


Accentuate the Positive: Climate Responsive Design

PRESENTERS:

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Produced By: 

Developed By: 

In partnership with:



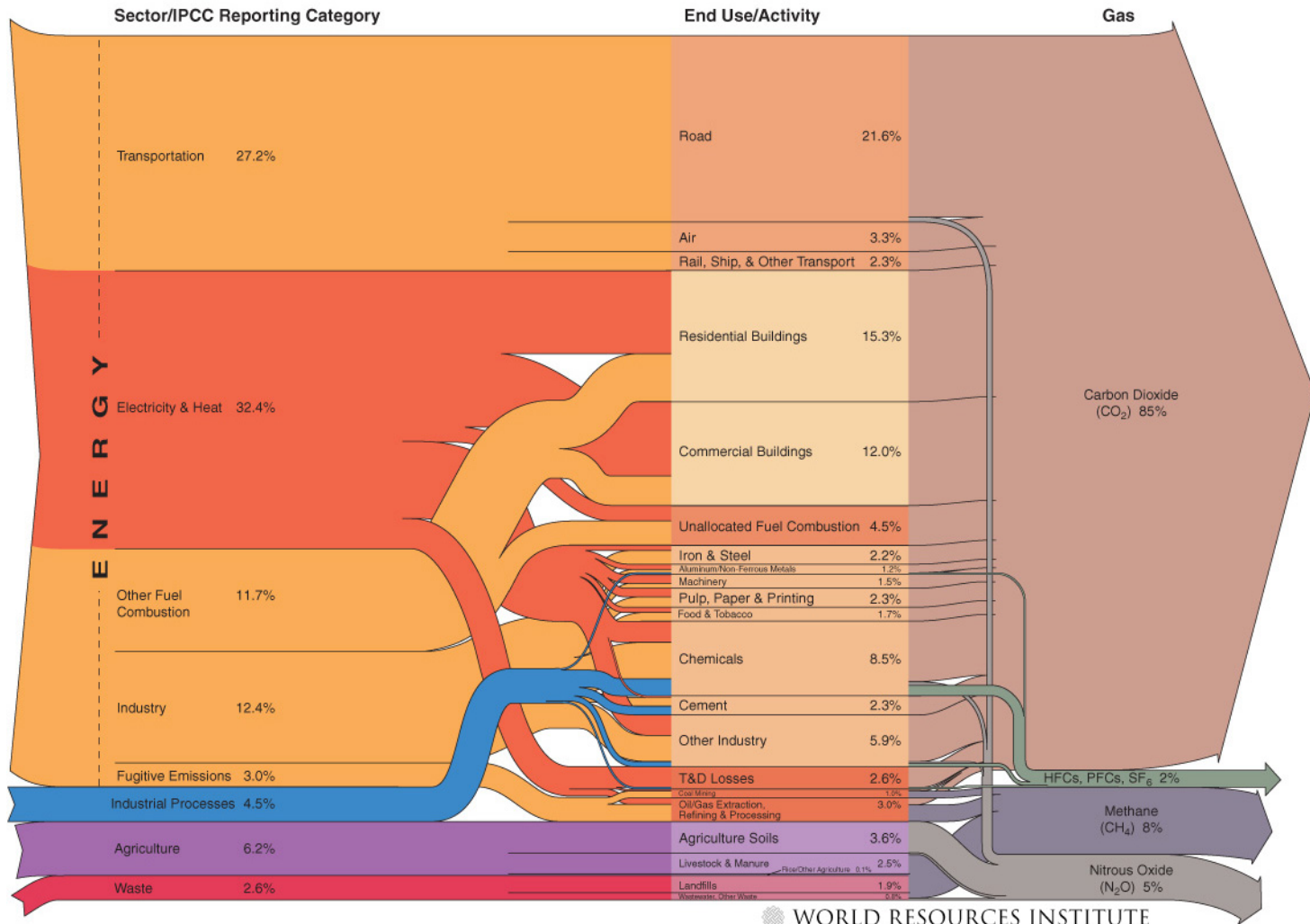
The Global Warming Pie....



These values look at Secondary Energy Use by Sector in Canada
(2006)
(energy used by the final consumer i.e. operating energy)

Emissions and their Sources

U.S. GHG Emissions Flow Chart



Technological advances have allowed us to build anything...



Photo:National Trust

The Glass House New Canaan Connecticut 1949, by architect Phillip Johnson who coined the term “International Style”

Conventional construction: *Boxes hooked up to life support*



In Florida turn
the dial one
way,
in Maine turn it
the other.



Think Building Green.com



CONNECTICUT



ARIZONA



NEW MEXICO



FLORIDA

Opportunities to Work With and Harvest Climate

Roughly....

The Sun = Free Heat, Light, Cooling & Ventilation

The Wind = Free Ventilation & Cooling

Rain & Snow = Free Water & Cooling

There is lots that can and must be done at the **OUTSET** of a project with respect to the Climate, Building Siting and Orientation that can **HELP** to reduce energy.

If not done you will spend a lot of time and energy working to correct these bad decisions.

Good decisions at the start can be built upon

Bad decisions at the start need to be corrected

Must Understand What Climate Responsive Design can Impact

Climate responsive design means designing to work with the local climate.

This can mean shaping massing, materials, etc. to:

Reduce snow accumulations at entrances / exits

Store coolth generated at night to the day

Passive solar heating

Wind driven natural ventilation

Locations of windows, atria, skylights etc. to benefit daylighting

These also impact natural ventilation

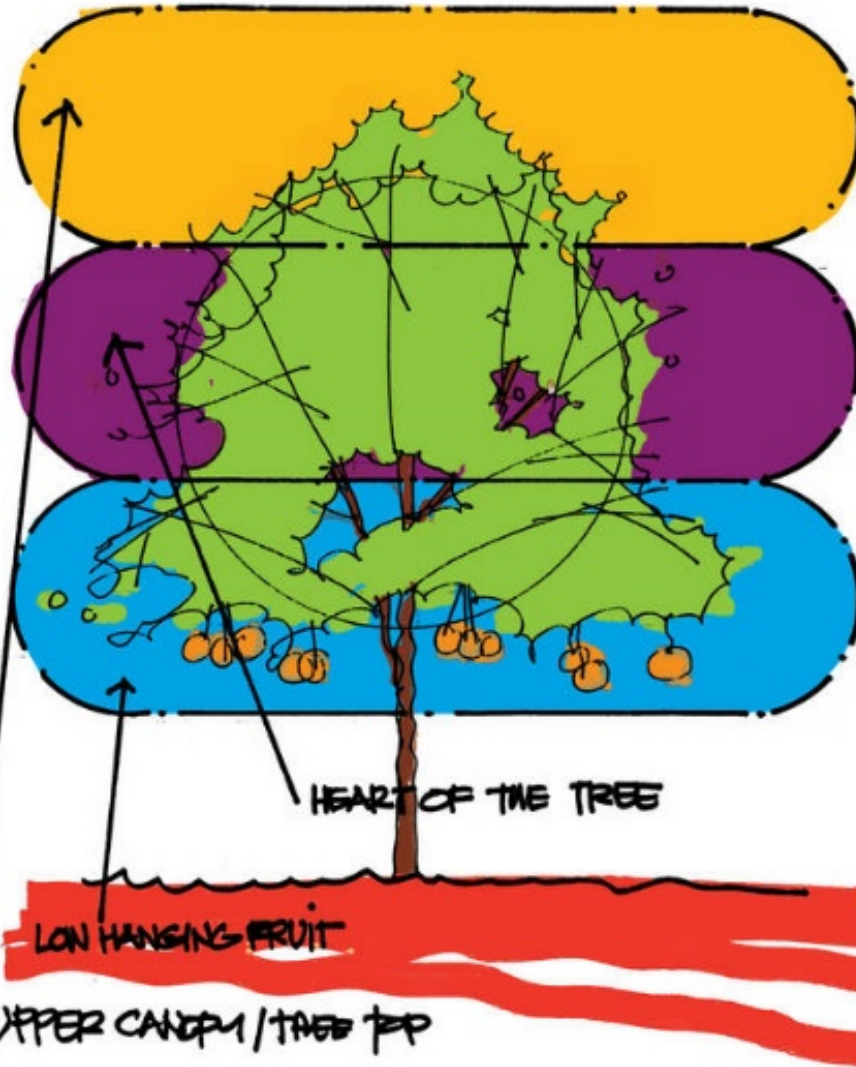
Locating pollutant/odour sources downwind from building intakes

Providing adequate snow melt run-off capacity

Burying the water pipes deep enough

Using a ground exchange system to pre-heat / pre-cool intake air

Low Hanging Fruit



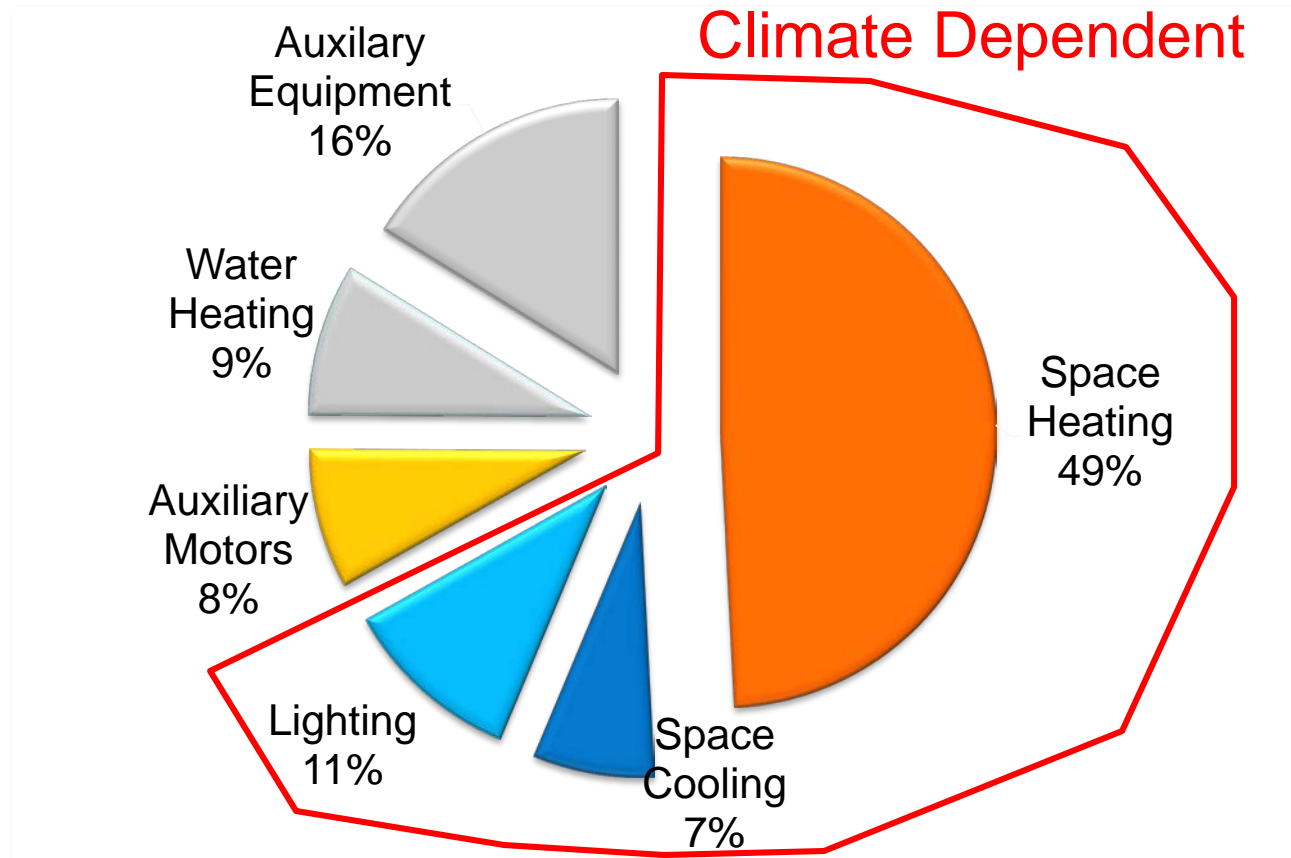
Expensive systems such as PV, micro wind turbines, various mechanical and electrical equipment

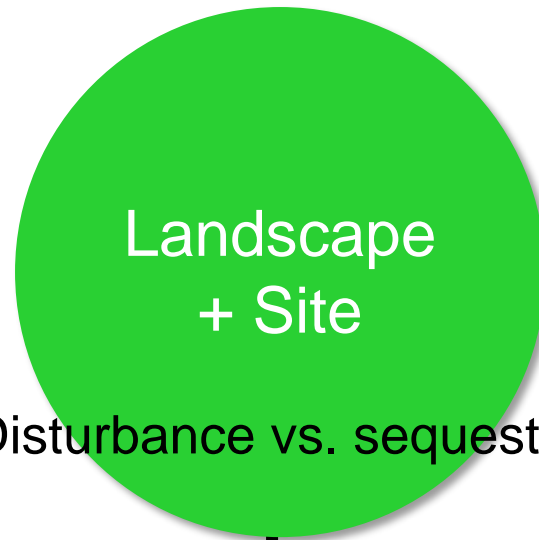
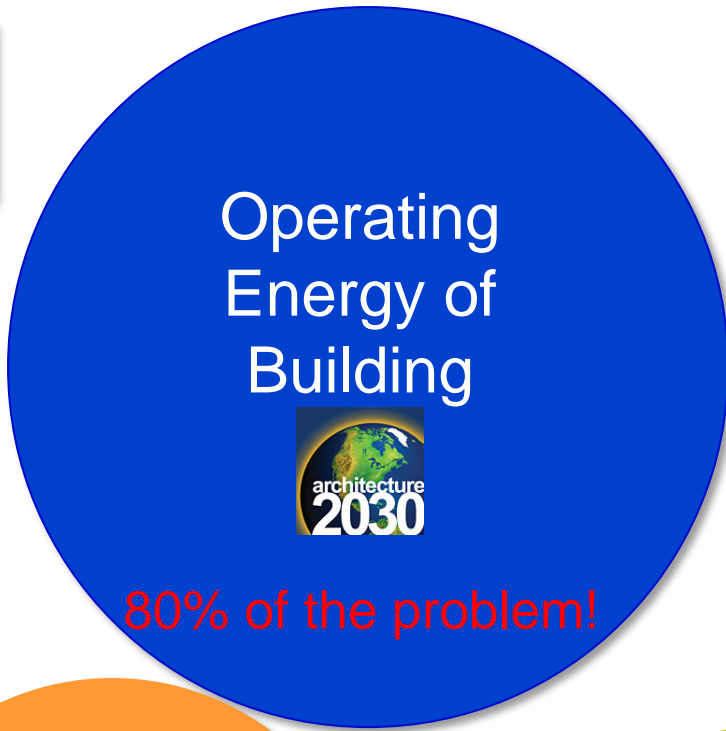
Extra insulation, better windows, thermal mass, shading devices.

Initial site and climate based design decisions that really cost nothing but will benefit the project: climate, defining comfort, orientation, adjacencies, massing, landscaping

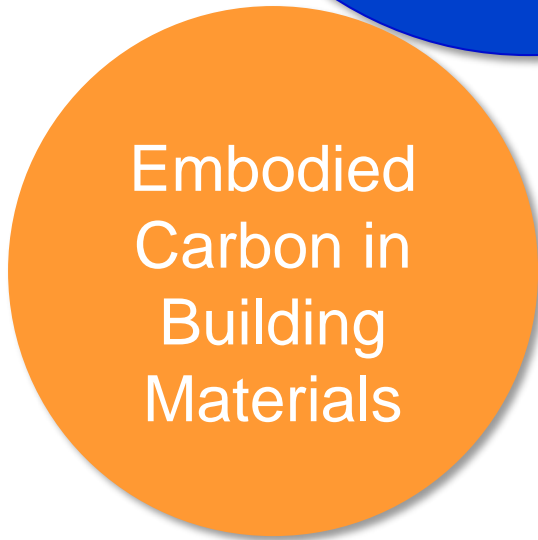
Energy Use in Buildings: Operating Energy

Total Commercial/Institutional Secondary Energy Use by
End Use in Canada (2006)





Disturbance vs. sequestration



Counting Carbon costs....

+ purchased offsets

Operating Energy of Building



80% of the problem!

Building envelope performance directly impacts operating energy

Embodied Carbon in Building Materials

Building envelope material selection and sourcing directly impacts embodied energy

OPERATING ENERGY IS CLIMATE DEPENDENT

Three Key Steps – IN ORDER:

#1 - Reduce loads/demand first

(conservation, passive design, daylighting, shading, orientation, etc. with CLIMATE RESPONSIVE DESIGN)

#2 - Meet loads efficiently and *effectively* (energy efficient lighting, high-efficiency MEP equipment, controls, etc.) to reduce energy requirements, in order to

#3 - Use renewables to meet energy needs (doing the above steps *before* will result in the need for much smaller renewable energy systems, making carbon neutrality achievable.)

Carbon Reduction: The Tier Approach

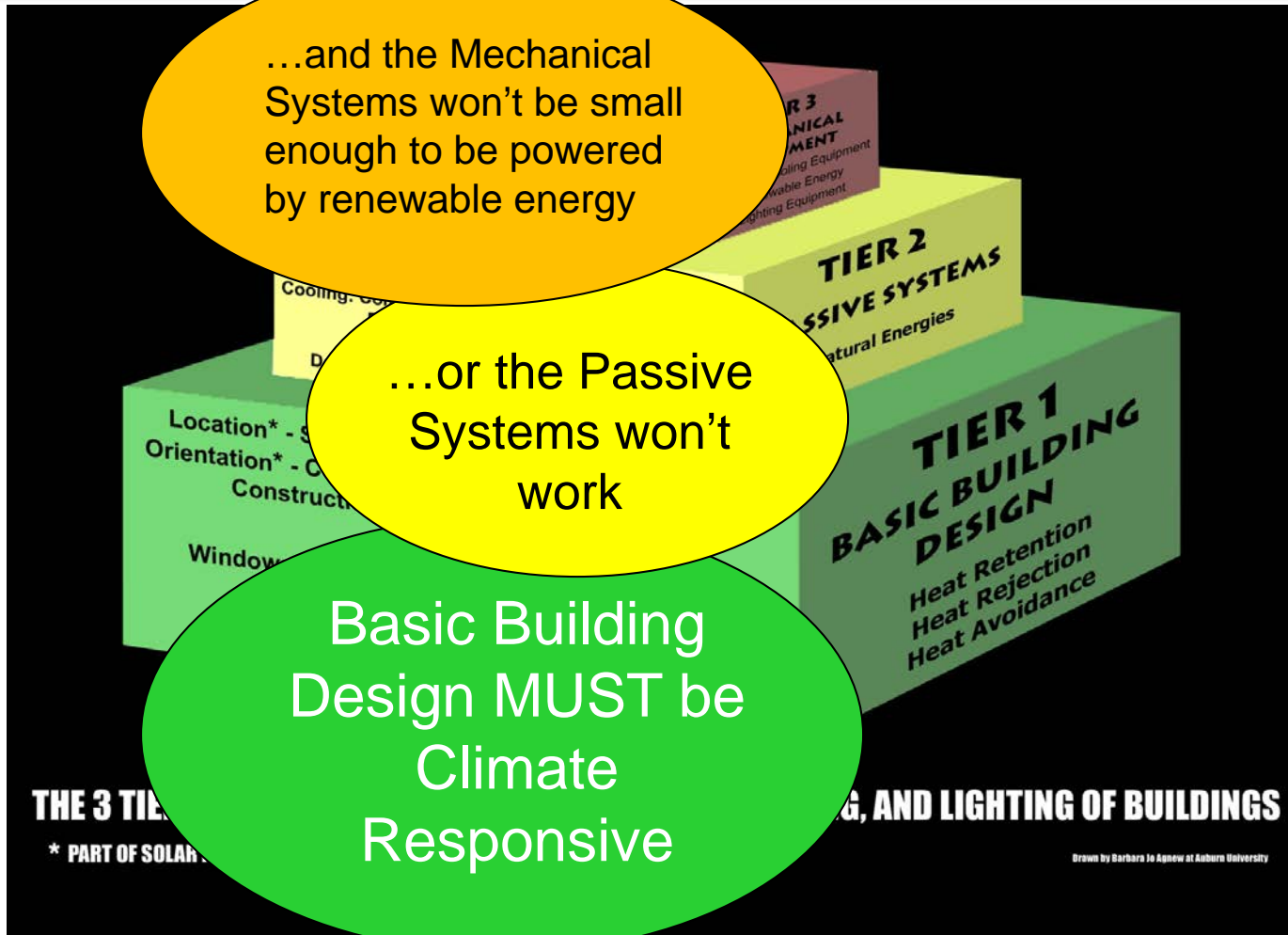


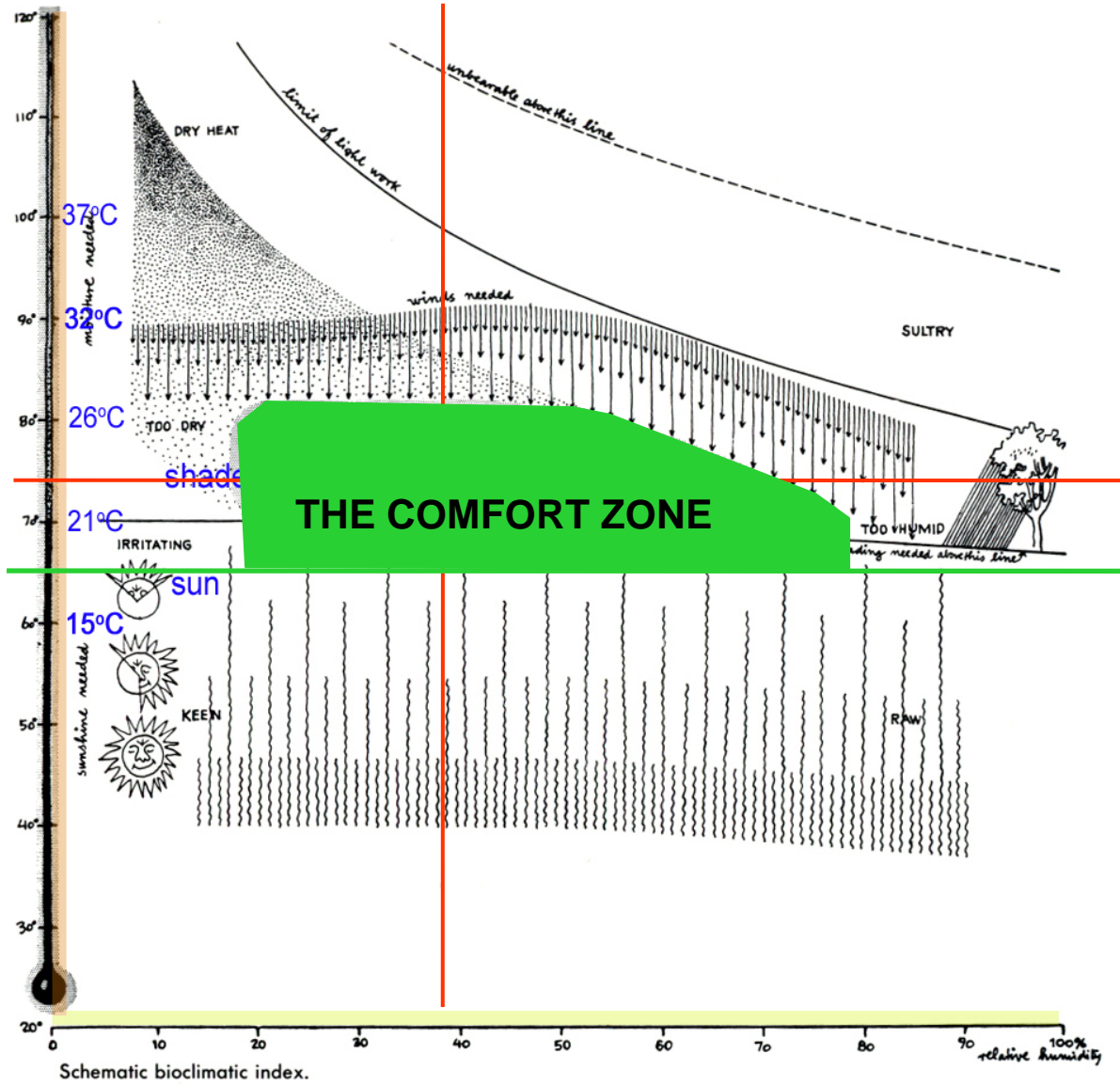
Image: Norbert Lechner, "Heating, Cooling, Lighting"

A close-up photograph of a tree branch heavily laden with snow and ice. The branch is the central focus, with intricate ice formations and snow clumps. The background is a soft-focus winter scene with more snow-covered branches and a bright, overcast sky. A black rectangular text box is overlaid in the center of the image, containing white text.

**Climate as the Starting Point
for a
Climate Responsive Design**

Designing to the Comfort Zone vs. Comfort Point:

REDUCING OPERATING ENERGY



This famous illustration is taken from "Design with Climate", by Victor Olgyay, published in 1963.

Passive Bio-climatic Design: COMFORT ZONE

IDEALLY comfort expectations may have to be reassessed to allow for the wider “zone” that is characteristic of buildings that are not exclusively controlled via mechanical systems.

Creation of new “**buffer spaces**” to make a hierarchy of comfort levels within buildings.

Require **higher occupant involvement** to adjust the building to modify the temperature and air flow.

North American Bio-climatic Design:

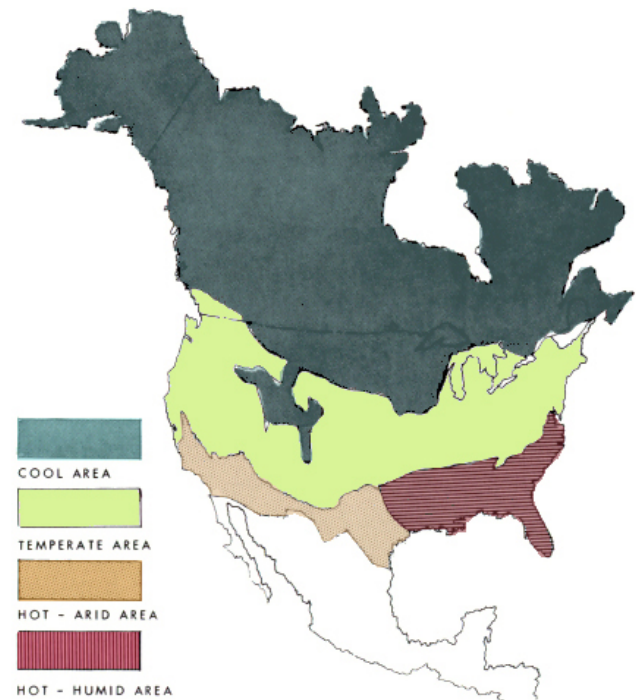
Design must first acknowledge regional, local and microclimate impacts on the building and site.

COLD

TEMPERATE

HOT-ARID

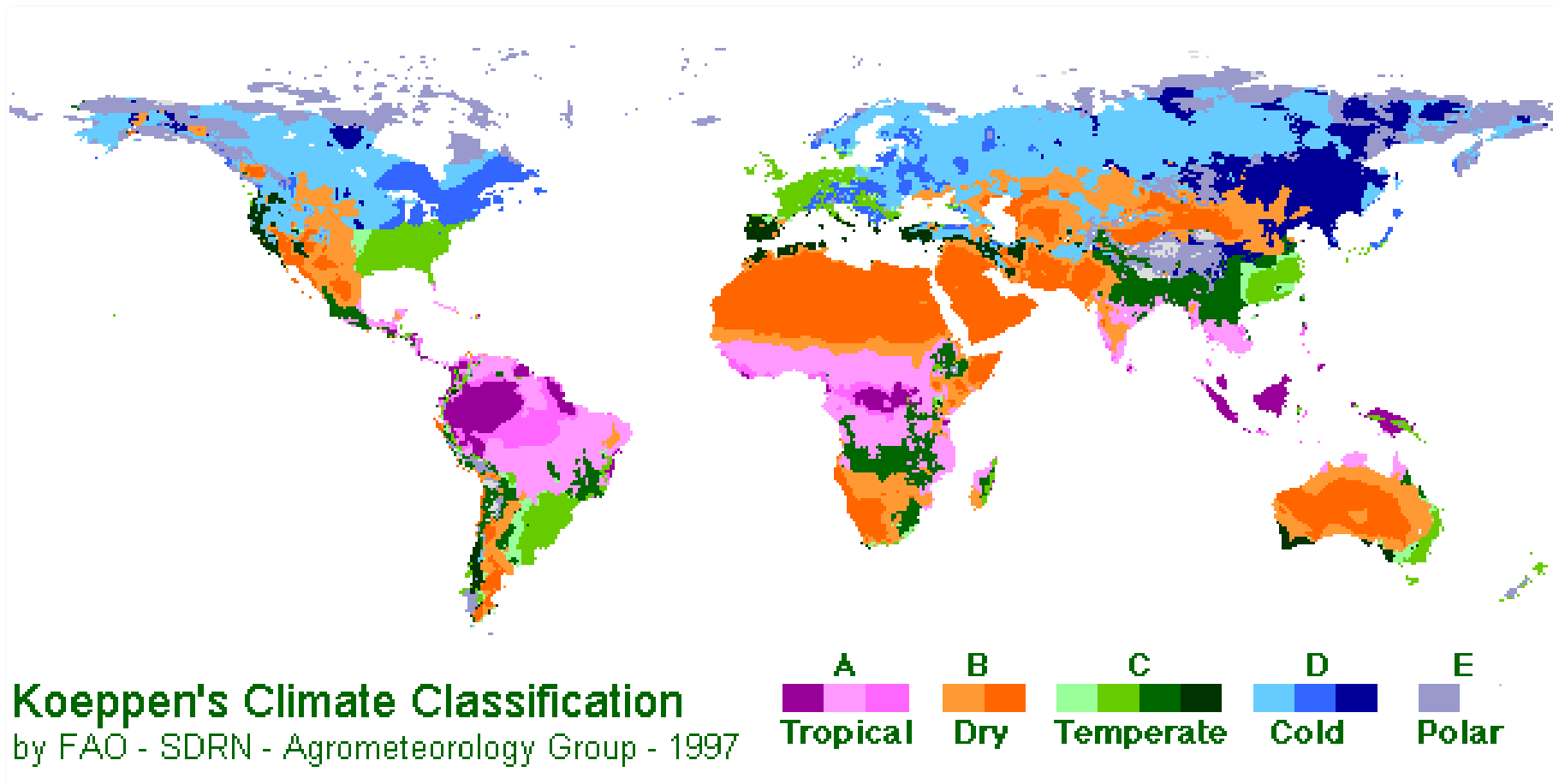
HOT-HUMID



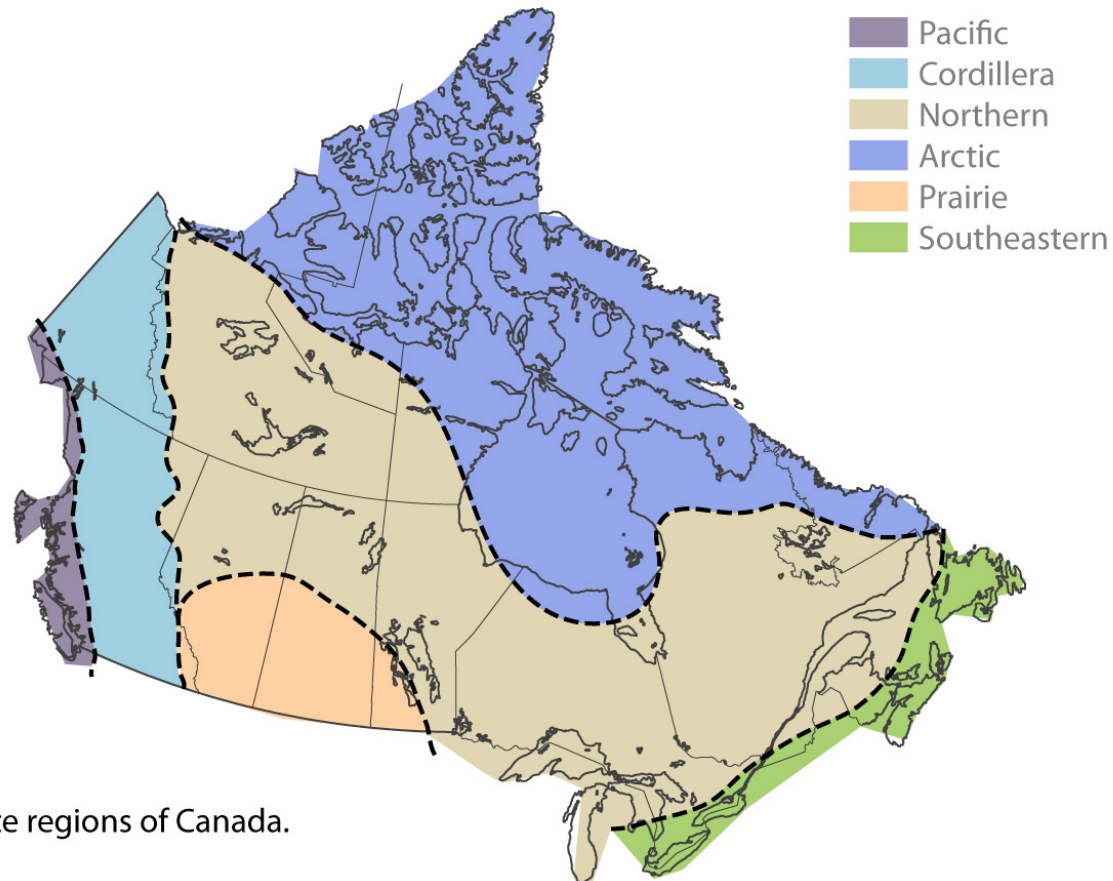
11. Regional climate zones of the North American continent.

