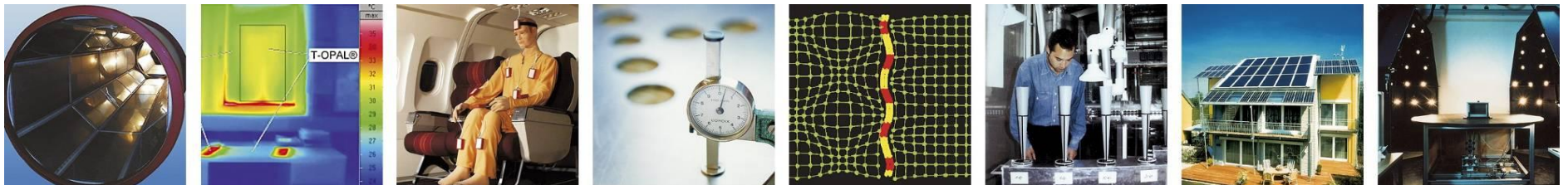


Handling of typical constructions

WUFI® Guideline

Version: December 2025

Auf Wissen bauen



Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

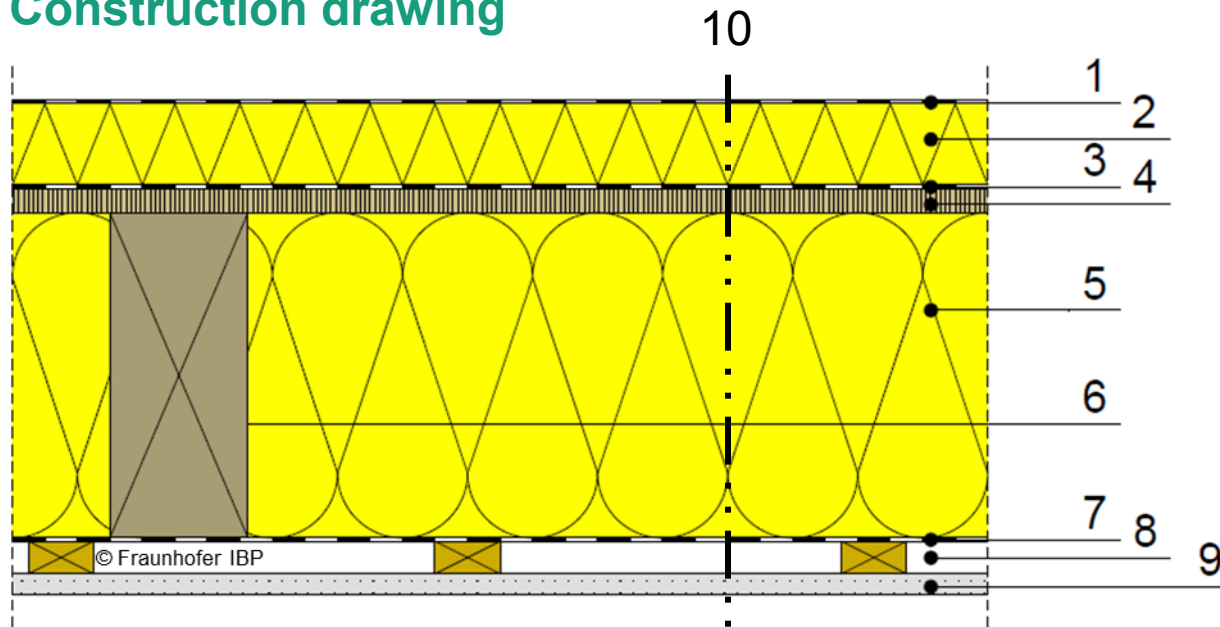
Ventilated timber frame construction

Basement wall without ground water

Interior component

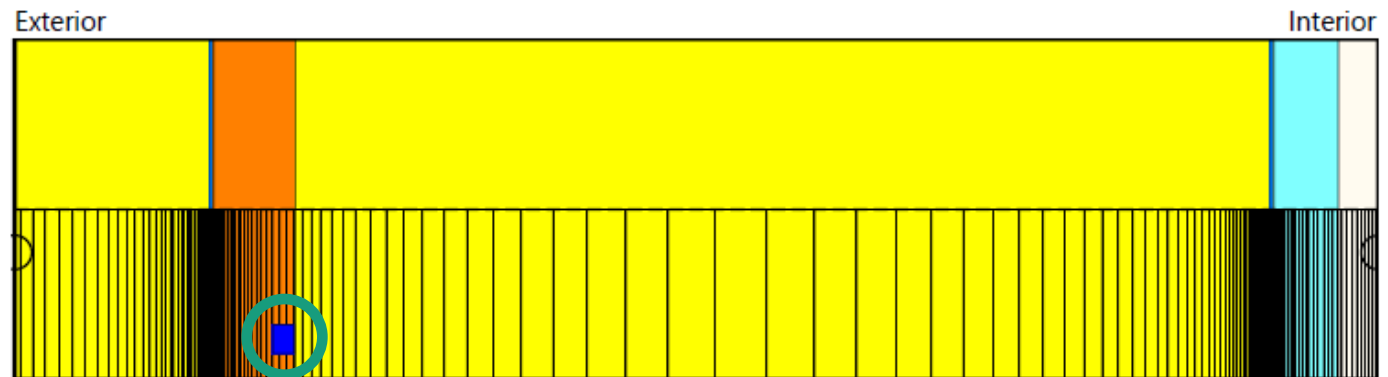
Flat roof

Construction drawing



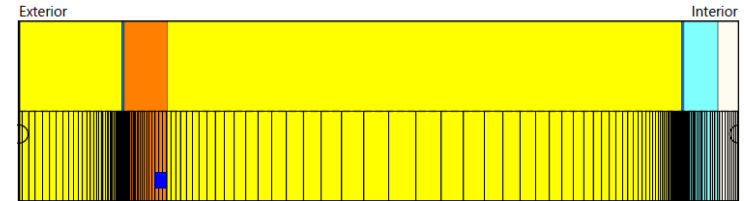
- 1 Roofing membrane
- 2 Exterior insulation
- 3 Vapor retarder
- 4 Wooden sheathing
- 5 Insulation
- 6 Rafter
- 7 Vapor retarder
- 8 Installation layer
- 9 Gypsum board
- 10 Simulated cross-section

Assembly in WUFI



Flat roof

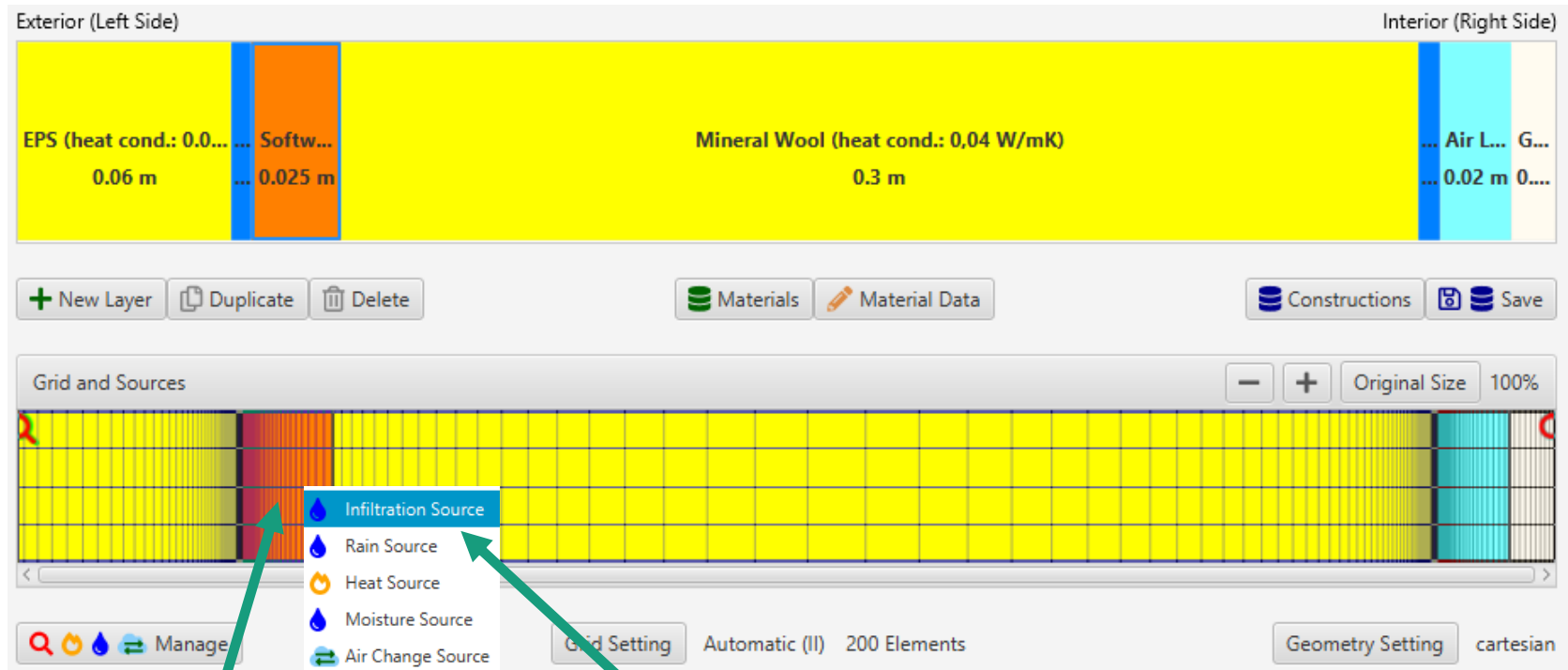
Please note



- Insert an infiltration source at the cold side of the construction (at the position where condensation would occur)
→ depending on the air tightness of the building and the stack height
- Orientation/ Inclination according to planning
- Heat transfer resistance „Roof“ or “DIN 4108-3 – Exterior component”
- Roofing membrane can be considered by using an s_d -value on the outer surface (numerical more favorable)
→ if doing so, use no roofing membrane in the component assembly
→ switch off rainwater absorption
(remove tick from “Simulation takes rain into account”)
- Short-wave absorptivity depending on colour of roof surface
- Switch on “Radiative overcooling”
- Long-wave emissivity depending on the material of the surface

Flat roof

Input: Moisture Source



1. Right mouse click
in the layer*

2. Select appropriate source
here: Infiltration Source

*) Material in which condensation is to be expected due to convection. Infiltration source either in the inner 5 mm of the wooden sheathing or – if there is no sheathing – in the outer 5 mm of the insulation between the rafters.

Flat roof

Input: Moisture Source

- Infiltration Source

Hygrothermal Sources

Infiltration Source

Name: Infiltration 1

Spread Area

☐ Grid Element Thickness [m] 0.005

☒ Area right-fixed

☐ Whole Layer

Source Type

☐ Transient from File

☐ Fraction of incident Driving Rain

☒ Air Infiltration model IBP

☐ Constant Monthly Moisture Load

Source Term Cut-Off [kg/m³]

☐ No Cut-Off

☐ Cut-Off at Max. Water Content

☒ Cut-Off at Free Water Saturation

☐ User-Defined

Envelope Infiltration q_{50} [m³/m²h]

5 Air Tightness Class C (DIN 4108, untested)

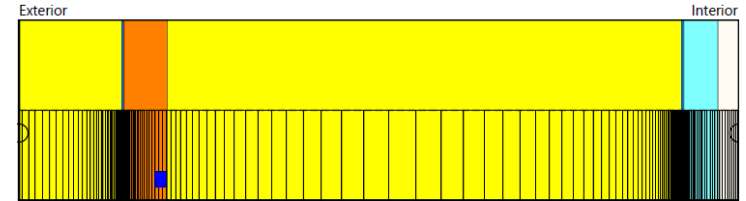
Stack Height [m] 5

Mechanical Ventilation Overpressure [Pa] 0

Delete source OK Cancel Help

Flat roof

Result analysis*

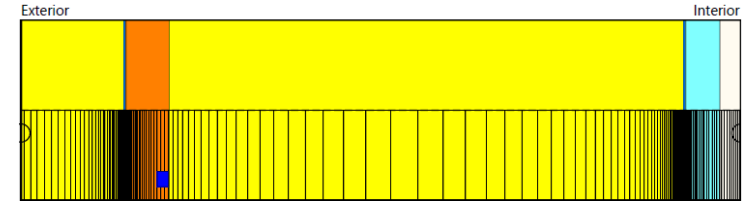


- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
→ regular, periodic course?
→ accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Check water content in wooden sheathing
- You may check moisture accumulation in the exterior insulation

