

# House model FutureFactory

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# 1 Introduction

Building energy simulation is a vast field of research that started in the late 50's and that is still highly active nowadays. Building energy simulations are mainly used to help taking design decisions, to analyze current designs and to forecast future building energy use. Building energy modelling methods can mainly be divided into three categories:

- White box models (physics-based)
- Black box models (data-driven)
- Grey box models (hybrid)

White box models are based on the equations related to the fundamental laws of energy and mass balance and heat transfer. White box models can be differentiated in two types, *distributed* parameter models and *lumped* parameter models. Lumped parameter models simplify the description of distributed physical systems into discrete entities that approximate the behavior of a distributed system. The advantage of using lumped models is the decrease in simulation time (**Ramallo-González et al.**[1]). White box models are of special interest for the design phase as they are used to predict and analyse the performance of the building envelope and building systems. Black box models are based on the statistical relation between input and output system values. The statistical relation between input and output is based on actual data. The relation between the parameters can differ based on the amount of data and the method used to analyze the relation. Currently, there is a large and active field of research about statistical models that are used on black box models (**Coacley et al.**[2]). Black box models are of special interest when there is a large amount of actual input and output data available.

Grey box models are hybrid models that aim to combine the advantages of both approaches. In order to use them it is necessary to implement some equations and it is also required to have actual data of inputs and outputs.

## 2 White box lumped model: RC network

### 2.1 White box lumped model

The objective of the house model for this project is to serve as test environment for a heat pump model, which means that the house model is intended as a tool to help taking building systems design decisions. The house heating demand calculation model implemented for this project is a white box *lumped* model. Specifically, it is a RC network model consisting of resistances (R) and capacities (C). The RC network model is based on the analogy with electrical circuits. The simulation of thermodynamic systems characterizing building elements as resistances or capacities allows to simplify the model while maintaining a high simulation results accuracy (Bagheri et al.[3], Bacher et al[4]).

There are several types of RC models, the most common being 3R4C models and 3R2C models which are applied on the outer and internal wall. For the simulation of simple house buildings 3R2C models perform as accurate as more complex 3R4C models (Fraisie et al.[5]). Considering that one of the objectives for this project is to obtain a fast but accurate simulation of a simple dwelling the 3R2C network model appeared a good starting point. In the 3R2C model two indoor temperature nodes are present in the dwelling. **with capacities (usually an air and a wall temperature) and a well-known outdoor temperature . Between these 3 temperature nodes 3 heat transfer resistances are present. However, the direct heat transfer between the inner walls and the outdoor air is low. Moreover, uncertainties are present about heat transfer coefficients between walls and indoor air, different indoor temperatures in the house rooms and the ground temperature which deviates from the outdoor temperature. In addition, occupancy behaviour varies strongly.** For that reason, we have made a further simplification to a 2R2C model. In section 4 it is shown that this dwelling model delivers a reliable annual energy consumption.

### 2.2 House Model R and C Values

This section presents the basic information for calculating a house model based on an RC network. This category of house models, analogous to electrical impedance networks, may have different numbers of R and C components and may have various component topologies. For the specific model properties, references will be given.

In heat transfer theory the basic thermal circuit contains thermal resistances. Heat transfer occurs via conduction, convection and radiation. In analogy with Ohm's Law for electricity, expressions can be derived for the heat transfer rate (analogous to electrical current) and the thermal resistances (analogous to ohmic resistances) in these three modes of heat transfer. The temperature difference plays a role analogous to the electrical voltage difference. These expressions are shown in Fig.1.

**Equations for different heat transfer modes and their thermal resistances.**

Transfer Mode	Rate of Heat Transfer	Thermal Resistance
Conduction	$\dot{Q} = \frac{T_1 - T_2}{\left(\frac{L}{kA}\right)}$	$\frac{L}{kA}$
Convection	$\dot{Q} = \frac{T_{\text{surf}} - T_{\text{envr}}}{\left(\frac{1}{h_{\text{conv}} A_{\text{surf}}}\right)}$	$\frac{1}{h_{\text{conv}} A_{\text{surf}}}$
Radiation	$\dot{Q} = \frac{T_{\text{surf}} - T_{\text{surr}}}{\left(\frac{1}{h_r A_{\text{surf}}}\right)}$	$\frac{1}{h_r A}$ , where $h_r = \epsilon \sigma (T_{\text{surf}}^2 + T_{\text{surr}}^2)(T_{\text{surf}} + T_{\text{surr}})$

**Figure 1:** Heat transfer modes[6]

In [7] and [8] the expressions in Fig.1 are derived. For conduction, the expression for absolute thermal resistance is:

$$R = \frac{L}{kA} \quad \left[ \frac{K}{W} \right] \quad (1)$$

- $L$  is the distance over which heat transfer takes place, or the thickness of the material [ $m$ ].
- $k$  (also denoted with  $\lambda$ ) is the thermal conductivity of the material. [ $\frac{W}{mK}$ ].
- $A$  is the conductive surface area [ $m^2$ ].
- Thermal resistivity is the reciprocal of thermal conductivity and can be expressed as  $r = \frac{1}{k}$  in [ $\frac{mK}{W}$ ]

For convection and radiation the expression for thermal resistance is:  $R = \frac{1}{h \cdot A} \left[ \frac{K}{W} \right]$ .

- $A$  is the surface area where the heat transfer takes place [ $m^2$ ].
- $h$  is the heat transfer coefficient [ $\frac{W}{m^2K}$ ]

The  $R$ -value (in Dutch:  $R$ -waarde or  $R_d$ -waarde) of a building material [9] is the thermal resistance of a square meter surface. It can be calculated by multiplying the thermal *resistivity* with the thickness of the material in  $m$ . Alternatively it is calculated by dividing the material thickness by the thermal *conductivity*  $k$  or  $\lambda$ .

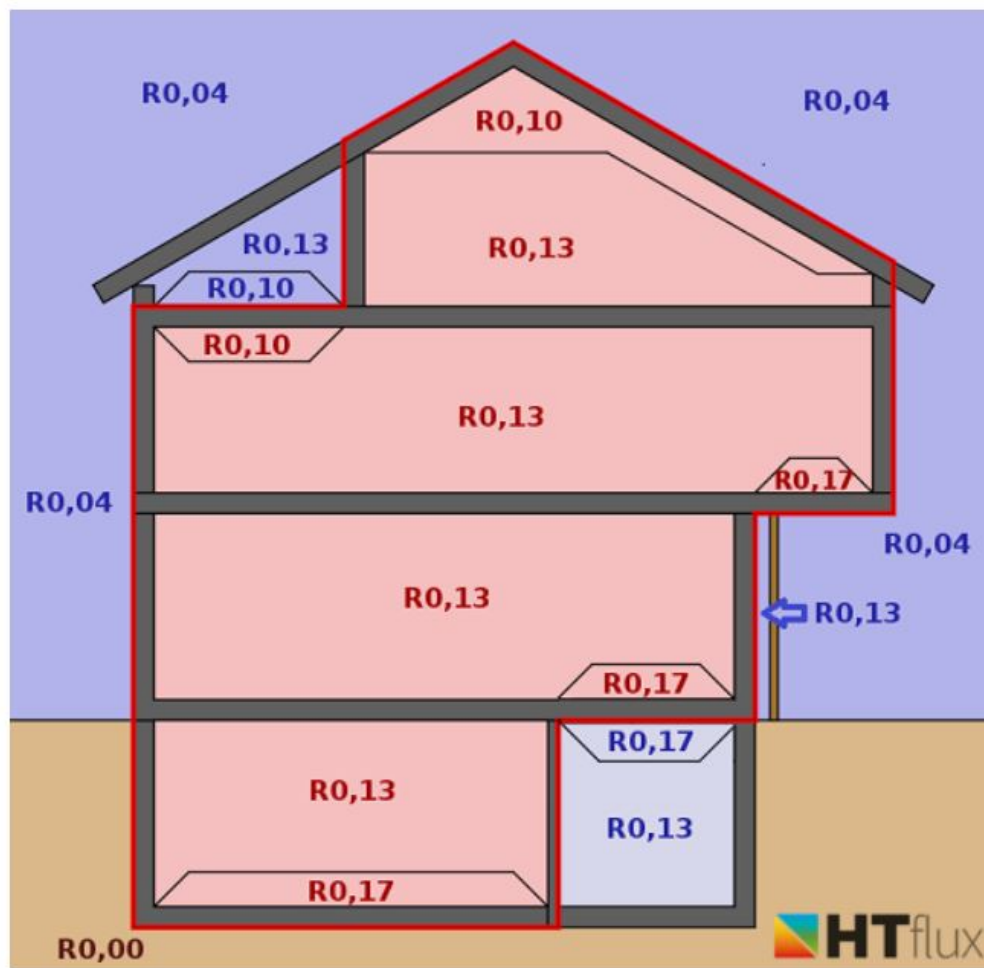
$$R\text{-value} = r \cdot L \quad \text{or} \quad R\text{-value} = \frac{L}{k} \quad \text{or} \quad R\text{-value} = \frac{L}{\lambda} \quad \left[ m \cdot \frac{m \cdot K}{W} \right] = \left[ \frac{m^2 \cdot K}{W} \right] \quad (2)$$

Some typical heat transfer  $R$ -values are: [10]:

- Static layer of air, 40 mm thickness (1.57 in) :  $R = 0.18 \left[ \frac{m^2K}{W} \right]$ .
- Inside heat transfer resistance, horizontal current :  $R = 0.13 \left[ \frac{m^2K}{W} \right]$ .
- Outside heat transfer resistance, horizontal current :  $R = 0.04 \left[ \frac{m^2K}{W} \right]$ .
- Inside heat transfer resistance, heat current from down upwards :  $R = 0.10 \left[ \frac{m^2K}{W} \right]$ .
- Outside heat transfer resistance, heat current from above downwards :  $R = 0.17 \left[ \frac{m^2K}{W} \right]$ .

**Note:** in Dutch building physics,  $R$ -values with subscripts are used:

- $R_d$ -waarde is used for the  $R$ -value of a homogeneous building material.  $R = \frac{L}{\lambda}$
- $R_c$ -waarde (compound, construction) is used for the  $R$ -value of a surface consisting of several building materials.  $R_c$ -waarden are calculated as the surface-area weighted sum of  $R_d$ -waarden of the building materials. For the simplest roof surface,  $R_c$  is a linear combination of the  $R$ -values of the wooden joists and girders (spanten en gordingen) and the areas in between with a certain insulation material sandwich. The  $R$ -value of the insulation sandwich, in its turn, is the sum of the  $R$ -values of the materials in the sandwich. From inside out, this sandwich may consist of *e.g.* a 9.5 mm plaster board, a PIR/PUR insulation panel, an air gap and a wooden roof deck. All types of  $R$ -value have the dimension [ $\frac{m^2 \cdot K}{W}$ ].



**Figure 2:** An overview of  $R$ -values for heat transfer [11].

The standard  $R_c$ -values that have been used for facades, roof and floor until 2020 are summarized in Fig.3:

Construction	New construction	Renovation
Facades <sup>1</sup>	$R_c$ 4.5 m <sup>2</sup> K / W	$R_c$ 1.3 m <sup>2</sup> K / W
Roofs <sup>2</sup>	$R_c$ 6.0 m <sup>2</sup> K / W	$R_c$ 2.0 m <sup>2</sup> K / W
Floors <sup>3</sup>	$R_c$ 3.5 m <sup>2</sup> K / W	$R_c$ 2.5 m <sup>2</sup> K / W

**Figure 3:**  $R_c$  Values [12]

New standard values will be used from 1-1-2021, since the building standard NEN 1068 will be replaced by the NTA 8800 standard. The old and new situation is described in "EnergieVademecum Energiebewust ontwerpen van nieuwbouwwoningen", Hoofdstuk 5: Thermische isolatie, thermische bruggen en luchtdichtheid. [13].