Global Bio-climatic Design:

Design must first acknowledge regional, local and microclimate impacts on the building and site.



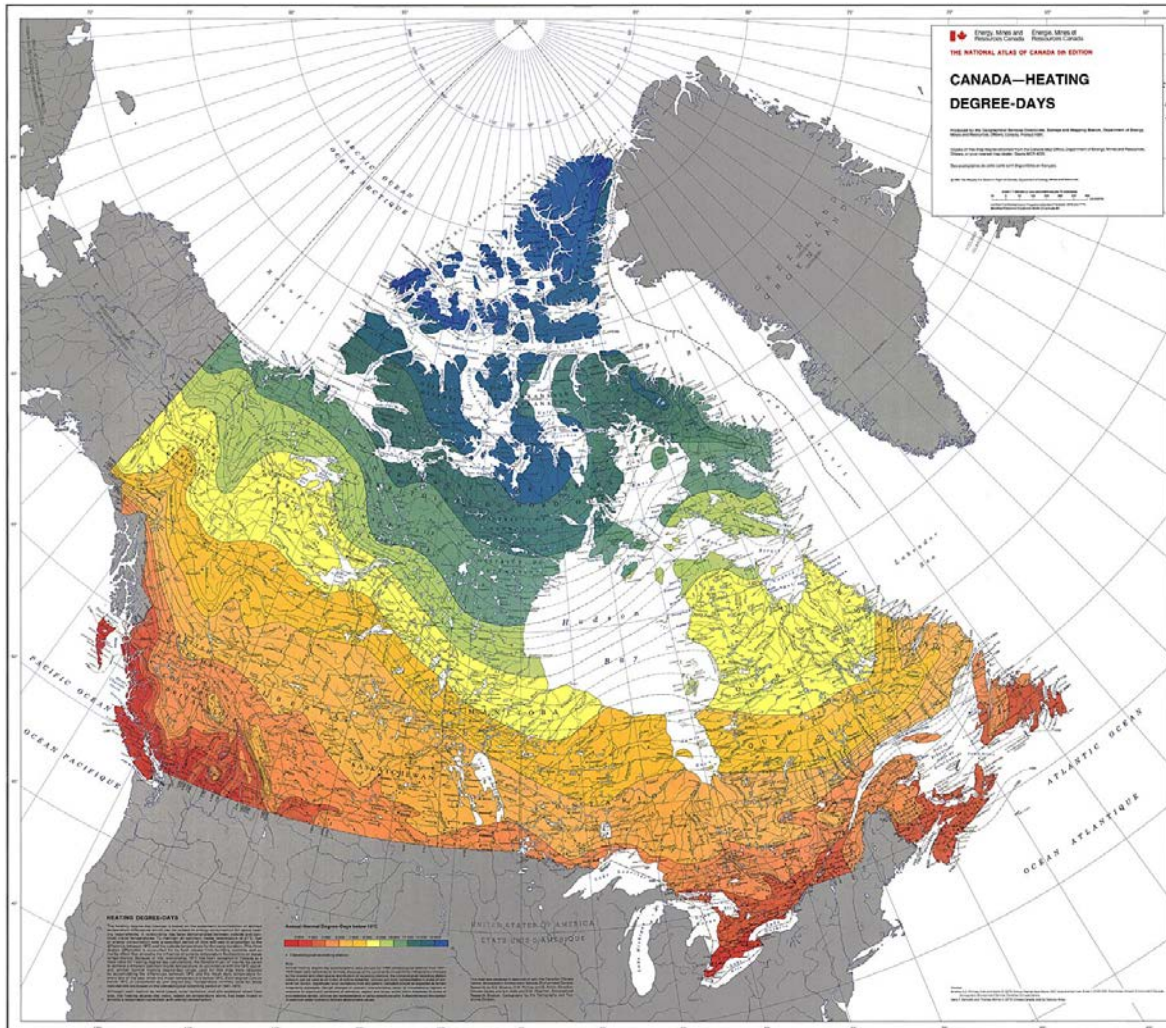
The climate regions of Canada



Climate regions of Canada.

Even within Canada, there exist variations in climate, enough to require very different envelope design practices and regulations. This mostly concerns insulation and water penetration, as well as humidity concerns.

Heating and Cooling Degree Days



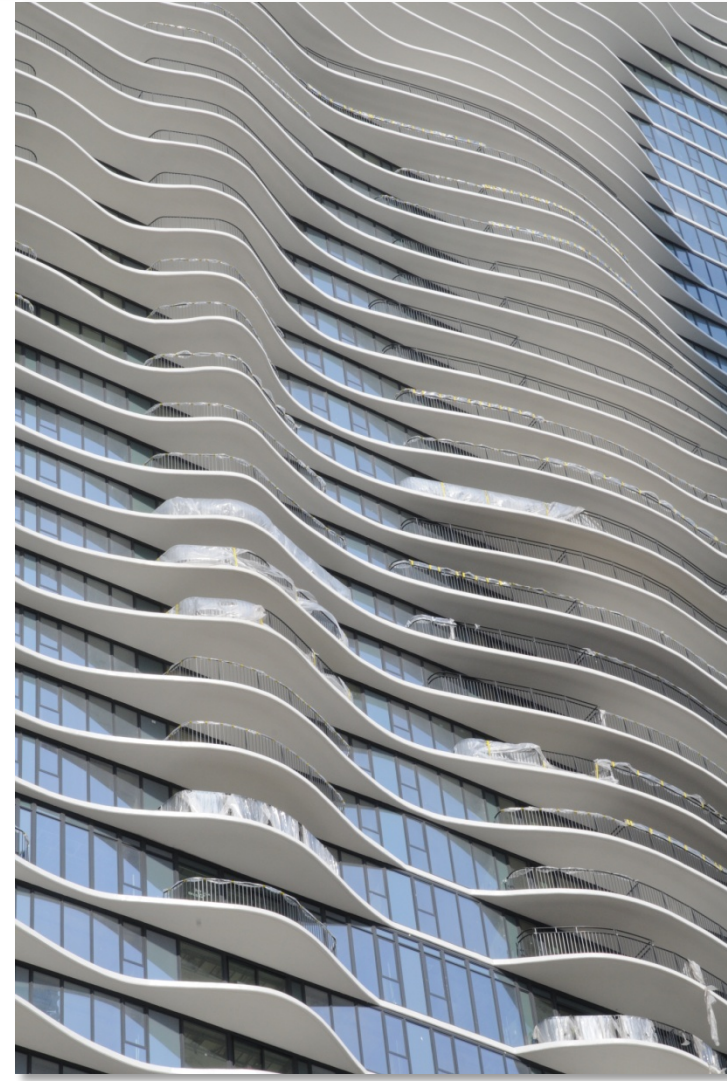
This map shows the annual sum of heating degree days (an indicator of building heating needs). Data for period 1941 to 1970.

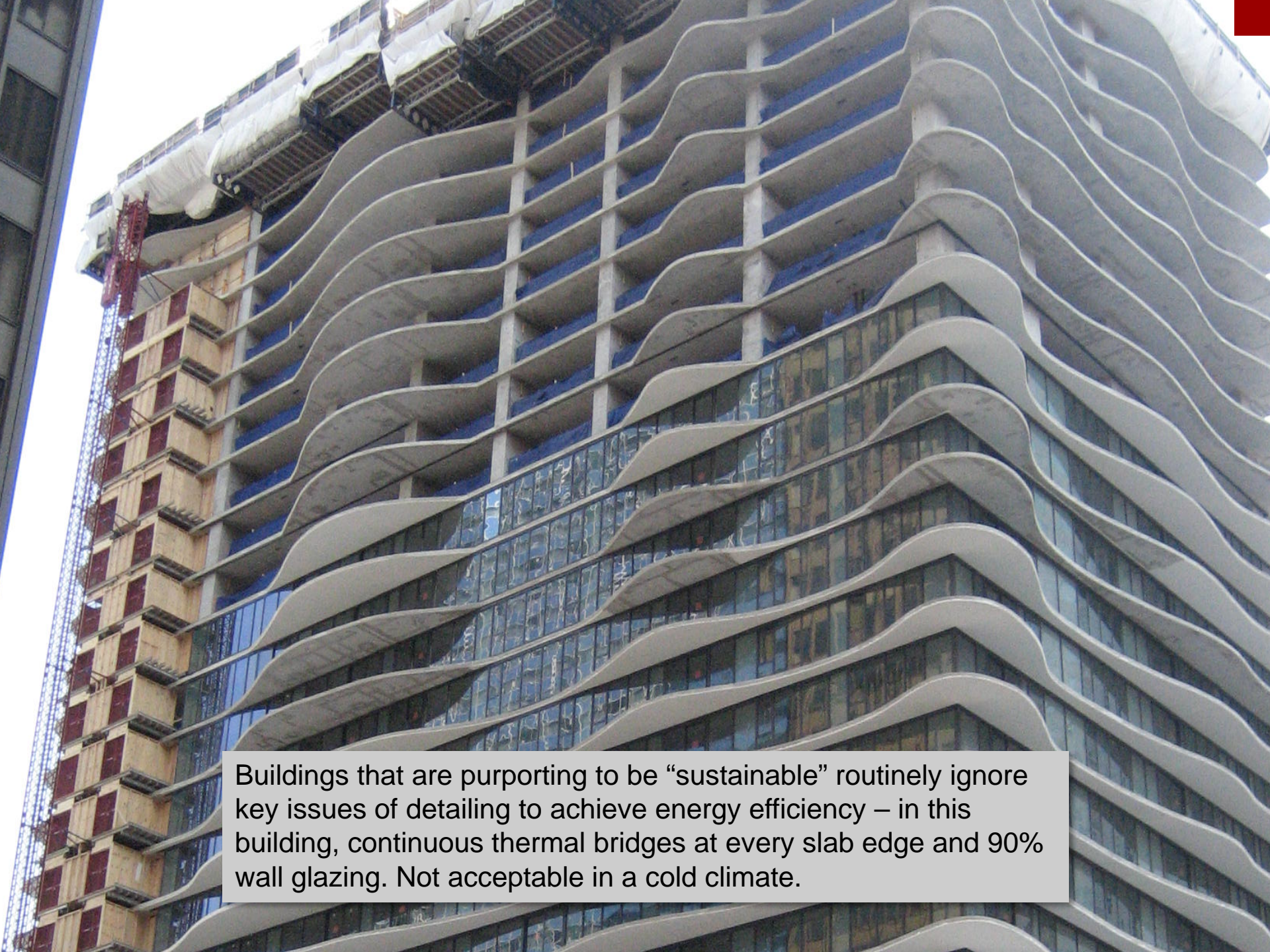
Determine if the climate is **heating** or **cooling** dominated ...this will set out your primary strategy.

The Controversial “Cover” of GreenSource Magazine



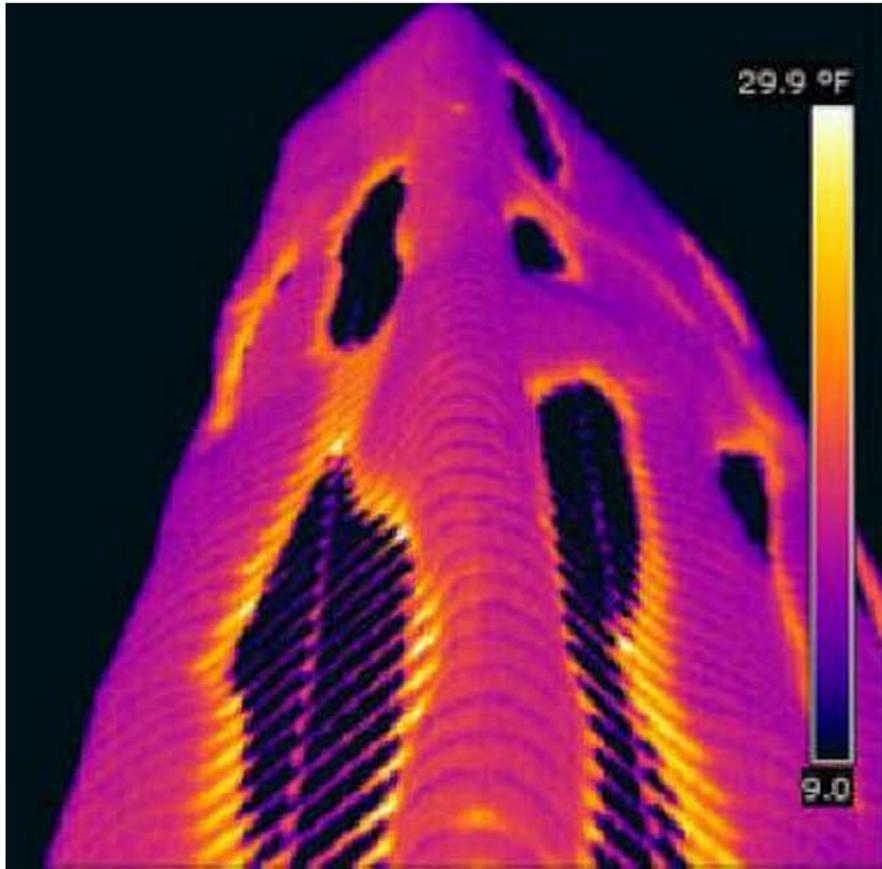
A
“sustainable”
Chicago
residential
skyscraper –
going for
LEED



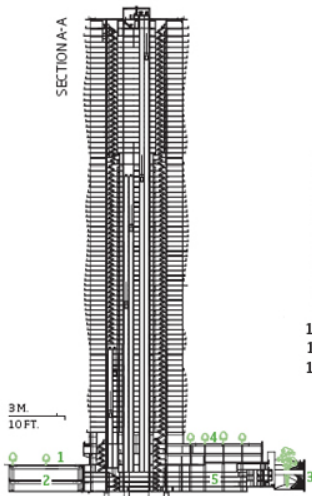


Buildings that are purporting to be “sustainable” routinely ignore key issues of detailing to achieve energy efficiency – in this building, continuous thermal bridges at every slab edge and 90% wall glazing. Not acceptable in a cold climate.

The Controversial “Cover” of GreenSource Magazine

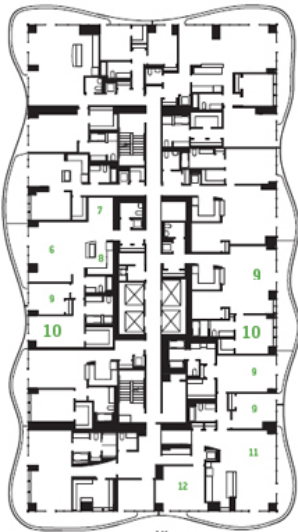


Chicago Climate Data



- 1 Upper Columbus Drive
- 2 Lower Columbus Drive
- 3 Stair to Harbor Park
- 4 Roof garden
- 5 Parking
- 6 Living/dining room
- 7 Den
- 8 Kitchen
- 9 Bedroom
- 10 Master bedroom
- 11 Great room
- 12 Dining room

TYPICAL FLOOR PLAN

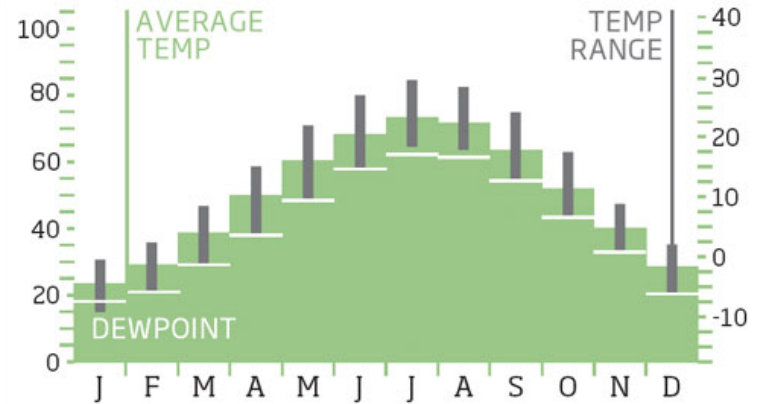


- 1 Upper Columbus Drive
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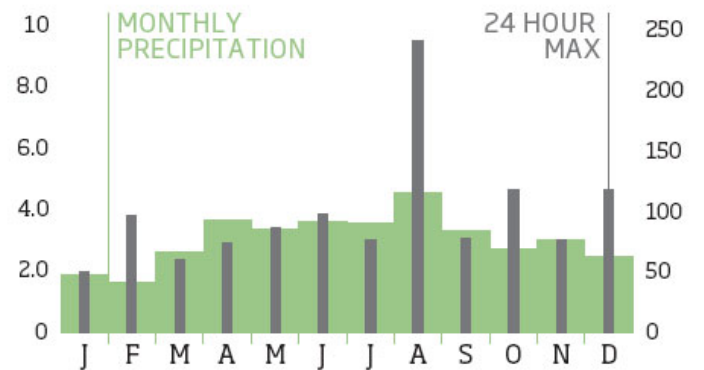
Heating degree days 6,479 F (3,582 C)

Cooling degree degree days 782F (417 C)

TEMPERATURES & DEW POINTS FAHRENHEIT/CELSIUS

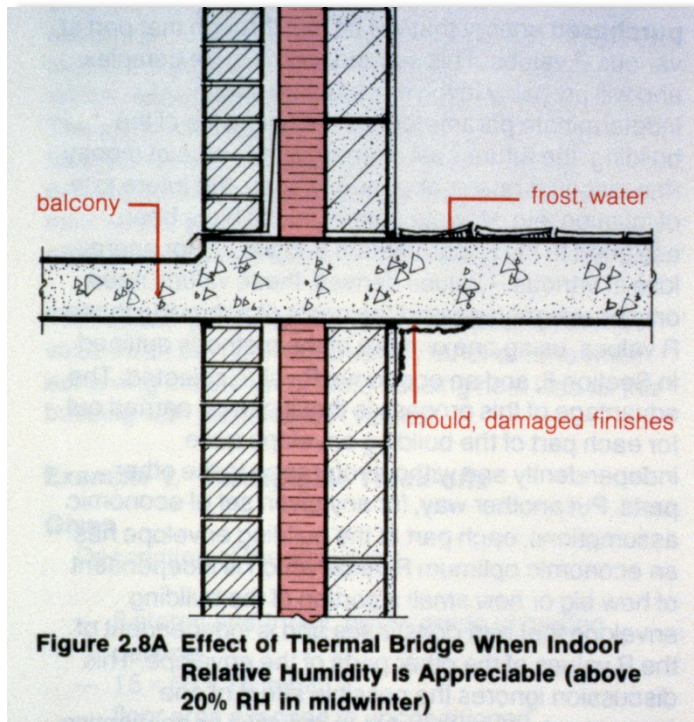


PRECIPITATION INCHES/MILLIMETERS

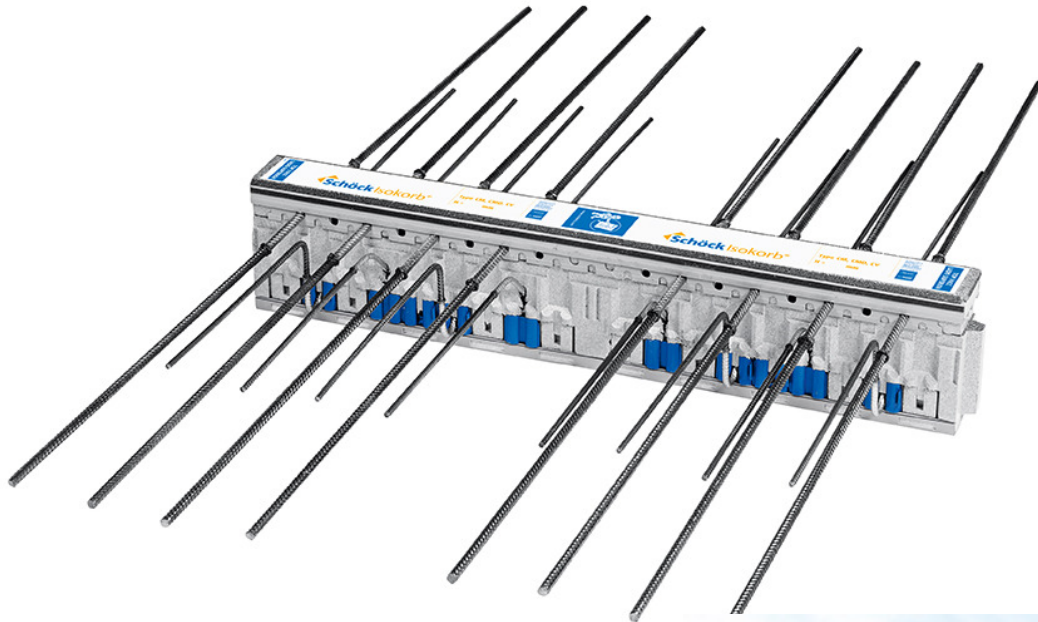


Solving the thermal bridge

The “classic” bad balcony detail results in heat loss as well as moisture and mold problems.



Off the Shelf Thermal Break Products



Can work if they are not “value engineered” out of the project.



Climate - It all starts here...

In the built environment, meteorology is the start of all design ...

Structural design / response

Pedestrian comfort

Air quality / plume dispersion

Energy demand / heating and cooling loads

etc.

Understanding Your Climate

What is Climate?

- Temperature
- Solar radiation
- Humidity
- Pressure
- Rain, snow, fog
- Visibility
- Wind speed and direction

Weather vs. Climate

Climate is a Historical Record:

- 30+ years of data
- 24+ records/day

Climate Consultant

<http://www.energy-design-tools.aud.ucla.edu/>

Climate Consultant 5 is a free tool available from the above address.

You will need to download .epw climate data for your city from this website

http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/energyplus/cfm/weather_data.cfm

Choose Comfort Model

- Buildings are designed for their use, occupancy or occupants
- Normally it is the people that need to be comfortable in doing their tasks, not the building
- Some uses can accommodate a much higher range of temperatures than others
- Decide if using a fully automated heating AND cooling system
- Can the building **eliminate an A/C system** due to climate?
- Can the building **use passive solar to heat** the building?
- Can the building **use passive ventilation** to cool the building?
- Can the building **take advantage of daylight** to light the building?

Choose Comfort Model

California Energy Code Comfort Model (Default)

For the purpose of sizing residential heating and cooling systems the indoor Dry Bulb Design Conditions should be between 68°F (20°C) to 75°F (23.9°C).

No Humidity limits are specified in the Code, so 80% Relative Humidity and 66°F (18.9°C) Wet Bulb is used for the upper limit and 27°F (-2.8°C) Dew Point is used for the lower limit (but these can be changed on the Criteria screen).

**YOU LIKELY WANT TO SWITCH AWAY FROM THIS DEFAULT
IN A COLD CLIMATE.**

Choose Comfort Model

ASHRAE Handbook of Comfort Fundamentals 2005

For people dressed in normal winter clothes,

Effective Temperatures of 68°F (20°C) to 74°F (23.3°C) (measured at 50% relative humidity), which means the temperatures decrease slightly as humidity rises.

The upper humidity limit is 64°F (17.8°C) Wet Bulb and a lower Dew Point of 36F (2.2°C).

If people are dressed in light weight summer clothes then this comfort zone shifts 5°F (2.8°C) warmer.

EPW Weather Data for 1000s of Locations

Climate Consultant 5.4 (Build 5, Mar 11, 2013)

File Criteria Charts Help

WEATHER DATA SUMMARY

LOCATION: Toronto Int'l, ON, CAN
Latitude/Longitude: 43.67° North, 79.63° West, **Time Zone from Greenwich** -5
Data Source: WYEC2-B-04714 716240 WMO Station Number, **Elevation** 173 m

MONTHLY MEANS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Global Horiz Radiation (Avg Hourly)	161	221	268	329	384	404	405	376	333	239	136	122	Wh/sq.m
Direct Normal Radiation (Avg Hourly)	230	265	270	307	324	323	361	316	347	249	130	172	Wh/sq.m
Diffuse Radiation (Avg Hourly)	85	112	127	143	172	185	164	178	141	126	86	67	Wh/sq.m
Global Horiz Radiation (Max Hourly)	474	651	875	931	974	1003	980	907	827	655	516	417	Wh/sq.m
Direct Normal Radiation (Max Hourly)	879	947	1022	1028	959	948	927	932	931	870	861	872	Wh/sq.m
Diffuse Radiation (Max Hourly)	238	368	439	431	594	545	458	431	385	328	250	195	Wh/sq.m
Global Horiz Radiation (Avg Daily Total)	1468	2262	3181	4347	5599	6138	6035	5163	4099	2568	1300	1072	Wh/sq.m
Direct Normal Radiation (Avg Daily Total)	2097	2703	3207	4041	4728	4918	5384	4336	4251	2663	1249	1519	Wh/sq.m
Diffuse Radiation (Avg Daily Total)	783	1151	1506	1900	2513	2818	2441	2453	1745	1358	818	591	Wh/sq.m
Global Horiz Illumination (Avg Hourly)	18043	24998	30402	37172	43543	45839	45796	42702	37681	27169	15572	13688	lux
Direct Normal Illumination (Avg Hourly)	22576	27019	28334	32402	34319	34073	37965	33408	36306	25747	13364	17190	lux
Dry Bulb Temperature (Avg Monthly)	-5	-5	0	5	11	17	20	19	14	8	3	-2	degrees C
Dew Point Temperature (Avg Monthly)	-8	-9	-4	0	4	11	14	13	10	4	0	-5	degrees C
Relative Humidity (Avg Monthly)	78	75	74	70	62	68	70	70	75	77	83	79	percent
Wind Direction (Monthly Mode)	250	270	270	90	340	0	330	340	330	250	250	250	degrees
Wind Speed (Avg Monthly)	4	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	3	4	4	5	m/s
Ground Temperature (Avg Monthly of 3 Depths)	0	-1	0	0	5	10	14	15	15	12	7	3	degrees C

Back Next

Setting the Project Criteria

Climate Consultant 5.4 (Build 5, Mar 11, 2013)

File Criteria Charts Help

CRITERIA: (Metric Units)

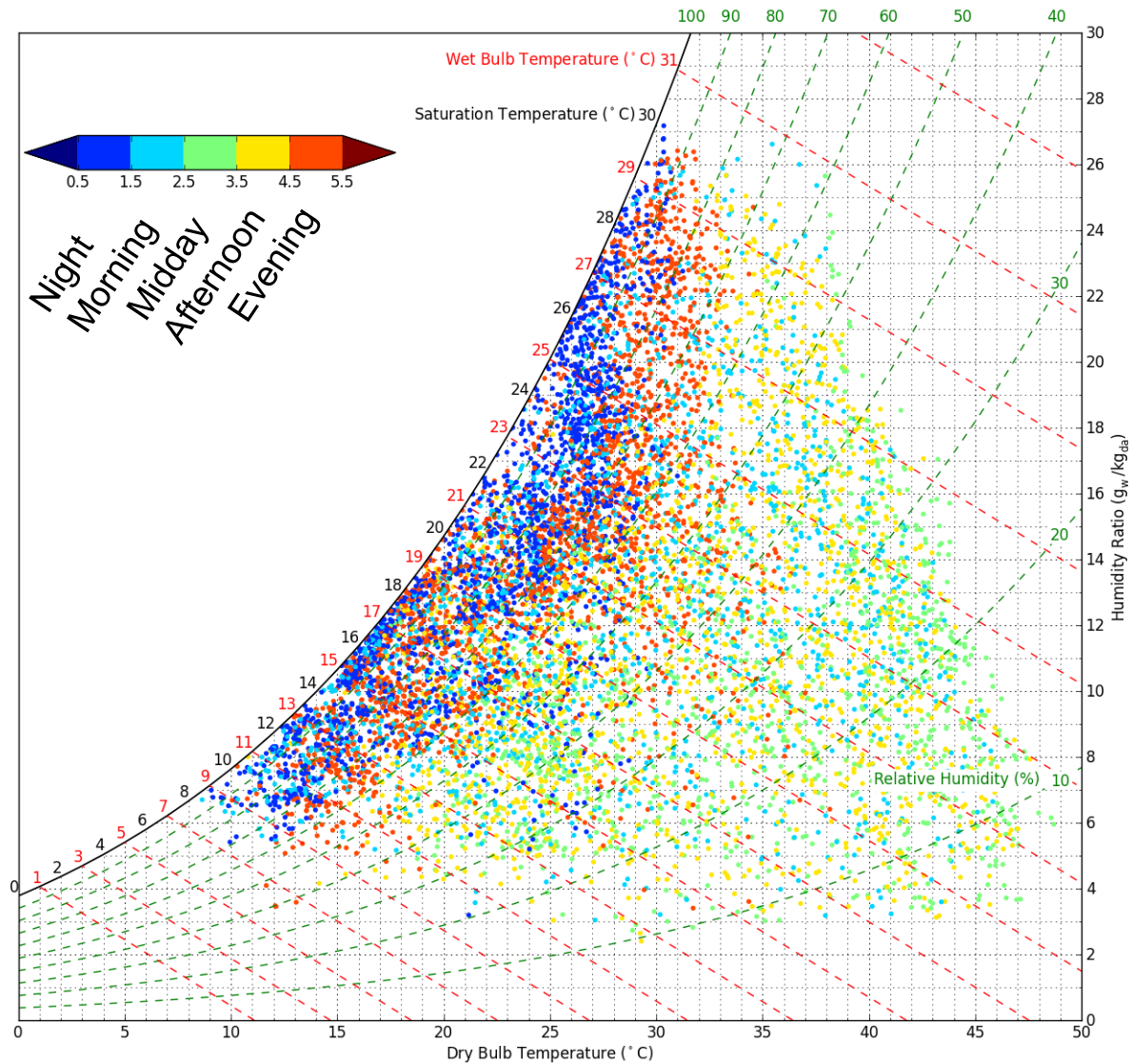
LOCATION: Toronto Int'l, ON, CAN
Latitude/Longitude: 43.67° North, 79.63° West, **Time Zone from Greenwich -5**
Data Source: WYEC2-B-04714 716240 WMO Station Number, **Elevation 173 m**

ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals Comfort Model, 2005 (select Help for definitions)

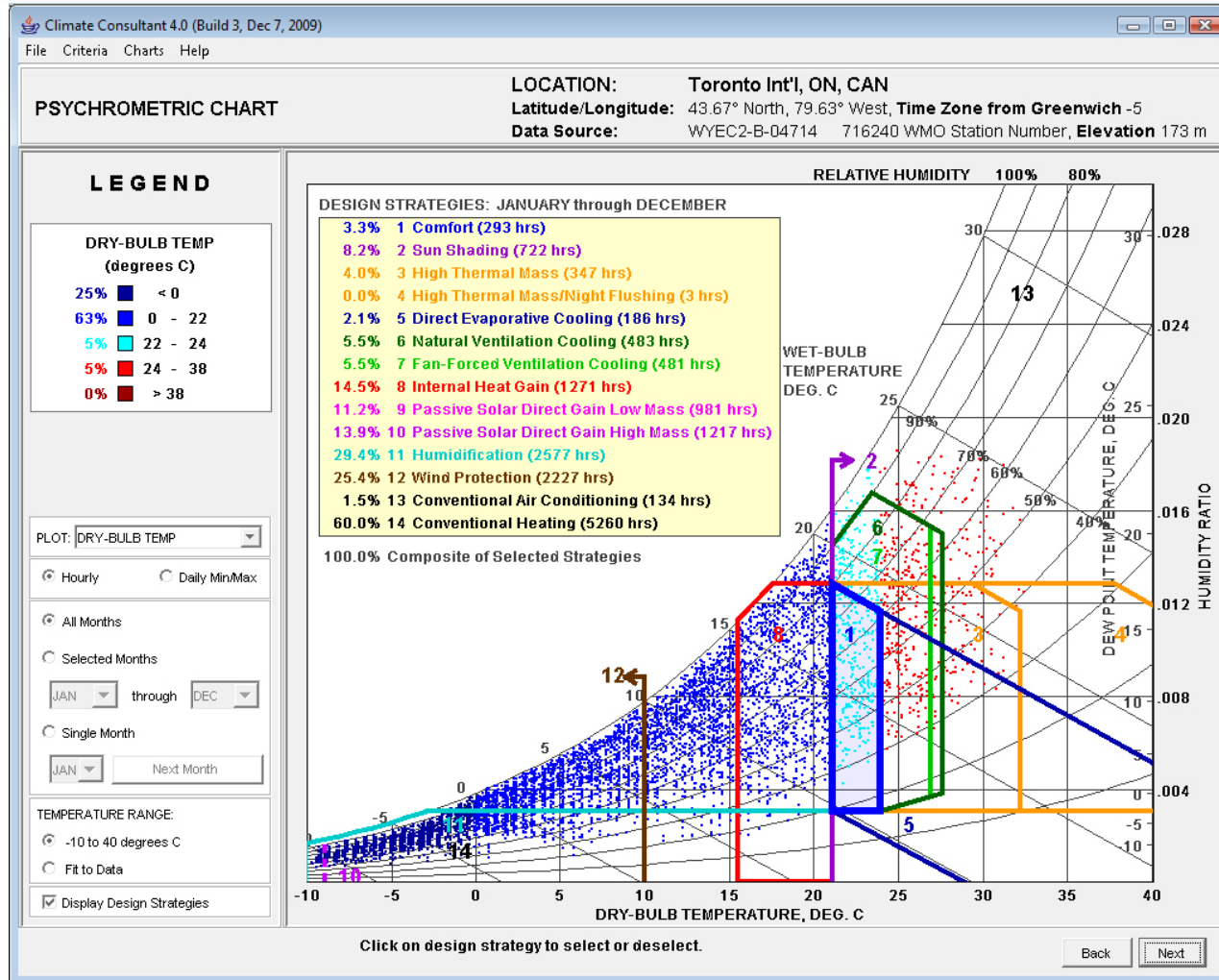
1. COMFORT: (using ASHRAE Handbook 2005 Model)		7. NATURAL VENTILATION COOLING ZONE:	
<input type="text" value="20.0"/>	Comfort Low - Min. Comfort Effective Temp @ 50% RH (ET* C)	<input type="text" value="2.0"/>	Terrain Category to modify Wind Speed (2=suburban)
<input type="text" value="23.3"/>	Comfort High - Max. Comfort Effective Temp @ 50% RH (ET* C)	<input type="text" value="0.2"/>	Min. Indoor Velocity to Effect Indoor Comfort (m/s)
<input type="text" value="17.8"/>	Max. Wet Bulb Temperature (°C)	<input type="text" value="1.5"/>	Max. Comfortable Velocity (per ASHRAE Std. 55) (m/s)
<input type="text" value="2.2"/>	Min. Dew Point Temperature (°C)	<input type="text" value="3.7"/>	Max. Perceived Temperature Reduction (°C)
<input type="text" value="2.8"/>	Summer Comfort Zone shifted by this Temperature (ET* C)	<input type="text" value="90.0"/>	Max. Relative Humidity (%)
<input type="text" value="1.0"/>	Winter Clothing Indoors (1.0 Clo=long pants,sweater)	<input type="text" value="22.8"/>	Max. Wet Bulb Temperature (°C)
<input type="text" value="0.5"/>	Summer Clothing Indoors (.5 Clo=shorts,light top)	8. FAN-FORCED VENTILATION COOLING ZONE:	
<input type="text" value="1.1"/>	Activity Level Daytime (1.1 Met=sitting,reading)	<input type="text" value="0.8"/>	Max. Mechanical Ventilation Velocity (m/s)
2. SUN SHADING ZONE: (Defaults to Comfort Low)		<input type="text" value="3.0"/>	Max. Perceived Temperature Reduction (°C) (Min Vel, Max RH, Max WB match Natural Ventilation)
<input type="text" value="20.0"/>	Min. Dry Bulb Temperature when Need for Shading Begins (°C)	9. INTERNAL HEAT GAIN ZONE:	
<input type="text" value="315.5"/>	Min. Global Horiz. Radiation when Need for Shading Begins (Wh/sq.m)	<input type="text" value="12.8"/>	Balance Point Temperature Above Which Building Runs Free (°C)
3. HIGH THERMAL MASS ZONE:		10. PASSIVE SOLAR DIRECT GAIN LOW MASS ZONE:	
<input type="text" value="8.3"/>	Max. Dry Bulb Temperature Difference above Comfort High (°C)	<input type="text" value="157.7"/>	Min. South Window Radiation for 5.56°C Temperature Rise (Wh/sq.m)
<input type="text" value="2.8"/>	Min. Nighttime Temperature Difference below Comfort High (°C)	<input type="text" value="3.0"/>	Thermal Time Lag for Low Mass Buildings (hours)
4. HIGH THERMAL MASS WITH NIGHT FLUSHING ZONE:		11. PASSIVE SOLAR DIRECT GAIN HIGH MASS ZONE:	
<input type="text" value="16.7"/>	Max. Dry Bulb Temperature Difference above Comfort High (°C)	<input type="text" value="157.7"/>	Min. South Window Radiation for 5.56°C Temperature Rise (Wh/sq.m)
<input type="text" value="2.8"/>	Min. Nighttime Temperature Difference below Comfort High (°C)	<input type="text" value="12.0"/>	Thermal Time Lag for High Mass Buildings (hours)
5. DIRECT EVAPORATIVE COOLING ZONE: (Defined by Comfort Zone)		12. WIND PROTECTION ZONE:	
<input type="text" value="20.0"/>	Max. Wet Bulb set by Max. Comfort Zone Wet Bulb (°C)	<input type="text" value="8.5"/>	Min. Velocity above which Wind Protection is Desirable (m/s)
<input type="text" value="11.0"/>	Min. Wet Bulb set by Min. Comfort Zone Wet Bulb (°C)	<input type="text" value="11.1"/>	Min. Dry Bulb Temperature Difference Below Comfort Low (°C)
6. TWO-STAGE EVAPORATIVE COOLING ZONE:		13. HUMIDIFICATION ZONE: (directly below Comfort Zone)	
<input type="text" value="50.0"/>	% Efficiency of Indirect Stage	14. DEHUMIDIFICATION ZONE: (directly above Comfort Zone)	

Restore Default Values Recalculate Back **Next**

The Psychrometric Chart



Psychrometric Chart



The chart helps to identify climate based strategies to achieve comfort.

Climate Data for Toronto

TEMPERATURE RANGE
 ASHRAE 2005

LOCATION: Toronto Int'l, ON, CAN
 Latitude/Longitude: 43.67° North, 79.63° West, Time Zone from Greenwich -5
 Data Source: WYEC2-B-04714 716240 WMO Station Number, Elevation 173 m

LEGEND

- RECORDED HIGH - ○
- DESIGN HIGH -
- AVERAGE HIGH -
- MEAN -
- AVERAGE LOW -
- DESIGN LOW -
- RECORDED LOW - ○

COMFORT ZONE

SUMMER

WINTER

(At 50% Relative Humidity)

DESIGN HIGH: Residential

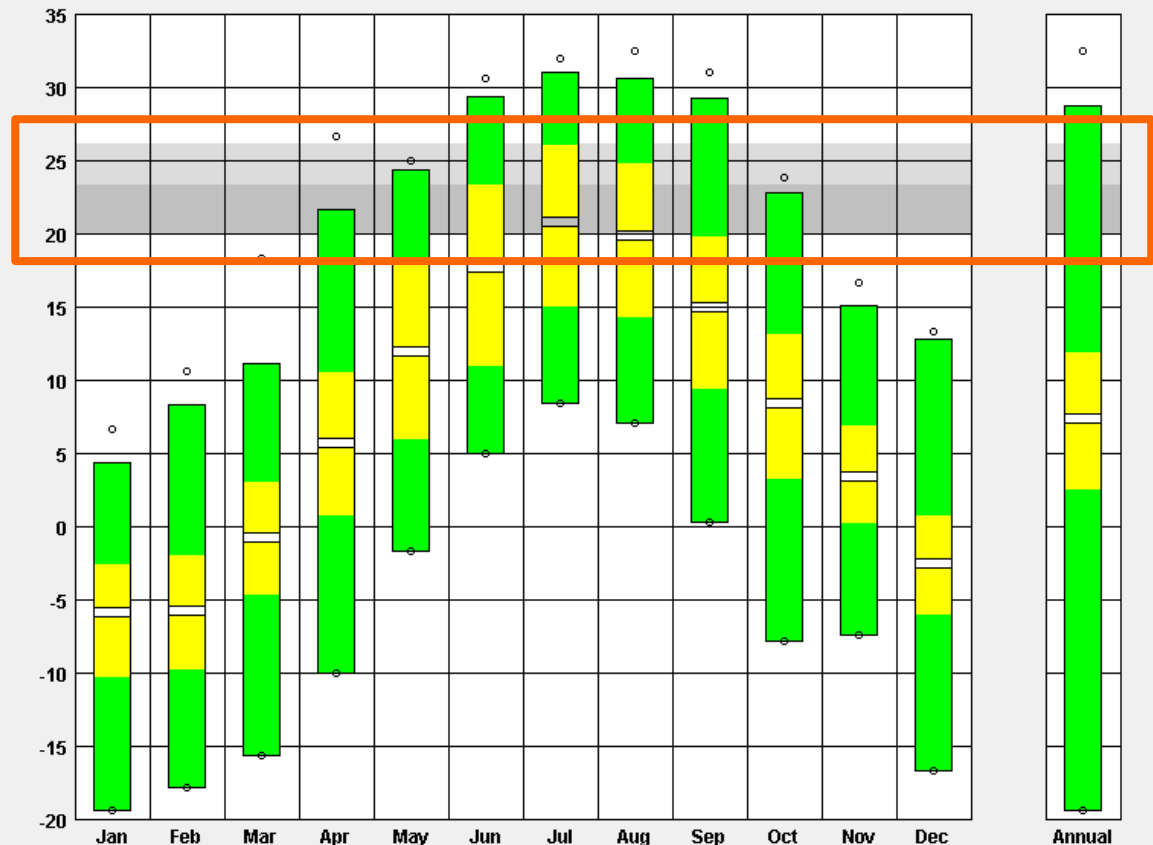
- 1% of Hours Above
- .5% of Hours Above
- 0% of Hours Above

DESIGN LOW: Residential

- 1% of Hours Below
- .5% of Hours Below
- 0% of Hours Below

TEMPERATURE RANGE:

- 10 to 40 °C
- Fit to Data



COMFORT ZONE

Climate Data for Toronto

TEMPERATURE RANGE
 ASHRAE 2005

LOCATION: Toronto Int'l, ON, CAN
 Latitude/Longitude: 43.67° North, 79.63° West, Time Zone from Greenwich -5
 Data Source: WYEC2-B-04714 716240 WMO Station Number, Elevation 173 m

LEGEND

- RECORDED HIGH - ○
- DESIGN HIGH -
- AVERAGE HIGH -
- MEAN -
- AVERAGE LOW -
- DESIGN LOW -
- RECORDED LOW - ○

COMFORT ZONE

- SUMMER
- WINTER

(At 50% Relative Humidity)

DESIGN HIGH: Residential

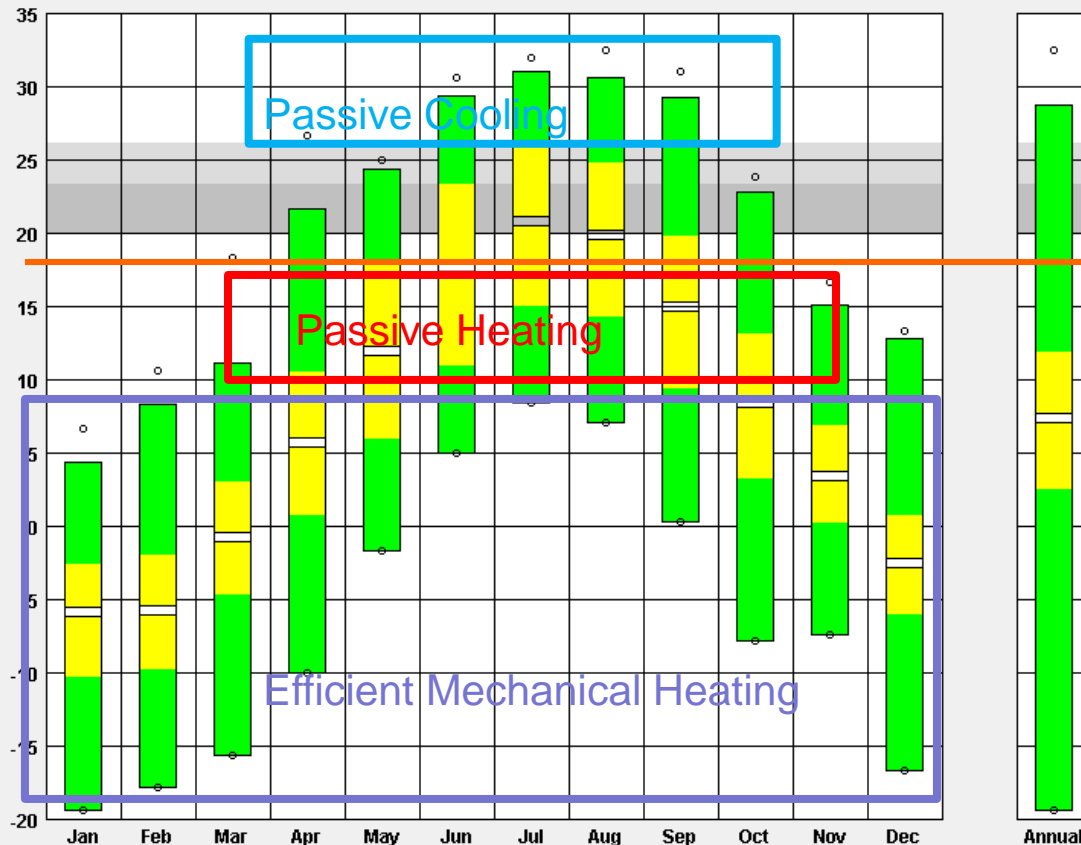
- 1% of Hours Above
- .5% of Hours Above
- 0% of Hours Above

DESIGN LOW: Residential

- 1% of Hours Below
- .5% of Hours Below
- 0% of Hours Below

TEMPERATURE RANGE:

- 10 to 40 °C
- Fit to Data



18°C is the base point for measuring Heating vs Cooling Degree days

Climate Data for Toronto

MONTHLY DIURNAL AVERAGES
ASHRAE 2005

LOCATION: Toronto Int'l, ON, CAN
Latitude/Longitude: 43.67° North, 79.63° West, Time Zone from Greenwich -5
Data Source: WYEC2-B-04714 716240 WMO Station Number, Elevation 173 m

LEGEND

HOURLY AVERAGES

TEMPERATURE: (degrees C)

- DRY BULB MEAN
- WET BULB MEAN
- █ DRY BULB (all hours)

COMFORT ZONE

- SUMMER
- WINTER

(At 50% Relative Humidity)

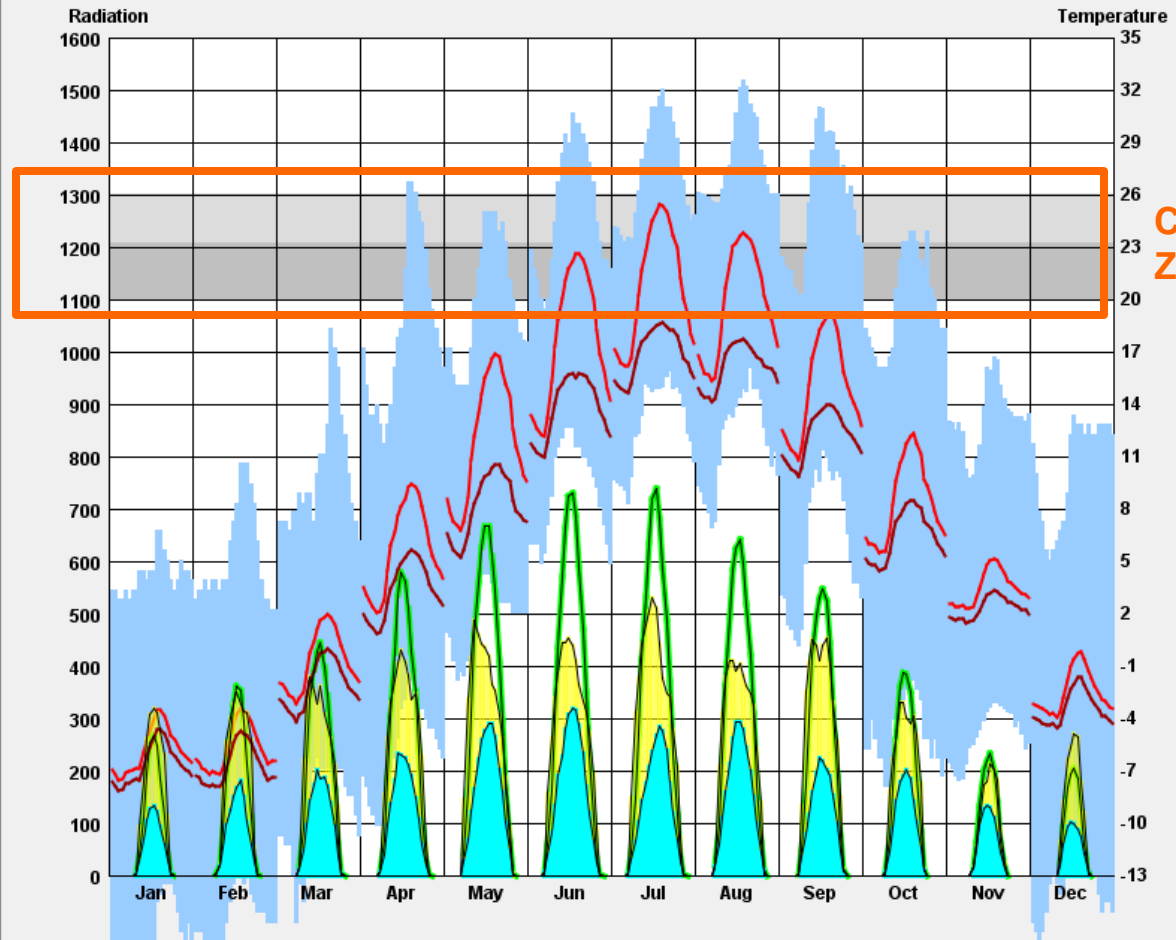
RADIATION: (Wh/sq.m)

- █ GLOBAL HORIZ
- █ DIRECT NORMAL
- █ DIFFUSE

Display Dry Bulb Temp
(all hours)

TEMPERATURE RANGE:

- 10 to 40 °C
- Fit to Data

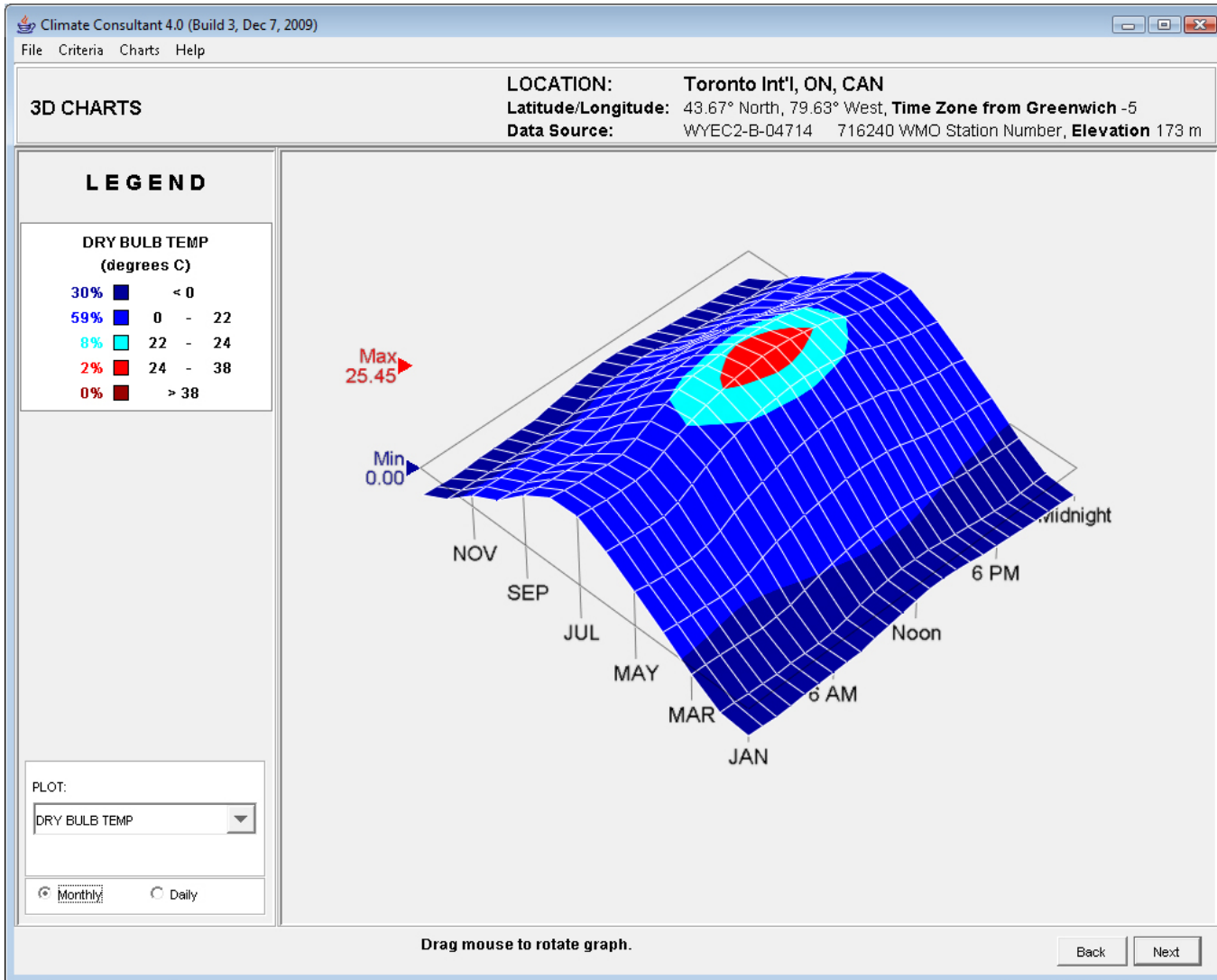


COMFORT
ZONE

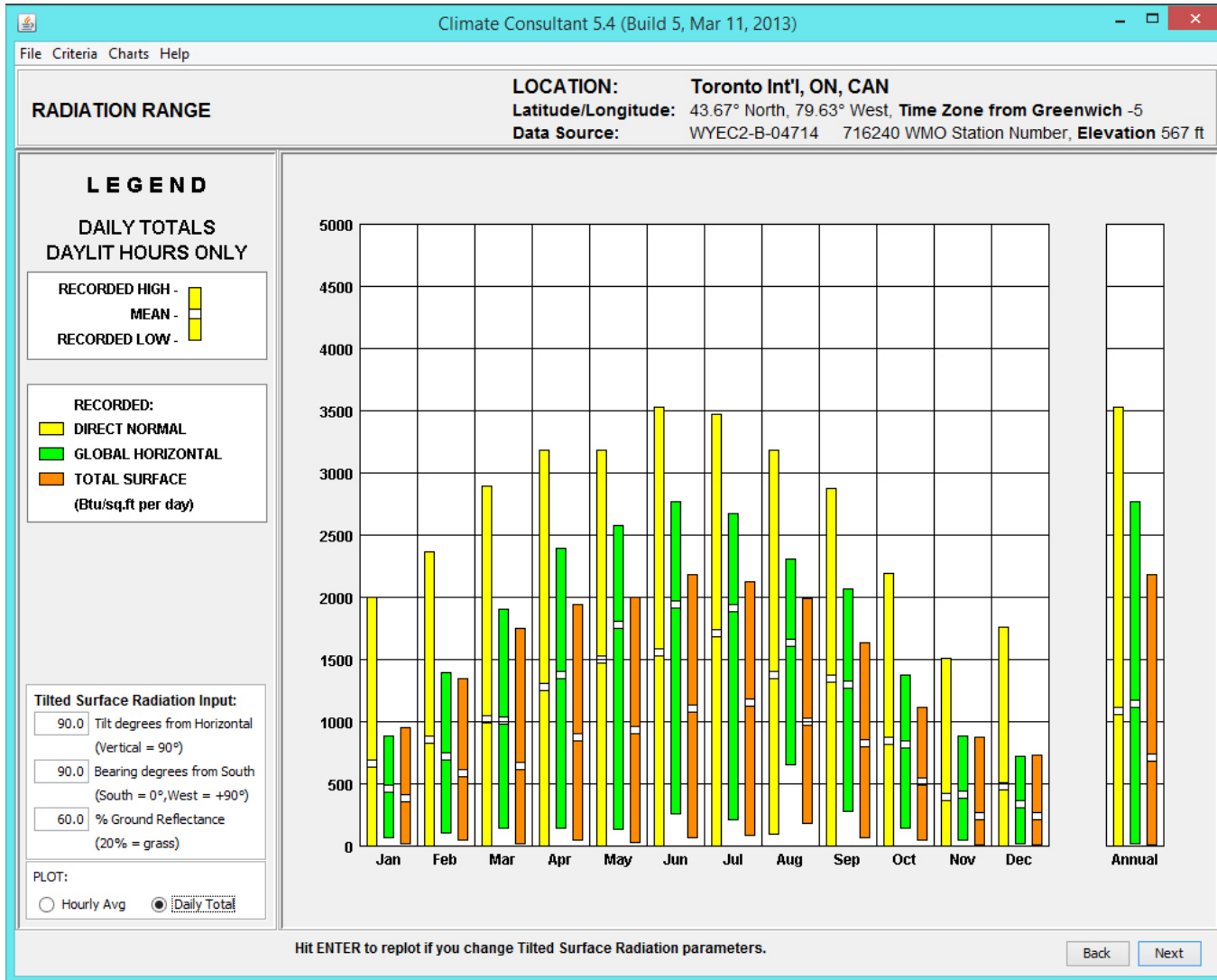
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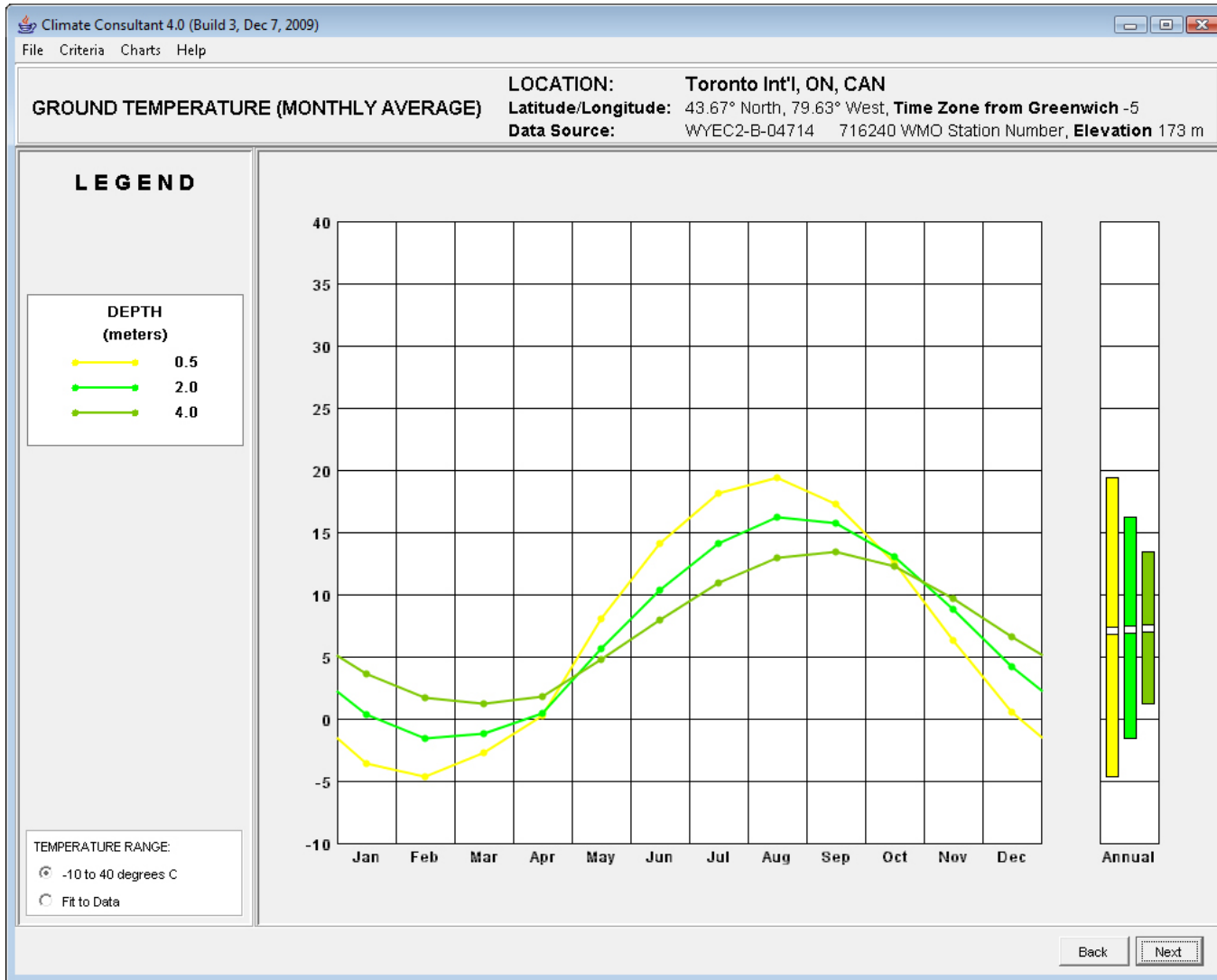
Temperature Range for Toronto