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur
→ Check film**

Flat roof

Result analysis*

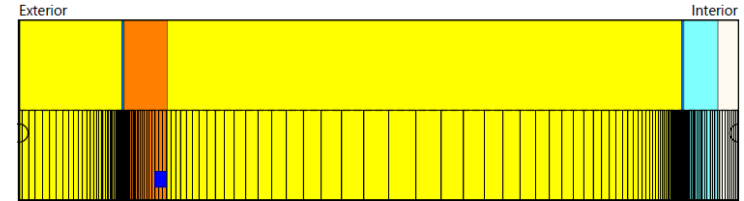


- In a construction without wood-based or moisture sensitive materials:
 - Examination of amount of dew water (further information can be found in the [Guideline for the Condensation Assessment](#))
 - Further check influence of moisture content on the thermal conductivity in the material data table „thermal conductivity, moisture-dependent“

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Flat roof

Additional information



- Be careful with bright roofing membranes:
The drying potential of the construction is greatly reduced!
- Shading / green roof / gravel roof has to be considered
(more information in the paper [Verschattung von Holzflachdächern](#) (only German)
and in [Guideline for the calculation of extensive green resp. gravel roofs](#))
- In case of modeling the roofing membrane as s_d -value on the exterior surface, this only models the vapor-retarding property of the membrane, not its rain-tightness → don't forget to switch off rain!
- Considering an insulated roof with rafters, usually the cross section through the insulation is relevant.
- Metal roof: Metal layer is considered as s_d -value at the exterior surface, absorptivity and emissivity according to material
 - unsealed seams: effective s_d -value around 25 m – 75 m
 - sealed seams: effective s_d -value > 300 m

Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

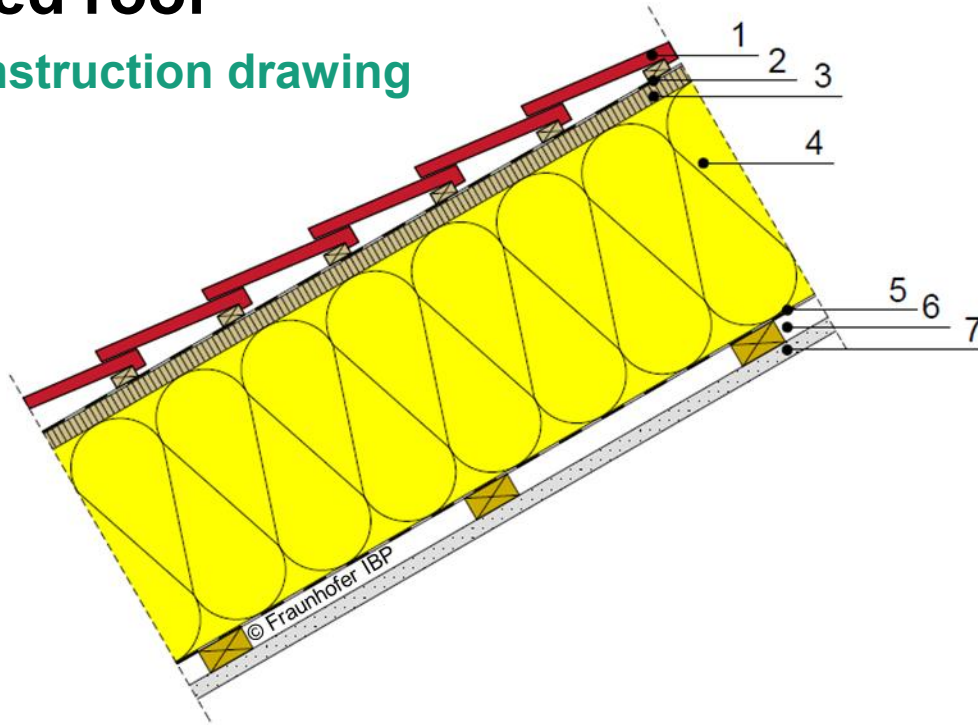
Ventilated timber frame construction

Basement wall without ground water

Interior component

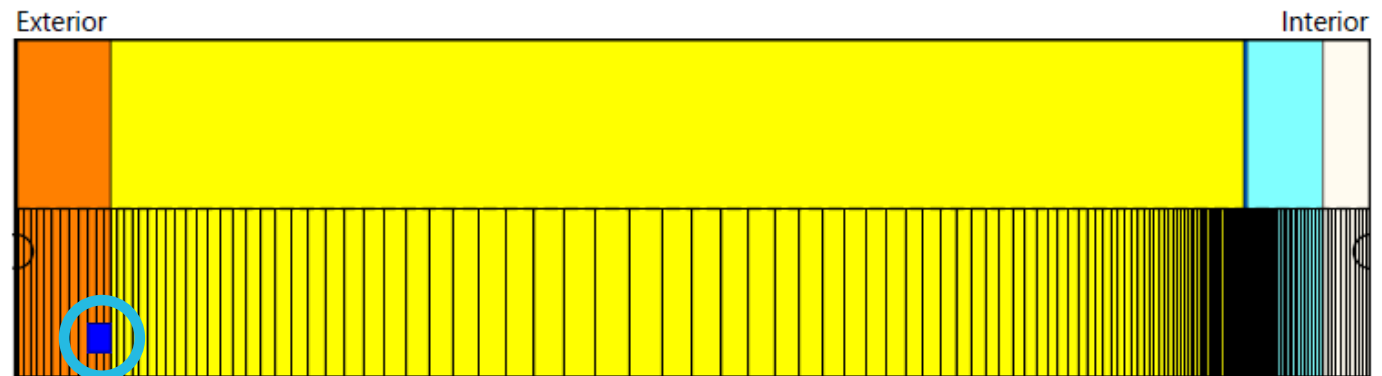
Pitched roof

Construction drawing



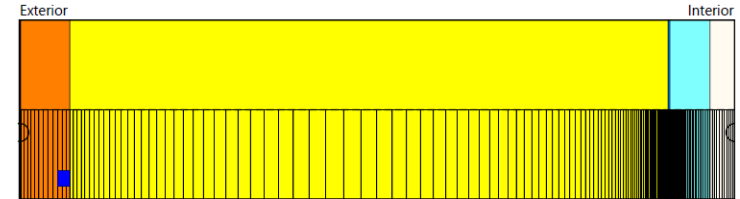
- 1 Roofing tiles and battens
- 2 Weather-protecting membrane
- 3 Wooden sheathing
- 4 Insulation
- 5 Vapor retarder
- 6 Installation layer
- 7 Gypsum board

Assembly in WUFI



Pitched roof

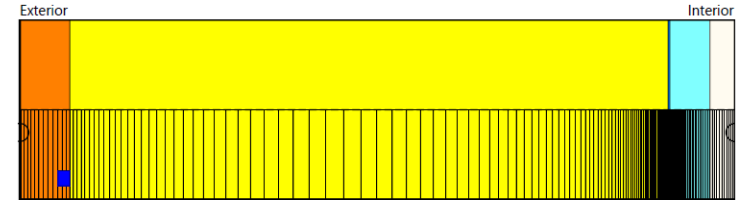
Please note



- Insert an infiltration source at the cold side of the construction (at the position where condensation would occur)
→ depending on the air tightness of the building and the stack height
- Relevant orientation: usually North
- Ventilated roofing is omitted for the calculation
→ switch off rainwater absorption (remove tick from “Simulation takes rain into account”)
- Underlay membrane can be considered by using an s_d -value on the outer surface (numerical more favourable)
→ if doing so, use no roofing membrane in the component assembly
- For assemblies without a separate underlay membrane:
→ Surface s_d -value of 0.01 m, to consider the reduced relative humidity in the ventilation gap (e.g. due to condensation on the roofing covering).
→ otherwise, it can lead to very high moisture contents in timber boards or similar materials which can absorb liquid water

Pitched roof

Please note



- Heat transfer coefficient (exterior):
 - select “Pitched roof”: weak, normal or strong ventilated
 - the long-wave radiation parts are set to 0 W/m²K
(for more information: [Hygrothermal Simulation of ventilated pitched roofs](#))
- Short-wave absorptivity depending on colour of the roofing tiles
- Switch on “Radiative overcooling”
- Long-wave emissivity depending on the material of the roofing tiles
- Set the reduction factor to the absorption coefficient:
„Pitched roof, ventilated, middle position“
(further information: [Hygrothermal Simulation of ventilated pitched roofs](#))

Pitched roof

Moisture source setup

■ Infiltration Source

For procedure:
see „flat roof“

Hygrothermal Sources

Infiltration Source

Name: Infiltration 1

Spread Area

☐ Grid Element ☒ Area ☐ Whole Layer

Thickness [m]: 0.005

right-fixed

Source Type

☐ Transient from File ☐ Fraction of incident Driving Rain ☒ Air Infiltration model IBP ☐ Constant Monthly Moisture Load

Source Term Cut-Off [kg/m³]

☐ No Cut-Off ☐ Cut-Off at Max. Water Content ☒ Cut-Off at Free Water Saturation ☐ User-Defined

Envelope Infiltration q50 [m³/m²h]: 3

Air Tightness Class B (DIN 4108, tested <= 3 m³/m²h)

Stack Height [m]: 5

Mechanical Ventilation Overpressure [Pa]: 0

Delete source OK Cancel Help

Pitched roof

Input: Surface transfer parameter

Heat Transfer ?

Heat Transfer Coefficient [W/m²K] 19 Pitched roof, normal ventilated

long-wave radiation parts Heat Transfer Coefficient [W/m²K] 0

wind-dependent ☐

+ Wind-dependence formula

Vapour Transfer ?

Additional diffusion resistance (e.g. coating), sd-Value [m] 0.01 Model ventilated pitched roofs

Note: This setting does not affect rain absorption.

Radiation ?

Short-wave absorptivity, e.g. solar radiation [-] 0.67 Tiles, red

Radiative overcooling ☒ Note: Explicit Radiation Balance, includes radiative cooling due to long-wave emission.

Long-wave emissivity, e.g. nighttime radiative cooling [-] 0.9

+ Additional radiation parameters

- Reduction factors

for absorptivity [-] 0.9 Pitched roof, ventilated, middle position

for emissivity [-] 1.0

Rain ?

Simulation takes rain into account ☐

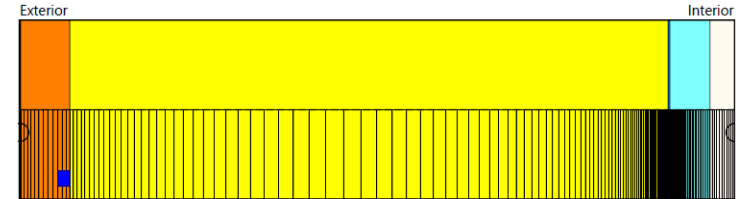
+ Rain parameters

For assemblies without underlay membrane

Otherwise:
Enter the s_d -value of the underlay membrane

Pitched roof

Result analysis*

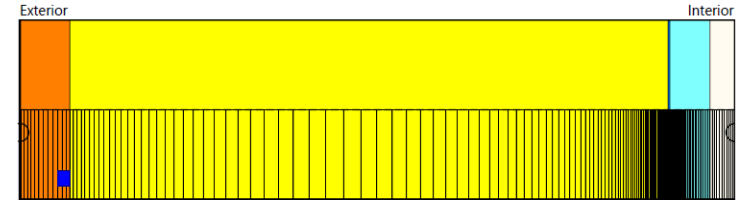


- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
 - regular, periodic course?
 - accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Check water content in wooden sheathing
- In a construction without wood-based or moisture sensitive materials:
 - Examination of amount of dew water (further information can be found in the [Guideline for the Condensation Assessment](#))
 - Further check influence of moisture content on the thermal conductivity in the material data table „thermal conductivity, moisture-dependent“

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Pitched roof

Additional information



- Heat transfer coefficient according to the latest research results by Kölsch ([Hygrothermal Simulation of ventilated pitched roofs](#))
- In case of modeling the underlay membrane as s_d -value on the exterior surface, this only models the vapor-retarding property of the membrane, not its rain-tightness → don't forget to switch off rain!
- Metal roof: Metal layer is considered as s_d -value at the exterior surface, absorptivity and emissivity according to material
 - unsealed seams: effective s_d -value around 25 m – 75 m
 - sealed seams: effective s_d -value > 300 m

Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

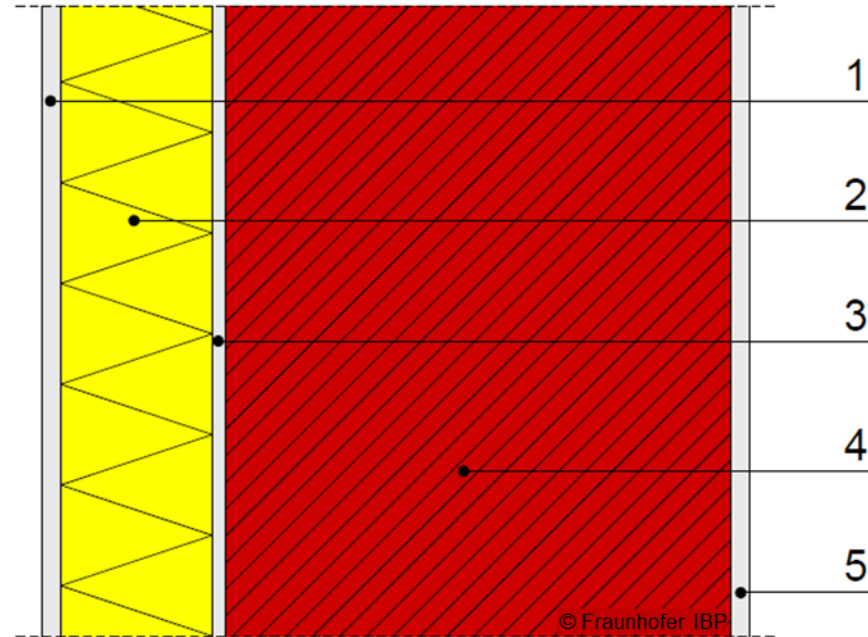
Ventilated timber frame construction

Basement wall without ground water

Interior component

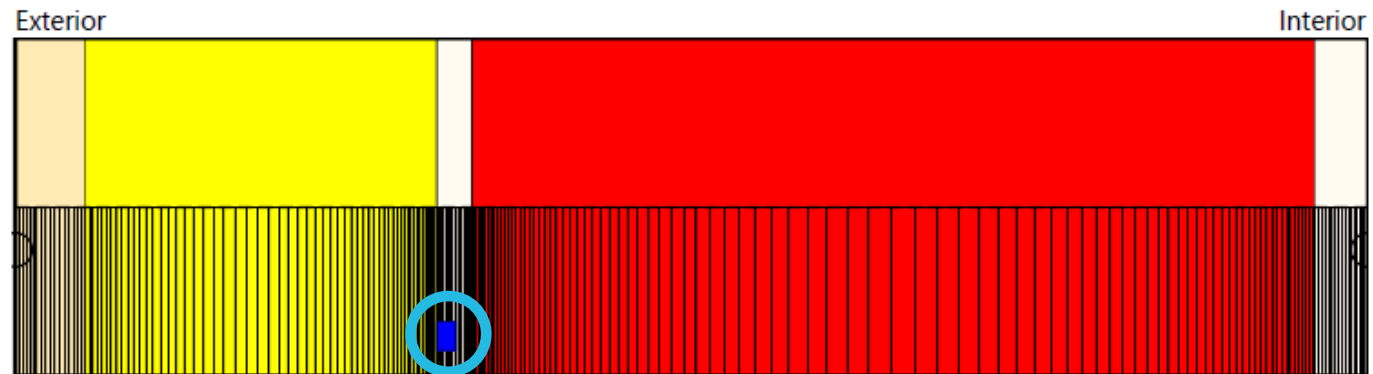
Exterior wall with ETICS

Construction
drawing



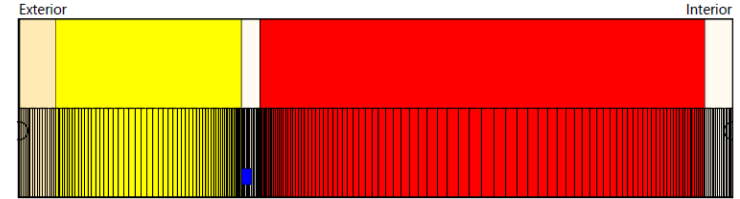
- 1 Exterior plaster
- 2 Insulation
- 3 Plaster
- 4 Masonry / concrete
- 5 Interior plaster

Assembly
in WUFI



Exterior wall with ETICS

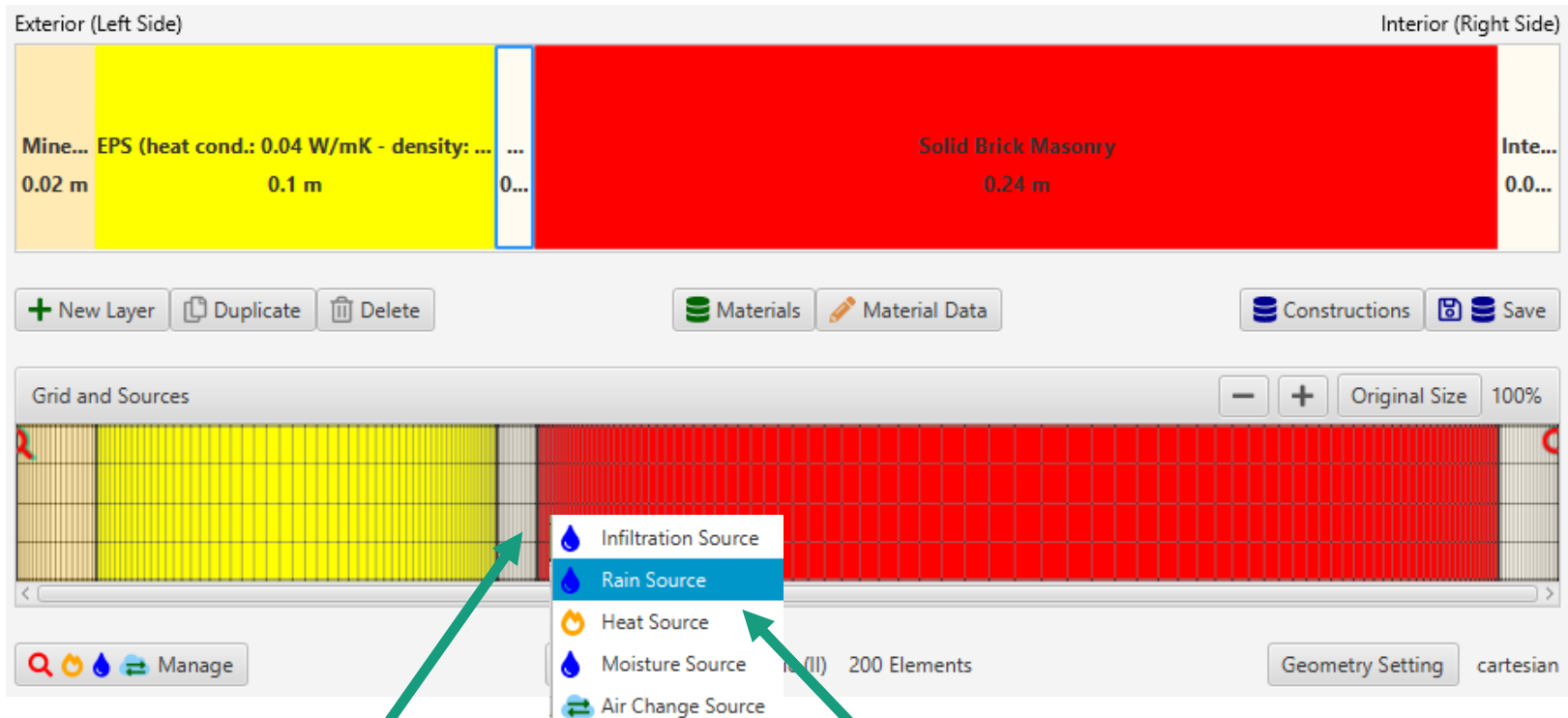
Please note



- Moisture source behind ETICS: 1 % of driving rain
- Relevant orientations: Prevailing direction of driving rain and North
- Short wave absorptivity depending on colour of exterior plaster
- Long wave emissivity for plaster (if not known: 0.9)
- If the short-term hygrothermal behaviour of the outer surface is to be evaluated, switch on “Radiative overcooling”
- Rain parameters: Depending on inclination of component (vertical wall: 0.7)

Exterior wall with ETICS

Input: Moisture source



1. Right mouse click
in the layer*

2. Select appropriate source
here: Rain Source

*) Driving Rain source is inserted in the outer 5 mm of the layer behind the insulation.

Exterior wall with ETICS

Input: Moisture source

- Rain Source

Note:

According to German standard DIN 4108-3, the source is spread over a depth of 5 mm. However, in rainy locations, the source should be spread over 10 mm to provide more pore space for water absorption.

Hygrothermal Sources

Rain Source

Name: Rain 1

Spread Area

☐ Grid Element ☒ Area ☐ Whole Layer

Thickness [m]: 0.005

left-fixed

Source Type

☐ Transient from File ☒ Fraction of incident Driving Rain ☐ Air Infiltration model IBP ☐ Constant Monthly Moisture Load

Source Term Cut-Off [kg/m³]

☐ No Cut-Off ☐ Cut-Off at Max. Water Content ☒ Cut-Off at Free Water Saturation ☐ User-Defined

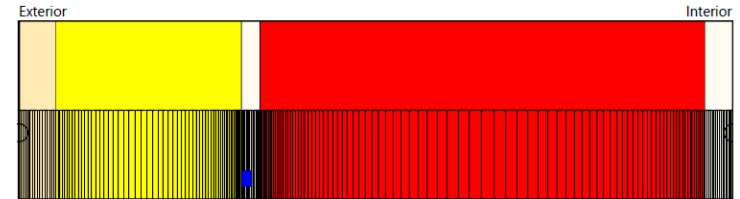
Fraction [%]

1 Driving rain penetration DIN 4108-3

Delete source OK Cancel Help

Exterior wall with ETICS

Result analysis*

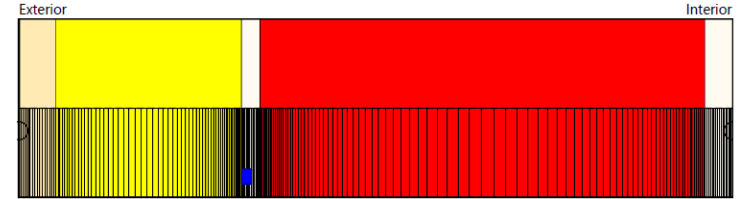


- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
 - regular, periodic course?
 - accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Check water content in the insulation
 - Reduction of thermal conductivity?
- Relative humidity at the interface between exterior plaster and insulation during winter → risk of frost damage?
- At warm and humid sites check relative humidity between insulation and wall (dew water and failure of adhesive may occur)

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Exterior wall with ETICS

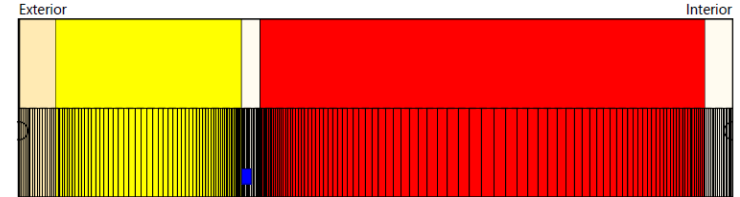
Additional information



- Determining the main direction of driving rain by using the climate analysis (usually West in Middle Europe)
- The moisture source of 1% of the driving rain behind the ETICS is regulated in the ASHRAE Standard 160 as well as in the EN 15026:2023 and represents critical positions e.g. in the area of window frames

Exterior wall with ETICS

Additional information



- Information on the calculation and evaluation of ETICS with wood fibre insulation can be found in the following guideline: [Guideline for the calculation and evaluation of an ETICS with wood fibre insulation](#)

Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

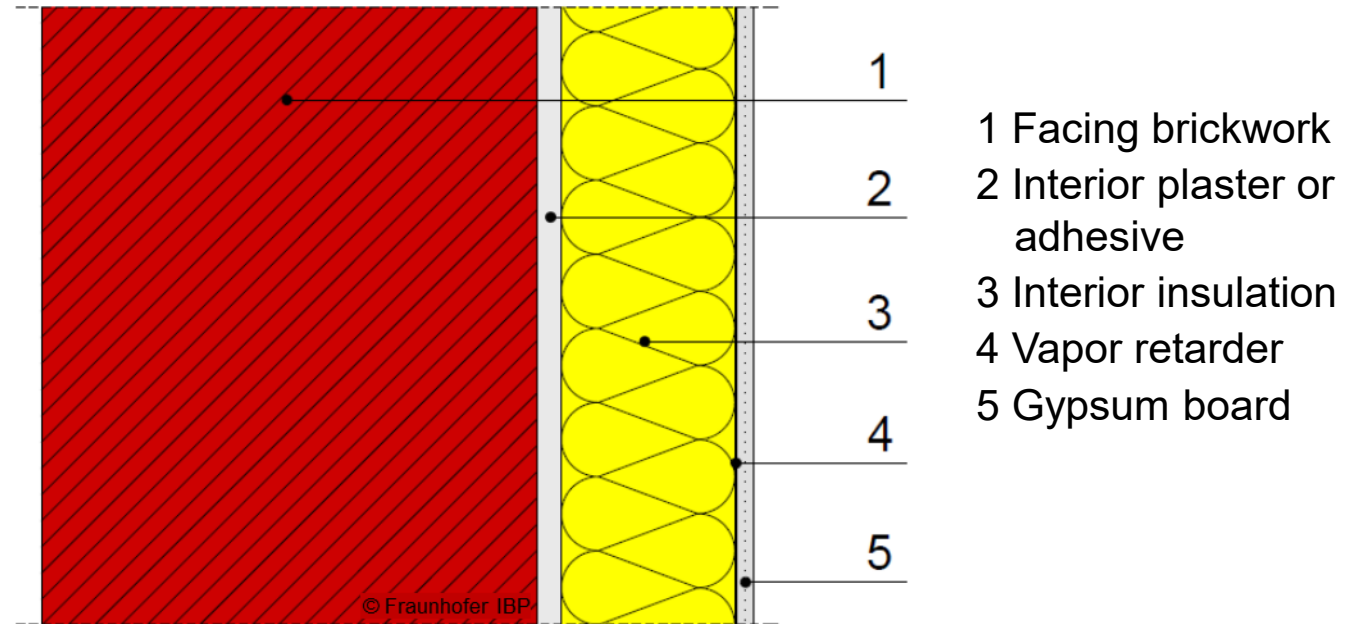
Ventilated timber frame construction

Basement wall without ground water

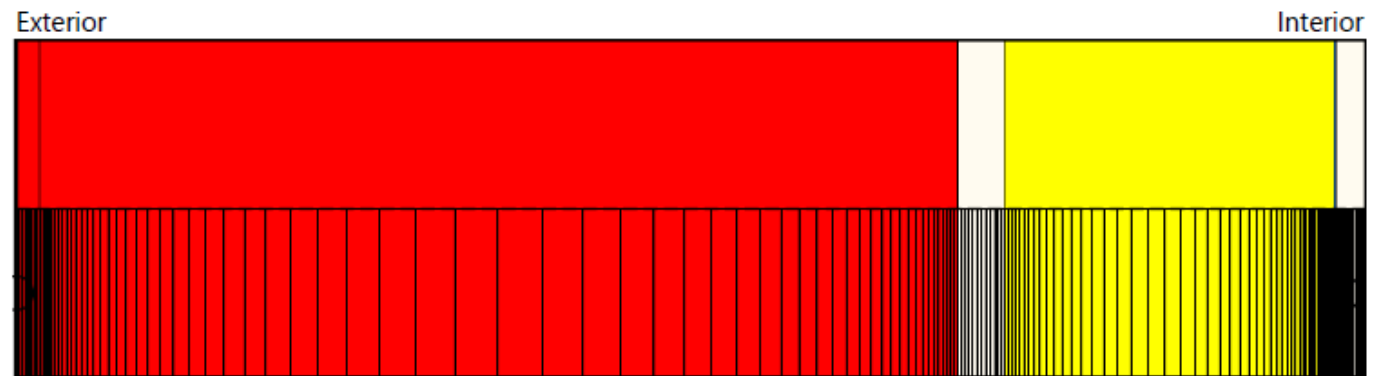
Interior component

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Construction drawing

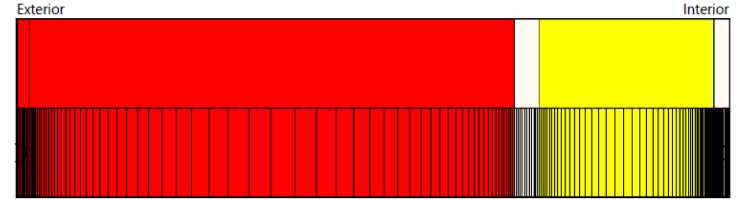


Assembly in WUFI



Exterior wall with interior insulation

Please note



- Relevant orientations: Prevailing direction of driving rain and North
- Short-wave absorptivity depending on colour of exterior surface
- Long-wave emissivity for exterior surface (if not known: 0.9)
- Using “Radiative overcooling” usually not necessary
- Rain parameters: depending on inclination of component (vertical wall: 0.7)
- If needed: Water-repellent treatment of the exterior surface to reduce rainwater absorption

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

Modification of the A-value without influencing other material properties (e.g. s_d -value)

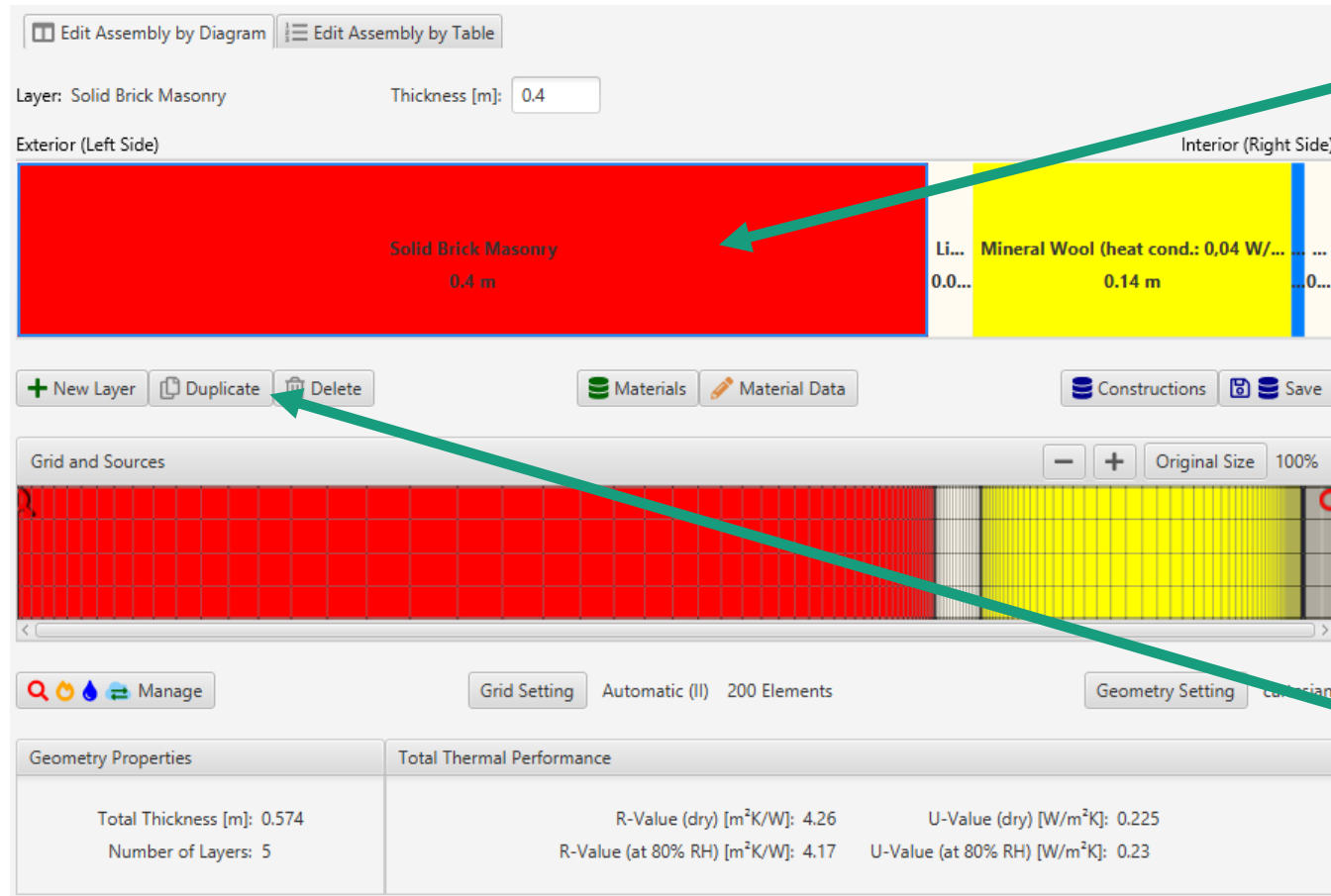
Step by step:

- 1) Split the exterior layer into a surface layer (0.5 – 1.0 cm depending on penetration depth of treatment) and the remaining layer. To do this, duplicate the original layer and then adjust the two thicknesses as needed.
- 2) Edit the material properties of the new exterior layer:
 - “Unlock” the material
 - Switch “Liquid Transport Coefficients” for suction and redistribution to “generate”
 - Adjust “Water absorption coefficient”

Be careful with the units: $[\text{kg}/\text{m}^2\sqrt{\text{s}}]$ is the A-value in $[\text{kg}/\text{m}^2\sqrt{\text{h}}]$ divided by 60 !!!

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades



Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

The screenshot shows a software interface for building construction simulation. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Aufbau über Bild bearbeiten' (selected) and 'Aufbau über Tabelle bearbeiten'. Below the tabs, the layer list shows 'Schicht: Vollziegelmauerwerk' with a thickness of 'Dicke [m]: 0,4'. The main area displays a cross-section of the wall with three layers: 'Vollziegelmauerwerk' (0,4 m), 'Vollziegelmauerwerk' (0,4 m), and 'Mineralfaser (Wärm.....)' (0,14 m). The 'Außen (linke Seite)' and 'Innen (rechte Seite)' labels are present. Below the main area, there are buttons for '+ Neue Schicht', 'Duplizieren', 'Löschen', 'Materialien', 'Materialdaten', 'Konstruktionen', and 'Speichern'. A 'Gitter und Quellen' section shows a grid view of the wall layers. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Verwalten', 'Gittereinstellung', 'Automatisch (II)', '200 Elemente', 'Geometrie-einstellung', and 'kartesisch'. The 'Geometrie-eigenschaften' panel shows 'Gesamtdicke [m]: 0,974' and 'Anzahl der Schichten: 6'. The 'Wärmeschutzeigenschaften' panel shows 'Wärmedurchlasswiderstand (trocken) [m²K/W]: 4,92', 'U-Wert (trocken) [W/m²K]: 0,196', 'Wärmedurchlasswiderstand (bei 80% r.F.) [m²K/W]: 4,75', and 'U-Wert (bei 80% r.F.) [W/m²K]: 0,203'.

4. Change thickness
e.g. $d = 0.01$ m

3. Select exterior
layer

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

Layer: Solid Brick Masonry Thickness [m]: 0.4

Exterior (Left Side) Interior (Right Side)

Solid Brick Masonry 0.4 m

Li... Mineral Wool (heat cond.: 0,04 W/... 0.0... 0.14 m ... 0...

+ New Layer Duplicate Delete Materials Material Data Constructions Save

Grid and Sources

Grid Setting Automatic (II) 200 Elements Geometry Setting cartesian

Geometry Properties	Total Thermal Performance
Total Thickness [m]: 0.584	R-Value (dry) [m ² K/W]: 4.27 U-Value (dry) [W/m ² K]: 0.224
Number of Layers: 6	R-Value (at 80% RH) [m ² K/W]: 4.18 U-Value (at 80% RH) [W/m ² K]: 0.229

6. Change thickness
e.g. $d = 0.39$ m

5. Select interior
layer

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

Layer: Solid Brick Masonry Thickness [m]: 0.01

Exterior (Left Side) Interior (Right Side)

Solid Brick Masonry 0.39 m

Li... Mineral Wool (heat cond.: 0,04 W/... 0.0... 0.14 m 0...

+ New Layer Duplicate Delete

Materials Material Data

Constructions Save

Grid and Sources

Original Size 100%

Manage

Grid Setting Automatic (II) 200 Elements

Geometry Setting cartesian

Geometry Properties	Total Thermal Performance	
Total Thickness [m]: 0.574	R-Value (dry) [m ² K/W]: 4.26	U-Value (dry) [W/m ² K]: 0.225
Number of Layers: 6	R-Value (at 80% RH) [m ² K/W]: 4.17	U-Value (at 80% RH) [W/m ² K]: 0.23

7. Double click on layer

7. Or click „Material data“

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

Layer/Material Data

Layer/Material Name: Solid Brick Masonry - unlocked

Bulk density [kg/m³]: 1900

Porosity [m³/m³]: 0.24

Spec. Heat Capacity [J/kgK]: 850

Thermal Conductivity [W/mK]: 0.6

Water Vapour Diffusion Resistance Factor [-]: 10

Typical Built-In Moisture [kg/m³]: 100

Layer Thickness [m]: 0.01

Thermal Conductivity, Design Value [W/mK]:

Colour: Red

Hygrothermal Functions | Material Information

Moisture Storage Function

Liquid Transport Coefficient, Suction

Liquid Transport Coefficient, Redistribution

Water Vapour Diffusion Resistance Factor, moisture-depe...