From 2015, the following RC values apply to new construction in the Netherlands:

<i>Location</i>	<i>RC value (NEN 1068, until 1-1-2021) [m<sup>2</sup>K / W]</i>	<i>Rc value (NTA 8800, from 1-1-2021) [m<sup>2</sup>K / W]</i>
<b>floor</b>	<b>&gt; = 3.5</b>	<b>&gt; = 3.7</b>
<b>facade</b>	<b>&gt; = 4.5</b>	<b>&gt; = 4.7</b>
<b>roof</b>	<b>&gt; = 6.0</b>	<b>&gt; = 6.3</b>

**Figure 4:** R<sub>c</sub> Values [14]

The values used for different types of houses such as: row houses, detached houses and apartments can be found in the document "Voorbeeldwoningen 2011" [15]. An example with values for a common type of row house, built in the period from 1975 to 1991 is shown in Fig. 5:

<i>Bouwdelen</i>	<i>Huidig</i>			<i>Besparingspakket</i>			<i>Investeringskosten</i>	
	<i>Opp. (m<sup>2</sup>)</i>	<i>Rc-Waarde (m<sup>2</sup> K/W)</i>	<i>U-Waarde (W/m<sup>2</sup> K)</i>	<i>Opp. (m<sup>2</sup>)</i>	<i>Rc-Waarde (m<sup>2</sup> K/W)</i>	<i>U-Waarde (W/m<sup>2</sup> K)</i>	<i>Per m<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Totaal</i>
<i>Begane grondvloer</i> <sup>3</sup>	51,0	0,52	1,28	51,0	2,53	0,36	€ 20	€ 1.020
<i>Plat dak</i> <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	€ 0
<i>Hellend dak</i> <sup>3</sup>	68,6	1,30	0,64	68,6	2,53	0,36	€ 53	€ 3.640
<i>Achter- en voorgevel</i>								
- Gesloten <sup>3</sup>	40,6	1,30	0,64	40,6	2,53	0,36	€ 21	€ 850
- Enkelglas <sup>3</sup>	3,1		5,20	-		-	€ 139	€ 430
- Dubbelglas <sup>3</sup>	16,2		2,90	-		-	€ 142	€ 2.300
- HR <sup>++</sup> glas	-		-	19,3		1,80		
<i>Zijgevel</i>								
- Gesloten	58,4	1,30	0,64	58,4	2,53	0,36	€ 21	€ 1.230
- Enkelglas	-		-	-		-	-	€ 0
- Dubbelglas	1,8		2,90	-		-	€ 142	€ 260
- HR <sup>++</sup> glas	-		-	1,8		1,80		

**Figure 5:** R<sub>c</sub>-values for a row house type built between 1975-1991 [15]

## 2.3 Dwelling (envelope) model analogous to a 2R-2C network

The heat flow will be modelled by analogy to an electrical circuit where heat transfer rate is analogous to by current, temperature difference is analogous to potential difference, heat sources are represented by constant current sources, absolute thermal resistances are represented by resistors and **thermal capacitance** heat capacity ? by capacitors [16]. Figure 6 summarizes the similar term use in different fields.

type	structural analogy <sup>[1]</sup>	hydraulic analogy	thermal	electrical analogy <sup>[2]</sup>
quantity	impulse $J$ [N·s]	volume $V$ [m <sup>3</sup> ]	heat $Q$ [J]	charge $q$ [C]
potential	displacement $X$ [m]	pressure $P$ [N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	temperature $T$ [K]	potential $V$ [V = J/C]
flux	load or force $F$ [N]	flow rate $Q$ [m <sup>3</sup> /s]	heat transfer rate $\dot{Q}$ [W = J/s]	current $I$ [A = C/s]
flux density	stress $\sigma$ [Pa = N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	velocity $v$ [m/s]	heat flux $q$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	current density $j$ [C/(m <sup>2</sup> ·s) = A/m <sup>2</sup> ]
resistance	flexibility (rheology defined) [1/Pa]	fluid resistance $R$ [...]	thermal resistance $R$ [K/W]	electrical resistance $R$ [ $\Omega$ ]
conductance	... . . . [Pa]	fluid conductance $G$ [...]	thermal conductance $G$ [W/K]	electrical conductance $G$ [S]
resistivity	flexibility $1/k$ [m/N]	fluid resistivity	thermal resistivity [(m·K)/W]	electrical resistivity $\rho$ [ $\Omega$ ·m]
conductivity	stiffness $k$ [N/m]	fluid conductivity	thermal conductivity $k$ [W/(m·K)]	electrical conductivity $\sigma$ [S/m]
lumped element linear model	Hooke's law $\Delta X = F/k$	Hagen–Poiseuille equation $\Delta P = QR$	Newton's law of cooling $\Delta T = \dot{Q}R$	Ohm's law $\Delta V = IR$
distributed linear model	... . . .	... . . .	Fourier's law $q = -k\nabla T$	Ohm's law $J = \sigma E = -\sigma\nabla V$

Figure 6: Table of Analogies [16]

The 2R-2C house model structure is implemented as described below. The schematic of an envelope house model has been shown in figure 9 and the equivalent electrical 2R-2C network with components and topology is given in fig 10.

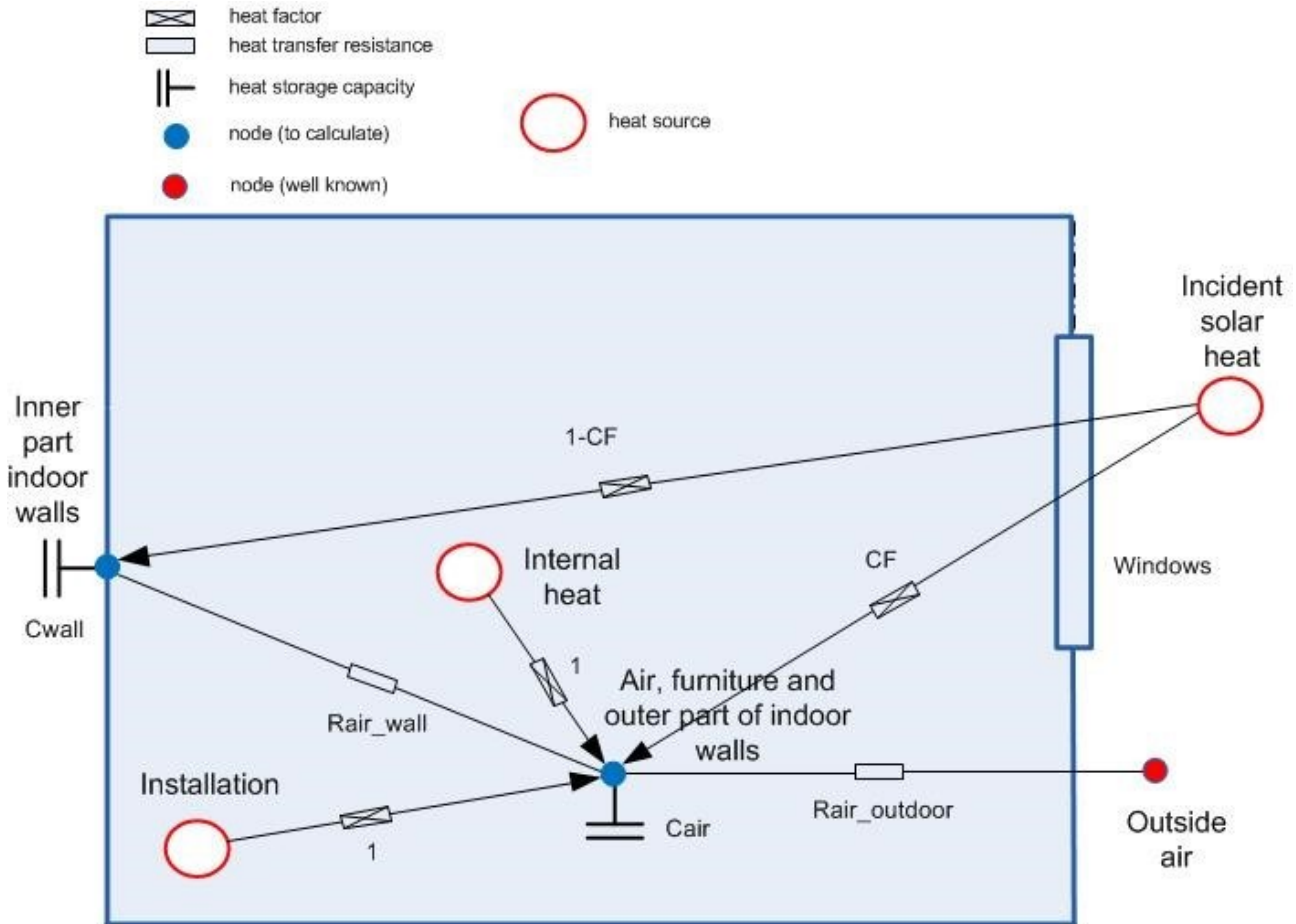


Figure 7: Schematic of envelope model



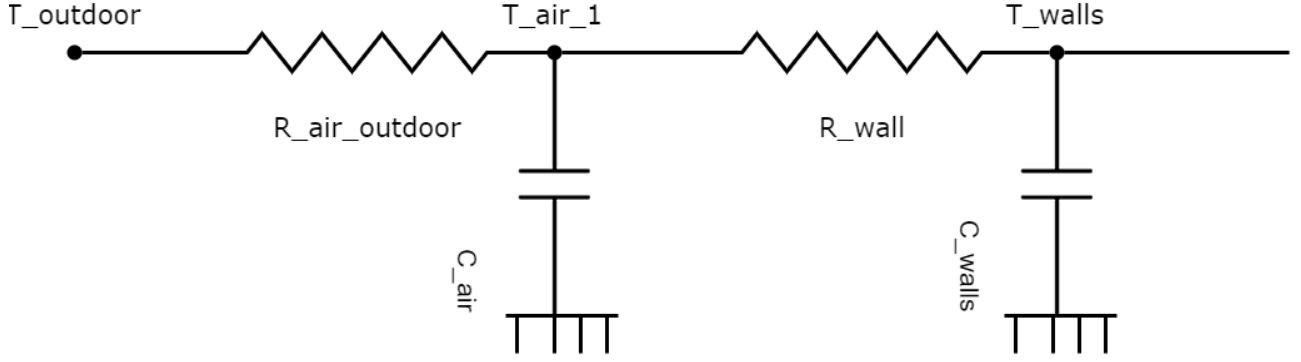


Figure 8: 2R-2C house model

The model consists of two heat capacities  $C_{air, indoor}$  and  $C_{wall}$  and two resistances  $R_{wall}$  and  $R_{air, outdoor}$ . The incident solar energy is divided between  $C_{wall}$  and  $C_{air}$  through the convection factor  $CF$ . It is assumed that both internal heat (lighting, occupancy and electric devices) and supplied heat (installation) initially heat up the indoor air. In Fig. 9, they are fully released at the  $T_{air}$  node.

It is also assumed that furniture and the **surface part** of the walls have the same temperature as the air **and the wall mass is divided between the air and wall mass**. Thus, the heat capacity of the air node consists of the air heat capacity, furniture heat capacity and the heat capacity **of a part of the walls**. **Appendix A** presents the coefficients in the dwelling model. In the resistance  $R_{air, outdoor}$  the influence of heat transmission through the outdoor walls and natural ventilation is considered.

For the air and wall nodes the following power balances can be set up:

$$C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} = \frac{T_{outdoor} - T_{air}}{R_{air, outdoor}} + \frac{T_{wall} - T_{air}}{R_{air, wall}} + \dot{Q}_{inst} + \dot{Q}_{internal} + CF \cdot \dot{Q}_{solar} \quad (3)$$

$$C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} = \frac{T_{air} - T_{wall}}{R_{air, wall}} + (1 - CF) \cdot \dot{Q}_{solar} \quad (4)$$

- $CF$ : convection factor (solar radiation): the convection factor is the part of the solar radiation that enters the room and is released directly convectively into the room.
- $\dot{Q}_{inst}$ : delivered heat from heating system (radiator) [W].
- $\dot{Q}_{internal}$ : internal heat [W].
- $\dot{Q}_{solar}$ : heat from solar irradiation [W].
- $T_{air}$ : indoor air temperature °C.
- $T_{outdoor}$ : outdoor temperature °C.
- $T_{wall}$ : wall temperature °C.
- $R_{air, wall}$ : walls surface resistance [ $\frac{K}{W}$ ].
- $R_{air, outdoor}$ : outdoor surface resistance [ $\frac{K}{W}$ ].
- $C_{air}$ : air thermal capacitance (heat capacity) [ $\frac{J}{K}$ ][17].
- $C_{wall}$ : wall thermal capacitance (heat capacity) [ $\frac{J}{K}$ ][17].