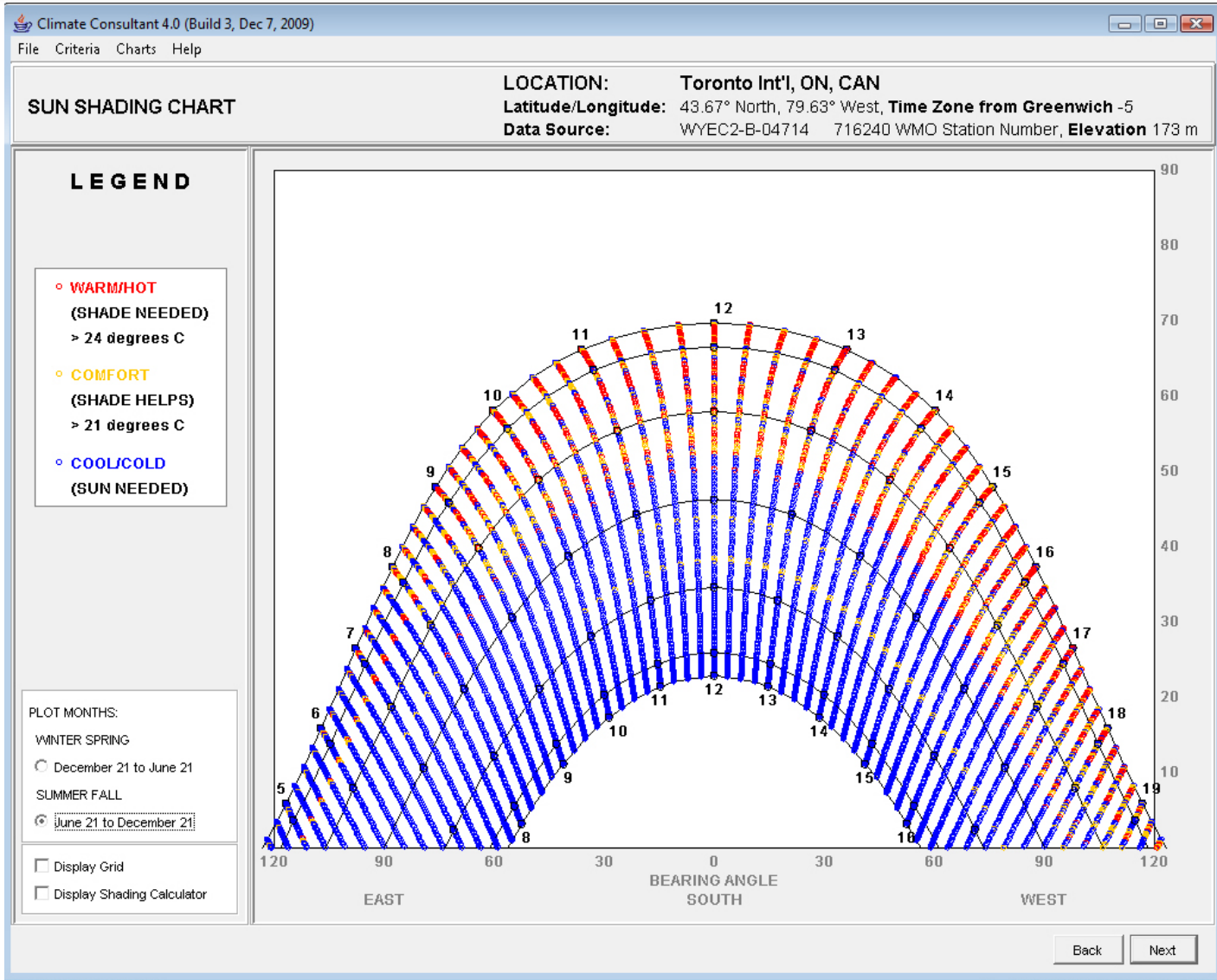
Toronto Solar Radiation Range



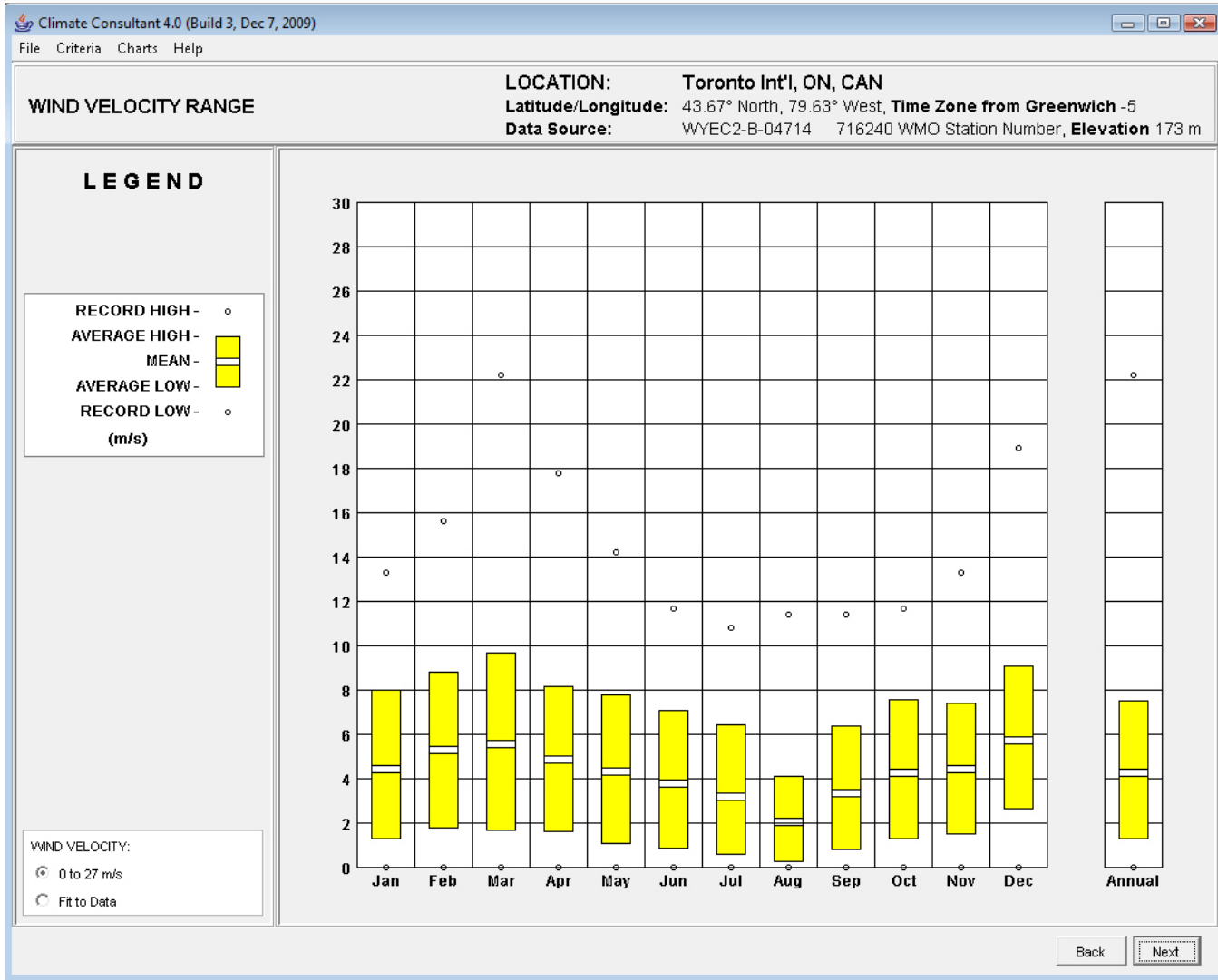
Ground Temperature for Toronto



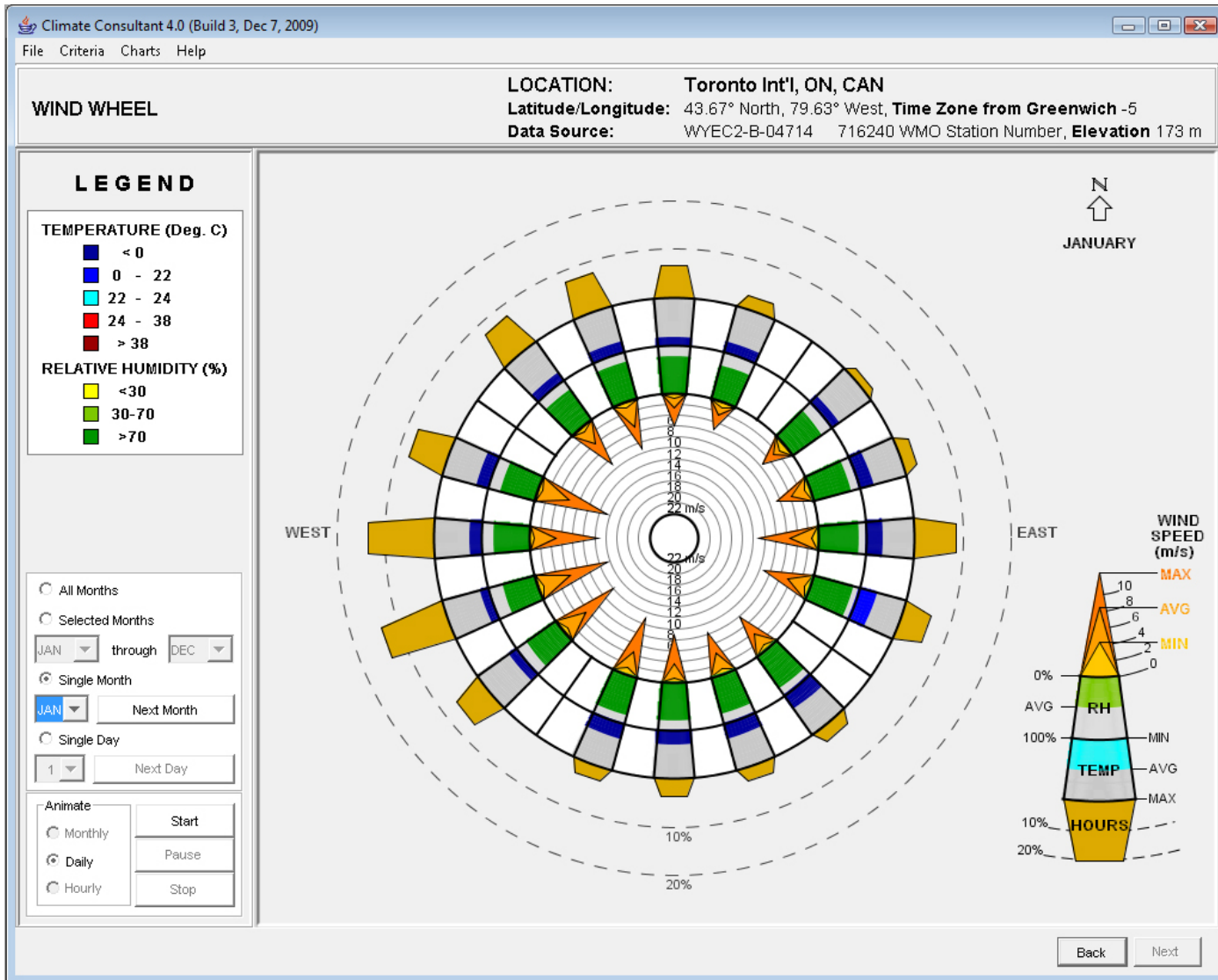
Sun Shading Chart



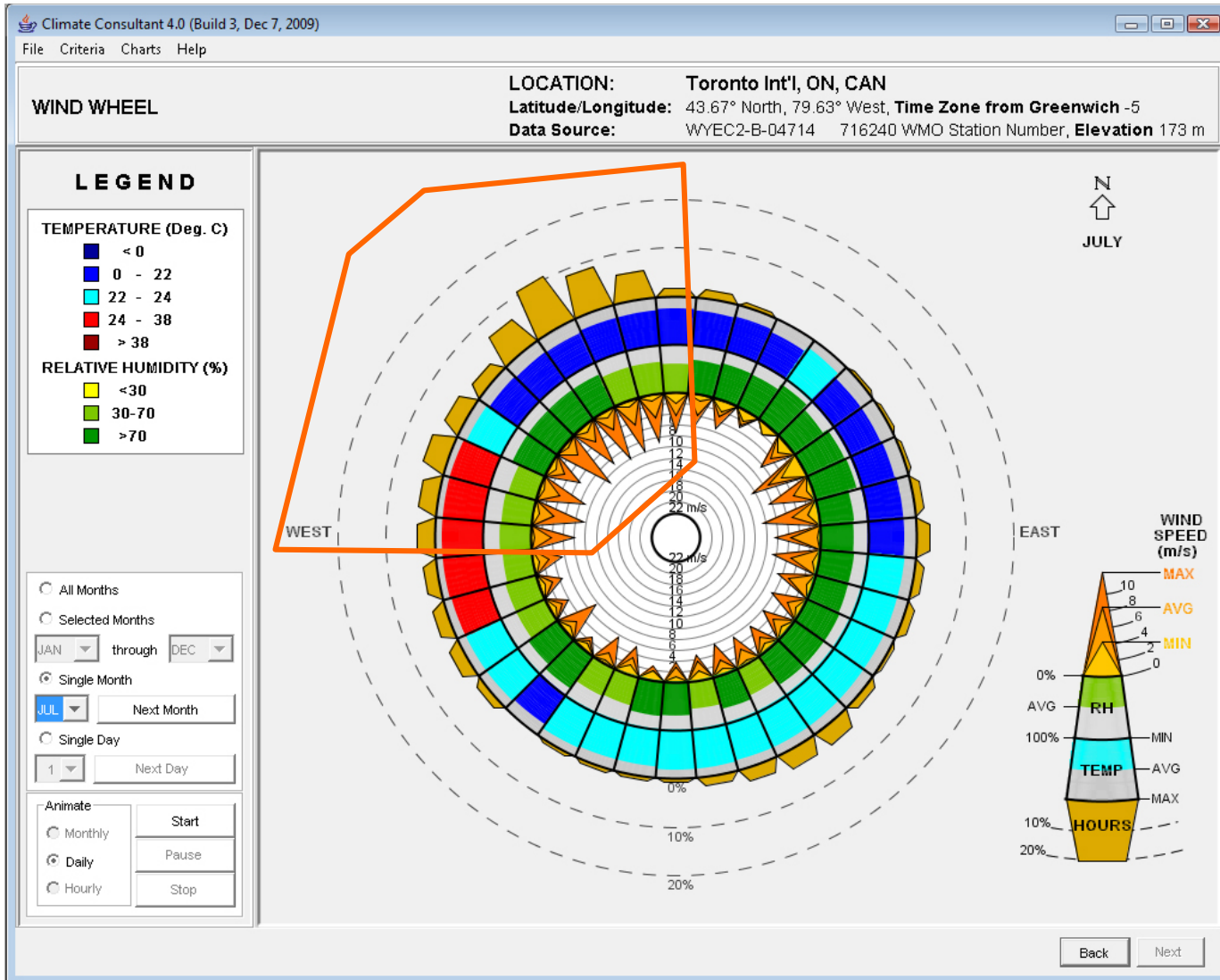
Wind Speed



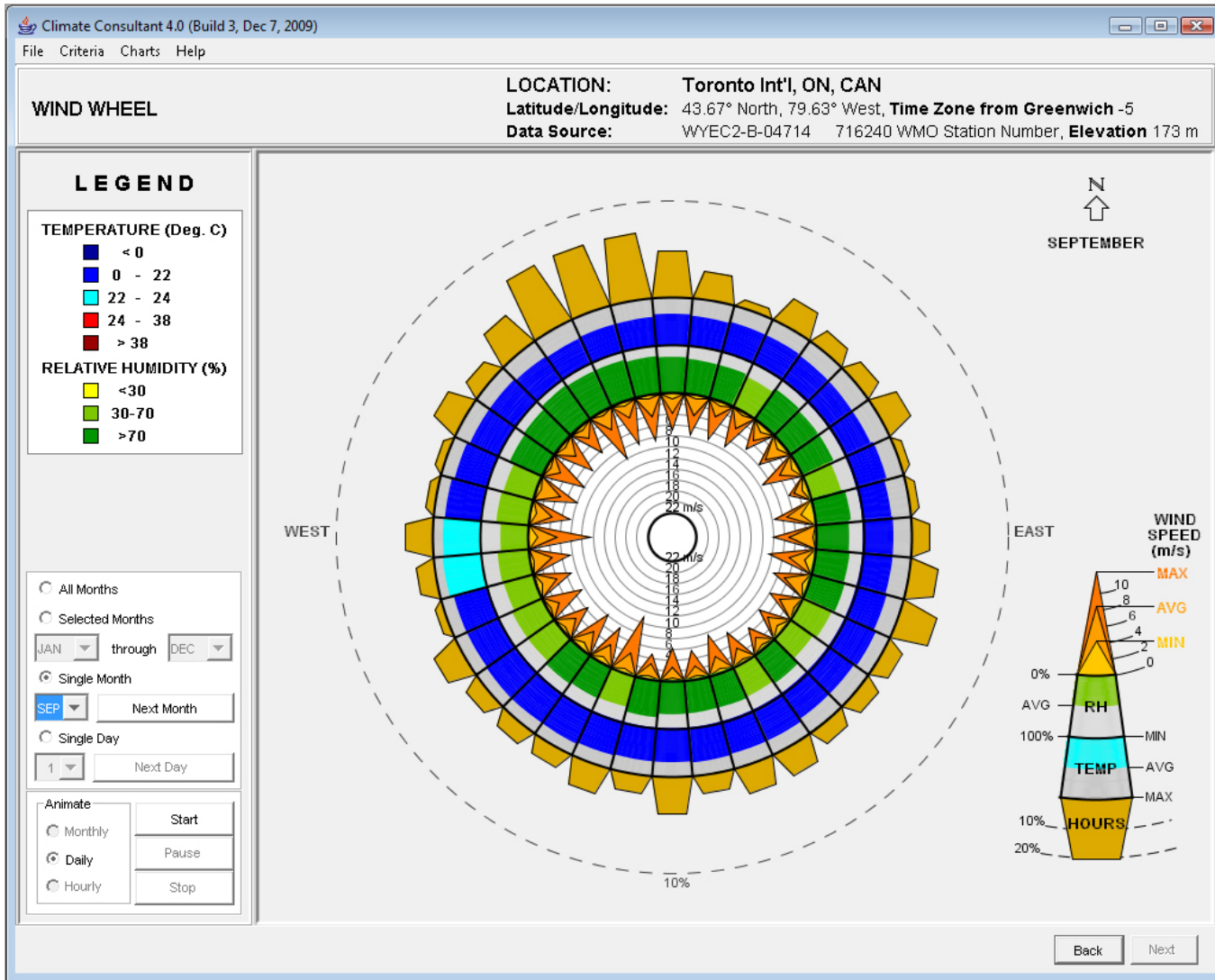
January Wind Wheel/Rose for Toronto



July Wind Wheel/Rose for Toronto



September Wind Wheel/Rose for Toronto



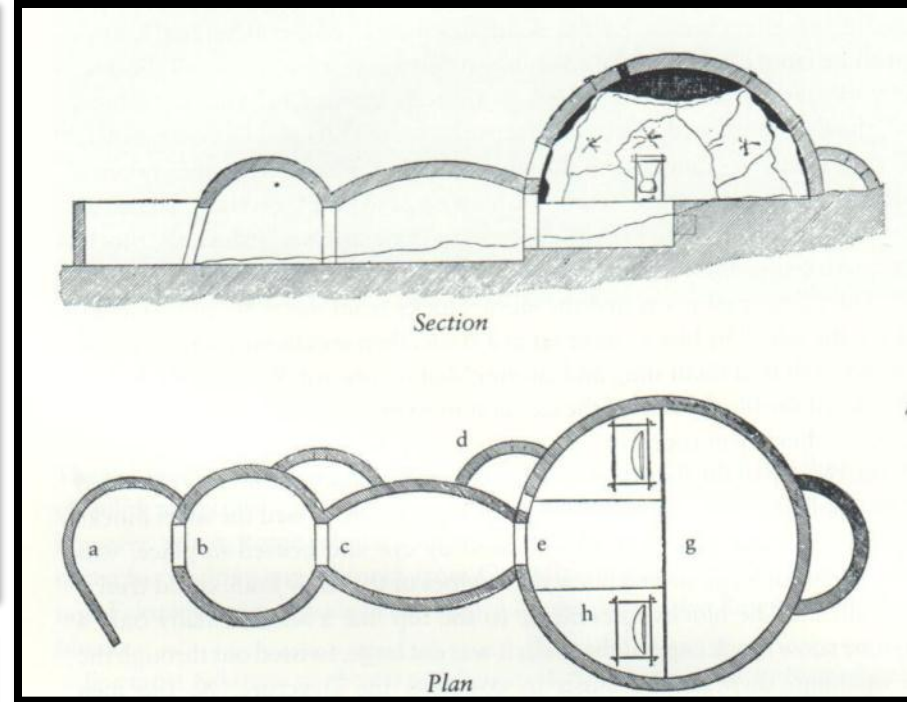
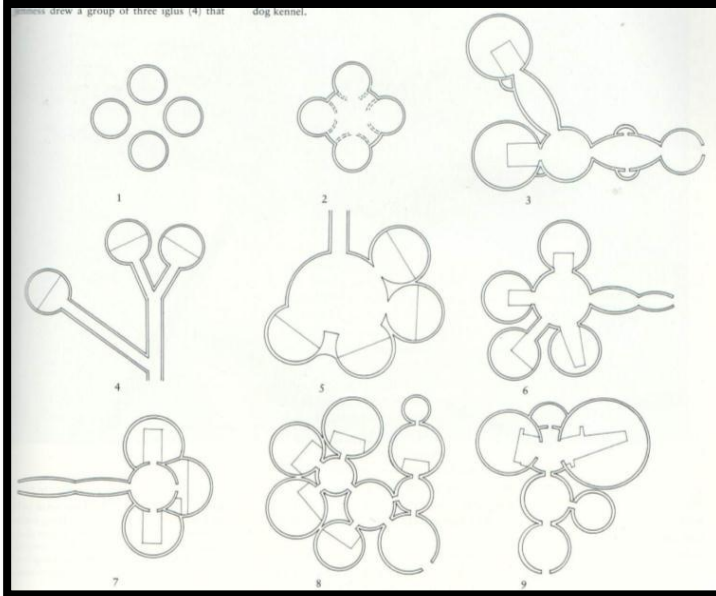
VERNACULAR STRATEGIES



CLIMATE AS THE STARTING POINT
FOR RETHINKING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Bio-climatic Design: COLD VERNACULAR

Native American Architecture



- Local materials
- Heat retention
- Vestibule
- Stratification

Bio-climatic Design: COLD RULES

Where **winter** is the dominant season and concerns for conserving heat predominate all other concerns. **Heating degree days greatly exceed cooling degree days.**

RULES:

- First **INSULATE**
- exceed CODE requirements (DOUBLE??)
- minimize infiltration (build tight to reduce air changes)
- Then **INSOLATE**
- **ORIENT AND SITE THE BUILDING PROPERLY FOR THE SUN**
- maximize south facing windows for easier control
- fenestrate for **DIRECT GAIN**
- apply **THERMAL MASS** inside the building envelope to store the FREE SOLAR HEAT
- create a sheltered MICROCLIMATE to make it LESS cold



YMCA Environmental Learning Centre,
Paradise Lake, Ontario

Climate Data for Toronto

MONTHLY DIURNAL AVERAGES
ASHRAE 2005

LOCATION: Toronto Int'l, ON, CAN
Latitude/Longitude: 43.67° North, 79.63° West, Time Zone from Greenwich -5
Data Source: WYEC2-B-04714 716240 WMO Station Number, Elevation 173 m

LEGEND

HOURLY AVERAGES

TEMPERATURE: (degrees C)

- DRY BULB MEAN
- WET BULB MEAN
- █ DRY BULB (all hours)

COMFORT ZONE

- SUMMER
- WINTER

(At 50% Relative Humidity)

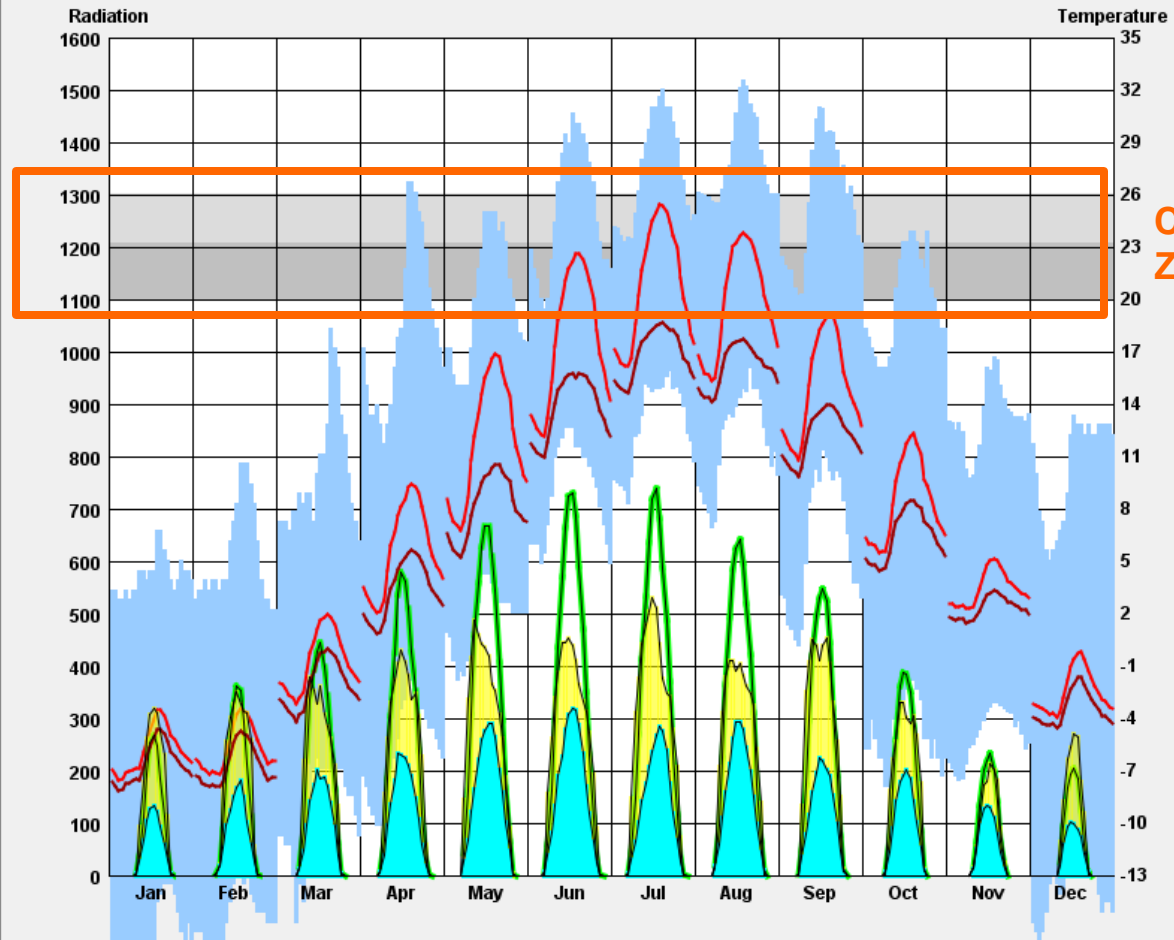
RADIATION: (Wh/sq.m)

- █ GLOBAL HORIZ
- █ DIRECT NORMAL
- █ DIFFUSE

Display Dry Bulb Temp
(all hours)

TEMPERATURE RANGE:

- 10 to 40 °C
- Fit to Data



COMFORT
ZONE

Back

Next

The issue of snow



Certain roof shapes are more prone to snow buildup and can reduce the ease of insulation.

Physical modeling



Physical testing in a water flume can help to understand issues with roof shape, drifting and snow build up around entrances.

Bio-climatic Design: **HOT-ARID RULES**

Where **very high summer temperatures** with great fluctuation predominate with **dry conditions** throughout the year. **Cooling degrees days** greatly exceed heating degree days.

