



# BUILDING GREEN AND SMART HOME

*from personal experience*

Nenad Uzelac, G&W Electric



# What is Green Building?

A structure and process that is **environmentally responsible** and **resource-efficient** throughout a building's life-cycle:



*Design – Construction – Operation – Maintenance – Renovation – Demolition*



# Green Objective:



Reduce  
environmental  
footprint!



# Low impact homes



Don't have to look like this !



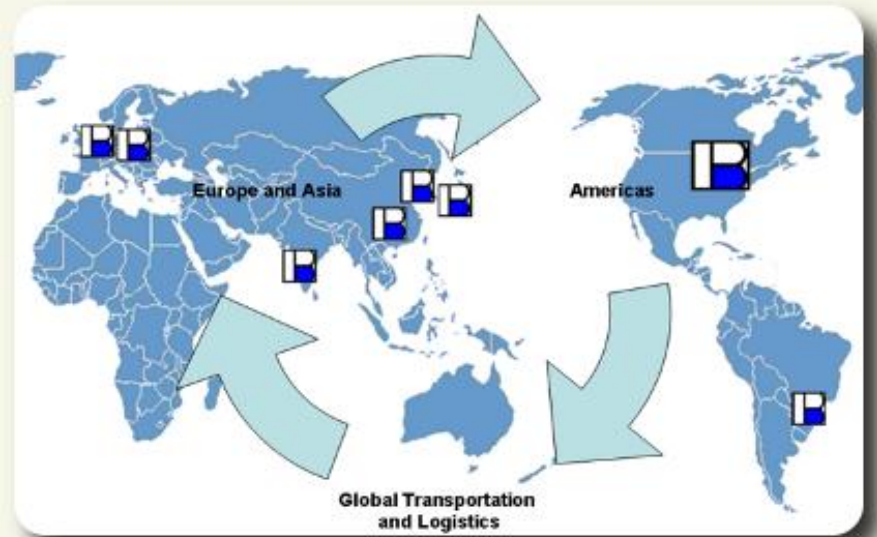
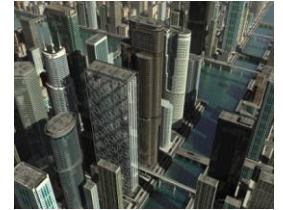
# They come in any style:





# Social Transformation

LOCAL



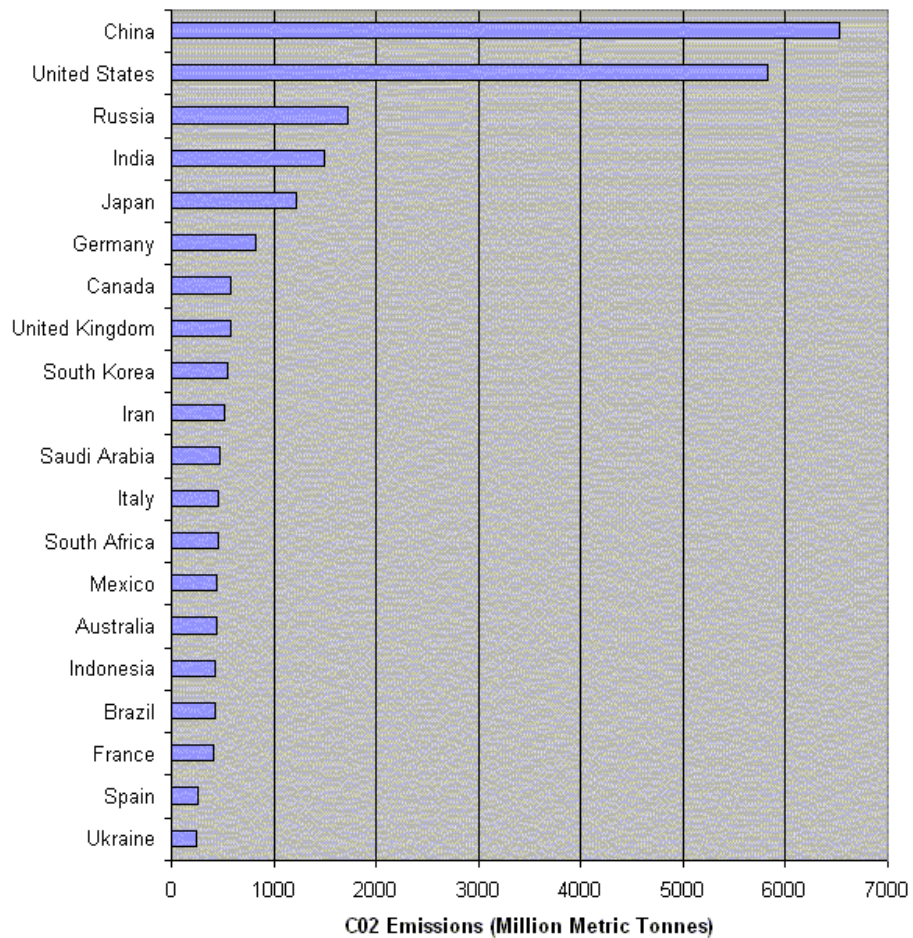
GLOBAL



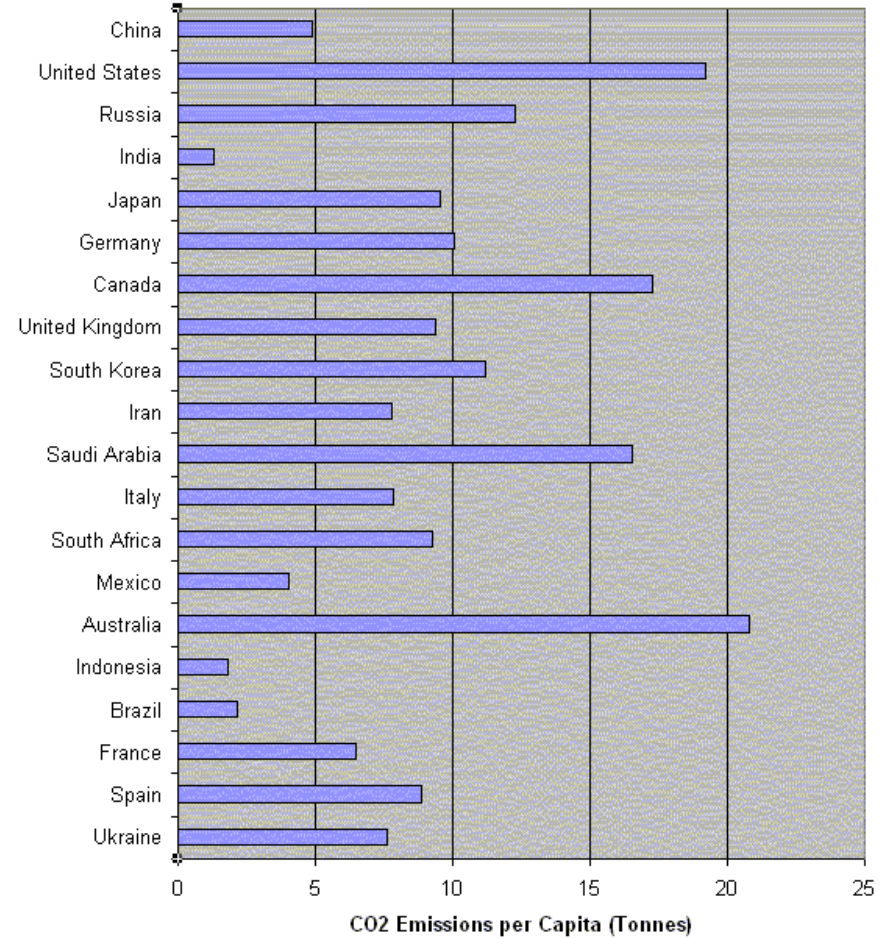


# Total CO2 emissions:

Total 2008 CO2 Emissions



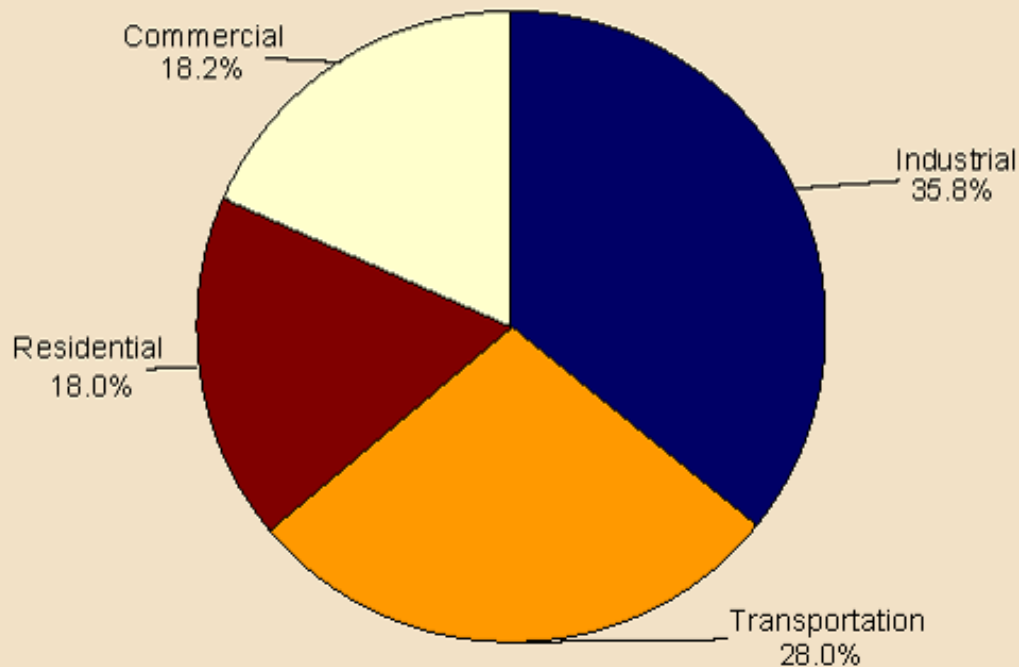
2008 CO2 Emissions per Capita





# US Greenhouse emissions

Figure 1. U.S. Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2005  
(MMT CO2 equivalent)



Based on  
annual  
consumption

**40% from  
buildings!**





# Bad CO<sub>2</sub>

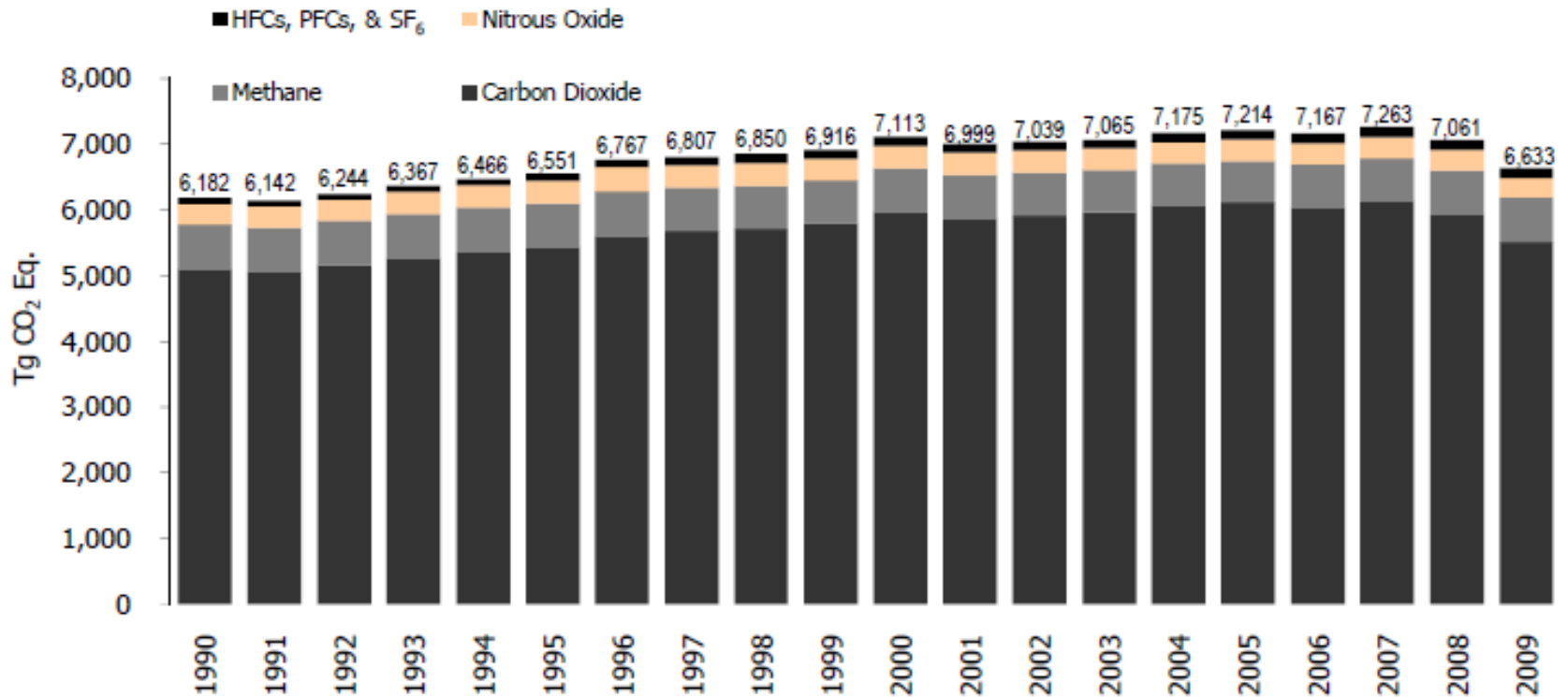


Figure ES-1: U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Gas



# House lifecycle – energy usage

2,450 ft<sup>2</sup> residential home built in Ann Arbor, Michigan was analyzed to determine **total life cycle energy** consumption of materials fabrication, construction, use and demolition over a **50 year period**

Lifecycle Energy distribution:

- 6.1% - construction phase
- 93.7% - use phase
- 0.2% - end of life phase



**15,455 GJ**

Total life cycle energy  
consumption:  
(2,525 barrels of crude oil)



# Green Standards

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2 main standards in USA:

Better suitable for  
residential homes



Approved by ANSI

Better suitable for  
commercial building  
homes





# NAHB Green

Green Building Categories			Performance Point Levels (1) (2)			
			BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	EMERALD
1.	Chapter 5	Lot Design, Preparation, and Development	39	66	93	119
2.	Chapter 6	Resource Efficiency	45	79	113	146
3.	Chapter 7	Energy Efficiency	30	60	100	120
4.	Chapter 8	Water Efficiency	14	26	41	60
5.	Chapter 9	Indoor Environmental Quality	36	65	100	140
6.	Chapter 10	Operation, Maintenance, and Building Owner Education	8	10	11	12
7.		Additional Points from any category	50	100	100	100
<b>Total Points</b>			<b>222</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>697</b>



# Green Home Benefits:

- Economic Benefits:
  - Reduced energy / water consumption
  - Lower maintenance cost (durable materials)
- Health Benefits:
  - Improved indoor quality (nonvolatile organic and non-toxic materials, ventilation, far fewer problems with mold or mildew)
- Environmental Benefits:
  - Reduces environmental footprint



# Goals:

- Obtain GOLD level of NAHB green standard
- Consume no more energy than previously owned 1500 sq ft condo
- Guidelines:
  - Quality before Quantity
  - Functionality before Formality
  - Efficiency before Spaciousness
  - Comfort and Character



# 1) Resource efficiency:

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- Reduce the quantity of material used and waste
  - Efficient floor plan, pre-cut joists
- Enhance durability and reduce maintenance
  - Covered entry, roof overhands, flashing details
- Use recycled content material
  - Recycled insulation, countertops, tiles...
- Use renewable materials:
  - Bamboo, FSC wood (forestry stewardship council)