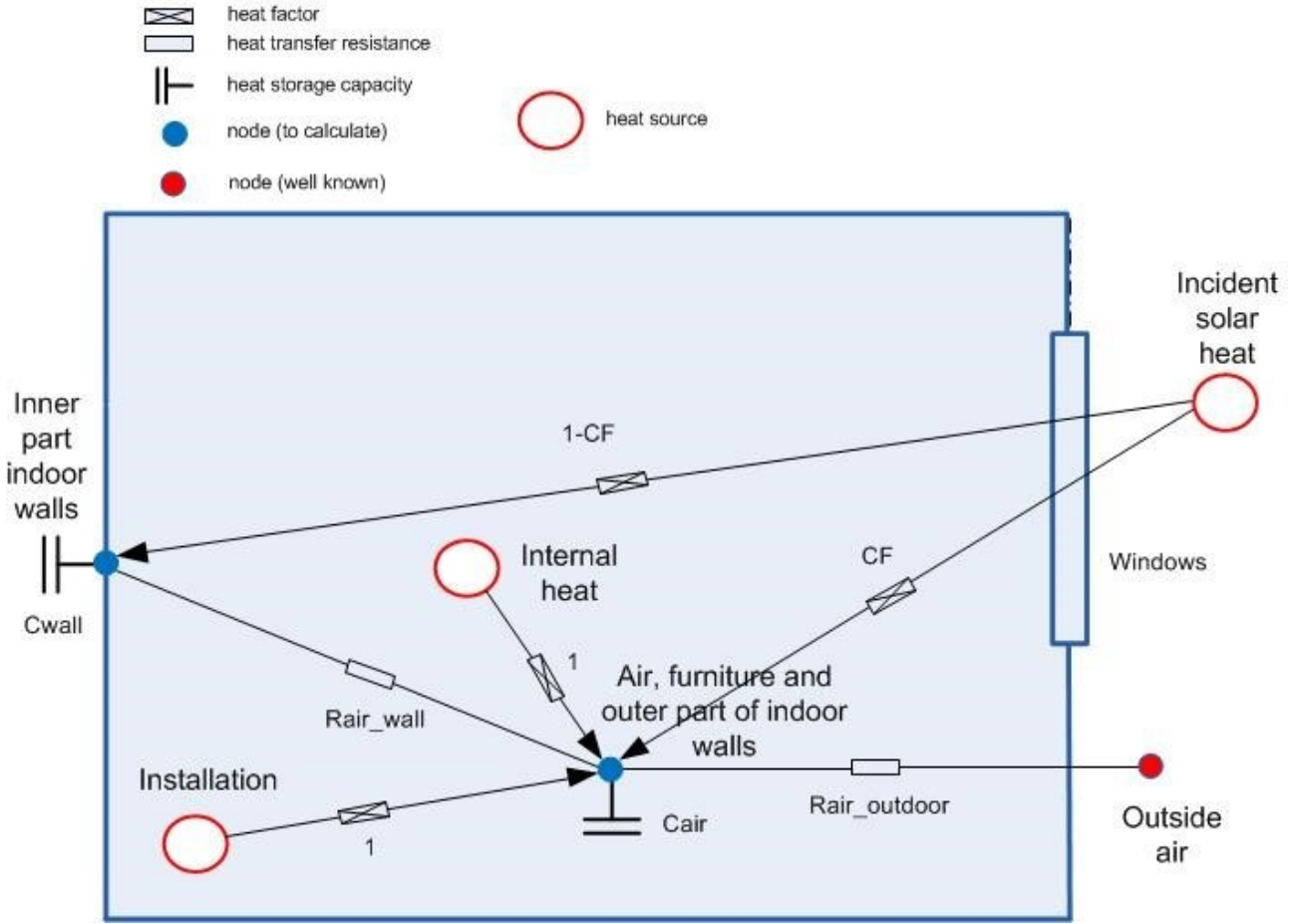
Total heat transfer of solar irradiation through the glass windows.

$$\dot{Q}_{solar} = g \cdot \sum (A_{glass} \cdot \dot{q}_{solar}) \quad (5)$$

- $\dot{q}_{solar}$ : solar radiation on the outdoor walls [ $\frac{W}{m^2}$ ].
- g: g value of the glass (ZTA in dutch) [0..1][18]
- A: glass surface [ $m^2$ ].

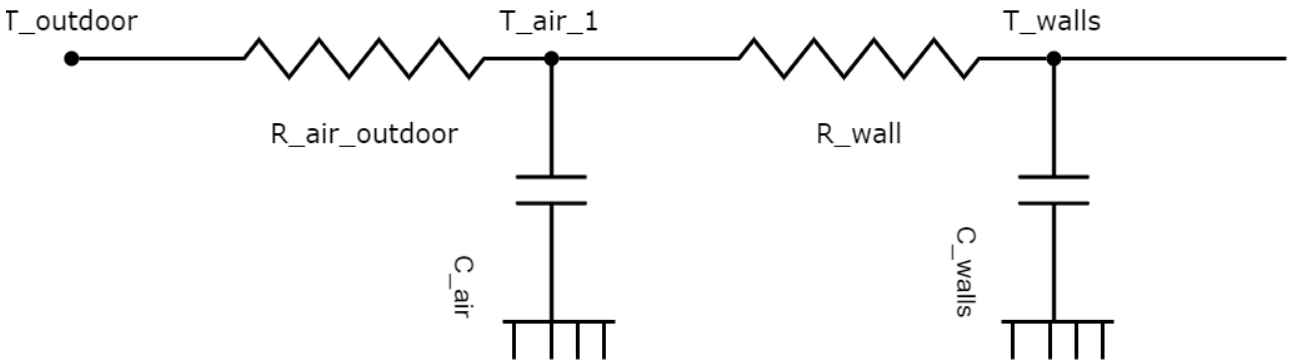
### 3 Dwelling (envelope) model analogous to a 2R-2C network

The 2R-2C house model structure is implemented as described below:



**Figure 9:** Schematic of envelope model

The equivalent electrical 2R-2C network with components and topology is given in Fig. 10.



**Figure 10:** 2R-2C house model

The model consists of two capacitances  $C_{air, indoor}$  and  $C_{wall}$  and two resistances  $R_{wall}$  and  $R_{air, outdoor}$ . The incident solar energy is divided between  $C_{wall}$  and  $C_{air}$  through the convection factor  $CF$ . It is assumed that both internal heat (lighting, occupancy and electric devices) and supplied heat (installation) initially heat up the indoor air. In Fig. 10, they are fully released at the  $T_{air}$  node.

It is also assumed that furniture and the surface part of the walls have the same temperature as the air and

the wall mass is divided between the air and wall mass. Thus, the capacity of the air node consists of the air capacity, furniture capacity and capacity of a part of the walls. **Appendix A** presents the coefficients in the dwelling model. In the resistance  $R_{air, outdoor}$  the influence of heat transmission through the outdoor walls and natural ventilation is considered.

For the air and wall nodes the following energy balances can be set up:

$$C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} = \frac{T_{outdoor} - T_{air}}{R_{air, outdoor}} + \frac{T_{wall} - T_{air}}{R_{air, wall}} + \dot{Q}_{inst} + \dot{Q}_{internal} + CF \cdot \dot{Q}_{solar} \quad (6)$$

$$C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} = \frac{T_{air} - T_{wall}}{R_{air, wall}} + (1 - CF) \cdot \dot{Q}_{solar} \quad (7)$$

- $CF$ : Convection factor (solar radiation): the convection factor is the part of the solar radiation that enters the room and is released directly convectively into the room
- $\dot{Q}_{inst}$ : delivered heat from heating system (radiator) [W].
- $\dot{Q}_{solar}$ : heat from solar irradiation [W].
- $T_{air}$ : indoor air temperature °C.
- $T_{outdoor}$ : outdoor temperature °C.
- $T_{wall}$ : wall temperature °C.
- $R_{air, wall}$ : walls surface resistance [ $\frac{K}{W}$ ].
- $R_{air, outdoor}$ : outdoor surface resistance [ $\frac{K}{W}$ ].
- $C_{air}$ : air capacity [ $\frac{J}{K}$ ].
- $C_{wall}$ : wall capacity [ $\frac{J}{K}$ ].

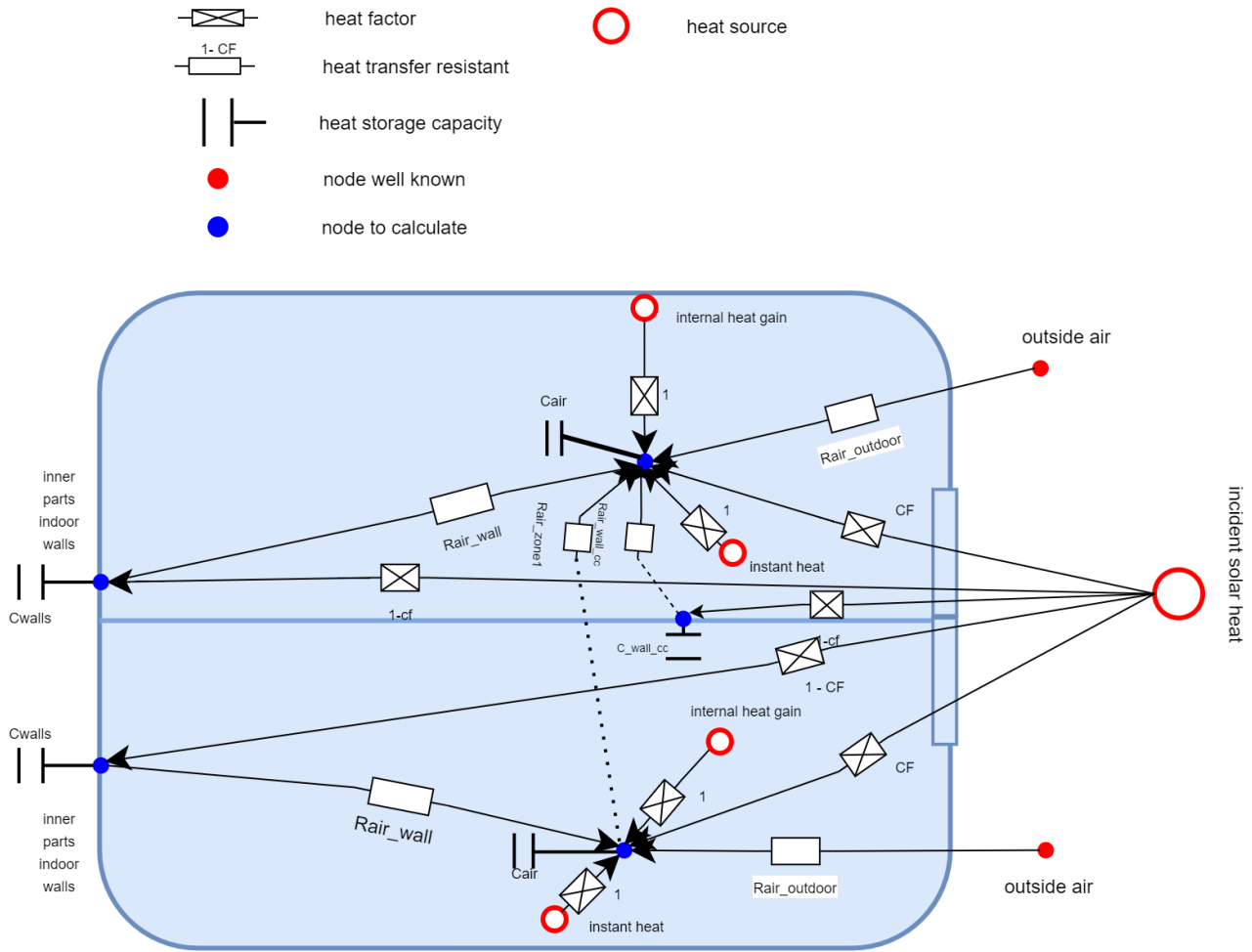
Total heat transfer of solar irradiation through the glass windows.

$$Q_{solar} = g \cdot \sum (A_{glass} \cdot q_{solar}) \quad (8)$$

- $q_{solar}$ : solar radiation on the outdoor walls [ $\frac{W}{m^2}$ ].
- $g$ : g value of the glass (ZTA in dutch) [0..1][18]
- $A$ : glass surface [ $m^2$ ].