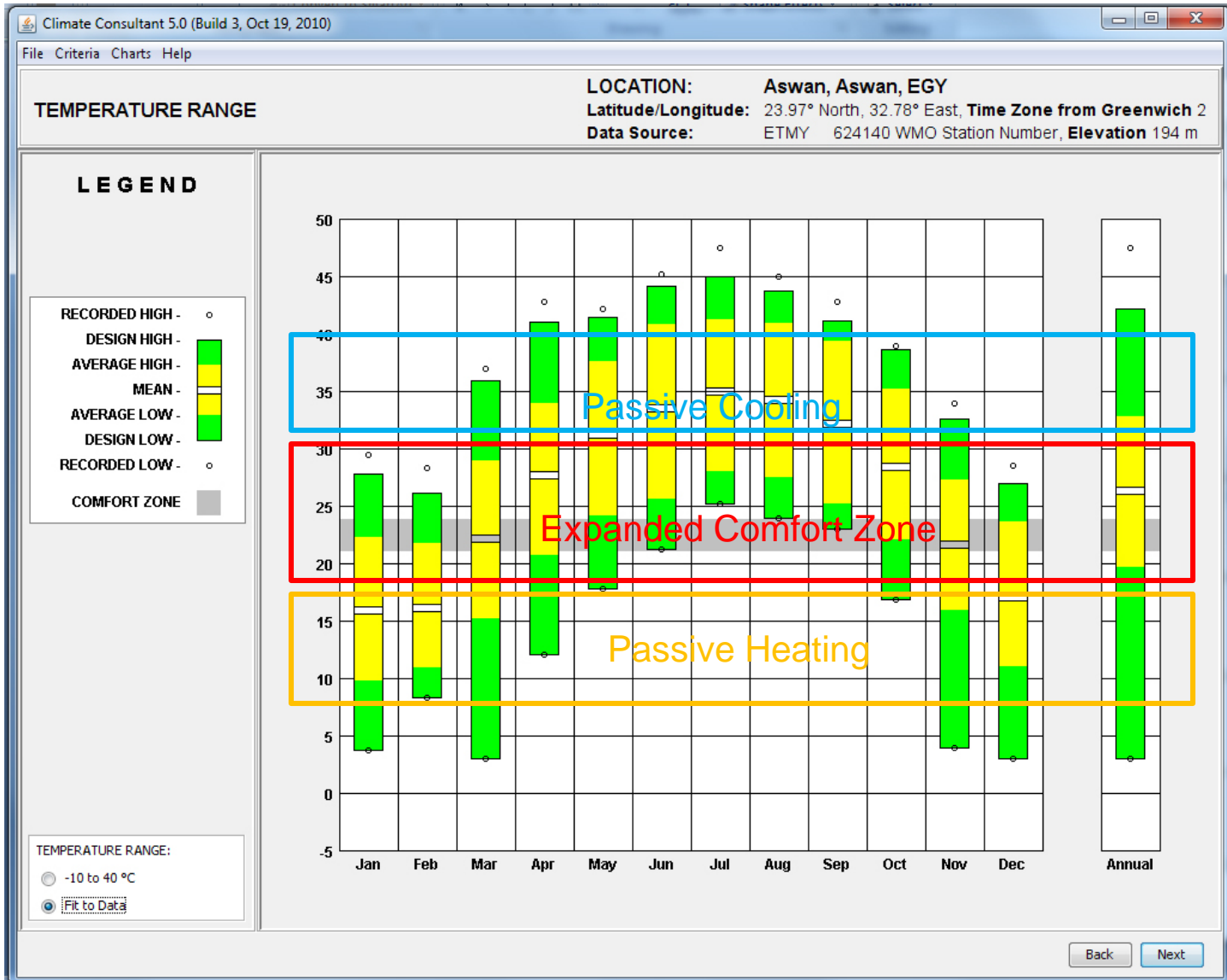
RULES:

- **SOLAR AVOIDANCE**: keep DIRECT SOLAR GAIN out of the building
- avoid daytime ventilation
- promote nighttime flushing with cool evening air
- achieve daylighting by reflectance and use of LIGHT non-heat absorbing colours
- create a cooler MICROCLIMATE by using light / lightweight materials
- respect the DIURNAL CYCLE
- use heavy mass for walls and DO NOT INSULATE

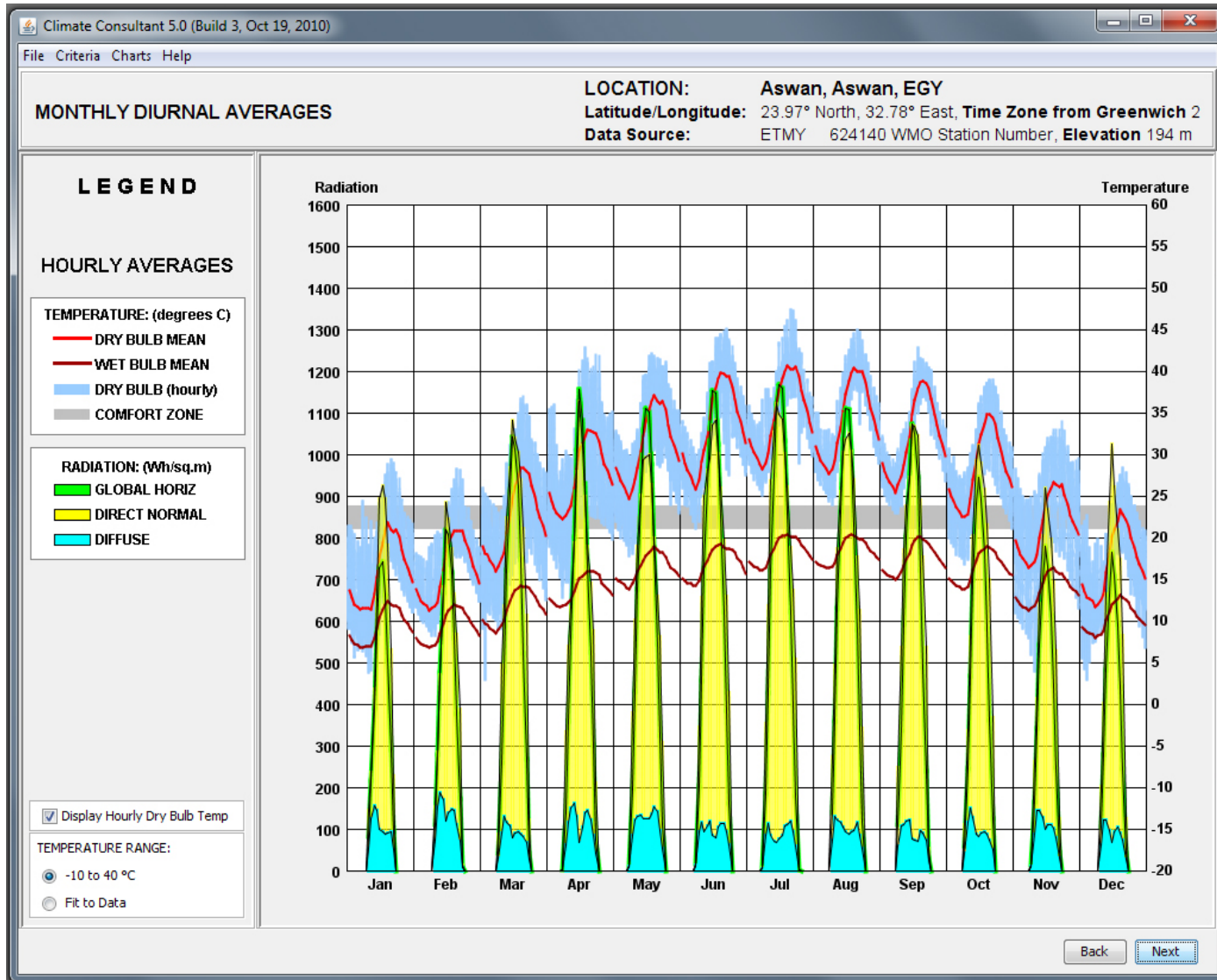


Traditional House in Egypt

Bio-climatic Design: HOT-ARID

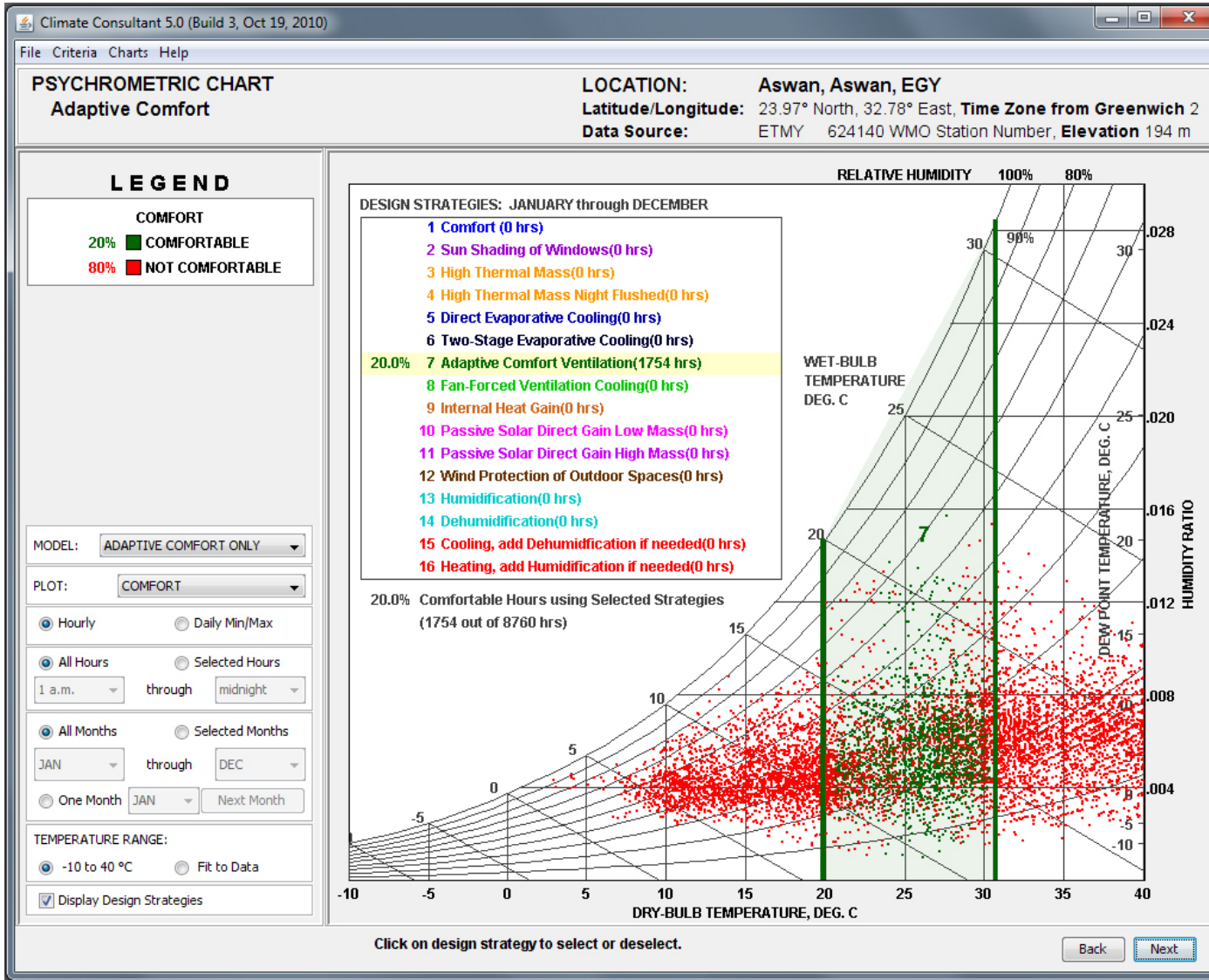


Bio-climatic Design: **HOT-ARID**



Note high levels of direct sun from chart.

Bio-climatic Design: HOT-ARID



Bio-climatic Design: **HOT-HUMID**

Where **warm to hot** stable conditions predominate with **high humidity** throughout the year. **Cooling degrees days** greatly exceed heating degree days.

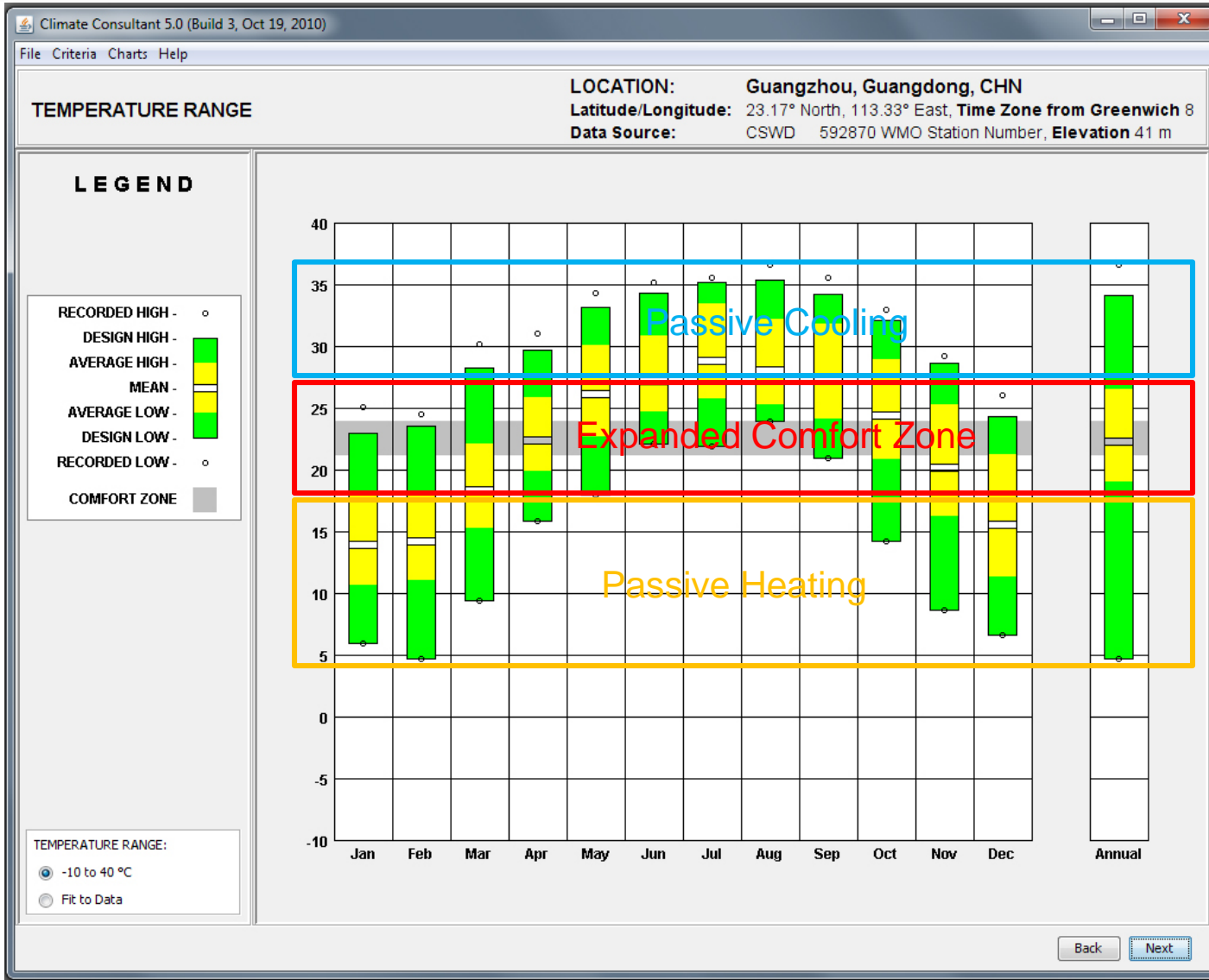
RULES:

- **SOLAR AVOIDANCE** : large roofs with overhangs that shade walls and to allow windows open at all times
- **PROMOTE VENTILATION**
- **USE LIGHTWEIGHT MATERIALS** that do not hold heat and that will not promote condensation and dampness (mold/mildew)
 - *eliminate basements and concrete*
 - use STACK EFFECT to ventilate through high spaces
 - use of COURTYARDS and semi-enclosed outside spaces
 - use WATER FEATURES for cooling

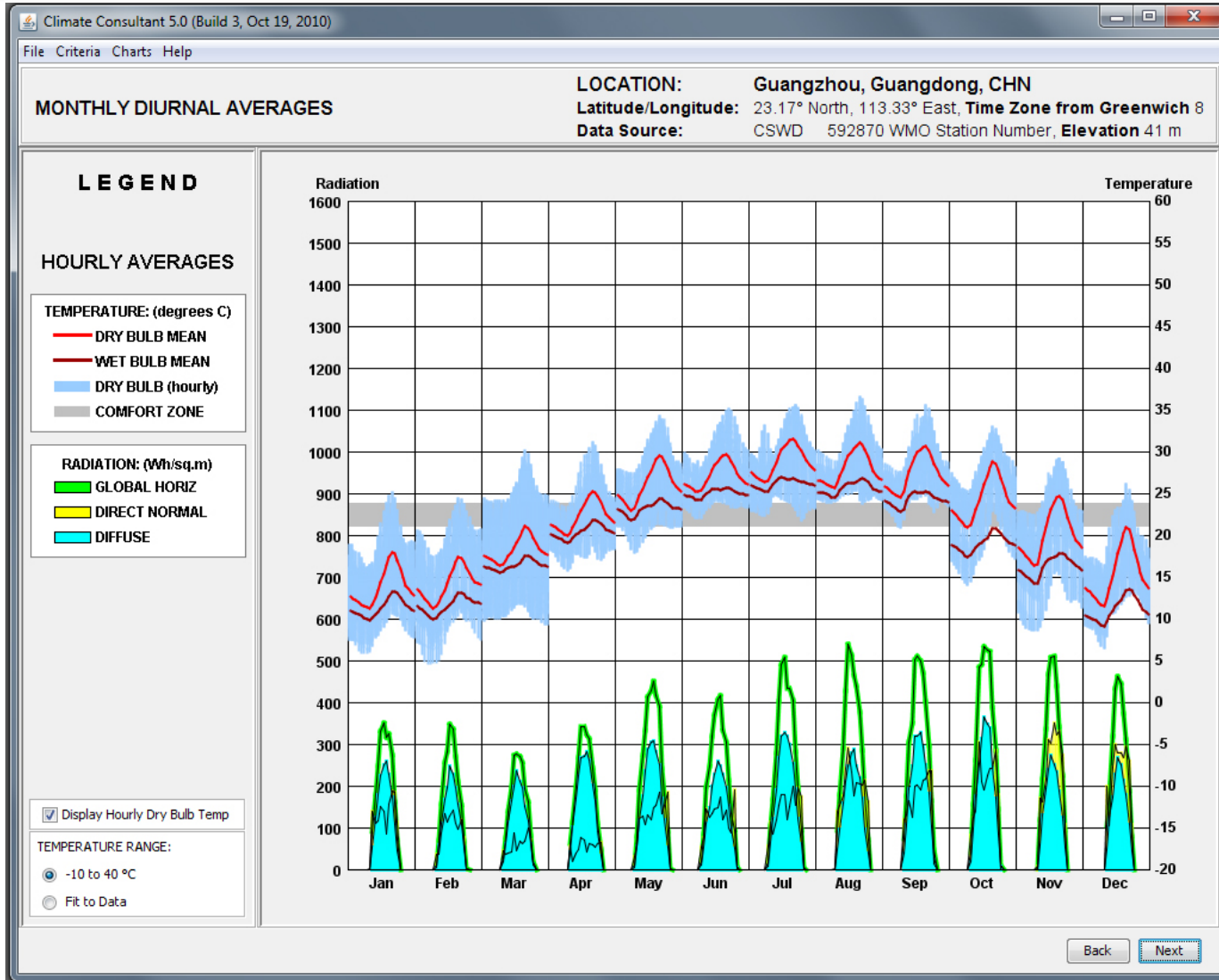


House in Seaside, Florida

Bio-climatic Design: HOT-HUMID

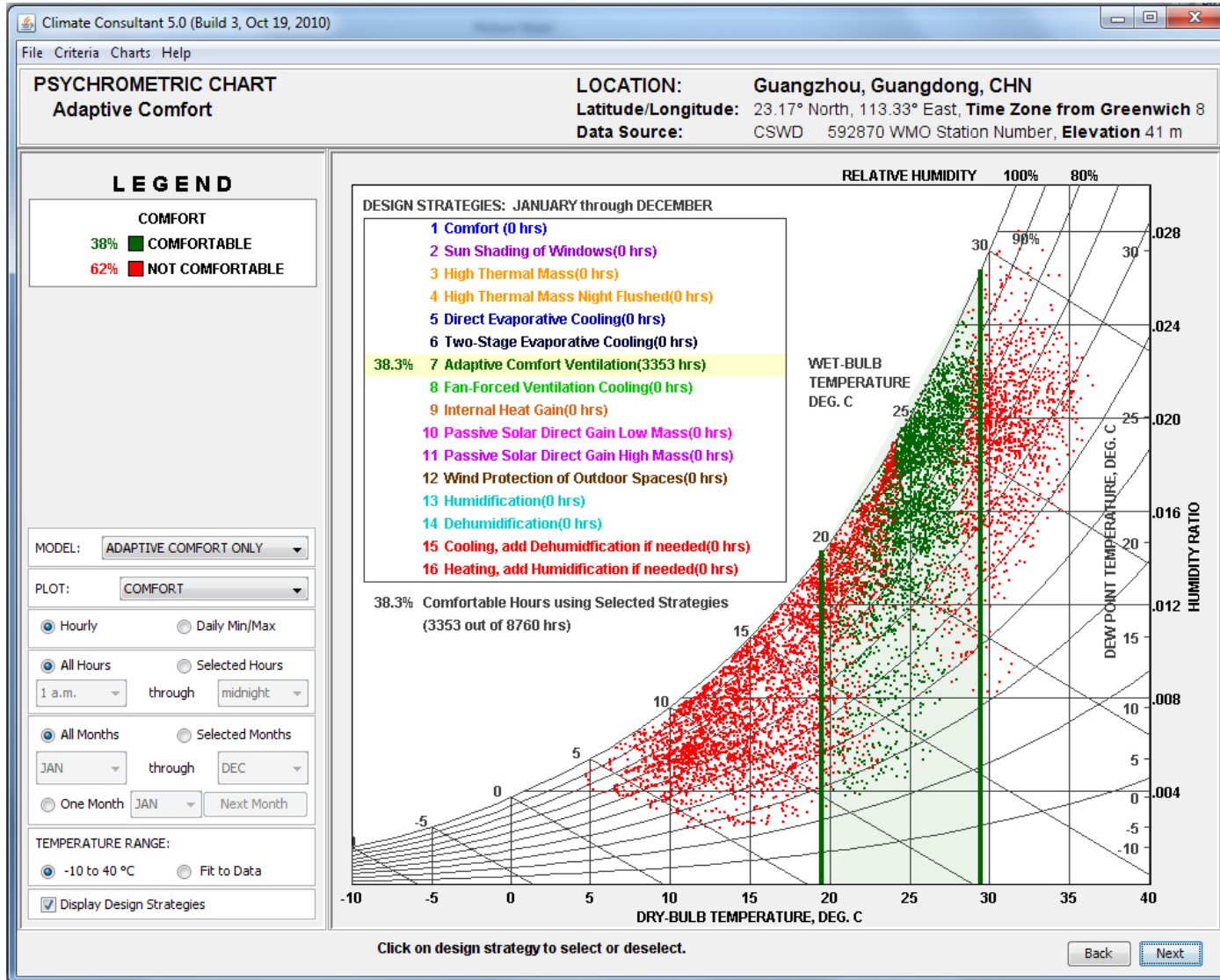


Bio-climatic Design: HOT-HUMID



Note lack of direct solar and hazy conditions.

Bio-climatic Design: HOT-HUMID



Bio-climatic Design: TEMPERATE

The summers are hot and humid, and the winters are cold. In much of the region the topography is generally flat, allowing cold winter winds to come in from the northwest and cool summer breezes to flow in from the southwest.

The four seasons are almost equally long.

RULES:

- **BALANCE** strategies between COLD and HOT-HUMID
- maximize flexibility in order to be able to modify the envelope for varying climatic conditions
- understand the natural benefits of SOLAR ANGLES that shade during the warm months and allow for heating during the cool months



IslandWood Residence, Seattle, WA

CLIMATE RESPONSIVE

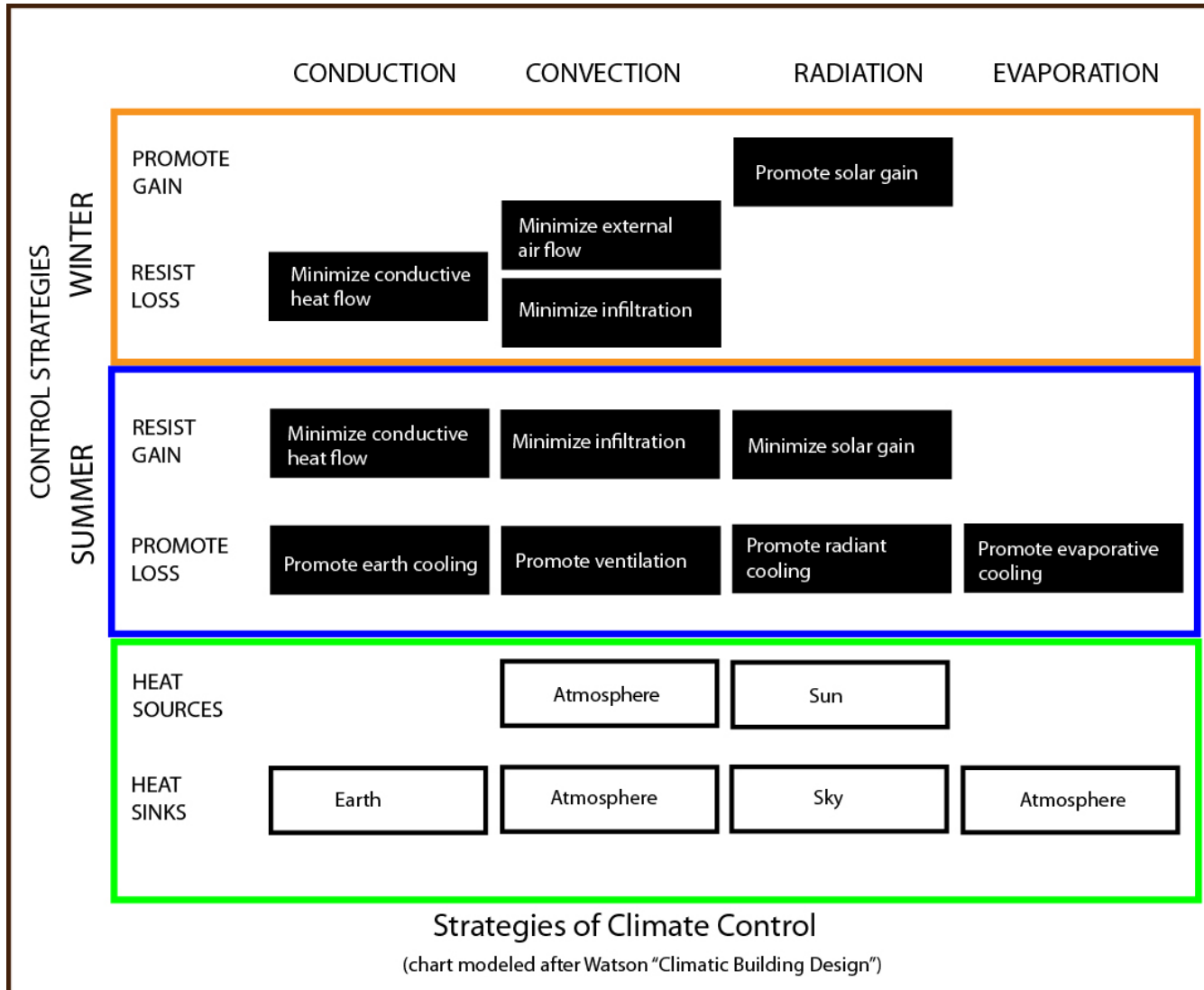
HEATING ↔ SUN

COOLING ↔ WIND

DAYLIGHTING ↔ LIGHT

PASSIVE STRATEGIES

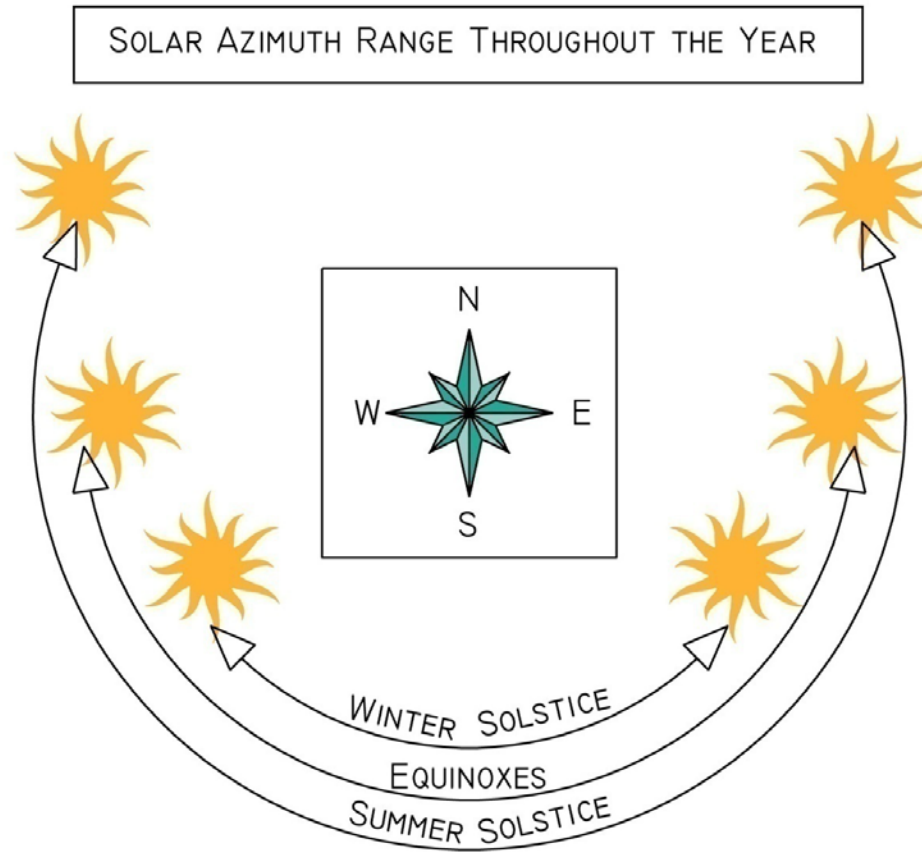
Begin with Passive Strategies for Climate Control to Reduce Energy Requirements



HEATING

COOLING

#1 Starting Point ORIENTATION – Locate the SUN



- use it to get FREE energy for heating
- avoid it to reduce cooling requirements

Solar Geometry

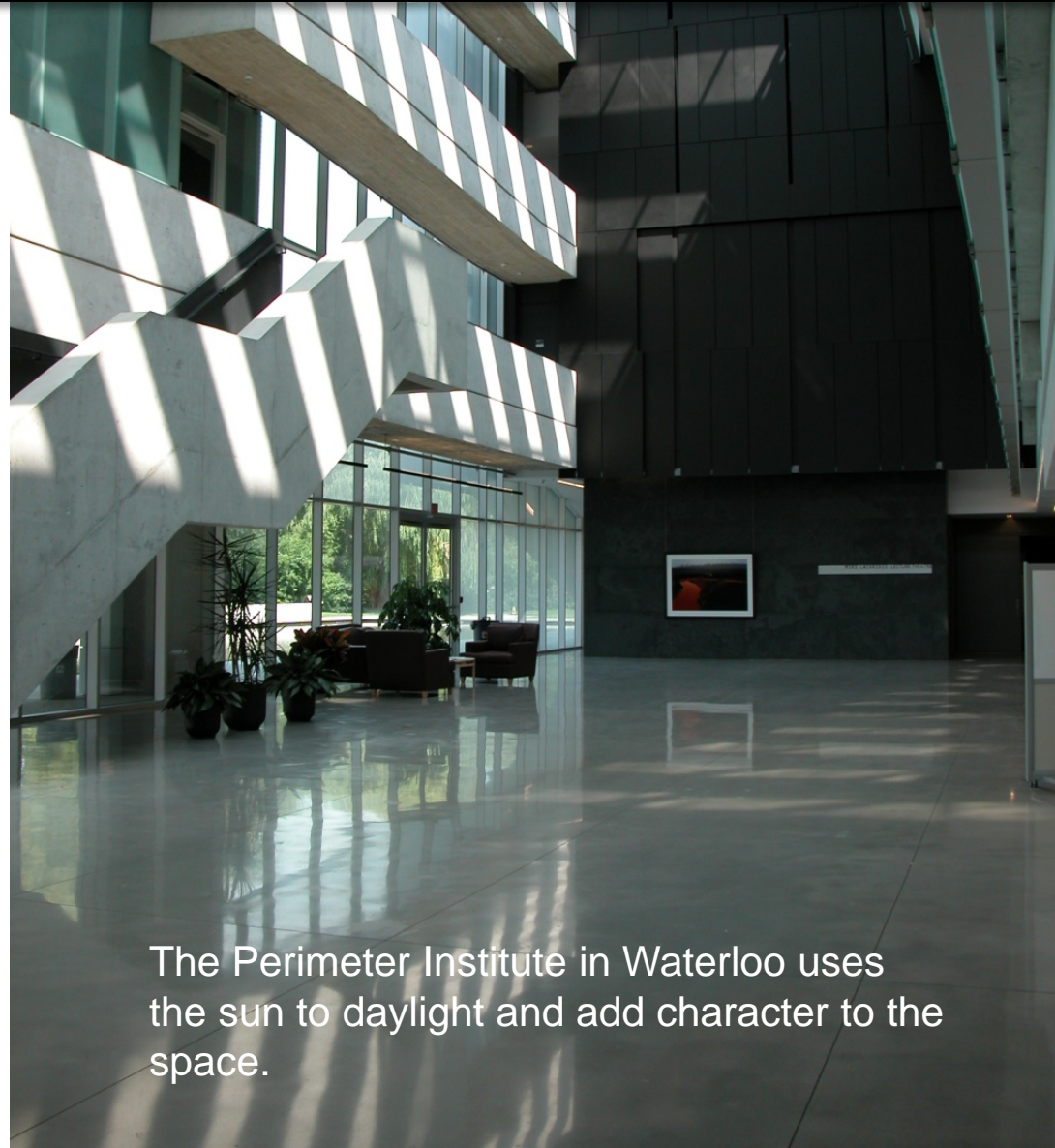
In studying Solar Geometry we are going to figure out how to use the sun's natural path in summer vs. winter to provide FREE heat in the Winter, and to reduce required COOLING in the summer.