## 2) Energy efficiency

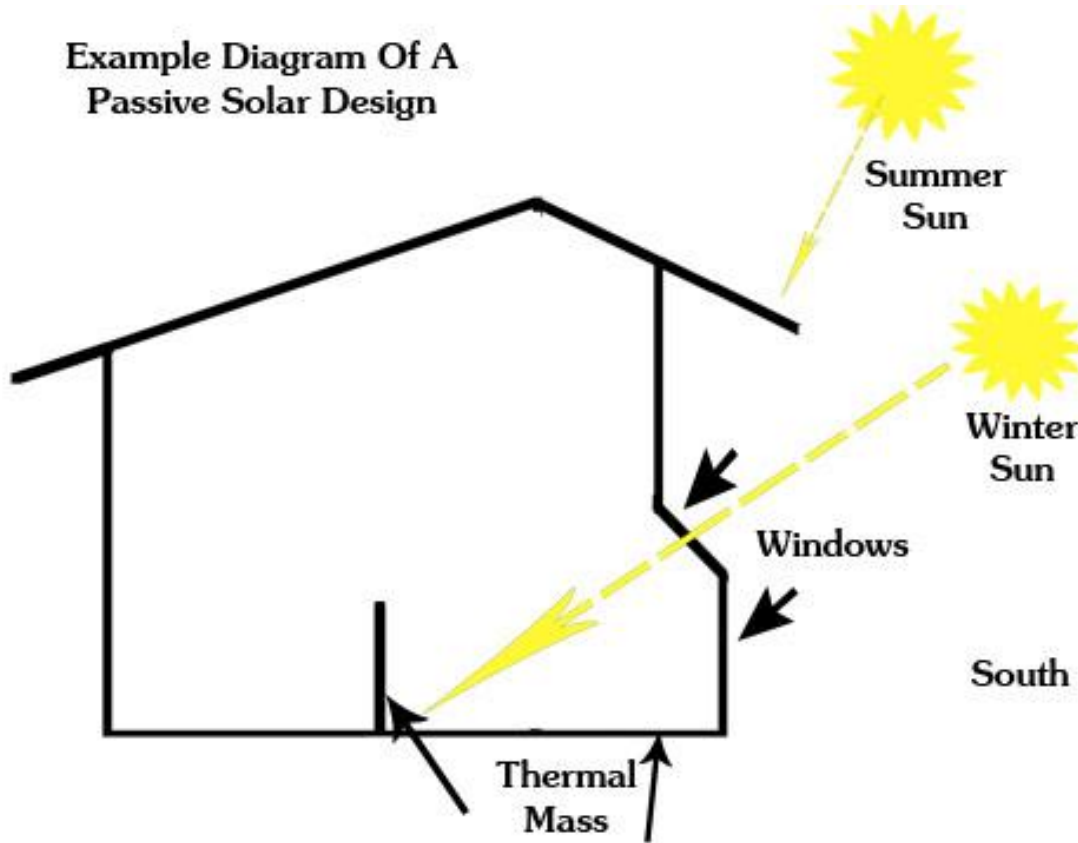
- a) Passive solar design
- b) Use daylight to preserve energy
- c) Use appropriate windows
- d) Insulate and airtight building envelope
- e) Use efficient HVAC design
- f) Use efficient equipment and monitor consumption
- g) Install house automation system





# Passive solar design

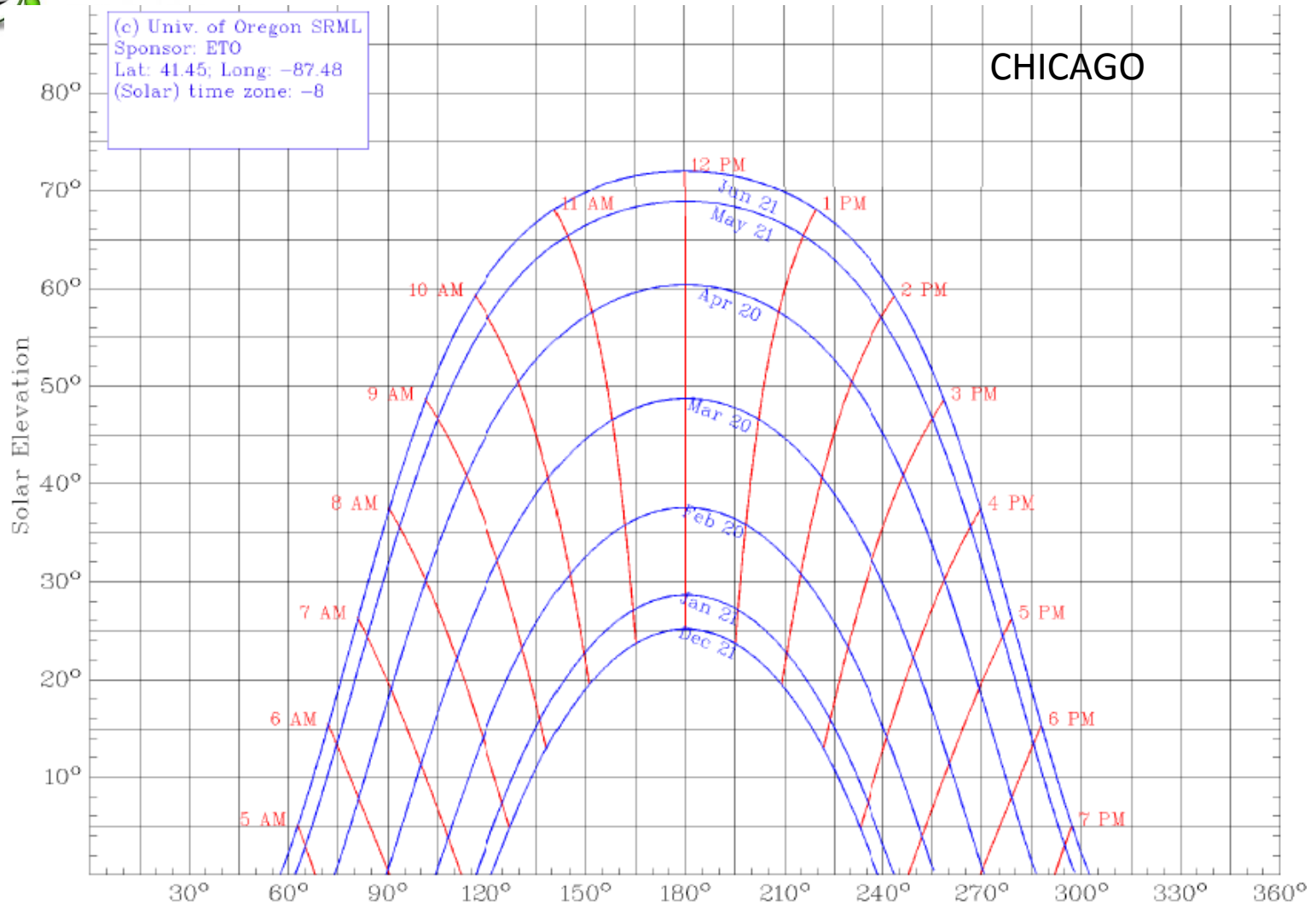
Example Diagram Of A Passive Solar Design



- Way of harnessing Sun energy
- No active components
- Concept used for centuries (Roman bathtubs)

