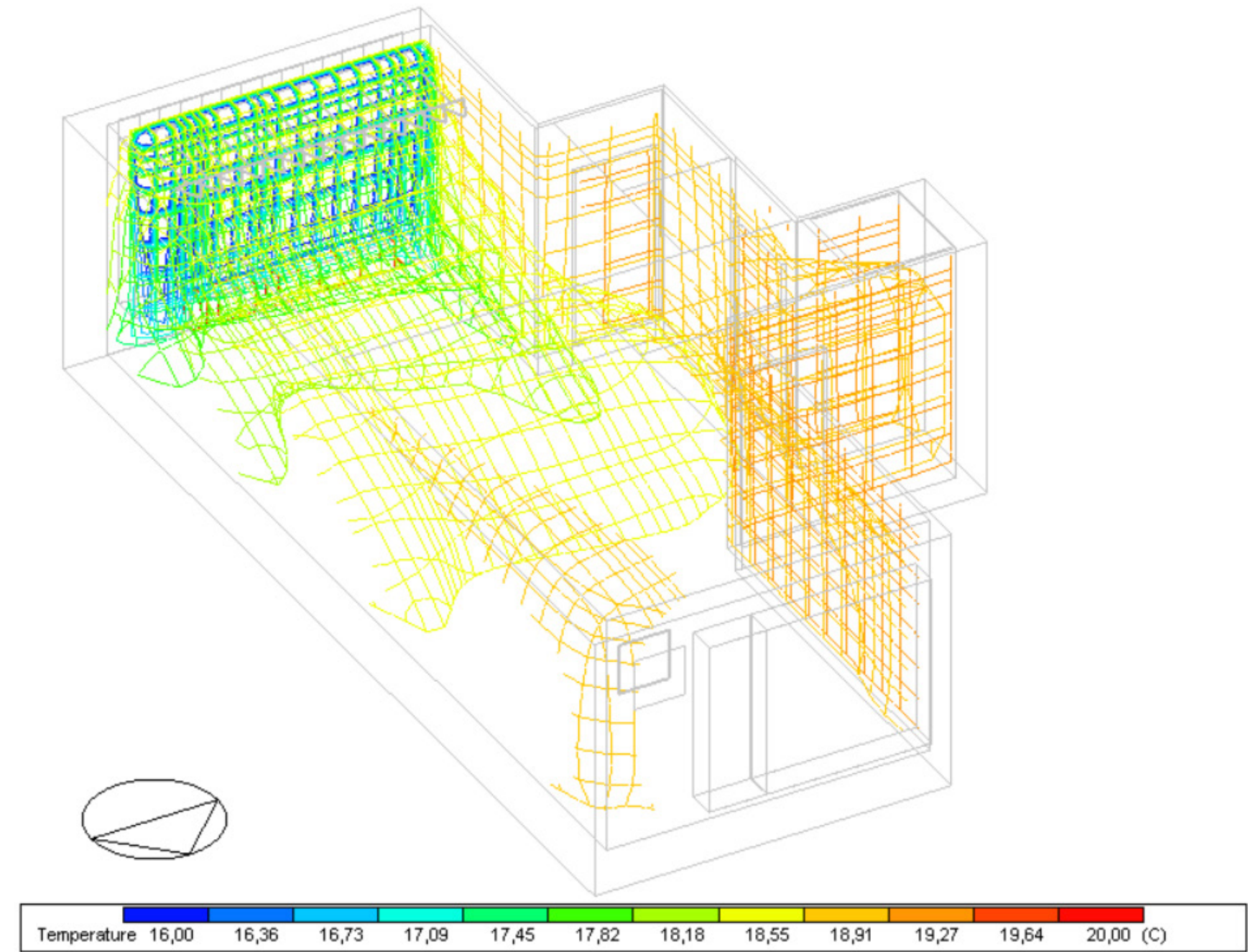
- DesignBuilder CFD,
Stralingsverloop

- Stralingsverloop

Research

testing criteria

sensitive parameter	type of boundary condition	options
glazing type	window surface temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- double glazing- HR glazing- HR++ glazing- triple glazing
insulation level	wall surface temperature air temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- existing level- medium level (strategy 2)- high level (strategy 6)
ventilation type	air temperature supply air	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ventilation type C1 and C3- ventilation type D2
radiator supply temperature	radiator surface temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 90 °C- 55 °C- 35 °C- 20 °C