Solar Geometry

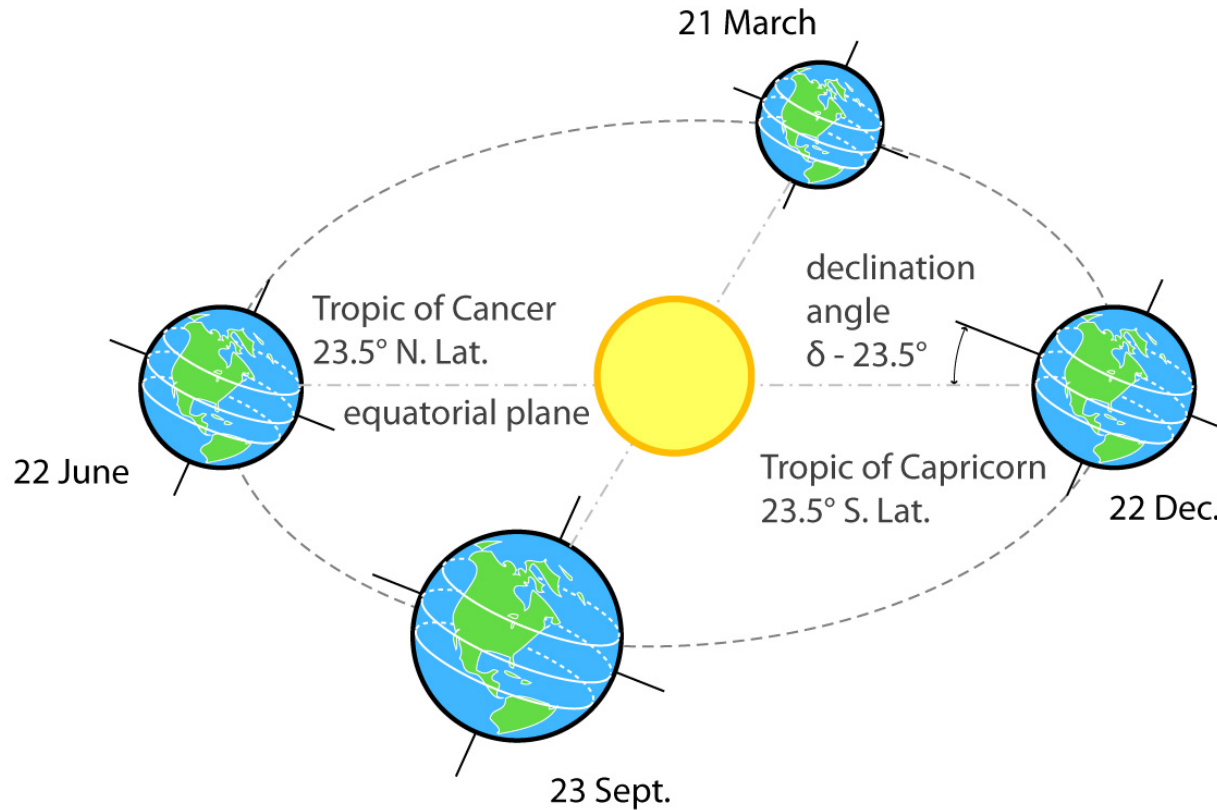
Understanding solar geometry is essential in order to:

- do passive building design (for heating and cooling)
- orient buildings properly
- understand seasonal changes in the building and its surroundings
- design shading devices
- use the sun to animate our architecture



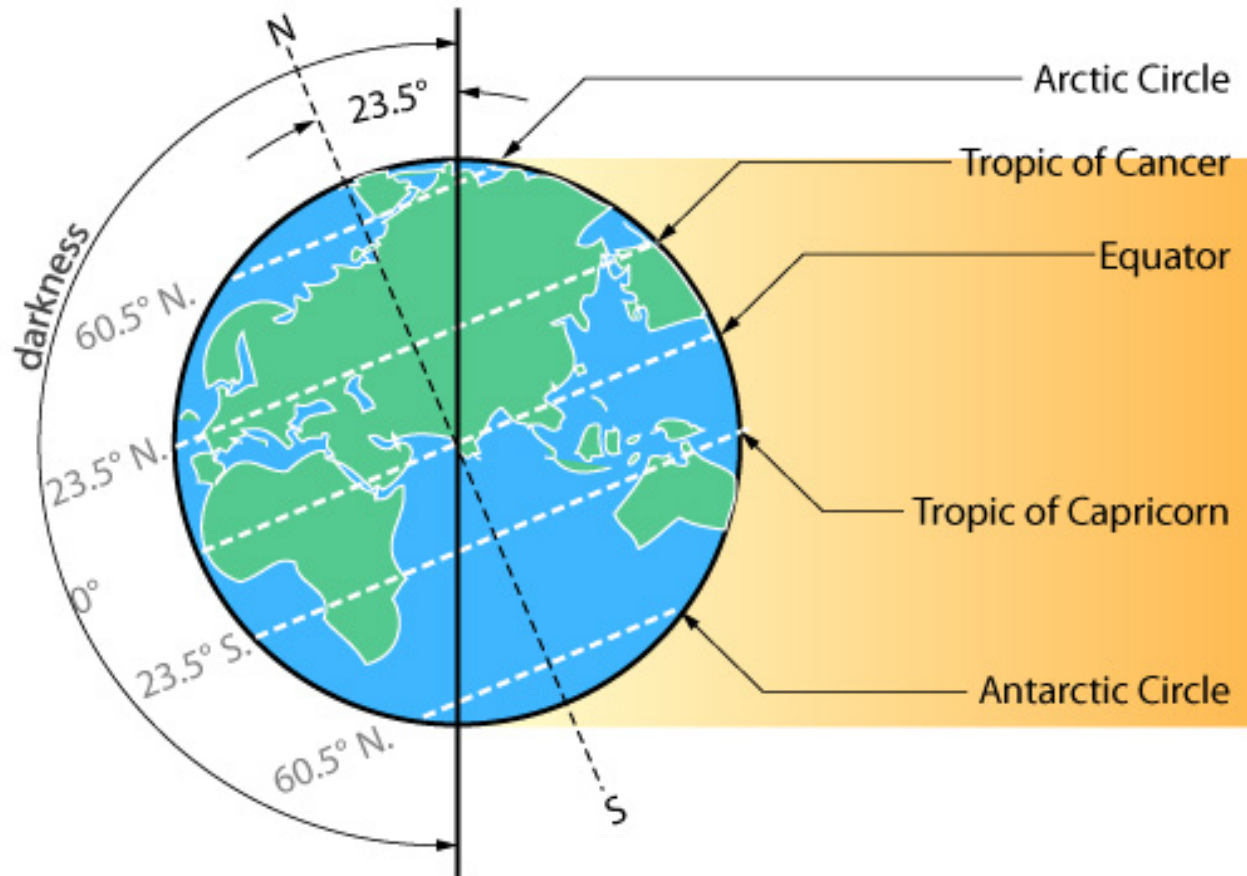
The Perimeter Institute in Waterloo uses the sun to daylight and add character to the space.

Solar Geometry



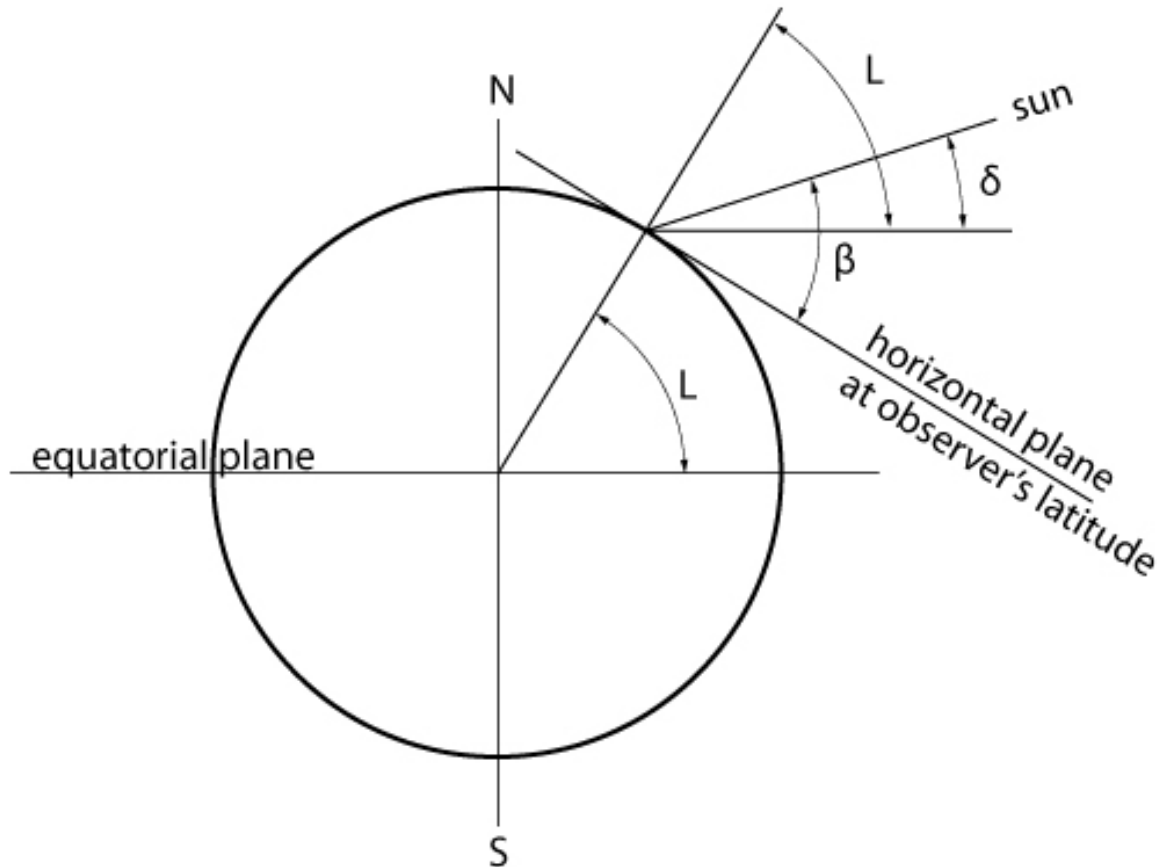
Earth's motion around the sun.

Solar Position



Earth relative to sun at winter solstice.

Solar Geometry Terms



Relation between declination, altitude angle, and latitude.

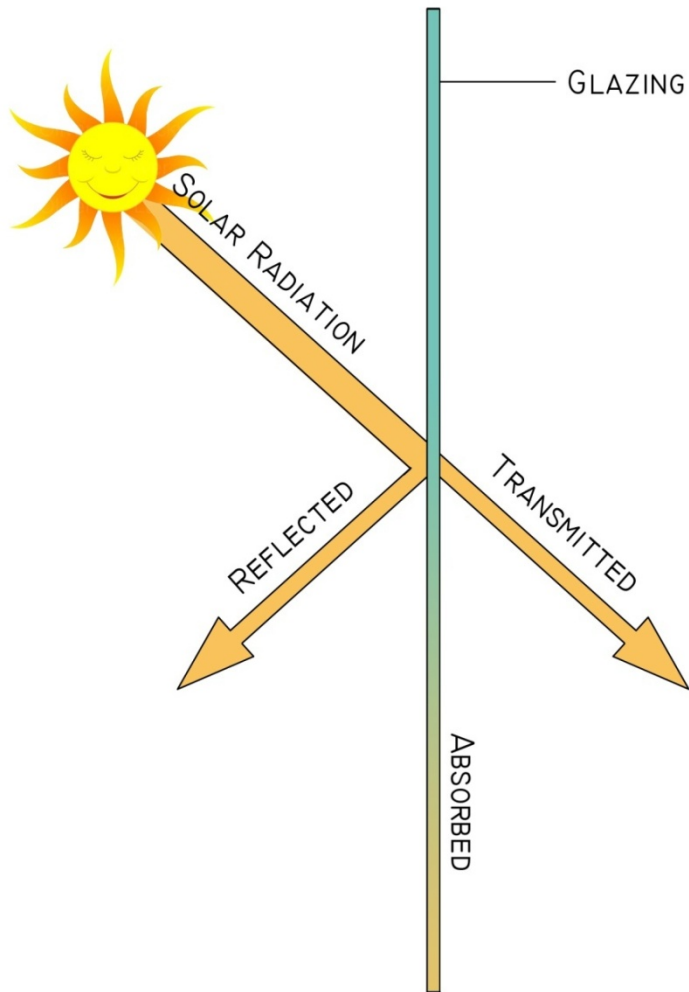


Solar geometry works for us because the sun is naturally HIGH in the summer, making it easy to block the sun with shading devices.



And it is naturally LOW in Winter, allowing the sun to penetrate below our shading devices and enter the building - with FREE heat.

Sun Angles



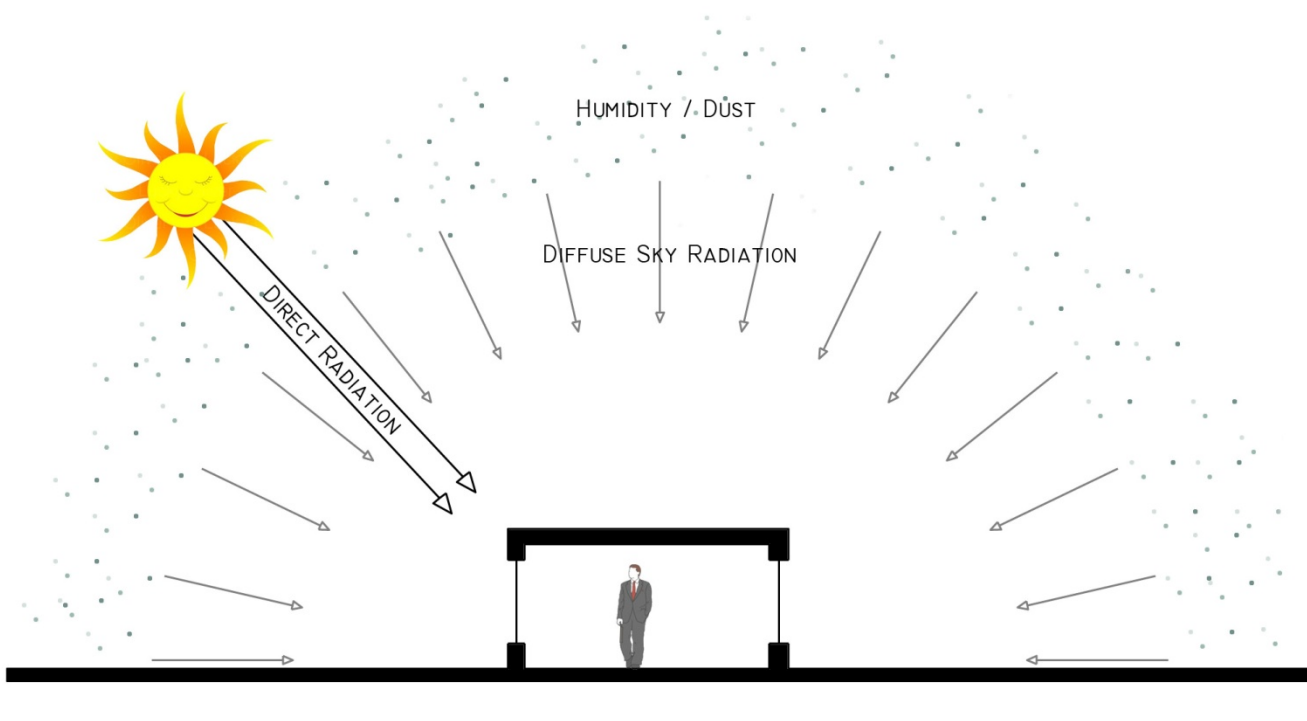
When sun strikes the glass part of the solar radiation is transmitted through the glass and proceeds to heat up the interior space.

Part of the solar energy is reflected off of the glass. The amount is dependent on the angle of incidence.

Part of the solar energy is absorbed into the glass, then reradiated both inwards and outwards.

When looking to AVOID heat entering the building it is critical to prevent it from this initial transmission through the glass – as once the heat is in, it is IN.

Direct versus Diffuse Radiation

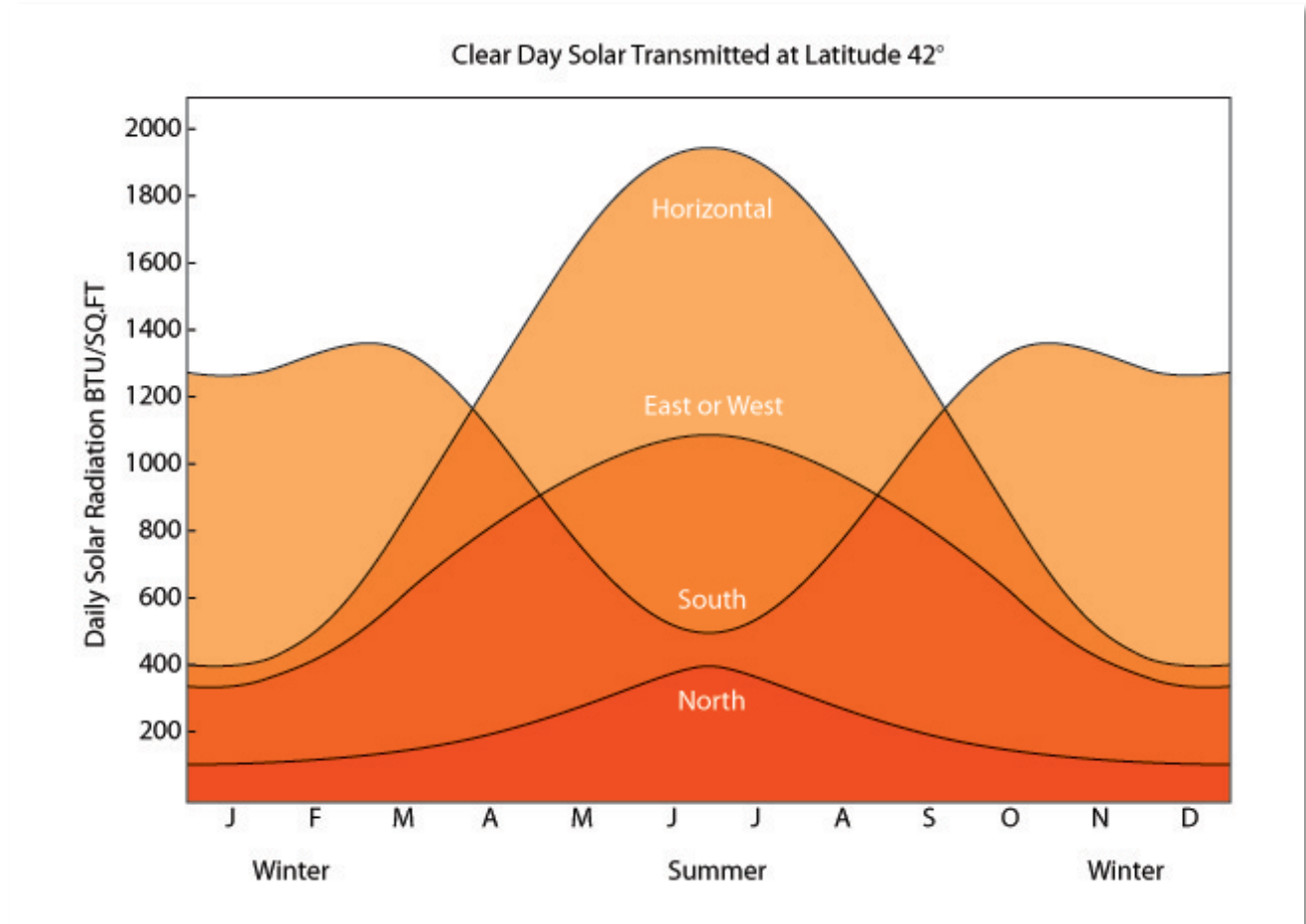


Solar Energy as a Function of Orientation

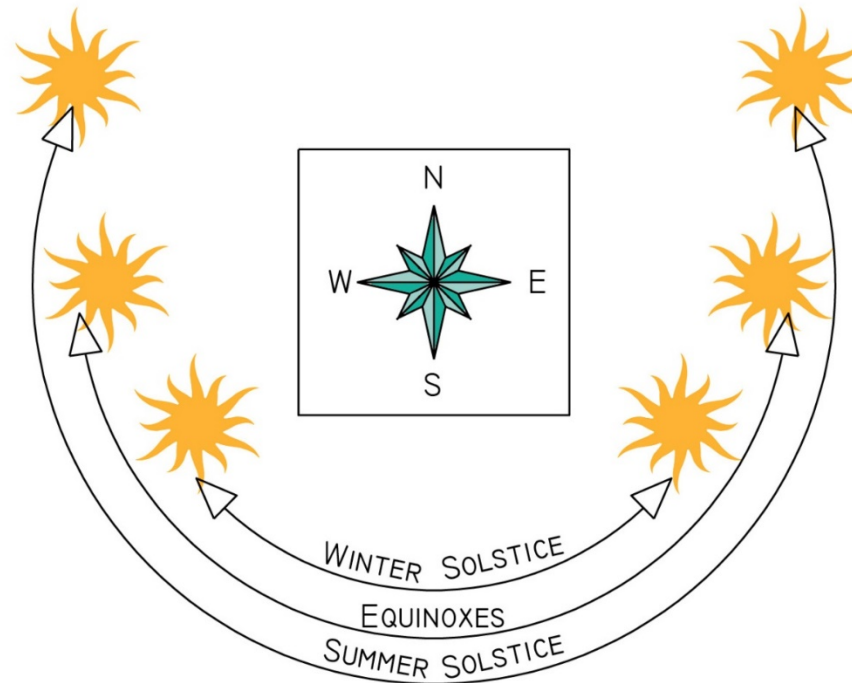
This chart demonstrates the variation in solar energy received on the different facades and roof of a building set at 42 degrees latitude.

A horizontal window (skylight) receives 4 to 5 times more solar radiation than south window on June 21.

East and West glazing collects almost 3 times the solar radiation of south window.



SOLAR AZIMUTH RANGE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

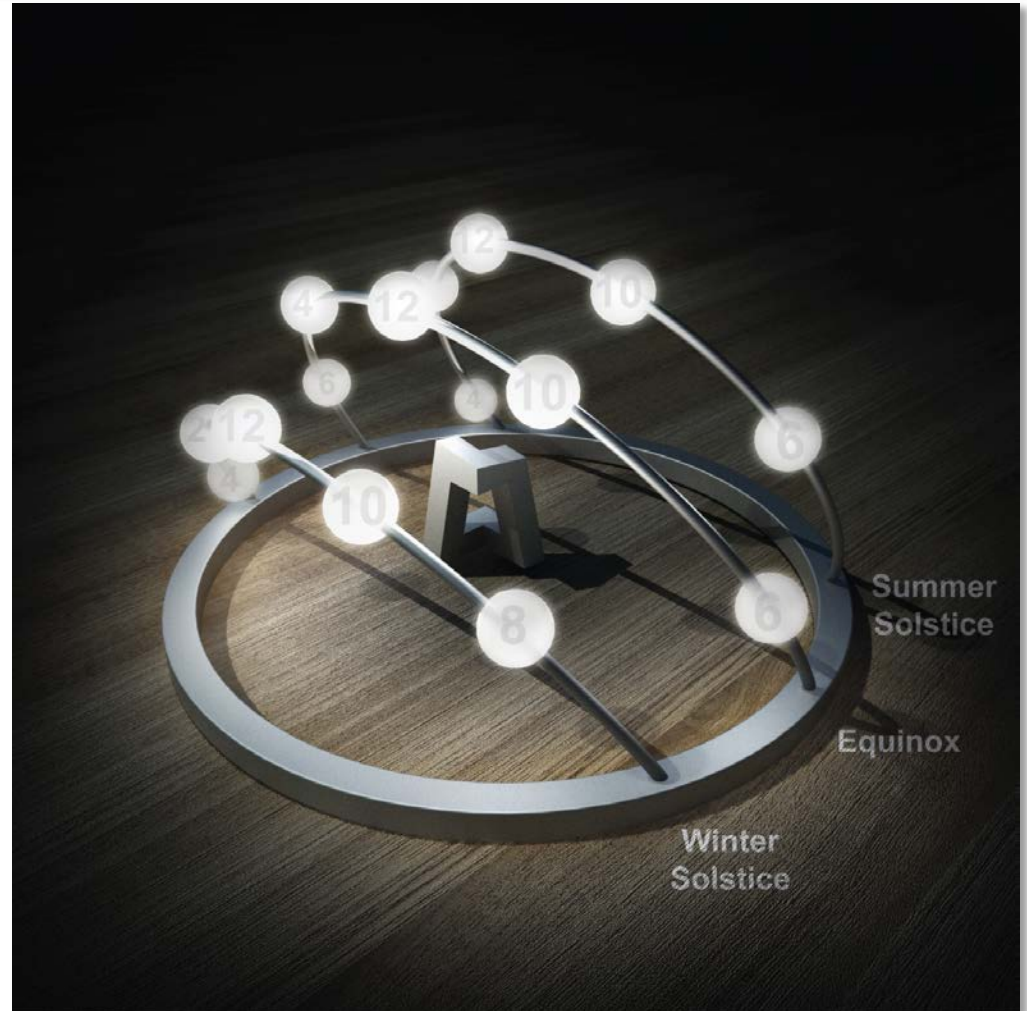


Since little winter heating can be expected from east and west windows, shading devices on those orientations can be designed purely on the basis of the summer requirement.

Solar Geometry

The local solar path affects:

- Location of openings for passive solar heating
- Design of shading devices for cooling
- Means differentiated façade design

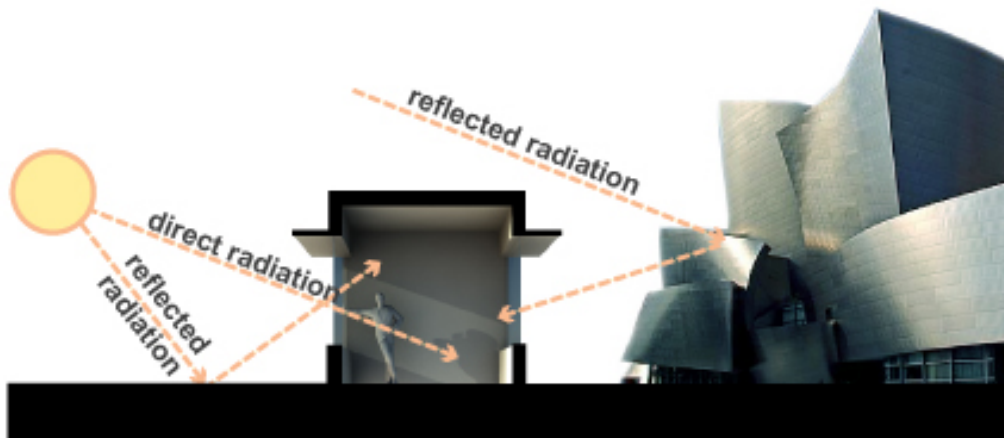


Types of Radiation

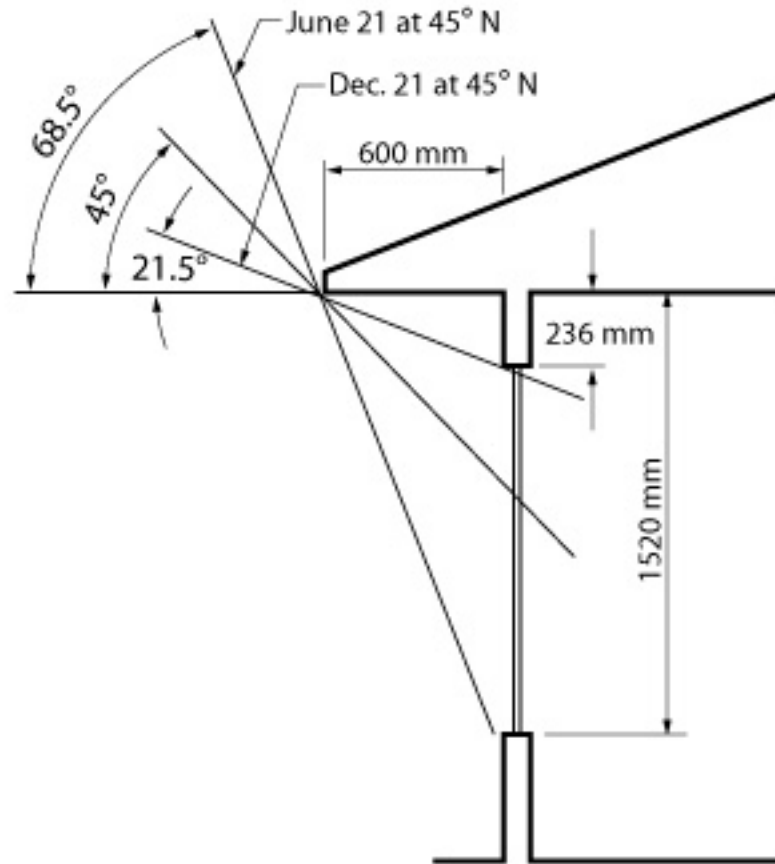
- Direct radiation
- Reflected radiation



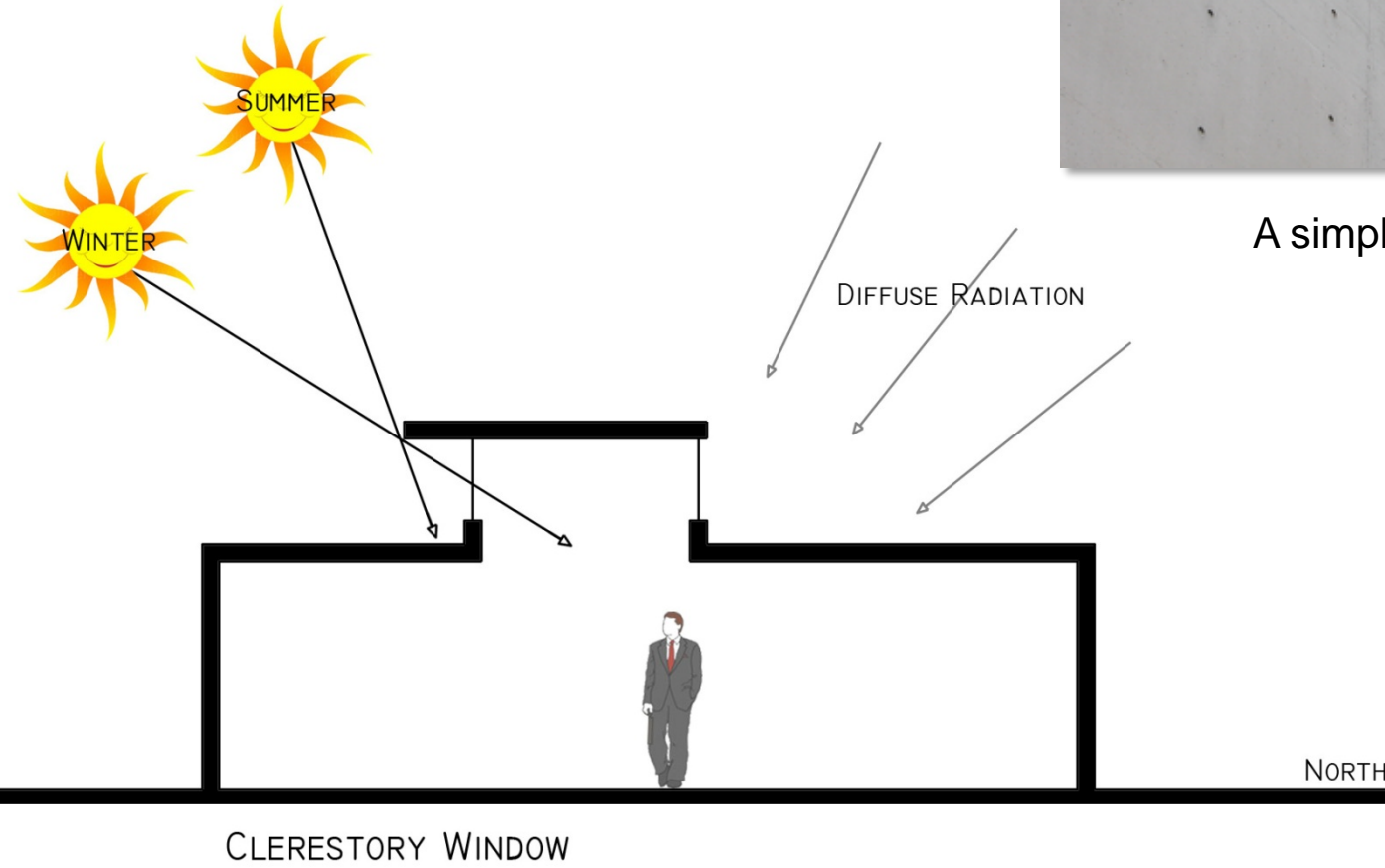
Reflective glazing



South Shading Device Basics



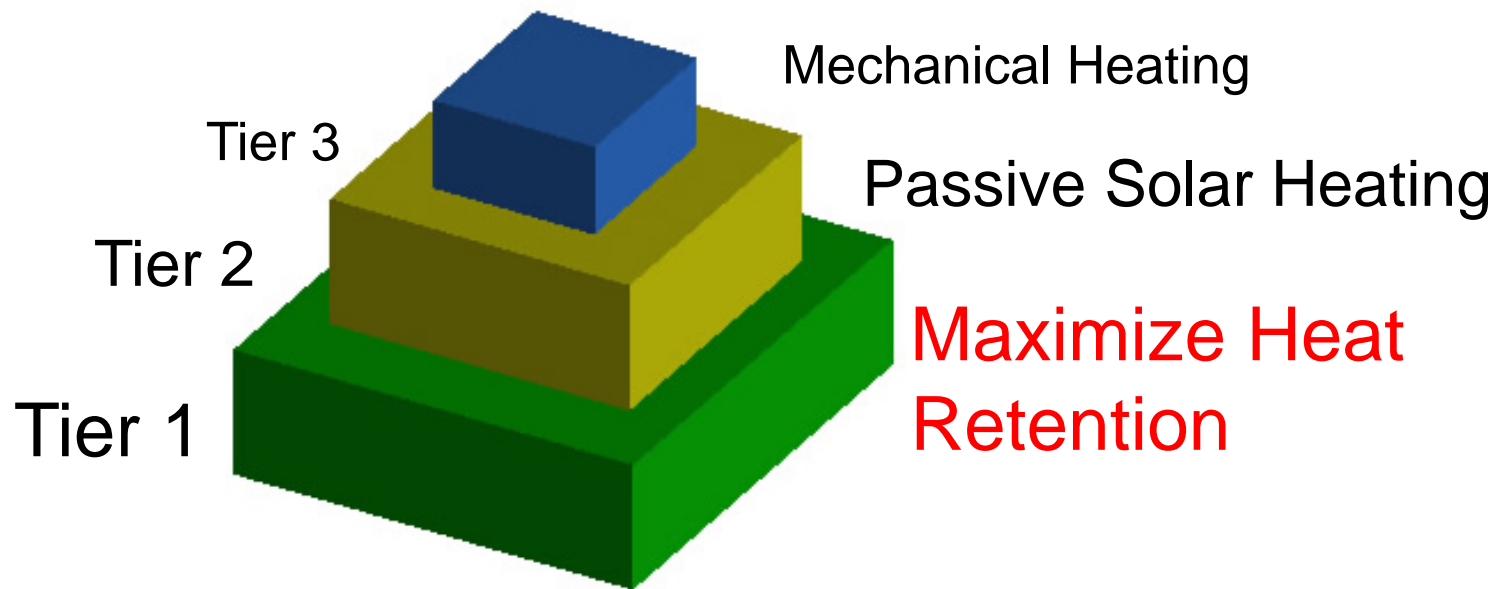
Shading angles for a south wall at 45°N



A simple roof overhang acts as a shading device.