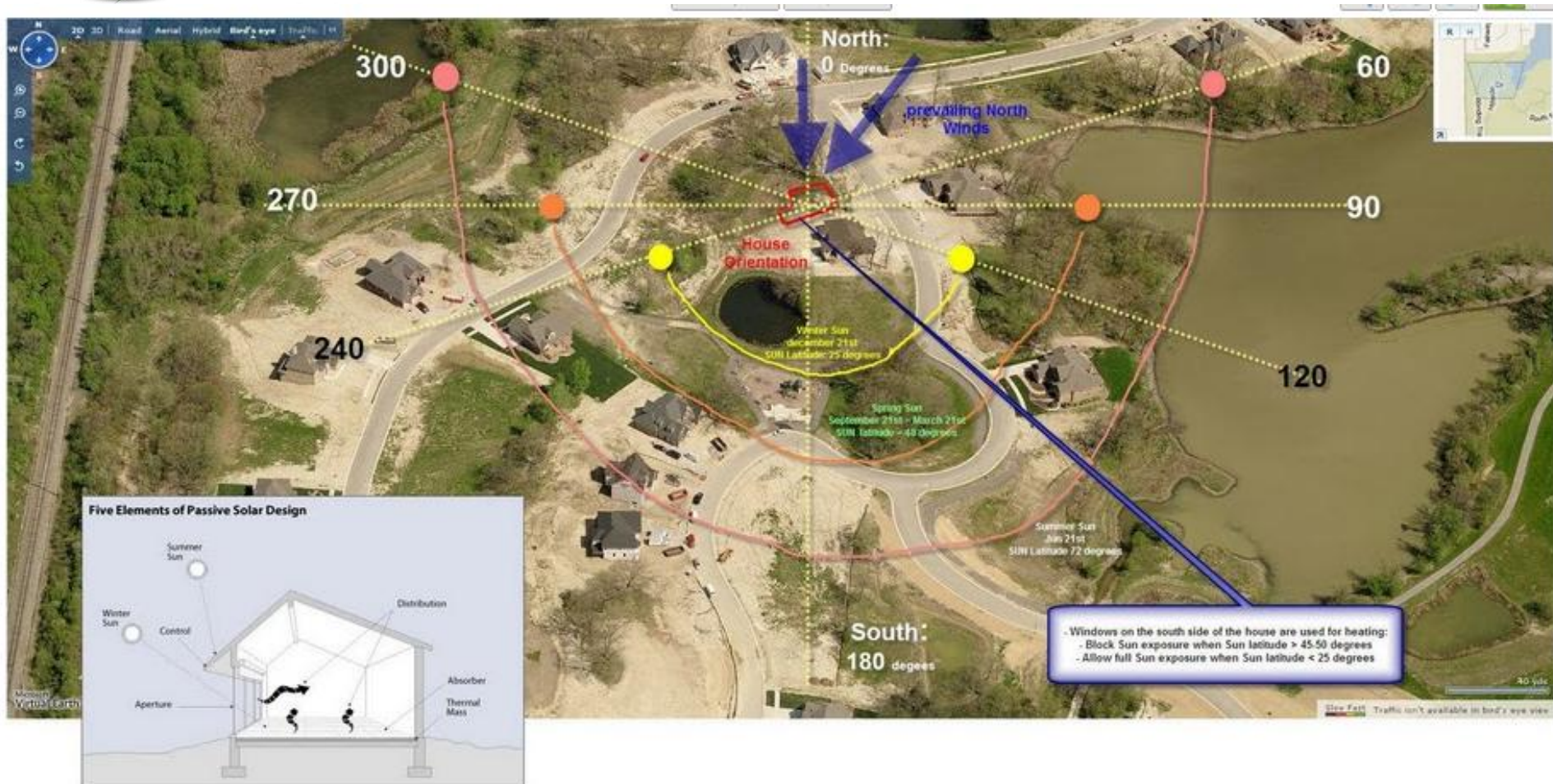


# Sun Chart:



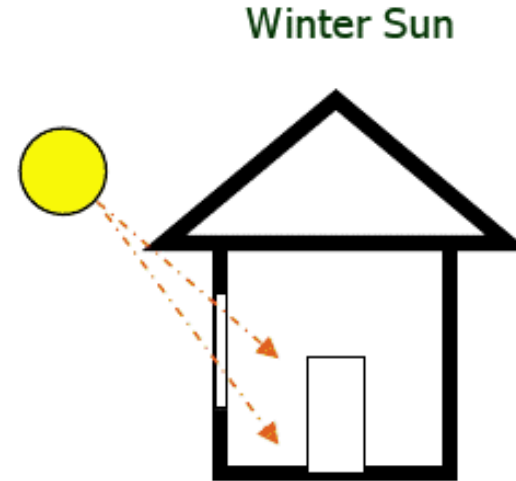
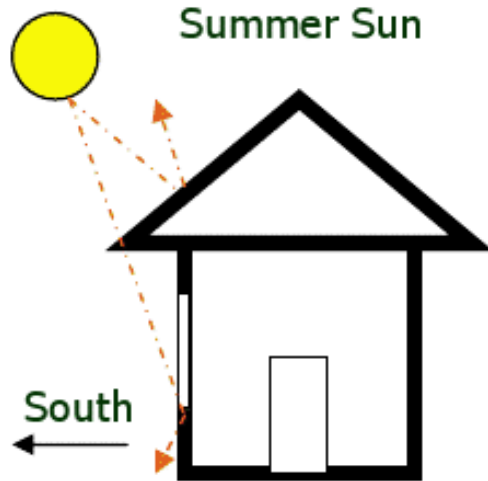


# Sun chart over Site location





# Passive solar (cont)



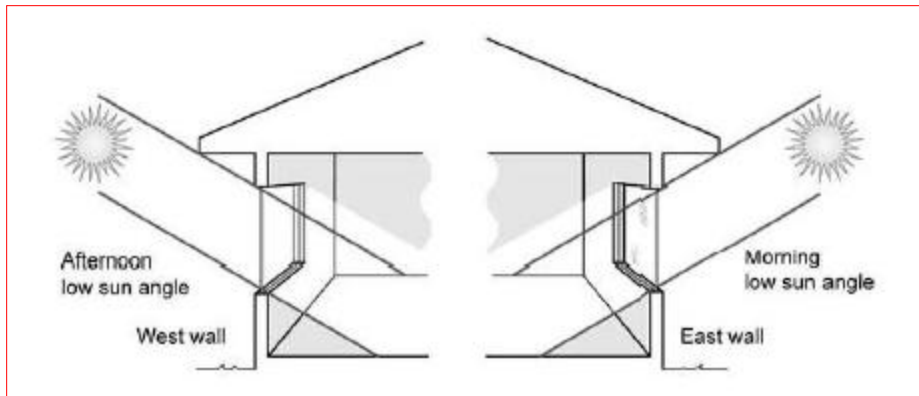
South window surface: 7 – 12% of the sq ft of conditioned area