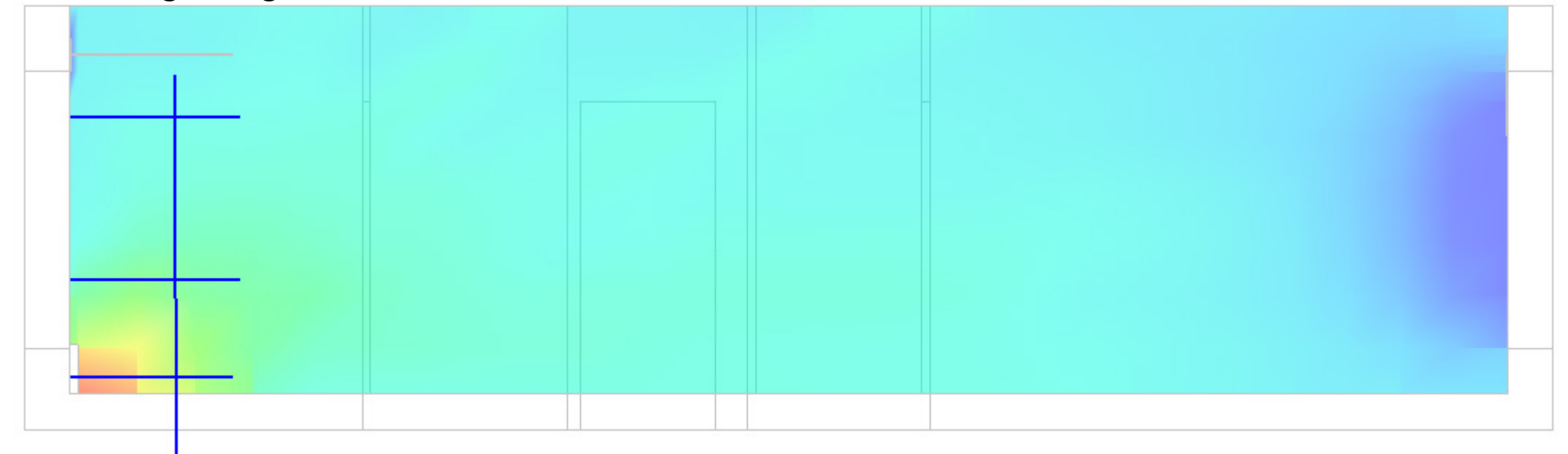


Research

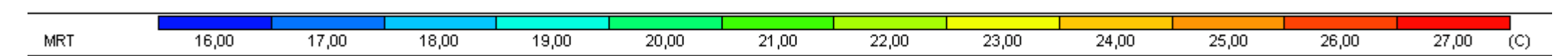
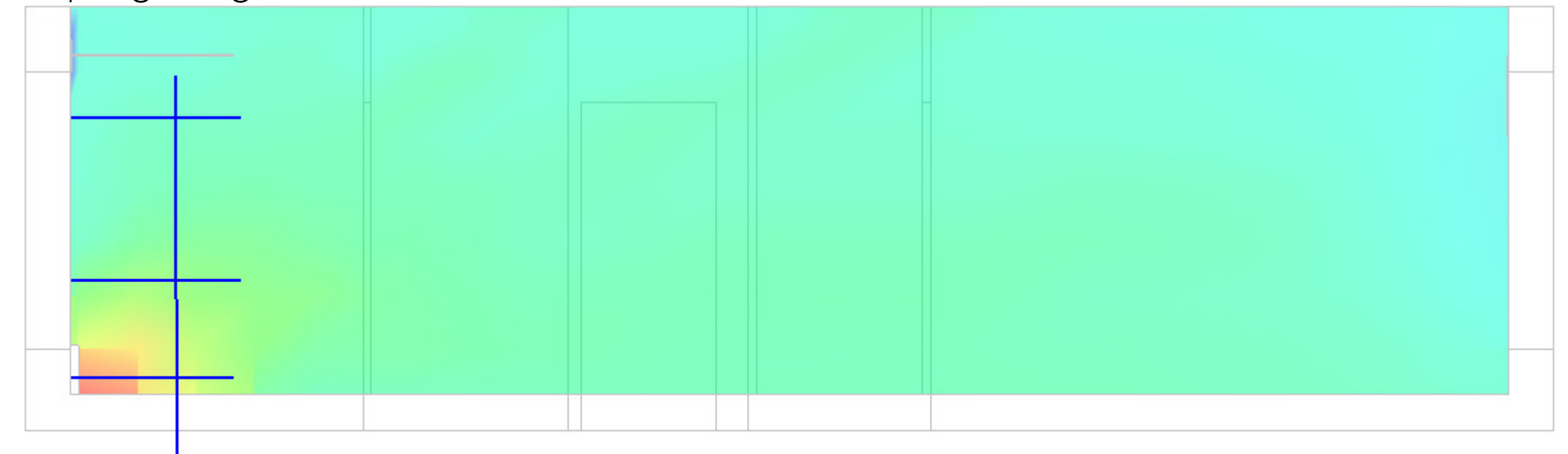
outcomes

sensitive parameter	type of boundary condition	options
glazing type	window surface temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- double glazing- HR glazing- HR++ glazing- triple glazing

double glazing



triple glazing



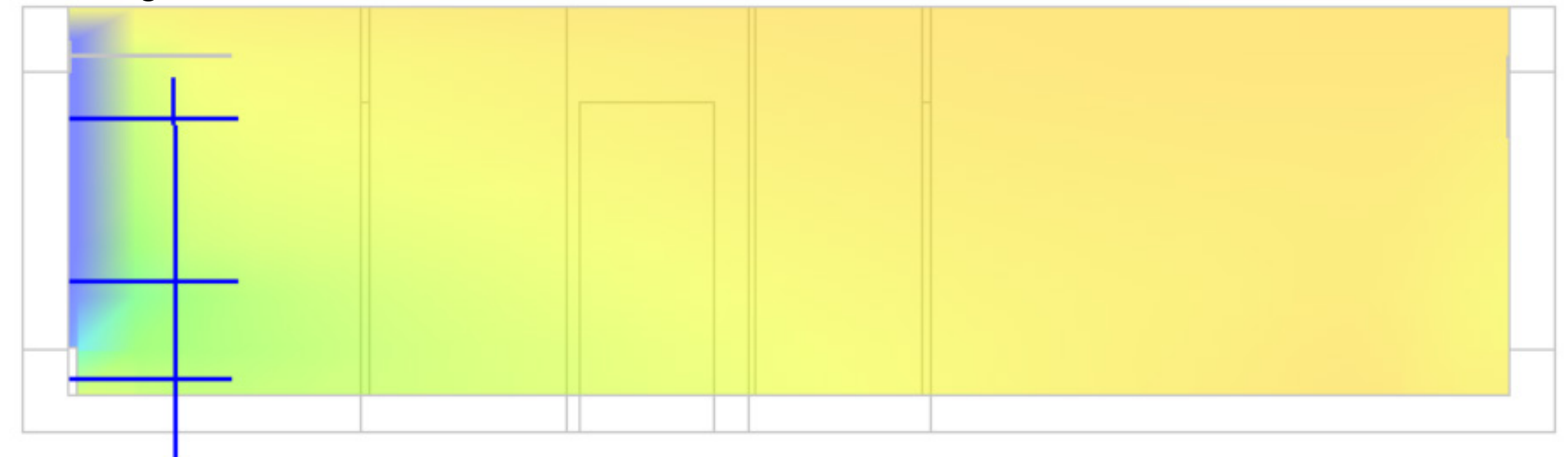
CFD analysis of different glazing types, extracted from DesignBuilder (other parameters are constant)