Reduce loads: **Passive Heating Strategies**

The tiered approach to reducing carbon for **HEATING**:



First reduce the overall energy required, then maximize the amount of energy required for mechanical heating that comes from renewable sources.

Source: Lechner. Heating, Cooling, Lighting.

Passive Heating Strategies: Maximize Heat Retention

1. Super insulated envelope (*as high as double current standards*)
2. Tight envelope / controlled air changes
3. Provide thermal mass **inside** of thermal insulation to store heat
4. Top quality windows with high R-values – up to triple glazed with argon fill and low-e coatings on two surfaces

Premise – what you don't "lose" you don't have to create or power.... So make sure that you keep it! (...*NEGAwatts*)

Passive Heating Strategies

1. primarily south facing windows
2. proportion windows to suit thermal mass and size of room(s)

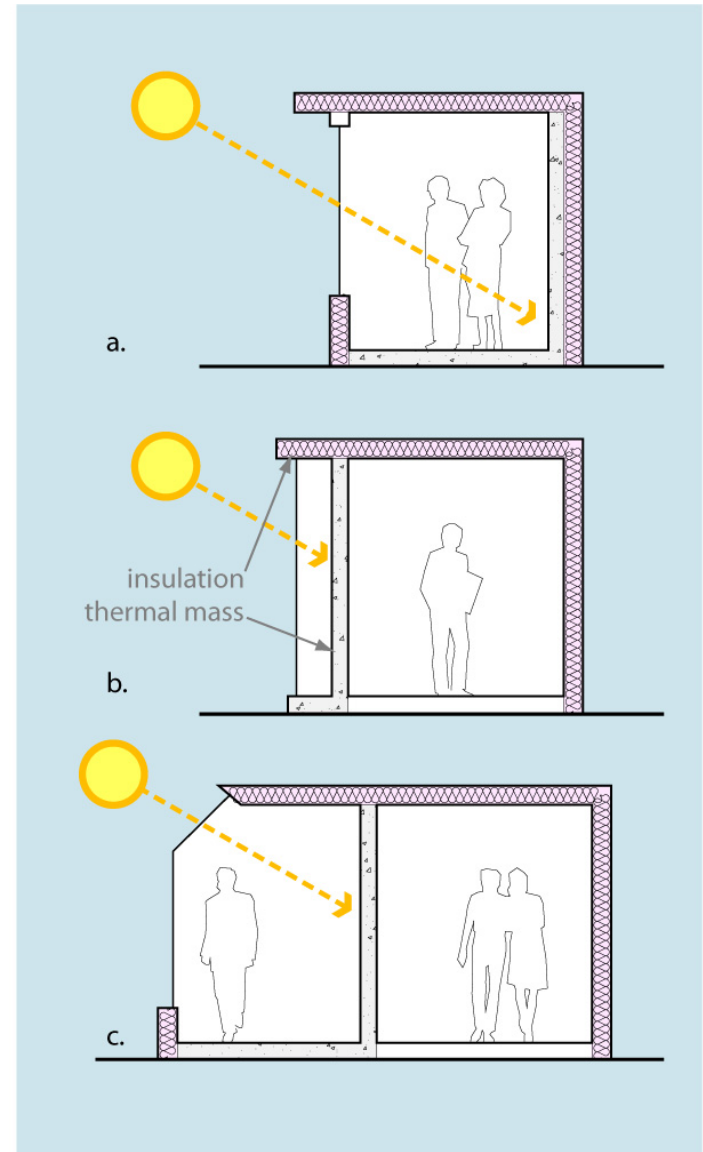
3 MAIN STRATEGIES:

a. **Direct Gain**

b. Indirect Gain

c. Isolated Gain

The dominant architectural choice is Direct Gain.



Thermal Mass is Critical!

To ensure comfort to the occupants....

People are 80% water so if they are the only thermal sink in the room, they will be the target.

And to store the FREE energy for slow release distribution....

Aldo Leopold Legacy Center:
Concrete floors complement the insulative wood walls and provide thermal storage



Thermal mass is the “container” for free heat...



If you “pour” the sun on wood, it is like having no container at all.



Just like water, free solar energy needs to be stored somewhere to be useful!



Problems with traditional placement of thermal mass

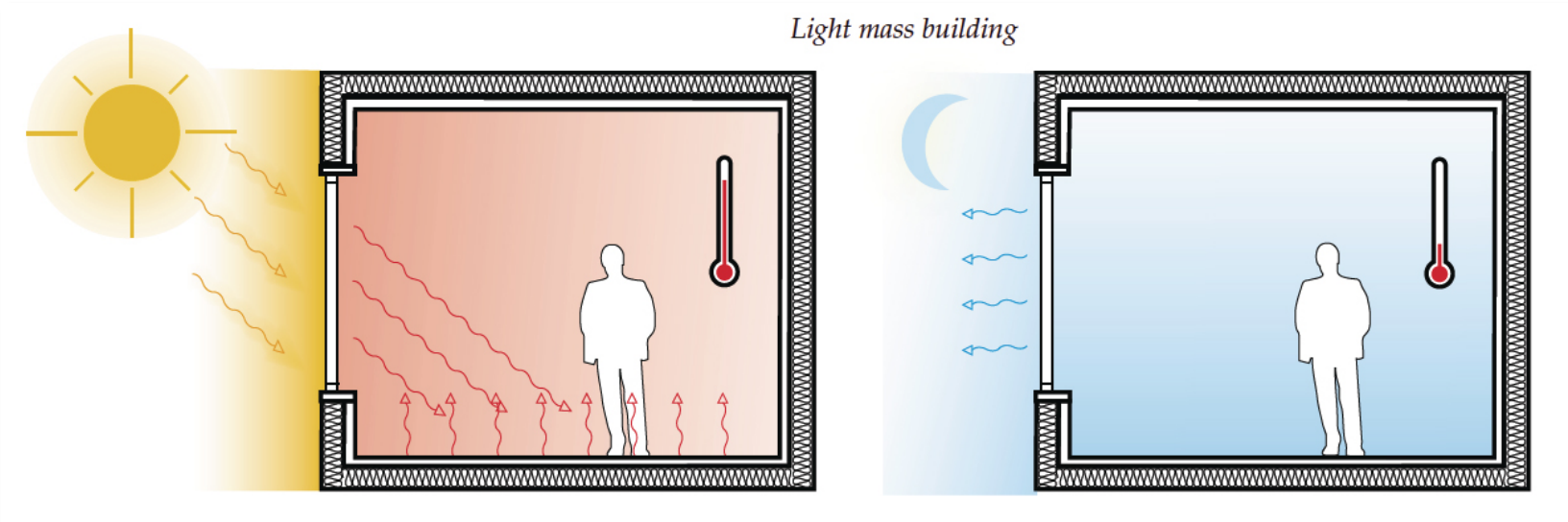


Proper thermal mass placement runs counter to the standard method of residential construction in Canada.

Thermal mass is needed on the **INSIDE** of the envelope – as floor and/or walls.

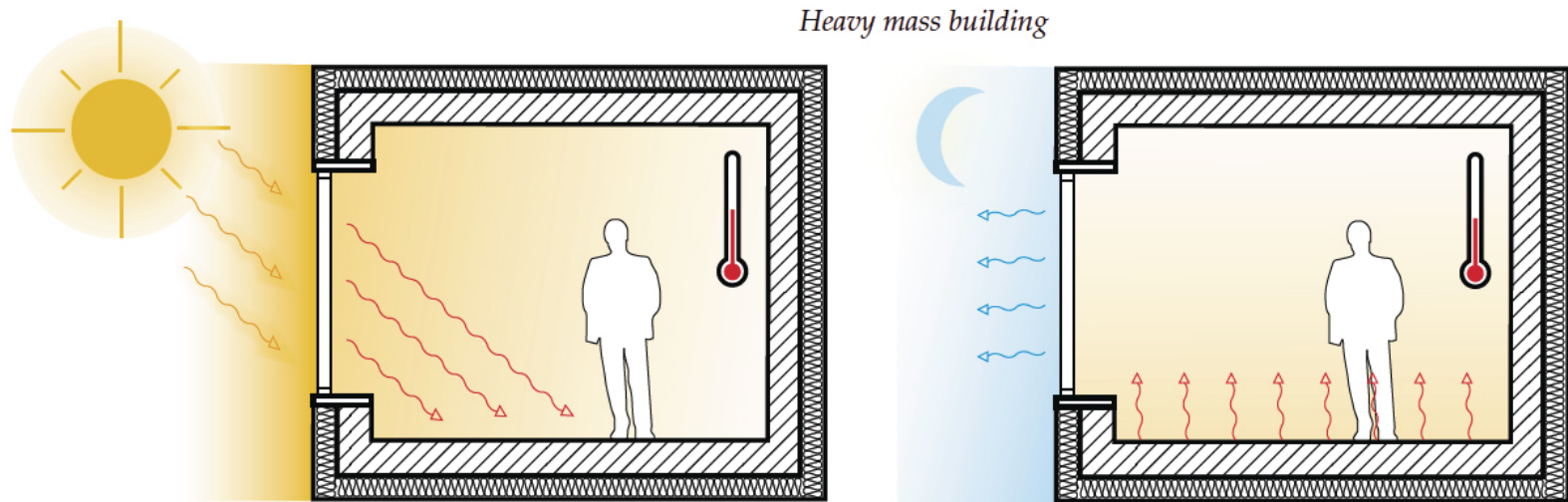


Light Mass Building Problems



- Wide swings of temperature from day to night
- Excess heat absorbed by human occupants
- Uncomfortably cold at night

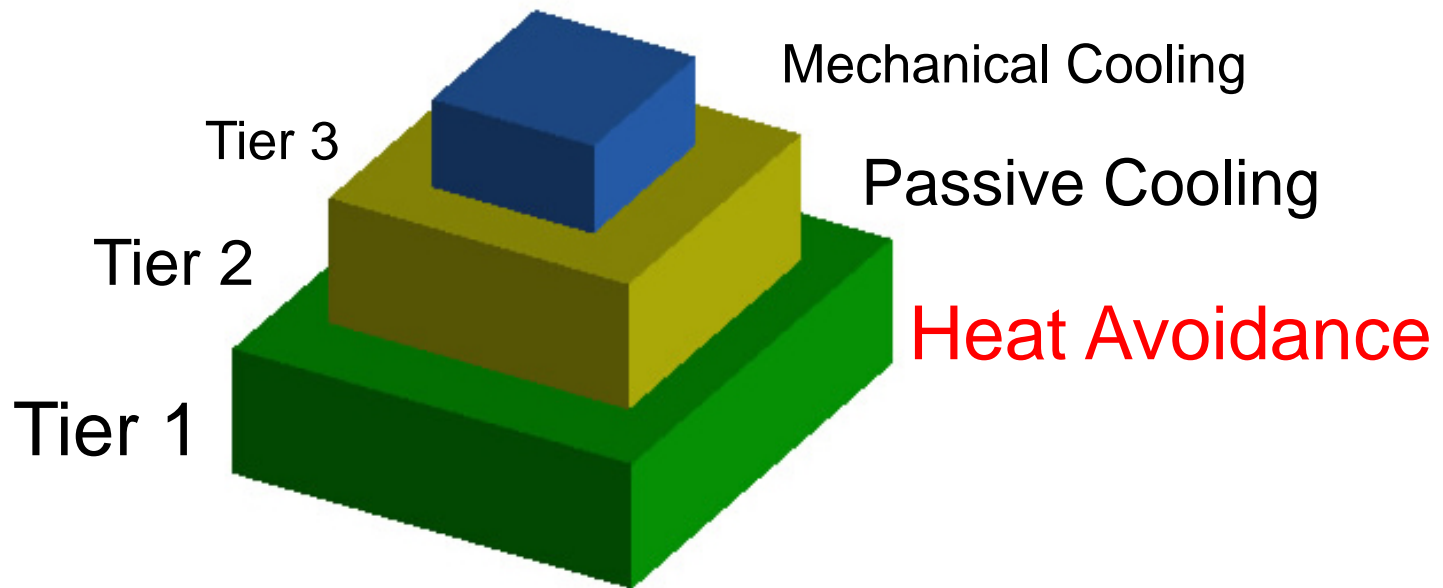
Heavy Mass Building Benefits



- Glass needs to permit entry of solar radiation
- Also need insulating blinds to prevent heat loss at night.

Reduce loads: **Passive Cooling Strategies**

The tiered approach to reducing carbon for **COOLING**:



Maximize the amount of energy required for mechanical cooling that comes from renewable sources.

Source: Lechner. Heating, Cooling, Lighting.

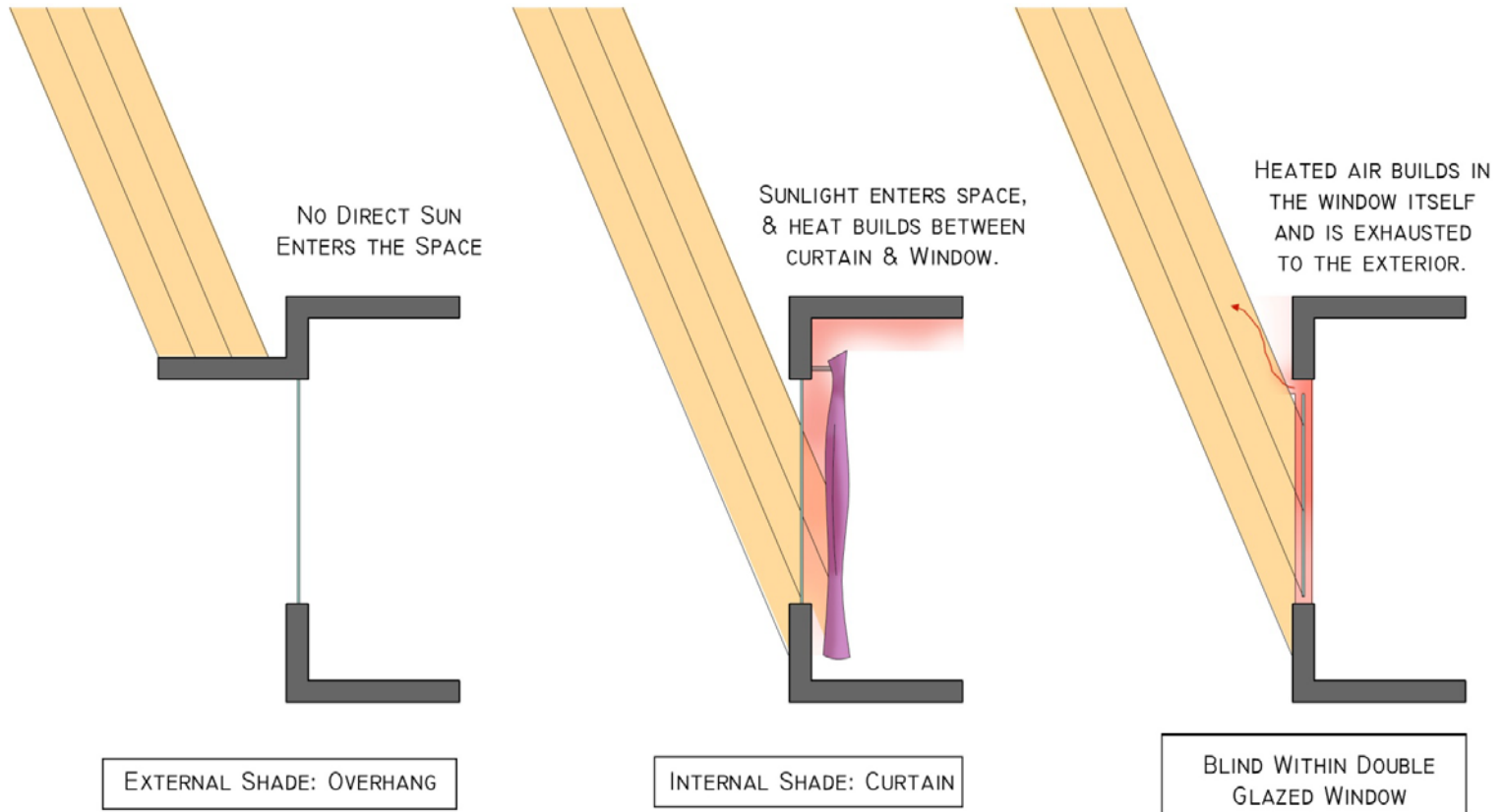
Passive Cooling Strategies: Heat Avoidance

1. shade windows from the sun during hot months
2. design materials and plantings to cool the local microclimate
3. locate trees and trellis' to shade east and west façades during morning and afternoon low sun



If you don't invite the heat in, you don't have to get rid of it.....

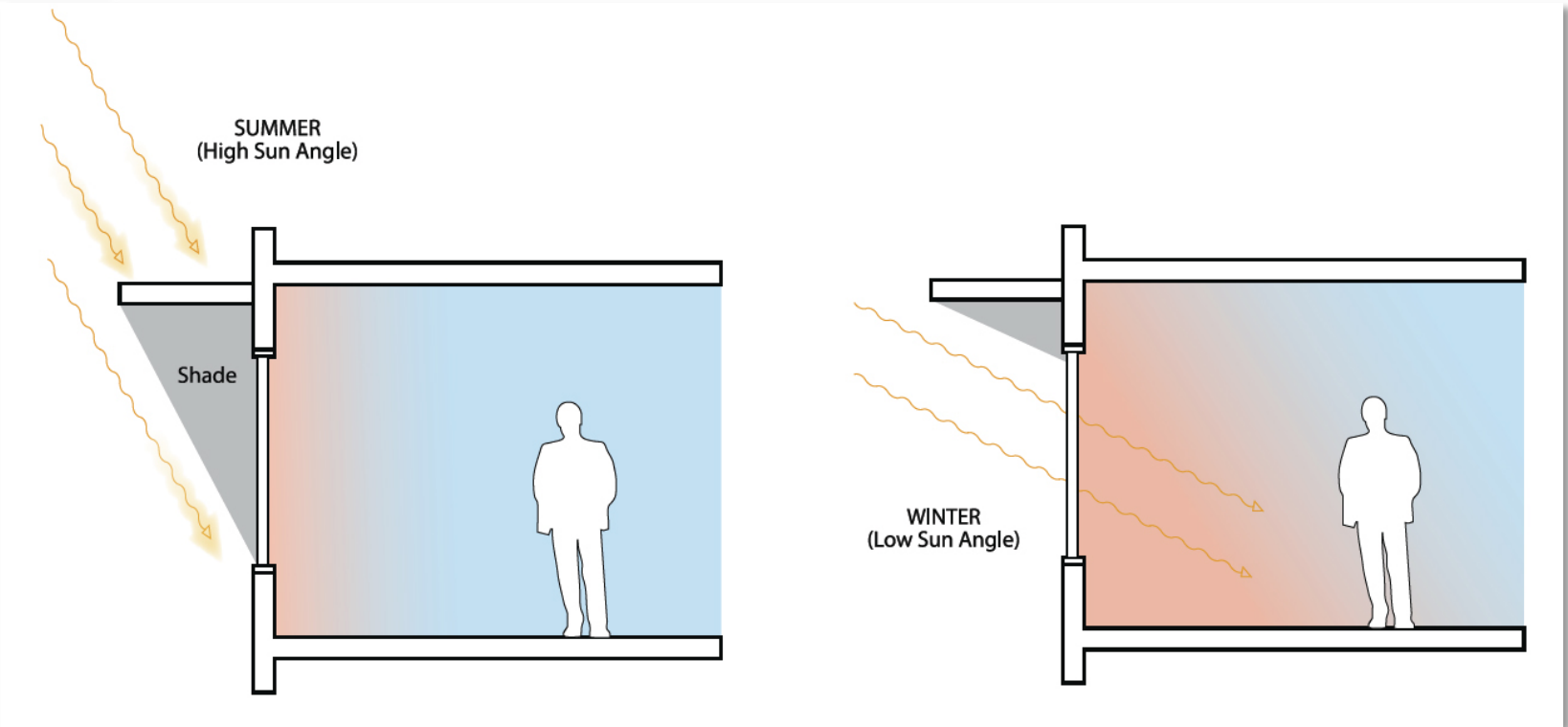
Interior vs Exterior Shades



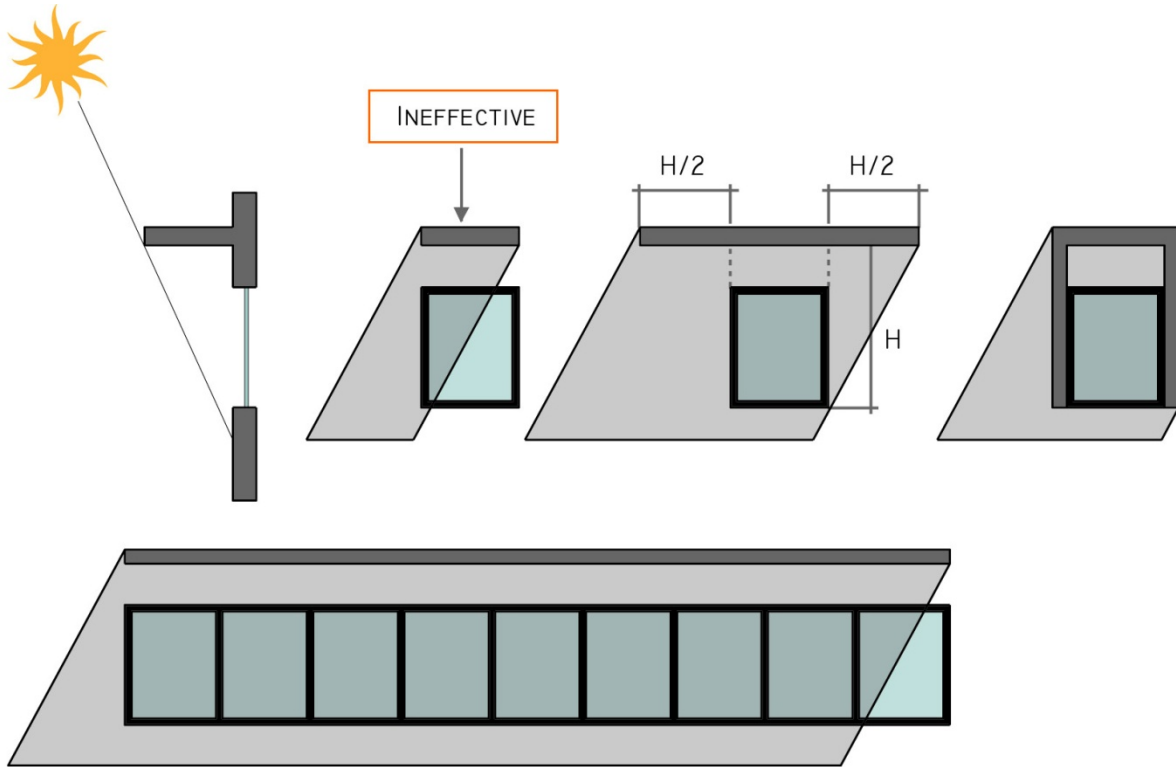
Once the heat is IN, it is IN!

Internal blinds are good for glare, but not preventing solar gain.

South Façade Strategies

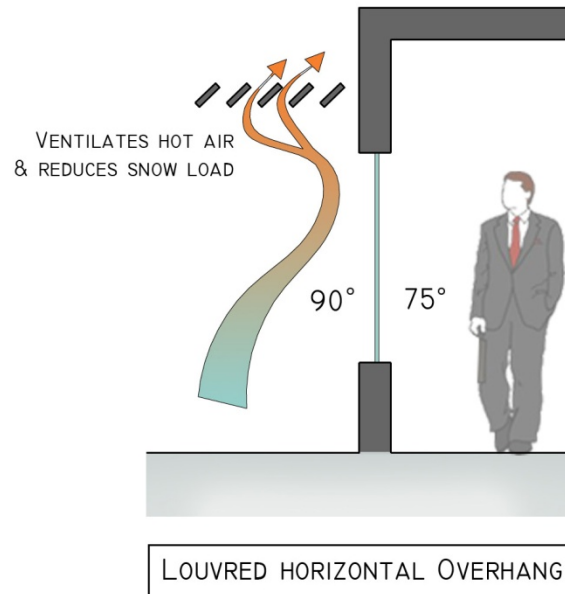
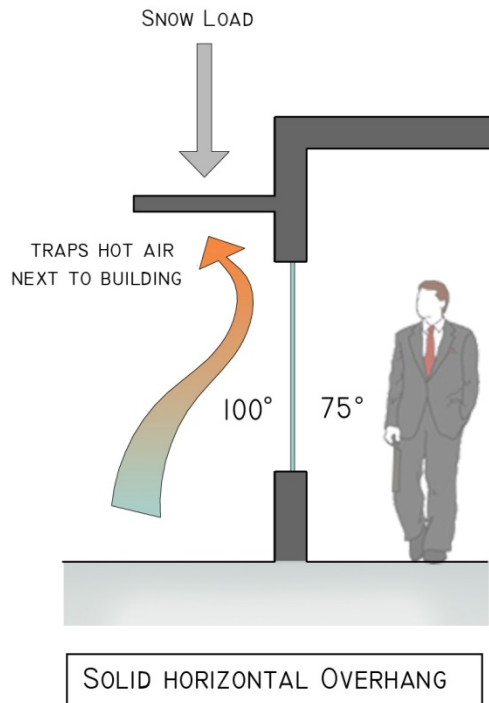


- South façade is the easiest to manage as simple overhangs can provide shade in the summer and permit entry in the winter.
- Need to design for August condition as June to August is normally a warm period.



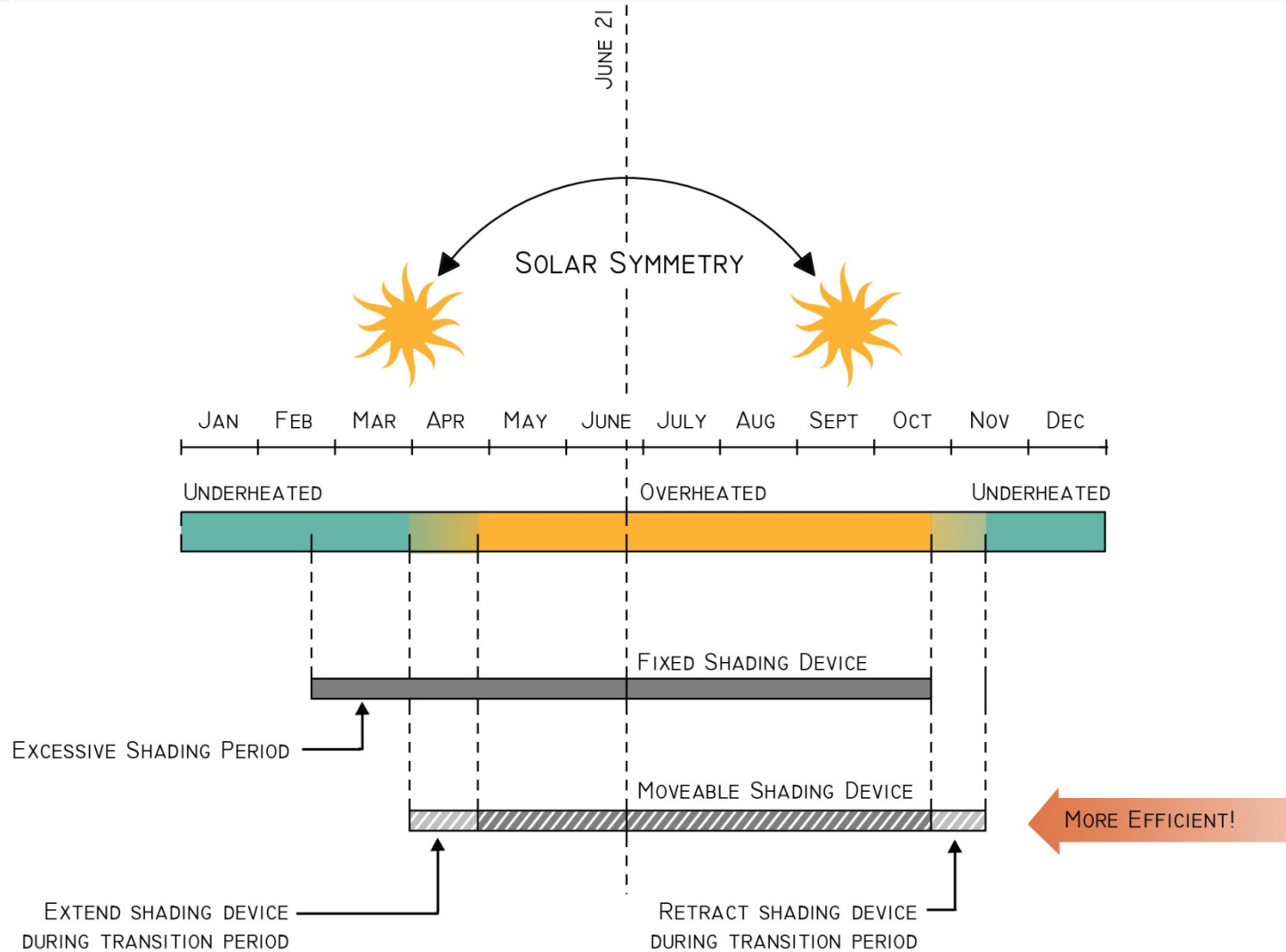
...extend
device for
full shading

This one uses ceramic fritted glass that is sloped, to allow some light but shed rain and wet snow.