# Passive solar (cont)

Depth of overhangs depends of the latitude

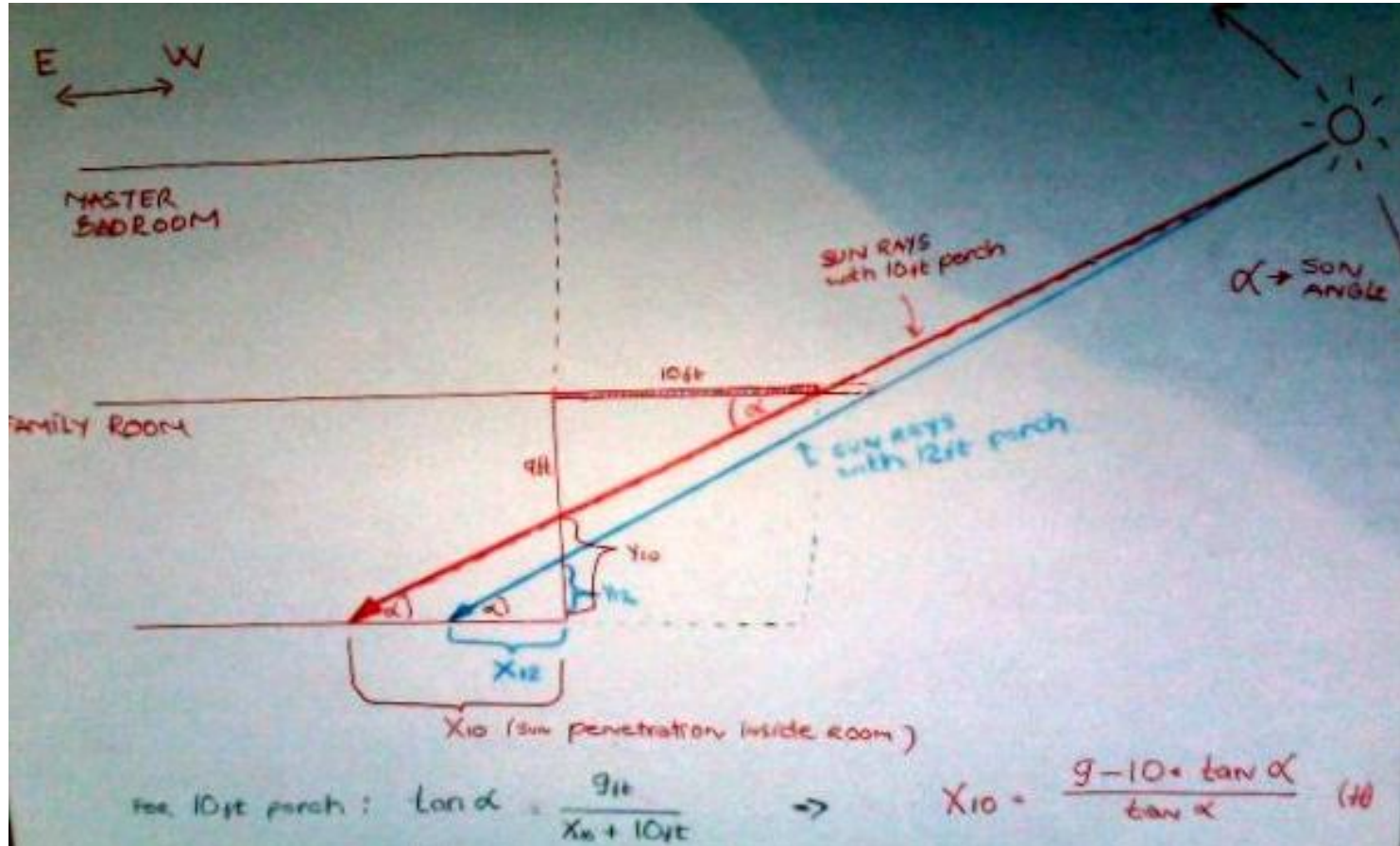
West side windows < 2% of sq ft  
North + East windows < 4% of sq ft



Location/Latitude	Minimum Depth (Noon August 21st)	Maximum Depth (Noon December 21st)
Redding Lat. ~ 41°	 ~0.6H	 ~1.1H
Fresno Lat. ~ 37°	 ~0.5H	 ~0.9H
San Diego Lat. ~ 33°	 ~0.4H	 ~0.75H



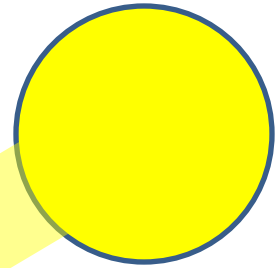
# Passive solar (cont)





# It works in Chicago Winter!

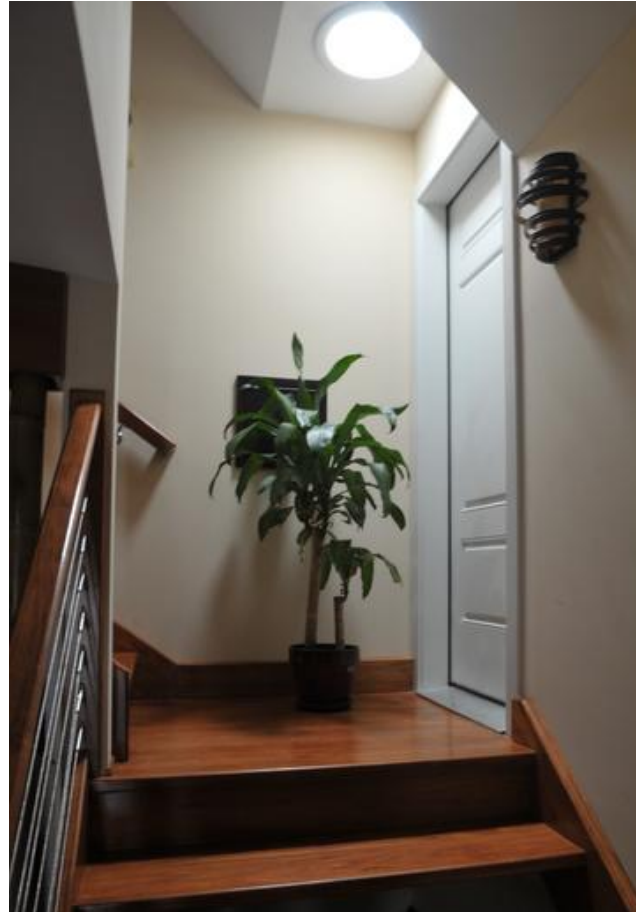
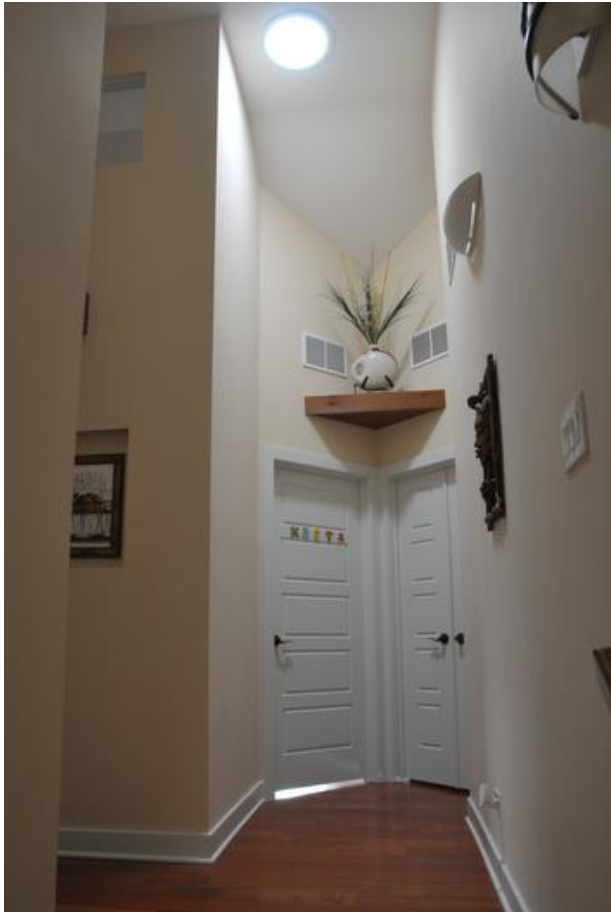
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-20F outside  
on the Sunny  
day heating  
turned off.



## b) Daylight



Well insulated  
light tubes  
bring in light  
without  
compromising  
insulation







## b) Daylight (cont)



Enough light during an overcast day

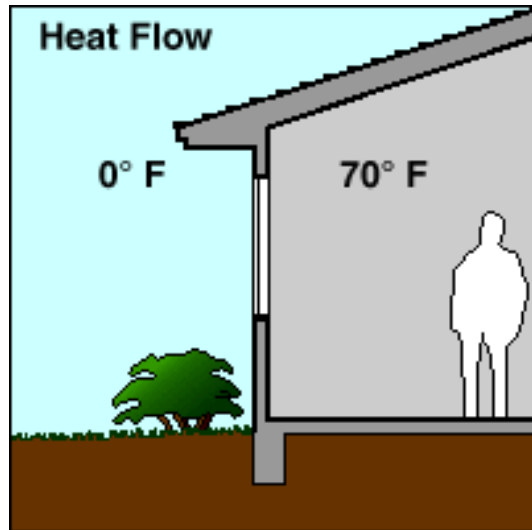


## c) Use appropriate windows

**U factor** – rate of heat loss

$$U = 1/R$$

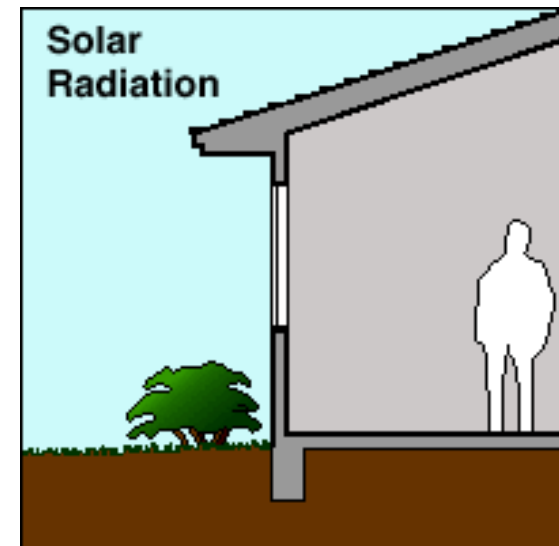
Low U ( $< 0.31$ ) most important  
in heating dominating areas