Research

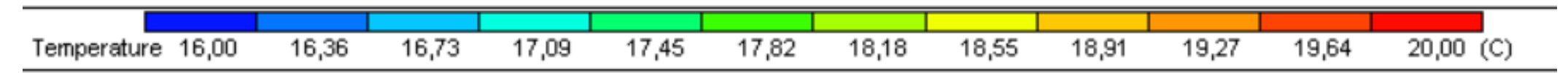
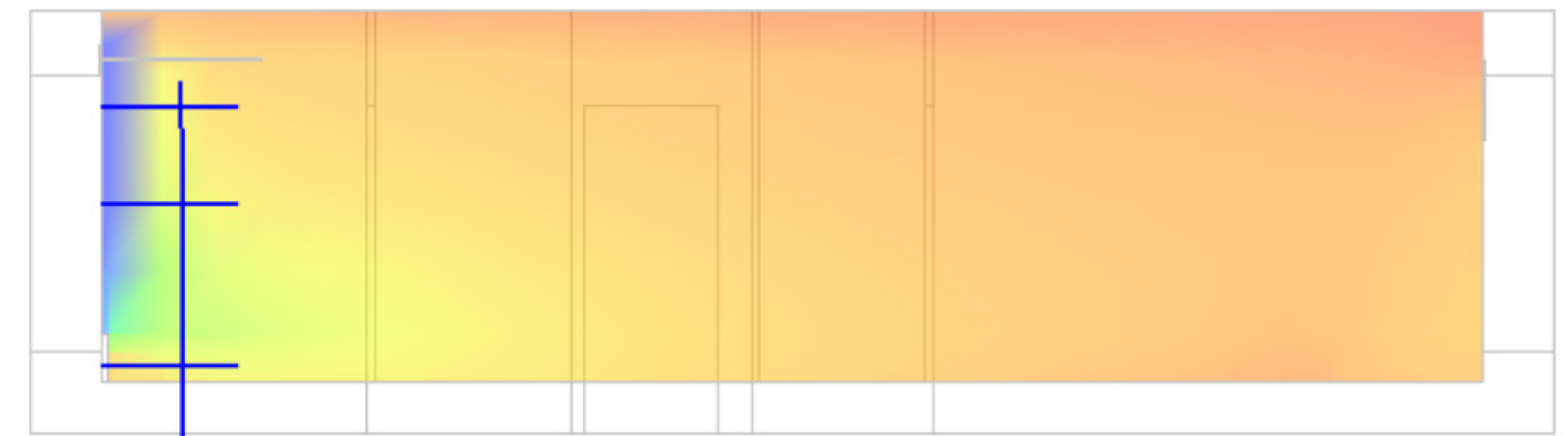
outcomes

sensitive parameter	type of boundary condition	options
insulation level	wall surface temperature air temperature	- existing level - medium level (strategy 2) - high level (strategy 6)

existing level



high level (strategy 6)



CFD analysis of different insulation values, extracted from DesignBuilder (other parameters are constant)