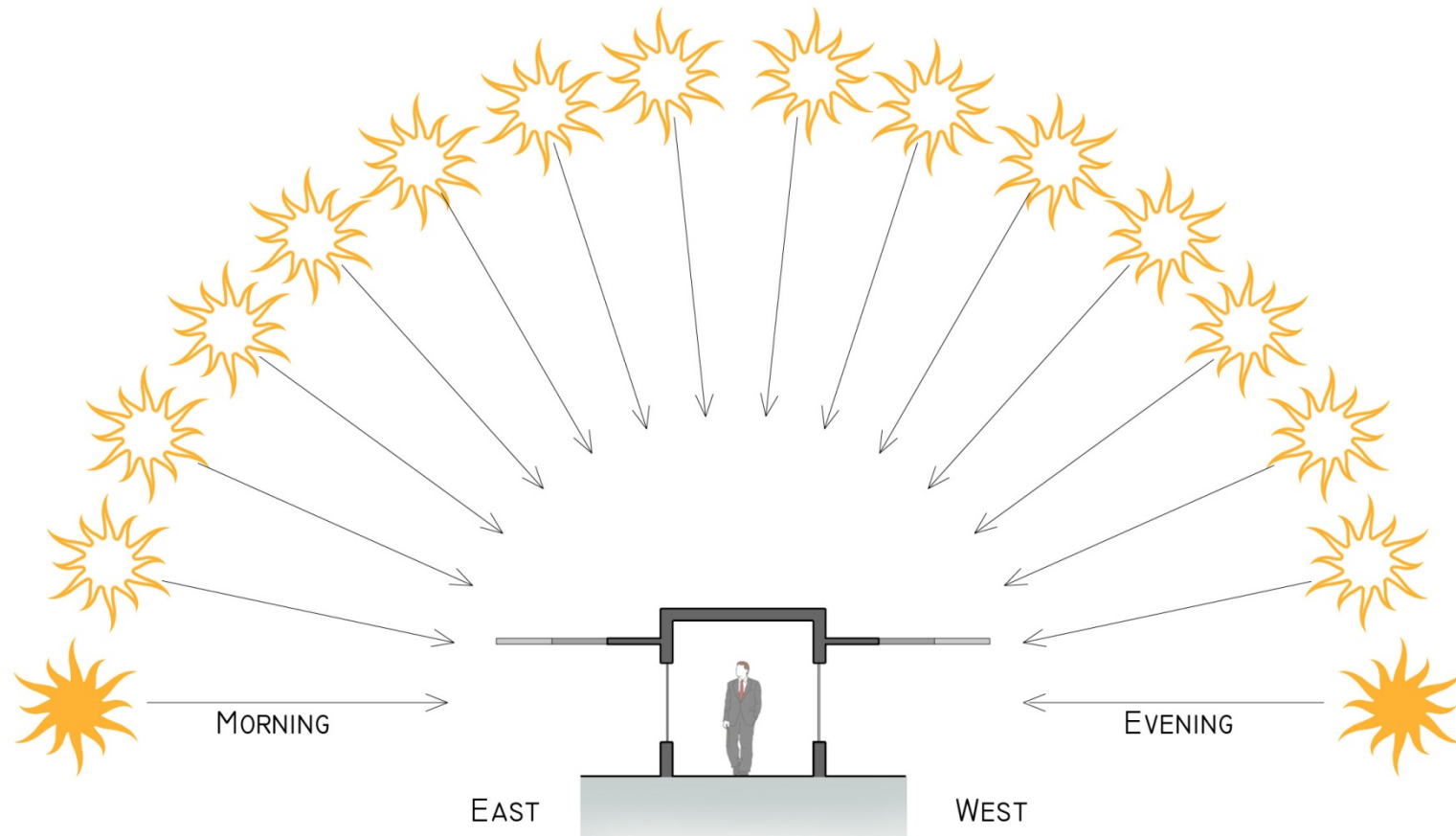


The above two use louvers or grates that will let snow, rain and wind through.

Preventing Overheating South Façade

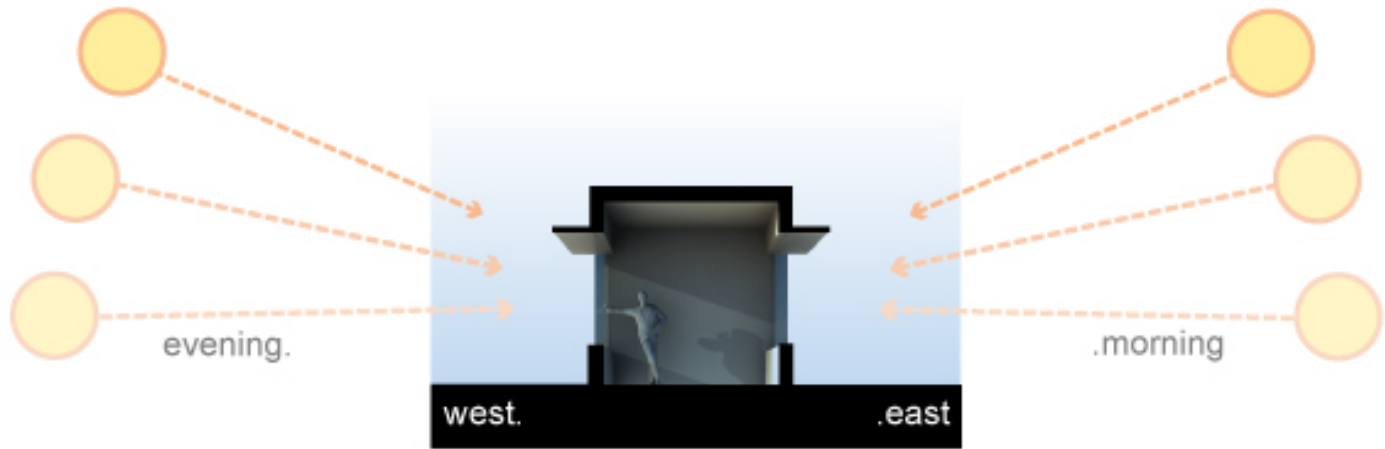


Shading Strategies for East and West Orientations



HORIZONTAL OVERHANGS DO NOT WORK ON EAST & WEST FACADES

East and West Façade Strategies



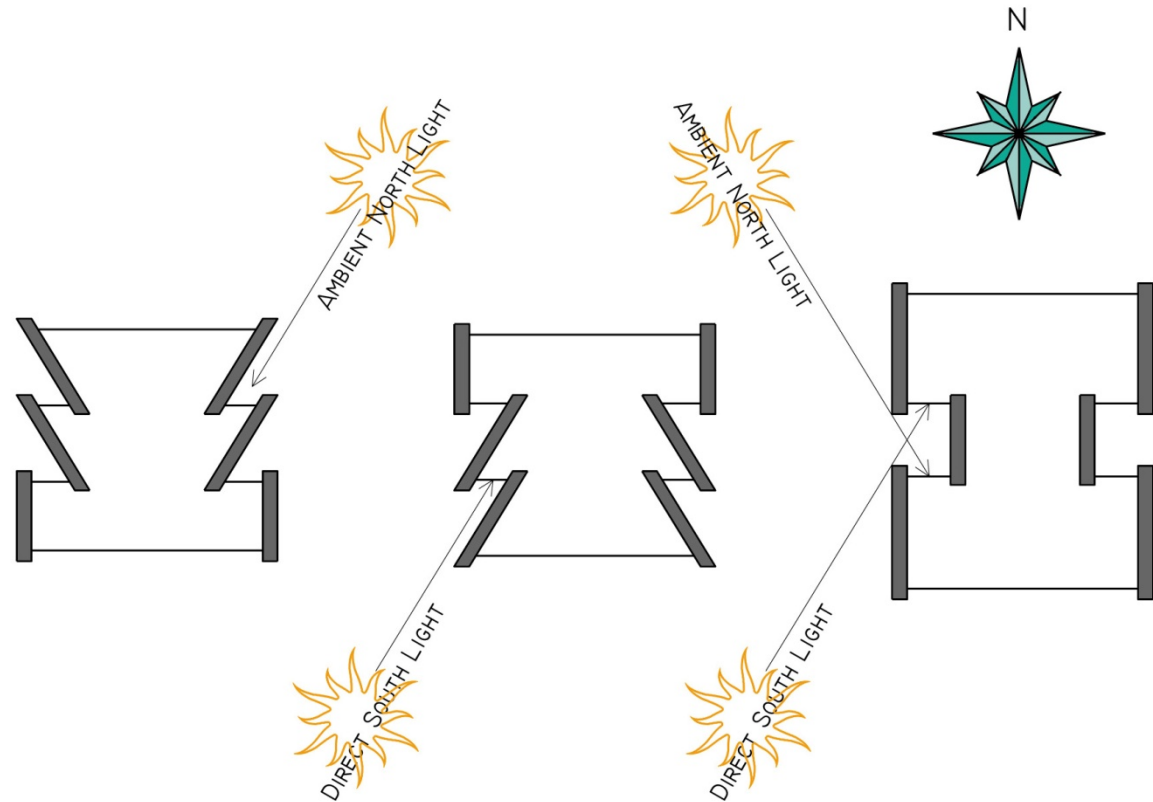
Horizontal overhangs DO NOT work on east & west facades.

East and west façade are both difficult to shade as the sun angles are low and horizontal shades do not work.

Shading Strategies for East and West Elevations

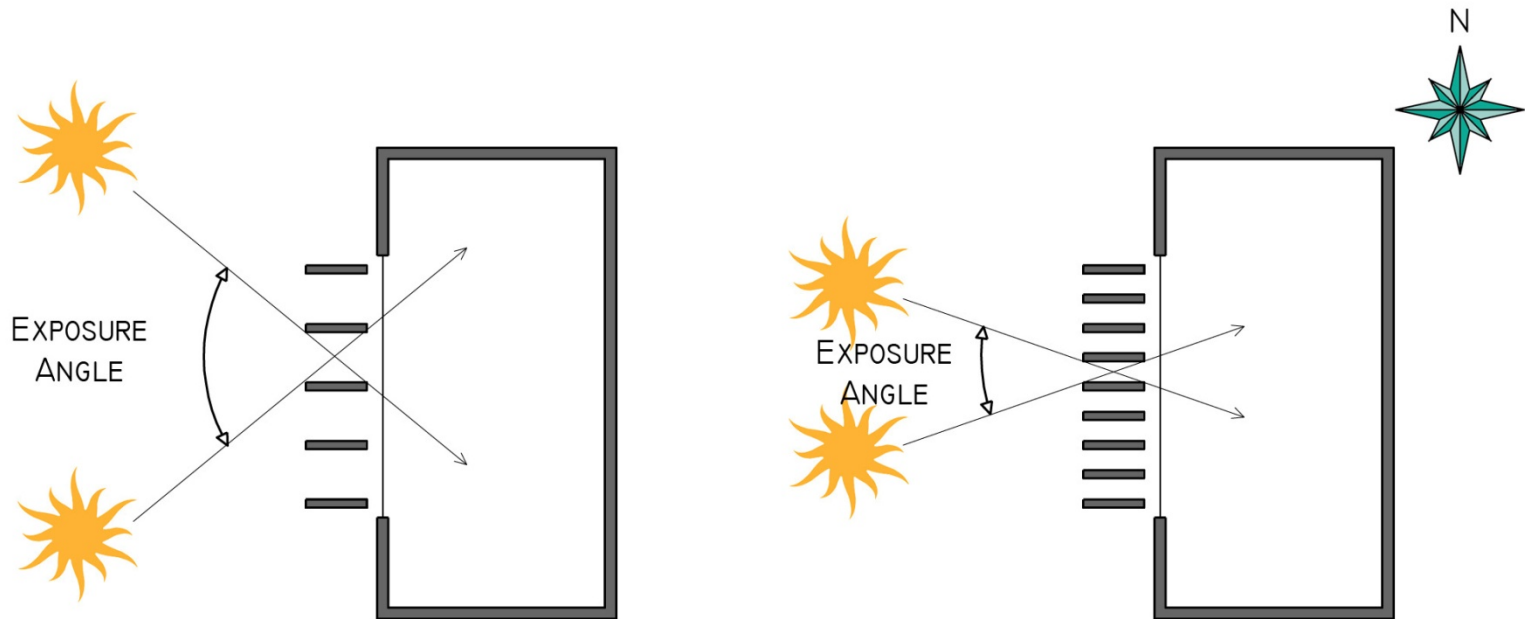
AVOID WINDOWS ON THE EAST & WEST FACADE
BY SHIFTING THE WINDOWS TO FACE NORTH OR SOUTH:

1. The best solution
by far is to limit using
east and especially
west windows (as
much as possible in
hot climates)



2. Next best solution is to have windows on the east
and west façades face north or south

Shading Strategies for East and West Elevations

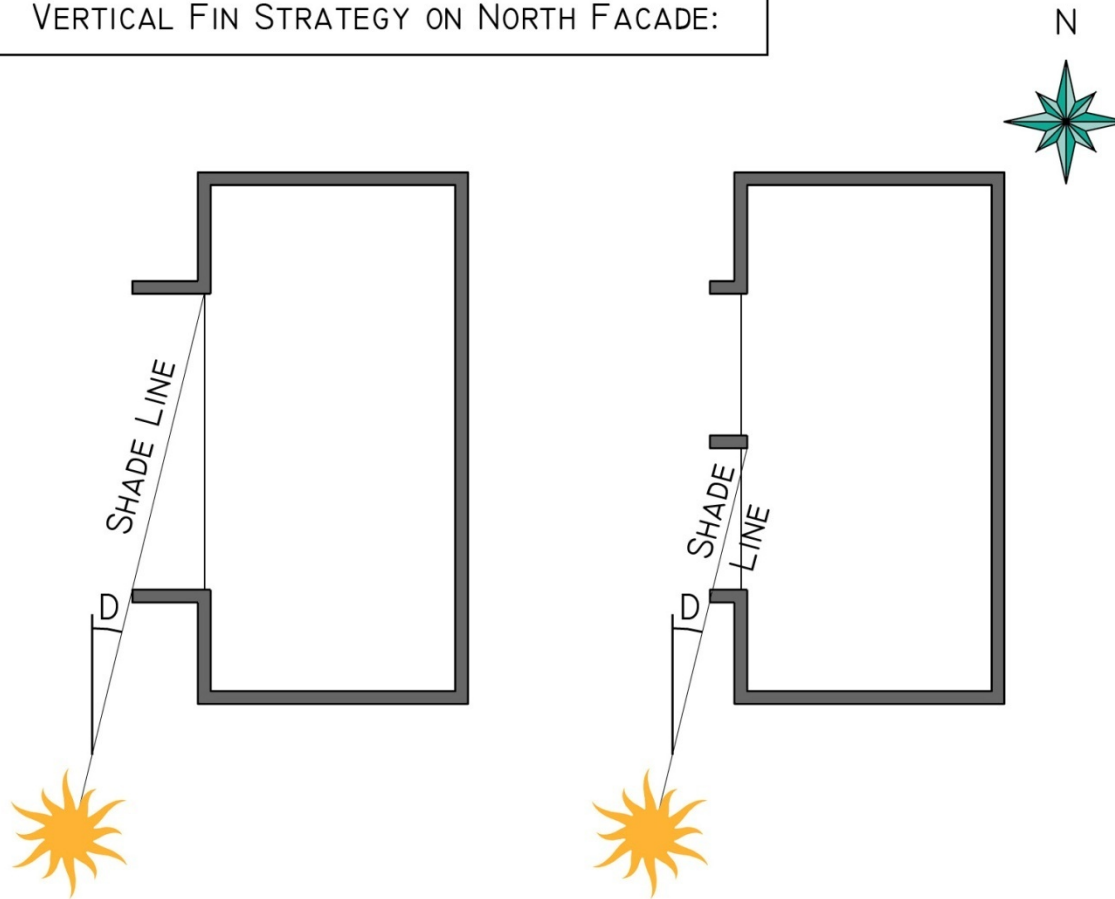


SOLAR PENETRATION IS REDUCED BY MOVING FINS CLOSER TOGETHER, MAKING THEM DEEPER, OR BOTH.

3. Use Vertical Fins. Spacing is an issue, as well as fin length. Must be understood that if to be effective, they will severely restrict the view.

Shading Strategies for the North Elevation

VERTICAL FIN STRATEGY ON NORTH FAÇADE:



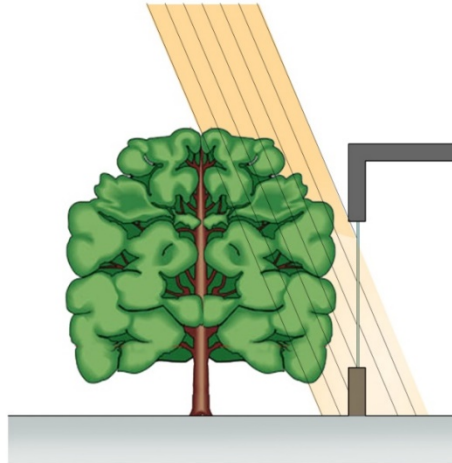
The sun also hits the façade from the north east and north west during the summer. Fins can be used to control this oblique light as well. It is a function of the latitude, window size and fin depth/frequency.

THE "SHADE LINE" AT ANGLE "D" DETERMINES FIN SPACING & DEPTH.

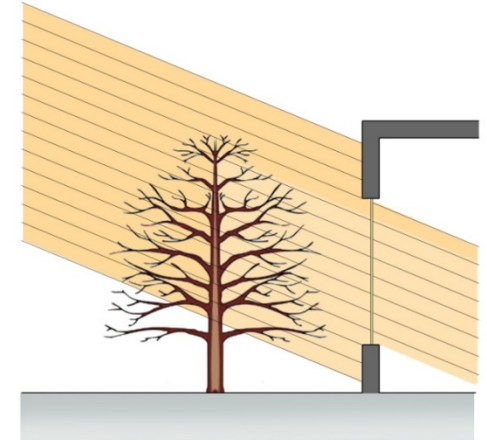
Living Awnings

Living Awnings such as deciduous trees and trellises with deciduous vines are very good shading devices. They are in phase with the thermal year – gain and lose leaves in response to temperature changes.

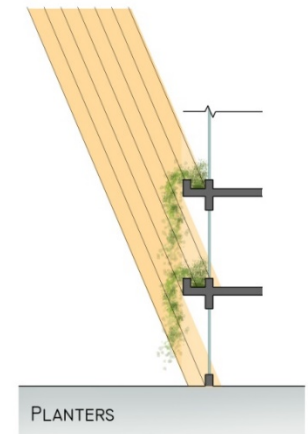
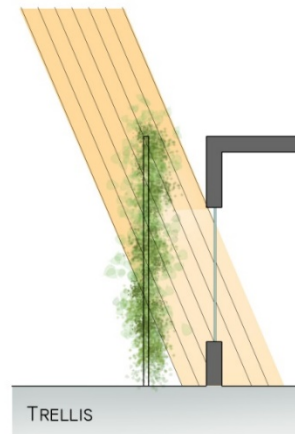
SOLAR TRANSMISSION CAN BE AS LOW AS 20% FOR A MATURE TREE IN THE SUMMER



SOLAR TRANSMISSION CAN BE AS HIGH AS 70% FOR A MATURE TREE IN THE WINTER



OTHER LIVING SHADE OPTIONS:



Helpful online tools


SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON


tools consulting about contact solar cooking


Design Tools

Sustainable By Design provides a suite of shareware design tools on sustainable energy topics:


SUN ANGLE TOOLS


 **SunAngle**
 the premiere tool for solar angle calculations


 **SunPosition**
 calculates a time series of basic solar angle data


 **Sol Path**
 visualization of the path of the sun across the sky


WINDOW TOOLS

 **Window Overhang Design**
 visualization of the shade provided by a window overhang at a given time

 **Window Overhang Annual Analysis**
 visualization of window overhang shading performance for an entire year


 **Overhang Recommendations**
 suggested climate-specific dimensions for south-facing window overhangs

 **Light Penetration**
 visualization of the penetration of sunlight into a room

 **Louver Shading**


<http://susdesign.com/tools.php>

Differentiated Shading Strategies

SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

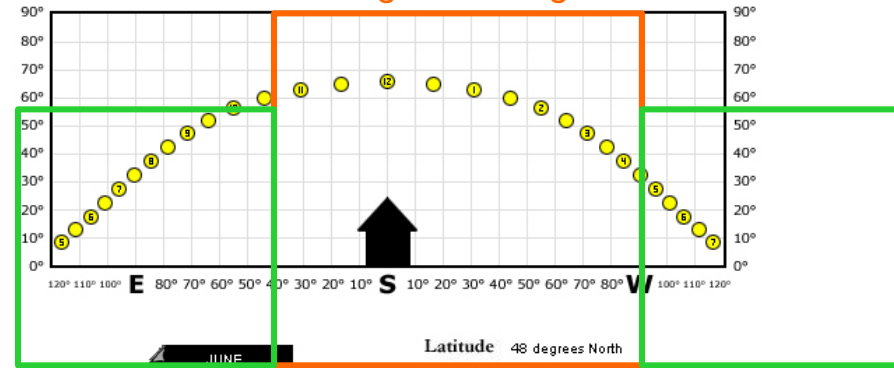
tools consulting about contact solar cooking

Sol Path




This tool provides a graphical representation of the sun's apparent path through the sky. It can be used to rapidly determine coarse sun angle data, or to assist in a general understanding of the sun's movement. Please read the important [instructions](#), [notes](#), and [FAQ](#) pages before using this tool.

High Sun Angle



Latitude 48 degrees North

Low Sun Angle

Low Sun Angle



Differentiated
façade treatment

Different envelope
construction on
north, east/west
and south



Terasan Gas,
Surrey, BC



Shading Devices and the Envelope

- Can be an extension of the roof
- On multi storey buildings normally attached to the envelope
- Can be incorporated into the curtain wall
- Must contend with snow loading
- Must be durable and low maintenance



Passive Cooling Strategies: Ventilation

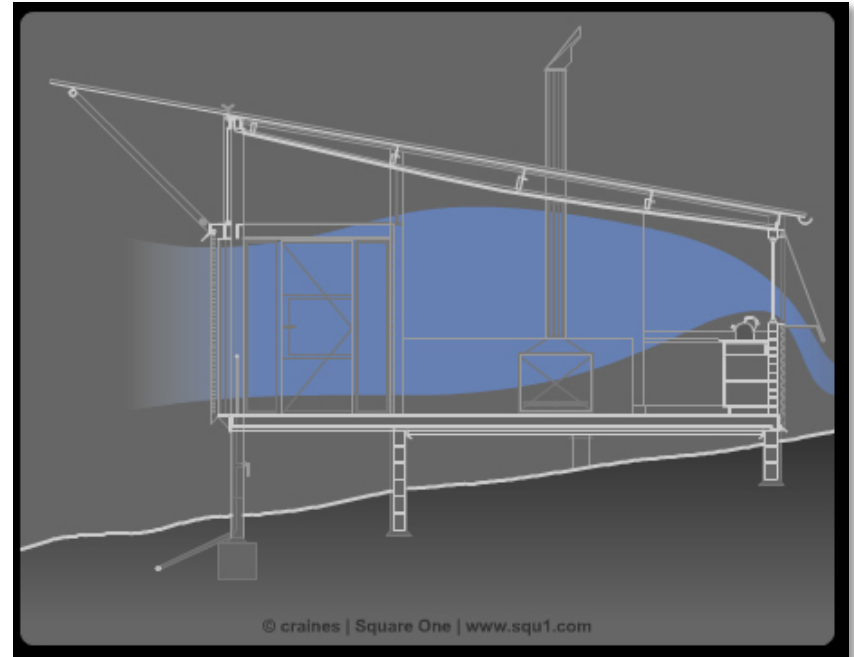
- design for maximum ventilation
- Keep exterior building planning open to allow for breezes
- Examine site and surrounding microclimate to take advantage of natural cool areas and planting and shade



Passive Cooling Strategies: Ventilation

- keep plans as open as possible for unrestricted air flow
- Obstructed plans limit natural air flow

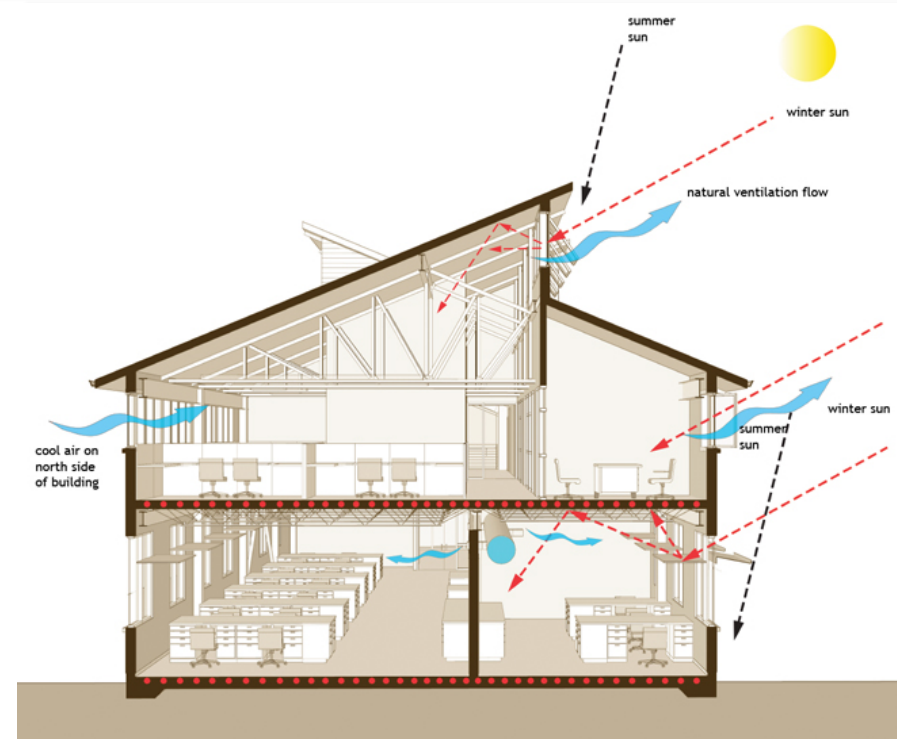
The elimination of A/C is one of the most effective ways to reduce operating energy.



It will only work if the occupants are indeed comfortable. Otherwise they will install less efficient A/C systems to solve their comfort problems.

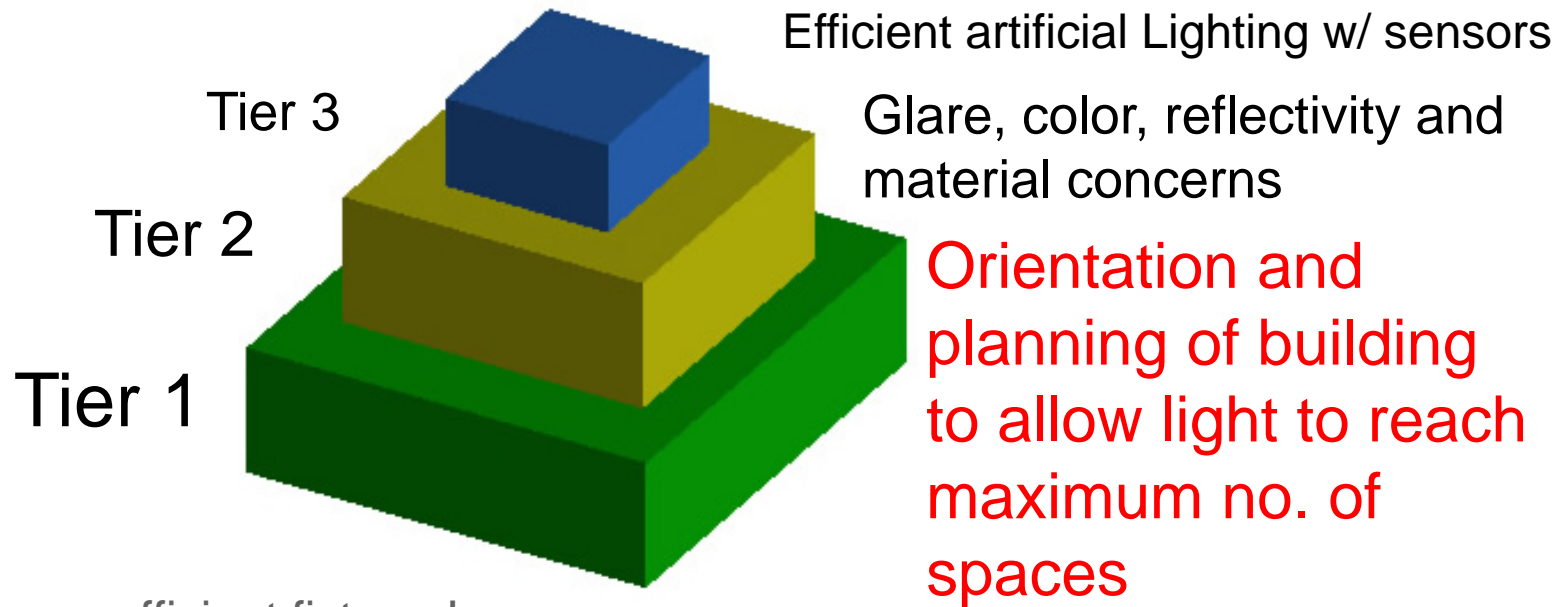
Passive Cooling Strategies: Ventilation

- Use easily operable windows at low levels with high level clerestory windows to induce stack effect cooling
- Windows must be **OPERABLE**
- Glass area does not equal ventilation area
- Insect screens reduce air flow
- Window choice must allow operation during rain events



Reduce loads: **Daylighting**

The tiered approach to reducing carbon with
DAYLIGHTING:



Use energy efficient fixtures!

Maximize the amount of energy/electricity required for artificial lighting that comes from renewable sources.


Source: Lechner. Heating, Cooling, Lighting.

Daylighting does not = Sunlighting

Daylighting is about bringing natural LIGHT into a space.

Many daylit spaces do not WANT or NEED direct sunlight.

DIRECT SUNLIGHT is about **FREE HEAT.** 

DAYLIGHT (diffuse light) is about **FREE LIGHT.** 

Daylighting concepts prefer *diffuse* or *indirect* lighting.

Environmental advantages of daylighting

Daylighting is **environmentally advantageous** because it:

- reduces the need for electric lighting
- therefore **reducing the energy** needed to power the lights
- **reducing the heat** generated from the lights
- **reducing the cooling** required for the space