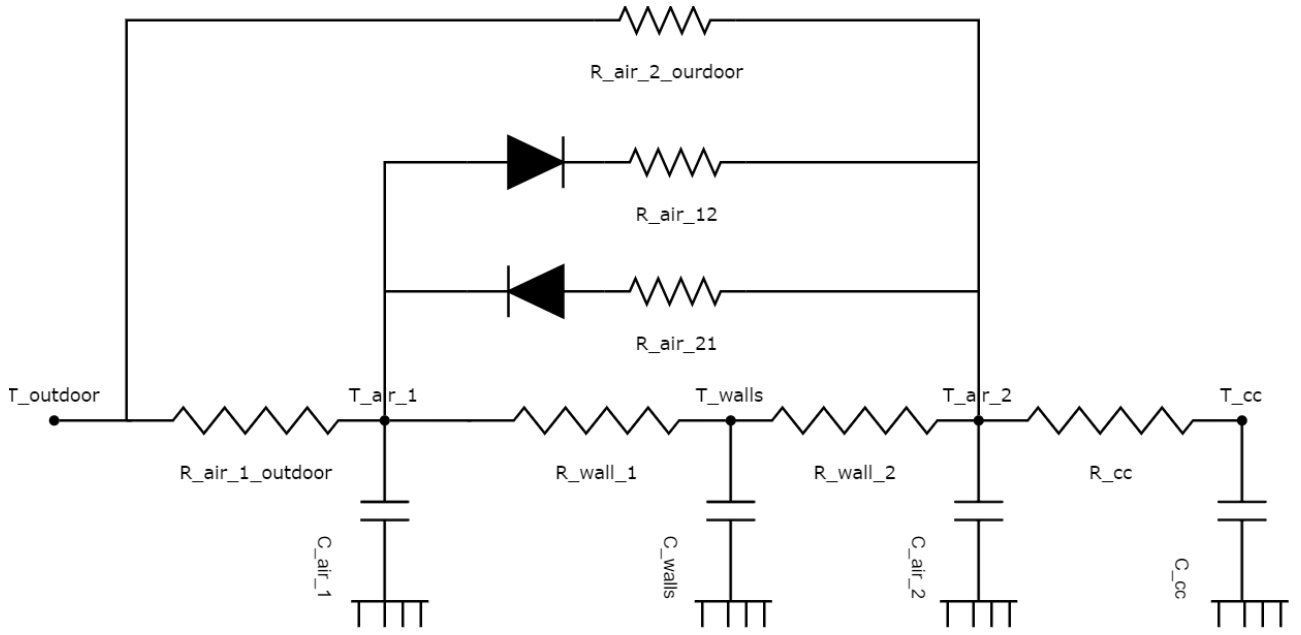
#### 4 2 Zones house model 7R4C network

The 4R-7C house model structure is implemented as described below:



**Figure 11:** Schematic of a 2 zones house model

The equivalent electrical 7R-4C network with components and topology is given in Fig. 12.



**Figure 12:** R-C circuits of 2 zones house model

with:

- $T_{\text{outdoor}}$  : outdoor temperature [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]
- $T_{\text{air}_1}$  : zone 1 air temperature [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]
- $T_{\text{walls}}$  : wall temperature [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]
- $T_{\text{air}_2}$  : zone 2 air temperature [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]
- $T_{\text{cc}}$  : temperature of the concrete layer between zone 1 and zone 2 [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]
- $R_{\text{air}_1_{\text{outdoor}}}$  : outdoor resistance value.
- $R_{\text{wall}_1}$  : walls resistance value.
- $R_{\text{wall}_2}$  : walls resistance value.
- $R_{\text{cc}}$  : concrete resistance value.
- $R_{\text{air}_12}$  : resistance value of air flow from zone 1 to zone 2.
- $R_{\text{air}_21}$  : resistance value of air flow from zone 2 to zone 1.

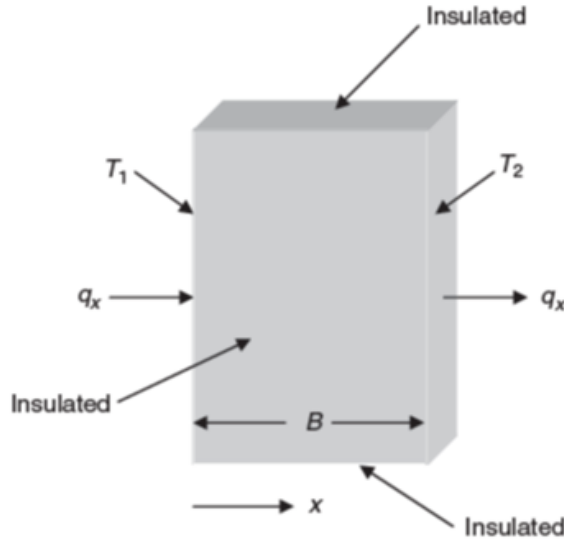
## 5 Lumped-element thermal model of a building

Heat generation and transport inside a building, with heat loss to the surrounding outdoor environment is governed by the same laws of conduction, convection and radiation as elsewhere. A number of approximations is made, however, which will be treated below:

### 5.1 Heat Conduction: Fourier's Law

Heat transport *within* a solid material is governed by conduction, according to Fourier's Law, illustrated in Figure 13. One side of a rectangular solid is held at temperature  $T_1$ , while the opposite side is held at a lower temperature,  $T_2$ . The other four sides are insulated so that heat can flow only in the  $x$ -direction. For a given material, it is found that the rate,  $\dot{Q}_x$ , at which heat (thermal energy) is transferred from the hot side to the cold side (the *heat transfer rate*) is proportional to the cross-sectional area,  $A$ , across which the heat flows; the temperature difference,  $T_1 - T_2$ ; and inversely proportional to the thickness,  $\Delta x$ , of the material. That is:

$$\dot{Q}_x = -kA \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta x} \quad (9)$$



**Figure 13:** One-dimensional heat conduction in a solid

The constant of proportionality,  $k$ , is called the *thermal conductivity*. Equation (9) is also applicable to heat conduction in liquids and gases. However, when temperature differences exist in fluids, convection currents tend to be set up, so that heat is generally not transferred solely by the mechanism of conduction. The thermal conductivity is a property of the material. Values may be found in various handbooks and compendiums of physical property data.

The form of Fourier's law given by Equation (9) is valid only when the thermal conductivity can be assumed constant. A more general result can be obtained by writing the equation for an element of differential thickness. in the limit as  $\Delta x$  approaches zero,  $\frac{\Delta T}{\Delta x} \rightarrow \frac{dT}{dx}$ . Thus, substituting in Equation (9) gives:

$$\dot{Q}_x = -kA \frac{dT}{dx} \quad (10)$$

Equation (10) is not subject to the restriction of constant  $k$ . Furthermore, when  $k$  is constant, it can be integrated to yield Equation (9). Hence, Equation (10) is the general one-dimensional form of Fourier's law. The negative sign is necessary because heat flows in the positive  $x$ -direction when the temperature decreases in

the  $x$ -direction. Thus, according to the standard sign convention that  $\dot{Q}_x$  is positive when the heat flow is in the positive  $x$ -direction,  $\dot{Q}_x$  must be positive when  $dT/dx$  is negative.

### 5.1.1 More than one dimension

It is often convenient to formulate Fourier's Law in the original phrasing: the *heat flux*  $\dot{\phi}$  is proportional to the *temperature gradient*. We divide (10) by the area to give:

$$\dot{\phi}_x \equiv \frac{\dot{Q}_x}{A} = -k \frac{dT}{dx} \quad (11)$$

where  $\dot{\phi}_x$  is the heat flux. It has units of  $\frac{J}{s \cdot m^2} = \frac{W}{m^2}$ . Thus, the units of  $k$  are  $\frac{W}{m \cdot K}$ .

Equation (11) is restricted to the situation in which heat flows in the  $x$ -direction only. In the general case in which heat flows in all three coordinate directions, the total heat flux is obtained by vector addition of adding the fluxes in the coordinate directions. Thus,

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \dot{\phi}_x \mathbf{i} + \dot{\phi}_y \mathbf{j} + \dot{\phi}_z \mathbf{k} \quad (12)$$

where  $\dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$  is the heat flux vector and  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  are unit vectors in the  $x$ -,  $y$ -,  $z$ -directions, respectively.

Each of the component fluxes is given by a one-dimensional Fourier expression as follows:

$$\dot{\phi}_x = -k \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \quad \dot{\phi}_y = -k \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \quad \dot{\phi}_z = -k \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \quad (13)$$

Partial derivatives are used here since the temperature now varies in all three directions. Substituting the above expressions for the fluxes into Equation (12) gives:

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = -k \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \mathbf{k} \right) \quad (14)$$

The vector in parenthesis is the temperature gradient vector, and is denoted by  $\nabla T$ . Hence,

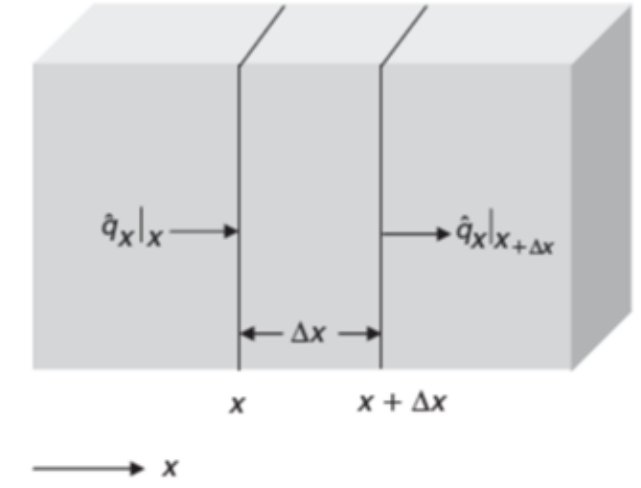
$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = -k \nabla T \quad (15)$$

Equation (15) is the three-dimensional form of Fourier's law. It is valid for homogeneous, isotropic materials for which the thermal conductivity is the same in all directions. Fourier's law states that heat flows in the direction of greatest temperature decrease.

### 5.1.2 The Heat Conduction Equation

The solution of problems involving heat conduction in solids can, in principle, be reduced to the solution of a single differential equation, the *heat conduction equation*. The equation can be derived by making a thermal power balance on a differential volume element in the solid. For the case of conduction in the  $x$ -direction only, such a volume element is illustrated in Figure 14.





**Figure 14:** Differential element for 1D heat conduction

The rate at which thermal energy enters the volume element across the face at  $x$  is given by the product of the heat flux and the cross-sectional area,  $\dot{\varphi}_x|_x \cdot A$ . Similarly, the rate at which thermal energy leaves the element across the face at  $x + \Delta x$  is  $\dot{\varphi}_x|_{x+\Delta x} \cdot A$ .

A heat generation term appears in the equation because the balance is made on thermal energy, not total energy. For example, thermal energy may be generated within a solid by an electric current or by decay of a radioactive material.

For a homogeneous heat source of strength  $\dot{q}$  *per unit volume*, the net rate of generation is  $\dot{q}A\Delta x$ . Finally, the rate of accumulation of heat in the material is given by the time derivative of the thermal energy content of the volume element, which is  $\rho c(T - T_{ref})A\Delta x$ , where  $T_{ref}$  is an arbitrary reference temperature. Thus, the balance equation becomes:

$$(\dot{\varphi}_x|_x - \dot{\varphi}_x|_{x+\Delta x}) A + \dot{q}A\Delta x = \rho c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} A\Delta x \quad (16)$$

It has been assumed here that the density,  $\rho$ , and heat capacity,  $c$ , are constant.