**SHGC** - solar heat gain coeff

Range (0 – 1)

Use low SHGC in south, and  
high SHGC in north climates





## d) Improve building envelope

- Insulate, Insulate, Insulate
- Add external insulation to prevent thermal bridging and reduce/prevent condensation in the exterior walls



*Thermal bridging*

*Yellow areas indicate the greatest heat loss through uninsulated wood studs.*

*Cavity Insulation with OSB Sheathing*



*Blue indicates minimal heat loss.*

*Cavity Insulation with OSB and R-5 Insulated Sheathing*



# Insulation

Ceiling - R50: Bat and spray foam insulation



Walls - R32 : cellulose insulation inside + rigid foam outside





# Make house Airtight!





# Airtight building envelope (cont)

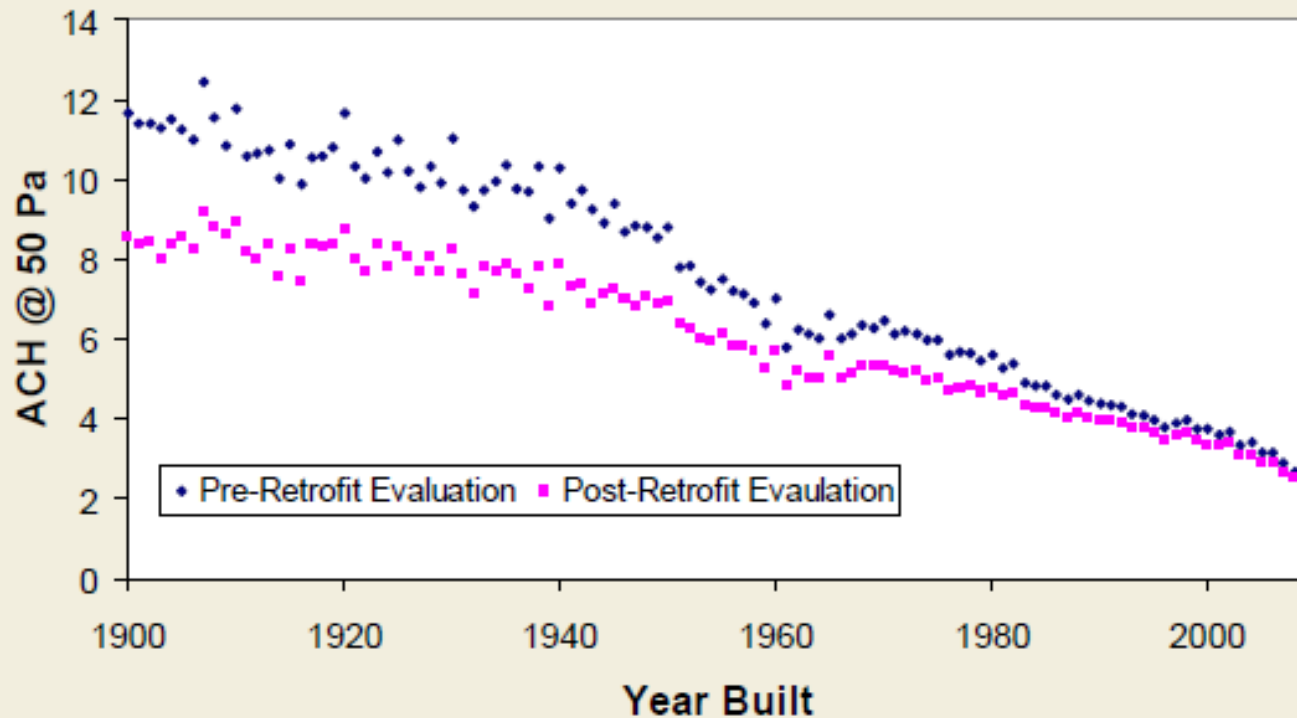
- Old houses can lose as much heat through air leakage as through building envelope conduction.
- Moisture, condensation..
- Door blower test
- Mechanical ventilation system may be required, if ACH (air exchange per hour)  $< 0.35$





# Air leakage in Canadian homes

## Air Leakage by Year





# Efficient HVAC design

- Properly size the equipment (Heat loss calculation, ACCA “Manual J” for residential homes)
- Bigger is not Better. Oversized equipment leads to:
  - Higher energy bills
  - Higher initial cost
  - Uncomfortably cold/hot spots
  - Indoor humidity





# SEER rating

- Higher SEER (Seasonal energy efficiency ratio) means better efficiency

SEER	1 Ton	1.5 Ton	2 Ton	2.5 Ton	3 Ton	3.5 Ton	4 Ton	5 Ton
8	\$ 270	\$ 405	\$ 540	\$ 675	\$ 810	\$ 945	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,350
9	\$ 240	\$ 360	\$ 480	\$ 600	\$ 720	\$ 840	\$ 960	\$ 1,200
10	\$ 216	\$ 324	\$ 432	\$ 540	\$ 648	\$ 756	\$ 864	\$ 1,080
11	\$ 196	\$ 295	\$ 393	\$ 491	\$ 589	\$ 687	\$ 785	\$ 982
12	\$ 180	\$ 270	\$ 360	\$ 450	\$ 540	\$ 630	\$ 720	\$ 900
13	\$ 166	\$ 249	\$ 332	\$ 415	\$ 498	\$ 582	\$ 665	\$ 831
14	\$ 154	\$ 231	\$ 309	\$ 386	\$ 463	\$ 540	\$ 617	\$ 771
15	\$ 144	\$ 216	\$ 288	\$ 360	\$ 432	\$ 504	\$ 576	\$ 720
16	\$ 135	\$ 203	\$ 270	\$ 338	\$ 405	\$ 473	\$ 540	\$ 675
17	\$ 127	\$ 191	\$ 254	\$ 318	\$ 381	\$ 445	\$ 508	\$ 635
18	\$ 120	\$ 180	\$ 240	\$ 300	\$ 360	\$ 420	\$ 480	\$ 600
19	\$ 114	\$ 171	\$ 227	\$ 284	\$ 341	\$ 398	\$ 455	\$ 568
20	\$ 108	\$ 162	\$ 216	\$ 270	\$ 324	\$ 378	\$ 432	\$ 540
21	\$ 103	\$ 154	\$ 206	\$ 257	\$ 309	\$ 360	\$ 411	\$ 514
22	\$ 98	\$ 147	\$ 196	\$ 245	\$ 295	\$ 344	\$ 393	\$ 491
23	\$ 94	\$ 141	\$ 188	\$ 235	\$ 282	\$ 329	\$ 376	\$ 470
24	\$ 90	\$ 135	\$ 180	\$ 225	\$ 270	\$ 315	\$ 360	\$ 450
25	\$ 86	\$ 130	\$ 173	\$ 216	\$ 259	\$ 302	\$ 346	\$ 432
26	\$ 83	\$ 125	\$ 166	\$ 208	\$ 249	\$ 291	\$ 332	\$ 415

*Base on 9 cent a KW and 2000 cooling hours*





# Efficient El. Equipment:



Energy star appliances



Compact Fluorescent Lights







# CASE 1: warm white LED strips



5M 500CM Warm White 3528 SMD LED Strip Lights 300 leds

 Like

On Ebay:

300 LEDs, 15ft, 12Vdc, 0.4A,  
250 lumens

Use with 12Vdc power supply



# Warm white LED strips





# Warm white LED strips



Cove light  
(30ft = 10W)