Research

outcomes

sensitive parameter

type of boundary condition

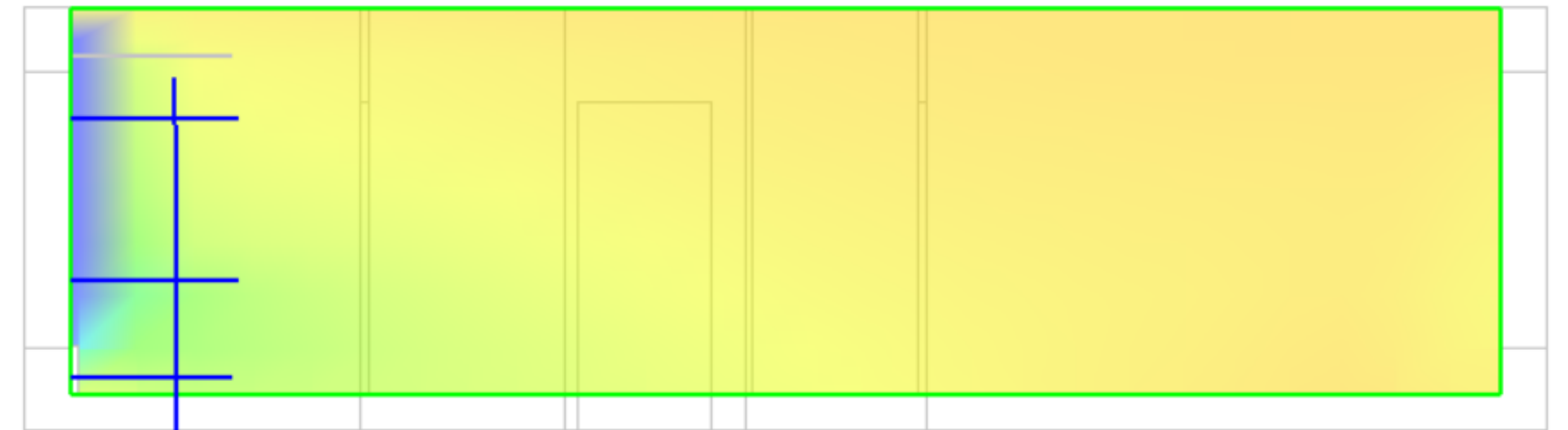
options

ventilation type

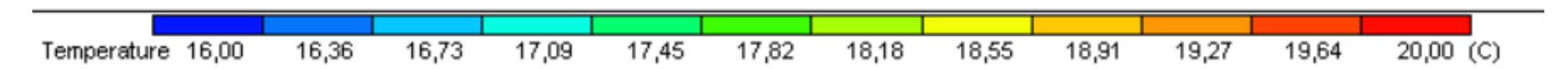
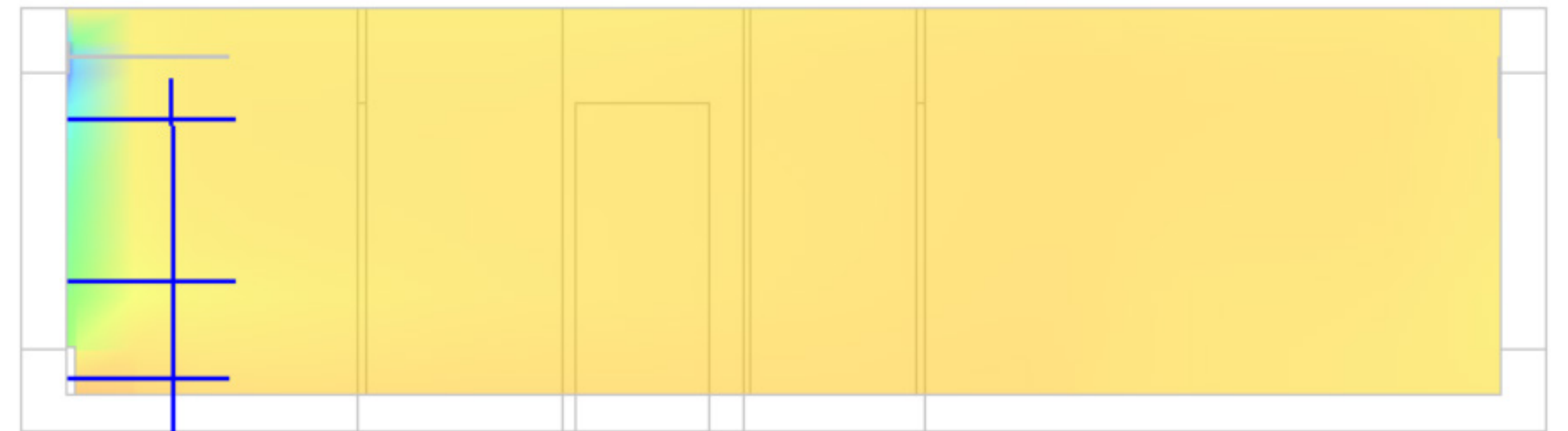
air temperature supply air

- ventilation type C1 and C3
- ventilation type D2

ventilation type C1 and C3



ventilation type D2



CFD analysis of different ventilation types, extracted from DesignBuilder (other parameters are constant)