Dividing by  $A\Delta x$  and taking the limit as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$  yields:

$$\rho c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \dot{\varphi}_x}{\partial x} + \dot{q} \quad (17)$$

Using Fourier's law as given by Equation (11), the balance equation becomes:

$$\rho c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{k \partial T}{\partial x} \right) + \dot{q} \quad (18)$$

When conduction occurs in all three coordinate directions, the balance equation contains y- and z-derivatives analogous to the x-derivative. The balance equation then becomes:

$$\rho c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{k \partial T}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{k \partial T}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{k \partial T}{\partial z} \right) + \dot{q} \quad (19)$$

When  $k$  is constant, it can be taken outside the derivatives and Equation (19) can be written as:

$$\frac{\rho c}{k} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} + \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (20)$$

or

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 T + \frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad (21)$$

where  $\alpha \equiv k/\rho c$  is the *thermal diffusivity* and  $\nabla^2$  is the Laplacian operator. The thermal diffusivity has units of  $m^2/s$ .

## 5.2 Convection: Newton's Law of cooling

When a solid is *immersed* in a fluid or atmospheric gas, heat transfer on the interface occurs by convection. This phenomenon is governed by Newton's Law of cooling:

“The rate of heat lost by a body is directly proportional to the temperature difference of a body and its surroundings”

$$\dot{Q}_x = -hA\Delta T \quad (22)$$

## 5.3 Radiation

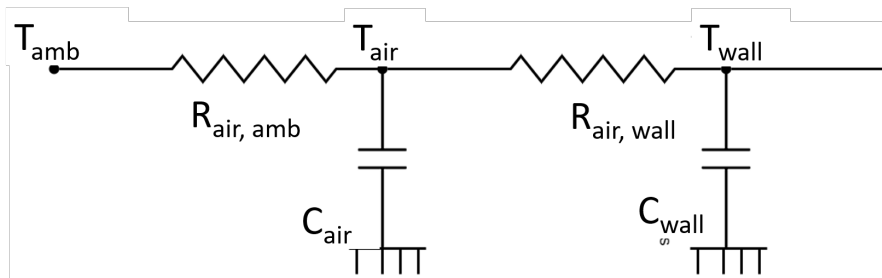
### 5.4 Approximations: A Simplified Model

In building physics, it is often assumed that Fourier's Law is valid in the form of Eq. (9). This can be done under the condition that

$$\nabla^2 T \equiv 0 \rightarrow \frac{\partial T}{\partial \mathbf{r}} = \text{constant} \quad (23)$$

### 5.5 Lumped-element matrix representation

We take the 2R-2C lumped-element model from Section 2:



**Figure 15:** 2R-2C house model revisited

The differential equations are:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} &= \frac{T_{amb} - T_{air}}{R_{air, amb}} + \frac{T_{wall} - T_{air}}{R_{air, wall}} + \dot{Q}_{heat, air} + \dot{Q}_{int, air} + \dot{Q}_{solar, air} \\ C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} &= \frac{T_{air} - T_{wall}}{R_{air, wall}} + \dot{Q}_{solar, wall} \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Writing out the differential equations in the classical notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} &= \left[ \frac{-1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \right] \cdot T_{air} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \cdot T_{wall} + \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\
C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} &= \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \cdot T_{air} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \cdot T_{wall} + \dot{Q}_{solar,wall}
\end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

The differential equations can be written in matrix notation as:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} + \dot{\mathbf{q}} \tag{26a}$$

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \dot{\mathbf{q}} \tag{26b}$$

with:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \tag{27}$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \tag{28}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \end{bmatrix} \tag{29}$$

Written out, the differential equation according to (67) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} + \\
&\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

In the alternative notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} &+ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} = \\
&\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

The lumped-element equations above are systems of *first-order ordinary differential equations* (ODE). The first order derivative is with respect to *time*. The (silent) assumption that heat conduction within the air and the wall of the previous 2R-2C model is *faster* than the exchange of heat at the *interfaces* between air and wall

and air and ambient surroundings has replaced all spatial information from the *second-order partial differential equations* (PDE) that govern conductive heat transport *within* materials.

Therefore, the lumped-element equations can be solved by:

- the `odexxx` in Matlab., preferably `ode45`.
- the **state-space** module in Simulink, after conversion to a state-space representation.
- the `scipy.integrate.solve_ivp` function in Python. In older code, `scipy.integrate.odeint` is still encountered.
- in C++ several options exist, similar to the options in Python.

The routines in Matlab, Simulink and Python need a *model function* that provides the vector  $\dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$  for evaluation at any time instance chosen by the algorithm. The equations (67) then should be cast in the following form by left multiplication with  $\mathbf{C}^{-1}$ .

$$\mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} + \mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} \quad (32a)$$

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} + \mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} \quad (32b)$$

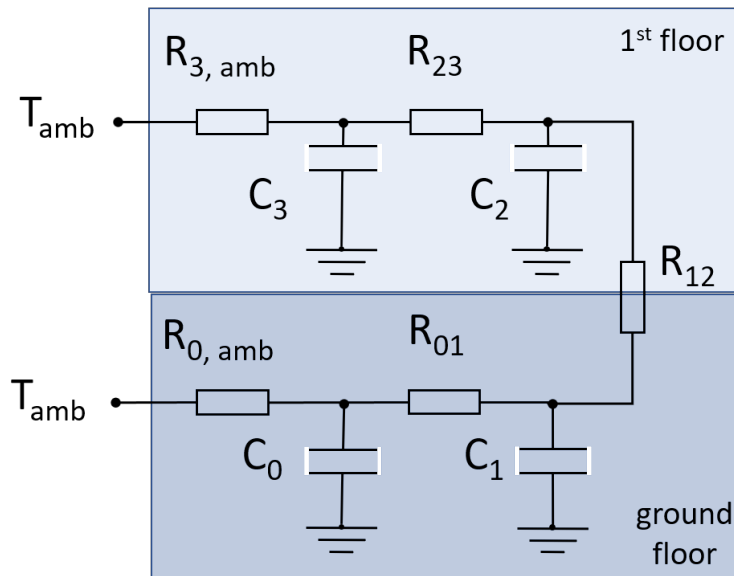
Since  $\mathbf{C}$  is a *diagonal* matrix with positive elements only, its inverse exists and contains the reciprocal elements on its diagonal:

$$\mathbf{C}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{C_{air}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{C_{wall}} \end{bmatrix} \quad (33)$$

This provides the division by the lumped thermal capacitances of the air and wall compartments in the model, necessary for the calculating the derivative vector  $\dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$  in the model functions.

## 5.6 Extension of the method to larger lumped-element networks

Take a house model with two stories. Each level in the building is described with a 2R-2C model. Heat transfer occurs between the ground floor and the 1st floor.



**Figure 16:** 5R-4C house model

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_2}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_3}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (34)$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} + \frac{1}{R_{12}} & \frac{-1}{R_{12}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{12}} & \frac{1}{R_{12}} + \frac{1}{R_{23}} & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} & \frac{1}{R_{3,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{23}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (35)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,0} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,2} \\ \frac{1}{R_{3,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,3} + \dot{Q}_{int,3} + \dot{Q}_{solar,3} \end{bmatrix} \quad (36)$$

## 5.7 Alternative representation of 5R-4C model

The 5R4C model of the previous section can be built from two 2R2C models, one for the ground floor and one for the first floor. The thermal resistance between the construction nodes of the ground and first floor is then added,  $R_{13}$  in the figure:

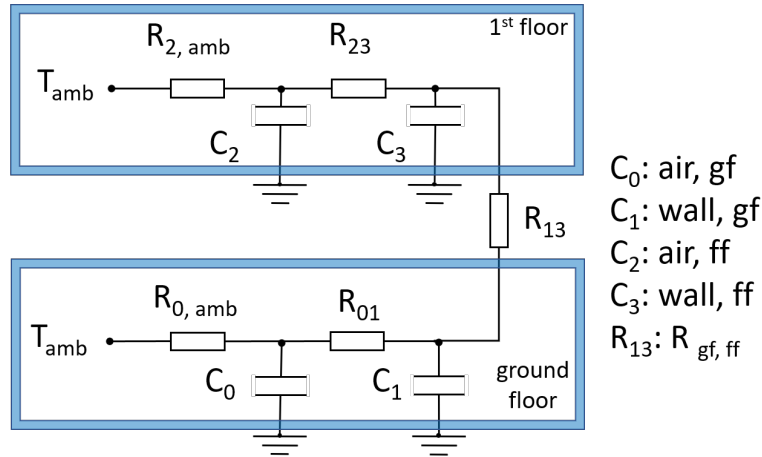


Figure 17: 5R-4C house model, alternative representation

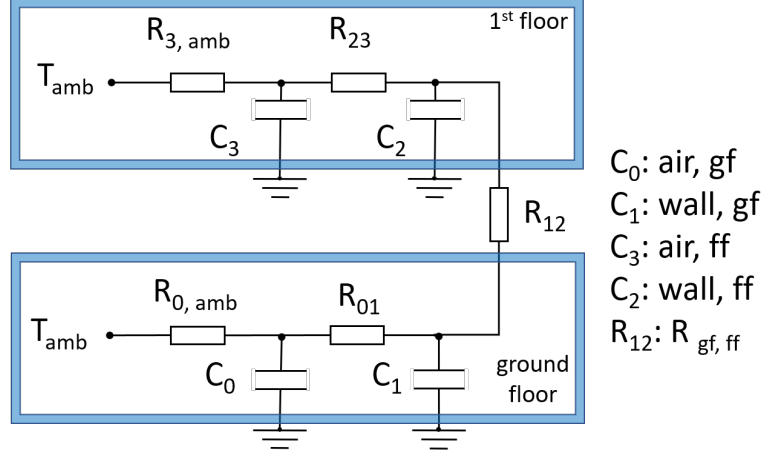
As can be seen in the matrices below, adding  $R_{13}$  to the ground floor and first floor "chains" results in a non-symmetric matrix. It has to be determined if this disadvantage outweighs the benefit of adding "chains".

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_2}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_3}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (37)$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} + \frac{1}{R_{13}} & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{13}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{R_{2,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{23}} & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{13}} & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} & \frac{1}{R_{23}} + \frac{1}{R_{3,amb}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (38)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,0} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\ \frac{1}{R_{2,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,2} + \dot{Q}_{int,2} + \dot{Q}_{solar,2} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,3} \end{bmatrix} \quad (39)$$

Renumbering restores the matrices to a symmetric representation:



**Figure 18:** 5R-4C house model, alternative representation, renumbered

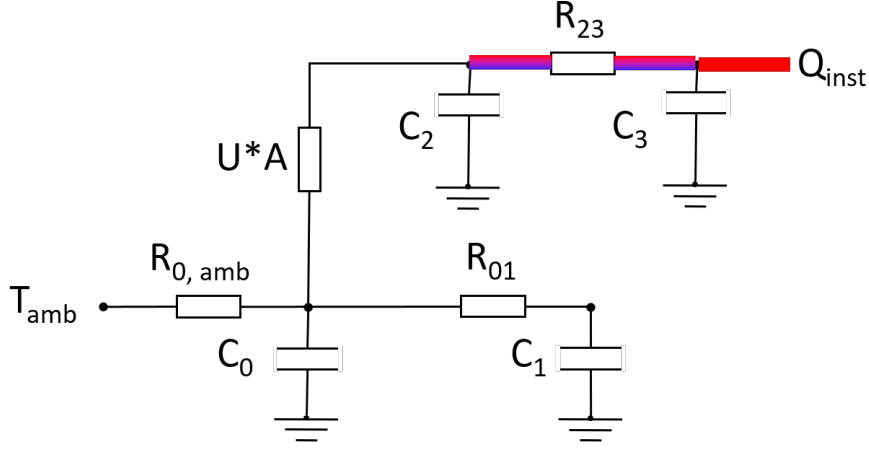
$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_2}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_3}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (40)$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} + \frac{1}{R_{12}} & \frac{-1}{R_{12}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{12}} & \frac{1}{R_{23}} + \frac{1}{R_{12}} & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} & \frac{1}{R_{3,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{23}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (41)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,0} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,2} \\ \frac{1}{R_{3,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,3} + \dot{Q}_{int,3} + \dot{Q}_{solar,3} \end{bmatrix} \quad (42)$$

## 5.8 2R-2C model with buffervessel

The "air" and "wall" nodes of the 2R2C model can be extended with "radiator" node. The radiator has a finite heat capacity of itself. Instead of a thermal resistance, the radiator heat exchange in  $W/K$  is entered in the model. The radiator emits heat to the "air" node only. In its turn, the radiator is fed from a "buffervessel" node. The buffervessel loses heat to the radiator and is heated up by a gas boiler or alternatively a heat pump. The gas boiler does not heat the house directly, as was the case in the simplest model. A schematic view is given in Fig. ??.