Under cabinet light –  
using 2 strips  
mounted parallel

Kick toe light



# CASE 2: multi color LED strip



New 5M 5050 RGB LED Strip 44key Controller Power Supply

LED strip + Remote + Controller +  
12Vdc Power supply=



# Multi Color LED strip



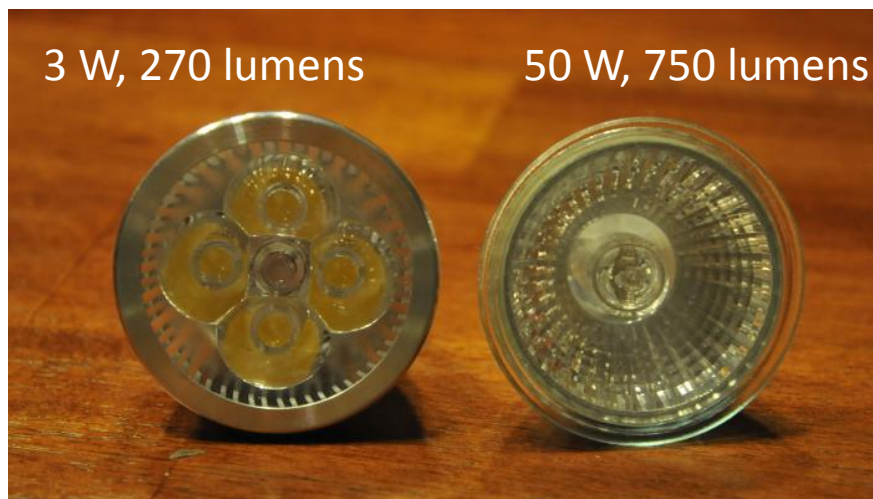




# CASE 3: LED downlight



120Vac, MR16  
light fixture





# LED downlight



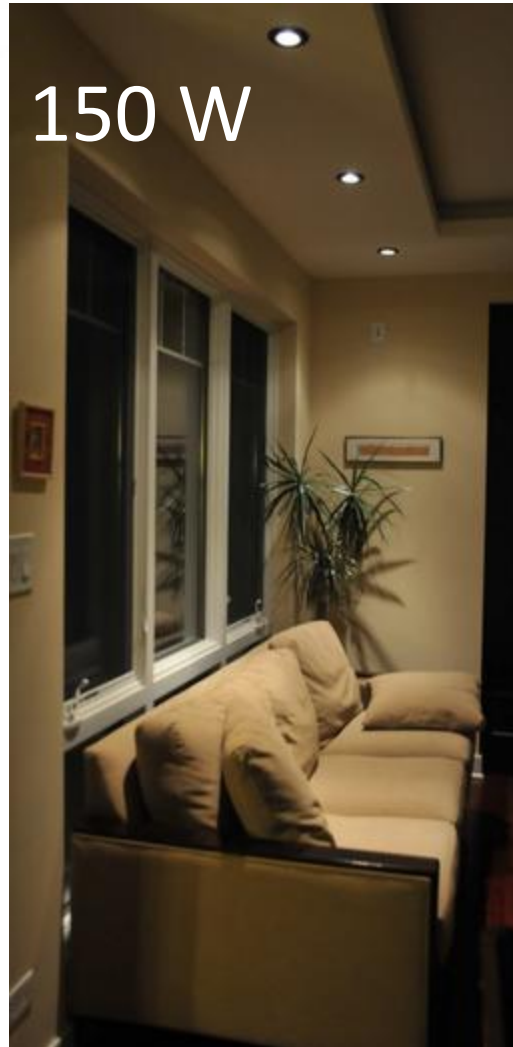
Halogen



LED



# LED downlight



150 W

3 Halogen lights



9 W

3 LED lights



# Monitor Power Consumption



- TED 5000 energy detective
- Real time monitor power consumption
- Record data in GOOGLE power module
- See it on computer, smart phone, Ipod



# Power consumption data:

Nenad: TED5000

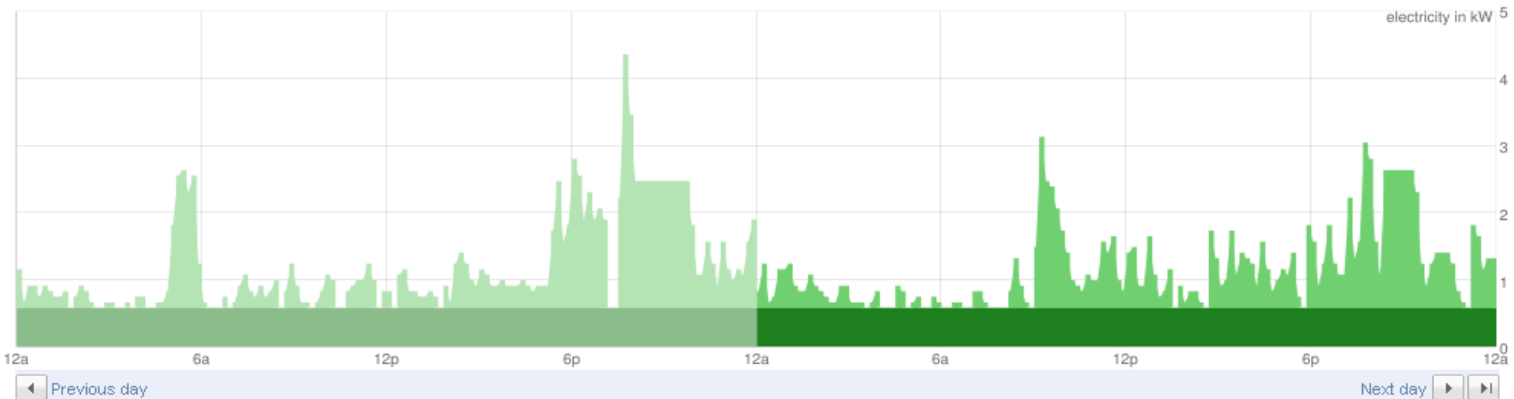
## Electricity used March 2011

[Day](#) [Week](#) [Month](#)



## Electricity used May 13-May 14

Energy  Approx. cost: \$  /kWh



Friday May 13  
 28 kW-h used  
 Approx. \$1220/year [?](#)  
 ■ Always on: 13 kW-h used

Saturday May 14  
 28 kW-h used  
 Approx. \$1218/year [?](#)  
 ■ Always on: 14 kW-h used

## Compared to past usage

20% over expected usage for Saturday [?](#)