Research

outcomes

sensitive parameter

type of boundary condition

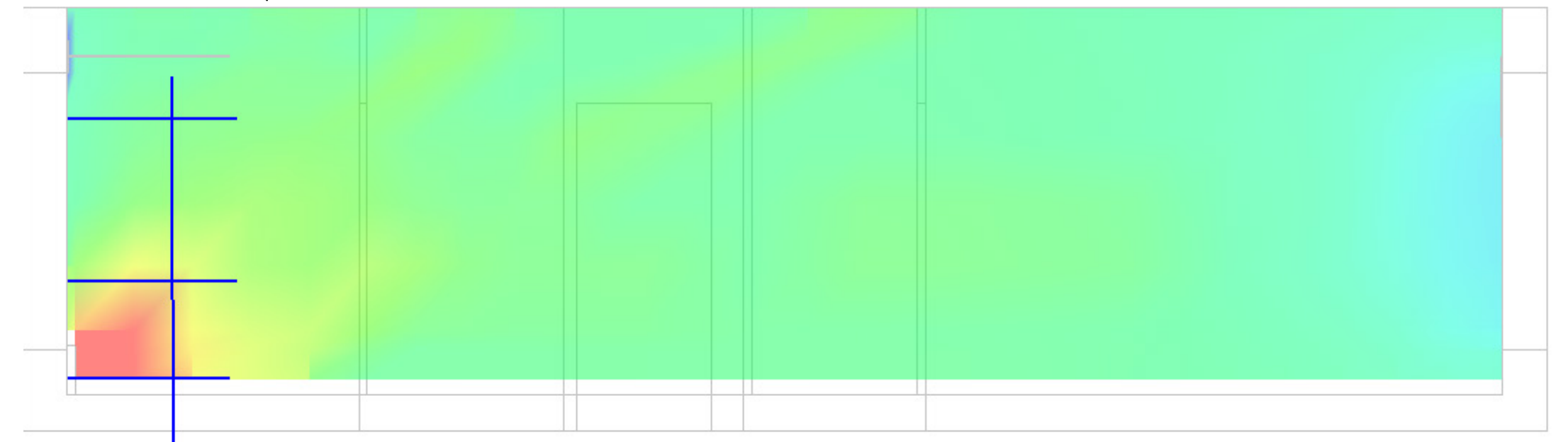
options

radiator supply
temperature

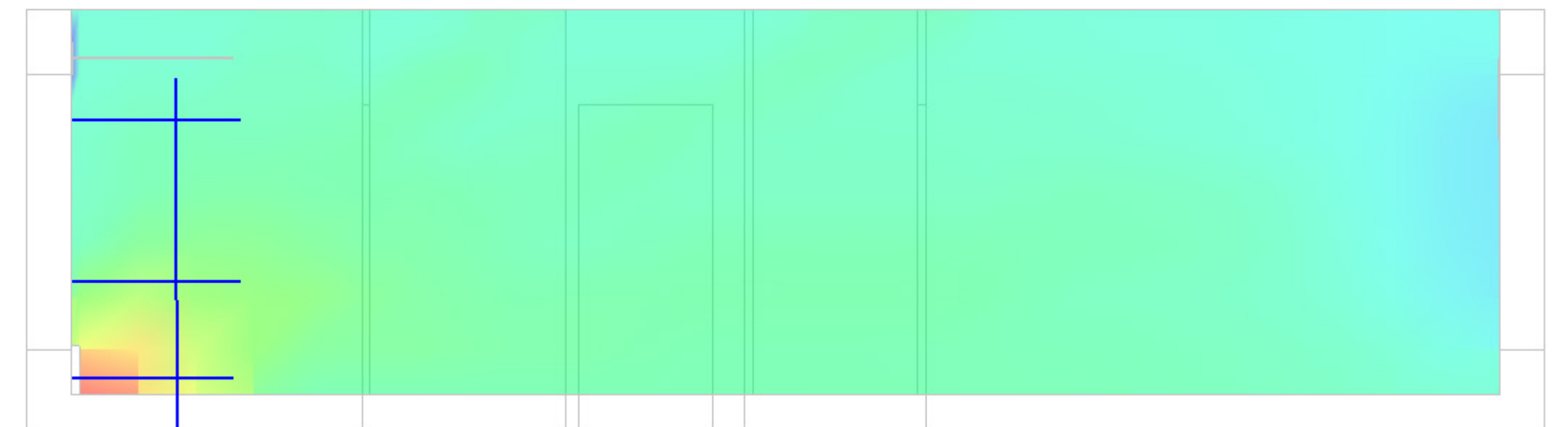
radiator surface temperature

- 90 °C
- 55 °C
- 35 °C
- 20 °C

radiator temperature at 90 °C



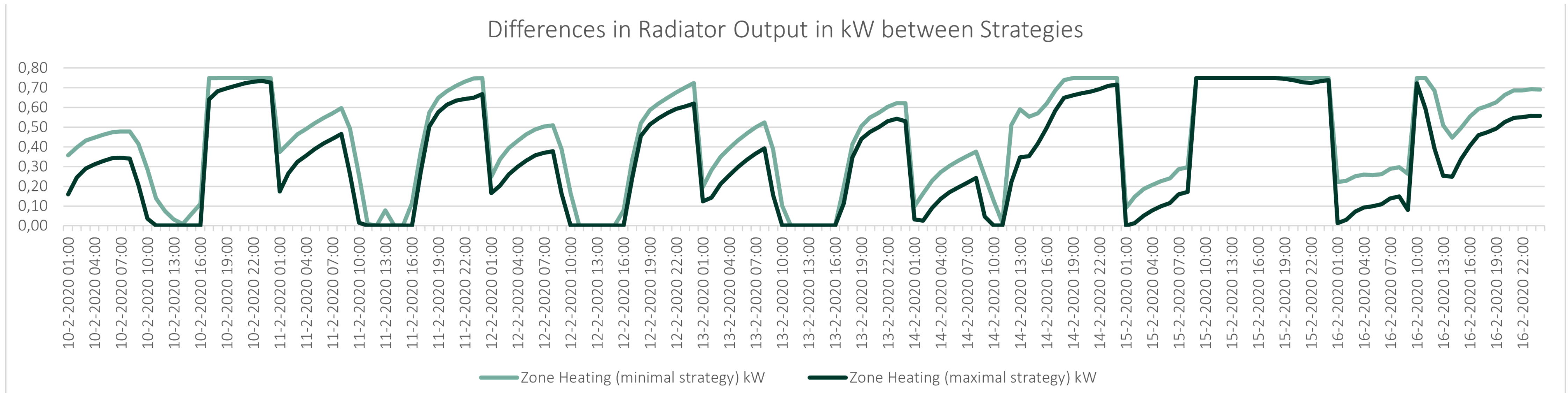
radiator temperature at 55 °C



CFD analysis of different radiator temperatures extracted from DesignBuilder (other parameters are constant)

Research

outcomes



graph outlining the measured radiator outputs in the living room of different strategies