**Figure 19:** 2R-2C house model with radiator and buffer vessel

The differential equations for heat transport in the model of Fig. ?? are:

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} &= \frac{T_{outdoor} - T_{air}}{R_{air\_outdoor}} + \frac{T_{wall} - T_{air}}{R_{air\_wall}} + U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot (T_{return} - T_{air}) + \dot{Q}_{internal} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\
C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} &= \frac{T_{air} - T_{wall}}{R_{air\_wall}} + \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\
C_{rad} \frac{dT_{return}}{dt} &= \dot{m} \cdot c_{p,water} \cdot (T_{buffer} - T_{return}) + U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot (T_{air} - T_{return}) \\
C_{buffer} \frac{dT_{buffer}}{dt} &= \dot{m} \cdot c_{p,water} \cdot (T_{return} - T_{buffer}) + \dot{Q}_{inst} \\
\frac{dE}{dt} &= \dot{Q}_{inst}
\end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

A fifth equation, integrating the heat source energy is sometimes added. Re-arranging the terms in the equation gives:

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} &= \left[ \frac{-1}{R_{air\_outdoor}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air\_wall}} + -1 \cdot U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \right] \cdot T_{air} + \frac{T_{wall}}{R_{air\_wall}} + U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot T_{return} + \\
&\quad \frac{T_{outdoor}}{R_{air\_outdoor}} + \dot{Q}_{internal} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\
C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} &= \frac{1}{R_{air\_wall}} \cdot T_{air} + \frac{-1}{R_{air\_wall}} \cdot T_{wall} + \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\
C_{rad} \frac{dT_{return}}{dt} &= U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot T_{air} + [-U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} - \dot{m} \cdot c_{p,water}] \cdot T_{return} + \dot{m} \cdot c_{p,water} \cdot T_{buffer} \\
C_{buffer} \frac{dT_{buffer}}{dt} &= \dot{m} \cdot c_{p,water} \cdot T_{return} - \dot{m} \cdot c_{p,water} \cdot T_{buffer} + \dot{Q}_{heat,3} \\
\frac{dE}{dt} &= \dot{Q}_{inst}
\end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

Conversion of the equations to a matrix equation yields:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_2}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_3}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \tag{45}$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} + U \cdot A & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & -U \cdot A & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} & 0 & 0 \\ -U \cdot A & 0 & U \cdot A + \frac{1}{R_{23}} & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{23}} & \frac{1}{R_{23}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (46)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ 0 \\ \dot{Q}_{heat,3} \end{bmatrix} \quad (47)$$

## 5.9 2R-2C model with radiator only

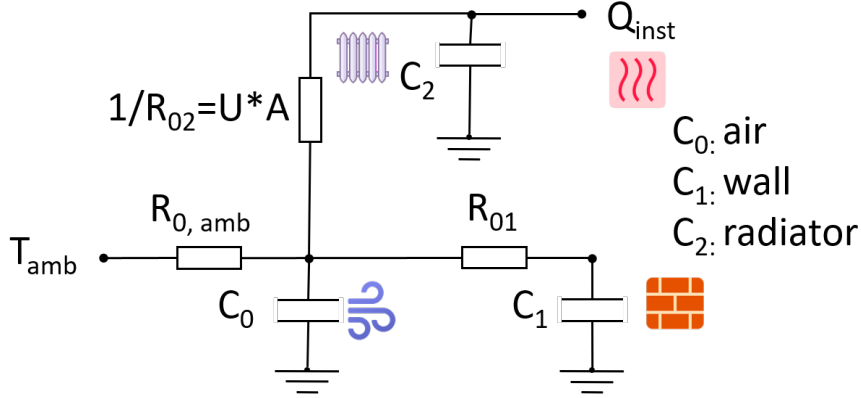


Figure 20: 2R-2C house model with radiator only

The rate of heat transfer from a radiator to the ambient(room) air can be calculated as follows [19]:

$$P = P_{50} \cdot \left[ \Delta T_{LMTD} \cdot \frac{1}{49.32} \right]^n \quad (48)$$

$$\Delta T_{LMTD} = \frac{T_{inlet} - T_{return}}{\ln \frac{T_{inlet} - T_{ambient}}{T_{return} - T_{ambient}}}$$

$$n = 1.33$$

This is sometimes simplified to:

$$P = U \cdot A \cdot \Delta T_{LMTD} \quad (49)$$

$$\Delta T_{LMTD} = \frac{T_{inlet} - T_{return}}{\ln \frac{T_{inlet} - T_{ambient}}{T_{return} - T_{ambient}}}$$

or simplified to [20, 21]:

$$P = K_m \cdot \Delta T^n \quad (50)$$

$$\Delta T = \frac{T_{inlet} + T_{return}}{2} - T_{ambient}$$

The differential equations for heat transport in the model of Fig. 20 are:



$$\begin{aligned}
C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} &= \frac{T_{outdoor} - T_{air}}{R_{air\_outdoor}} + \frac{T_{wall} - T_{air}}{R_{air\_wall}} + U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot (T_{rad} - T_{air}) + \dot{Q}_{internal} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\
C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} &= \frac{T_{air} - T_{wall}}{R_{air\_wall}} + \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\
C_{rad} \frac{dT_{rad}}{dt} &= \dot{Q}_{inst} + U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot (T_{air} - T_{rad})
\end{aligned} \tag{51}$$

Re-arranging the terms in the equation gives:

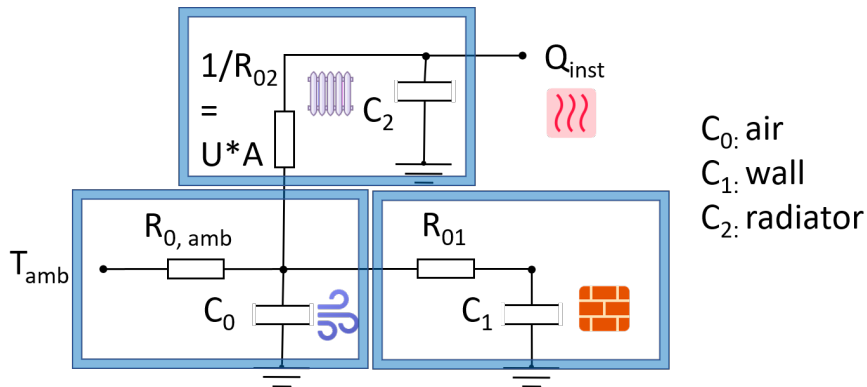
$$\begin{aligned}
C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} &= \left[ \frac{-1}{R_{air\_outdoor}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air\_wall}} + -1 \cdot U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \right] \cdot T_{air} + \frac{T_{wall}}{R_{air\_wall}} + U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot T_{rad} + \\
&\quad \frac{T_{outdoor}}{R_{air\_outdoor}} + \dot{Q}_{internal} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\
C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} &= \frac{1}{R_{air\_wall}} \cdot T_{air} + \frac{-1}{R_{air\_wall}} \cdot T_{wall} + \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\
C_{rad} \frac{dT_{rad}}{dt} &= U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot T_{air} - U_{rad} \cdot A_{rad} \cdot T_{rad} + \dot{Q}_{heat,2}
\end{aligned} \tag{52}$$

Conversion of the equations to a matrix equation yields:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_2}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \tag{53}$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} + U \cdot A & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & -U \cdot A \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} & 0 \\ -U \cdot A & 0 & U \cdot A \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \end{bmatrix} \tag{54}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\ \dot{Q}_{heat,2} \end{bmatrix} \tag{55}$$



**Figure 21:** 2R-2C house model with radiator in 3 chains

Starting with the basic 2R2C model we write down the matrices. Note that the heat source for the house is omitted at first. Solar energy entering the house is partitioned between air and wall, Heat generated due to the presence and activities of inhabitants is added to the air node:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (56)$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (57)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (58)$$

As a third link in the chain, a radiator is added, with a heat capacity  $C_{rad}$  and a heat delivery  $U \cdot A \cdot (T_{rad} - T_{air})$  to the air node. The heat source  $\dot{Q}_{inst}$  is now connected to the radiator.

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_0 & 0 & \mathbf{0} \\ 0 & C_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & C_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_0}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_2}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (59)$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{01}} + U \cdot A & \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & -U \cdot A \\ \frac{-1}{R_{01}} & \frac{1}{R_{01}} & \mathbf{0} \\ -U \cdot A & \mathbf{0} & U \cdot A \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (60)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{0,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{int,0} + \dot{Q}_{solar,0} \\ \dot{Q}_{solar,1} \\ \dot{Q}_{heat,2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (61)$$

In this example, it becomes visible (in red) that the rank of the  $C$ - and  $K$ -matrix, and the  $\dot{q}$ -vector is extended by 1. The heat capacity of the radiator is included as an extra *diagonal* element in the  $C$ -matrix. The heat delivery from the radiator to the indoor air is added to or subtracted from the 00, 22, 02 and 20 elements of the  $K$ -matrix, so that it remains a *symmetric* matrix. The heater is connected to the radiator, represented by element 2 of the  $\dot{q}$ -vector.

## 5.10 2R2C revisited: 2R3C

The 2R2C model as represented in 10 treats the node of the outside temperature ( $T_{amb}$ ) differently from the other nodes,  $T_{air}$  and  $T_{walls}$ . This representation is inconsistent, and actually incomplete. Implicitly, the model links a source/sink to the node that controls the outdoor temperature. In literature, one can find models in which this source has been made explicit, such as in [22]. It seems that this representation has been lost over time.

In order to complete the analogy with the other nodes in the model we can connect an additional capacitor ( $C_{amb}$ ). The capacity will be tending to infinity, as we assume the outside temperature does not change due to heat exchange with the house.

Adding the capacitor and the source also will change the equations. Actually, it results in a more structured set of equations. The equations will be as follows:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{amb} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{amb}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (62)$$

o:figure  
uding a  
rce and  
acitor

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{amb,air}} & \frac{-1}{R_{amb,air}} & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{R_{amb,air}} & \frac{1}{R_{amb,air}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{amb} \\ T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \quad (63)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{Q}_{amb} \\ \dot{Q}_{air} \\ \dot{Q}_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \quad (64)$$

In the equations we now see that the matrix  $K$  represents the interaction between the different heat capacities. The off-diagonal elements are equal to (minus) conductance factor  $\frac{-1}{R}$  between the respective connected nodes. The structure of  $K$  is such that the sum over the rows will always be zero, where the diagonal elements equal the negative sum of the off-diagonal elements.

The vector  $\dot{\mathbf{q}}$  contains all heat sources (and sinks).

Generalizing the idea above, alternative models can be easily constructed using an underlying graph. In the graph each node is labeled with a heat capacity  $C_i$ , and temperature  $T_i$ . Nodes  $i$  and  $j$  can be connected by an edge labeled with  $R_{i,j}$ , where  $\frac{1}{R_{i,j}}$  represents the heat conductance between the two nodes. The  $K$ -matrix is the connectivity matrix of the graph, where  $K_{i,j} = \frac{-1}{R_{i,j}}$ . The diagonal elements,  $K_{i,i}$  are set such that the sums over the rows will be equal to zero.

Additionally, each node can be connected to a source (or sink). Two types of sources are available. A "temperature source" represents a source that will keep the temperature of the connected node constant. This source type can be used to set the ambient temperature.

A heat source represents a source that will provide a continuous constant energy flow into the node. This source type can be used to represent the inflow of energy by for example the sun.