Thermal Conductivity, moisture-dependent

Thermal Conductivity, temperature-dependent

Enthalpy, temperature-dependent

☒ Generate

Approximation Parameters:

Reference Water Content [kg/m³]: 18

Free Water Saturation [kg/m³]: 190

Water Absorption Coefficient [kg/m²√s]: 0.11

No.	Water Content [kg/m³]	Dws [m²/s]
1	0	0
2	18	2.45E-9
3	190	1.27E-6

Paste into Database | Import | Export

OK | Cancel | Help

Normalized Water Content [-]

Liquid Transport Coefficient [m²/s]

Water Content [kg/m³]

u_{g0}

u_i

10. Select „Generate“

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

Layer/Material Data

Layer/Material Name: Solid Brick Masonry - unlocked

Bulk density [kg/m³]: 1900

Porosity [m³/m³]: 0.24

Spec. Heat Capacity [J/kgK]: 850

Thermal Conductivity [W/mK]: 0.6

Water Vapour Diffusion Resistance Factor [-]: 10

Typical Built-In Moisture [kg/m³]: 100

Layer Thickness [m]: 0.01

Thermal Conductivity, Design Value [W/mK]:

Colour: Red

Hygrothermal Functions | Material Information

Moisture Storage Function

Liquid Transport Coefficient, Suction

Liquid Transport Coefficient, Redistribution

Water Vapour Diffusion Resistance Factor, moisture-depe...

Thermal Conductivity, moisture-dependent

Thermal Conductivity, temperature-dependent

Enthalpy, temperature-dependent

☒ Generate

Approximation Parameters:

Reference Water Content [kg/m³]: 18

Free Water Saturation [kg/m³]: 190

Water Absorption Coefficient [kg/m²·√s]: 0.0

No.	Water Content [kg/m³]	Dww [m²/s]
1	0	0
2	18	2.45E-9
3	190	1.27E-7

Normalized Water Content [-]

Liquid Transport Coefficient [m²/s]

Water Content [kg/m³]

OK Cancel Help

11. Select „Liquid Transport Coefficient, Redistribution“

12. Select „Generate“

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Water-repellent treatment of façades

Layer/Material Data

Layer/Material Name: Solid Brick Masonry - unlocked

Bulk density [kg/m³]: 1900

Porosity [m³/m³]: 0.24

Spec. Heat Capacity [J/kgK]: 850

Thermal Conductivity [W/mK]: 0.6

Water Vapour Diffusion Resistance Factor [-]: 10

Typical Built-In Moisture [kg/m³]: 100

Layer Thickness [m]: 0.01

Thermal Conductivity, Design Value [W/mK]:

Colour: Red

Hygrothermal Functions | Material Information

Moisture Storage Function

Liquid Transport Coefficient, Suction

Liquid Transport Coefficient, Redistribution

Water Vapour Diffusion Resistance Factor, moisture-depe...

Thermal Conductivity, moisture-dependent

Thermal Conductivity, temperature-dependent

Enthalpy, temperature-dependent

☒ Generate

Approximation Parameters:

Reference Water Content [kg/m³]: 18

Free Water Saturation [kg/m³]: 190

Water Absorption Coefficient [kg/m²√s]: 0.00833

No.	Water Content [kg/m³]	Dww [m²/s]
1	0	0
2	18	1.41E-11
3	190	7.3E-10

Paste into Database | Import | Export | OK | Cancel | Help

Normalized Water Content [-]

Liquid Transport Coefficient [m²/s]

Water Content [kg/m³]

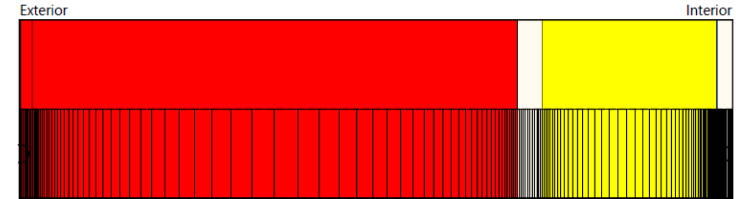
13. Enter A-value

here:

$$0.5 \text{ kg/m}^2\sqrt{\text{h}} / 60 \\ = 0.00833 \text{ kg/m}^2\sqrt{\text{s}}$$

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Result analysis*

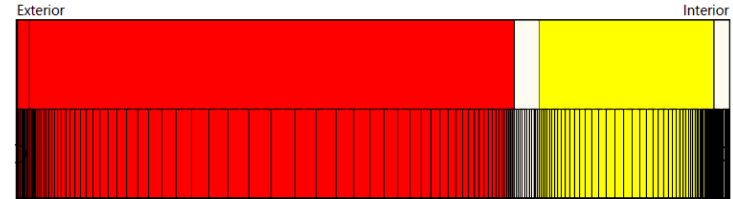


- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
 - regular, periodic course?
 - accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Relative humidity at the interface between interior plaster and interior insulation < 95 % RH
 - risk of frost damage?
 - or: frost-resistance of materials necessary
(Insulation system plaster, wall materials)

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Additional information



- An interior insulation reduces the drying potential of a construction due to a lower over-all temperature and a higher diffusion-resistance to the interior side.
- The moisture content at the interface interior plaster / interior insulation usually can be reduced by an enhancement of the protection against driving rain (e.g. by water-repellent treatment, new exterior plaster, paint coat) .
- Water-repellent treatment according to WTA:
 - A-value $< 0.1 \text{ kg/m}^2\sqrt{\text{h}}$
 - 50 % increase of the s_d -value
- Investigations of an exposed masonry need the knowledge of effective material properties, combining the properties of bricks and mortar.
- A gypsum plaster at the interior surface usually has to be removed before applying an interior insulation.
- Smart vapor retarders are favourable since the drying potential to the inside mainly remains unaffected.

Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

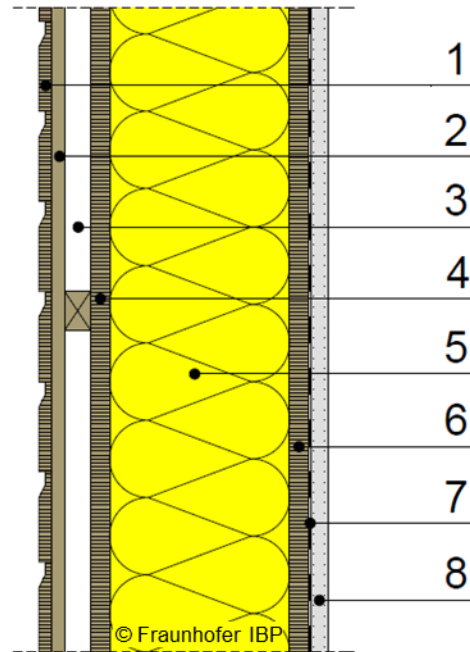
Ventilated timber frame construction

Basement wall without ground water

Interior component

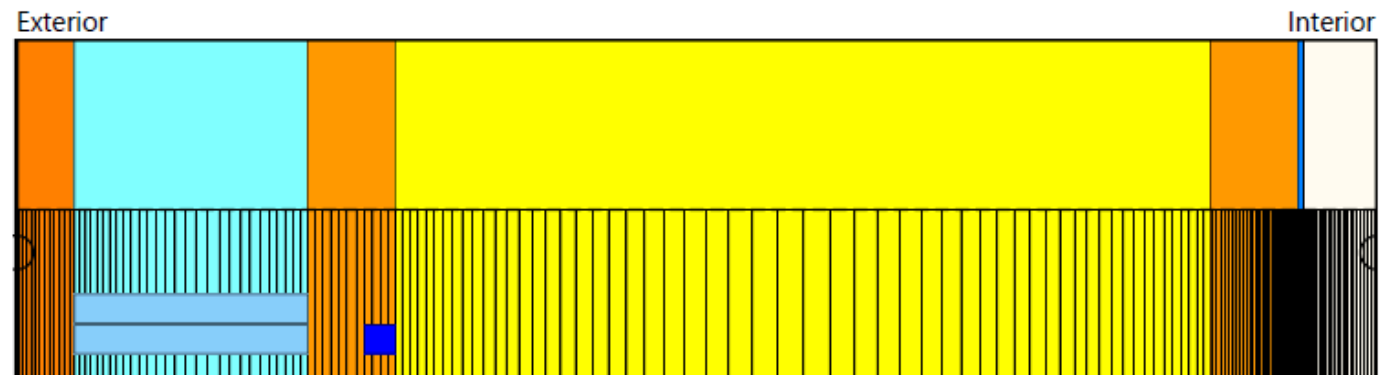
Ventilated timber frame construction

Construction drawing



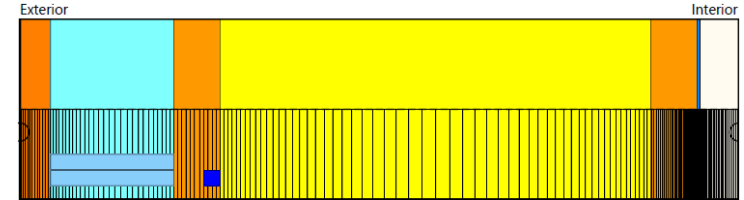
- 1 Planking
- 2 Battens
- 3 Counter battens
- 4 External cladding
- 5 Insulation
- 6 Internal Cladding
- 7 Vapour retarder
- 8 Gypsum board

Assembly in WUFI



Ventilated timber frame construction

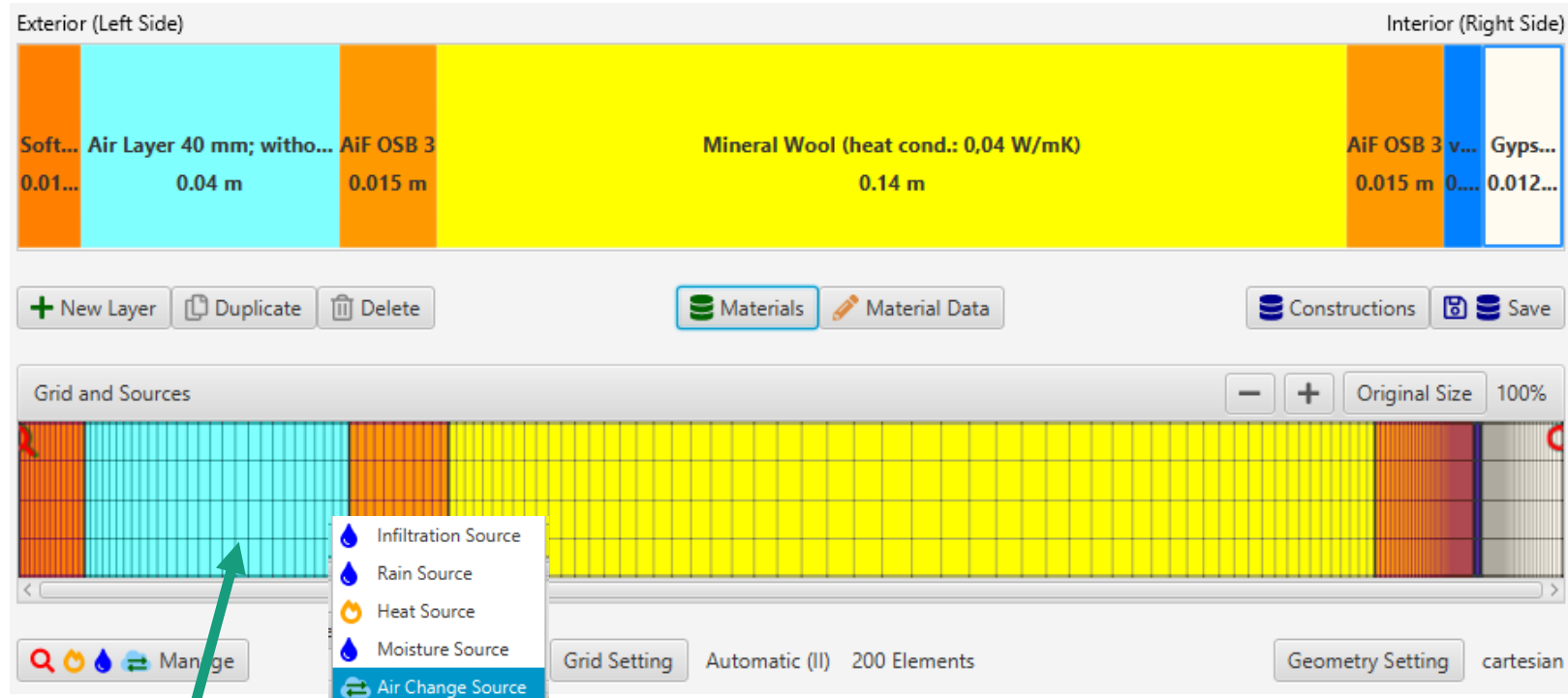
Please note



- Insert an air change source in the air layer
→ The exchange rate is dependent on construction, surface colour and ventilation openings
- Insert an air infiltration source at the cold side of the construction (at the position where condensation would occur)
→ depending on the air tightness of the building and the stack height
- Relevant orientation: North
- Short wave absorptivity depending on colour of surface
- Long wave emissivity depending on material of surface
- If the short-term hygrothermal behaviour of the outer surface is to be evaluated, switch on “Radiative overcooling”
- Rain parameters: Depending on inclination of component (vertical wall: 0.7)