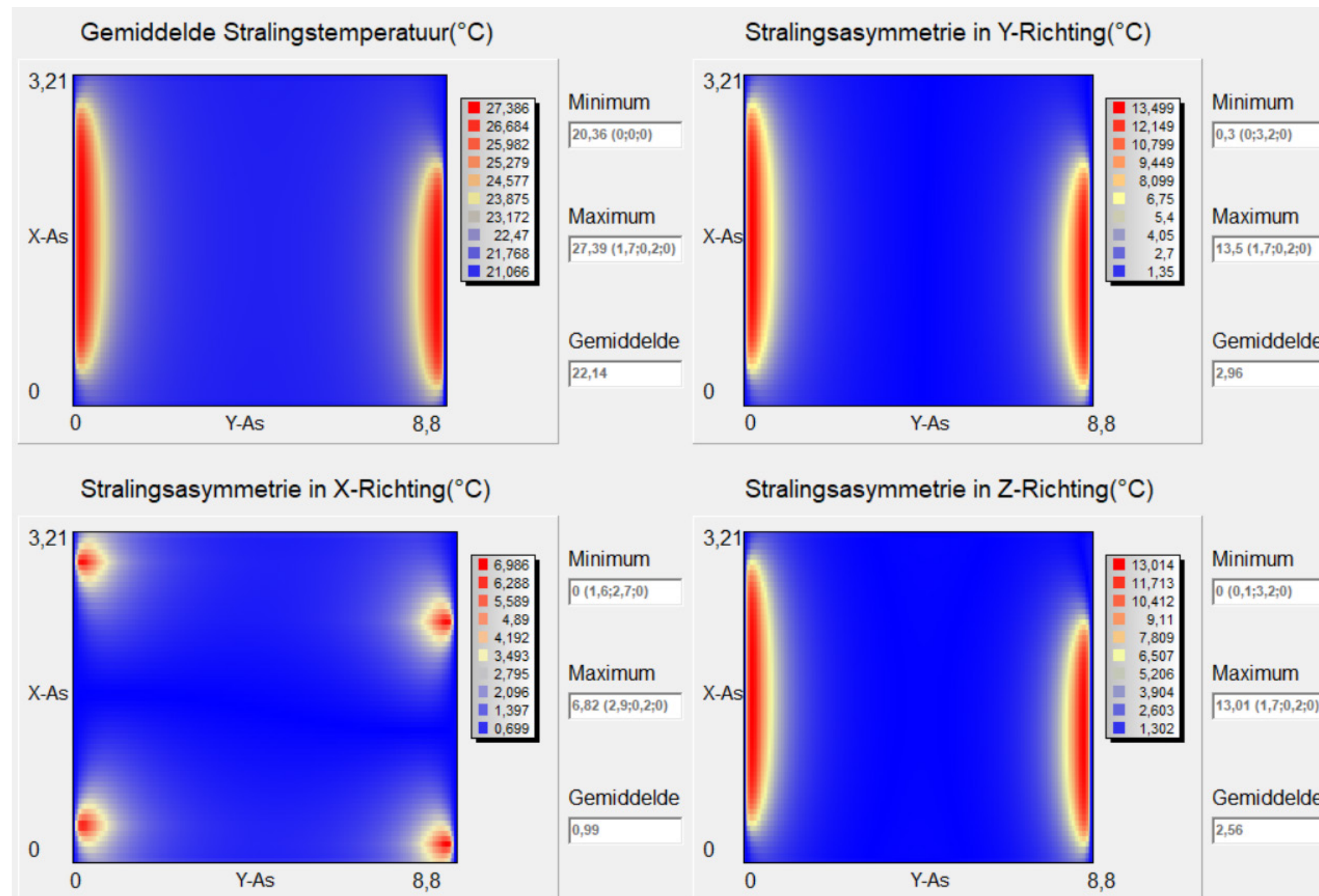
minimal strategy: balance ventilation and cavity wall insulation

maximal strategy: balance ventilation, 10 cm of exterior wall insulation, 15 cm of interior roof insulation and HR++ glazing