# House automation system

## Criteria:

- Reliable
- Secure
- Affordable
- Scalable
- DIY





## 2 wireless systems:



**ZigBee®**

Control your world

Developed by Zensys

900 MHz

Up to 30m range

Lower cost

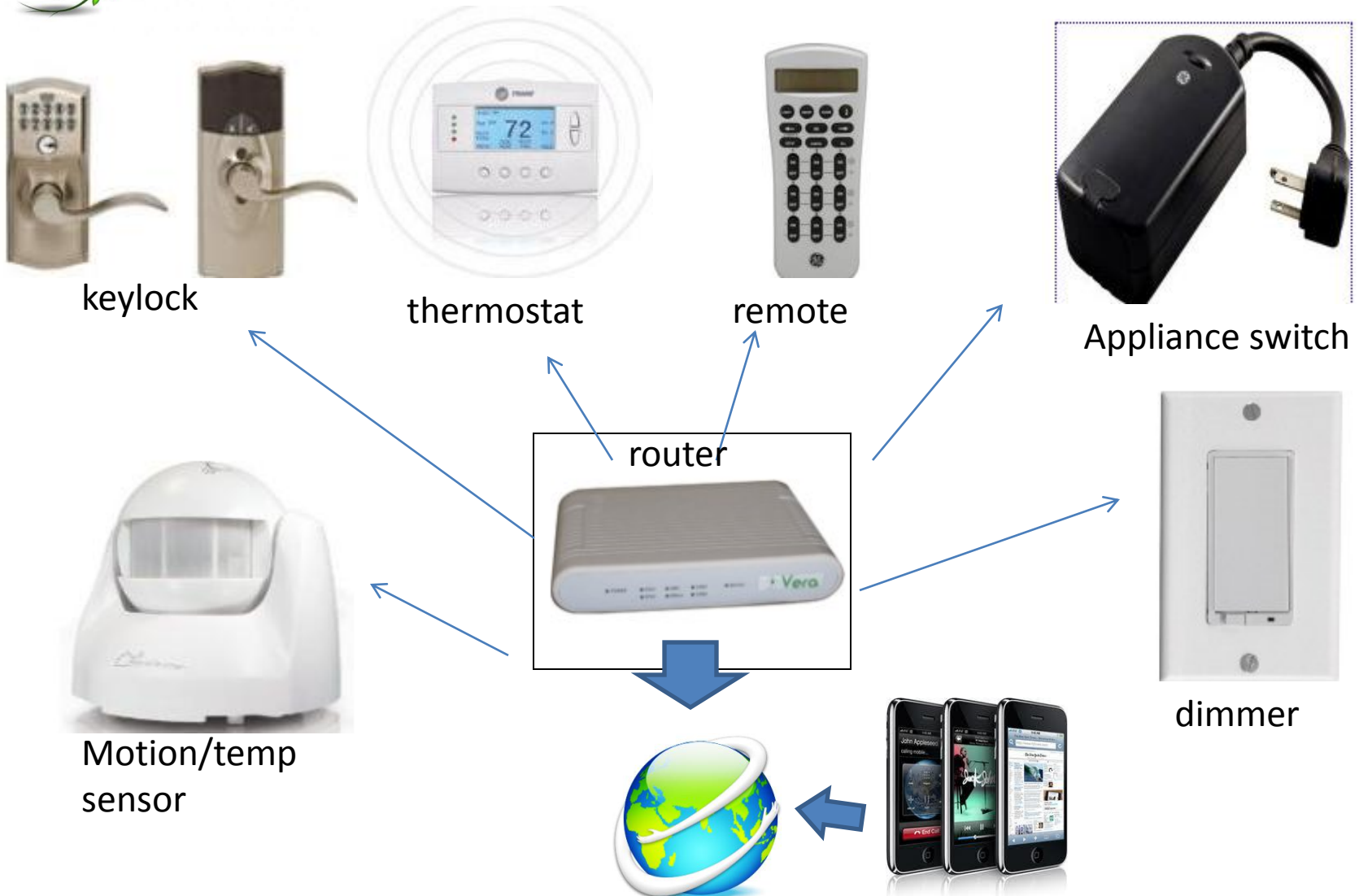
IEEE 802.15.4

2.4 GHz (global)

10 – 100m range



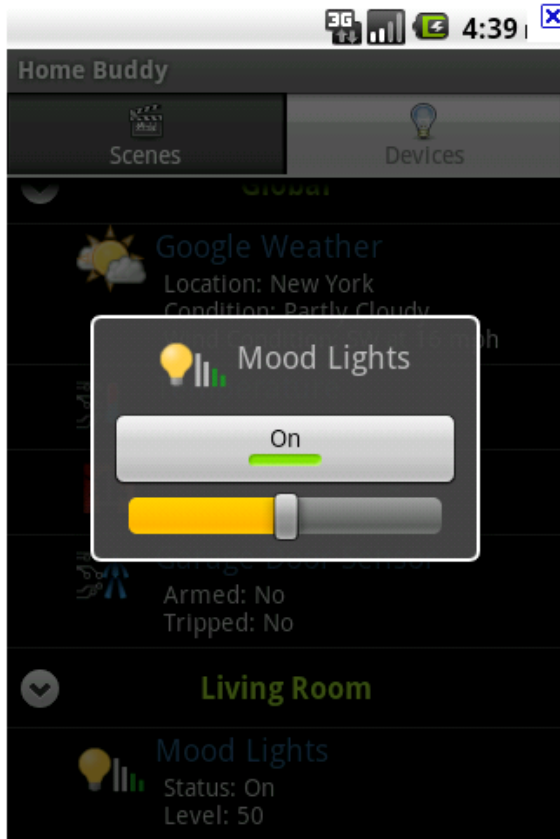
# Zwave components:







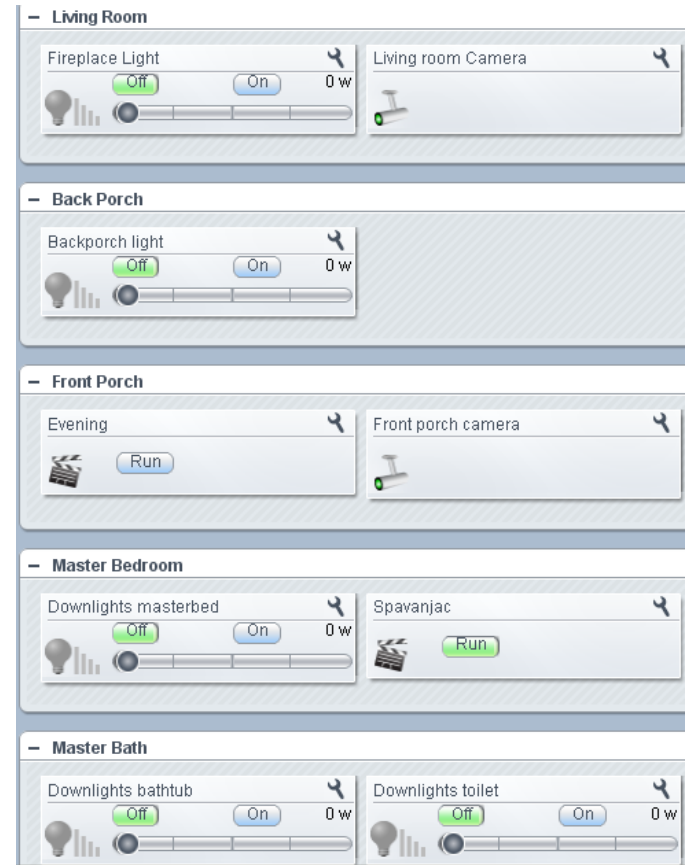
# Remote/local access:



Android phone



Iphone



PC/MAC browser



# Applications:

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- Automatically turn on/off lights when on vacation
- Turn off all loads when leaving the house
- Adjust thermostat from the bed, or away from home
- Automatically turn off selected lights during Sunny day
- Receive a text message when someone rings the door bell
- Receive an email with photo when camera with armed sensor detects motion
- Turn on the lights in bedroom during severe weather



# Integration:



light



Alarm system



surveillance



TV / movies



tablet



music



Home automation



Irrigation

Operate everything in  
the house with one  
device



# Water Efficiency



Touch faucet



Low flow rate shower



Drip irrigation system



# Indoor air quality

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- No Carpets
- Low VOC paint / stain
- Direct vent fireplace
- Tightly sealed doors to garage
- MERV9 filter
- Whole house ventilation system



# Lesson learned:

- Installing 5 occupancy sensors = 20 points
- Passive solar feature of the house = 10 points
- Carbon reduction is not proportional to number of points.
- Go for QUALITY, NOT QUANTITY (smaller, more functional, more durable, less cleaning, less maintenance)
- Use standard as a guideline, not Bible.
- MINIMIZE ENERGY consumption.
- Don't forget to have FUN in the process!



# References:

- Passive solar design: “The sun inspired house”  
<http://www.sunplans.com/store/book>
- Bigger is not better “Not So Big House”: <http://www.notsobighouse.com/>
- Sun Charts: <http://solardat.uoregon.edu/cgi-bin/SunChart.cgi>
- Misc solar tools: <http://www.builditsolar.com/References/SunChartRS.htm>
- Overhang design: <http://www.susdesign.com/overhang/>
- Building science: [http://www.buildingscience.com/index\\_html](http://www.buildingscience.com/index_html)
- Perfect Wall design: <http://www.buildingscience.com/documents/insights/bsi-001-the-perfect-wall>
- Supported ZWAVE devices:  
[http://wiki.micasaverde.com/index.php/Supported\\_Hardware](http://wiki.micasaverde.com/index.php/Supported_Hardware)
- NAHB Green standard: <http://store.builderbooks.com/cgi-bin/builderbooks/874>



# QUESTIONS?