Ventilated timber frame construction

Input: Air change source



1. Right mouse click
in the air layer

2. Select appropriate source
here: Air Change Source

Ventilated timber frame construction

Input: Air change source

Hygrothermal Sources

Air Change Source

Name: AirChange 1

Spread Area

☐ Grid Element
☐ Area
☒ Whole Layer

Source Type

☒ Constant
☐ Transient from File

mix with air from

☒ left-hand side
☐ right-hand side

Air Change Rate [1/h]

10

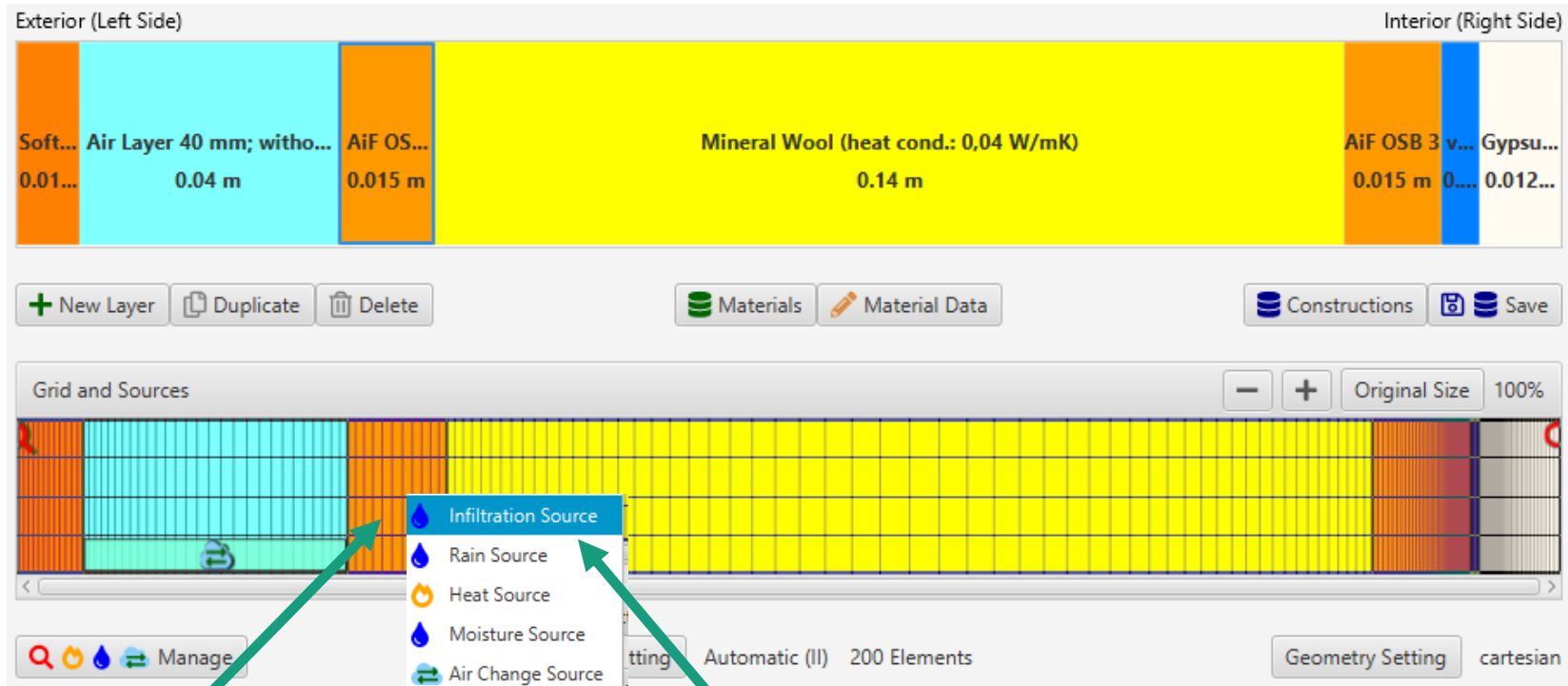
Typical air exchange rates

Ventilated facade	5 - 200 / h
Vented Facade / Cladding	3 - 20 / h
Cavity wall	1 - 5 / h
Flat roof	~ 0.5 - 1 / h

Delete source OK Cancel Help

Ventilated timber frame construction

Input: Moisture source



1. Right mouse click
in the external cladding

2. Select appropriate source
here: Infiltration Source

Ventilated timber frame construction

Input: Moisture source

Hygrothermal Sources

Infiltration Source

Name: Infiltration 1

Spread Area

☐ Grid Element Thickness [m] 0.005

☒ Area right-fixed ▼

☐ Whole Layer

Source Type	Source Term Cut-Off [kg/m ³]
<input type="radio"/> Transient from File	<input type="radio"/> No Cut-Off
<input type="radio"/> Fraction of incident Driving Rain	<input type="radio"/> Cut-Off at Max. Water Content
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Air Infiltration model IBP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Cut-Off at Free Water Saturation
<input type="radio"/> Constant Monthly Moisture Load	<input type="radio"/> User-Defined

Envelope Infiltration q50 [m³/m²h]

3 Air Tightness Class B (DIN 4108, tested ≤ 3 m³/m²h) ▼

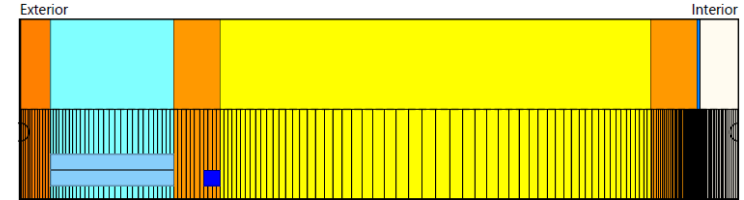
Stack Height [m] 5

Mechanical Ventilation Overpressure [Pa] 0

Delete source OK Cancel Help

Ventilated timber frame construction

Result analysis*

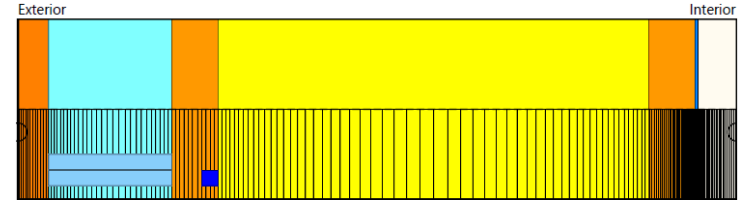


- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
 - regular, periodic course?
 - accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Check water content in the external cladding
- If necessary, check moisture content of the insulation

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Ventilated timber frame construction

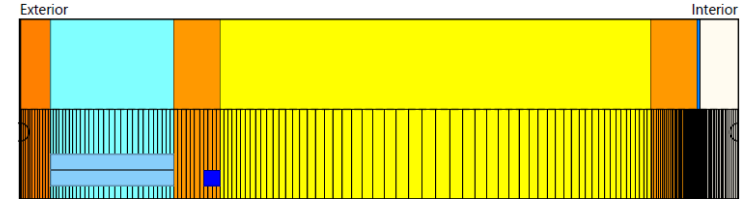
Additional information



- As the occurring air exchange rates are often not known, it may be useful to vary the air exchange rate to see its influence on the hygrothermal behavior of the construction.
(Information on this can be found in the WTA Guideline 6-2-2014 chapter 5.1)

Ventilated timber frame construction

Additional information



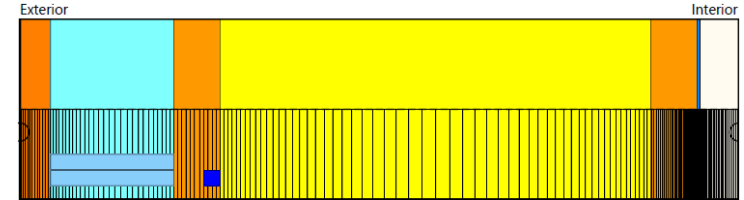
Recommendations for air exchange rates for facades (critical):

Typical air exchange rates (guideline values for common designs):	
Ventilated façade (openings at the top <u>and</u> bottom)	5 – 200 / h
Vented cladding/ sheathing (opening at the top <u>or</u> at the bottom)	3 – 20 / h
Double-face masonry / facing brickwork	1 – 5 / h
Flatroof	~ 0,5 – 1 / h
Pitched, ventilated tiled roofs	No air exchange but effective transfer parameters – see guideline “Pitched Roof”

Note: Low values are usually more critical in Central Europe – in warmer climates also higher values can become critical. If in doubt, check the range for variations and take a closer look if there is a significant influence!

Ventilated timber frame construction

Additional information



Average values for air exchange rates from US literature (relevant for more continental climate conditions with also dominant warm summer periods where high ventilation rates can also become critical)

Reference values for air change rates	Opening area-related volume flow [(m³/h)/m²]	Air gap thickness [mm]	Air exchange rate (ACH) [1/h]
Wood Siding	≈ 1,83	≈ 5	20
Vinyl Siding	≈ 9,14	≈ 5	200
Facing brick	≈ 2,74	≈ 25	10
Stucco (vented)	≈ 1,83	≈ 10	10
Sheathing flanking flow*	≈ 0,91	≈ 5	10

© Building Science Press

*The flank flow refers to the leaks in the area on the outer panel.

Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

Ventilated timber frame construction

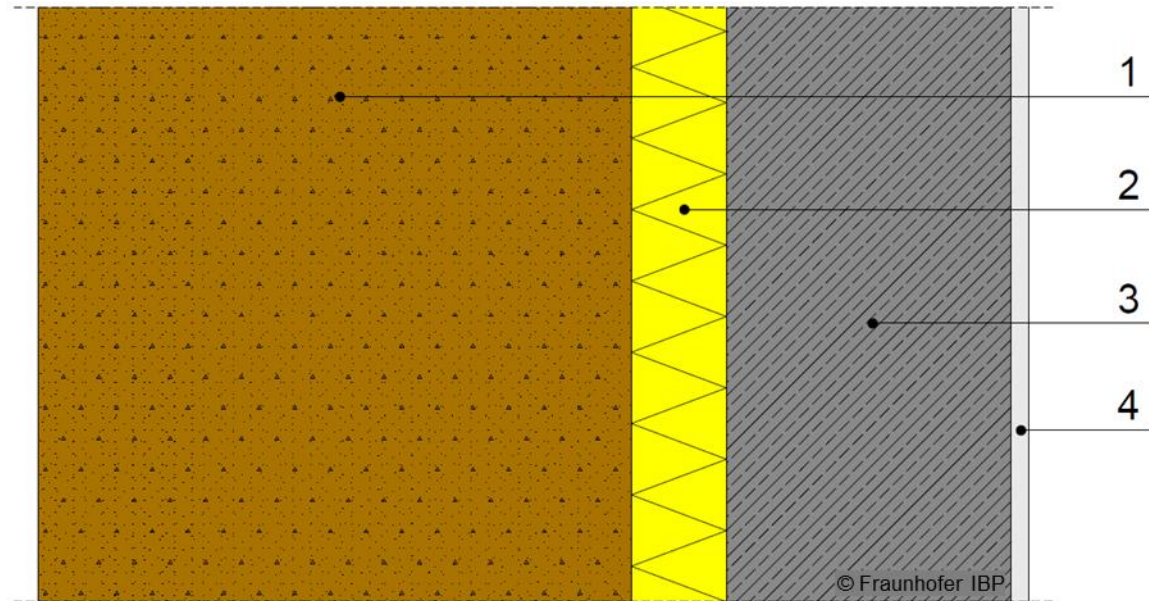
Basement wall without ground water

Interior component

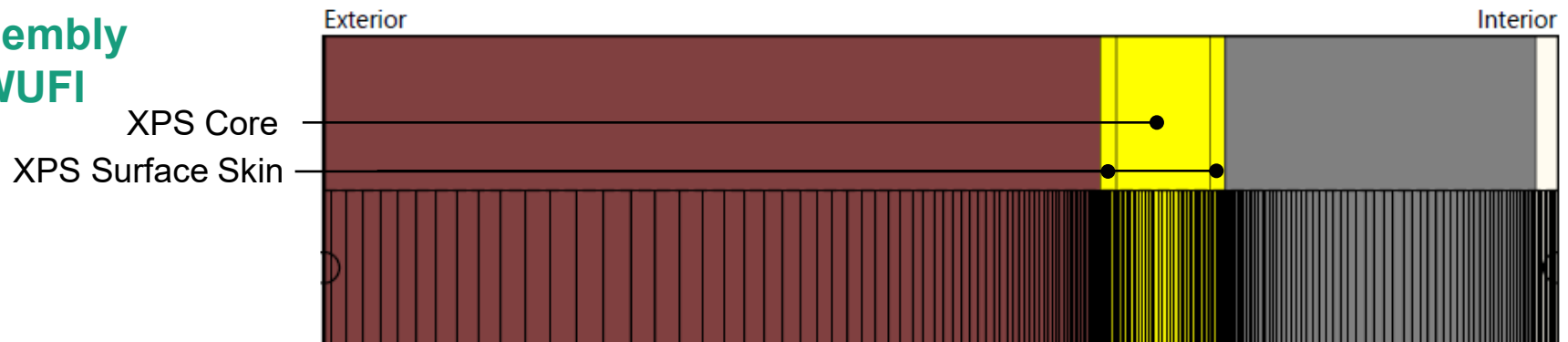
Basement wall (without ground water)