#### 5.10.1 example: 2R-2C house with buffer

### 5.11 3R2C model

For an apartment building, the simplest model has two nodes with a finite heat capacity, the interior and the building construction. Both nodes have a finite thermal resistance to the ambient environment. Finally there is a thermal resistance between the nodes. Graphically, the model is represented by Figure 22



Figure 22: 3R-2C house model

The differential equations are:

$$C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} = \frac{T_{amb} - T_{air}}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{T_{wall} - T_{air}}{R_{air,wall}} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \quad (65)$$

$$C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} = \frac{T_{air} - T_{wall}}{R_{air,wall}} + \frac{T_{amb} - T_{wall}}{R_{wall,amb}} + \dot{Q}_{solar,wall}$$

Writing out the differential equations in the classical notation:

$$C_{air} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} = \left[ \frac{-1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \right] \cdot T_{air} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \cdot T_{wall} + \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air}$$

$$C_{wall} \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} = \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \cdot T_{air} + \left[ \frac{-1}{R_{wall,amb}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \right] \cdot T_{wall} + \frac{1}{R_{wall,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \quad (66)$$

The differential equations can be written in matrix notation as:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} + \dot{\mathbf{q}} \quad (67a)$$

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \dot{\mathbf{q}} \quad (67b)$$

with:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (68)$$

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{wall,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \quad (69)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\ \frac{1}{R_{wall,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \end{bmatrix} \quad (70)$$

Written out, the differential equation according to (67) becomes:

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{wall,amb}} + \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\ \frac{1}{R_{wall,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \end{bmatrix} \quad (71)$$

In the alternative notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{wall,amb}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} = \\
\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{air,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{heat,air} + \dot{Q}_{int,air} + \dot{Q}_{solar,air} \\ \frac{1}{R_{wall,amb}} \cdot T_{amb} + \dot{Q}_{solar,wall} \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{72}$$

it is clear that in this example, where multiple nodes in the thermal network are connected to the ambient surroundings, the approach of Section 5.10 becomes more advantageous:

### 5.12 3R3C model

The previous 3R2C model representation necessitates an *ad hoc* term in the heat supply vector  $\dot{\mathbf{q}}$ . Analogous to Section 5.10, we can include the ambient surroundings as a (large) heat capacity into the model. This will change the 3R2C model into a 3R3C model. The equations become:

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{amb} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_{air} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dT_{amb}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{air}}{dt} \\ \frac{dT_{wall}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \tag{73}$$

For  $\mathbf{K}$  we can start with filling out the non-diagonal symmetric matrix elements:

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{amb,air}} & \frac{-1}{R_{amb,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{amb,air}} & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{amb,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \tag{74}$$

Then we can complete the diagonal elements, so that the sum over each row becomes zero:

$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{R_{amb,air}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{amb,air}} & \frac{-1}{R_{amb,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{amb,air}} & \frac{1}{R_{amb,air}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} \\ \frac{-1}{R_{amb,wall}} & \frac{-1}{R_{air,wall}} & \frac{1}{R_{amb,wall}} + \frac{1}{R_{air,wall}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_{amb} \\ T_{air} \\ T_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \tag{75}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{Q}_{amb} \\ \dot{Q}_{air} \\ \dot{Q}_{wall} \end{bmatrix} \tag{76}$$

### 5.13 Package "housemodel"

The repository "twozone.housemodel-git" contains the modules for the house model. The customary way to organize the modules is to make a *Python package* with *subpackages*. This opens up the possibility of publishing the package on PyPi, so that it can be imported.

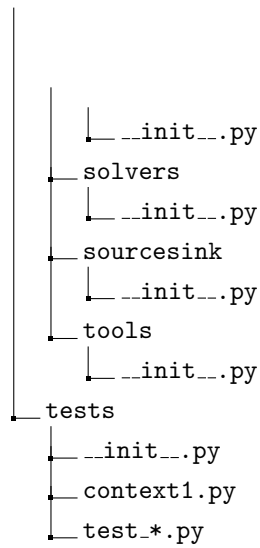
See: <https://pypi.org/>

From commit e74ce58 the files in the twozone.housemodel-git repository are organized as a package. The proposed structure, implemented in this commit, is:

```

twozone.housemodel-git
├── housemodel
│   ├── __init__.py
│   └── controls

```



- the *repository root* `twozone_housemodel-git` contains the simulation scripts and configuration files (for now)
- the *package root* `housemodel` contains the complete package. This can be seen since it contains an (empty) `__init__.py` module.
- the *subpackage* folders contain the modules with common functions and classes for all simulations. They each contain an (empty) `__init__.py` module.
- a `tests` folder is placed carefully as a subfolder of the *repository root*. See: <https://docs.python-guide.org/writing/structure/> for the underlying philosophy. Here, testing modules (scripts) can be placed. If the names of the test scripts start with `test_`, they can be automatically run with the `pytest` Python package.

*Note:* Running the simulations and tests is best done from the *repository root*. All simulations and tests have been updated to find the package, subpackages and configuration files from this directory.

## 6 Solar irradiation and PV yield

In the house model, energy supply from solar irradiation plays an important role. Firstly, solar energy enters the building through windows and poorly isolated surfaces. In winter, this reduces the cost of heating the building. In summer, however, this leads to an extra energy expenditure for cooling the building, which may attain uncomfortable indoor temperature levels in case of large window surfaces or poor isolation.

A second issue is that the yield of PV and PVT panels, which are often installed nowadays, depends on the solar irradiation. Weather conditions, especially the cloud cover density have a strong influence on the electric power and energy yield of these installations.

Therefore, it is important to be able to calculate the solar irradiation quantity, spectral distribution and spatial properties. Only then, a reliable estimation of the energy demand, and of the useful fraction of solar irradiation can be made.

### 6.1 Solar software

Software for calculation of solar irradiation on the surface of the earth exists in many shapes and implementations. To achieve the final goal, calculation of the solar (power) falling on a surface with a certain orientation, a number of steps have to be carried out.

1. establish the geolocation of the object (building, PV(T) panel) of interest
2. establish the time instant or time range of interest
3. convert the time instant to local, timezone-aware time or UTC
4. find the apparent position of the sun in the sky (azimuth and inclination)
5. determine the attenuation of the earth's atmosphere for the geolocation and time(s) of interest
6. determine the DNI
7. determine the orientation of the surface of interest (azimuth and inclination)
8. determine the direct, diffuse and global irradiation on the surface
9. determine the fraction of the solar irradiation that is effective as an energy source (window transmittance, PV(T) efficiency)

Among the packages available for solar irradiation calculations, we find:

- PV.LIB Toolbox: available for Matlab and Python [23–26].
- solarenergy: available as Python package [27, 28]
- qsun: available as Matlab function or Python function.

### 6.2 Geolocation

The location of a building or installation needs to be given in *latitude* and *longitude*, in units of degrees with a decimal point. Division in arcminutes and arcseconds is less common nowadays, since the introduction of GPS. Latitude is positive for the northern hemisphere, negative to the south of the equator. The equator itself is zero latitude. Longitude is positive to the east of the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, London, UK, negative to the west of London. The Meridian of Greenwich runs from the North pole to the South Pole through London and has zero longitude. At the poles, latitude is  $\pm 90$  degrees and longitude is undefined.

For **Arnhem**, NL, a **latitude of 52.0 degrees** and a **longitude of 6.0 degrees** may be used as an approximation to the geolocation. In reality this geolocation is found in a field between Velp and Rheden, NL.

- PV.LIB Toolbox has a module `location.py`. In this module, a class `Location` is defined, with attributes *latitude* and *longitude*. These attributes are in *decimal degrees* i.e. 52.0 and 6.0.
- `solarenergy` has a module `radiation.py` with a function `sun_position_from_date_and_time`. Input parameters to this function are *longitude* and *latitude* in *radians*. The `solarenergy` has a conversion constant `d2r` to convert from decimal degrees to radians.
- `qsun`: longitude and latitude are not input parameters. They are fixed: the chosen location is for De Bilt, NL (52.1 N, 5.1 E).

## 6.3 Time and timezones

In many programming languages, a `datetime` object exists. The basic functionality of such an object includes:

- a convention about time "zero".
- a representation of time, stored in an integer or floating-point value.
- a set of conversion routines from various time strings e.g. 2021-11-25 17:28:31:321+01:00 to the storage format, and back.
- timezone awareness and daylight savings options.

### 6.3.1 Time formats and conventions

Many conventions are currently in use. The most "universal" is the UNIX Timestamp. Its *epoch*, the "zero" time is 1 January 1970, 00:00:00 (UTC). The time is represented by an *integer* which counts the *seconds* elapsed since the epoch. Originally, the representation was an `int32`, which would mean that the computer time is up in the year 2038. Backwards, the beginning of computer time would be in 1901. Fortunately, 64-bit computer registers now also use an `int64` for UNIX timestamp representation, which alleviates this shortcoming for all practical situations.

The `int64` representation stretches so far into the future and past, that it makes room for improvement. Microsoft Windows maintains a `FILETIME` structure, built from two `DWORD` (`uint32`) entries, which taken together to a 64-bit value represent the number of 100-ns intervals since January 1, 1601 00:00:00.0000000 (UTC).

```
typedef struct _FILETIME {
    DWORD dwLowDateTime;
    DWORD dwHighDateTime;
} FILETIME, *PFILETIME, *LPFILETIME;
```

In Python, the original `datetime` package contains a `datetime` class which has its epoch at 1 January 1970, just like the UNIX timestamp. The `datetime` class has members: `year` (1-9999), `month` (1-12), `day` (1- # of days in month), `hour` (0-23), `minute` (0-59), `second` (0-59) and `microsecond` (0-999999). Moreover, it has an attribute `tzinfo`, which handles timezone info and an attribute `fold` (0, 1) to handle the occurrence of two identical wall times when daylight savings time is reset in autumn.

However, the Python package `pandas` has an alternative `Timestamp` class, which uses a `int64`, representing the number of 1-ns intervals since 1 January 1970. This makes it compatible with UNIX timestamps (divide by  $1e9$ ) and with classical Python `datetime` objects. The type is given as `datetime64[ns, Europe/Amsterdam]`. This reveals that, apart from the timestamp in UTC, a timezone may be stored. This is done with the helper package `pytz`, which is installed as a dependency of `pandas`. It is strongly recommended to always use timezone-aware timestamps, even if UTC is meant. The `pytz` package also handles daylight savings times smoothly in timezone-aware timestamps.



### 6.3.2 Examples in Python

The standard Python `datetime` object is defined in the module `datetime.py`. On import, it is recommended to also include the `timedelta` object from the same module. The use of `datetime` and `timedelta` objects without setting timezone information is shown in Listing ??.

In combination with geolocation, however, it is recommended to use *timezone-aware* `datetime` objects. This is demonstrated in Listing ?. Note that the *attribute* of the `datetime` class is named `tzinfo`. The input argument for the *method* `datetime.now` is named `tz`. The value of this input argument sets `datetime.tzinfo` from `None` to a meaningful *timezone* value.

<https://www.alpharithms.com/generating-artificial-time-series-data-with-pandas-in-python-272321/>  
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/993358/creating-a-range-of-dates-in-python>  
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/1060279/iterating-through-a-range-of-dates-in-python/1060330#1060330>  
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/13445174/date-ranges-in-pandas>  
[https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/user\\_guide/timeseries.html](https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/user_guide/timeseries.html)  
[https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/reference/api/pandas.date\\_range.html](https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/reference/api/pandas.date_range.html)  
[https://www.w3resource.com/pandas/date\\_range.php](https://www.w3resource.com/pandas/date_range.php)

Voorbeeld `timestamp` and `date_range` in Pandas.

- PV\_LIB Toolbox has a module `location.py`. In this module, a class `Location` is defined, with attributes *latitude* and *longitude*. These attributes are in *decimal degrees* i.e. 52.0 and 6.0.
- `solarenergy` has a module `radiation.py` with a function `sun_position_from_date_and_time`. Input parameters to this function are *longitude* and *latitude* in *radians*. The `solarenergy` has a conversion constant `d2r` to convert from decimal degrees to radians.
- `qsun`: *longitude* and *latitude* are not input parameters. They are fixed: the chosen location is for De Bilt, NL (52.1 N, 5.1 E).

### 6.3.3 Conversion of NEN5060 time information

In the spreadsheet *NEN5060-2018.xlsx*, shown in Figure 23a, the first four columns A:D contain the timestamp information. Since the NEN 5060 data is derived from hourly KNMI weather data, it follows the convention of the KNMI records, where the diurnal `HOUR` data runs from 1-24. The corresponding record of KNMI weather data is given in Figure 23b. KNMI uses UTC timestamps (<https://www.knmidata.nl/data-services/knmi-producten-overzicht>) pointing to data from the *previous* hour. These UTC timestamps are coded in the columns `YYYYMMDD` and `H`, respectively.