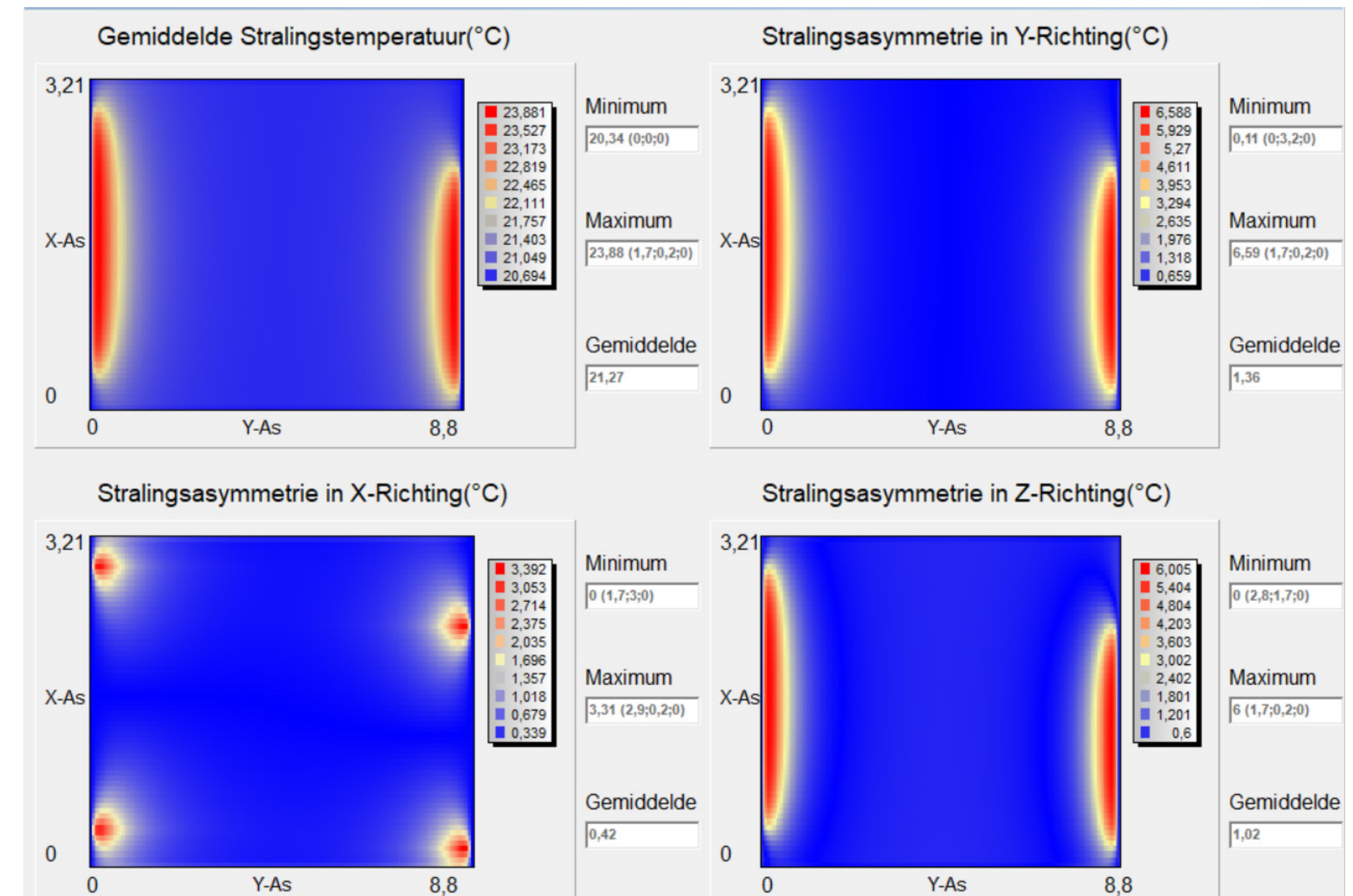
Research

outcomes

high temperature (90/70) radiator



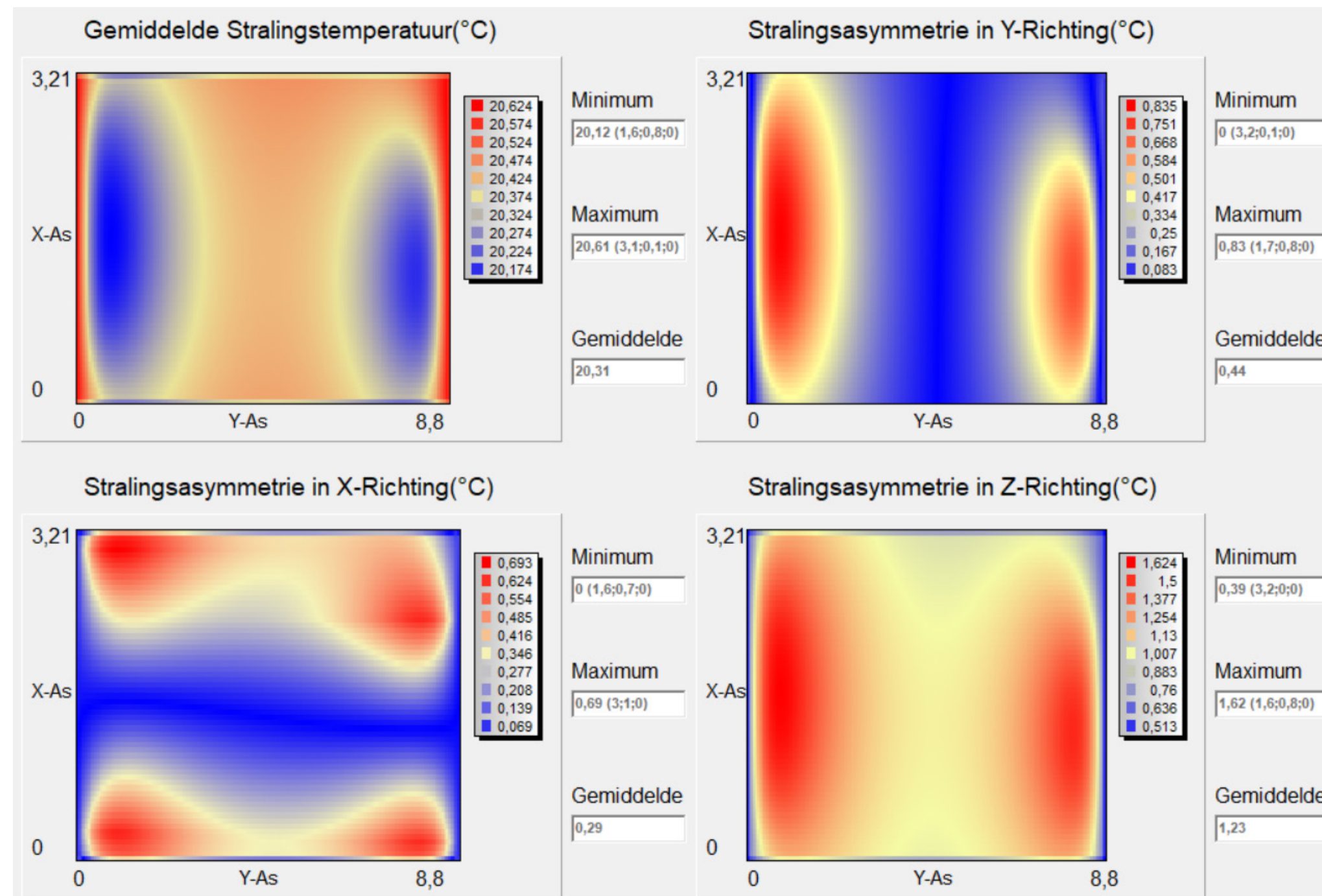
low temperature (55/35) radiator



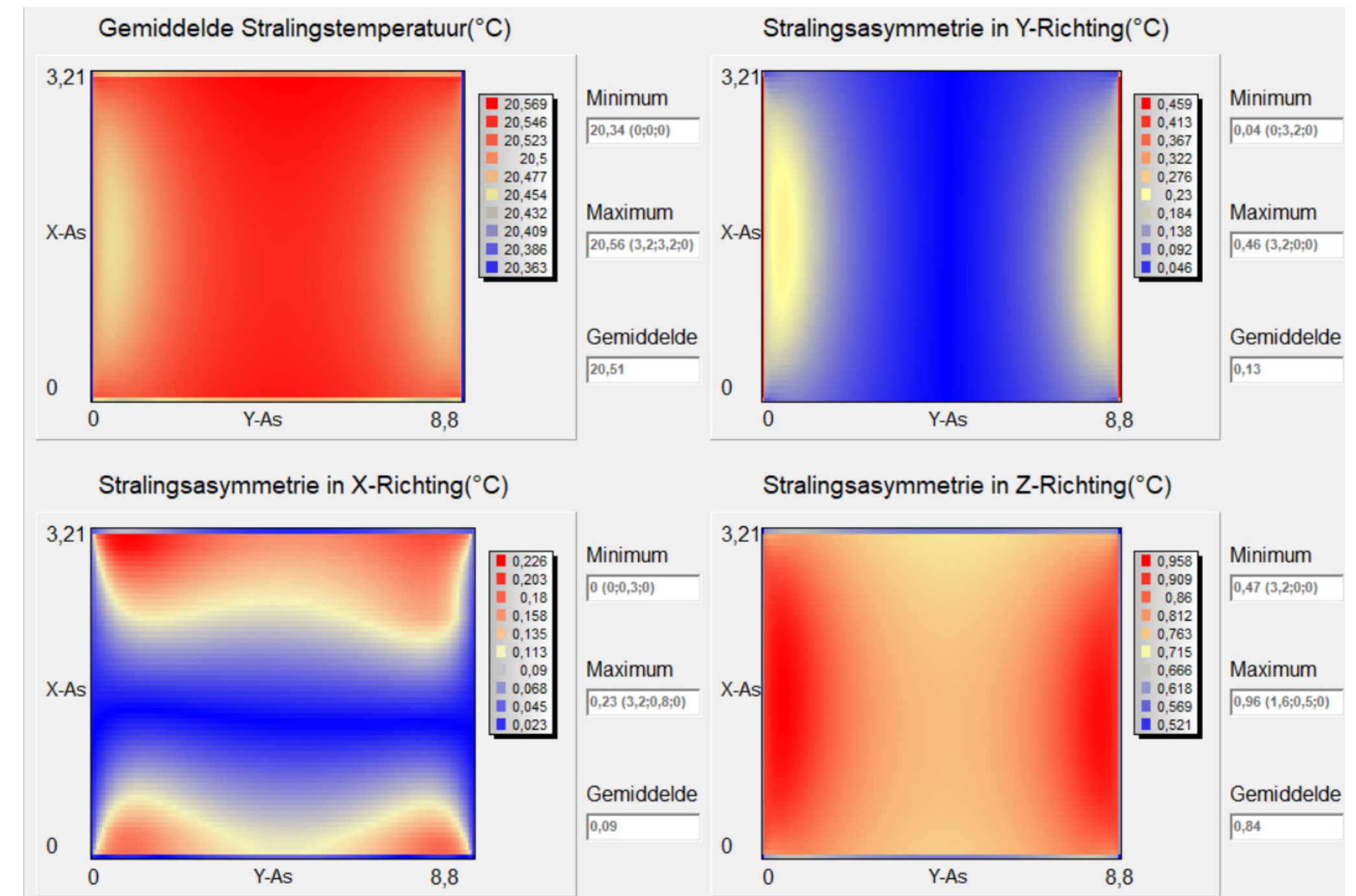
Research

outcomes

regular double glazing



triple glazing



in both situations no radiator is assumed

Conclusion

research framework

methodology

research

conclusions



Conclusion

recap research question

... Which minimal renovation strategies are needed to prepare different single-family housing typologies for the integration of low-temperature heating and optimize the thermal comfort of the residence?



Conclusion

recap low-temperature ready

... Only case study dwelling can be made low-temperature ready, due to relative oversizing of the heating capacity

.... Differences in effectiveness of insulation measures per typology

.... Differences in contribution of heat losses of components per typology



Conclusion

recap optimal thermal comfort

... Draught can be compensated best by installing **balance ventilation with heat recovery**

... When this is not possible, **improved glazing** can also have a positive effect

.... **Glazing with a lower U-value** can help oppose thermal discomfort experienced as a result of **radiant asymmetry**

... **Insulation** has no significant effect

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**MINIMAL RENOVATION
STRATEGIES FOR LOW-
TEMPERATURE HEATING**

with optimal comfort

presentation **P5**

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