Construction drawing

- 1 Soil
- 2 Perimeter insulation
- 3 Concrete wall
- 4 Interior plaster

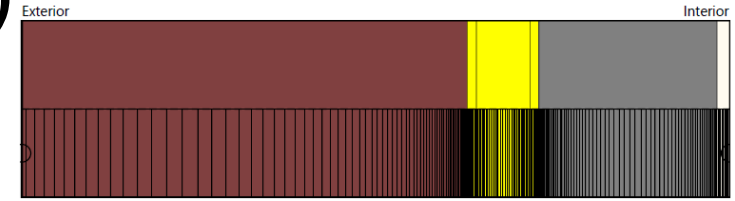


Assembly in WUFI



Basement wall (without ground water)

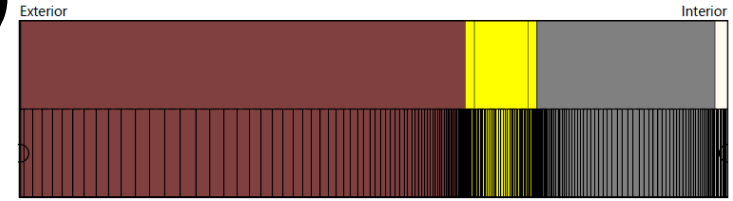
Please note



- Insert the soil layer as a separate material layer in the simulation in order to take into account the interaction between the construction and the soil.
→ Generic material data „Soil ‘Christian’ DIN“ with a thickness of about 0.5 m
- The XPS perimeter insulation consists of the core and the outer surface skin, each 1 cm thick (is defined as a system in the material database).
- Heat transfer coefficient (exterior): „Basement“
- No radiation absorptivity / emissivity
- No rainwater absorption
- Set interior climate depending on utilization

Basement wall (without ground water)

Please note



Temperature at the exterior surface (soil temperature)

- The WTA Guideline 6-2 (10/2025) recommends applying a sinusoidal annual curve depending on the outdoor climate and the depth below ground level. Up to a depth of 2 m, the values to be used for the hygrothermal references years are given in a table.
- DIN 4108-3 from 2024 specifies a simplified approach with a minimum value of 1 °C at the beginning of February and a maximum value of 17 °C at the beginning of August.
- Alternatively, the values for the soil temperatures can also be taken from the literature (e.g. values from the diagram on the next slide) and applied as a sine curve. (This procedure is described in the following as an example)

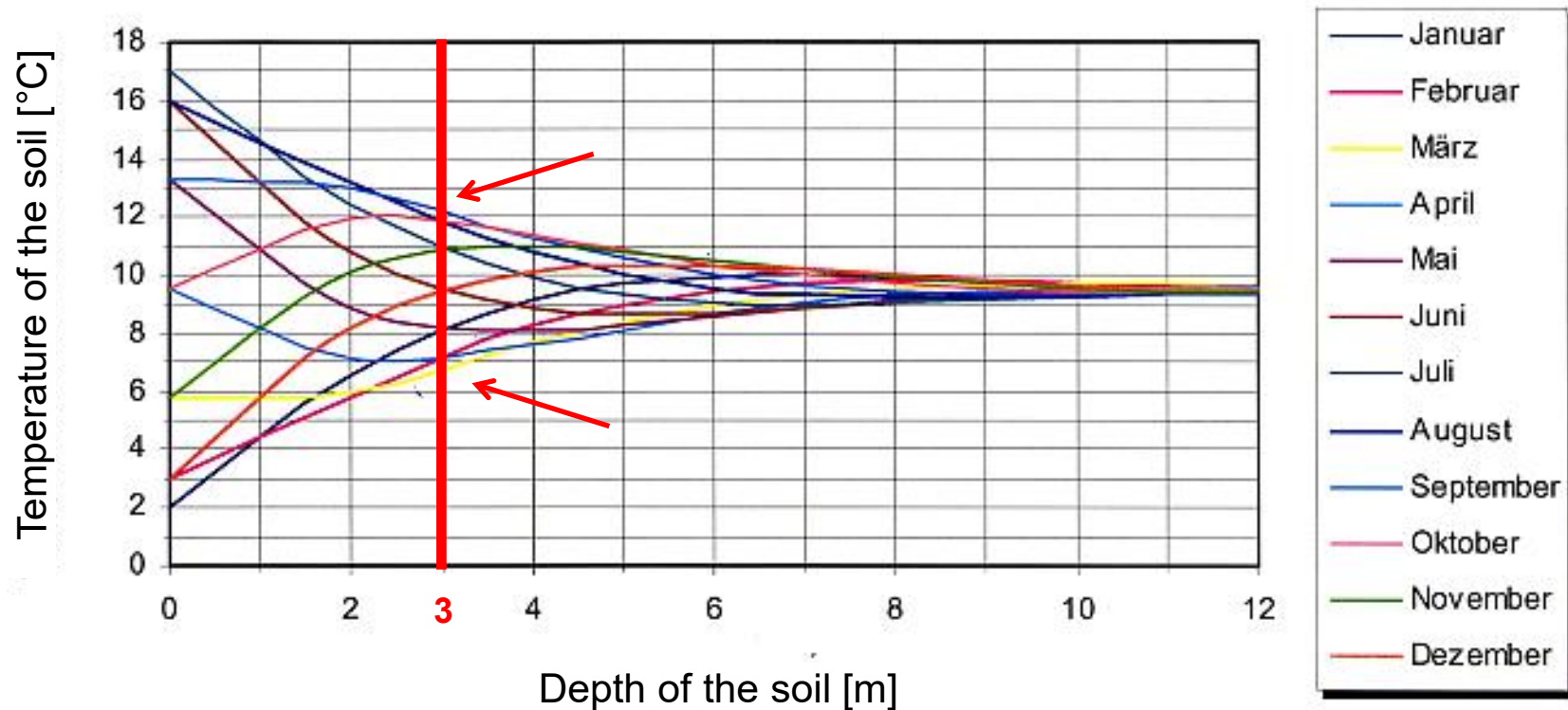
Relative humidity at the exterior surface

- All approaches should be combined with a relative humidity of 100 %.

Basement wall (without ground water)

Input: Soil temperature

Average soil temperature for each month depending on the depth of the soil



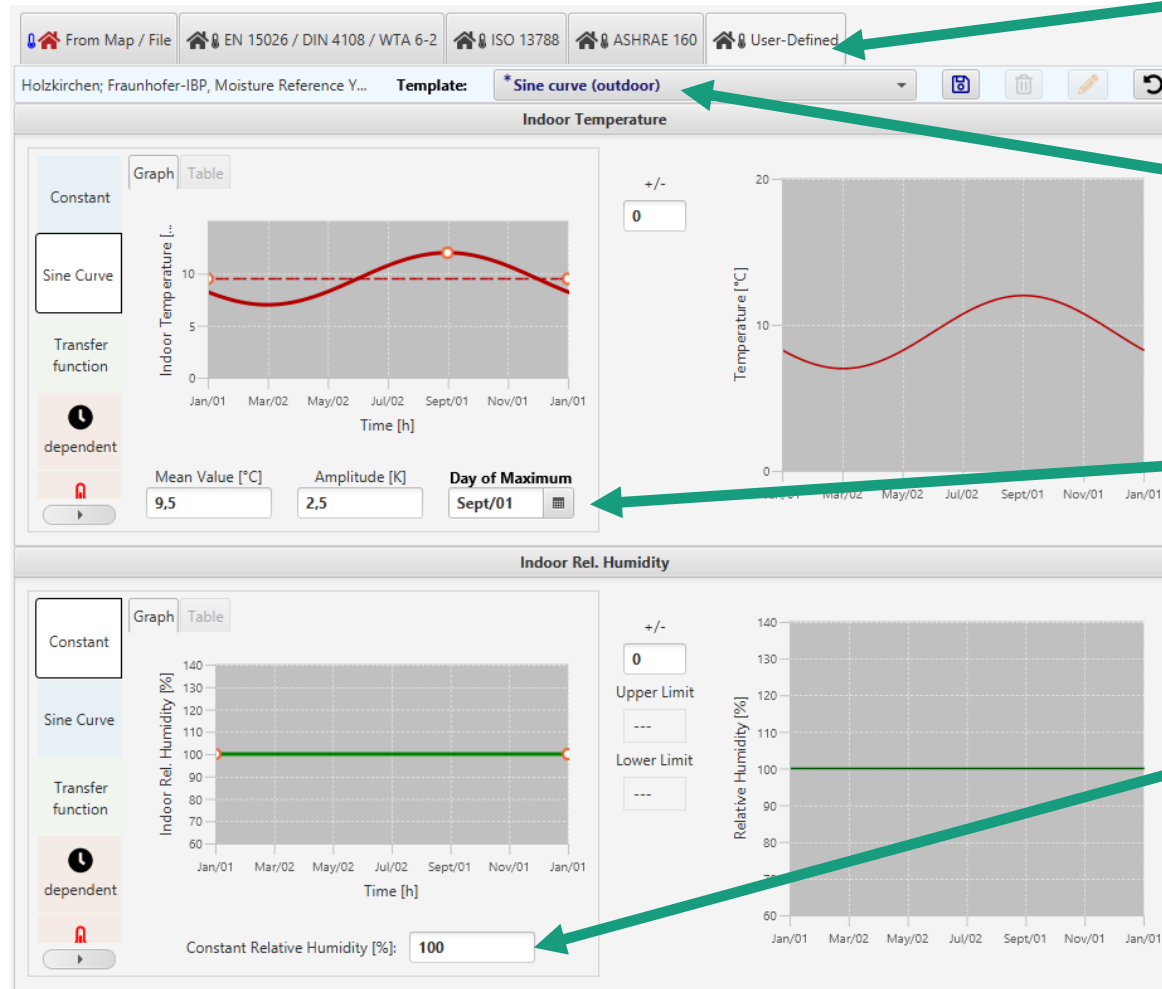
Example for a depth of 3 m:

Minimum of about 7 °C in March and
Maximum of about 12 °C in September

Ref: Heidreich, U.: Nutzung oberflächennaher Geothermie zum Heizen und Kühlen eines Bürogebäudes. Symposium Energetische Sanierung von Schul- und Verwaltungsgebäuden, FH Münster 2006.

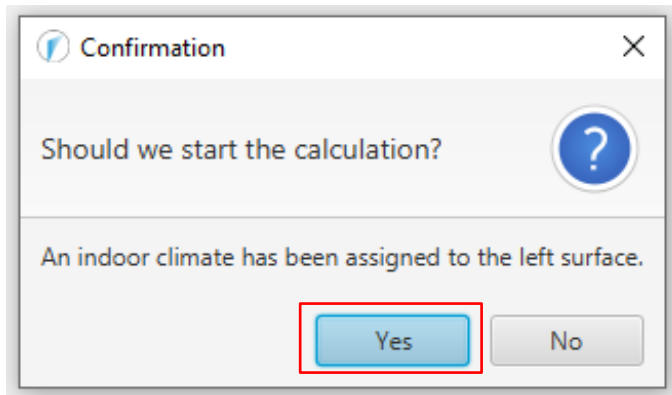
Basement wall (without ground water)

Input: Soil temperature



Basement wall (without ground water)

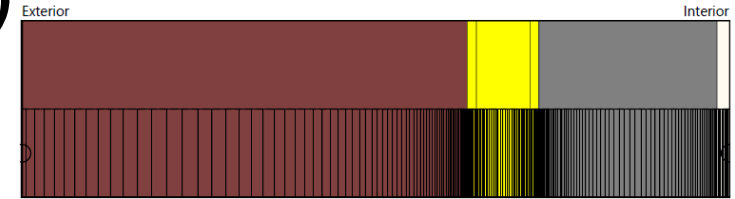
Warning at calculation start



- This warning appears at the start of the calculation because the sine curve applied to the exterior surface is defined in the program as an indoor climate. This warning can be ignored here.