In Listing 1 the conversion from the NEN 5060 spreadsheet columns, read into a Pandas Dataframe, is shown. The function `pandas.to_datetime` correctly handles an offset of  $-1\text{ h}$ , thereby changing the hour range to 0-23. Thus, the Pandas Timestamps refer to the *following* hour period. The Pandas Timestamps thus obtained are still *naive*. Conversion to *timezone-aware* UTC Timestamps is done by the `tz.localize` function, which uses a *timezone* from the `pytz` package. The *timezone-aware* UTC Timestamps can be converted to the *timezone* "Europe/Amsterdam" by calling the `tz.localize` function again. In the local Dutch Timestamps, the Daylight Savings Time (DST) is automatically included. columns with a Pandas UTC and local timestamp are inserted at the beginning of the NEN 5060 DataFrame.

#	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	jaar	MONTH(datum)	DAY(datum)	HOUR(uur)	globale_zonnestraling	diffuse_zonnestraling	directe_zonnestraling	directe_normale_zonnestraling	temperatuur
2					W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	0,1°C
3	2001	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	15
4	2001	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	17
5	2001	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	15
6	2001	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	12
7	2001	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	11
8	2001	1	1	6	0	0	0	0	11
9	2001	1	1	7	0	0	0	0	13
10	2001	1	1	8	0	0	0	0	15
11	2001	1	1	9	0	0	0	0	18
12	2001	1	1	10	6	6	0	0	22
13	2001	1	1	11	19	19	0	0	26
14	2001	1	1	12	39	39	0	1	34
15	2001	1	1	13	36	36	0	1	40
16	2001	1	1	14	19	19	0	1	44
17	2001	1	1	15	8	8	0	0	44
18	2001	1	1	16	3	3	0	0	45
19	2001	1	1	17	0	0	0	0	46
20	2001	1	1	18	0	0	0	0	48
21	2001	1	1	19	0	0	0	0	50
22	2001	1	1	20	0	0	0	0	52
23	2001	1	1	21	0	0	0	0	58
24	2001	1	1	22	0	0	0	0	61
25	2001	1	1	23	0	0	0	0	61
26	2001	1	1	24	0	0	0	0	62
27	2001	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	61
28	2001	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	61
29	2001	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	58

(a) NEN 5060 spreadsheet (detail)

#	STN	YYYYMMDDH	T	SQ	Q	P
13	260	20010101	1	15	0	0
14	260	20010101	2	17	0	0
15	260	20010101	3	15	0	0
16	260	20010101	4	12	0	0
17	260	20010101	5	11	0	0
18	260	20010101	6	11	0	0
19	260	20010101	7	13	0	0
20	260	20010101	8	15	0	0
21	260	20010101	9	18	0	0
22	260	20010101	10	22	0	2
23	260	20010101	11	26	0	7
24	260	20010101	12	34	0	14
25	260	20010101	13	40	0	13
26	260	20010101	14	44	0	7
27	260	20010101	15	44	0	3
28	260	20010101	16	45	0	1
29	260	20010101	17	46	0	0
30	260	20010101	18	48	0	0
31	260	20010101	19	50	0	0
32	260	20010101	20	52	0	0
33	260	20010101	21	58	0	0
34	260	20010101	22	61	0	0
35	260	20010101	23	61	0	0
36	260	20010101	24	62	0	0
37	260	20010102	1	61	0	0
38	260	20010102	2	61	0	0
39	260	20010102	3	58	0	0

(b) KNMI hourly data in csv format (detail)

Figure 23: NEN 5060 spreadsheet and parent KNMI hourly weather record.

Listing 1: Conversion of NEN5060 timestamp to timezone-aware Pandas Timestamp

```

1 def NENdatehour2datetime(nen_df: pd.DataFrame):
2     # define timezones
3     utz = timezone('UTC')
4     nltz = timezone('Europe/Amsterdam')
5
6     # convert columns 'jaar', 'MONTH(datum)', 'DAY(datum)', 'HOUR(uur)' into Pandas timestamps
7     # subtracting 1 hour from the 'HOUR(uur)' values (works automatically!)
8     pdt_naive = pd.to_datetime(dict(year=nen_df['jaar'],
9                                     month=nen_df['MONTH(datum)'],
10                                    day=nen_df['DAY(datum)'],
11                                    hour=nen_df['HOUR(uur)'] - 1))
12
13     # make NAIVE UTC forward-looking timestamp AWARE
14     # Note: this cannot be done inplace because Timestamps are IMMUTABLE
15     # Note2: since pdt_naive is a pandas Series object, use Series.dt.tz_localize and
16     #         Series.dt.tz_convert
17     pdt_utc = pdt_naive.dt.tz_localize(tz=utz)
18     # convert AWARE UTC to AWARE local time
19     pdt_local = pdt_utc.dt.tz_convert(tz=nltz)
20
21     # insert AWARE UTC and AWARE LOCAL DateTimeIndex as first columns in DataFrame
22     nen_df.insert(loc=0, column='utc', value=pdt_utc)
23     nen_df.insert(loc=1, column='local_time', value=pdt_local)
24     return nen_df

```

### 6.3.4 Gregorian and Julian time

Today's calendar is the Gregorian calendar, introduced by pope Gregory XIII in 1582. This calendar refines the use of leap years, compared to its predecessor, the Julian calendar, introduced by Julius Caesar in 45 B.C. [29]. In the transition process in October 1582, 10 days had to be skipped. It is clear that this time gap was good for society (finally, Turkey introduced the Gregorian calendar in 1926!), but not for astronomy. That is why astronomers kept using the Julian calendar - between 1582 and 1926 - and ever since. That means they have to define a new epoch every 50 years, to compensate for the imperfections of the Julian calendar. The big advantage is that the planets have kept their undisturbed orbits and that the Harmony of the Spheres is still in sync with ancient times.

- 6.4 Position of the sun
- 6.5 Attenuation of the solar radiation
- 6.6 Direct Normal Incidence (DNI)
- 6.7 Orientation of the receiving surface
- 6.8 Direct, diffuse and global irradiation
- 6.9 Efficiency

## 7 Component classes

### 7.1 StratifiedBuffer class

An important component of the installation in the house model is a thermal buffer vessel. The vessel is a storage for hot water which serves as a reservoir for thermal energy. When large enough, the vessel can mediate the heat demand of the house by allowing fast discharge and slow charge rates. Slow charge rates enable the use of heat pumps and electric heating with modest power ratings. The buffer vessel therefore plays a key role in replacing gas boilers, without the involvement of high-power flow-through heaters.

In modelling a thermal buffer vessel, it is customary to discretize the vertical temperature gradient by imposing a *stratified* geometry. In this way, a stable configuration is achieved, with warmer (water) layers on top of colder layers in the vessel. Thus, convection phenomena can be neglected, and interlayer thermal transport occurs by diffusion, driven by the thermal downward gradient.

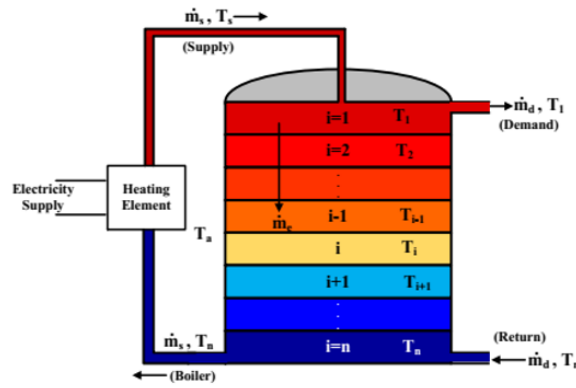


Figure 24: One-dimensional heat conduction in a stratified buffer vessel

In the `housemodel/sourcesink` subpackage, a subpackage `buffervessels` is defined. The module `buffer_vessel.py` contains a general class `StratifiedBuffer` with attributes and methods:

Listing 2: StratifiedBuffer class constructor

```
class StratifiedBuffer():
    """parent class for cylindrical stratified buffer vessel
    """

    def __init__(self, volume, height, n_layers=5, hot_node = 0, u = 0.12, Tamb = 20):
        # super.__init__()
        self.n_layers = n_layers
        self.hot_node = hot_node # anchor point of hot water supply to house model
        self.cold_node = n_layers # anchor point of cold water return from house model
        self.volume = volume
        self.height = height
        self.uwall = u
        self.Tamb = Tamb
        self.layer_height = self.height / self.n_layers
        self.radius = np.sqrt(self.volume / (self.height * np.pi))
        self.ratio = self.height / (self.radius * 2)
        self.Awall = 2 * np.pi * self.radius * self.height
        self.Awall_layer = self.Awall / n_layers
        self.Abase = self.radius ** 2 * np.pi
        self.temperatures = None
        self.mass_water_layer = (self.volume / self.n_layers) * rho_water
```

The StratifiedBuffer object has the following attributes:

- **n\_layers**, **hot\_node**, **cold\_node**. These parameters define the number of nodes occupied in the thermal network topology by the (layers of the) buffer vessel, as well as the connections (edges) to the other components of the network graph. In general, the hot top layer (node) of the vessel connects to the feed tube of a radiator or floor heating loop, The return line is then connected to the cold bottom layer (node) of the vessel. Additional connections to a heat pump, thermal collector or gas boiler can also be implemented.
- **volume**, **height**, **radius**. Geometrical parameters defining the size of the (cylindrical) buffer vessel.
- **temperatures**. An array of dimension **n\_layers** containing the temperatures of all layers of the buffer vessel.

Furthermore, the StratifiedBuffer object has a number of methods including:

- **setters and getters**. These methods set or alter the geometrical attributes of the buffer vessel.
- **model functions**. These methods describe the change in temperature of the layers of the buffer vessel. The return values may serve as derivatives for an ODE solver.

**Listing 3:** StratifiedBuffer model function

```
def model_stratified_buffervessel(self, t, x, Tsupply, Treturn, mdots, mdotd):  
    """  
    Args:  
        t:  
        x:  
        Tsupply:  
        Treturn:  
        mdots:  
        mdotd:  
  
    Returns:  
        object:  
    """  
    mdote = mdots - mdotd  
    n = self.n_layers - 1  
  
    if mdote > 0:  
        deltaPlus = 1  
    else:  
        deltaPlus = 0  
  
    if mdote < 0:  
        deltaMinus = 1  
    else:  
        deltaMinus = 0  
  
    dT = np.zeros(len(x))  
  
    # Equation for the top layer of the buffervessel  
    dT[0] = ((mdots * cp_water * (Tsupply - x[0])) + (mdote * cp_water * (x[0] - x[1]) *  
        deltaMinus) - (  
        self.uwall * (self.Abase + self.Awall_layer) * (x[0] - self.Tamb)) + (  
            (self.Abase * lambda_water) / self.layer_height) * (x[0] -  
                x[1])) / (  
        self.mass_water_layer * cp_water)  
  
    # Equation for the middle layers of the buffervessel  
    for i in range(len(dT) - 2):  
        dT[i + 1] = ((mdote * cp_water * (x[i] - x[i + 1]) * deltaPlus) + (  

```

```

40         mdote * cp_water * (x[i + 1] - x[i + 2]) * deltaMinus) - (
42             self.uwall * self.Awall_layer * (x[i + 1] - self.Tamb)) + (
44                 (self.Abase * lambda_water) / self.layer_height) * (
46                     x[i] + x[i + 2] - (2 * x[i + 1])))) / (
48                     self.mass_water_layer * cp_water)

# Equation for the bottom layer of the buffervessel
dT[n] = ((mdotd * cp_water * (Treturn - x[n])) + (mdote * cp_water * (x[n - 1] -
    x[n]) * deltaPlus) - (
    self.uwall * self.Awall_layer * (x[n] - self.Tamb)) + (
    (self.Abase * lambda_water) / self.layer_height) * (x[n - 1] -
    x[n])))) / (
    self.mass_water_layer * cp_water)

50 return dT

```

## 8 NEN and ISO

The list of NEN and ISO standard used in the calculation:

- NTA 8800
- NEN 1068
- ISO 6946
- ISO 10077-2
- NEN 7120

## **9 Manual; how to work with the two zone house model**

### **9.1 Voor wie?**

Deze manual is bedoeld om een handreiking te geven aan bedrijven die de impact van hun warmtebron willen doorrekenen.



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