Basement wall (without ground water)

Result analysis*

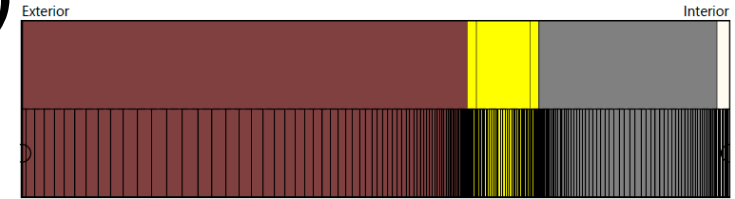


- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
 - regular, periodic course?
 - accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Check water content of insulation
- Check water content in masonry / concrete

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Basement wall (without ground water)

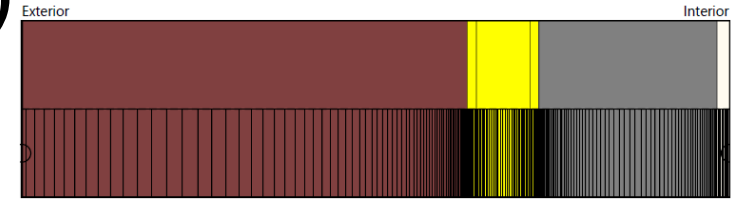
Additional information



- Set the initial water content in the soil to 99 % relative humidity in order to reach a steady state in the soil more quickly and thus reduce the computing time.
- If a capillary-breaking layer such as a dimpled membrane is used in front of the perimeter insulation, this can be modelled in the simulation using a foil. The thickness of the foil must not be changed; the s_d -value must be selected according to the used product.

Basement wall (without ground water)

Additional information



Consideration of water in the soil:

- Material data containing moisture storage function and moisture transport coefficients (e.g. „Soil ‘Christian’ FSP“) must be used. Further soil materials can be found in the “North American Database in the “Soil” section.
- The soil has to be saturated during the calculation period (check water content after calculation).
- Create a climate file, which contains rain for each time step (with CreateClimateFile.xls).
- The rain parameters must be set to 1.
- Pressurized water can not be taken into account!

Content

Flat roof

Pitched roof

Exterior wall with ETICS

Exterior wall with interior insulation

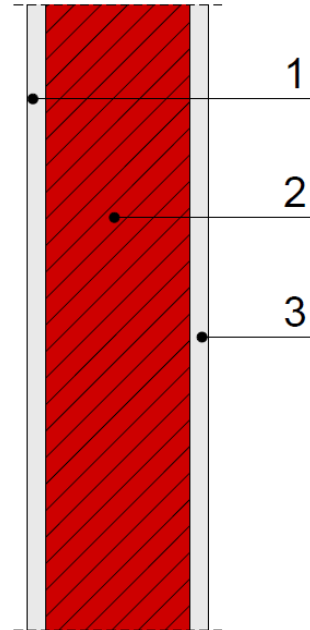
Ventilated timber frame construction

Basement wall without ground water

Interior component

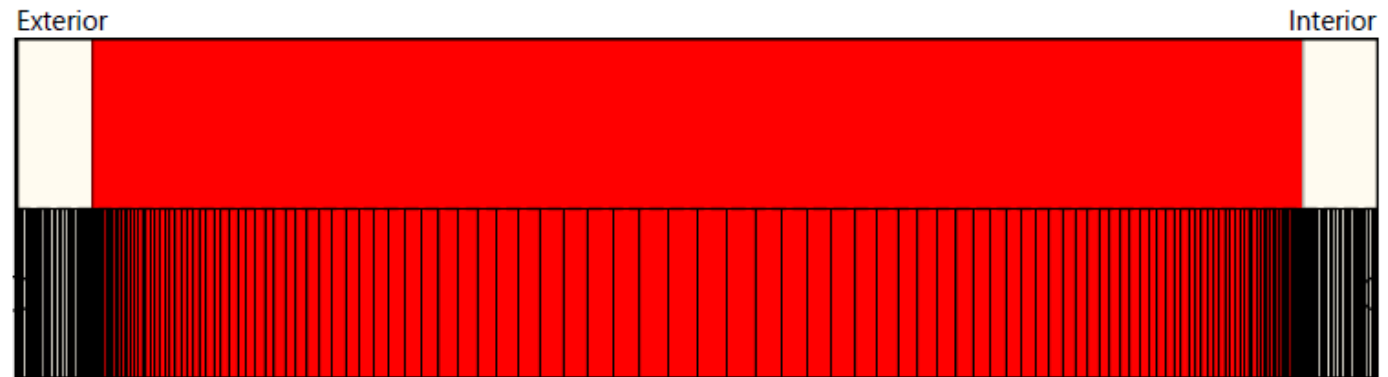
Interior component (partition wall)

Construction drawing



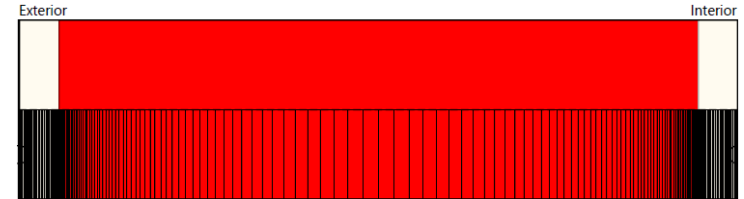
- 1 Interior plaster
- 2 Masonry
- 3 Interior plaster

Assembly in WUFI



Interior component (partition wall)

Please note



- Heat transfer coefficient „exterior“: 8 W/m²K (Partition wall)
- Heat transfer coefficient „interior“: 8 W/m²K (Partition wall)
- Indoor climate on both the outside and inside
 - Indoor climate according to DIN 4108 / EN 15026 / WTA 6-2 derived from the outdoor climate (outdoor climate must be selected)
 - Sine curves user-defined (e.g. for cellar rooms)
 - Constant indoor climate (e.g. for air conditioning)

Interior component (partition wall)

Input: Outdoor climate – according to EN 15026 / DIN 4108 / WTA 6-2

1. Outdoor climate

2. EN 15026 / DIN 4108 / WTA 6-2

3. Select climate (select outdoor climate, from which the indoor climate is to be derived)

4. Select moisture load for the interior

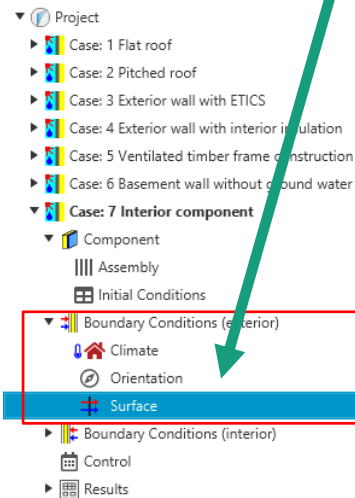
The screenshot displays the software interface for interior component simulation. On the left, a project tree lists various cases, with 'Case: 7 Interior component' selected. Under this case, 'Boundary Conditions (exterior)' is expanded, and 'Climate' is highlighted. The main window shows the 'Set Climate...' dialog box. The 'From Map / File' tab is active, and 'EN 15026 / DIN 4108 / WTA 6-2' is selected. The 'Derived from' field shows 'Holzkirchen; Fraunhofer-IBP, Moisture Reference Year'. The 'Temperature' section displays a graph of 'Indoor Temp. [°C]' vs 'Outdoor Air Temperature [°C]'. The 'Relative Humidity' section displays a graph of 'Indoor rel. Humidity [%]' vs 'Outdoor Air Temperature [°C]'. The 'Normal Moisture Load +5% (Design) (...)' is selected in the dropdown menu.

Interior component (partition wall)

Input: Outdoor climate – according to EN 15026 / DIN 4108 / WTA 6-2

Surface (exterior)

Heat Transfer Coefficient: Partition wall



Heat Transfer

Heat Transfer Coefficient [W/m²K] 8 Partition wall (inner)

long-wave radiation parts Heat Transfer Coefficient [W/... 4.5

wind-dependent ☐

+ Wind-dependence formula

Vapour Transfer

Additional diffusion resistance (e.g. coating), sd-Value [m] ---- No coating

Note: This setting does not affect rain absorption.

Radiation

Short-wave absorptivity, e.g. solar radiation [-] ---- No absorption/emission

Radiative overcooling ☐ Note: Explicit Radiation Balance, includes radiative cooling due to long-wave emission.

Long-wave emissivity, e.g. nighttime radiative cooling [-] ----

+ Additional radiation parameters

+ Reduction factors

Rain

Simulation takes rain into account ☐

+ Rain parameters

No rainwater absorption

Interior component (partition wall)

Input: Outdoor climate – sine curve

1. Outdoor climate

2. User-Defined

3. Select sine curve

4. Define sine curve for temperature

5. Define sine curve for relative humidity

The screenshot displays the software interface for configuring indoor climate parameters. On the left, a project tree shows the hierarchy: Project > Case: 7 Interior component > Component > Boundary Conditions (exterior) > Climate. The main window is titled 'Indoor Temperature' and 'Indoor Rel. Humidity'. It features two graphs: 'Indoor Temperature' and 'Indoor Rel. Humidity'. The 'Indoor Temperature' graph shows a sine wave with a mean value of 9°C, an amplitude of 9K, and a day of maximum of Jun/03. The 'Indoor Rel. Humidity' graph shows a sine wave with a mean value of 80%, an amplitude of 8%, and a day of maximum of Aug/16. The interface also includes a 'User-Defined' tab and a 'Sine curve (indoor condition, normal moisture load)' template.

Project

- Case: 1 Flat roof
- Case: 2 Pitched roof
- Case: 3 Exterior wall with ETICS
- Case: 4 Exterior wall with interior insulation
- Case: 5 Ventilated timber frame construction
- Case: 6 Basement wall without ground water
- Case: 7 Interior component
 - Component
 - Assembly
 - Initial Conditions
 - Boundary Conditions (exterior)
 - Climate
 - Orientation
 - Surface
 - Boundary Conditions (interior)
 - Control
 - Results

From Map / File EN 15026 / DIN 4108 / WTA 6-2 ISO 13788 ASHRAE 160 User-Defined

Holzkirchen; Fraunhofer-IBP, Moisture Ref... Template: *Sine curve (indoor condition, normal moisture load)

Indoor Temperature

Graph Table

Constant

Sine Curve

Transfer function

Mean Value [°C] 9 Amplitude [K] 9 Day of Maximum Jun/03

Indoor Rel. Humidity

Graph Table

Constant

Sine Curve

Transfer function

Mean Value [%] 80 Amplitude [%] 8 Day of Maximum Aug/16

Interior component (partition wall)

Input: Outdoor climate – constant climate

1. Outdoor climate

2. User-Defined

3. Select sine curve

4. Select „Constant“ and specify temperature

5. Select „Constant“ and specify rel. humidity

Project

- Case: 1 Flat roof
- Case: 2 Pitched roof
- Case: 3 Exterior wall with ETICS
- Case: 4 Exterior wall with interior insulation
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 - Results

From Map / File EN 15026 / DIN 4108 / WTA 6-2 ISO 13788 ASHRAE 160 User-Defined

Holzkirchen; Fraunhofer-IBP, Moisture Ref... Template: *Sine curve (indoor condition, normal moisture load)

Indoor Temperature

Constant

Graph Table

Sine Curve

Transfer function

Constant Indoor Temperature [°C]: 9

Indoor Rel. Humidity

Constant

Graph Table

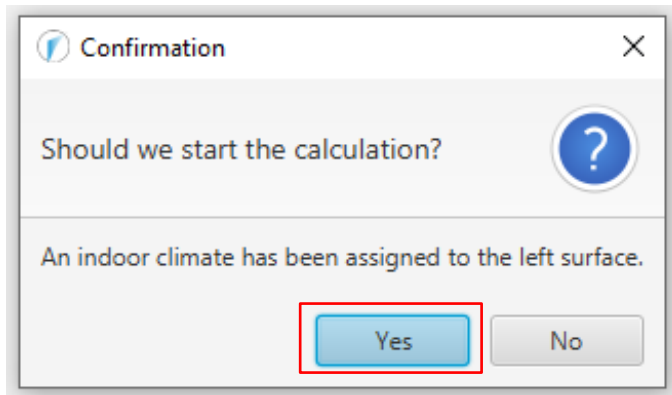
Sine Curve

Transfer function

Constant Relative Humidity [%]: 80

Interior component (partition wall)

Warning at calculation start



- This warning appears at the start of the calculation and can be ignored for the calculation of an interior component

Interior component (partition wall)

Result analysis*



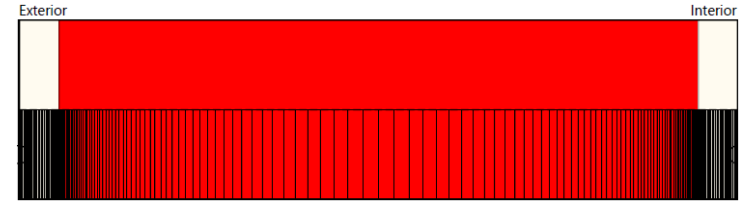
Evaluation depends on the type of construction / situation

- Check the numerical quality of the result using convergence failures and balances! (→ [Guideline for the Result Evaluation](#))
- Check total water content
 - regular, periodic course?
 - accumulation of moisture in whole construction?
- Check the water content in individual materials, especially if they are sensitive to moisture

***) Note: List not necessarily complete. Depending on boundary conditions additional critical positions may occur**
→ Check film

Interior component (partition wall)

Additional information



- Critical positions can occur in particular, if the neighbouring rooms have significantly different temperatures.

Handling of typical constructions

Auf Wissen bauen

